

Talk



## Machine Learning for Music Discovery

Joan Serra

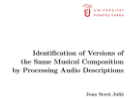
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### Joan Serra



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Music Technology Group  
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time series analysis, complex networks, ...



June 2008, 2010

9783540710711



## Machine Learning for Music Discovery

### Focus:

- **Learning labels** (categories) from music audio data (music signal): Automatic annotation
- Music retrieval: **Query-by-example** paradigm

**Learning + Query by = Category-based  
labels example retrieval .**

- **Issues** when applying machine learning to music-related tasks

## Overview

- I. Category-based retrieval (basic concepts)
- II. Categorizing and annotating (supervised approaches)
- III. Typical approach to supervised music annotation
  - I. Feature extraction
  - II. Data processing & feature selection
  - III. Classification & classifiers
- IV. Basic but important issues in classification methodology

## Category-based Retrieval

**Goal:** Find music recordings within a collection that **share a specific, predefined characteristic** or trait.

Humans naturally group objects with similar characteristics or traits into **categories** (or classes).

**Category:** Any word or concept that can be used to **describe a set of recordings** sharing some *property*. Also referred to as *class*, *type* or *kind*.

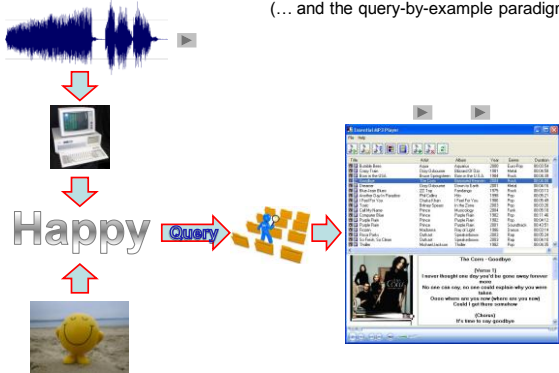
## Category-based Retrieval

- Categories are one of the most basic ways to **represent and structure** human **knowledge**
- They encapsulate **characteristic, intrinsic features** of a group of items
- Prototypes can be built and potential category members can be compared to these
- They can overlap and have some kind of “organization” (e.g. fuzzy and hierarchical)

[Zbikowski, Oxford Univ. Press, 2007]

## Category-based Retrieval

(... and the query-by-example paradigm)



## Category-based Retrieval

### Motivation

- Search and organization of music collections
- Music discovery; discovery of *related* music documents
- Playlist generation
- Music recommendation
- Music similarity
- ...

[Tversky, *Psych. Revs.*, 1977; Bogdanov et al., *IEEE-TMM*, 2011]

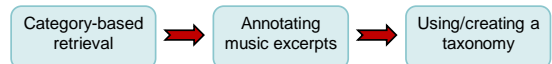
## Category-based Retrieval

Category-based **query examples**:

- Genres (e.g. "bossa-nova") ▶ ▶ ▶
- Moods (e.g. "sad") ▶ ▶ ▶
- Specific instruments (e.g. "extremely distorted electric guitar") ▶ ▶ ▶
- Instrument ensembles (e.g. "string quartet")
- Key/mode (e.g. "G minor pieces")
- Dynamics (e.g. "lots of loudness changes")
- Type of recording (e.g. "live recording") ▶ ▶ ▶
- Epoch (e.g. "music from the 80s")
- ...

## Category-based Retrieval: Annotations

**Objective:** Label/annotate music documents (ideally with some **confidence** and **probability** measurements) in a way that makes sense, e.g. to a user (or to a user community).



Categories usually imply a **taxonomy**:

- Based on the opinion of experts, on the "wisdom of the crowd" (folksonomy), on a single user (personomy), ...
- Taxonomies can be organized, their members can overlap, different relation types can be applied (ontologies)...

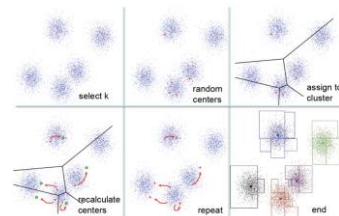
## Categorizing/Annotating

### Unsupervised vs. Supervised

## Categorizing/Annotating

### Unsupervised:

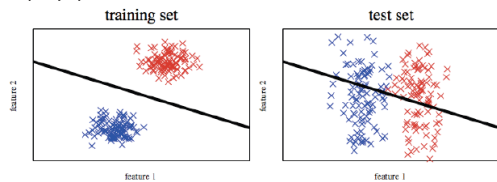
- No taxonomy. Categories emerge from the data organization under a predefined similarity measure
- Typical clustering algorithms: K-means, hierarchical clustering, SOM, growing hierarchical SOM, ...



