

Variational Parametric Models for Audio Synthesis

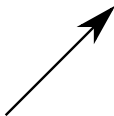
Krishna Subramani
Guide: Prof. Preeti Rao



Department of Electrical Engineering
IIT Bombay, India

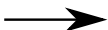
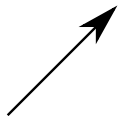
DDP Presentation

Audio Synthesis

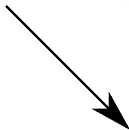
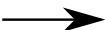


Audio
Synthesis

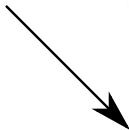
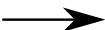
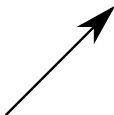
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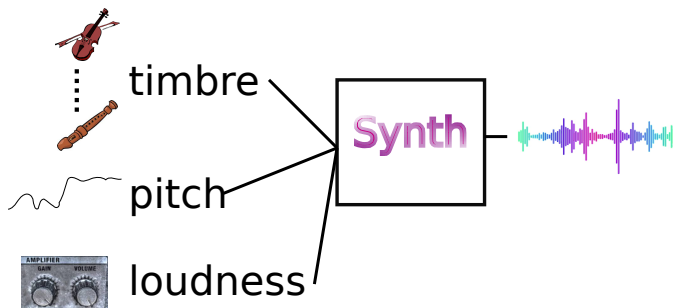


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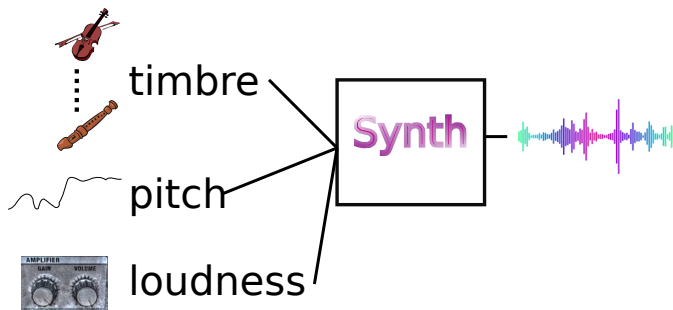


Data-driven Statistical Modeling
Abundant Computing Power
DL for Audio Synthesis!

Generative Synth

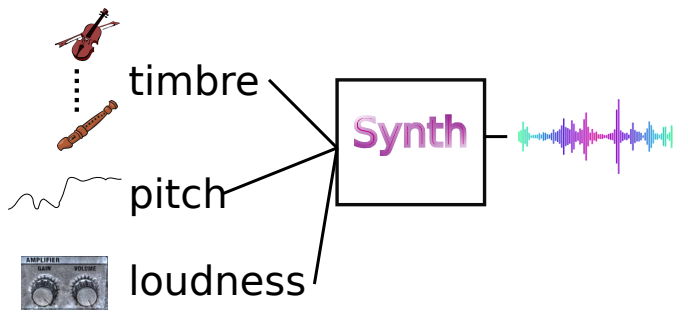


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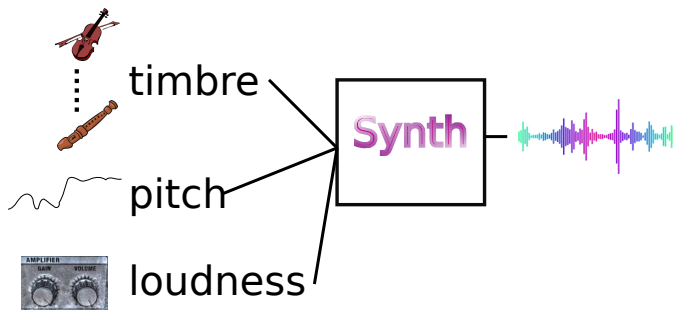
- ▶ **timbre** → “difference” between a violin and flute A4

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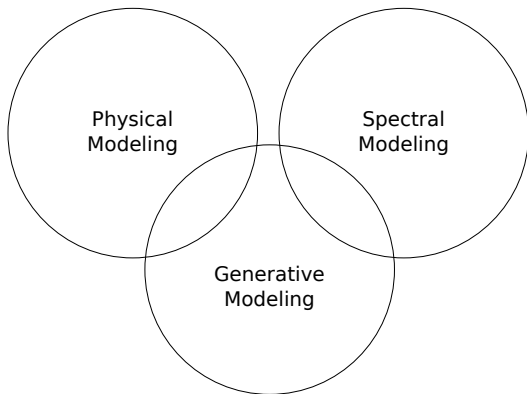
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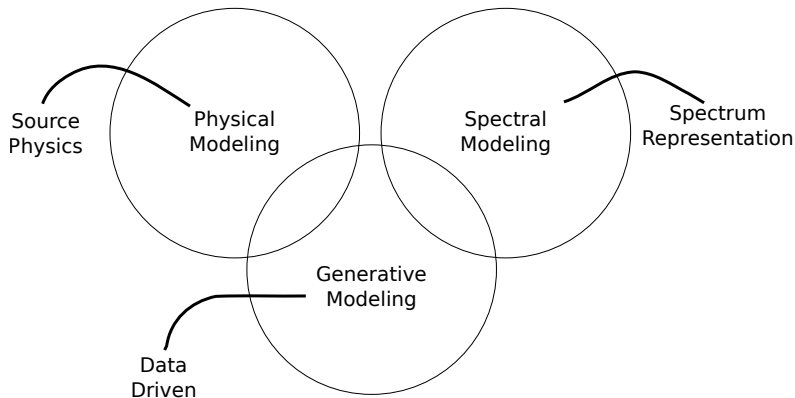


- ▶ **timbre** → “difference” between a violin and flute A4
- ▶ **pitch** → fundamental frequency
- ▶ **loudness** → intensity (energy)

