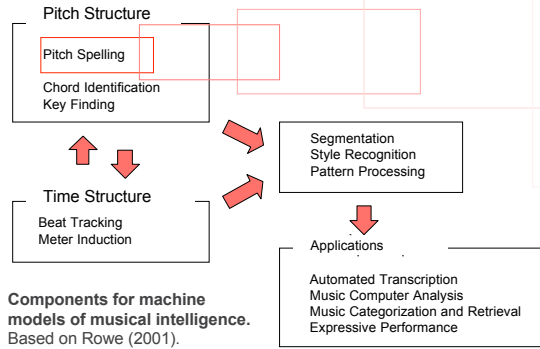
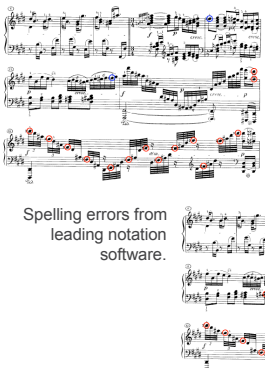
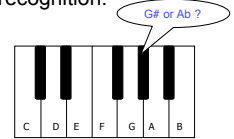


# Determining Context-Defining Windows - pitch spelling using the spiral array

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**Pitch spelling** - a critical first step in automated transcription and algorithms for music analysis and recognition. We present **three pitch spelling algorithms** based on the Spiral Array model. The Spiral Array is a **spatial model for representing pitch relations** in the tonal system. Our test set is Beethoven's Piano Sonata Op.79 and Op.109. **Overall success rate: 99.03%.**



## Segment to determine context

**Algorithm 1: Cumulative CE**

**Algorithm 1: Cumulative c.e.**  
The algorithm advances one chunk (beat) at a time.  
Beethoven Op.79, 3rd movement: **1 error in 1375.**  
Beethoven Op.109, 1st movement: **73 errors in 1516.**

**Algorithm 2: Sliding Window**

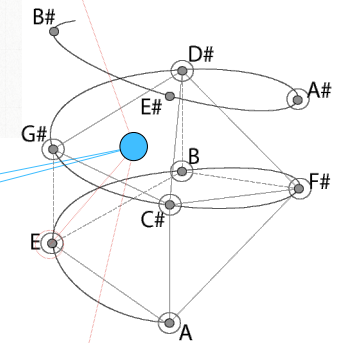
**Algorithm 2: Sliding Window**  
Uses local tonal context. Improves sensitivity to local changes, but not sudden ones.  
Op.109: **31 errors in 1516.**

**Algorithm 3: Two-Phase Assignment**  
First step as in Algorithm 2. Second phase re-visits spellings using a combination c.e. from a smaller local window and long-term cumulative window. Algorithm is sensitive to abrupt key changes.  
Op.109: **27 errors in 1516**

**Algorithm 3: Two-phase assignment**

## Assign pitch name

**The Spiral Array**  
clusters closely-related pitches and summarizes musical information as spatial points in the interior of the structure.



**The Center of Effect:**  
a summary point used in assigning pitch spellings using nearest neighbor searches in the Spiral Array space.

**Name Assignment:**  
using nearest-neighbor search

## Results

| Method                            | Parameters | Errors (1516 notes) | % Correct |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Cumulative                        |            | 73                  | 95.18     |
| Sliding Window (w)                | 4          | 31                  | 98.00     |
|                                   | 8          | 47                  | 96.90     |
|                                   | 16         | 40                  | 97.36     |
| Two-Phase (w, w <sub>c</sub> , f) | 4 2 0.6    | 28                  | 98.15     |
|                                   | 4 3 0.8    | 27                  | 98.22     |
|                                   | 4 3 0.7    | 27                  | 98.22     |
|                                   | 8 2 0.9    | 31                  | 97.96     |
|                                   | 8 4 0.9    | 40                  | 97.36     |
|                                   | 8 6 0.9    | 27                  | 98.22     |
|                                   | 16 4 0.8   | 40                  | 97.36     |
|                                   | 16 6 0.8   | 30                  | 98.02     |
|                                   | 16 8 0.9   | 37                  | 97.56     |

- Sliding window algorithm consistently better than cumulative method.
- The two-phase assignment method outperforms the sliding window algorithm.
- Algorithms 1 and 2 are special cases of Algorithm 3.

By combining both short-term and long-term tonal contexts, we get the lowest error rates in pitch spelling. Pitch spelling is a function of both local and global tonal contexts.