Analyzing Drum Patterns and Drum Pattern Changes in Twenty-First Century Mainstream Pop

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Figure 1. Drums in Halsey’s “Without Me” (2018)

Figure 2. Number of Drum Patterns and Drum Pattern Changes Per Song in 2018 Mainstream Pop
Figure 3. Number of Drum Layers in 2018 Mainstream Pop (left); Instrument for One-Layer Patterns (center); Instruments for Two-Layer Patterns (right)

Figure 4. Referential Rhythms

- **Hi-Hat**:
  - X (tacet)
  - 8 (eighth notes)
  - 16 (sixteenth notes)
  - O (other)

- **Snare**:
  - X (tacet)
  - B (backbeat)
  - 4 (straight-four)
  - O (other)

- **Bass**:
  - X (tacet)
  - S (standard rock)
  - 4 (four-on-the-floor)
  - O (other)
Figure 5. Drums in DJ Khaled’s “No Brainer” featuring Justin Bieber, Chance the Rapper, and Quavo (2018)

Drum Pattern 1
S – B\text{CLAP/SNARE} – X (DPR=102)

Drum Pattern 2
S – B\text{CLAP/SNARE} – O (DPR=102)

Drum Pattern 3
X – X – X (ATR=102)

Form:
\begin{align*}
V1 & 0:46 \\
PC1 & 1:05 \\
C1 & 1:15 \\
DC1 & 1:33 \\
\end{align*}

Drum Patterns:
DP1, DP2, DP3, DP1, DP2

Figure 6. Drums in Cardi B, Bad Bunny, J Balvin’s “I Like It” (2018)

Drum Pattern 3
Verse 1.1
add bass drum
X – B\text{CLAP/CONGA} – X (DPR=68)

Drum Pattern 4
Verse 1.2
embellish bass drum rhythm
S – B\text{CLAP/CONGA} – X (DPR=68)

Drum Pattern 5
Verse 1.3
add hi-hat
change clap to snare drum

S – B – 16 (DPR=68)
Figure 7. Drums in Khalid and Normani’s “Love Lies” (2017)

- Drum Pattern 1
  - X – X – X (ATR=144)

- Drum Pattern 2
  - X – B\textsuperscript{ SNAP} – X (DPR=72)

- Drum Pattern 3
  - X – B\textsuperscript{ SNAP} – 16 (DPR=72)

- Drum Pattern 4
  - S – B\textsuperscript{ SNAP} – 16 (DPR=72)

Form:

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<td>0:00</td>
<td>V1</td>
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<td>C1</td>
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<td>DP1</td>
<td>DP2</td>
<td>DP3</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>O</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:07</td>
<td>C3</td>
<td>O</td>
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Drum Patterns:
- short-range drum buildups:
- mid-range drum buildups:
- long-range drum buildup:
Bibliography:


