

Comparative Analysis of Multiple Musical Performances

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Mazurka Project
CHARM
AHRC Research
Centre for the History and Analysis of Recorded Music
<http://mazurka.org.uk>

- 2732 recordings of 49 mazurkas by Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)
- = Average of 56 performances/mazurka
least: 39 performances of 41/3
most: 89 performances of 17/4
- 157 performers
- on 209 CDs/records
- 123 hours of music
- Earliest performance from 1902 by Alfred Grünfeld:
mazurka 67/4
- Masako Ezaki, 2006:

Decade	Performances
1900	3
1910	12
1920	34
1930	132
1940	84
1950	351
1960	214
1970	343
1980	434
1990	753
2000	372

Many Performances of Same Composition

89 performances of mazurka 17/4

- how to compare and navigate through all the performances?

(measure 31)

Performer	Year	Performer	Year
Biret	1990	Hatto	2006
Biel	2003	Horowitz	1985
Block	1995	Horowitz	1971
Brailowsky	1960	Indic	1988
Brunhoff	1963	Kapell	1951
Casadesus	1930	Kiepura	1999
Chiu	1999	Kilery	1937
Cldat	1994	Kiss	1998
Cohen	1997	Kitan	1937
Coop	1987	Kushner	1999
Cortot	1951	Lew	1951
Couture	1996	Leaf	1994
Czerny-Stefanska	1949 (rec)	Lefebvre	1950
Czerny-Stefanska	1949 (studio)	Lilamard	2001
Czerny-Stefanska	1989	Luisada	1990
Ezaki	2006	Lustak	2004
Falavay	1989	Lympany	1968
Ferenczy	1958	Magaloff	1990
Florentino	1990	Magaloff	1977
Fliere	1977	Magaloff	1977b
Fou	1978	Magin	1975
Francois	1956	Milkina	1970
Giesecking	1938	Mohovich	1999
Ginzburg	1957	Nadelmann	1956
Goldmann	1997	Ohlsson	1995
Guller	1956	Olejniczak	1990
Bellavsky	2004	Olejniczak	1991
Ben-Or	1969	Olejniczak	1992
Hatto	1993	Olejniczak	1992b

Tempo/Dynamics Graphs

— Data for particular performance
— Average of all performances

Beat tempo:

(very close to average)

(slower than average)

Beat dynamics:

(close to average)

(unusual phrasing)

(unusual phrasing)

Data extracted using Sonic Visualiser / Vamp Plugins developed at C4DM, Queen Mary, U. of London
<http://www.sonicvisualiser.org> & <http://sv.mazurka.org.uk>

Correlation

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

• Measures how well two shapes match:
 $r = +1.0$ is an exact match
 $r = 0.0$ means no relation
 $r = -1.0$ means upside-down

$r = 0.996$ $r = 0.945$ $r = 0.627$
 $r = 0.965$ $r = 0.824$ $r = 0.701$
 $r = 0.950$ $r = 0.616$ $r = 0.476$

Performance Correlations

Bi	Br	Ch	Fl	In	Lu	R8	R6	Sm	Un
Biret	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
Brailowsky	0.92	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
Chiu	0.81	0.81	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
Friere	0.88	0.86	0.86	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
Indic	0.95	0.91	0.86	0.88	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
Luisada	0.85	0.84	0.81	0.84	0.88	1.	1.	1.	1.
Rubinstein 1938	0.62	0.66	0.76	0.73	0.66	0.67	1.	1.	1.
Rubinstein 1966	0.5	0.55	0.74	0.7	0.59	0.61	0.77	1.	1.
Smith	0.55	0.65	0.67	0.74	0.63	0.56	0.62	0.59	1.
Uninsky	0.86	0.85	0.89	0.89	0.9	0.89	0.75	0.69	0.64

