

An Introduction to Music Information Retrieval

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Guest Lecture
Central Conservatory of Music (CCOM)
Beijing, March 2023

Meinard Müller



universität **bonn**

mpi
max planck institut
informatik

FAU

ISMIR

IEEE

- Mathematics (Diplom/Master, 1997)
Computer Science (PhD, 2001)
Information Retrieval (Habilitation, 2007)
- Senior Researcher (2007-2012)
- Professor Semantic Audio Processing (since 2012)
- Former President of the International Society for
Music Information Retrieval (MIR)
- IEEE Fellow for contributions to
Music Signal Processing

Meinard Müller: Research Group Semantic Audio Processing

- Michael Krause
- Yigitcan Özer
- Simon Schwär
- Johannes Zeitler
- Peter Meier (external)
- Christof Weiß
- Sebastian Rosenzweig
- Frank Zalkow
- Christian Dittmar
- Stefan Balke
- Jonathan Driedger
- Thomas Prätzlich
- ...



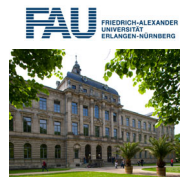
International Audio Laboratories Erlangen



- Fraunhofer Institute for
Integrated Circuits IIS
- Largest Fraunhofer
institute with
≈ 1000 members
- Applied research for
sensor, audio, and
media technology



**AUDIO
LABS**

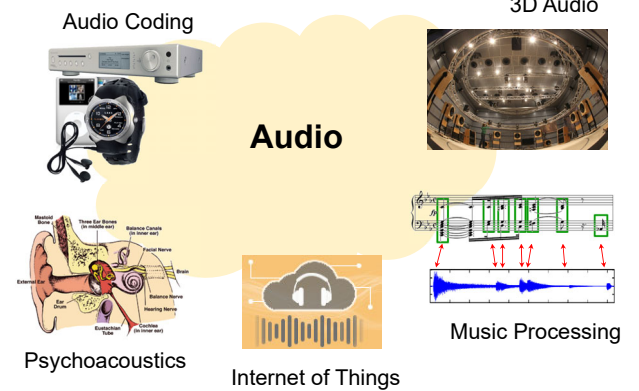


- Friedrich-Alexander
Universität
Erlangen-
Nürnberg (FAU)
- One of Germany's
largest universities with
≈ 40,000 students
- Strong Technical
Faculty

International Audio Laboratories Erlangen

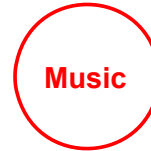
Audio

International Audio Laboratories Erlangen

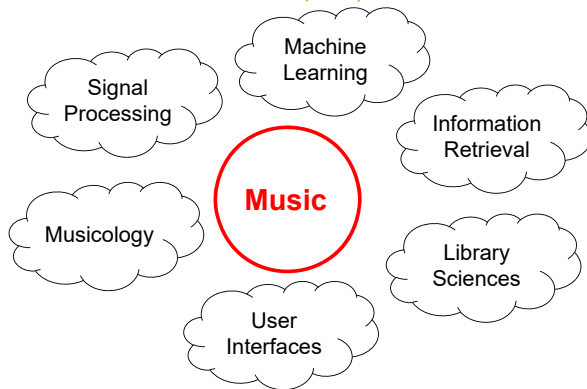


AudioLabs – FAU

- Prof. Dr. Jürgen Herre
Audio Coding
- Prof. Dr. Bernd Edler
Audio Signal Analysis
- Prof. Dr. Meinard Müller
Semantic Audio Processing
- Prof. Dr. Emanuël Habets
Spatial Audio Signal Processing
- Prof. Dr. Nils Peters
Audio Signal Processing
- Dr. Stefan Turowski
Coordinator AudioLabs-FAU



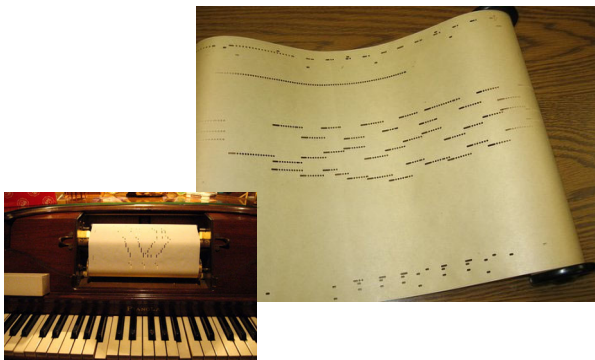
Music Information Retrieval (MIR)



Music Information Retrieval (MIR)

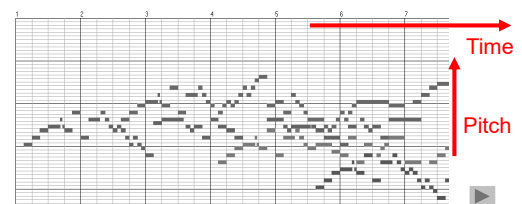
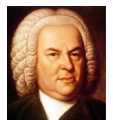
<p>Sheet Music (Image)</p>	<p>CD / MP3 (Audio)</p>	<p>MusicXML (Text)</p> <pre><?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="no" > <musicxml> <score> <staff> <note> <pitch>44 <duration>4 <type>quarter </note> </staff> </score> </musicxml></pre>
<p>Dance / Motion (Mocap)</p>		<p>MIDI</p>
<p>Singing / Voice (Audio)</p>	<p>Music Film (Video)</p>	<p>Music Literature (Text)</p>

Piano Roll Representation (1900)



Piano Roll Representation

J.S. Bach, C-Major Fuge
(Well Tempered Piano, BWV 846)

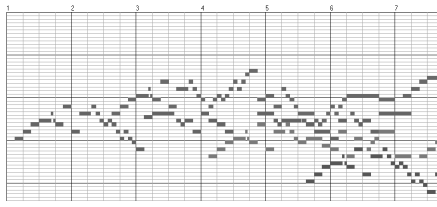


Piano Roll Representation

Query: 



Goal: Find all occurrences of the query



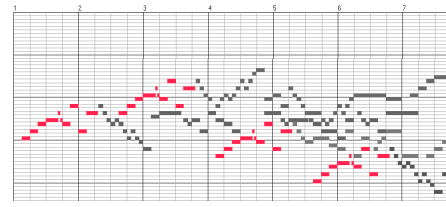
Piano Roll Representation

Query: 

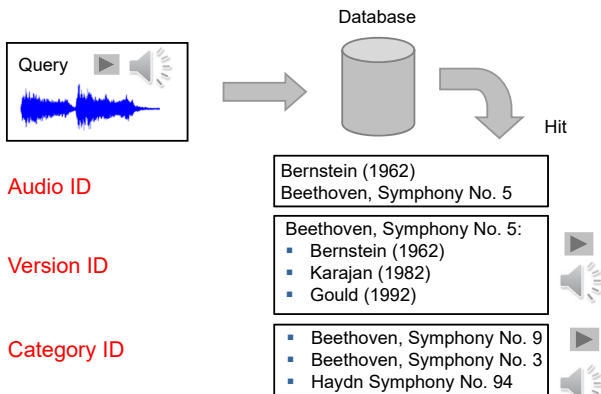


Goal: Find all occurrences of the query

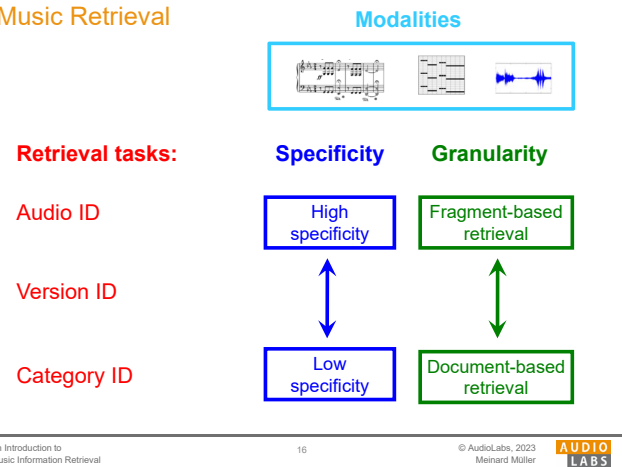
Matches:



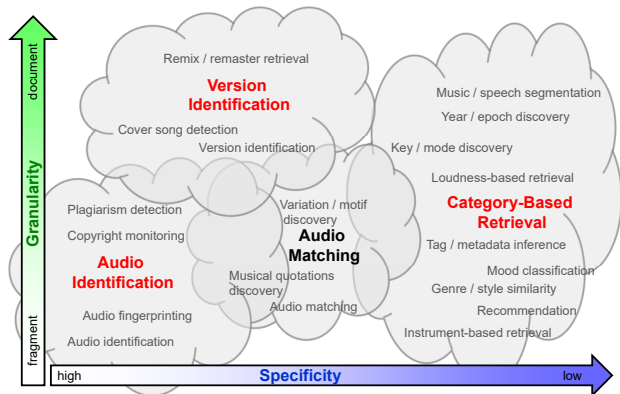
Music Retrieval



Music Retrieval



Music Retrieval



Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Beethoven's Fifth

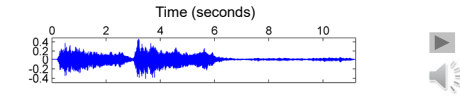


Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

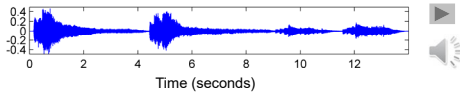
Beethoven's Fifth



Karajan
(Orchester)



Gould
(Piano)

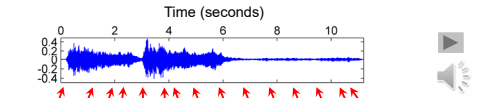


Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

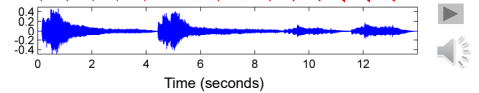
Beethoven's Fifth



Karajan
(Orchester)



Gould
(Piano)



Application: Interpretation Switcher



Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Task

Given: Two different audio recordings (two versions) of the same underlying piece of music.

Goal: Find for each position in one audio recording the **musically** corresponding position in the other audio recording.

Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Traditional Engineering Approach:

1.) Feature extraction

- Robust to variations (e.g., instrumentation, timbre, dynamics)
- Discriminative (e.g., capturing harmonic, melodic, tonal aspects)

➔ **Chroma features**

2.) Temporal alignment

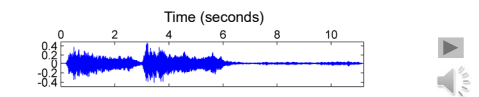
- Capturing local and global tempo variations
- Trade-off: Robustness vs. accuracy
- Efficiency

➔ **Dynamic time warping (DTW)**

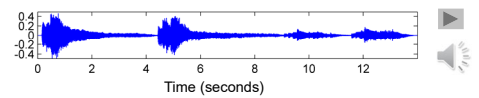
Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Beethoven's Fifth

Karajan
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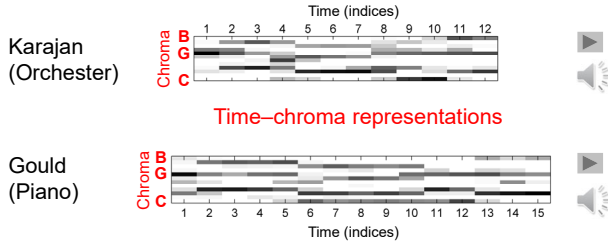


Gould
(Piano)



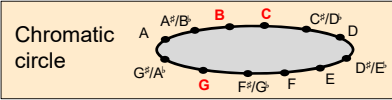
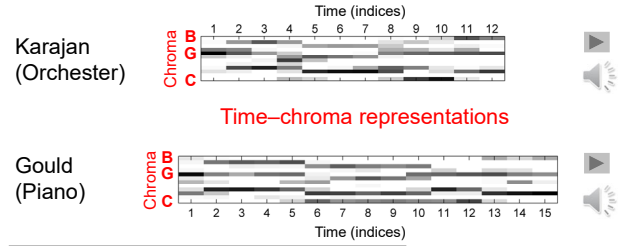
Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Beethoven's Fifth



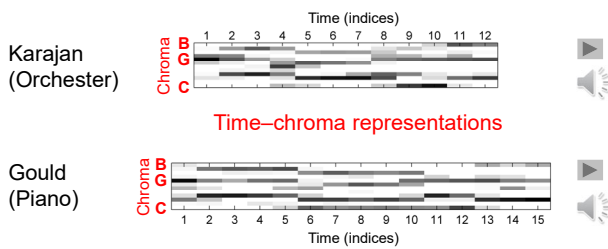
Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Beethoven's Fifth



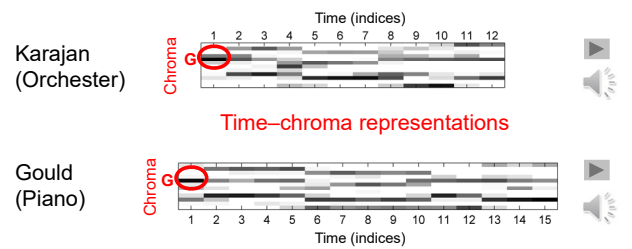
Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Beethoven's Fifth



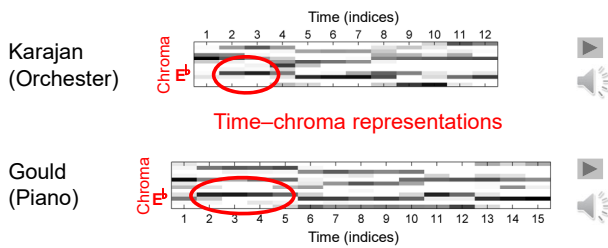
Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Beethoven's Fifth

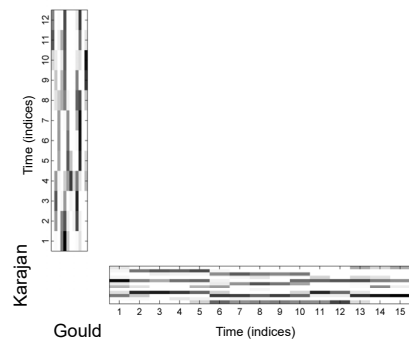


Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Beethoven's Fifth

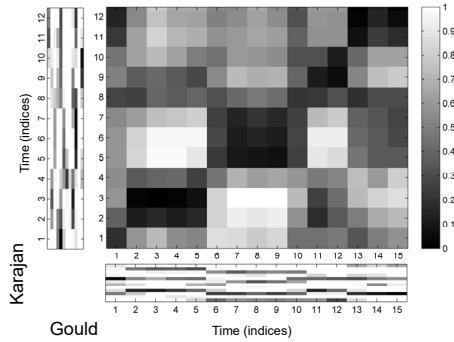


Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio



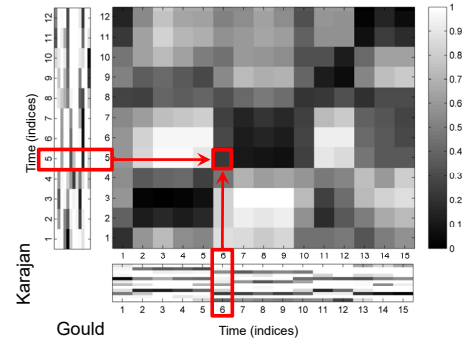
Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Cost matrix



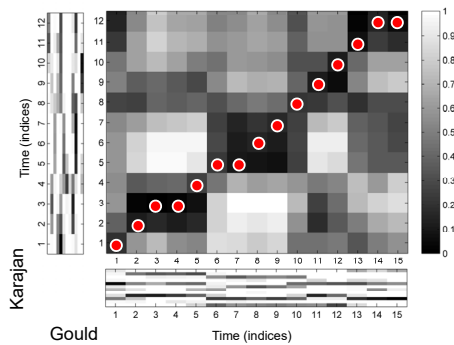
Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Cost matrix



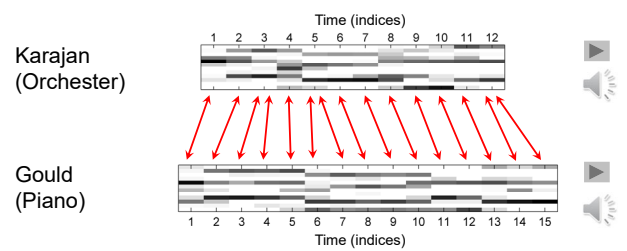
Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Cost-minimizing warping path



Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Cost-minimizing warping path = Optimal alignment



Music Synchronization: Audio-Audio

Deep Learning Approaches

- Learn audio features from data
 - Should be able to achieve high alignment accuracy
 - Should be robust to performance variations
 - Musical relevance?

