

Hauer's Tropes and the Enumeration of Twelve-Tone Hexachords

Polytrope

2008 v 3

The 'tropes' (hexachordal partitions) of Josef Matthias Hauer¹ (1883-1959) afford a compact enumeration of the 6-chord types in a 12-pitch-class context.² Since 36 of the 44 tropes³ comprise two hexachords of different types, a listing of the 44 tropes shows clearly all 80 hexachord types.

Furthermore, if (as in Figures 2-8 here) the tropes are arranged in order of George Perle's enumeration of the hexachords,⁴ then hexachord types of the same combinatorial character⁵ appear together. This is true because, 1) being complementary, the two halves of a given trope have necessarily the same combinatorial character, and 2) combinatorial character corresponds exactly with the kinds of symmetry which guide Perle's enumeration.

Each component diagram in Figures 2-8 here shows the two complementary hexachords of the Hauer trope whose number appears in the centre of the diagram. The pitch classes belonging to each half-trope are indicated by filled circles or open circles, the position of each circle indicating a corresponding pitch-class number as in Figure 1. If the Hauer number is shown with an overline, then the filled circles represent the second half-trope; otherwise the filled circles represent the first half-trope.

¹See www.musiker.at/sengstschmidjohann/stichwort-trope.php3 . Thanks to Christopher Butterfield for calling my attention to the affinity of my PSTP technique to Hauer's. (See my "Pitch-Symmetric Tetrachordal Partitions" on this website.)

²See my "Pitch-Symmetric Tetrachords, etc" on this website, pp 9ff.

³All but tropes 1, 8, 17, 19, 24, 34, 41, and 44.

⁴*Serial Composition and Atonality*, University of California Press, (6th ed., rev.) 1991, pp 153-155 ("Six-Note Collections").

⁵I.e. the property of comprising or not the pitch class sets of the first or last half of a tone row which is combinatorial by a particular transformation.

Below each diagram are shown the interval vector⁶ common to the two half-tropes and the numbers assigned them in Perle’s enumeration (P) and in that of Allen Forte⁷ (F). Figures 2 and 3 also show the applicable symbols from my “Pitch-Symmetric Tetrachords, etc”.⁸

The choice of transformation for each trope makes the pitch-class numbers agree with those in Perle’s enumeration, except for the ‘Ai’/‘Bi’ diagrams in Figures 7 and 8, where my choice emphasizes the relation of pitch-inversion (mirror symmetry in the diagrams) between those and their ‘Ap’/‘Bp’ counterparts. Note that the four hexachords sharing each Perle number here also share an interval vector. The affixed ‘=’ signs call attention to this. Likewise in Figure 6.

For Figures 2-5, due to the choice of transformation for each trope, either the $11.5 \leftrightarrow 5.5$ diameter or (for P1, P3, P7, P10, P12, P13) the $0 \leftrightarrow 6$ diameter of each diagram is an axis of symmetry (Figures 2 and 3) or antisymmetry (Figures 4 and 5).

To summarize, Figures 2-8 constitute an illustrated listing of the hexachord types by Perle number, showing also, *inter alia*, their Forte numbers and their position among Hauer’s tropes.

The appendices complete the cross-indexing of these three enumerations. Appendix A shows the Hauer tropes in their original order along with the Perle and Forte numbers for their constituent hexachords. Appendix B lists the hexachords by Forte number along with their ‘prime forms’, interval vectors, combinatorial character, Perle numbers, and position among Hauer’s tropes.

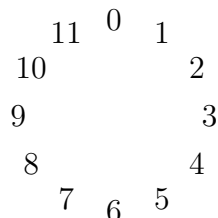


Figure 1: Circle-of-semitones order for Figures.

⁶I.e. the numbers of intervals within the hexachord comprising respectively 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 semitones.

⁷*The Structure of Atonal Music*, Yale University Press, 1973 (prefixes “6-” omitted). Note that Forte’s enumeration does not distinguish between a set and its pitch-inverse; accordingly many Forte numbers apply to more than one half-trope.

⁸On this website.

