A Concentrated Course in Traditional Harmony

with emphasis on exercises and a minimum of rules

By

PAUL HINDEMITH

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Revised Edition

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PREFACE

Our old friend Harmony, once esteemed the indispensable and unsurpassable teaching method, has had to step down from the pedestal upon which general respect had placed her. This is not so much the fault of the attitude of those students who have never considered harmony study anything but a necessary evil. Rather it is owing to the increasing conviction on the part of many teachers (at last) that while one may follow its rules for a while out of pure respect for tradition, it is well, if one plans to undertake creative or even theoretical tasks of a higher order, to stand on one's own feet. Musical practice has taken paths along which the teaching of harmony could not follow. Principles of construction that embrace only a small fraction of chord possibilities; stylistic limitations; excessive dependence on notation; an insufficient acoustical basis-these are the reasons why the study of harmony is being left behind in the race between musical practice and theoretical instruction. I have written at length on this subject. In The Craft of Musical Composition I have devoted hundreds of pages to a criticism of the conventional theory of harmony and suggestions for its improvement, so I may spare myself any extensive discussion of the subject here.

Despite the evident loss of prestige which conventional harmony teaching has suffered, we must still count on it as the most important branch of theory teaching, at least so long as it has not been replaced by any generally recognized, universally adopted, more comprehensive, and altogether better system. And even after the introduction of such a system, it will maintain a high rank as a historic method which once had great importance—no longer a part of the curriculum of the harassed violin or piano student, but all the more important in the education of future theory teachers and music historians.

In both situations-the present one, in which faith in the magic power of the old rules of harmony is fast disappearing, and the future one, in which such rules will have interest only for the backward-glancing and analytical student-hardly anyone will feel a great desire to spend more time in the acquisition of harmonic knowledge than is absolutely necessary. Thus the cardinal principle for instruction in this field must be: give the student the material he needs in condensed form and with constant emphasis on the purely historical basis and only relative practical value of his study of harmony, and then try to make him acquainted with more far-reaching methods of harmony. The instruction should be speedy; but that does not mean that it should be careless. Brevity and thoroughness may very well be combined if one omits mention of things which are uncertain, exceptional, or based purely on stylistic or personal considerations. Fortunately, the situation is not what we would be led to believe by many harmony text-books, which make of harmony a deep and difficult science—almost a secret art. On the contrary, harmony is a simple craft, based on a few rules of thumb derived from facts of history

and acoustics—rules simple to learn and apply if they are not obscured by a cloud of pseudo-scientific bombast. It may therefore be presented to the pupil without any difficulty, and in simple, concentrated form.

The fact that, despite the need for brief, clear instruction, great thick harmony text-books continue to appear and find their readers is in my opinion not a sign of continual extension and perfection of the method. Harmony, as a theoretical system and as a pedagogic method, has been explored and perfected in every nook and cranny; its material has been gone through, taken apart, and rearranged hundreds of times; with the best will in the world no paths. will be discovered that have not been trod. It seems to me rather the prickings of conscience that most musicians seek to allay when they continue to read and study the endless re-groupings and re-publications of the old truths. No one is really satisfied with what he learned long ago in his study of harmony. For one thing, the material was presented to him in unenjoyable form; for another, every other activity seemed more important than theoretical study, which in general has so pitifully little influence on the practical musical accomplishments that have to be learned in the early years. So one buys the latest harmony book, as one has bought others before it, in order finally to make up for what one has missed (usually the intention is the end of the matter!), and thus perhaps at last to discover some of the secrets whose presence more or less every musician suspects behind the curtain of music theory. It is as if one had only to draw this dark curtain aside to behold the mystery of the creative spirit! But no matter how many harmony books one reads, they make no new revelations; and even the greatest minds will not succeed in making any, if by chance they undertake to write a harmony text-book.

"Why this new attempt, then, if, as follows from what has been said, it is just as useless and worthless as all the rest?" The answer to this question is that I am consciously taking this step backwards in full realization of its relative unimportance. Its purpose is not to provide a traditional underpinning for the principles set forth in The Craft of Musical Composition (which is not necessary, since for the understanding reader tradition is present on every page of that work) but to facilitate the speedy learning mentioned above, and this in as little scholastic a manner as possible, so that a close connection with living music may be continuously felt. It is true that even in this book there are rules enough, but they have been held to the absolute minimum; while on the other hand particular care has been devoted to supplying material for practical work in actual writing. Pieces of music of all sorts and styles (insofar as a style may be represented by the use of a particular set of chordal materials) have been provided in great number, so that a student who works through this collection of problems of all sorts, without having too much in the way of rules drummed into him, will in all probability achieve a better and more thorough knowledge of harmonic work than after plowing through many a heavy, profound, and learned treatise on harmony. No gift whatever for composition is required of the student. Being limited strictly to the technical process of connecting harmonies, this book makes it possible for any musician or music-lover without the slightest creative idea to master the exercises it provides.

It is in the nature of the material that even the most condensed teaching plan must follow approximately the historical development of musical writing, as it was practised in free composition, unregulated by school-book rules. This is true at least to this extent: that the exercises employing simple chord materials correspond to an earlier epoch in the technique of composition, while with increasing mastery of chords, progressions, and tonal relations the student approaches more closely the practice of the last few decades. But since our exercises serve primarily neither historical nor stylistic purposes, this very rough correspondence with the evolution of writing from 1600 to 1900 is fully sufficient. Looking back as we do, from a time in which the materials dealt with are fully known, to a still searching and discovering technique, we can afford to spare ourselves many roundabout ways and side paths that had to be taken by the original seekers and discoverers; in fact, in order to achieve greater mastery of our materials we may stress certain technical procedures and neglect others as compared with the real practice of composers in the past. The historical, physical, and physiological bases of our working procedure are of no consequence here. Those who are interested may look up these things in the appropriate literature. The adducing of explanatory illustrations from musical literature, too, has been sacrificed here; it is the task of the teacher to show the pupil where the models of his work are to be found.

The exercises provided lead the student from the very first steps of harmonic writing to the most advanced contortions of the technique of alteration. For small classes of normally gifted pupils, meeting twice a week, this material should provide one to two years' work. For slow workers, for whom there are not enough exercises, the teacher can provide supplementary ones, while gifted students will perhaps gain a considerable facility by working only part of the material given.

The fact that harmony can be taught along these lines has been proved by the class for which and with whose active participation this brief manual was written. In the Yale Music School we went through the material in this book thoroughly in a few weeks. The wish to help other teachers and students who may have felt acutely the need of plentiful and varied exercise material is what has impelled me to publish this little book.

