ACCENTS & SYNCOPATION

For the developing bass player

BASS DIRECTORY

Foreword

A great way to truly know if you can account for how subdivisions feel is to play them all. Drummers do this all the time coordinating rhythms between the right and left hand playing the snare drum.

I think its often overlooked to do the same thing on bass guitar – it's a great way to build up right hand speed, dexterity and to practice your rhythm.

I made these exercises inspired by snare drumming books I've been practicing with – however I wanted a more direct and focused workout for bass.

These exercises are made to go through some common groupings you may stumble upon.

The ghost notes notated should be played as ghost notes and to clearly hear the accents I recommend playing a note of your choice.

Practice tips

- Be comfortable playing the exercises in different tempos ex. 40 & 110 bpm

- Practice saying the beat/pulse aloud while playing the exercises

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- Practice saying the subdivisions out aloud while playing the exercises

- Practice the accents without ghost-notes

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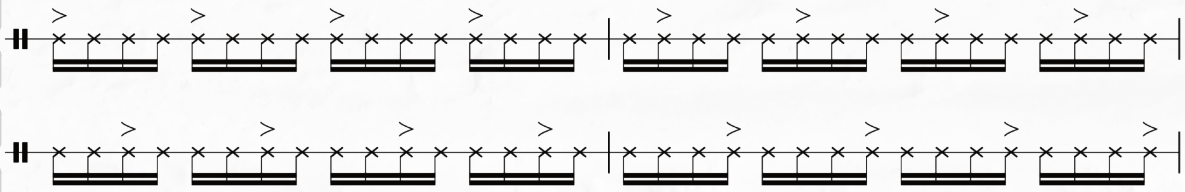
One beat groupings

