

Major Depressive Disorder Detection Using EEG

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Abstract: *This research proposes the integration of a convolution neural network (CNN) model with electroencephalography (EEG) for the detection of major depressive disorder (MDD). The proposed system utilizes EEG signal images with brain activity patterns associated with MDD, which are then processed by a CNN model trained to recognize characteristic EEG signatures of depression. The CNN model's output serves as an indicator of the presence and severity of MDD, facilitating early detection and intervention. This approach has the potential to revolutionize depression diagnosis by providing a more accessible, objective, and timely means of identifying individuals at risk of MDD, thereby improving patient outcomes and reducing the societal burden of this impending disorder.*

Keywords: *convolution neural network*

I. INTRODUCTION

Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) is a prevalent and draining mental health condition characterized by persistent sadness, loss of interest, and cognitive impairments. Detecting MDD early and accurately is crucial for effective treatment and improved patient outcomes. Electroencephalography (EEG), a non-invasive method that measures electrical activity in the brain, has emerged as a valuable tool in the detection and analysis of MDD. EEG's ability to capture real-time brain activity offers insights into the neural mechanisms underlying depression, making it a promising biomarker for diagnosis.

EEG is important in MDD detection for several reasons. Firstly, it provides objective, quantifiable data on brain function, which can help differentiate MDD from other psychiatric or neurological conditions. Secondly, EEG can detect subtle brain activity patterns associated with MDD that might not be evident through clinical evaluation alone. This enhances diagnostic accuracy and helps tailor individualized treatment plans. Moreover, EEG is relatively cost-effective and widely accessible, making it a practical choice for routine clinical use.

While other imaging techniques like MRI and PET scans offer detailed structural and metabolic information, they are expensive, time-consuming, and less accessible. EEG's portability, lower cost, and real-time capabilities make it a superior choice for continuous monitoring and early detection of MDD, thus bridging the gap between clinical assessment and advanced neuro imaging.

Combining Convolution Neural Networks (CNNs) with Electroencephalography (EEG) data significantly advances the detection of neurological and psychiatric conditions like Major Depressive Disorder (MDD). EEG provides real-time brain activity data, capturing complex electrical patterns. CNNs, with their powerful pattern recognition capabilities, can automatically extract and classify these patterns, distinguishing between healthy and depressed individuals. This integration allows for efficient, accurate analysis of EEG signals, enhancing diagnostic precision and enabling personalized treatment plans. The synergy between CNNs and EEG fosters improved

detection and monitoring of MDD, offering a practical, scalable solution for clinical applications.

Among the many health challenges facing society, mental health disorders stand out as a significant concern. Major depressive disorder (MDD), in particular, is a prevalent and draining condition that affects millions of people worldwide. The diagnosis of MDD traditionally relies on subjective assessments based on clinical interviews and self-reported symptoms, which can be prone to bias and inaccuracies. Moreover, accessing mental healthcare services for timely diagnosis and intervention remains a significant challenge for many individuals due to various barriers, including stigma, cost, and lack of resources.



To address these challenges, researchers have increasingly turned to emerging technologies to develop innovative solutions for mental health diagnosis and intervention. In this context, this research paper explores the potential of integrating EEG technology with machine learning algorithms, specifically convolution neural networks (CNNs), for the detection of MDD. EEG offers a non-invasive and accessible method for monitoring brain activity, while CNNs excel at learning complex patterns from large datasets, making them well-suited for analyzing EEG data.

Building upon this foundation, our research aims to develop a novel framework for the early detection of MDD using EEG and CNN technology. By leveraging the distinctive neural signatures associated with MDD, we seek to create a robust diagnostic tool capable of accurately identifying individuals at risk of depression. Such a tool could revolutionize the field of mental healthcare by providing clinicians with objective and quantifiable measures for assessing mental health status, facilitating timely interventions, and improving patient outcomes.

Furthermore, the integration of EEG-based MDD detection into existing healthcare systems holds the promise of expanding access to mental health services, particularly in underserved communities where resources are limited. By harnessing the power of technology, we aspire to break down barriers to mental healthcare and empower individuals to seek the support they need for better mental well-being.

Detecting Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) using EEG data and convolution neural networks (CNNs) in the Keras framework is a complex yet promising approach that combines advancements in neuroscience, machine learning, and data analysis to improve mental health diagnostics. This process involves several key stages, each crucial for achieving accurate and reliable results in MDD classification.

