At the end of the 19th century, the Finnish Literary Society (SKS) collected tens of thousands of folk tunes from all over the Finland. Ilmari Krohn published about 9000 of these between the years 1898-1933. This collection is known as the Finnish Folk Songs (Suomen Kansan Sävelmiä). It consists of several subcollections:

- Folk Songs (Laulusävelmät)
- Spiritual Folk Songs (Hengeliset sävelmät)
- Folk Dances (Kansantanssit)
- Kantele and Jouhikko Tunes
- Rune-tunes

The collection is musically comprehensive, nationally important and well documented.

**Aims**

1. Digitizing the Finnish Folk Tunes
2. Building a digital archive
3. Using the archive for research
   - data mining
   - comparative research:
     - musical features
     - lyrics
   - Development of tools for computational analysis ( MidiToolBox)

**Comparison of subcollections**

A comparison of musical features of Folk Songs and Rune-tunes

**Background**

**Geographical differences**

Locations of origin

The location of origin (village, municipality etc.) of each tune has first been converted to latitude and longitude values.

Using this information the density of tune locations has been displayed graphically for each subcollection.

**Lyrics**

The Folk Song collection contains the lyrics of the first verse of each song. There are a total of 74436 words, of which 13857 are unique (incl. inflectional forms).

**Musical features**

Proportion of tunes starting with the tonic

Geographical variation of tonic musical features in Folk Songs (1898-1933)

3.0. The colorbar on the right of each picture shows the range of the variation.

**Search engine**

We aim to provide public access to the collection by publishing the archive on the internet. In this application, individual tunes can be searched according to various criteria (villages, regions, lyrics, musical features, collectors). The search engine returns musical notation, MIDI file and textual information for each tune fulfilling the search criteria. We also plan to develop search methods based on musical content (e.g. query-by-whistling).

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