

Processes and Potentials

Composing through objects, networks and interactions

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Abstract

This dissertation is concerned with strategies for composing computer music. It is motivated by an interest in problems concerning the interaction and relationships between materials and processes and their influence on development and form. The main objective is to create a framework of ideas and technical solutions that could lead to novel possibilities when creating computer music and experiencing the compositional process. (Different processes create musical compositions and an associative approach will be presented where the aim is to relate these various aspects. The relations occur by binding operative objects, control polarities, sound processes and networks together. These relations are interactive and dynamic where compositional focus is put on forming and manipulating these relationships.) A compositional environment implementing these ideas will be introduced, along with a discussion of musical compositions inspired by them.

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1. Introduction

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When I direct my attention inward to contemplate my own self [...] I perceive at first, as a crust solidified on the surface, all the perceptions which come to it from the material world. These perceptions are clear, distinct, juxtaposed or juxtaposable one with another; they tend to group themselves into objects [...] But if I draw myself in from the periphery towards the center [...] I find an altogether different thing. There is beneath these sharply cut crystals and this frozen surface, a continuous flux, which is not comparable to any flux I have even seen. There is a succession of states each of which announces that which follows and contains that which precedes it. [...] I could not have said where any one of them finished or where another commenced. In reality no one begins or ends, but all extend into each other.

;Bergson, "#\$", Chapter \$, para%3<

This thesis is the result of an exploratory process which was initially concerned with possibilities. The main motivations concerned finding new and creative approaches for making computer music. Composing this kind of music was already something I had been occupied with for some time! However, the applied methods of creating the music seemed to excite me increasingly less. The way I approached a piece of music was purely goal-orientated. The final result was all that mattered. It should be interesting, powerful, compact but also beautiful and original! How I got there was not important and just something that had to be done. Of course creative situations and inspiring moments occurred, but somehow I felt the creative process should be made more interesting. This is what I wanted to explore and make fundamental to my project. The choice was made to concentrate on processes, relations and the creation of compositionally interesting situations. These could be unified by considering elements such as the compositional process, the listening process, the temporal process or sound processes as sharing general attributes. By associating these, potentials emerge of connecting different elements of their totality in novel ways.

) theoretical framework which unites various aspects of musical composition is clearly attractive for a composer to develop. I will try to do this in the following discussion, but I will however not constrain all discussed topics to my proposed view. The important drive behind all this is to discover how various compositional activities can relate in new and original ways. This means to question them, expand their functions and try to develop novel associations.

In order to combine working modes and to compose on several levels simultaneously, I sense the need for an approach that addresses the possible relationships between musical processes on a fundamental level. I feel that new and existing electronic music should challenge the notions of linearity, interactions between elements and organization of musical materials. I think this is best achieved by exploring how different elements in a musical composition or a compositional process can interact and form relationships. I will try to approach this problem concerning the way music is produced, but the scope will also be expanded by including the compositional process itself as a key factor.

! opefull foundations can be created for a process-based theoretical framework in terms of composing computer music% This should be able to stand on its own but it has also concrete implementations% Both a compositional environment and musical compositions will be discussed and an attempt will be made to unify these aspects as a whole%

For briefly I would like to introduce a few key concepts behind these ideas% The aim of the implementation has been to create a compositional environment which favors interactive, dynamic relations and structural hierarchy among its elements% This environment should be generative in nature but highly flexible in its response to the composer's compositional desires% The operational base should be the process%) relatively open term, a process can mean different things depending on its applications% Here it will be used partly as a unifying element for various technical and musical features%

The compositional environment that has been implemented is based on hierarchical processes and functions &er much by combining and nesting different processes% Bridges between actual sound processes and their specification is found in structures called *objects*%) n object is in control of a sound process and can also be subject to other structural processes or direct interaction from somebody using the environment% This user can in various ways create configurations for how objects will behave and interact% However, once the system is running, the main way of communication will be provided by the object and its *polarities*% The polarities provide a common language that all objects understand and respond to% The polarities control the behavior of a sound process via the object which is responsible for that sound process% The state of these polarities ; which are 3 in total < is what becomes the primal material to compose for when using the system%

Another important factor is the definition of these objects and how they occur and interact% Their combination is found in *states*%) state defines how several objects are combined on higher structural levels% It also specifies the temporal order of objects% These states interact and create the music by connecting in a *network*% The network determines how a state will be approached and how it interacts with other states% These issues will be explained in more detail later but it is important at this point in time to be familiar with the basic concepts of this environment%) process-based composition environment represented in terms of objects and networks is relevant as a technical solution as well as proposing a new aesthetic from a compositional point of view%

This thesis contains six chapters% The first one consists of this introduction and the last one contains conclusions% The second one introduces concepts that have inspired the technical, creative and musical solutions that form part of this research% The third chapter examines in details important components of these solutions% The fourth chapter deals with the compositional environment that has been developed to implement the topics presented in this text% The environment is called 5+6C ; Environment for Process and Object Composition% Its various aspects will be covered mostly in the light of its underlying motives where technical jargon is kept to a minimum% Finally the fifth chapter is concerned with musical issues% Compositions will be discussed that have been realized as part of this project and how they connect with other ideas covered in this text%) French language sources have been translated by the author%

2. Bringing Forward

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Composers are concerned with the creation of musical situations emerging concretely out of a critical interaction with their materials, including their algorithms. This task cannot be exhausted by a linear (a priori, non-interactive) problem-solving approach. Interaction is here matching an important feature of musical composition processes, giving room for the emergence of irreducible situations through non-linear interaction.

;?aggiore, "##\$, p%14<

This chapter will start by discussing the compositional process and what elements of it could be subject to change and compositional choices. This will lead to a discussion of the different levels a composer is concerned with during the creative process. The aim is to explore ways to extend the traditional views of these levels and how they are seen as an important factor in composition. From examining the time and structural levels the focus will shift to the materials which are used when creating a musical composition. (ifferent points will be examined concerning what material is, how the definition of material can be extended and what is the relationship between material and form. (uring the discussion on material, a focus will be put on how materials can be seen as processes and how these processes are characterised by certain behaviours. Processes in interaction will bring forth the topic of emergence, how it can be useful for a process-based way of composing and how it relates to temporal issues. From emergence, the issues of causality and complex behaviour will be looked at. This will lead to the final section of the first chapter, the one of time and how it serves as an important factor in the framework of compositional ideas proposed in this text.

2.1 The Creative Process

) fundamental concept in this thesis will be the one of process% +rocesses themself&s are temporal phenomena and as such ha&e man common attributes with music, which could be seen as a temporal art ;Collins, "##1<% The term AprocessB in music is often associated with minimal composers such as Ste&e . eich or +hilip Glass, e' perimentalists such as Cohn Cage or e&en serial composers from Schoenberg to Stockhausen ;M att, "##\$%& Often the term is used for music that emphasi-es process as its theme or mode of creation%In the case of Stockhausen it is seen as helpful for “*navigating in a multidimensional musical space*” ;Maconie, "##1, p% "1#<%A+rocessB has conse>uentl been used e' tensi&el in connection to music and the applications can &ar greatl as the abo&e e' amples demonstrate%

In the following discussion the term *process* will be used for activities ranging from the higher level composition process to the lower level sound process, with several intermediate steps. The usage here will for sure overlap with, and borrow from, what the above mentioned people and others have made of it. Still it is important for the following discussion to try to keep the definition open and not restricted to its

historical representations%

Many important issues can often be accurately described in terms of process, of activity, of change. One definition of processes is to think about an actual process as something that comes into being from a set of possible processes; i.e. escher, "###< process as an actuality arising from several possibilities. Processes can also be analysed in terms of their doings and behaviours. *or a process-based system of thought, becoming is no less important than being, quite the contrary %

In the musical context of this text, process-based ideas are especially relevant for works that put into foreground behaviours, changes and actions. *or ample fluid sound structures, fluid materials or forms. Music without sharp boundaries%

THAT 'all things flow' is the first vague generalization which the unsystematized, barely analyzed, intuition of men has produced [...] Without doubt, if we are to go back to that ultimate, integral experience, unwarped by the sophistication of theory, that experience whose elucidation is the final aim of philosophy, the flux of things is one ultimate generalization around which we must weave our philosophical system. ;Whitehead, 1923, Chapter 1, para 1<

If things flow or if the simple existence of processes the fluidity of things is of primal importance! How do processes then flow? How do they exist in general and what is it that defines them? How and when do they occur and what happens during the lifetime of a process? What elements constitute a process and how are their relationships? What is the scale or magnitude of a process? Where are they nested and then how do they interact?

The starting point here will be to reflect on the compositional process. The creative activity of making music. This means to try to realize what units or phases define the development of a piece of music and how they relate. Can these relationships be changed, automated or become subjects of compositional choices?

It is interesting to think about what happens during the course of creation. The computer is an ideal tool for inspecting different aspects at multiple stages of the creation process. This kind of analysis does of course not only apply to electronic or computer music, helpful reformulations of the composition process could indeed be seen as something interesting for all kinds of creative activity. Computer music still has a unique position since much of its operations happen inside the computer which has high capacities in analysis and symbolic processing. The study of what happens during the evolution of a musical composition made with a computer can give birth to new methods and ways of making music. This can lead to what Gostino (i.e. Scipio) calls a model of compositional design. (i.e. Scipio, 1981) This model represents a holistic view of the composer's creation process and shows possible relationships between various elements that are created during the process and their link to the composition which is its product.

The viewpoint that will be taken here is that the elements that form the process and how they are designed is a very important factor. It is, however, not the intention to argue that a formalization of these elements

is necessary the most important thing% What is important is to realize what steps are taken during the process and which of them could be ameliorated and be subject to compositional choices% The aim is to investigate the relationships between what happens during the various phases of composing and the composition that is created during the process% What is the definition of the materials used and how are they represented? How the various aspects during the development of a piece of music can possibly be made more accessible and expressive to the composer by use of specialized software or customization%

Phases

The question of what constitutes the compositional process is of course ambiguous and varies between composers% To arrive at a clear formulation about what exactly defines the compositional process and a musical composition is difficult and could lead into reductionist traps where important aspects are excluded% Such a definition would have to be built on some assumptions that generalize the elements of the definition% This kind of formalization can be dangerous since in music it is often hard to find such constants or universal truths% The compositional process should rather be seen as something creative, open and dynamic, possibly changing over time it is repeated% *or now, a useful starting point would be to say that the *compositional process* is every action taken by the composer during the creation of a *musical composition* which is the final outcome of this process%

The New Zealand Arts Council online offer the following definition of a compositional process:

Composition processes: a process which is unique to every individual when creating music. It usually involves the development of a concept initially, and requires exploring, experimenting and improvising with musical ideas. Ideas are then developed, extended, manipulated and structured into a complete piece of music. The complete piece is often represented in a form appropriate to the genre, such as a traditionally notated score, a lead sheet or a graphic score.
Arts Council online, Sound Arts Glossary, 2012

One interesting aspect of this definition is how an initial concept usually plays an important role% This implies that the process is carried out in order to fulfill some intentions% It has the purpose of serving the initial concept, but why should the process of making music be conditioned by a concept? Is it actually as useful as the initial inspiration might suggest? In the context of this thesis, it is the process itself that is the most important as well as that what is created during the process% The process itself should not need to be constrained by external influences% If the emphasis is on the process itself, it seems contradictory that it is to serve a preconceived idea% One of interest in the definition above is that the process is being thought of as something highly individual% Which it perhaps is, but there also exist common elements between music making activities that in the end form a compositional process%

The compositional process can be seen as a sequence of steps which might or might not be iterated in various ways in order to produce a musical result% Some of these steps might be automated or carried out by a software program which requires a certain kind of clarification of what happens in each of the steps% Searching for the minimum of logical constraints necessary for the construction of a musical process, Iannis Xenakis presented in his book *Formalized music* eight steps which he calls the fundamental phases

of a Musical Dork ;! arle , "##4<%

\$%Initial conceptions ;intuitions, provisional or definitive data<K

"% Definition of the sonic entities and of their symbolism communicable with the limits of possible means ;sounds of musical instruments, electronic sounds, noises, sets of ordered sonic elements, granular or continuous formations, etc%K

/%Definition of the transformations which these sonic entities must undergo in the course of the composition ;macrocomposition & general choice of logical framework, i% of the elementary algebraic operations and the setting up of relations between entities, sets, and their symbols as defined in "%K and the arrangement of these operations in le' icographic time with the aid of succession and simultaneity <K

4%Microcomposition ;choice and detailed fitting of the functional or stochastic relations of the elements of "%, i% algebra outside-time, and algebra in-timeK

1%Sequential programming of 3. and 4. ;the schema and pattern of the work in its entirety <K

: % Implementation of calculations, verifications, feedbacks, and definitive modifications of the sequential program K

2% Final symbolic result of the programming ;setting out the music on paper in traditional notation, numerical expressions, graphs, or other means of solfeggio<K

9%Sonic realization of the program ;direct orchestral performance, manipulations of the type of electromagnetic music, computerized construction of the sonic entities and their transformations<%

Henakis also comments that order is not rigid, that permutations are possible and that most of these phases are happening unconsciously ;Henakis, \$33"<K It does seem, however, that these phases are somewhat dependent on each other and that their order in time can not so easily be altered% The are presented in a numbered list and this does seem to clearly have to happen in a linear succession in time% Henakis speaks of feedback and that the order is not important but this is not explained further% Taking the viewpoint of the compositional process as being something dynamic and perhaps non-linear then the list does seem quite conservative% The phases are in perfect harmony with the classical idea of the composer having an initial inspiration and then working his way up from the definition of the material to the final sonic realization of a score or tape%) n extension of these phases could include how they could easily be reordered and their elements combined% ! ow could one possibly start at element / then go to : which would lead to phase "E Intuition is here clearly a starting idea which others are based upon% ! ow could one change his intuition at a later stage in the process which should be reflected in other phases without repeating them entirely%) Iso of interest here is his comment about these phases being unconscious% If feedback and change of order are possible then how do they affect the resulting music% It is probably true what Henakis says, that in many cases composers travel somehow unconsciously through the compositional process% This raises the question that if they would proceed differently through the process then how would their music be affected% Can this process be configured in a different and maybe more non-linear way% E

The main point here is not to criticize or analyze the phases Henakis has defined% What is important to point out, is the linear nature of how these steps are put forward, that they seem to succeed each other and that the first phase is where the intuition occurs so that the following steps seem to be highly

conditioned by the first one. In an interview with Brigitte Jobidon, the American composer Curtis Roads defines three phases of his own creative process:

Creation of sound source material

The important phase of classifying and editing the source material in terms of time-scales

Make the macroform puzzle. *"It is as if each piece in the puzzle is a sound object with a potentially unique morphology. As I assemble the puzzle, certain objects appear to be natural matches: they fit in sequence or in parallel."*

Roads, 1994, p. 4

It is likely that these three phases reflect a commonly used approach in computer music. It also recalls the

different perspective on the creative process

It's a process, a cycle that starts with certain sounds that stimulate an emotional response: shortwave, the sounds of places that are unique, sounds in nature. What I feel in these sources determines choices for details or for the structure, which again become another influence. At a certain moment the music itself makes clear the compositional choices and it becomes irrelevant to separate the maker from the work itself. I'm just another part of the process, no more and no less than the other elements, rather than a 'controller'.

; (uncan, 2002, p. 332)

(uncan sees himself as being **part of the process**, just an element among others. The entities that make up the phases of creation can be seen as distinct parts with composable relationships. The composer or controller might then just as well be a distinct part himself. This is a new open way of seeing things. It is the act of creation that is put into focus and this act will bring forth new discoveries. (uncan's view also implies an encouragement with the process. Be part of the process. Do not see it as a sequence of steps that are to fulfill something exterior to the process. Engage yourself in the making and interact with other elements of the process.) Iso of interest is (uncan's 'certain moment' where the compositional choices become clear and the maker becomes part of the work itself. Is he referring to the moment when the process takes over? How and when does this occur? Of course not initially since the nested influences must need some duration before emerging. This suggests that the value things have for the final result are increased as the process unfolds. The process gives more substance to its own products than the ones that are outside it or belong to a playful first phase.

Possibilities

(Iso from America is the sound installation artist and graphic designer Richard Chartier. He is mostly known for his work in reductionist microsound, which is a sort of extreme minimalism where the music is often very quiet or very sparse. Chartier has an interesting proposal concerning the act of deleting.

My work is really a process of removal. Sometimes a piece will be based on one [looped] sound with things layered over it, and then eventually I will take the original linking element out. So it's this ghost element that's not really there. That absence continues to exert a pressure on the work, lurking as an implied presence in the tracks and compounding the obscure impression that something is missing.

; Chartier, 2003, p. 33

Chartier has reversed the importance of steps by establishing a collection of sounds composed around a core sound, which he then removes from the track, so its organizing principle is absent. The choices made after the core sound has been selected, gain attention by the removal of this core sound. This is an original solution to the problem of putting sounds together where sometimes early choices condition later ones. To delete what was started with also highlights the later choices. This emphasizes the emerging products of the compositional process. One could imagine repeating this removal process several times, perhaps reintroducing the core sound at later stages in order to arrive at something which becomes more and more the aftermath of its creation principle. Another way of using the process of deleting as a creative solution

is to delete entire phrases or section that have been created by putting pre-made materials together. This could be an extension to three steps proposed by Curtis Roads. Instead of completing the puzzle it could simply be removed. This could result in all the steps being repeated, but now with a heuristic obtained from higher level decision making which would influence the material generation. Material interaction with all musical materials emerge from the compositional process (delete and repeat).

By deleting elements from a composed set of elements the relationships between the remaining ones come to the foreground. This raises the question of how certain materials condition others. The German composer Bernhard Günter describes his view of how possibilities are brought forward by the selection of materials:

The way I usually start work is with some material that I've treated to a certain degree. That's the starting point. One thing leads to a huge field of possibilities. I add a second thing and the field shrinks, immediately. You have a relationship between the two and there are consequences. Then I add a third thing, and.. you see what I mean? When I have that I may repeat one or introduce a new one, and that also has its own consequences. Some people say composing is creating problems and then solving them, but for me it's more like creating possibilities and choosing between them.

Günter, "###", p. 11

Günter describes something fundamental about the discussion so far. The fact that each choice that is made redefines the set of other possible choices available at a given point in time. So that if different choices would have been taken the composer would be confronted with a different set of possibilities for each of his choices. This unfolding is sequential in nature and if properly documented could be used to create a map of the whole compositional process. By creating such a map or network, its exploration can be repeated with different navigational strategies. This implies a possible hierarchy of choices that can later be explored on different levels of time or structure. The choices made can be linked together and become themselves materials to compose with. The choices are of course products of the compositional process. So that what in the end is composed for, is an outcome of the process, and where the material is perhaps one of its most interesting aspects, the compositional choices.

This section started by quoting Paggione emphasizing the power of interaction between the composer and his materials. This is a valid point to reflect on for the current context. I also mentioned that a linear problem solving mode can lead to certain pitfalls. One of the dangers of adopting a black box approach to computer music is that the algorithm becomes a fixed entity which can be hard to control. Much use of generative methods suffers from the fact that if the results of a certain algorithm do not satisfy the composer's needs, the only way for him to react is to interfere with the output. This seems contradictory to a dynamic situation where the order of the steps taken is flexible, adapted to the needs of the composer and could perhaps lead to what Paggione calls the "emergence of irreducible situations through non-linear interaction." This contradiction is indeed fundamental to the motivation behind the solutions that will be presented later in this text and perhaps even to algorithmic music in general.

It is crucial to realize how a compositional process can be analyzed in a way where it is seen as both

relational and non-linear. It is clearl seducti&e to imagine discrete steps that constitute the process and could easil be modeled. In man cases how&er the process is more comple' and steps are re=iterated and their order unknown before the process begins. This should be part of the compositional model and perhaps its most important component.

A (musical) system of symbols can be formally structured (i.e., built as a system including functions manifesting diverse degrees of abstraction) without being completely formalized, the last case arising, strictly speaking, when all non- defined symbols present in the system are properly enumerated (or, if preferred, when nothing is hidden).

;?aggione, "##\$, p%1:<

Intensions should lead to methods that help one fulfill those intentions. This should include feedback so that both the methods and intentions could &ar and their relationship be d namic. In chapter three of this te' t, networks will be e' amined and how the can be useful for the compositional process. 7etworks can provide a useful solution to the problems addressed so far. One can imagine relations between &arious phases of the process where the order is determined b the connections between them. Of course some phases in the construction of a piece of music are alwa s dependent on others. *or e' ample in the case of the Henakis phases it is not possible to reali-e sonically a piece without ha&ing at least some lsonic entities. It is how&er possible to &iew the se>uences of steps performed during the act of composing as something that could be subject to d namic choices. In order to be able to get there, it is necessar to define on what scales different operations occur and what is the material used for the different operations reali-ed during the process. This will be discussed in the ne' t two sections.

For much of the twentieth century, all sciences, including biology, were obsessed with reductionism: viewing the world at all levels, from the smallest to the largest, as merely a machine made of parts. Take the machine apart, examine the individual pieces, and we would understand how the world works. [...] But some scientists admit that reductionism falls short of its ultimate goal: understanding how the world works. It falls short because it fails to recognize the connectedness, the unity, that is the deep essence of nature in all realms. [...] There is a oneness in nature in the sense of interdependence.

;+epperberg, "##9, p%"/<

2.2 Scales and States

An important property in the definition of a compositional process or environment is to decide on the operational level on what level are operations to be conducted. Is it about creating sounds, phrases, sections, or pieces? In his book *Microsound*, Curtis Roads defines nine time scales of music ranging from infinite long to infinite small. Roads, "##\$<% The most useful for our discussion are the ones occurring in the middle: the micro, sound object, meso and macro levels. Roads admits that the boundaries between these scales are not always clear but still explains in detail the difference between them and their function in music. These time scales have become an almost fundamental part of the language employed when discussing computer music and are often used as starting points for describing sounds or musical elements. These scales can be seen as related to traditional music theory where notes form motives which form phrases which form sections and so on. Moreover, when talking about the micro-time scale it is common to refer to what is under the note. Aggione, "##\$<%"

, Arlhein- Stockhausen gave attention to low-level time scales by stating that pitch and rhythm are to be considered as being the same phenomenon, differing only in time scale. Roads, "##\$<% This view implies a sort of generalization and reductionism which is not always useful. Indeed, one of the possibilities of computer music is to blur these boundaries and create materials that escape this definition. The solutions that have been developed during this research as well as the music they have created are not concerned with notes. It is therefore not very useful to reflect on some time-scale that lies under the note.

Electroacoustic gestures and textures cannot be reduced either to note or pulse; the music is not necessarily composed of discrete elements; nor can we find that (consistent) measure of minimum movement density. ;Smalle , \$\$\$2, p%\$\$\$4<

In music made with computers the difference between composing sounds and composing pieces is not necessarily as big or an important distinction to make. Aggione believes that time scales and their interaction are one of the most important aspects of his music. Moreover, he also believes that the time scales and their definition is very much a compositional decision.

All compositional manipulations articulating relations between different temporal levels depend essentially on the paradigm adopted by the composer. Evidently, a decision has to be made concerning the status and the nature of these interactions: to consider them as taking place in a continuum organized as a fixed hierarchy [...] or to assume the existence of discontinuities, of nonlinearities, considering (in the last case) microtime, macrotime, and all intermediate dimensions as disjoint (or relative) realms. ;Aggione, "###, p%\$/<

In other terms, Paggione emphasizes the importance of a non-linearity between these time scales which sometimes makes it complicated to understand what they refer to. In Paggione's music much importance is given to it functioning on several time scales simultaneously. It is one of the highly interesting aspects of his works and it is not the intention here to criticize this. It remains uncertain however if his view of non-linear time scales can indeed always be useful in the general field of discussion. If the focus is on creating practical structural units for process-based sound material, then perhaps restricting these anatomic elements to temporal representations is misleading. Could structural levels or containers be introduced in the context of process-based composition which are not necessarily temporal in nature?

Blocks

Some useful ideas come from Pögenig in his article *Composition processes*. He starts by proposing three different methods which he labels 'interpolation', 'extrapolation' and 'chronological-association'; Pögenig, 2009, p. 10. Interpolation, Pögenig means going from the outer limits of form to the smallest detail of a sound. Extrapolation signifies the opposite, to start from the individual sound and proceed towards the larger form. The third method, named chronological-association, implies a method that unfolds along the timeline where each element is gradually given its order in time which can not be changed later in the process. This method also has an element where feedback is used in order to continually compare local elements to other objectives. This element is what Pögenig finds closest to the *real process of composition* and in some way again recalls Paggione:

On every level, everything depends on the precise definition of the time scale where one fixes (temporarily) his << window >>, the operational reference frame. Thus, we jump from one scale to another, in every direction [...] often passing by points that are very close to each other. A process of multi-scale oriented composition is always << multilocal >>. This applies to composing as well as listening. Paggione, 2008, p. 10.

The most relevant proposition in Pögenig's paper, at least for the discussion at the moment, is his idea of blocks. Even though his ideas regarding these three previously mentioned methods involve a certain relationship to time scales they are thought of as compositional methods. This is actually somehow more useful than simply defining where the boundaries of some time scales reside. However, Pögenig's above mentioned methods propose a rather uniform way of a compositional approach, one chooses one direction as opposed to another one. The aim of the current direction of this text is to embrace dynamic, complex and non-linear approaches to musical composition. This relates to the fourth method proposed in Pögenig's paper, his idea of blocks. He proposes a notion of blocks that seem to encapsulate a more complex structural entity and are defined as:

A combination of methods more oriented towards time or space can be found in the composition of blocks; by a block I mean a part of a structure which requires complementing by other blocks but which is still complete in itself. Pögenig, 2009, p. 10.

