

# 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)

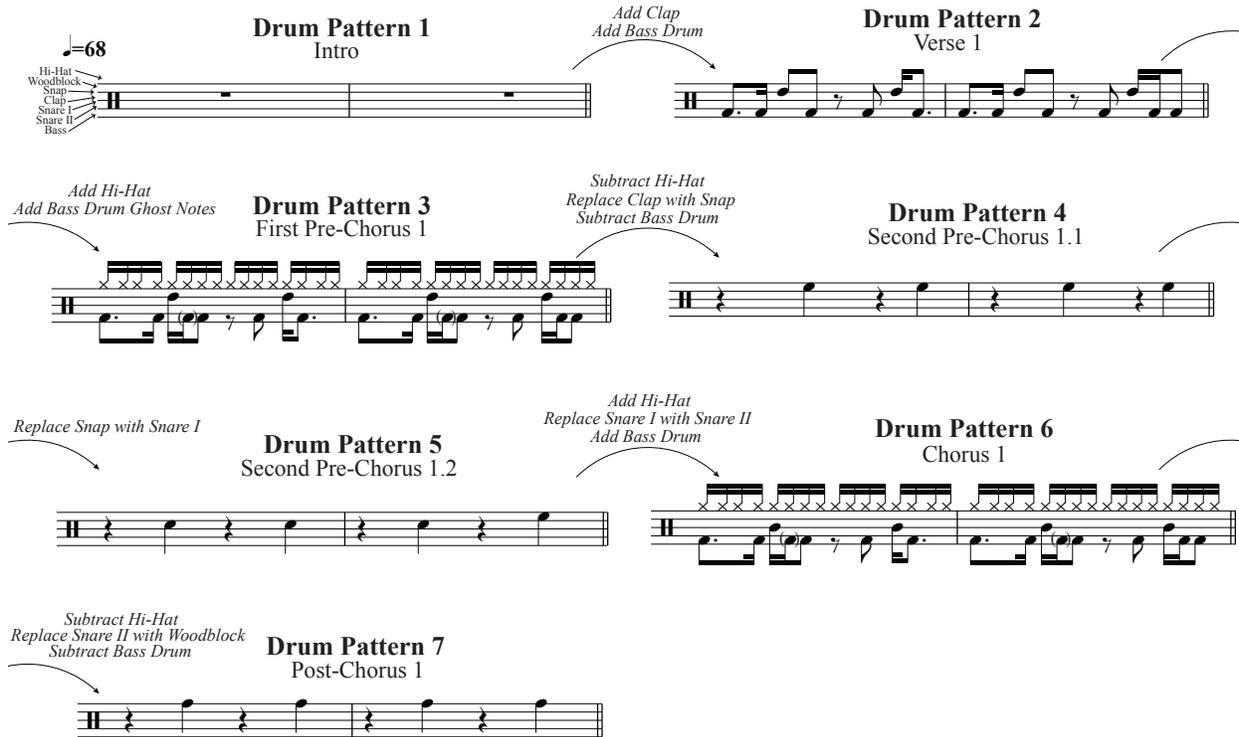
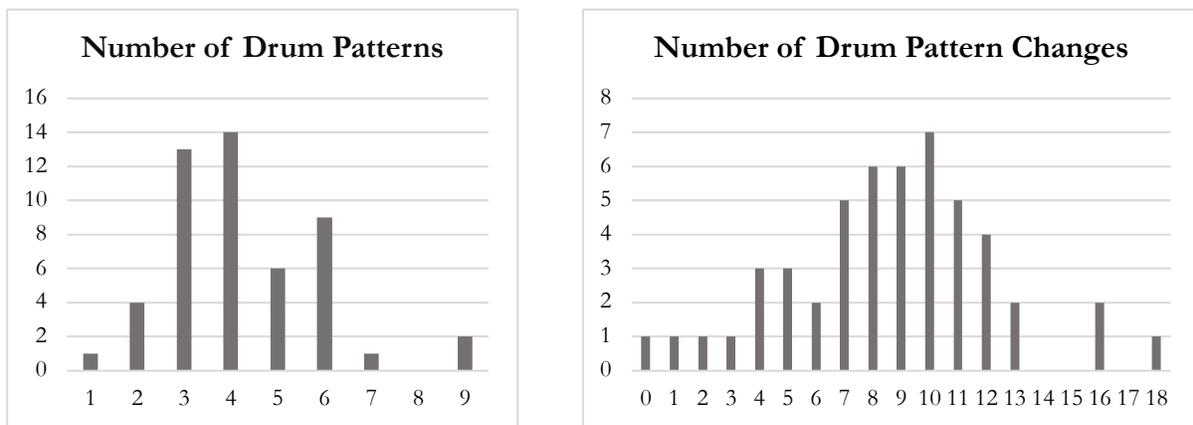
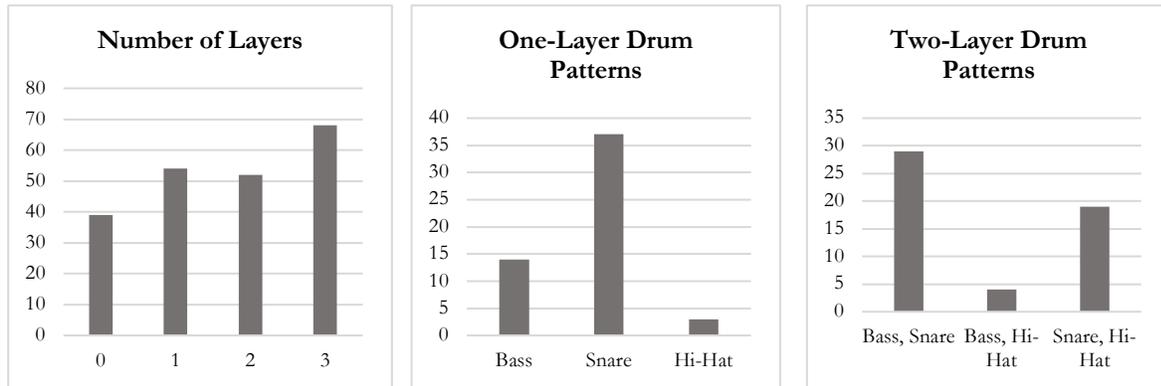


