Symbols in Jazz Harmonic Analysis

(from John Mehegan's tonal + Chythaic trinciples)

I symbols

A = major

X = dominant Z

- = minor

\$\phi\$ = half-diminished = min \(765 \)

\$\phi\$ = dim

Harmonized Major Scale

roman numerals: I II IV I III

chard quality: 47 -7 -7 47 7 -7 Ø

example in C: CO7 D-7 E-7 FA7 G7 A-7 BØ

Harmonized Major Scale in 12 Keys

A7
E7
B7
F#7
Db7
Ab7
ЕЬ7
Bb7
F7
C7
97
V7

Jazz Clinic Review Session IV Analyzing Tunes

In analyzing tunes, we use the roman numeral system for each chord in the key that the tune is in. In C, I = Cmaj7; II = Dm7; III = Em7 etc. A complete harmonized scale chart is attached. Instead of using the chart as a reference, you should intimately get to them by playing exercises forward and backward such as in examples 1 and 2. Make sure you do them in every key; they might be easy in C but are they easy for you in B? This will enable you to instantly detect diatonic passages (those pertaining to a particular key) and cadences (ex: II V I) in a new tune you might be working or one that is called at a jam session. It will also be extremely useful if you play I VI II V patterns or II V I VI patterns in 12 keys as in examples 3 and 4.

When chords are diatonic they are easily spotted plus they give you the option to play vertically (i.e. address each chord) or horizontally (i.e. just address the key only and play patterns, scales, fast runs, etc. all within that key with the confidence that they will work over the whole diatonic sequence).

If any chord is non-diatonic, we use the symbols according to example 5. There is also "figured bass" notation for inversions, but that is beyond the scope of the clinic. For more information go to John Mehegan's Tonal & Rhythmic Principles.

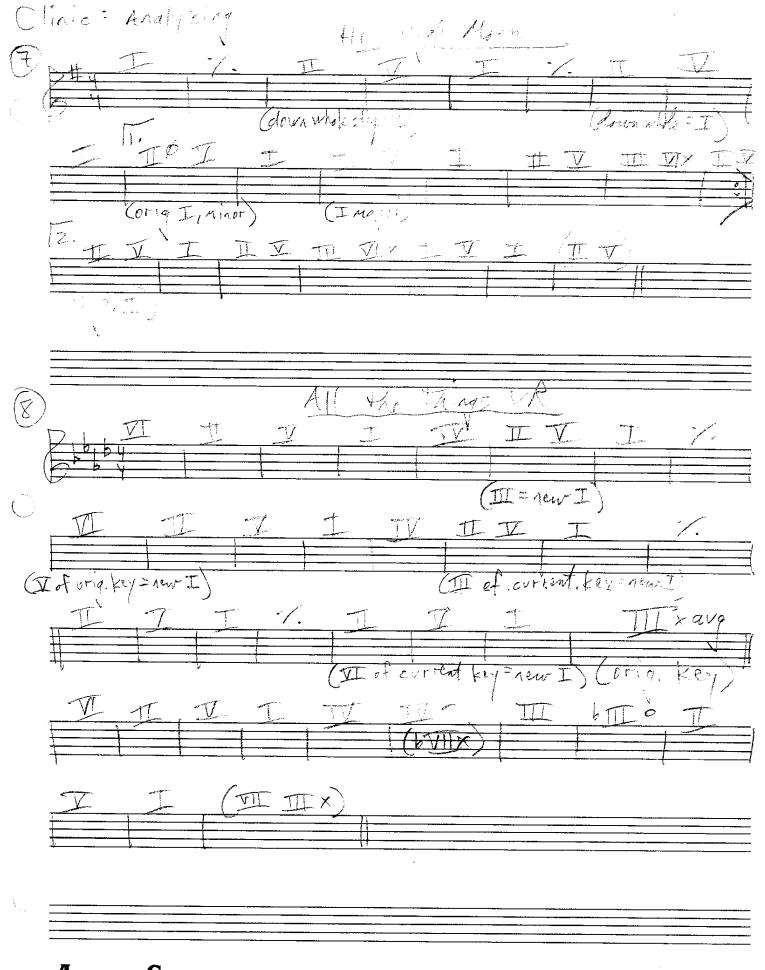
When analyzing a tune, always take the path of least resistance, i.e. the simplest and most direct way to understand it and remember it. For example if you are in the key of C but the tune goes | Fm7 | Bb7 | Ebmaj7 | (ex: Green Dolphin Street) it is certainly not incorrect to call it | IVm| bVIIx | bIII maj7 | but you might find it simpler to label it "bIII becomes new I": II V I). Also sometimes a chord has a dual function so you could analyze two different ways. See example 6 for the bridge to "Satin Doll," where the 7th bar has "pivot chords" that could belong to the key they're in, but probably better to call them by where you're going.

That brings up an important point in analyzing. You always have to look at the chords as to how they serve the function of providing motion. The key words are "function" and "motion." Sometimes you might even have to start from the last chord and go backwards.

Examples 7 and 8 are How High the Moon & All the Things You Are analyzed. Keep on practicing this system with new tunes. Good luck & have fun.







ARCHIVES



Corcovado (intro) | II IIz | IX & III / [] A) (: IX 3) -/- | 6 VI 0 | -/- | 1 I- IIX SVS / 亚。 亚 / 亚 / 1 PM× 1 II 1 M× 1 1 IX (-/- | II | I/6II || 1 / 16 1 / 1 11 Ix 3 1 I- | Ixsvs / II O II (II) | IV- | IV-6 | III | II [I] II / II / 1年1年

+ 1 1 1 1 1



Days of Wine + Roses 11 I 1 6 VII × 1 III 9 / III × / [II | 7. | III - | 6 III x [III II II MIX | AIX | I 11 I 1 6 TIX 1 TIP [I [% [II-16 VII > 1 [II | bIP | III xalt (III (= II x)