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## **MTO 23.4 Examples: Bakulina, Canons as Hypermetrical Transitions in Mozart**

(Note: audio, video, and other interactive examples are only available online)

<http://www.mtosmt.org/issues/mto.17.23.4/mto.17.23.4.bakulina.php>

**Example 1.** Mozart. String Quintet K. 614, movement 1, Imitation in mm. 26–31

20 Transition

Unambiguous hyperdownbeats: ↓ 24

Metrical shift at the measure level

25 26 28

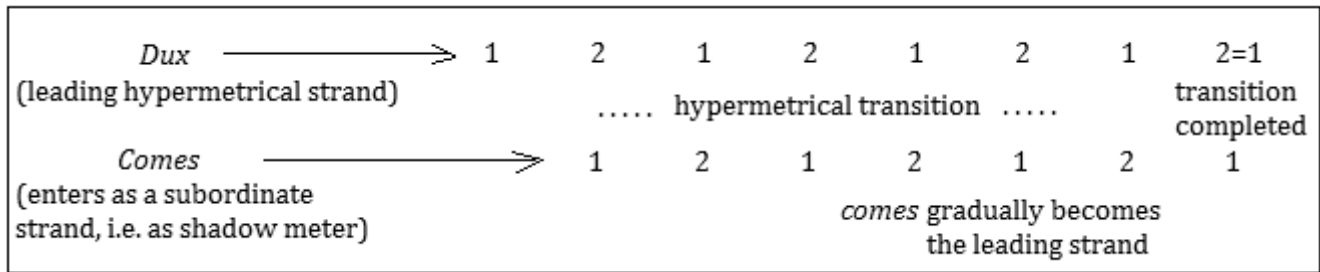
B flat: V7/V V V7/V V

30 31

*simile*

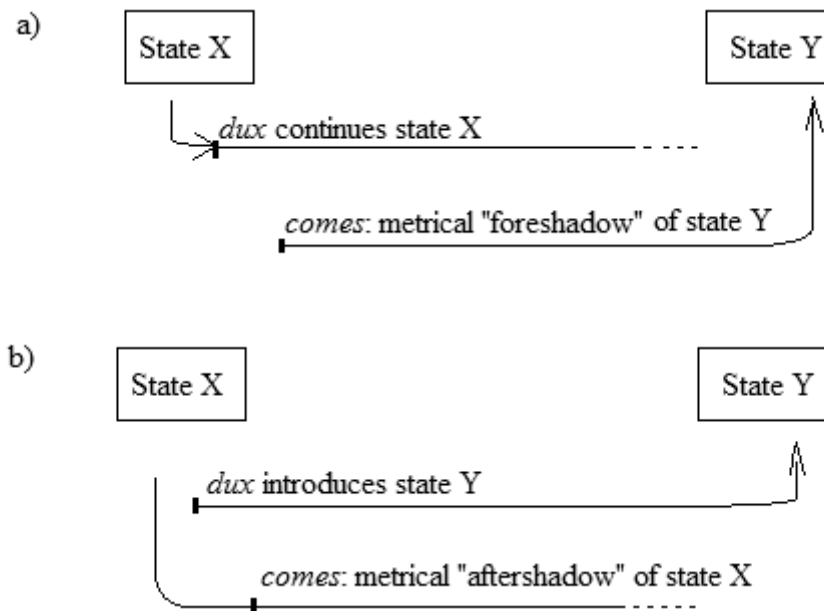
*simile*

**Example 2.** Scheme of a hypermetrical transition in imitative contexts. Numbers 1 and 2 denote strong and weak hyperbeats



**Example 3.** Relationship between individual parts in an imitative hypermetrical transition

Two ways to get from hypermetrical state X to state Y: a) the *dux* continues the established hyper meter; b) the *comes* continues the established hypermeter. In specific musical situations, each metrical state can be either an odd-strong or an even-strong pattern



**Example 4a.** Piano sonata, K. 533, movement 1. Canon in the transition section, mm. 33–37

31 ① ② 33 ① ② ① etc.

Shadow hypermeter ① ②

37 ① 41 ①

Canon ends;  
shadow disappears

*f* *p* *sf* *p*

**Example 4b.** Recomposition of the canon in K. 533: an additional measure effects a hypermetrical transition from odd-strong to even-strong pattern

31 ① ② 33 ① ② ① etc.

Shadow hypermeter ① ②

37 (added measure) ① 42 ①

42 (would be 41 in Mozart)

*f* *p* *sf* *p*

**Example 5a.** Piano Sonata, K. 576, movement 1. Canon in the development, mm. 63–68: score and an imaginary continuo. Hypermetrical transition at the two-measure level

63 ① ② ① ② ① ② (=①?)

