

# The Mazurka Project

**CHARM Symposium  
Kings College London  
6 January 2006**

# Recent Progress

- Collected about 400 performances of mazurkas on 34 CDs
- Rough score alignment by tapping to recording  
For human-assisted alignment of performances to score
- Basic evaluation of tapping quality  
How accurate is reverse conducting? / Quality metrics
- Raw input to automated alignment process  
Andrew will present current state of automatic alignment
- Website for data and analysis results:  
<http://mazurka.org.uk>

# Sample Performance Listing

	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Performer (year)</i>	<i>Label</i>
Mazurka in A minor Op. 17, No. 4	4:36	Chiu (1999)	HMCC 2907352-53
	4:03	Horowitz (1971)	SRK 93039 Legacy
	4:00	Horowitz (1985)	DG 419 045-2
	4:48	Indjic (2001)	Calliope 3321
	4:00	Liszt (1990)	DG 463054-2
	4:05	Magaloff (1977)	Philips 456 898-2
	3:23	Paderewski (1912)	Philips 436 919-2
	4:30	Perahia (1994)	Sony 45931
	4:20	Rosen (1939)	Goebel 5028
	4:16	Rubinstein (1939)	Naxos 8 110656-57
	3:41	Rummler (1943)	Duxie HC0027
	2:15	Smith (1975)	EMI 724355576726

Full list of collected performances at:  
<http://mazurka.org.uk/info/discography>

# Reverse Conducting and Score Alignment

# Lots of Tapping

- Reverse conducting of same performance 20 times
  - used to smooth out errors in individual sessions
  - used to test various automatic windowing methods (such as SD)
- takes about 3 hours / performance to record and process 20 trials  
So 2 performances can be tapped per day
- about 400 performances of the mazurkas collected
- 20 performances have been reverse conducted thus far:
  - 7 performances of Op. 7, No. 2 in A Minor
  - 6 performances of Op. 7, No. 3 in F Minor (initial test case)
  - 7 performances of Op. 17, No. 4 in A Minor

# Data Entry Method

- **backbeat.exe**: command-line program for recording tap times

- Absolute time from first click in milliseconds.

- Other 3 fields for error checking (during performance and afterwards).

- Computer keyboard resolution is 5 milliseconds.

### Example output:

Beat duration Metric Absolute Delta  
(quarter note) position Time (ms) Time (ms)

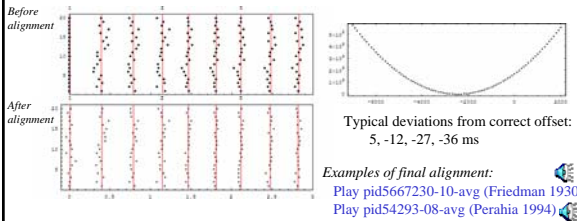
**kern	**beat	**abstm	**deltatime
=1-	=1-	=1-	=1-
4	1	0	0
4	2	391	391
4	3	741	350
=2	=2	=2	=2
4	1	1080	939
4	2	1454	374
4	3	1807	353
=3	=3	=3	=3
4	1	2108	301
4	2	2448	340
4	3	2785	337
=4	=4	=4	=4
4	1	3108	323
4	2	3472	364
4	3	3812	340

Space bar records beats  
Any letter records barline  
and first beat of measure

<http://mazurka.org.uk/info/revcond>

## Offset Alignment with Audio

- Need to align first tap to first note in recording.
- Cannot just measure start time of note in audio.
- Individual tapping trials aligned by least squares fit to a sample of manually measured beat time in audio file.



