
REPRESENTATION

strophe — strophic passage designators

DESCRIPTION

The **strophe** tandem interpretations are used to encode alternative parallel paths of sequential information. Strophic representations are useful for such tasks as representing texts for different verses of a song, or for indicating alternative interpretations of a sequence of notes — such as *ossia* passages.

Strophic passages begin from a single spine that splits into several “alternative” spines — which later rejoin to form a single spine again. Four different tandem interpretations are involved in the encoding of strophic passages. These include the *strophic passage initiator*, the *strophic passage terminator*, the *strophe labels*, and the *strophe end indicators*.

Each strophic passage begins with a *strophic passage initiator*. This consists simply of a single asterisk followed by the keyword “strophe” (i.e.*strophe). This tandem interpretation marks a single spine that is about to be split into alternative parallel paths. When the alternative spines are ultimately rejoined, a *strophic passage terminator* marks the end of the strophic passage. This terminator consists simply of a single asterisk followed by the upper-case letter ‘S’, followed by a minus sign (i.e.*S-).

Following a strophic passage initiator, the spine is split into the required number of alternative spines using the Humdrum split interpretation (see spine paths). Each spine is then identified using a strophe label. Strophe labels are tandem interpretations that begin with a single asterisk, followed by the upper-case letter ‘S’, followed by a slash (/), followed by a unique name consisting of numbers and/or alphabetic letters. For example, where a composer has notated an alternative way of performing a passage (“*ossia*”), two strophe labels may be defined:

*S/sic *S/ossia

If the strophic data imply some sort of order (such as verses in a song), simple numerical labels should be used:

*S/1 *S/2 *S/3 *S/4

The use of numbers is important when the file is expanded using the **thru** and **strophe** commands.

Following the strophic data records, each strophic spine is ended using the strophe end indicator. This tandem interpretation consists of an asterisk, followed by the upper-case letter ‘S’, followed by a slash, followed by the keyword ‘fin’ (i.e.*S/fin).

SIGNIFIERS

The following table summarizes the four types of tandem interpretations used for strophic passages.

*strophe	strophic passage initiator
*S/ <i>n.n</i>	numerical strophe label
*S/ <i>name</i>	named strophe label
*S/ <i>fin</i>	strophe end indicator
*S-	strophic passage terminator

Summary of **strophe** Tandem Interpretations

EXAMPLES

For examples of strophic passages, see the **strophe** command description in Section 4 of this manual.

SEE ALSO

expansion lists (3), **strophe (4)**