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Automated diagnosis of Schizophrenia using ML techniques

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Problem Statement

To automate the diagnosis of Schizophrenia using ML techniques

Objectives

- To preprocess EEG signals (artifact removal, filtering, normalization).
- To extract features from the data.
- To train and evaluate a machine learning model for accurate classification.
- To assess the model's reliability compared to standard clinical evaluations.

Scope of the Project

- This method could help psychiatrists detect schizophrenia earlier and more objectively.
- It can be used in hospital tools allowing for constant monitoring.
- Neurologists who interpret EEG scans could use this tool to screen for neurophysiological markers associated with schizophrenia

What is Schizophrenia?

- Schizophrenia is a chronic brain disorder that affects how a person thinks, feels, and perceives reality.
- Characterized by distorted thoughts, hallucinations (hearing/seeing things), delusions (false beliefs), and disorganized behavior.
- It is not split personality, but a disorder of disrupted brain communication and perception.



Fig.1. Symptoms of Schizophrenia

Why do we need to automate the diagnosis of Schizophrenia?

- Symptom overlap with depression, bipolar disorder, and drug-induced psychosis leads to frequent misdiagnosis.
- Current diagnosis depends on subjective interviews and observation.
- EEG provides objective biomarkers that can improve reliability.
- Shortage of psychiatrists, especially in rural areas, causes delays and long waiting times.

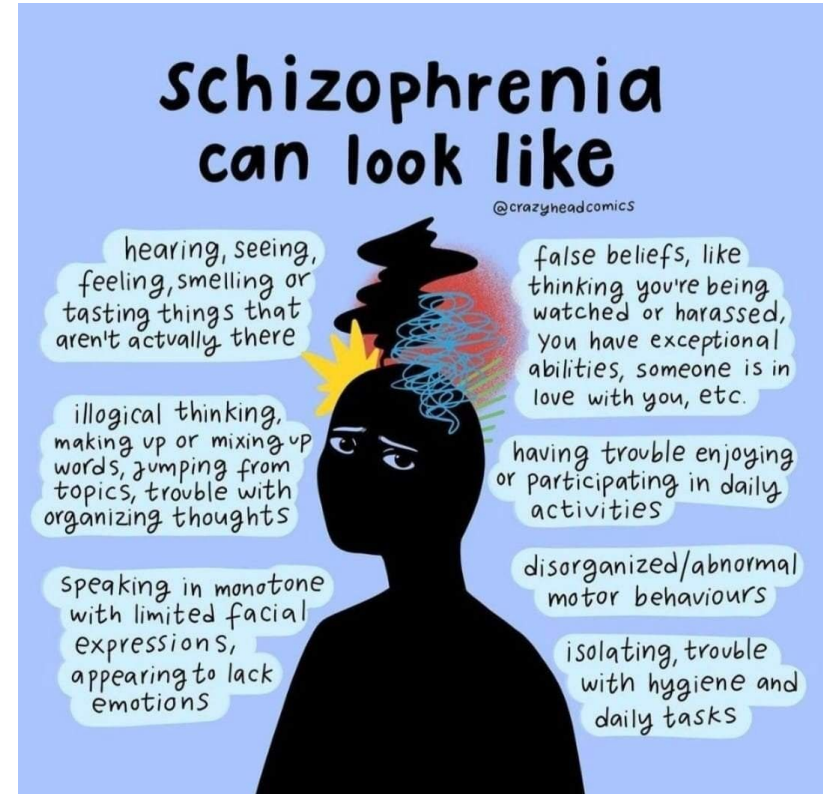


Fig.2. What goes through the brain

Literature Survey

| Sl. No. | Authors and Year | Title of Paper/Article | Objective | Methodology/ Approach | Key Findings | Limitations/ Gaps | Future Scope |
|---------|--|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Heda et al. (2024) [7] | miRNA-Based Diagnosis of Schizophrenia Using Machine Learning | To use miRNA biomarkers and ML to create a more reliable diagnostic tool for schizophrenia. | Integrates miRNA and EEG data. Utilizes advanced feature extraction (CNNs) and emphasizes Explainable AI (XAI) for clinical trust. | High accuracy (90-98%) can be achieved with deep learning on EEG data. Combining biological markers (miRNA) with ML is a highly promising approach. | Symptom heterogeneity, small/noisy datasets, and a lack of large, standardized studies limit model generalizability. | Combine multimodal data (miRNA, EEG, MRI), develop interpretable AI models for clinical use, and conduct large-scale longitudinal studies. |
| 2 | Vyškovský et al. (2022) [8] | Structural MRI-Based Schizophrenia Classification Using Autoencoders and 3D Convolutional Neural Networks... | To test if deep learning models (SAE and 3D CNNs) can classify schizophrenia using structural MRI data and evaluate different preprocessing techniques. | Used sMRI from 104 subjects with various preprocessing (VBM, DBM). Trained Stacked Autoencoders (SAE) on selected features and 3D CNNs on whole images. | Stacked Autoencoders on VBM-processed data performed best (~70% accuracy). 3D CNNs were less effective, and combining features did not help, likely due to the small dataset. | Very small dataset (N=104) limits the use of complex models like CNNs. Lack of external validation and model interpretability. | Use larger, multi-center datasets. Focus on model interpretability and integrate multimodal data (e.g., MRI + EEG) for better accuracy. |
| 3 | Thilagavathi et al. (2024) [9] | Schizophrenia Detection Using Machine Learning Approach | To use a Support Vector Machine (SVM) on extracted EEG features to differentiate schizophrenia patients from healthy controls. | Analyzed EEG data from a small cohort (14 patients, 14 controls). Extracted spectral and entropy features and fed them into an SVM classifier. | The SVM model showed high accuracy, demonstrating that standard ML can effectively classify schizophrenia on small, balanced datasets, serving as a supplementary diagnostic tool. | Extremely small dataset (N=28) severely limits the generalizability of the results. Medication effects were not controlled for. | Validate the approach on larger, more diverse datasets to confirm its effectiveness and test its robustness for real-world application. |