What is interesting is that what Pögenig finds more oriented towards time actually allows for more freedom

in temporal organization. One can create such blocks by one of the three methods he previously mentioned and then work towards a complete composition by defining their interaction. Also of interest is the fact that these blocks should be complemented by other blocks but still be complete in themselves. This raises the question of when a block could be seen as complete and in which way complementing occurs. What kind of interaction emerges from this complementation and how can these be composed? Of course it is possible to discuss interactions between time scales as well. In music where the boundaries of the time scales are fluid this interaction becomes a very interesting point of the music! However it does seem hard to develop well defined strategies to compose directly for these interactions. It seems more appropriate to define structural levels which are flexible and do not necessarily emphasize temporal qualities.

Partially inspired by Bouligand's blocks, the concept of *states* will be used in this text. Briefly explained, a state is a flexible container of sound processes that facilitates interaction between these processes as well as with other states. States can be seen as building blocks for a musical composition and can for example become sections. States can however exist on various time-scales and they might just as well become short sound objects or phrases. What is important is the interaction between them, how they complement each other, how they differ or succeed each other.

Susceptibility

In the article 'Complete sounds', Bouligand discusses how the differences or similarity of simultaneous structures can be dealt with in compositional way. He labels structures that easily blend with others 'permeable' structures and stresses that the way structures overlap and coalescing occurs should be treated with care, and choices be made regarding whether similarity or difference should be emphasized. This is useful also when discussing blocks or states. Bouligand then mentions another interesting property regarding relationships between structures which he calls susceptibility.

Susceptibility means that two structures complement each other, interpret each other, that the one structure articulates the other in a characteristic manner. What he adds: "Structures which are to be susceptible to one another do not have to be incomplete, or as it were musically half-finished[...] The penetration of two susceptible structures could result in a kind of coalescence (and dealt with under the aspect of permeability) [...] The fact that two events are in a tension-relationship to each other is presupposed by their distinguishability, their difference. It is these differences that prevent coalescence. Of course, if they do not, the structures are not susceptible.

; Bouligand, 2003: 1, p. 1

The relational properties of two or more structures, their completeness, similarity or difference is something that can be of great use for hierarchical levels of compositional structure. It is useful to imagine how structural elements can be conceived that incorporate Bouligand's ideas of both blocks and complete sounds! Now the behavior of states can benefit from the methods of interaction as proposed by Bouligand.

The concepts of complementation, coalescing, susceptibility and permeability are used here with regards to the relationships between things instead of describing the things themselves. This is extremely

important since a compositional practice that factors processes on various levels must embrace the various relationships between these processes%

The English mathematician, scientist and philosopher, Alfred North Whitehead, spoke of the set of processes and their relationships as a *nexus*. A nexus is defined as a “*a particular fact of togetherness among actual entities*” ;Whitehead, 1929, Chapter II, para. 1. An actual occasion is where a process becomes actual from the set of possible processes. When the elements of a nexus are reunited they become self-sustaining and form what Whitehead calls ‘societies’ ;Whitehead, 1929, Chapter IV, para. 1. It is the way elements connect and form relationships in the societies that is important. Members of a nexus relate in the form of inheritance and their totality is what makes enduring objects. Besides being contiguous, a nexus also sustains a character whose meaning is close to the Latin word *persona* which can be understood as being its identity %

Whitehead’s nexus of relations can be applied to states as being collections of objects and processes. These states could be treated as compositional units and what constitutes their particularity, ‘character’ or ‘persona’ becomes important when they are used in a compositional context. What is also important is how these relationships are defined in a state and how interaction can be understood as emerging from them. Before discussing further how emergence can be useful, it is necessary to try and define more precisely what elemental parts are required to create higher level structures that inherit these concepts of interaction.

In architecture, what is more important than the material itself? Like the Taj Mahal – which was made with marble and things like that, very expensive material – I don't think it's a very important architectural piece. There are other things that are done with cheaper materials. They are much more interesting. Why? Because in architecture [it] is the problem of shapes, of proportions and the sizes, of course. These are features, kind of abstract, much more than the material itself. And if the proportions are OK, then this enlightens the materials; they become much more important, interesting. If not, then you might add gold or whatever and fail anyway. In music, I think it's the same thing; it's the same problem.

;Henakis, \$33", p%"<

2.3 Materials, Processes and Behavior

*ollowing the discussion on le&els of operation, the >uestion of material in music and how it manifests itself becomes important% (uring the co&erage of composition processes in section "%\$, se&eral e' amples were introduced which re&ealed how material is related in different wa s to the process and its final product%. oads pla ful initial phase resulted in a comple' pu--le that remained restricted b his initial created material%Chartier@s deleting of earl materials shifted focus to their relationships to later choices%

Synthesis and composition

One extension to the importance given to material by the people working at the Cologne studio in the 1960s are the non-standard synthesis approaches of the 1970s! Here compositional methods are applied to the process of sound generation. Changes in the compositional methods that happen on a lower level can have big impact on higher time scales. Hil Thomson has suggested that the non standard approach can be seen as microsound's digital beginnings. Thomson, "1994. Microsound can be understood as an approach to music that emphasizes composition on extremely brief time scales. The possibility of composing the sound as part of the compositional process is a very interesting one and special to the medium. (i Scipio speaks of *Micro-time Sonic Design* and how this can be helpful to blur the distinction between material and form.

What is obtained by processes of sonic design, though we may still want to call it sound material, is a formed sound-object. Clearly, as far as timbre is the form of the sound material and sound materials are themselves the object of the composer's knowledge-level strategies, this perspective on composition confounds the classical distinction between material and form. (i Scipio, 1994, p. 41.

He adds that richness in sonic results can be obtained by methods that are created for compositional needs instead of prescribing a particular acoustic model. This is similar to the idea behind the non-standard approach although (i Scipio prefers working on a slightly higher time level, which he labels being based on the *micro-time behavior of sound*.

What (i Scipio has explored in his ventures through micro-time is mainly the use of granular synthesis. The granular approach is an interesting technique and useful not only because it proposes a new way of describing sonic events, but more importantly because this description can be transferred from the category of physical signals to the level of the symbolic/operational which is very fruitful from the viewpoint of composition. It also involves a process. The process of arranging grains in time. How these grains are distributed in time, what is their duration, frequency and so on. On a lower level, the non-standard approaches, with their often strong relationship between material and form, can also be understood as processes. The process of distributing the sample values that form the created sound or waveform. Of course it is possible to say that with this logic all sound generation methods could be understood as processes. Which maybe is hard to deny, but does not fit the current view of processes as suggested here.

Granular and non-standard synthesis are generally not based on acoustic models. However, there are some granular synthesis methods that are used to analyze and represent sound based on acoustic models. Examples are (dictionary-based methods, (BMs, which provide an novel approach to sound representation and manipulation; McMeran, Roads, Sturm, and Shank, "1999, and pitch synchronous *6* synthesis which are used to simulate the human singing voice; Clark and Rodet, "1997. For the current purpose, however, granular synthesis is seen as an asynchronous method of scattering small sound quanta that, like the non-standard method, is not based on acoustic models.

resulting from this is the somehow absent causality principle found in many composed sound processes. There is nothing that tells us how these sound processes start or stop. The process of generating the sound could go on forever or be influenced by another process. The unfolding of the process can be influenced by its constituting elements. For example, how certain grains or calculations of sample values affect the generation of other grains or values, where causality is internal to the process. These methods also appear ideal for experimentation with compositional methods. This is due to the fact that their models do not necessarily require acoustical-based parameters but can easily interpret more compositional ones.

By creating sound processes that are controlled by a small common set of parameters, the nature of these parameters becomes very important. Parameters should encapsulate control of behavior that is flexible to compose for and adapt to compositional ideas. If parameters are common for various processes they should optimally be as few as possible. In practice this is a difficult task to achieve and brings forward the few-to-many relationship mapping problem (Lunt and Danderle, 1999).

Sound processes and mapping will be discussed later and it is not the intention here to explore or compare these two above mentioned methods any further. It should be stressed however that they are an example of musical materials that have strong relationship with form and lend themselves well to compositional ideas. Regardless of what synthesis method is employed, the compositional desires that influence the development of a sound process will have a great effect on its final design. There is a big difference between designing synthesis modules that provide parameters simply for maximum control over sound generation, and processes with parameters which already are designed with compositional ideas in mind. This can lead to restrictions but also to more creative solutions.

Processes and textures

Being process-based is a restrictive qualification that can also lead to innovative outcomes. The sound generation methods dealt with in this text all share the fact that they can be understood as being process-based. When describing processes, Nicholas Mescher states that:

Processes, events, occurrences - items better indicated by verbs than by nouns. Clearly, storms and heat waves are every bit as real as dogs and oranges [...] Moreover, processes are not in general a matter of the doings of things. The fire's heat causes the water to boil. But it is clearly not a thing. To be sure, some events and processes relate to the doings or undergoings of things (the collapse of the bridge); Mescher, 1999, p.4

Sound processes, having internal causalities and blurred differences between beginning and end, fit well this description. Processes are defined by the way they do things instead of what they are. They can therefore be analyzed in terms of behavior. The most important parameters in granular synthesis for example, usually control some global behavior of how grains are organized. If a sound process is isolated and its governing principles remain constant, the focus shifts to its internal behavior. In his theory of Spectromorphology, Dennis Smalley describes textual music as being something that *concentrates on internal activity at the expense of forward impetus*. This is different from gestural music which he labels as being

“governed by a sense of forward motion, of linearity, of narrativity.” ;Smalley , 1992, p.4<

Compositionally designed sound processes as proposed above and described in detail later in this text share common attributes with Smalley's texture. Their internal activity is what remains important and when actualized, a goal-oriented motion does not exist. This does however not exclude gestural or narrative development which can be created by interacting with the process and its polarities. Indeed what Smalley defines as behavior, or the *“relationships among the varied spectromorphologies acting within a musical context”* ;Smalley , 1992, p.2< will be dealt with as **interaction** in the following discussion.

Some words or phrases are evocative, even provocative. So it is with the word emergent. Commonly, we express this idea with the sentence, The whole is greater than the sum of its parts. The sentence is provocative, for what extra can be in the whole that is not in the parts? I believe life itself is an emergent phenomenon, but I mean nothing mystical by this. [...] Life in this view, is not to be located in its parts, but in the collective emergent properties of the whole they create.

; , auffman, \$331, p% "4<

2.4 Emergence and Causality

By embracing the complex relationship between the process of making music, its various phases, operations and elements, music can be understood as consisting of emergent properties. Emergence is defined by the way complex systems and patterns arise out of a multiplicity of relatively simple interactions. It is the “case where a joint effect of several causes cannot be reduced, or traced back, to its component causes” (Dhital, \$339, p. 29). Perhaps all goal-oriented artistic explorations would like the fact that the final product is greater than the sum of its parts. This does however not mean that every compositional process is emergent. Emergent compositional processes are the ones that emphasize interaction and manifold relations. A musical work made of lower-level interacting elements, nested operations and hierarchical relationships can be seen as emerging out of the interaction between factors of the compositional process.

Moreover, in this text, the importance of creative processes, relational systems and fluid materials has been stressed. An approach that favors the process instead of prior intentions. Uncertainty, unexpected outcomes and surprises are consequently interesting properties of emergence to explore. Emergence still remains a slippery term and its application to music is not always obvious. “Different accounts often disagree on whether an entity is emergent; and when they agree, there is often no clear basis for this agreement.” (Dillon, “\$#”). The previous definition of emergence also contains one of its main problems, the magical *getting something from nothing*, which suggests that no explanations are needed to fully explain emergent phenomena (Chalmers, “##:”). Mark Bedau defines two main principles of emergence:

;\$< Emergent phenomena are somehow constituted by, and generated from, underlying processes.

;"< Emergent phenomena are somehow autonomous from underlying processes.

Here, the problematic nature of emergence becomes clear. The worst this seems to make emergent phenomena inconsistent, at best it still raises the *getting something from nothing* problem (Bedau, \$332). In music with emergent properties it is also quite hard to state that the outcome (musical work) is autonomous from the underlying processes (operations of the compositional activities). A more narrow definition is needed in order for emergence to be useful.

Emergence can be subdivided into two perspectives, that of *weak emergence* and *strong emergence*. Strong emergence is when the whole is really greater than the sum of its parts and when the “truths concerning that phenomenon are not deducible even in principle from truths in the low-level domain.” (Chalmers, “##:”). Weak emergence leads to novel properties in systems as the result of interactions at elemental levels where the “truths

concerning that phenomenon are unexpected given the principles governing the low-level domain.” Emergence is then only a part of the model describing the system's behavior, but creates unexpected derivatives which can still be deduced from the underlying processes. The weak emergence applies to both the music and environment discussed in the next two chapters is via the weak version.

Emergence is often said to occur from very simple micro-level operations. It is also frequently used in relation to adaptive or self-organizing systems. However, in phenomena occurring from weak emergence it is not required to possess these qualities in order to qualify as emergent. Emergence can indeed be understood as coming purely from interaction and thus “stating certain logical facts about formal relations between statements rather than any experimental or even 'metaphysical' facts allegedly inherent traits of properties of objects” (Ditthawong and Morgan as cited in Ditthawong, 2003). The relations between the elements of the creative process and the compositional environment, are the ones to be explored to bring forth novel outcomes. By creating simple connections on various levels between different elements, for example nodes in a network, emergent properties become interesting to examine.

Emergent sonorities

In his book *Formalized music* Henakiss proposes the hypothesis of granular construction of all possible sounds (Henakiss, 2003, p.42). The idea of sonorities of second, third or higher order could be discussed as being a form of emergent behavior. Granular synthesis can in fact be understood as ways of dealing with emergence (Cicciocioppo, 2003). How can the distribution of grains be organized so that emergent and original sounds can be heard? With regards to process-based approaches the question becomes how the relationships between elements of a process are to be defined for novel sounds to emerge.

The conceptual separation of composition (or, responsibility on premises and conditions, in my wording) and music (sonic features arising from premises and conditions) perhaps attests to a shared perspective. The implication is that sound is the epiphenomenon of a lower-level process: you design a low-level process, and the interactions and interferences among particle components taking part in the process are heard as a dynamic shape of sound, a process of sonological emergence. (Cicciocioppo, 2003, p.9)

Cicciocioppo is quoted here because of the importance he is giving to the process as well as its result, and that their relationship is fundamental to understand. It is not to be held that a piece of music should always be connected with the process of its making but rather that the piece of music could be seen as emerging from the process of its making. Cicciocioppo has taken this to an extreme level in his music where all higher-level structures emerge from simple interactions at the micro level. Perhaps a pure bottom-up approach. He also states that “decisions, choices, and the evaluation of temporary results determines the general outlook as well as the details in the designed object” (Cicciocioppo, 2003, p.10). This implies dynamic decisions and local choices as fruitful possibilities. Opposed to organic emergence the focus should be on the interactive or computational one. “Computational emergence arises through the interaction of elements, regardless of their relationship to the observer's model” (Ditthawong, 2003).

What is important here is not to engage in Cicciocioppo's bottom up approach. It is rather to reflect on how

relationships between materials can be created that will result in something that is bigger than the sum of its parts! Now by using a well-defined system which has focus on interaction can one create emergent behaviors due to these interactions? Also, if the focus is on the compositional process in a system that contains a hierarchy of processes, then emergent behaviors should be desirable.

A musical composition constitutes an emergence because it is not reducible to its parts or elements or even to the operations that were realized during its composition. Therefore we can neglect here the word << Causality >>. [...] The musical work will constitute itself as an emergence (a singularity), and not as a simple globality, since it manifests itself not as that which constitutes the product from the parts of a whole, or even as the epiphenomenon of its components, but as simply as that what it is, without any reduction.

;Paggione, "##, p1<

Emergent music should thus exist as a singularity that should be taken for what it is without an reduction. Causality can be understood as being due to interaction in emergent systems. Paggione explains how for music the same principle applies. Music should not be seen as a totality or as an ensemble of its parts, but rather as an emergence that occurs from the relation of these parts. In a process-based view of the world, causality is something important to reflect on. It is also something musically &er important to deal with in contemporary music which operates outside the gravitational forces of tonality.

Causality

So when and how do events occur? What brings one thing forward instead of another one? Causality will be treated here as being both part of the process and subject to decisions made by the composer. It is exactly the relationship between the compositional choices and the emergent behaviors of a compositional environment that are fundamental for our discussion. Composition can occur on various levels. *or example sound processes can be carefully designed but when put in relation with other sound processes, the compositional focus would shift from the details of the process to the interactions between processes.

Sound processes have three important causal features, how they start, how they stop and how they relate.) sound process will start, or be caused to start by an external factor and then relate to further external control while it lasts. In this sense all its development is caused through how it relates. In cases where the relationship between processes is of primal importance these causal functions acquire a significant role.

"Causality, where one event seems to cause the onset of a successor, or alter a concurrent event in some way, is an important feature of acousmatic behavior." ;Smalley, 1992, p. 99. Processes can be instantiated by external forces, interactions or even by other processes.

Process behavior can be affected by the development of other processes which they can in turn also influence. This makes it possible to create complex causal chains and is also to be understood as an important property of process relations. Process causality is thus often *external* and manifested by interaction or manual interventions. There also exists *internal* process causality, where the concern is with the behavior of process interiors, usually on a smaller scale.) sound process can thus be started and left alone to expose its internal patterning! Now its non superimposed behavior occurs is a matter of internal

causalit %

When combining processes on different structural levels, it is useful to speak of *lower-level* and *higher-level* causalit %;Sturges, \$393<% The former is based on what occurs within an event or local section, the latter applies to higher level structures or totalities%) composition could for example be made of a handful of formal, higher-level structural logics% On the lower-levels however, events could happen due to different causal functions% In this way related processes could be instantiating each other, cross-influencing their behavior or characteristics, while at the same time being guided by global laws determined by a higher-level causalit % Tensions created by the differences or similarities of causal functioning can be interesting for musical purposes and evoke causal relations on several time-scales%

Operational levels, where one fixes the window of analysis, are an essential part of nesting processes and causal mechanisms%) another important aspect is predictability% How events succeed each other is part of how their causalit % is perceived% How a succession process takes place is part of directionality and musical progression% *“This predictive connection of present and future is held to be the essential feature of causality. Such expectations, whether realized or not, constitute in our imagination goals toward which the music is directed.”* %;Last, \$39: , p%: "<% If and how music should be directed towards a goal or experienced as goal-oriented varies greatly and often depends on context% Strongly causal music often relies on gesture and arrival points which can be regarded as goals in a structure %;Smalley, \$332<% It is not however the intention here to create foundations for a causal music per se% The coupling of causalit % and gesture within a goal oriented framework is also misleading for the current discussion% Indeed, a process-based view of sound behavior does not always fall neatly into the categories of texture and gesture% What is vital here is to reflect on the various ways in which causalit % takes place and how process-based compositional thinking can benefit from this%

Complexity

In a musical reality where process characteristics and interaction are put to the foreground, internal, external, low-level and high-level causalities acquire importance as musical elements% Causalit % can also be discussed from a perceptual point of view%) musical composition can be perceived as containing a complex network of causalities where elements seem to influence each other%

A new systems model in music and its processes will surely redefine the role of the composer or artist who until now has been seen as the mastermind of precisely controllable variables. The new paradigm will more likely see that person's role as a guiding element in a complex process that links artifact to context.

%;Truax, \$33", p%/#<

Truax predicted that a systems model would gain increasing importance in contemporary computer music% It remains doubtful if this is an actual truth in today's musical climate% It still does remain an interesting option and one of high importance for compositional environments based on relational processes% The guiding behavior certainly has an appealing image and one that has attracted many people in the field of algorithmic music %;Schipper, "##\$<% It does still seem essential to define on what level this guiding occurs% MP& =Meblond %as cited in %aggione, "##\$< mentions that complexity can be understood to happen where

mutual interactions between different levels are manifest. This makes it even more important to understand these different levels and how they can become part of the creative process. Can the concepts of scale, temporal frames or nested processes be translated to levels of complexity? Does the interaction have to be mutual?

The possible relationships between processes is what is guiding this analysis. Can composition be conceived only by creating these relationships and as such be seen as emerging from these relations?

Relations between processes can also be studied simply in terms of similarity and difference between them. The degree of difference in activity is then understood as being the dynamic link of relations. This degree is measured by the parameters that control a process. (Different parameter positions can be compared as well as combined states of several parameters. This recalls, again, the view of complexity.)

Relationships can be produced or perceived within a parameter [...] Here we find a point for point dependence, such as the longer the softer, or a combination of clearly marked parameter/time fields, such as rising pitch and volume fluctuating around a central point. We shall speak of higher complexity if the individual values have many relationships to one another, and of low complexity if only a few relationships are clear.
; , again, 3:1, p%: <

Again, also introduced the concepts of *direct* and *indirect* complexity. (Direct as being when two clearly distinguishable, successive or partially overlapping sounds are compared. Indirect when several sounds forming a section are compared. These relationships are and the complexity of that variation is registered on the vertical axis. The nature of the sounds is very important. (Different sounds of high complexity form more complex relationships than different sounds of low complexity. The same goes for similar sounds with simple or complex relationships.)

Complexity can be understood as occurring in sounds, their relationship through parameter values and the variation of these relationships. This applies equally well to the sound processes that have been introduced previously. Sound processes share various aspects with complex sounds such as the parametrical importance in terms of definition and control. This makes them flexible since the complexity can easily be explored through different parametrical configurations.

Viewing relationships as being comparable representations of parametric states can be applied to other aspects besides complexity. In fact the previously covered topics of complementation, susceptibility or even causality can be understood as relationships of difference and similarity. On a horizontal axis the relationships of comparison acquire a temporal dimension. Time is indeed somehow an important factor of all these relations. (Such this temporal dimension can also be analysed as a relationship of values that bring forward temporal events. "Time is neither a substance independent from events, nor itself change or process. It is rather a form of relationship between events." ; last, 39: , p%: #<)

In section "" the discussion was directed on how levels could be understood in perhaps a more open way

then the temporal one. So it might come as a surprise now to come back to temporal issues and declare them as being simple relationships of different value states. However, it is a very important statement to make at this point. Both structural time containers used when creating music as well as how music is experienced and understood, are to be seen as being a relationship of similarity and difference. When composing or creating states where various processes interact, the comparison of these states and the parameters that form them is a powerful compositional tool. Musical time, the time experienced when listening to a piece of music is also very much created by the listener when comparing current elements to previous ones and by that process forming expectations. When one is listening to a piece of music often one has the feeling that time is being articulated by the relationship of the elements that form the music. This is not to be confused with the structural levels or hierarchies formed when creating the music.

How things change is often what gives the feeling of time. Music may be characterized by its various degrees of change. In the compositional environment that will be presented in the next two chapters, there is a clear focus on elements which have certain states. Where one thing is clearly defined by its state, the values that create that state and the difference between that element and others based on these state values. One could say that the difference between one state and another, their positions in the state space so to speak, create time when put into interaction in a musical context. Time is thus experienced as the relation of different state positions. When the listener reflects on a previous musical experience, it is not always the duration of elements that remains the most important factor, but also the degree of difference and similarity between them.

Time is an abstraction at which we arrive through the changes of things[...] Thus, time as such does not exist but only change [...] The quantum universe is likely to be static. Motion and the apparent passage of time may be nothing but very well founded illusions.
 ;Barbour, "###, p%\$<

2.5 Time, Memory and Succession

The English physicist Julian Barbour has a theory that time does not exist. If there exists is a great number of 'nows' and that time is more of an illusion that we create ourselves by sort of interpolating between them. This idea is fascinating, not only for its different worldview and philosophical implication, but also for music.

In the context of this research, the ideas of Barbour are relevant in terms of how to design different time containers; states, and if these states could possibly be connected to Barbour's 'nows'. Since if time is an illusion created by ourselves between the passage of these 'nows', then it could be argued that music is a part of this illusion. Music can also possibly draw attention to what possibly lies beneath this illusion. Approaching the illusion and the data it is created from then becomes something very important to deal with for a composer.

There are things that you could call instants of time, or 'Nows'. As we live, we seem to move through a succession of Nows, and the question is, what are they? They are arrangements of everything in the universe relative to each other in any moment, for example, now [...] What really intrigues me is that the totality of all possible Nows of any definite kind has a very special structure. You can think of it as a landscape, or country. Each point in the country is a Now. I call it Platonica, because it is timeless and created by perfect mathematical rules.
 ;Barbour, 1999, p. 11

One interesting aspect of Barbour's theory and a fascinating one is the landscapes of 'nows'. It implies that one can travel freely from one now to another. How one should travel in time like this still remains unsolved by Barbour. Henakis said: *"For the moment, one cannot conceive the halting of time. it is a presently impassable frontier"* ;Henakis, 2003, p. 11. Can music perhaps help to create the illusion of this possibility? E

Snapshots

It is possible that it is actually change that gives substance to time. Imagine for example a series of photographs where someone is throwing a ball. One sees the ball in different positions in different photos. In the series of photographs one sees the movement. What one sees is nothing more than a series of snapshots in different positions. This movement in time is nothing but a series of positions in space, which our brain interprets as movement in time. Not all possible positions but only certain ones. G. +ape, personal communication, (December 2003, "###. Barbour himself has talked about his 'nows' as being sort of snapshots and there even exists a document about him where he is walking around with a polaroid camera.

The world is to be understood not as matter/mass moving in a framework of space and time, but of more fundamental snapshot-like entities that momentarily fuse space and matter into single possible arrangements or configurations of the entire universe. Such configurations, which can be fabulously rich and complex considering the vastness of the universe, are the ultimate "things" of reality.

