



# Searching musical incipits by means of sequence alignment

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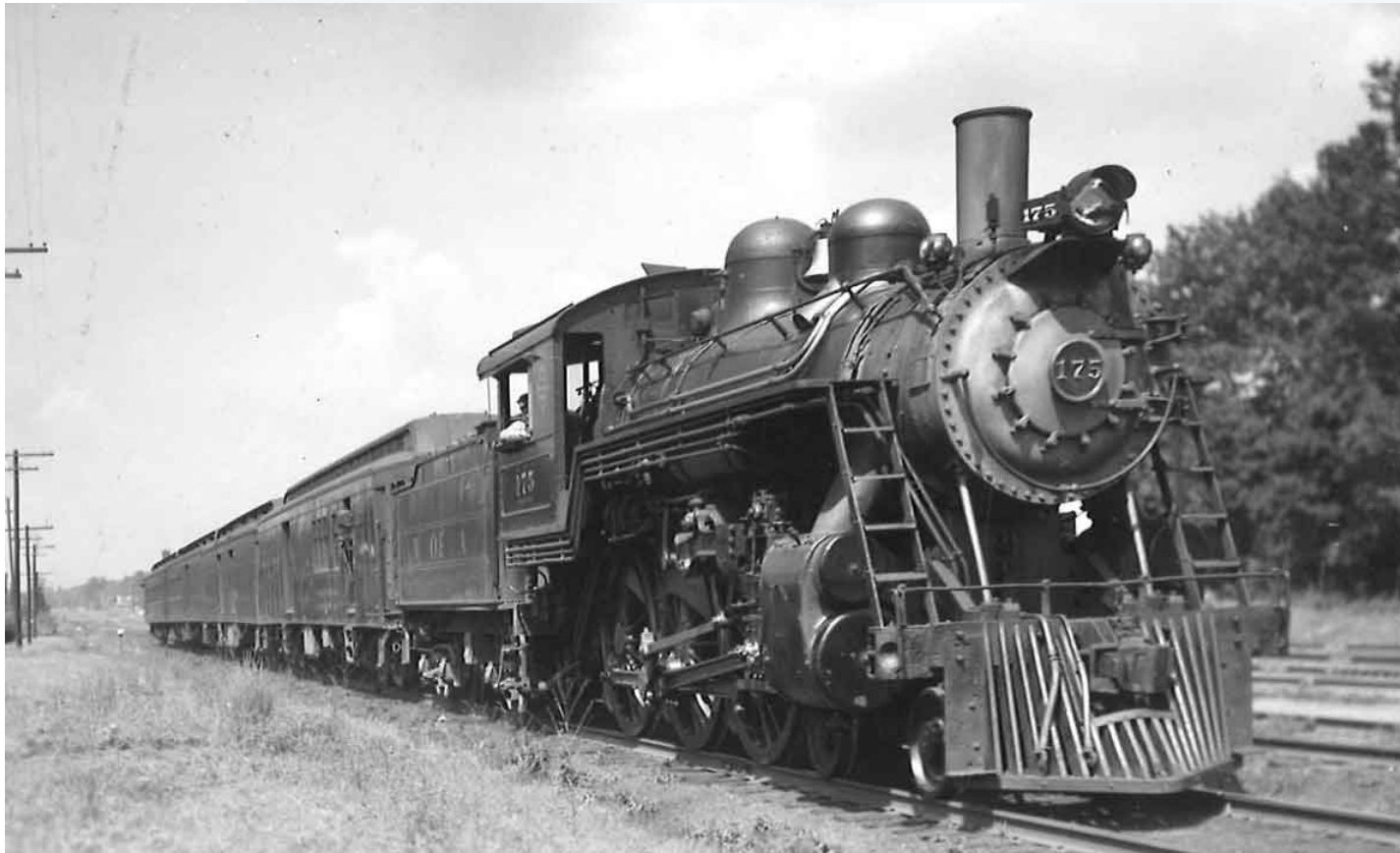


