

Pitch, Motive, & Non-Alignment in the Idiomatic Phrasing of Melodic Rap Verses

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Fig. 1 – Melodic Rap Venn Diagram

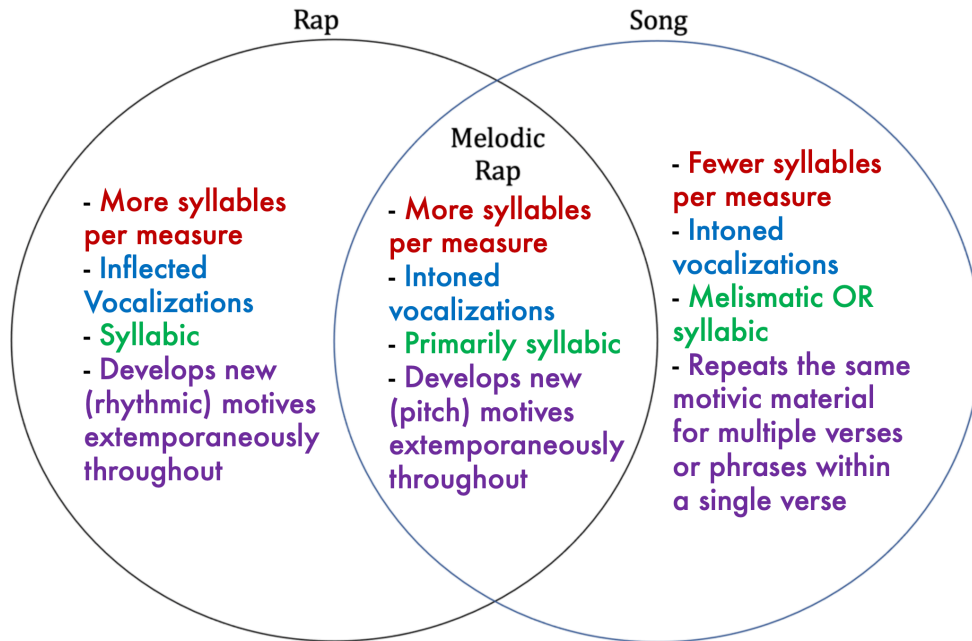







Fig. 2 – Annotation System

Term	Description	Symbol
Phrase	Determined by the flow layer	
Motive	4- or 8-beat figures that can be diminished or augmented in length	
Reciting Tone	Repeated pitch upon which large portions of text are delivered	
Concluding Gesture	Deemphasized descending tail of a motive	
Boundary Tone	Pitch that ends a phrase	

50 Cent, "21 Questions," 1st Verse (2003)

C#m9 G#m7 F#7sus

4 4 4 4

5

4 4 4 4

A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie, "Say A," 1st Verse (2017)

F Gm C

8

7 8

5

8 8

Roddy Ricch, "The Box," 1st Verse (2019)

Bbm Gb Fm G4/3

4 2 2 4 4 2 1 3

Bbm Gb Fm G4/3

2 2 4 4 2 2

5

Bbm Gb Fm

3 3 3 3

3.5 4.5 4 4