

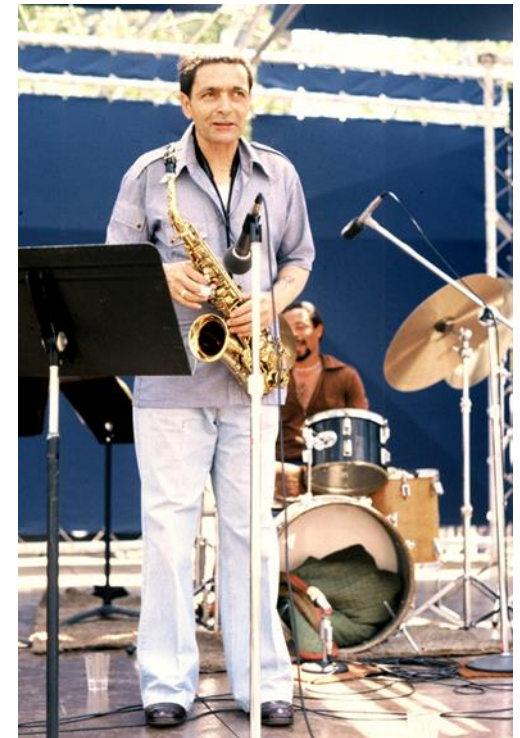
**Perspectives for  
Computational  
Jazz Studies**

# Tracking microtiming variations in the course of a jazz performance

Christian Dittmar, Martin Pfeleiderer, Meinard Müller  
[christian.dittmar@audiolabs-erlangen.de](mailto:christian.dittmar@audiolabs-erlangen.de)

# Introduction

- Title: Anthropology
- Album: The Complete Galaxy Recordings (1979)
- Lineup:
  - Charlie Haden on bass
  - Art Pepper playing solo clarinet
  - Billy Higgins on drums
- Music:
  - B  $\flat$  -Major
  - 4/4 Signature
  - ~219 BPM



Source: wikipedia

# Introduction

- Typical ride cymbal (RC) pattern
  - Downbeat
  - ⋮
  - Backbeat
  - Offbeat
  - Downbeat
  - ⋮
- Keep tempo
- Induce „swing feel“

