Variations2: Moving Beyond Access to Pedagogy

Mark Notess

24 September 2004

IU Digital Library Brownbag Series

Outline

- project overview
- current status
- beyond access to use
- Variations2 demo
- possible future directions
- broader applicability?

Variations2 Overview

- $3M grant funded by NSF/NEH
- Establish a digital music library testbed system supporting multiple formats: audio, video, score images, score notation
- Develop multiple interfaces for specific user applications in the music library and the classroom
- Conduct research in metadata, usability, copyright, and networking
- Planning to replace VARIATIONS with Variations2 by Summer 2005

Variations2 Staffing

Principal Investigator:

- Michael A. McRobbie

Project Investigators (Abridged):

- Kristine R. Brancolini, Director, Digital Library Program
- Kenneth D. Crews, Professor of Law, Associate Professor of Library and Information Science, and Director, Copyright Management Center
- Philip Ponella, Director, William and Gayle Cook Music Library
- Mary Wallace Davidson, Former Head, William and Gayle Cook Music Library
- Jon W. Dunn, Associate Director for Technology, Digital Library Program, and Senior Technology Advisor, University Libraries
- James Lloyd Fern, Assistant Professor of Music and Manager of Online Learning, University Information Technology Services
- Harriette Hemmasi, Associate Dean and Director of Technical Services, University Libraries
- Eric J. Isaacson, Associate Professor of Music
- Roberta L. Lindsey, Visiting Assistant Professor of Music, IUPUI
- Jenn Riley, Metadata Librarian, Digital Library Program

Variations2 Staffing

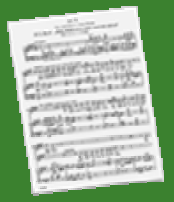
Project Staff and Graduate Students:

- Andy Barrett, Graduate Assistant, Music Instruction / Oncourse
- Don Byrd, Research Programmer
- Jim Halliday, Software Analyst/Programmer, System Design/Development
- Caitlin Hunter, Graduate Assistant, Metadata
- Jennifer Jobst, Graduate Assistant, Usability
- Inna Kouper, Graduate Assistant, Usability
- Manoj Kulchania, Software Analyst/Programmer, System Design/Development
- Richard Li, Graduate Assistant, System Design/Development
- Mark Notess, Development Manager
- Ryan Scherle, Software Analyst/Programmer, System Design/Development
- Mona Seghatoleslami, Student Hourly Staff, Metadata
- Ann Shaffer, Graduate Assistant, Metadata
- Dallas Smith, Graduate Assistant, Instructional Design
- Brent Yorgason, Graduate Assistant, Music Theory

