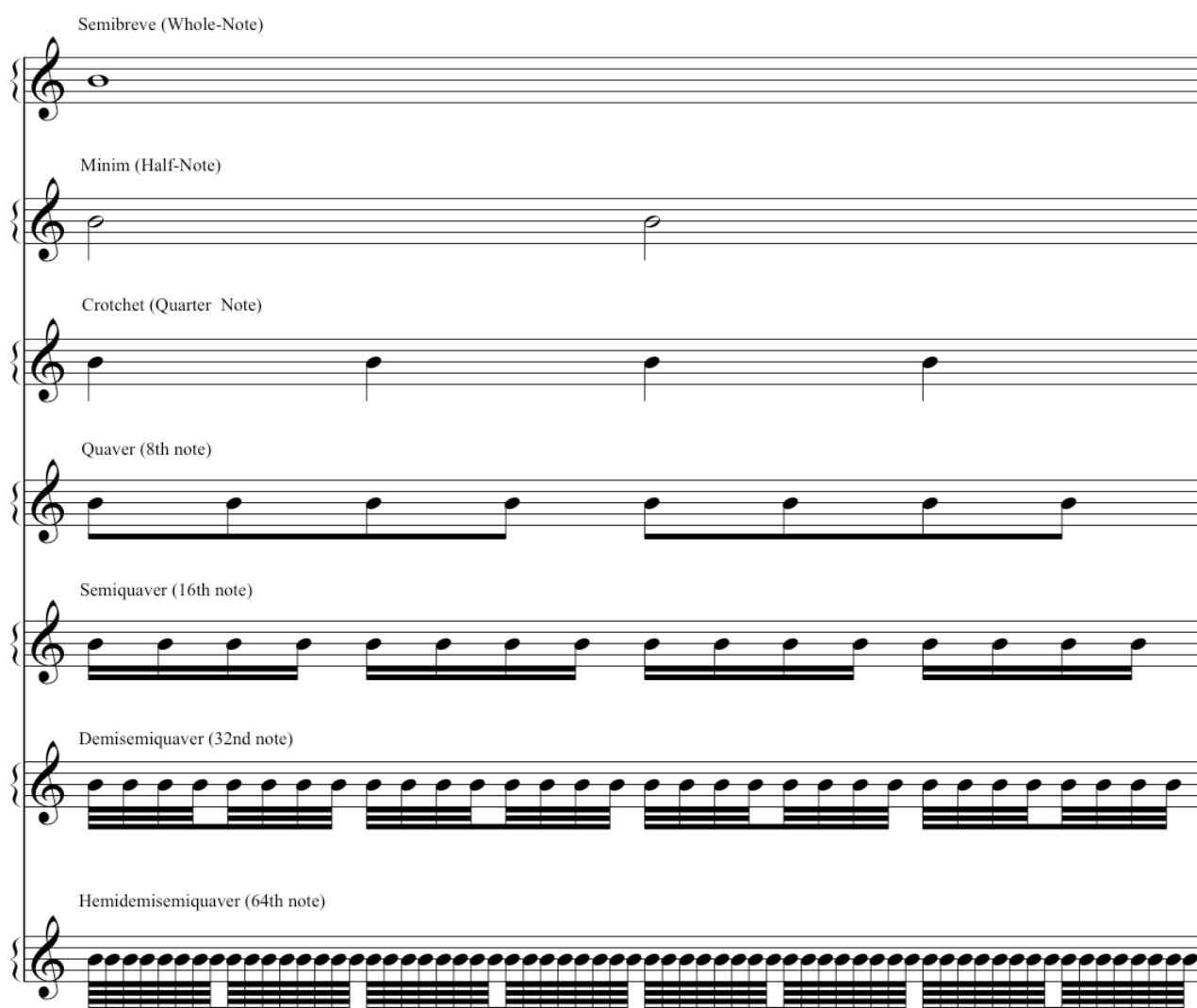


Segment 1: Rhythmic Duration

Note Durations:

In this video, I talked about different note durations. The following graphic shows the simple divisions of the semibreve (AKA whole-note). With each level (working from top to bottom), the duration of the note is halved, i.e. 4 beats, 2 beats, 1 beat, half beat...and so on. Please feel free to download the following images - they may be useful for your reference:



The following image is very similar to the one above but it shows the equivalent rests:

Semibreve (Whole-Note)

Minim (Half-Note)

Crotchet (Quarter Note)

Quaver (8th note)

Semiquaver (16th note)

Demisemiquaver (32nd note)

Hemidemisemiquaver (64th note)

Minim and Semibreve Rests - distinction:

You will, no doubt, have noticed that minim and semibreve rests look very similar to each other. Look closely at the following image:

Semibreve
Rest

Minim Rests

A nice simple way to remember which rest is the minim and which is the semibreve, is using the following nemonic device.

