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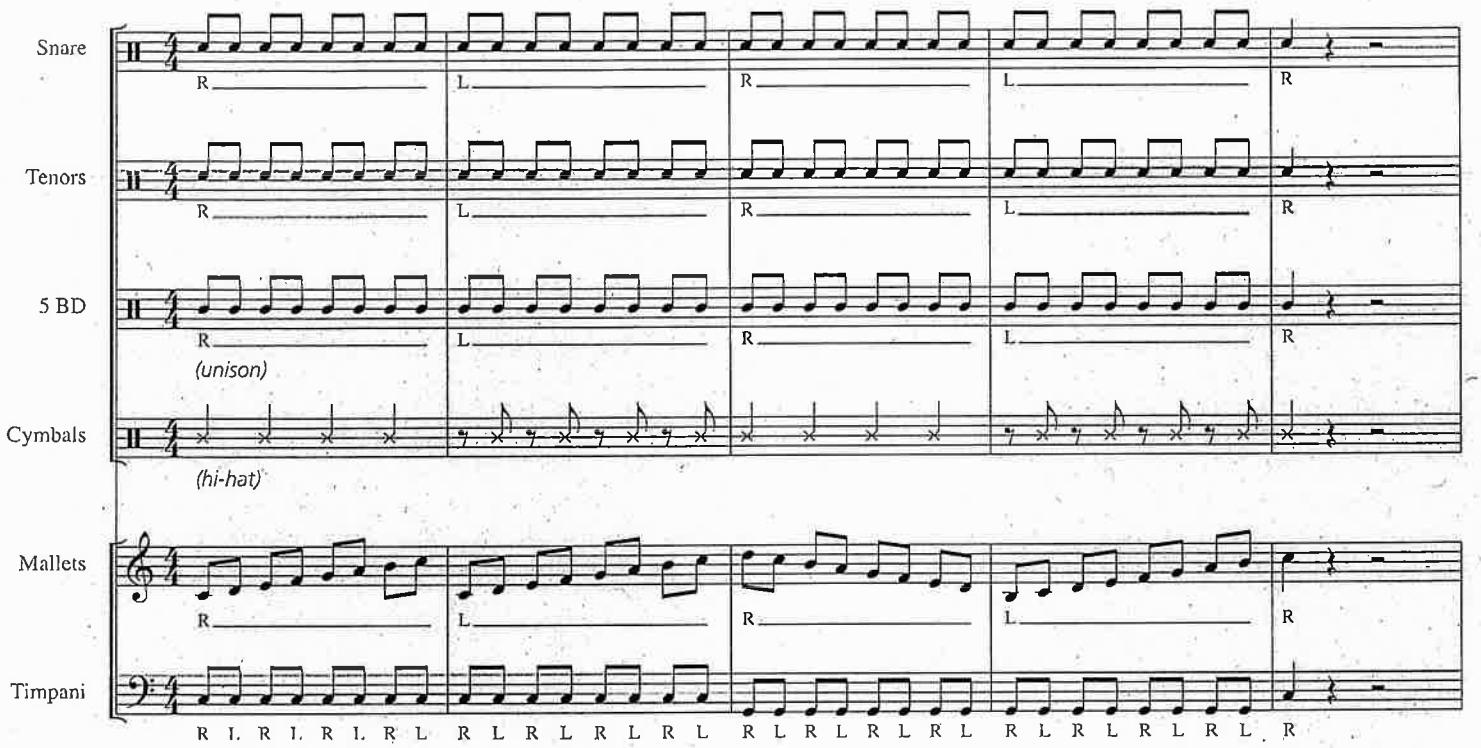
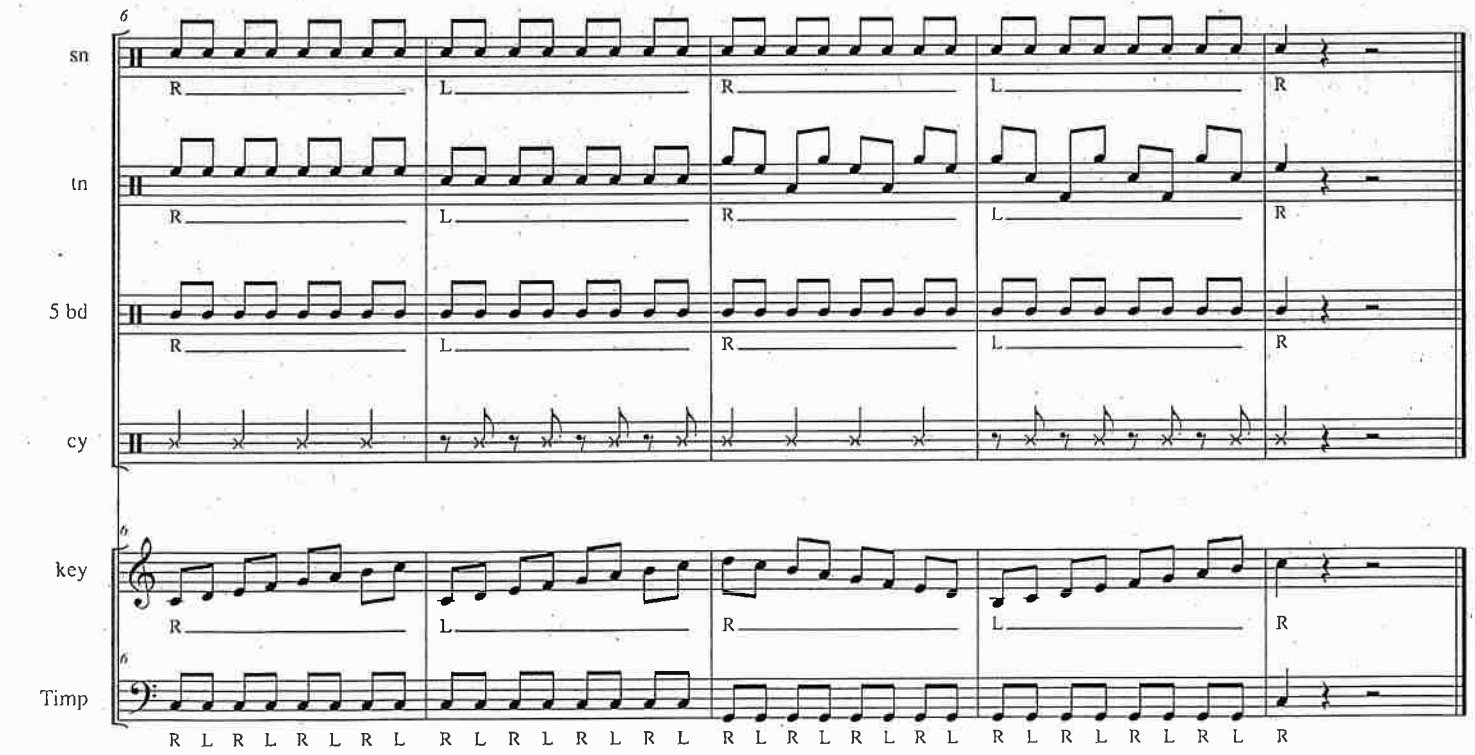
# 8 ON A HAND

