Cross Attentional Audio-Visual Fusion for Dimensional Emotion Recognition

Gnana Praveen R Eric Granger Patrick Cardinal

Laboratoire d'imagerie, de vision et d'intelligence artificielle (LIVIA), École de technologie supérieure, Montréal, Canada

December 18 2021



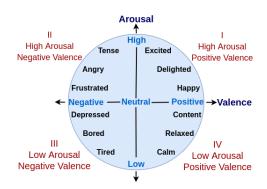


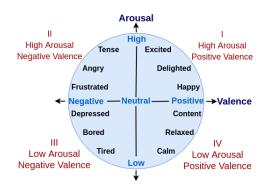
Outline

- Dimensional Emotion Recognition
- 2 Motivation for Cross Attentional A-V Fusion
- Proposed Approach
- 4 Results and Discussion
- Conclusion

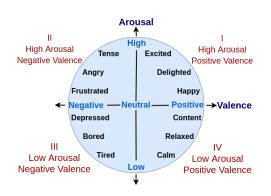
Outline

- 1 Dimensional Emotion Recognition
- 2 Motivation for Cross Attentional A-V Fusion
- Proposed Approach
- 4 Results and Discussion
- Conclusion

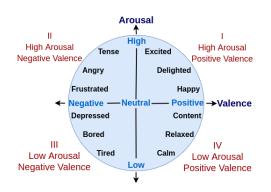




 Problem: Estimating regression values in the valence-arousal space



- Problem: Estimating regression values in the valence-arousal space
- Valence denotes the range of emotions from very sad (negative) to very happy (positive)



- Problem: Estimating regression values in the valence-arousal space
- Valence denotes the range of emotions from very sad (negative) to very happy (positive)
- Arousal reflects the energy or intensity of emotions from very passive to very active

A-V Fusion for Dimensional Emotion Recognition

 Audio (A) and Visual (V) are the widely used contact free modalities for emotion recognition

A-V Fusion for Dimensional Emotion Recognition

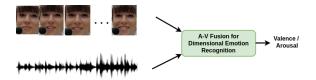
- Audio (A) and Visual (V) are the widely used contact free modalities for emotion recognition
- A and V channels provide complimentary relationship to obtain comprehensive information

A-V Fusion for Dimensional Emotion Recognition

- Audio (A) and Visual (V) are the widely used contact free modalities for emotion recognition
- A and V channels provide complimentary relationship to obtain comprehensive information
- Efficient fusion of A and V channels are expected to outperform uni-modal approaches

A-V Fusion for Dimensional Emotion Recognition

- Audio (A) and Visual (V) are the widely used contact free modalities for emotion recognition
- A and V channels provide complimentary relationship to obtain comprehensive information
- Efficient fusion of A and V channels are expected to outperform uni-modal approaches



Challenges for A-V Fusion

 How to extract efficient multi-modal feature representation of A-V modalities?

Challenges for A-V Fusion

- How to extract efficient multi-modal feature representation of A-V modalities?
- How to effectively leverage the complimentary relationship of A-V modalities?

Challenges for A-V Fusion

- How to extract efficient multi-modal feature representation of A-V modalities?
- How to effectively leverage the complimentary relationship of A-V modalities?
- How to handle wide range of variations in facial expressions due to pose, illumination, identity-bias, etc. ?

Challenges for A-V Fusion

- How to extract efficient multi-modal feature representation of A-V modalities?
- How to effectively leverage the complimentary relationship of A-V modalities?
- How to handle wide range of variations in facial expressions due to pose, illumination, identity-bias, etc. ?
- How to handle wide range of variations in vocal expressions due to speaker identity-bias, background noise, etc?

Outline

- Dimensional Emotion Recognition
- 2 Motivation for Cross Attentional A-V Fusion
- Proposed Approach
- 4 Results and Discussion
- Conclusion

A-V Fusion Approaches for Dimensional Emotion Recognition

 [Tzirakis et al., 2017] extracted A and V features from Resnet-50 and 1D CNN respectively, which is concatenated and fed to LSTM

A-V Fusion Approaches for Dimensional Emotion Recognition

- [Tzirakis et al., 2017] extracted A and V features from Resnet-50 and 1D CNN respectively, which is concatenated and fed to LSTM
- [Schoneveld et al., 2021] explored knowledge distillation using student-teacher model for V modality and 2D CNN for A modality using spectrograms, which is further concatenated and fed to LSTM

A-V Fusion Approaches for Dimensional Emotion Recognition

- [Tzirakis et al., 2017] extracted A and V features from Resnet-50 and 1D CNN respectively, which is concatenated and fed to LSTM
- [Schoneveld et al., 2021] explored knowledge distillation using student-teacher model for V modality and 2D CNN for A modality using spectrograms, which is further concatenated and fed to LSTM
- [Tzirakis et al., 2021] investigated various fusion strategies along with attention mechanisms including self-attention.