The deployment and application of the trained CNN model in clinical or research settings mark the final stage of the depression detection process. The model can be deployed for automated MDD detection using new EEG samples, contributing to advancements in mental health diagnostics and personalized treatment strategies. Continuous research, refinement, and collaboration further enhance the reliability and applicability of EEG-based depression detection methods, paving the way for improved patient outcomes and a deeper understanding of depressive disorder.

advancements in healthcare

The potential of personal health records to improve healthcare delivery and reduce costs has been recognized in many countries worldwide [3, 4]. In recent years, numerous PHR systems and their associated tools have been developed [5]. This global interest and phenomenal growth of personal health records systems, motivates an on-going research towards the evaluation of their functionality, usability and usefulness. In this paper, we provide an evaluation study of numerous PHR systems which emphasizes on optimal PHR functionality and presents our development efforts towards an intelligent PHR system.

The contribution of this paper is twofold. First, we provide a simplified yet elaborate evaluation model for PHR systems which we use to perform a PHR systems review. The results of this process provide an insight on the current status of personal health record systems, in terms of functional capabilities and other important technological characteristics. Second, we describe our development efforts that aim in the implementation of a useful, effective and intelligent PHR framework that will satisfy the variety of health environments needs and will foster an optimal user experience. Overall, the results of this paper can serve as a basis for future evaluation and implementation studies which should be conducted periodically in the constantly evolving field of PHR systems.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 presents the limitations of the related work that justify our study. Section 3 provides a thorough requirement analysis that formulates our evaluation model while section 4 discusses the application of this model in the comparison of numerous PHR system implementations. Section 5 describes our implementation efforts, in line with our requirements analysis, towards an intelligent PHR system. Finally, section 6 concludes the paper and discusses future work.

II. RELATED WORK

The implementation of an ideal MDD system.



Several research efforts have been made to detect Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) using electroencephalography (EEG) signals combined with machine learning and deep learning techniques.

Early approaches primarily relied on traditional machine learning methods with handcrafted feature extraction. For example, studies such as the work by Arbabshirani et al. focused on neuroimaging-based prediction using classifiers like Support Vector Machines (SVM) and ensemble methods. These approaches required extensive preprocessing and domain expertise for feature engineering, which limited their scalability and generalization.

Another approach by Cano et al. utilized cross-correlation techniques to analyze EEG signals and identify similarities between depressed and non-depressed subjects. While effective in capturing signal relationships, such statistical methods often fail to model complex non-linear patterns present in EEG data.

With the advancement of deep learning, researchers have increasingly adopted neural networks for automated feature extraction. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have shown promising results in EEG signal classification by learning spatial patterns directly from data. Recent studies have explored converting EEG signals into image representations such as spectrograms and applying CNN models for improved classification accuracy.

Hybrid models combining CNN with other architectures, such as Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), have also been proposed to capture both spatial and temporal dependencies in EEG signals. These approaches demonstrate improved performance but often require high computational resources and large datasets.

Despite these advancements, several challenges remain. Many existing models suffer from overfitting due to limited EEG datasets, lack interpretability, and are not easily deployable in real-world clinical environments. Additionally, some methods rely on complex preprocessing techniques that increase system complexity.

III. REQUIREMENT ANALYSIS

3.1 Single subject prediction of brain disorders in neuroimaging:

Promises and pitfalls This paper provides an overview of the increasing interest in utilizing neuroimaging data for predicting brain disorders at the individual level. It highlights the potential benefits of personalized medicine and improved clinical decision-making through such predictions. The authors discuss the significance of developing single-subject prediction models that can offer insights into brain health and potential disorders at an individual level. The paper discusses various machine learning approaches used for single-subject prediction of brain disorders, including support vector machines, deep learning, and ensemble methods. The authors emphasize the importance of preprocessing neuroimaging data to extract relevant features and address challenges such as data quality and dimensionality reduction. They also outline the process of model training and evaluation, considering factors such as cross-validation and performance metrics. Overall, the methodology section provides insights into the techniques and considerations involved in developing predictive models using neuroimaging data for individual brain disorder prediction. Furthermore, the paper explores the promises of single-subject prediction models in providing personalized insights into brain health and potential disorders. It discusses the potential benefits of such models, such as early detection, individualized treatment planning, and monitoring disease progression. However, the paper also critically examines the pitfalls and challenges associated with single-subject prediction of brain disorders. These include issues related to data quality, reproducibility, generalization across different populations, interpretability of machine learning models, and ethical considerations regarding privacy and data sharing.

