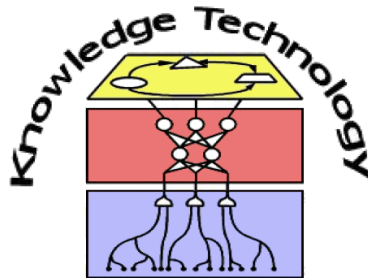


Learning Empathy-Driven Emotion Expressions using Affective Modulations

Nikhil Churamani, Pablo Barros, Erik Strahl
and Stefan Wermter

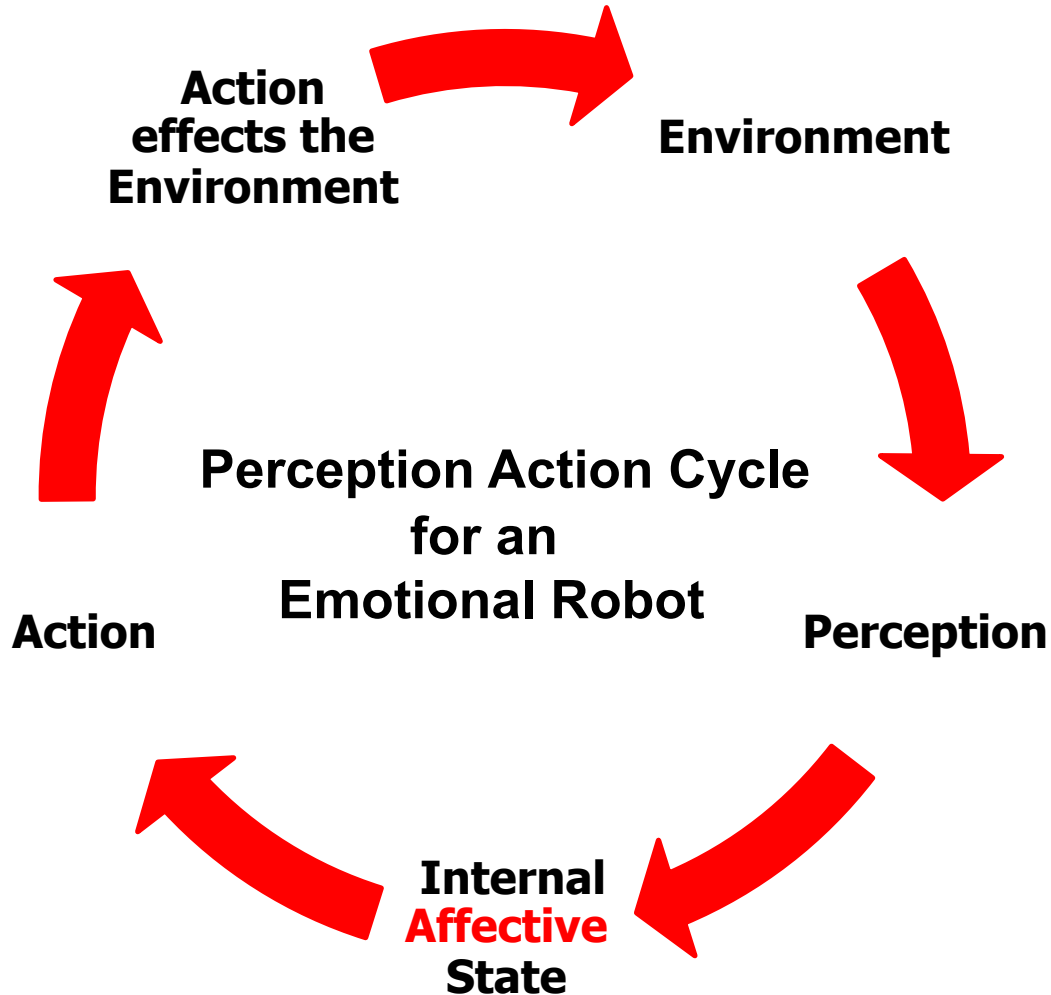
Knowledge Technology
Department of Informatics
Universität Hamburg



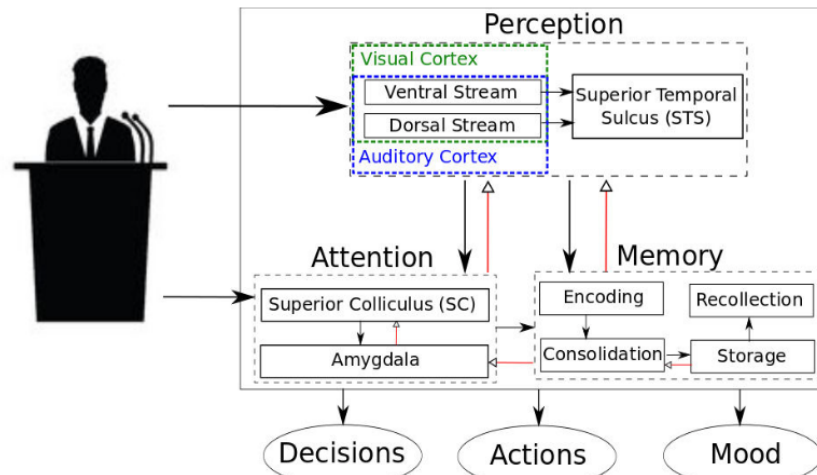
<https://www.inf.uni-hamburg.de/en/inst/ab/wtm/>

<http://knowledge-technology.info>

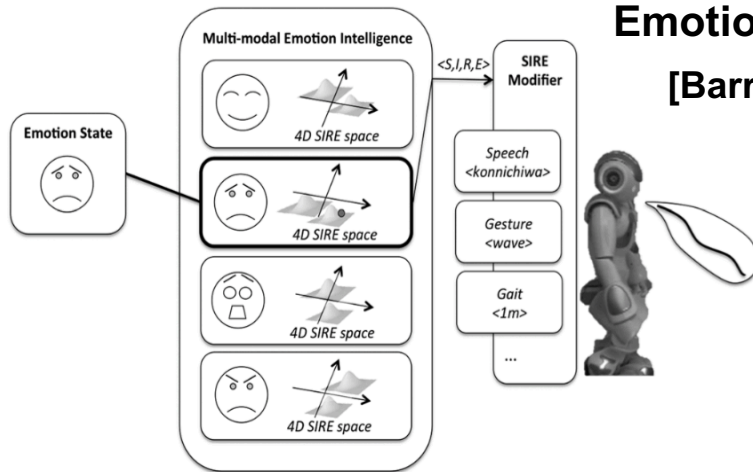
Motivation



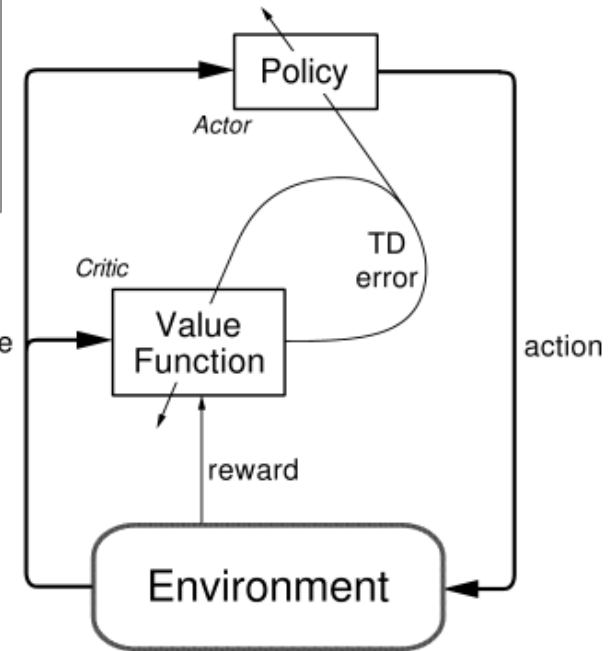
Motivation



Emotion Circuitry [Barros, 2016]