## Tapping Summary Data

**kern	**beat	**time	**dur	**min	**max	**cmin	**cmax	**sd
4	3	2177	474.95	1935	2265	2147	2206	63.5
=1	=1	=1	=1	=1	=1	=1	=1	=1
4	1	2652	389.1	2536	2832	2624	2679	59.1
4	2	3041	400.15	2921	3137	3017	3065	51.7
4	3	3441	451.65	3399	3493	3429	3453	25.7
=2	=2	=2	=2	=2	=2	=2	=2	=2
4	1	3893	361.85	3845	3957	3879	3906	28.8
4	2	4254	460.4	4206	4283	4245	4264	20.7
4	3	4715	416.3	4620	4780	4697	4733	38.9
=3	=3	=3	=3	=3	=3	=3	=3	=3
4	1	5131	353.65	5039	5225	5108	5154	48.6
4	2	5485	362.45	5433	5541	5471	5499	29.8
4	3	5847	355.45	5780	5911	5830	5864	36.5
=4	=4	=4	=4	=4	=4	=4	=4	=4
4	1	6203	363.7	6160	6266	6189	6216	28.2
4	2	6566	490.25	6490	6602	6552	6580	29.9
4	3	7057	368.2	6980	7154	7036	7077	43.1
=5	=5	=5	=5	=5	=5	=5	=5	=5
4	1	7425	279.65	7318	7478	7407	7443	38.4
4	2	7704	397.85	7657	7760	7693	7716	24.1
4	3	8102	426.65	8058	8160	8089	8115	27.6

## Score Alignment and Time Interpolation

Abs times Score

**time	**kern	**kern
=1-	=1-	=1-
*	**^	*
2465	[2.C/ 8FF\ 2.r	
2659	8EEn\ J .	
2852	. 2CC\ .	
3243	. . .	
=2	=2	=2
3604	4C/ [2.FF\ 2.r	
3921	4D- / .	
4261	4Bbn/ .	
=3	=3	=3
4569	[2.C/ 8FF\ 2.r	
4759	. 8EEn\ J .	
4935	. 2CC\ .	
5279	. . .	
=4	=4	=4
5604	4C/ [2.FF\ 2.r	
5928	4D- / .	
6291	4Bbn/ .	
=5	=5	=5

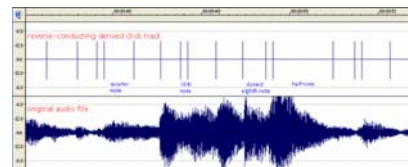
## Output data to Matlab

Created from timed score + tapping summary data

***col01: abstime	(average absolute time in milliseconds of human beats)
***col02: duration	(expected duration in ms based on score duration)
***col03: note	(MIDI note number of pitch)
***col04: metlev	(metric level: 1 = downbeat; 0 = beat; -1 = offbeat)
***col05: measure	(measure number in which note occurs)
***col06: absbeat	(absolute beat from starting beat 0)
***col07: mintime	(minimum absolute time of human beat for this note)
***col08: maxtime	(maximum absolute time of human beat for this note)
***col09: sd	(standard deviation of human beat time in ms.)
2465	1456 48 1 1 0 2419 2535 24.1
2465	194 41 1 1 0 2419 2535 24.1
2659	193 40 -1 1 0.5 -1 -1 -1
2852	752 36 0 1 1 2762 2947 52.4
3604	1155 41 1 2 3 3550 3648 19.8
3921	340 49 0 2 4 3879 3978 26.1
4261	308 47 0 2 5 4239 4275 9.2
4569	1359 48 1 3 6 4548 4585 11.6
4759	176 40 -1 3 6.5 -1 -1 -1
4935	669 36 0 3 7 4906 4968 18.7
5604	1235 41 1 4 9 5585 5628 14.8
5928	363 49 0 4 10 5894 5977 22.2
6291	367 47 0 4 11 6241 6317 15.8
6658	4438 48 1 5 12 6636 6682 13.1
6839	175 40 -1 5 12.5 -1 -1 -1

## Tapping Quality Measurements

## Manual correction of the beat times

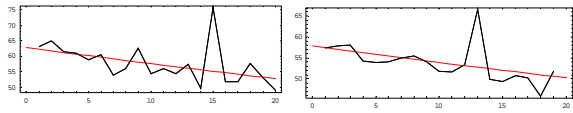


- Align tapped beats within 10 ms by ear/eye in sound editor
- Each beat alignment takes about 1-2 minutes on average
- 300 beats in each mazurka = 1 to 2 days for a performance
- Necessary for evaluation of automatic alignment
- 4 manual corrections done to date (for 7-2 & 7-3)

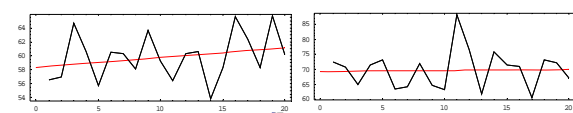
Play pid5667230-10-corr (Friedman 1930)

