

## Changes in the Melodic Scale in the Course of Gradual Rise of Pitch in Seto Folk Song. The Results of Acoustic Measurements of Upper Voice *killõ* and Lower Voice *torrõ*

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### Abstract

In this paper the melodic scale of the multipart Seto folk song is examined in the course of the gradual rise of pitch tessitura. Setomaa is an ethnographic region on the border between Estonia and Russia; Seto folk traditions include the unique multipart song.

The *torrõ* (leader and lower part) and *killõ* (higher part) were extracted and analysed (using the Multispeech programme) from two Seto multipart folk songs ('Harvesting Songs', 'Wedding Song', recordings from 2006 preserved in the Estonian Folklore Archives). The result is that in the gradual rise of pitch the lower part of the scale rises more, so has a bigger change of tessitura than the upper voice. The singers try to coordinate pitches at tonal centres and to keep small melodic intervals consistent, while larger intervals are diminished.