Manipulating tonals

**Please read the ReadMeFirst file before attempting to use this software.**

# Saving and loading sets of tonals

The dtTonalsLoad and dtTonalsSave functions can be used to load and save lists of tonal time x frequency contours.

tonal\_set = dtTonalsLoad(filename) will load a set of tonals from the specified filename. An optional true/false flag controls whether or not a user interface dialog is presented. When true, filename may be the empty matrix [ ], or contain a name that will be used as the default value.

dtTonalsSave(filename, tonal\_set) saves a set of tonals to the specified file. Like dtTonalsLoad, an optional true/false flag can be used to request a user interface dialog.

## Caveat: Very large tonal sets

When loading very large sets of detected tonals, the Java garbage collector used with Matlab problems can overzealously report a “java.lang.OutOfMemoryError: GC overhead limit exceeded.” It appears that when Java is unable to reclaim at least 2 percent of the memory allocated for heap storage (where the tonals are stored), it throws an error. As the number of whistles processed grows, it becomes more difficult to reach the 2% limit. It is possible to disable the check with a Java option, but unless all the tonals are really needed in memory, an easier fix is to process the tonals one at a time. To do this requires accessing the Java interface directly as follows (tonal specific code **bolded**):

function boundingbox = construct\_boundingboxes(detectionfiles)

% Given a set of detection files, extract summary information about

% each file *without loading all tonals in memory at once*.

%

% bb{idx} contains information about detections in files{idx}

% Each row of bb{idx} contains start and end times in s offset from

% start of file, and minimum and maximum frequency.

% Required to let Matlab know about the class.

**import tonals.TonalBinaryInputStream;**

fprintf('Building bounding boxes for %d files\n', length(detectionfiles));

show\_every\_n = 10;

filesN = length(detectionfiles);

boundingbox = cell(filesN, 1);

for fidx = 1:filesN

if rem(fidx, show\_every\_n) == 0

fprintf('%d ', fidx);

if rem(fidx, 10\*show\_every\_n) == 0

fprintf('\n');

end

end

**% Open up the tonal stream**

**detstream = TonalBinaryInputStream(detectionfiles{fidx});**

**% Create an iterator over the tonals in the stream.**

**iter = detstream.iterator();**

if **iter.hasNext()** % if any tonals exist

% Find detection bounding box

tmp = get\_boundingbox(iter); % Read the tonals

% Append the file index so that we can locate the file

% later.

boundingbox{fidx} = [tmp, ones(size(tmp,1), 1)\*fidx];

else

boundingbox{fidx} = [];

end

end

fprintf('\n');

function bb = get\_boundingbox(detiter)

% bb = get\_boundingbox(detiter)

% Given a detection stream iterator

% Return matrix where each row is per detection:

% [start, end, minfreq, maxfreq]

idx = 1;

while **detiter.hasNext()**

**detection = detiter.next();**

**% pull out time and frequency using accessor functions**

**t = detection.get\_time();**

**f = detection.get\_freq();**

bb(idx,:) = [t(1), t(end), min(f), max(f)]; %#ok<AGROW>

idx = idx + 1;

end

# Using detected tonals

Sets of tonals are instances of Java collections. As such, one can use methods associated with the collection interface. Suppose we had a set of tonals called tonal\_set. The following are examples of methods that could be used:

* tonal\_set.size() – Returns the number of tonals in the set.
* tonal\_set.get(n) – Return the nth tonal. Java enumerates arrays and collections starting at 0, so n must be in the range 0 ≤ n < tonal\_set.size() .
* tonal\_set.add(t) – Add a tonal t to the set.
* tonal\_set.iterator() – Returns a Java iterator, an object that can be used to loop over the tonal set:

% Assume that tonals contains a tonal set

% We will loop to find the minimum and maximum

% frequency

minfreq = Inf;

maxfreq = -Inf;

it = tonals.iterator(); % Create an iterator

while it.hasNext() % any more?

ton = it.next(); % get next tonal

f = ton.get\_freq(); % get frequency list

% update min/max frequencies

minfreq = min(minfreq, min(f));

maxfreq = max(maxfreq, max(f));

% We could plot the tonal with:

% plot(ton.get\_time(), ton.get\_freq());

end

Each tonal has a number of methods associated with it. A complete list can be seen in the source code for Java class tonal in the tonals package. Some of the more useful ones are:

* get\_time() – Returns array of time offsets from the start of the detection file in s.
* get\_freq() – Returns the frequencies associated with each time.
* get(n) – Returns the nth time-frequency node of the tonal. As this is a Java structure, array indices from from 0 to N-1 where N is the number of tonals. Variables such as time and freq (frequency) can be accessed directly from the time-frequency node.
* get\_duration() – Returns length of detection in s.
* getSpecies() – Returns the species name associated with the call (or the empty string if no label was assigned.
* getCall() – Returns the call type associated with the call (if assigned, otherwise the empty string).
* overlapping\_tonals(tonal\_set) – Returns a new set containing tonals in tonal\_set that overlap in time with this one.
* size() – Returns the number of time-frequency nodes in the tonal list.
* toString(firstN, lastN) - When tonals are displayed in Matlab, by default the first two time x frequency nodes and the last one are displayed. To see more of the tonal, the toString method can be used specifying how many nodes should be displayed at the head and tail of the list. Specifying -1 for the firstN argument will display all nodes.

# Constructing tonals and tonal sets

When creating tonal objects, it is important to first tell Matlab that the tonals package will be used via the import command:

import tonals.\*; % Import Java’s tonals package

Once this has been done, tonals can be created by using the tonal constructor, providing a pair of vectors specifying times and frequencies:

**new\_tonal** = tonal(time, frequency);

Be sure to avoid using the variable name tonal, or you will not be able to create new tonal objects until it is cleared.

Tonal sets can be created as follows, this example creates a set whose order is dependent upon the insertion order:

tonals = java.util.LinkedList(); % Empty linked list created

tonals.add(**new\_tonal**); % Adds tonal to the list

another\_tonal = tonal(time, frequency);

tonals.add(another\_tonal); % Adds another tonal to the list