

Cumulative Benefits of Computer Assisted Musical Analysis

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Increases in computing power combined with significant decreases in cost promise technological solutions to musical problems in a previously unprecedented manner. Software tools to assist with the analytical process offer tremendous possibilities for assisting the study of music. While it is far from realistic to full automate a process as complex and intricate as musical analysis, computers do hold an enormous potential for aiding such an endeavor. Such assistance would reduce the time spent on repetitive portions of the analytical process and allow musicians to focus more heavily on drawing musical conclusions.

One of the most alluring aspects of software is that once a tool is build, it can be adapted very rapidly to new applications. If properly designed, software enabling assistance with today's analytical tasks might every well serve as pivotal building blocks in the construction of tomorrow's larger solutions. My presentation will focus on the ways in which my prior work in automating portions of the analytical process can be reused to offer assistance in more complex expirations. I will discuss both the problems as well as the possibilities of such research. Rather than focusing on any specific composition or analytical task, my focus will be on the benefits of designing flexible tools to assist with any type of analysis.

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