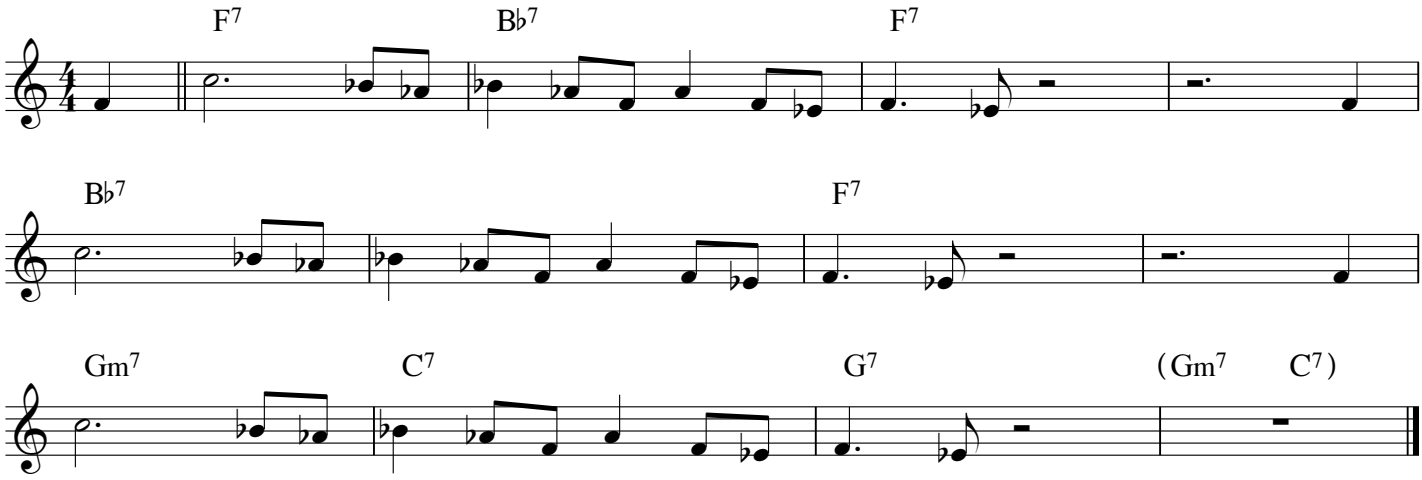
watch the tonebase lesson

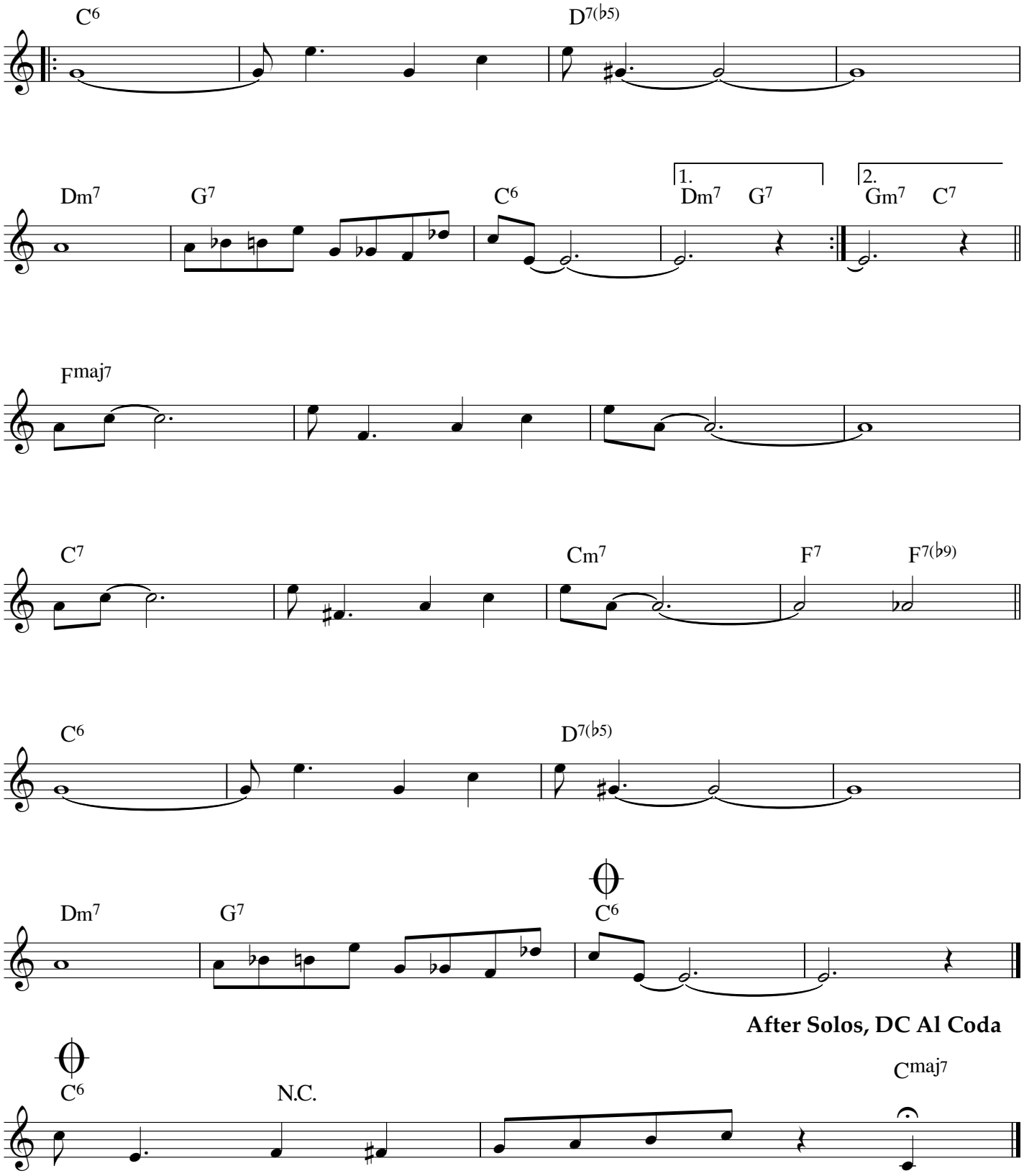
Bags Groove

Milt Jackson



Take the "A" Train

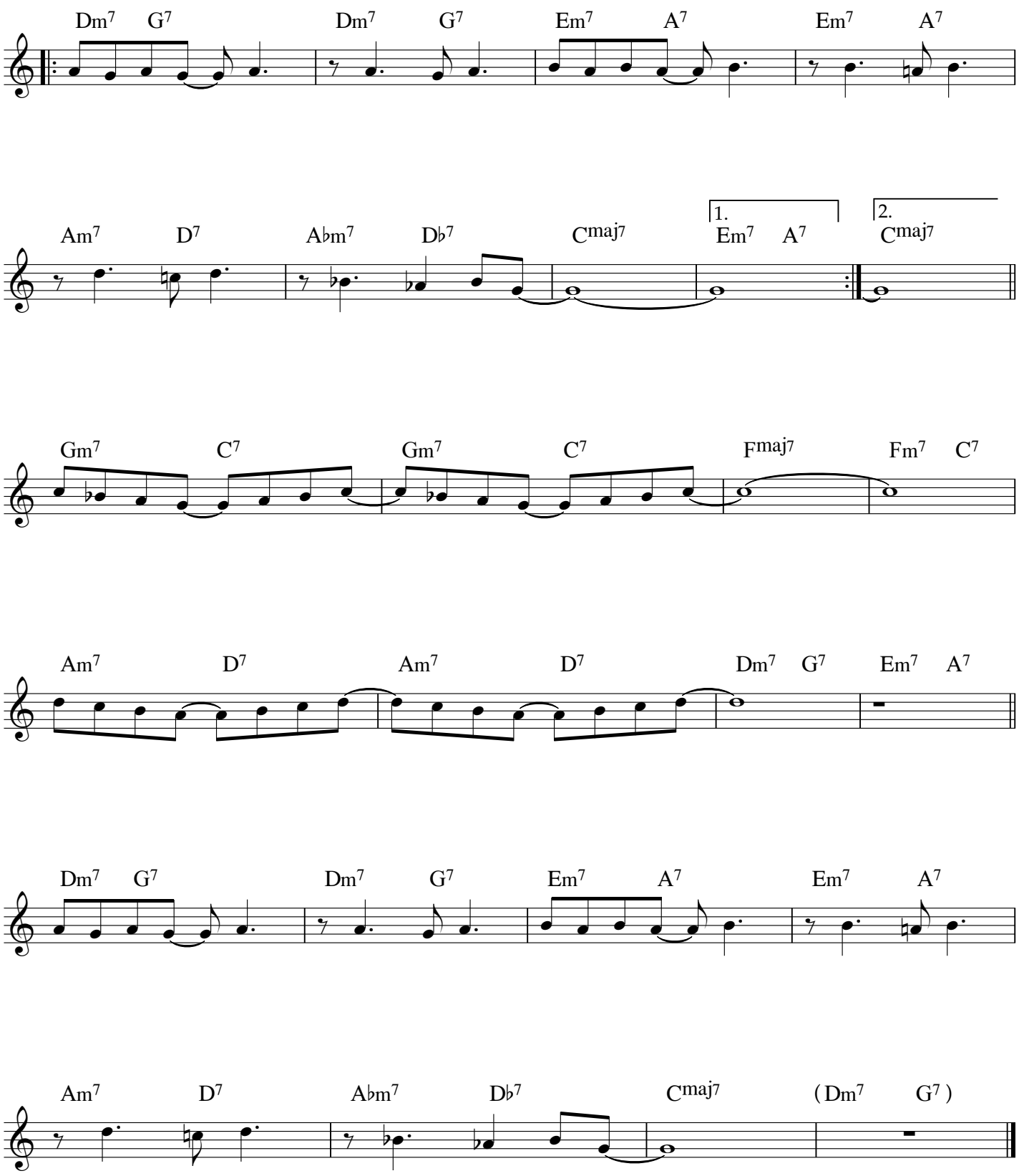
Billy Strayhorn



EDITIONS

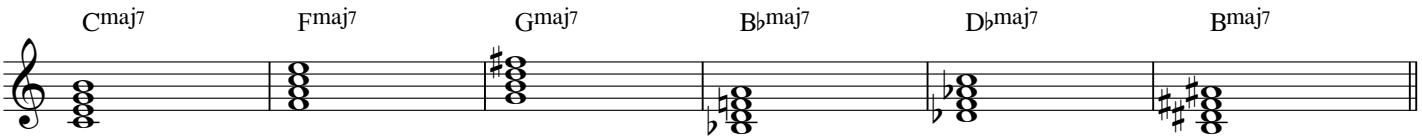
Satin Doll

Duke Ellington

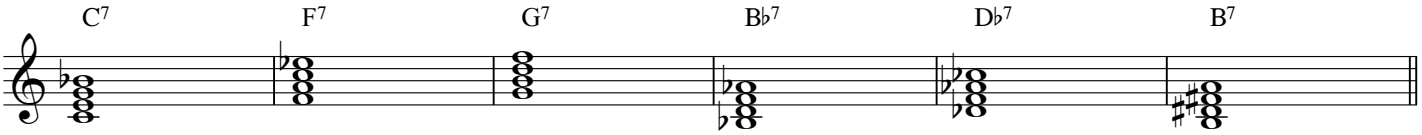


Three Chord Types and ii–V–Is (Treble Clef)

