



# Personalized affective computing

**How to combat model explainability,  
uncertainties in subjective judgment and  
response biases in estimating individual's affect**

Shiro Kumano

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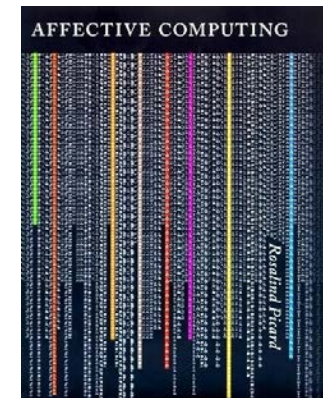
# What is Affective Computing?

- To build machines understand human emotions,
- To make machines behave emotionally, and
- To develop machines having emotions.



An interdisciplinary field for incorporating emotion state recognition, understanding, simulation, and stimulation into computer system design.

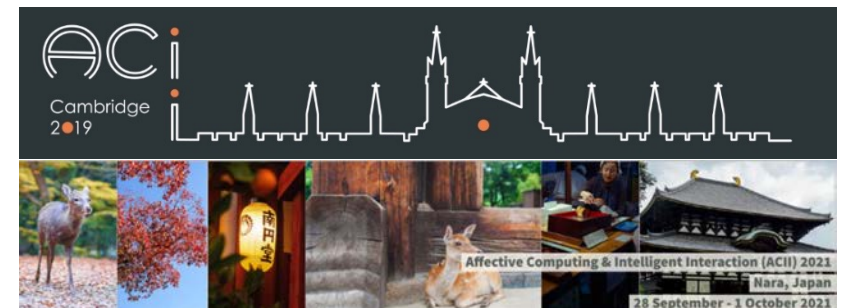
[Picard 97]



