# PROLONGATIONAL SIGNALING IN SEMANTIC AND SYNTACTIC CONTEXT: THREE MOD7 ANALYSES

by

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Submitted to the Faculty
Graduate Division
College of Fine Arts
Texas Christian University
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF MUSIC IN MUSIC THEORY

May, 2007

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#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

I would like to thank all of my professors, especially my advisor, Dr. Blaise

Ferrandino, and the other members of my committee, Dr. Gerald Gabel and Dr. Michael

Meckna, for all of their help and encouragement. They have all been incredible teachers

and mentors for many years, and I will never be able to thank them enough.

My gratitude goes also to Karen Adrian, my flute professor, for her unending patience and inspiration. I am very indebted to Jennifer Porter-Bahner as well, for teaching me to play flute and beginning my career in music.

Lastly, I thank my first and most important teachers, my parents.

# **CONTENTS**

Introduction	1
Modulo 7 Set Theory	1
Interval Symbols	
Transpositional Degrees	
Unordered Sets	
"Identical," "Same," "Altered," and "Elaborated"	
Chopin – Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28	11
A hybrid Urlinie	
Unordered Sets as Indicators of Prolongation	
Ordered Sets	15
Syntactic and Semantic Context	18
The Sonority Ternion: (0-24), (02-35), and (0-135) Examination of the Ternion Sets: (02-35)	
Examination of the Ternion Sets: (02-4)  Examination of the Ternion Sets: (0-135)	
Other Sets	
Shostakovich – Prelude XIV in E-flat Minor, Op. 34	41
Sets Prolonging the Kopfton and Tonic	47
Sets Prolonging the Supertonic	
Sets in Every Prolongation	
Another Sonority Ternion	
Conclusions	52

Appendix A: Scores with Ordered Set Analyses	
Chopin – Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28	55
Bach - Prelude No. 1 in C Major from The Well-Tempered Clavier, BWV 846	
Shostakovich – Prelude XIV in E-flat Minor, Op. 34	58
Appendix B: Additional and Complete Schenkerian Graphs	
Chopin – Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28 (Schachter)	59
Bach - Prelude No. 1 in C Major from The Well-Tempered Clavier, BWV 846 (Schenker)	60
Shostakovich – Prelude XIV in E-flat Minor, Op. 34	62
Appendix C: More on Mod7: E-related Sets	_ 65
Bibiography	_ 67
Vita	_ 68
Abstract	69

# LIST OF FIGURES, TABLES, AND EXAMPLES

# Modulo 7 Set Theory

Figure 1	2, (5
Figure 2	
Figure 3	
Figure 4	
Figure 5	
Figure 6	
Figure 7: Unordered set of opening sonority, Chopin Prelude No. 4, Op. 28	7
Figure 8: Unordered sets, mm. 1–5, Chopin Prelude No. 4, Op. 28	
Figure 9	8
Figure 10	9
Figure 11	9
Figure 12	 9
Figure 13	10
Chopin - Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28  Table 1: Unordered sets of initial articulations of the Urlinie	12
Figure 14: Second articulation of the 4 <sup>th</sup> scale degree	13
Example 1: Chopin, Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28 (annotated score)	14
Figure 15: Ursatz and ordered set pairings	18
Table 2: Ordered set pairings of the Urlinie	20
J.S. Bach – Prelude No. 1 in C Major, from The Well-Tempered Clavier, B	WV 846
Figure 16: Ursatz and ordered set pairings	21
Figure 17: Ursatz and ordered set pairings (annotated)	22
Figure 18: Deeper middleground and ordered set pairings	23
Figure 19: Deeper middleground and ordered set pairings (annotated)	24
Figure 20: Unordered analysis of (02-35) <sup>6</sup> , m. 2 & m. 33	25
Example 2: Urlinie Tafel of mm. 24–35 from Five Graphic Analyses	26

Figure 21: Unordered set progression, mm. 23–30	27
Figure 22: Sonority ternion, mm. 1–3	27
Figure 23: Sonority ternion, mm. 1–3 (annotated)	28
Figure 24: Sonority ternion, mm. 17–19	29
Figure 25: Sonority ternion, mm. 32–33	29
Figure 26: Two sonority ternions, mm. 25–27 & 29–31	30
Figure 27: Sonority ternion overlap, mm. 32–35	31
Figure 28: Sonority ternion, mm. 9–11	31
Table 3: Position and function of (02-35)	33
Figure 29: (0-24) transformation, m. 1 to m. 25	35
Figure 30: (0-24) transformation, m. 25 to m. 29	
Figure 31: (0-24) transformation, m. 29 to m. 33	36
Figure 32: (0-24) transformation, m. 33 to m. 35	
Figure 33: (0-24) transformations, mm. 1, 25, 29, and 33 to m. 35	
Table 4: Prolonged pitch and ternion position of (0-135)	
Figure 34: Dissolution of the ternion, mm. 1–7	39
Shostakovich – Prelude XIV in E-flat Minor, Op. 34	
Figure 35: Deeper middleground	42
Figure 36: Ursatz	42
Figure 37: Ursatz and ordered set pairings	43
Figure 38: Ursatz and ordered set pairings (annotated)	44
Figure 39: Voice exchange, mm. 1–7	46
Figure 40: Sonority ternion, mm. 1–2	
Figure 41: Sonority ternion, mm. 10–11	
Figure 42: Sonority ternion, mm. 24–25	
Figure 43: Two sonority ternions, mm. 30–31 & 32–33	
Conclusions	
Table 5: Ordered set pairings of each Urlinie	52

# Prolongational Signaling in Semantic and Syntactic Context: Three Mod7 Analyses

#### Introduction

In this paper, a new system of notation for ordered and unordered mod7 step-class sets will be presented and applied to Chopin's Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28; Bach's Prelude No. 1 in C Major from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, Book I, BWV 846; and Shostakovich's Prelude XIV in E-flat Minor from *24 Prelyudii*, Op. 34. This analysis will also show how linear progression can be expressed through the use of both ordered and unordered mod7 sets.

#### **Modulo 7 Set Theory**

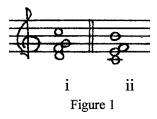
In his article "Analysing Post-Tonal Diatonic Music: A Modulo 7 Perspective," Matthew Santa reviews a system of set theory in which there are only seven numbers (0 to 6), with each number corresponding to a note letter (a "step-class") rather than to a specific pitch. Sets are derived from expanded diatonic collections and consist of scale degrees. For example, the same number would represent C-flat, C-natural, and C-sharp. There is still an orientation around a tonic pitch; however, the relationships between step-classes or sonorities are not necessarily established by traditional means (i.e., tertian chords or functional

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Matthew Santa, "Analysing Post-Tonal Diatonic Music: A Modulo 7 Perspective," *Music Analysis* 19 (2000): 167-201.

harmonic progressions). In mod7 set theory, patterns that occur within a diatonic framework are recognized more easily than they might be in a mod12 system.

The mod12 analysis shows Figure 1i as (0257), while Figure 1ii is a (0156) set.

Although the two examples are clearly transpositions of the same pattern within a scale, their relationship and similarities are not apparent in mod12.



In mod7, however, both are (0134) sets.

Equivalence of step-classes might simplify some collections to such an extent that their aural differences are not recognized, however. This is done to indicate the step-class similarities between sets. There are only eighteen possible mod7 sets to represent all music that might be analyzed utilizing this system. Mod7 interval vectors potentially become more misleading in terms of color and true intervallic content, because there are only three interval classes (2<sup>nd</sup>s/7<sup>th</sup>s; 3<sup>rd</sup>s/6<sup>th</sup>s; and 4<sup>th</sup>s/5<sup>th</sup>s). The same mod7 set can represent two groups of pitches that are starkly contrasting – aurally, functionally, or both.

A hybrid system of mod12 and mod7 would help reconcile these issues by incorporating the desirable qualities of each into its symbology and, therefore, its analysis. Rather than being based on several norms that vary between analyses and works, the system

which will be presented in this paper utilizes simple symbols to indicate intervals between adjacent step-classes within a set.

## **Interval Symbols**

Step-class sets are derived by expressing spatial relationships between adjacent step-classes within a set through the inclusion of what will be called "interval symbols." The step-classes are still represented by the numbers 0 to 6, where 0 is the base pitch of the set. The interval symbols are as follows:

- 1.) If the interval between two step-classes x and y is a major or perfect interval, a dash will be placed between the step-classes, as (x-y).
- 2.) If this interval is decreased by one half-step, then the dash will be omitted, and the step-classes will not be separated by any symbol, as (xy).
- 3.) If this interval is decreased by yet another half-step (lowered by one whole-step), a slash will be placed between the step-classes, as (x/y).
- 4.) If the interval represented by (x-y) is increased by one half-step, an additional parallel dash will be added, as (x=y).
- 5.) Any further half-step increase or decrease will be indicated by an additional slash or parallel dash (a major or perfect interval lowered by three half-steps, then, is (x//y)).

For instance, Figure 2 would be represented as (0-2), as the interval between C and E is a major  $3^{rd}$ ,



Figure 2

whereas Figure 3 is a (02) set: a minor 3<sup>rd</sup>:



Figure 3

A diminished 3<sup>rd</sup>, Figure 4, is (0/2):



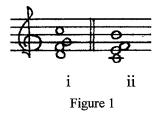
Figure 4

And Figure 5, an augmented 3<sup>rd</sup>, (0=2):



Figure 5

The interval symbols within sets express the distance between adjacent step-classes within a set, not the distance of each step-class from the base pitch. Figures 1i and 1ii are shown again:



In the new system, both are still generic [0134] mod7 sets. However, with the inclusion of interval symbols, Figure 1i is a (0-13-4) set, while Figure 1ii is a (01-34) set.

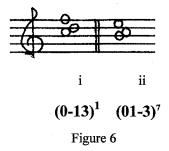
Through the use of interval symbols, the exact intervallic content of a set is shown, along with its step-class content. The most significant aspect of this hybrid system of mod7 is that two sets can be recognized as similar, but not the same.