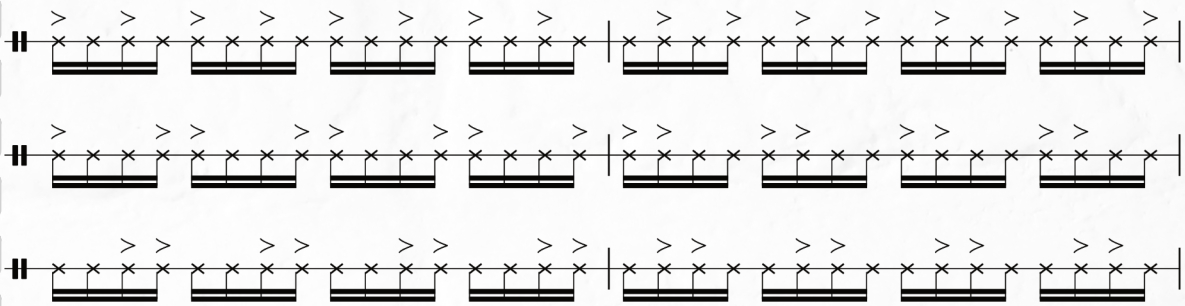
Exercise 1

Groupings of one 16-note



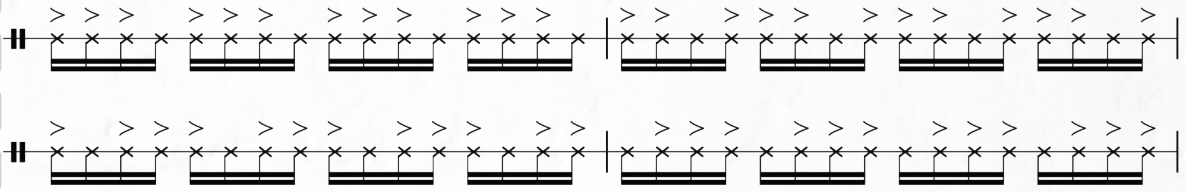
Exercise 2

Groupings of two 16-notes



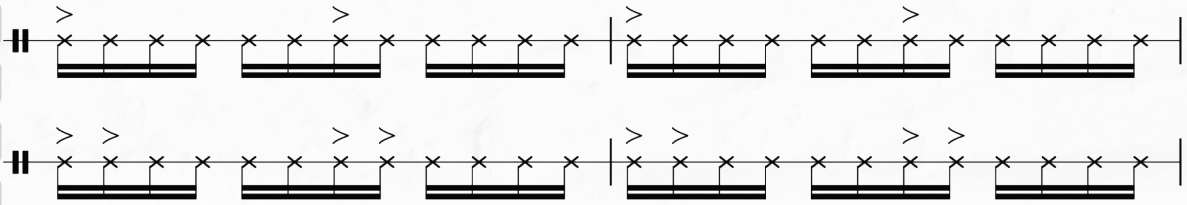
Exercise 3

Groupings of three 16-notes



Polyrhythm 2 against 3

Exercise 1



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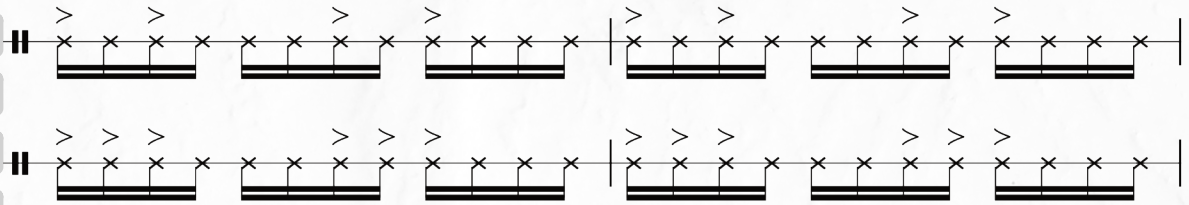

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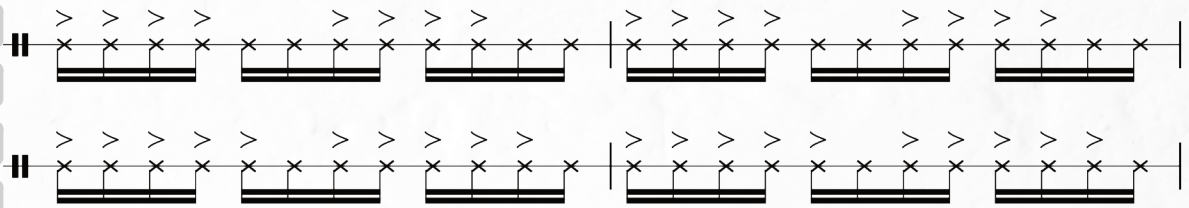

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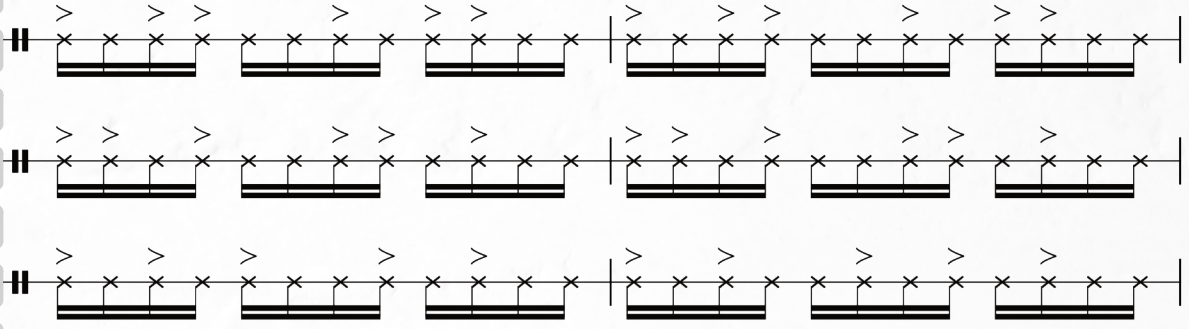
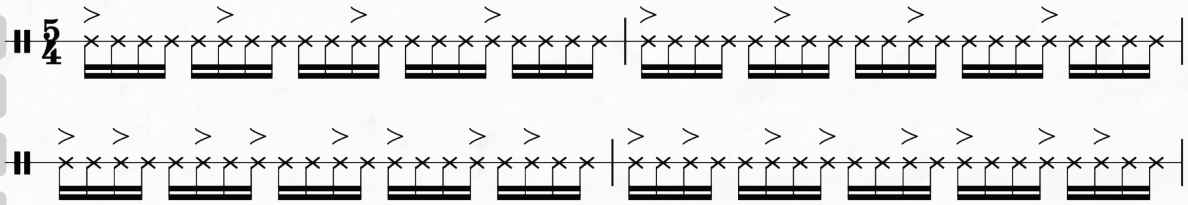


