Deep Cross-Modal Correlation Learning for Audio and Lyrics in Music Retrieval

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Abstract—Deep cross-modal learning has successfully demonstrated excellent performances in cross-modal multimedia retrieval, with the aim of learning joint representations between different data modalities. Unfortunately, little research focuses on cross-modal correlation learning where temporal structures of different data modalities such as audio and lyrics are taken into account. Stemming from the characteristic of temporal structures of music in nature, we are motivated to learn the deep sequential correlation between audio and lyrics. In this work, we propose a deep cross-modal correlation learning architecture involving two-branch deep neural networks for audio modality and text modality (lyrics). Different modality data are converted to the same canonical space where inter modal canonical correlation analysis is utilized as an objective function to calculate the similarity of temporal structures. This is the first study on understanding the correlation between language and music audio through deep architectures for learning the paired temporal correlation of audio and lyrics. Pre-trained Doc2vec model followed by fully-connected layers (fully-connected deep neural network) is used to represent lyrics. Two significant contributions are made in the audio branch, as follows: i) pretrained CNN followed by fully-connected layers is investigated for representing music audio. ii) We further suggest an end-toend architecture that simultaneously trains convolutional layers and fully-connected layers to better learn temporal structures of music audio. Particularly, our end-to-end deep architecture contains two properties: simultaneously implementing feature learning and cross-modal correlation learning, and learning joint representation by considering temporal structures. Experimental results, using audio to retrieve lyrics or using lyrics to retrieve audio, verify the effectiveness of the proposed deep correlation learning architectures in cross-modal music retrieval.

Index Terms—Convolutional neural networks, deep crossmodal models, correlation learning between audio and lyrics, cross-modal music retrieval, music knowledge discovery

I. INTRODUCTION

Music audio and lyrics provide complementary information in understanding the richness of human beings' cultures and activities [1]. Music¹ is an art expression whose medium is sound organized in time. Lyrics² as natural language represent music theme and story, which are a very important element for creating a meaningful impression of the music. Starting from the late 2014, Google provides music search results containing

Francisco was involved in this work during his internship in National Institute of Informatics (NII), Tokyo.

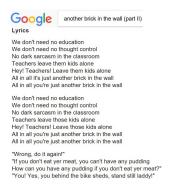


Fig. 1. Google lyrics for song title "another brick in the wall (part II)".

song lyrics as shown in Fig. 1 when given a specific song title. However, searching lyrics in this way is insufficient because sometimes people might lack exact song title but know a segment of music audio instead, or want to search an audio track with part of the lyrics. Then, a natural question arises: how to retrieve the lyrics by a segment of music audio, and vice versa?

Searching lyrics by audio was almost impossible years ago due to the limited availability of large volumes of music audio and lyrics. The profusion of online music audio and lyrics from music sharing websites such as YouTube, MetroLyrics, Azlyrics, and Genius shows the opportunity to understand musical knowledge from content-based audio and lyrics by leveraging large volumes of cross-modal music data aggregated in Internet.

Motivated by the fact that audio content and lyrics are very fundamental aspects for understanding what kind of cultures and activities a song wants to convey to us, this research pays attentions to deep correlation learning between audio and lyrics for cross-modal music retrieval and considers two real-world tasks: using audio to retrieve lyrics or using lyrics to retrieve audio. Several contributions are made in this paper, as follows:

- i) To the best of our knowledge, this work is the first research where a deep correlation learning architecture with two-branch neural networks and correlation learning model is studied for cross-modal music retrieval by using either audio or lyrics as a query modality.
- ii) Different music modality data are projected to the shared space where inter modal canonical correlation analysis is

¹https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music

²https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyrics

exploited as an objective function to calculate the similarity of temporal structures. Fully-connected deep neural networks (DNNs) and an end-to-end DNN are proposed to learn audio representation, where the pre-trained Doc2vec model followed by fully-connected layers is employed to extract lyrics feature.

iii) Extensive experiments confirm the effectiveness of our deep correlation learning architecture for audio-lyrics music retrieval, which are meaningful results and studies for attracting more efforts on mining music knowledge structure and correlation between different modality data.

The rest of this paper is structured as follows. Research motivation and background are introduced in Sec.II. Sec.III gives the preliminaries of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and Deep Canonical Correlation Analysis (DCCA). Then, Sec.IV presents why and how we exploit CNNs and DCCA to build a deep correlation learning architecture for audio-lyrics music retrieval. The task of cross-modal music retrieval in our work is described in Sec.V. Experimental evaluation results are shown in Sec.VI. Finally, conclusions are pointed out in Sec.VII.

II. MOTIVATION AND BACKGROUND

Music has permeated our daily life, which contains different modalities in real-world scenarios such as temporal audio signal, lyrics with meaningful sentences, high-level semantic tags, and temporal visual content. However, correlation learning between lyrics and audio for cross-modal music retrieval has not been sufficiently studied. Previous works [2], [3], [4] mainly focused on content-based music retrieval with single modality. With the widespread availability of large-scale multimodal music data, it brings us research opportunity to tackle cross-modal music retrieval.

A. Lyrics and Audio in Music

Recent research has shown that lyrics, audio, or the combination of audio and lyrics are mainly applied to semantic classification such as emotion or genre in music. For example, authors in [5] proposed an unsupervised learning method for mood recognition where Canonical Correlation Analysis (CCA) was applied to identify correlations between lyrics and audio, and the evaluation of mood classification was done based on the valence-arousal space. An interesting corpus with each song in the MIDI format and emotion annotation is introduced in [6]. Coarse-grained classification for six emotions is learned by support vector machines (SVM), and this work showed that either textual feature or audio feature can be used for emotion classification, and their joint use leads to a significant improvement. Emotion lyrics datasets in English [7] are annotated with continuous arousal and valence values. Specific text emotion attributes are considered to complement music emotion recognition. Experiments on the regression and classification of music lyrics by quadrant, arousal, and valence categories are performed. Application of hierarchical attention network is proposed in [8] to handle genre classification of intact lyrics. This network is able to pay attention to words, lines, and segments of the song lyrics, where the importance of words, lines, and segments in layer structure is learned. Distinct from intensive research on music classification by using lyrics and audio, our work focuses on audio-lyrics cross-modal music retrieval: using audio to retrieve lyrics or vice versa. This is a very natural way for us to retrieve lyrics or audio on the Internet. However, no much research has investigated this task.