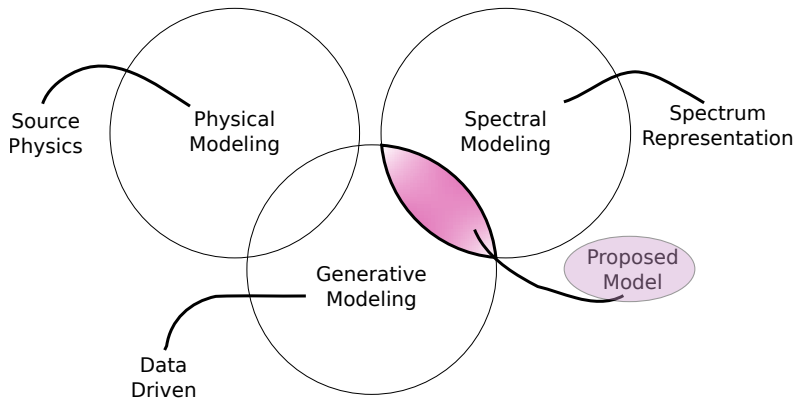
Audio Synthesis



Audio Synthesis



Audio Synthesis



Spectral Modeling Synthesis

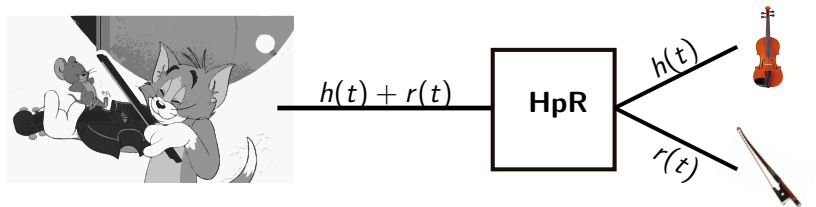
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Spectral Modeling Synthesis

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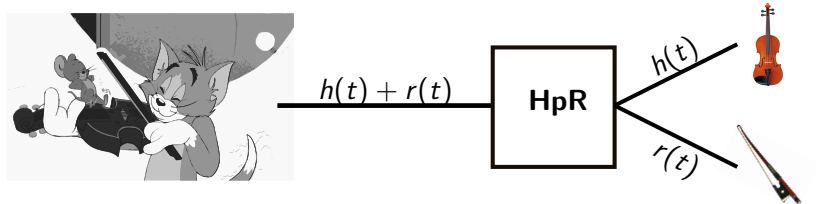
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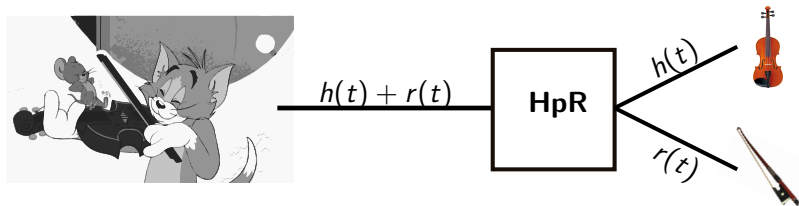
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1¹ 2² 3³

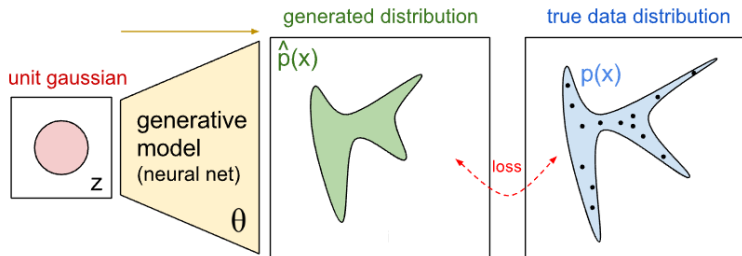
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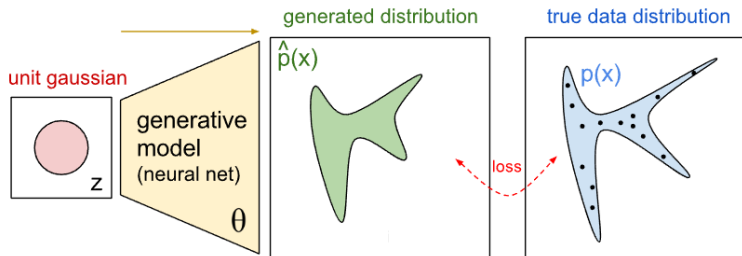
- ▶ Our parametric representation is a Source-Filter inspired representation, building on top of the HpR model [Caetano and Rodet, 2012, Caetano and Rodet, 2013]

Generative Models for Audio



¹<https://openai.com/blog/generative-models/>

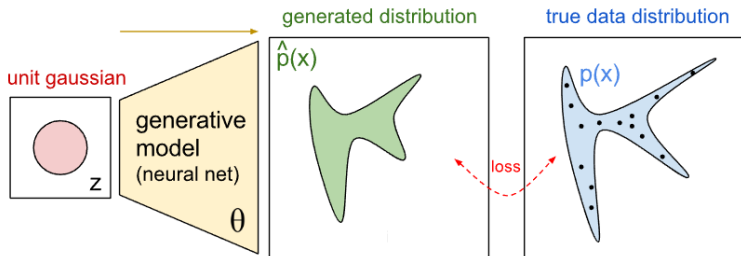
Generative Models for Audio



- ▶ Compact representation of data space¹, simultaneously allowing us to sample from it

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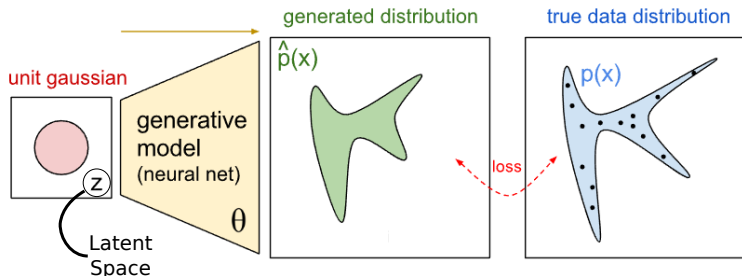
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- ▶ Compact representation of data space¹, simultaneously allowing us to sample from it
- ▶ This 'Compact' representation \rightarrow Latent Space

