


Chord Substitution - Part 7

Ted Greene - 1973, November 20

Longer Back-Cycling

Here is a listing of some possible variations of a III7 – VI7 – II7 – V7 pattern, using b5ths and then back-cycling from there. If you can absorb this logic, you should be able to grasp any other b5th application that you might encounter (or devise yourself).

III7		VI7		II7		V7	
bVII7		bIII7		bVI7		bII7	
bVII7		VI7		bVI7		V7	
III7		bIII7		II7		bII7	
III7		bIII7		bVI ^Δ 7		ii7	V7
viim7	III7	iii7	VI7	vi7	II7	ii7	V7
iv7	bVII7	bvii7	bIII7	biii7	bVI7	bvi7	bII7
viim7	III7	bvii7	bIII7	vi7	II7	bvi7	bII7
iv7	bVII7	iii7	VI7	biii7	bVI7	ii7	V7



 ii – V patterns

Any chord in column 1 may move to any chord in column 2, and so on.

Like vii – bVII7 – bvii – VI7 – biii – II7 – ii – bII7

You could mix up the chords in many other ways also though these are a lot of the most common ways. Practice the above in all keys “straight,” and then with extended chords (which should sound much better on these patterns than just playing them straight).

If you were given a time into which the III – VI – II – V pattern was already written, any of these variations would be possible and many of them could sound worthwhile. However, if you were to try and squeeze one of these longer patterns in to replace just V7 or ii-V7, you might find it getting in the way. Only experience will help you in learning where things fit – you’ve got to experiment and also see what more experienced musicians are doing. Be patient – you can’t absorb this in all keys overnight. Consistent, intelligent practicing is the key – day by day, absorbing more and more, strengthening your powers of concentration, discipline. It ain’t easy, but it’s worth it (if you have come this far already, you can handle it).

Here are some other cycle patterns that are very useful; it would be good to familiarize yourself with them. Practice them as you did the others, that is, first “straight,” then with substitutions, in all keys.

- 1) I^Δ7 IV^Δ7 vii^ø7 III7 vi7 II7 ii7 V7 :||
- 2) I7 IV7 III7 VI7 II7 bVI7 ii7 V7 :||
- 3) I^Δ7 iv7 bVII7 bIII^Δ7 bVI^Δ7 bII^Δ7 ii7 V7 :|| or vi - II7, or go into key of V
- 4) I^Δ7 (iv7) bvii7 bIII7 bVI^Δ7 bII^Δ7 ii7 V7 :|| (for last 4 chords of progression)
- 5) I7 IV7 bVII7 bIII7 bVI7 bII^Δ7 ii7 V7 :||
- 6) I^Δ7 IV^Δ7 vii^ø7 III7 vi7 II7 v7 I7 to IV
- 7) I^Δ7 iv7 iii7 VI7 biii7 bVI7 ii7 V7 :||
- 8) #iv^ø7 VII7 iii^ø7 VI7 ii^ø7 V7 I :||
- 9) I^Δ7 I7 IV^Δ7 iv7 iii7 VI7 ii7 V7 :||
- 10) I^Δ7 IV^Δ7 #iv^ø7 VII7 iii7 VI7 ii7 V7 :||
- 11) I^Δ7 #iv^ø7 (or IV7) VII7 iii7 VI7 ii7 V7 bII^Δ7 :||

Examples in D of 1st pattern above.

Diagram showing guitar fingerings for the first pattern in D major: D^Δ7, G^Δ7, C[#]m7, F[#]7, Bm7, E7, E^m7, A7, D^Δ7. A note below C[#]m7 says "* see note below".

Same progression with motion added via passing tones and delays. Hit white [hollow] notes after black notes are ringing:

Diagram showing guitar fingerings for the first pattern in D major with passing tones and delays. Hollow circles represent notes to be hit after the previous chord's notes are ringing.

A variation using VII7 and VI7 with a 2 note melody pattern.

Diagram showing guitar fingerings for a variation of the first pattern in D major: D^Δ7, G^Δ7, C[#]7+, F[#]m7/11, B7, E⁹, E^m7/11, A¹³, D[%].

A variation using IV7 for IV Δ 7 with an ascending melody:

* Notice that in a m7 \flat 5 chord, if the 5th is omitted you are left with a m7 chord.

hit simultaneously
with other white [hollow] notes

Chord Substitution - Part 8

Ted Greene - 1973, November 22

To modulate means to change keys. You will recall that tonicization is a form of temporary modulation. You might be wondering what would constitute a more permanent modulation. It is simply a matter of lingering in a new key by playing chords in *its* own key after the tonicization process.

Example: in place of A F#m D A, you might find in a song the following:

A G#^o7 C#7 F#m Bm G#7 C#7 F#m F#7 Bm7 Em7 A7 D E7 A
I ii^o V i iv II V i III vi ii V I V I

Can you see that this is just an elaboration of A F#m D A? Because of the length of time spent in the F#m region, the ear would interpret this as a modulation to this key. Some cases are borderline.