Brian S. Mason

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# ACCENT TAP

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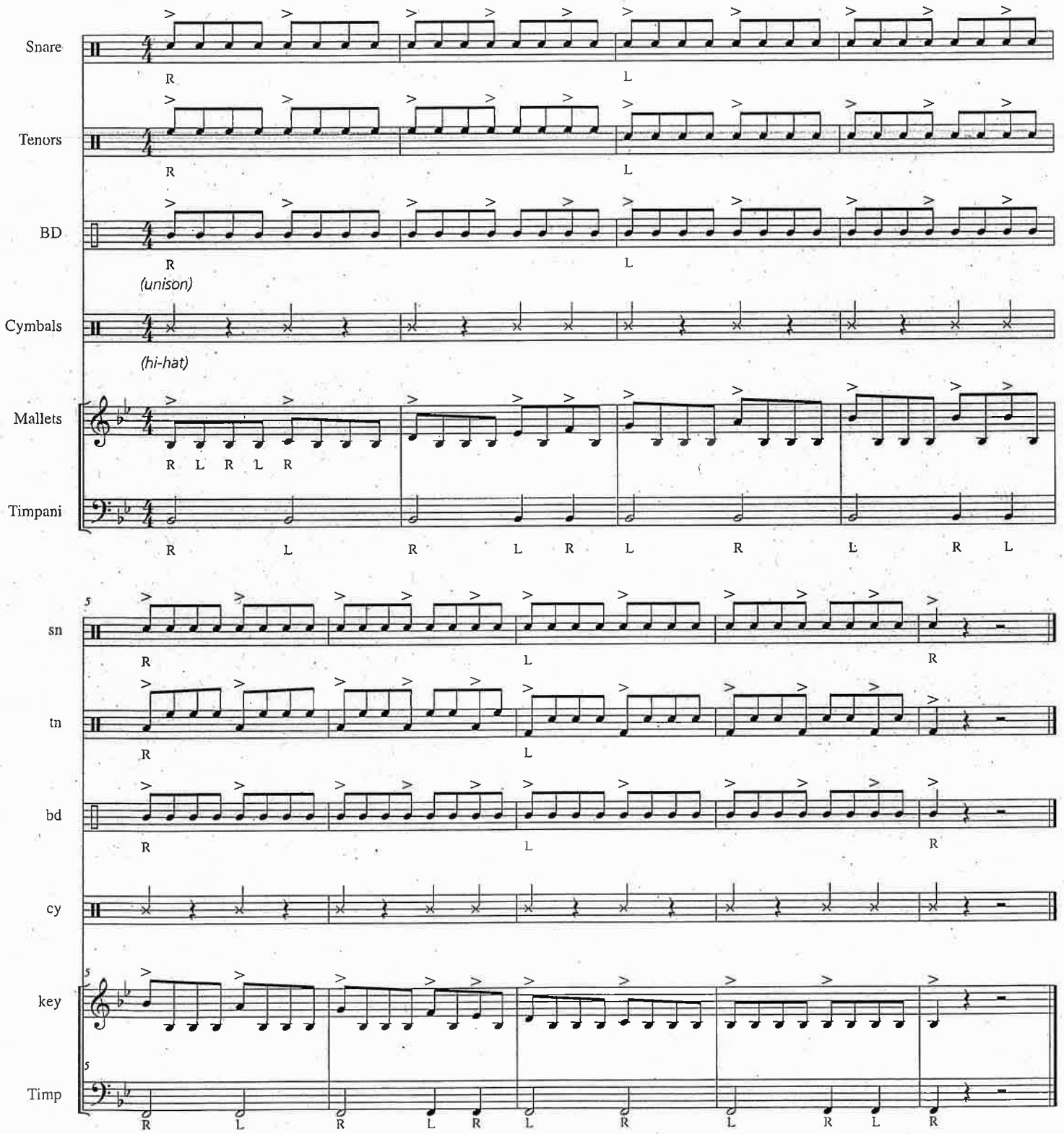


