

Predictive Analysis of Fetal ECG Using Linear Decomposition

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Abstract: In this paper an approach is presented to analyze the fetal health through the study of fetus Electrocardiogram (ECG). This paper presents the detail survey on different features of fetal heart which are P-wave, QRS wave and T-wave amplitude and width, segment intervals like PQ interval, RR interval, Heart rate, Heart rate variability, fetal heart axis, these are the standard and most required features. This paper reviews the different features of fetal heart and different feature extraction techniques through fetal electrocardiogram and thus classifying the fetus into normal and abnormal class.

In this paper a hybrid approach is presented to study the fetus ECG. Processing the ECG includes pre-processing, feature extraction, beat detection and classification. Here, we have implemented Pan tompkin algorithm for feature extraction, and PTE algorithm for beat detection. According to the literature, classification accuracy claimed is in the range of 92 to 99.68%. Though there has been significant variation in the range of accuracy it is at the cost of various other factors such as computational complexity. For simulation, Abdominal and direct Fetal ECG dataset of various time samples of different frequencies are taken from physionet.org database.

Keywords: Fetal ECG, preprocessing, feature extraction, classification, fetus features.

I. INTRODUCTION

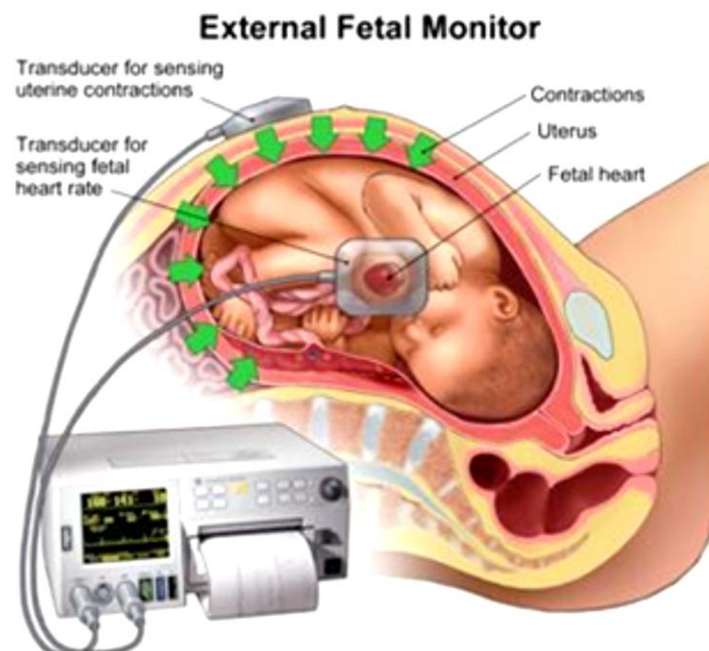


Figure. Measurement of fetal ECG

Fetal health is an important constrain to consider during pregnancy. As fetal mortality and morbidity are increasing, it is necessary to analyze fetus at early stages of pregnancy. So that diagnosis of the abnormalities or any other cardiac diseases detected can be done. Fetal Electrocardiogram (fECG) is the way by which one can know about every detail of fetus health. Fetal ECG can tell about fetus heart rate as well as any abnormalities can be known by observing fetal ECG. For fetal ECG extraction, Blind Source separation method outperforms Adaptive filtering and can separate

maternal and fetal ECG even with temporal overlap. Blind source can be combined with 'Wavelet decomposition' for extracting and De-noising the fetal ECG signal.

As we know, it is difficult to measure direct fetal ECG due to its low Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR), one way to measure fetal ECG is to record abdominal ECG and extract fetal ECG from it, by canceling maternal ECG. Once we get fetal ECG, we can then analyze it by observing various features and parameters, like Q-R-S complex, R-R interval, segment, QT interval, R-peak location, R-magnitude, width of R-peak FHR and so other. From these observations' doctors can tell about fetus health or can detect any abnormalities present, so that proper action can be taken.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

In developing nations like India particularly in rural and downtrodden areas, pregnant women are not conscious about the balanced nutrition diet and their health care during earliest stage of pregnancy which causes maternal mortality, fetus morbidity, early infant death or handicapped child. To address this issue several researchers have published their work to simplify the study of mother and fetus heart through analysis of ECG.

G.J.J.Warmerdam , R. Vullings , L. Schmitt, J.O.E.H. Van Laar and J.W.M. Bergmans[1] presented The multichannel hierarchical probabilistic framework was developed for fetal R-peak detection. It also detects heart rate reliably for ECG recording recorded with low SNR and having non stationary nature. The developed method combines predictive models of the ECG waveform and heart rate, and can be used for multichannel recordings.

Giulia Da Poian, Riccardo Bernardini and Roberto Rinaldo [4] proposes The system will become more useful when design with telemonitoring. Wireless body sensor networks can be used to detect fetal arrhythmia along with the use of compressive sensing theory, compression and joint detection and classification of mother and fetal heart beats can be done. This framework is design for low power CS compression of FECG and to detect heart beats.

Reza Sameni and Gari D Clifford [8] proposes It is quite difficult to measure fetal ECG directly, so one method to measure fetal ECG is to record mother abdominal ECG(aECG) and extract fetal ECG from aECG. That is separate maternal ECG(mECG) and fetal ECG(aECG) from abdominal ECG(aECG). Various methods are there to extract fetal ECG from abdominal ECG such as Direct fetal ECG analysis, Adaptive filtering, Linear decomposition, Nonlinear decomposition, Forward modeling.