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# Authors

- Jelmer van Nuss
  - ground truth; experiment
- Geert-Jan Giezeman
  - software development
- Frans Wiering
  - musicology and MIR context





# OLD STUFF



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# RISM incipits



112A	1.1.1
112B	pf.
112C	G-2
112D	xFCG
112E	2/4
112F	' ' '2C/!{y6DCz' 'B' ' 'C}!f/2D/q3D{8Cq3D8Cq3D8Cq3D8C}/y' '4.B' ' '8Ez/


- mainly for RISM A/II (music manuscripts after 1600)
- incipits encoded in *Plaine and Easie Code* (PAEC)
- published, with other RISM products, via RISM OPAC
  - over 1 million items





# RISM incipits

defies all sustainability  
guidelines



112A 1.1.1  
112B pf.  
112C G-2  
112D xFCG  
112E 2/4  
112F '''2C/!{y6DCz...C}12/2D/q3D{8Cq3D8Cq3D8Cq3D8C}/y'  
'4.B'''8Ez/

PAEC defies all  
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guidelines

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# Searching RISM incipits

- OPAC interface has simple provision for melody search
  - text string
  - wildcards ? and \*



900.005.286-1.1.1

GxFEBCBABBAGxF

All fields

and

and

and

and

and

Title

Composer

Music incipit via on-screen keyboard (with transposition)

GxFEBCBABBAGxF

Clear

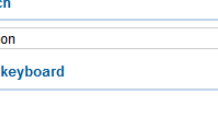
Search

Limit search

Select an option

Select an option

On-screen keyboard



Delete last note

Clear



# OPAC output

Home Previous searches My Lists deutsch english

**RISM** Répertoire International des Sources Musicales

**Search** [Advanced search](#)

Print Save

Your search request: **Notenansfang per Klaviatur (mit Transposition) = GxFEBCBABC BAGxF**

**Narrow results** **17 result(s)** |« 1 2 »|

**▼ Genre**  
Gesänge (17)  
Instrumentalstücke (12)  
Duos (1)  
Musik für Tasteninst... (1)

**▼ Composer**  
Anonymus (17)

**▼ Source type**  
Abschrift (17)

**▼ Scoring**  
i (5)  
vi (4)  
S, fl (1)  
V (1)  
V (2) (1)  
[Show more ...](#)

**▼ Year**  
<= 1736 (2)  
1737 - 1773 (3)  
1774 - 1810 (9)  
>= 1811 (5)

Select titles:  **Save**  **Sort**  **Show**

☐ 1. Anonymus  
Roslin Castle - E minor; i; Manuscript; US-AUS Finney 28 B

☐ 2. Anonymus  
Roslin Castle (Arr) - E minor; i (2), b; Manuscript; US-MED 50

☐ 3. Anonymus  
Roslin Castle (Arr) - E minor; i; Manuscript; US-MED 50

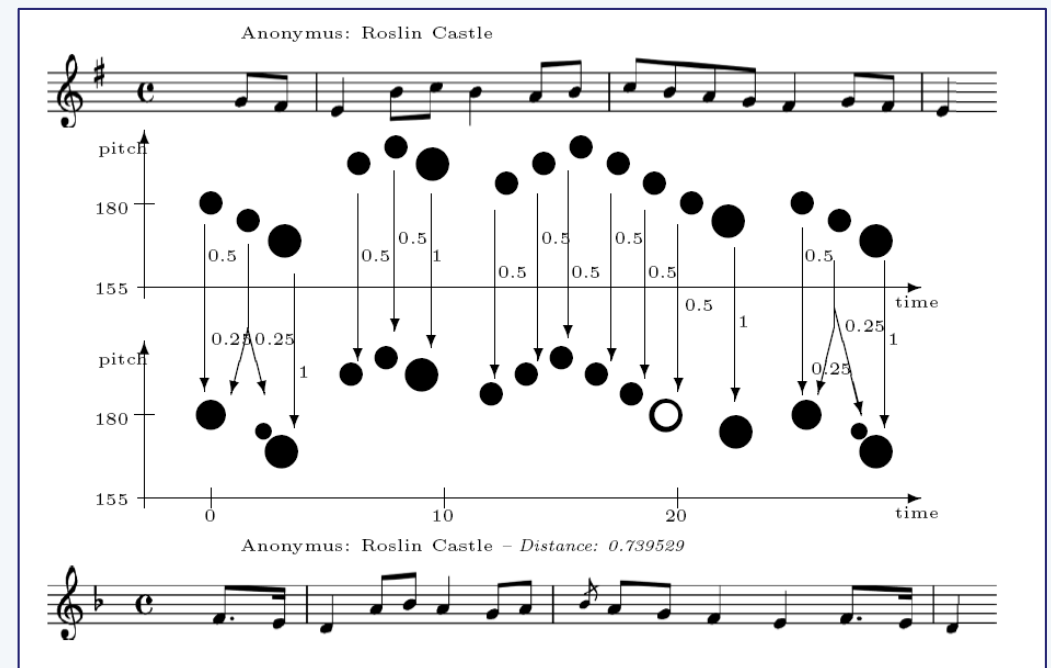
☐ 4. Anonymus  
Roslin Castle (Arr) - E minor; i; Manuscript; US-MED 50

