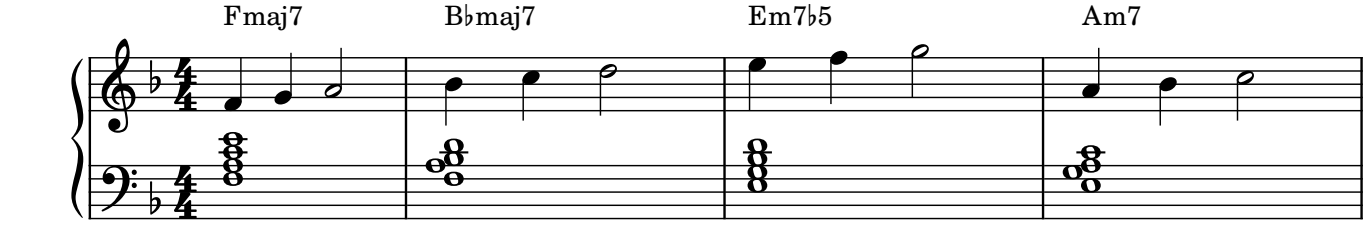
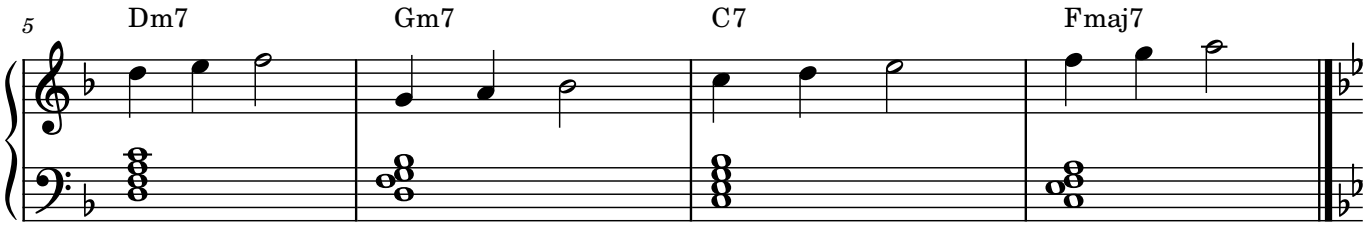
Seventh-Chords/Inversions: Exercise 3a

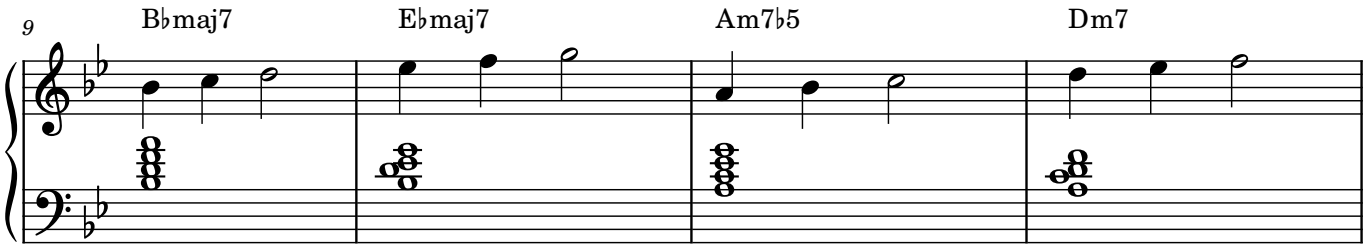
(Simple melodic pattern from the root of each chord-scale)