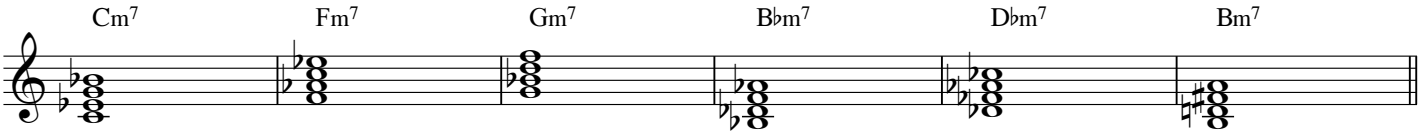
Major Chords



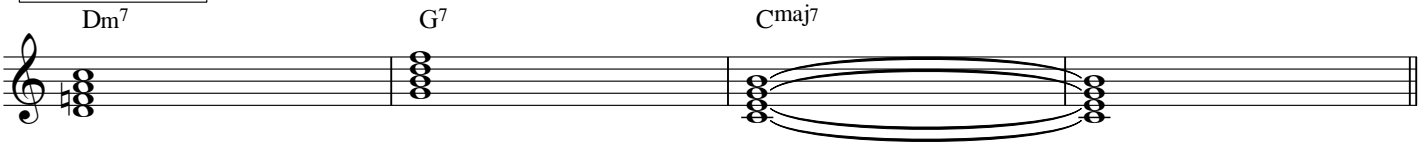
Dominant Chords



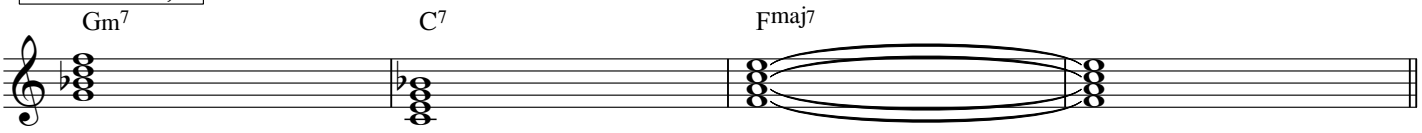
Minor Chords



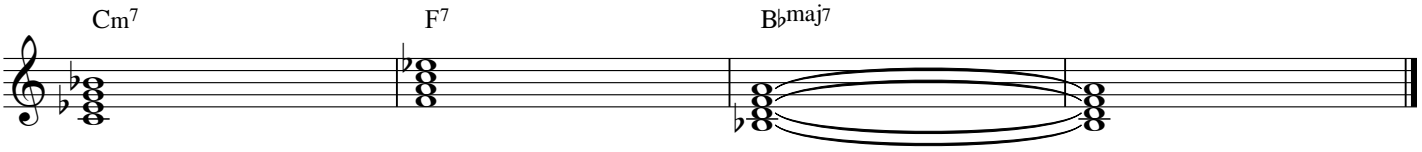
ii-V-I in C Major

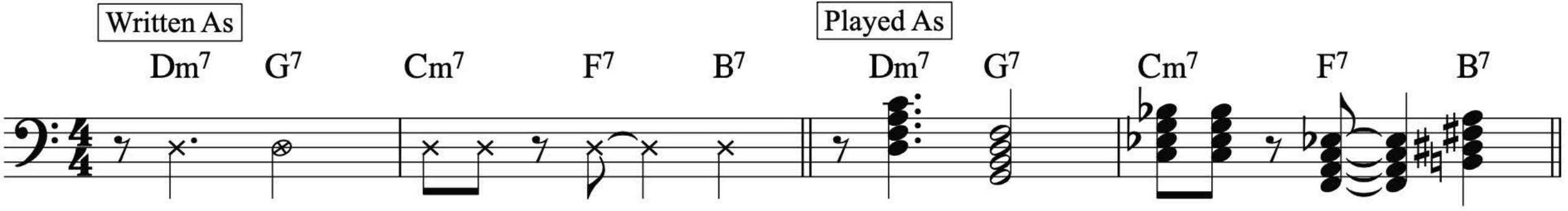


ii-V-I in F Major

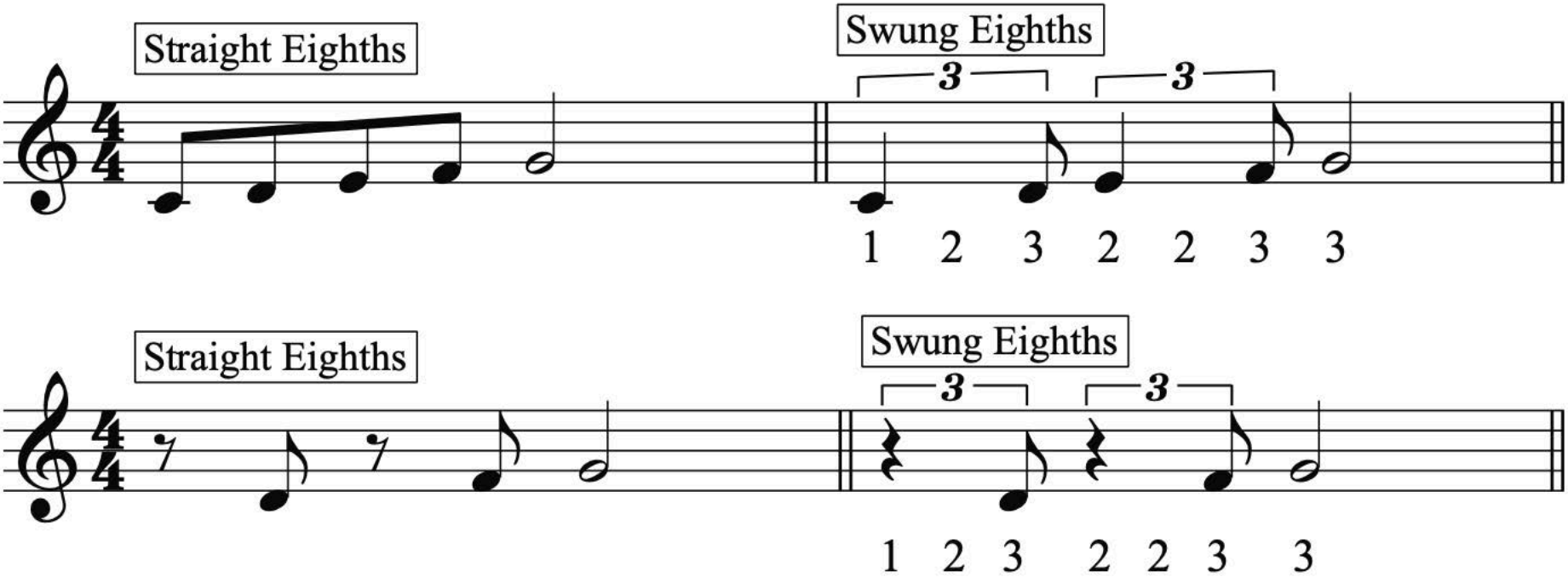


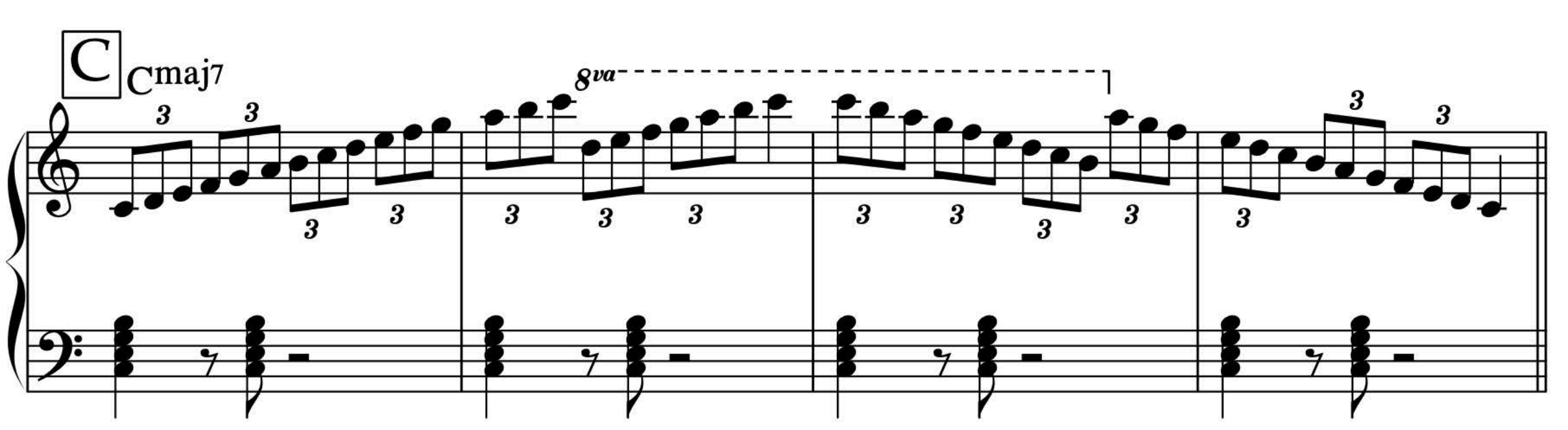
ii-V-I in B-flat Major

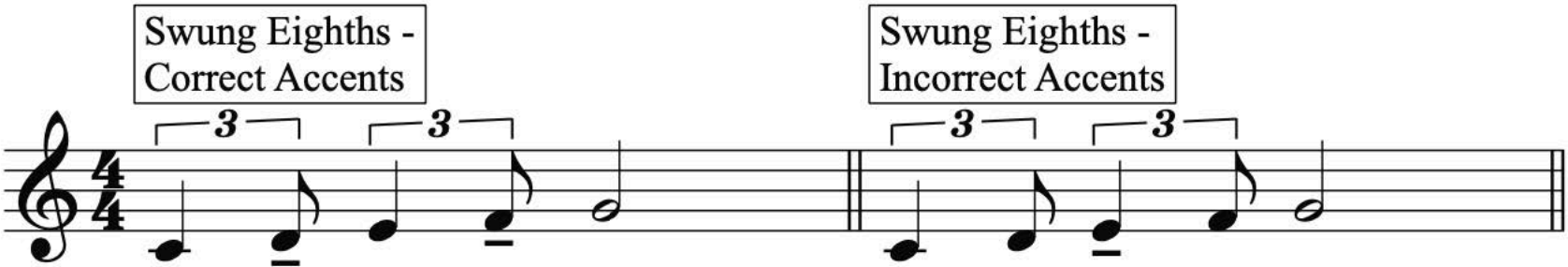


