



Athabasca  
University

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

**Ali Dewan, PhD**

**Associate Professor**

**School of Computing and Information Systems**

**Faculty of Science and Technology**

**Athabasca University**

**[adewan@athabascau.ca](mailto:adewan@athabascau.ca)**

**Focused on the future of  
learning.**

# Outline

1. Research interests
2. Application area
3. Some ongoing research projects
4. Funding support

# 1. Research Interests

- Artificial Intelligence
- Machine Learning
- Deep Learning
- Affective Computing
- Image Processing
- Computer Vision

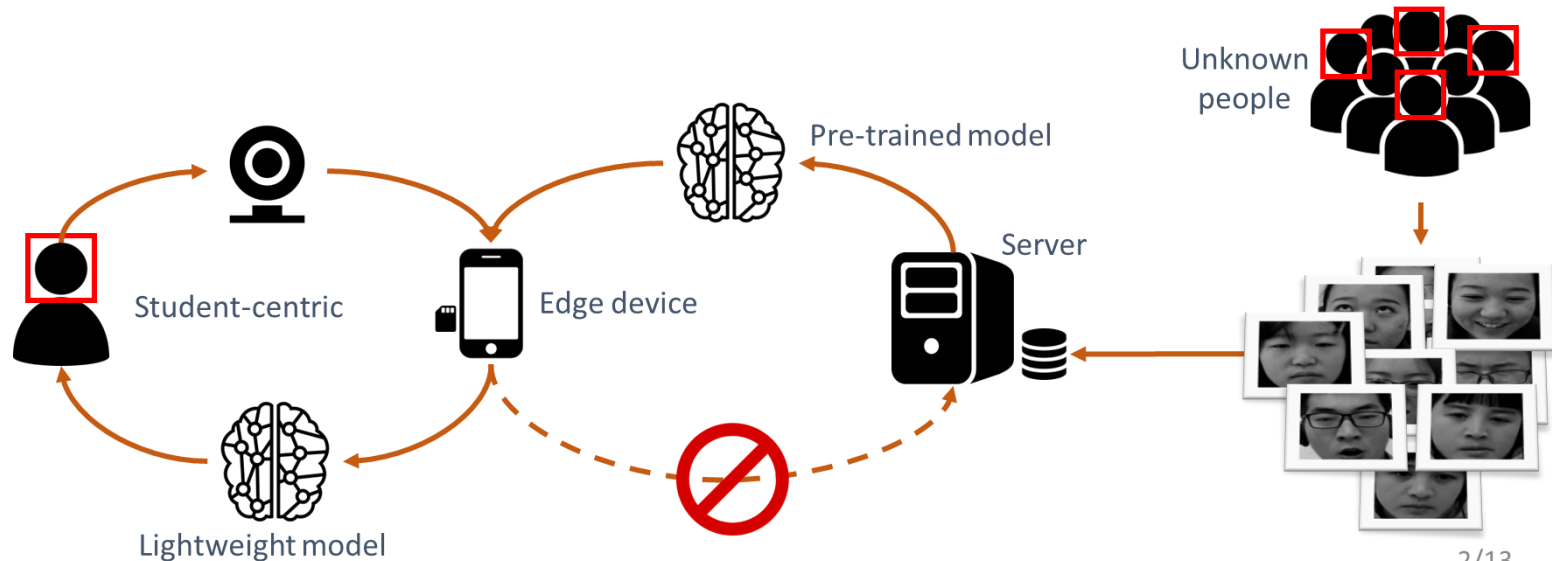
# 2. Application Area

- **Education**
  - Educational emotion detection
  - Cognitive engagement detection
  - Educational dashboard design
  - Automated scoring
- **Healthcare**
  - Interoperability
  - Predictive analytics
  - Medical image analysis
- **Environment**
  - Land use land cover analysis
  - River flow prediction
- **Industry and Manufacturing**
  - Listing images for short-term rental
  - Improving critical controls using IoT and CV
  - Driver distraction classification

# 3.1. Educational Emotion Detection

- A lightweight and interpretable CNN architecture
- Protecting student privacy
- Accountable and trustworthy

