Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question

Posted by rick on Tue, 14 Nov 2006 19:12:31 GMT

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have you tried setting your snap to triplets? she may be playing on 32nds for some notes. it won't put it into perfect time but then who wants that.

On 15 Nov 2006 05:45:59 +1000, "Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:

> Hopefully someone here knows MIDI better than I do - I work with > MIDI a lot, I haven't really had to do a whole lot of editing in > it, so this one's got me stumped:

>I have a Piano track that someone recorded in MIDI, and they >approximated the Tempo, but didn't use a click a as a guide >(just used it to count off at the beginning), so it drifts a LOT.

>Now she's changed her mind & wants it locked to the grid, so we >can do some controlled tempo changes in various sections (using >the Tempo Track in SX - that part I get). Problem is, if I start >snapping this thing to grid that it drifted away from so badly >that we'll have phrases overlapping here & there and other >sections that are too far apart in other places... if I edit it >more specifically manually, then it would: a.) take forever, and >b.) still probably have the same spacing issues.

>What else can be done? Is there a way to snap the grid to the >notes (Then maybe do SOME manual edits afterwards)? IOW, is >there a way that the MIDI app can extract the tempo from the >phrasing & adjust the grid accordingly?

> >Neil

>

Subject: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by Neil on Tue, 14 Nov 2006 19:45:59 GMT
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What else can be done? Is there a way to snap the grid to the notes (Then maybe do SOME manual edits afterwards)? IOW, is there a way that the MIDI app can extract the tempo from the phrasing & adjust the grid accordingly?

Neil

Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by Neil on Tue, 14 Nov 2006 21:12:33 GMT
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Rick, snapping in general won't work because of the way this drifts... it might start at measure 1/beat zero, but 8 measures into the piece, the start of a given measure might be three beats behind the 8th measure of the grid, and 8 measures after that it might be a measure & half behind the 8th measure of the grid. If I use the snap feature in any capacity it's going to adjust to the nearest "nth" of a note I select - that nearest "nth" might be in front of a given note, or behind it, thereby screwing up the phrasing.

If I could freeze the notes in time, and adjust the grid's tempo (without effecting the note positions) in various places I could get it close enough to start snapping or manually editing. I don't even know if that's possible though.

Neil

```
>rick <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote:
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Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by David L on Tue, 14 Nov 2006 21:24:49 GMT
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You can try creating a tempo map. I've been doing this a lot lately for a client who is adding new instruments to existing songwriter demos from a cassette done in his living room.

What I do is this:

- 1 Get a general idea of the tempo by tapping in the tempo window of Cubase.
- 2 Create a new MIDI track using real time as the time base. Also, make sure that your MIDI piano track is set to real time for the time base.
- 3 Create a couple of measures of quantized quarter notes using a short percussive MIDI drum sound
- 4a On your MIDI piano track, locate the beginning of the first note, cut your part so that it begins at that point, and drag it to the start of the measure after your two-measure countoff.
- 5 On a new MIDI track (real time timebase), record yourself tapping quarter notes along with the piano track. Be sure not to leave too much empty space at the end of your final tap Cubase sees this space and will try to assign

it a tempo setting. If it's too long, it will cause a "tempo out of range" error.

- 6 Combine the two-measure countoff with your taps so that they are all on the same track and are contiguous.
- 7 Enter the key editor. Select all of the notes, and right-click for the MIDI menu. You'll choose Functions, create tempo from tapping.
- 8 Save your project under a new name before continuing, just to be sure.
- 9 On the transport window, click the TEMPO button. Now Cubase will follow the map you created.
- 10 Change your tracks from real time based to note-based, and you can now work with your track according to a grid.

David

On 14-Nov-2006, "Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:

- > I have a Piano track that someone recorded in MIDI, and they
- > approximated the Tempo, but didn't use a click a as a guide
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>

- > Now she's changed her mind & wants it locked to the grid, so we
- > can do some controlled tempo changes in various sections (using
- > the Tempo Track in SX that part I get).

Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question

Posted by Sarah on Tue. 14 Nov 2006 21:50:44 GMT

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I've had this very situation a lot, because I didn't arrangements for an album of a singer songwriter who would bring the same kind MIDI piano you've described. After a few attempts to adjust tempos and manually adjust things, I would up just learning and replaying the piano parts for all twelve songs. I think it saved time in the long run. :)

Probably not the advice you wanted, but it worked for me, and the client was very happy with the end result.

Sarah

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:455a0ee7\$1@linux...

>

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- > MIDI a lot, I haven't really had to do a whole lot of editing in
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Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by Sarah on Tue, 14 Nov 2006 21:55:40 GMT
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Damn . . . I'm not awake yet, apparently. "Didn't" should read "did" and "would" should have been "wound."

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote in message news:455a37f6@linux...

I've had this very situation a lot, because I didn't arrangements for an

album of a singer songwriter who would bring the same kind MIDI piano

you've described. After a few attempts to adjust tempos and manually

adjust things, I would up just learning and replaying the piano parts for

all twelve songs. I think it saved time in the long run. :)

Probably not the advice you wanted, but it worked for me, and the client

was very happy with the end result.

Sarah

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:455a0ee7\$1@linux...

>>

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>>
>> Neil
>>
>>
>>
>
```

Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by Neil on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 01:43:51 GMT
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Sounds pretty complicated... more along the lines of something Deej would like... but I'll try it. Thanks.

Neil

"David L" <david@revealaudio.com> wrote:
>You can try creating a tempo map. I've been doing this a lot lately for a
>client who is adding new instruments to existing songwriter demos from a
>cassette done in his living room.
>
>What I do is this:
>1 Get a general idea of the tempo by tapping in the tempo window of Cubase.

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- >5 On a new MIDI track (real time timebase), record yourself tapping quarter >notes along with the piano track. Be sure not to leave too much empty space >at the end of your final tap Cubase sees this space and will try to assign >it a tempo setting. If it's too long, it will cause a "tempo out of range" >error.
- >6 Combine the two-measure countoff with your taps so that they are all on >the same track and are contiguous.
- >7 Enter the key editor. Select all of the notes, and right-click for the >MIDI menu. You'll choose Functions, create tempo from tapping.
- >8 Save your project under a new name before continuing, just to be sure.
- >9 On the transport window, click the TEMPO button. Now Cubase will follow >the map you created.
- >10 Change your tracks from real time based to note-based, and you can now >work with your track according to a grid.

```
> David
> David
> > Section 2006, "Neil" < OIUOIU@OIU.com > Wrote: Section 2006 > Section 2006, "Neil" < OIUOIU@OIU.com > Wrote: Section 2006 > Section 2006
```

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- >> the Tempo Track in SX that part I get).

Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by Neil on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 02:46:53 GMT
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"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
> I've had this very situation a lot, because I didn't
>arrangements for an album of a singer songwriter who would
>bring the same kind MIDI piano you've described. After a few
>attempts to adjust tempos and manually adjust things, I would
>up just learning and replaying the piano parts for all
>twelve songs. I think it saved time in the long run. :)

>Probably not the advice you wanted, but it worked for me, and >the client was very happy with the end result.

Yeah, that is definitely NOT the answer I wanted! lol

If I can't figure a machine-oriented way to fix it, I'll have HER play it again... she's the one who didn't want the click track in the first place: "there's no HEART to a click track!" Yeah, an agument can be made for that, except when you drift off-tempo like a rowboat in a wave machine, that doesn't end up having much heart, either!

OK, that's it, I've tried everything... the stuff I did last night, plus the tempo-mapping idea just before I posted this reply - and while I was typing, I even tried tracking the MIDI back into my Fantom, then recording it back into SX using the "auto-quantize when recording" feature... she's going to have to re-do it. Bottom line, end of story.

It's going to be a good song once she's done, though - she'll be glad that she re-did it.

Neil

Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question

Posted by David L on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 06:30:27 GMT

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Sounds complicated, yes. But it's like anything else, once you do it, it doesn't seem so hard. If you like, send me the Cubase file with the piano part and I'll send you back a tempo mapped version...

David

(david at revealaudio.com)

On 14-Nov-2006, "Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:

- > Sounds pretty complicated... more along the lines of something
- > Deej would like... but I'll try it. Thanks.

> :)

Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question

Posted by Dubya Mark Wilson on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 07:39:23 GMT

Hard to assess the drift without actually hearing it but...

What if you tried this:

- 1. Create a click with a sound "a" that falls on down beats and follows the drifting midi track and plays from within the same midi file.
- 2. Create a new click with a sound "b" that falls on up beats and plays from within a second and separate midi file.
- 3. *Play original drifing performance track with associated drifting click on PC # 1
- 4. Monitoring clicks only, record performance midi data to PC # 2 while manipulating tempo on PC # 1 in realtime so that the clicks gel.
- 5. Gentle quant and/or manual edits to performance thereafter, if needed.
- W. Mark Wilson

Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by Don Nafe on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 13:54:18 GMT
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beat me to it Dubya

- "Dubya Mark Wilson" <mark.xspam@avidrecording.com> wrote in message news:455ac1f4\$1@linux...
- > Hard to assess the drift without actually hearing it but...
- > What if you tried this:
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```

Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question Posted by TCB on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 16:47:20 GMT

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You can use the SX tempo map in a kind of free form visual mode and drag tempo track markers to the beginning of each measure. You can also use the SX tempo calculator in much the same way, but it's a laborious, unpleasant process. There's a tutorial in the book I wrote about it, I think, and if there is I can send that chapter to you.

