

Multi-Modal Representation Learning and its Application in Healthcare: Applying Deep Residual Shrinkage Network in Detecting Sleep Apnea Based on BCG signals

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Introduction

Problem Definition:

- Sleep Apnea:** prevalent¹ but underrecognized² among population and can increase risk of cardiovascular disease^{3,4}
 - Polysomnography (PSG):** golden standard for sleep disorder, but costly and inconvenient
 - Ballistocardiography (BCG):** Non-contact sensors embedded in the smart bed⁵ to detect the vibration of human body. Cost-effective and accessible.
- Apply machine learning to detect apnea from BCG signals



Method

Overall Pipeline:

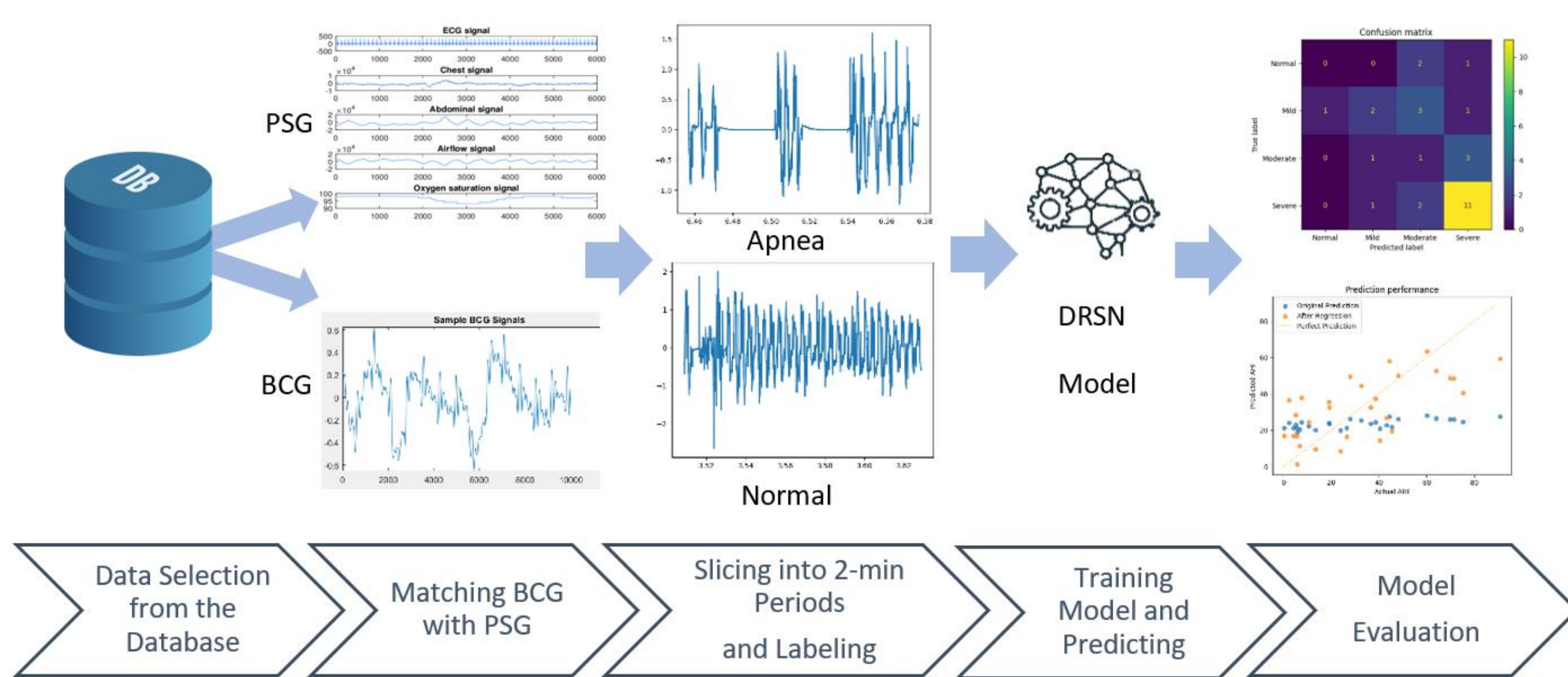


Figure 1. Overall pipeline of the study

Data Collection and Processing:

- 31 pieces of BCG, PSG signals with corresponding human experts diagnosis records;
- BCG: 500/1000hz sensors, with 1.8M~3.6M data points/hour;
- PSG: Airflow, SpO₂, sound to identify and label apnea;

Model Architecture and Training:

- Deep residual shrinkage network (DRSN)⁶ incorporates ResNets and soft-thresholding, designed to recognize features from highly noised vibration signals
- Divide BCG signals to 2 min slices, manual labeling in contrast with PSG and train the model.

