

MusicQuery

A graphical music query language

Matan Gover

SIMSSA Workshop XVII

Motivation

Bach never used parallel fifths!

Beethoven's 5th contains 243 occurrences of the main motive

I wish I could verify
these claims...



Goal

A search engine for
symbolic music

Existing Solutions

Music Ngram Viewer

6

Please enter a melody or a sequence of chords ([advanced use](#))



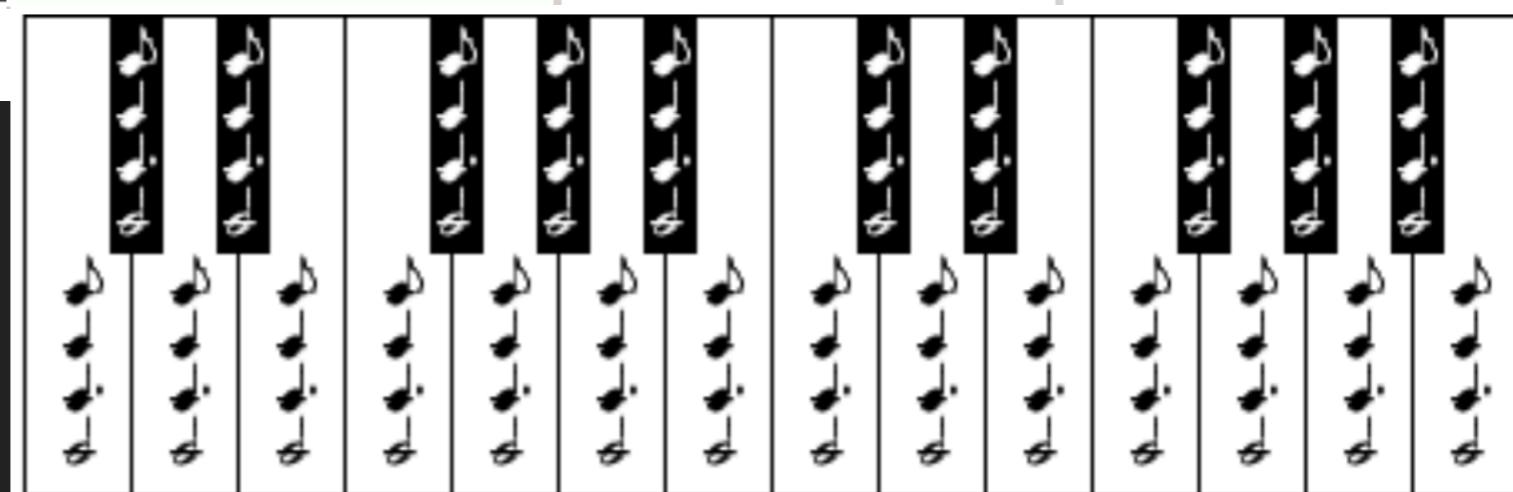
62 0 1 2 0 -2 -1 -2 -2 | melody ▾ Search

Petrucci Music Library ▾ Smoothing: 0 ▾ Normalized

<http://www.peachnote.com>



musipedia
The Open Music Encyclopedia



<http://www.musipedia.org>



Your melody:



Easy to use

Too simplistic

VoiceLeadingQuartet.parallelFifth()

8

Returns true if the motion is a parallel or antiparallel Perfect Fifth, allowing displacement by an octave (e.g., 5th to a 12th).

We will make the examples shorter with this abbreviation: >>> N = note.Note
parallel fifths

```
>>> vlq = voiceLeading.VoiceLeadingQuartet(N("G4"), N("A4"), >>>
N("C4"), N("D4"))
>>> vlq.parallelFifth()
True
```

music21.search.base.**approximateNoteSearch**(*thisStream*,
otherStreams)

searches the list of *otherStreams* and returns an ordered list of matches (each stream will have a new property of *matchProbability* to show how well it matches)

```
>>> s = converter.parse("tinynotation: 4/4 c4 d8 e16 FF a'4 b->r")
>>> o1 = converter.parse("tinynotation: 4/4 c4 d8 e GG a' b-4")
>>> l = search.approximateNoteSearch(s, [o1, o2, o3])
>>> for i in l:
...     print("%s %r" % (i.id, i.matchProbability))
o1 0.666666...
```

Extremely powerful*

*Only if you can code

VerovioHumdrumViewer Mozart, Piano Sonata No. 8 in A minor, K

```

1 !!!COM: Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus
2 !!!OTL: Piano Sonata No. 8 in A minor
3 **kern      **kern      **dynam
4 *staff2     *staff1     *staff1/2
5 *clefF4     *clefG2     *clefG2
6 =1-         =1-         =1-
7 .           16dd#qq    .
8 8A 8c 8eL   4ee       f
9 8A 8c 8e    .
10 8A 8c 8e   8.eeL    .
11 8A 8c 8eJ   .
12 .           16eeJk    .
13 8A 8c 8eL   4ee       .
14 8A 8c 8e    .
15 8A 8c 8e   8.ccL>   .
16 8A 8c 8eJ   .
17 .           16aJk     .
18 =2          =2         =2
19 .           16aqq    .
20 8A 8B 8d 8eL   4g#
21 8A 8B 8d 8e   .
22 8A 8B 8d 8e 2g#