Polyrhythm 4 against 5

Exercise 1



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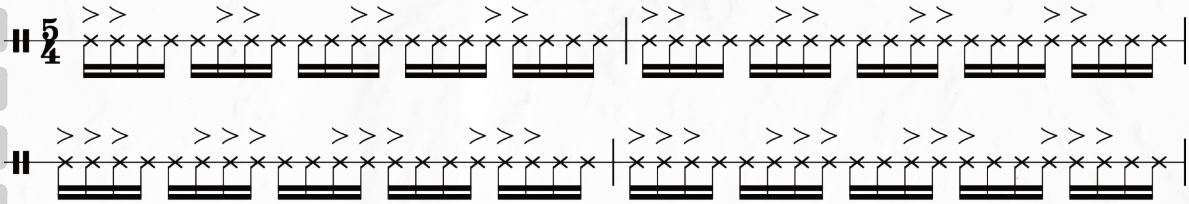

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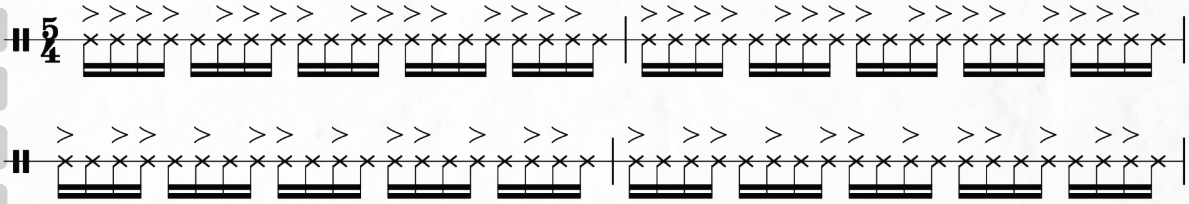

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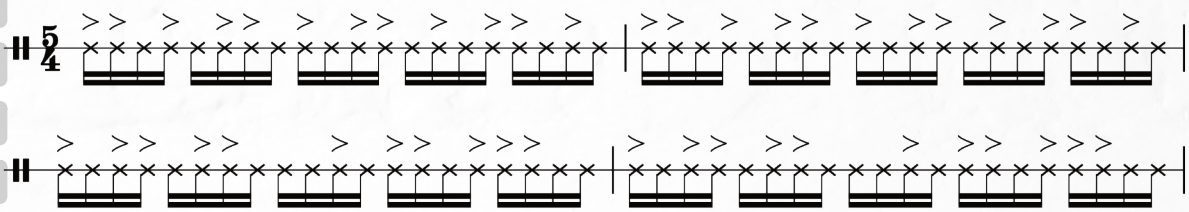
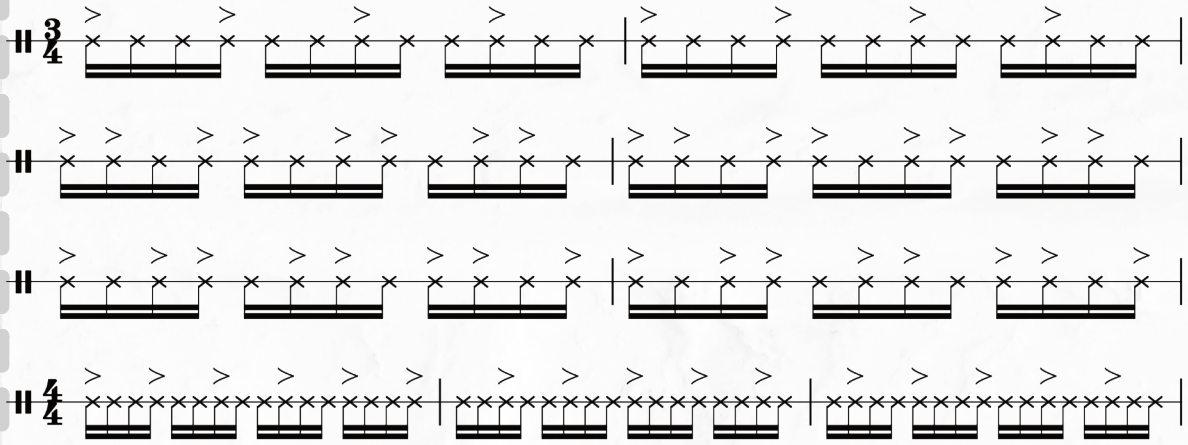


