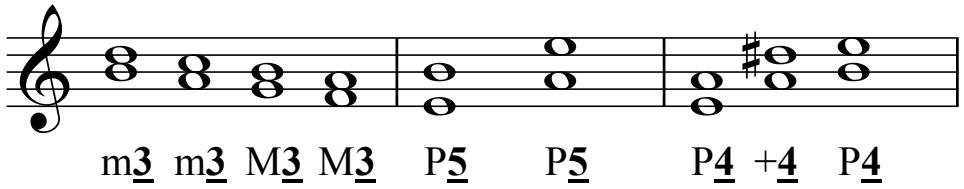
Elementary Contrapuntal Motions

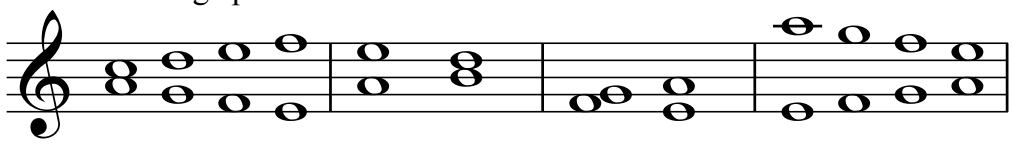
Parallel Motion

In ***parallel motion***, both voices move in the same direction and the interval class stays the same. The *quality* of the interval may be different (e.g. major vs. minor or P vs. º).



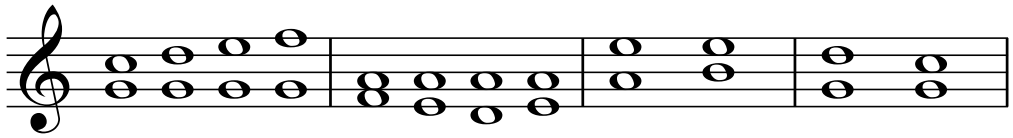
Contrary Motion

In ***contrary motion***, one voice moves up and the other voice moves down. Both voices change pitches.



Oblique Motion

In ***oblique motion***, one voice restates the same pitch while the other voice changes.



Similar Motion

In ***similar motion***, both voices move in the same direction. Unlike parallel motion, the two intervals are different classes (e.g. seconds vs. thirds, etc.).