

# Multi-Task Music Representation Learning from Multi-Label Embeddings



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# MOTIVATION

- **Learn a content-based representation for similarity retrieval of (Western) music**
- **Traditional approach:** train Machine Learning model (most recently, Deep Neural Networks) on audio spectrogram input to learn
  - Genre labels or other tags (classification)
  - Rating/listening data from users (regression)
- **Problem: Ground Truth**
  - Where to get large quantities of labeled content in high quality?
  - Vocabulary: Which task categories are captured?
  - How to incorporate similarity of labels?

# IN A NUTSHELL

- **Contribution 1: New Label Assignments for the Million Song Dataset**
  - Dataset of expert-level annotations in multiple categories; available to community
- **Contribution 2: A Novel Approach to Music Representation Learning**
  - Triplet network trained on similarity based on latent label topics
- **Contribution 3: Multi-Task Learning and Evaluation**
  - Our method improves precision up to factor 2.2 when learning across multiple tasks
- **Conclusions**
  - It makes a lot of sense and works very well
- **Future Work**
  - Applicable to digital libraries of historic and non-Western music

# New Label Assignments for the Million Song Dataset (MSD)

## Contribution 1



# NEW MSD TAG-SET COLLECTIONS

- Million Song Dataset (MSD)
  - Currently largest music dataset
  - 1M tracks + metadata + pre-extracted features (Echonest)
- Issues
  - Harness Echonest Features (only officially provided content)
    - *Capturing the temporal domain in echonest features for improved classification effectiveness. Alexander Schindler and Andreas Rauber.*
  - Missing Ground-Truth Label Assignments
    - 2011 - Lastfm-Tags, original MSD contribution
      - User generated tags, noisy
    - 2012 - *Facilitating comprehensive benchmarking experiments on the million song dataset. Alexander Schindler, Rudolf Mayer, and Andreas Rauber.*
      - Genres, Multi-Class, custom balancing
    - 2015 - *Improving Genre Annotations for the Million Song Dataset. Hendrik Schreiber.*
      - Aggregation of multiple label assignments, improved balancing


# NEW MSD TAG-SET COLLECTIONS


- **New Label Assignments**
  - Tag-Sets for:
    - **Genres, Styles, Moods, Themes**
  - Multi-Label assignments
  - + Expert annotated (All Music Guide)
  - + Closed vocabulary / Taxonomy
  - - Weakly labelled (per album)

	Genres	Styles	Moods	Themes
<b>Unique Tags</b>	21	939	286	166
<b>Tag Combinations</b>	688	13.589	22.577	7.322
<b>Labelled Albums</b>	75.339	52.304	32.148	19.375
<b>Labelled Tracks</b>	504.502	364.326	229.510	145.555

# RANDOM ALLMUSIC BANDPAGE... FROM DUBLIN

**ALLMUSIC**

Search 



**U2**  
Biography by Stephen Thomas Erlewine  
[+ Follow Artist](#)

Trafficking in big ideas and big sounds, a band that operated on a grander scale than any other from the '80s and attracted legions of devoted fans.

## Artist Information

**Active** 1970s - 2010s

**Formed** 1976 in [Dublin, Ireland](#)

**Group Members**

[Adam Clayton](#)  
[Bono](#)  
[Larry Mullen, Jr.](#)  
[The Edge](#)





