

# Monophonic music encoding: EsAC and Plaine & Easie

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Music 253/CS 275A  
Stanford University

# EsAC: Distinguishing features

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- Essen Associative Code (EsAC): 1982-94
  - Dev. Helmut Schaffrath
  - DOS-Win 3
  - Earlier mainframe models for Deutsche Volkslied Archiv (DVA)
  - Program development by Wolfram Steinbeck (1982)
- Focus on **bibliographical source** encoding
  - Was always focused on “analytical” uses, including search

# EsAC Data Models

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- Proposed uses:

1. *Archiving*: canonical format that facilitates interoperability

2. *Interchange*: canonical format that is easily interpreted by sending and receiving systems *whose formats may be unknown*

3. *Analysis*: flexible format that can be modified to suit a range of needs (can sometimes be distilled from richer format)

# Distinguishing features

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- Neither *time* nor *space* is a dominant consideration
- *Environment* may be extensive; focus on interoperability
- Examples
  - *Archiving*: EsAC (monophonic), MuseData (polyphonic)
  - *Interchange*: MusicXML, MEI
  - *Analysis*: Humdrum Toolkit (main format = *kern*)



# Sample EsAC record

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Schloss in Oesterreich Es ligt ein schlos in Ostereich,

F [BALLADE  
CUT [Schloss in Oesterreich  
Es ligt ein schlos in Ostereich,]  
CNR [das ist gar wol erbawet]  
REG [Mitteleuropa, Deutschland]  
SRC [1, S. 250  
1549 gedruckt in Nuernberg]  
KEY [Q0024A 08 F FREI]



MET [1 1 2 2 4 5 2 1 2]  
FCT [Ballade, Gefangenschaft, Hinrichtung, Tod, Vergeltung]  
CMT [Kleinere Melodievarianten aus anderen Quellen abgedruckt.  
Refrainartiges Anhaengsel an der letzten Zeile.]

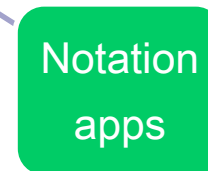
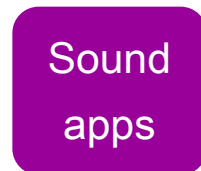
# EsAC network model (1982-1994)

## Folk music research

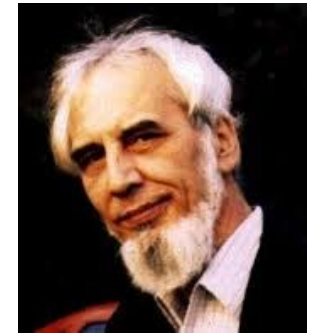
Developed in Essen, DE, by Helmut Schaffrath from the [Kiel/DVA archive](#) and other sources

[esac-data.org](http://esac-data.org)

Often transcribed  
by hand



Mainly assigned to students



*Above:* H. Schaffrath (1942-1994)  
*L:* Ewa Dahlig

Often simplified,  
No text underlay

# EsAC code vs other codes



ESAC: +1 +3 +5 +3++1\_+5 +3 +2 +1 +6\_ +4 +2 +1 7 +3 +2 +5 +4 +2#\_+3\_

a JIANPU: 1 3 5 3 1 5 3 2 4 6 4 2 1 7 3 2 5 4 #2 3

b DARMS1: 26E 28E 30E 28E 33Q 30E 28E ..... (etc.)

c DARMS2: 6E 8E 10E 8E 13Q 10E 8E ..... (etc.)

d SCORE: c5/e/w/ g/e/c6/g5/e/w/ d/f/ a/ f/ d/ w .... (etc.)  
ex4/ q/ex4/....

e MTeX: \a 5\a 7 : \a9\a7\v12\a9\a7\% .... (etc.)

