



Feature Representation Learning for Calving Detection of Cows Using Video Frames

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Abstract

Objective:

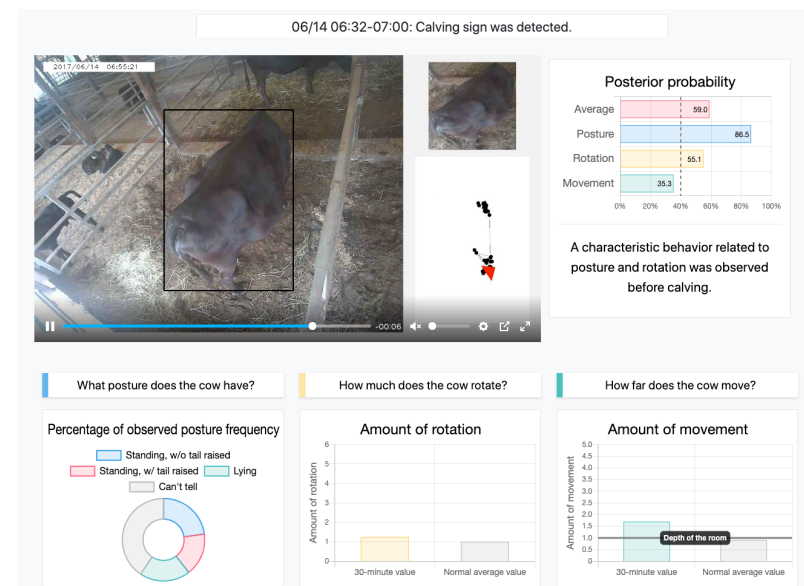
Robust calving detection of cows using video frames for farmers' decision making.

Approach:

System incorporates farmers' decision-making processes into the network.

✓ Robustness on a small data

✓ Interpretability of reasons for predictions



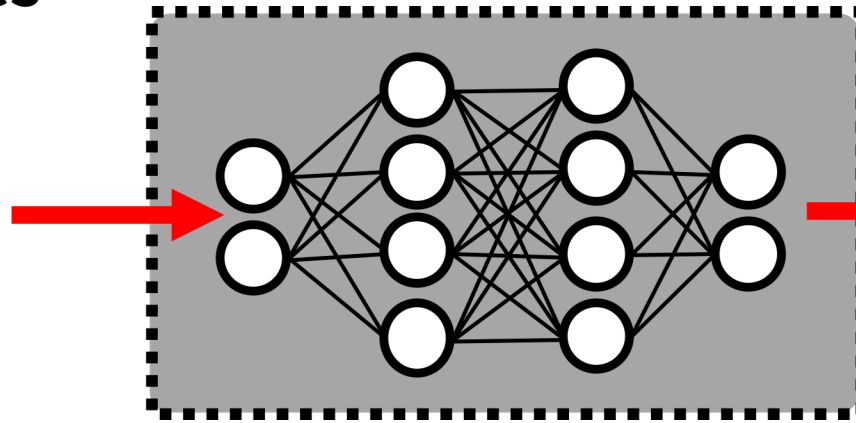
Assisting cows during calving is important for preventing **fatal accidents**.



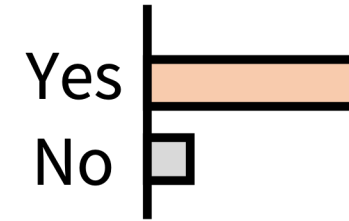
Camera-based detection system ... **Both cows- and farmers-friendly**

End-to-End system

Input video frames



Pre-calving?



