

# Kara1k: A karaoke dataset for cover song identification and singing voice analysis

Yann Bayle<sup>1,2</sup>, **Ladislav Maršík**<sup>4</sup>, Martin Rusek<sup>3</sup>

Matthias Robine<sup>1,2</sup>, Pierre Hanna<sup>1,2</sup>, Kateřina Slaninová<sup>3</sup>, Jan Martinovič<sup>3</sup> and Jaroslav Pokorný<sup>4</sup>

1: Univ. Bordeaux, LaBRI, UMR 5800, F-33400 Talence, France

2: CNRS, LaBRI, UMR 5800, F-33400 Talence, France

3: IT4Innovations, VŠB - Technical University of Ostrava, Ostrava, Czech Republic

4: Dept. of Software Engineering, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic



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# Outline

- 1) Introducing Kara1k, a Karaoke dataset for music research
- 2) Long-term project for creating new tasks and improving state-of-the-art
- 3) Experiments with the Kara1k dataset showing new results

# Music Information Retrieval

**MUSICOLOGY**

**MUSIC INFORMATION RETRIEVAL**

**INFORMATICS**

**MUSIC THEORY**

**MATHEMATICS**

**MUSIC ACOUSTIC**

**PHYSICS**

# Music Information Retrieval

**MUSICOLOGY**

**INFORMATICS**

**MUSIC TECHNOLOGY  
AUDIO SIGNAL PROCESSING**

**MUSIC INFORMATION RETRIEVAL**

**OPTICAL MUSIC SCORE RECOGNITION**

**MUSIC COGNITION**

**MUSIC SYNTHESIS & COMPUTER MUSIC**

# Focus No.1: Cover Song Identification

- Cover song
  - An alternative version, performance, or recording of a previously published musical piece
- Input: Cover song (audio file), database of original songs;
- Output: Located original song



Queen



Queen + George Michael

# Focus No.2 – Singing Voice Analysis

- Broad set of tasks: Singer Gender Classification (SGC), Singing Voice Detection, Singing Voice Separation, ...
- SGC: Input audio file, Output: gender of singer(s)



Male



Mixed



Female



Males



Females

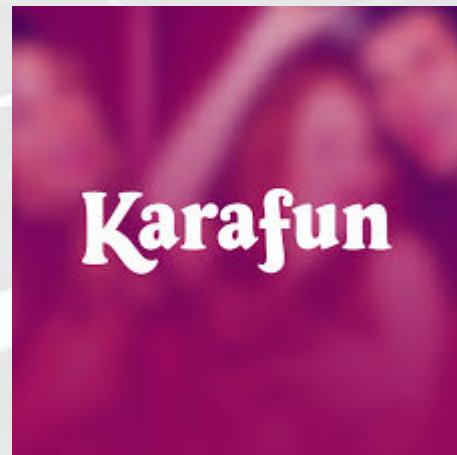
# Motivation

- For both areas, the future research has major problems
  - Stalled state-of-the-art (CSI: 2009 Serra et al.)
  - It is **NOT** a problem of techniques, rather of datasets
    - Not enough datasets to foster the research
    - Datasets do not have sufficient metadata or features
      - Datasets with > 1000 songs
        - => not enough features (MillionSongDataset)
        - => YouTube quality (AudioSet)
      - Audio copyright problems
    - Unable to form new tasks / new questions (e.g. how the cover song differs from original) – no datasets for that

# Goals – let's make it better

- Cover Song Identification
  - The task would benefit **greatly** from sub-problems
    - Finding a cover song only with a different singer / players, but the same musical setup (tempo, harmony)
  - We need a **large-enough** dataset with **many** features, not breaching copyright law along the way
- Singing voice analysis
  - We need dataset with **detailed metadata** (e.g. 5 gender classes)
  - **We need separate tracks (singer, background)**
  - Versatility (gender, language, type of singing, ...)

