

# Stress Monitoring and Detection using Physiological Sensors

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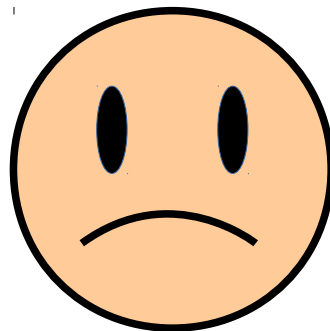
Joint research with the [School of Psychology](#) at  
University of Lincoln

# Motivation

- **Problems** in developed countries:
  - Increasing population
  - Increasing **stress / anxiety** -> **Depression**
- **Consequences:**
  - **Decreasing** the quality of life of people
  - **Low productivity** at work and daily life
  - **Personal** problems / relationships / family

# Facts about depression in elderly

- Depression affects 12% of the elderly in EU (11.3 million) and 31% in Japan (10.7 million) and it is the main illness in older people ahead of dementia.
- Untreated depression negatively affects the outcome of other diseases like heart conditions, lupus, or AIDS.
- Finally, and mostly important, depression is the main cause of suicide for older people in western countries and Japan.



# Example: Costs in UK

- In the UK around **12 million** adults visit the doctor with stress related problems.
- Stress generates **13.3 million** lost working days in UK.
- Stress has a cost of **~8.4 million pounds** to UK companies
- Current doctor appointments for therapy have **waiting time of 3-6 months** → dangerous cumulative stress

# Sensors for Stress

- How to monitor and detect stress?
- In this work we use **wearable physiological sensors**.



# Recorded Signals

- Pulse plethysmograph (PPG): volume of blood in the tissue
- Electro-dermal activity (EDA): skin sweating activity
- Heart Rate Variability (HRV): heartbeats
- Correlation of PPG and HRV (PPG)
- Signals were sampled at a 10 Hz
- For eat time  $t$  the feature vector was:

$$x_t = \{ \text{PPG}_t, \text{EDA}_t, \text{HRV}_t, \text{PPG}_{\text{corr}} \}$$

- Each time  $t$  we classify the feature vector  $x_t$  into “stressed” and “not stressed” using a Support Vector Machine

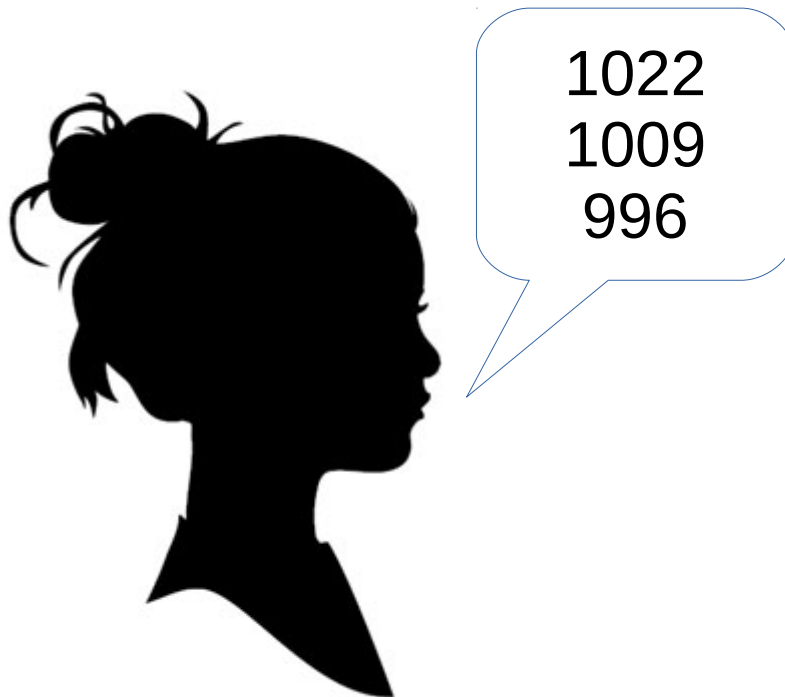
# Trier Social Stress Test (TSST)

- In TSST people carry out **stressful** and **neutral tasks**
- **Neutral tasks:** Talk about the weather, personal info, etc...
- **Stressful tasks:**
  - 1) Presentation of 5 minutes in front of 2 examiners



