

Nonlinear Versatile Tools for Heart Rate Variability Prediction and Diagnosis

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Abstract : Heart rate variability (HRV) refers to variations in heart complex wave beat- to-beat intervals. The HRV is a reliable reflection of many physiological, psychological, and environmental factors modulating the normal rhythm of the heart. In fact, the HRV seriously provides a powerful means of observing the interplay between the sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous systems. However, the HRV has a periodicity that is important for monitoring and following up the cases. The structure generating heart complex wave signal is not simply linear, but it also involves nonlinear contributions. These contributions are totally correlated. .

The HRV is stochastic and chaotic (stochaotic) signal. It has utmost importance in heart diseases diagnosis, and it needs a sensitive tool to analyze its variability. The present work introduces and discusses some methods to be used for analysis and prediction of HRV. Also, explain a novel reliable methods to analyze the linear and nonlinear behaviour of the heart complex wave variability, to assess the use of the HRV as a versatile tool for heart disease diagnosis. The Mazhar-Eslam Variability Frequency MVF " Ω_M " is the most versatile tool for HRV prediction and diagnosis that discussed in this thesis. The MVF " Ω_M " diversity of initially closely trajectories in state-space is connected with folding of them. The presence of a positive part MVF for all initial conditions in a restricted dynamical system, is the vastly used definition of deterministic chaos. Thus, to distinguish between periodic signals chaotic and dynamics, the MVF Ω_M are predominantly used. The trajectories of chaotic signals in state-space pursue typical patterns. Nearly diverge trajectories diverge and converge exponentially, proportional to each other. A negative MVF means that the orbit entices to a settled point or stable periodic orbit. Negative MVFs are distinguishing of non-fogyish systems. Like systems display asymptotic stability. For more stability, the MVF is more negative. When MVF tends to infinity, it is mean the excessive stable periodicity. Thus, it is clear that the MVF is the most suitable and sensitive tool for predicting the HRV. Moreover, it discusses the Poincaré limitation, cause of standard deviation SD1, SD2 and how to overcome this limitation by using complex correlation measure (CCM). The CCM is most sensitive to changes in temporal structure of the Poincaré plot as compared to SD1 and SD2.

Keywords : Linear methods, Nonlinear methods, Heart Rate Variability (HRV), Poincaré Plot, Mazhar-Eslam Variability Frequency (MVF).

I. INTRODUCTION

Heart rate variability (HRV) is define as the inter-beat variability between successive heart beats in a determined time interval. This variability is mediated directly by polarization and depolarization process of sinus node. Which at the same time is regulated by interaction of the sympathetic and parasympathetic branches of autonomic nervous system (ANS). An increase in the parasympathetic activity means decreasing in heart rate (HR) by release of acetylcholine, however, an increase of HR is a direct consequence of an increase in the sympathetic activity which in this case is mediate through norepinephrine release on heartbeat regularity mechanism [1, 2, 3]. So, it can be established that the dynamical balance between sympathetic and parasympathetic activity has strong effect on HR causing vibration around its average value which called HRV phenomenon. Thus, HRV is a noninvasive method to evaluate the sympathetic and parasympathetic function of ANS and cardiovascular system [1]. Figure 1 explain the effect of sympathetic and parasympathetic system on HR beside the outcome of their interaction.

II. GENERATION OF HRV SIGNAL

The heart rate variability (HRV) signals are result of quantifying the distance between successive heartbeats for certain period of time. These periods are estimated by analyzing the electrocardiography (ECG) signals. Practically, the R peak method is the most accurate to identify the all QRS complexes of ECG signal cause of its proficiency in distinguish from other component of complex. Thus, there are several methods for detecting R peaks, some of them based on Hilbert transform [4], signal filtering (pan-tompkins algorithm) [2,3,5], pattern recognition [6], and wavelet transform [7]. Although the accuracy of these methods, there is no standard methodology of R peak detection.

With all R peaks detected, the next step is calculating the difference time between two successive R peaks in order to generate a time series of R-R intervals. After calculation these defrences for the entire signal, the obtained result is a discrete time series called as RR tachogram or HRV signal [3]. It is important to note that this series of variability lacks uniformity in the distance between the points due to temporary differences between successive heartbeats. Figure 2 represents the R-R time series generating from ECG signal [2, 3].

