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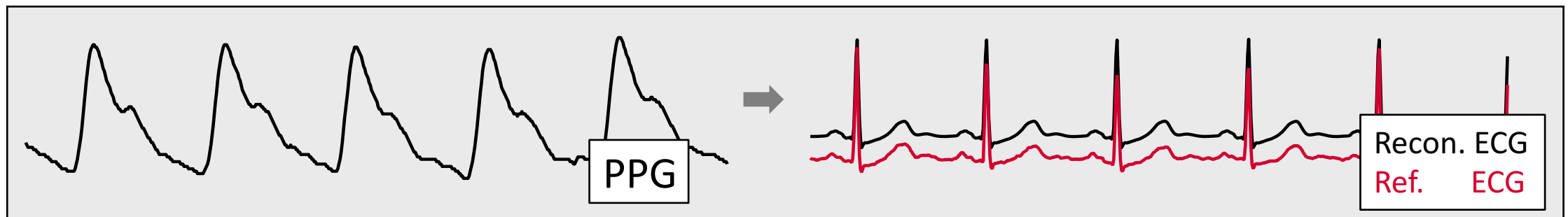


# ECG Reconstruction via PPG: A Pilot Study

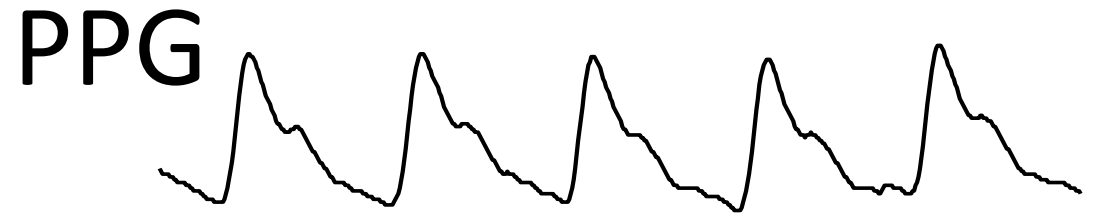
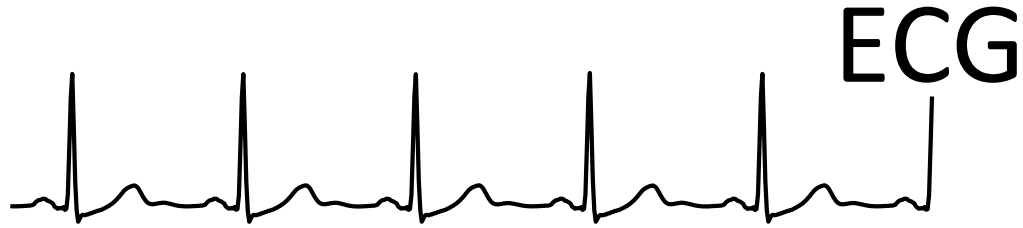
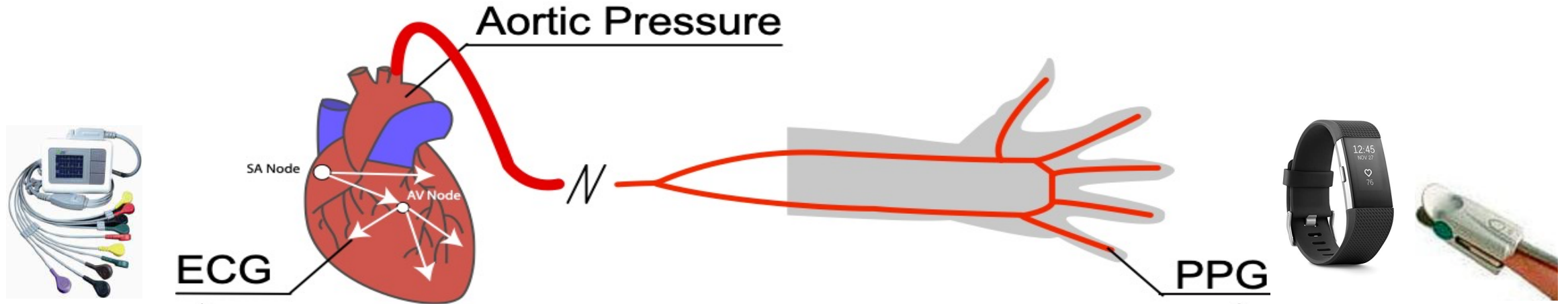
Qiang Zhu<sup>1</sup>, Xin Tian<sup>1</sup>, Chau-Wai Wong<sup>2</sup>, and Min Wu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Maryland, College Park

<sup>2</sup> Electrical and Computer Engineering, North Carolina State University



