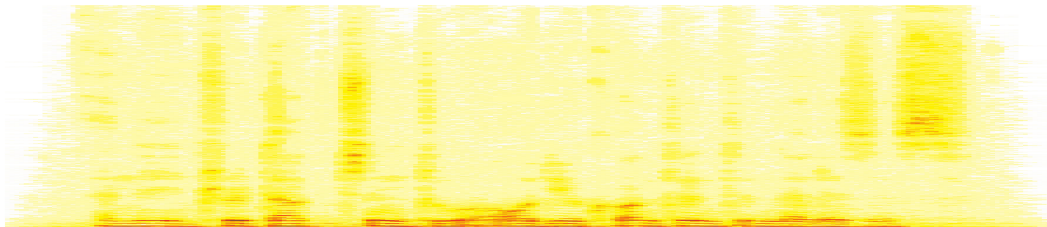


Introduction to Audio Content Analysis

Module 5.2: Fundamental Frequency Detection in Monophonic Signals

alexander lerch



introduction

overview

corresponding textbook section

Chapter 5 — Tonal Analysis: pp. 91–103

• lecture content

- established approaches to monophonic pitch tracking in
 - time domain
 - frequency domain

• learning objectives

- define the task of monophonic pitch tracking
- summarize the principles of time-domain f_0 -trackers and describe one approach in detail
- summarize the principles of frequency-domain f_0 -trackers and describe one approach in detail



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fundamental frequency

introduction

remember

Fourier series: every (quasi-)periodic sound is a combination of sinusoidals with integer frequency ratios

$$x(t) \approx x(t + T_0)$$

$$x(t) \approx \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a(k) e^{j\omega_0 kt}$$

f_0 : musically, perceptually most “relevant” frequency

fundamental frequency

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pitch detection

task definition

- detect the fundamental frequency f_0
- there is only one fundamental frequency at a time
- related subtasks:
 - detect when there is no fundamental frequency
 - segment into notes
 - start time and stop time
 - average note frequency
 - vibrato detection
 - map to pitch scale

monophonic fundamental frequency detection

zero crossing rate

- **number of zero crossings per block** (inaccurate)

$$T_0(n) = \frac{2 \cdot (i_e(n) - i_s(n))}{f_S \cdot \sum_{i=i_s(n)}^{i_e(n)} |\text{sign}[x(i)] - \text{sign}[x(i-1)]|}$$

- average period length

$$T_0(n) = \frac{2}{Z-1} \sum_{j=0}^{Z-2} \Delta t_{ZC}(j).$$

- **variants:**

- create histogram with distances and choose maximum
- use not (only) ZC but distance between local extrema

monophonic fundamental frequency detection

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monophonic fundamental frequency detection

auto correlation function

- find **lag of ACF maximum**

$$r_{xx}(\eta, n) = \sum_{i=i_s(n)}^{i_e(n)-\eta} x(i) \cdot x(i + \eta)$$

- **variants:**

- center clipping



monophonic fundamental frequency detection

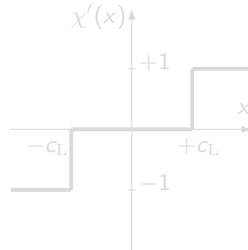
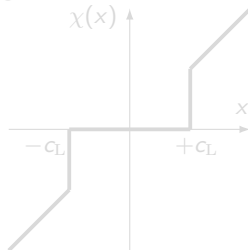
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monophonic fundamental frequency detection

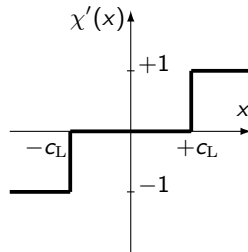
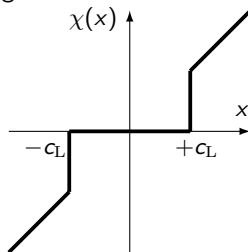
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monophonic fundamental frequency detection

average magnitude difference function

- find **lag of AMDF minimum**

$$\text{AMDF}_{xx}(\eta, n) = \frac{1}{i_e(n) - i_s(n) + 1} \sum_{i=i_s(n)}^{i_e(n)-\eta} |x(i) - x(i + \eta)|$$

