

Digital Music Lab

An AHRC Digital Transformations Project

Analysing Big Music Data Introduction

Tillman Weyde, Stephen Cottrell, Jason Dykes, Emmanouil Benetos, Mark Plumbley, Simon Dixon, Nicolas Gold, Mahendra Mahey, Aquiles Alencar-Brayner, Daniel Wolff, Alexander Kachkaev, Dan Tidhar, Mathieu Barthet, Stephen Hargreaves, Samer Abdallah, Adam Tovell



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



CITY UNIVERSITY
LONDON



Queen Mary
University of London



LIBRARY
HSILIRB

Outline

- ▶ Digital transformations
- ▶ Why music and big data
- ▶ The Digital Music Lab project
- ▶ Research questions
- ▶ Data
- ▶ Methods
- ▶ Results
- ▶ About this workshop



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Digital Transformations

- ▶ Music has gone digital
- ▶ What about musicology?
- ▶ Data has become a central part of culture
- ▶ How can we study digital culture?
 - ▶ Technologies
 - ▶ Opportunities
 - ▶ Challenges



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Digital Transformations in Musicology

- ▶ Gap between musicology and music technology (music information retrieval)
- ▶ Large heterogeneous data collections
- ▶ Need for software infrastructure
- ▶ Audio and symbolic music processing
- ▶ Connecting resources (semantic web, linked data)
- ▶ Tools and visual interfaces
- ▶ Methods for gaining musical insight from data



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

The Digital Music Lab project

- ▶ Started 1st January 2014
- ▶ Ends 31st March 2015
- ▶ City University (Dpt of Computer Science, Dpt of Music)
 - ▶ Tillman Weyde, Stephen Cottrell, Jason Dykes, Emmanouil Benetos, Daniel Wolff, Dan Tidhar, Alex Kachkaev
- ▶ Queen Mary UoL (Centre for Digital Music)
 - ▶ Mark Plubmley, Simon Dixon, Mathieu Barthet, Steven Hargreaves
- ▶ University College London (Dpt of Computer Science, Centre for Digital Humanities)
 - ▶ Nicolas Gold, Samer Abdallah
- ▶ British Library (BL Labs)
 - ▶ Aquiles Alencar-Brayner, Mahendra Mahey, Adam Tovell



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Research Questions

- ▶ How can **music research** use audio transcription and analysis on **large data collections**?
- ▶ How can we provide an **infrastructure** that enables **researchers to make use** of large data collections **and create reusable open datasets**?
- ▶ How can **computational tools** be made usable **for music researchers**, musicians and other users (who are **not necessarily computer scientists**)?



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Objectives

- ▶ Develop a networked infrastructure to bring computation to the data
- ▶ Avoid copyright problems by design
- ▶ Integrate audio feature extraction and transcription
- ▶ Demonstrate application of analysis tools based on this infrastructure
- ▶ Interactive visual interfaces
- ▶ Musicological applications



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

What has been done

- ▶ Identified needs and questions
- ▶ Infrastructure with Semantic Web interfaces and Middleware
- ▶ Dataset preparation with features & transcription
- ▶ Visual interfaces
- ▶ Musicological studies on temperament, and chord sequences, and melodic/harmonic patterns



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Workshop: Musicological Questions

- ▶ Automatic analysis of scores
- ▶ Structural analysis from audio (e.g. recognise repetitions of an exposition)
- ▶ Analysing styles, trends over time
- ▶ New similarity metrics e.g. performance-based
- ▶ Work across different heterogeneous collections
- ▶ Utilise external metadata and annotations