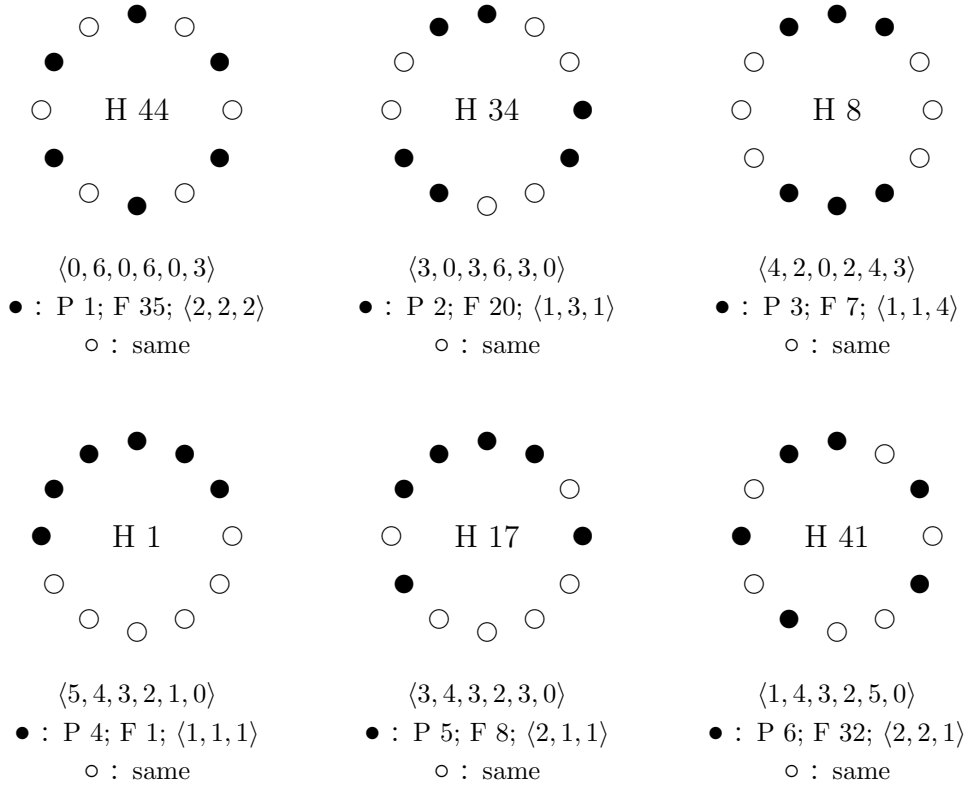


Figure 2: Tropes for Fully Combinatorial Rows

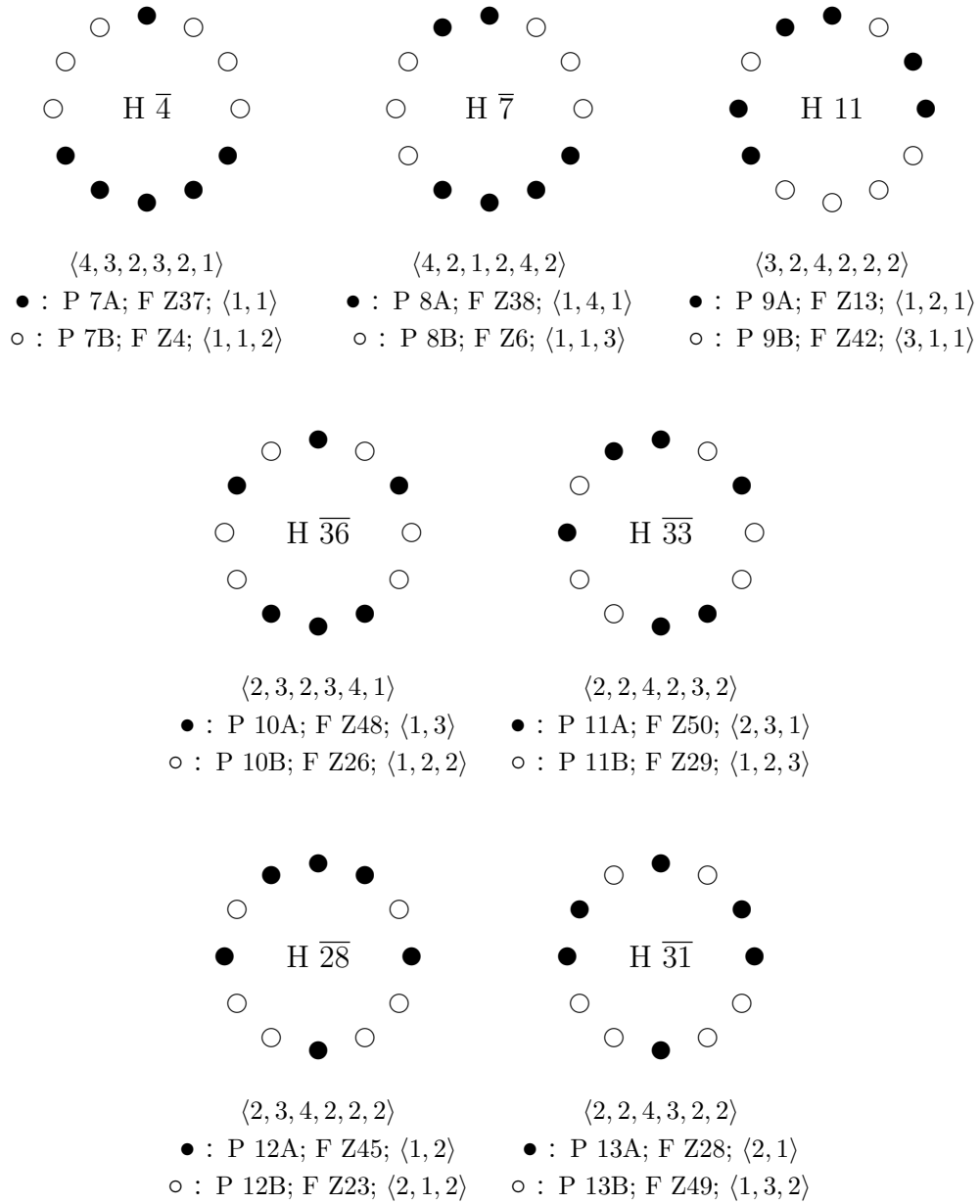


Figure 3: Tropes for Rows Semicombinatorial by Retrograde Inversion.

