

Deep-Learning-Based Classification of Cyclic Alternating Pattern Sleep Phases

Yoav Kahana

M.Sc. Final Exam

Supervisors: Prof. Israel Cohen and Dr. Alon Amar

Outline

- Background and Motivation
- Current and Proposed Solutions
- Proposed Method in Depth
- Results and Discussion
- Summary and Conclusion

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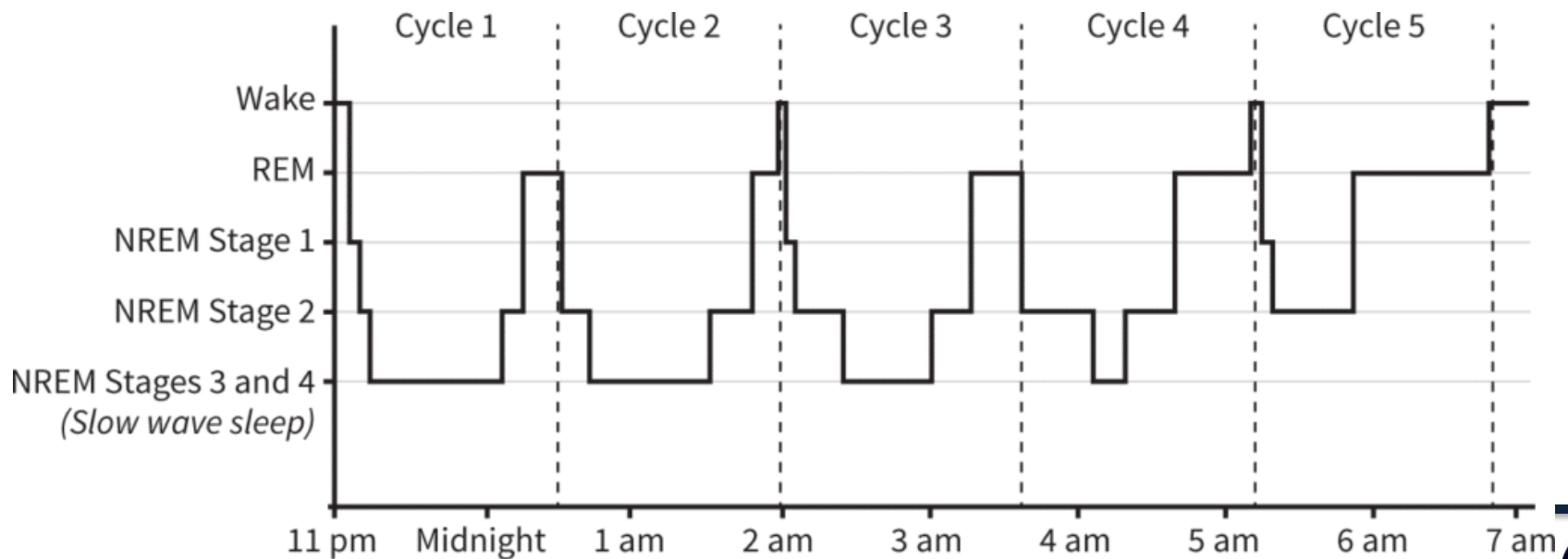
Sleep

- Essential for all mammals, especially humans.
- Crucial for maintaining health, improving focus, mood, immunity, and supporting learning and growth.
- Complex process which is constantly being researched.



Sleep Stages

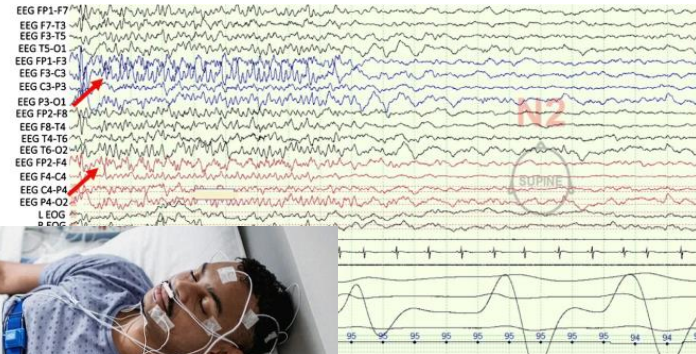
- Sleep is **not** homogenic.
- Our body alternates between two distinct modes: REM (rapid eye movement) and non-REM sleep.
- This division defines the **macro-structure** of sleep.



Sleep Measuring

- **Polysomnography (PSG)** is a detailed sleep study that diagnoses sleep disorders and assesses sleep quality by monitoring:





- brain activity (EEG)
- eye movements (EOG)
- muscle activity (EMG)
- heart rate (ECG)
- breathing patterns



- Basic sleep analysis can also be performed in other different ways:



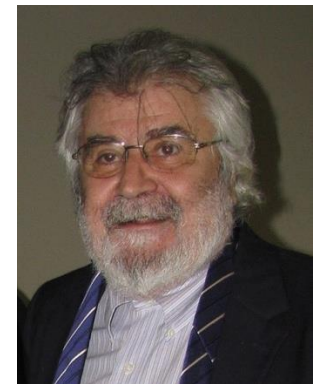
Comparison of Measuring Methods

| | Polysomnography (PSG) | Home Sleep Test | Smartwatch | Phone App |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| What is measured? | EEG, EOG, EMG ECG, breathing, oxygen levels | Heart rate, airflow, oxygen saturation | Motion, heart rate | Sound |
| How it works? | Lab-based, multiple sensors | Portable device, worn at home | Worn on wrist, built-in sensors | Phone placed by the bed |
| What is it used for? | Diagnosing sleep disorders, evaluating sleep quality | Sleep apnea detection | Tracking sleep duration and stages | |
| Pros and Cons | Most accurate and comprehensive Expensive, inconvenient | Conducted at home Limited to apnea | Convenient, everyday use Limited to wellness tracking | |
| How it looks? |  |  |  |  |

The Cyclic Alternating Pattern

- **This thesis focuses on cyclic alternating pattern (CAP).**
 - Occurs during the Non-REM sleep.
 - A periodic EEG activity with sequences of short cerebral activation (A-phase) followed by longer periods of deactivation (B-phase).
 - Defines the **micro-structure** of sleep.

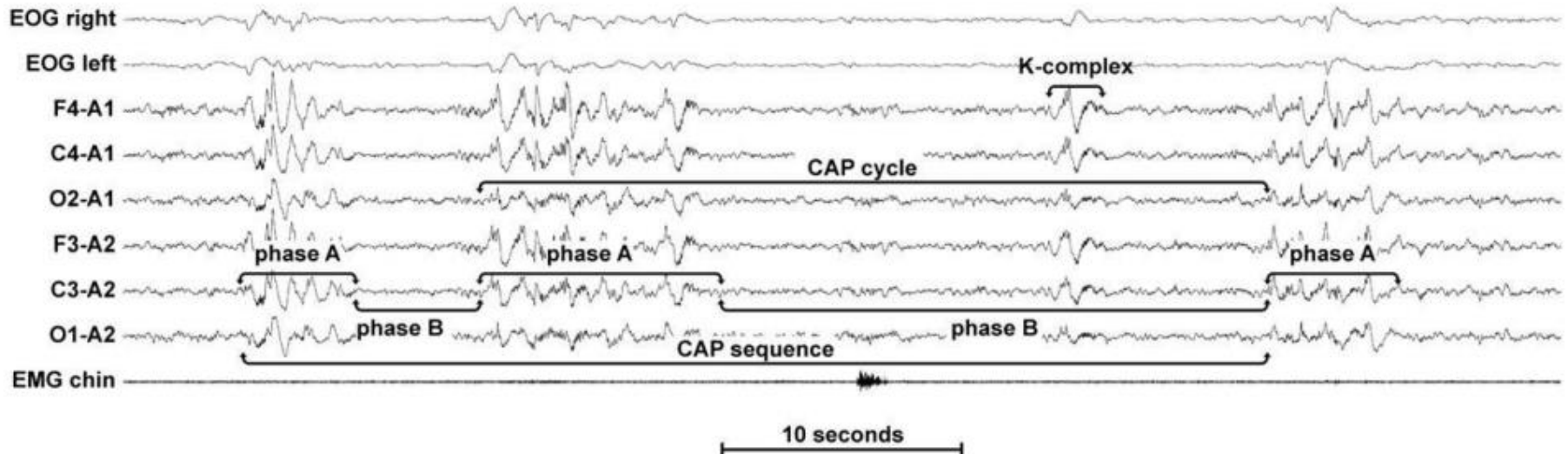
“The cyclic alternating pattern (CAP) is a long-lasting periodic activity consisting of two alternate electroencephalogram (EEG) patterns. This variation in EEG is closely related to fluctuations in the level of arousal that characterize two different functional states in the arousal control mechanism.”