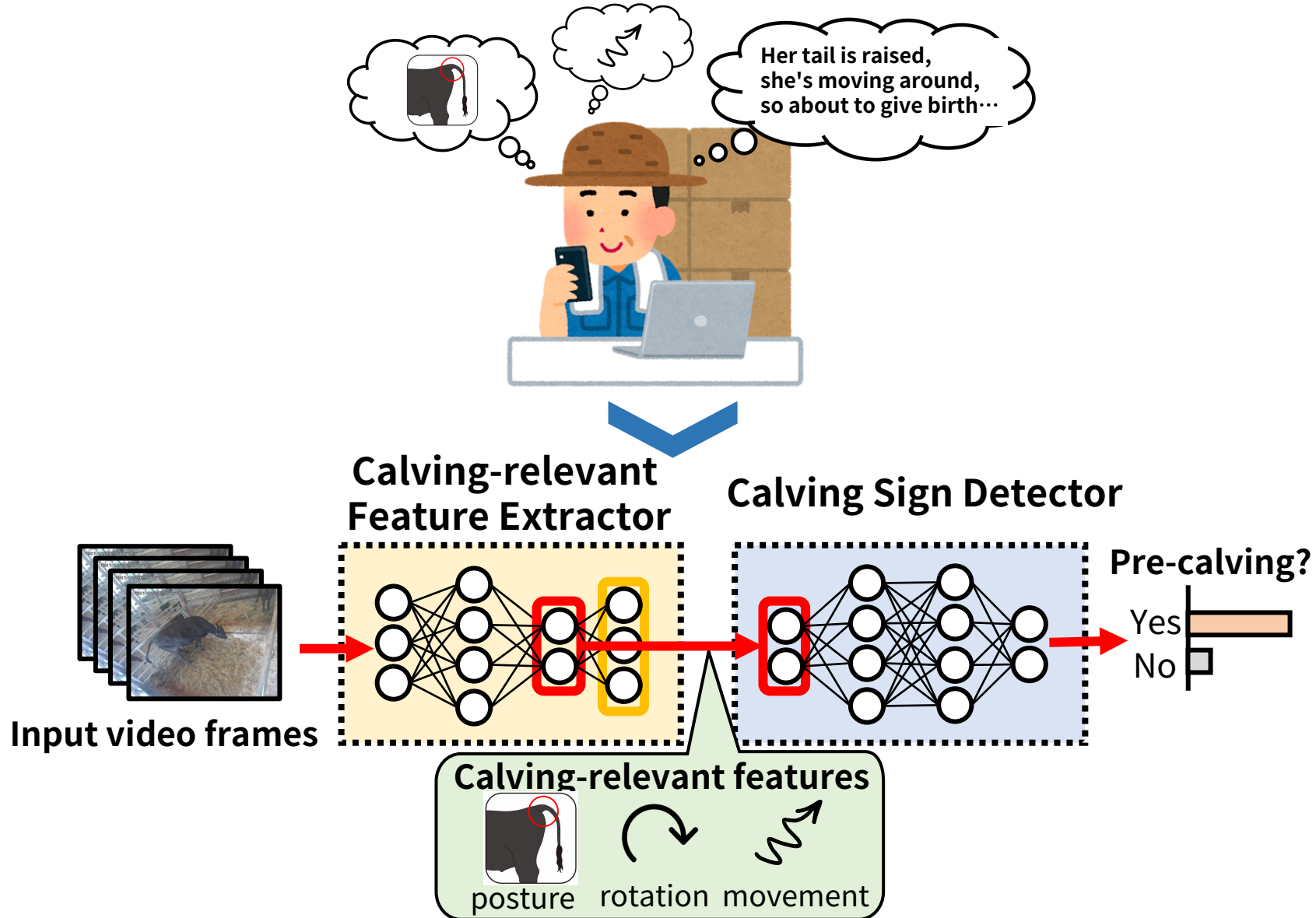
Simple approach that does not require domain knowledge.



