

# Recording-based performance analysis: Feature extraction in Chopin mazurkas

Craig Sapp (Royal Holloway, Univ. of London)

Andrew Earis (Royal College of Music)

UK Musical Acoustics Network Conference  
Royal College of Music / London Metropolitan University  
20-21 September 2006

# Extraction Process

estimate note locations  
in audio based on musical score



automatically adjust estimations  
based on observation of audio



manual correction of  
automatic output



automatic extraction of refined  
information

- *tap beats while listening to audio.*
- *use as click-track for score.*

- *search for actual event onsets in neighborhood of estimated time.*

- *listen to results and fix any errors in extracted data.*

- *individual note onsets & loudnesses*

# Input to Andrew's System

Scan the score



Convert to symbolic data with SharpEye

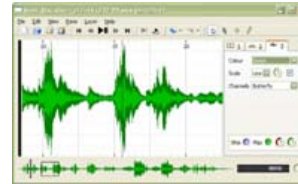


<http://www.visiv.co.uk>

Convert to Humdrum data format

<http://www.humdrum.org>

Tap to the beats in Sonic Visualiser



<http://www.sonicvisualiser.org>



Create approximate performance score

Simplify for processing in Matlab



# Input Data Example



*Humdrum score*

**time	**kern	**kern
*	*staff2	*staff1
*	*clefF4	*clefG2
*	*M3/4	*M3/4
1912	4r	(4ee\ =1
2558	4r	8.ff\L
3021	.	16ee\Jk
3175	4A'\ 4d'\ (4f'\	4dd\ =1
3778	4A'\ 4d'\ 4f'\)	4ff\ =2
=2	=2	=2
4430	4r	2ff\ =1
4914	4A'\ 4c'\ (4f'\	. =1
5541	4A'\ 4c'\ 4e'\)	4ee\ =1



*Matlab input data*

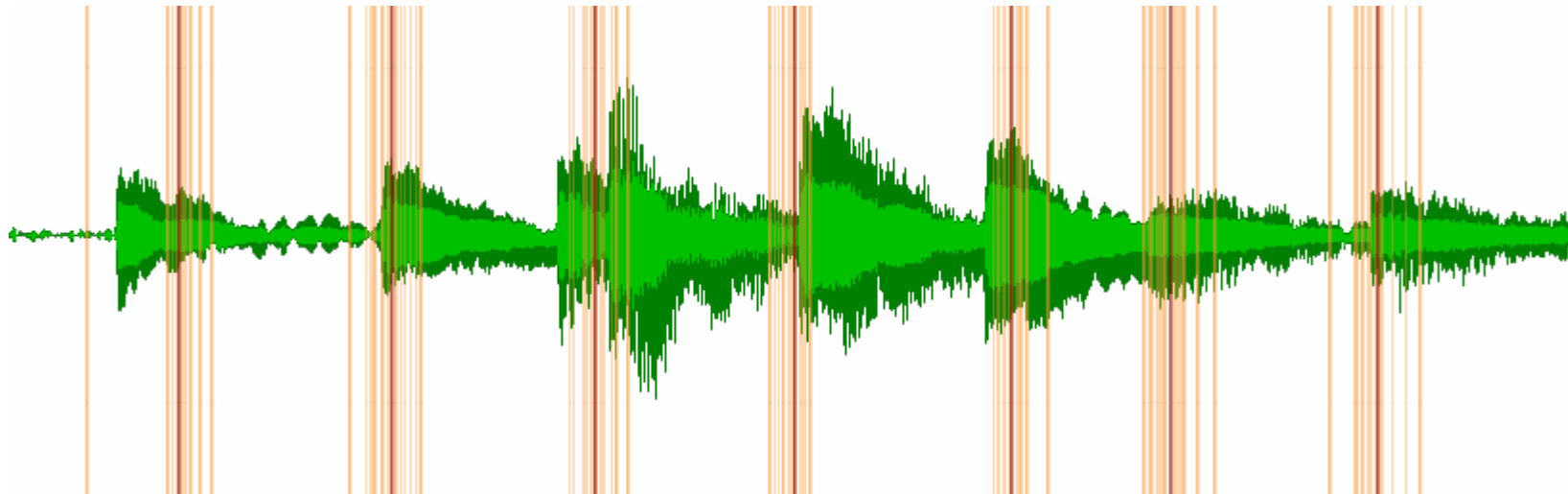
1912	646	76	1	0	0	1
2558	463	77	0	1	1	1
3021	154	76	-1	1	1.75	1
3175	603	57	0	1	2	2
3175	603	62	0	1	2	2
3175	603	65	0	1	2	2
3175	603	74	0	1	2	1
3778	652	57	1	1	3	2
3778	652	62	1	1	3	2
3778	652	65	1	1	3	2
3778	652	77	1	1	3	1
4430	1111	77	0	2	4	1
4914	627	57	0	2	5	2
4914	627	60	0	2	5	2
4914	627	65	0	2	5	2
5541	748	57	1	2	6	2
5541	748	60	1	2	6	2
5541	748	64	1	2	6	2
5541	748	76	1	2	6	1