# ECG vs. PPG — Pros and Cons



Clinical **Gold Standard**

**Rich Knowledge** Base

User-**unfriendly**

**Rapid Growth** of Wearable Tech

**Limited Knowledge** Base

User-**friendly** and **Cheaper**

# ECG from PPG — Benefits and Research Problems



Knowledge  
Base



Low  
Cost



Continuous  
Real-time



User  
Friendly

*Two major research problems:*

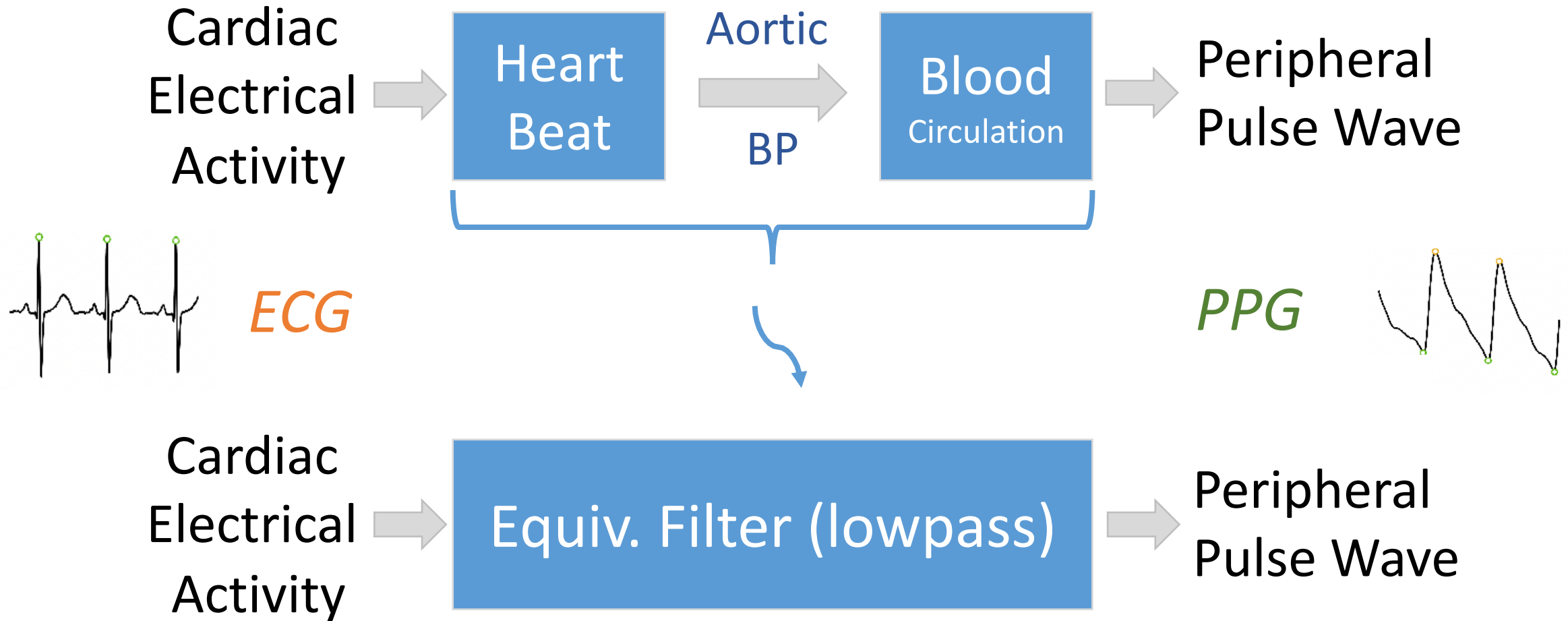
1. Infer ECG from *clean* PPG?

**Fundamental  
& our focus**

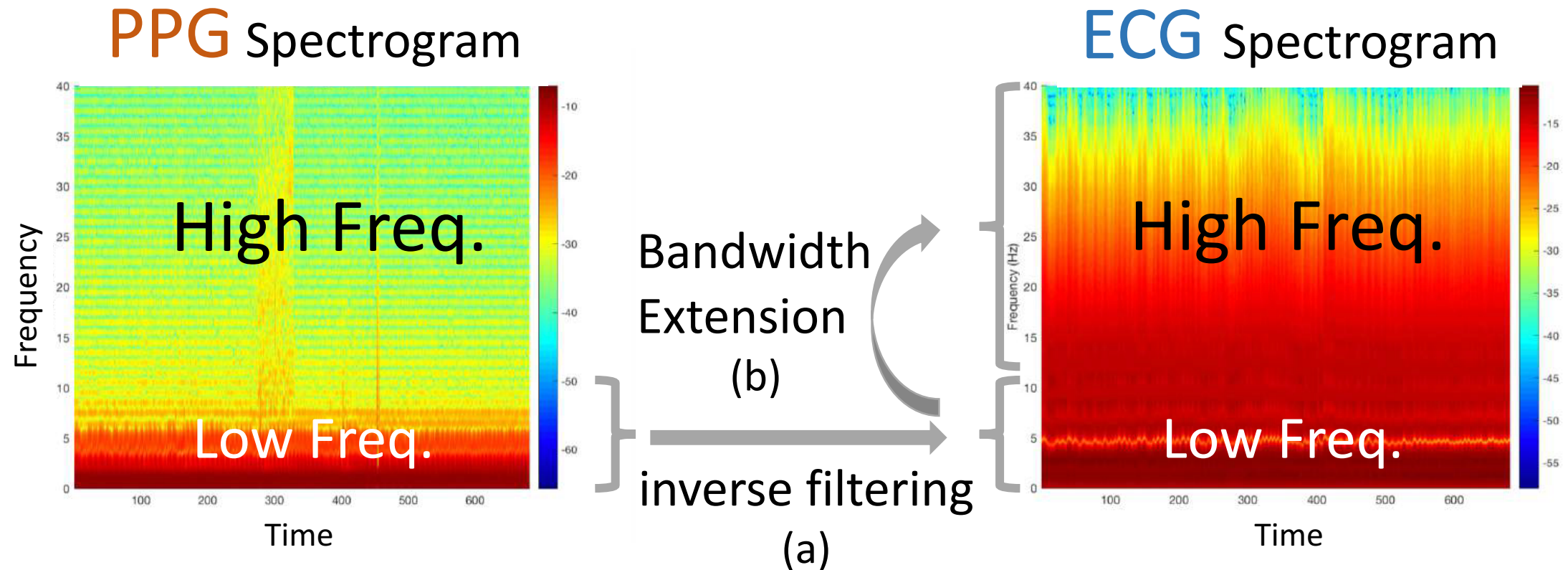
2. Clean up noisy PPG due to movement etc.?