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# Dataset Recording

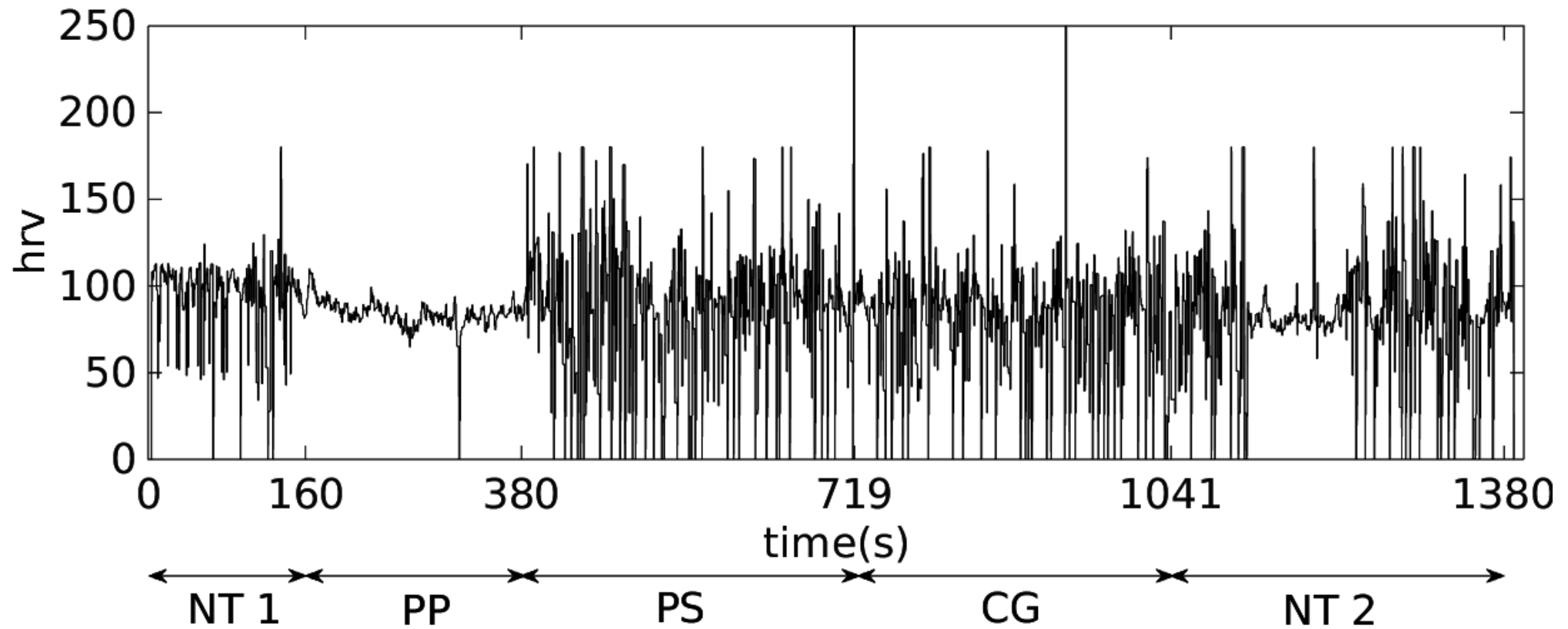
- During the TSST the physiological measurements are recorded together with the corresponding label  $(x_t, I_t)$

$$x_t = \{ \text{PPG}_t, \text{EDA}_t, \text{HRV}_t, \text{PPG}_{\text{corr}} \},$$

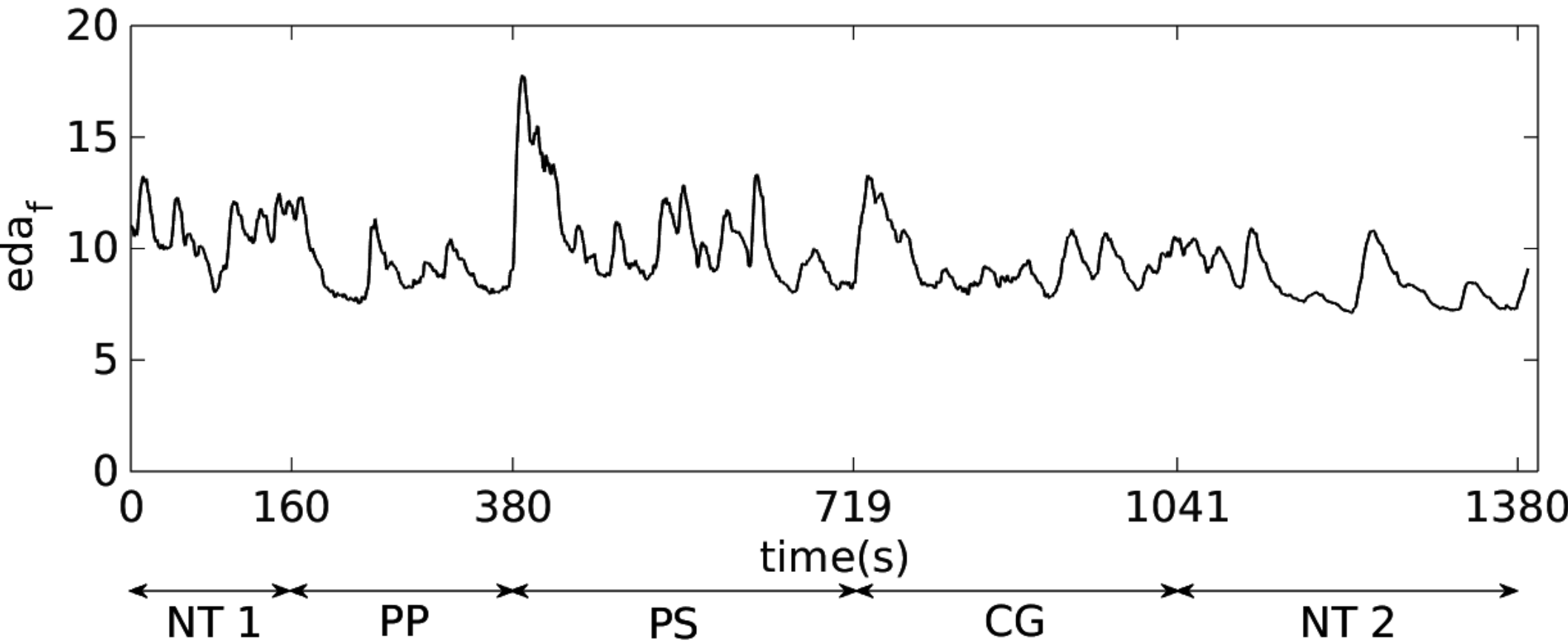
$$I_t \in \{ \text{"stressed"}, \text{"not stressed"} \}$$