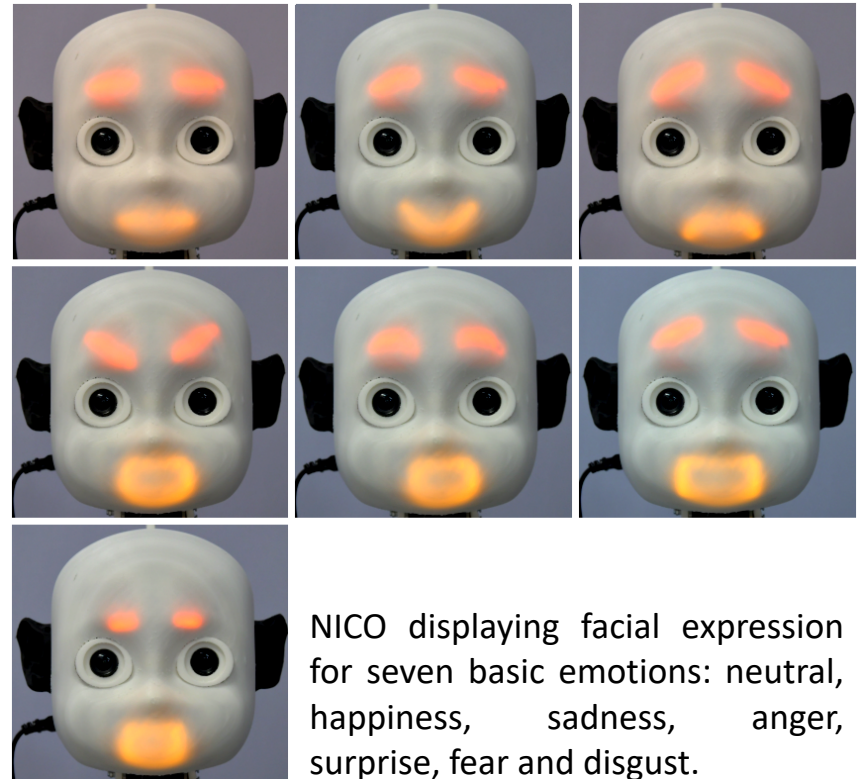
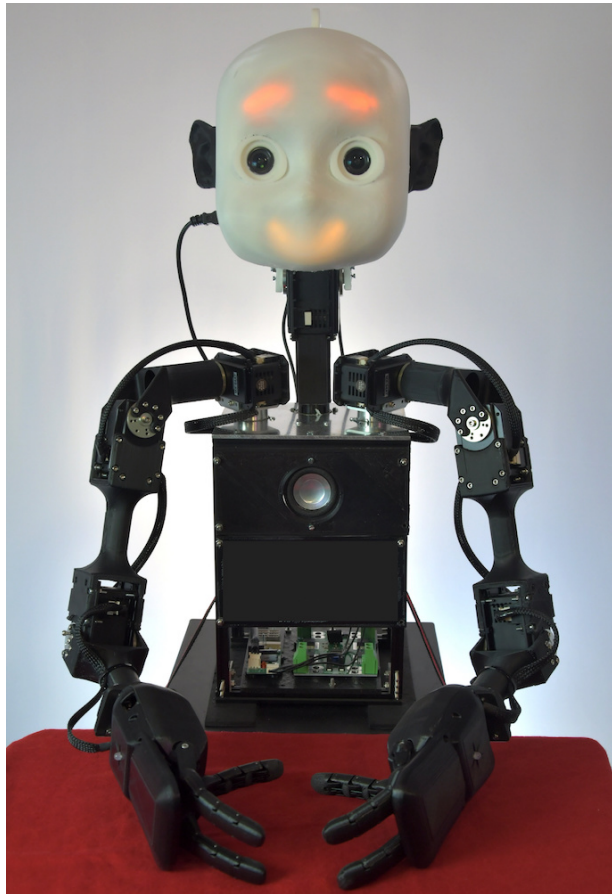


SIRE Model [Lim et al. 2014]



Actor-Critic Models for Reinforcement Learning [Sutton & Barto, 1998]

NICO: Neuro-Inspired Companion

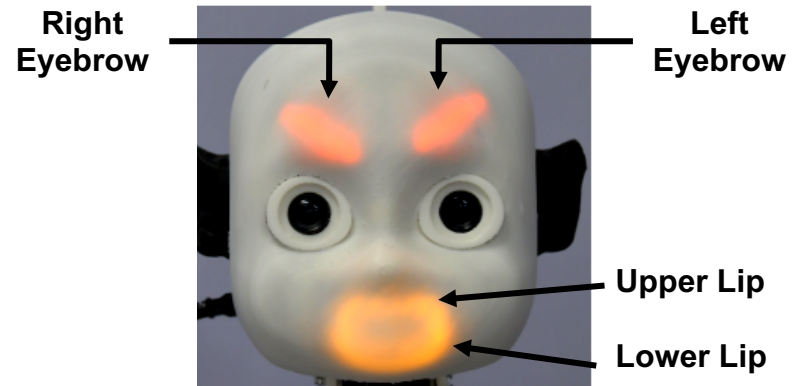
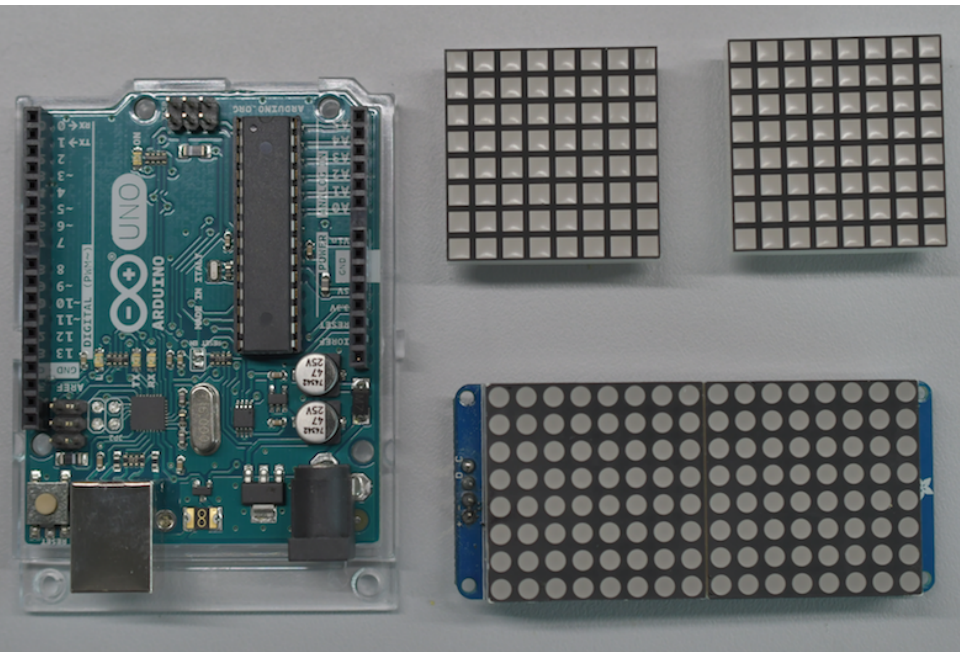


NICO displaying facial expression for seven basic emotions: neutral, happiness, sadness, anger, surprise, fear and disgust.

