Drawing an arbitrary line between notes

In some cases, one needs to draw an arbitrary (thin) straight line from one note to another, e.g. when one wants to mark a logical connection between these notes, but not by a slur.

This is most easly accomplished with the PostScript language, and luckily that is available in **PMX** when the PostScript slur package by Stanislav Kneifl is loaded.

We have written a little macro for the purpose, given below, to be included in a **PMX** source as a Type 4 inline T_EX macro. For convenience's sake, the Readme with usage instructions is included in the macro itself. The attached example shows its usage in a practical case.

NOTE: There is a special case of this: a baroque ornament (normally used between two notes in a chord separated by a third), viz. a short slanted line of very specific proportions, directly above a notehead. For this purpose one of us (D.S.) posted a simpler (1-parameter) macro, \sh1#1, in the TeX-music list a while ago:

```
\\makeatletter\
\\newdimen\l@th\l@th.8pt\
\\def\psline#1#2{\y@i#1\relax \y@ii#2\relax\
\\special{ps: slur@Dict begin (\the\y@i) (\the\l@th) DLN end}}\
\\makeatother\
\\def\shl#1{\zcharnote{#1}{\kern-2pt\raise.4\internote\hbox{\psline{11pt}{3pt}}}}\
```

This is to be inserted in the **PMX** source as a Type 2 inline T_EX macro, as shown. You have to be using 20 pt type for this to work.

C.C. Noack and Don Simons

```
_ _ _
\input musixtex
\makeatletter
\def\Diagline#1#2#3#4{\zcharnote0{\kern#1\elemskip%
                                 \y@i#3\elemskip%
                                 \y@ii#4\internote%
                                 \raise#2\internote%
                                 \hbox{\special{ps: slur@Dict
                                              begin (\the\y@ii)
                                                    (\the\y@i)
                                                     (\the\lthick) DLN
                                               end
                                              } %
                                     }8
                                }8
                   }
\makeatother
%
   The above is a MusiXTeX macro that draws
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         a line from (x0,y0) to (x0+dx,y0+dy)
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% Notes: * \Diagline requires musixps.sty, the Kneifl PostScript
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           slurs package, to be loaded.
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         * The parameters are (decimal) numbers, in units of
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°
           \elemskip and \internote for the horizontal and
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           vertical parameters, respectively. Although these are
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          scalable MusiXTeX dimensions, the lines created by
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          \Diagline do NOT ALWAYS scale properly (e.g. when the
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          line bridges across several staves and \interstaff is
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          changed)! On the other hand, they don't move other
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          elements of a score around.
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           So it is recommended to include such lines only after
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           EVERTHING ELSE IS REALLY FINAL.
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        * The unit(s) can easily be changed to any legal
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           MusiXTeX or TeX dimension (remove the \elemskip's
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           and/or \internote's in the macro, and insert the desired
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           dimensions in the call of the macro instead).
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  Usage:
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          Diagline{x0}{y0}{dx}{dy}, where
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              x0 : x offset (in units of \elemskip)
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              y0 : y offset (in units of \internote)
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              dx : x length (in units of \elemskip)
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              dy : y length (in units of \internote)
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                                        Thu 2004 Aug 19 /23:14 /ccn %
ò
```