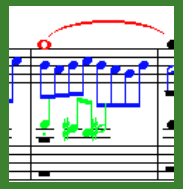
Variations2 Overview

content

digitized audio



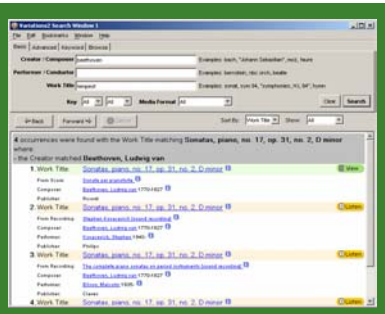
scanned scores

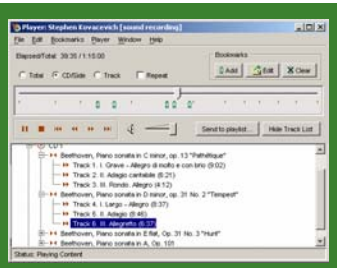


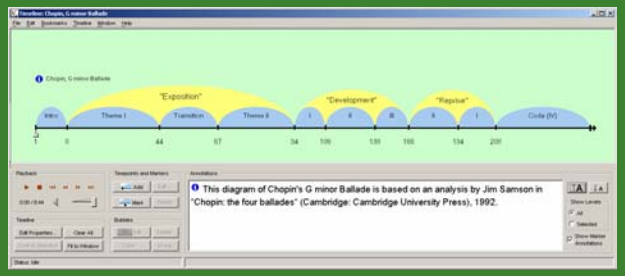
encoded scores

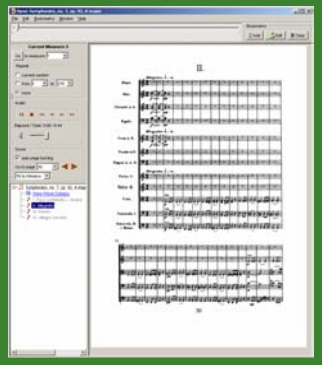
Collection Metadata

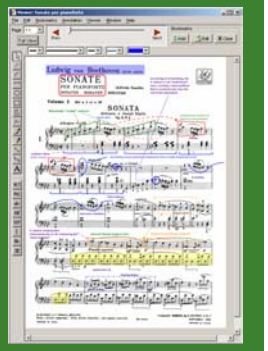
user interface











Access Control, Bookmarks

users

faculty

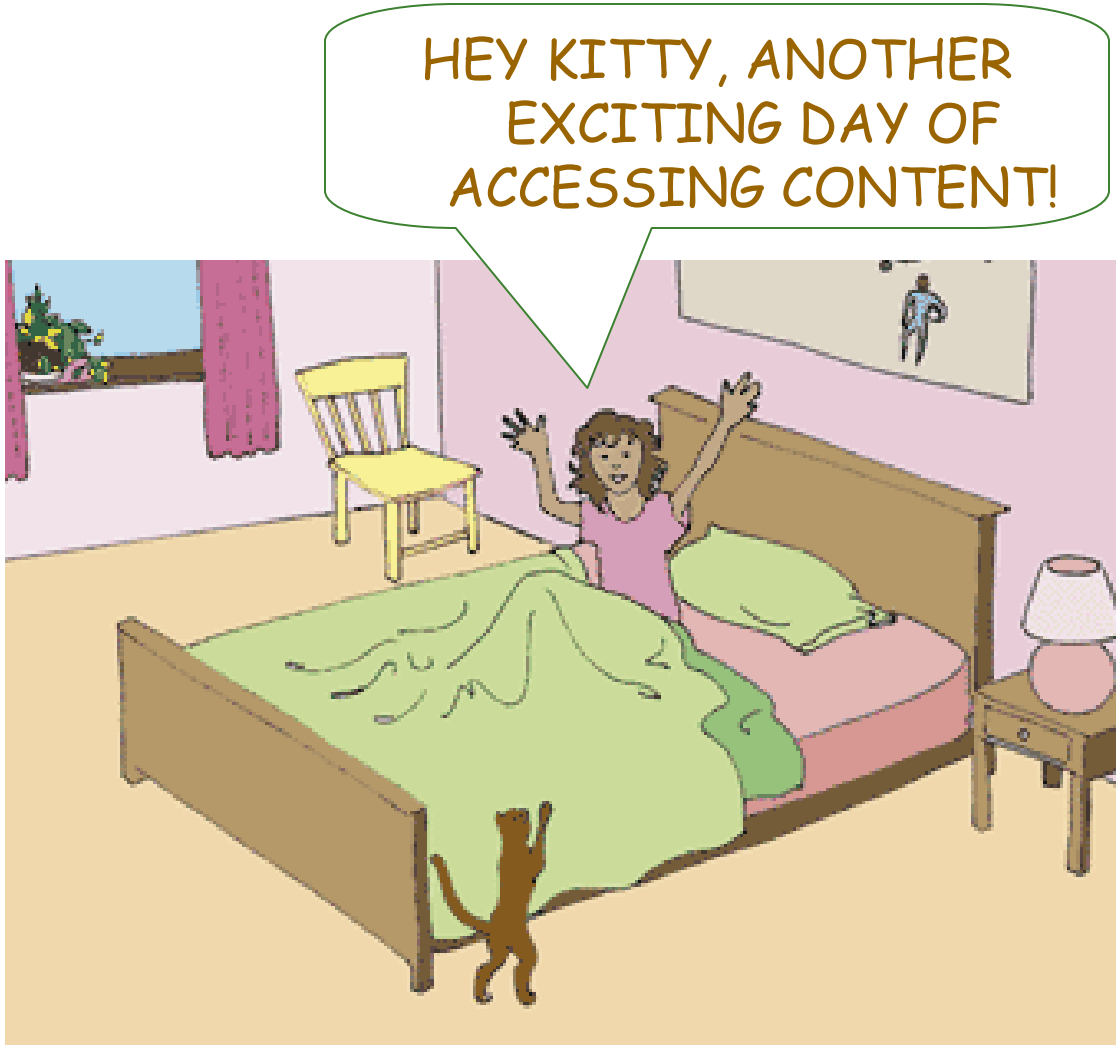
students

librarians

Current Status (September 2004)

- 427 recordings & scores
- 660 “creator” records (composers, lyricists…)
- 922 “performers” (individuals, ensembles…)
- 2068 distinct musical works
- Version 3 deployed at IUB and IUPUI
- In third year of pilot projects—6 classes using it this fall
- Pilots include installation of Variations2 client software on students’ own computers; access control limits media use outside library to course reserve material

Beyond Access to Use



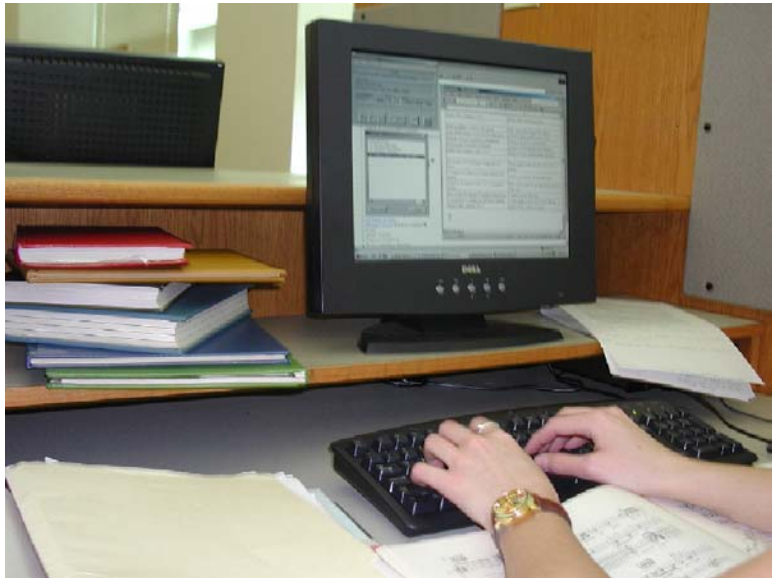
What do users want to do AFTER finding what they want?

Beyond Access to Use - Teaching

Teaching

- create course reserves list
- present, analyze, compare excerpts in class
- create/grade assignments
- give quizzes & exams