- classical database search
- items either match or not
- no ranking



# Geometric matching

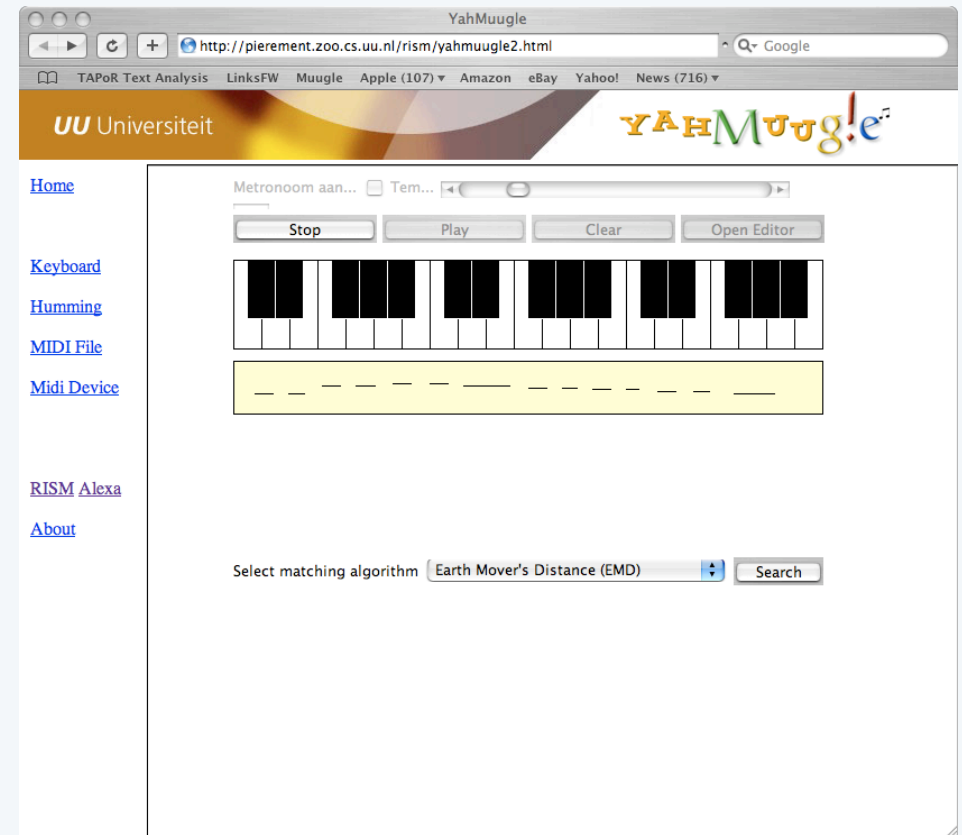
- Rainer Typke's PhD research (2003-2007)
- Earth Mover's Distance (EMD) and variants
- idea:
  - dots in 2D space
  - dot 'weight' corresponds to duration
- the less weight has to be moved, the more similar items are
  - items are ranked