Polyrhythm 4:3 and 4:7

Exercise 1



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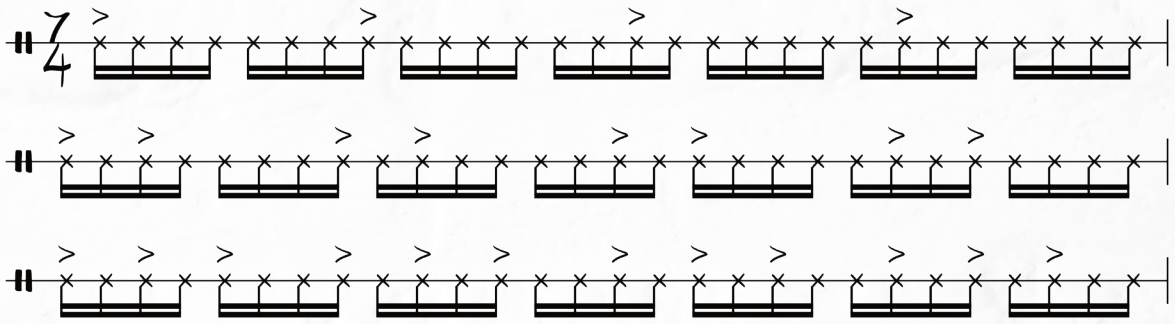

