Tools for Teaching Popular Music Without Staff Notation

Trevor de Clercq



Society for Music Theory Conference Music Notation and Visualization Interest Group Meeting November 11, 2022

Music @ MTSU

College of
Liberal Arts

School of Music

College of Media & Entertainment

Department of Recording Industry

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College of Liberal Arts

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RIM 1230: Commercial Musicianship

- simple/compound meter, syncopated eighth notes, sixteenth notes
- diatonic harmony, form, diatonic melodies, seventh chords

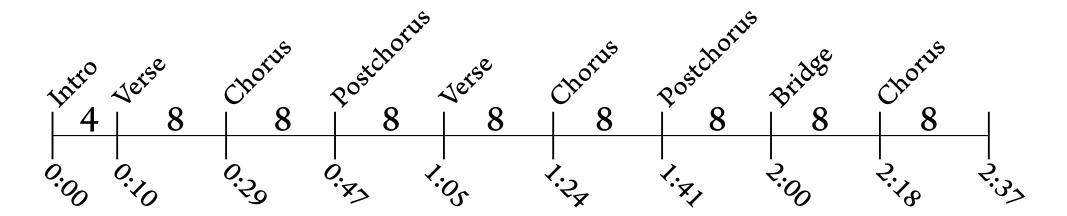
RIM 3450: Advanced Commercial Musicianship

- syncopated sixteenth notes, odd meters
- mixture, modes, secondary functions, extended chords, tritone subs

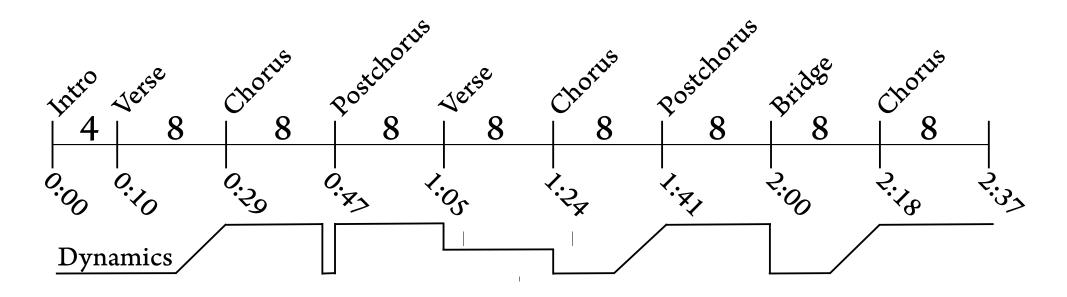
Form chart for "Easy" by Lionel Richie (1977)

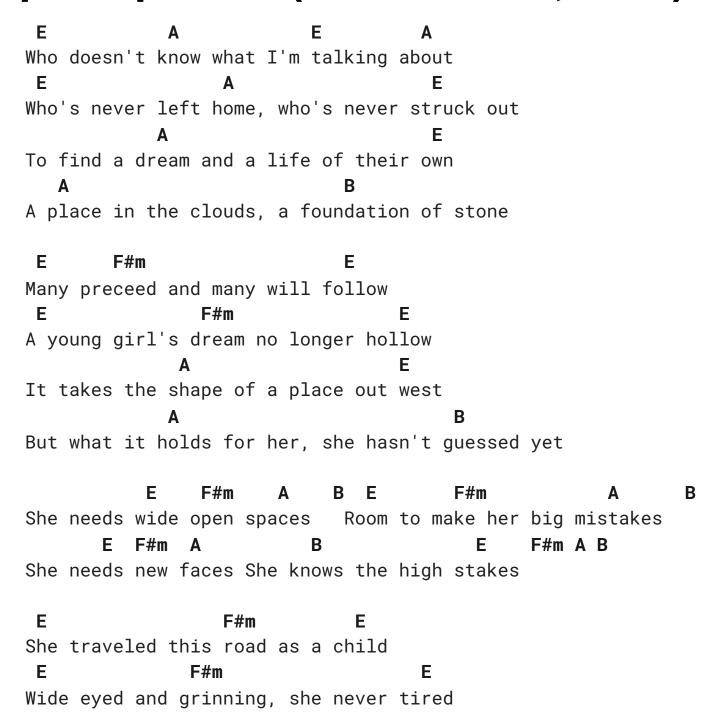
	Section	<u>Start</u>
	Intro	0:00
Λ 5	Verse	0:15
Λ	Chorus	0:48
Λ S	Verse	1:17
\mathbf{U}	Chorus	1:50
$\mathbf{D}^{\mathcal{S}}$	Bridge	2:19
\mathbf{D}	Solo	2:49
Λ {	Chorus	3:18
Λ	Chorus	3:47