A-V Fusion Approaches for Dimensional Emotion Recognition

- [Tzirakis et al., 2017] extracted A and V features from Resnet-50 and 1D CNN respectively, which is concatenated and fed to LSTM
- [Schoneveld et al., 2021] explored knowledge distillation using student-teacher model for V modality and 2D CNN for A modality using spectrograms, which is further concatenated and fed to LSTM
- [Tzirakis et al., 2021] investigated various fusion strategies along with attention mechanisms including self-attention.
- [Parthasarathy and Sundaram, 2021] explored transformers with cross modal attention, where cross attention is integrated with self attention

Limitations of SOA Approaches

 Most of the existing approaches focus on modeling the intra-modal relationships

Limitations of SOA Approaches

- Most of the existing approaches focus on modeling the intra-modal relationships
- The inter-modal relationships are not effectively explored to capture the complimentarity of A-V modalities

Limitations of SOA Approaches

- Most of the existing approaches focus on modeling the intra-modal relationships
- The inter-modal relationships are not effectively explored to capture the complimentarity of A-V modalities
- Though attention models have been explored with transformers, they fail to capture the complimentary relationship of A-V modalities

Limitations of SOA Approaches

- Most of the existing approaches focus on modeling the intra-modal relationships
- The inter-modal relationships are not effectively explored to capture the complimentarity of A-V modalities
- Though attention models have been explored with transformers, they fail to capture the complimentary relationship of A-V modalities
- The semantic relevance among A-V features are not effectively captured in the existing approaches

Outline

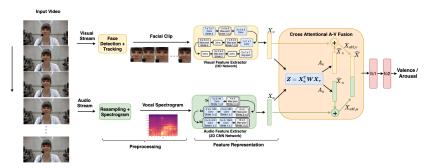
- 1 Dimensional Emotion Recognition
- 2 Motivation for Cross Attentional A-V Fusion
- 3 Proposed Approach
- 4 Results and Discussion
- Conclusion

Overall Framework

The training mechanism has three major modules: V
 Network, A Network and Cross-Attentional A-V Fusion

Overall Framework

 The training mechanism has three major modules: V Network, A Network and Cross-Attentional A-V Fusion



Visual Network

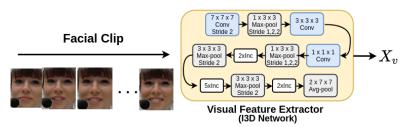
 I3D is widely used for the task of action recognition. Inspired by the performance of I3D, we use I3D for feature extraction

Visual Network

- I3D is widely used for the task of action recognition. Inspired by the performance of I3D, we use I3D for feature extraction
- We have inflated inception v-1 architecture from 2D pretrained model on ImageNet

Visual Network

- I3D is widely used for the task of action recognition. Inspired by the performance of I3D, we use I3D for feature extraction
- We have inflated inception v-1 architecture from 2D pretrained model on ImageNet



Audio Network

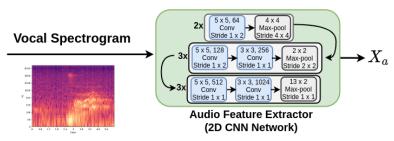
 Spectrograms are obtained from the speech signal and fed to the 2D CNN network

Audio Network

- Spectrograms are obtained from the speech signal and fed to the 2D CNN network
- The spectrograms are fed to the network, which is trained from scratch

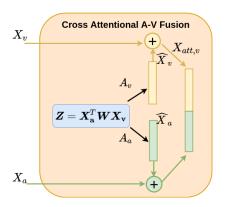
Audio Network

- Spectrograms are obtained from the speech signal and fed to the 2D CNN network
- The spectrograms are fed to the network, which is trained from scratch

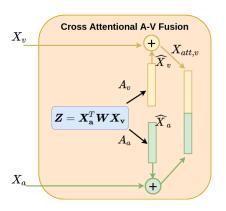


Cross Attentional AV Fusion

Cross Attentional AV Fusion



Cross Attentional AV Fusion



The V features (X_v)
 and A features (X_a)
 features are fed to the
 cross attentional
 module

Cross Attentional Fusion

• Cross attentional fusion was found to be efficient in capturing the semantic relevance across the modalities

- Cross attentional fusion was found to be efficient in capturing the semantic relevance across the modalities
- It estimates the cross correlation across the A-V features to capture the complimentary relationship

- Cross attentional fusion was found to be efficient in capturing the semantic relevance across the modalities
- It estimates the cross correlation across the A-V features to capture the complimentary relationship
- The cross correlation helps A-V features to interact between each other and gives a measure of semantic relevance across the modalities