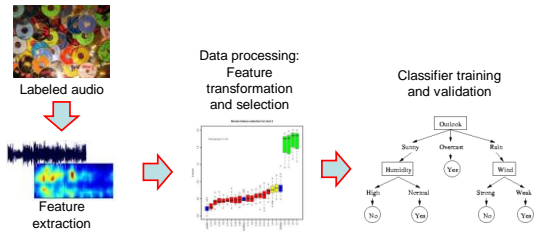
## Categorizing/Annotating

### Supervised:

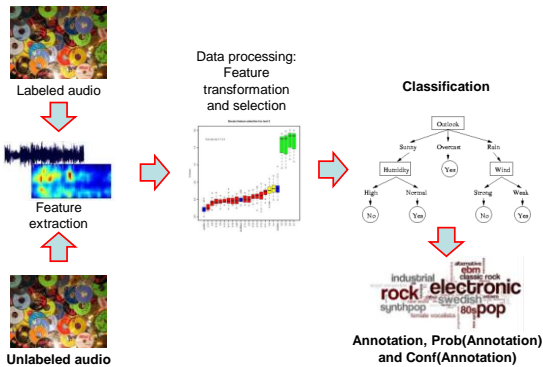
- Use a taxonomy
- Map features to categories (usually without describing the rules of this mapping explicitly)
- Typical supervised learning algorithms: KNN, neural networks, LDA, SVM, trees, ...



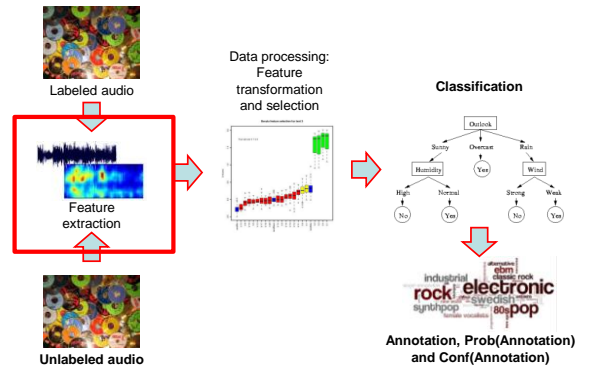
## Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation



## Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation



## Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation



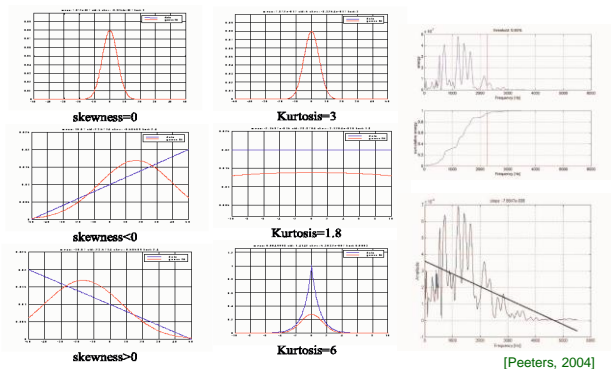
## Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

### Feature extraction

- Temporal:** ZCR, energy, loudness, rise time, onset asynchrony, amplitude modulation, ...
- Spectral:** MFCC, LPC, spectral centroid, spectral bandwidth, bark-band energies, ...
- Tonal:** Chroma/PCP, melody, chords, key, ...
- Rhythmic:** Beat histogram, IOIs, rhythm transform, FP, ...

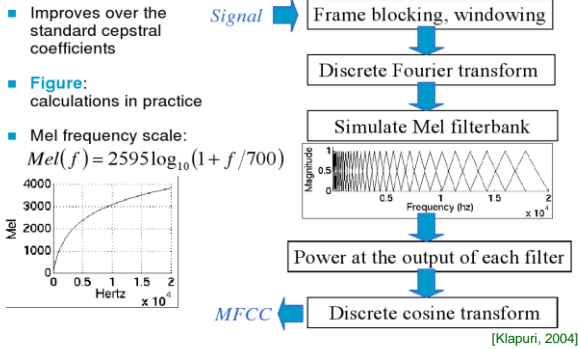
Features extracted on a short-time **frame-by-frame** basis

## Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation



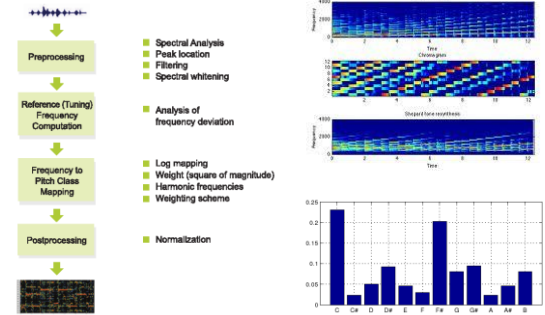
[Peeters, 2004]

### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients



### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

#### Feature extraction (PCP/Chroma)



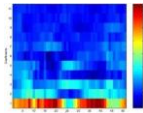
### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

#### Feature extraction

But usually **summarized** to represent global characteristics of the whole audio excerpt:

- Component-wise means
- Component-wise variances
- Covariances
- Higher-order statistical moments (skewness, kurtosis, ...)
- Derivatives (1st, 2nd, ...)
- Max, min, percentiles, histograms, ...

(+ more *exotic* summarizations)



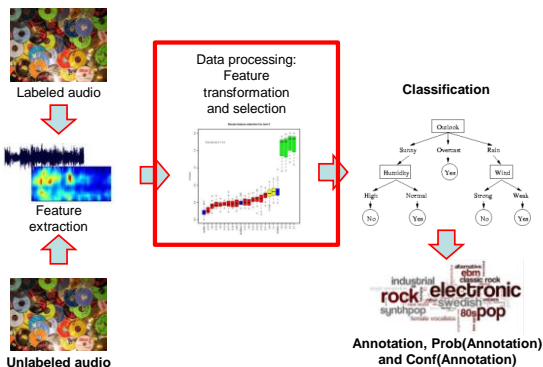
### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

#### Feature extraction

Features and their aggregation/summarization **depend on the task!**

(e.g. MFCCs for raaga recognition??)

### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation



### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

#### Data processing

#### Feature transformation and feature selection

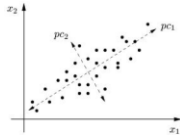
- Rescale each feature so that all of them have the same "influence" (normalize, standardize, ... Gaussianize?)
- Detect highly correlated features (try to decorrelate them?)
- Remove uninformative features
- Reduce the dimensionality
- Learn about the features and the task!**

### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

Data processing: Feature transformation

#### Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

- Linear transform
- Eliminates redundancy
- Decorrelates variables
- It can be used to reduce the number of features
- Assumes some "homogeneity" of the distributions
- We lose the information of which specific feature is relevant



### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

Data processing: Feature selection

$$r_{jii'} = \frac{(\mu_{ji} - \mu_{ji'})^2}{\sigma_{ji}^2 + \sigma_{ji'}^2}$$

#### Fisher's ratio

- Ratio between inter- and intra-class scatter
- Measures discriminative power of feature  $j$  between classes  $i$  and  $i'$
- Ratio low when classes are well separated
- No standard way of performing this feature selection iteratively. Two of the most basic ones:
  - Sequential backward selection (removing bad features)
  - Sequential forward selection (selecting good features)

### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

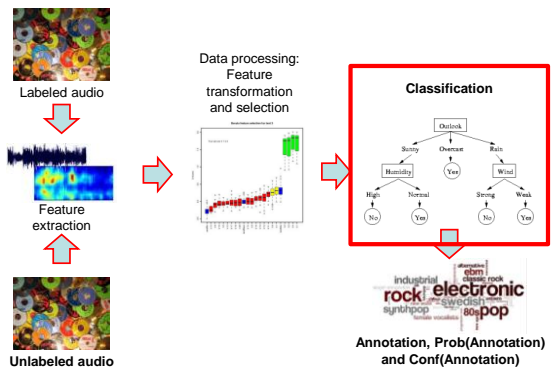
Data processing: Feature selection

#### Many other feature selection algorithms:

- Correlation-based
- Chi-squared
- Consistency
- Gain ratio
- Information gain
- Bootstrapping
- Classifier-affine feature selection
- ...

[Witten & Frank, Elsevier, 2005]

### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation



### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

Classifiers

#### Bayesian/probabilistic Classifiers

$$p(C|F_1, \dots, F_n) = \frac{p(C) p(F_1, \dots, F_n|C)}{p(F_1, \dots, F_n)}$$

$$\text{posterior} = \frac{\text{prior} \times \text{likelihood}}{\text{evidence}}$$

