xharp Drills

20 short drills for both hands, in xharp staff notation. Roman numerals name the chords in C.

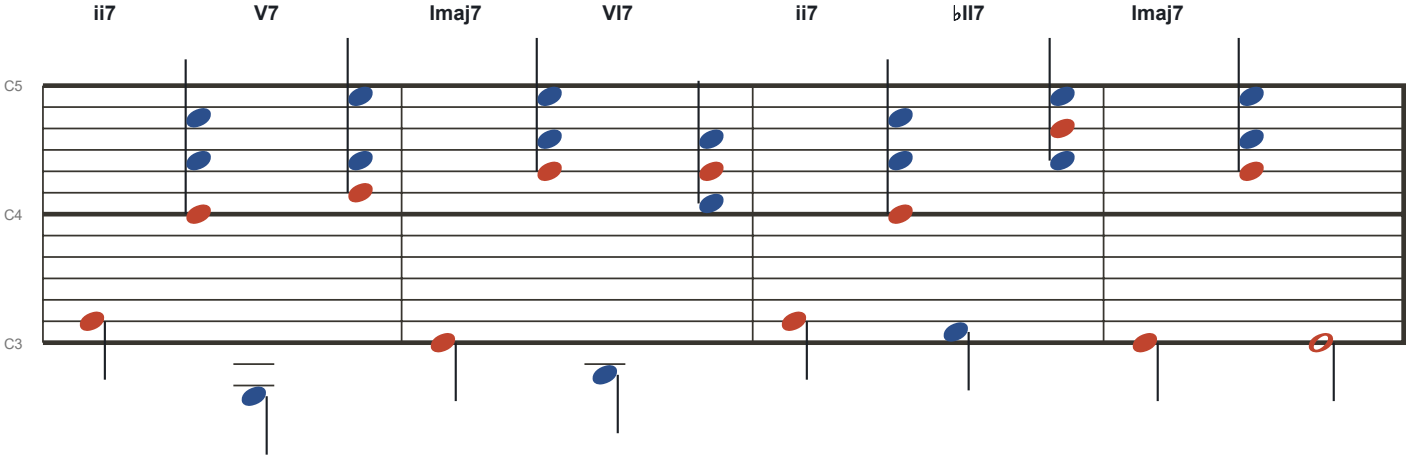
Red heads, on the lines: C D E F♯ G♯ A♯ **Blue heads, in the spaces**: F G A B C♯ D♯

The staff. Thirteen lines from C3 up to C5, one string for every step, so there are no clefs, key signatures or accidentals. The bold lines are the three Cs; C4 is middle C. Hollow heads are half notes and longer; one flag is an eighth, two a sixteenth. A dash with no head is a rest; a small hook is a short rest.

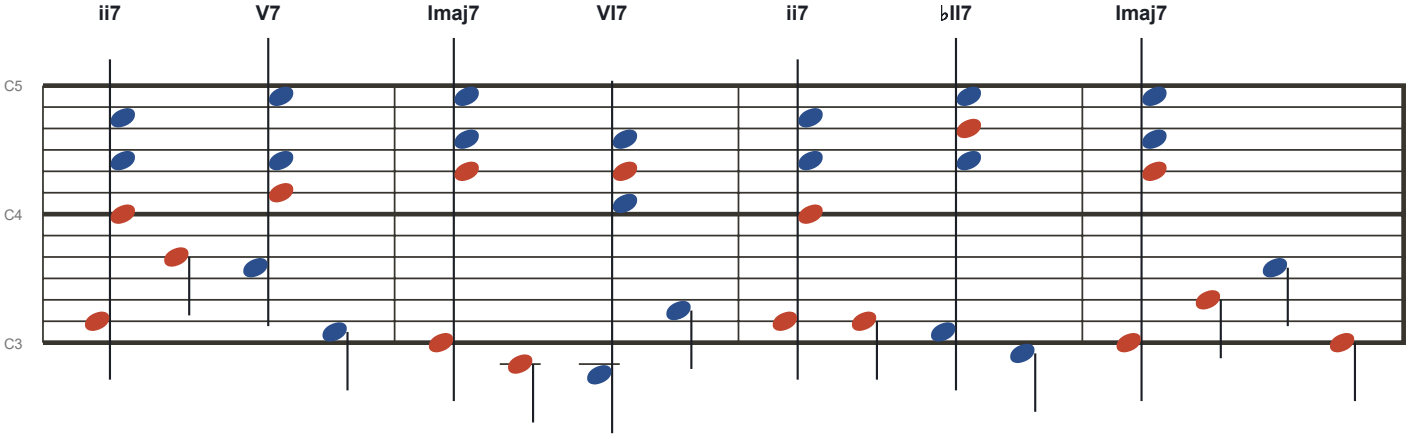
Hands. One stem for both hands: left-hand notes sit left of the stem, right-hand notes right of it. Thumb on the top note of each hand.