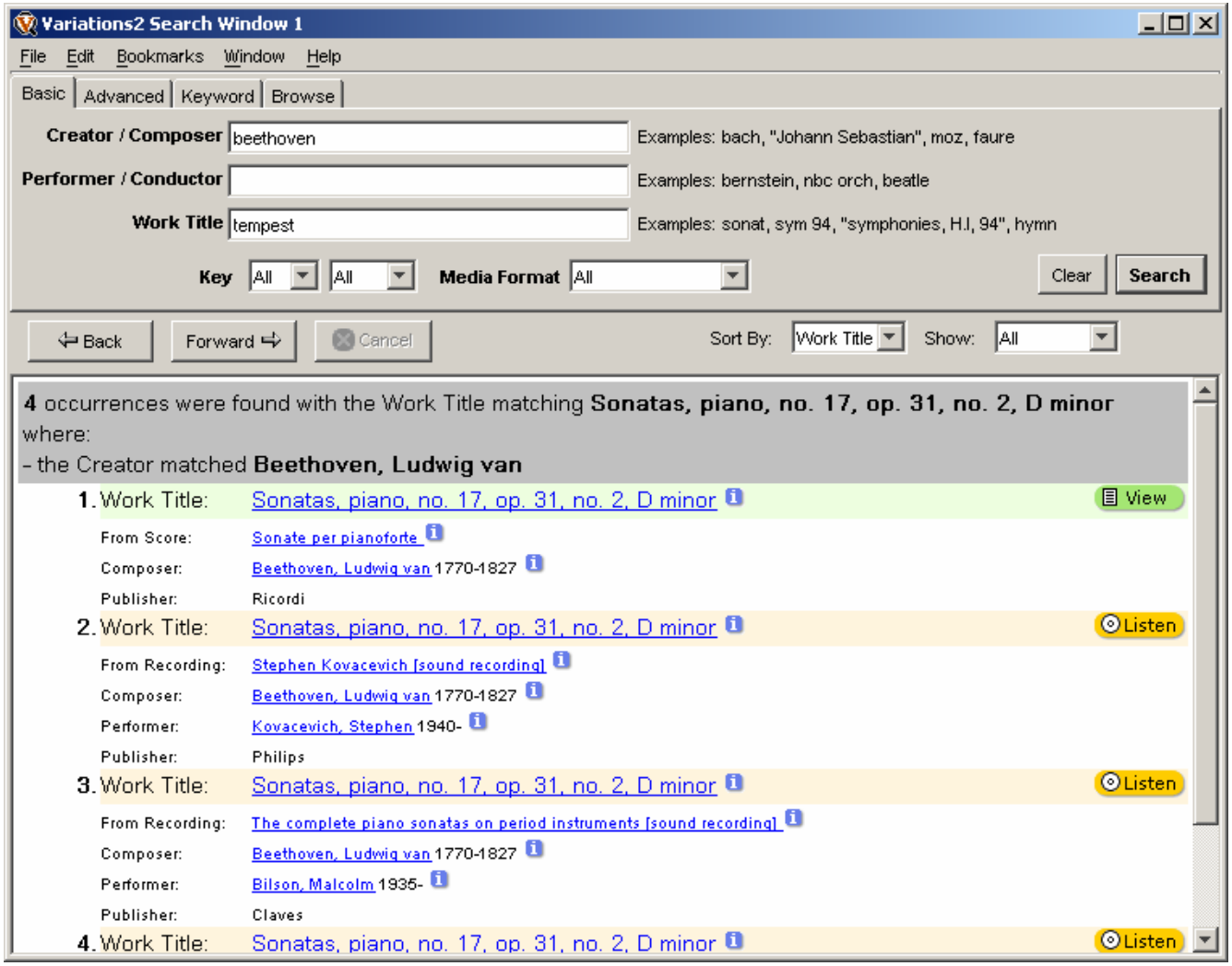
Beyond Access to Use - Learning



Learning

- prepare for class (well, sometimes)
- complete & submit assignments
- prepare class presentations
- study for quizzes & exams

Variations2 Demo



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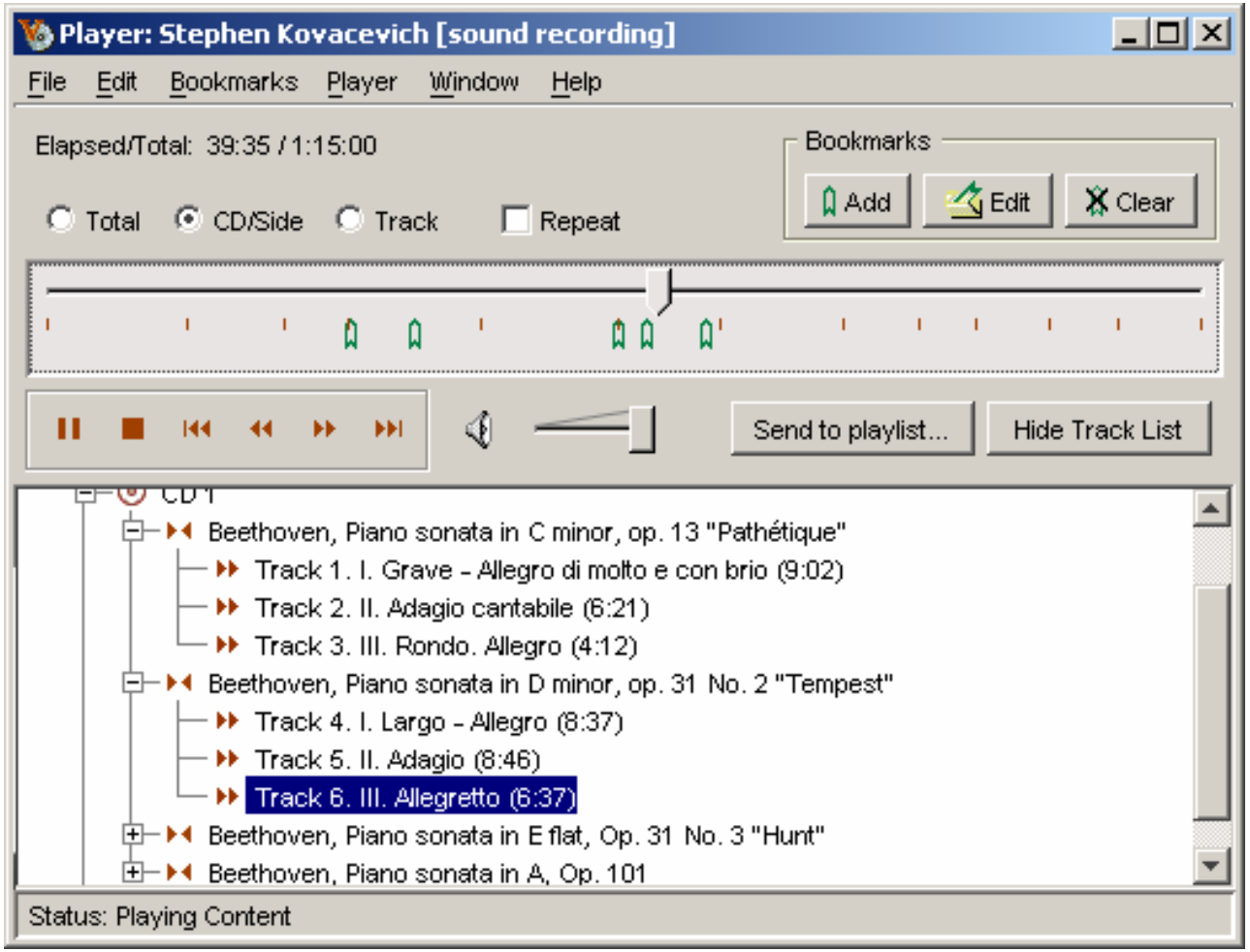

