A brief on traditional cantillation comparing Jacobson to Vantoura. Connecting the dots - maybe. Page 1

General comment – all musical examples are to be sung at a comfortable relative pitch. SHV assumes a scale from c(d for the 3 books) to C with tonic on E for all books. Several modes are possible with her scheme. Jacobson has notation assuming a tonic F for Torah and D for Haftarah. This would imply a d minor natural scale for the latter and an F scale (without B flat) for Torah. **Conclusions tentative at this time**.

Here's an example verse: Zephaniah 3:8. It uses all the letters - let's see how many cantillation symbols it uses.

לכְן חכו־ליֹ נאם־יהוֹה דינום קומִי לעֵד ליִום קומִי לעֵד to the day of my arising to the booty. to the day of my arising to the booty. For my judgment is to gather nations, to collect kingdoms, to pour out on them my indignation, all my fierce anger, for in the fire of my jealousy, all the earth will be devoured.

For the Jacobson column, I have put the pieces together as they must be. Each set of accents operates as a group, so the cantor must look ahead to decide what to sing. I have worked out the remaining sequences – and this is Haftarah and not Torah which I used in error for my first pass! See my attempt below this analysis. Help would be delightful. Comment if you can. First note the main divisions: 'mid-point' and end.

I have now worked out the sequence below: mahpakh, pashta, zaqef qatan, tipeha, munah, atnah –for all my amusement at his libretto of accent names, I begin to see his very clever method of teaching.

First a table showing the beginning middle and end.

	Name and interpretation in Jacobson	Position	SHV	Comments
-	Sof pasuq this is real punctuation	as text		Marks the division between verses. I probably should not have put that one in this table - but it is the most obvious - so recognizable.
לעָד	Atnah coming to a rest	Under the syllable	לְעֵּד	This is always a rest point, a cadence. It appears that traditional cantillation (Jacobson) reflects the same ending as Vantoura, in both cases ending on the fourth note of the scale. Note though that Jacobson here is not dealing with the 3 books. Ends on the fourth note (supertonic for Torah, subdominant for Haftarah.)
האָרץ	Siluq separation	Under	tonic ראָר ha - a - rets	The siluq always occurs at the end of a verse – it is the same sign as the meteg which is ignored by SHV, and it is hard to tell which is which in a computer program. I will not be programming any of Jacobson's traditional cantillation. The differences are too great.

The following table is in detail. I have left in the Torah column for the sake of comparison. It is quite different in pitch and shape.

The sign	Name and interpretation in Jacobson	Position	SHV	Jacobson, (Haftarah)	Jacobson (Torah)	Comments
ל <mark>ç</mark> ן	Mahpakh inverted	Under	6 th above the tonic קבן 8 קבן la - kein	la - kein	mahpakh	
חכו־לי		0	ornament: same note+1 (0 1) ילי cha - ku li	cha - ku li	pashta	The ornament on יִי might be something like the pashta shown, i.e. a rise of the fifth.
נאם־ יה <mark>ו</mark> ה	Zaqef qatan small upright	Over	ornament -1 0 יְהֹנֶה נְאֵם ne - um ado - nai	ne - um ado - nai	zaqef	If we were following Jacobson we would move on this ornament and change of note from C to G.
ליָום	Tipeha handbreath	Under	third # above the ກ່າງ ກ່າງ tonic ^{le} - yom	le - yom	tipeha	Jacobson does not interpret the signs below or above the notes as being significantly different. The tipeha seems like an SHV qadma.
קו <mark>מ</mark> ָי	Munah sustained horizontal	Under	fifth above the tonic קוּמִי qu - mi	qu - mi	mu-nah	Munah appear for Jacobson to be simply stress or sometimes a change in note.
לעֻד	Atnah coming to a rest	Under	fourth above the	le - ad	at-nah	Here there may be some agreement between the systems.