**MG Terzano –
“Father of CAP”**

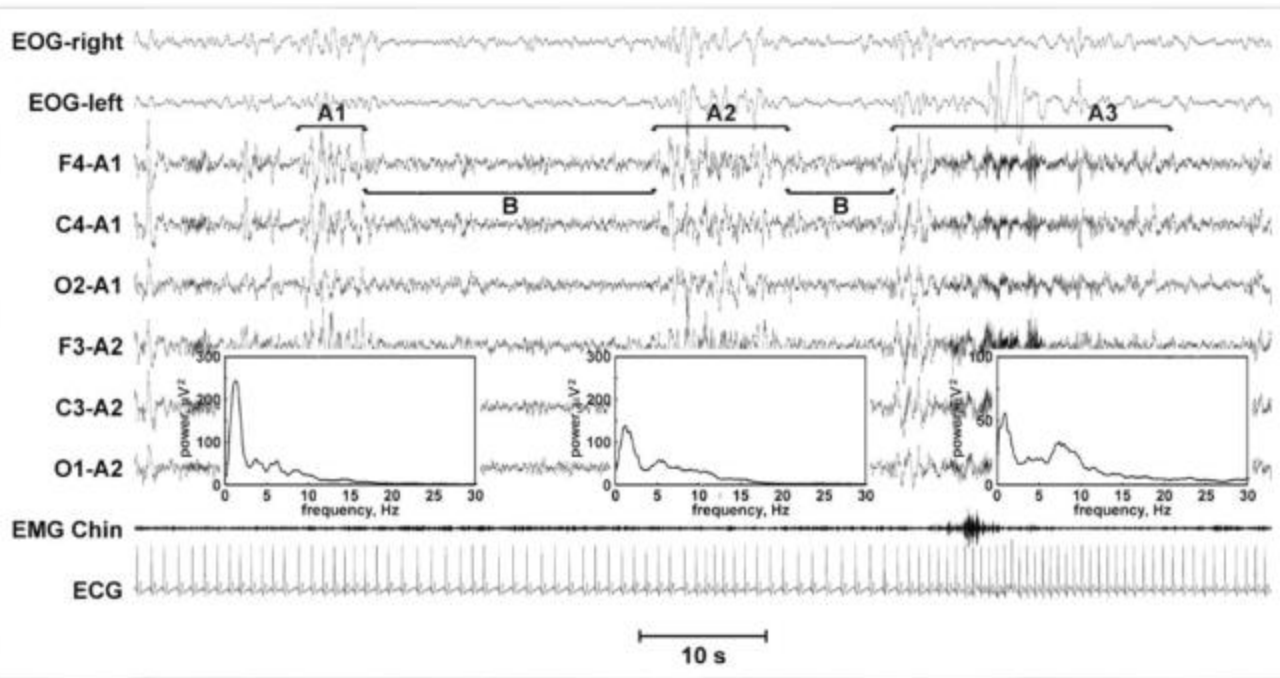
CAP – Definitions

- **A-phase:** "Greater arousal" events, lasts 8-12 seconds
- **B-phase:** "Lesser arousal" events (background), lasts 16-25 seconds (up to 60)
- **CAP cycle:** An A-phase followed by a B-phase
- **CAP sequence:** At least 2 CAP cycles in succession
- **Non-CAP:** The absence of CAP for more than 60 seconds



A-Phase Subtypes

- A-phase is divided into three subtypes:
 - A1: Slow waves (0.5-4Hz) with high amplitude
 - A3: Higher frequency (8-12Hz) with lower amplitude
 - A2: Combination of both A1 and A3



| Age | CAP rate% | A1% | A2% | A3% |
|----------------|-----------|------|------|------|
| 1–4 months | 12.9 | 85.2 | 10.3 | 4.4 |
| Pre-school-age | 25.9 | 63.2 | 21.5 | 15.3 |
| School-age | 33.4 | 84.4 | 6.4 | 9.1 |
| Peripubertal | 62.1 | 85.5 | 9.1 | 3.2 |
| Adolescence | 43.4 | 71.3 | 19.7 | 9.0 |
| Young adults | 31.9 | 61.4 | 27.9 | 10.7 |
| Middle age | 37.5 | 62.0 | 26.2 | 11.8 |
| Elderly | 55.3 | 46.6 | 35.3 | 18.1 |

CAP and Sleep Quality

- CAP has a pivotal role in assessing sleep quality:
- The **CAP Rate** serves as an indicator for sleep instability
 - Linked to various sleep disorders
 - Higher CAP rates suggest poorer sleep quality

Changes of the main CAP parameters (vs. age-matched normal controls) in the different pathologies studied in adults.

| | CAP rate% | A1% | A2% | A3% |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----|-----|
| Noise | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Narcolepsy | ↓ | ↓ | ↑ | = |
| OSAS | ↑ | ↓ | = | ↑ |
| UARS | ↑ | | | |
| Insomnia | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Hypnotics (vs. placebo) | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | =/↓ |
| First night effect ¹⁶² | ↑ | ↓ | ↑ | ↑ |
| PLM | ↑ | ↓ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Bruxism | = | ↓ | ↑ | ↑ |
| NFLE | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| PGE | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ | ↓ |
| Depression | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| Eating disorders | ↑ | — | — | — |
| MSA | ↓ | — | — | — |

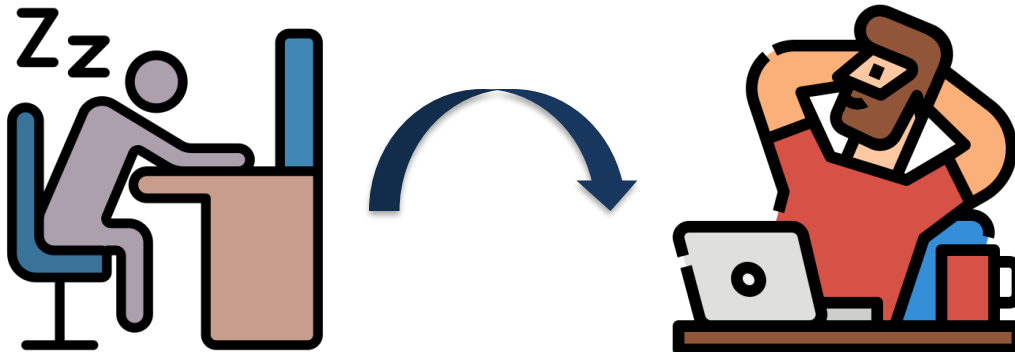
$$CAP\ RATE = \frac{total\ CAP\ time\ [s]}{total\ Non\ REM\ time\ [s]}$$

| Age | CAP rate% | A1% | A2% | A3% |
|----------------|-----------|------|------|------|
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Current Analysis of CAP

- Accurate CAP analysis is crucial for diagnosing sleep disorders. Yet, visual scoring by human experts remains the gold standard.
- Manual assessment is inefficient and has many drawbacks.
- **Automated tools are essential** to improve reliability and streamline clinical workflows.