- **variants:**

- AMDF-weighted ACF

$$r'_{xx}(\eta, n) = \frac{r_{xx}(\eta, n)}{\text{AMDF}_{xx}(\eta, n) + 1}$$

monophonic fundamental frequency detection

average magnitude difference function

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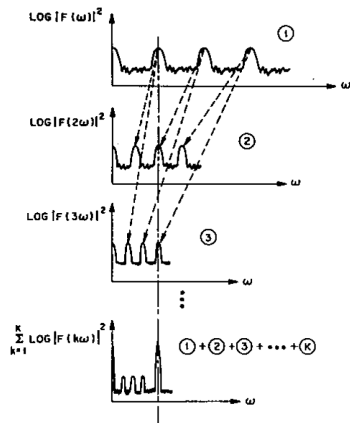
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monophonic fundamental frequency detection

harmonic product spectrum 1/2

$$X_{\text{HPS}}(k, n) = \prod_{j=1}^O |X(j \cdot k, n)|^2$$

first published in the 1960s by Noll (graph from that paper)

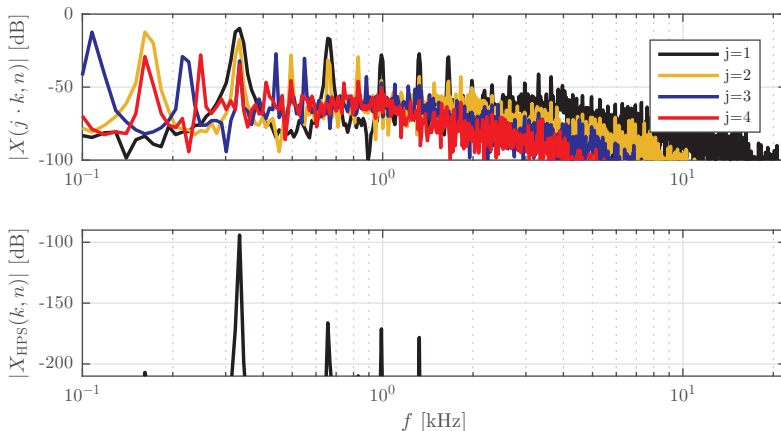


1

¹A. M. Noll, "Pitch Determination of Human Speech by the Harmonic Product Spectrum, the Harmonic Sum Spectrum, and a Maximum Likelihood Estimate," in *Proceedings of the Symposium on Computer Processing in Communications*, vol. 19, Brooklyn: Polytechnic Press of the University of Brooklyn, 1969, pp. 779–797.

monophonic fundamental frequency detection

harmonic product spectrum 2/2



monophonic fundamental frequency detection

harmonic sum spectrum

- sum instead product sum

$$X_{\text{HSS}}(k, n) = \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{O}} |X(j \cdot k, n)|^2$$

- **advantage**
 - robust against missing harmonics
- **disadvantage**
 - less pronounced peak