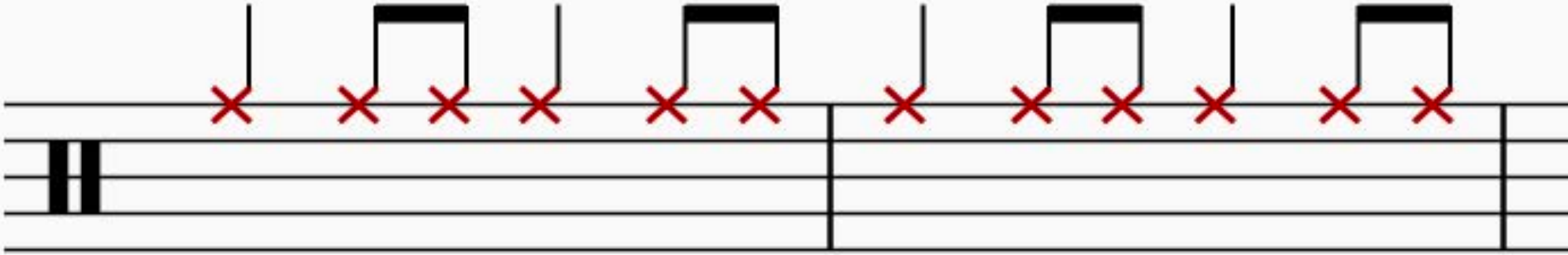

Written As
Dm7
G7
Cm7
F7
B7
Played As
Dm7
G7
Cm7
F7
B7

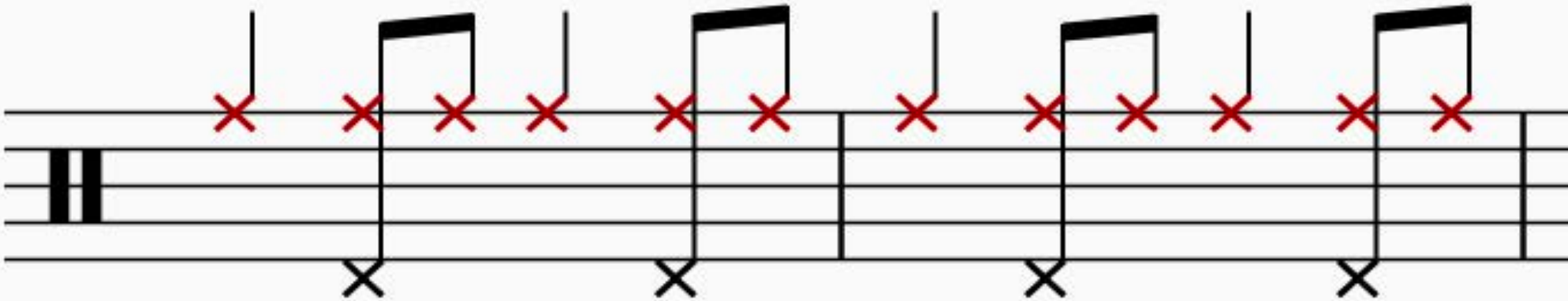
Cmaj7

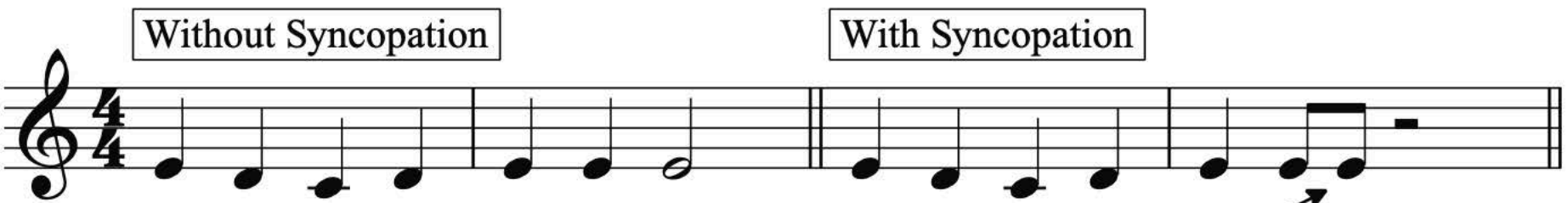

Straight Eighths
Swung Eighths
3
3
1 2 3 2 2 3 3
Straight Eighths
Swung Eighths
3
3
1 2 3 2 2 3 3

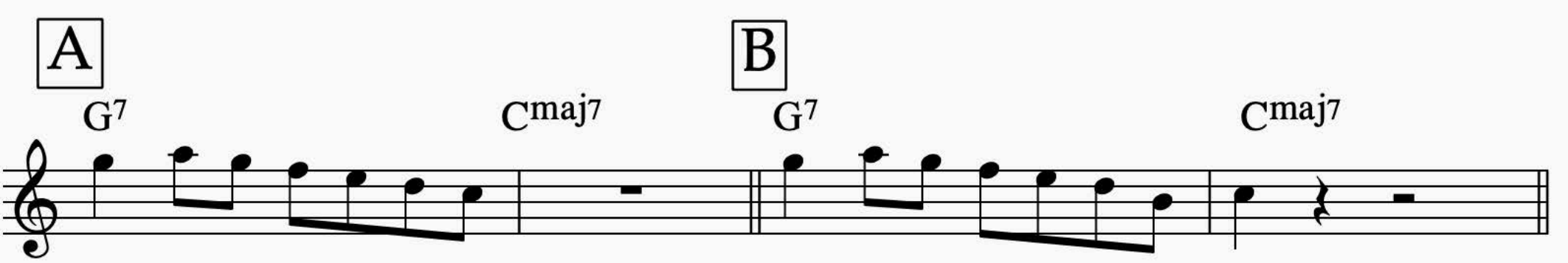

C
Cmaj7
8va

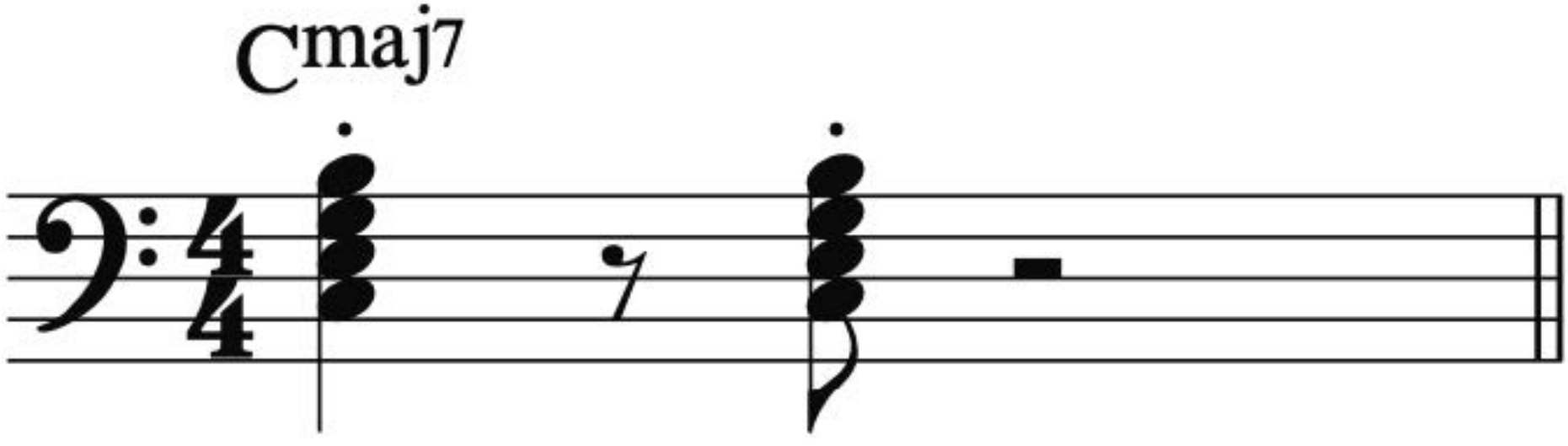

Swung Eighths -
Correct Accents
3
3
Swung Eighths -
Incorrect Accents
3
3
"doo - VAH doo - VAH doo"