The new system does still offer a means to directly compare step-class content alone. This is done by generic sets, indicated by brackets instead of parentheses. Generic sets correspond to traditional mod7 sets in that no interval symbols are used. For example, (0-13-4) and (01-34) are different specific sets, but are both [0134] generic sets.

### **Transpositional Degrees**

A diatonic collection, unlike a chromatic one, inherently lends structural importance to one pitch over the others, even if this orienting pitch is not reinforced through the same hierarchies enjoyed by its tonal counterpart. It is therefore necessary to show each set's relationship to the work's orienting pitch in some manner. This relationship will be represented by "transpositional degrees," superscript or subscript numbers which are written after the closing parenthesis of each set. The number of the transpositional degree is the scale degree number of the set's base pitch.

For example, the transpositional degree for Figure 6i in a work in C Major is 1, because the base pitch is C. Example 6ii has transpositional degree 7, as the base pitch is B.



The transpositional degree is superscript if the set's best normal order is prime form; it is subscript if the set must be inverted. In this way, sets can be translated into actual pitches, instead of only their intervallic patterns. Transpositional degrees will also be given any necessary accidentals to show chromatic inflection of the set's pitch base.

This system of mod7 is based on the idea that true intervallic content is as important to a clear analysis as are step-class patterns. Therefore, mod12's six specific interval-classes are more desirable than mod7's three generic interval-classes.

#### **Unordered Sets**

Unordered sets also utilize interval symbols; the step-class numbers in unordered sets are the scale degrees. When a vertical sonority is analyzed, the set begins with the lowest sounding pitch. The unordered mod7 set for the first chord in Chopin's Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28, is expressed as (3-5-1-5):



Figure 7: Unordered set of opening sonority, Chopin Prelude No. 4, Op. 28

Linear progression can be expressed easily through unordered mod7 sets. The proposed system for unordered sets works much like figured bass, but is more specific because it reflects voicing and exact intervals, and because it does not imply Common Practice Era functionality. An unordered mod7 analysis of the opening measures of the Prelude shows the linear progression from an E minor chord on the first beat to the A minor

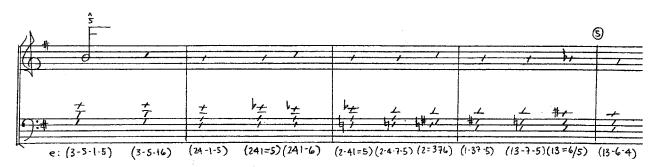


Figure 8: Unordered sets, mm. 1-5, Chopin Prelude No. 4, Op. 28

One can see the linear movement throughout the excerpt, along with what voices change in each chord, and if any pitches are doubled.

From the first to the second sonority, the melodic line moves up one step-class; specifically, from a perfect  $5^{th}$  with the second highest voice to a minor  $6^{th}$ , which indicates

half-step motion. The entire melody is shown to move between the dominant and submediant pitches, followed by a descent to the subdominant.

The tonic pitch is a common tone for seven consecutive sonorities, and is always in the second highest voice. It is interrupted in the third measure and then is held in the lowest voice from measure 4 to measure 5. The directed linear motion in the lowest voice is also apparent, descending from the 3<sup>rd</sup> scale degree to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, and ending on the 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, the two lowest voices are shown to maintain the interval of a major or minor 3<sup>rd</sup> (or an enharmonic equivalent) throughout the excerpt.

Further linear and voicing observations can be made for any piece. Voicing, doubling, and reinforcing intervals, indicated through unordered mod7 sets, could potentially help to determine a possible root for a sonority as well.

If there is an octave gap between two pitches, this compound interval is expressed by a comma before any applicable interval symbols. Multiple octave gaps are indicated by the number of commas corresponding to the number of gaps.



Figure 9

# "Identical," "Same," "Altered," and "Elaborated"

In certain occasions, musical context implies that a set is related to another. There must be appropriate terminology to distinguish different possible relationships between sets.

Two sets are **identical** if the second contains the same transpositional degree and possesses the same unordered set:

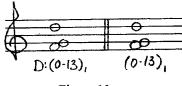


Figure 10

If two collections have the same ordered set but not the same voicing and/or transpositional degree, the sets are the **same**:



Figure 11

If a set is related to another by context but contains one variant pitch, the new set is an **altered** version of the earlier set:



Figure 12

If a new set is related to a previous set but contains additional pitch-classes, the new set is an **elaborated** version:

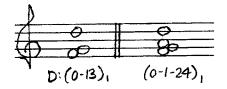


Figure 13

Obviously, any specific changes (transpositions, alterations, and/or additions) should be noted in the discussion of the analysis.

## Chopin - Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28

In "Musical Genre and Schenkerian Analysis," London and Rodman discuss the arguments for both 3- and 5-line analyses of Op. 28, No. 4, and explore the possibility that the lack of clarity in supported pitches is caused by the implied incompleteness of a prelude.<sup>2</sup> A mod7 analysis in combination with a Schenkerian graph will show how the placement of specific sets can be seen and/or heard as signaling initial changes in the prolonged scale degrees of the Urlinie. Often, these new sonorities defy Roman Numerals, while a mod12 analysis would not indicate a tonal orientation, nor would it indicate the quality of a triad. The graph of the background descent, Example 9, is given on the next page.

#### A Hybrid Urlinie

The choices for pitches of the background descent in this paper do not correspond completely with those of Schachter and Forte/Gilbert presented by London and Rodman. Rather, it is a combination of Schachter and Forte/Gilbert, with amendments proposed by London and Rodman. In their paper, London and Rodman question both graphs with respect to the movement to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> scale degrees. Both the Schachter and the Forte/Gilbert analyses place scale degree 3 in measure 21, but London and Rodman cite the strong influence of and support for the 2<sup>nd</sup> scale degree by measure 18.<sup>3</sup> To support this

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Justin London and Ronald Rodman, "Musical Genre and Schenkerian Analysis," *Journal of Music Theory*, 24 (1998): 101-124. *JSTOR*, 2006, 5 Nov. 2006, <a href="http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.tcu.edu/search">http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.tcu.edu/search</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> London and Rodman, 105 & 109.

interpretation, they present Schenker's own sketches of Prelude No. 4, in which he uses open note-heads (presumably indicating prolongation) for the F#s in measures 16 and 18; the latter being in the obligatory register.<sup>4</sup>

If the 2<sup>nd</sup> scale degree is in force in measure 18, then obviously scale degrees 4 and 3 must be articulated before then. The hybrid analysis presented in this paper shows the 4<sup>th</sup> scale degree articulated on the downbeat of measure 17 in an inner voice (but in the obligatory register). Scale degree 3 is articulated within the second beat of the same measure, but an octave higher than expected.

#### **Unordered Sets as Indicators of Prolongation**

The unordered sets for the articulations of the Urlinie pitches reinforce the new interpretation. Each set shows the prolonged pitch in the top voice. The fact that all Urlinie pitches are initially stated without covering is significant, and easily visible through unordered mod7 sets:

	m. 1	m. 9	m. 17	m. 18	m. 25
Prolonged Pitch	ŝ	Â	ŝ	2	î
Unordered Set	(3-5-1-5)	(6-1-4-4)	(3-5-1-3)	(5-1-5-2)	(1-1-13-5-1)

Table 1: Unordered sets of initial articulations of the Urlinie

The second prolongation of  $\hat{4}$  in measure 17 is also interesting from an unordered set perspective. The texture increases to nine pitches per unit time; this is the first time in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> London and Rodman, 118.

prelude where more than four voices are present. Such a drastic change in texture can indicate an important moment in the music.

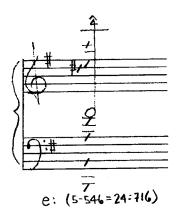


Figure 14: Second articulation of the 4<sup>th</sup> scale degree

The final two measures once again exhibit a thicker texture, which now helps to signal the movement to closure. This further unifies measures 24 and 25 with the rest of the prelude, now from a syntactic perspective through the similar texture. Semantic sensibility is also expressed in the use of texture as an agent of change to the Urlinie.



Example 1: Chopin, Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28 (annotated score)

#### **Ordered Sets**

The 5<sup>th</sup> scale degree is engaged with the first sonority, an E minor chord in first inversion: a (02-4)<sup>1</sup> set. The next sonority occurs on the upbeat of the second half of measure 1, and is a (01-35)<sup>5</sup> set. Interestingly enough, the transpositional degrees of these two sets implies a tonic-dominant relationship. Although in a strictly "tonal" analysis this sonority would be considered a simultaneity resulting from a non-chord tone in the melody over a sustained tonic triad, it is the aim of this paper to show that Chopin's placement of such "nonfunctional" chords actually provides functional insight into the background descent within the prelude.

After the 5<sup>th</sup> scale degree, each initial engagement of the prolonged pitches of the Urlinie is either directly preceded or followed by an entirely new specific mod7 set. (Scale degree 5 is not introduced or followed by a familiar set, as the first sonority of a piece cannot be considered familiar, and because the second sonority is not a transposition of the first.)

The 4<sup>th</sup> scale degree is most strongly supported in measure 9, before the interruption, although it begins to be prolonged a few measures earlier. In measure 9, the preceding set is also a generic [0135] set, but the species (013-5) has never occurred before. The A is then articulated in a (02-4)<sup>4</sup> set: a first inversion A minor triad. Of course, this is not the chord that harmonically supports the prolongation; the B7 with a 4-3 suspension comes along in the next measure. However, the actual prolonged pitch is stated with the (02-4) set (which does still function as local support). This is the same specific set which originally supported the 5<sup>th</sup> scale degree. Furthermore, the unordered sets for both the articulation of scale degrees 5 and 4 are similar (both are triads in first inversion).

The re-engagement of the 5<sup>th</sup> scale degree in measure 13 and the 4<sup>th</sup> scale degree in measure 17 are not examined in terms of a new mod7 set announcing their prolongations, as they have already been heard before the interruption. Since the prolongation is not new, it does not require a new heralding set.

Like  $\hat{4}$ , the G in measure 17 is preceded by a [0135], but one which is a new specific set that has not appeared before: (01-3-5). The G is then engaged above a (02-4)<sup>1</sup> set.