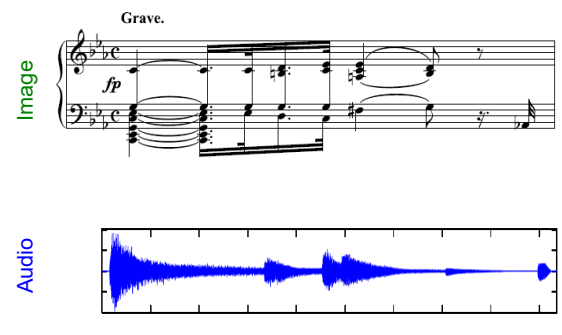
Alignment problem

- Pre-aligned data for training
- Part of loss function → differentiability?

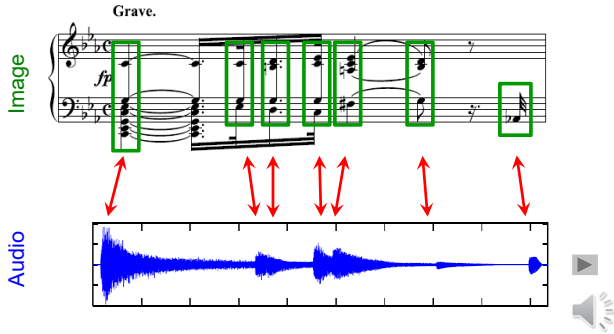
CTC-Loss
Graves et al.: Connectionist Temporal Classification: Labelling Unsegmented Sequence Data with Recurrent Neural Networks. ICML, 2006

Soft-DTW
Cuturi, Blondel: Soft-DTW: A Differentiable Loss Function for Time-Series. ICML, 2017

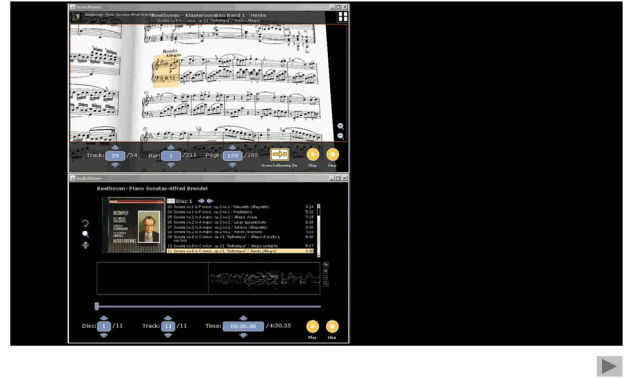
Music Synchronization: Image-Audio



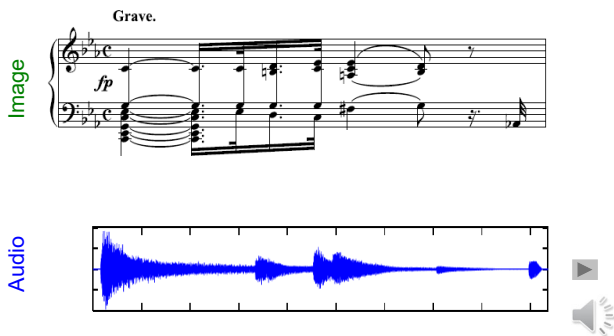
Music Synchronization: Image-Audio



Application: Score Viewer

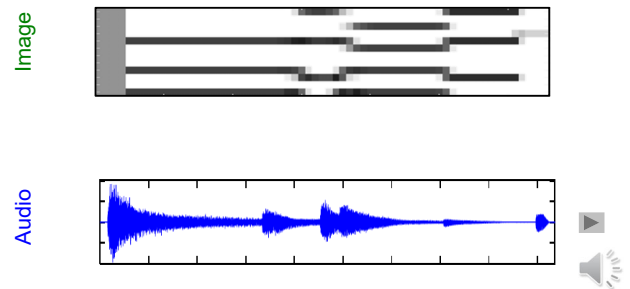


Music Synchronization: Image-Audio



Music Synchronization: Image-Audio

Image Processing: Optical Music Recognition



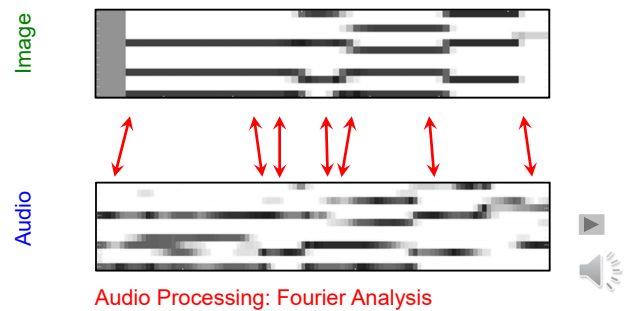
Music Synchronization: Image-Audio

Image Processing: Optical Music Recognition



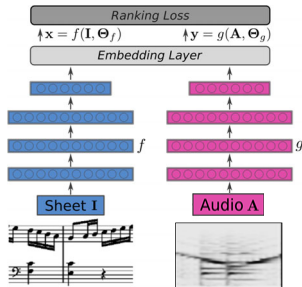
Music Synchronization: Image-Audio

Image Processing: Optical Music Recognition



Music Synchronization: Image-Audio

Deep Learning Approach



- Deep learning
- Embedding techniques
- Triplet loss
- ...

Cross-Modal Retrieval
Dorfer et al., End-to-End Cross-Modality Retrieval with CCA Projections and Pairwise Ranking Loss. International Journal of Multimedia Information Retrieval, 2018.

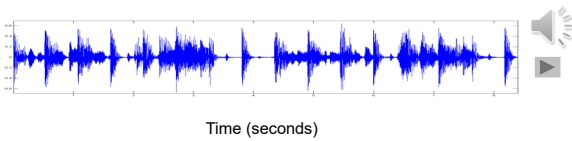
Music Processing

Coarse/Relative Level	Fine/Absolute Level
What do different versions or instances have in common?	What are the characteristics of a specific version or instance?
Provide coarse description: What makes up a piece of music?	Capture nuances and subtleties: What makes music come alive?
Identify despite of differences	Identify the differences
Example tasks: Music Retrieval Genre Classification Global Tempo Estimation	Example tasks: Music Transcription Performance Analysis Local Tempo Estimation

Tempo Estimation and Beat Tracking

Basic task: "Tapping the foot when listening to music"

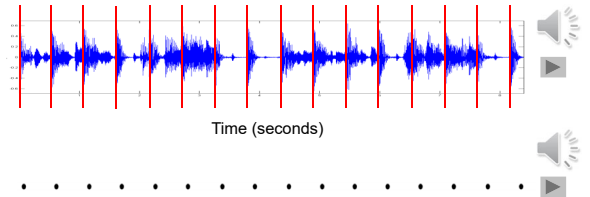
Example: Queen – Another One Bites The Dust



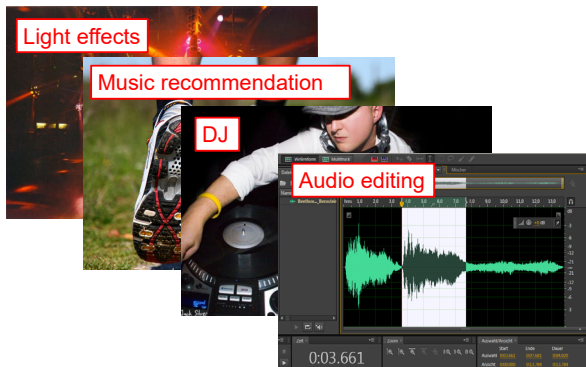
Tempo Estimation and Beat Tracking

Basic task: "Tapping the foot when listening to music"

Example: Queen – Another One Bites The Dust



Tempo Estimation and Beat Tracking



Tempo Estimation and Beat Tracking

Example: Chopin – Mazurka Op. 68-3

Pulse level: Quarter note

Tempo: ???



