

# Harmonic Analysis of Music With CCG

## *First Year Review*

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# Introduction

- Automatic analysis of tonal music
- Music is structured
  - Hierarchical structure in harmony
  - Hierarchical structure in meter
- We're looking at harmony

# Music's Relationship to Language

- Harmonic structure similar to language's syntactic structure
- Common analogy
- Evidence of shared specialized cognitive processing
- Katz and Pesetsky (in draft):

All formal differences between language and music are a consequence of differences in their **fundamental building blocks...**  
In all other respects, language and music are identical.

# Harmonic Analysis

- Interpretation is hard
- Highly ambiguous surface form
- Needed for many musical tasks: e.g. transcription, harmonization
- We currently handle chord sequences

# Background

- Bernstein's lectures, 1973
- Transformational grammars for music
- *A Generative Theory of Tonal Music* (GTTM, Lerdahl & Jackendoff): grammatical rules, transformations, preference rules
- Many approaches use preference rules
- Some others have used NL-style grammars
- Bod applied DOP to music
- Many statistical approaches: HMMs, n-grams

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Musical Syntax

Tonality and Interpretation

Our Grammar

Corpus

Baseline Models

Next Steps

Plan

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# Structure In Harmony

- Chords classified as *tonic*, *dominant* or *subdominant*
- Dominant creates expectation of resolution to tonic 🎵
- Building block of harmonic structure
- 🎵 Recursive
- 🎵 Coordinated
- 🎵 Substitutions
- 🎵 *Call Me Irresponsible*

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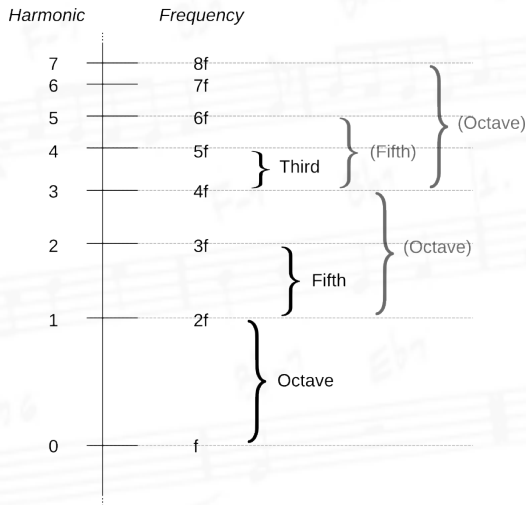
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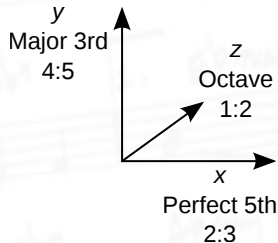
Plan

# Tonality



# Tonal Space

- Longuet-Higgins formalized this as a 3D space
- Discrete space
- Project along z-dimension to ignore octaves



# Tonal Space

|                     |                  |                  |                  |            |                    |                    |                    |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| $\sharp G^-$        | $\sharp D^-$     | $\sharp A$       | $\sharp E$       | $\sharp B$ | $\sharp\sharp F^+$ | $\sharp\sharp C^+$ | $\sharp\sharp G^+$ | $\sharp\sharp D$ |
| $E^-$               | $B^-$            | $\sharp F$       | $\sharp C$       | $\sharp G$ | $\sharp D$         | $\sharp A^+$       | $\sharp E^+$       | $\sharp B$       |
| $C^-$               | $G^-$            | $D^-$            | $A$              | $E$        | $B$                | $\sharp F^+$       | $\sharp C^+$       | $\sharp G$       |
| $\flat A^-$         | $\flat E^-$      | $\flat B^-$      | $F$              | $C$        | $G$                | $D$                | $A^+$              | $E^+$            |
| $\flat F^-$         | $\flat C^-$      | $\flat G^-$      | $\flat D^-$      | $\flat A$  | $\flat E$          | $\flat B$          | $F^+$              | $C^+$            |
| $\flat\flat D^{--}$ | $\flat\flat A^-$ | $\flat\flat E^-$ | $\flat\flat B^-$ | $\flat F$  | $\flat C$          | $\flat G$          | $\flat D$          | $\flat A$        |

# Equal Temperament

|              |              |            |            |            |                    |                    |                    |                  |
|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| $\sharp G^-$ | $\sharp D^-$ | $\sharp A$ | $\sharp E$ | $\sharp B$ | $\sharp\sharp F^+$ | $\sharp\sharp C^+$ | $\sharp\sharp G^+$ | $\sharp\sharp D$ |
| $E^-$        | $B^-$        | $\sharp F$ | $\sharp C$ | $\sharp G$ | $\sharp D$         | $\sharp A^+$       | $\sharp E^+$       | $\sharp B^-$     |
| $C^-$        | $G^-$        | $D^-$      | $A$        | $E$        | $B$                | $\sharp F^+$       | $\sharp C^+$       | $\sharp G^-$     |
| $bA^-$       | $bE^-$       | $bB^-$     | $F$        | $C$        | $G$                | $D$                | $A^+$              | $E^+$            |
| $bF^-$       | $bC^-$       | $bG^-$     | $bD^-$     | $bA$       | $bE$               | $bB$               | $F^+$              | $C^+$            |
| $bD^{--}$    | $bbA^-$      | $bbE^-$    | $bbB^-$    | $bF$       | $bC$               | $bG$               | $bD$               | $bA^-$           |

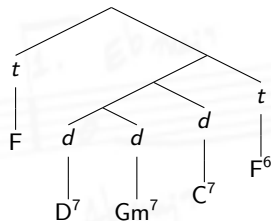
- Spread 12 notes evenly across octave

# Tonal Ambiguity

- Harmonic relation between notes is ambiguous under ET
- Musical notation partly distinguishes
- Must disambiguate to transcribe scores
- Harmonic relations dependent on key
- Important for generation tasks
- Corresponds to harmonic analysis done by:
  - musicologists
  - jazz performers (when improvising)
  - you (unconsciously)