Simple Mazurka Correlation Histogram

Highest correlation to Biret: 0.95

68/3 Biret 1990

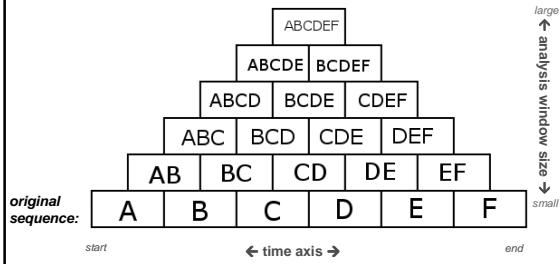
66/3 Rubinstein 1966

Lowest correlation to Biret: 0.50

Scape Plotting Domain

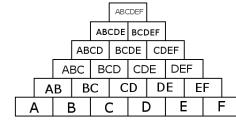
- 1-D data sequence chopped up into all possible n -grams to form a 2-D plot

- Example of a composition with 6 beats at tempos A, B, C, D, E, and F:



Scape Plotting Range

- Any operation can be applied to each cell in plotting domain:



- Example using averaging in each cell:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & 5.3 & & & & \\ \hline & 5.6 & 5 & & & \\ \hline 5 & 5.3 & 4.8 & & & \\ \hline 6.5 & 4 & 3.5 & 6.5 & 6 & \\ \hline 7 & 6 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} & \xrightarrow{\text{average of all 6 numbers in the bottom row}} & \frac{(6+2+5+8+4)}{5} = \frac{25}{5} = 5 \\
 & & \xrightarrow{\text{average of last 5 numbers in bottom row}} & \frac{(8+4)}{2} = \frac{12}{2} = 6
 \end{array}$$

Comparative Timescapes

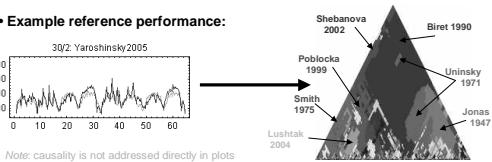
- Cell operation: Index of performance which has highest correlation to reference performance (excluding reference).

$$\text{cell}_{ij} = \max_{k \neq r} \text{Correlation}(\text{performance}_{ijr}, \text{performance}_{ijk})$$

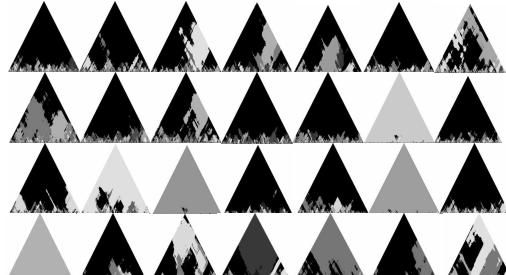
- Each performance assigned unique (arbitrary) index color:

■ performer 1
■ performer 2
■ performer 3
etc.

Resulting plot shows best correlated performance at all timescales:



Performance Correlation Scapes



Boring Timescape Pictures

Occasionally get over-exposed photographs back from the store, and have to throw them in the waste bin.

The same performance by Magaloff on two different CD re-releases:

Philips 456 898-2



Philips 426 817/29-2



mazurka 17/4 in A minor

Magaloff 1977

Magaloff 1977b

Boring Timescape Pictures?

Two different performances from two different performers on two different record labels from two different countries.

Calliope 3321



mazurka 17/4 in A minor

Concert Artist 20012



Indic 1988

Hatto 1997

see: http://www.charm.rhul.ac.uk/content/contact/hatto_article.html

Hatto Hoax

- ~ 100 CDs of Joyce Hatto performances issued on the Concert Artist label in 2003-2006. (also 70 cassettes in 80's and 90's)

Indjic mazurka performances first borrowed for a Hatto cassette release in 1993.

