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Pham, P., & Wang, J. (2016, October). Adaptive review for mobile MOOC learning via implicit physiological signal sensing. In *Proceedings of the 18th ACM International Conference on Multimodal Interaction* (pp. 37-44). ACM.

# Adaptive Review for Mobile MOOC Learning via Implicit Physiological Signal Sensing

엠레  
석사 과정



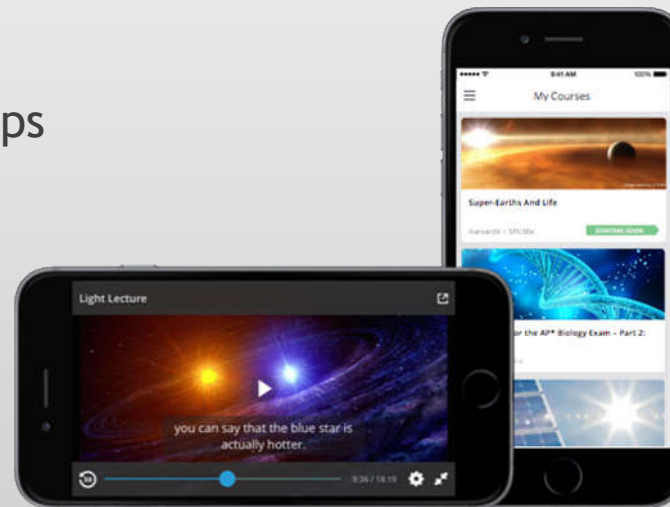
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# Mobile MOOCs

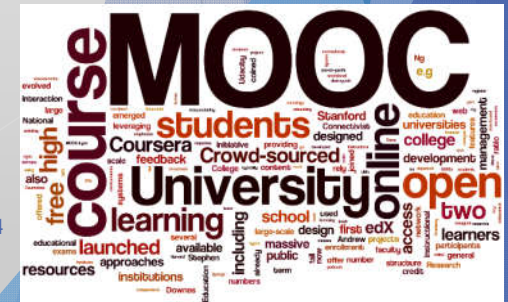
- ▶ Primary learning resources → Videos
  - ▶ 3-15 min.
  - ▶ Ideal to watch on mobile devices
- ▶ Coursera, edX, Udacity have mobile apps



edX mobile app (<https://www.edx.org/mobile>)

# Challenges of MOOCs

- ▶ Because of ‘one-size-fits-all’ concept;
  - ▶ Low engagement and retention
  - ▶ Uni-directional information flow
  - ▶ Lack of personalization
  - ▶ Static and asynchronous nature of pre-recorded videos
  - ▶ Insufficient monitoring and modeling of the learning process
    - Limited information for analysis: Self-reports and Clickstream analysis
    - Aggregated learning analysis
  - ▶ Cost of fine-grained in-lecture assessment



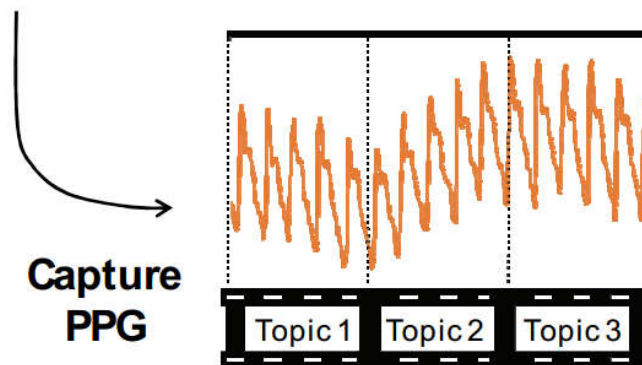
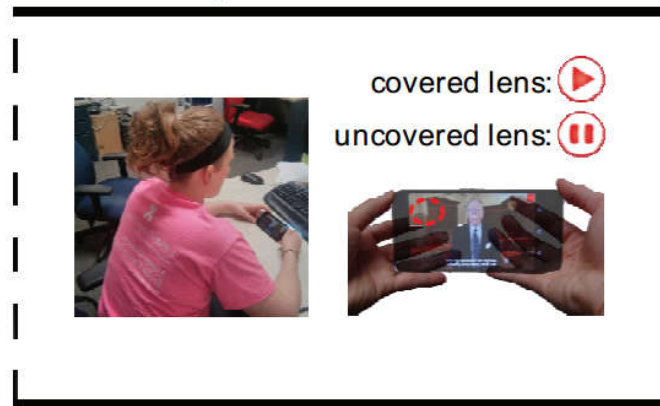