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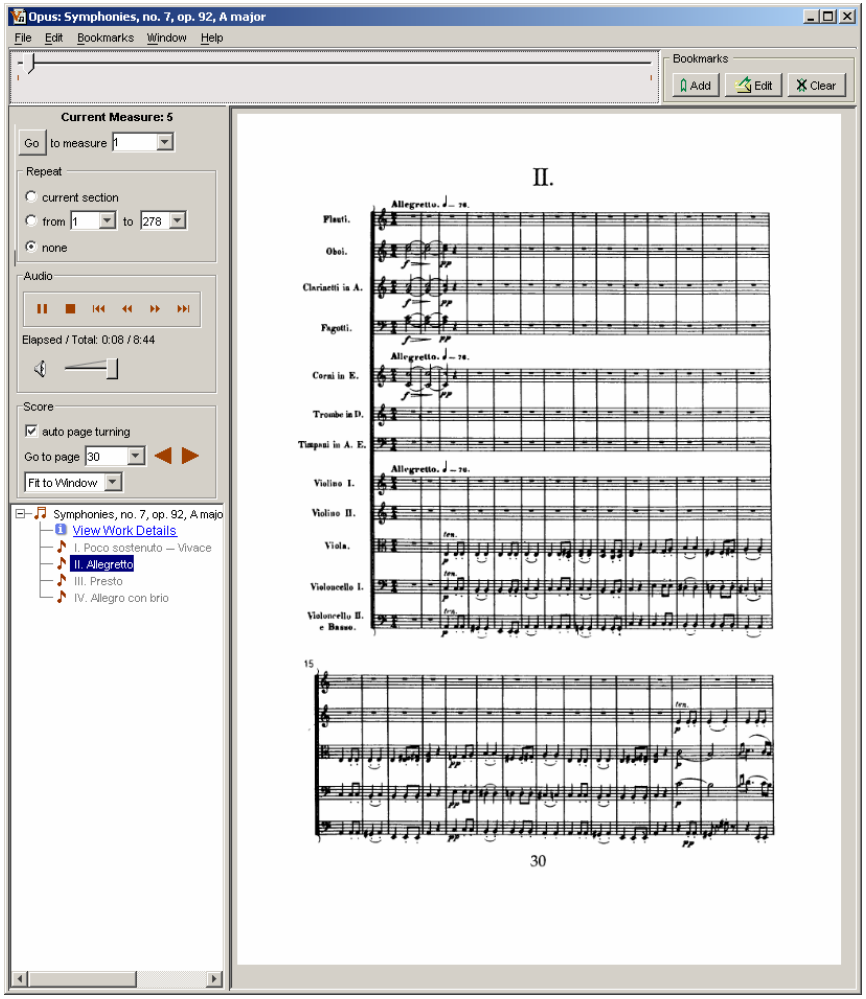

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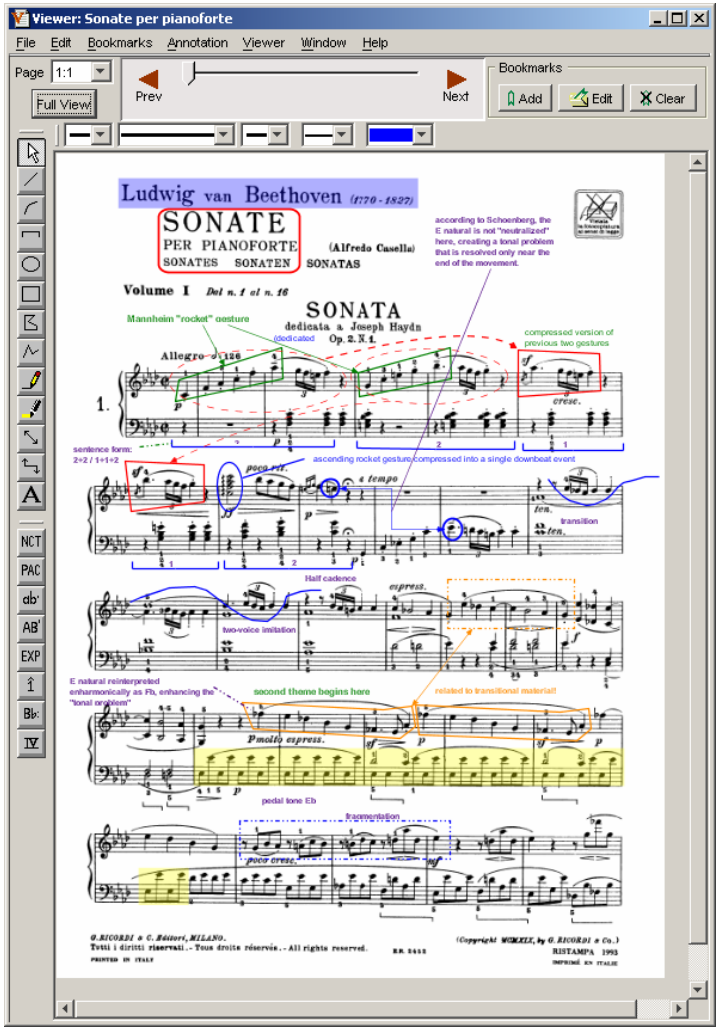