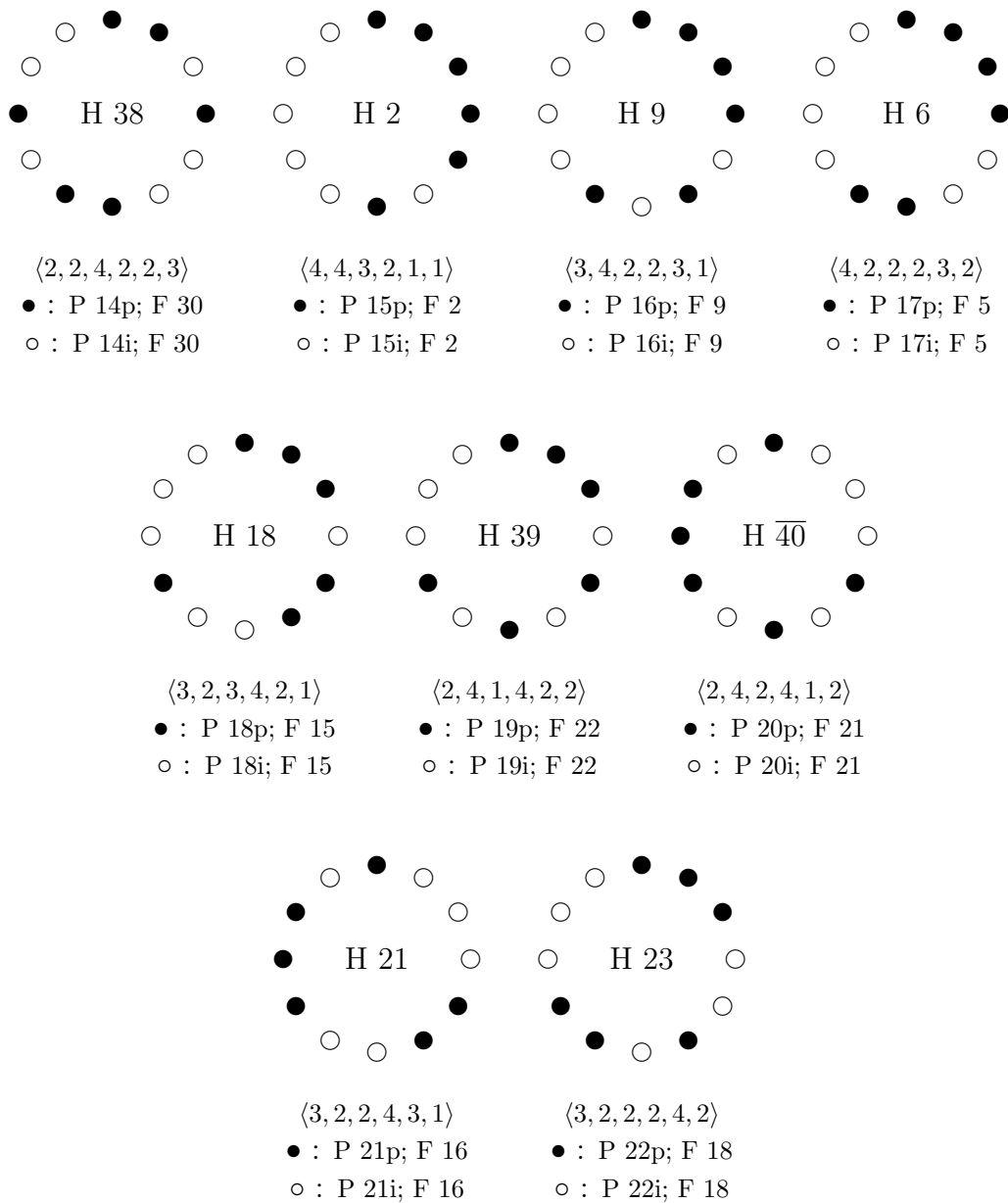


Figure 4: Tropes for Rows Semicombinatorial by Inversion (1 of 2).

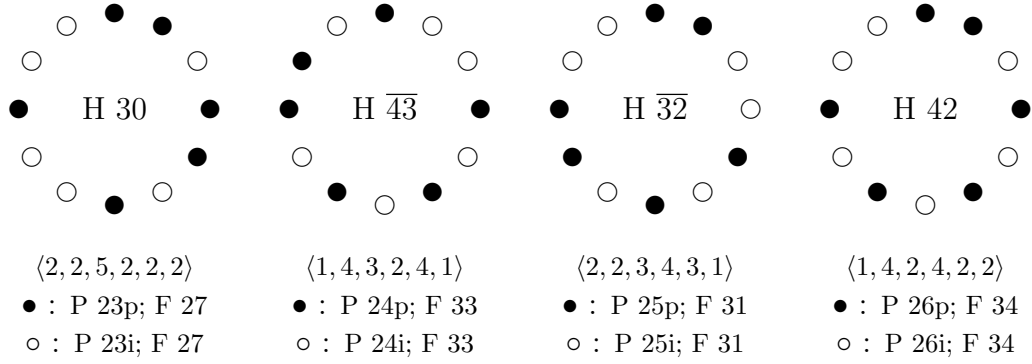


Figure 5: Tropes for Rows Semicombinatorial by Inversion (2 of 2).

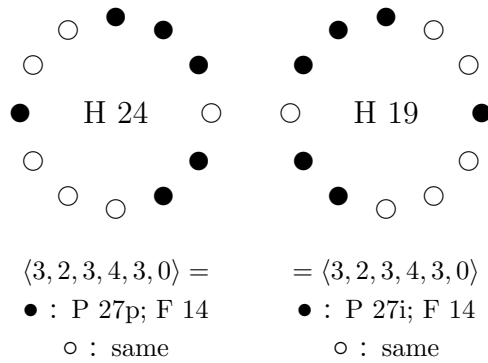


Figure 6: Tropes for Rows Semicombinatorial by Transposition.