IEEE Trans.  
Affective  
Computing

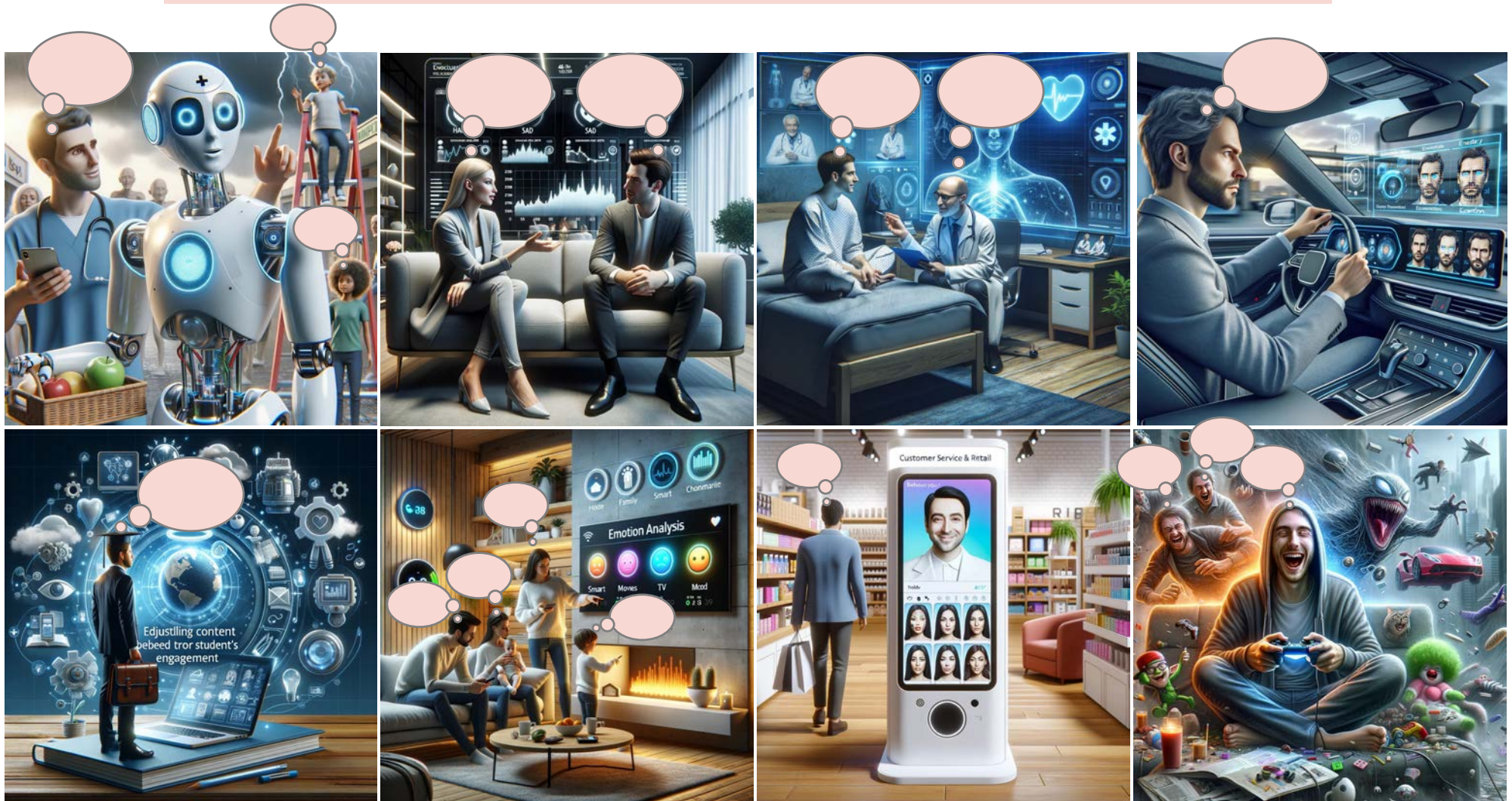
IF=13.99

Flagship conference: ACII, Affective Computing and Intelligent Interaction



# Potential applications of affect sensing

Subjective experiences matter in many domains

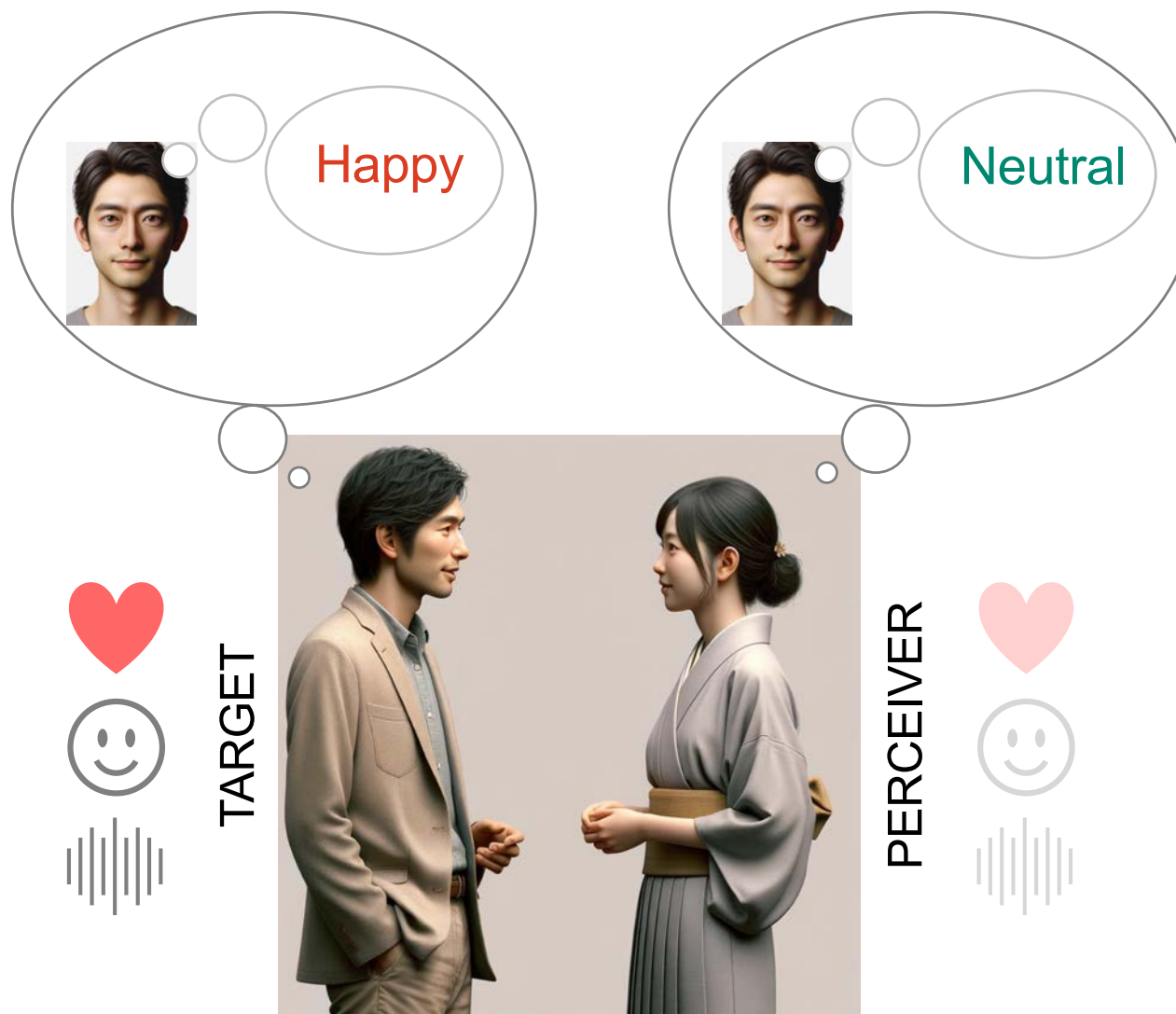


All were drawn by DALL-E 3

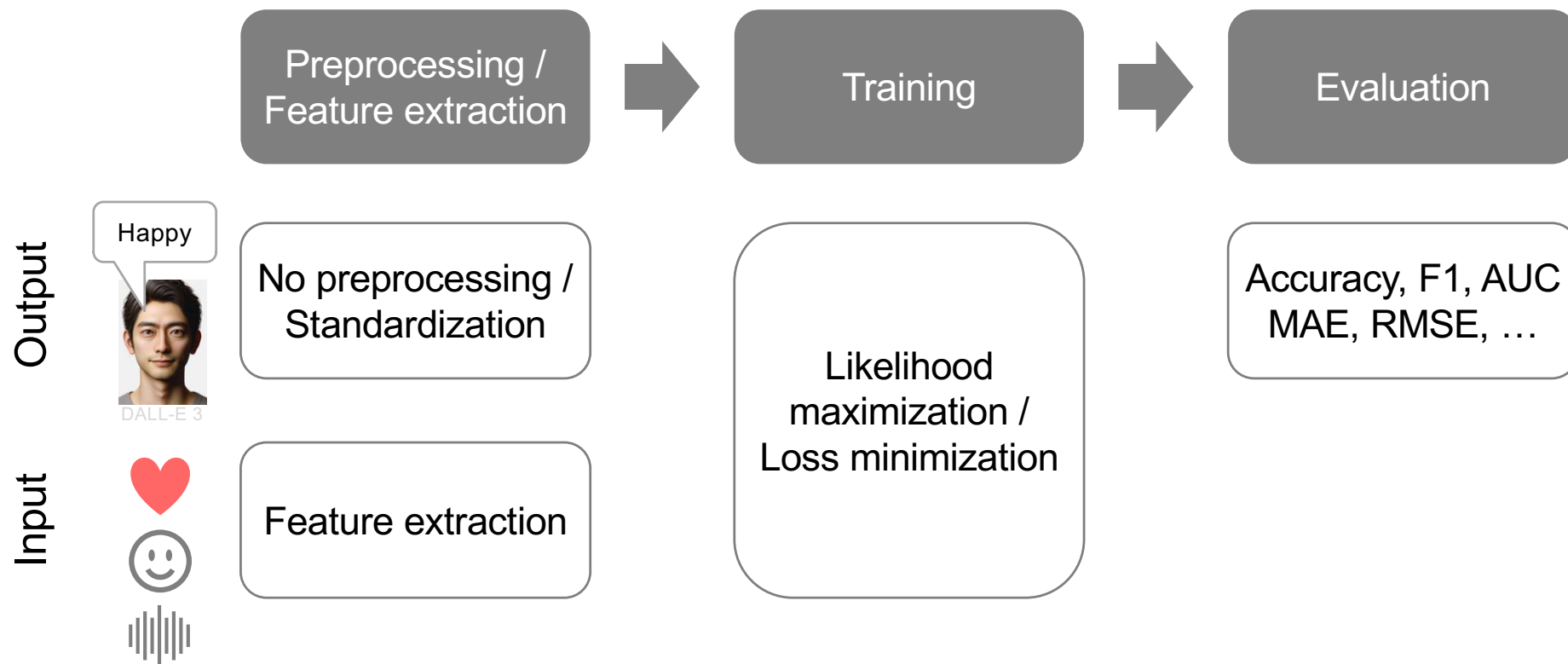
# Felt affect versus perceived affect

**Felt affect**

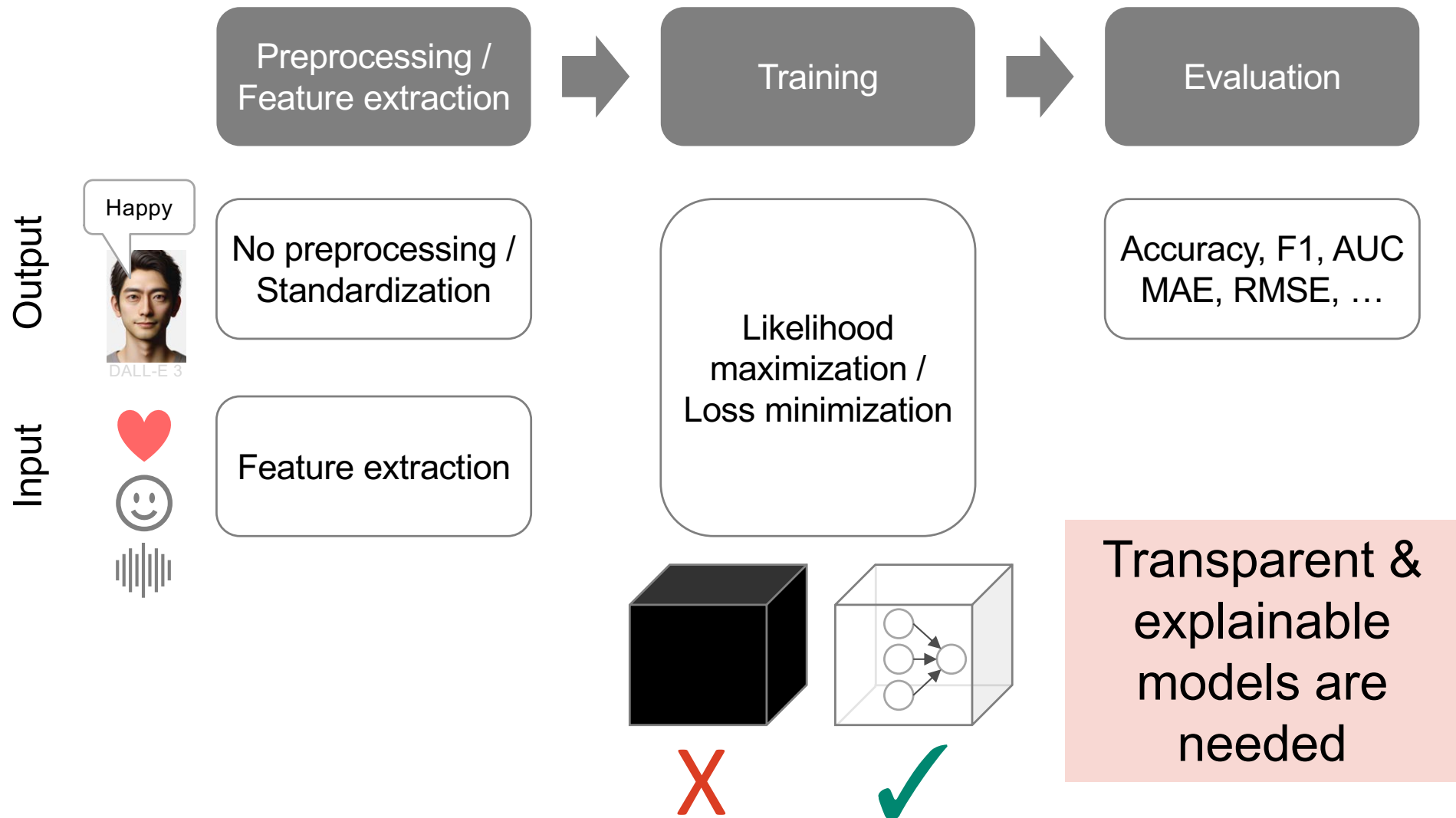
**Perceived affect**



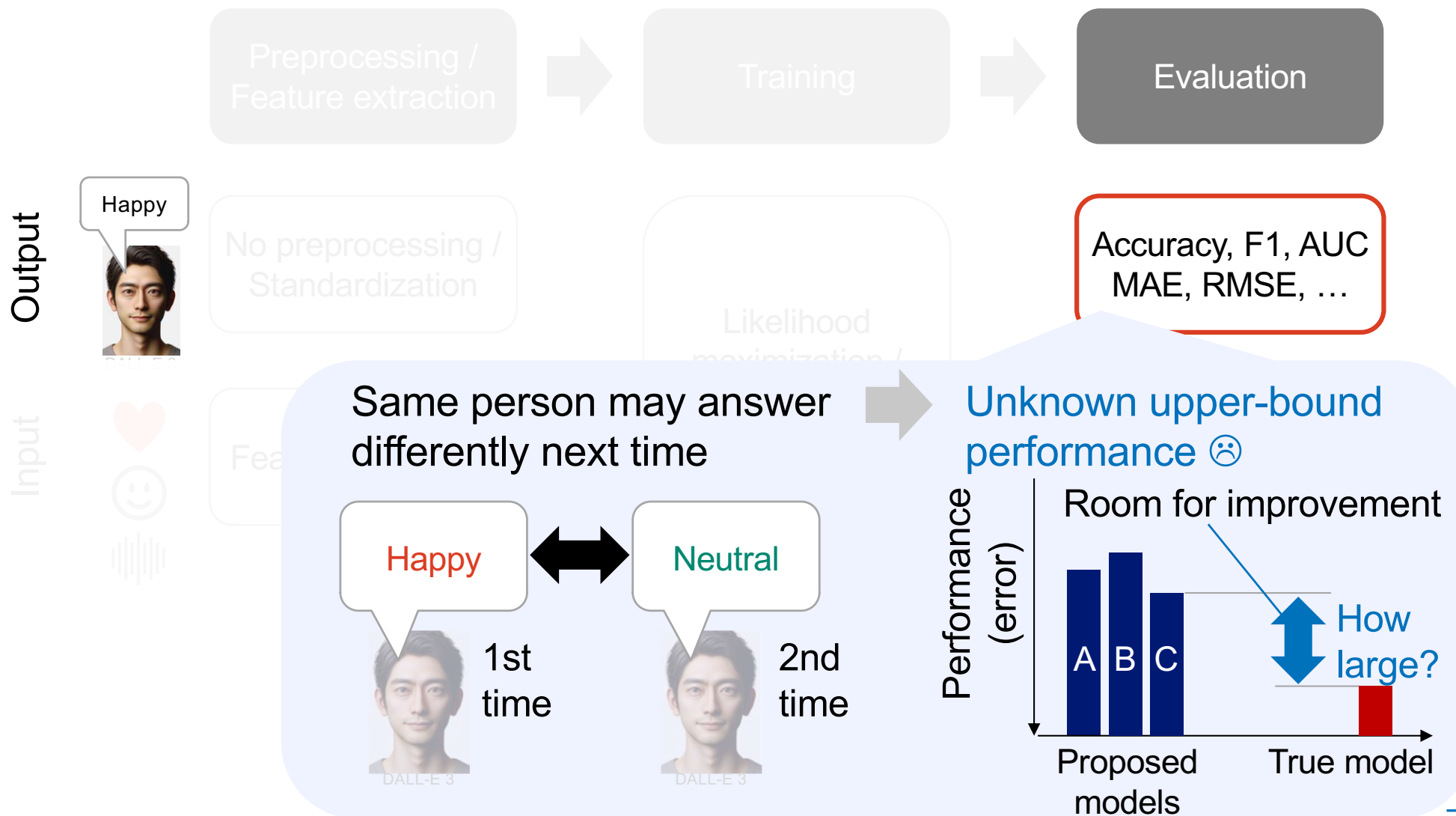
# Basic steps of supervised learning for subjective emotion prediction



# Issue 1: Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues (ELSI)

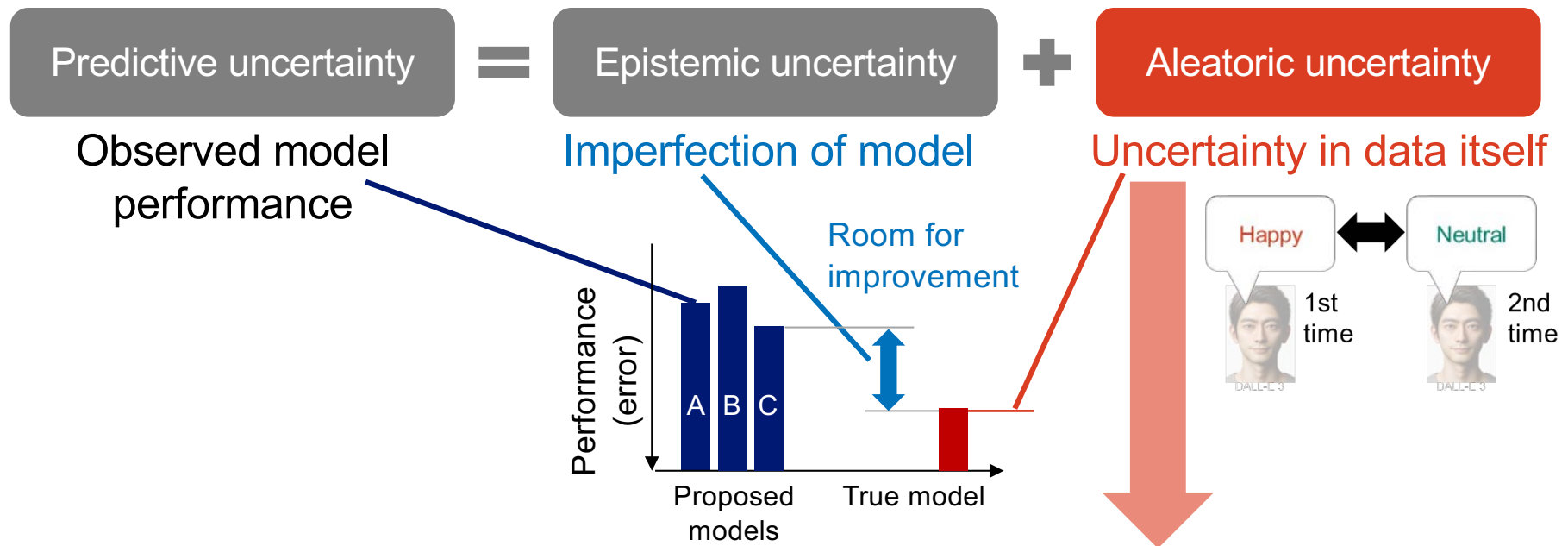


# Issue 2: Uncertainty in subjective judgment



# Aleatoric & epistemic uncertainties

Uncertainty theory [Smith and Gal, 2018]



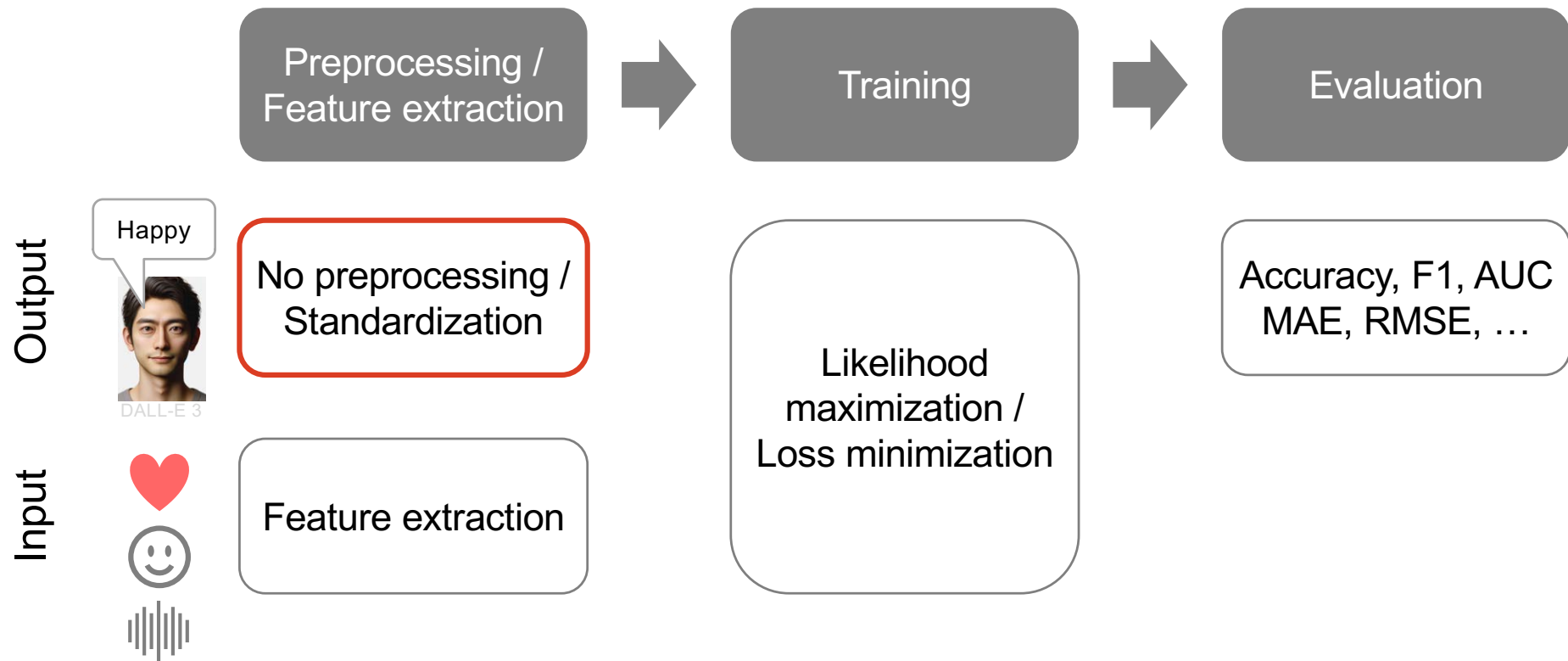
If aleatoric uncertainty  $\neq 0$ , no model can achieve perfect performance.

Problem of previous uncertainty prediction methods

Predict aleatoric uncertainty not using data itself but using the model, using MC-dropout or model ensembles.



# Issue 3: Response biases



# Response biases

(Paulhus 1991, Baumgartner & Steenkamp 2001, Wetzel et al. 2016)

Degrade validity of correlation- and variance-based analyses

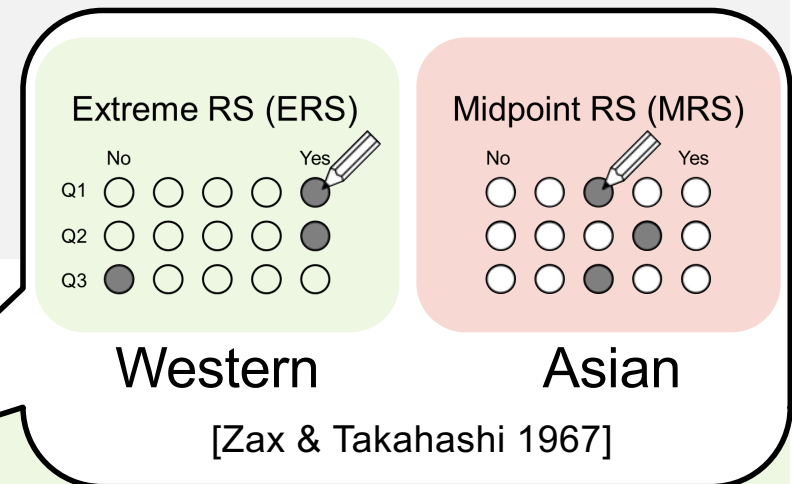
(Dolnicar & Grun 2009)

## Task-dependent biases

- Socially desirable responding
- Halo effect
- Leniency/severity
- ...

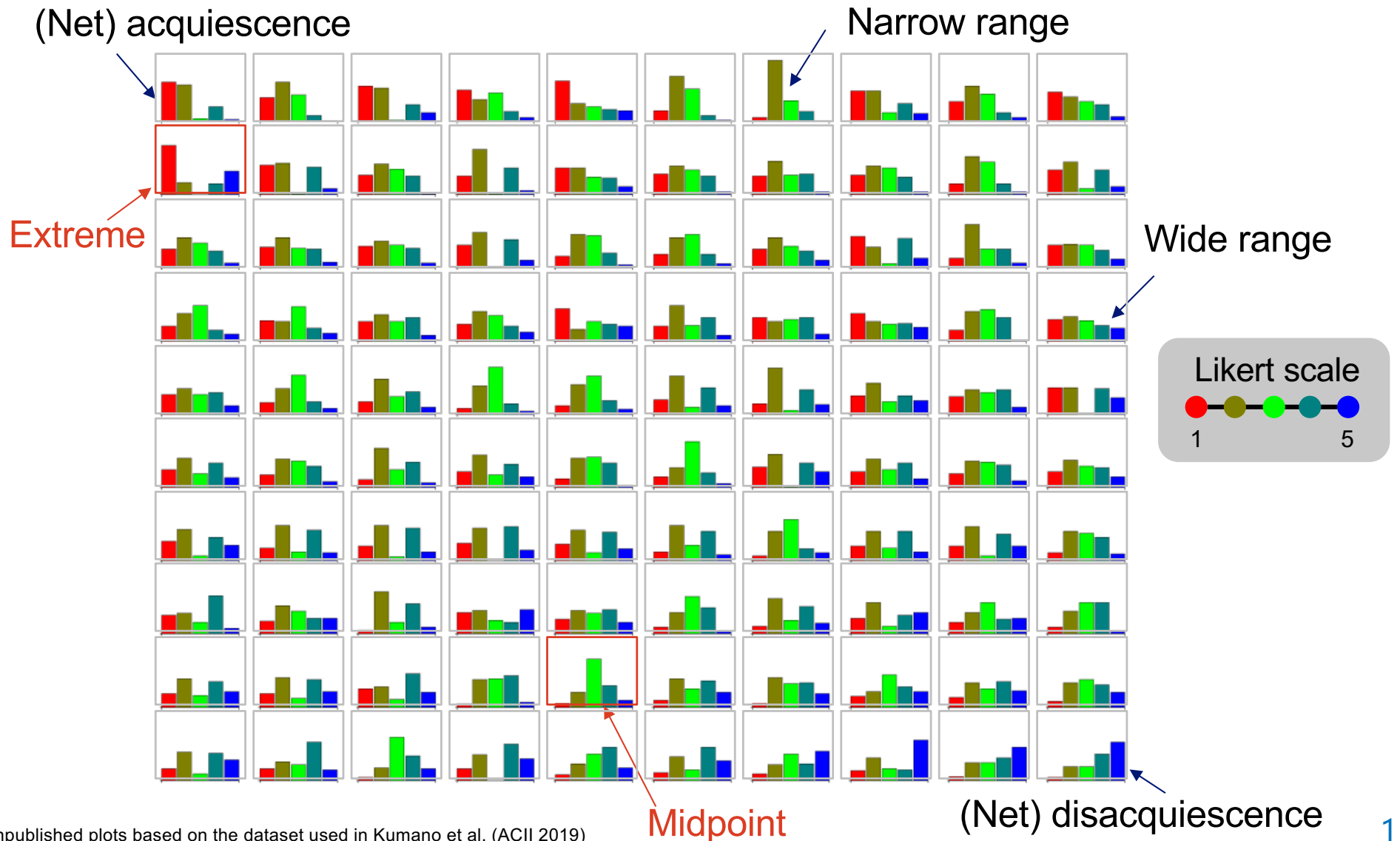
## Task-independent biases

- **Response style (RS)**  
Tendency to choose specific categories **regardless of content**
- Random responding
- ...

