KSUMB Drumline

2025 Bass Drum Audition Packet

Drumline Director:

Houston Fleischmann

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“Bring the Vibe”

What we are looking for

Above all: a great attitude and solid foundation are the most important things to bring to audition for the KSUMB Drumline. Aside from this, here are a few items to prioritize in your preparation:

Technique:

- We will be focusing on your SOUND above all. To generalize: you should be relaxed, comfortable, and have a big sound while playing
- Snare drums will be playing on a tilt (10 degrees)
- Tenors should ALWAYS prioritize playing on one drum before all the drums
- Basses should always expect to play in unison as well as splits. Start with the snare part when practicing. Be prepared to learn different bass parts throughout the process

Sound:

- Focus on getting the most resonance out of the drum and sticks as possible
- Do not squeeze the sticks
- Prioritize having a consistent sound (all the taps sound the same in a phrase, right and left hands match in quality, etc)
- The best sound you will achieve is typically “8’s”. Start with this, and work every exercise to match that relaxed sound

Rhythms:

- Above all, rhythms must be accurate and consistent
- Play mathematically correct rhythms (Play the rhythm, not the rudiment)

Exercises:

- Start with the Basics. Work a solid foundation of Timing and Accent exercises at various volumes and tempos
- Quality over Speed. Work each exercise focusing on correct and consistent rhythms, while achieving a big and open quality of sound
- Memorization is not crucial to the audition, but it will help with your confidence and consistency when the pressure is on!

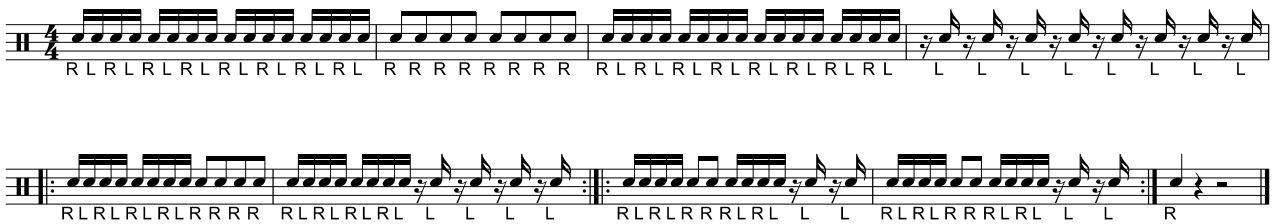
How to practice:

- Ideally: Practice on a drum that is tuned well! If drum is not available, try to use the most realistic practice pad possible (to avoid “pad hands”)
- Play with great quality sticks, so you can always hear your quality of sound
- Practice with a metronome
- Stand up and play in front of a mirror
- Do not be afraid to record yourself and watch. You will be your biggest critic, and it will help with your perspective on what to focus on!

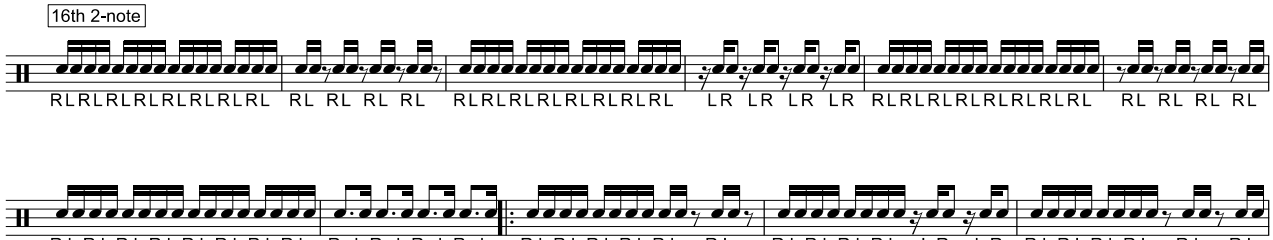
Have fun!

4-2-1 Timing

16th 1-note

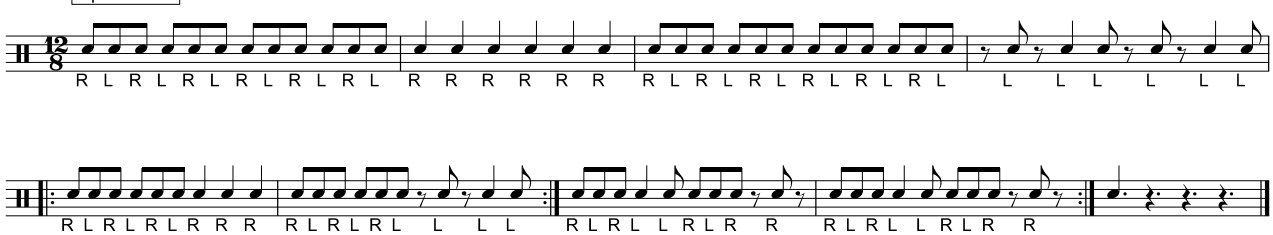


16th 2-note

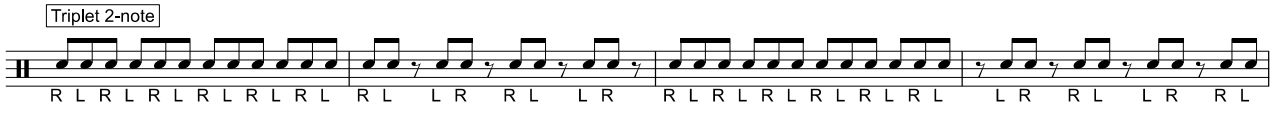


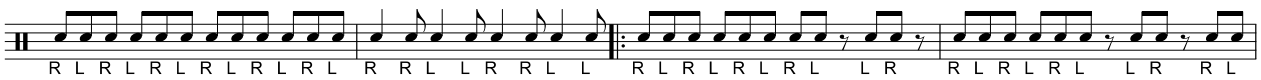
16th 3-note

triplet 1-note



Triplet 2-note

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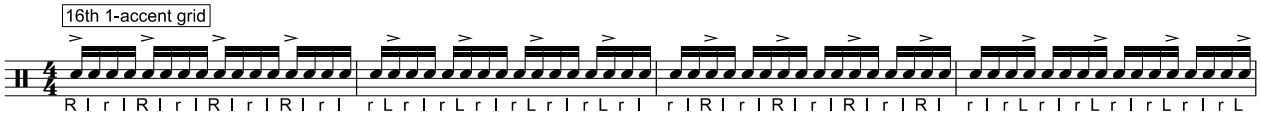
R L R L R L R R L L
R L R L R R L R R L R L L R L R L R R L R L L R