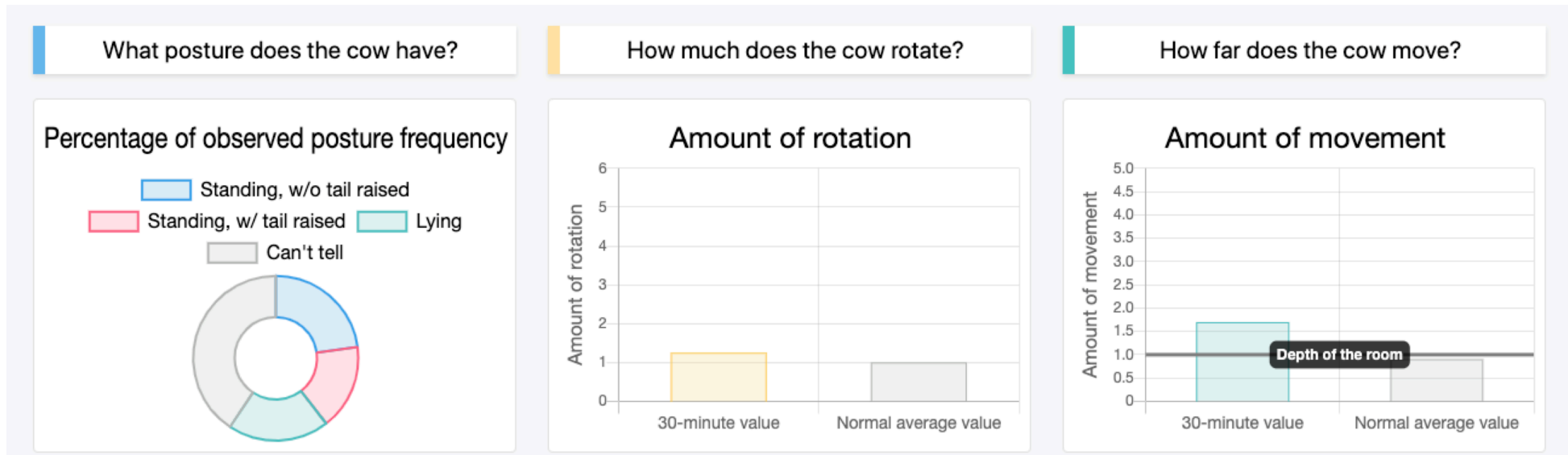
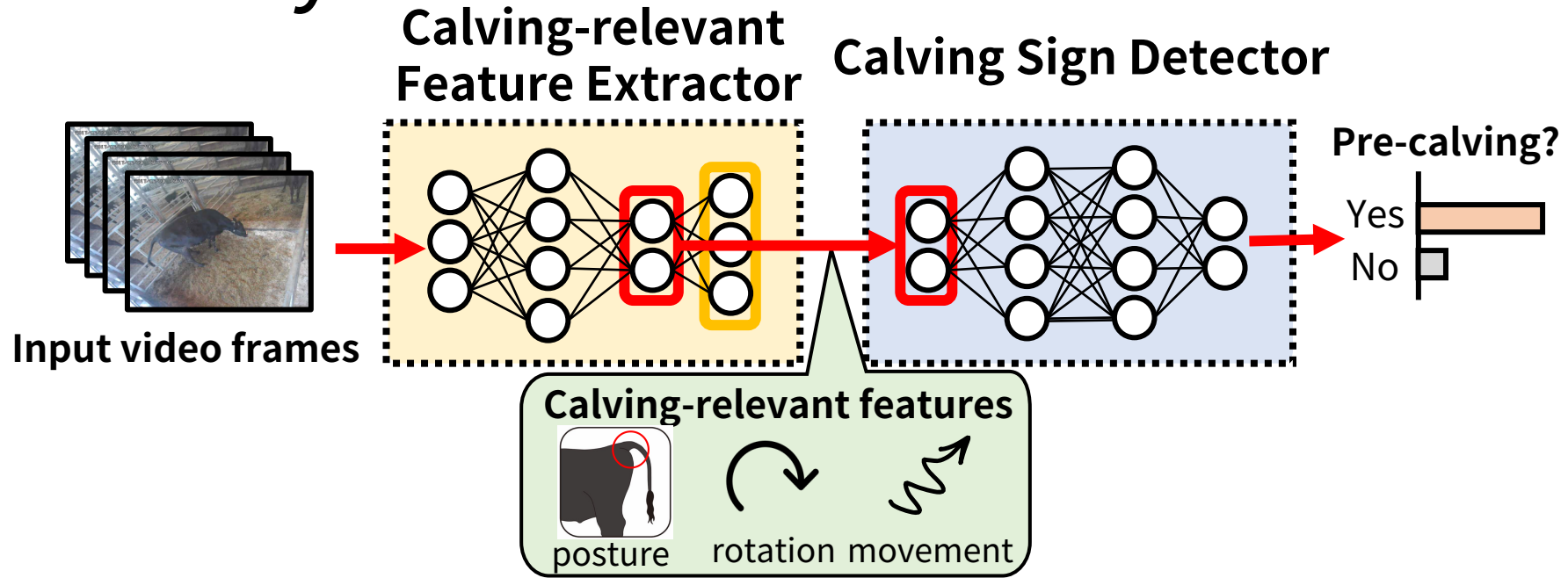
1. Large and well-organized data are necessary.
2. Low interpretability (called **Black-box** system)