Overall, the paper provides a comprehensive overview of the current state, challenges, and future directions of single-subject prediction of brain disorders using neuroimaging data. It underscores the importance of addressing these challenges to fully realize the potential of personalized medicine in the field of neuroscience.

3.2 Depression detection from EEG signals using cross-correlation.

The paper discusses the importance of detecting depression, a prevalent mental health condition, and highlights the potential of utilizing electroencephalography (EEG) signals for this purpose. It emphasizes the need for non-invasive and objective methods for depression detection to aid in early diagnosis and treatment. The paper outlines the use of cross-



correlation analysis to detect depression from EEG signals. Cross-correlation is employed to measure the similarity between EEG signals of depressed and non-depressed individuals. The authors describe the preprocessing steps involved in preparing the EEG data for analysis and detail the process of extracting relevant features. They then explain how cross-correlation analysis is applied to these features to distinguish between depressed and non-depressed individuals. Overall, the methodology section provides insights into the approach used to detect depression from EEG signals using cross-correlation analysis. The paper focuses on using cross-correlation techniques to analyze EEG signals and identify patterns associated with depression. Cross-correlation is a mathematical method used to measure the similarity between two signals by computing the correlation coefficient at different time delays.

3.3 EEG signal processing classification and applications

The paper provides an overview of EEG (Electroencephalography) signal processing, classification, and its various applications. It emphasizes the importance of EEG signals in neuroscience and medical fields due to their ability to provide insights into brain activity and neurological disorders. The paper reviews various techniques and approaches used in EEG signal processing and classification. It covers preprocessing methods for noise reduction and artifact removal, feature extraction techniques to extract relevant information from EEG signals, and classification algorithms used to classify EEG signals into different categories such as normal brain activity or specific neurological conditions. The authors also discuss applications of EEG signal processing in areas such as brain-computer interfaces, epilepsy diagnosis, and mental state assessment. Overall, the methodology section offers a comprehensive overview of the techniques and applications of EEG signal processing and classification covered in the paper. Overall, the introduction sets the stage for understanding the importance of EEG signal processing, while the methodology section provides insights into the various techniques and approaches used in classifying EEG signals for different applications.

3.4 Connectivity biomarkers can differentiate patients with different levels of depression severity

The paper presents the concept of using connectivity biomarkers to differentiate between patients with varying levels of depression severity. It highlights the need for objective measures to distinguish between different degrees of depression severity, as traditional diagnostic methods often rely on subjective assessments. The paper describes the use of functional connectivity analysis based on neuroimaging data to identify biomarkers associated with depression severity. The authors outline the process of acquiring functional MRI (fMRI) data from patients with varying levels of depression severity and then analysing the connectivity patterns within the brain networks using advanced computational techniques. Furthermore, the paper discusses the statistical methods employed to identify significant differences in connectivity patterns between patients with different levels of depression severity. The authors also address potential confounding factors and control measures implemented in their analysis to ensure the validity of their findings. Overall, the paper provides evidence supporting the use of connectivity biomarkers as potential tools for characterizing depression severity, offering new avenues for understanding the underlying neural mechanisms of depression and developing more personalized approaches to diagnosis and treatment.

3.5 A hybrid deep learning framework for depression detection from EEG signals.

This paper introduces the problem of depression detection and highlights the potential of utilizing EEG (Electroencephalography) signals for this purpose. It emphasizes the importance of early detection and intervention for depression, as well as the limitations of existing diagnostic methods. The paper presents a hybrid deep learning framework for depression detection from EEG signals. The authors combine multiple deep learning architectures, including convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and long short-term memory (LSTM) networks, to leverage both spatial and temporal information present in EEG signals. The methodology involves preprocessing EEG data to remove noise and artifacts, followed by feature extraction using the deep learning framework. The authors describe the training process, which involves feeding the pre-processed EEG data into the hybrid deep learning model and optimizing the model parameters to minimize prediction errors. Furthermore, the paper discusses the evaluation metrics used to assess the



performance of the proposed framework, such as accuracy, sensitivity, and specificity. The authors also compare their results with existing methods to demonstrate the effectiveness of their approach in detecting depression from we analyze the basic requirements for a powerful, customizable, extendable and intelligent PHR system. These requirements formulate an evaluation model which we later use for PHR systems evaluation.