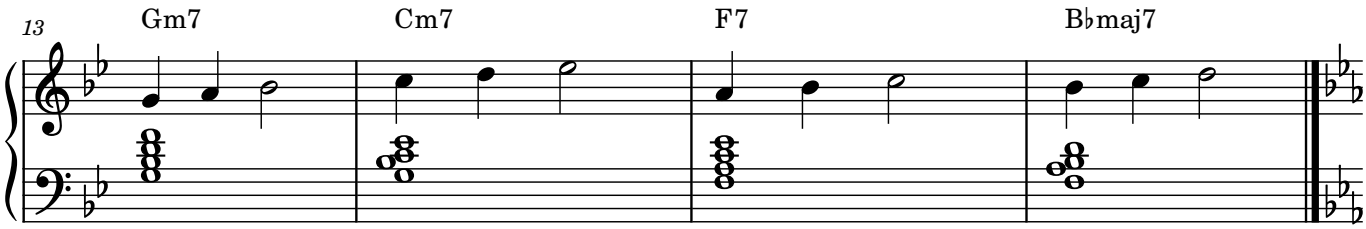
JImO



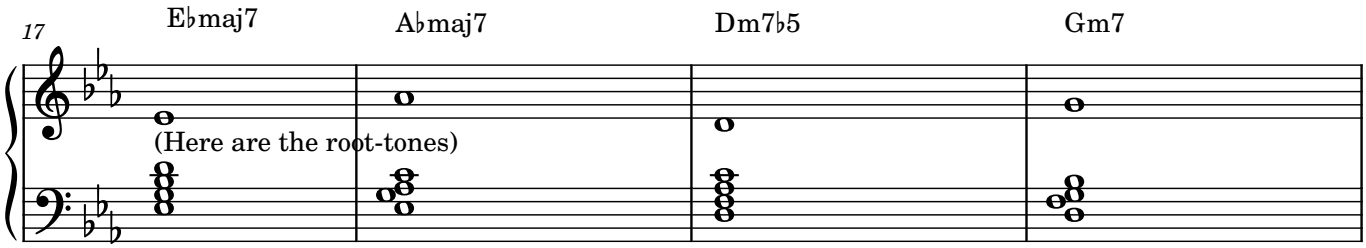
(Hint: The chord change names the ROOT of the chord-scale)

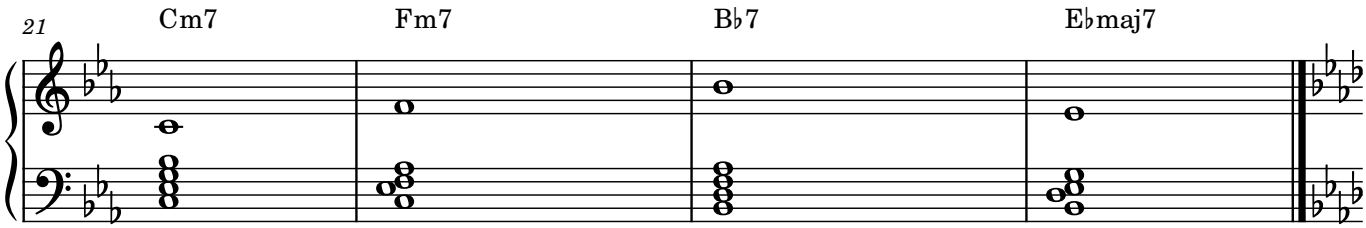






Now, continue the paterns through all the keys. LO: Locate chord-scale roots above 7th chords.