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| 4 | Yamashita et al. (2021) [10] | Three-Dimensional Convolutional Autoencoder Extracts Features of Structural Brain Images With a 'Diagnostic Label-Free' Approach... | To use a 3D convolutional autoencoder (3D-CAE) to extract features from sMRI scans without using diagnostic labels during the learning phase. | Trained a 3D-CAE on two separate MRI datasets (Kyoto and COBRE). Used the extracted features to predict clinical severity and medication dosage via regression. | The label-free 3D-CAE approach successfully extracted features that were highly predictive of clinical variables (symptoms, medication). It outperformed traditional methods. | The model's architecture was not fully optimized. The approach needs testing on other psychiatric disorders and with longitudinal data. | Extend to other disorders, incorporate longitudinal and multimodal data (EEG, genetics), and improve model interpretability for clinical use. |
| 5 | Uhlhaas & Singer (2010) [5] | Abnormal Neural Oscillations and Synchrony in Schizophrenia | To review and synthesize evidence linking neural oscillation abnormalities across different frequency bands to the cognitive deficits seen in schizophrenia. | A narrative literature review summarizing findings from human electrophysiology (EEG/MEG) and animal model studies to build a conceptual framework. | Schizophrenia is associated with widespread dysregulation of both high (gamma) and low-frequency oscillations. Disrupted cross-frequency coupling is likely a key mechanism behind cognitive dysfunction. | Findings across the literature are often contradictory and difficult to compare due to varying methodologies. The review can only infer, not establish, causal links. | Systematically study cross-frequency interactions, use mechanistic models to understand the neurobiological basis (e.g., GABA dysfunction), and standardize methods for biomarker development. |

Difference in EEG Signals between a normal person and a schizophrenic person

| | Normal Person | Schizophrenic Person |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Delta(< 4 Hz) | Deep sleep; rare when awake | Elevated during wakefulness; altered sleep delta |
| Theta(4–8 Hz) | Drowsiness, meditation | Elevated resting/task-related theta |
| Alpha(8–12 Hz) | Relaxed wakefulness (eyes closed) | Reduced alpha power and coherence, especially in medicated patients; associated with negative symptoms. |
| Beta(12–30 Hz) | Active thinking, alertness | Mixed often elevated in resting, eyes open |
| Gamma(>30 Hz) | Cognitive integration, memory | Dysregulated: power and synchrony abnormalities. Reduced gamma power and synchronization during tasks (sensory gating, working memory); sometimes increased at rest. |

EEG Database

- There are two EEG data archives for two groups of subjects. The subjects were adolescents who had been screened by psychiatrist and divided into two groups: healthy ($n = 39$) and with symptoms of schizophrenia ($n = 45$).
- Each file contains EEG data for one subject, with samples from 16 channels listed sequentially, where each value represents an EEG amplitude in microvolts
- First 7680 samples represent 1st channel, then 7680 - 2nd channel, etc. The sampling rate is 128 Hz, thus 7680 samples refer to 1 minute of EEG record.

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 1 - F7 | 9 - T4 |
| 2 - F3 | 10 - T5 |
| 3 - F4 | 11 - P3 |
| 4 - F8 | 12 - Pz |
| 5 - T3 | 13 - P4 |
| 6 - C3 | 14 - T6 |
| 7 - Cz | 15 - O1 |
| 8 - C4 | 16 - O2 |