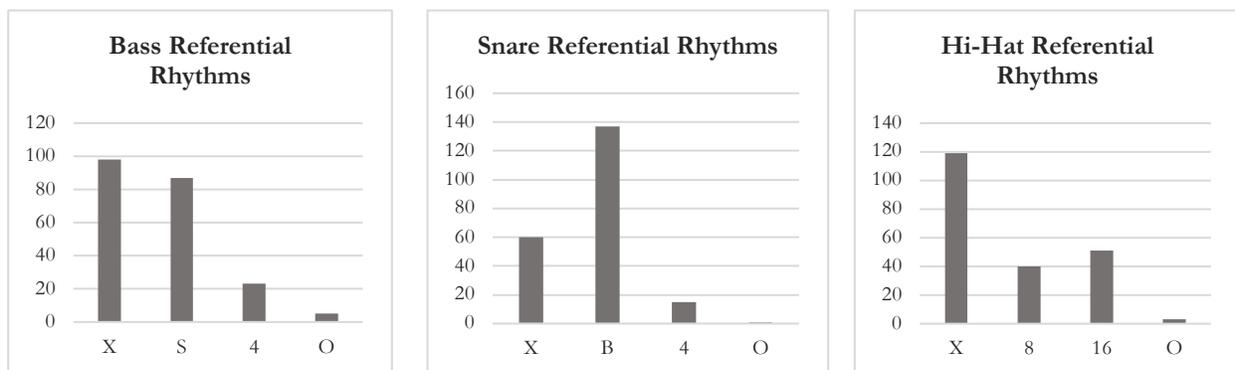
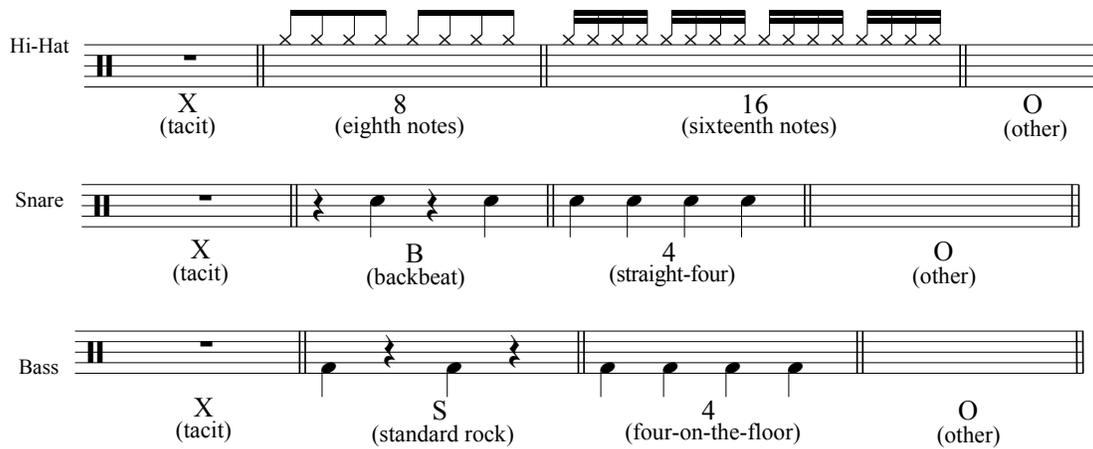
Figure 2. Number of Drum Patterns and Drum Pattern Changes Per Song in 2018 Mainstream Pop



**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



**Figure 5.** Drums in DJ Khaled’s “No Brainer” featuring Justin Bieber, Chance the Rapper, and Quavo (2018)

**Drum Pattern 1**  
S - B<sup>CLAP/SNARE</sup> - X (DPR=102)

**Drum Pattern 2**  
S - B<sup>CLAP/SNARE</sup> - O (DPR=102)

**Drum Pattern 3**  
X - X - X (ATR=102)

Form: 0:46 V1 1:05 PC1 1:15 C1 1:33 DC1 1:52

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  
X - B<sup>CLAP/CONGA</sup> - X (DPR=68)

*add bass drum*

**Drum Pattern 4**  
Verse 1.2  
S - B<sup>CLAP/CONGA</sup> - X (DPR=68)

*add hi-hat*  
*change clap to snare drum*  
*embellish bass drum rhythm*

**Drum Pattern 5**  
Verse 1.3  
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<sup>SNAP</sup> - X (DPR=72)

**Drum Pattern 3**  
X - B<sup>SNAP</sup> - 16 (DPR=72)

**Drum Pattern 4**  
S - B<sup>SNAP</sup> - 16 (DPR=72)

**Form:**

	Section 1				Section 2				Section 3		
	I	V1	PC1	C1	V2	PC2	C2	B	C3	O	
	0:00	0:15	0:41	0:54	1:08	1:34	1:47	2:14	2:40	3:07	3:19

**Drum Patterns:**

	DP1	DP2	DP3	DP4	DP2	DP3	DP4	DP2	DP4	DP2DP3	DP4	DP2	DP1
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*short-range drum buildups:*

*mid-range drum buildups:*

*long-range drum buildup:*

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