

Our Vision of the Future

- * The entire repertory of classical music will be available free on the internet.
- * The data can be downloaded either piecemeal or in bulk for any purpose the user desires.
- * Possible uses include:.

Application	Technology Required
1. Searches and reference; checking data, expanding knowledge of repertory.	Display, search engines + indices
2. Historical and other studies; determining attribution.	Display, analytic tools
3. Music analysis; understanding methods of composition and modes of performance.	Display, possible AI applications
4. Printing of scores/parts for occasional, one-time use or for commercial publishing of both digital and hardcopy editions,	Display, printing at various sizes
5. Sound; listening to existing works and creating new ones.	Realistic artificial sound, AI applications

All of the above applications presuppose

- * the existence of one or more massive databases of music in several formats
- * with software that is able to access the data and convert it to a format desired by the user.

I suspect that there will never come a time when there is total convergence on an established set of formats for representing musical data.

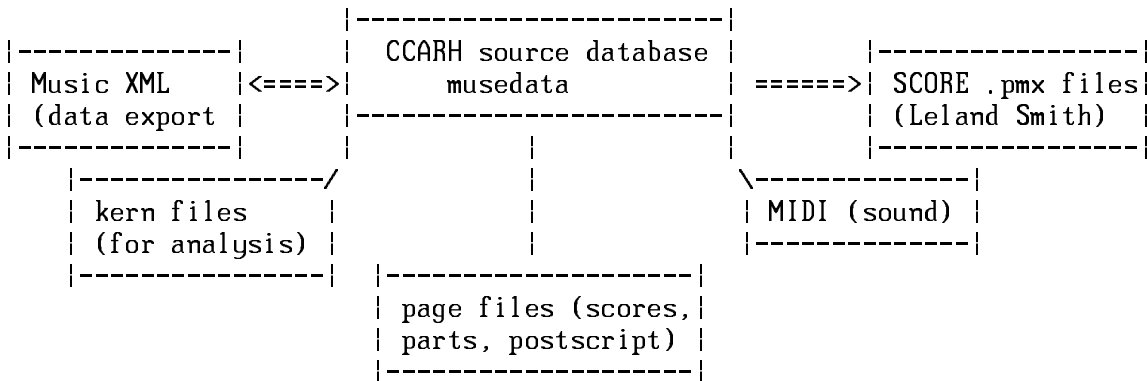
Reasons:

- * Music is complicated to represent
-> and as a result, representations are often application dependent.
- * Representations that attempt to be universal
-> are complex and can be difficult to work with.
-> For specific applications it is often easier to develop a new representation than to try to use an existing one.
- * There will always be commercial opportunities in this field.
-> Commercial enterprises will often have their own proprietary ways of representing musical data.
- * This is a field which is still in early development.
-> We can expect that new knowledge will lead to new forms of representation and more powerful and easy-to-use software.
- * I expect AI will play a major role in the future design of databases and their formats.

Just as with formats, I suspect that there will never come a time when all available musical data will be found in one massive database.

- * I view musical databases as organic entities,
 - > which grow, flourish, and eventually become obsolete;
 - > to be replaced by newer forms
 - > with the data, itself, being preserved and transformed as it moves from one database to the next.
- * At the present time, there are perhaps several dozen public or semi-public databases of music.
- * There may also be several times that number of private databases developed by individuals or small groups and used exclusively by them.
 - > (I am not including in this group individuals who have built private collections by simply downloading or purchasing sets of data).

How does the CCARH database fit into this picture?



- * The Musedata representation is focussed on source data.
- * It is not driven by a specific application; nor is it particularly application friendly.
- * But it has the advantages of openness, adaptability, and simplicity.
- * Particular features of Musedata
 - Flat files, organized in a Linux-type tree structure
 - Accessible data, 7-bit ASCII code
 - Data organized in columns. Column placement is an integral part of the format.
 - Expandable
 - Possible Outputs: display sound analysis hardcopy
 - Other capabilities: searchability
(using derivative database structures)
- * Our style of working
 - The incremental method
 - Structured for building and adding on
 - The incremental style of programming
- * Database structure

The best way to understand the musedata format is to review its historical development.

Fuga I.

a 4

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "Fuga I." in a 4-measure format. The score is written for a grand piano, with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The time signature is common time (C). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music consists of three measures. The first measure features a treble staff with a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass staff has a whole rest. The second measure continues the treble staff with eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass staff has a whole rest. The third measure features a treble staff with eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass staff has a whole rest. The piece concludes with a final cadence in the treble staff.

Fuga I.

a 4

253
846 2
Bach Gesells
chaft xiv

.
4 2
27 0 32 8
4 4 0 1 2

measure 1

rest 4
C4 4
D4 4
E4 4
F4 6
G4 1
F4 1
E4 4
A4 4

measure 2

D4 4
G4 6
A4 2
G4 2
F4 2
E4 2
F4 2
E4 2
D4 2
C4 2
D4 2
C4 2
B3 2

measure 3

A3 4
F#4 4
G4 12
F#4 2
E4 2
F#4 4

Fuga I.

a 4

253 <-- number of records in this file
846 2 <-- BWV (work) number, Movement number
Bach Gesells <-- source
chaft xiv

.
4 2 <-- number of tracks; this track number
27 0 32 8 <-- number of measures; key; divisions per measure; divisions per quarter note
4 4 0 1 2 <-- time signature (two numbers, e.g., 4 4); clef (0 = treble clef);
measure 1 <-- beginning of first measure
rest 4 <-- rest; number of divisions (1 division = 32nd note, see above)
C4 4 <-- C4 is middle C; number of divisions (4 divisions = 8th note)
D4 4 <-- more notes, etc.
E4 4
F4 6
G4 1
F4 1
E4 4
A4 4

measure 2 <-- beginning of second measure
D4 4
G4 6 <-- notice that duration includes the tie.
A4 2
G4 2
F4 2
E4 2
F4 2
E4 2
D4 2
C4 2
D4 2
C4 2
B3 2

measure 3
A3 4
F#4 4
G4 12
F#4 2
E4 2
F#4 4

Fuga I.