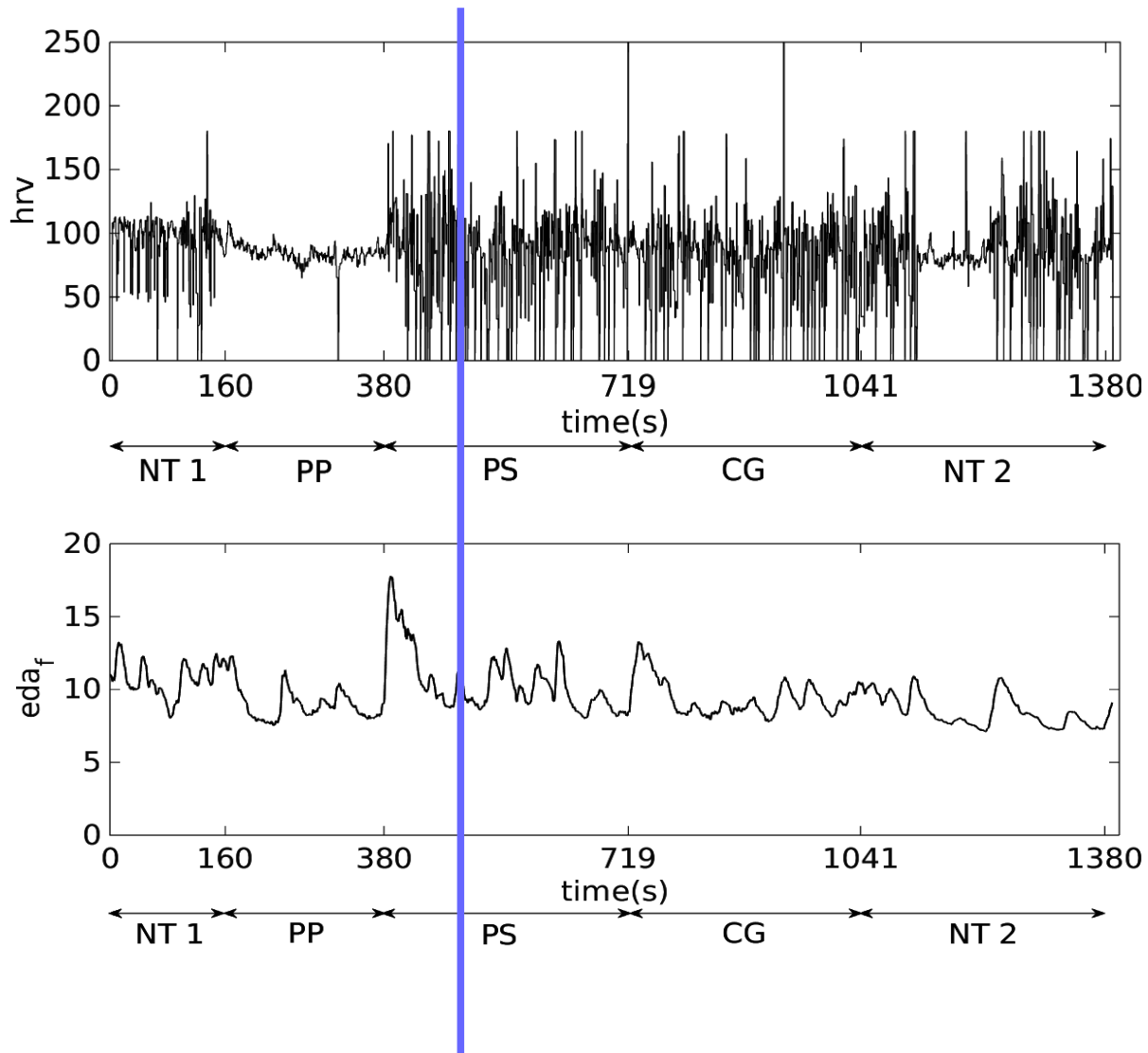
# Example Recorded Signals



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