B. Cross-modal Music Retrieval

Some existing researches on cross-modal music retrieval intensively focus on investigating music and visual modalities [9], [10], [11], [12], [13], [14], [15], [16]. Similarity between audio features extracted from music and image features extracted from the album covers are trained by a Java SOMToolbox framework in [11]. Then, according to this similarity, people can organize a music collection and make use of album cover as visual content to retrieve a song over multimodal music data. Based on multi-modal mixture models, a statistical method to jointly modeling music, images, and text [12] is used to support retrieval over a multimodal dataset. To generate a soundtrack for the outdoor video, an effective heuristic ranking method is suggested based on heterogeneous late fusion by jointly considering venue categories, visual scene, and user listening history [13]. Confidence scores, produced by SVM-hmm models constructed from geographic, visual, and audio features, are combined to obtain different types of video characteristics. To learn the semantic correlation between music and video, a novel approach to selecting features and statistical novelty based on kernel methods [14] is proposed for music segmentation. Co-occurring changes in audio and video content of music videos can be detected, where the correlations can be used in cross-modal audio-visual music retrieval. Lyrics-based music attributes are utilized for image representation in [16]. Cross-modal ranking analysis is suggested to learn semantic similarity between music and image, with the aim of obtaining the optimal embedding spaces for music and image. Distinct from intensive research on considering the use of metadata for different music modalities in cross-modal music retrieval, our work focuses on deep architecture based on correlation learning between audio and lyrics for content-based cross-modal music retrieval.

C. Deep Cross-modal Learning

We have witnessed several efforts devoted to investigating cross-modal learning between different modalities, such as [17], [18], [19], [20], [21], [22], to facilitate cross-modal matching and retrieval. Most importantly, latest studies extensively pay attention to deep cross-modal learning between image and textual descriptions such as [17], [19], [22], [23]. Most existing deep models with two-branch sub-networks explore pre-trained convolutional neural network (CNN) [24] as image branch [19] and utilize pre-trained document-level embedding model [25] or hand-crafted feature extraction such as bag of words [17] as text branch. Image and text modalities are converted to the joint embedding space calculating a single ranking loss function by feed-forward way. Image-text benchmarks such as [26], [27] are applied to evaluate the performances of cross-modal matching and retrieval. There

are two features for existing deep cross-modal retrieval: i) cross-modal correlation between image and text is learned without considering temporal sequences. ii) Pre-trained models are directly applied to represent image or text. Distinct from existing deep cross-modal retrieval architectures, this work takes into account temporal sequences to learn the correlation between audio and lyrics for facilitating audio-lyrics cross-modal music retrieval, where sequential audio and lyrics are converted to the canonical space. A neural network with two-branch sequential structures for audio and lyrics is trained.

III. PRELIMINARIES

We focus on developing a two-branch deep architecture for learning the correlation between audio and lyrics in the cross-modal music retrieval, where several variants of deep learning models are investigated for processing audio sequence while pre-trained Doc2vec [25] is used for processing lyrics. A brief review of CNNs and DCCA exploited in this work is addressed in the following.

A. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

CNNs have been exploited to handle not only various tasks in the field of computer vision and multimedia [28], [29], but also the tasks of music information retrieval such as genre classification [30], acoustic event detection [31], automatic music tagging [32]. Generally speaking, when lacking computational power and large annotated datasets, it is preferred to directly use pre-trained CNNs such as VGG16 [28] to extract features [20][31], or further combine it with fully-connected layers to extract semantic features [19][23][31].

Different from plain spatial convolutional operation, CNN tries to use different kernels (filters) to capture different local patterns, and this will generate multiple intermediate feature maps (called channels). Specifically, the convolutional operation in one convolutional layer is defined as

$$\boldsymbol{x}^{j} = f(\sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \boldsymbol{H}^{jk} \otimes \boldsymbol{s}^{k} + a^{j}), \tag{1}$$

where the superscripts j, k are channel indices, s^k is the k-th channel input, x^j is the j-th channel output, \otimes is the convolutional operation, H^{jk} is the convolutional kernel (or the filter) that associates the k-th input channel with the j-th output channel, a^j is the bias for j-th channel, and $f(\cdot)$ is a non-linear activation function. All weights that define a convolutional layer are represented as a 4-dimensional array with a shape of (h, l, K, J), where h and l determine the kernel size, and K and J are the number of input and output channels, respectively. When mel-spectrogram is used as the input of the first convolutional layer, it only has one channel.

A 2D convolutional kernel \boldsymbol{H}^{jk} , as a common filter, is applied to the whole input channel. This kernel is shifted along both (frequency and time) axes and a local correlation is computed between the kernel and input. The kernels are trained to find local salient patterns that maximize the overall objective. As a kernel sweeps the input, it generates a new

output in order, which preserves the spatiality of the input, i.e., the frequency and time constraint of the spectrogram.

Convolutional layers are often followed by pooling layers, which reduce the size of feature map by down sampling them. The max function is a typical pooling operation. This selects the maximal value from a pooling region, instead of keeping all information in the region. This pooling operation also enables distortion and translation invariances by discarding the original location of the selected value, and the capability of such invariance within each pooling layer is determined by the pooling size. With a small pooing size, the network does not have enough distortion invariance, while a too large pooling size may completely loose the location of a salient feature. Instead of using a large pooling size in one layer, using multiple small pooling sizes at different pooling layers will enable the system to gradually abstract the features to be more compact and more semantic.

B. Deep Canonical Correlation Analysis (DCCA)

CCA has been a very popular method for embedding multimodal data in a shared space. Before presenting our deep multimodal correlation learning between audio and lyrics, we first give an overview of CCA and DCCA.