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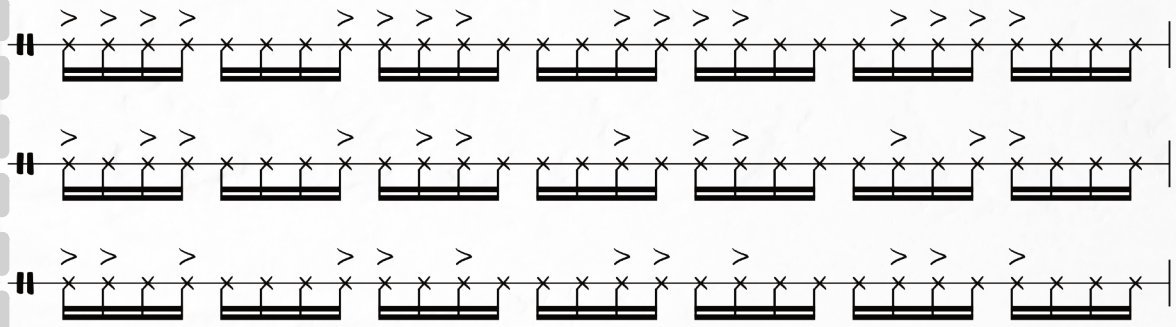
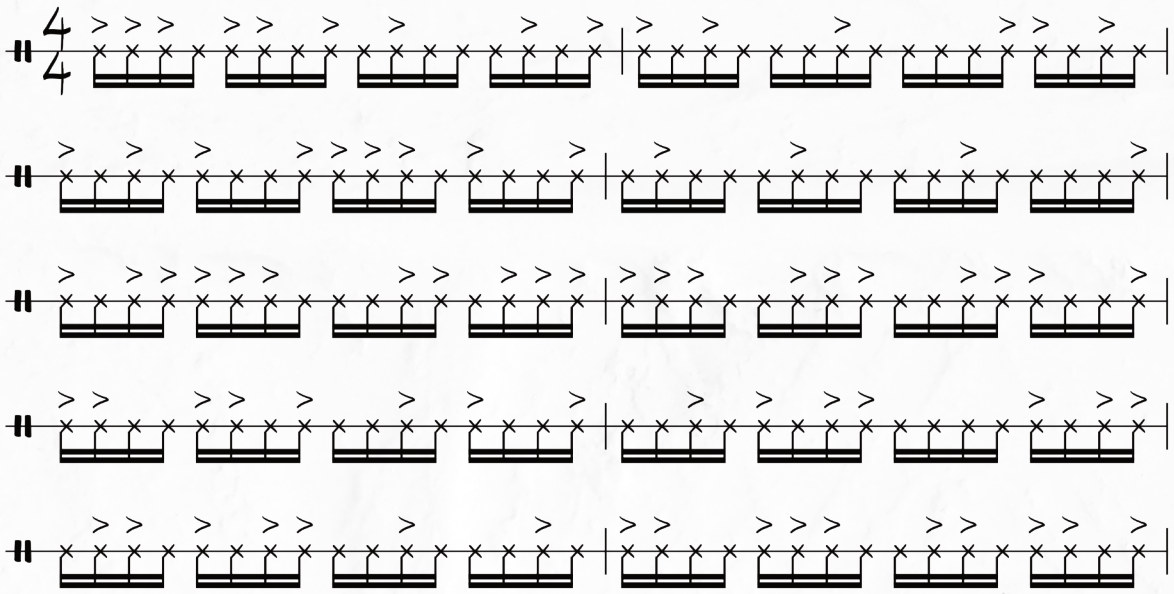