That said, having done this previously trying to match a MIDI performance the parts where time drifted sounded awful if locked to tempo and any loops I synced up to it lurched around like me after my fourth Patron gimlet. So I would up hiring someone to play to a loop.

TCB

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:
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>Hopefully someone here knows MIDI better than I do - I work with
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```

Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by Nil on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 17:13:19 GMT
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Thad, I did attempt the drawing mode in the Tempo track... TOTALLY impractical (for me, anyway - I couldn't manage to draw on the fly very well at ALL).

Tempo calculator - I'm not sure about that, that might've been one I missed... how do you use that?

Neil

```
"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:
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Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by TCB on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 21:41:26 GMT
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TCB

```
"Neil" <IUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:

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>>>Neil
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Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question

Posted by neil[1] on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 22:03:24 GMT

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Thad, don't worry about it... the gal is going to re-do the part tonite - I was jsut wondering for possible furture reference.

BTW I LITFM and didn't find anything useful on this topic!

Neil

```
"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:
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>>>Neil
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Subject: Re: MIDI Editing Question
Posted by Tom Bruhl on Thu, 23 Nov 2006 08:52:25 GMT
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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=_NextPart_000_03E1_01C70EB2.C9910340 Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1" Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Neil,

BTW I LITFM and didn't find anything useful on this topic!

That's why Thad wrote his book! It's great and made Cubase an easier mountain to climb for me. Also, give Scope another chance. I'm ready to dig in but don't need what you are looking for (88.2k). I'd bet the = XTC mode will help your situation. It's never easy.

"Neil" <IOUOIU@OIU.com> wrote in message news:455b809c\$1@linux...

Thad, don't worry about it... the gal is going to re-do the part = tonite -

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Tom

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 >>So
 >>>I would up hiring someone to play to a loop.=20
 >>>TCB=20
 >>>
 >>>"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:
 >>>>
 >>>>Hopefully someone here knows MIDI better than I do - I work with
 >>>>MIDI a lot, I haven't really had to do a whole lot of editing in
 >>>it, so this one's got me stumped:
 >>>>
 >>>I have a Piano track that someone recorded in MIDI, and they
 >>>approximated the Tempo, but didn't use a click a as a guide
 >>>(just used it to count off at the beginning), so it drifts a LOT.
 >>>>
 >>>Now she's changed her mind & wants it locked to the grid, so we
 >>>can do some controlled tempo changes in various sections (using
 >>>the Tempo Track in SX - that part I get). Problem is, if I start
 >>>snapping this thing to grid that it drifted away from so badly
 >>>>that we'll have phrases overlapping here & there and other
 >>>sections that are too far apart in other places... if I edit it
 >>>more specifically manually, then it would: a.) take forever, and
 >>>>b.) still probably have the same spacing issues.
 >>>>What else can be done? Is there a way to snap the grid to the
 >>>notes (Then maybe do SOME manual edits afterwards)? IOW, is
 >>>there a way that the MIDI app can extract the tempo from the
 >>>phrasing & adjust the grid accordingly?
 >>>>
 >>>Neil
 >>>>
 >>>>
```

```
I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, and you?
http://www.polesoft.com/refer.html
----= NextPart 000 03E1 01C70EB2.C9910340
Content-Type: text/html;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN">
<HTML><HEAD>
<META http-equiv=3DContent-Type content=3D"text/html; =
charset=3Diso-8859-1">
<META content=3D"MSHTML 6.00.2800.1400" name=3DGENERATOR>
<STYLE></STYLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY bgColor=3D#ffffff>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Neil,</FONT></DIV>
<DIV>BTW I LITFM and didn't find anything useful on this =
topic!<BR></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>That's why Thad wrote his book!&nbsp: =
It's great=20
and made Cubase an easier</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>mountain to climb for me.&nbsp; Also, =
give Scope=20
another chance.  I'm ready</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>to dig in but don't need what you are =
looking for=20
(88.2k).  I'd bet the XTC mode</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>will help your situation.&nbsp; It's =
never=20
easy.</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2>Tom</FONT></DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT>&nbsp;</DIV>
<DIV><FONT face=3DArial size=3D2></FONT>&nbsp;</DIV>
<BLOCKQUOTE=20
style=3D"PADDING-RIGHT: 0px; PADDING-LEFT: 5px; MARGIN-LEFT: 5px; =
BORDER-LEFT: #000000 2px solid; MARGIN-RIGHT: 0px">
 <DIV>"Neil" &lt:<A =
href=3D"mailto:IOUOIU@OIU.com">IOUOIU@OIU.com</A>&gt; wrote=20
in message <A=20
href=3D"news:455b809c$1@linux">news:455b809c$1@linux</A>...</DIV><BR>Thad=
```