Patterns

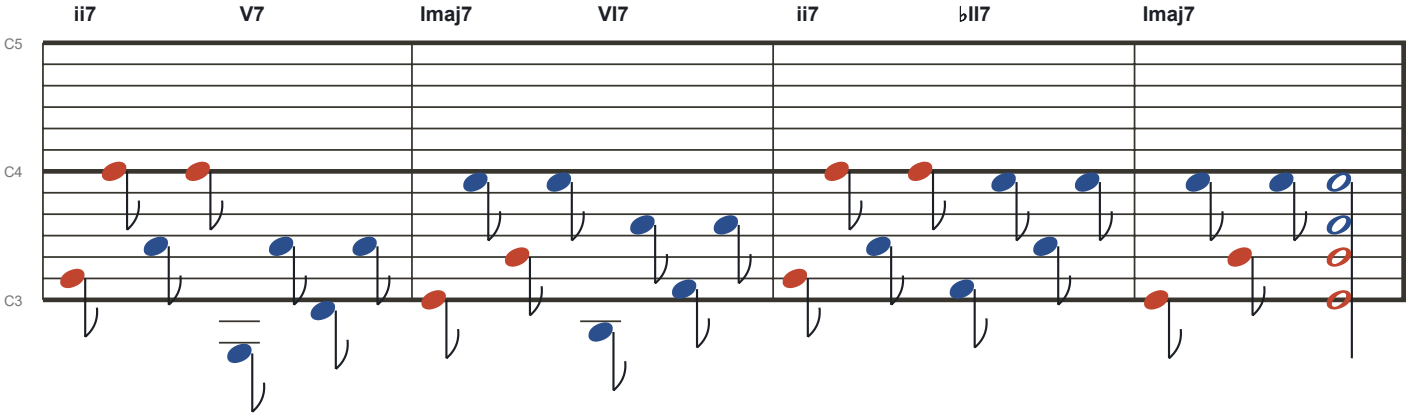
Oom-pah (boom-chick)



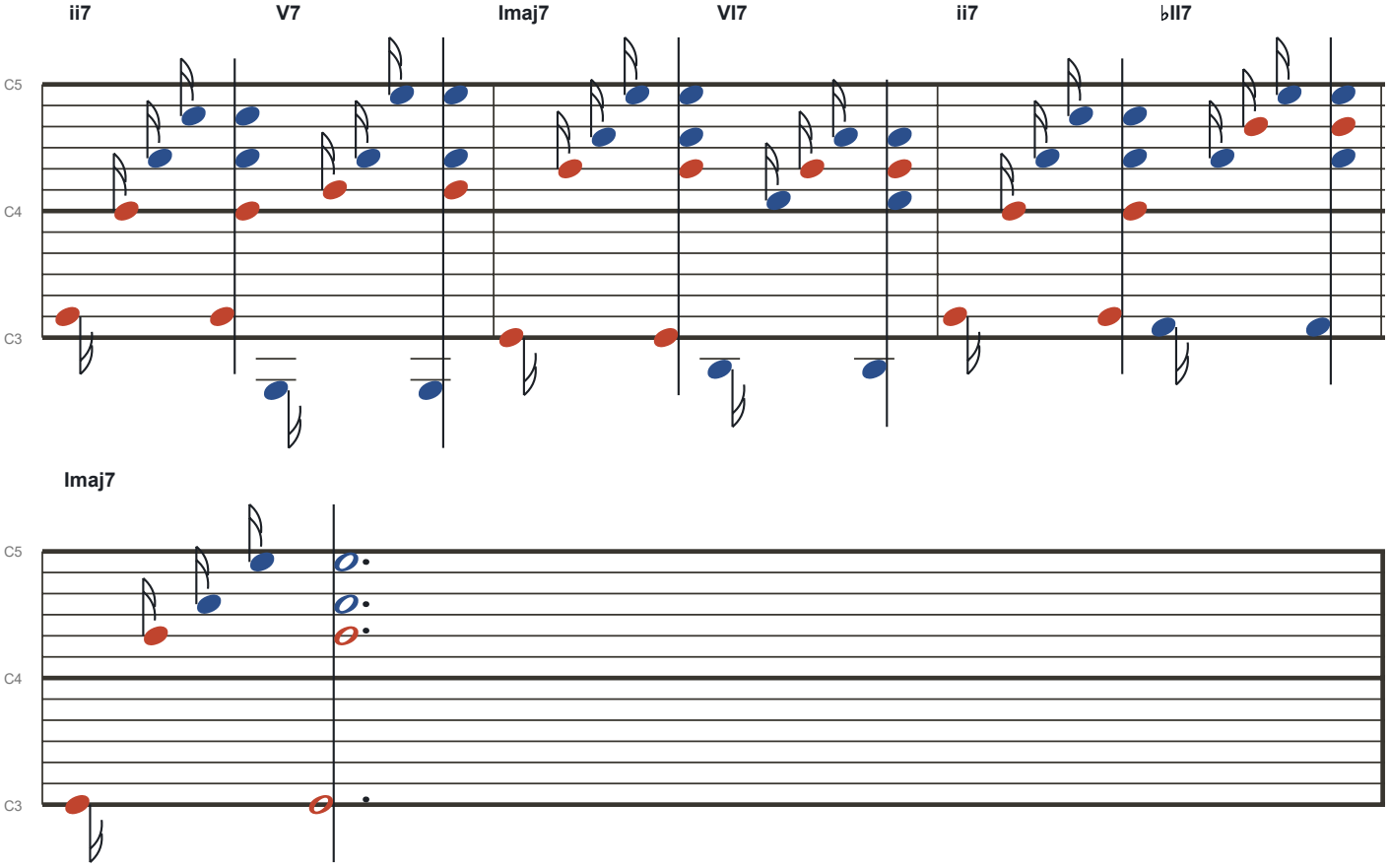
Walking bass, chromatic approaches



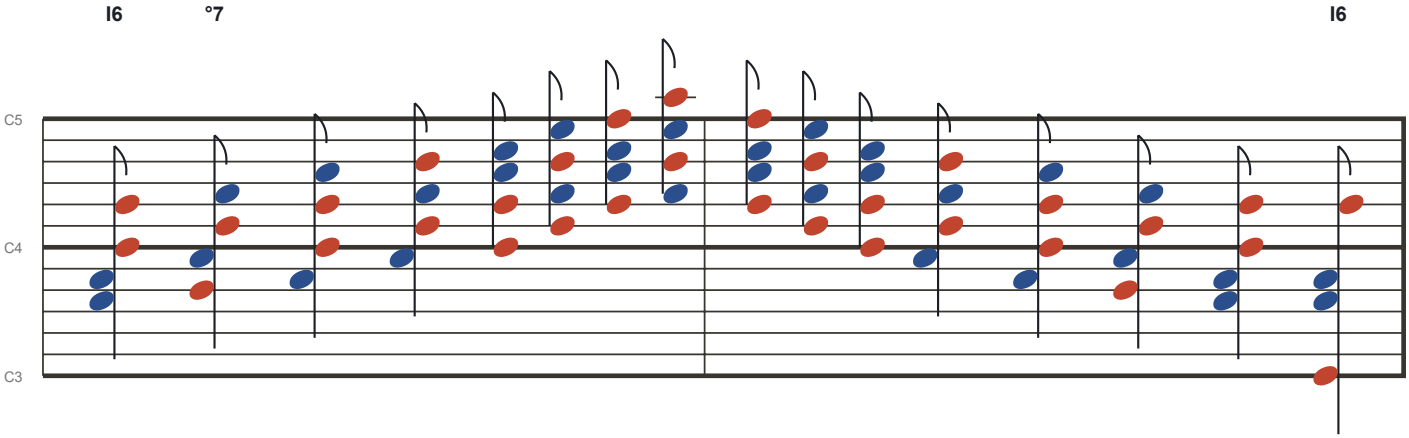
Alberti on guide tones



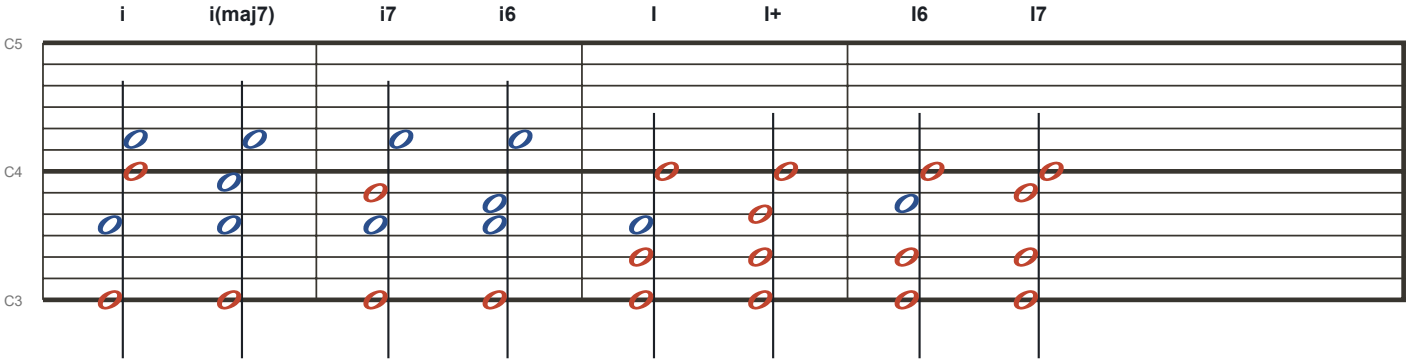
Rolled chords (arpeggiando)



Locked hands: sixth-diminished (A and A♭ trade)