16th note summary

Exercise 1



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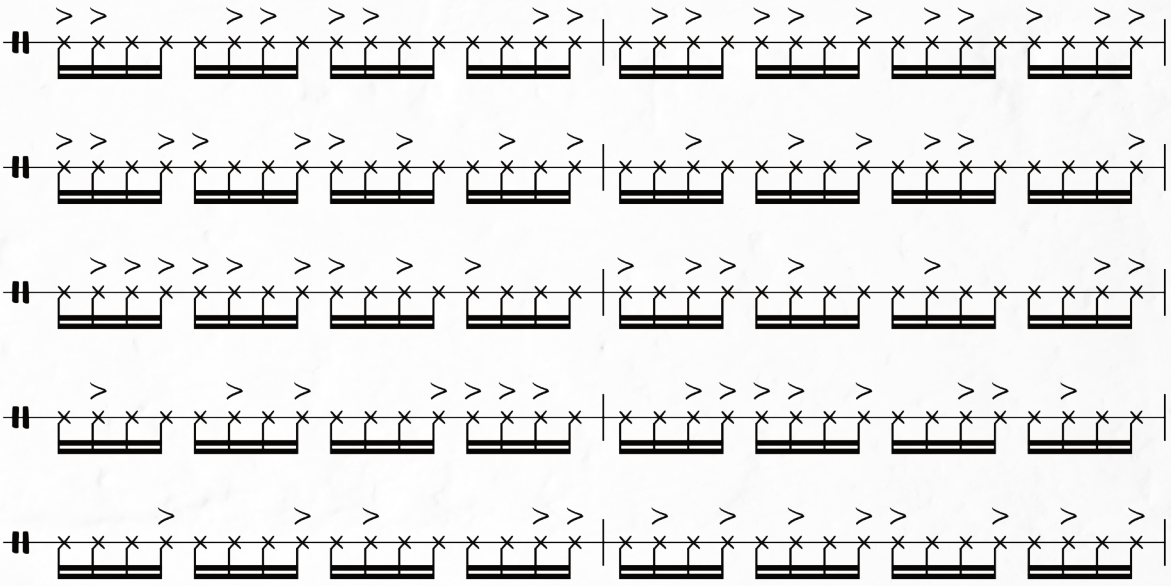
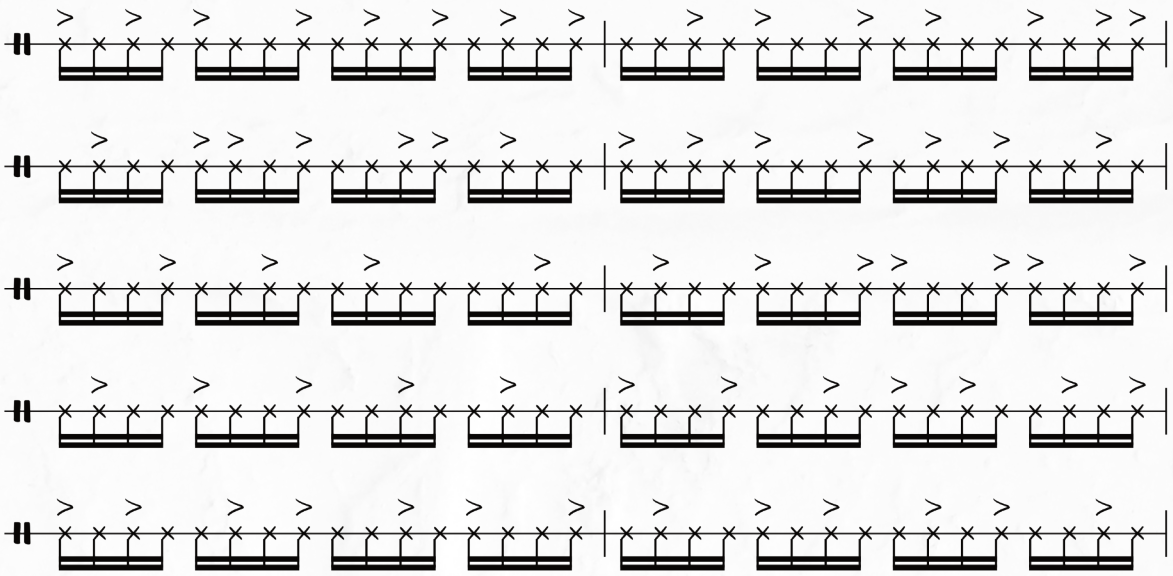


16th note summary - cont.