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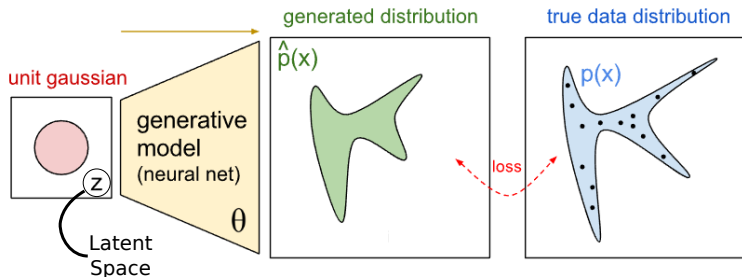
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- ▶ **Neural Audio Synthesis** [[Engel et al., 2017](#)]

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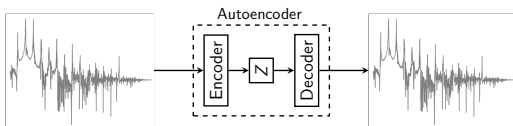
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 - Variational AEs (VAE) [[Kingma and Welling, 2013](#)]
Enforce a prior on the lower dimensional representation
 - Conditional VAEs (CVAE) [[Doersch, 2016](#), [Sohn et al., 2015](#)]
Enforce a 'conditional' prior ...

Our Nearest Neighbors

- ▶ [Sarroff and Casey, 2014] frame-wise reconstruction of short-time magnitude spectra with autoencoders

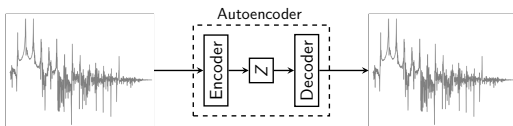
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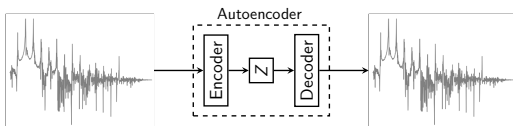
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- ▶ [Esling et al., 2018] regularized this latent space for better control over timbre of synthesized instruments

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- ▶ [Défossez et al., 2018] proposed frame-by-frame waveform generation with LSTMs

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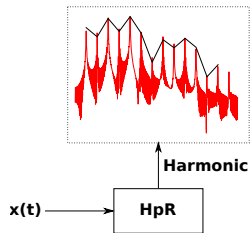
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 - * [Blaauw and Bonada, 2016] used a vocoder representation to train a generative model for speech synthesis
 - * [Engel et al., 2020] (DDSP) recently proposed the control of a parametric model based on a deterministic autoencoder

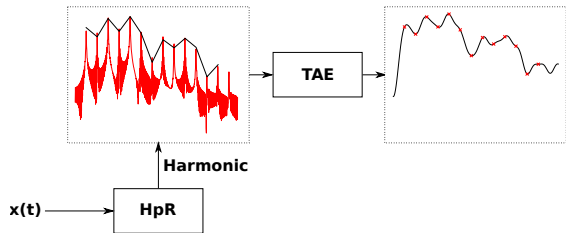
VaPar Synth

x(t)