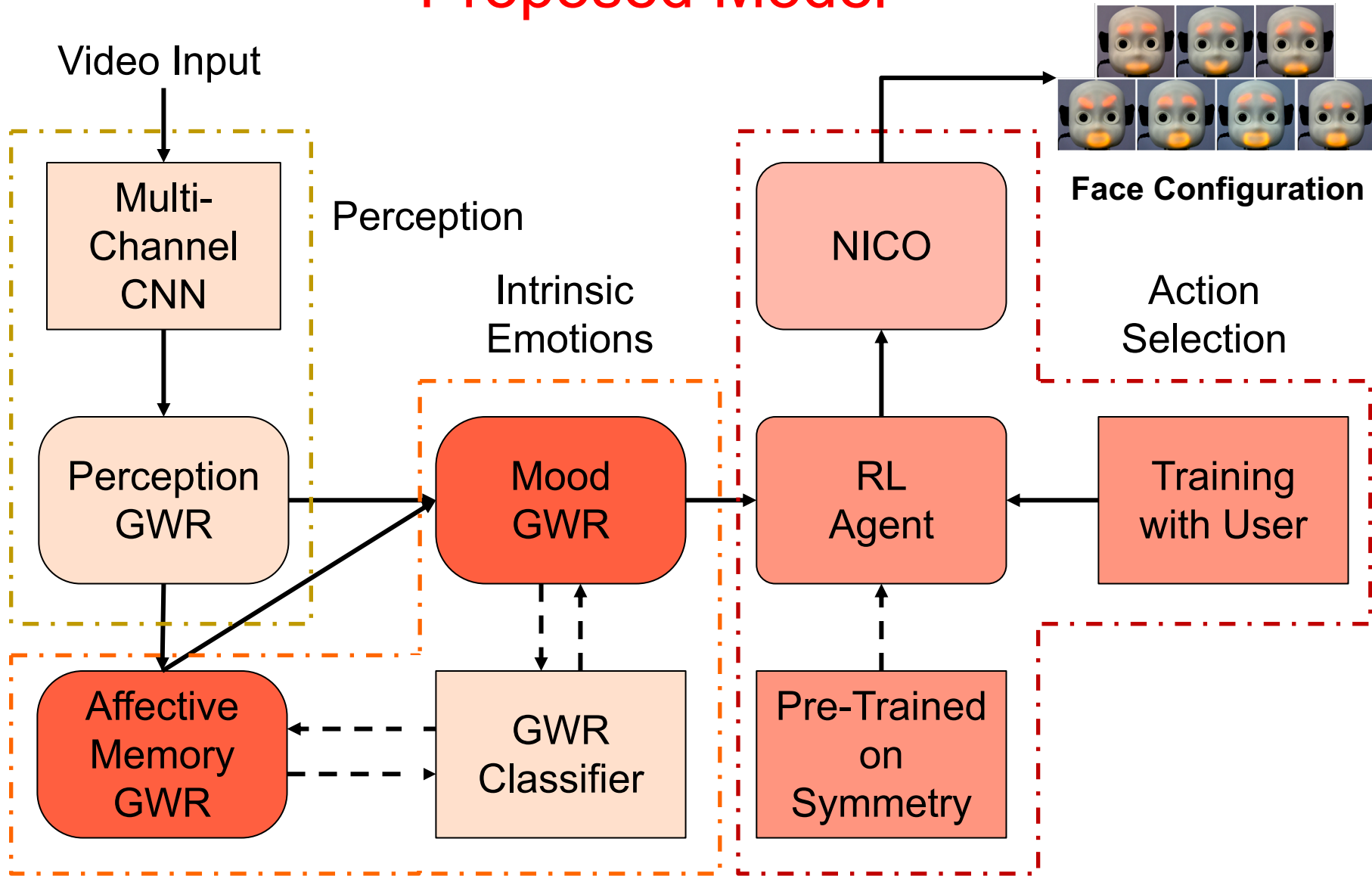
[Churamani et. al 2017]
[Kerzel et al. 2017]

NICO: Neuro-Inspired Companion

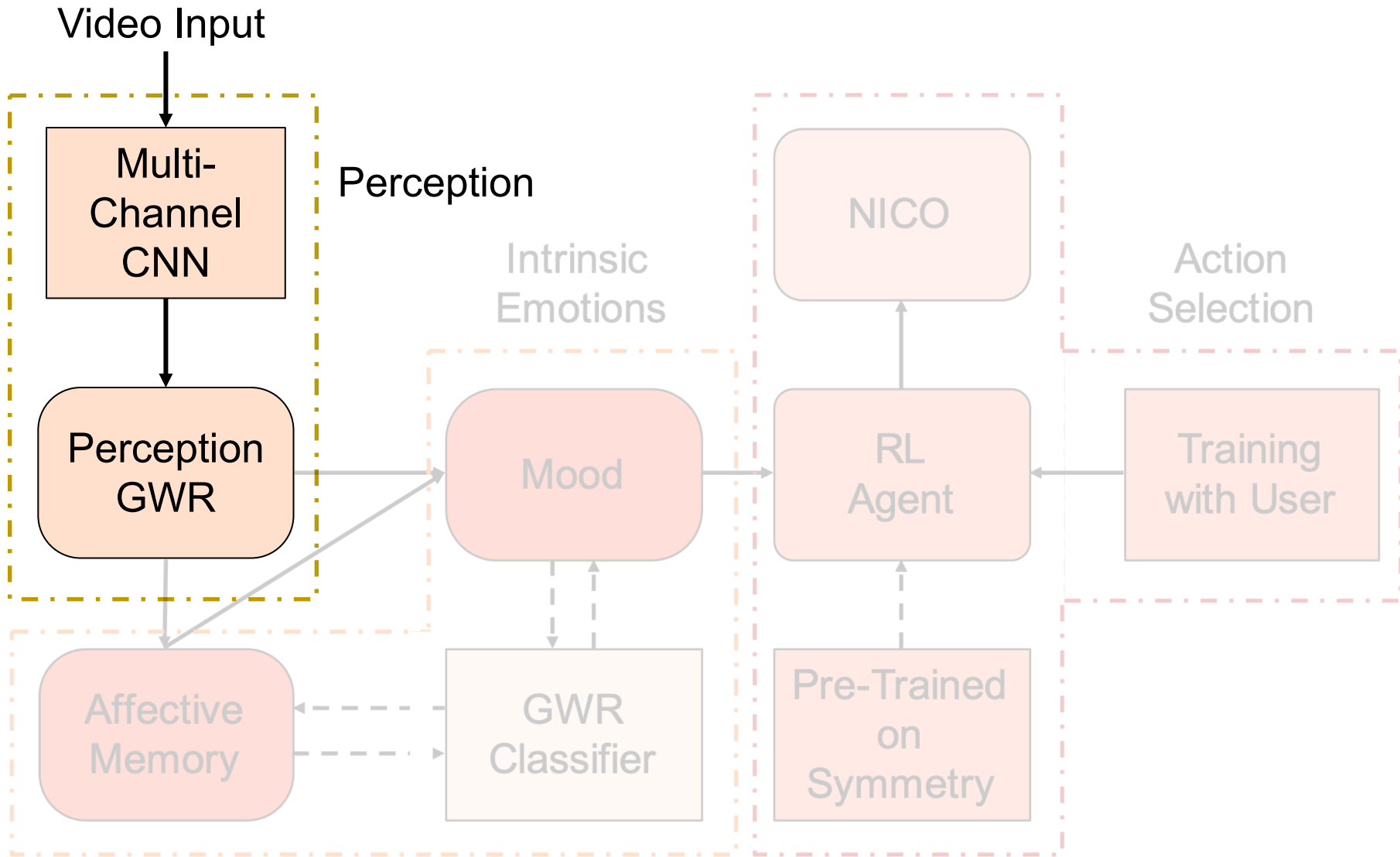
*Each Wavelet: [yStretch, yOffset, xStretch, xOffset]