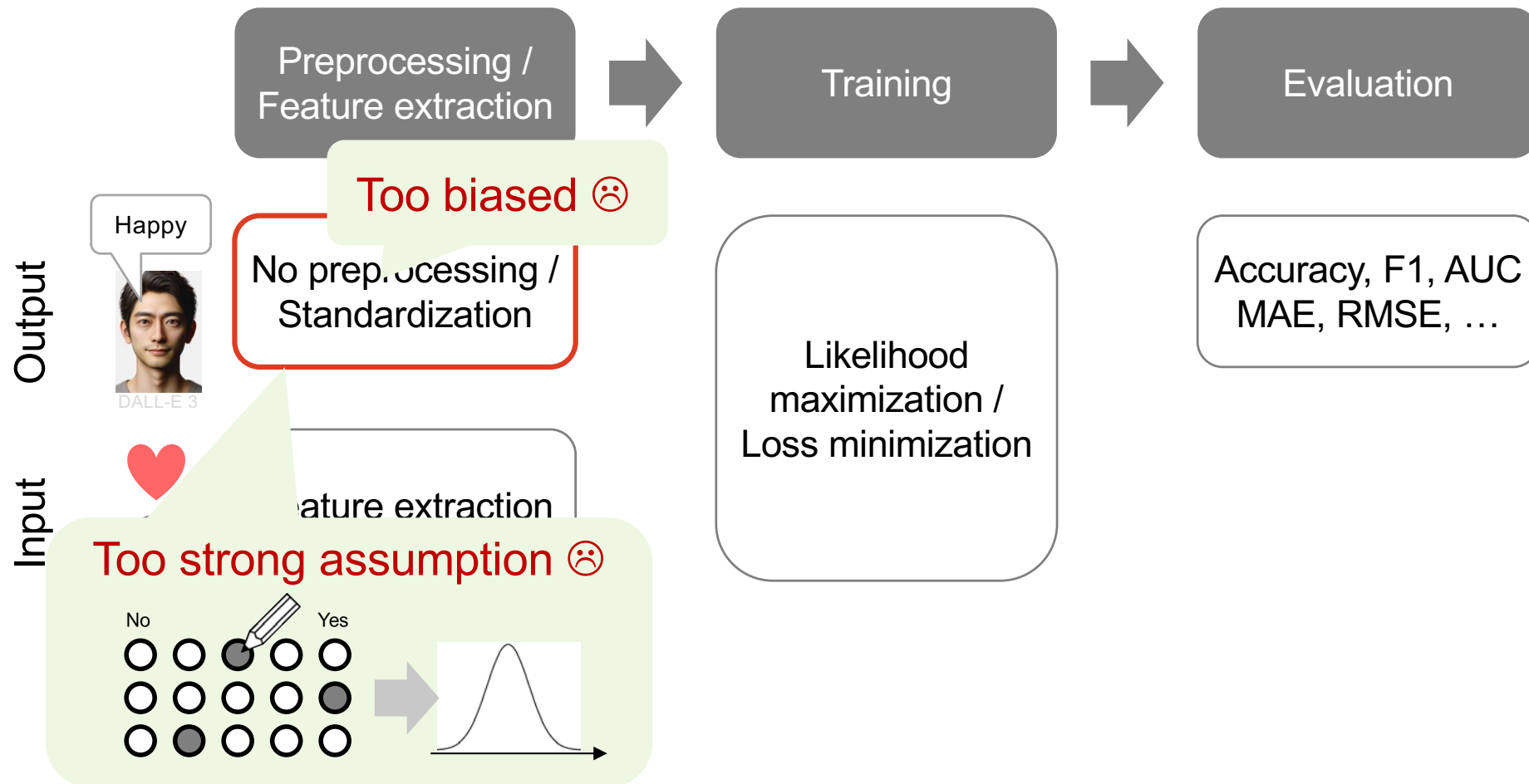


# Rating frequency histogram per respondent

Simple standardization for each person does not make sense.

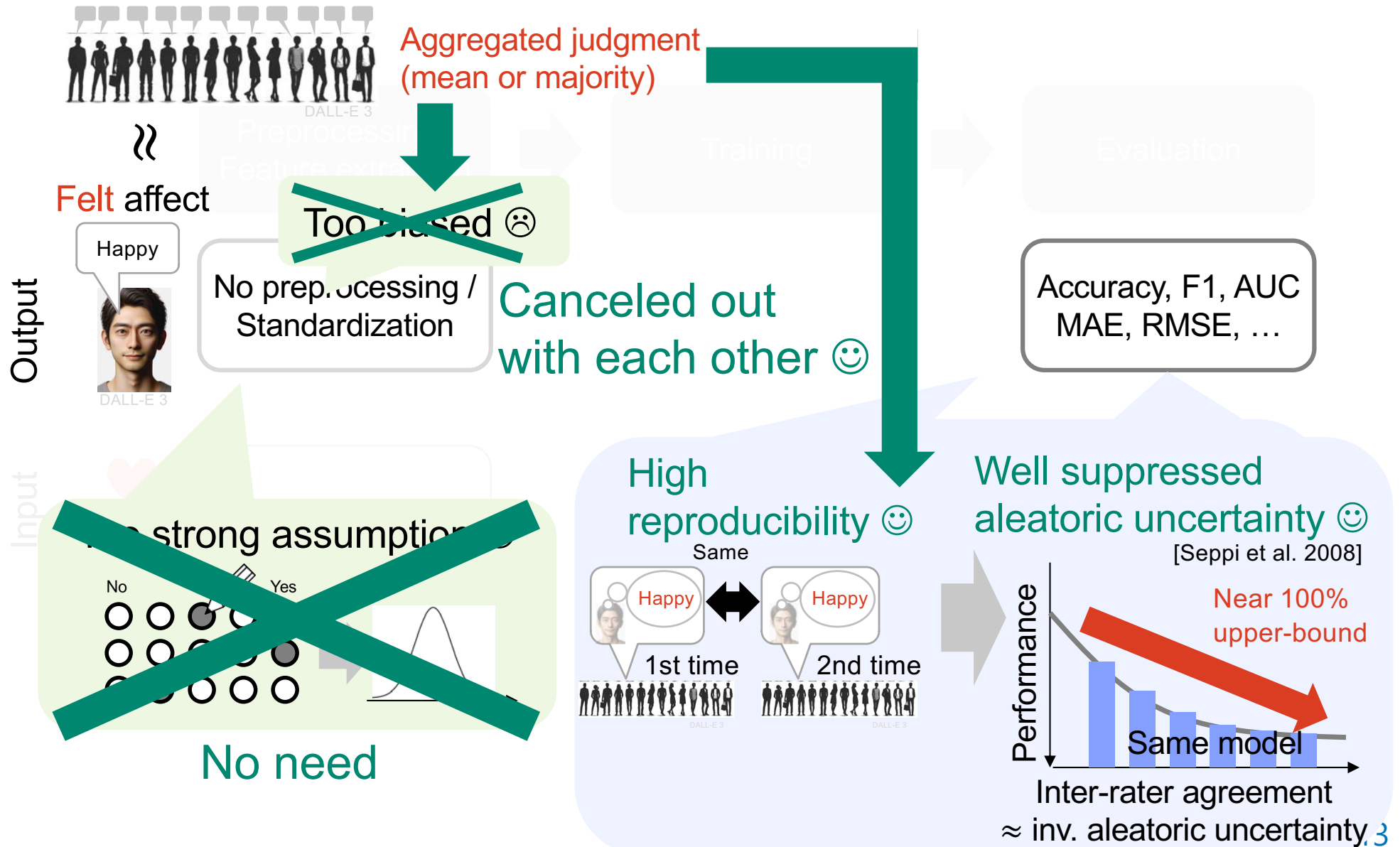


# Issue 3: Response biases



# Wisdom of crowd for perceived affect

Perceived affect by 3rd persons



# Individual's affective judgment

Perceived affect by 3rd persons



~~Aggregated judgment (mean or majority)~~

Output

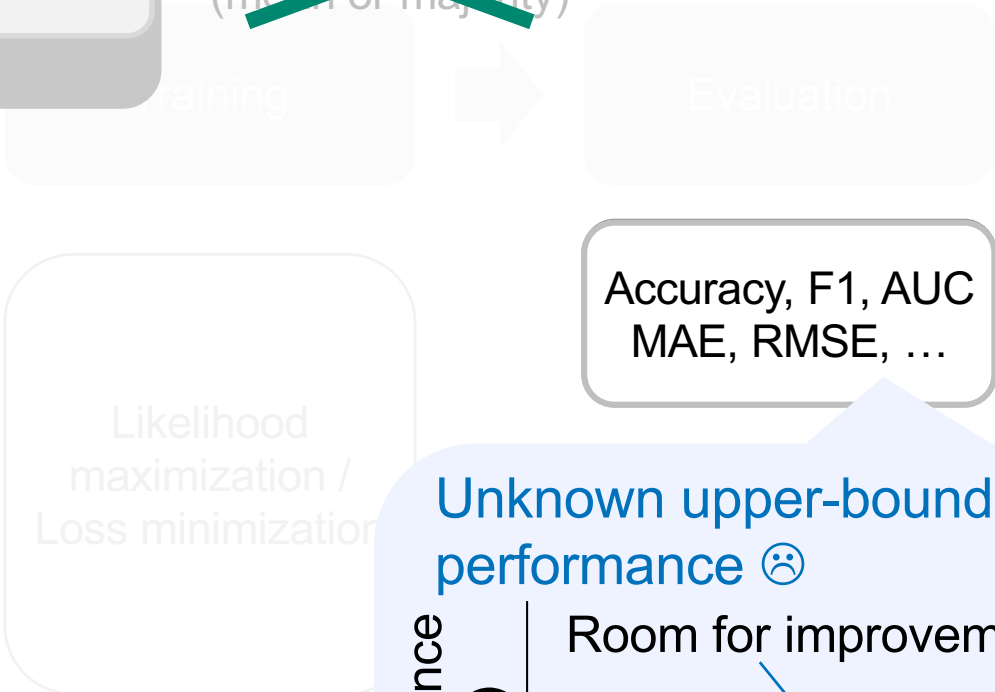
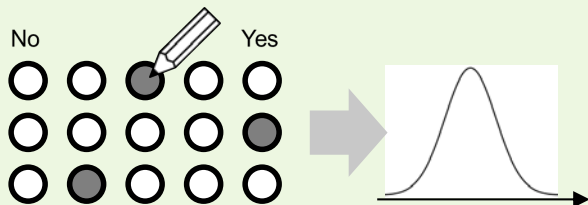


Too biased 😞

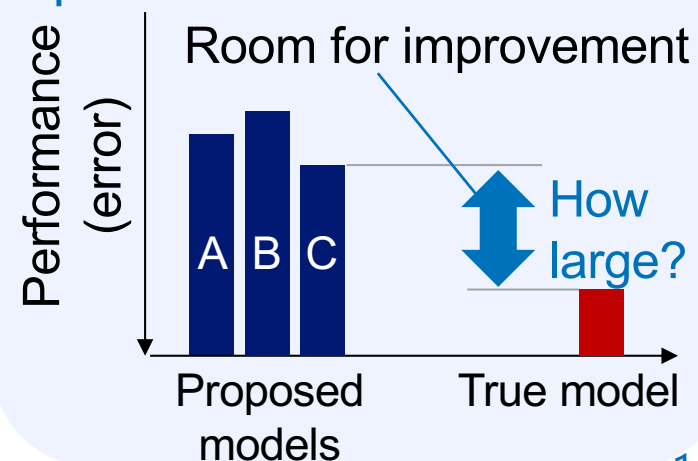
No preprocessing / Standardization

Input

Too strong assumption 😞

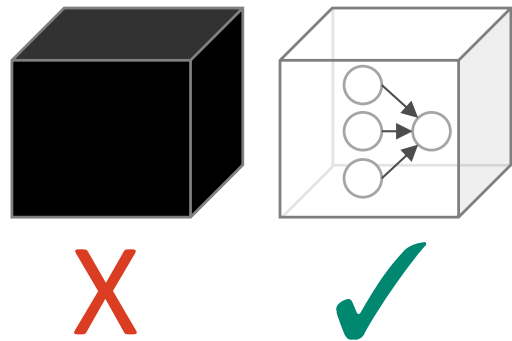


Unknown upper-bound performance 😞

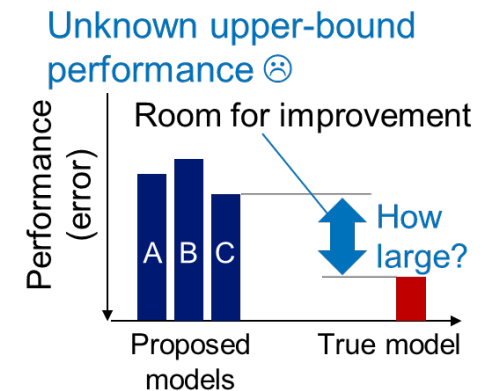
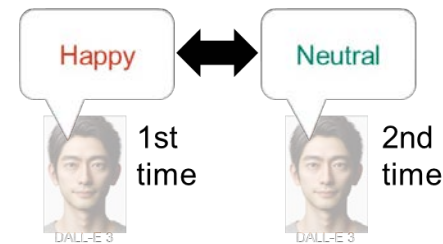


