## Jazz Improvisation Class notes III 2015–16

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JAZZ IMPROVISATION, CLASS NOTES 2015-2016

**PREFACE** 

The following class notes were written between approximately Fall of 2015 and Summer 2016

as a continuation of my ongoing workshops in jazz improvisation at Music Center Of The

Northwest (mcnw.org). These notes include exercises written for Jazz Improv levels I and II,

and Rock Band theory class, which are all part of the same improvisational curriculum.

The primary distinction between improvising in a jazz setting and improvising in a rock band

setting is that rock music tends to stay in a single key and emphasizes use of pentatonic scales

and blues licks, whereas jazz changes keys more frequently and requires more intensive study

of chord changes and their associated modes. Like all musical definitions which take place on a

stylistic continuum, however, these are not hard and fast distinctions. Hence, there is quite a bit

of overlap between the rock and jazz soloing vocabularies, and the exercise material from both

classes may be applied to either setting.

I would like to thank all my students for their continuing dedicated participation in these

workshops. Without their interaction and feedback, I would not have developed this material

in such detail. I hope future readers find these exercises useful.

Have fun, and thanks for reading.

-David Matthew Shere

Seattle, WA; November 5, 2015

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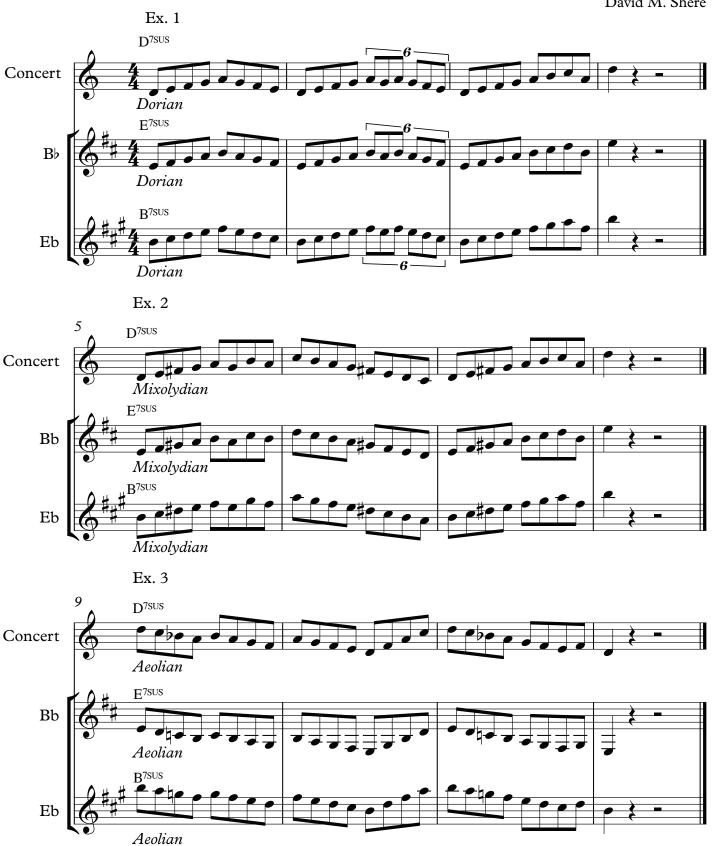
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## Jazz Improv I 2015

#### Class notes 01 **Modal licks**



#### Jazz Improv I 2015 Class notes 01 appendix- all 12 keys





4 Ex. 3 97 D<sup>7SUS</sup> Charles the contract of the co 129 Bb7sus

be be be 133 B<sup>7</sup>SUS C7SUS 141 + C#7sus

#### Jazz-blues licks





#### Jazz Improv I 2015 Class notes 02 appendix- all 12 keys

#### Jazz-blues licks







#### Licks in 3/4 meter







#### Jazz Improv I 2015 Class notes 03 appendix- all 12 keys

Licks in 3/4 meter







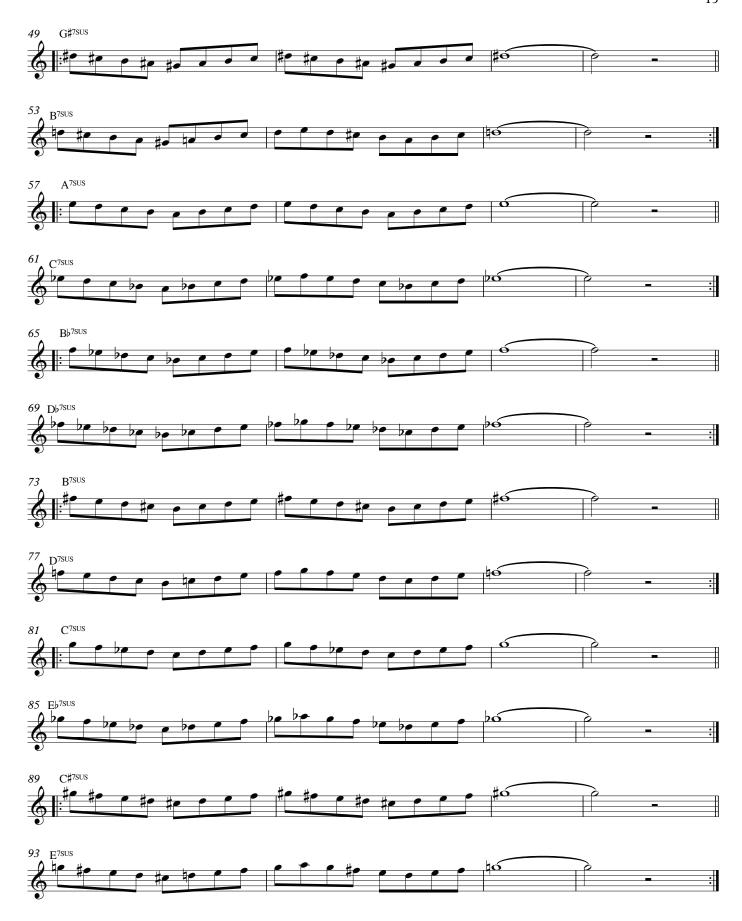
## Jazz Improv I 2015

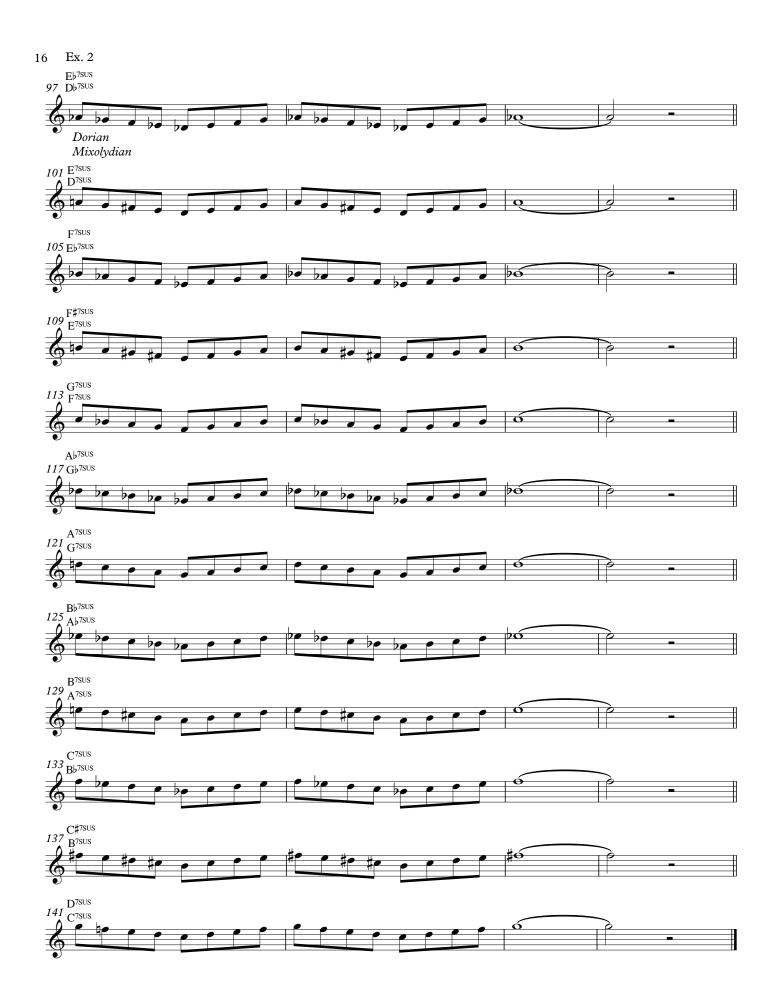
#### Class notes 04 More modal licks



#### Jazz Improv I 2015 Class notes 04 appendix- all 12 keys More modal licks Ex. 1- Playing "Maiden Voyage" changes







#### Class discussion examples

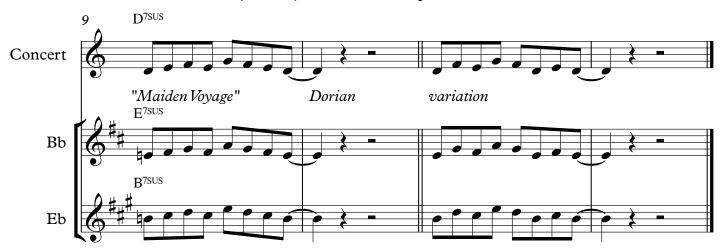
Ex. 1- One measure 12-bar blues lick



Ex. 2- One measure jazz-blues lick



Ex. 3- One measure (with tie) modal lick example



#### Jazz Improv I 2015 Class notes 05 appendix- all 12 keys

## Class discussion examples David M. Shere Ex. 1- One measure 12-bar blues lick "Bag's Groove" 1st measure can be repeated verbatim or with variations



20 Ex. 3- One measure (with tie) modal lick example D<sup>7SUS</sup> 97 "Maiden Voyage" Dorian variation 101 Eb7SUS

#### More Jazz-blues examples

David M. Shere

Ex. 1

Concert  $Bb^7$  "Stormy Weather"  $C^7$  Bb  $G^7$   $O \# \# G^7$ 





#### Jazz Improv I 2015 Class notes 06 appendix- all 12 keys

# More Jazz-blues examples David M. Shere Ex. 1 B♭<sup>7</sup> "Stormy Weather"







## Jazz Improv I 2015

### Class notes 07 appendix- all 12 keys









### Jazz Improv I 2016 Class notes 08 appendix- all 12 keys

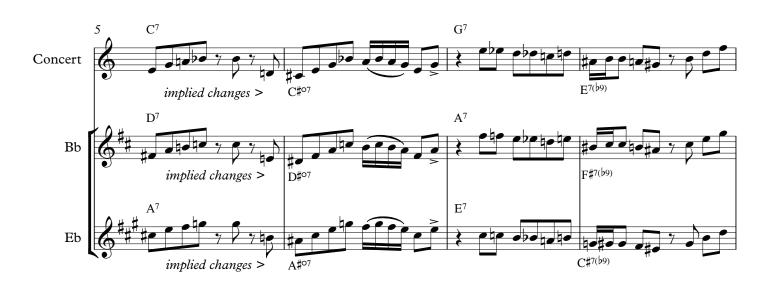


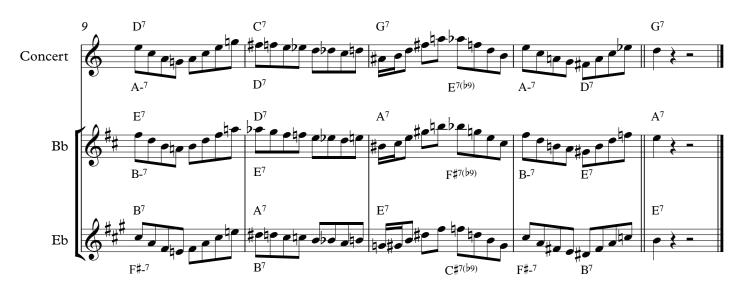




Example Jazz-blues solo (12-bar blues)







### Jazz Improv I 2016 Class notes 09 appendix- all 12 keys

## Example Jazz-blues solo (12-bar blues)









### Jazz-blues licks in 6/4







Example Jazz-blues solo #2



# Jazz Improv I 2016

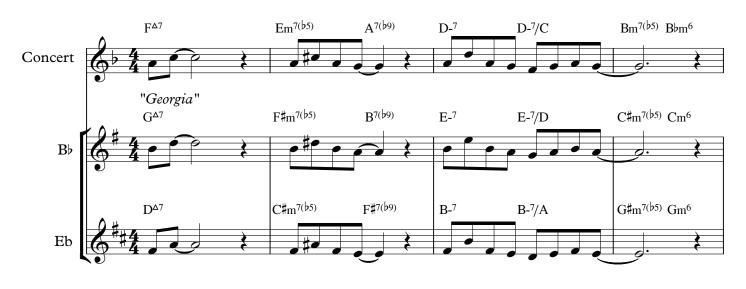
# Class notes 11 appendix- all 12 keys Example Jazz-blues solo #2 (12-bar blues) David M. Shere $G^7$ $G^7$ "Bag's Groove" $\mathbb{C}^7$ $G^7$ E<sup>7(b9)</sup> implied changes > $\mathbb{C}^7$ F<sup>7(b9)</sup> D♭<sup>7</sup> $G_{b}^{7(b9)}$ $D^7$