Deep-Learning-Based Classification of Cyclic Alternating Pattern Sleep Phases

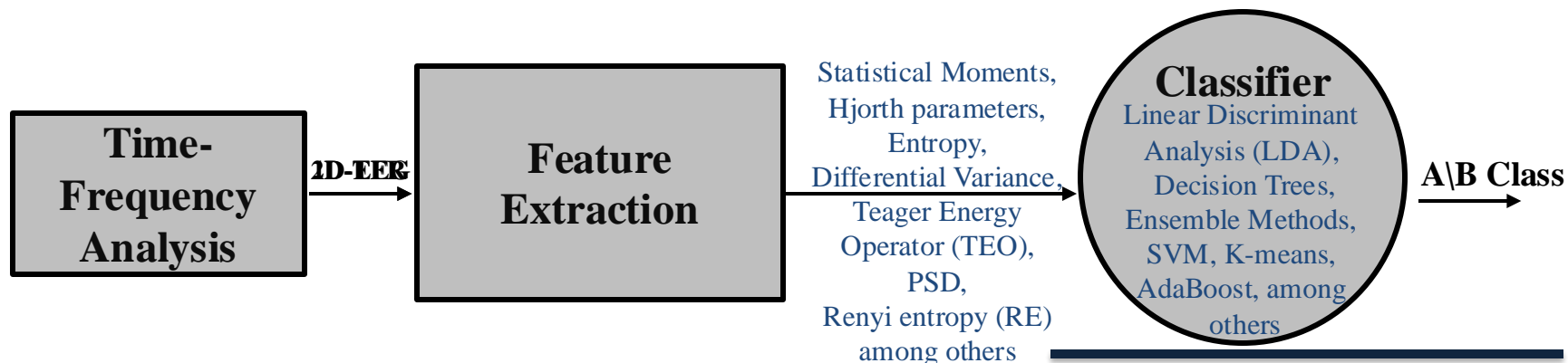


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Machine Learning Approaches

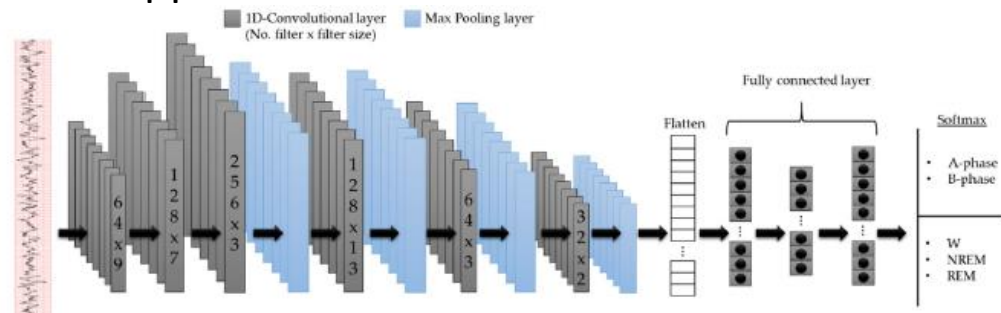
- Previous studies mainly rely on 1) **feature extraction** and 2) a **(ML) classifier**.
 - Various features and classifiers were tested
 - Features often derived from the five EEG frequency bands
 - supervised learning with k-fold cross-validation
- Sometimes time-frequency analysis is used
 - Still reduced to feature vectors



Deep Learning Approaches

- **1D-CNN**

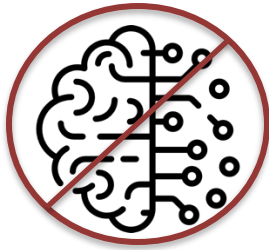
- Classification using a 1D-CNN architecture
- 2-second segments raw EEG
- Training on a balanced dataset
- Performance dropped on unbalanced datasets



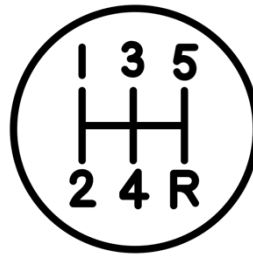
- **LSTM**

- Handcrafted feature extraction are fed into an LSTM neural network
- Post-processing the outcomes (to align with the CAP scoring Atlas)