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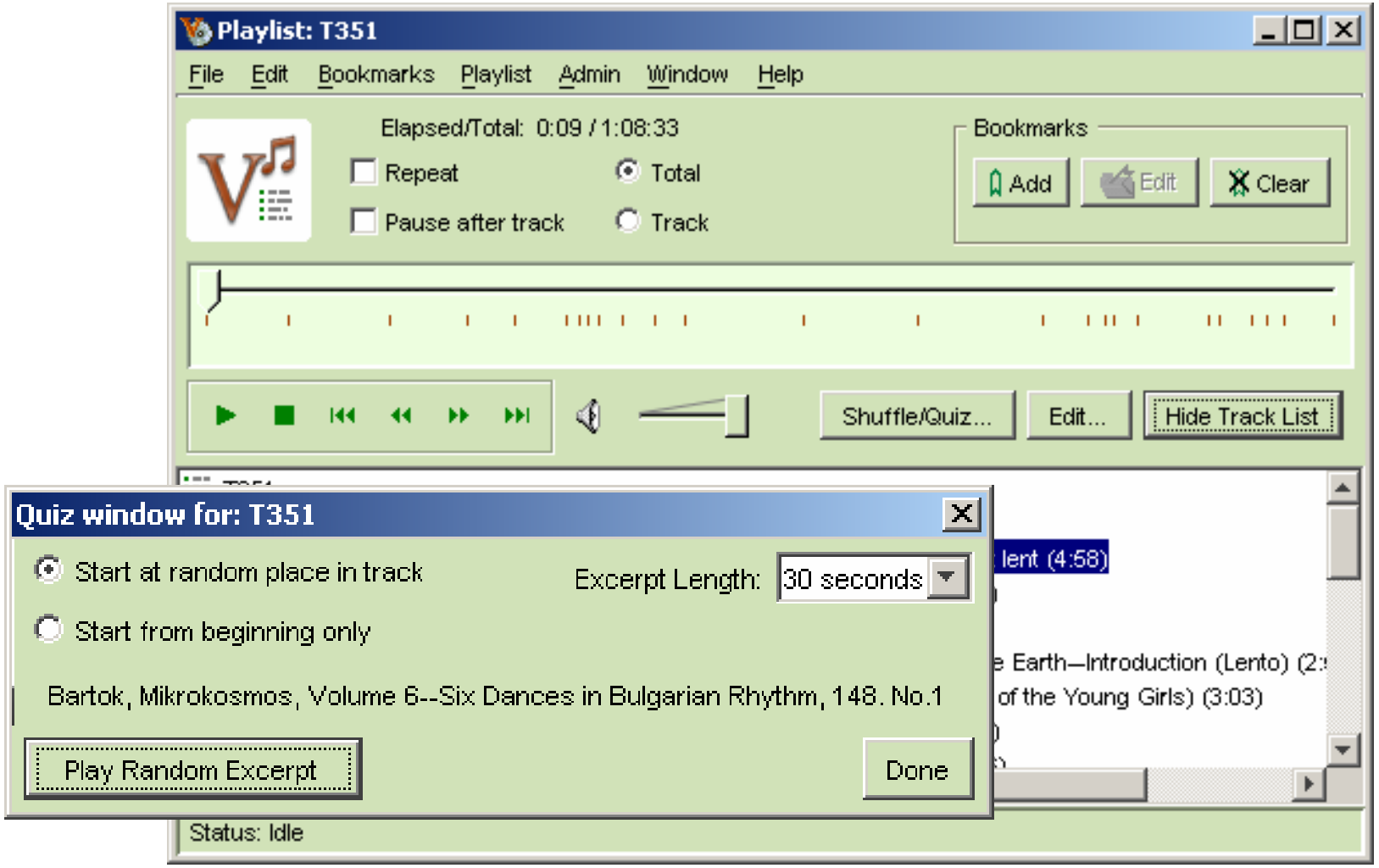