a 4

253
846 2
Bach Gesells
chaft xiv

253
846 2
Bach Gesells
chaft xiv

4 2
27 0 32 8
4 4 0 1 2
measure 1
rest 4
C4 4
D4 4
E4 4
F4 6
G4 1
F4 1
E4 4
A4 4
measure 2
D4 4
G4 6
A4 2
G4 2
F4 2
E4 2
F4 2
E4 2
D4 2
C4 2
D4 2
C4 2
B3 2
measure 3
A3 4
F#4 4
G4 12
F#4 2
E4 2
F#4 4

4 1
27 0 32 8
4 4 0 1 2
measure 1
rest 32
measure 2
rest 20
G4 4
A4 4
B4 4
measure 3
C5 6
D5 1
C5 1
B4 4
E5 4
A4 4
D5 6
E5 2
D5 2
C5 2
measure 4
B4 2
G4 2
A4 2
B4 2
C5 2
B4 2
C5 2
D5 2
E5 2
D5 2
E5 2
F#5 2

Fuga I.

a 4

253
846 2
Bach Gesells
chaft xiv

253
846 2
Bach Gesells
chaft xiv

4 2
27 0 32 8
4 4 0 1 2
measure 1
rest 4
C4 4
D4 4
E4 4
F4 6
G4 1
F4 1
E4 4
A4 4
measure 2
D4 4
G4 6
A4 2
G4 2
F4 2
E4 2
F4 2
E4 2
D4 2
C4 2
D4 2
C4 2
B3 2
measure 3
A3 4
F#4 4
G4 12
F#4 2
E4 2
F#4 4

4 1
27 0 32 8
4 4 0 1 2
measure 1
rest 32
measure 2
rest 20
G4 4
A4 4
B4 4
measure 3
C5 6
D5 1
C5 1
B4 4
E5 4
A4 4
D5 6
E5 2
D5 2
C5 2
measure 4
B4 2
G4 2
A4 2
B4 2
C5 2
B4 2
C5 2
D5 2
E5 2
D5 2
E5 2
F#5 2

<-- track 1 of 4

<-- first measure

<-- 32 divisions = 1 whole measure

<-- note 20 divisions = 16 (half note) + 4 (8th note)

<-- C5 is the C one octave above middle C

<-- D5 etc.

<-- B4 is in the middle C octave

<-- # = sharp

Fuga I.

a 4

253
846 2
Bach Gesells
chaft xiv

4 2
27 0 32 8
4 4 0 1 2
measure 1
rest 4
C4 4
D4 4
E4 4
F4 6
G4 1
F4 1
E4 4
A4 4
measure 2
D4 4
G4 6
A4 2
G4 2
F4 2
E4 2
F4 2
E4 2
D4 2

253
846 2
Bach Gesells
chaft xiv

4 1
27 0 32 8
4 4 0 1 2
measure 1
rest 32
measure 2
rest 20
G4 4
A4 4
B4 4
measure 3
C5 6
D5 1
C5 1
B4 4
E5 4
A4 4
D5 6
E5 2
D5 2
C5 2
measure 4
B4 2

253
846 2
Bach Gesells
chaft xiv

4 3
27 0 32 8
4 4 24 1 2
measure 1
rest 32
measure 2
rest 32
measure 3
rest 32
measure 4
rest 4
G3 4
A3 4
B3 4
C4 6
D4 1
C4 1
B3 4
E4 4
measure 5
A3 4
D4 6
E4 2

Fuga I.

a 4

The first system of musical notation shows measures 1 through 3. The treble clef staff contains a complex melodic line with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes, including some accidentals. The bass clef staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with fewer notes.

The second system of musical notation shows measures 4 through 6. The melodic line continues with intricate rhythmic patterns. A sharp sign is visible in the treble clef staff in measure 4, and a flat sign is visible in the bass clef staff in measure 5.

253
846 2
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chaft xiv

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253
846 2
Bach Gesells
chaft xiv

4 2
27 0 32 8
4 4 0 1 2
measure 1
rest 4
C4 4
D4 4
E4 4
F4 6
G4 1
F4 1
E4 4
A4 4
measure 2
D4 4
G4 6
A4 2
G4 2
F4 2
E4 2
F4 2
E4 2
D4 2

4 1
27 0 32 8
4 4 0 1 2
measure 1
rest 32
measure 2
rest 20
G4 4
A4 4
B4 4
measure 3
C5 6
D5 1
C5 1
B4 4
E5 4
A4 4
D5 6
E5 2
D5 2
C5 2
measure 4
B4 2

4 3
27 0 32 8
4 4 24 1 2
measure 1
rest 32
measure 2
rest 32
measure 3
rest 32
measure 4
rest 4
G3 4
A3 4
B3 4
C4 6
D4 1
C4 1
B3 4
E4 4
measure 5
A3 4
D4 6
E4 2

4 4
27 0 32 8
4 4 24 1 2
measure 1
rest 32
measure 2
rest 32
measure 3
rest 32
measure 4
rest 32
measure 5
rest 20
C3 4
D3 4
E3 4
measure 6
F3 6
G3 1
F3 1
E3 4
A3 4
D3 4

Fuga I.

a 4

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "Fuga I." in common time (C). The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1, 2, and 3. The second system contains measures 4, 5, and 6. The music is written for a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The notation includes various rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and accidentals. Measure numbers 1, 4, and 7 are indicated at the beginning of their respective measures.

