Machine Learning (CS 771)
Classifying Heart Sounds Challenge

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1   Problem statement and challenges

There are 2 challenges as follows.

CHALLENGE 1 - Heart Sound Segmentation

The first challenge is to produce a method that can locate S_1(lub) and S_2(dub) sounds within audio data, segmenting the Normal audio files in both datasets. We need to use the segmented dataset which provides location of S_1 and S_2 sounds to identify and locate the S_1 and S_2 sounds of all the heartbeats in the unlabelled group.

CHALLENGE 2 - Heart Sound Classification

The task is to produce a method that can classify real heart audio (also known as beat classification) into one of four categories for Dataset A:

1. Normal

2. Murmur

3. Extra Heart Sound

4. Artifact

and three classes for Dataset B:

1. Normal

2. Murmur

3. Extrasystole

2   Literature review about the problem (Past approaches for similar problems)

Some of the common things in each of the earlier methods we came across were

- Filtering low frequency data, this is based on the premise that the heart sound is low frequency and most energy is concentrated in the region below 195 Hz.

- Using Hilbert Transformation and then Calculating Shannon energy. This comes from some of the earlier work done in 1997 by $Liang$[1].

- Using some kind of smoothing on the curve and then using the derivative change to find all possible points of local maxima and minima.

- This is generally followed by fitting nearby maxima/minima by a parabola, and replacing all the nearby points with the peak of the parabola.

- After we get the peaks, then classification of lub dub sound is based on the length of the diastolic and systolic period. In general we use the fact that in normal sound the pattern is always ... lub dub lub dub ... and the fact that diastolic period was longer than systolic period.

Classification of sounds is generally based on some kind of decision tree with parameters being related to the number of peaks, mean and variance of the systolic/diastolic period length. There has not been a concrete approach in any of the methods we came across, so this area is much more open for experimentation as compared to the classification of lub dub points, where the literature is quite concrete.

3   Dataset

Dataset is available in .wav and .aif format. We have used data from .wav format. Dataset A contains data at 44100 frames per second, Dataset B at 4000 frames per second. For training, segmentation data (i.e. the actual position of lub and dub sounds) is provided in a csv for 21 and 90 files for dataset A and B respectively.

4   Step involved in Challenge 1

4.1   Decimation of data

Decimate the signal by a factor of 20 for dataset A and for 2 for dataset B. This brings down the frequency close to 2000 for both the datasets. Normalize the signal to (-1,1).
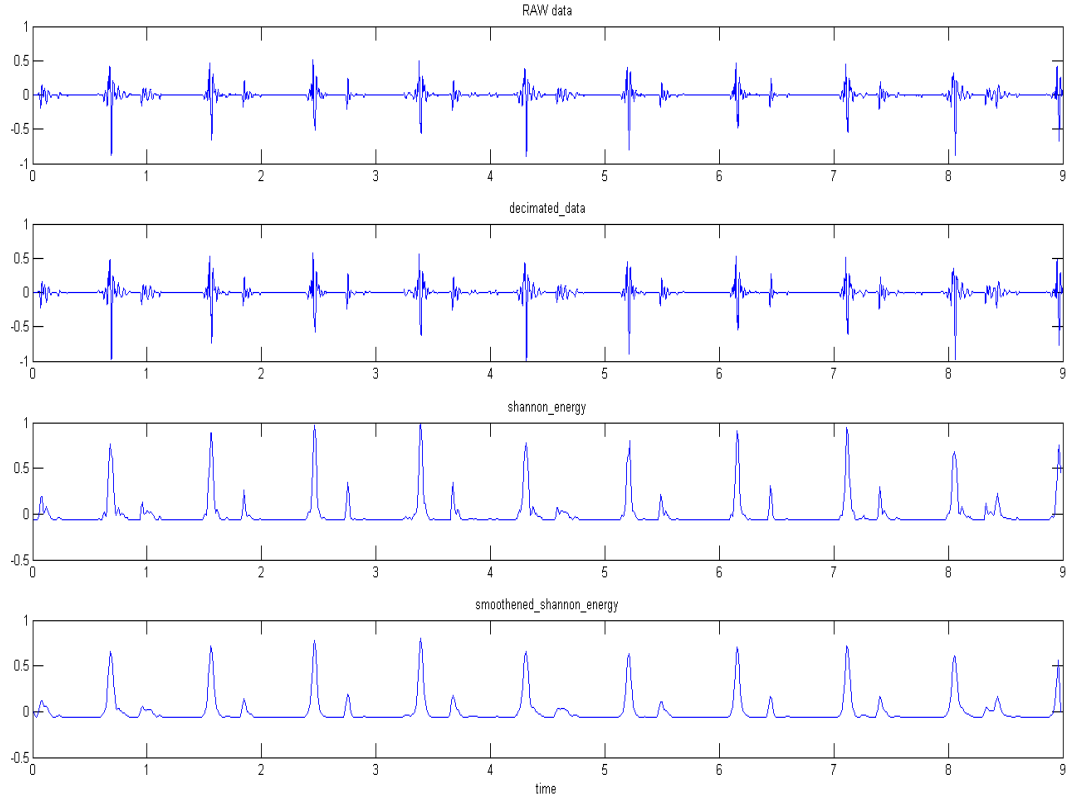
Figure 1: Steps 1-4 of Pre-Processing

