

NAME

fixmsxpart – corrects note spacing in a single-staff MusiXTeX part

SYNOPSIS

fixmsxpart [-v | --version | -h | --help]

fixmsxpart [-d | --debug] *infile* [.tex] [*outfile* [.tex]]

Converts a single-staff MusiXTeX part (possibly derived from a multi-instrument score and as a result having irregular note spacing) to a single-staff part with proper spacing determined by the notes themselves.

If *outfile* is not specified, standard output is used.

USAGE**Generating a Single-Instrument Part**

To generate a single-instrument part from (a copy of) the MusiXTeX source for a multi-instrument score, add

```
\input musixtnt
```

to the preamble, set

```
\instrumentnumber1
```

and use the `\TransformNotes` macro defined in `musixtnt.tex` to discard all but one part. For example, the following line placed after `\startpiece` (but before any note commands) would be appropriate for a *four*-instrument score (arguments #2, #3, #4, and #5, separated by three &s), and will result in a part for the *second* of these (#3):

```
\TransformNotes{#2&#3&#4&#5}{#3}
```

Argument #1 is a scaling parameter and should not be modified. **It is essential that every `\znotes`, `\notes`, `\Notes`, `\NOtes`, etc. command in the score match the macro pattern exactly**; insufficient (or too many) note segments will result in lost text and possibly compilation failure; see `msxlint(1)`. It is assumed by `\TransformNotes` that notes commands are terminated by `\en` (rather than `\enotes`).

Some additional manual changes to the source will be necessary:

- + adjustments of `\setname1`, `\setclef1`, `\setsign1`, `\setmeter1` and `\setstaves1` commands, as necessary;
- + ensuring that tempo and roadmap markings (**D.C.**, **Fine**, etc.) are in the appropriate instrument segment;

Finally, if the modified score is compiled and viewed, it may be seen that horizontal spacing designed for *multiple* instruments often produces bad spacing for a *single* instrument. This can

be corrected manually (and very tediously) but it is what **fixmsxpart** was designed to fix (much more conveniently).

Correcting Horizontal Spacing Using **fixmsxpart**

The `\notes`, `\Notes`, `\NOTes`, `\NOTes...` commands in a part derived from a multi-instrument score are unreliable, and so **fixmsxpart** determines the spacing for ordinary notes by the note commands themselves; for example,

+ `\qa`, `\qu`, `\ql`, `\qp` result in `\NOTes`;

+ `\ca`, `\cu`, `\cl`, `\ds` result in `\Notes`;

and so on. Spacing commands `\sk` and `\hsk` in the input are discarded (but `\qsk`, `\hqsk` and explicit uses of `\off{...}` are preserved).

fixmsxpart determines the spacing for *beamed* notes by the beam multiplicity: `\ib...` results in `\Notes`, `\ibb...` results in `\notes`, etc. Some beam-termination commands (`\tb...`) are problematic because the immediately-following beam note `\qb...` must be spaced according to the spacing *before* the `\tb...` command. This is handled by setting a variable *new_beaming* when processing the `\tb...` command and only updating *beaming* to *new_beaming* when processing the subsequent beam note. This isn't needed for the abbreviations `\tqb`, `\tqh`, `\ztqb` and `\ztqh` which combine beam-termination and specification of the final beam note.

Pointed notes are *not* given extra space automatically. They should be given extra space manually in the score by using either a `\roff`-like command on the subsequent note or the `\qsk` or `\hqsk` spacing commands.

Additional features of **fixmsxpart** transformation:

- + Successive whole-bar rests are accumulated into a multi-bar rest, with appropriate adjustment of the bar number.
- + `\alaligne` and `\alapage` commands are replaced by `\bar`.
- + `\mulooseness`, `\eject`, `\linegoal`, `\song{top | bottom}`, `\group{top | bottom}` and `\akkoladen` commands are commented out.
- + `\instrumentnumber...` commands become `\instrumentnumber1`.
- + `\nostartrule` is added to the preamble.
- + Simple slurs or ties initiated by `\slur` or `\tie` are normalized by setting the *n* parameter to 1 on the assumption that the new note spacing is correct.

LIMITATIONS

Only single-staff instrumental parts are supported. User-defined macros are not expanded. A few esoteric MusiXTeX commands and constructions are not supported.

SEE ALSO

msxlint(1)

musixdoc.pdf

AUTHOR

This program and manual page were written by Bob Tennent <rdt@cs.queensu.ca>.