Source code sample Python
Excerpt from the main class of a generative music composing engine.

```
# [...] marks repetitive parts or long sections with non-interesting material removed for demo-
# purposes

# CreateNotes.py is part of the master thesis of B.Sc. Marc A. Modrow titled "Generative Music
# Scoring for Interactive Entertainment Software" written at the University Bremen (GER) in
# the program of  digital media in 2013.
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#
# CreateNotes.py is used to create instances of the Pure Data wrapper for the NoteObject.py-
# Class. This class also contains all the algorithms needed for composing. This makes
# CreateNotes the heart of the composing engine.
#
# This is based on a script by Thomas Grill called simple.py that showed how to print and give
# to outlets text based on the input type from pyext to Pure Data.
# Original credits of sample file used as basis:
#
# py/pyext - python script objects for Pd and MaxMSP
#
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# WARRANTIES, see the file, "license.txt" in this distribution.
#

try:
  import pyext
except:
  print "ERROR: This script must be loaded by the Pd/Max pyext external"

from array import *
import random, math

import PyHelper

######################################################################
# Well, it creates notes and control messages :p
# It gives all the info needed to the dyn_note and dyn_ctl dynamic patchers.
# This is where all the magic happens
class CreateNotes(pyext._class):
  # number of inlets and outlets
  _inlets=1
  _outlets=3

  # variables

  # needed as the score has to be written a few ticks ahead of playing it back.
  # Measured in full notes.
  time_offset = 1.0/8.0
  # diagnose mode toggle
  create_notes_diag = 1

  # the name of all 12 notes in the chromatic circle starting with C
  chromatic_circle = (["C", "Cis", "D", "Dis", "E", "F", "Fis", "G", "Gis",
    "A", "Ais", "B"])
  # the half-tone step width of a few of the most common scales
  # other scales can be set up manually
  scales = {'M': [2, 2, 1, 2, 2, 2, 1],'nm': [2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2], 'hm': [2, 1, 2, 2, 1,3,1],
    'mm': [2, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 1], 'chr': [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1]}
  # a selection of chords with their individual half-tone step widths retreived from
  # http://www.musictheory.net/lessons
  # in the notation read /o as half-diminished and o's as diminished, +'s are augmentations,
  # trailing 7's as a seventh-chord.
  # leading numbers are read as superscript_subscript, or just superscript if no _ is present,
  # following the chord name to mark inversions. E.g. 27 is a third inversion 7th chord.
  # all non-inverted begin with a 0 as they are all counted from the root note and not from
  # the previous note like the scales, ergo inverted chords start off with a 12.
  chords = {
    # simple triads
    'M': [0, 4, 7], 'm': [0, 3, 9], '+': [0, 4, 8], 'o': [0, 3, 6],
    # single inverted triads
    '6M': [12, 4, 7], '6m': [12, 3, 9], '6+': [12, 4, 8], '6o': [12, 3, 6],
    # double inverted triads
    '6_4M': [12, 16, 7], '6_4m': [12, 15, 9], '6_4+': [12, 16, 8], '6_4o': [12, 15, 6],
    # sevenths
    '7': [0, 4, 7, 10], 'M7': [0, 4, 7, 11], 'm7': [0, 3, 7, 10], '/o7': [0, 3, 6, 10],
    'o7': [0, 3, 6, 9],
    # [...]
    }
  # split up the chords so they are callable by type. To be called as chords[triads[A][B]] or
  # chords[sevenths[A][B]] whereas A is the inversion count and B is the chord number in the
  # class. This eases the randomisation of chord decision.
```

```
  triads = [['M', 'm', '+', 'o'], ['6M', '6m', '6+', '6o'], ['6_4M', '6_4m',
    '6_4+', '6_4o']]
  sevenths = [['7', 'M7', 'm7', '/o7', 'o7', 'mM7', '+M7', '+7'], ['6_57',
    '6_5M7', '6_5m7', '6_5/o7', '6_5o7', '6_5mM7', '6_5+M7', '6_5+7'], ['4_37',
    '4_3M7', '4_3m7', '4_3/o7', '4_3o7', '4_3mM7', '4_3+M7', '4_3+7'],
    ['27', '2M7', '2m7', '2/o7', '2o7', '2mM7', '2+M7', '2+7']]



  # methods for all inlets

  # class-specific diagnose mode toggle for console output in Pd
  def diag_1(self, toggle):
    if toggle == 0 or toggle == "false":
      CreateNotes.create_notes_diag = 0
      print "CreateNotes diagnose mode deactivated"
    elif toggle == 1 or toggle == "true":
      CreateNotes.create_notes_diag = 1
      print "CreateNotes diagnose mode activated"
    else:
      print "CreateNotes diagnose mode only accepts 0 or 1 as input. ", arg, "is invalid."

  # the trigger-message updates the current timestamp and triggers loop  methods were
  # applicable. Gets called for every instrument automatically by Pd
  def trigger_1(self, timestamp):
    self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] = timestamp
    if self.general_settings['active']:
      if self.progression_settings['active'] and (self.progression_settings['next_timestamp'] <=
          timestamp or self.progression_settings['next_timestamp'] == -1):
        self.progression()
      if self.kpc_settings['active'] and (self.kpc_settings['next_timestamp'] <= timestamp or self.
          kpc_settings['next_timestamp'] == -1):
        self.key_phrase_composition()
      if self.metronome_settings['active']:
        self.metronome()
      if self.bin_subdiv_settings['active'] and (self.bin_subdiv_settings['next_timestamp'] <=
          timestamp or self.bin_subdiv_settings['next_timestamp'] == -1):
        self.bin_subdiv()
    self.general_settings['prev_timestamp'] = self.general_settings['current_timestamp']

  # stochastic binary subdivision as described in the thesis in the scoring-chapter. It is
  # triggered by the trigger_1()-method mostly good for drums,
  # but applicable on melody as well
  def bin_subdiv(self):
    if self.create_notes_diag:
        print "bin subdiv"
    # gets the current time from the last update (happens in the trigger-method)
    timestamp = self.general_settings['current_timestamp']# - self.time_offset
    # prepare an empty note stack buffer and call the recursive method.
    self.bin_subdiv_settings['notestack'] = []
    self.bin_subdiv_rec(self.bin_subdiv_settings['bound_dur_long'], timestamp)
    # some naive chromatic scale running for melody instruments
    if self.general_settings['channel'] != 10:
      i = 30
      for note in self.bin_subdiv_settings['notestack']:
        note[0] = self.legal[i%len(self.legal)]
        i += 1
    # Sets the next time for this method to be activated. This is after the runtime of the
    # maximum allowed note length - the amount of time covered by one call.
    self.bin_subdiv_settings['next_timestamp'] = self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] + (1.0/
        self.bin_subdiv_settings['bound_dur_long'])
    if self.create_notes_diag:
      print "next timestamp = ", self.bin_subdiv_settings['next_timestamp'], "equals: ", self.
          general_settings['current_timestamp'], "+ 1/", self.bin_subdiv_settings['bound_dur_long']
    # create the actual notes from the note stack
    self.notes_from_stack(timestamp, self.bin_subdiv_settings['notestack'] )

  # this is the recursive function to work through the given time frame
  # by dividing it into a binary tree of durations of a given depth.
  # usually called by bin_subdiv()
  def bin_subdiv_rec(self, dur, timestamp):
    # is further division possible and does chance allow it?
    if dur < self.bin_subdiv_settings['bound_dur_short'] and random.random() <= self.
        bin_subdiv_settings['subdiv_probability']:
      # half the duration (it is seen as 1/dur so doubling the value  halves the duration)
      # and call two new instances for the given timestamp and duration
      dur *= 2
      self.bin_subdiv_rec(dur, timestamp)
      self.bin_subdiv_rec(dur, timestamp + 1.0/dur)

    # no further division shall be done, create notes instead.
    else:
      # base velocity
      vel = 60

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```
160|       # melody instuments
161|       if self.general_settings['channel'] != 10:
162|         # small chance for a rest
163|         if random.random() <=0.1:
164|           vel = 0
165|           if self.create_notes_diag:
166|               print "Including pause"
167|         # create a note. The pitch will be assigned in bin_subdiv()
168|         self.bin_subdiv_settings['notestack'].append([60, vel, self.general_settings['channel'], dur,
                timestamp + self.time_offset])
169|         if self.create_notes_diag:
170|           print "Melody notes generated at dur = ", dur
171|
172|       # this is for channel 10 = percussion
173|       else:
174|         # as the scale is not applied to this these are raw MIDI pitches
175|         bass_drum = [35, 36]
176|         snare = [37, 38, 40]
177|         hihat = [42, 44, 46]
178|         tom = [41, 43, 45, 47, 48, 50]
179|         ride = [51, 53, 59]
180|         crash = [49, 57]
181|         effect_cymbal = [53, 54, 55, 56]
182|         # find the position within the measure
183|         current_beat = self.exact_current_beat(timestamp)
184|         output = []
185|         if self.create_notes_diag:
186|           print "current_beat = ", current_beat, ", measure length = ", self.general_settings['
                measure_length'], ", timestamp = ", timestamp
187|
188|         # adjust velocity and create notes. for each position in the measure
189|         # each voice has a different probability.
190|         #
191|         # the down-beat:
192|         if current_beat == 0:
193|           if random.random() <=0.9:
194|             vel = random.randrange(80, 127)
195|           if random.random() <=0.8:
196|             output.append(random.choice(bass_drum))
197|           if random.random() <=0.2:
198|             output.append(random.choice(snare))
199|           if random.random() <=0.6:
200|             output.append(random.choice(hihat))
201|           if random.random() <=0.6:
202|             output.append(random.choice(tom))
203|           if random.random() <=0.4:
204|             output.append(random.choice(ride))
205|           if random.random() <=0.4:
206|             output.append(random.choice(crash))
207|           if random.random() <=0.3:
208|             output.append(random.choice(effect_cymbal))
209|         # each full beat (number counts)
210|         # [...]
211|         # 8th off the beat ("and"s)
212|         # [...]
213|         # 16th off the 8th ("e"s and "de"s)
214|         # [...]
215|         # everything below 16th level not on anything above
216|         # [...]
217|         if self.create_notes_diag:
218|           print "Drum notes generated for ", output, " at dur = ", dur
219|         # append the gathered output data to the note stack for bin_subdiv().
220|         self.bin_subdiv_settings['notestack'].append([output, vel, self.general_settings['channel'],
                dur, timestamp + self.time_offset])
221|
222|   # wrapper for set_bin_subdiv for Pd
223|   def set_bin_subdiv_1(self, *args):
224|     self.set_bin_subdiv(args)
225|
226|   # sets bin_subdiv settings ;)
227|   # when setting active to true it also sets up an appropriate starting time (next full note)
228|   def set_bin_subdiv(self, args):
229|     # checks whether the args are consisting of a valid variable name and an integer
230|     if len(args) == 2 and PyHelper.isNumber(args[1]) and str(args[0]) in self.bin_subdiv_settings:
231|       self.bin_subdiv_settings[str(args[0])] = args[1]
232|       # additionally checks for the variable name being active and the value being one
233|       # to prepare a proper starting time for the next full note to hit the crucial beats
234|       if str(args[0]) == "active" and args[1] == 1:
235|           self.bin_subdiv_settings['next_timestamp'] = round(self.general_settings['current_timestamp'
                ]+0.5)
236|           print "bin_subdiv set to start at ", self.bin_subdiv_settings['next_timestamp'], ", which is
                  beat#", self.exact_current_beat(self.bin_subdiv_settings['next_timestamp'])
237|       if self.create_notes_diag:
238|         print "This CreateNotes' bin_subdiv settings['", args[0], "'] is set to", self.
              bin_subdiv_settings[str(args[0])]
```