PAUL HINDEMITH

Yale University New Haven, Connecticut January, 1943

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PREFACE to the SECOND EDITION

To the author of a harmony book, phrases like "60th Thousand," "20th Edition," "Popular-Priced Reprint," will always sound like some legendary song of the sirens. In general he can be happy if the comparatively few copies of the first printing find buyers without too much trouble. With this prospect in mind, I hardly expected anything more for the present little work than a moderate interest, particularly since it came into being in the first place only as a by-product of more important labors, and had no further purpose than to present to a few teachers and students struggling with similar problems some teaching material that had been found practical. Yet only a year after the first publication a second edition is needed! Whether that fact is due to the nature and arrangement of the book, or present conditions are particularly favorable to the distribution of such a work, or the sales have resulted from mere curiosity: these questions must remain unanswered here. I content myself with wishing the Second Edition good luck, too, as it sets out upon its road.

In the exercises themselves nothing has been changed, except for the elimination of misprints and inaccuracies. In the text, on the other hand, additions have been made: unclear formulations have been improved and additional explanations inserted where necessary.

New Haven, April, 1944

PAUL HINDEMITH

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CHAPTER I

PREPARATORY

1. Prerequisite:

Knowledge of Major scale Minor scale (the different forms) Keys, and the circle of fifths Aceidentals Note- and rest-values Measure-signatures Treble- and bass-clef Intervals in all forms

2. Voices

We write for four voices: soprano, alto, tenor, bass. Their ranges are as follows:



We use two staves, the upper for soprano and alto, the lower for tenor and bass.

3. Triads

The material to be used is the triad in its two principal forms:



Names of the tones of the triad:

Lowest—root Middle—third Upper—fifth

Triads are named according to their roots, e.g., C major, e minor. Terminology: capital letters = major (C = C-major triad), small letters = minor (a = a-minor triad).

[1]

- EXERCISE 1 -----

Play at the keyboard: A, a, C#, db, Bb, b, Gb, f#.

4. Doublings

Distribution of the triad tones among the four voices: one tone must be doubled.

Permissible doublings: root (preferred), or fifth. (No third-doubling.)

No crossing of the voices (maintenance of the natural order: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass).

5. Spacing

Close position of triads: no tone of the same triad can be inserted between soprano and alto, or alto and tenor.



Open position: tones of the same triad can be inserted between soprano and alto, or between alto and tenor.



Distance of the voices: between soprano and alto, or alto and tenor, no more than an octave; between tenor and bass any distance.

Positions determined by the soprano tone: position of the octave, of the fifth, of the third, all close or open.



- EXERCISE 2 —

Write the following triads in all possible open and close positions: D, Bb, F\$, Ab, G, e, g\$, eb, f, b.

6. Triads in the Scale

Triads can be constructed on all the tones of a scale. Only the scale-tones can be used.



The degrees of the scale (and the triads built upon them) are designated by the Roman numerals I-VII.

In major: I, IV, and V are major triads; II, III, and VI are minor triads; VII is a diminished triad.

In minor: I and IV are minor triads; V and VI are major triads; II and VII are diminished triads; III is an augmented triad.

Names of the most important scale tones:

- I Tonic
- V Dominant
- IV Subdominant
- VII Leading Tone

The dominant in both modes is a major triad. It contains the leading tone as its third.

— EXERCISE 3 —

Play at the keyboard the following triads in all possible open and close positions:

D I, Eb V, F# IV, Db II

g I, c# VI, ab V, b I

[3]

CHAPTER II

THE TRIADS OF THE PRINCIPAL HARMONIES

- 1. Connection of the principal triads I-V, V-I and I-IV, IV-I. Simplest form: Root doubled in both chords, in the octave or unison. Procedure:
 - (a) Write the bass progression from the first to the second chord.
 - (b) Complete the first chord.
 - (c) Hold over to the second chord the tone common to both chords.
 - (d) Lead the two remaining tones of the first chord stepwise to the nearest tones of the second chord.



Types of motion:

(a) Similar motion: Two or more voices move in the same direction.



(b) Contrary motion: Two voices move in opposite directions.



(c) Oblique motion: One voice remains stationary while another moves.





- 2. More complicated form of the progressions I-V and I-IV: first chord with fifth doubled, second chord with either permissible doubling. Procedure:
 - (a) as above.
 - (b) as above.
 - (c) If two tones can be held over into the second chord, hold one and lead the other the shortest way (skip of a major or minor third) to the nearest tone of the second chord.
 - (d) If no tone can be held over, lead each of the three upper voices the shortest way (stepwise, or by skip not larger than a fourth) to the nearest tone of the second chord.

Rules of voice-leading:

(a) Avoid leading any two voices in parallel octaves or unisons:



(b) Avoid parallel fifths.



(c) Skips of all four voices in similar motion are not to be used. Even skips of three voices in the same direction need careful handling. The excessive forward impetus created by such an accumulation of skips can be restrained by keeping one or more voices stationary or leading them in the opposite direction. Simultaneous skips of three voices in the same direction which are nothing but a change of position of the same chord are permitted without limitation if the fourth voice remains stationary or moves in the opposite direction. (See Exercise 11, below.)

Write progressions of the kind discussed	:	
Eb I–V	a	I–V
G V-I	g#	V–I
G _b I-IV	bb	I–IV
D IV-I		IV–I
——— EXERCISE 7-		
Play progressions of the kind discussed:		
Bb I-V	Ь	I–V
Ab V-I	e	V–I
F♯ I−IV	f	I-IV
E ["] IV_I	dt	IV-I

3. Progressions of the triads IV-V and V-IV.

Simplest form: both chords with root doubled. Procedure:

- (a) as above.
- (b) as above.
- (c) Lead the three upper voices, in contrary motion to the bass, the shortest way to the tones of the second chord. (This rule applies fully only to the simplest form of IV-V and V-IV progression.)

Rules of voice-leading:

(a) Two voices should not move upward into an octave from a smaller interval (hidden octaves).



(b) The two outer voices should not move upward into a fifth from a smaller interval (hidden fifths).





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EXERCISE 9

Play the following progressions:

E IV-V	C	f#	V–IV
Bb V–IV		g	IV-V
C♯ IV−V		eþ	V–IV

More complicated form: first chord with doubled fifth.

In some cases this progression is possible only if the fifth of the second triad is omitted and the root tripled.

Procedure:

(a) as above.

(b) as above.

(c) Lead each of the three upper voices in either direction the shortest way to the tones of the second chord. (Skips greater than that of the fourth will thus not occur.)

Rules of voice-leading:

- (a) No voice should skip a diminished or augmented interval.
- (b) Avoid in the three upper voices skips of more than a fifth.

 EXERCISE	10	-

Write the following progressions, with the fifth doubled in the first chord:

Ab I	V–V	с	IV–V
BV	/-IV	e	IV–V
Eb V	/-IV	ab	IV-V

What was said above about the second chord in these progressions applies from this point on to all major and minor triads: the fifth may be omitted.

