

Ekmelily - Notation of Microtonal Music

Ekmelily is an extension for [LilyPond](#) that supports variable accidentals and key signatures for the notation of microtonal music in several equal-temperament tunings -- 12, 19, 24, 31, 36, 48, 53, 72, 96-EDO -- and in 5-limit JI. For this purpose, it introduces [predefined](#) and [user-defined](#) notation styles. Each style describes a set of symbols for the alterations, usually up to the five-quarters-tone. Furthermore, Ekmelily defines own [note names](#) based on the names for semi- and quarter-tones given in LilyPond.

This documentation uses the [Ekmelos](#) font for all SMuFL glyph.

Ekmelily requires LilyPond version 2.19.22 or higher.

See [Esmuflily](#) for other music symbols: clefs, noteheads, flags, rests, articulations, dynamics, etc.

27 February 2025

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Author and License

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Download, Installation, Usage

Download

The folder `ly` contains the include files.

Copy the file(s) for the desired [tuning\(s\)](#) as well as the main include file `ekmel-main.ily` into an appropriate folder.

Optionally install a (SMuFL compliant) [font](#) .

Tables

... with all accidentals and note names supported by Ekmelily.

Add the following lines near the top of your LilyPond input file. All commands are optional – except for `\include` of the desired [tuning](#) – but should be specified in this order.

```
ekmFont = FONTNAME
\include "ekmel..."
\language "LANGUAGE"
\ekmelicStyle STYLENAME
\ekmelicUserStyle USERSTYLENAME #'(
  (ALTERATION ELEMENT ...)
  ...
)
```

Ekmelily + Esmuflily

To combine Ekmelily with [Esmuflily](#) add e.g. the following lines near the top of your LilyPond input file.

```
ekmFont = FONTNAME
ekmSystem = TUNING
\include "cosmufl.ily"
\language "LANGUAGE"
\ekmelicStyle STYLENAME
```

The default FONTNAME is [Ekmelos](#) , TUNING is 24 (includes `ekmel-24.ily`), LANGUAGE is `nederlands` (in most [tunings](#)), and STYLENAME is `stc` (Stein/Couper accidentals, in [tuning](#) 24).

This corresponds with LilyPond's standard setting.

Fonts

Ekmelily requires a font for accidentals defined by code point, character literal, or string. This applies to all accidentals in the [predefined notation styles](#) . Each of them is a [SMuFL](#) recommended character or [Ekmelos](#) specific optional glyph (starting at code point U+F600).

Ekmelily uses [Ekmelos](#) by default. Another font can be selected, either with the variable

```
ekmFont = FONTNAME
```

(or `ekmelicFont` as in previous versions) preceding the include file,
or with the command line option

```
-dekmfont=FONTNAME
```

(or `-dekmelic-font` as in previous versions). Note that this option produces a warning 'no such internal option', which can be ignored. Warnings can be suppressed with the command line option

```
--loglevel=ERROR or --loglevel=NONE .
```

The glyphs from LilyPond's Emmentaler font can be used with markup in a [user-defined notation style](#) . See the [Example](#) `lilysingle` .

Drawing paths

Ekmelily supports drawing paths instead of font glyphs, which allows e.g. to produce stand-alone SVG output. This requires the Scheme procedure `ekm-path-stencil` as it is provided for [Ekmelos](#) by the include file `ly/ekmelos-paths.ily`.

A trailing `#` in `FONTNAME` switches to drawing paths, which effects all accidentals defined by code point or character literal, in particular, all accidentals in the [predefined notation styles](#) .

Note that spaces and other glyphs without a contour, as well as side-bearing and font features like stylistic alternates or ligatures are not available with paths.

To draw Ekmelos glyphs as paths, add the following lines near the top of your LilyPond input file. A single `"#"` is equivalent to `"Ekmelos#"` .

```
ekmFont = "#"  
\include "ekmelos-paths.ily"  
\include "ekmel..."  
...
```

Tunings

Ekmelily supports different tunings available as separate include files. Each provides its own set of [languages](#) and [predefined notation styles](#). The first language and notation style specified in the following table is the default in the respective tuning. Some languages have alias names (in parentheses).