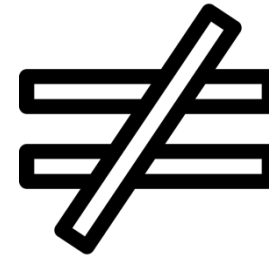
Gaps in Current Methods



Limited application of
deep learning
techniques

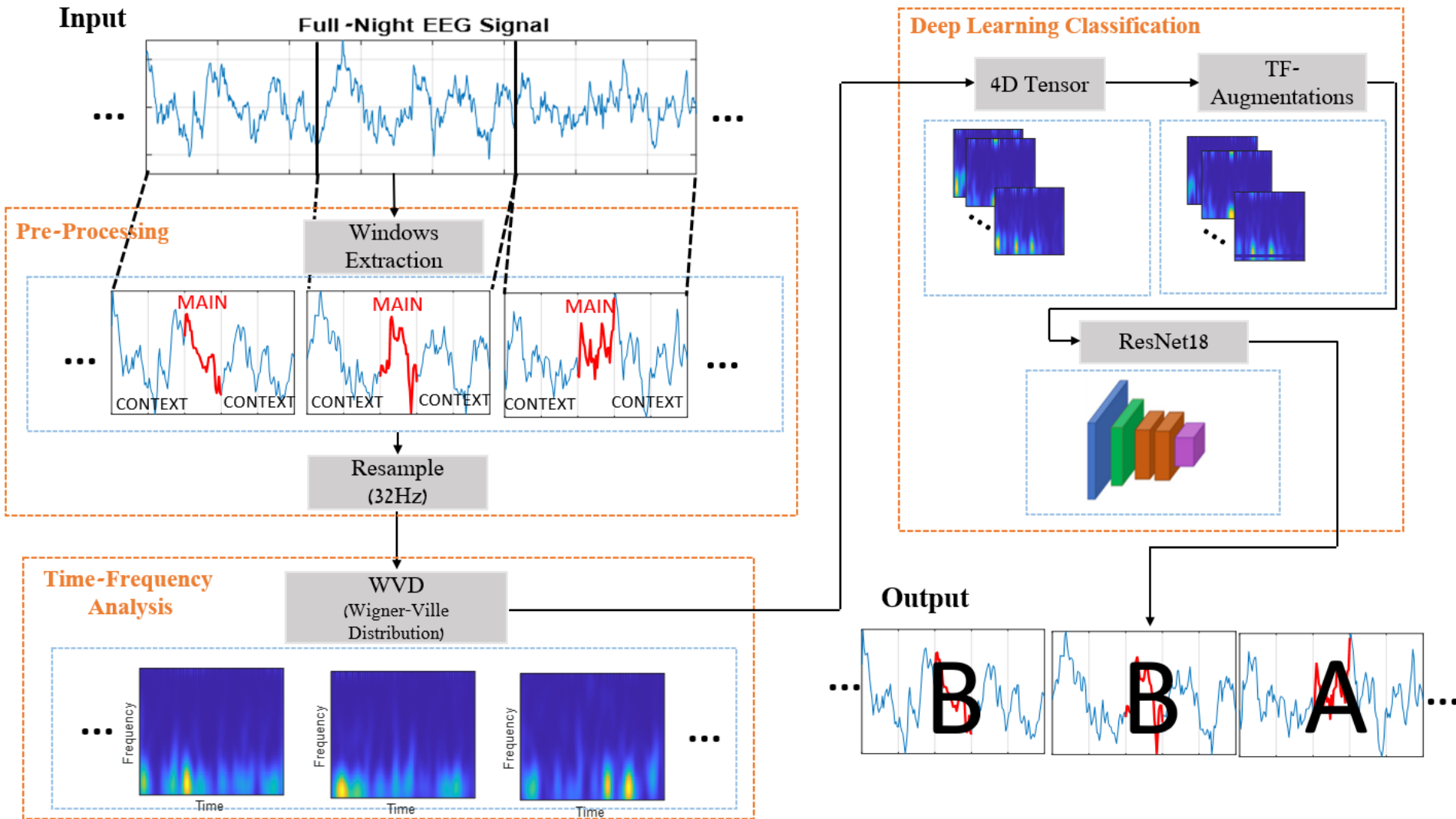


Reliance on
handcrafted features



Discrepancy in performance
between balanced and
unbalanced datasets

Proposed Method



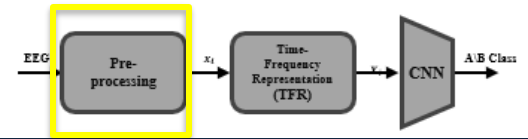
Main Contributions

- Bridging the gap between deep learning and CAP research
- Using an efficient CNN to classify TFR “images”
 - On-device implementation
- Leveraging the sequential nature of EEG signals
- State-of-the-art performance
- Ablation study to evaluate the impact of key components



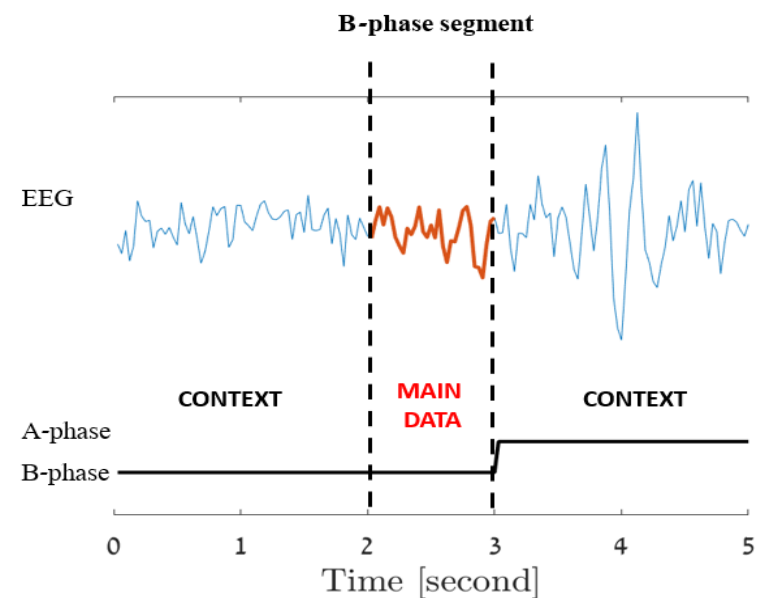
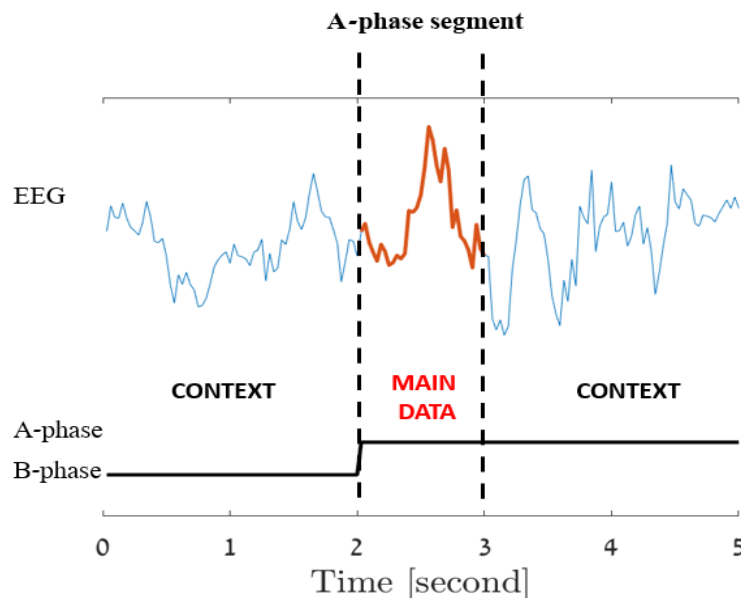
Outline

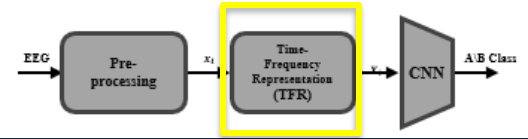
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Context-Aware Segmentation

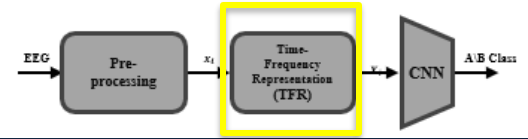
- The data's annotations are 1-second resolution
- Enlarged windows were taken (up to 11 sec) to involve the **contextual information of the sequential data**
- Determining the label by the **central** second – one label per segment
- Re-sampling all signals to 32Hz





Time-Frequency Representations

- 1D-EEG segments are transformed into 2D time-frequency representations (TFR)
 - EEG signals are **non-stationary**
 - Highlighting **spectral differences between A-phase and B-phase**
 - Preparing the data for **input into the convolutional neural network**



Spectrogram vs. Wigner Dist.

Spectrogram

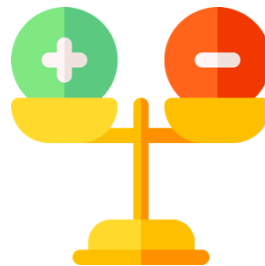
$$S_x(t, f) = \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(\tau) h^*(\tau - t) e^{-j2\pi f\tau} d\tau \right|^2$$

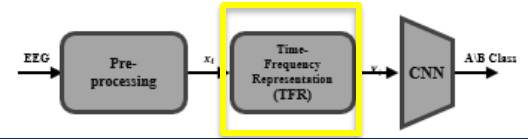
- The squared-magnitude of the short-time Fourier transform (STFT)
- Widely acknowledged as a prevalent method for analyzing non-stationary signals
- Time-frequency resolution is inherently limited

Wigner-Ville Distribution

$$W_x(t, f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x\left(t + \frac{\tau}{2}\right) x^*\left(t - \frac{\tau}{2}\right) e^{-j2\pi f\tau} d\tau$$

- High-resolution time-frequency analysis. In some cases, best possible concentration in the TF domain
- Neither parameters nor a window function are required
- Suffers from cross-terms (non-linearity)