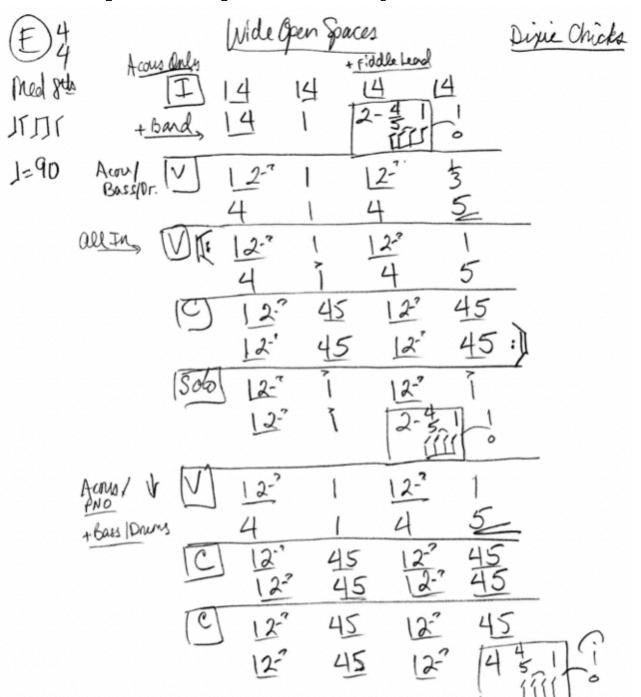
Form timeline for "Cake" by Flo Rida (2017)

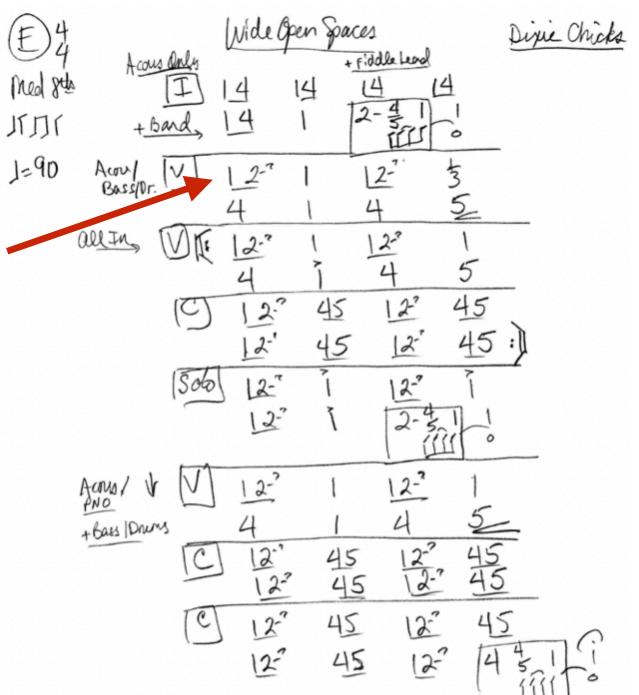


Form timeline for "Cake" by Flo Rida (2017)









CH)

WIDE OPEN SPACES

(DIXIE CHICKS)

CH)

GUITAR ONLY

INT)

$$\frac{1}{6} \frac{2^{-7}}{6} \frac{1}{6} \frac{2^{-7}}{6} \frac{1}{6} \frac{2^{-7}}{6} \frac{1}{6} \frac{2^{-7}}{6}$$

BAND IN

 $\frac{1}{2^{-7}} \frac{2^{-7}}{1} \frac{1}{2^{-7}} \frac{2^{-7}}{6} \frac{2^{-7}}{6} \frac{1}{6}$

$$\frac{12^{-7}}{4} \frac{1\frac{2^{-7}}{6}}{14} \frac{12^{-7}}{4} \frac{1}{5}$$

$$(\sqrt{R})$$
 $\frac{1}{4} \frac{2^{-7}}{4} \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{4} \frac{2^{-7}}{5} \frac{1}{5}$

$$\frac{1 \ 2^{-7}}{\text{SOLO}} \frac{4 \ 5}{1 \ 2^{-7}} \frac{4 \ 5}{1}$$

$$\frac{1 \ 2^{-7}}{1 \ 2^{-7}} \stackrel{<}{\sim} 1$$

$$\frac{1 \ 2^{-7}}{1} \stackrel{<}{\sim} 1$$

$$\frac{1 \ 2^{-7}}{1} \stackrel{<}{\sim} 1$$

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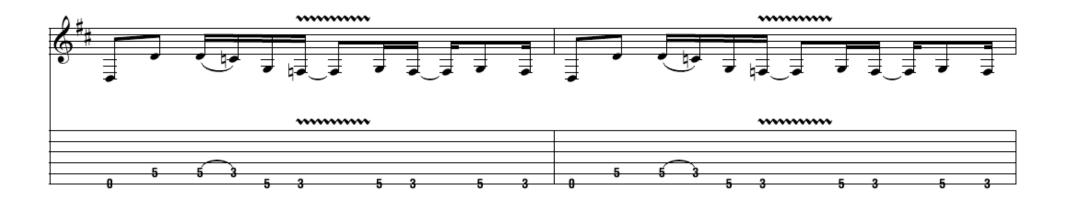
$$\frac{1 \ 2^{-7}}{6} \quad 4 \quad 5$$

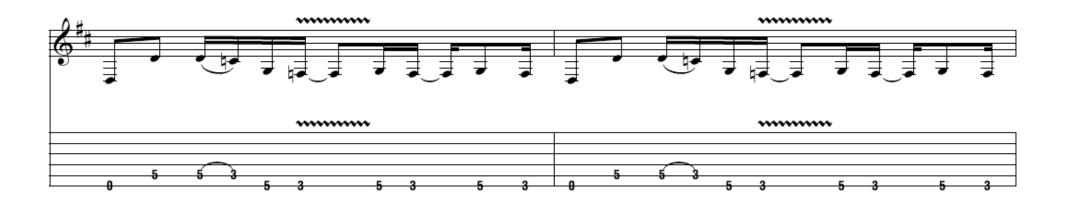
$$\frac{1 \ 2^{-7}}{6} \quad 4 \quad 5$$





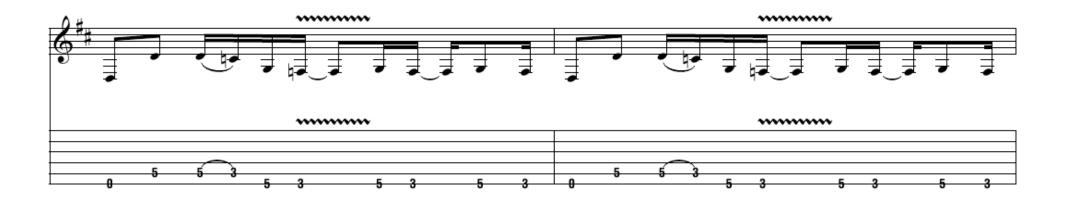


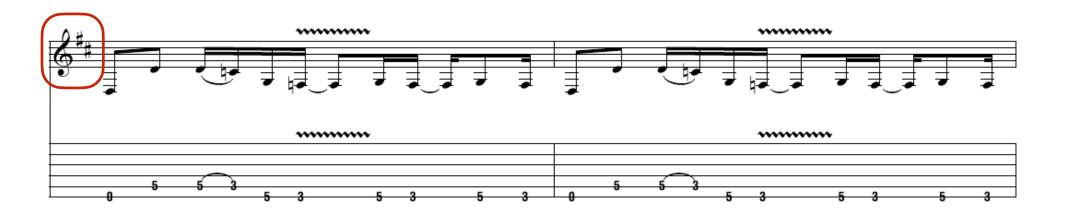


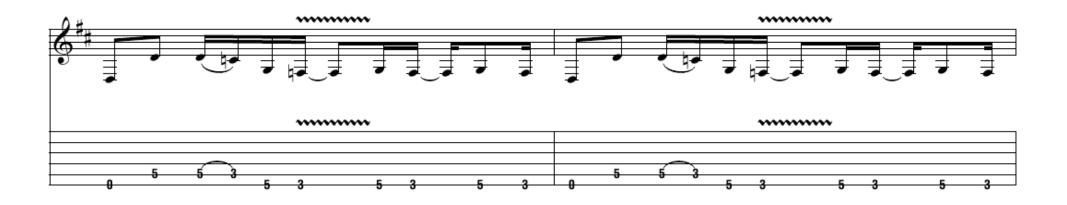


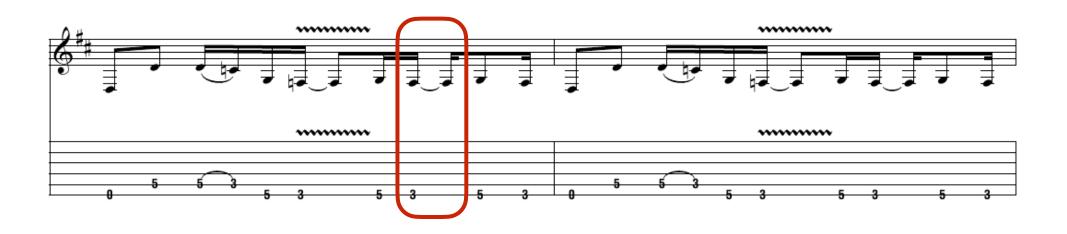


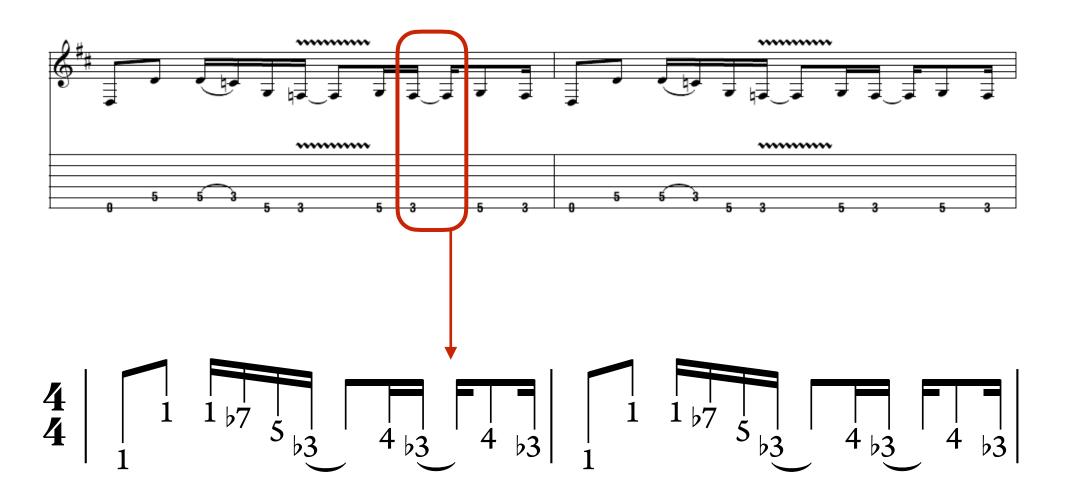
(Kodály stick notation)



