

Music 253/CS 275A
Stanford University
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Musical Information: An Introduction
Winter Quarter

Music 253: Take-home Final Essays (Choose two of three)
Due on Thursday, March 23, 2006, by 11 p.m.

Musical Information in Sound, Notation, and Analysis

Please preface each essay with the question to which you are responding.

Essay (1000-2000 words or 4-8 pp.):

*1. Discuss the (hypothetical) **encoding of melodic material** in a repertory with which you are familiar (for example, music for piano, guitar, orchestra, chamber music, band) **for (a) notation, (b) sound, and (c) analytical applications**. What problems could be encountered in this repertory for each of the three domains? To what extent are the problems solvable?

Answer **one** of the following:

2. Essay (400-600 words or 1.5 to 2 pp.) (music majors):

Which **attributes** of musical information are usually required for your selected application domain? How do the requirements of this domain differ from those of other domains?

OR

3. Essay (400-600 words) (disciplines outside music):

3. Discuss the difficulties that might be encountered in making **melodic searches** based on data available in the MIDI, SCORE, and Humdrum formats. Which attributes are searchable in each? How important are each of these to the data you discussed in #1? [Omit any portions of the class you did not take.]

Please provide well organized material. You may include musical examples or other documentation of your points, or you can put a scanned image of a representative page of music at a URL where I can see it. (If posting, please give an explicit link address.)

3alt: Discuss the difficulties that might be encountered in making an **interchange code** based on data available in the MIDI, SCORE, and Humdrum formats. Which attributes are unique to each? How important are each of these to the data you discussed in #1? [Omit any portions of the class you did not take.]

Please send by email to esfield@stanford.edu.