- Leverage multiple sensors (e.g., accelerometers)

# A System Model from ECG to PPG



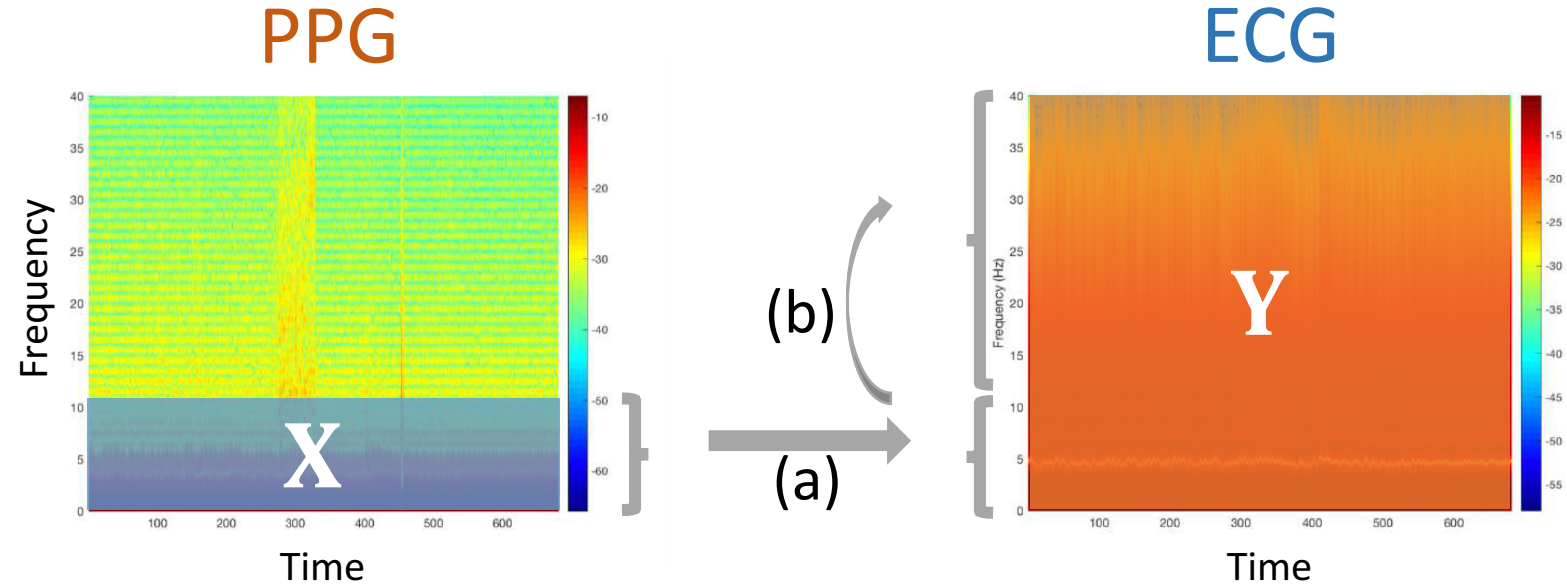
# PPG to ECG: Methodology At-a-Glance



💡 Combine (a) and (b) with *model + data supported learning*

# PPG to ECG: Methodology At-a-Glance (cont.)

Combine (a) and (b) with model and data learning



Model in freq. domain

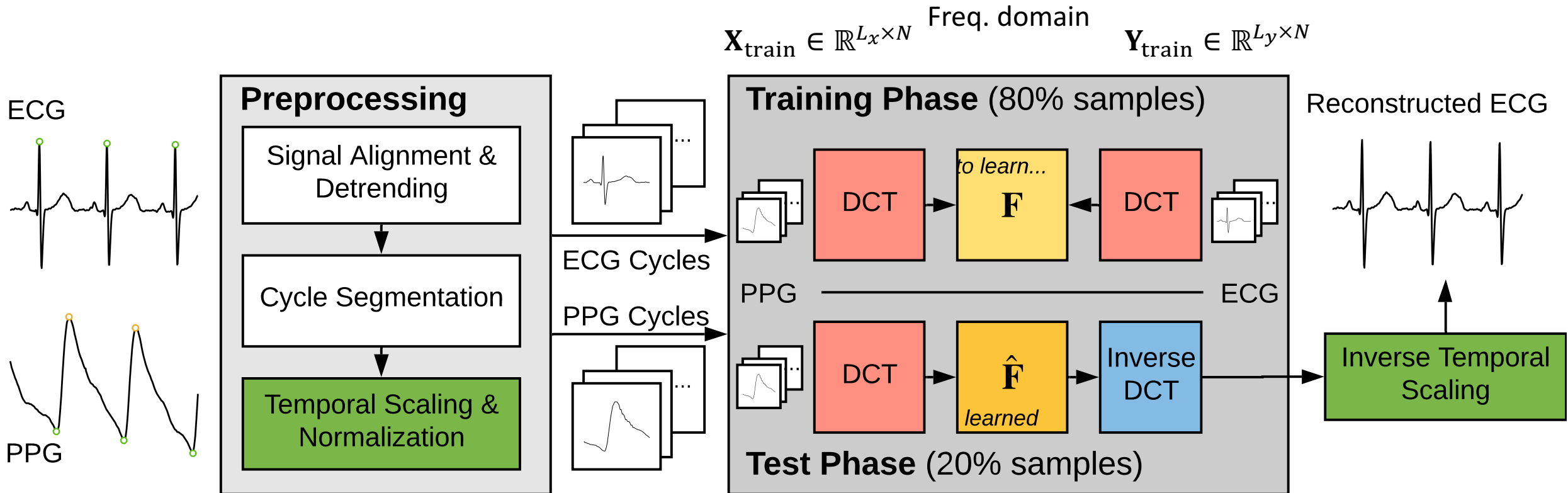
Linear transform  $\mathbf{F}$

- $L_x$ : # PPG freq. Coeffi.
- $L_y$ : # ECG freq. Coeffi.
- $N$ : # time indices

$$L_y \mathbf{F} \cdot L_x \mathbf{X} = L_y \mathbf{Y}$$

The diagram illustrates the linear transform in the frequency domain. It shows a vertical yellow bar representing the transform matrix  $\mathbf{F}$  with height  $L_y$ . A horizontal blue bar represents the input PPG spectrogram  $\mathbf{X}$  with width  $L_x$ . An equals sign follows, and a horizontal orange bar represents the output ECG spectrogram  $\mathbf{Y}$  with width  $N$ .

# A Cycle-based Learning Framework



$$\hat{\mathbf{F}} = \underset{\mathbf{F}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|\mathbf{F}\mathbf{X}_{\text{train}} - \mathbf{Y}_{\text{train}}\|_F^2 + \gamma \|\mathbf{F}\|_F^2$$

A linear transform  $f$  learned by *ridge regression*

# Two Datasets for System Evaluation

## Capnabase TBME-RR (by UBC, publicly available) [1]

- <http://part.cfri.ca> (UBC Pediatric Anesthesia Research)
- 29 Children (0.8-16.5 yr, median 8.7), 13 adults (26.2-75.6 yr, median 52.4)
- 300Hz ECG, 100Hz PPG