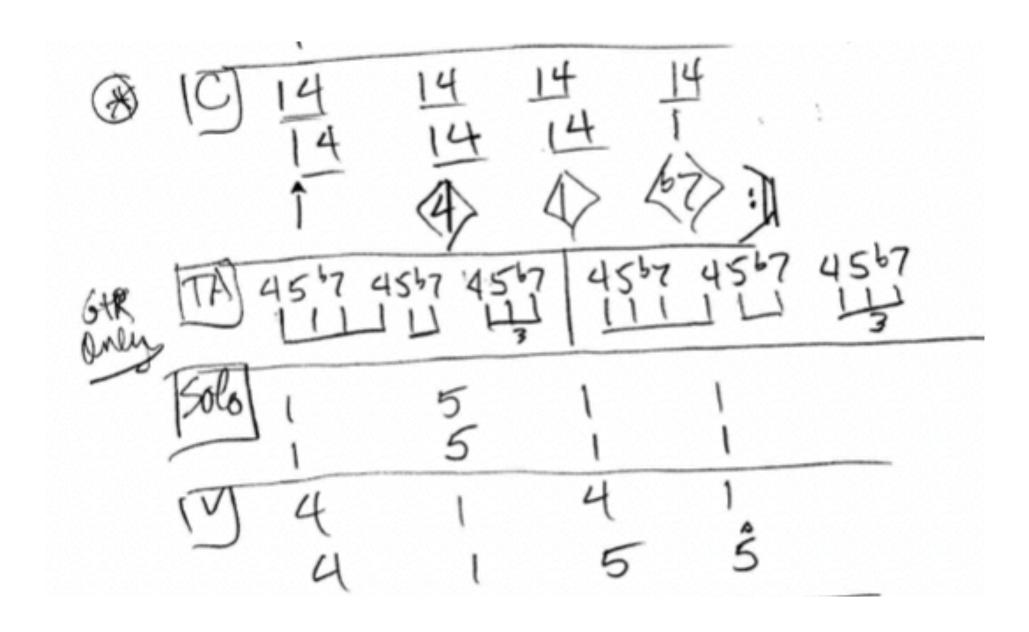




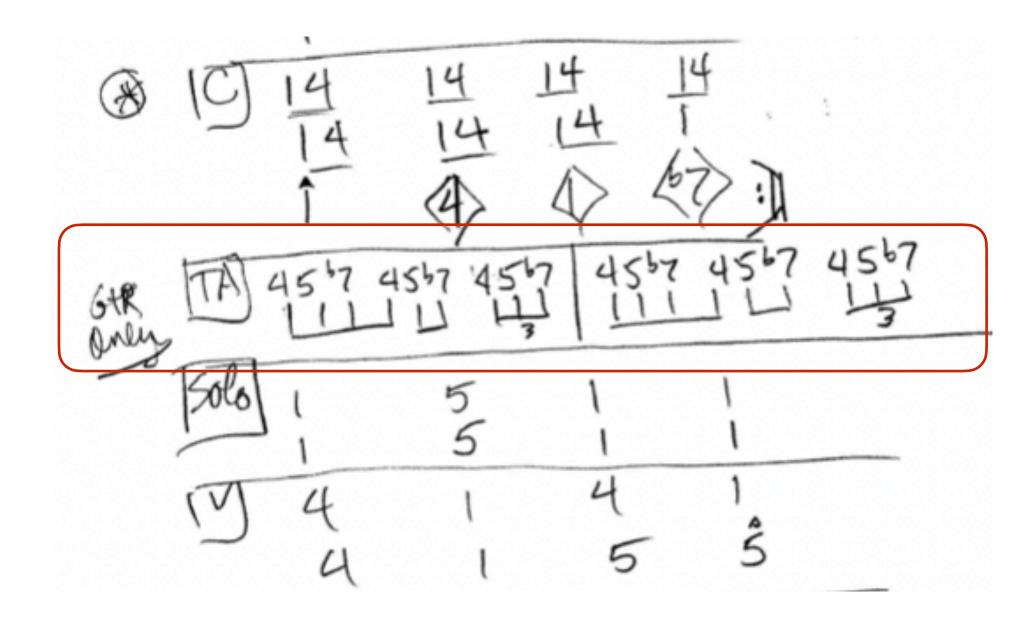




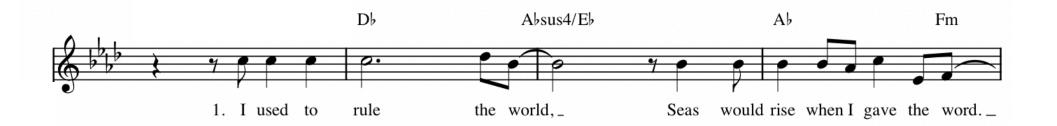
"I'm a Believer" (The Monkees, 1966)



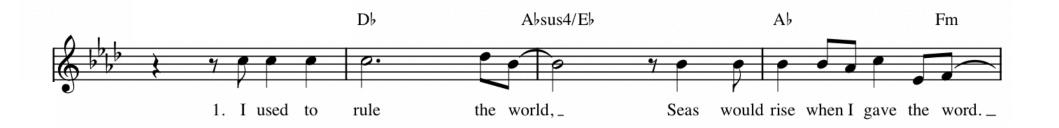