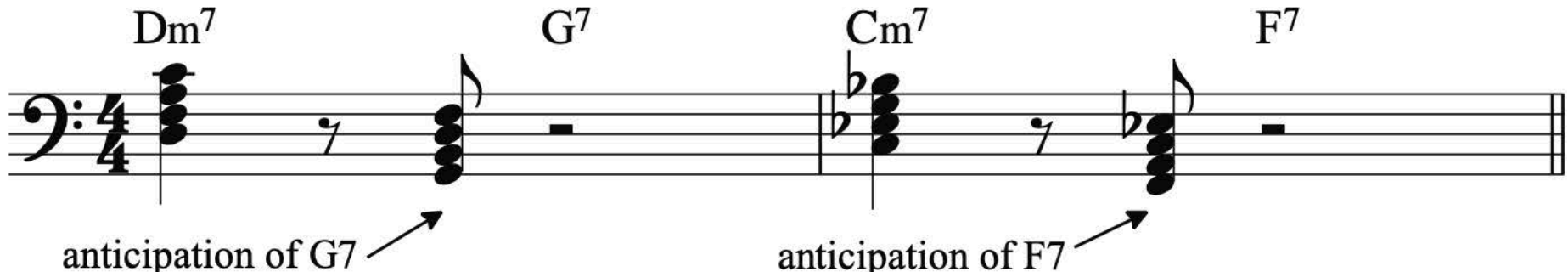


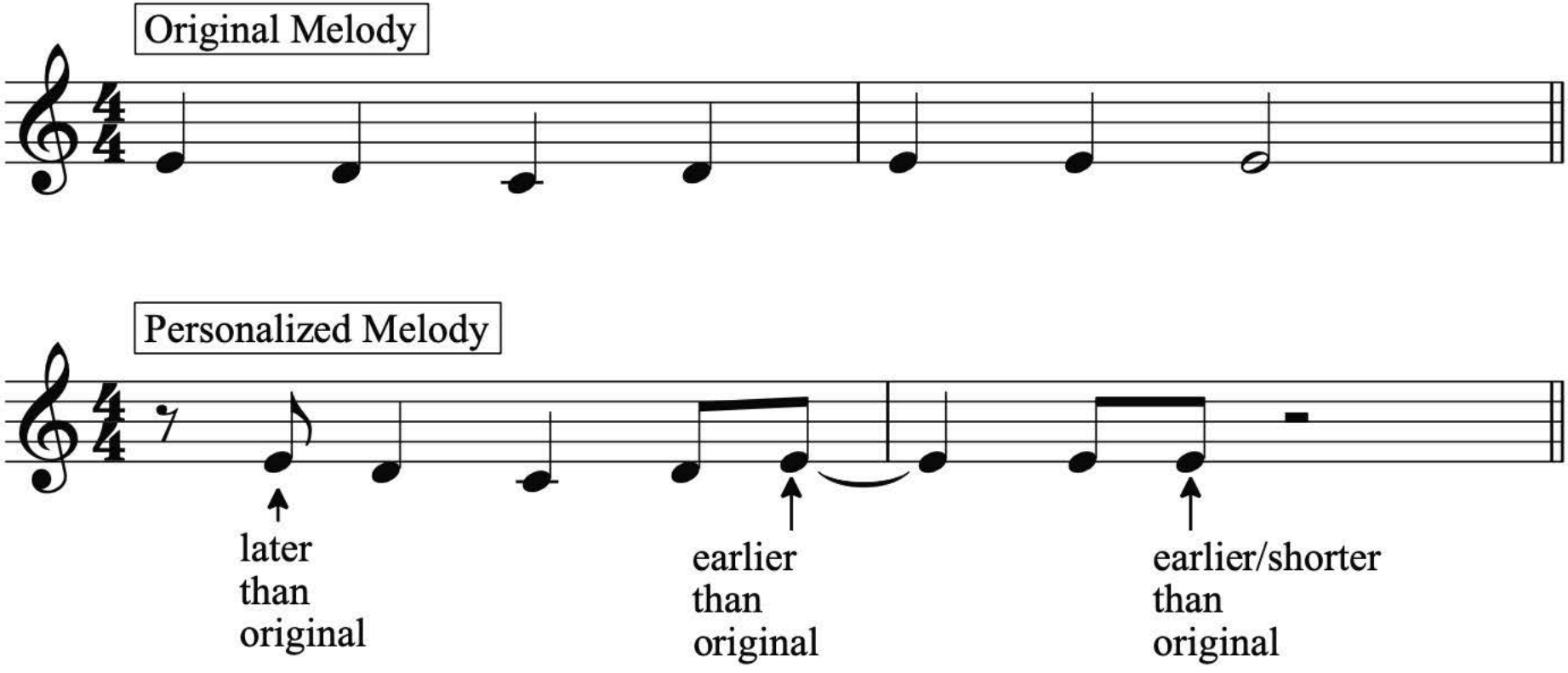



Without Syncopation
With Syncopation
last note of phrase is anticipated


A
G7
Cmaj7
B
G7
Cmaj7


Cmaj7


Dm7
G7
Cm7
F7
anticipation of G7
anticipation of F7


Original Melody
Personalized Melody
later
than
original
earlier
than
original
earlier/shorter
than
original

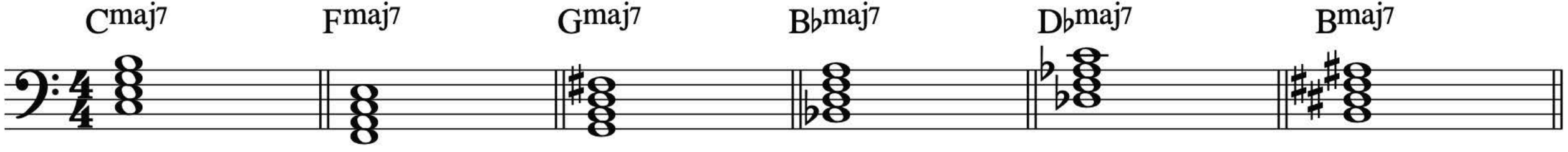
1. Major Seventh Chord

Possible Chord Symbols Using C as the Root: $Cmaj^7$, $C^{\Delta 7}$

Three Ways to Find It:

- Select the first, third, fifth, and seventh notes of the major scale based on the root of the chord.
- Combine a major triad based on the root with a major seventh. The major seventh is the note one half step below the root.
- Stack intervals starting from the root. First, use a major third, then add a minor third, then another major third.

Sound: Bright but with a little more nostalgia than a simple major triad



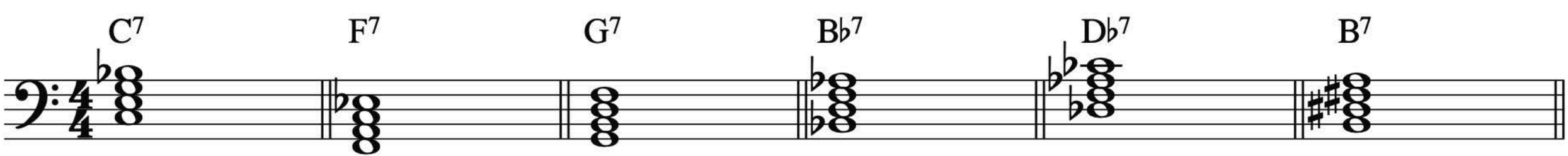
2. Dominant Seventh Chord

Possible Chord Symbols Using C as the Root: C^7

Three Ways to Find It:

- Starting with a major seventh chord based on the root, lower the seventh by a half step.
- Combine a major triad based on the root with a minor seventh. The minor seventh is the note two half steps below the root.
- Stack intervals starting from the root. First stack a major third, then add a minor third, then another minor third.

Sound: Tense, like it wants to resolve. Familiar to those with classical experience.



