

## Comparative Study of Voice Signal Features Extraction Methods

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**Abstract:** Creating voice signal features is an important and vital task, these features can be used in any security system to identify human and to identify the spoken word (phrase) by this human.

In this research paper we will investigate three methods, each of them can be used to create a voice signal features, we will adopt and modify LBP method to be capable to create a features for a voice signal. The three methods will be programmed and implemented, the obtained experimental results will studied and analyzed in order to give some judgment about these method.

**Key words:** Crest factor, dynamic range, Mu, sigma, LBP, CSLBP, MLBP, K-means, throughput, speed up.

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### I. Introduction

A voice signal is a representation of sound, typically using a level of electrical voltage for analogue signals, and a series of binary numbers for digital signals. Voice signals have frequencies in the audio frequency range of roughly 20 to 20,000 Hz, which corresponds to the lower and upper limits of human hearing [1].

The analogue voice signal can be converted to digital signal by applying the operations shown if figure 1 (sampling, quantization and encoding):

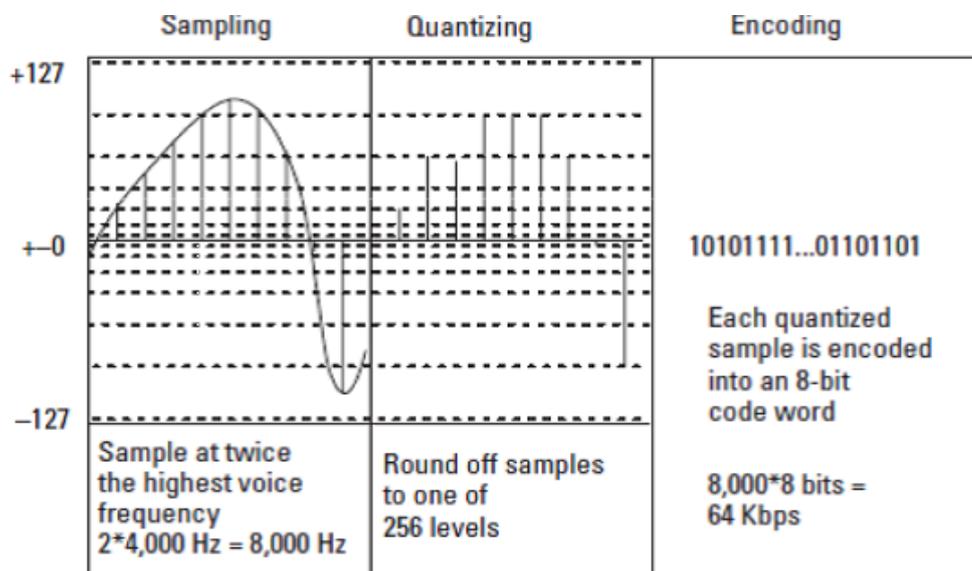


Figure 1: Converting analogue voice to digital)

The number of samples generated in a unit of time is called sampling rate (frequency FS) as shown in figure 2:

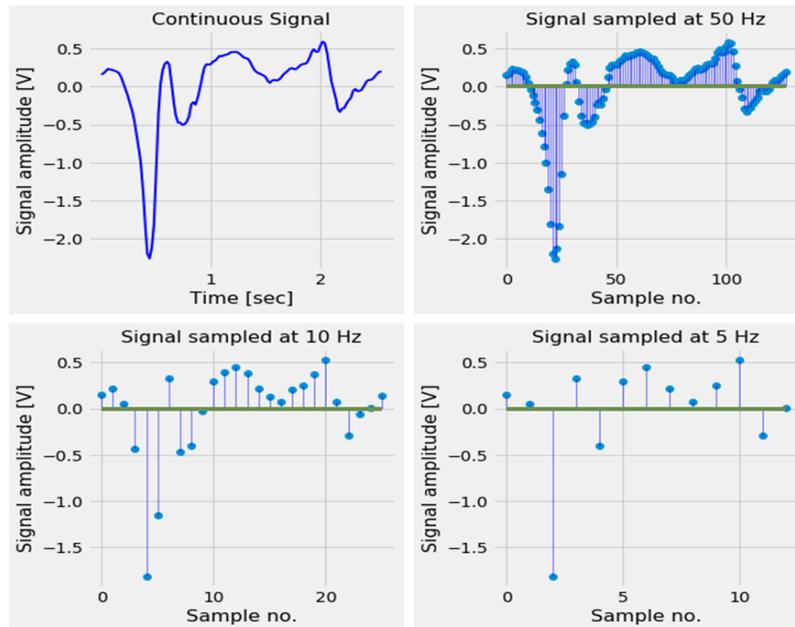


Figure 2: Sampling rate (frequency): FS

Each voice signal is characterized by the amplitude and frequency, and it can be presented in a time domain or in a frequency domain as shown in figure 3:

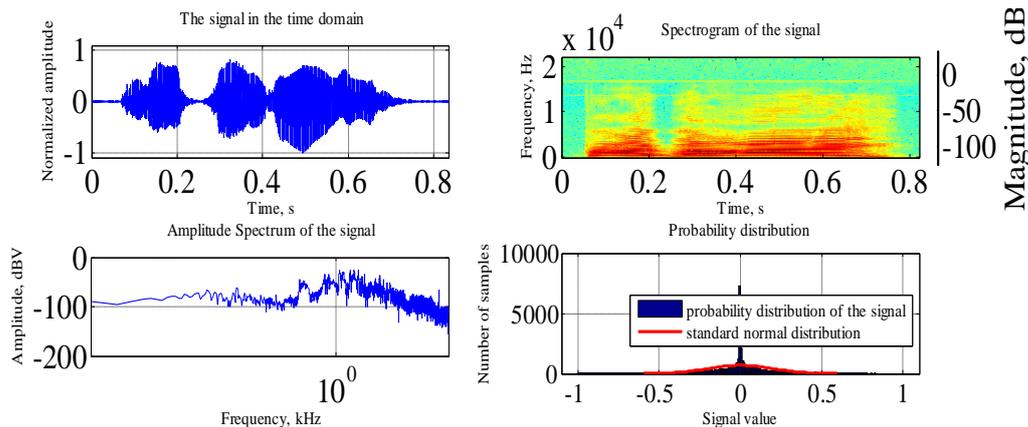


Figure 3: Voice signal

Voiceprint refers to the acoustic frequency spectrum that carries the speech information in a human voice. Like fingerprints, it has unique biometric signatures, is individual-specific, and can function as an identification method. The acoustical signal is a one-dimensional continuous signal. Comparison of two recorded speech by means of spectrogram or voice prints for the purpose of identification is called as Voice fingerprinting. Forensic voice analysis has been used in a wide range of criminal cases such as murder, rape, drug dealing, bomb threats and terrorism [2], [3].

Voice biometrics works by digitizing a profile of a person's speech to produce a stored model voice print, or template. Biometric technology reduces each spoken word to segments composed of several dominant frequencies called formants. The tones collectively identify the speaker's unique voice print.

Will Voice Biometrics Be Accurate Enough? To begin with, it is important to recognize that no biometric is 100% accurate. For example, a 2014 study on iris recognition determined system accuracy could be between 90 and 99%, a broad range. Voice biometric accuracy is also in this range for a variety of reasons.

Voiceprint generation method (feature extraction) must process the digital wave file and must create unique features, which can be simply used to identify the voice [5], [6].

Here in this research we will study and analyse some method used to extract voice features in order to define the advantages and disadvantages of each method and to give some recommendation of how to create a voice signal features [7-14].

## II. Features Extraction Methods

In this section we will some of the most popular and widely used methods, which were produced for digital data features extraction.

### 2-1 Statistical methods

Here in this method we will use some voice statistical parameters, crest factor, dynamic range, Mu, and sigma [4].

#### Crest factor:

Crest or peak factor (CF) of a voice signal is the dB difference between the peaks and the RMS value of the signal (see figure 4). The RMS (Root Mean Square) is defined as the “heating value” of the signal – the voltage that would generate the same heat as a DC (Direct Current) signal, over the same time [5].

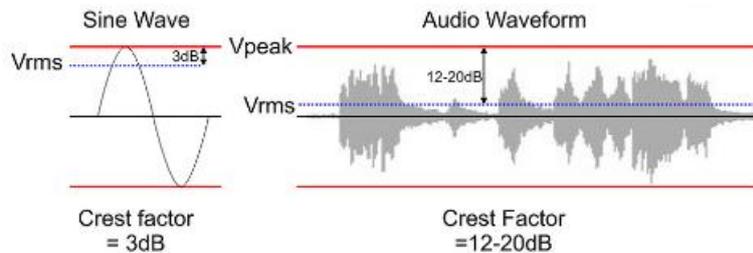


Figure 4: Crest (peak) factor calculation

#### Dynamic range

Dynamic range (DR) is used to describe the ratio between the smallest and the largest possible values of a changeable quantity, frequently encountered in a recorded voice signal. DR is another way of starting the maximum signal-to-noise ratio. For sound signal, DR is the ratio of the loudest signal to that of the quietest signal in a system as expressed in decibels (dB).

