



ECG signal analysis using CWT, spectrogram and autoregressive technique

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Abstract

The cardiovascular system is a combination of the heart, blood and blood vessels. Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) are a key factor behind casualties worldwide among both women and men. About 9.4 million deaths occur due to high Blood Pressure (BP) only, out of which 51% deaths are due to strokes and 45% deaths are due to coronary heart diseases. The Electrocardiogram (ECG) represents the heart health condition of the subject, (patient) since it is acquired through electrical conduction, which appears in terms of P-QRS-T waves. But analysis of these waves is very tedious due to the existence of different noises/artifacts. Computer Aided Diagnosis (CAD) system is required in practical medical scenario for better and automated ECG signal analysis and to compensate for human errors. In general, implementation of a CAD system for ECG signal analysis requires; preprocessing, feature extraction and classification. In the existing literature, some authors have used time domain techniques which yield good performance for cleaned ECG signals i.e., without noise/artifact. Some authors have used frequency domain techniques later, but they suffer from the problem of spectral leakage making them unsuitable for real time/pathological datasets. The existing techniques from both these domains are not able to effectively analyze non-linear behavior of ECG signals. These limitations have motivated this work where Continuous Wavelet Transform (CWT), Spectrogram and Autoregressive (AR) technique are used collectively for interpreting nonlinear and non-stationary features of the ECG signals. In this paper, both Massachusetts Institute of Technology-Beth Israel Hospital Arrhythmia database (MB Ar DB) and Real-time database (RT DB) have been used. Performance of the proposed method is compared with that of the previous studies on the basis of sensitivity (SE) and detection rate (D.R). The proposed technique yields SE of 99.90%, D.R of 99.81% & SE of 99.77%, D.R of 99.87% for MB Ar DB and RT DB, respectively. Therefore, the proposed technique showcases the possibility of an encouraging diagnostic tool for further improving the present situation of health informatics in cardiology labs/hospitals.

Keywords Cardiovascular · Electrocardiogram · Computer-aided diagnosis · Preprocessing · Feature extraction · Nonlinear behavior · Continuous wavelet transform · Spectrogram · Autoregressive technique

Abbreviations

CVD	Cardiovascular Disease	AR	Autoregressive
STFT	Short-time Fourier Transform	TFA	Time–Frequency Analysis
CWT	Continuous Wavelet Transform	EDM	Euclidean Distance Metric
MB Ar DB	Massachusetts Institute of Technology-Beth Israel Hospital Arrhythmia Database	PSD	Power Spectral Density
RT DB	Real-time Database	SE	Sensitivity
CAD	Computer Aided Diagnosis	DR	Detection Rate
ECG	Electrocardiogram	TP	True Positive
SGDF	Savitzky–Golay Digital Filtering	FP	False Positive
KNN	K-Nearest Neighbor	FN	False Negative
		WHO	World Health Organization
		SNR	Signal to Noise Ratio
		RMSE	Root Mean Square Error
		PRD	Percent Root Mean Square Difference
		ACC	Accuracy
		SPE	Specificity

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1 Introduction

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) has been marked as the principal root-cause of casualties of about 17 million people every year worldwide [1]. CVD mainly refers to the diseases related to the heart [2]. The heart is a cone-shaped organ which requires constant supply of oxygen and nutrients [3–5]. It is responsible for supplying the blood to different organs of the body and it contracts at regular interval [6]. Any obstruction in the supply of blood leads to heart attacks (or heart diseases), which causes a lot of casualties every year [7, 8]. But unfortunately, the analysis of CVD is not a simple task as it involves a lot of complexities such as hypertensive, pulmonary, valvular, inflammatory cardiomyopathy, etc. [9–11]. An efficient electrocardiogram (ECG) signal can provide correct assessment of them [12–14]. This signal is generated due to active tissues of the heart, which generates electrical currents. The ECG signal is not random in nature and is even scheduled according to time period, shape, and heart rate [15]. It is an earliest and cheapest non-invasive diagnostic tool in the medical field for detecting CVDs based on examination of its P-QRS-T waves [16–19]. These waves arise due to chemical, electrical and mechanical processes within the heart [20, 21]. Any continuous alterations in these waves indicate possible cardiac arrhythmia [22–24] and require a different kind of clinical diagnostic observation [25–30]. Early detection of such alterations is utmost essential to figure out patient's health condition timely and to reduce overall mortality rate [31]. Heart rate variability (HRV) in another factor that plays an important role in accessing the correct status of the cardiac health as a preliminary diagnosis method [14, 24, 32–37].

The early-stage detection of cardiac arrhythmia is of prime importance [1]. But during the acquisition of ECG data, different types of noise gets involved, which hide its important characteristics that mislead its analysis and introduces the non-linearity [38, 39]. Analysis of this nonlinear signal requires automated analysis as provided by computer-aided diagnosis (CAD). This, in turn, requires efficient techniques to handle the current incidences of CVDs occurring worldwide [40–42]. Also, presently the concept of personal ECG monitoring is coming up among patients of distinct age groups worldwide [43]. Therefore, there is a need of developing a framework involving efficient techniques from all domains viz. preprocessing, feature extraction, and classification in the domain of biomedical signal processing [44, 45]. In the existing literature, some authors have used time domain techniques which show good performance for cleaned ECG signals, i.e. without noise/artifacts. Later, frequency domain techniques were reported by some authors that

