

# EEG-Based Drowsiness Detection With Fuzzy Independent Phase-Locking Value Representations Using Lagrangian-Based Deep Neural Networks

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**Abstract**—Passive electroencephalogram (EEG) brain-computer interfaces (BCI) have common usage in the area of Driver Drowsiness Detection. The approach presented herein identifies the cognitive state of the user while no mental action is required. Data recorded in EEG-based BCI experiments are generally noisy, nonstationary, and contaminated with artifacts that can deteriorate any analyzer’s performance. Recently, common spatial patterns (CSPs) have been adapted with EEG state-space incorporating spatio-spectral optimization using fuzzy time delay (FTD-CSSP). Temporal phase disparity sequence (TPDS) is used to measure synchrony between EEG signals. The output of Linear transforms operating on the TPDS constitute useful features for EEG regression problems. On similar lines, this article proposes spatio-spectral optimized fuzzy-independent phase-locking value (SSO-FIPLV) representations (exploiting the spatio-spectral information from TPDS) for EEG signals to monitor a user’s cognitive states. Specifically, we analyze changes in EEG synchronization for a car driver as she/he drifts between alert and drowsy states. We use neural networks (NNs) for prediction. This article also proposes a cutting-edge method for training NN using the Euler-Lagrangian formulation. A stability proof is provided for the intended training approach alongside, and the performance is corroborated on the EEG reaction time prediction task, both within and across subjects, using a publicly available dataset. The NN trained by the proposed approach performs better than other competitive approaches in terms of minimizing root-mean-squared error and maximizing correlation coefficient. Channelwise feature importance in terms of average relevance values calculated from NN feature representations is visualized in the form of Topoplots using layerwise relevance propagation for regression.

**Index Terms**—Brain-computer interface (BCI), electroencephalogram (EEG), fuzzy time-delay common spatio-spectral patterns (FTD-CSSP), Lagrangian, neural networks (NNs), reaction time (RT).

## I. INTRODUCTION

**D**RIVER debility ending up in sleepiness has been noted to be an important factor liable for severe road casualties. In an article from U.S. NHTSA, it is established that drivers’ fatigue concludes in 1550 demises, 71 000 wounded, and U.S. \$12.5 billion losses in revenue annually [1]. In this era of deep learning, a lot of technologies are coming up which automatically detect drowsiness based on signals recorded from the body. Prior research in drowsiness systems [1] demonstrates that physiological parameters-based techniques (electroencephalogram (EEG), ECG, etc.) give more accurate results than others (vision-based sensors). Amidst such signals, EEG stands as the most steady marker of the cognitive state because it is closely connected to the performance of psychological and biological actions [2].

A wide range of methods is proposed in the literature that uses power spectrum-based analysis for drowsy state classification [3]–[6]. Within the same class of approaches, mutual information-based wavelets [7] and entropy-based features [8] constitute the alternate approaches using the EEG signal amplitude. Prior studies [9], [10] reveal that the EEG spectra in theta rhythm (4–7 Hz) and alpha rhythm (8–11 Hz) usually reflect the cognitive state and memory performance. Hence, EEG spectra in theta and alpha rhythms can be used to derive the drivers’ alert models and detect their cognitive state. Beta band ( $\beta$ ) conforms to the interval of 13–30 Hz. It conveys tension and anticipation and is usually displayed in both alert and anxious subjects. The fluctuations in  $\beta$  activity during the individual fatigues are still unclear [11]. Gamma band ( $\gamma$ ) consists of frequencies above 30 Hz and usually does not have an impact on drowsiness detection [12].

Another class of approaches relies on the time-varying phase information recorded from multiple EEG signal channels. Phase-dependent methods are based on the correlation between individual signal channel pairs by studying the interconnection of the transitory phase across signals independent from their amplitudes [13]. In addition, such approaches are found useful in implementing psychotherapies [14]. Several studies have attempted to localize the drowsiness (or discrimination of

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drowsy and awake states) to certain brain regions [15], [16]. In other words, the working of phase synchrony is crucial for processing within a brain region as well as establishing information transfer between different brain regions [17]. Prior studies (cf. [18, Fig. 1] and [19, Fig. 2A]) in this area demonstrated that study of the six main sources (frontal, central, parietal, occipital, left motor area, and right motor area) in the brain capture the drowsiness phenomenon. In recent works [19], [20], 30 channels are used to cover all these regions [additionally (A1 and A2 references placed on the mastoid bones)] and this is a standard montage used in a lot of drowsiness research published across time [19], [20].

Phase synchrony refers to a study of an interplay between two EEG channels by only looking at the momentous phase disparity among signals independent of their magnitude [21]. In addition, the part played by synchronization is subject to specific frequencies. For example, synchrony in EEG theta waves is contrasted to active memory capacity [22], while high-frequency synchrony is instrumental to disseminate messages [23]. The phase-locking value (PLV) [24] explicitly quantifies frequency synchrony among the multichannel signals. PLV is nevertheless limited to compare frequency synchrony at a fixed time across trials. Since there is also a need to quantify trial-specific synchrony of the phase, researchers have come up with a per trial PLV [25]. Later, several works further modified per trial PLV [26]. Recently, a method was proposed in [27] that relies on features from the temporal phase disparity sequence (TPDS) for individual brain-computer interface trials. Furthermore, in [28], for the first time, authors proposed the differential phase synchrony (DPS) features for regression while combining TPDS with fuzzy common spatial filtering for regression-one versus rest (FCSPR-OVR). In all of these approaches, optimization is performed only across the spatial domain while not considering the optimization of spectral content. In a recent work, we proposed FTD CSSP-OVR [29], which performs joint spatio-spectral filter optimization for EEG-regression. In this work, we propose novel spatio-spectrally optimized fuzzy-independent PLV (SSOFIPLV) feature representations for drowsiness detection (SSO-FIPLV). We tested the SSO-FIPLV features for reaction time (RT) prediction in an EEG-based persistent attention task (PAT) [30].