- Origins of ~65 CDs on other commercial recordings have been identified (23 in the first week after story broke)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joyce_Hatto
<http://www.farhanmalik.com/hatto/cdlist.html>

- Borrowed performances from at least 70 pianists

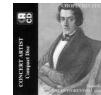
<http://www.farhanmalik.com/hatto/pianistslist.html>



September 17, 2007
The New Yorker

Fiorentino Fakes

Sergio Fiorentini

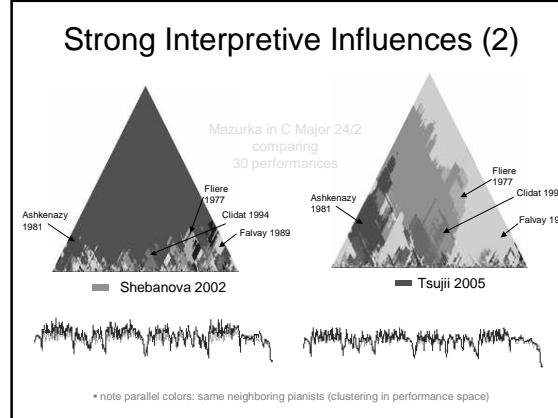
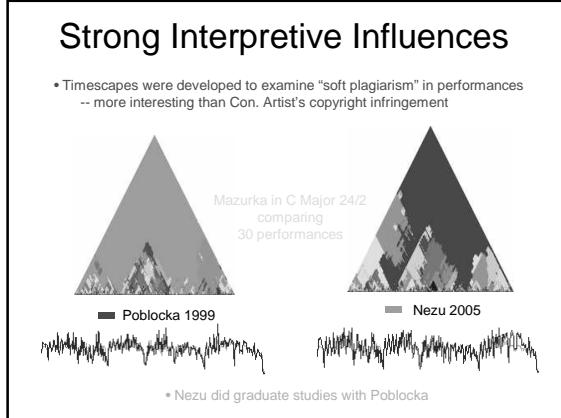


Con. Artist:
CACD 9200-2
(2003)

Janusz Olejniczak

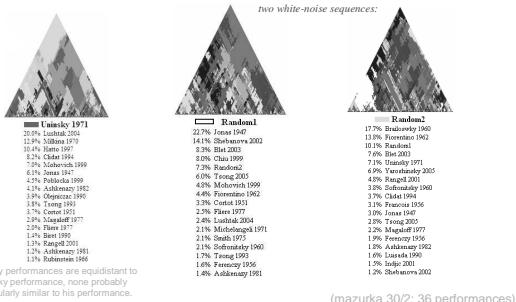


Naïve/OPUS 111:
OP20002 (1991)