have limited application due to spectral leakage. But all these techniques from both these domains were not able to effectively analyze nonlinear behavior of the ECG signals [46, 47]. For instance, in [48], Christov, I.I. et al. and in [49], Hamilton, P.S. & Tompkin, W.J. proposed heuristic methods for classifying an ECG signal, but the outcome was found to be highly dependent on proper selection of the band pass filter (3 dB frequencies). In [30], Kumar, M. et al. proposed a decision support system for atrial fibrillation using a flexible analytic wavelet transform. They have tested performance of the proposed technique on the basis of ACC, SEN, and SPE with random forest classifier. In [50], Rao, K.D. proposed R-peaks detection based on discrete wavelet transforms (DWT). In that research, R–R interval and data compression steps for ECG signals were presented along with R-peaks detection. The main obstacle in the application of DWT is its frequency resolution which is reduced during resampling [51]. Traditionally, DWT-based computationally efficient techniques have been reported in the literature for inverting system transfer function model, computing piecewise constant system response to arbitrary excitations and fractional system analysis [52–54]. In [45], Asadur Rahman, Md. proposed preprocessing techniques of ECG signal using a simple statistical approach. In that article, MATLAB was used to develop the set-up for this kind of preprocessing. In [55], Hanumantha Rao, G. and Rekha, S. presented a transistor-capacitor filter for bio-medical signals' applications. They have proposed low-voltage, low-power transistor device with 5.85 nS and 0.8 V, respectively. Validation of this research work was done using a second-order Butterworth low-pass filter having a cutoff frequency of 100 Hz. In [56], Kora, P. proposed detection of myocardial infarction using Hybrid Firefly and Particle Swarm Optimization (FFPSO) that were used to optimize the raw ECG signal. But the main drawback of PSO is low convergence rate [57]. In [58], Pachori, R.B. et al. proposed a classification-based technique for analyzing datasets of diabetic and normal subjects based on RR-interval. In that research article, empirical mode decomposition (EMD), least square-support vector machine (LS-SVM) classifier, Radial Basis Function (RBF), Morlet wavelet, and Mexican hat wavelet kernel have been utilized. In [59], Jain S. et al. adaptive filters were used for QRS complex detection, but an appropriate reference signal was needed for its operation. In [9, 47, 60], Gupta, V. et al. proposed chaos theory as a feature extraction tool for ECG signal and used both real-time and standard datasets for demonstrations. The main limitations of this approach are: requirement of proper selection of time delay dimension (embedding), correlation dimension, Lyapunov exponent and entropy that is still a challenge. In [61], Hema Jothi, S. and Helen Prabha, K. proposed analysis of fetal ECG on the basis of

adaptive neuro-fuzzy inference systems and undecimated wavelet transform. Comparison on the basis of MSE was carried out between the reported technique and standard discrete wavelet transform technique for evaluating the performance in that article. In [62], automated identification of normal and diabetic heart rate signals was proposed using approximate entropy, but it required knowledge of the previous amplitude values. In [63], Das, M.K. and Ari, S. proposed a denoising technique based on Stockwell transform. Validation of the reported technique was done using various normal and abnormal files of MB Ar DB. They added white Gaussian noise to the selected records of MB Ar DB to investigate the effectiveness of their technique. Various performance parameters viz. SNR, RMSE and PRD were estimated for comparison.

In the existing literature, most of the techniques are not suitable to handle high-frequency components efficiently. These techniques tend to trim the amplitudes of the QRS peaks increasing the false detection and duplicity in the detection process of its peaks [64]. This problem motivated the present authors to explore the use of efficient techniques that can provide better frequency information and results in more efficient and accurate detection of R-peaks by effectively filtering-out the high-frequency noise components.

In this paper, spectrogram (obtained using short-time Fourier transform) has been used, because it helps in effective measurement of time, frequency and power intensity information simultaneously through time–frequency analysis. Also, continuous wavelet transform (CWT) has been used for enhancing both time and frequency resolutions as

compared to that provided by the spectrogram [65]. The benefit of using a spectrogram is due to the fact that Fourier transform has been known to be a good candidate for analyzing stationary signals.

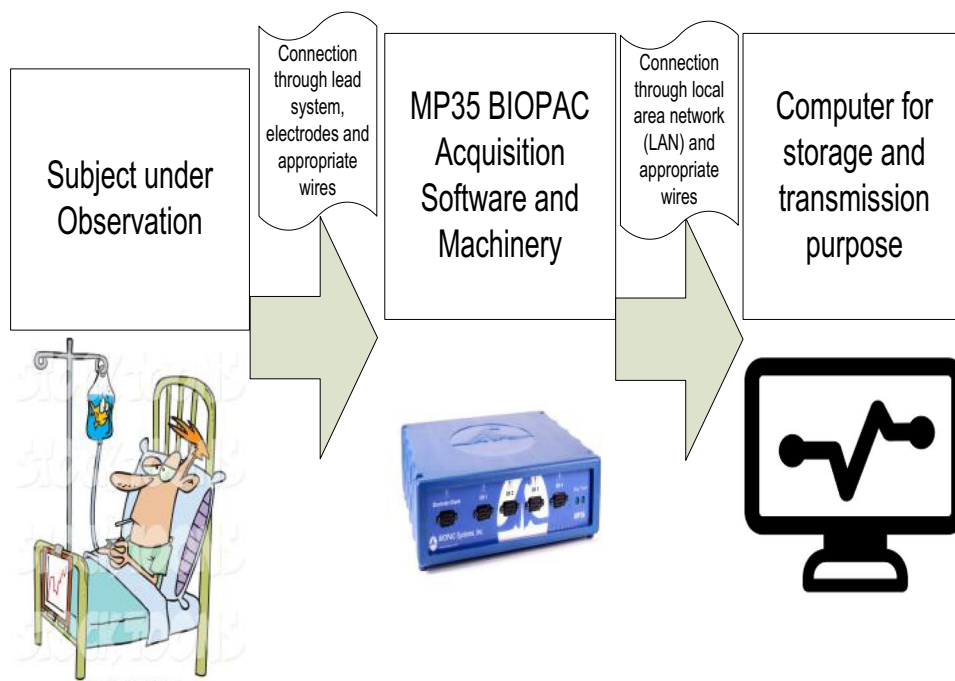
Wavelet transform represents a nonlinear signal by translations and dilations of a window. It is of two types; CWT and discrete wavelet transform (DWT). DWT is not a good candidate for the present application due to reduction in the frequency resolution during resampling at each decomposition level. CWT, on the other hand, provides a good and consistent frequency resolution. Also, sufficient and dominant scale can be estimated for each component of the ECG signal in each dataset using it. It further helps in estimating each component separately from the selected ECG dataset [66]. Furthermore, the proposed use of AR technique further supplements the limitations of spectrogram, CWT and provides enhanced time and frequency resolution simultaneously. The proposed technique helps in getting more clear frequency information that is important for filtering-out the high-frequency noise components.

The paper is structured as; Sect. 2 describes materials and methods, Sect. 3 presents and analyzes the simulated results in detail, followed by conclusions at the end.

