Deborah Henson-Conant's

Arpeggiate Your Life!

What if you could ...

√ Really make your harp SING!

√ Add Pizzazz to any piece

√ Take a moment to *collect yourself* before you play -- a moment that *sounds to eveyone else* as if you're playing something very fancy

√ Have an Instant Intro of any length you want

√ Have a way to modulate between keys and tunes that was fun, challenging, beautiful and oh-so-useful! (That's the bonus section -- and we might not get to it!)

You can do all this without looking at music!

- Arpeggios are all about PATTERNS
- When you LOOK at this 'music', I want us to look at the PATTERNS and to PSYCHE THEM OUT, rather than try to READ them
- WRITE ON IT - to circle the patterns you see, give them names, hunt for them, really *understand* what's 'happening' musically before you play a single note. so that the next time you look at this page, you don't have to read the notes - you'll know how to recreate them, rather than read them
- When you do play it, I want you to figure out the SIMPLEST way to *understand, remember and play each pattern and example*
- Look for ways to have fun - and where to put arpeggios in your playing!

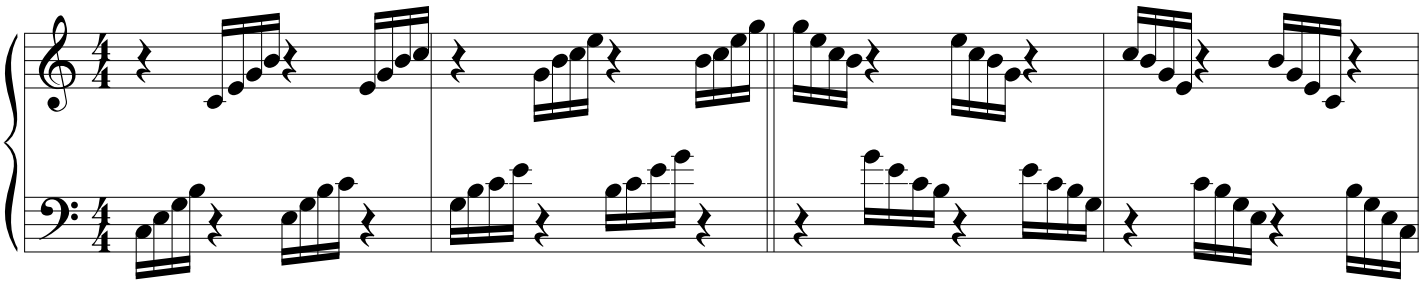
Modulating Hand-over-Hand Arpeggio Practice

First, the basic Patterns I used:

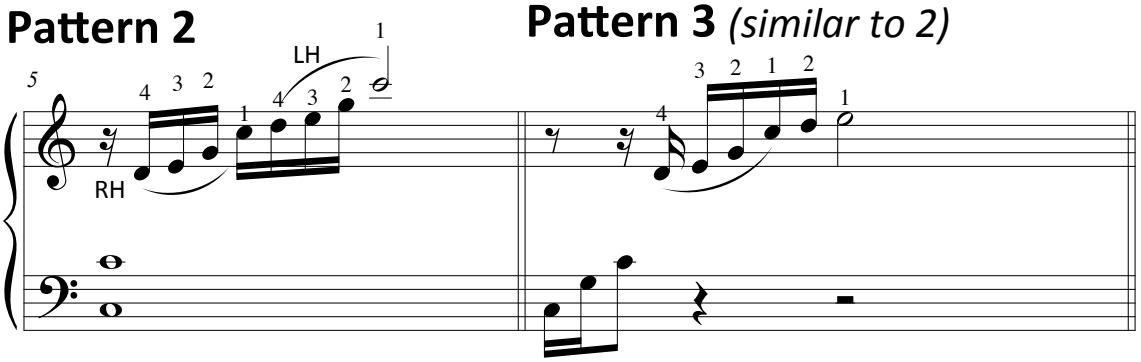
Pattern 1

Pattern 1 backwards

(Although I don't use this pattern in this handout)



