



Research Article

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Significance of the Audio Element 'Pitch', in Representation of the Emotion 'Love' (With Special Reference to Charlie Chaplin's 'The Kid')

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ABSTRACT

A film is a collective interpretation of various elements like lighting, visuals, Camera angles, set design, costumes, acting of the actors involved in the film and last but not least the sound.

To list out there are several elements that create sound of a film. The list includes sound quality, continuity of sound, timing, diegetic and non-diegetic sound, pace, level and pitch of sound.

The presence of these audio elements in a certain manner represents a particular emotion depicted in a scene of a film.

This paper tries to explore the significance of the audio element 'Pitch', in the representation of the emotion 'Love', considering Charlie Chaplin's 'The Kid' as a sample for the present study.

The paper dealt with one of the most iconic film by the legendary filmmaker Charlie Chaplin who is known for his famous character 'The Tramp'. And this comic character is unique as it represents almost all the emotions in its signature style. This paper is a sincere effort to understand the significance of the audio element 'pitch' in representing the emotion 'love'.

INTRODUCTION

Pitch (of sound)

Pitch, in music, is the position of a single sound in the complete range of sound. Sounds are higher or lower in pitch according to the frequency of vibration of the sound waves producing them.

Pace (of sound)

At the simplest level, pace is equivalent to tempo. While a listener may well have a good awareness of absolute tempo, there is a strong subjective element in the perception of the speed at which a musical work is performed. This is determined in part by what has come before.

Level (of sound)

A sound's loudness level is measured by comparing the LOUDNESS of the sound and that of a PURE TONE of a specified frequency that seems equally loud. The SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL of the pure tone in PHONS is then called the loudness level of the sound.

Love (an emotion)

Love is an intense, deep affection for another person. Love also means to feel this intense affection for someone. Love can also refer to a strong like for something or to like something a lot. Love has many other senses both as a verb and a noun.

Emotion

Emotions are conscious mental reactions (such as anger or fear) subjectively experienced as strong feeling

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usually directed toward a specific object and typically accompanied by physiological and behavioral changes in the body.

Sound is an element of films that is highly underrated. Though, it cannot be neglected if a filmmaker wants to create magic of emotions in his or her film. As it is said and believed that films are the mirror of the society we live in.

At the same time the structure of a society cannot be defined completely if the relationship between the stakeholders is not considered with the emotions they share with each other.

Hence it is essential to understand the relationship between the sound and the emotion conveyed in a film scene.

Here in this paper the researcher is trying to establish a relationship between the emotion 'love', expressed in a scene of a film and the significance of 'Pitch' of sound in the scene in representing the emotion of 'love'.

In order to attain a scientific approach in achieving the study's objective, the researcher has carefully developed a code sheet. This can help in mapping the presence of 'Pitch', specifically low, mid or high in nature and the emotion of 'love' conveyed in the scenes of the film – *The Kid* (1921) directed by legendary filmmaker Charlie Chaplin.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Maiche, Alejandro. 2009. Audio Description of Emotions in Films using Eye tracking. Proceedings of the Symposium on Mental States, Emotions and their Embodiment, 2009

In this paper the researcher tried to assess the impact of AD, i.e. audio description of audio-visual content by evaluating the eye moment from two groups of people: where one of them is watching a film excerpt with AD and the other one is watching the same without AD.

The study concentrates on the audio design and its impact.

So here is a gap that encourages the researcher to conduct the present study on the significance of audio element 'pitch' in representing the emotion of 'love'.

Porta, Amparo; Herrera, Lucía. 2017. Music and Its Significance in Children Favourite Audiovisuals. Media Education Research Journal, v25 n52 p83-91 2017. ISSN: ISSN-1134-3478

The study concentrated on the difference in the perception of the elements of audio visual content among a group of children watching audio visual content.

Whereas the present study is aiming to establish a relationship between the pitch of sound and the emotion conveyed in a scene or clip of audio visual content. Hence there is a scope for the proposed study.

McKinne.Simon.2020.A Comparison of the Animated Films

The author compared two famous animated films. The First one was 'Shrek' and the other one was 'Snow White'. The author worked on finding the difference in the two films considering the representation of animals in these films, the characteristics and attitudes of the heroes in these two films.

The author never considered sound of these films in the study.

OBJECTIVES

- To find out the relationship between the pitch of sound and the emotion of 'love', conveyed in a film scene.
- To study the effect of variation in the pitch of sound and the feel it generates to make the audience feel the emotion of 'love', conveyed in a film scene.

METHODOLOGY

Observation Method

The term observational research is used to refer to several different types of non-experimental studies in which behavior is systematically observed and recorded. Observational research aims to describe a variable or set of variables. More generally, the goal is to obtain a snapshot of specific individual, group, or setting characteristics.