2 Materials and methods

The methodology proposed in this paper is shown in Figs. 1, 2.

Fig. 1 Recorded and storage/transmission set-up of ECG signal [67–69]



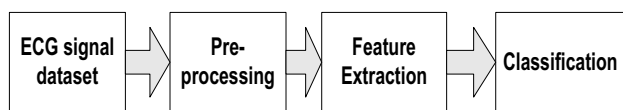


Fig. 2 Generalized methodology for ECG signal analysis

2.1 ECG dataset (recording)

MIT-BIH Arrhythmia and Real-time databases have been used for validating the proposed methodology.

2.1.1 MIT-BIH arrhythmia database

Massachusetts Institute of Technology-Beth Israel Hospital Arrhythmia database (MB Ar DB) [70, 71] has been considered in this study. It has 48 recordings sampled at 360 Hz, with durations of 30–60 min using 2 lead arrangements. In this paper, all 48 datasets of MB Ar DB were downloaded from physioNet database and directly used for this study.

In this paper, 12 real-time recordings (RT DB) were also used to establish the performance of the proposed methodology in a practical scenario. The use of two databases in this paper is in line with other studies in the existing literature that made use of variety of databases for validating their work [39, 72–75].

2.1.2 Real-time ECG database

In this paper, 27 real-time recordings (RT DB) were also acquired at a sampling rate of 360 Hz, with duration of 10–30 min using two lead arrangements under the supervision of a well skilled lab technician. This data acquisition was obtained after permission letter from research ethics committee of NIT, Jalandhar, India along with willingness from each volunteering subject before ECG acquisition. In this data acquisition arrangement, 27 subjects participated who were aged between 23 and 72 years including research scholars, retired professors, and college students. Unfortunately, only 12 ECG recordings were appropriate for analysis purpose. These ECG datasets were stored directly in a personal computer using Biopac@MP35/36 equipments.

Figure 1 shows the set-up for recording along with a recorded real time ECG signal. The acquired data remains stored in a computer that may be used for data interpretation in future.

2.2 Preprocessing

The existence of different types of noises/artifacts during ECG signal acquisition makes the analysis of ECG signal more complex and difficult [76, 77]. Cardiologists/physicians/doctors use to face distinct problems in accessing

the clinical datasets of the patients having CVDs in such situations [63, 78, 79]. These noises/artifacts may be due to motion, respiration, poor conditions of electrodes, base line wander (BLW), muscle noise, and power line interference (PLI) [63, 80–82]. In this paper, Savitzky–Golay digital filtering (SGDF) has been used for preprocessing of MIT-BIH Arrhythmia datasets as described in [83, 84]. It is a digital filter which is used for smoothing the raw ECG signal [60] that preserves all important clinical attributes after filtering [85].

SGDF is characterized by matrix $[g]$ which has $D + 1$ rows and $2N + 1$ columns. Mathematically, it is represented as

$$[g]_{dn} = \sum_{k=0}^D [[W]^{-1}]_{dk} t_n^k \quad (1)$$

$$\alpha = [g]x, \quad (2)$$

where α , x , n , W , k denotes filtering coefficients, input signal, columns' index number ($2N + 1$), weighting matrix, rows' index number ($D + 1$), respectively.

2.3 Feature extraction

Various methods used for feature extraction in this paper are presented in next subsections.

2.3.1 Continuous wavelet transform (CWT)

CWT helps in analysis of non-stationary signals at multiple scales by considering an analysis window to extract signal segments [86]. Mathematically, the CWT [16] of a signal $y(t)$ using a family of wavelet functions, $\Psi_{\alpha,\beta}(t)$ is given by:

$$CWT(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y(t) \cdot \Psi^* \left(\frac{t - \beta}{\alpha} \right) dt, \quad (3)$$

where β is translation factor, α is scale factor, $*$ denotes complex conjugate, and finally Ψ^* is a translated and scaled complex conjugated mother wavelet function.

2.3.2 Autoregressive (AR) technique

Among existing time–frequency analysis (TFA) techniques, auto-regressive (AR) technique offers good time–frequency resolution [87]. It estimates the order of the model of the considered ECG dataset to provide better results [88]. The order of this model is important as it indicates its number of poles [89]. AR analysis provides both power spectrum density (PSD) description and TFA [90]. For a signal $y[k]$,

if m is the model order, $\delta[k]$ is the zero-mean white noise, then the AR process is written as [90]

$$y[k] = \sum_{j=1}^m \alpha_j y[k - m] + \delta[k], \quad (4)$$

where α_j are the j th coefficients of AR process, and m denotes time delay index.

The power spectrum is given by [90]

$$P_y(Z) = \sigma_\delta^2 \left| \frac{1}{1 - \sum_{j=1}^m Z^{-1} \alpha_j} \right|^2. \quad (5)$$

2.3.3 Spectrogram technique

A spectrogram provides time varying spectral density description of the ECG signal. It shows signal in time–frequency domain. Mathematically, it is given by squared magnitude of the short time Fourier transform (STFT) of the signal as in [91]

$$\text{Spectrogram}(t, w) = |\text{STFT}(t, w)|^2, \quad (6)$$

where t denotes time (in sec) and w denotes frequency (in rad/sec).

STFT estimates sinusoidal frequency and phase content of the local segments of a signal as it changes over time. It converts long length signal into small segments and computes Fourier transform of each [92]. Therefore, spectrogram represents time–frequency-intensity spectrum for a short time duration [93, 94].

2.3.4 Classification

After successful completion of preprocessing using SGDF and feature extraction using CWT, spectrogram, AR modeling techniques, the main task that remains is related to their classification, which is a crucial step to detect exact R-peaks in the ECG signal. K-Nearest Neighbor (KNN) classifier is selected here for classification as it yields sufficiently accurate classification results. It works on the assumption that similar things tend to lie near to each other, which can be implemented easily using some functional space equations. Some authors ignored KNN classifier due to its laziness in the past. But in CAD-based system, it is the accuracy that matters for saving the life of a subject (patient) at the time of emergency. And, the system does not require to rely on building a model with KNN and thus is able to yield more versatile responses [10]. This is the reason of emergence of CAD in the field of health informatics.

