

# What is the paper about?

Thursday, October 29, 2020 3:06 PM

The goal of this paper is to review, categorize, and compare some of the most commonly used techniques for onset detection.

Methods based on the use of explicitly predefined signal features:

- Amplitude envelope
- Spectral magnitudes and phases
- Time-frequency representations

and methods based on probabilistic signal models:

- Model-based change point detection
- Surprise signals

have been discussed.

## What is onset?

*Transients* are short intervals during which the signal evolves quickly in some nontrivial or relatively unpredictable way. The *onset* of the note is a single instant chosen to mark the temporally extended transient.

## How to detect onset?

The procedure employed in the majority of onset detection algorithms is:

- From the original audio signal, which can be pre-processed to improve the performance of subsequent stages,
- a detection function is derived at a lower sampling rate,
- to which a peak-picking algorithm is applied to locate the onsets.

*Detection function* is a signal which reflects the local structure of the original signal in a simplified form.

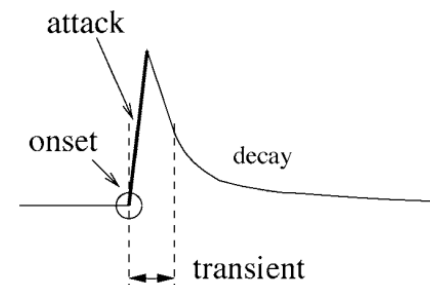


Fig. 1. "Attack," "transient," "decay," and "onset" in the ideal case of a single note.

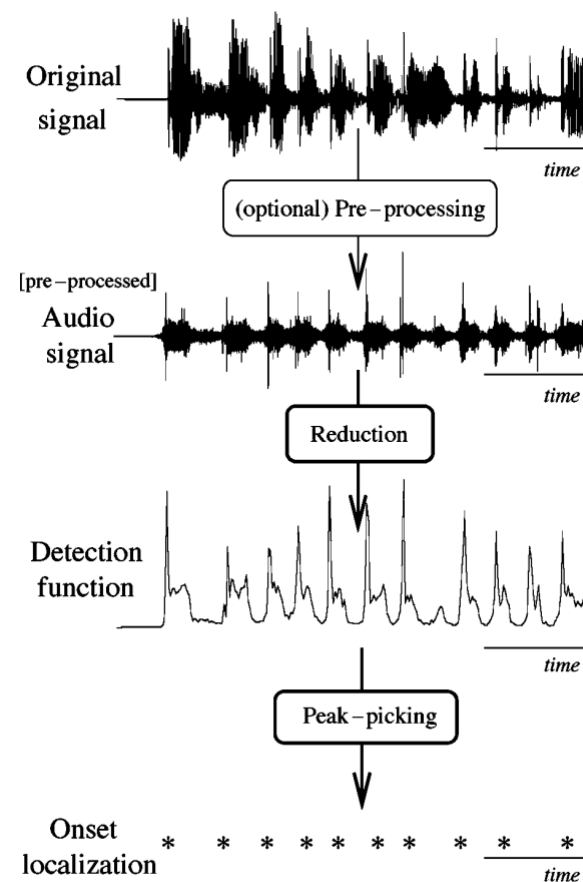


Fig. 2. Flowchart of a standard onset detection algorithm.