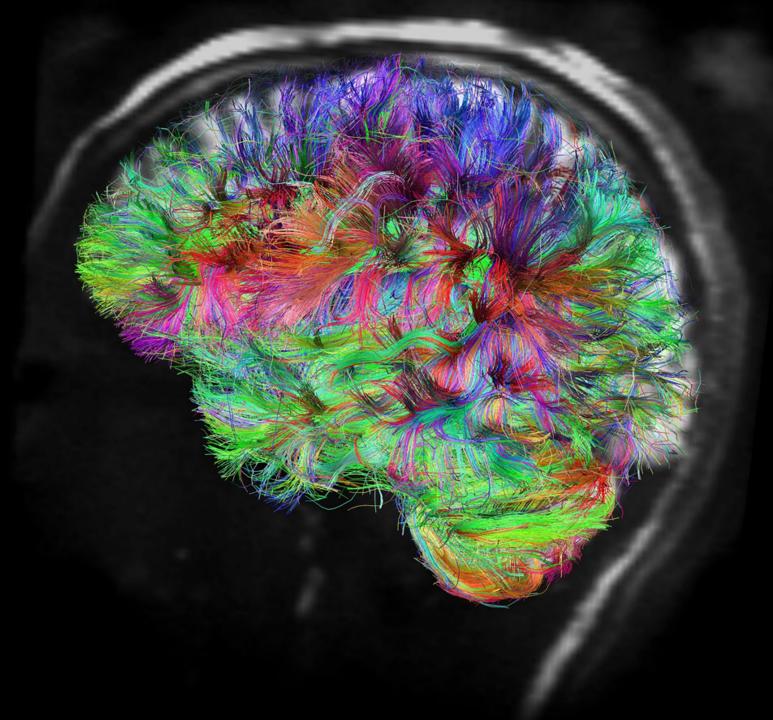


## **Comparative Analysis of Functional Connectivity Metrics in EEG Datasets**

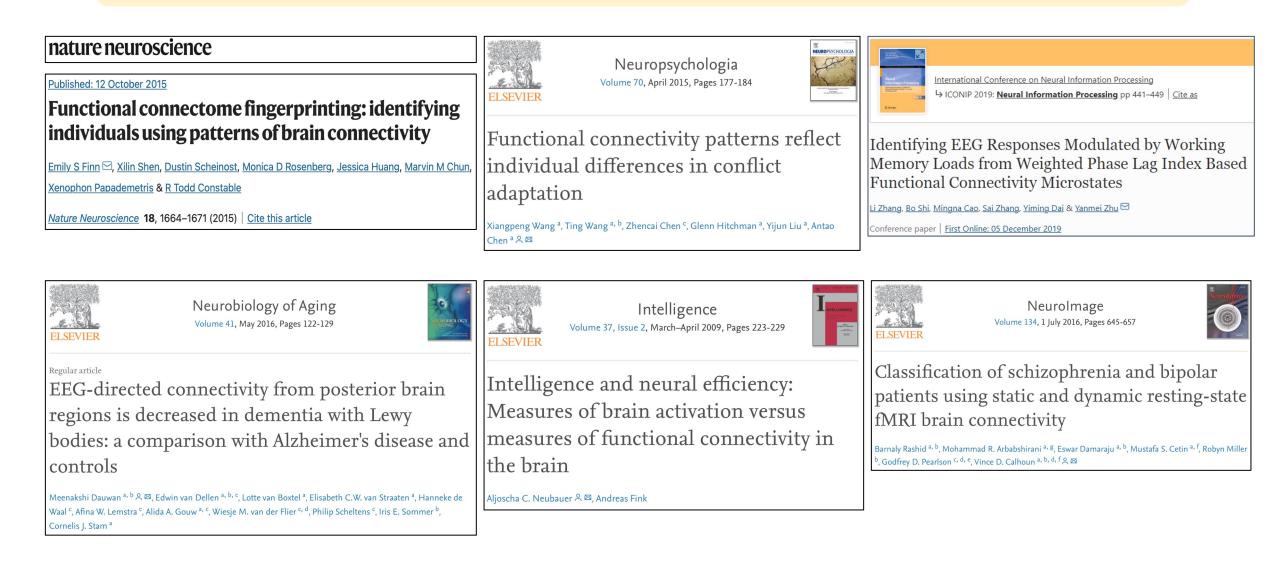
Assem Maratova, Pedro Lencastre, Anis Yazidi, Pedro G. Lind

