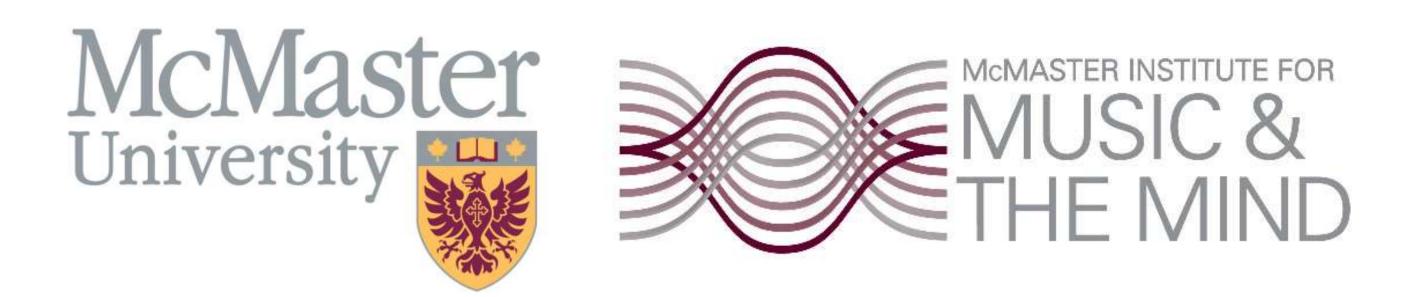
How Performance Interpretation and Historic Context Affect Perceived Emotion



Cameron Anderson¹, Jamie Ling¹, Michael Schutz^{1,2}

andersoc@mcmaster.ca

lingj5@mcmaster.ca

schutz@mcmaster.ca

¹ Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour, McMaster University
² School of the Arts, McMaster University



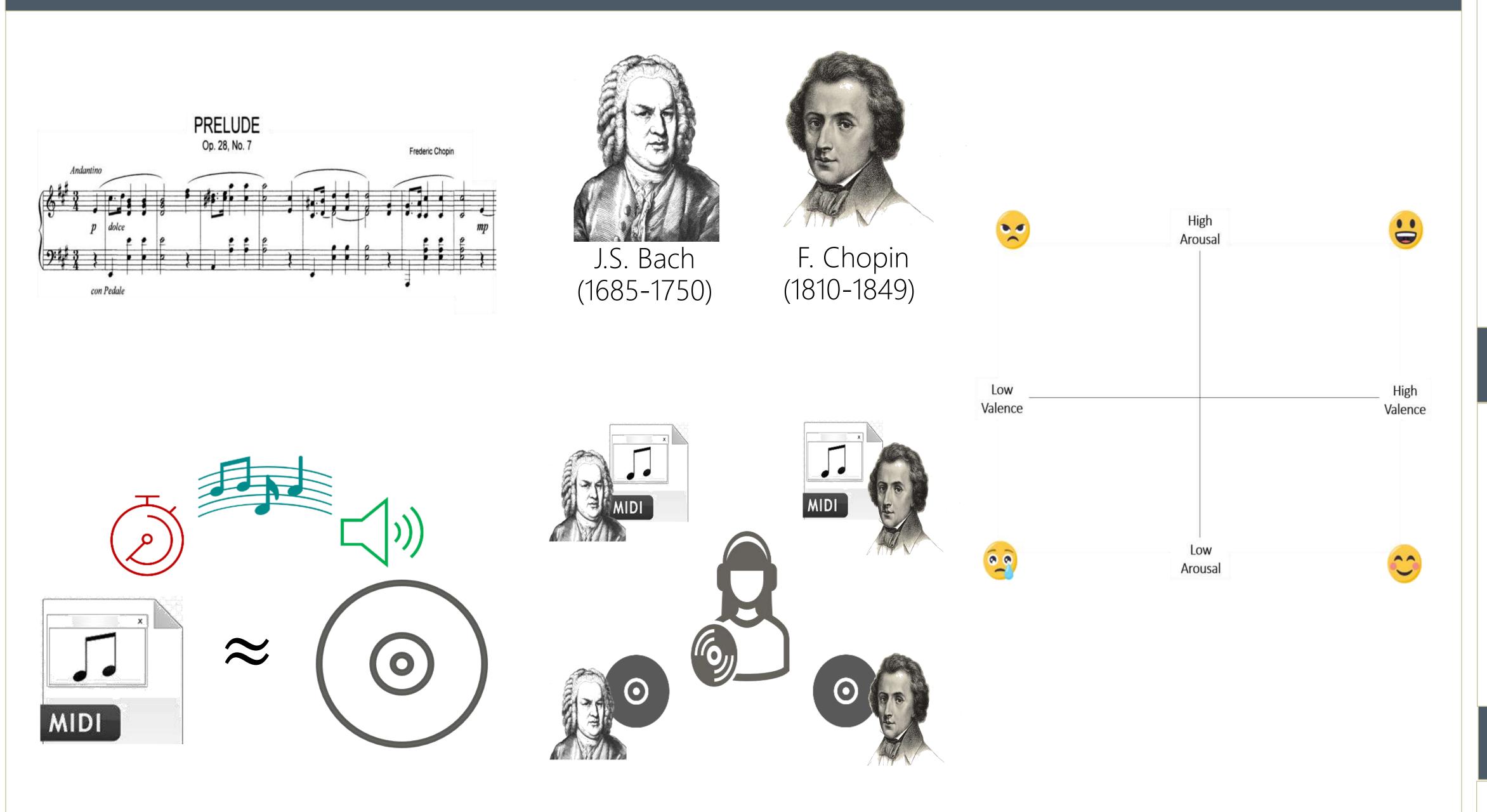
Visit our website at maplelab.net!
facebook.
facebook.com/maplelab.mcmaster