#### Mu

Mu is the estimate mean of the sound signal values.

#### Sigma

Sigma is the standard deviation of the normal distribution of the data in the voice signal.

### 2-2 Local binary pattern method

Local binary pattern (LBP) method was introduced to manipulate color images [15], [16], [17], and it is based on LBP [18], [19], [20] operator calculation for each pixel as shown in figure 5:

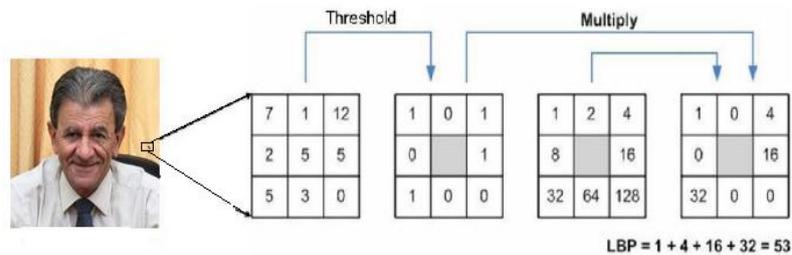


Figure 5: LBP operator calculation (example for one pixel)

Based on LBP methods many methods such as central symmetric LBP (CSLBP) were introduced to form a feature array for digital image, figure 6 shows how to use CSLBP to calculate the operator value, here using this method we can generate a feature array of 16 elements.

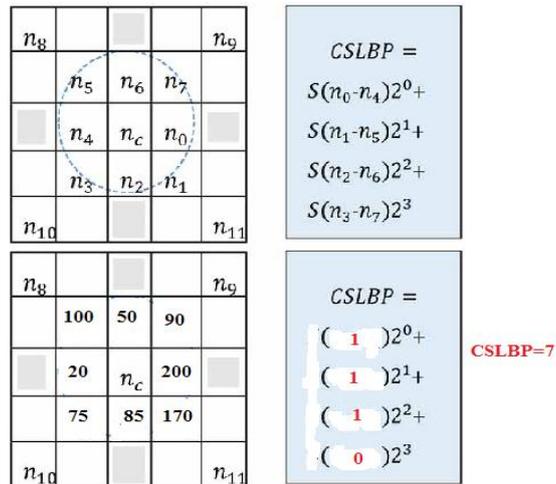


Figure 6: CSLBP calculation example (for one pixel)

Here in this research paper we will adopt the idea of CSLBP method by introducing modified LBP (MLBP) used to create a feature array of 8 elements for any wave file, MLBP can be calculated for each voice signal amplitude value, figure 7 shows how MLBP operates:

.	.	<b>Comparisons</b>	
.	0.1831		
A(i-3)	-0.0610		
A(i-2)	0.1526		
A(i-1)	0.0615		
A(i)	0.1671		
A(i+1)	0.0610		0
A(i+2)	-0.0610		0
A(i+3)	-0.0305		1
.	-0.1221		
.	-0.0305		
<b>MLBP = 1 0 0 binary</b>			
<b>= 4 decimal</b>			

Figure 7: MLBP operations

### 2-3 K-means clustering method

K-means clustering is used to group an input data signal values into groups, and here we can take the centroids of the clusters, or the number of points in each cluster, or the within clusters sums as a signal features [24-29].

To increase the efficiency of k-means method we propose using the LBP histogram of the voice signal, instead of using the whole wave file as an input data set for the clustering method( later in the experimental part the time required to calculate LBP histogram will be included in the clustering time (features extraction time)). To calculate voice signal LBP histogram [21-24], we select a window of 9 values and do the comparisons with value located in the centre, the results of comparisons generate a binary number, the binary number then must be converted to a decimal value, which refers to the index of LBP histogram, this index must be incremented by 1, theses operation must be performed for each value in the wave file, figure 8 shows how to calculate an index in LBP histogram.

.			
.			
<b>A(i-4)</b>	<b>0.1831</b>	<b>Comparisons</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>A(i-3)</b>	<b>-0.0610</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>A(i-2)</b>	<b>0.1526</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>A(i-1)</b>	<b>0.0615</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>A(i)</b>	<b>0.1671</b>		-
<b>A(i+1)</b>	<b>0.0610</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>A(i+2)</b>	<b>0.2610</b>		<b>1</b>
<b>A(i+3)</b>	<b>-0.0305</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>A(i+4)</b>	<b>-0.1221</b>		<b>0</b>
.			
.			
Binary = 00100001 =			
Decimal = 33			

Figure 8: Calculating voice signal histogram index

### III. Implementation And Experimental Results

The three mentioned methods were programmed using matlab environment, the written programs was implemented using various voce signal.