on-time  
duration  
MIDI key  
metric level  
measure  
beat numb.  
hand

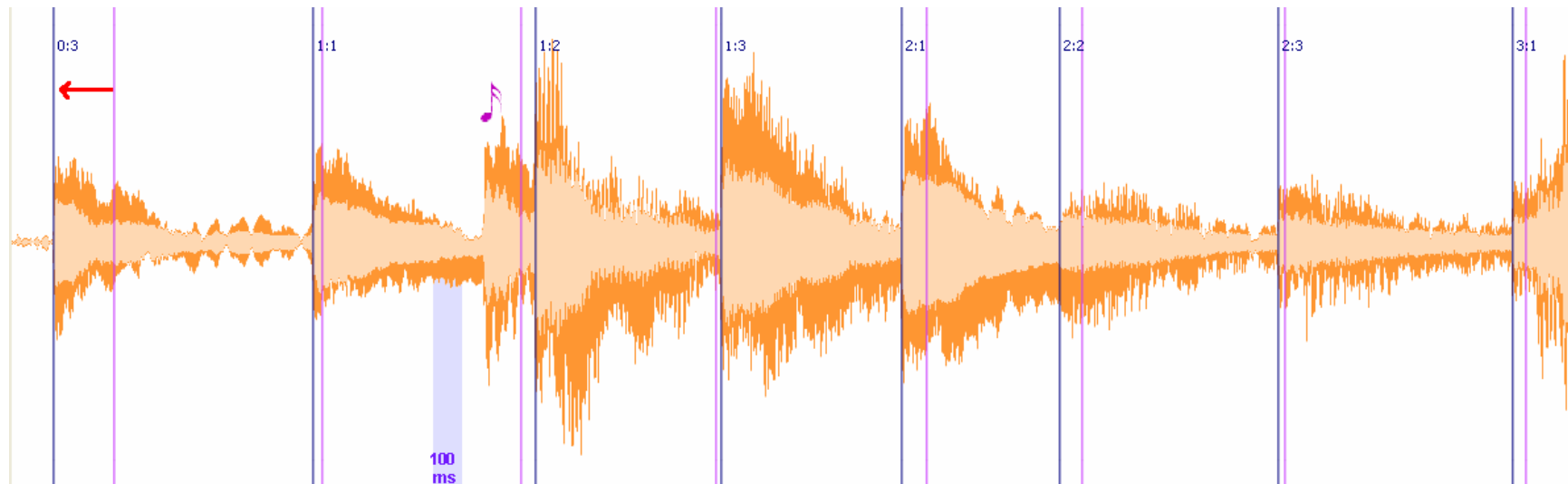
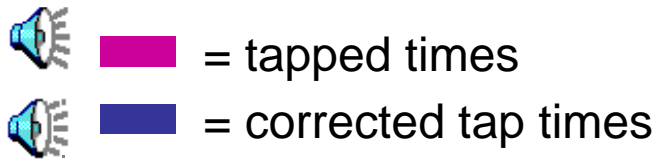
tapped timings  
left hand notes  
right hand notes

# Reverse Conducting

- Orange = individual taps (multiple sessions) which create bands of time about 100 ms wide.
- Red = average time of individual taps for a particular beat



# Refinement of tapped data



- Standard Deviation for tap accuracy is about 40-50 ms.
- Automatic adjustments are 3-5 times more accurate than tapping.

# Performance Data

- **Currently extracting:**

- note/chord onsets
- note/chord loudnesses

- **Currently ignoring:**

- note offsets:  
useful for -- articulations (staccato, legato)  
-- pedaling

- **What to do with data?**

- Mostly examining tempo thus far
- Starting to work with dynamics
- Need to examine individual note onsets (LH/RH)

- **Long-term goals:**

- Quantify and examine the performance layer of music
- Characterize pianists / schools of performance
- Automatic performance generation