MAPLE Lab

Background

- •Composers' and performers' roles in emotional communication have been of great interest to music psychologists for decades (Bhatara et al., 2011; Juslin, 1997; Quinto & Thompson, 2013).
- •Historical studies suggest the composer—performer relationship changed over time (Hunter, 2005; Smith, 2020), yet how this affects music's perceived emotional meaning remains unclear.
- We explore how perceived emotion differs in commercially recorded interpretations vs. deadpan renditions of works by two widely-studied composers.

Methods



Acknowledgments

We would like to thank Jackie Zhou, Aditi Shukla, Kiarash Kouhdani, Max Delle Grazie, Jordan McClean, Benjamin Kelly, Andy Elizondo Lopez, and Fadi Mansour for their support.

Ontario

MINISTRY OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

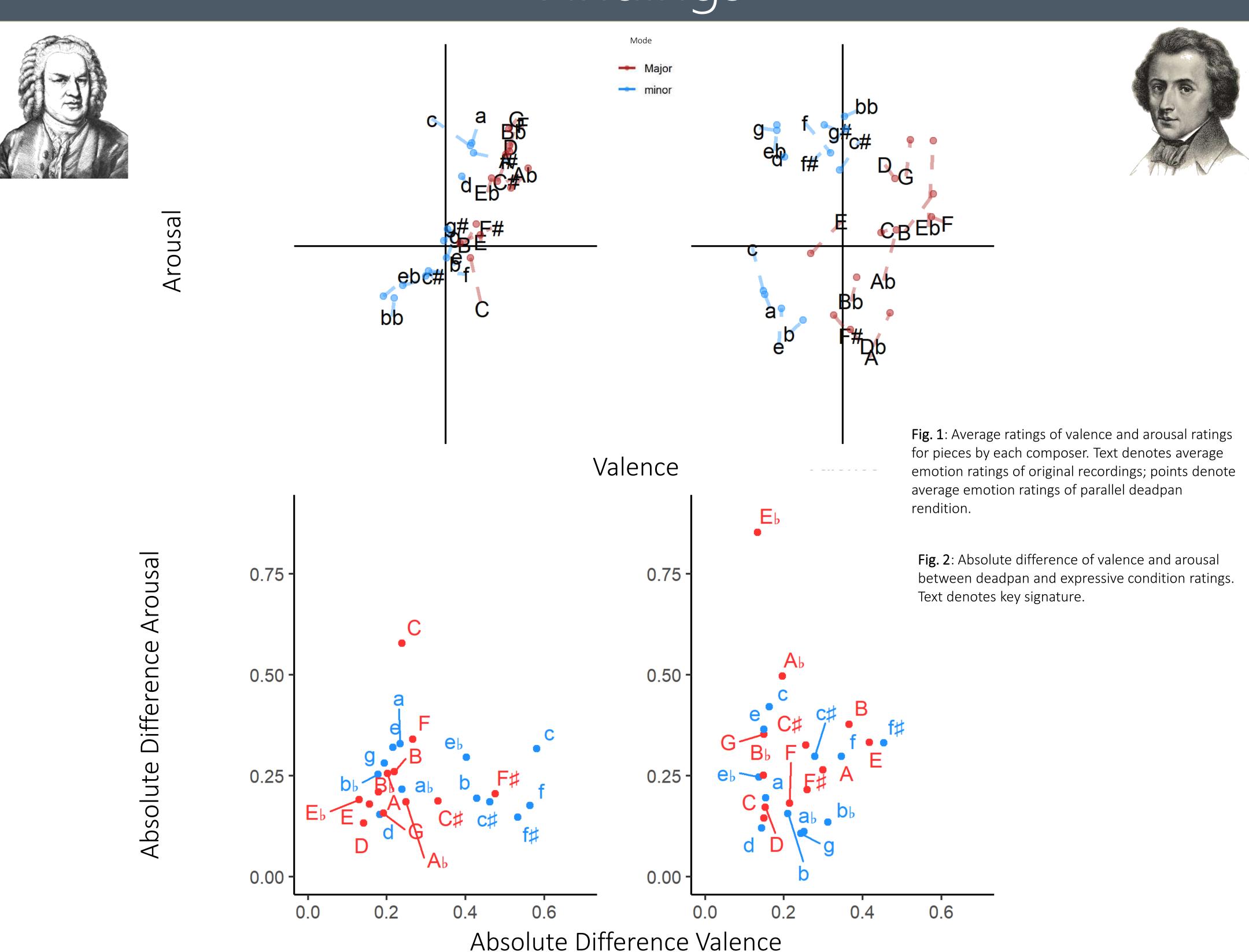
Canada Foundation for Innovation
Fondation canadienne

NSERC CRSNG

Social Sciences ar Humanities Resea Council of Canada Canada

Social Sciences and Humanities Research en sciences humaines

Findings



Summary

- We explored how performers vs. composers influence emotional communication in works by Bach and Chopin.
- Performance interpretation appeared to affect valence more for Bach and arousal more for Chopin.
- These findings suggest music from different periods of history may offer distinct affordances for emotional communication during performances.

Selected References

Bhatara, A., Tirovolas, A. K., Duan, L. M., Levy, B., & Levitin, D. J. (2011). Perception of emotional expression in musical performance. Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance, 37(3), 921.

Hunter, M. (2005). "To Play as if from the Soul of the Composer": The Idea of the Performer in Early Romantic Aesthetics. Journal of the American Musicological Society, 58(2), 357-398.

Juslin, P. N. (1997). Emotional communication in music performance: A functionalist perspective and some data. Music perception, 14(4), 383-418.

Quinto, L., & Thompson, W. F. (2013). Composers and performers have different capacities to manipulate arousal and valence. *Psychomusicology: Music, Mind, and Brain, 23*(3),

Smith, J. (2020). The Dynamics of Composer-Performer Relationships: A Study of Long-Term Creative Collaboration [Doctoral dissertation, University of Toronto]. ProQuest Dissertations Publishing.