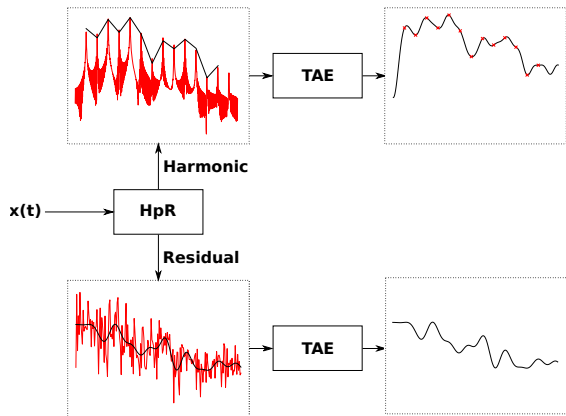
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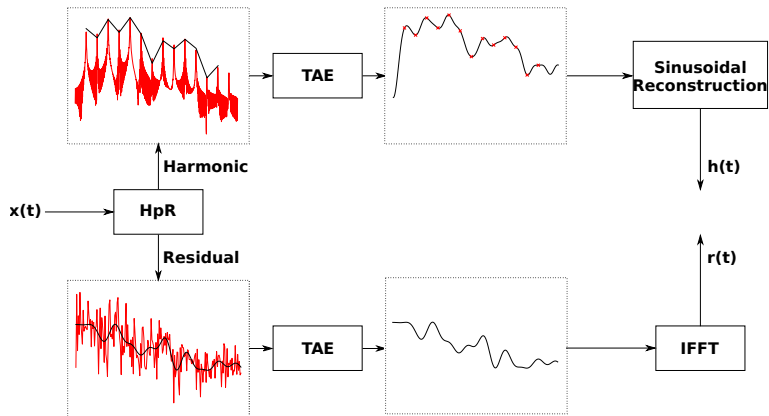
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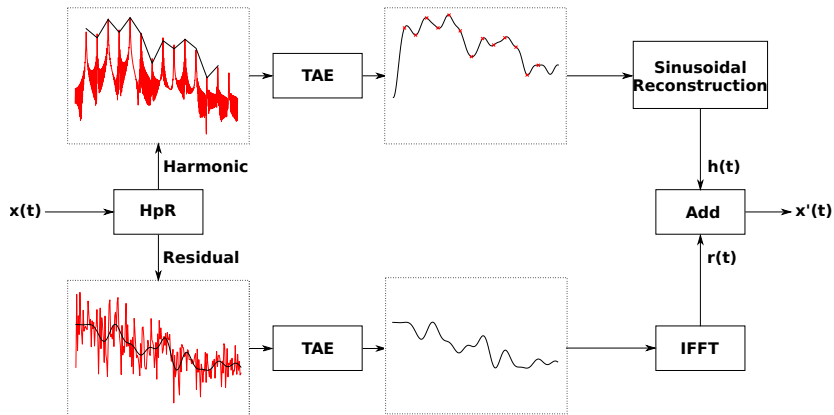
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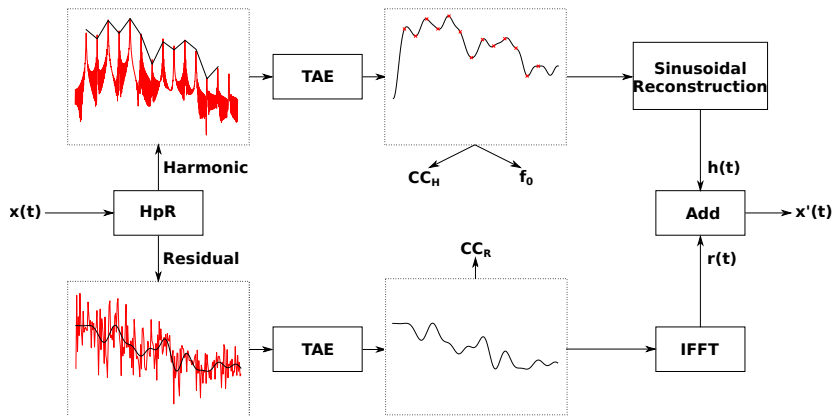
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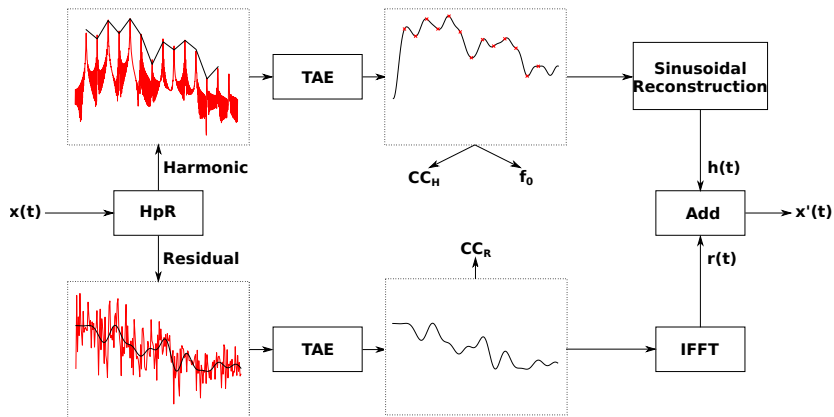
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TAE: [Caetano and Rodet, 2012, IMAI, 1979]

Subsampling rates: [Caetano and Rodet, 2013, Serra et al., 1997]



Datasets

Why **Violin**?

Popular in Indian Music, Human voice-like timbre,
Ability to produce continuous pitch!

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MIDI pitch, velocity
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Individual Note/Scale recordings
Mezzo-forte, MIDI pitch
Initial Experiments

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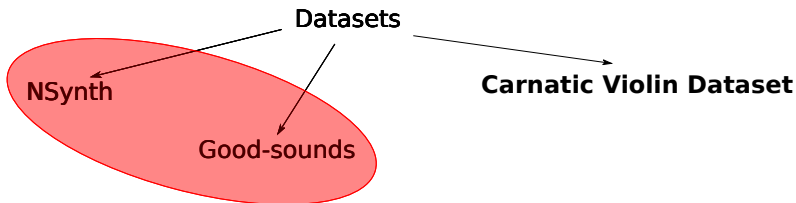
Good-sounds

Why insufficient?

MIDI pitches, not Carnatic notes
Not Expressive!

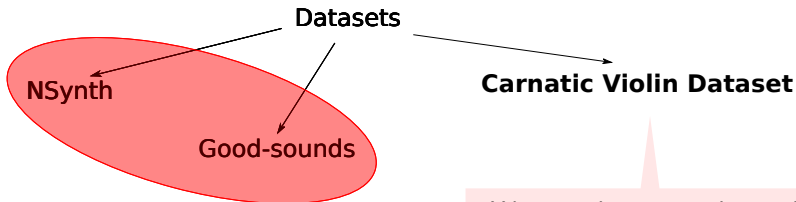
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We record our own dataset!!

Carnatic Violin Dataset



Carnatic Note	Sa	Ri ₁	Ri ₂	Ga ₂	Ga ₃	Ma ₁
Notation	Sa	Ri1	Ri2	Ga2	Ga3	Ma1
Carnatic Note	Ma ₂	Pa	Dha ₁	Dha ₂	Ni ₂	Ni ₃
Notation	Ma2	Pa	Dha1	Dha2	Ni2	Ni3

	Description	Notation
Octave	Lower, Middle, Upper	L, M, U
Loudness	Soft, Loud	So, Lo
Style	Smooth, Attack	Sm, At

1. Fixed Notes: *1143* s across *363* instances
2. Raga Recordings: *1075* s with *113* s Gamakas

Carnatic Violin Dataset



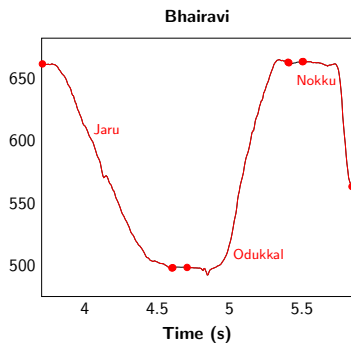
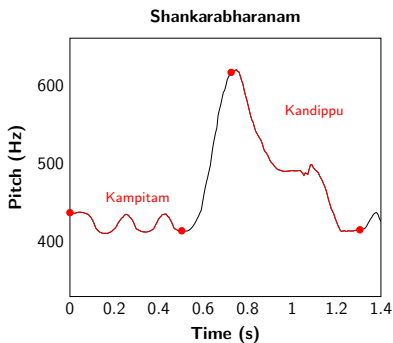
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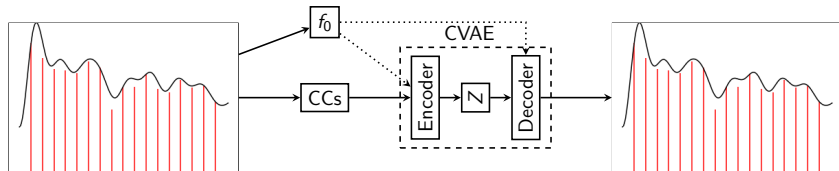
1. **Fixed Notes:** 1143 s across 363 instances
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Gamakas?

