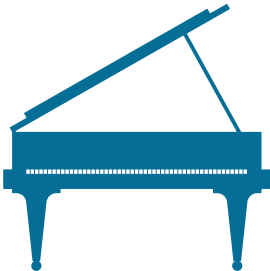




**JOHANNES KEPLER
UNIVERSITY LINZ**





How do Performance Features relate to Expressive Dimensions?

■ **Multiple Linear Regression** to test the position of the pieces (their centroid) in the expressive character dimensions using the following **Performance Features:**

Performance Parameters



tempo, loudness



Mid-level Features



From [Aljanaki and Soleymani, 2018]:

melodiousness, articulation, rhythmic

complexity, rhythmic stability, dissonance,

tonal stability, minoriness

■ extracted from spectrograms using a CNN
from [Chowdhury et al., 2019]



High-level Features

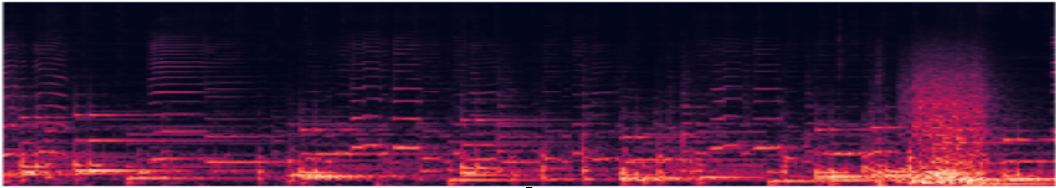
■ 2D animation space: *area and value*



