Tutorial 2

Analysis of Expressive Timing in Recorded Music Performances

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Abstract

This tutorial will briefly summarize research on expressive timing in music, present an original research project (as an example) on rubato in four performances of Bach's Invention No. 9, explain and demonstrate how to use the freeware Sonic Visualiser as well as Excel for the analysis of expressive timing in music, and participants will, with the help of the tutorial leader, pursue their own analysis of other performances of Bach's Invention No. 9. (Recordings will be provided.) We will combine the data collected (in Excel files) to look for similarities and differences in the various performances and how expressive timing correlates to certain musical features. (An analytical score of the piece will be provided.) We will collectively formulate research findings.

This tutorial is suitable for anyone who is curious about the topic. Beyond curiosity, participants do not need to have a music or computer science background. Those interested in participating in the analyses should bring a laptop (Windows computer or Mac) to the tutorial, with Sonic Visualiser (http://sonicvisualiser.org) and the VAMP plugin "Note Onset Detector" (http://www.vamp-plugins.org) installed.

Biography

Professor Dr. **Nico Schüler** is University Distinguished Professor of Music Theory & Musicology at Texas State University. His main research interests are computer applications in music research, methods and methodology of music research, interdisciplinary aspects of 19th/20th century music, music theory pedagogy, and music historiography. He has given numerous international workshops on computer-applications in music. He is the editor of the research book series Methodology of Music Research, the author and / or editor of 21 books, and the author of more than 120 articles. Among his most recent books are Musical Listening Habits of College Students (2010) and Computer-Assisted Music Analysis (2014). http://www.nicoschuler.com, mnico.schuler@txstate.edu.