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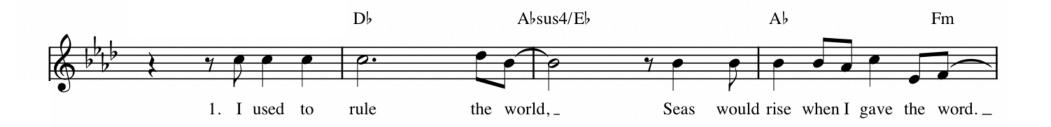
"Viva La Vida" (Coldplay, 2008)

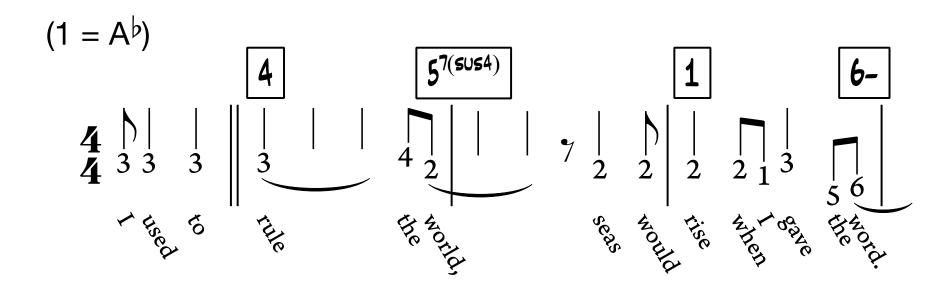


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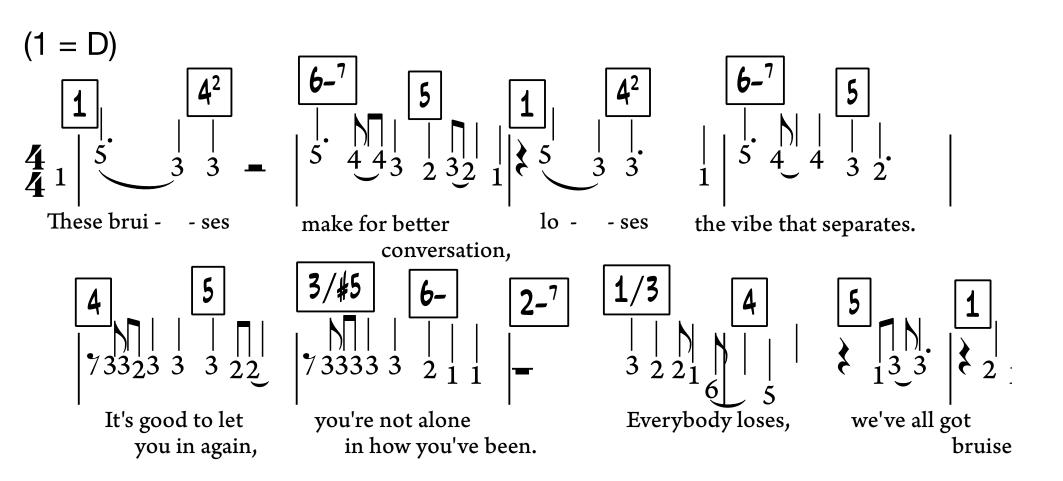