- ▶ The subtle shadings of a tone, delicate nuances and inflections around a note that please and inspire the listener [Swift, 1990]
- ▶ Ornamentations/Deflections in pitch [SUBRAMANIAN, 2013]

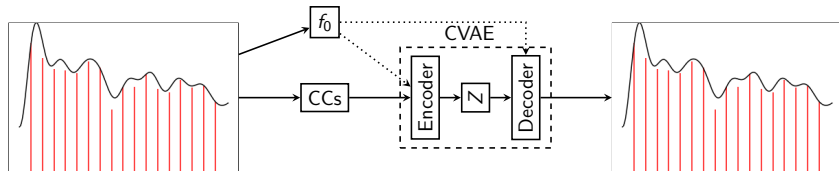


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- ▶ Hyperparameters optimized via MSE plots
 1. β - tradeoff between reconstruction and prior enforcement
 2. Dimensionality of latent space - networks reconstruction ability

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$$L \propto \text{MSE} + \beta \cdot \text{KLD}$$

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Experiments

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- ▶ De-mystify these one-by-one ...

Parametric Model for Violin Audio

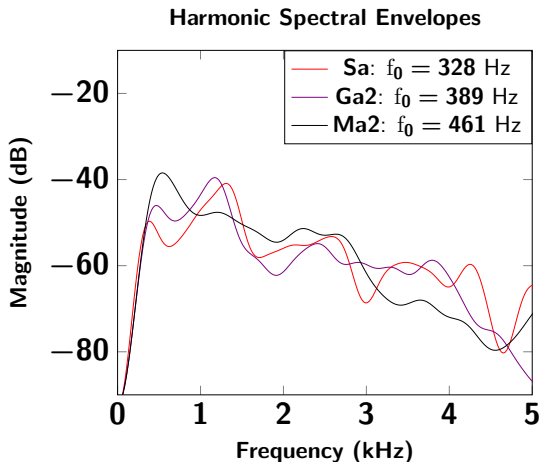
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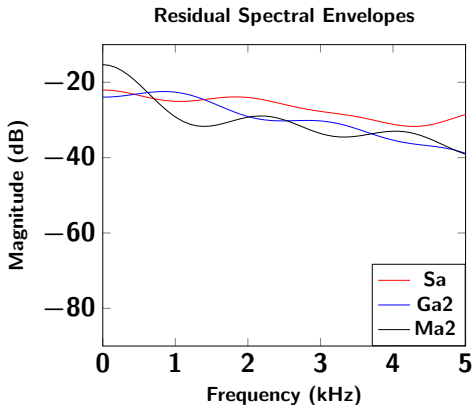
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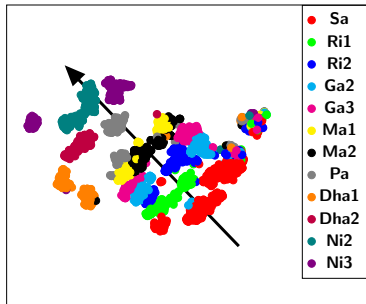
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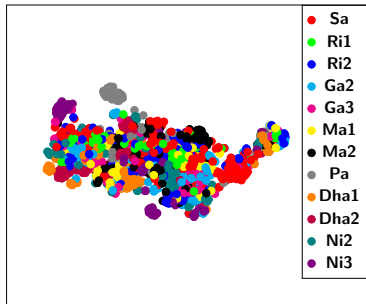
Why CVAE?

- ▶ Harmonic spectral envelope depends on pitch
- ▶ Conditioning on pitch \implies Network captures dependencies between the timbre and the pitch \implies More accurate envelope generation + Pitch control
- ▶ For better understanding, we also visualize the latent space using t-SNE [[Maaten and Hinton, 2008](#)]