Three Problems:

1. Incompleteness
2. Inflexibility
3. Hard coding of tracks

Prelude I.

4

The Track Problem

Prelude I.

Musical score for Prelude I, measures 1-4. The score is written for piano in common time (C). The first system contains measures 1-3, and the second system contains measures 4-6. The right hand (treble clef) features a continuous eighth-note pattern, while the left hand (bass clef) plays a simple bass line of quarter notes. A measure number '4' is placed above the first note of the second system.

The Track Problem

Prelude I.

The image displays a musical score for 'Prelude I.' in common time (C). The score is written for piano and consists of two systems of music. Each system has a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The first system contains four measures. The second system begins with a measure number '4' above the first staff and also contains four measures. The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass clef and a more complex melodic line in the treble clef, including sixteenth-note runs and rests.

The Track Problem

Prelude VII.

The image displays two systems of musical notation for a piano piece. Each system consists of a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The first system contains three measures. The second system begins with a measure number '4' in the upper left corner and also contains three measures. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, and rests. Phrasing slurs are used to group notes across measures. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the third measure in the second system.

The Track Problem

Conversion from stage1 to stage2

=====

253			01/07/94 W Hewlett
846	2	<----->	WK#:846 MU#:2
Bach Gesells			Bach Gesellschaft xiv
chaft xiv			WTC I: Prelude and Fugue in C major
			Fugue
			Track 2
			1 2
4 2		concept of group -->	Group memberships: sound openscr
		memberships	sound: part 2 of 4
			openscr: part 2 of 4
			&
27 0 32 8		\ become the "\$" record	Initial conversion from stage 1 to stage 2
4 4 0 1 2 /			&
measure 1		<-- removed	\$ K:0 Q:8 T:1/1 C:4
rest 4			rest 4 e u [
C4 4			C4 4 e u =
D4 4			D4 4 e u]
E4 4			E4 4 e u [
F4 6			F4 6 e. u [
G4 1			G4 1 t u =[[
F4 1			F4 1 t u]]]
E4 4			E4 4 e u [
A4 4			A4 4 e u]
measure 2			measure 2
D4 4			D4 4 e u [
G4 6		<-- replaced with	G4 4- e u] -
		8th tied to 16th	G4 2 s u [[
A4 2			A4 2 s u ==
G4 2			G4 2 s u ==
F4 2			F4 2 s u]]
E4 2			E4 2 s u [[
F4 2			F4 2 s u ==
E4 2			E4 2 s u ==
D4 2			D4 2 s u]]
C4 2			C4 2 s u [[
D4 2			D4 2 s u ==
C4 2			C4 2 s u ==
B3 2			B3 2 s u]]
measure 3			measure 3
A3 4			A3 4 e u [
F#4 4			F#4 4 e # u]
G4 12		<-- replaced with	G4 8- q u] -
		quarter tied to 8th	G4 4 e u [
F#4 2			F#4 2 s u =[
E4 2			E4 2 s u]]
F#4 4			F#4 4 e u [
D4 4			D4 4 e u]
measure 4			measure 4

The column system of representation

I. Notes/Rests

columns 1-8: pitch/rest + duration (in time tics, right justified to column 8)
 examples C4 D4 E4 (C4 = middle C)
 Bf3 C4 D4 Ef4 (B-flat scale) E4 F#4 G4 (E-minor scale)

column 9: tie flag "-" = tie

columns 10-14: blanks (13 and 14 available for optional use)

column 15: track number (optional)

column 16: blank

columns 17-22: note description

column 17: note type (letter code, Longa to 256th note) (also cue-size notes)

column 18: dot flag (. : ; ! one dot to quadruple dot)

column 19: actual accidental flag (#,n,f, etc., 8 possibilities)

columns 20-22: Two digits, separated by a colon (:) used for tuples

column 23: stem direction u = up, d = down

column 24: staff number (" " = 1)

column 25: blank

columns 26-31: beams (up to six levels = 256th note) [= start beam
 column 26 is for eighth beams, = = continue beam
 27 for sixteenth,] = end beam
 ... / = forward hook
 \ = backward hook

columns 32-43: other notations, in no particular order or column

<p>Some examples: Ties, Slurs, Tuples</p> <p>- = tie</p> <p>(= open slur1</p> <p>) = close slur1</p> <p>Ornaments</p> <p>t = tr.</p> <p>r = turn</p> <p>~ = wavy line (trill)</p> <p>M = mordent</p> <p>Technical Indications</p> <p>v = up bow</p> <p>n = down bow</p> <p>1,2,3,4,5 = fingering</p>	<p>Articulations and Accents</p> <p>> = horizontal accent</p> <p>. = staccato</p> <p>_ = legato</p> <p>Other Indications and Codes</p> <p>F = upright fermata</p> <p>p = piano (pp, ppp, etc.)</p> <p>f = forte (ff, fff, etc., fp)</p> <p>m = mezzo (mp, mf)</p> <p>Z = sfz (also sf)</p> <p>Zp = sfp</p> <p>R = rfz</p> <p>+ = cautionary accidental</p>
---	---

columns 44-80: text: multiple lines of text set off by |
 example: Deck|See|Fast

The column system of representation

II. Bar lines

columns 1-7: type of bar e.g. measure = regular bar line
 mdouble = (light) double bar line
 mheavy2 = light-heavy double bar

column 8: empty

columns 9-12: optional bar number for this bar (left justified)

columns 13-16: blank or for optional use

columns 17-80: flags: some examples F = fermata sign over bar line
 start-end# = start ending #
 stop-end# = stop ending #
 disc-end# = discontinue ending # line
 :| = repeat backward
 |: = repeat forward