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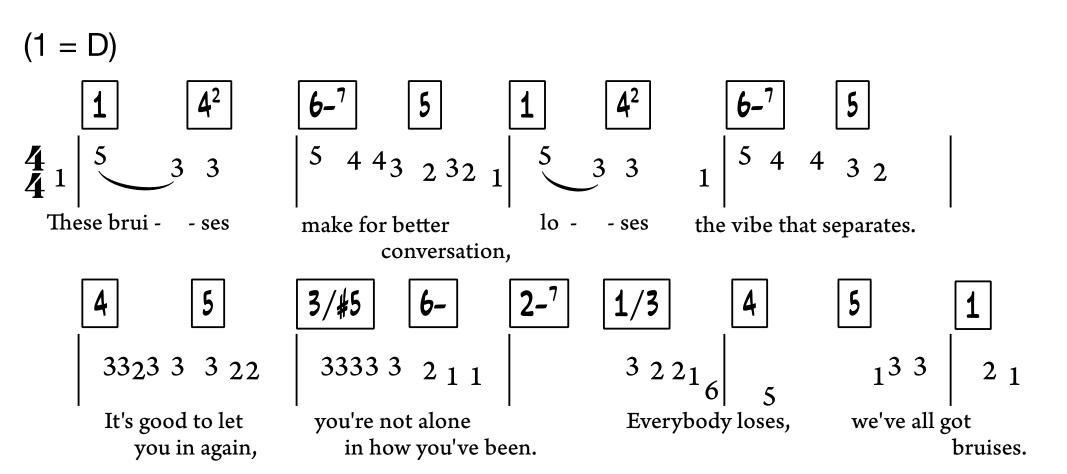




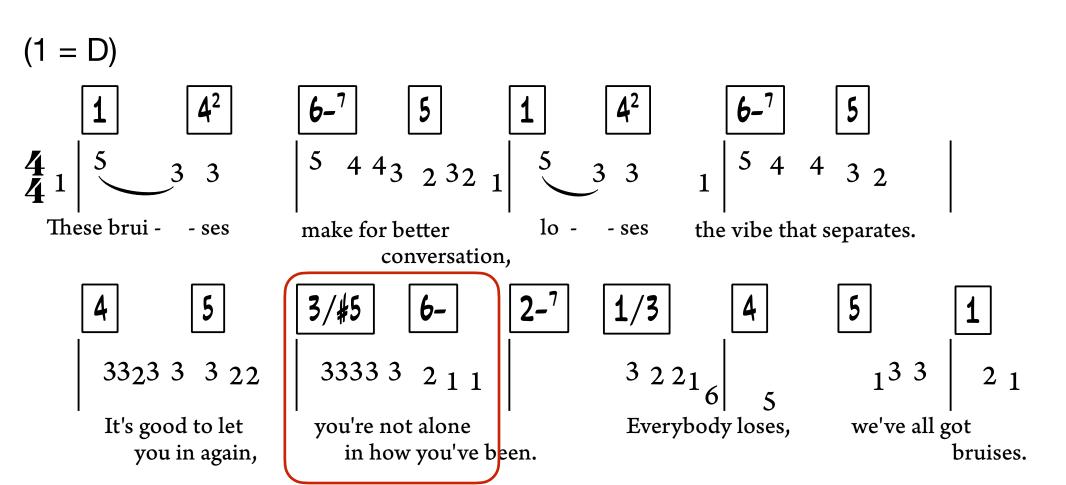
"Bruises" (Train ft. Ashley Monroe, 2012)



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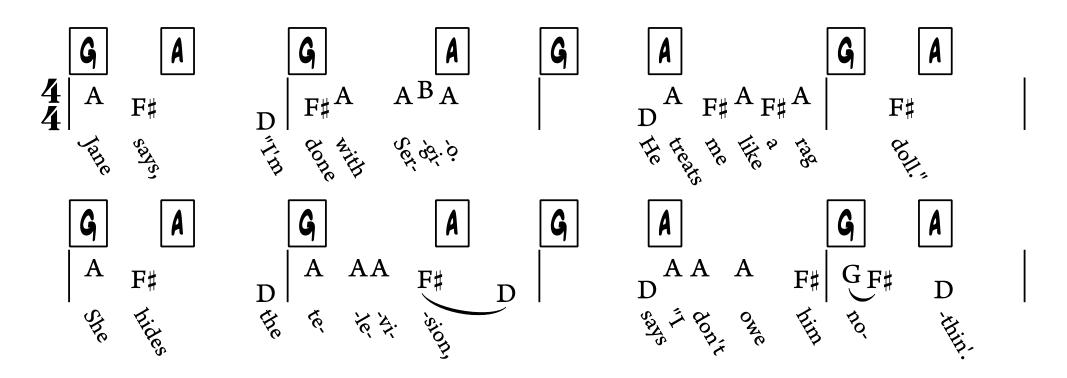
"Bruises" (Train ft. Ashley Monroe, 2012)



"We Are the Champions" (Queen, 2009)

share of sand kicked in my face, but I've come through!