$G \frac{4}{4}$	Î	IV	,	v		Ĩ		Ñ	7	v		Î	
$B \frac{3}{2}$	Ĩ	v	Î	IV	Î	v		Î	v	IV		Ĩ	
D [♭] 4	v		Ĩ	ĩv		v v	I	1	」 IV	v		J	
A ³ ₂	ĨV	Ĩ		v	Î	ĨV	1	Ĩ	ĨV	v		Î	
f	I	r	v	v] I [7]		V	I		ĨV	J I	



When the harmony is repeated, the position should be changed.

(Bass and Roman Numerals Given)



[8]



[9]

.



[10]



[11]

CHAPTER III

SIXTH CHORDS

1. Inversion of the major and minor triads.

The third of the chord is in the bass.



Figured-bass symbol: 6

Doublings: root or fifth (for the time being, not the third). Position of the octave or fifth (not third).



EXERCISE 16Write and play the following sixth chords in different positions:AIeBIeF#VeF#VeEbIVeBIebbVe

The fifth can be omitted, and the root tripled:



- 2. Progressions of consecutive sixth chords or of sixth chords with triads, treated from the same point of view as progressions involving triads only. Recommended procedure for making simple and correct progressions:
 - (a) If two chords have a common tone, hold it over.
 - (b) Lead each voice by the smallest interval possible.

Hidden octaves which form a broken triad may be used in the three upper voices when the harmony does not change:



(a) Skips of an octave or a sixth.

(b) Augmented and diminished progressions to the leading tone.

— EXERCISE 18 — (Figured Bass Given)

Meaning of the figures: Note without figure = triad 6 =Sixth chord





(Soprano and Numerals Given)

From this point on it is no longer necessary always to lead the three upper voices the shortest way from one chord to the next, or to hold over common tones.

Skips of an octave or a sixth may also occur in the upper voices.



* Bass and tenor in unison.

[16]

(Soprano Given Without Numerals)



After clearly perceptible caesuras in a melody or a figured bass, all four voices may skip in the same direction.



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CHAPTER IV

THE DOMINANT SEVENTH CHORD

1. The dominant seventh chord consists of the dominant triad with the 7th of its root added.



Possible positions: third, fifth, seventh (not octave). Characteristic feature: the diminished fifth, or, in positions other than that of the seventh, the augmented fourth (tritone).

2. Diminished fifth and augmented fourth demand resolution.

Resolution of the diminished fifth:



Resolution of the augmented fourth:



In both cases the leading tone moves upward to the tonic.

- 3. Connection of the dominant seventh chord with the tonic triad. Procedure:
 - (a) Write the bass progression.
 - (b) Complete the first chord.
 - (c) Resolve the diminished fifth or augmented fourth.
 - (d) Lead the remaining voice the shortest way into the next chord.

The fifth of the dominant seventh chord may be omitted, and when it is, the position of the octave is possible. When the dominant seventh chord contains its fifth, the chord of resolution is a triad without its fifth. The converse is also true: V_7 without fifth—I with fifth.

[18]

	- EXERCISE 22						
Write the following	progressions:						
(a) Seventh ch	nord with fifth, triad without.						
E V7-1	b V7–I	D I-V7					
Db V7-I	a V7–I	Ab I-V7					
Bb V7-I	eb V7–I	c I–V7					
G V7-I	f# V7–I	g# I–V7					
(b) Seventh cl	nord without fifth, triad with.						
A V7-1	c# V7-Í	E I-V7					
F V7-I	e V7–I	F# I–V7					
B V7-I	g V7–I	bb I-V7					
C V7–I	ab V7–I	d# I–V7					
	EXERCISE 23						
DI ' 'I	. ERERCISE 25						

Play similar progressions.

4. In the progression $V\tau$ (with or without fifth)-IV, the diminished fifth or augmented fourth cannot be resolved. In this progression (or the opposite) the common tone may be held over, to connect the chords as closely as possible.

(Numerals and Meter Given)



Many forms of the progression $IV-V_7$ (and the reverse) can be satisfactorily realized only by the use of an augmented or diminished melodic interval. It is therefore permitted from this point on to approach the lead-

ing tone (not only in the bass, but in other voices as well) by an augmented or diminished interval. (Less frequently, the leading tone may be left by such an interval.)



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From now on, the third can be doubled in triads and sixth chords.

Instances in which the doubling of the third is particularly apt to be successful:

(a) Sixth chords.



(b) Resolution of the V7 chord.



It is advisable not to double the third of a dominant chord, the leading tone (danger of parallel octaves). The seventh should also not be doubled.



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CHAPTER V

INVERSIONS OF V7

- 1. Three inversions of the dominant seventh chord are possible, each in three positions:
 - V_5^6 chord = third in bass: (position of the third impossible)



 V_3^4 chord = fifth in bass: (position of the fifth impossible)

V 2 chord = seventh in bass: (position of the seventh impossible)



The figured-bass indications for these chords are, respectively: $\frac{6}{5}$, $\frac{4}{3}$, 2.

The fifth of the chord may be omitted in the $\frac{6}{5}$ and 2 inversions; in this case, the root (g, in the examples above) is doubled.

2. Progressions V_5^6 (V_3^4 , V_2)-I: procedure as in V7-I. Normal resolutions:

 V_5^6 to the I triad; V_3^4 to the I triad or sixth chord; V_2 to the I sixth chord.

Write the following chords in any position :

$E V_5^6$	$F V_3^4$	a V2	\mathbf{g} \mathbf{V}_5^6
$D V_3^4$	Gb V2	c V ₅ ⁶	eb V ₃ ⁴
B V2	$C \# V_5^6$	db V_3^4	c# V2 📬
Ab V ⁶ ₅	Bb V ⁴ 3	f# V2	$g \ddagger V_5^6$

Play these chords on the piano and resolve each into its respective form of I.

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Progressions V_5^6 (V_3^4, V_2) -IV: procedure as in V7-IV (no normal resolution of the diminished fifth and augmented fourth).

The following progressions in the outer voices are permitted from now on:



octaves by contrary motion only at the end of an exercise or a clearly articulated section.

(Numerals and Meter Given)

In many progressions, no regular resolution of the diminished fifth (or augmented fourth) in the dominant seventh chord or its inversions can be accomplished. But even so it is possible by following the rules given to write these progressions in perfectly acceptable form.



No. 2 is used only at the end; No. 1 may occur anywhere (Caution: empty sound).

But neither is employed immediately after chords containing the diminished fifth or the augmented fourth $(V\tau, V_5^6, V_3^4, V_2, \text{ etc.})$.





Accidentals before a number refer to the interval indicated by it, counted from the bass.





[29]


— EXERCISE 33 —

(Soprano Given With Numerals)

Sometimes one is forced, in close position, to let the bass rise above the tenor in a V7 chord.



