

REPRESENTATION

****melac** — melodic accent representation

DESCRIPTION

The ****melac** representation is used to characterize the degree of pitch-related stress (melodic accent) for successive moments. Three types of tokens are recognized by ****melac**: stress-tokens, rests, and barlines. Stress-tokens encode decimal values ranging between 0 (no stress) and 1 (maximum stress).

Barlines are represented using the “common system” for barlines — see **barlines** (2).

FILE TYPE

It is recommended that files containing predominantly ****melac** data should be given names with the distinguishing ‘.mac’ extension.

SIGNIFIERS

The following table summarizes the ****melac** mappings of signifiers and signifieds.

0-9	melodic accent values specified as integer or real value; measure numbers
r	rest
=	barline; == double barline
=;	barline with pause sign

*Summary of ****melac** Signifiers*

EXAMPLES

The following sample document shows a single spine of ****melac** data for the bass line of J. S. Bach’s two-part keyboard Invention No. 1. The corresponding ****kern** and ****semit** representations are also shown:

```

!! J.S. Bach, Two-part Invention 1 (BWV 772)
**kern          **semits  --          **melac
*C:             *C:             *C:
*M4/4           *M4/4           *M4/4
=1              =1              =1
2r              r               r
16r             r               r
16C             -12             1
16D             -10             0.33
16E             -8              0.221
16F             -7              0.556
16D             -10             0.121
16E             -8              0.241
16C             -12             0.121
=2              =2              =2
8G              -5              0.241
8GG             -17             0.17
4r              r               r
16r             r               r
16G             -5              1
16A             -3              0.33
16B             -1              0.221
16c             0               0.556
16A             -3              0.121
16B             -1              0.241
16G             -5              0.121
=3              =3              =3
*-              *-              *-

```

Notice that melodic accent values can be either real or integer values. Rests are represented by the single letter 'r'.

PERTINENT COMMANDS

The following Humdrum command produces ****melac** data as output:

melac calculate melodic accent values for successive pitches

TANDEM INTERPRETATIONS

The following tandem interpretations can be used in conjunction with ****melac**:

meter signatures	*M6/8
key signatures	*k[f#c#]
key	*c#:

*Tandem interpretations for **melac*

SEE ALSO

barlines (2), **melac** (4), ****semit**s (2), **semit**s (4)