# MIDI Performance Reconstructions

“straight” performance



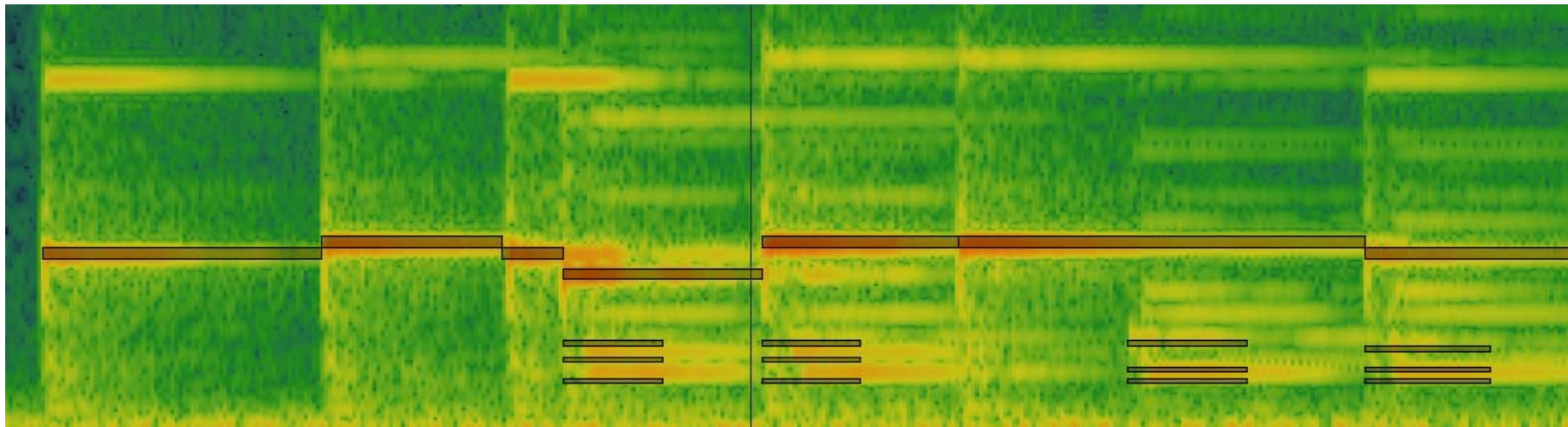
tempo = avg. of performance

matching performers tempo  
beat-by-beat:



(pause at beginning)

MIDI file imported as a note layer in Sonic Visualiser:

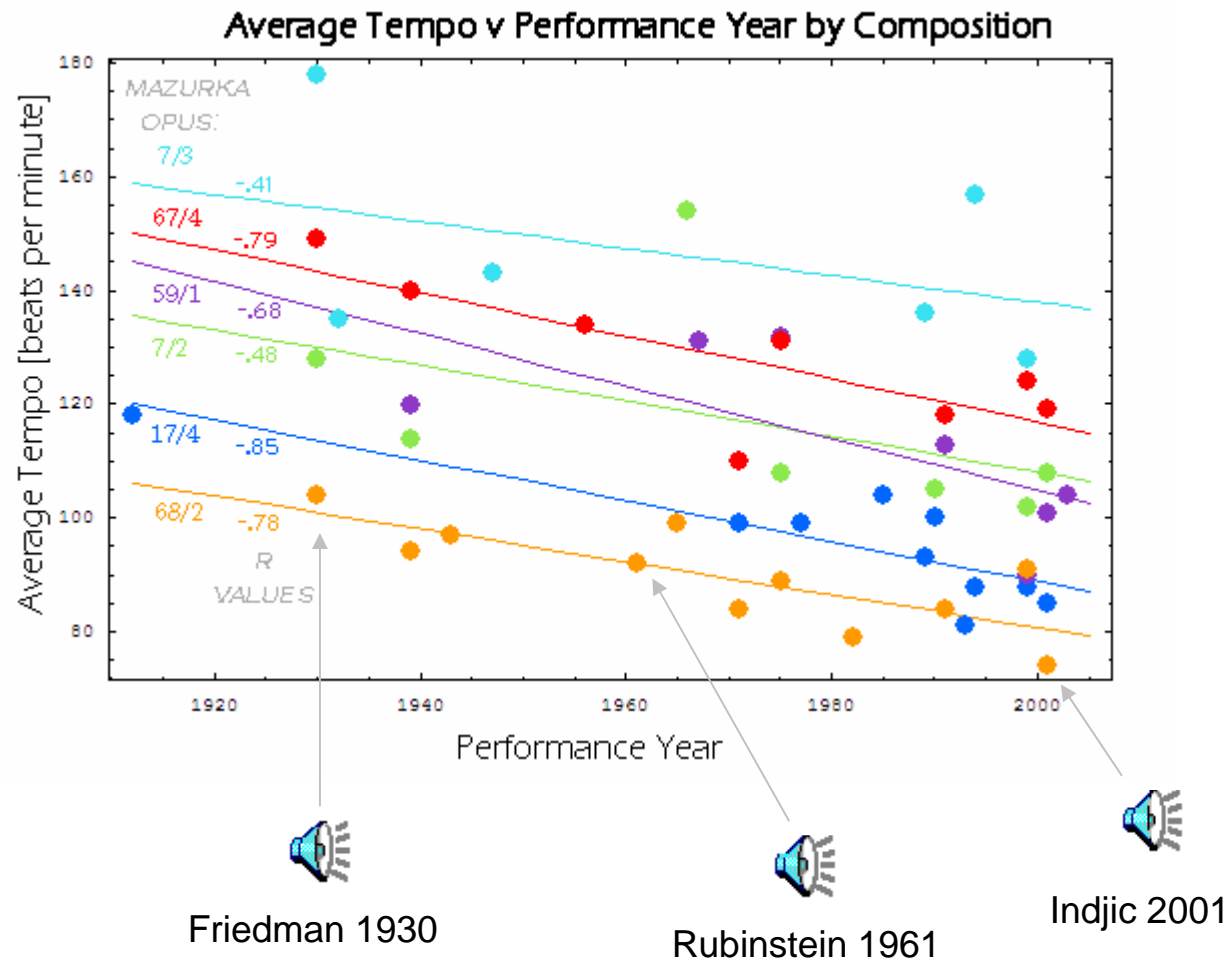


- Superimposed on spectrogram
- Easy to distinguish pitch/harmonics
- Legato; LH/RH time offsets