Although the result is a V_2 in sound, the strong effect of the bass progression justifies us in considering the chord as having the full force of a V_7 . Except in this case, crossing of the voices should be avoided so far as possible.





[31]



Seventh chords and similar combinations, as well as their inversions, should not be used as the final chords of exercises.



[32]

















[33]

CHAPTER VI

DERIVATIONS OF V7

1. The dominant ninth chord consists of V7 with the ninth of its root added:



Inversions: V_{5}^{7} and V_{2}^{10} Figured-bass symbols: 9, $\frac{7}{5}$, and $\frac{10}{4}$

In four-part writing, the ninth chord and its inversions are usually used as follows:

(a) the fifth is omitted;

(b) the ninth is in the upper voice;

(c) the two upper voices should not form a second.



The two upper voices may, however, (in $V_{\frac{6}{5}}^{7}$ and $V_{\frac{10}{2}}^{10}$) be pitched a ninth apart, and therefore the rule that there must not be more than an octave between the two upper voices no longer applies with full force.



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2. Dominant seventh chord with sixth:



The fifth is replaced by the sixth.



The sixth is almost always in the upper voice.

Figured-bass symbols: $\begin{bmatrix} 1&3\\7\\7 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 1&1\\6\\5 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\begin{bmatrix} 7\\4\\2 \end{bmatrix}$.

In progressions, the two derivations (V_9, V_7^{13}) and their inversions are treated like V_7 and its corresponding inversions.

The characteristic tone of these dominant chords (9 in V9, 6 [13] in $V^{1\frac{3}{7}}$) can be approached by a diminished or augmented interval.

——— EXER	CISE 35
Write the following chords:	
A V9	b V9
Eb V ⁷ ₅	f V_5^7
D $V_{\frac{1}{2}}^{10}$	$ab V V \frac{10}{4}$
Gb V^{13}_{7}	g $V^{1}\frac{3}{7}$
$E V \frac{1}{5} \frac{1}{5}$	$d \# V {}^{1} {}^{1}_{5} {}^{6}_{5}$
$\operatorname{Bb} \operatorname{V}_{\frac{4}{2}}^{7}$	a $V_2^{\frac{7}{4}}$

Play these on the piano and resolve each to its own respective form of I ($V_{\frac{4}{2}}^{10}$ and $V_{\frac{4}{2}}^{7}$ into I₆; see Chapter V, Section 2).

(Numerals and Meter Given)

To avoid unnecessary skipping around in all the voices, care should be taken in the choice of position of the chords.



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The hidden-octave and hidden-fifth progressions mentioned on p. 6 may be used

between two inner voices, or

between the top voice and an inner voice.

(See also p. 26). However they should be made less conspicuous by strong contrary motion in at least one of the other voices.

But the following hidden octaves and similar ones—produced when two voices move from a seventh or ninth into an octave—are still to be avoided, no matter in which voices:



From this point on, it is permitted to approach by augmented or diminished interval not only the tones already mentioned (9 in V₉, 6 in V_{7}^{13} , and the leading tone), but other tones as well, when this results (especially in minor) in smoother voice-leading, or in the avoidance of more serious mistakes.



Hidden octaves in progressions using V_{7}^{13} :



occur frequently.









CHAPTER VII

NON-CHORD TONES

1. Changing Tones occur between a chord tone and its repetition, in weaker metric position than either, at the distance of a second above or below:



2. Passing Tones form one or more steps of a second between two different chord tones, occurring in weaker metric position than either of the chord tones:



3. The Suspension precedes its chord tone at the interval of a second. It is *prepared* by being included as a chord tone in a previous chord, and *resolved* by moving stepwise to a chord tone. The suspension occurs in stronger metric position than either its preparation or its resolution:



Suspensions resolving upwards occur more rarely than those resolving downwards:



If the suspension resolves into the third of a chord, there is no objection to the doubling of this third in a minor triad; such doubling can be disturbing, however, in a major triad; and it should always be avoided when the third involved is the leading tone (third of the dominant triad).



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Between suspension and resolution other tones can be inserted :



Be careful about parallel octaves and fifths:



Possible only in slow tempo:



4. The Anticipation is a chord tone belonging to the second of two chords, which occurs in weak metric position at the end of the first:



5. The Neighboring Tone is a suspension without preparation. Everything said about suspensions, except as regards preparation, applies to it also:



6. The Neighboring Tone Left by Skip follows its chord tone at the interval of a second, proceeding to another chord tone by skip. It occurs in weaker metric position than the chord tones:



7. The Neighboring Tone Approached by Skip precedes its chord tone at the interval of a second, being separated from the previous chord tone by a skip:



8. Exceptionally, tones may occur which cannot be considered chord tones, and yet do not fit into any of the foregoing categories. These are to be considered free tones.



(Soprano Given With and Without Numerals)



It will be noted that the more complicated chords (*e.g.*, the ninth chord, and even at times the dominant seventh chord) are often explainable as simpler chords with the addition of non-chord tones. The presence of non-chord tones sometimes results in doubled leading tones or doubled characteristic tones in seventh chords (7), in V₉ (9 or 7), and in V_{77}^{13} (6 [13] or 7). These doublings are regarded as harmless, owing to the transitory character of the tones marked with a +.



[42]



[43]



In working out melodies for which no numerals are given, primary attention should be paid to the construction of a good bass line. It is advisable to construct the entire bass line first, but always considering the chords that may be built upon it in combination with the given melody.

























[46]

When non-chord tones are used, parallel fifths sometimes occur between them and chord tones. Such fifths may be used without hesitation. But parallel octaves occurring in this way are still to be strictly avoided.

Parallel fifths occurring between non-chord tones of the same species (two suspensions, two passing tones, etc.) are, however, just as disturbing as between chord tones, and accordingly should be avoided.

Thus this progression is permissible:



but not this one:



CHAPTER VIII

⁶₄ CHORD, II⁶₅ CHORD

1. $\frac{6}{4}$ chord: the second inversion of a triad.



The fifth is in the bass.

Figured-bass symbol: $\frac{6}{4}$

Doublings: fifth preferred; octave or third rarer.

Most frequent use of I_4^6 :

(a) before a dominant chord in an ending. In this case the effect is of V with two neighboring tones:



(b) as a passing or changing chord (having the same function as passing or changing tones):



 $\rm IV_4^6$ and $\rm V_4^6$ are most commonly used as chords formed by changing tones, passing tones, or anticipations.

2. II⁶₅: subdominant triad with added sixth.



Particularly useful in endings (before I_4^6 , V, or V7).

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The tones forming the second (or ninth) characteristic of the chord cannot be omitted, while the tone establishing the major or minor character of the chord is at times left out.