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239|
240|   # tells the exact position in the current bar. if a timestamp is handed it is used instead
241|   # of the one stored in general_settings['current_timestamp']
242|   def exact_current_beat(self, timestamp = -1):
243|     if timestamp == -1:
244|       timestamp = self.general_settings['current_timestamp']
245|     current_beat = (4 * timestamp)%self.general_settings['measure_length']
246|     return current_beat
247|
248|   # tells the last quater note passed. if a timestamp is handed it is used instead of the one
249|   # stored in general_settings['current_timestamp']
250|   def passed_quater_beat(self, timestamp = -1):
251|     if timestamp == -1:
252|       timestamp = self.general_settings['current_timestamp']
253|     last_quater = int(4 * timestamp)%self.general_settings['measure_length']
254|     return last_quater
255|
256|   # tells the exact position in the current bar at the previous tick. if a timestamp is handed
257|   # it is used instead of the one stored in general_settings['current_timestamp']
258|   def exact_previous_beat(self, timestamp = -1):
259|     if timestamp == -1:
260|       timestamp = self.general_settings['prev_timestamp']
261|     last_beat = (4 * (timestamp))%self.general_settings['measure_length']
262|     return last_beat
263|
264|   # tells the bar number the timer currently is within. if a timestamp is handed it is used
265|   # instead of the one stored in general_settings['current_timestamp']
266|   def current_bar(self, timestamp = -1):
267|     if timestamp == -1:
268|       timestamp = self.general_settings['current_timestamp']
269|     return int(timestamp / self.general_settings['measure_length'])
270|
271|   # a basic metronome. It only returns the current measure and beat to outlet 2.
272|   # depending on the setting in framework.pd/metronome that will be passed as
273|   # chn. 10 note information or rendered into the Pd-DAC directly.
274|   def metronome(self):
275|     # prep
276|     last_beat = self.exact_previous_beat()
277|     current_beat = self.exact_current_beat()
278|     last_quater = self.passed_quater_beat()
279|     # print "metro: last_beat: ", last_beat, " current_beat: ", current_beat, " last_quater: ",
          last_quater
280|     # calculate
281|     if (last_beat < last_quater or last_beat > current_beat) and current_beat >= last_quater:
282|       if (last_quater+1)%self.general_settings['measure_length'] == 0:
283|         self.metronome_settings['total_measures'] += 1
284|       # sending out the data
285|       self._outlet(2, [self.metronome_settings['total_measures'], (last_quater + 1)%self.
              general_settings['measure_length']])
286|       if self.create_notes_diag:
287|         print "Metronome: Beat #", (last_quater + 1)%self.general_settings['measure_length'], "in bar
                  # ", self.metronome_settings['total_measures'], "(last beat:", last_beat, ", current_beat:
                  ", current_beat, ", last_quater:", last_quater, ")"
288|     # setting up the current timestamp as previous for the next call
289|     self.metronome_settings['prev_timestamp'] = self.general_settings['current_timestamp']
290|
291|   # wrapper for set_metro for Pd
292|   def set_metro_1(self, *args):
293|     self.set_metro(args)
294|
295|   # sets metronome settings ;)
296|   def set_metro(self, args):
297|     # checks whether the args are consisting of a valid variable name and an integer
298|     if len(args) == 2 and PyHelper.isNumber(args[1]) and str(args[0]) in self.metronome_settings:
299|       self.metronome_settings[str(args[0])] = args[1]
300|       if self.create_notes_diag:
301|         print "This CreateNotes' metronome settings['", args[0], "'] is set to", self.
                  metronome_settings[str(args[0])]
302|
303|   # gets settings ;)
304|   def get_metro_1(self, *args):
305|     if len(args) == 0 or (len(args) == 1 and args[0] == 0):
306|       print self.metronome_settings.items()
307|     elif len(args) == 1 and self.metronome_settings.has_key(str(args[0])):
308|       print self.metronome_settings[str(args[0])]
309|     else:
310|       print "Didn't know what to do with ", args
311|
312|   # wrapper for progression for Pd
313|   def progression_1(self, i):
314|     if self.progression_settings['active'] and self.progression_settings['next_timestamp'] == i or
            self.progression_settings['next_timestamp'] == -1:
315|       self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] = i
316|       progression()
317|
```