# AttentiveReview

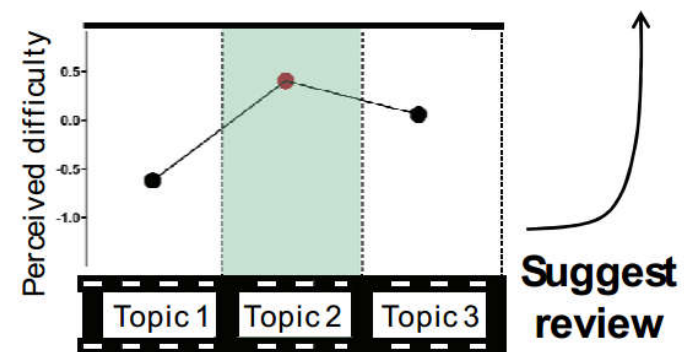
- ▶ Intelligent intervention technology for mobile MOOC learning, without hardware modification
- ▶ One solution to the lack of personalization in mobile MOOCs
- ▶ Infers learners' *perceived difficulty* levels while watching videos and recommends 'review materials' by analyzing the photoplethysmography (PPG) **waveforms** captured *implicitly* from **fingertip transparency changes** via back camera of mobile phones.
- ▶ Structure:
  1. Back camera → a tangible video controller & heart rate tracker
  2. Heart rate uncovers the difficult sections of videos
  3. System recommends those sections for reviewing
- ▶ Link for detailed view: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=176&v=rocYVTdOXzE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=176&v=rocYVTdOXzE)

# AttentiveReview

## Learning



## Review



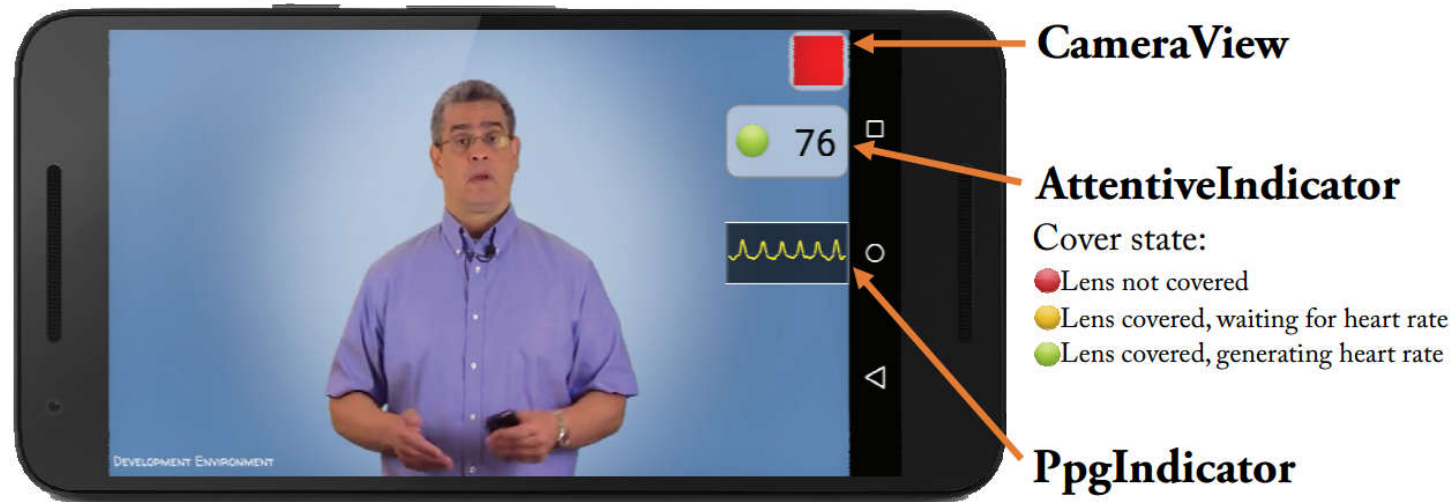
# Related Studies

- ▶ On Physiological Signals for educational purposes:
  - ▶ Skin conductance (Woolf et al., 2009), **eye gaze** (D'Mello, 2012), **facial expressions** (Woolf et al., 2009), **electroencephalogram (EEG)** (Szafir, & Mutlu, 2013), **functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS)** (Afergan et al., 2014), and **heart rate/PPG** (Hjortskov et al., 2004; Lyu et al., 2015; Xiao, & Wang, 2015).
    - In order to infer learners' cognitive and affective states
- ▶ On AttentiveReview:
  - ▶ Used PPG signals for detecting *mind wandering* (Pham, & Wang, 2015), *boredom* and *confusion* (Xiao & Wang, 2015)



# Design of AttentiveReview

## 3.1 Tangible Video Control



The video watching interface of AttentiveReview, showing the camera preview window, the attention indicator, and the PPG preview window.



