### Complex Time Signatures Posted by nokill - 2011/03/31 15:22

Hi everybody,

i really like complex time signatures e.g. 5/4, 7/8, 15/8. But I can't program them in my hardware sequencer (read MDUW).

So can you give me a hint, how to do this?

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#### Re:Complex Time Signatures

Posted by pelektor - 2011/03/31 17:52

Hold Function, press scale setup, and choose how many 16th-notes you want the bar to consist of... 5/4, you need 20.. (this means the track bars should be lit up to include the first four of page two, rest should not light up..)

7/8, you need 14, 15/8 you need 30...

:)

ItÂ's in the manual at page 38..;)

### Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by tlB - 2011/03/31 18:11

More info here: http://elektron-users.com/index.php?option=com\_fireboard&Itemid=28&func=view&catid=9&id=106798

#### Re:Complex Time Signatures

Posted by nokill - 2011/03/31 18:37

I read the manual, but i can't remember this section. Probably I should read it again. ;p

thank you.

Edit: After reread the pages and realize, that i've read them, there is a "new" question...

When I set 20 for a 5/4, it will result in 20/20 in the MD so I get a 5/5 Beat? Now I'm even more confused...:side:

#### Re:Complex Time Signatures

Posted by pelektor - 2011/03/31 19:52

Yes, itÂ's a bit confusing. However, what you get is a pattern consisting of 20 16thÂ's notes, and you can choose whatever you want to call that :laugh:

Still, the layout of the MD makes it mroe of a 5/4, because of the highlighted quarternotes on the trig-buttons.. :)

You can also edit the pattern length in song-mode, making any pattern you have playing however many 16th-notes you want at any time (takes some editing, but works nice..)

This is very nice if you want different time-signatures in one piece..

What would be even greater, was if it were possible to have different lengths in different tracks!.. As requested by many

in the want-list-thread
:woohoo: Guess thatÂ's too much coding to implement for the Elektron-guys
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by teacherofstalker - 2011/03/31 20:14
nokill wrote: When I set 20 for a 5/4, it will result in 20/20 in the MD so I get a 5/5 Beat? Now I'm even more confused:side:
If you set a pattern to be 20 'steps' (1 step = one 16th note) long, you're operating in a 'scale' of 20/32. If you wanted 7/8, you'd set the scale to 14/16.
The important number here is the numerator, don't get confused by the denominator value.
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by FLEATINGMD - 2011/03/31 22:25
can anyone post their favorite tracks in odd time signatures?
i use them but only as a poly-rhythm - most of the song in 4/4 and a few bits in an odd time signature. i don't think i've heard (or at least recognized) modern music in odd time signatures.
interested to hear some!
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by Duncan - 2011/03/31 22:57
Plaid - Abla Eedio Reload - Le soliel et la mer Radiohead - 15 step
:)
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by Mr. Sound Boy King - 2011/03/31 23:12
March of the Pigs by Nine Inch Nails
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by FLEATINGMD - 2011/03/31 23:25
Thanks all!

Posted by thay bran - 2011/04/01 01:06

Autechre
Black Dog

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#### Re:Complex Time Signatures

Posted by teacherofstalker - 2011/04/01 01:15

#### FLEATINGMD wrote:

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interested to hear some!

:angry: That's 'polymetric', not polyrhythmic.. :silly:

Steve Coleman - Rhythm People (6/4 + 6/4 + 6/4 + 7/4 + 6/4 + 6/4 + 6/4)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0Qj36WiMQ8

Charlottefield - Again (7/4)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gK8-iGctk-M

Alice In Chains - Them Bones (7/4)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTuD8k3JvxQ

Autechre - Drane (5/4)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7WKTNb\_\_4A

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### Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by LIVESEQ - 2011/04/01 01:44

1 031cd by EIVEOLQ - 2011/04/01 01.44

teacherofstalker wrote:

FLEATINGMD wrote:

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Alice In Chains - Them Bones (7/4)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTuD8k3JvxQ

Autechre - Drane (5/4)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7WKTNb\_\_\_4A

nice selection. 5's and 7's are awesome.
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by LIVESEQ - 2011/04/01 01:54
Not sure what signatures this follows but it's great
Mahavishnu orchestra. Miles beyond
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhtJMrAH5q0
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by teacherofstalker - 2011/04/01 02:13
^ Great stuff. It's 6/4 in the quiet section, the loud is in some different grouping.
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by jdn - 2011/04/01 03:29
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qt2WbfotkU
4/4 -> 6/8 -> 4/4
not that 6/8 is super-complex, but the way they transition is really slick.
-j ========
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by pelektor - 2011/04/01 05:48
Duncan wrote:
] Radiohead - 15 step
:)
One of my favourites :woohoo:
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by BobTheDog - 2011/04/01 05:55
Pink Floyds Money really got me into 7/4, I like 5/4 as well I must admit.

Re:Complex Time Signatures
Posted by stiiiiiiive - 2011/04/01 06:04

The more than famous Lalo Shiffrin's "Mission: Impossible" theme.

# Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by LIVESEQ - 2011/04/01 06:43

stiiiiiive wrote:

The more than famous Lalo Shiffrin's "Mission: Impossible" theme.

nice vid. love the version off the original tv series. conga city:)

# Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by audible - 2011/04/01 07:30

some of my fav...

...polyrhythms:

Nine Inch Nails: La Mer

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOrBaLMBxJw

Porcupine Tree: Anesthetize

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xuJnV8vYivQ at 4:22

Philip Glass: Glassworks Opening

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqR2BXOSzug

...polymeters:

Pink Floyd: Mother

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wBkTUzKAiXQ

Mike Oldfield: Incantations 4 and throughout

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=umwaw46u5R0 at 2:20

...odd time sigs:

Peter Gabriel: Solsbury Hill (7/4)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eMwn hnoS5Y

Genesis: Supper's Ready (9/8)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EK1K6cP2Gd0 at 1:59

or the 80s version of the above:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWs2aQliCKg at 3:44

Insight AD (my metal band :whistle: ): Big Crunch (9/8) http://open.spotify.com/track/0XQlk75BvuFEMIqLVnO1I8

## Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by RubixGroove - 2011/04/02 05:56

Hella (Biblical Violence) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdMDcG3zAEI

Zach Hill (Dark Art, complete with a YouTube time sig. debate!)

Generated: 6 May, 2024, 13:50

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4kVOJfZg E&feature=related

Tera Melos (40 Rods to the Hog's Head) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9v-y45F-po&feature=related

Don Caballero (You Drink a lot of Coffee for a Teenager) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xod CrP-YQs&feature=related

Don Caballero (Details on how to get ICEMAN on Your License Plate) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ToKPRnFb7pA&feature=related

Just a tiny fraction of a "few". Peace! :D

#### Re:Complex Time Signatures

Posted by hageir - 2011/08/05 22:05

I've thought about creating overlays for this (one for 3/4 or 12-step 5/4, 6/4 7/4, etc. maybe one with all? -Different colors?)

It would give you a clear view of what you're doing when you're working with other signatures..

Like the swing for example, try it with 5/4 or even 7/4, it gets a bit confusing (you just have to count, really).

### Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by 181 - 2011/10/15 17:30

snd and mark fell are great for stuff that shifts or straight up ignores time signatures, esp. fell's latest 2 solo albums... really wanted to find track 2 of this on youtube, that boomkat preview doesn't go long enough: http://boomkat.com/downloads/365147-mark-fell-ul8

also, been forever since I've listened, but the orb's track o.o.b.e. had a really fuckin weird polyrhythm. In the live bootlegs it's more clearly in 3/4.

too lazy to figure out what is happening in this om unit track, 5/8? http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5ZkKikink8

## Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by TOS - 2011/10/16 10:16

^ Superb tune that Om Unit one. I'd call it 2/4, with the hi-hats and arpeggiator splicing each beat in 5 sixteenths.

## Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by Amanita - 2011/10/16 15:56

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7JiCZvJh5Q&feature=related

BT - Dynamic Symmetry. I think its 9/8 or something but i'm not that good at diagnosing these things. The section at around 7.00 is a very obvious useage. Good vid too if you can be bothered to sit it out.....

Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by Amanita - 2011/10/16 16:01
Genesis also used varying time signatures in Turn It On - which was very commercial and fooled alot of school discodance floors.
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by goomba - 2011/10/16 18:33
Does the machinedrum have different pre-scales like a tr-808 ?
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by TOS - 2011/10/26 03:46
Amanita, yeah - let's call it 9/4 for clarity.
Goomba, yeah, it's got the tempo multiplier for 1x, 2x, 3/2x and 3/4x.
American Men - Cool World Epic epic track. Beginning theme is in 4/4, but grouped into 7/4 + 9/4.
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by LIVESEQ - 2011/10/27 01:45
TOS wrote:
American Men - Cool World Epic epic track. Beginning theme is in 4/4, but grouped into 7/4 + 9/4.
beautiful stuff. Reminds me of these guys. Link: Three Trapped Tigers
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by hageir - 2011/11/03 00:07
Duncan wrote: Radiohead - 15 step
I made a 15-step hip hop track and it's got some sort of funky groove to it
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by redrum - 2011/11/12 10:20

You can get some extremly complex time signiture in song mode.

It takes a bit of time and preperation but I just love using the mono's bbox. Set up some 'chords' (not the annoying whistle or cowbell) and use the arpeggio's set the speed to whatever you what. Then set up a second, or several. You

can come up with some fantastic polyrythems. If you have a stedy kick on the MD. You can get away with some wacky stuff and keep it dance friendly.
You can also get some nice off time retrigs. It's limitless.
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by SecretMusic - 2011/11/21 02:01
No one mentions Frank Zappa when talking about complex time signatures?? Ha ha, look him up then!
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by LoraineSmith56 - 2011/12/13 15:41
Hi guys can a complex audio signature be made using fruity loops?
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by hageir - 2012/03/01 00:40
One thing on my to-do-list is to design a little overlay (for swing) that you can put on top of the steps, so you can get a clear view of where the first beat of a bar is (VERY CONFUSING when working in 5/3, 3/4, etc.)
The swing is a really, really important factor, especially in 12-step (3/4).  Every 2 step of 3 should be swung 70+% for a really nice rhythm.  But it gets confusing when you have to edit the swing for all the tracks.
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by zfigz - 2012/03/01 01:40
What do you mean by "every 2 step of 3 should be swung 70+%?"
Do you mean the 2nd step of every third bar?
Re:Complex Time Signatures Posted by ThinkTanx - 2012/03/01 02:23
hageir wrote: One thing on my to-do-list is to design a little overlay (for swing) that you can put on top of the steps, so you can get a clear view of where the first beat of a bar is (VERY CONFUSING when working in 5/3, 3/4, etc.)
My god, that would be amazing! I agree, I find myself going cross-eyed looking at the steps when in odd times.

#### Re:Complex Time Signatures

zfigz wrote:
What do you mean by "every 2 step of 3 should be swung 70+%?"

Do you mean the 2nd step of every third bar?

Sorry for being vague:
In 3/4:

It would be (X = normal S = swung)

Or:

SXX |Â SXX | SXX | SXX

XSX |Â XSX | XSX | XSX et cetera.

Posted by hageir - 2012/03/06 02:19

but as soon as you work in that 3 step signature it's easy to get lost because of the physical graphics on the Machinedrum/MnM (1, 2, 3, 4, 5 - 16 = locked to 4/4)

That's why I need to find some time and do this thing so we can all print it out and mark it with swing, the first hit of each beat, etc. :silly:

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