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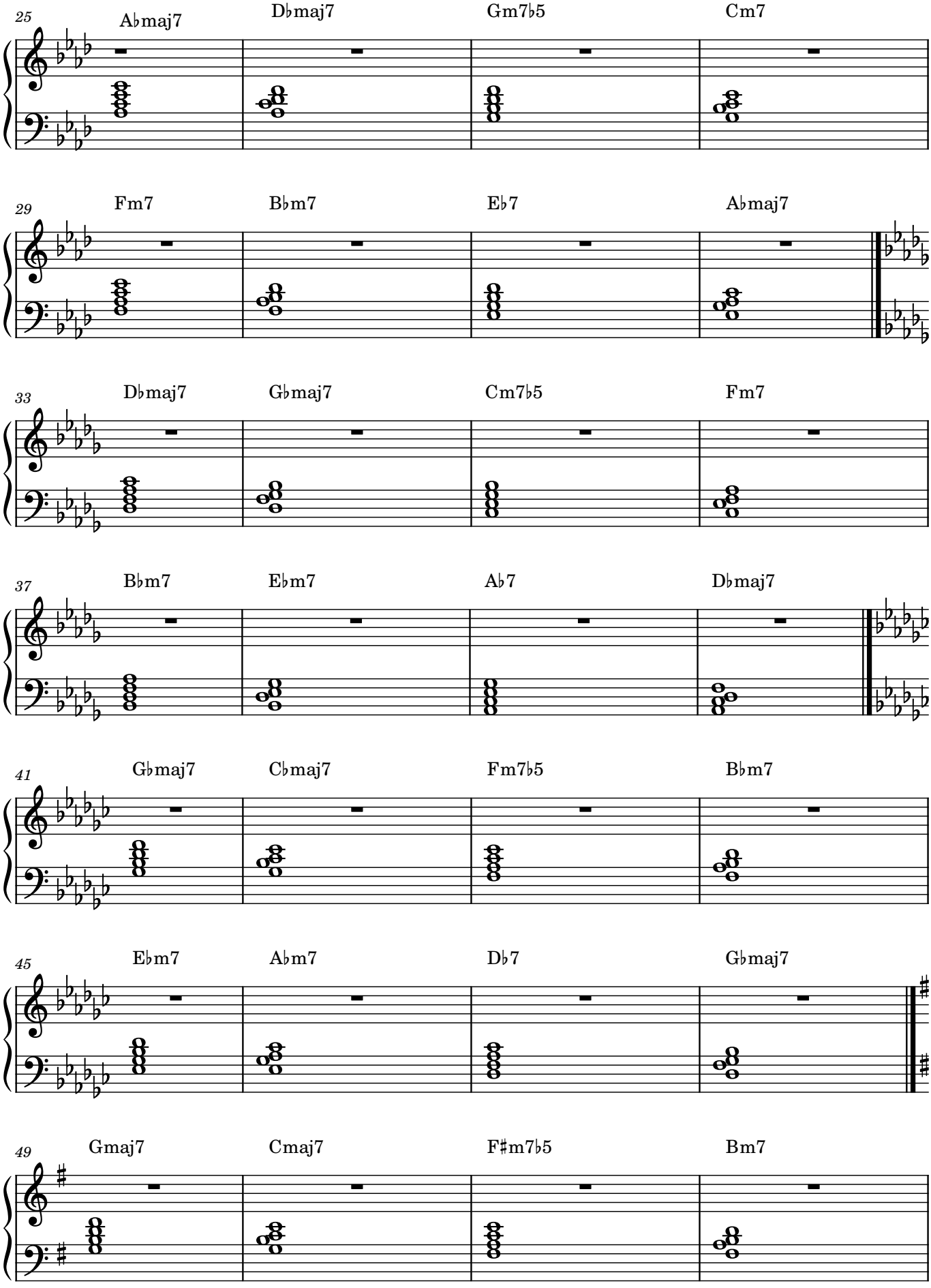
Now, you're on your own. Good luck!!!!