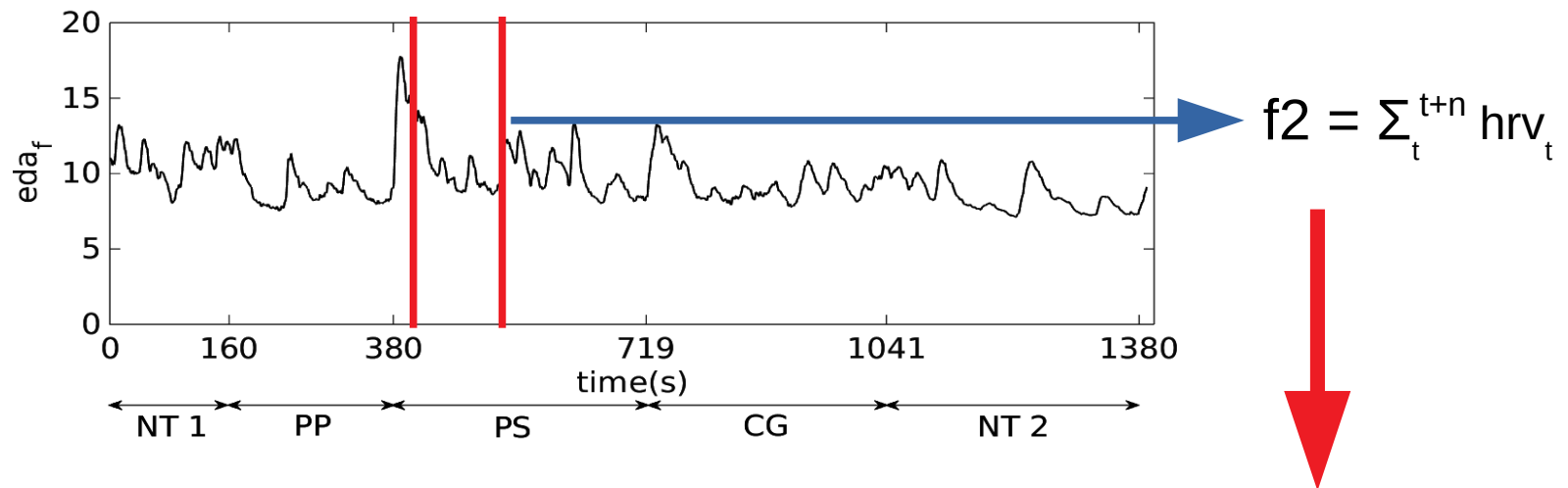
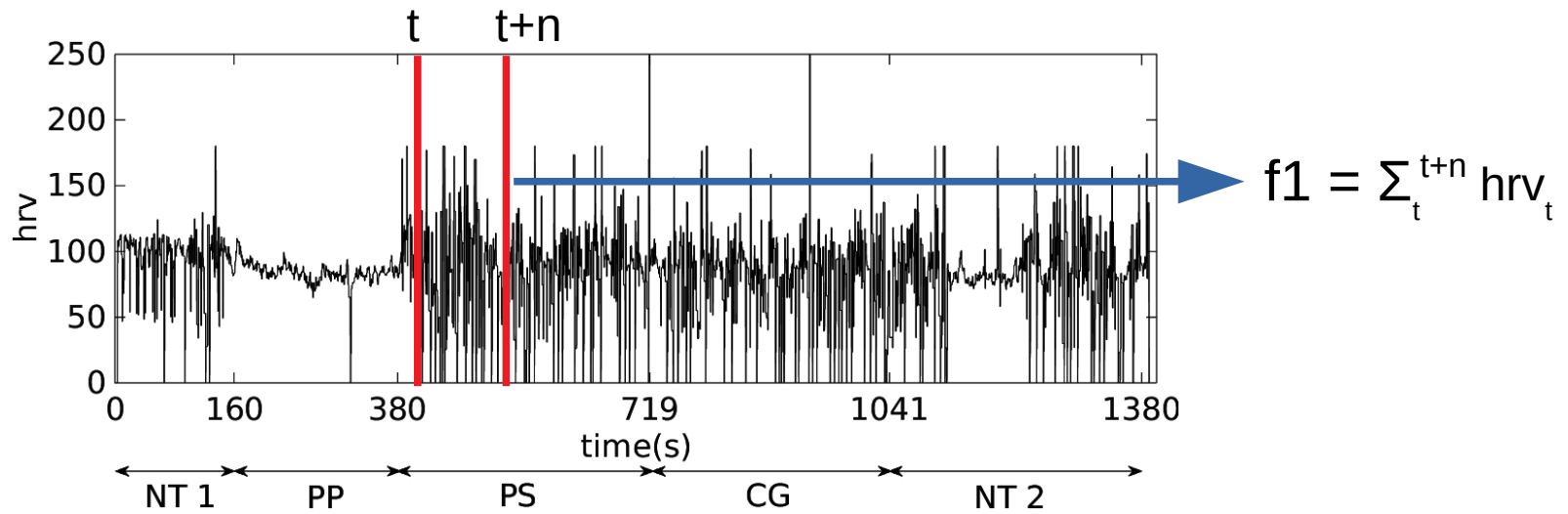