Suppose that the above were as follows: A F#m G#7 C#7 F#m A7 D E7 A.
Notice that the tonicization process has been eliminated before the 1st F#m, but the II V (G#7 C#7) precedes tonicization (you really needn't call it anything if you don't like fancy words as long as you understand it – these terms are necessary only for certain types of communication such as this paper). Whether or not this is a permanent modulation is up to you and your ears.

Practice this internal tonicization process on lots of your old exercises using various chords in the new keys to linger there.

Scalular Embellishment

Any diatonic chord may be preceded with ascending or descending scalular passages in the key.


Example: given A D A
// // //

you could substitute:

A^Δ7 Bm7 C#m7 D^Δ7 A^Δ7 or A^Δ7 Bm7 C#m7 D^Δ7 C#m7 Bm7 A^Δ7
// / / // // // // / / / // //

or

A^Δ7 G#^o7 F#m7 E7 D^Δ7 C#m7 Bm7 E7 A^Δ7
/ / / / / / / / //

 This chord is added to make a ii V I progression in this case.

Here is another example: given Bm7 E7 A you might play: D^Δ7 C#m7 Bm7 E7 A^Δ7
// // / / / /

Notice that the Bm7 is delayed in this substitution; this type of thing is common.

Here is another variation of Bm7 E7 A → G#^o7 A^Δ7 Bm7 E7 A^Δ7.
/ / / / /

Experiment with this type of principle.

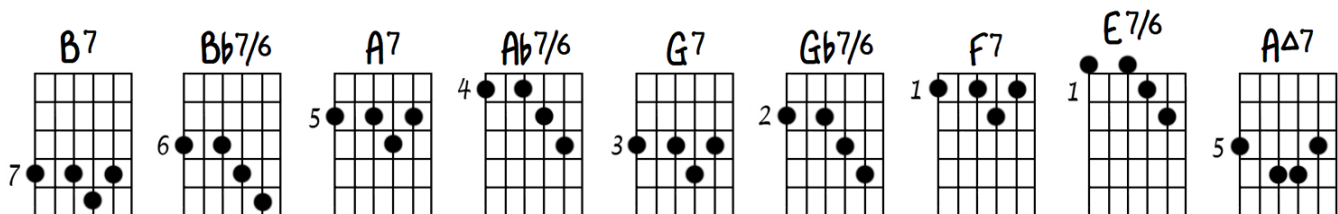
Chromatic (non-diatonic) chords can also be involved in the scale-like passages:

C#m7 Cm7 Bm7 E7 AΔ7 or if time permitted: D#∅7 Dm7 C#m7 Cm7 Bm7 BbΔ7 AΔ7

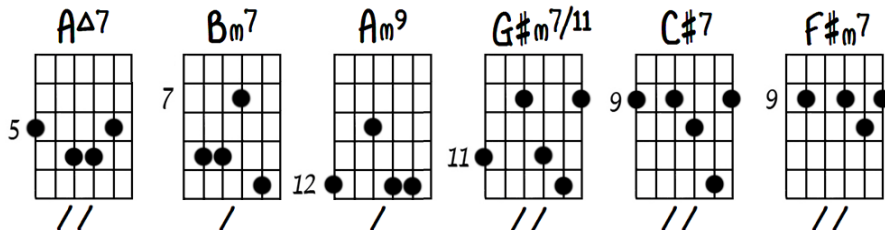
Most chromatic chords in scale-type passages can be explained from substitutions on the cycle patterns or b5 substitutions.

An off-shoot of scale-type embellishment is *parallel embellishment*, that is, preceding any chord with descending (more rarely, ascending) passages using similar types of chords.

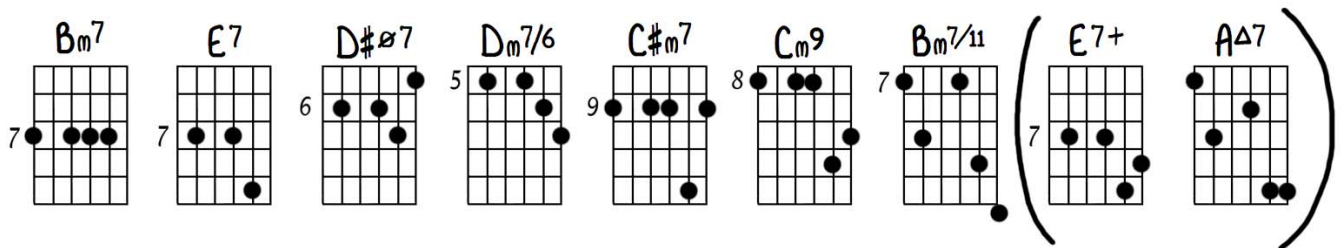
Example: given B7 E7 A → you could play B7/6 A7/6 G7/6 F7/6 E7/6 AΔ7
 or B7 Bb7/6 A7 Ab7/6 G7 Gb7/6 F7 E7/6 AΔ7



Given: A G#m7 C#7 F#m7 → you could play AΔ7 Bm7 Am9 G#m7/11 C#7 F#m7
 // / / // // //



Given: Bm7 (E A):



Notice that there are *different* types, one with strict chromatic roots for quite a while.

