# Improving Music Classification Using Harmonic Complexity

Ladislav Maršík<sup>1</sup>, Jaroslav Pokorný<sup>1</sup>, Martin Ilčík<sup>2</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
- <sup>2</sup> Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria





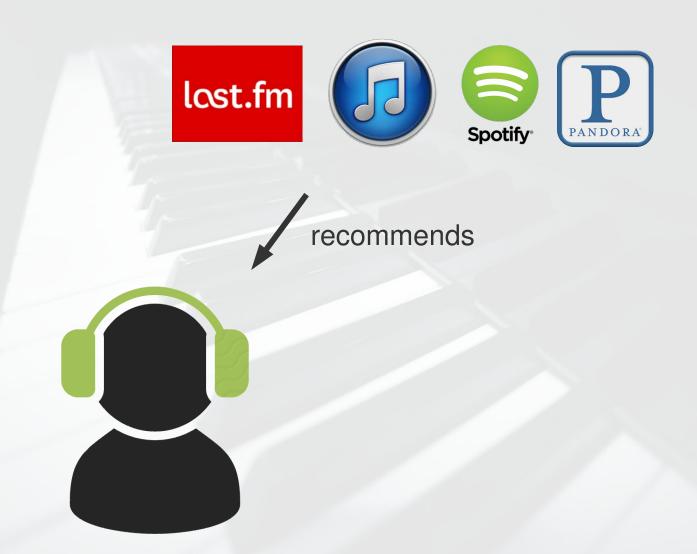
### Categorization



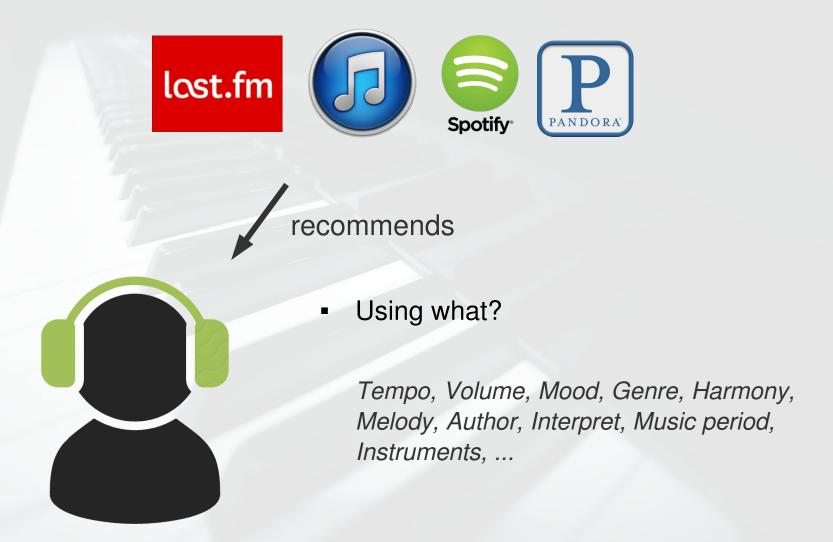
#### Outline

- Motivation
- Music harmony
- Our music harmony model
- Example analysis
- Experiments: Music classification using our new feature

#### User preferences

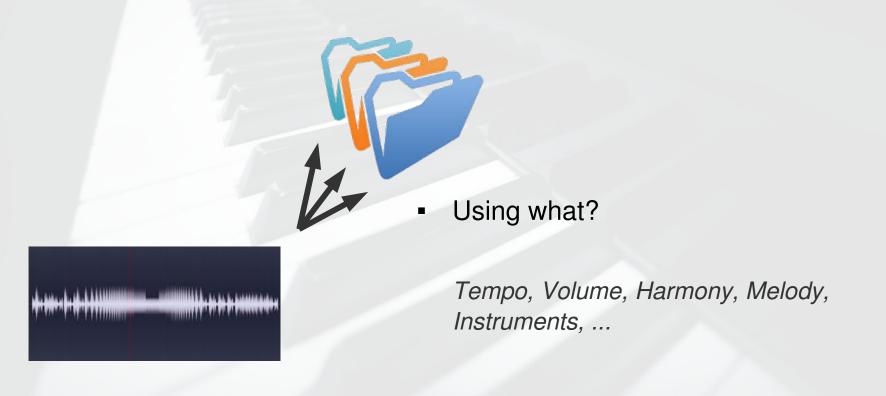


#### User preferences



#### Music classification

Determining genre / author / mood (or other category)



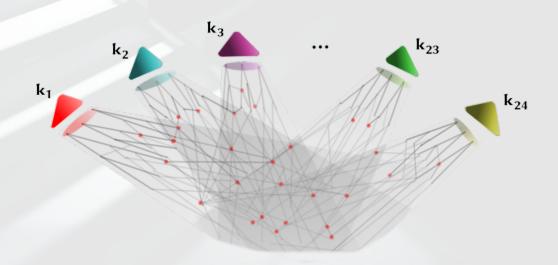
#### What we are working on?