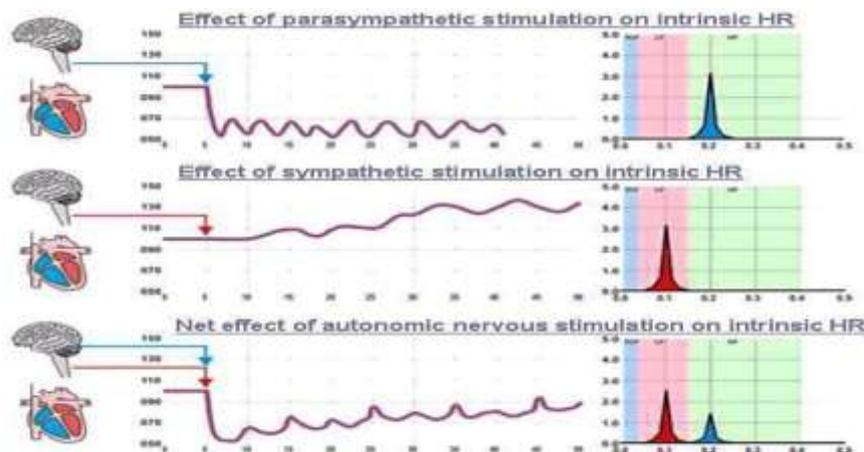


Figure 1. The effect of sympathetic and parasympathetic system on HR

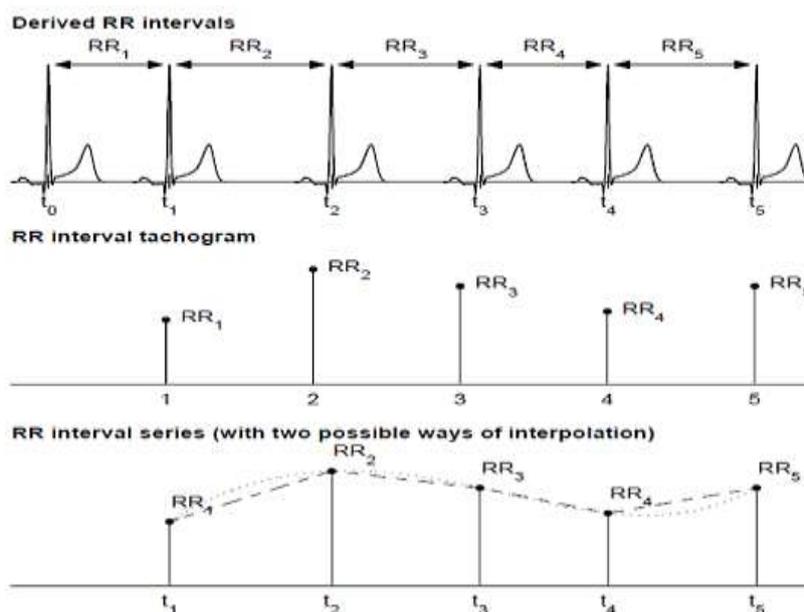


Figure 2. R-R time series generating from ECG signal

III. ASSESSMENT OF THE HRV SIGNAL

The HRV analysis is performed through a combination of linear and nonlinear method. Linear methods have been categorized as methods in time domain and methods in frequency domain, while nonlinear methods correspond to a set of techniques to study the nonlinear dynamics of HRV series.

The analysis in time domain is the simplest way to extract features of HRV signals by quantifying some indexes based on the statistics of signal data. They are the average value of all R-R intervals (AVRR), standard deviation of all R-R intervals (SDNN), root mean square differences of successive R-R intervals (rMSSD), and percentage of differences between N-N intervals that by more than 50ms (pNN-50). It is important to state that previous studies have shown that these time parameters are highly correlated with high frequency variation in HR[2].

HRV signals exhibit an oscillatory behavior in that components of high and low frequency as a result of cardiovascular modulations performed by sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous systems are mixed. Thus, methods of analysis in the frequency domain are used in order to quantify this type of information from estimate the power spectrum as a function of signal frequencies. The calculation of the power spectrum of the

power spectrum density (PSD) of HRV signal can be performed using parametric and nonparametric methods. Parametric methods usually estimate power spectrum through autoregressive models applied to the signal. But, nonparametric methods use an algorithm based on Fourier transform. However, these methods require that the input signal will be evenly sampled. It means that all samples will be equally spaced in time. Then, in order to fulfill this requirement, it is necessary to perform a process of resampling on the R-R series before the spectral estimations. For HRV series, it is recommended to construct a cubic spline interpolation over the data using a resampling frequency [3]. To avoid resampling process over the HRV signals and obtain PSD estimated directly from unevenly data, the algorithm proposed by Lomb [8] and Scargle [9] can be used. Once the PSD is estimated, it is possible to quantify reliable information in the frequency domain integrating the spectrum in frequency bands. Three frequency bands, related to some physiological phenomena, have been considered as standard values in the frequency analysis of HRV [2, 10, 11, 12]. The values of these frequency bands correspond to (VLF) band in the range (0.01-0.05 Hz), the second band is low frequency (LF) band in the range (0.06 -0.15 Hz) and the third band is a high frequency (HF) band in the range (0.16-0.50 Hz) as illustrated in figure 3.



Figure 3. HRV spectrum bands

In addition to the methods of analysis in the time and frequency domain, there are nonlinear methods which have been demonstrated to be extremely useful due to the nonstationary characteristics of HRV signals. Most of these methods have their foundation in chaos theory and nonlinear dynamics which allows to analyze HRV signals in a more complete way. The most commonly used nonlinear methods for HRV analysis are slope of regression line, Fractal dimension, Detrended Fluctuation Analysis (DFA), Approximate entropy (AppEn), sample entropy (SampEn), Correlation dimension (CD), Hurst exponent (H), Recurrence plots, Lyapunov exponent, PoincaréPlots, and Mazhar-Eslam Variability Frequency [3]. In the next, discussion of the most important and sensitive tools for heart disease diagnosis which are PoincaréPlots, and Mazhar-Eslam Variability Frequency.

IV. POICARÉ PLOT

The Poincaréplot analysis is a geometrical and non-linear method to assess the dynamics of heart rate variability (HRV). The Poincaréplot is a representation of a time series into a phase space, where the values of each pair of successive elements of the time series define a point in the plot. The theoretical background that supports the use of a phase space is the Takens theorem [13]. According to Takens, it is possible to reconstruct the attractor of a dynamical system by mapping a scalar measurement into a phase space using a given time delay and embedding dimension [14].