In KNN, generally Euclidean distance metric (EDM) is preferred [95], because it does not require assigning weights for various features. EDM is measured between the test sample and training sample as

$$\text{EDM} = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^m (P_j - Q_j)^2}, \quad (7)$$

where P and Q denote test and training sample, respectively, in class L . The next test sample is measured on the basis of K-Nearest training samples. Most of the time, getting the odd values of K is the prime objective [96]. An appropriate value of K gives low test error rates, but it may enhance the number of iterations. Therefore, the strategy is to use same dataset for both testing and training purposes. K-fold cross validation is also applied for validation of the dataset as in [97]. Figure 3 indicates the steps involved in the KNN classification algorithm.

2.3.5 Classification parameters

For evaluating the performance of the proposed methodology, two important parameters viz. sensitivity (SE) and

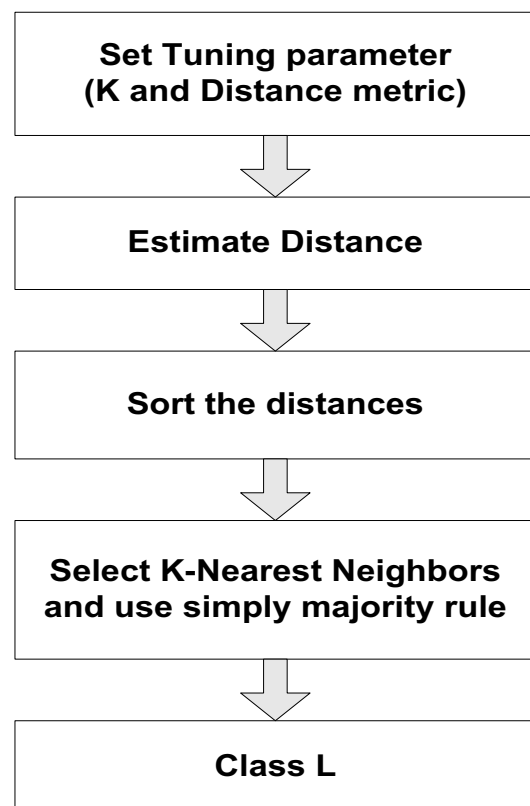


Fig. 3 Steps involved in the KNN classification algorithm [10]

Table 1 Pros and cons of proposed and existing research work

Ref	Method	Pros	Cons
Prop	Autoregressive (AR) with K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) classifier	(i) Multiresolution capability (ii) Low false detection rate (iii) High accuracy	Correct model order is important which varies according to the application
[64]	Wavelet based methods	(i) Ability to characterize time–frequency domain information of a time domain signal (ii) multiresolution properties	Unable to detect low amplitude QRS complexes
[56]	PSO based methods	It can be used for high dimensional optimization problems	(i) low convergence rate in the iterative process (ii) relies on the selection of the coordinate system
[63]	Stockwell transform	(i) Width of window varies with frequency (ii) Provides a frequency invariant amplitude (iii) Frequency information is easily accessed	(i) Redundant representation of the time–frequency space (ii) Higher cost in multidimensional applications
[61]	Adaptive Neuro-fuzzy Inference System	It represents numerical and linguistic knowledge	(i) Curse of dimensionality (ii) Computational expense
[1]	Flexible Analytic Wavelet Transform	(i) Involvement of less number of features for higher accuracy (ii) Robust outcomes for higher cross validation	(i) Small dataset (ii) Selection of Kernel and its parameters (iii) Higher computational complexity
[104, 105]	Support Vector Machine	Effective in high dimensional spaces	(i) Not suitable for noisy data (ii) Needs clear margin of separation between classes
[106]	Optimally designed digital differentiator	In the optimally designed digital differentiator startup transients have finite duration. It may be realized efficiently in hardware.	(i) Relies on type of the digital differentiator which generally demands higher order (ii) Requires proper minimization of error function on the basis of performance index
[25]	Conjugate Symmetric–Complex Hadamard Transform	(i) Shift invariant in nature (ii) Simple transformation	Relies on both amplitude and phase response
[100]	Data Mining Methods	Cost effective	(i) Security (ii) Privacy issues (iii) Misuse of information
[59]	Adaptive filters	It is applied where signal attributes are drastically varying	Proper reference signal is required
[23, 107]	Neural Networks	(i) It can use in any allocation where inadequate information is given (ii) It has distributed memory (iii) It has the ability to train machine	(i) It require much more data (ii) It has high computational cost
[108]	modified visual geometry group network	Speed of response is fast which contains the knowledge of each layer along with pre-trained set of weights	(i) Operation relies on convolution layers, max. pooling layers, and fully connected layers (ii) The size of network is big which contains around 160 M parameters
[109]	Hilbert transform	(i) It can easily calculate the instantaneous magnitude of the acquired ECG dataset (ii) Using Hilbert transform, minimum phase response can be estimated easily	In Hilbert transform sometimes phase slip is shown due to obstruction between numerous overlapping signals
[110]	Rule-Based Rough Set method	(i) It doesn't demand any type of model (ii) It has the flexibility to handle real time datasets	The operation of this approach depends on logical mathematics to extract dominant characteristics

Table 1 (continued)

Ref	Method	Pros	Cons
[111]	MaMeMi filter	It has minimal computational cost	The operation of MaMeMi filter relies on correct selection of frequencies in the acquired signal
[21]	Dual Tree Complex Wavelet Transform	It can overcome the general problems i.e. shift variance and lack of directionality	Requires higher dimensions with discrete wavelet transform (DWT)