16th 1-accent grid
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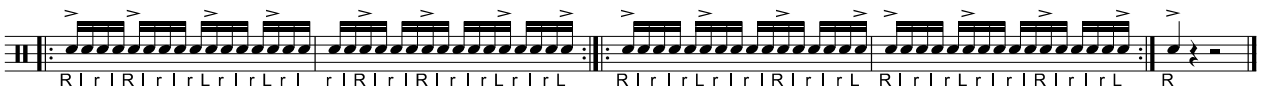
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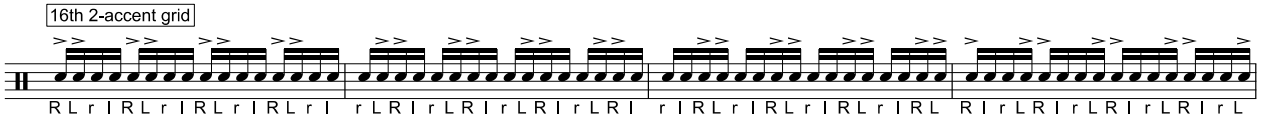
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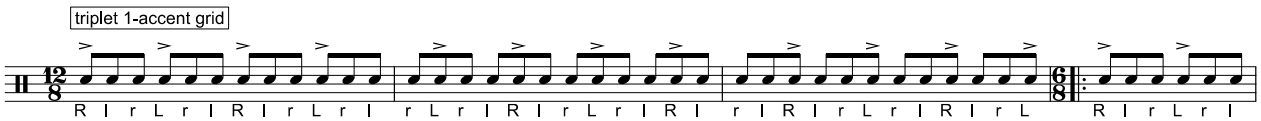
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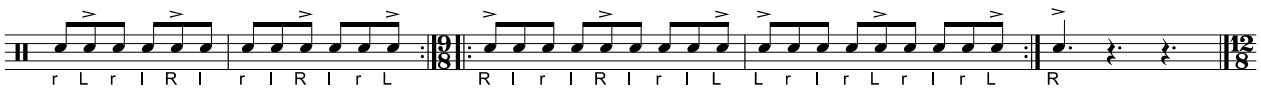
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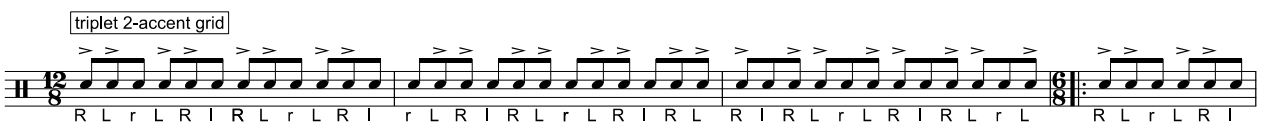
triplet 2-accent grid
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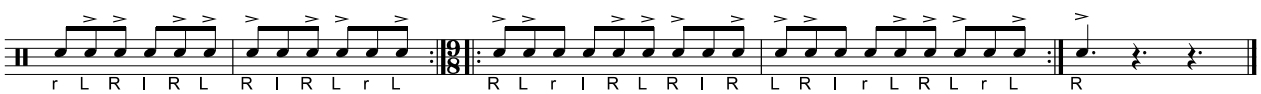
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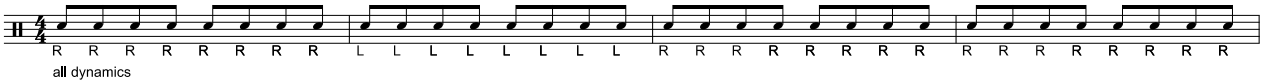
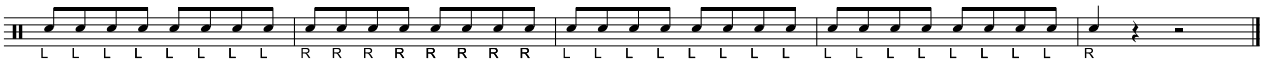
Basic Exersises

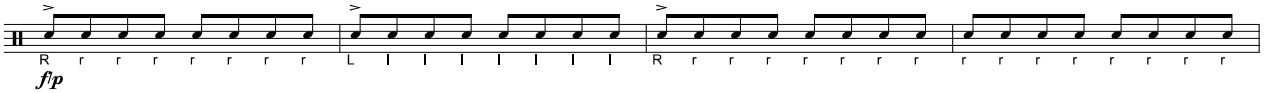
8-8-16



all dynamics



accent tap version 1



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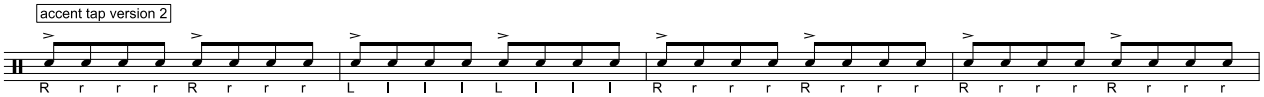
accent tap version 2



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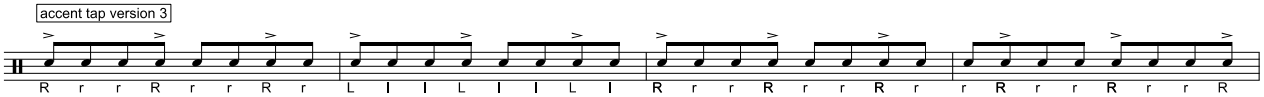
accent tap version 3