## Learning Curves for 4 Performances

Mazurka in F Minor, Op. 7, No. 3  
Rosen 1989      Friedman 1930



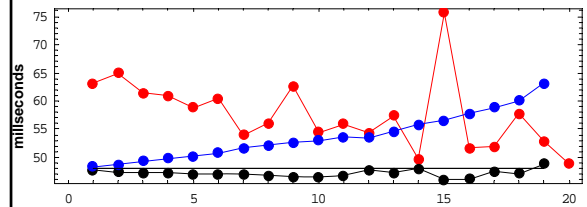
Mazurka in A Minor, Op. 7, No. 2  
Chiu 1999      Friedman 1930



Play pid9048-06-avg (Chiu 1999)

## Average Displacement Errors

Mazurka in F Minor, Op. 7, No. 3  
Rosen 1989



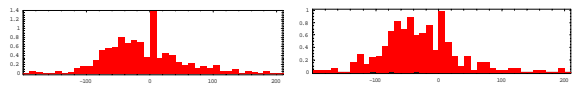
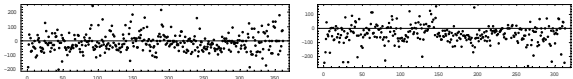
— = individual trial average displacement errors  
— = dropping more and more later trials  
— = dropping more and more earlier trials

## Correction Offsets

The top plots show amount of time in milliseconds between corrected beat times and average manually tapped beat times. Lower plots display a histogram of same.

Spike at 0 in histograms due to 10 ms audible corrections resolution.

Mazurka in A Minor, Op. 7, No. 2  
Chiu 1999      Friedman 1930

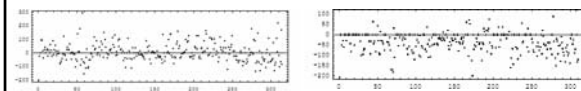


49 ms avg correction; -12 ms overall shift

60 ms avg correction; -36 ms overall shift

## Correction Offsets (2)

Mazurka in F Minor, Op. 7, No. 3  
Rosen 1989      Friedman 1930



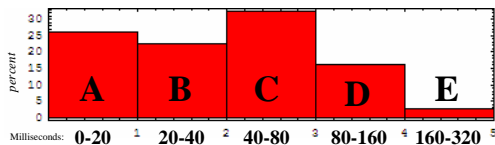
48 ms avg correction; +5 ms overall shift

48 ms avg correction; -27 ms overall shift

## Beat Accuracy Metric

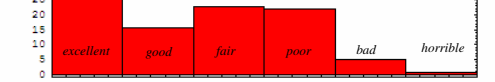
Logarithmic scale to measure differences between tapped and true beat location:

pid9048-06 (7-2; Chiu 1999)



• Human tapper: 48% of beats within 40 milliseconds

Pid5667230-10 (7-3; Friedman 1930)

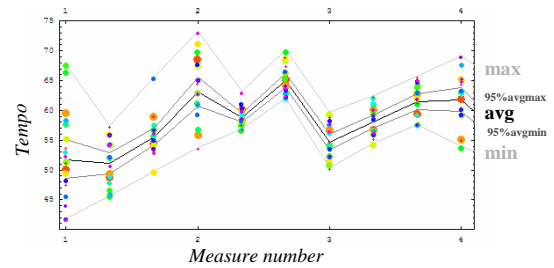


## Automatic Score Alignment

## Current Work

- Tempo Plots
- Tempo Correlation Analysis
- Performance Reconstruction

## Tempo Plots

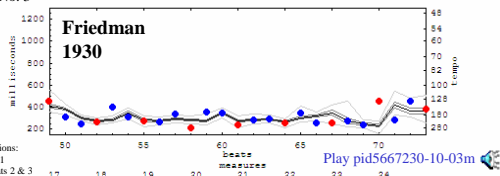


Individual trials  
(smaller = earlier trial) &  
(red = earlier; purple=later trial)

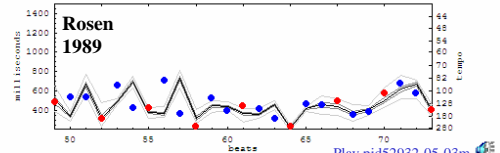
Friedman 1930  
Op. 7, No. 3

## Tempo Plots Op. 7, No. 3

Mazurka in F minor  
Op. 7, No. 3 (rubato)