The Poincaréplot in HRV is a scatter plot of the current R-R interval plotted against the preceding R-R interval. It was constructed at a period of intervals before, for example 5 minutes. This method is described by the following formula: Two adjacent RR intervals represent one point in the plot. The first RR interval (RR_i) represents the x-coordinate, the second interval (RR_{i+1}) represents the y-coordinate. Figure 4 shows a Poincaréplot of a healthy patient. However, the assessment and standardization of these qualitative classifications are difficult because they are highly subjective. A quantitative analysis of the HRV attractor displayed by the Poincaréplot can be made by adjusting it to an ellipse. For the performance analysis, the SD1 (Standard Deviation1), SD2 (Standard Deviation 2) and area of ellipse are used as evaluation parameters [14]. The definitions are given in the next:

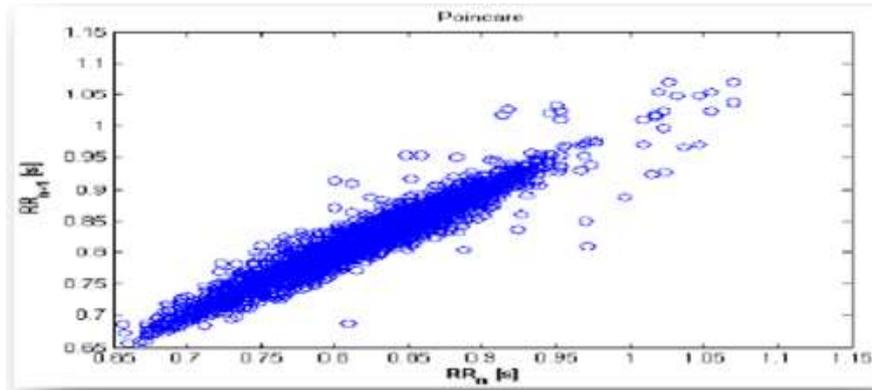


Figure 4. Poincaré plot of a healthy patient

i. SD1: Standard Deviation 1

Is the standard deviation (SD) of the instantaneous (short term) beat-to-beat R-R interval variability (minor axis of the ellipse or SD1). SD1 can be calculated as:

$$SD1 = \sqrt{\text{var}(x_1)}$$

ii. SD2: Standard Deviation 2

Is the standard deviation (SD) of the long term R-R interval variability (major axis of the ellipse or SD2). SD2 can be calculated as:

$$SD2 = \sqrt{\text{var}(x_2)}$$

where $\text{var}(x)$ is the variance of variable x , and

$$x_1 = \frac{RR_i - RR_{i+1}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$x_2 = \frac{RR_i + RR_{i+1}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$\overrightarrow{RR_i}$ and $\overrightarrow{RR_{i+1}}$ are vectors defined as:

$$\overrightarrow{RR_i} = (RR_1, RR_2, \dots, RR_{N-1})$$

$$\overrightarrow{RR_{i+1}} = (RR_2, RR_3, \dots, RR_N)$$

Thus, it means, the x_1 and x_2 correspond to the rotation of $\overrightarrow{RR_i}$ and $\overrightarrow{RR_{i+1}}$ by angle $\frac{\pi}{4}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \frac{\pi}{4} & -\sin \frac{\pi}{4} \\ \sin \frac{\pi}{4} & \cos \frac{\pi}{4} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} RR_i \\ RR_{i+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

iii. Area of Ellipse (S)

Is the amount of area covered by the ellipse. It can be calculated by doing the product of π , SD1 and SD2 as:

$$S = \pi \cdot SD1 \cdot SD2$$

The next example of calculations for Poincaré depend on the ECG signals of healthy and patient subjects taken from fantasia database as shown in Table 1 and Table 2. The SD1 and SD2 are in ms.

Table 1. SD1 and SD2 of Patient Person

| Case | SD1 | SD2 | S |
|------|---------|----------|------------|
| 1 | 32.9287 | 120.0742 | 12415.2062 |
| 2 | 21.8979 | 61.7105 | 4243.17732 |
| 3 | 25.2745 | 52.9018 | 4198.3885 |
| 4 | 21.3007 | 33.9414 | 2270.14332 |
| 5 | 15.7004 | 79.8127 | 3934.70673 |
| 6 | 23.2662 | 66.9031 | 4887.66404 |

Table 2. SD1 and SD2 for Normal Person

| Case | SD1 | SD2 | S |
|------|---------|----------|-------------|
| 1 | 45.4924 | 117.4879 | 16782.69254 |
| 2 | 52.8311 | 133.4969 | 22145.75455 |
| 3 | 36.8274 | 126.5634 | 14635.54300 |
| 4 | 96.0846 | 268.1668 | 80907.43709 |
| 5 | 78.8477 | 159.1354 | 39399.02527 |
| 6 | 39.0706 | 138.8992 | 17040.38776 |

From Table 1 and Table 2 it is clear that, the Poincaré normal case represent the statistical value bigger than in diseases case. The Poincaré plot in HRV is widely used to detect and monitoring many important and critical diseases especially in the congestive heart failure (CHF) and cancer cause of its sensitivity.

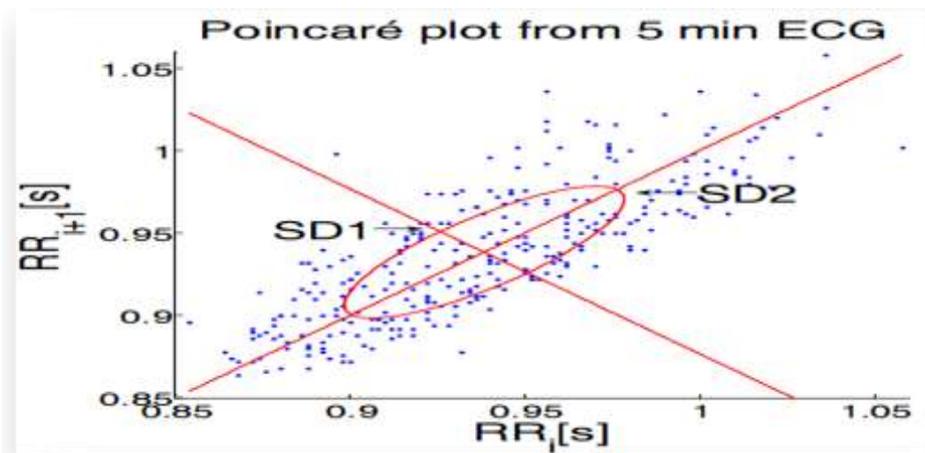


Figure 5. Poincaré plot from a 5 min record of ECG signal from before tilt in a healthy person