We select 6 persons and 5 spoken words for each person, then the wave file were used in the following experiments, table 1 shows the used wave files:

Table 1: Used wave files

Spoken word	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Person</b>					
<b>1</b>	Bye-bye-1	Okay-1	Yes-1	No-1	Zero-1
<b>2</b>	Bye-bye-2	Okay-2	Yes-2	No-2	Zero-2
<b>3</b>	Bye-bye-3	Okay-3	Yes-3	No-3	Zero-3
<b>4</b>	Bye-bye-4	Okay-4	Yes-4	No-4	Zero-4
<b>5</b>	Bye-bye-5	Okay-5	Yes-5	No-5	Zero-5
<b>6</b>	Bye-bye-6	Okay-6	Yes-6	No-6	Zero-6

#### Experiment 1: Statistical method implementation

Table 2 shows the results of implementing this method using the first word for the 6 persons, while table 3 shows the results of implementing this method using the 5 spoken words for the first person, here we change the amplitude and the sampling rate, to show theses changes affect the generated features.

#### Experiment 2: LBP method implementation

Table 4 shows the results of implementing this method using the first word for the 6 persons, while table 5 shows the results of implementing this method using the 5 spoken words for the first person, here we change the amplitude and the sampling rate, to show theses changes affect the generated features.

#### Experiment 1: K-means clustering method implementation

Table 6 shows the results of implementing this method using the first word for the 6 persons, while table 7 shows the results of implementing this method using the 5 spoken words for the first person, here we change the amplitude and the sampling rate, to show theses changes affect the generated features.

Table 2: Experiment 1 results 1

Voice		Bye-bye-1	Bye-bye-2	Bye-bye-3	Bye-bye-4	Bye-bye-5	Bye-bye-6
Features of original wave file	Crest factor(db)	14.0451	13.178	16.6458	16.1097	14.8419	17.6223
	Dynamic range(db)	83.9406	81.434	81.4391	83.2393	82.4679	79.9092
	Sigma	0.19849	0.21933	0.14713	0.1565	0.1811	0.13149
	Mu	-2.5899e-005	-5.0772e-006	-2.2025e-005	-4.8363e-008	-9.4536e-006	-0.00013186
Features of wave file with dividing FS by 2	Crest factor	14.0451	13.178	16.6458	16.1097	14.8419	17.6223
	Dynamic range	83.9406	81.434	81.4391	83.2393	82.4679	79.9092
	Sigma	0.19849	0.21933	0.14713	0.1565	0.1811	0.13149
	Mu	-2.5899e-005	-5.0772e-006	-2.2025e-005	-4.8363e-008	-9.4536e-006	-0.00013186
Features of wave file with	Crest factor	14.0451	13.178	16.6458	16.1097	14.8419	17.6223
	Dynamic	83.9406	81.434	81.4391	83.2393	82.4679	79.9092

doubling amplitude	range						
	Sigma	0.19849	0.21933	0.14713	0.1565	0.1811	0.13149
	Mu	-2.5899e-005	-5.0772e-006	-2.2025e-005	-4.8363e-008	-9.4536e-006	-0.00013186
Size(sample)		36787	36787	223607	44145	64745	39730
Extraction time(s)		0.0320	0.0360	0.0520	0.0340	0.0350	0.0340
Average size				<b>74300</b>			
Average extraction time				<b>0.0372</b>			
Throughput (sample per second)				<b>1997300</b>			

**Table 2:** Experiment 1 results 2

Voice		Bye-bye-1	Okay-1	Yes-1	No-1	Zero-1
Features of original wave file	Crest factor(db)	14.0451	14.4317	18.7455	14.4441	15.4313
	Dynamic range(db)	83.9406	84.6284	85.4112	84.8095	60.7982
	Sigma	0.19849	0.18986	0.11554	0.18958	0.1692
	Mu	-2.5899e-005	-1.8806e-005	-2.1345e-005	-4.6484e-006	0.0022494
Features of wave file with dividing FS by 2	Crest factor	14.0451	14.4317	18.7455	14.4441	15.4313
	Dynamic range	83.9406	84.6284	85.4112	84.8095	60.7982
	Sigma	0.19849	0.18986	0.11554	0.18958	0.1692
	Mu	-2.5899e-005	-1.8806e-005	-2.1345e-005	-4.6484e-006	0.0022494
Features of wave file with doubling amplitude	Crest factor	14.0451	14.4317	18.7455	14.4441	15.4313
	Dynamic range	83.9406	84.6284	85.4112	84.8095	60.7982
	Sigma	0.19849	0.18986	0.11554	0.18958	0.1692
	Mu	-2.5899e-005	-1.8806e-005	-2.1345e-005	-4.6484e-006	0.0022494

