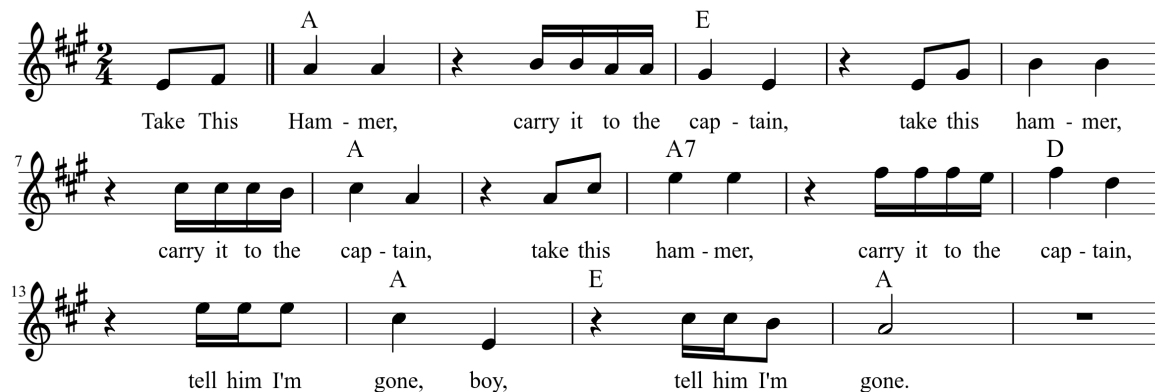


Take This Hammer

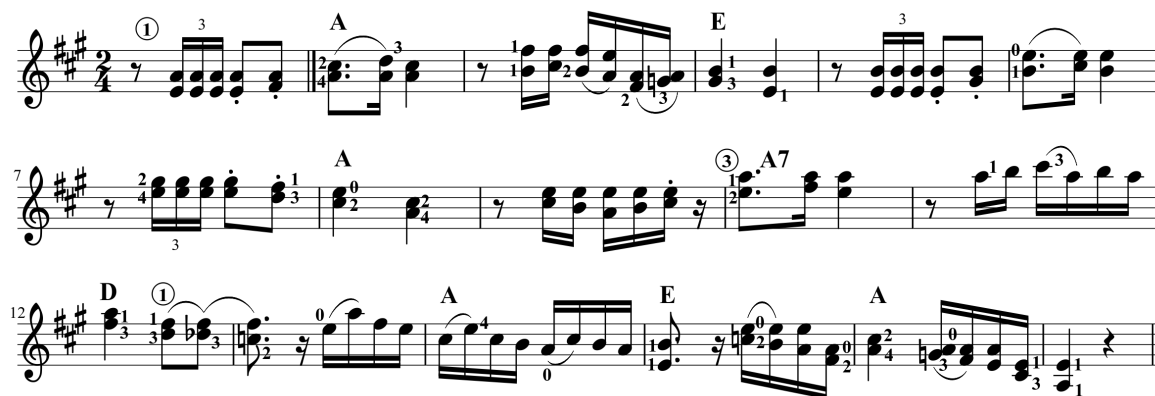
Here's one more tune in the same vein to help you practice, a blues song taken over by bluegrass players, *Take This Hammer*. Like many blues songs, it repeats the opening line several times for emphasis, and then resolves the lyric in the last line. The melody line looks like this:



Take This Ham - mer, carry it to the cap - tain, take this ham - mer,
 carry it to the cap - tain, take this ham - mer, carry it to the cap - tain,
 tell him I'm gone, boy, tell him I'm gone.

Figure 139: Take This Hammer - vocal

Again, a standard chord progression and a fairly narrow melodic range. There are lots of held notes – quarters and halves – that shout "Double-stop!" By now you should have a pretty good idea of how to approach a tune like this. See how your concept coincides with mine. Here's how I might play it.



A, E, A, A7, D, A, E, A

Figure 140: Take This Hammer - solo

Learning To Fiddle, Bluegrass Style

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