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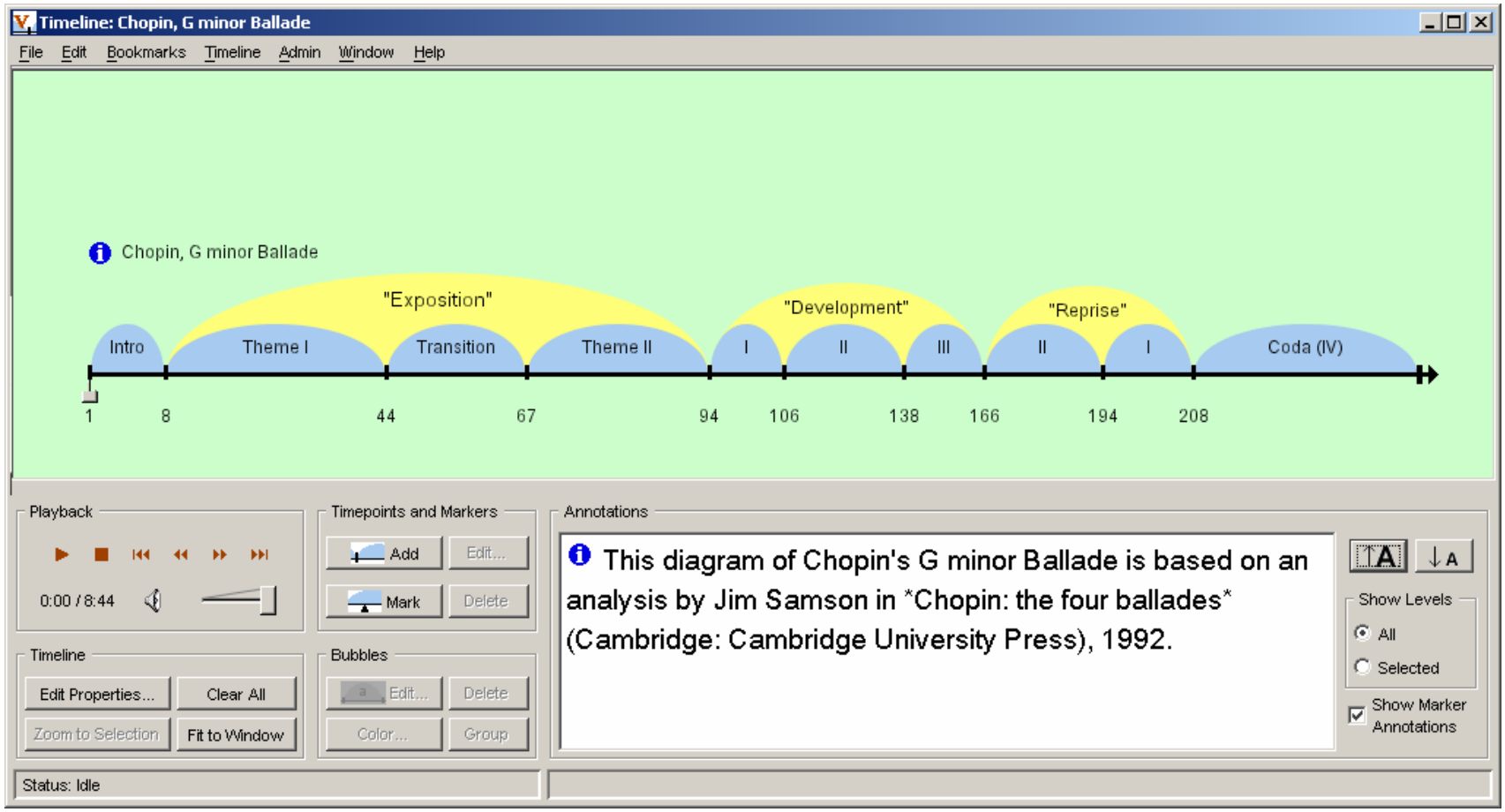
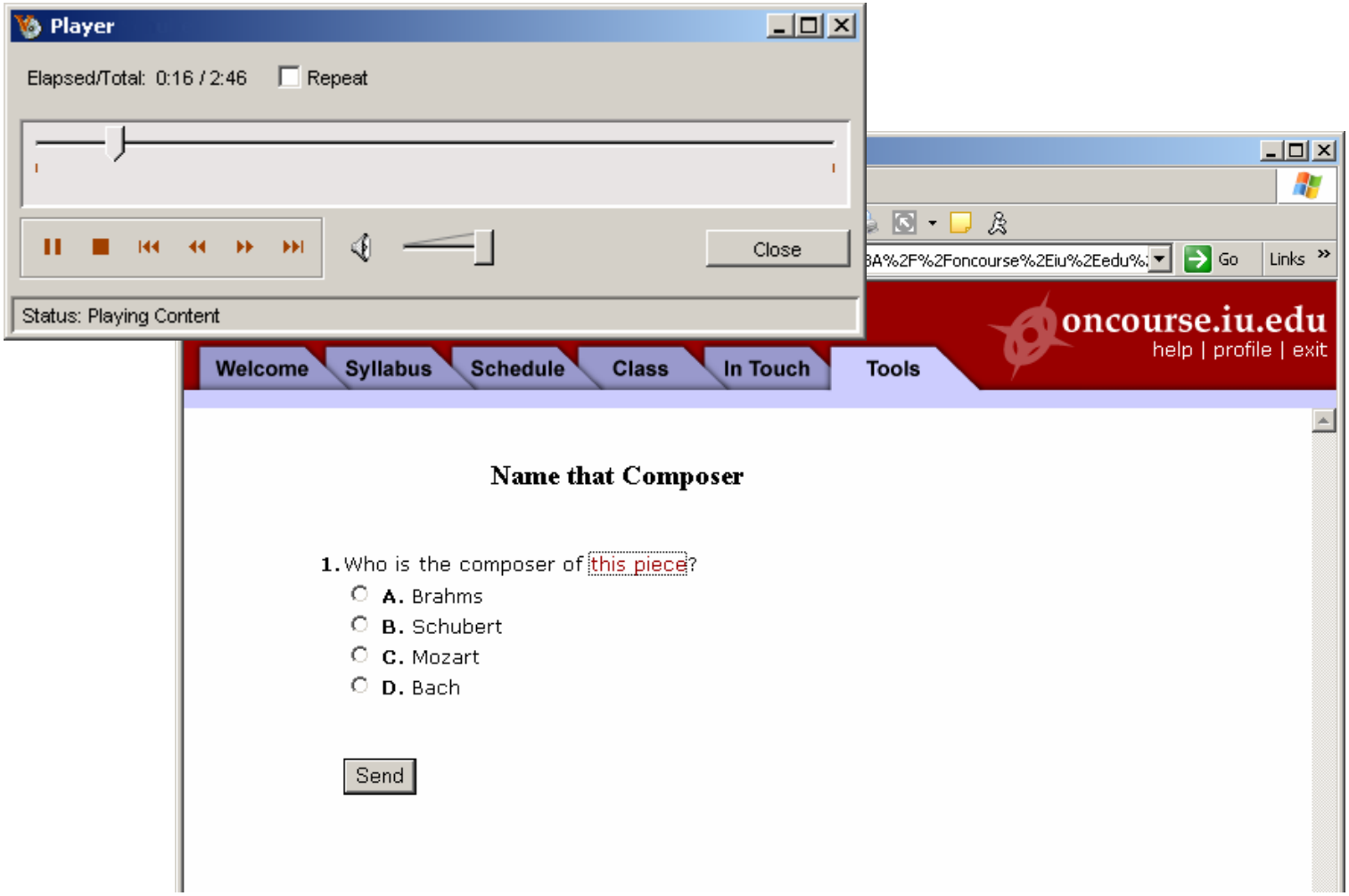