# Average tempo over time

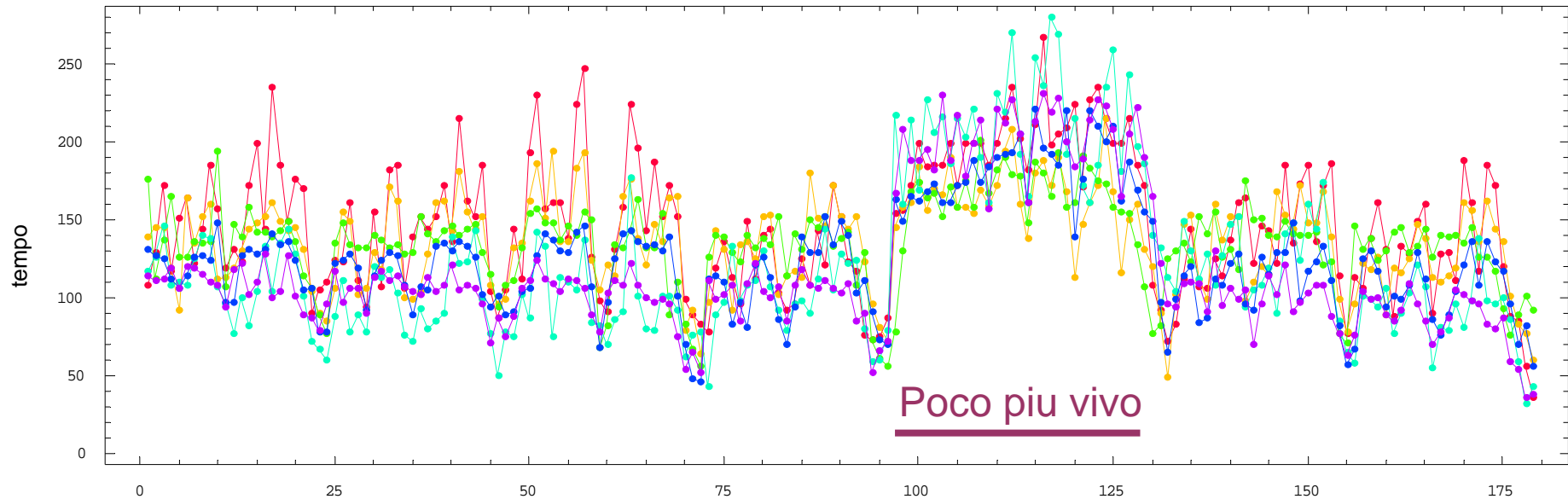
- Performances of mazurkas slowing down over time:



- Slowing down at about 3 BPM/decade

# Tempo Graphs

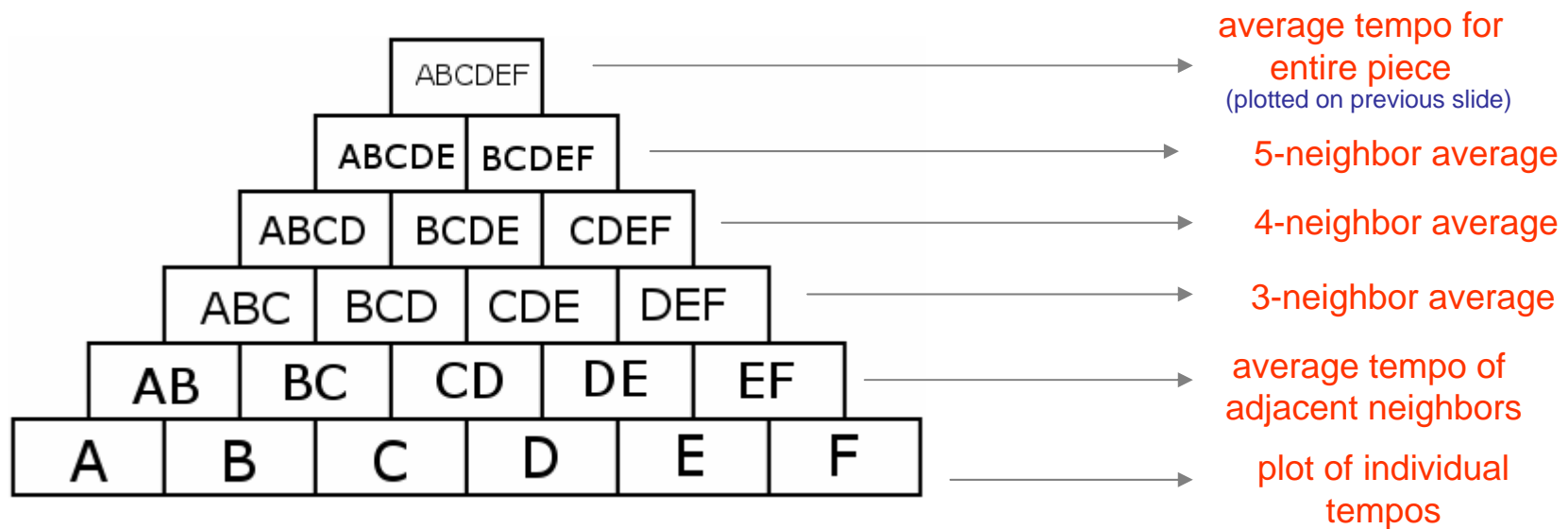
## Mauzurka in F major, Op. 68, No. 3



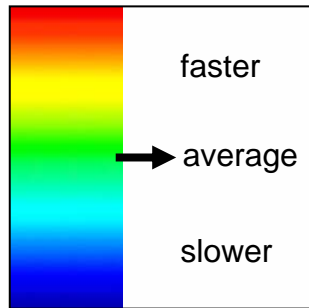
	avg. tempo	vivo avg.	non-vivo avg.
<span style="color: red;">■</span> Rubenstein 1938	147	190	137
<span style="color: orange;">■</span> Rubenstein 1961	137	158	131
<span style="color: green;">■</span> Smith 1975	135	158	130
<span style="color: cyan;">■</span> Luisada 1991	122	203	102
<span style="color: blue;">■</span> Chiu 1999	125	175	112
<span style="color: purple;">■</span> Indjic 2001	118	196	98

# Timescapes

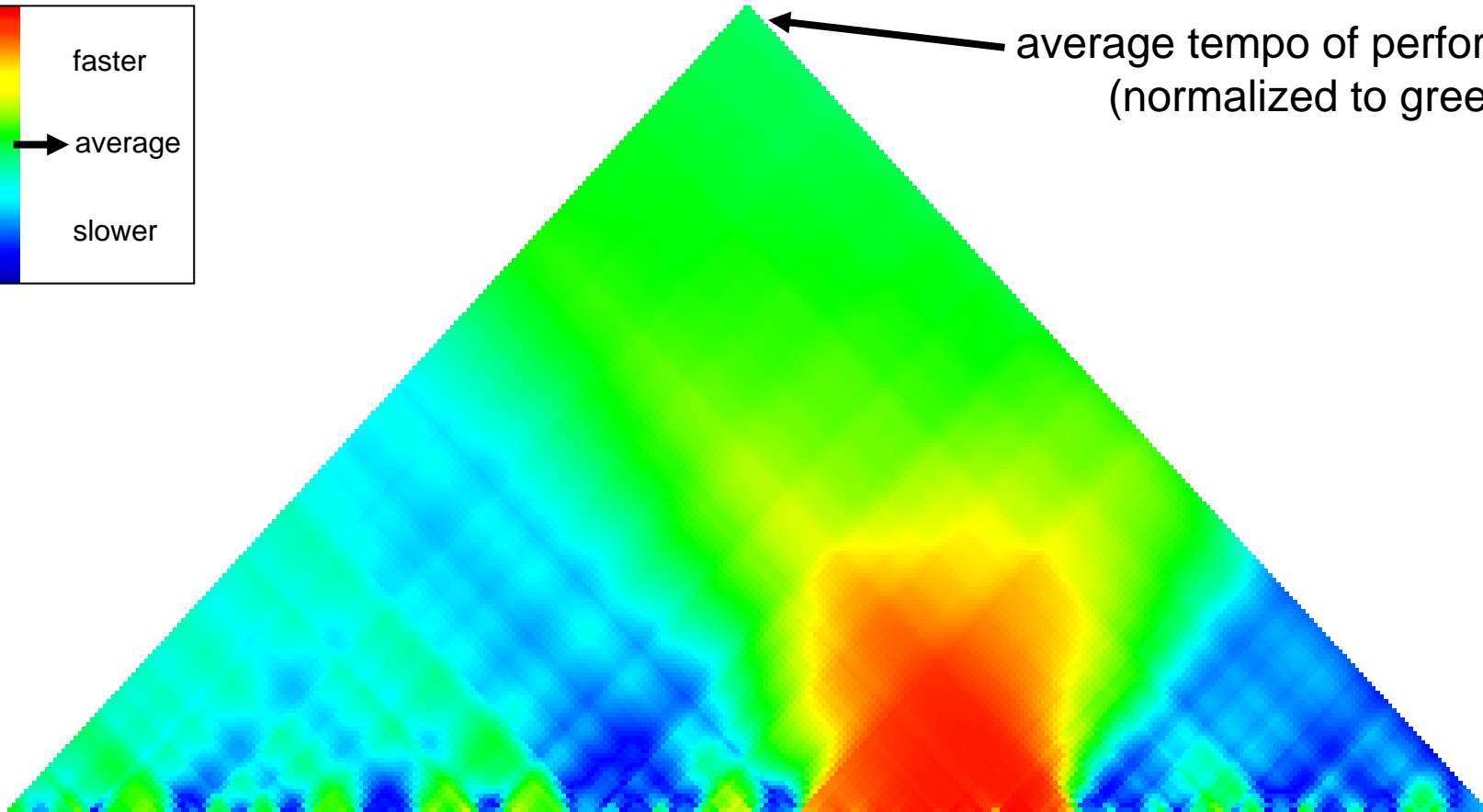
- Examine the internal tempo structure of a performances
  - *where is tempo faster/slower?*
- Plot average tempos over various time-spans in the piece
- Example of a piece with 6 beats at tempos A, B, C, D, E, and F:



# Average tempo



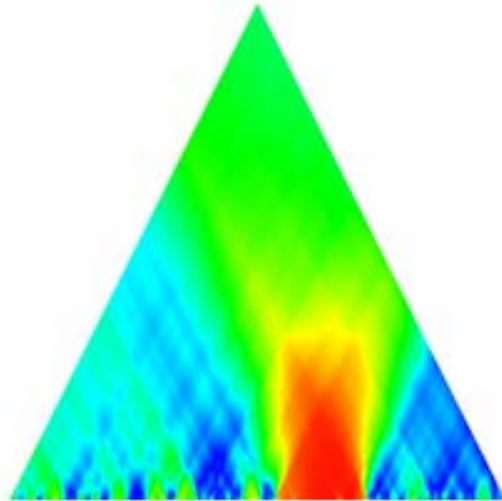
average tempo of performance  
(normalized to green)



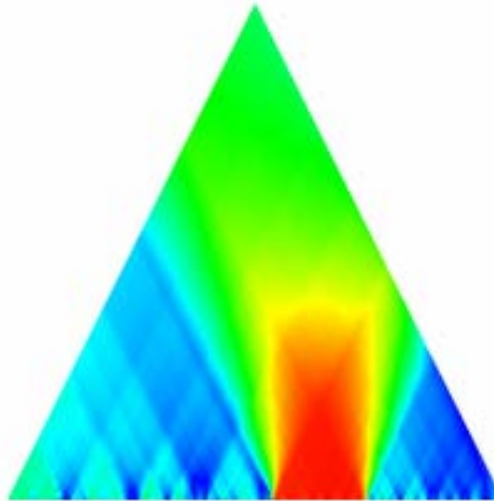
phrases

Mazurka in F major, Op. 67, No. 3: Frederic Chiu; 1999

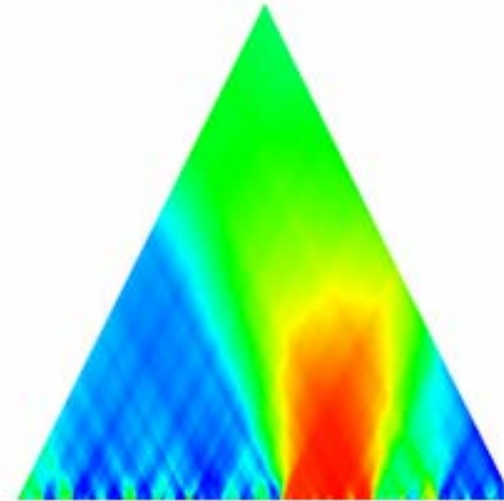
# Average tempo over time



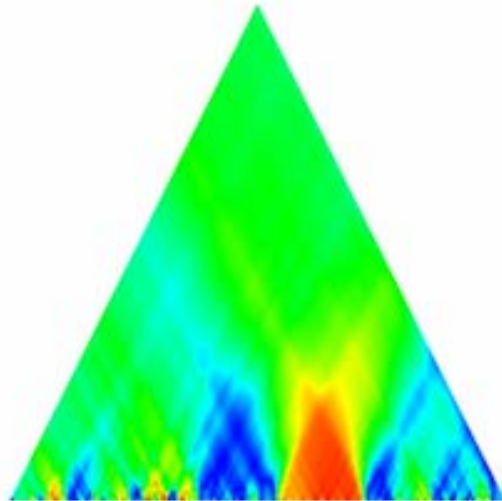
Chiu 1999