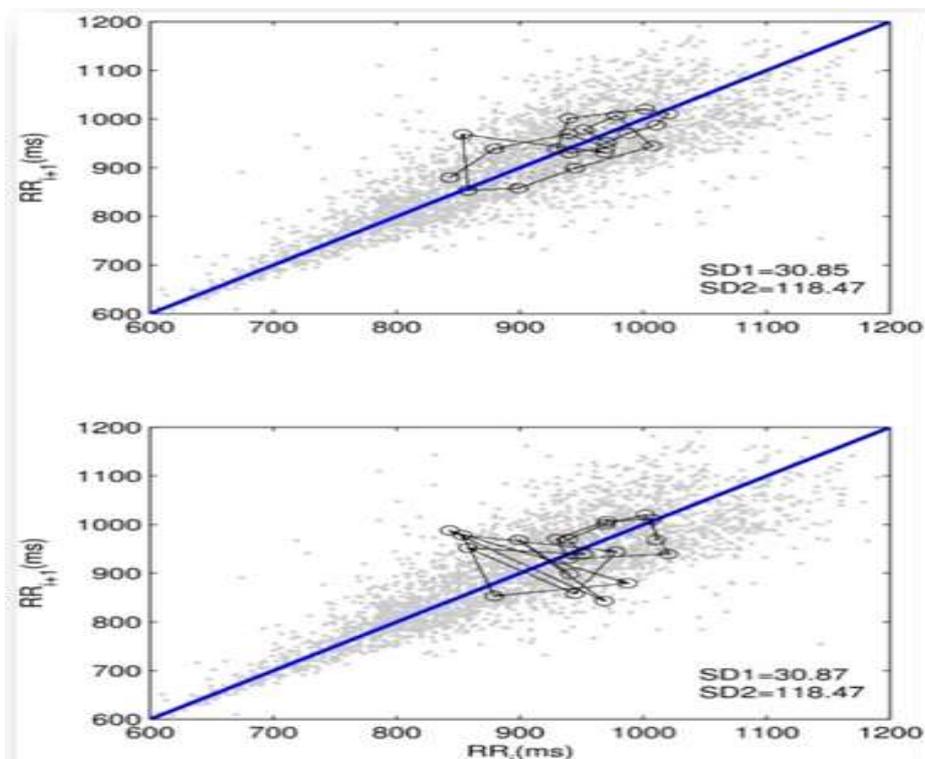


Figure 6. Poincaré plots with similar SD1 and SD2 having different temporal dynamics. Two different RR interval time series of length N (N = 2000) with similar SD1 and SD2 values having different temporal dynamics (first 20 points) are shown in top and bottom panel [15].

The typical shape of a Poincaréplot is an elongated cloud of points around the line-of identity as shown in figure 5.

Although the Poincaré is useful visual pattern for HRV, it has limitations. The primary limitation of the standard descriptors used for quantifying Poincaréplot is the lack of embedding temporal information. The standard deviations, $SD1$ and $SD2$, represent the distribution of signal in two dimensional space and carries only information of width and length. The Poincaréplots of similar $SD1$ and $SD2$ values can have completely different underlying temporal dynamics as shown in figure7 [16]. The complex correlation measure (CCM) is used to overcome this limitation. The CCM is used to quantify the temporal variation of the Poincaré plot. In addition, CCM is more sensitive to changes in temporal structure of the signal than $SD1$ and $SD2$.

V. COMPLEX CORRELATION MEASURE

The CCM evaluates point-to-point variation of a signal plotted in a Poincaréplot. Moreover, CCM is a function of multiple lag correlation of the signal [17]. The CCM computed in a windowed manner, which embeds the temporal information of the signal. A moving window of three consecutive points from the Poincaréplot is considered and the area of the triangle formed by these three points is computed. This area measures the temporal variation of the points in the window. If three points are aligned on a line then the area is zero, which represents the linear alignment of the points. Moreover, since the individual measure involves three points of the two dimensional plot, it is comprised of at least four different points of the time series for lag $m = 1$ and at most six points in case of lag $m \geq 3$. Hence, the measure conveys information about four different lag correlation of the signal. Now, suppose the i -th window is comprised of points $a(x1, y1), b(x2, y2)$ and $c(x3, y3)$ then the area of the triangle (A) for i^{th} window can be computed using the following determinant [17]:

$$A(i) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} x1 & y1 & 1 \\ x2 & y2 & 1 \\ x3 & y3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

where A is defined on the real line \Re and

$$\begin{aligned} &= 0, \text{ if points } a, b \text{ and } c \text{ are on a straight line} \\ A(i) &> 0, \text{ counterclockwise orientation of the points } a, b, \text{ and } c \\ &< 0, \text{ clockwise orientation of the points } a, b, \text{ and } c \end{aligned}$$

If Poincaréplot is composed of N points then the temporal variation of the plot, termed as CCM, is composed of all overlapping three points' windows and can be calculated as:

$$CCM(m) = \frac{1}{S(N-1)} \sum_{i=1}^{N-2} \|A(i)\|$$

where m represents lag of Poincaréplot. $A(i)$ represents area of the i -th triangle. The length of major and minor axes of the ellipse are $2SD1, 2SD2$, where $SD1, SD2$ are the dispersion perpendicular to the line of identity (minor axis) and along the line of identity (major axis) respectively.