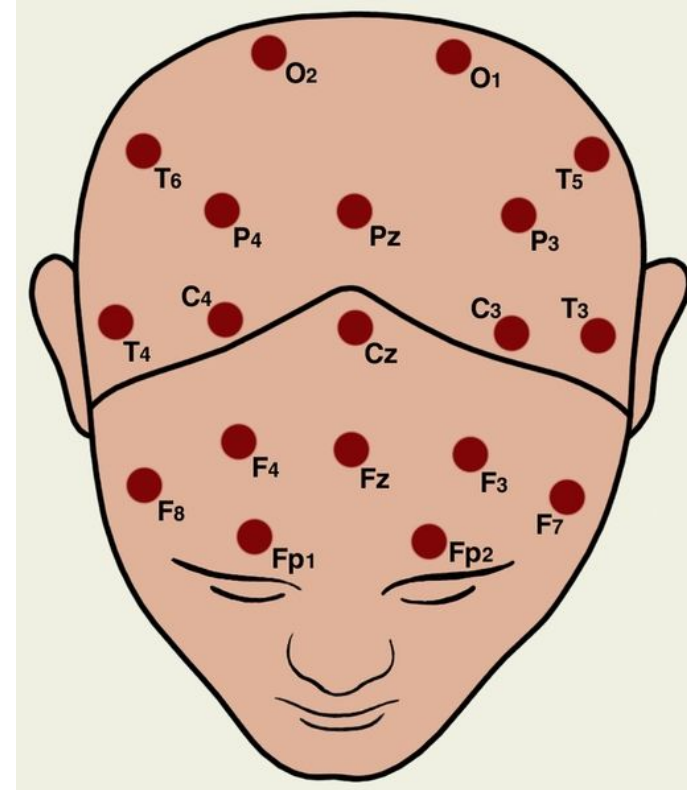
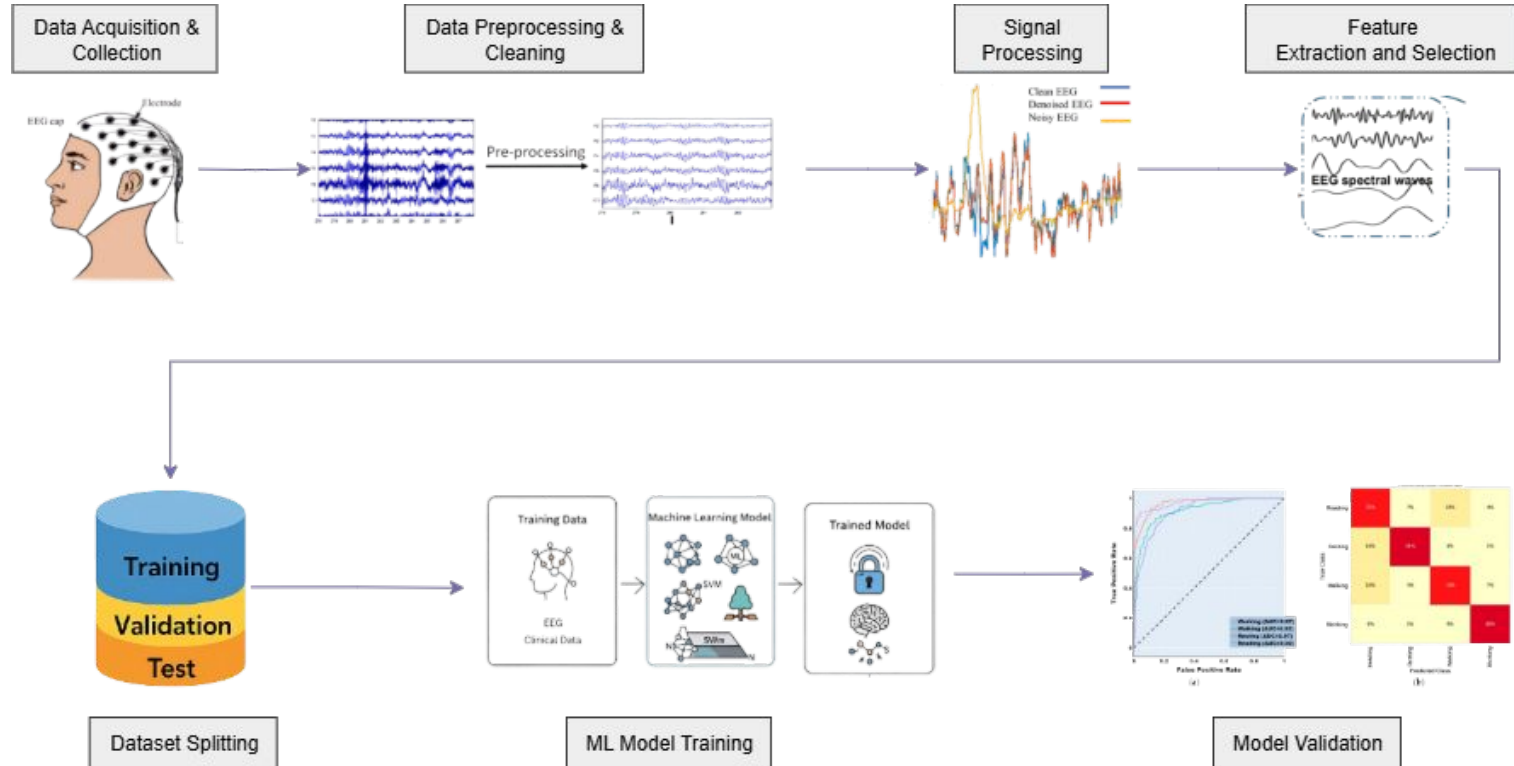


Fig.3. Electrode Placement System

Block Diagram



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