

Staff-jumping chords in PMX

All chords are made in the lower staff, so that the MusixT_EX command `\prevstaff` can be used to change staff. When the notes in a bar are all of the same length, then one needs to adjust horizontal positions (e.g. with `\sk`).

1 Single chords (bar 1 of example)

These are the MusixT_EX (type 2 inline T_EX) commands needed:

```
% Black notes
\\def\cq#1{\prevstaff\zq{#1}\nextstaff}\
\\def\cqns#1{\prevstaff\sk\zq{#1}\nextstaff\sk}\
\\def\cqns#1{\prevstaff\sk\sk\zq{#1}\nextstaff\sk\sk}\
\\def\cqns#1{\prevstaff\sk\sk\sk\zq{#1}\nextstaff\sk\sk\sk}\
% White notes
\\def\chn#1{\prevstaff\zh{#1}\nextstaff}\
\\def\chns#1{\prevstaff\sk\zh{#1}\nextstaff\sk}\
\\def\chns#1{\prevstaff\sk\sk\zh{#1}\nextstaff\sk\sk}\
\\def\chns#1{\prevstaff\sk\sk\sk\zh{#1}\nextstaff\sk\sk\sk}
```

For usage, study bar 1 of the example. The second chord needs a `\sk`, but the next one (on beat 3) does not, because it has a different duration.

2 Beamed chords (bar 2 of example)

These can usually be done in PMX alone (without inline T_EX). If the beam ends badly, experiment with the 'beam up' or 'down' command (`[u`, `[l`, `[ju`, `[jl`), as described in the **PMX** manual. Also, one often has to explicitly adapt height and slope of the beam.

Cf. also the corresponding 'Comment' on the **PMX** "Tips and Tricks" WEB page:

<http://icking-music-archive.org/software/pmxticks/tricks.html>

3 Last chord in a beam in lower staff only (bar 3 of example)

The problem here is that the beam lacks an 'anchor' note in the top staff. The problem can be solved, however, by using a 'phantom note' (more precisely: by giving an 'anchor' note, and then using a mechanism to 'erase' it again):

Define first: `\let\qbsav\qb\ .` Then before the note to be removed, add (the Type 1 inline T_EX command)

```
\def\qb#1#2{\let\qb\qbsav\qb{#1}{~}}\
```

In bar 3 this is the phantom b in the last sixteenth of beat 2. The slur shows that the note is actually there (and with the **PMX** MIDI option it can actually be heard).

4 Shifted chords (bars 4,5 of example)

Sometimes there is a problem with the desired horizontal position of several chords in the same staff. In bar 5 the shift caused by the arpeggio (cf. bar 4) is corrected manually (with a **PMX** hard space).

5 Example

