

Introduction to Pitch Class Sets

Part I. Complete this section **before** doing the reading. Please **print** your answers on a separate sheet.

- A. Play the following example at the keyboard. Then classify all the chords according to how similar or different they sound to you. Make a list or chart of the chords and **explain your classification choices**. As in all music analysis, you need not be looking for the one correct answer; if you have alternative groupings of similarity/difference or ambivalence about any of your choices, explain that as well.

Example A shows 9 chords in G major (one sharp). The chords are: 1. G major (G-B-D), 2. G major (G-B-D), 3. G major (G-B-D), 4. G major (G-B-D), 5. G major (G-B-D), 6. G major (G-B-D), 7. G major (G-B-D), 8. G major (G-B-D), 9. G major (G-B-D). The bass line consists of single notes: G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A.

- B. Do the same for the following example. Again, **explain** your classification choices: what makes the chords sound more or less similar/different?

Example B shows 8 chords in various keys. The chords are: 1. G major (G-B-D), 2. G major (G-B-D), 3. G major (G-B-D), 4. G major (G-B-D), 5. G major (G-B-D), 6. G major (G-B-D), 7. G major (G-B-D), 8. G major (G-B-D). The bass line consists of single notes: G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A.

You may want to include a chart and/or staff notation as part of your response. These elements may be handwritten.

Part II. Read MGTA chapter 36. Define all the terms on p. 770, “Terms You Should Know”. (I will not collect your definitions; this is for you to assess your own comprehension.) **Post** at least two questions you have about the terms or concepts on our discussion forum **before class**.