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



Infrastructure

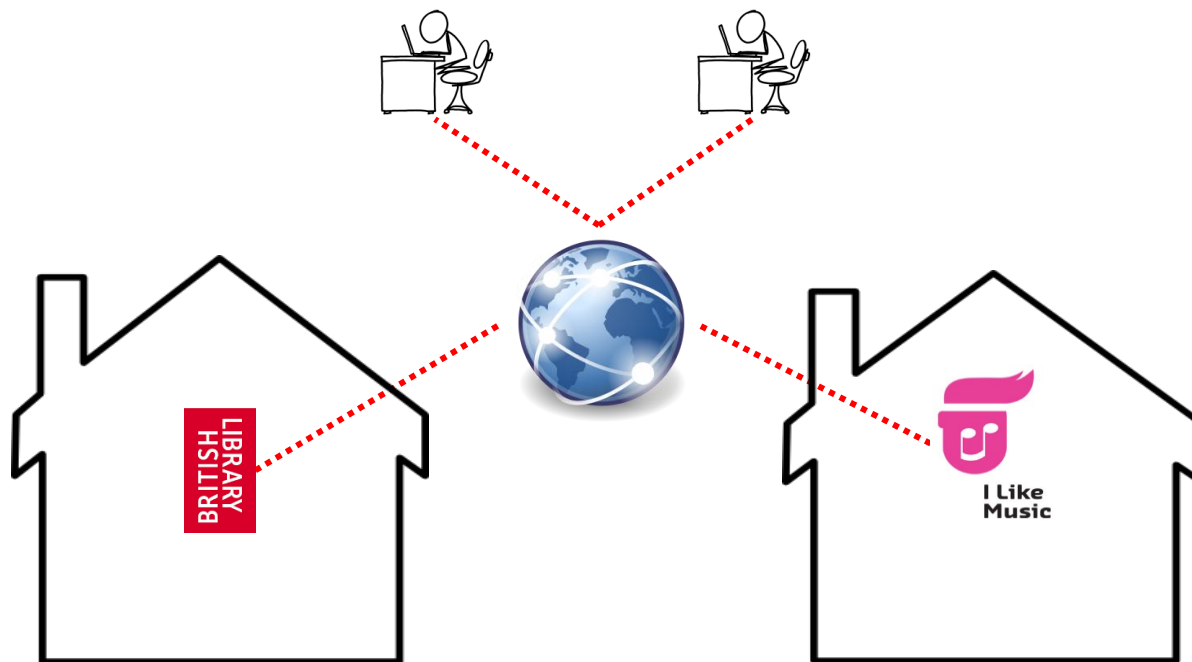
- Feature Extraction
 - Vamp plug-ins
 - Spark and other techniques for parallelisation
- Middleware
 - Semantic Web server (RDF with Prolog using ClioPatria)
 - Music Ontology
 - Manages aggregation and collection level analysis
 - Provides SPARQL endpoint



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Infrastructure

- Derived data from 2 collections
 - ▶ Accessible via the web



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Interfaces and Visualisations

- Audio collections
- Chord sequence patterns
- Tag crowd-sourcing

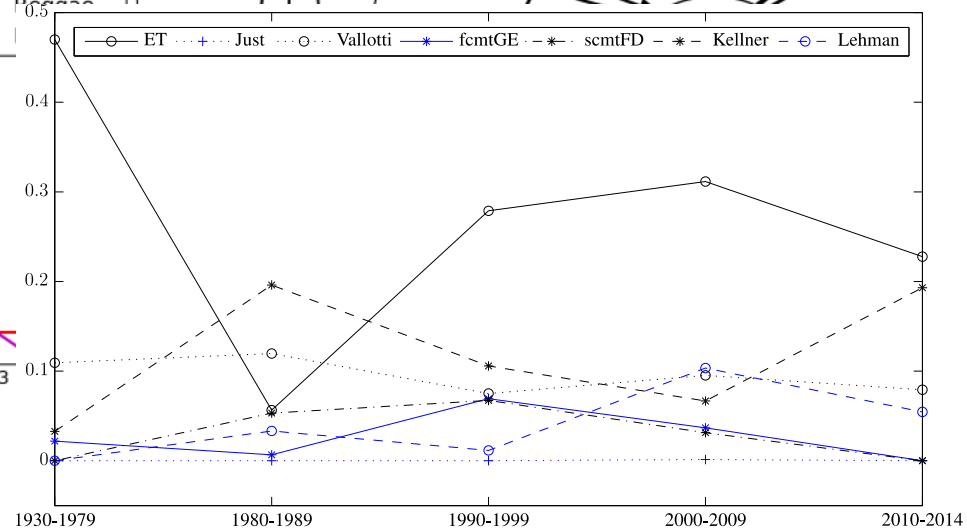
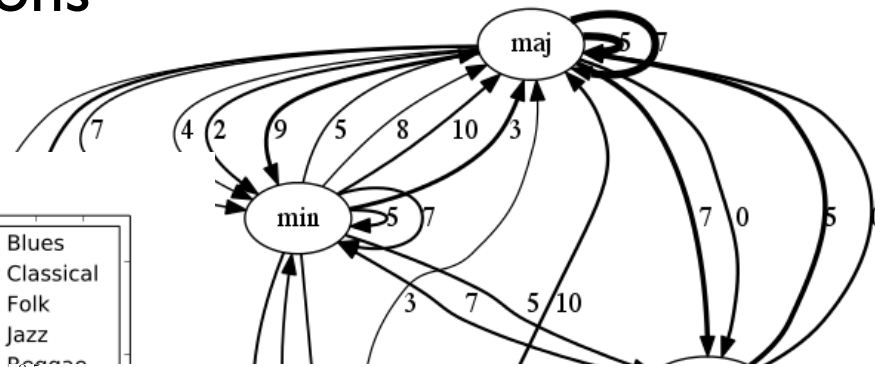
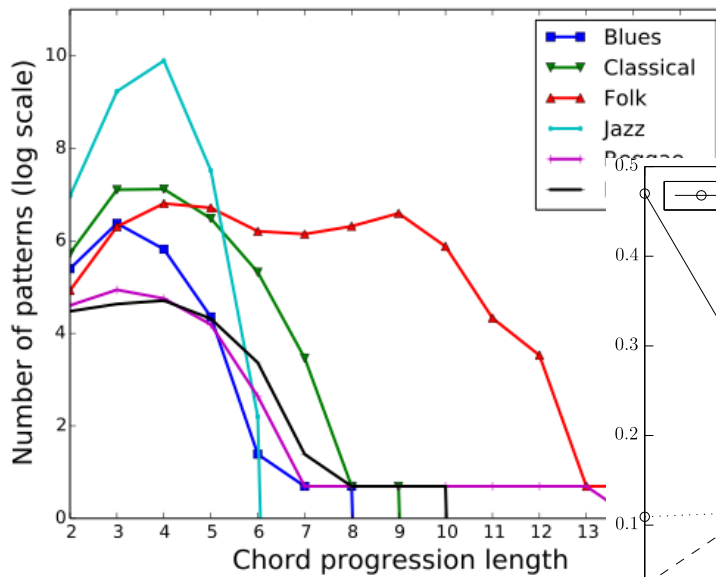
The screenshot displays a complex music analysis interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'blues' and 'jazz'. The 'blues' section includes options like 'up to 1000' and 'most frequent chord sequences (both cyclic and non-cyclic)'. The 'jazz' section includes 'up to 100' and 'most frequent non-cyclic chord sequences'. Below these are visualizations: a 'linked circular grid' and a 'twisted CW' diagram on the left, and a 'tonnetz' diagram with 'curved lines, more space' in the center. On the right, there are two histograms showing frequency distributions. At the bottom, a 'list of recordings (up to 20)' is shown, including titles like 'la baby', 'y you nor go buy ockro', and 'board the bus to Lumley'. A 'Solo Piano Recording?' interface is also visible at the top right, featuring a piano and five speakers labeled 'Piano Solo' and 'Not Piano Solo'.

Studies

- ▶ Temperament
- ▶ Chord progressions



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



Outputs

- ▶ Curated datasets and derived data (>4 Terabytes)
- ▶ Web service with visual interfaces
- ▶ Publications (more to come)
- ▶ Redistributable virtual machine images (in preparation)



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

What we would like to learn from you!

- ▶ How would you like to use data for research?
- ▶ How could you use our collections and features?
- ▶ Are the suggested methods useful to you?
- ▶ Are the tools useful to you?
- ▶ What data, methods and tools, would you like to have next?
- ▶ Where is the journey going?



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

The rest of today

- ▶ 10.20 Keynote Prof Lorna Hughes
- ▶ 10.50 Short talks (DML team)
- ▶ 12.05 Demos and instructions
- ▶ 12:40 Lunch (in situ)
- ▶ 13.30 Hands-on workshop
- ▶ 14.30 DML applications
- ▶ 15.00 Coffee break
- ▶ 15:30 Panel and Conclusion
- ▶ 16.30 End of workshop
Further informal discussions



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Housekeeping

- ▶ WiFi
 - ▶ Select “BL Visitor” network
 - ▶ Enter your name and e-mail
 - ▶ Check your e-mail within 15min to get your credential
- ▶ Hash tag
 - ▶ #digitalmusiclab
- ▶ Collaborative document
 - ▶ Link: <http://bit.ly/18hm1T9>
 - ▶ For running commentary and feedback



Arts & Humanities
Research Council