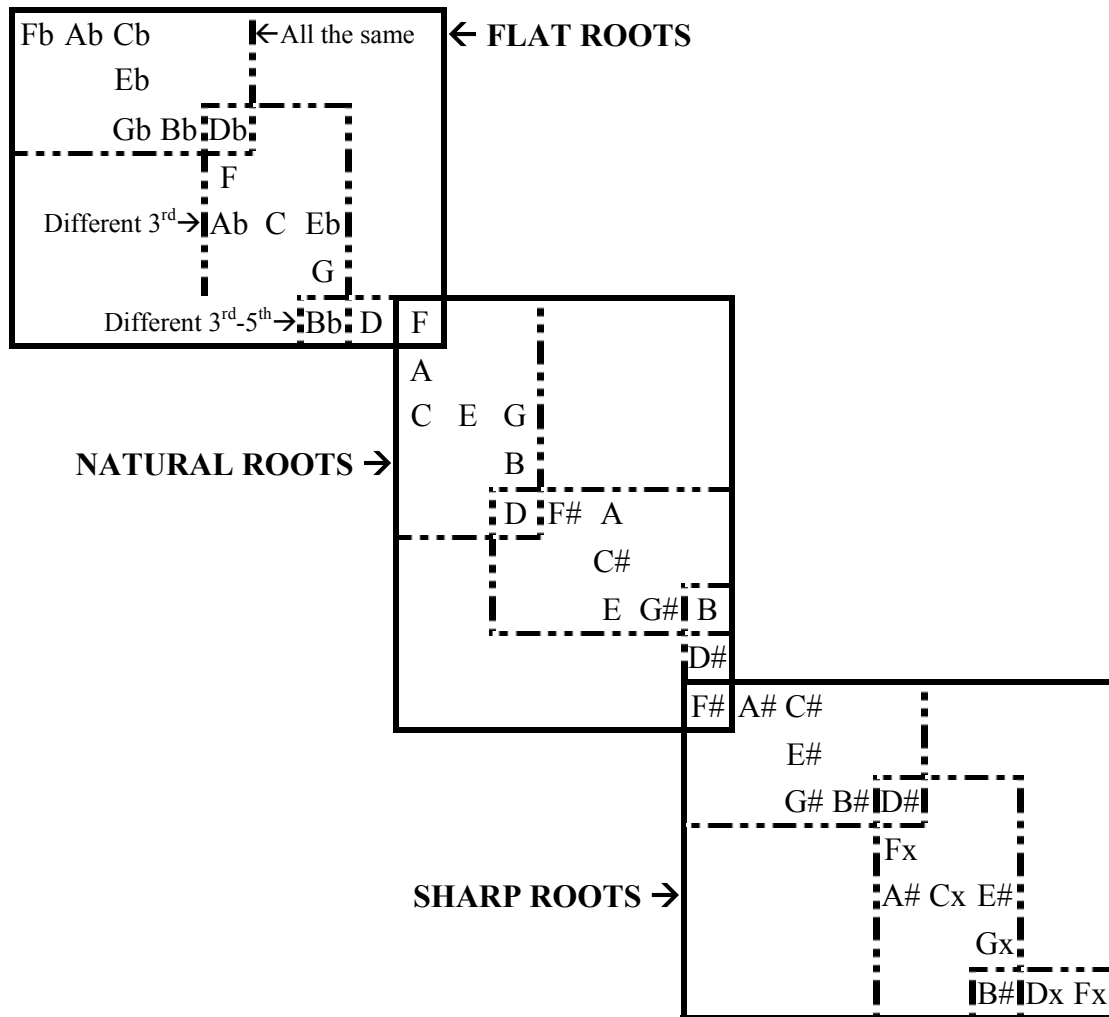


The Triads Crossword: A Method of Memorization¹

by Mark Feezell



THREE GROUPS OF MAJOR TRIADS:

- Flat roots
- Natural roots
- Sharp roots

EACH GROUP HAS THREE SUBGROUPS:

- All same accidental → F/C/G
- 3rd different → D/A/E
- 3rd and 5th different → B

OTHER CHORDS:

- Major triads → Listed above; memorize
- Minor triads → Take major triad, lower the third using an accidental
- Diminished → EITHER lower the 3rd and 5th using accidentals
OR raise the root using an accidental
- Augmented → Take major triad, raise the 5th

¹ Thanks to my student John Staley for the idea of formatting my chord groupings list in a “crossword” format.