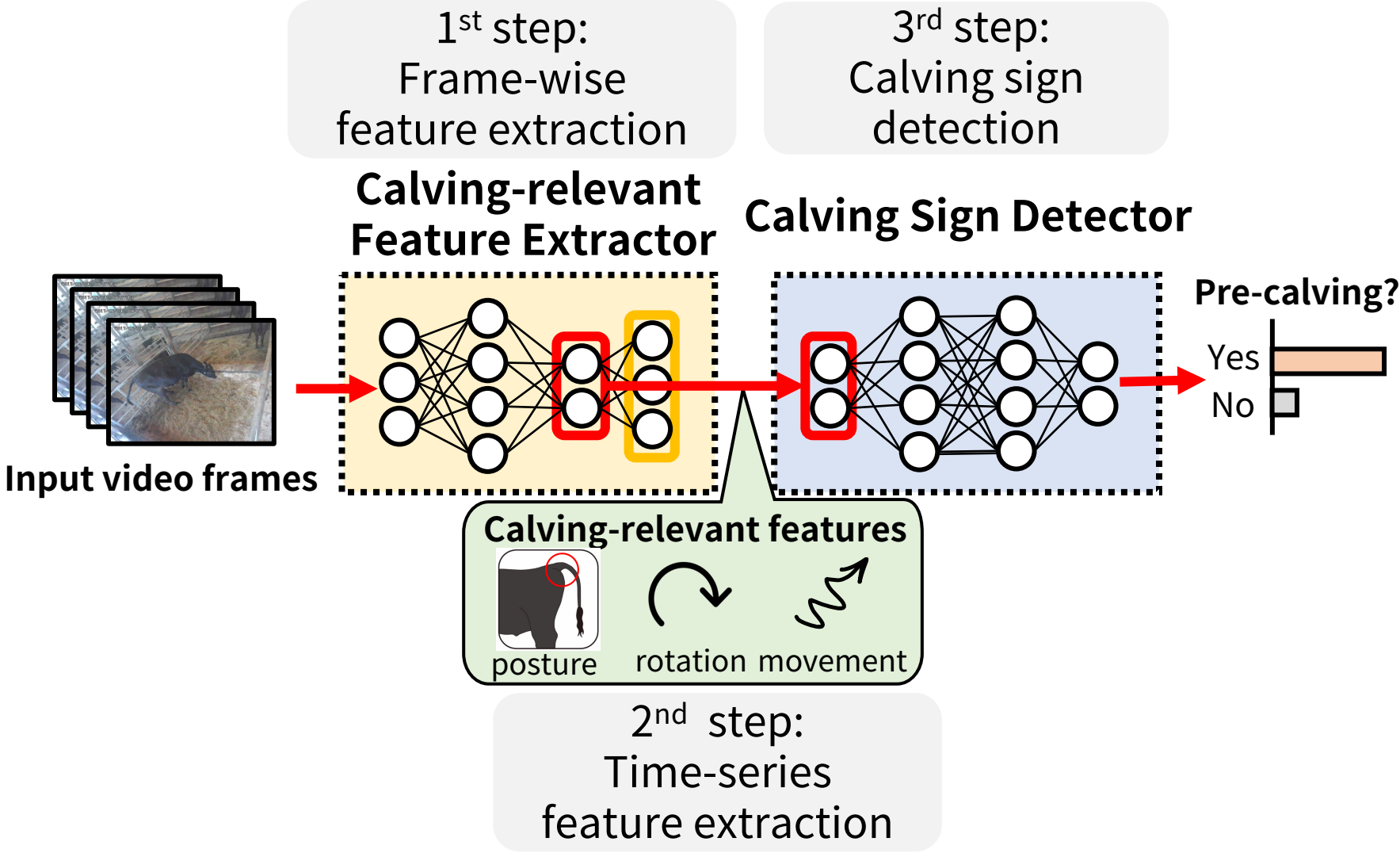
Proposed system incorporates farmers' decision-making processes into the network.