Over the last decade, we have seen the contributions made in the field of neural networks (NNs) for many applications [31]. In particular, for EEG-based driver drowsiness detection application, NNs have received extensive attention, for instance, deep feedforward NNs (FNNs) [28], [32], [33], common Bayesian network [34], and fuzzy NN [35]. Recently, a novel complex network (CN) [36]-guided broad learning system is proposed to conceive an EEG data-driven drowsiness detection. The superiority of NN over various other models is the automated feature learning/feature extraction. In literature, training algorithms for the NNs are categorized into single-step and multistep algorithms depending upon the number of weight change steps per iteration. In recent times, Gradient Descent [BackPropagation (BP)], AdaGrad (ADG) [33], Rmsprop, Adam [37], etc., are the few examples of single-step learning algorithms for training NN. Several single-step weight update algorithms derived using recursive least squares [38], extended Kalman filtering [39],

and Lyapunov stability theory [33] have been adapted from other fields, such as the optimal control theory and signal processing.

Multistep approaches [40] distinctly update only a subset of the weights at once. Output weight optimization-BP (OWO-BP), a multistep approach [40], updates the weights in the input layer while subsequently solving the linear equations for the weights in the output layer. Similar to many first-order algorithms, such as BP, LM, Adagrad etc., the multistep OWO-BP is susceptible to sluggish convergence and does not accommodate the affine invariance property [40]. Therefore, it is perceptible to input data mean and the selection of initial weights. However, we will focus on the single-step-based methods in this work. In [33] and [41], an update law has been derived to train the FNN by using the Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman (HJB) framework. Dynamic programming is a prominent paradigm for optimal control of dynamical systems [42]. The learning process in NN can be treated as a dynamical system [31]. Dynamic optimization estimates a control input which is optimal, i.e., it leads to an optimal weight trajectory for the case of NN that optimizes a predefined objective. In this work, we hereby introduce a novel Lagrangian-based optimization approach while incorporating neural system dynamics for adapting FNN. Several supervised learning algorithms are explored in the literature for Drowsiness Detection. Support vector machine (SVM) is the most commonly used classifiers/regressors, which provided better accuracy and speed in most of the situations, but it is not suitable for large datasets with multiple subjects [31]. Also, recently, learning-based methods are proposed for drowsiness detection [43]. But, in the literature, sufficient testing or validation has not been done with diverse optimal learning methods for feedforward NN architectures, which we explored in this work. Interindividual variability is another big challenge that restricts the commercial use of physiological signal-based drowsiness detection systems, as generalization is the major problem. We demonstrated the generalizability of our method across subjects also indicating it in this regard in the supplementary material. This has been highlighted in green in the supplementary material. The error in RT prediction translates to the error in distance in detecting a drowsy driver. A new metric is formulated in this regard [denoted as error in estimated driving distance (EEDD)].

The central purposes leading to this research are as follows.

- 1) Toward establishing the efficacy in regard to a novel Lagrangian and neural system dynamics-based NN regressor for a PAT.
- 2) To represent the drivers' RT prediction as a learning task based on SSO-FIPLV features and adapting computationally intelligent models with the designated objectives.

The novelty and important contributions to be taken out of this research are as follows.

- 1) A unique Lagrangian and NN system dynamics-based learning scheme for NN regression problems.
- 2) Novel SSO-FIPLV features establish the efficacy of using phase-based EEG signal processing for the PAT.
- 3) Comprehensive tests (inclusive of contrast with advanced prediction models) are used with the goal of

substantiating the efficacy of the developed approach in an EEG PAT.

This work is constituted as follows. Section II contains the formulation of a novel NN weight update law. Section III describes the proposed SSO-FIPLV features. Section IV-D assesses the effectiveness of feature sets on the EEG PAT. Sections IV-E and IV-F describe the performance of Lagrangian-based learning DNN and all other key results with sufficient comparison to baseline approaches. Finally, conclusive assertions are indicated in Section V. Here, # is used to denote “number of.”

## II. PROPOSED METHOD

Consider an FNN, having  $O$  layers (hidden+output), with  $N_o$  neurons in the  $o$ th layer ( $o \in \{0, 1, \dots, O\}$ ,  $o = 0$  for the input layer) and  $N_\theta$  total number of tunable weights. For supervised learning, we are given  $N$  pairs of input and target output in a batch. Now, learning can be seen as a dynamic control problem, where the error  $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_o N}$  between the estimated and the target outputs changes with a change  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_\theta}$  in FNN weights  $\theta$

$$\dot{\mathbf{e}} = -\mathbf{J}\mathbf{u}; \quad \mathbf{u} = \dot{\theta}. \quad (1)$$