;! ameroff, "##/", p%\$<

So is it possible to transfer ! ameroff's configurations to music? (oes this not seem a &er static &iew compared to the process and change based tone of &oice in the te't so far? Can music e'ist outside movement and what is process then? +erhaps it is the combination of the two that creates this magic called music% Both the data used to create the music and how it sta s in memor corresponds &er well to a world made of static snapshots% The process is what happens when this &data& is e' perienceed, when a possible snapshot becomes a current one% The process can be seen as being part of the illusion of time, musical data and traces in memor as imprints in a snapshot%

Music participates both in space outside time and in the temporal flux. Thus, the scales of pitch; the scales of the church modes; the morphologies of higher levels; structures, fugal architectures, mathematical formulae engendering sounds or pieces of music, these are outside time, whether on paper or in our memory.

;Iannis Henakis, \$33", p%": 4<

Henakis had &er profound ideas about the relationship between the inside and outside time aspects of music%! ow he thought about the relation between what is in or outside time also corresponds well with the ideas e' pressed b both Barbour and ! ameroff%! e also had a certain &iew on how snapshots are a useful metaphor for defining states and how those connect in networks% This will be discussed in further in section 1% of this thesis%

Memory

Interesting for the current discussion is how Henakis saw time as being created b comparable temporal situations% *"We seize time only with the help of perceptive reference events [...] these reference events would have to be inscribed somewhere, it would suffice in our brain, in our memory"* ;Henakis and Brown, \$393, p% 92% When comparing these reference e&ents with other remembered ones the impression of the passage of time occurs% The order of these e&ents becomes important so that the can be compared to other percei&ed e&ents% These e&ents result from the e' perience of the *flux of time* and are conse>uentl stored in memor as outside time information%) nteriorit is needed to determine the order of e&ents that are being looked up in memor %*or anteriorit to e' ist, the outside time representations in a listeners memor will need to contain clear boundaries of what constitutes them, *"it is necessary to be able to distinguish entities, which would then make it possible to "go" from one to the other"* ;Henakis and Brown, \$393, p% 92% This implies that one can perhaps inde' the stored information b using different strategies than na&igation through the temporal order b which the are stored in% Could music be used to create non-linear links between the entities as it de&elops? Could these links become compositional choices? (o the perhaps ha&e something in common with the relations of difference and similarit E

The temporality of inner thought processes, is often not linear. Our minds can follow but one branch of the tree of associations; we must return later if we wish to explore another branch. We constantly project fantasies, hopes, and fears into the future; we recall and juxtapose more- and less-remote pasts; we turn our attention from one thought chain to another, often without apparent reason. The temporality of the mind is seemingly irrational.

; , ramer, \$39\$, p%144<

, ramer as well as Henakis understood the process of e'periencing music as being like a chain of musical e&ents% ! ow these chains are formed and how the links between elements are made is what makes the whole for a piece of music%

One could argue that for the temporal art that music is, the linear succession of e&ents is how it is remembered b % Succession is of course &er important in the unfolding of music% It remains unclear how&er, if succession is alwa s e'perienced as linear or recalled in the same order as it was percei&ed% Some musical compositions are more likel to be e'perienced as pure presence, as series of self-contained moments whereas others are percei&ed as a more linear flow of temporal e&ents ;! ast , \$39: <%

It takes a time for a process to be percei&ed and its aspects to unfold%) certain duration is needed for the listener to feel that he is e'periencing a moment which he can clearl feel different compared to other moments in a composition and that their difference is to be percei&ed as a relationship% These moments could be regarded as states% 5ach state could be seen as containing one or more processes% 5ach process has its uni>ue >ualities and beha&iors% Sates could also be seen as a collection of processes at a gi&en point in time% The aspects or parameters that define the states can be seen as temporal entities that can be na&igated through in &arious wa s% These can become the basis for a compositional process%) compositional framework and en&ironment%

It was as if memory, like a worker striving to erect a solid foundation in the midst of a flood, while making us facsimiles of these fleeting phrases, would not allow us to compare them to those that follow, and to differentiate them. Thus hardly had the delicious sensation Swann felt expired, but his memory gave him a provisional and summary transcript of it even while he continued to listen. He took a good enough look at the transcript while the piece continued, so that when the same impression suddenly returned, it was no longer impossible to grasp.

;+roust as cited in (owling, Tillman, and) ers, "##\$, p%"2/<

) t this point it is important here to grasp the topics co&ered so far% The connection between compositional processes and the scale the occur on% ! ow different scales and le&els of focus relate to the constraint and definition of musical material% ! ow musical material can again be thought of in terms of processes and process-based frameworks% ! ow sound processes or processes in general can gi&e rise to emergent beha&iors% ! ow causalit and comple' relations are an important factor for musical processes% ! ow time can be understood as being an illusion, or how time can be thought of as a series of different snapshotsLstates that become an illusion &ia the process, the process which unifies the whole of music%

3. Representations

[illegible]

There is no musical process without representational systems at work—a plurality of representational systems, depending at which level or time scale we are operating. Algorithmic representations cover a substantial part of this plurality and are certainly pertinent, as they can match at least some of the assumptions underlying a given music production system, especially when including the condition of interaction, revealing its many simultaneous levels of articulation as well as its direct anchoring in perception.

;?aggione, "##\$, p%19<

3.1 Music Systems

The man-imaginable ways of creating sounds and control structures using a computer raise the question of how materials, operations and musical arrangements are represented by the computer. With digital technologies almost everything performed during the process of composing can be accurately stored and reproduced. Ways of generating sounds can be codified as algorithms to be executed when sound is desired to be heard. Sounds can be recorded and stored as a string of numbers. Methods can be created that operate and manipulate the sound data and complex structures conceived as collection of sounds and operations. Now this is made accessible to the composer is something of great importance since the representation of data and the available operations to manipulate it is what will be interacted with during the process of composition.

Certain views have become common practice in the field of computer music. Many of them refer directly to pre-existing non digital constructs such as ideas coming from the analog studio. (Despite rapid technological development in today's society, it does seem that the issue of how to represent musical data is not so much addressed and that the standard views have become accepted by many. The way materials for a composition are represented is certainly not something that should be thought of as being fixed. Indeed the precise definition of materials, possible operations that transform the material and relationship between them is part of what is to be composed for.)

Modes

Traditional western musical notation or ideas derived from it have to some extent been employed in representing data in computer music. The early MUSIC-7 programs and its descendants use note lists to represent the [scores] that make a section or piece of music. These note lists contain lines that are read vertically in time where each line corresponds to a note which has an instrument and a list of parameters such as duration and dynamics. Even if this model can be flexible and allow for very precise control of musical materials it is strongly based on a traditional way of musical representation and thus somehow limited. The MIDI standard which was developed in the eighties is another example of how ideas derived from traditional notation have been used in some kind of catch-it-all fashion in order to be flexible

enough for the demanding composer. The choices made when the standard was created, its parameters and resolution have put restrictions on the way many people have interacted with computers in order to create music. Many possibilities offered by digital technologies, or compositional ideas that are unique to computer music, can simply not be successfully represented by note-based systems. As remarked by Stephan Trautwein when discussing the SmC, the music representation and description language: *Events need not be thought of as mapping one-to-one to "notes," though they should be able to faithfully represent note-level objects. There may be one-to-many or many-to-one relationships between events and "notes." Events may have arbitrary properties, some of which will be common to most musical note-level events (such as duration, pitch or loudness), while others may be used more rarely or only for non-musical events.* Trautwein, 1993, p. 10

(etails of what makes each sound are usually not part of how computer systems have generally implemented ideas from traditional notation. The boundaries with regards to the micro-variation of a sound when heard and the medium which produces it are vague in computer music and something that is to be open for compositional choices. Roger B. Dannenberg has remarked that representation systems often have difficulties when integrating continuous and discrete data (Dannenberg, 1993). The scope of how events and details are represented is indeed very important and perhaps a hard problem to solve in a general manner. However, if the sonic details of musical materials are something to be composed for in the sense of being accessible to symbolic treatment, then it requires a representational framework that makes it possible to do so.

Taggione identifies three main representational modes in computer music systems: *Circular, sequential and stratified* (Taggione, 1993). The circular mode is often connected to patches made in graphical environments such as MIDIPLUS where conditional programming encourages a circular approach to time. The sequential mode is a linear navigation as explained above regarding the MUSIC-7 programs. Both of these approaches have their strength and weaknesses. The circular approach is a powerful one for modeling evolving processes and direct interaction with elements that form the process. It does however often lack in terms of data structures and higher level changes. The sequential mode can model in detail complex behavior, but its linear aspect somehow limits it as well. The stratified mode is described by Taggione as encapsulating several temporal representations in what he calls *objects*. These objects also contain various operations that are to be performed on the data they contain. This has been extensively explained by Taggione and will be discussed in the following section. It is beyond the scope of this text to compare these three methods in detail. What is important for now is to reflect on the representational issues, their weaknesses and strengths and how this affects the compositional process.

Models

One of the problems regarding musical representation is the difference between what is perceived and what is represented. Is the designer of a modern musical system to model that what is heard or that what is desirable to compose for? Taggione states that *Numerical representations are dynamic, carriers of form: this is why one uses them in musical composition, and not for their supposed power as descriptors of a world pre-existing to our work.* (Taggione, 1993, p. 19). In the context of this text it is also desirable that representational systems model the compositional ideas a composer has, and less what he might possibly desire to experience in

terms of acoustic results. This also raises the question of the generality of music systems and their relationship to compositional choices. Truett believes that “all computer music systems explicitly and implicitly embody a model of the musical process that may be inferred from the program and data structure of the system” (Truett, 1982). In fact, how could optimal solutions be implemented for solving those problems when addressing difficulties existing systems have in terms of representing desired musical products? How could these solutions be validated if not by comparing them to the issues that have been obtained by the existing systems that have already proven to be incapable to solve these problems? What is then the difference between a representational system based on personal compositional ideas and a compositional model? Mucchi (Qubereiner) defines compositional models as “a view of composition which is concerned with rendering conscious the determining and condition constraints and limitations of the composition and its production process.” (Qubereiner, 1984). What happens consequently is that the “model thus takes the place of mediating representations.” (Qubereiner, 1984). In his understanding of compositional models, a high degree of formalization is implied. It also includes a focus on constraints and rules. Perhaps the compositional act can be understood as operating inside the possibilities and limitations of the given model. The composition can thus be seen as a sort of an exploration of a specific model. The model is therefore an important part of the composition that is made with it. This is a valid and interesting point and can be seen as being radically opposite to representation systems that aim to generalize every possible thing a composer could think of.

As mentioned in the introduction, the 5+6C environment represents an important part of this research and many of the ideas that will be discussed in the following sections are represented in this system. The 5+6C is in a way a representational system and under some circumstances it could also be seen as a compositional model. The 5+6C aims at representing complex sounds and control structures and it also has its own compositional logic that influences pieces that are produced with it. The idea behind the 5+6C is however not to provide a set of limitations or rules specific to a compositional idea. The environment can be used to explore different compositional models created to be tested within it. This would require additional constraints and limitations to be externally imposed when using the system and these could vary. The additional factors would not be part of the environment itself but belong to the composition to be realized within it. On the other hand, the 5+6C is also not at a general tool aiming at the broadest possible in terms of available functionality. It has its own specific constraints but these are rather part of a potential compositional path, or framework from which different compositions, each with their own logic, can be realized. This is why the term *compositional environment* is the more useful than representation systems or compositional models. In the following sections the ideas behind the 5+6C environment will be discussed and what concepts it is based on. Chapter four will then explain how the environment works in practice and how the representation concepts have been implemented.

An occasion of experience is an activity, analyzable into modes of functioning which jointly constitute its process of becoming. Each mode is analyzable into the total experience as active subject, and into the thing or object with which the special activity is concerned. This thing is a datum, that is to say, is describable without reference to its entertainment in that occasion. An object is anything performing this function of a datum provoking some special activity of the occasion in question. Thus subject and object are relative terms. An occasion is a subject in respect to its special activity concerning an object; and anything is an object in respect to its provocation of some special activity within a subject.

;Whitehead, §3: 2, p. 29<

3.2 Objects and Processes

) potential definition of an object is to explain it in terms of its properties and attributes, of its definite being%) n e' tension to the definition includes viewing it in terms of its doings, in terms of behavior and action%) n object can also be understood purely from a perspective point of view, as a fixed material entity that one can perceive by his senses% This view of an object is perhaps the closest one to the *objet sonore*, a concept developed by Pierre Schaeffer and widely used in the field of electroacoustic music% Here the sound object is to be seen as an encounter of an acoustic event that has an identity and clearly defined limits with regards to other sonic phenomena or objects% The sound object *I represents a global perception, which remains identical through different listening: an organized whole that we can assimilate to a "gestalt" in the sense of the psychology of form* ;Chion, §39/, p. 4% This perspective can be useful for a categorization of sounds or when creating music where the focus is on transforming and relating those sound objects% In which case the sound objects constitute the material used to create a piece of music%

Objects and occasions

The interpretation that will be used in this text is different and understands the object in direct relation to composition% In the quote above, Whitehead describes the object as being that with which the activity of becoming is concerned with% It is performing the function provoked by the activity of an occasion based on its datum% In the way objects will be understood in the following discussion is that an object is concerned with the becoming of a composition based on its datum% The composition is a process, its creation as well as its materials, which are the objects% The act of creating a piece of music, including all of its multiplicities can thus be recognized as the *"complex occasion which is the process itself"* where the *"objects" for an occasion can also be termed the "data" for that occasion"* ;Whitehead, §3: 2, p. 29% In this sense an object is that what relates the unfolding of a music in time ;its becoming< and the structures and data it is created from ;its outside-time properties<% The encapsulation of compositional data, its behavior and actions, and the interactive relationship between the composer, the object and the musical result is what is essential for this understanding%

Composing can be seen as the correlation between the composer and his objects of composition% The act of composing is one of creativity, an actualization of some of the possibilities the objects offer% This creativity is responsible for providing the objects needed for the moment where an interaction between objects and composition occurs% Composing can also be seen as belonging to a subset of creative action%) creative compositional process includes all interaction of that what is possible and that what is finally

created. That what in the end becomes actual or the distinction of what is potential and what is actual it is the object that forms the necessary bridge. An object is a container of possibilities. It offers the data and actions needed for diverse paths of potentials. However, these potentials do not become important until the moment of becoming actual. This happens during the interactive phase of composing, the process of creativity which can be seen as the *“actualization of potentiality, and the process of actualization is an occasion of experiencing. Thus viewed in abstraction objects are passive, but viewed in conjunction they carry the creativity which drives the world.”*; Whitehead, 1929, p. 93

An object in the way it is being presented here is a dynamic entity consisting of information and behaviors. It is not to be seen as something static with a fixed identity nor as something that can only be perceived acoustically as proposed by Schaffer. In relation to a perceivable sonic outcome the composer object should be able to create a variety of choices. The result of these choices should indeed be perceivable but this could occur in various ways. For example an object responsible for creating textures could create a whole collection of different textures where some could even be perceived as being different sound objects in the sense of Schaffer. It is the behavior that gives the object its identity as well as the sound processes it creates. This means that that the object should be operative in nature and that its operations are what is most important for its place in the compositional process. Compositional, operative objects are not like sound objects that are found by listening and then later recorded and transformed. They are evolving, functional units which serve as placeholders for musical material in the interaction between a composer and a composition.

Objects and Vaggione

This brings back Vaggione and his ideas of *composing objects*

Composing objects means creating active entities, each of which is endowed with specific behavior modes (methods), determined in digital fashion (codes), and whose functions depend on their own methods as much as on the context in which they are being used. The objects may be functions (algorithms), lists of parameters (scores), scripts (successions of actions to be accomplished), or they may be sounds (products as well as sources).

; Vaggione, 1993, p. 4

(Disappointed by available score-generators based on randomness and linear algorithms, Vaggione who was interested in detail at all possible levels of articulation became interested in creating *“composition microworlds where the programming aspect is based on a collection of autonomous musical objects forming a flexible and open-ended network of functions”*; Vaggione, 1993, p. 3. The techniques that he developed opened a way of dealing with *“both the sound data and the “methods” (behaviors) of sound objects”*. It is interesting that this was done in a computer environment that itself did not recognize the notion of an object. The object idea was therefore solely created by Vaggione and his compositional strategy. Object oriented programming languages and their concept will be discussed later but what is important now is to understand the abstraction that Vaggione's concept allowed. The object concept provided a means for grouping elements and creating layers of abstractions. This made it possible to relate different musical aspects in novel ways. For example by applying the concepts of objects to scores and sounds and then by *“encapsulating both in one*

and the same object, one is blurring the distinction between them, with significant consequences” ;?aggione, \$33\$, p% "\$#<) nother powerful concept with regards to time is pol morphism% ! ere l objects receiving identical messages, when activating their own specific properties and methods, can on account of the latter produce uniquely different results! ;?aggione, \$33\$, p% "\$/<% ?aggione defines three compositional conse>uences of appl ing object oriented ideas to musical applications% 5ncapsulation, pol morphism and inheritance ;?aggione, \$33\$, p% "\$"<% These are also fundamental concepts of object oriented programming which is an important concept for the present purposes%

Initiall inspired b ?aggione's objects, the following discussion will e' plain a compositional thought and en&ironment based on processes, objects, states and networks% It is important to note that e&en though the terminolog is often similar to ;and inspired from< ?aggione, the concepts that will be introduced should stand on their own% In fact man of them ha&e in the end not so much in common with ?aggione's &iew, so it is crucial that their definition is not confused with the one of ?aggione% The en&ironment and its components are to be seen as an e' tending or deri&ing from some of ?aggione's thought rather than incorporating his ideas%

Objects and programming

Object-oriented programming ;66+< is a programming paradigm using l objectsJ, data structures and methods together with their interactions% Inherit to 66+ are features such as data abstraction, encapsulation, messaging, modularit , pol morphism, and inheritance ;Shallowa and Trott, "##4<) n object is a software bundle of related state and beha&ior%) n class is a blueprint or protot pe from which objects are created%) n interface is a protocol for unrelated objects to communicate with each other% Dith inheritance, subclasses ;or deri&ed classes<, inherit attributes and beha&ior of pre=e' isting classes% 5ncapsulation means that the internal representation of an object is generall hidden from the outside of the object's definition% +ol morphism is the abilit of an interface to be reali-ed in multiple wa s%

The 5+6C en&ironment consists of &arious control mechanisms and the objects the control% The en&ironment will be e' plained in detail in chapter 4% *or now it is important to illustrate the link of a object oriented perspecti&e with regards to the s stem% In the 5+6C an object is an instance of a class in &er much the same wa as was e' plained in the pre&ious e' ample%) n 5+6C object is responsible for all communication between sounds and control structures%) n object starts and stops a sound process and controls it while pla ing% The object might pro&ide initial data for the sound process and filter its control and polarit states% The initial data and polarit states might be seen as outside time, the sound process as inside time and the object in-between%

The &arious objects that the make up the 5+6C s stem all respond to a set of common polarities% In the current conte' t the polarit &alues can be understood as messages% If for e' ample two different object recei&e an increasing &alue of the l&densit B message, then both of them will increment the percei&ed densit in the sound process the are responsible for% The might howe&er do this in a completel different wa since it is not the details of implementation that is important but rather that the message gets clearl interpreted%

Objects and composition

The object is important as an interface for the composer. The object is not a process, it is responsible for and interacts with, sound processes and is itself an important element in the compositional process. It can also be seen as existing outside time, not as a process but as data, and when used in time, as operations coupled with this data. Various tasks such as taking care of resources, initializing data and communication with other components is implemented by the object and is therefore not necessarily to be known by the composer. The object encapsulates behaviors and hides details so that the focus can be on the available methods it has to offer and relations to other compositional objects.

The control the composer has of the 5+6C system is thus abstract but also somehow limited. The object interface and the values of the polarities might seem as insufficient to control all important details of a sound process. This is however one of the main ideas behind the system. The control is limited and more high-level than the microscopic music that the system generates.

Of main importance here is the abstraction provided by the object and the few, general operations carried out by the composer. Both the object and the sound it generates can be of various kinds and do not change the operations the composer executes. This is the abstraction that the 5+6C environment is all about. The focus becomes on clear actions, not the details which are implemented inside an object. In this sense using the objects can be understood as an approach of separating clear details and higher level control. The details exist, inside the objects and can be addressed by editing object data and initial values. However, once an object has been initiated, the details can not directly be addressed, only the object behavior, through the limited amount of polarities all objects share.

Object boundaries

One important design choice is the magnitude of an object with regards to the task at hand. This choice has to be made of whether an object should be extensive or if its functionality should be carried out by more than one object. Kope identifies this as an important factor for musical systems and that this *tension is well-known in object-oriented software design and implementation. One of the extreme cases is a design that uses abstraction heavily and develops into a wide and/or deep class hierarchy with very many classes that have only a few (perhaps one) methods each. This case is called class explosion. The other end of the scale is a design that leads to a very large and indivisible class (all messages in class Chord), which is known as a monolithic class problem.* [Kope, 1993, p. 14]. The 5+6C objects are usually of the latter type, comprehensive classes that can be rather powerful on their own but also relate to other objects.

The temporal flexibility of an object instance is essential to its validation as a solution to musical representational problems. Polymorphism can function in order to unify symbolic understanding over different time-scales but also as an important grouping method. Imagine for example a case where an object represents a note and arrays of objects are needed to represent note groupings. If an amplitude envelope is to be applied to the whole group the operation is more complex if this has to be done to an array of objects instead of just to one. The 5+6C objects can indeed contain sequences and note groups where applying an amplitude envelope is fairly straightforward. This can be a tricky problem for note-list

based systems such as Music ? and some of its successors%

The idea of robust hierarchical representations is essential in this context. It is very important that the hierarchy of levels, temporal or structural, can be easily interacted with and navigated through by a composer. The common polarities can function on different scales and allow for flexible groupings.

Objects and time

Another temporal factor that is useful to discuss is the relation between the outside and inside time interaction internal to an OSC object. If the data needed for an object to realize its function can be set before an sound is made. The object does in many cases have additional parameters or settings that can be configured before the object is instantiated. These are its outside time qualities and they render the objects very flexible for usage. When these choices have been made the operations become more limited. After the sound generation process is started the only way to communicate with the object is via its rather general and abstract polarities.

The inside time control of an object is in fact an interaction with its *sound process*. Sound processes are independent streams of sound characterized by their behavior over time. They are designed to be capable of playing for a certain amount of time without changing greatly or becoming very repetitive. This is a key factor for the sound process. It does not have the natural attack, continuation and decay phases most organic acoustic sounds do. Opposed to for example a piano note, which has clear direction to decay from its high energy attack phase, the sound process can be initiated and left running for an unspecified amount of time. The sound process should not remain static however, it should contain low-level change in behavior that could be interesting on its own. Jean-François has distinguished *volatile* data as the one that occurs in a flow of time and *persistent* data as the one that occurs outside an temporal flow of time. Jean-François, "##3, p. 5/3. " or the OSC one can compose persistent temporal orderings for the objects before actual sound is even heard and interact to the volatile behavior of a sound process while it runs and thus interacting with its temporal aspects.

Sound processes

A sound process should allow for expressive changes through the control of its polarities. These will be covered in the next section but for now it is important to state that the behavioral aspects of sound processes is only controlled by their common polarities. Implementation or the inner workings of a sound process should not matter once the process has been created. An object could however produce different kinds of sound processes that are created according to additional parameters. Their relationship is very important as such but the boundaries might sometime seem unclear, as stated by Otto Masker: "*the distinction between the notion of 'object' and 'process' is ambiguous. Objects define data needs of processes and, once imagined, necessitate their own constitutive processes.*" ;Masker, 1993, p. 1/3. One aspect of an object is to function as a factor or creator for possible sound processes occurring in time. This distinction of pre-made object time and while-running process time as well as the polarity decisions is very important for the environment. It could be seen as limiting but does in fact often turn out to be quite the contrary.

Formulating a strategy differs from composing a piece in that not details, but basic conditions, are established - in minute detail, however. Formulating a strategy, after all, means generalizing formal relationships, which is at variance with the common practice of expressing musical ideals as concrete musical forms. Generalizing, unlike specifying, means making sure that everything can occur once somewhere, but that it may not be 'missing' either. It is hard to define 'everything': as something both present and absent.

;, oenig, \$33\$, p%2:<

3.3 Polarities

Christopher) ri-a defines *Idiom-affinity* as the “proximity of a system to a particular musical idiom, style, genre, or form” ;) ri-a, “##1, p%4<% The degree of idiom=affinit defines the possible musical outcomes of a s stem%) plural idiom=affinit s stem can produce music in multiple st les and forms whereas a singular idiom=affinit is more limited in scope%) ri-a finds an e' ample of the later in , oening@s +roject one ;+. \$< which he states as being a l system with a singular idiom-affinity: the system, designed primarily for personal use by Koenig, exposes few configurable options to the user and, in its earliest versions, offers the user no direct control over important musical parameters such as form and pitch.” ;) ri-a, “##1, p%4<% In its earliest &ersion, +. \$ did indeed limit user control o&er &arious aspects% The limited control consists of choosing the number of calculated points in time, a starting number for the random generator used, a list of : metronome tempi and a list of "9 entr dela s ;, oenig, \$32#<%+. \$ has : program blocks for the parameters that are calculated ;rh thm, pitch, se>uence, register and d namics< and 2 program sections% These sections represent a progression from aperiodic formations to periodic and as such &ar f from irregular to regular for each parameter%

All the parameters involved were supposed to have at least one common characteristic; for this I chose the pair of terms, "regular/irregular". "Regular" means here that a selected parameter value is frequently repeated: this results in groups with similar rhythms, octave registers or loudness, similar harmonic structure or similar sonorities. The duration of such groups is different in all parameters, resulting in overlappings. – "Irregularity" means that a selected parameter value cannot be repeated until all or at least many values of this parameter have had a turn.