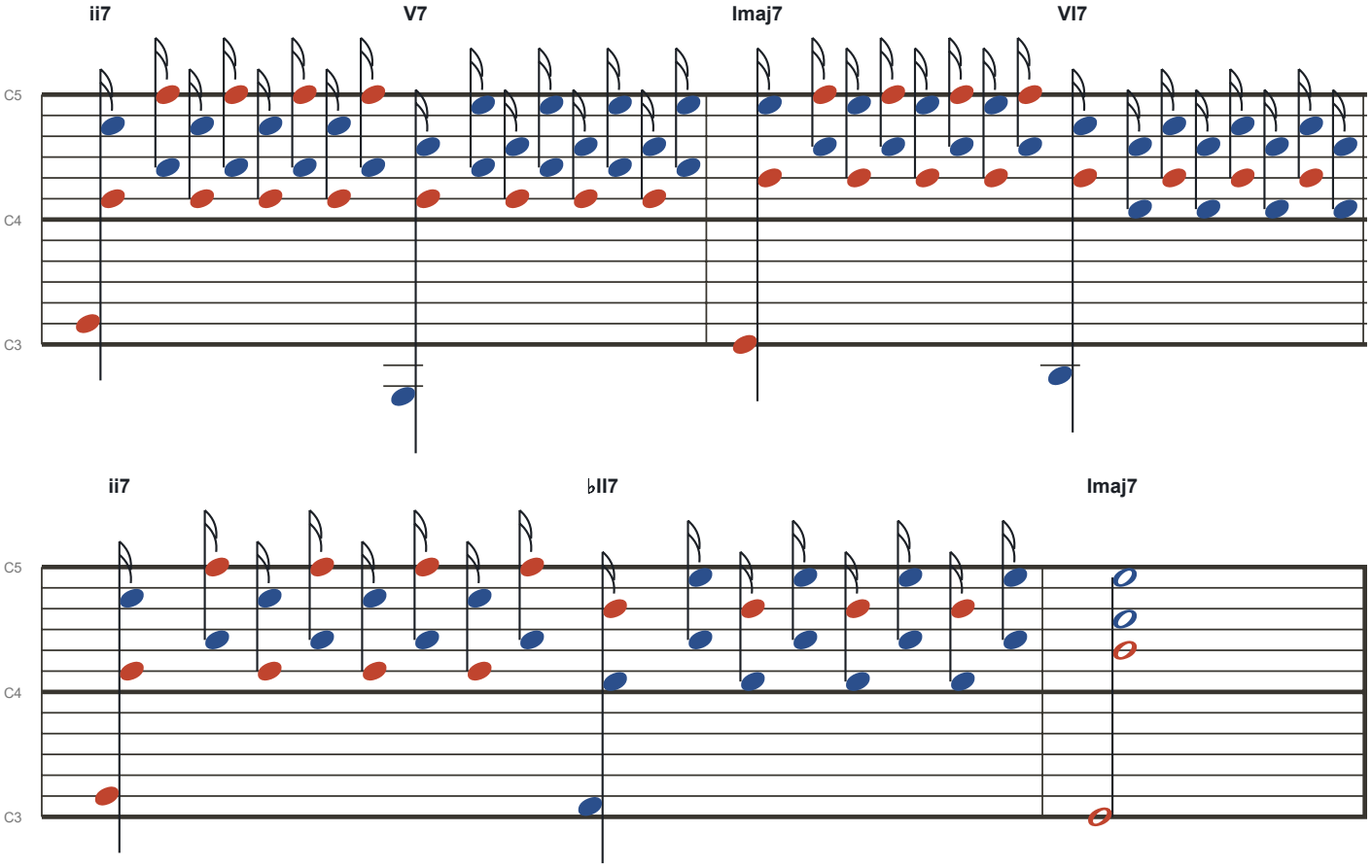


Line cliché: chromatic inner voice



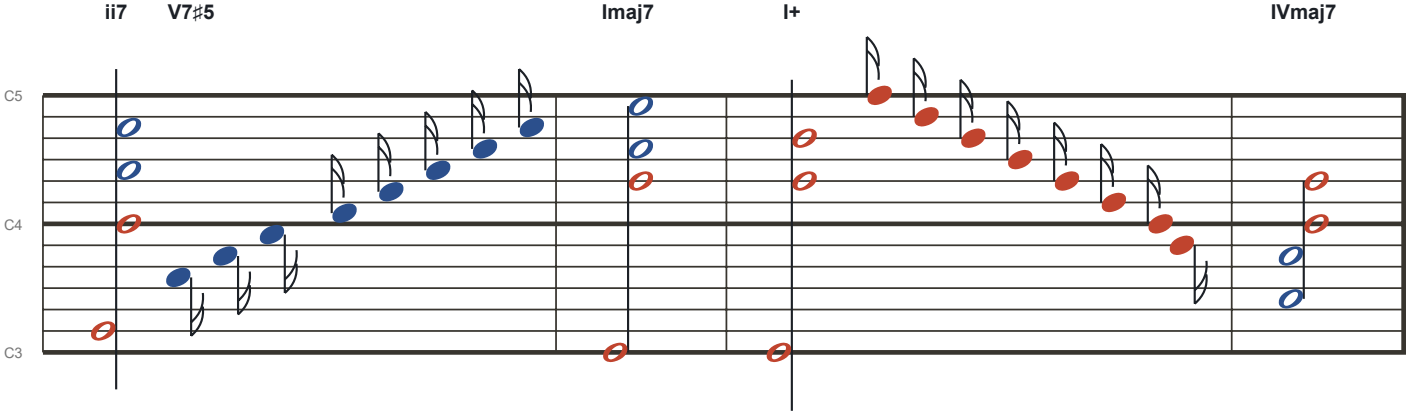
Bisbigliando (whisper tremolo)

The hands alternate on the upper staff: left hand takes the lower pair, right hand the upper pair, as fast and soft as you can.



