

MUS 390 – Assignment #3

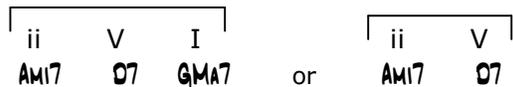
Lead Sheet Chord Analysis

The purpose of this assignment is to strengthen your ability to recognize, in various keys, chord progressions that are typical in the jazz idiom.

On a photocopy/printout of the lead sheet for “Here’s That Rainy Day” (available on Blackboard), perform the three tasks outlined below and answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

First: identify all roman numeral chords in the key of G major (write the roman numerals above the chord symbols). In addition, bracket any chords that fit into a circle of 5ths progression (iii → vi → ii → V → I, or fragments of that progression).

Like so:



Second: Identify and bracket the remaining chords with roman numerals for the following briefly-visited (“tonicized”) keys: Eb major, Bb major, C major. For any ii → V fragments (without a I chord), also say what key they belong to.

Third: circle any chords that you cannot place into the aforementioned keys.

In general: ignore chords in parentheses, except for the Emi7, Ami7 and D7 at the very end (the turnaround chords)—you should be able to label those.

Chord simplifications

Apply these simplifications to the following chords for the sake of labeling them with roman numerals:

Treat the Ami7^(add11) as an Ami7
Treat the G7^(b9) as a G7
Treat the D13 as a D7
Treat the A13 as an A7

Answer the following questions. Write your answers on the back of your lead sheet photocopy/printout.

1. How would you describe this form as being different from the one discussed class when we looked at “Bernie’s Tune”?
2. Of the several ii → V → I progressions in G major, there is something different about the final one (bars 29-31) with regard to the melody. What is that difference and what is the significance in it being at the song’s end?
3. Given that the lyrics of this song are about sadness and loss, how would you describe the effect of the CMa7 chord in bar 25 as compared to the Cmi7 chord in bar 9? (you’ll definitely want to listen to the song). There is no right answer to this; just say what you think/feel and give a reason for it.

It is strongly suggested that you listen to the linked-to recording as well as other recordings to get the most out of this assignment.