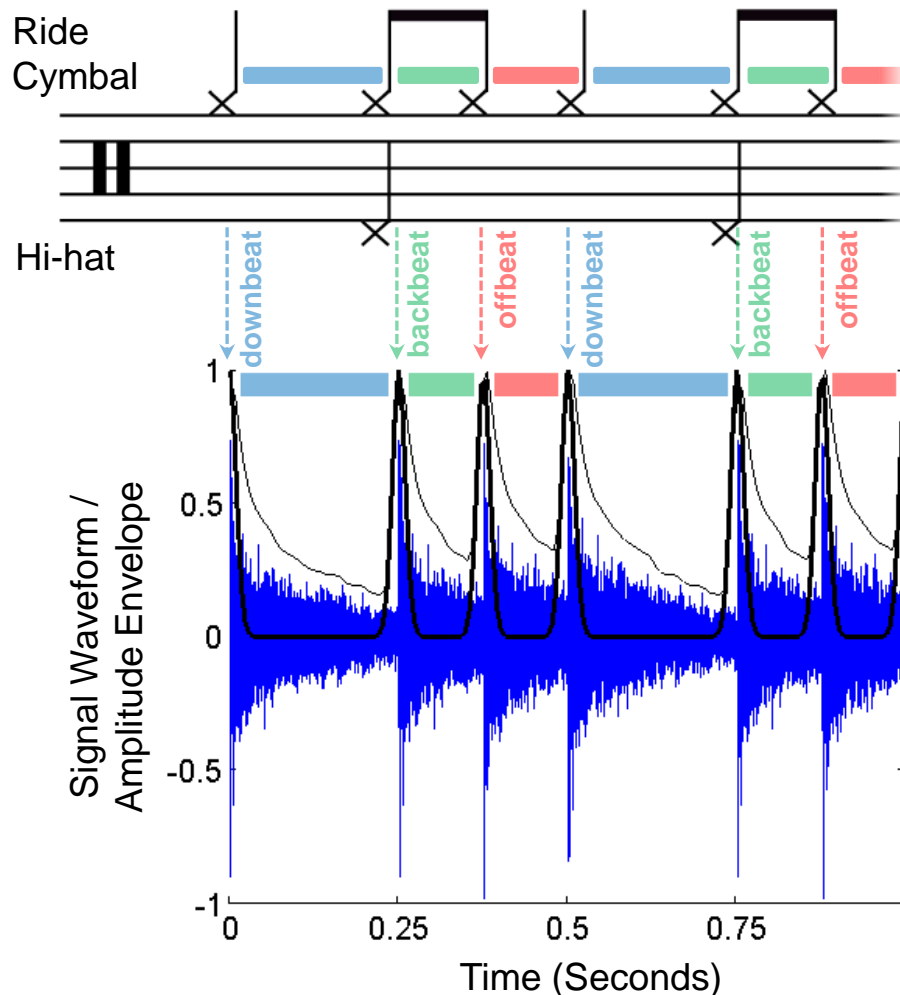


Source: wikipedia

# Introduction: Swing Ratio

♩ = 240 BPM

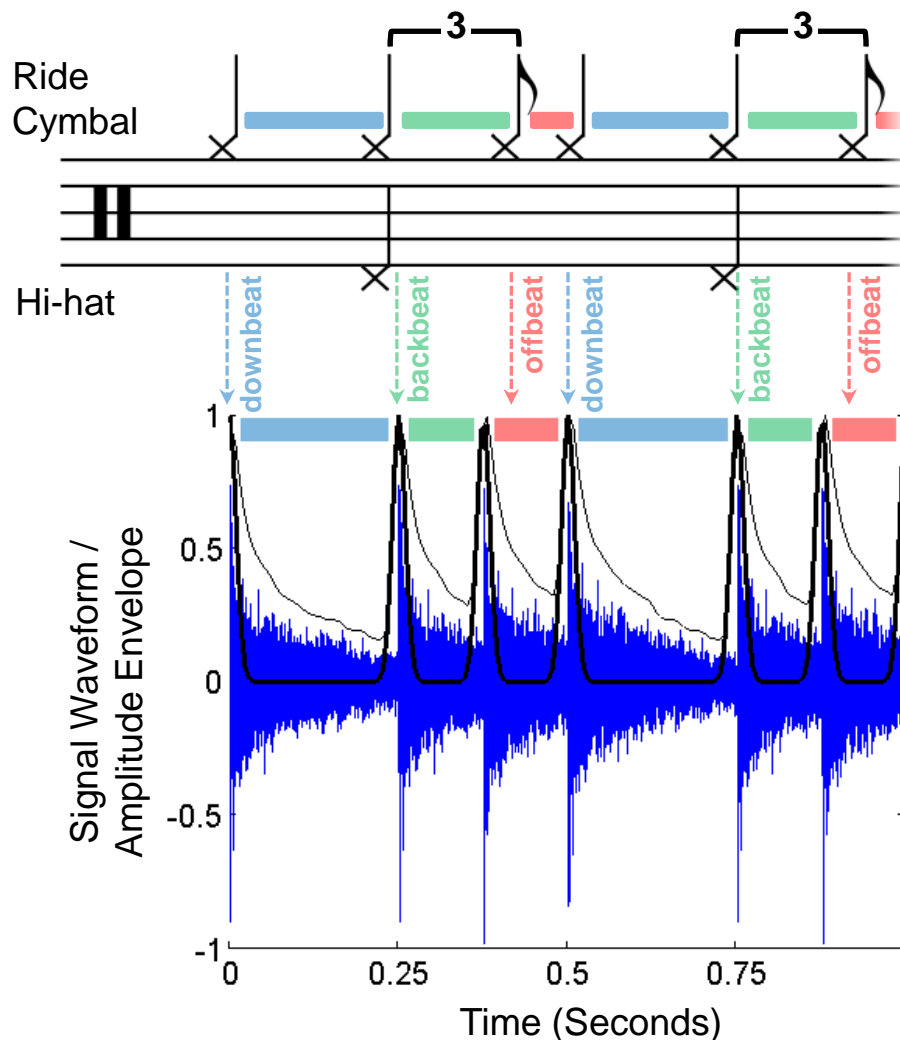
$$s_r = \frac{0.125}{0.125} \approx 1$$



# Introduction: Swing Ratio

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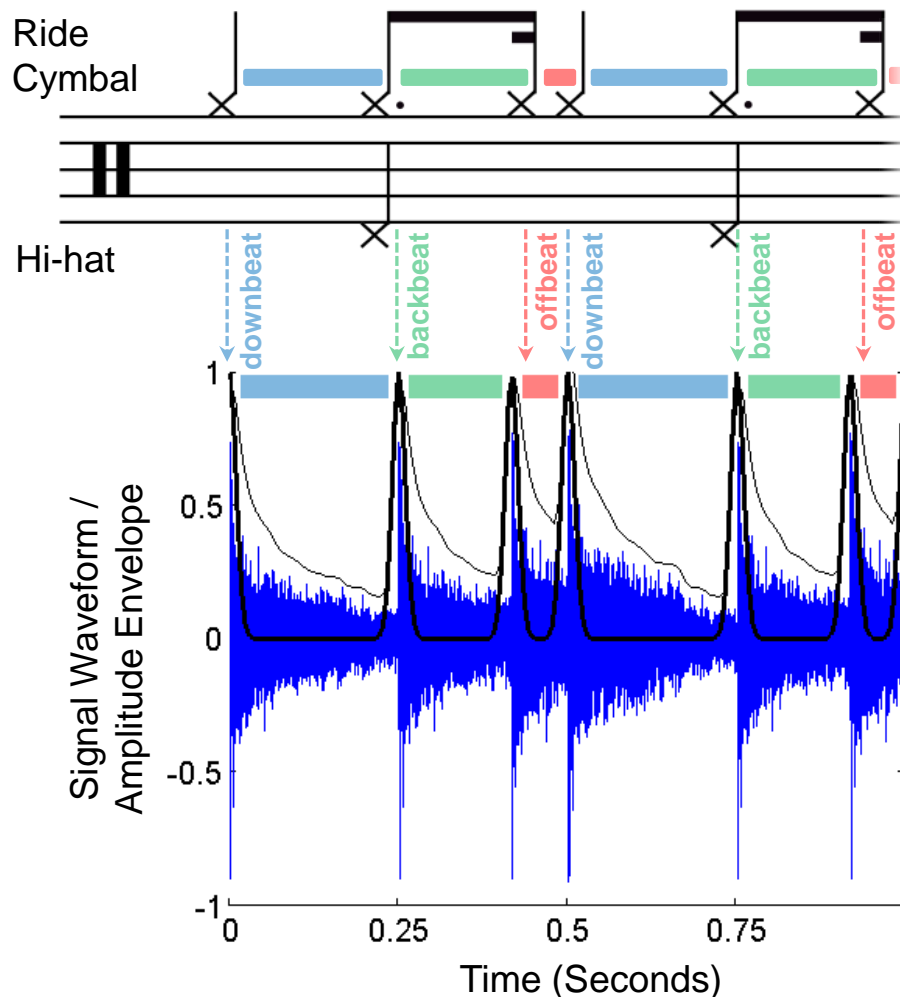
$$s_r = \frac{0.167}{0.083} \approx 2$$



# Introduction: Swing Ratio

♩ = 240 BPM

$$s_r = \frac{0.188}{0.063} \approx 3$$



# Related Work: Jazz Microtiming Analysis

- Early investigations into swing ratio:
  - Kerschbaumer 1978, Reinholdsson 1987, Rose 1989
  - Manually marked onset times
- Measurements using MIDI-fied instruments:
  - Ellis 1991, Busse 2003
- Negative correlation between tempo and swing ratio:
  - Friberg & Sundström 2002 → inspiration for our work
  - Dittmar et al. 2015 → (semi-) automatic swing ratio estimation
- No strong correlation, preferred swing ratio  $\sim 2.0$ :
  - Honing & de Haas 2008 → focus on jazz drummers
  - Marchand & Peeters 2015 → swing ratio in diverse genres (GTZAN)

# Swing Ratio Estimation via Log-Lag ACF

- Tempo-normalized spectral rhythm patterns
  - Peeters 2005
- Scale transform for rhythmic similarity
  - Holzapfel & Stylianou 2009, 2011
  - Marchand & Peeters 2014
  - Prockup et al. 2015
- Log-Lag ACF (LLACF)
  - Gruhne & Dittmar 2009
  - Völkl et al. 2010
  - Dittmar et al. 2015

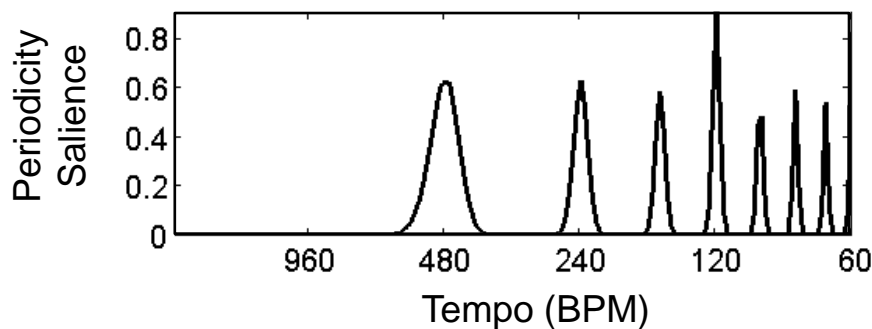
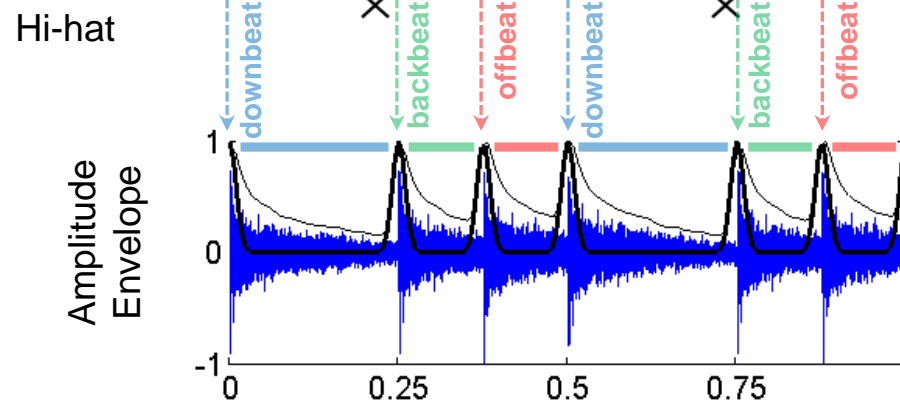
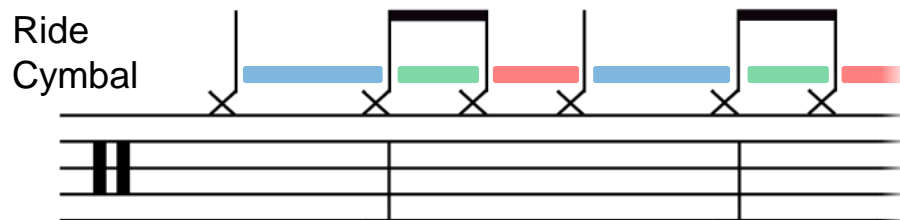
- Autocorrelation (ACF) computed from onset detection function
- Resampled to logarithmically-spaced lag-axis (resp. tempo-axis)
- Rhythmic patterns → salient peaks at distinct periodicities
- Tempo factors → log-lag offsets