# Interim summary of 3 issues in personalized affective computing

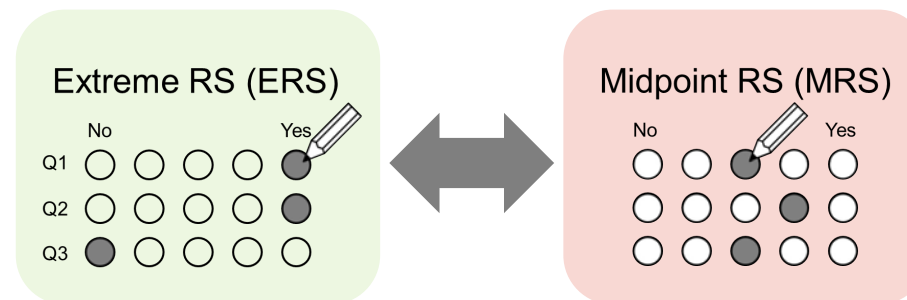
## 1. Model explainability



## 2. Uncertainties in subjective data & unknown upper-bound

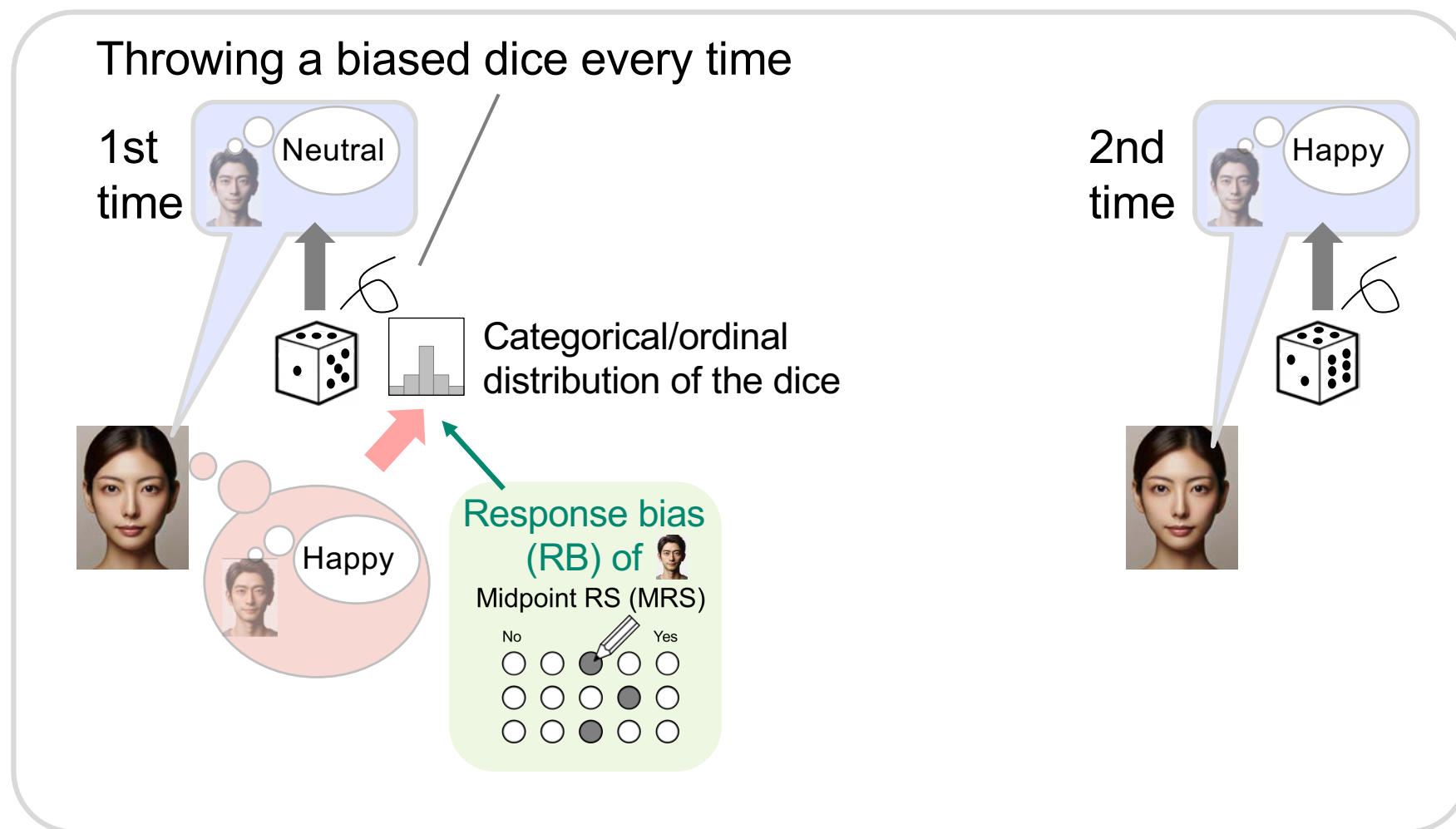


## 3. Response biases in subjective judgment



# Our basic assumption to approach to the issues

Judgments are made following a stochastic process (categorical/ordinal distribution) including response styles





# Deep explanatory item-response model for prediction of individual's affective rating

[presented at ACII 2021]

Yang Zhou, Tsukasa Ishigaki and Shiro Kumano

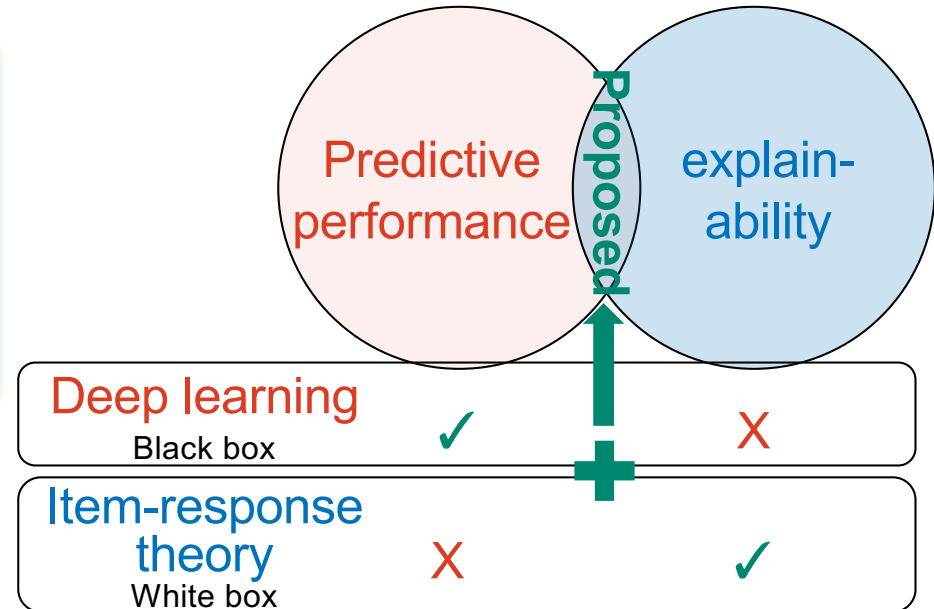


# Balance predictive performance & explainability

## Our approach

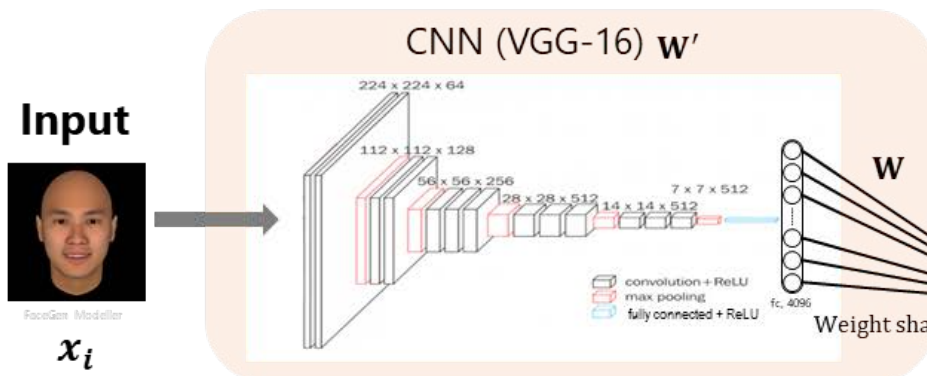
Balancing performance and explainability through the integration of **deep learning (DL)** and **item-response theory (IRT)**.

Trade-off [Arrieta et al. 2020]



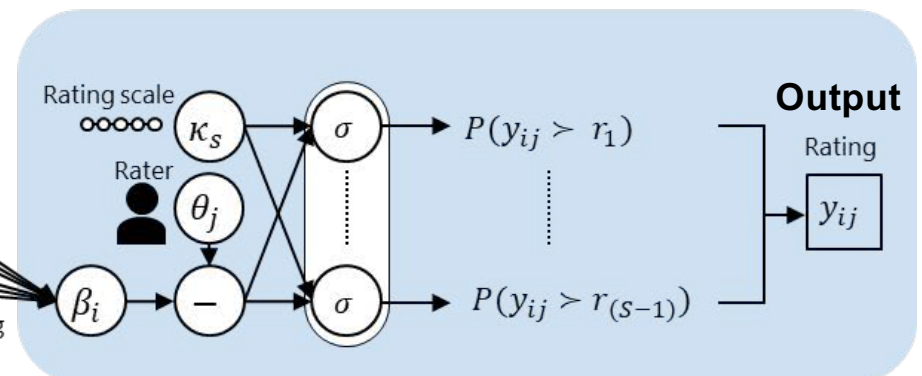
## Deep learning

Latent regression layer  $H(x_i, W', W)$



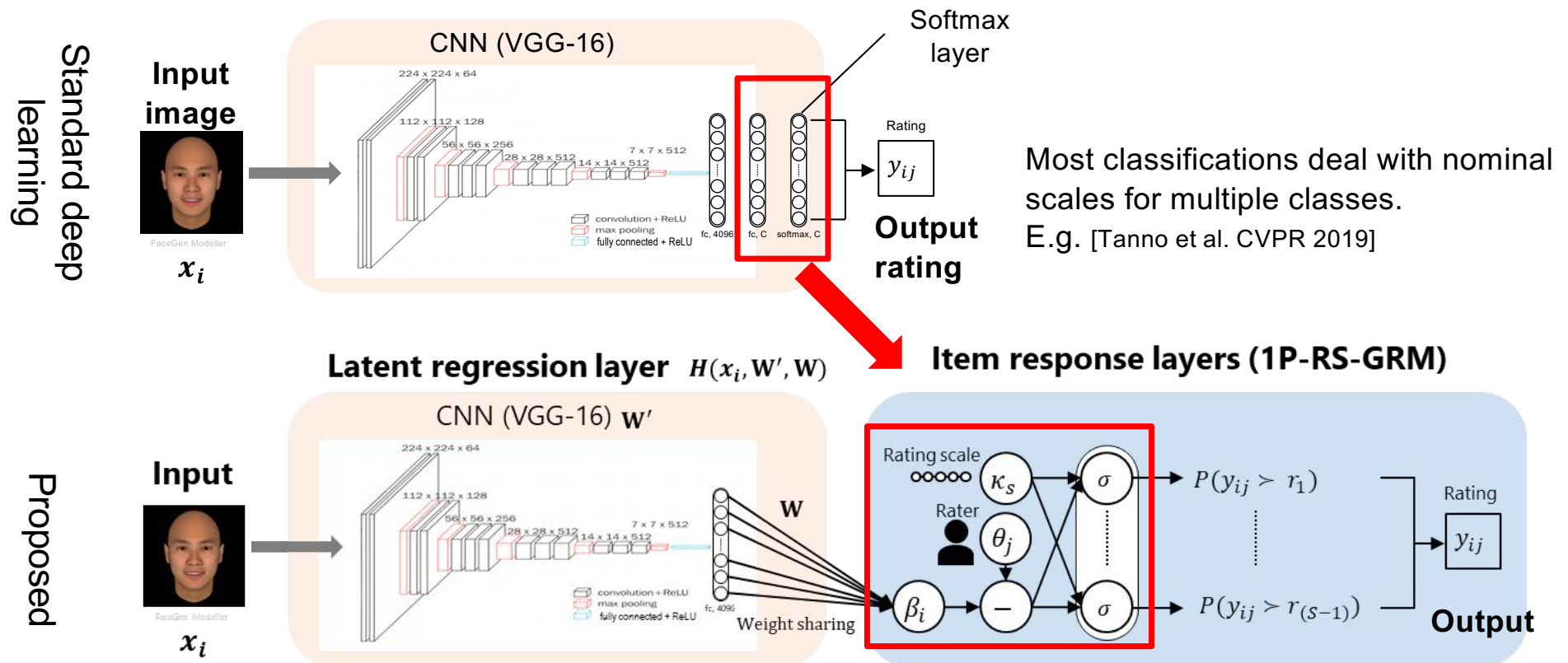
## Item response theory

Item response layers (1P-RS-GRM)



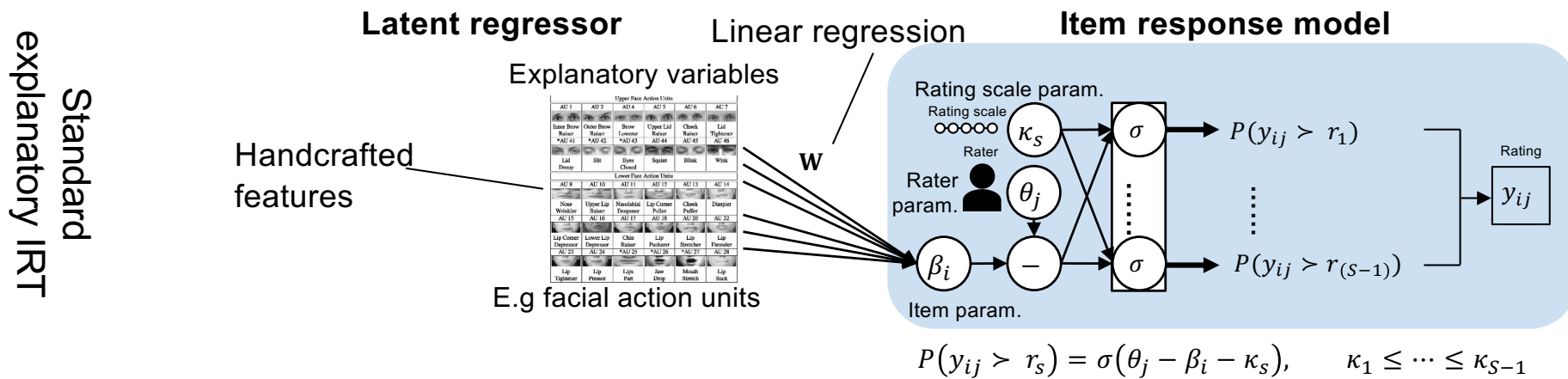
# Proposed method from DL perspective

By constraining the upper layers of **DNN** with **IRT**, we obtain the **explainability** of how the output is determined at the upper layers

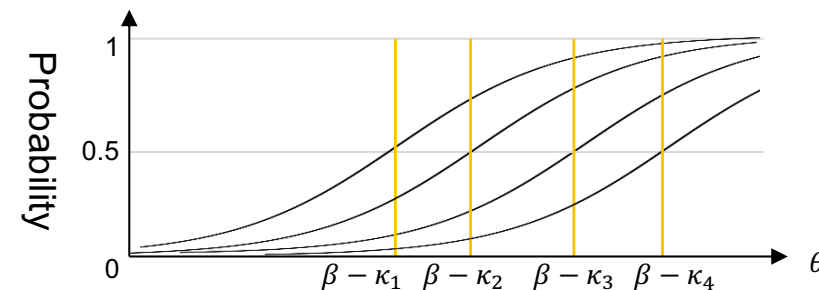


# Proposed method from IRT perspective

By performing **end-to-end deep-regression** of item parameters in an **explanatory item response model**, the estimation performance is enhanced.