Department of Computer Science Oslo Metropolitan University Oslo, Norway

### Introduction



#### **Results on Functional Brain Connectivity Research**

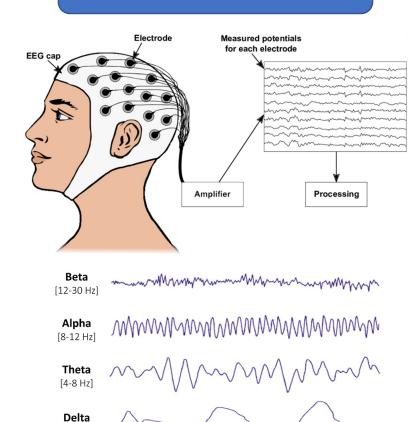


# Theory and background



#### **EEG Data and Functional Connectivity Networks**

#### EEG data



[1-4 Hz]

1 sec

Advantages and disadvantages

 well-spread and relatively cheap technology

- + high-frequency, millisecondlevel data
- not possible to identify the exact source of the signal
- very sensitive to external factors that may spoil the data

#### **Spurious connections**

There are several factors that can distort functional connectivity patterns:

- artifacts in EEG data from eye blinking or hand/leg movements
- improper placement of electrodes

#### **On the Analysis of Functional Connectivity Networks**

#### Statistical measures

#### Graph theory

#### Machine learning

**Purpose:** quantify linear or non-linear relationships between signals.

#### Time-domain measures

- Correlation
- Mutual information

#### Frequency domain measures

- Phase Lag Index
- Directed transfer function

**Purpose:** topological analysis of connectivity graphs.

#### Graph integrity measures

 Global efficiency of the network

#### Graph segregation measures

• The clustering coefficient of the network

**Purpose:** analysing connectivity pattens.

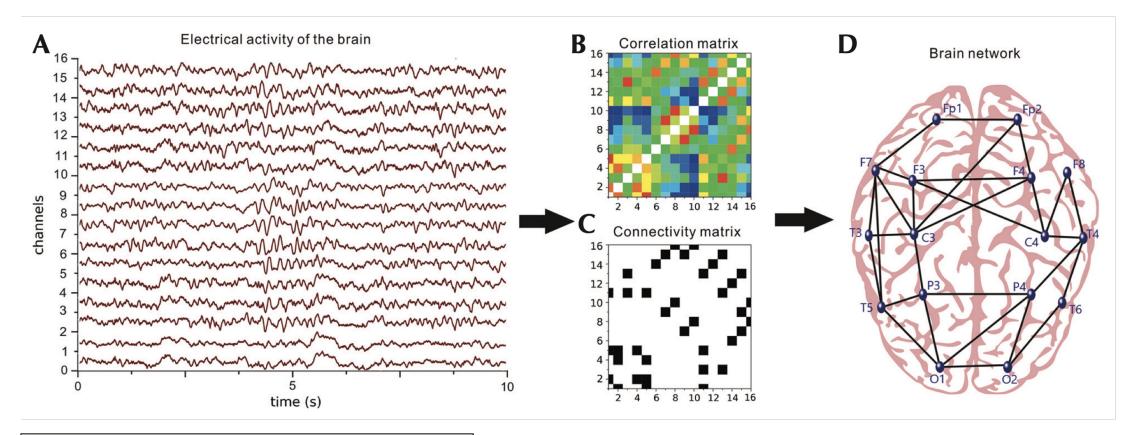
#### **Clustering analysis**

Hierarchical clustering

#### **Classification models**

- ML algorithms applied to embedded graph data
- Deep learning models
- Graph neural networks

#### **Extracting Functional Connectivity Networks from EEG Data – Illustration**



Review > Epileptic Disord. 2020 Oct 1;22(5):519-530. doi: 10.1684/epd.2020.1203.