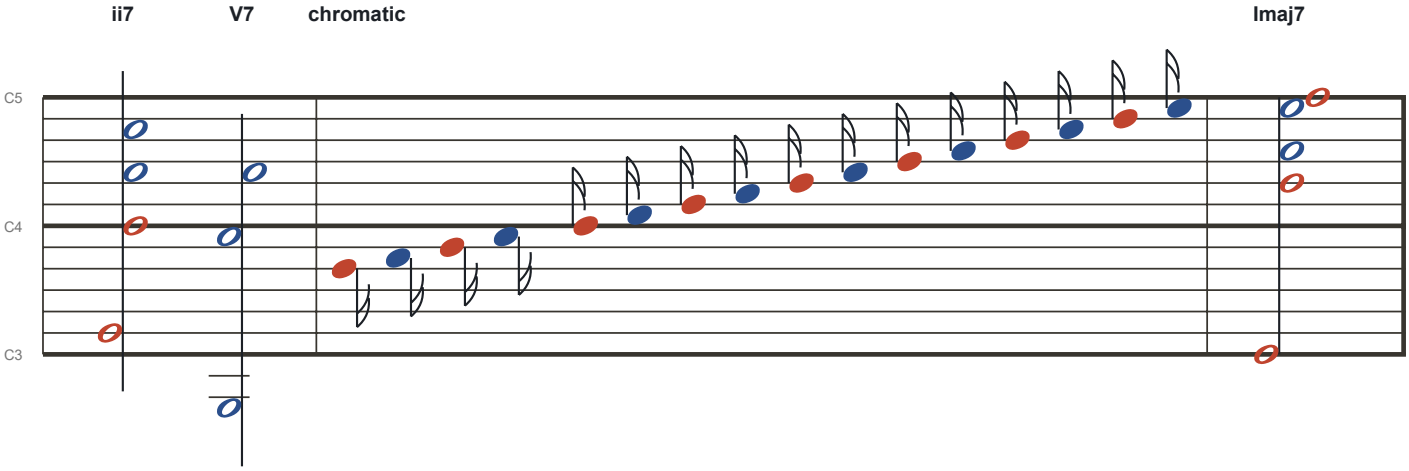
Rowsweep: one-row whole-tone glissando

A run that stays in one colour is a whole-tone scale: sweep it with one finger.

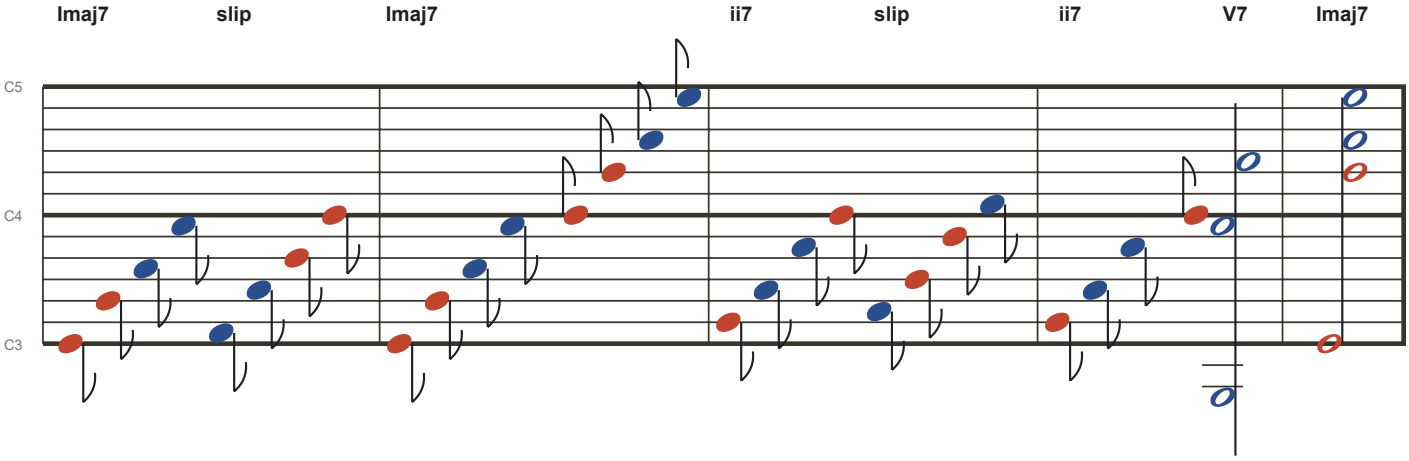


Crossing glissando: chromatic sweep

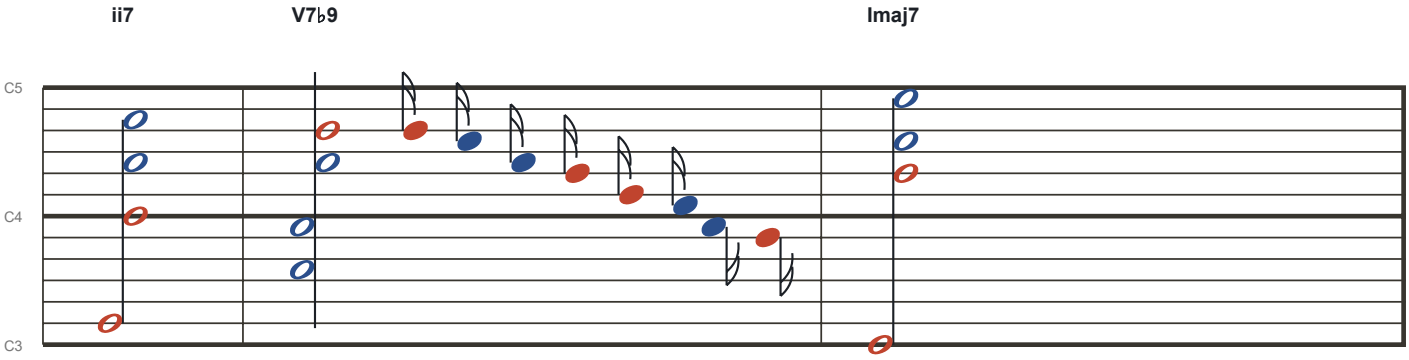
Every string in turn, crossing from row to row.