Although this is a first inversion tonic triad, which is not considered as an adequate support in strict Schenkerian analysis, the situation can either be considered an exception to the rule, or an E can be implied in the bass, as has often been done to show the support for the 5<sup>th</sup> scale degree at the beginning of the prelude.

Conversely, in measure 18, the F# is actually engaged in a new set:  $(0-1-4)^{1}_{or5}$ , which is immediately followed by two familiar sets: first, a  $(0-135)^{1}$ , which moves quickly to a  $(02-4)^{4}$  (another A minor triad in first inversion). These three sets are the only sonorities from measure 18 to measure 20, and each of the remaining five measures of the prelude contain at least one of these specific sets. It is during the prolongation of the F# (measure 20) that the first (0-24) of the piece, the major triad, occurs, which interrupts the repetition of the three aforementioned sets.

The final descent to tonic, engaged by the final sonority, is a synthesis of the most significant sets of the piece. The last four sets are:

$$(0-135)^1$$
  $(0-1-4)^1$  or  $(0-24)^5$   $(02-4)^1$ 

Here, there is a recollection of the generic set associated with scale degrees 5, 4, and 3, which is also part of the prolongation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> scale degree. This [0135] set is then followed by the specific set which was first introduced with scale degree 2 as well, (0-1-4)<sup>1</sup> or 5.

The final two chords not only provide the necessary dominant-to-tonic movement for closure, but are also the two most common species of [024] in the prelude. The (02-4) set, the minor triad, occurs throughout the piece, while the (0-24), the major triad, only appears in the final six measures. The combination of these sets begins to take shape in those final six bars, where (0-24) and (02-4) are articulated one after the other for the first time in measure 22. Those two sets, however, have the same transpositional degrees (the same root, in this case), which signals a kind of split in the [024], where (0-24) starts to assert itself. It is once again subordinated by the (02-4) set in the final measure, the only other instance in which (0-24) precedes (02-4). This is brought about by a dominant-tonic relationship between their respective transpositional degrees.

The engagement of scale degree 2, then, heralds the beginning of the movement to closure by its set ordering; the only set missing from the final four sets is the (0-24), which is introduced in its proper place, after the (0-1-4). However, instead of moving to (02-4), the major triad progresses to another (0-135) set and closure is postponed for another few measures.

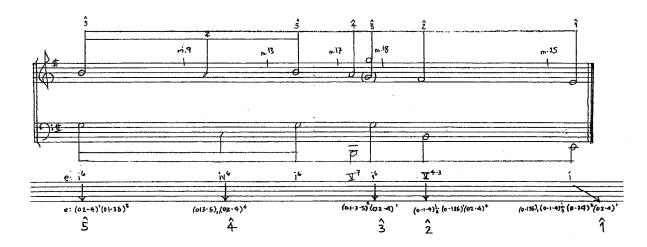


Figure 15: Ursatz and ordered set pairings

### **Syntactic and Semantic Context**

In "Concepts of Closure and Chopin's Op. 28," Agawu states that the global closure of the Prelude makes syntactic sense, but that it disregards the semantic meaning of the rest of the work.<sup>5</sup> He writes:

Measures 24 - 25 are therefore "added on" to fulfill a syntactic function. What has happened in this closing section, then, is that by introducing a stock cadential figure in the last two measures, Chopin creates a gestural discontinuity on the surface of the piece while maintaining a syntactic continuity in the background.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> V. Kofi Agawu, "Concepts of Closure and Chopin's Opus 28," *Music Theory Spectrum*, 9 (1987): 1-17. *JSTOR*, 2006, 5 Nov. 2006, <a href="http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.tcu.edu/search">http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.tcu.edu/search</a>>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Agawu, 14.

Agawu's assertion of semantic inconsistency in the final two measures is based on those measures' contrast with the rest of the piece with respect to rate of articulation and duration of both sound and silence, rather than to pitch content in and of itself. Examination of the mod7 sets as related to the engagement of Urlinie pitches, however, reveals semantic cohesiveness in the entire prelude. The movement to tonic completes the idea of the movement from unfamiliar to familiar sonorities.

It has been shown that the three sets that precede the final chord are associated with the previous pitches of the Urlinie. This is not only an act of synthesis, but a completion of an idea in a very conventional way. The mod7 analysis shows that semantic sensibility is established by the pattern of new and familiar sounds which herald and prolong the background descent:

Measure:	1		9		17		18		23	24		25
Prolonged scale degree	ŝ		â		3	<u> </u>	2				L	î
Specific mod7 set:	(02-4)1	(01-35)5	(013-5)1	(02-4)4	(01-3-5)2	(02-4)1	(0-1-4) <sup>1</sup> or5	(02-4)4	(0-135)1	(0-1-4) <sup>1</sup> or5	(0-24)5	(02-4)1
Generic mod7 set:	[024]	[0135]	[0135]	[024]	[0135]	[024]	[014]	[024]	[0135]	[014]	[024]	[024]
	☆	☆	☆	*	☆	*	☆	*	*	*	*	*

 $\Delta = \text{new sound}$ 

 $\star$  = familiar sound

Table 2: Ordered set pairings of the Urlinie

The piece begins with unfamiliar sounds with the statement of the 5<sup>th</sup> scale degree, then moves from a new sonority to a familiar one for the engagement of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Then, scale degree 2 is stated with a new sonority, followed by two familiar sets. The movement to tonic at the end of the piece is semantically cohesive with the rest of the Prelude because it completes the idea of the movement from unfamiliar to familiar sounds. The tonic pitch is preceded by all familiar sets, which are associated with the other pitches of the Urlinie; only the sets' order of presentation is new. The movement from major to minor triad is also a final reiteration of the two predominant [024] sets that occur within the work.

## Bach - Prelude No. 1 in C Major, BWV 846

J.S. Bach's Prelude No. 1 in C Major from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, Book I, BWV 846 was chosen for its harmonic language, idiomatic of the Common Practice Era. It will test mod7's possible usefulness within the period's repertoire. The Prelude is also ideal as a piece for discussion as it is one of the works charted in *Five Graphic Analyses*.

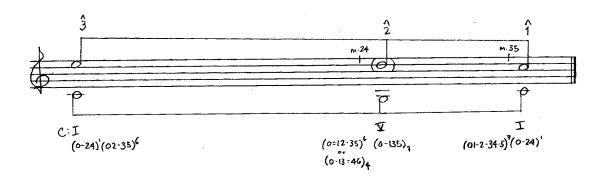
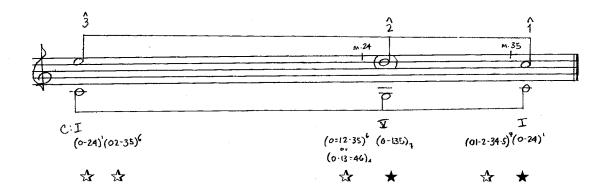


Figure 16: Ursatz and ordered set pairings

In this prelude, a different kind of semantic meaning is apparent from that of the Chopin prelude. This is due largely to the 3-line structure. There are fewer prolonged scale degrees, and therefore syntactic and semantic pattern establishment is less evident. In Schenker's Urlinie Tafel, the kopfton is articulated and followed by two different and new sonorities.  $\hat{2}$  is preceded by a new sonority and immediately articulated above a familiar one. The articulation of tonic, on the other hand, is preceded by an entirely new sonority, presented as the penultimate sonority, which then moves to a familiar set (the tonic triad).



 $\Rightarrow = \text{new sound}$   $\Rightarrow = \text{familiar sound}$ 

Figure 17: Ursatz and ordered set pairings (annotated)

The brevity of the descent is not the only reason for a different type of pattern: unlike the former prelude, there is no change in rate of articulation or duration of sound and silence at the point of closure. The significant difference in the final measures is a change in harmonic rhythm (as applied to sets): measures 33 and 34 contain two sets each, as the measures introduce different pitches in their second halves. Because of the lack of rhythmic variation, it is left to the sonorities to create progression and meaning. Wason writes:

Such "figural preludes" [as Prelude No. 1] might be characterized as "non-narrative": there are no musical "characters" participating in a "drama" delineated by rhythmic "motives." Instead, the rhythmic surface is deceptively placid,

and the musical teleology determined purely by resources of pitch organization – or "harmony."<sup>7</sup>

In addition to set contrasts, Chopin manipulates texture to mark structural changes. Bach, on the other hand, creates structure primarily through set changes.

The opening 19 measures bring the kopfton to the lower octave, which then introduces the  $2^{nd}$  scale degree an octave below the obligatory register. The return to the obligatory register actually occurs in the penultimate measure, with the articulation of  $\hat{2}$  (D) on the second beat. Measures 24 through 34 prolong D, and are concerned primarily with traversing the octave.

The articulations of the scale degrees, including those displaced by an octave, are:

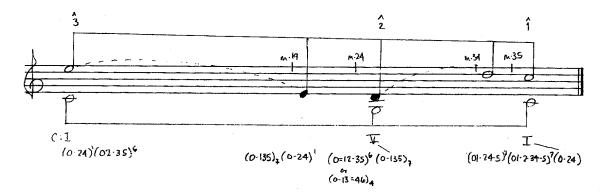
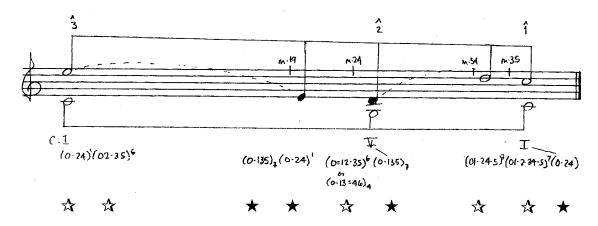


Figure 18: Deeper middleground and ordered set pairings

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Robert W. Wason, "Two Bach Preludes/Two Chopin Etudes, or Toujours travailler Bach – ce sera votre meilleur moyen de progresser," *Music Theory Spectrum*, Vol. 24, No. 1 (Spring 2002), U of California Press, 104. *JSTOR*, 2007, 23 Mar. 2007 <a href="http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.tcu.edu/search">http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.tcu.edu/search</a>.