# A NOVEL APPROACH TO MUSIC REPRESENTATION LEARNING

Contribution 2

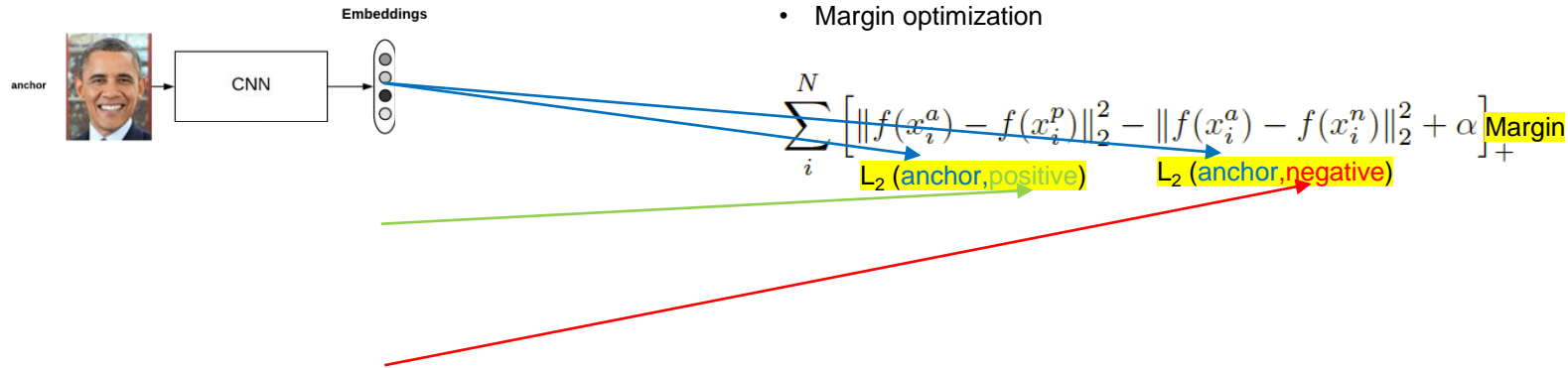


# TRIPLET NETWORKS

- How do triplet networks work

## Triplet Loss

- Margin optimization



Triplet Loss and Online Triplet Mining in TensorFlow  
<https://omindrot.github.io/triplet-loss>

Facenet: A unified embedding for face recognition and clustering. Schroff, Florian, Dmitry Kalenichenko, and James Philbin. *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*. 2015.

# TRIPLET SELECTION

- FaceNet - original approach

- **Facenet: A unified embedding for face recognition and clustering.**  
 Schroff, Florian, Dmitry Kalenichenko, and James Philbin. *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*. 2015.

- Definition of Similarity



- Online Triplet Selection

	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D	Person E	Person F	Person G	Person H	Person I	Person J	Person K	Person L
Person A	Anchor	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0

Positive Pairs:

<A,E>  
<A,G>  
<A,J>

Negative Pairs:

<A,B>  
<A,C>  
<A,D>  
<A,F>  
<A,H>  
<A,I>  
<A,K>

Anchor
1 Positive Example
0 Negative Example

# TRIPLER SELECTION

- Similarity by Artist Identity
  - Representation learning of music using artist labels.  
*J. Park, J. Lee, J. Park, J.-W. Ha, and J. Nam, in 19th International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference (ISMIR 2018), 2018.*



	Artist A	Artist B	Artist C	Artist D	Artist E	Artist F	Artist G	Artist H	Artist I	Artist J	Artist K	Artist L
Artist A	Anchor	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Artist B	0	Anchor	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Artist C	0	0	Anchor	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Artist D	0	1	0	Anchor	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Artist E	1	0	0	1	Anchor	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Artist F	0	0	0	0	0	Anchor	0	0	0	0	0	0
Artist G	1	1	0	0	1	0	Anchor	1	0	0	0	1
Artist H	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Anchor	0	0	0	0
Artist I	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	Anchor	0	0	0
Artist J	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Anchor	0	0
Artist K	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	Anchor	0
Artist L	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	Anchor

Anchor  
 1 Positive Example  
 0 Negative Example

# ISSUES

- Similarity by Artist Identity
  - **Problem**
    - Not: **Missing positive examples**
    - But: Selection of **inferior negative examples**
  - **Consequence**
    - Model focuses on **features to distinguish similar artists**
      - Smallest common denominator between similar artists
      - = Intention of original FaceNet approach (Re-Identification)
    - Model **fails to** learn features to **capture general similarity**
      - Instruments, harmonics, rhythms, modes, keys, moods, themes, etc.



is\_similar



is\_similar



is\_similar



# MOTIVATION

- How to assess Track-Similarity from Multi-Label Tag-Sets?
- Tag-Relatedness measures

- Jaccard Index 
$$J(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|}$$

- Dice Coefficient 
$$DSC = \frac{2|X \cap Y|}{|X| + |Y|}$$



# JACCARD INDEX

Track<sub>A</sub> = Rap

Track<sub>B</sub> = Rap, Gangsta Rap

$$|A \cap B| = \text{Rap}$$

$$|A \cup B| = \text{Rap, Gangsta Rap}$$

$$J(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|} = \frac{\text{Rap}}{\text{Rap, Gangsta Rap}} = 0.5$$

$$J(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|} = \frac{\text{Rap}}{\text{Rap, Heavy Metal}} = 0.5$$

$$J(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|} = \frac{\text{Rap}}{\text{Rap, Children Music}} = 0.5$$