;, oenig, \$39#, p%9<

The degree of periodicit and aperiodicit , which affects all the parameters of +. \$, is an e' ample of what will be termed here as a being a *polarity*.) polarit uses a range of possible &alues to determine settings of other musical parameters that are calculated in a generati&e manner% The relationship between a polarit and the &alue of the parameters it affects can &ar but the polarit alwa s has a primal importance in the generati&e calculations% In +. \$, oenig was generating material and organi-ing relationships based on steps of one polarit , that of periodicit and aperiodicit % *or each of the musical parameters, &alues are assigned according to the polarit range of one to se&en% The program then generates 2 sections, where each of these steps happens once% The choice of ha&ing a corresponding section for each of the polarit &alues, and that each of the &alues occurs onl once “clearly demonstrates, a particular compositional principle is concealed behind the rules for selection and combination of elements” ;, oenig, \$32#, p%/"<% This principle is deri&ed from serial composition% Dhat is interesting here is to note how this principle is manifested through the polarit state of periodicit and how this in turn influences all calculated parameters as well as the form of the sections% The polarit thus has great impact on e&er thing that the s stem generates% The polarit state

in this context becomes itself a musical statement%

The polarity of periodicity can also provide means of representing relationships between parameters% Each parameter has a position relative to the polarity state% These relationships are therefore expressed in terms of where they occur in the polarity range% It is therefore the polarity that produces the relationship that can be perceived inside a parameter *"by comparing the alterations in the same parameter [...] but also between two (or more) parameters. In this case we compare the alterations of the one parameter with those of the other"* ;, Oenig, 1991, p. 3% When the polarity state occurs only once for a set of calculated parameters and that this expresses a section in the resulting composition, then the relationships can be seen as a series of steps differing by a certain section% These are abstract relationships that have a profound impact on the composition they belong to, which make them rather interesting as something to compose for%

The 5+6C environment can be seen as an expansion of composing within a compositional field of polarities% The objects of the environment each contain a set of nine different polarities% These polarities are identical for all of the objects but have different implementations and relations to the generated parameters that control an object behavior% The possible range for all of the polarities is from one to zero% This defines a broader range than in the case of +. \$ which has a seven step resolution% The 5+6C polarities allow for a common language or mode of communication that occurs within the limited range of the nine that are used% Compositional ideas can be tested within the framework that treats the polarities as material for the compositional process% This allows for high abstraction that focuses on these nine aspects, their relationships and evolution%

The polarities can be understood as being *multidimensional* in the sense that they often control more than one aspect of a sound process behavior% Since the implementation depends on the context of each object, the only way of implementing them is by perceptual judgment% This makes the problem a rather complex one since the objects and the sounds they produce are greatly affected% There can never exist a perfect definition of what exactly a 5+6C polarity means since its function always depends on its local conditions% One of the greatest problems when creating the 5+6C environment was therefore to try to achieve a global balance of how the polarities are perceived% This is unlike +. \$ where parameters are generated by the system but also interpreted by the composer after they have been calculated% *"Project 1's approach to the problem may be described as "interpretation": this covers both the evaluation of the idea for a composition before the computer can process it, and the composer's evaluation of the tabular score generated by the program"* ;, Oenig, 1991, p. 3% In the case of 5+6C, the process of interpretation is part of how the polarities work and the way polymorphism functions in this context% This does however have its advantages% By polymorphic variation of how the polarities work, a certain richness is created when they interact% This resembles the way a conductor works with a group of improvising musicians% The conductor can give abstract signs to indicate for example that the musicians should all play faster or increase the current pitch% Each of the musicians can interpret this message in a different way but the perceived change can be perceived as more interesting just because of the different way it is achieved%

Constraints

The polarities represent a reduction in the sense of limiting the elements that one composes for. By giving importance to only a defined set of characteristics it follows that certain aspects of the totality of control might be suppressed by compositional choices that have already been made. When defining which polarities to use in the context of the 5+6C, the objective was to find the smallest amount of controls possible while still maintaining effective interaction with the general process behavior. The idea was to have it as general as possible while still being conditioned by the chosen polarities. The way in which they were conceived was by progression, starting by the smallest amount and adding necessary ones once absolutely needed.

wa to communicate with a sound process once it is running%

*ollowing now is a look on each of the polarities and a general description% It is not the purpose here to generalise or try to aim for a global definition%. rather, the following explanations should be understood as brief descriptions of the ideas behind each of the polarities which includes some examples of their concrete implementations%

Speed usually refers to the rate of activity within each sound process% This is closely linked to musical tempo or pace regarding rate of change%) possible definition is the number of events per second%) another example is how fast a trajectory that defines a process behaviour is read% The speed polarity is closely connected to the density% Speed can also influence the behaviour of other polarities% *or example high entropy is sometimes implemented by adding randomness to parameters% In this case the speed polarity could have an effect on the rate of the random generator ;on how fast it generates random numbers% Speed was chosen for its crucial role with regards to the tempo of a sound process%

Density is not regarded in the same way here as it does in granular synthesis which would be closer to the above definition of speed% (ensity is rather measured in terms of *mass per unit volume* in the sense of filling the acoustic space% (ense events are those that fill this space and are opposed to sparse ones where gaps and silences can be found% In his book *Microsound* Curtis Roads defines a granular *fill factor* ;ff< as being the product of density ;number of grains per second< and the duration of each grain% ;. Roads, "###\$% The fill factor can be sparse, covered or packed% 5&en though density does not apply to events per time unit in the 5+6C, the concept of fill factor describes well its function%) sound process can contain rapidly changing sonic entities ;of a high speed< but where their duration is very short and thus density low% 5'amples of density are the envelope duration of a micro-time event in a sequence or number of layers for textual sounds% (ensity was chosen for the purpose of controlling the fill factor for a sound process, ranging from dense to sparse%

Entropy is borrowed from its use in information theory where defined as being the measure of uncertainty %Henakis often used the term for noting a degree of order or disorder ;Henakis, \$33"< 5rik 7 strQm has also found it useful for discussing the level of randomness, irregularity and uncertainty within textures% +rocesses with high entropy could be said to “describe states of “incoherence”, e.g. chaotic situations, where hierarchies are not obvious and the music seems to take several directions at the same time” ;7 strQm, "##3, p%43<% The 5+6C version is inspired by his view but it also simplifies through the notion of regularity or irregularity % It is the polarity that comes closest to ,oenig's concept of periodicity and aperiodicity % In +. \$ periodicity was implemented by the way elements are repeated or not% In the 5+6C implementations &ar , and this has proven to be one of the hardest polarity to render convincing%. randomness is not always easy to impose on sound processes and neither is order%)n example of implementation is random deviation for the selection of durations or buffer choices when playing a sequence of sounds%) another example is random deviation for frequency, amplitude or any of the other polarities% In sample based objects increased entropy often causes fluctuations of reading placement in the buffer or the rate it's been read at% 5ntropy was chosen in order to control regularity and irregularity within a sound process%

Position was the latest polarity to be implemented and perhaps the one that has the least obvious explanation. Position was created when it became clear that in the way the implementation of the polarities had developed, each of the objects seemed to contain its own special low-level behavior. This follows from the sound process direction the objects took where each object should be capable of producing sound for an undefined amount of time but still manifest a minimum of internal behavior. Position was needed in order to navigate within the internal behavior, to move between different placements of where one would be at a given moment in time. Perhaps a more fitting term would be *process offset*. Examples include where to start a sequence, read a buffer or begin a trajectory. In the last case one can imagine a generator function creating a trajectory used for example by an amplitude modulator. This will be part of the minimum behavior of the object. By using the position polarity an offset can be set for where to start reading the trajectory values. In the case of a generated sequence, the position can change the start element of the sequence to be in the middle instead of the beginning. Position was chosen for fine grained control of activity offset within a process.

Amplitude is dealt with in terms of relative subjective response rather than measured decibel values. Loudness would therefore perhaps be a better definition of how amplitude is usually implemented. Loudness is strongly influenced by both the frequency and spectral composition of a sound. (Notice, various positions of other polarities often alter the amplitude parameters in order for their change to not affect the perceived amplitude. Usually amplitude is implemented similarly to the way it occurs in an analog mixer and its transfer function often takes a shape close to the logarithmic ones found in such mixers.) Amplitude was chosen to control the loudness of a sound process.

Frequency is in most cases related to the central areas of prominent frequencies of a sound process. The general idea is simply to have distinct low, middle and high frequency parts that can be explored within a process. In practice the low and high ones often get more space than the frequencies occupying the middle range. Examples of implementations are by transposing sampled sounds and frequency controls of oscillators or filters. Frequency can also influence other polarities such as color; frequencies of resonators and surface frequency peaks in filters. The surface polarity handles frequency was chosen to control the frequency or central frequency area of a sound process.

Surface was primarily conceived for representing a very generalized view of timbre control. The range is to be from soft to rough. The implementations are great but often include some kind of filtering when the polarity state is low and another kind of filtering when high. Also when values are approaching the higher regions of the surface range, distortions are often used. Concrete examples are low-pass and band-reject filters for the lower range and wave-shaping or distortion for the higher range. Surface is possibly the polarity with the greatest variety in implementations and differs from the others by the fact that different processing is usually applied if its state is above or below the middle. For objects using granular processes, surface often sets a harsh grain envelope when the value is high but a more gaussian-like one when low. Other applications include implementation of bit-crushing; distortion by bandwidth resolution reduction or experimental signal alterations by using binary operators; for example fold, modulo or

direction. Surface was chosen to control the timbral softness or roughness of a sound process.

Color is usually discussed in terms of timbre when it occurs in a musical discourse. Here it rather refers to a diffused coloration that can lead to blur the original sound. Color is measured in much the same way as a reverb of existing between *wet* and *dry*. With increased color a signal usually fills more acoustic space but this might also smooth out a sound and cancel its sharpness. Color might also be used to give an artificial tail or prolongation to a sound. In many cases color resembles closely to what Smalley has defined as *spectral density*, where “a packed or compressed spectral space is compacted so that it suffocates and blots out other spectromorphologies. A transparent spectral space lets spectromorphologies through, while something in between (translucent, opaque) has a masking effect.” (Smalley, 1997, p. 121). Color occupies a special position among the polarities since it has only an increasing effect, color can neither have negative values, it will either increase or remain low. Examples of color is through delay, reverb, convolution, comb-filters or resonators. Color can have an effect on perceived frequency since diffused sounds tend to favor lower frequencies in the spectrum where these frequencies will fade more slowly than higher ones (Edge, 1991). It can also greatly affect the perceived space a sound is heard in and therefore affect the location polarity. Color was chosen in order to impose diffused and reflective characteristics on a sound process.

Location is perhaps the most simple polarity to explain since its range of zero to one almost always corresponds to the left to right stereo field. Location has proven to be a fruitful field of experimentation regarding stereo-techniques since various implementations have been conceived. Examples of panning include linear left-right panning, constant power panning, channel filtering and decorrelation techniques. The panning range varies between objects and location can have subtle effects when changing simultaneous polarities with similar values. Location was chosen to situate the spatial center of a sound process.

The polarities understand values in the range between zero and one. This defines the space of possible values that are received by a polarity. There is however almost always a mapping operation between the value that a polarity receives and the one it uses to calculate the parameters it influences. This mapping happens via a *transfer function*. The transfer function is simply a trajectory that maps the input from a one to zero input space to another output space, also ranging from one to zero. This way of mapping can be used in creative ways when different transfer functions are applied to the parameters a polarity controls. That the output space is different for each parameter that belongs to a polarity can create *zones* of different non-linear behavior in the parameter range. For example the region from 0% to 40% can be very expressive for one output parameter but perhaps quite dull for another one, which in turn might become very interesting in the range between 40% and 80%. The richness of the complexity when navigating these zones can lead to very creative compositional choices. In the diagram below there is an example of one implementation of the entropy polarity. Amount here means the amount of entropy and Speed the rate at which the random generator that is causing fluctuations in a sound process operates at. These two parameters are mapped quite linearly from 0% to 100%. The values High and Low define the limits within which the random generator will choose his values. They create a sort of mask, which is not temporal but working inside the polarity range of zero to one. In all there is a Citter parameter that

controls the amount of multiplication the random generator is working with. If it is high the multiplication will be little and around \$, if it is low it fluctuates between \$ and #. So here illustrated is how five different parameters are controlled by one polarity range. When observing the diagram one can also notice that how these lines overlap, different ones are created and that the polarity behavior when moving from zero to one is non-linear.

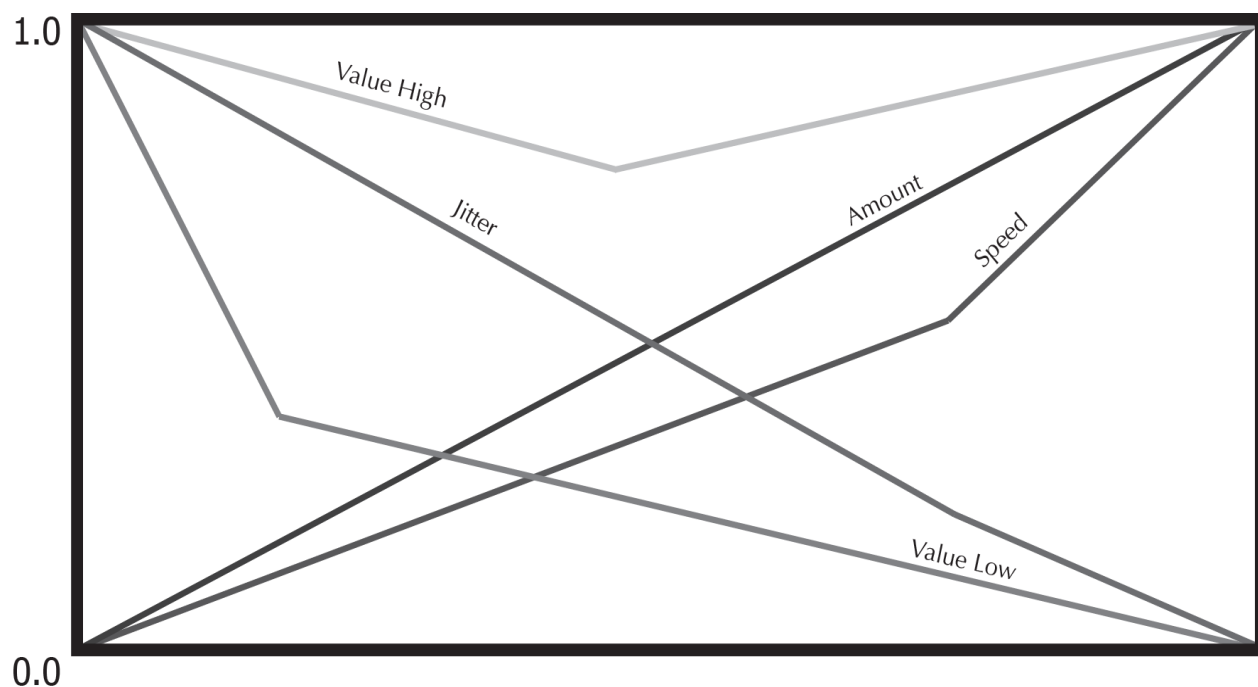


Figure 1 Transfer functions for mapping entropy

Another important factor is how the parameters do influence each other. In the calculated parameters "are independent of each other except that the size of chord depends on the entry delay." In the 5+6C the polarities are often related as mentioned for example above with regards to density and speed or amplitude and frequency. This raises the question of hierarchy between different polarities and how it should be approached. Various methods exist in the 5+6C in order to organize a set of polarity states compared to others. They can for example be compared by a total sum or difference of their polarity values. A more heuristic approach treats the polarities with different questions: how are they treated? What are the dimensions of, for example, the parameters?

It is neither the thing that dominates the being nor the being that dominates the thing. They are reciprocal and equivalent, but in their momentary meeting they are also distinct. They are produced on the spot, together in difference, any prior objectivity and prior subjectivity is invested in this momentary and complex production but does not subsume it.
 ;?oegelin, "#\$#, Chapter \$, Section 1, para%"<

3.4 Nodes, Relations and Interaction

Sound processes which are governed by objects and which behavior is controlled by polarities, share the interesting feature of not being temporally defined. They can run forever, for a predefined amount of time or until they are stopped by external forces. What defines different parts of a composition made with these processes is therefore mainly how they are combined in various configurations. By associating different objects and processes, a temporal continuum can be composed for that spans from the detail to the whole. Consistency between various aspects of a composition is often regarded as desirable. The link between the various compositional products is however not always obvious or an easy one to make. Once this is established, it can enable the composer to abstract his craft.

Abstraction

For many compositions involves a great amount of abstract thinking. Certain algorithmic music could also be seen as a tool for abstracting musical procedures so that composers using algorithms can step away and focus on higher level choices. Abstraction of objects and processes is of a great importance when composing with them in the context of 5+6C. Sharon Anach, who worked closely to Henakis and was a translator of his works, had the following to say about his approaches:

I think the keyword also is abstraction. This is what he preached - morning, noon, and night. Getting away from figuration, from narration, for him, going deeper and deeper into the fundamentals of making music or making architecture or making whatever. The more and more abstract you are, the more original you can be. This was always his quest - of trying to take the very basic materials and doing something original with them.
 ;, anach, "#\$#, p%\$<

Going deeper and deeper into the fundamentals of one's work is of course something attractive to achieve. Understanding and dealing with the fabric of these fundamentals can be made possible by the means of abstraction. This applies well to the importance of the process which has been a central theme in this text. To interact with the basic principles of creativity by giving a substantial importance to the activity itself, instead of external factors. More profound thought when using abstraction can also apply in the context of composition by unifying and creating bridges between the different elements that create a piece. To develop a way of abstract communication between different kind of structures that can be interacted with in a simple and general way. Compositional ideas can be the basis of how such modes of communication can be conceived. Personal vocabulary that a composer has, can be reflected in the abstractions that he uses to create his pieces. Standards in computer music systems can sometimes be dangerous with regards to this, since common ideas and solutions become the norm. What should be

desirable is a compositional framework where the controls that a composer uses are part of his ideological view. In the computer music language, Kyma there exists an attempt of unifying elements with objects and hierarchies of objects.

One of the ramifications of this abstract, recursive definition is that Kyma makes no distinction between “samples,” “live audio input,” and synthetically generated signals. They are all Sounds that act as sources, and they can be manipulated and composed using the same sets of unary and n-ary functions. Another ramification of the Sound object definition is that Kyma does not draw a distinction between “instrument” and “score.” Instead, it provides an abstract way to build hierarchical structures that might or might not correspond to traditional musical organization.

;Scaletti, "Kyma, p. 12

Hierarchy

By combining objects into higher level elements, it is possible to create customized structures that fit personal compositional ideas. Hierarchical grouping can certainly be a very powerful way to achieve both abstraction in terms of interaction as well as to create large structures from small ones. Many researchers have tried to develop hierarchical representations and implementations in software composition systems. “One advantage of hierarchically structured descriptions of music is that transformations such as tempo or pitch can be applied to aggregates of musical objects.” (Annenberg, 1993, p. 12) A nested structure could therefore be made of various sub-structures which each would be able to communicate and exchange information.

In the Kyma, objects and polarities can be assembled on higher level objects. New objects can be created from collections of other objects and the totality be controlled by separate polarities or by sharing the same one. The structure that enables the grouping is called a *node*. This comes from network terminology which will be discussed in the next section. A node can contain an infinite number of objects, a global polarity collection as well as other nodes. When an object belongs to a node it will be assigned with two temporal parameters, a start time and duration. This happens since the node is designed to work in a temporal context. A node can exist in the framework of succession and therefore be made to behave as a state. A state would then consist of a group of objects having different start times, durations and polarity settings. These three aspects could all be controlled by the node, before and while the objects are playing. Approaching states as building blocks, possibly with higher level control, the act of composition can perhaps become even more creative. Each object in a state has duration and offset times. Elements can thus be overlapped or stretched. A 4-second state could become a 4-second or 4-hour one. Complex states can be conceived and radically altered within a node only by changing these three elements that are common to all. Grouping things together can make the entire creative process much more interesting. This also enables work on different parts at a time. This enables one to swap objects within a node for other objects while all other compositional logic remains. Dynamic states allow experimentation with various configurations and offer a great level of abstraction. This abstraction happens by focusing only on the polarities, the start and duration times, but on various levels, for different musical constructs and structures.

States can be controlled in a polymorphic fashion. Each object has its own interpretation of the compositional messages that circulate within the framework. In addition to this, nodes can not only be

seen as states but also as layers, chords or even instruments. By grouping several objects together so that their polarity states are influenced by a global one, expressive entities can be created. Composed states can also be expanded and used in an instrument like way or be ample to shift frequency or increase density in a node with four different objects, that each have different and careful composed polarity settings. Each object would then change their own polarity setting either in offset to the node polarity state or by inheriting total the state. Some musical ideas can be derived from working with the polarities or be ample *increase speed slowly while at the same time make the sonic surface become more rough*. By grouping objects in nodes, statements like these can be applied to whole states or collection of objects, resulting in increased richness and creative possibilities.

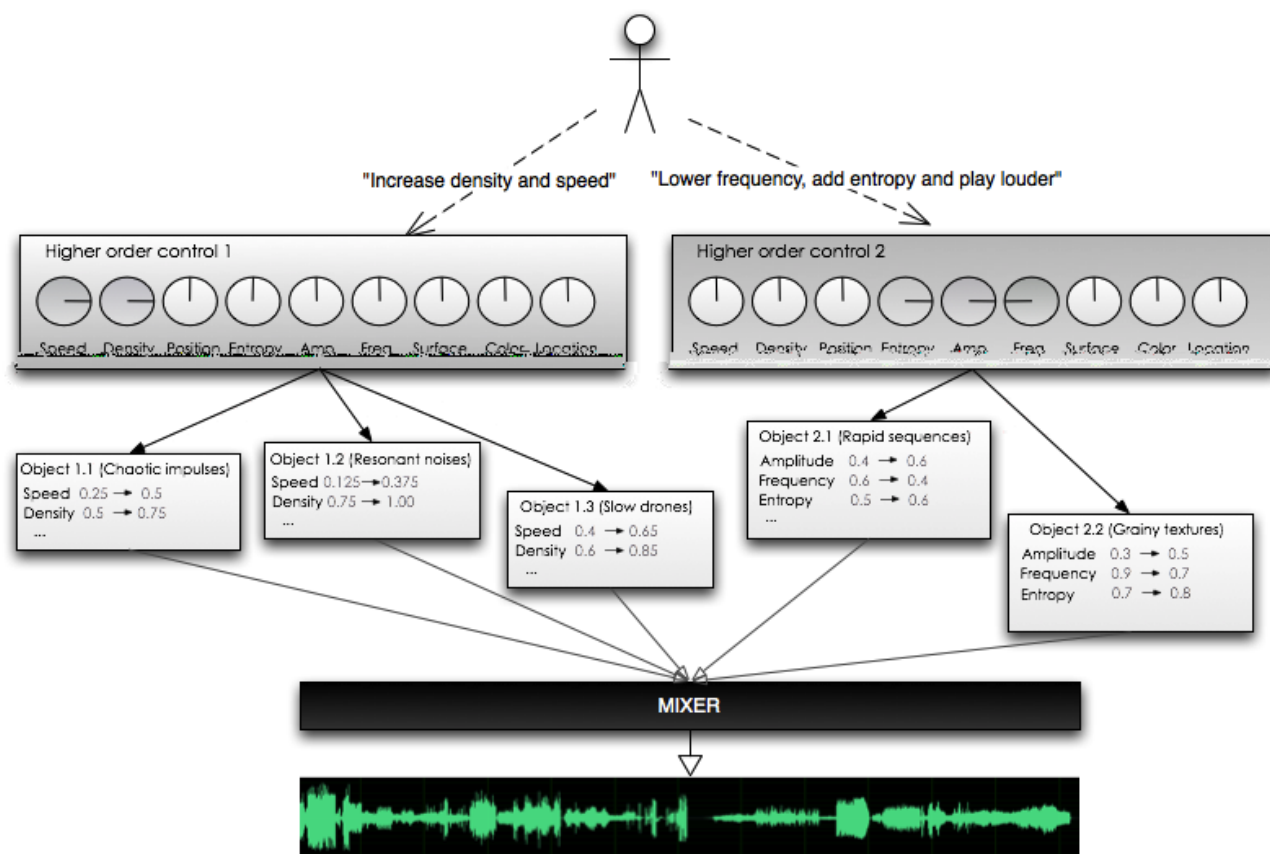


Figure 2, An example of 'higher order control'

Interaction

(annenberg defines two main models of music representations ; (annenberg, \$33\$, p% "< % *irst is the resource model, where sounds are seen as resources that are controlled by updates. Updates can be discrete events, for example a note on message and continuous ones such as updating the amplitude of a sound. The updates are made to the resource which is always the same. There can only be one sound produced at a time for that representation. The second is the instance model which is not concerned with the resource, but only the attributes of each sound. So for each sound there is a new sound instance created. These instances are independent and there is no limit on the number of simultaneous sounds. By grouping

objects in 5+6C nodes, the strength of both of these approaches is possible. An object is similar to the resource model where the object is always updating the sound process of which there is only one instance. The node can be seen as an instance model in the sense of being capable of containing an unlimited amount of instances which still are being updated by themselves as well as by the global node controls. The possibilities in terms of polynomial and other vertical relationships can be explored in interesting ways by nodes in such a way.

The relationships that polarities within a node have is also interesting to investigate. Polarity states of one object can be set into relationship with the polarity states of another one, or even ample using one to one, inverse, difference or relative mappings. Complete chains of behavior control can be created via these relations. This adds further to the possible extensions of nodes and node objects. In fact, it is by its hierarchical modes that the 5+6C arguably shows its most original aspects. By connecting objects and exploring these connections and the resulting relationships, interesting discoveries can be made. Relations can also be seen as simple within a polarity value of a node. The value a particular polarity has in objects within a node and how these values can be subject to higher level control and compositional strategies.