S.Karpagachelvi, Dr.M.Arthanari, and M.Sivakuma [12] proposes In diagnosis cardiac diseases, ECG feature extraction plays an significant role. Amplitude and interval of P-QRS-T wave of ECG signal tell us about health of human. One cardiac cycle consist of P-QRS-T wave. Feature extraction techniques includes Fuzzy Logic Methods, Artificial Neural Network (ANN), Genetic Algorithm (GA),Support Vector Machine (SVM), and other Signal Analysis techniques.

III. PROPOSED SYSTEM

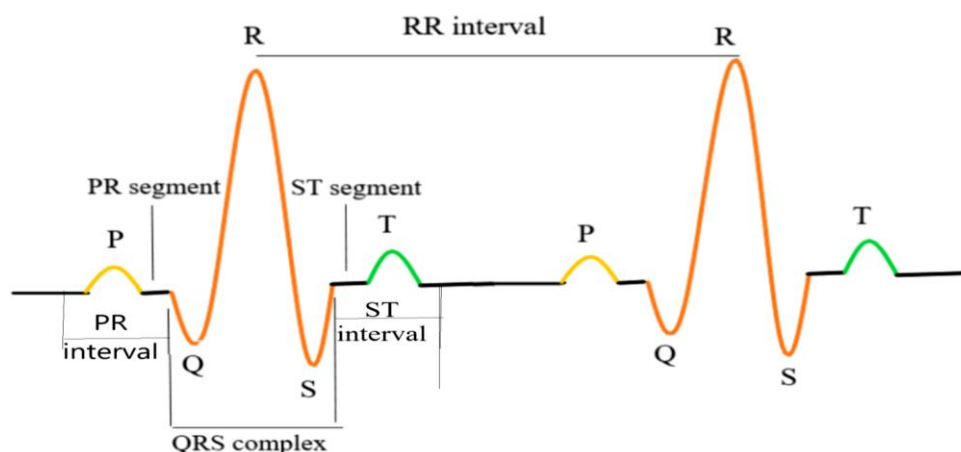


Figure. ECG P-QRS-T wave

Fetus examination is critical and crucial area. Cardiac deformalities are manifested with an average of one in every hundred infants conceived in a year. Fetus heart features are necessary to calculate in order to know the health of fetus and mother. Due to low SNR(signal to noise ratio) fetal ECG, it is difficult to separate it from maternal ECG and that too detect abnormal heart beats. So, it is crucial to implement an algorithm which will correctly obtain FECG, extract all the features and will detect abnormal heart beats as well, before it poses a threat to the fetus or mother.

Above figure shows P–QRST waveform structure. Though adult and fetus heart have similar morphological structure and biological processing, they differ by some features like P, Q, R, s, T wave amplitudes and segment intervals. here we are defining those differences as well as similarities between adult and fetus heart features.

A. Adult Heart Properties

Though adult heart and fetal heart are of same biological structure and same features but differs in terms feature values. Morphologically, adult and fetus ECGs have similar patterns, but the relative amplitudes and intervals of the fetal complexes go through considerable changes throughout pregnancy and even after birth. The most significant change concerns the T-wave, which is rather weak for fetus and newborn. An adult heart beats about 60 to 80 times per minute. QRS normal amplitude is (R-peak): 2.5 - 3.0 mV.

Segment intervals:

- RR-interval: 0.6-1.2 secs.
- P-wave: 80 ms.
- PR-interval: 120-200 ms
- PR-segment: 50-120 ms.
- QRS complex: 80-100 ms.
- ST-segment: 80-120 ms.
- T-wave: 160 ms.

B. Fetus heart Properties

There is some functional difference between fetal and the adult heart. It is known that left ventricle is responsible to pump blood to body and right ventricle does pumping of blood to lungs to get oxygen. For the fetus, placenta supplies oxygen, therefore pumping of blood to the lungs is no longer made for this purpose. Instead, both the ventricles pump blood throughout body including lungs [1][9]. For this, there used two shunts, the foramen ovale and the ductus arteriosus, that performs linking outgoing vessels of both the ventricles. This allows entering blood to the right atrium and bypasses pulmonary circulation. Similarly the ductus venosus a vessel that bypasses blood through liver. It carries oxygen with nutrients and blood from the umbilical cord to right side of fetal heart [10]. This change slightly after birth, with the first breath the foramen oval closes and ductus arteriosus closes partially in just 10-15 hours post birth and closes completely up to three weeks. After cutting the umbilical cord when the blood flow between the mother and the fetus stops, the ductus venosus also closes shortly [10].

C. Fetus ECG features values (standard)

- P-wave: Single ECG beat starts with P-wave, which is produced due to depolarization (contraction) of right and left atria. P-wave has normal amplitude of 0.05mv
- QRS complex: This is the highest peak of ECG beat, consisting of Q-R-S waves combine and produces due to re-polarization (relaxation) of ventricles. Where, Q and S waves are having negative amplitude and R peak has highest amplitude of 0.25mV [2][2]. To obtain R-peak by Gaussian, Gaussian gives R wave, first derivative of Gaussian gives Q and S wave, and second derivative of Gaussian gives Q-R-S wave, combination of these is used to describe the QRS complex.
- T-wave: T-wave produces due to re-polarization of atria. Amplitude in adults is less than 5mm in limb leads, less than 15mm in precordial leads. Elevation in T-wave and ST-segment can cause fetal-Hypoxia, adult coronary artery disease.