Predicted using a CNN + GRU

313

149

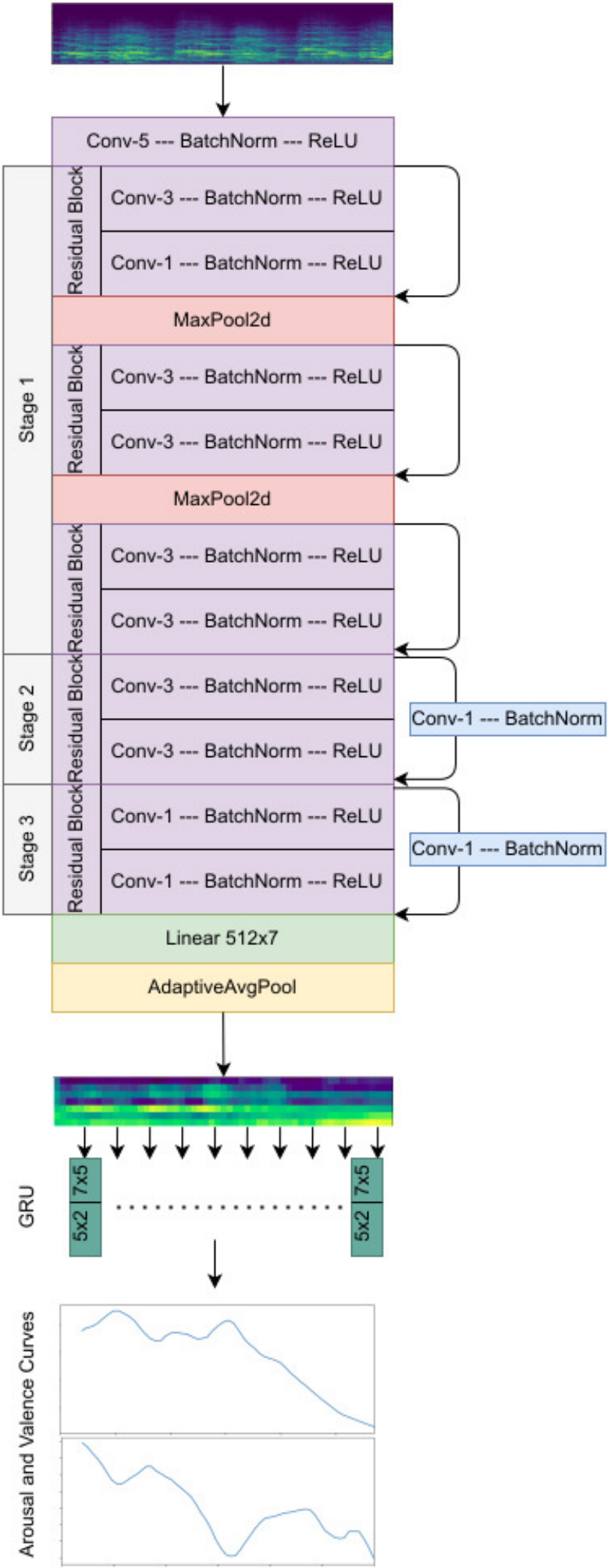


Conv (5, stride-2, pad-2) -- 64 -- BN -- ReLU
Conv (3, stride-1, pad-1) -- 64 -- BN -- ReLU
MaxPool (2) + Dropout (0.3)
Conv (3, stride-1, pad-1) -- 128 -- BN -- ReLU
Conv (3, stride-1, pad-1) -- 128 -- BN -- ReLU
MaxPool (2) + Dropout (0.3)
Conv (3, stride-1, pad-1) -- 256 -- BN -- ReLU
Conv (3, stride-1, pad-1) -- 256 -- BN -- ReLU
Conv (3, stride-1, pad-1) -- 384 -- BN -- ReLU
Conv (3, stride-1, pad-1) -- 512 -- BN -- ReLU
Conv (3, stride-1, pad-0) -- 256 -- BN -- ReLU
Adaptive Average Pooling 2D (1,1)

Linear (256x7)

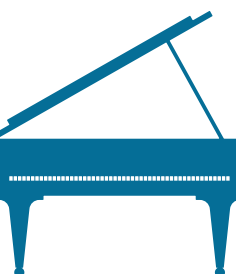
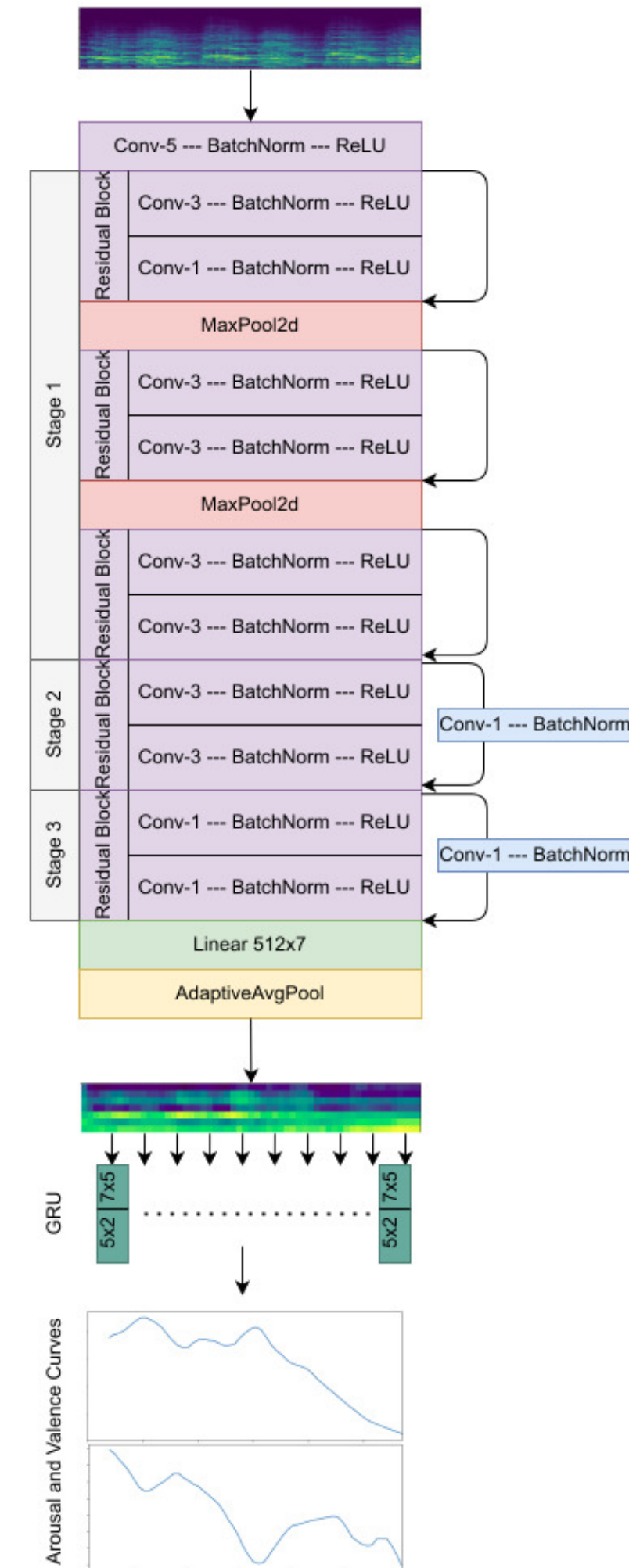