```
318|   # usually launched by trigger(). for functionality look at the implementation chapter
319|   # of the thesis this belongs to
320|   def progression(self):
321|     if self.create_notes_diag:
322|         print "progression"
323|     # set up the variables
324|     # current note duration by density
325|     notes_per_full = math.pow(2, random.randint(self.progression_settings['bound_dur_long'], self.
           progression_settings['bound_dur_short']))
326|     self.progression_settings['duration'] = 1.0/notes_per_full
327|     current_beat = self.exact_current_beat()
328|     # if set duration would cross the bar line cut duration to the bar line
329|     if current_beat + self.progression_settings['duration'] > self.general_settings['measure_length']:
330|       self.progression_settings['duration'] = self.general_settings['measure_length'] - current_beat
331|     self.progression_settings['next_timestamp'] = self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.
           progression_settings['duration']
332|     if self.create_notes_diag:
333|         print "next progression timestamp = ", self.progression_settings['next_timestamp']
334|     self.progression_settings['prev_timestamp'] = self.general_settings['current_timestamp']
335|     # define a pitch for the next note
336|     self.progression_settings['note_buff'] = self.legal[(self.progression_settings['note_buff'] +
           random.randint(self.progression_settings['bound_step_low'], self.progression_settings['
           bound_step_up'])) % len(self.legal)]
337|     # define a velocity for the next note
338|     vel_buff = 127 - self.progression_settings['note_buff'] + random.randint(-10, 10)
339|     # do create the note with a 5% chance of a rest
340|     if random.random() < 0.95:
341|       # amount of notes to be generated at this timestamp
342|       amount = 1
343|       # chance of a chord of at least 2 notes
344|       if random.random() < self.progression_settings['chord_probability']:
345|         amount = 2
346|         # chance of a chord of at least 3 notes
347|         if random.random() < self.progression_settings['chord_probability']:
348|           amount = 3
349|           # chance of a chord of 4 notes
350|           if random.random() < self.progression_settings['chord_probability']:
351|             amount = 4
352|             if self.create_notes_diag:
353|               print "Seventh chord!"
354|           elif self.create_notes_diag:
355|             print "Triad chord!"
356|         elif self.create_notes_diag:
357|           print "Secundian chord!"
358|       # create a chord from the amount of notes and the base note
359|       chord = self.random_chord(self.progression_settings['note_buff'], amount)
360|       if self.create_notes_diag:
361|         print [chord, vel_buff, self.general_settings['channel'], notes_per_full, self.
               general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.time_offset]
362|       # actually send the note to Pd
363|       self.note([chord, vel_buff, self.general_settings['channel'], notes_per_full, self.
               general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.time_offset])
364|
365|   # wrapper for set_progression for Pd
366|   def set_prog_1(self, *args):
367|     self.set_prog(args)
368|
369|   # sets progression settings ;)
370|   def set_prog(self, args):
371|     # checks whether the args are consisting of a valid variable name and an integer
372|     if len(args) == 2 and PyHelper.isNumber(args[1]) and str(args[0]) in self.progression_settings:
373|       self.progression_settings[str(args[0])] = args[1]
374|       if self.create_notes_diag:
375|         print "This CreateNotes progression settings['", args[0], "'] is set to", self.
               progression_settings[str(args[0])]
376|     # otherwise it is supposed to be a bulk-change
377|     else:
378|       if len(args)>0:
379|         self.general_settings['channel'] = args[0] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[0]) else 0
380|         if len(args)>1:
381|           self.progression_settings['chord_probability'] = args[1] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[1]) else
                 0
382|           if len(args)>3:
383|             self.progression_settings['bound_step_low'] = args[2] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[2]) else 0
384|             self.progression_settings['bound_step_up'] = args[3] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[3]) else 0
385|             if len(args)>5:
386|               self.general_settings['bound_valid_low'] = args[4] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[4]) else 0
387|               self.general_settings['bound_valid_up'] = args[5] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[5]) else 0
388|               if len(args)>7:
389|                 self.progression_settings['bound_dur_long'] = args[6] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[6])
                       else 0
390|                 self.progression_settings['bound_dur_short'] = args[7] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[7])
                       else 0
391|                 if len(args)>8:
392|                   self.general_settings['measure_length'] = args[8] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[8]) else
```