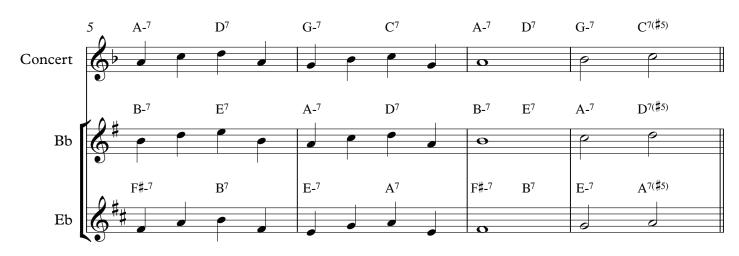


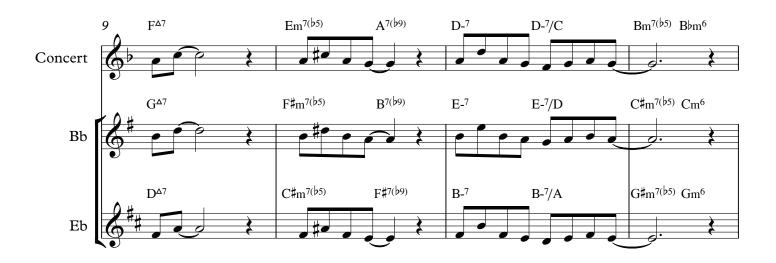


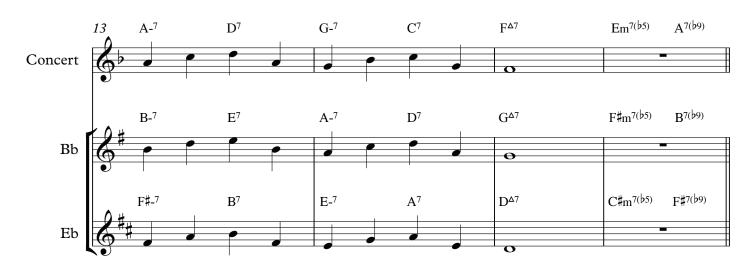


### Jazz-blues ballad licks

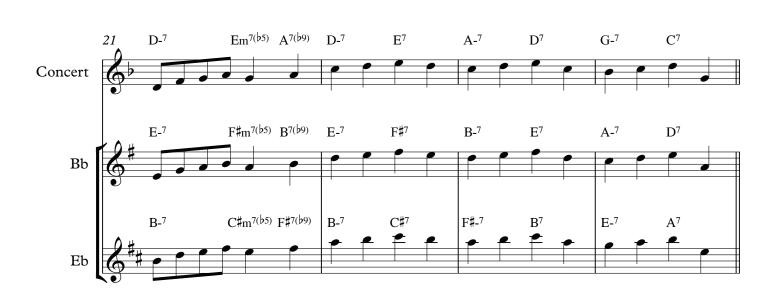


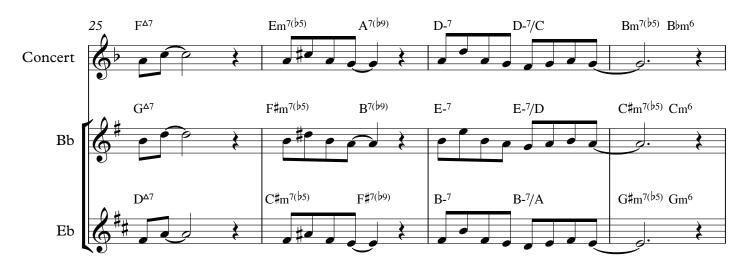


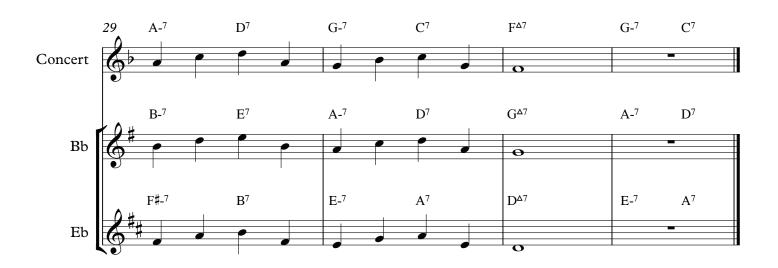












Modal jazz licks: Switching between parallel modes

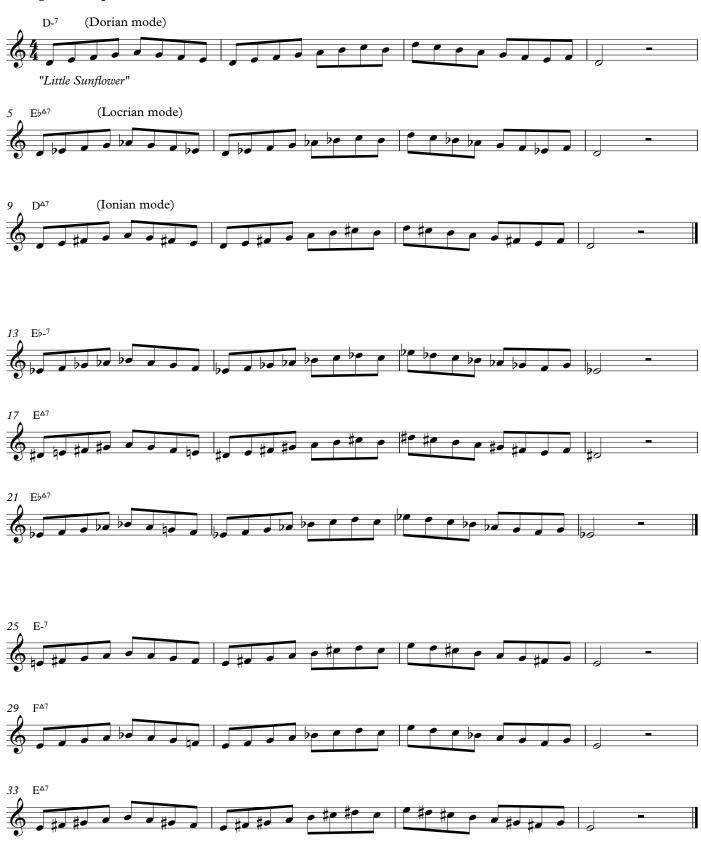


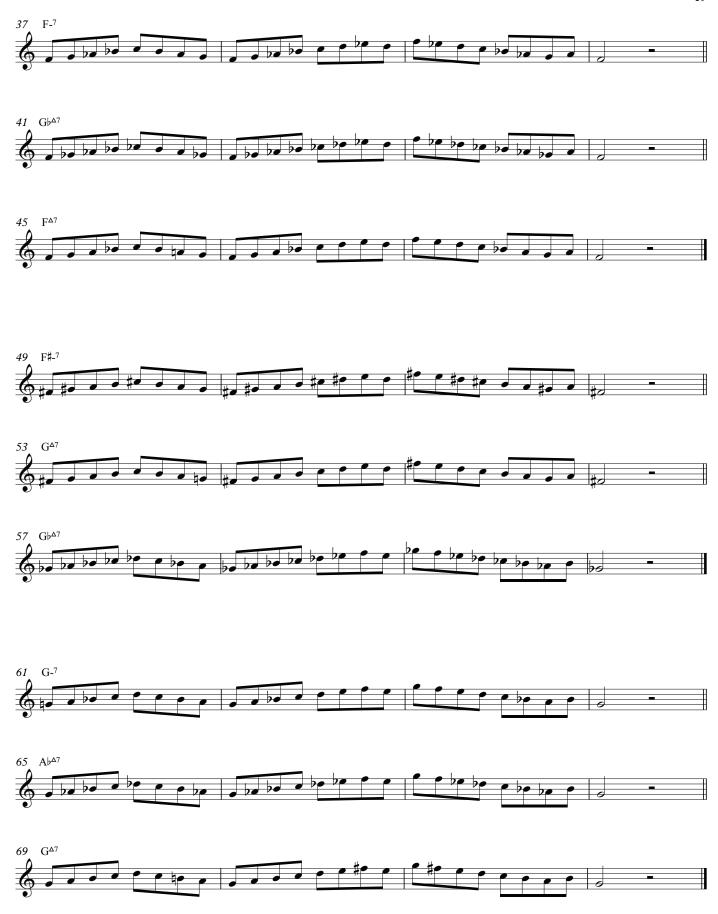


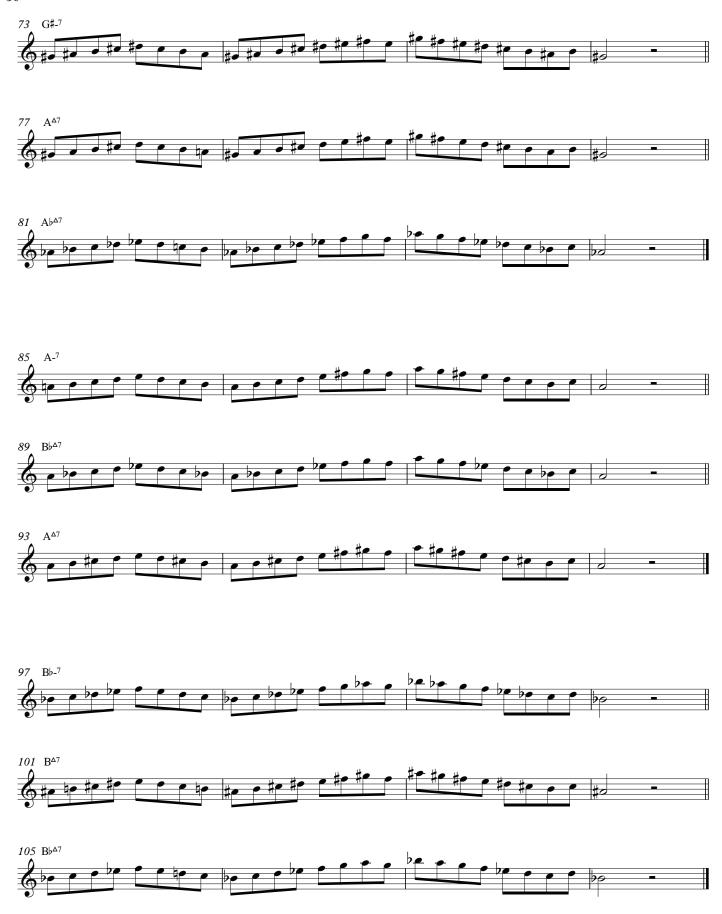


### Jazz Improv I 2016 Class notes 13 appendix- all 12 keys

#### Modal jazz licks: Switching between parallel modes





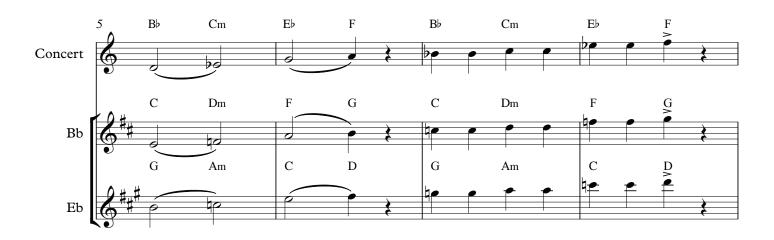




Blues jazz licks
Motown style

David M. Shere







### Jazz Improv I 2016 Class notes 14 appendix- all 12 keys



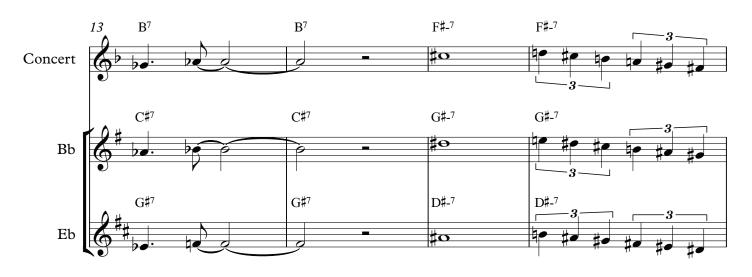


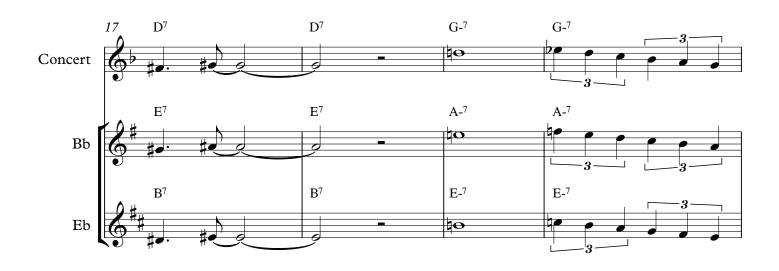


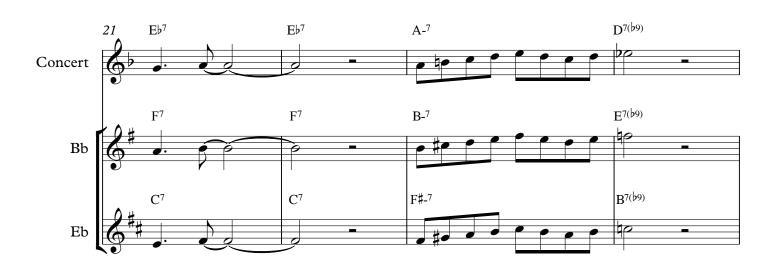


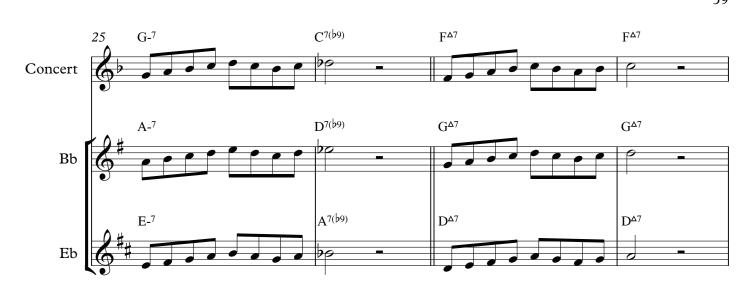
Bossa licks



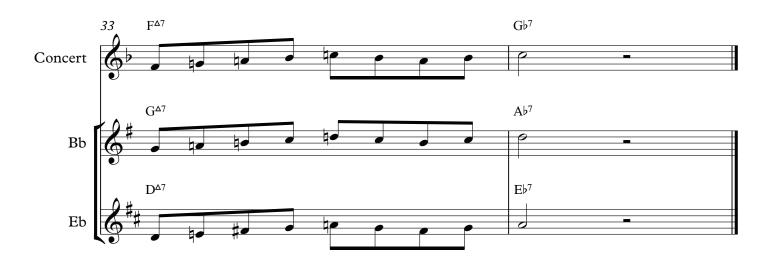








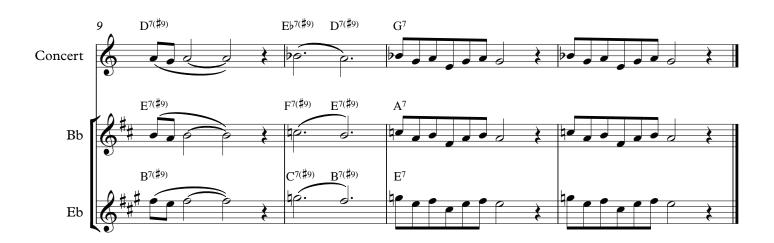




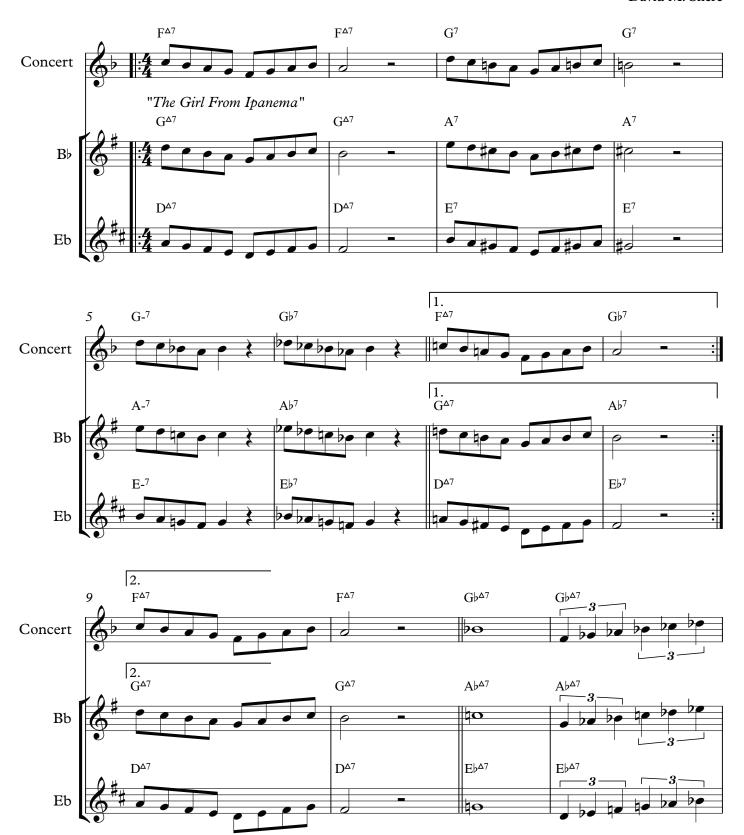
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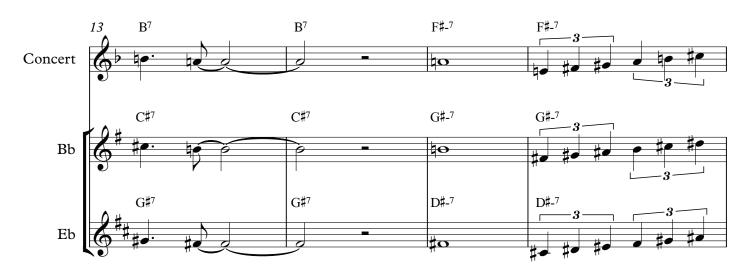