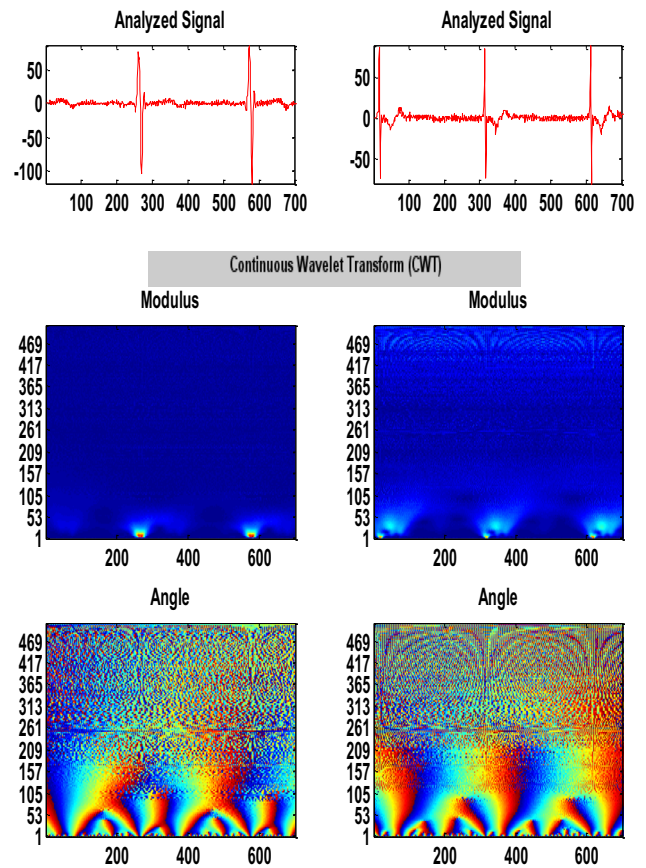


Fig. 4 CWT analysis of MIT-BIH Arrhythmia database(record no. 103 m)

detection rate (D.R) are considered in this paper. The definitions of SE and DR are illustrated below [98] as;

Sensitivity (SE) – It is the ratio of true positive (TP) to the all actual positives (TP + FN). It estimates the proportion of actual positives (TP/TP + FN) which are accurately detected.

Detection Rate (D.R)—It is the ratio of total number of true positive (TP) to the total actual peaks.

Mathematically, these classification parameters are defined as [66, 79, 81, 99–103]

$$\text{Sensitivity (SE)} = \frac{\text{TP}}{\text{TP} + \text{FN}} \tag{8}$$

$$\text{Detection Rate} = \frac{\text{Total True Positive (TP)}}{\text{Total Actual Peaks}}, \tag{9}$$

(9). where TP denotes true positives, FP denotes false positives, and FN denotes false negatives, which are illustrated below as;

True positives (TP): They are defined as positively detected events when system possess such events actually.

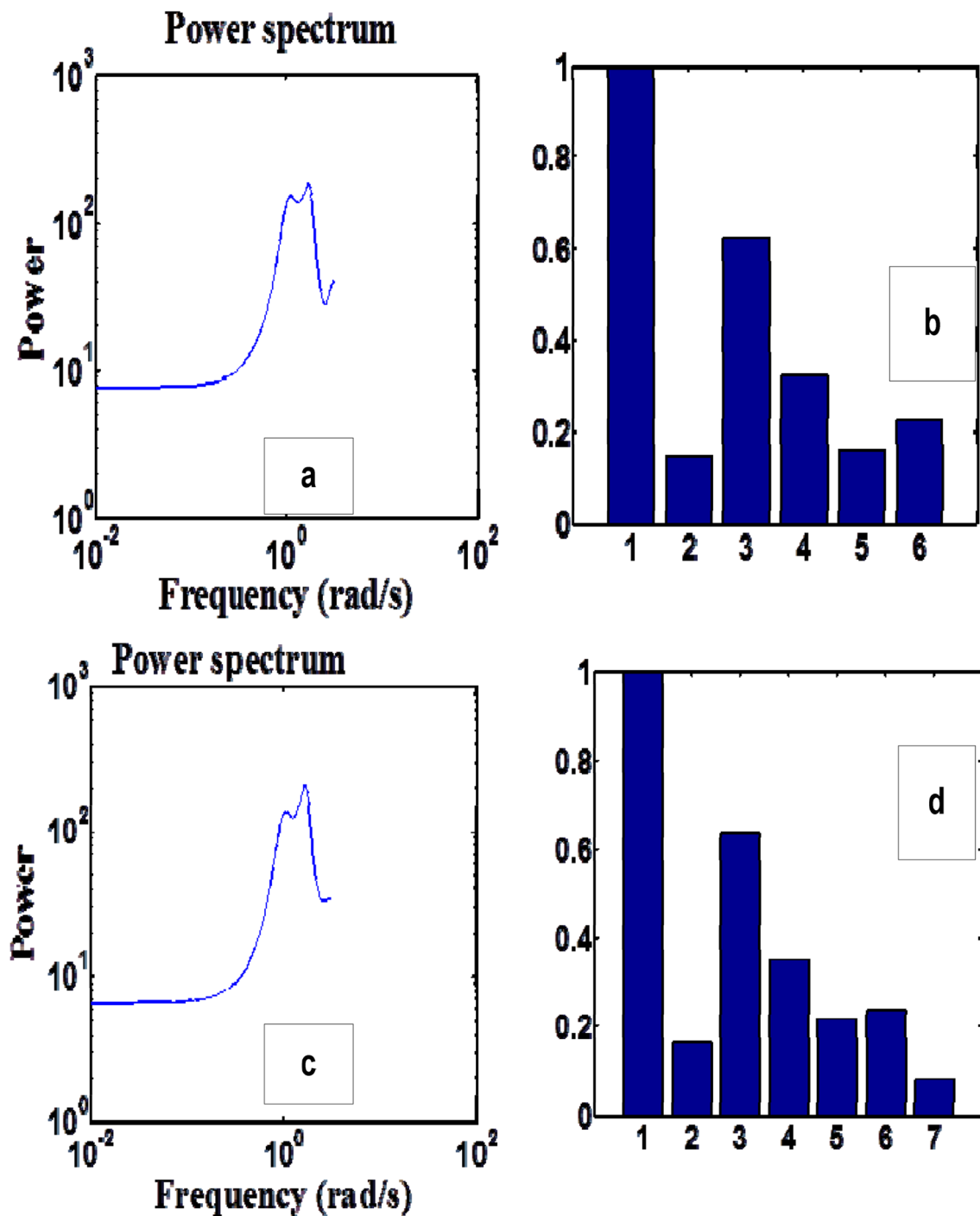
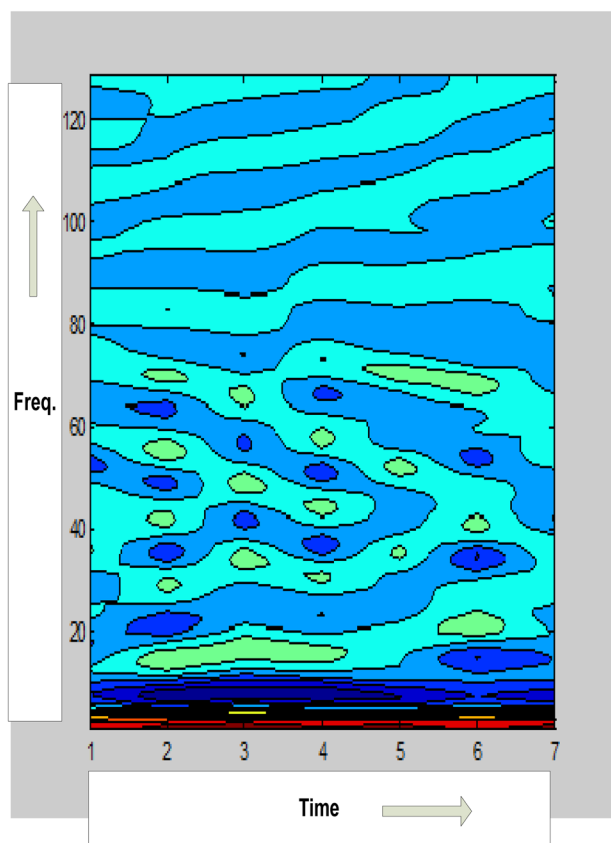


