

MIR Project Phase 1, Spring 2016 (10 pts)

1 General Information

Music Information Retrieval is an interdisciplinary field so there is considerable variation in the types of projects one can do. The projects described in this appendix differ in the skills required, type of programming, availability of existing published work, and many other factors. The exact details are usually refined over the course of the term through better knowledge of MIR and interaction with the instructor. The expectations for each project are also adjusted depending on the number of students in the group. Typically projects have the following components/stages:

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1. Problem specification, data collection and ground truth annotation
2. Information extraction and analysis
3. Implementation and interaction
4. Evaluation

At least one of these components/stages should be non-trivial for each project. For example if the project tackles a completely new task then just doing a good problem specification and associated data collection might be sufficient, followed by some baseline analysis using existing tools. Another possibility would be to take an existing task for which there is data and code and build a really nice and intuitive graphical user interface in which case the non-trivial part would be the implementation and interaction stage. A thorough experimental comparison of existing techniques for a particular task would also be a valid project. What should be avoided is just taking existing tools, data for a well known task and just getting some results. Excellent projects which would have a good chance of being accepted as ISMIR submissions typically have more than one of these stages being novel

and non-trivial. The exact details are worked out throughout the term based on the project deliverables.

The following deliverables are required for each project. All the written reports should conform to the template used for ISMIR submissions and follow the structure of an academic paper. It is a good idea to read a few ISMIR papers in order to familiarize yourself with both the template and the sections that are typically used. Each successive report builds upon the previous one. There is also a final presentation.

2 Project phase 1

The design specification describes the proposed project, provides a timeline **with specific objectives**, and **outlines the role of each team member**. In addition it describes the tools, data sets, and associate literature that the group is going to use for the project. This report should be 2-4 pages using the ISMIR template. A proper bibliography of 15-20 references should also be provided.