Mozart trio (EsAC with 5 data translations)

<http://esac-data.org/>

<http://kern.humdrum.org/search?s=t&keyword=essen&type=Text>



# EsAC: Essen Folksong Collection

- Monophonic music (8500 songs)
- Purposes
  - Archiving
  - Comparing versions
  - Teaching
  - Sound output

The image shows three staves of musical notation in 3/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). Below it is a fretboard diagram with the following fret numbers: +1 +3 +5 +3 ++1\_ +5 +3 +2 +4 +6\_ +4+2 +1 7 +3 +2 +5 +4 +2#\_ +3\_ . The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. Below it is a fretboard diagram with the following fret numbers: 1\_ 3\_ 5\_ 3\_ +1\_ 5\_ 6\_ 5\_ +1\_ 5\_ 6\_ 5\_ 5\_ 4\_ 3\_ 3\_ 2\_ 0\_ . The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. Below it is a fretboard diagram with the following fret numbers: 1\_ 3\_ 5\_ 3\_ +1\_ 6\_ 5\_ 3\_ 3\_ 5\_ 4\_ 2\_ 5\_ 5\_ 3\_ .

Pitch and duration uncoupled

# EsAC: Essen Folksong Collection

□ Monophonic music (8500 songs)

□ Purposes

- Archiving
- Comparing versions
- Teaching
- Sound output

□ Contributions

- Earliest model of computer analysis (Leppig, 1987)

Three staves of musical notation in treble clef, 3/4 time. The first staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#). Below the notes are numerical annotations: +1 +3 +5 +3 ++1\_ +5 +3 +2 +4 +6\_ +4 +2 +1 7 +3 +2 +5 +4 +2#\_ +3\_ . The second and third staves have annotations: 1\_ 3\_ 5\_ 3\_ +1\_ 5\_ 6\_ 5\_ +1\_ 5\_ 6\_ 5\_ 5\_ 4\_ 3\_ 3\_ 2\_ 0\_ and 1\_ 3\_ 5\_ 3\_ +1\_ 6\_ 5\_ 3\_ 3\_ 5\_ 4\_ 2\_ 5\_ 5\_ 3\_ .

Pitch and duration uncoupled

First lines Mozart

Mozart B0397 E0699A

R: nearest matches for Mozart trio

# EsAC: Essen Folksong Collection

- Contributions
  - Earliest model of computer analysis (Leppig, 1987)

## □ Similarity ratings

R: nearest matches for  
Mozart trio

First lines Mozart

Mozart 

B0397 

E0699A 

The image displays three musical staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The top staff is labeled 'Mozart' and shows the first line of a piece. The middle staff is labeled 'B0397' and the bottom staff is labeled 'E0699A'. Both B0397 and E0699A are identified as nearest matches for the Mozart piece.

# EsAC: Essen Folksong Collection

- Similarity ratings
- Prioritizing features of motion
  - Contour
  - Direction
  - Intervallic movement
  - Durational change
  - Melodic structure