i. Sensitivity To Changes In Temporal Structure

Literally, the sensitivity is defined as the rate of change of the value due to the change in temporal structure of the signal. The sensitivity of CCM was analyzed in order to define how it was affected by increasing amount of change in temporal structure [15]. By increasing the number of replacement points the probability of the amount of change in temporal structure of time-series signal should be increased. At each step, number of replaced points is increased by 50. The $SD1, SD2$ and CCM of a RR interval signal are calculated by increasing number of replacing points at a time. For a selected number of replacing points, it should be shuffled the points for 30 times and calculated all descriptors each time after shuffling. Finally, the replaced values of descriptors were taken as a mean of the calculated values. Now the sensitivity of descriptors $\Delta SD1_j, \Delta SD2_j$ and ΔCCM_j was calculated using the next:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta SD1_j &= \frac{SD1_j - SD1_0}{SD1_0} \times 100\% \\ \Delta SD2_j &= \frac{SD2_j - SD2_0}{SD2_0} \times 100\% \\ \Delta CCM_j &= \frac{CCM_j - CCM_0}{CCM_0} \times 100\% \end{aligned}$$

where $SD1_0, SD2_0$ and CCM_0 were the parameters measured for the original data set without replacement and j represents the window number whose data was replaced. Moreover, $SD1_j, SD2_j$ and CCM_j represent the $SD1, SD2$ and CCM values respectively after replacement of j^{th} step.

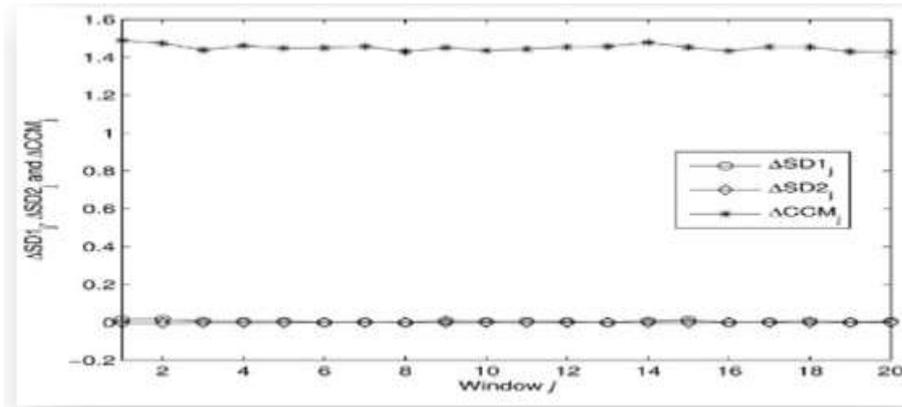


Figure 7. Sensitivity of descriptors with changed temporal structure

Figure 7 shows the sensitivity of all descriptors with change in temporal structure. $\Delta SD1$, $\Delta SD2$ and ΔCCM are calculated using the equations (5.27), (5.28) and (5.29). Value of ΔCCM is much higher than $\Delta SD1$ and $\Delta SD2$, which indicates that CCM is much more sensitive than $SD1$ and $SD2$ to the changes in underlying temporal structure of the data.

VI. THE MAZHAR-ESLAM ALGORITHM

The Mazhar-Eslam [1, 18] algorithm uses Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT) considering the merits of DWT over that of FFT. Although the FFT has been studied extensively, there are still some desired properties that are not provided by FFT. There are some points that lead to choose DWT instead of FFT. The first point is the hardness of FFT algorithm pruning. When the number of input points or output points are small comparing to the length of the DWT, a special technique called pruning is often used [19]. However, it is often required that those non-zero input data are grouped together. FFT pruning algorithms do not work well when the few non-zero inputs are randomly located. In other words, sparse signal does not give rise to faster algorithm.

The other disadvantages of FFT are its speed and accuracy. All parts of FFT structure are of equal importance. Thus, it is hard to decide which part of the FFT structure to omit when error is occurring and speed is crucial. In other words, the FFT is a single speed and single accuracy algorithm, which is not suitable for sensitive dependence (SED) cases.

Moreover, the other reason for not selecting FFT is that there is no built-in noise reduction capacity. Therefore, it is not useful to be used. According to the previous, the DWT is better than FFT especially in the SED calculations used in HRV, because each small variant in HRV indicates the important data and information. Thus, all variants in HRV should be calculated.

The Mazhar-Eslam algorithm depends to some extent on Rosenstein algorithm's strategies to estimate lag and mean period, and uses the Wolf algorithm for calculating the MVF (Ω_M) except the first two steps, whereas the final steps are taken from Rosenstein's method. Since the MVF (Ω_M) measures the degree of the SED separation between infinitesimally close trajectories in phase space, as discussed before, the MVF (Ω_M) allows determining additional invariants. Consequently, the Mazhar-Eslam algorithm allows to calculate a mean value for the MVF (Ω_M), that is given by

$$\overline{\Omega_M} = \sum_{i=1}^j \frac{\Omega_{M_i}}{j}$$

Note that the Ω_{M_i} s contain the largest Ω_{ML} and variants Ω_{M_i} s that indicate to the helpful and important data. Therefore, the Mazhar-Eslam algorithm is a more SED prediction quantitative measure. Therefore, it is a robust quantitative predictor for real time, in addition to its sensitivity for all time whatever the period.

Apply the Mazhar-Eslam algorithm to the HRV of the normal case, it is found that the mean MVF ($\overline{\Omega_M}$) is 0.4986 Hz, which is more accurate than Wolf (0.505 Hz) and Rosenstein (0.7586 Hz). **Figure 8** shows the flowchart for calculating the Mazhar-Eslam MVF algorithm.

First Start to select an initial condition. An embedded point in the attractor was randomly selected, which was a delay vector with d_E elements. A delay vector generates the reference trajectory (nearest neighbor vector). Then another trajectory is selected by searching for the point that minimizes the distance to the particular reference point. After that the divergence between the two vectors is computed. A new neighbour vector was considered as the evolution time was higher than three sample intervals. The new vector was selected to minimize the length and angular separation with the evolved vector on the reference trajectory. The steps are repeated until the reference trajectory has gone over the entire data sample. The divergence and Ω_{M_i} s are calculated. Consequently, the Ω_M is calculated.