Here, the pattern of new and familiar sets becomes more complex:



 $\Rightarrow$  = new sound

★ = familiar sound

Figure 19: Deeper middleground and ordered set pairings (annotated)

When the  $2^{nd}$  scale degree is articulated in the obligatory register, it is stated above a new sonority; its proximity to  $\hat{1}$  does not allow it to be followed by a familiar chord, however. Rather, the sonority that follows  $\hat{2}$  also announces the tonic pitch. This elision of  $\hat{2}$  and  $\hat{1}$  sonority pairings is incredibly elucidating with regard to the Urlinie, because it indicates that  $\hat{2}$  must have been prolonged before measure 34. Two unique and new sonorities cannot possibly be the only supporting harmonies for the prolongation of the dominant pitch; there needs to be an antithetical sound (like a V chord), something else to be established as a contrast.

In this situation, mod7 sets can indicate the relative strength of, and possibilities for prolongational support. The chord that is articulated with 2 is a G<sup>7</sup> chord, but with a C pedal. Such a compromised dominant triad would hopefully appear to the analyst as a strange choice for the dominant support, but the sonority looks even stranger and more complex

expressed as a  $(01-24-5)^7$  set. This helps make syntactic sense because one can see how that particular chord functions, or rather, how it does not function (i.e. it cannot be the strong V of the piece).

In fact, the familiar set which precedes the  $\hat{2}$  in measure 34,  $(02\text{-}35)^6$ , is the same set that follows the initiation of the kopfton; it is the second set of the prelude. Besides its occurrence in measure 33, it only appears within the prolongation of the kopfton.

The voicing of  $(02-35)^6$  in measure 33 is very similar to the first statement in measure  $\hat{2}$ . The variations in these two unordered sets give meaning to the arrival to tonic. The sets are shown below:

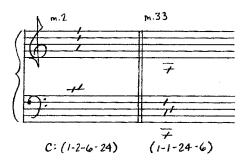
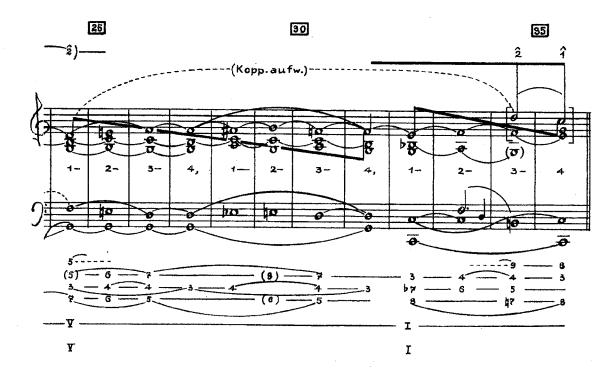


Figure 20: Unordered analysis of (02-35)<sup>6</sup>, m. 2 & m. 33

Measure 33 is similar to measure 2, but stated an octave lower. The C is also doubled in the lowest voices. The F is an octave lower than its original voicing, and the D is omitted from the right hand grouping. These changes in voicing facilitate the unfolding of the minor 3<sup>rd</sup>, from D to F, which then moves to the unfolding of the minor 6<sup>th</sup>, from E to C. This final unfolding produces the arrival to tonic. In order to reach tonic, E must unfold from the lower octave and D must find its way to the obligatory register.



Example 2: Urlinie Tafel of mm. 24-35 from Five Graphic Analyses

The voicing in measure 33 makes this possible because it leaves the obligatory register open. The is the top voice, which moves to D as its dominant. Instead of moving directly to D, the A skips up to F (another minor  $6^{th}$ ). The F, rather than resolving to E, arpeggiates the same collection and moves down to D (the minor  $3^{rd}$ ). D is now finally stated in the obligatory register, and moves to C.

Within the unfolding, there is also an uncharted voice exchange between F and D. Beginning in measure 23-24, the F and D exchange in measure 30 and are held through measure 31. There is a smaller exchange in measure 26. Unordered set analysis is elucidating because the step-class numbers are easily traced. In his graph, Schenker hints at the exchange through figured bass, where 7 moves to 5 and 5 moves to 7. Mod7 sets not

only imply the exchange, but also show in which voices the exchange takes place:

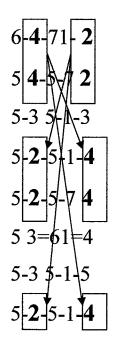


Figure 21: Unordered set progression, mm. 23-30

The Sonority Ternion<sup>8</sup>: (0-24), (02-35), and (0-135)

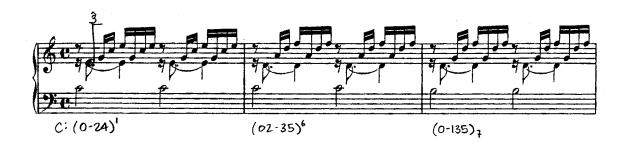


Figure 22: Sonority ternion, mm. 1-3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Ternion: A group of three. The term was chosen because it does not carry any musical connotations (unlike "trio," or "triad").

The first three sets of Prelude No. 1 serve important syntactic and semantic functions throughout the work. This ternion's ordering and placement in the prelude help to signal changes in prolonged scale degrees. For example, it occurs with the articulation of  $\hat{3}$  (measures 1-3), right before the initial prolongation of  $\hat{2}$  (measures 9-11), and before  $\hat{2}$  is stated in the obligatory register (measures 32-33). The only other instance in which these three sets are stated in succession will be discussed later.

(0-24) is a major triad; (02-35), a minor seventh chord; and (0-135) (inverted) is a dominant seventh chord. The three are hallmarks of the Common Practice harmonic language, of course. A mod7 analysis is beneficial here not because a traditional tertian label cannot be given to the sets; rather, it places more visual emphasis on the intervallic content of the sonorities. This is opposed to Roman numeral analysis, which emphasizes relationships to tonic (the actual Roman numerals) most strongly in its symbology.

In measures 1-3, the sets are ordered as  $(0-24)^1 (02-35)^6 (0-135)_7$ .

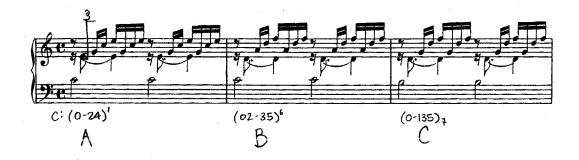


Figure 23: Sonority ternion, mm. 1–3 (annotated)

For their next occurrence,  $(0-24)^1$  moves to the back, and the ordering becomes  $(02-35)^6 (0-135)_7 (0-24)^1$ .

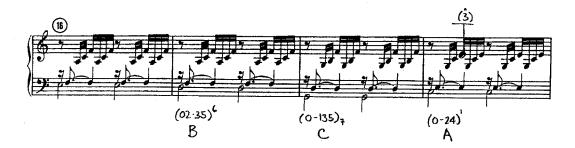


Figure 24: Sonority ternion, mm. 17-19

In measures 32-33, the new first set moves to the back, and the sets are stated as (0-135)<sub>3</sub> (0-24)<sup>4</sup> (02-35)<sup>6</sup>. This final statement is also interesting because the first two sets are transposed up a perfect fourth, while the final set is still at its original pitch level. This synthesizes the de-tonicization of C (which becomes the dominant of F) with one of its hallmark prolongational, tonicizing sets. It is the final gasp of destabilization before the arrival to 1 and the end of the prelude.

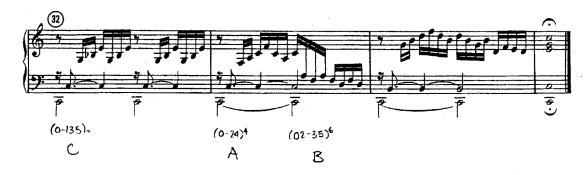


Figure 25: Sonority ternion, mm. 32-33

This sonority ternion also occurs three times where the middle set is altered. In measures 25-27 and 29-31, the sets are  $(0-24)^1 (0-13-4)^1 (0-135)_7$ .  $(0-13-4)^1$  has replaced  $(02-35)^6$ , and is a new set.

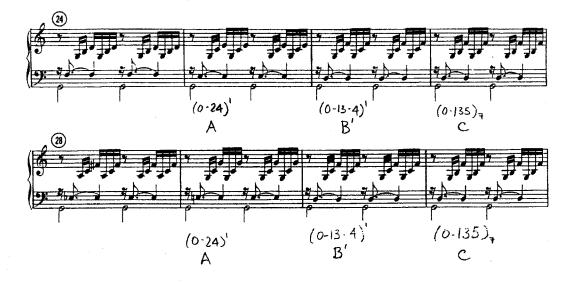


Figure 26: Two sonority ternions, mm. 25-27 & 29-31

There is only one variant pitch between these two sets:  $(02-35)^6$  contains an A, which becomes a G in  $(0-13-4)^1$ . The change helps to reinforce the dominant prolongation, as  $(0-13-4)^1$  is the suspension of the  $4^{th}$  over the  $V^7$  chord. The set is only one pitch away from the dominant chord and actually includes the dominant pitch, whereas  $(02-35)^6$  only possesses the  $5^{th}$  and  $7^{th}$  of the dominant chord. Since  $(0-13-4)^1$  is followed by  $(0-135)_7$ , the  $V^7$  chord, measures 26-27 and 30-31 comprise a  $V^7$  with a 4-3 suspension. The ordering of the three sets in these measures is the same as their original statement in measures 1-3, which makes the resemblance to the ternion more easily recognizable.

The other alteration of the ternion is in measures 33-35. Here, the ordering is  $(02-35)^6 (01-24-5)^7 (01-2-34-5)^7 (0-24)^1$ :

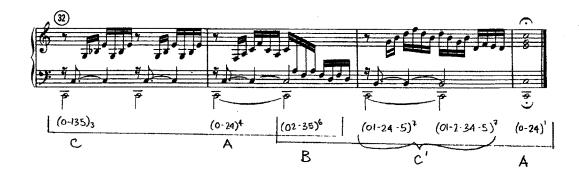


Figure 27: Sonority ternion overlap, mm. 32-35

The two middle sets are the  $(0-135)_7$  set with elaboration (in the first set, C is added, and in the second, C and E). The inclusion of tonic pitches helps to weaken the stability of V7 for the final descent to  $\hat{1}$  in measure 35. This also reinforces Schenker's indication that tonic has already begun to be prolonged. The ordering of the sets (BCA) is the same as that which ends the prolongation of  $\hat{3}$ : it is the order of prolongational change, and now signals the movement to tonic.