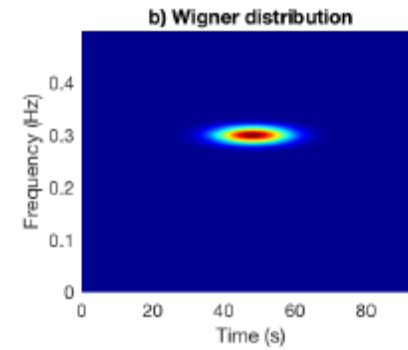
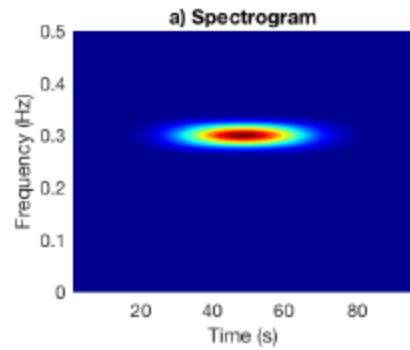




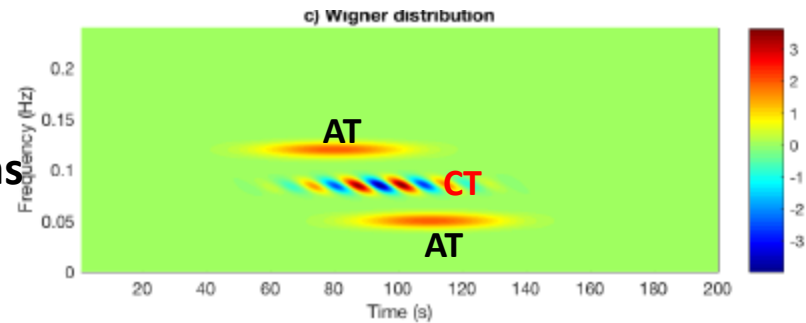
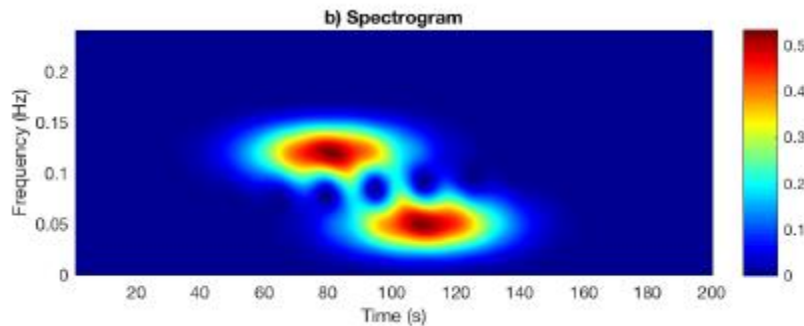
Spectrogram vs. Wigner Dist.

Spectrogram

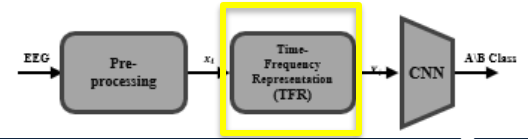
Wigner-Ville Distribution



1 Gaussian



2 Gaussians



Smooth-Pseudo Wigner-Ville Dist.

- An effective method to deal with the WVD cross-terms is the SPWVD, which is a “filtered version” of WVD. It is given by:

$$W_x^{sp}(t, f) = W_x(t, f) ** \Phi(t, f)$$

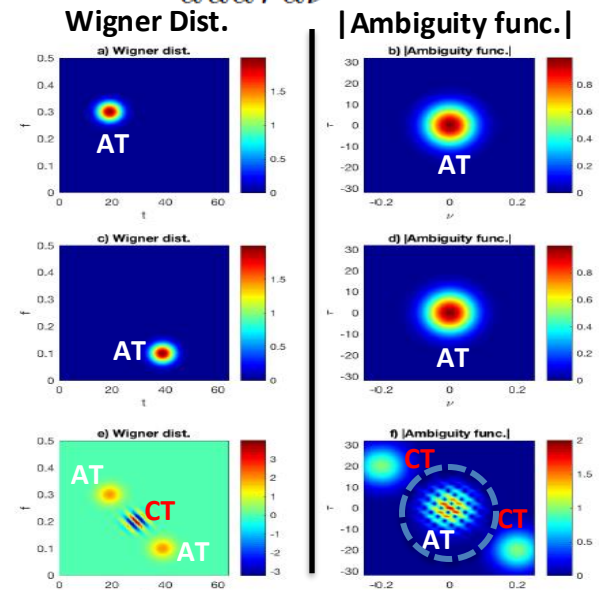
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(u + \frac{\tau}{2}) x^*(u - \frac{\tau}{2}) \Phi(\nu, \tau) e^{j2\pi(\nu t - f\tau - \nu u)} du d\tau d\nu$$

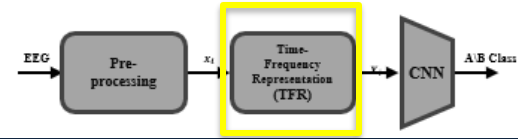
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(u + \frac{\tau}{2}) x^*(u - \frac{\tau}{2}) e^{-j2\pi\nu u} \Phi(\nu, \tau) e^{j2\pi(f\tau - \nu t)} du d\tau d\nu$$

Ambiguity function

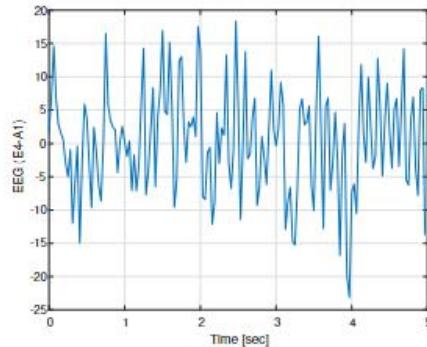
$$A_x(\nu, \tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(u + \frac{\tau}{2}) x^*(u - \frac{\tau}{2}) e^{-j2\pi\nu u} du$$

$$W_x^{sp}(t, f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_x(\nu, \tau) \Phi(\nu, \tau) e^{-j2\pi(f\tau - \nu t)} d\tau d\nu,$$

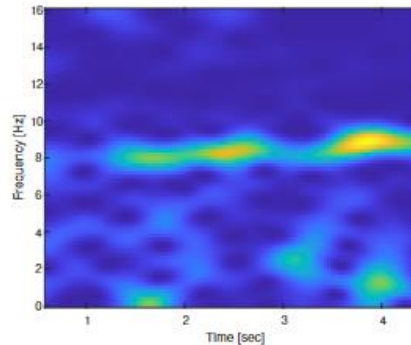




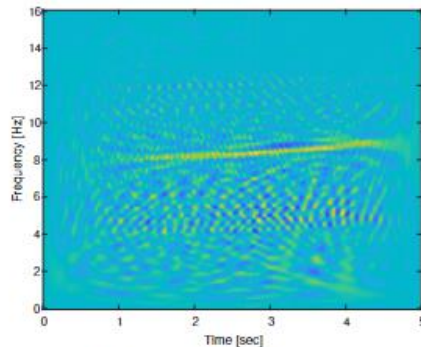
Back to Real-World: TFRs of EEG Segment



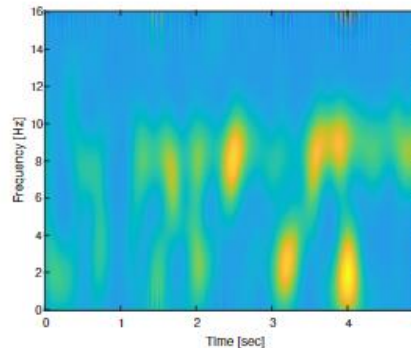
(a) 1D-EEG signal



(b) Spectrogram

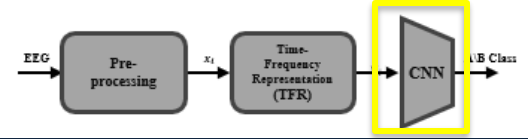


(c) Wigner-Ville distribution



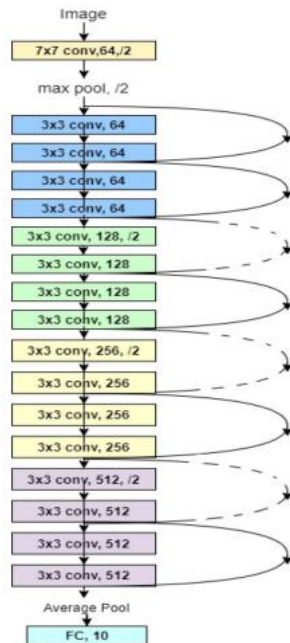
(d) Smoothed pseudo-Wigner-Ville distribution

