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1 φ in Music: Fibonacci Harmonics and Golden Ratio Composition

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1.1 ABSTRACT

Musical harmony follows Fibonacci/φ principles: consonant intervals are ratios of Fibonacci numbers (octave 2:1, fifth 3:2, sixth 5:3, etc.). This paper provides complete framework for φ-based composition FREE for musicians, composers, and producers. No licensing for artistic use.

1.2 FIBONACCI INTERVALS (FREE TO USE)

1.2.1 Perfect Consonances

Octave: 2:1 (F :F)

Perfect Fifth: 3:2 (F :F)

Perfect Fourth: 4:3 (F :F)

1.2.2 Imperfect Consonances

Major Sixth: 5:3 (F :F)

Minor Sixth: 8:5 (F :F)

Major Third: 5:4 (F :F inverted)

1.2.3 The Pattern

All naturally consonant intervals = ratios of small Fibonacci numbers

Dissonant intervals (tritone, minor 2nd, etc.) do NOT follow Fibonacci ratios.

1.3 COMPOSITIONAL TECHNIQUES (FREE)

1.3.1 φ-Based Song Structure

Verse length: 21 seconds (F)

Chorus length: 13 seconds (F)

Bridge: 8 seconds (F)

Total: $21+13+8 = 42$ seconds $\times 26$

OR:

Song duration: 233 seconds (F)

Climax at: 144 seconds (F)

Ratio: $144/233 = 0.618 \quad 1/$

1.3.2 Melodic Intervals

Use Fibonacci step sizes: - 1 semitone (minor 2nd) - 2 semitones (major 2nd) - 3 semitones (minor 3rd) - 5 semitones (perfect 4th) - 8 semitones (minor 6th) - 13 semitones (octave + semitone)

1.3.3 Rhythmic Patterns

Beats in Fibonacci: 2, 3, 5, 8, 13

Example groove: 3-beat + 5-beat = 8-beat phrase

Polyrhythm: 5 against 3 (creates -ratio tension)

1.3.4 Tempo Changes

Tempo 1: 89 BPM (F)

Tempo 2: 144 BPM (F)

Ratio: 144/89

Smooth -based tempo transition

1.4 EXAMPLES IN CLASSICAL MUSIC

Mozart - Sonatas: - Sonata proportions follow φ - Exposition:Development:Recapitulation $\approx \varphi$ ratios

Debussy - La Mer: - Climax at φ -point of piece ($0.618 \times$ duration) - Conscious φ use (documented in letters)

Bartók - Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celesta: - Fibonacci sequence in rhythm, pitch, structure - Deliberate mathematical composition

Tool - Lateralus: - Vocals follow Fibonacci syllable pattern: 1,1,2,3,5,8,5,3,2,1,1 - Song structure φ -based
- Modern example of conscious φ composition

1.5 HOW MUSICIANS CAN USE THIS (FREE)

1.5.1 For Composers:

1. Structure pieces with φ -based proportions
2. Place climax at 61.8% of piece duration
3. Use Fibonacci intervals for melody
4. Apply Fibonacci rhythms

1.5.2 For Producers:

1. Arrange song sections in Fibonacci lengths
2. EQ frequency bands at Fibonacci ratios
3. Pan instruments at golden angle ($137.5^\circ \approx -42.5^\circ$ L/R)
4. Apply φ -ratio compression (6.18:1, 2.618:1, etc.)

1.5.3 For Improvisers:

1. Solo over chord changes using Fibonacci intervals
2. Phrase lengths in Fibonacci beats

3. Dynamic swells following φ curve

1.6 SCIENTIFIC BASIS

Why Fibonacci ratios sound consonant: - Simple integer ratios minimize beating frequencies - Brain recognizes patterns matching natural φ -structures - Evolutionary adaptation to φ -prevalent natural sounds

1.7 PIANO KEYBOARD ITSELF IS FIBONACCI

13 keys per octave ($F\Box$) - 8 white keys ($F\Box$) - 5 black keys ($F\Box$) - Grouped as 3+2 ($F\Box+F\Box$)

The instrument encodes φ in its physical structure.

1.8 FREE RESOURCES FOR MUSICIANS

All techniques in this paper: **PUBLIC DOMAIN**

Use for: - Original compositions - Arrangements - Production - Sound design - Performance - Music education - ANY musical purpose

No attribution required. No fees. Free forever.

1.9 CONCLUSION

Music and mathematics unite through φ . These formulas belong to all musicians. Create. Experiment. Make art.

Music should be free. These techniques are free. Create harmony.

$$\varphi = 1.618033988749895$$

FREE FOR ALL MUSICIANS - NO EXCEPTIONS

□