



Numbers, instruments and hands: the impact of faceted analytical theory on classifying music ensembles

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Schedule

1. Sub-facets of instrumental ensembles
2. Relationships between sub-facets
3. What is actually being counted?

I. Sub-facets of instrumental ensembles

What is an instrumental ensemble?

How are the terms faceting and sub-facets used in this paper?

Type-of-thing

- Type of instrument
- example foci: violin, flute, soprano

Number-of-thing

- Number of instruments
- example foci: 1, 4, 9

There are two types of sub-facets for instrumental ensembles

Simple example: Flute duet

- Type of instrument: flute; Number of instruments: 2

I. Sub-facets of instrumental ensembles

Example: String quintet

2 violins, 2 violas, 1 cello

Option 1.

- Each type of instrument **and** each no. of instrument
- Foci: Violin, 2 + viola, 2 + cello, 1

Option 2.

- Family of instruments **and** total number of instruments
- Foci: String (or violin family) , 5

I. Sub-facets of instrumental ensembles

4 types of information/sub-facets for instrumental ensembles

1. Instrument family (I)
2. Total number of instruments (N)
3. Instrument (i)
4. Number of each instrument (n)

2. Relationships between sub-facets

- 4** types of information/sub-facets for instrumental ensembles
1. Instrument family (I)
 2. Total number of instruments (N)
 3. Instrument (i)
 4. Number of each instrument (n)

I and N; i and n

(Relationships between numbers and things)

- Associative
- Number of each instrument has no meaning without the instrument
- Are N and n even part of medium facet?

2. Relationships between sub-facets

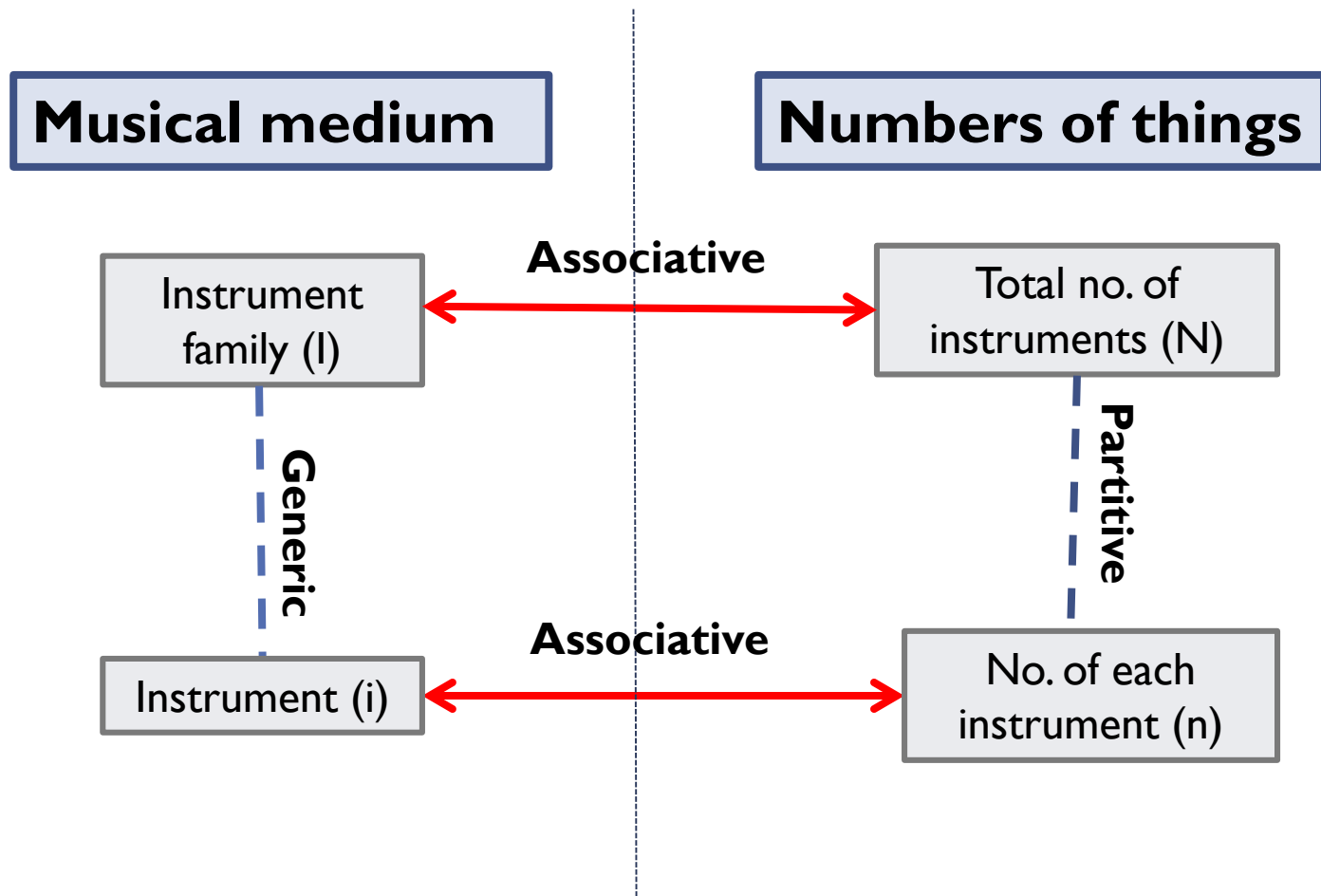
- 4** types of information/sub-facets for instrumental ensembles
1. Instrument family (I)
 2. Total number of instruments (N)
 3. Instrument (i)
 4. Number of each instrument (n)