67 68

F sharp that right-hand-based version asserts is missing in m. 67

69 ② ① ② etc.

**Example 5b.** Canon in K. 576: combination of the alternative versions in Example 3b, with the hypermetrical conflict removed

63 65 68 70 78 79

B $\flat$ : I [V $\frac{6}{5}$ ] VI b: I Ger $\frac{+6}{5}$  V

**Example 5c.** Canon in K. 576. Alternative prolongational readings based on (1) the right hand's odd-strong hypermeter and (2) the left hand's even-strong hypermeter

Note that the middleground reading is the same in both cases, but the harmonic events (notably the chord with the F-sharp) arrive at different moments in time

Odd-strong version:  
right-hand part leads

63 65 67 70 78 79

64 66 68 70

Even-strong version:  
left-hand part leads

70 Hyperdownbeats aligned.  
*transition completed !*

main point of difference

63 65 67 70 78 79

64 66 68 70

B $\flat$ : I [V $\frac{6}{5}$ ] VI b: I Ger $\frac{+6}{5}$  V

**Example 6a.** String Quintet, K. 614, movement 1. Canon in the transition section, mm. 26–31. Hypermetrical transition at the two-measure level (but each imitative strand exhibits four-bar hypermeasures)

20 Transition

Unambiguous hyperdownbeats: 24

Metrical shift at the measure level

25 26 28

B flat: V7/V V V7/V V

30 31

simile

V7/V V

**Example 6b.** Canon in K. 614. Alternative prolongational readings based on (1) second violin's even-strong pattern and (2) first violin's odd-strong pattern

Version 1

Version 2

The image displays two alternative prolongational readings for a section of the Canon in K. 614, specifically focusing on the second violin's even-strong pattern and the first violin's odd-strong pattern. The score is presented in two versions, Version 1 and Version 2, each with a treble and bass staff.

**Version 1:** The treble staff shows a melodic line starting at measure 26, marked with a slur and a fermata. The bass staff shows a corresponding line starting at measure 26, also marked with a slur and a fermata. The key signature is B-flat major (Bb:). The notation includes a V/V (secondary dominant) and a V (dominant) marking.

**Version 2:** The treble staff shows a melodic line starting at measure 26, marked with a slur and a fermata. The bass staff shows a corresponding line starting at measure 26, also marked with a slur and a fermata. The key signature is B-flat major (Bb:). The notation includes a V/V (secondary dominant) and a V (dominant) marking.

Both versions include a HC (Harmonic Complex) marking above the treble staff, indicating a specific harmonic reading. The measures are numbered 26, 27, and 31.



**Example 7a.** String Quartet, K. 421, movement 1. Development section, mm. 50–69

50

① Triple hypermeter

Canonic sequence (violins 1 and 2)

59

① Hypermetrical transition begins (in duple hypermeter)

63

Hypermetrical transition completed (?)

HC

67

① (?)

**Example 7b.** String quartet, K. 421. Canon in the development, mm. 58–67 (first and second violin) and an imaginary continuo

The musical score is divided into three systems, each containing staves for Violin I (VI.I), Violin II (VI.II), and an imaginary Continuo.

- System 1 (Measures 60–62):**
  - VI.I:** Measure 60 starts with a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2). Measure 61 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2). Measure 62 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2).
  - VI.II:** Measure 60 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2). Measure 61 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2). Measure 62 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2).
  - Continuo:** Measure 60 has a half note G4. Measure 61 has a half note G4. Measure 62 has a half note G4.
- System 2 (Measures 63–65):**
  - VI.I:** Measure 63 has a half note G4 (marked 2) and a half note A4 (marked 1). Measure 64 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2). Measure 65 has a half note G4 (marked 2) and a half note A4 (marked 1).
  - VI.II:** Measure 63 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2). Measure 64 has a half note G4 (marked 2) and a half note A4 (marked 1). Measure 65 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2).
  - Continuo:** Measure 63 has a half note G4. Measure 64 has a half note G4. Measure 65 has a half note G4.
- System 3 (Measures 66–67):**
  - VI.I:** Measure 66 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2). Measure 67 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2).
  - VI.II:** Measure 66 has a half note G4 (marked 2) and a half note A4 (marked 1). Measure 67 has a half note G4 (marked 1) and a half note A4 (marked 2).
  - Continuo:** Measure 66 has a half note G4. Measure 67 has a half note G4.

**Example 8a.** String Quartet, K. 428, movement 1. Imitation in the development, mm. 69–75: hypermetrical transition at the four-measure level

This musical score illustrates a hypermetrical transition at the four-measure level in the development of the first movement of Mozart's String Quartet, K. 428. The score is written for four staves (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello/Double Bass). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo is marked 'f' (forte). The score is divided into measures 69, 71, 73, and 75. Above the staves, measures are grouped into four-measure units, numbered 1 through 4, and then 1 through 2, indicating a hypermetrical structure. A diagonal line labeled 'h-m transition begins' spans from measure 69 to measure 73. A bracket labeled 'h-m transition ends' spans from measure 73 to measure 75. The score shows a complex interplay of imitative entries and hypermetrical groupings across the four staves.

