AGENDA

- Visual vs Audio Analysis
- What to look for: Rhythm, Beat, and Time Signature
- What to look for: Key, Chords, and Melody
Visual vs Audio Analysis
Visual Music Analysis

- With visual music analysis, a lot of our answers are literally staring us in the face!

- Things that are easy to identify:
  - Key signature(s)
  - Time signature(s)
  - Tempo
  - Rhythmic motifs (repeating rhythms)
  - Melodic motifs (repeating lines)
  - Number of different sections
  - Instrumentation
  - etc.
What’s hard about visual analysis?

- Unknown interpretation
- How tempo changes and manipulations will actually take place/feel (pulse)
- Harder to find repeating motifs
- Longer phrases are harder to identify
- Requires more thorough detail and reading of score to get same information as audio analysis
Audio Music Analysis

- With audio music analysis, most things have to be interpreted by ear.

- Things that are easy to identify:
  - Tempo changes
  - Interpretation/feel
  - Pulse
  - Meter
  - Instrumentation
  - etc.
What’s hard about audio analysis?

- What you hear is not necessarily what is written
- Much harder to get key and chord ID than visual analysis
- Recordings differ, meaning you cannot guarantee what you are hearing is consistent everywhere.
- Can’t guarantee you are hearing everything accurately.
How do musicians compensate?

- Usually, musicians do the following if they are seriously analyzing a piece of music:
  - Study the score
  - Listen to the recording
  - *Do both together!*

- By analyzing music visually and audibly, information that is unclear in one format becomes clear with the other.

- This will be a talking point next week when we dive into how computers need to interpret musical data and the flaws that arise from it.
Example: Bach’s Cello Suite No. 1


Audio:

1. Close to original:   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D83cMncj_Ig
Brief Video - Analysis with chords

https://youtu.be/QkiJYzDR6ho
What to look for

- Find the pulse
- Find the beat (in one)
- Find repeating motifs that expose the meter
- Find repeating melodies that come back again
- Identify pitches (ear training!)
- Identify common rhythms (ear training...again!)
- Identify chord progressions (more ear training...
Why isn’t there more to talk about?

- This is a VERY tricky topic to talk about without background in understanding basic musical notation.

- If you are interested in learning more, reach out to me! :)