"Jane Says" (Jane's Addiction, 1988)



"You Are the Sunshine of My Life" (Stevie Wonder, 1973)

	1	5/4	3-7	67	2-7	57	1
	8	F#/E	0#_7	F/G#	C#_7	E/F#	8
RH	F# D# B	A# F# C#	A# F# C#	A F C	G# E B	G# E B	F# D# B
ГН	В	E	D#	G#	C#	F#	В

You are the sunshine of my life,

that's why I'll always be around.

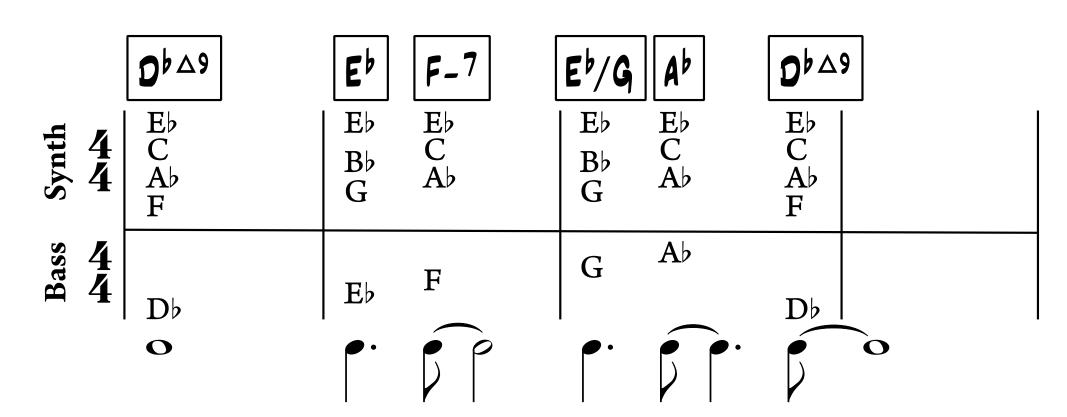
"You Are the Sunshine of My Life" (Stevie Wonder, 1973)

You are the sunshine of my life,

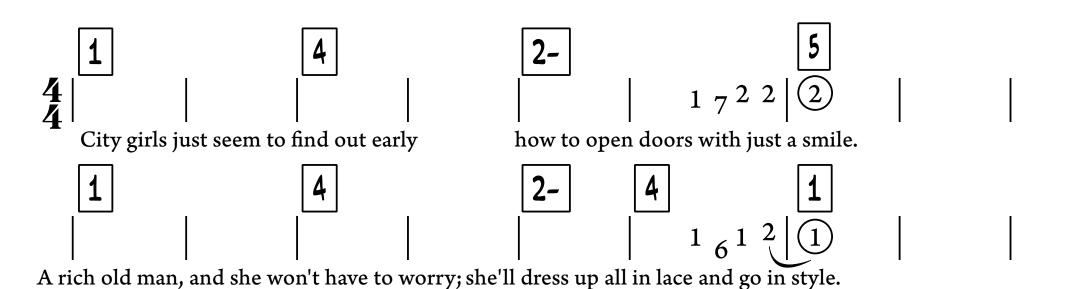
	1 8	5/4 F#/E	3- ⁷ D#-7	6 ⁷ F/G#	2-7 C#-7	5 ⁷ E/F#	1 8
RH	F# D# B	A# F# C#	A# F# C#	A F C	G# E B	G# E B	F# D# B
ГН	В	Е	D#	G#	C#	F#	В

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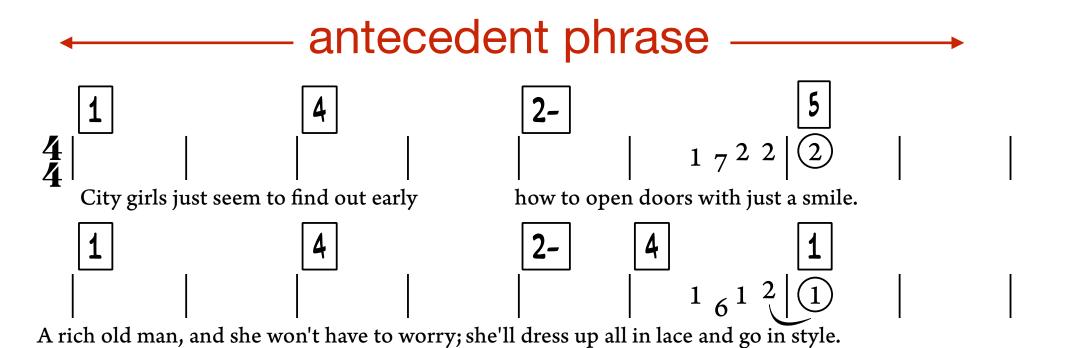
"Human" (Human League, 1986)