# Swing Ratio Estimation via Log-Lag ACF

♩ = 240 BPM

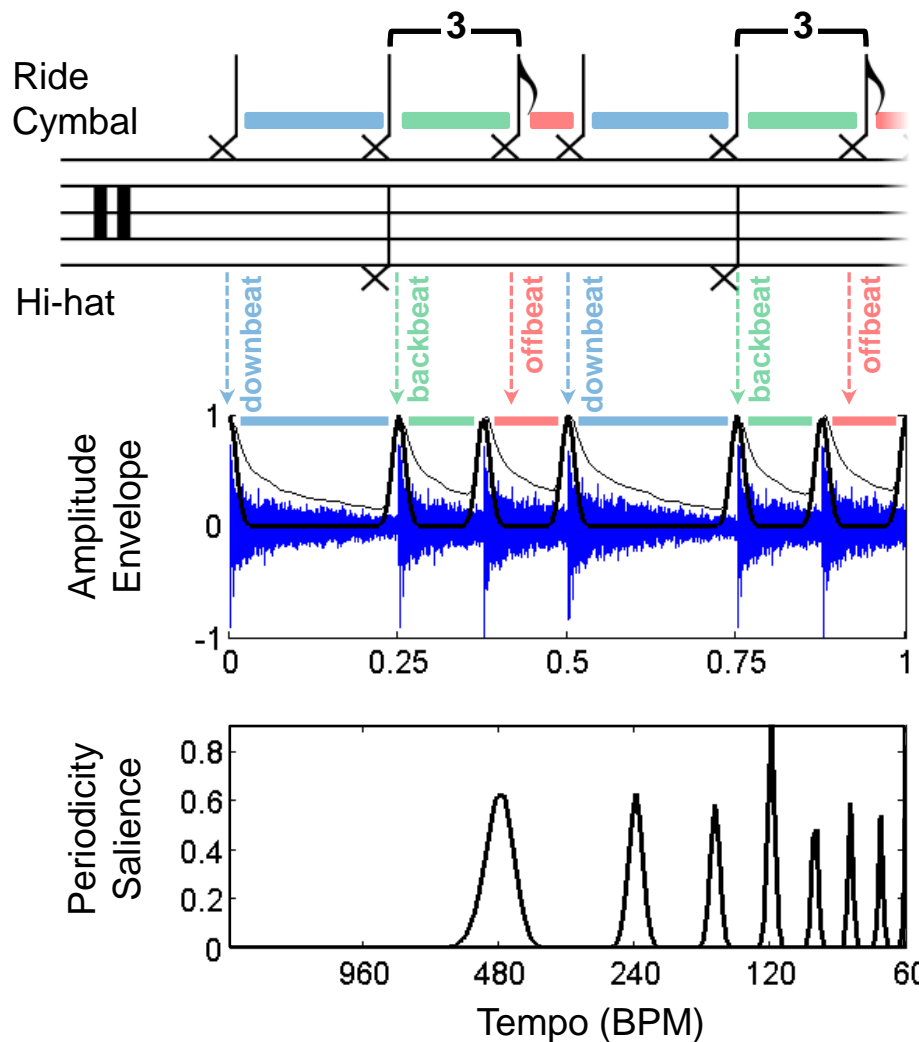
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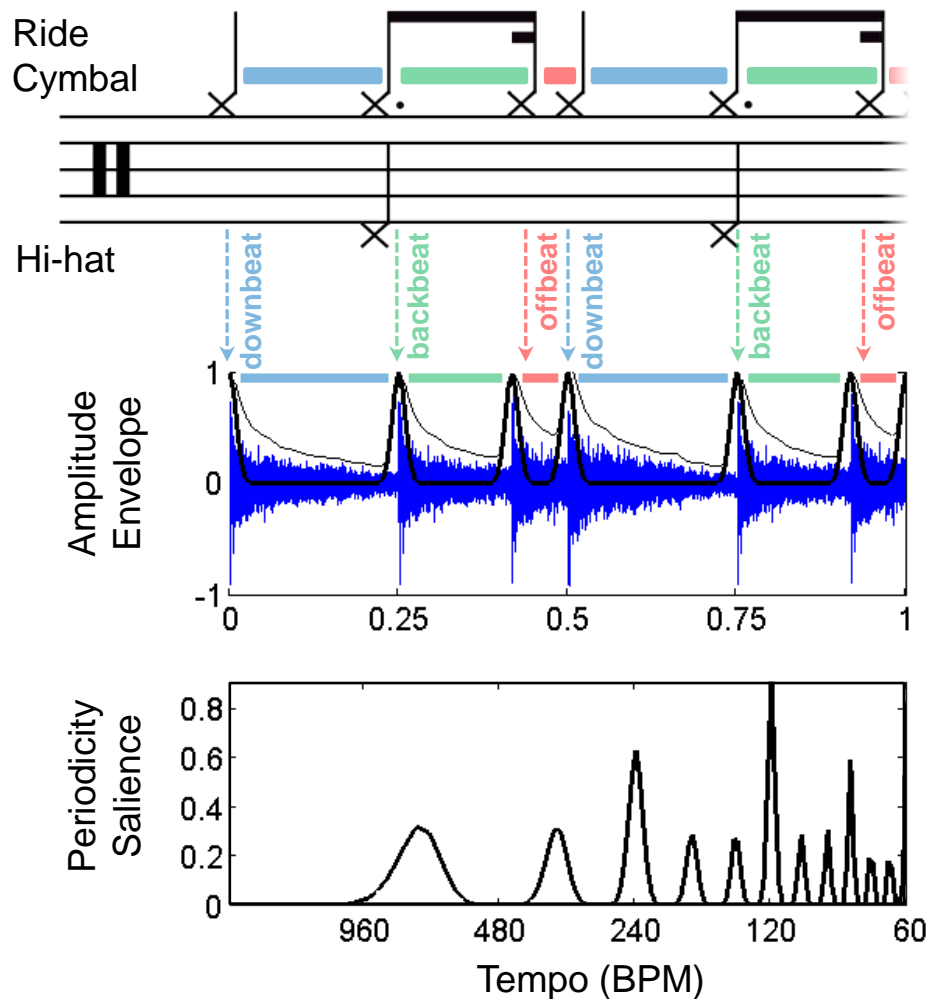
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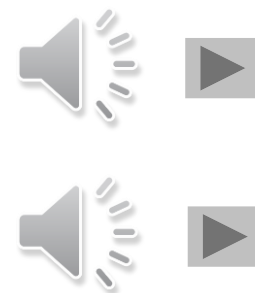
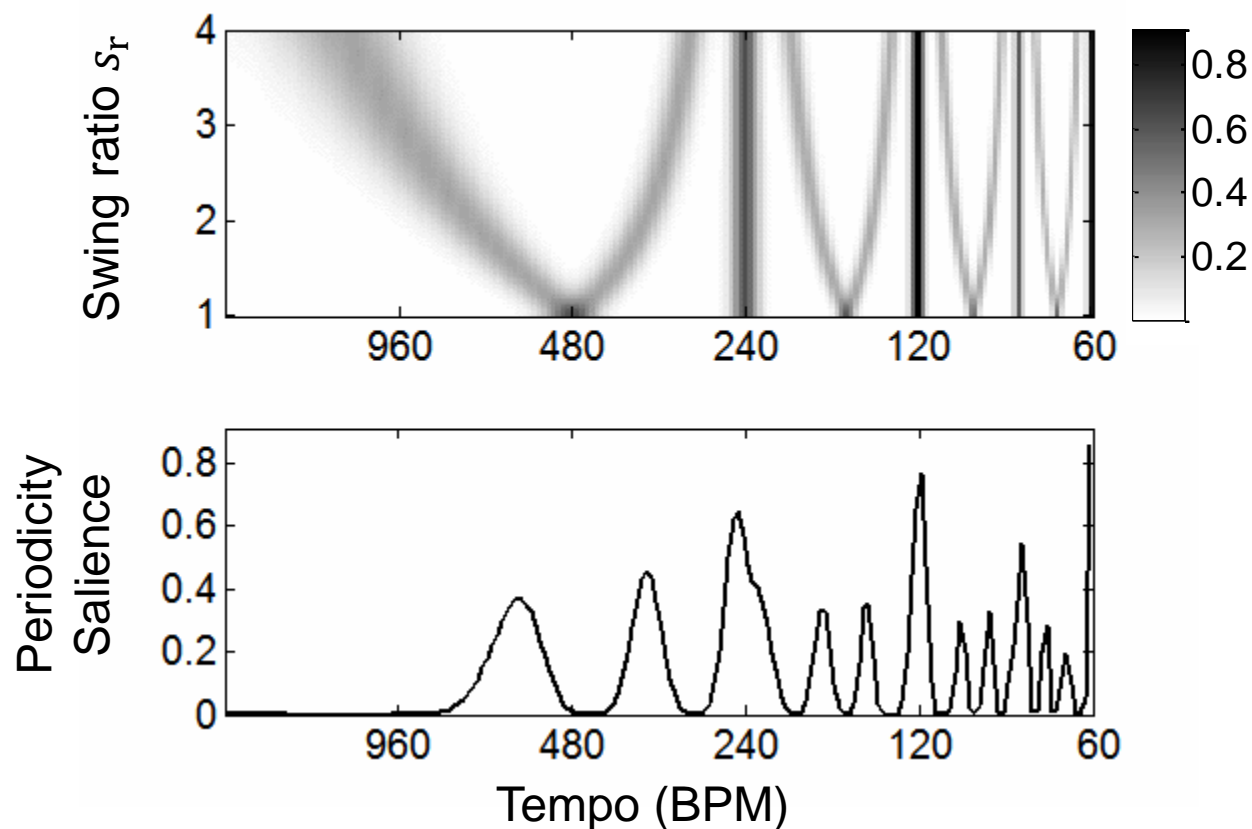
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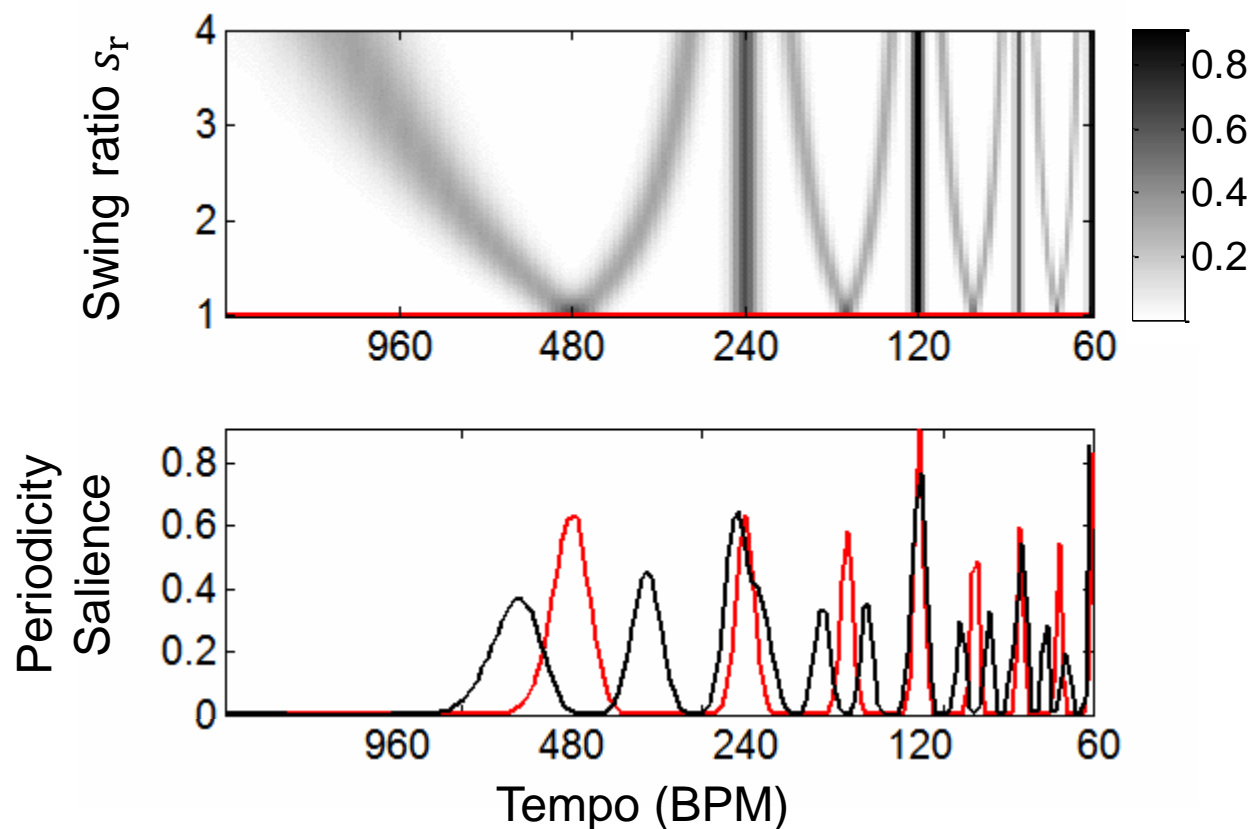
# Swing Ratio Estimation via Log-Lag ACF