```
                        0
393       if self.create_notes_diag:
394         print "CreateNotes' progression_settings is set to: ", self.progression_settings
395
396     # gets settings ;)
397     def get_prog_1(self, *args):
398       if len(args) == 0 or (len(args) == 1 and args[0] == 0):
399         print self.progression_settings.items()
400       elif len(args) == 1 and self.progression_settings.has_key(str(args[0])):
401         print self.progression_settings[str(args[0])]
402       else:
403         print "Didn't know what to do with ", args
404
405     # wrapper for key_phrase_composition for Pd
406     def key_phrase_composition_1(self, i):
407       if self.kpc_settings['active'] and self.kpc_settings['next_timestamp'] == i or self.kpc_settings['
              next_timestamp'] == -1:
408         self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] = i
409         key_phrase_composition()
410
411     # usually launched by trigger(). for functionality look at the implementation chapter
412     # of the thesis this belongs to
413     def key_phrase_composition(self):
414       # div0-error catch:
415       if self.general_settings['measure_length'] <= 0:
416         self.general_settings['measure_length'] = 1
417       if self.create_notes_diag:
418           print "kpc"
419       time_diff = 0
420       # on start/ after reset
421       if self.kpc_settings['next_keyphrase'] == -1 or self.kpc_settings['next_keyphrase'] <= self.
              general_settings['current_timestamp']:
422         # set the aspects of the next key phrase
423         self.kpc_settings['next_keyphrase'] = self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] + random.
              randint(self.kpc_settings['key_dist_low'], self.kpc_settings['key_dist_up'])
424         time_diff = self.kpc_settings['next_keyphrase'] - self.general_settings['current_timestamp']
425         rand = random.randint(time_diff * -1, time_diff) if time_diff * -1 < time_diff else random.
              randint(time_diff, time_diff * -1)
426         self.kpc_settings['keyphrase_target'] = self.kpc_settings['note_buff'] + rand*self.kpc_settings[
              'mobility']
427       # define the next keyframe time and target
428       time_left = self.kpc_settings['next_keyphrase'] - self.general_settings['current_timestamp']
429       # make sure to have a target that differs from the current note; otherwise the next
430       # phrase will be rather dull
431       while self.kpc_settings['keyphrase_target'] == self.kpc_settings['note_buff']:
432         self.kpc_settings['keyphrase_target'] = self.kpc_settings['note_buff'] + random.randint(
              time_diff * -1, time_diff)*self.kpc_settings['mobility']
433       dist_left = self.kpc_settings['keyphrase_target'] - self.kpc_settings['note_buff']
434       tendency = time_left * self.general_settings['measure_length'] / dist_left
435       notes_per_full = math.pow(2, random.randint(self.kpc_settings['bound_dur_long'], self.kpc_settings
              ['bound_dur_short']))
436       # set up the variables
437       self.kpc_settings['duration'] = 1.0/notes_per_full
438       current_beat = self.exact_current_beat()
439       # catch and correct if the next note would pass the bar line
440       if current_beat + self.kpc_settings['duration'] > self.general_settings['measure_length']:
441         self.kpc_settings['duration'] = self.general_settings['measure_length'] - current_beat
442
443       self.kpc_settings['next_timestamp'] = self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.
              kpc_settings['duration']
444       self.kpc_settings['prev_timestamp'] = self.general_settings['current_timestamp']
445       if self.create_notes_diag:
446           print self.kpc_settings['next_timestamp'], tendency
447       # make sure that the scale has been set and choose a pitch
448       if not len(self.legal) == 0:
449         rand = random.uniform(self.kpc_settings['bound_step_low'] * tendency, self.kpc_settings['
              bound_step_up'] * tendency)
450         self.kpc_settings['note_buff'] = self.legal[(self.kpc_settings['note_buff'] + int(rand)) % len(
              self.legal)]
451         if self.create_notes_diag:
452           print self.kpc_settings['note_buff'], len(self.legal), rand
453       ########
454       # from here on it is similar to progression - basic chord creation
455       ########
456       vel_buff = 127 - self.kpc_settings['note_buff'] + random.randint(-10, 10)
457
458       # do create the note with a 5% chance of a rest
459       if random.random() < 0.95:
460         # amount of notes to be generated at this timestamp
461         amount = 1
462         # chance of a chord of at least 2 notes
463         if random.random() < self.kpc_settings['chord_probability']:
464           amount = 2
465           # chance of a chord of at least 3 notes
466           if random.random() < self.kpc_settings['chord_probability']:
```