# JACCARD INDEX

Track<sub>A</sub> = East Coast Rap

Track<sub>B</sub> = West Coast Rap

$$|A \cap B| = []$$

$$|A \cup B| = \text{East Coast Rap, West Coast Rap}$$

$$J(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|} = \frac{[]}{\text{East Coast Rap, West Coast Rap}} = 0$$

$$J(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|} = \frac{[]}{\text{Classic, Techno}} = 0$$

$$J(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|} = \frac{[]}{\text{Happy, Sad}} = 0$$



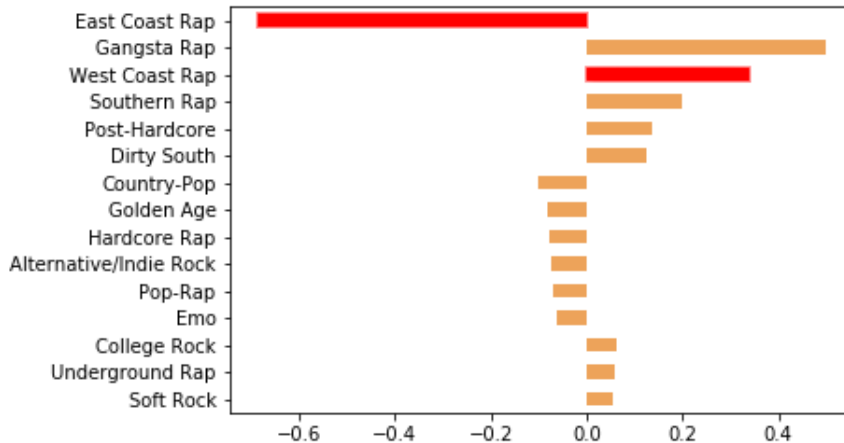
# TAG-RELATEDNESS MEASURE

- **Goal:** Define better **Tag-Relatedness Measure**
  - Take Tag-relationships into account