# KaraFun application by Recisio



# KaraFun application by Recisio

The screenshot shows the KaraFun application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for play/pause, volume, and settings, and a progress bar indicating 00:16/00:41. The main area displays the lyrics of a song in Portuguese and English. The lyrics are arranged in two columns: the left column is in Portuguese (written in Portuguese characters) and the right column is in English. Below the lyrics, the names of the original artists (Antonio Carlos Jobim) and the cover artist (Frank Sinatra) are listed. At the bottom, there is a data table with four columns: languages, genders, back\_vocals, and duet. The table shows that the song has lyrics in English and Portuguese, is performed by a male singer, does not have background vocals, and is a duet.

languages	genders	back_vocals	duet
English,Portuguese	male	0	1

# Kara1k dataset

<http://www.yannbayle.fr/karamir>

Kara1k: 1000 original songs, 1000 cover songs from KaraFun

## KaraMIR

Datasets and solutions for new Music Information Retrieval challenges

[Home](#)

[About](#)

[Kara1k](#)

[Get in touch](#)

## Kara1k

Powered by 

A karaoke dataset for cover song identification and singing voice analysis

Kara1k is a freely-available dataset of audio features from karaoke songs provided by [Recisio](#) ([Karafun](#) mobile application).

Kara1k is mainly dedicated toward cover song identification and singing voice analysis. The dataset is divided into 1,000 cover songs from Karafun application, and the corresponding 1,000 songs by the original authors.

It contains:

- An unmatched variety of features, including: [Essentia](#) [1], [harmony-analyser](#) [2], [Marsyas](#) [3], [Vamp plugins](#) [4][5] and [YAAFE](#) [6].
- Metadata such as the title, genre, original author, year, International Standard Recording Code and lyrics' language. We also include non-standard metadata such as explicit language annotation, combined singer and backing vocalists gender, or annotation of duets.
- Pure singing voice features alongside with backing track features and mixes. The karaoke tracks from Recisio are recorded in a studio quality by professional musicians, including the lead singer track for the guidance in Karafun mobile application. Therefore, we can provide 3 tracks for cover songs (lead voice, backing track, mix) and the original song. The cover and original are both professional mixes (as opposed to amateur user-recorded audio) which allows for an interesting comparison.

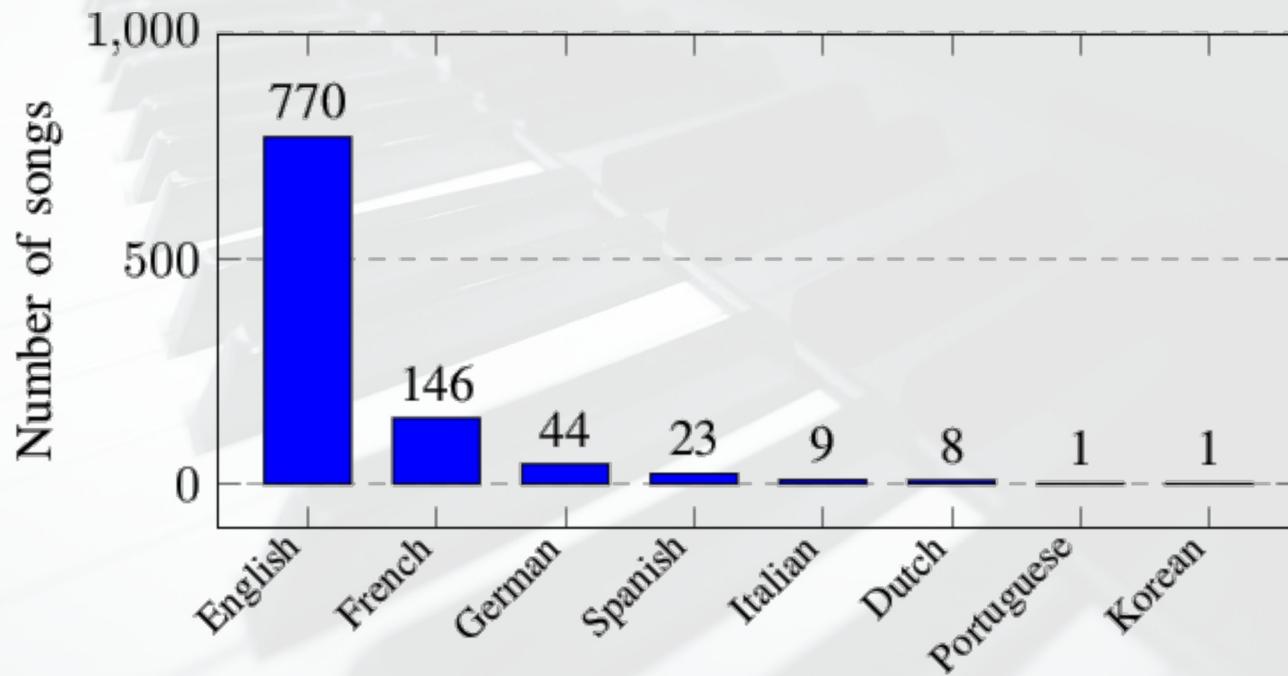
# Kara1k dataset as a part of KaraMIR project