4.2   Calculation of Shannon Energy

Shannon energy is calculated for continuous 0.02 seconds with an overlap 0.01 second. This is based on the paper by Liang.

Shannon energy is defined as $-\dfrac{1}{N} * \displaystyle\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} x^2(i) * ln[x^2(i)]$

4.3   Smoothening of Shannon Energy

The shannon energy obtained in the above step is smoothened using a triangular smooth. Below we show all the results obtained after each step.
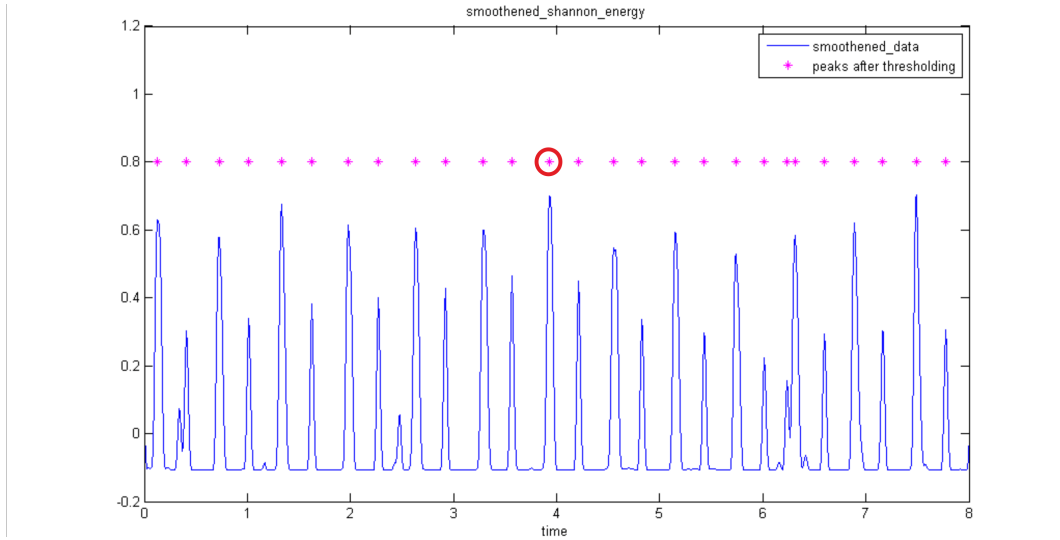
Figure 2: detecting the peak with the maximum amplitude

4.4   Calculation of S_1 Peaks

4.4.1   Getting all Peaks above a threshold

For peak detection we start of with a heuristic value of threshold and extract all values above it. These values are then passed on to the S_1 detection algorithm.

4.4.2   Getting S_1 Peaks

In this we start with the assumption the S_1 peaks have higher energy. Fist step is to pick the peak with the maximum energy.

Then we look for peaks that are one time period away from the maximum peak. These are further added to our list of S_1 Peaks. With three new S_1 Peaks the time period is updated to get a better estimate of its value. The algorithm then again runs over the instance with a new value of initial time period estimate. In this way the time period is varied from 0.4 to 1.2 seconds covering a heart-beat range of 48 per minute to 150 per minute. Since the time period is updated after finding every S_1 peak hence for any instance we are able to get a frequency locked value of the time period in case there are a number of peaks in the signal. Since this can be disturbed by extra peaks in the data we look for that set frequency in the dataset for which the S_1 peaks thus obtained have the maximum value of shannon energy. In this way we get all the S_1 peaks and also a set value of the frequency.