Cross Attentional Fusion

- Cross attentional fusion was found to be efficient in capturing the semantic relevance across the modalities
- It estimates the cross correlation across the A-V features to capture the complimentary relationship
- The cross correlation helps A-V features to interact between each other and gives a measure of semantic relevance across the modalities
- Cross correlation based cross attention was successfully applied in few shot classification [Hou et al., 2019] and weakly supervised action localization [Lee et al., 2021]

Cross Correlation matrix

$$Z = X_a^T W X_v$$

where \boldsymbol{W} : learnable parameter

 $\boldsymbol{X}_{\boldsymbol{v}}$: deep features of V modality of given video sequence

Xa: deep features of A modality of given video sequence

Cross Correlation matrix

$$Z = X_a^T W X_v$$

where $oldsymbol{W}$: learnable parameter

 $\boldsymbol{X}_{\boldsymbol{\nu}}$: deep features of V modality of given video sequence

 X_a : deep features of A modality of given video sequence

Cross Attention Weights

$$\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{a}_{i,j}} = \frac{e^{\mathbf{Z}_{i,j}/T}}{\sum\limits_{k=1}^{K} e^{\mathbf{Z}_{k,j}/T}}$$
 and $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{v}_{i,j}} = \frac{e^{\mathbf{Z}^{T}_{i,j}/T}}{\sum\limits_{k=1}^{K} e^{\mathbf{Z}^{T}_{i,k}/T}}$

where $Z_{i,j}$: ith row and jth column of ZT: softmax temperature

Attention Maps

$$\widehat{m{X}_{m{a}}} = m{X}_{m{a}}m{A}_{m{a}}$$
 and $\widehat{m{X}_{m{v}}} = m{X}_{m{v}}m{A}_{m{v}}$

Attention Maps

$$\widehat{X_a} = X_a A_a$$
 and $\widehat{X_{
u}} = X_{
u} A_{
u}$

Final Attended features

$$oldsymbol{X_{att,a}} = anh(oldsymbol{X_a} + \widehat{oldsymbol{X_a}})$$

$$oldsymbol{X_{att,v}} = anh(oldsymbol{X_v} + \widehat{oldsymbol{X_v}})$$

Attention Maps

$$\widehat{X_a} = X_a A_a$$
 and $\widehat{X_{
u}} = X_{
u} A_{
u}$

Final Attended features

$$oldsymbol{X_{att,a}} = anh(oldsymbol{X_a} + \widehat{oldsymbol{X_a}})$$

$$m{X}_{att,m{v}} = anh(m{X}_{m{v}} + \widehat{m{X}_{m{v}}})$$

 The final attended features are further concatenated and fed to fully connected layers for valence / arousal prediction

Outline

- 1 Dimensional Emotion Recognition
- 2 Motivation for Cross Attentional A-V Fusior
- Proposed Approach
- 4 Results and Discussion
- Conclusion

Experimental Setup

- We have evaluated our proposed approach on RECOLA and Fatigue (private) datasets
- RECOLA dataset has been used for various challenges such as AVEC 2015 and AVEC 2016, where 9 subjects are used for training and 9 for validation
- Fatigue is a private dataset, which has 27 videos captured from 18 participants, suffering from degenerative diseases inducing fatigue
- Concordance Correlation Coefficient (CCC) is used to measure the performance of the proposed approach

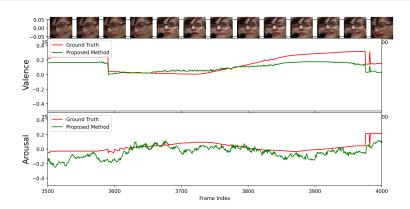
Ablation Study

 For V modality, we have explored 2D CNN and I3D model whereas for A modality, we have used the same deep network for all the experiments

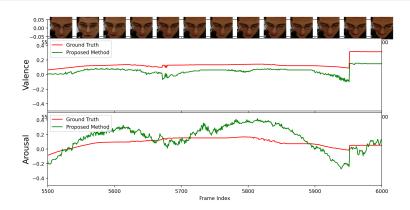
Table: CCC performance of our proposed approach obtained with various components on the RECOLA dataset.

| Method: V + Fusion | Valence | Arousal | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| 2D CNN + Feature Concatenation | 0.538 | 0.680 | |
| 2D CNN + LSTM | 0.552 | 0.697 | |
| I3D + Feature Concatenation | 0.579 | 0.732 | |
| I3D + Self Attention | 0.623 | 0.787 | |
| I3D + Cross-Attention (ours) | 0.685 | 0.835 | |

Visualizations of valence and arousal predictions for subject "dev 1"



Visualizations of valence and arousal predictions for subject "dev 3"