New

## Mini-MIMIC (selected data from MIT MIMIC III database [2])

- ICU data with various cardio patients and non-cardio ones

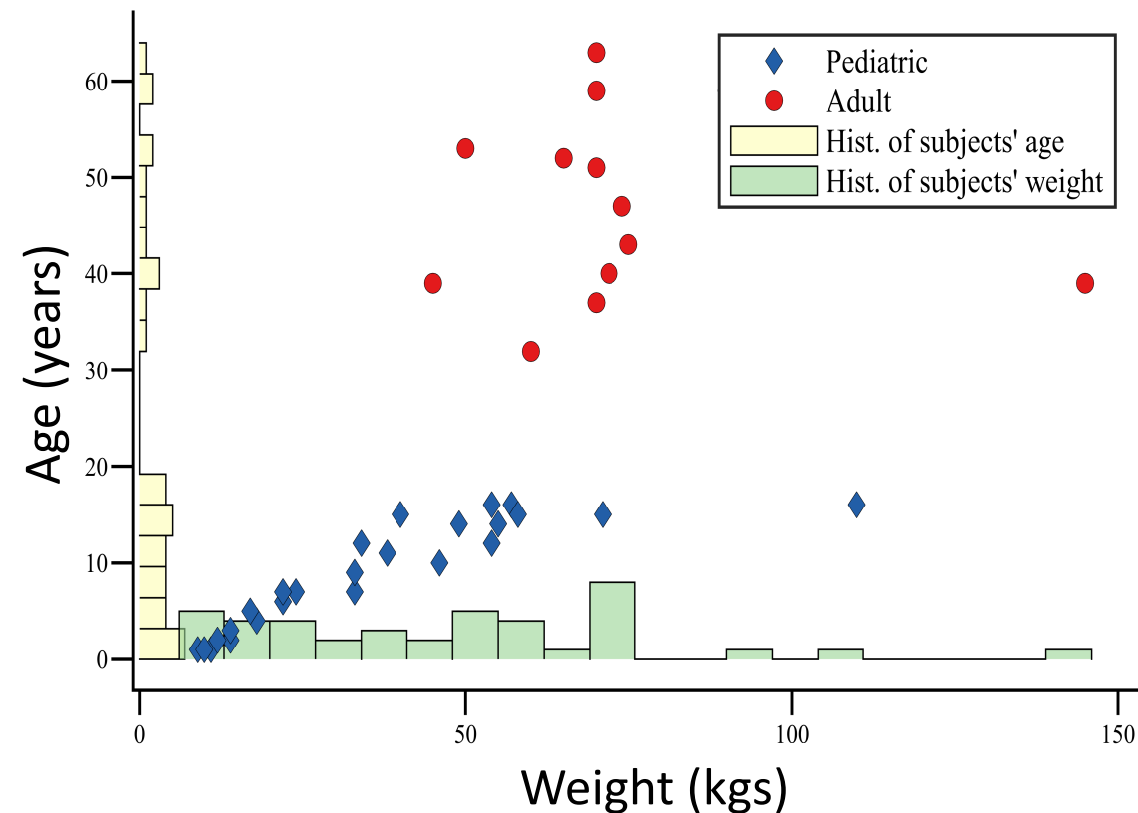
[1]. Karlen, W., Raman, S., Ansermino, J. M., & Dumont, G. A. (2013). Multiparameter Respiratory Rate Estimation from the Photoplethysmogram. *IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering*, 60(7), 1946-1953.

[2]. Johnson, A. E., Pollard, T. J., Shen, L., Li-wei, H. L., Feng, M., Ghassemi, M., ... & Mark, R. G. (2016). MIMIC-III, a freely accessible critical care database. *Scientific data*, 3, 160035.

