**MUS 285 Jazz Improvisation**

**An Introduction to Jazz/Pop Chord Notation**

**The Major 7 Chord Family**

The "fundamental" chord of this family has a major triad and a major 7 – the "major 7" is specifically given. The 9th and 13th are major and the 11th is perfect unless otherwise indicated.

**Examples:**

- C Maj7
- FM7
- Eb7
- G Maj9
- DMaj13

**Common Alterations include the raised 11th and raised 5th:**

- A Maj7(#11)
- Bb Maj13(#11)
- Db Maj13(#11)
- B Maj7(#5)

**The Minor 7 Chord Family**

The "fundamental" chord of this family has a minor triad and a minor 7 – Extensions to the chord are based on the Dorian Mode, not the minor scale (note the Maj 15th).

**Examples:**

- Em7
- Cm11
- Dm13
- Fmi(add2)

**Alterations include the raised (Major) 7th, the lowered 5th (or half-diminished chord), and the lowered 15th/6th (as in the aeolian mode/natural minor scale).**

- Ebm7(maj7)
- Bm9(7)
- Fmi7(b5)
- A7
- Gm11(b13)
The Dominant 7 Chord Family

The “fundamental” chord of this family has a major triad and a minor 7. The 9th and 13th are major and the 11th is perfect unless otherwise indicated (extensions are based on the mixolydian mode).

F7  D11  Gb13

Any note (except the root, 5th, and 7th) may possibly be raised and/or lowered.

Db9(#5)  E7(#9)  F7(#5)  C7(#9)  G9

Some other chords and symbols:

D07  F7sus4  E9  Bbmaj7/C  G7(Add9)  C9(#11)  Ebmaj9(b5)

Jazz/Pop Chord Notation 2