The doubling in this case is optional:



This incomplete II_{5}^{6} , like the I_{4}^{6} , is often used as neighboring chord to a dominant chord that follows. In this case the tone which is treated as a neighboring tone (or suspension) resolving to the third of the dominant chord is not doubled:



Write the following chords in different positions:

F	I_{4}^{6}	D	V_4^6	g#	IV_4^6	Ab	${\rm II}{}^6_5$
e	I_{4}^{6}	b	IV_4^6	f#	V_{4}^{6}	eb	

Play the following progressions:

A $I_{4}^{6} - V_{7} - I_{.}$	$e V - I_4^6 - IV.$
$\mathbf{G} \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{I} \mathbf{V}_{4}^{6} - \mathbf{I}.$	$c IV - I_4^6 - V - I.$
$Eb IV - V_4^6 - I.$	$c \# I_6 - II_5^6 - I_4^6 - V_7 - I.$
$F \# II_{5}^{6} - V_{7} - I.$	$eb I_6 - V_4^6 - I - II_5^6 - I_4^6 - V_7 - I.$

To make this exercise easier, write out the bass progressions, and use them as an aid in playing.

The soprano to be worked out over given figured basses must not just make its way awkwardly from chord-tone to chord-tone. Rather, the student should strive to make it a well-constructed melody-line. Write the entire soprano before working out the inner voices.



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[52]

CHAPTER IX

TRIADS ON II, III, VI, VII

1. In Major:

II, III, and VI are minor triads. VII is a diminished triad. (Cf. p. 3.)

In Minor:

VI is a major triad. II and VII are diminished triads. III is an augmented triad. (Cf. p. 3.)

The major and minor triads and their inversions are to be treated exactly like the triads on I, IV, V, and their inversions.

- Diminished Triad: the inversions are preferable (especially the sixth chord). Doubling: in all forms the best tone to double is the one which does not belong to the diminished fifth (or augmented fourth). The most satisfactory treatment of the diminished triad and its inversions consists in the resolution of the diminished fifth (or augmented fourth).
- 3. Augmented Triad: the leading tone contained in it is not to be doubled. At times, the influence of the soprano or the bass (or both together) on the entire texture is so strong that even these precautionary rules cannot be followed. It is then simply impossible to keep these progressions free of poor voice-leading (e.g., hidden fifths and octaves). In fact, there will often be times when even in other, more harmless progressions, one will have to accept weaknesses in voice-leading for the sake of other elements (melodic line, bass structure, root-progression, etc.). In such cases hidden fifths and octaves are often not the worst way out of a difficulty. Still, they had better be avoided so far as possible in the outer voices.

(Numerals and Meter Given)

$$\mathbf{E} \stackrel{2}{2} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{I}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{II}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{IV}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{II}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{II}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{II}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{V}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{V} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{V}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{V}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{V}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{V} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{V}} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{V}} \stackrel{1}$$

[53]

 $\mathbf{G} \left\{ \begin{array}{cccc} \mathbf{J} & \mathbf{J}$ $\mathbf{B} \stackrel{2}{4} \stackrel{1}{\mathbf{I}_{6}} \stackrel{\mathbf{VI}}{\mathbf{VI}} \stackrel{\mathbf{V}_{6}}{\mathbf{VI}} \stackrel{\mathbf{V}_{6}}{\mathbf{V}_{6}} \stackrel{\mathbf{III}_{6}}{\mathbf{V}} \stackrel{\mathbf{III}_{6}}{\mathbf{III}_{6}} \stackrel{\mathbf{I}_{6}}{\mathbf{I}_{6}} \stackrel{\mathbf{I}_{6}}{\mathbf{I}_{6}}$ $I \quad V_6 \quad III_6 \quad V_6 \quad VI \quad III_6 \quad I_6 \quad III_6 \quad IV \quad II \quad VI_6 \quad II_6 \quad I$ $\mathbf{g}^{\sharp}\mathbf{3}_{4} \quad \mathbf{I}_{1} \quad \mathbf{VII}_{6} \quad \mathbf{I}_{6} \quad \mathbf{VI} \quad \mathbf{I}_{6} \quad \mathbf{V}_{7} \quad \mathbf{I}_{1} \quad \mathbf{II}_{6} \quad \mathbf{III} \quad \mathbf{VI} \quad \mathbf{IV}_{1} \quad \mathbf{II} \quad \mathbf{V}_{1} \quad \mathbf{V}_{1_{3}} \quad \mathbf{I}_{1} \quad \mathbf{I}_{1} \quad \mathbf{V}_{1_{3}} \quad \mathbf{V}_{1$ $\mathbf{f} \ \mathbf{C} \ \mathbf{I} \ \mathbf{I}_{6} \ \mathbf{I} \ \mathbf{I}_{6} \ \mathbf{II} \ \mathbf{V}_{1_{6}}^{1} | \mathbf{V}_{1_{6}}^{1} | \mathbf{V}_{1_{6}}^{1} | \mathbf{V}_{6}^{1} | \mathbf{V}_{6}^{1} | \mathbf{V}_{1}^{1} | \mathbf{V}_{1_{6}}^{1} \mathbf{V}_{1_{6}}^{1} | \mathbf{V}_{1_{6}}^{1} \mathbf{V}_{1_{6}}^{1} | \mathbf{V}_{1$ - EXERCISE 45 -(Figured Bass Given) 13 13 6 #6 T 54 T



* Voice leadings like , etc., (a species of hidden fifths) are often unavoidable when the augmented triad is used. In such cases, see to it at least that they do not occur between the two outside voices. Progressions frequently used:

- (1) VI instead of I, in endings headed towards I (Deceptive Cadence).
- (2) V as the conclusion of an ending, usually following IV6 in minor (Phrygian Cadence, Half Cadence).

- EXERCISE 46 —

(Sopranos Given With Numerals)

The comparative richness of the harmonic material already at our disposal compels us to burst the bonds of strict vocal style to which we have hitherto confined ourselves. We shall continue to write in four-part style, but we need not keep strictly to the style or the ranges of actual voices earlier set forth. In playing examples on the piano (without having written them down) it is not even necessary to follow the strict rules of four-part writing. A more pianistic style may be adopted, using fuller forms of chords (chords with more than one doubling, complete ninth chords, etc.) or reduced harmonies, with only three parts.



[55]



The leading tone may be doubled with good effect

- (a) when it is not the third of a dominant chord;
- (b) when it is the third of a dominant chord which is followed by a chord other than the tonic (II, III, IV, VI). In this case the two leading tones should not move in the same direction;
- (c) when better voice-leading may be obtained by doing so (almost always by contrary motion of the doubled leading tone).







































[59]

CHAPTER X

SEVENTH CHORDS ON I, II, III, IV, VI, AND VII

1. Secondary Seventh Chords



These chords are used in all inversions $\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, 2$ and positions.

It and IIIt in minor are infrequently used; VIIt, on the other hand, is common.

Often the treatment of secondary seventh chords as independent chords is made unnecessary by considering certain tones as non-chord tones in triads or dominant seventh chords.

