Bringing ICT into Newborn Monitoring: A Video-Based Approach

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Joint work with L. Cattani, G. Ferrari, G. M. Kouamou Ntonfo, F. Pisani



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Venice (Italy), April 23th, 2017



1 Introduction

- 2 Detection of seizures
- **3** Monitoring of respiration and its disorders
- **4** Simulators of neonatal disorders
- **5** Mobile application: smartCED

6 Conclusion



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Neonatal diseases



Seizures

- Involuntary contractions of one or more muscle groups due to a paroxysmal neuronal discharge
- Age-dependent phenomena and symptoms of malfunctioning of the central nervous system
- Incidence: 2.6‰ for overall newborns, 11.1‰ for preterm neonates and 13.5‰ for underweight preterm neonates
- Four main categories: subtle, tonic, clonic and myoclonic

Respiration diseases

- Interruptions of the respiratory airflow
- Significant if longer than 20 s, or only 10 s if associated with other signs/symptoms (oxygen desaturation in the arterial blood, or hypoxemia)
- Different types: central, obstructive and mixed.
- Associated with life-threatening disorders or congenital diseases
- Incidence: 2.3% of hospitalized infants, and 0.5%–0.6% of all newborns

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Systems for patient monitoring

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Seizures and nervous system diseases:

Based on EEG, ECG and EMG systems

Respiration and apnea events:

- Measure the Respiratory Rate (RR)
- Based on chest/abdomen elastic belts or nasal flow meter

Both require prolonged monitoring and specialized medical staff

Challenge

Devise wire-free, non-invasive, low-cost monitoring systems



Sleep Apnea Guide (2016), The polysomnogram test [Online].

These devices are expensive and moderately invasive

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Contactless RR monitoring



- Microwave radar sensors
- Fiber optic sensors (e.g., integrated in "smart bed")
- Networks of wireless sensors (e.g., WSNs around the patient)
- Wearable devices and smart-watches (e.g., smart sensors or clothing)

Possible solution

Video processing-based techniques for monitoring of respiration movements.



D. Dei *et al.*, "Non-contact detection of breathing using a microwave sensor," Sensors (MDPI), 2009.



V. Mishra and N. Singh, "Optical fiber gratings in perspective of their applications in biomedicine," Biomedicine, InTech, 2012.

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- Video-processing algorithms to detect specific movements or to estimate the RR of the framed subject
- Monitoring the patient with one or more digital cameras
- Possibility to use the system in hospital or in domestic environments
- Video material obtained in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of the University Hospital of Parma



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- N. B. Karayiannis et al.: pioneering work on the subject of seizure detection and analysis of newborns' movements by video cameras
 - Based on motion tracking of the limbs (e.g., optical flow, block motion models, template matching)
 - Use of neural networks (NNs) for event detection and motion classification (different types of seizures)
 - Analysis of the motion strength and motor activity signals
 - Focused only on neonatal seizures
 - Methods involving optical flow, block matching and NNs may require algorithms for features extraction, learning and computationally inefficient systems

Automated Detection of Videotaped Neonatal Seizures Based on Motion Tracking Methods

Nicolaos B. Karayiannis,* Yaohua Xiong,* James D. Frost, Jr.,† Merrill S. Wise,†‡ Richard A. Hrachovy,†§ and Eli M. Mizrahi†‡

Epilepsia (Wiley) 2006



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IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON IMAGE PROCESSING, VOL. 14, NO. 7, JULY 2005

Quantifying Motion in Video Recordings of Neonatal Seizures by Regularized Optical Flow Methods

Nicolaos B. Karayiannis, Senior Member, IEEE, Bindu Varughese, Guozhi Tao, James D. Frost, Jr., Merrill S. Wise, and Eli M. Mizrahi

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EEE TRANSACTIONS ON BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING, VOL. 52, NO. 4, APRIL 2005

Automated Extraction of Temporal Motor Activity Signals From Video Recordings of Neonatal Seizures Based on Adaptive Block Matching

Nicolaos B. Karayiannis*, Senior Member, IEEE, Abdul Sami, James D. Frost, Jr., Merrill S. Wise, and Eli M. Mizrahi

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Need for fast, straightforward and reliable algorithms for real-time analysis of newborns' movements to promptly detect possible disorders

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Motion information extraction (1/2)





- Process video frames: four steps (gray-scale, DoF, binarization, erosion). This highlights the body parts affected by motion
- Project the 2D signal into 1D by spatial averaging to significantly reduce complexity
- Extract a signal representing the movement "pattern" of the involved body parts

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Motion information extraction (2/2)