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# DOUBLE BEAT

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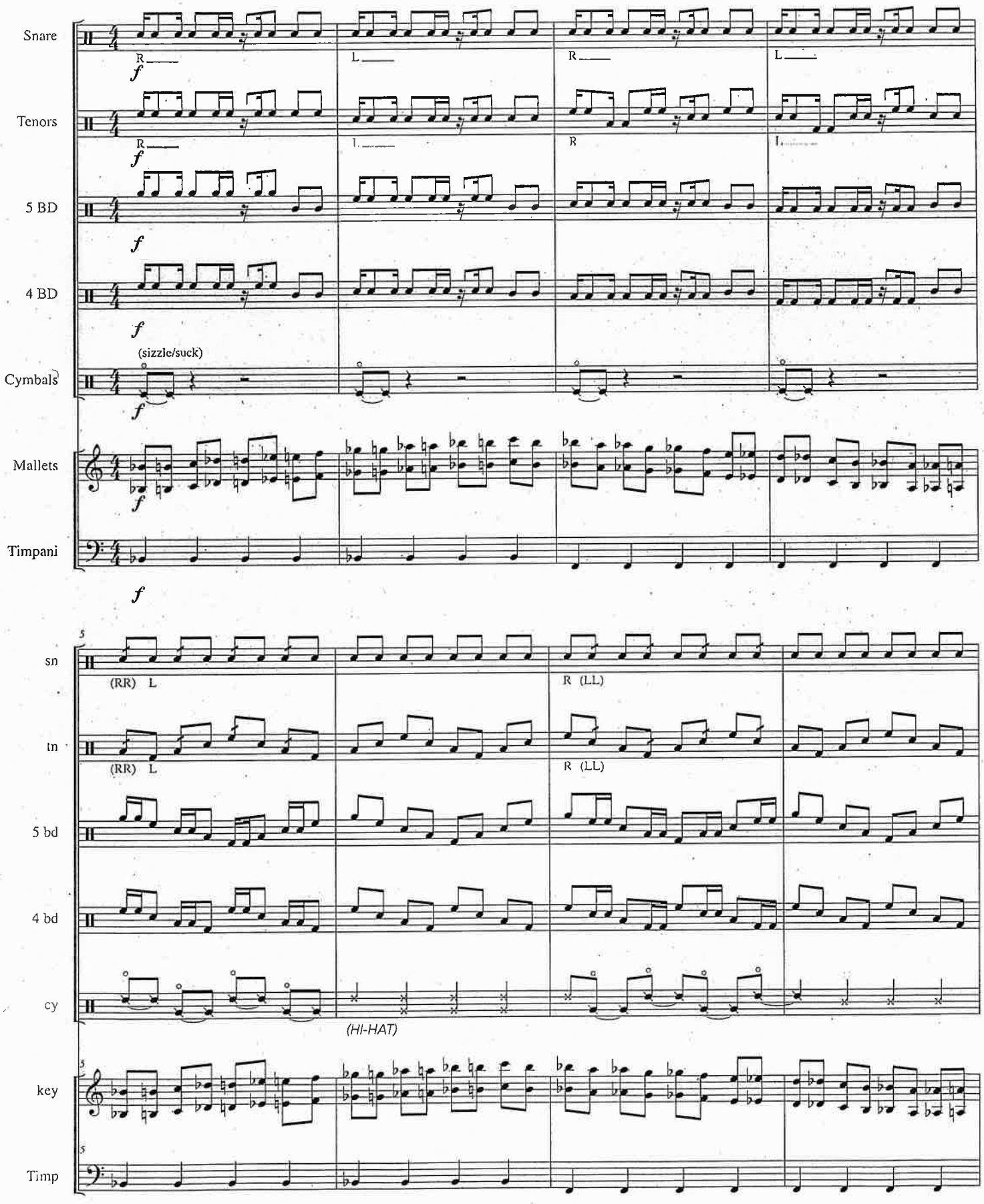