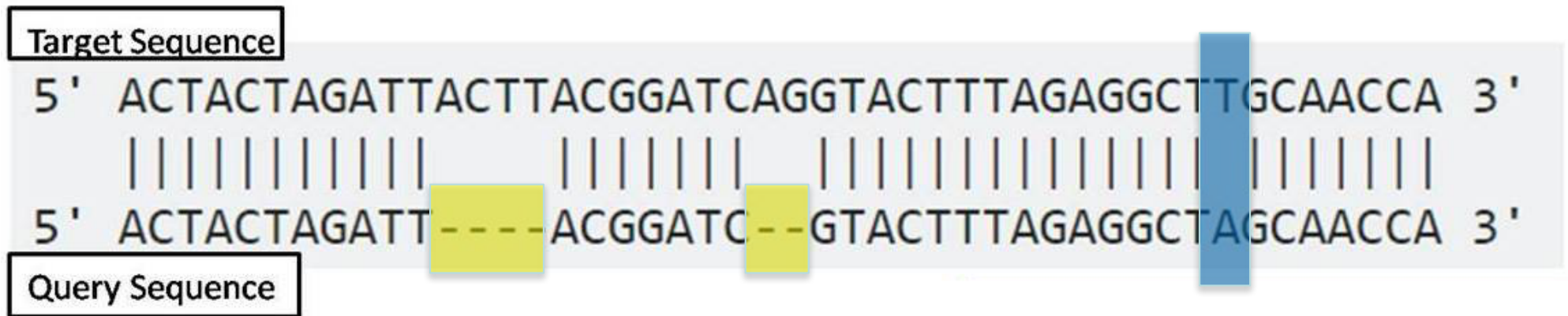
# Implementation

- search engine (YahMuug!e), now defunct
  - 450.000 incipits
  - decent performance
- ground truth for 11 queries
  - used in MIREX 2005
- comparison to previous experiments
  - Roslin castle
  - deanonymisation



# Sequence alignment

- inspiration: bioinformatics, DNA



- find optimum alignment, allowing of note
  - substitutions
  - insertions, deletions → there can be gaps
- create **raters** (cost functions) for each of these
- total cost → ranking



# Melody sequence alignment

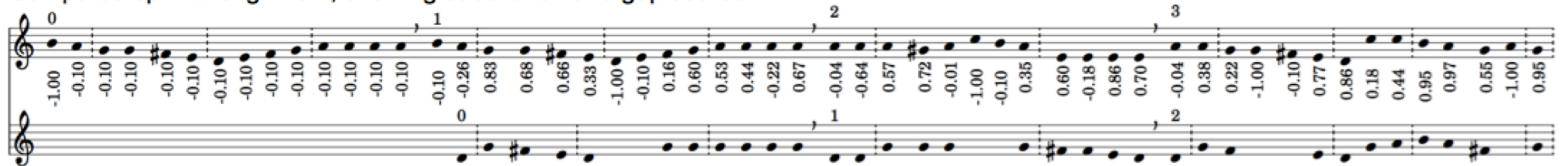


- Peter van Kranenburg's PhD research (2006-2010)

En daar reed eris een heer, en hij was wellegemoed En daar reed eris een heer, en hij was wellegemoed En hij droeg er d'r rozekrans on er zijn hoed En hij droeg er een ro - zekrans on erre zijn hoed.

Daar reed er een heer die was wel dideldon die was wel don da don didelon don Daar reed er een heer die was wel dergemoed

Computed optimal alignment, showing substitution and gap scores:



- evaluated on tune families
- oral transmission
- implemented in Dutch Song Database
  - [www.liederenbank.nl](http://www.liederenbank.nl)







# NEW STUFF



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# Aligning RISM incipits

- investigate potential of alignment methods for different type of melodic material
  - written transmission, shorter, much larger collection
- MUSALIGN library (C++)
  - pairwise music alignment
  - combinations of raters
  - freely available
- Monochord search engine
  - RISM incipit search
  - mainly experimentation environment





# RISM search by Utrecht University

create melodies

query

matching method selection

results

about

my melodies

database

rism ids

Query number (0 - 1.148.478)

1982



Go!