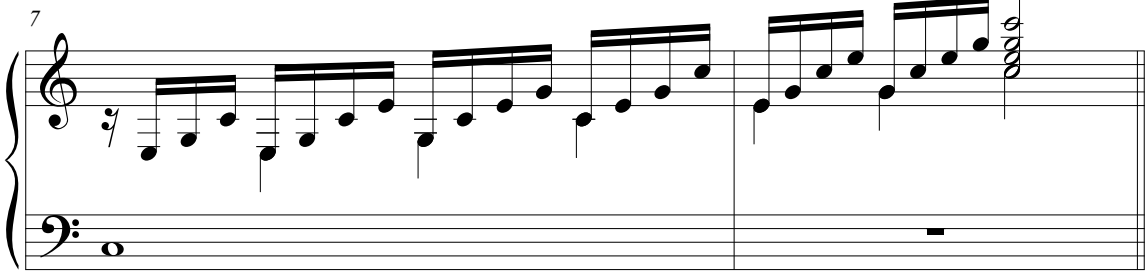
Pattern 2



Pattern 3 *(similar to 2)*

This is similar to pattern 2 except the bass is broken and the treble is all in the RH with a crossover -- this gets you ready to noodle with your RH

A pattern I didn't talk about in the video!



I didn't talk about this pattern in the video (because I just made it up now.)

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Some notes about these exercises:

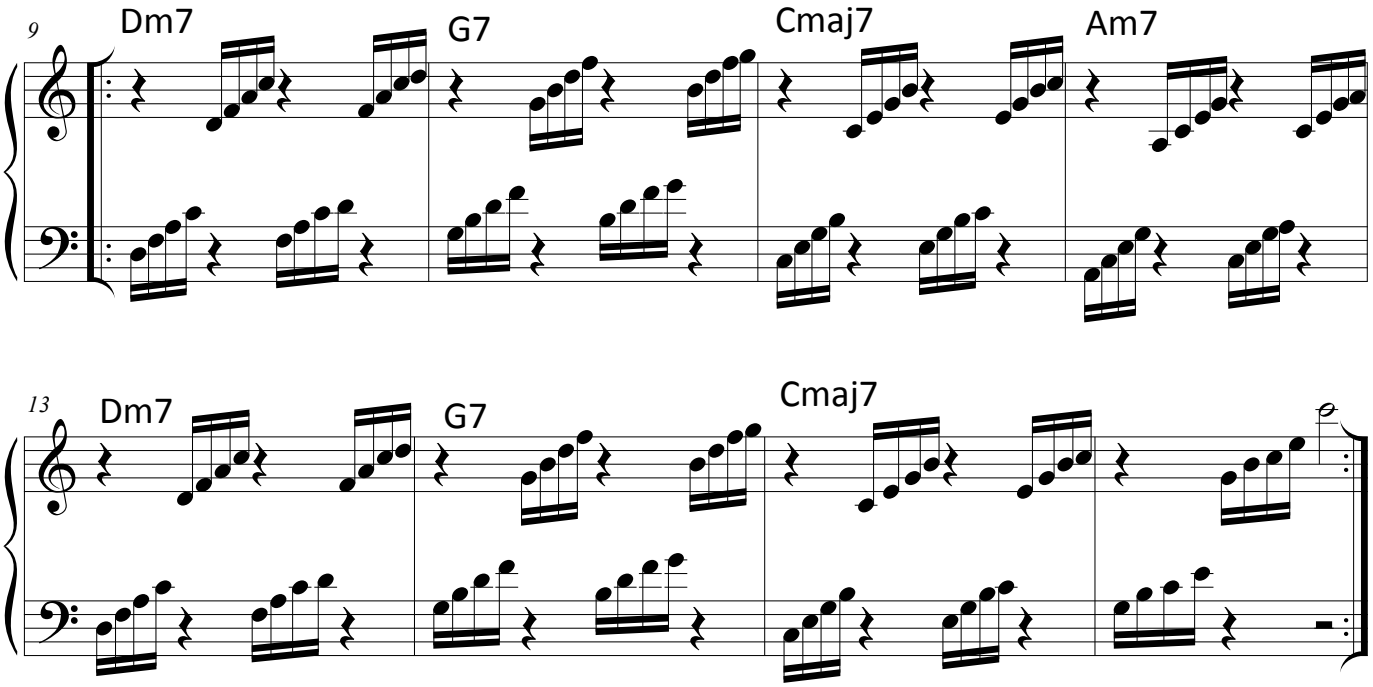
FINGERING: The fingering will always be the same for each pattern, so once you learn the pattern, theoretically you only have to look at the bottom note for each hand, then make the shape with your hands and it should work.

CHORDS: So long as your harp is in the key signature, the chords will work out without worrying about pedals or levers. The Harmonic Progression is always the same

MODULATING: Initially, the point of the exercise is just to learn the pattern - but then it's a great exercise for modulating.