The only other occurrence of the ternion is in measures 9-11. Here, the sets are transposed to the dominant level, and are in the ordering previously mentioned, BCA:



Figure 28: Sonority ternion, mm. 9-11

This time, the sets immediately precede the covering of the kopfton, indicated by Schenker with flagged pitches within the 1 Schict. The only other flagged notes are in measures 4-7, and are preceded by the ternion as well.

The ternion statements in measures 1-3, 9-11, and 17-20 actually replicate the harmonic movement within the Ursatz: the first and third occurrences are in the tonic key, while the middle ternion is in the dominant.

#### **Examination of the Ternion Sets: (02-35)**

(02-35) only occurs within the ternion; in the original statement, it is the second sonority (set B). When it is the initial set, it is preceded in both instances by (01-35), the major 7<sup>th</sup> chord (IV<sup>M7</sup> in the tonicized key). It performs a dual role in the ternion, sometimes emphasizing tonic, while other times belonging to the dominant.

In measure 9, the first time (02-35) opens the ternion, it is stated in the dominant key. Later, in measures 26 and 30, it is altered to a  $(0-13-4)^1$  set, the  $V^7$  chord with a suspended  $4^{th}$ . In these instances, (02-35) becomes more of a dominant-reinforcing sonority than a tonic one.

The ternion in measure 17 is stated in the same order as that of measure 9, where (02-35) is first. This time, the ternion is stated in the tonic key, which provides synthesis and marks local closure by way of the end of the prolongation of the kopfton.

Below is a chart of the ordering of (02-35) within the statements of the ternion, and its emphasis on tonic or dominant:

	m. 2	m. 9	m. 17	m. 26	m. 30	m. 33
Position:	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> / 1 <sup>st</sup>
Emphasis:	Tonic	Dominant	Tonic	Dominant	Dominant	Dominant/ Tonic

Table 3: Position and Function of (02-35)

The unordered  $(02-35)^6$  sets in measures 26 and 30 have very similar unordered sets to  $(0-135)_7$  in measures 27 and 31, the  $V^7$  chord. This heightens the altered sets' emphasis on dominant.

In measure 33, (02-35) serves a dual purpose. As the third set of the ternion which began in measure 32, it emphasizes the dominant side (or rather, the anti-tonic side, as the transpositions of the first two sets tonicize the subdominant); this is also the only instance in which (02-35) is the final set of the ternion. This new position within the statement lends a sense of structural and syntactic ambiguity, which is heightened by the overlapping of the next ternion. This second group, beginning in measure 33 with (02-35), relates the set to tonic: it is the same synthetic ordering and transposition of the ternion as in measure 17, at the end of the kopfton's prolongation. Measure 17 was also the last time the (02-35) set was stated without any alteration.

## **Examination of the Ternion Sets: (02-4)**

Although (0-24) (Set A) is stated within and outside of the ternion, it only occurs with a transpositional degree of 1 or 5 (the tonic and dominant triad, respectively). (0-24)<sup>5</sup> is only stated twice in the prelude. Most of the statements of (0-24) do occur within the ternion,

however: there are two instances in which  $(0-24)^1$  is stated on its own, and  $(0-24)^5$  only occurs once (of the two occasions it appears) outside the ternion.

(0-24) is one of the most stable sonorities of the prelude: it is the support for prolongations of the Urlinie. It is also the most common set, occurring eleven times out of the thirty-six sets that comprise the work. It is significant, then, that there are only two non-tonic (and in both cases, dominant) statements. Because the dominant transpositional degree is the only other applied to (0-24), the dominant pitch, G, is also given some importance.

The (0-24) set begins and ends the prolongation of  $\hat{3}$ , and in both instances it occurs within the ternion (as previously shown). It is the opening set of the ternion in measures 25 and 29, during the prolongation of  $\hat{2}$ , but the heightened emphasis on V through the alteration of the (02-35) set relegates this ternion's "tonic-ness."

Unordered set analysis of the occurrences of (0-24), within the ternion, show Bach's choice of voicing throughout the prelude. The first statement (measure 1) is (1-35-1-3). This is then repeated in measure 4, following the initial ternion. In both instances,  $\hat{3}$ , the kopfton, is in the top voice.

The three ternion statements of (0-24) in the prolongation of the kopfton all possess the same unordered mod7 set. The (0-24) in measures 1 and 19, the initiation and close of the kopfton, are (1-35-1-3) sets. Measure 19, however, is transposed down by an octave. In measure 11, the ternion is transposed down a perfect 4<sup>th</sup>. The unordered set of (0-24) is then (5-72-5-7), a transposition of measure 1.

Within the prolongation of  $\hat{2}$ , the voicing of (0-24), as illustrated by unordered set analysis, undergoes change. In measure 25, the unordered set is (5-35-1-3). This is similar

to measure 1 with respect to the right hand. Measure 25 has transposed the top four pitches down one octave. The left hand expands its range, moving from a third to a sixth.

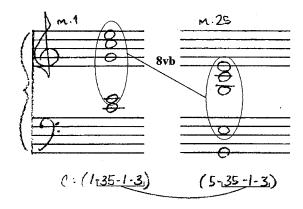


Figure 29: (0-24) transformation, m. 1 to m. 25

The unordered set in measure 25 is also closely related to that in measure 29, (5-35-1-5); the top voice has moved to a G. The bass voice is the 5<sup>th</sup> scale degree, which is doubled in measure 25 and tripled in measure 29. This creates a strong emphasis on G, the dominant pitch. The ternions containing measures 25 and 29 also have been shown to reinforce dominant through the alteration of set B, (02-35)<sup>6</sup>, to (0-13-4)<sup>1</sup>. The tonic pitch is further subdued in the (0-24)<sup>1</sup> sets by their placement in an inner voice. The left hand also contains a larger interval, the major 6<sup>th</sup>.

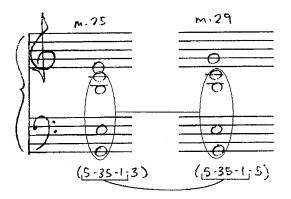


Figure 30: (0-24) transformation, m. 25 to m. 29

In measure 33, (0-24) is transposed to the subdominant and has the most different unordered set, (1-1-4-64). The doubling of the tonic in the two lowest voices emphasizes the scale degree, but the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> scale degrees, rather than the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, do not support the tonic triad. The voicing of the left hand introduced in measures 25 and 29, is carried further with octave C's in the bass. This doubling, along with the minor 6<sup>th</sup> between the top voices, greatly contrasts the voicing with the previous statements of (0-24).

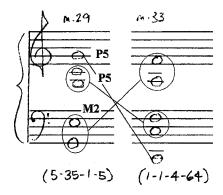


Figure 31: (0-24) transformation, m. 29 to m. 33

The final (0-24) is in measure 35, at the articulation of the tonic and close of the prelude. The octave C's are maintained, while the top two pitches for measure 29 move up a perfect 5<sup>th</sup> to the first and third voices.

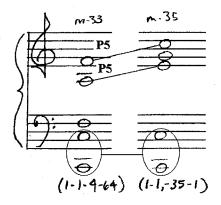


Figure 32: (0-24) transformation, m. 33 to m. 35

The final statement of (0-24) in measure 35 synthesizes the previous voicings which prolonged the  $3^{rd}$  and  $2^{nd}$  scale degrees. The unordered set is (1-1,-35-1). The octave C's in the left hand, introduced in measure 33, are combined with the tripling of the emphasized pitch in measure 29. This time, however, the tonic pitch and chord are both supported, and the top voice states  $\hat{1}$  in the obligatory register. The upper voices are placed closer together, which the E and G in the same position as in measure 25. The tonic is in the same octave as it was in the original statement (measure 1), but is now the topmost voice.

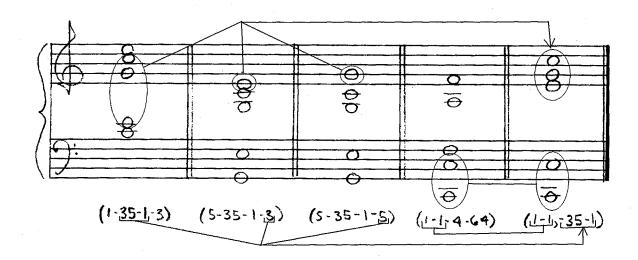


Figure 33: (0-24) transformations, mm. 1, 25, 29, and 33 to m. 35

#### **Examination of the Ternion Sets: (0-135)**

The most common transposition of (0-135) (Set C) is on G, transpositional degree 5, although there are two statements on D as well as on C. Like (0-24), (0-135) occurs both on its own and within the ternion, it also is more often stated within (out of nine statements, only

three are outside a ternion). Only one (0-135) is not even adjacent to a ternion. The two ternion-adjacent (0-135) sets (shown in parentheses) begin and articulate the prolongation of  $\hat{2}$ , as shown in the chart below:

·	m. 2	m. 10	m. 18	m. 20	m. 24	m. 27	m. 31	m. 32	m. 34
Prolonged Pitch	ŝ			(2)	2		(Î)	(2)	î
Position	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	(4 <sup>th</sup> )	(1 <sup>st</sup> )	3 <sup>rd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>

Table 4: Prolonged pitch and ternion position of (0-135)

There are two statements of (0-135) with transpositional degree 2 (D) and 1 (C). (0-135) obviously is a dominant-reinforcing set. The only time in which (0-135) is the first set of the ternion, it is the  $C^7$  chord (the  $V^7/IV$ ) in measure 32. This supports (0-135)'s role as a dominant set, but simultaneously breaks down its emphasis on the actual dominant pitch of the piece, just as the prolongation of tonic begins.