The way communication occurs between a composer, the polarities and higher level nodes, can be thought of simply in terms of interaction. The 5+6C system is real-time and all actions which have been discussed can be made with real-time interaction. The 5+6C is however not designed as an instrument to perform with as such. (Design considerations for an instrument-like system have not been taken into account.) It can be used on stage to create music in real-time that is interactive. It is still important to note that the 5+6C is not designed as an instrument and note the difference between light interaction and intense interaction. Curtis Roads defines these as *"light interactions experienced in a studio-based 'composing environment,' where there is time to edit and backtrack"* and *"intense real-time interaction experienced in working with a performance system onstage"*; [33], p. 94. The 5+6C would be in the middle of those two interaction modes. It is mainly thought of as a compositional system as opposed to something to use on stage, however it can easily be used on stage to perform interactive compositions. In the case of nodes containing various objects with different relationships, the higher level controls can be seen as an interaction with an algorithmic system. Aggione stated that *"interaction is more important than algorithms"*; Aggione, [13]. He also labels algorithmic music that is created with closed systems as *"Turing music"*. There are numerous problems that result from working with black box approaches where the only interaction is to define input or edit the output of the system. In many cases it is highly desirable to interact directly with generative process and the compositional logic they contain. Interaction of the 5+6C processes and constant interaction with the environment is one of the environment's most important characteristics.

Two chains of contiguous events without a common link can be in differently synchronous or anterior in relation to each other; time is once again abolished in the temporal relation of each of the universes represented by the two chains. Local clocks serve as chains without gaps, but only locally. Our biological beings have also developed local clocks but they are not always effective. And memory is a spatial translation of the temporal(causal)chains.

;Henakis and Brown, 1993, p.99<

3.5 Networks

The highest element in the 5+6C hierarchy is the *network*) network is a set of nodes where each node is connected to one or more nodes through links%The network does not exist as an object itself, it is rather defined through the relationships between the nodes that form the network%The links that form these relationships are simple indicators of what other nodes should be played after a node has finished playing%) composition made with the 5+6C can also be understood as being a network%Every section of the music is then a node in that network and the total of succeeding nodes becomes the overall network% In mathematical terms, a network is called a graph and the previous description of a linked composition would be called a *path* through this graph%This also applies to some extent to the 5+6C network% The final perceived musical result is indeed a chosen passage through the possible space of connected nodes%This does however not mean that the composition exists only as a path%) composition could include the possible and actual links and nodes that form the piece%In the 5+6C each of the nodes has a weighted list of links from where it will choose which of these possibilities will become actual%This could be open for aleatoric choices or completely deterministic as decided by the composer% This creates possibilities for open works and gives importance to succession and how it occurs in the context of the 5+6C%

Temporal links

The function of the 5+6C network is purely temporal% It is concerned with what happens, when it happens and the order it happens in%Time is therefore the material a network operates with%Time can also be seen simply as a way of dividing space% It is equally possible to make a sequence of sounds that will divide space differently and a sequence of sounds that occurs within a composition% Here time becomes a convenient way to say when the next thing happens with relation to other things that have or will happen% It is sometimes easier to talk in terms of seconds than in spatial coordinates which would be more difficult% However, for structures that exist outside time the opposite might be true%) an interesting option for exploring this is to map them using different spatial strategies% Networks can be seen as creative alternatives to represent musical architectures% They are for example not necessarily read from left to right ;such as in traditional notation or sequences<, or from top to bottom ;note-lists stems<% Interesting combinations of these can be conceived which might result in different modes of interaction with musical structures%

By defining the network as all possible routes through its nodes, the question is which of these routes are the most interesting to explore%) Additionally, how does the order that they are played in affect the resulting music? 5+6C allows for easy exploration of possible paths in a network and how this is conceived is open

to experimentation and compositional choice%) n important factor regarding the order of nodes is also the similarity and difference between them% This can be analysed without the added complexity of taking into account everything that has happened before in a temporal succession% What is it that they have in common and what is it that differs them? A possible method of comparing would be through the polarity states and the node duration% This allows for automatic qualification of the nodes and adds yet another layer in the polarity hierarchy% If the 5+6C would be used as a compositional model then defining the judgmental criteria according to the polarities would seem an obvious choice% This does however sometimes turn out to be rather limiting% First of all sections can be made of several configurations of polarity states in various positions in time%) Additionally these can be layered and used in hierarchical ways% How useful structural information can then be derived from the polarities is not obvious%

The diagram here below shows an example of an 5+6C network% It contains eight nodes and ten connections% Each connection shows a possible path for what happens after a node finishes playing% For example Node 5B could send a message to either Node 7B or Node 11B so that they would start to play% This creates possibilities of different ordering of elements within a piece%

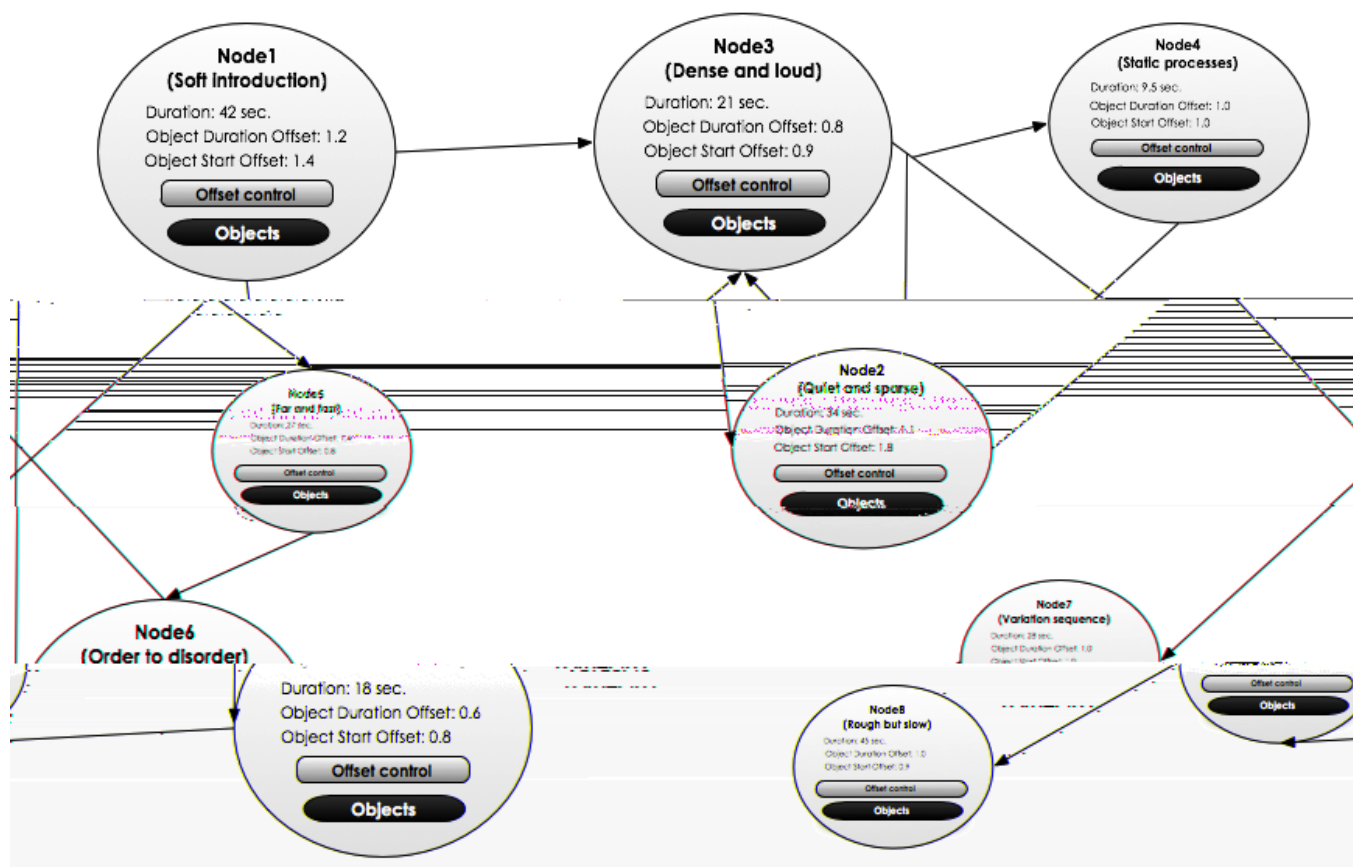


Figure 3, An example of an EPOC network

Navigation

The summing, subtraction, timbral and temporal weight algorithms discussed in section 1/1 apply when comparing singular instances of polarities for an object, but not so well when comparing sections that contain many of them. In *Terminus*, Koenig derived the relationship between sections by their mode of production.

The systematic derivation of material structures which due to their mechanical procedure are structurally related; neighbouring relationships are not formally established but appear as the derived materials are presented – successively or simultaneously. This shows the form problem in a very mediated guise, because the possible form-sections (the prefabricated derivations, whose number can be increased at will) are closely linked, owing to their past history in terms of production technique without having a goal oriented relationship to each other.

(Koenig, 1992, p. 23)

This approach is powerful in the sense that form is derived directly from the material and when carefully applied often results in convincing forms. When comparing Koenig's form-sections to nodes in a network, what is needed in the 5+6C is a method to establish this close link which does not imply a goal oriented relationship. The 5+6C objects can not be compared by mode of production since this does not have an &value for the objects that implement real-time synthesis for example. It is however desirable to derive the path through a network somehow from the characteristics of the nodes, of the material. This is still unsolved and remains an interesting topic when working with the system. Another option would be to sort nodes in terms of their structural importance for a given piece. This implies assigning indicators of structural importance to each of the nodes and sorting them accordingly. This is actually the most promising idea developed so far but does have the weakness that the indicators are often assigned according to formal ideas that are exterior to them.

Variants

Any possible network configuration could also be seen as generating a variety of pieces based on the path chosen. For each configuration the number of possible pieces would be the number of possible paths and these could be generated automatically by the system. Christopher Yriarte has found similarities between Koenig, Hiller and Xenakis in terms of generating multiple pieces from the same mechanism.

Gottfried Michael Koenig frequently used the term “variants” (translated from the German) to describe the many possible outputs a CAAC system produces from a common system configuration [...] Lejaren Hiller used the term “versions” to describe interchangeable movements created from common procedures with “small to substantial but presumably significant changes of input data” [...] Iannis Xenakis referred to the outputs of a single system as constituting a family: “the basic law ... generates a whole family of compositions as a function of the superficial density.”

(Yriarte, 1992, p. 24)

This way of generating compositional variants could also be seen as a how the networks in the 5+6C work. Once certain relationships and polarity states have been composed these can be explored further by using the network for experimenting with navigation strategies. As discussed in section 1/4, each of the

nodes in a network has a set of global polarities and start and duration offset for the corresponding controls of the node. Navigating a network of pre-composed nodes, and setting the global controls according to a compositional strategy radically different versions of a composition can be rendered. For example a composition that consists of ten nodes could be altered that in these ten steps, density would drop and entropy double. The way this occurs of course depends on what is the state of density and entropy within each node. This is then a variation technique that enables higher level compositional ideas based on polarity changes. This brings to mind, Schönberg's words about +. "Form-variants are not open or variable forms, but variants of an initial position which is described algorithmically and – rather like an idea not yet executed in detail".

The idea of higher-level control by composing for the global polarities of the nodes, and that this is decided before the actual order of the nodes, again increases the abstraction of compositional choices. If this becomes the main focus of a piece, then one could experiment with changing objects that reside within the nodes, or even swap existing nodes for new ones to realize what it is really that defines a piece and if the whole creative process might actually be revealing itself.

4. The EPOC Environment

[illegible]

Gyorgy Ligeti compared the various interpretations of open-compositions to flash-photos of a Calder mobile, in which changes are manifested only indirectly, since each performance is merely a momentary incarnation of the manifold possibilities of the form. In a Calder mobile, the shape, color, and design of each part is fixed, with the order and angle constantly changing. [...] This implies art as a process, no longer will objects of music exist in that sense, but each new performance, each new circumstance will create a continually variable process of ideas.

;! anoch=. oe, "##/, p%\$1\$<

4.1 Design Considerations

In this chapter the 5+6C ;5n&ironment for +rocess and 6bject Composition< will be presented% The elements that will be presented here are concrete implementations of the topics that ha&e been discussed in this thesis%) working &ersion of the s stem can be found in the (?(supporting this thesis, as well as e' amples of how it can be used%

The 5+6C environment is a compositional tool. The motivating ideas behind it came across as potential solutions to encountered compositional problems. The 5+6C can also be used to generate new sounds or in a live situation. However, it must be clear that the main idea is that it behaves as a compositional environment that offers novel solutions to experienced compositional problems. The environment is used to create networks of musical objects. A musical object in this case is an operational entity that interacts with a sound process. Several objects which are connected together form a network. The network defines their relationship, interactions and the direction of a given composition. By making musical objects communicate within a network, attention is given to the relationship between these objects and the musical processes. This view of a working environment is helpful in order to increase possible relations between the various elements that form a composition. It also allows for direct control of various elements simultaneously and to concurrently compose on multiple levels.

The 5+6C can be understood as a solution to problems concerning interaction and relationships between materials and processes, and their influence on development and form in music. The main concern is how to define musical processes as operational objects, how these objects can interact in a network of objects and how this can create a flexible and adaptable composition environment.

The design considerations behind the environment will be covered in the following paragraphs. These are mostly ideas that existed before the system was developed but it is important to understand some of the motivations. The next section will explain an example scenario when using the 5+6C. This includes examples of its interfaces and a possible way of constructing a piece of music by using the system.

Additional examples are included on the companion CD and outlined in Appendix B. Section 4 will describe the main components of the system and how they connect to each other. Implementation issues will also be discussed as well as the system architecture. Finally some conclusions and thoughts regarding the experience of using the environment will be presented in section 4.4. The sections in this chapter do not depend on each other and can be read in a different order than the one they appear in here.

Composing instead of editing

The 5+6C came about as a possible solution to problems when composing with multi-track sequencers and time-line environments. The possibilities of generating or manipulating sounds with the computer today are endless. The available methods by which these sounds can be combined and used in a composition does seem more limited. Sequencers, that are based on a time-line that reads from left to right, are a popular and powerful option to assemble sound materials. They are however much based on a model that is derived from editing materials, not composing. Many examples have been experienced where a sequencer was used to compose music where the material was layered, dozens of tracks filled with small bits of audio, plugins used and all this extremely automated. One of the problems of these editing environments is that manipulating the massive amount of created information is limited. It is also very hard to abstract ideas directly from that information or for it to adapt to compositional desires. When looking at a sequencer page filled with data there is no clear option for how to use it with interaction on a higher level. Facing a situation where hundreds of sounds are scattered in a sequencer, all with their edits and automations, there is no easy way to make everything go faster or become more random. What sequencers offer is mainly editing and not compositional tools. This inspired the initial idea behind the 5+6C. To create an environment where multiple things could be composed together. They could be happening at the same time or not, but they would all understand a common language of compositional commands that would make interaction effortless and creatively interesting.

Common communication protocol

A comprehensive language was to be implemented as a set of multidimensional parameters for describing behavior. These were later labelled polarities. The idea was to find a small set of polarities that could encapsulate a broad range of control for various sound processes. They should be as few as possible. This is desired in order to simplify possible combinations and compositional ideas realized by using them. They should however not be overly limited in use and in the end more polarities got added than initially was thought to be necessary. Additionally they should all work on the range from zero to one and be both *expressive* in the sense that changing their values would have a clear effect but also *in range* which means that extreme values would be neither dull nor cause extreme artifacts such as sonic explosions.

Self-containment

One important feature of the 5+6C objects is that they can exist independently and take care of themselves. They should not only work as elemental units in a complete framework but also completely on their own. By typing the name of the object and telling it to initialize and play, it should immediately generate sound. (Default values should be provided for all parameters and the polarities.) If resource management for example locating buffers or output channels is taken care of by the object itself. If samples are used

in some of the sound processes then the 5+6C provides default samples as well% Making them self-contained they can quickly be put to use as well as possible being used in other contexts than inside the 5+6C%

Real-time control

The polarities, start and stop commands for objects, and higher level controls should be easily accessible in real-time% This puts a limitation on the generation procedures carried out by the objects since they have to work in real-time% Indeed some of the objects respond better to real-time control than others% It always takes a certain time to perceive the characteristics of a sound process and if the values that are used to generate a particular process are changed within this temporal threshold, then the outcome might be disappointing%

External control

Following the real-time requirements, these same controls should be possible to adjust with external MIDI controllers% This should not be fixed but instead implemented with a learning function which assigns a control in learning mode to an incoming MIDI message% Following this learning method, dynamic and complex control settings can be generated, for example mapping one MIDI controller to several polarities%

Process-based

The sound that an object generates should be process-based in its nature% This means an object can be set to play for an undefined amount of time% While it is playing there should always be an internal activity that is changing within the sound% It could vary how much effect this local behavior has, but the goal was to be able to listen each object for some minimum amount of time without it being too constant or boring% This also means that there is actually nothing that denotes a beginning or an end for a sound process%

Algorithmic assistance

Since the 5+6C is very much based on a common language across all the environment, algorithmic tools should exist for generating values for all the polarity and time values% These should generate values that are editable by the composer using the system as opposed to exist inside an object or some control structure% For example start times of multiple objects could be created with values obtained from a brownian motion algorithm% These values should be generated and assigned to the start times of the objects but as parameters that can be immediately changed or further manipulated by the user%

Broad palette of sound generating methods

The 5+6C objects are limited by some external factors such as being process-based and having to effectively implement all of the polarities% Otherwise the 5+6C should function as an experimental background for various kind of sound generating methods% Indeed what kind of synthesis or sound manipulation methods adapt well to the 5+6C environment has been of its most important and time consuming aspects%

The basic resources, for sound artists and producers, are now digital. Production tools have for the past decade been moving from hardware to software; this process has recently reached saturation point, such that the computer has completely internalized – virtualized – the studio: the only vestige of hardware is an audio interface, necessary still to convert between data and audible signal. Creative sound culture is restless; casting around for new resources, it appropriates and misappropriates whatever it can.

;Dhitelaw, "##4, p%\$<

4.2 Usage Examples

The 5+6C was designed to be used with a minimum overhead. Its different elements should be able to stand on their own and initialization routines hidden from the user. The 5+6C can be used in multiple ways where production phases could occur in different order.

One important point to note, is that when using the 5+6C, it is possible to insert oneself on several levels. This means for example that there is no fixed order of doing things. A set of objects or collection of objects can be used in any part of the system. In the 5+6C, hierarchy is widely employed so operations that apply to an object, can also apply to groups of objects. With regards to time-scales flexibility is big, objects can be made to create very short sounds on a micro level, or to exist as whole sections. This applies also to envelopes, generation methods for polarity values, sequencing objects etc. One interesting way of using the 5+6C is to explore this hierarchy and flexibility of groupings. To create objects that are interesting combined with certain polarity values, group those and apply polarity transformations to the group, insert the group into a combination of groups, which would receive yet another change in terms of polarity values and so on.

The following section will explore one possible scenario when using the 5+6C and its views. However, it must be clear that this is just a potential sequence of events. What is obtained at the end of this example could easily be subject to the same process on a higher level. The order of events could be reversed or navigated though in different ways. This flexibility and approach to grouping and hierarchy is crucial to understanding the environment.

The first step is to choose a set of objects to work with. The example here is roughly based on a work in progress currently named A) D). 5. The piece is, among other ideas, based on exploring simultaneous existing objects that have different characteristics. Four groups of objects were created. They have been named A*fragmented, A7oises, ATe'tures and A+atterns. Each of these groups contains several objects that have been prepared for the group type, which refers roughly to the group name. When preparing the objects, certain decisions have already been made such as which buffers objects in the fragment group should use, duration values for some of the sequences and synthesis types for some of the noise making ones. For each group a dedicated editor is created and the four editors launched simultaneously.

Object Editor

One object editor holds eight different slots into which objects can be loaded. One object is selected from a list that is filled with objects to edit or work with when the editor is initiated. For each of the slots there is

a button for starting/stopping, a button for indicating if the slot object should be included in randomization, a learn button for assigning midi controllers and an additional amplitude setting. When an object is loaded into a slot it can either use the values from the current polarity sliders, or overwrite them with its previously assigned settings; if the are supposed to be edited. The editor has nine faders corresponding to the 5+6C polarities. If more than one slot is used in the same editor at the same time, all objects will have the same polarity settings. These faders can be controlled manually with a mouse, with a MIDI controller or by using one of the seven generation functions the editor offers. The generation functions work within a range set by the user and assign values according to a random distribution. The available distributions are a linear one, an exponential one, a bilinear; probability is highest around # and decreases linearly towards \$ and -\$<, a brownian one, a beta distribution, one where values tend more towards higher values and another one where they tend towards lower ones. Some parameters have been fixed for simplicity but it is beyond the scope of the current discussion to explain which, or how these different distributions work in detail.



Figure 4, The EPOC object editor

The screenshot above illustrates how the editors look like when being used. Here, five objects are being played as indicated by the gra buttons labeled 1-6-7. The fader settings have been set with the random distributions. The view that holds the 'Fragmented' objects has its faders set according to a brownian distribution. The view that holds the 'Textures' objects with a beta distribution. The view that contains the

Also, with an exponential one and the Amplitude with the distribution that favors higher values of the desired range. The value span that the distributions use is in all cases from 0% to 100%. The texture and pattern view on the right both have two polarity sliders that had not been included when the distributions were applied. These are Amplitude and Location for the texture view, and Frequency and Position for the pattern one. In many cases one tries to explore different configurations or snapshots of an object by using the random distributions. Often it is not desired to explore all the polarities and therefore the option exists of excluding them.

Once desired settings have been configured, the code that represents an object state is obtained by pressing Play. The code is then printed in the SuperCollider post window from where it can be copied and used in other parts of the system. This code does not contain the description of the whole object, which is already compiled in the language, but only the object name, polarity settings, duration and an additional, object specific parameters.

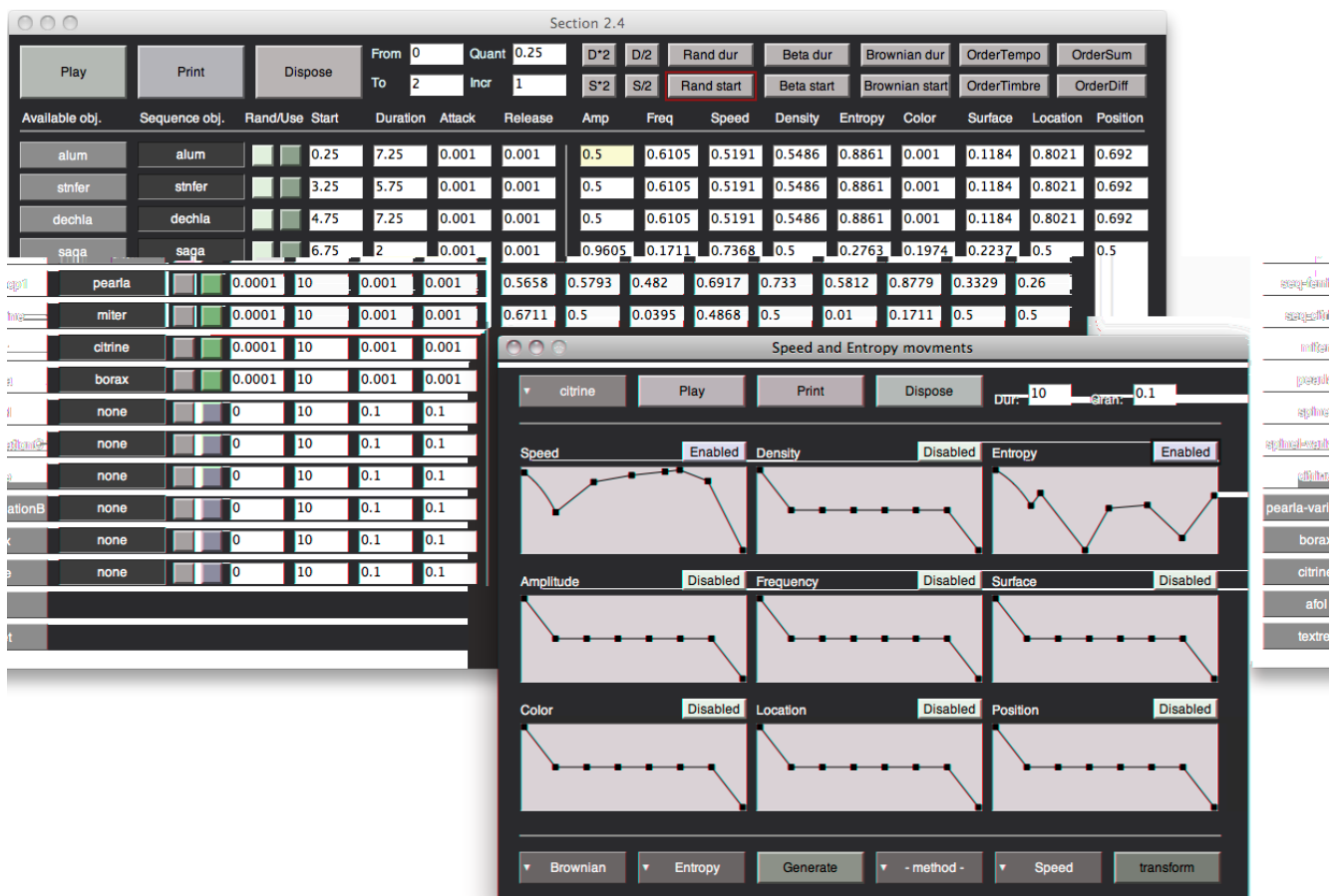


Figure 5, The EPOC Object Sequencer and Envelope view

Object Sequencer and Envelope view

After collecting numerous objects from the object editor, the codes can be fed into other views for further work. In the screenshot above there are two views visible, the Object Sequencer and the Envelope view. In order to create time-varying trajectories for polarity values, the envelope view is used. In the example

above, trajectories have been created for the speed and entropy polarities. Those are the only two ones active as indicated by the **Enabled** button. Both of these trajectories were created by using random distributions that can be accessed at the bottom of the **View**. These correspond roughly to the ones found in the object editor but additionally a **Transform** method exists that transforms existing envelopes by either reversing the points used for the time or length arrays. The duration of all of the envelopes in the **View** is the same and is set in the upper right corner of the **View**. The setting to the duration setting is a **Granularity** one which determines the update rate of an envelope. In certain cases it is not desirable that a polarity is constantly being updated since a change in an object behavior connected to that polarity could take a moment to be perceived. The update rate is therefore an important parameter to set for an envelope. Finally, the code for the envelope can be printed for it to be assigned to an object and be used in other parts of the environment.