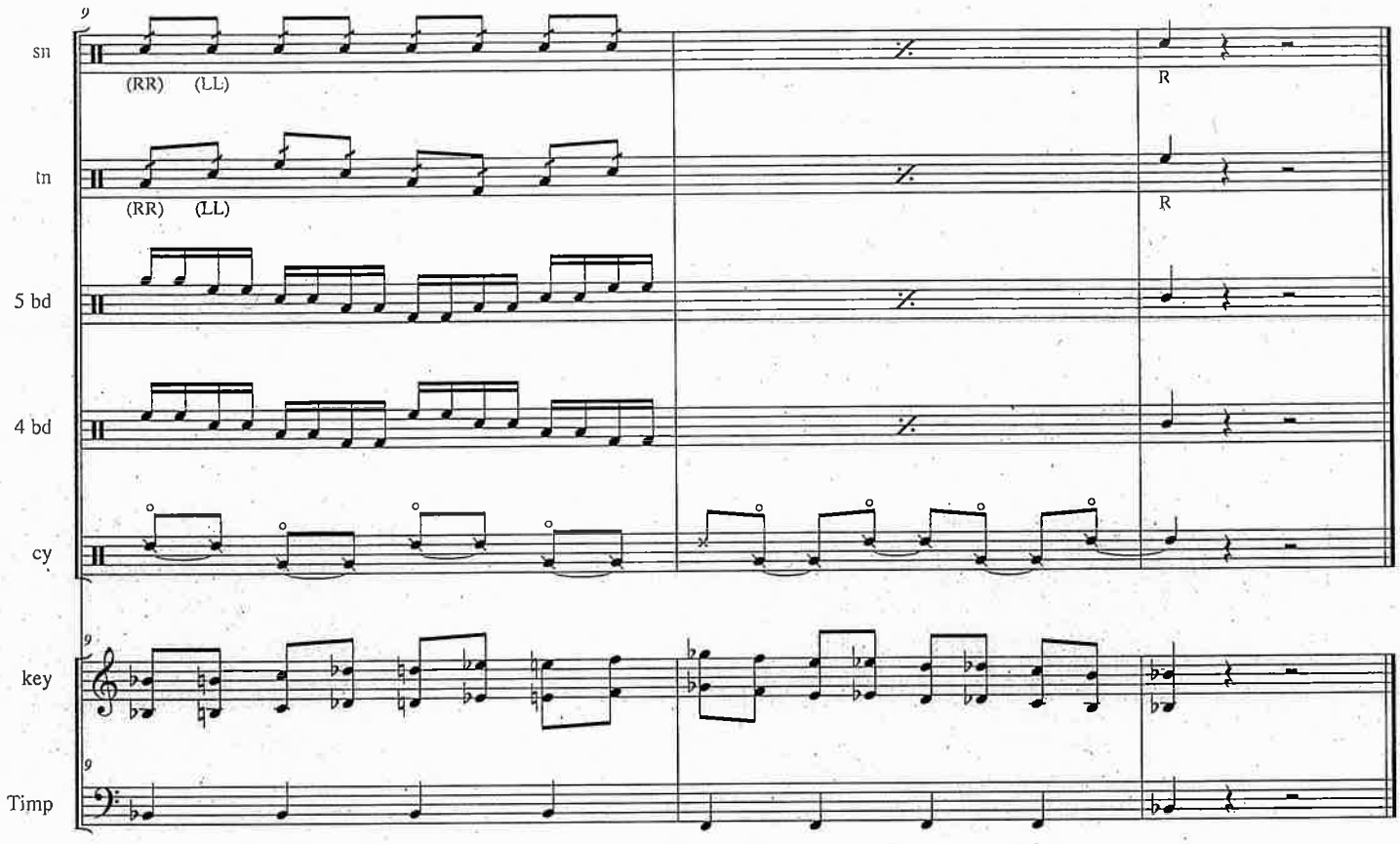


## *Rehearsal Notes*

This exercise works on developing a quality double stroke – necessary for great sounding rolls. Here are a few things to look for during your daily rehearsal:

- The wrist directs each stroke with a relaxed rebound motion. Listen for evenness of sound. A wrist that is too tight will result in a choppy sounding double stroke. A "bounced" double stroke will result in the first stroke being louder than the second. Think of this as you do the "8 on a hand" exercise – but "2 on a hand" instead.
- In the first half of the exercise, isolate the motion to the wrists as much as possible (no large forearm motions for the beginning of each double stroke). In the second half, there will be a slight forearm motion as the check pattern flows from hand to hand.
- Practice also with your hands on your leg (or sticks on a pillow).
- ***Tenors:*** Practice on one drum first, then play the exercise as written.
- ***Bass Drums:*** Play the exercise in unison first, then as written. In measures 5-8, the16th notes should be alternated (R L), single 8th notes are played on the right hand. Listen to snares and tenors to line up split 8ths and 16ths in m5-10.
- ***Cymbals:*** This exercise incorporates the same sizzle/suck technique as Alternated 16ths, but with a more complex split part. Play measures 1-4 in unison. Measures 5-11 are split.
- ***Keyboards:*** This exercise incorporates octave strokes on a chromatic scale. At a slow tempo, play the accidentals in the center of the bar – at faster tempi, at the edge. Inexperienced players may choose to play the exercise in one octave with alternating strokes.