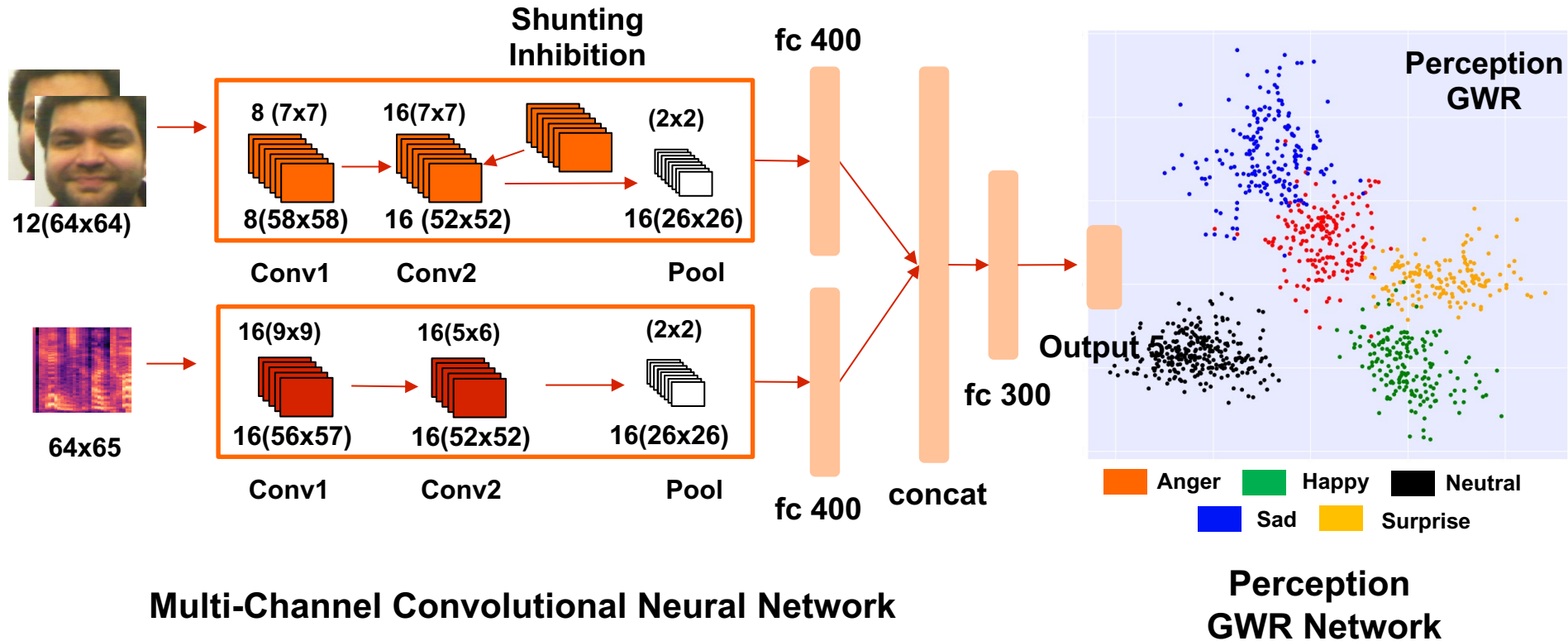
Proposed Model



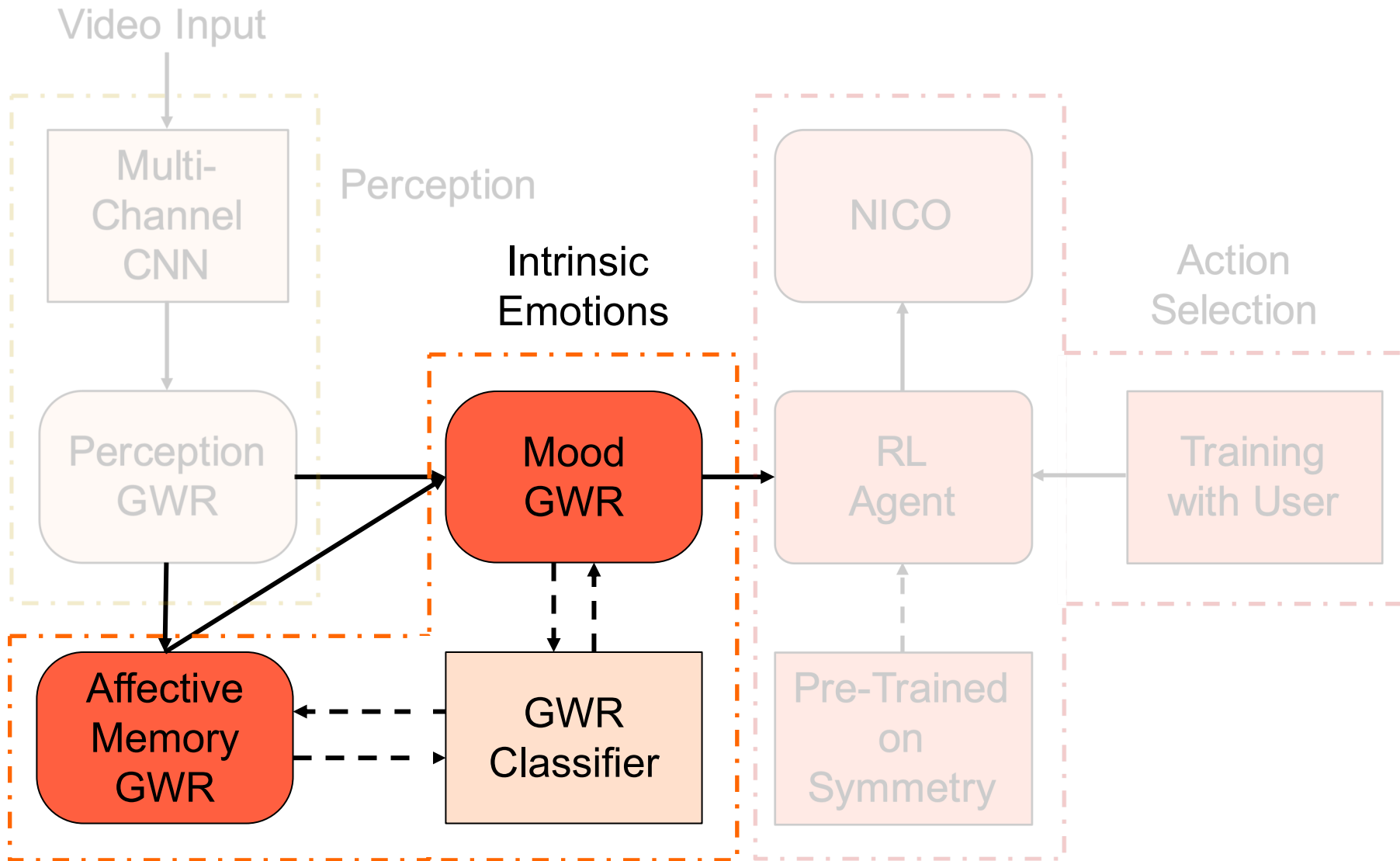
Emotion Perception



Emotion Perception

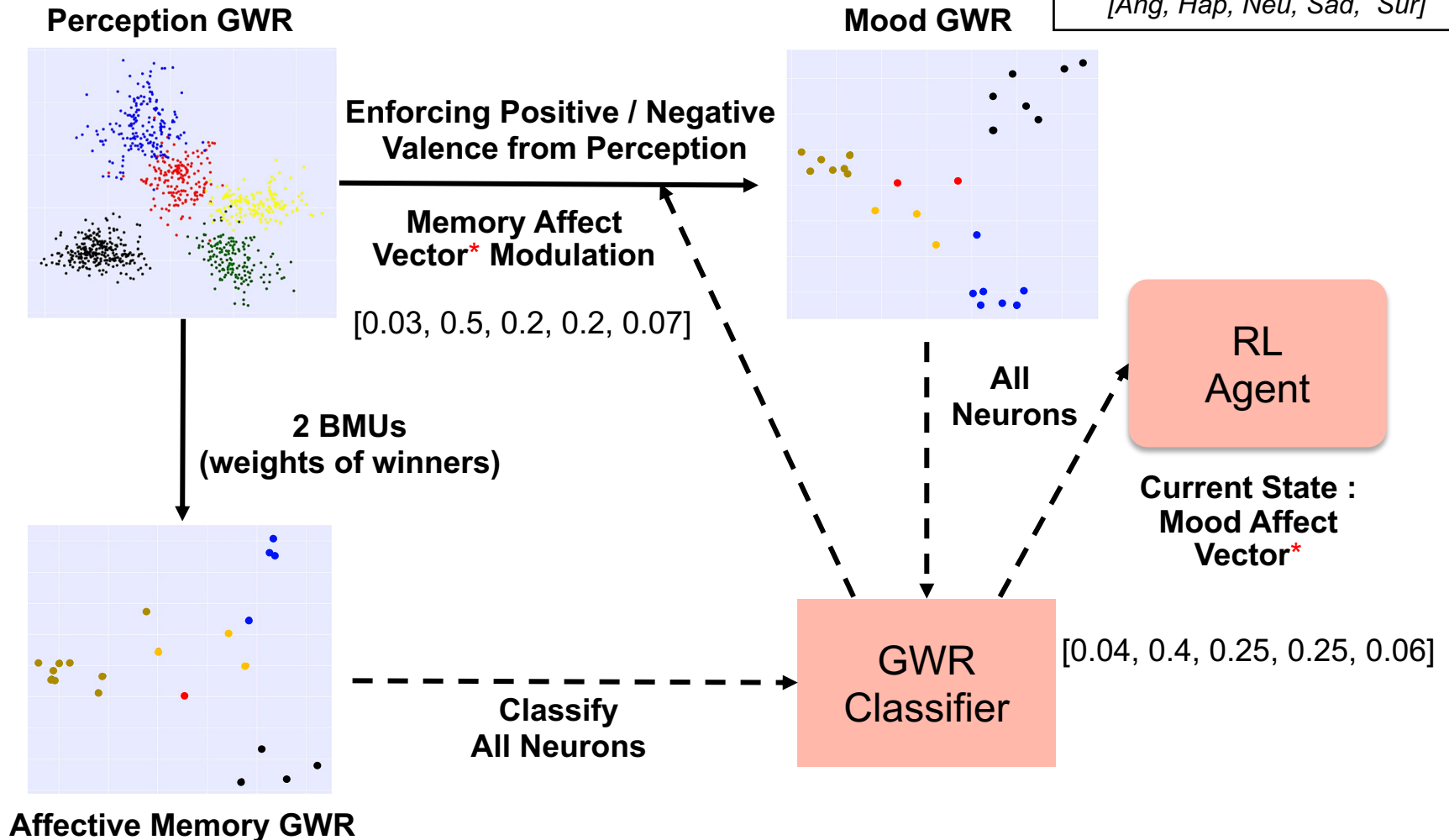


Intrinsic Emotions

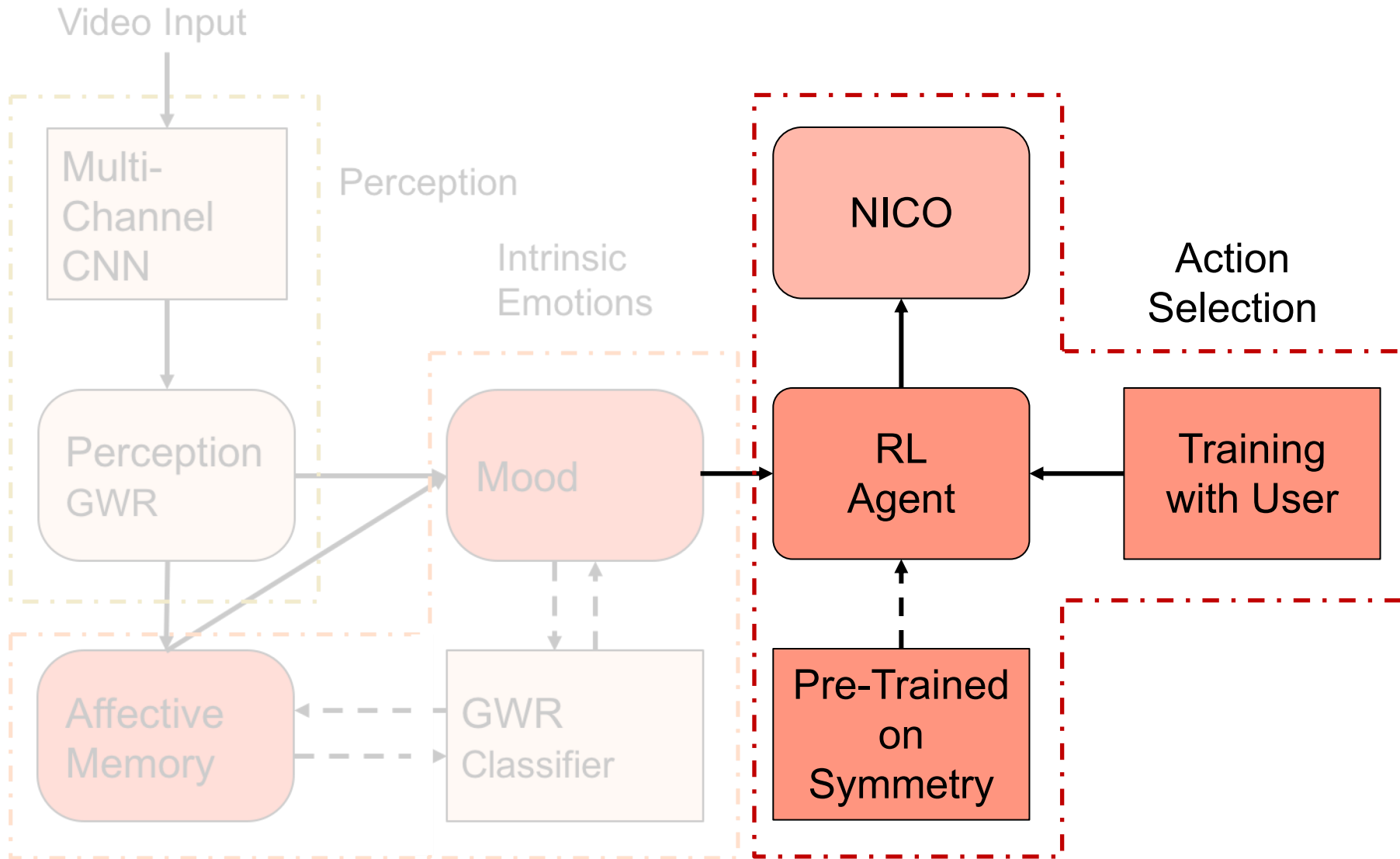


Intrinsic Emotions

* *Affect Vector* encodes the fraction of neurons corresponding to each emotion constituting the GWR.
 Eg. Angry Heavy Memory:
 [0.5, 0.1, 0.2, 0.15, 0.05]
 [Ang, Hap, Neu, Sad, Sur]