Evaluation

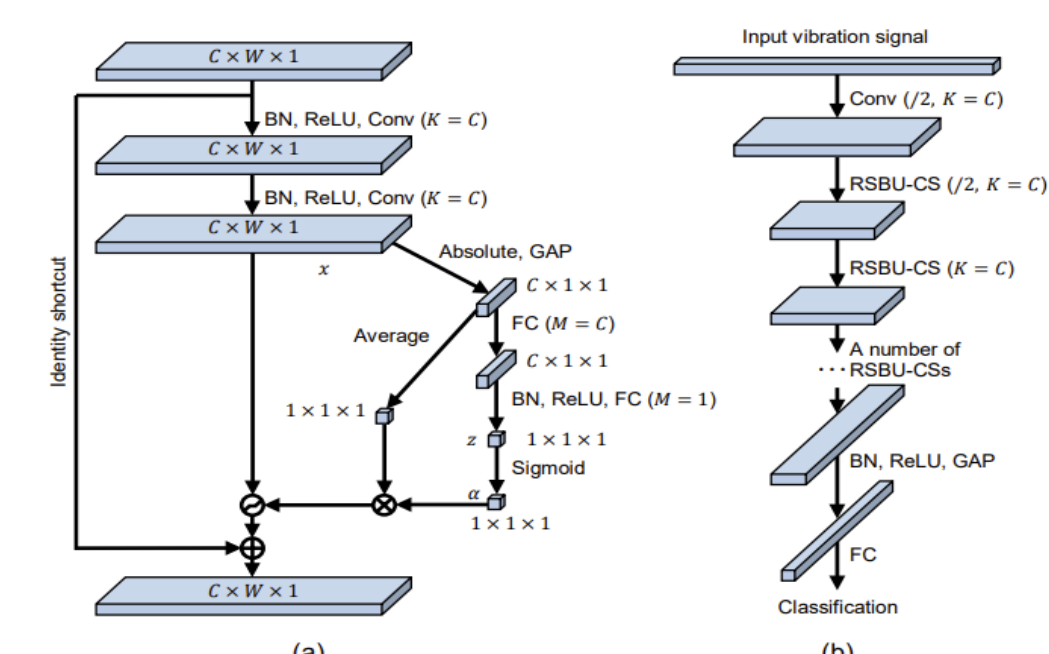


Figure 2. Model architecture

Scale	Method	Data Source	Apnea Hypopnea Index
Signal Segment	1. Binary classification 2. Multiclass classification	7163 Segments	AHI OSA Level
Overnight Signal	1. AHI estimation 2. Apnea severity classification	31 BCG in contrast to PSG signals	[0, 5] Normal
Follow-up	Contrast the model prediction with patients' survey	Patients' self-reported survey	(5, 15] Mild
			(15, 30] Moderate
			(30, +∞) Severe

Figure 3. Three-stage evaluation scheme

Table 1. Criteria of severity of sleep apnea according to American Academic of Sleep Medicine

Results

Demographic Statistics and Survey Results:

Subject	Statistics	Top 5 most prevalent symptoms reported, n(%)
Sex, n (%)		Mouth breathing 12(100)
Male	23 (74.19)	Snoring 11(91.67)
Female	3(9.68)	Sleep apnea 11(91.67)
Undefined	5(16.13)	Morning xerostomia 9(75)
Age ($\bar{x} \pm s$)	41.47(12.04)	Rhinitis 6(50)
BMI ($\bar{x} \pm s$)	27.32(4.62)	
AHI ($\bar{x} \pm s$)	33.91(25.51)	
Sleep hours, minutes ($\bar{x} \pm s$)	449.48(124.27)	

(Left) Table 2. Demographics of selected participants
(Right) Table 3. Frequent self-reported symptoms in the survey among patients

Segment Prediction:

Metrics	Score (95% C.I.)
Accuracy	0.962 (0.951, 0.971)
Precision	0.961 (0.946, 0.975)
Recall	0.958 (0.940, 0.972)
F1 score	0.959 (0.947, 0.968)
AUC	0.9915