# Design of AttentiveReview

## 3.2 Implicit PPG Sensing

- ▶ In every cardiac cycle, the heart pumps blood to capillary vessels and **changes** the **transparency** of the corresponding human body parts, including the **fingertips**. These **transparency changes correlate directly with heart beats** and **can be detected by the covered back camera**.

# Design of AttentiveReview

## 3.3. Adaptive Review Algorithm

- ▶ Extracts both temporal domain and frequency domain features from a learner's PPG waveforms collected from the learning process.
- ▶ Uses a **ranking SVM algorithm** to determine learners' perceived difficulty in each learning topic, and suggests the learner to review the most difficult topic.



62.5% accuracy



# User Study:

## ► Experimental Design:

- background survey and pre-test; 2) MOOC learning; 3) MOOC reviewing; 4) posttest and closing survey
- Four different interventions:  
1: No-review 2: Full review 3: Adaptive review 4: Counter-adaptive review

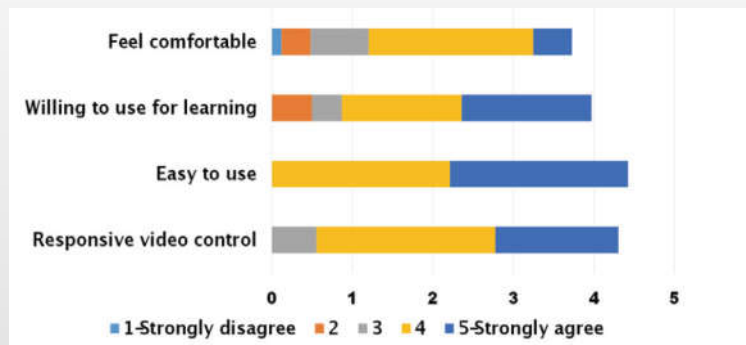
## ► Learning Material:

- Law (unfamiliar topic to avoid the effect of learners' prior knowledge)
- 3 topics/ each topic 8 min-lasting videos /24 min overall

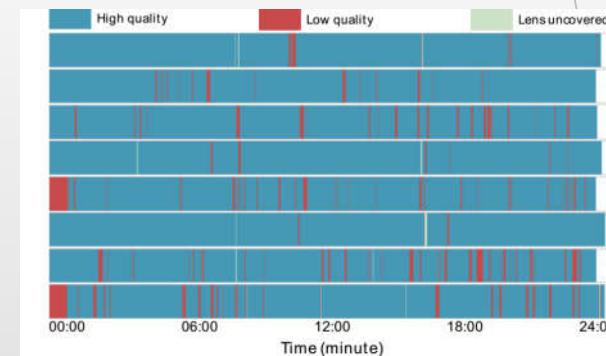
## ► Participants:

- 32 learners. 8 learners for each group.