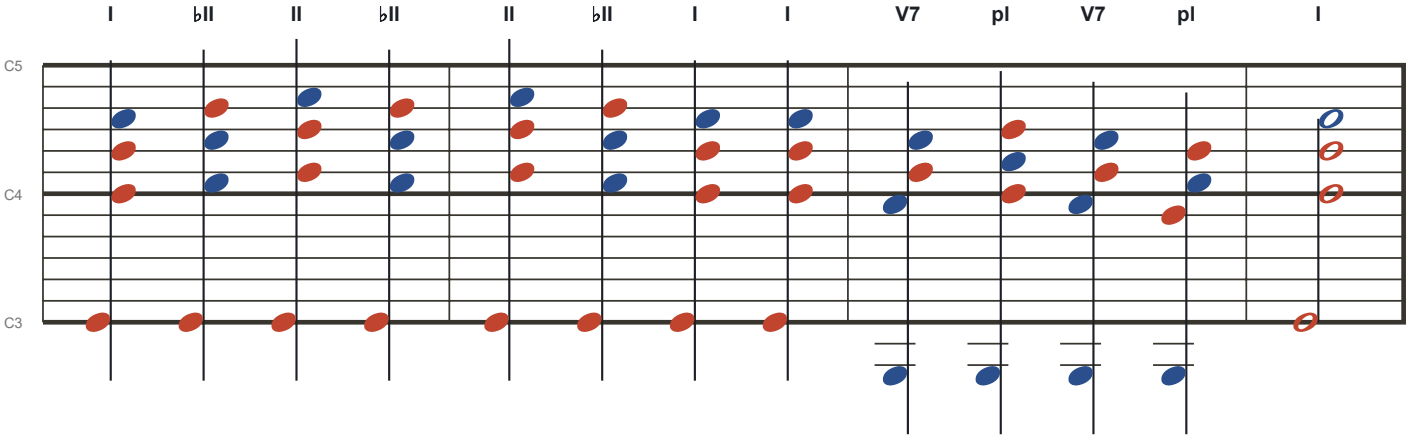
Slip arpeggio: same shape, other row



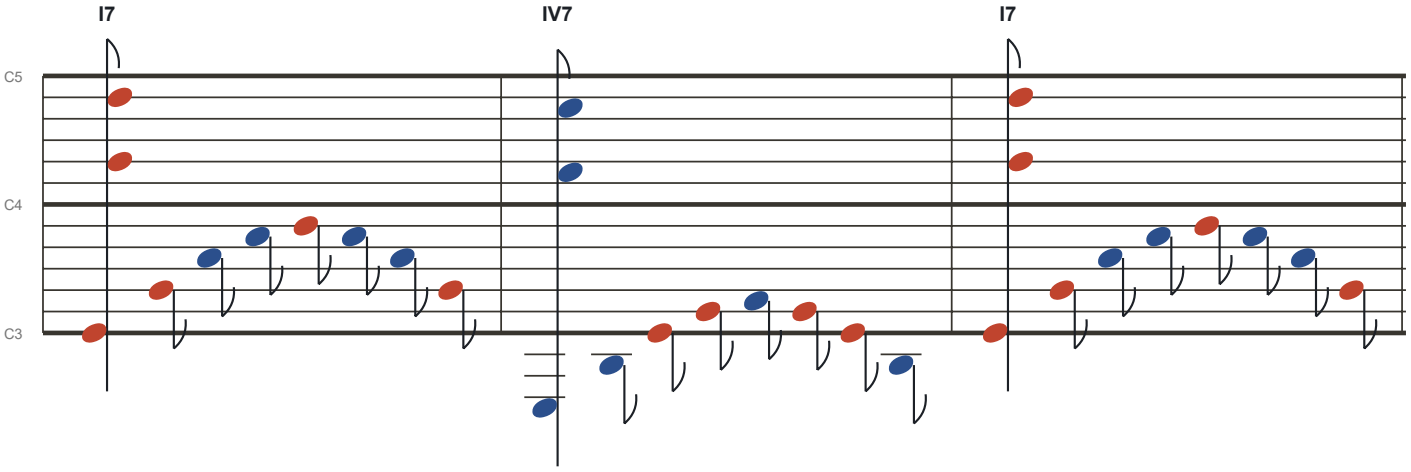
Pair-walk: octatonic run over V7♭9

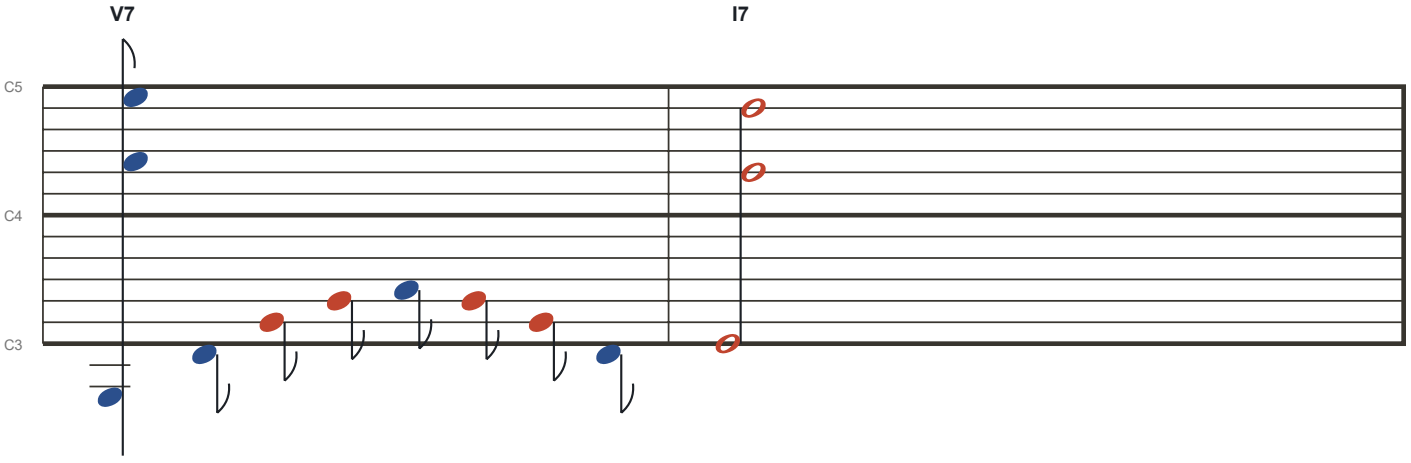


Chromatic planing over a pedal