<https://www.projects.science.uu.nl/monochord/>



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# RISM search by Utrecht University

[create melodies](#)[query](#)[matching method selection](#)[results](#)[about](#)

Query type: Database query with number 1982.



## Matching methods

Column M1 in table is rank of matching method 1 ..

1. Exact Pitch
2. Fixed duration with ima combined Exact Pitch
3. Scaled duration with ima combined Exact Pitch

## Results

Id	Score	<a href="#">M1</a>	<a href="#">M2</a>	<a href="#">M3</a>	Name
1982	18	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<b>Cristiani, Stefano</b> 4 Cantatas
<a href="#">RISM</a>					
778132	9.4	<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">48</a>	<a href="#">55</a>	<b>Cordicelli, Giovanni</b> L' Adrasto
<a href="#">RISM</a>					
900249	9.1	<a href="#">3</a>	<a href="#">x</a>	<a href="#">x</a>	<b>Schgraffer, Jakob Johann Anton</b> Beata es virgo Maria
<a href="#">RISM</a>					



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# RISM search by Utrecht University

[create melodies](#)[query](#)[matching method selection](#)[results](#)[about](#)

## Details of match

Method: Exact Pitch

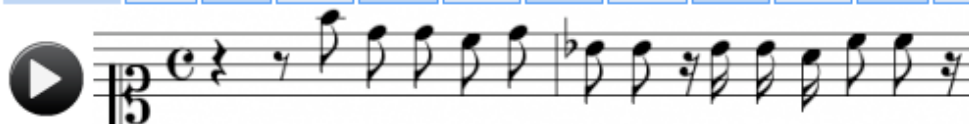
Result id: 778132

Score: 9.4

Pitch shift: -5



Notes 1	r	r	E	C#	C#	B	C#	A	A	r	C#	B	A	G#	r	B	B	B
Pitch 1	0	0	215	204	204	198	204	192	192	0	204	198	192	187	0	198	198	198
Score	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.5	-0.8	-1	1	1	-0.8	1	1	-0.5
Shifted 2	0	0	215	204	204	198	204	192	192	0		192	192	187		198	198	0
Pitch 2	0	0	220	209	209	203	209	197	197	0		197	197	192		203	203	0
Notes 2	r	r	F	D	D	C	D	Bb	Bb	r		Bb	Bb	A		C	C	r



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# RISM search by Utrecht University

[create melodies](#)[query](#)[matching method selection](#)[results](#)[about](#)

Query type: Database query with number 1982.





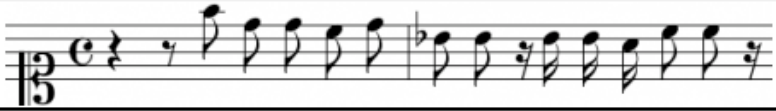




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<a href="#">RISM</a>					



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## Cristiani, Stefano

### 4 Cantatas

#### ▼ Werkinformation

**Besetzungshinweis:** S, pf  
**Text:** [Metastasio, Pietro](#) [ermittelt]  
**Sprache:** Italienisch  
**Schlagwort:** Kantaten

#### ▼ Quellenbeschreibung

**Originaler Titel:** *[title page:] Cantate del Metastasio | Poste in Musica dal Sig.r | Steffano Cristiani*  
**Material:**

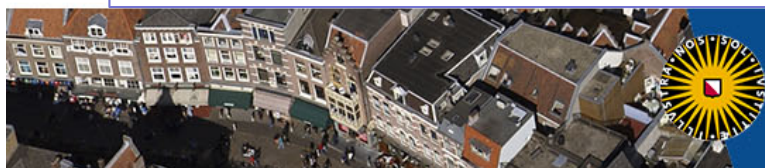
- short score (piano score): 32-39f.  
Abschrift; 20,5 x 28 cm  
Schreiber: [Chelucci, Giovanni](#)

