

Musical Composer Identification

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The Problem













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History



- First system "as good as experts"
- 2001, Pollastri and Simoncelli⁵
- Hidden Markov Models for every composer
- Short sequences of relative pitch changes
- 42% Success Rate (Experts: 48%)



- Using features extracted from music sheets²
- Assumption: Every composer has a unique note distribution

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- Classical Machine Learning techniques:
 - Support Vector Machine
 - Naive Bayes
- $\sim 50\%$ Accuracy



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- More sophisticated features
- Mostly extracted from music sheets
- Training of models:
 - Neural Networks¹³
 - Markov Chains⁴
 - n-grams
- \sim 60-80% Accuracy

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Identifiers



Summation over notes

$$CP(n \mod (12) + 1) = \sum_{n \mod (12) \in M}^{1} 1$$

• Normalization as pieces have different lengths

$$N(i) = rac{CP(i)}{\max_{1 \le j \le 12} CP(j)}$$

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- Ignores the key of the musical pieces
- Ignores tempo / note length
- Different use cases:
 - single global descriptor
 - fixed-length time windows
 - sliding windows
- several variations

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Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCC)

- Commonly used in speech recognition
- Robust against noise
- Takes human perception into account



- Compute the Fourier Transform of the audio signal
- Map the powers of Fourier Transform onto the Mel Scale and take the log

$$m = log(2595 \log_{10}(1 + \frac{f}{700}))$$

- Compute Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) of the mel log powers
- The MFCCs are the amplitudes of the DCT
- Variant Mel-Phon Coefficient (MPC) does not apply DCT

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Deep Neural Network

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• by Zhen Hu, Kun Fu and Changshui Zhang $(2013)^1$

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- Construction of a 5-layer Deep Neural Network
- Works with audio clips
 - no prior cleaning/preparation process
- High success rates





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Input						

- Recordings of different performances
- no prior denoising or selection
- separated into 30 second clips
- Per clip:
 - separation into 3 second fragments with 50% overlap

- Mel-Phon Coefficient (MPC) for every fragment
- 592 MPC as input for the Deep Neural Network



• Encoder maps input $x \in [0,1]^n$ onto representation $y \in [0,1]^m$

$$y = sigm(W \cdot x)$$

• Decoder maps y back onto $z \in [0,1]^n$

$$z = sigm(W^T \cdot y)$$



• The DA is trained to minimize the error

$$\min_{W} || sigm(W^T \cdot sigm(W \cdot x')) - x ||_2$$

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- x' is a corrupted version of x
- The DA learns something underneath the original data



- Multiple Denoising Autoencoders (here 2)
- Trained in two steps:
- Train every layer separately
 - Input: output of previous layer
 - Target: clean data
- Fine-Tuning of the whole stack

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 Restricted Boltzmann Machine (RBM)



energy-based model

$$P(v,h) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(h^T W v + b^T v + c^T h)$$

• (W: weights ; b,c: offsets ; h: hidden nodes ; v: visible nodes)



• maximize probability of training input V

$$\max_{W,b,c} \log P(V) = \max_{W,b,c} \sum_{v \in V} \log P(v)$$

- iterative learning algorithm
 - Gibbs sampling
 - Contrastive Divergence
 - Back Propagation



$$P(Y) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(\beta_0 + x_i^T \beta))}$$

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- Scalar β and offset β_0
- Assigns a confidence value to every composer
- Composer with highest confidence is chosen

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Accuracy



- 11 composers of classical music
- 360 clips à 30 seconds
 - 250 Training
 - 50 Validation
 - 60 Testing
- Clip of musical piece in training set ⇔ no clip of musical piece in test set

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• Total accuracy: 76.26%¹

Composer	Accuracy	Composer	Accuracy	
Bach 93.10%		Haydn	40.00%	
Beethoven	63.33%	Mendelssohn	100.00%	
Brahms	75.51%	Mozart	74.58%	
Chopin	98.11%	Schubert	20.59%	
Dvorak	97.01%	Vivaldi	87.04%	
Handel	100.00%			

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Conclusion



- Musical Composer Identification is solvable
- Error Rates still high
- Final evaluation of an expert still needed
- Some Pairings still hard to distinguish
- Only few methods working with audio files instead of music sheets

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