#### **Other Sets**

As stated in the examination of (02-35), (01-35), the major 7<sup>th</sup> chord, precedes the ternion when (02-35) is the initial sonority (measures 9 and 16). The only other occurrence of (01-35) is in measure 21. Perhaps in this final statement, (01-35) attempts to substitute for (02-35), suggesting an overlapping of two ternions in measures 17-19 and 19-21. This is further reinforced by the concept of altered sets. If the (01-35) set were altered so the E were a D, it would become the original (02-35) set of the ternion.

The (02-4) set, the minor triad, only occurs twice in the prelude, both times during the prolongation of the kopfton (measures 5 and 13). In measure 5, it substitutes for (02-35) as well, but is more convincing as a substitute because it occurs between (0-24) and (0-135), as the original ordering of the ternion. Between (02-35)<sup>6</sup> and (02-4)<sup>6</sup>, there are two invariant pitches; the two sets are closely related. The substitution of (02-4) for (02-35) begins to break down the ternion and move the piece forward. This moment begins the new covering line based around the dominant pitch. The ternion's dissolution within the first seven measures is therefore:

## **A B C**: **A** *X* **C**: **A** *XX*

Figure 34: Dissolution of the ternion, mm. 1-7

The symmetrical set (0=135)/(02=35)/(0246) is the fully diminished 7<sup>th</sup> chord. It serves a transitional function in measures 12, 14, 22, and 28. In measures 12 and 14, it separates repetitions or sequences; it is extremely unstable, and resolves to measures 13 and 15, a minor and a major triad, respectively. In measure 28, the sonority separates two ternions of the same ordering.

The only other time the symmetrical set occurs, in measure 22, it precedes the new sonority that announces the articulation of  $\hat{2}$ . This heralding sonority is a new set which is in fact the (0=135)/(02=35)/(0246) with an elaboration (C). The symmetrical set, then, is the only non-ternion set of the piece which is manipulated.

With regard to interpretation of certain sets as altered ternion (or non-ternion) sets, the argument might be made that all of the sets of the piece are altered (0-24) sets. This would mean that the ternion is of less import, because all the sets are merely slightly changed (0-24)s. Of course, this is a work based on tertian norms, and therefore triads can be seen as the core sonority off of which others are based. However, this argument is weakened by the almost equal amount of statements of (0-24) and (0-135) sets, compared to the commonly single instances of an altered or elaborated ternion set.

## Shostakovich - Prelude XIV in E-flat Minor, Op. 34

Shostakovich's Prelude XIV in E-flat minor from *24 Prelyudii*, Op. 34 is also a 3-line. It was chosen for its chordal texture, which is similar to the previous two preludes. However, this prelude does not conform so strictly to the tonal and harmonic norms of the Common Practice Era as do the Chopin and Bach works. For example, out of the little more than one hundred sets that comprise the piece, there are only thirteen [024] sets, eight of which are the tonic triad. This piece clearly would not work very well in a traditional Roman numeral analysis. Since it has not been previously charted, a Schenkerian graph is presented on the following pages.

The prelude begins with the initiation of the kopfton, G-flat, although it is covered by the B-flat line. Once again, the first two sets are new. The prolongation of  $\hat{2}$  begins in measure 11, on the third beat, and the strongly supported  $\hat{2}$  is articulated at the end of measure 15. From measures 16-22, this F traverses three octaves. When  $\hat{1}$  is articulated in measure 26, it is also three octaves above the obligatory register; the ten remaining measures of the piece are concerned with bringing the tonic pitch back into the proper octave.

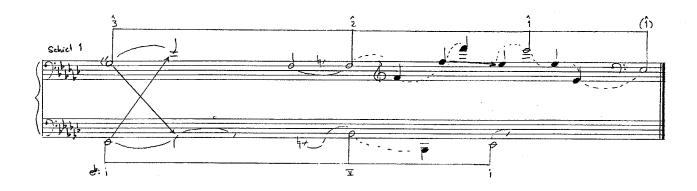


Figure 35: Deeper middleground

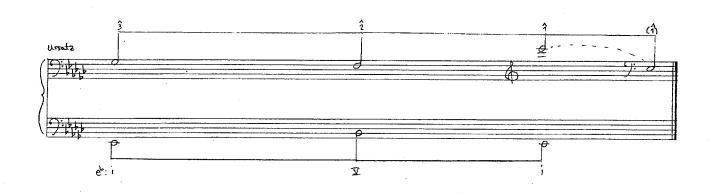


Figure 36: Ursatz

The prolongation of  $\hat{3}$ , the beginning and articulation of  $\hat{2}$ , and the octave displacement of and arrival to  $\hat{1}$  are given below:

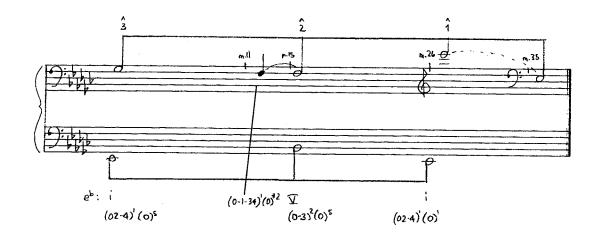
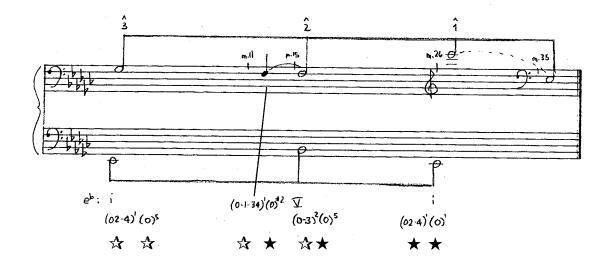


Figure 37: Ursatz and ordered set pairings

Although the final tonic pitch is preceded and articulated with familiar sets, the actual arrival to the prolonged tonic in measure 26 is preceded by a new sonority. This makes very good semantic sense with respect to the Urlinie: Shostakovich does not give the final 1 the same signal as the one in measure 26 because it does not contain the true movement to tonic, just the arrival in the obligatory register. The Ursatz set pairings are given on the following page:



 $\Rightarrow$  = new sound

 $\star$  = familiar sound

Figure 38: Ursatz and ordered set pairings (annotated)

The articulation of  $\hat{2}$  occurs above a new set and is followed by a familiar one.

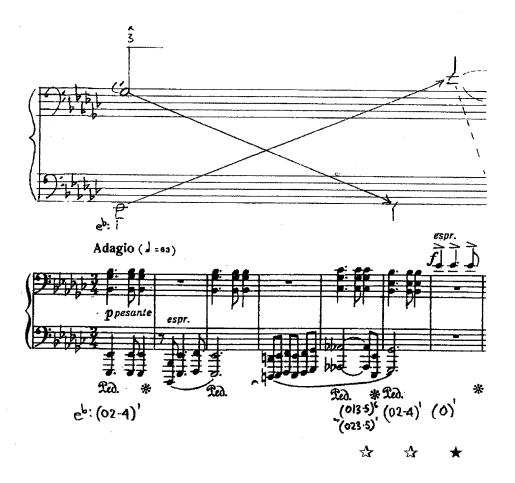
In measure 11, the beginning of the prolongation of  $\hat{2}$ , and measure 15, the articulation of  $\hat{2}$ , the familiar set of the pairing is (0) (which can represent a single pitch or octaves). This is also the second set of the  $\hat{3}$  pairing. (0), then, becomes the contrasting sonority throughout the work. Unordered set analysis shows that the first  $\hat{2}$  is followed by a single pitch, while the actual supported  $\hat{2}$  is followed by three octave B-flats. This indicates stronger support for the F in measure 15 than in measure 11.

When  $\hat{3}$  is initiated, the first set is  $(02-4)^1$ , the tonic triad; this is the familiar set in the pairing for  $\hat{1}$  in measure 26, as well as in measure 35. After the statement of the tonic chord in measure 35, however, (0) returns in the tonic key. This is a synthesis of the prolongational set of  $\hat{2}$  with the tonic pitch. It is stated in three octave E-flats, as it was in measure 16 with the dominant pitch.

The unordered sets show that E-flat does not occur in the highest voice until measures 36-37; it is even covered in measure 26 by the G-flat line.

Without the use of ordered mod7 signaling sets, one might be tempted to see measure 25 as an interruption, and measure 26 as a reiteration of the uncovered kopfton, or even to analyze the prelude as a 5-line. Mod7 set pairings help to indicate the relative strength of a pitch with regard to its prolongation within the Urlinie.

The voice exchange from measure 1 to measures 6 and 7 is a middleground aspect that is also interesting from a mod7 perspective:



☆ = new sound★ = familiar sound

Figure 39: Voice exchange, mm. 1–7

In the exchange, the B-flat line in the highest voice exchanges with the E-flat line in the bass: the two lines that are not the Urlinie trade places, so both cover the G-flat line. The exchange is preceded by a new set, and both pitches are articulated within familiar ones.

This is the same type of pairing and articulation associated with the arrival to 1 in measure

26. In this prelude then, prolongational phenomena occurring within the pitches supported by the tonic chord are accompanied by the same set pairing.

There are more unique sets in the Shostakovich than in the Chopin or Bach preludes. The following sections group the main sonorities into being either related to tonic pitches of the Urlinie or to dominant pitches. The only set that is very common in all prolongations is (0), the single pitch.

#### Sets Prolonging the Kopfton and Tonic

- (02-4), the minor triad, occurs eight times in the prelude, and only during the prolongations of  $\hat{3}$  and  $\hat{1}$ .
- (0-1-23-4)<sup>5</sup> is stated only once, in measure 8. This is accompanied by a change in texture along with a change in linear ordering. Here, the E-flat line, having been the covering line, moves back to the bass voice.
- $(0-12-4)^1$  appears once in the middle of the prolongation of the kopfton (measure 9) and only once again, in measure 26 following the articulation of  $\hat{1}$ .
  - $(0-13-4)^{\#7}$  is the set that announces  $\hat{1}$ ; it is singular to the prelude.

All sets prolonging 3 and 1 contain interval class III.