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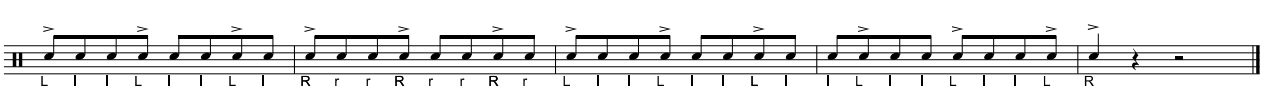
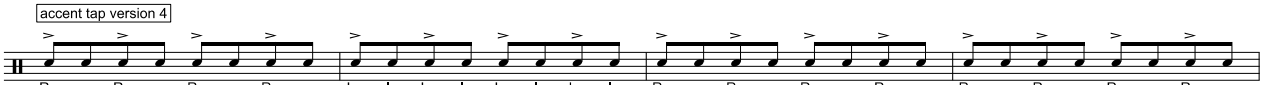


accent tap version 4



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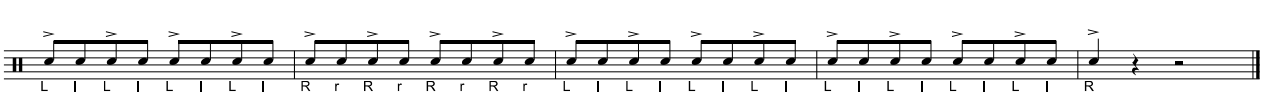
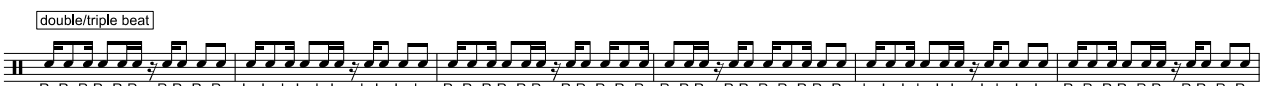
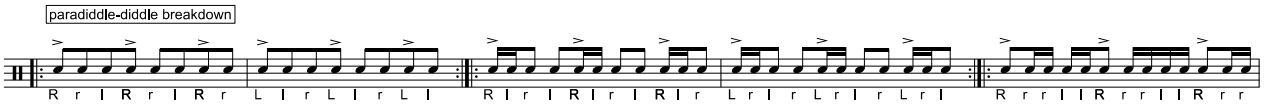


double/triple beat



all dynmaics

douple roll breakdown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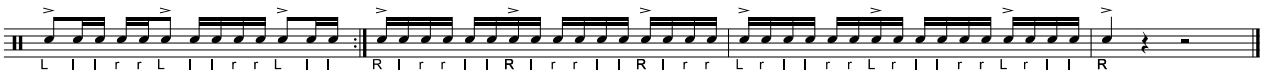

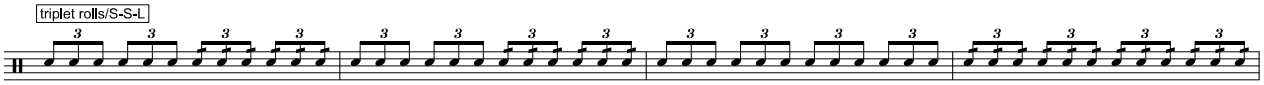
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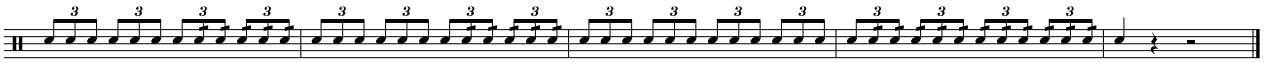

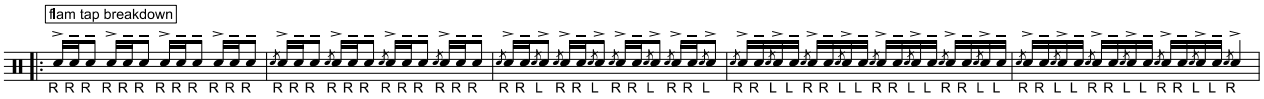
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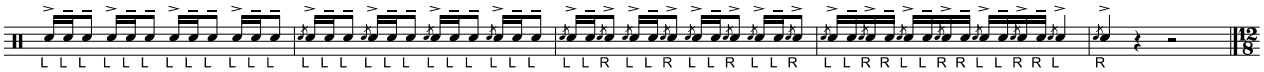

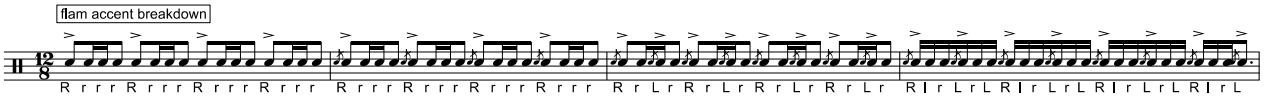
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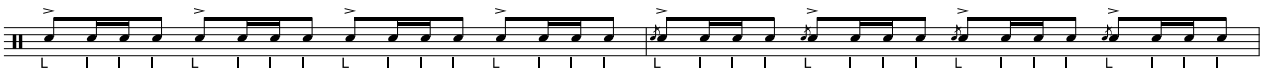
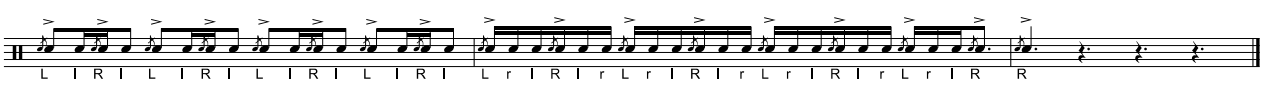




Official Drumline Warm-Ups

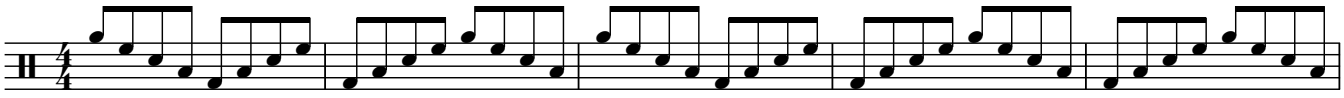
Top Basses

8s Sequence

Houston Fleischmann

♩ = 100

Variation 1



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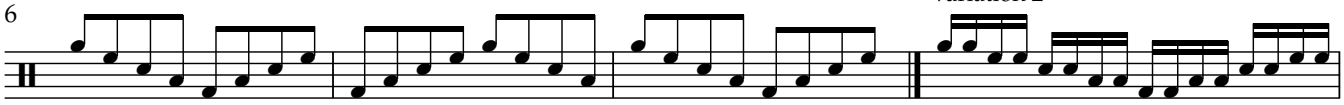