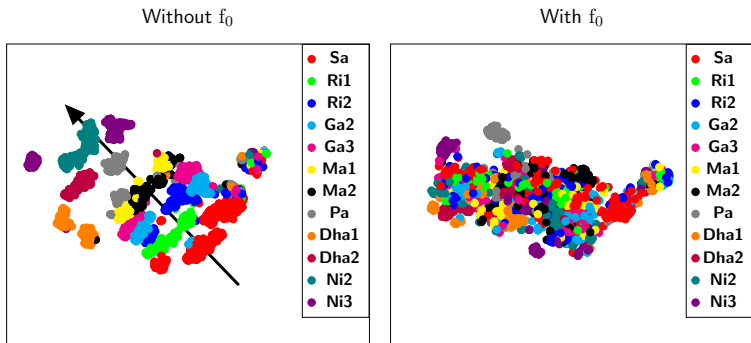
Without f_0



With f_0

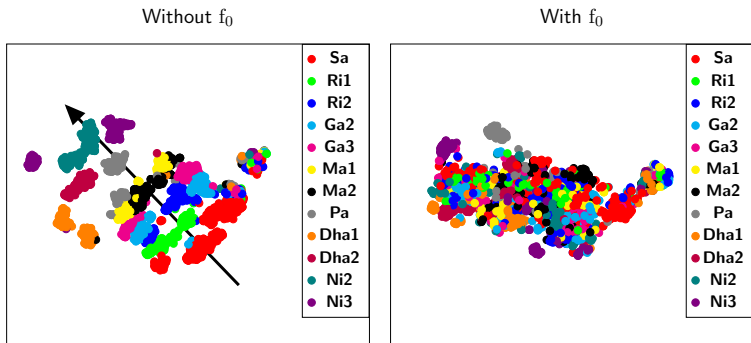


Harmonic CVAE Latent Spaces without and with f_0 conditioning



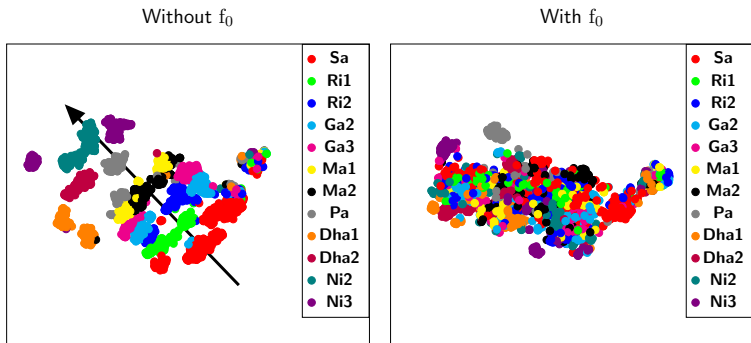
Harmonic CVAE Latent Spaces without and with f_0 conditioning

- ▶ Clear clustering without pitch conditioning \implies latent space contains pitch information



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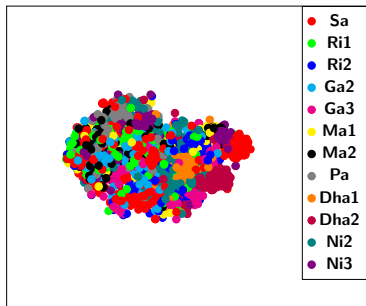
- ▶ Clear clustering without pitch conditioning \implies latent space contains pitch information
- ▶ Pitch conditioning \rightarrow optimal spectral envelope for that pitch



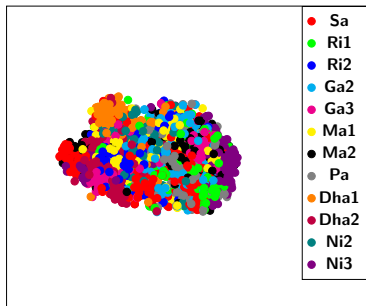
Harmonic CVAE Latent Spaces without and with f_0 conditioning

- ▶ Clear clustering without pitch conditioning \implies latent space contains pitch information
- ▶ Pitch conditioning \rightarrow optimal spectral envelope for that pitch
- ▶ What about residual spectral envelope?

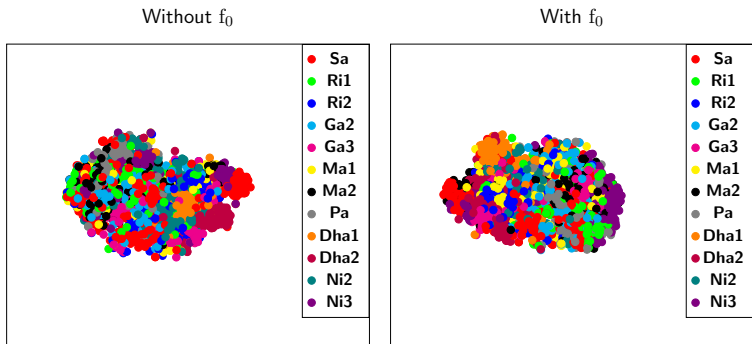
Without f_0



With f_0

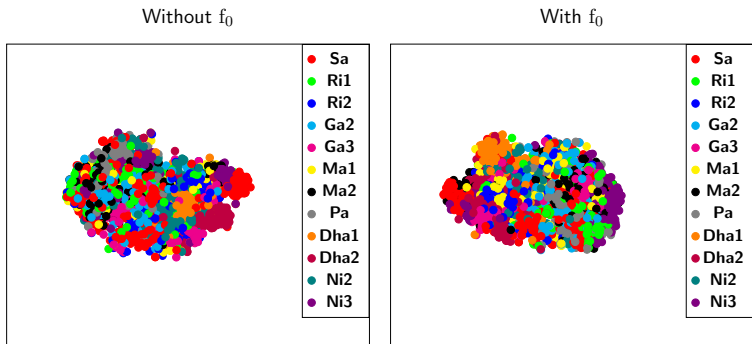


Residual VAE Latent Spaces without and with f_0 conditioning



Residual VAE Latent Spaces without and with f_0 conditioning

- ▶ Matches with previous plots of spectral envelope



Residual VAE Latent Spaces without and with f_0 conditioning

- ▶ Matches with previous plots of spectral envelope
- ▶ No conditioning needed for the residual network!

- ▶ Established 2 things so far ...

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 1. Harmonic spectral envelope depends on the pitch \implies CVAE models inter-dependencies

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Reconstruction?

- Omit pitch instances during training and reconstruct their spectral envelopes

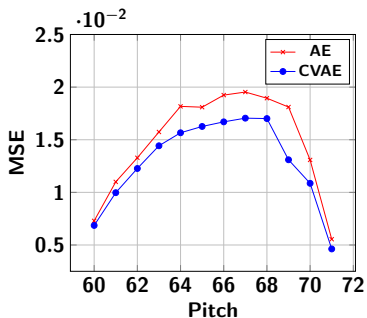
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- ▶ Quantitatively verify? **Reconstruction Experiments!!**

Reconstruction?