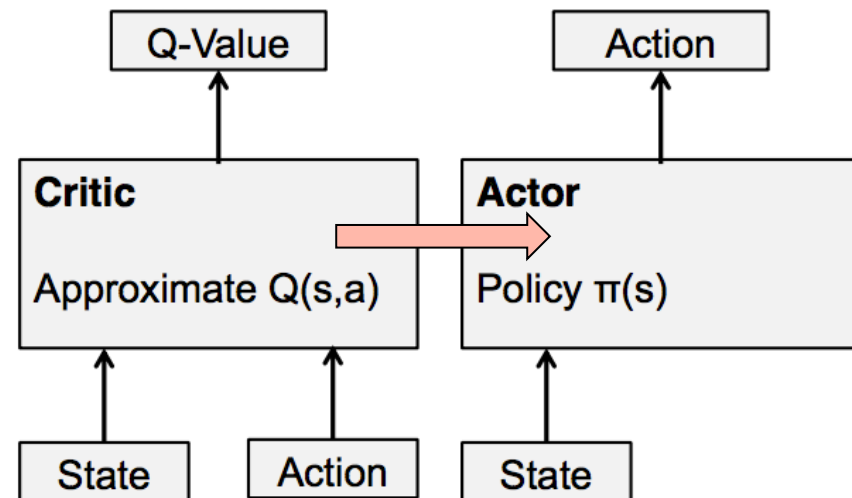
Learning To Express



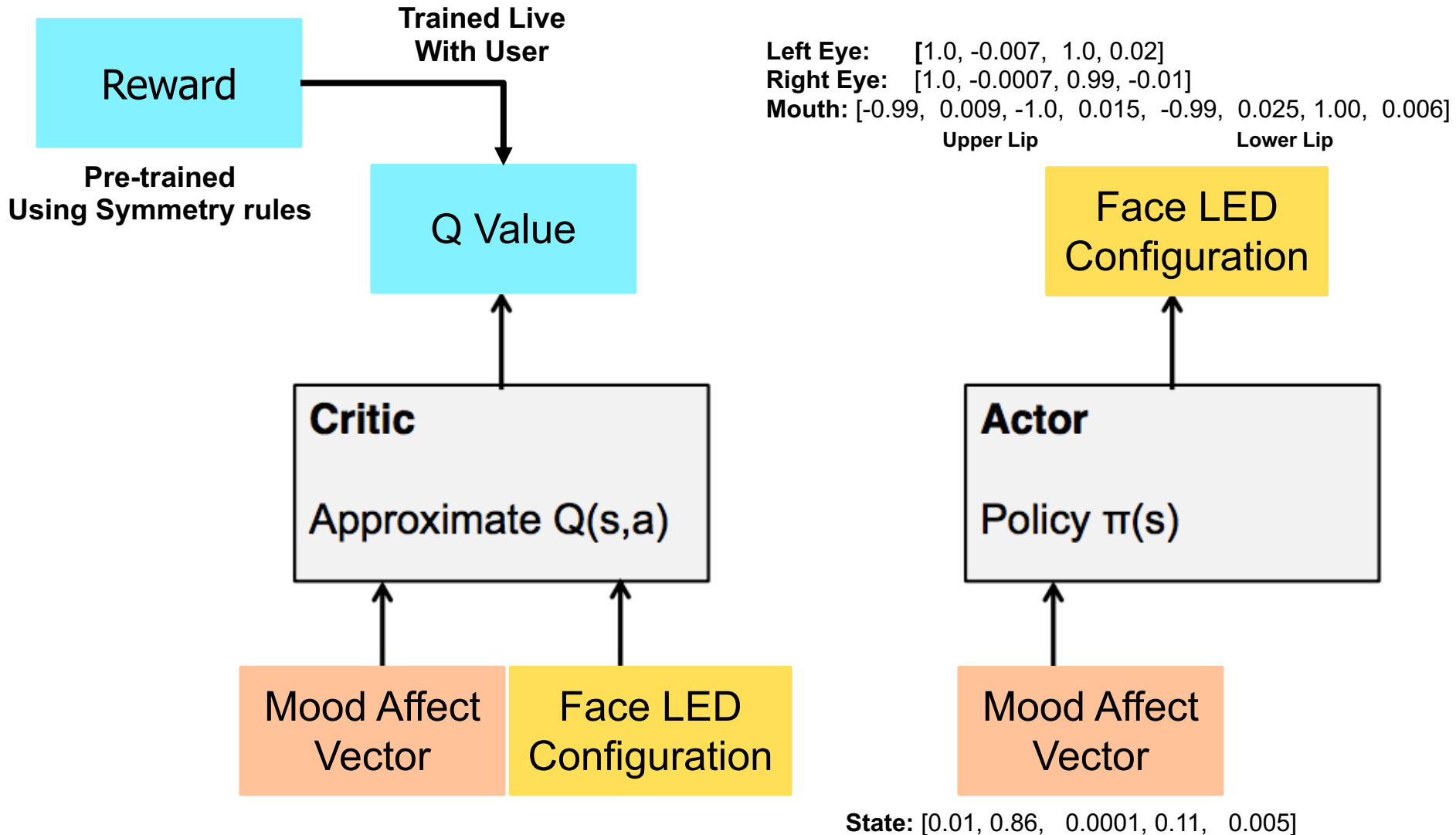
Learning To Express

(Reinforcement Learning in Continuous Domain)

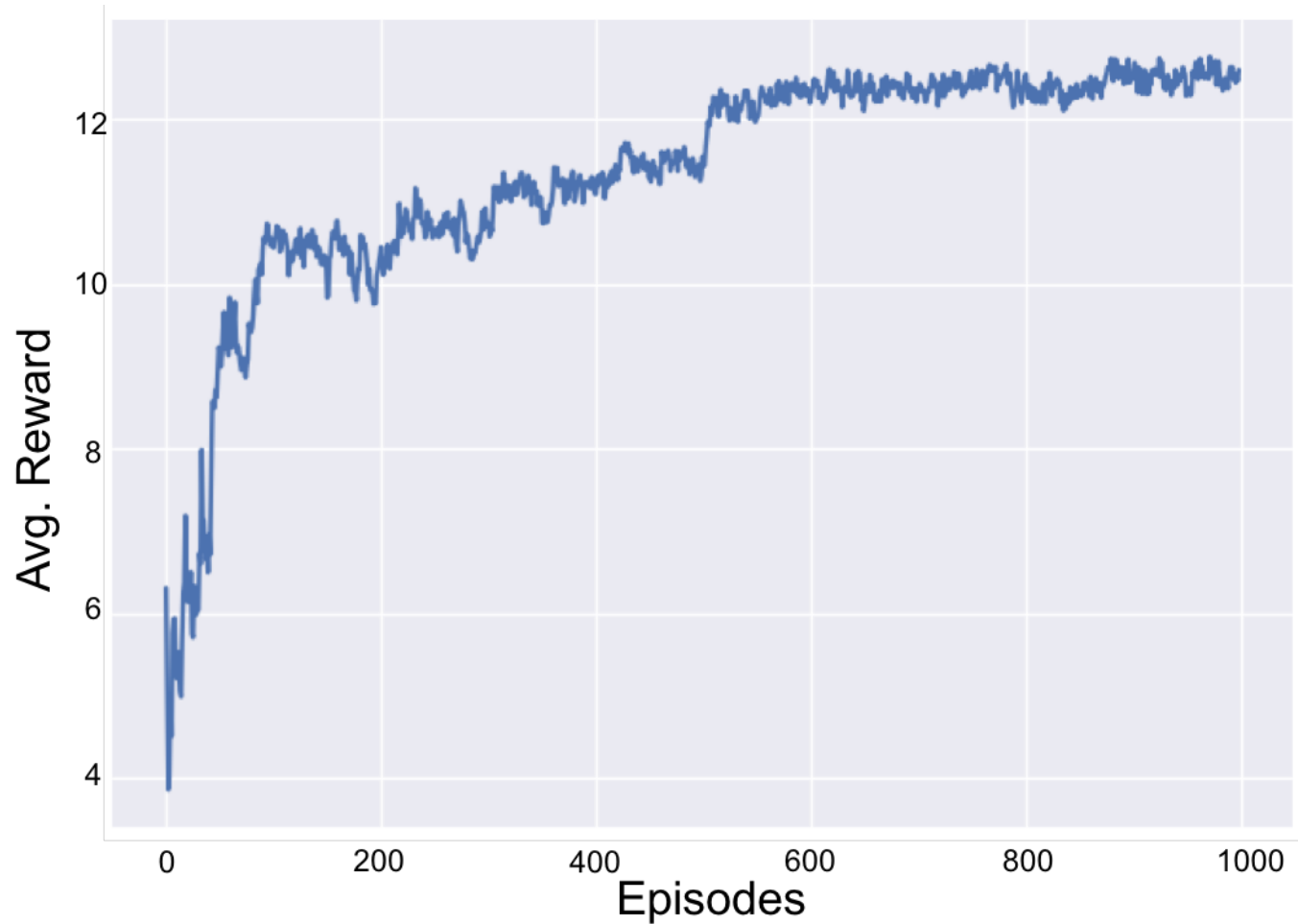
- Deep Deterministic Policy Gradients
- Extension of DQN [Mnih et al. 2015] to continuous actions [Lillicrap et al. 2015]:
 - Separate networks trained using gradient transfer
 - Tracked updates – enhance stability at the cost of learning speed
 - Replay memory – decouples learning episodes



Learning To Express

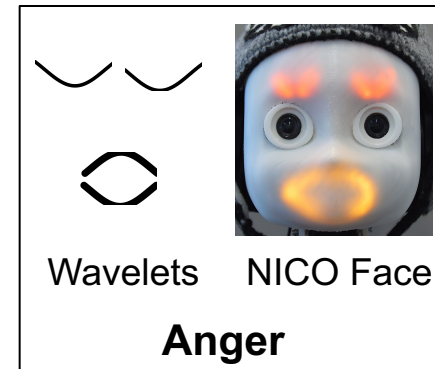
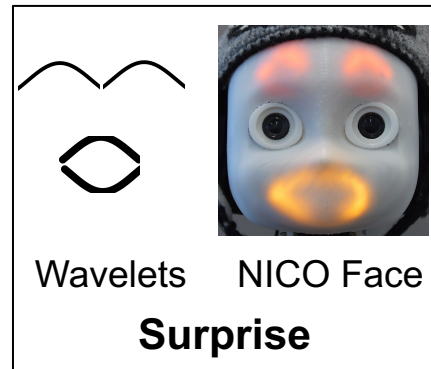
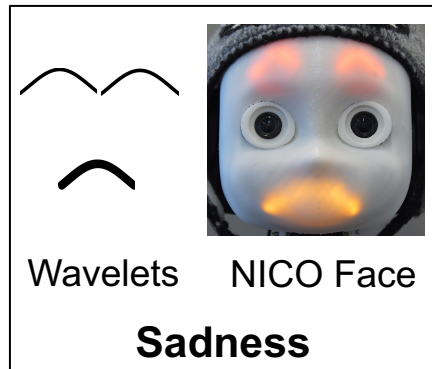
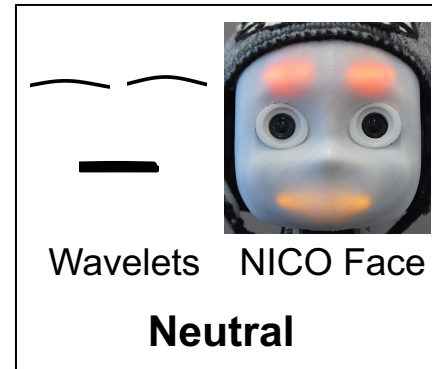
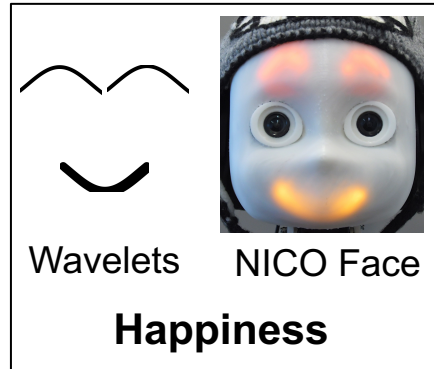