Here,  $\mathbf{e} = [\mathbf{e}_1^\top, \mathbf{e}_2^\top, \dots, \mathbf{e}_N^\top]^\top$ , and  $\mathbf{J} = [\mathbf{J}_1^\top, \mathbf{J}_2^\top, \dots, \mathbf{J}_N^\top]^\top$  is an  $N_o N \times N_\theta$  matrix. The derivation of (1) and further explanation about different terms is provided in the supplementary material under Section III. The cost function in the discrete form shown in (2) is taken from [33]

$$V(\mathbf{e}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) = \sum_{l=k}^K L(\mathbf{e}_l, \mathbf{u}_l) \Delta t \quad (2)$$

$$\text{where, } L(\mathbf{e}_l, \mathbf{u}_l) = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{e}_l^\top \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{e}_l + \mathbf{u}_l^\top \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_l). \quad (3)$$

Here,  $k$  is the iteration index. To optimize the cost function defined in (2) while satisfying constraint (1), HJB formulation has been used in the past, and the weight update laws so derived have been employed [33], [44] to update NN weights during learning. But in this article, our approach is inspired from the Euler–Lagrangian formulation, which is commonly used for functional optimization. It is popularly used in the calculus of variation and in physics for action minimization/maximization. The constraint from (1) can be discretized using the Euler approximation and added to the cost function (2) to get the Lagrangian cost function

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{e}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) = \sum_{l=k}^K (L(\mathbf{e}_l, \mathbf{u}_l) \Delta t + \lambda_l^\top (\mathbf{e}_l - \mathbf{e}_{l-1} + \mathbf{J}_l \mathbf{u}_l \Delta t)). \quad (4)$$

To derive the weight update law, we optimize  $\mathcal{L}$  w.r.t.  $\mathbf{e}_l$  and  $\mathbf{u}_l$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{e}_l} = 0 \implies \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{e}_l \Delta t + \lambda_l - \lambda_{l+1} = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{u}_l} = 0 \implies \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_l + \mathbf{J}_l^\top \lambda_l = 0. \quad (6)$$

Eliminating  $\lambda$ 's from (5) and (6), we get the optimal  $\mathbf{u}$  as

$$\mathbf{u}_{l+1} = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{J}_{l+1}^\top \left( (\mathbf{J}_l^\top)^\dagger \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_l - \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{e}_l \Delta t \right). \quad (7)$$

The FNN weights can be updated as

$$\theta_{k+1} = \theta_k + \eta \mathbf{u}_k \quad (8)$$

where  $\eta \in \mathbb{R}$  is the learning rate and  $\dagger$  denotes Moore–Penrose pseudo inverse. The optimal  $\mathbf{u}_k$  has been derived above. The learning rate can also be optimized. Several methods have been proposed earlier for optimal learning rates for gradient descent-based learning schemes [33]. We use the adaptive gradients [AdaGrad (ADG)] method to update the learning rate. The final weight update law becomes

$$\theta_{k+1} = \theta_k + \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{\sum_{l=0}^k \|\mathbf{u}_l\|^2}} \mathbf{u}_k. \quad (9)$$

Input to state stability (ISS) of the proposed approach is provided in Section 3 of the supplementary material (Supplementary.pdf). The ISS criterion ensures that the update law is stable.

## III. SSO-FIPLV REPRESENTATIONS

Let  $\mathbf{X}^r \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times T}$ ,  $r \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$  denote the  $r$ th EEG trial,  $C$  denotes the #channels, and  $T$  denotes the # time samples. The output variable (here, RT in each trial) denoted by  $Y^r$  or  $y_r$  is split into  $K + 1$  regions uniformly (with “ $K$ ” fuzzy classes) [cf. Fig. 1(a)]. Any  $Y^r$  or  $y_r$  lies in a fuzzy class with a respective membership value  $\mu(Y^r) \in [0, 1]$ . In Fig. 1(a), we partition  $[0, 100]$  into  $K + 1$  intervals where  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_{K-1}, P_K$  denote percentile points with  $(100K)/(K + 1)$  standing for  $(100K)/(K + 1)$ th percentile point.

### A. Fuzzy Multiple Class Common Spatial Patterns

Common spatial patterns (CSPs) [45] is an important supervised technique to be applied for dealing with EEG-based machine learning problems. In the literature, three approaches are generally used to compute CSP filters: 1) one versus one; 2) one versus rest (OVR) [30]; and 3) joint approximate diagonalization (JAD) [46]. In this article, we demonstrate the optimization of the CSP algorithm for regression using JAD.

1) *Joint Approximate Diagonalization Approach*: Consider a regression problem, where the output variable is fuzzified using  $K$  fuzzy classes [cf. Fig. 1(a)]. We then compute an averaged signal  $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_s$  for every fuzzy class  $s$ . Then, the covariance matrix corresponding to each fuzzy class  $\bar{\Sigma}_s$  is determined

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}}_s = \frac{\sum_{r=1}^{N_s} \mu_{r,s} \mathbf{X}^r}{N_s} \quad s \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}. \quad (10)$$

In (10),  $N_s$  denotes # trials in the  $s$ th fuzzy class

$$\bar{\Sigma}_s = \bar{\mathbf{X}}_s \bar{\mathbf{X}}_s^\top \quad s \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}. \quad (11)$$

We normalize the class covariance matrices thus obtained above by using

$$\bar{\Sigma}_s = \frac{\bar{\Sigma}_s}{\text{Tr}(\bar{\Sigma}_s)} \quad \forall s \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}. \quad (12)$$

After computing the average and normalized covariance matrices for all  $K$  classes, a transformation matrix  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$