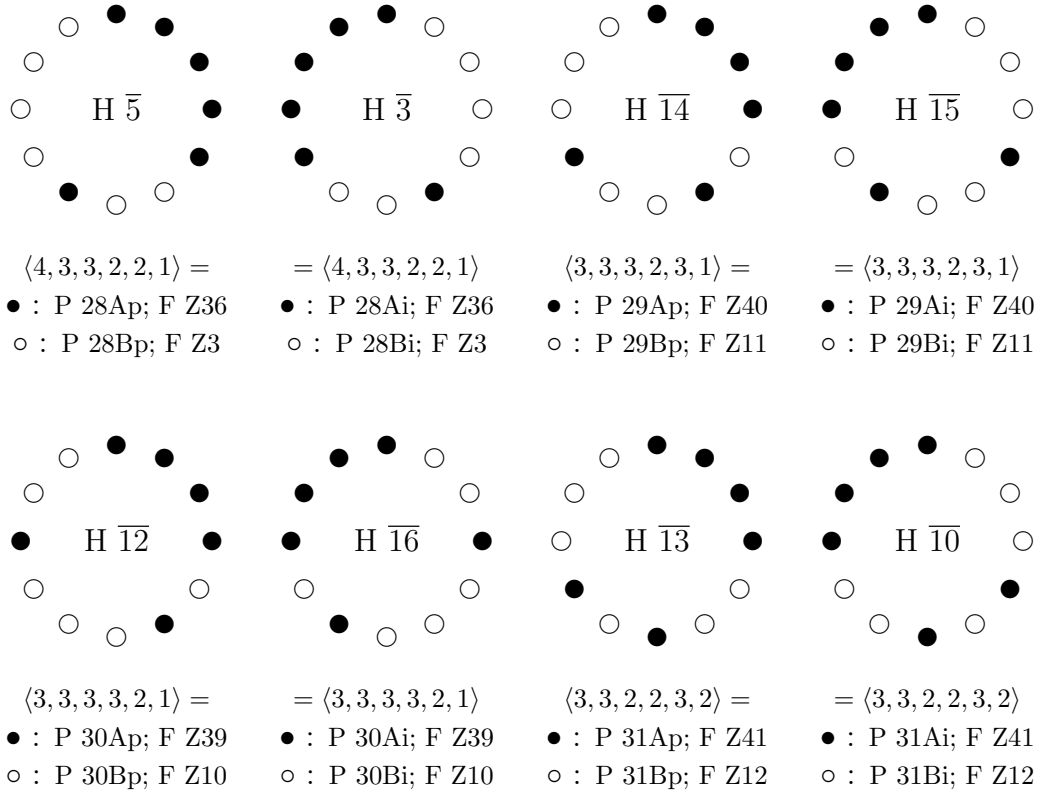


Figure 7: Tropes for Noncombinatorial Rows (1 of 2).

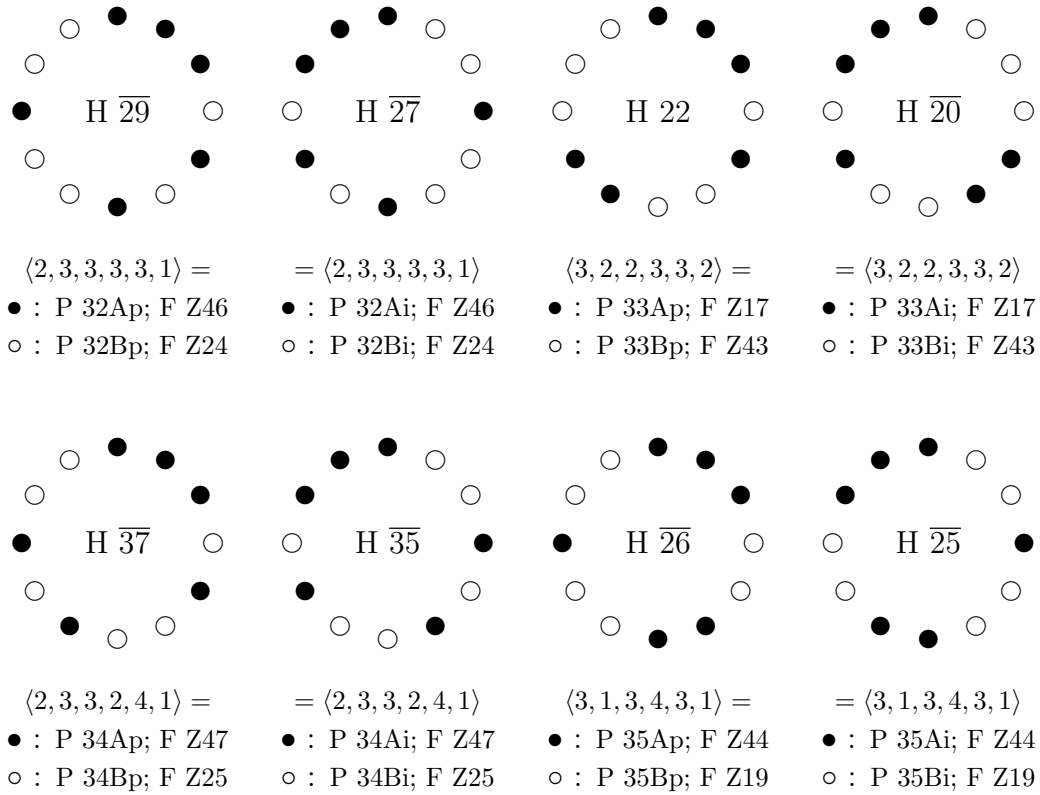


Figure 8: Tropes for Noncombinatorial Rows (2 of 2).