Tempo Estimation and Beat Tracking

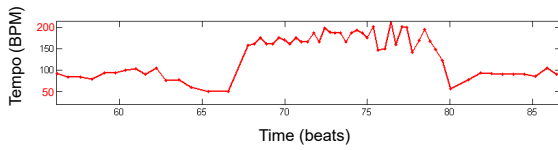
Example: Chopin – Mazurka Op. 68-3

Pulse level: Quarter note

Tempo: 50-200 BPM



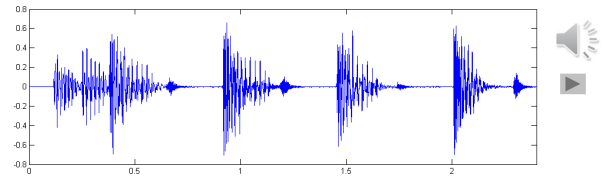
Tempo curve



Tempo Estimation and Beat Tracking

Tasks

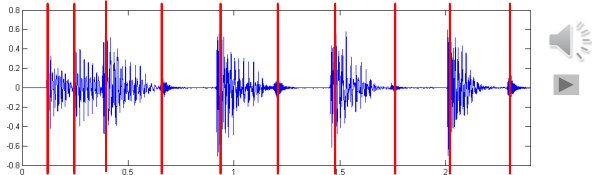
- Onset detection
- Beat tracking
- Tempo estimation



Tempo Estimation and Beat Tracking

Tasks

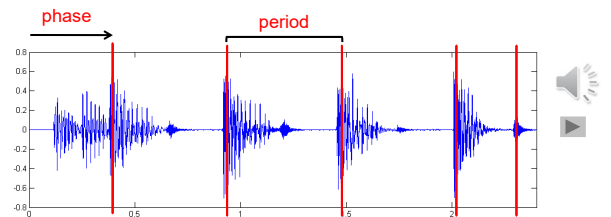
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Tempo Estimation and Beat Tracking

Tasks

- Onset detection
- Beat tracking
- Tempo estimation



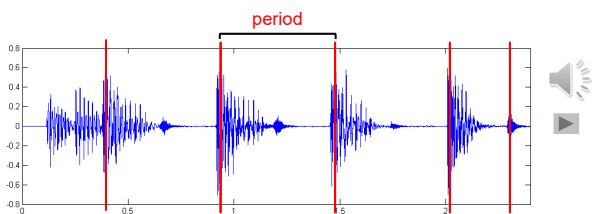
Tempo Estimation and Beat Tracking

Tasks

- Onset detection
- Beat tracking
- Tempo estimation

Tempo := 60 / period

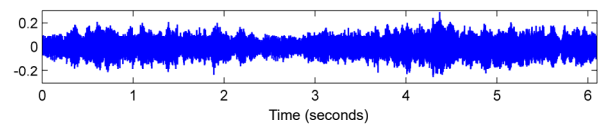
Beats per minute (BPM)



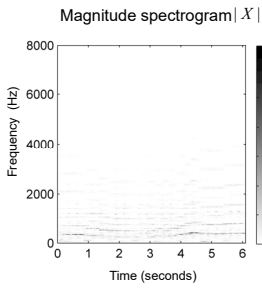
Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)



Audio recording



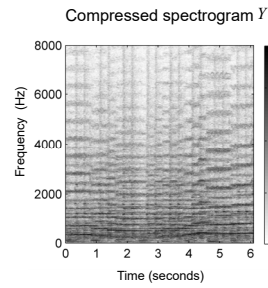
Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)



Steps:

1. Spectrogram

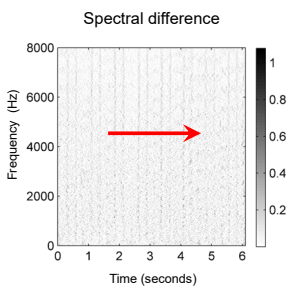
Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)



Steps:

1. Spectrogram
2. Logarithmic compression

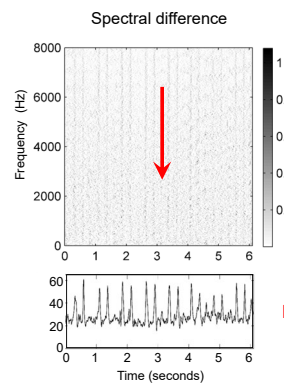
Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)



Steps:

1. Spectrogram
2. Logarithmic compression
3. Differentiation & half wave rectification

Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)



Steps:

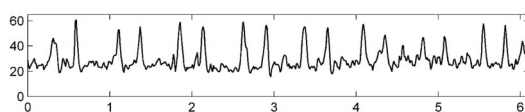
1. Spectrogram
2. Logarithmic compression
3. Differentiation & half wave rectification
4. Accumulation

Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)

Steps:

1. Spectrogram
2. Logarithmic compression
3. Differentiation & half wave rectification
4. Accumulation

Novelty function



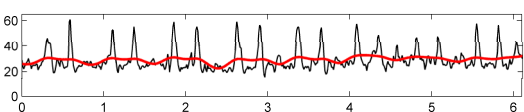
Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)

Steps:

1. Spectrogram
2. Logarithmic compression
3. Differentiation & half wave rectification
4. Accumulation
5. Normalization

Novelty function

Subtraction of local average

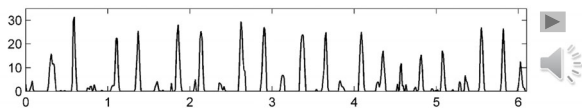


Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)

Steps:

1. Spectrogram
2. Logarithmic compression
3. Differentiation & half wave rectification
4. Accumulation
5. Normalization

Normalized novelty function



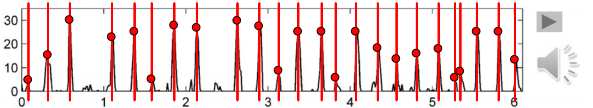
Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)

Steps:

1. Spectrogram
2. Logarithmic compression
3. Differentiation & half wave rectification
4. Accumulation
5. Normalization

Normalized novelty function

Peak positions indicate beat candidates



Onset Detection (Spectral Flux)

Deep Learning

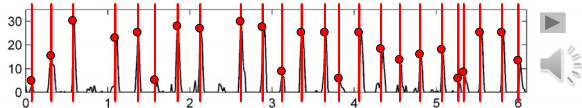
1. Input representation
2. Sigmoid activation
3. Convolution & rectified linear unit (ReLU)
4. Pooling
5. Convolution & ReLU

Steps:

1. Spectrogram
2. Logarithmic compression
3. Differentiation & half wave rectification
4. Accumulation
5. Normalization

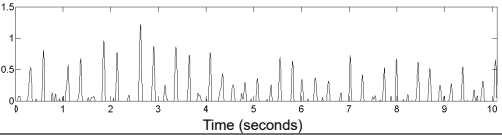
Normalized novelty function

Peak positions indicate beat candidates



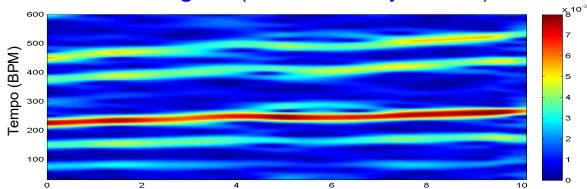
Local Pulse and Tempo Tracking

Normalized novelty function

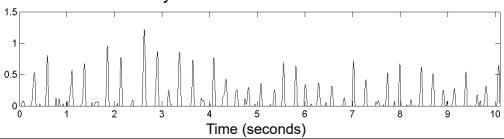


Local Pulse and Tempo Tracking

Fourier temogram (STFT of novelty function)

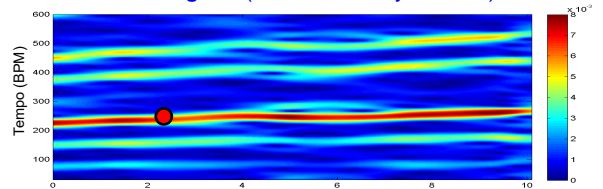


Normalized novelty function

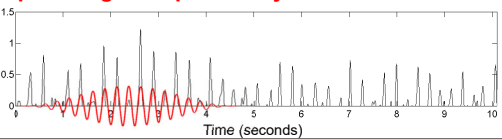


Local Pulse and Tempo Tracking

Fourier temogram (STFT of novelty function)

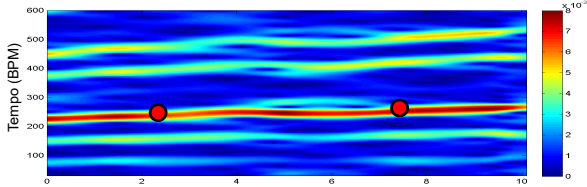


Optimizing local periodicity kernel

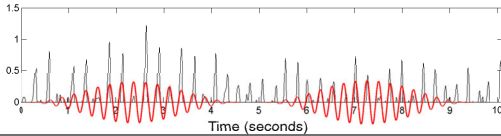


Local Pulse and Tempo Tracking

Fourier temogram (STFT of novelty function)

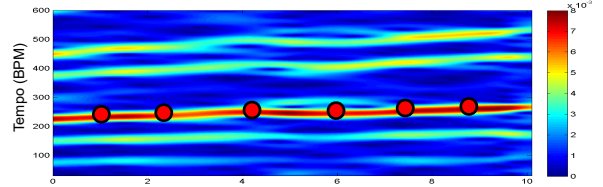


Optimizing local periodicity kernel

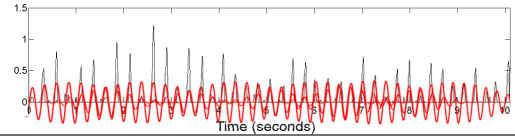


Local Pulse and Tempo Tracking

Fourier temogram (STFT of novelty function)

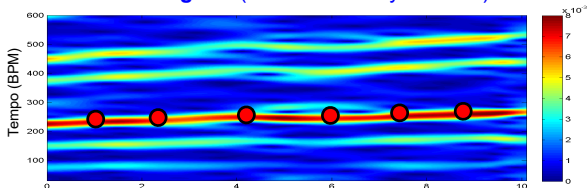


Optimizing local periodicity kernel

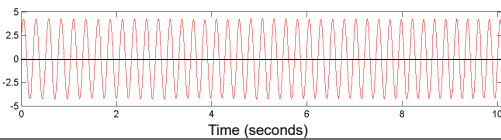


Local Pulse and Tempo Tracking

Fourier temogram (STFT of novelty function)

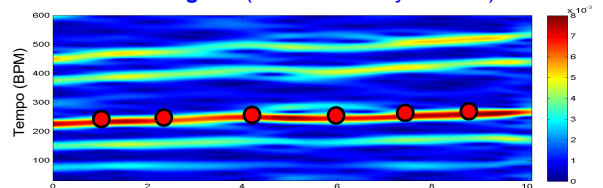


Accumulation of kernels

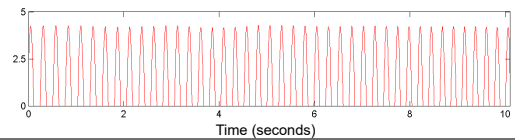


Local Pulse and Tempo Tracking

Fourier temogram (STFT of novelty function)

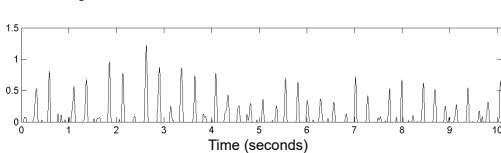


Halfwave rectification

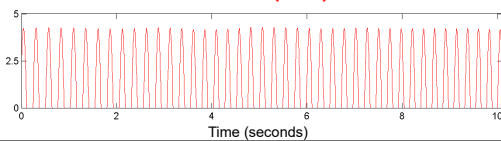


Local Pulse and Tempo Tracking

Novelty Curve



Predominant Local Pulse (PLP)



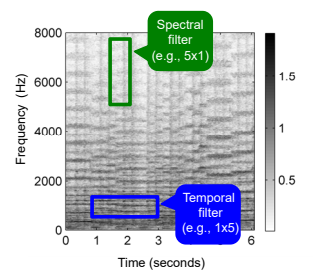
Pulse Tracking

Grosche, Müller: Extracting Predominant Local Pulse Information from Music Recordings. IEEE TASLP 19(6), 2011.

Local Pulse and Tempo Tracking

Deep Learning Approach

- End-to-end approach
 - Input: Short audio snippets
 - Output: Tempo value
- DL architecture inspired by traditional engineering
 - Layers and activation functions
 - Shape of convolutional kernels

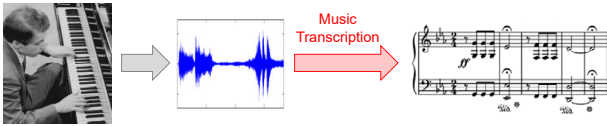


Tempo Estimation

Schreiber, Müller: A Single-Step Approach to Musical Tempo Estimation Using a Convolutional Neural Network, ISMIR, 2018.

Automatic Music Transcription

Task: Convert a music recording into sheet music

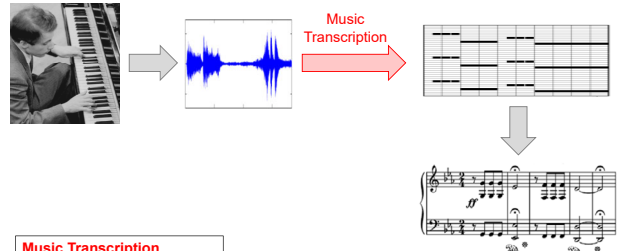


Music Transcription

Benetos et al.: Automatic Music Transcription: An Overview. IEEE Signal Processing Magazine 36(1), 2019.

Automatic Music Transcription

Task: Convert a music recording into sheet music (or another symbolic music representation)

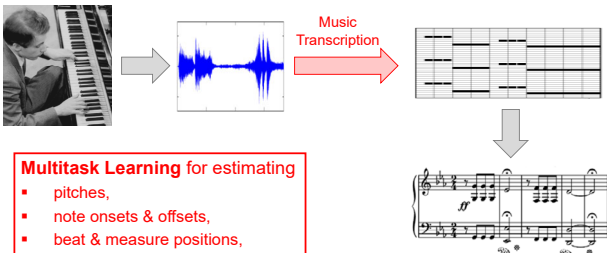


Music Transcription

Benetos et al.: Automatic Music Transcription: An Overview. IEEE Signal Processing Magazine 36(1), 2019.

Automatic Music Transcription

Task: Convert a music recording into sheet music (or another symbolic music representation)



Multitask Learning for estimating

- pitches,
- note onsets & offsets,
- beat & measure positions,
- musical voices & instrumentation,
- pedalling, dynamics, ...