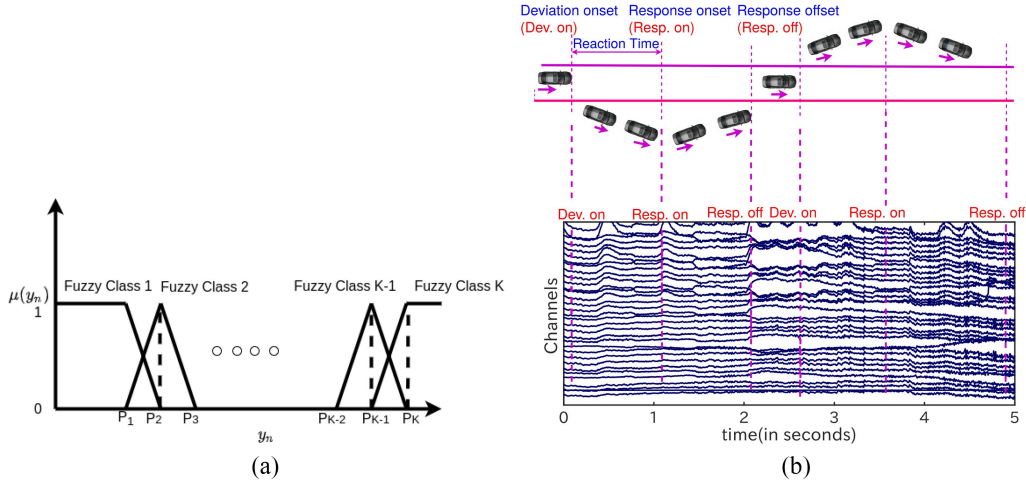


Fig. 1. Plots of the experimental paradigm with fuzzy set-based analysis. (a) Fuzzified RT. (b) EEG signals with associated events. (EEG and behavior data were recorded simultaneously.)

needs to be found which concurrently diagonalizes them. Specifically,  $\mathbf{W}$  must satisfy

$$\mathbf{W}\bar{\Sigma}_s\mathbf{W}^T = \mathbf{D}_s \quad \forall s \in \{1, \dots, K\} \quad (13)$$

$$\sum_{s=1}^K \mathbf{D}_s = \mathbf{I}_{N \times N}. \quad (14)$$

Although, such kind of diagonalization can be obtained accurately for  $N = 2$ , only approximate solutions are existing for  $N > 2$ . Employing the weight matrix  $\mathbf{W}$ , we compute the transformed EEG signal

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{X}^r. \quad (15)$$

The spatial filters are the rows of matrix  $\mathbf{W}$ .

### B. Fuzzy Time-Delay CSSP

In [47], we proposed a novel robust invariant CSP features extraction methodology by incorporating a fuzzy time-delay variable in the state-space model. We further demonstrated an improved version of (15) by introducing a generalizable state-space reconstruction with a fuzzy time delay

$$\mathbf{Z}^r = \int_{t'} \mu_{(t')} \mathbf{W}^{(t')} * (\delta^{t'} \mathbf{X}^r) dt'. \quad (16)$$

Here,  $\delta^{(t')}$  is the delay operator on the signal state space,  $\mu_{t'}$  is the membership value of variable  $t'$ , and  $\mathbf{W}^{(t')}$  stands for the optimal fuzzy time-delay CSSP (FTDCSSP) transform

$$\delta^{(t')}(\mathbf{X}^r) = \mathbf{X}^{(r-t')}. \quad (17)$$

We consider the time delay term  $t'$  to follow an exponential membership  $e^{-t'}$  for the reason that in system dynamics, higher order delays add marginally to the integral beyond a specific delay threshold. Equation (16) is thus reduced to

$$\mathbf{Z}^r \approx \sum_{t'=0}^2 \mu_{(t')} \mathbf{W}^{(t')} * (\delta^{t'} \mathbf{X}^r). \quad (18)$$

Furthermore, (18) can be reduced to get

$$\mathbf{Z}^r = \left[ \mathbf{W}^{(0)} \quad \mathbf{W}^{(1)} \quad \mathbf{W}^{(2)} \right] \begin{bmatrix} \mu_0 \mathbf{X}^{(r)} \\ \mu_1 \mathbf{X}^{(r-1)} \\ \mu_2 \mathbf{X}^{(r-2)} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (19)$$

The composite vector  $\begin{bmatrix} \mu_0 \mathbf{X}^{(r)} \\ \mu_1 \mathbf{X}^{(r-1)} \\ \mu_2 \mathbf{X}^{(r-2)} \end{bmatrix}$  is indicated as the resultant EEG signal  $\mathbf{X}^r$  in (15). Furthermore, fuzzy class covariance matrices ( $K = 3$ )  $\bar{\Sigma}_1, \bar{\Sigma}_2, \bar{\Sigma}_3$  are obtained from  $\begin{bmatrix} \mu_0 \mathbf{X}^{(k)} \\ \mu_1 \mathbf{X}^{(k-1)} \\ \mu_2 \mathbf{X}^{(k-2)} \end{bmatrix}$ . Following the approach mentioned in steps (11)–(13), we generate a composite weight matrix  $[\mathbf{W}^{(0)} \quad \mathbf{W}^{(1)} \quad \mathbf{W}^{(2)}]$  as the result of our optimization problem. Each of the three matrices  $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$ ,  $\mathbf{W}^{(1)}$ , and  $\mathbf{W}^{(2)}$  correspond to  $\mu_0 \mathbf{X}^{(k)}$ ,  $\mu_1 \mathbf{X}^{(k-1)}$ , and  $\mu_2 \mathbf{X}^{(k-2)}$ , respectively. Among the rows of the matrices  $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$ ,  $\mathbf{W}^{(1)}$ , and  $\mathbf{W}^{(2)}$ , the FTDCSSP filters are those filters which maximize the fuzzy mutual information criterion (22) mentioned in [29]. Before applying CSP filters [27], it is advised to pick at least two separate filters for individual class corresponding to maximum and minimum variance directions. Following this guideline, we have chosen  $K = 3$  and  $F = 2K = 6$  in the experiments. In (19), to calculate three weight matrices, we need to calculate  $3 \times 2K = 18$  row vectors. The entire approach is summarized taking the shape of Algorithm 1.

