

VaPar Synth - A Variational Parametric Model for Audio Synthesis

Krishna Subramani¹, Preeti Rao¹, Alexandre D'Hooge²

¹Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India

²ENS Paris-Saclay, France

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Audio Synthesis?

- ▶ What comes to your mind when you hear 'Audio Synthesis'?

Audio Synthesis?



Figure: One of the early Moog Modular Synthesizers

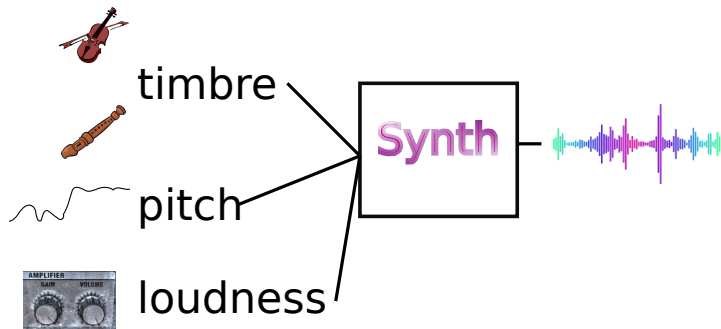
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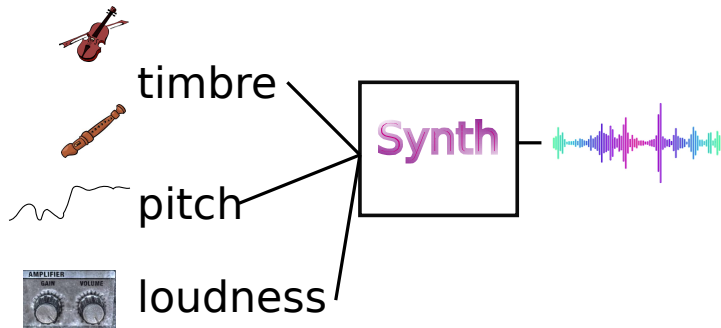
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- ▶ Analog synths (Moog!) → voltage controlled oscillators, filters, amplifiers to generate, and envelope generators to shape waveforms
- ▶ Data-driven statistical modeling + computing power
⇒ Deep Learning for audio synthesis!

Generative Models for Audio Synthesis

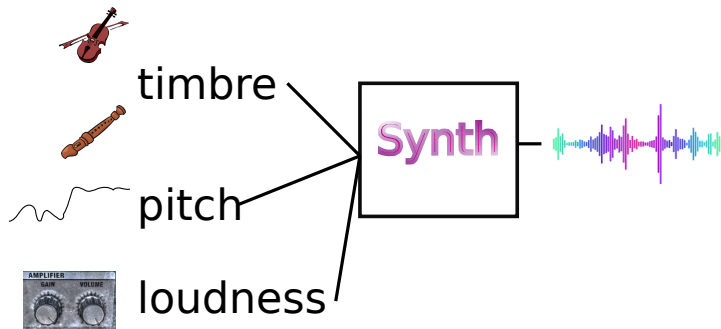


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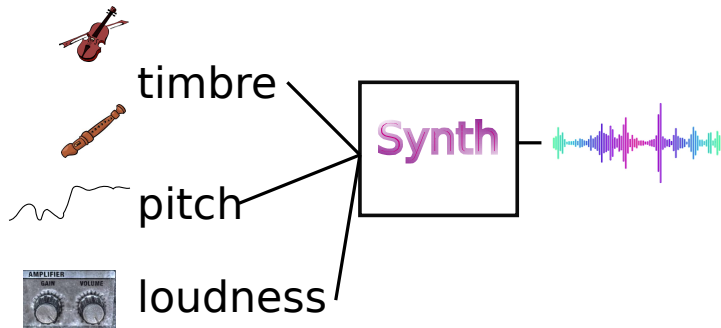
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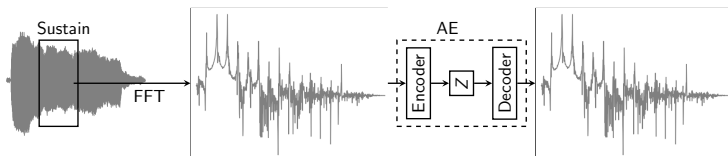
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- ▶ **loudness** → intensity (energy)