A Hauer's Tropes in Original Order

The diagrams in this appendix (Figures 9-12) are generally as above, but arranged so as to represent directly “TAFEL I” on

www.musiker.at/sengstschmidjohann/stichwort-trope.php3 .

In particular, assuming pitch-class numbers as in Figure 1, 0 here corresponds to the pitch class $D\sharp=E\flat$, and closed circles indicate first half-tropes, open circles second half-tropes.

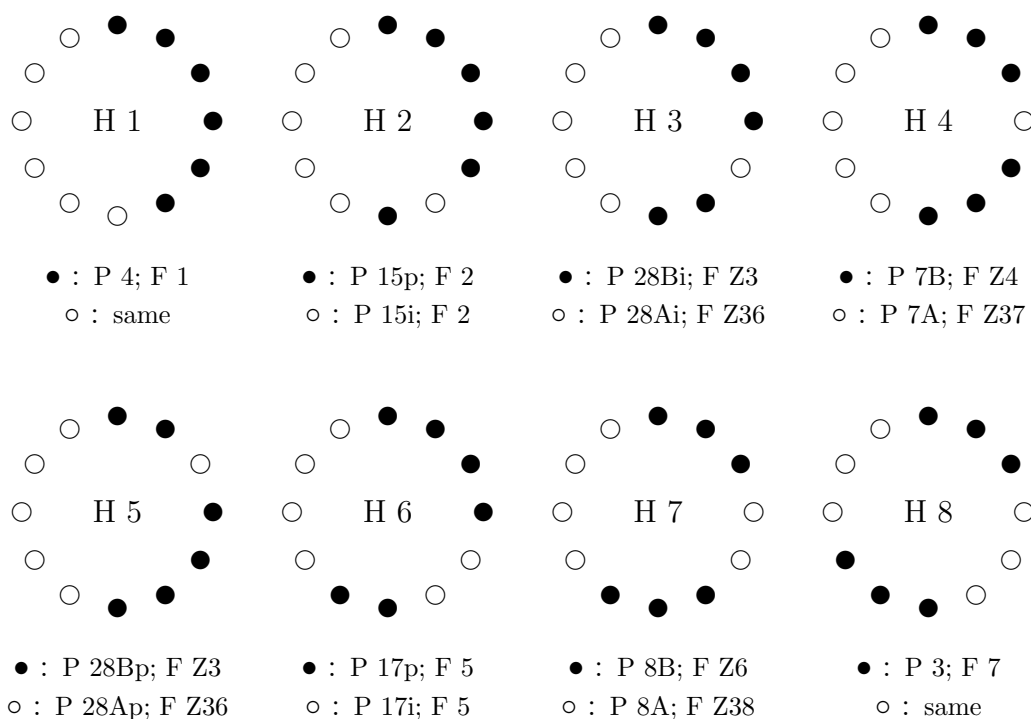


Figure 9: Hauer Tropes 1-8.

