Octatonic-Triadic Cycles and Amy Beach's "Autumn Song" Society for Music Theory Annual Conference • November 6, 2021 William O'Hara (Gettysburg College) • williamevanohara@gmail.com

Autumn Song by H.H.A. Beach

Happy days and summer roses Vanish one by one; Ev'ry rose her petals loses, Ev'ry day its sun.

Now the goldenrod is swinging Radiant in the air, The wild grape still is clinging High in purple rare. Ah!

Happy days and joyous roses, Come again in spring; Winter then in sleep reposes, And to thee I'll sing!

Figure 1: Tonal Plan for Amy Beach, "Autumn Song" (Op. 56, No. 1; 1904)

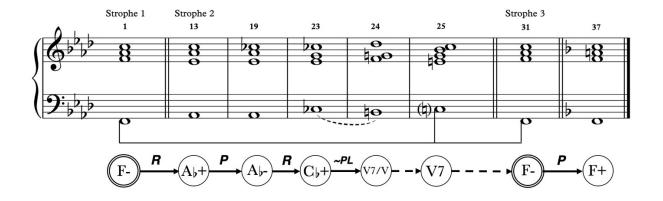
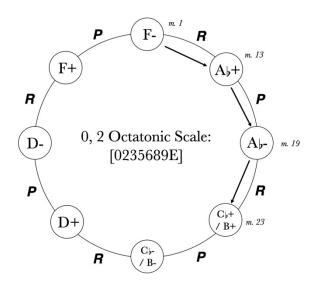


Figure 2: R/P Transformations in Beach, "Autumn Song," mapped on the 0, 2 Octatonic Cycle



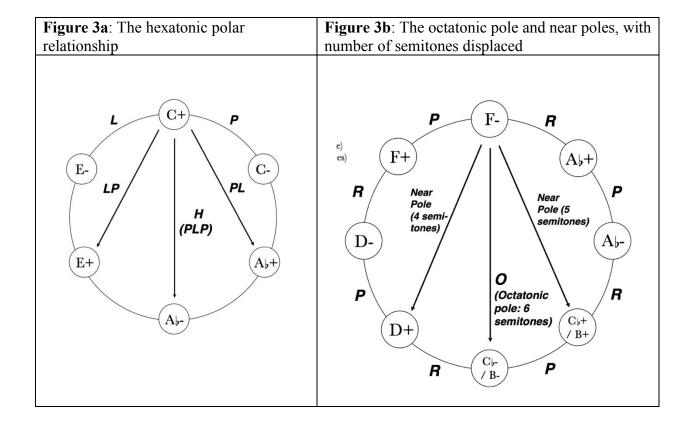


Figure 4: Beach, "Autumn Song," enharmonic reinterpretation of Cb, mm. 19-34



Figure 5a: Ludwig van Beethoven, Piano Sonata No. 12 (Op. 26), 3rd mvt.

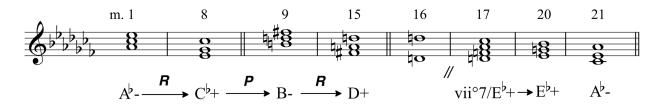


Figure 5b: Beethoven, Funeral March, mm. 1-17 modelled on octatonic-triadic cycle.

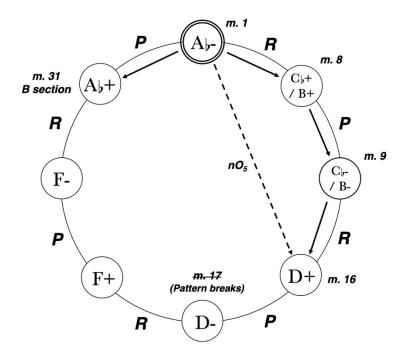


Figure 6a: Schubert, "Der Jüngling und der Tod" (cf. Siciliano 2005)

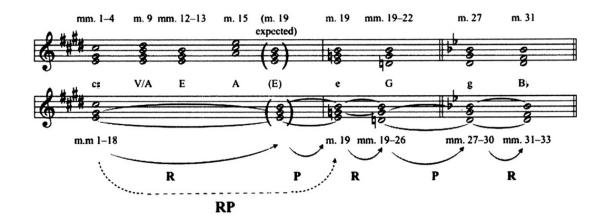


Figure 6b: Schubert, "Der Jüngling und der Tod" as mapped in the octatonic-triadic cycle.

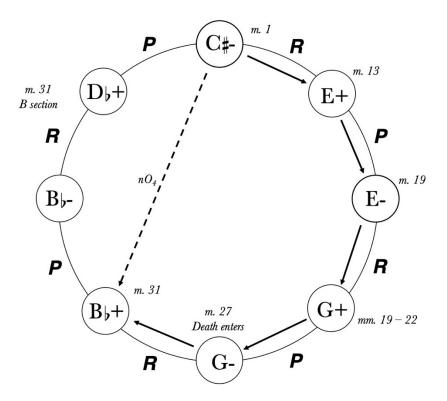
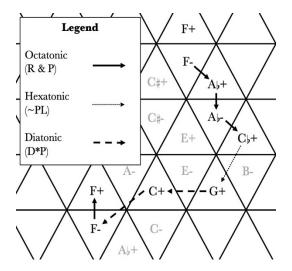


Figure 7: Tonnetz representation of "Autumn Song"



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