Tuning	Include file	Languages	Notation styles
12	ekmel-12.ily	nederlands english deutsch català (catalan) español (espanol) italiano français português (portugues) norsk suomi svenska vlaams	std sag msag
19	ekmel-19.ily	nederlands english deutsch català (catalan) español (espanol) italiano français português (portugues) norsk suomi svenska vlaams	std sag msag
24	ekmel-24.ily	nederlands english deutsch català (catalan) español (espanol) italiano français português (portugues) norsk suomi svenska vlaams	stc stz go stvt arrow sag msag arabic persian four haba
24	ekmel-arabic.ily	italiano arabic	arabic helmakam
31	ekmel-31.ily	nederlands deutsch español (espanol) français italiano português (portugues)	std sag msag stz sth
36	ekmel-36.ily	nederlands english deutsch norsk suomi svenska	go arrow sag msag wys bos haba
48	ekmel-48.ily	nederlands english deutsch	sag msag gostz
53	ekmel-53.ily	makam thm ktm english number	aeu aeuek thm sag dia
72	ekmel.ily	nederlands english deutsch norsk suomi svenska	arrow rhm sims hesse sag msag wys gostz gostc bos fern haba
96	ekmel-96.ily	nederlands english deutsch	sag msag persian om
5Jl	ekmel-5ji.ily	nederlands	sag msag he

Note: `ekmel-arabic.ily` is a variant of `ekmel-24.ily` for Arabic scores, like LilyPond's `arabic.ly` and `hel-arabic.ly` but with the correct accidentals U+ED30 - U+ED38. It also supports Arabic maqamat (keys).

Languages and Note names

Each [tuning](#) provides one or more languages for note names, which can be selected with the command

```
\language "LANGUAGE"
```

If LANGUAGE is not supported by the respective tuning, the default language is selected.

See the [Tables](#) with all note names supported by Ekmelily. They are based on the names for semi- and quarter-tones given in LilyPond.

Enharmonically equivalent note names

Some notation styles support two distinct, enharmonically equivalent accidentals, e.g. `arrow`, `rhm`, and `sims` for the one-quarter-tone and the three-quarters-tone. Therefore, Ekmelily defines two note names each, e.g. `cih` and `ciseh` (nederlands), or `cqs` and `csaqf` (english). However, LilyPond does not support different accidentals for the same alteration. As a workaround, the combined note names like `ciseh` and `csaqf` have slightly differing alterations (+1/1024) and therefore cause inaccurate MIDI output.

NoteNames context

Ekmelily supports the `NoteNames` context and its properties. Note names can be drawn in any supported language by setting the `printNotesLanguage` property. Else, the language selected for music entry is used. Accidentals are drawn with the [command](#) `\ekmelic-char-text`.

The format can be specified with the `printAccidentalNames` property. The first three values in the following list are equivalent to LilyPond's normal behaviour.

<code>#t</code>	Scale name and accidental (default)
<code>#f</code>	Scale name
<code>'lily</code>	Note name
<code>'all</code>	All alias note names stacked vertically
<code>'alteration</code>	Alteration name
<code>'fraction</code>	Scale name and fraction of alteration
<code>'accidental</code>	Accidental

Predefined Notation Styles

Each [tuning](#) provides one or more predefined notation styles, which can be selected either with the command

```
\ekmelicStyle STYLENAME
```

or with the command line option

```
-dekmelic-style=STYLENAME
```



Note: This option produces a warning 'no such internal option', which can be ignored. Warnings can be suppressed with the command line option `--loglevel=ERROR` or `--loglevel=NONE`.

If STYLENAME is not supported by the respective tuning, the default notation style is selected.

The following table shows all predefined notation styles. N indicates the default style in tuning N.

See the [Tables](#) with all accidentals in these styles. They require a [SMuFL compliant font](#). All optional glyphs (starting at code point U+F600) are private supplements of [Ekmelos](#).

Stylename		Tunings	Accidentals
std	Standard	<u>12</u> <u>19</u>	# x b bb
	Standard	<u>31</u>	↑ # x ↓ b bb
stc	Stein / Couper	<u>24</u>	# # # x d b db bb
stz	Stein / Zimmermann	24 31	# # # x d b db bb
stvt	Stein / Van Blankenburg / Tartini	24	# # # x l b lb bb
sth	Stein / Half flat	31	# # # x l b lw bb
	Uses the optional glyphs U+F612 - U+F613 for the semi-flats.		
four	Digit 4	24	⁴# # x ⁴b b bb
go	Gould	24 <u>36</u>	↑# # # ↓x x x
			↓↑b b ↓bb bb ↓
arabic	Arabic See <code>ekmel-arabic.ily</code> for Arabic maqamat.	24 <u>arabic</u>	# # # x t b lb bb
helmakam	Hel Makam Uses the optional glyph U+F61B for the slashed double-flat.	arabic	# # # x # # t b lb bb ts t