Let $\boldsymbol{x} \in R^m$ (e.g., audio feature) and $\boldsymbol{y} \in R^n$ (e.g., textual feature) be zero mean random (column) vectors with covariances \boldsymbol{C}_{xx} , \boldsymbol{C}_{yy} and cross-covariance \boldsymbol{C}_{xy} . When a linear projection is performed, CCA [33] tries to find two canonical weights \boldsymbol{w}_x and \boldsymbol{w}_y , so that the correlation between the linear projections $u = \boldsymbol{w}_x^T \boldsymbol{x}$ and $v = \boldsymbol{w}_y^T \boldsymbol{y}$ is maximized.

$$(\boldsymbol{w}_{x}, \boldsymbol{w}_{y}) = \underset{(\boldsymbol{w}_{x}, \boldsymbol{w}_{y})}{\operatorname{argmax}} \operatorname{corr}(\boldsymbol{w}_{x}^{T} \boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{w}_{y}^{T} \boldsymbol{y})$$

$$= \underset{(\boldsymbol{w}_{x}, \boldsymbol{w}_{y})}{\operatorname{argmax}} \frac{\boldsymbol{w}_{x}^{T} \boldsymbol{C}_{xy} \boldsymbol{w}_{y}}{\sqrt{\boldsymbol{w}_{x}^{T} \boldsymbol{C}_{xx} \boldsymbol{w}_{x} \cdot \boldsymbol{w}_{y}^{T} \boldsymbol{C}_{yy} \boldsymbol{w}_{y}}}. (2)$$

One of the known shortcoming of CCA is that its linear projection may not well model the nonlinear relation between different modalities.

DCCA [34] tries to calculate non-linear correlations between different modalities by a combination of DNNs (deep neural networks) and CCA. Different from KCCA which relies on kernel functions (corresponding to a logical high dimensional (sparse) space), DNN has the extra capability of compressing features to a low dimensional (dense) space, and then CCA is implemented in the objective function. The DNNs, which realize the non-linear mapping ($\varphi_x(\cdot)$) and $\varphi_y(\cdot)$), and the canonical weights (w_x and w_y that model the CCA between $\varphi_x(x)$ and $\varphi_y(y)$), are trained simultaneously to maximize the correlation after the non-linear mapping, as follows.

$$(\boldsymbol{w}_{x}, \boldsymbol{w}_{y}, \varphi_{x}, \varphi_{y}) = \underset{(\boldsymbol{w}_{x}, \boldsymbol{w}_{y}, \varphi_{x}, \varphi_{y})}{argmax} corr(\boldsymbol{w}_{x}^{T} \varphi_{x}(\boldsymbol{x}), \boldsymbol{w}_{y}^{T} \varphi_{y}(\boldsymbol{y})).$$
(3)

IV. DEEP AUDIO-LYRICS CORRELATION LEARNING

We develop a deep cross-modal correlation learning architecture that predicts latent alignment between audio and lyrics, which enables audio-to-lyrics or lyrics-to-audio music retrieval. In this section, we explain how our deep architecture is learned. Specifically, we investigate different deep network models for correlation analysis and different deep learning methods for audio feature extraction.

A. Learning Strategy

On one hand, lyrics as natural language express semantic music theme and story; on the other hand, music audio contains some properties such as tonality and temporal over time and frequency. They are correlated in the semantic sense. However, audio and lyrics belong to different modality and cannot be compared directly. Therefore, we extract their features separately, and then map them to the same semantic space for a similarity comparison. Because linear mapping in CCA does not work well, we design deep networks to realize non-linear mapping before CCA. Consequently, deep correlation models for learning temporal structures are considered for representing lyrics branch and audio branch.

We investigate two deep network architectures. i) Separate feature extraction, completely independent of the following DCCA analysis. Text branch follows this architecture, where the pre-trained Doc2vec [25] model is used to compute a compact textual feature vector. As for audio, directly using the pre-trained CNN model [32] belongs to this architecture as well. ii) Joint training of audio feature extraction and DCCA analysis between audio and lyrics. In this way, feature extraction is also correlated with the subsequent DCCA. Here, for the audio branch, a CNN model is trained from the ground together with the following fully-connected layers, based on an end-to-end learning procedure. It is expected that this CNN is adapted to the DNN so as to extract more meaningful audio features.

B. Network Architecture

Figure 2 shows an end-to-end deep convolutional DCCA network, which aims at simultaneously learning the feature extraction and the deep correlation between audio and lyrics. This model is degenerated to a simple DCCA network, when the CNN model marked in pink dashed line is replaced by a pre-trained model.

From the sequence of words in the lyrics, textual feature is computed, more specifically, by a pre-trained Doc2vec model. Music audio signal is represented as a 2D spectrogram, which preserves both its spectral and temporal properties. However, it is difficult to directly use this for the DCCA analysis, due to its high dimension. Therefore, we investigate two variants for the dimension reduction. (i) Audio feature is extracted by a pre-trained convolutional model, and we study the pure effect of DCCA in analyzing the correlation. i.e., sub DNNs with fully connected layers are trained to maximize the correlation between audio and textual features. (ii) An end-to-end deep network for audio branch that integrates convolutional layers

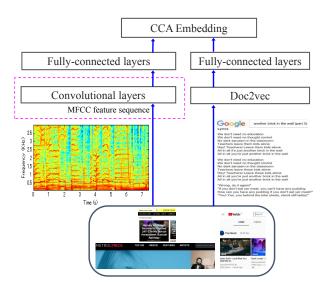


Fig. 2. Deep correlation learning between audio and lyrics.

for feature extraction and non-linear mapping for correlation learning together, is trained. In the future work, we will also consider the integration of Doc2Vec with its subsequent DNN.

1) Audio feature extraction: The audio signal is represented as a spectrogram. We mainly focus on mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCCs), because MFCCs are very efficient features for semantic genre classification [35] and music audio similarity comparison [36]. We will also compare MFCC with Mel-spectrum, which contains more detailed information. To compute a single feature vector for correlation analysis, we successively apply convolutional layers with different kernels to capture local salient features, and use pooling layers to reduce the dimension.