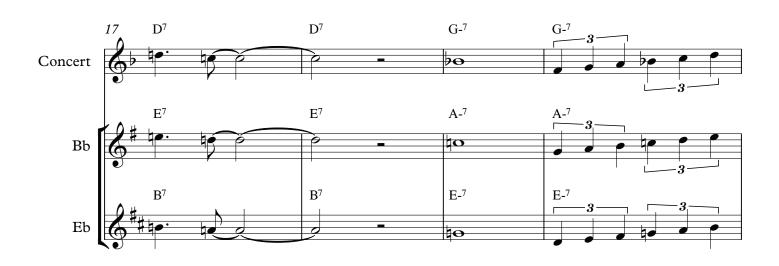


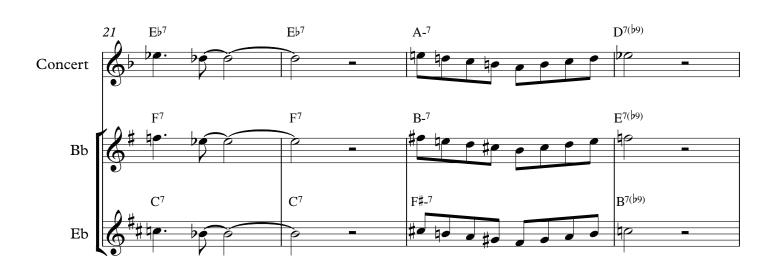


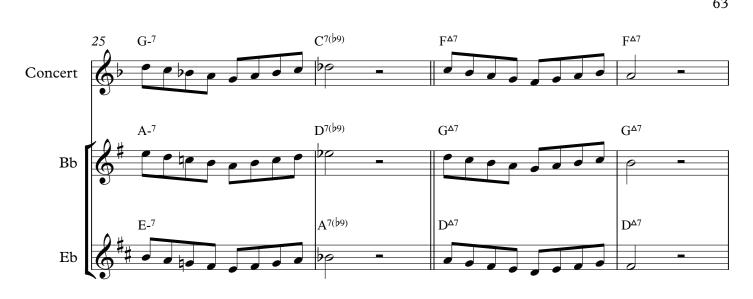
Bossa licks





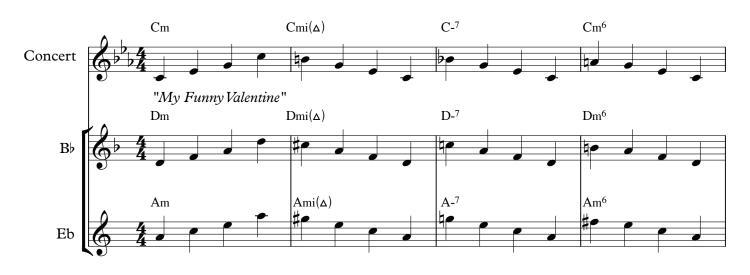


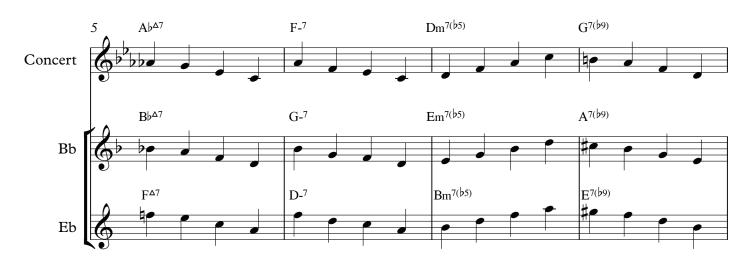


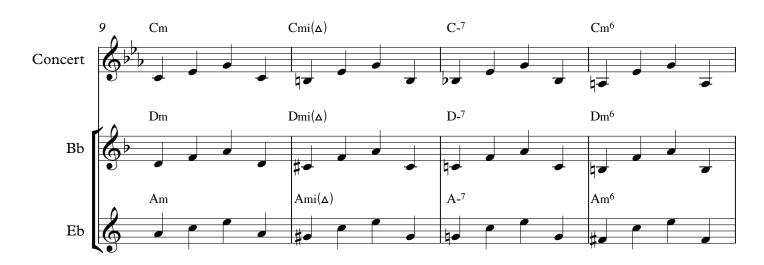


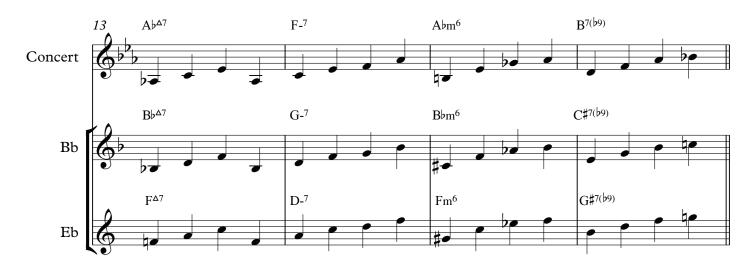


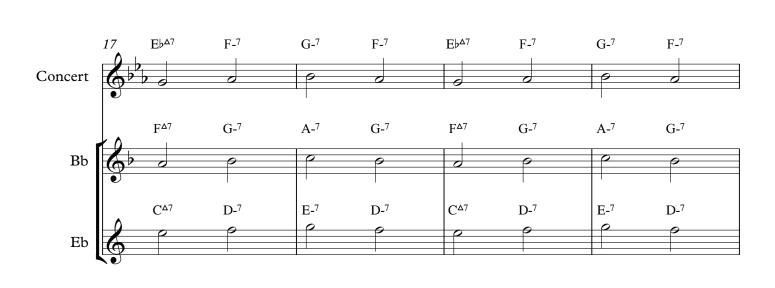


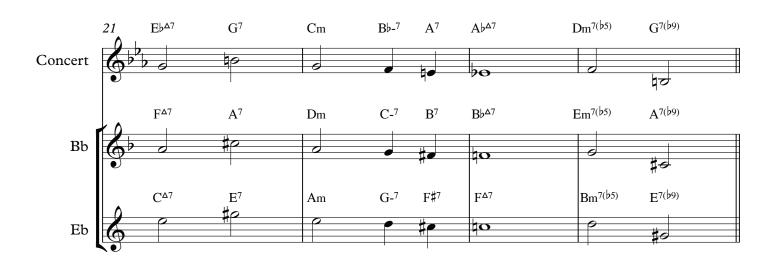


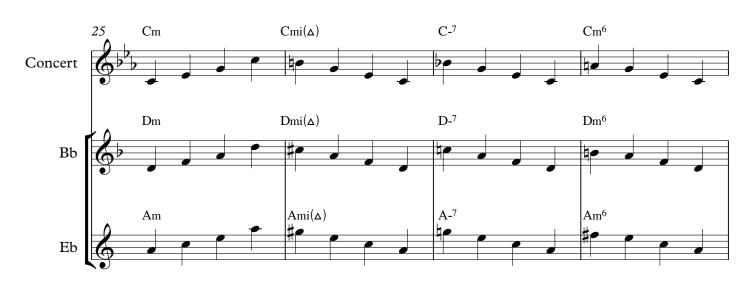


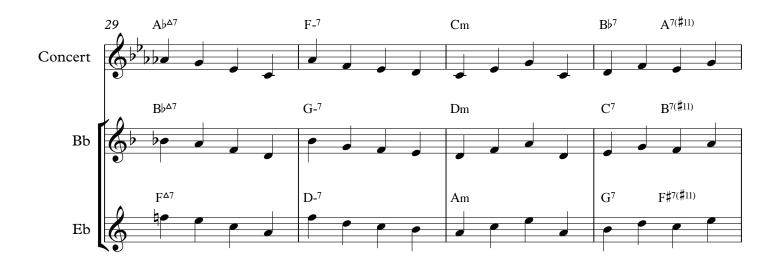


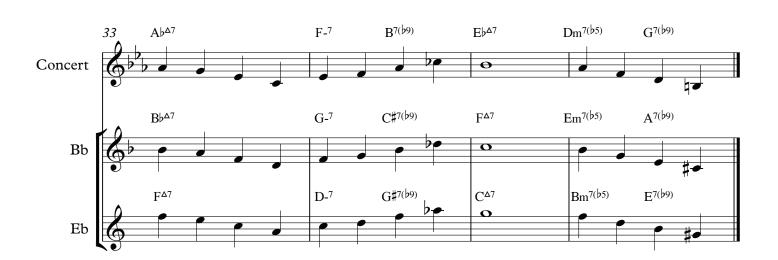




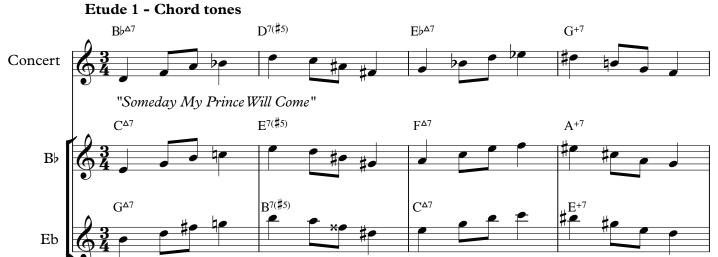


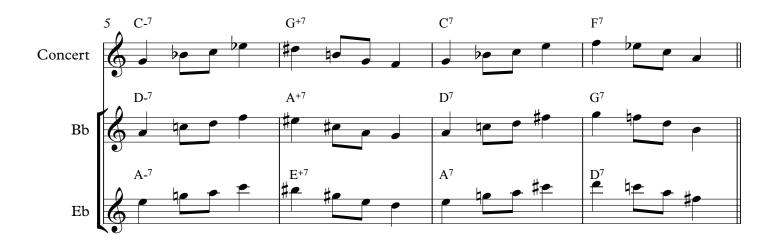


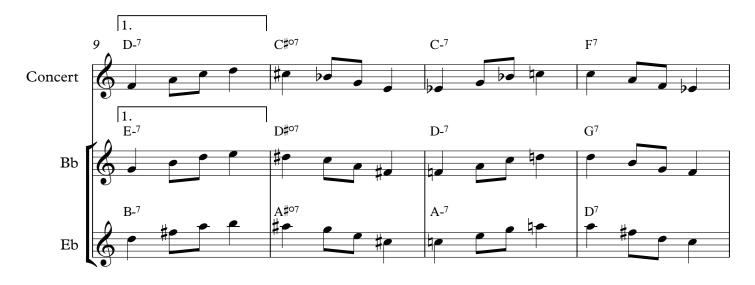






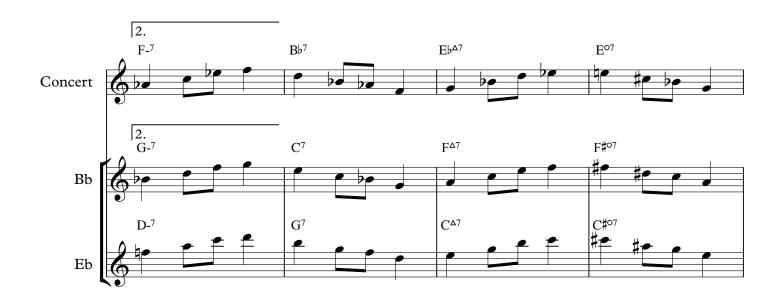


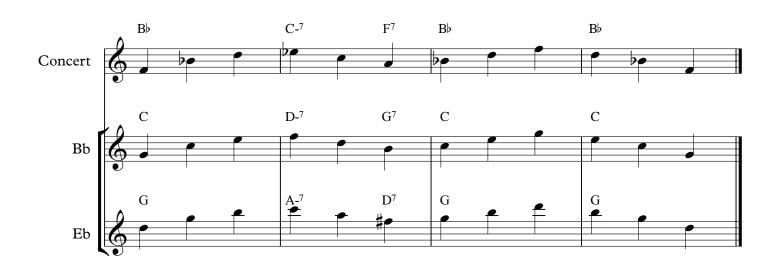


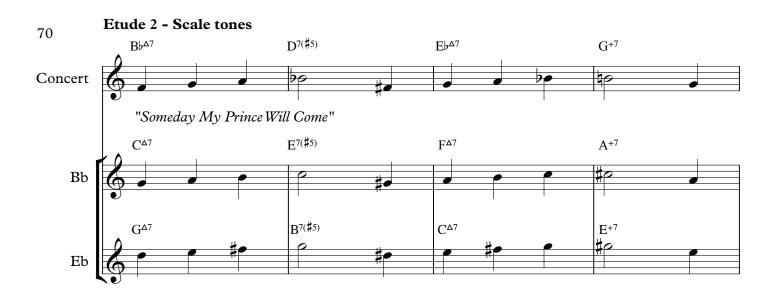


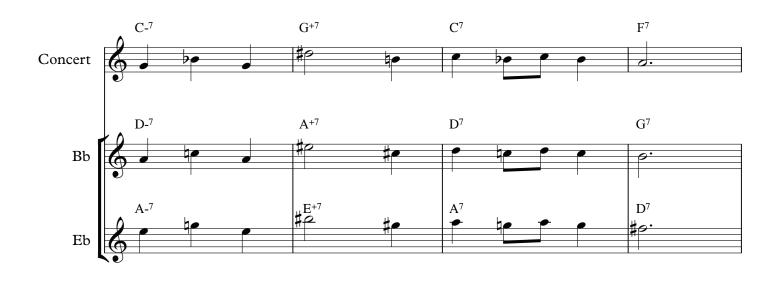


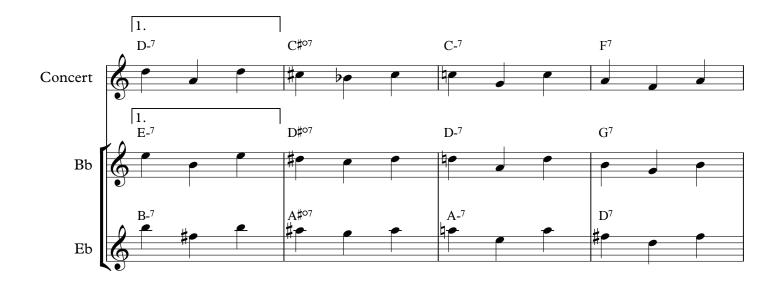




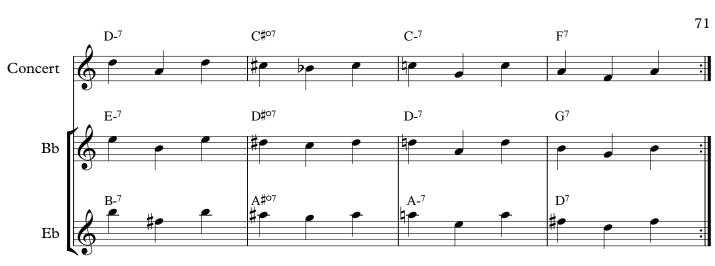


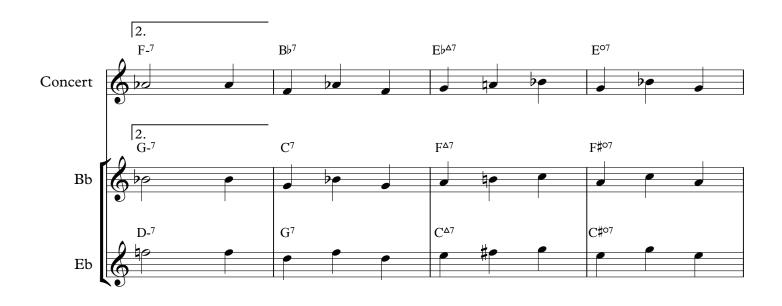


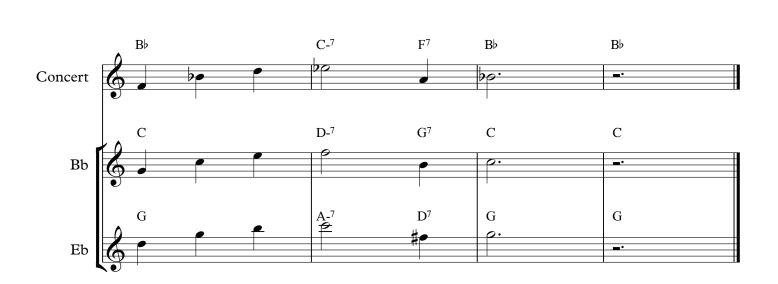


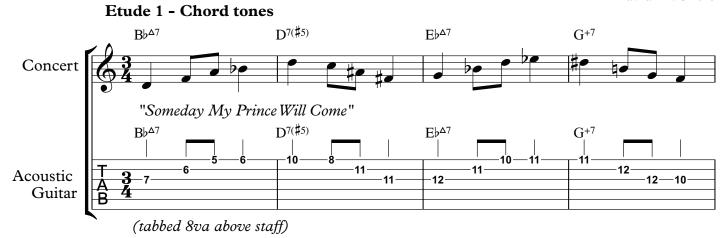


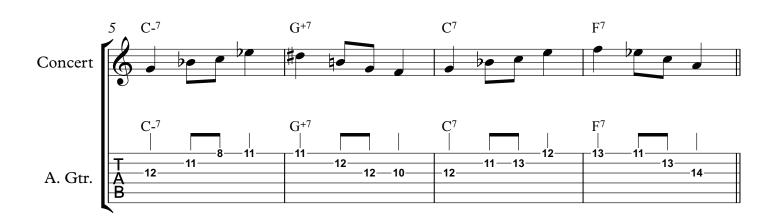


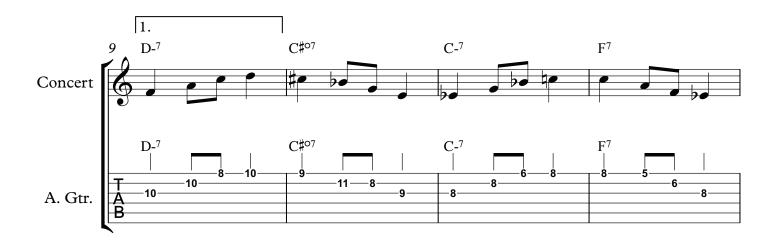


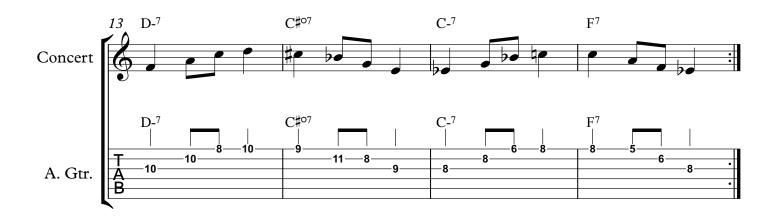


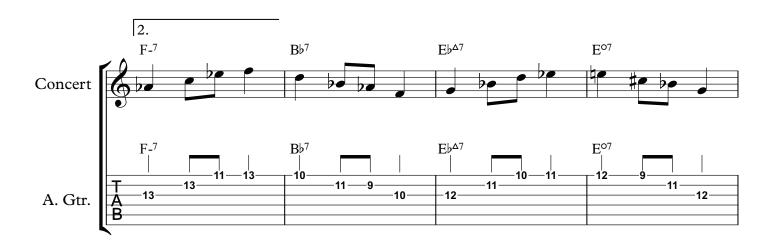


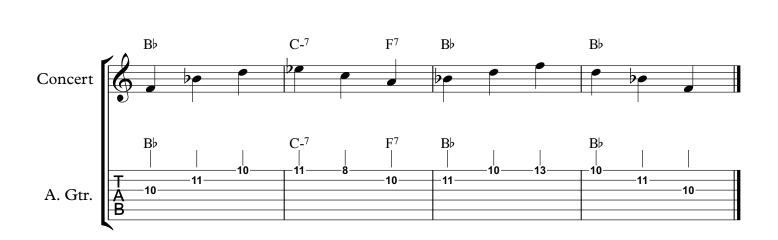






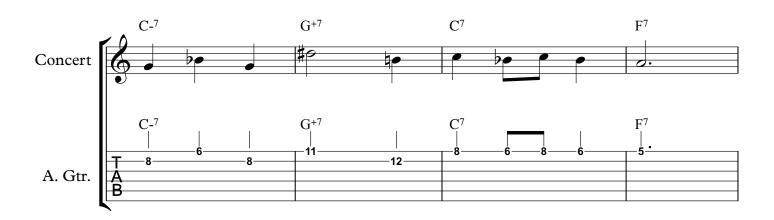


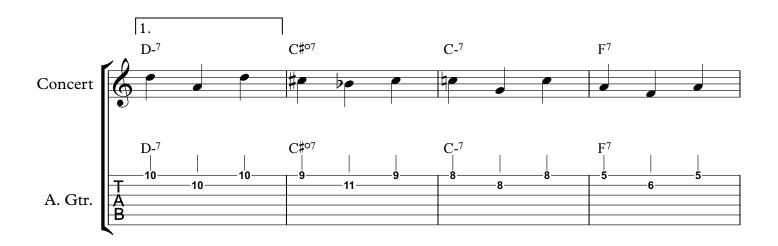


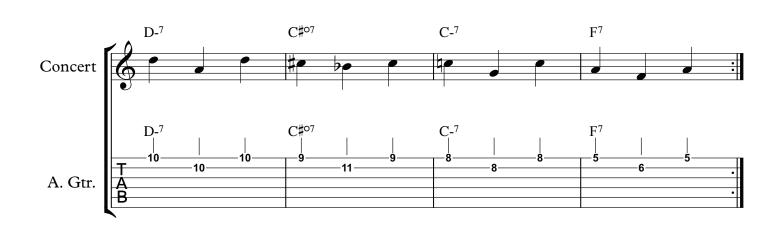


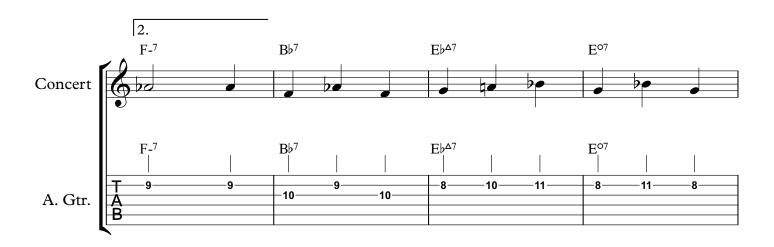
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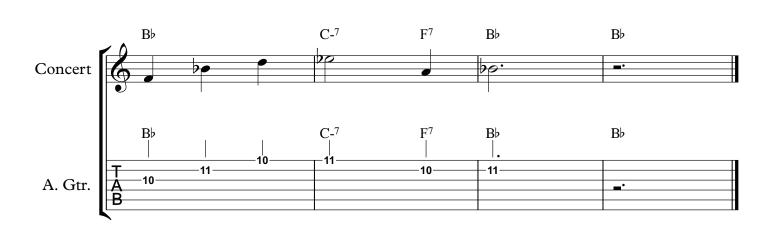






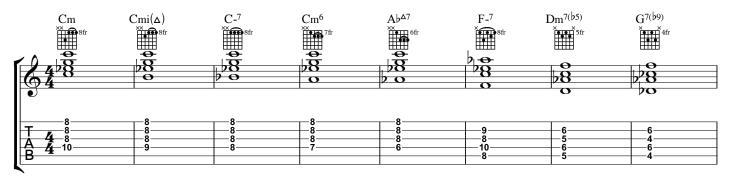


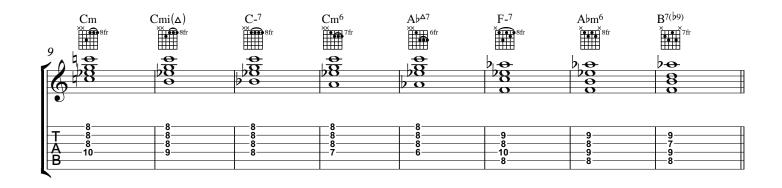


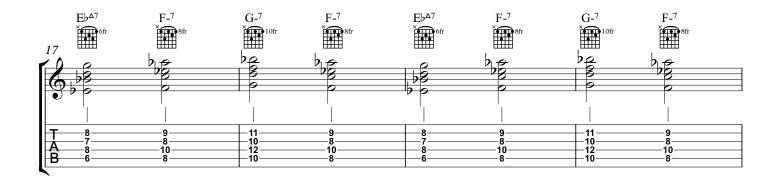


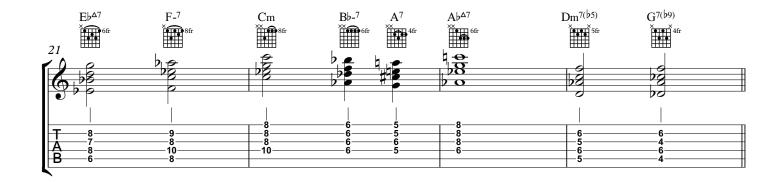
### Jazz Improv I 2016 Class notes 20 My Funny Valentine

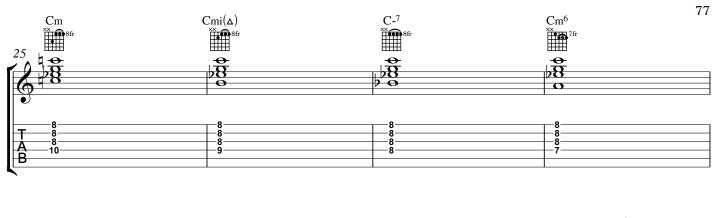
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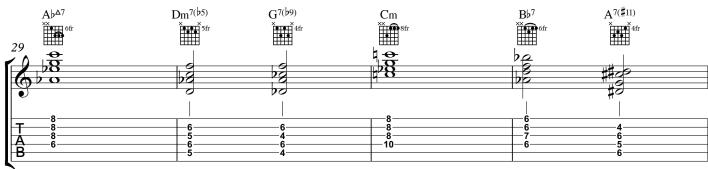


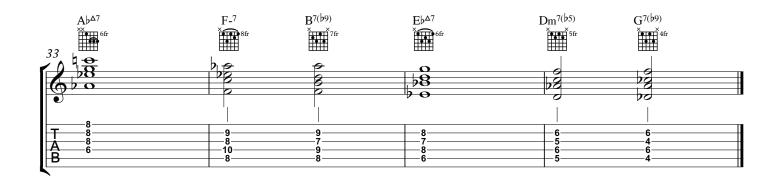




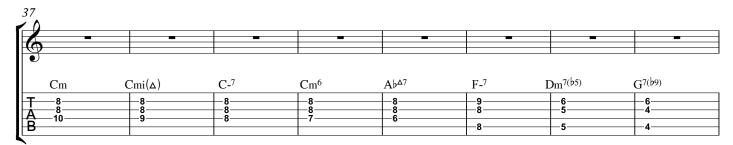


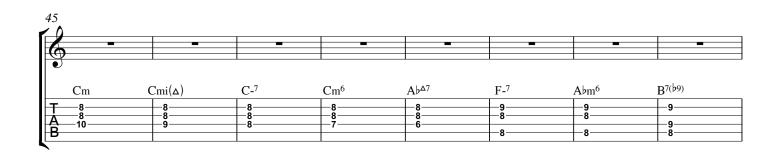


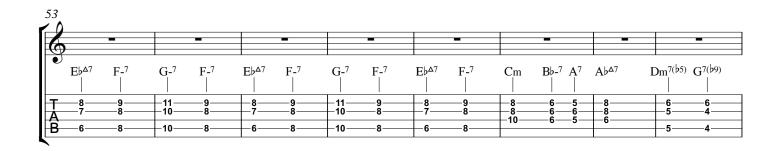


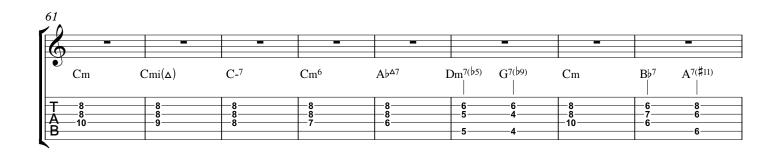


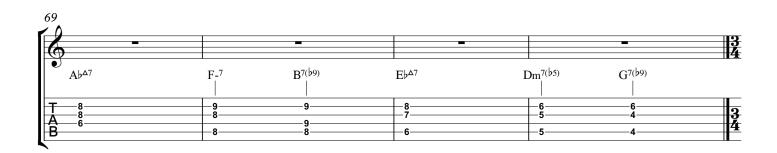
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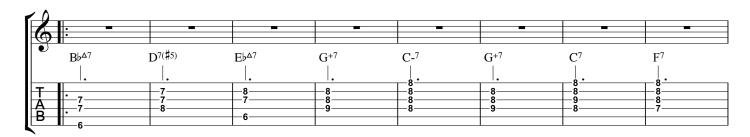


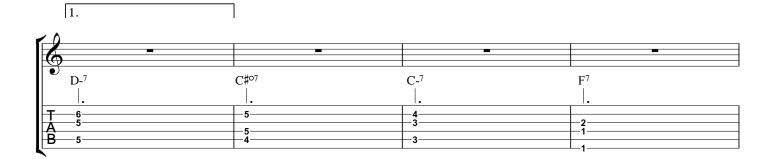
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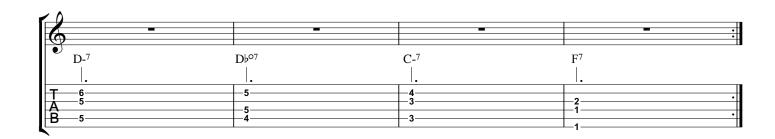
### Someday My Prince Will Come

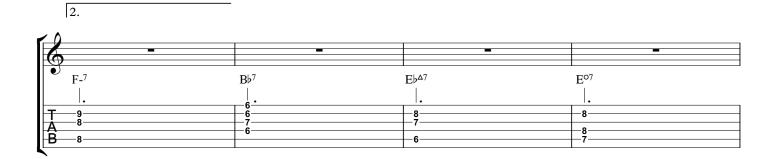


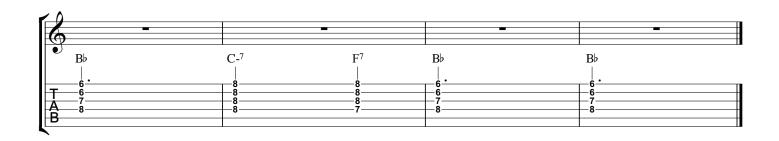
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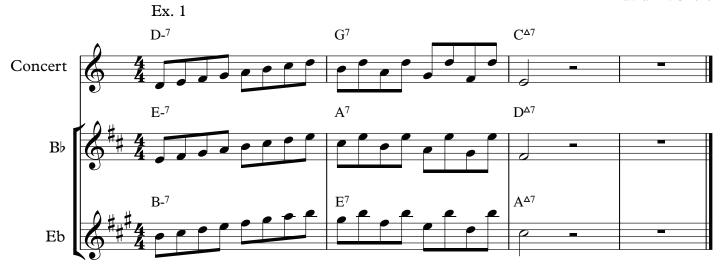