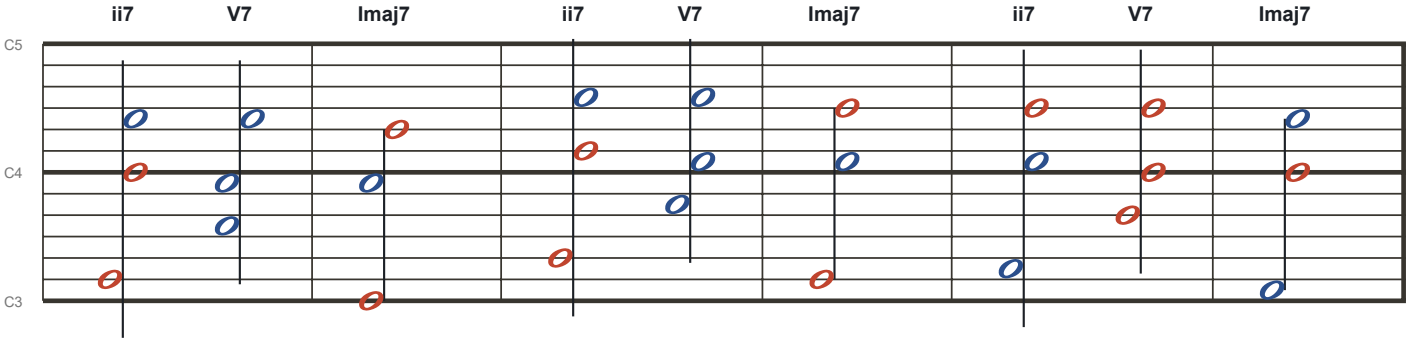
Boogie bass on I7–IV7–V7



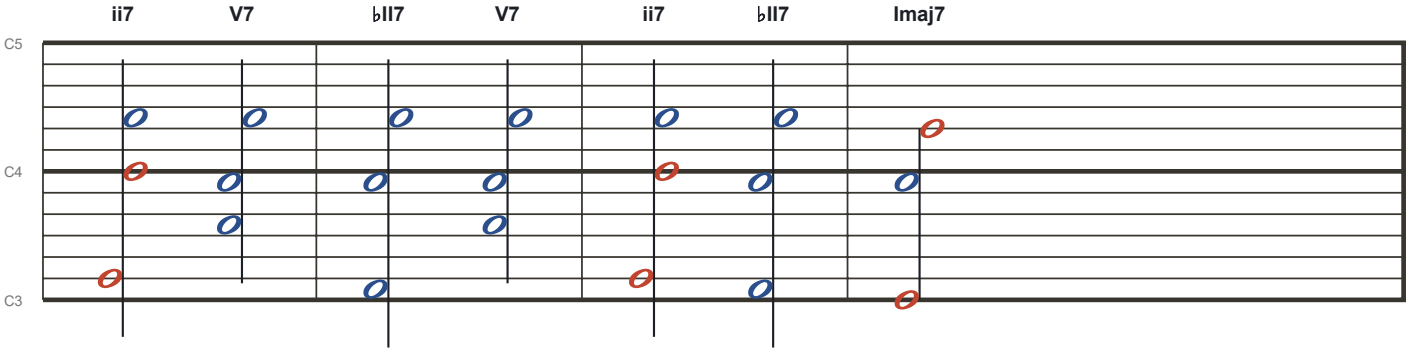


Jazz moves

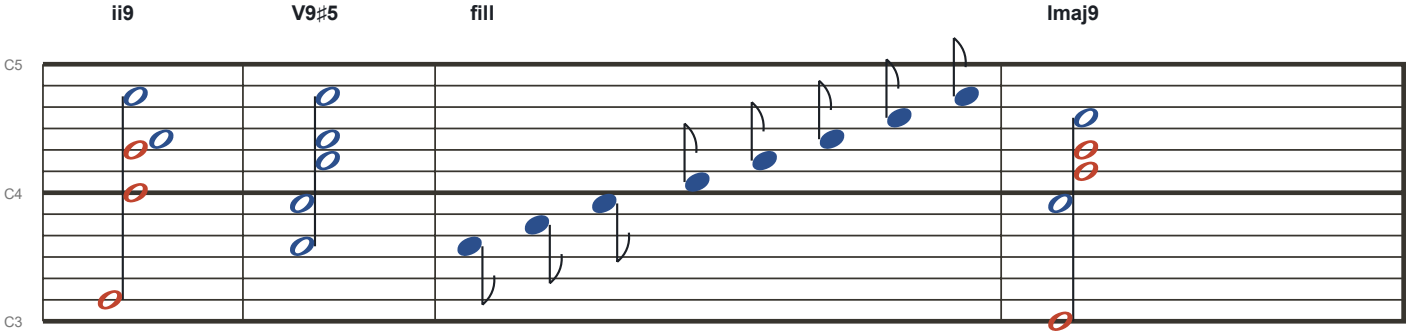
Guide tones: ii–V–I up a whole step, then a half step



