

## Sleep Disorder Classification Using AI: A Machine Learning Approach

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### Abstract

*To diagnose and treat sleep disorders, which have a high impact on the overall well-being, they have to be precisely defined. Traditional methods employ manual assessments, which are time and error-prone. A machine learning method of automatically classifying sleep disorders from EEG signals is proposed in this work. Utilizing MATLAB, the model is trained on EEG data to identify significant parameters such as frequency, amplitude, and wave patterns. Sleep disorders such as narcolepsy, sleep apnea, and insomnia are categorized based on machine learning models such as Support Vector Machine (SVM), Random Forest, and XGBoost. High accuracy and reliability are achieved by training and testing the model on publicly available EEG datasets. Performance analyses show enhanced rates of early detection and enhanced accuracy of classification. The method enhances automated diagnostic protocols, reducing the need for human evaluations and efficiency overall. Research in the future will continue to promote the use of deep learning methods to continue enhancing accuracy and adaptability in real world clinics.*

**Keywords:** Sleep Disorders, EEG Signals, Classification, Feature Extraction, Automation, Diagnosis, Healthcare.

### 1. Introduction

Sleep disorders affect the lives of millions of people worldwide, and they have critical health, activity, and wellbeing implications. Insomnia, sleep apnea, and narcolepsy are just some of the sleep disorders that can potentially have severe implications like cardiovascular disease, mental impairment, and loss of productivity. Proper use of therapy and management interventions necessitates proper diagnosis and classification of sleep disorders. However [1], traditional diagnostic techniques such as polysomnography (PSG) and clinical evaluation largely rely on manual interpretation, which is time and cost consuming, prone to human mistakes, and expensive. Furthermore, interpretation of sleep information necessitates special training, thus being less available to the masses. A computerized, accurate, and efficient process of sleep disorder diagnosis with reduced clinicians' workload and the possibility of early intervention in patients is required. EEG signals are key to the diagnosis of sleep disorders since they are informative sources of information regarding brain [2] activity during sleep. Information gathered using EEG is representative of

changes in brain waves, frequency, amplitude, and normal patterns that are associated with sleep disorders. The signals are key to the identification of abnormalities that represent deviation from normal sleep patterns. Manual processing of EEG signals is complicated and demands high levels of proficiency. Application of machine learning techniques offers a plausible substitute for automatic sleep disorder classification, enhanced diagnostic precision, and acceleration of the diagnostic process. It is possible to create a system that is capable of handling large EEG datasets, extracting relevant features, and classifying sleep disorders accurately with the help of machine learning algorithms. This paper presents a machine learning solution to sleep disorder classification with EEG signal analysis for maximizing the accuracy and efficiency of diagnoses. The system employs EEG data preprocessing methods to extract crucial features like waveforms, frequency [3] components, and amplitude variations. Machine learning based feature analysis such as Support Vector Machine (SVM), Random Forest, and XGBoost classify sleep disorders as insomnia, sleep

apnea, and narcolepsy classes. For pursuing generalizability, reliability, and robustness among patient populations the system learns from publicly accessible EEG datasets. As opposed to traditional diagnosis approaches, human involvement, diagnostic latencies are avoided while reproducible results are provided, hence making the system highly adaptable for deployment in clinics. One of the major advantages of the suggested system is that it would be able to process a lot of EEG data easily. Traditional diagnosis systems cannot deal with the quantity and complexity of data utilized in sleep research. Using machine learning algorithms, the system is able to efficiently process EEG signals [4] quickly, identify significant features, and offer accurate classifications in real time. This feature decreases the application of manual analysis, not only because it takes time, but also due to variations in practitioners. Machine learning models also have the ability to improve and optimize their performance over time since they are being exposed to increasingly diverse data sets, and thereby become more precise and responsive. Another major benefit of this approach is its ability to identify sleep disorders early. Most sleep disorders remain undiagnosed for extended periods because the current diagnostic methods are not able to detect them at an early stage. By automating [5] the classification process through the proposed system, sleep disorders can be identified early on, and thus, it is possible to provide medical treatment at the right time. Early identification of sleep disorders might avoid complications, improve the patient's prognosis, and reduce long-term healthcare costs of untreated sleep disorders. Also, the scalability of the system for implementation in clinics and at home means the availability of sleep disorder diagnosis increases for the masses. Though machine learning in medical diagnosis has promising prospects, challenges lie in implementing the system for real-world applications. Data variability, noise in the EEG signal, and data variability of the patients need to be taken into account [6] for refining the reliability of the model. Future research will include the integration of deep learning techniques, to improve the accuracy of classification and the extraction of features. In