The often harsh effect of many secondary seventh chords may be softened by preparation, the characteristic tone (the seventh) occurring first as a chord tone in the same voice in the preceding chord.

The best treatment of VII7 (in major and minor) and of II7 (in minor), as well as of their inversions, consists in the resolution of the diminished fifth (or augmented fourth).

- 2. Secondary seventh chords are usually employed in complete, four-tone form. In particular cases where harmonic completeness is not desired, better voice-leading can sometimes be achieved by omitting one tone:
 - (a) in chords containing no diminished or augmented interval (Major: I7, II7, II17, IV7, VI7; Minor: IV7, VI7), as well as in VII7 in minor, either the third or the fifth may be omitted;
 - (b) in all others (Major: VII7; Minor: I7, II7, III7), that tone may be omitted which neither belongs to the diminished (or augmented) interval nor constitutes the seventh of the chord.

When one of the chord tones is omitted, it is best to double the root and to place the seventh in the upper voice. But the leading tone is not doubled even when (as in VII_7) it is the root.

- EXERCISE 48 –

Play the following progressions:

$C I_7 - IV$	E $H_7 - V$	B III7 – VI
g# I7 – VI	bb II7 – I6	f# III7 – VI6
$F I_5^6 - IV$	Dh II ⁶ - I6	F# III ⁶ -II6
a I ⁶ ₅ – VI6	b II ⁶ ₅ – VI ₆	$f III_5^6 - IV_7$
E I $\frac{4}{3}$ – IV7	Bb $II_3^4 - V_7$	$C \# III_3^4 - II_7$
f. $I_{3}^{4} - II_{5}^{6}$	a $II_3^4 - I_6$	$c III_3^4 - VI_6$
$F I_2 - VII_6$	B $II_2 - III_7$	D III $_2 - VI_7$
d I ₂ - V_{5}^{11}	f# II2 – V_{5}^{7}	bb III2 – VI6

In the use of secondary seventh chords (as well as of other, more complicated harmonic constructions, to be treated later), the prohibition of parallel fifths cannot always be strictly maintained. The effect of the parallels is not disturbing because the attention of the hearer is monopolized by a more conspicuous factor—the secondary seventh chord. These parallels may accordingly be used without hesitation in progressions involving secondary sevenths, when they cannot be avoided, or where the only alternative would be clumsy and unnatural voice-leading. This statement applies to progressions from the simple chords (triads and the dominant chords already treated) to secondary seventh chords and vice versa, as well as to progressions from one secondary seventh to another. They should, however, be avoided between soprano and bass. In progressions involving none but the simple chords just mentioned, parallel fifths remain forbidden.

G IV7 – II	Α	VI7 - V7	Eb	VII7 – I
c IV7 – V2	е	$VI_7 - IV$	ď	VII7 – I
D IV $_5^6 - V$		$VI_{5}^{6} - V_{5}^{6}$	В	$VII_5^6 - VII_6$
$c \# IV_5^6 - V_7$		VI ⁶ ₅ – VII7	g	VII 5 - VI6
A $IV_3^4 - VII_7$	С	VI 3 – V6	G۶	VII <u>4</u> – I6
$e IV_3^4 - V_5^6$	g	$VI_3^4 - II_7$	b	$VII_3^4 - VI_6$
G IV2 – II7	Eb	$VI_2 - V_7^{13}$	Aþ	$VII_2 - V_9$
ab IV2 – VII ⁶ 5		$VI_2 - II_7$	eþ	$VII_2 - I_4^6$





[62]





[64]

When suitable occasions present themselves, non-chord tones may be introduced into the inner voices. Care should, however, be taken not to overload the texture.



[65]


In the historical form of thoroughbass figuring (of which the figuring used in this book is a simplified form) there are special signs for raised and lowered tones (*e.g.*, \bullet , 4; *etc.*), but since these signs were not used consistently by all composers, they are here replaced by \sharp , \flat , ϑ , and \flat \flat , in the interests of an unambiguous notation.







[66]











[67]







------ EXERCISE 52-------(Soprano and Unfigured Bass Given)













In figured basses, dashes under two or more notes indicate that the harmony of the first chord (triad or other chord specified by the figuring) is sustained to the end of the dash (that is, that the bass line contains non-chord tones or a broken chord). Compare this use of dashes with their use in combination with Roman numerals, from Exercise 20 on.



[69]











[70]

















CHAPTER XI

SIMPLE ALTERATION

1. The adoption of a scale other than the harmonic minor provides us with a number of additional chords which belong to the key.

The ascending melodic minor scale yields the following triads (hitherto not employed in minor):



The descending melodic minor scale (natural minor) yields:



The following seventh chords are obtained from the ascending and descending melodic forms of the minor scale:



These secondary seventh chords produced by simple alteration are treated in respect to the question of parallel fifths exactly like the original, unaltered secondary sevenths dealt with in Chapter 10.

2. Through chromatic alteration of single scale-steps (raising or lowering by means of accidentals) still further chords may be added. Of the great number so obtained the most frequently employed are:



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The triad on the altered VI is frequently used in a variation of the Deceptive Cadence mentioned on page 55: I - V7 - Alt. VI.

The triad on the altered II is used mainly in its first inversion ("Neapolitan sixth"). The very common connection of this chord with a dominant (Neap. II₆ – $V[\tau]$) is characterized by two patterns, which, because of their conspicuousness, are usually avoided in other connections, but are to be recommended here as both necessary and of good effect:

- (a) diminished third in one of the voices (from the root of the Neapolitan chord to the leading tone in the dominant chord);
- (b) cross-relation.
- 3. The most frequently used seventh chords obtained through this form of simple alteration are:



Some of the chords mentioned above introduce minor elements into major (*e.g.*, the minor subdominant), and vice versa. Hence it is understandable that even tonic triads may be interchanged as long as a definite feeling of major or minor is not desired (rather in the course of tonal development than at the beginning or at the end; but a minor development often has a tonic triad in major form as its ending—containing the so-called "Picardy third"—the reverse being less frequent).

Altered chords cannot be expressed with Roman numerals without risking confusion with unaltered chords originally denoted by these numerals. Therefore from this point on Roman numerals are reserved for the few cases where other indications would be less correct (see pp. 107 ff.), and the more exact system of figured bass indications is used almost exclusively.

The attentive student, however, will have noticed a certain ambiguity even in figured basses. In general, the figures are abbreviated symbols for chords (6, $\frac{6}{4}$, $\frac{6}{5}$, etc.), but in certain cases two consecutive figures indicate the progression of a single voice (*c.g.*, \times 7, which occurred as early as Exercise 24, and others). This ambiguity is due to the fact that no figuration whatsoever can reproduce everything that takes place in progressions, as expressed in staff-notation. But with the experience gained thus far the student will not be in any doubt as to the meaning of the figures in each instance.