- Omit pitch instances during training and reconstruct their spectral envelopes
- Network's generalization ability to unseen pitches

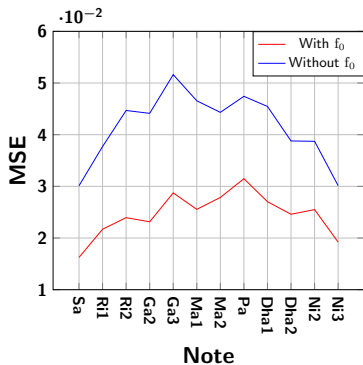
- ▶ [Subramani et al., 2020] train on octave endpoints, and reconstruct intermediate harmonic spectral envelopes (Good-sounds)

MIDI	60	61	62	63	64	65
<i>Kept</i>	✓	×	×	×	×	×
MIDI	66	67	68	69	70	71
<i>Kept</i>	×	×	×	×	×	✓

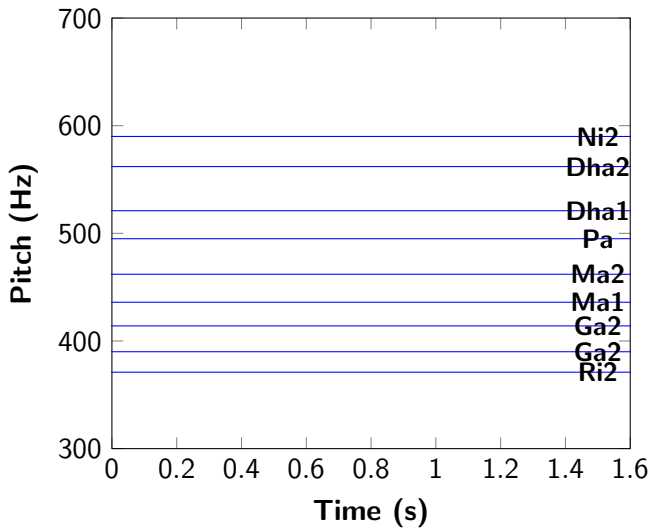


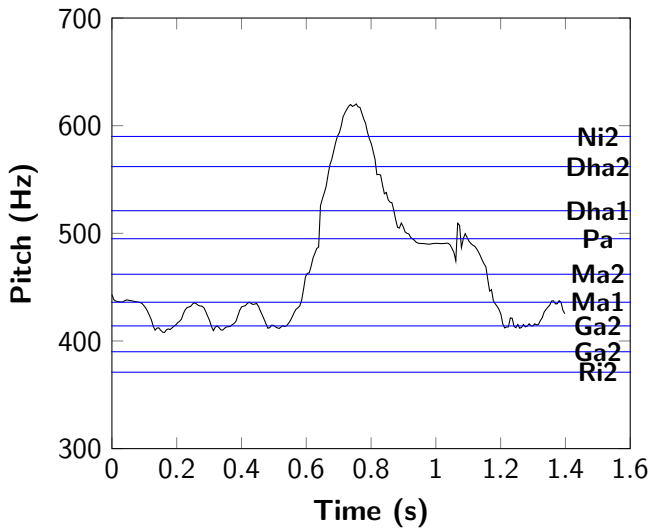
- ▶ Conditioning captures the pitch dependency of the spectral envelope more accurately

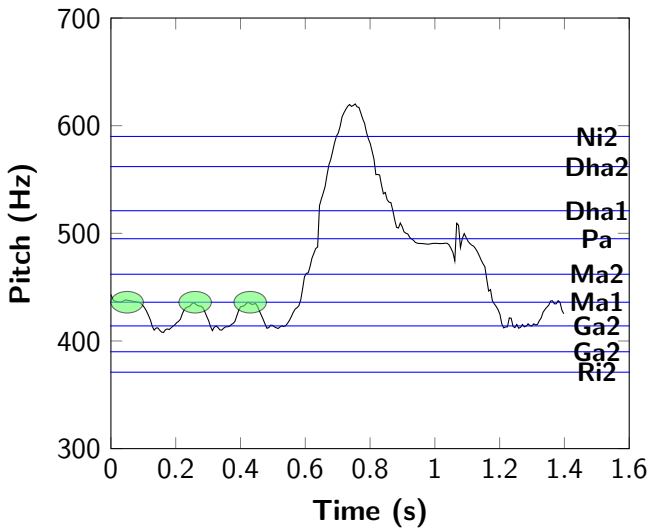
- ▶ Similar experiment with our Carnatic Violin dataset

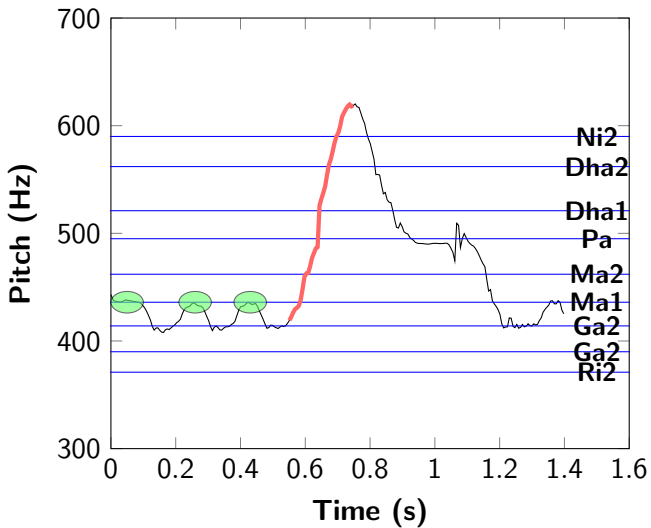


- ▶ Pitch conditioning → continuous pitch control









- ▶ Repeat reconstruction with these continuously varying pitch contours, but **only trained on the fixed pitch notes**

$$\boxed{1}^4 \quad \boxed{2}^5$$

Joint Modeling of harmonic, residual

- ▶ Why jointly model?