```



Picardy third	$3[+]$ ==
Landini cadence	$[Mm]6$ $P5.*v6$ $P8$
The pitch G followed optionally by a single G# followed by one or more records containing one or more pitches from an A major triad, the last of which must end a phrase	$[Gg]+[^{\#}-]$ + $[Gg]+\#[^{\#}]$? $([Aa]+ ([Cc]+\#) [Ee]+)[^{\#}-]*$ $\{.*([Aa]+ ([Cc]+\#) [Ee]+)$ $[^{\#}-])) (([Aa]+ ([Cc]+\#) [Ee]+)$ $[^{\#}-].*\})$

Very powerful

Steep learning curve
Text manipulation

Revelation

When I search for music
I want my query to look like music

Query language

Expressive
Moderate learning curve
Looks like music

Proof of concept

<https://www.matangover.com/musicquery>

[Search](#) [Clear](#) [Examples ▾](#)

[Music](#) [Text](#) [Score ▾](#)

```
<beam>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" dots="1" accid="s"/>
  <note pname="d" oct="5" dur="16"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" accid="s"/>
</beam>
```



Piano Sonata No. 11 in A major

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
1756–91

Thema: Andante grazioso

MEI engraved with GVerovio

Querying interface

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```
<beam>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" dots="1" accid="s"/>
  <note pname="d" oct="5" dur="16"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" accid="s"/>
</beam>
```



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5

10

14

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```
<beam>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" dots="1" accid="s"/>
  <note pname="d" oct="5" dur="16"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" accid="s"/>
</beam>
```



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Run query

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```
<beam>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" dots="1" accid="s"/>
  <note pname="d" oct="5" dur="16"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" accid="s"/>
</beam>
```

1



Piano Sonata No. 11 in A major

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Modify query

Search Clear Examples ▾

Music Text Score ▾

```

<beam>
  <note pname="b" oct="4" dur="8" dots="1"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="16" accid="s"/>
  <note pname="b" oct="4" dur="8"/>
</beam>    I

```

Piano Sonata No. 11 in A major

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Thema: Andante grazioso

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10

14



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Rhythm-only

Search Clear Examples ▾

Music Text Score ▾

```

<beam>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" dots="1" artic="ten"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="16" artic="ten"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" artic="ten"/>
</beam>

```

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Pitch-only

Search Clear Examples ▾

Music Text Score ▾

```
<note pname="c" oct="5" dur="4" accid="s" stem.visible="false"/>
<note pname="e" oct="5" dur="4" stem.visible="false"/>
```

Piano Sonata No. 11 in A major

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1756–91

Thema: Andante grazioso

1 5 10 14



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Or operator

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[Music](#) [Text](#) [Score ▾](#)

```
<beam>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" dots="1" accid="s"/>
  <note pname="d" oct="5" dur="16"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" accid="s"/>
</beam>
<note type="or" pname="f" dur="4" oct="4" stem.len="6"/>
<beam>
  <note pname="b" oct="4" dur="8" dots="1"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="16" accid="s"/>
  <note pname="b" oct="4" dur="8"/>
</beam>
```



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```

<beam>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" dots="1" artic="ten"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="16" artic="ten"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" artic="ten"/>
</beam>
<tuplet xml:id="group0" quantifier="?" num="1" numbase="1" type="quantifier">
  <note pname="e" oct="5" dur="4"/>
</tuplet>

```



Piano Sonata No. 11 in A major

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
1756–91

Thema: Andante grazioso

5

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14

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Quantifier - one or more

Search Clear Examples ▾

Music Text Score ▾

```

<note pname="a" oct="4" dur="4" stem.visible="false"/>
<tuplet xml:id="group0" quantifier="+" num="1" numbase="1" type="quantified">
  <note pname="b" oct="4" dur="8" stem.visible="false"/>
</tuplet>
<note pname="c" oct="5" dur="4" accid="s" stem.visible="false"/>

```

Piano Sonata No. 11 in A major

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
1756–91

Thema: Andante grazioso

1 5 10 14



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Grouping

Search Clear Examples ▾

Music Text Score ▾

```

<note pname="b" oct="4" dur="8" stem.visible="false"/>
<tuplet xml:id="group0" quantifier="+" num="1" numbase="1" type="quantified">
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="4" artic="ten"/>
  <note pname="c" oct="5" dur="8" artic="ten"/>
</tuplet>
<note pname="c" oct="5" dur="4" accid="s" stem.visible="false"/>

```

Piano Sonata No. 11 in A major

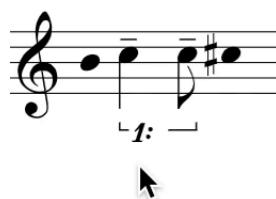
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
1756–91

Thema: Andante grazioso

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Grouping with or

Possible improvements

Polyphonic music
Layers (harmony, lyrics...)
Graphical editing
Semantic query encoding
Rendering

Thank you.

<https://www.matangover.com/musicquery>