Mid-level features



How do Performance Features relate to Expressive Dimensions?

- **Multiple Linear Regression** to test the position of the pieces (their centroid) in the expressive character dimensions using the following **Performance Features**:
 - **Performance Parameters**
 - *tempo, loudness*
 - **Mid-level Features**
 - From [Aljanaki and Soleymani, 2018]:
melodiousness, articulation, rhythmic complexity, rhythmic stability, dissonance, tonal stability, minoriness
 - extracted from spectrograms using a CNN from [Chowdhury et al., 2019]
 - **High-level Features**
 - 2D emotion space: *arousal and valence*
 - Predicted using a CNN + GRU



Sorting Musical Expression: Characterization of Descriptions of Expressive Piano Performances

Carlos Cancino-Chacón^{1,4}, Silvan Peter¹, Shreyan Chowdhury¹, Anna Aljanaki² and Gerhard Widmer^{1,3}

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The *Con Espressione* Game

Research Aims: Find the dimensions of musical expression that can be attributed to a performance, as perceived and described in natural language by listeners

- Web based questionnaire: verbal descriptors of expressive performance.
- Different performances of 9 classical piano pieces (45 performances)
- Dataset enriched with score-to-performance alignments

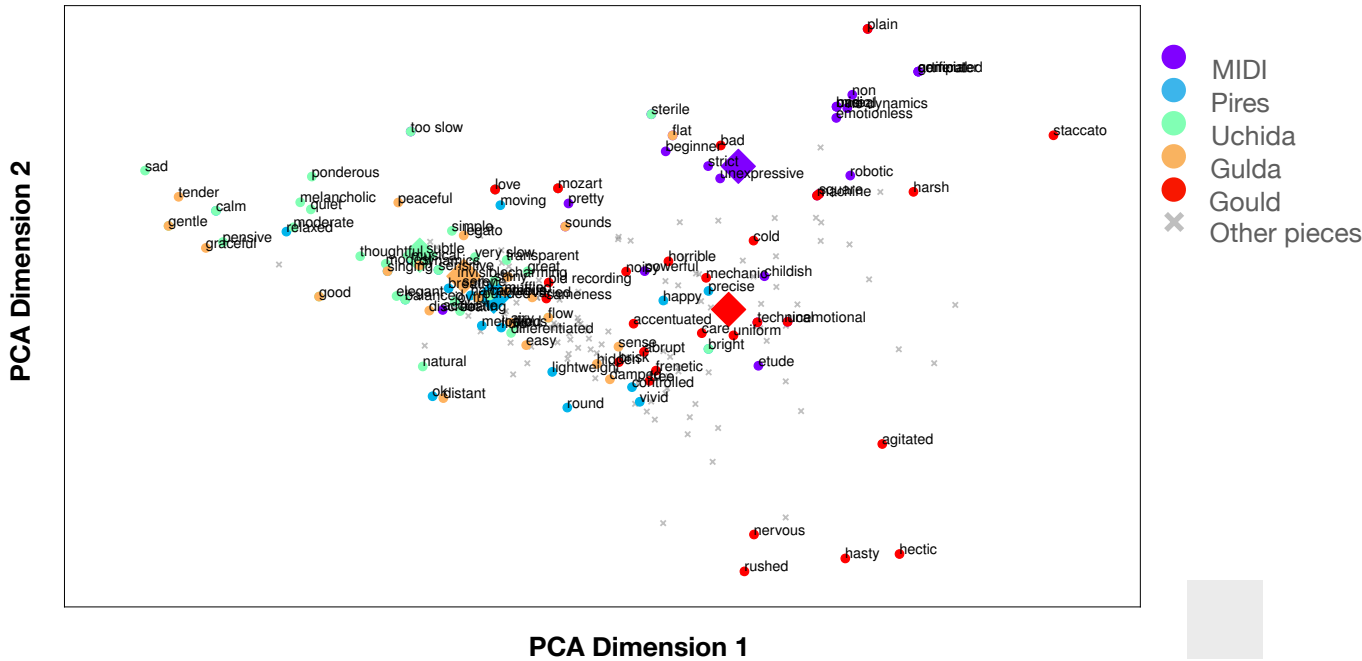
Composer	Piece	#	Pianists
Bach	Prelude No.1 in C, BWV 846 (WTC I)	7	Giesecking, Gould, Grimaud, Kempff, Richter, Stadtfeld, MIDI
Mozart	Piano Sonata K.545 C major, 2nd mvt.	5	Gould, Gulda, Pires, Uchida, MIDI deadpan
Beethoven	Piano Sonata Op.27 No.2 C# minor, 1st mvt.	6	Casadesus, Lazić, Lim, Gulda, Schiff, Schirmer
