

Common Tone Modulation Examples utilizing chromatic mediant relationships

In each of the four measures below, the second chord shares a chromatic mediant relationship with the preceding C-major chord. In such a relationship, both chords must have one tone in common, their triadic component must be the same (M/m) quality, and their roots must be a third apart.

C A \flat C E C A C E \flat

Here are the chords that have a chromatic mediant relationship with Cm.

Cm A m Cm E \flat m Cm A \flat m Cm E m

"4am Blues"

C: I V₅⁶ I A \flat : I³ I V⁶ I

The second chord (A \flat in this case) in the common tone relationship does not have to be the tonic triad of the new key

C: I D \flat : I¹₇ V⁷ I C: I E: I³₁ I vii⁰⁶ I

C: I A: I³₅ I vii⁰⁶ I C: I E \flat : I⁵₃ I vii⁰⁶ I