

# AI enables phones to detect depression from facial cues, study shows

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (UPI) — A new smartphone application uses artificial intelligence to detect depression from facial cues, opening the door to real-time digital mental health support, a new research paper reports.

The researchers published their work Tuesday to the arXiv preprint database in advance of presenting it at the Association of Computing Machinery's CHI 2024 conference in May.

Artificial intelligence coupled with facial-image processing software can reliably detect the onset of depression before the user knows something is wrong, according to the researchers in Dartmouth's Department of Computer Science and Geisel School of Medicine in Hanover, N.H.

A prototype of a new smartphone application, MoodCapture uses a phone's front camera to capture a person's facial expressions and surroundings during regular use, and then evaluates the images for cues associated with depression.

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