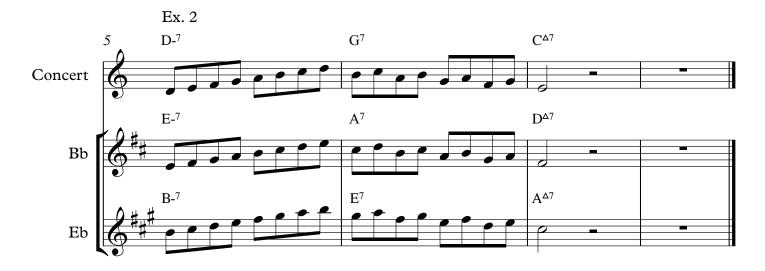


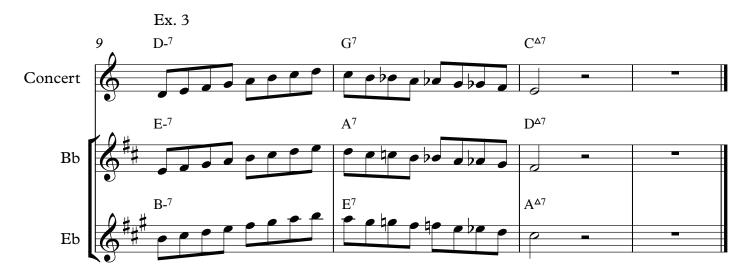


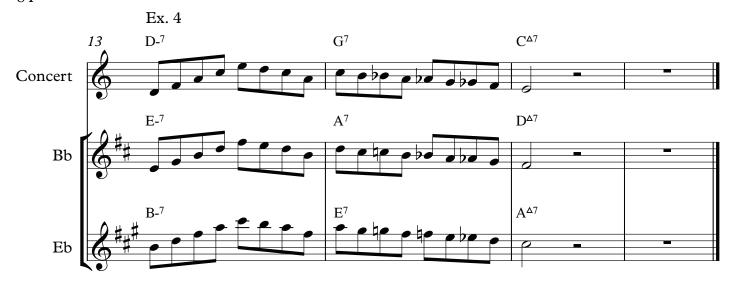
#### ii-V-I Examples

Class notes 01

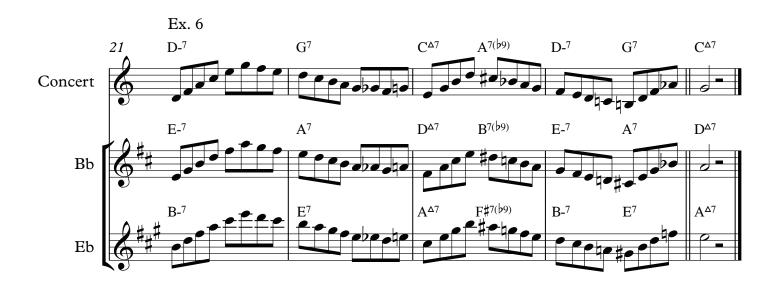












### Class notes 01 appendix- all 12 keys







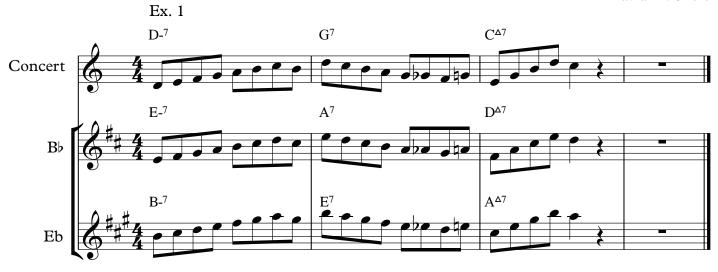


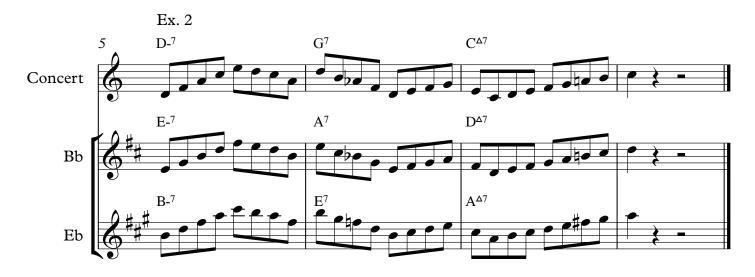


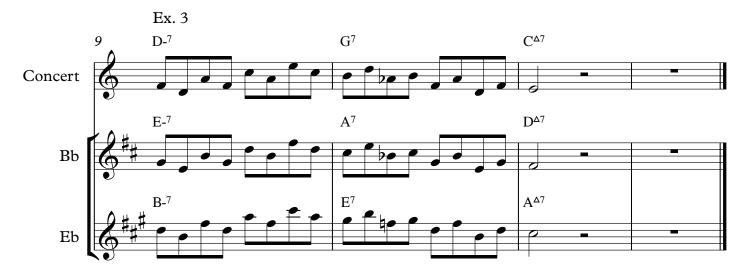


#### ii-V-I Examples

Class notes 02





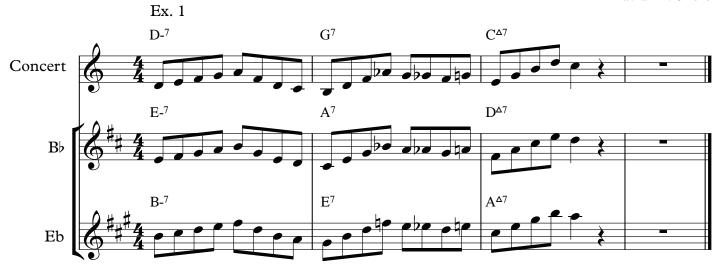


### Class notes 02 appendix- all 12 keys

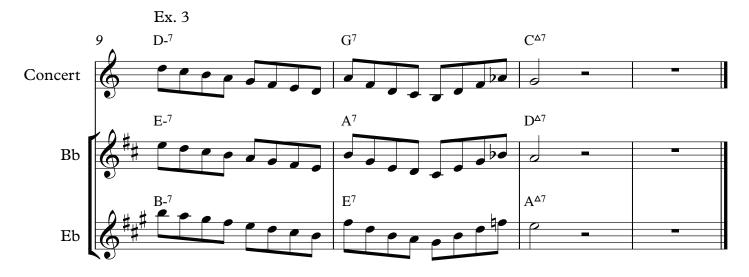




# ii-V-I Examples Class notes 03







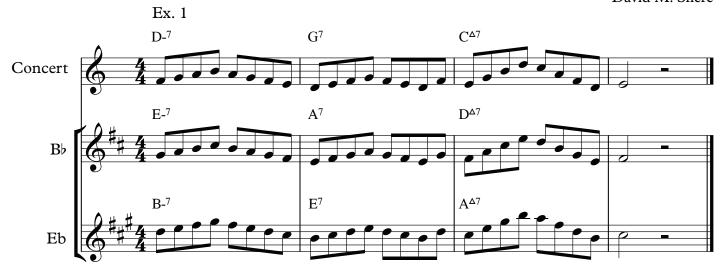
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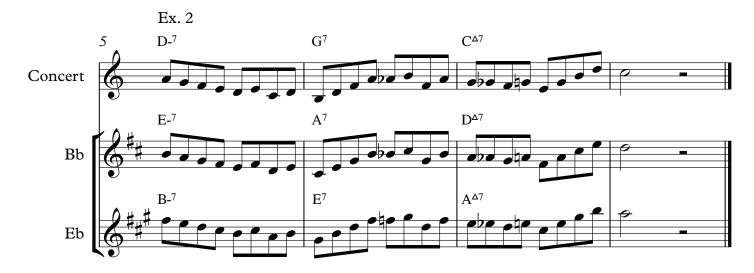


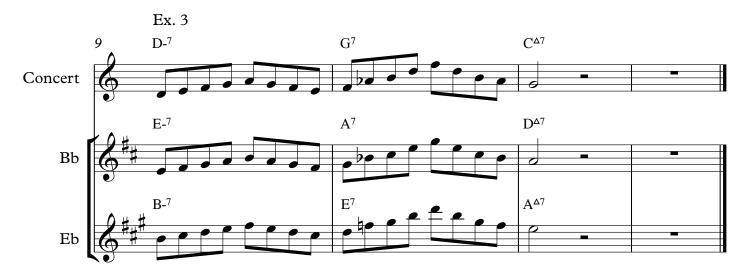




## ii-V-I Examples Class notes 04







## Class notes 04 appendix- all 12 keys

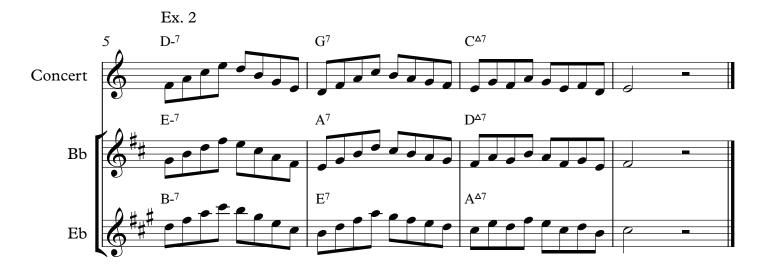


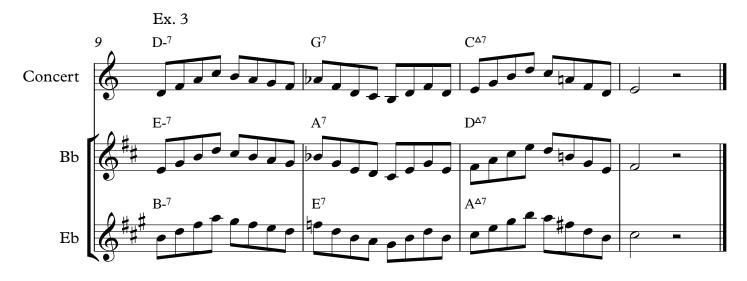




## ii-V-I Examples Class notes 05







Class notes 05 appendix- all 12 keys

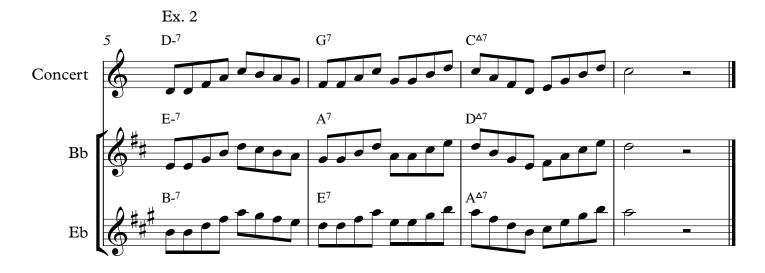


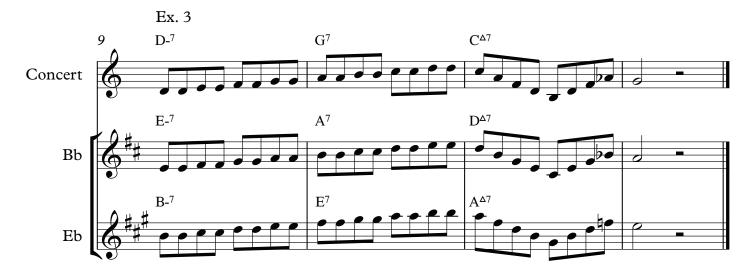




## ii-V-I Examples Class notes 06







#### Class notes 06 appendix- all 12 keys

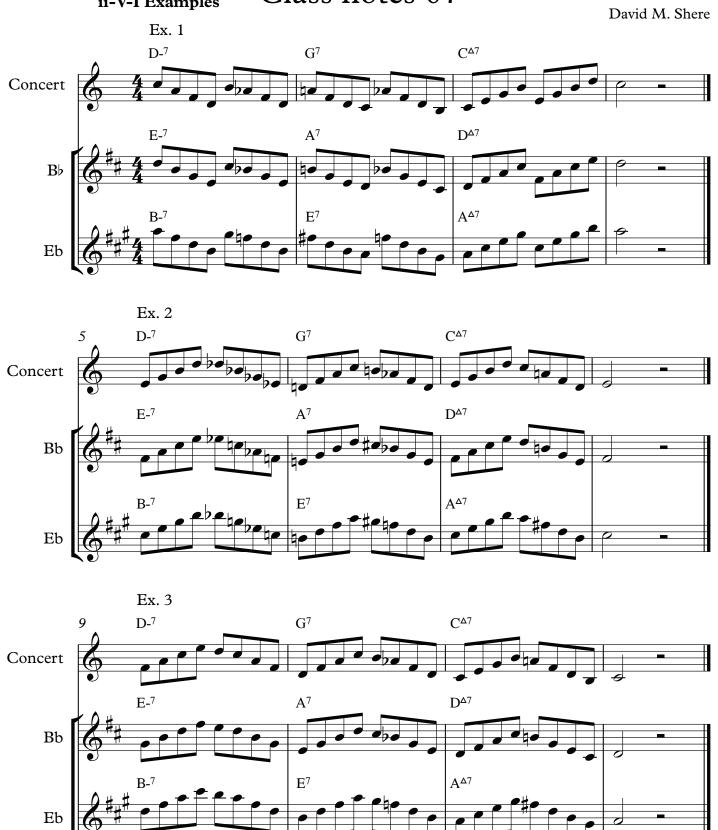






## Jazz Improv II 2015 Class notes 07

ii-V-I Examples



#### Class notes 07 appendix- all 12 keys



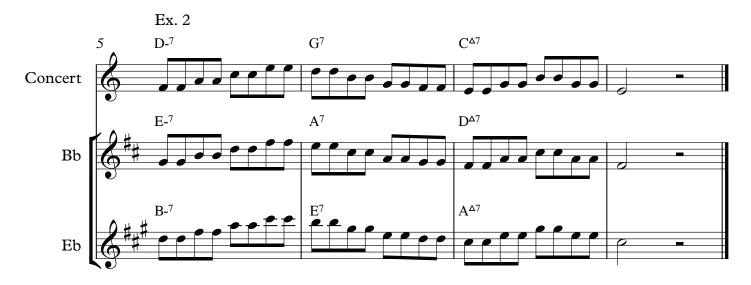


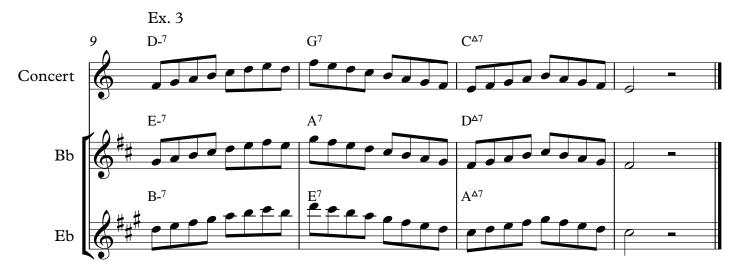


## Jazz Improv II 2016 Class notes 08

#### ii-V-I Examples







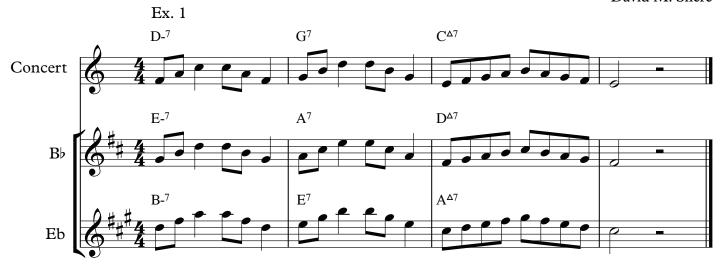
Class notes 08 appendix- all 12 keys ii-V-I Examples David M. Shere Ex. 1  $C^{\Delta7}$ D-7  $G^7$  $D_{\flat^{\Delta 7}}$  $D^{\Delta 7}$ E♭△7 E<sup>Δ7</sup> F<sup>∆7</sup>  $G\flat^{\Delta7}$ G<sup>∆7</sup>  $A\flat^{\Delta7}$ **Α**Δ7  $B\flat^{\Delta7}$ **B**<sup>∆7</sup>

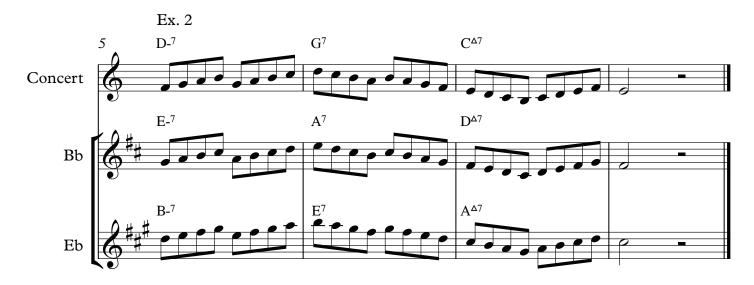


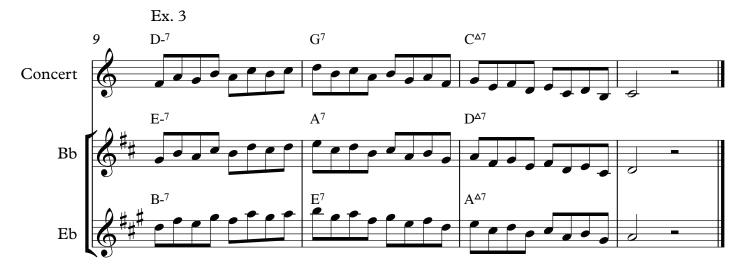


## Jazz Improv II 2016 Class notes 09

ii-V-I Examples







# Class notes 09 appendix- all 12 keys ii-V-I Examples David M. Shere Ex. 1 D-7

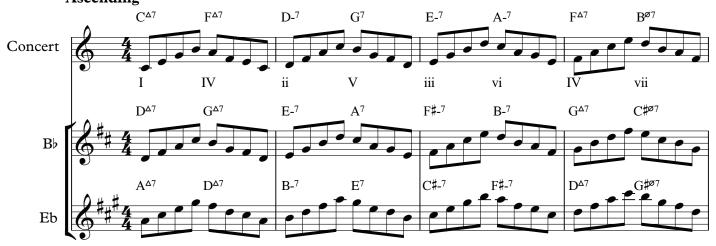




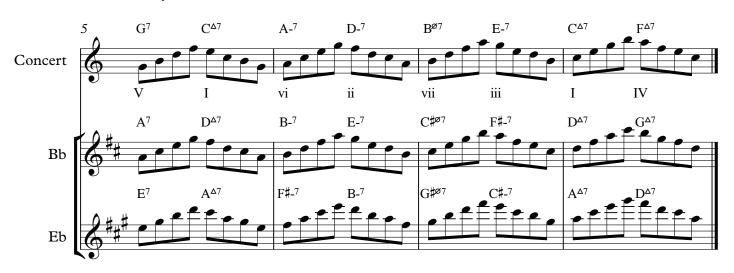


## Jazz Improv II 2016 Class notes 10

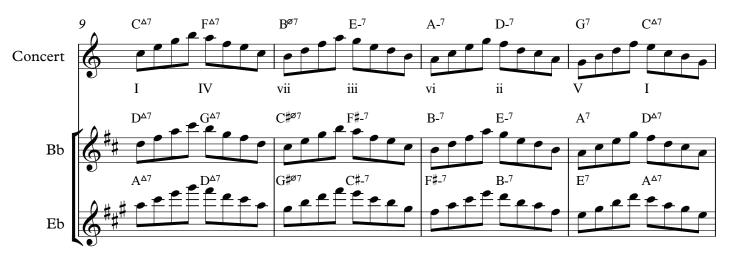
Ex. 1 Expanded ii-V sequence Ascending

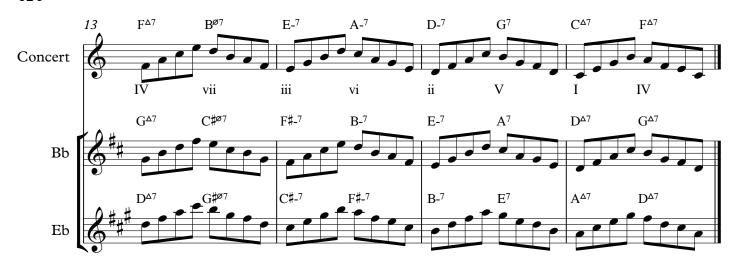


Half-measure cadence

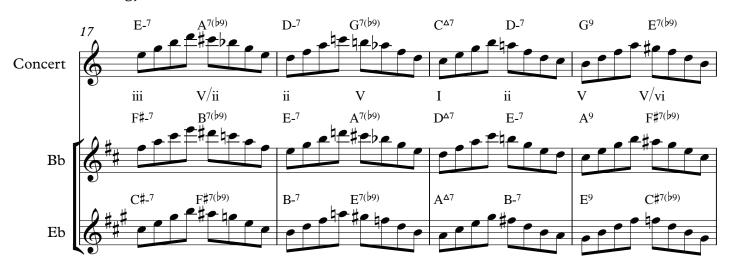


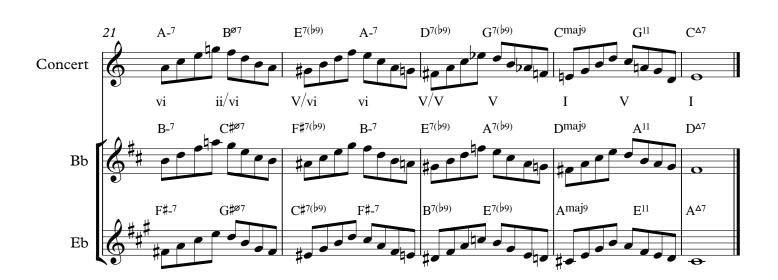
Ex. 2 Expanded ii-V sequence Descending ("falling 5ths")



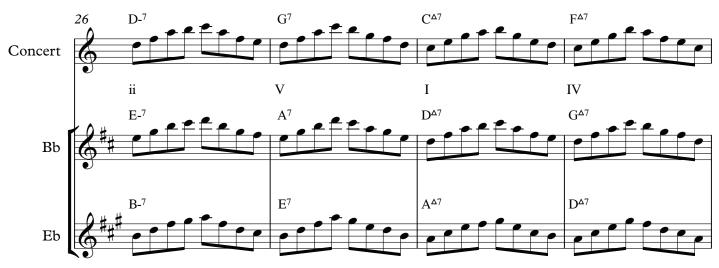


Ex. 3 Expanded ii-V sequence Descending; Common chromatic alterations

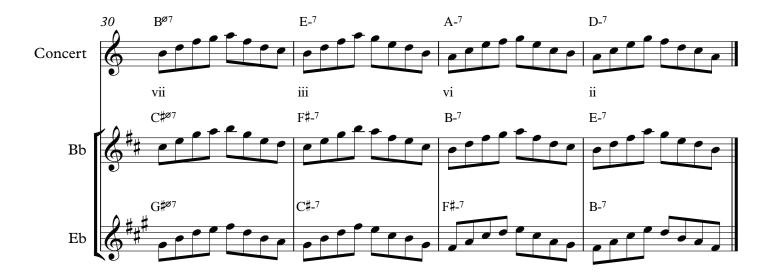




## Ex. 4 Expanded ii-V sequence Descending ("falling 5ths")



Full-measure cadence

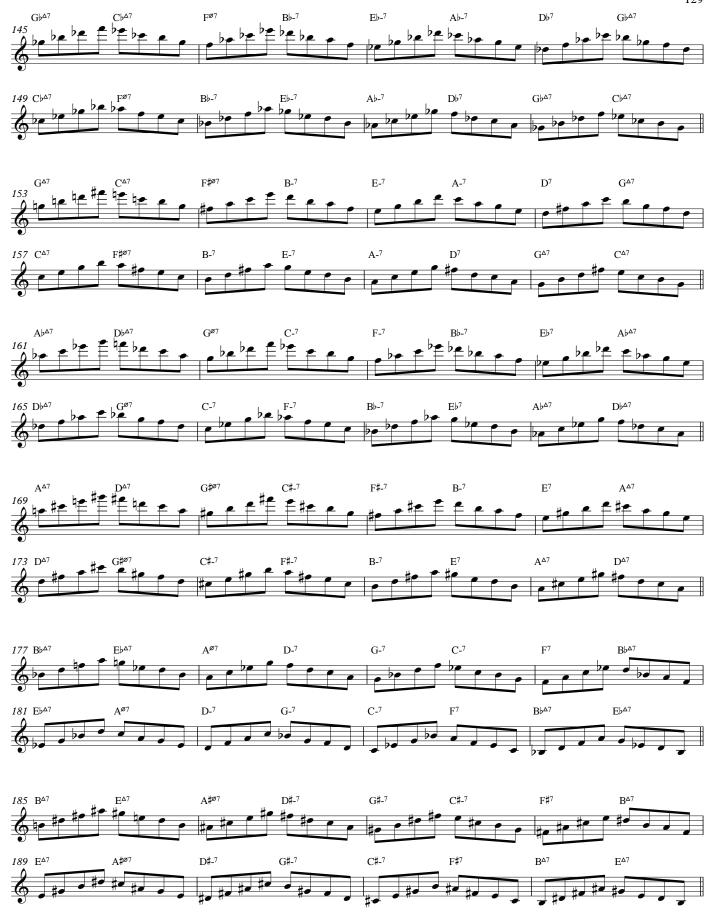


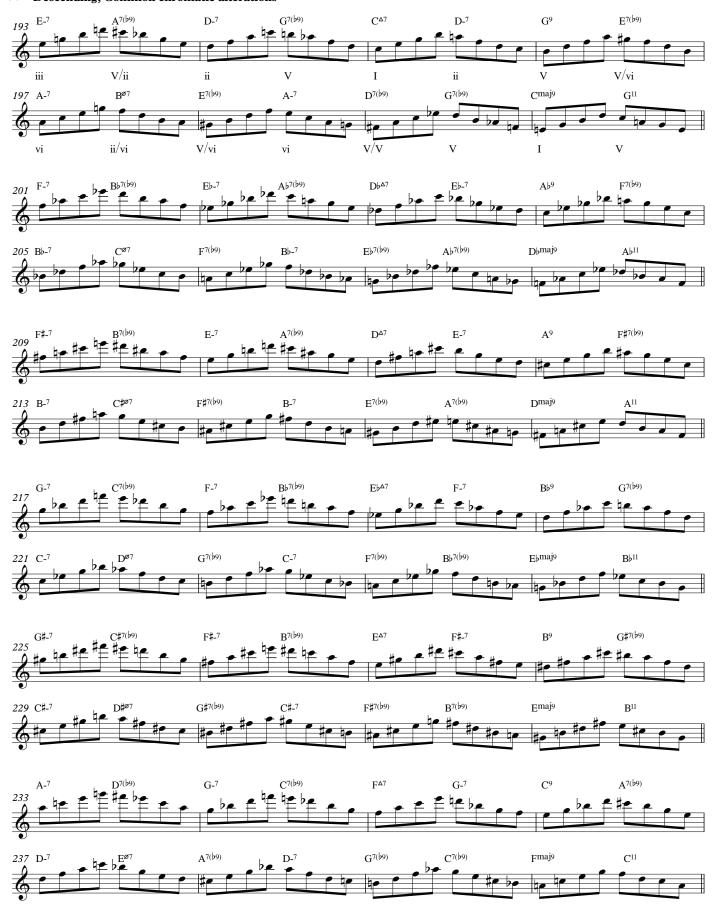
#### Jazz Improv II 2016 Class notes 10 appendix- all 12 keys

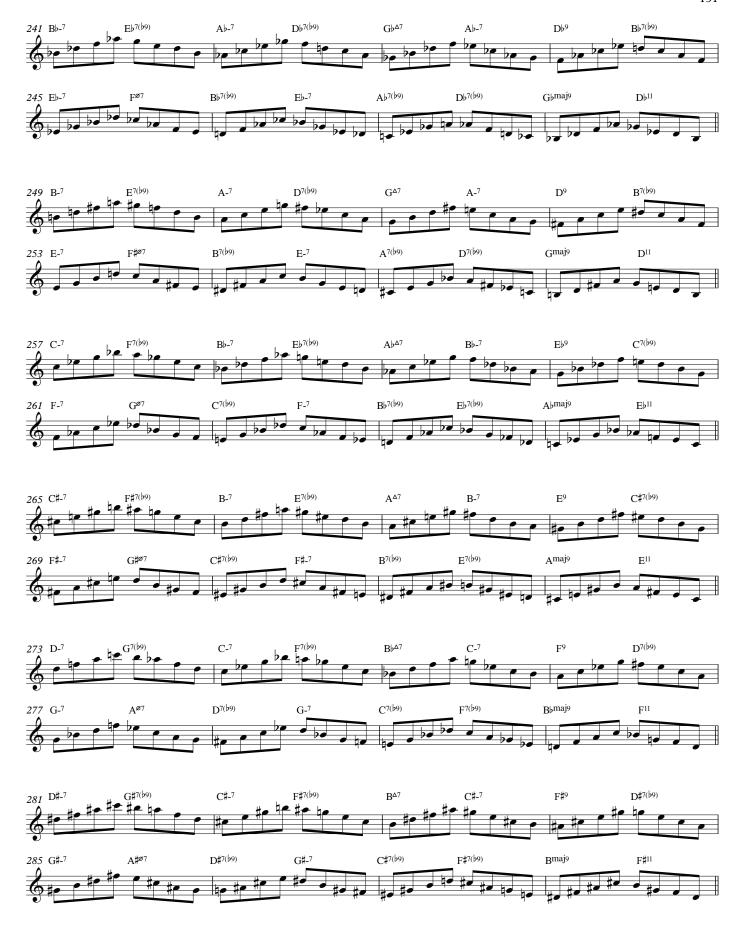




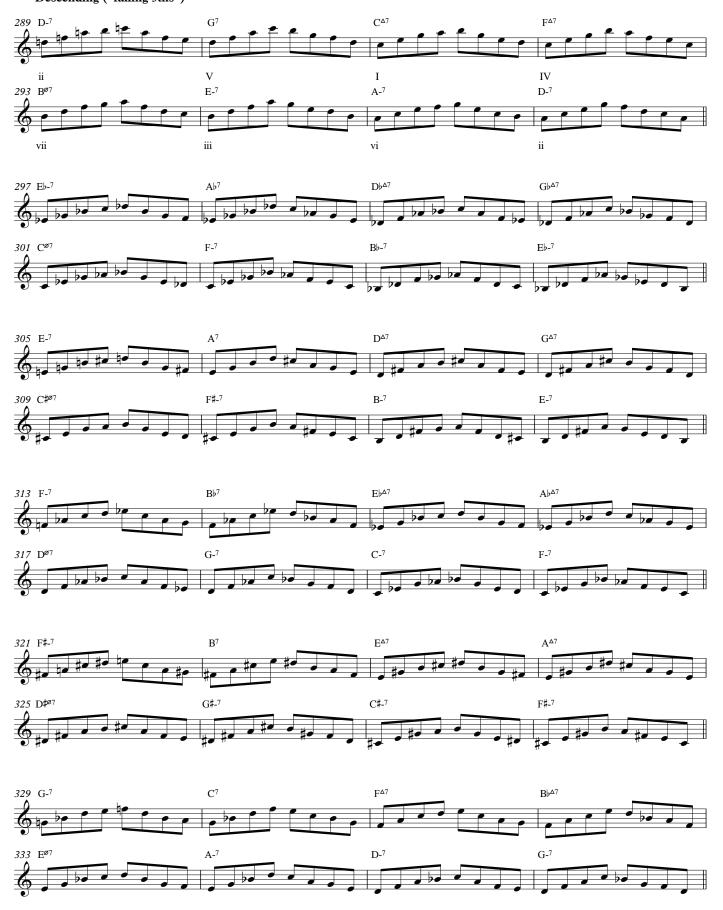


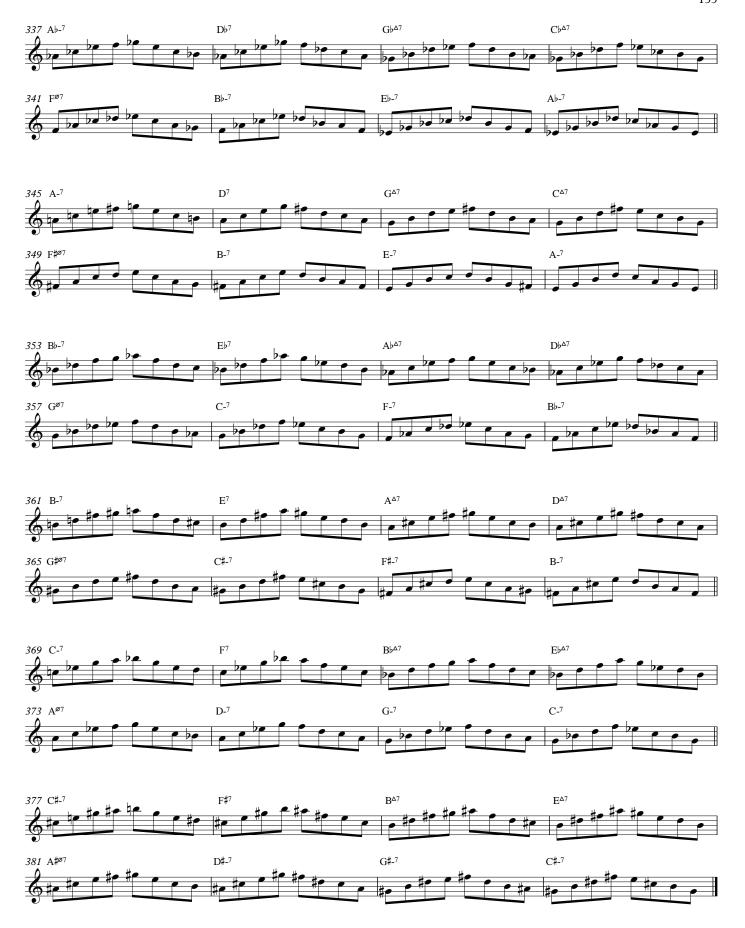




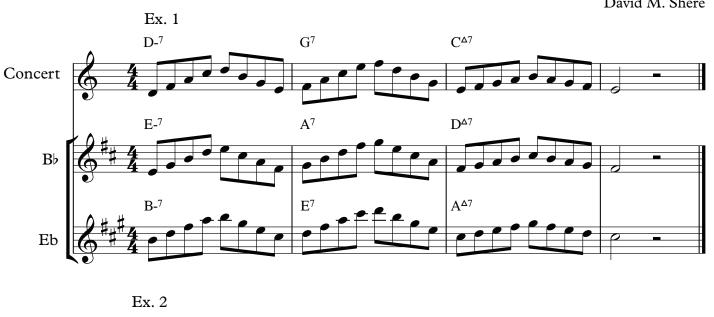


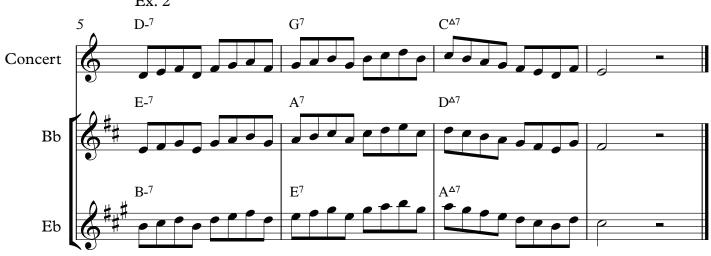
#### Ex. 4 Expanded ii-V sequence Descending ("falling 5ths")

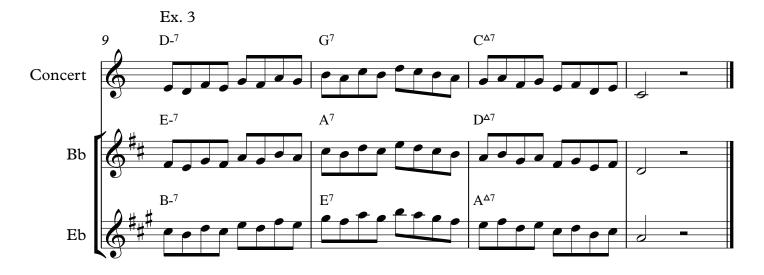




ii-V-I Examples







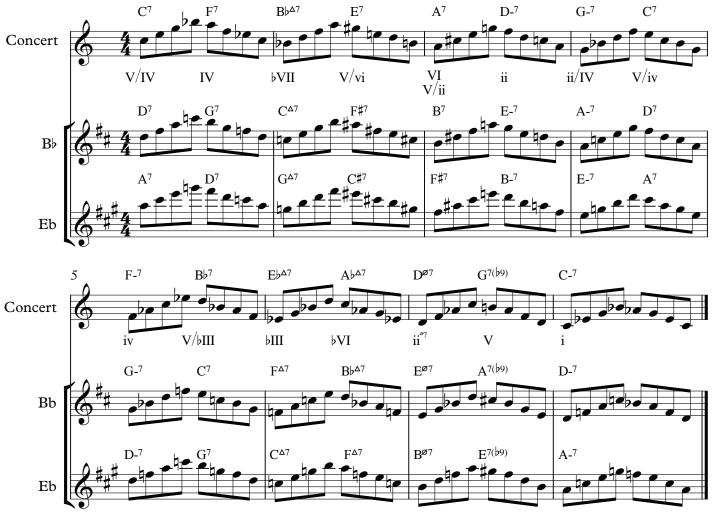
#### Class notes 11 appendix- all 12 keys





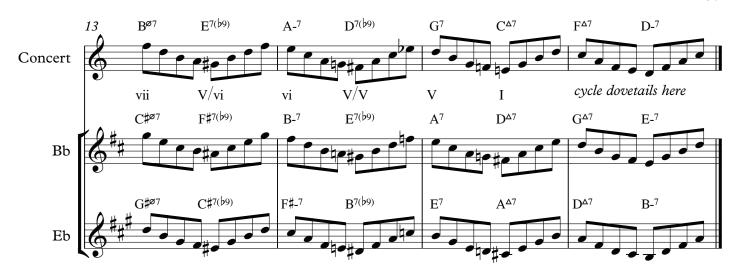


Ex. 1 Descending ii-V sequence More common chromatic alterations

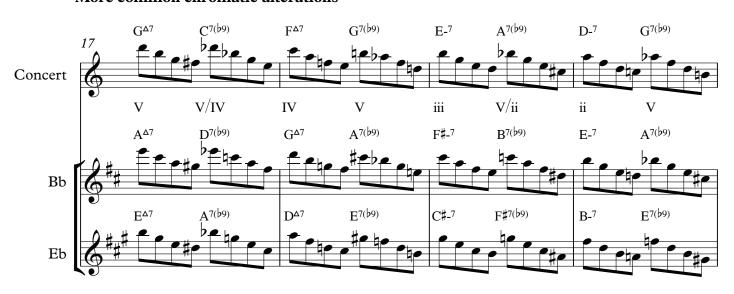


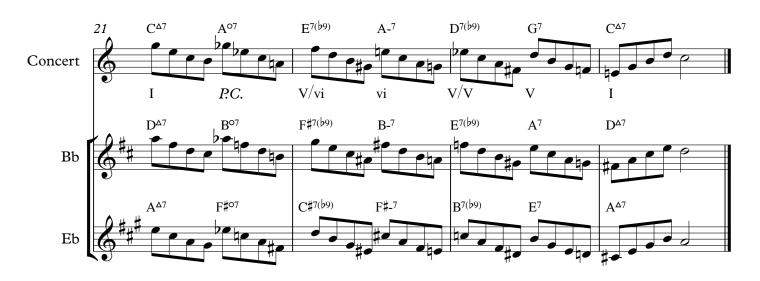
Ex. 2 Descending ii-V sequence More common chromatic alterations





Ex. 3 Descending ii-V sequence More common chromatic alterations

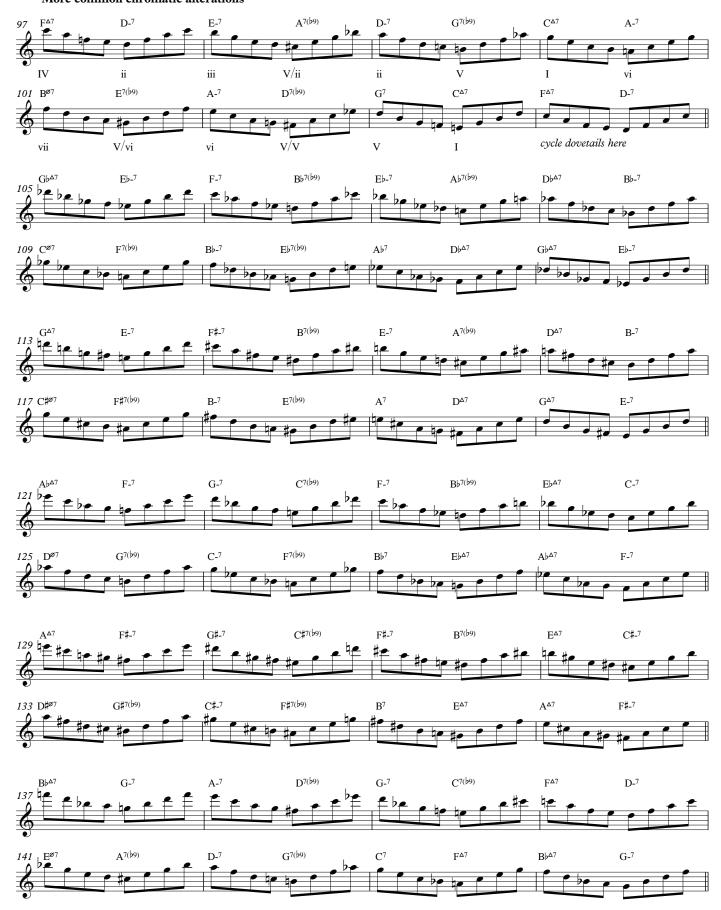


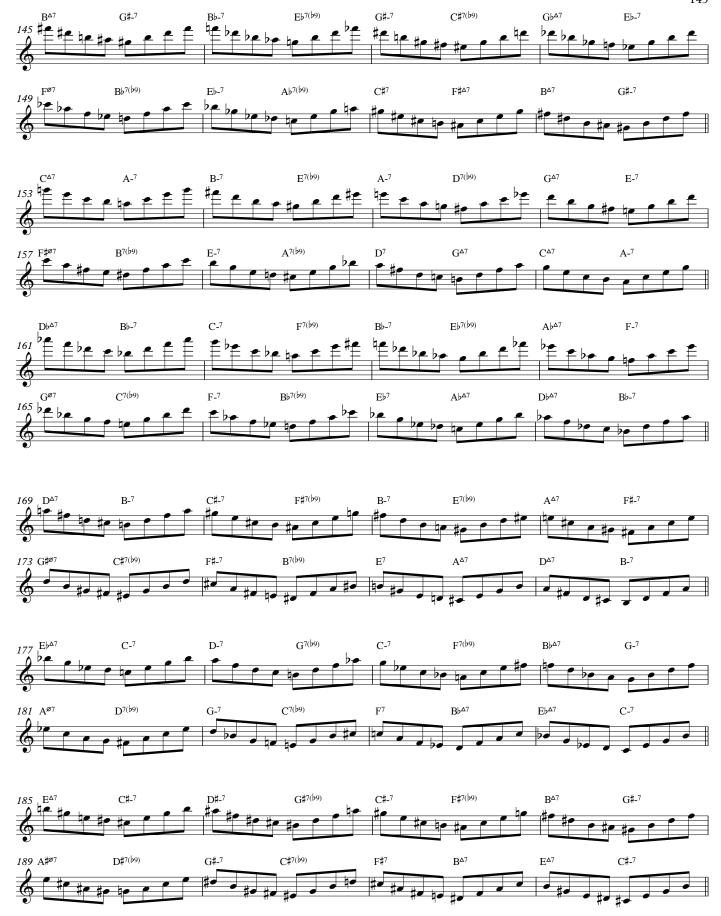


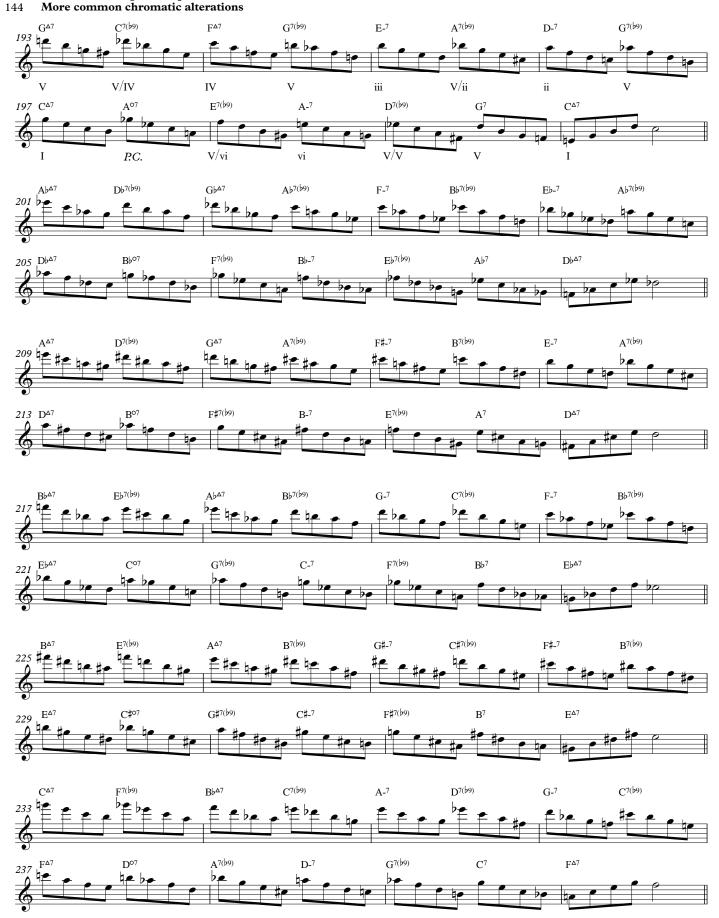
#### Class notes 12 appendix- all 12 keys

