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Essentials

These Renaissance proportions come from Boethius.

Five species of number (proportion)

1. multiplex (xn/n): small number (denominator) is always 1, the upper is a multiple of it.

Examples: 2:1 3:1 4:1
(8ve) (8ve+5th (double 8ve)

2. superparticulare ($n+1/n$)

Examples: 3:2 4:3
(fifth)

3. superpartiens

Larger number contains the smaller

4. multiplex superparticulare: larger number contains smaller more than once plus one aliquot part. An aliquot part (number) divides a larger number without remainder

Examples: 5:2 7:3 9:4

5. multiplex superpartiens: larger contains smaller more than once, plus some aliquot parts that sum to an aliquant part. An aliquant number is one contained in another number but that cannot divide it without remainder.

Examples: 8:3 11:4 14:5
dupla
superbipartiens
8 notes equal in
time value to 3
of same signature

$8 = 2 \times 3 + (1+1)$ $1+1 = 2$, which cannot divide 3
without remainder

$11 = 2 \times 4 + (1+1+1)$ $1+1+1 = 3$, which cannot divide
4 without remainder

Descriptive terms for proportions, each term below preceded by "proportio" in formal language.

sesqui literally means one half more, half as much again

sesquialtera 3:2 sesquialtera means one and a half

tripla 3:1

dupla 2:1

quadrupla 4:1

dupla sesquiquarta 9:4

sesquioctava 9:8

sesquitertia 4:3

sesquiquarta 5:4

sesquiquinta 6:5?

sesquioctava 9:9

superbipartiens tertias 5:3

dupla superbipartiens tertias 8:3