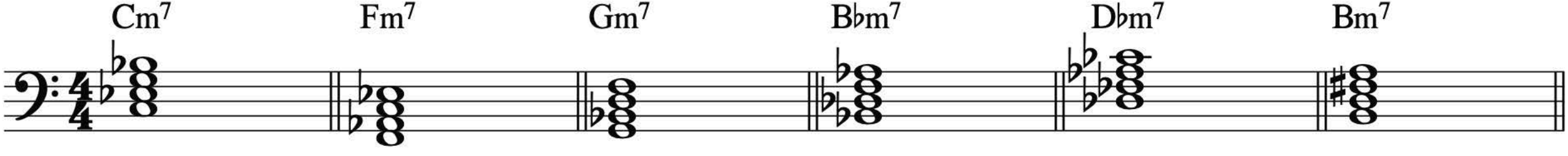
3. Minor Seventh Chord

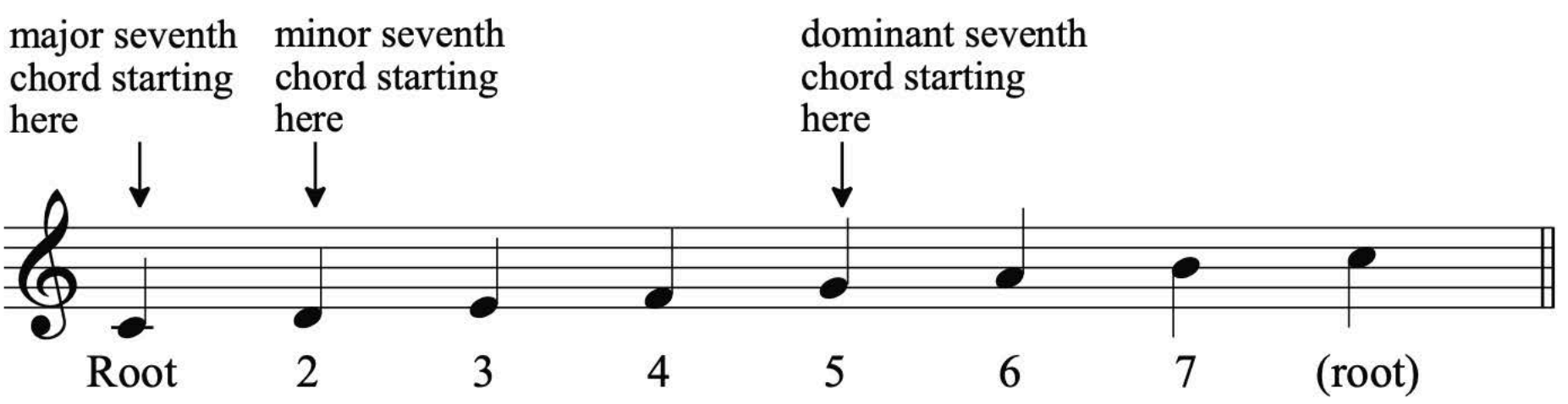
Possible Chord Symbols Using C as the Root: Cm^7, $C\text{-}^7$, $Cmin^7$

Three Ways to Find It:

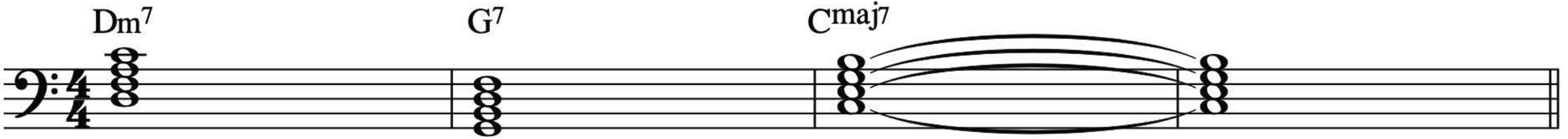
- Starting with a major seventh chord based on the root, lower the third and the seventh by a half step.
- Combine a minor triad based on the root with a minor seventh. The minor seventh is the note two half steps below the root.
- Stack intervals starting from the root. First, stack a minor third, then add a major third, and another minor third.

Sound: Not quite the melancholic sad we associate with minor. A little ambivalent or undecided.

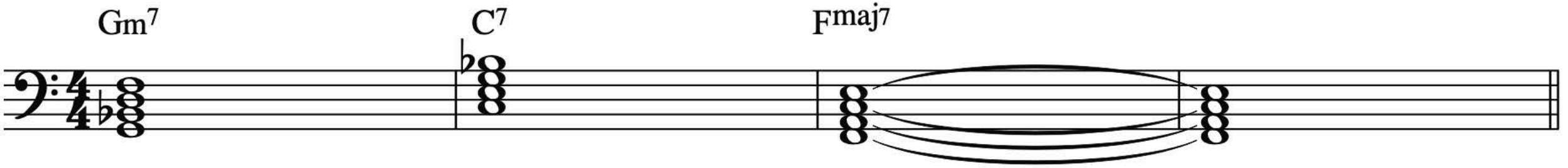



major seventh chord starting here
minor seventh chord starting here
dominant seventh chord starting here
Root
2
3
4
5
6
7
(root)