III. Musical directions:

column 1: "*" (optional)

columns 2-5: blank

columns 6-8: optional forward offset (right justified)

columns 9-14: blank and optional information

column 15: track number (optional)

column 16: blank

columns 17-18: type of direction (two codes possible)
 examples: D = left justified ASCII string
 (may be combined with types E,F,G,H,J)
 E = begin wedge
 F = end wedge (may be combined with types D,G,H,J)
 G = letter dynamics (given in ASCII string)
 (may be combined with types D,E,F,H,J)
 H = begin dashes (after words)
 J = end dashes (may be combined with types D,G)

column 19: location flag (optional)

column 20: blank

columns 21-23: numerical parameter (e.g., wedge spread)

column 24: staff number (' ' = 1)

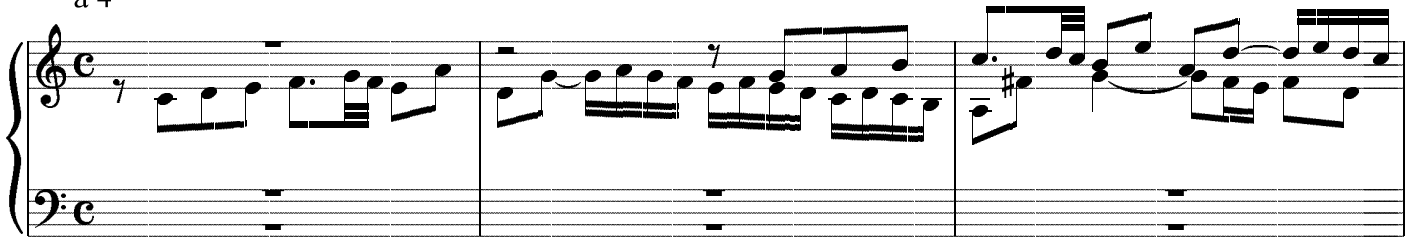
columns 25..: ASCII word string used in D,G

Examples:

1. cresc. - - - - - ff	Starting record: DH	cresc.
	Ending record: JG	ff
2. f <decreasing wedge> p	Starting record: GE 15 f	
	Ending record: FG 0 p	
3. <increasing wedge> p	Starting record: E 0	
	Ending record: FG 15 p	

Fuga I.

a 4



\$	K:0	Q:8	T:1/1	C1:4	C2:22	|Musical attributes: key, divspq, time, clefs
rest	32		1	1		| (track 1) rest duration, track, staff
back	32					| backup command (to start of measure)
rest	4	2	e	1		| (track 2) note data: pitch, duration, track,
C4	4	2	e	d1	[	type of note, extension dot(s)
D4	4	2	e	d1	=	stem direction, staff number
E4	4	2	e	d1	]	beaming information
F4	6	2	e.	d1	[
G4	1	2	t	d1	=[[
F4	1	2	t	d1]]]	
E4	4	2	e	d1	[
A4	4	2	e	d1]	
back	32					| backup command
rest	32	3		2		| (track 3) rest (staff 2)
back	32					| backup command
rest	32	4		2		| (track 4) rest (staff 2)
measure	2					| Bar line
rest	16	1	h	1		| (track 1) half note rest
rest	4	1	e	1		eight rest
G4	4	1	e	u1	[
A4	4	1	e	u1	=	
B4	4	1	e	u1]	
back	32					| backup command (to start of measure)
D4	4	2	e	d1	[
G4	4-	2	e	d1	]	- tie
G4	2	2	s	d1	[[
A4	2	2	s	d1	==	
G4	2	2	s	d1	==	
F4	2	2	s	d1]]	
E4	2	2	s	d1	[[
F4	2	2	s	d1	==	
E4	2	2	s	d1	==	
D4	2	2	s	d1]]	
C4	2	2	s	d1	[[
D4	2	2	s	d1	==	
C4	2	2	s	d1	==	
B3	2	2	s	d1]]	
back	32					| backup command
rest	32	3		2		| (track 3) rest (staff 2)
back	32					| backup command
rest	32	4		2		| (track 4) rest (staff 2)
measure	3					| Bar line

Fuga I. (system 2, bars 4, 5, and 6)

measure 4				|Bar line	
B4	2	1 s	u1 [[	(track 1)	> four 16ths
G4	2	1 s	u1 ==		> beamed
A4	2	1 s	u1 ==		> together
B4	2	1 s	u1]]		>
C5	2	1 s	u1 [[		etc.
B4	2	1 s	u1 ==		
C5	2	1 s	u1 ==		
D5	2	1 s	u1]]		
E5	2	1 s	u1 [[
D5	2	1 s	u1 ==		
E5	2	1 s	u1 ==		
F#5	2	1 s #	u1]]		accidental in column 19 (sharp)
G5	4	1 e	u1 [		> two eights
B4	4	1 e	u1]		> beamed together
back	32			backup command	
G4	4	2 e	d1 [	(track 2)	> four 16ths
F4	4	2 e	d1 =		> beamed
E4	4	2 e	d1 =		> together
D4	4	2 e	d1]		>
C4	4	2 e	d1		
rest	4	2 e	1		
rest	4	2 e	1		
G4	4-	2 e	d1 -		
back	32			backup command	
rest	4	3 e	2	(track 3)	eight rest
G3	4	3 e	u2 [		note data: pitch, duration, track,
A3	4	3 e	u2 =		type of note, stem direction
B3	4	3 e	u2]		staff number = 2
C4	6	3 e.	u2 [		beaming information
D4	1	3 t	u2 =[
C4	1	3 t	u2]]		
B3	4	3 e	u2 [
E4	4	3 e	u2]		
back	32			backup command	
rest	32	4	2	(track 4)	rest (staff 2)
measure 5				|Bar line	

Print Suggestions

I. What is the purpose?

- * It is possible using an automated process to produce reasonably good musical output from musedata files.
- * The output can be improved by adding print suggestions to the files.
- * Compactness is a desirable quality in musical output, but making something compact can introduce spacing and overstrike problems.
- * It turns out that many of these clashes can be "fixed" if their vertical and/or horizontal positions can be adjusted slightly.