# Results

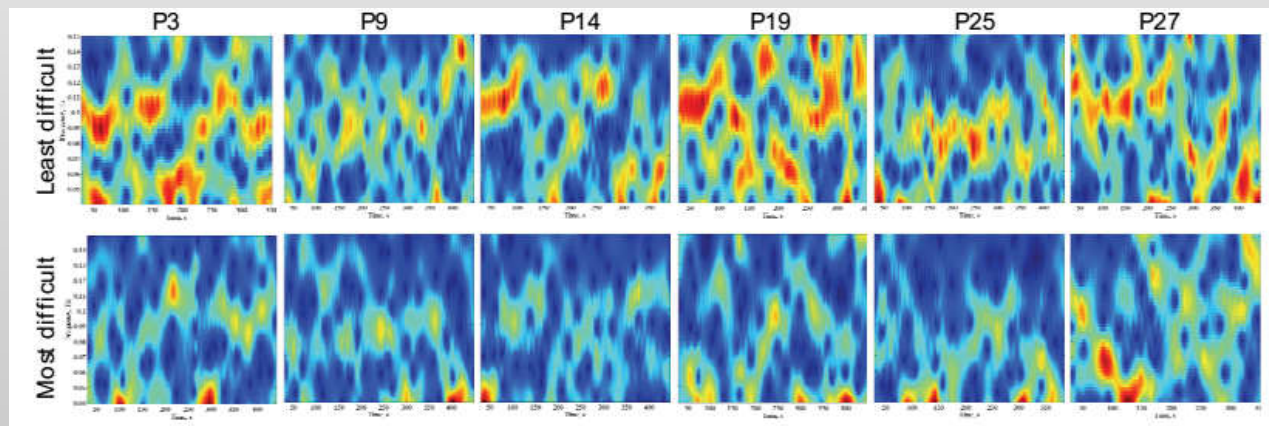


Usability of AttentiveReview: 3.72- 3.82 - 4.30 - 4.42



Average of Signal Quality: 93.7%

Heart rate variability spectrogram (LF and HF) of six participants



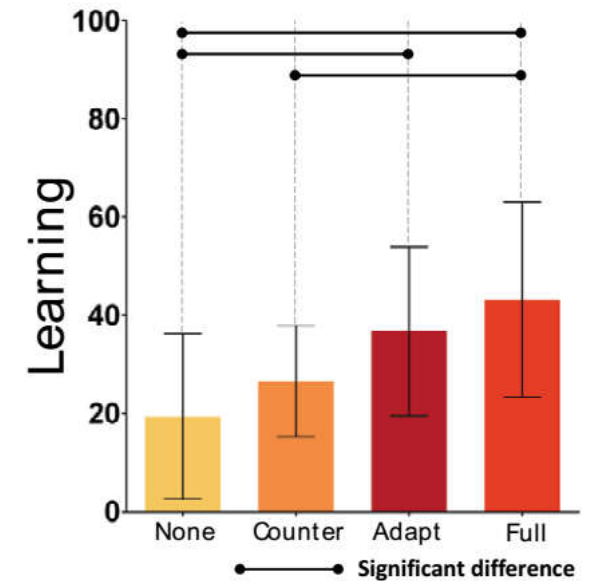
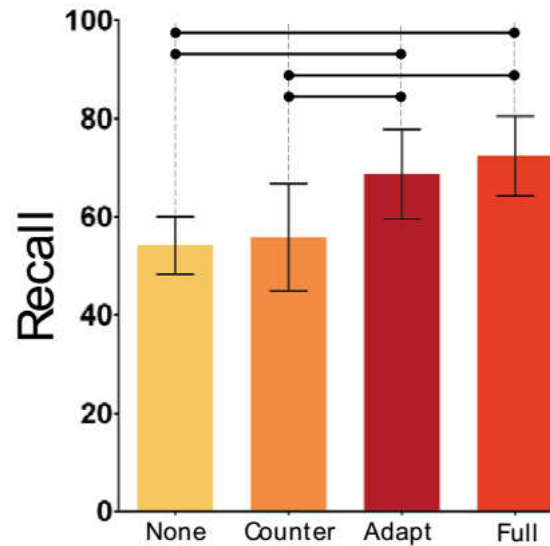
High frequency power reduced under stressful condition

Similar observations in learning difficult topics



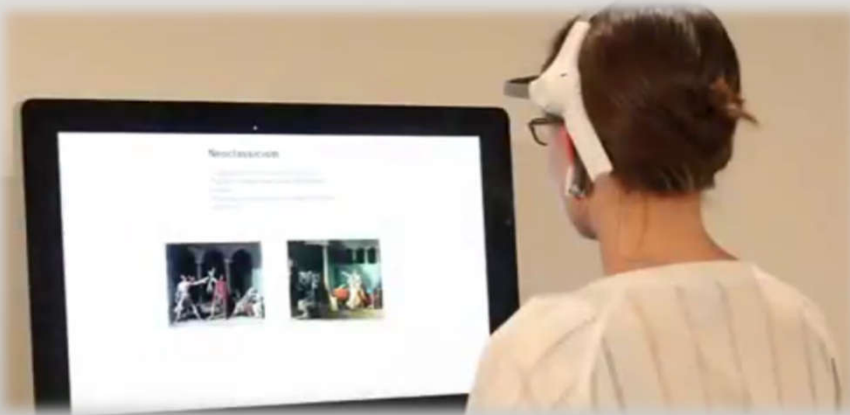
# Results

- ▶ **Learning Outcomes** of 4 groups:
  - Adaptive review **significantly better** performances in both *Recall* and *Learning* than no review.
  - Adaptive review **more efficient** in time than full review under comparable performance.
- Adaptive review achieves equivalent cognitive learning performance as a full review, with 66.7% less review time



# Discussion

- ▶ Supervised machine learning algorithm
  - accounted for **84.9%** of the variability in perceived difficulty levels.
- ▶ Using *deterministic metrics* such as *attention* index feature from EEG signals (e.g., ARTFul) to derive review recommendation ?
- ▶ How about intervention during learning process, instead of after learning ?



ARTFul Adaptive Review Tech(Szafir, & Mutlu, 2013)  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLU76hw-DCA>)



# Conclusion

AttentiveReview is;

- ▶ Intuitive and responsive to use
- ▶ Capture learners' PPG signals with high quality,
- ▶ Effectively recommend review materials improving learners' information recall and learning outcome
- ▶ Significantly improved **information recall** (+14.6%) and **learning gain** (+17.4%) when compared with the no review condition

For more information,  
Please visit <http://www.attentivelearner.com>



Q/A

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