By inserting the pooling layer between adjacent convolutional layers, a kernel in the late layer corresponds to a larger kernel in the previous layer, and has more capacity in representing semantic information. Then, using small kernels in different convolutional layers can achieve the function of a large kernel in one convolutional layer, but is more robust to scale variance. In this sense, a combination of successive convolutional layers and pooling layers can capture features at different scales, and the kernels can learn to represent complex patterns.

For each audio signal, a slice of 30s is resampled to 22,050Hz with a single channel. With frame length 2048 and step 1024, there are 646 frames. For the end-to-end learning, a sequence of MFCCs (20x646) are computed. By initial experiments we found that our approach is not very sensitive to the time resolution. Therefore, we decimate the spectrogram into 4 sub sequences, each with 161 frames and associated with the same lyrics.

For implementing an end-to-end deep learning, the configuration of CNN used for audio branch in this work is shown in Table I. It consists of 3 convolutional layers and 3 max pooling layers, and outputs a feature vector with a size of 1536. We tried to add more convolutional layer but see no significant difference. Rectified linear unit (ReLU) is used as an activation function in each convolutional layer except the last one. Batch

TABLE I CONFIGURATION OF CNNs FOR AUDIO BRANCH

MFCC: 20x646/4
Convolution, 3x3x48
Max-pooling (2,2), output 10x80x48
Convolution: 3x3x96
Max-pooling (3,3), output 3x26x96
Convolution: 3x3x192
Max-pooling (3,3), output 1536

TABLE II STRUCTURE OF SUB-DNNS

	Sub-DNN1 (Audio)	Sub-DNN2 (Text)
1st layer	1024, sigmoid	1024, sigmoid
2nd layer	1024, sigmoid	1024, sigmoid
3rd layer (output)	D, linear	D, linear

normalization is used before activation. Convolutional kernels (3x3) are used in every convolutional layer. These kernels help to learn local spectral-tempo structures. In this way, CNN converts an audio feature sequence (a 2D matrix) to a high dimensional vector, and retains some astonishing properties such as tempo invariances, which can be very helpful for learning musical features in semantic correlation learning between lyrics and audio.

With the input spectrogram s, the feature output by the convolutional layers is $x = f_3(\mathbf{H}_3 \otimes f_2(\mathbf{H}_2 \otimes f_1(\mathbf{H}_1 \otimes s + a_1) + a_2) + a_3)$, where \mathbf{H}_i , a_i and f_i are the convolutional kernel, bias, and activation function in the ith layer.

As for the pre-trained model, we apply the pre-trained CNN model in [32], which has 5 convolutional layers, each with either average pooling or standard deviation pooling, generating a 30-dimension vector per layer. Concatenating all of them together generates a feature vector of 320 dimension.

- 2) Textual feature extraction: Lyrics text of each song is tokenized by using coreNLP [37], and passed to the infer_vector module of the Doc2Vec model [25], generating a 300-dimensional feature for each song. We use the pretrained apnews_dbow weights³ in the experiment.
- 3) Non-linear mapping of features: Audio features and textual features are further converted into low dimensional features in a shared *D*-dimensional semantic space by using different sub DNNs composed of fully connected layers.

The details of sub DNNs are shown in Table II. These two sub DNNs (each with 3 fully connected layers) implement the non-linear mapping of DCCA. The audio feature generated by the feature extraction part is denoted as $\boldsymbol{x} \in R^m$ (m varies with each method) and deep textual feature is denoted as $\boldsymbol{y} \in R^{300}$. The overall functions of sub-DNNs are denoted as $\varphi_x(\boldsymbol{x}) = g_3(\boldsymbol{\Psi}_3 \cdot g_2(\boldsymbol{\Psi}_2 \cdot g_1(\boldsymbol{\Psi}_1 \boldsymbol{x} + \boldsymbol{b}_1) + \boldsymbol{b}_2) + \boldsymbol{b}_3)$, where $\boldsymbol{\Psi}_i$ and \boldsymbol{b}_i are the weight matrix and bias for the ith layer and $g_i(\cdot)$ is the activation function. And $\varphi_y(\boldsymbol{y})$ is computed in a similar way. Then, $\varphi_x(\boldsymbol{x})$ is the overall result of the convolutional layer and its subsequent DNN, given the input spectrogram s.

4) Objective function of CCA: Assume the batch size in the training is N, $X \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times N}$ and $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times N}$ are the outputs of sub DNN of the two batches, corresponding to audio

$$(\boldsymbol{H}, \boldsymbol{W}_{X}, \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}, \varphi_{x}, \varphi_{y}) = \underset{(\boldsymbol{H}, \boldsymbol{W}_{X}, \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}, \varphi_{x}, \varphi_{y})}{argmax} corr(\boldsymbol{W}_{X}^{T}\boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}^{T}\boldsymbol{Y}).$$

At first, with $\boldsymbol{H}, \varphi_x, \varphi_y$ being fixed, \boldsymbol{W}_X and \boldsymbol{W}_Y are computed by

$$(\boldsymbol{W}_{X}, \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}) = \underset{(\boldsymbol{W}_{X}, \boldsymbol{W}_{Y})}{\operatorname{argmax}} \frac{\boldsymbol{W}_{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{C}_{XY} \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}}{\sqrt{\boldsymbol{W}_{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{C}_{XX} \boldsymbol{W}_{X} \cdot \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}^{T} \boldsymbol{C}_{YY} \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}}}.$$

This can be rewritten in the trace-form

$$(\boldsymbol{W}_{X}, \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}) = \underset{(\boldsymbol{W}_{X}, \boldsymbol{W}_{Y})}{\operatorname{argmax}} \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{W}_{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{C}_{XY} \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}), \tag{4}$$

subject to :
$$\boldsymbol{W}_{X}^{T}\boldsymbol{C}_{XX}\boldsymbol{W}_{X} = \boldsymbol{W}_{Y}^{T}\boldsymbol{C}_{YY}\boldsymbol{W}_{Y} = \boldsymbol{I}$$
.

