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Classifying audio signals by source with machine learning has become an important topic of much research in the past few years. Models often involve the production of a spectrogram or feature vector and passing either array into a network of a single type such as a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) or Multilayer Perceptron (MLP). In this study, we explore a new hybrid neural-network architecture that combines the CNN and MLP models to produce a signal classifier with superior performance over models that rely solely on one or the other. This hybrid network uses two branches, one being a CNN to process an image-like 2D spectrogram, and the other being an MLP to process a 1D feature vector. Within the model, a hidden layer combines activations from the two branches by concatenating them into a single 1D dense layer, allowing for any predictions to be a product of both branches. We describe in detail the creation and usage of the spectrogram and feature vectors, as well as how they influence the chosen network architecture. We finish with a practical demonstration in using this classifier model to match waveforms from a chaotic music synthesizer to real-world musical instruments. Training data was provided by Philharmonia Symphony Orchestra and University of Iowa's Electronic Music Studios.)

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Q: What is the Philharmonia? Did they record the audio for the Electronic Music Studio, or was it a separate data set? I don't want to say "provided by" since that implies a degree of collaboration with the Philharmonia.