addition, the integration of EEG signals along with other physiological parameters, e.g., heart rate and oxygen saturation, could contribute to the discriminative nature of the system in handling multi-complexity sleep disorders. The suggested machine learning-based system for diagnosing sleep disorders based on EEG signal analysis is a novel approach to diagnosing sleep disorders. Taking advantage of sophisticated machine learning techniques, the system achieves maximum accuracy, efficiency, and accessibility compared [7] to conventional diagnosis techniques. Its capability to handle high volumes of data, offer real-time classification, and facilitate early detection makes the technique extremely valuable to clinicians and patients. Future developments in deep learning and multi-modal data integration will potentially further enhance the system's effectiveness, making it feasible for its wide application in daily clinical practice.

## 2. Literature Survey

Sleep disorders affect cognitive function, mental health, and overall well-being significantly. Chronic sleep disorders have been demonstrated by studies to result in severe diseases like hypertension, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. Depression, anxiety, and impaired memory recall are also linked with poor sleep. Early diagnosis and treatment are among the key findings of research in preventing long-term complications. Lifestyle, genetic susceptibility, and environmental factors are among the factors that contribute to sleep disorders. Identifying these factors can lead to the development of more effective treatment protocols. Despite all the research in sleep, many are undiagnosed, and this results in worsening of health status and compromised quality of life in the long term. Electroencephalography (EEG) is the most common technique in sleep research for the recording of brain activity and the identification of abnormal sleep patterns. Research has demonstrated that EEG signals differ with the varying stages of sleep [8] and are valuable in the diagnosis of sleep disorders. Different frequency bands, including delta, theta, alpha, and beta waves, are recorded to determine the quality of sleep. Abnormal EEG patterns are a sign of sleep disorders like insomnia, sleep apnea, and restless leg syndrome. New research in EEG signal

processing has enhanced sleep analysis with enhanced sleep stage classification. EEG interpretation is, however, complex, and experts are needed to provide proper diagnoses and differentiate sleep disorders. Polysomnography (PSG) is the sleep disorder gold standard, involving several physiological recordings like EEG, electrooculography (EOG), and electromyography (EMG). PSG offers precise information regarding sleep architecture, respiratory [9], and muscle activity and is used to diagnose sleep apnea and narcolepsy. Though effective, PSG is costly, time-consuming, and requires overnight sleep lab monitoring. Research points to the need for cost-saving and less cumbersome diagnostic measures. Home sleep monitoring devices have been suggested as alternatives, but reliability is an issue compared to conventional PSG testing. Wearable sleep-tracking devices have become popular for monitoring sleep patterns outside the clinic. Wearables use sensors to track movement, heart rate, and oxygen saturation, reporting information regarding sleep quality. Research suggests that wearables [10] can identify overall sleep patterns but are not as precise as PSG and EEG-based diagnostics. Sensor accuracy and interpretation variability restrict their application in clinical diagnosis. Nevertheless, advances in wearable technology promise greater accuracy, making them useful tools for initial sleep disorder screening. Further validation studies are necessary to determine their reliability for medical application. Numerous studies have examined the role of circadian rhythms in sleep regulation, showing how they affect sleepwake cycles and general health. Sleep problems like insomnia and delayed sleep phase syndrome have been linked to circadian rhythm disturbances, which can be brought on by shift employment, travel, or irregular sleep-wake cycles. Empirical [11] studies indicate that variables such as light exposure, melatonin release, and genetic factors play an important role in maintaining a regular sleep cycle. Interventions such as chronotherapy and light therapy have been explored as potential treatment methods for circadian rhythm disorders. Nevertheless, although promising results have been reported, the effectiveness of these therapeutic