Content Analysis

Content analysis is a research tool used to determine the presence of certain words, themes, or concepts within some given qualitative data (i.e. text). Using content analysis, researchers can quantify and analyze the presence, meanings, and relationships of such certain words, themes, or concepts.

RESULT AND ANALYSIS

Synopsis

The Kid – 1921

It is thought that this was Chaplin's first feature-length work. The story of how The Tramp decided to nurture an abandoned child he found on the streets like his own child is told in the movie. The difficulties he endured and how he developed feelings for the child. The mirror narrative to The Tramp and the youngster was an unmarried woman who abandoned her child in a nice car with the note, "Please love and care for this orphan kid." The mother's struggle with guilt was also covered in the narrative.

When the mother, who is now a great performer, invites The Tramp to stay with them and be with the Kid, the story concludes on a really nice note.

CODE SHEET**Table 1:**The Kid – Content Analysis

Scene No.	Time Code		Scene Description	Presence=1 Absence=2			Emotion Love/ beauty
	In	Out		Low	Mid	High	
1	00:04:05:00	00:04:18:00	The Lady (Mother) walking sadly and comes to a place where a car is standing all alone.	1	1	1	
	00:04:19:00	00:04:22:00	The lady starts looking here and there to confirm whether anyone watching her.	2	1	2	
	00:04:22:00	00:04:34:00	The lady kisses the baby with love and guilt. Seeks forgiveness while looking towards the sky . Keeps the baby in the back seat of the car.	2	1	1	√
	00:04:35:00	00:04:47:00	The lady closes the door before leaving, prays to the god to take care of the baby and left.	2	2	1	
2	00:04:48:00	00:05:08:00	Two goons appear on screen. They look to ensure nobody is watching them stealing the car. Rush in to the car and escape.	1	1	1	
3	00:10:30:00	00:10:44:00	Charlie appears on screen with the baby in his arms. Sits down near a covered drainage line opening, to pick up his stick that he has accidentally dropped standing there..	1	1	1	
	00:10:44:00	00:10:59:00	Charlie looks at the Cover of the drainage line opening. Opens it thinking to dump the baby there. Then chuckles and closes the cover back. Looks towards the baby with smile and holds the baby to tickle near the chin.	1	1	1	√
	00:11:00:00	00:11:13:00	Charlie felt a prick on his finger and started checking the baby for any pin in its clothes. He finds a piece of paper attached with that pin in the baby's' clothes.	1	1	1	√
	00:11:14:00	00:11:25:00	Charlie opens that piece of paper to check it. It was a letter saying - 'Please love and care this orphan child". He folds back the letter and looks at the baby sadly.	2	1	1	
	00:11:26:00	00:11:48:00	Charlie keeps that letter in his pocket and looks at the baby with love and affection. He holds the baby with love and care, stands up and walks away with the baby to take it home.	1	1	1	√
4	00:11:55:00	00:12:15:00	The lady (mother) appears on screen on the foot path of a bridge. She is lost in her thoughts. Rests her hands on the boundary of the bridge and thinking. There is another lady sitting on the boundary with a pram besides her and her baby playing around. the lady (lead character- the mother of the Kid) still lost in her thoughts.	2	1	1	
	00:12:16:00	00:12:40:00	The lady (lead character) is still lost in her thoughts. Standing alone. The baby playing around innocently reaches to the lady and holds her legs thinking its his own mother. The lady (lead character) notices this and looks at the baby holding her legs.	2	1	1	
	00:12:41:00	00:13:11:00	The Lady (Lead Character) looks at the baby with love and picks it up in her arms. The mother of the baby notices it and took the baby back from the lady (Lead character). The Lady (lead character) reminds of her own baby and left the place in sadness.	1	1	1	√
5	00:15:12:00	00:17:00:00	Charlie is cutting out diapers out of a bed sheet. The baby is lying in a swing and trying to drink milk from a kettle fitted with a nipple at its opening. Charlie tries to take care of the baby in his own strange ways and capacity. He is playful with the baby and full of love and affection. He is looking happy as things look managed now.	1	1	1	√