## **Sets Prolonging the Supertonic**

While the minor triad only appears in the prolongation of tonic, (0-24), the major triad, is only stated within the prolongation of  $\hat{2}$ . Both occurrences are in measure 14. Interestingly enough, neither (0-24) is the dominant triad.

- $(0-1-34)^1$  is the set above which  $\hat{2}$  is articulated and is unique to the prelude.
- (0-3) does not appear until after the articulation of  $\hat{2}$  (measure 15). It is struck along with the movement of  $\hat{2}$  up the octaves (measures 16, 18, 23). This set always has a

transpositional degree of 2, except for its final statement in measure 30, when it is #7. This weakens the set's dominant associations, although it still is not closely related to tonic either.

 $(0-1-4)^1_{or5}$  occurs only during the prolongation of  $\hat{2}$  (as it did in the Chopin). It is also stated once in transposition in measure 25, when tonic has just begun to be prolonged (but has not yet been articulated).

Interval class III is only contained in the major triad, (0-24), where voicing minimizes its importance. It is not included in any other set that exclusively prolongs  $\hat{2}$ .

## **Sets in Every Prolongation**

(02) and (0-2) are introduced in the prolongation of  $\hat{2}$ . They facilitate synthesis later by being included throughout the prolongation of tonic. Here, the contrast between sets containing interval class III and those without is even more dramatic. (02) is a minor  $3^{rd}$  or a major  $6^{th}$ , interval class III, while (0-2) is interval class IV.

The other set included in all prolongations is (0), a single pitch or octave(s).

#### **Another Sonority Ternion**

The first three sets of the Shostakovich prelude also serve a functional purpose with respect to prolongational signaling. Those sets are  $(02-4)^1 (0)^5 (0)^1$ ; they begin the piece with the kopfton.



Figure 40: Sonority ternion, mm. 1-2

Unlike the Bach ternion, their ordering is not changed throughout the piece. Instead, the transpositions, positioning, and complete statements of the ternion are of structural importance.

The beginning of the prolongation of  $\hat{2}$  (measure 11) is preceded by the first two sets of the ternion in their original transpositions:  $(02-4)^1$  (0)<sup>5</sup>. However, instead of progressing to  $(0)^1$ , the articulation of  $\hat{2}$  is stated over a  $(0-1-34)^1$  set.

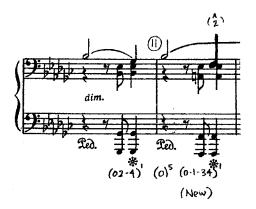


Figure 41: Sonority ternion, mm. 10-11

The announcing set of  $\hat{1}$  is preceded in the same way, but this time the final set is  $(0-1-4)^{\#3}_{\text{or}\#7}$ . It then progresses to  $(02-4)^1$ , the set that articulates the tonic. The prolongation of  $\hat{2}$ , therefore, is also initiated and ended with the ternion.

The final three sets of the piece are a synthesized version of the ternion:  $(0)^5$  is replaced by  $(0)^1$ ; the dominant-functioning sonority within the ternion finally has given way to tonic. The last ternion is  $(02-4)^1$   $(0)^1$   $(0)^1$ :

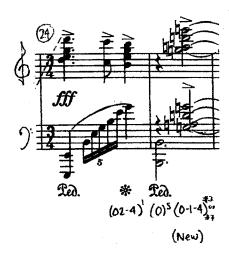


Figure 42: Sonority ternion, mm. 24-25

There is also a middleground movement to closure through the manipulation of the ternion. In measures 30-31, the sets are  $(02-4)^{\#3}$   $(0)^5$   $(0-2)^5$ : a different version of the ternion, as the transposition of (02-4) is different, as is the final set. In measures 32-33, the attempt to arrive at tonic begins again:  $(02-4)^1$   $(0)^2$   $(0-1-2)^3$ .



Figure 43: Two sonority ternions, mm. 30-31 & 32-33

Here, the first set is unaltered, while the second set is the same as the original, but transposed; the third sonority is different. This prepares the piece for its final, synthesized statement of the ternion, and the close of the prelude.

#### **Conclusions**

A chart of the sonority pairings of Urlinie prolongations within the three preludes is given below. The set which is articulated with the prolonged pitch is in bold.

Chanin	ŝ	â	ŝ	2	î	
Chopin	\$ \$	☆★	☆★	☆ ★	**	
	ŝ			2 2	î	
Bach	☆ ☆			☆ ★	☆★	
Chartakariak	<b>3</b>			2	î.	î (obligatory register)
Shostakovich	\$ \$			☆ ★	☆ ★	**

 $\Delta$  = new sound

 $\star$  = familiar sound

Table 5: Ordered set pairings of each Urlinie

All prolongations of the kopfton are flanked by new sonorities. The next scale degree  $(\hat{4} \text{ in the Chopin, } \hat{2} \text{ in Bach and Shostakovich examples)}$  are therefore announced by a new sonority. All tonic prolongations are articulated with familiar sonorities (in each case, the tonic triad), and all pieces end with a familiar sonority as well. In the Chopin and Shostakovich preludes,  $\hat{2}$  is articulated above a new sonority.

Except for the kopfton, the composers support changes in the Urlinie with familiar sets. Conversely, prolongations themselves are supported with new sonorities.

In both 3-line descents, tonic is announced by a new set. As previously stated, this is most likely done to associate the new change in prolongation with the only other one within the piece.

The Bach and Shostakovich preludes both employ sonority ternions that are associated with prolongational changes. This may be more necessary for 3-line structures because there are not enough scale degrees within the descent to create a noticeable pattern of new-familiar pairings. Such pairings are still good signals for changes in the Urlinie, but are of secondary importance to the ternion.

In the Bach prelude, changes in the ternion signal structural changes. The ternion in the Shostakovich prelude, on the other hand, is a static entity. Since the ordering of sets within the ternion is not variable, the placement of the ternion itself is more important to the structure and prolongations within it.

The concept that new mod7 sets can function as signals of change in the Urlinie is provocative because the sets themselves are very foreground phenomena. A traditional Schenkerian analysis shows them to be diminutive, because by and large, they are unstable sonorities in Common Practice Era harmony. In the three analyses presented in this paper, localized, sometimes even singular, sounds are associated with fundamental long-term linear implications. Sonorities do not exist solely for the sake of color nor for the sake of function; the two aspects are inseparable in music. Mod7 weds color and function without relying on any Common Practice Era norms.

Mod7 is a useful bridge between functionality and simple intervallic content, because the function of a sonority and its relationship to tonic is determinable, as is the exact color of any set. The use of unordered sets is also very applicable to Schenkerian analysis, because it is even more specific than traditional figured bass with regard to voice leading.

Further exploration of mod7 sets as structural markers for changes in prolonged pitches of the Urlinie might also identify unifying elements within tonal works that are not made apparent by traditional Roman Numeral analysis. This research will be best facilitated by examining Schenkerian graphs of standard repertoire, in the hope that trends in specific sonority choices coincide with the descent of the Urlinie. Charts of tonal works written outside the Common Practice Era harmonic tradition may also be used where expanded diatonicism might require the analyst to determine the harmonic norms of individual pieces before finding the sonorities that signal prolongational changes. It is possible the study of mod7 set manipulation might serve as a priori signal of prolongation in cases where Schenkerian norms are in doubt or absent.

The three analyses utilizing the hybrid system of mod7 give insight into the music not only from a Schenkerian or semantic viewpoint. A composer's intentional choice of entirely new sonorities and their placement in the piece function as structural markers; this aural phenomenon clearly affects both interpretation and analysis of a work itself. Mod7 can identify similarities between sonorities, which maintain the tertian standard of the Common Practice Era, but also makes apparent the striking changes in intervallic content of those sets. This can then indicate relative stability, and therefore inherent function, of collections within a diatonic system, without necessarily relying on the presuppositions of traditional tonality.

## APPENDIX A: SCORES WITH ORDERED SET ANALYSES

Chopin - Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op.28

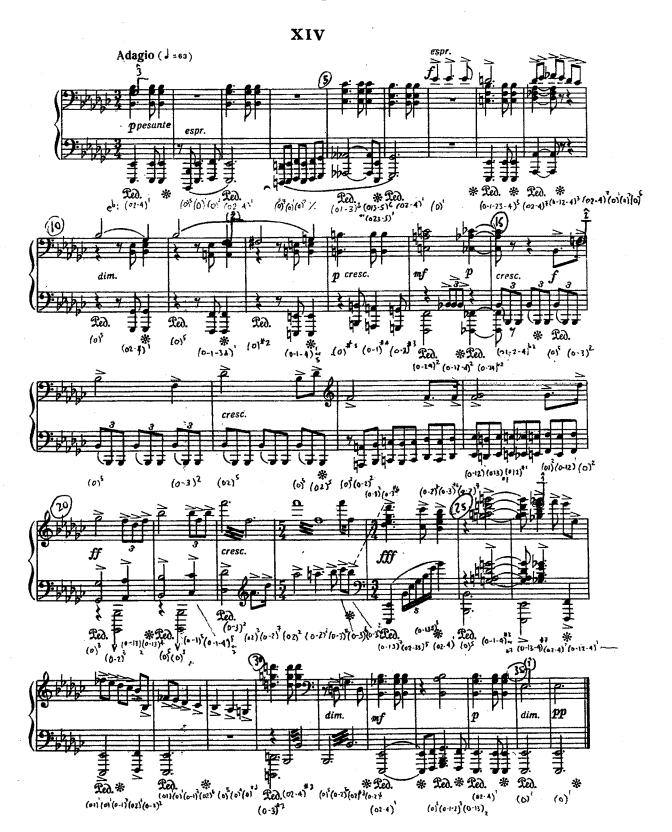


Bach - Prelude No. 1 in C Major from The Well-Tempered Clavier, BWV 846





Shostakovich - Prelude XIV in E-flat Minor, Op. 34

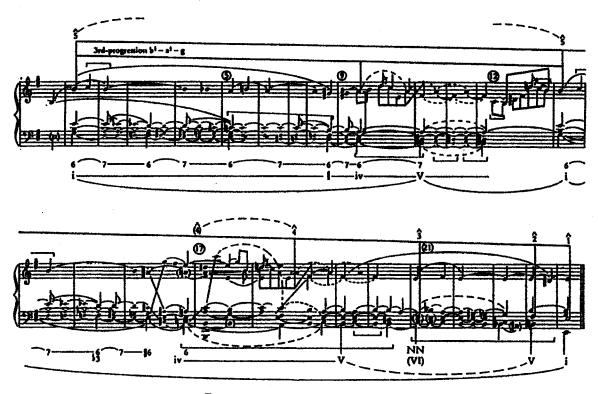


# APPENDIX B: ADDITIONAL AND COMPLETE SCHENKERIAN GRAPHS

## Chopin - Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op.28

Schachter's 1994 Graph

(Rpt. in London & Rodman, "Musical Genre and Schenkerian Analysis," 106)