4.4.3   Getting S_2 Peaks

In the next step the goal is to find the S_2 peaks in the signal. For this we have used the thresholded peaks after step1 and the S_1 peaks obtained after step 2. We search for peaks in the thresholded that are near midway
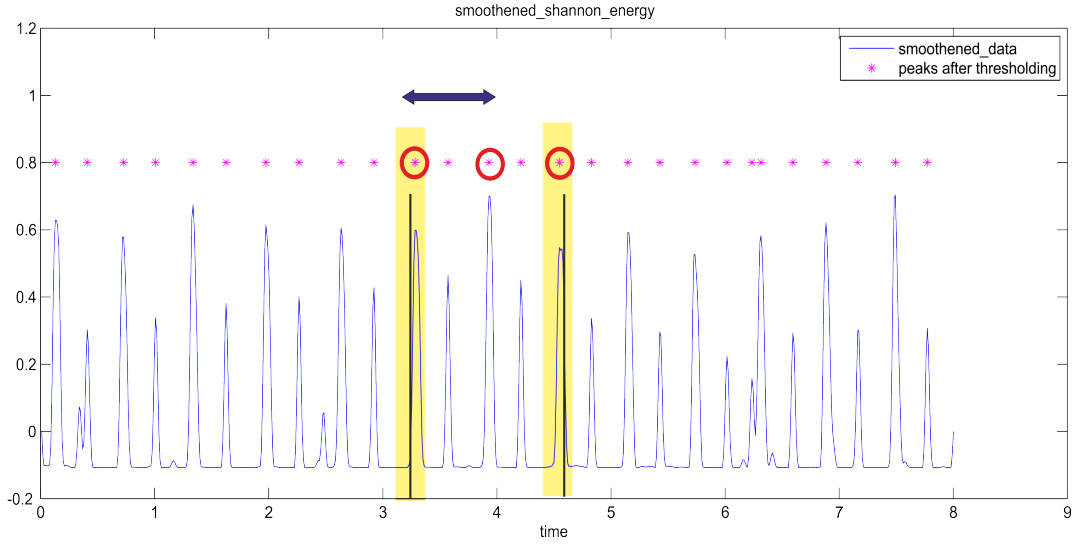
Figure 3: Searching for the consecutive S_1Peaks with an initial estimate of the time period

of two S_1 peaks in the thresholded peaks. In case no such peak exists between two S_1 peaks the threshold is lowered recursively till a peak value is found or a minimum threshold size is reached. We do this for the entire signal and obtain some S_2 values. The S_2 peaks in most of the cases are between 0.38 to 0.45 fraction of the distance between two consecutive S_1s. In case we detect multiple peaks between two consecutive S_1s we look for that S_2 which is closer to our estimate of the remaining S_2s.

4.4.4   Fixing S_1 and S_2 Peaks

Fix peaks uses the length of diastolic and systolic period to fix which is S_1 and S_2. This is done because it was observed in some cases that the S_2 peak was of higher energy which gave S_1 and S_2 in the wrong order according to our previous algorithms. Hence we finally find the pair of closer peaks between the merged set of S_1 and S_2 and mark the first point in this set as S_1 and the next as S_2.