- KaraMIR project
  - Umbrella project for Kara1k, future datasets (Kara2k, ...) and related research
  - Gives solutions for the stalled tasks:
    - Datasets with a variety of metadata and features
    - Partnerships with companies
    - Forming new sub-tasks

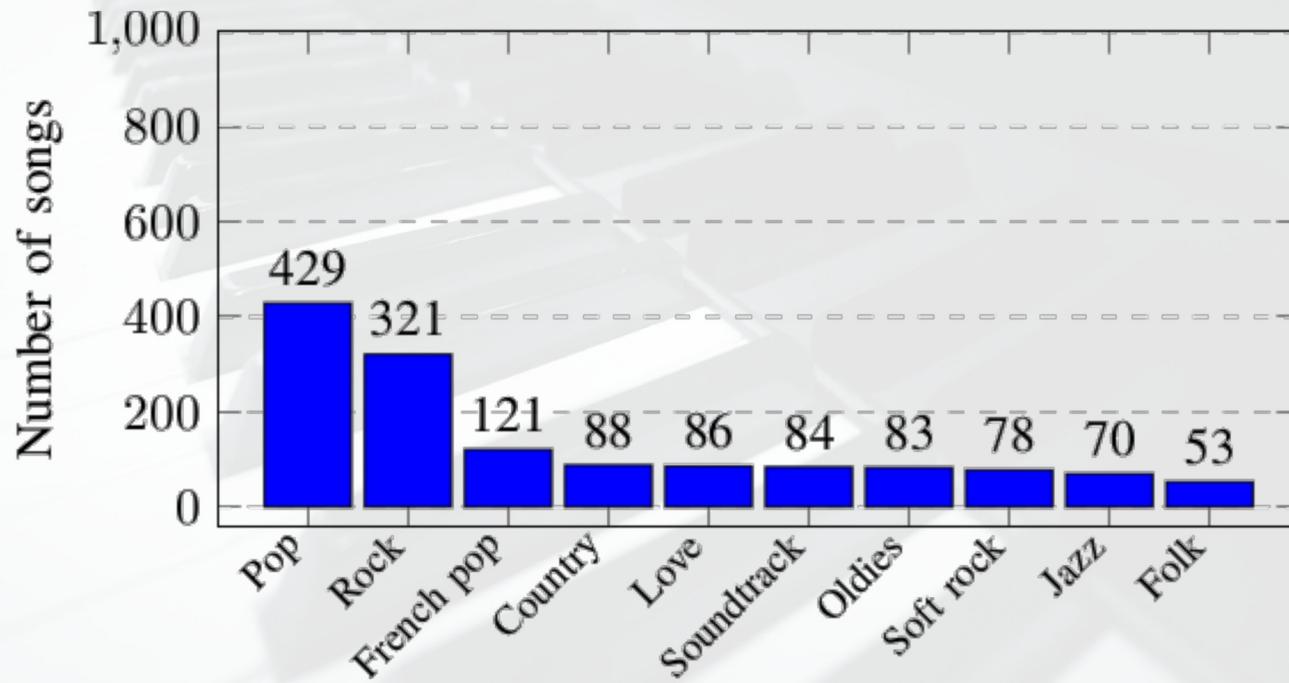


