MIREX 2005: What did we learn?

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MIREX 2005 in review

- 10 contests
- 70+ submissions
- authoritative results
- algorithm submission!
- .. heroic effort

What did we learn?

- which labs did best
- overall spread of performances
- something about variety of approaches
 - from abstracts
- no standout techniques?
 - all top pairs differ < 10%
 - in 4 out of 10, differ by < 1%

What didn't we learn?

- which techniques are successful
- impact of individual choices
 - e.g. features, classifiers...
- interactions of approaches and results
- the importance of diversity...
- the value of co-operation...
 - instead of competing

How to learn more?

- have more people look at detail of results
- have finer-grain breakdown of algorithms
- more ground truth / annotation
 - need more buy-in
 - no split responsibility: leaders = organizers

Access to detailed results

- participants run evaluations at home
 - even final eval, but not scoring
- separate development and test sets
- common basis for 'progress' reports

Algorithm breakdown

- provide common framework including default units
 - consensus on problem decomposition?
- participants can replace just one part, or whole set
- submitted components can be crosscombined
- sharing of code?...