5   Resuts for Challenge1: Segmentation

| File name	Total of Heart beat	Average Error	Total Error
201101070538.aif	8.5	110845.5882	3202646.232347
201101151127.aif	5.5	107023.1818	
201102081152.aif	9.5	179690	
201102201230.aif	10.5	1094.666667	
201102270940.aif	1	1349700.5	
201103101140.aif	9.5	39444.63158	
201103140135.aif	3	599000.3333	
201103170121.aif	5	344710.1	
201104122156.aif	6.5	155425.2308	
201106151236.aif	5	315712	
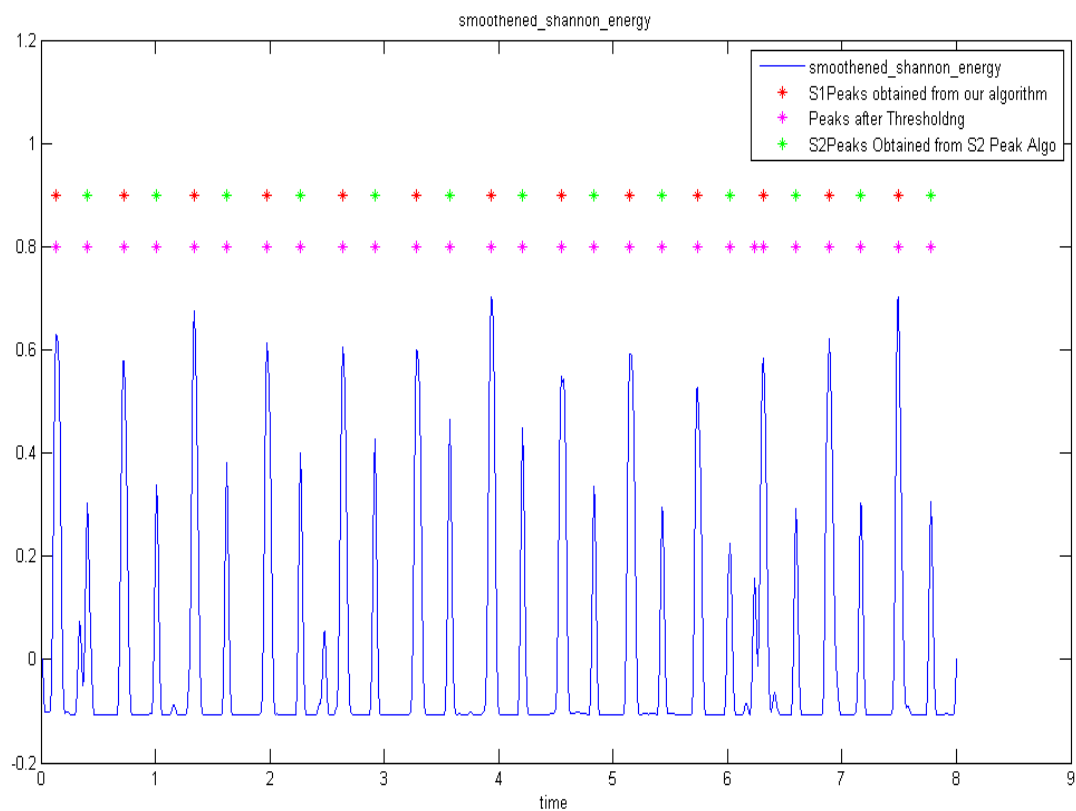
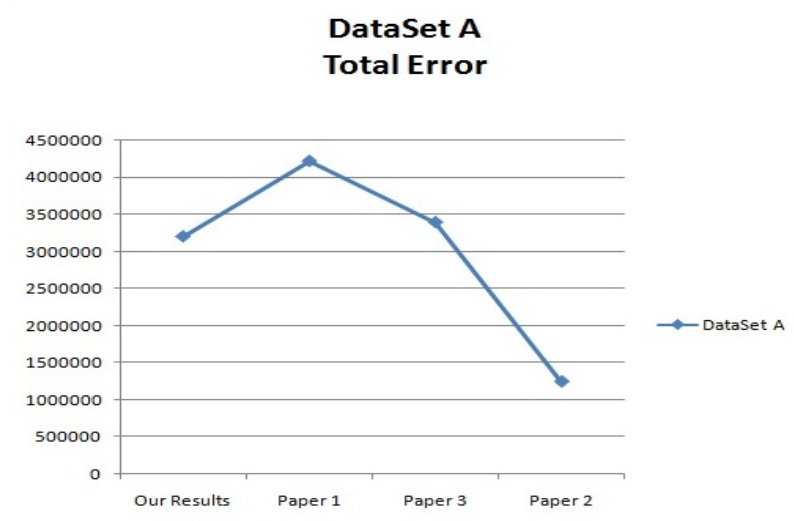Figure 4: S_1 and S_2 peaks detected from our algorithm

Figure 5:

6 Challenge 2: Classification

For Classification the first task was to select attributes to base our classifier on. We selected a set of 14 attributes which are described in the subsection . Then we tried classification using three classifiers, we used Decision Trees, SVM with Gaussian kernel and Neural Networks with one hidden layer and hidden neurons.

6.1 Attribute Selection

An instance of the data is the .wav file that stores the data for each of the sound files. After this we created attributes for each of the instances depending on the data. These attributes have been described as below:

1. **Best frequency**: The value of the time frequency of the heart beat is stored here. The time period of the heart beats is calculated as the average value of the time difference between the S_1 peaks. Inverse of the time period gives the heart beat frequency.