### C. Spatospectral Optimized Fuzzy Independent Phase-Locking Value Representations

In this section, we propose the SSO-FIPLV obtained as an output of fuzzy spatospectral filter optimization over TPDS. We describe the TPDS in Section III-C1. Subsequently, fuzzy spatospectral optimization over TPDS is described in Section III-C2.

1) *Temporal Phase Disparity Sequence*: Consider two time series  $r_1(t)$  and  $r_2(t)$  whose phases are  $\psi_1(t)$  and  $\psi_2(t)$ , respectively. The per-trial PLV (pPLV) [49] concerning each trial is

**Algorithm 1** FTDCSSP

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**Input:** EEG training signals  $(X^{(r)}, Y^{(r)})$   $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$   
 $\mathbf{X}^{(r)} \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times T}$   
 $'L_s'$ , # spatial filters per fuzzy class ' $s$ ' (let  $L_s = F$ )  
 $'K'$  is the # fuzzy classes

**Output:** Spatial filter matrices  $[\mathbf{W}^{(0)} \mathbf{W}^{(1)} \mathbf{W}^{(2)}]$   
 EEG signals passed through PREP [48];  
 EEG signals processed through PREP are passed through band-pass filter in range [1-20] Hz;  
 Calculate the thresholds  $P_r$  for specific fuzzy classes (Fig. 1a);  
 Estimate  $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_s$  using (10);  
 Estimate Co-variance  $\bar{\Sigma}_s$  for respective fuzzy class ' $s$ ' with (11);  
 Adapt the covariances for respective classes through (12);  
 Calculate filter matrix  $\mathbf{W}$  by (13);  
 Excerpt ' $L_s$ ' filters for respective fuzzy class as per equation (27);  
 Spatial filter matrix  $[\mathbf{W}^{(0)} \mathbf{W}^{(1)} \mathbf{W}^{(2)}]$  is obtained, comprising  $\sum_{i=1}^K L_s$  # rows;  
**return**  $[\mathbf{W}^{(0)} \mathbf{W}^{(1)} \mathbf{W}^{(2)}]$

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determined by

$$pPLV = \left| \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} e^{i|\psi_1(i) - \psi_2(i)|} \right| \quad (20)$$

where  $N_t$  is the sample size per trial. The temporal phase  $\psi(t)$  is calculated from the complex-valued time series (using the Hilbert transform). For a generic signal  $r(t)$ , the corresponding complex signal  $z(t)$  is obtained as

$$z(t) = r(t) + i\tilde{r}(t) \quad (21)$$

$$\tilde{r}(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{r(t')}{t - t'} dt'. \quad (22)$$

Here,  $\tilde{r}(t)$  is the Hilbert transform of  $r(t)$ . The temporal phase  $\psi(t)$  is then obtained as

$$\psi(t) = \arctan\left(\frac{\tilde{r}(t)}{r(t)}\right). \quad (23)$$

$pPLV \in [0, 1]$  and the corner values pertain to the instances of signal with no synchrony and full synchrony, respectively. TPDS  $\Delta\psi(t)$  between a pair of distinct signals  $r_1(t)$  and  $r_2(t)$  is designated as

$$\Delta\psi(t) = |\psi_1(t) - \psi_2(t)|. \quad (24)$$

Kumar *et al.* [27] emphasized the concept of the variance of TPDS with pPLV. Later, a framework was proposed to calculate a linear transformation that enhances the variance of TPDS over a specific class whilst concurrently minimizing it over an auxiliary class. This scheme is analogous to CSP yet, in contrast, it largely uses knowledge of phase for two-class classification. Hence, extracting a similarity from the Fuzzy CSP for Regression, a novel scheme is devised in [28] which computes a linear transform on the TPDS in an aforesaid manner with variance optimization across fuzzy classes. Because

TPDS is used to gauge co-instantaneity between EEG signals, we indicate the extracted representations as phase-synchrony (PS) features. The extensions to multiclass paradigms of CSP (OnevsOne, OnevsRest) are based on heuristics and a more principled approach uses JAD for CSP. But, CSP implemented using JAD is tantamount to independent component analysis (ICA) [46]. Motivated by these arguments, we propose a novel SSOFIPLV representation for the EEG RT regression problem.

