

JAZZ MATH

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If x is the number of chord changes in a tune, and y is the tempo at which it is played, then xy = factor by which a guitarist will turn down his amp.

(notes/measure played by a saxophonist on a ballad) is proportional to # (drinks he has consumed).

$4 + 4.125 + 4 + 3.875 + 4 + (4.667) + 4 +$
(x , where x is unknown) = 1 chorus trading with drummer.

$(2 + 5 + 1) \times$ (# of freshman college jazz students, internationally) = annual income of Jamie Aebersold, in dollars.

Infinity = $(3 + 6 + 2 + 5) + (3 + 6 + 2 + 5) + (3 + 6 + 2 + 5) \dots$

$5/4 + 7/4 + 11/4$ = drummer's gig

If (# of drinks consumed, per musician) > (# of drinks comped by club), then unrest will prevail unless (cost per drink) < $1/20$ (pay for gig).

1 uptempo tune + 1 rushing drummer + x (double lattes) = x (fights among horn players to solo first)

1 ballad + 1 dragging drummer + x (Percocets) = 1 cleared house, where x is proportional to the speed at which the room empties

2 (diddles) = paradiddle

Jam session + eighth-note rest = missed opportunity.

Jam session + (quarter-note rest or greater) = band on break.

{(New + York) squared - (NewNew + Yorkyork + Yorknew) + New York + 2 (Ride + Sally) - Sally} divided by (less than five seconds) = medley from hell

$(1/\text{vocalist's experience in years}) \times (\# \text{ of beats per measure}) \times 32$ = # of unintended modulations + skipped beats, per chorus.

If x = piano's deviance from being in tune, y = volume level of drummer, z = length of gig, and d = number of drinks consumed by pianist on break, then $(d) (xyz/\text{pay of the gig, in dollars})$, predicts the probability of pianist urinating in his instrument.

"Vow of Poverty" theorem: If # people in audience < # of musicians on bandstand, then pay per musician < one individual cover charge.

"Bass" theorem: A musician's IQ is inversely proportional to the size of his/her instrument, and directly related to the register of the instrument.

"Rule of One" theorem: (Universe of jazz vocalists) \div (# of jazz vocalists who sing "Summertime") = 1 = rank of "Summertime" among tunes most despised by instrumentalists.

"Devil's Music" theorem:
Smooth Jazz = square root of all evil.

"Two Americas" Buffet theorem: Fresh salmon/flaccid spanakopita + prime rib/limp eggrolls + jumbo shrimp/soggy chicken fingers = high society gig/Elks Club gig

How much should a gig pay, based on the following conditions: drive 90 miles outside of town through pouring rain; set up two hours in advance; load in through slimy kitchen accessed by treacherous outdoor staircase; and play four hours of continuous crappy dance favorites for drunk rich people?

Would you take it for $1/2$ that much?

(If yes): Desperation/pride > 1

After you bid on the above gig for $1/3$ your worth, a college student offers to play the same gig for $1/2$ as much. You are 12 times as good as him, but $1/2$ as good-looking. The client has a tin ear. Who will get the job? Why do you bother practicing?

If a trumpet player counts off a tune in $4/4$ at $mm = 180$, and the drummer slows it down at a constant rate of deceleration over 8 measures to $mm = 150$, does the pianist still suck?

If a bassist plays a root, a pianist superimposes a major seventh chord built on the fifth, and a saxophonist plays the 13th, will attractive women notice? Will the drummer?

If a successful attorney earns $3x$ as much as a successful musician, but the musician believes his work is $4x$ as fulfilling, who actually has larger genitalia?

Your trio is set up in a perfect equilateral triangle. A singer sets up exactly in the middle. Will the three of you be divided against the singer, or against one another?

If (% of Americans who like jazz) < (% of Americans who like chainsaw sculptures), what is America's most important indigenous art form?