II. How does this work?

- * For items represented in columns 32 to 43 of a note/rest record, what is needed is the column number of the item.
- * If, for example, you have a fermata (F) indicated in column 35, the suggestion C35:y-10 will move the fermata up 10 units
- * A print suggestion record must follow directly after the data record and must have the letter "P" in column 1. In the example above the print suggestion record would look like this:
P C35:y-10
- + It is possible to have more than one suggestion in a P record

III. The print suggestion feature has many other uses:

1. Position of slurs (over notes, under notes)
2. Orientation of ties (overhand, underhand)
3. Suggestions for representing beamed notes with repeaters
4. Suggestions for musical directions
for example: c<#> where # is between 0 and 15
0 = print always (default)
bit 0 set = print in parts bit 2 set = print if top part in score
bit 1 set = print in score bit 3 set = print if bottom part in score
5. Suggestions for treatment of whole measures
for example: C1:] = use system justification to force
this bar line to the end of a system.
This is used to adjust the layout, e.g., For page turns in musical parts.

Print Suggestions (continued)

There is also a long list of general print suggestions.

The field designator for a general print suggestion is C0:

Examples of some suggestion codes:

d<#> = default height for time words and other musical designations.
f<#> = default font for musical directions in "*" records
h<#> = alter the minimum allowed space between notes
 # = percentage of default size (100 = default)
k<#> = various operational flags (defaults are 0)
 bit 0: (for two or more tracks)
 0 = allow overstrike when there is a dot-difference 1 = do not overstrike
 bit 1: (for printing new key signatures)
 0 = don't print a new key signature if it is the same as the previous one
 1 = always print a key signature even when it hasn't changed
 bit 2: (chords with white and black notes)
 0 = don't allow a mixture of white and black notes in chords
 1 = allow mixture of white and black notes
 bit 3: (for suppression of the key signature)
 0 = normal 1 = suppress printing of the key signature (for timpani parts, etc.)
 bit 4: (for assigning editorial slurs)
 0 = normal (no assignment) 1 = "{ }" and "z x" combinations are editorial slurs
 bit 5: (for printing new clef signs)
 0 = normal (large clefs, only at start of measure) 1 = always use large clefs
 bit 6: (for printing sforzandos)
 0 = normal (Z = sf or sfz) 1 = abbreviated (Z = fz)
 bit 7: (for printing unisons in chords)
 0 = normal (side-by-side) 1 = over-strike
p<#> = minimum distance between notes (expressed as percent of the default).
q<#> = duration which is assigned the minimum distance
 0 = recompute default (from this point onward)
 1 = whole notes . . . 8 = eighth notes, 16 = sixteenth notes, etc
s<#> = space between grand staves measured in multiples of ledger lines times 10
 (e.g. 100 = 10 ledger lines).
t<#> = global tuplet placement
 # = 0: use default
 # = 1: place tuplet near note heads
 # = 2: place tuplet near note stems (beams)
 # = 3: place all tuplets above notes
 # = 4: place all tuplets below notes
v<#> = location of text below music # = number of scale steps (x 10)
 (default approx. 150)

All print suggestions in a musedata file are optional and can be overridden by a music typesetting program.

24

Fl

Ob

Cl

Fag

Vln1

Vln2

Vla

Vc

Cb

Arco

p

29

16

Fl

Ob

Cl

Fag

Vln1

Vln2

Vla

Vc

Cb

p cresc.

f

dim.

pp

f

mf

34

Fl

Ob

Cl

Fag

Cor

Tri

Cel

A

Pf

Vln1

Vln2

Vla

Vc

Cb

p *cresc.* *mf* *p* *cresc.* *f dim.*

p *cresc.* *mf* *p* *cresc.* *f dim.*

p *cresc.* *mf* *p* *cresc.* *f dim.*

p *cresc.* *mf* *p* *cresc.* *f dim.*

15/8 12/8 5/4

17₄₀ Moderato ♩ = 88

Fl

Ob

Cl

Fag

Cor

Tri

Cel

A

Pf

17 Moderato ♩ = 88

Vln1

Vln2

Vla

Vc

Cb

THE I - FILE FORMAT

=====

- * I-Files come in two types: linear and page specific.
 - > A linear file represents one voice or part in its entirety.
 - > A page specific file represents one or more parts (a musical score) on a single page. We call this a music page file.
- * A music page file consists of a list of glyphs (characters from a music font) and their location on the page.
 - > A musical note, for example, consists of a note head, one or more pieces of stem, possibly a flag, an accidental, and some leger lines, etc., etc.
- * From a technical point of view, the order of the glyphs in the list shouldn't matter (as long as the x,y position is specified).
 - > But for purposes of editing, some choices of ordering are better than others.
 - > Let us imagine, for example, that we want to move the musical note to a new (x,y) position on the page.
 - > In order for the note to stay together, we must move all parts of it by the same amount.
 - > It makes sense, therefore, to think of the note as a single unit, even though it has several parts.
- * To implement this concept, we define something we call an OBJECT.
 - > The object is our basic unit of musical notation.
 - > The object may consist of several glyphs, as in the case of a note.
 - > The glyphs, themselves, we call SUB-OBJECTS, because they are members of the thing we call an object.
 - > The position of sub-objects is specified in relation to the object to which they belong.
 - > This way, if we want to move a note, we simply move the object, and all the parts of it (the sub-objects) will move together.
- * All basic units of musical notation (objects) are attached to a STAFF LINE.
 - > It therefore makes sense to specify the location of an object in relation to the staff line to which it belongs.
 - > This way, if we move a staff line, all notes and other notation connected with that line will move together.
- * All staff lines belong to a SYSTEM.
 - > A system may have one or more staff lines associated with it.
 - > As before, it makes sense to specify the location of a staff line in relation to the system to which it belongs.
- * Systems represent the highest level in the location hierarchy on the page.
 - > The location of a system is therefore specified by absolute (x,y) co-ordinates on the page.
- * To summarize, let us take the example of a sharp (#) attached to a note. The absolute (x,y) of that sharp will be:

The absolute location of the system (x,y), plus
the (dx,dy) offset to the staff line in the system, plus
the (dx,dy) offset to the note on the staff line, plus
the (dx,dy) offset to the sharp (#) from the note.