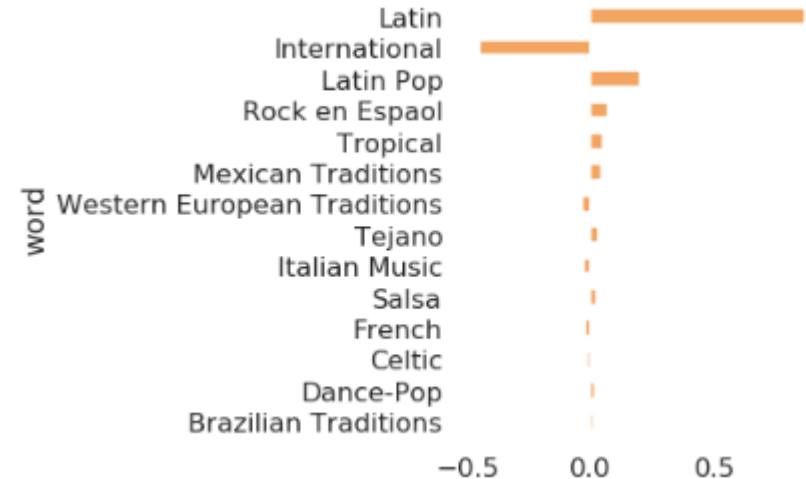


# LSI TOPICS (EXAMPLES, STYLES)

- Rap

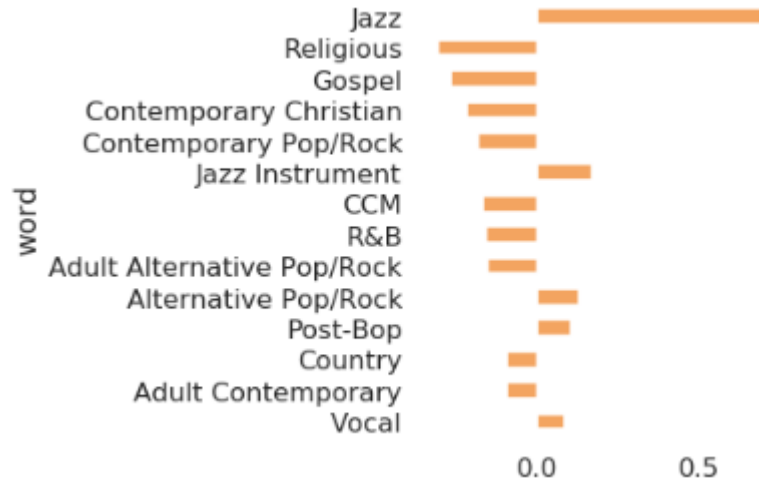


- Latin

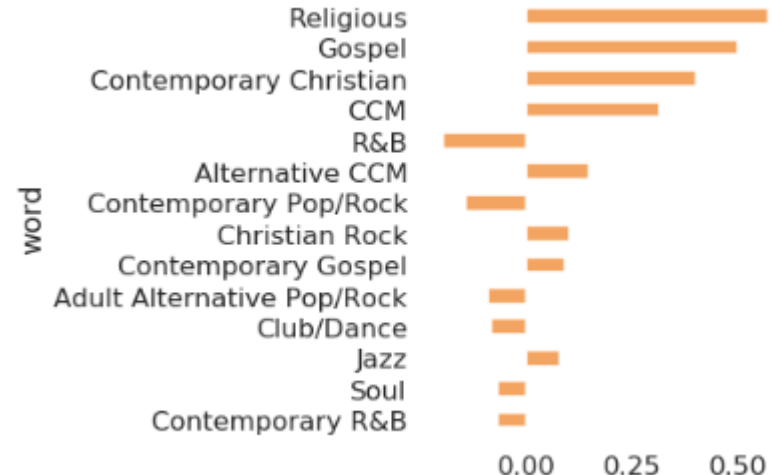


# LSI TOPICS (EXAMPLES, STYLES)

- Jazz



- Christian Music

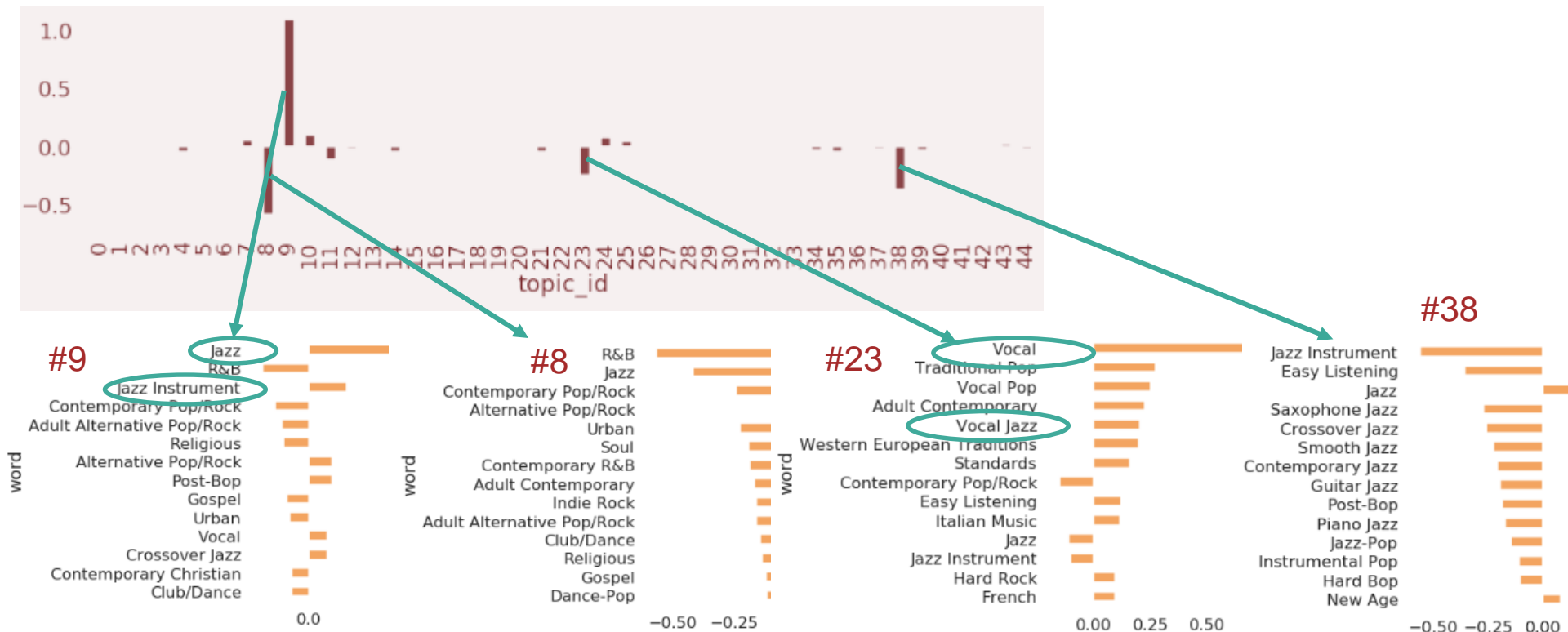




# LSI VECTORS (EXAMPLES, STYLES)

## Miles Davis - Blue In Green (Blue Moods)

Annotated Styles: Cool, Hard Bop, Jazz Instrument, Trumpet Jazz



# LSI-BASED ONLINE TRIPLET SELECTION

- FaceNet → Binary relations
- Our approach
  - Pairwise Cosine-Distance of LSI Vectors
  - → continuous similarity (range [0,1])
- Create Filter-Mask
  - Positive Examples:  $\cos(LSI_1^{ts}, LSI_2^{ts}) > 0.8$
  - Negative Examples:  $\cos(LSI_1^{ts}, LSI_2^{ts}) < 0.5$
- Select Triplets

	Track A	Track B	Track C	Track D	Track E	Track F	Track G	Track H	Track I	Track J	Track K	Track L
Track A	Anchor	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Track B	0	Anchor	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	Anchor	1	0
Track C	1	0	Anchor	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0
Track D	1	1	1	Anchor	1	Anchor	0	1	0	0	1	0
Track E	1	1	0	1	Anchor	0	1	1	1	0	0	Anchor
Track F	0	1	1	Anchor	0	Anchor	1	1	Anchor	0	0	0
Track G	1	1	1	0	1	1	Anchor	1	0	1	0	1
Track H	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	Anchor	0	0	0	0
Track I	0	1	1	0	1	Anchor	0	0	Anchor	Anchor	1	0
