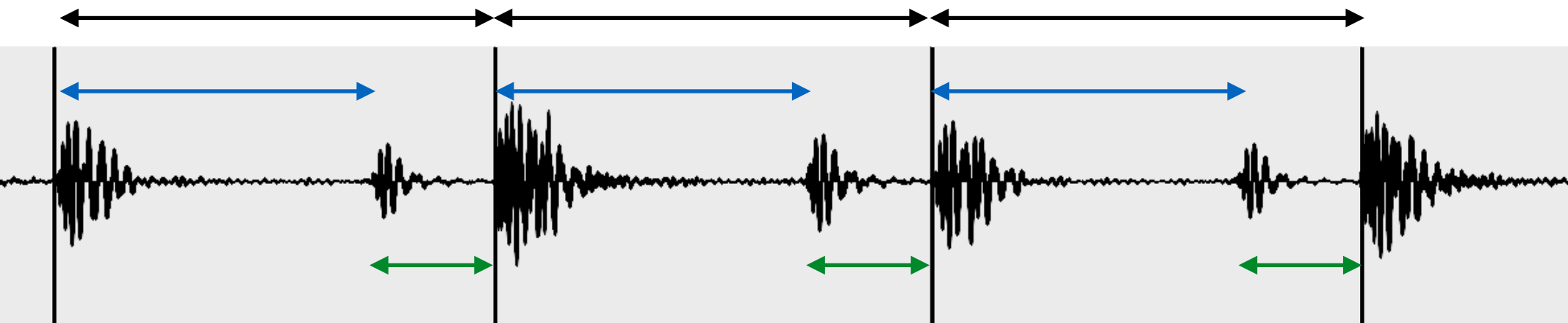


# “Higher Ground” (Stevie Wonder, 1973)

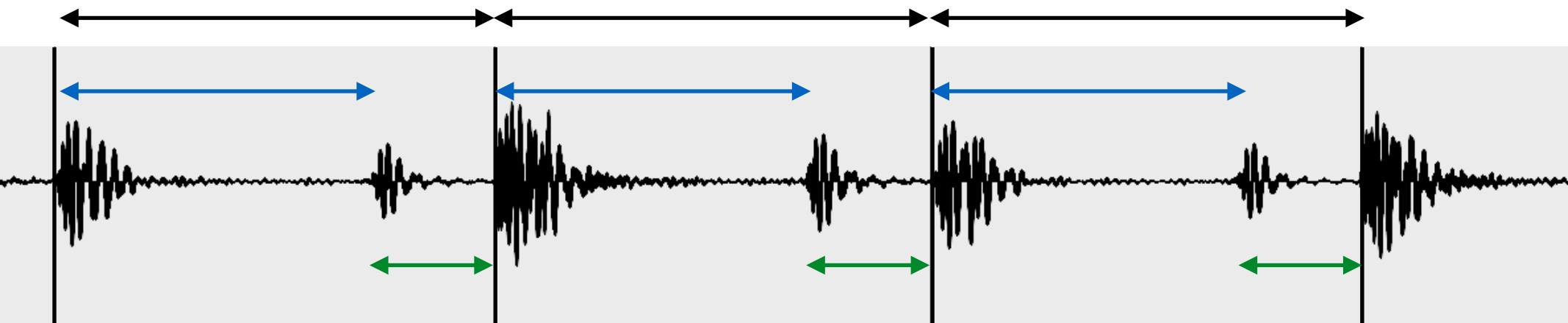
Beat length  $\sim 488$  ms



long-short ratio for compound meter = 325 ms : 163 ms  
( 2 : 1 )