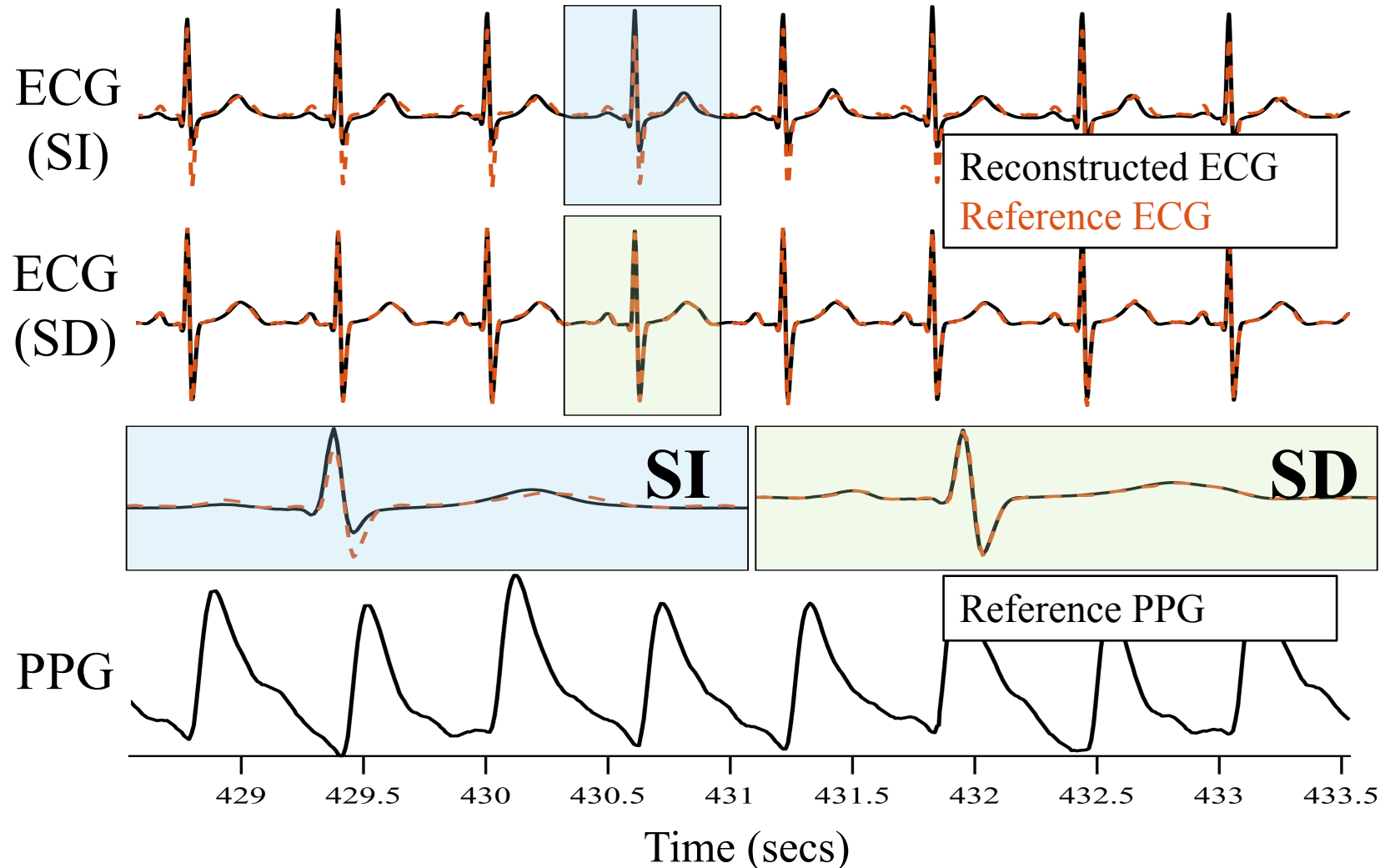


# Dataset 1— Capnabase TBME-RR

- **Capnabase TBME-RR** (by UBC, publicly available) [1]
  - 29 Children, 13 adults
  - 300Hz ECG, 100Hz PPG
- **Training Types**
  - *Sub. Dep.* (SD):  
Train and Test on each subject
  - *Sub. Indep.* (SI) :  
Train and Test over the dataset



# Subject Dependent (SD) vs. Independent (SI) Model



- One example  