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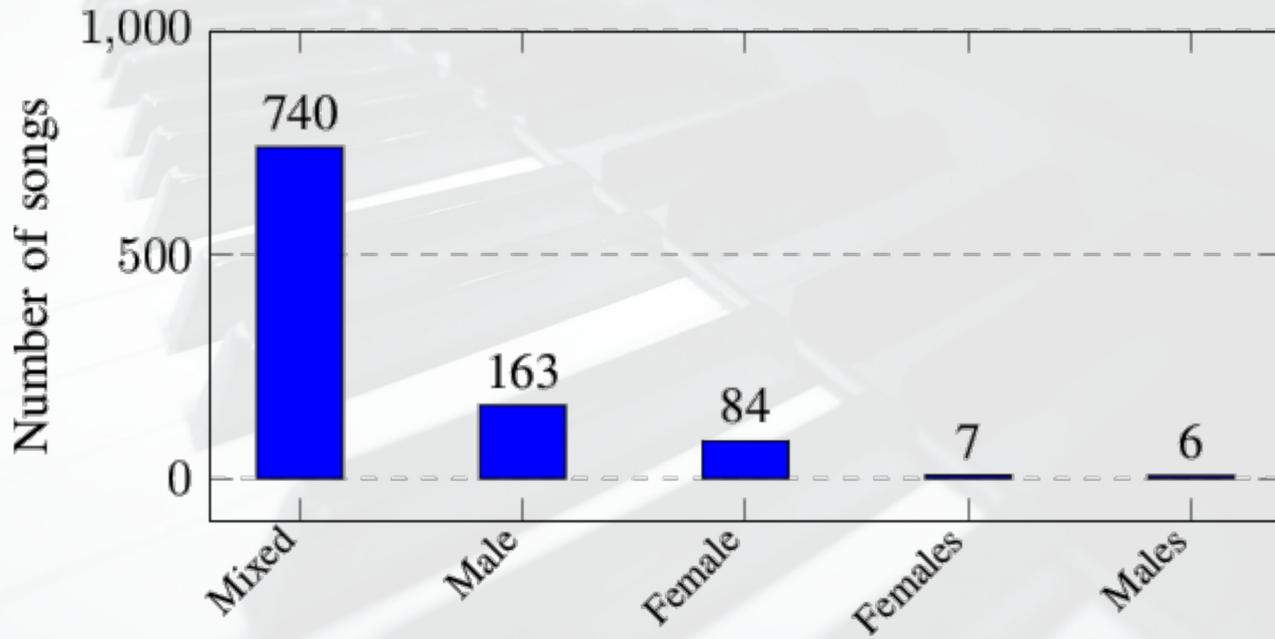
# Description of Kara1k - Languages



# Description of Kara1k - Genres



# Description of Kara1k - Genders



# Features extracted in Kara1k

- How we handled the copyright issue?
  - Extracted all features that we could ...