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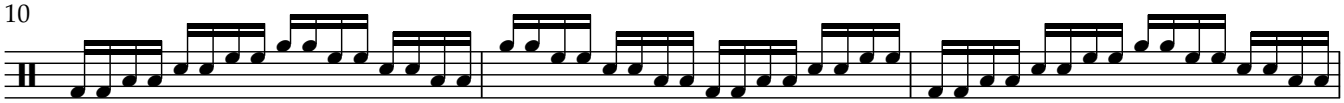

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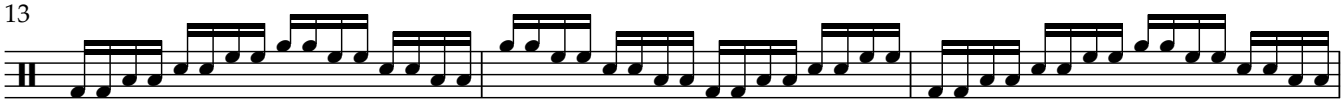

Variation 3

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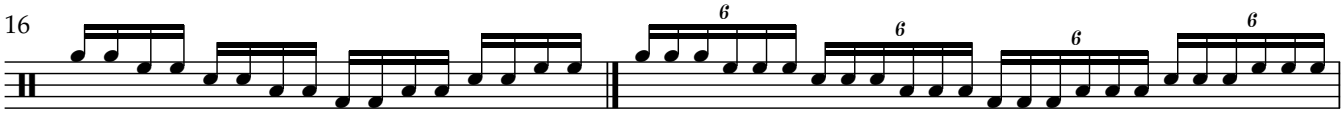

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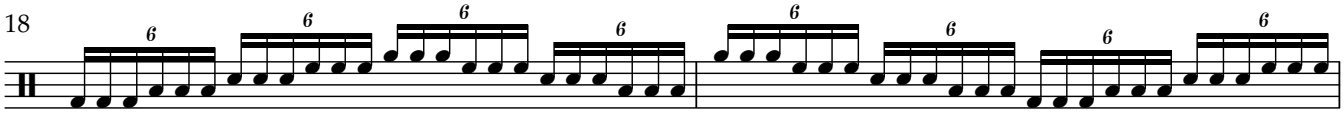

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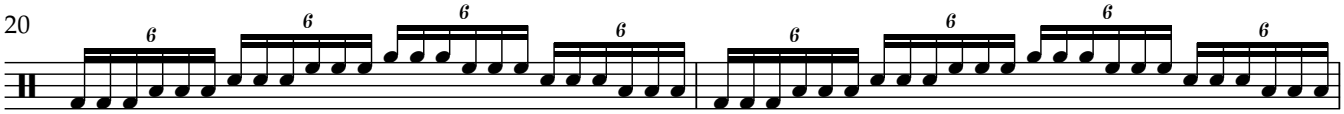

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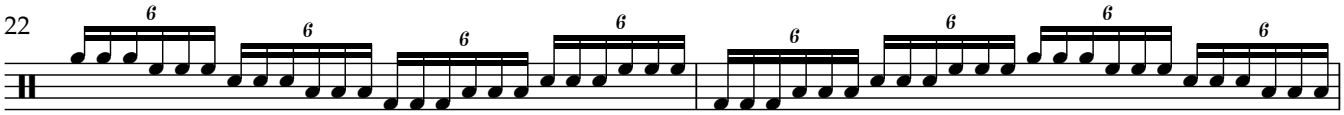

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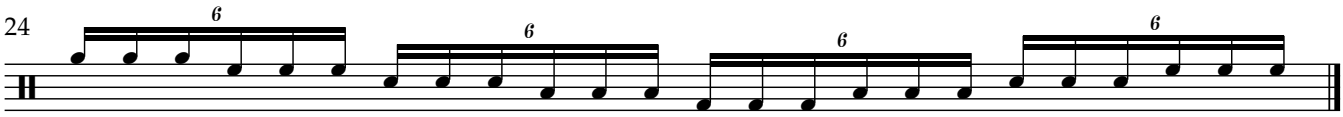

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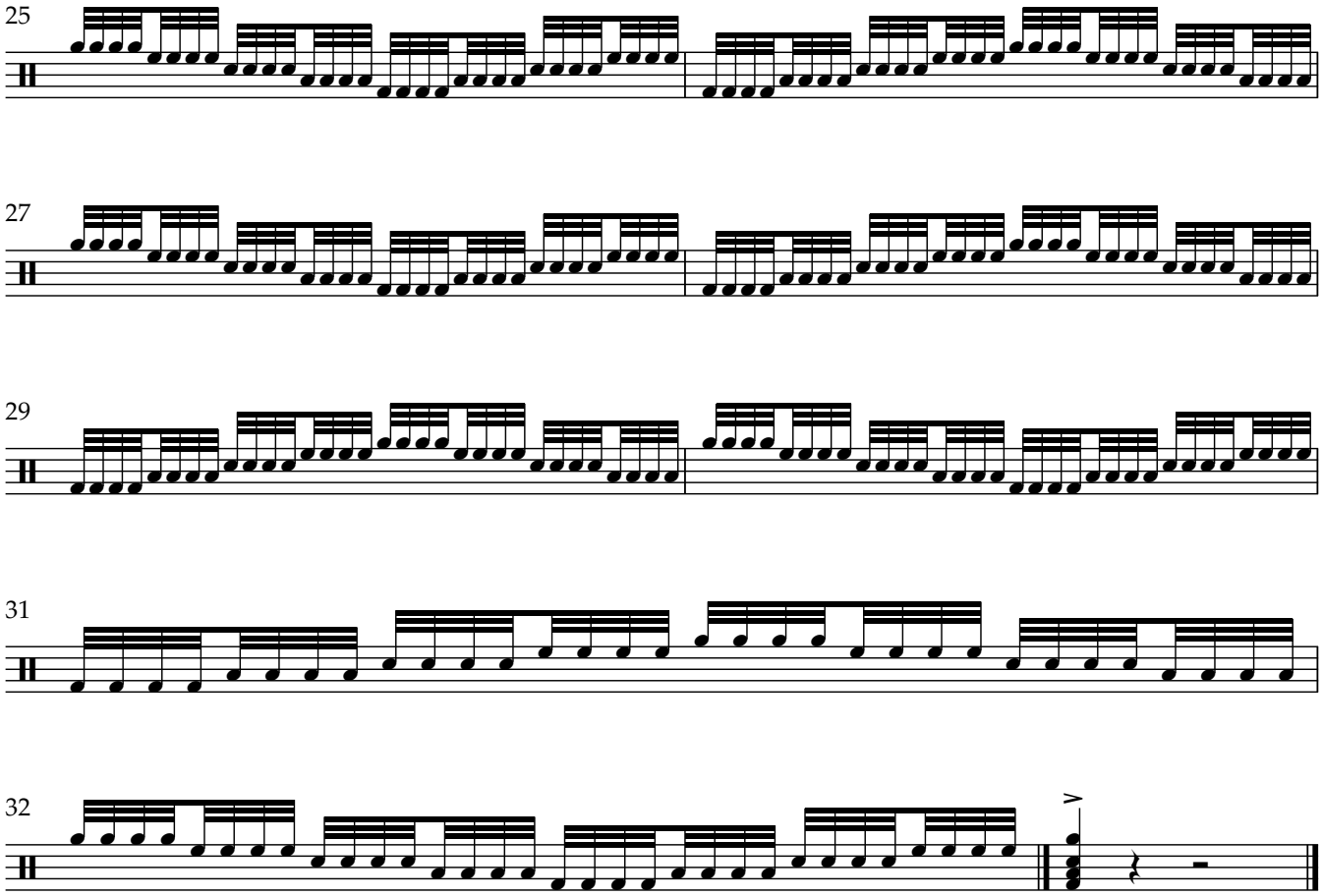
Top Basses