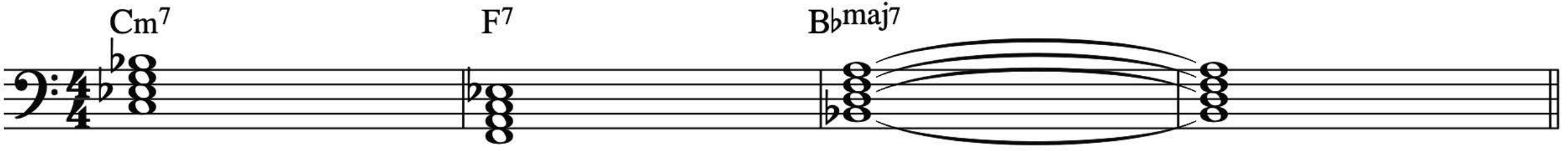
ii-V-I in C Major

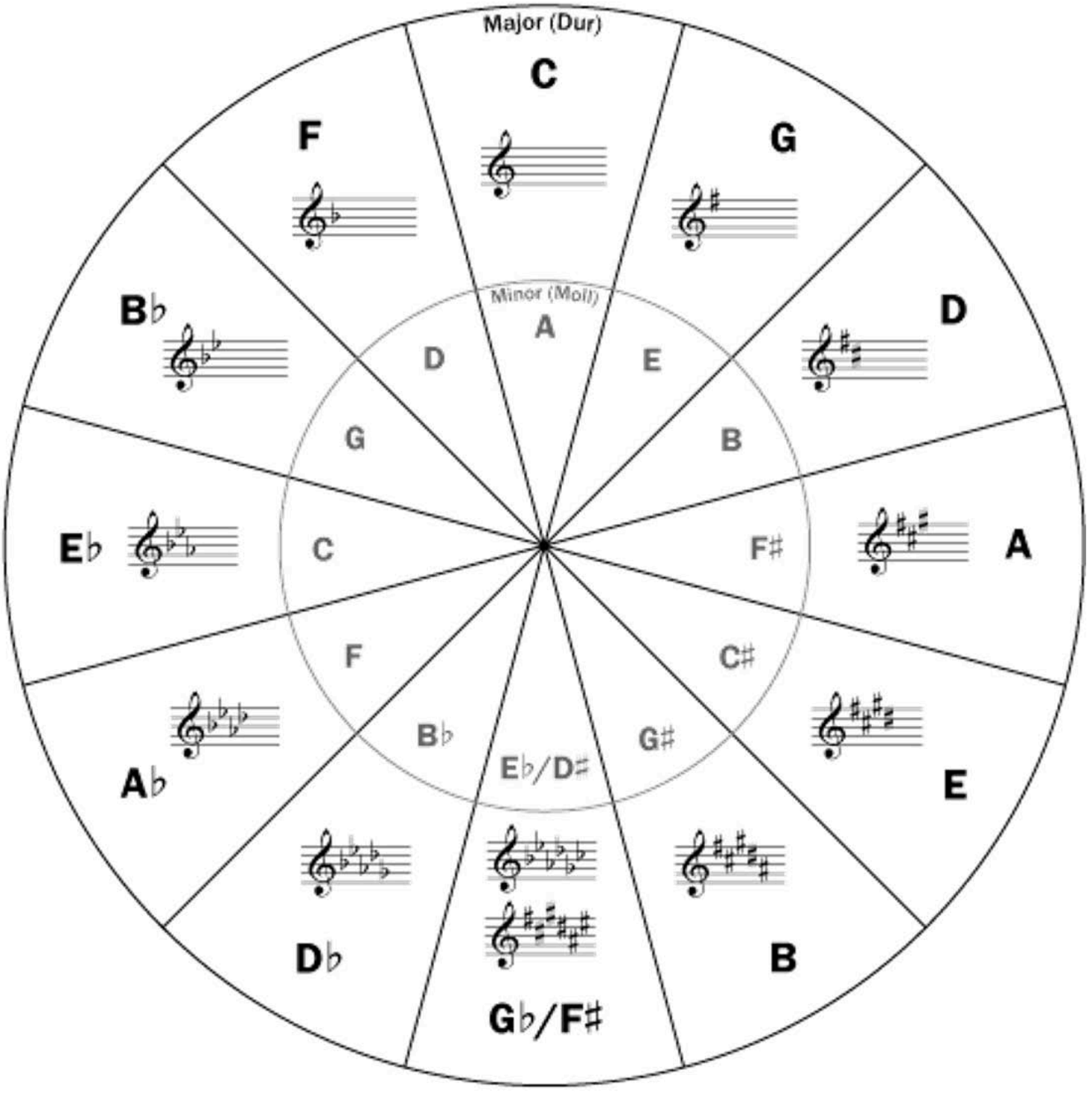


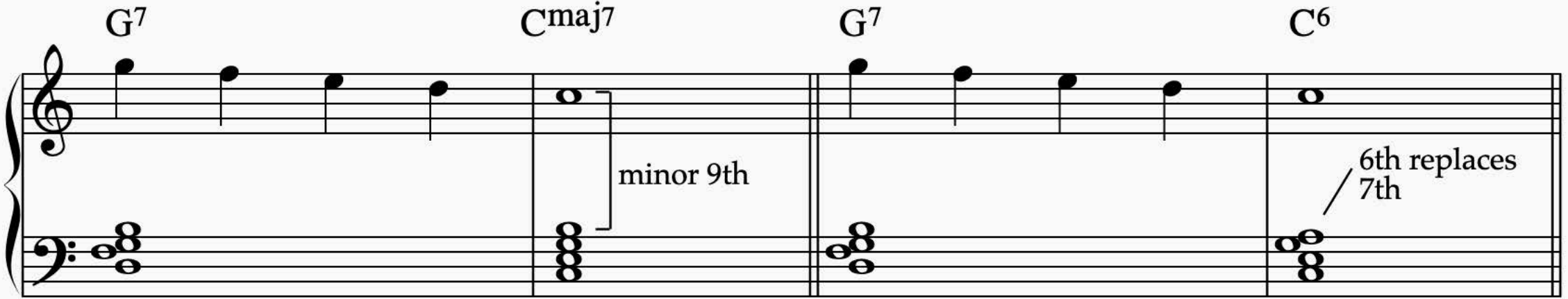
ii-V-I in F Major



ii-V-I in B♭ Major



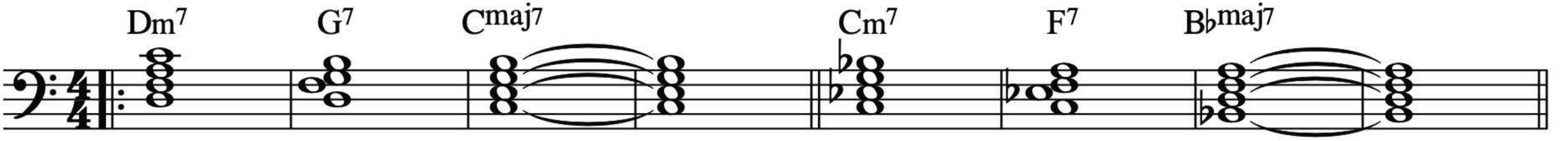

Major (Dur)
C
G
D
A
E
B
F♯
C♯
G♯
E♭/D♯
B♭
F
C
G
D
A
Minor (Moll)
F
B♭
E♭
A♭
D♭
G♭/F♯
B
E
A
D
G
C
F
B♭
E♭
A♭
D♭
G♭/F♯