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- Seizures are characterized by specific movements of limbs or body parts
- Clonic seizures: periodic movements with a repetition time between 0.5–2.5 s



Example of clonic seizure in a newborn

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 Extracted periodic movements correspond to an epileptic event in the EEG with comparable periodicity

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(2)

Clonic seizures detection by periodicity analysis

• Model of periodicity in the motion signal $\overline{L}[n]$:

$$\bar{L}[n] = c + A\cos(2\pi f_0 n T_s + \phi) + w[n]$$
(1)

Maximum-Likelihood (ML) approach for estimation of the vector of parameters $\theta = [A, f_0, \phi]$

Fundamental frequency estimation becomes:

$$\hat{f}_0 = \arg\max_f \left| \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \bar{L}[n] e^{-j2\pi f n T_s} \right|^2$$

• Amplitude estimation: $\hat{A} = \frac{2}{N} \left| \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \bar{L}[n] e^{-j2\pi \hat{f}_0 n T_s} \right|$

Absence/presence seizures threshold: $N \hat{A}^2 > \eta$

Detection of clonic seizures (2/2)





Periodic motion signal example



Periodogram



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Performance in seizures detection



- Detection system is investigated considering a binary test:
 - Sensitivity: $\alpha = \frac{n_{\text{TP}}}{n_{\text{TP}} + n_{\text{FN}}}$; Specificty: $\beta = \frac{n_{\text{TN}}}{n_{\text{TN}} + n_{\text{FP}}}$
 - Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)
- Processing with temporal windows $NT_s = 10$ s, with 50% interlacing factor
- Performance evaluation on 10 video samples of 5 min duration with resolution 360 × 288 pixels, recorded at 25 Hz



	Real Positive	Real Negative
Positive test	$n_{\rm TP} = 51$	$n_{\rm FP} = 16$
Negative test	$n_{\rm FN} = 7$	$n_{\rm TN} = 210$
Performance	$\alpha = 0.88$	$\beta = 0.93$

Table: Detection of clonic seizures (one B&W camera).

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Extension to multiple sensors (1/2)

- Performance in seizure detection can be improved employing multiple sensors
- Multi-camera systems can see movements that may be covered for a single camera
- Extension of the periodicity model for *S* sensors

$$\bar{L}_s[n] = c_s + A_s \cos\left(2\pi f_0 n T_s + \phi_s\right) + w_s[n] \quad s \in \{1, 2, \dots, S\}$$
 (3)

Data fusion for periodicity estimation

$$\hat{f}_0 = \arg\max_f \sum_{s=1}^{S} \left| \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \bar{L}_s[n] e^{-j2\pi f n T_s} \right|^2$$
(4)

■ A significant periodic component is declared if a threshold η is exceeded according to $\frac{N}{S}\sum_{s=1}^{S}\hat{A}^2 > \eta$





 Covered movements can be detected by camera sensors with different viewpoints



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- Processing with temporal windows $NT_s = 10$ s, with 50% interlacing factor
- Performance evaluation on 4 video samples of 1 min duration with resolution 360 × 288 pixels, recorded at 25 Hz



Better performance by increasing the number of sensors involved

Application of depth sensor



- Depth information can be used to improve the ability of a standard video-based system to distinguish pathological movements from:
 - background noise
 - 2 random movements not concerning the framed patient



- Performance evaluation on 2 video samples of 10 min duration with resolution 640 × 480 pixels, recorded at 30 Hz
- Issues: shadowing noise

	Real Positive	Real Negative
Positive test	$n_{\mathrm{TP}} = 138$	$n_{\rm FP} = 10$
Negative test	$n_{\rm FN} = 12$	$n_{\rm TN} = 78$
Performance	$\alpha = 0.92$	$\beta = 0.88$

Table: Detection of clonic seizures (1 camera + depth sensor [S = 2]).

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Selection of a part of the body to track (e.g. limbs)

Tracking of movements

- Feature selection as Most Interesting Motion Point (MIMP) by optical flow analysis
- Trajectories extraction by features tracking with template matching
- Similarity measure: Mean Absolute Difference (MAD)









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Issues on motion information extraction UNIVERSITÀ

- Extraction of a signal which describes the amount of breathing movement in a video recorded by an RGB camera
- The algorithm employed for large movements is inefficient



Difficulty in the extraction of a reliable motion signal for small movements, such as the ones related to respiration

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Issues on motion information extraction UNIVERSITÀ

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PROBLEM

Difficulty in the extraction of a reliable motion signal for small movements, such as the ones related to respiration

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Subtle motion magnification



- Eulerian Video Magnification (EVM):¹
 - frame decomposition by Laplacian pyramid $\{\mathbf{P}_0, \ldots, \mathbf{P}_{L-1}\}$
 - pixel-wise temporal filtering { $\Upsilon_0, \ldots, \Upsilon_{L-1}$ }
 - variable gain amplification $\{\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_{L-1}\}$ 3
 - video frame reconstruction
- Application of the motion extraction algorithm after the EVM processing



¹Wu, Rubinstein, Shih, Guttag, Durand, Freeman, "Eulerian video magnification for revealing subtle changes in the world," ACM. Trans. Graph., vol. 31, no. 4, pp. 65:1-65:8, July 2012.