6	00:20:22:00	00:20:55:00	The kid throws stones to break the window glasses of a house and runs away. The House Lady comes out to see what happened listening to the glass breaking noise. At the same time Charlie reaches there and tries to show the lady that he has just arrived and he can fix the broken glasses. the lady gives him the job and enters the home again.	1	1	1	
	00:20:56:00	00:21:12:00	The kid throws stones to break the windows of another house and ran away. Stops at the corner of a house. Hiding himself and planning his next move.	1	1	1	
	00:21:13:00	00:21:39:00	The kid is taking his position to throw another stone. At the same time his hand hits a man. He notices it's a Cop. Tries to be funny and innocent. Drops the stone. The Cop kept looking at him. The kid fools him and ran away. The Cop smiles and proceeds.	1	1	1	
	00:21:40:00	00:22:35:00	While walking by the Cop notices the broken window glass on the floor. And looks back furiously. Then hi started walking ahead. Reaches in from of a home where Charlie was busy repairing the window glass. The Cop suspiciously kept observing him. Charlie got to know that the cop is watching. The house lady comes out to see the work is done. Paid Charlie for the job. The Cop gave him an angry look. Charlie returned the money and left quietly in a hurry.	1	1	1	
	00:22:36:00	00:23:06:00	Charlie trying to escape as soon as possible . The cop follows him to see what he is up to. The kid trying to come close to Charlie and Charlie trying to tell him to stay away because the cop. The cop notices it. And start chasing them while they manage to escape.	1	1	1	
7	00:25:11:00	00:25:47:00	Charlie and the kid reach home and are happy and peaceful as they are in their safe and comfort zone now. The meal is ready and they sit to have it. Charlie is serving and the kid is waiting.	1	1	1	√
8	00:28:12:00	00:28:25:00	The (Mother) lady who has become a star now, went to a slum where she was offering charity to poor children. There she stops in front of a door, playing with kids. Then arrives a lady with a baby and smiles looking at the star lady .	1	1	1	√
	00:28:26:00	00:28:38:00	The lady with the baby looking at the star is still smiling and talks to the (star) lady. The (star) lady takes the baby from other lady and sits to play with it.	2	1	1	√
	00:28:39:00	00:28:53:00	The Star lady enquires about the age of the baby. To which the mother replied 2 months. The star lady hugs the baby tightly remembering her own baby. She felt deep sorrow, missing her own baby and imagining that the baby might have grown up now to a 5 year old kid. Mean while the door opens in front of which she was sitting and The Kid comes out. The star lady has not noticed it yet.	1	1	1	√
	00:28:54:00	00:29:59:00	The Kid sat on the door steps quietly. The star lady sadly looks at the baby she is holding in her arms and suddenly notices the kid sitting behind her and looks at him. The kid gave a beautiful smile and the star lady forgets her pain and starts smiling. She talks with the kid and gave him a toy and an apple. She stood up to leave. Before leaving she gave some money to the lady and left quietly remembering her own Kid who must have grown up now. She is lost in her own thoughts. Mean while the kid is sitting and waving from the back.	1	1	1	√
9	00:31:47:00	00:33:06:00	As the Man with whom the Lady had the baby has become a famous Painter of great prominence and the lady herself has become a Star artist. The fate brings them both to a party where they encounter each other. The lady has moved out of the party hall with some excuse and then the man goes there when she is alone to apologies and ask her what he can do to make up for his sin. Where the lady refuses to forgive him saying its too late. Unless the kid...	1	1	1	√