1. Heart rate and Heart rate variability: Normal fetus heart rate is in between 120-160 beats per minute. However, FHR variations are different to fetus, children and adults, the FHR is known to possess periodic variations over the pregnancy [12]. Although, the HRV of fetus is less dynamic than HRV of an adult. As the fetal autonomic nervous system involves, the HRV pattern becomes more complex [13][14]. It is also found that a number of heart rate accelerations and decelerations that a fetus undergoes per hour is related to its health, and is dependent on gestational age [16]. HRV features and technique to extract those features are mentioned in [28][31]. HRV features are useful to investigate effects of short term and long term stress using rodent model. It determines optimal HRV feature set by using algorithm called support vector machine-recursive feature elimination (SVM-RFE). According to [28][31] HRV features have their variants in time and frequency domain.

2. Segment Intervals:

- P-wave:- 43.9ms
- QRS duration:- 47.2ms or 0.12seconds in adults
- T-wave:- 123.8ms
- RR interval:- 102.1ms

- Fetal Heart Axis: Fetus facing the frontal plane is having heart axis +135, fetus in vertex position rotates to face the sagittal plane is having heart axis +90, while fetus opposing the frontal plane has heart axis of +45.

Table. Comparison of the Adult and fetus ECG feature values

ECG signal	P wave amplitude	QRS wave amplitude	RR interval
Adult ECG signal	0.25mV	1.6 to 2.5mV	0.6 to 1.2s
FECG signal	0.05mV	0.25mV	102.1ms

D. Methodology

Methodology defines the implementation flow.

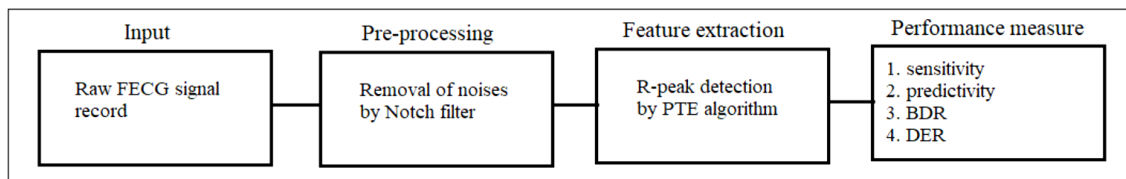


Fig: Block diagram of proposed system

1. Input

In this process abdominal ECG is taken as an input. Here, we have collected database from physionet.org ATM. We have collected, abdominal and direct fetal ECG database, fetal ECG synthetic database, fetal pcg database, non-invasive fetal ECG database etc. Among these databases, we further process Non-invasive fetal ECG database, which has 20 records of 10seconds, 1minute, 1hour time periods each. Among these we have taken ECGca record of 1hour time period having sampling frequency of 1000Hz. In this process abdominal ECG is taken as an input. Here, we have collected database from physionet.org ATM and tried to collect database from DaIsy (Dataset Identification System) also. We have collected, abdominal and direct fetal ECG databases, fetal ECG synthetic databases, fetal pcg databases, non-invasive fetal ECG databases (ECGca) etc. which are having different number of records of 10seconds, 1minute, 1hour and signal up to end time periods each at frequencies like 500Hz, 1000Hz etc. As this data cannot be sufficient for processing, we have segmented the dataset signals in different time periods (slots) and used these segmented signals for processing. By giving sufficient training to dataset, we have then tested the known as well as unknown signals. We further process Non-invasive fetal ECG dataset of 10minutes and 1-hour record of frequency 1000Hz.

2.Pre-processing

Preprocessing is applied to remove noise from ECG signal which can include baseline wander, electromyographic signal, power line interference etc. The techniques to de-noise ECG are RC low pass filter, Low pass filter using Butterworth filter, Low pass filter using Chebyshev approximation, RLC notch filter, Butterworth band reject filter, Adaptive Kalman smoother to remove powerline interference, non-linear Bayesian filter, Savitzky-Golay filter, adaptive least mean square (LMS) cancellation technique, FIR(finite impulse response) to remove baseline wander, IIR(infinite impulse response) to remove power line interference etc. To eliminate power-line interference, narrow band-stop filter centered at 50 Hz is used. To deal with other sources of noise, band pass filter with frequency range 0.5 to 100 Hz has been used

3. Feature extraction

For feature extraction some proposed techniques are PCA/ICA based feature extraction techniques, Wavelet transforms techniques, FPGA based separation techniques, techniques using compressed sensing, linear and non-linear decomposition techniques, feature extraction algorithms like MICA algorithm, pan-Tompkins algorithm, PTE algorithm. Among these many techniques of feature extraction, it is seen that wavelet transform used in earned significant predictivity and accuracy around 92-99.68% when used with SVM and ANN classifiers. Whereas, variations of wavelet transform proposed in uses mathematical approach and DWT thus found more complex and gives less predictivity. Once the signal is de-noised, feature extraction algorithm is applied on signal to get various essential features. There are various feature extraction techniques stated by researchers which on application on ECG signal give features like P-wave amplitude, QRS complex, T-wave amplitude, segment intervals like RR interval, fetal heart axis. These features can also be used to diagnose diseases. These techniques differ in feature selection techniques like PCA/ICA, wavelet transform based techniques, compressed sensing based techniques, method of adaptive noise canceller, high frequency removal using digital filter etc. By using feature extraction techniques, different heart features can be calculated which includes electrocardiogram features P-wave, Q-wave, R-wave, S-wave, T-wave, segment intervals like RR-interval, ST segment etc, as well as heart rate and heart rate variability features.

otherwise it is noted as a QRS complex. Passing through these steps, Pan tomplkins algorithm gives an output with extracted features.