Track J	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	Anchor	0	0
Track K	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	Anchor	0
Track L	0	0	0	0	Anchor	0	1	0	0	0	0	Anchor

Anchor  
 1 Positive Example  
 0 Negative Example

# MULTI-TASK LEARNING AND EVALUATION

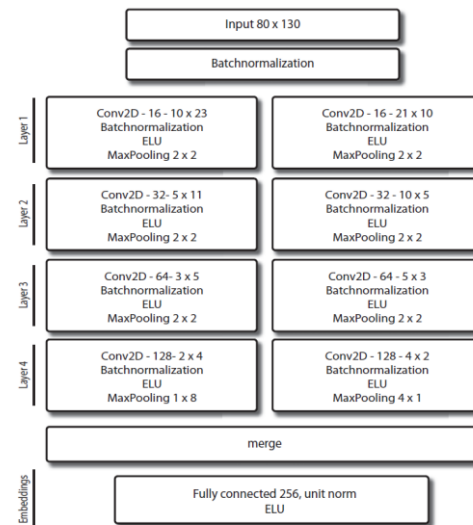
## Contribution 3



# PARALLEL DEEP NEURAL NETWORK

- Parallel CNN Filter Stacks
  - Timbre
    - Pooling X-axis
  - Rhythm
    - Pooling Y-axis
- Rectangular Filter shapes
- Works well on small datasets

- **Parallel convolutional neural networks for music genre and mood classification.** Lidy, Thomas, and Alexander Schindler. MIREX2016 (2016).
- **CQT-based convolutional neural networks for audio scene classification.** Thomas Lidy and Alexander Schindler. In *Proceedings of the Detection and Classification of Acoustic Scenes and Events 2016 Workshop (DCASE2016)*, 2016.
- **Comparing shallow versus deep neural network architectures for automatic music genre classification.** Alexander Schindler, Thomas Lidy, and Andreas Rauber. In *Proceedings of the 9th Forum Media Technology (FMT2016)*, St. Poelten, Austria, 2016.
- **Multi-Temporal Resolution Convolutional Neural Networks for Acoustic Scene Classification.** Alexander Schindler, Thomas Lidy and Andreas Rauber. In *Proceedings of the Detection and Classification of Acoustic Scenes and Events Workshop (DCASE2017)*, November 2017.





# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

- **Same model for all experiments**
  - Controlled random processes (kernel initializers, dropout, shuffle, etc.)
  - Batch-size 800 tracks
  - 100 epochs
- **Identical splits for all experiments** (train, val, test)
  - Grouped-Shuffle Split
    - Group-by Artist-ID (intrinsic Album-Filter to avoid „Album effect“)
- **Early stopping / save best model**
  - Patience 20 epochs
- **Evaluation Metric: Precision @100**
  - Euclidean Distance
- **Intersected Dataset**
  - Labels for all 4 Tag-sets available

	Genres	Styles	Moods	Themes
Unique Tags	21	833	285	166
Tag Combinations	449	7.446	14.300	7.298
Labelled Albums	19.107	19.107	19.107	19.107
Labelled Tracks	<b>143.587</b>	<b>143.587</b>	<b>143.587</b>	<b>143.587</b>

# RESULTS

- **Task: Similar Artist/Album Retrieval**
  - Invariance to Artist/Album effects
  - Artist-Filter on Pairwise Cosine-Similarity Matrix



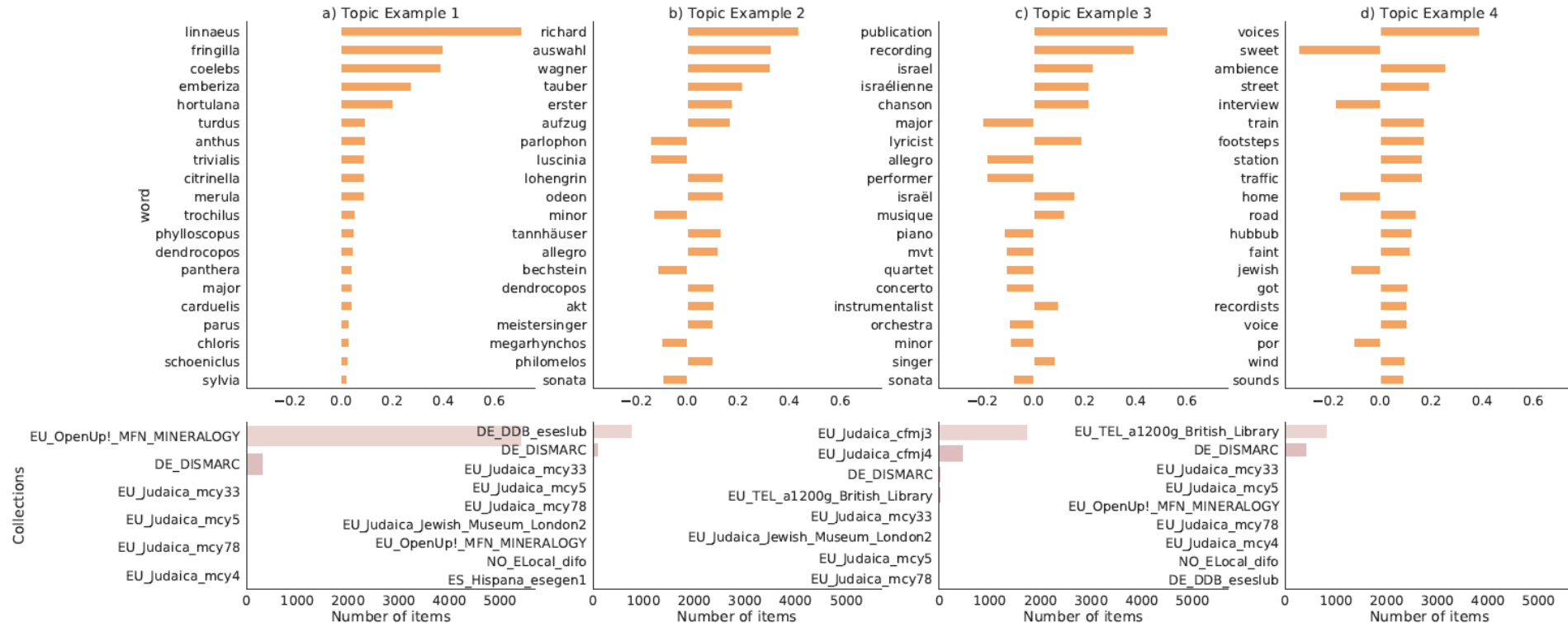
# RESULTS

- Task: **Similar Genre** Retrieval
  - Task: **Similar Style** Retrieval
  - Task: **Similar Mood** Retrieval
  - Task: **Similar Theme** Retrieval
- 
- Evaluate influence of different Tag-sets on the specific tasks

	Tag-Set	LSI Topics	Prec. Genres	Prec. Styles	Prec. Moods	Prec. Themes	Prec. Artists	Prec. Album
Single-Task	genres	10	0.3951	0.0091	0.0060	0.0076		
	genres	3	<b>0.3971</b>	0.0082	0.0055	0.0070		
2-Tasks								
3-Tasks								
4-T.								