>>>> >>> >>

```
, don't=20
 worry about it... the gal is going to re-do the part tonite -<BR>I was =
isut=20
 wondering for possible furture reference.<BR>BTW I LITFM and =
didn't find=20
 anything useful on this topic!<BR><BR>Neil<BR><BR><BR><BR>="TCB" &lt;<A =
 href=3D"mailto:nobody@ishere.com">nobody@ishere.com</A>&qt;=20
 wrote:<BR>&gt;<BR>&gt;It would take me eons to explain it, so I'll =
give you a=20
 RTFM but if that<BR>doesn't<BR>&gt;work let me know and I'll try to =
find the=20
 stuff I wrote about it. <BR>&gt;<BR>&gt;TCB<BR>&gt;<BR>&gt;"Neil " =
t < A = 20
 href=3D"mailto:IUOIU@OIU.com">IUOIU@OIU.com</A>&gt;=20
 wrote:<BR>&gt;&gt;<BR>&gt;&gt;Thad, I did attempt the drawing mode in =
the=20
 Tempo track...<BR>&gt;&gt;TOTALLY impractical (for me, anyway - I =
couldn't=20
 manage to draw<BR>&gt;&gt;on the fly very well at=20
 ALL).<BR>&gt;&gt;<BR>&gt;&gt;Tempo calculator - I'm not sure about =
that, that=20
 might've been<BR>&gt;&gt;one I missed... how do you use=20
 that?<BR>&qt;&qt;<BR>&qt;&qt;"TCB" &lt;<A=20
 href=3D"mailto:nobody@ishere.com">nobody@ishere.com</A>&gt;=20
 wrote: <BR>&qt;&qt; <BR>&qt;&qt; <br/>You can use the SX tempo map in =
a kind=20
 of free form visual mode and =
drag<BR>&gt;&gt;tempo<BR>&gt;&gt;kgt;track=20
 markers to the beginning of each measure. You can also use the=20
 SX<BR>&gt;&gt;tempo<BR>&gt;&gt;calculator in much the same way, =
but it's a=20
 laborious, unpleasant process.<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;There's a tutorial in =
the book I=20
 wrote about it, I think, and if there<BR>&gt;is<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;I can =
send that=20
 chapter to you. <BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;<BR>&gt;&gt;That said, having done =
this=20
 previously trying to match a MIDI performance<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;the parts =
where=20
 time drifted sounded awful if locked to tempo and=20
 any<BR>loops<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;I synced up to it lurched around like me =
after my=20
 fourth Patron gimlet.<BR>&gt;&gt;So<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;I would up hiring =
someone=20
 to play to a loop. <BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;TCB=20
 <BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;"Neil " &lt;<A=20
 href=3D"mailto:OIUOIU@OIU.com">OIUOIU@OIU.com</A>&gt;=20
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LOT.<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;Now she's changed her mind =
&amp:=20
wants it locked to the grid, so we<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;can do some =
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tempo changes in various sections (using<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;the Tempo =
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issues.<BR>&qt;&qt;&qt;&qt;&qt;&qt;&qt;What else can be done? =
Is there=20
 a way to snap the grid to the < BR > &gt; &gt; &gt; notes (Then maybe do =
SOME=20
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the MIDI=20
 app can extract the tempo from the <BR > &gt; &gt; &gt; &gt; phrasing & amp; =
adjust=20
the grid=20
gt;<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;<BR>&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;
R>><BR></BLOCKQUOTE>
<DIV><FONT size=3D2><BR><BR>I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, =
and=20
you?<BR><A=20
href=3D"http://www.polesoft.com/refer.html">http://www.polesoft.com/refer=
..html</A>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;</FONT></DIV></BODY ></HTML>
```

-----=_NextPart_000_03E1_01C70EB2.C9910340--

Page 21 of 21 ---- Generated from The PARIS Forums