Variation 4



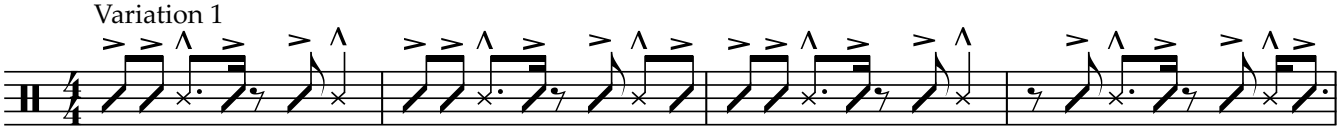
Bottom Basses

8s Sequence

Houston Fleischmann

♩ = 100

Variation 1



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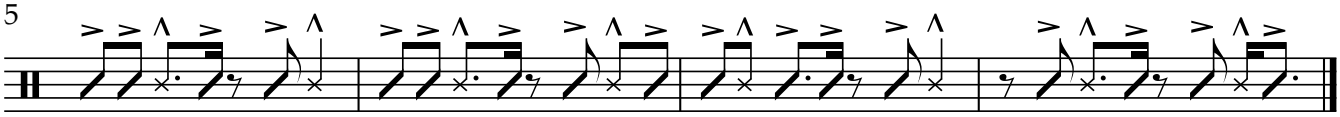

Variation 2

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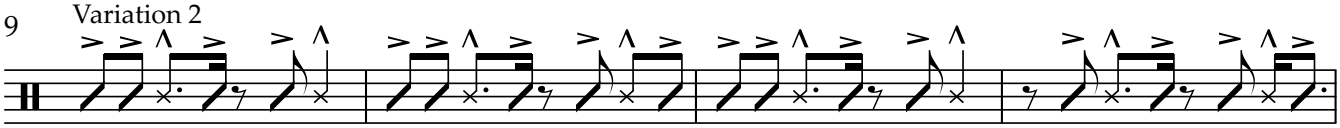

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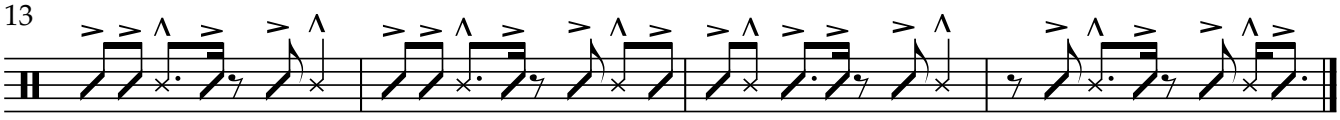

Variation 3

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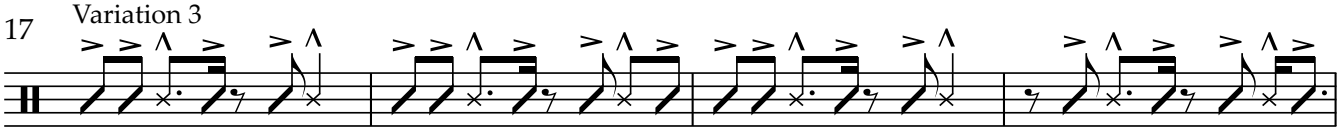

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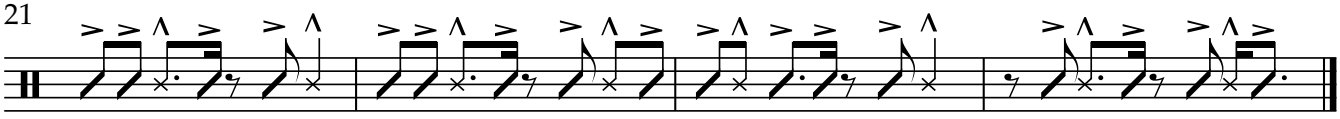

Variation 4

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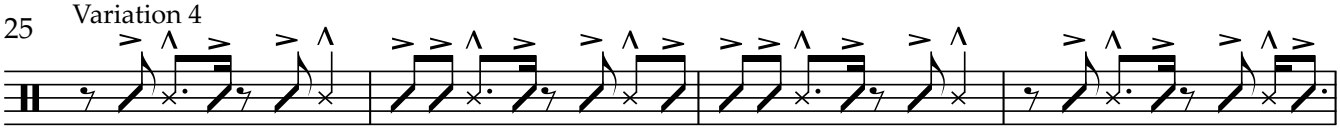