Results



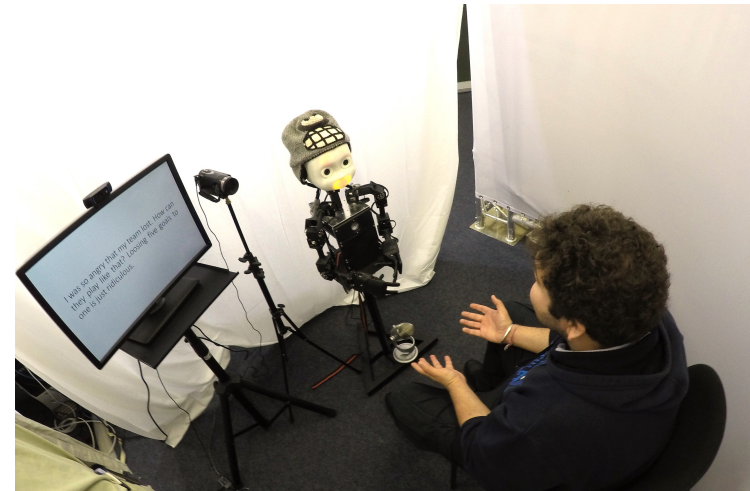
Rewarding Symmetry

Result: NICO Faces



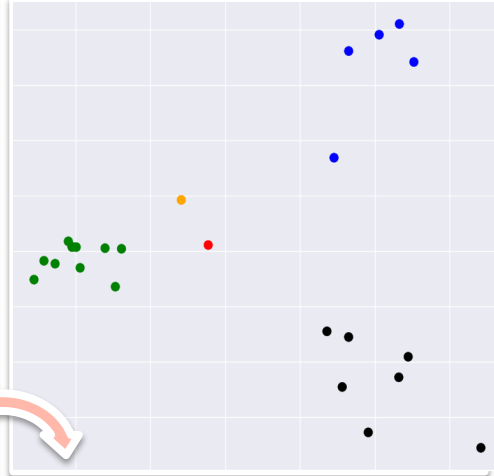
Learning with Users: Setup

- Training with 6 participants.
- Each participant trains the robot by telling a story after reading and memorising from the screen.
 - The story is split into 21 interaction dialogues.
 - Each dialogue presents 5-6 seconds of audio-visual input after which the robot reacts.
- For testing purposes another story is narrated to the robot consisting of 10 interaction dialogues.



Learning with Users: Scenario

User Narrates a story to the robot with an affective context.



Robot forms an intrinsic affective model of the interaction.

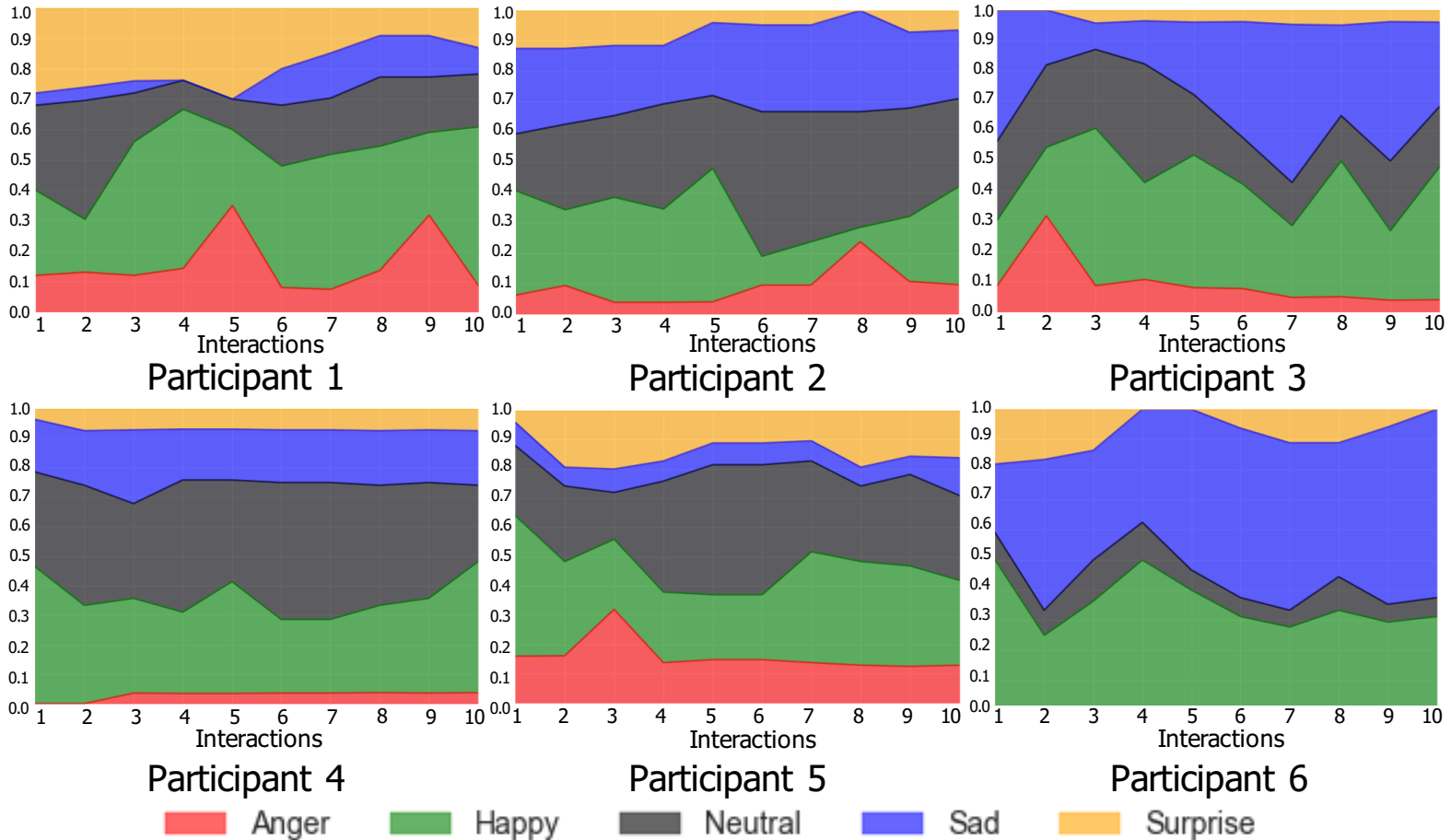
User Evaluates the Generated face for appropriateness. Based on the user evaluation, robot is rewarded.