N and n; I and i

(Relationships between types and types, and numbers and numbers)

- Hierarchical, parent-child
- N and n = partitive/whole-part
- I and i = generic/genus-species

2. Relationships between sub-facets



3. What is actually being counted?

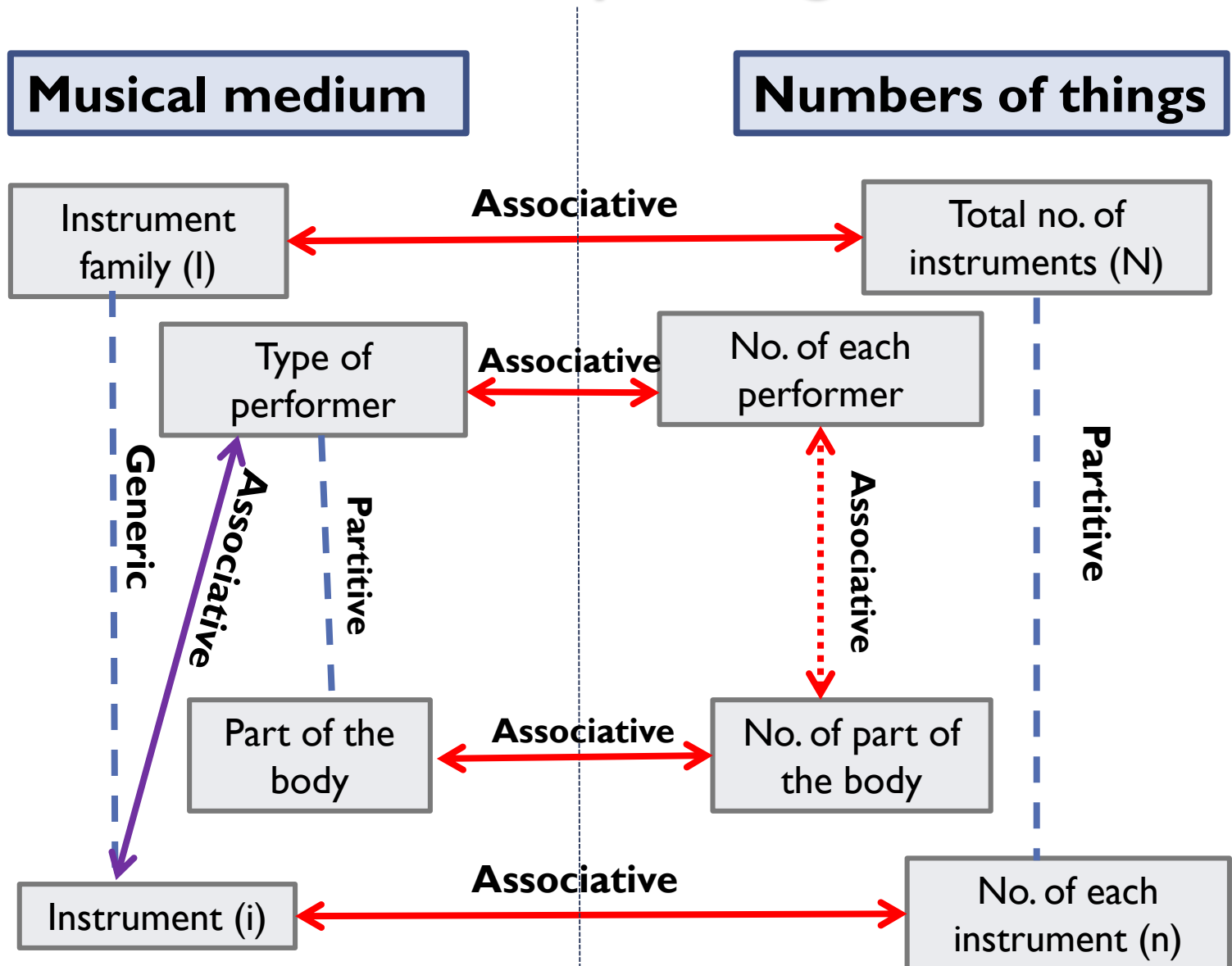
Pianos versus pianists

- Music for piano duet is different from music for two pianos

The counting of hands

- Where does music for one hand fit in?

3. What is actually being counted?



Concluding thoughts

- Classifying instrumental ensembles is complex
- 8 sub-facets + various relationships
- The models show why existing schemes struggle to classify them ...
- ... but also ideas for future classification
- Novel type of structure for faceting

Questions



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