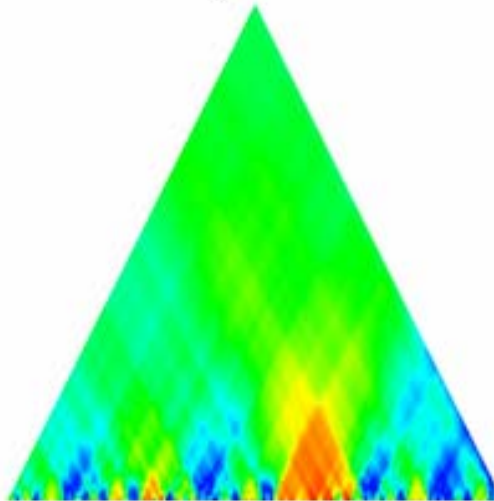
Indjic 2001



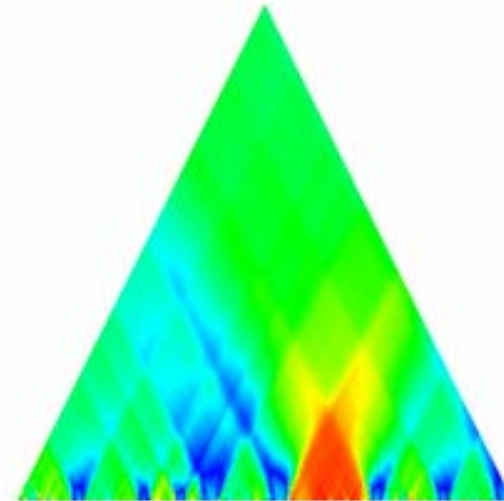
Luisada 1991



Rubinstein 1938



Rubinstein 1961



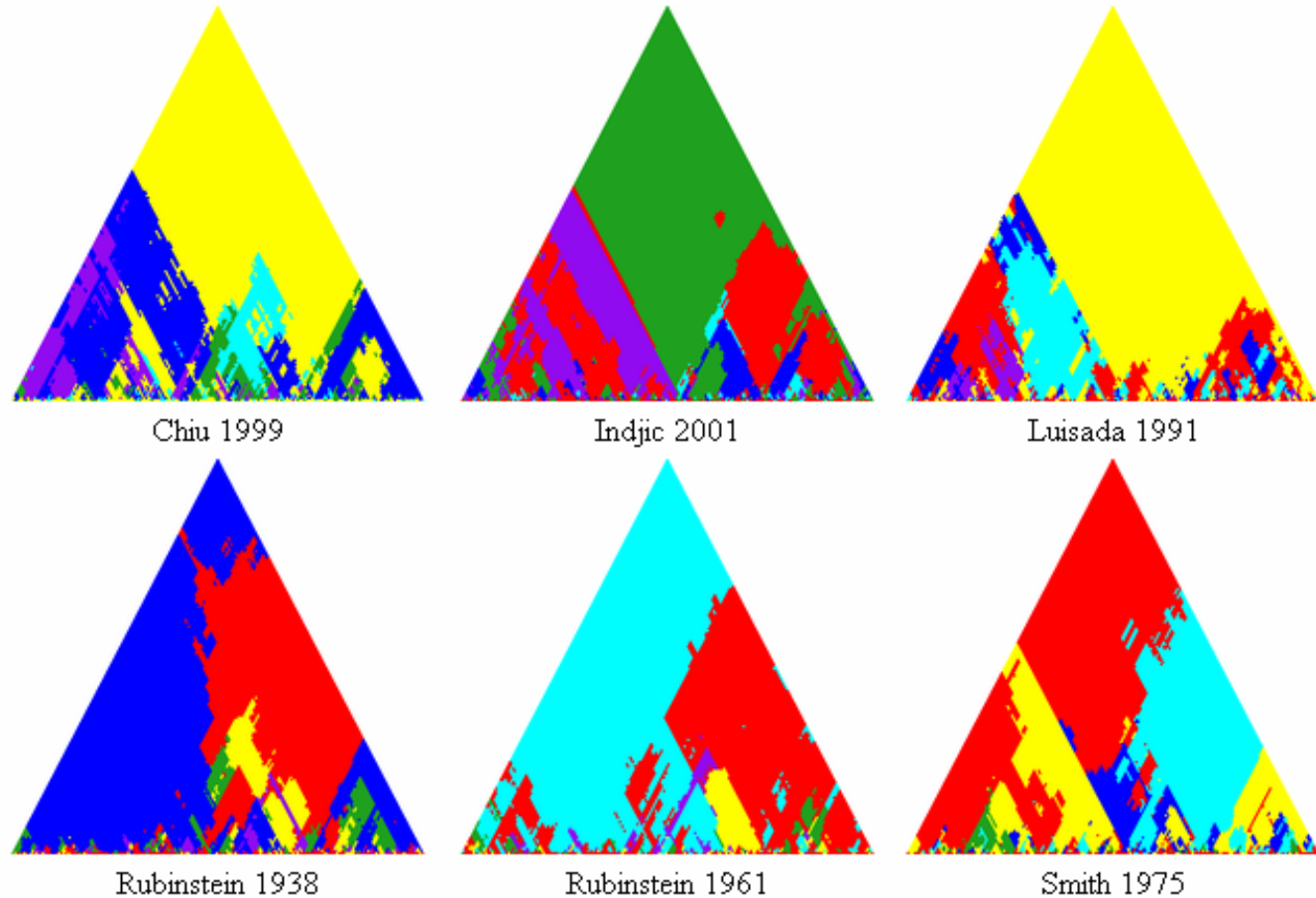
Smith 1975

# Tempo Correlation

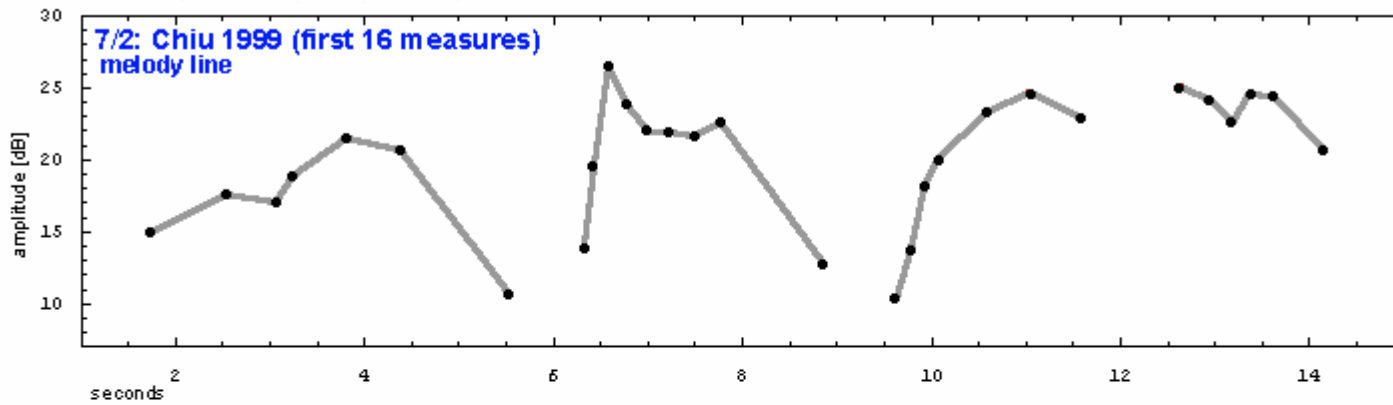
*Pearson correlation:*

$$\frac{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x}) (y