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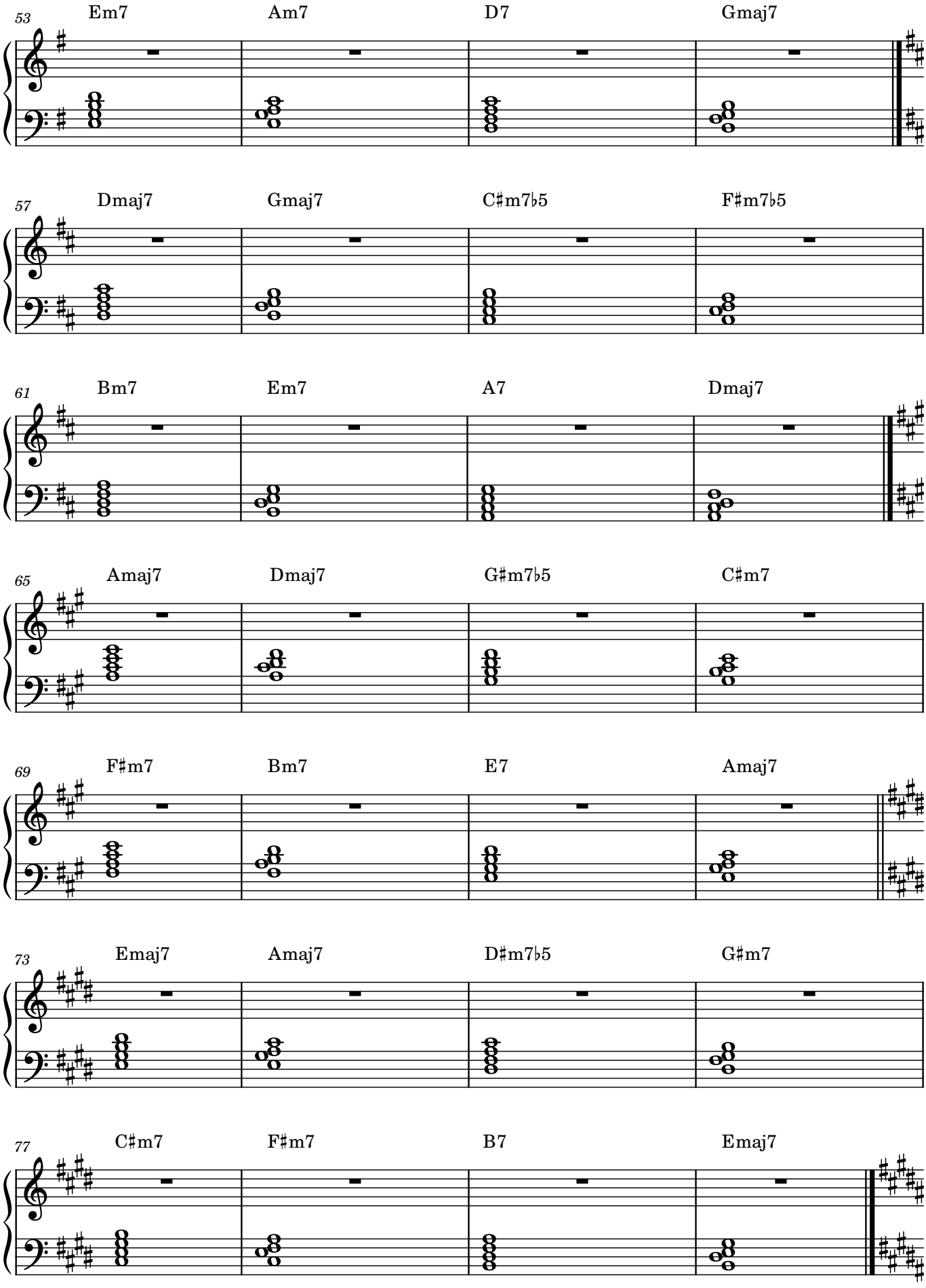