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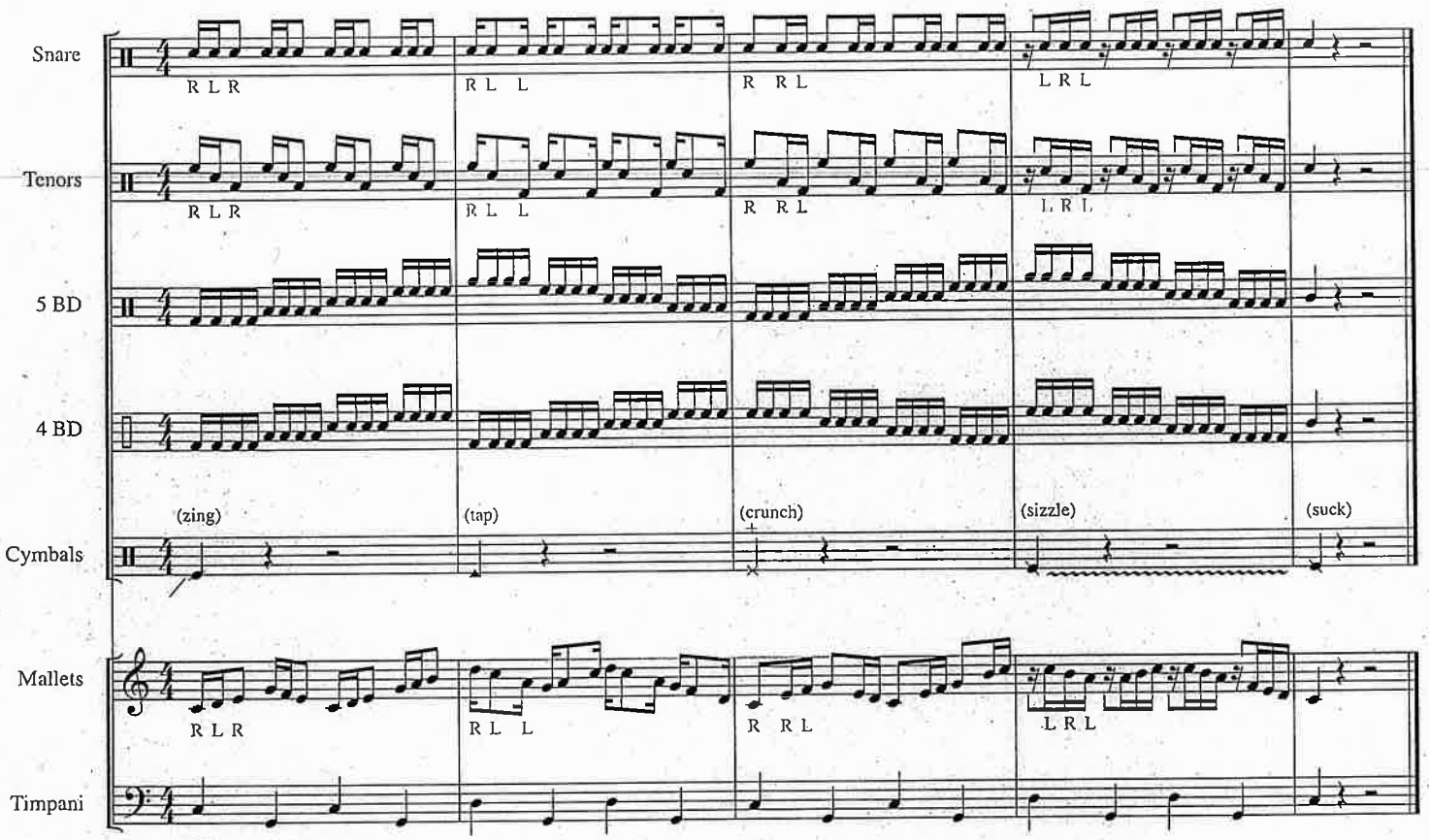
# 16th NOTE TIMING

Brian S. Mason




## *Rehearsal Notes*

This exercise works on the accuracy of playing the four 16th/8th rhythm permutations. Here are a few things you should work towards when rehearsing this exercise:

- Start at a slow tempo, working with a metronome or play-along track. The bass drums provide the 16th base on which all other instruments should line up the rhythmic figures.
- Marking time while playing the syncopated rhythms in measure 2 & 4 are occasionally problematic. If this is the case, first isolate one beat of the rhythm (plus a downbeat following) at a very slow tempo, then two, three, and finally all four. It's often helpful for students to think of "playing their feet" on the 16th rest in the 4th measure.
- ***Snares/Tenors:*** There should be a constant motion on repeated strokes (right hand strokes in measure 1&3, left hand strokes in measures 2&4) – similar to the "8 on a hand" exercise. The hand playing one stroke per measure should freeze immediately after the stroke (LH meas. 1&3, RH meas. 2&4).
- ***Cymbals:*** This exercise works on five different techniques to create new sounds. Watch the section video for this exercise to see a demonstration of each technique.