10	01:07:31:00	01:07:45:00	The Cop holding Charlie from his collar takes him out of the car and heads towards the main door of a lavish mansion. Then the cop rang the door bell and leaves Charlie's collar and keep staring him. Charlie is clue less.	1	1	1	
	01:07:46:00	01:08:17:00	The door opens and the lady arrives with the kid. Lady is saying thank you to the cop with a smile. Meanwhile the kid jumps in to the arms of Charlie. Charlie holds the kid up and kisses him with lots of love. Everyone is happy. The cop laughs and says good bye to Charlie and the lady. Pampers the kid and left. The lady asks Charlie in and closes the door. This is the well deserved end.	1	1	1	√
Interpretation: 00:04:05:00 - 00:04:18:00				The sudden bass was added in order to represent love and affection. The high frequencies appeared to represent joy as a result of love.			
The pitch was ranging between low, mid and high frequencies. The Emotion love was not present.							
Interpretation: 00:04:19:00 - 00:04:22:00				Interpretation: 00:11:55:00 - 00:12:15:00			
The pitch was of mid frequency. The emotion love was not present.				The pitch included mid and high frequencies. The Emotion love was not present.			
Interpretation: 00:04:22:00 - 00:04:34:00				Interpretation: 00:12:16:00 - 00:12:40:00			
The pitch was majorly in mid and high frequencies. The level was modulating as per the pace of the scene. To be specific, when the lady kisses the child before moving ahead to leave him in the car's back seat the level of sound goes down for a fraction of second as in the very next moment she almost rushed in to the car to leave the baby there. The mid frequencies mixed with high frequencies were representing love.				The pitch included mid and high frequencies. The Emotion love was not present.			
Interpretation: 00:04:35:00 - 00:04:47:00				Interpretation: 00:12:41:00 - 00:13:11:00			
The pitch was of high frequency. The emotion love was not present.				The pitch included lows, mids and highs. The level was modulating as per the scene ranging in moderate and high levels.			
Interpretation: 00:04:48:00 - 00:05:08:00				When the lady looked at the kid and picked him up with love and joy. The sudden bass is added to represent love and affection, whereas the high frequencies appeared to represent joy resulting from love.			
The pitch was ranging between low, mid and high frequencies. The Emotion love was not present.				Interpretation: 00:15:12:00 - 00:17:00:00			
Interpretation: 00:10:30:00 - 00:10:44:00				The pitch included low, mid and high frequencies. The level was moderate. There was a basic composition of low, mid and high frequencies to represent the emotion of love.			
The pitch was ranging between low, mid and high frequencies. The Emotion love was not present.				Interpretation: 00:20:22:00 - 00:23:06:00			
Interpretation: 00:10:44:00 - 00:10:59:00				The pitch included low, mid and high frequencies. The level was modulated between low, moderate and high during the entire scene.			
The pitch included lows, mids and high frequencies. The level was modulating as per the scene. To be specific, the rise in the level of high frequencies represented Charlie's love for the kid as he started adoring the kid looking at him and pampering.				A smooth base composition was used to represent peace and popping in instruments of extreme high frequency added a feel of love and joy in the scene.			
Interpretation: 00:11:00:00 - 00:11:13:00				Interpretation: 00:25:11:00 - 00:25:47:00			
The pitch included lows, mids and high frequencies. Though, the pitch did not play any significant role in the representation of emotion love. It was only represented by Charlie's gestures.				Timing, Sound Quality and Continuity of sound were prominently there.			
Interpretation: 00:11:14:00 - 00:11:25:00				The pitch included low, mid and high frequencies. The level was modulated between low, moderate and high during the entire scene. The bass was there to represent the emotion of love.			
The pitch included mid and high frequencies. The Emotion love was not present.				Interpretation: 00:28:12:00 - 00:28:25:00			
Interpretation: 00:11:26:00 - 00:11:48:00				The pitch included low, mid and high frequencies. The level was modulated between low, moderate and high during the entire scene. The bass was there to represent the emotion of love.			
				Interpretation: 00:28:26:00 - 00:28:40:00			
				The pitch included mid and high frequencies. The level			

was modulating between moderate and high during the entire scene.

The mid frequencies represent the emotion love, when the lady hugs the kid while sitting.

Interpretation: 00:28:39:00 - 00:28:53:00

The pitch included low, mid and high frequencies. The level was modulating between moderate and high during the entire scene.

The mid frequencies represented the emotion of love.

Interpretation: 00:28:54:00 - 00:29:59:00

The pitch included low, mid and high frequencies. The level was modulating between low, moderate and high during the entire scene.

The mid frequencies with a slow pace and moderate level of sound were there to represent.

Interpretation: 00:31:47:00 - 00:33:06:00

The pitch included low, mid and high frequencies. The level was modulating between low, moderate and high during the entire scene.

The mid frequencies with a low pace and moderate level of sound were there to represent love .

Interpretation: 01:07:31:00 - 01:07:45:00

The pitch included low, mid and high frequencies. The Emotion love was not present

Interpretation: 01:07:46:00 - 01:08:17:00

The pitch included low, mid and high frequencies. The level was modulating between low, moderate and high during the entire scene.

The emotion of love was represented by using high frequencies with a moderate pace and high level of sound. b

CONCLUSION

The findings of the study affirms that there is a significant role of 'pitch' and variations in 'pitch' of sound, in representing various degrees of the emotion 'love'

When in a regular composition of background score 'Bass' is added. It adds the warmth of affection and love in the scene. When the lovers meet for the first time and feel the magic of love, high 'pitch' string instrument's musical piece is added in the scene to represent the joy they are feeling as a result of love. When someone is caring the other out of love in a scene, the high 'pitch' of sound dominates in the background score.

At time when people in love are living their daily course of life, mid- high frequencies ('pitch') are mixed with the

regular composition of background score. For example if there is a scene where workers are working as per their daily routine. The regular background music of some rhythmic percussion instruments mixed with some string instruments will be there to give a feel of a normal daily routine job.

But if a couple is madly in love, and they are among those workers. In this case, to show the love these two share, Mid-high frequency of sound will be mixed with the regular composition of background music to add the feeling of 'love'.

There is further scope of establishing the relationship of 'pitch' of sound with its 'level' and 'pace', as it was observed during the study that they too have a significance in representing the emotion conveyed in a scene of a film.

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