"Lyin' Eyes" (The Eagles, 1975)

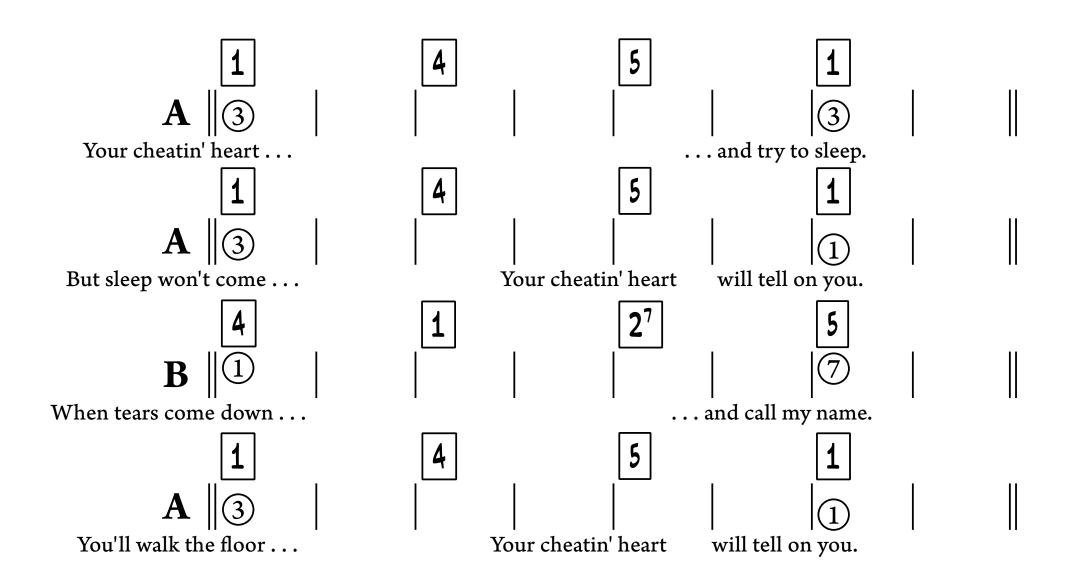


"Lyin' Eyes" (The Eagles, 1975)

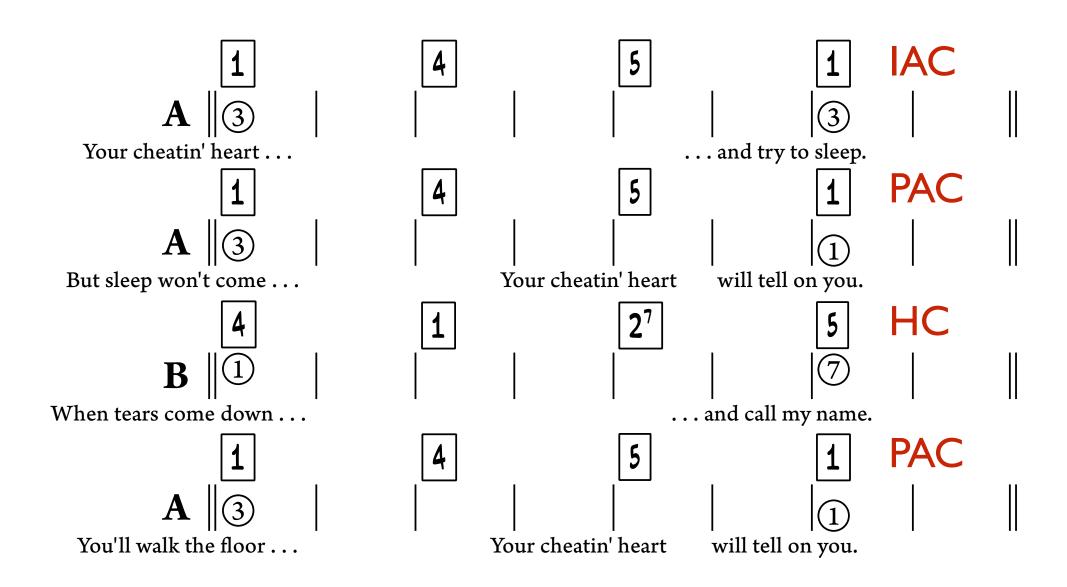


consequent phrase ———

"Your Cheatin' Heart" (Hank Williams, 1952)



"Your Cheatin' Heart" (Hank Williams, 1952)



THANK YOU!

Select Bibliography:

de Clercq, Trevor. 2015. *The Nashville Number System Fake Book*. Milwaukee, WI: Hal Leonard.

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