# Feature vector for time t



$$x_t = \{ \text{HRV}_t, \text{EDA}_t \},$$

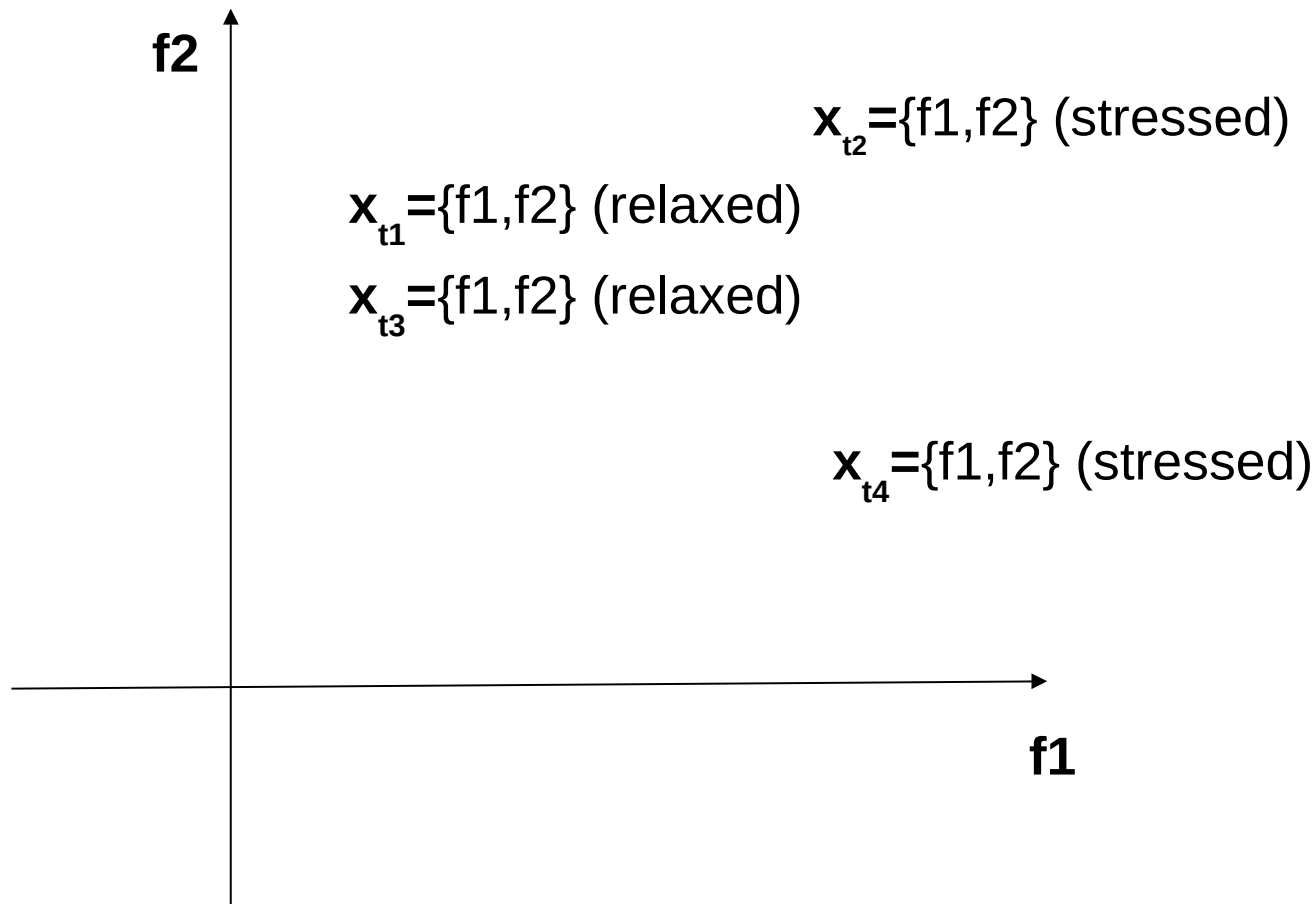
# Feature vector for time t



$$x_t = \{ f1_t, f2_t \},$$

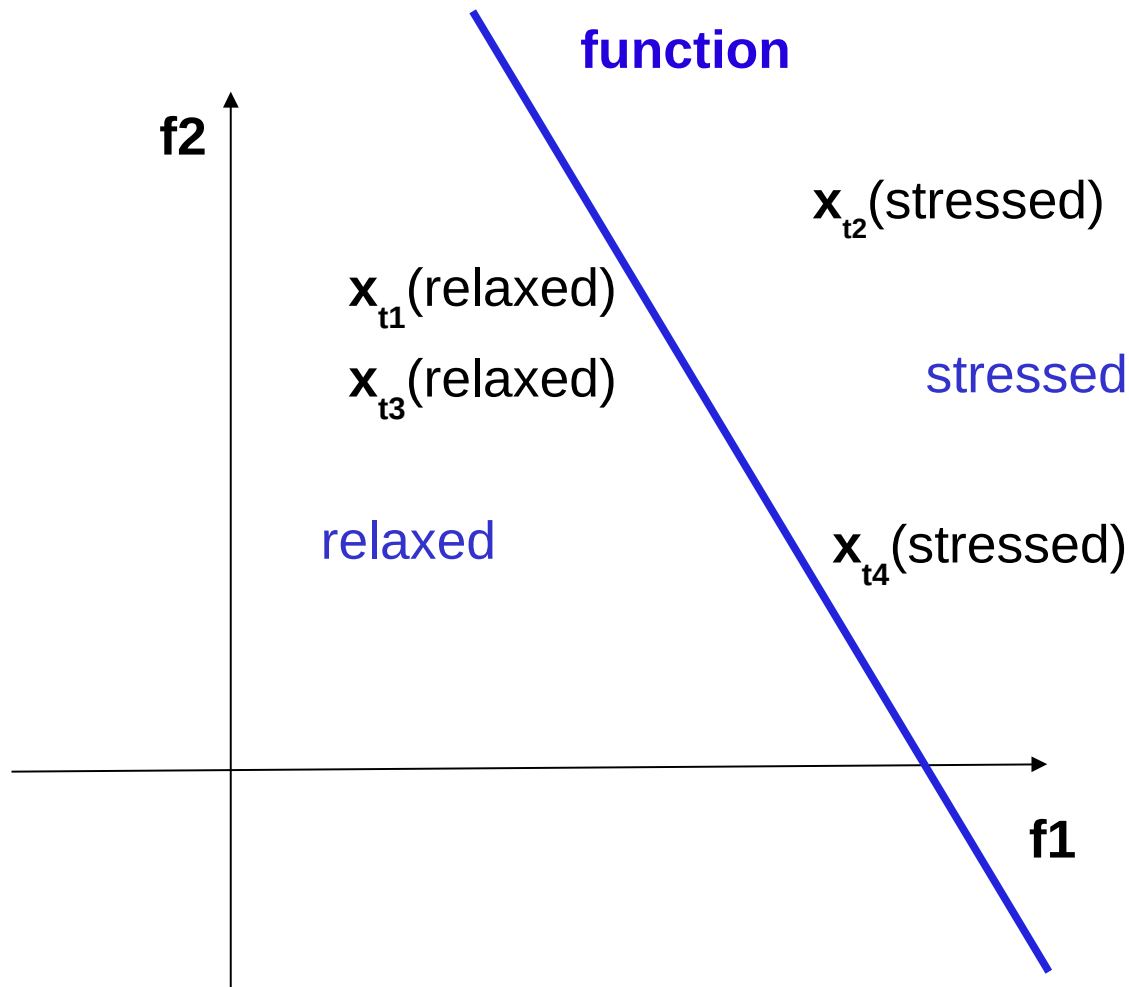
# Feature space

- We plot the feature vectors into the **feature space** which will be used by the classification algorithms.