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# TRIPLET ROLLS

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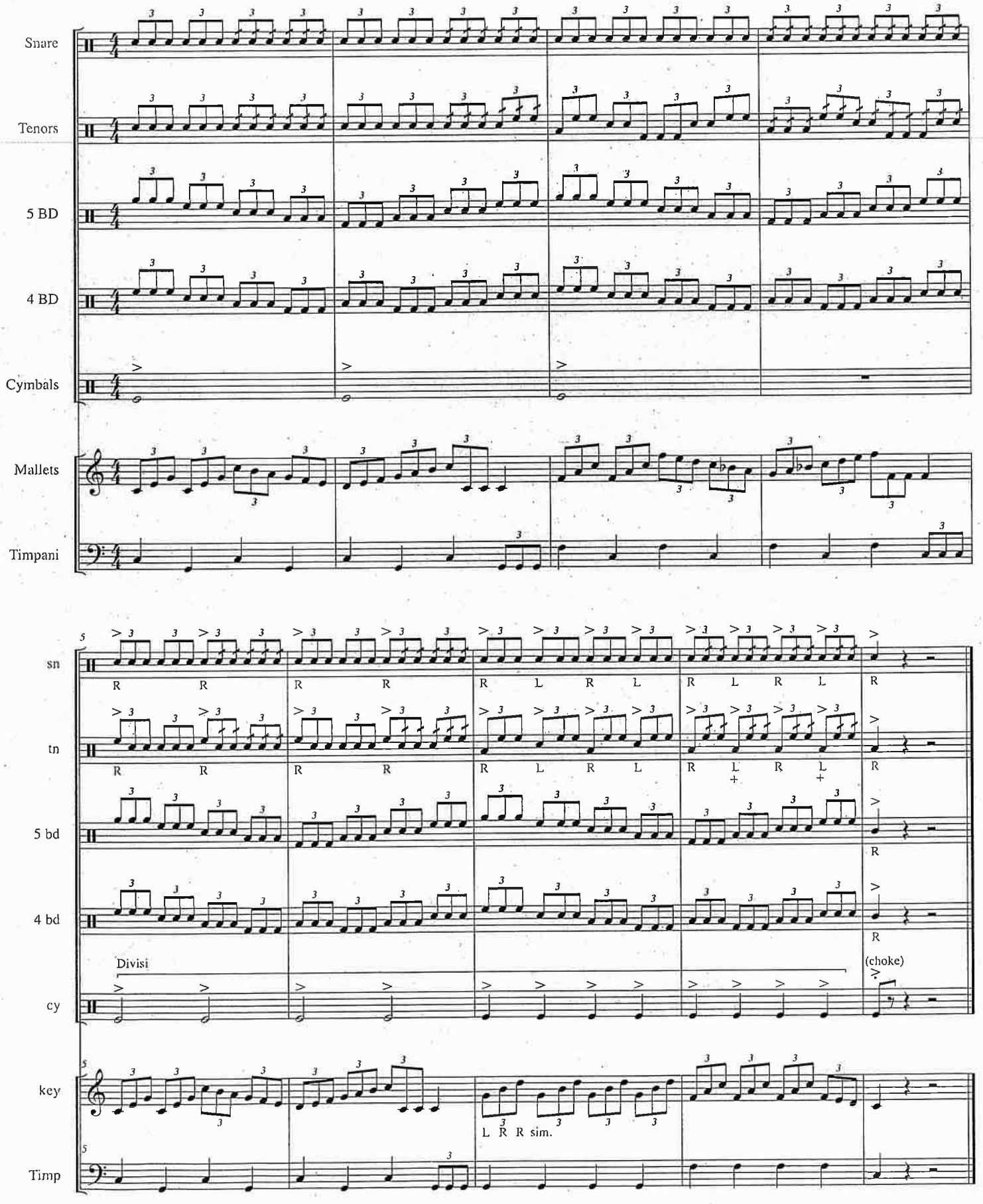