Our Nearest Neighbours

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

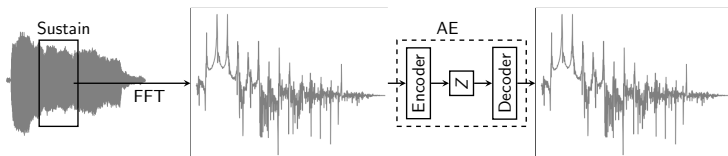
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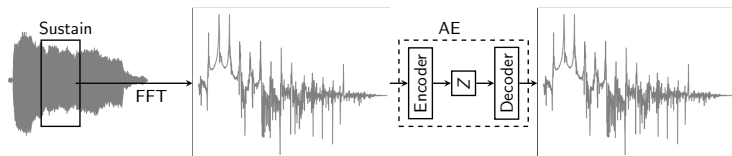
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- ▶ [Esling et al., 2018] regularized this latent space for better control over timbre of synthesized instruments

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

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

Dataset

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Dataset

Why we chose Violin?

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

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Non-Parametric Reconstruction

► Setup:

1. Include/Exclude MIDI 63, train with neighbours
2. **Reconstruct** MIDI 63

MIDI	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
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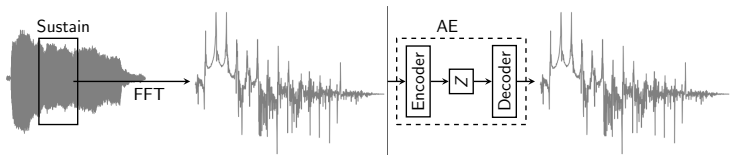


Figure: [Sarroff and Casey, 2014, Roche et al., 2018]

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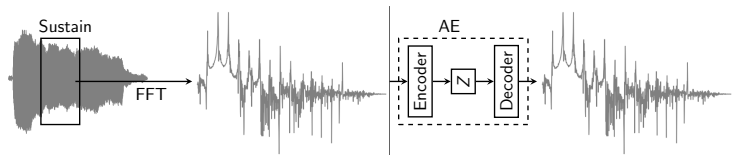


Figure: [Sarroff and Casey, 2014, Roche et al., 2018]

- Framewise autoencoding + inversion with Griffin-Lim [Griffin and Lim, 1984]

Non-Parametric Reconstruction

Figure: Input MIDI 63, 1¹

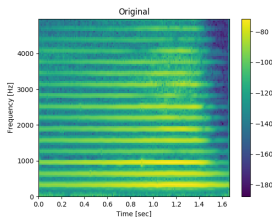


Figure: Including MIDI 63, 2²

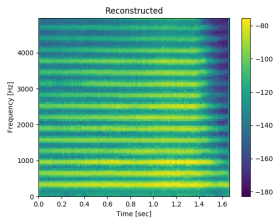
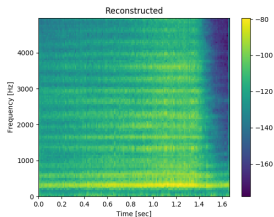


Figure: Excluding MIDI 63, 3³

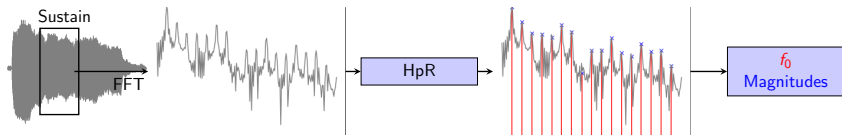


Parametric Model

1. Frame-wise magnitude spectrum \rightarrow harmonic representation using Harmonic plus Residual (HpR) model [Serra et al., 1997] (currently, we neglect the residual)

