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Functional Harmony Revisited: A Prototype-Theoretic Approach

[Eytan Agmon](#)

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Abstract

From a prototype-theoretic point of view the three harmonic functions known as tonic, subdominant, and dominant are three (partially-

overlapping) chord-categories; and the three primary triads, namely I, IV, and V, are prototypes of these categories, respectively. A theory is proposed, which accounts for these categories and prototypes.

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