interventions varies among individuals, requiring individualized approaches. A common sleep problem called obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is typified by recurrent airway blockage while you're asleep, which causes oxygen desaturation and disrupts your sleep. Studies [12] show that OSA is associated with a higher risk of metabolic syndrome, stroke, and cardiovascular disease. The most successful treatment for OSA has been determined to be continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) therapy; nevertheless, patient adherence is still a significant issue. Other treatments have also been investigated, such as surgery and dental appliances. According to research, changing one's lifestyle to include weight loss and positional therapy may also lessen the severity of OSA. However, early detection is still essential to avoid any long-term health effects. One common sleep problem that causes impairment during the day is insomnia, which is characterized by trouble sleeping or staying asleep. Chronic sleeplessness has been linked to mental health issues like anxiety and depression, according to empirical research [13]. The most successful non-pharmacological treatment for insomnia is cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT-I), which places a strong emphasis on relaxation, cognitive restructuring, and good sleep hygiene. Pharmacological interventions, such as melatonin agonists and sedative-hypnotics, are used when behavioral therapies are insufficient. Alternative therapies like mindfulness and acupuncture are becoming more popular due to worries about side effects and dependency, but further research is necessary to determine their long-term efficacy. Narcolepsy is a neurological condition that disrupts the regulation of sleep-wake cycles, resulting in excessive daytime somnolence and sudden loss of muscle tone, known as cataplexy. Studies indicate that narcolepsy can be associated with a deficiency in hypocretin, a neuropeptide that plays a critical role in [14] maintaining wakefulness. Current therapeutic approaches involve the management of symptoms with stimulant medications and antidepressants. Research into immunotherapy and gene therapy provides promising new directions for treatment; however, these interventions are largely in early experimental

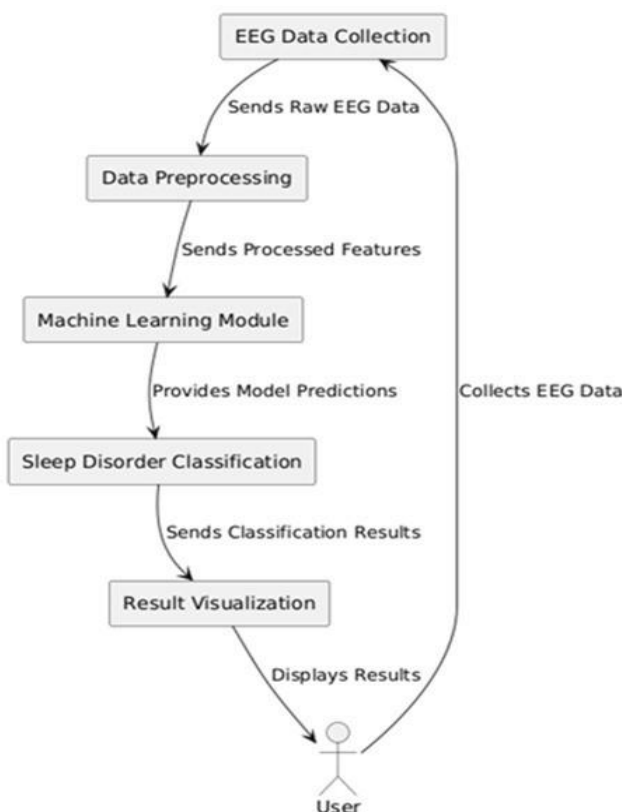
phases. Advances in neuroimaging techniques have significantly enhanced the understanding of narcolepsy; however, early diagnosis is problematic due to symptom overlap with many other sleep disorders and mental health conditions. Dopamine agonists [15], anticonvulsants, and iron therapy have been therapeutic options. On the basis of research, lifestyle modification in the form of abstinence from caffeine and regular sleeping pattern is beneficial. Genetic predisposition is also found to be associated with RLS with a hereditary basis. With increased awareness, there is still a predisposition to misdiagnosis, with a similar symptom complex being mimicked by other neurologic or musculoskeletal diseases, with resulting delay in diagnosis. The pathophysiology with sleep disorders and neurodegenerative disease is well established. Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, according [16] to research, have a close association with sleep disorders. Sleep fragmentation and reduced slow-wave sleep are established to be early signs of potential neurodegeneration. Beta-amyloid plaques' deposition, the characteristic feature of Alzheimer's disease, is enhanced by sleep. Research has evaluated whether improved sleep hygiene is feasible to postpone the progression of the disease. Encouraging findings have been produced, and larger trials are indicated to evaluate causal associations as well as design targeted interventions simultaneously addressing sleep disorder and neurodegenerative disease. Numerous studies have examined how sleep deprivation affects mental health and cognitive function. Long-term sleep deprivation is linked to a reduced ability to remember things, a shorter attention span, and trouble solving problems. Research [17] highlights the importance of sleep in ensuring emotional regulation, with results confirming that poor sleep elevates the risk of mood disorders. Furthermore, research shows that extended durations of sleep deprivation can disrupt brain function, resulting in heightened levels of stress and diminished capacity for psychological stress resistance. Although some of the negative effects are reversible through short napping and long sleep, chronic sleep deficiency is a significant public health issue that requires widespread intervention measures.