Schumann	Arabeske Op.18 C major (excerpt 1)	4	Rubinstein, Schiff, Vorraber, Horowitz
Schumann	Arabeske Op.18 C major (excerpt 2)	4	Rubinstein, Schiff, Vorraber, Horowitz
Schumann	Kreisleriana Op.16; 3. Sehr aufgeregt (ex 1)	5	Argerich, Brendel, Horowitz, Vogt, Vorraber
Schumann	Kreisleriana Op.16; 3. Sehr aufgeregt (ex 2)	5	Argerich, Brendel, Horowitz, Vogt, Vorraber
Liszt	Bagatelle sans tonalité, S.216a	4	Bavouzet, Brendel, Katsaris, Gardon
Brahms	4 Klavierstücke Op.119, 2. Intermezzo E minor	5	Angelich, Ax, Serkin, Kempff, Vogt

What are the main dimensions for expressive character?

Principal component analysis (PCA) on the occurrence matrix of the terms and find 4 principal dimensions

Dimension 1				Dimension 2			
positive correlation		negative correlation		positive correlation		negative correlation	
hectic	0.17	sad	-0.20	rushed	0.22	hard	-0.19
staccato	0.15	gentle	-0.18	nervous	0.20	stumbling	-0.18
hasty	0.15	tender	-0.18	too fast	0.17	staccato	-0.17
agitated	0.14	calm	-0.16	bit	0.16	ponderous	-0.14
irregular	0.14	graceful	-0.16	hasty	0.15	monotonous	-0.13

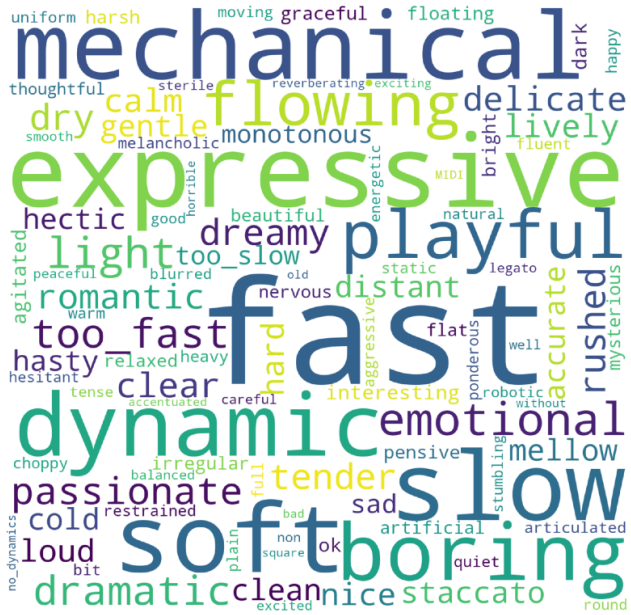
Dimension 3				Dimension 4			
positive correlation		negative correlation		positive correlation		negative correlation	
monotonous	0.22	heavy	-0.14	ok	0.24	cold	-0.15
bad	0.17	graceful	-0.13	happy	0.21	warm	-0.14
warm	0.16	smooth	-0.12	joyful	0.19	floating	-0.14
peaceful	0.16	ponderous	-0.12	free	0.15	blurred	-0.14
beautiful	0.15	soaring	-0.10	breathy	0.14	mysterious	-0.13



How similarly do listeners describe the performance of a piece?

