

ABSTRACT

Upon receiving a digital audio signal recorded in a .wav file, a beat extraction processing unit 12 extracts coarse beat position information from this digital audio signal and outputs the result as metadata recorded in an .mty file. In addition, a beat alignment processing unit 13 aligns beat information of the metadata recorded in the .mty file and outputs the result as metadata recorded in a .may file. Beats of a rhythm of music are extracted highly accurately while reproducing a music signal of a musical tune.