The brain as a complex network: assessment of EEGbased functional connectivity patterns in patients with childhood absence epilepsy

Eva Paradiž Leitgeb<sup>1</sup>, Marko Šterk<sup>1</sup>, Timotej Petrijan<sup>2</sup>, Peter Gradišnik<sup>3</sup>, Marko Gosak<sup>4</sup>

#### **Related Research Topics and Areas**

Properties of functional connectivity networks

Analysing connectivity patterns in relation to different diseases.

Individual-level and grouplevel analyses. Diagnosis automation

Supporting medical doctors in diagnosing brain-related diseases.

Understanding disease development.

Predictive modelling and explainability

Developing methods and tools for extracting meaningful information and insights from functional connectivity patterns.

- Machine learning
- Deep learning

# Data and methodology



#### **Temple University Hospital – TUH EEG Epilepsy Corpus**

#### EEG data

#### Data preparation

#### Analysis goals

- Data were gathered from 100 epileptic patients and 100 healthy persons.
- Several EEG recordings per subject stored in .edf files.
- Total of 1648 .edf files, filenames contain metadata.
- 23 GB of data in the dataset.

- Choose one .edf file per subject, 200 files in total.
- Select 19 EEG channels present in all the .edf files.
- For modelling, split each recording into nonoverlapping 60-second intervals. Max. 10 intervals per subject.
- Account for memory constraints, model training time

- Find differences in functional connectivity patterns between the healthy and epileptic subjects.
- Confirm if the differences are statistically significant on the group level.
- Build deep learning models for classification between epileptic and healthy subjects.

#### **Analysis Stages and Methods**

Functional connectivity measures

- Correlation: linear relationship between EEG signal data
- Mutual information: nonlinear relationship between EEG signal data

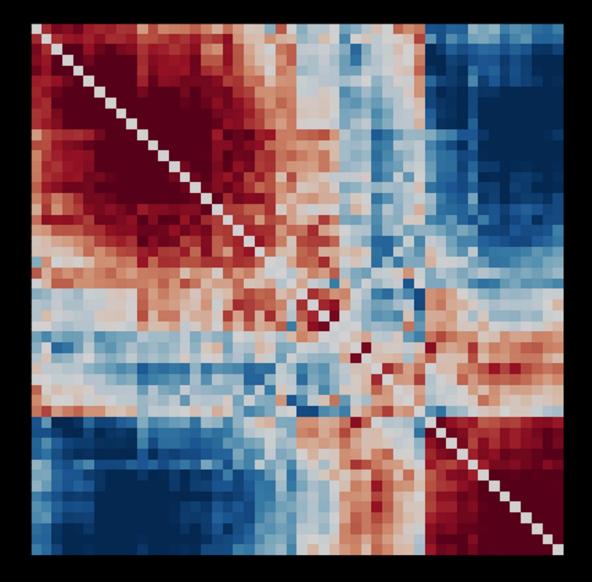
Individual-level analysis and experiments

- Heatmaps of functional connectivity matrices
- Proportional thresholding
- Hierarchical clustering and dendrograms
- Graph representation
- Maximum spanning tree

Group level analysis and experiments

- Student's t-test on node degrees of maximum spanning trees
- Convolutional neural network model for classification
- Graph neural network model for classification

## Experiments



#### **Correlation Matrix** FP1 FP2 NASION F7 Fp1 F3 FΖ F4 F7 F8 F8 EEG channels F3 F4 тз C3 CZ C4 (A1 A2 Т3 т4 Т5 Р3 ΡZ (P3) (P4) P4 Ρz (15) T6 Т6 01 02 02 01 P1 **EEG channels** INION epilepsy FP1-FP2 F7 F3 FZ F4 F8 -**EEG** channels T3 -C3 -CZ -C4 -T4 Т5 Р3