Pattern matching against prototype LLACFs



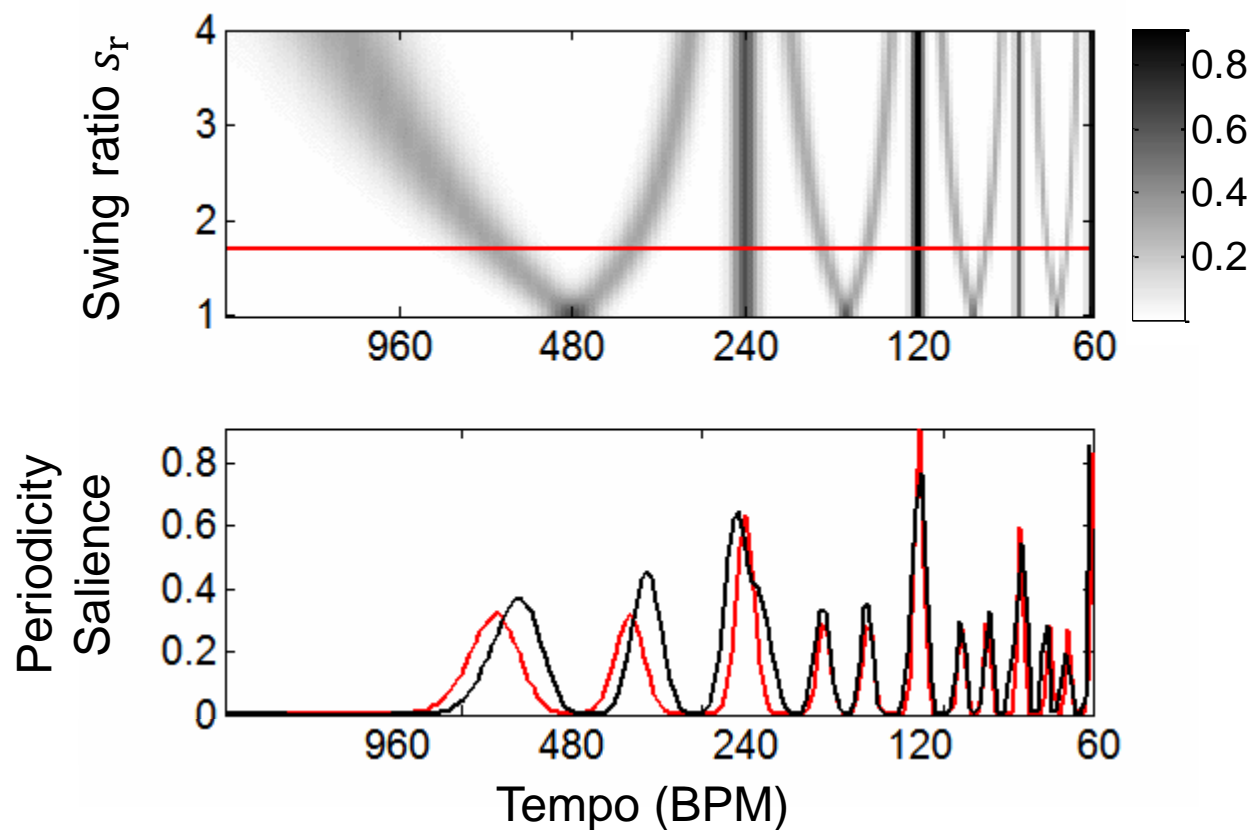
# Swing Ratio Estimation via Log-Lag ACF