# CONCLUSION

- LSI-based representation learning works well, if
  - Diversity in Corpus is high enough
    - Otherwise density in cosine-similarity space is centered at 1
    - Similarity cannot be assessed satisfactory
  - Diversity in provided Tag-Set is high
    - Especially for Moods and Styles
    - Much higher in Free-text
  - Can be extended to project any semantic information from one corpus onto another
    - Free-Text Metadata (prepared for publishing)



# CONCLUSION

- **LSI-based representation learning** works well, if
  - Diversity in Corpus is high enough
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  - Diversity in provided Tag-Set is high
    - Especially for Moods and Styles
    - Much higher in Free-text
  - Can be extended to project any semantic information from one corpus onto another
    - Free-Text Metadata (prepared for publishing)
    - Album reviews (ongoing)
    - Lyrics (Future work)
    - Salient Visual Concepts (Future Work)



# CONCLUSION

- **MSD Ground-Truth Assignments**
  - Proven effective in learning music representation
    - Music Tagging (Ongoing)
    - Transfer Learning (Ongoing)

# LARGE SCALE TRANSFER LEARNING USING 4 TAG-SETS

Metallica - ...And Justice For All

Moods/Themes:

Y-TRUE: Aggressive, Angry, Bitter, Bleak, Cathartic, Cerebral, Confrontational, Crunchy, Dramatic, Earnest, Epic, Fierce, Fiery, Gloomy, Gritty, Harsh, Hostile, Intense, Malevolent, Maverick, Menacing, Nihilistic, Ominous, Rambunctious, Rebellious, Revolutionary, Searching, Suffocating, Tense/Anxious, Theatrical, Thuggish, Uncompromising, Victory, Visceral, Volatile

Y-PRED: Aggressive, Angry, Bleak, Confrontational, Harsh, Hostile, Intense, Malevolent, Menacing, Nihilistic, Ominous, Visceral

Genres/Styles:

Y-TRUE: Hard Rock, Heavy Metal, Pop/Rock, Speed/Thrash Metal

Y-PRED: Heavy Metal, Pop/Rock

Green Day - When I Come Around (Album Version)

Moods/Themes:

Y-TRUE: Boisterous, Brash, Cool & Cocky, Cynical/Sarcastic, Drinking, Energetic, Exuberant, Freewheeling, Fun, Guys Night Out, Hanging Out, Humorous, Irreverent, Paranoid, Playful, Poignant, Quirky, Raucous, Rebellious, Rollicking, Rousing, Rowdy, TGIF, Wry

Y-PRED: Cynical/Sarcastic, Energetic, Fun, Hanging Out, Irreverent, Playful, Quirky, Rambunctious, Rousing

Genres/Styles:

Y-TRUE: Alternative Pop/Rock, Alternative/Indie Rock, Pop/Rock, Post-Grunge, Punk Revival, Punk-Pop

Y-PRED: Alternative Pop/Rock, Alternative/Indie Rock, Pop/Rock, Punk Revival, Punk-Pop

Rihanna - Don't Stop The Music

Moods/Themes:

Y-TRUE: Amiable/Good-Natured, Boisterous, Brash, Carefree, Celebratory, Confident, Exuberant, Freedom, Fun, Girls Night Out, Happy, Innocent, Joyous, Partying, Playful, Sex, Sexy, Summer, Summery, Sweet, TGIF, Warm

Y-PRED: Carefree, Celebratory, Club, Energetic, Exuberant, Fun, Partying, Playful, Stylish

Genres/Styles:

Y-TRUE: Contemporary R&B, Dance-Pop, Pop, Pop/Rock

Y-PRED: Club/Dance, Dance-Pop, Electronic, Pop, Pop/Rock