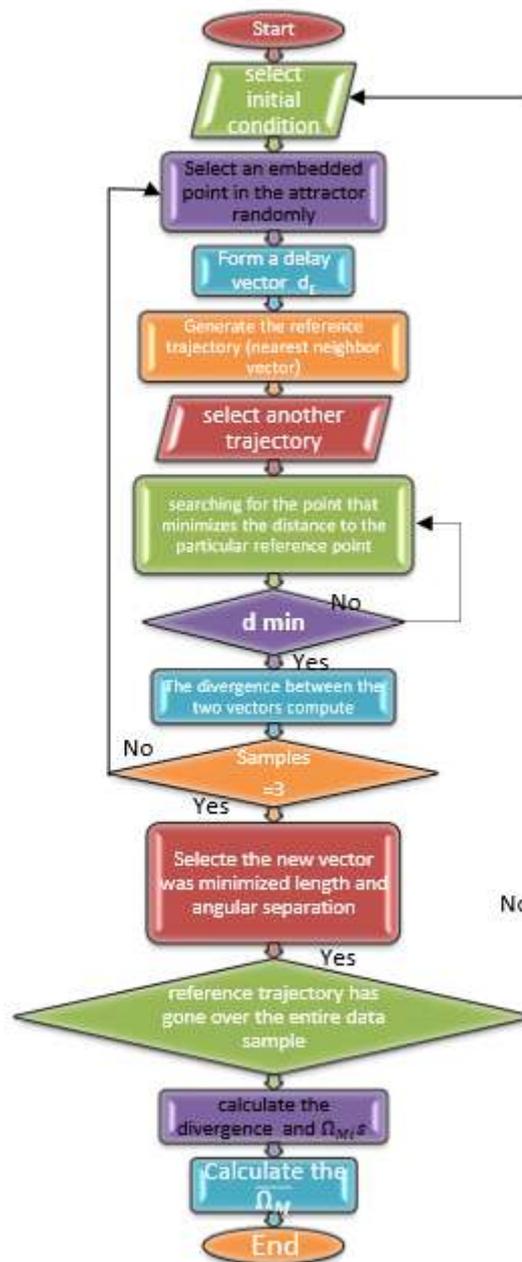


Figure 8. The flowchart of the Mazhar-Eslam algorithm.

VII. Discussions

The introduced MVF " Ω_M " divergence of initially SED nearby trajectories in state-space is coupled with folding of trajectories. To discriminate between stochastic dynamics, periodic, and aperiodic signals, the MVF " Ω_M s" are often to be used as a qualitative measure of SED. The trajectories of stochastic signals in state-space follow typical patterns. Closely spaced trajectories converge and diverge exponentially, relative to each other. Therefore, the existence of a positive MVF ($\Omega_M > 0$) for almost all initial conditions in a bounded dynamical system is to be used for the deterministic stochastic HRV cases.

Table 3 shows the spectrum bands of the normal HRV and some cases from MIT-BIH database, using the three algorithms: Mazhar-Eslam, Wolf, and Rosenstein, used to compare the SED precision of the three algorithms in determining the MVF.

It is worth to note that the introduced Mazhar-Eslam algorithm spectral analysis of the given HRV reveals three distinct frequency bands in the modulation of humans HRs. The first band is very low frequency (VLF) band in the range (0.01-0.05 Hz), the second band is low frequency (LF) band in the range (0.06 -0.15 Hz) and the third band is a high frequency (HF) band in the range (0.16-0.50 Hz) as illustrated in figure 3. These results coincides with that mentioned in [20].

Table 3. The MVF results of different methods using normal case and MIT-BIH sample cases.

| Parameter | | MVF | | |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Serial | Method Case | Rosenstein | Wolf | Mazhar-Eslam |
| 1 | Normal | 0.7586 (HF) | 0.505 (HF) | 0.4986 (HF) |
| 2 | 101 | 0.2500 (HF) | 0.1700 (HF) | 0.0830 (LF) |
| 3 | 102 | 0.1600 (HF) | 0.1300 (LF) | 0.0530 (VLF) |
| 4 | 104 | 0.2100 (HF) | 0.1300 (LF) | 0.0700 (LF) |
| 5 | 106 | 0.2300 (HF) | 0.1500 (LF) | 0.0770 (LF) |
| 6 | 107 | 0.2000 (HF) | 0.1300 (LF) | 0.0667 (LF) |
| 7 | 109 | 0.2200 (HF) | 0.1400 (LF) | 0.0733 (LF) |
| 8 | 111 | 0.2400 (HF) | 0.1600 (HF) | 0.0800 (LF) |
| 9 | 112 | 0.2400 (HF) | 0.1700 (HF) | 0.0800 (LF) |
| 10 | 115 | 0.2800 (HF) | 0.1700 (HF) | 0.0930 (LF) |
| 11 | 117 | 0.2300 (HF) | 0.1600 (HF) | 0.0770 (LF) |
| 12 | 118 | 0.2500 (HF) | 0.1600 (HF) | 0.0833 (LF) |
| 13 | 119 | 0.2700 (HF) | 0.1700 (HF) | 0.0900 (LF) |
| 14 | 121 | 0.2500 (HF) | 0.1600 (HF) | 0.0840 (LF) |
| 15 | 122 | 0.2300 (HF) | 0.1600 (HF) | 0.0770 (LF) |
| 16 | 123 | 0.2300 (HF) | 0.1500 (LF) | 0.0770 (LF) |
| 17 | 124 | 0.2500 (HF) | 0.1700 (HF) | 0.0840 (LF) |
| 18 | 200 | 0.2300 (HF) | 0.1500 (LF) | 0.0770 (LF) |
| 19 | 203 | 0.2300 (HF) | 0.1500 (LF) | 0.0770 (LF) |
| 20 | 212 | 0.2100 (HF) | 0.1400 (LF) | 0.0700 (LF) |
| 21 | 221 | 0.2100 (HF) | 0.1400 (LF) | 0.0700 (LF) |
| 22 | 230 | 0.2100 (HF) | 0.1400 (LF) | 0.0700 (LF) |
| 23 | 231 | 0.2200 (HF) | 0.1500 (LF) | 0.0740 (LF) |

* HF high frequency, LF low frequency, and VLF very low frequency.