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ML approach: $\begin{cases} \bar{L}[n] = c + \cos(2\pi f_0 T_s n + \phi) + w[n] \\ \hat{f}_0 = \arg\max_f \|\text{DFT}\{\bar{L}[n]\}\|^2 \end{cases}$



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Performance in apnea detection²



- Applied on video recordings framing newborns for performance evaluation in the detection of apnea events
- Analysis of the signal $\bar{L}[n]$ is performed on half-interlaced windows with a time duration of $NT_s = 20$ s
- Results are reported in terms of sensitivity (α) and specificity (β), where:

$$\alpha = \frac{T_{\rm TP}}{T_{\rm TP} + T_{\rm FN}} \qquad \beta = \frac{T_{\rm TN}}{T_{\rm TN} + T_{\rm FP}}$$

Performance in apnea detection							
case	DA	T_{TP}	$T_{\rm TN}$	$T_{\rm FP}$	$T_{\rm FN}$	α	
worst	13	1200	1800	500	140	0.90	0.78
best	17	1340	1920	380	0	1.00	0.83

Legend: DA=number of Detected Apneas; T_{TP} , T_{TN} , T_{TP} , T_{FN} (s).

²This algorithm is referred to as Motion Magnification for Apnea Detection (**MMAD**).

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(5)

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(5)



- EVM is employed as a pre-processing system ⇒ video is processed two times
- The method for the extraction of motion signal is highly inefficient for periodical breathing movements:

1 DoF \Rightarrow high-pass FIR filter with $H(f) = 1 - e^{-j2\pi f}$

2 breathing frequencies of a newborn at rest \Rightarrow 18 – 60 bpm





■ EVM is employed as a pre-processing system ⇒ video is processed two times

Integration of EVM with motion analysis algorithm.



Solutions

- Integration of the EVM algorithm with the motion signal extraction algorithm
- Use of appropriate digital filters





- Avoid to use the DoF filter in the extraction of L
 [n] ⇒ employ the temporal filters of the EVM
- Avoid to reconstruct the overall pyramid for frame reconstruction
 ⇒ employ the pyramidal levels
- Frames processing for motion information extraction on pyramidal levels ⇒ data fusion for RR estimation

³This algorithm is referred to as Spatio-Temporal video processing for RR estimation (**STRE**).

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Spatio-temporal RR estimation³







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Performance in RR estimation



- RR estimated from $\{\bar{L}_{\ell}\}_{\ell=0}^{L-1}$ signals (employed for data fusion) are compared with rates estimated from pneumogram.
- According to medical practice, a tolerance of $\pm 15\%$ is considered.



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Exploiting pixel-wise variations





- Periodic pixel-wise variations can be exploited to analyze spatio-temporal movements of the framed patient
- Pixel-wise variations can be modeled as

$$\mathbf{X}[n] = \mathbf{C} + \mathbf{A}\cos(2\pi f_0 T_s n + \mathbf{\Phi}) + \mathbf{W}[n]$$
(6)

■ ML approach to estimate the vector of parameters $\theta = [\mathbf{a}_v, f_0, \phi_v]$ (where $\mathbf{s}_v [n] = \text{vec} (\mathbf{S} [n])$)



The likelihood function becomes:

$$J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sum_{p=0}^{M_1 M_2 - 1} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[x_{\rm v}[p, n] - a_{\rm v}[n] \cos\left(2\pi f_0 T_s n + \phi_{\rm v}[p]\right) \right]^2 \quad (7)$$

Estimation of the fundamental frequency:

$$\hat{f}_0 = \frac{f_s}{N} \max_{\substack{k_{\min} \le k \le k_{\max}}} \sum_{p=0}^{M_1 M_2 - 1} \left| \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_v[p, n] e^{-j2\pi \frac{k}{N} n} \right|^2$$
(8)