```
467|           amount = 3
468|           # chance of a chord of 4 notes
469|           if random.random() < self.kpc_settings['chord_probability']:
470|             amount = 4
471|             if self.create_notes_diag:
472|               print "Seventh chord!"
473|           elif self.create_notes_diag:
474|             print "Triad chord!"
475|         elif self.create_notes_diag:
476|           print "Secundian chord!"
477|       # create a chord from the amount of notes and the base note
478|       chord = self.random_chord(self.kpc_settings['note_buff'], amount)
479|       if self.create_notes_diag:
480|         print [chord, vel_buff, self.general_settings['channel'], notes_per_full, self.
                 general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.time_offset]
481|       # actually send the note to Pd
482|       self.note([chord, vel_buff, self.general_settings['channel'], notes_per_full, self.
                 general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.time_offset])
483|
484|   # wrapper for set_kpc for Pd
485|   def set_kpc_1(self, *args):
486|     self.set_kpc(args)
487|
488|   # sets kpc settings ;)
489|   def set_kpc(self, args):
490|     # checks whether the args are consisting of a valid variable name and an integer
491|     if len(args) == 2 and PyHelper.isNumber(args[1]) and str(args[0]) in self.kpc_settings:
492|       self.kpc_settings[str(args[0])] = args[1]
493|       if self.create_notes_diag:
494|         print "This CreateNotes' kpc settings['", args[0], "'] is set to", self.kpc_settings[str(args
                   [0])]
495|     # otherwise it is supposed to be a bulk-change
496|     else:
497|       if len(args)>0:
498|         self.general_settings['channel'] = args[0] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[0]) else 0
499|         if len(args)>1:
500|           self.kpc_settings['chord_probability'] = args[1] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[1]) else 0
501|           if len(args)>3:
502|             self.kpc_settings['bound_step_low'] = args[2] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[2]) else 0
503|             self.kpc_settings['bound_step_up'] = args[3] if PyHelper.isNumber(args[3]) else 0
504|             if len(args)>5:
505|               # [...]
506|       if self.create_notes_diag:
507|         print "CreateNotes' kpc_settings is set to: ", self.kpc_settings
508|
509|   # gets settings ;)
510|   def get_kpc_1(self, *args):
511|     if len(args) == 0 or (len(args) == 1 and args[0] == 0):
512|       print self.kpc_settings.items()
513|     elif len(args) == 1 and self.kpc_settings.has_key(str(args[0])):
514|       print self.kpc_settings[str(args[0])]
515|     else:
516|       print "Didn't know what to do with ", args
517|
518|   # wrapper for note for Pd
519|   def note_1(self, *values):
520|     self.note(*values)
521|
522|   # here actually the note making magic happens as this constructs the note creating message.
523|   def note(self, *values):
524|     import types
525|     # under certain circumstances it happens that the note is an array in
526|     # the first element of another array. This compensates for that.
527|     if len(values) == 1 and type(values[0]) in (types.TupleType, types.ListType):
528|       values = values[0]
529|
530|     # if values[0] is a tuple we effectively have a chord
531|     # if values[0] is an empty tuple it is correctly ignored ;)
532|     if type(values[0]) in (types.TupleType, types.ListType):
533|         for pitch in values[0]:
534|           self.note([pitch, values[1], values[2] if len(values) == 5 else self.general_settings['
                     channel'], values[3] if len(values) == 5 else values[2], values[4] if len(values)==5
                     else values[3]])
535|         # break this execution for a new call otherwise there will be type errors
536|         # quasi-recursion makes things much easier here
537|         return
538|     # initiate all needed varaibles
539|     pitch = 0
540|     vel = 0
541|     chn = 0
542|     dur = 0
543|     timestamp = 0
544|     # a note of 4 elements has no channel. This should be default!
545|     # general_settings['channel'] is used then
546|     if len(values) == 4:
```