Using the Chord Progresson: ii-V-I-vi ii-V-I-I

Pattern 1 (just 2 inversions per chord)



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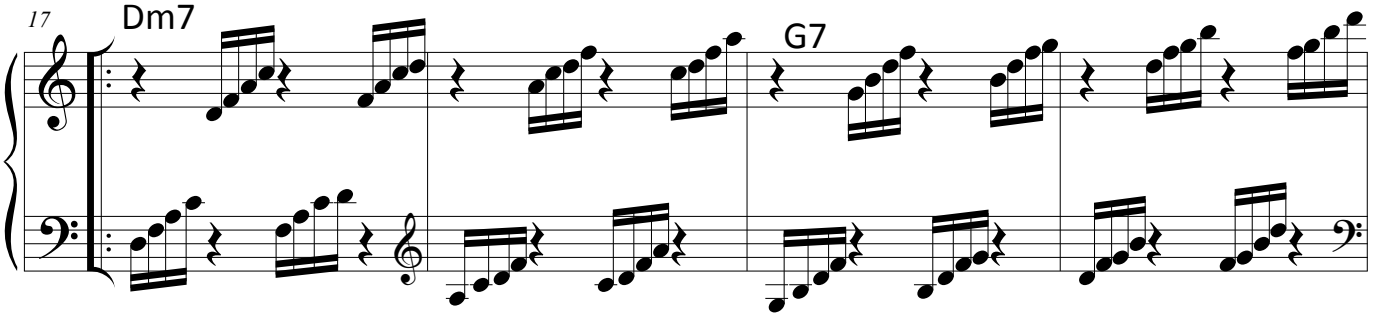
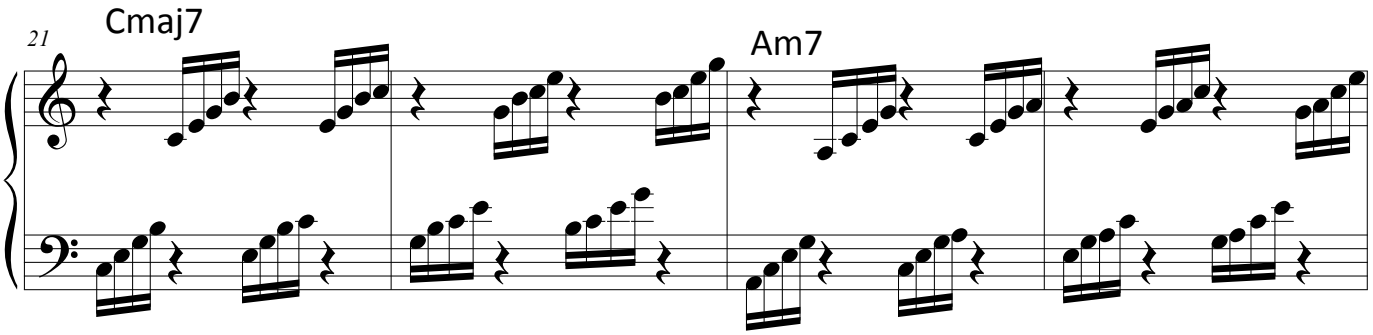
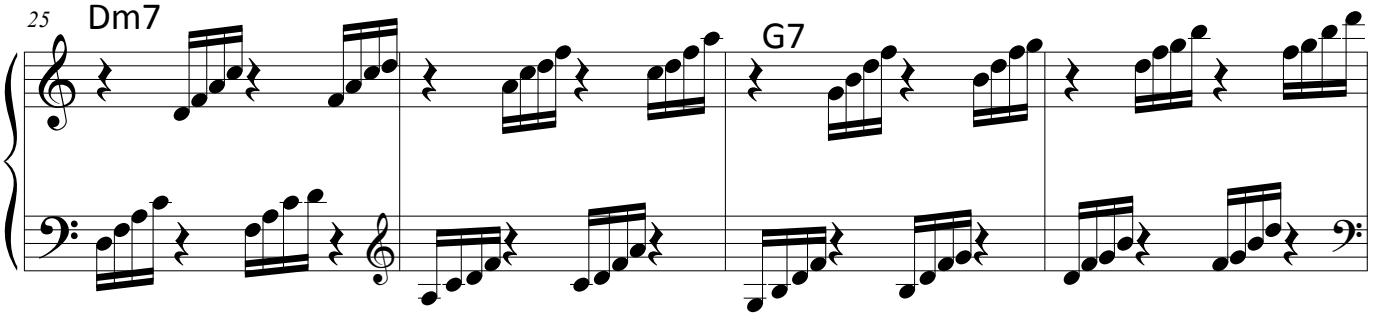
Pattern 1 (4 inversions per chord)