Here, covariance C_{XX} , C_{YY} and cross-covariance C_{XY} are computed as follows

$$C_{XX} = \frac{1}{N-1}\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}^T + r\boldsymbol{I},\tag{5}$$

$$C_{YY} = \frac{1}{N-1}\hat{\boldsymbol{Y}}\hat{\boldsymbol{Y}}^T + r\boldsymbol{I},\tag{6}$$

$$C_{XY} = \frac{1}{N-1} \hat{\boldsymbol{X}} \hat{\boldsymbol{Y}}^T, \tag{7}$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{X}} = \boldsymbol{X} - \overline{\boldsymbol{X}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{Y}} = \boldsymbol{Y} - \overline{\boldsymbol{Y}}$$

where \overline{X} and \overline{Y} are average of $\varphi_x(x)$ and $\varphi_y(y)$ within the batch, and r is a small positive constant used to ensure the positive definiteness of C_{XX} and C_{YY} .

positive definiteness of C_{XX} and C_{YY} . By defining $T \triangleq C_{XX}^{-1/2}C_{XY}C_{YY}^{-1/2}$ and performing singular value decomposition on T as $T = UDV^T$, W_X and W_Y can be computed by [34]

$$W_X = C_{XX}^{-1/2} U, W_Y = C_{YY}^{-1/2} V.$$
 (8)

Then, Eq.(4) can be rewritten as

$$tr((\boldsymbol{W}_{X}^{T}\boldsymbol{C}_{XY}\boldsymbol{W}_{Y})^{T}\cdot\boldsymbol{W}_{X}^{T}\boldsymbol{C}_{XY}\boldsymbol{W}_{Y}) = tr(\boldsymbol{T}^{T}\boldsymbol{T}).$$
 (9)

Accordingly, the gradient of the correlation with respect to \boldsymbol{X} is given by

$$\frac{1}{N-1}(2\nabla_{XX}\hat{\boldsymbol{X}} + \nabla_{XY}\hat{\boldsymbol{Y}}),\tag{10}$$

$$abla_{XX} = -\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{C}_{XX}^{-1/2} \boldsymbol{U} \boldsymbol{D} \boldsymbol{U}^T \boldsymbol{C}_{XX}^{-1/2},$$

 $^{(\}varphi_x(x))$ and lyrics $(\varphi_y(y))$, respectively. Let covariance of $\varphi_x(x)$ and $\varphi_y(y)$ be C_{XX} , C_{YY} and their cross-covariance be C_{XY} . With the linear projection matrices W_X and W_Y , the correlation between the canonical components (W_X^TX) and W_Y^TY can be computed. This correlation indicates the association between the two modalities and is used as an overall objective function, which is maximized to find all parameters (convolutional kernels $H(\cdot)$, non-linear projections $\varphi_x(\cdot)$ and $\varphi_y(\cdot)$, linear projection matrices W_X and W_Y).

$$\nabla_{XY} = \boldsymbol{C}_{XX}^{-1/2} \boldsymbol{U} \boldsymbol{V}^T \boldsymbol{C}_{YY}^{-1/2}.$$

And the gradient of the correlation with respect to Y can be computed in a similar way.

Then, the gradients are back propagated, first in the sub DNN, where $\varphi_x(x)$ and $\varphi_x(y)$ are updated. As for the audio branch, the gradients are further back propagated to the convolutional layers, and the kernel filters \boldsymbol{H} are updated. The whole procedure is shown in Algorithm 1.

Algorithm 1 Joint training of CNN and DCCA

```
1: procedure JOINTTRAIN(A, L)
                                               \triangleright A: audio, L: lyrics
         Initialize convolutional net, sub-networks for mapping
         Compute MFCC spectrogram from audio A, \rightarrow \Omega_A
 3:
 4:
         Compute textual feature from lyrics L, \to \Omega_L
 5:
         for each epoch do
             Randomly divide \Omega_A, \Omega_L to batches
 6:
             for each batch (\omega_A, \omega_L) of audio and lyrics do
 7:
                 for each pair (s, l) \in (\omega_A, \omega_L) do
 8:
                      oldsymbol{s} 	o oldsymbol{x} by convolutions
 9:
                      l \rightarrow y by pretrained Doc2Vec model
10:
                      \boldsymbol{x} \to \varphi_x(\boldsymbol{x}) by non-linear mapping
11:
                      \boldsymbol{y} \rightarrow \varphi_y(\boldsymbol{y}) by non-linear mapping
12:
                 end for
13:
                 Get converted batch (X, Y)
14:
                 Apply CCA on (X, Y) to compute W_X, W_Y
15:
                 Compute the gradient with respect to X, Y
16:
                 Back propagate to the sub network
17:
                 Back propagate to the convolutional network
18:
             end for
19:
20:
         end for
21: end procedure
```

V. MUSIC CROSS-MODAL RETRIEVAL TASKS

Two kinds of retrieval tasks are defined to evaluate the effectiveness of our algorithms: instance-level and category-level. Instance-level cross-modal music retrieval is to retrieve lyrics when given music audio as input or vice versa. Category-level cross-modal music retrieval is to retrieve lyrics or audio, searching most similar audio or lyrics with the same mood category.

With a given input (either audio slice or lyrics), its canonical component is computed, and its similarity with the canonical components of the other modality in the database is computed using the cosine similarity metric, and the results are ranked in the decreasing order of the similarity score.

VI. EXPERIMENTS

The performances of the proposed DCCA variants are evaluated and compared with some baselines such as variants of CCA and deep multi-view embedding approach [38].

A. Experiment Setting

Proposed methods. As discussed in Sec. IV, two variants of DCCA in combination with CNN are investigated:

1) PretrainCNN-DCCA (the application of DCCA on the pretrained CNN model [32]), 2) JointTrain-DCCA (the joint training of CNN and DCCA).