Table 4. Results of binary classification: with or without apnea

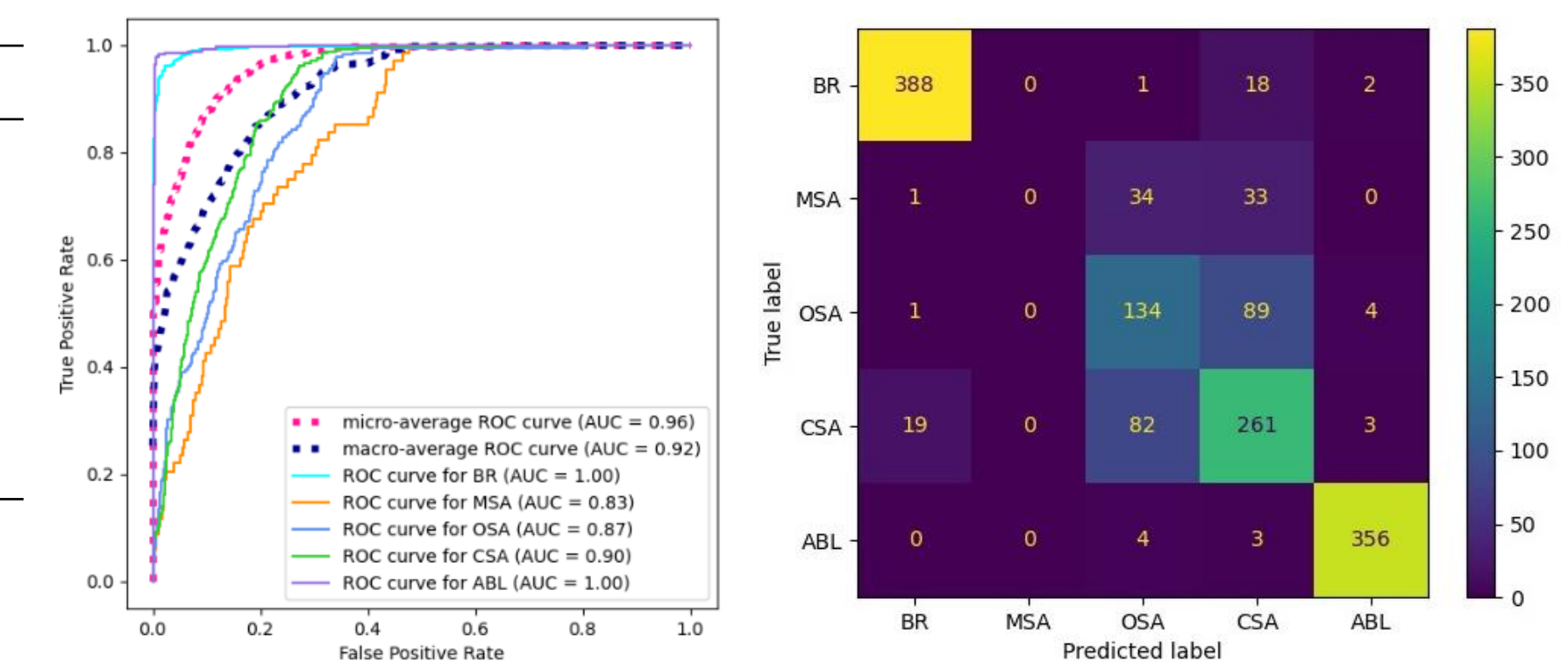


Figure 4. Results of 5-class classification. Left: ROC curve for individual classes and overall AUC score. Right: Confusion matrix

AHI and Severity Prediction:

- AHI prediction: correlation with actual AHI is 0.81; regression, $R^2 = 0.656$, 95% C.I. is [1.001, 1.861], $p < .0001$
- With demographic variables BMI Age, F/M: correlation 0.849, $R^2 = 0.722$, BMI is significant variable