The new measure high frequency error is calculated as

$$HFerror (r_H = \frac{HF}{total})$$

Therefore, the high frequency error r_H for MVF algorithms shown in Table 3 are

1. Rosenstein $r_{Hr} = \frac{23}{23} \times 100\% = 100\%$
2. Wolf $r_{HW} = \frac{11}{23} \times 100\% = 47.83\%$
3. Mazhar-Eslam $r_{HM} = \frac{1}{23} \times 100\% = 4.34\%$

The figure 9 shows the bar diagram of the high frequency error.

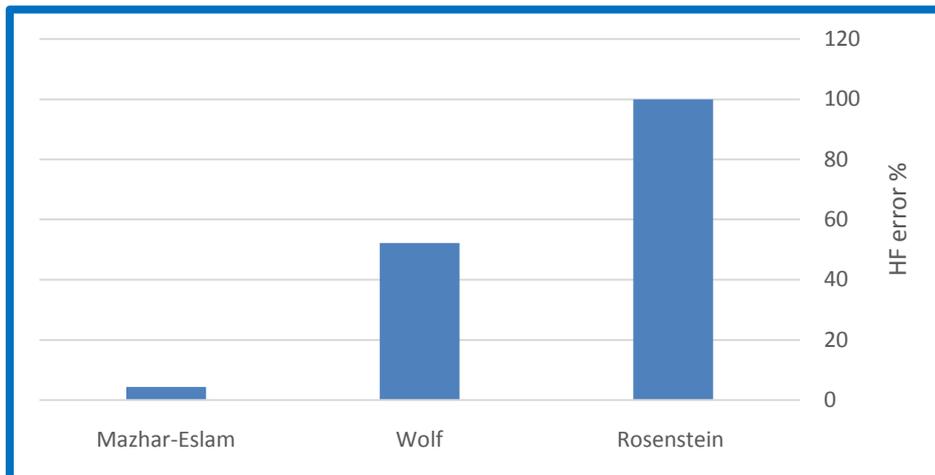


Figure 9.High frequency error of MVF.

By reference to MIT-BIH arrhythmia database medical records, it is found that the cases in Table 3 are critical cases as shown in figure 11. Some cases have Ventricular ectopy like 102, 104, 106, 107, 109, 119, 123, 221, and 231 as seen in figure 12, and some of these cases have Supraventricular ectopy like 111, 112. In addition, some of these cases in Table 3 have both Supraventricular ectopy and Ventricular ectopy like 118, 124, 200, and 203. The Ventricular ectopy and Supraventricular ectopy lie in the HRV low frequency band, because of their MVF is low. Table 3 shows that the Mazhar-Eslam algorithm for MVF $\overline{\Omega_M}$ is more precise than Wolf and Rosenstein algorithms. Also, the Mazhar-Eslam algorithm shows that the selected cases from MIT-BIH are in the low frequency range as its spectrum variation indicate ($\Omega_M < 0.16$ Hz). The Wolf algorithm has less precision than Mazhar-Eslam algorithm. Wolf observed incorrect band for cases 111, 112, 115, 117, 118, 119, 121, 122, 124, and 231 because they are not in the high frequency band as it shows but they are in the low frequency band as mentioned before. The worst and imprecise algorithm is Rosenstein as it shows all cases in the high frequency band. Thus, the Mazhar-Eslam is a recommended algorithm for HRV analysis.

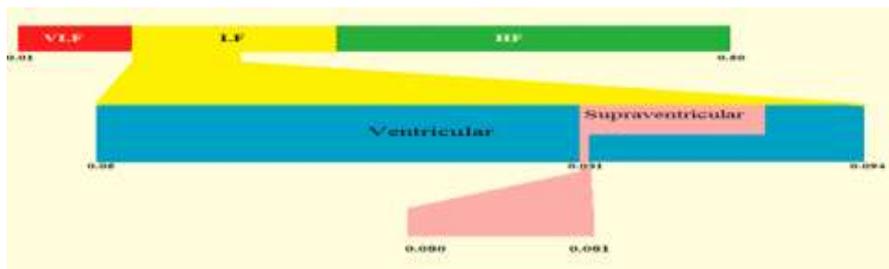


Figure 10. The MVF diagnosis diagram for ventricular and supraventricular

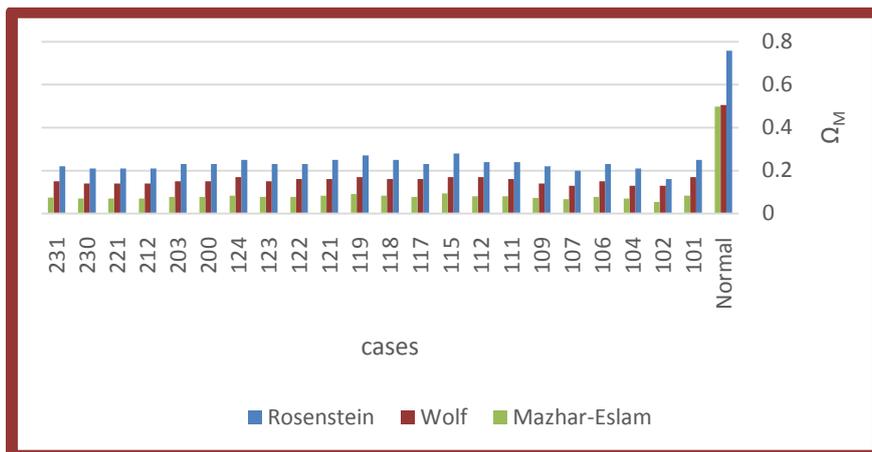


Figure 11. The MVF of the given cases.

