

Contextual Chord Embeddings for Stylistic Analysis

Abstract:

This paper draws from recent research in machine learning and natural language processing to encode chords computationally. Using word2vec (Mikolov et al. 2013), I show that *chord embeddings*—or vector representations of chords—are able to capture harmonic nuances within a musical style. I show the applicability of chord embedding theoretically and analytically using two corpora: the Yale-Classical Archives corpus, and the Rolling Stone corpus.