**Table 4:** Experiment 2 results 1

Voice	Bye-bye-1	Bye-bye-2	Bye-bye-3	Bye-bye-4	Bye-bye-5	Bye-bye-6
Features of original wave file	<b>14792</b>	<b>13690</b>	<b>83288</b>	<b>16855</b>	<b>23748</b>	<b>11450</b>
	<b>706</b>	<b>1126</b>	<b>8354</b>	<b>1367</b>	<b>2797</b>	<b>1809</b>
	<b>1470</b>	<b>1614</b>	<b>9609</b>	<b>1389</b>	<b>2197</b>	<b>4891</b>
Features of wave file with dividing FS by 2	<b>776</b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>7437</b>	<b>1216</b>	<b>2554</b>	<b>523</b>
	<b>648</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>6540</b>	<b>1033</b>	<b>2343</b>	<b>454</b>
	<b>1587</b>	<b>1741</b>	<b>9925</b>	<b>1528</b>	<b>2396</b>	<b>4959</b>
	<b>728</b>	<b>1143</b>	<b>7862</b>	<b>1417</b>	<b>2790</b>	<b>1883</b>
	<b>16074</b>	<b>15362</b>	<b>90586</b>	<b>19334</b>	<b>25914</b>	<b>13755</b>
	<b>14792</b>	<b>13690</b>	<b>83288</b>	<b>16855</b>	<b>23748</b>	<b>11450</b>
	<b>706</b>	<b>1126</b>	<b>8354</b>	<b>1367</b>	<b>2797</b>	<b>1809</b>
Features of wave file with doubling amplitude	<b>1470</b>	<b>1614</b>	<b>9609</b>	<b>1389</b>	<b>2197</b>	<b>4891</b>
	<b>776</b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>7437</b>	<b>1216</b>	<b>2554</b>	<b>523</b>
	<b>648</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>6540</b>	<b>1033</b>	<b>2343</b>	<b>454</b>
	<b>1587</b>	<b>1741</b>	<b>9925</b>	<b>1528</b>	<b>2396</b>	<b>4959</b>
	<b>728</b>	<b>1143</b>	<b>7862</b>	<b>1417</b>	<b>2790</b>	<b>1883</b>
	<b>16074</b>	<b>15362</b>	<b>90586</b>	<b>19334</b>	<b>25914</b>	<b>13755</b>
	<b>14792</b>	<b>13690</b>	<b>83288</b>	<b>16855</b>	<b>23748</b>	<b>11450</b>
Features of original wave file	<b>706</b>	<b>1126</b>	<b>8354</b>	<b>1367</b>	<b>2797</b>	<b>1809</b>
	<b>1470</b>	<b>1614</b>	<b>9609</b>	<b>1389</b>	<b>2197</b>	<b>4891</b>
	<b>776</b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>7437</b>	<b>1216</b>	<b>2554</b>	<b>523</b>
	<b>648</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>6540</b>	<b>1033</b>	<b>2343</b>	<b>454</b>
	<b>1587</b>	<b>1741</b>	<b>9925</b>	<b>1528</b>	<b>2396</b>	<b>4959</b>
	<b>728</b>	<b>1143</b>	<b>7862</b>	<b>1417</b>	<b>2790</b>	<b>1883</b>
	<b>16074</b>	<b>15362</b>	<b>90586</b>	<b>19334</b>	<b>25914</b>	<b>13755</b>
Size(sample)	36787	36787	223607	44145	64745	39730
Extraction time(s)	0.0020	0.0010	0.0090	0.0020	0.0020	0.0020
Average size				<b>74300</b>		
Average extraction time				0.0030		
Throughput				24767000		