## Pattern matching against prototype LLACFs



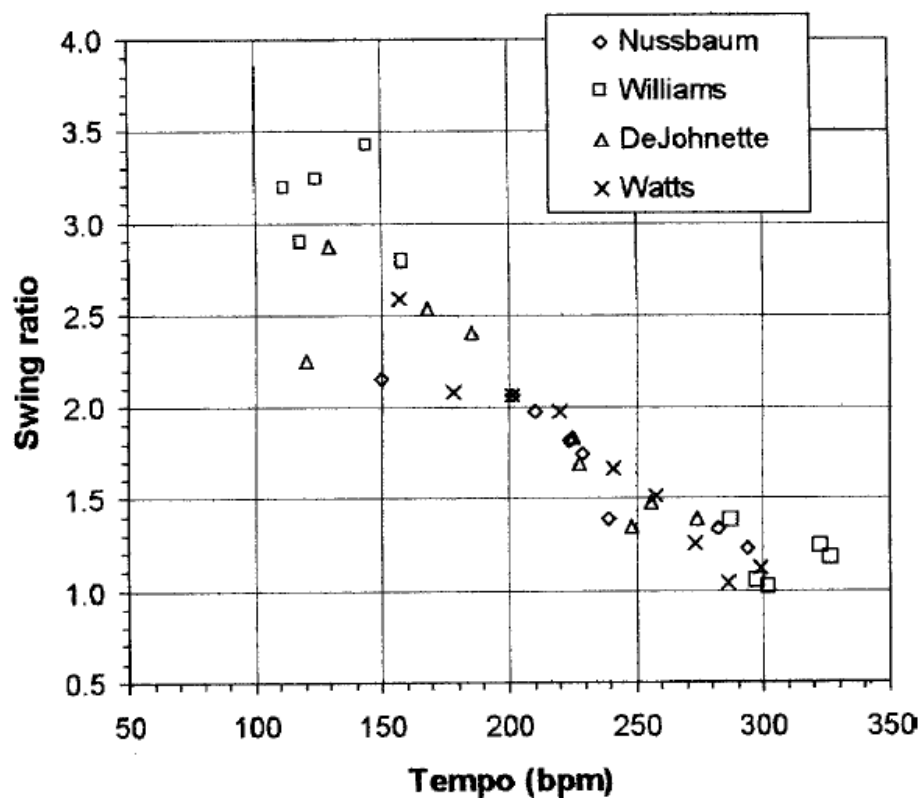
# Swing Ratio Estimation via Log-Lag ACF

## Pattern matching against prototype LLACFs

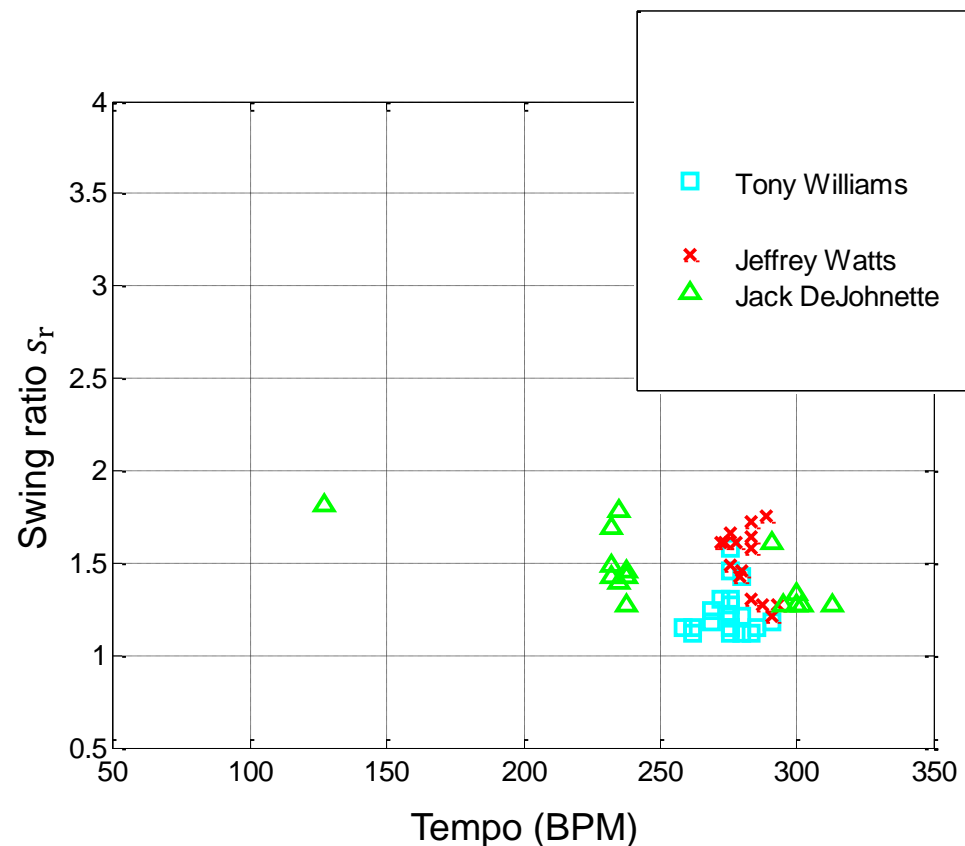


# Swing Ratio Estimation via Log-Lag ACF:

Friberg & Sundström 2002:



Dittmar et al. 2015:



# Tracking Swing Ratio Variations

## Weimar Jazz Database:

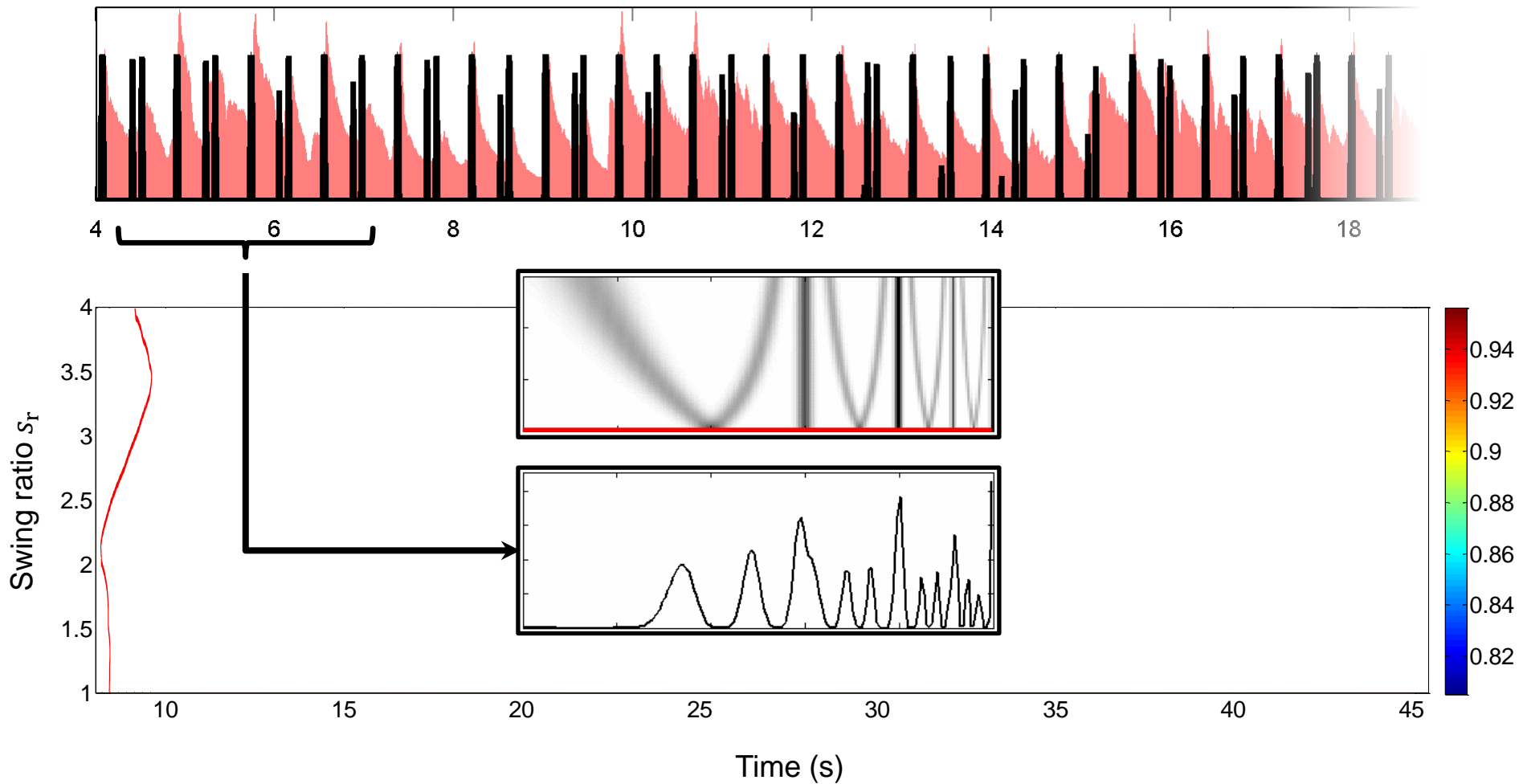
- Soloist swing ratio implicitly given via tone onsets
- Automatically estimated swing ratios of RC patterns
- Investigations into the interactive art of improvising together

## New idea:

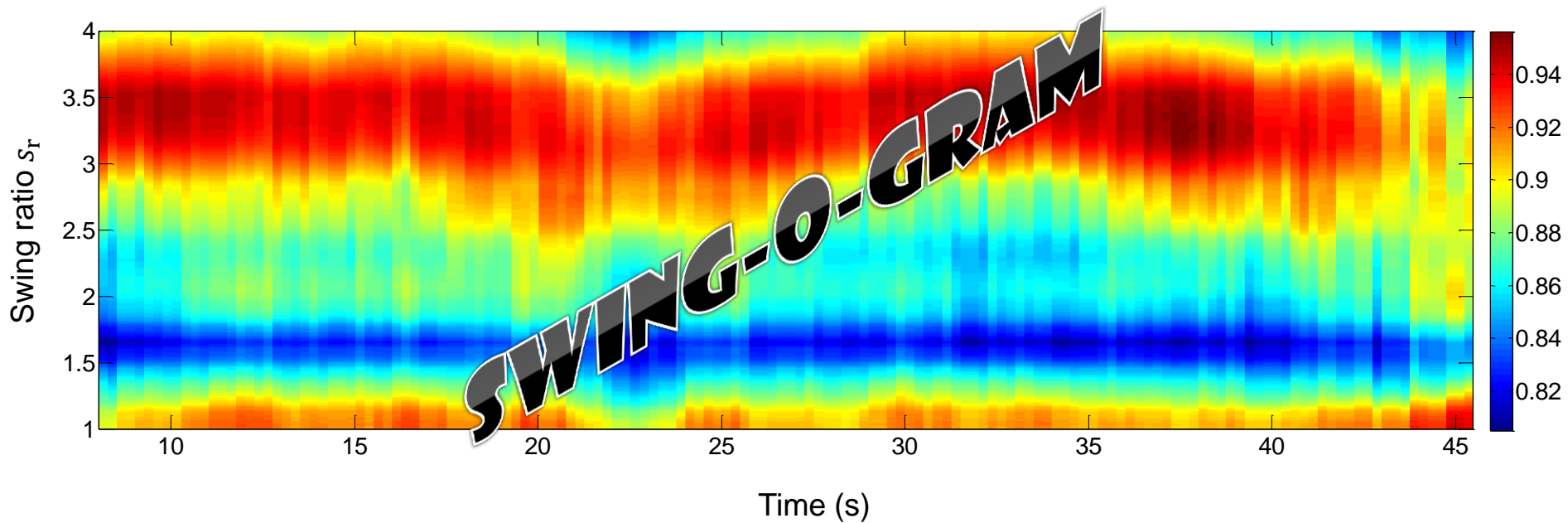
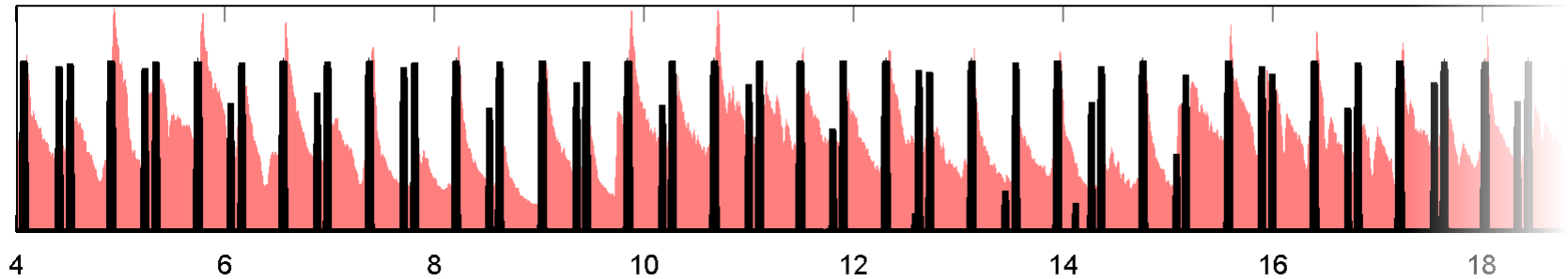
- Compute segment-wise LLACF accross complete solo
- Store matching score for all swing ratios per segment



