

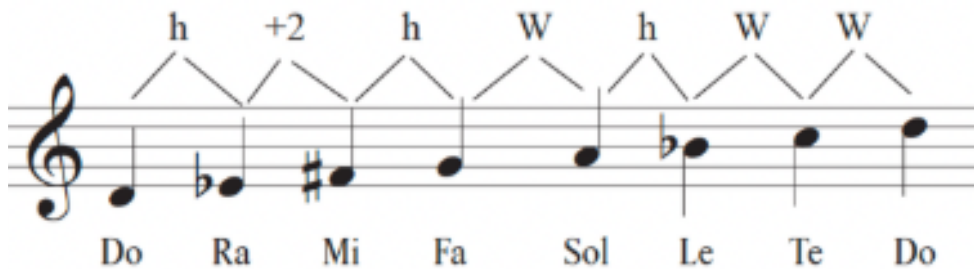
All That Hijaz | Maqam and Mode

Maqam Hijaz

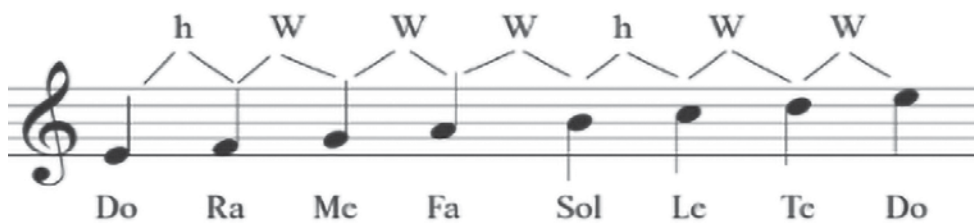
A *maqam* (pronounced *mah-KAHM*, plural *maqamat* pronounced *mah-kahm-MAHT*) is a melodic system used in traditional Arabic music. Like the major and minor scales we see in Western music, a *maqam* provides a framework for a melody. In Arabic music, however, a *maqam* reaches beyond simply organizing notes into a scale. Each *maqam* includes characteristic note patterns, melodic pathways, and expressive qualities that guide performers in creating music with its specified notes.

Maqamat are central to improvisation and composition in many Middle Eastern musical traditions, and they are often associated with particular moods, seasons, or poetic motifs. One of the most recognizable *maqamat* is *maqam hijaz*, whose unique quality is created by an augmented interval between the second and third scale degrees. Analyzing *maqam hijaz* from the perspective of Western classical music, we can see that it has a similar structure to the Phrygian mode. (Note that, in common performance practice, the second scale degree of *maqam hijaz* is often slightly sharp and the third is often slightly flat).

Maqam hijaz



Phrygian mode



All That Hijaz | Melody and Arrangement

Ga - ther - ing drums to and - ge laugh - ther, dan - cing all a - round.
Hear the drums to and ge laugh - ther, let our voi - ces fly!

5
Voi - ces - raise in - sing - ing, make a joy - ful sound.
Cel - e - brate to - ge - ther, mu - sic fills the sky!

SG

SX

AX

BX

BX

Timp.

*X notehead represents mallet click

All That Hijaz | Melody and Arrangement (CONTINUED)

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TRANSITION

IMPROV ACCOMPANIMENT

SG

SX

AX

BX

BX

Timp.

13

CUE FOR RETURN OF MELODY

SG

SX

AX

BX

BX

Timp.