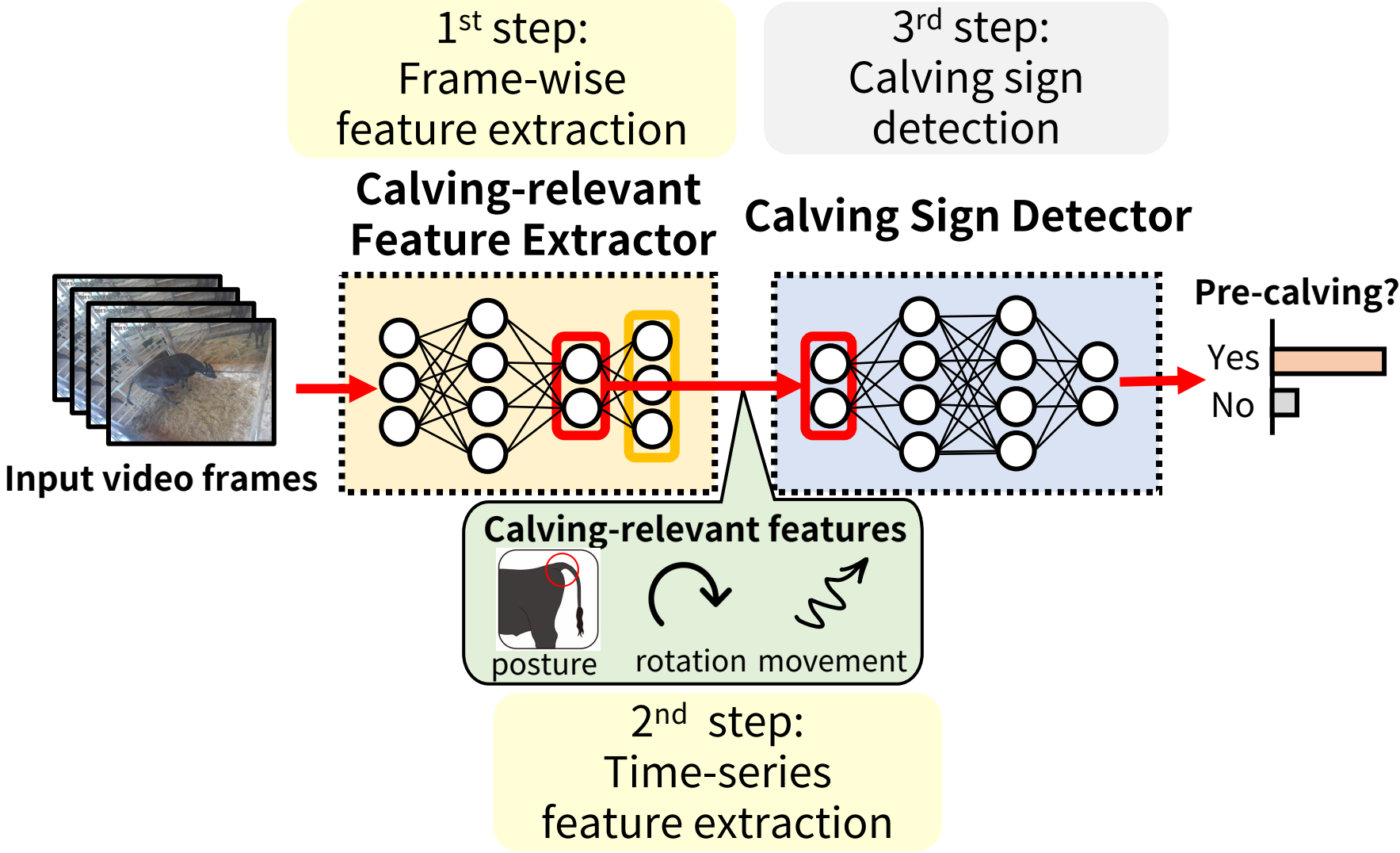
Proposed system



Proposed system



Proposed system

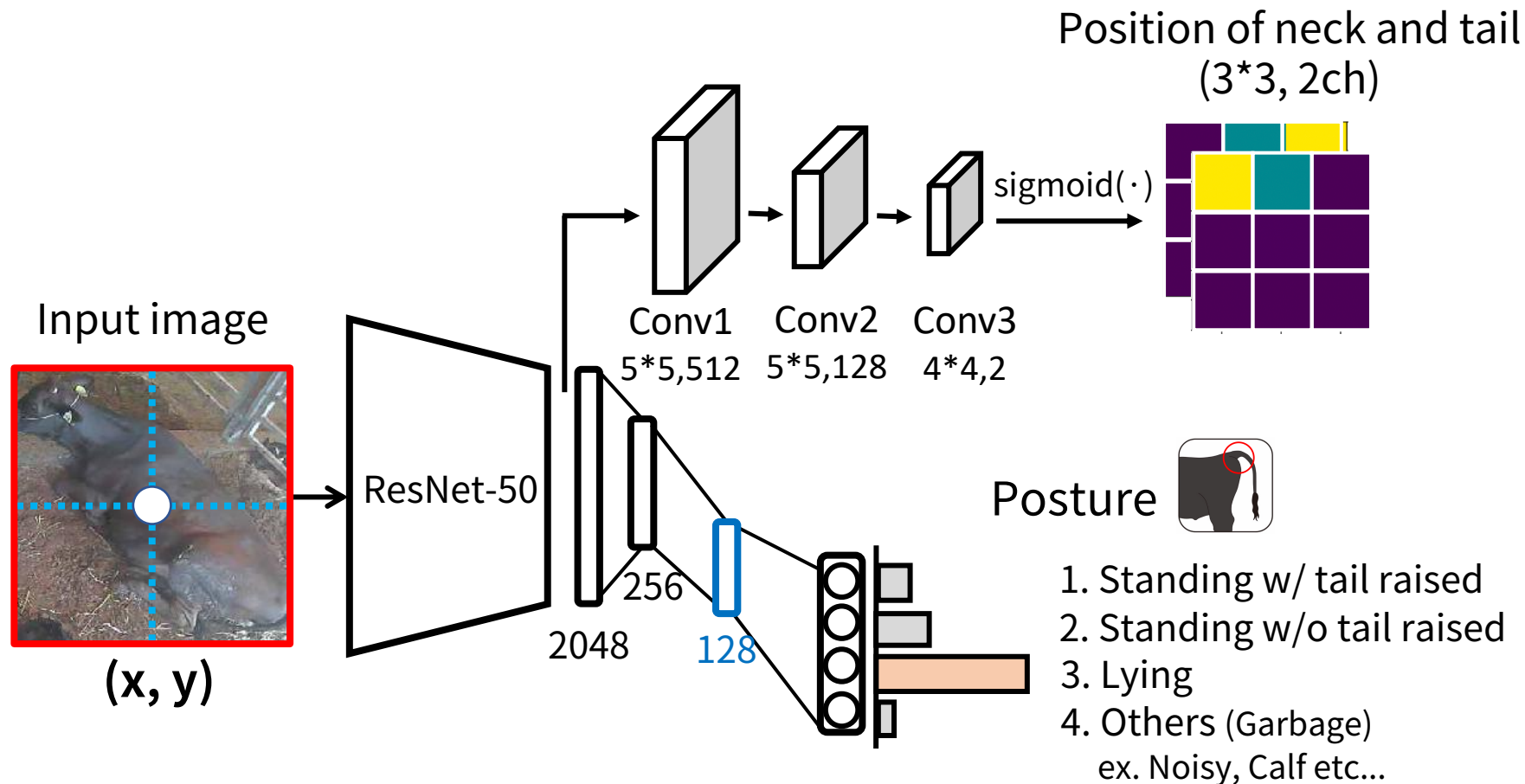


1st step: Frame-wise feature extraction