2) *Fuzzy Spatial Filter Optimization With TPDS (Fuzzy CSPR-OVR Applied Over TPDS)*: Fuzzy CSPR-OVR [30] widens the scope of CSP to solve regression problems by incorporating fuzzy sets. FTDCSSP [29] further improves the scope of fuzzy spatial filtering by incorporating spatio-spectral content in filters. Multichannel EEG time series is subject to possess a subsided SNR, due to spatial blurring and spattering effects. With an objective to secure discriminative PS representations to classify across fuzzy classes, we estimate spatial filters to magnify the variance of the temporal phase with a specific fuzzy class and minimize over others. Reddy *et al.* [29] proposed an algorithm to optimize the spatial filters in order to maximize the resulting PS feature discriminative power. Mathematically, it can be written as

$$\mathbf{W}_u^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{W}} \frac{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{W}^T \chi_{\Delta\psi_u} \mathbf{W})}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{W}^T \sum_{v \neq u} \chi_{\Delta\psi_v} \mathbf{W})}. \quad (25)$$

Here,  $\chi_{\Delta\psi_u}$  and  $\chi_{\Delta\psi_v}$  are the covariance matrices of the TPDS for the fuzzy classes  $u$  and  $v$ . The column vectors of  $\mathbf{W}$  are the spatial synchrony filters. An approach close to the FTDCSSP method is selected to extract features out of TPDS for each EEG trial filtered within a specific frequency spectrum. The computed representations are denoted as ‘‘DPS-CSPROVR’’ representations. In this work, we improve upon the feature representations by using SSO-FIPLV representations.

3) *Filter Selection and Feature-Extraction for Proposed SSO-FIPLV Method (FTDCSSP Applied Over TPDS)*: FTDCSSP by JAD has been applied on the TPDS and further the obtained filters are to be selected using a criterion mentioned below. The eigenvalues corresponding to the JAD are given by

$$\lambda_s = \text{diag}(\mathbf{W}^T \Sigma_s \mathbf{W}) \quad s \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}. \quad (26)$$

Here,  $K$  denotes the number of fuzzy classes and  $\lambda_i$  stands for the vector of eigenvalues. Furthermore, we employ a filter selection criterion (27), where the eigenvalues obtained for each of the fuzzy classes are transformed and the  $L$  eigenvectors corresponding to the  $L$  largest eigenvalues are selected. It is possible that some eigenvectors may be repeated, so in that case, we have chosen the eigenvector corresponding to the next largest eigenvalue

$$\lambda_{i,j} = \max\left\{\lambda_{i,j}, \frac{\lambda_{i,j}}{1 + \frac{(K-1)^2 \lambda_{i,j}}{1 - \lambda_{i,j}}}\right\}. \quad (27)$$

Furthermore, the so-obtained filters constitute the weight matrix  $\mathbf{W}$ . The TPD sequences collected in triads (19) are transformed by  $\mathbf{W}$  to obtain a  $6K \times T$  matrix from which

we extract the final ‘‘SSO-FIPLV’’ features.  $\mathbf{F} = \begin{bmatrix} F_1 \\ \dots \\ F_{6K} \end{bmatrix}$  where

$F_i$  is given by  $\log_{10} [(\|Z_i\|^2) / (\sum_{j=1}^{6K} \|Z_j\|^2)]$ . We refer to them as independent phase-locking representations due to the reason that CSP by JAD is tantamount to ICA and since the transformations are computed on TPDS, which indicates the phase-locking level or synchronization between two waveforms, they are denoted as Phase-locking-independent value representations (PILV). Incorporating spatio-spectral optimization for regression, the features so obtained constitute the ‘‘SSO-FIPLV.’’

#### IV. EXPERIMENTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, we evaluate the performance of the proposed approach with respect to the existing approaches for RT prediction on EEG data collected in a PAT [20]. We compare the performance of the proposed approach with different feature extraction techniques, regression models, and NN learning schemes.

##### A. PAT and EEG Data Preprocessing

The paradigm was designed to quantitatively measure the subject’s RT to perturbations during a continuous driving task. A brief pictorial depiction can be found in Fig. 1(b), but the experimental description and preprocessing is described in detail in Section 1 of the supplementary material (Supplementary.pdf).

##### B. Feature Extraction

EEG signal further is prefiltered into a frequency range of [1, 20] Hz. Comprehensive reasons for selection of this band can be found in Section 5, page 4 of the supplementary material. Alpha and Theta power features [9], [10] can be extracted post spatial filtering (FS3) ( $K = 3$ ,  $F = 10$ ) and also without spatial filtering (FS1).  $F$  and  $K$  are two parameters whose appropriate values are set from [28] and [30] to ensure the correctness of comparison. We evaluate every combination of the feature set and regression approach using  $k$ -fold cross-validation ( $k = 8$ ) and leave-one last session out cross-validation. There are two sets of subjects in the current study. One set of subjects have multiple sessions of data recorded at different times (denoted Subject set-2). We performed leave-one last session out cross-validation for these subjects. While for the other set of subjects (subjects 3, 5, 7, 12, 21, 24, 26, and 27) (denoted Subject set-1) with a single session of recorded data, 8-fold cross-validation is performed. The causality of the machine learning model during analysis could be maintained for this second set of subjects with multiple recorded sessions (Subject set-2) while it is not the case for the first set of subjects (Subject set-1). Each subject’s sessionwise data can be found in Table 8 of the supplementary section.

- 1) Power in Theta and Alpha bands is extracted in dB from the prefiltered EEG trials to get the feature set FS1.
- 2) DPS features [28] are computed from the prefiltered EEG. We set  $K = 3$  and  $F = 21$  to get the feature set FS2.