# Tracking Swing Ratio Variations



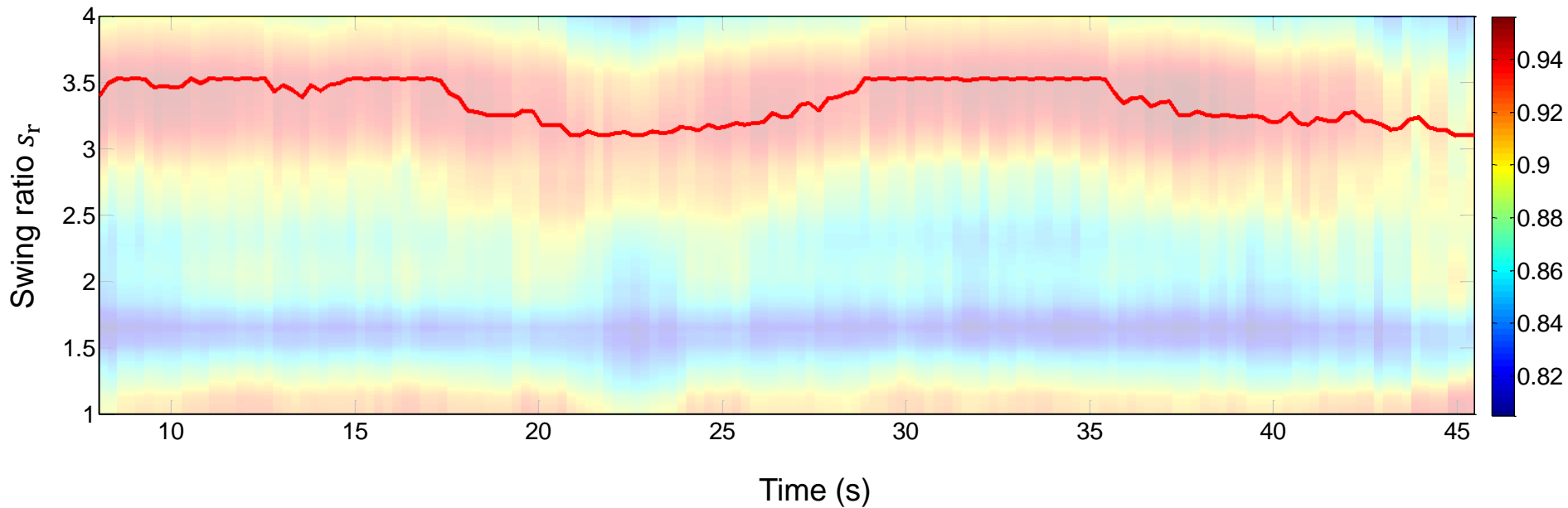
# Tracking Swing Ratio Variations



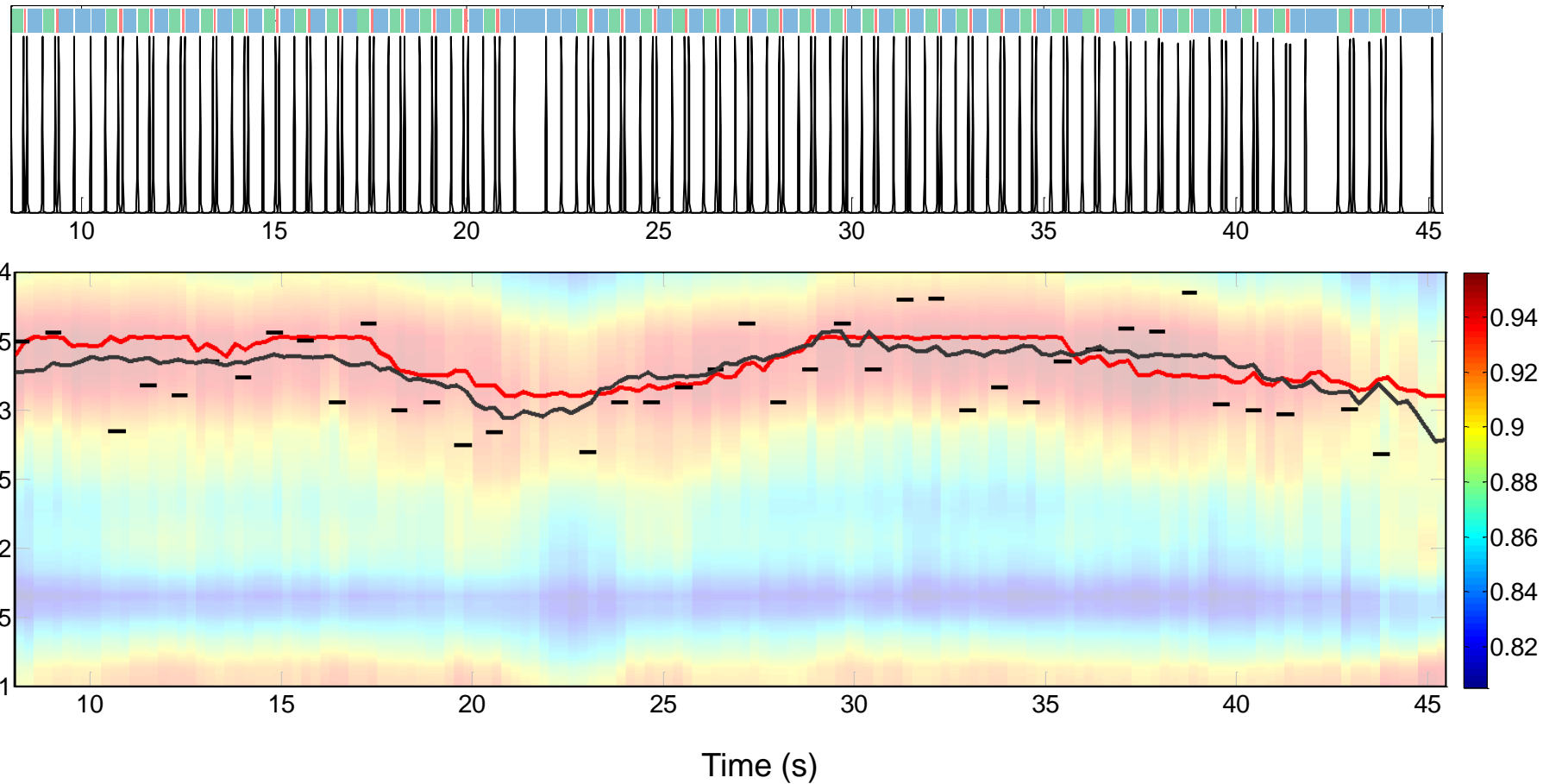
# Tracking Swing Ratio Variations

Track salient trajectory:

- Dynamic Programming (DP) → finds optimal paths
- Can be parametrized to prevent unreasonable jumps

