# AI AND SMARTWATCHES FOR EATING BEHAVIOUR DETECTION: SUPPORTING DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS



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## MOTIVATION

- Aging populations and neurodegenerative diseases (e.g., Alzheimer's, dementia) increase the need for continuous monitoring of daily activities, including nutrition.
- Elderly and cognitively impaired individuals frequently experience irregular or unnoticed eating episodes.
- · Traditional dietary monitoring relies on selfreporting or caregiver observation, which is often inaccurate, burdensome, or not feasible

### GOAL

 Develop an Al-based system that detects eating behaviour using smartwatch accelerometer and gyroscope data in real time with minimal user involvement.

### SYSTEM WORKFLOW

#### Data Collection

- Garmin smartwatch
  - Accelerometer + Gyroscope
- FIT files (real-life activities)

# Preprocessing

- FIT decoding (250ms)
- Sync + clean
- Normalization

#### Windowing 30 / 60 / 90 s windows Eating vs Other

#### **Machine Learning Methods**

- Features: 36 stats
- Selection: SHAP (15 best)
- Models: LR, KNN, SVM, RF, GBM

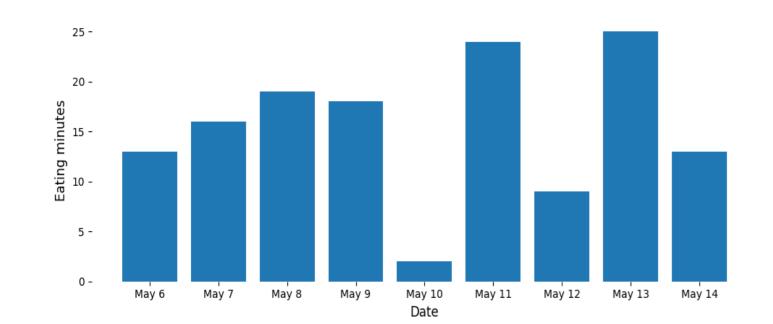
# Deep Learning Methods

- Aggregation: 250 ms / 500 ms / 1 s
- Input: raw sequences
- Models: LSTM, GRU, 1D-CNN, CNN-LSTM

# MODEL PERFORMANCE

Model	Туре	Window / Input	F1-score	Precision	Recall
Random Forest	ML	90 s	0.907	0.961	0.859
Gradient Boosting	ML	60 s	0.893	0.924	0.865
SVM (RBF)	ML	30 s	0.874	0.881	0.874
KNN	ML	30 s	0.867	0.824	0.915
Logistic Regression	ML	30 s	0.833	0.858	0.809
CNN-LSTM	DL	30 s	0.85	0.84	0.86
GRU	DL	30 s	0.82	0.82	0.83
LSTM	DL	30 s	0.81	0.79	0.83
1D-CNN	DL	30 s	0.80	0.78	0.82

### DAILY PREDICTIONS



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### CONCLUSIONS

- The results demonstrate that eating behaviour can be automatically and reliably detected using inertial data from sensor smartwatches, without the need for.
- Overall, manual logging or user interaction the proposed approach is feasible for continuous, noninvasive monitoring eating activity and holds potential for strong supporting dementia care, rehabilitation, and nutrition personalized management.

#### FUTURE PLANS

- Future work will focus on the dataset, expanding evaluating the system in real-life long-term scenarios, and exploring personalized model adaptations for different users.
- Additionally, we plan to develop a full prototype for real-time caregiver monitoring and validate its effectiveness in clinical and home-care environments.

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