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Richard Cohn* (richard.cohn@yale.edu), 63 Ogden St, New Haven, CT 06511. *The Pedagogy of Beat-Class Theory Modulo Small.*

Many of the difficulties of learning atonal pitch-class theory are attributable to the large size of the 12-tone cyclic universe. This paper sketches a pedagogical program that begins with the smallest cycles and leads incrementally upward toward twelve. The power set of small universes is easily mastered, allowing focus on properties of individual sets, and relations among them. Those properties are inherited by larger universes, each of which supplies new and curious possibilities that in turn are inherited by the 12-tone universe. Musicians come pre-loaded with ready intuitions about these smaller universes, in the form of knowledge about metered rhythm, easily translatable in terms of cycles of 3, 4, 6, and 8 beats, and of quasi-even pentatonic and diatonic scales. This presentation pays special attention to the structure of modulo 6 beat-class space, which is small enough to lexically control, but large enough to host aesthetic and structural variety. (Received January 17, 2016)