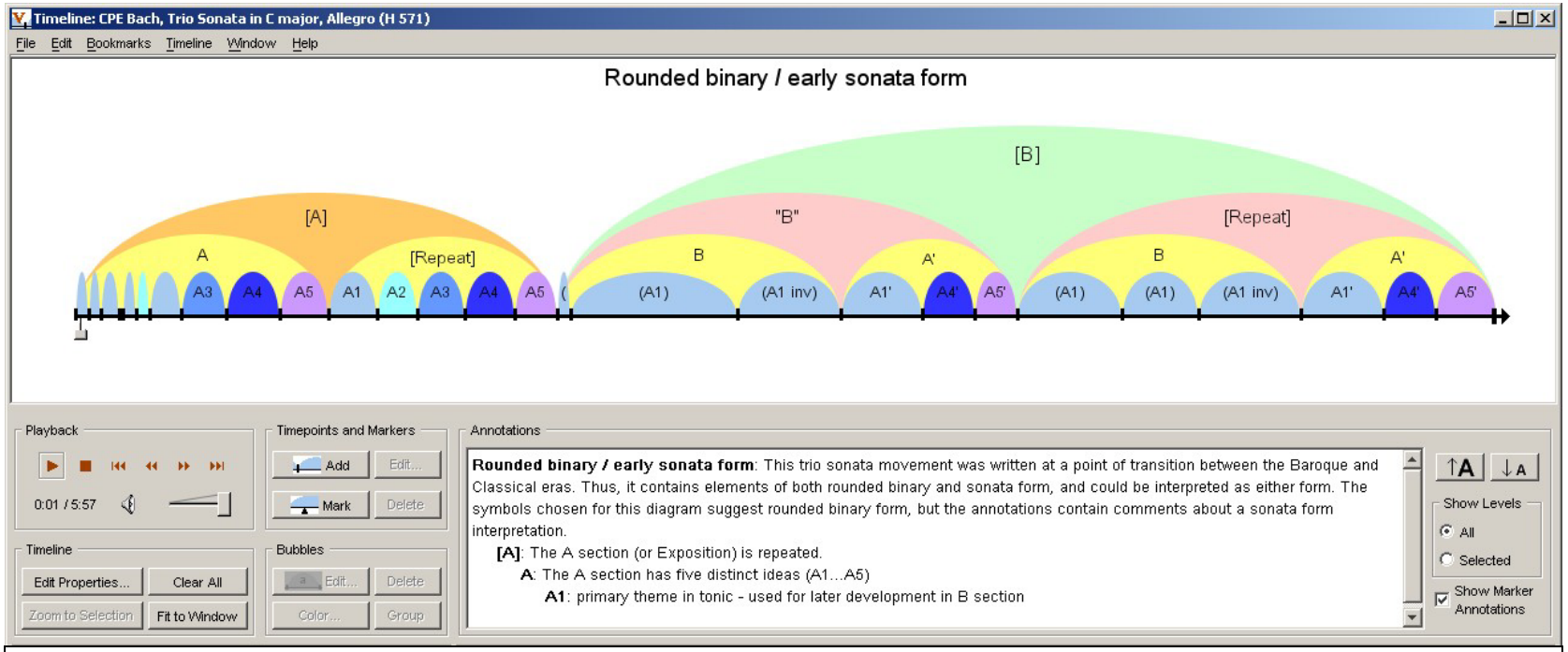
Possible Future Directions

- Oncourse/Sakai-integration
  - quiz/test
  - assignment submittal
- Integration into full presentation framework
  - multimedia presentation for lecture
  - real-time interaction/modification
- Collaboration support, e.g. for online study groups
- Genetically improved syllabi

Quiz/Test Integration



Online Study Groups

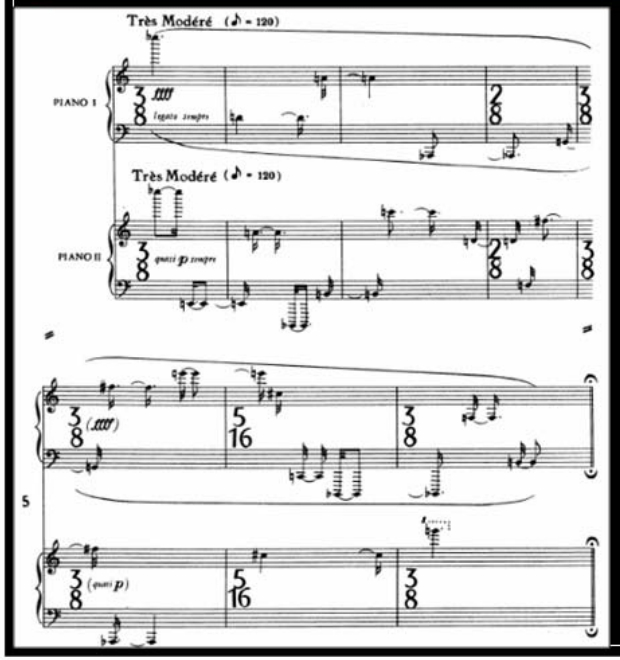


Noriko: It's looking good.
James: I'm still not sure about the A4' – can we listen again?
Karita: Sure. Why don't you drive?

