## 10.31-11.6

In this phase, my main research direction is to explore how to achieve expression conversion using machine learning techniques. I searched for suitable machine learning models on multiple open source websites with the goal of finding a model that could accurately transform mouth expressions. Eventually, I found a seemingly ideal model using the StarGAN2 pattern. I downloaded the model and tried it out in my Google Colab environment.

However, after I ran all the code, I faced a confusing problem: there were no generated results to show, along with no error alerts. This put me in a situation where I didn't know what to do. After repeated fruitless attempts, I decided to invite my colleague Mayra to work on a detailed tutorial to solve these technical difficulties. We found that Google Colab's GPU resources were insufficient to support our machine learning needs, so we turned to using the terminal and conda that came with our computers to experiment in Visual Studio Code.

Unfortunately, despite our attempts, including downloading the necessary software for my RTX 3060 graphics card, my computer still crashed after setting up the environment and running the code. Faced with this set of technical challenges, I decided to turn to the alternate plan of using Midjourney and Runway for video generation.

This phase was challenging, but it greatly enriched my technical experience and made me more aware of all the practical problems I encountered in real-world applications. Through continuous experimentation and exploration, I have gained a deeper understanding of machine learning and video generation techniques.

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Machine learning test