Time (s)

no epilepsy

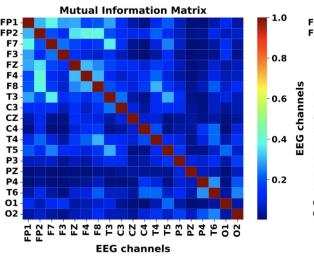
10

PZ

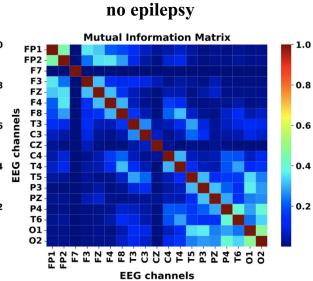
Time (s)

epilepsy

#### **Correlation Matrix** 1.0 FP1 FP2 F7 0.8 F3 FZ F4 0.6 F8 channels T3 C3 CZ 0.4 C4 EEG т4 Т5 - 0.2 **P3** PZ P4 T6 0.0 01 02 57 F7



epilepsy



no epilepsy

EEG channels

1.0

- 0.8

0.6

0.4

0.2

- 0.0

-0.2

-0.4

**Functional Connectivity Heatmaps** 

#### **Functional Connectivity Heatmaps**

-0.4

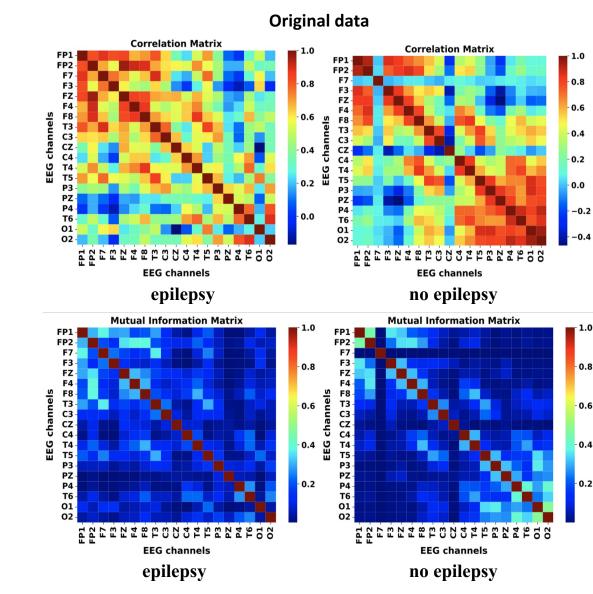
1.0

- 0.8

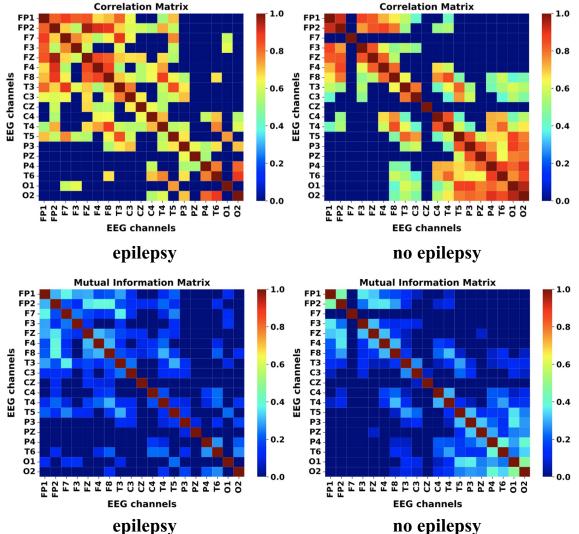
0.6

- 0.4

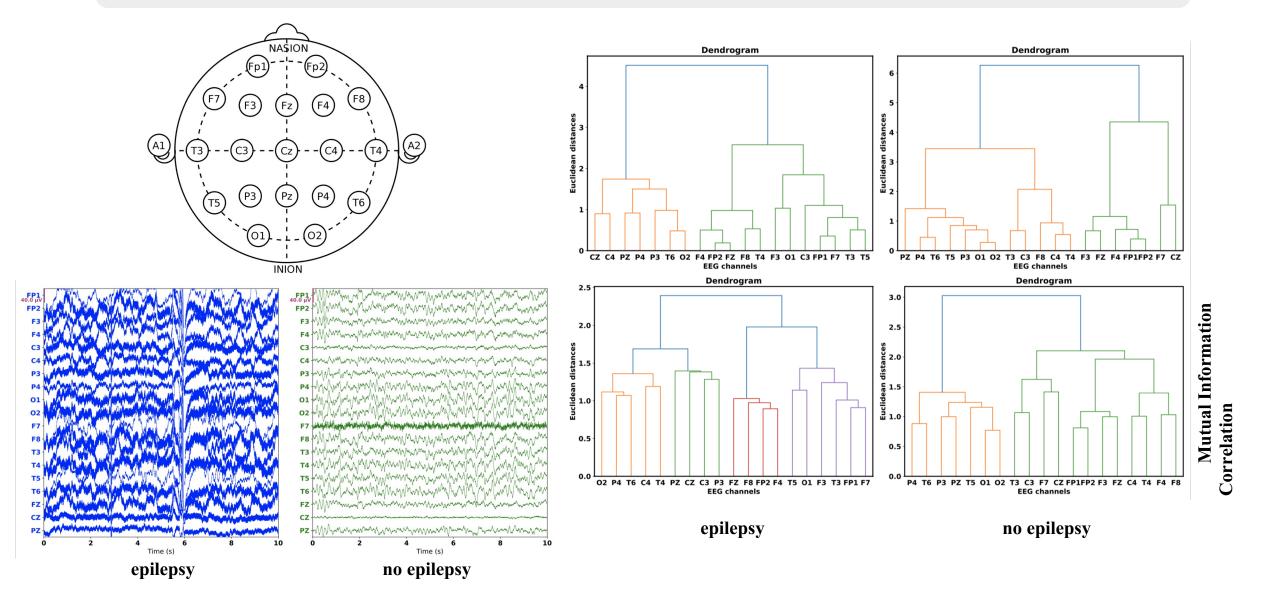
- 0.2



### After application of 50% proportional thresholding



#### **Hierarchical Clustering Analysis - Dendrograms**



#### **Proportional Thresholding – Selecting the Threshold Level**

Find a threshold that is enough to make a significant difference in global efficiencies between the functional connectivity graphs of the two groups.

Global efficiency	Epilepsy		No Epilepsy		T-test	
Global efficiency	mean	std	mean	std	T-score	p-value
Mutual Information	0.732	0.032	0.744	0.043	2.145	0.033
Correlation	0.721	0.066	0.74	0.069	1.91	0.057

T-test for global efficiency between the FC graphs proportionally thresholded at 50%.



NeuroImage Volume 118, September 2015, Pages 651-661

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The (in)stability of functional brain network measures across thresholds

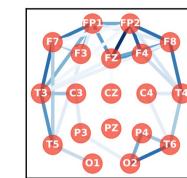
### Comparing Brain Networks of Different Size and Connectivity Density Using Graph Theory

Bernadette C. M. van Wijk M, Cornelis J. Stam, Andreas Daffertshofer

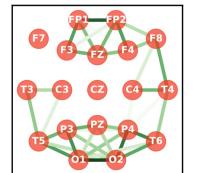
Published: October 28, 2010 • https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0013701

