Introduction

Most Irish traditional folk dance music contains two musical themes; a tune begins with one theme (the A section) which is usually repeated, then progresses to another theme (the B section) with similar musical structure and motives.

Goal: understand at a quantitative level the relationship between A and B sections.

- In a broad sense, what are A sections like? What are B sections like? (SVM classification experiments).
- How are the A and B sections of a particular tune related? (Metric learning).

Dataset: The Session [2] makes available a database of roughly 21,000 Irish traditional dance tune settings in ABC notation, a human-readable symbolic music data format in plain text.