The object sequencer is used to create sequences of object instances in time. Objects can be dragged from a prepared list visible on the left side of the **View** into slots from which they are sequenced. The number of available slots is limited only by the screen space and is set when the **View** is created. In the example above eight objects have been assigned to slots. The first four objects are active as indicated by the green **On** button whereas the lower four are inactive. The first four have also been made active for generation methods as indicated by the **A. and** button. The main parameters for a sequence are the **Start** and **Duration** times. These can be set by hand typed or dragged or by the generation methods found on the upper right part of the **View**. Attack and release times for an amplitude and settings for all of the polarities can also be assigned or edited for every slot. If a polarity has been assigned to an envelope, its value can not be altered and this is indicated by labeling the number below shown above in the amplitude box of the first slot.

The available generation methods are random distribution, linear, beta and brownian ones. These methods use the values from the number boxes on their left to set their range, their quantization and increment of each generated value. All the generation functions work only for the start and duration times, not for the polarity or attack/release settings. The start and duration times can also be doubled or divided by two, using the corresponding controls: **(S", (L", SS", SL"**. Finally, there are four ordering methods that reorder a sequence. The available methods compare objects by summing or subtracting polarity values, or according to weighted algorithms that favor either the temporal or the timbral polarities of an object. When the objects are reordered their start and duration times remain connected. This allows to keep a composed sequence while swapping the objects in place based on their different flavors. After a sequence has been completed, it can be printed for use in other parts of the environment.

Network Sequencer and Network Editor

At the top of the hierarchy of the **Views**, are the **Network Sequencer** and the **Network Editor**. These work similarly to the object editor and sequencer, except that they perform operations on object collections called nodes. There, polarity settings are used as offsets to the polarities of all objects in a node. For example if a node contains two objects one could have its **Color** polarity set to **#%** and the second to **#%2**. When a network sequencer is created to place the node, and its color polarity set to **#%4**, the first object

changes his color &value to #%%\$ and the second to #%% % The difference of #%%\$ is subtracted since that is the distance from #%%4 to #%%1 ;the middle-%*or most aspects the network editor works similarl to the network se>uencer but additionall offers the option to o&erride the polarit &values of a node% It also offers start and duration offset times% This means that start and duration times of objects inside a node can either be stretched or compressed b a multiplication factor% Objects can therefore e' tend or shorten their duration as well as making their internal se>uence more dense or sparse% B using the network editor, pre&ioussl composed se>uences can be pla ed and used in an instrument kind of wa , and it is here where the power of the higher le&el control is the most effecti&e%*or e' ample pla ing se&eral sections simultaneousl while changing their densities can result in rich change of beha&ior when these section contain multiple objects pla ing at the same time%

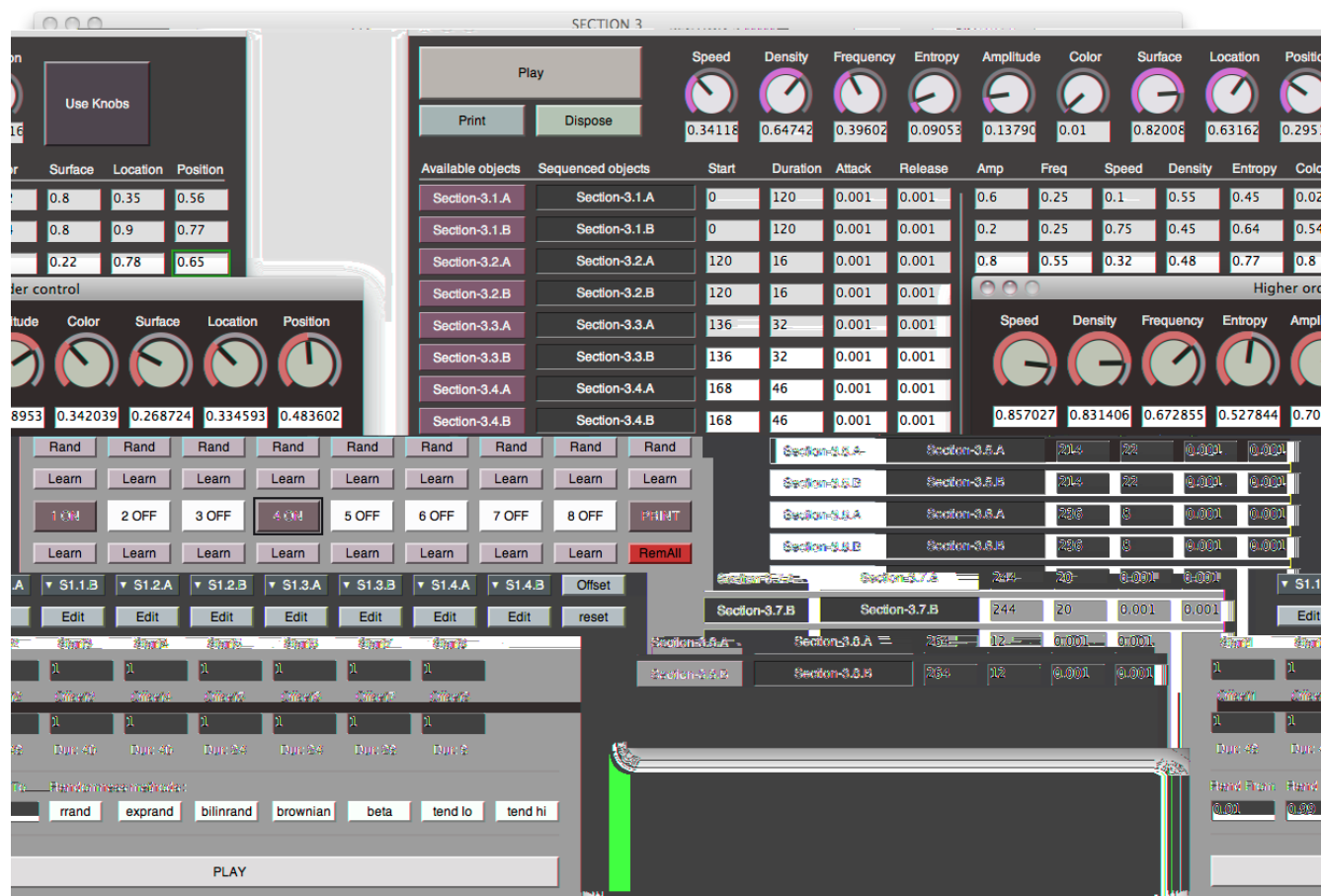


Figure 6, The EPOC Network Sequencer and Network Editor views

Code

The network se>uencer can be used to create complete compositions when choosing the order nodes appear in and creating succession either b making them follow each other linearl or b o&erlapping% There are howe&r certain limitations such as the number of &isible slots on the screen, trajectories ha&e to be composed before, and the temporal order has to be fi'ed% Creating networks b writing code directl increases fle' ibilit % 7odes can contain references to list of other nodes with probabilities of which to pla ne' t% This creates the possibilit of a non=linear unfolding of a piece%*or e' ample A7ode)B can contain

references to A7ode B and A7ode C where the probabilities are high for the former and low for the latter. If A7ode B is then played it could contain references to A7ode (B but also to A7ode) B which could then be played again. Another advantage of creating networks directly from code are the various extensions and transformations that could be done. This includes transforming the polarities of a node, sorting objects in a node or using object lists with more elements than the available screen space of a view. In practice, parts of a piece can be created by using the views but the final result put together by code. This is facilitated by the fact that each view enables printing of its products. So an interesting way of using the environment is to use explore different areas with the editors and then print them to use in code where additional features can be added. 5.1. Planations of the SuperCollider environment that the system is written in will be covered in the next section.

T) D) . 5 UV

```
TauburnItems U MistItem
TindigoItems U MistItem
Tfla' Items U MistItem
TcapriItems U MistItem
```

```
TauburnItemsadd:B7etworkItemnew:BGenMitharge, WXdurations, W #11, $, #1, ", 4, #1, $ Y, Xamplitudes, W #13, #1, #1, #1, #1, $, #1, $ Y, 0Mit = 7oise0,
BControlnew:speedC#93$, densit C#::, fre>uenc C##$, amplitudeC#, entrop C#13, colorC#39$, surfaceC#923, locationC##$, positionC#933, attackC##$,
releaseC#<,
startt$, durationt$2<<
```

```
TindigoItemsadd:B7etworkItemnew:BGenCitrine, WXsound, 0L8sersLbjarniL ( esktopLS7 ( LawareLse>uencesLasa%wa&0Y, 0se>-citrine0,
BControlnew:speedC#/#9, densit C#41$, fre>uenc C#449: , amplitudeC#/, entrop C#1"3, colorC#1::, surfaceC#394, locationC#4#3, positionC#12$,
attackC##$, releaseC##$<,
startt"1, durationt3<<
```

```
Tfla' Itemsadd:B7etworkItemnew:BGenTrona, nil, 0Trona = Te' ture0,
BControlnew:speedC#2/, densit C#13, fre>uenc C#1, amplitudeC#/"#9, entrop C#1$1: , colorC#1, surfaceC#13, locationC#229, positionC#1$1: ,
attackC##$, releaseC##$<,
startt9, durationt4<<
```

```
TcapriItemsadd:B7etworkItemnew:BGen+earl, WXdurations, W #1111, $, #1, ", 4, #1, $ Y, Xamplitudes, W #13333, #1, #1, #1, #1, $, #1, $ Y, Xfre>uencies,
W ""#, 9##, $4##, /4 Y, 0pearlp0,
BControlnew:speedC#1$1: , densit C#/"#9/, fre>uenc C#2142, amplitudeC#11, entrop C#1$1/ , colorC#1, surfaceC#4$1, locationC#/#9, positionC#9: 9,
attackC##$, releaseC##$<,
startt9, durationt/#, W
B7etwork5n&elopenew:5n&new:W#13, #1, #1, #1, #1, W3, $#, $#Y<, #, 0fre>uenc 0<
Y<<
```

```
Tauburn U B7etwork7odenew;"2, TauburnItems, control6ffsetBControlnew:fre>uenc C#1, colorC#21, speedC#1<, 0auburn0<<
Tindigo U B7etwork7odenew;"2, TindigoItems, nil, 0indigo0<<
Tfla' U B7etwork7odenew;4#, Tfla' Items, control6ffsetBControlnew:amplitudeC#21, surfaceC#11, locationC#1<, 0fla' 0<<
Tcapri U B7etwork7odenew;"4, TcapriItems, nil, 0capri0<<
```

```
Tauburn%ne' t7odesadd:WWTindigo, Tfla' Y, W#1, #1, Y<<
Tindigo%ne' t7odesadd:WWTcapri, W$#Y<<
Tfla' %ne' t7odesadd:WWTcapri, TauburnY, W#2, #1, Y<<
Tcapri%ne' t7odesadd:WWTindigo, TauburnY, W#4, #1, Y<<
```

```
Tauburn%pla K
ZK
```

Figure 7, Code example of an EPOC network instance

The potential of creative perception is natural. Creativity originates in the depths of the generative order, and the proper role of mental energy is to respond to such perception, and ultimately to bring it to some manifest level of reality.

;Bohm and +eat, "###, p%\$"<

4.3 Implementation and Architecture

The 5+6C is programmed in the SuperCollider environment ;McCartne , "###"< The 5+6C can be used directly in a SuperCollider document, from within the SuperCollider environment, with MIDI controllers or by using a G81() additionally assigning MIDI controllers is flexible and the G81s are organized as views. These views can be created on-the-fly containing different objects or nodes, and the number of concurrent editor instances is unlimited.

SuperCollider is both a programming *language* and a realtime sound synthesis *server*. The programming language is based on Smalltalk and is used for creating programs that communicate with the synthesis server in order to make sounds. Unit Generators ;UGens< are used for generating and processing audio signals within the synthesis server ;+parameter, "##\$< Interconnected 8Gens are packaged into a *SynthDef* which describes which 8Gens are used and how they connect ;Cottle, "##\$< These definitions are then used by the synthesis server to create *synths* based on that recipe. SuperCollider language *objects* bundle together data and methods that act on that data. *Classes* describe attributes and behavior that objects have in common ;Fannos, "##\$< Sound files that are played or transformed are stored in *buffers* that exist inside the synthesis server.) audio channels that SuperCollider synths use for sending their sound through are called *audio buses*. *inall to implement compositional logic and algorithms, SuperCollider *patterns* are used. +atterns offer higher-level representations ;or blueprints< of musical tasks and can be understood as “abstract representations of sequences independent of any specific performance.” ;, ui&ila, "##\$, p%\$93< +atterns can for example play notes by using random distributions for pitches or durations. In the following paragraphs specific technical terms will be avoided as much as possible. Those introduced above will however occur and important to keep in mind when describing the environment.

The 5+6C is implemented as a class framework which means that the all the parts forming the environment can be used within SuperCollider in different contexts. It also means that the parts are compiled into the programming language. When compiling the system as a set of classes, it becomes part of the SuperCollider language, just as a number or a list. When doing this a choice has been made of what is variable and what is not. Given the nature of SuperCollider, its real-time and live-coding capacities, it might seem an odd choice to compile everything as classes. This does however isolate system code from compositional one and allows for various kinds of facilities such as easier testing, initialization, versioning, maintenance and many of the advantages 66+ offers. *ollowing is an overview of the main elements that the 5+6C consists of. Their function will be briefly explained and important attributes named. ?usual representations of these elements and how they communicate will succeed these descriptions.

Objects

The object is the bridge between compositional ideas and generated sound. It is also where the polarity logic is implemented. There exist two kinds of 5+6C objects, generators and sequencers. A generator is based on directly controlling SuperCollider Synth(efs while a sequencer uses the pattern framework for generating algorithmic sound processes. These differences are only technical since patterns work differently than directly accessing a Synth(ef or a group of Synth(efs. The way they look to the outside world is the same. An object is itself responsible for sending Synth(efs to the SuperCollider server when initializing itself. It will start and later update its synths either directly or by using patterns. An object owns an instance of a *Control* which is basically a container for the polarity controls. It also contains various additional attributes that are used for different settings depending on the object such as envelopes or lists. Objects always come tested with default values as they are all supposed to function properly without having to set those. If required however, additional attributes can be set for increased flexibility. The main logic of an object lies in its *update* function. Here all values for the sound process are calculated according to the polarity states and additional attributes. This is where the algorithm behind each object is implemented and all the mapping is done. The object also has methods for playback, playing for a certain duration, stopping, stopping with amplitude decay and disposing resources.

Sound Processes

The sounds generated by the objects are called *Sound Processes*. This comes from the fact that conditioned by the polarities, the sonic constructs of the 5+6C have become audio processes, categorized by behavior. Many different implementations exist in the environment. Examples are pulsar synthesis, additive synthesis, subtractive synthesis, waveshape distortions, impulse trains, noise generators, chaos generators and various types of granular synthesis and sound transformations. Appendix C documents all the system modules and a more extensive list of available techniques can be found there.

Controls

The nine polarities are encapsulated in a structure called *Control*. It holds their given values as well as methods for increasing and subtracting current values, randomizing values, multiplying them by an offset or copying values from another control. It also takes care of keeping the values in range and comparing them by choosing from summing, difference, timbral or temporal orderings. In addition to the nine polarities, a control also contains attack and release settings for the amplitude of objects.

Nodes

To form groups or sections, objects can be grouped together in nodes. Nodes can function in the context of a network or on their own. Each node contains a collection of *NetworkItems* that are containers for objects but add functionality for them to work in a network. A *NetworkItem* sets the start and duration times for an object in a node. It also has a list of envelopes that are used for the polarities which vary in time. The node contains offsets for start time, duration and the polarities. These are used for higher level control and are common to all items that belong to a given node. A node also contains a reference list to the possible nodes that will play after it has finished playing its own objects.

Networks

) given totalit of connections between nodes is termed a network% Networks are therefore better understood as relationships instead of objects% *or each node in a network there are possibilities of which nodes succeed those pla ing%) node also contains offsets that are important for the understanding of a network% *or e' ample, after completing its pla ing time a node can ha&e the choice of pla ing itself again or a cop of itself &ar ing onl b the offset controls%) melodic phrase for e' ample could choose to pla a &ersion of the same melod where the offset fre>uenc is doubled and densit increased, or where fre>uenc is lower and speed increased%It could of course also pla a different node%

Views

In the 5+6C there are fi&e different graphical interfaces that can be interacted with%) n object editor, an en&elope editor, an object se>uencer, a network editor and a network se>uencer% The object editor is mainl used for assigning or editing polarit &alues for objects% The en&elope editor is for creating time= &ar ing trajectories for the polarities% The object se>uencer is used for creating se>uences of different object instances% *inall the network editor and se>uencer work similarl as the object editor and se>uencer but instead of working with objects, the work with nodes%) s nodes contain groups of objects, the network editor and se>uencer therefore work on a higher le&el structurall %

Composer Objects

The composer objects contain &arious functions that se>uence, transform or &ar objects and polarities% It contains for e' ample a se>uence method that takes objects and patterns as arguments and thus allows using the SuperCollider *Pattern* librar directl with 5+6C objects% There are also methods for making interpolation between objects, tendenc masks for polarit states and &ariation based on polarit relations ;for e' ample when fre>uenc increases for one object it means it decreases for another one<%

Scores

Scores use objects, trajectories ;score mo&ements<, start times and durations to make simple se>uencing% Much of the functionalit that a score offers can also be found in networks or nodes, howe&er the setup is more straightforward so the come in hand for light se>uencing scenarios where the functionalities of networks and nodes is not needed%

Architecture

Two diagrams are displa ed below in order to e' plain &isuall the software architecture of the 5+6C% *igure 9 illustrates how the en&ironment can be seen in terms of nodes, networks and &iews% The network is shown as a container of the relationship between its nodes and appears on top of the hierarch % Nodes also contain objects which contain polarit collections grouped in the AControlB structure% The objects additionall ha&e start and duration times as well as e' tra parameters specific to the object ;for e' ample oscillator t pe or buffer<% *inall , the nodes contain start and duration offsets as well as an offset control for its objects% On the right part of the diagram, the &iews are grouped together and their relation to specific 5+6C parts is illustrated% The network se>uencer is used to create network instances and relations, the network editor to edit the higher le&el controls of nodes, the en&elope editor to create trajectories for polarities, the object se>uencer to create temporal successions of objects to be used in

nodes and the object editor to create and edit object instances, including their polarity states%

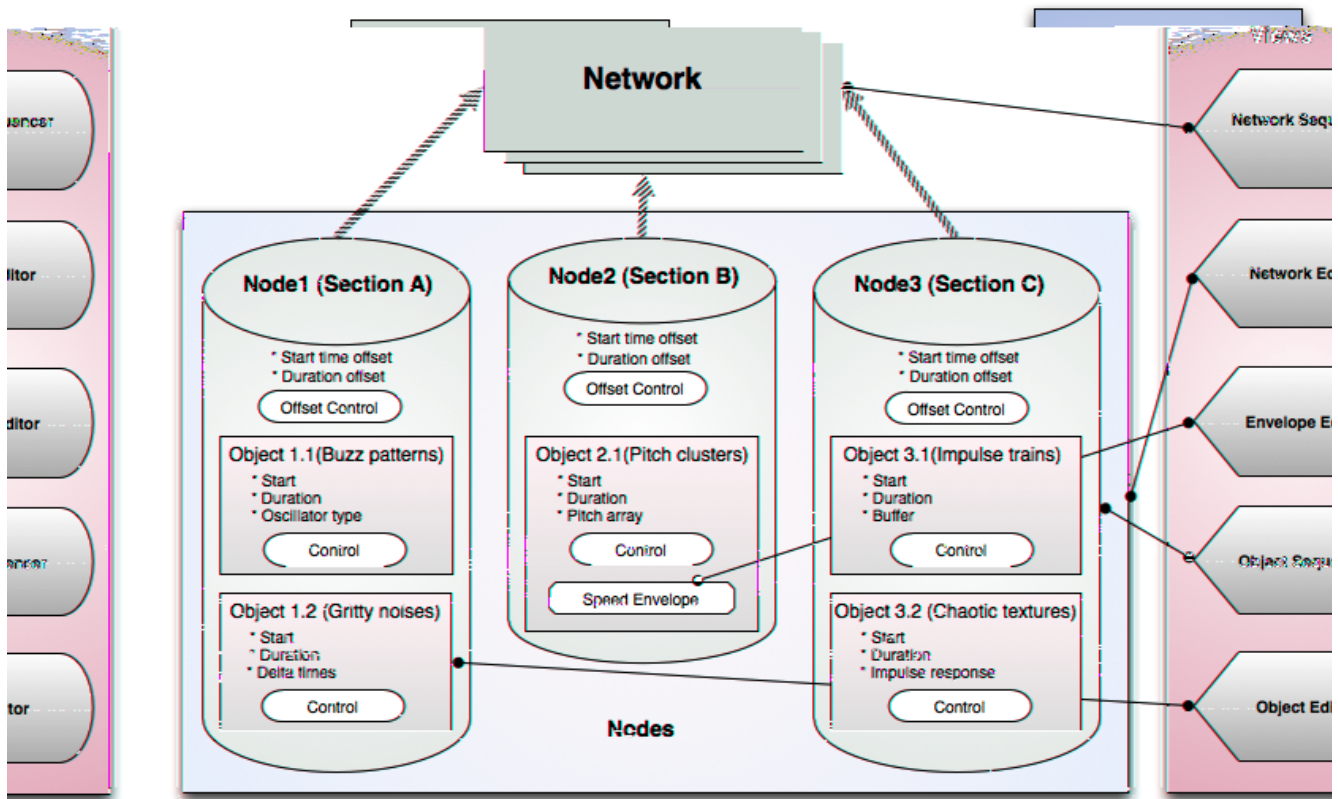


Figure 8, EPOC overview

The second diagram shows the blueprint of how the main 5+6C classes relate as well as their attributes and methods% The illustrati&e language used in this diagrams is called 8MM ;unified markup language<% Dhat is shown here are abstractions of 66+ definitions and relations%) ctual instances can ha&e different &alues but the purpose of the diagram is to show an o&er&iew of the en&ironments interior design% Specific objects are not included ;onl one e' ample instance of a se>uencer and another e' ample instance of a generator<, neither are utilit classes or the G8I &iews%

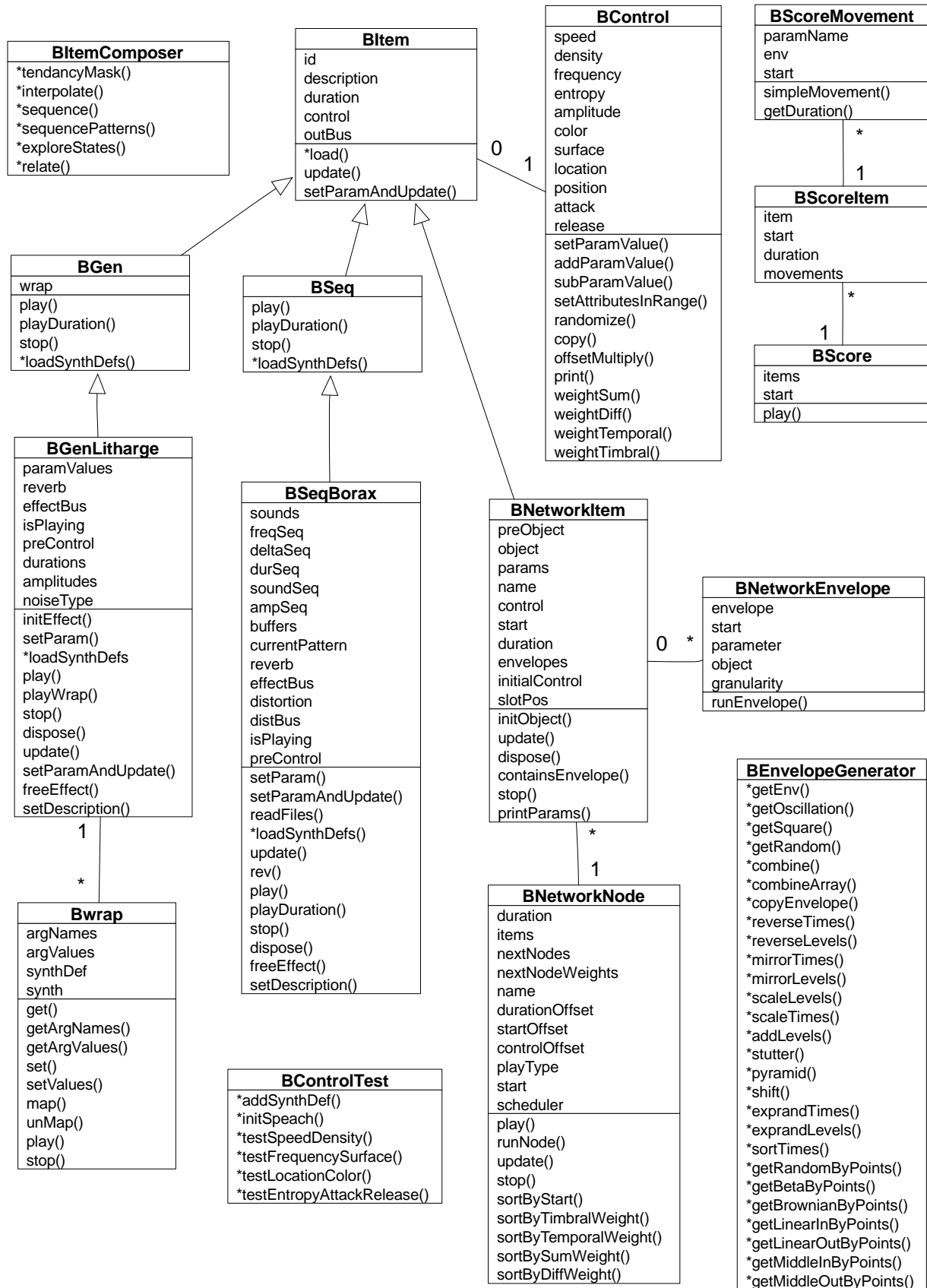


Figure 9, A UML class diagram of the core CCE classes

Ultimately, the limitation with the computer is only the limitation of the imagination itself. Perhaps our imagination is not yet open enough or vast enough to know exactly what to do to exceed our limitations. I think that this is one of the reasons why someone like Xenakis was interested in a program like the Gendyn program; he wanted to be surprised. He wanted to do something in which he had some control over the process, but in which the results would go beyond what he could possibly imagine. The question of how to use one's imagination but not be constrained by its limitations is a central one in regard to the use of the computer in creating music.