TABLE I  
EVALUATION PERFORMANCE OF FS1, FS2, FS3, AND FS4

Feature-set	CC	RMSE	EEDD (in metres)
FS1	0.574	0.0801	2.225
FS2	0.676	0.0715	1.986
FS3	0.598	0.0795	2.208
FS4 (proposed)	<b>0.716</b>	<b>0.0615</b>	1.708

- 3) Prefiltered EEG signal is passed through spatial filters via fuzzy CSPR-OVR. Furthermore, the power in Theta and Alpha bands are extracted in dB. We used  $F = 10$  so that the filtered signal ( $30 \times 1250$ ) and the original signal ( $30 \times 1250$ ) have the same dimensions, ensuring a fair performance comparison. The feature set so obtained is denoted by FS3. Each feature vector has a size of  $60 \times 1$ .
- 4) The proposed SSO-FIPLV features are calculated from the prefiltered EEG trials. We set  $K = 9$  and  $F = 10$  again for the same reason stated above for FS3. So, the obtained feature is of size  $(54 \times 1) = 54$  (SSO-FIPLV) and is indicated as FS4.

The features computed above are passed through LASSO for getting the predicted value of RT.

##### C. Evaluation Criterion

RMSE and CC comprise the criteria used for measuring the results of the regression. Consider  $N$  number of training samples,  $y_{di}$  denoting the actual RT for the  $i$ th example and  $y_i$  denoting the predicted RT. If RMSE is smaller, then our system is trained correctly for predicting the RT of drowsy drivers with minor errors. CC depicts the usefulness of the predicted features for RT prediction. Furthermore, to enhance practicability of the developed system, we introduce a criterion of EEDD (28) (a similar one is reported in the discussion of [50]) to detect a drowsy driver. We assume the average speed of the vehicle is 100 km/h

$$EEDD = \text{Average speed of vehicle} \times \text{RMSE}. \quad (28)$$

##### D. Comparison of SSO-FIPLV Features With Other Feature Sets

The mean RMSE and CC computed after passing all features (elucidated in Section IV-B) through the LASSO regression block are displayed in Table I. For subject set-1, we have taken an average of all the performances for each of the 8-folds. While for subject set-2, the performance on the last session is recorded. Also, the mean performances of all the subjects for all the folds are determined. Both FS4 and FS2 achieved much smaller RMSEs and much larger CCs compared to FS3 and FS1. In general, FS4 demonstrated the best performance indicating that it is well suited for the RT regression task. In addition, the EEDD is the smallest for FS4 in comparison to all other features helping us to detect drowsy drivers within the smallest driving distance. An in-depth analysis of results and implementation technicalities examining the performance of the features is provided in Section V of the supplementary material (Supplementary.pdf).





TABLE IV  
RESULTS COMPARISON BOTH WITHIN AND ACROSS NN METHODS. (a)  $p$ -VALUES OF TWO-WAY ANOVA : PROPOSED LGN VERSUS BP, ADG, AND HJB FOR {FS4; FS2} (b)  $p$ -VALUES OF TWO-WAY ANOVA: PROPOSED LGN VERSUS SVR, RR, AND LASSO FOR {FS4; FS2}

(a)					(b)				
	FS4		FS2			FS4		FS2	
	RMSE	CC	RMSE	CC		RMSE	CC	RMSE	CC
$p$ -value	0.04	<b>0.001</b>	0.03	<b>0.001</b>	$p$ -value	0.025	<b>0.001</b>	0.02	<b>0.002</b>

goal to find out if the RMSE and CC deviations due to the discrepancies in regression methods used are statistically significant for features FS2 and FS4, while treating the subjects as a random factor. The results are demonstrated in Table IV(a), ( $p$ -value $<0.05$ ) which indicates that there exist statistically significant differences in RMSEs, and CCs for various regression models for features {FS4, FS2} (Section IV-B). In other words, regression method selection creates a significant effect on the performance metrics RMSE and CC [ $p$ -value $<0.05$ , cf. Table IV(a)].

Then, *post-hoc* nonparametric multiple comparison tests (paired  $t$ -tests in this case) are applied to find out if the difference between pairs of regressors is statistically significant, with the  $p$ -value corrected employing the false discovery rate (FDR) method [52]. The  $p$ -values are shown in Table II(a), where in most of the values point out probabilistic relevance. The proposed LGN method performed superior to the HJB, ADG and BP-based NN schemes for the chosen EEG drowsiness problem. Some of the advantages offered in particular include the nature of the update law which is iterative both in terms of the control input and current weights, unlike BP and HJB methods. It is also not dependent on the closed form expression for control input unlike the other update laws. The proposed method (LGN) works to optimize the integral of a functional over a curve using calculus of variations which leads to the Euler–Lagrange equations and corresponding control law for weight update. An alternative method explored in our prior work was based on Bellman’s optimality principle, which leads to the HJB equations which when solved leads to optimal control law. Based on the literature,<sup>1</sup> each of these approaches offer advantages and disadvantages depending on the application, with numerous technical differences between them, but in the case for the regression problem when both are applicable, the LGN method demonstrated superior performance.

