

# Identifying Functional Layers

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

splitter.fm is a website that lets users explore "stems" of popular songs by muting and soloing different layers of a song in a DAW-like visual presentation. Stems are a kind of middle stage in music production, where some raw tracks have been mixed together, but the entire song has not yet been mixed down into a single track.

For this assignment, you will analyze “Going Somewhere” by Abakan based on the stems in splitter.fm.

If you have problems understanding the splitter.fm interface, [check their FAQ](#).

## Access

Scan the QR code or go to <https://splitter.fm/abakan/going-somewhere>.



## Stem info

Below is the name of each stem as given on splitter.fm. Clarifications and context are provided in parentheses.

- Drums (drum kit)
- Bass (bass guitar)
- GuitCl (clean/undistorted guitar)
- GuitRyt (rhythm guitar)
- wahwah (guitar with wah pedal)
- Rhodes (a specific model of electric piano)
- epiano (also electric piano, but model not specified, probably digital)
- Pads (synthesized sounds that are sustained and don't have a harsh attack)
- Synth
- SolSynth (solo synth)
- Strings
- Bg vox (background vocals)
- David (lead vocals—this is Abakan's first name)

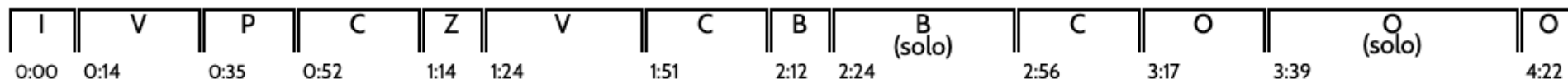
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### Instructions

- In the chart to the right, categorize each stem according to the functional layer it belongs to. Do your best to assign a category to each stem. If a stem moves between layers, write it in both places.

Explicit Beat Layer	Functional Bass Layer	Melodic Layer	Harmonic Filler Layer	Novelty Layer



- A form chart is given above. When do layers enter and exit, and how does that relate to the form?
  
- How do the rhythmic profiles of the layers differ? In other words, are there certain kinds of rhythms that appear mainly in one layer or another?
  
- Do any instruments participate in multiple functional layers? What is the effect of their change of role?