Stylename		Tunings	Accidentals
persian	Persian	24	♯ ♯ ✖ ♭ ♭
	Persian Uses the optional glyphs U+F676 - U+F677 and U+F76C - U+F783.	96	
aeu	Arel-Ezgi-Uzdilek Uses the optional glyph U+F619 for the reversed slashed flat. See LilyPond's turkish-makam.ly for keys.	<u>53</u>	
aeuek	Arel-Ezgi-Uzdilek Equals aeu but does not use the reversed slashed flat, i.e. eksik-bakiye = koma.	53	
dia	Diatonic Uses the optional glyphs U+F61C - U+F61D for the quadruple sharp / flat.	53	
thm	Turkish folk music	53	
arrow	Arrow	24 36 <u>72</u>	
bos	Bosanquet commatic	36 72	
haba	Hába	24	
	Hába Uses the optional glyphs U+F660 - U+F670.	36 72	
wys	Wyschnegradsky	36 72	
fern	Ferneyhough	72	
gostc	Gould / Stein / Couper	72	
gostz	Gould / Stein / Zimmermann	48 72	

Stylename		Tunings	Accidentals
hesse	<div>Hesse</div> <div>Uses the optional glyphs U+F606 - U+F60B for the degrees within the semitone.</div>	72	
rhm	<div>Richter Herf / Maedel</div> <div>Uses the optional glyphs U+F600 - U+F605 for the degrees within the semitone.</div>	72	
sims	<div>Sims</div>	72	
om	<div>OpenMusic</div> <div>Uses the optional glyphs U+F758 - U+F75F.</div>	96	
he	<div>Extended Helmholtz-Ellis</div>	5Jl	
sag	<div>Sagittal</div>	<div>12 19 24 31</div> <div>36 <u>48</u> 53 72</div> <div><u>96</u> <u>5Jl</u></div>	
msag	<div>Mixed Sagittal</div> <div>Uses the large double sharp U+E47D. Hence it is different from std even for 12-EDO.</div>	<div>12 19 24 31</div> <div>36 48 72 96</div> <div>5Jl</div>	

Universal Notation Styles

These notation styles are available for all [tunings](#) . They do not define any accidentals, except for the [special symbols](#) (default, leftparen, rightparen), so that the default accidental is drawn for each alteration. The special symbols of `void` are automatically added to every [predefined notation style](#) .

Stylename	default	leftparen	rightparen
<code>void</code>	Nothing (empty markup)	#xE26A	#xE26B
<code>alteration</code>	The alteration value, e.g. $\frac{1}{4}$	" ("	") "
<code>alteration-slash</code>	The alteration value, e.g. $\frac{1}{4}$	" ("	") "
<code>step</code>	The step of the alteration (integer)	" ("	") "

Note: `alteration` , `alteration-slash` , and `step` use the text font selected in LilyPond, not the [selected font](#) of Ekmelily. See the [Example](#) `numeric` which is similar to `alteration`.

User-defined Notation Styles

A new notation style derived from the currently selected style can be created with the command

```
\ekmelicUserStyle USERSTYLENAME #' (
  (ALTERATION ELEMENT ...)
  ...
)
```

USERSTYLENAME is a freely chosen style name. If it is an empty string "", the name of the currently selected style extended with the suffix `-user` is taken.

ALTERATION is a rational number or the name of a [special symbol](#). For each specified alteration, a new symbol is defined which is the composition of the elements. For all other alterations where the previous symbol of ALTERATION appears likewise (usually combined with other symbols), this symbol is also replaced with the new one. Therefore, the order of alterations in the definition list can be significant, in particular, when a replaced symbol is again defined but for another alteration. See the [Example](#) `diaQuarter`.

ELEMENT is one of the following:

- a code point (integer), e.g. `#xE47B` for Wilson plus
- a character literal, e.g. `#\b` for flat
- a string, e.g. `"bb"` for double-flat
- markup, e.g. `, (markup #:semisharp)`

Two or more elements are juxtaposed with a padding of 0.12 staff units, but no extra space is inserted between the characters of a string. Note that in a [SMuFL compliant font](#), all accidental glyphs have a zero side-bearing. This also applies to the Basic Latin (ASCII) characters in the [Ekmelos](#) font, so that e.g. `"bb"` is drawn without padding and `#\b #\b` with padding. See the [Example](#) `hewm`.

Special Symbols

Every notation style includes the following special symbols which are assigned to names instead of alterations.

Symbol name

<code>default</code>	Default accidental for alterations without a defined accidental. This applies to the universal notation styles and to some styles for 53 and 96-EDO, or it can occur with <code>\transpose</code> .
<code>leftparen</code>	Left parenthesis for cautionary accidentals.
<code>rightparen</code>	Right parenthesis for cautionary accidentals.