Tritone sub: hold the tritone, hop the root

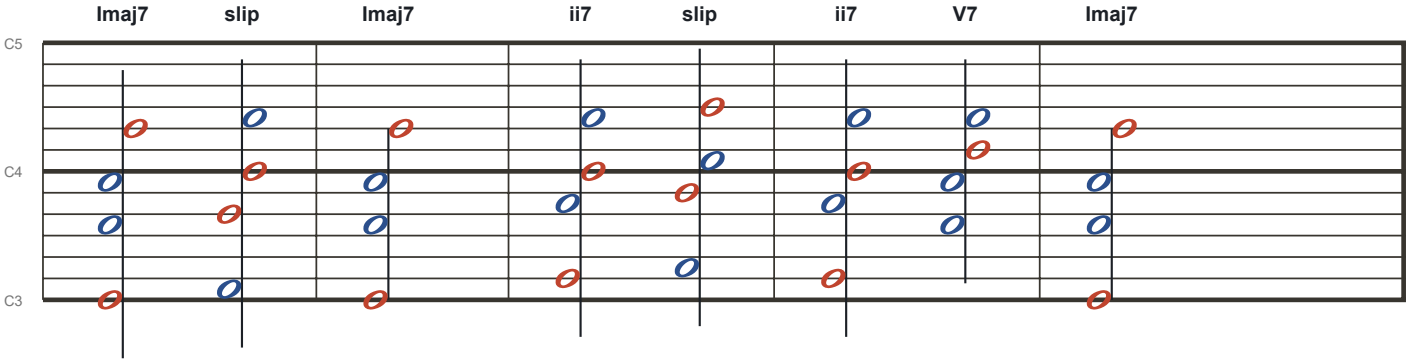


Whole-tone dominant: one row only

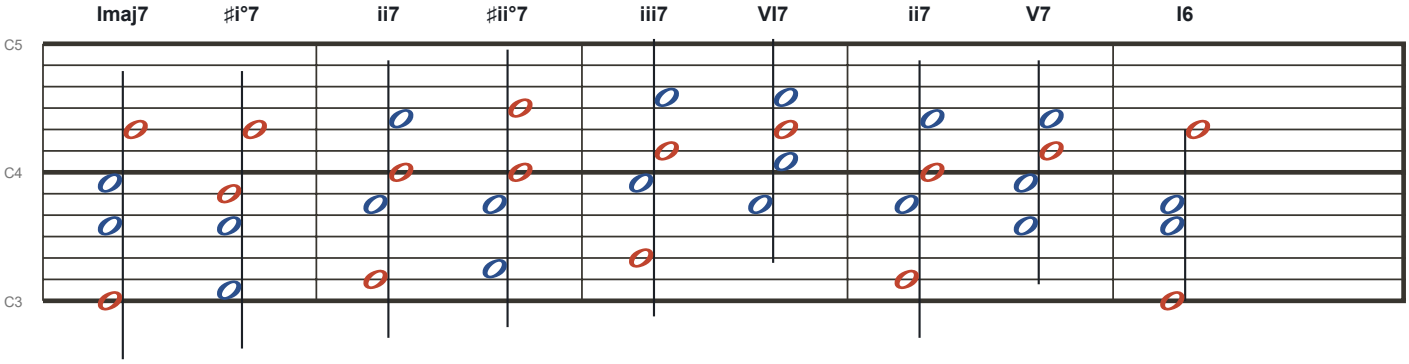


Side-slip: same shape, other row

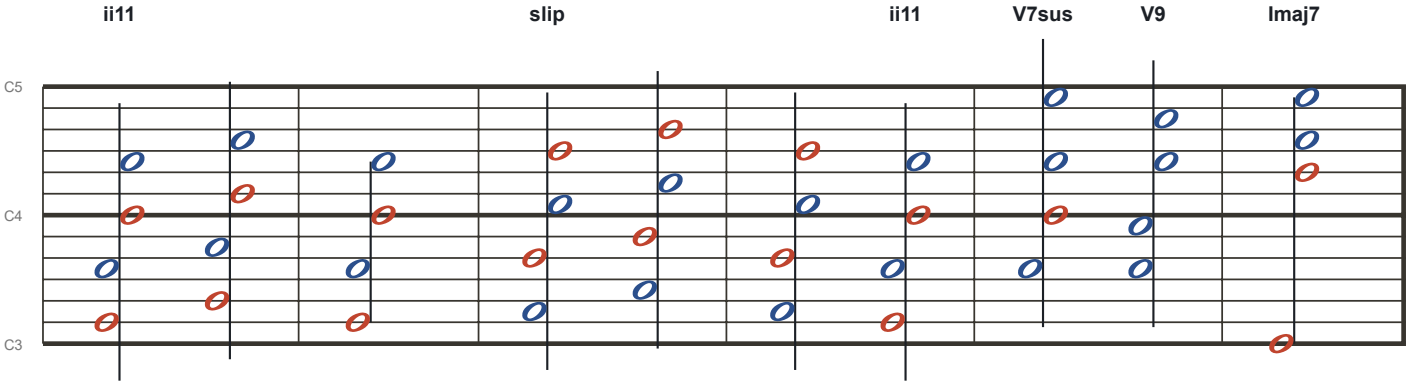
Move the whole shape up a half step: every finger changes row, nothing else changes.



Diminished passing chords (2+2)



Quartal planing: fourths alternate rows



Rootless ii–V–I: two notes move