# “Higher Ground” (Stevie Wonder, 1973)

Beat length  $\sim 488$  ms

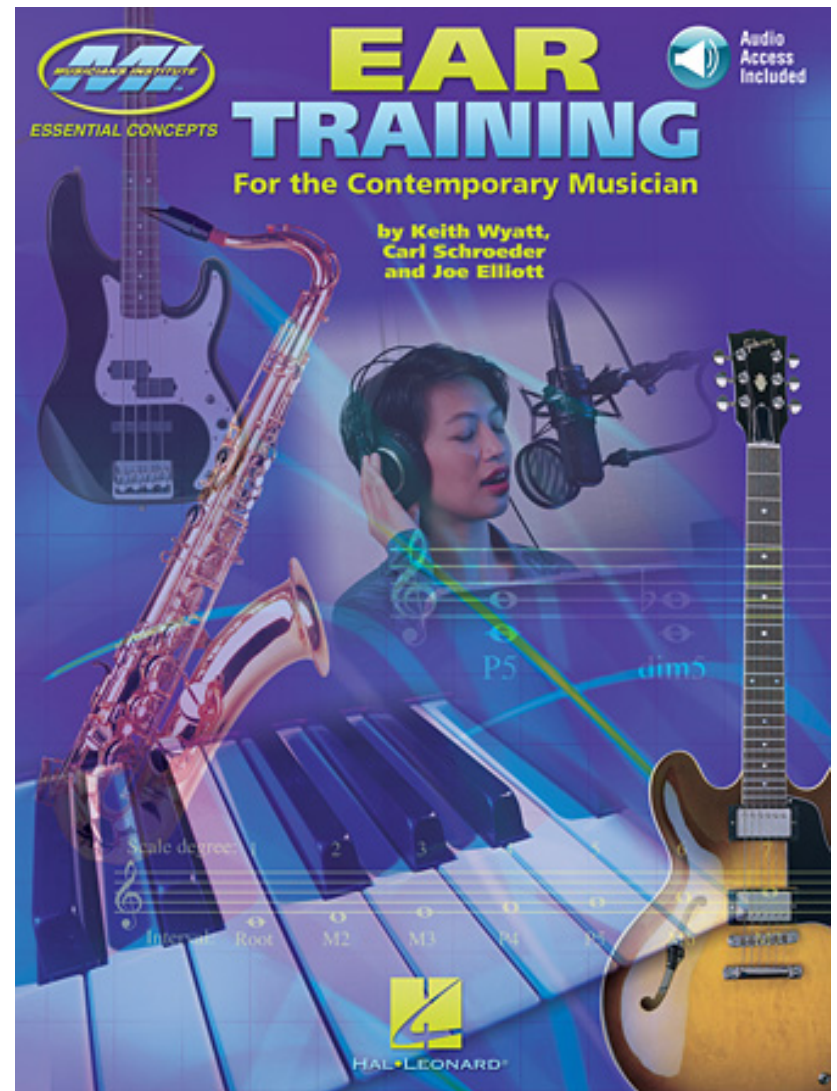


~~long-short ratio for compound meter = 325 ms : 163 ms  
(2 : 1)~~

actual long-short ratio here =  $\sim 353$  ms :  $\sim 135$  ms

# “Higher Ground” (Stevie Wonder, 1973)

“In popular music, compound meter is generally used only at slower tempos; when the tempo picks up, the triplet feeling is better defined as *shuffle* or *swing*.”  
(Wyatt, Schroeder, and Elliott, 2005, p. 77)



# HIGHER GROUND

Words and Music by  
STEVIE WONDER

Moderate Shuffle

E $\flat$ 7(3)



G $\flat$



A $\flat$



E $\flat$ 7(3)



G $\flat$



A $\flat$



The first system of musical notation for 'Higher Ground' is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It features a piano introduction with a moderate shuffle feel. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The music includes triplets and eighth notes. The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is present. Chord diagrams for E $\flat$ 7(3), G $\flat$ , and A $\flat$  are shown above the staff.

E $\flat$ 7(3)



G $\flat$



A $\flat$



E $\flat$ 7(3)



The second system of musical notation continues the piano introduction. It features a repeat sign and a key signature change to one flat (B-flat). The melody and bass line continue with triplets and eighth notes. Chord diagrams for E $\flat$ 7(3), G $\flat$ , and A $\flat$  are shown above the staff.

G $\flat$



A $\flat$



E $\flat$ 7(3)



§

G $\flat$



A $\flat$



The third system of musical notation shows the vocal entry. It begins with a key signature change to one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The music includes a double bar line and a key signature change to one flat (B-flat). The melody and bass line continue with eighth notes. Chord diagrams for G $\flat$ , A $\flat$ , and E $\flat$ 7(3) are shown above the staff.

Peo - ple, —

Pow - ers.