Ex. 1 Descending ii-V sequence David M. Shere More common chromatic alterations C<sup>7</sup> **B**♭Δ7 G-7 VI V/ii V/IVIV þVII  $V\!/vi$ ii/IV V/ivii Dø7  $G^{7(b9)}$ B♭<sup>7</sup> Ε♭Δ7 **A**♭△7 C-7 V/þIII ii<sup>e7</sup> þШ bVI **B**△7 **B**♭<sup>7</sup> E♭-7 D♭<sup>7</sup> C#-7 G#7(b9)  $B^7$ D#Ø7 C<sup>∆7</sup>  $\mathbf{B}^7$  $\mathbb{C}^7$ D-7 E♭-7  $Db^7$ G♭-7  $D^7$ G<sup>∆7</sup>  $C^{\Delta7}$ F#ø7  $\mathbf{B}^{7(b9)}$ E-7  $D^7$ G-7 C-7 C7(b9) Gø7 F-7 D♭△7



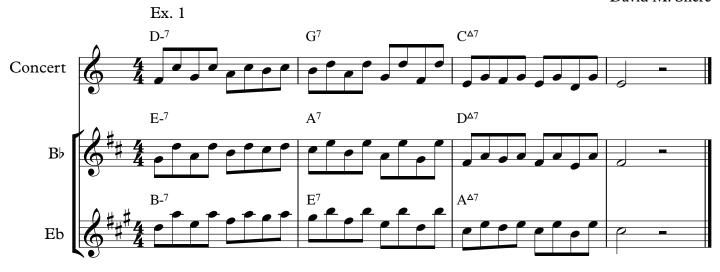


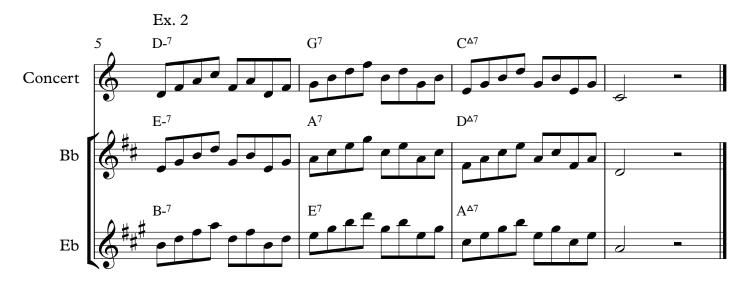


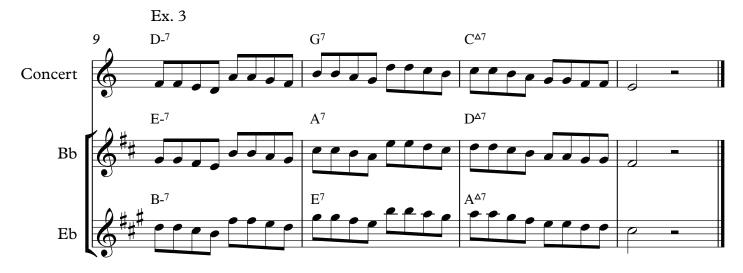




ii-V-I Examples Class notes 13







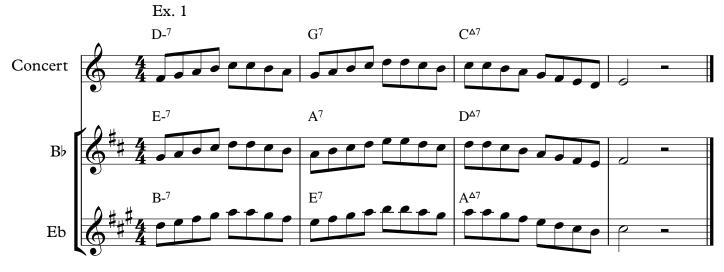
#### Class notes 13 appendix- all 12 keys

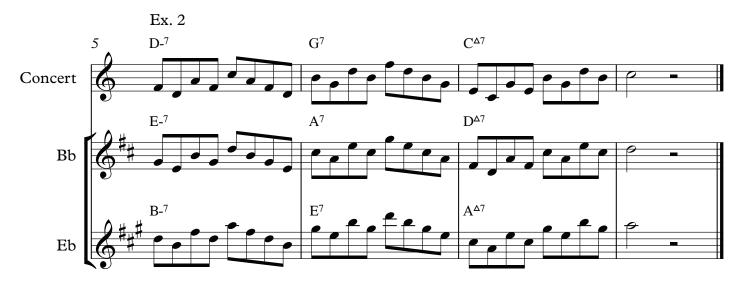


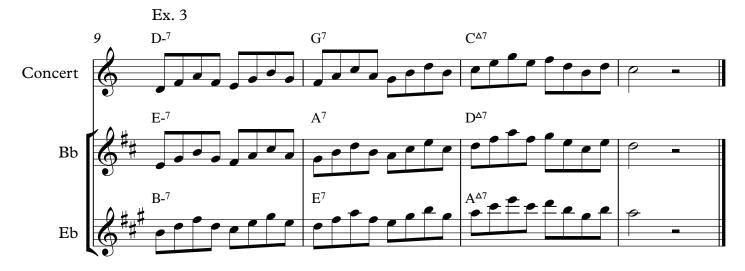




ii-V-I Examples







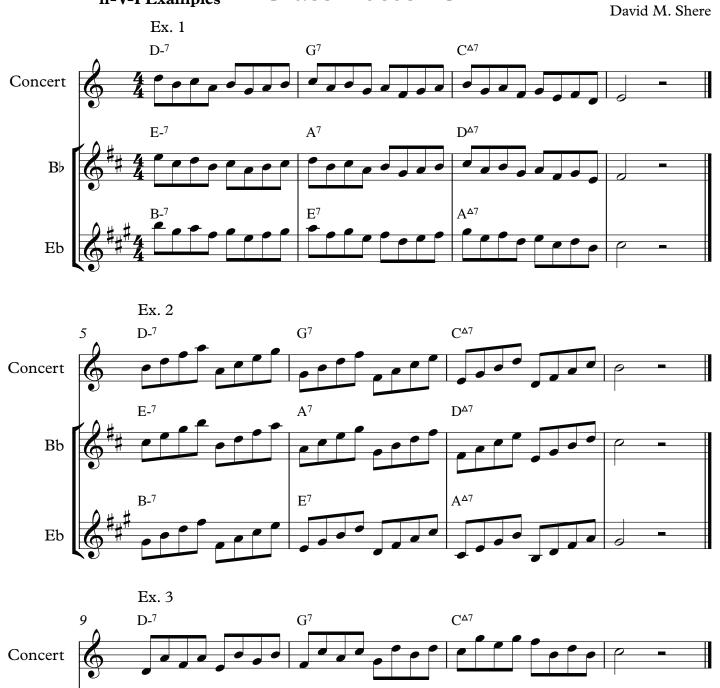
#### Class notes 14 appendix- all 12 keys

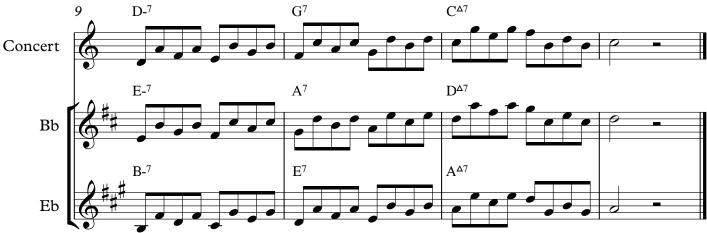






ii-V-I Examples





#### Class notes 15 appendix- all 12 keys







#### Minor ii-V-I Examples

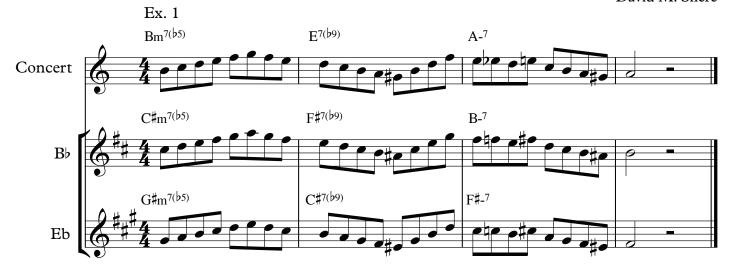


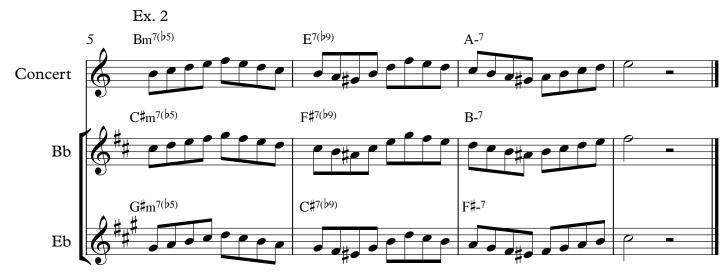
#### Class notes 16 appendix- all 12 keys

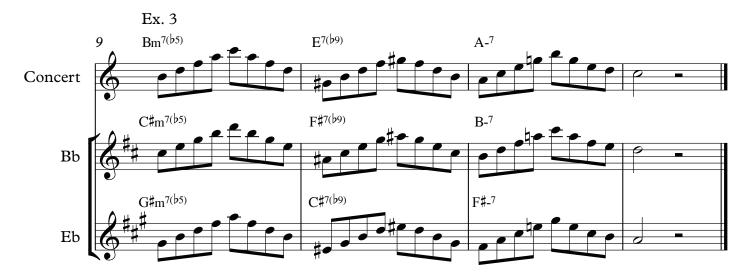




# Minor ii-V-I Examples Class notes 17







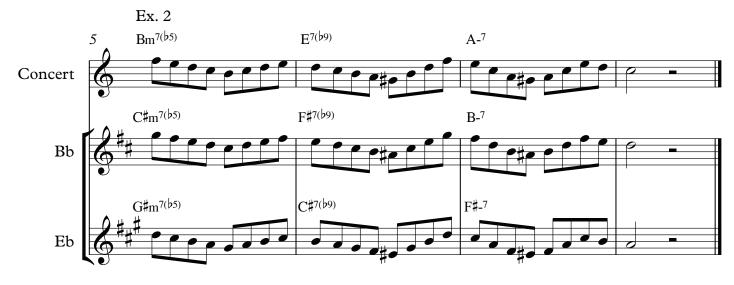
#### Jazz Improv II 2016 Class notes 17 appendix- all 12 keys