Why is Music Processing Challenging?

Example: Chopin, Mazurka Op. 63 No. 3



Mazurka.

F. CHOPIN. Op. 63, No. 3.

Allegretto.

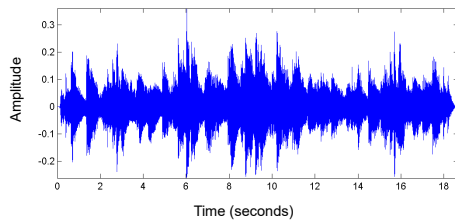
41.

The image shows the musical score for Chopin's Mazurka Op. 63 No. 3. It is in G major, 3/4 time, and marked "Allegretto". The score consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef. The first system starts with a piano (p) dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and ornaments.

Why is Music Processing Challenging?

Example: Chopin, Mazurka Op. 63 No. 3

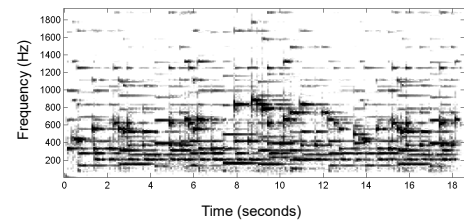
- Waveform



Why is Music Processing Challenging?

Example: Chopin, Mazurka Op. 63 No. 3

- Waveform / Spectrogram



Why is Music Processing Challenging?

Example: Chopin, Mazurka Op. 63 No. 3

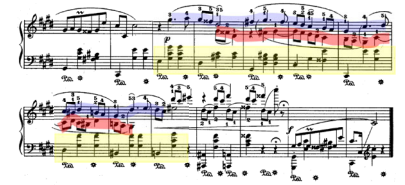
- Waveform / Spectrogram
- Performance
 - Tempo
 - Dynamics
 - Note deviations
 - Sustain pedal

Why is Music Processing Challenging?

Example: Chopin, Mazurka Op. 63 No. 3



- Waveform / Spectrogram
- Performance
 - Tempo
 - Dynamics
 - Note deviations
 - Sustain pedal
- Polyphony



█ Main Melody
█ Additional melody line
█ Accompaniment

Source Separation

- Decomposition of audio stream into different sound sources
- Central task in digital signal processing
- "Cocktail party effect"

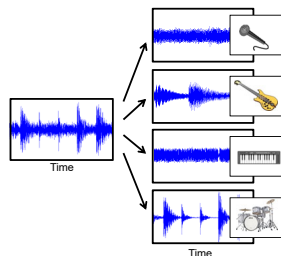


Source Separation

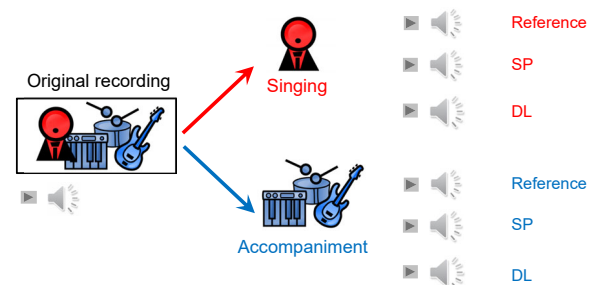
- Decomposition of audio stream into different sound sources
- Central task in digital signal processing
- "Cocktail party effect"
- Several input signals
- Sources are assumed to be statistically independent

Source Separation (Music)

- Main melody, accompaniment, drum track
- Instrumental voices
- Individual note events
- Only mono or stereo
- Sources are often highly dependent



Source Separation (Singing Voice)

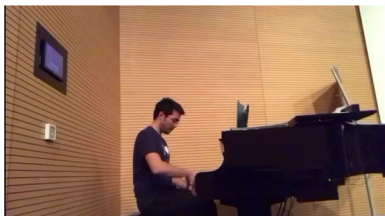


DL-Based Source Separation
 Stöter, Ullrich Luitkus, Mitsufuji: Open-Unmix – A Reference Implementation for Music Source Separation. JOSS, 2019.

- Reference: Best possible result
- SP: Traditional signal processing
- DL: Deep Learning

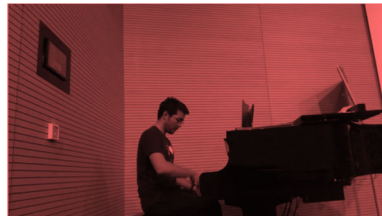
Source Separation (Piano Concerto)

- Yigitcan Özer
- PhD student in engineering
- Pianist



Source Separation (Piano Concerto)

- Yigitcan Özer
- PhD student in engineering
- Pianist



Only Piano!



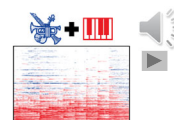
Where is the orchestra?



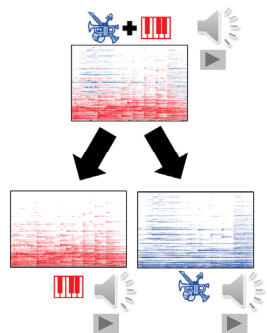
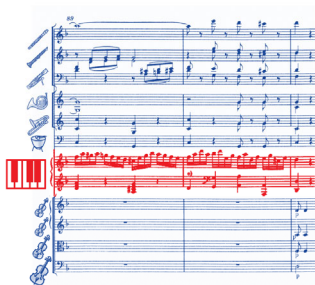
Source Separation (Piano Concerto)



Source Separation (Piano Concerto)



Source Separation (Piano Concerto)



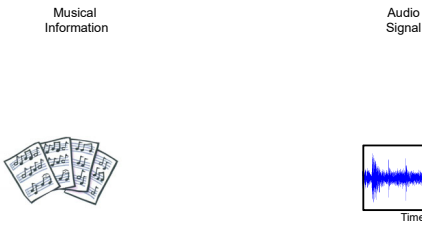
Source Separation (Piano Concerto)



Score-Informed Source Separation

Exploit musical score to support decomposition process

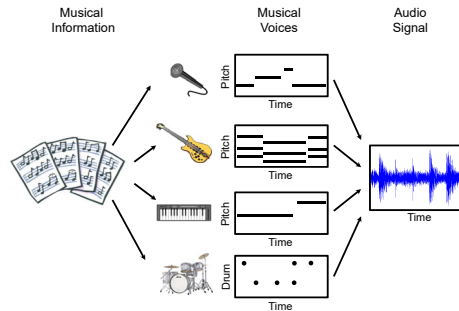
Prior Knowledge
Ewert, Pardo, Müller, Plumbley:
Score-Informed Source Separation
for Musical Audio Recordings.
IEEE SPM 31(3), 2014.



Score-Informed Source Separation

Exploit musical score to support decomposition process

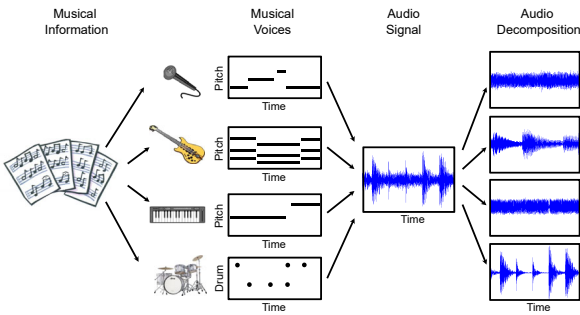
Prior Knowledge
Ewert, Pardo, Müller, Plumbley:
Score-Informed Source Separation
for Musical Audio Recordings.
IEEE SPM 31(3), 2014.



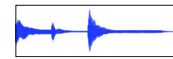
Score-Informed Source Separation

Exploit musical score to support decomposition process

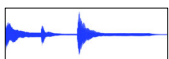
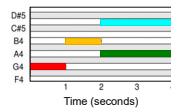
Prior Knowledge
Ewert, Pardo, Müller, Plumbley:
Score-Informed Source Separation
for Musical Audio Recordings.
IEEE SPM 31(3), 2014.