;+ape, "##/, p%"2<

4.4 Reflections

The 5+6C has until &er recentl been in constant de&elopment and its functionalit been e'panded and impro&ed%) n important idea behind the 5+6C is that it can be used to create entire pieces so that it does not function as just another material generator%) t this point in time, onl one piece has been made completel with the 5+6C but se&eral pieces ha&e been made using the en&ironment on different stages of its de&elopment%It is therefore a >uite difficult task to e&aluate its totalit or make an final conclusions% ! owe&er, it is &er clear that the en&ironment has turned out to offer man possibilities that ha&e opened new doors and facilitated no&el solutions%It has also some shortcomings and will for sure continued to be de&eloped further%

The 5+6C has been used in man cases as generating and transforming material for fi'ed media pieces% One of its uni>ue features is the nature of the sounds it generates% The polarities create conditions and limitations under which the sound processes ac>uire certain characteristics which ha&e pro&ed to be surprisingl original% One of the original goals was to implement a broad range of sound generation methods and to tr to find which of those would fit the conte't of composing within the en&ironment%In practice, all the sound processes seem to share some similarities% This is probabl due to the implementation of the polarities%The range of possible sounds is still wide but the beha&ior characteristics and process-based approach is something which links them together% It might sound like a disappointing outcome but on the contrar results in fresh and original sound material that is tightl coupled with the whole concept of the en&ironment%

One of the initial goals set for the s stem was that it would embrace relations on &arious le&els% In practice this has turned out to work >uite differentl than e'pected%The automatic relationships, such as network nodes triggering other nodes with weighted randomness or polarit groups with fi'ed relations to other such groups, has not been &er successful so far%These functionalities appear to be &er e' citing and offer man new possibilities but ha&e so far pro&en a bit too lmechanicalJ when put into use% *or e' ample when creating an in&erse relation between fre>uenc of one object to the fre>uenc to another, this relation often becomes to simple and boring%) Iso when a node triggers another one which then triggers the first one again, some kind of stiffness or >uantit-ation feeling results% More successful ha&e been the composed relations of different objects in a section defined simpl in terms of different positions within a polarit and higher le&el control of this%B e' ploring the spaces created b the polarities of se&eral objects at the same time, one usuall finds the most interesting relationships%These can then become subjects of compositional attention%Dhen these relationships ha&e been defined the &ariation of them &ia higher le&el

controls has produced very interesting results. This is one of the great surprises of the system and perhaps its most successful aspect so far.

By using abstractions and clearly defined interfaces of its modules, the 5+6C can be used in multiple ways. This is not something that was an explicit goal in itself but has tuned out to be a very interesting possibility when using the environment. By using the different views, coding directly or by combining the two in some way, flexible configurations can be created and arranged for various compositional situations. This does however also have its own problems since each of the different modes has its own functionalities which sometimes could work better when accessible all at once. *or example if there would exist only one GUI that encapsulates the functionalities of all the others some tasks would be easier to complete. This of course remains a possible addition to implement in future versions.

The real-time control of the entire system is certainly something that has always been of central importance. In the current version this works well and the interaction resulting from this offers many interesting possibilities. The 5+6C can for example be used to create dynamic real-time compositions where sections can be played in different order, higher order control applied and object instances played. The 5+6C has however not been designed as an instrument. The objects themselves can certainly be used in a playable, instrument-like context but would need more domain specific control modes. This could probably be achieved by using different object groupings and more intelligent control mappings and is certainly something worth to experiment with in future versions.

Perhaps the most important idea of the initial ones, was to be able to use the 5+6C as a compositional tool where one could complete entire pieces. This was understood in the way of challenging the working mode traditional sequencers use, where access to detail is rich but abstraction and higher level control is poor. In its current state the 5+6C looks very promising with regards to this. Much of the information that is obtained during the creation of a certain part of a composition can be transformed and used for other parts as well. Objects can easily be replaced, their order changed, durations stretched or polarity settings applied to other objects or even entire sections. Additionally, when sections have been created, they can then appear and by using higher level controls, various versions of a composition can easily be tested. To have achieved such a flexibility with regards to dynamic compositional configurations is a very important goal to reach for the 5+6C. This can certainly be extended even further in future versions but for the moment it appears that the proper framework has been founded for this to work in.

5. Musical Issues

[illegible]

I mentioned the notion of "style" [...] i learned from collaboration that this notion can be dangerous when it turns from an ensemble of methods/ strategies/procedures to a kind of recipe that one tries to apply every time... i find that one should have a style without trying to create a style... it's important to feel free to follow the materials inner tendencies, it's potential sonic reality, to use not only the methods, etc., that have worked well last time but always try to get a fresh perspective on how a piece may grow to it's final form. you see, my main idea about my music is that it should not be like language, [...] it should have it's very own existence, it's very own sonic reality.

;GNter, \$339, p%/<

This chapter will focus on music that has been inspired by many of the concepts covered so far. The pieces that will be discussed are part of this research and have heavily influenced both the ideas discussed in this text as well as the development of the 5+6C. The environment was extensively used to create different parts and materials used in the pieces. However, the only piece that is entirely composed with the 5+6C is the last one covered here, *Concomitance*. For the other pieces, the environment was used as it existed during different phases of its development. Ideas that emerged during the process of composing the pieces strongly influenced the development of 5+6C which in turn also affected the direction of the pieces. It is not the intention to only point out some direct links between the music and the environment. The idea is rather to discuss the music as part of an overall thought of which the 5+6C is a crucial component.

5.1 Particulars and Intervention

Using algorithmic tools for music making is an excellent path towards new discoveries. This applies on various levels. From combining sections in a piece down to the tiniest detail of generated sound. Through systematic or stochastic procedures, surprise and novelty can emerge. This often results in something which would be hard to obtain by intuition. For an artist using such techniques, an area of concern is how to capture and develop unexpected elements that appear in the generative process. This can be a difficult problem as noted when discussing compositional processes in section 2. In many cases the only choice is to either modify the procedure itself or its input or output. Since the output is often that what contains curious qualities forming potential elements to explore further and that generative processes contain randomness that is hard to repeat, it is the output from which things are often extracted. Henakis was known for editing the results that his stochastic or mathematical procedures gave, and to “*apply his own judgment to the results, changing details or reordering events, as he saw fit*” (Marle, 2004, p. 1). The result of this is held by many to be one of Henakis’ compositional strengths. In some cases, intervention by intuition can however be seen as destroying the pureness of an algorithm. This of course depends highly on context and purpose. Development of material could for example be seen as sculpting it, where the artist’s task is to create something rich and interesting sounds can form a starting point from which an artist zooms in to uncover interesting details.

Computers are fantastic for implementing both compositional and sound synthesis algorithms. They are also exceptional in bringing to the foreground the infinite small or hidden details of various magnitudes. The English composer Helena Gough describes her microscopic approach with the following words: *“Taking everything possible from the tiniest element, making the smallest things significant... Exploring the qualities of a sound. A process of uncovering, of revealing hidden details and turning perspective on its head”* (Gough, 2002, p. 4). Interactions can also serve as mediating between technique and intention. The outcome of a calculated or stochastic process may be close to what a composer had in mind but perhaps still be missing something. A process can also be imagined as means of getting somewhere, but once there it is perhaps not desirable that traces of the path are left. Positioning the products of a method instead of the method itself, as stated by the computer musician John Dall, *“when you become aware of technique, the music is failing”* (Dall, 1999, p. 4).

Angst and Grey Seeds

Experiments in composing with various microsound techniques resulted in the piece *Angst* that also consists of found sounds. Using headphones to record the central heater of an apartment, a flow of sounds was created to be directed by the slow movements the heater produced when put into motion. The resulting sound material for *Angst* is a mixture of very short sounds, granular textures and transformations of the low pitched drones produced by the heater. These sounds interact in various ways producing a very dense and intricate world which fluctuates between states of order and disorder. *Angst* has a duration of 6 min and can be said to roughly consist of three sections. Each of these is more sparse in terms of intensity compared to its predecessor. The music however behaves as a stream from which things appear and later disappear into. *Angst* is very dense in terms of simultaneous sounds but changes are mostly continuous. It is therefore better understood as a unified mass of sounds rather than a sectioned whole. This is also one of the reasons it is discussed here. Of the pieces covered in this chapter, *Angst* probably least articulates change. Everything in the piece was supposed to flow. The material of the piece is rich and how it is put together is perceivable as being very detailed. The problem is that the constant flow and overlap of elements greatly reduces the impact the piece could have had. *Angst* was not really a failure, however the way it finally turned out did not really highlight its material. This inspired future pieces to focus more on change, less layering and structures that would emphasize material qualities.

Grey Seeds is a fixed media piece made from recordings of broken branches and forest winds. 56 objects were used for generating sound sequences and textures based on the recorded material. These were however still in an early stage and much of the processing is done with various other systems. Initial material obtained from the 56C was without general parameters or an evolution in time. Each sound producing entity had its unique interface and the polarities did not set in. Most compositional choices were made after the material had been generated.

The piece is very gestural in nature and in many cases relies on call and response developments. The way these occur is often in a very abrupt and forceful style. The piece contains sonorities found in some other pieces such as elastic stretching materials, bouncing resonant grains and dry crackles. However these have a different flavor here, probably due to the fact that most of the material is greatly based on recorded

sounds which makes the piece quite unusual compared to others. *Grey Seeds* can be divided into 7 sections where the first two contain two subsections each. These can be described in the following way:

01a = (r)ness with broken branches and trees; #5:4 min<

01b = Caeruous, more resonant spaces; #5:9 min<

02a = Dinds in the wood; #5:9 min<

02b = Storm in a desert; #5:/: min<

03 = The far and the near; #4:5 min<

Grey Seeds is very much created by editing where micromontage techniques are used on the timeline of a sequencing software. Materials are carefully composed on very small time-scales and put together in pointillist way. This follows from pieces I had previously composed and the 5+6C objects here function purely as sound generators and not as compositional tools. Many of the processes used generate stochastic patterns made from short sounds of the dry crackles. The piece has many interesting moments but sometimes the relationship between events on a micro-scale and the overall form is not very clear. The first version that was presented lasted 5:12 min. In its current state, *Grey Seeds* has a duration of 9:09 min, where section #1a was removed and several passages reduced. In retrospect the final section is the one that remains perhaps the most convincing! Here the music switches between temporal static states. It's deeper, darker and somehow more curious than the rest of the piece. It also feels as if the music has arrived at a new point, and one which might be interesting to explore further.

Grey Seeds can be said to have a very granular surface in terms of sound quality and level of detail. This is partly due to some granular synthesis procedures used in the piece, but also of the nature and treatment of the material. The dry sounds of branches breaking and micro-time editing materialise strong granular qualities. I would argue that granularity and detail are closely linked, especially in the case of short sounds. When describing the music of Henakis, Makis Solomos states that "we find granularity in a lot of his works, limited to precise sequences: his music has undoubtedly a granular "sensitivity""; Solomos, forthcoming, p. 1. It is the sensibility and detail that I find very inspiring in the vision of granular sound and many of the 5+6C objects created after *Grey Seeds* contain this element without necessarily using the well known algorithms of granular synthesis.

Aukera

(During the process of composing, many different choices are usually made that in the end form a piece of music.) After completing a piece a composer might reflect on its creation and think which of the choices he took had the most influence on the final outcome. This reflection might also take into consideration the relationships between the choices he took and the possible hierarchy of the form, where some influence each other directly and others do not. In many cases an initial idea or concept can have a very strong impression on the final outcome for a piece of music. In other cases ideas formed during the process take over.

When the artist works, he may think that he is composing with sensibility because he is attracted by some ideas or by

some other things. That might be the starting point sometimes, but in the course of the work, the things start "living" and he's fighting with these things all the time, changing them and being changed by them, so the starting point of his feelings becomes very remote. What remains finally can be expressed in a much more abstract way because it's the result of this thought. ;Henakis, \$321, p\$3\$<

The initial idea behind the piece *Aukera* was to create a compositional framework where the piece would remain open for substantial changes until the end. To be able to let the final decisions be the most important ones. This required a reflection of choices made earlier in the process. Could the application in other contexts? Could the order the are taken in be altered to drastically affect a piece? Could the choices even be considered as compositional material? These relationships of choices inspired the creation of *Aukera* where the aim was to keep track of every step of the process in order to enable backtracking for all actions taken. A hierarchy of events was created that could be changed at every moment so the piece would remain completely dynamic and open until it was recorded. The aim was to put focus on the formal choices and how those choices could be manipulated and composed with.

Aukera initially consisted of 9 short passages. These were combined in different ways forming "" sections or states. It was here that the concept of higher-order parameter control was developed. Each section was filled with various configurations of 5+6C objects, with both static and time-varying parameters. All objects in a section had relationships with section variables. These included selected polarities (speed, density, frequency and amplitude) as well as duration and object offset. Sound files used for some of the object buffers and durations were also stored as global variables common to all sections. This could easily be changed when interacting with the sections. Moreover, four different sets of sound files were created where sounds had corresponding similarities, but also differences and one could quickly shift between. Using these dynamics gave much space for interesting combinations, experiments and creativity. How the piece was finally structured came about after experimenting with some sections and headbending them with the higher-level controls. It was still just a potential path, in the end only eight sections are used in the piece. These were recorded and finally the material was reduced even further to explore what remained important and what was essential for this piece composed around its own creation.

Aukera has eight sections that last for 1", 6":, 6/", 6'", 64", 6/:, 6"# and 6#" each. Total duration is 361" min. The material of the piece consists mostly of sustained, evolving masses combined with intricate patterns of noises, impulses and high frequency sine waves. Several types of transitions exist between sections. In three cases sharp cuts occur from one state to the next. Here, change is felt but the difference of material is not very pronounced. It is rather like the feeling of switching viewpoints, looking at the same elements from different angles. The first half of the piece contains two transitions of gradual shifting of elements. This part of the piece can itself be described as gradually streaming totalities. One transition is of dissipative nature, giving the feeling of possible energy loss. Finally there are two transitions where space occurs between each, total silence is never reached but where new states appear as overlapping tails of previous ones.

Both *Grey Seeds* and *Aukera* focused on bringing forth outstanding qualities of their material and

interacting with the generative algorithms of 5+6C% These interactions are in the end what perhaps defines those pieces% The tension between algorithmic behavior, compositional choices and detailed editing is also &er much what process-based compositional thought brings forward%

Although the recipe or instruction set for process production is, or in a certain sense may be, timeless, the process itself must nevertheless be temporal. This means that processes can be said to exist only through their concrete historical manifestations. For processes, to be is to be exemplified [...] this means that the process must exist in time (with its full realization unfolding "in the course of time," so to speak). As long as it is not concretely realized, we have only a possible and not an actual process.

∴ escher, "###, p"1<

5.2 Attention and Predictability

As discussed in section 5.1, time can be understood as being a product of change. By applying ideas proposed by Barbour and Ameroff, the universe can be thought of as being static. According to their theories, the world only consists of a great number of states, configurations ornows. By navigating through these states, time emerges as an illusion of how change is perceived in the matter that they are made of. Time is therefore only analyzed through change where the notion of its continuous flow is the product of our perception. Taking this point of view, music can be said to be that which makes time audible.

Perhaps also an illusion, music clearly offers interesting perspectives for comprehending change. The sonic perception of time can possibly provide useful information regarding its structure. By analyzing time through change, the relationship between what is actually changing becomes important. Taking this further, time could also be seen as being a collection of relations between changing materials. As discussed in section 5.1, time is not something independent from events or itself a process. Time can be understood as being a form of relationship between events where *"the apprehension of difference, far from separating discrete events, requires that we bring events together into a relation, otherwise we could not be aware of difference"*. In fact, music is not only about time, but also about the relationship between events and materials. Instead of focusing only on time as a set of relationships, time will be discussed in terms of change and relations of and inside materials. Time therefore exists as an abstraction of change. This abstraction is manifested through the relationships of discrete events and materials concerned with those events. These abstractions and relationships can be understood in novel ways through musical composition and acoustic experience.

Signac

In musical composition *Signac*, musical states exist as snapshots between which the piece slowly navigates. The piece has a duration of 3649 min and can be divided into two main parts. The first one lasts 65 min and the second 169 min. Both contain different states of various durations. The first section has 2 states that last for 65 min, 649 min, 61 min, 65 min, 6 min and 61 min each. The second section contains three states of 6 min, 64 min and 61 min each. Many of the sound processes used in the piece originate from work initially done for *Angst*. The two pieces have somehow similar sonorities as they progress, while still remaining structurally different.

Signac starts with an explosive, low-pitched and resonant percussive sound. The resonance tail is quickly spectrally frozen and transformed into a subtle background texture. This leads to streams of microscopic

sound processes that gradually appear. These relate to different means without providing much feeling of directionality. The percussive sound returns three times and in each case announces a new state. Process-based clusters of short sounds also continue to appear in different configurations as well as softer and more clearly pitched textures. These streams interact in various ways and finally take over and become the main occupation of the music. Occasionally, remains of the initial percussion come forth, here in a shape more close to drones or background surfaces, changing at a slow pace. The tempo of the piece becomes increasingly slower as it unfolds where noticeable changes are manifested mostly by arrivals of new states, which in the end are also ambiguous. States overlap and melt together until the piece finally drifts away.

Signac is different from many of the other pieces in terms of how slowly it appears to develop. Much of the material is rich, the sound processes contain interesting internal patterning but their connection to the overall movement of the piece is not always obvious. Some appearing states contain interesting sonic spaces but somehow the piece becomes overall ambient and predictable. One possible reason is that much of the strong energy the percussive beginning announces is never again obtained once the piece starts to flow. Another factor might be that on a surface level, the material seems similar between states and variation is not clearly pronounced. The third important factor is that the duration of states seems to be alike throughout. This might be due to the fact that as the piece progresses, states become longer in duration and somehow when changes occur they seem expected. This results in a lack of tension that could also be attributed to the fact that towards the end, these snapshots are overlapping and blending much more.

Composed in 1973, *Telemusik* by Karlheinz Stockhausen consists of 17 sections or moments that each last between 1/2 and 44 seconds. Each new section is introduced by the sound of a Japanese ceremonial drum where *each initiating drum or gong stroke signals the passage of time, and a change to a new procedure of intermodulation, or style of resonance* (Maconie, 2011, p. 1). Although sharing almost no common attributes with *Signac*, the way in which percussive sounds start a new section does seem structurally somehow related to its beginning. This initially led to the idea that the tension loss of *Signac* might be due to the fact that the initial percussion sound is less important as the piece develops. After being introduced to *Telemusik*, attempts were made to keep the percussion sound of *Signac* for each new state introduced, in hope of increasing integrity and focus. This did however not work very well, and was far from being the problem. Speaking of moments Stockhausen states that: *“Every present moment counts, as well as no moment at all; a given moment is not merely regarded as the consequence of the previous one and the prelude to the coming one, but as something individual, independent, and centered in itself”* (Stockhausen as cited in Kramer, 1999, p. 1). *Signac* was not composed in moment form. Certain aspects of moment form are actually far from the ideas that inspired the piece. For example, that order of moments does not matter or that every moment should be able to purely stand on its own could not be applied to *Signac*. It was, however, composed as a piece that explores different states and that the order they appear in should not appear linear or causal. How this was done could perhaps have been more articulated.

One state or moment could be seen as a relationship between material and duration. It takes a moment for a

musical process to manifest itself as such. It is thus very important that its duration fits the overall scheme of a composition. The experienced duration has probably something to do with what kind of material occupies that duration and how it relates to materials of other states.

Portholes

Connection or continuity in a musical context can be thought of being highly related to predictability. The predictive relations of present and future can be understood as being an essential feature of causality. The task of not losing a listener's attention while still producing unpredictable and exciting music remains hard to accomplish. Through its own structure, a piece of music can also create expectations towards which attention is directed. In many cases music is not perceived linearly, for example when we "hear a later event clarifying an earlier one and an earlier event implying a later one" (Lerner, 1999, p. 9). How these connections come about is however not always evident. A possible starting point is to relate events through the similarities or differences of the material they consist of. By mentally comparing these events they can possibly shed light on each other, where novel relations emerge which are not necessarily in a linear before-after relationship. A recurring theme in this text is how to find ways to create music that challenges linearity and introduces its own internal relationships. Causality, discussed in section 4, or direction towards a goal should be challenged and effort be put into how pieces can bring forward their own special logic and modes of communication.

In a documentary directed by Michel Collin, the Hungarian composer György Ligeti discusses an inspiration for his piece *Requiem* (Ligeti, 1991). Ligeti describes a situation where one opens a window to discover on the other side a music of an eternal duration. It is possible to arrive at, and listen from the window, but the music on the other side has already been sounding forever, and will continue to do so even after the window is shut. The piece *Portholes* is partly inspired by Ligeti's vision, as well as by Henri Bergson's description of the temporal flux being a succession of states. Here, Bergson describes a situation where each state announces the next and is contained in the previous, where in reality no state begins or ends, as they all eventually tend into each other (Bergson, 1911). How one could think of music as existing outside windows from which one could have a peak through, and the way arrival, collision or fusion of numerous states occurs, is what inspired the creation of *Portholes*.

Portholes has a duration of 9:11 min and can roughly be divided into six sections. It consists of two very different material types. Short but highly articulated impulse or noise structures, and dense spectral clusters of different sine waves. In fact, the piece was made by combining two other pieces, where each one occupies three sections in *Portholes*. These occur one after the other, starting with rapid impulse sequences that get interrupted by a dense cluster, that in turn is sharply cut to impulses again and so on. Here, a window can be imagined where the granular activities remain within the spaces and the clusters outside, creating a more spacious environment. Compared to *Signac*, the pace of *Portholes* is faster and the materials are given more breathing space. The big difference between the two material types, and how these occur in time, makes the piece much less predictable than *Signac*. The sense that a shift between the two will occur is always in the air and this keeps a tension throughout the piece. The duration of the more fragmented states is 1, 1: and 9 min. The duration of the continuous ones is 11, 11: and 3 min.

This corresponds roughly to the ratios of $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ in the first case and $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ in the latter% Additionally the sections of the clusters have almost the double duration compared to the impulse states% These proportions were not decided beforehand so it came as quite a surprise to discover them%

A possible conclusion is that the duration of a state should be in a close relationship to the material of that state and that for an convincing overall form, clearly defined ratios of duration work better than more complex ones% The focus-shifting method of *Portholes* is however probably used to its fullest in the piece% It is hard to imagine that it could continue for a longer amount of time with the same logic without losing tension% What *Portholes* shows though is that contrast in terms of material and ratios of duration can be an important factor to keep in mind and this requires further exploration%

The main thing is: how to change. This is a matter of music, of knowledge, of the universe. Everywhere you feel the changes. The plants are changing, maybe not so fast as the human mind. They're changing slowly, as the particles do. Probably these particles are changing in the universe on a much larger scale of time. We know at least through astrophysics today that some of them are really mid-life, like the heavy ones. They did not exist at the beginning, and the lighter ones did not exist at the very beginning. So if even the matter itself is changing, everything is changing.

;Henakis, \$39: , p% /<

5.3 Changes and Conditions

One of the main characteristics of the sound produced by the 5+6C is that it is process-based. Sound processes should be able to continue to play forever. There is nothing that indicates how a sound process should start or stop. Whether high-level change is eventually imposed, either via the polarities or by starting or stopping a process. The way change occurs for these processes is therefore one of the main decisions that have to be made when using the environment. In some sense this also applies to the process of composing; discussed in section "5.4."

The compositional process is often related to change. Going from one structure, finding new ways of putting things together or avoiding fixed order of actions while always embracing variance. Time has also been previously defined as being something that can be abstracted from change. Perhaps this might sound as if temporal issues are ignored, but the idea is rather to put focus on change itself as a fundamental compositional issue. In music there often exists an unceasing variation of sound in terms of how it is perceived. When static situations create perceptual illusions of change or development, producing prolonged and continuous transitions. Chopping things into discrete elements, as is for example done in this text, is like taking snapshots of the temporal flow. To be able to produce sonic flow, a composer has to find ways of developing his materials, which perhaps remains the main problem. How to change.

Folded and Pedicel

My composition *Folded* was created especially to explore different and discrete polarity states. The piece consists of eight sections, each consisting of two simultaneous layers. In all of the states unique combinations of polarity values are explored. These combinations are divided between two different material types, sequences and textures. This differentiation reflects a general separation that existed at the time of treating sequences and textures separately in the 5+6C. The idea behind *Folded* was to use static values of parameters to determine how the material is generated and processed for each section of the piece. In the compositional process, the aim was to generate the sequences and textures with the 5+6C, but also using various other systems. The piece was to serve as a field of experimentation for different techniques, to gather knowledge useful for future polarity implementations in the 5+6C. Solution in time of each parameter was not important, polarity states stay the same during a whole section.