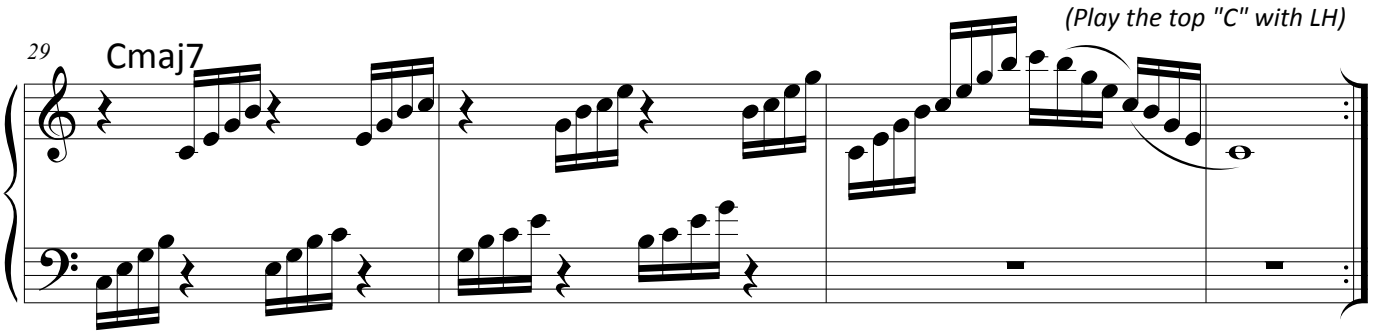
(I don't think I played this exercise on the video - it's a variant on the previous one)



(note that the clef changes here and in a couple other places in this exercise)







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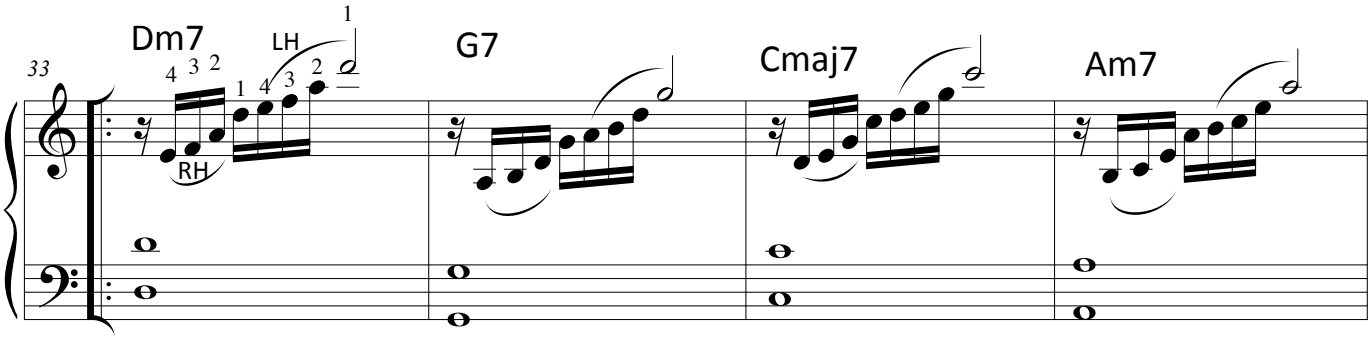
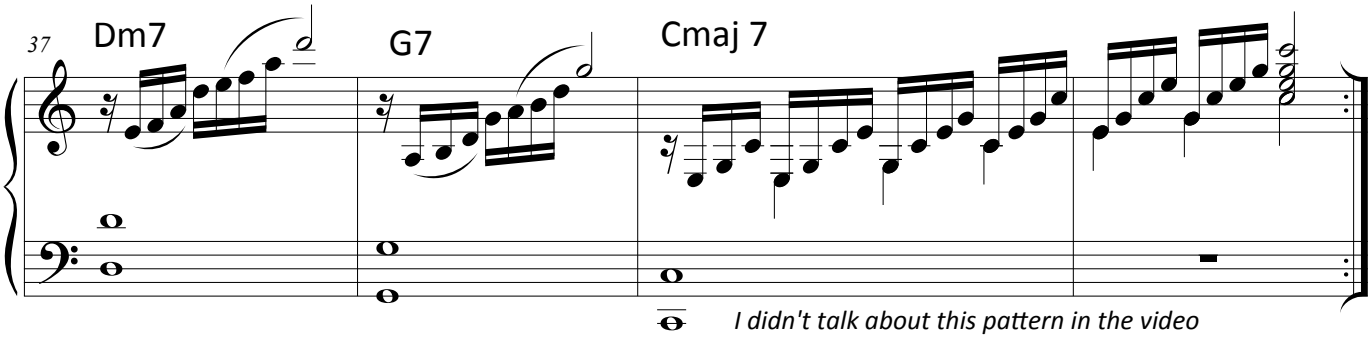
Pattern 2



The fingering will always be the same



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(See the next page for putting it all together!)