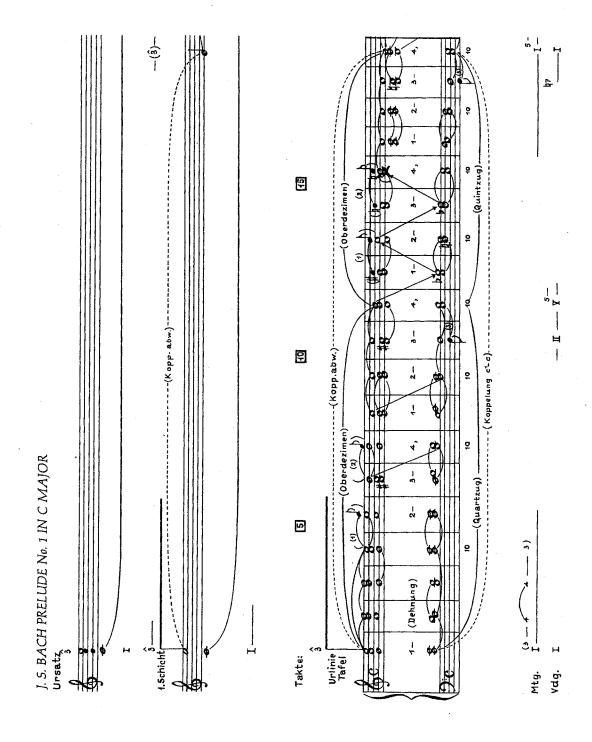


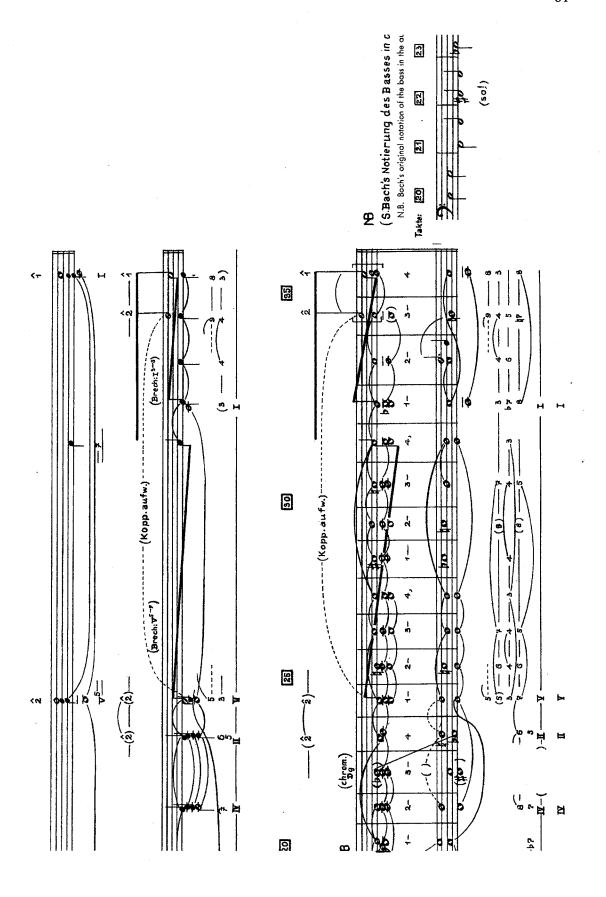
Example 2a. Schachter's graph (1994a)

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Bach - Prelude No. 1 in C Major from The Well-Tempered Clavier, BWV 846

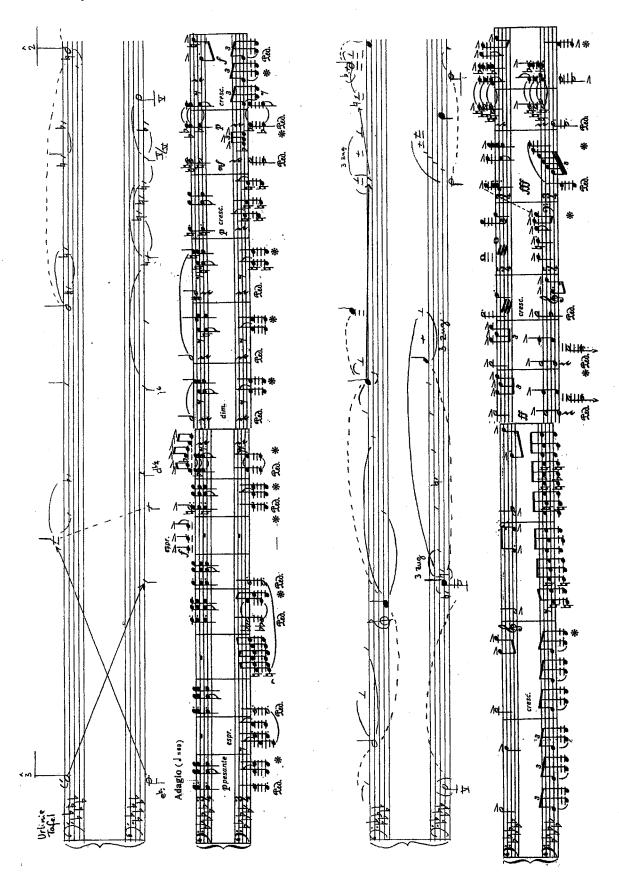
From Schenker's Five Graphic Analyses, 36–37

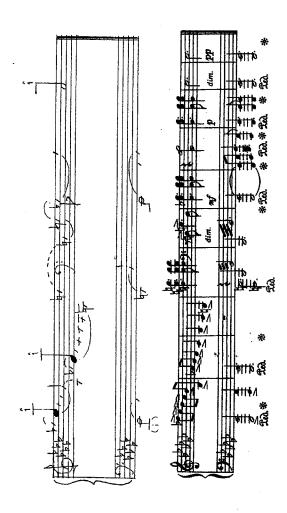


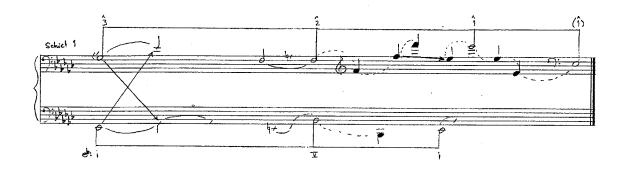


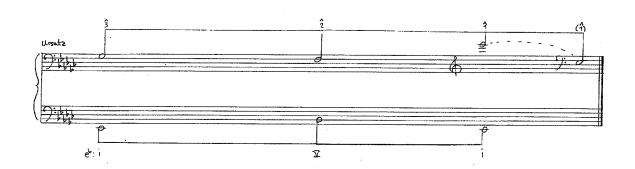
# Shostakovich - Prelude XIV in E-flat Minor, Op. 34

Urlinie Tafel





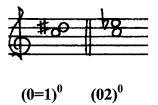




#### APPENDIX C: MORE ON MOD7: E-RELATED SETS

In mod12 set theory, sets with differing pc numbers possess the same intervallic content, and therefore have identical interval vectors. These sets are known as z-related sets. Z-relationships are important to a mod12 analysis because intervallic content might be preserved even if pitch content is altered. In a chromatic environment, there are a limited number of z-related sets. In a diatonic environment, however, the number of possible z-related sets is staggering. With mod7, step-class content determines z-relationships between sets. This creates the possibility that sets that are technically z-related may not only possess identical intervallic content, but identical pitch content as well. This is due to enharmonic spellings. For example, the interval vector 010000 (one major 2<sup>nd</sup> or minor 7<sup>th</sup>) represents the sets (0-1), (0/2), (0=5), and (06). For larger sets, there are even more possibilities for z-relations.

A more accurate term for these sets' correlation is "e-related," as they are enharmonic equivalents. They have the same pitches in terms of actual frequency, but they possess different step-classes. For example:



Interestingly enough, z-related mod12 sets can actually be identical generic evolved mod7 sets. For example, the mod12 set (0146) is z-related to (0137); both have the interval

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#### **VITA**

Jessica Rhiannon Fulkerson was born December 10, 1982, in Los Angeles,
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#### **ABSTRACT**

In this paper, a new system of notation for ordered and unordered mod7 step-class sets will be presented and applied to Chopin's Prelude No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 28; Bach's Prelude No. 1 in C Major from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, Book I, BWV 846; and Shostakovich's Prelude XIV in E-flat Minor from *24 Prelyudii*, Op. 34. This analysis will also show how linear progression can be expressed through the use of both ordered and unordered mod7 sets.

The preludes will be analyzed with ordered and unordered mod7 sets. The sets will then be compared to Schenkerian graphs, where significant sonorities will become associated with changes in the prolongations in the Urlinie. These sets are meaningful structural markers within the preludes, and carry not only syntactic, but also semantic implications.

The three mod7 analyses will give insight into the music not only from a Schenkerian or semantic viewpoint. A composer's intentional choice of entirely new sonorities and their placement in the piece function as structural markers; this aural phenomenon clearly affects both interpretation and analysis of a work itself. Mod7 can identify similarities between sonorities, which maintain the tertian standard of the Common Practice Era, but also makes apparent the striking changes in intervallic content of those sets. This can then indicate relative stability, and therefore inherent function, of collections within a diatonic system, without necessarily relying on the presuppositions of traditional tonality.