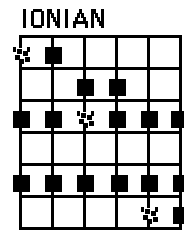
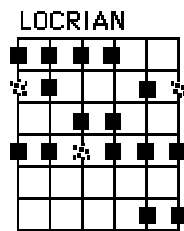


Using Symmetry to Aid In Scale Pattern Memorization

In this lesson I will discuss using symmetry to help with learning scale patterns. I am going to concentrate on two 3NPS patterns for the C major scale, in particular the scale pattern starting on the 7th tone and the scale pattern starting on the root. In modal terms these are Locrian and Ionian.

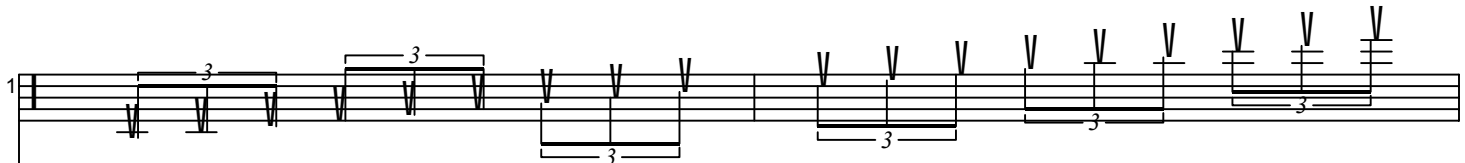
Because of the tuning of the guitar and the interval structure of these two modes mapped on to the fretboard, the patterns are very similar but almost identically reversed.



If you were to flip one of these over it would almost be the same picture as the other one. In terms of fingering they are exactly reversed. What I mean here is the Locrian is fingered 124, 124, 134, 134, 1(2 or 3) 4, 1(2 or 3) 4. In terms of whole steps and half steps (on each string from the starting note) H W, H W, W H, W H, W W, W W. The Ionian is fingered 1(2 or 3) 4, 1(2 or 3) 4, 124, 124, 134, 134 in terms of whole steps and half steps W W, W W, H W, H W, W H, W H. If you just read this pattern backwards it is exactly like the Locrian.

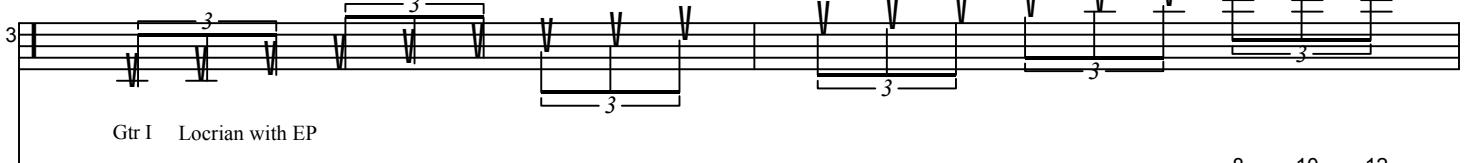
This symmetry is helpful in learning these scale patterns, and what is even better is they start on consecutive notes of the major scale. The beauty here is one pattern can be used to move into the other via position shift, in this case of only 1 fret.

So if you learn one of these patterns, it is pretty easy to reverse the pattern and learn the other. Even though they are not exactly reversed they are close enough for this type of thinking to be helpful.

1 | 

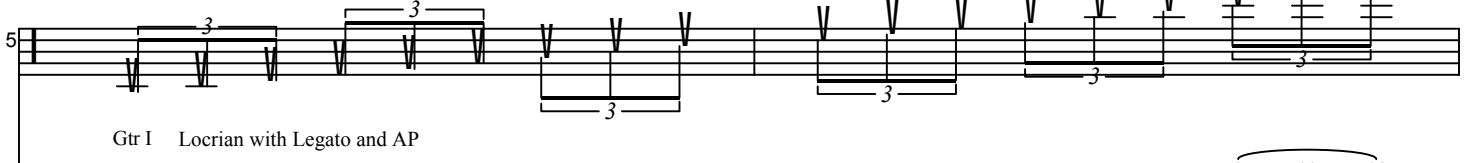
Gtr I Locrian With SAP

T 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12
 A
 B 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12

3 | 

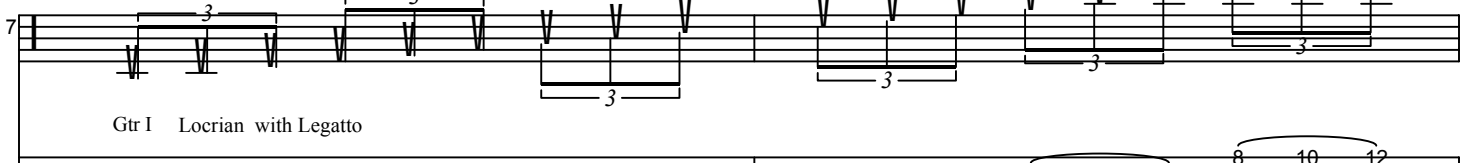
Gtr I Locrian with EP

T 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12
 A
 B 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12

5 | 

Gtr I Locrian with Legato and AP

T 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12
 A 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12
 B 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12

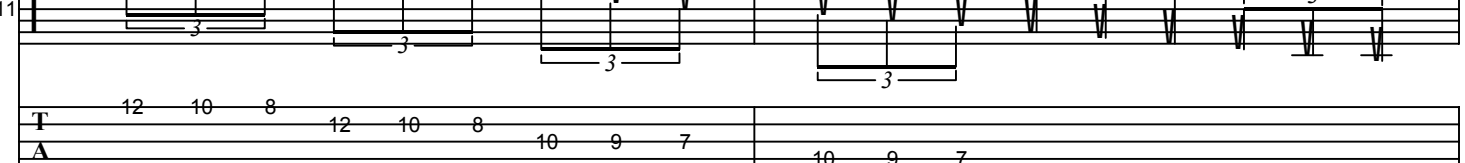
7 | 

Gtr I Locrian with Legatto

T 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12
 A 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12
 B 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12

9 | 

T 12 10 8 12 10 8 10 9 7 10 9 7 10 8 7 10 8 7
 A 12 10 8 12 10 8 10 9 7 10 9 7 10 8 7 10 8 7
 B 12 10 8 12 10 8 10 9 7 10 9 7 10 8 7 10 8 7

11 | 

T 12 10 8 12 10 8 10 9 7 10 9 7 10 8 7 10 8 7
 A 12 10 8 12 10 8 10 9 7 10 9 7 10 8 7 10 8 7
 B 12 10 8 12 10 8 10 9 7 10 9 7 10 8 7 10 8 7

29

33