#### ▼ Musikincipits

1.1.1 S, c [f.32v-33r:] oh Dio Fileno comincia il prato.; G



– Oh Dio Fileno





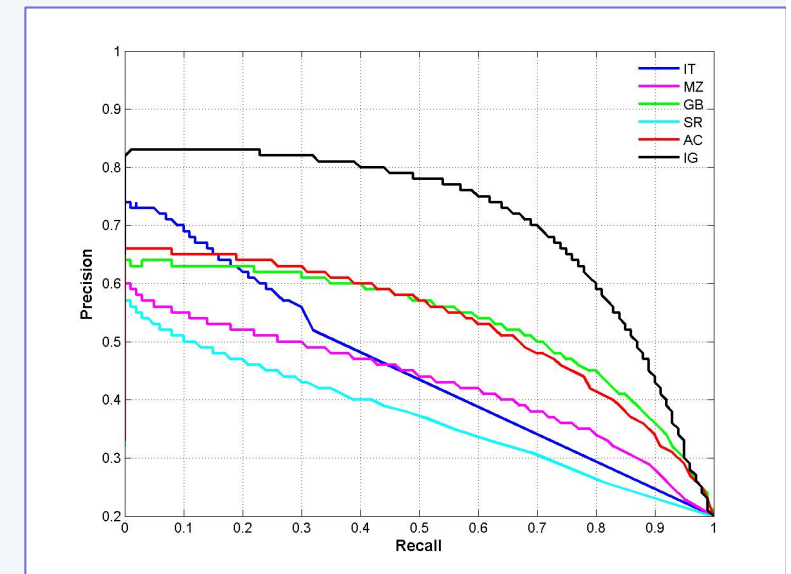
# Alignment experiment

- evaluate raters
- relate to previous work, esp. Typke (2003, 2005)
  - case studies
  - deanonimisation not discussed here
- performance comparison difficult
  - larger dataset → revised ground truth
  - geometric search unavailable



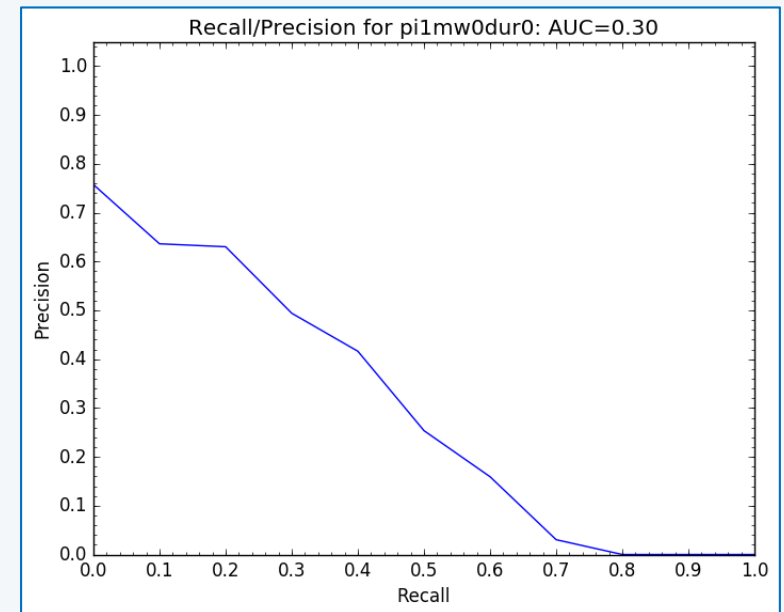
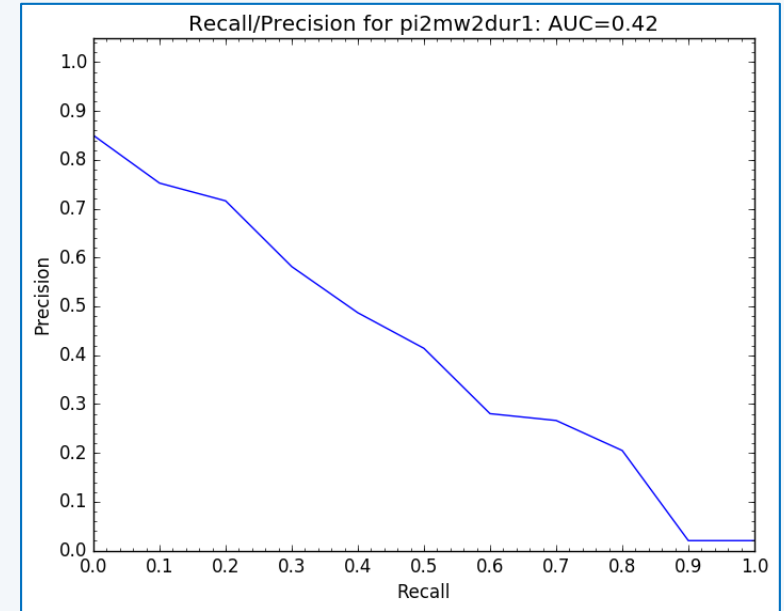
# Raters and methods