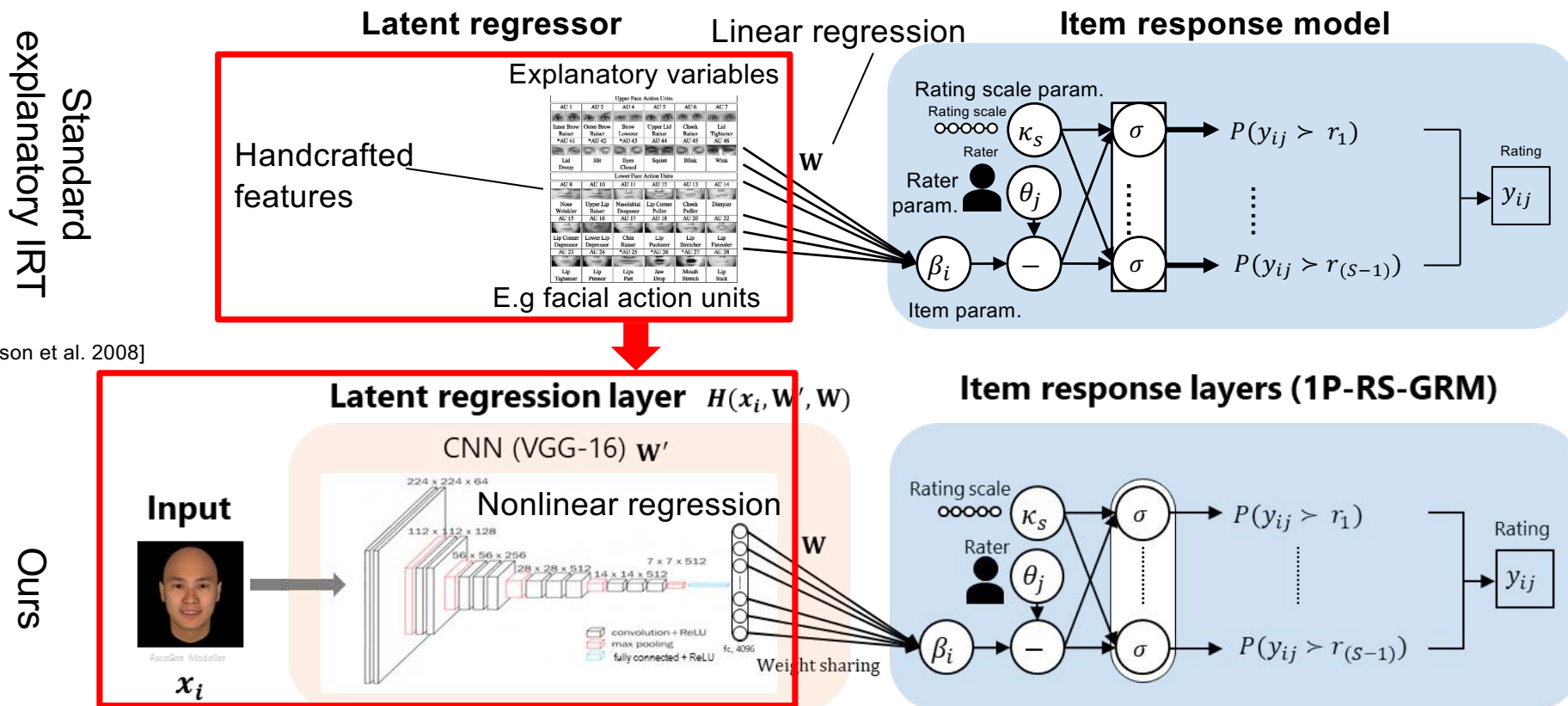


Item characteristic curve



# Proposed method from IRT perspective

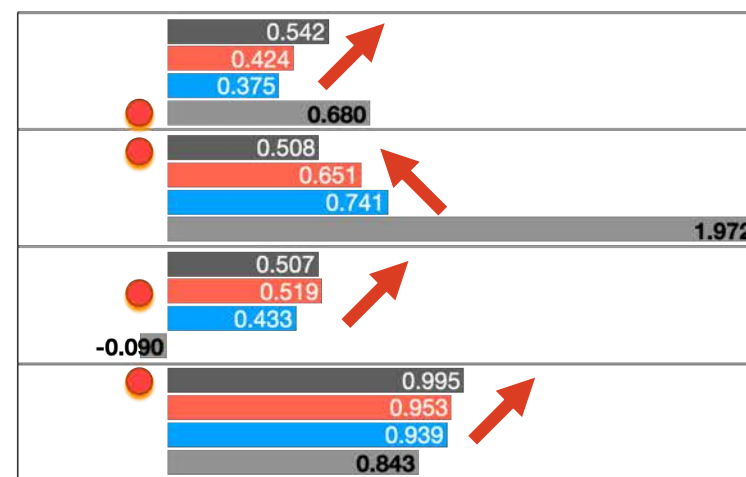
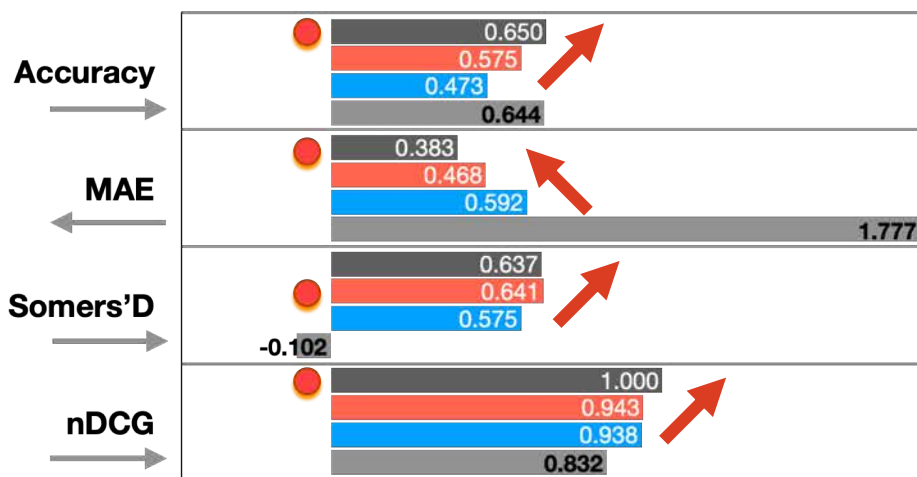
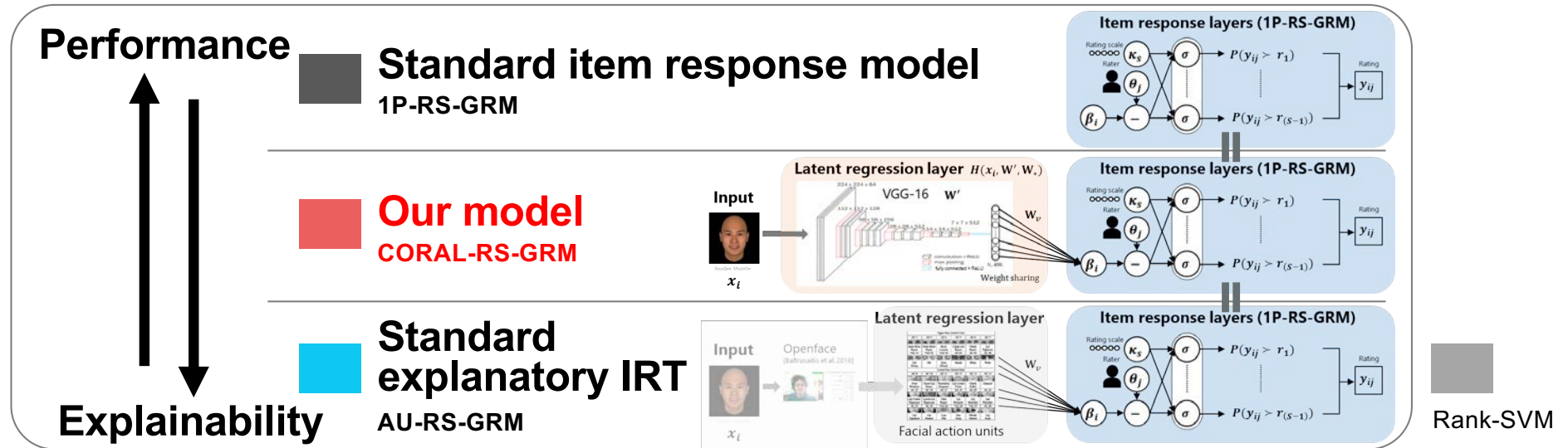
By performing **end-to-end deep-regression** of item parameters in an **explanatory item response model**, the estimation performance is enhanced.



Instead of a rough linear regression from high-level features determined by humans as explanatory variables for the item parameter  $\beta$ , it is estimated from a refined nonlinear regression from the item itself (image).

# Experimental results

The performance superiority and inferiority of the three models, as theoretically expected, were confirmed.



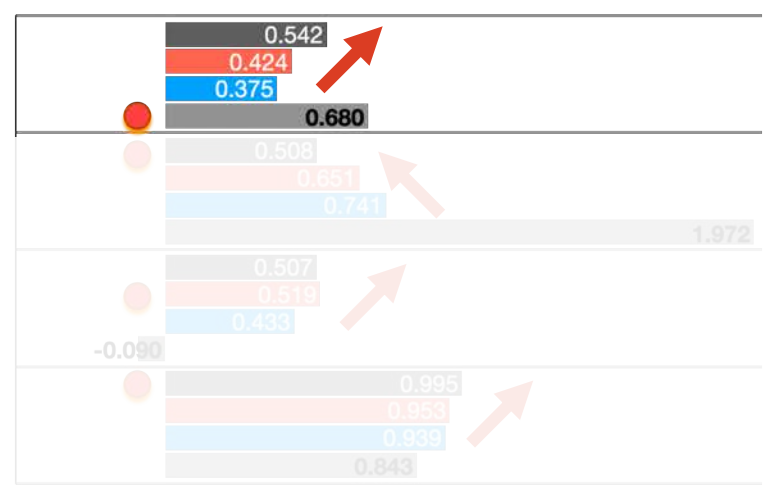
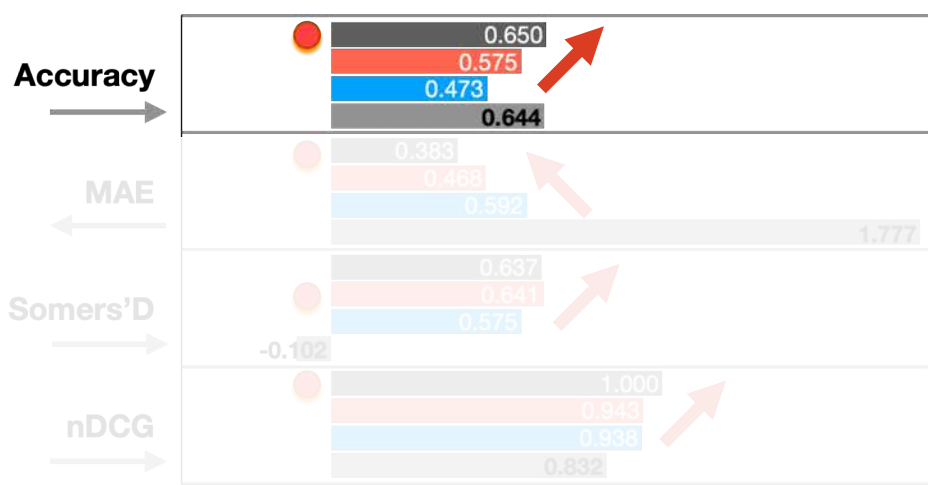
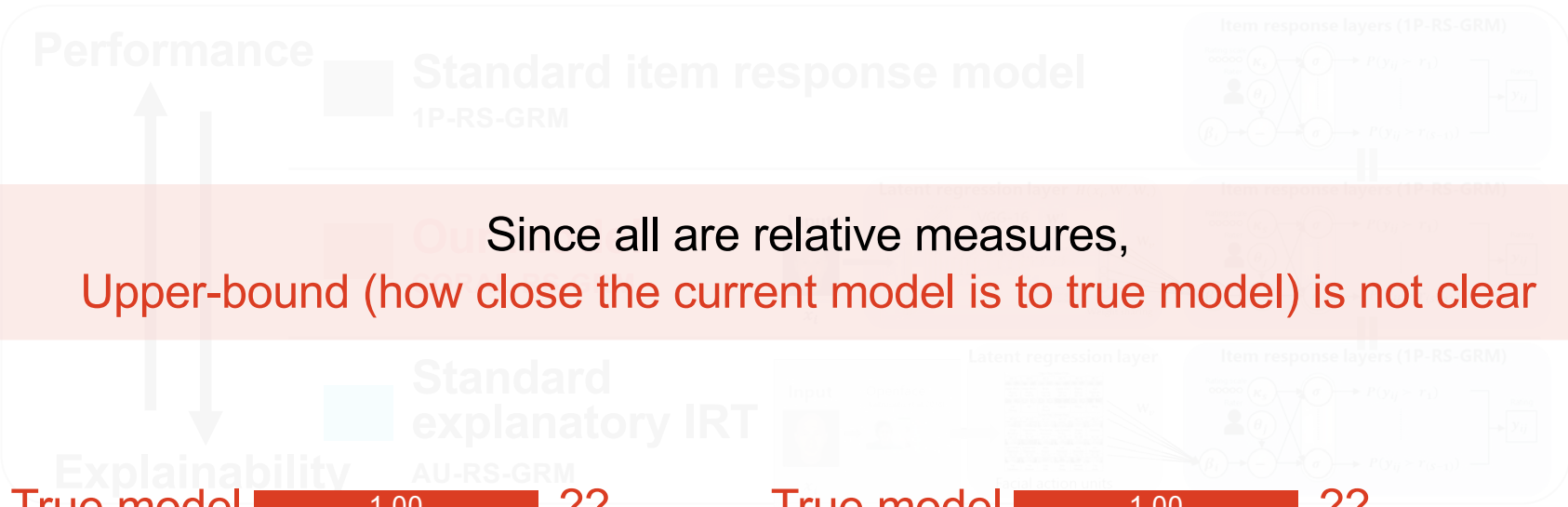
●: winning model

Valence

Arousal

On training set

# Issue 2: unknown upper-bound performance



●: winning model

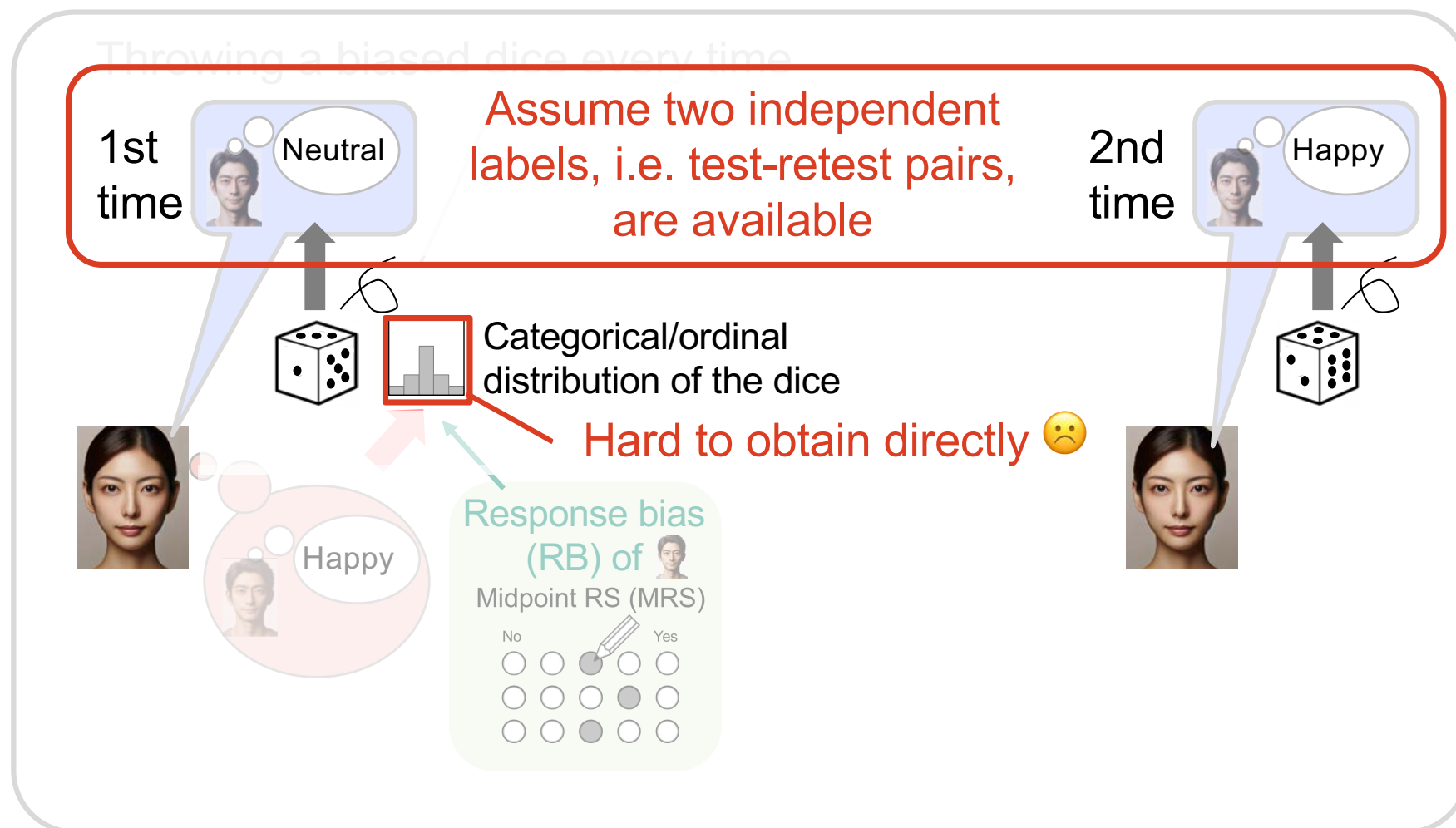
Valence

Arousal

On training set

# Our approach to the issues

Assume choices are made following a stochastic process (categorical/ordinal distribution) including response styles