We can see that the semibreve rest *hangs down* or is '*suspended*' from the 4th line. If you remember that it is '*suspended*' we can use the first letter of this word (i.e. S) to remind us that this is the *semibreve* rest.

Similarly, Looking at the minim rests we can say that they are on top of the middle line. As they are on top of this line we might say that they are '*mounted*'. Again, taking the first letter of this word (i.e. M) we can use this to remind us that these are *minim rests*.

Segment 2: Tuplets

We covered the basics of tuplets in this video but if you were interested in finding out more you could follow up by reading:

Chapter 5 (section 5) of '*The AB Guide to Music Theory*' by Eric Taylor

or

The Rhythm and Meter section of '*Tonal Harmony*' by S. M. Kostka, D. Payne

or

This Wikipedia page: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuplet>

Tuplets can sometimes be confusing to start with but please remember to use the [forum for this lecture](#) to engage with your fellow learners and discuss concepts such as this.

Segment 3: Ties and Dots

Wikipedia has a good page on dots: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dotted_note

Another area related to rhythm which the video lecture didn't mention but which might nevertheless be useful for some of you is that of grace notes.

Grace notes:

We should also mention 'grace notes' which are a kind of [music notation](#), usually printed smaller to indicate that they are melodically and harmonically *nonessential*. A single grace note normally indicates either an [appoggiatura](#) or an [acciaccatura](#).

Although not strictly linked to this lecture, you may also wish to read the following Wikipedia page on 'ornaments'. Ornaments can be considered as musical flourishes or decoration which, although usually unessential in conveying melodic ideas, impact on the rhythm of the music and the duration of written notes, for example.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ornament_\(music\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ornament_(music))

Segment 4: Meter

Common Time:

In the video I mentioned 'Common Time'. This is another name for four-four time i.e. four crotchets (quarter notes) per bar, so called because this time is so common. In fact, it is so common that sometimes people write the following time signature instead of 4/4:



If you see this time signature written in music, don't panic - the C stands for common time and this is exactly the same as four-four, it's just an alternative symbol.

There is also 'Cut-Common Time' which is 4/4 'cut' in two to make 2/2 time.



You might find this animated tutorial useful: <http://www.musictheory.net/lessons/12> This site does use American terminology but it is good to be familiar with this and the UK terms. The following 'translations' might help:

'Staff' = Stave
'Measure' = Bar
'Quarter notes' = Crotchets
'Eighth notes' = Quavers
'Half notes' = Minims
'Whole notes' = Semibreves

Simple and compound meter

<http://www.musictheory.net/lessons/15>

Segment 5: Anacrusis, Phrases and Structure

Amendment: In this segment I mention an example by Brahms. The example I am referring to is the main theme of the **4th movement of Brahms's 1st symphony** (*not* the main theme of the 4th symphony as I mistakenly stated in the video).

Sorry for any confusion!

Anacrusis:

An anacrusis is also known as the 'pickup' or the 'pickup notes' as it is the **note** (or group of notes which happens before the first **downbeat** in a **bar**. You can think of it as a partial bar just before the down beat of the first full bar.

Have a look at the following image which is the first few bars of the popular jazz standard 'Autumn Leaves':



Generally, in written Western music, when a piece with an anacrusis, the same number of beats are absent from the final bar so that the number of bars in the music is a whole number.

Phrase:

We covered the fundamentals of phrases and structure in this segment of the lecture but this wikipedia page has some great information on phrases in music and some of the theory surrounding this, if you'd like to read more:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phrase_\(music\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phrase_(music))

Musical Form:

There are many types of musical form. The basics were covered in the lecture but the following Wikipedia page is useful for your reference and further reading:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Musical_form

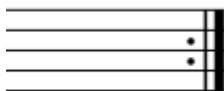
The link below is a glossary compiled by Yale University that may be of interest to some of you:

<http://www.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/glossary.htm>

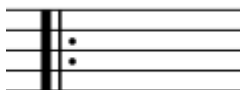
Segment 6: Form

Repeat Marks:

Repeat marks are important symbols that are used to indicate a section of music that should be repeated. When reading music, if you encounter this sign then this means to repeat from the beginning, and then continue.



If you encounter a corresponding sign facing the opposite way, this indicates the point in the music at which the repeated section is to begin.



So, in the following example - all the music contained within the repeat marks should be repeated. When repeated once, the player would simply ignore the repeat mark and continue on through the music in order to avoid an infinite loop.



When a repeat calls for a different ending, number brackets above the bars indicate which to play the first time (1), which to play the second time (2), etc. These are called "first-time bars" and "second-time bars," or "first and second endings."



For further reading on repetition in music you can consult this Wikipedia page:
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Repetition_\(music\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Repetition_(music))