**Example 8b.** Canon in K. 428, mm. 69–75, and an imaginary continuo

This musical score illustrates a canon in K. 428, mm. 69–75, and an imaginary continuo. The score is written for three staves: Violin I (VI. I), Cello, and an imaginary continuo. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo is marked 'f' (forte). The score is divided into measures 69, 71, 73, and 75. Above the staves, measures are grouped into four-measure units, numbered 1 through 4, and then 1 through 2, indicating a hypermetrical structure. The Violin I part shows a melodic line with imitative entries. The Cello part shows a bass line with imitative entries. The imaginary continuo part shows a figured bass line with figures 5 and -6. The score shows a complex interplay of imitative entries and hypermetrical groupings across the three staves.

**Example 8c.** Imitation in K. 428. Alternative prolongational readings, based on (1) the two violins' hypermeter and (2) cello's and viola's hypermeter. Note especially the difference in mm. 71–73

Version 1: upper voice leads

69 71 73 75

(Bb: I  $V_{5/3}^6$  I c: IV  $V_7$  I )  
 (c: VII  $V_7$  I

Version 2: lower voice leads

69 71 73 75

(Eb: V I V c: IV  $V_7$  I )  
 (c: III  $V_7$  I

**Example 9a.** String Quartet K. 499, movement 1. Opening motive and its subsequent hypermetrical treatment

1) Opening of the exposition  
and the recapitulation

2) Subordinate theme (passage approaching the EEC)  
End-accented version of the motive  
(Note the change of harmony in m. 63)

Allegretto

61

63

(A) VI

V  $\frac{6}{4}$   $\frac{7}{5}$   $\frac{3}{3}$   $\flat$ VI

3) Core section of the development: canon in inversion

Beginning-accented version of the motive. (Note changes of harmony in mm. 115, 117, etc.)

114

(d) V  $\frac{6}{5}$

(B) I III

V7

I6

**Example 9b.** String Quartet K. 499. Transition and subordinate theme (beginning), mm. 38–60

Canon (violin 1 and cello).  
Hypermetrical transition begins

Hyperdownbeat

Hypermetrical transition completed

Hyperdownbeat

**Example 9c.** String Quartet, K. 499. Canon in the subordinate theme, mm. 41–52

first violin

Canon: first violin and cello

cello

measures → 41 42 43 44 45

Imaginary continuo

46 47 48 49 50

51 52

*seen do f*

*ere*



**Example 9d.** Vanon in K. 499. Prolongational readings based on (1) the cello's even-strong hypermeter and (2) the violin's odd-strong hypermeter

The image displays two systems of musical notation for Example 9d, Vanon in K. 499. The notation is in treble and bass clefs, with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

**Top System (Measures 42-53):**

- Measures 42-53 are grouped by a bracket on the right.
- Measure 42 is marked with a circled 42.
- Measures 46, 48, and 50 are marked with circled numbers.
- Measure 52 is marked with a circled 52.
- Measure 53 is marked with a circled 53.
- Annotation: "cello's hyperdownbeat" with an arrow pointing to measure 42.
- Annotation: "6 prg." (phrase) with a bracket spanning measures 48-53.
- Annotation: "leader" with a bracket spanning measures 50-53.
- Annotation: "follower" with a bracket spanning measures 48-50.
- Annotation: "shift to odd-strong hypermeter" with an arrow pointing to measure 53.
- Annotation: "deg. cadence" with an arrow pointing to measure 53.
- Annotation: "V7-6-5 VI" with an arrow pointing to measure 53.

**Bottom System (Measures 43-53):**

- Measures 43-53 are grouped by a bracket on the right.
- Measure 43 is marked with a circled 43.
- Measures 47, 49, and 51 are marked with circled numbers.
- Measure 53 is marked with a circled 53.
- Annotation: "violin's hyperdownbeat conflict begins" with an arrow pointing to measure 43.
- Annotation: "8 prg." (phrase) with a bracket spanning measures 47-53.
- Annotation: "leader" with a bracket spanning measures 51-53.
- Annotation: "follower" with a bracket spanning measures 47-51.
- Annotation: "hyperdownbeat aligned with the other strand" with an arrow pointing to measure 53.
- Annotation: "Transition completed!" with an arrow pointing to measure 53.
- Annotation: "IV" with an arrow pointing to measure 53.
- Annotation: "V7-6-5 VI" with an arrow pointing to measure 53.