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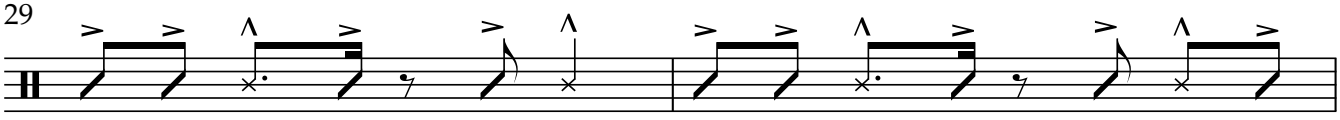

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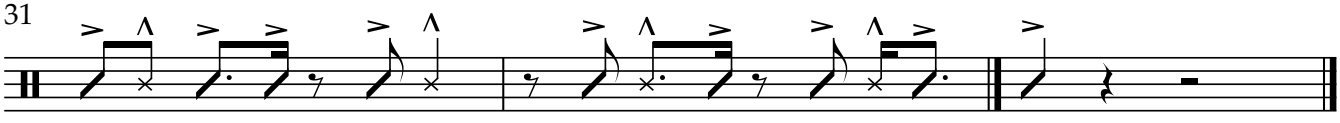

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FlAmS

Bass

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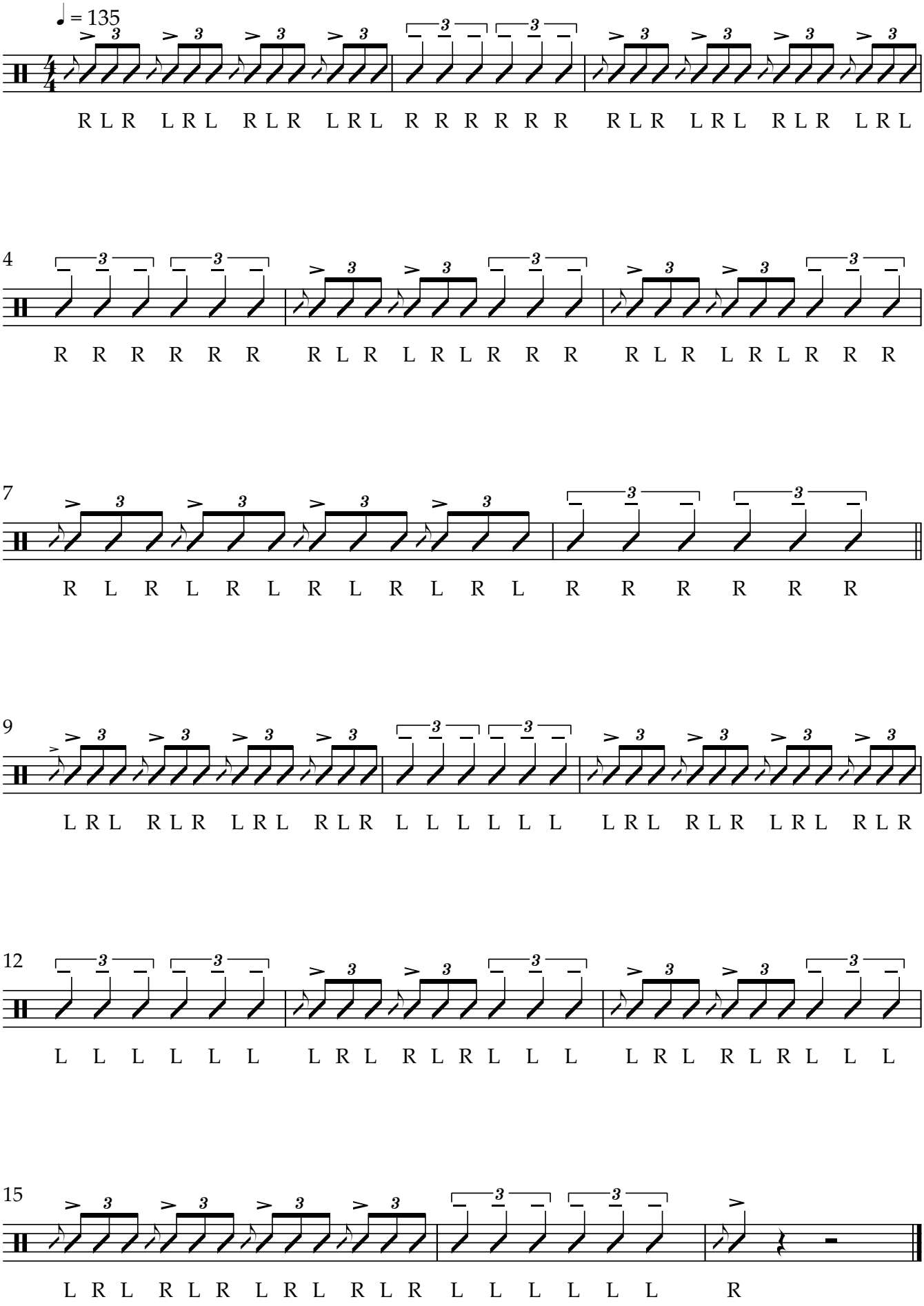