T H E I - F I L E F O R M A T (continued)

=====

- * Much of musical notation can be represented in the manner described thus far.
 - > Notes, rests, text attached to a note, musical ornaments, articulations
 - > Dynamics, musical directions, bar lines,
 - > Time signatures, key signatures, clefs,
 - > basically anything that stands by itself on the musical page.
- * There is a class of things, however, that should not be represented as objects, because the position of these things depends on the position of more than one object. Items in this class include:
 - > ties, beams, slurs, tuplets (and their brackets),
 - > endings, long trills, transposition lines,
 - > dynamic wedges, and dashes associated with changes in dynamics, tempo, etc.
- * We call this class of things, SUPER-OBJECTS, because their position (and shape) depend on more than one object.
- * In actual fact, most super-objects are printed using glyphs from the music fonts.
- * However, they are not represented in the music page file in this manner,
 - > because if we move a object which has a super-object associated with it, the position and the shape of that super-object (and therefore the glyphs that comprise it) will change.
- * A music page file consists of list of variable length records. The order of the records is an integral part of the representation. There are 12 types of records. The character in column one of a record identifies its type.

Record Type	Identifier (column 1)
Header Record	Z
Page oriented text	X
-> System (page oriented)	S
-> Staff Line	L
-> Objects	J
-> Sub-objects	K
Text (form of sub-object)	T
Words (form of sub-object)	W
Attribute (form for sub-object)	A
-> Super-objects	H
End of Music Line	E
System Bar	B

- * The basic location hierarchy is: System - Line - Object - Sub-object.
 - > The order of records in the music page file reflects this hierarchy.
 - > A system record remains active in the list until a new system record is encountered.
 - > A staff line record remains active until an End of Music Line record is encountered.
 - > Objects on a staff line are listed in the time order (left to right) in which they occur on the staff line.
 - > The sub-objects that belong to an object are listed directly below the object.
 - > System bars are listed after the last staff line of a system has been fully represented.
 - > Page oriented text should be listed before or between systems.
 - > Header records belong at the beginning of the file.

Haydn Op64, No.1, 1st movement

Allegro moderato

Violino I

Violino II

Viola

Violoncello

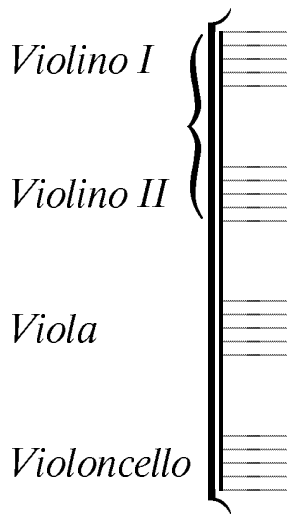
Measures 1-4 of the first system. Violino I starts with a half rest, then a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Dynamics: *p*, *sfp*, *cresc.*, *mf*, *p*. Violino II has a whole rest. Viola has a half rest, then a quarter note G3, followed by eighth notes A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. Dynamics: *p*, *cresc.*, *mf*. Violoncello has a half rest, then a quarter note G2, followed by eighth notes A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. Dynamics: *p*, *mf*.

5

Measures 5-8 of the first system. Violino I continues with eighth notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Dynamics: *f*. Violino II has a whole rest. Viola continues with eighth notes G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. Dynamics: *f*. Violoncello continues with eighth notes G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. Dynamics: *f*.

10

Measures 9-12 of the first system. Violino I continues with eighth notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Dynamics: *mf*. Violino II continues with eighth notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Dynamics: *mf*. Viola continues with eighth notes G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. Dynamics: *mf*. Violoncello continues with eighth notes G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. Dynamics: *mf*.



x and y Units are in "dots" 300 dots = 1 inch.

Origin x,y = <0,0> is top left of page x increases to the right; y increases going down

Data types (column 1): S=system, L=line, J=Object, K=Sub-object, W=word (a sub-object),
E=end of line, B=barline

All of this to indicate the position of the glyphs that are the heart of the music printing system.

X 21	Notesize: 21 dots between staff lines
S 0 500 240 105 714 4 "[{..}..]"	System: x=500 y=240 is location on page. length=105
L 0 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0	Line: y position = 0 is offset relative to the system
J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0	J (Object) x,y position (-326,63) offset relative to the line
W 0 0 39 Violino I	W (Word) x,y position (0,0) offset relative to the object
E *	E indicates End of line
L 210 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0	Line: y position = 210 is offset relative to the system
J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0	
W 0 0 39 Violino II	
E *	
L 420 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0	
J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0	
W 0 0 39 Viola	
E *	
L 630 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0	
J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0	
W 0 0 39 Violoncello	
E *	
B 1 1 0	



Types of Objects: N=note, R=rest, D=directive, K=key, C=clef, T=time signature,
 B=barline, G=grace note, Q=cue note, F=figured harmony, S=symbol