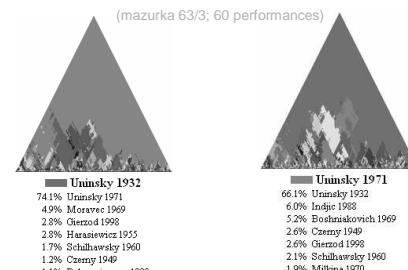


Purely Random Matches

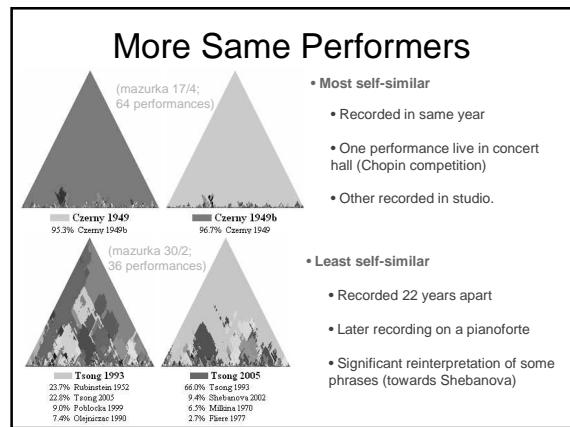
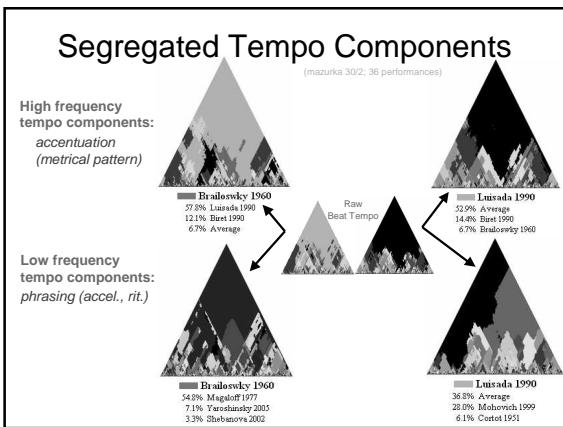
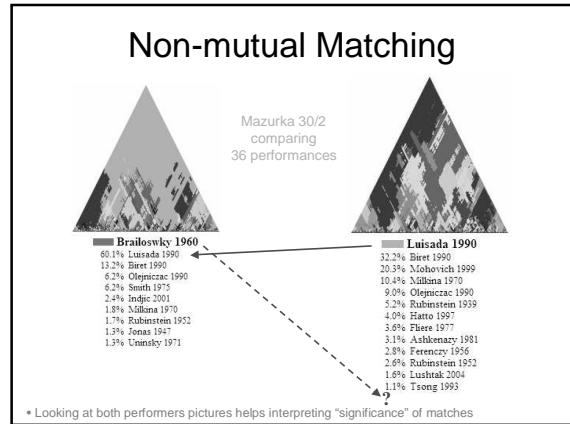
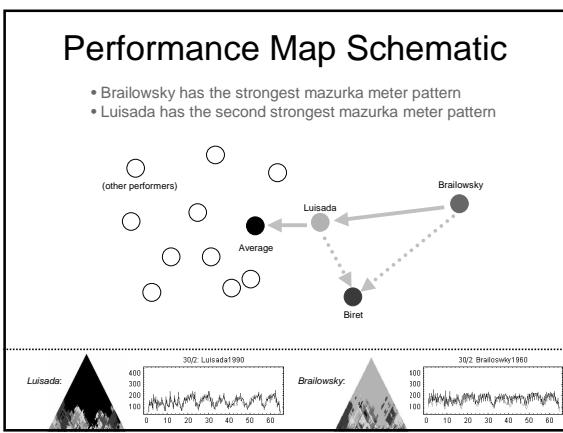
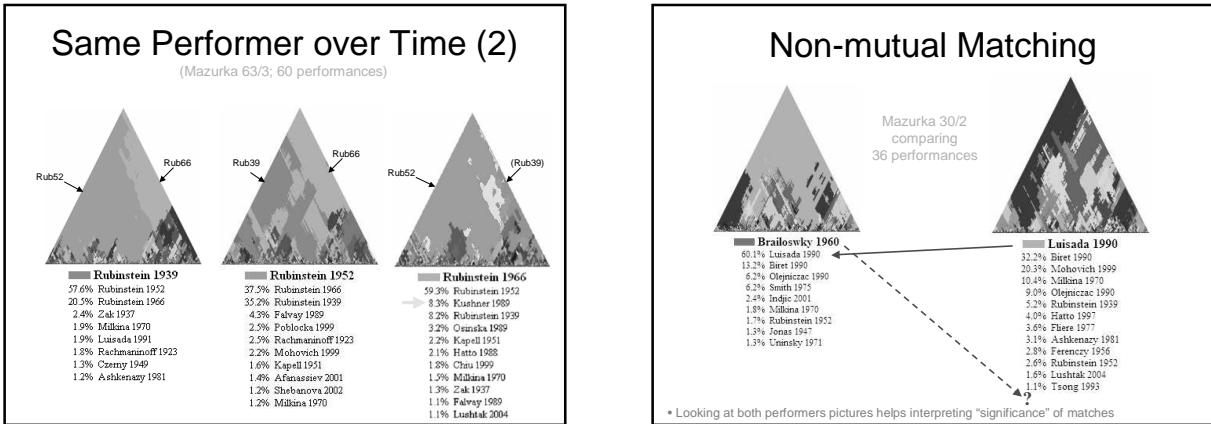
- Plots have to show some match at all points
-- not necessarily a good one
 - Small color regions, inverted triangles & broken borders = poor matches