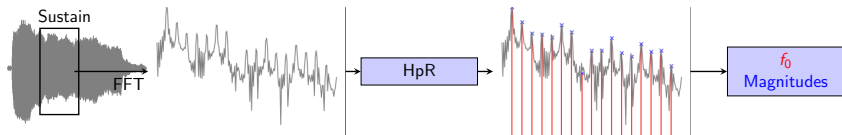
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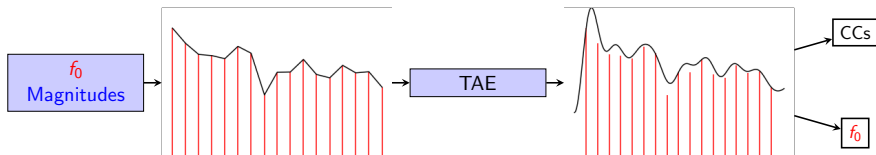
- Output of HpR block \implies log-dB magnitudes + harmonics

Parametric Model

2. log-dB magnitudes + harmonics \rightarrow TAE algorithm

[Roebel and Rodet, 2005, IMAI, 1979]

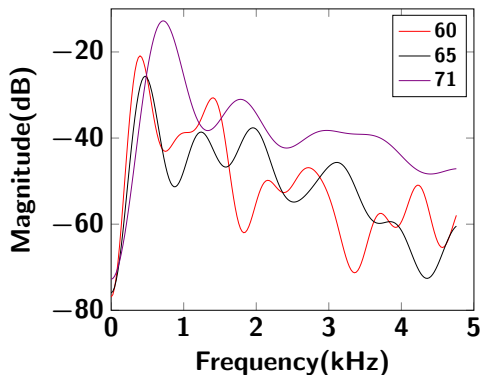
$$K_{CC} \leq \frac{F_s}{2f_0}$$



* No open source Python implementation of TAE, we implement it following procedure highlighted in [Roebel and Rodet, 2005, Caetano and Rodet, 2012]

1⁴ 2⁵

Parametric Model



- ▶ Spectral envelope shape varies across pitch
 1. Dependence of envelope on pitch
[Slawson, 1981, Caetano and Rodet, 2012]
 2. Variation due the TAE algorithm
- ▶ Envelope \rightarrow smooth function to estimate harmonic amplitudes

Generative Models

- ▶ Autoencoders (AE) [Hinton and Salakhutdinov, 2006] -
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Optimal (MSE) lower dimensional representation of input
- ▶ 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

Generative Models

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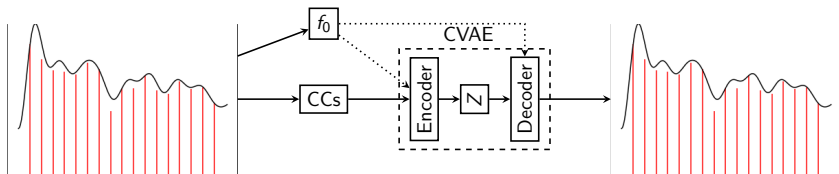
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- Why CVAE over VAE?
 - Conditioning on pitch \implies Network captures dependencies between the timbre and the pitch \implies More accurate envelope generation + Pitch control

Network Architecture



- ▶ Network input is CCs → MSE represents perceptually relevant distance in terms of squared error between the input and reconstructed log magnitude spectral envelopes

Network Architecture

- ▶ Main hyperparameters -
 1. β - tradeoff between reconstruction and prior enforcement

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

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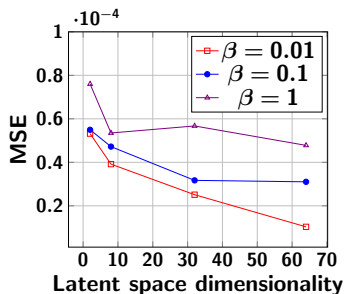
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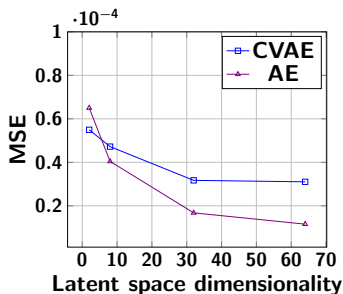
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(a) CVAE, varying β