# Collision Probability Matching Loss for Disentangling Epistemic Uncertainty from Aleatoric Uncertainty

[Presented at AISTATS2023]



<sup>1</sup>Hiromi Narimatsu, <sup>2</sup>Mayuko Ozawa, <sup>1</sup>Shiro Kumano



<sup>1</sup>NTT Communication Science Laboratories

<sup>2</sup>Ritsumeikan University

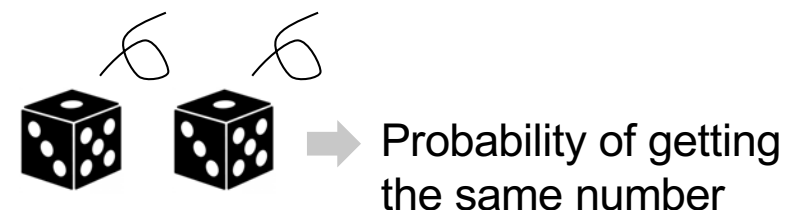
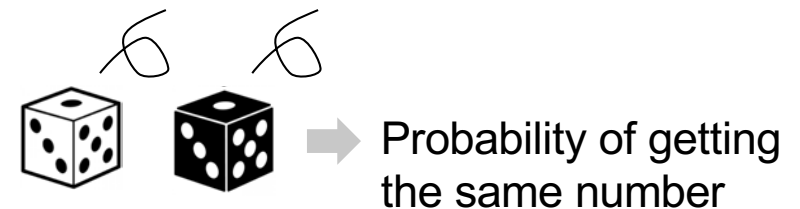
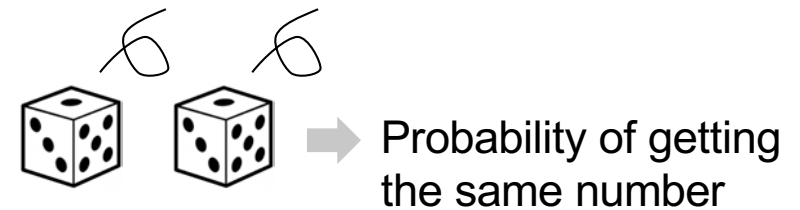
# Summary of proposed method

Probability distribution	Measure
True distribution $p$ only	True collision probability (CP) of target's cognition $\sum_c p_c^2$ $\approx$ Test-retest reliability
True dist. $p$ & predictive dist. $q$	Cross-CP $\sum_c p_c q_c$ $\approx$ Mean data likelihood $E[q_y]$
Predictive distribution $q$ only	Predictive CP $\sum_c q_c^2$ Directly obtainable

Dices based according to:

-  True distribution  $p$  (unobtainable directly)
-  Predictive distribution  $q$

Number = category or rating



Collision probability = 2nd-order Renyi entropy

# Summary of proposed method



True distribution  $p$

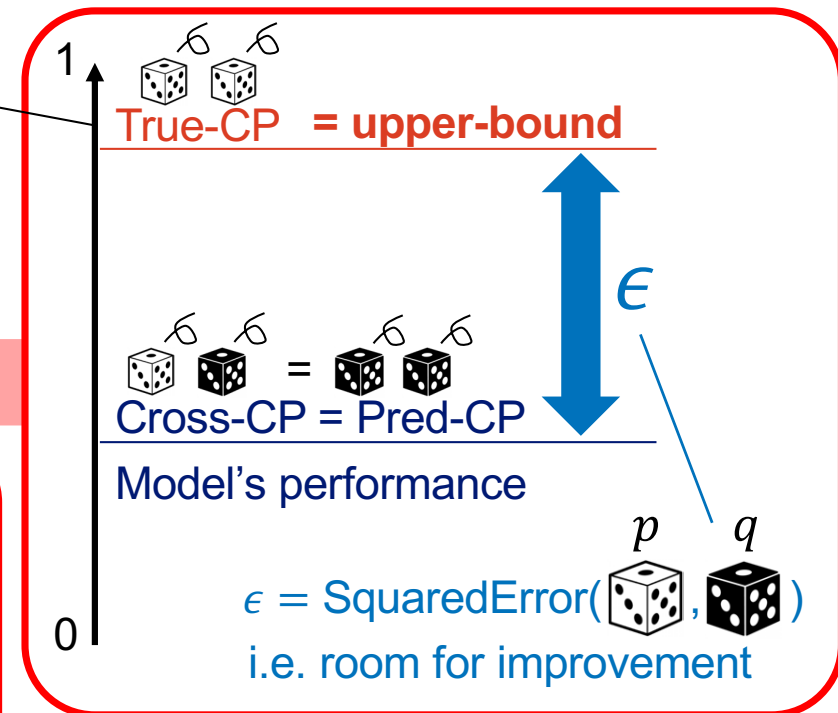
Predictive distribution  $q$

Probability distribution	Measure
True distribution $p$ only	True collision probability (CP) of target's cognition $\sum_c p_c^2$ $\approx$ Test-retest reliability
True dist. $p$ & predictive dist. $q$	Cross-CP $\sum_c p_c q_c$ $\approx$ Mean data likelihood $E[q_y]$
Predictive distribution $q$ only	Predictive CP $\sum_c q_c^2$ Directly obtainable

IV

Proposed CP matching constraint

||

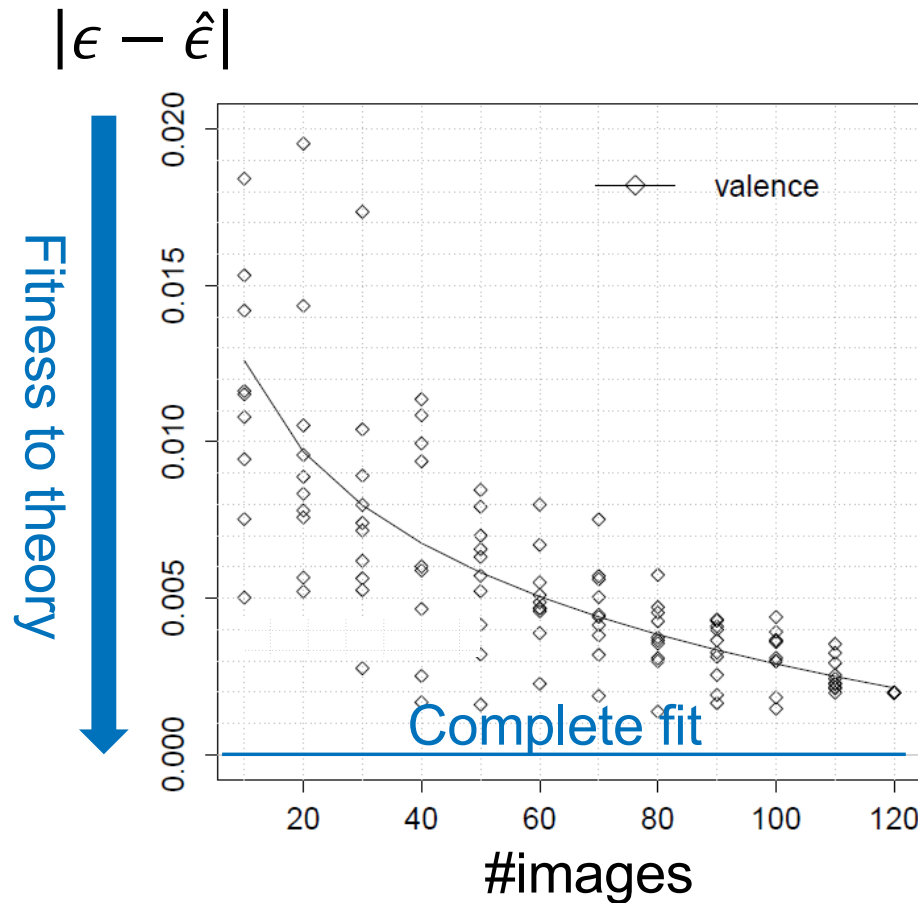
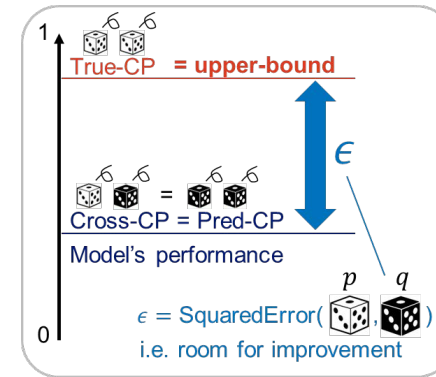


# Relationship with confidence calibration

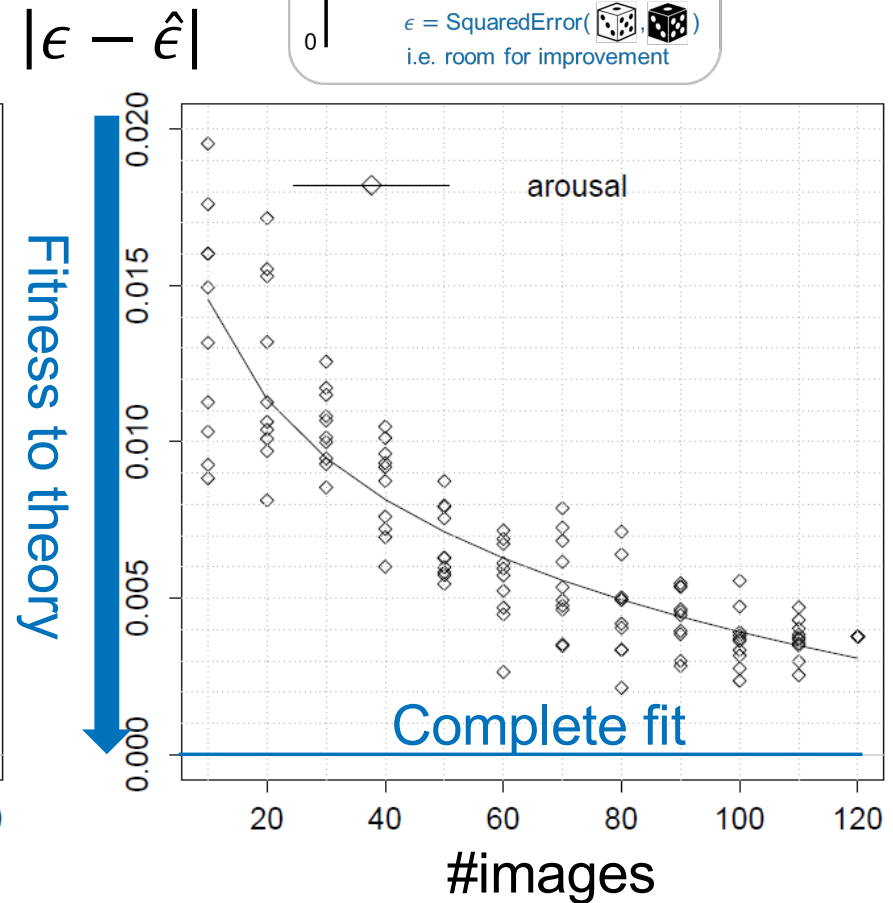
True dist.  $p$ 
 Predictive dist.  $q$

Prob. dist.	Distribution-based measure	Max-class-based measure
True distribution $p$ only	<p>Proposed method is as an extended method of CC by replacing max-class-based to distribution-based</p> <p>Approx. directly measurable</p>	
True dist. $p$ & predictive dist. $q$	<p><b>Proposed method</b></p> <p>Cross-CP  </p> $\sum_c p_c q_c$ <p><math>\approx</math> Mean data likelihood <math>E[q_y]</math></p>	<p>Confidence calibration (CC)</p> <p>Model accuracy (MA) <math>p_{\hat{y}max}</math></p> <p>Matching of max predictive class with observed class</p>
Predictive distribution $q$ only	<p>Predictive CP  </p> $\sum_c q_c^2$ <p>Directly obtainable</p> <p>Collision probability = 2nd-order Renyi entropy</p>	<p>Model confidence (MC) <math>q_{\hat{y}max}</math></p> <p>Max predictive probability</p>

# Results of simulation



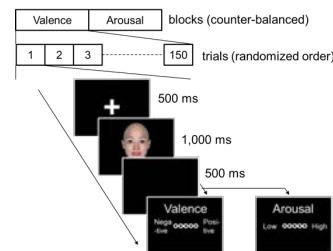
(a) Valence



(b) Arousal

Well fitted to theory with enough samples

# Results on real data



## Valence

### Proposed (CPM+CE losses)

Dist.-based	Max-class-based
True-CP 0.61 <span style="color:red">IV</span>	True conf. NA
Cross-CP 0.47 <span style="color:red">II</span>	Model accuracy 0.60
Pred-CP 0.47 <span style="color:red">II</span>	Model conf. 0.59 <span style="color:red">II</span>

### CE loss only

Dist.-based	Max-class-based
True-CP 0.61	True conf. NA
Cross-CP 0.61	M accuracy 0.62
Pred-CP 0.94	Model conf. 0.96

$\epsilon = 0.61 - 0.47 = 0.14 \rightarrow \text{Error in prob. per class} = \sqrt{0.14/5} = 0.17$

## Arousal

### Proposed (CPM+CE losses)

Dist.-based	Max-class-based
True-CP 0.50 <span style="color:red">IV</span>	True conf. NA
Cross-CP 0.39 <span style="color:red">II</span>	Model accuracy 0.50
Pred-CP 0.39 <span style="color:red">II</span>	Model conf. 0.50 <span style="color:red">II</span>

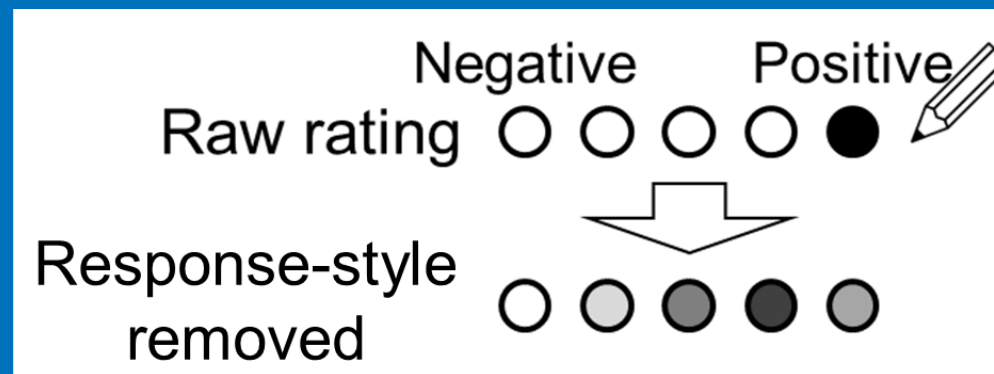
### CE loss only

Dist.-based	Max-class-based
True-CP 0.50	True conf. NA
Cross-CP 0.55	M accuracy 0.54
Pred-CP 0.90	Model conf. 0.93