# Syntax

- Need harmonic structure to establish harmonic relations between chords
- Map notes in ET space back onto infinite space
- Syntax → harmonic structure
- Semantics → tonal space interpretation



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# Our Grammar: Syntax

- Modification of NL CCG
- Atomic categories of form:

$X-Y$

- Important syntactic information: start and end chord roots
- E.g. simple tonic chord on C interpreted as:

$C-C$

- Just one chord – start and end

## Our Grammar: Syntax

- Complex categories built up with slashes
- ♪ Simple dominant chord on G expects resolution to C

$$G-X / C-X$$

- Next category must begin at C

$$\frac{\frac{G^7}{G-X / C-X} \quad \frac{C}{C-C}}{G-C} \rightarrow$$

- Interprets this chord as a movement from G to C

## Our Grammar: Semantics

- Semantics: path through tonal space
- $\lambda$ -calculus terms on lexical entries
- Represented as a list of points in the space
- Tonic: single point in space

$C-C : C :: Nil$  [C]

- Dominant: one point moving to another

$G-X / C-X : \lambda x.G :: x$  [G] + x

$\lambda x.G :: x \quad C :: Nil \Rightarrow G :: C :: Nil$  [G, C]

# Ambiguity

- Huge lexical ambiguity
- Generally use only a few chord types
- Lots of possible structures
- Big search space for parsing
- Sparse data
- Need some good modeling

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# Jazz Corpus

- Hand-constructed corpus
- ~100 sequences (~4,000 chords)
- Annotated with lexical entries and trees
- Only training set

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# Some Baseline Models

- Two simple parsing models
- Super-naïve baseline
  1. PCFG model
  2. C&C supertagger

## *Aside:* Absolute Pitch

- Absolute pitch irrelevant to interpretation
- More or less irrelevant to perception
- Models should be insensitive to absolute pitch

# Model 1: The PCFG Model

- Generative model based on Hockenmaier (2001)
- Frequentist model of derivations
- Only naive smoothing
- Beam applied to chart during parsing
- All pitches relative to parent in expansions

## Model 2: Supertagger Model

- Uses supertagger component of the C&C parser (Clark and Curan, 2002)
- Chooses categories for chords using log-linear model
- Parser asks for less probable tags if it can't get a full parse
- Observations: chord types and intervals between chord roots

# Evaluation

- 10-fold cross validation
- Only fully annotated sequences (65)
- Compared gold standard tonal space paths to top result
- Report error rate in alignment of paths and accuracy of aligned points

# Evaluation: Path Comparison

|                |                                                   |             |             |            |                    |                    |                    |                  |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| $\sharp G^-$   | $\sharp D^-$                                      | $\sharp A$  | $\sharp E$  | $\sharp B$ | $\sharp\sharp F^+$ | $\sharp\sharp C^+$ | $\sharp\sharp G^+$ | $\sharp\sharp D$ |
| $E^-$          | $B^-$                                             | $\sharp F$  | $\sharp C$  | $\sharp G$ | $\sharp D$         | $\sharp A^+$       | $\sharp E^+$       | $\sharp B^-$     |
| $C^-$          | $G^- \dots$                                       | $D^-$       | $A$         | $E$        | $B$                | $\sharp F^+$       | $\sharp C^+$       | $\sharp G^-$     |
| $\flat A^-$    | $\flat E^-$                                       | $\flat B^-$ | $F$         | $C$        | $D$                | $A^+$              | $E^+$              |                  |
| $\flat F^-$    | $\flat C^-$                                       | $\flat G^-$ | $\flat D^-$ | $\flat A$  | $\flat E$          | $\flat B$          | $F^+$              | $C^+$            |
| $\flat D^{--}$ | $C_T :: F_S :: C_T :: E_D :: A_D :: D_D :: \dots$ |             |             |            |                    |                    |                    |                  |

# Evaluation: Path Comparison

GS:  $C_T :: F_S :: C_T :: E_D :: A_D :: D_D :: \dots$

Costs:  $\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & ?1 & ?1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ & \backslash & & / & \backslash & / & \backslash \\ 0 & & & & & & \end{array}$

Result:  $C_T :: E_T :: A_D :: D_D :: \dots$

Total cost: 2.5  
Accuracy: 42%

# Results

|                 | C&C supertagger | PCFG          |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Recall          | 21.4%           | 100.0%        |
| Mean accuracy   | 90.8% (10.0%)   | 59.8% (11.9%) |
| Mean error rate | 0.10 (0.11)     | 0.41 (0.13)   |

- PCFG: parses everything, but not that well
- C&C: terrible recall

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## Next Steps

- Both methods can be improved
- Smoothing is critical
- More annotation to fill in gaps
- Better input to the tagger
- Combined models

# Plan

## 1. Devise evaluation methods

- use them to do consistent evaluation of baseline methods already implemented
- evaluate improvement of better models as they are developed

Months 10-11

- |                                                                                               |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 2. Enhance the baseline models with more sophisticated smoothing                              | 11-13 |
| 3. Consider alternative annotation schemes. Possibly get more data                            | 10-14 |
| 4. Try more sophisticated statistical models                                                  | 14-20 |
| 5. Investigate annotator agreement. Experiment with other annotators                          | 14-20 |
| 6. Investigate semi-supervised methods                                                        | 20-24 |
| 7. MIDI realization models                                                                    | 20-34 |
| 8. Use best full models (tonal space interpretation from MIDI) to implement some applications | 25-34 |
| 9. Write up                                                                                   | 31-36 |