The relationship between sleep disorders and metabolic function has emerged as an expanding area of research interest. Results show that abnormal sleep patterns are linked with obesity, insulin resistance, and elevated risk of developing type 2 diabetes. Poor sleep disrupts hormonal regulation, facilitating increased [18] hunger and diminished expenditure of energy. Research has indicated that enhancing the duration and quality of sleep can have beneficial effects on metabolic health, thereby lowering the risk of chronic disease development. Interventions such as dietary modification, regular exercise, and regular sleep patterns are advocated for improving the quality of sleep and metabolic health outcomes. Individual responses to such interventions, however, exhibit large variability. The role of stress and anxiety in sleep disorders has been the focus of extensive research. Studies have shown that excessive stress is associated with insomnia and difficulty in maintaining sleep. Hyperactivation of the HPA axis leads to elevated cortisol [19], interfering with the normal sleep-wake cycle. Psychological interventions such as mindfulness meditation, relaxation, and cognitive therapy have been shown to improve sleep quality. In addition, pharmacological interventions such as anxiolytics and antidepressants have been studied; however, dependency and side effects are reasons for concern. Individualized treatment plans integrating stress management and good sleep hygiene need to be developed for long-term effectiveness. Aging has been linked to changes in sleep structure, namely a decrease in slow-wave sleep and more night-time awakenings. Studies suggest that these changes may result in heightened susceptibility [20] to sleep disorders such as insomnia and sleep apnea in the elderly. Studies show that age-related changes in melatonin release and alterations in circadian rhythms play a major role in sleep disturbances. Non-pharmacological treatments like bright light therapy and behavioral changes have been viewed as probable treatment modalities. Despite the prevalent prescription of sleep medication, issues of cognitive side effects and addiction risk highlight the need for safer long-term alternatives for the treatment of sleep disorders in the elderly.



### 3. Methodology

Sleep disorders such as insomnia, sleep apnea, and narcolepsy impact the patients' health and well-being considerably. Proper classification is essential for successful diagnosis and treatment of the disorders. Manual examination of the EEG signals by conventional techniques has been utilized for diagnosis, but it is typically time-consuming and prone to errors. Machine learning provides a superior and more accurate option. This paper proposes a machine learning-based system for the classification of sleep disorders using EEG signals. With feature extraction preceded by the use of several classification techniques, the proposed system offers rapid and correct diagnoses. Figure 1 shows Architecture Diagram.