*harmony-analyser*

[essentia.upf.edu](http://essentia.upf.edu) [marsyas.info](http://marsyas.info)

[vamp-plugins.org](http://vamp-plugins.org) [yaafe.sourceforge.net](http://yaafe.sourceforge.net) [harmony-analyser.org](http://harmony-analyser.org)

# Special value of Kara1k

- For Cover Song Identification
  - 1000 x originals
  - 1000 x KaraFun cover songs



- Studio-recorded quality! Not an amateur singing
- Not different: harmony, tempo, structure
- Different: singer, musicians' articulation, arrangement

# Special value of Kara1k

- For Singing voice analysis
  - 1000 x KaraFun songs do provide metadata such as
    - Language(s)
    - Genre(s)
    - Gender(s)
    - **Backing vocals flag**
    - **Duet flag**
    - **Explicit language annotation**
    - Others (Year of recording, ISRC, ...)
  - All songs: Vocal track / Instrumental track / Mix track

# Easy to use / download. CSV, TXT, JSON formats

Table 2: Available features in Kara1k

[!\[\]\(55acab083b8cbf36d4a75f262b6ea94a\_img.jpg\) Download all as ZIP \(1.3GB\)](#) or separately as [Essentia](#), [harmony-analyser](#), [Marsyas](#), [Vamp plugins](#), [YAAFE](#).

You can also download all features for [cover songs](#) / [origin songs](#) / [cover voice tracks](#) / [cover instrumental tracks](#), or particular features in the table below.

Please [reach out to us](#) with requests for new features or different parameters

Feature extractor	Feature	Type	Description	Prerequisites	Parameters	Definition	Download
harmony-analyser [2]	Chord vectors frame	Frame	12-dimensional chord vectors, for each frame	Chordino Tones	<a href="#">version: 1.2-beta</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>	<a href="#">cover/origin</a>
	Chord vectors	Timestamp	12-dimensional chord vectors, with timestamps	Chordino Tones	<a href="#">version: 1.2-beta</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>	<a href="#">cover/origin</a>
	Key vectors frame	Frame	12-dimensional key vectors, for each frame	Key	<a href="#">version: 1.2-beta; frameRate: 10 Hz</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>	<a href="#">cover/origin</a>

# Easy to use / download. CSV, TXT, JSON formats



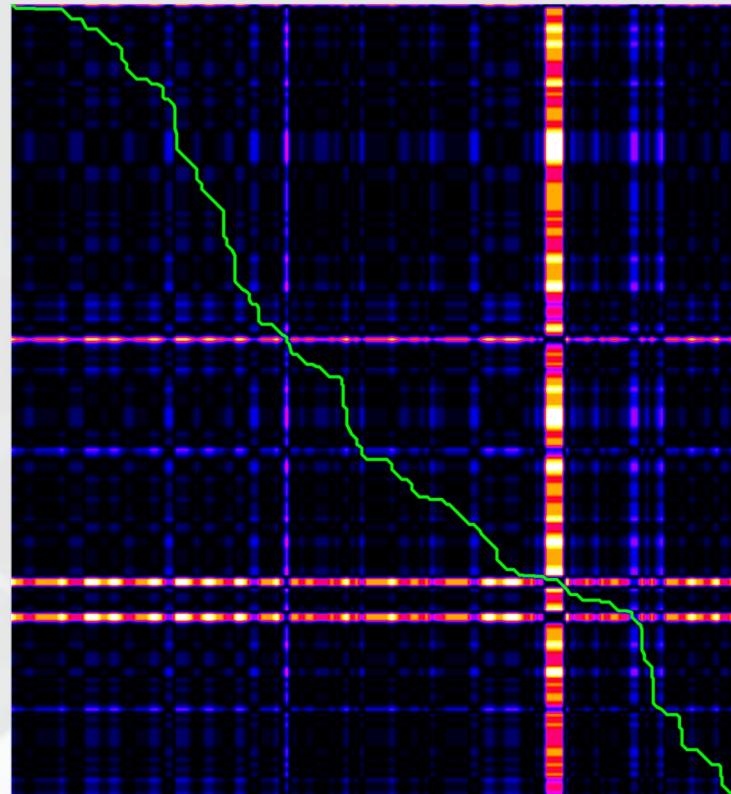
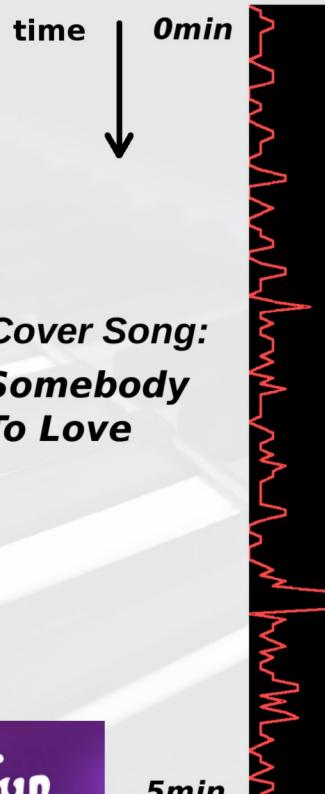
Download all as ZIP (1.3GB)