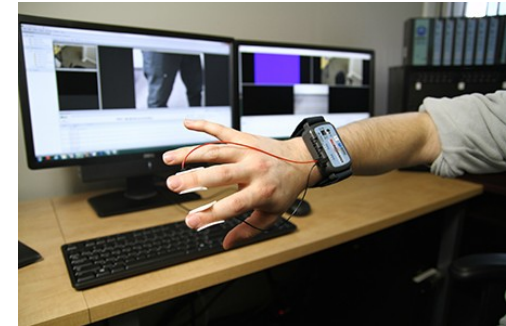
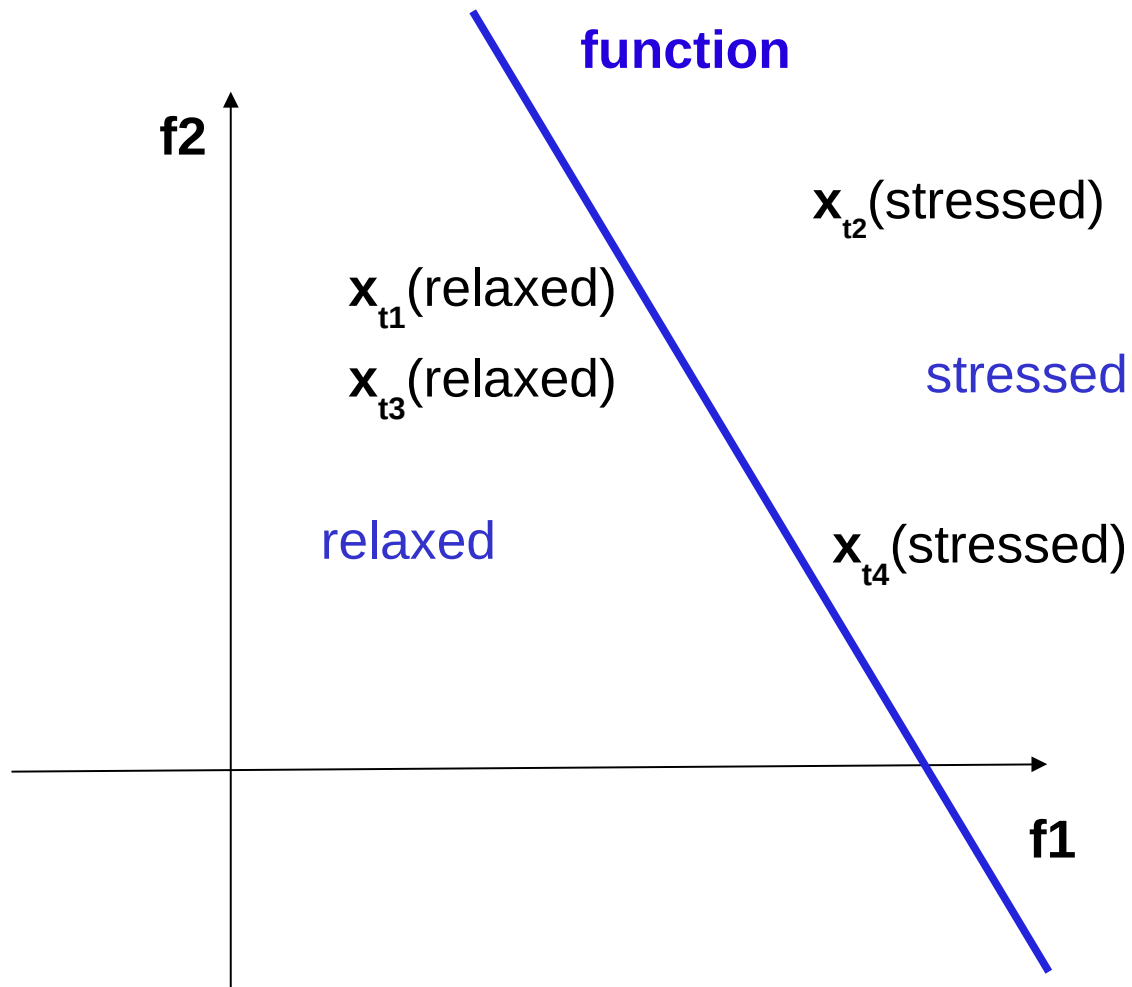