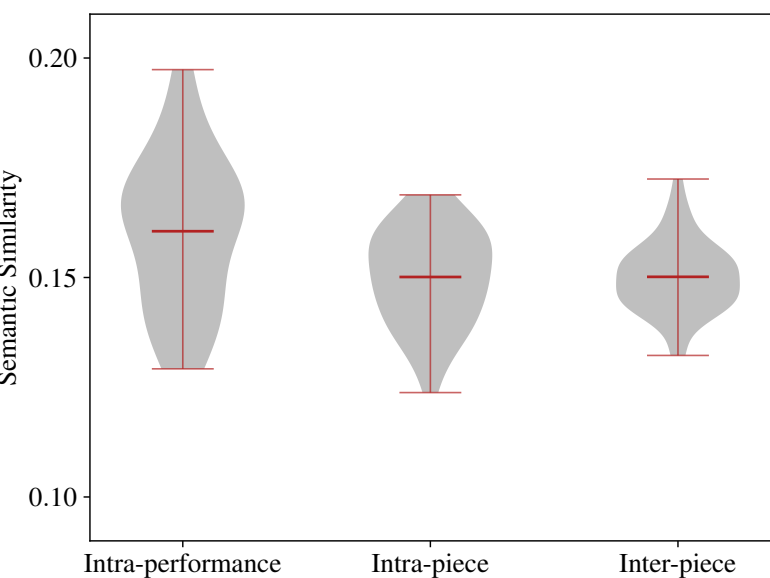
Distribution of Terms

- 94 participants (on average listened to 4.5 out of 9 pieces)
- 88% had some musical training
- 1,515 individual descriptions, 3,166 terms (45% unique)



Semantic Similarity

- Semantic similarity for short sentences by [Li et al., 2007]
- **Intra-performance:** same piece, same pianist
- **Intra-piece:** same piece, other pianists
- **inter-piece:** other pieces



