Self-Synchronized Oscillators

For Human-Swarm Interactive Music Systems

By Pedro Lucas

Self-Synchronized Oscillators

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Intention

Use self-synchronized oscillators as a mechanism for "automatic tempo synchronization" in Human-Swarm Interactive Music Systems, that is, a "decentralized clock".



What is an "oscillator"?

What is an "oscillator"?

- Any instrument for producing oscillations¹.
- An oscillation is a periodic motion about an equilibrium position².



https://mathematicalmysteries.org/sine-wave/



https://giphy.com/gifs/heartbeat-VGK2WUT3amXjG

¹https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/oscillator

²https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/acref/9780199233991.001.0001/acref-9780199233991-e-2171?rskey=M2crUs&result=2441

What is an "oscillator"?

We can describe them mathematically (e.g. *y* = *sin(x)*):



https://mathematicalmysteries.org/sine-wave/

Coupled oscillators are oscillators connected in such a way that energy can be transferred between them¹



Fireflies Synchronization



http://sevenworldsoneplanet.com/

Crowd Synchronization



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eAXVa__XWZ8





Coupled Oscillators Models

Coupled Oscillators Models



¹ Y. Kuramoto, "Self-entrainment of a population of coupled non-linear oscillators," in *International Symposium on Mathematical Problems in Theoretical Physics*, H. Araki, Ed., Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 1975, pp. 420–422.

Coupled Oscillators Models

Swarmalator Model¹

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}_{i} = \mathbf{v}_{i} + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \left[\mathbf{I}_{\text{att}} (\mathbf{x}_{j} - \mathbf{x}_{i}) F(\theta_{j} - \theta_{i}) - \mathbf{I}_{\text{rep}} (\mathbf{x}_{j} - \mathbf{x}_{i}) \right], \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i + \frac{K}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N H_{\text{att}} (\theta_j - \theta_i) G(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i)$$
 (2)

"Phase ($\boldsymbol{\theta}$) and Space (\boldsymbol{x}) - Coupled Oscillators"

"Also continuous interaction"



https://youtu.be/sDsLuTV6qLw

Entrainment Workshop presentation: https://osf.io/stx3e

Coupled Oscillators Models

Mirollo-Strogatz Model¹

When a fire event is received:

$$\phi_{\jmath}(t) = 1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \phi_{\jmath}(t^{+}) = 0\\ \phi_{\imath}(t^{+}) = P(\phi_{\imath}(t)) \quad \forall \imath \neq \jmath \end{cases}$$

Phase update from (Nymoen et al., 2014)²:

$$P(\phi) = \phi - \alpha \cdot \sin 2\pi\phi \cdot |\sin 2\pi\phi|$$

"Pulse-Coupled Oscillators"

"Event-based interaction (Fire Event)"



Two equal pulse-coupled oscillators synchronize using Mirollo-Strogatz algorithm²

¹R. E. Mirollo and S. H. Strogatz, "Synchronization of Pulse-Coupled Biological Oscillators," *SIAM J. Appl. Math.*, vol. 50, no. 6, pp. 1645–1662, Dec. 1990

²K. Nymoen, A. Chandra, K. Glette, and J. Torresen, "Decentralized harmonic synchronization in mobile music systems," 2014 IEEE 6th International Conference on Awareness Science and Technology, iCAST 2014, vol. 257906, no. 257906, 2014



The intention is to: Use pulse-coupled oscillators as a mechanism for "automatic tempo synchronization" in Human-Swarm Interactive Music Systems, that is, a "decentralized clock".