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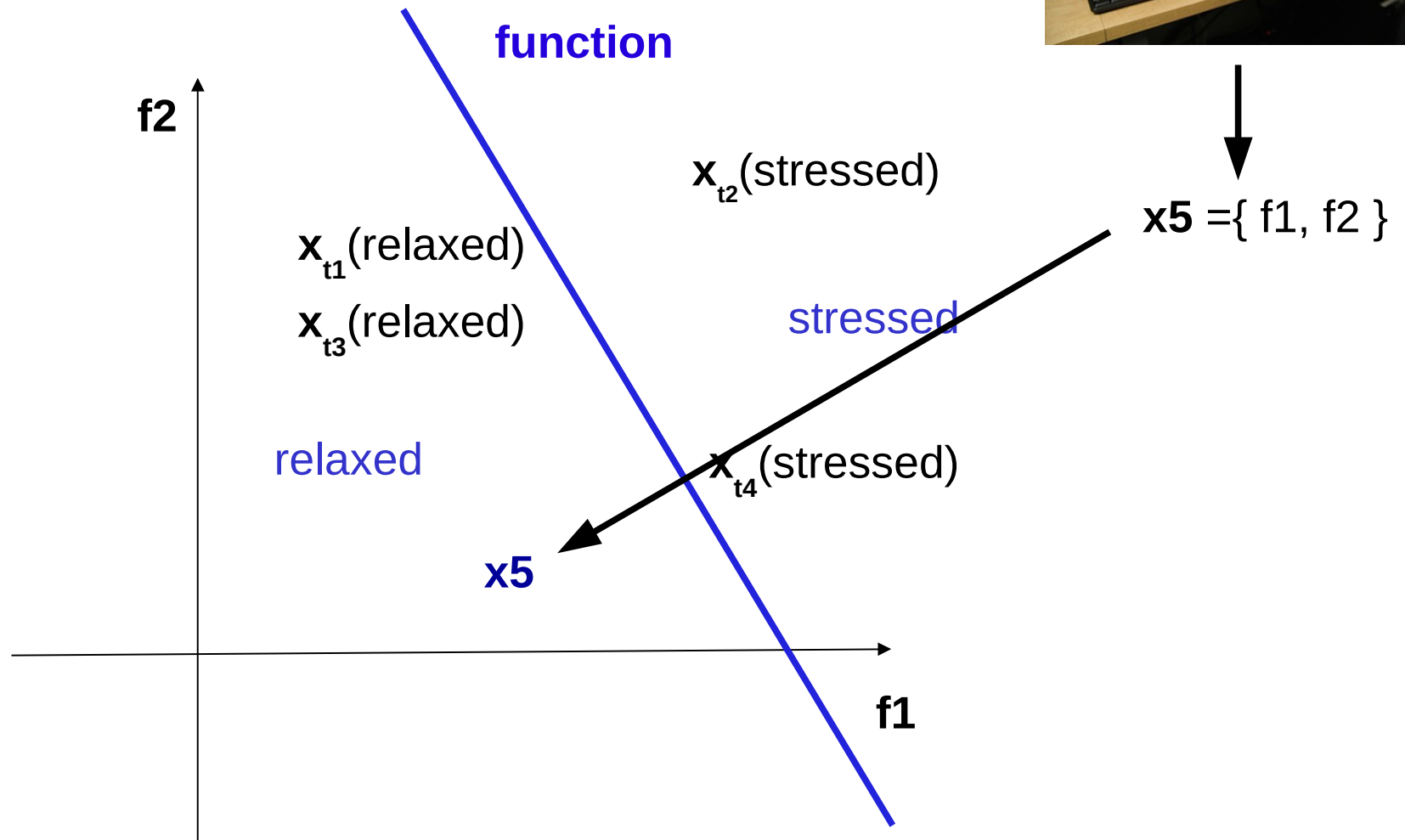
# New measurement