monophonic fundamental frequency detection

ACF of magnitude spectrum

$$r_{XX}(\eta, n) = \sum_{k=-K/2}^{K/2-1} |X(k, n)| \cdot |X(k + \eta, n)|$$

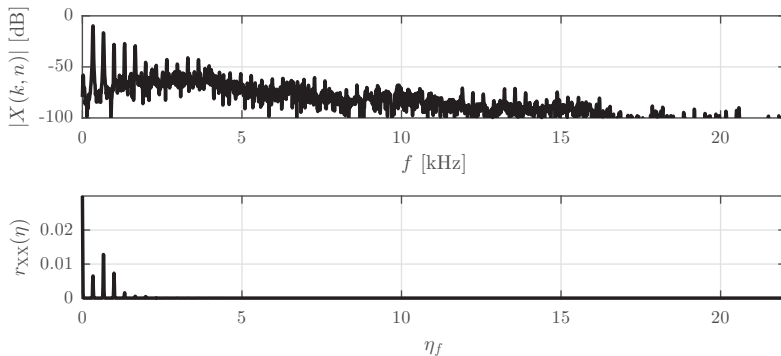
⇒ detect maximum location

monophonic fundamental frequency detection

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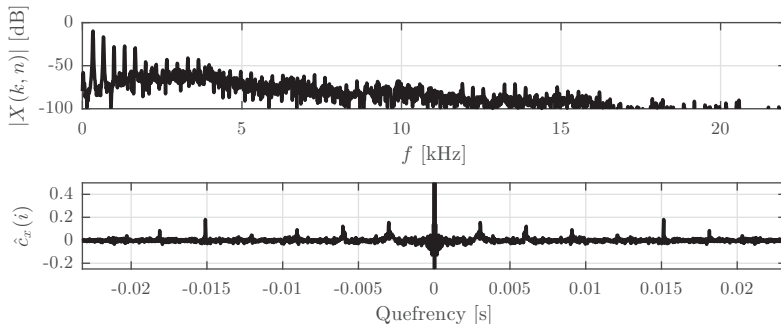
⇒ detect maximum location



monophonic fundamental frequency detection

cepstral pitch detection

- 1 compute cepstrum
- 2 detect periodicities



monophonic fundamental frequency detection

spectral maximum likelihood

- create **template matrix** with (smoothed) delta pulses for all possible frequencies
- compute the **cross correlation** ($lag = 0$) between spectrum and all templates
- pick the result with the **highest correlation** \Rightarrow frequency estimate (graph see²)

²P. de la Cuadra, *Pitch detection methods review*, [Online]. Available: <https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~pdelac/154/m154paper.htm> (visited on 08/04/2015).

monophonic fundamental frequency detection

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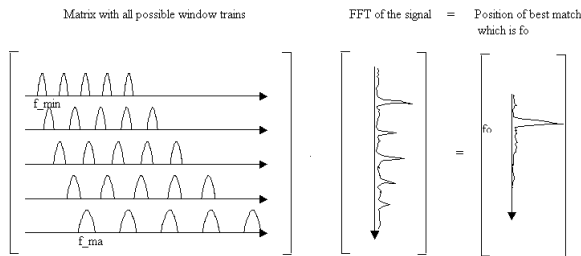
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monophonic fundamental frequency detection

auditory-motivated pitch tracking 1/2

- 1 **filterbank** of band pass filters (e.g., mel scale)
- 2 HWR
- 3 smoothing
- 4 within-band periodicity estimate (e.g. **ACF**)
- 5 **combination** of bands

monophonic fundamental frequency detection

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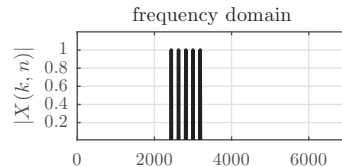
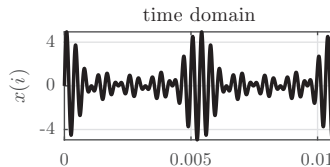
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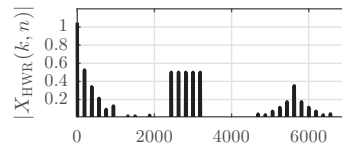
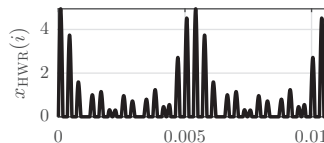
monophonic fundamental frequency detection

auditory-motivated pitch tracking 2/2

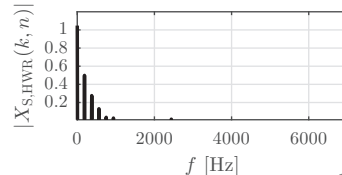
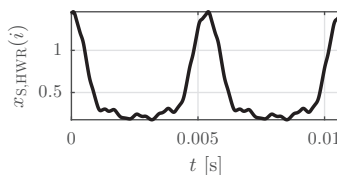
1 filterbank output



2 half wave rectification



3 smoothed output



summary

lecture content

- **basic approach**

- all approaches look for **periodicity**
 - waveform similarity in time domain
 - equidistant harmonics/peaks in freq domain

- **state-of-the-art**

- despite the age of the presented methods, tweaked versions of the presented approaches are still often considered state-of-the-art
- especially combinations of different approaches can be very successful