2. **Time Period Variance** : Variance of the time period (i.e the distance between two consecutive S_1 peaks) of the heart beats

3. **Length of Systolic period**: The average value of the time period between an S_1 and an S_2 peak is termed the systoic period of the heart beat.

4. **Length of Diastolic period** : The average value of time difference between the S_2 peak and the S_1 peak of the next heart beat is stored as the Diastolic period.

5. **Diastolic period length variance** : variance of Diastolic period

6. **Systolic period length variance** : variance of Systolic Period

7. **Number of peaks after threshold** : Number of peaks obtained after the first step of thresholding

8. **Number of peaks finally** : The final number of S_1 and S_2 peaks obtained after all the steps of the algorithm

9. S_1 **Peaks Energy** : For each of the S_1 Peak the shannon energy is calculated in a window of size 22 around it. This is then summed over all the peaks and then divided by the time length of the signal to obtain the normalised S_1 Peaks energy

10. S_2 **Peaks Energy** : The energy of the S_2 peaks is calculated in the same way as the for S_1 peaks

11. **Extra Peaks Energy** : All the peaks after thresholding that were neither S_1 nor S_2 are stored as the extra peaks. Energy is calculated over all these peaks and then normalized with respect to the time length of the signal.

12. **Systolic Period Energy** : The systolic period energy is calculated between the region of S_1 and S_2 peaks of the same heart beat

13. **Diastolic Period Energy** : The diastolic period energy is calculated as the energy between S_2 peak of one beat and the S_1 peak of the next beat

14. **Ratio of number of peaks after thresholding to the number of peaks after final step** : This is the ratio of the number of peaks found initially after thresholding to final sum of S_1 and S_2 peaks. We expect this value to be large for the murmur category.
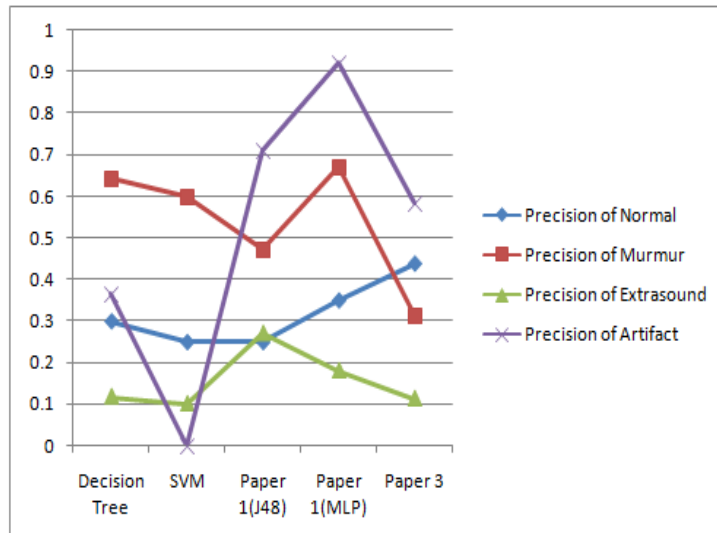
Figure 6: Errors Computed for the test files in datset A

7 Challenge 2 Results

The image below shows the result of our classifiers on Dataset A (collected from Iphone App). We show below the comparison of precision for two of our classifiers (Decision Trees and SVM with Gaussian kernel) with the results of the top 2 submissions in the contest. The first two point in the graph show our results.

The figure below shows the result of our classifiers on Dataset B, the data collected from clinical trials.