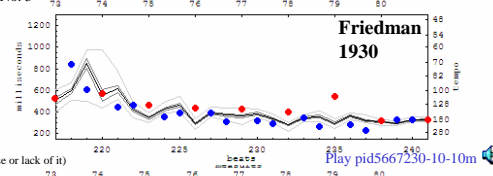
Play pid5667230-10-03m



Play pid52932-05-03m

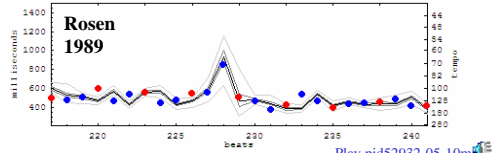
## Tempo Plots Op. 7, No. 3 (2)

Mazurka in F minor  
Op. 7, No. 3 (boundaries)



(Note surprise or lack of it)

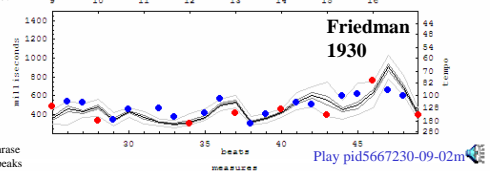
Play pid5667230-10-10m



Play pid52932-05-10m

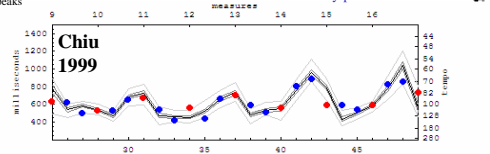
## Tempo Plots Op. 7, No. 2

Mazurka in A minor  
Op. 7, No. 2 (Third beats red) (phrasing)



Play pid5667230-09-02m

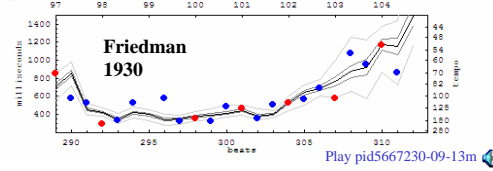
Very clear phrase boundaries (peaks every two measures):



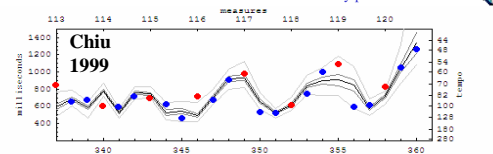
Play pid9048-06-02m

## Tempo Plots Op. 7, No. 2 (2)

Mazurka in A minor  
Op. 7, No. 2 (Third beats red) (phrasing)



Play pid5667230-09-13m



Play pid9048-06-15m

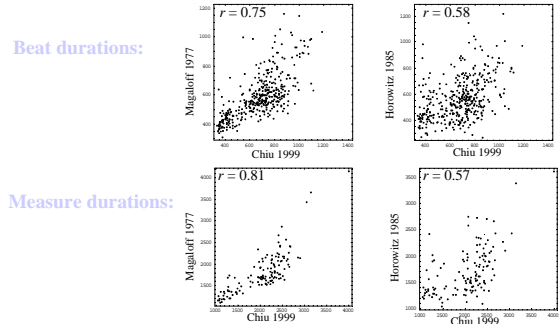
## Tempo Correlation

Pearson's product moment correlation: 
$$\frac{\sum (x - \bar{x})(y - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum (x - \bar{x})^2 \sum (y - \bar{y})^2}}$$

- Correlation value in the range from -1 to +1.
- 1 means exact correlation, 0 means no correlation, -1 is anticorrelation
- Used in the Krumhansl-Schmuckler key-finding algorithm
- Other types of correlation metrics, such as:  
Spearman Rank Correlation Coefficient

## Tempo Correlation (2)

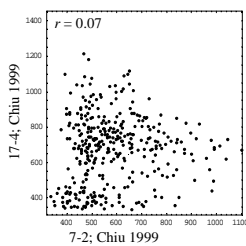
Op. 17, No. 4



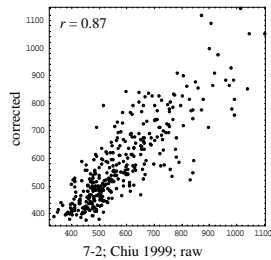
## Tempo Correlation (3)

correlation extremes

Comparing two unrelated pieces:

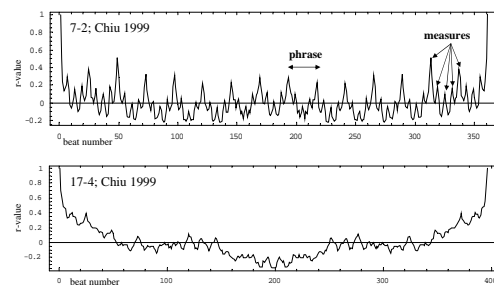


Raw and corrected reverse conduction:



## Tempo Correlation (4)

Autocorrelation with shifted performance



## Performance Reconstruction

- Simulate performances of the score from various components:

### Tempo

- Constant tempo → boring
- Measure tempo
- Beat tempo → phrasing
- Tempo of offbeats → jazzing
- Exact duration of all notes → Non-simultaneous beat events

### Dynamics

- Constant Loudness → boring
- Chordal Loudness → dynamics
- Note Loudness → voicing

Also durations for: staccato, legato & pedaling

## Performance Reconstruction (2)

### First Reconstruction:

- Use tap timings to control the tempo of each beat
- Interpolate expected times of offbeats

- Convert score to MIDI using `**time` data with inferred durations.

• 7-2; Chiu 1999 [Play pid9048-06](#)

• 7-2; Chiu 1999 reconstruction [Play pid9048-06-rA](#)

• simultaneously [Play pid9048-06-sim](#)

Abs times	Score	**time	**kern	**kern
=1-	=1-	=1-	=1-	=1-
*	*^	*	*	*
2465	[(2.C/ 8FF\L	2.r	2.r	2.r
2659	. 8EEn\J	.	.	.
2852	. 2CC\	.	.	.
3243	.	.	.	.
=2	=2	=2	=2	=2
3604	4C/] [2.FF\	2.r	2.r	2.r
3921	4D-/	.	.	.
4261	4Bn/)	.	.	.
=3	=3	=3	=3	=3
4569	[(2.C/ 8FF\L	2.r	2.r	2.r
4759	. 8EEn\J	.	.	.
4935	. 2CC\	.	.	.
5279	.	.	.	.
=4	=4	=4	=4	=4
5604	4C/] [2.FF\	2.r	2.r	2.r
5928	4D-/	.	.	.
6291	4Bn/)	.	.	.
=5	=5	=5	=5	=5

## Future Work

### Audio:

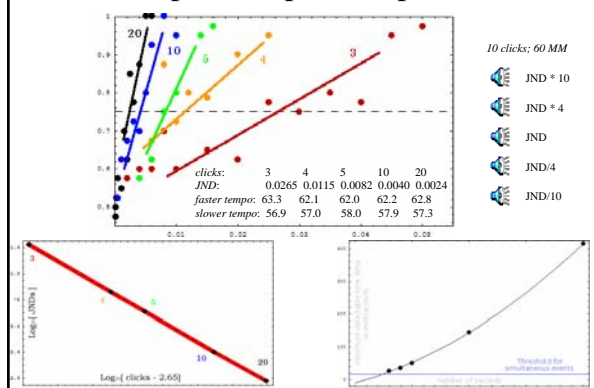
- Minimize alignment errors/Speed alignment process
- Automatic alignment of offbeats after beats are verified
- Non-simultaneous chord note timing offsets
- Note dynamics

### Performance Analysis:

- Characterize and compare performances  
Automatic identification of "schools" of music?
- Identify importance/relation of timing and dynamics

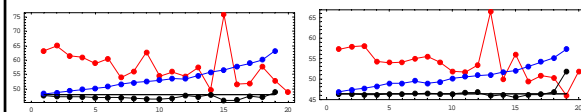
## Miscellaneous Slides

## Tempo Perception Experiment



## Average Displacement Errors (2)

Mazurka in F Minor, Op. 7, No. 3  
Rosen 1989      Friedman 1930



Mazurka in A Minor, Op. 7, No. 2  
Chiu 1999      Friedman 1930