C. Derivative based QRS detection: In derivative based QRS detection, initial filter stage is used. To suppress the remaining features in ECG waveform like P and T wave, high pass filter is used and to remove noise like baseline drift and noise, low pass filter is used. Combine it produce band pass filter having cutt-off frequency of 5Hz and 25Hz to detect QRS complex, as QRS complex is having frequency 5Hz to 25Hz. Derivative based algorithm is not flexible for time varying signals and not that rubust to noise signals, that's why its performance capability gets reduced.

D.TE QRS detection:

Teager energy operator is the QRS detection algorithm that calculates non linear energy of the signal to detect peaks. TE is directly proportional to the squared product of instantaneous amplitude and frequency where conventional energy is proportional to instantaneous amplitude of the signal only. TEO uses time domain and frequency domain of the non linear energy for processing.

$$NEx(n) = x^2n - x(n - 1)x(n + 1)4.1$$

Average nonlinear energy in frequency domain: $ANEF_f = \frac{1}{N} \sum NEx(f)$

Average nonlinear energy in time domain: $ANET_t = \frac{1}{N} \sum NEx(n)$

where, N is the total number of samples in signal.

Steps in TEO algorithm:

- NSR and arrhythmia ECG data which were originally sampled at different sampling rates were resampled to a common sampling rate of 200Hz as first step of preprocessing.
- Noisy ECG data is de-meanned. DC or average value refers to a low frequency base line wander signal which carries no information so subtracting the mean or average value from the samples results in no consequences.
- Noisy ECG data is modeled using MSPCA and higher order cumulants for de- noising.
- Improvement in SNRi, RMSE, and RMSD are calculated for the enhanced ECG data.
- Energy is extracted from the enhanced ECG data using nonlinear energy operator TEO.
- Mean of the average energy in time domain and frequency domains ANET and ANEF are computed.
- The above steps are performed on a set of NSR and arrhythmia data.

E. PTE QRS detection:

For peak detection, PTE (polar teager energy) algorithm is implemented, which is the advancement in TE (teager energy) algorithmt. This works on the non-linear energy of QRS complex. Polarization of teager energy (non linear energy of ECG signal) has been utilized for detection of R-peak. Processing of algorithm involves preprocessing, R-peak detection and P, Q, S, T wave detection. According to the morphology of ECG, QRS complex contains highest non-linear energy. This property has been utilized for detection of R peak. Polarization of Teager Energy (TE) yields remarkable decrease in false positive of R peaks and hence that of other morphological points. Although these methods have been proposed, most of them have used limited data set (mitdbarrhythmia database). It may cause lack of variety in the data set, leaving particular type of beats unattained. Also most of them are complex and require more computational power. Even if any such computationally efficient and accurate method has been reported, it is not yet universally accepted. Hence, efforts towards it are still in progress. In the proposed method, Polarized Teager Energy (PTE) has been used to detect R peak of an ECG beat. Use of un-polarized TE operator causes false detection of R peak if S wave amplitude is greater than or equal to R wave amplitude typically in the paced beats. Therefore, PTE function has been used to differentiate R peak from S wave. The algorithm consists of three stages such as pre-processing, R peak detection and P, Q, S, T detection. In pre-processing stage different filters are used. To eliminate baseline wandering and high frequency noise, band pass filter has been used. To eliminate power-line interference, notch filter has been used. Second stage consists of R peak detection. In the third stage, other morphological points are detected. Different search windows, proportional to RR interval, are applied to the sampled ECG signal for detection of other morphological points. Abdominal ECG contains Maternal ECG and fetus ECG, which needs to be filter out in order to obtain Fetus ECG. feature extraction and QRS detection is applied on maternal ECG to separate it from fetus ECG signal. From literature we can say that none of the abdominal ECG feature extraction algorithms is applied on Fetus ECG. After applying all above feature extraction techniques on maternal ECG and observing results it is seen that among all PTE algorithm is most suited for fetus ECG feature extraction and QRS detection. So in this project we are applying hybridization of segmentation algorithm and PTE algorithm on fetus ECG to detect its peaks and to obtain features like amplitude of P, Q, R and S wave with RR interval.