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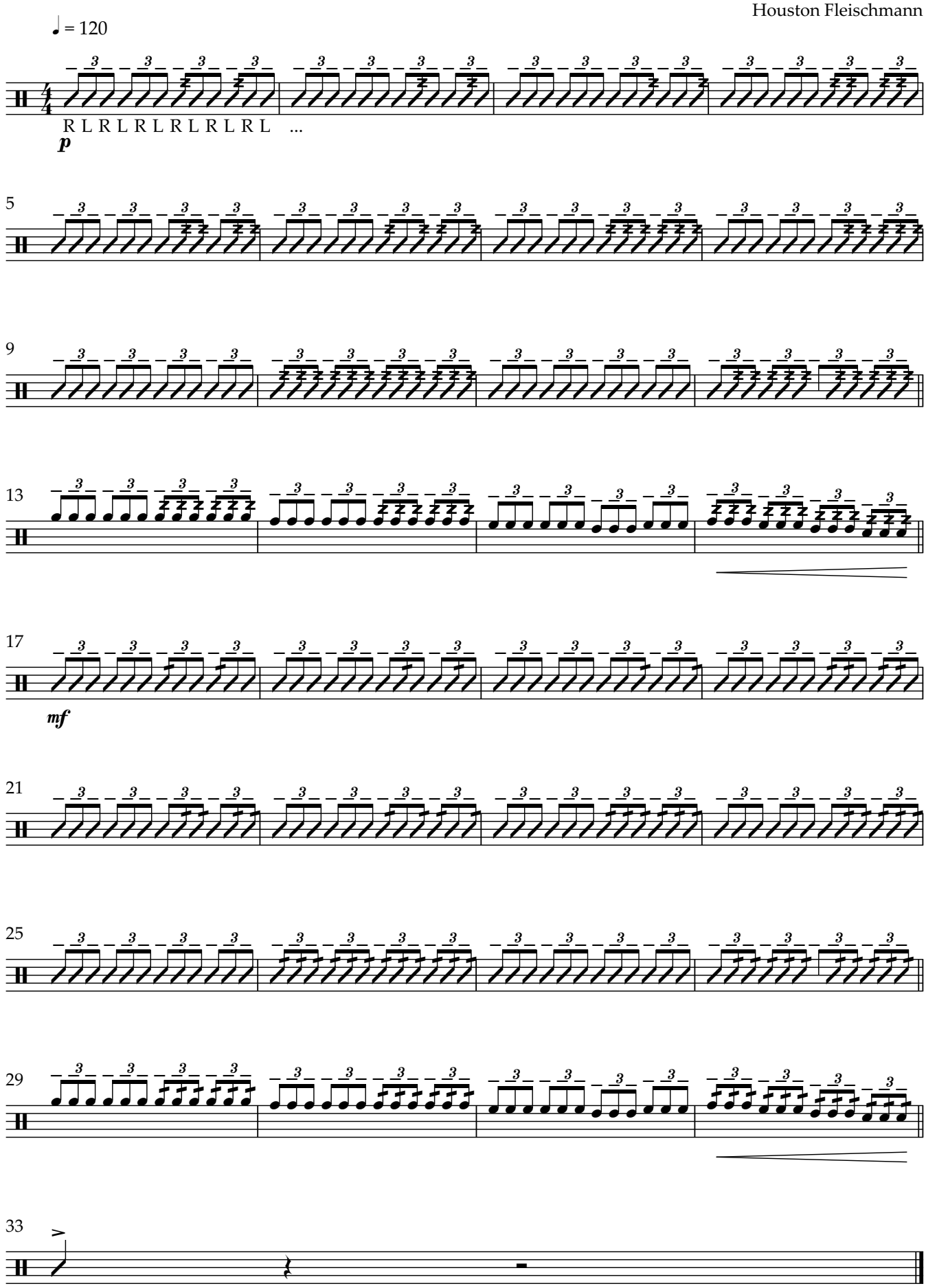
Top Bass

Triplet Diddle

Houston Fleischmann



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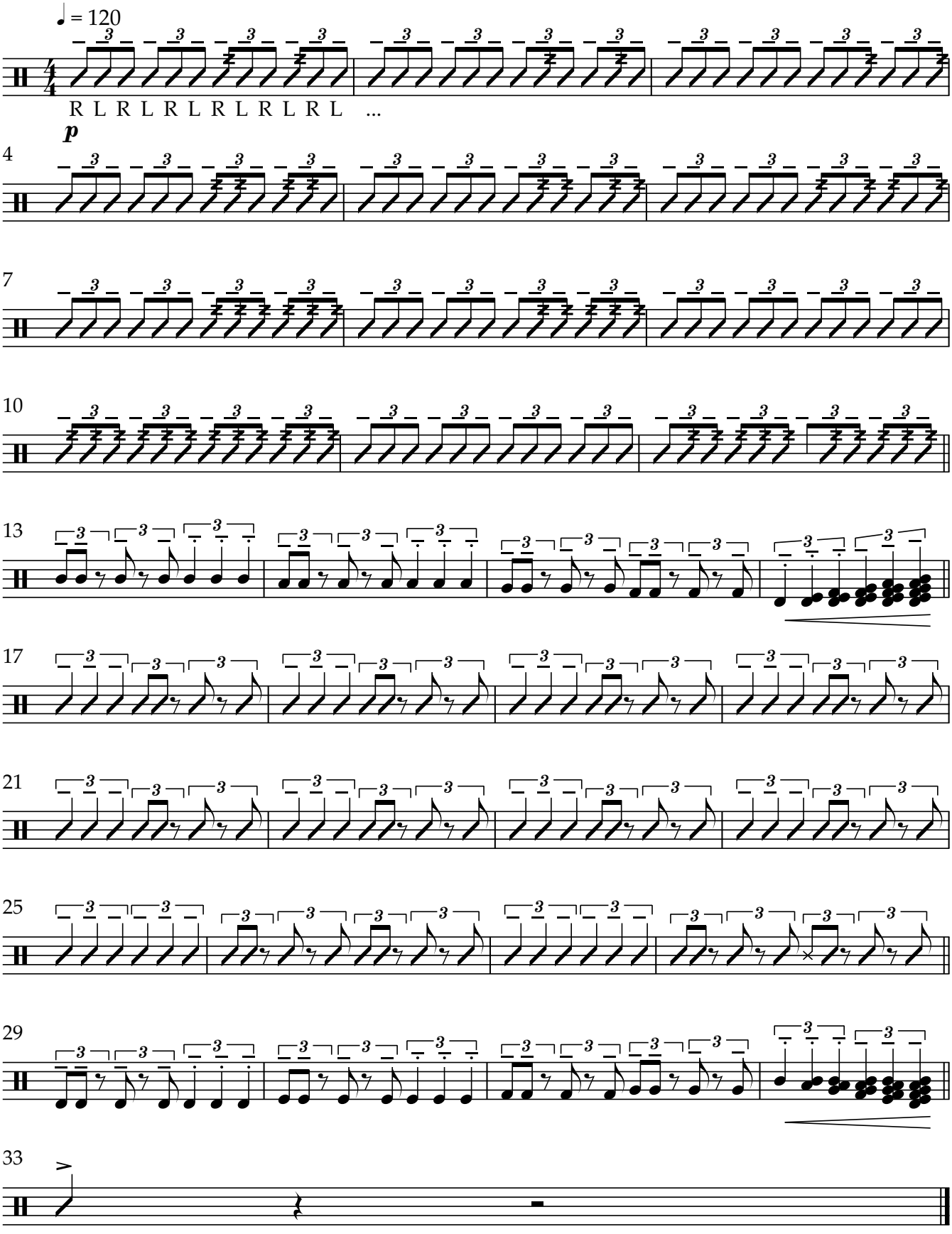
Bottom Bass