(b) CVAE($\beta = 0.1$) vs AE

Figure: MSE plots to decide hyperparameters

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 2. **Generation** - How well model 'synthesizes' note instances with new unseen pitches

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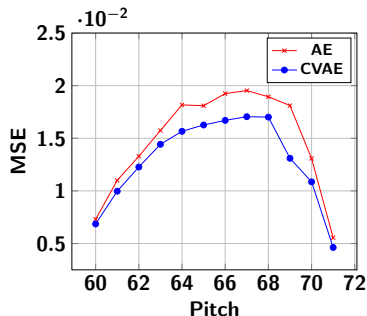
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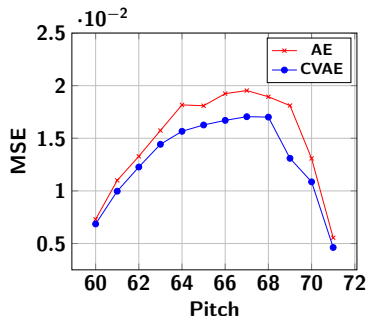
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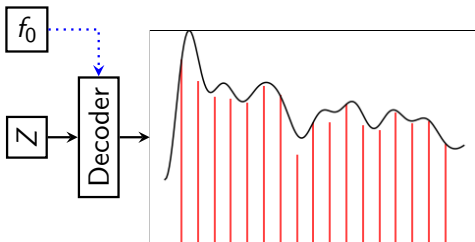
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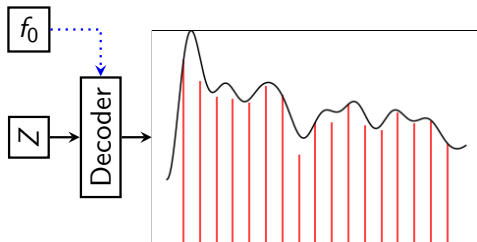
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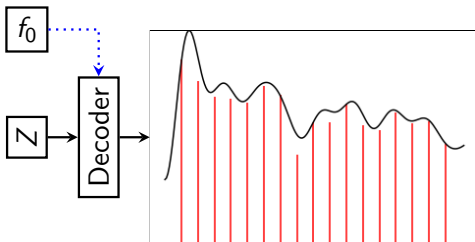
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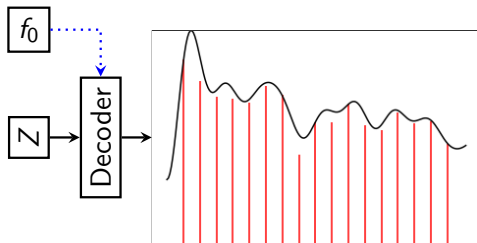
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- ▶ To the best of our knowledge, we have not come across any work using a parametric model for musical tones in the neural synthesis framework, especially exploiting the conditioning function of the CVAE!
- ▶ All of our code/audio examples are available
<https://github.com/SubramaniKrishna/VaPar-Synth>

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Audio examples description I

1. Input MIDI 63 to Spectral Model
2. Spectral Model Reconstruction(trained on MIDI63)
3. Spectral Model Reconstruction(not trained on MIDI63)
4. Input MIDI 60 note to Parametric Model
5. Parametric Reconstruction of input note
6. Input MIDI 63 Note
7. Parametric CVAE reconstruction of input
8. Input MIDI 65 note(endpoint trained model)
9. Parametric CVAE reconstruction of input(endpoint trained model)
10. CVAE Generated MIDI 65 Violin note
11. Similar MIDI 65 Violin note from dataset
12. CVAE Generated MIDI 65 Violin note with vibrato
13. Carnatic Violin Melody