- Confusion
- Distraction
- Enjoyment
- Neutrality
- Fatigue



## 3.2. Behavioral Engagement Detection

Micro-sleep tracking with 3D facial mesh

Yawn detection using facial landmarks

Facial Emotion Detection Using 2D and 3D CNNs

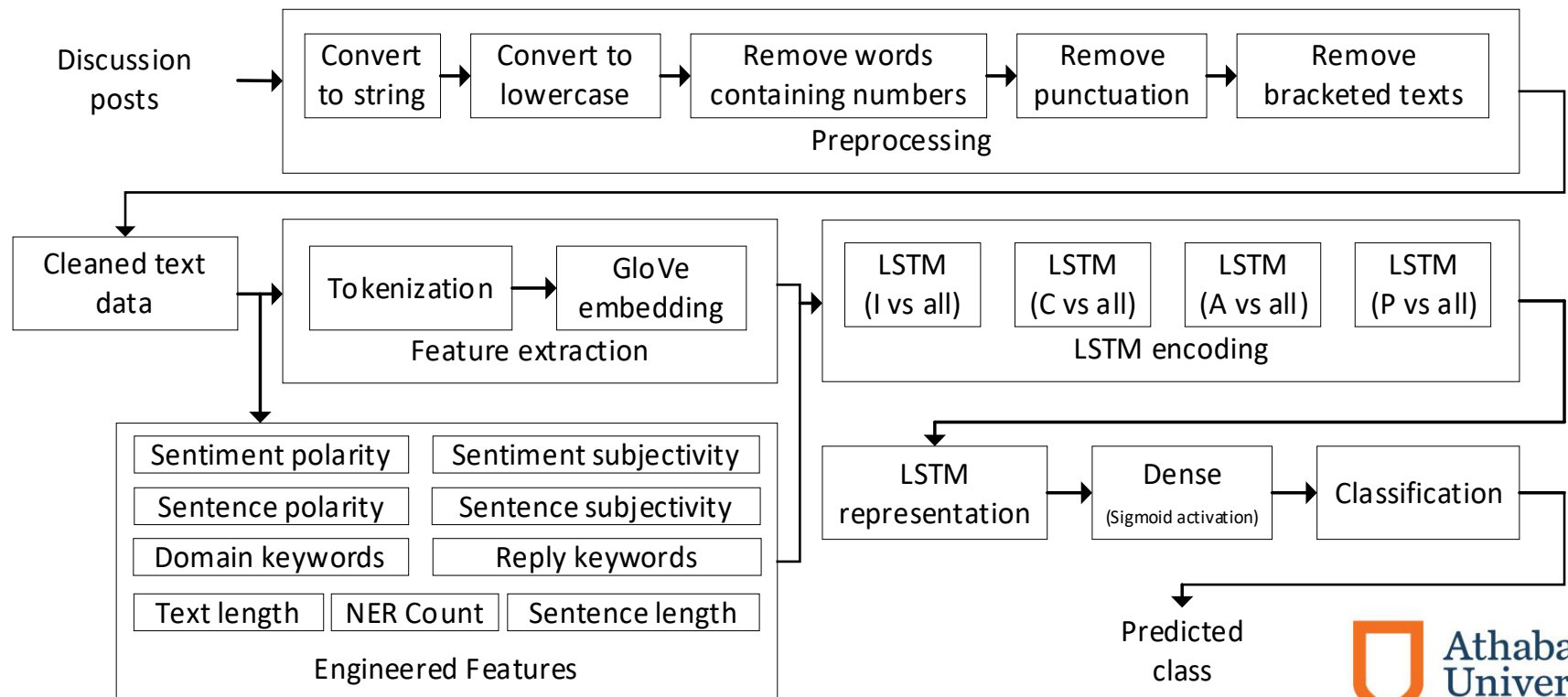
Iris movement detection to identify distraction

- On Task Behavior
- Off Task Behavior

## 3.3. Cognitive Engagement Detection

Interactive, constructive, active, and passive (ICAP) framework

- Conceptualizes hierarchical cognitive engagement levels
- higher levels are related to higher cognitive engagement and learning growth
- From top to bottom, the order of cognitive engagement levels is
  - interactive
  - constructive
  - active
  - passive



## 3.4. “Health Everywhere” MIF Project (with Dr. Dunwei Wen)

- Workplace safety data analysis
- Word sense disambiguation of healthcare textual data
- Automated medical coding system
- Multilingual medical information retrieval



# 5. Funding Supports



**Thank You!**