4 years old, 18 kg
- Pearson's correlation coeff.  
SD: 0.991  
SI: 0.883

# Quantitative Results

## Two Evaluation Metrics

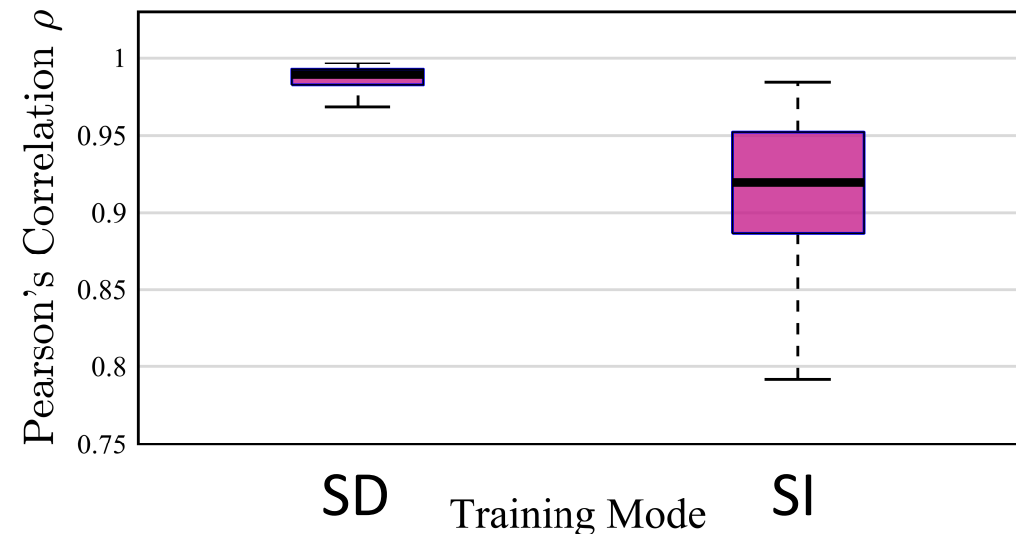
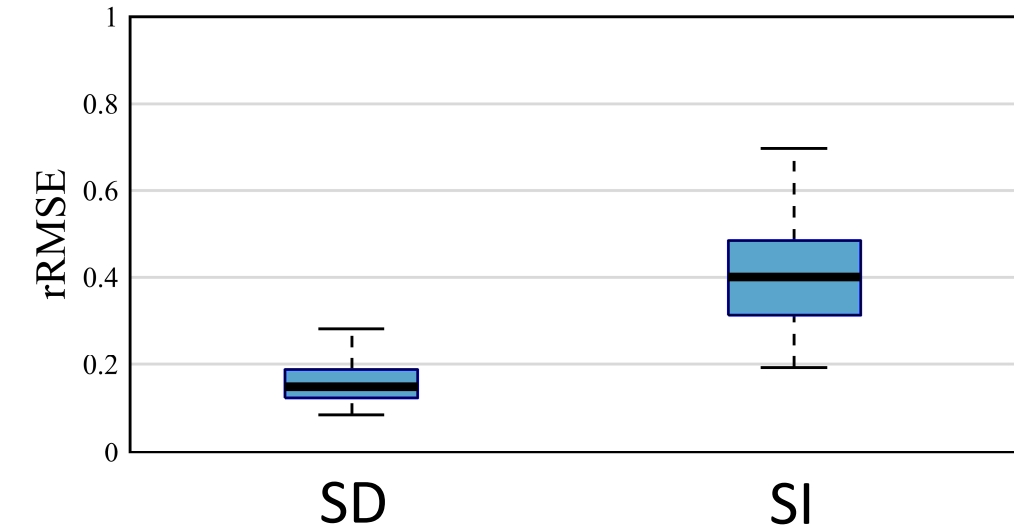
- Relative Root Mean Square Error

$$\text{rRMSE} = \frac{\|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{y}\|_2}$$

