

Theorem: Formula for a Chord with respect to a Different Root

Let $\widehat{r} \mid x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n$ be a chord, and \widehat{R} be a different root. Then $\widehat{r} \mid x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n$ with respect to \widehat{R} is a new chord

$$\widehat{R} \mid x_1 - I(\widehat{r}, \widehat{R}), x_2 - I(\widehat{r}, \widehat{R}), \dots, x_{n-1} - I(\widehat{r}, \widehat{R}), x_n - I(\widehat{r}, \widehat{R})$$

Proof

- We know that there exists $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $\widehat{r} + k = \widehat{R}$, namely $k = I(\widehat{r}, \widehat{R})$
- We want to find out what the interval is from \widehat{R} to x_i , written as $I(\widehat{R}, \widehat{r + x_i})$ which is defined to be equal to: $r + x_i - R$
 - But we already know that $R = r + k$, therefore that equation becomes

$$r + x_i - (r + k) = x_i - k$$

- Since $k = I(\widehat{r}, \widehat{R})$, then we can conclude that

$$I(\widehat{R}, \widehat{r + x_i}) = x_i - I(\widehat{r}, \widehat{R})$$

- That is, each of the intervals from the first chord get transformed to intervals in the second chord by subtracting the interval from \widehat{r} to \widehat{R}

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Examples

- Say there is a change from $\widehat{8} \mid 0, 3, 7, 9$, (Ab 6) to $\widehat{1} \mid 0, 4, 7, 10$ (Db 7)
 - Using the above Idea we can see that $I(\widehat{8}, \widehat{1}) = 5$ and so we can subtract 5 from each interval and take it modulo 12 to get our new intervals with respect to the new root:

$$0 - 5, 3 - 5, 7 - 5, 9 - 5 = 7, 10, 2, 4$$

Therefore $\widehat{8} \mid 0, 3, 7, 9$ with respect to $\widehat{1}$ is:

$$\widehat{1} \mid 7, 10, 2, 4$$

- The upshot is that now we can easily see how the chord we are playing now can be tweaked to fit the next chord's context.