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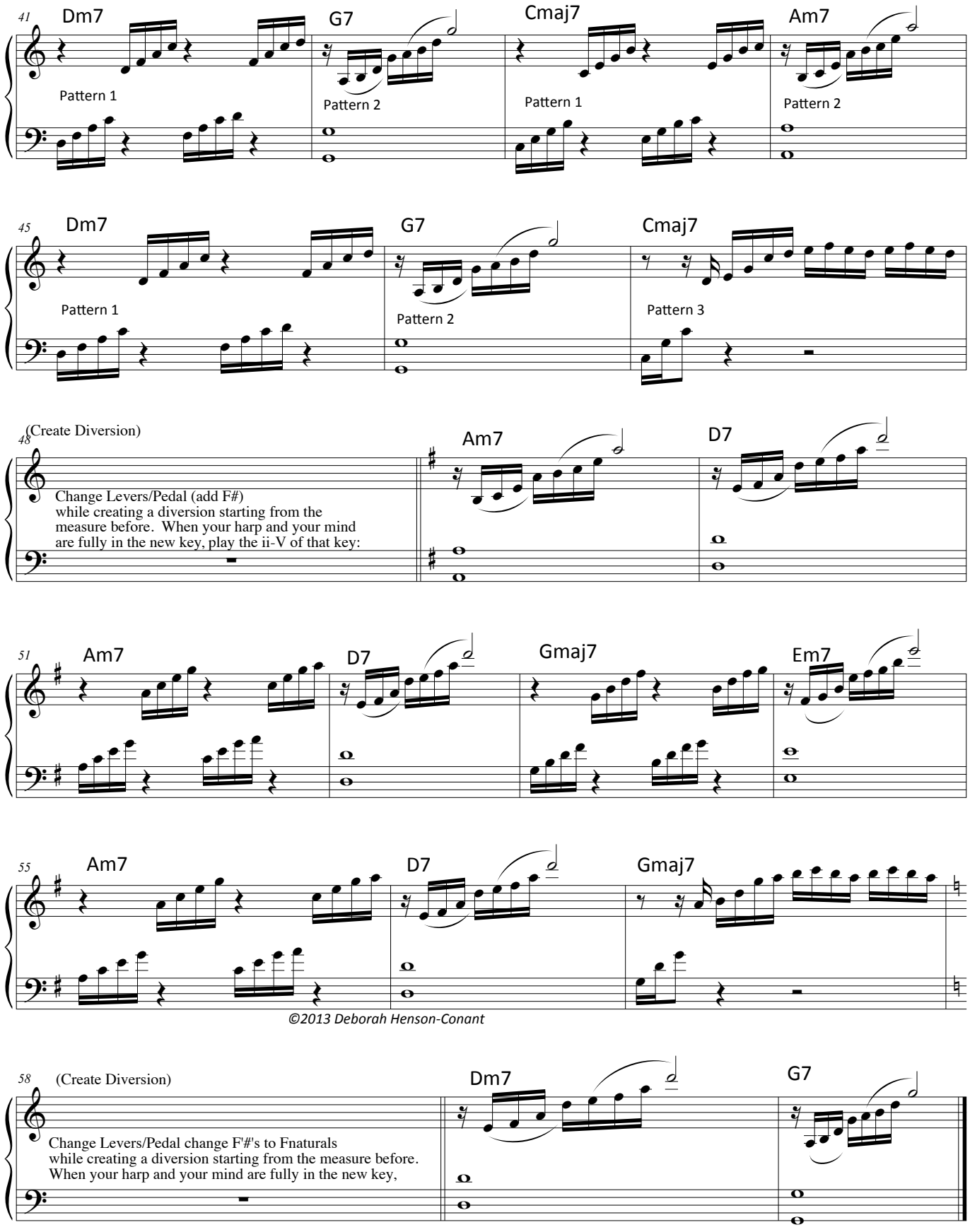
Putting-it-all-Together and Modulating Exercise



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