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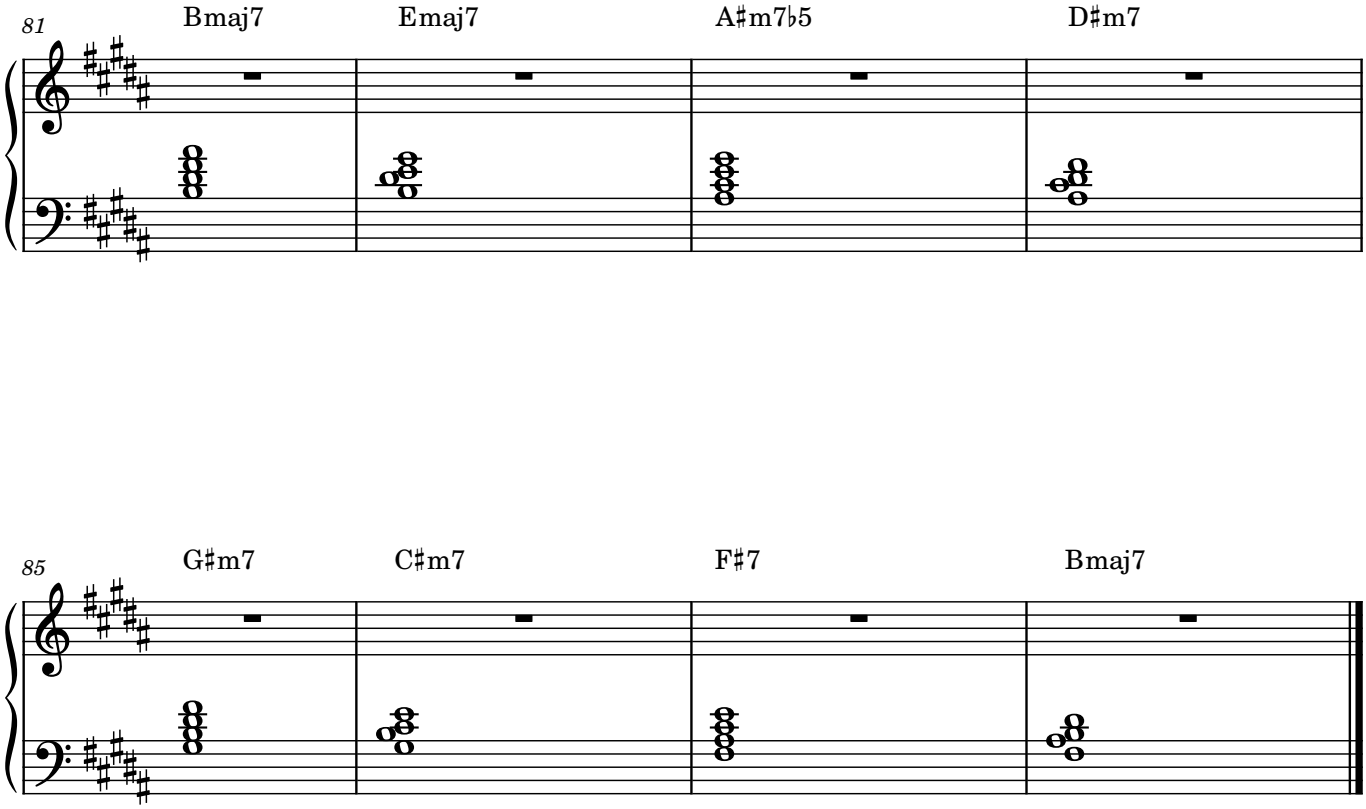

PRACTICE TIPS: This is the Diatonic Circle of Fifths exercise from my first book, **Improvising and Arranging on the Keyboard** (Prentice-Hall, 1981).
Each 8-measure section displays the seven 7th chords for the key named in the first measure. The chord changes give you the chord-tones (Passive) for each measure. Improvise a melodic line using those tones and other scale-tones (Active) in your melodic improvs. Play your own melodic material at different rhythms and starting points in the measures. As you can see, the HARMONIC RHYTHM of the chord changes is straight whole notes. It should be fairly easy to create riffs and melodies with contrasting rhythms.

LEARNING POINTS:

-Develop smooth voice-leading in left-hand 7th chords.
-Memorize the voicings. They are standard modern voicings
-Develop an "ear-sense" for appropriate melodic notes over the chords using PASSIVE (chord-tone) and ACTIVE (Non chord-tone) melodic choices.

FINAL THOUGHT: VIP!!! This kind of improvising will start you on a path to learn skills that literally "can't be taught!" They can be LEARNED. Hopefully, creative practice with this exercise can be helpful on that journey.
JimO, 2022

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