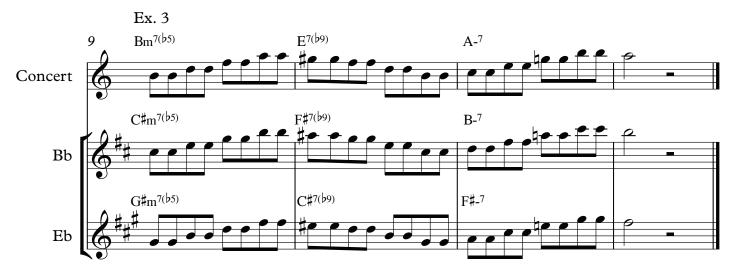




#### Minor ii-V-I Examples







#### Jazz Improv II 2016 Class notes 18 appendix- all 12 keys

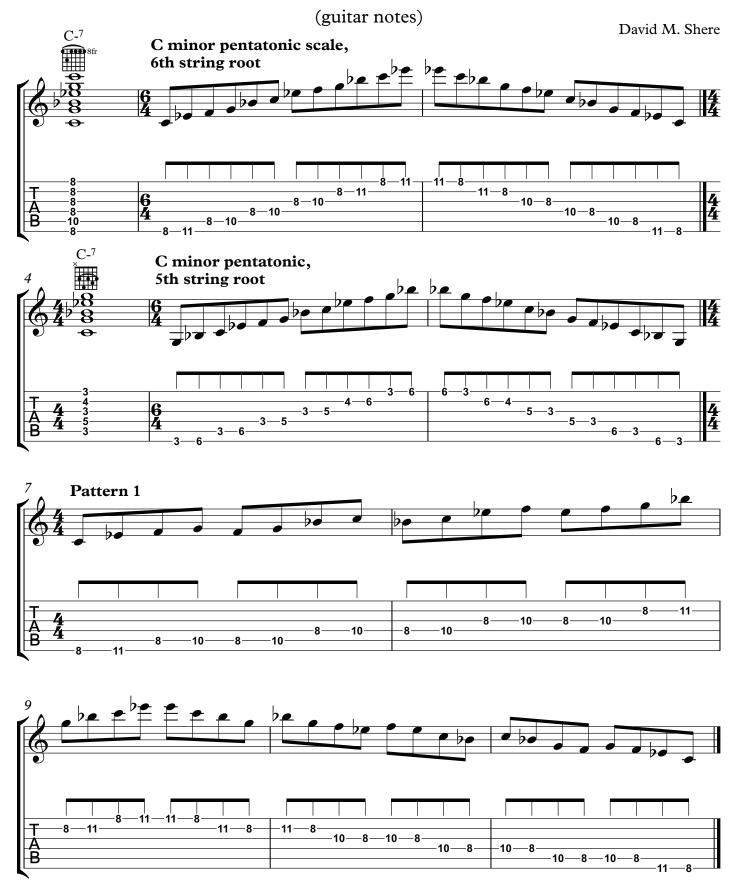
#### Minor ii-V-I Examples



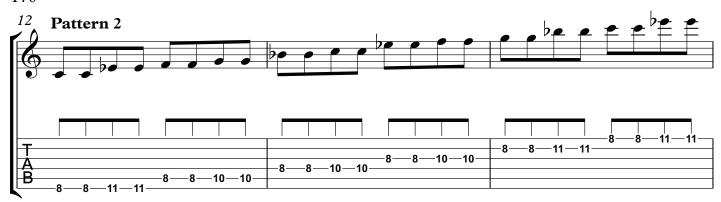


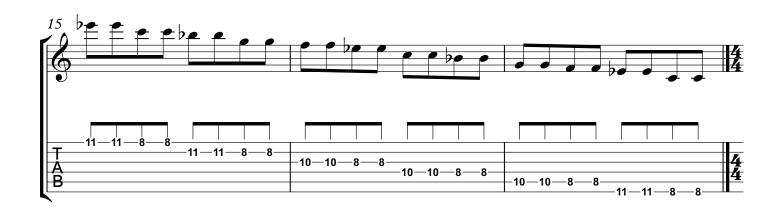


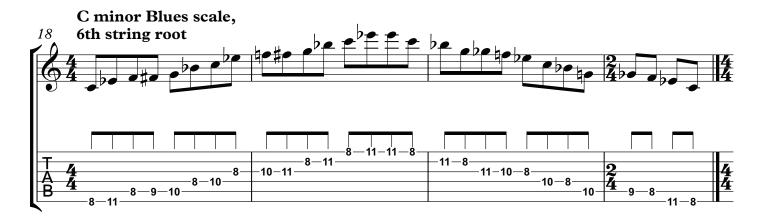
#### Jazz Improv II 2016 Class notes 19

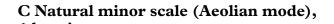


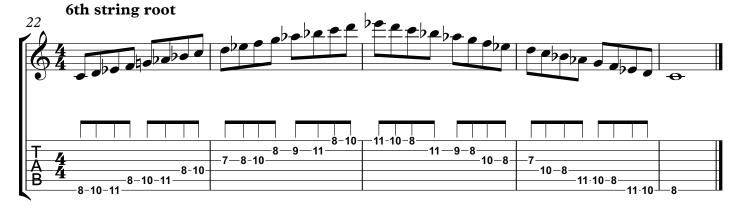


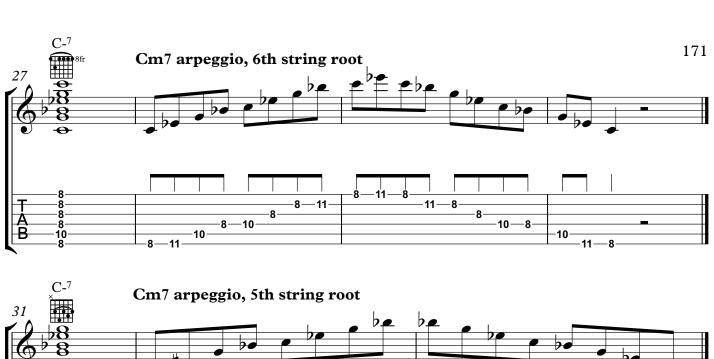


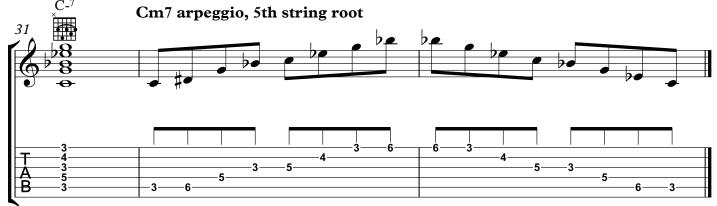


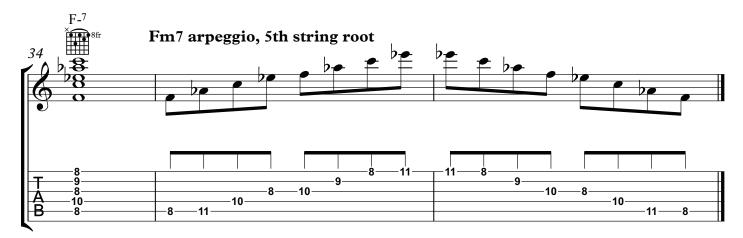


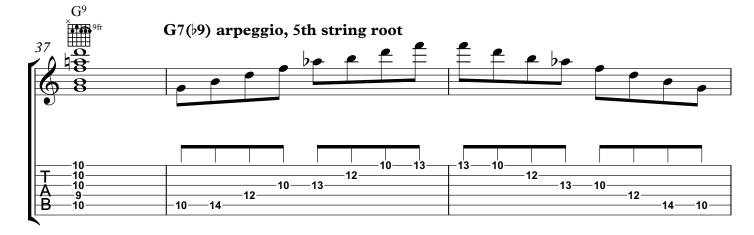


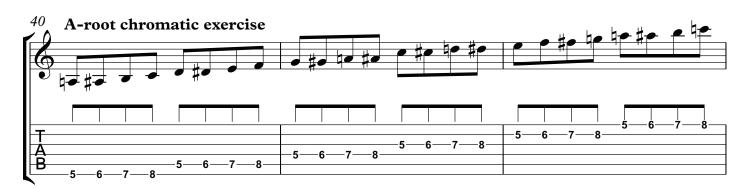


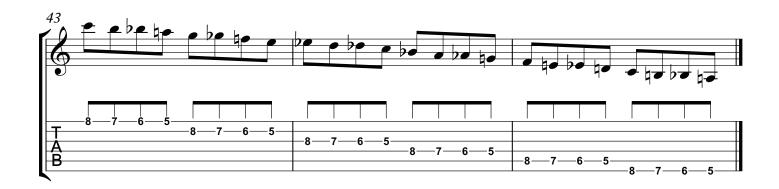


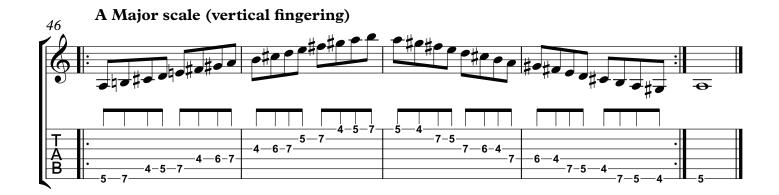


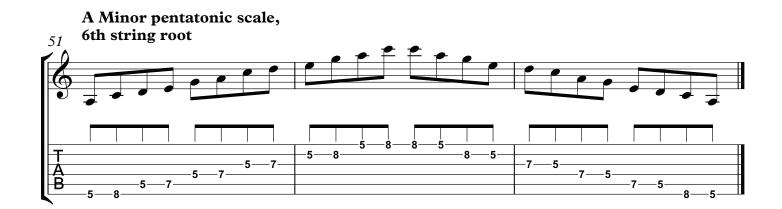






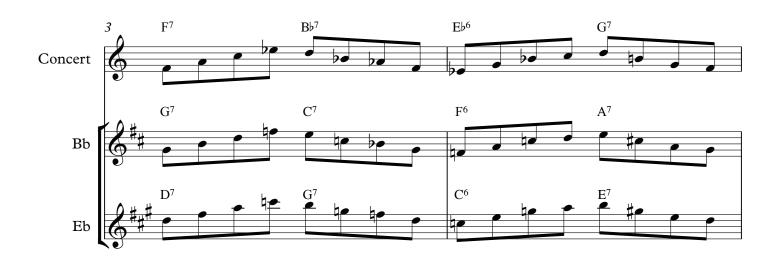




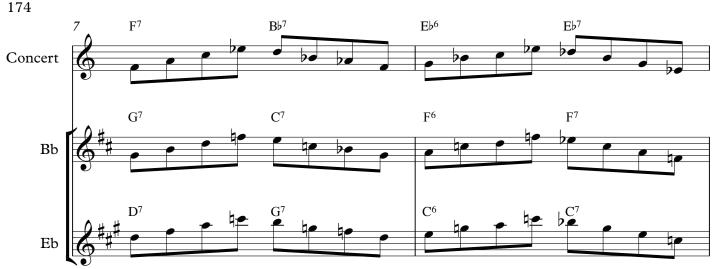


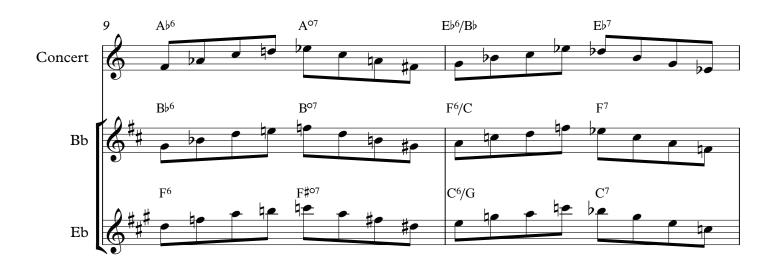
#### Jazz Improv II 2016 Class notes 20

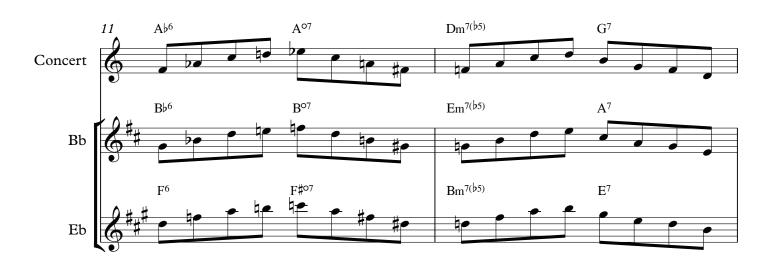


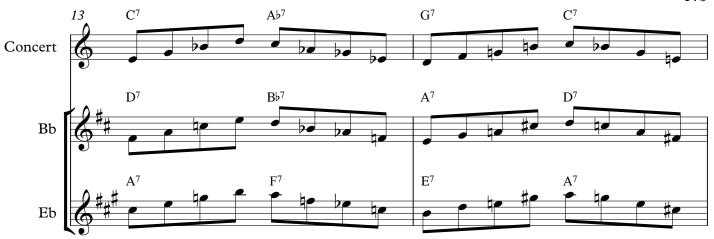


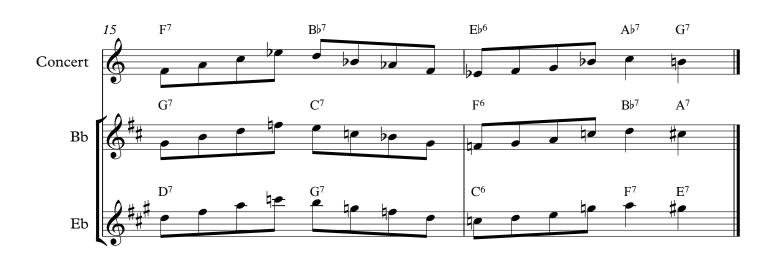












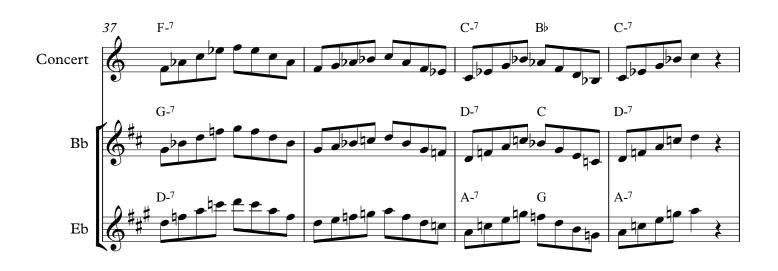


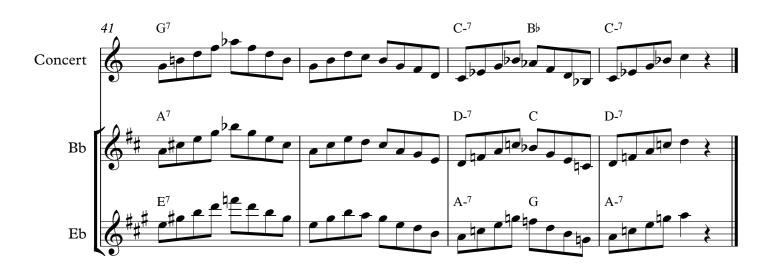










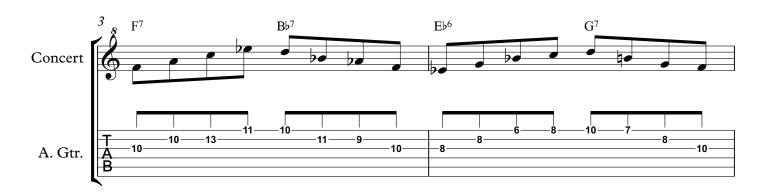


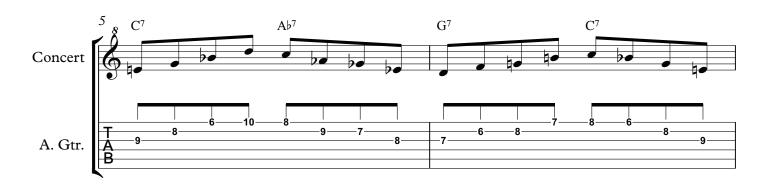
#### Jazz Improv II 2016 Class notes 20 (guitar)

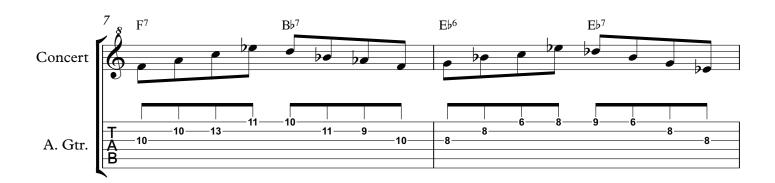
David M. Shere

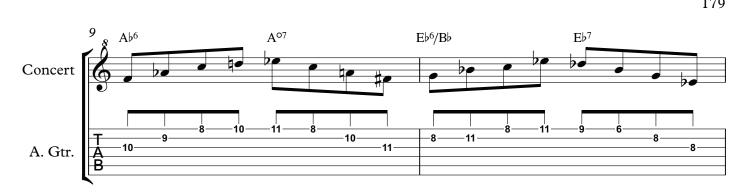


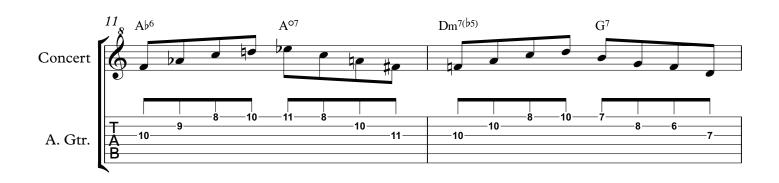
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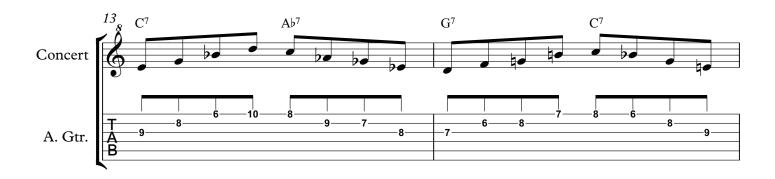


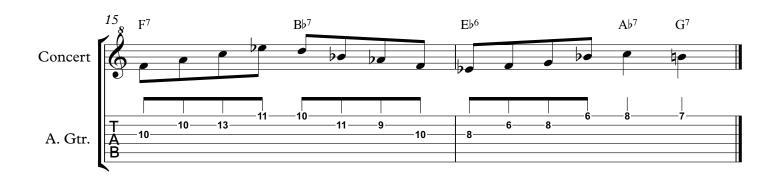


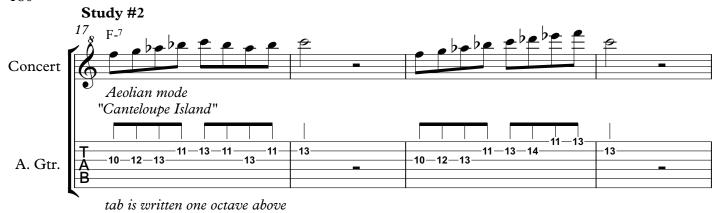


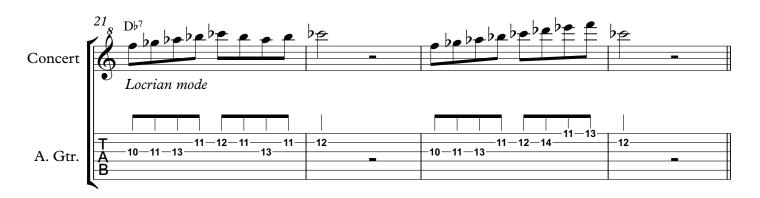


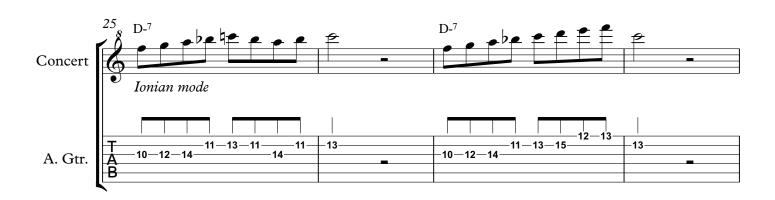


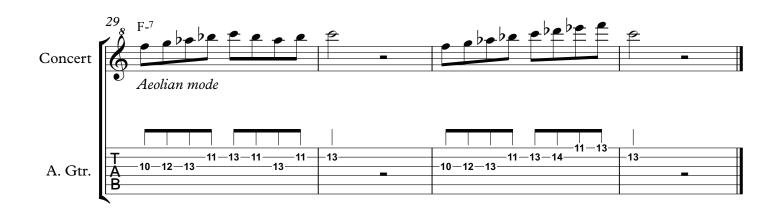


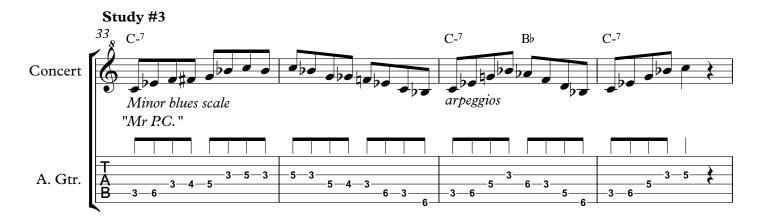


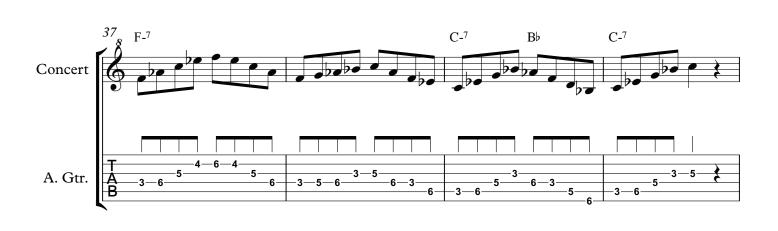


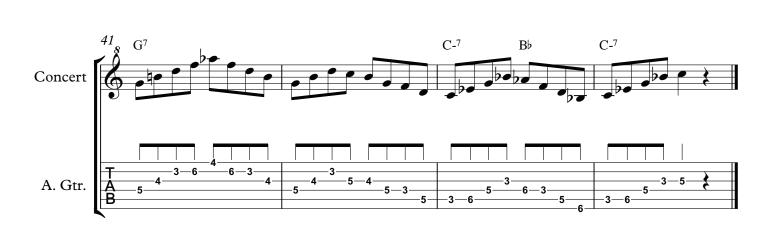






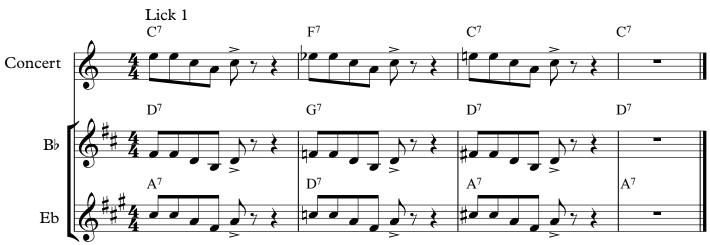






# Rock Band Theory 2015 Class notes

Blues solo templates (10/3/2015)







## 01. RB Theory Class Notes appendix- All 12 keys (10/3/15)







Blues solo templates II (10/10/2015)







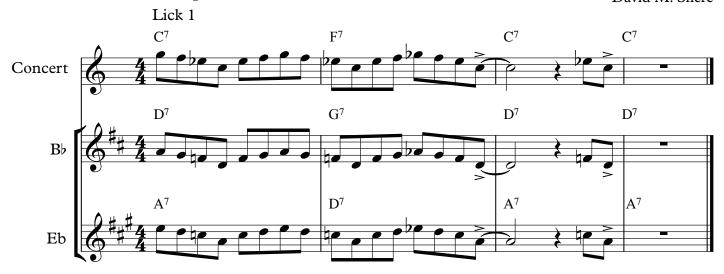
## 02. RB Theory Class Notes appendix- All 12 keys (10/10/15)

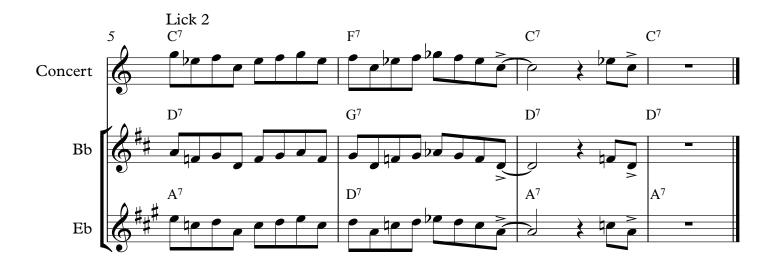


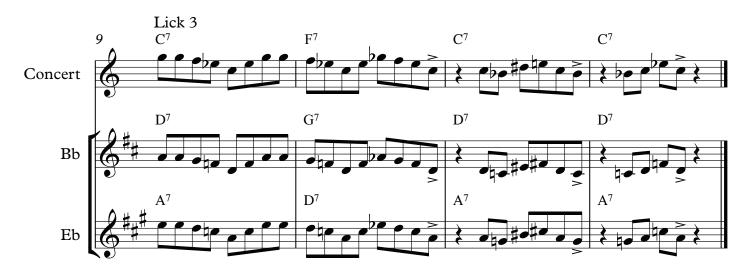




 $_{\text{Blues solo templates III}} \ \ (10/17/2015)$ 







## 03. RB Theory Class Notes appendix- All 12 keys (10/17/15)

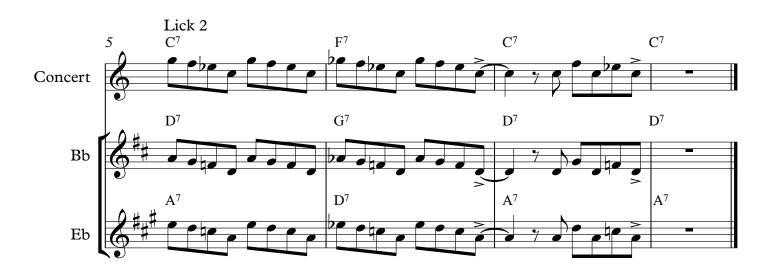


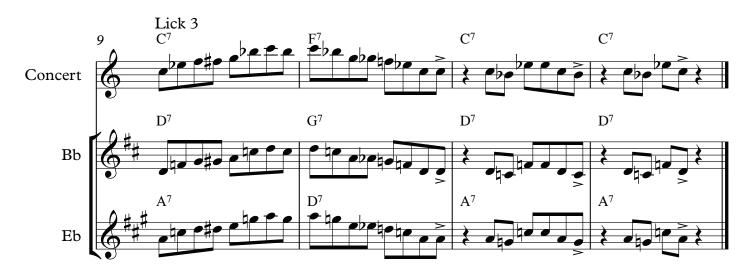




 $_{\text{Blues solo templates IV}} \quad (11/7/2015)$ 







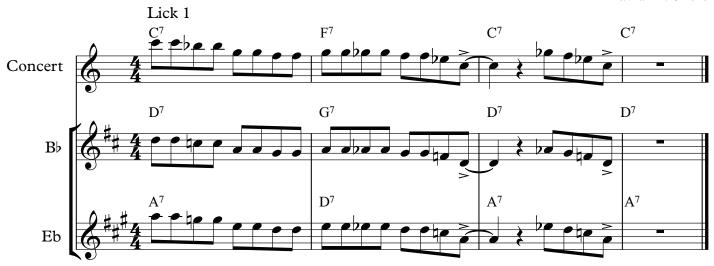
## 04. RB Theory Class Notes appendix- All 12 keys (11/7/15)

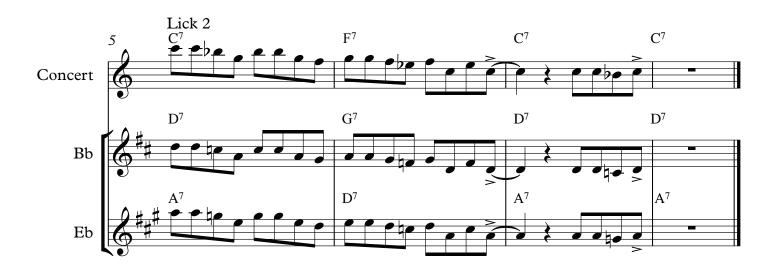


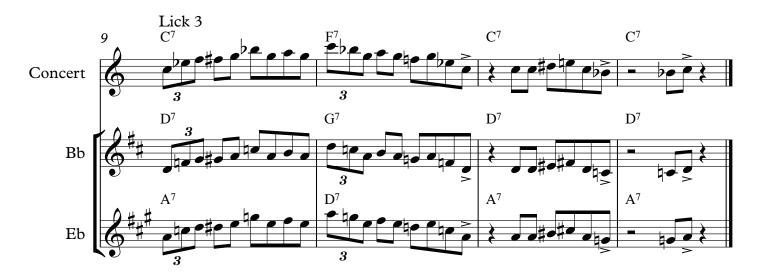




 $_{\text{Blues solo templates } V} \quad \left(11/14/2015\right)$ 







## 05. RB Theory Class Notes appendix- All 12 keys (11/14/15)

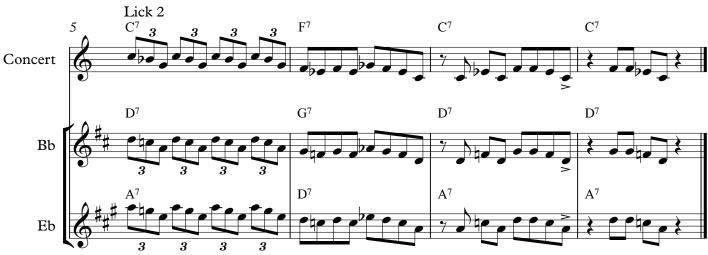






# 06. RB Theory Class Notes (12/12/2015)

(12/12/2015)Blues solo templates VI David M. Shere Lick 1  $\mathbb{C}^7$  $F^7$  $\mathbb{C}^7$  $\mathbb{C}^7$ Concert  $G^7$  $D^7$  $D^7$  $D^7$  $D^7$  $A^7$ Lick 2