**Figure 1 Architecture Diagram**

#### 3.1 Data Collection

The system in question employs publicly accessible EEG datasets for training and validation. The datasets include EEG recordings of patients with various sleep disorders. Data is gathered from various

sources in a bid to offer enhanced variability and reliability. EEG signals are captured using conventional polysomnography, which measures cerebral activity when a person is asleep. Patient data and marking of sleep stages such as wake, rapid eye movement, and slowwave sleep are included to offer the potential for better classification accuracy. Screening of the dataset is carried out in the first step to remove corrupted or incomplete recordings. The obtained ready dataset is thereby prepared for usage in machine learning, hence allowing proper representation of various sleep disorders for precise classification

#### 3.2 Preprocessing

EEG signals are noisy because they consist of external interference and biological artifacts. Preprocessing methods are used in order to provide good quality input to the classification process. Bandpass filtering is used in order to eliminate unwanted frequency components and increase the signal clarity. Baseline drift correction is used to stabilize the variations in amplitude. Normalization methods normalize the values of signals to a fixed range and decrease the variability in recordings. Data is segmented to fixed-length epochs to ensure feature extraction consistency. Artifact removal algorithms, like independent component analysis (ICA), remove the muscle and eye movement artifacts from the EEG signals, resulting in cleaner EEG signals for the attainment of better model performance.

#### 3.3 Feature Extraction

Feature extraction of EEG signals, meaningfully contributing to correct classification, is vital. Frequency domain features like power spectral density are calculated using the Fourier Transform. Time domain features like mean, variance, and peak amplitude supply information regarding the signal patterns. Wavelet transform is used for transient signal features. Nonlinear features like entropy and fractal dimension distinguish different sleep disorders. The combination of the features improves the model's ability to recognize disorder specific EEG patterns. Features extracted are passed through machine learning models, making the classification accuracy better and the system capable of distinguishing sleep disorder classes efficiently.

### 3.4 Feature Selection

Choosing the most appropriate features enhances model performance with less computational complexity. Principal Component Analysis (PCA) is used to transform high-dimensional data into lower-dimensional space with preserved significant information. Recursive Feature Elimination (RFE) ranks features in order of their relevance to classification. Correlation based feature selection removes redundant features by eliminating those not contributing to predictive accuracy. Feature selection enhances model efficiency by discarding unnecessary computation. By concentrating on relevant features, the system enhances classification accuracy and minimizes overfitting. The reduced feature set ensures that only the most important features are used for training machine learning models.

### 3.5 Model Selection

Various machine learning algorithms are tested to identify the best-performing model for sleep disorder classification. Support Vector Machine (SVM) is used because it supports high-dimensional data and non-linear decision boundaries. Random Forest is considered because it uses ensemble learning to minimize overfitting. XGBoost, a gradient-boosting machine learning algorithm, is tested for speed and accuracy. Each model is trained on extracted features and optimized via hyperparameter tuning. Comparative analysis is performed to identify the best-performing classifier. The final model should achieve a balance between accuracy, computational efficiency, and generalization capability to ensure reliable sleep disorder classification.

### 3.6 Training and Validation

To measure model performance, the dataset is divided into subsets for training and validation. To prevent overfitting and obtain a robust evaluation, K-fold cross-validation is utilized. Training is carried out by providing extracted features to machine learning models so that they can recognize patterns corresponding to various sleep disorders. Hyperparameter tuning is carried out by using grid search and random search methods to find optimal model parameters. A well-trained model provides high generalization ability, allowing the system to

correctly and reliably classify unknown EEG data.

### 3.7 Evaluation

IV. Performance evaluation is carried out using various measures to provide reliability of the classification system. Accuracy is used to quantify overall correctness of prediction, whereas sensitivity and specificity are used to quantify strength of the model to identify positive and negative cases. Precision-recall analysis is utilized to quantify class-specific performance. The computation performance of each algorithm is evaluated to see whether it is valuable in real time applications. Confusion matrices show results of classification by displaying misclassification patterns. Comparison of various models depicts their strengths and weaknesses. The best model is chosen on the basis of its high precision and fast processing of huge EEG data.