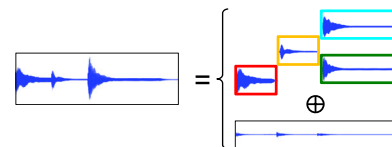
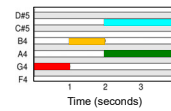
Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



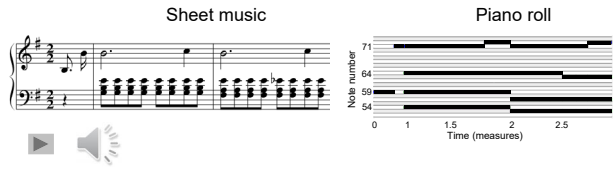
Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



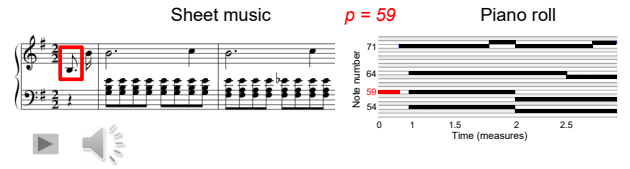
Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



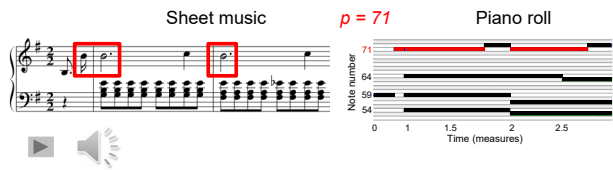
Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



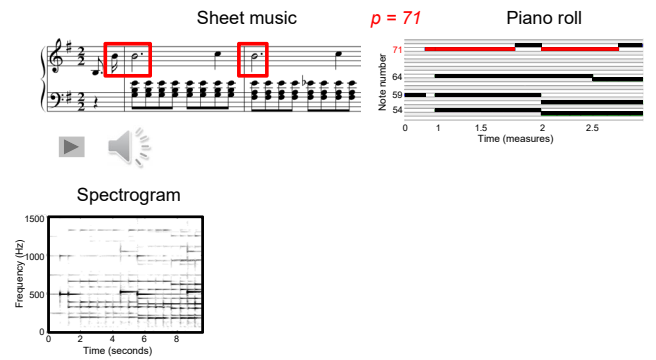
Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



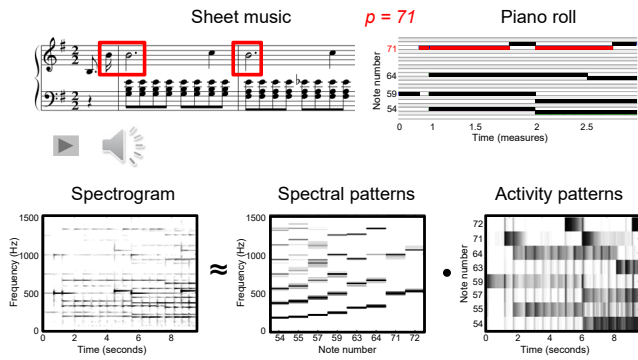
Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



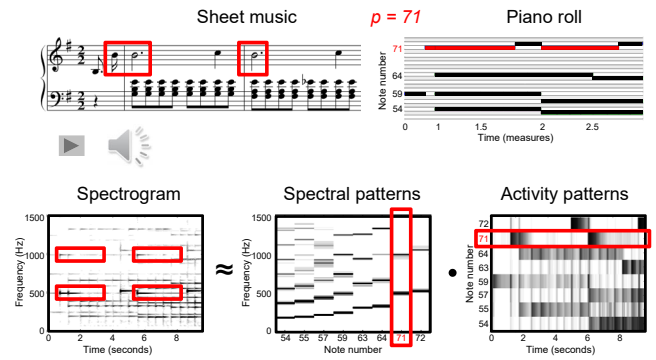
Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



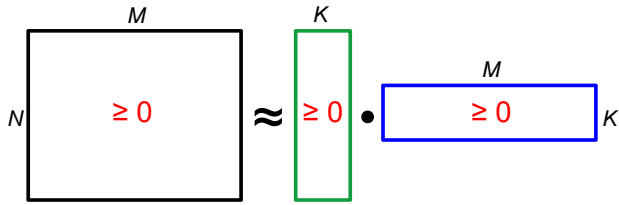
Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



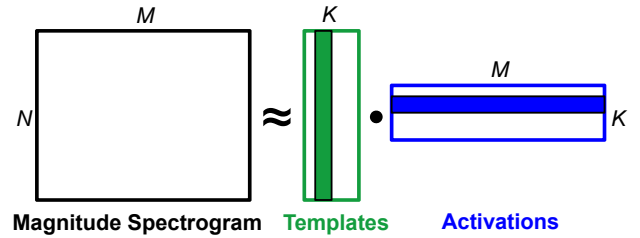
Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



NMF (Nonnegative Matrix Factorization)



NMF (Nonnegative Matrix Factorization)



Templates: Pitch + Timbre

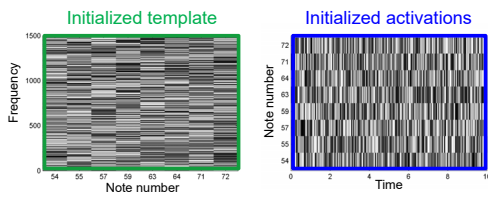
“How does it sound”

Activations: Onset time + Duration

“When does it sound”