#### Naïve conditional independence

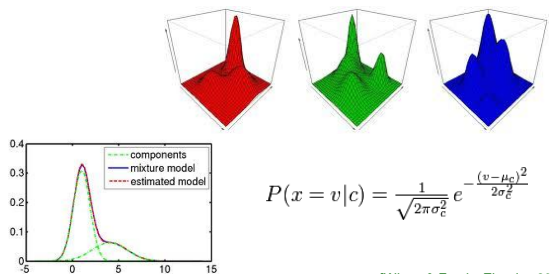
$$p(C|F_1, \dots, F_n) = \frac{1}{Z} p(C) \prod_{i=1}^n p(F_i|C)$$

[Witten & Frank, Elsevier, 2005]

### Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

Classifiers

#### Gaussian Mixtures



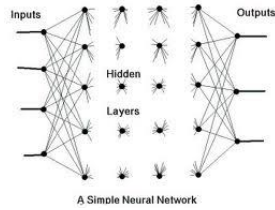
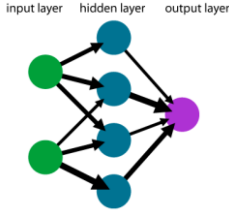
[Witten & Frank, Elsevier, 2005]

Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

Classifiers

Neural Networks

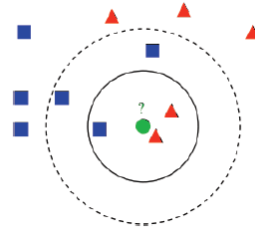
A simple neural network



Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

Classifiers

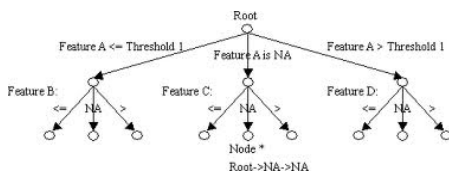
K Nearest Neighbors Classifier



Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

Classifiers

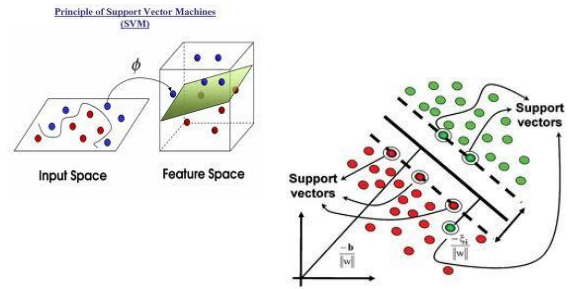
Trees



Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

Classifiers

Support Vector Machines



Typical Approach: Automatic Annotation

Classifiers

Many other classifiers exist

- Logistic regression
- Perceptrons
- Random forest
- Hidden Markov models
- ...
- Boosting
- Ensembles of classifiers
- ...

Automatic Annotation

Machine learning / data mining software packages



PRTTools4  
A Matlab Toolbox for Pattern Recognition



## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

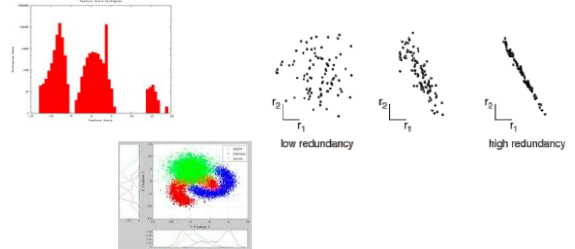
### Classification tasks: General Issues

## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

**Always perform a visual inspection of your features**

(Check that there are no things such as *inf*, or *nan*)

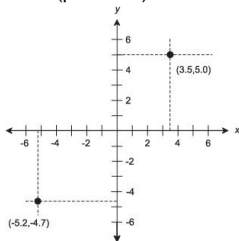


## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

**Do not classify  $M$  items with  $D$  features when  $D$  is larger or comparable to  $M$**

As a rule of thumb (personal):  $M > 20 * D$



## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

**Be careful when comparing approaches that use a different number of features**

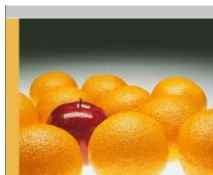


## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

**If possible, use the same amount of instances per class**

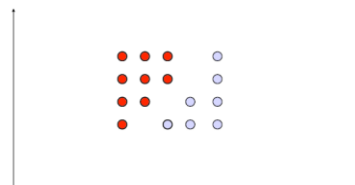
- "Normalize" by random sampling most populated classes
- Run several experiments (Monte Carlo)



## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

**Avoid overfitting**

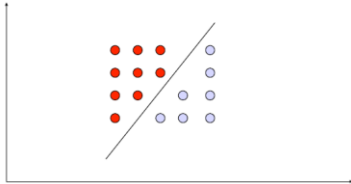


## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

### Avoid overfitting

Diagonal line = ideal solution for the problem

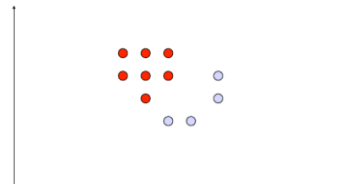


## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

### Avoid overfitting

Let's solve the same problem for a smaller dataset

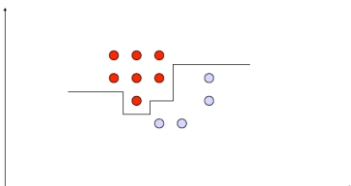


## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

### Avoid overfitting

Let's solve the same problem for a smaller dataset

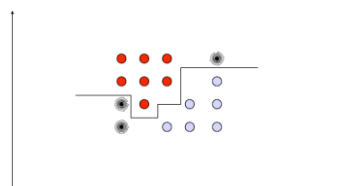


## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

### Avoid overfitting

Classification of new data (3 errors)

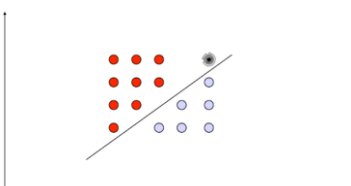


## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

### Avoid overfitting

Solution using a simple line (1 error)



## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

Classifiers: Issues

### How to avoid overfitting:

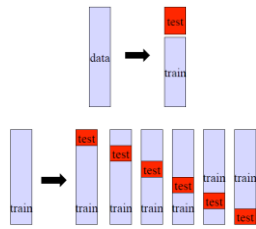
- Use learning algorithms that intrinsically, by design, generalize well
- Pursue simple classifiers
- Evaluate with the most suitable measure for your task (unbiased and low-variance statistical estimators)
- Estimate the performance of a model with **data you did not use** to construct the model



## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

### Classifiers: Issues

- Hold-out cross-validation
- Cross-fold validation
- LOOCV, Stratified cross-validation, nested cross-validation, ...
- With all of them: ensure a sufficient **number of repetitions**



## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

### Classifiers: Issues

#### Check the default parameters of your classifier

#### Examples:

- Minimum number of instances per tree branch
- Number of NN in a KNN
- Complexity parameter in an SVM
- Distance-based classifier
  - Which distance
  - Effect of normalization/re-scaling
- ...

## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

### Classifiers: Issues

#### If you evaluate your features, demonstrate their usefulness/increment in accuracy

- Use several classifiers (include a "one-rule classifier"?)
- Use several datasets (music collections)
- Always compute/report random baselines (average accuracy, but also their std, min, and max values)
- Include also a baseline feature set in the evaluation

## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

### Classifiers: Issues

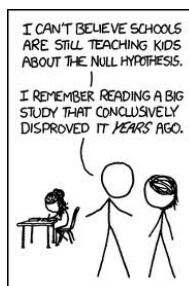
#### If you evaluate your features, demonstrate their usefulness/increment in accuracy

Test	Data set A			Data set B		
	Trees	SVM	LLR	Trees	SVM	LLR
MFCC-A	41.3	60.0	<b>61.3</b>	56.6	77.6	<b>78.6</b>
MFCC-B	41.9	60.6	<b>63.6</b>	59.7	76.8	<b>78.6</b>
MFCC-C	48.2	<b>71.6</b>	71.1	63.1	<b>81.4</b>	80.1
OBSC-A	47.4	61.6	<b>62.4</b>	58.7	82.8	<b>83.8</b>
OBSC-B	46.4	61.4	<b>64.4</b>	64.2	<b>81.4</b>	81.0
OBSC-C	49.0	67.3	<b>69.0</b>	61.4	<b>82.2</b>	80.7
SBSC-A	45.5	67.3	<b>68.1</b>	63.1	<b>85.7</b>	85.5
SBSC-B	48.5	67.0	<b>68.9</b>	62.3	<b>86.8</b>	85.5
SBSC-C	49.9	72.5	<b>72.7</b>	65.1	<b>86.2</b>	<b>86.2</b>

## Category-based Retrieval & Annotation

### Classifiers: Issues

#### Test for statistical significance!



## Category-based Retrieval: Conclusions

#### Scenario: Retrieve music based on automatically annotated labels from audio

Assign a label/class, a probability of that label, and a confidence value

#### Automatic annotation

Three main steps for **supervised learning**:

- Feature extraction
- Feature transformation and selection
- Classification

#### Issues with classification tasks

Overfitting, statistical significance, number of features, test several methods/datasets, randomizations, ...

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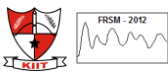
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Talk



## Machine Learning for Music Discovery

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