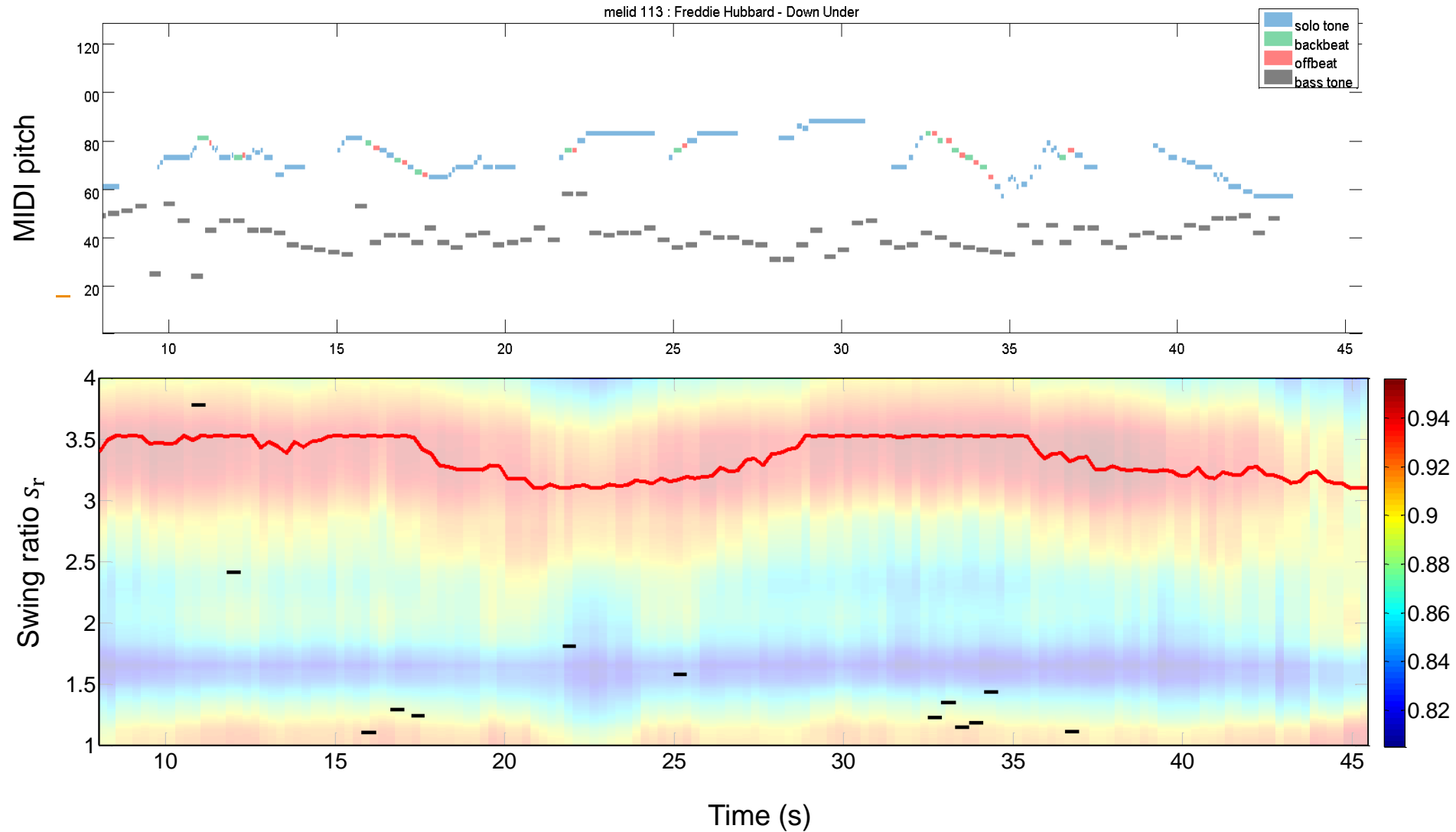


# Tracking Swing Ratio Variations



# Tracking Swing Ratio Variations

melid 113 : Freddie Hubbard - Down Under



# Conclusions

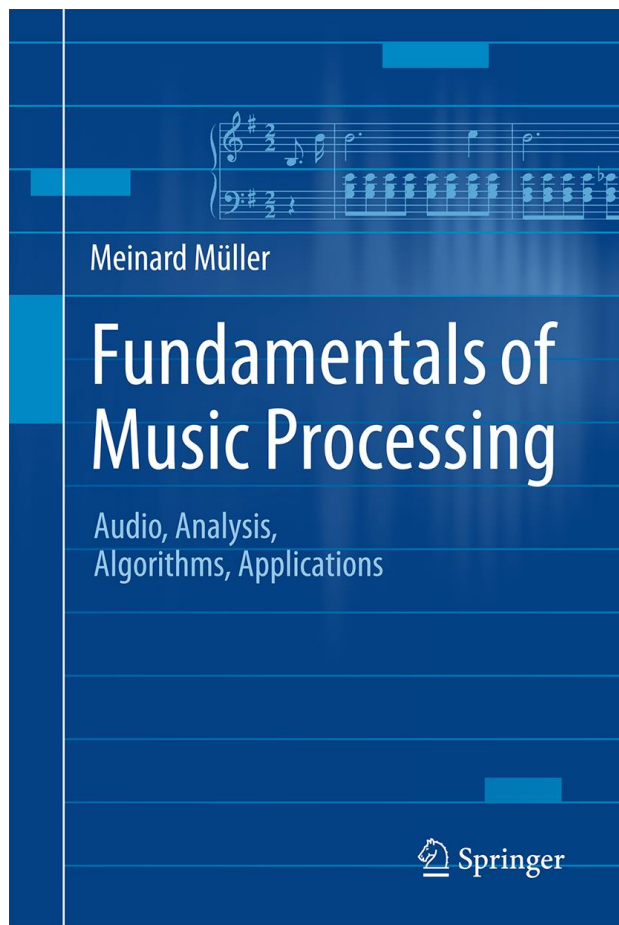
Proposed new method to track swing ratio variations

- Qualitatively similar results as provided by ground truth
- Comparison to soloist swing ratio still has open issues

Next steps?

- Which structures are interesting?
- Relation to phrases?

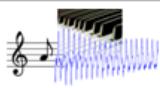

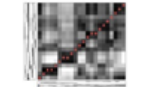
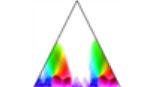

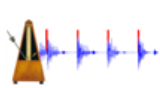
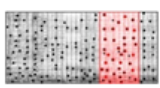
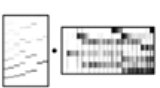
# Book: Fundamentals of Music Processing



Meinard Müller  
Fundamentals of Music Processing  
Audio, Analysis, Algorithms, Applications  
483 p., 249 illus., hardcover  
ISBN: 978-3-319-21944-8  
Springer, 2015

Accompanying website:  
[www.music-processing.de](http://www.music-processing.de)

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Chapter	Music Processing Scenario
1	 <b>Music Representations</b>
2	 <b>Fourier Analysis of Signals</b>
3	 <b>Music Synchronization</b>
4	 <b>Music Structure Analysis</b>
5	 <b>Chord Recognition</b>
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# AES Conference: Semantic Audio 2017



AES International Conference  
**Semantic Audio**  
22 - 24 June 2017, Erlangen, Germany  
Tutorial day: 21 June 2017.



Paper deadline: 22.01.2017



**AUDIO ENGINEERING SOCIETY**  
CALL for CONTRIBUTIONS  
2017 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SEMANTIC AUDIO  
ERLANGEN, GERMANY  
JUNE 22-24, 2017  
<http://www.aes.org/conferences/2017/semantic/>



**Chairs:** Christian Uhle and Meinard Müller. Email: [2017semantic\\_chairs@aes.org](mailto:2017semantic_chairs@aes.org)  
**Papers chairs:** Christian Dittmar and Jakob Abeßer. Email: [2017semantic\\_papers@aes.org](mailto:2017semantic_papers@aes.org)  
**Technical Coordination and PR:** Stefan Turowski, Sascha Disch, and Matthias Rose.

Semantic Audio is concerned with the extraction of meaning from audio signals and with the development of applications that use this information to support the user in identifying, organizing, and exploring audio signals, and interacting with them. These applications include music information retrieval, semantic web technologies, audio production, sound reproduction, education, and gaming. Semantic technology involves some kind of

understanding of the meaning of the information it deals with and to this end may incorporate machine learning, digital signal processing, speech processing, source separation, perceptual models of hearing, musicological knowledge, metadata, and ontologies. This conference will be the third AES conference on the topic and will provide the opportunity to present and discuss the latest advancements in the field.

## PROPOSED TOPICS

Semantic audio processing  
Content-based audio recommendation and retrieval  
Music web services and semantic web for music  
Blind and informed source separation  
Automatic music transcription  
Audio classification and segmentation  
Musical similarity and structure analysis

Semantic audio coding  
Intelligent audio effects and editing  
Musical education and instrument tuition  
Musical performance analysis  
Broadcast monitoring  
Digital archiving and libraries  
Computational Auditory Scene Analysis

## SUBMISSION INFORMATION

The organizing committee invites the submission of full papers of between 4 and 8 pages by January 22, 2017 at [www.aes.org/2017semantic\\_authors](http://www.aes.org/2017semantic_authors). An author's kit describing the paper format will also be available at that site. All submitted papers will be peer-reviewed before selection. Acceptance of papers will be determined by the conference review committee, and authors will be informed of the decision by March 22, 2017. Final versions of papers following any revisions guided by the committee's review must be submitted by April 8, 2017.

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# AES Conference: Semantic Audio 2017



Ready my carriage! I shall journey to AES in Erlangen!

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