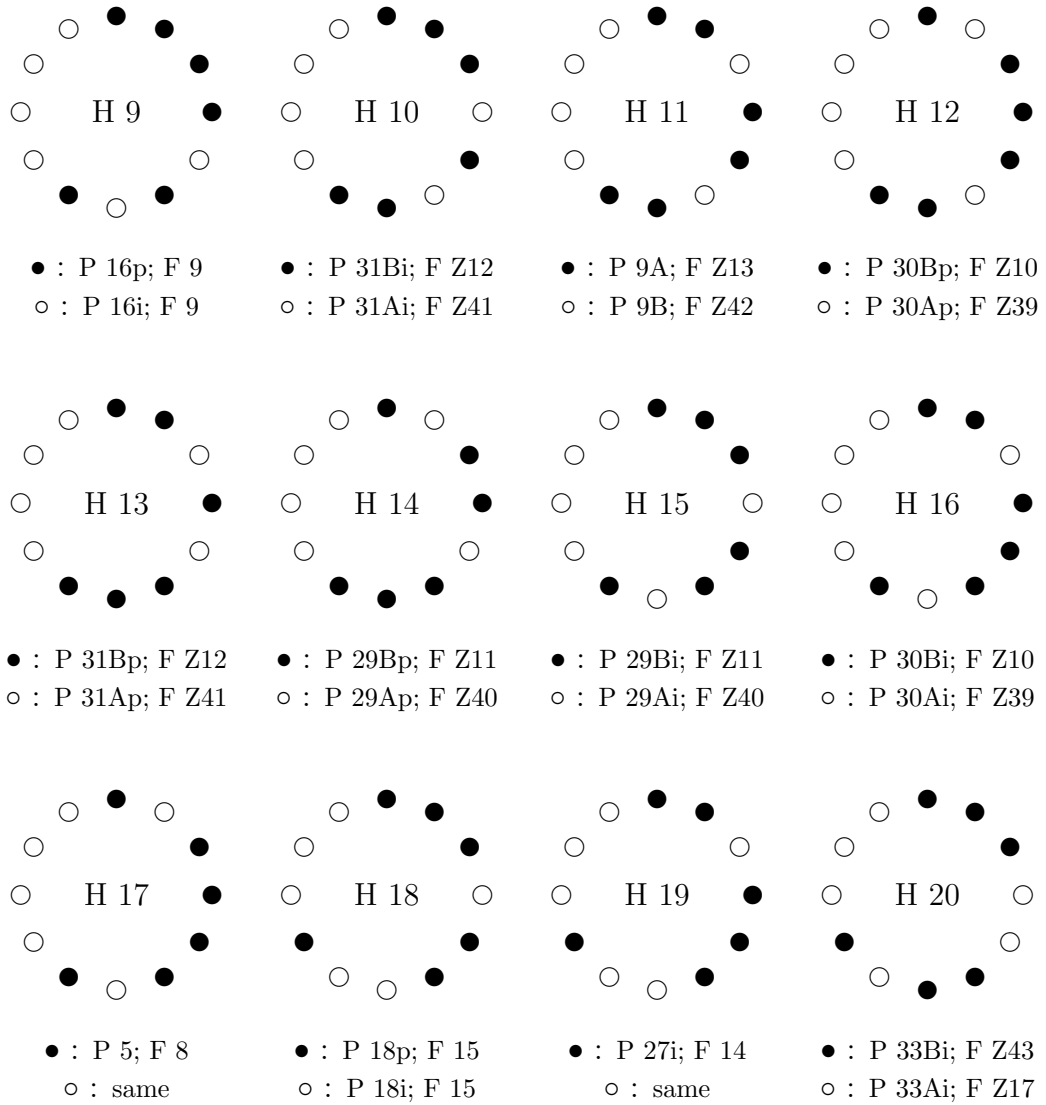


Figure 10: Hauer Tropes 9-20.

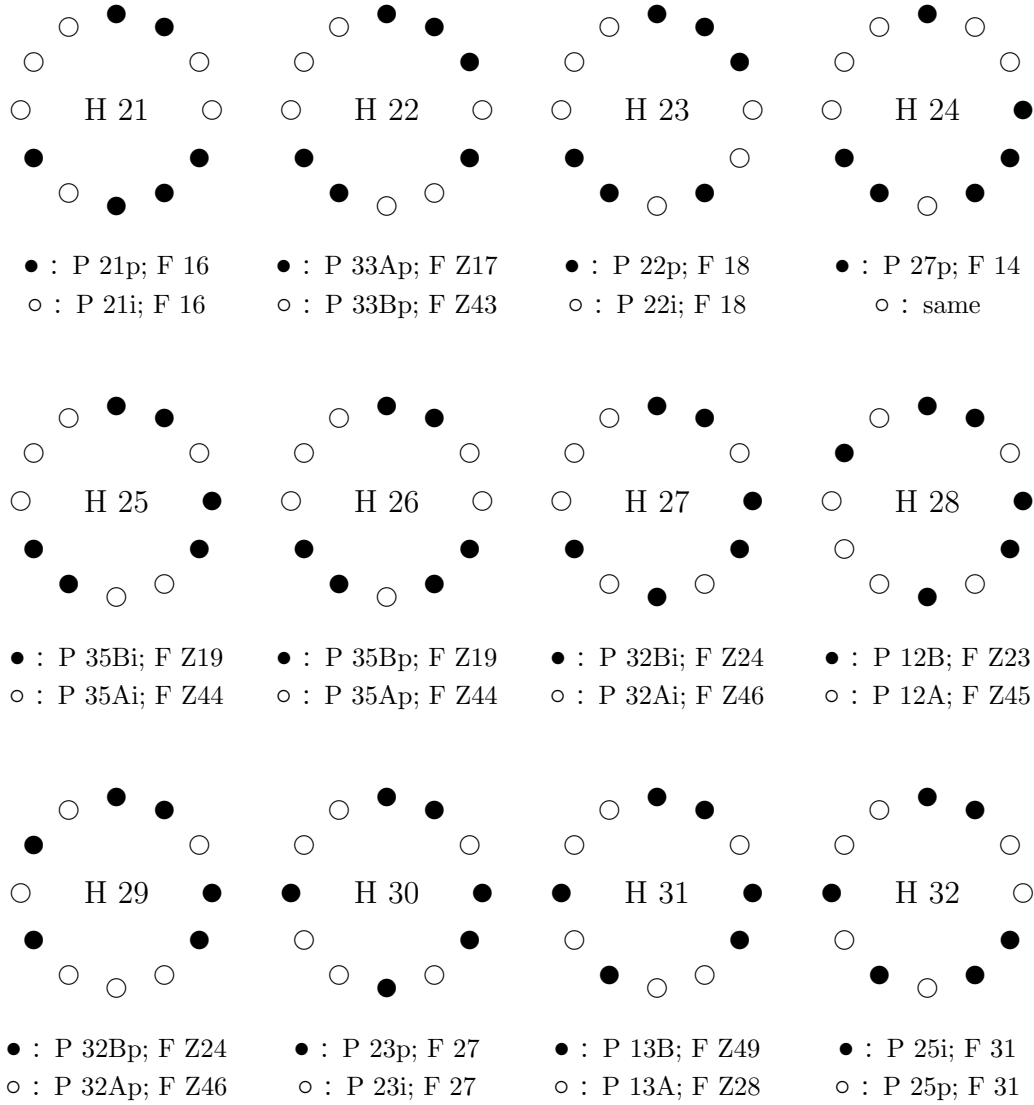


Figure 11: Hauer Tropes 21-32.