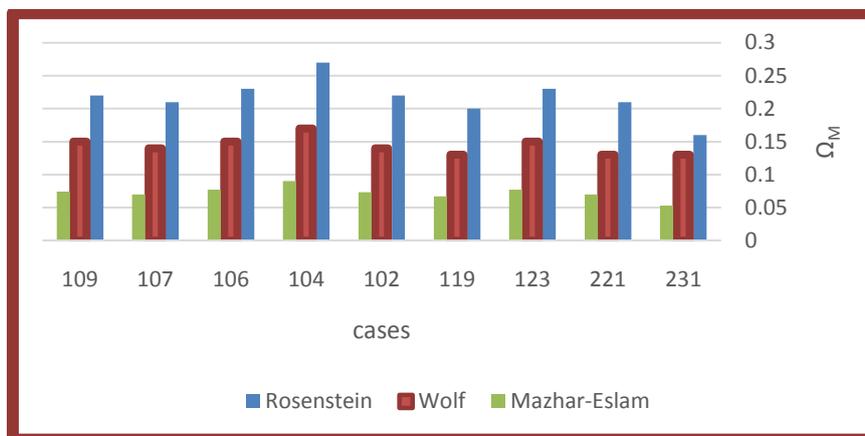


Figure 12. The MVF for ventricular cases

VIII. CONCLUSION

Heart Rate Variability (HRV) is reported in several cardiological and non-cardiological diseases. Also, it has a prognostic value and is therefore very important in modelling the cardiac risk. The HRV is a stochastic signal that remains highly controversial. In order to have utmost importance, HRV needs a sensitive measure to analyse it. It is concluded that Mazhar-Eslam variability mean frequency (MVF), is a versatile and more precise qualitative SED measure of HRV sensitivity than others. The Rosenstein algorithm provided less sensitive MVF estimates than the Wolf algorithm to capture differences in local dynamic stability from small gait data sets. The data supported the idea that this latter outcome results from the ability and inability of the Wolf algorithm and Rosenstein algorithm, respectively, to estimate adequately MVF of attractors with an important rate of convergence as those in gait.

Therefore, the Mazhar-Eslam algorithm appears to be more qualitative and appropriate to evaluate local dynamic stability from small gait data (SED) sets like HRV. Increase in the size of data set has been shown to make the results of the Mazhar-Eslam algorithm more suitable, although other means as increasing the sample size might have a similar effect. The Mazhar-Eslam algorithm uses the merits of the Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT) instead of Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) unlike Rosenstein and Wolf. The Mazhar-Eslam algorithm cares for all SED variants especially the small ones like that are in HRV. These SED variants may contain many important data to diagnose diseases as R-R interval has many SED variants. Thus, the Mazhar-Eslam algorithm for MVF ($\overline{\Omega_M}$) taking determination all of Ω_M s is characterized by its high SED robustness, and precise qualitative predictor. The Mazhar-Eslam algorithm presents a new chapter for HRV diseases diagnosis. It contains a positive part for HRV as it is stochastic signal. The next **Table 4** discusses the sensitivity and accuracy of MVF algorithms as it is clear the Mazhar-Eslam is the best MVF algorithm for HRV.

Table 4. SED of MVF algorithms.

| Cases No. | Mazher – Eslam (M-E) | Wolf (W) | Rosenstein (R) | SED |
|----------------------------|---|----------|--|---------|
| 112, 101, 124, 119 and 115 | 0.0800, 0.0830, 0.0840, 0.0900, 0.0930 | 0.1700 | 0.2400, 0.2500, 2500, 2700, 2800 | ME> W>R |
| 102, 107 and 104 | 0.0530, 0.0667, 0.0700 | 0.1300 | 0.1600, 0.2000, 0.2100 | ME> W>R |
| 117, 122, 111, 118 and 121 | 0.0770, 0.0770, 0.0800, 0.0833, 0.0840, | 0.1600 | 0.2300, 0.2300, 0.2400, 0.2500, 0.2500 | ME> W>R |
| 212, 221, 230 and 109 | 0.0700, 0.0700, 0.0700, 0.0733 | 0.1400 | 0.2100, 0.2100, 0.2100, 0.2200 | ME> W>R |
| 231, 203, 200, 123 and 106 | 0.0740, 0.0770, 0.0770, 0.0770, 0.0770 | 0.1500 | 0.2200, 0.2300, 0.2300, 0.2300, 0.2300 | ME> W>R |

The Poincaré plot is another sensitive and accurate technique that can be used for analyzing and predicting HRV. The Poincaré plot is a powerful and sensitive tool. It depends on statistical calculations. The plot and calculations represent the healthy case by a large ellipse area and very small for critical diseases cases. The Poincaré plot needs a suitable period to analyzing HRV. The recommended period lies between 5 and 20 minutes. Although, the Poincaré is sensitive and useful tool for HRV visual pattern, it has limitation. This limitation comes from limitation of standard descriptors $SD1$ and $SD2$. For avoiding this limitation, the complex correlation measure CCM is used. As the theoretical definition of CCM it is clear that the correlation information measured in $SD1$ and $SD2$ is already present in CCM . However, this does not mean that, CCM is a derived measure from existing descriptors $SD1$ and $SD2$. CCM can be considered as an additional measure incorporating information obtained in $SD1$ and $SD2$. CCM is based on the autocorrelation at different lags of the time series hence giving an in-depth measurement of the correlation structure of the plot. Therefore, the value of CCM decreases with increased autocorrelation of the plot. In arrhythmia, the pattern of the Poincaré plots becomes more complex.

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