Sub-objects are music glyphs
 A Word (W) is a form of sub-object

```
X 21
S 0 500 240 1750 714 4 "[{..}..]" length of system is now 1750 dots height is 714 dots
L 0 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0
J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0
W 0 0 39 Violino I
J C 4 7 63 2 6913 0 0 J Object is a Clef x,y position (7,63) is offset relative to the line
K 0 0 33 K is Sub-Object (a glyph) The treble clef is made up of
K 0 0 34 two glyphs, 33 and 34
E *
L 210 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0
J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0
W 0 0 39 Violino II
J C 4 7 63 2 6913 0 0
K 0 0 33
K 0 0 34
E *
L 420 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0
J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0
W 0 0 39 Viola
J C 13 7 42 35 6913 0 0 J Object is a Clef x,y position (7,42) is offset relative to the line
In this case, the Object is the glyph (glyph number is 35).
E *
L 630 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0
J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0
W 0 0 39 Violoncello
J C 22 7 21 36 6913 0 0
E *
B 1 1 0
```

Violino I

Violino II

Viola

Violoncello

S 0 500 240 1750 714 4 "[{...}]"

L 0 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0

J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0

W 0 0 39 Violino I

J C 4 7 63 2 6913 0 0

K 0 0 33

K 0 0 34

J T 0 85 63 1 6913 0 0

K 0 0 38

J N 7 157 136 10 1 0 0

K 1 -31 45

K 1 -10 45

K 0 0 43

K 0 -10 45

K 2 -10 45

K 0 42 108

K 0 0 59

K 0 -42 59

K 0 -52 59

A D 12 48

E *

L 210 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0

J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0

W 0 0 39 Violino II

J C 4 7 63 2 6913 0 0

K 0 0 33

K 0 0 34

J T 0 85 63 1 6913 0 0

K 0 0 38

J R 7 157 42 2 1 0 0

K 0 0 48

A D 12 48

E *

J Object is a Time Signature. Offset from line is (85,63)
Sub-Object: glyph = 38 (cut time)

J Object is a Note Offset from line is (1575,136)
Lots of Sub-Objects (glyphs) here
45 = leger line Offset from the Object is <1,-10>
43 = note head (black note)

108 = piano dynamic (offset <0,42> measured from the Object
59 = up stem (length = two staff line widths (42 dots)

This is duration information, used for analysis not display

S 0 500 240 1750 714 4 "[{..}..]"
 L 0 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0

(lines removed to create space)

J B 1 230 1 82 6913 576 0

Object: Barline (bar 1) Glyph-82

J N 8 262 105 7 1 0 0

Object: Next note, half-note

K 1 0 45

lots of Sub-objects (glyphs) to display this

K 0 0 42

K -1 0 45

K 5 0 45

K 0 0 59

K 0 -32 59

A D 24 48

J N 6 371 84 3 3457 1152 2 1 2

This note object has 2 super-objects (nos. 1 and 2)
 Super-object 1 is a slur; super-object 2 is a beam.
 The stems will be added when the beam is drawn.

K 0 0 43

K 36 -9 44

A D 9 48

J N 5 429 105 5 4753 432 2 2 1

This note object has 2 super-objects (nos. 1 and 2)
 The stems will be added when the beam is drawn.

K 1 0 45

K 0 0 43

K -1 0 45

K 5 0 45

A D 3 48

H 2 B 72 4 112 2 2 53

H Super-object number 2: This one a beam

H 1 S 12 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

H Super-object number 1: This one a slur

J N 6 469 73 3 5185 144 2 3 4

K 0 0 43

K 38 0 44

A D 9 48

J N 5 527 94 2 6481 432 2 4 3

K 0 0 43

A D 3 48

H 4 B 61 4 112 2 2 53

(Two more super-objects)

H 3 S 12 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

J B 2 568 1 82 6913 144 0

Object: Barline (bar 2) Glyph-82

E *

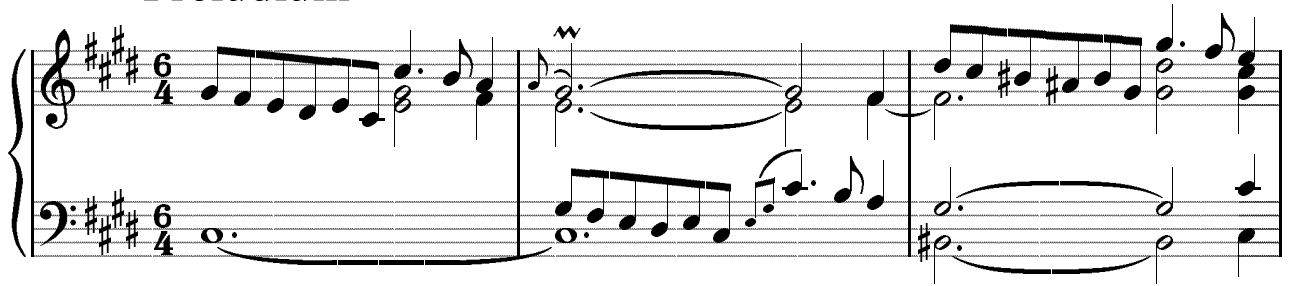
L 210 0 0 0 0 * 0 21 0

Next staff lines

J D 0 -326 63 1 6913 0 0

etc.

