5.2 Cadence Types

Cadences are classified according to the type of chord at the cadence as well as the chord right before the cadence. See the "Finding Cadences" page for guidelines on spotting cadences.

1. Authentic. Precadential chord: Has LT. Cadence chord: I or i.

   Perfect Authentic (PAC).  
   1. V or V7 in ROOT POSITION moves to TONIC in ROOT POSITION.  
   2. SOPRANO ends with tonic pitch.

   Imperfect Authentic (IAC). All authentic cadences that are not perfect.

2. Deceptive. Any chord with LT moves to a chord OTHER THAN TONIC, usually vi/VI.

3. Plagal. Any chord WITHOUT LT moves to TONIC, usually IV-I.

4. Half. Any chord moves to a chord with the LT, usually V. Also, any cadence that isn't authentic, deceptive, or plagal.

   Phrygian half cadence: minor iv6 to V