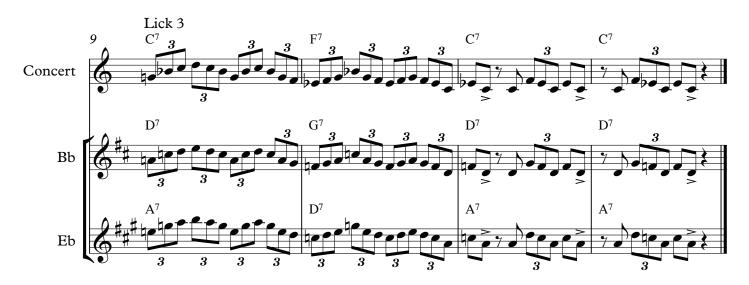
#### (12/12/15)







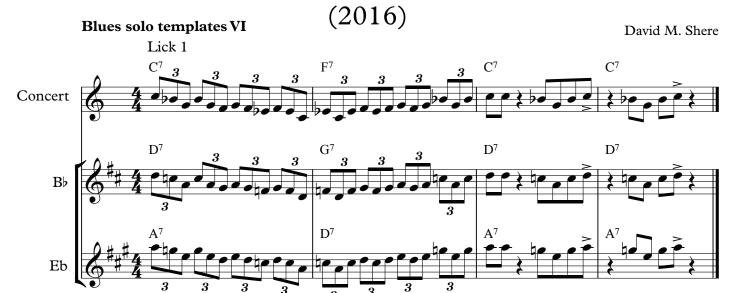




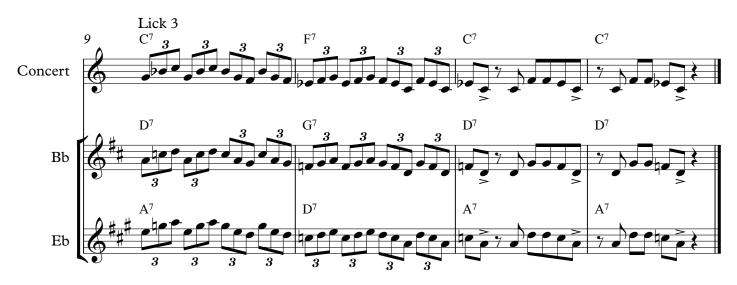






















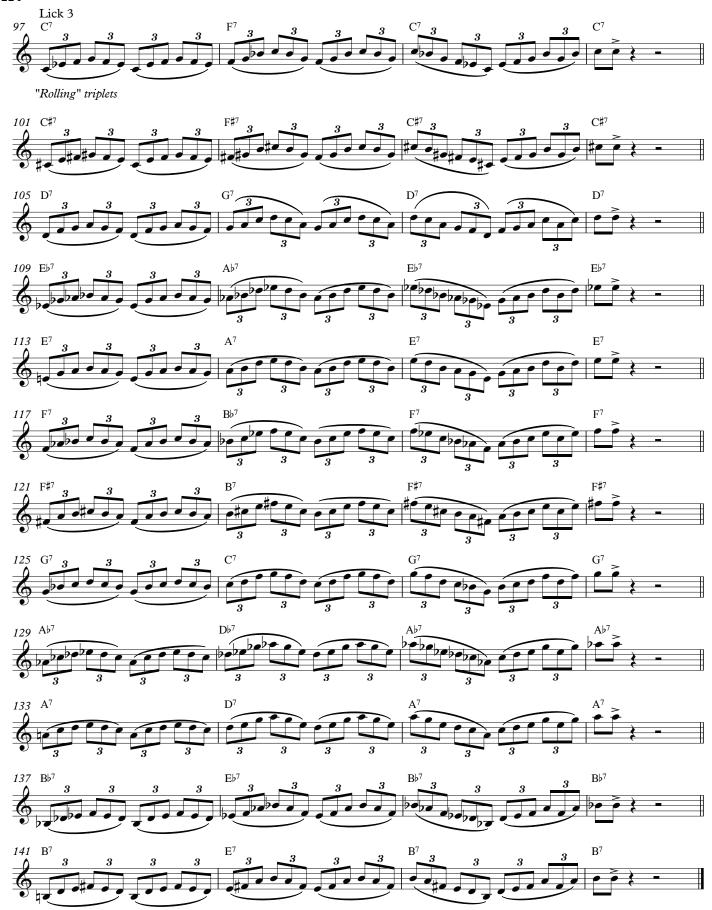






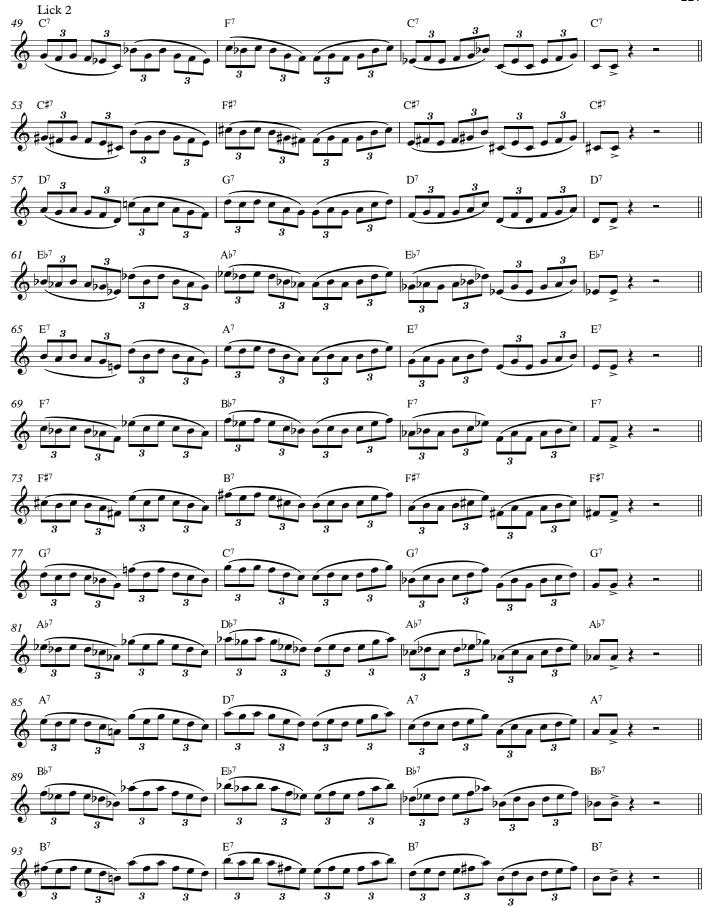








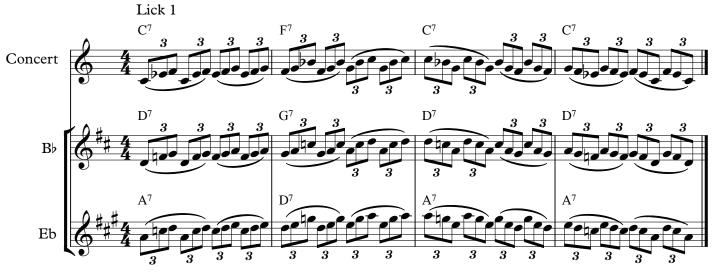


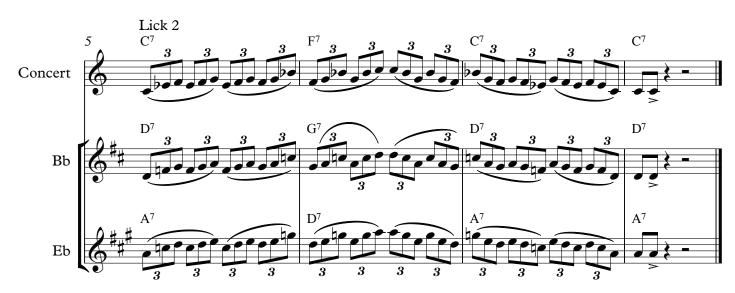


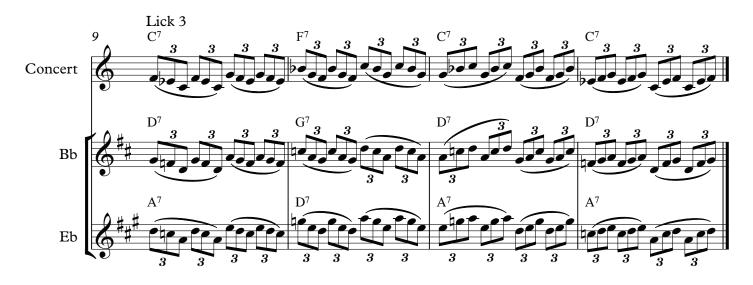


(2016)Blues solo templates Lick 1

David M. Shere







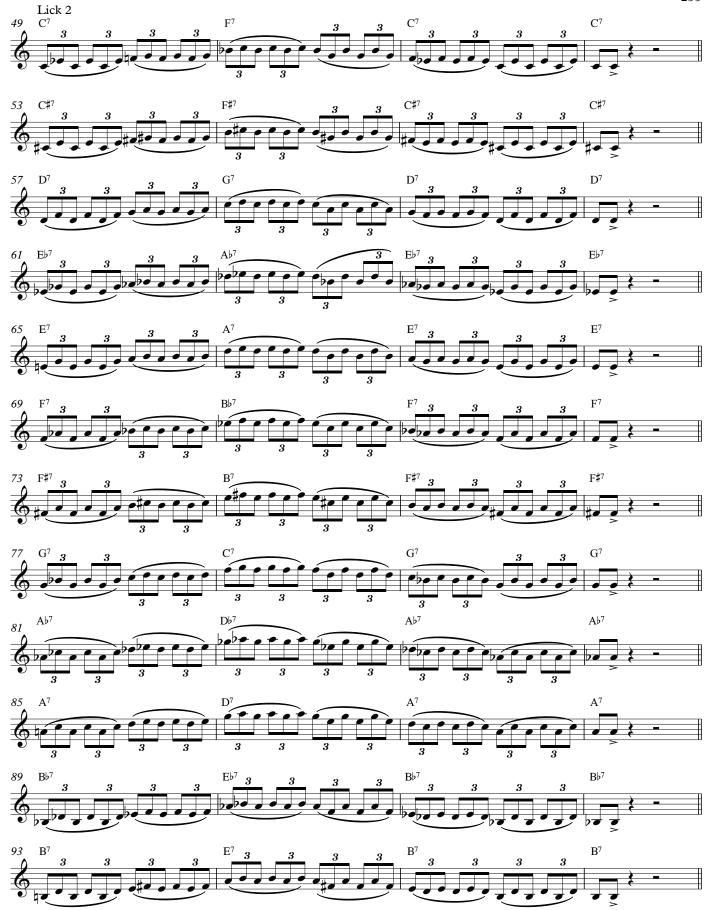








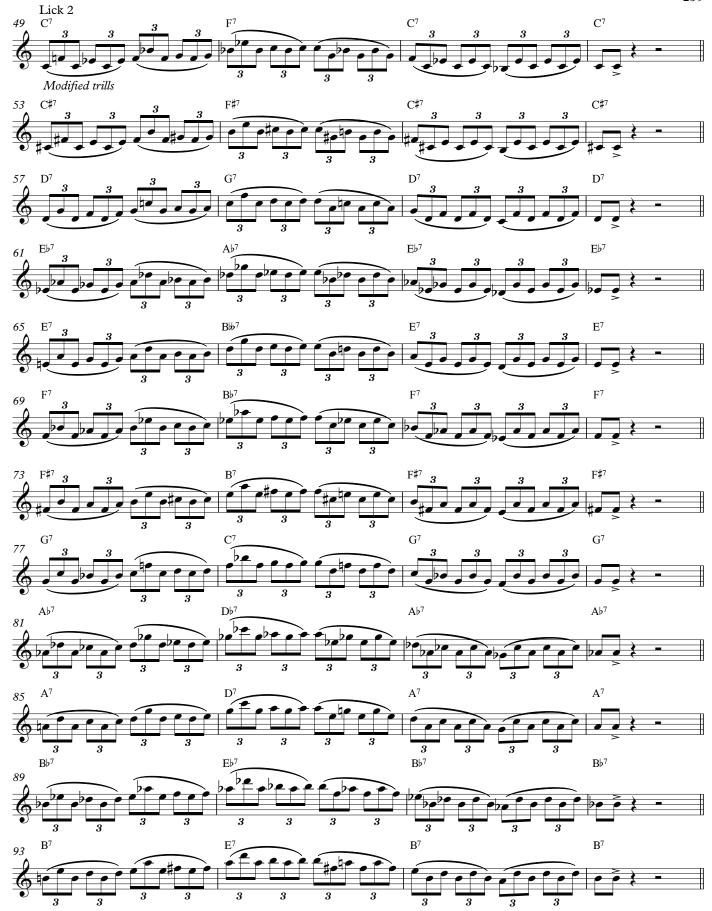
















(2016)









(2016)





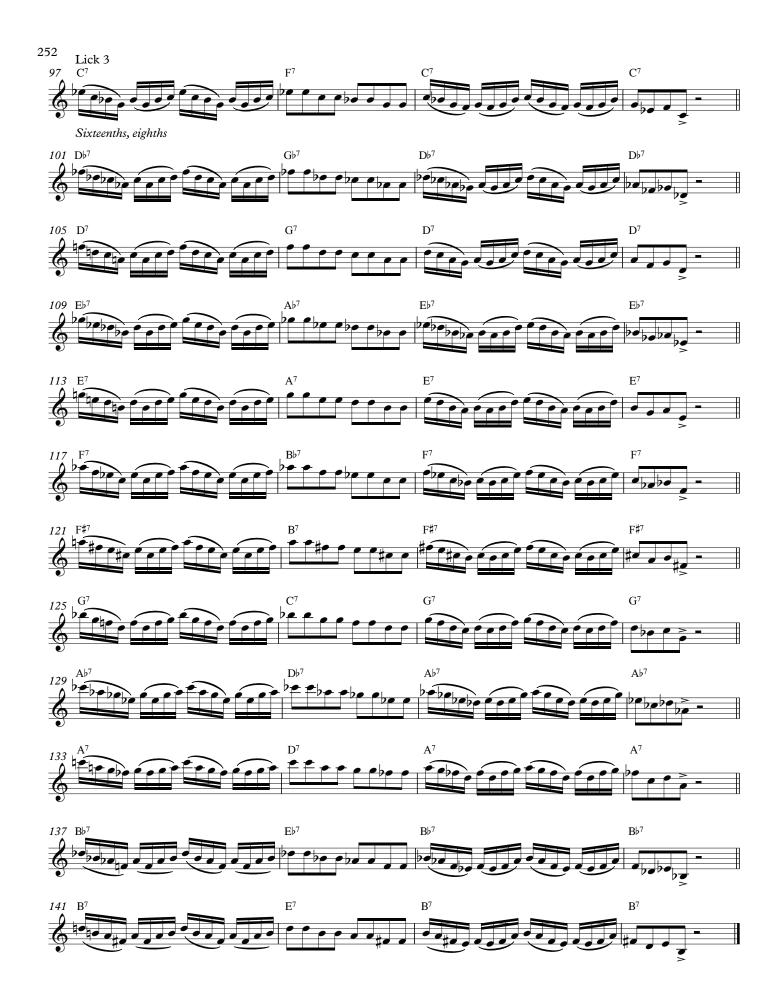




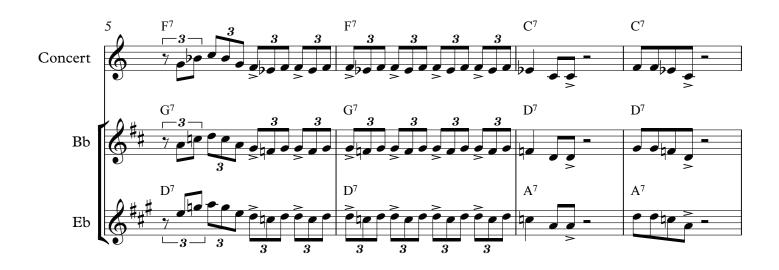
(2016)

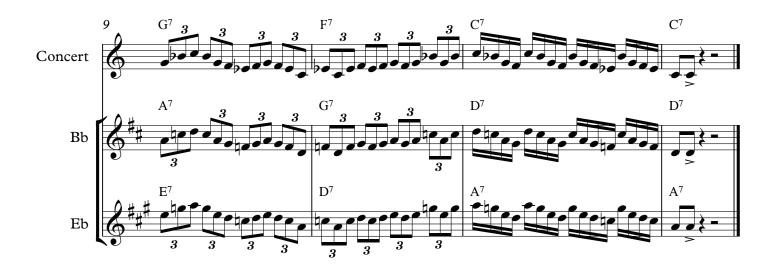










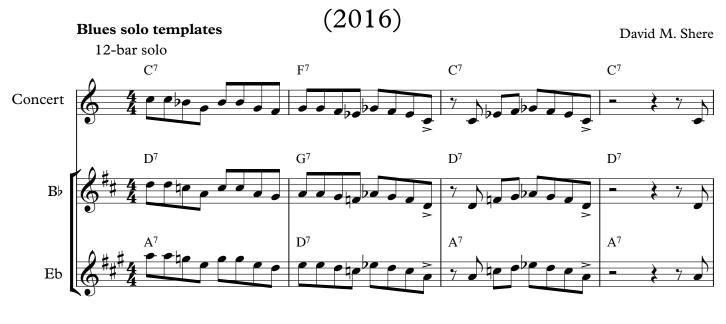


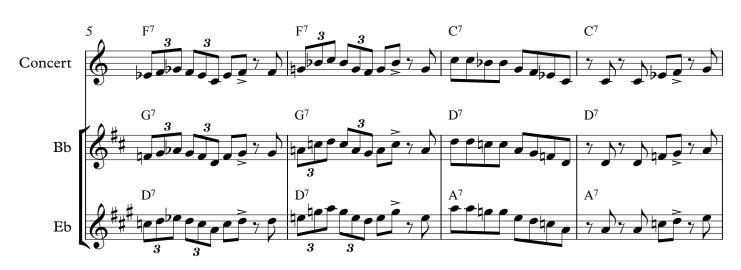


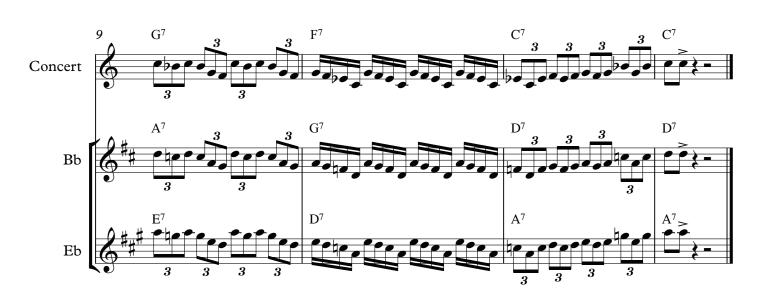




## 19. RB Theory Class Notes







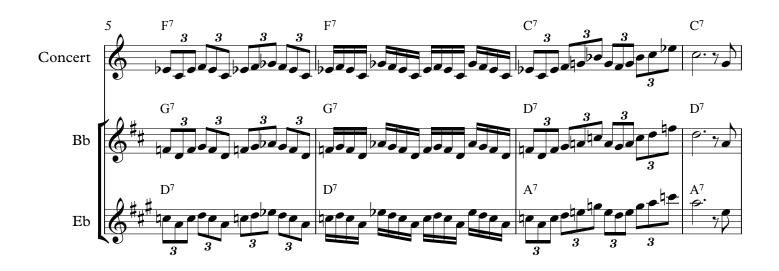












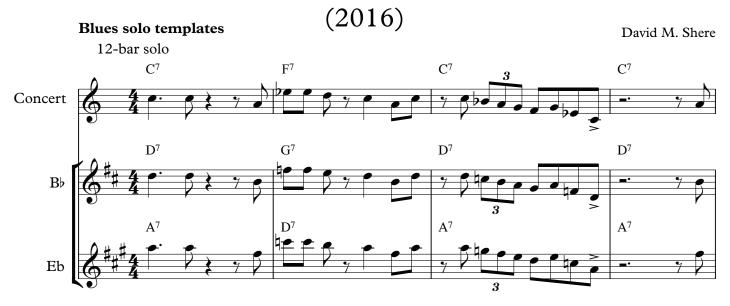








## 21. RB Theory Class Notes





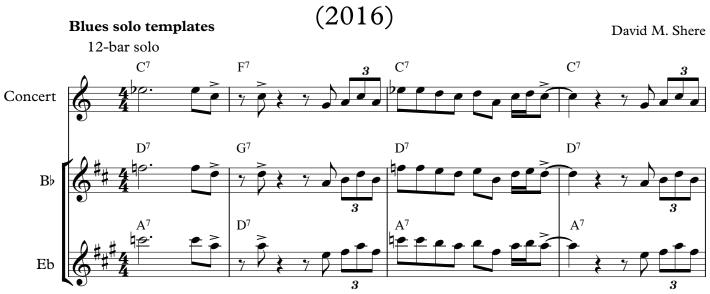
















## 270 (2016)Blues solo templates David M. Shere 12-bar solo G♭<sup>7</sup> 13 D♭<sup>7</sup> $\mathbf{D}\flat^7$ 25 $D^7$



141 F#7 E7 B7 3 3 B7 3