- 3 pitch raters
  - exact pitch
  - 2 raters using interval size (Zigzag and Kranenburg pitch)
- 3 duration raters
  - none
  - 2 raters using duration (notated and scaled)
- 3 metric raters
  - none
  - 2 raters using Inner Metric Analysis (raw and normalised)
- $3 * 3 * 3 = 27$  alignment methods
- evaluation: Precision/Recall graphs
- Mean Average Precision (= Area Under Curve)



# Results

- best combinations
  - exact pitch, notated duration, raw IMA (0.42)
  - exact pitch, notated duration, normalised IMA (0.41)
  - exact pitch, notated duration, no IMA (0.41)
- for comparison
  - exact pitch only (0.30)



# Roslin Castle

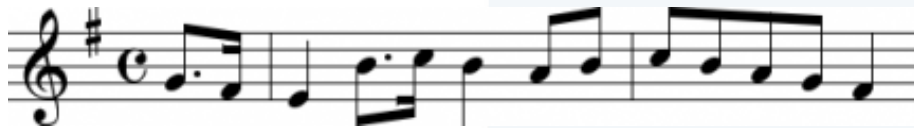


method	retrieved items	comment
Sorting DARMS code	6	Howard 1998; 13 known items
Earth Movers Distance	12	Typke et al. 2003; 17 known items
Proportional Transportation Distance	16	Typke et al. 2003, combining 3 different queries; 17 known items
RISM OPAC	17	key signature added
alignment (pi2mw0dur0)	23	exact pitch, no IMA, no duration; top-50 results only for all alignments
<i>alignment (pi2mw2dur1)</i>	24	exact pitch, normalised IMA, fixed duration (overall best rater combination)
alignment (pi2mw0dur1)	25	exact pitch, no IMA, fixed duration
alignment (pi2mw1dur1)	25	exact pitch, raw IMA, fixed duration
alignment (pi2mw2dur2)	26	exact pitch, normalised IMA, scaled duration
alignment (pi2mw0dur2)	27	exact pitch, no IMA, scaled duration
alignment (pi2mw1dur2)	27	exact pitch, raw IMA, scaled duration

