

Das rhythmisch-metrische System in der Musik

Martin Rorhmeier (EPFL Lausanne)

Temporal structure and its organization represent one of the fundamental parameters in music. This domain encompasses two distinct types of temporal organization: symbolic time structure and the subsymbolic manipulation of event timing. Symbolic time is intricately shaped through the close interplay of cyclic metrical structure and the rhythmic arrangement of musical events. This rhythmic-metric system displays a remarkable level of complexity, characterized by hierarchical and recursive substructures, and also intricately linked to the hierarchical organization of pitch.

This presentation provides an overview of time in music and the rhythmic-metrical system, exploring potential formalisms for its characterization. A concluding outlook delves into the potential relationship between metrical structures in music and language. While the presentation involves core mathematical concepts, no prerequisite musical background is assumed.