In the next figure we compare the overall precision of our results with that of the submissions in the contest.
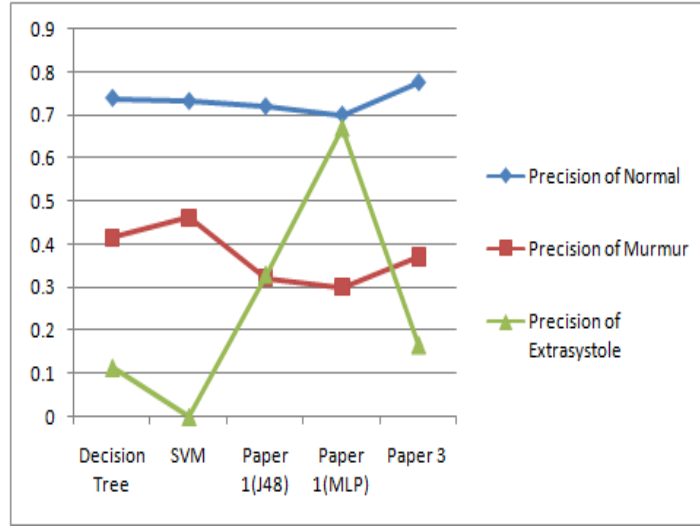
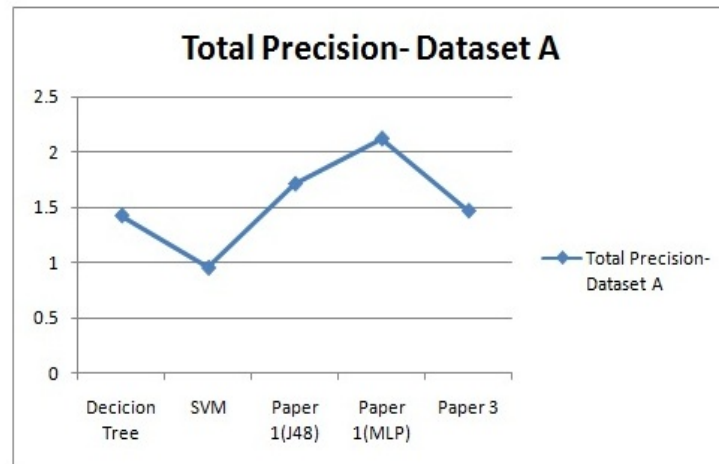Figure 7: Comparision of Precision Scores with other papers on Dataset A

Figure 8: Comparision of Precision Scores with other papers on Dataset B

Filename	Total of Heartbeat	Average Error	Total Error
103_1305031931979_B.aiff	12	1044.583333	108270.78785686
103_1305031931979_D2.aiff	9	1146.555556	
106_1306776721273_B1.aiff	3.5	2082.714286	
106_1306776721273_C2.aiff	2	5171.75	
106_1306776721273_D1.aiff	3.5	615.57	
106_1306776721273_D2.aiff	6.5	3559	
107_1305654946865_C1.aiff	7	42.85714286	
126_1306777102824_B.aiff	7	10284	
126_1306777102824_C.aiff	5	1414.9	
133_1306759619127_A.aiff	4	1090.5	
134_1306428161797_C2.aiff	2	1343.25	
137_1306764999211_C.aiff	14	4127.928571	
140_1306519735121_B.aiff	9	8459.167	
146_1306778707532_B.aiff	17	1191.735294	
146_1306778707532_D3.aiff	2.5	1195	
147_1306523973811_A.aiff	1.5	18648	
148_1306768801551_D2.aiff	7.5	1138.933333	
151_1306779785624_D.aiff	4	3117.375	
154_1306935608852_B1.aiff	4	1230	
159_1307018640315_B1.aiff	5.5	1396.727273	
159_1307018640315_B2.aiff	2.5	1439.4	
167_1307111318050_A.aiff	5.5	20858	
167_1307111318050_C.aiff	2	680.4	
172_1307971284351_B1.aiff	3	1569.5	
175_1307987962616_B1.aiff	2	1610.75	
175_1307987962616_D.aiff	9.5	6465.157895	
179_1307990076841_B.aiff	16	1230.40625	
181_1308052613891_D.aiff	2.5	1687.4	
184_1308073010307_D.aiff	26	1198.326923	
190_1308076920011_D.aiff	5	3230.9	

8 References

[1] "Heart Sound Segmentation Algorithm Based on Heart Sound Envelolgram" .H Liang, S Lukkarinen, I Hartimo .Helsinki University of Technology, Espoo, Finland.

[2] "Sapire DW. Understanding and diagnosing paediatric heart disease:" Heart sounds and murmurs. Norwalk, Connecticut, Applcton & Langc 1992: 27-43.

[3] "A Robust Heart Sound Segmentation and Classification Algorithm using Wavelet Decomposition and Spectrogram." Yiqi Deng , Peter J Bentley. Dept. of Computer Science, UCL Malet Place, London.

[4] "Classifying heart sounds using peak location for segmentation and feature construction." Emanuel Pereira,Elsa Ferreira Gomes. Institute of Engineering (ISEP/IPP) Porto,Portugal.