Simulation in a 3D environment (Unity3D implementation: PC Platform)

$$P(\phi) = \phi - \alpha \cdot \sin 2\pi \phi \cdot |\sin 2\pi \phi|$$
 (K. Nymoen et al. , 2014)



K. Nymoen, A. Chandra, K. Glette, and J. Torresen, "Decentralized harmonic synchronization in mobile music systems," 2014 IEEE 6th International Conference on Awareness Science and Technology, iCAST 2014, vol. 257906, no. 257906, 2014

Pulse-Coupled Oscillators Simulation



Simulation: Synchronization Time Results (6 agents)

Alpha

 $P(\phi) = \phi - \alpha \sin 2\pi\phi \cdot |\sin 2\pi\phi|$

Box Plot of actual sync_time by Alpha 10 Alpha (α) Mean Time(Sec) 0.1 4.59 8 actual_sync_time 0.2 2.76 0.3 1.47 6 0.4 3.74 0.5 2.75 0.6 3.44 2 0.8 3.04 0.9 2.31 0.1 0.5 0.8 0.9 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.6

Explored previously in: K. Nymoen, A. Chandra, K. Glette, and J. Torresen, "Decentralized harmonic synchronization in mobile music systems," 2014 IEEE 6th International Conference on Awareness Science and Technology, iCAST 2014, vol. 257906, no. 257906, 2014

Simulation: Synchronization Time Results per frequency (8 agents, alpha = 0.9)









Coefficient of determination (R²): 0.3416

Simulation: Stability Results (8 agents, alpha = 0.9)

f = 1 Hz, T = 1 sec



Simulation: Stability Results (8 agents, alpha = 0.9)

f = 0.75 Hz, T = 1.333333333333 sec



Hits and Tcg points over Time

Simulation: Stability Results (8 agents, alpha = 0.9)

f = 0.75 Hz, T = 1.33333333333 sec



***How important are those types of errors for performers and audiences regarding a Human-Swarm IMS?

Pulse-Coupled Oscillators A Delayed Model



Delayed Model Algorithm

Considering T as the oscillators' period and L_{ij} constant latency from agent *i* to agent *j*, and $L_{ij} = L_{ji}$

When a fire event is received by agent **i** from agent **j**:

1. Wait a time $t_L = T - mod(L_{ij}, T)$ 2. After waiting, apply:

 $P(\phi) = \phi - \alpha \cdot \sin 2\pi\phi \cdot |\sin 2\pi\phi|$



We need peer-to-peer "awareness"

Pulse-Coupled Oscillators Implementations

<complex-block>

Unity3D Game Engine

Implementations

The same source code is used for all implementations through "The Artifact":

- 1. Simulation (Unity3D Windows Platform)
- 2. Physical Devices (Unity3D Android Platform)
 - 1. Sound Trigger (Beat detection algorithm)
 - 2. Network Multicast Message (Broadcast)
 - 3. Network Unicast Message (peer-to-peer) (Non-latency and Latency model)



Implementations

Technical Challenge:

How do we calculate a good estimation of the latency L_{ij} without saturating the network or having another potential performance issue?

- Statistics (mean, median, etc.)?
- Machine Learning?



Alternative to Self-Synchronized Oscillators

Central clock selection... executed through Multi-Agent Systems Methods (e.g. voting procedures). The goal is to increase time precision and stability.



Future Work

- Complete the study of "self-synchronized oscillators" and "global clock selection" (simulation and physical devices).
- Testing out swarming algorithms together with audio and visual mappings. ٠
- Development of virtual, • physical-virtual, and physical platforms (based on "The Artifact").



XR. Meta Quest 3



ITS Lab. Robot Swarm

Questions.... for you all...

Questions from me to you

1. Is there a known tolerance value (in milliseconds) for synchronization in musical performances? What constitutes a "mistake"?

2. Are stability errors, as the ones shown below, perceivable or affect in some way "musical performances that rely on high temporal precision (e.g. electronic music)"?

| 1.0 - | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 9 | 10 10 | 12 | 13 13 | 14 14 | 15 15 | 16 16 | 17 17 | 18 18 | 19 19 | 20 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 24 |
|-------|----------|---|---|---|---|---|--------|---|---|--------|----------|----|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----|----|----|----------|
| | . | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

3. What if these errors are not constantly accumulating, but happen randomly over time?

4. If we can find the model for errors like the one above, can we use these models as part of a music performance?