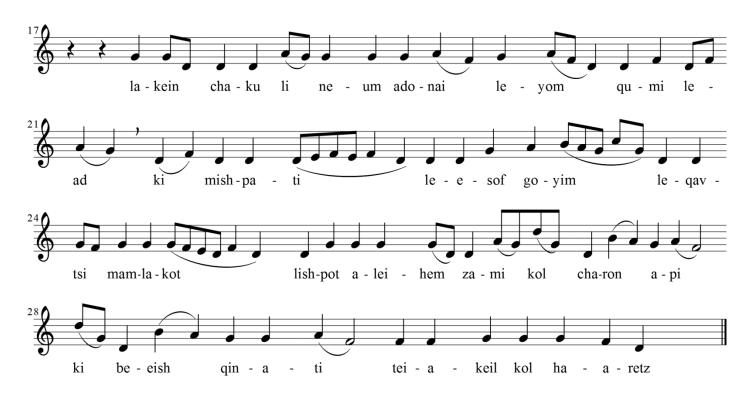
'			fifth above the tonic יְּבָּי ki	ki	Here Jacobson gives three possible interpretations of merkha, from g to e, or the top half of the first inversion of the major triad, or an extended melisma starting and ending on the same note.	
משפטי	Telisha Qetana small drawing out	Over	ornament, 1 2 3 ື່ ບຸ່ງອຸໜຸ້ນ mish - pa - ti	mish-pa - ti	telisha	The right-leaning telisha is quite different for Jacobson from this left leaning one. This may be a misprint for pazer.
לא <mark>ס</mark> ׁף	Qadma proceeding	Over - pre	ornament, 1 0 קלאֱטֹן le - e - sof	le - e - sof	kadma	Qadma would represent another change of note. For SHV it is simply an ornament that returns to the reciting note.
גויֿם	Geresh expulsion	Over	ornament 0 2 בּוֹיִּבּ גוֹיִּבּ go - yim	go - yim	geresh	This also appears to be an ornament that begins and ends on the current reciting note – however, perhaps there is no concept of a variable reciting note in traditional cantillation.
לקב <mark>צְ</mark> י	Munah sustained horizontal	Under	לְקּרָצִי le - qav - tsi	le - qav - tsi	mu-nah	SHV does not find a repeated accent significant. It is common enough for a munah to be repeated when one is already on that reciting note. As such it just acts as an accent and not a new note.

ממל <mark>כ</mark> ות	Revia resting	Over	ornament 0 -1 מַמְלְכוֹת mam - la - kot	mam-la - kot	revia	You can begin to see that there is almost no relationship between the two systems at all. I will leave the rest of the small images to be seen below the table.
לש <mark>פ</mark> ֿך	Qadma proceeding	Over - pre	ornament, 1 0 ਜ਼ੰਭੇਪ੍ਰਾਂ? lish - pok	lish-pot	kadma	Equally there is little similarity between Torah and Haftarah cantillation – though it was not very hard to correct my first set of errors. Haftarah is generally lower in range.
עלי <mark>ה</mark> ָם	Mahpakh	Under	6 th above the tonic עליקה עליקה a - lei - hem	a - lei - hem		
זעמי	Pashta extending	Over - post	ornament 0 1 זְעְמֵי za - mi	za - mi	pashta	
ָכל	Yetiv resting	Under - pre	6 th above the tonic לְכֹיל kol	kol	between ye In the one e 637, Jacobs effectively r	ura makes no distinction tiv and mahpakh. example I see on page on shows a yetiv with no change of pitch, t an extension of the ote.
ח <mark>ל</mark> וו	Munah independent	Under	back to the 5 th קורון cha - ron	cha-ron	mu-nah	

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אפֿי	Zaqef qatan small upright	Over	ornament -1 0 יפָּׁלי a - pi	a - pi	zaqef	
ָכי	Yetiv resting	Under	again to the 6 th ایک ki	ki	see above	
באָש	Munah independent	Under	return to the 5 th ヴェラ be - eish	be - eish	mu-nah	
קנא <mark>ת</mark> י	Zaqef qatan small upright	Over	ornament -1 0 קנְאָתִי qin - a - ti	qin - a - ti	zaqef	
תא <mark>כ</mark> ָל	Tipeha handbreadth	Under	return to the raised third תַּאָבֵל תַּאָבֵל tci - a - keil	tei - a - keil	tipeha	
-כל ה <mark>א</mark> ָרץ	Siluq	Under	return home to the tonic קאָרֶץ כָּל קאָרֶץ כָּל kol ha - a - rets	kol ha - a - retz	siluk - either	Both these systems close the verse on the tonic.

Jacobson put together for this one verse is on the next page. It is a very different form of thinking. I doubt I have all the pieces quite right. There seems to be a possibility of a reciting note with the next phrase or word beginning where the previous accent leaves off. There is no concept of the predictable change in reciting note derived from the Vantoura method. I am less convinced by the tune – but that's just my bias at present. And if I have missed the boat, no wonder.



Vantoura summarized so that the two can be compared. (Ignore the first note which is the final note of verse 7.)