Fig. 5 AR Coefficients calculation and power spectrum for the MIT-BIH Arrhythmia database(record no.103 m) at model order- (a) 5, (b) corresponding coefficients, (c) 6, (d) corresponding coefficients

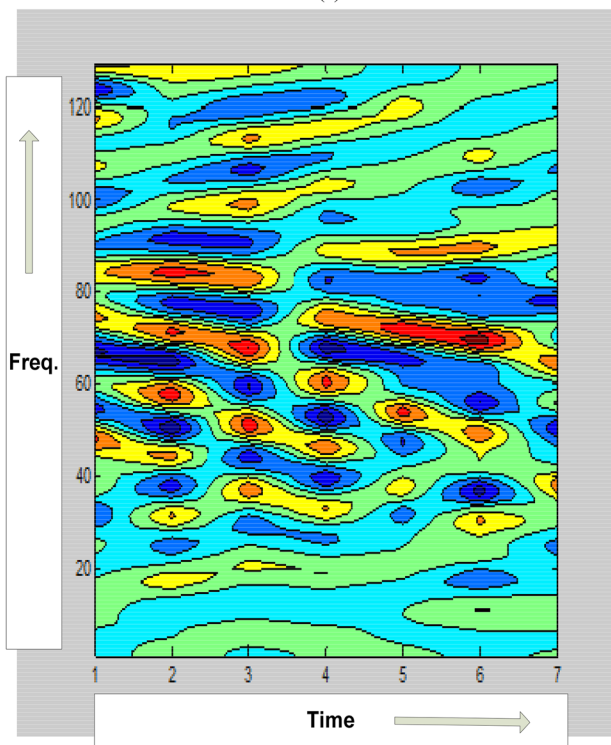
For example, if any patient is diagnosed with a disease from which he is actually suffering, then it is called TP.

False positives (FP): They are also known as Type-I error. They are defined as wrongly detected events. For example, if any patient is diagnosed with a disease from which he is not suffering, then it is called FP.

False negatives (FN): They are also known as Type-II error. They are defined as wrongly missed events. For example, if any patient is not diagnosed with a disease from which he is actually suffering then it is called FN. In the existing literature, various techniques have been used as summarized in Table 1 along with their pros and cons.



(a)



(b)

Fig. 6 Contour Plot of MIT-BIH Arrhythmia database (103 m) using Spectrogram technique; (a) Without baseline wander removal and filtered, (b) After removal of baseline wander and filtered

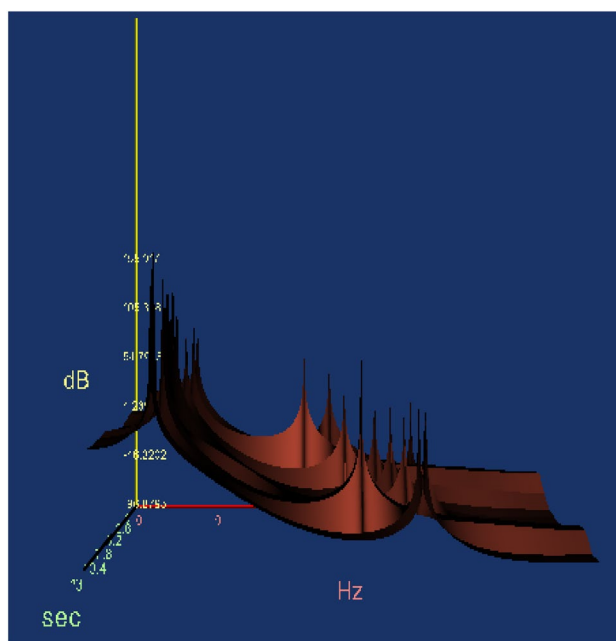


Fig. 7 Detected R-peak in 103 m database at model order 6 using AR Technique

Table 2 Performance evaluation of the proposed technique for real-time database

Database	Actual R-peak	Detected R-peak	TP	FN	FP
Real_1	2270	2270	2266	3	2
Real_2	2233	2233	2222	7	5
Real_3	2589	2583	2584	7	5
Real_4	2413	2412	2412	11	5
Real_5	1541	1541	1539	3	2
Real_6	2276	2276	2276	1	0
Real_7	1981	1980	1981	5	3
Real_8	1871	1881	1874	5	2
Real_9	2477	2475	2477	7	6
Real_10	1532	1523	1528	2	0
Real_11	1632	1623	1631	1	1
Real_12	2611	2609	2604	6	4
12 Rec	25,426	25,406	25,394	58	35

Bold values shows obtained parameters using proposed technique in this paper

3 Results and analysis

Any deviations in a signal makes the recognition of the existing patterns a difficult task. The spectrogram can represent these deviations effectively only if the signal has high SNR. Otherwise, both time domain and spectrogram approach fail and phase analysis using CWT works better [94] instead as shown in Fig. 4. It shows two peaks in the left figure