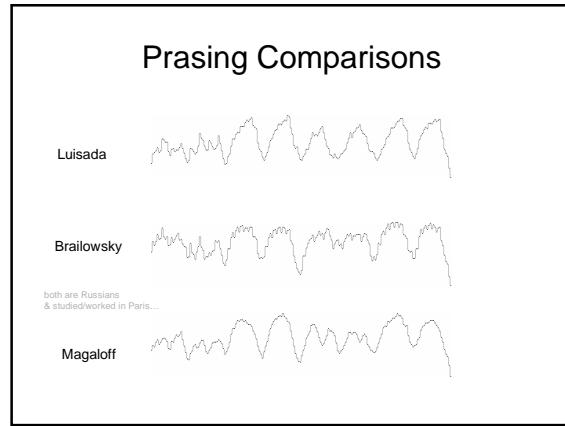
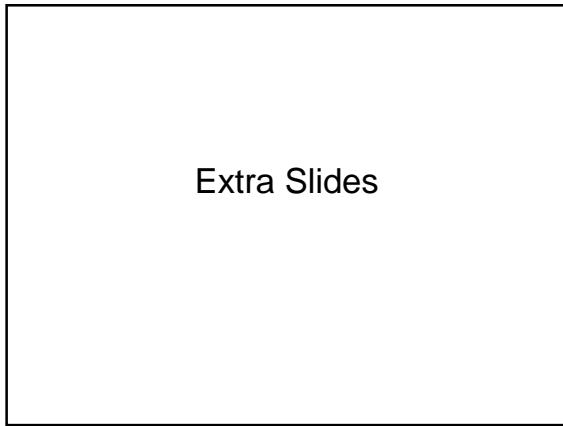
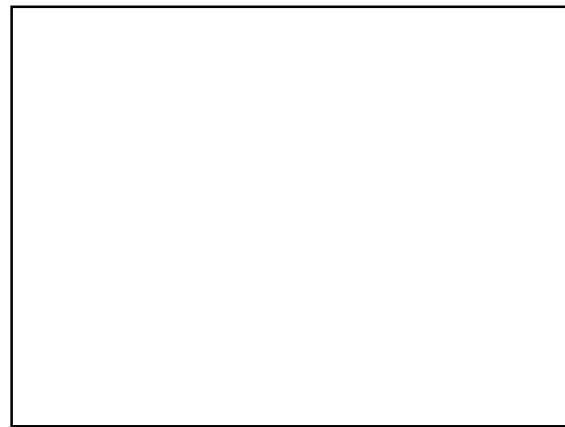
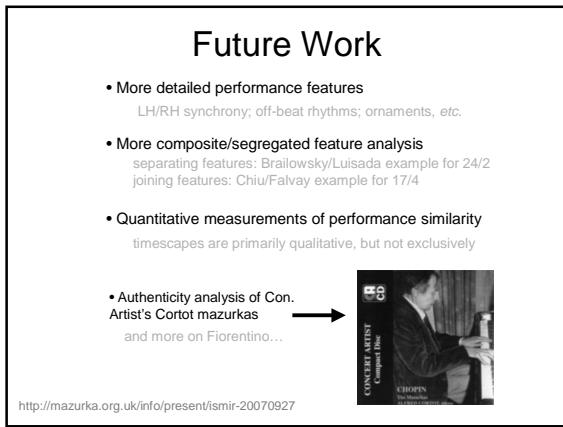
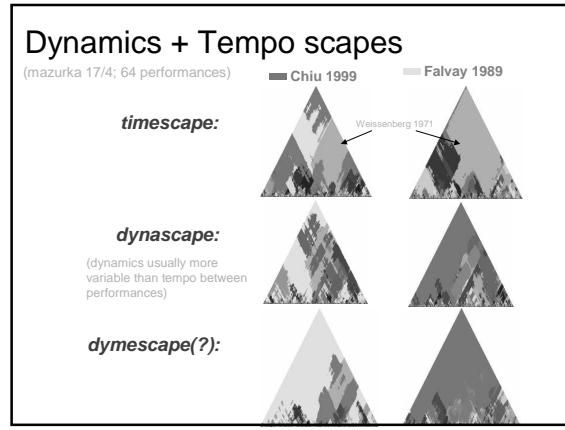
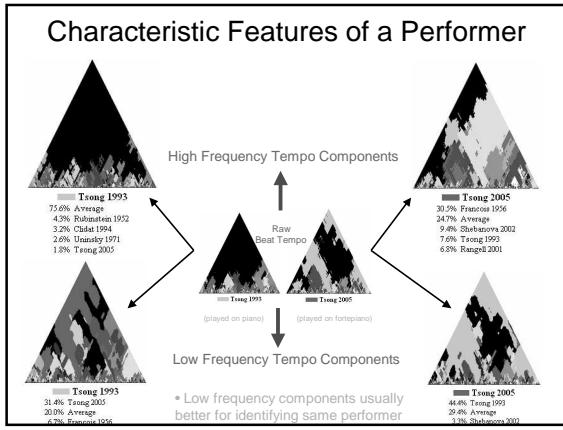