Figure 3.3: Example of (a) 5 s 1D-EEG segment from channel E4-A1 and its corresponding time-frequency representations (TFRs): (b) spectrogram (SPEC), (c) Wigner-Ville distribution (WVD), and (d) smoothed pseudo-Wigner-Ville distribution (SPWVD). The WVD exhibits a distinct energy concentration when compared to SPEC, albeit with the tradeoff of noticeable cross-term patterns.



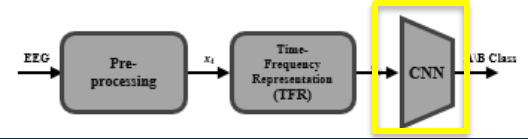
Deep learning classification

- TFRs are interpreted as images and classified using a CNN
- The **ResNet18 architecture was chosen** for its efficiency and robustness
- The model was trained **from scratch** due to significant differences between current data and ImageNet images



| Hyperparameters | Value |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Batch size | 256 |
| Loss functions | cross entropy |
| Optimizer | SGD |
| Learning rate | 0.001 |
| Momentum | 0.9 |
| Epochs | 40 |
| Dropout | No |

Table 3.1: Hyperparameters used in the proposed framework.



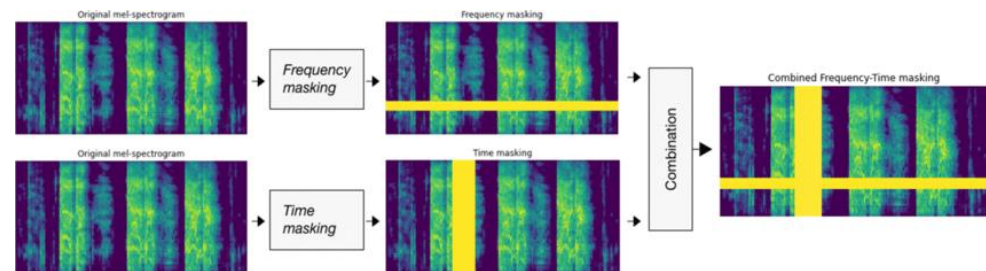
Deep learning classification

- **Normalization:** To preserve the energy level differences between A and B phases, each input sample was divided *constantly* by the *mean* standard deviation of the *entire* training set

$$\tilde{x}_i = \frac{x_i - \bar{x}_i}{\sigma_i} \quad \Bigg| \quad \tilde{x}_i = \frac{x_i - \bar{x}_i}{\bar{\sigma}}, \bar{\sigma} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i \in X_N} \sigma_i$$

- **Augmentation:** we randomly employed a series of augmentations:

- TF-Aug.
- Noise
 - Gaussian blur
 - Crop and Resize (slight)
 - SpecAugment
 - Random Time-shifts

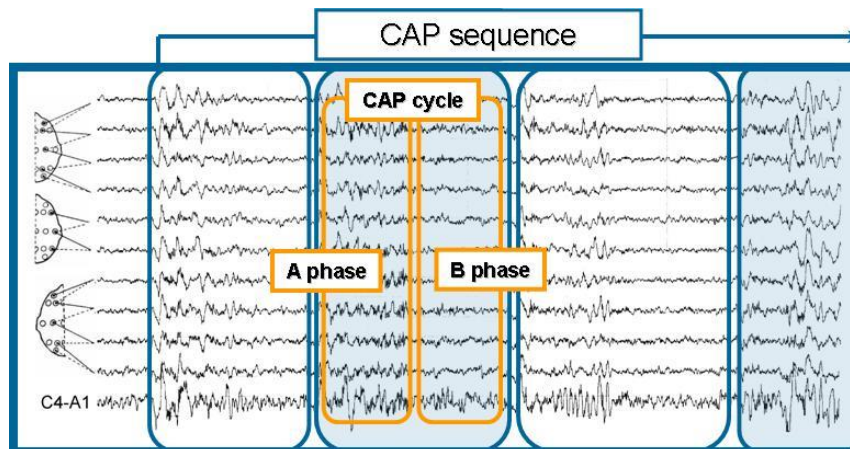


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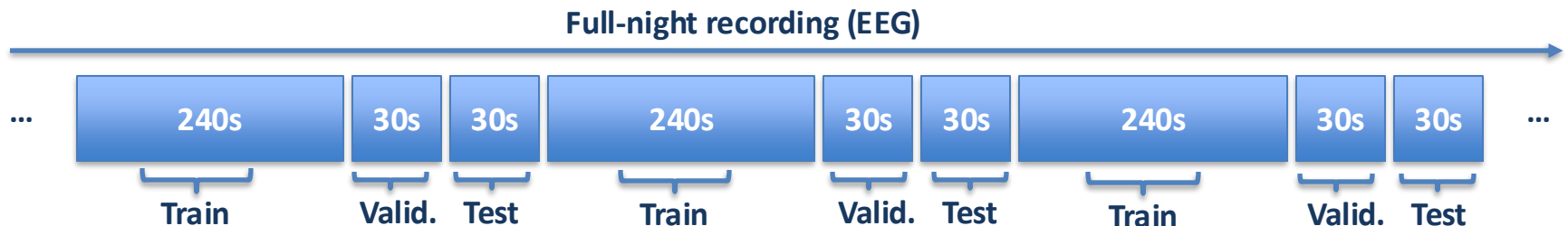
PhysioNet CAP Sleep Database

- A comprehensive collection of **polysomnographic recordings includes 108 recordings** from both healthy and disordered subjects.
 - Includes EEG (3+ channels), EOG, EMG, breathing signals, and ECG
 - Expert annotations for sleep stages and CAP phases (1-sec resolution), along with patient details (age, gender, disorders).
- Serves as a **benchmark in CAP research.**



Dataset Creation

- To evaluate our method, we used:
 - **16 normal** (healthy) subjects
 - **Single EEG channel** per participant (C4-A1 or C3-A2 channel)
- The database was split into **train, validation, and test sets**
- The full-night EEG signals were divided into non-overlapping 300-second segments, assigned periodically into the train, validation, and test sets (80:10:10)



- Finally, the data set was **balanced** to represent A-phase and B-phase equally