Preludium



X 46 575 120 Praeludium IV.
 S 0 500 240 1750 226 1 "{(.)}"
 L 0 0 0 0 0 * 170 14
 J D 0 -300 42 1 6913 0 0
 W 0 0 39
 J C 4 5 42 2 6913 0 0
 K 0 0 33
 K 0 0 34
 J C 22 5 1014 36 6913 0 0
 J K 4 57 0 4 6913 0 0
 K 0 0 63
 K 15 21 63
 K 30 -7 63
 K 45 14 63
 J K 4 57 1000 4 6913 0 0
 K 0 14 63
 K 15 35 63
 K 30 7 63
 K 45 28 63
 J T 604 142 0 2 6913 0 0
 K -10 28 77
 K -10 56 75
 J T 604 142 1000 2 6913 0 0
 K -10 28 77
 K -10 56 75
 J N 6 181 42 2 1 0 1 1
 K 0 0 43
 A D 1 8
 J N 9 181 1035 3 1 0 1 2
 K 0 0 41
 K 32 0 44
 A D 12 8
 J N 6 222 49 2 577 288 1 1
 K 0 0 43
 A D 1 8
 J N 6 263 56 2 1153 288 1 1
 K 0 0 43
 A D 1 8
 J N 6 304 63 2 1729 288 1 1
 K 0 0 43
 A D 1 8
 J N 6 345 56 2 2305 288 1 1
 K 0 0 43
 A D 1 8
 J N 6 386 70 5 2881 288 1 1
 K 1 0 45
 K 0 0 43
 K -1 0 45
 K 2 0 45
 A D 1 8
 H 1 B 45 2 108 6 2 1 1 1 1 3
 J N 7 427 21 5 3457 288 0

Text Record: Title
 System No. 1
 Lines No. 1 & 2

Object: Clef

Object: 2nd Clef

Object: Key signature

Object: 2nd Key signature

Object: Time signature

Object: 2nd Time signature

Object: Note G#4

Sub-object: note head

Attribute: duration 1/8th

Object: Note C3 (2nd line)

Sub-object: note head

Sub-object: dot

Attribute: duration 12 8ths

Object: Note F#4

Object: Note E4

Object: Note D#4

Object: Note E4

Object: Note C#4

Super Object: Beam (six notes)

Object: Note C#5

Glyph Numbers for the Music Font

=====

4.1 The glyph numbers appear mainly as the fourth field of sub-objects. Occasionally one finds a glyph number in field 6 of an object. The table below shows the shapes assigned to the various glyph numbers.

<p>1. large clefs</p> <p>-----</p> <p>33 treble (top)</p> <p>34 treble (bottom)</p> <p>35 C-clef</p> <p>36 bass</p>	<p>7. full size stems</p> <p>-----</p> <p>59 full length up</p> <p>60 full length down</p> <p>61 notesize up</p> <p>62 notesize down</p>	<p>12. vertical lines</p> <p>-----</p> <p>82 full length bar</p> <p>83 quarter length bar</p> <p>84 full leng. thick bar</p> <p>85 qtr. length thick bar</p> <p>86 full leng. dotted bar</p> <p>87 thick vertical top</p> <p>88 thick vertical bottom</p>
<p>2. large time signatures</p> <p>-----</p> <p>37 common time</p> <p>38 alle breve time</p>	<p>8. accidentals</p> <p>-----</p> <p>63 sharp</p> <p>64 natural</p> <p>65 flat</p> <p>66 double sharp</p>	<p>13. horizontal lines</p> <p>-----</p> <p>89 begin/end hook</p> <p>90 solid line (30 dots)</p> <p>91 dash line (30 dots)</p> <p>92 heavy line (30 dots)</p>
<p>3. full-size note heads</p> <p>-----</p> <p>39 longa</p> <p>40 breve</p> <p>41 whole</p> <p>42 half</p> <p>43 quarter</p>	<p>9. editorial brackets</p> <p>-----</p> <p>67 square left</p> <p>68 square right</p> <p>69 round left</p> <p>70 round right</p>	<p>14. articulations (10)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>93 horizontal accent</p> <p>94 ^ accent</p> <p>95 v accent</p> <p>96 staccato dot</p> <p>97 v stricht</p> <p>98 ^ stricht</p> <p>99 - legato</p> <p>100 , breath</p> <p>101 fermata up</p> <p>102 fermata down</p>
<p>4. full-size dot, leger line</p> <p>-----</p> <p>44 dot</p> <p>45 leger line</p>	<p>10. big numbers</p> <p>-----</p> <p>71 0</p> <p>72 1</p> <p>73 2</p> <p>74 3</p> <p>75 4</p> <p>76 5</p> <p>77 6</p> <p>78 7</p> <p>79 8</p> <p>80 9</p>	<p>15. repetition (5)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>106 signet sign</p> <p>107 circle + cross sign</p>
<p>5. full-size rests</p> <p>-----</p> <p>46 whole</p> <p>47 half</p> <p>48 quarter</p> <p>49 eighth</p> <p>50 add-eighth</p>	<p>11. staff lines</p> <p>-----</p> <p>81 full-size staff</p>	<p>16. dynamics (6)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>108 p</p> <p>109 m</p> <p>110 f</p> <p>111 s</p> <p>112 z</p> <p>113 r</p>
<p>6. full size flags</p> <p>-----</p> <p>51 short up-eighth</p> <p>52 short down-eighth</p> <p>53 up-eighth</p> <p>54 down-eighth</p> <p>55 up-sixteenth</p> <p>56 down-sixteenth</p> <p>57 up-add-flag</p> <p>58 down-add-flag</p>		

Final summary

- * Early databases in music consisted mainly of the captured keystrokes from the data entry portion of music display programs.
-> DARMS, Plaine-and-easie, and SCORE .mus files are three examples that come to mind.
- * The next step up was the development of data formats that were used directly by music printing programs.
-> The SCORE .pmx files and the Finale Enigma files are two that fall in this category.
- * The next step up is what I would call application independent databases.
-> Our musedata format, the humdrum format and the MEI format are three examples.
- * What sets application independent databases apart from the others is that they seek to represent the various elements of music independent of whatever software might be written to use the data.
- * Our goal in setting up the format for musedata was to provide a way to encode vast quantities of historical musical literature --
-> literature that is now fixed in time and doesn't for the most part change, and
-> literature for which the coding could be done once and not have to be redone every time a new edition is created.