```
547|       pitch = values[0]
548|       vel = values[1]
549|       chn = self.general_settings['channel']
550|       dur = values[2]
551|       timestamp = values[3]
552|     # if the note has 5 elements the third is interpreted as channel
553|     elif len(values) == 5:
554|       pitch = values[0]
555|       vel = values[1]
556|       chn = values[2]
557|       dur = values[3]
558|       timestamp = values[4]
559|     # if it has neither 4 nor 5 elements it is incomplete or overlong and thus corrupt
560|     else:
561|       print len(values), "is not a valid number of arguments to create a note message."
562|     if self.create_notes_diag:
563|       print "Generating note: pitch=", pitch, "=", self.chromatic_circle[pitch%12], "vel=", vel, "chn=
           ", chn, "dur=", dur, "timestamp=", timestamp
564|
565|     # if vel is 0 it is a rest.
566|     if vel > 0:
567|       # otherwise hand it to Pd
568|       self._outlet(1, pitch, vel, chn, dur, timestamp)
569|
570|   # creates notes from a stack-array
571|   # the elements from the stack are: pitch, vel, chn, dur, timestamp
572|   # first element may be an array. this is resolved in note()
573|   def notes_from_stack(self, timestamp, stack):
574|     import types
575|     if 4 <= len(stack[0]) <= 5:
576|       for item in stack:
577|         # if vel is 0 it is a rest.
578|         if item[1] > 0:
579|           self.note([item[0], item[1], item[2], item[3], timestamp if len(item)==4 else item[4]])
580|           if self.create_notes_diag:
581|             print "note to create from stack: ", [item[0], item[1], item[2], item[3], timestamp if len
                   (item)==4 else item[4]]
582|         timestamp += 1.0/(item[3])
583|     else:
584|       print "Notes are supposed to have 4 or 5 arguments for a stack-operation, not ", len(stack), "!"
585|
586|   # wrapper for control for Pd
587|   def control_1(self, *values):
588|     self.control(values)
589|
590|   # here actually the control message making magic happens as this constructs the control
591|   # message creating message.
592|   def control(self, *values):
593|     import types
594|     # under certain circumstances it happens that the note is an array in
595|     # the first element of another array. This compensates for that.
596|     if len(values) == 1 and type(values[0]) in (types.TupleType, types.ListType):
597|       values = values[0]
598|     # there is no stack-execution for control messages. make individual calls for each one
599|
600|     # initiate all needed varaibles
601|     ctl = 0
602|     value = 0
603|     chn = 0
604|     timestamp = 0
605|     # a control message of 3 elements has no channel. This should be default!
606|     # general_settings['channel'] is used then
607|     if len(values) == 3:
608|       ctl = values[0]
609|       value = values[1]
610|       chn = self.general_settings['channel']
611|       timestamp = values[2]
612|     # if the note has 4 elements the third is interpreted as channel
613|     elif len(values) == 4:
614|       ctl = values[0]
615|       value = values[1]
616|       chn = values[2]
617|       timestamp = values[3]
618|     else:
619|       print len(values), "is not a valid number of arguments to create a control message."
620|     if self.create_notes_diag:
621|       print "Generating control: ctl=", ctl, "value=", value, "chn=", chn, "timestamp=", timestamp
622|     # there are no rests for control messages - everything gets passed
623|     self._outlet(3, ctl, value, chn, timestamp)
624|
625|   # creates control messages from a stack-array
626|   # the elements from the stack are: ctl, value, chn, timestamp
627|   def control_from_stack(self, timestamp, *stack):
628|     import types
```

```
629|     for item in stack[0]:
630|       if len(item) == 3:
631|         self.control(item[0], item[1], item[2], timestamp)
632|       elif len(item) == 2:
633|         self.control(item[0], item[1], self.general_settings['channel'], timestamp)
634|
635|   # wrapper for scale for Pd
636|   def scale_1(self, name, *stepargs):
637|     self.scale(name, str(stepargs))
638|
639|   # this method defines all the legal tones for the chosen key in self.legal[]
640|   # name is an int from 0-11 corresponding to the half-tones from C to B or an upper-case note
641|   # name as string.
642|   # stepargs is either a series of half-tone steps that add up to 12 or a scale name as
643|   # defined in self.scales
644|   def scale(self, name, *stepargs):
645|     # regular expression package
646|     import re
647|     self.legal = []
648|     # exclude percussion instruments - they do not need scales
649|     if self.general_settings['channel'] != 10:
650|       if self.create_notes_diag:
651|         print "Defining scale:", name, ", ", stepargs, "len(steps):", len(stepargs)
652|       # validate name from the chromatic circle if it's no number
653|       if not PyHelper.isNumber(name):
654|         try:
655|           name = self.chromatic_circle.index(name)
656|         except ValueError:
657|           name = random.randint(0, 11)
658|           if self.create_notes_diag:
659|             print "Name is neither a number nor the proper name of a note... I just pick one. I choose
                    ", self.chromatic_circle[name]
660|       # buffer for the step array
661|       steps = []
662|       # if the stepargs' length is one and it contains anything but numbers, commas,
663|       # whitespaces and brackets is't most likely actually a string
664|       if len(stepargs) == 1 and not re.match("^[0-9\,\(\)\ ]*$", stepargs[0]):
665|         scalename = ""
666|         # sometimes the name of the scale comes in with "decorations" - cutting them off
667|         if  len(stepargs[0])>3 and "Symbol" in str(stepargs[0]):
668|           scalename = stepargs[0][9:-3]
669|         else:
670|           scalename = stepargs[0]
671|         if self.create_notes_diag:
672|           print "The scale name is: ", scalename
673|         # use a predefined set of stepwidths from self.scales named by scalename
674|         if str(scalename) in self.scales:
675|           steps = self.scales[str(scalename)]
676|           if self.create_notes_diag:
677|             print "Set scale to ", self.chromatic_circle[name], str(scalename), "."
678|         # the input is no valid name thus a chromatic scale is chosen as fallback
679|         else:
680|           if self.create_notes_diag:
681|             print "Input non intelligable. Falling back to ", self.chromatic_circle[name], "chromatic
                      scale."
682|           steps = [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1]
683|
684|       # use what you are given
685|       # is stepargs consisting only of numbers and Pd-specific list-decorations?
686|       elif len(stepargs) == 1 and re.match("^[0-9\,\(\)\ ]*$", stepargs[0]):
687|         # clean up the decorations and build a proper array from the string
688|         for i in stepargs[0]:
689|           if re.match("[0-9]", i):
690|             steps.append(int(i))
691|       # else it already is a proper array that can be used right away
692|       else:
693|         steps = stepargs
694|       # this section is only relevant in diagnose mode so it got into that if section
695|       if self.create_notes_diag:
696|         print "steps are: ", steps
697|         # check if the scale adds up to a full octave. If it does not nothing changes in
698|         # terms of execution, but if diagnose mode is on a warning is displayed as it
699|         # seems highly unlikely that it has been done intentionally
700|         c = 0
701|         for i in steps:
702|           c += i
703|         if not c == 12:
704|           if self.create_notes_diag:
705|             print "Something went wrong. The steps should add up to 12, but did add up to", c, ". Is
                      that intended?"
706|       # i1 (short for index 1) is where the selection starts. As MIDI pitch 0 is C-1 (5
707|       # octaves below middle C) it can be counted from there on
708|       # i2 (short for index 2) is the length of the next step in the scale
709|       # both are iterating over the course of the upcoming loop
```