Table 3 Performance evaluation of the proposed technique for MB Ar database

Files	Actual R-peak	Detected R-peak	TP	FN	FP
MB-100	2270	2270	2263	5	2
MB-101	1867	1862	1855	5	2
MB-102	2187	2181	2174	11	3
MB-103	2081	2081	2081	2	3
MB-104	2233	2233	2225	7	5
MB-105	2589	2583	2584	5	5
MB-106	2038	2037	2032	11	7
MB-107	2144	2144	2143	7	7
MB-108	1773	1772	1771	4	3
MB-109	2535	2532	2523	9	7
MB-111	2126	2121	2122	2	2
MB-112	2539	2537	2538	1	1
MB-113	1797	1794	1795	1	1
MB-114	1885	1882	1883	1	1
MB-115	1957	1954	1954	2	1
MB-116	2413	2401	2400	3	7
MB-117	1541	1539	1539	1	1
MB-118	2276	2266	2267	2	1
MB-119	1981	1977	1977	3	1
MB-121	1871	1867	1868	2	1
MB-122	2477	2476	2476	1	1
MB-123	1532	1530	1530	1	1
MB-124	1632	1631	1631	0	1
MB-200	2611	2609	2608	1	1
MB-201	1972	1971	1971	1	0
MB-202	2137	2136	2136	1	0
MB-203	2888	2885	2885	1	1
MB-205	2651	2651	2650	1	0
MB-207	2331	2330	2330	0	0
MB-208	2955	2953	2954	1	0
MB-209	3012	3010	3009	1	1
MB-210	2652	2651	2651	1	0
MB-212	2753	2751	2751	1	1
MB-213	3258	3256	3256	1	1
MB-214	2271	2269	2269	1	1
MB-215	3377	3376	3376	1	0
MB-217	2213	2213	2213	0	0
MB-219	2159	2158	2158	0	1
MB-220	2067	2066	2066	0	1
MB-221	2426	2424	2424	1	1
MB-222	2483	2481	2481	0	2
MB-223	2604	2603	2603	1	0
MB-228	2052	2001	2001	1	1
MB-230	2255	2254	2254	1	1
MB-231	1569	1568	1568	1	0
MB-232	1777	1771	1771	3	3
MB-233	3078	3075	3075	1	1
MB-234	2748	2743	2742	2	2
All	1,10,043	1,09,875	1,09,833	109	83

Bold values shows obtained parameters using proposed technique in this paper

and three peaks in the right figure of 103 m dataset. The modulus (magnitude response) of CWT clearly reveals all the actual peaks and the angle (phase response) reveals its characteristics.

AR technique strengthens the CAD system by measuring the amount of peak power that is associated with each of the constituent frequency components. It is also known as power spectrum. Any noise that remains after preprocessing is further investigated using the power spectrum. The corresponding coefficients help to figure out the type of heart disease as done in [72, 95]. Figure 5a, b shows power spectrum and AR coefficients for the MIT-BIH Arrhythmia database (record no.103 m) at model order 5. Figure 5c, d shows the power spectrum and AR coefficients for the MIT-BIH arrhythmia database (record no.103 m) at model order 6.

Contour plot is used to describe an ECG signal in terms of their time–frequency analysis for differentiating (i) noisy and filtered ECG datasets and (ii) normal and abnormal ECG datasets. Figure 6 shows the contour plot of MB Ar DB (record no. 103 m) for differentiating noisy and filtered ECG datasets where the vertical scale is frequency measurement, horizontal scale is time and power is indicated by the color intensity [94]. The existing approaches based on power spectrum resulted in wrong outcomes due to their limited time–frequency resolution. There they estimated the same frequency output using different windows of identical size both for normal and heart patients' ECG datasets. However, the spectrogram technique provides an effective signal estimation, both in the time and frequency segments of the ECG datasets.

AR technique has multiresolution capability which can figureout all the actual peaks as well as noise present in the recorded ECG signal. Figure 7 shows detected R-peak in 103 m database at model order 6 using AR technique. Here, R-peaks in the three-dimensional view are obtained with time interval of 1 s, frequency resolution of 20.09 Hz/points. All amplitudes are obtained in decibel (dB) during R-peaks detection using AR modeling technique.

In this paper, the proposed technique has obtained SE of 99.90%, D.R of 99.81% and SE of 99.77%, D.R of 99.87% for MB Ar and RT DB, respectively. Table 2 and Table 3 shows analysis results for RT DB and MB Ar DB, respectively. Table 4 clearly reveals that the proposed technique outperforms the existing techniques. In future, these results will definitely help in enhancing the applications of the proposed methodology in expert systems.

Table 2 shows that out of 25,426 actual R-peaks, the proposed technique detects 25,406 R-peaks, TP of 25,394, FN of 58, and FP of 35.

Table 3 shows that out of 1,10,043 actual R-peaks, the proposed technique detects 1,09,875 R-peaks with TP of 1,09,833, FN of 109, and FP of 83. In most of the datasets of MB Ar DB, the proposed technique outperforms and yields

Table 4 Comparison of current and existing techniques on the basis of SE

Ref	Technique	Database	SE (in %)
Prop	AR technique with KNN classifier	MBAr & RT	99.90 (for MB Ar database) and 99.77 (for Real-time database)
[57]	KNN and Particle Swarm Optimization	MBAr	99.69
[59]	Adaptive filters	MB Ar	99.68
[112]	Wavelet and Support Vector Machine(SVM) classifier	MBAr	82.75
[113]	Daubechies Wavelet and Radial Basis Function Neural Network	MBAr	99.8
[70]	Nonlinear decomposition methods and support vector machine	MB Ar	98.01
[97]	KNN	MBAr	99.81
[114]	SVM	MB Ar	98.32
[64]	Wavelet based methods	MB Ar	99.84
[63]	Stockwell transform	MB Ar	99.65
[30]	FAWT and LEE features	MB Ar	95.8
[115]	GAs, ICA, PCA, DT, SVM, NN and K-NN	MBAr	98.84
[116]	NN, KNN, DT and SVM	MB Ar	99.29
[117]	Digital Band Pass Filtering	MB Ar	99.75
[118]	Lowpass filter and irregular R–R interval checkup strategy	MB Ar	99.66

Bold values shows obtained parameters using proposed technique in this paper

FN and FP of 0 (MB-124, MB-207, MB-217, MB-219, MB-220, MB-222 for FN = 0 and MB-201, MB-202, MB-205, MB-207, MB-208, MB-210, MB-215, MB-217, MB-223, MB-231 for FP = 0).