Of the nine available polarities, six of them are explored in *Folded*. The order in which a polarity highlight occurs was conceived through a very simple permutation of elements. The sequences explore the polarities

of density, speed and entropy. The textures navigate through spaces created by combinations of surface, frequency and color. The way these permutations occur is shown in the table below.

NR	TEXTURES	SEQUENCES	DUR
1	high=frequency, low=surface, low=color	low=density, low=speed, low=entropy	1:04
2	high=frequency, low=surface, high=color	low=density, low=speed, high=entropy	1:49
3	high=frequency, high=surface, low=color	low=density, high=speed, low=entropy	1:49
4	high=frequency, high=surface, high=color	low=density, high=speed, high=entropy	1:04
5	low=frequency, low=surface, low=color	high=density, low=speed, low=entropy	1:07
6	low=frequency, low=surface, high=color	high=density, low=speed, high=entropy	1:04
7	low=frequency, high=surface, low=color	high=density, high=speed, low=entropy	1:07
8	low=frequency, high=surface, high=color	high=density, high=speed, high=entropy	1:07
			09:56

Folded remains in the end interesting mostly for the part that focuses on the sequences. Perhaps a more original version of the piece could have been made without the textures. The separation of polarity permutations between the material groups also results in a clear division between the two material types. The piece would surely have benefitted from doing this in a different way, where differences and similarities would be more clearly articulated, keeping polarity values constant throughout a section also restricts variation of the material and when a permutation occurs, the energy of a previous state often dissipates without being fully taken advantage of in succeeding sections. In all the length of sections is very similar and despite it tending as the piece progresses, changes do not have the impact they should.

Pedicele is a four channel fixed media piece and was composed by using some of the material generated for *Folded*. Most all of the textures were discarded and the idea was to focus mainly on the sequences in a different context. Few material was also added, low pitched percussive sounds and sustained, ringing chords which occupy the higher registers. *Pedicele* consists of nine sections that last for 1:04, 1:49, 1:07, 1:04, 1:07, 1:04, 1:49 and 1:44 min each. The total duration of the piece is 13:56 min. *Pedicele* appears to extend and improve *Folded* in many ways. The low-pitched percussion points add richness in how sequences are articulated and developed. No drones or low pitched textures occur, which gives the piece a much more dynamic feeling. The chords add variety and further transformation and reconfigurations of the sequences give the piece a somehow chaotic feel at times. *Pedicele* also marks the end of an area where the focus was on dividing materials into either rapid, articulated sequences of short sounds or more directionless and constant textures. *Pedicele* proved that variation with regards to this

resulted in more interesting results which has been an important point since the duration of sections is a little bit more varied and how succession occurs is less predictable

Perception research suggests that memory continues to process previously presented information even while new information is being absorbed (Cowan, Tillman and D'Esposito, 1999). The listener's experience of a piece can be in a constant flux. The way this functions is of course dependent on the experienced music. If however the aim is to explore this possibility, conditions for various internal relationships of the music should be set. How meaning is constructed from these different relationships is probably very personal but creating various possibilities for those to emerge is an interesting compositional task. One possible approach is by formalizing exploring proportions. These also seem to be an important bridge between measured and perceived time, or as suggested by Schramm:

The perceived proportional relationships between section lengths tend to accord with the ratios of objectively measured durations. While our actual estimate in seconds of a passage's length may not be accurate, our understanding of the ratios between section lengths should agree with the actual measured proportions. (Schramm, 1999, p.14)

In the process of experiencing music constant comparisons are constructed between registered elements. Judgments are made in terms of similarity and difference, but also of proportions and rate of activity. One of the problems of *Folded* was that the proportions between section lengths was similar. Another factor was that the activity rate was not varied throughout the piece. Each section explored a certain polarity configuration. In order to navigate the space created by different combinations, the music was constantly occupied with exploring the polarity states. This resulted in similar activity rate throughout the piece. If for example a section would have lower activity rate, then the configuration would be less analyzed and thus violating the initial idea of giving equal importance to all combinations. The problem with having a similar activity rate is that it tends to narrow the range of the music. Things changing at the same speed can result in the conclusion that things are not changing at all. The feeling of movement and development is probably activated by higher order changes in activity instead of local ones.

L'imaginaire du parleur

Composed together with Marie Guilleri, *L'imaginaire du parleur* is an eight channel fixed-media piece for voice and electronics. The piece was partly inspired by Roland Barthes's grain of the voice as appears in his essay *On the grain of the voice*. Here the grain of the voice is that what is lost in transcription, an exterior body that when transcribed does not match a personality (Barthes, 1977). *L'imaginaire* was an all-inclusive collaboration effort, in the end neither of us was totally sure who actually had done what. This is one of the great strengths of the piece. Having created music together for some time, *L'imaginaire* was the second piece we composed that was totally fixed. The previous one, named *Duality*, was completed some months before and there we had more distinct roles. In *L'imaginaire du parleur* this is completely reversed and an important aspect of making the collaboration successful. The way the voice and electronics interact is constantly changing and until now, the piece keeps surprising me where unusual and interesting qualities continue to emerge.

L'imaginaire was realized at the G. M studios in . audio space where we had access to separate studios, both equipped with eight speakers. This allowed us to compose the spatial aspects of the piece right from the beginning. The working method consisted of creating different sections where we both used local sounds as well as electronic ones. We worked separately, each one in a different studio. We then proceeded by exchanging each other's work. I would receive sections from Marie which I would then start working on and she would receive sections from me and do the same. This process was repeated until we together decided that a section was completed. This exchange of material is what I believe is the key factor of the somehow unique sonorities of *L'imaginaire*. The process of interaction through switching blurs the egos but brings forth the collaboration. Listening to it within a proper eight channel configuration gives the impression of an intense amount of sound sources, where many seem to be in complete, but shifting relations. Apart from some of the local sounds, it feels as if origin of the sounds is unknown, lost somewhere in this process of exchange.

The piece consists of eight sections having a duration of 1:00", 1:01", 1:04", 1:04", 1:09", 1:13, 1:02 and 1:01" min each. The durations were not decided before but came about as the result of how we agreed when a section was completed. In the end the sections appear according to emphasis, starting by the most articulated and ending at the least articulated. Apart from some editing of details and minor adjustments, the piece was not much touched after the sections had been ordered. The final duration is 8:1 min.

L'imaginaire was interesting in terms of being able to work with rich and interesting local material and to compose from scratch in eight channels. Most important was however the collaboration with Marie, the communication through exchanging materials, and how the piece generated itself through this collaborative effort.

Real potentialities relative to all standpoints are coordinated as diverse determinations of one extensive continuum. This extensive continuum is one relational complex in which all potential objectifications find their niche. It underlies the whole world, past, present and future. [...] An extensive continuum is a complex of entities united by the various allied relationships of whole to part, and of overlapping so as to possess common parts, and of contact, and of other relationships derived from these primary relationships.
 ;Whitehead, "##, Chapter ", para\$2<

5.4 Potential or Actual Occasions

One of the interesting aspects of *L'imaginaire du parleur* is how sections got juxtaposed after they had been completed. The piece nevertheless existed as a whole until we had completed all the sections and chosen a method of combining them. The choice of going from the most to the least in terms of articulation was actually the first idea that was tried. It seemed successful. The form is created from within the sections, shaped by its materials. When thinking about other ways of navigating between the sections, it is hard to imagine a more interesting path compared to the chosen one. This could, however, simply be due to the fact that this choice created the piece as a whole. Without it something else would perhaps have emerged. What then is it that gives a piece its identity? How is the relationship between sections organized and how much does the actual order of events matter?

One important question when composing is to reflect on how we listen, remember and perceive music. Composition itself can be understood as a manifestation of how one listens. Viewing pieces of music as collections of states, experienced categories coming from possible events, can be seen as proposing a different strategy of engagement with the music. Some music takes a sequential form in memory while other pieces seem to be more fragmented. Situations exist where sections are not remembered exactly in the order they were perceived. Succession, linear and nonlinear principles and how these are created or broken, is an important factor to think about. What aspects define a state and contribute to its identity? How does the order states appear in affect their format and weight? Can states be layered and still remain distinct? Is it possible to create a situation for listeners to construct their personal links between states based on how they experience the music? Galia Anochina has made an interesting comparison between experiencing architecture and music when discussing musical space and architectural time.

An observer of an architectural construction chooses a "path" with which he goes about the space. This path is built of the sequence of his movements and creates a linear process, a succession of events. Each event is relative to the preceding one (moving from a closed to an open space, from light into the dark etc.), and affects future responses and choices. The observer of a building weaves his path by combining choice with restrictions. He may choose to stop, walk faster or slower, look around, reverse his position in space, but his freedom is confined to certain obstacles on his way, corridors, staircases and points of view that affect his perception.

;! Anochina, "##/, para\$3<

The choices this observer makes are perhaps more difficult to make in music presented as a linear succession. However, through attention a listener does contribute to what affects his perception and how relationships are formed. Content and personal experience are of course very important. The significance

that different musical states evoke is therefore difficult to analyze) composer might take into account elements such as state duration, activity rate, rate of change, intensity, surprise, difference or similarity to other states. This list could of course include many other items. The intention here is not to consider all such possibilities. This text and the music that accompanies it should rather raise questions concerning which factors are part of a possible compositional space, and which potential relationships exist between these factors.

Concomitance

Change can be analyzed into various concepts from which the piece *Concomitance* explores a rather basic one. In the spectrum of processes it consists of, successive shades are examined where the focus passes from one shade to another. The piece consists of 12 different sections composed without reflecting on the final order they appear in. These are organized in three groups: *pointillist*, *uncertain* and *spectral*. The pointillist group contains sections using mostly short sounds that often occur in rhythmic sequences and high articulation. The uncertain states favored sections of ruptures and discontinuities. Finally, the spectral group consisted of clearly pitched and noisier passages. These states appear in the order as mentioned here, first a succession of eight states from the pointillist group occur. This is followed by four instances of uncertain states, which in turn lead to the eight sections of the spectral group. Finally, a last section concludes the piece which could also be seen as forming the fourth group, *residues*.

Concomitance was composed entirely with the 5+6C. One of the goals was to explore the process-based qualities of its sonorities. The sections in the piece consist of alternating objects where polarity values remain constant in almost every case. Each object explores a variety of qualities where the aim is to concentrate on the internal behavior of its sound processes. These occasions appear in juxtaposed configurations whose edges are sharply defined as the flow between them.

The method of creating the material was to use the 5+6C object editor to take snapshots of different object states. By using random distributions, the potential space within selected objects was explored. Once a plausible configuration was found, an object state was stored as an object snapshot. By uniting various instances of these snapshots, states were composed that in the end form the piece. The snapshots of object values and how they appear in the states was originally supposed to function as a framework for realizing the piece. Object configurations are not related to any temporal information and how they appear can be drastically varied by using higher level controls. The idea was to create structures that do not have any temporal relationships and use those as a basis for creating the piece. This was partially inspired by the ideas of Henakis regarding snapshots and outside time structures.

The entities would appear, as in a snapshot, reunited in a dense network of non temporal contiguities, uninterrupted, extending through the entire universe. I said, in a snapshot. That is to say that in the snapshot, the spatial relations of the entities, the forms that their contiguities assume, the structures, are outside time (hors-temps). The flux of time does essentially not intervene in any way. That is exactly what happens with the traces that the phenomenal entities have left in our memory. Their geographical map is outside time.

;Henakis and Brown, 1993, p.93<

In the end no higher order control was actually used. The building blocks were juxtaposed within their corresponding groups and this order was kept. The possibility still remains to create variants for how the chain of states occur in *Concomitance* and this will probably be experimented with later. For now, the piece consists of four parts. In the first part, sections have a duration of 49, 4#, 4", 9, 4#, 4", 4\$ and 44 minutes. In the second part the duration of states is 4", 4", 4/" and 4"" minutes. The third part has sections that last 4##, 4\$: , 4/" , 44: , 4"" , 9, 4"# and 4\$" minutes, and finally the last part has a duration of 4## minutes. The total duration of the piece is 4": minutes.

In *Concomitance* transitions are ignored in the sense that they always happen in the same way. Sharp shifts from one state to the next. An important aspect of a transition is of course the relationship between the material that exists before and after the transition. In order to explore this to its extremes, the decision was made to ignore transitions which in turn should emerge from the material differences and similarities of a state. The piece should however not just exist as a series of interesting passages, but also through the relations brought forth by the attributes of the sound processes. If the states start directly and internal activity remains until the very end of a section. The result is that some of the transitions tend to smooth out where the abrupt nature is not so prominent. This might also be due to the fact that even within a section, things often start and stop without an fade.

(Despite its sharp changes, *Concomitance* still seems to me very consistent and focused. This holds even though the piece is perhaps the most varied one in terms of material differences of those considered in this text. The material is widely used as well as rapid sequences, textures, noises, discontinuous gestures and chaotic percussion patterns. So how come it exists as something more and greater than just a collection of successive states? In my opinion it is because the piece is totally concerned with its own creative process. As mentioned above no higher level control is used in *Concomitance*. This, however, only applies to states as building blocks for control. If the material used in the piece is composed by carefully selecting combinations of polarities. The amount of 'snapshots' used in the piece is substantial and as the compositional process unfolded, more and more 'sensitivity' was obtained in how to create these configurations. Additionally all the material used in the sample-based objects was obtained from 5+6C synthesis objects which then received twice a polarity-based treatment. By creating different snapshots over and over, always using the same set of polarities, the identity of *Concomitance* emerged. Perhaps the states are not recorded in the sense of higher level section control; although this could be a future possibility, but the process of creating these states was repeated a great number of times and this is in the end what gives the piece its special character.

In the end *Concomitance* seems an original and fresh proposition, not only in its current state, but also of how its structure could contribute in generating other pieces or possibilities. It emphasizes a more fragmented form of discrete states. Many of the pieces discussed in this chapter can be said to have certain streaming qualities. Those are hard to find in *Concomitance*. The whole path of pieces that have been considered here can actually be described as going from the most streaming one; *Angst* to the least streaming one; *Concomitance*. However, the pieces also overlap in many different ways. Ideas flow between them and

similar situations are experienced. Each of them still has its particularity and hopefull its perceivable identity. However, they could also be seen as momentary events, originating from a more continuous flow of creativity in which their relationships exist in different ways. Perhaps even much as the states have been discussed in this text, the compositions can also be said to exist in a complete network of entities.

Whitehead claimed that the universe is made of actual occasions. These occasions arise from potentialities created by prior actual occasions. The actual occasions are occurrences modeled on practical events, each of which comes into being and then disappears, only to be replaced by a successor. Stone, "##\$< If these experiences form the basic realities of nature then in my opinion this is also a very realistic description of music. Music consists not of things, but of events, and as such is best understood as being a process.)s such, it exists as a continuously changing process which creates actual experience out of potential one.

6. Conclusion

[illegible]

This research consists of three different poles% The theoretical ideas, the compositional environment and the music% The process of refining those and bringing them together is still &er much in its infancy % It would be quite laborious to list all the potential ways this could be done in% *or e' ample when comparing the realized pieces, countless extensions can be imagined in order to enhance them or create others from similar ideas%) great deal of the possibilities offered by the 5+6C have only &aguel been investigated and many of the theoretical ideas in this text have not yet been explored in an artistic context%

I believe however that the combination of the three different a's has already been fruitful in many ways. Something unique seems to emerge when all of them connect. Ideas from the system became more part of the music than initially thought. These ideas somehow resulted in more focused compositional ideas, which in turn also influenced the aesthetics. This created a kind of feedback process, which was in the end highly rewarding. For a project that was initially all about creating alternatives and possibilities, the hope is that the process of forming different relationships between what has been considered in this text will continue.

[illegible]

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A. List of pieces and performances

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pieces and performances made during the period between 1930 and 1941 are listed below. The are ordered by date in earlier version of 'Ingest' was presented on the 1930s but was later extended and as such presented as part of this research.

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" : %'#\$	Concert with Marie Guiller a , ') fter Mars der Bescha&ing', at SuperMarkt, (en ! aag%
\$3%9%'#\$	Concert with Steind]r , ristinsson at Most Theor festi&al, (eringaj ;Croatia<
"#%9%'#\$	Concert with Steind]r , ristinsson at Most Theor festi&al, (eringaj ;Croatia<
" : %\$%'#\$	Concert with Marie Guiller a , C(release, Souffle Continu, +aris%
"9%\$%'#\$	Concert with Marie Guiller a , Galler) bilene, Bru' elles%
"3%\$%'#\$	Concert with Marie Guiller a , MM) MC li&ing room concert series, Bru' elles%
\$#%\$%'#\$	Concert with Steind]r , ristinsson, 5phemere \$", Studio Moos, (en ! aag%
#3%'#\$	Concert with Steind]r , ristinsson, State=H 7ew *orms festi&al, (en ! aag%
\$#%'#\$	Concert with Steind]r , ristinsson, *reemote festi&al, 8trecht%
#3%'#\$"	Solo concert, Bar du matin, Bru' elles%
\$2%'#\$"	Concert with Cedric (upire, Centre Mercoeur, +aris%
\$%#1%'#\$"	Concert with Steind]r , ristinsson,) taelier Claus, Bru' elles%

C. Description of EPOC package contents

[illegible]

Following is a brief description of all the 5+6C objects and how the 5+6C framework is organized. Additionally, all the classes of the environment have help files which provide additional information. These have been automatically generated so the documentation is not extensive, but still useful for displaying public parameters and class methods.

The 5+6C can be divided into two main parts, the **framework** and the **objects**. The framework contains all the system classes and the objects all the available 5+6C objects.

Below are the **Framework** classes:

Envelopes

B5n&Gen%sc ;5n&elope generator for &arious en&elope t pes%Can also transform en&elopes<%

GUIG

B5ditor%G8I for editing objects and generati&e methods for polarities<%

B5n&elope%sc ;G8I for editing and generating polarit en&elopes<%

B7etwork5ditor% ;G8I for editing higher le&el polarit and offset &alues for network nodes%

7 network security; 8 for securing network nodes and higher level control;

BS>uencer%sc ;G8I for creating, editing and generating objects se>uences<%

Network

NetworkScope: Contains a polarities for working in a network context

NetworkItem : Contains an object for working in a network context.

Block 7 code: Contains objects and envelopes, higher level control and offset values

Objects

BControl : Container for the polarities and their available operations

```
BControlTest%sc ; Test class for polarit configurations%
```

BGen%sc ;Base class for all 5+6C generators<0%

```

BItem%sc ;Base class for all 5+6C objects<0%

```

```
BSe>%c ;Base class for all 5+6C se>uencers<%
```

staticG

```
template<sc> ; Class template for static objects<%
```

```
Base class for all static sound transformation objects
```

```

BGSoundObject% ; Base class for all static sound objects<%

```

```
Bmod%sc ;Base class for all static modulation sources<%
```

```

Bobject%cc ;Base class for all static objects<%

```

```
Bpat%sc ;Base class for all static pattern objects<%
```

```
Brout%sc ;Base class for all routine-based static objects<%
```

Bs nth%sc ;) method wrapper for all static objects<%
 Bwrap%sc ;) S nth(ef wrapper for accessible s nth methods for 5+6C objects<%

Score

BScore%sc ;Simple se>uencer for objects and polarit en&elopes<%
 BScoreItem%sc ;Contains an object for working in a score conte' t<%
 BScoreMo&ement%sc ;Contains an en&elope for working in a network conte' t<%
 Simple5ditor%sc ;+arameter control for objects in a score<%
 SimpleMo&ement%sc ;5n&elope control for objects in a score<%
 SimpleScore""%sc ;Generic se>uencer for objects in a score<%
 S nthDrp%sc ;Drapper for s nth methods for time=&ar ing control<%

Utils

BConstants%sc ;Contains constant &alues to be used global in the 5+6C en&ironment<%
 BItemComposer%sc ;Combines &arious generati&e methods for composing with objects<%
 BTempo%sc ;Contains &alues for r thmic calculations<%
 B8tils%sc ;Global utilit functions can be found here<%

The objects are di&ided into **generators** and **sequencers**%This is an implementation issue and when using them, the same functionalities and methods appl in both cases%The third groups is the **static** one which is older, and different, mainl since its objects do not respond to polarit messages%These are included in the en&ironment since the offer different functionalities, but can not in the description below% The generators and the se>uencers are subdi&ided into three groups, *chemical*, *mineral* and *nominal*. This responds roughl to when the were created and also to their attributed names% *or access to all a&ailable methods co&ered in this te' t, "" objects ha&e been selected in the e' ample files for demonstration% These should preferabl be used%The following descriptions are intended for gi&ing a general idea rather than e' plaining in detail an object%

Below are the **Object** classes

Generators

chemical

BGenChalk%sc ;Ser&er side micro=patterns using granular s nthesis and comb filters<%
 BGen(echlor%sc ;Impulse generators, formlet filters, noise modulators and comb filters<%
 BGen5th l%sc ;Con&oluted impulses with rh thmic beha&ior<%
 BGen*lint%sc ;. apid granulator reading buffer lists throug resonators and comb filters<%
 BGenMitharge%sc ;(ifferent noise generators combined through filters and resonators<%
 BGen7itrate%sc ;) udio rate granulator that reads samples using sine wa&es for inde' ing<%
 BGen6pal%sc ;6scillating patterns combining different oscillator t pes and emphasis<%
 BGen+earl%sc ;8ses the Gend / implementations with filters, distortion and resonators<%
 BGen+ ro%sc ;*iltered, resonant impulses with stepwise modulators and comb filters<%
 BGenTrona%sc ;Stochastic impulses and brown noise through filters and resonators<%

mineral

BGenBerl %sc ;! enon chaos generators in audio rate with filtering and re&erb<%
 BGenCitrine%sc ;Sample-based, with fast reading modulations and feedback dela <%
 BGenGalena%sc ;Combines th M+C5rror 8Gen with filters and modulators<%
 BGen, ernite%sc ;) combination of oscillators through wa&eshaping and re&erb<%
 BGenMica%sc ;Gend " 8Gen combined with &arious noise generators and feedback &erb<%
 BGen+eridot%sc ;Simple, sample-based object with chaotic jumps and trajectories<%
 BGen. utile%sc ;Implements **T free-ing with &arious other effects<%
 BGenSpinel%sc ;Buffer reader with &arious options<%
 BGenFircon%sc ;5' tends the StandardM and Gbman 7 with e&en more noise and chaos<%

nominal%

BGenImba%sc ;5ight impulse oscillators with formlet and combi filtering<%
 BGen, ari%sc ;) ddi&e s nthesis through wa&eshaping<%
 BGen+ulso%sc ;(iffere&nt impulse-based oscillators through combfilters and pitch-shifters<%
 BGen. e-im%sc ;) rra of impulse generators through filters and resonators<%
 BGenSaga%sc ;Granulator for te' tures, local postions with longer grains, filters and re&erb<%

Sequencers%

chemical%

BSe>) lum%sc ;+attern grains with random en&elopes and direction possibilities<%
 BSe>Bora' %sc ;*le' ible se>uencer with &alue lists, bit=crushing and low=resonance<%
 BSe>*erric%sc ;Two &oice brassage with brownian motion for reading points<%
 BSe>Mercur %sc ;Simple s nthesis with r thmic patterned beha&ior<%
 BSe>+otash%sc ;5' perimental granulator with &ibrato, re&erb and pattern options<%
 BSe>Starch%sc ;Interpolation se>uencer between &arious sound sets, crusher and dela <%
 BSe>Sucrose%sc ;Brassage with &ersatile pattern for reading points and comb filters<%
 BSe>?itriol%sc ;Da&eset distortion object with multiple distrotion and repeat options<%
 BSe>Finc%sc ;+ulsar s nthesis with four paralell trains running through resonators<%

mineral%

BSe>Marble%sc ;(ust shaped noises combined with a Gend 8Gen and distortion<%
 BSe>. aite%sc ;Se>uencer for short sounds with randomness, bit=crushing and resonators<%

nominal%

B5mpt %sc ;(e&eloper template<
 BSe>Brass%sc ;Brassage for sample pla back, filters and resonators<%
 BSe>Clame%sc ;Se>uencer for multiple sounds which tends towards rh tmic patterns<%
 BSe>*io%sc ;Simple se>uencer for multiple sounds<%
 BSe>Gaela%sc ;Se>uencer &ariation with different pattern options<%
 BSe>Marin%sc ;Se>uencer with oscillators and patterning beha&ior<%
 BSe>Ma a%sc ;) dapted to se>uence short sounds and appl ing grain distortions<%
 BSe>Micjaki%sc ;Brassage with nested patterns for reading points<%

D. Contents of the companion DVD

[illegible]

The accompanying CD contains the 5+6C environment, examples of how to use the system, stereo versions of the pieces discussed, numbered by creation date, and a pdf version of this thesis. What the directories contain is as follows:

- **System** contains the 5+6C environment and e' ample files of how to use it%
- **Thesis** contains a pdf &ersion of this thesis%
- **Pieces** contains stereo &ersions of the pieces co&ered in this te' t%
 - \$%) ngst ;\$"G#/ min<
 - ""GRe Seeds ;#9G#9 min<
 - /%*olded ;#3G1: min<
 - 4%) ukera ;#3G1" min<
 - 1%+edidel ;a stereo reduction of the four channel &ersion, #3G\$" min<
 - :M'imaginaire du parleur ;a stereo reduction of the eight channel &ersion, \$"G/1 min<
 - 2%Signac ;#3G49 min<
 - 9%+ortholes ;#9G1/ min<
 - 3%Concomitance ;a stereo reduction of the four channel &ersion, \$"G": min<