#### **Proportional Thresholding – Effect on Functional Connectivity Graphs**

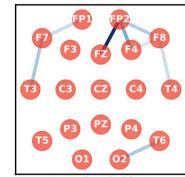
#### Correlation



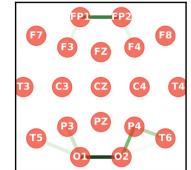
Prop. threshold=75



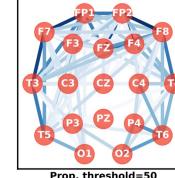
Prop. threshold=75

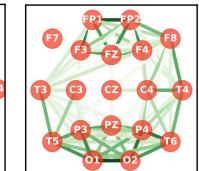


Prop. threshold=90



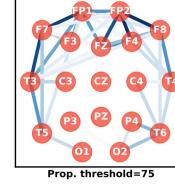
Prop. threshold=90

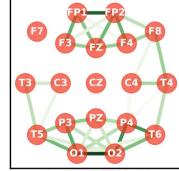


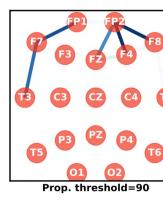


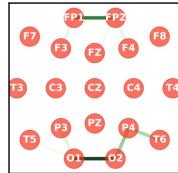
Prop. threshold=50

**Mutual Information** 

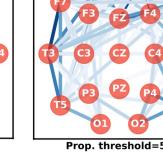








Prop. threshold=90



Prop. threshold=50

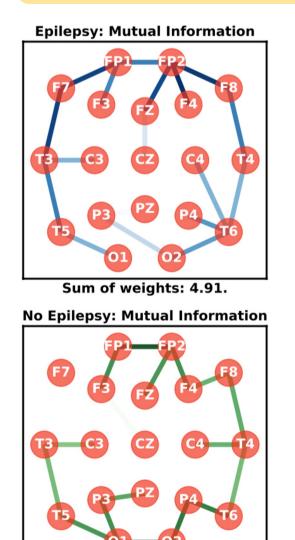
Prop. threshold=75

epilepsy

Prop. threshold=50

Prop. threshold=50

#### **Analysis of Maximum Spanning Trees**

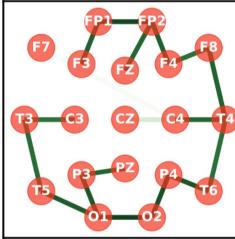


**Epilepsy:** Correlation

01 02

Sum of weights: 14.69.

No Epilepsy: Correlation



Sum of weights: 14.12.

T-test results (p-value < 0.1) comparing Epilepsy and No Epilepsy groups: differences in node degrees of the Maximum spanning trees.

#### Correlation

Freq. bands	EEG channels	t-statistic	p-value
All [1-40 Hz]	FP2	1.821	0.070
All [1-40 Hz]	O2	-1.695	0.092
Alpha [8-12 Hz]	FZ	2.212	0.028
Beta [12-30 Hz]	F7	-2.372	0.019
Beta [12-30 Hz]	P4	1.896	0.059
Delta [1-4 Hz]	F7	1.676	0.095
Delta [1-4 Hz]	F8	1.810	0.072
Delta [1-4 Hz]	O2	-2.122	0.035

#### **Mutual information**

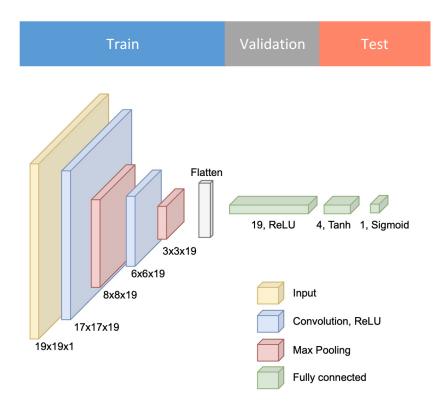
Freq. bands	EEG channels	t-statistic	p-value
All [1-40 Hz]	C4	1.661	0.098
Alpha [8-12 Hz]	T6	2.008	0.046
Beta [12-30 Hz]	P3	2.916	0.004
Beta [12-30 Hz]	P4	3.212	0.002
Delta [1-4 Hz]	F8	1.870	0.063
Theta [4-8 Hz]	CZ	1.922	0.056
Theta [4-8 Hz]	FP2	-1.689	0.093
Theta [4-8 Hz]	P4	2.022	0.045