- Pearson's Correlation Coefficient

$$\rho = \frac{(\mathbf{y} - \bar{y})^T (\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \bar{\hat{y}})}{\|\mathbf{y} - \bar{y}\|_2 \|\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \bar{\hat{y}}\|_2}$$

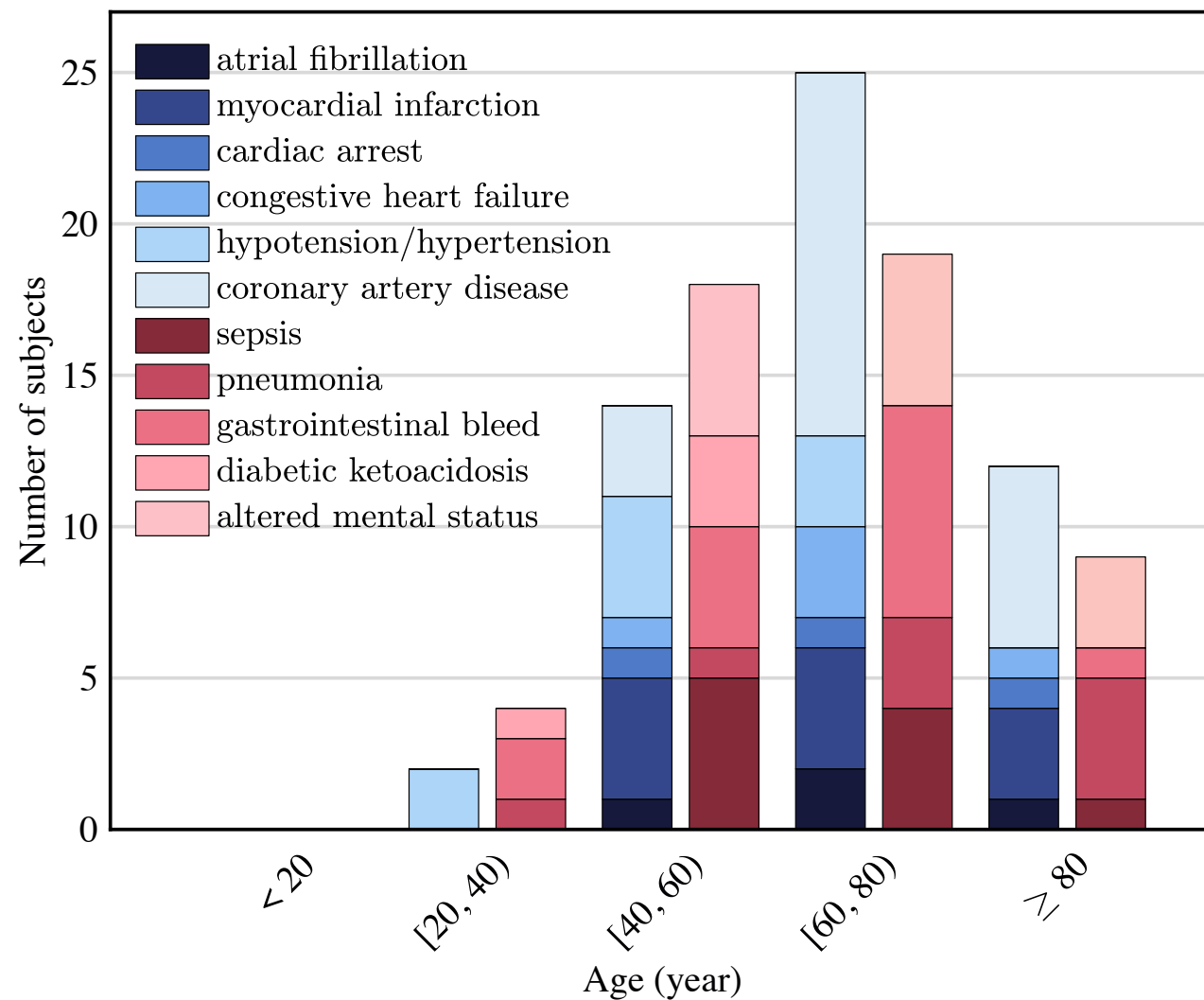
Average	SD	SI
rRMSE	0.17	0.42
$\rho$	0.98	0.91



# Dataset 2: Mini-MIMIC III

Selected PPG and ECG data from MIMIC III database [2]

- 50 Cardiac Patients
- 53 Non-cardiac Patients



# Prelim Result: Cardio Disease Classification

Confusion matrices & classification accuracy of SVM (w/ polynomial kernel) on ...