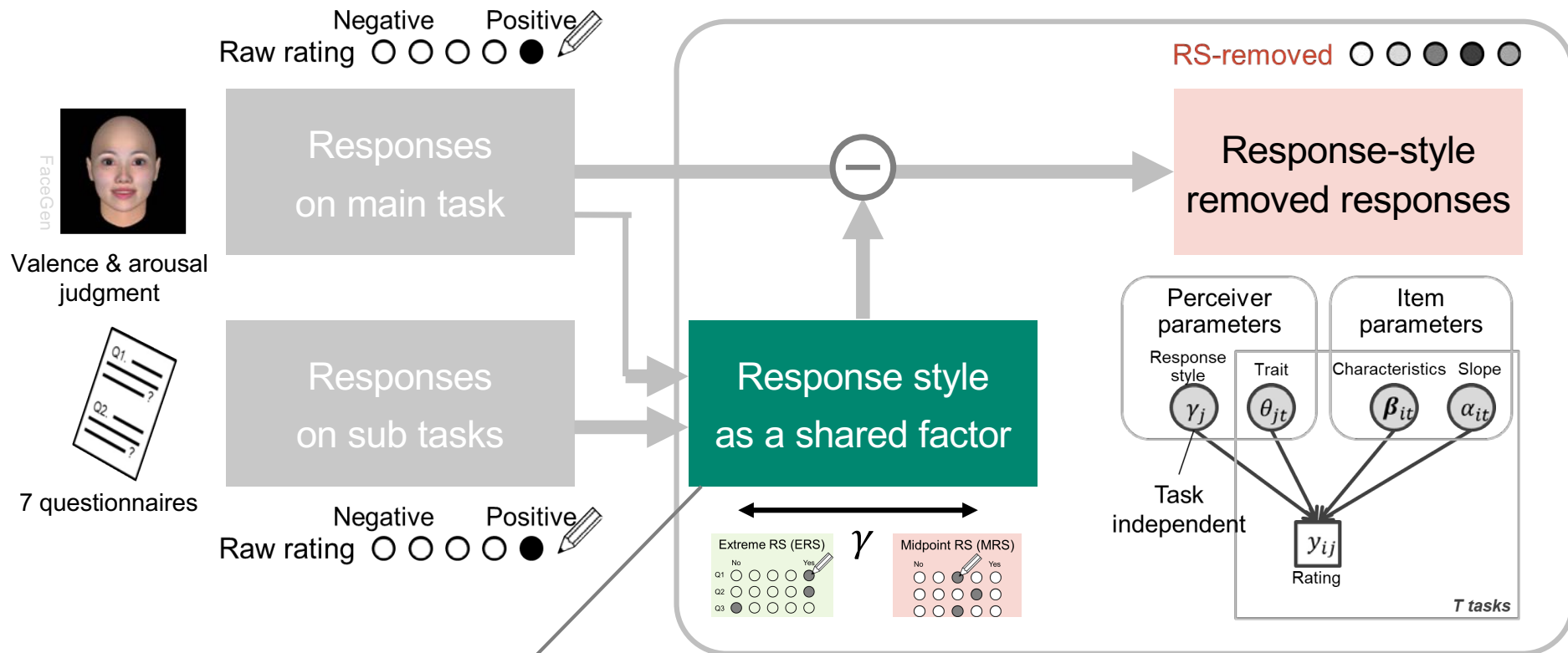
$\epsilon = 0.50 - 0.39 = 0.11 \rightarrow \text{Error in prob. per class} = \sqrt{0.11/5} = 0.15$

# Removal of extreme/midpoint response styles on emotion judgment data

[presented at ACII 2019]  
Shiro Kumano and Keishi Nomura



# Modeling procedure



**Response style (RS)**

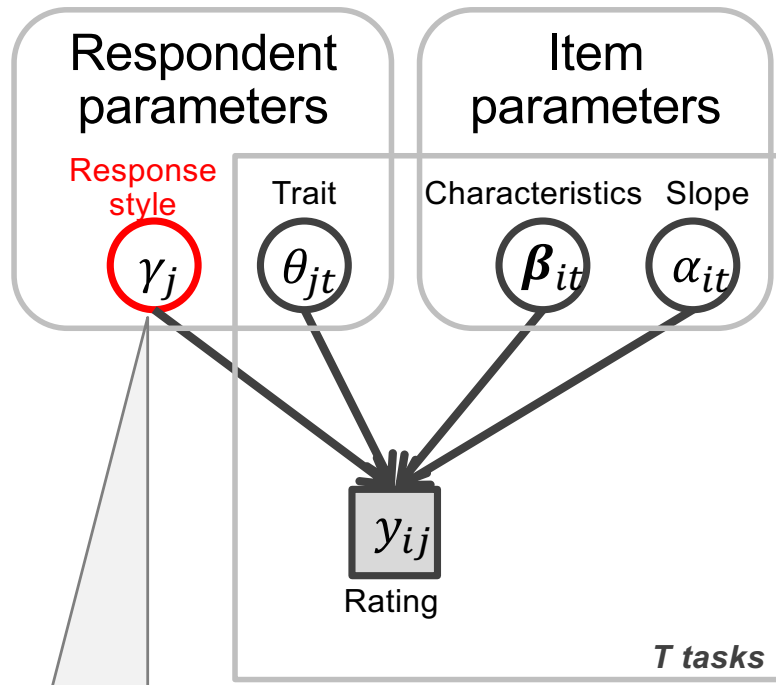
**= Tendency to choose specific categories regardless of content**

[Baumgartner & Steenkamp 2001]



# Our multitask model (mtGPCMRS)

Extended version of [Tutz et al. 2018]



A family of ordinal regression

$$\log \left( \frac{P(y_{ij} = s | \Phi)}{P(y_{ij} = s - 1 | \Phi)} \right) = \xi_{ijs}$$

$$\xi_{ijst} = \underbrace{\alpha_{it} \theta_{jt} - \beta_{ist}}_{\text{Base terms i.e. GPCM}} + \underbrace{(m_{st} - s + 0.5) \gamma_j}_{\text{Response style term}}$$

**Base terms**  
i.e. GPCM

**Response style term**

$y$ : Response

$\Phi$ : Parameter set

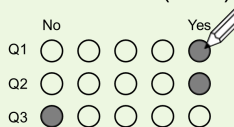
$i$ : Item (stimulus)

$m_s$ : Middle response

$j$ : Respondent

RS parameter  $\gamma$ : Task independent factor

Extreme RS (ERS)

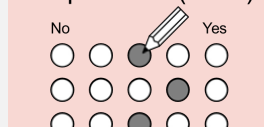


$\gamma_j \ll 0$

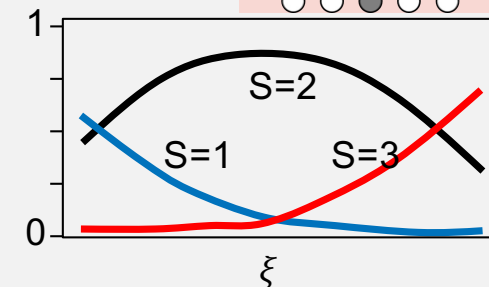
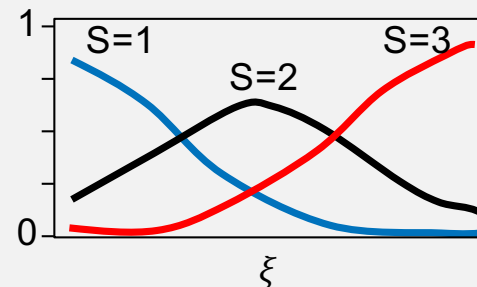
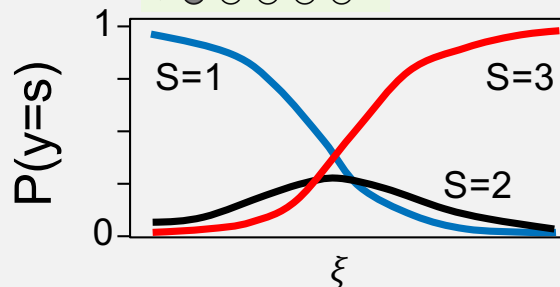
$\gamma_j \approx 0$

$\gamma_j \gg 0$

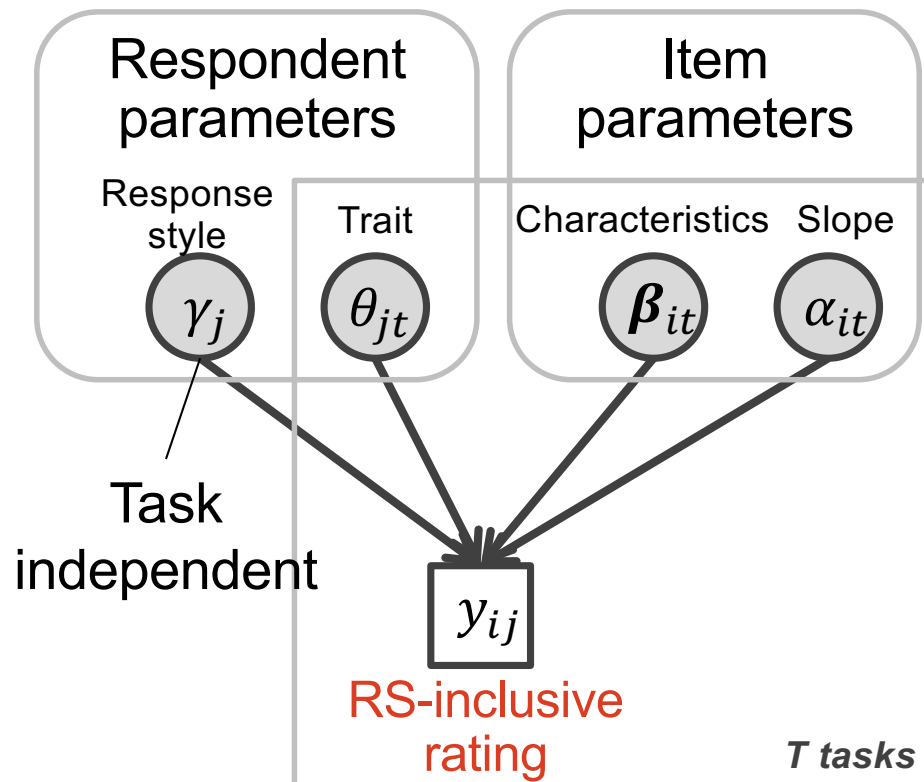
Midpoint RS (MRS)



Neutral

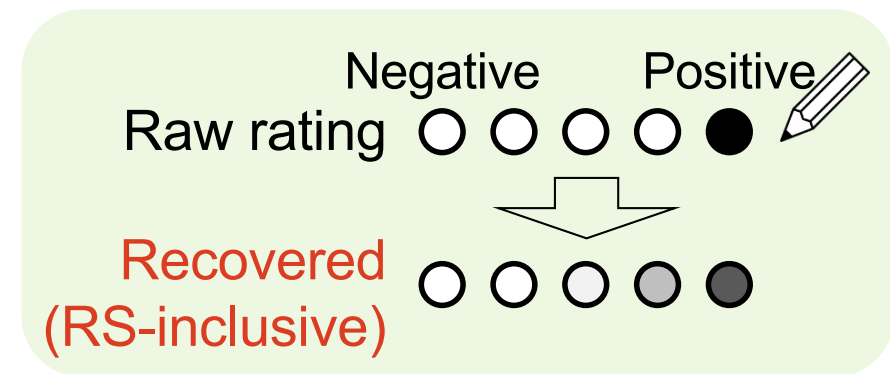


# Rating re-generation process: RS-inclusive



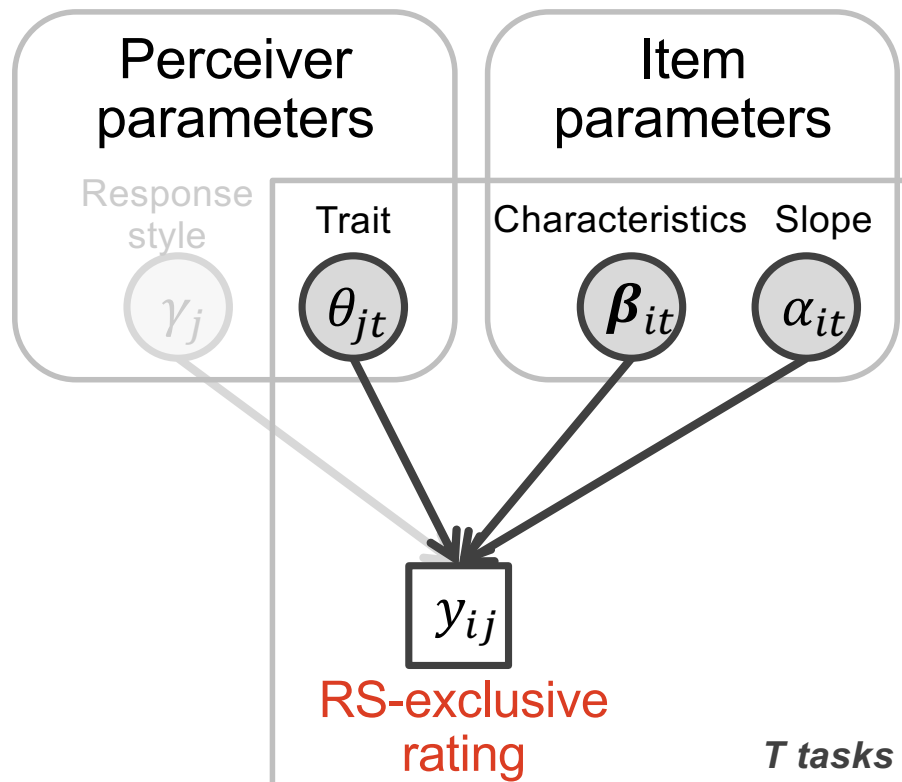
Posterior predictive  
RS-inclusive distribution

$$P(\tilde{y}|y) = \int P(\tilde{y}|\Phi) p(\Phi|y) d\Phi$$



$$\xi_{ijst} = \alpha_{it} \theta_{jt} - \beta_{ist} + (m_{st} - s + 0.5) \gamma_j$$

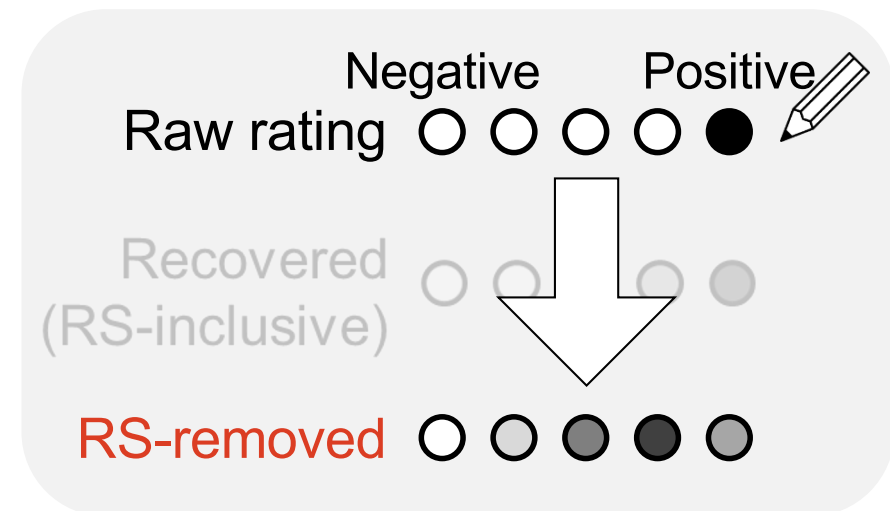
# Rating re-generation process: RS-free



$$\xi_{ijst} = \alpha_{it} \theta_{jt} - \beta_{ist} + (m_{st} - s + 0.5) \gamma_j$$