Pixel-wise amplitudes may be estimated as:

$$\hat{a}_{v}[p] = \frac{2}{N} \left| \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_{v}[p,n] e^{-j2\pi \hat{f}_{0}T_{s}n} \right|$$
(9)

The ML approach can be both used to estimate the RR of the framed patient and select areas, inside the video frames, mainly affected by respiratory movements

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- Analysis of pixel-wise variations related to respiratory movements and estimate the RR of the framed patient:
 - Selection of *R* areas (Regions Of Interest, ROI) involved in respiratory movements only
 - Large motion detection on ROI, which can compromise performance in the estimation of RR
 - Data fusion on multiple ROI to reinforce and improve RR estimation
 - Estimation is performed on temporal windows of NT_s seconds

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Pixel-wise ML video processing (2/2)





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Pixel-wise ML video processing (2/2)



The ML approach is applied to ROI, to reinforce estimation and avoid the interference of large movements

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Pixel-wise ML video processing (2/2)



The ML approach is applied to ROI, to reinforce estimation and avoid the interference of large movements

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The pixel-wise ML approach exploits temporal periodicity of pixels involved in respiratory movements



Examples of RR estimation



The algorithm can estimate the RR over time, monitoring continuously the framed patient



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Performance analysis



- The pixel-wise ML algorithm is compared with the "gold-standard" pneumogram and the STRE algorithm
- Tests for the whole video and using a number of ROI R = 4



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Analysis and design of RR estimators



- A non-trivial problem: the lack of databases of video recordings properly matched with reliable medical data:
 - apnea events may be rare (CCHS or other syndromes)
 - long records with simultaneous RR measurements and video streams may not be readily available
- Detection and measurement algorithms must be designed, tested and reliable

Statistical models of RR patterns and of respiratory pauses/apnea events

Two models:

respiratory pauses/apnea eventscomplete RR patterns

Continuous-Time Markov Chains (CTMC)-based statistical models

Simulators:

- software-based
- hardware-based

In-depth tests of developed video processing-based algorithms

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- Apnea is defined as an absence of respiration of at least 20 s, or 10 s if associated with other symptoms
- Apnea events can be related to severe dysfunctions (Obstruction Sleep Apnea Syndrome [OSAS] or congenital diseases as Congenital Central Hypoventilation Syndrome [CCHS])
- Event based statistical model: two-state Markov chain
 - $S_0 = \{\text{apnea event}\}$ $S_1 = \{\text{regular breathing}\}$
 - $\bullet b_i = \{ \text{duration of apnea} \} \qquad a_i = \{ \text{duration of regular breathing} \}$
 - **model parameters:** $b_i \sim \exp(\mu)$, $a_i \sim \exp(\nu)$





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- **RR** of a newborn (at rest): 0.3-1.1 Hz (18-66 bpm)
- The two-state model is extended to N state, where each state $\{S_n\}_{n=0}^{N-1}$ represents the RR $\{\varrho_n\}_{n=0}^{N-1}$ and the order $\varrho_0 < \ldots < \varrho_{N-1}$ is assumed
- States {S_n}^{N-1}_{n=0} are properly assigned depending on the presence of apnea events and large random movements
- The CTMC model is characterized by the inter-arrival times $\tau_{\ell} \sim \exp(\mu_n)$ and from the infinitesimal generator matrix Λ





Two-state model

- The mean duration of apnea events and of regular breathing can be estimated from clinical evaluations or pneumographic signals
- Average values may be set as: $\mathbb{E}\{a_i\} = 1/\nu$, $\mathbb{E}\{b_i\} = 1/\mu$
- Parameters of the CTMC model are simply estimated

Extended N-state model

- Real RR are estimated from recorded pneumographic signals
- Rates $\{\varrho_n\}_{n=0}^{N-1}$ are selected by Lloyd-Max⁴ quantization to N levels
- Transition rates and infinitesimal generator matrix are obtained by ML estimator: $\hat{\Lambda}$, where $\hat{\lambda}_{m,n} = \frac{N_{m,n}(T)}{R_n(T)} \ge 0$

⁴S. Lloyd, "Least squares quantization in PCM", IEEE Trans. Inf. Theory, vol. 28, no. 2, 1982 Riccardo Raheli (University of Parma) IARIA – MMEDIA 2017 Venice (IT), Apr. 23th, 2017 35 / 51

Estimation of model parameters





Extended N-state model

- Real RR are estimated from recorded pneumographic signals
- Rates $\{\varrho_n\}_{n=0}^{N-1}$ are selected by Lloyd-Max⁴ quantization to N levels
- Transition rates and infinitesimal generator matrix are obtained by ML estimator: $\hat{\Lambda}$, where $\hat{\lambda}_{m,n} = \frac{N_{m,n}(T)}{R_n(T)} \ge 0$