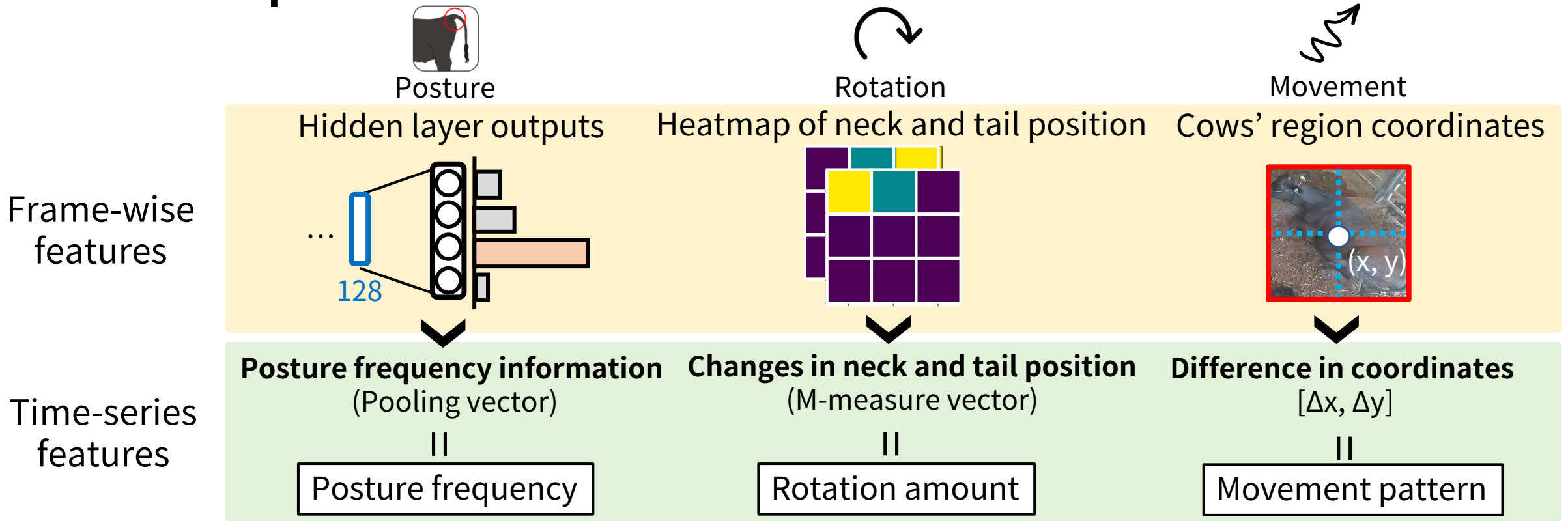
Posture-based feature: Hidden layer outputs for posture classification tasks (128dim)

Rotation-based feature: Heatmap of the neck and tail position estimation tasks (3×3 , 2ch)

Movement-based feature: Cows' region coordinates detected by YOLO v3 (2dim)