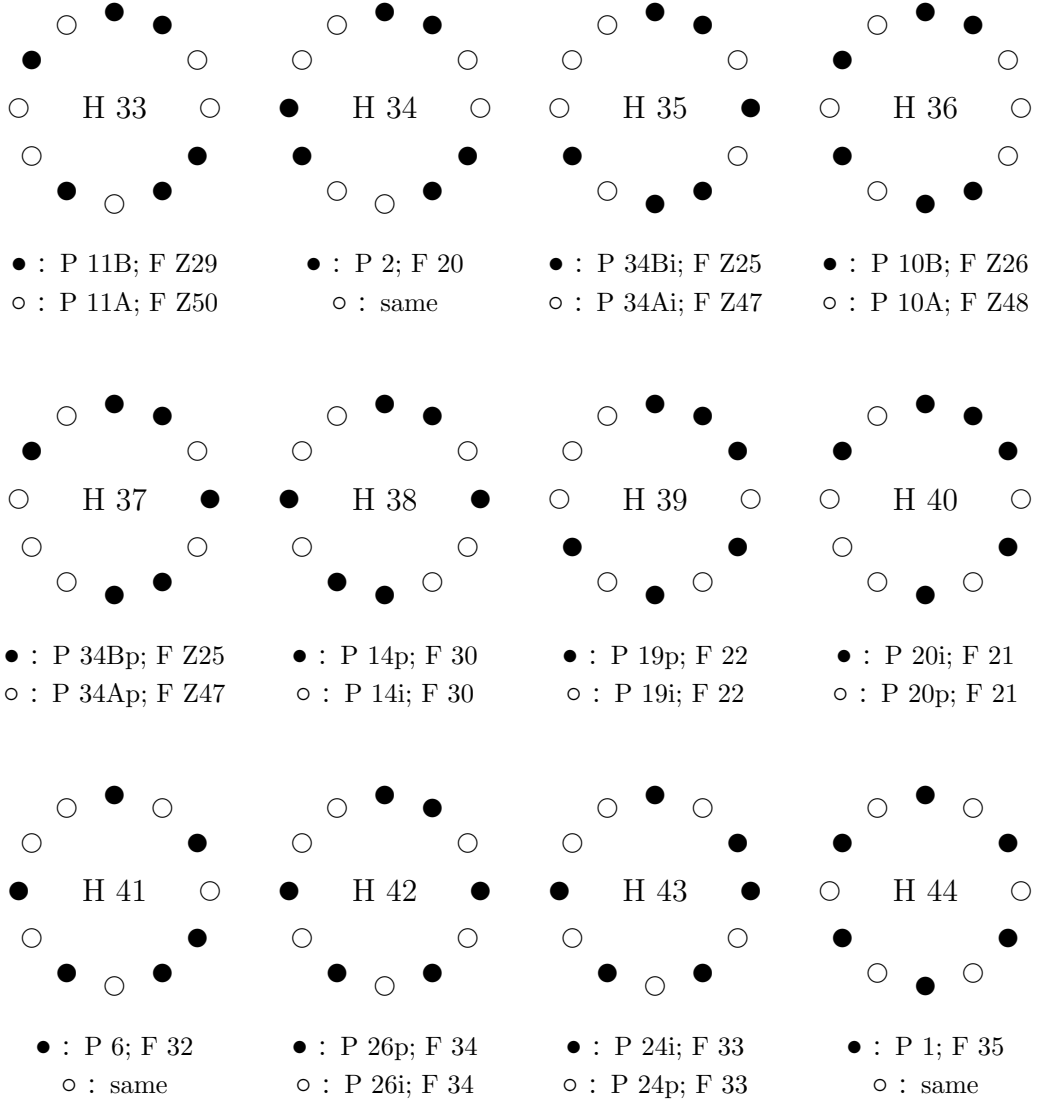


Figure 12: Hauer Tropes 33-44.

B Hexachord Types by Forte Number

Forte	prime form	interval vector	combin.			Perle	Hauer
			T	I	RI		
1	{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5}	⟨5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0⟩	•	•	•	4	1.I, II
2	{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6}	⟨4, 4, 3, 2, 1, 1⟩		•		15	2.I, II
Z3	{0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6}	⟨4, 3, 3, 2, 2, 1⟩				28B	3.I, 5.I
Z4	{0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6}	⟨4, 3, 2, 3, 2, 1⟩			•	7B	4.I
5	{0, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7}	⟨4, 2, 2, 2, 3, 2⟩		•		17	6.I, II
Z6	{0, 1, 2, 5, 6, 7}	⟨4, 2, 1, 2, 4, 2⟩			•	8B	7.I
7	{0, 1, 2, 6, 7, 8}	⟨4, 2, 0, 2, 4, 3⟩	•	•	•	3	8.I, II
8	{0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7}	⟨3, 4, 3, 2, 3, 0⟩	•	•	•	5	17.I, II
9	{0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7}	⟨3, 4, 2, 2, 3, 1⟩		•		16	9.I, II
Z10	{0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 7}	⟨3, 3, 3, 3, 2, 1⟩				30B	12.I, 16.I
Z11	{0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 7}	⟨3, 3, 3, 2, 3, 1⟩				29B	14.I, 15.I
Z12	{0, 1, 2, 4, 6, 7}	⟨3, 3, 2, 2, 3, 2⟩				31B	10.I, 13.I
Z13	{0, 1, 3, 4, 6, 7}	⟨3, 2, 4, 2, 2, 2⟩			•	9A	11.I
14	{0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 8}	⟨3, 2, 3, 4, 3, 0⟩	•			27	19.I, II; 24.I, II
15	{0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8}	⟨3, 2, 3, 4, 2, 1⟩		•		18	18.I, II
16	{0, 1, 4, 5, 6, 8}	⟨3, 2, 2, 4, 3, 1⟩		•		21	21.I, II
Z17	{0, 1, 2, 4, 7, 8}	⟨3, 2, 2, 3, 3, 2⟩				33A	20.II, 22.I
18	{0, 1, 2, 5, 7, 8}	⟨3, 2, 2, 2, 4, 2⟩		•		22	23.I, II

prime form: see Forte, op. cit.
interval vector: see footnote 6 above.
combin.: combinatoriality by transposition, inversion, retrograde inversion.

