

Conducting Technique Lesson 10

Asymmetric Meters: 5 and 7 patterns

Skill Practice

Asymmetric Meter- Conducting in Five and in Seven

Asymmetric Meters are the meters within $5/4$ or $5/8$ time signatures and $7/4$ or $7/8$ time signatures

Five Pattern: 12345 = 2 + 3 OR 3 + 2

Seven Pattern: 1234567 = 2+2+3 OR 3+2+2 OR 2+3+2 (less common)

Much like the compound meters we have studied earlier, if the piece is in a slow tempo, each beat will be conducted. In this case, you will need to determine WHICH pattern will work with the division of the beats. This may be clearly marked by stem beaming or may need to be determined by textual stress.

FIVE PATTERN EXAMPLES

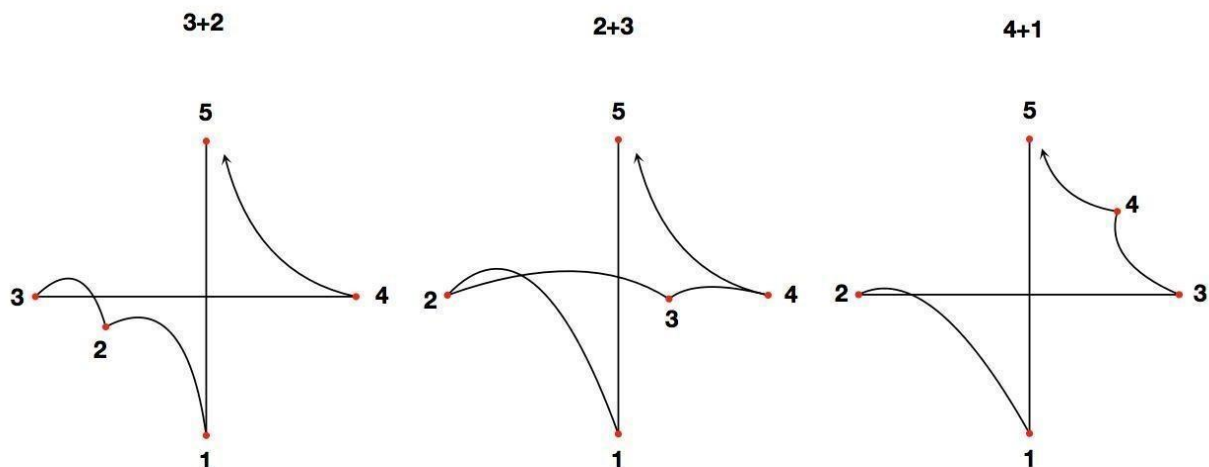


Figure 9.1 The Five Pattern Options

Video Demonstration: The Five Pattern

<https://youtu.be/e59HIWe2O94>

Asymmetric Converted Gesture

If the tempo is moderate or fast pace, the pattern will be converted to the larger gesture superimposed over the smaller subpulses. In this case, the conductor will, utilize a two pattern for the $5/8$ and $5/4$ or the three pattern for the $7/8$ and $7/4$.

5/8 two pattern of asymmetric lengths

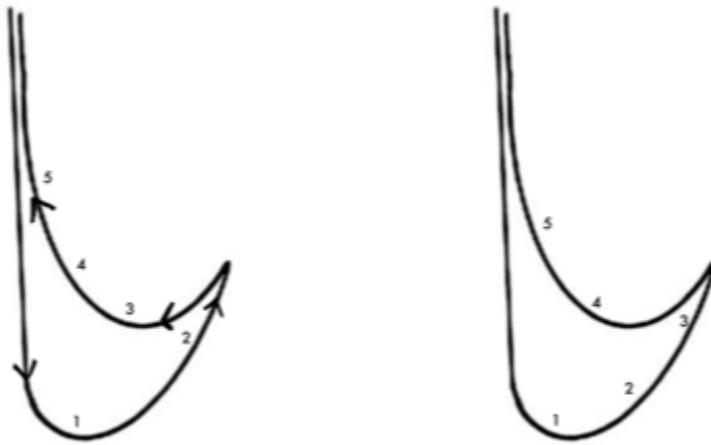


Figure 9.2 The asymmetric five pattern converted into two gesture

Demonstration Video: Asymmetric Five Pattern Converted Into Two gesture

<https://youtu.be/cRHBsMJOT2g>

7/8 three pattern of asymmetric lengths

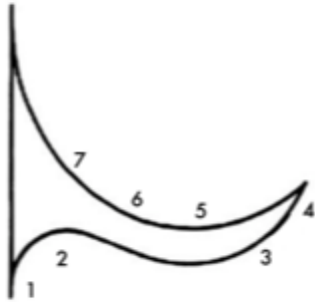
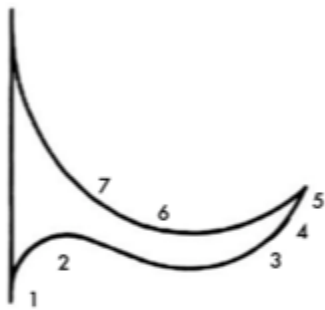


Figure 9.3 Nine Pattern Converted into Three



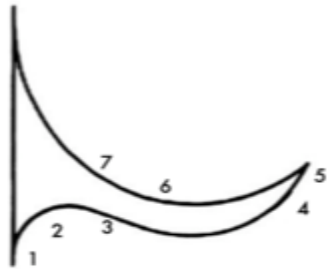


Figure 9.3 Asymmetric Seven Pattern Converted into Three
Video Demonstration: Asymmetric Seven Pattern, Converted to Three Pattern
<https://youtu.be/7liMpZrBdQY>