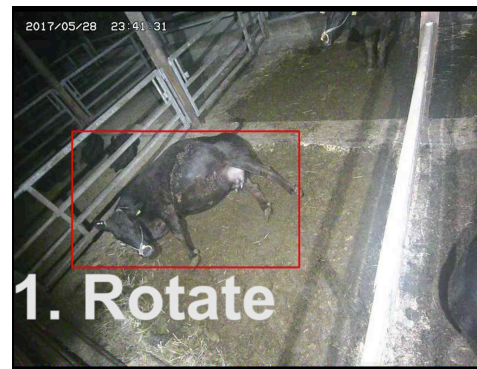
2nd step: Time-series feature extraction



Tail raising



Switching between standing & lying postures



Increase in # of rotations



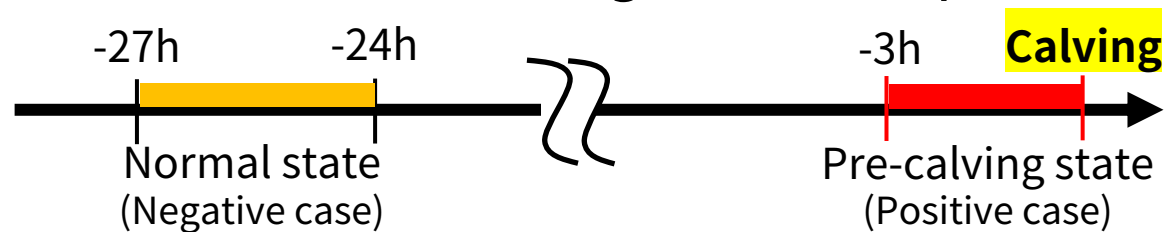
Increase in aimless walking time

Experiment

Comparison of detection performance with and without explicit feature extraction about calving signs.

Data:

- 15 calving scenes recorded in Kagoshima, Japan



Systems to compare:

- E2E (End-to-End system without explicit feature extraction about calving signs)
 - Architecture is the same as SS-posture, with frame-wise features derived from ImageNet-trained ResNet-50.
- SS - {posture, rotation, movement} (proposed)

Evaluation metrics:

- AUC, F1-score, Precision, Recall

Results

Evaluation on test data

System	AUC	F1-score	Precision	Recall
E2E	0.82	0.73	0.71	0.76
SS - Posture	0.88	0.79	0.77	0.80
SS - Rotation	0.84	0.74	0.80	0.70
SS - Movement	0.86	0.78	0.79	0.76

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✓ Performance of proposed systems was better over E2E system

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X E2E system detected calving signs frequently in a normal state.

Summary

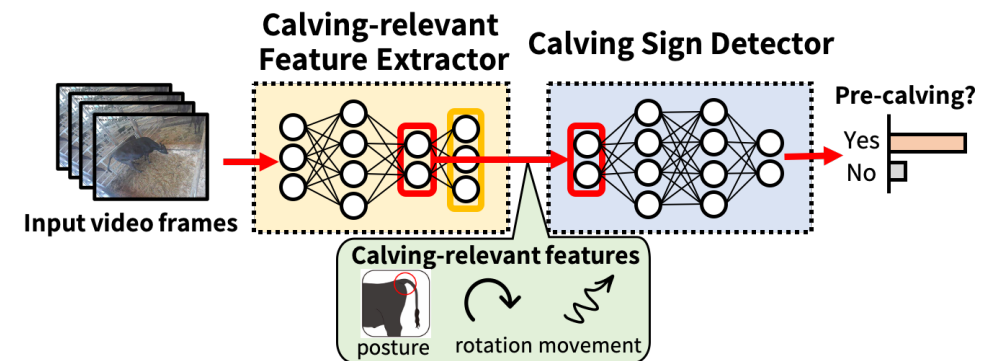
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Results:

Outperformed the E2E system on a small data.

- With explicit feature extraction, the proposed systems suppress obvious false positives.