G7
Cmaj7
G7
C6
minor 9th
6th replaces
7th

A

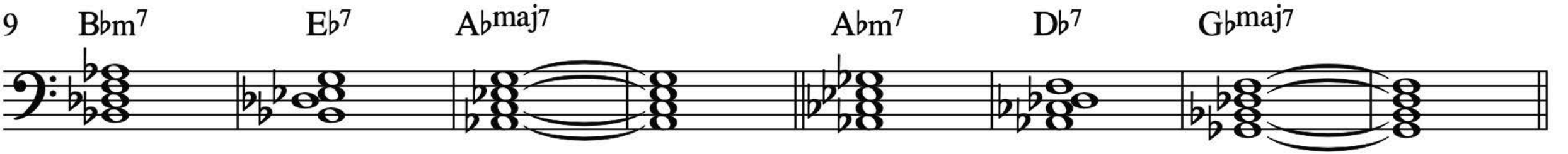
ii-V-I in C Major

ii-V-I in B♭ Major



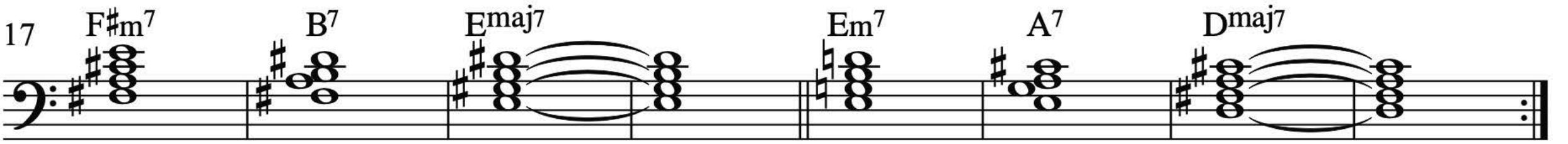
ii-V-I in A♭ Major

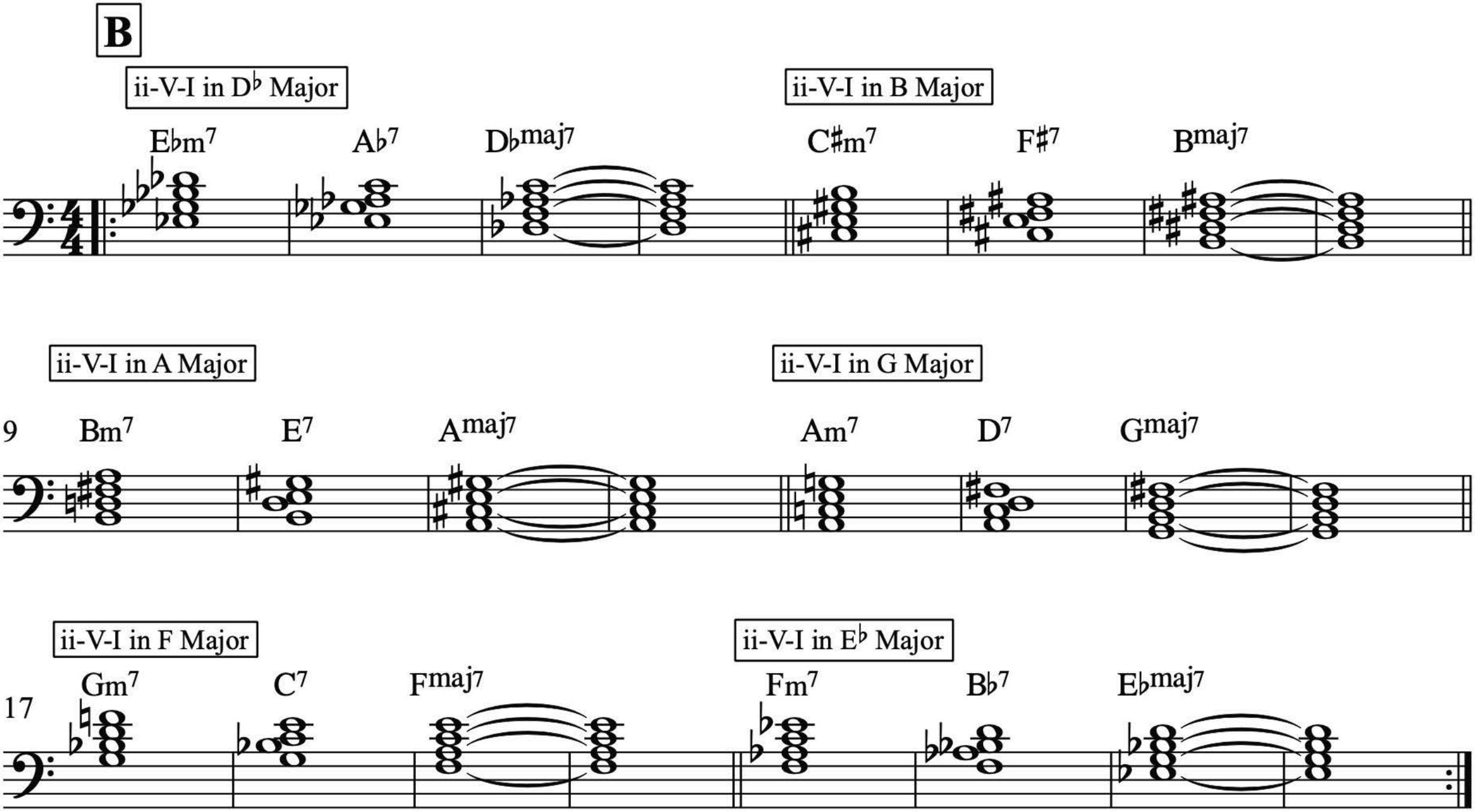
ii-V-I in G♭ Major

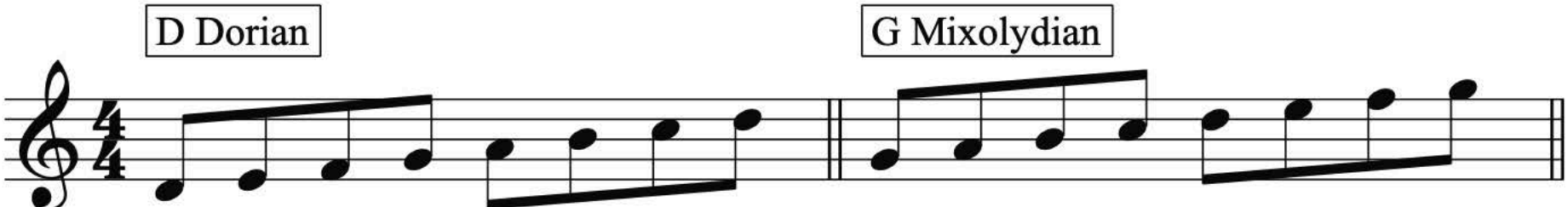


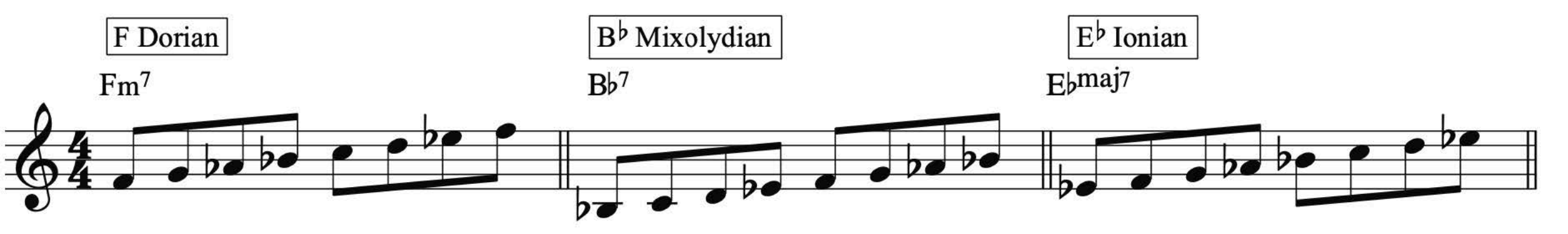
ii-V-I in E Major