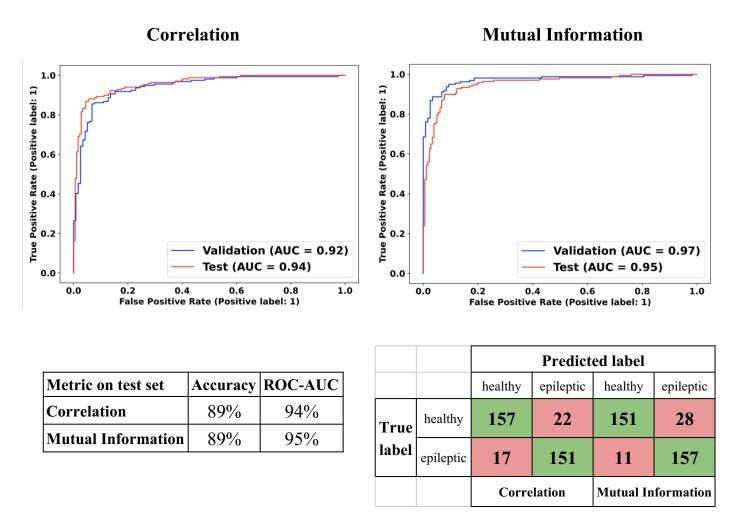
Sum of weights: 5.61.

#### **Convolutional Neural Network Model**

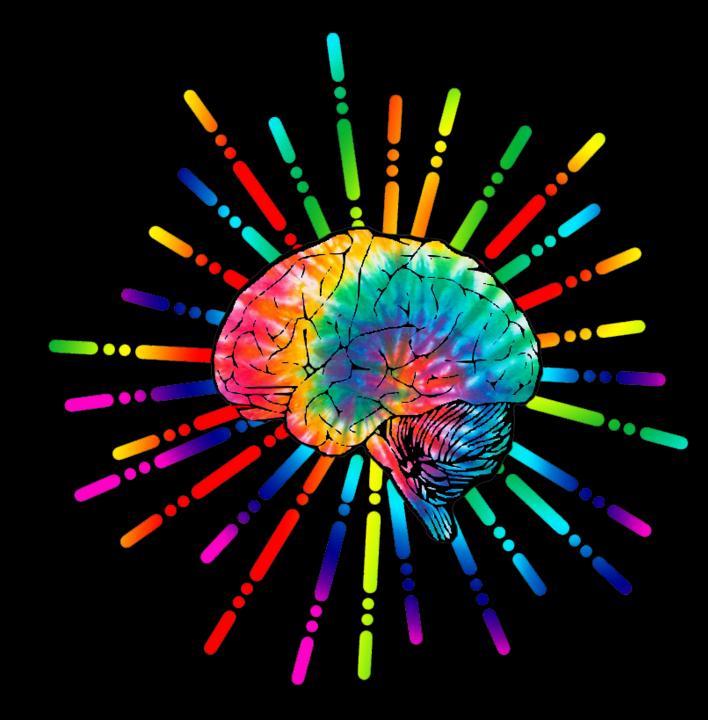
#### The data

- 100 epileptic and 100 healthy subjects
- 60-second intervals, 1738 samples
- Correlation or Mutual information FC matrices
- Binary target = 'epilepsy' or 'no epilepsy'





## Discussion and future work



#### **Results and Future Work**

Epileptic vs. healthy connectivity patterns

- Analyzing FC patterns can help to distinguish between epileptic and healthy persons.
- For healthy subject, clusters reflect geometric locations.
- Nodes in frontal and occipital brain regions are important to identify epilepsy.
- Analyzing FC networks across frequency bands is important.

Classification models based on functional graphs

- Functional connectivity matrices can be used in CNNbased models for classifying between epileptic and healthy subjects.
- Using non-overlapping windows of EEG signals helps to increase data volume for training neural network models.

Future work

- Analyse effective functional connectivity, e.g. Granger causality.
- Experiment with graph neural networks and extract graph representations.
- Work with model explainability methods.

## Thank you!