- Finding a standard set of descriptors for music harmony
- Motivation: there is no such descriptors yet

- 1st step: Gathering low-level features using DFT, choosing tones with highest activation to obtain chords (harmonies)
- 2nd step: Using our model, based on formal grammars, calculating "transition complexity" between the successive chords (analogy to computational complexity)
- Example transitions:

ceg add cega cefg tc = 3 cef# g

Graph: 2<sup>12</sup> vertices, average degree ≈ 8



#### Music harmony comparison

# Ella, Fitzgerald







Counting the mean transition complexity





Chord:

FACEb

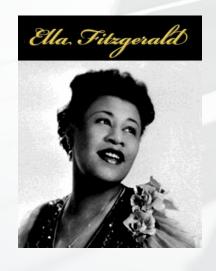
Complexity:



Chord:

Bb Db F

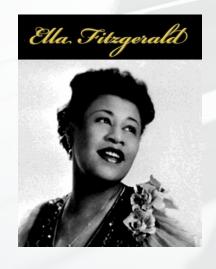
Complexity:



Chord:

Eb F G A

Complexity: 4



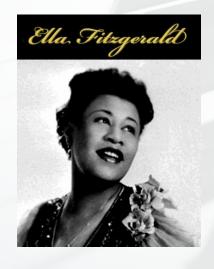
Chord:

Bb Db F

Complexity: 4

 $\sum$ :

11



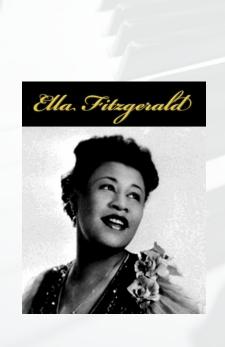
Chord:

Eb F G A

Complexity: 4

 $\sum$ :

15



 $\Sigma$ : 60

# Transitions: 19

**Average Transition Complexity:** 

3.16

Counting the mean transition complexity





Previous:

Now:

**G7** (G B D F)

Next:

**C7** (C E G Bb)

Transition:

 $\sum$ :

0



Previous: G7 (G B D F)

Now: C7 (C E G Bb)

Next: F7 (FACE)

Transition: 3

 $\Sigma$ :



Previous: **C7** (C E G Bb)

Now: **F7** (**F A C E**)

Next: **Bb** (Bb D F)

Transition:



Previous: *F7* (F A C E)

Now: **Bb** (**Bb D F**)

Next: G7 (G B D F)

Transition: 1

 $\Sigma$ :



Previous: **Bb** (Bb D F)

Now: G7(GBDF)

Next: C7 (C E G Bb)

Transition: 2

 $\Sigma$ :



Σ: **25** 

# Transitions: 12

**Average Transition Complexity:** 

2.08

#### Supporting experiments

- Neural Network method
- Parameters:
  - 150-dimensional feature vector
    MFCC, RMS Amplitude, Tempo, Transition probability matrix, Number of keys, Number of modulations, Number of similarity segments, Number of distinct chord roots
    with added mean Harmonic complexity
  - 20 hidden neurons
  - 5 output classes











#### Results: Without Harmonic complexity

#### 1: Basic features

#### REAL GENRE

CLASSIFIED GENRE

	Ε	J	М	R	Р	PRECISION
Electronic	15	1	1	4	2	0.65
Jazz	0	15	0	2	2	0.79
Metal	1	0	13	0	0	0.93
Rock	2	3	0	12	1	0.67
Рор	2	1	6	2	15	0.58
RECALL	0.75	0.75	0.65	0.60	0.75	OVERALL: 0.70

#### Results: With Harmonic complexity

2: with HC

REAL GENRE

CLASSIFIED GENRE

	Ε	J	Μ	R	Р	PRECISION
Electronic	13	1	0	1	4	0.68
Jazz	2	17	0	0	0	0.89
Metal	1	0	17	0	1	0.89
Rock	2	2	0	16	4	0.67
Рор	2	0	3	3	11	0.59
RECALL	0.65	0.85	0.85	0.80	0.55	OVERALL: 0.74

#### Conclusion

- Proposed a new descriptor for music analysis
- Underlying grammar based model
- Proved its usefulness for music classification problem

## Thank you for your attention