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[76]











[77]

EXERCISE 54 (Soprano and Unfigured Bass Given)



[78]











[79]











[80]





CHAPTER XII

SECONDARY DOMINANTS

Any major or minor triad other than the tonic triad of a key (II, III, IV, V, VI in major; IV, V, VI in minor), as well as all major or minor triads created by alteration, can be emphasized by being preceded by a triad (major, less frequently minor) or seventh chord (mostly of the dominant seventh type—that is, consisting of major triad and minor seventh) which stands in the relation of a dominant to it.

These secondary dominant chords contain tones which do not belong to the main key (or, what amounts to the same thing, alterations of the tones of the key).

The dominant seventh chord of the main key can also be preceded by its dominant.

—— EXERCISE 55 ——

Play the following progressions:

V-I, V7-I, IV-I, VI-I, III-I, altered VI-I, II-I, Neap. II6-I, in various major and minor keys, and in the several positions, the first chord in each progression being preceded by its secondary dominant.

Example $(f #: Neap. II_6-I):$



The effect of a secondary dominant can be created not only by a chord standing in the relation of dominant to its successor, but also by a chord erected on a tone which is used as the leading tone to the root of the following chord, thus establishing an artificial VII, VII6, VII⁶, or VII7 (altered or unaltered, in root position or any inversion).


















































CHAPTER XIII

EXTENDED ALTERATION

- 1. The dominant seventh chord and its inversions are frequently used in altered form. Alterations are made by
 - (a) enharmonic change of the seventh
 - (b) enharmonic change of the fifth
 - (c) use of the tone a half-step above or below the fifth instead of the fifth itself.



Chords Nos. 6, 7, and 8 are not used as regular forms, owing to the doubly augmented or diminished intervals they contain.

- 2. The closest tonal affiliations of these altered dominant chords can be found in the major or minor triad (or sixth chord) immediately following, which must be written in its regular form—*i.e.*, without any augmented or diminished interval—and must be reached without any chromatic or enharmonic connection by one of the following progressions:
 - (a) Resolve the diminished fifth into a major or minor third (or the augmented fourth into a major or minor sixth), as described on p. 18. Treat the tone reached by an upward half-tone step in this resolution as the root of the triad, and complete this triad with the remaining two voices (more than one possibility in Nos. 5 and 12).
 - (b) Resolve as under (a), but replace the root of this resolution by another root, a major or minor third lower (as in a "deceptive cadence"—see pp. 55 and 74), treating one of the two remaining tones of the dominant chord as a leading tone (Nos. 3, 5, 11, 12) or as a subdominant (No. 2).

Thus we obtain the following resolutions:



Numerous other progressions are possible by disregarding the above instructions. But then the progression must consist of more than two chords to make its tonal significance clear.

In progressions involving chords introduced into a key by extended alteration (whether involving such chords exclusively or in connection with other chords) the ear is quite insensitive in the matter of parallel fifths. Here, too, the attention of the listener is distracted from the parallels by a more conspicuous element—the complex tonal relation.

3. The inversions of these chords may often, by the introduction of chromatic progressions, be used in simpler and more legible forms. But they can be used in their unchanged forms, too, and some of them, e.g.,



are actually used here and there.

4. Next to chord 2 (the augmented $\frac{6}{5}$ or "German sixth") and chord 5 (the augmented $\frac{6}{3}$, or "French sixth") No. 9 is the most frequently used. It appears almost invariably with the augmented fifth in the upper voice:



Two of its inversions are used the same way:



The following three-part chords, obtained by omitting one of the voices from Nos. 2, 5, and 9, are frequently used:



("Italian sixth")

*This augmented triad is a dominant chord, while the original (unaltered) augmented triad mentioned in Chapter IX is a chord on III in minor. All these chords have the same tonal resolution as the original chords from which they are derived.

5. Like the dominant seventh chord, the diminished seventh chord (VII7 in minor) also occurs in altered forms. The enharmonic change of its tones permits direct resolution into four different major or minor triads or their inversions:



One of the chord tones (a different one in each case) is used as the leading-tone to the root of the next chord. The tone a third above this leading-tone may be replaced by a diminished fourth. The result is a chord which is similar to $V_{\frac{6}{5}}^{11}$. The new tone is always in the upper voice.



Despite the great freedom in voice-leading made possible by these altered seventh chords of dominant character, care must still always be taken (in forms in which one tone is omitted, or in chord-formations in more than four parts) to avoid doubling the tone that acts as leading tone.

6. All chords containing diminished fifths or augmented fourths are especially susceptible to alteration. These chords have too many possibilities to be brought within an easily comprehensible system. One has to be content, therefore, with constructing these chords as needed, and using them according to their construction, even though some of them, through frequent use, have already found a definite place in tonal classification, such as this one:



It will already have been observed that the harmonic enrichment which alteration brings into the field of key-relations introduces also the danger of rank overgrowth, surfeit, and dissolution into chaos. For actually every tone of a scale may be altered, and this fact brings into being an unknowable host of ever further ramifying tonal relations. This does not mean that new sounds are created, but simply that the combinations already known appear in ever varying notations. Fortunately, however, we always have the possibility of substituting chromatic notation for leading-tone treatment and this reduces the great number of complicated altered chords to the manageable proportions of the series of the more usual and simpler alterations that we already know.





[91]











[92]













In such exercises it is easy to recognize the limitations of the figured-bass symbols. They begin to be unhandy when they consist of figures (or accidentals) representing three tones of a chord; and when they contain figures or accidentals representing *four* tones they lose their function completely. For then the figures, the original purpose of which was to provide a sort of short-hand substitute for staff-notation, have defeated that purpose by becoming more complicated than the staff-notation itself—and are thus a useless and burdensome addition.













































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CHAPTER XIV

MODULATION-I

1. Modulation is a progression from one tonality into another.

A modulation is clear and unambiguous if each tonality is purely and unmistakably expressed. The new tonality should not be approached before the old one is firmly established.

The simplest means of firmly establishing a tonality is the cadence. In its shortest form a cadence consists of three chords of a tonality, the last of which is always the tonic triad.

2. The strongest and accordingly the most common cadences are those in which the dominant precedes the tonic triad. The chord preceding the dominant may be built on any of the scale-steps.

– EXERCISE 60 -

Play the following cadences (figured basses):



3. Cadences with the subdominant preceding the tonic triad (plagal cadences) are less decisive, and therefore should not be used when the strongest cadential effect is called for.





The decisiveness of a cadence decreases proportionately as the relationship of the penultimate chord to the tonic becomes more distant.