The special symbols of every [predefined notation style](#) are equal to the [universal notation style](#) `void`. They can be [user-defined](#) like accidentals:

```
\ekmelicUserStyle USERSTYLENAME #'(
  (default ELEMENT ...)
  (leftparen ELEMENT ...)
  (rightparen ELEMENT ...)
  ...
)
```

Note: If both, the accidental and the parentheses are defined by a single code point, character literal, or string, the entire cautionary accidental is drawn as a single string. This enables the use of a ligature if one is provided by the [selected font](#).

Additional Commands

`\ekmelicOutputSuffix`

Set the name of the selected notation style as the output filename suffix for the current `\book` section.

`\ekmelic-style-name`

Draw the name of the selected notation style as markup.

`\ekmelic-font-name`

Draw the name of the selected font as markup.

`\ekmelic-char ALTERATION`

Draw the accidental of ALTERATION (a rational number or symbol) according to the selected notation style as markup. A rational number is the alteration itself. A symbol is an alteration name, i.e. a note name without scale name in the selected language. This allows to distinguish enharmonically equivalent accidentals, e.g. `#'ih` and `#'iseh` for quarter-tones in `nederlands`.

Used property:

- `font-size (1)`

`\ekmelic-char-text ALTERATION`

Draw the accidental of ALTERATION (a rational number or symbol) according to the selected notation style as markup, vertically aligned for use outside of staves, e.g. in the [NoteNames context](#), in trill spanners, figured bass, or function theory text.

Used property:

- `font-size (0)`

`\ekmelic-elem ELEMENT`

Draw ELEMENT with the selected font as markup. ELEMENT is a code point (integer), a character literal, a string, or markup. This command is intended to combine glyphs from the selected font with other markup in a [user-defined notation style](#).

`\ekm-fraction ARG1 ARG2`

Draw a fraction of ARG1 and ARG2 as markup, with a fraction bar according to `style`: The default draws a horizontal bar. This is a variant of LilyPond's `\fraction` but with consistent vertical alignment. `slash` draws a diagonal bar. `line` draws a solidus (U+002F) with horizontally stacked numbers. This command is used by the next two commands.

Used properties:

- `font-size (0)`
- `style ('')`

`\ekmelic-fraction ALTERATION`

Draw ALTERATION (a rational number) as markup. If the denominator is 1, only the numerator is drawn, else a fraction according to `style`, and with `fraction-size` relative to the current font size unless `style` is `line`.

Used properties:

- `fraction-size (0)`
- `style ('')`

`\ekmelic-fraction-small ALTERATION`

Draw ALTERATION (a rational number) as markup like `\ekmelic-fraction` but with a 4 steps smaller fraction size.

`\ekmelic-table NATURAL COMPOSITE ORDER`

Draw a table of all accidentals in the selected notation style as markup, including the natural symbol if NATURAL is true, and all composite accidentals if COMPOSITE is true. [Enharmonically equivalent](#) accidentals and [special symbols](#) are always ignored. The accidentals are arranged in a row with the respective alteration placed beneath, and sorted by ascending or descending alteration if ORDER is 1 or -1, respectively, or by absolute alteration if ORDER is 2 or -2.

Used properties:

- `font-size` (0)
- `width` (4) : Horizontal extent for each accidental.
- `baseline-skip` : Distance between accidental and alteration.

Examples

See also the file `styles/user-styles.ly` for further examples of user-defined styles.

```
ekmFont = "Bravura"
\include "ekmel.ily"
\language "english"
\ekmelicStyle sims
```

Sets the predefined Sims notation style for 72-EDO, selects the English note names, and draws the accidentals with the Bravura font.

```
\include "ekmel-24.ily"
\ekmelicStyle stz
\ekmelicUserStyle myNotation #'(
  (-3/4 #xE327)
  (1 #xE262 #xE262))
```

Sets the predefined Stein/Zimmermann notation style (`stz`) for quarter-tones (24-EDO) and modifies it into a user-defined notation style with the Sagittal flat 11 medium diesis down symbol \Downarrow (U+E327) for three-quarter-tones flat, and two sharp symbols \sharp (U+E262) for double-sharp.

```
\include "ekmel-24.ily"
\ekmelicStyle stz
\ekmelicUserStyle myNotation #`(
  (,THREE-Q-FLAT #xE327)
  (,DOUBLE-SHARP #xE262 #xE262))
```