Same Performer over Time

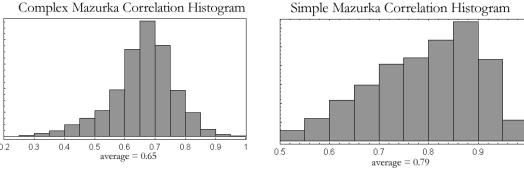


- 40 years between recordings
 - 78 rpm recording / 33.3 rpm recording
 - France in 1932 / Texas in 1971





Expected Correlation Values



- Different mazurkas have different correlation value distributions
- Simpler/shorter mazurkas have higher average correlations
- Complex/longer mazurkas have lower average correlations

Hatto Ghost Performers

Ashkenazy, Vladimir	Duchable, François-René	Marshev, Oleg	Szokolay, Balázs
Aspaas, Tor Espen	Fritsch, Benjamin	Matsuzawa, Yuki	Tateno, Izumi
Babayan, Sergei	Gindin, Alexander	Moreira-Lima, Arthur	Thiollier, François-Joel
Banowetz, Joseph	Grante, Carlo	Muraro, Roger	Tipó, María
Basilega, Miguel	Gutiérrez, Horacio	Nagy, Péter	Tomsic, Dubravka
Bellucci, Giovanni	Haebler, Ingrid	Nicolosi, Francesco	Trzeciak, Joanna
Benoit, Prisca	Hamelin, Marc-André	Nojima, Minoru	Wodnicki, Adam
Biret, Idil	Hegedüs, Endre	O'Conor, John	Zarafantis, Evgeny
Bloch, Boris	Heisler, Jean-François	Ogawa, Noriko	Zilberstein, Lilya
Bronfman, Yefim	Hiseki, Hisako	Ohlsson, Garrick	
Browning, John	Hobson, Ian	Okashiro, Chitose	
Brownridge, Angela	Indjic, Eugene	Pagny, Patricia	
Budiardjo, Esther	Jandó, Jenő	Raeckallio, Matti	
Campanella, Michele	Kim, Paul	Rahkonen, Margit	
Chen, Pi-hsien	Kissin, Evgeny	Ránki, Dezső	
Collard, Jean-Philippe	Kramreiter, Tomás	Reyes, Alberto	
Dalberto, Michel	Kuzmin, Leonid	Scherbakov, Konstantin	
Didenko, Yuri	Long, Beatrice	Simon, Lázló	
Du Plessis, Herbert	Malikova, Anna	Sterczynski, Jerzy	

<http://www.farhanmalik.com/hatto/pianistslist.html>

How time + dynamics are mixed

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

$t_{-n} = (t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5, t_6, t_7, t_8, \dots, t_n)$

original tempo sequence

$d_{-n} = (d_1, d_2, d_3, d_4, d_5, d_6, d_7, \dots, d_n)$

original dynamic sequence

$J_{-n} = (Jt1, Jd1, Jt2, Jd2, Jt3, Jd3, \dots, Jtn, Jdn)$ joint sequence

original time sequence is unaltered:

$$J_{t,n} = t_n$$

$$J_{d,n} = \sigma_t \left(\frac{d_n - \mu_d}{\sigma_d} \right) + \mu_t$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

Peeling Back the Layers