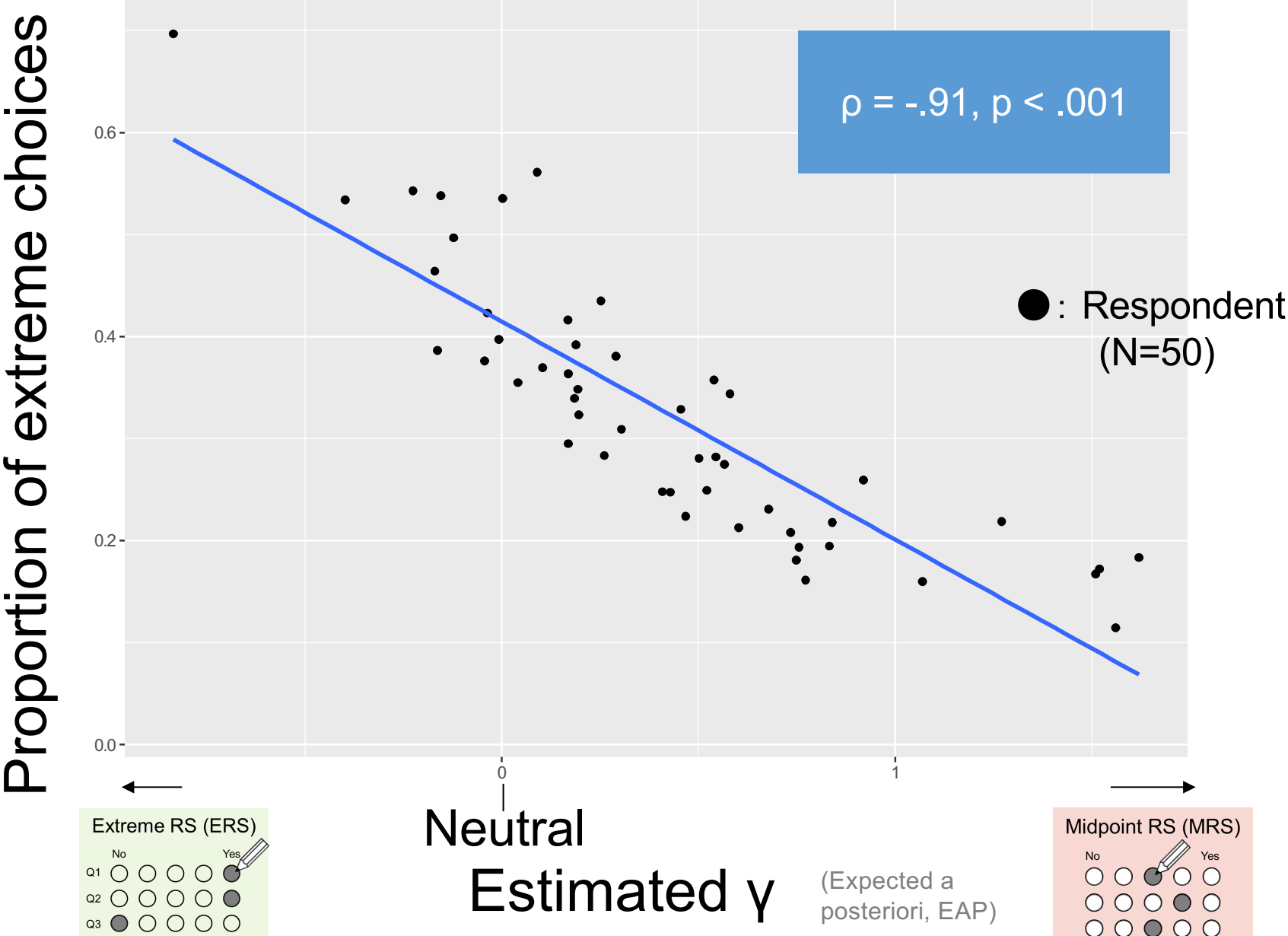
Posterior predictive RS-free distribution

$$P(\tilde{y}|y) = \int P(\tilde{y}|\Phi_{-\gamma}) p(\Phi|y) d\Phi$$



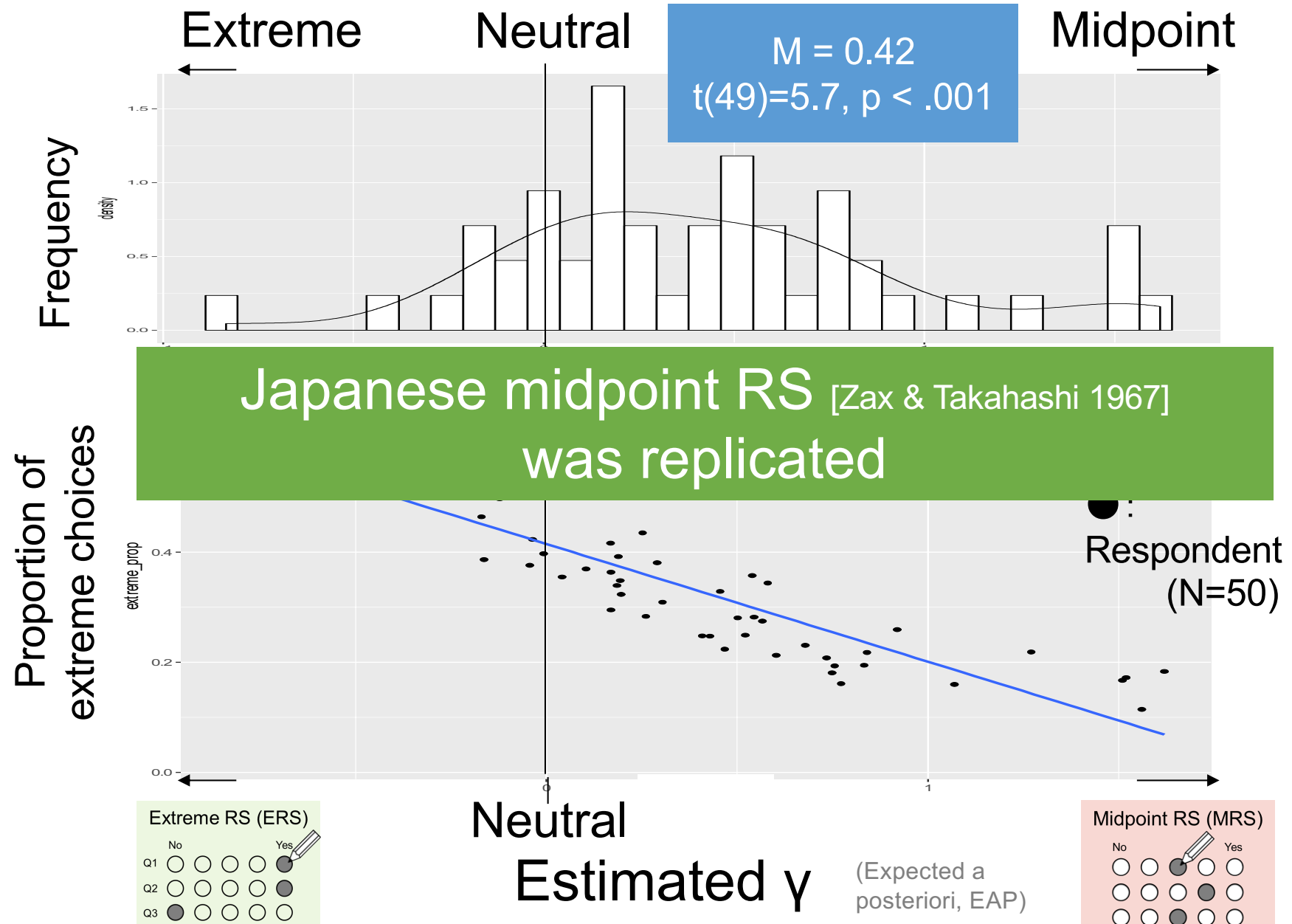
# Our estimates vs traditional metric

## (Extreme RS)



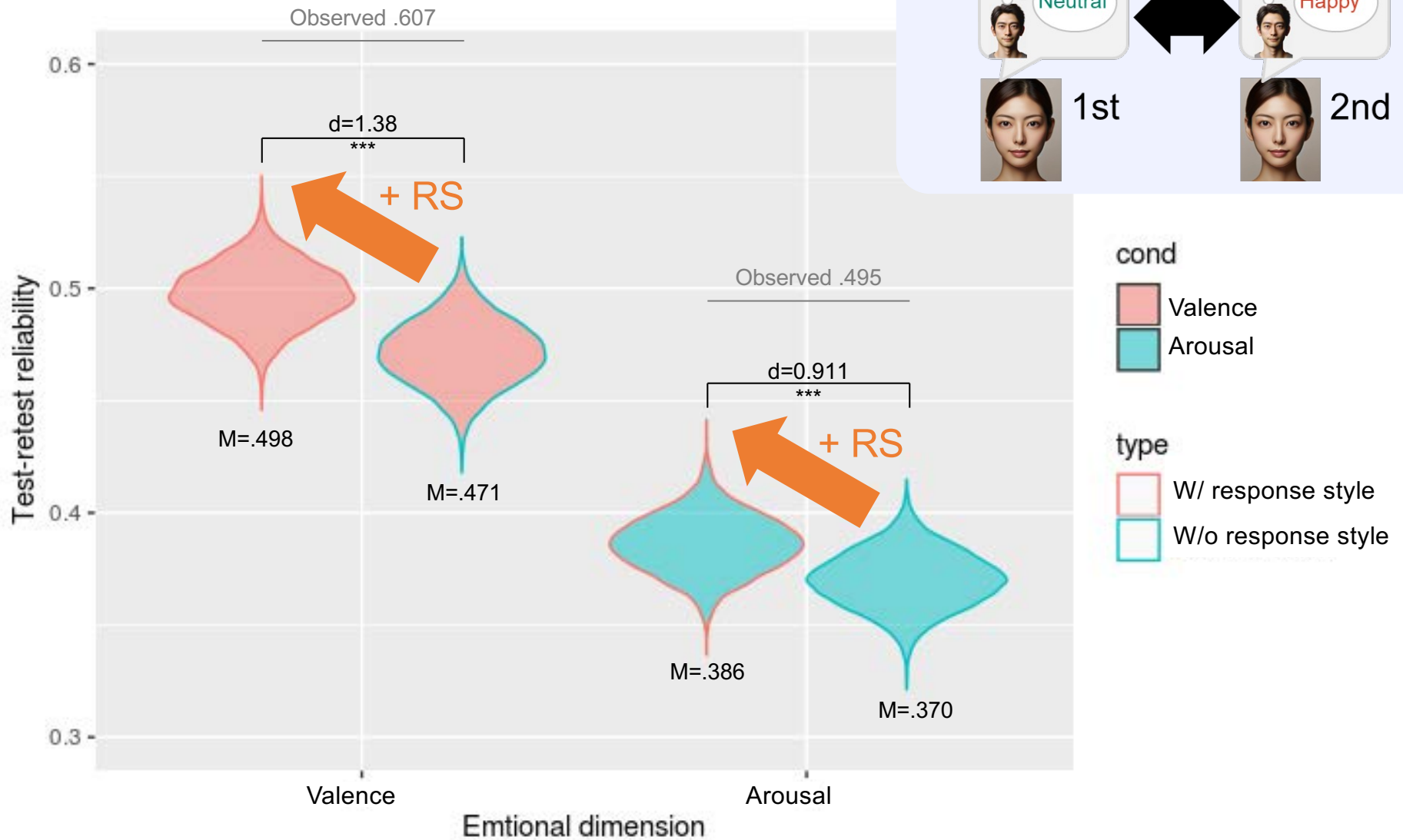
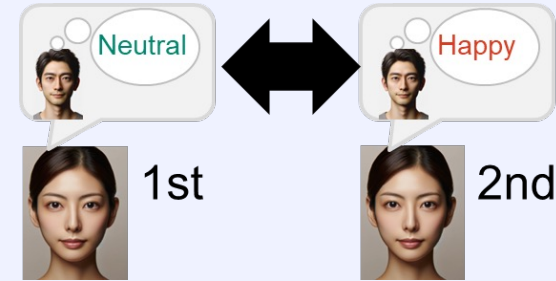
# Our estimates vs traditional metric

## (Extreme RS)



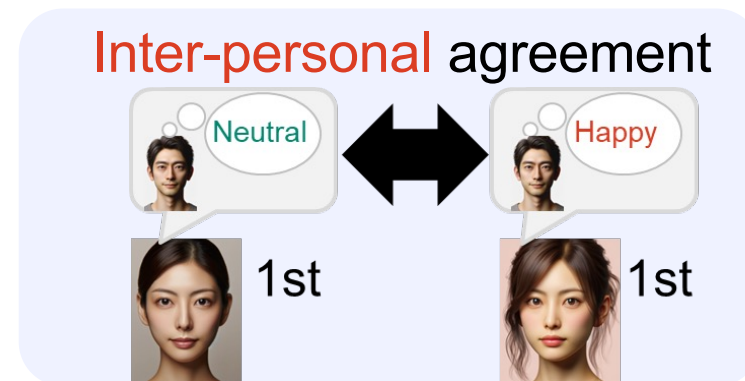
# RS increased individual's test-retest reliability NTT [in prep.]

Intra-personal reproducibility

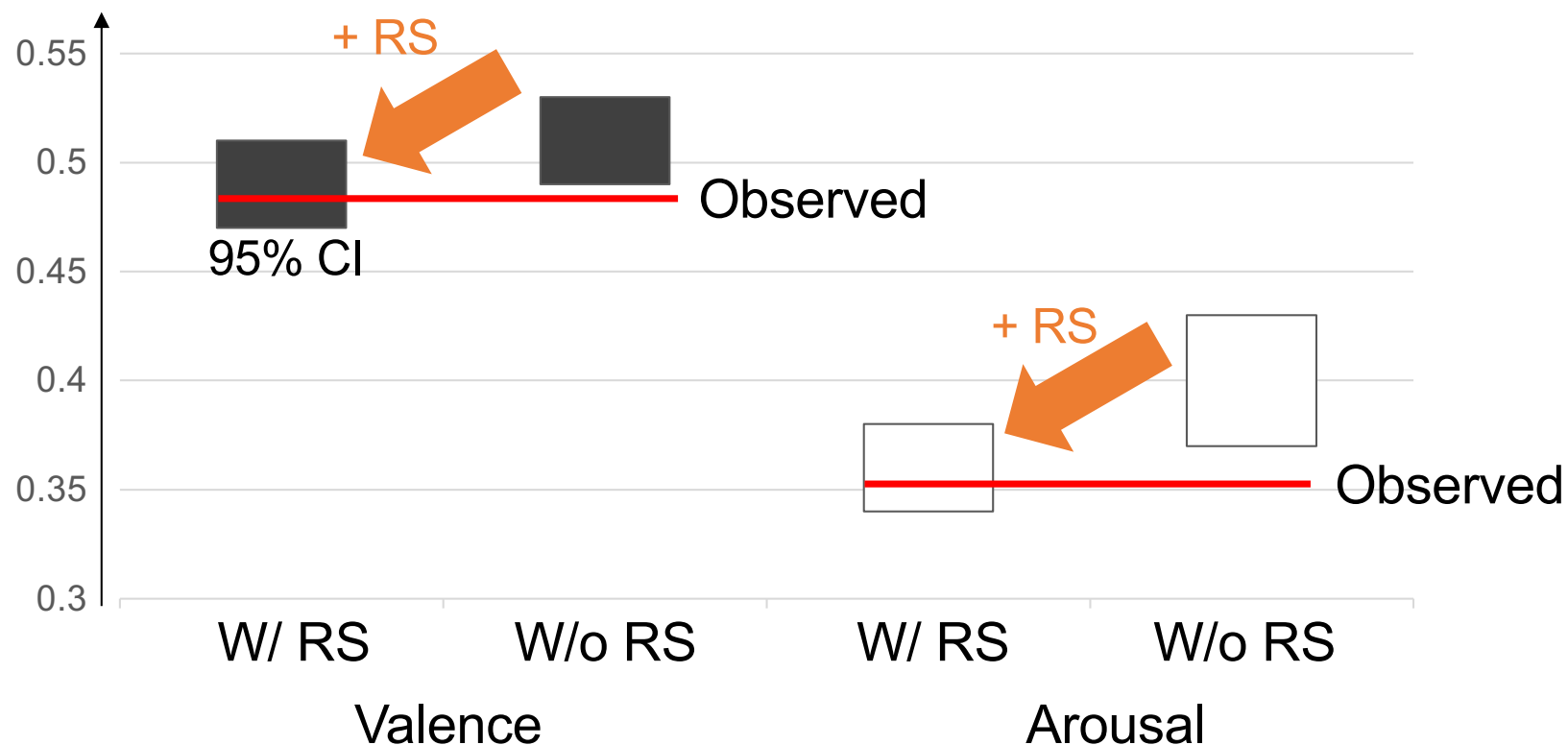


# RS decreased inter-personal agreement

[Kumano & Nomura ACII 2019]



ICC(2,1)



# Summary: Approaches to 3 issues in personalized subjective affect estimation

1. Combined deep learning and item-response theory for **balancing performance and explainability**
2. Developed **an absolute metric** to measure **how close models are to true model** under aleatoric uncertainty
3. Proposed a model to **remove response styles** (ERS/MRS) from subjective ratings

