MTO 28.1 Examples: Cairns, Switching the Backbeat

(Note: audio, video, and other interactive examples are only available online) https://mtosmt.org/issues/mto.22.28.1/mto.22.28.1.cairns.html

Example 1. Basic rock beat


Example 3b. Paul Weller, “Sunflower” (1993, 1:03), added bar between verse and chorus

*Snare on all four beats foreshadows the appearance of the snare on beats other than 2 and 4.*
Example 4. Steve Vai, “Greasy Kid’s Stuff” (1990, 0:23), “verse” 1

Example 5. Quintuple pogo
Example 6. Steve Vai, “The Attitude Song” (1984, 0:01), intro/main riff
Example 7. Sting, “St. Augustine in Hell” (1993, 0:07), introduction (bass and drums only)

Man out-ta time, man out-ta time. Thought you was cra-zy, you was one of a kind.

Man out-ta time, man out-ta time.

All a-long world was wrong, you was right.
Example 9. Jerry Goldsmith, cue “7m1: The Coach Stays” (1986, 1:01:06), mm. 1–16
Example 10. Jerry Goldsmith, cue “7m1: The Coach Stays” (1986, 1:03:10), mm. 74–81
Example 11. Jerry Goldsmith, cue “2m1: First Workout” (1986, 0:15:42), mm. 11–17, switched backbeat
Example 12. Jerry Goldsmith, cue “4m1: Get It Up” (1986, 0:32:59), mm. 1–7, switched backbeat
Example 13. Jerry Goldsmith, cue “4m1: Get It Up” (1986, 0:33:32), mm. 17–24, switched backbeat, half-time feel

Example 14. Jerry Goldsmith, cue “7m2: You Did Good” (1986, 1:05:46), mm. 19–22, switched backbeat, half-time feel
Example 15. Extreme, “Peacemaker Die” (1992, 3:07), beginning of bridge

Geary drops an eighth note here, shifting the backbeat slightly “to the left.”

Guitars and bass drop an entire quarter note to catch up; return to a standard backbeat at the beginning of the next bar (not shown).

Narration: I have a dream this afternoon that the brotherhood of man will become a reality. In this day,

Narration: with this faith, I will go out and carve the tunnel of hope through the mountain of

Narration: despair. With this faith, I will go out...
Example 17. Extreme, “Peacemaker Die” (1992, 4:46), ending of bridge, leading into return of chorus

Narration: I will go out with you and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows. With this faith, we will be able to achieve this new day when all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing with the negroes in the spiritual of old: Free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty.

Peace-maker die, peace-maker die,

we are free at last!

peace-maker die I don’t know why!
Example 18. Extreme, “Peacemaker Die,” end of bridge, polymetric interpretation