IV. RESULTS ANDDISCUSSIONS

1. Removal of Baseline wander: for removing base line wander, use DWT to decompose the noisy ECG signal. The noise present is simulated with the sinusoidal signal having frequency range between 0-0.5Hz. The noisy ECG $X_d(n)$ goes through 8 levels of approximation for removing noise under following formula:

$$X_d(n) = k=1k=8Dk$$

Where D_k has different frequency ranges between 0-0.5Hz at 8 different levels from $k= 1$ to 8

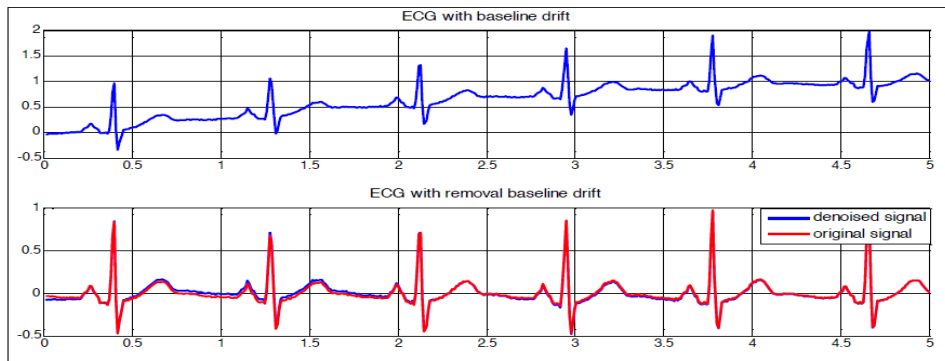


Fig. Removal of Baseline wander

2. Removal of EMG: the EMG noise (electromyographic noise) contains additive Gaussian noise, to eliminate this DWT coefficients are used which are computed by different wavelets and to select best suited wavelet among all suggested, best thresholding method is used.

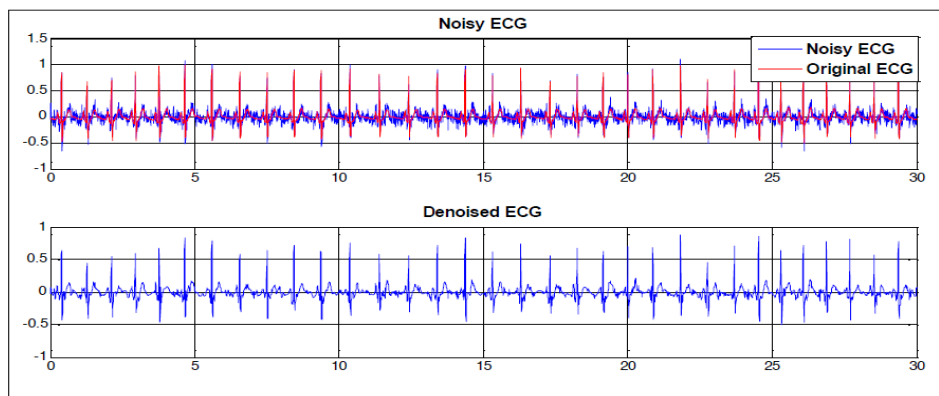


Fig. Removal of EMG noise simulation [30]

3. Removal of power line interference:

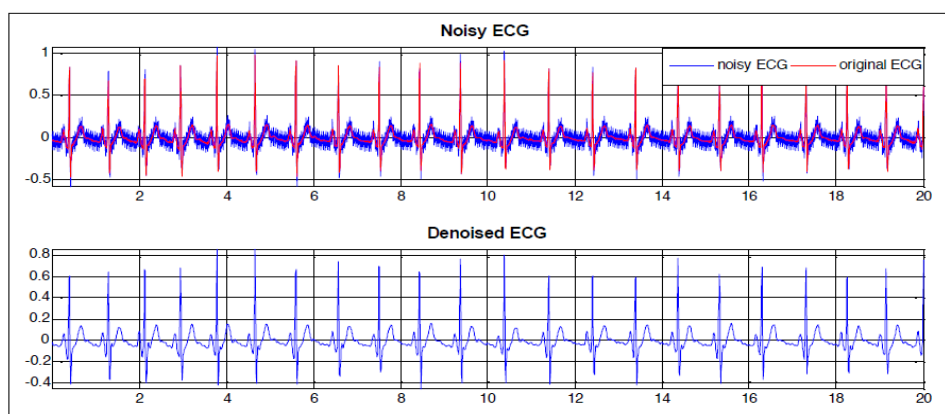


Fig. Removal of Power line interference

To synthesize this noise, sinusoidal signal is superimposed on the ECG signal. Appropriate level of decomposition is selected on the basis of matching of frequency between superimposed signals. Here also thresholding is used to estimate the impact of noise on details coefficients which then used to reconstruct the de-noised ECG signal.

4. Performance measure

Performance parameters is actually a quality, quantified by numerical value, where each individual quality characterizes a particular aspect, attribute or capability of any system or algorithm.

Performance parameters:

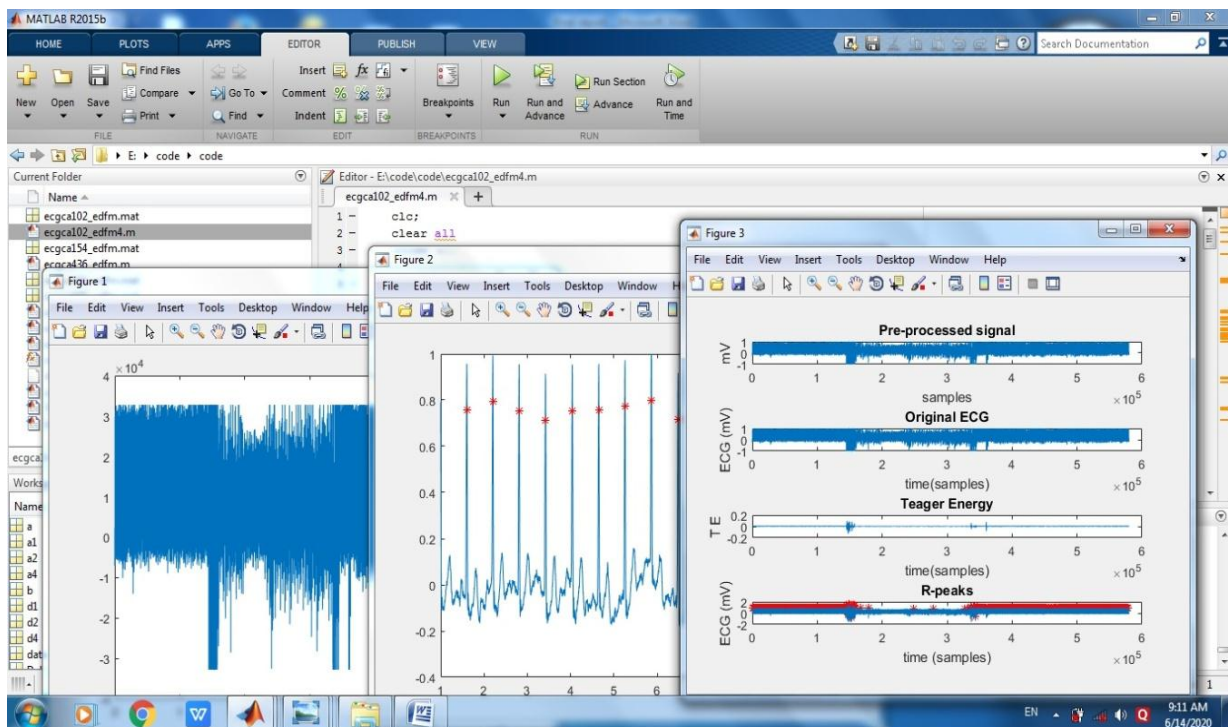
- Sensitivity: Sensitivity analysis can be referred as simulation analysis is a way to predict outcome of a decision given by a certain number of variables. Here, sensitivity is calculated by the number of beats detected correctly.
- Predictivity: Predictivity analysis analyzes current and previous data record to make predictions about next and future or otherwise unknown events.
- Beat detection rate:
- Detection error rate: Detection error is given as the percentage of false detection over the total number of detected heartbeats

Applying algorithm on fetal ECG database, we got result in terms of R-peak count. Those detected beats are classified as True positive beats(TP), False positive's(FP), False negative beats(FN) and True negative(TN) beats. By these counts we calculated performance parameters like Sensitivity, Predictivity, Beat detection rate(BDR), and Detection error rate(DER).

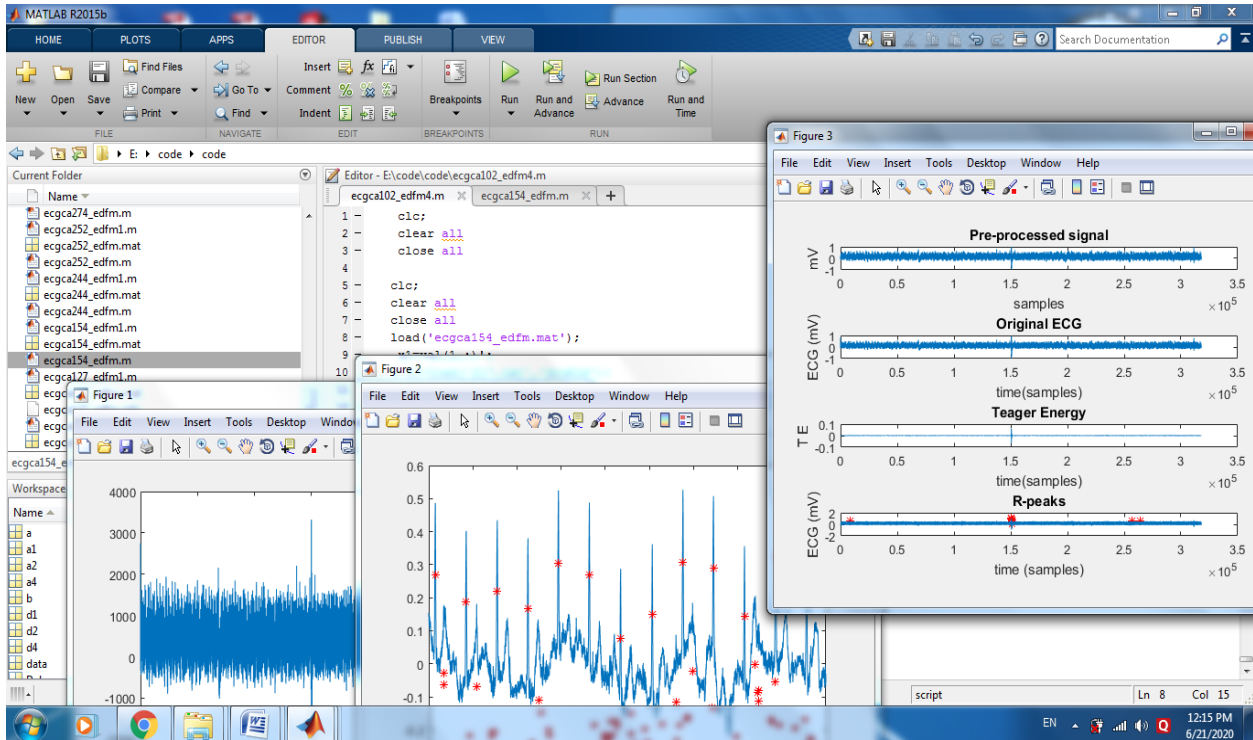
- Sensitivity: $Se \% = \frac{TP}{TP+FN}$
- Predictivity: $P \% = \frac{TP}{TP+FP}$
- Beat detection rate: $BDR \% = \min(Se, P)$
- Detection error rate: $DER \% = \frac{FN+FP}{TP+FN}$