IV. SYSTEMS REVIEW



Fig. 1 Major Depressive Disorder model

V. CONVOLUTION NEURAL NETWORK KERAS FRAMEWORK

Convolutional Layers: These layers apply convolutional filters to the input images, detecting local patterns and features such as edges, textures, and shapes. Multiple convolutional layers can be stacked to learn increasingly complex features.

Pooling Layers: Pooling layers, such as max-pooling, reduce the dimensionality of the feature maps, retaining the most important features while reducing computational complexity.

Dense (Fully Connected) Layers: These layers are responsible for the final classification. After flattening the feature maps, the dense layers connect every neuron to every neuron in the next layer, learning the higher-level representations of the data.

Output Layer: The final layer typically uses a SoftMax activation function for classification, providing the probabilities of the input image belonging to each class (MDD or healthy).

Design the CNN model with appropriate layer configurations, considering factors such as the number of filters, filter sizes, and activation functions. The architecture should be capable of effectively learning and distinguishing between the EEG patterns of MDD and healthy individuals.

VI. CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK

In conclusion, the integration of EEG data and Convolution Neural Networks (CNNs) within the Keras framework represents a significant advancement in the field of depression detection. Leveraging EEG signals offers a non-invasive and accessible means to understand underlying brain activity patterns associated with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD). By harnessing the power of deep learning, particularly CNNs, this project aims to develop robust models capable of accurately and reliably detecting depression. The comprehensive approach outlined in this project involves the collection of EEG data from individuals diagnosed with MDD and healthy controls, followed by rigorous preprocessing and feature extraction. The carefully designed CNN architecture enables the model to effectively learn discriminate patterns from the EEG signals, leading to improved accuracy in depression detection. Overall, this research contributes to the advancement of early intervention strategies, personalized treatment plans, and improved patient care in the field of depression



management. By developing accurate and reliable depression detection models, we aim to positively impact mental health outcomes and enhance the quality of life for individuals affected by MDD.

For future scope, several avenues of research and development hold promise for further enhancing Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) detection using EEG, Advanced Feature Extraction Techniques: Exploring novel feature extraction methods from EEG signals, such as time-frequency analysis, graph theory-based metrics, or deep learning-based feature representations, can provide richer insights into brain activity patterns associated with MDD. Multi-modal Data Fusion: Integrating EEG data with other modalities such as functional MRI (fMRI), genetic markers, or behavioral assessments can offer a more comprehensive understanding of the neuro biological underpinnings of MDD and improve diagnostic accuracy. Longitudinal Studies: Conducting longitudinal studies to track changes in EEG patterns over time in individuals with MDD can elucidate dynamic biomarkers of the disorder and facilitate early detection of relapse or treatment response. Personalized Medicine Approaches: Developing personalized diagnostic models that account for individual variability in EEG profiles, genetic predispositions, environmental factors, and treatment history can enable tailored interventions and optimize treatment outcomes. Real-time Monitoring Systems: Designing wearable EEG devices and real-time monitoring systems capable of continuously assessing brain activity in individuals at risk for MDD can enable early intervention strategies and timely clinical interventions. Machine Learning Interpretability: Advancing techniques for interpreting CNN models trained on EEG data can enhance model transparency and facilitate the identification of neurophysiology biomarkers relevant to MDD diagnosis and prognosis. Clinical Translation and Validation: Conducting large-scale multi-center studies to validate the efficacy and generalization of EEG-based diagnostic models in diverse populations and clinical settings is essential for the translation of research findings into clinical practice. Ethical and Regulatory Considerations: Addressing ethical challenges related to data privacy, informed consent, algorithmic bias, and regulatory approval processes is critical to ensure the responsible deployment of EEG-based diagnostic tools for MDD detection. Patient Engagement and Education: Promoting patient awareness and engagement in MDD detection efforts through educational initiatives, digital health platforms, and participatory research approaches can foster collaboration and empower individuals in managing their mental health. Integration with Digital Therapeutics: Integrating EEG-based diagnostic tools with digital therapeutics, telemedicine platforms, and smartphone applications can enable seamless monitoring of MDD symptoms, facilitate remote interventions, and improve access to mental healthcare services.

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