Self-Organizing Maps for Content-Based Music Clustering

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Outline

- Motivation and goals
- / Algorithm
 - **š** Feature extraction
 - š Self-organizing map (SOM)
- Experiments
- Conclusions

Music Data Today

- Increasing amount of music data (MP3)
- Well suited for e-commerce distribution
- Conventional interfaces lack functionality (browsing)
- Need ways to group music by "Genre"
- Manual classification

Goals

- Automatically organize music by "Genre"
- "Genre" has many facets (sound characteristics, dynamics,...)
- Combined with:
 - Š Database search (composer, title,...)
 - š Melody search (tune)
- Intuitive representation
- All kinds of music (instrumental, vocal)

Algorithm



Dynamic of Sounds



Self-Organizing Map

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Input Space

Output Space

- Unsupervised
 Neural Network
 - Topology preserving

Training:

- **š** Activation calculation
- š Winner determination
- š Winner adaptation
- š Neighbourhood adaptation

Experiments

- / 14 hrs of well-known pieces of music (230 titles)
- Different genres (Classic, Pop, Jazz, Rap,...)
- / Feature extraction:
 - [§] Every second 5 sec segment from 17 freq. bands
 - § 5022 vectors of music segments of dimension 4352
 - š 22x22 Segment SOM
 - š 230 vectors of pieces of music of dimension 484
 - š 10x10 Music SOM

Map of Music Segments

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- 22x22 units of 5 sec segments
- Several characteristic clusters (Classic, Hardrock,...)
- Similar segments on same units

From Segments to Pieces of Music

- One piece of music consists of several segments
- Segments mapped onto different units (verse vs. chorus, main theme vs. intro/fade out,...)
- Create feature vector based on segment distribution
- 22x22 Segment SOM results in 484 dimensional vector



Map of Pieces of Music



Conclusions

- Grouping of music by sound characteristics
- Exploration / browsing of music archives
- Fully automatic, no manual "Genre" assignment
- Complement traditional approaches:
 - š Database search
 - š Melody search