Triplet Diddle

Houston Fleischmann



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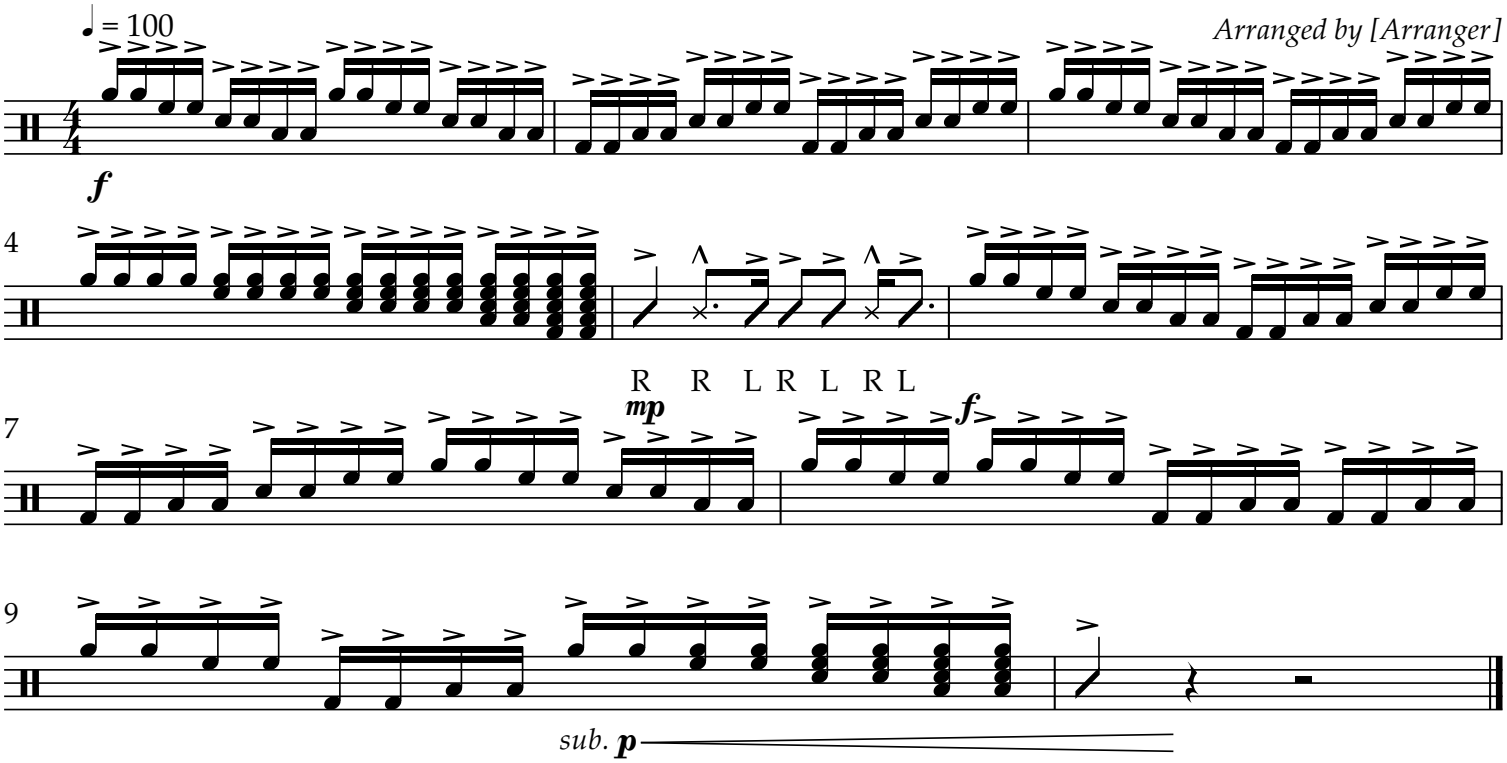
Top Bass

Stick Control

for Marching Band

Houston Fleischmann

Arranged by [Arranger]



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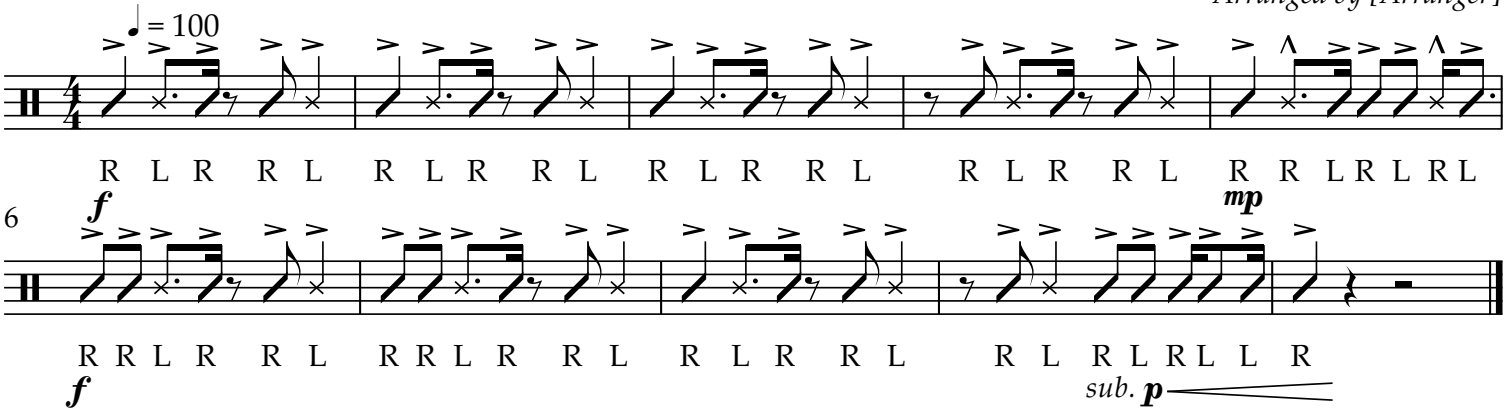
Bottom Bass

Stick Control

for Marching Band

Houston Fleischmann

Arranged by [Arranger]



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