#### F. Comparison of NN Lagrangian (LGN) Regression With Other Regression Models

In order to describe the dynamic learning ability of the NN-based method, we contrast our LGN-based NN approach with the existing models, such as LASSO Regression, ridge regression (RR), and support vector regression (SVR) [53]. We have employed a Scikit-Learn SVR tool [54] and Scikit-Learn jointly to spurt the SVR models. We make use of grid-search to determine parameters  $C$  and  $\gamma$ , which are optimally obtained to be  $2^5$  and  $2^2$ , with  $\epsilon = 0.2$ , respectively. For the cases of LASSO and RR, the adjustable parameter  $\lambda$  was selected by an inner 8-fold cross-validation [55] on the training

dataset. On average, from Table II(b), the proposed LGN-based DNN approach clearly outperformed SVR, LASSO, and RR schemes in terms of RMSE and CC. The DNN is trained for 200 epochs with a learning rate of 0.1 and  $R$  is also fixed to identity while using Lagrangian-based update law. The respective percentage performance improvements of LGN over the other regression models are shown in Figs. 7 and 8 in the supplementary material. For instance, the terms in legend “LGN/SVR” represent the improvements with LGN over the SVR method. The notation of other terms in the legend is to be understood in a similar manner. On average, LGN recorded a 15.45% smaller RMSE and a 5.58% larger CC than SVR. On average, LGN had performed with a 22.35% smaller RMSE and a 10.71% larger CC than LASSO. Also, LGN had performed with a 22.69% smaller RMSE and a 12.28% larger CC than RR. We notice a drop in RMSE performance for subjects # 15, 22, and 23. This is again attributed to a limitation of designing subject adaptive DNN learning models with sufficiently elaborate neural architecture search and hyperparameter tuning. The reason for this is that the deep NN is not able to generalize effectively for certain subjects, which is either due to a mismatch between the number of parameters in the NN model and the volume of EEG trials collected for training for each subject. This will be dealt with separately in future work. For example, readers are referred to the paper on EEGNET [56], where authors also encountered this issue which they tried to deal with using separable and depthwise convolutions.

% CC performance is improved for LGN over all the baseline models (HJB, BP, SVR, RR, and LASSO). This is due to the effective SSO-FIPLV feature correlation with actual RT values. The proposed LGN method in certain situations although does not predict RT values accurately, its trajectory over accumulated time overlaps with actual RT values (referred to as ‘matching trends’). This saturation at times leads to poor RMSE. Performance across subjects # 2, 7, 9, and 15 needs to be interpreted further while amassing more EEG sessions from these subjects, so that the deep network can be fine-tuned adequately for deducing better conclusions. Furthermore, an intersubject Statistical analysis is conducted to verify various hypotheses on RMSE and CC’s. A two-way ANOVA is demonstrated for various kinds of learning-based regression approaches to find out if the RMSE and CC digressions due to the differences in learning-based regressors are statistically significant when subjects are considered as a random factor. The results presented in Table IV(a) ( $p$ -value $<0.05$ ) shows that a statistically significant difference exists in RMSEs, and CCs for different learning-based regression models when subjects are considered as a random factor. In other words,

<sup>1</sup><https://cutt.ly/mmY0tgc>



performance metrics RMSE and CC depend on the selection of regression approach [ $p$ -value < 0.05, cf. Table IV(a)]. Then, *post-hoc* nonparametric multiple comparison tests (paired  $t$ -tests in this case) are applied to find out if the difference between pairs of regressors is statistically significant, with the  $p$ -value corrected employing the FDR method [52]. The  $p$ -values are shown in Table III(a), where most of the values are statistically significant. Effect sizes for  $p < 0.2$  are reported as partial eta squared, whose values can be benchmarked against Cohen's criteria [57] of small (0.01), medium (0.06), and large (0.14) effects, according to Richardson [58]. The  $p$ -values associated with effect sizes  $> 0.13$  are bolded.

In the last phase of this work, we integrate the whole pipeline for regression, i.e., SSO-FIPLV features with LGN method for DNN regression. On average, this pipeline recorded the smallest RMSE and largest CC of all the DNN regression pipelines [cf. Table III(b)]. For all the above experiments, a standard DNN architecture is used which has been validated in a previous work by us [28]. In addition, we present a performance comparison of various combination of features and regression blocks in the Section 7 of the supplementary material. We obtain best performance for the combination of SSO-FIPLV features with LGN method for DNN regression. Layerwise relevance propagation (LRP) [59] explains for each input pattern, its importance in the network output decision. LRP analysis has been done for the NN trained with the proposed method and reported in Section 6 of the supplementary material (Supplementary.pdf). Channelwise feature importance in terms of average relevance values calculated from NN feature representations are visualized in the form of Topoplots. The drowsiness prediction system in Lin *et al.* [50] can estimate the driver RT in RMSE error to be 0.076 s on an average. In other words, it means that the EEDD is around 2 m under the constant speed 100 km/h. The average RMSE error in this manuscript is 0.00685 s translating to an EEDD of 1.708 m. This is better than that of Lin *et al.* [50].

## V. CONCLUSION

In this work, we have explored the stability, convergence, and regression performance of the proposed LGN-based update law. Although, the proposed feature extraction method (SSO-FIPLV) is applied to EEG RT prediction task, the method is generalizable to various EEG Regression problems like depth decryption of cognitive processing [60], single-trial motor performance prediction [61], continuous estimation of movement path [62], etc. Based on the analysis of results, future work should include: the expansion of EEG trials to be collected for specific subject #'s (2, 7, 9, and 15) to be able to use deeper models for learning. Adaptation of the order of fuzzy time-delay approach across subjects is another important future work. In addition, the inclusion of regularization within the JAD framework for enhancing the scope of spatial filters generalization and second, transfer learning inclusion into the FTDCSSP framework to enhance generalization between subjects and within subjects across sessions are additional future

works. A major development to be addressed in future work is to incorporate parallelism and implement the LGN update law for both convolutional and recurrent networks. Also, in addition to alpha and theta power features, gamma power features will be explored for drowsiness detection in future work. In the current experimental paradigm, as per the current design of road conditions, the response time for emergency stops has not been considered. In addition, driving at night is generally affected by the light on the road. These two concerns are limitations of the current study and will be taken care of in future work.

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