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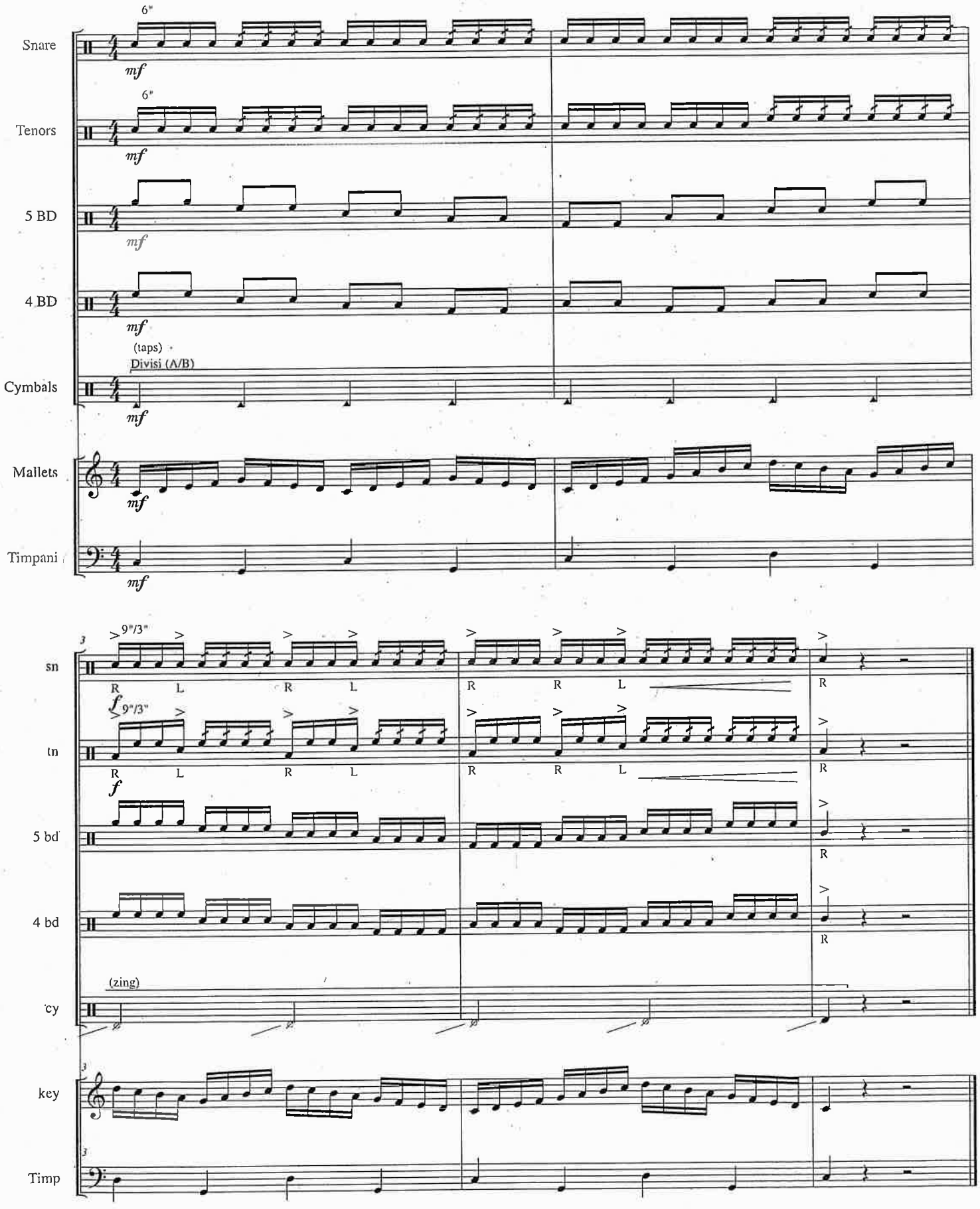
# CHICKEN AND A ROLL

Brian S. Mason



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# ACCENTED 16ths

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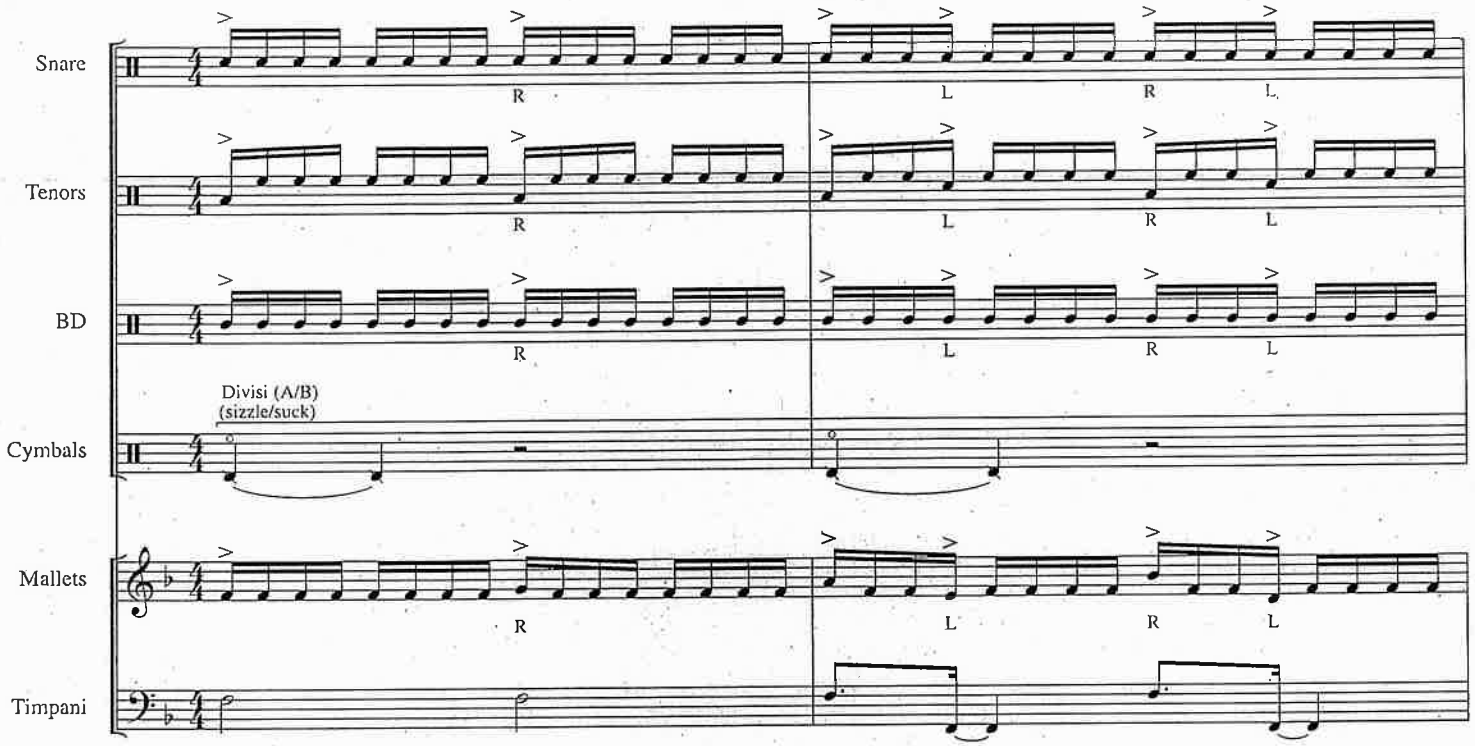