This is the same example as above but it makes use of the corresponding Scheme symbols.

```
\include "ekmel.ily"
\language "english"
\ekmelicUserStyle hewm #'(
  (1 #\x)
  (-1 #\b #\b)
  (1/2 #\#)
  (-1/2 #\b)
  (1/4 #\^ )
  (-1/4 #\v)
  (1/6 #\>)
  (-1/6 #\<)
  (1/12 #\+)
  (-1/12 #\-) )
```

Sets the **HEWM** (Helmholtz/Ellis/Wolf/Monzo) notation for 72-EDO and selects the English note names. Note that double-flat is defined with `#\b #\b` which is drawn with a padding contrary to `"bb"` .


```
\include "ekmel-24.ily"
\ekmelicStyle stz
\ekmelicUserStyle stockhausen #'(
  (1/4 #xED58)
  (-1/4 #xED59)
  (3/4 #xED5A)
  (-3/4 #xED59 #xE260))
```

Sets the notation after Karlheinz Stockhausen for 24-EDO with the fractional sharp symbols \sharp (U+ED58, U+ED5A), and the quarter-tone flat symbol \flat (U+ED59).

```
\include "ekmel.ily"
\ekmelicUserStyle smuflHesse #'(
  (1/4 #xE27A)
  (-1/4 #xE27B)
  (1/6 #xE2A4)
  (-1/6 #xE2A1)
  (1/12 #xE479)
  (-1/12 #xE47A))
```

Sets a variant of the Hesse notation style for 72-EDO using SMuFL characters: Gould arrows \uparrow \downarrow (U+E27A, U+E27B), Sims half arrows \uparrow \downarrow (U+E2A4, U+E2A1), and Bosanquet commatic symbols \nearrow \searrow (U+E479, U+E47A). It is very similar to the Arrow notation style.

```
\include "ekmel-24.ily"
\ekmelicUserStyle diaQuarter #'(
  (1 #xF61C)
  (-1 #xF61D)
  (3/4 #xE265)
  (-3/4 #xE266)
  (1/2 #xE263)
  (-1/2 #xE264)
  (1/4 #xE262)
  (-1/4 #xE260)
  (5/4 #xF61C #xE262)
  (-5/4 #xF61D #xE260))
```

Sets the Standard sharp/flat symbols, single thru quintuple, like the predefined Diatonic notation style (`dia`) but for quarter-tones (24-EDO). The quadruple symbols $\sharp\sharp\sharp\sharp$ (U+F61C, U+F61D) are private supplements of the [Ekmelos](#) font. Note that here, the order of alterations is significant since the standard accidentals in the default notation style (`stc`) are rearranged.

```

\include "ekmel-48.ily"
\ekmelicUserStyle lilysingle #` (
  (0      , (markup #:natural))
  (1/8    , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.natural.arrowup"))
  (-1/8   , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.natural.arrowdown"))
  (1/4    , (markup #:semisharp))
  (-1/4   , (markup #:semiflat))
  (3/8    , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.sharp.arrowdown"))
  (-3/8   , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.flat.arrowup"))
  (1/2    , (markup #:sharp))
  (-1/2   , (markup #:flat))
  (5/8    , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.sharp.arrowup"))
  (-5/8   , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.flat.arrowdown"))
  (3/4    , (markup #:sesquisharp))
  (-3/4   , (markup #:sesquiflat))
  (7/8    , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.sharp.slashslashslash.stemstem"))
  (-7/8   , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.flatflat.slash"))
  (1      , (markup #:doublesharp))
  (-1     , (markup #:doubleflat))
  (leftparen , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.leftparen"))
  (rightparen , (markup #:musicglyph "accidentals.rightparen")))

```

Sets single glyphs from LilyPond's Emmmentaler font for 48-EDO, as well as parentheses for cautionary accidentals. $\pm 9/8$ and $\pm 5/4$ are omitted here since they are set automatically to combinations of ± 1 with $\pm 1/8$ and $\pm 1/4$.

```

#(define-markup-command (numeric-accidental layout props)
  ()
  (let ((alt (ly:chain-assoc-get 'alteration props 0)))
    (interpret-markup layout
      (cons '((font-size . -3)) props)
      (markup #:vcenter #:ekmelic-fraction alt))))

\ekmelicStyle void
\ekmelicUserStyle numeric #` (
  (default , (markup #:numeric-accidental)))

```

Sets alteration values instead of accidental symbols with the [default](#) accidental in the [void](#) notation style. The values are drawn with the command `\ekmelic-fraction` and with a 3 steps smaller font size. It is similar to the [alteration](#) notation style.