Joint Modeling of harmonic, residual

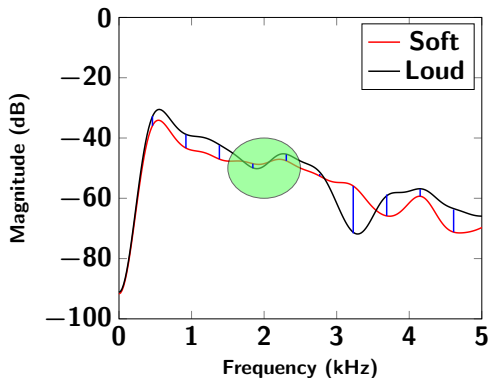
- ▶ Why jointly model?
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Joint Modeling of harmonic, residual

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 - [Mathews and Kohut, 1973] 'Resonant Enhancement' → Violin resonances filter String vibrations
 - Harmonic (string vibrations) and residual (bow noise) processed by same resonance \implies not independent

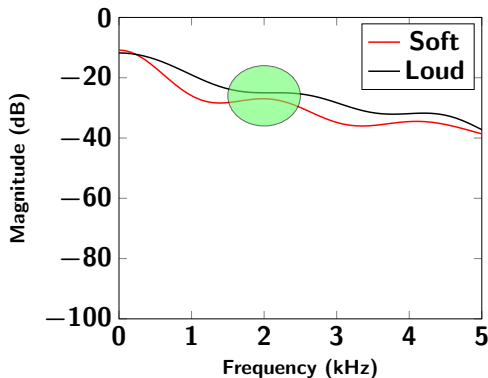
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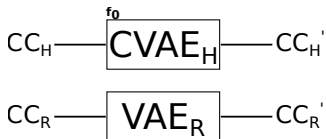


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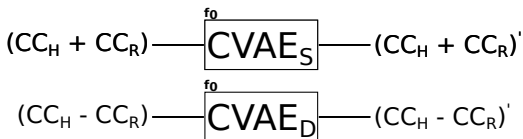
- ▶ Harmonic and Residual envelopes could be dependent \rightarrow common underlying origin in the played loudness style of the note



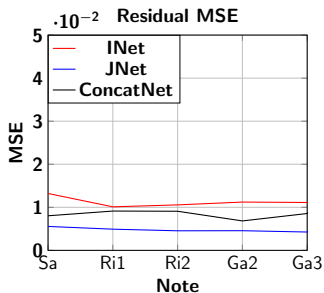
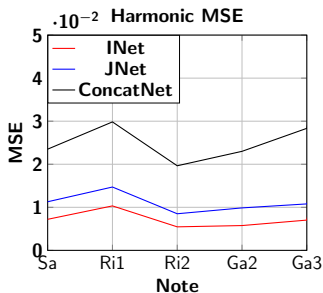
Independent Modeling (INet)



Concatenative Modeling (ConcatNet)



Modeling sum and difference (JNet)

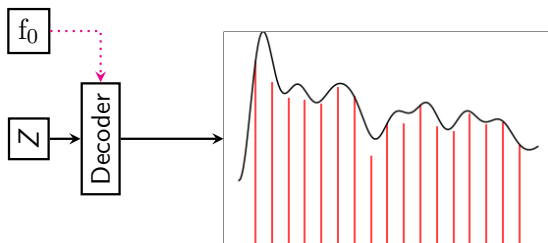


- ▶ [Fletcher et al., 1965] mentions that the perceptual impact of the residual is more for higher frequency notes than for lower ones
- ▶ Harmonic MSE lower for INet
- ▶ Residual MSE lower for joint modeling

$$\boxed{1}^6 \quad \boxed{2}^7$$

Generation

- ▶ Interested in using network to 'generate' audio



- ▶ How to sample points from Latent Space?
[Blaauw and Bonada, 2016] performs a random walk with small step size
- ▶ Not a good enough emulation of temporal order of frames

$$\boxed{1}^8 \quad \boxed{2}^9 \quad \boxed{3}^{10}$$

Listening Tests

- ▶ MSE not perceptually representative \implies Listening tests

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- ▶ MSE not perceptually representative \implies Listening tests
- ▶ 2 Professionally trained (\approx 15 years) violinists
- ▶ Present audio examples, take subjective feedback
 1. Reconstruction: Network reconstruction realistic, difficult to differentiate from actual audio
 2. Generation: Network generated audio not like a violin, sounds synthetic, even with vibrato

Putting it all together

- ✓ Autoencoder frameworks in generative models for audio synthesis of instrumental tones

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But ...

- ✗ No temporality
- ✗ Network generated/synthesized audio not realistic

Contributions

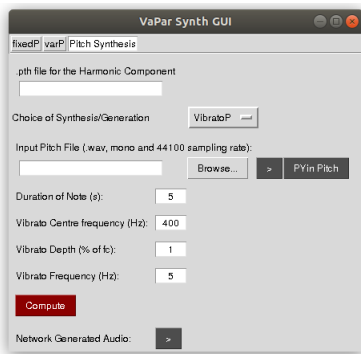
- Published and presented work in ICASSP 2020, ISMIR 2019 and submitted work to ISMIR 2020
[[Subramani et al., 2020](#), [Subramani et al., 2019](#)]
- Dataset + Code open source on GitHub²³

²<https://github.com/SubramaniKrishna/VaPar-Synth>

³<https://github.com/SubramaniKrishna/HpRNet>

Contributions

- Published and presented work in ICASSP 2020, ISMIR 2019 and submitted work to ISMIR 2020 [Subramani et al., 2020, Subramani et al., 2019]
- Dataset + Code open source on GitHub²³
- GUI for researchers to better understand our research 1¹¹



²<https://github.com/SubramaniKrishna/VaPar-Synth>

³<https://github.com/SubramaniKrishna/HpRNet>

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Audio examples description I

1. Original Sa note
2. Original Sa note harmonic
3. Original Sa note residual
4. Harmonic version of Gamaka
5. Network reconstruction of harmonic version of Gamaka
6. Upper Octave Ri1 recording
7. Upper Octave Ri1 INet reconstruction
8. Network Generated Upper octave Ri2
9. Network Generated Upper octave Ri2 with vibrato
10. Network Generated Gamaka
11. Bohemian Rhapsody Guitar 'Rendered' by our network