R: nearest matches for  
Mozart trio

First lines Mozart

Mozart  Mozart's first line of music is in treble clef, key of D major (one sharp), and 3/4 time. It consists of five measures: G4-A4, B4-A4, G4-A4, F4-G4, E4-F4, D4-E4, C4-D4, B3-C4, A3-B3, G3-A3, F3-G3, E3-F3, D3-E3, C3-D3, B2-C3, A2-B2, G2-A2, F2-G2, E2-F2, D2-E2, C2-D2, B1-C2, A1-B1, G1-A1, F1-G1, E1-F1, D1-E1, C1-D1, B0-C1, A0-B0, G0-A0, F0-G0, E0-F0, D0-E0, C0-D0, B-1-C-1, A-1-B-1, G-1-A-1, F-1-G-1, E-1-F-1, D-1-E-1, C-1-D-1, B-2-C-2, A-2-B-2, G-2-A-2, F-2-G-2, E-2-F-2, D-2-E-2, C-2-D-2, B-3-C-3, A-3-B-3, G-3-A-3, F-3-G-3, E-3-F-3, D-3-E-3, C-3-D-3, B-4-C-4, A-4-B-4, G-4-A-4, F-4-G-4, E-4-F-4, D-4-E-4, C-4-D-4, B-5-C-5, A-5-B-5, G-5-A-5, F-5-G-5, E-5-F-5, D-5-E-5, C-5-D-5, B-6-C-6, A-6-B-6, G-6-A-6, F-6-G-6, E-6-F-6, D-6-E-6, C-6-D-6, B-7-C-7, A-7-B-7, G-7-A-7, F-7-G-7, E-7-F-7, D-7-E-7, C-7-D-7, B-8-C-8, A-8-B-8, G-8-A-8, F-8-G-8, E-8-F-8, D-8-E-8, C-8-D-8, B-9-C-9, A-9-B-9, G-9-A-9, F-9-G-9, E-9-F-9, D-9-E-9, C-9-D-9, B-10-C-10, A-10-B-10, G-10-A-10, F-10-G-10, E-10-F-10, D-10-E-10, C-10-D-10, B-11-C-11, A-11-B-11, G-11-A-11, F-11-G-11, E-11-F-11, D-11-E-11, C-11-D-11, B-12-C-12, A-12-B-12, G-12-A-12, F-12-G-12, E-12-F-12, D-12-E-12, C-12-D-12, B-13-C-13, A-13-B-13, G-13-A-13, F-13-G-13, E-13-F-13, D-13-E-13, C-13-D-13, B-14-C-14, A-14-B-14, G-14-A-14, F-14-G-14, E-14-F-14, D-14-E-14, C-14-D-14, B-15-C-15, A-15-B-15, G-15-A-15, F-15-G-15, E-15-F-15, D-15-E-15, C-15-D-15, B-16-C-16, A-16-B-16, G-16-A-16, F-16-G-16, E-16-F-16, D-16-E-16, C-16-D-16, B-17-C-17, A-17-B-17, G-17-A-17, F-17-G-17, E-17-F-17, D-17-E-17, C-17-D-17, B-18-C-18, A-18-B-18, G-18-A-18, F-18-G-18, E-18-F-18, D-18-E-18, C-18-D-18, B-19-C-19, A-19-B-19, G-19-A-19, F-19-G-19, E-19-F-19, D-19-E-19, C-19-D-19, B-20-C-20, A-20-B-20, G-20-A-20, F-20-G-20, E-20-F-20, D-20-E-20, C-20-D-20, B-21-C-21, A-21-B-21, G-21-A-21, F-21-G-21, E-21-F-21, D-21-E-21, C-21-D-21, B-22-C-22, A-22-B-22, G-22-A-22, F-22-G-22, E-22-F-22, D-22-E-22, C-22-D-22, B-23-C-23, A-23-B-23, G-23-A-23, F-23-G-23, E-23-F-23, D-23-E-23, C-23-D-23, B-24-C-24, A-24-B-24, G-24-A-24, F-24-G-24, E-24-F-24, D-24-E-24, C-24-D-24, B-25-C-25, A-25-B-25, G-25-A-25, F-25-G-25, E-25-F-25, D-25-E-25, C-25-D-25, B-26-C-26, A-26-B-26, G-26-A-26, F-26-G-26, E-26-F-26, D-26-E-26, C-26-D-26, B-27-C-27, A-27-B-27, G-27-A-27, F-27-G-27, E-27-F-27, D-27-E-27, C-27-D-27, B-28-C-28, A-28-B-28, G-28-A-28, F-28-G-28, E-28-F-28, D-28-E-28, C-28-D-28, B-29-C-29, A-29-B-29, G-29-A-29, F-29-G-29, E-29-F-29, D-29-E-29, C-29-D-29, B-30-C-30, A-30-B-30, G-30-A-30, F-30-G-30, E-30-F-30, D-30-E-30, C-30-D-30, B-31-C-31, A-31-B-31, G-31-A-31, F-31-G-31, E-31-F-31, D-31-E-31, C-31-D-31, B-32-C-32, A-32-B-32, G-32-A-32, F-32-G-32, E-32-F-32, D-32-E-32, C-32-D-32, B-33-C-33, A-33-B-33, G-33-A-33, F-33-G-33, E-33-F-33, D-33-E-33, C-33-D-33, B-34-C-34, A-34-B-34, G-34-A-34, F-34-G-34, E-34-F-34, D-34-E-34, C-34-D-34, B-35-C-35, A-35-B-35, G-35-A-35, F-35-G-35, E-35-F-35, D-35-E-35, C-35-D-35, B-36-C-36, A-36-B-36, G-36-A-36, F-36-G-36, E-36-F-36, D-36-E-36, C-36-D-36, B-37-C-37, A-37-B-37, G-37-A-37, F-37-G-37, E-37-F-37, D-37-E-37, C-37-D-37, B-38-C-38, A-38-B-38, G-38-A-38, F-38-G-38, E-38-F-38, D-38-E-38, C-38-D-38, B-39-C-39, A-39-B-39, G-39-A-39, F-39-G-39, E-39-F-39, D-39-E-39, C-39-D-39, B-40-C-40, A-40-B-40, G-40-A-40, F-40-G-40, E-40-F-40, D-40-E-40, C-40-D-40, B-41-C-41, A-41-B-41, G-41-A-41, F-41-G-41, E-41-F-41, D-41-E-41, C-41-D-41, B-42-C-42, A-42-B-42, G-42-A-42, F-42-G-42, E-42-F-42, D-42-E-42, C-42-D-42, B-43-C-43, A-43-B-43, G-43-A-43, F-43-G-43, E-43-F-43, D-43-E-43, C-43-D-43, B-44-C-44, A-44-B-44, G-44-A-44, F-44-G-44, E-44-F-44, D-44-E-44, C-44-D-44, B-45-C-45, A-45-B-45, G-45-A-45, F-45-G-45, E-45-F-45, D-45-E-45, C-45-D-45, B-46-C-46, A-46-B-46, G-46-A-46, F-46-G-46, E-46-F-46, D-46-E-46, C-46-D-46, B-47-C-47, A-47-B-47, G-47-A-47, F-47-G-47, E-47-F-47, D-47-E-47, C-47-D-47, B-48-C-48, A-48-B-48, G-48-A-48, F-48-G-48, E-48-F-48, D-48-E-48, C-48-D-48, B-49-C-49, A-49-B-49, G-49-A-49, F-49-G-49, E-49-F-49, D-49-E-49, C-49-D-49, B-50-C-50, A-50-B-50, G-50-A-50, F-50-G-50, E-50-F-50, D-50-E-50, C-50-D-50, 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# \*RISM OPAC search via P&E

