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Electrodermal Activity (EDA) in Human-Computer Interaction

Concept: Electrodermal Activity (EDA), also known as galvanic skin response, measures the conductivity of the skin, which increases when the skin is moist due to sweating.

Specific Explanation:

- Physiological Basis: Under high arousal or stress, the body's pores open up and secrete more sweat, increasing skin conductivity.
- Measuring Technique: This can be easily measured using devices like multimeters or Arduino, and even modern smartwatches include EDA sensors.
- Thermal Regulation: The evolutionary advantage might be linked to thermal regulation to keep the body cool in stressful situations.
- Implication for HCI: EDA can be used to gauge a user's emotional responses indirectly, providing valuable data for personalized and adaptive user interfaces.

Application in HCI: Due to its ability to capture the user's emotional arousal, EDA is useful for creating adaptive systems that respond to user stress and engagement levels, enhancing user experience and interaction efficacy.