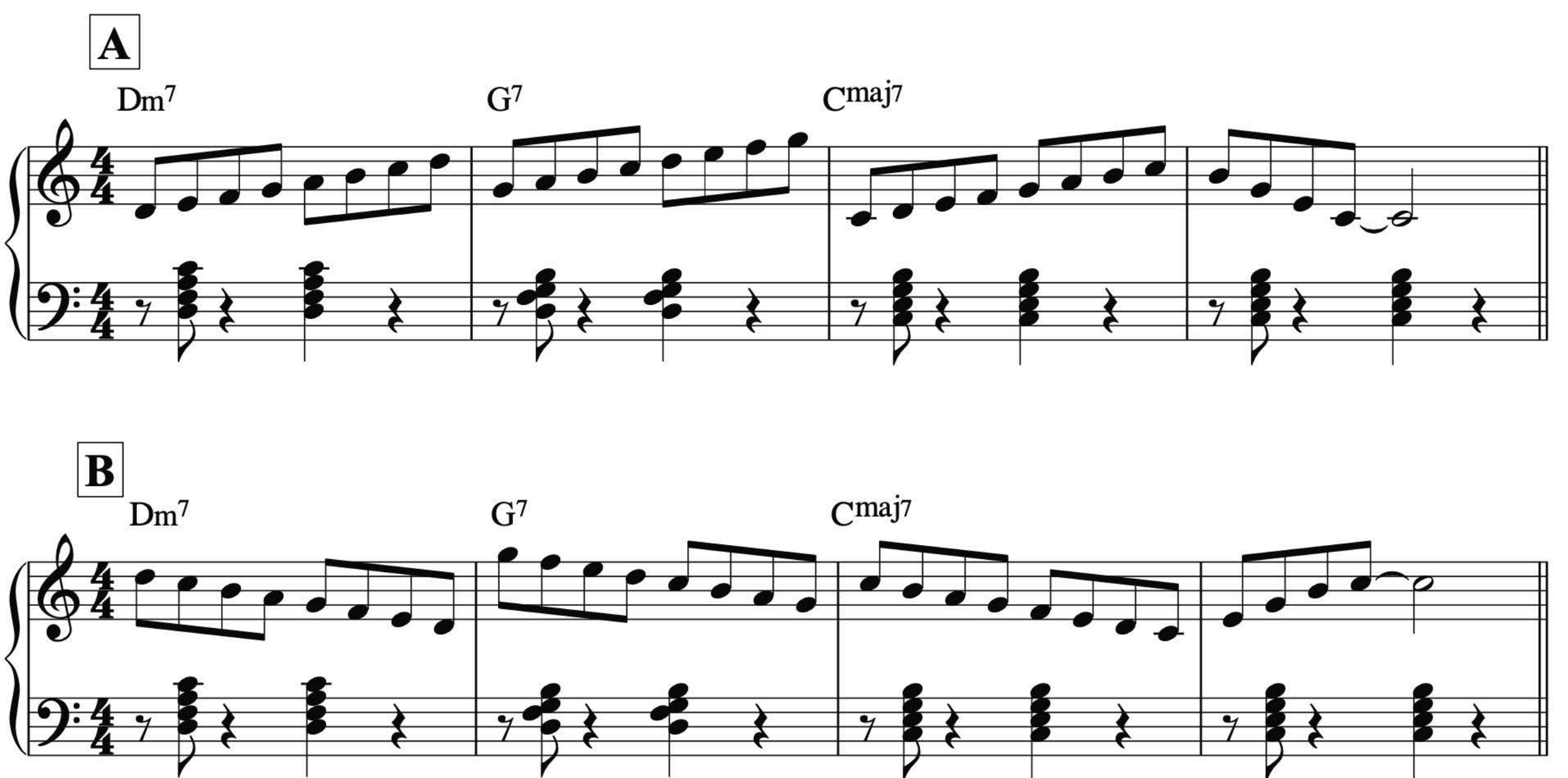
ii-V-I in D Major




B
ii-V-I in D♭ Major
E♭m7
A♭7
D♭maj7
ii-V-I in B Major
C♯m7
F♯7
Bmaj7
ii-V-I in A Major
9
Bm7
E7
Amaj7
ii-V-I in G Major
Am7
D7
Gmaj7
ii-V-I in F Major
17
Gm7
C7
Fmaj7
ii-V-I in E♭ Major
Fm7
B♭7
E♭maj7


D Dorian
G Mixolydian


F Dorian
Fm7
B♭ Mixolydian
B♭7
E♭ Ionian
E♭maj7


A
Dm7
G7
Cmaj7
B
Dm7
G7
Cmaj7