or separately as

[cover songs](#) / [origin songs](#) / [cover voice tracks](#) / [cover instrumental tracks](#)

# First experiments with Kara1k – paving the way

- Cover Song Identification
- Dynamic Time Warping
  - Euclidean distance
- Matrix 1000x1000 is built
- The closest song = match
- Benchmark 6 features
  - novel comparison



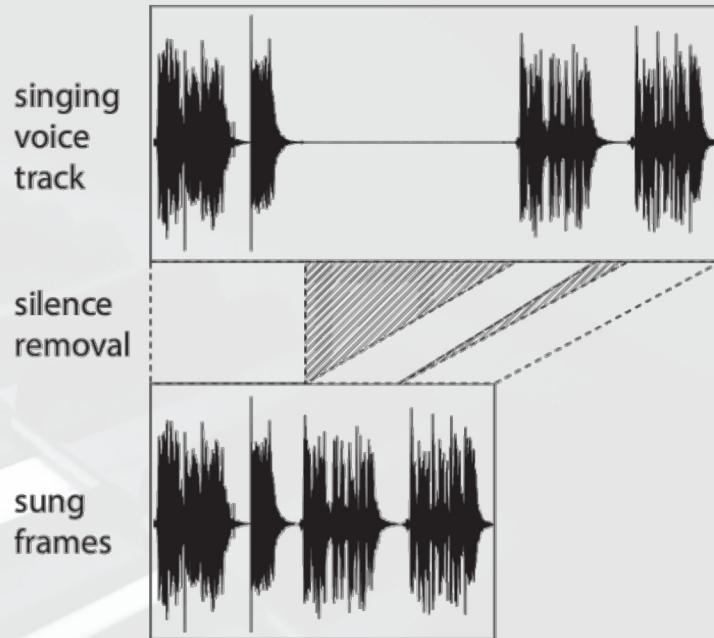
# First experiments with Kara1k – paving the way

	MAP	MAR	% detected
Chroma	<b>0.899</b>	48.112	<b>88.9%</b>
MFCC	0.878	<b>25.161</b>	86.3%
Chord	0.865	43.943	84.4%
ChromaCD	0.442	70.994	36.4%
TPS	0.257	141.941	19.3%
Key	0.203	109.954	11.0%

- Novelty: Chroma features were first time compared to Chord / Key features; TPS = Tonal Pitch Space features, first comparison
- Success: Accuracy of 89% is not to be seen for CSI (our task is more simple)

# First experiments with Kara1k – paving the way

- Singer Gender Classification
- Comparison: Mix vs Pure voice
- MFCC features from Mix
- MFCC features from Pure voice
- Random Forest Classifier
- 5-fold cross validation



Male



Female

# First experiments with Kara1k – paving the way

	Vocal	Mix
Precision	$0.721 \pm 0.034$	$0.654 \pm 0.040$
Recall	$0.725 \pm 0.029$	$0.665 \pm 0.035$
F-score	$0.722 \pm 0.032$	$0.656 \pm 0.041$
Accuracy	$0.725 \pm 0.029$	$0.665 \pm 0.035$

- Conclusion: The performance drops with Mix condition  
MFCC features therefore are not robust against background music