Pile Sorting Experiment

Participants

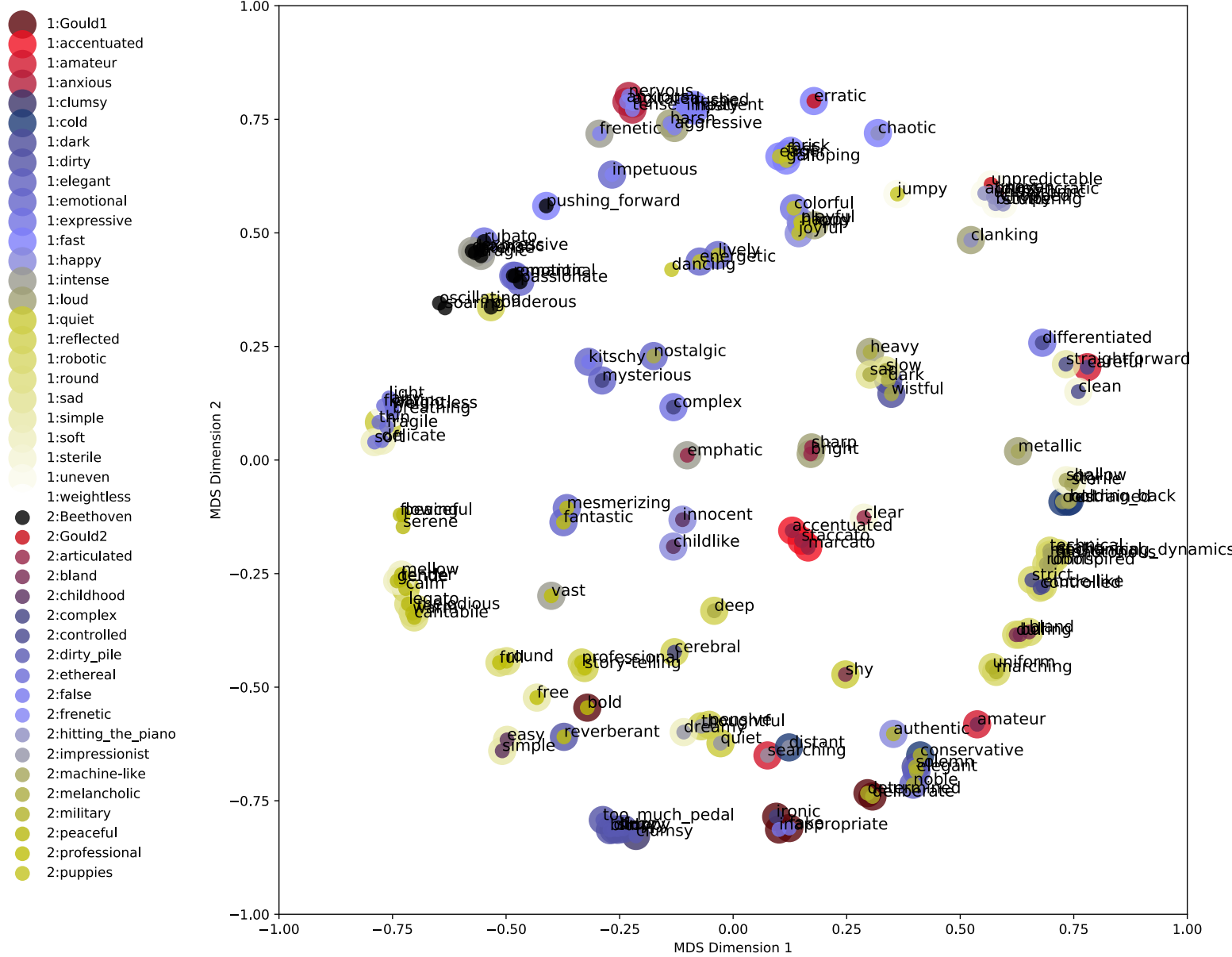
- Two groups of expert musicians (G1 and G2)
- Each group sorted (independently) 150 of the most frequently used terms that had been collected through the CEG.
- The number of piles as well as the types of similarity within the piles were left open.



Explore the interactive visualization!

Results

- G1 (25 piles), G2 (19 piles)
- Average maximal overlap (Szymkiewicz-Simpson coefficient):
 - 62 % piles G1 with piles G2
 - 65% piles G2 with piles G1
- Multidimensional Scaling (MDS) to explore the structure of the terms



Get the Dataset!



Acknowledgements

This research has received support from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 670035 (project "Con Espressione") and by the Research Council of Norway through its Centers of Excellence scheme, project number 262762 and the MIRAGE project, grant number 287152.



How do Performance Features relate to Expressive Dimensions?

Dimension 1		Dimension 2		Dimension 3		Dimension 4	
PP ($R^2 = 0.24$)		PP ($R^2 = 0.18$)		PP ($R^2 = 0.26$)		PP ($R^2 = 0.24$)	
loudness avg	0.51***	loudness sk	0.45**	loudness std	−0.53**	beat period k	−0.34*
						loudness std	−0.44*
MF ($R^2 = 0.39$)		MF ($R^2 = 0.00$)		MF ($R^2 = 0.00$)		MF ($R^2 = 0.29$)	
rhythmic complexity	−0.74*	minorness	0.15	articulation	−0.15	rhythmic complexity	0.52*
tonal stability	−0.94**					tonal stability	0.84***
articulation	0.46*						
HF ($R^2 = 0.22$)		HF ($R^2 = 0.00$)		HF ($R^2 = 0.36$)		HF ($R^2 = 0.09$)	
valence sk	0.48**	valence avg	0.14	valence k	0.42**	valence k	−0.33*
				arousal avg	−1.24***		
				valence std	0.27*		
				valence avg	−0.82*		