```
      i1 = name
      i2 = 0
      # this stores all allowed note indices before pushing them to the class space array
      legalbuffer = []
      # run until the upper boundary of the allowed MIDI space is reached
      while i1 <= self.general_settings['bound_valid_up']:
        # only append notes that are at least as high as the lowest allowed note
        if i1 >= self.general_settings['bound_valid_low']:
          legalbuffer.append(i1)
        # follow the scale regardless of the lower boundary
        # you will get there soon enough
        # traverse the pitches according to the next point int the scale
        i1 +=  steps[i2]
        # loop over the length of the steps array
        i2 = (i2+1)%(len(steps))
      # after the loop all the notes collected within it get written to self.legal
      self.legal = legalbuffer
      # here the allowed tone names are retrieved
      # as they are ownly needed for diagnose mode all the section is put into it.
      if self.create_notes_diag:
        tone_names_allowed = ""
        sum = 0
        i = 0
        while i < len(steps):
          sum = 0
          # the step widths need to be added for the index of each note to arise
          for j in range(i):
            sum += steps[j]
          tone_names_allowed += " " + self.chromatic_circle[(sum+name)%12]
          i += 1
        print "Following notes are allowed:", tone_names_allowed
    # all the way back: This is for channel 10 (percussions) only. In general MIDI
    # percussions use only the pitches 35 through 81, so all of those are legal
    else:
      for i in range(35, 81):
        self.legal.append(i)
      if self.create_notes_diag:
        print ("This is an instrument on channel 10. Channel 10 is meant for percussion "
          "instruments. They don't need conventional scales. I better skip this.")

  # wrapper for chord for Pd
  # directly creates a chord as notes for the current timestamp + offset
  def chord_1 (self, rootnote, chordname):
    self.note([self.chord(rootnote, str(chordname)), 50, self.general_settings['channel'], 8, self.
        general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.time_offset])

  # purely for testing custom chords from within Pd
  def chord_test_1(self, rootnote):
    self.note([self.chord(rootnote, [0, 2, 3]), 50, self.general_settings['channel'], 8, self.
        general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.time_offset])

  # this method creates a chord.
  # it expects the root note of the chord (int or string) and its name (string or int-array
  # with half-tone-steps for custom chords) and returns the pitches in plain MIDI values
  def chord(self, rootnote, chordname):
    chord = []
    import types
    if self.create_notes_diag:
      print "rootnote is a : ", type(rootnote), " chordname is a: ", type(chordname)
    # if the rootnote is no int
    if not PyHelper.isNumber(rootnote):
      # transform string to int
      if PyHelper.isString(rootnote):
        rootnote = self.chromatic_circle.index(rootnote)
      # transform other (e.g. symbol) to int
      elif str(rootnote) in self.chromatic_circle:
        rootnote = self.chromatic_circle.index(str(rootnote))
    if self.create_notes_diag:
      print "chord rootnote: ", rootnote
    # if the rootnote is no valid midi note number this cannot work
    if PyHelper.isNumber(rootnote) and rootnote >= 0 and rootnote <= 127:
      # the chordname can be given either as string name or...
      if PyHelper.isString(chordname):
        if str(chordname) in self.chords:
          for i in self.chords[str(chordname)]:
            chord.append(rootnote + i)
        else:
          print "You specified a non-legit chord name."
      # ...as list of halftone steps
      elif isinstance(chordname, list):
        if self.create_notes_diag:
          print len(chordname), chordname
        for i in chordname:
          if PyHelper.isNumber(i):
```

```
            chord.append(rootnote + i)
        else:
          print "It seems something went wrong when naming the chord."
        if self.create_notes_diag:
          print "The chord I build consists of ", chord, "."
      # if already the rootnote was invalid
      else:
        print "It appears I tried to build a chord on a non-legitimate rootnote (", rootnote, "). Sorry for failing."
      return chord