29 relevant items known from RISM OPAC

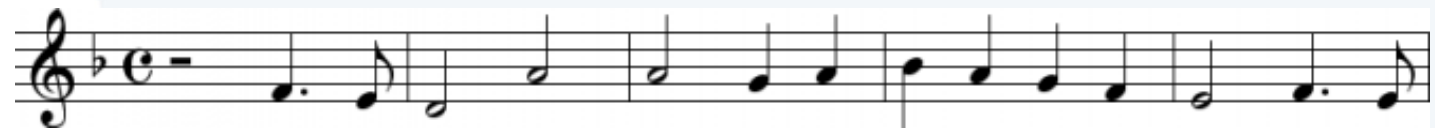
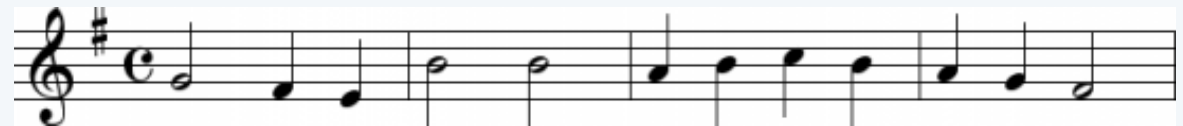
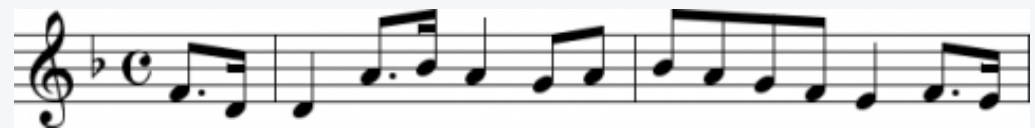
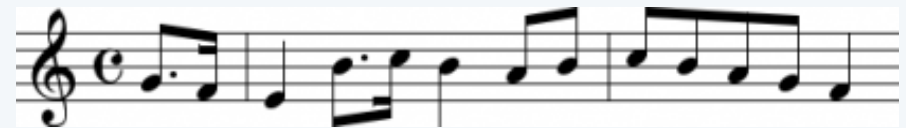


# Additional results



RISM OPAC query (transposition seems not to work)

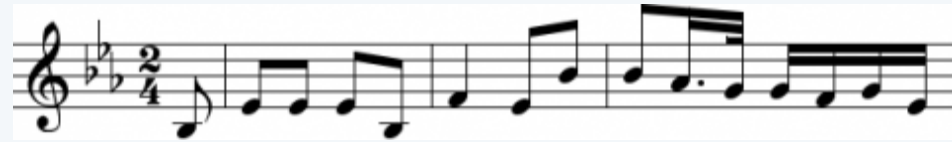
Monochord results not in RISM  
(transpositions excluded)



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# Exact pitch



Query: Anonymus. Andante Es-Dur



W.A. Mozart, Variations



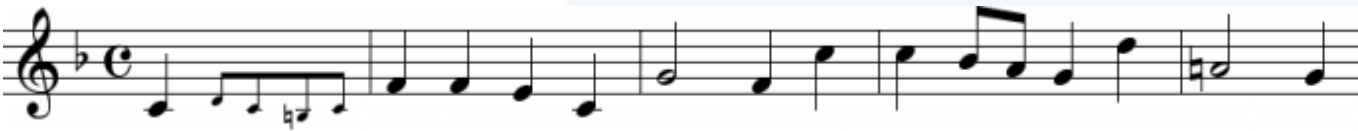
A.F.J. Eberl, Variations



L. Jansa, Variations



I. Umlauff, Das Irrlicht, Excerpts



J.L. Böhner, Variations



F. Schubert. Harmonien  
rauschen im Hain



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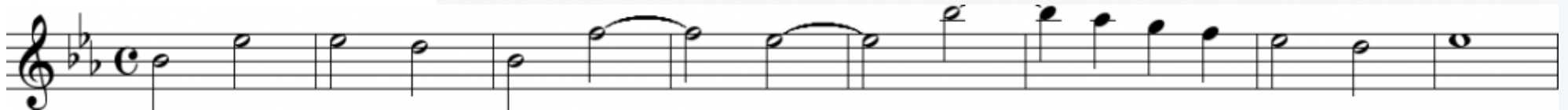
# Other methods, new results



J.C.H. Rinck. Variations



J.L. Böhner, Variations



J.P.S. Schmidt. Ehre sei Gott in der Höhe (???)



# Conclusions

- alignment performs better than string matching
  - more relevant items
  - interesting non-identical matches
  - less need for query adaptation
- suggestion: integrate some combinations in RISM OPAC
  - exact pitch + fixed duration
  - exact pitch + scaled duration
  - other combinations?
- test utility in practice
  - what musicological insight do the non-identical matches provide?
- use MUSALIGN in other kinds of (MEI?) software





# THANK YOU



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