**Participant Evaluation:
Inappropriate**



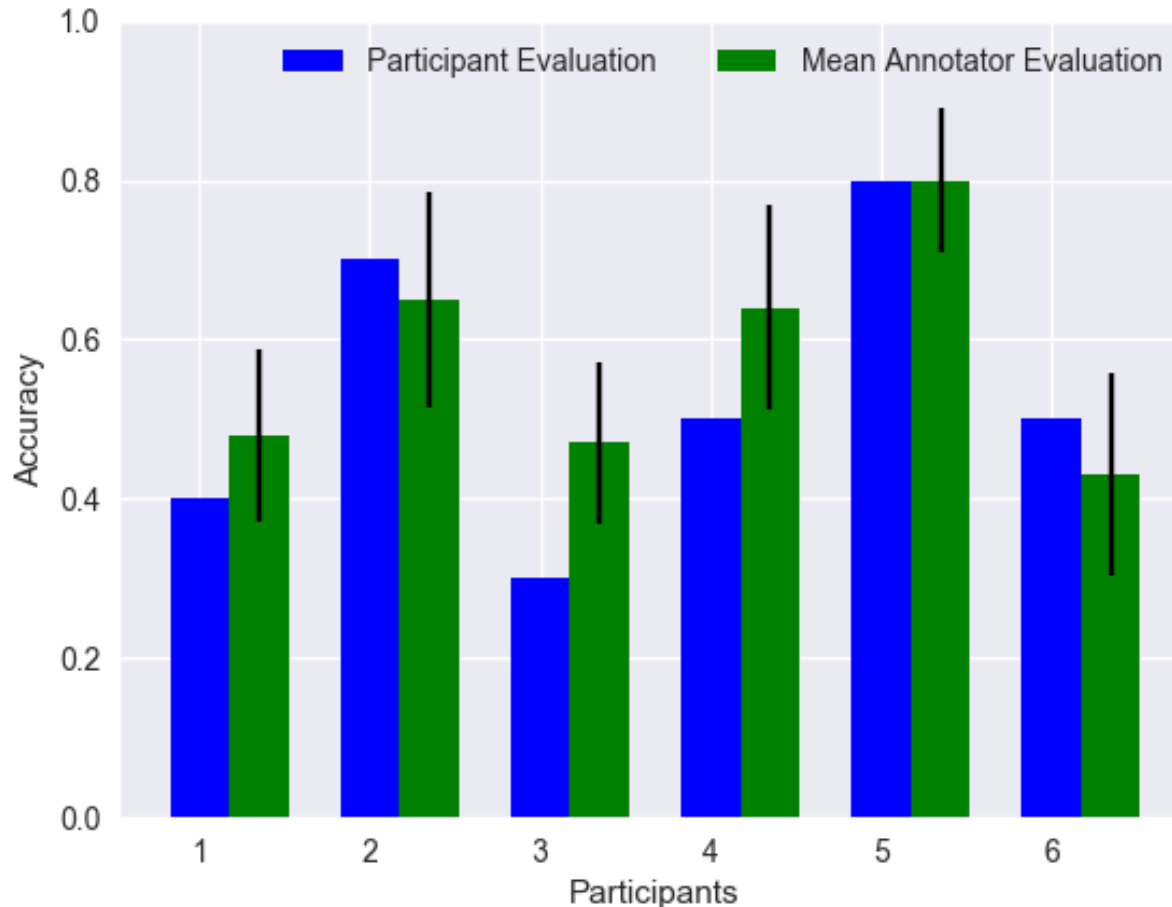
NICO generates a Face Expression it deems appropriate.

Learning with Users: Results



Robot mood evolving over 10 interactions (each lasting for 5-6 seconds) for each participant. Area under the curves with different colors represent the fraction of neurons in the resultant mood of the robot for each corresponding emotion.

Learning with Users: Results

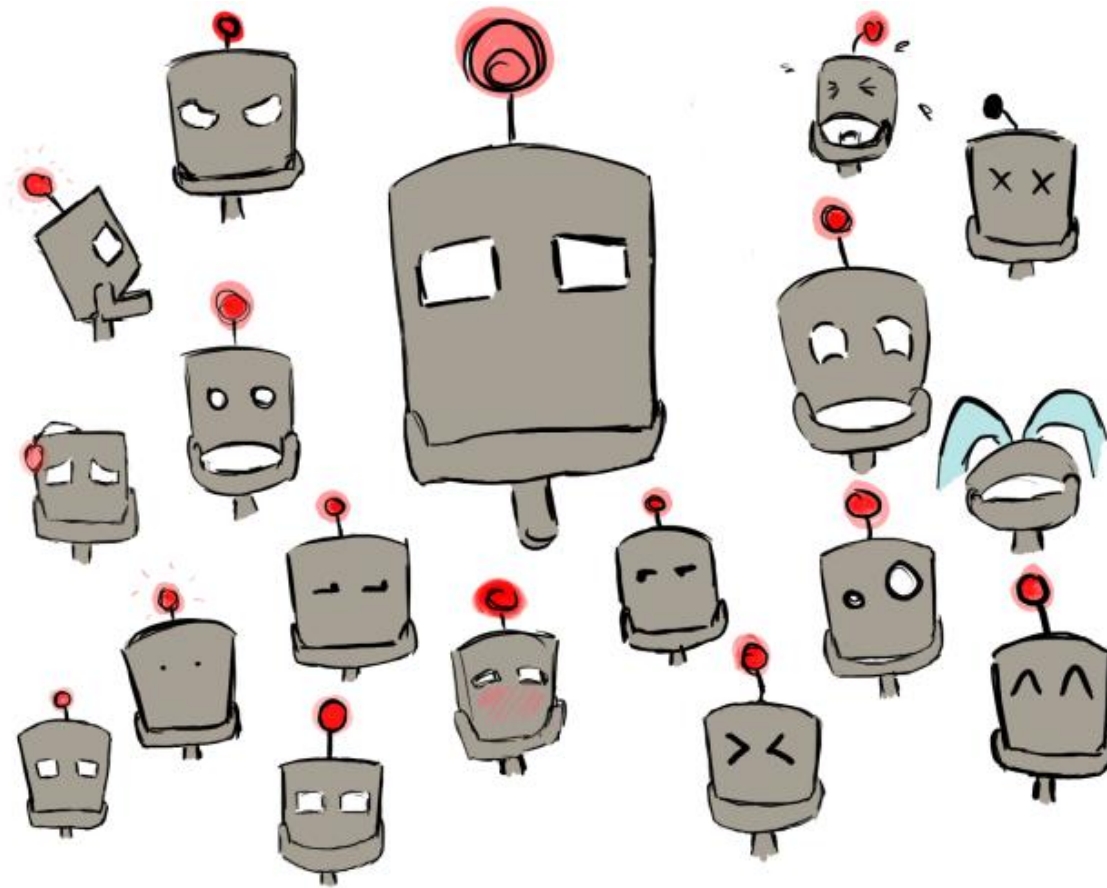


Participant and Mean Annotator Evaluations ($\kappa = 0.51$) on the appropriateness of the generated expression on NICO.

Conclusion

- A Deep Hybrid Neural Network is presented for emotional appraisal and expression generation.
- Empathy an important factor to learn robot behaviour.
- Emotion Classification is only half of the story.
- Intrinsic Emotional representations in the robot allow for better affective interactions with users.
- Spontaneous emotions along with affective contextual memory is important to model dynamic and fluid human-robot interaction.
- **Future Work:**
 - Learned actions can be enhanced to cover a richer continuous space dealing even with multiple modalities.
 - Using linguistic information to improve contextual understanding.

Q & A



catmoo.co.uk

References

- [1] Pablo Vinicius Alves de Barros. Modeling Affection Mechanisms using Deep and Self-Organizing Neural Networks. PhD thesis, Universität Hamburg, 2016.
- [2] Angelica Lim and Hiroshi G Okuno. The mei robot: towards using motherese to develop multimodal emotional intelligence. *Autonomous Mental Development, IEEE Transactions on*, 6(2):126–138, 2014.
- [3] Sutton, Richard S., and Andrew G. Barto. Reinforcement learning: An introduction. Vol. 1. No. 1. Cambridge: MIT press, 1998.
- [4] N. Churamani, M. Kerzel, E. Strahl, P. Barros, and S. Wermter. Teaching emotion expressions to a human companion robot using deep neural architectures. in *Proceedings of the International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN)*. IEEE, May 2017, pp. 627–634.
- [5] M. Kerzel, E. Strahl, S. Magg, N. Navarro-Guerrero, S. Heinrich, and S. Wermter, “NICO – Neuro-Inspired COmpanion: A Developmental Humanoid Robot Platform for Multimodal Interaction,” in *IEEE International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)*. IEEE, 2017, pp. 113–120.
- [6] V. Mnih, K. Kavukcuoglu, D. Silver, A. Graves, I. Antonoglou, D. Wierstra, and M. A. Riedmiller, “Playing atari with deep reinforcement learning,” *CoRR*, vol. abs/1312.5602, 2013
- [7] Lillicrap TP, Hunt JJ, Pritzel A, Heess NM, Erez T, Tassa Y, Silver D, Wierstra DP, inventors; Google Inc., assignee. Continuous control with deep reinforcement learning. United States patent application US 15/217,758. 2016 Jul 22.