$x5 = \{ f1, f2 \}$



# New measurement



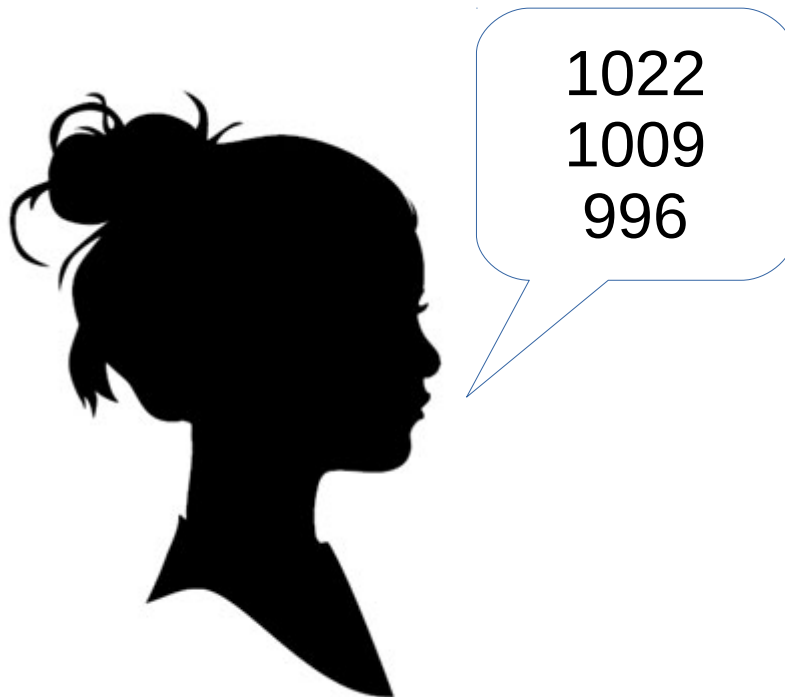
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# Experiments

- 5 persons participated in the TSST
- Each experiment around 20 minutes
- Dataset sizes:  
 $|D 1| = 11620$ ,  $|D 2| = 13450$ ,  $|D 3| = 13740$ ,  
 $|D 4| = 13740$ ,  $|D 5| = 13000$
- We train one individual SVM for each person (adaptation)
- 75% for training, 25% for testing

# Results

Participant No.	Accuracy [%]	Precision [%]
P1	78.90	80.19
P2	73.26	73.61
P3	83.08	83.87
P4	82.82	83.20
P5	76.83	76.67

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

Positive=stressed

$$Precision = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

# Results

Participant No.	P1		P2		P3		P4		P5	
	stressed	not stressed	stressed	not stressed	stressed	not stressed	stressed	not stressed	not stressed	stressed
stressed	<b>94.04</b>	5.95	<b>88.21</b>	11.79	<b>90.50</b>	9.50	<b>91.55</b>	8.44	<b>91.62</b>	8.38
not stressed	60.62	<b>39.38</b>	50.73	<b>49.27</b>	29.49	<b>70.51</b>	32.53	<b>67.47</b>	49.36	<b>50.64</b>

- Bias to positive class “**stressed**”
- Double check if the person was really **stressed** or not

# Discussion

- Difficult to stress people. Each person has a different behaviour.
- Difficult to get ground truth.
- Difficult to measure stress levels (how stressed are you?)
- How well does the stress classifier generalize to other people? → global vs individual