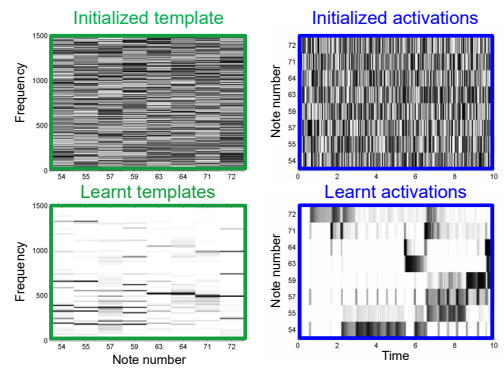
NMF-Decomposition

Random initialization



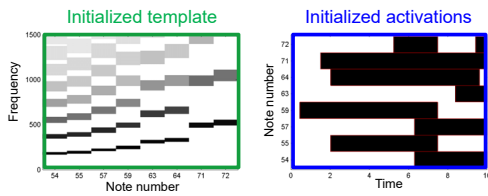
NMF-Decomposition

Random initialization → No semantic meaning



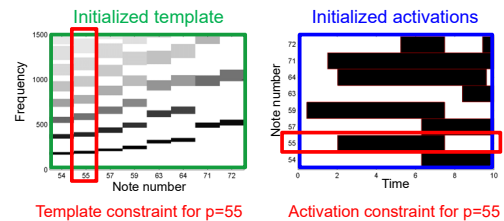
NMF-Decomposition

Constrained initialization



NMF-Decomposition

Constrained initialization

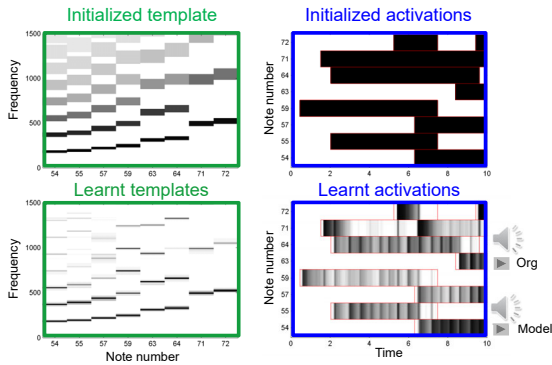


Template constraint for p=55

Activation constraint for p=55

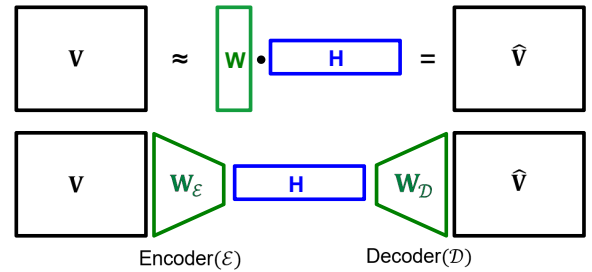
NMF-Decomposition

Constrained initialization → NMF as refinement



NMF-Decomposition

Simulation of NMF via Autoencoder



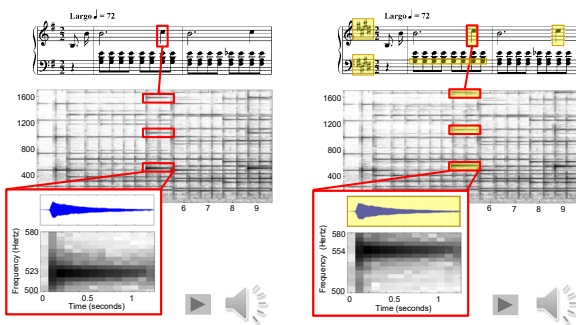
NMF as Autoencoder

Smaragdís, Venkataramani: A Neural Network Alternative to Non-Negative Audio Models. ICASSP, 2017.

Constraint Autoencoders

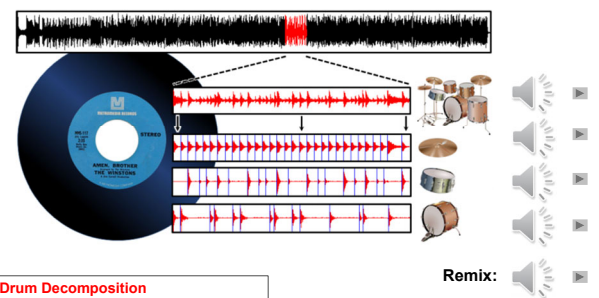
Ewert, Sandler: Structured dropout for weak label and multi-instance learning and its application to score-informed source separation. ICASSP, 2017

Score-Informed Audio Decomposition



Score-Informed Audio Decomposition

Informed Drum-Sound Decomposition



Drum Decomposition

Dittmar, Müller: Reverse Engineering the Amen Break – Score-Informed Separation and Restoration Applied to Drum Recordings. IEEE/ACM TASLP 24(9), 2016.

Remix:

Score-Informed Audio Decomposition

Major challenge: Reconstructed sound events often have artifacts

Approaches:

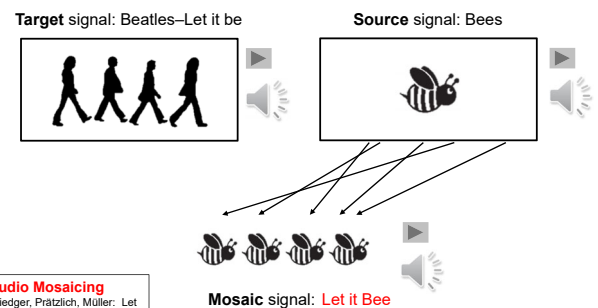
- Resynthesize certain sound components
- Differentiable Digital Signal Processing (DDSP) combines classical DSP and deep learning
- Generative adversarial networks may help to reduce the artifacts

DDSP

Engel et al.: DDSP: Differentiable Digital Signal Processing. ICLR, 2020.

Score-Informed Audio Decomposition

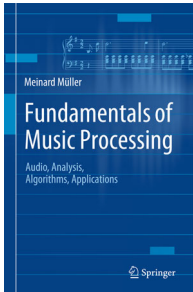
Audio mosaicing (style transfer)



Audio Mosaicing

Driedger, Prätzlich, Müller: Let It Bee – Towards NMF-Inspired Audio Mosaicing. ISMIR, 2015.

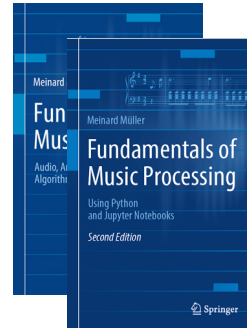
Fundamentals of Music Processing (FMP)



Meinard Müller
Fundamentals of Music Processing
Audio, Analysis, Algorithms, Applications
Springer, 2015

Accompanying website:
www.music-processing.de

Fundamentals of Music Processing (FMP)



Meinard Müller
Fundamentals of Music Processing
Audio, Analysis, Algorithms, Applications
Springer, 2015

Accompanying website:
www.music-processing.de

2nd edition
Meinard Müller
Fundamentals of Music Processing
Using Python and Jupyter Notebooks
Springer, 2021

Fundamentals of Music Processing (FMP)

Chapter	Music Processing Scenario
1	Music Representations
2	Fourier Analysis of Signals
3	Music Synchronization
4	Music Structure Analysis
5	Chord Recognition
6	Tempo and Beat Tracking
7	Content-Based Audio Retrieval
8	Musically Informed Audio Decomposition

Meinard Müller
Fundamentals of Music Processing
Audio, Analysis, Algorithms, Applications
Springer, 2015

Accompanying website:
www.music-processing.de

2nd edition
Meinard Müller
Fundamentals of Music Processing
Using Python and Jupyter Notebooks
Springer, 2021

FMP Notebooks: Education & Research

FMP Notebooks
Python Notebooks for Fundamentals of Music Processing

The FMP notebooks offer a collection of educational material closely following the textbook *Fundamentals of Music Processing (FMP)*. This is the starting website, which is opened when calling <https://www.audiolabs-erlangen.de/FMP>. Besides giving an [overview](#), this website provides information on the license, the main contributors, and some links.

<https://www.audiolabs-erlangen.de/FMP>

References (FMP Textbook & Notebooks)

- Meinard Müller: Fundamentals of Music Processing – Using Python and Jupyter Notebooks. 2nd Edition, Springer, 2021.
<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030698072>
- Meinard Müller and Frank Zalkow: libfmp: A Python Package for Fundamentals of Music Processing. Journal of Open Source Software (JOSS), 6(63): 1–5, 2021.
<https://joss.theoj.org/papers/10.21105/joss.03326>
- Meinard Müller: An Educational Guide Through the FMP Notebooks for Teaching and Learning Fundamentals of Music Processing. Signals, 2(2): 245–285, 2021.
<https://www.mdpi.com/2624-6120/2/2/18>
- Meinard Müller and Frank Zalkow: FMP Notebooks: Educational Material for Teaching and Learning Fundamentals of Music Processing. Proc. International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference (ISMIR): 573–580, 2019.
<https://zenodo.org/record/3527872#.Y0hEQOgzaUk>
- Meinard Müller, Brian McFee, and Katherine Kinnaid: Interactive Learning of Signal Processing Through Music: Making Fourier Analysis Concrete for Students. IEEE Signal Processing Magazine, 38(3): 73–84, 2021.
<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9418542>

Resources (Group Meinard Müller)

- FMP Notebooks:
<https://www.audiolabs-erlangen.de/FMP>
- libfmp:
<https://github.com/meinardmueller/libfmp>
- synctoolbox:
<https://github.com/meinardmueller/synctoolbox>
- libtsm:
<https://github.com/meinardmueller/libtsm>
- Preparation Course Python (PCP) Notebooks:
<https://www.audiolabs-erlangen.de/resources/MIR/PCP/PCP.html>
<https://github.com/meinardmueller/PCP>

Resources

- **librosa:**
<https://librosa.org/>
- **madmom:**
<https://github.com/CPJKU/madmom>
- **Essentia Python tutorial:**
https://essentia.upf.edu/essentia_python_tutorial.html
- **mirdata:**
<https://github.com/mir-dataset-loaders/mirdata>
- **open-unmix:**
<https://github.com/sigsep/open-unmix-pytorch>
- **Open Source Tools & Data for Music Source Separation:**
<https://source-separation.github.io/tutorial/landing.html>