CAPSLPDB and Our Dataset

| | Subject name | CAPSLPDB (Unbalanced) | | | | | Our Dataset (Balanced) | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------|---------|--------------|------------------------|-------|-------|---------|--------------|
| | | A_1 | A_2 | A_3 | Total A | B | A_1 | A_2 | A_3 | Total A | B |
| | n1 | 2217 | 747 | 1122 | 4086 | 21804 | 2063 | 703 | 1046 | 3812 | 3812 |
| | n2 | 1115 | 590 | 783 | 2488 | 12122 | 1036 | 552 | 693 | 2281 | 2281 |
| | n3 | 611 | 597 | 891 | 2099 | 15451 | 550 | 556 | 830 | 2281 | 2281 |
| B-phase events are much more common | n4 | 986 | 356 | 848 | 2190 | 15030 | 928 | 323 | 797 | 2048 | 2048 |
| | n5 | 2854 | 328 | 620 | 3802 | 18158 | 2673 | 314 | 586 | 3573 | 3573 |
| | n6 | 1871 | 970 | 1401 | 4242 | 17268 | 1723 | 905 | 1280 | 3908 | 3908 |
| | n7 | 1616 | 564 | 479 | 2659 | 17501 | 1508 | 525 | 438 | 2471 | 2471 |
| A1 is the most common subtype | n8 | 949 | 465 | 1868 | 3282 | 17028 | 914 | 421 | 1752 | 3087 | 3087 |
| | n9 | 1036 | 377 | 676 | 2089 | 18341 | 959 | 363 | 641 | 1963 | 1963 |
| | n10 | 1484 | 326 | 829 | 2639 | 13351 | 1385 | 282 | 785 | 2452 | 2452 |
| | n11 | 1724 | 583 | 796 | 3103 | 15377 | 1640 | 539 | 734 | 2913 | 2913 |
| | n12 | 1064 | 153 | 573 | 1790 | 18040 | 986 | 139 | 515 | 1640 | 1640 |
| | n13 | 1628 | 1037 | 1017 | 3682 | 14078 | 1532 | 985 | 955 | 3472 | 3472 |
| | n14 | 1035 | 1234 | 1209 | 3478 | 15902 | 950 | 1118 | 1126 | 3194 | 3194 |
| | n15 | 1449 | 1046 | 1244 | 3739 | 18461 | 1345 | 967 | 1159 | 3471 | 3471 |
| | n16 | 2247 | 1125 | 837 | 4209 | 17841 | 2110 | 1041 | 786 | 3937 | 3937 |
| | Total of samples: | | | | | 49577 | 265753 | | | | 46503 |

Performance Appraisal

- To evaluate classification performance, we employed standard metrics:
accuracy (ACC), precision (PRE), recall (REC), specificity (SPE) and F1-score (F1)

$$ACC = \frac{t_p + t_n}{t_p + t_n + f_p + f_n}, PRE = \frac{t_p}{t_p + f_p}.$$

$$REC = \frac{t_p}{t_p + f_n}, SPE = \frac{t_n}{t_n + f_p}.$$

$$F1 = \frac{2 \cdot t_p}{2 \cdot t_p + f_p + f_n}.$$

- t_p (true positives) - number of correctly identified A-phase events
- t_n (true negatives) - number of correctly recognized B-phase samples
- f_p (false positive) - count of samples incorrectly classified as A-phase
- f_n (false negative) - count of samples incorrectly classified as B-phase

Method Evaluation Overview

- An **ablation study** was carried out to evaluate our method and to explore the following aspects:
 - Influence of incorporating contextual EEG information
 - Comparison of different time-frequency methods
 - Effective data augmentation strategy
- Each experiment involved training various CNNs with specific configurations
- Training ranged from several hours up to 20 hours per session