6.output od Records of ECG signals

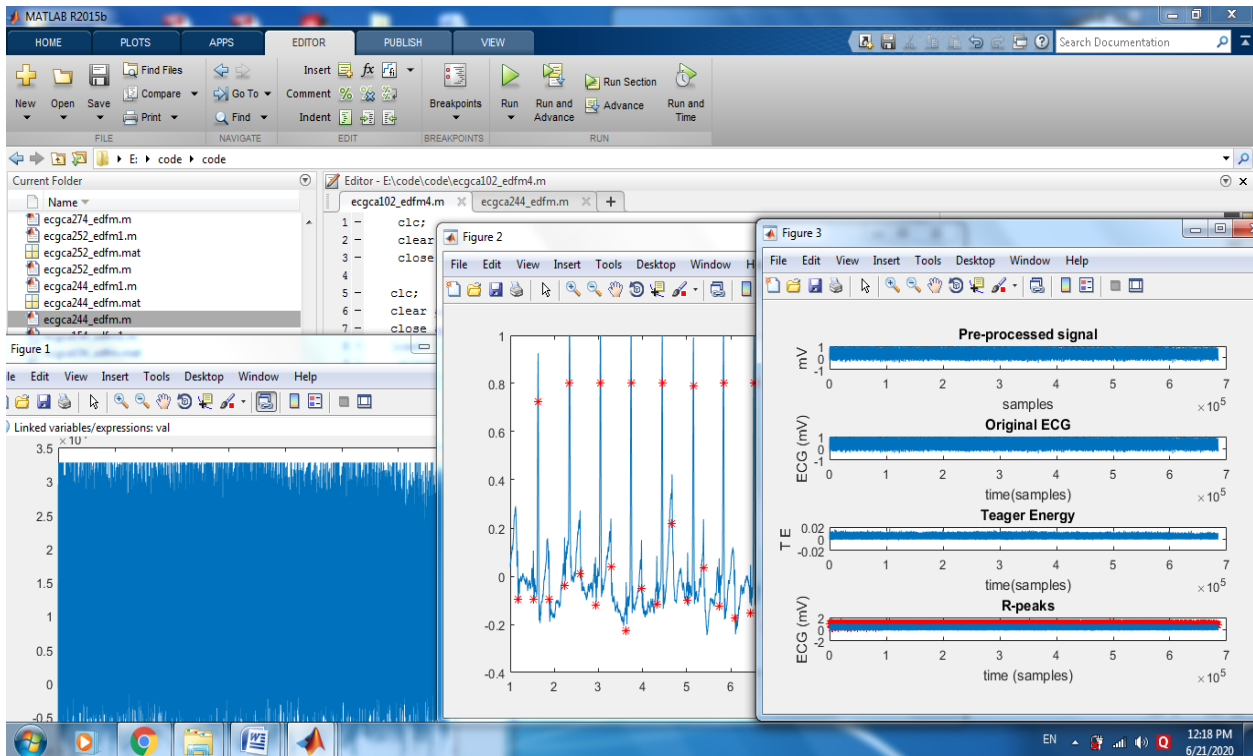
1.Screenshot of Record of ECGca102



2.Screenshot of Record Of ECGa154



3 Screenshot of Record of ECGa244



4.Screenshot of Record ECGa252

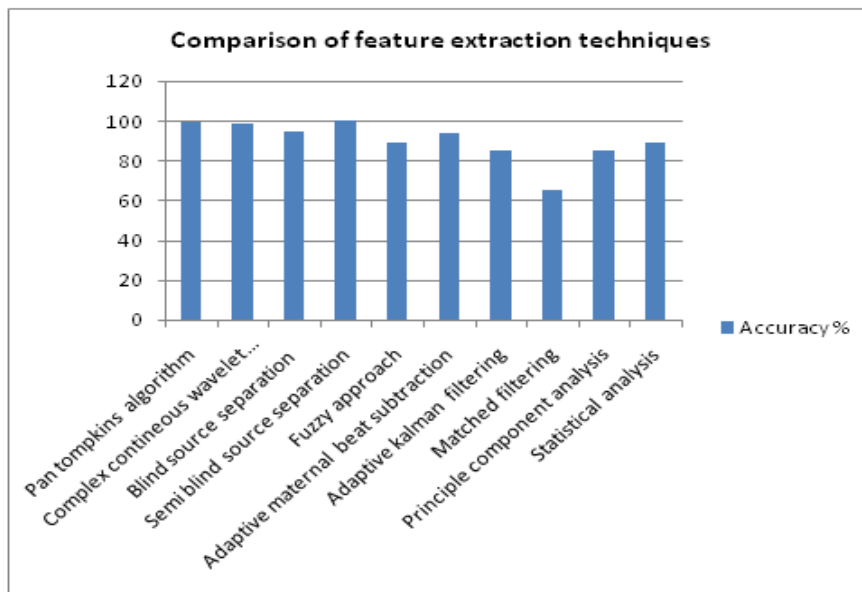
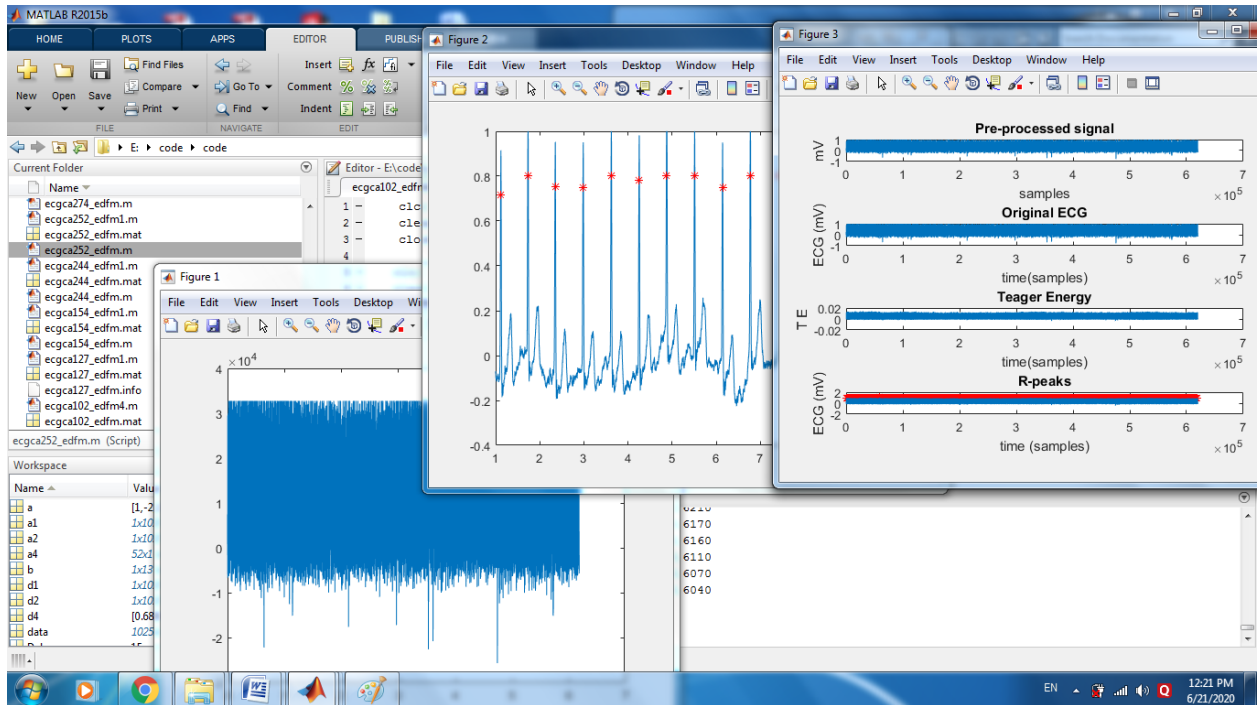


Figure of Comparison of feature Extraction Technique

Table: Measurement of Performance Parameter

Record	TPs	FP	FN	Se(%)	P(%)	BER(%)	DER(%)
ECCGca102	395	13	5	98.75	96.81	96.81	4.5
ECCGca127	1000	0	1	99.90	100	99.90	0.097
ECCGca154	492	0	26	94.98	100	94.98	5.28
ECCGca224	1036	8	1	99.90	99.23	99.23	0.86
ECCGca252	979	0	1	99.89	100	99.89	0.1020
ECCGca274	426	0	1	99.76	100	99.76	0.2347
ECCGca290	1541	9	1	99.93	99.41	99.41	0.64
ECCGca300	222	0	1	99.55	100	99.55	0.4484
ECCGca308	1071	0	1	99.90	100	99.90	0.0932
ECCGca323	650	15	1	99.84	97.74	97.74	2.4577

ECGca368	682	2	1	99.85	90.70	99.70	0.4392
ECGca384	800	0	1	99.87	100	99.87	0.1248
ECGca392	367	0	1	99.72	100	99.72	0.2717
ECGca416	497	22	17	99.69	95.76	95.76	7.58
ECGca436	813	97	5	99.38	89.34	89.34	11.20
ECGca445	234	12	1	99.57	95.12	95.12	5.28
Total	11249	178	65	99.21	98.32	98.32	2.74

V. CONCLUSION

Now a days fetal mortality and morbidity are increasing, it is necessary to analyze fetus at early stages of pregnancy. we discuss and compare various techniques and algorithms to process fetus Electrocardiogram and obtained its feature values. In this paper, we proposed to implemented Pan tompkin algorithm for feature extraction, and PTE algorithm for beat detection this process include preprocessing, feature extraction to extract fetus ECG(fECG) and subtract maternal ECG(mECG) from abdominal ECG. Also fetal diagnosis of the abnormalities or any other cardiac diseases can be detected.

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