Control
- ○ Noriko
- ● Karita
- ○ James

Multimedia Presentation

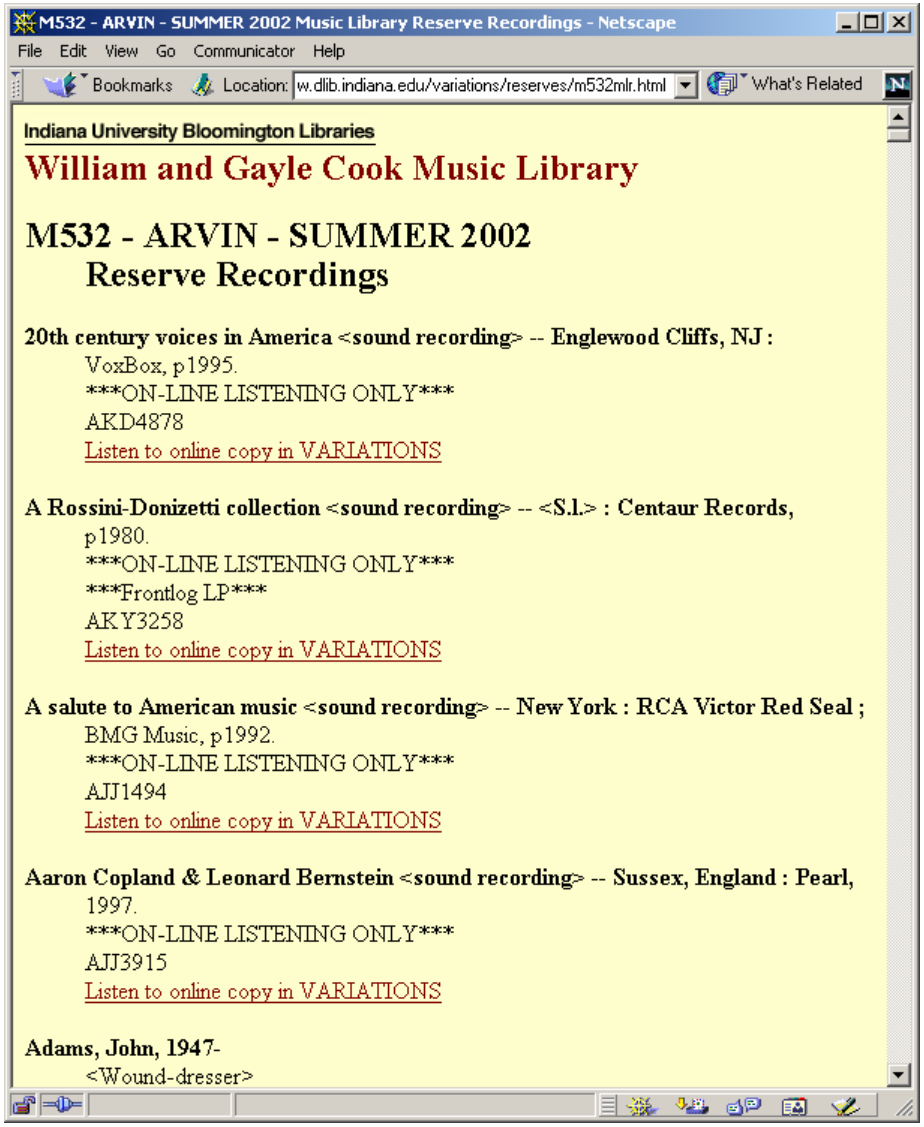
hyperserialism



- Pierre Boulez
  - *Structures 1a*
    - tone rows *and*
    - rhythm rows

1952

Today's Syllabi

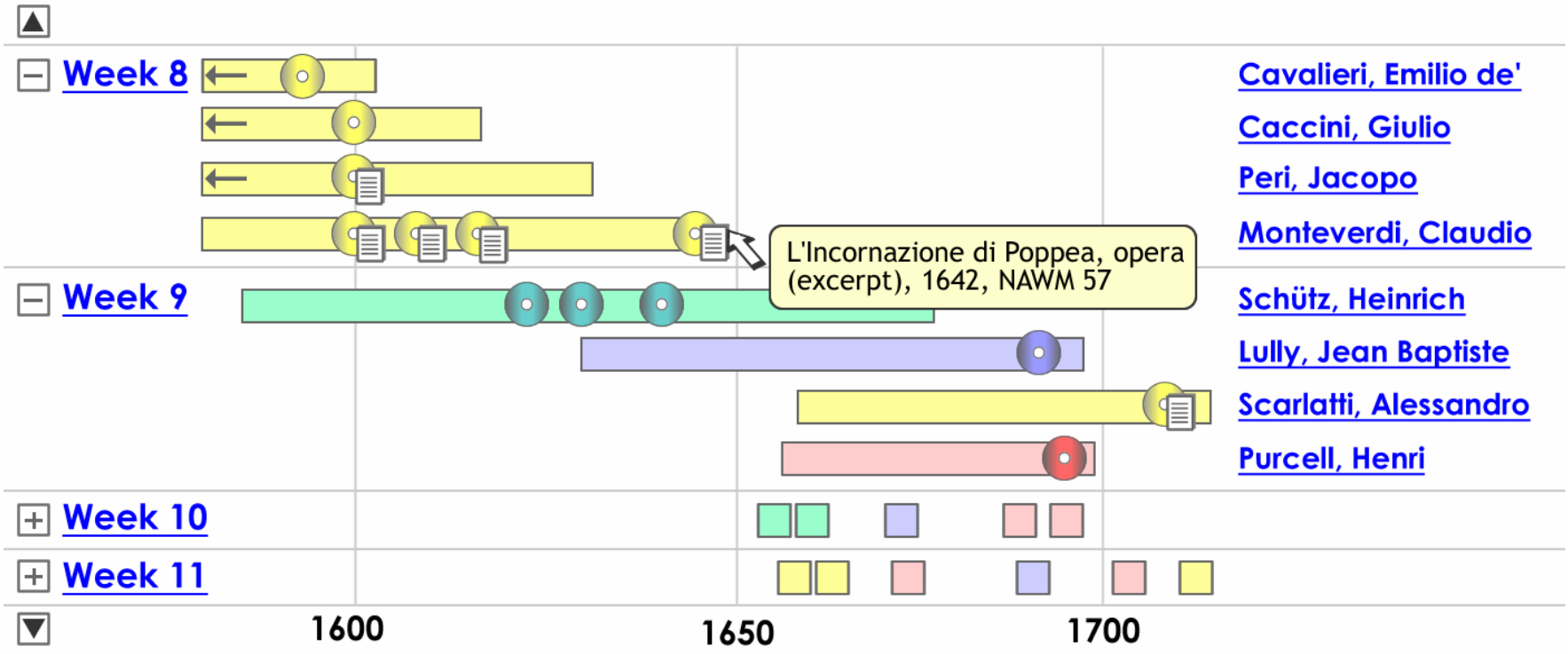


Tuesday, Nov. 5	Schubert
Thursday, Nov. 7	The Mendelssohns
Tuesday, Nov. 12	The Schumanns
Thursday, Nov. 14	Brahms
Tuesday, Nov. 19	Wolf
Thursday, Nov. 21	The Mahlers
Tuesday, Nov. 26	Strauss

(paper syllabus)

Is there a better way?

Genetically-Improved Syllabi



A Challenge

"The Task Force agreed unequivocally that the faculty, the library, and the IT and instructional design departments need to collaborate in developing sustainable and seamless infrastructure. … very few institutions have systemically attained such a coherent strategic approach, principally because there is no common shared language on which to build strategic initiatives."

- OCLC-sponsored task force

quoted in Lorcan Dempsey slideset, *Libraries and the Enchantment of e-Learning*

Other Challenges

- Client-side software installation
- Intellectual property issues
- Sustainability
- Building tools that will be adopted by more than early adopters
- Getting more content in
- Getting more metadata in

Broader Applicability?

Questions for discussion

- What other IU digital library projects have gone beyond access to address use?
- How have non-IU projects done this?
- What tools can be used across disciplines?
- Which opportunities offer the greatest ROI?

More Information

on Variations2

http://variations2.indiana.edu

contact me

mnotess@indiana.edu

Disclaimer

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