Chord Substitution - Page 7

Here is a listing of some possible variations of a III7-VI7-II7-V7 pattern, If you can absorb this logic, you should be able to grasp any other b5th applications that you might encounter (or devise yourself).

Table of chord substitutions: III7, VI7, II7, V7. Includes rows for bVII7, bIII7, bVI7, bII7, and various triad-based substitutions like viim7, iiim7, etc.

Vertical text on the left margin: 'BATTERNS' and 'KEYS'.

you could mix up the chords in many other ways also though these are alot of the most common ways. Practice the above in all keys, "straight", and then with extended chords (which should sound much better on these patterns than just playing them straight).

any chord in column 1 may move to any chord in column 2 + so on

If you were given a tune into which the III - VI - II - V pattern was already written, any of these variations would be possible and many of them could sound worthwhile, and many if you were to try and squeeze one of these longer patterns in to replace just V7 or ii V7, you might find it getting in the way. Only experience will help you in learning where things fit - you've got to experiment and also see what more experienced musicians are doing. Be patient - you can't absorb this in all keys overnight. Consistent, intelligent practicing is the key - day by day, absorbing more + more, strengthening your powers of concentration, discipline. It ain't easy, but it's worth it (if you have come this far already, you can handle it).

- List of 11 numbered chord cycle patterns. Includes notes like 'like first "straight", then with substitutions, in all keys, VII bVII, bVII, VII, bIII, II, ii, bII, or VI, II, or quinte key of V'.

Examples in D of 1st pattern above. Includes guitar chord diagrams for D7, G7, C#m7, F#7, Bm7, E7, Em7, A7, D7 and various extensions like D6, G9, C#m7b9, F#7b9, Bm7b9, E7b9, Em9, A7b9, D7b9.

A variation using VII7 and VI7 with a 2 note melody pattern. Includes guitar chord diagrams for D7, G7, C#7+, F#m7, B7, E9, Em/11, A13, D6/9, D6/9, G6/9+11, C#m7, F#7, Bm7, E7, Em7, A7/6, D9.

Let's simultaneously with other white note

You will recall that tonicization is a form of temporary modulation. You might be wondering what would constitute a more permanent modulation. It is simply a matter of lingering in a new key by playing chords in its own key after the tonicization process. Example: in place of A F#m D A, you might find in a song the following → A G#7 C#7 E#m Bm G#7 C#7 F#m F#7

Bm7 Em7 A7 D E7 A
vi ii V I V I

Can you see that this is just an elaboration of A F#m D A? Because of the length of time spent in the F#m region, the ear would interpret this as a modulation to this key. Some cases are borderline. Suppose that the above were as follows: A F#m G#7 C#7 F#m A7 D E7 A. Notice that the tonicization process has been eliminated before the 1st F#m but the II V (G#7 C#7) precedes the 2nd F#m. This could be referred to as sandwich tonicization or internal tonicization (you really needn't call it anything if you don't like fancy words as long as you understand it - these terms are necessary only for certain types of communication such as this paper). Whether or not this is a permanent modulation is up to you + your ears.

Practice this internal tonicization process on lots of your old exercises using various chords in the new keys to linger there.

Scalular Embellishment - any diatonic chord may be preceded with ascending or descending scalular passages in the key. Example: given A D A → you could substitute A7 Bm7 C#m7 D7 A7 or A7 Bm7 C#m7 D7 C#m7 Bm7 A7 or A7 G#7 F#m7 E7 D7 C#m7 Bm7 E7 A7

Here is another example: given Bm7 E7 A → you might play D7 C#m7 Bm7 E7 A7. Notice that the Bm7 is delayed in this substitution; this type of thing is common. Here is another variation of Bm7 E7 A → G#7 A7 Bm7 E7 A7. Experiment with this type of principle.

Chromatic (non-diatonic) chords can also be involved in the scale-like passages: C#m7 (Cm7) Bm7 E7 A7 or if time permitted: D#7 Dm7 C#m7 Cm7 Bm7 Bb7 A7

Most chromatic chords in scale-type passages can be explained from substitutions on the cycle patterns or b5th substitutions.

An off-shoot of scale-type embellishment is parallel embellishment, that is, preceding any chord with descending (more rarely, ascending) passages using similar types of chords. Example: given B7 E7 A → you could play B7/B6 A7/6 G7/6 F7/6 E7/6 A7; given A G#m7 C#7 F#m7 → you could play

A7 Bm7 Am9 G#m7/11 C#7 F#m7

↓

B7 Bb7/b6 A7 Ab7/b6 G7 Gb7/b6
E7 E7/b6 A7

EXAMPLE: A7 Bm7 Am9 G#m7/11 C#7 F#m7

given Bm7 (E7 A): Bm7 E7 D#7 Dm7/b6 C#m7 Cm9 Bm7/11 (E7 + 5 A7)

notice that there are different types and with strict chromatic roots for quite a while.