    # returns a random chord starting with the given root note (see chord() for format) and the
    # amount of notes the chord shall include
    def random_chord(self, rootnote, amount):
      chordlist = []
      # hardly a chord
      if amount == 1:
        chordlist = rootnote
      # not yet a chord technically, but already perfect intervals can be applied to sound ok
      # most of the time
      elif amount == 2:
        chordlist = [rootnote, rootnote+random.choice([5, 7, 12])]
      # here comes the chord()-method into play
      elif amount == 3:
        chordlist = self.chord(rootnote, self.chords[random.choice(random.choice(self.triads))])
      elif amount == 4:
        chordlist = self.chord(rootnote, self.chords[random.choice(random.choice(self.sevenths))])
      # more than 4 notes are not prepared (pentachords are too seldom for it to be feasable)
      # and 0 or negative amounts don't make any sense
      else:
        print "amount of notes(", amount, ") for this chord is either too low or high."
      return chordlist

    # wrapper for set_general for Pd
    def set_general_1(self, *args):
      self.set_general(args)

    # gets general settings ;)
    def set_general(self, args):
      # checks whether the args are consisting of a valid variable name and an integer
      if len(args) == 2 and PyHelper.isNumber(args[1]) and str(args[0]) in self.general_settings:
        self.general_settings[str(args[0])] = args[1]
        if self.create_notes_diag:
          print "This CreateNotes' general settings['", args[0], "'] is set to", self.general_settings[str(args[0])]

    # creates a single note from a list - mostly for testing
    def list_1(self, *f):
      if len(f) >=5:
        self.note(f[0], f[1], f[2], f[3], f[4])

    # creates a line from Zimmer's "He's a Pirate"
    # needs the measure and beat to play from the tune. Is not run by trigger_1()
    def pirate_1(self, measure, beat):
      timestamp = self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.time_offset
      c = self.general_settings['channel']
      notestack = [
          [
          [[69],64,c,16], [72,64,c,16], [74,64,c,8]],
          [[77,64,c,16], [79,64,c,16], [76,64,c,8]]
          ],

          [
          [[76],64,c,8], [74,64,c,16], [72,64,c,16]],
          [[74,64,c,8], [74,64,c,16], [76,64,c,16]]
          ],

          [
          [[77],64,c,8], [77,64,c,8]],
          [[74,64,c,8], [0,0,c,8]]
          ]
        ]
      index = measure%len(notestack)
      self.notes_from_stack(timestamp, notestack[index] [beat]  )

    # creates a line from Evanescence's "My Immortal". Is not run by trigger_1()
    def immortal_1(self):
      # rest of 1/8
      timestamp = self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.time_offset
      c = self.general_settings['channel']
      notestack = [[0,0,c,8], [64,64,c,8], [64,64,c,8], [62,64,c,8], [61,64,c,8], [59,64,c,16], [61,64,c,16.0/3.0], [61,64,c,8]]
      self.notes_from_stack(timestamp, notestack)
```

```
873|   # Creates a chromatic linear progression of 16 notes over 2 bars in 8ths
874|   # Is not run by trigger_1(). Creates a bunch at a time, nondynamically and deterministic.
875|   def linear_1(self):
876|     timestamp = self.general_settings['current_timestamp'] + self.time_offset
877|     if self.create_notes_diag:
878|         print "linear from: ", timestamp
879|     notes_per_full = 8.0
880|     full_notes = 2.0
881|     c = self.general_settings['channel']
882|     for i in range(int(notes_per_full * full_notes)):
883|       self.note([90-i, 120-(i%notes_per_full)*8 ,c , notes_per_full, timestamp + i/notes_per_full])
884|
885|
886|   # Constructor - sets the values put in as args to the quintuple etc
887|   # args are supposed for the progession_1 method and they mean:
888|   # arg[0]: the channel this object refers to
889|   # arg[1]: the probability of chords (0...1) (higher chord rate also means bigger chords)
890|   # arg[2,3]: the max scale step width up and down
891|   # arg[4,5]: valid note range lower and upper boundary
892|   # arg[5,6]: note duration range lower and upper boundary (2^x), 0...6 is legal
893|   def __init__(self,*args):
894|     self.general_settings = {'active': 1, 'current_timestamp': -1.0, 'bound_valid_low': 22, '
          bound_valid_up': 107, 'channel': 1, 'measure_length': 4}
895|     # these variables are object-space-variables for the progression method
896|     self.progression_settings = {'active': 0, 'bound_step_low': 0, 'bound_step_up': 0, 'bound_dur_long
          ': 0, 'bound_dur_short': 0, 'chord_probability': 0, 'prev_timestamp': 0.0, 'next_timestamp':
          -1.0, 'duration': -1.0, 'note_buff': 0}
897|     # these variables are object-space-variables for the
898|     # key_phrase_composition method
899|     self.kpc_settings = {'active': 0, 'bound_step_low': -10, 'bound_step_up': 10,  'bound_dur_long':
          1, 'bound_dur_short': 6, 'chord_probability': 0.1, 'prev_timestamp': 0.0, 'next_timestamp':
          -1.0, 'duration': -1.0, 'note_buff': 0, 'next_keyphrase': -1, 'keyphrase_target': 0, '
          key_dist_low': 1, 'key_dist_up': 3, 'mobility': 10}
900|     # these variables are object-space-variable's for the metronome method
901|     self.metronome_settings = {'active': 0, 'prev_timestamp': -1.0, 'total_measures': 0}
902|     self.bin_subdiv_settings = {'active': 0, 'next_timestamp': -1.0, 'bound_dur_long': 2, '
          bound_dur_short': 16, 'subdiv_probability': 0.9, 'notestack': []}
903|     self.legal = []
904|     self.set_prog(args)
905|     self.scale("C", "hm")
```

"./Marc A Modrow source code sample Python.txt"