Baseline methods include some shallow correlation learning methods (without fully connected layers between feature extraction and CCA), such as 3) Spotify-CCA (which applies CCA on the 65-dimensional audio features provided by Spotify⁴), 4) PretrainCNN-CCA (which applies CCA on the features extracted by the pretrained CNN model), and multiview methods such as 5) Spotify-MVE (Spotify feature with deep multi-view embedding method similar to [38] where arbitrary mappings of two different views are embedded in the joint space based on considering matched pairs with minimal distance and mismatched pairs with maximal distance), 6) PretrainCNN-MVE. We also evaluated 7) Spotify-DCCA. In all these methods, the lyrics branch uses the features extracted by the pretrained Doc2vec model.

Besides MFCC, we also evaluate the feature of Melspectrum. The dimension for Melspectrum is 96 per frame, and there are four convolutional layers, where each of the first three is followed by a max pooling layer, and the final output is 3072 dimension. As for the MVE methods, both branches share the same parameters (activation function, number of neurons and so on) and both have 3 fully connected layers (with 512, 256, and 128 neurons respectively). Batch normalization is used before each layer and tanh activation function is applied after each layer.

Audio-lyrics dataset. Currently, there is no large audio/lyrics dataset publically available for cross-modal music retrieval. Therefore, we build a new audio-lyrics dataset. Spotify is a music streaming on-demand service, which provides access to over 30 million songs, where songs can be searched by various parameters such as artist, playlist, and genre. Users can create, edit, and share playlists on Spotify. Initially, we take 20 most frequent mood categories (aggressive, angry, bittersweet, calm, depressing, dreamy, fun, gay, happy, heavy, intense, melancholy, playful, quiet, quirky, sad, sentimental, sleepy, soothing, sweet) [9] as playlist seeds to invoke Spotify API. For each mood category, we find the top 500 popular English songs according to the popularity provided by Spotify, and further crawl 30s audio slices of these songs from YouTube, while lyrics are collected from Musixmatch. Altogether there are 10,000 pairs of audio and lyrics.

Evaluation metric. In the retrieval evaluation, we use mean reciprocal rank 1 (MRR1) and recall@N as the metrics. Because there is only one relevant audio or lyrics, MRR1 is able to show the rank of the result. MRR1 is defined by

$$MRR1 = \frac{1}{N_q} \sum_{i=1}^{N_q} \frac{1}{rank_i(1)},$$
(11)

where N_q is the number of the queries and $rank_i(1)$ corresponds to the rank of the relevant item in the *i*th query. We

⁴https://developer.spotify.com/web-api/get-audio-features/

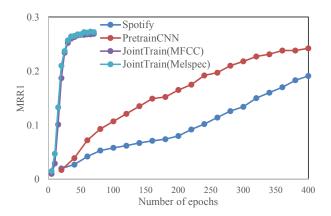


Fig. 3. MRR1 with respect to the numbers of epochs (Using audio as query to search lyrics, #CCA-component=30)

also evaluate recall@N to see how often the relevant item is included in the top of the ranked list. Assume S_q is the set of its relevant items $(|S_q|=1)$ in the database for a given query and the system outputs a ranked list K_q $(|K_q|=N)$. Then, recall is computed by

$$recall = \frac{|S_q \cap K_q|}{|S_q|} \tag{12}$$

and is averaged over all queries.

We use 8,000 pairs of audio and lyrics as the training dataset, and the rest 2,000 pairs for the retrieval testing. Because we generate 4 sub-sequences from each original MFCC sequence, there are 32,000 pairs of audio/lyric pairs in JoinTrain. In each run, the split of audio-lyrics pairs into training/testing is random, and a new model is trained. All results are averaged over 5 runs (cross-validations). In the batch-based training, the batch size is unified to 1000 samples in all methods, and the training takes 200 epochs for Joint-Train and 400 epochs for other DCCA methods. Furthermore, training MVE requires the presence of non-paired instances. To this end, we randomly selected 1 non-paired instance for each song in the dataset. The margin hyper-parameter was set to 0.3, according to our preliminary experiments. Then, we trained MVE for 1280 epochs.

Experiment environment. The evaluations are performed on a Centos7.2 server, which is configured with two E5-2620v4 CPU (2.1GHz), three GTX 1080 GPU (11GB), and DDR4-2400 Memory (128G). Moreover, it contains CUDA8.0, Conda3-4.3 (python 3.5), Tensorflow 1.3.0, and Keras 2.0.5.

B. Performance under Different Numbers of Epochs

Fig. 3 shows the MRR1 results of Spotify-DCCA, PretrainCNN-DCCA, JointTrain-DCCA with MFCC and JointTrain-DCCA with Mel-spectrum, under different numbers of epochs. In all methods, MRR1 increases with the number of epochs, but with different trend. It is clear that MFCC has similar performance as Mel-spectrum, converging much fast than the other two methods and achieving higher MRR1. Hereafter, we only use MFCC as the raw feature for JointTrain.

C. Impact of the Numbers of CCA Components

Here, we evaluate the impact of the number of CCA/MVE components, which affects the performance of both the baseline methods and the proposed methods. The number of CCA/MVE components is adjusted from 10 to 100. The results of MRR1 and recall of Spotify-CCA are marked as N/A when the number of CCA components is greater than 65, the dimension of Spotify feature.

The MRR1 results, with audio feature as query to search lyrics, are shown in Table III. Clearly, with the linear CCA, Spotify-CCA and PretrainCNN-CCA have poor performance, although the performance increases with the number of CCA components. In comparison, with DCCA, the MRR1 results are much improved in Spotify-DCCA and PretrainCNN-DCCA. The MRR1 performance increases with the number of CCA components, and approaches a constant value in PretrainCNN-DCCA. MRR1 decreases a little in Spotify-DCCA when the number of CCA components gets greater than 65, the dimension of Spotify feature. Using MVE, the peak performance of Spotify-MVE and PretrainCNN-MVE lies between that of CCA and DCCA. With the end-toend training, the MRR1 performance is further improved in JointTrain-DCCA, and is almost insensitive to the number of CCA components. But a further increase in the number of CCA components will lead to the SVD failure in CCA.

Table IV shows the MRR1 results achieved using lyrics as query to search audio in the database, which has a similar trend as in Table III. Generally, when audio and lyrics are converted to the same semantic space, they share the same statistics, and can be retrieved mutually.