**Ori. ECG (ref.)**

**Recon. ECG (Proposed)**

**Ori. PPG**

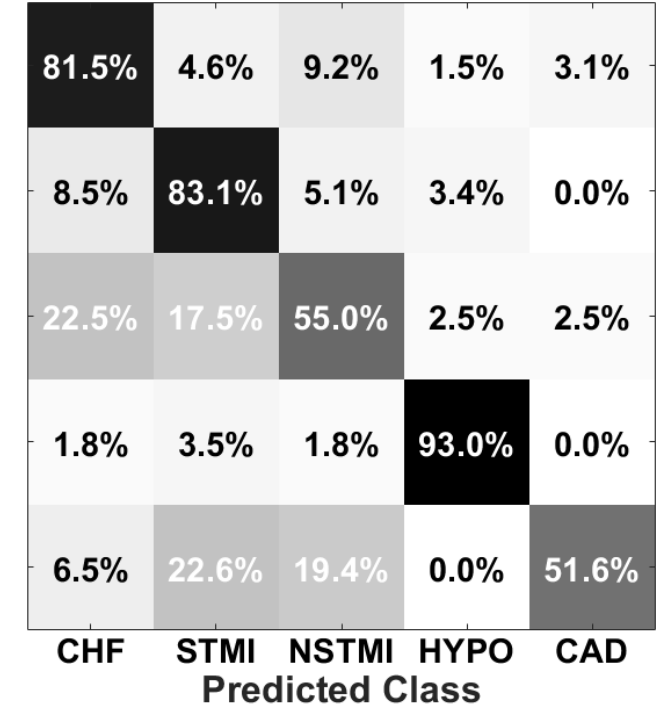
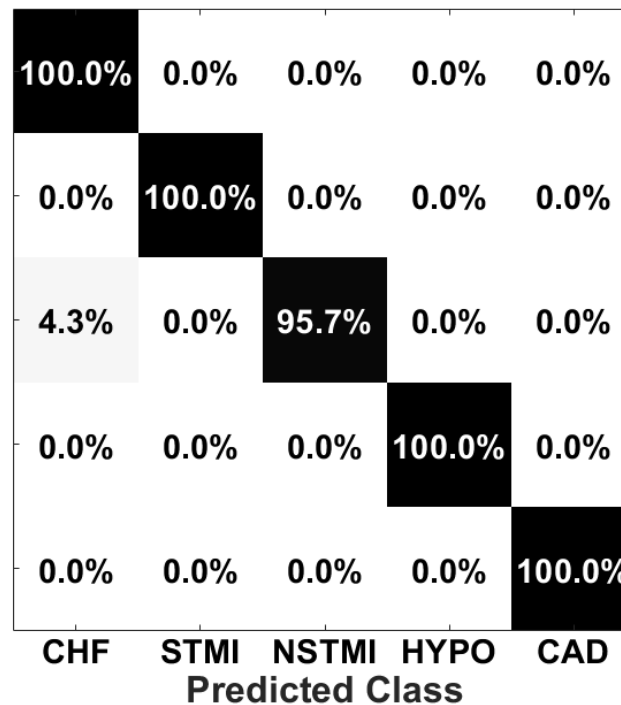
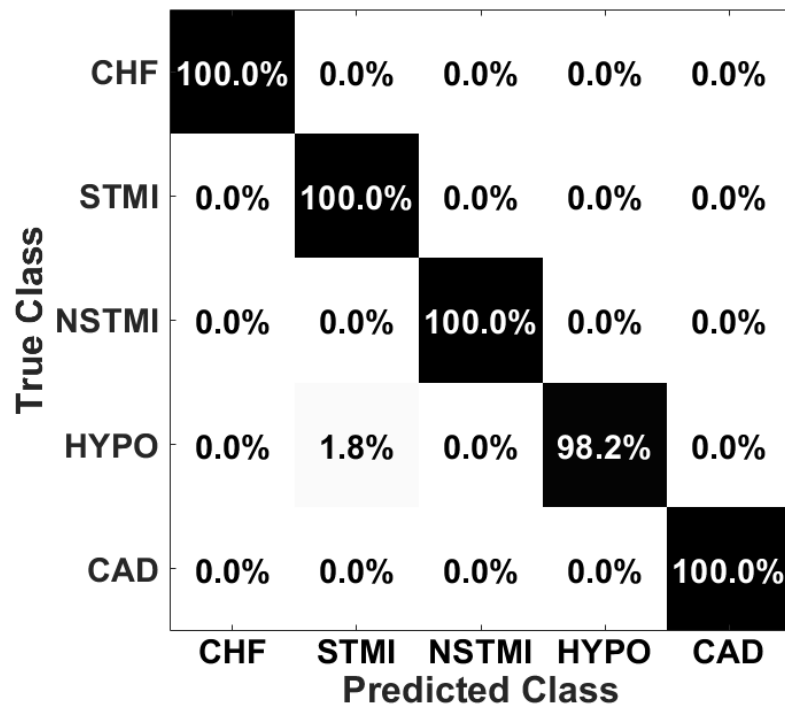
Accuracy:

**99.6%**

**99.3%**

**76.6%**

Confusion matrix from number of PCs = 100



# Summary and Conclusion

- Combine physio. model with bio-insight and data
- Encourage accuracy of ECG reconstruction tested on two public datasets
- Facilitate explainable AI on cardio-related wearables
- Leverage rich ECG knowledge base
- Support public health in the big picture



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