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \sum_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2}}$$

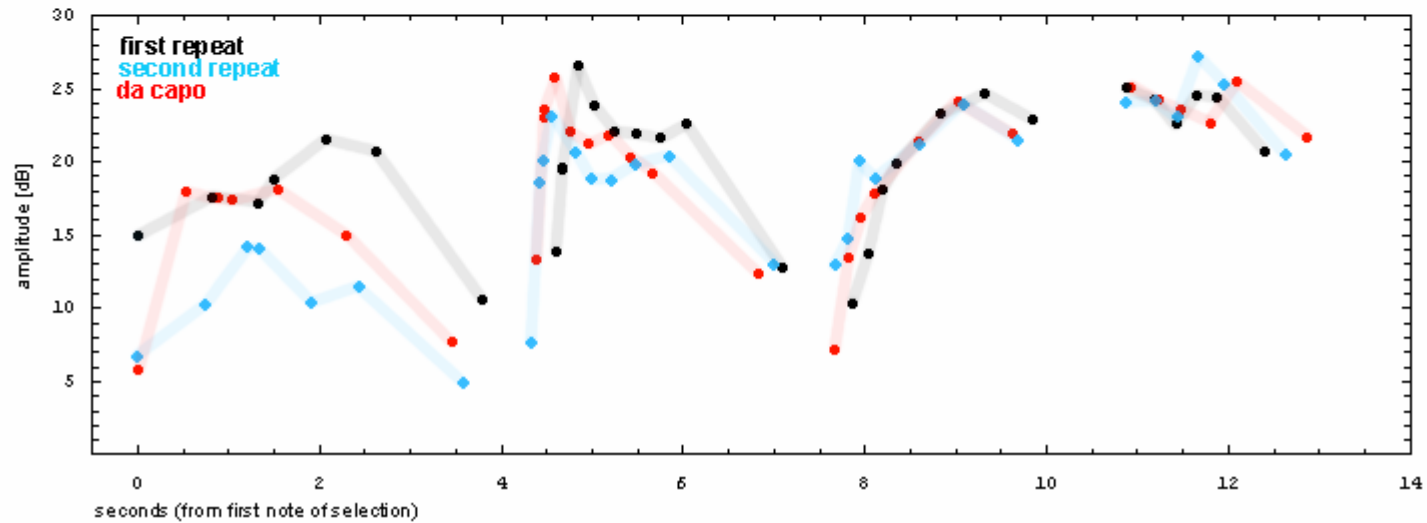
-  Chiu 1999
-  Indjic 2001
-  Luisada 1991
-  Rubinstein 1938
-  Rubinstein 1961
-  Smith 1975



# Dynamics



- 1
- 2
- 3



all at once:



# For Further Information



<http://www.charm.rhul.ac.uk/>

<http://mazurka.org.uk>