Comparison with state-of-the-art approaches

Table: CCC performance of the proposed and state-of-art models. All the results are presented on the RECOLA development set

| Method | | Valence | | | Arousal | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| | | Audio | Visual | Fusion | Audio | Visual | Fusion |
| [He et al., 2015] | AVEC (2015) | 0.400 | 0.441 | 0.609 | 0.800 | 0.587 | 0.747 |
| [Han et al., 2017] | IVU (2017) | 0.480 | 0.592 | 0.554 | 0.760 | 0.350 | 0.685 |
| [Tzirakis et al., 2017] | IEEE JSTSP (2017) | 0.428 | 0.637 | 0.502 | 0.786 | 0.371 | 0.731 |
| [Ortega et al., 2019] | IEEE SMC (2019) | - | - | 0.565 | - | - | 0.749 |
| [Schoneveld et al., 2021] | PR Letters (2021) | 0.460 | 0.550 | 0.630 | 0.800 | 0.570 | 0.810 |
| Proposed Approach | Cross-Attention | 0.463 | 0.642 | 0.685 | 0.822 | 0.582 | 0.835 |
| Proposed Approach | 2-stage Cross-Attention | 0.463 | 0.642 | 0.690 | 0.822 | 0.582 | 0.838 |

Results with Fatigue (private) Data

Table: CCC performance on Fatigue dataset.

| Method | Fatigue | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--|--|
| Audio only (2D-CNN) | 0.312 | | |
| Visual only (I3D) | 0.415 | | |
| Feature Concatenation | 0.378 | | |
| Proposed Approach (Cross-Attention) | 0.421 | | |

Outline

- Dimensional Emotion Recognition
- 2 Motivation for Cross Attentional A-V Fusion
- Proposed Approach
- 4 Results and Discussion
- Conclusion

Conclusion

 We propose a cross attentional A-V fusion model for dimensional emotion recognition

Conclusion

- We propose a cross attentional A-V fusion model for dimensional emotion recognition
- Unlike prior approaches of A-V fusion, we focus on inter modal relationships to leverage the complementarity of A-V modalities

Conclusion

- We propose a cross attentional A-V fusion model for dimensional emotion recognition
- Unlike prior approaches of A-V fusion, we focus on inter modal relationships to leverage the complementarity of A-V modalities
- Contrary to prior cross attentional models, we explored cross attention based cross correlation in the context of regression

Conclusion

- We propose a cross attentional A-V fusion model for dimensional emotion recognition
- Unlike prior approaches of A-V fusion, we focus on inter modal relationships to leverage the complementarity of A-V modalities
- Contrary to prior cross attentional models, we explored cross attention based cross correlation in the context of regression
- Extensive set of experiments conducted on RECOLA and Fatigue (private) datasets shows that the proposed approach clearly outperforms SOTA

Thank you for your attention!



References I



Han, J., Zhang, Z., Cummins, N., Ringeval, F., and Schuller, B. (2017).

Strength modelling for real-world automatic continuous affect recognition from audiovisual signals.

Image Vision Comput., 65(C):76-86.



He, L., Jiang, D., Yang, L., Pei, E., Wu, P., and Sahli, H. (2015).

Multimodal affective dimension prediction using deep bidirectional long short-term memory recurrent neural networks.

In 5th AVEC.

References II

- Hou, R., Chang, H., MA, B., Shan, S., and Chen, X. (2019). Cross attention network for few-shot classification. In *NIPS*.
- Lee, J.-T., Jain, M., Park, H., and Yun, S. (2021). Cross-attentional audio-visual fusion for weakly-supervised action localization.

 In *ICLR*.
- Ortega, J. D. S., Cardinal, P., and Koerich, A. L. (2019). Emotion recognition using fusion of audio and video features. In *IEEE International Conference on Systems, Man and Cybernetics (SMC)*, pages 3847–3852.

References III

- Parthasarathy, S. and Sundaram, S. (2021).

 Detecting expressions with multimodal transformers.

 In 2021 IEEE Spoken Language Technology Workshop (SLT), pages 636–643.
- Schoneveld, L., Othmani, A., and Abdelkawy, H. (2021). Leveraging recent advances in deep learning for audio-visual emotion recognition.
 - Pattern Recognition Letters, 146:1–7.
- Tzirakis, P., Chen, J., Zafeiriou, S., and Schuller, B. (2021). End-to-end multimodal affect recognition in real-world environments.

Information Fusion, 68:46-53.

References IV



Tzirakis, P., Trigeorgis, G., Nicolaou, M. A., Schuller, B. W., and Zafeiriou, S. (2017).

End-to-end multimodal emotion recognition using deep neural networks.

IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Signal Processing, 11(8):1301–1309.