# Conclusion

- We have created a new dataset, Kara1k
  - Cover Song Identification, Singing voice analysis, and more
- Freely distributable, easy to use
- Opening doors for new challenges (KaraMIR project)
  - Unmatched variety of features and metadata
  - New sub-tasks for CSI, new tasks for Singing voice analysis
  - New partnership with a company
- Paving the way – first experiments
  - Comparing new features for CSI, 89% precision
  - MFCC not robust against background music for Gender classification

<http://www.yannbayle.fr/karamir>

# Thank you for your attention

... please come to see a poster with Demo

## Kara1k: A karaoke dataset for cover song identification and singing voice analysis

Yann Bayle<sup>1,2</sup>, Ladislav Marsík<sup>3</sup>, Martin Rusek<sup>3</sup>, Matthias Robins<sup>1,2</sup>, Pierre Hanna<sup>1,2</sup>, Kateřina Slaninová<sup>3</sup>, Jan Martinovič<sup>3</sup>, Jaroslav Pokorný<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>IT4Innovations, VŠB - Technical University of Ostrava, Czech Republic; <sup>2</sup>Department of Software Engineering, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

### Introduction

We introduce Kara1k, a new musical dataset composed of 2,000 analyzed songs thanks to a partnership with a karaoke company. The dataset is a Kara1k dataset. The dataset is divided into 1,000 original songs provided by Reciso Karafun application, and the corresponding 1,000 songs by the original artists. Kara1k is mainly dedicated to cover song identification and singing voice analysis, providing an unmatched variety of features and metadata, and allowing for new sub-tasks.

### Motivation

Cover Song Identification

- Stalled state-of-the-art (2009 Serra)
- Cover song - too broad definition
- Differences in tempo, harmony, structure, style, ...)
- Need to create novel tasks, focusing on certain aspects
- Need to tackle the copyright constraints

### Singing Voice Analysis

- Total of 176 features for every song (frame, timestamp, or scalar)
- 6 of the most popular feature extraction tools were used

Partnership with Reciso Karafun application

Visit our KaraMIR project website to download  
<http://yannbayle.fr/kara1k>

References

- [1] D. Boglione et al., "Tessitura: An Audio Analysis Library for Music Information Retrieval," *ISMIR*, 2010.
- [2] L. Merik, "Harmony-analysis: Java Library and Tools for Music Information Retrieval," *ISMIR*, 2009.
- [3] G. Tzanetakis and J. Cook, "Marsyas: A Framework for audio analysis / Organized sound," vol. 4, no. 3, 2000.
- [4] M. Rusek et al., "A New Feature Set for Melody Detection for Improved Identification of Cover Songs," *ISMIR*, 2010.
- [5] R. Mohseni et al., "VAMP: an Easy to Use and Efficient Audio Feature Extraction Software," in *EMBS 2010*.

### Kara1k dataset

- 1000 original songs + 1000 cover songs from KaraFun
- Studio-recorded quality of the cover songs, not an amateur singer
- Some songs differ only in: singer, musicians, arrangement

### Metadata

- language(s), Gender(s),  
Backgrounds flag, Duet flag, Explicit language annotation flag, Year, ISRC, YouTube link

### First experiments

To pave the way for the usage of Kara1k we conducted 2 experiments:

1. Cover Song Identification
2. Singer Gender Classification

1. Cover Song Identification

2. Singer Gender Classification

Features

Precision	0.721 ± 0.031	0.693 ± 0.049
Recall	0.629 ± 0.029	0.665 ± 0.035
F-score	0.722 ± 0.032	0.656 ± 0.041
Accuracy	0.725 ± 0.029	0.665 ± 0.035

References

- [1] D. Boglione et al., "Tessitura: An Audio Analysis Library for Music Information Retrieval," *ISMIR*, 2010.
- [2] L. Merik, "Harmony-analysis: Java Library and Tools for Music Information Retrieval," *ISMIR*, 2009.
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Bayle et al. Kara1k: A karaoke dataset for cover song identification and singing voice analysis

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