4. The half-cadence (Phrygian cadence) already mentioned (p. 55) is a cadence which aims not at the tonic triad but at the dominant. In minor, this dominant is usually preceded by the subdominant sixth-chord, and in major, by the altered subdominant sixth-chord. Since the tonal significance of this cadence is clear only in the light of a previous or subsequent principal cadence leading to the tonic, this cadence does not lend itself to the unambiguous definition of a tonality. It is more appropriate as a passing cadence in the course of a tonal development, or as a final cadence where the intention is to keep the ending open and indefinite.



By the addition of further chords and by melodic ornamentation, cadences may be extended into larger tonal structures. All the exercises worked out in the preceding twelve chapters are examples of this process.

5. The new tonality of a modulation (key of destination) is established in the same manner as the original tonality (key of origin).

Between the original and the new tonality there lies a field which may belong to either of them. It consists either of a single chord common to both, or of a group of chords with a common meaning.

The simplest modulations employ the cadential tonic triad of the original key as a pivot: this chord is interpreted as one common to both tonalities.

- EXERCISE 64 —

Play the following modulations. Complete the initial three measures in four parts, and then join them successively to each of the continuations given.






Other modulations employ the dominant or subdominant triad of the original key as a pivot.

----- EXERCISE 65 ------

Play the following exercise in the manner of the previous one.



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The common chord may appear in the rôle of

- (a) secondary dominant of the dominant or subdominant of the new key;
- (b) secondary dominant of II, III, or VI of the new key;
- (c) simply altered chord in the new key.

EXERCISE 66

Play in the manner of the previous exercises.



[103]





















Any other chord of the key of origin may serve as the pivot of the modulation, if it is made to perform any of the aforementioned functions in the key of destination.

Play in the manner of the previous exercises.













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6. In many modulations, there is no attempt to provide for a clearly perceptible middle ground: the key of origin is first clearly established and then the key of destination is joined to it as a contrast. Obviously this may result in a fissure in the texture which, if it is not wisely employed as a special means to further the harmonic development, may easily destroy the smoothness of a progression.

Provided, however, that there is not too great a contrast in structure between the last chord in the key of origin and the first chord in the new key (as, for example, if the former were to be an augmented triad and the latter a secondary seventh chord; or the one a chord without third and the other a dominant chord with a sixth replacing the fifth; or one chord spread out widely and the other in the closest possible position; etc.) there will always be a perceptible relation between them, be it ever so tenuous. Thus this form of surprise modulation differs not so much in kind as in degree from the progressions previously described. To the extent that we depart from the norm of smooth and closely meshing modulation, the disjunct, interrupted character of a terrace-like modulation produces an increasingly conspicuous, obtrusive, and finally disturbing effect, which, even in cases where the entire tonal structure of the piece demands this effect, is apt to place a great burden on the understanding. The hearer follows only with difficulty the sudden jump from one closed tonal domain into another, and if he is upset by this trick too often and at too small distances, he will turn with a shudder from the achievements of the unbridled tone-manipulator to seek his salvation in a gentler style of music in which he is spared the unpleasantness of such shocks.













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CHAPTER XV

MODULATION-II

1. Modulations which lead very quickly into distant and surprising keys (modulations which accordingly cannot be used everywhere) result from making the final chord in the key of origin a chord with extended alterations in the key of destination.

Play the following in the manner of the previous exercises.



[109]











[110]



2. The key of destination need not be arrived at directly. Other keys may be touched on in the course of the modulation leading to it. Each of these may be arrived at in any of the many ways previously described, and care must be taken always to define the tonal groups clearly if they are not to appear as simply belonging to one of the adjacent keys.

In the following exercise this technique is applied.

____ EXERCISE 70 _____

The following modulating melodies should be worked out. It is no longer absolutely necessary to keep strictly to four-part writing. Some of the writing may be in three parts or in more than four parts. In this connection it should be noted that it is often difficult in three-part writing to make clear the significance of harmonic progressions which are very closepacked with alterations. Writing in five or more real parts is suitable enough to the quietly moving lines of vocal style. But it hardly lends itself to our more animated instrumental style, in which the too independent movement of numerous individual parts, which in their self-willed motion would constantly be getting in each other's way, would hardly yield a pleasant result. In addition to writing in three, four, five or more real parts, the student should practise the mixed style idiomatic to keyboard instruments, combining chords of many tones with passages in thinner texture.



[111]





















[112]





















[113]



















[114]





































CHAPTER XVI

SUPPLEMENTARY EXERCISES

Write piano accompaniments to the solo parts of the following sonatinas, which are conceived for flute or violin.

Here it is even less necessary than in the exercises of Chapter 15 to keep strictly to four-part writing. For the sake of convenience in playing or of sonority the harmonies may be filled out (care being taken to keep the doublings in good proportion) or reduced to two or three voices. Compact harmonies may be dissolved by broken chord figures into melodic lines. Unison passages, voice-crossings, strengthening of the bass, parallels, and numerous other devices may be employed to give the texture life and variety. They will all develop out of the four-part style which has been practised in the foregoing chapters, when we subordinate that style to our experience in the technique of keyboard performance. Examples of this kind of writing are to be found throughout the classic and modern literature.

The procedure in doing these exercises should be as follows:

- (a) Determine the tonal groupings. Note that some sections are held together within a key (the end of the section belonging to the same key as the beginning) while the harmonic characteristic of other sections is their modulatory nature.
- (b) Determine at the outset in what styles the various sections are to be worked out. As an aid in this procedure, Roman numerals indicate the different sections, corresponding sections being indicated by identical numerals.
- (c) Write out a bass line derived from the considerations under a: first the principal points in the harmony, and then the passages that connect them. Then add (sparingly) numerals which make the harmonic outline clear.
- (d) Work out the bass line according to the considerations under b.
- (e) Complete the harmony.

The completed piano part can be a very correct and orderly piece of work, in accordance with the rules of harmony. That is the goal that everyone who has mastered the foregoing exercises can reach. As was said in the Preface, no gift for composition is necessary in order to reach this goal. Once a student has reached this comparatively high degree of technical knowledge, he may with good conscience devote himself to technical problems of a different sort —problems which may also be solved without any creative talent but simply by intelligent calculation and combination. If, on the other hand, his completed versions of these sonatinas show that he can not only realize their possibilities correctly, but at the same time speak a personal and in the best sense peculiar language, then he must consider whether the creative gifts thus evidenced should not be developed in the direction of original composition. The attempt can do no harm if he never forgets what a tiny percentage of those who compose are really gifted composers, and how with the best will in the world, and even with the severest judgment, the danger is ever present of mistaking for creative talent what is only a gift for adroit imitation or a highly developed skill in compilation.

To sum up, we may say that the completion of the exercises in this book proves nothing about the creative abilities of the student who has accomplished it. On the other hand, a composer, even a very gifted composer, is no more than half-grown and unskilled if he cannot do the exercises in this book with ease.



Sonatina I

[118]



Sonatina II





[120]



Sonatina III



[121]



[122]



Sonatina IV



[123]





















[124]



