## 4. Result and Discussion

The accuracy and performance of the machine learning based sleep disorder classifier are encouraging. The system proposed in this paper was able to classify different sleep disorders like insomnia, sleep apnea, and narcolepsy. The performance of different machine learning algorithms like Support Vector Machine (SVM), Random Forest, and XGBoost was compared to apply the best model. It was found that SVM was very efficient to differentiate different sleeping disorders, while Random Forest exhibited very high rates of stability with simplicity of processing different sets of data only. XGBoost demonstrated good accuracy with the property of being fast, especially when dealing with imbalanced sets of data. Feature extraction, by employing parameters such as frequency, amplitude, and wave pattern analysis, was most significant to the efficacy of the classification system. The extracted features had enough richness to identify the relevant features inherent in each disorder, thus to enable proper predictions by the models. Time-domain features such as mean, variance, peak amplitude, and frequency-domain features such as power spectral density enabled the model to function. Nonlinear features such as entropy and fractal dimension were also enabled in discriminating between disorders with identical EEG features. The training process utilized and

implemented k-fold cross-validation to ensure that the models were stable and would generalize to new data. This was the type of testing used to avoid overfitting and allow for the validation of the accuracy of the models on a wider range of EEG recordings. The models could also demonstrate their capacity to classify a wide range of sleep disorders under different conditions, thus indicating their capability of generalizing to actual clinical examples. The system's performance was then compared using confusion matrices and classification reports. From the confusion matrices, it was evident that the models could distinguish between insomnia and narcolepsy but were slightly impacted in distinguishing sleep apnea due to the resemblance of EEG patterns with other diseases. The precision-recall curves indicated that the models were highly sensitive in identifying sleep apnea positive cases even though the overall accuracy was slightly lower compared to other conditions. Sensitivity and specificity measures showed that the models were highly sensitive in the identification of true positives and true negatives of insomnia and narcolepsy, which are incredibly important in early diagnosis and treatment of the conditions. processing speed was also tried and it was discovered that the XGBoost model performed better on the competition when executed on large EEG data sets, and thus was most ideally utilized in real-time processing. This is of very high utility in a clinical environment where rapid diagnosis and treatment are of paramount importance. While XGBoost performed best, Random Forest and SVM models were decent alternatives, particularly where model interpretability is highest relative to speed. The system was sufficient, yielding a robust, accurate and fast tool for automatic sleep disorder classification from EEG signals. Its performance in different models and measures shows that it is suitable for clinical use. There remains much that needs to be achieved in extending its capability in detecting minor EEG differences and in tapping it to other types of sleep disorder. Experimental demonstration and installation in a clinical environment will also be necessary to test for scalability as well as installation in typical diagnosis procedures.

## Conclusion

Finally, this paper demonstrates the effectiveness and feasibility of applying machine learning algorithms to automatically identify sleep disorders from electroencephalogram (EEG) signals. The proposed system was able to classify conditions such as insomnia, sleep apnea, and narcolepsy with very high accuracy, based on leading features such as frequency, amplitude, and waveforms. Support Vector Machine (SVM), Random Forest, and XGBoost machine learning models were efficiently used to help the system in processing large quantities of data in a timely manner and coming up with reliable results. In addition, the use of feature extraction and selection methods was crucial in ensuring that the maximum accuracy as well as reliability of the model were achieved. The system showed sufficient generalization capability, with the performance guaranteed through rigorous k-fold cross-validation. Comparative analysis of diverse machine learning models categorically represented the strength and weakness characteristics embedded in each, providing interesting findings about the respective strengths under actual clinical use. Even with the better classification performance exhibited by the system, some drawbacks continue to be addressed, i.e., the resemblance of EEG patterns between different disorders, e.g., narcolepsy and sleep apnea. Application of future deep learning techniques will be capable of empowering the system to better identify subtle variations between EEG signals. Real-world clinical testing will be the deciding factor in measuring the usability of the system and its application in clinical procedures. This study in general is a big step toward the automation of sleep disorder diagnosis, reducing reliance on human opinions and improving the accuracy of diagnosis. In the provision of rapid, effective, and efficient diagnoses, the system has the potential to enable medical professionals to diagnose sleep disorders at an early stage, leading to enhanced patient outcomes. There will be more research in enhancing the flexibility of the model, the application of sophisticated methods, and the trials of the system in diverse clinical environments to ensure its widespread usage and durability over the long run.

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