DCS Milestones

DCS Strategy & Planning — Full Conversation Archive (May 2025)

🎯 Initial Goal

Build a multi-platform tool for detecting and analyzing music in film audio to speed up spotting sessions for composers, editors, and filmmakers.

✅ Core Functional Goals

- Detect music regions in film audio
- Analyze metadata (mood, tempo, instrumentation)
- Output cue data for use in DAWs and NLEs
- Integrate with composer WAV demo libraries
- Enable licensing and marketplace workflows
- Define a new industry-standard open format (.dcs)

🔄 Core Use Cases

Case 1: Composer Demo-Based Scoring

1. Spot film using tool
2. Refine tagging with LLM
3. Populate Logic/Pro Tools with matching WAV demos
4. Open related DAW sessions to continue scoring

Case 2: Use Existing Music "As Is"

1. Spot film
2. Match demos to film scenes
3. Send WAVs as final score to filmmakers

Case 3: Filmmaker Licensing Flow

1. Filmmaker uploads film with temp score
2. Tool analyzes scenes and temp music
3. Suggests music from internal or partner database
4. Filmmaker licenses music and downloads it

📁 DCS File Format Plan

`.dcs` (Final Licensing Format)

- Cue ID
- Start/End Timecode
- Mood (standardized)
- Tempo
- Instrumentation
- Licensing info
- File hash of audio

`.dcsx` (Editable Internal Format)

- All `.dcs` fields
- AI-generated confidence scores
- DAW session links
- Editable metadata
- File paths (e.g., WAVs, project files)

Review Process

- AI creates `.dcsx`
- Human reviews + refines metadata
- System exports `.dcs` for licensing and delivery

🎛 MVP Phase Plan (Refined)

Phase 1: Spotting + Marker Export Only (4–6 weeks)

- Input: Film audio (WAV/MOV/MP4)
- Output A: `.dcsx` file
- Output B: Logic-compatible `.csv` marker file
- No WAV library matching yet

Marker CSV Format for Logic Pro:

```
Marker,Position,Name
Marker,00:01:22.340,Tense Cue – 84bpm
Marker,00:03:12.000,Calm Bridge – 72bpm
```

Tools:

- `ffmpeg` for preprocessing
- `Essentia` or `pyAudioAnalysis` for segmentation
- Optional: `CLAP` + LLM for mood tagging
- Python for pipeline

🧠 Mood Tagging Standard (To Build)

- Combine dimensional (valence/arousal) + qualitative (e.g., "tense")
- JSON-ready structure for extensibility
- Versioned schema
- Multilingual synonym support

🧱 Future Platform Layers

- Web app for cue matching & licensing
- DAW plugins (VST3/AU/AAX) for marker import
- NLE plugins (Premiere, Resolve) for visual cue review
- Composer portal to upload, tag, license music

🌐 Industry Positioning

- Not competing with AI music or music libraries
- Positioned as **middleware infrastructure**
- Goal: become the **PDF of music cue metadata**
- Every film festival, distributor, platform could require `.dcs` for proof of license

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📎 External Links and Threads

- Logic marker CSV import thread: LogicProHelp

📦 Tooling Notes

Platforms Considered for Strategy Doc:

- ✅ **ChatGPT Canvas** (you're here)
- ✅ Notion — aesthetic & structured, good for teams
- ✅ Dropbox Paper — minimal and clean
- ✅ Pitch — for funding decks or onboarding
- ❌ Google Docs — no native ChatGPT support

📥 Current Tasks (as of end of May 2025)

Let's keep iterating on this and break off into focused Canvases if needed (e.g., `mood_taxonomy.md`, `dcs_format.md`, etc).

https://huggingface.co/amaai-lab/music2emo