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- Relies on Plaine & Easie code (1967, NYU)
- <https://opac.rism.info/metaopac/start.do?View=rism&Language=en>
- Search for “Marenzio”
- Filters:
  - Marenzio
  - Manuscript
  - Year = < 1639
  - Year = 1587-1623
  - Genre = Madrigals
  - Title = “O bella man mi dstringe il core”

# Marenzio examples

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“O bella man che mi distringi” (“O beautiful hand...”)

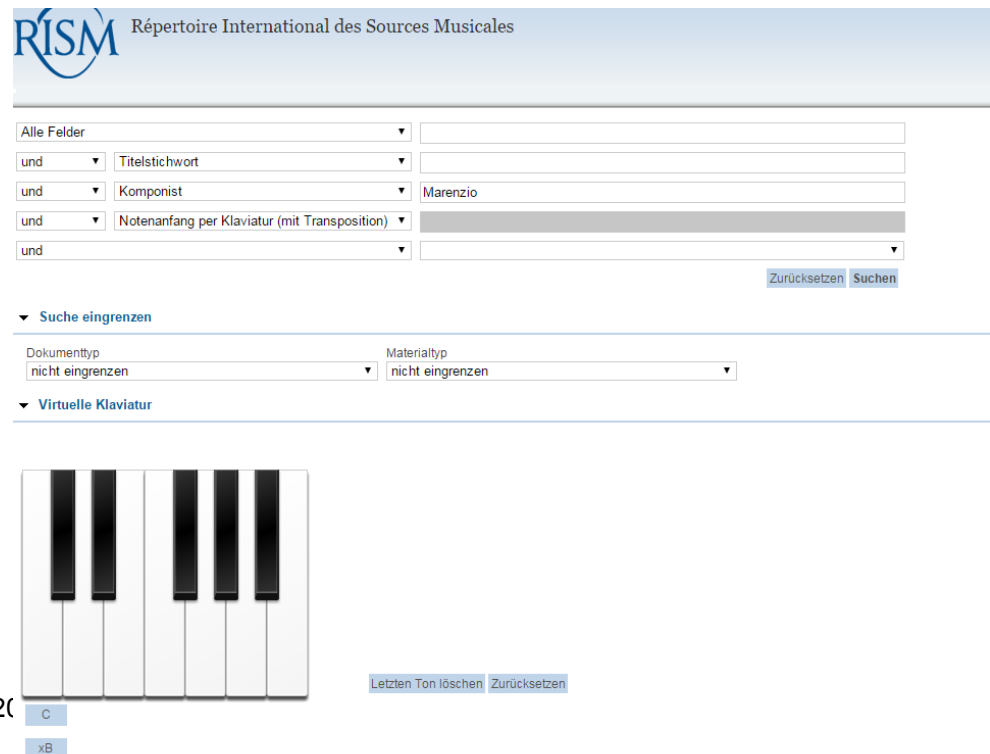


“Se branate ch’ io mora” (“If I were to die....”)



# Ways to search on RISM OPAC (DE)

- Plaine & Easie Code
- Virtual keyboard
- <https://opac.rism.info/metaopac/search.do?emptyFields=false&SearchType=2&methodToCall=switchSearchPage>



RISM Répertoire International des Sources Musicales

Alle Felder

und  Titelstichwort

und  Komponist  Marenzio

und  Notenanfang per Klaviatur (mit Transposition)

und


Zurücksetzen Suchen

▼ Suche eingrenzen

Dokumenttyp  nicht eingrenzen

Materialtyp  nicht eingrenzen

▼ Virtuelle Klaviatur



2(C

x(B

Letzten Ton löschen Zurücksetzen







# Other RISM keyboard search interfaces

RISM UK

The screenshot displays the RISM UK website's advanced search interface. The browser address bar shows the URL [www.rism.org.uk/manuscripts/search?strategy=index](http://www.rism.org.uk/manuscripts/search?strategy=index). The page header includes the RISM logo and the text "Répertoire International des Sources Musicales United Kingdom". A navigation menu on the left lists various sections, with "Advanced search" currently selected. The main content area is titled "Advanced search" and features two search input fields, each with a dropdown menu set to "Any field" and a "contains" operator. Below these are buttons for "Incipits" and a search input field with a question mark icon. A keyboard search tool is prominently displayed, consisting of a row of buttons labeled with numbers 9, 1, 2, 4, 8, 6, 3, 5, and symbols for "rest", "dot", and "barline", along with "undo" and "Reset" buttons. Below the keyboard is a piano keyboard diagram with two treble clefs and a "G" note on the left and right sides. A dropdown menu below the keyboard is labeled "Any key". A "Search" button is located at the bottom right of the interface.

# RISM UK search

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□ C A B C [ + rest + C]

Another new candidate—“Chi vuol vedere Amore”

[u/v a single Latin letter in earlier centuries]

In RISM OPAC “Chi vuol vedere” yields 16 non-Marenzio matches!

# RISM Switzerland (rism-ch.org)

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- <http://rism-ch.org/?locale=en>
- Looks like UK **keyboard search** but it has Themefinder sliders:
  - Intervallic search
  - Duration (several levels of resolution)
  - Metric filter

# Themefinder

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- <http://www.themefinder.org>
  - Work-in-progress: [themefinder.com](http://themefinder.com)
  - <http://rism.themefinder.org>
    - Multiple levels of resolution for pitch, duration
    - Filters for meter, mode