The existing techniques have SE of 99.69%, 99.68%, 82.75%, 99.8%, 98.01%, 99.81%, 98.32%, 99.84%, 99.65%, 95.8%, 98.84%, 99.29%, 99.75%, 99.66% in He et.al. [57], Jain et al. [59], Narina et al. [112], Rai et al. [113], Rajesh and Dhuli [70], Saini et al. [97], Van et al. [114], Lin et al. [64], Das and Ari [63], Kumar et al. [30], Kaya et al. [115], Kaya and Pehlivan [116], Pan and Tompkins [117], and Liu et al. [118], respectively. Table 4 shows that the proposed technique (with SE of 99.90%) outperforms all other existing techniques.

Table 5 Comparison between current and previous researched work on the basis of total beats, TP, and false detection rate (FN + FP)

Reference	Total Beats	TP	D.R (in %)	FN + FP
Proposed	1,10,043	1,09,833	99.81	192
[119]	1,09,483	1,09,281	99.81	412
[120]	1,09,494	1,09,381	99.89	249
[117]	1,09,809	1,09,208	99.45	784
[121]	1,09,966	1,09,096	99.20	1598
[122]	1,09,496	1,09,417	99.92	219
[123]	1,09,494	1,09,032	99.57	957
[124]	1,09,809	1,09,432	99.66	758
[125]	1,09,494	1,09,357	99.87	245

Bold values shows obtained parameters using proposed technique in this paper

The existing techniques have D.R of 99.81%, 99.89%, 99.45%, 99.20%, 99.92%, 99.57%, 99.66%, 99.87%, and FN + FP of 412, 249, 784, 1598, 219, 957, 758, 245 in P. Phukpattaranont et.al. [119], Sharma and Sharma [120], Pan and Tompkins [117], Dohare et al. [121], Manikandan and Soman [122], Nallathambi and Principe [123], Pandit et al. [124], and Yazdani and Vesin [125], respectively. It can be observed that several techniques such as [120, 122] and [125] have slightly higher D.R as compared to that obtained with the proposed methodology. But the proposed technique outperforms all other existing techniques on the basis of low false detection rate (FN + FP) with comparable D.R as shown in Table 5.

The existing techniques have false detection rate (FN + FP) of 586, 479, 372, 594, 459 in Zidelmal et al. [126], Christov [127], Bouaziz et al. [128], Choi et al. [129], and Sahoo et al. [51], respectively. The proposed technique outperforms all other existing techniques on the basis of low false detection rate (FN + FP) as shown in Table 6 where all the datasets of MB Ar DB are considered. It is further concluded that the proposed technique outperforms all other existing techniques for most of the datasets viz. MB-104, MB-105, MB-108, MB-116, MB-200, MB-201, MB-202, MB-203, MB-205, MB-207, MB-208, MB-210, MB-215, MB-217, MB-222, MB-228, and MB-233.

Table 6 Comparison of current and existing techniques on the basis of false detection rate for each dataset

Files (MB)	Proposed	[126]	[127]	[128]	[129]	[51]
100	7	0	0	0	0	0
101	7	3	5	3	1	5
102	14	2	0	5	0	12
103	5	0	58	0	0	0
104	12	30	1	23	18	41
105	10	59	38	21	52	13
106	18	8	1	6	18	6
107	14	7	0	0	8	19
108	7	60	43	149	83	103
109	16	0	5	0	0	5
111	4	2	0	2	2	0
112	2	2	0	0	0	1
113	2	3	0	1	0	1
114	2	5	0	5	2	5
115	3	0	4	0	0	0
116	10	19	21	3	22	24
117	2	0	0	0	0	5
118	3	5	0	2	5	2
119	4	0	0	1	0	7
121	3	3	0	2	3	4
122	2	0	0	1	0	0
123	2	0	2	0	0	0
124	1	1	0	2	1	2
200	2	26	47	8	26	4
201	1	32	60	0	47	7
202	1	2	6	2	8	3
203	2	61	89	37	61	36
205	1	13	4	6	13	17
207	0	20	1	12	22	11
208	1	30	18	20	30	11
209	2	2	1	1	2	29
210	1	41	45	15	41	15
212	2	0	0	0	0	2
213	2	1	1	1	1	0
214	2	7	5	0	7	11
215	1	14	0	3	14	15
217	0	7	2	5	7	8
219	1	0	1	2	0	3
220	1	1	0	0	1	0
221	2	4	1	2	4	3
222	2	4	0	5	4	4
223	1	1	5	4	1	1
228	2	84	1	15	73	9
230	2	4	0	0	2	0
231	1	0	0	0	0	0
232	6	1	12	2	1	3
233	2	13	2	5	13	12
234	4	9	0	1	1	0
All	192	586	479	372	594	459

Bold values indicate false detection rate (FN + FP) of the proposed and existing techniques

4 Conclusion

This paper successfully analyzed RT and MB Ar DB using CWT, Spectrogram and Autoregressive technique together. It has been demonstrated that the proposed technique outperforms the existing state-of-the-art techniques. The performance of proposed methodology, i.e., SE of 99.90%, D.R of 99.81% (for MB Ar) and SE of 99.77%, D.R of 99.87% (for RT DB) reveals its applications in the emerging medical informatics field in practical emergent situations. It will definitely help in properly classifying different kinds of arrhythmias promptly at an early stage. It has also been shown that the spectrogram gives important frequency analysis that can detect existing arrhythmias. AR technique has yielded good time and frequency resolution simultaneously on the basis of selected features such as PSD, time–frequency analysis (TFA) and model order.

The proposed technique identifies the frequency information quite clearly, which was shown to be important for filtering-out the high-frequency noise components. The proposed approach promises a ready-to-use methodology in any critical surgery or cardiology lab due to its robustness.

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