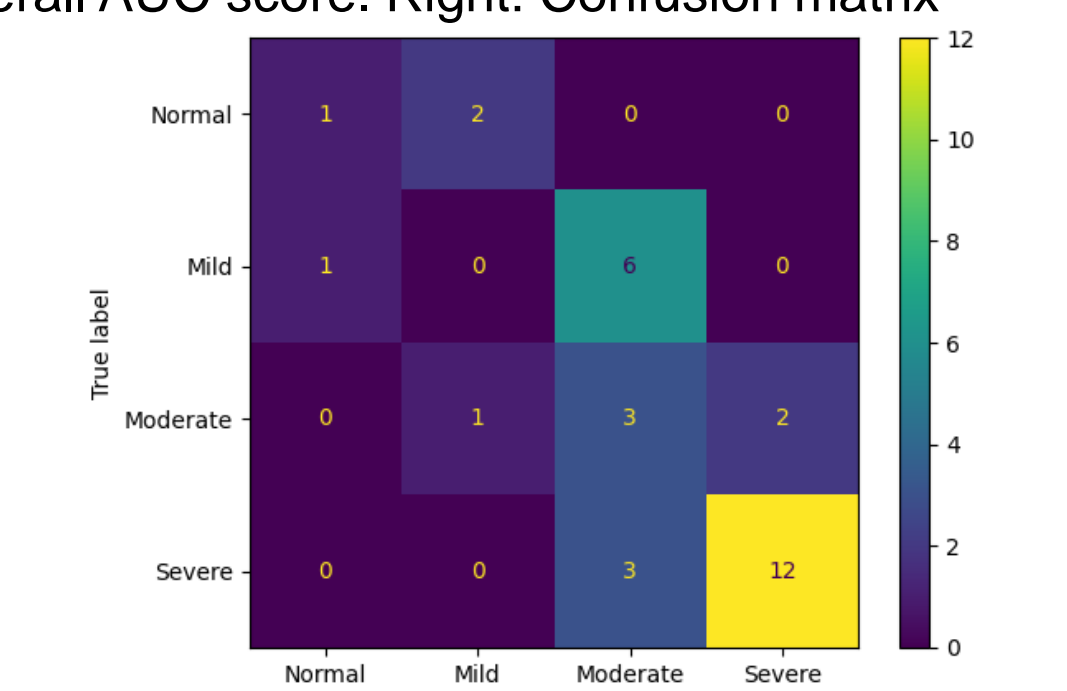


Figure 5. Confusion matrix of severity prediction

Table 5. Severity classification results based on predicted AHI

Severity	Precision	Recall	f1 Score	Support
Normal	0.50	0.33	0.40	3
Mild	0	0	0	7
Moderate	0.25	0.50	0.33	6
Severe	0.86	0.80	0.83	15

Discussion

Intrinsic challenges in BCG Signals:

- Heterogeneous vibration
- Instability, due to signal saturation, external disturbance
- Non uniform presentation of apnea

Potential Implications:

- Deep learning's potential in learning patterns of non-contact BCG signals
- Various sleep disorders detection
- BCG sensors embedded in bed - higher user compliance, less influence to sleep quality compared to in-lab test
- Long-term at-home monitoring of sleep disorders
- Contribute to a comprehensive health management system
- Future Directions:**
 - Collect patient's survey and complete follow-up evaluation
 - Tackle instability and enhance model's interpretability;
 - Integrate with more functional modules related to sleep medicine, including sleep staging insomnia detector etc.

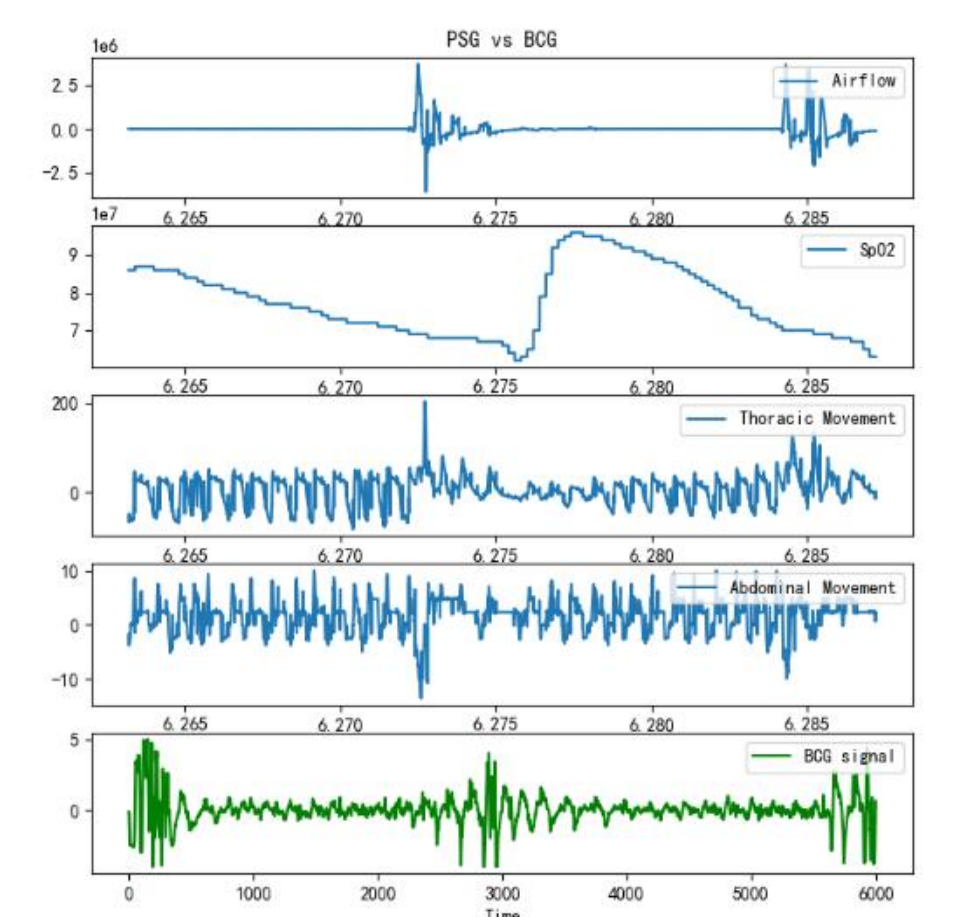


Figure 6. BCG signals in comparison with PSG channels

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