Table V and Table VI show the results of recall@1 and result@5. Recall@N in these tables is only a little greater than MRR1 in Table III and Table IV, which indicates that for most queries, its relevant item either appears at the first place, or not in the top-n list at all. This infers that for some songs, lyrics and audio, even after being mapped to the same semantic space, are not similar enough.

Table VII and Table VIII show the MRR1 results per category, where the first item with the same mood category as the query is regarded as relevant. Compared with the instance-level retrieval, the MRR1 result per category is about 12% larger in all methods, but cannot be improved more by increasing the number of CCA/MVE components. Because there are 20 mood categories, and some mood categories have similar meaning, this increases the difficulty of distinguishing songs in the category level.

D. Impact of the number of training samples

Here we investigate the impact of the number of training samples, by adjusting the percentage of samples for training from 20% to 80%. The percentage of samples for the retrieval test remains 20%, and the number of training samples is chosen in such a way that there are the same number of songs per mood category.

Fig. 4 and Fig. 5 show the MRR1 results in the instance-level retrieval. Spotify-CCA and PretrainCNN-CCA do not benefit from the increase of the training samples. Spotify-MVE

TABLE III
INSTANCE-LEVEL MRR1 WITH RESPECT TO DIFFERENT NUMBERS OF CCA/MVE COMPONENTS (USING AUDIO AS QUERY)

#CCA/MVE	Spotify-CCA	PretrainCNN-CCA	Spotify-MVE	PretrainCNN-MVE	Spotify-DCCA	PretrainCNN-DCCA	JointTrain-DCCA
10	0.023	0.022	0.121	0.166	0.125	0.189	0.247
20	0.029	0.040	0.134	0.187	0.168	0.225	0.254
30	0.034	0.054	0.095	0.158	0.183	0.236	0.256
40	0.039	0.069	0.084	0.115	0.183	0.239	0.256
50	0.039	0.078	0.067	0.107	0.178	0.237	0.256
60	0.040	0.085	0.065	0.094	0.177	0.240	0.257
70	N/A	0.090	0.061	0.085	0.174	0.239	0.256
80	N/A	0.094	0.056	0.080	0.171	0.237	0.257
90	N/A	0.098	0.054	0.063	0.164	0.238	0.257
100	N/A	0.099	0.043	0.072	0.154	0.237	0.257

 $TABLE\ IV$ Instance-level MRR1 with respect to different numbers of CCA/MVE components (Using lyrics as query)

#CCA/MVE	Spotify-CCA	PretrainCNN-CCA	Spotify-MVE	PretrainCNN-MVE	Spotify-DCCA	PretrainCNN-DCCA	JointTrain-DCCA
10	0.022	0.022	0.114	0.157	0.124	0.190	0.248
20	0.029	0.038	0.119	0.179	0.168	0.225	0.254
30	0.034	0.053	0.083	0.147	0.184	0.236	0.256
40	0.038	0.065	0.067	0.100	0.183	0.240	0.254
50	0.041	0.076	0.056	0.097	0.180	0.236	0.256
60	0.041	0.083	0.053	0.082	0.176	0.241	0.257
70	N/A	0.089	0.049	0.074	0.174	0.240	0.256
80	N/A	0.094	0.048	0.068	0.170	0.237	0.257
90	N/A	0.099	0.044	0.053	0.163	0.239	0.256
100	N/A	0.102	0.035	0.062	0.152	0.237	0.256

 $TABLE\ V$ Instance-level Recall @ N with respect to different numbers of CCA components (Using audio as query)

	Spot	ify@1	PretrainCNN@1		JointTrain@1	Spotify@5		PretrainCNN@5		JointTrain@5
	CCA	DCCA	CCA	DCCA	DCCA	CCA	DCCA	CCA	DCCA	DCCA
10	0.006	0.094	0.007	0.160	0.233	0.025	0.150	0.025	0.217	0.257
20	0.010	0.138	0.020	0.204	0.243	0.034	0.193	0.047	0.243	0.262
30	0.014	0.155	0.031	0.217	0.245	0.043	0.205	0.068	0.252	0.263
40	0.019	0.155	0.045	0.221	0.245	0.047	0.205	0.085	0.255	0.262
50	0.020	0.150	0.053	0.220	0.246	0.049	0.200	0.095	0.250	0.262
60	0.020	0.151	0.060	0.222	0.246	0.051	0.197	0.102	0.254	0.263
70	N/A	0.147	0.065	0.222	0.246	N/A	0.197	0.107	0.253	0.263
80	N/A	0.144	0.068	0.220	0.246	N/A	0.191	0.112	0.250	0.264
90	N/A	0.137	0.071	0.220	0.247	N/A	0.186	0.120	0.253	0.263
100	N/A	0.129	0.073	0.220	0.246	N/A	0.175	0.121	0.251	0.263

 $TABLE\ VI$ Instance-level Recall @ N with respect to different numbers of CCA components (Using lyrics as query)

	Spot	ify@1	PretrainCNN@1		JointTrain@1	Spotify@5		PretrainCNN@5		JointTrain@5
	CCA	DCCA	CCA	DCCA	DCCA	CCA	DCCA	CCA	DCCA	DCCA
10	0.005	0.090	0.007	0.160	0.235	0.024	0.151	0.022	0.219	0.257
20	0.009	0.138	0.019	0.204	0.242	0.034	0.193	0.048	0.242	0.261
30	0.014	0.157	0.031	0.219	0.245	0.042	0.205	0.064	0.250	0.263
40	0.018	0.155	0.040	0.223	0.244	0.048	0.205	0.081	0.252	0.261
50	0.021	0.154	0.050	0.218	0.246	0.051	0.199	0.092	0.250	0.262
60	0.021	0.150	0.057	0.224	0.247	0.051	0.197	0.101	0.254	0.263
70	N/A	0.147	0.064	0.224	0.245	N/A	0.196	0.108	0.252	0.263
80	N/A	0.144	0.069	0.221	0.247	N/A	0.190	0.113	0.250	0.264
90	N/A	0.137	0.072	0.222	0.246	N/A	0.186	0.119	0.253	0.263
100	N/A	0.126	0.077	0.221	0.247	N/A	0.172	0.121	0.249	0.262

and PretrainCNN-MVE benefits a little. In comparison, when DCCA is used, the increase of training samples enables the system to learn more diverse aspect of audio/lyric features, and the MRR1 performance almost linearly increases. In the future, we will try to crawl more data for training a better model to improve the retrieval performance.