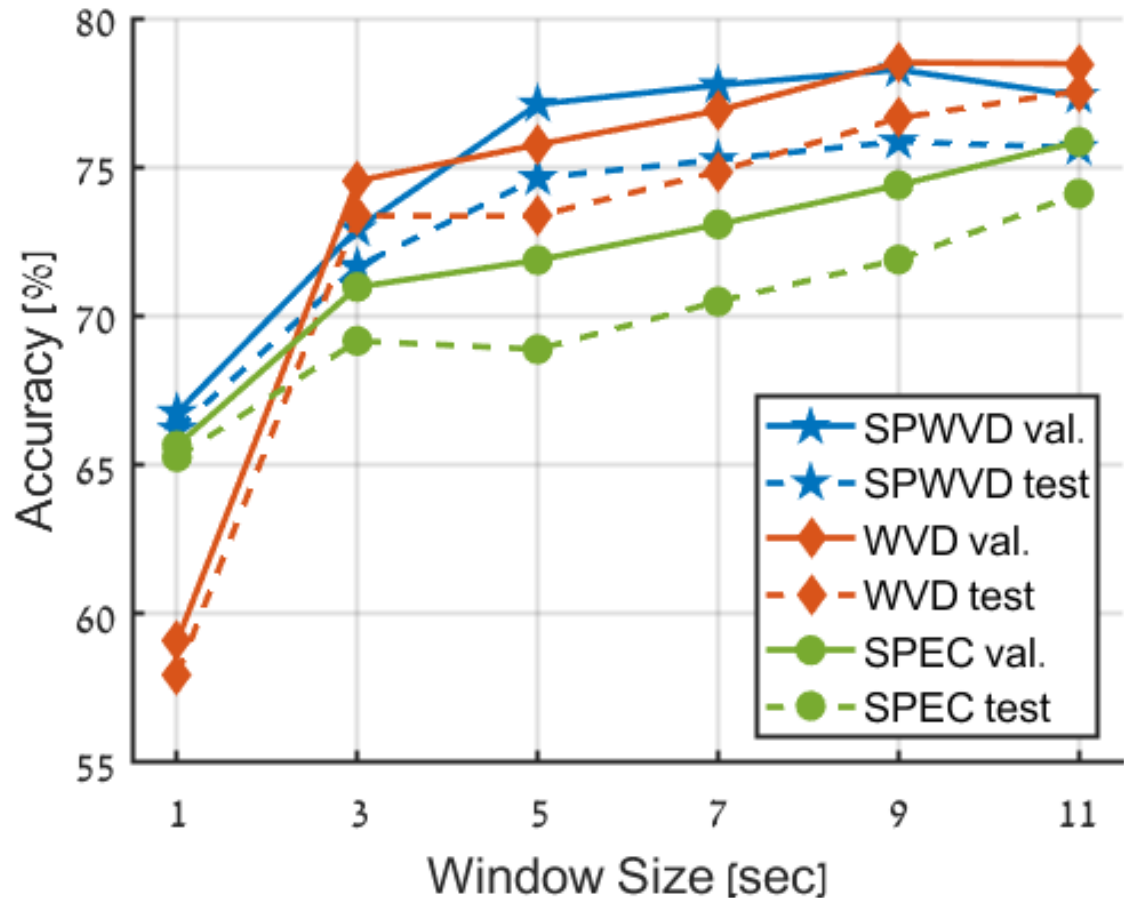


Experiment #1

Contextual information boosts performance

- 10%-20% improvement in accuracy
- Trend plateaus at 9-second segment

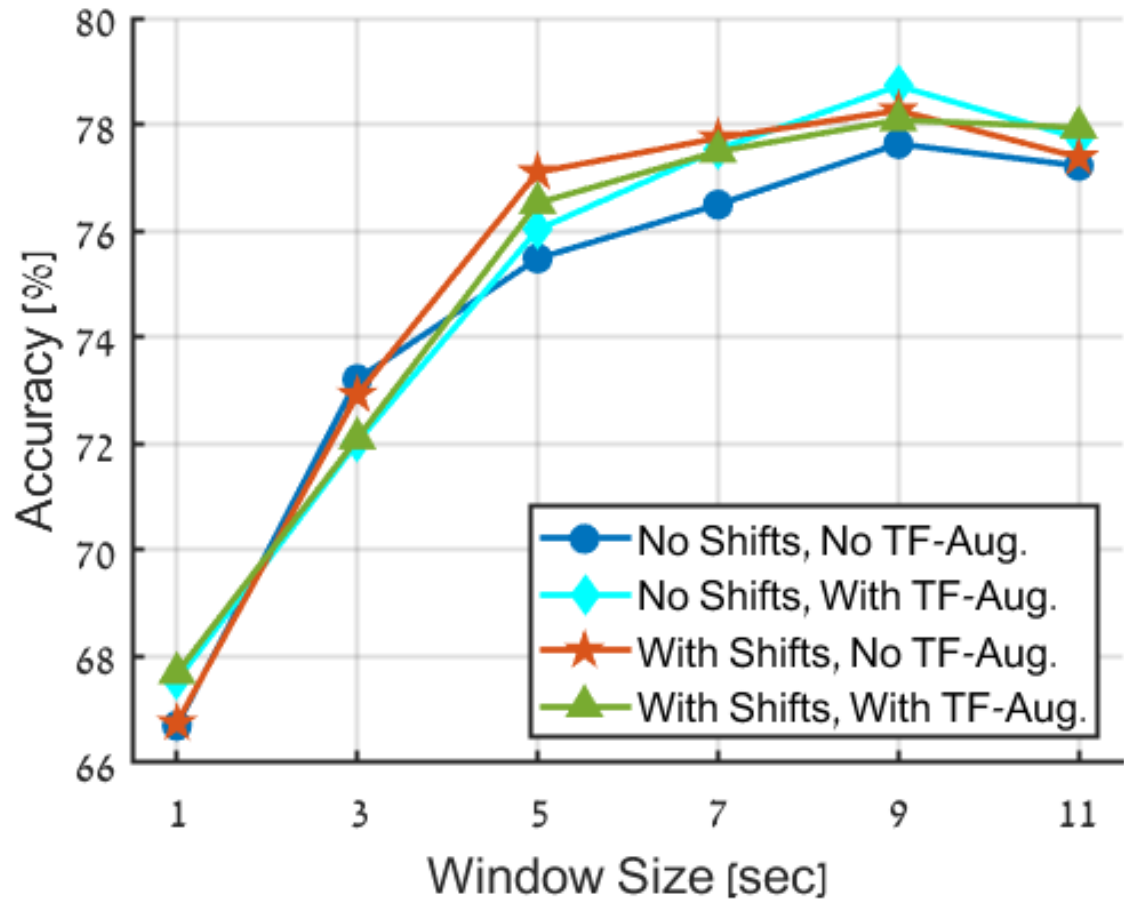
Wigner-based transforms outperform Fourier-based spectrograms



Experiment #2

Augmenting the dataset has a positive effect

TF-aug. is most effective method



Analysis of Detection by Class

The true-positive-rate (TPR) is **consistent** across the A-phase and B-phase

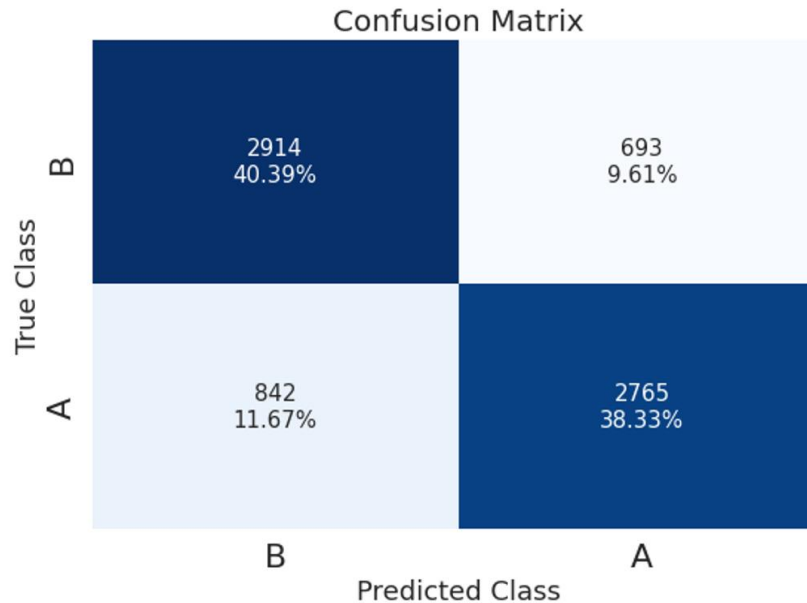


Table 4.3: True-positive rate (%) per A-phase sub-types and B-phase.

| Predicted | True | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| | A1 | A2 | A3 | B |
| A | 1422 | 561 | 782 | 2914 |
| B | 343 | 99 | 400 | 693 |
| TPR [%] | 80.6 | 85 | 66.2 | 80.8 |

The TPR A1 and A2 subtypes is significantly higher than A3.

Identification is driven more by power intensity than spectral content level.

Comparative Analysis of Methods

| Author | Method | Segment Length [Sec] | Number of Subjects | Performance Parameter [%] on Validation Set | Performance Parameter [%] on Test Set | Accuracy [%] Evaluated on Unbalanced Test Set |
|------------------------|---|----------------------|--------------------|---|---|---|
| Dhok et al. (2020) | Wigner-Ville distribution (WVD), Renyi entropy (RE), support vector machine (SVM) | 2 | 6 patients | ACC=72.3 PRE=64.1 REC=76.8 SPE=69.2 F1=69.9 | - | - |
| Sharma et al. (2021) | Wavelet-based features, SVM | 2 | 16 patients | ACC=75.7 PRE=75.0 REC=77.7 F1=76.0 | - | - |
| Sharma et al. (2022) | Biorthogonal wavelet filter bank (BOWFB), ensemble bagged tree | 2 | 6 patients | ACC=74.4 REC=67.53 SPE=81.3 | - | - |
| Hartmann et al. (2019) | Hand-crafted features, long-short term memory (LSTM) | 1-3 | 16 patients | ACC=82.4 ± 7.1 REC=75.3 ± 12 SPE=83.9 ± 8.9 F1=57.4 ± 9.6 | - | - |
| Loh et al. (2021) | 1D-CNN | 2 | 6 patients | ACC=74.4 | ACC=73.6 PRE=71.0 REC=80.3 SPE= 67.0 F1=75.3 | 53.0 |
| Murarka et al. (2022) | 1D-CNN | 2 | 6 patients | ACC=76.7 | ACC=78.8 PRE=82.5 REC=73.4 SPE=84.3 F1=77.7 | 60.6 |
| Our method | Spectrogram, Wigner-based representations, ResNet18 | 1-11 | 16 patients | ACC=78.5 PRE=78.9 REC=77.8 SPE= 79.3 F1=78.4 | ACC=77.5 PRE=78.4 REC=75.9 SPE= 79.1 F1=77.1 | 81.8 |

Inter-observer reliability is up to 77%

Outline

- Background and Motivation
- Current and Proposed Solutions
- Proposed Method in Depth
- Results and Discussion
- **Summary and Conclusion**

Summary and Conclusions

- Cyclic alternating pattern is a key factor in sleep quality assessment, and automating its classification is vital
- **An innovative algorithm has been developed:**
 - CNN-based classification of time-frequency representations
 - leverages the sequential nature of EEG signals
 - Achieves high performance both on balanced and unbalanced data
 - Ablation study conducted to evaluate the key components
- **Limitations:**
 - Accuracy hovers around 80% with potential for improvement
 - Algorithm tested exclusively on healthy subjects



Future Directions for Research

- **Advanced DL Architecture:**
 - Utilize contrastive learning to enhance the model
 - Explore transformer-based architectures (fit to sequential data)
- **Classification Noise:**
 - Investigate methods to mitigate random classification noise to enhance model robustness
- **Data Fusion:**
 - Include multi-modal data to leverage the information of the PSG measurements (multi-channel EEG, ECG, EOG, etc.)



Thank You!
Any Questions?