**Table 5:** Experiment 2 results 2

Voice	Bye-bye-1	Okay-1	Yes-1	No-1	Zero-1
Features of original wave file	<b>14792</b>	<b>11927</b>	<b>6643</b>	<b>7971</b>	<b>3262</b>
	<b>706</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>2448</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>722</b>
Features of wave file with dividing FS by 2	<b>1470</b>	<b>1955</b>	<b>2067</b>	<b>2817</b>	<b>255</b>
	<b>776</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>4647</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>785</b>
	<b>648</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>4601</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>405</b>

	1587	2138	2341	2996	535	
	728	1305	2561	991	751	
	16074	12823	8530	8593	5823	
Features of wave file with doubling amplitude	14792	11927	6643	7971	3262	
	706	1209	2448	864	722	
	1470	1955	2067	2817	255	
	Features of original wave file	776	488	4647	390	785
		648	522	4601	388	405
		1587	2138	2341	2996	535
		728	1305	2561	991	751
		16074	12823	8530	8593	5823
Features of wave file with dividing FS by 2	14792	11927	6643	7971	3262	
	706	1209	2448	864	722	
	1470	1955	2067	2817	255	
	776	488	4647	390	785	
	648	522	4601	388	405	
	1587	2138	2341	2996	535	
	728	1305	2561	991	751	
		16074	12823	8530	8593	5823

Table 6: Experiment 3 results 1

Voice	Bye-bye-1	Bye-bye-2	Bye-bye-3	Bye-bye-4	Bye-bye-5	Bye-bye-6
Features of original wave file	13.5	22.1	13.8	24	67	19.8
	94	150.9	108.5	225	941	284.9
	809.8	779.9	464.4	852	3704	1140.9
	9896.5	8800	5137.6	11785	13238	5772.3
Features of wave file with dividing FS by 2	13.5	22.1	13.8	24	67	19.8
	94	150.9	108.5	225	941	284.9
	809.8	779.9	464.4	852	3704	1140.9
	9896.5	8800	5137.6	11785	13238	5772.3
Features of wave file with doubling amplitude	13.5	22.1	13.8	24	67	19.8
	94	150.9	108.5	225	941	284.9
	809.8	779.9	464.4	852	3704	1140.9
	9896.5	8800	5137.6	11785	13238	5772.3
Size(sample)	36787	36787	223607	44145	64745	39730
Extraction time(s)	0.1810	0.1000	0.1030	0.1000	0.1010	0.0960
Average size		74300				
Average extraction time		0.1135				
Throughput (sample per second)		654630				

Table 7: Experiment 3 results 2

Voice	Bye-bye-1	Okay-1	Yes-1	No-1	Zero-1
Features of original wave file	13.5	9.9	32.2	20.7	8.7
	94	132.5	334	403	53.3
	809.8	656.1	1165.3	2028	163.6
	9896.5	7086	4143.5	4855	2026.3
Features of wave file with dividing FS by 2	13.5	9.9	32.2	20.7	8.7
	94	132.5	334	403	53.3
	809.8	656.1	1165.3	2028	163.6
	9896.5	7086	4143.5	4855	2026.3
Features of wave file with doubling amplitude	13.5	9.9	32.2	20.7	8.7
	94	132.5	334	403	53.3
	809.8	656.1	1165.3	2028	163.6
	9896.5	7086	4143.5	4855	2026.3
Features of original wave file	9896.5	7086	4143.5	4855	2026.3

From the obtained results shown in tables 2 through 7 we can raise the following facts:

- ✓ All the introduced method gave unique features for each wave file.
- ✓ Each method can be used to form a features which can be used a wave file to identify a person.
- ✓ Each method can be used to form a features which can be used a wave file to identify a spoken word by a person.
- ✓ Changing the voice amplitude does not affect the features.
- ✓ Changing the voice sampling rate does not affect the features.
- ✓ The more efficient method is LBP methods, it provides a highest throughput and the lowset average features extraction time as shown in tables 8 and 9

**Table 8:** Efficiency measures

Method	Average extraction time	Throughput
Statistical	0.0372	1997300
LBP	0.0030	24767000
K-means	0.1135	654630

**Table 9:** Speedup

Method	Statistical	LBP	K-means
<b>Statistical</b>	1	0.0806	3.0511
<b>LBP</b>	<b>12.4000</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>37.8333</b>
<b>K-means</b>	0.3278	0.0264	1

#### IV. Conclusion

Three methods of voice features extraction were presented, programmed and implemented. The obtained experimental results showed the accuracy of using each method to create unique features for each wave signal; these features can be used in any security system to identify word/person.

LBP method of features extraction has the highest efficiency, and it has a significant high speed up comparing with the other 2 method.

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