The MRR1 result, with lyrics as query to search audio, as

shown in Fig. 5, has a similar trend as that in Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 and Fig. 7 show the MRR1 results when the retrieval is performed in the category level. This has a similar trend as the result of instance-level retrieval.

VII. CONCLUSION

Understanding the correlation between different music modalities is very useful for content-based cross-modal music

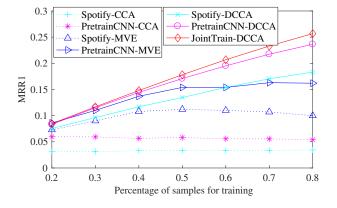
TABLE VII
CATEGORY-LEVEL MRR1 WITH RESPECT TO DIFFERENT NUMBERS OF CCA/MVE COMPONENTS (USING AUDIO AS QUERY)

#CCA/MVE	Spotify-CCA	PretrainCNN-CCA	Spotify-MVE	PretrainCNN-MVE	Spotify-DCCA	Pretrain-DCCA	JointTrain-DCCA
10	0.177	0.172	0.249	0.286	0.260	0.313	0.364
20	0.180	0.187	0.265	0.313	0.296	0.344	0.367
30	0.182	0.199	0.230	0.284	0.307	0.349	0.372
40	0.187	0.212	0.222	0.246	0.307	0.356	0.368
50	0.189	0.218	0.211	0.237	0.304	0.358	0.370
60	0.188	0.225	0.206	0.230	0.302	0.355	0.373
70	N/A	0.230	0.203	0.221	0.298	0.358	0.370
80	N/A	0.234	0.196	0.215	0.294	0.352	0.370
90	N/A	0.235	0.192	0.203	0.294	0.356	0.370
100	N/A	0.233	0.188	0.208	0.282	0.354	0.374

TABLE VIII

CATEGORY-LEVEL MRR1 WITH RESPECT TO DIFFERENT NUMBERS OF CCA/MVE COMPONENTS (USING LYRICS AS QUERY)

#CCA/MVE	Spotify-CCA	PretrainCNN-CCA	Spotify-MVE	PretrainCNN-MVE	Spotify-DCCA	Pretrain-DCCA	JointTrain-DCCA
10	0.178	0.170	0.246	0.277	0.256	0.314	0.366
20	0.176	0.188	0.249	0.304	0.294	0.344	0.368
30	0.179	0.198	0.222	0.273	0.305	0.351	0.372
40	0.185	0.208	0.204	0.235	0.307	0.358	0.365
50	0.191	0.220	0.199	0.228	0.306	0.355	0.373
60	0.190	0.223	0.195	0.221	0.302	0.356	0.374
70	N/A	0.231	0.190	0.208	0.298	0.360	0.371
80	N/A	0.236	0.191	0.205	0.290	0.354	0.370
90	N/A	0.237	0.186	0.194	0.288	0.356	0.369
100	N/A	0.238	0.180	0.203	0.280	0.355	0.375



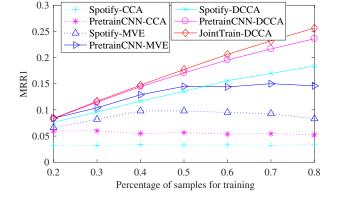


Fig. 4. Instance-level MRR1 under different percentages of training samples (Using audio as query to search text lyrics, #CCA-component=30, 20% for testing)

Fig. 5. Instance-level MRR1 under different percentages of training samples (Using text lyrics as query to search audio signal, #CCA-component=30, 20% for testing)

retrieval and recommendation. Audio and lyrics are most interesting aspects for storytelling music theme and events. In this paper, a deep correlation learning between audio and lyrics is proposed to understand music audio and lyrics. This is the first research for deep cross-modal correlation learning between audio and lyrics. Some efforts are made to give a deep study on i) deep models for processing audio branch are investigated such as pre-trained CNN with or without being followed by fully-connected layers. ii) An end-to-end convolutional DCCA is further proposed to learn correlation between audio and lyrics where feature extraction and correlation learning are simultaneously performed and joint representation is learned by considering temporal structures. iii) Extensive evaluations show the effectiveness of the proposed deep correlation learning architecture where convolutional DCCA performs best when considering retrieval

accuracy and converging time. More importantly, we apply our architecture to the bidirectional retrieval between audio and lyrics, e.g., searching lyrics with audio and vice versa. Crossmodal retrieval performance is reported at instance level and mood category level.

This work mainly pays attention to studying deep models for processing music audio while keeping pre-trained Doc2vec for processing lyrics in correlation learning. We are collecting more audio-lyrics pairs to further improve the retrieval performance, and will integrate different music modality data to implement personalized music recommendation. In the future work, we will investigate some deep models for processing lyrics branch. Lyrics contain a hierarchical composition such as verse, chorus, bridge. We will extend our deep architecture to complement musical composition (given music audio) where Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) will be applied for

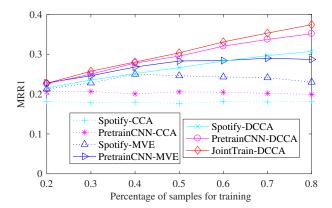


Fig. 6. Category-level MRR1 under different percentages of training samples (Using audio signal as query to search text lyrics, #CCA-component=30, 20% for testing)

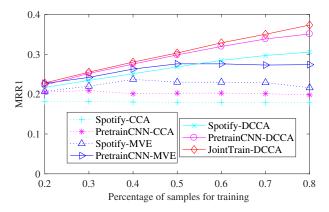


Fig. 7. Category-level MRR1 under different percentages of training samples (Using text lyrics as query to search audio signal, #CCA-component=30, 20% for testing)

learning lyrics dependencies.

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