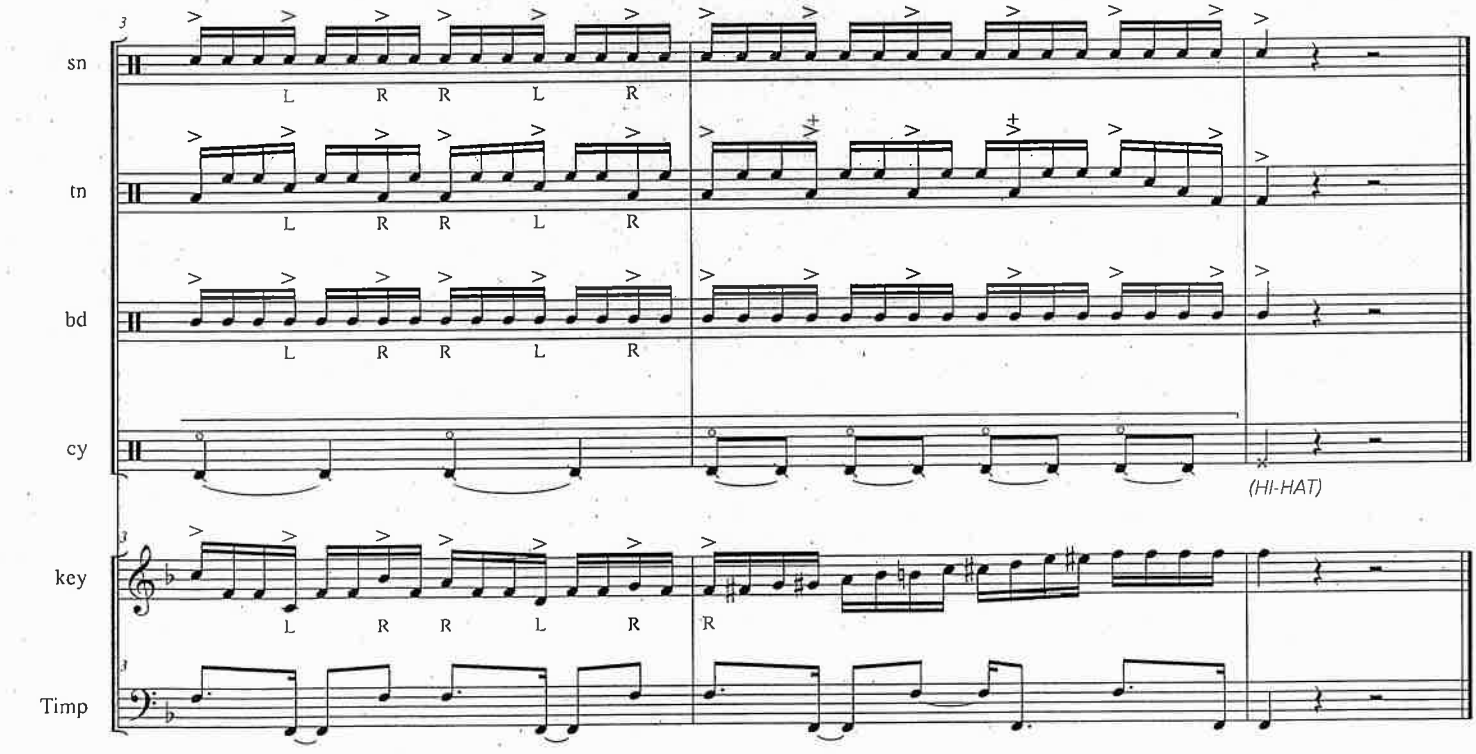


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