⁴S. Lloyd, "Least squares quantization in PCM", IEEE Trans. Inf. Theory, vol. 28, no. 2, 1982 Riccardo Raheli (University of Parma) IARIA – MMEDIA 2017 Venice (IT), Apr. 23th, 2017 35 / 51

Simulators



Software-based simulator

- Interpolation and decimation of video frames in order to accelerate or slow down breathing movements
- Noise compensation algorithm to maintain background noise

Hardware-based simulator

- Able to replicate breathing movements of the chest
- Based on Arduino UNO board to drive the DC step motor which move part of the chest



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- (a) normal breathing pattern [original video]
- · (b) software-simulated respiratory pause
- · (c) real respiratory pause

Simulation of breathing patterns



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Performance by simulated patterns

- Performance for the detection of apnea events with two algorithms: MMAD and STRE
- Performance is measured in terms of:
 - Receiver Operating Characteristics (ROC)
 - sensitivity (α) and specificity (β)
 - Area Under Curve (AUC)
 - Diagnostic Odds Ratio $\Delta = \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \cdot \frac{\beta}{1-\beta}$
- (a) performance for software-based simulator
- (b) performance for hardware-based simulator



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$$\Delta = \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \cdot \frac{\beta}{1-\beta}$$

- (a) performance for software-based simulator
- (b) performance for hardware-based simulator

Algorithm	α	β	Δ
MMAD	0.888	0.829	38.4
STRE	0.91	0.869	67.1

(a) Detection performance for software-based simulator.

Algorithm	α	β	Δ	
MMAD	0.951	0.787	71.7	
STRE	0.923	0.896	103.3	

(b) Detection performance for hardware-based simulator.

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Hardware simulation of seizure events



Clonic seizures



Tonic seizures





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1 Introduction

- 2 Detection of seizures
- **3** Monitoring of respiration and its disorders
- 4 Simulators of neonatal disorders

5 Mobile application: smartCED

6 Conclusion






Smartphone Based Contactless Epilepsy Detector

Android application for neonatal seizures detection

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Laboratory test with seizure simulator.

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SmartCED app: multiple sights





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SmartCED app: crisis database

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Count the number of epileptic crises

- Save starting and ending time of the detected event
- Display the duration of each single event
- Show the city where the event is detected

夏 smartCED

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Crisis: 64

Start date: Mon 30 Nov 2015, 17:26:50 End Date: Mon 30 Nov 2015, 17:29:25 Country: Parma, Italy Elapsed Time: 2m 35s

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Crisis: 63

Start date: Mon 30 Nov 2015, 11:30:03 End Date: Mon 30 Nov 2015, 11:32:47 Country: Parma, Italy Elapsed Time: 2m 44s



Crisis: 62

Start date: Mon 30 Nov 2015, 10:53:35 End Date: Mon 30 Nov 2015, 10:53:45 Country: Parma, Italy Elapsed Time: 10s



Crisis: 61

Start date: Fri 6 Nov 2015, 10:26:16 End Date: Fri 6 Nov 2015, 10:28:44

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SmartCED app: geo-localization





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Conclusions



- Algorithms for remote monitoring of newborns
- Periodicity analysis applied to the detection of seizures, apneas and monitoring of RR
- Statistical models of apneas and breathing patterns based on CTMCs useful to devise simulators
- Development of software- and hardware-based simulators to test video processing-based algorithms
- Mobile Android APP for neonatal seizure detection

Future work

- Extension to other vital signs (e.g. heart rate)
- Development of portable contactless devices to monitor patient on single-board computers
- Improvement of the statistical models by taking into account other conditions

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Conclusions



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International Journals

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- D. Alinovi, G. Ferrari, F. Pisani, and R. Raheli, "Respiratory rate monitoring by maximum likelihood video processing," in *Proceedings of 2016 IEEE International Symposium on Signal Processing and Information Technology* (ISSPIT), (Limassol, Cyprus), IEEE, Dec. 2016.
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Multimedia material

- Video multimedia support for the article "Markov chain modeling and simulation of breathing patterns," in *Biomedical Signal Processing and Control.* DOI: 10.1016/j.bspc.2016.12.002. Direct link.
- Video multimedia support for the article "Monitoring infants by automatic video processing: A unified approach to motion analysis," in *Computers in Biology and Medicine*.
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Thank you for your attention! ANY QUESTION?

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UNIVERSITÀ DI PARMA DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY

Riccardo Raheli (University of Parma)

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