Table 1: Hexachord Types by Forte Number (1 of 3).

Forte	prime form	interval vector	combin.			Perle	Hauer
			T	I	RI		
Z19	{0, 1, 3, 4, 7, 8}	$\langle 3, 1, 3, 4, 3, 1 \rangle$				35B	25.I, 26.I
20	{0, 1, 4, 5, 8, 9}	$\langle 3, 0, 3, 6, 3, 0 \rangle$	•	•	•	2	34.I, II
21	{0, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8}	$\langle 2, 4, 2, 4, 1, 2 \rangle$		•		20	40.I, II
22	{0, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8}	$\langle 2, 4, 1, 4, 2, 2 \rangle$		•		19	39.I, II
Z23	{0, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8}	$\langle 2, 3, 4, 2, 2, 2 \rangle$			•	12B	28.I
Z24	{0, 1, 3, 4, 6, 8}	$\langle 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 1 \rangle$				32B	27.I, 29.I
Z25	{0, 1, 3, 5, 6, 8}	$\langle 2, 3, 3, 2, 4, 1 \rangle$				34B	35.I, 37.I
Z26	{0, 1, 3, 5, 7, 8}	$\langle 2, 3, 2, 3, 4, 1 \rangle$			•	10B	36.I
27	{0, 1, 3, 4, 6, 9}	$\langle 2, 2, 5, 2, 2, 2 \rangle$		•		23	30.I, II
Z28	{0, 1, 3, 5, 6, 9}	$\langle 2, 2, 4, 3, 2, 2 \rangle$			•	13A	31.II
Z29	{0, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9}	$\langle 2, 2, 4, 2, 3, 2 \rangle$			•	11B	33.I
30	{0, 1, 3, 6, 7, 9}	$\langle 2, 2, 4, 2, 2, 3 \rangle$		•		14	38.I, II
31	{0, 1, 4, 5, 7, 9}	$\langle 2, 2, 3, 4, 3, 1 \rangle$		•		25	32.I, II
32	{0, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9}	$\langle 1, 4, 3, 2, 5, 0 \rangle$	•	•	•	6	41.I, II
33	{0, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9}	$\langle 1, 4, 3, 2, 4, 1 \rangle$		•		24	43.I, II
34	{0, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9}	$\langle 1, 4, 2, 4, 2, 2 \rangle$		•		26	42.I, II
35	{0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10}	$\langle 0, 6, 0, 6, 0, 3 \rangle$	•	•	•	1	44.I, II
Z36	{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 7}	$\langle 4, 3, 3, 2, 2, 1 \rangle$				28A	3.II, 5.II
Z37	{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8}	$\langle 4, 3, 2, 3, 2, 1 \rangle$			•	7A	4.II
Z38	{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 8}	$\langle 4, 2, 1, 2, 4, 2 \rangle$			•	8A	7.II
Z39	{0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8}	$\langle 3, 3, 3, 3, 2, 1 \rangle$				30A	12.II, 16.II
Z40	{0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8}	$\langle 3, 3, 3, 2, 3, 1 \rangle$				29A	14.II, 15.II
Z41	{0, 1, 2, 3, 6, 8}	$\langle 3, 3, 2, 2, 3, 2 \rangle$				31A	10.II, 13.II
Z42	{0, 1, 2, 3, 6, 9}	$\langle 3, 2, 4, 2, 2, 2 \rangle$			•	9B	11.II

prime form: see Forte, op. cit.

interval vector: see footnote 6 above.

combin.: combinatoriality by transposition, inversion, retrograde inversion.

Table 2: Hexachord Types by Forte Number (2 of 3).

Forte	prime form	interval vector	combin.			Perle	Hauer
			T	I	RI		
Z43	{0, 1, 2, 5, 6, 8}	⟨3, 2, 2, 3, 3, 2⟩				33B	20.I, 22.II
Z44	{0, 1, 2, 5, 6, 9}	⟨3, 1, 3, 4, 3, 1⟩				35A	25.II, 26.II
Z45	{0, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9}	⟨2, 3, 4, 2, 2, 2⟩			•	12A	28.II
Z46	{0, 1, 2, 4, 6, 9}	⟨2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 1⟩				32A	27.II, 29.II
Z47	{0, 1, 2, 4, 7, 9}	⟨2, 3, 3, 2, 4, 1⟩				34A	35.II, 37.II
Z48	{0, 1, 2, 5, 7, 9}	⟨2, 3, 2, 3, 4, 1⟩			•	10A	36.II
Z49	{0, 1, 3, 4, 7, 9}	⟨2, 2, 4, 3, 2, 2⟩			•	13B	31.I
Z50	{0, 1, 4, 6, 7, 9}	⟨2, 2, 4, 2, 3, 2⟩			•	11A	33.II

prime form: see Forte, op. cit.

interval vector: see footnote 6 above.

combin.: combinatoriality by transposition, inversion, retrograde inversion.

Table 3: Hexachord Types by Forte Number (3 of 3).