Exercise 1



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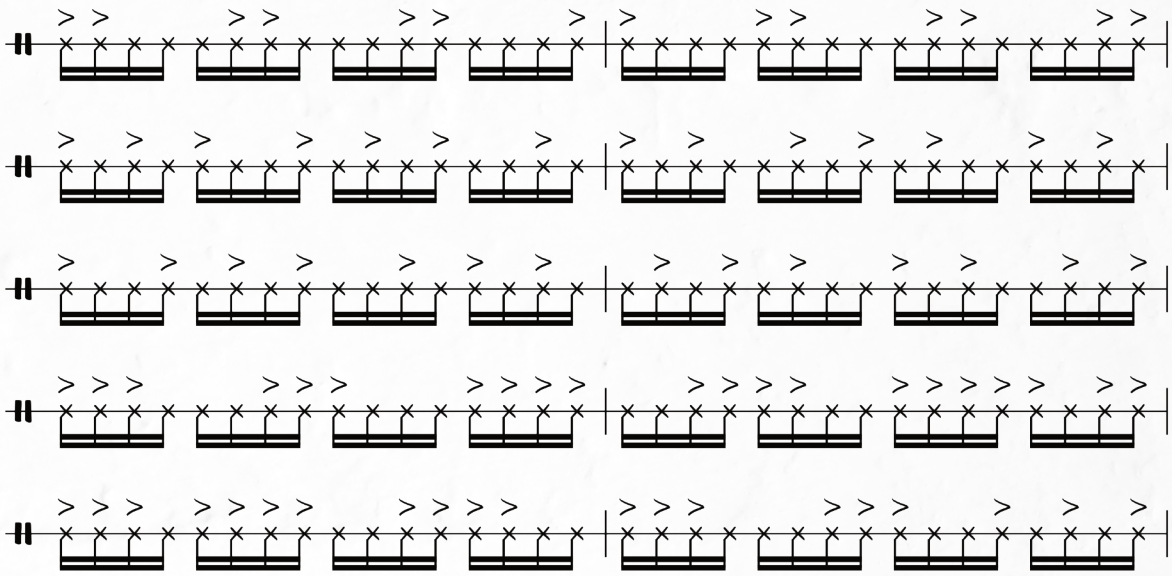
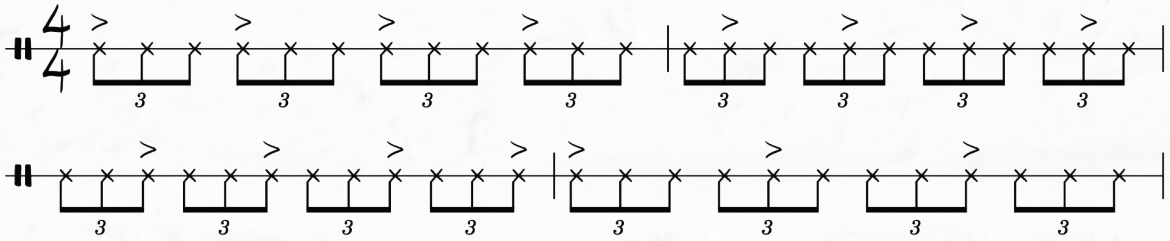


Triplets

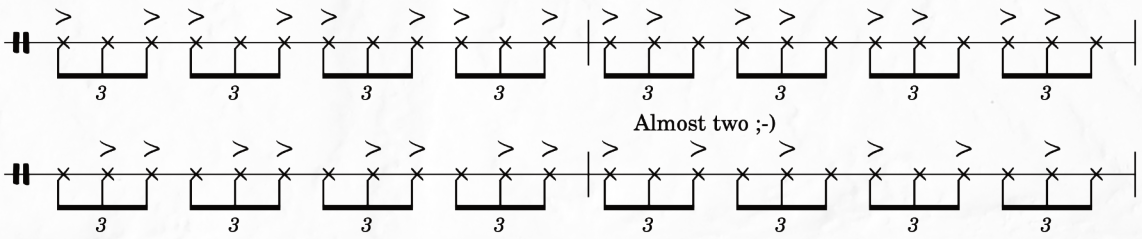
Exercise 1

Groupings of one triplet

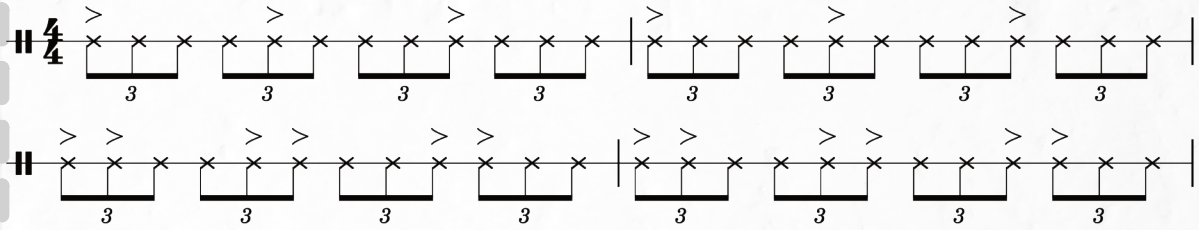


Exercise 2

Groupings of two triplets



Polyrhythm 3 against 4



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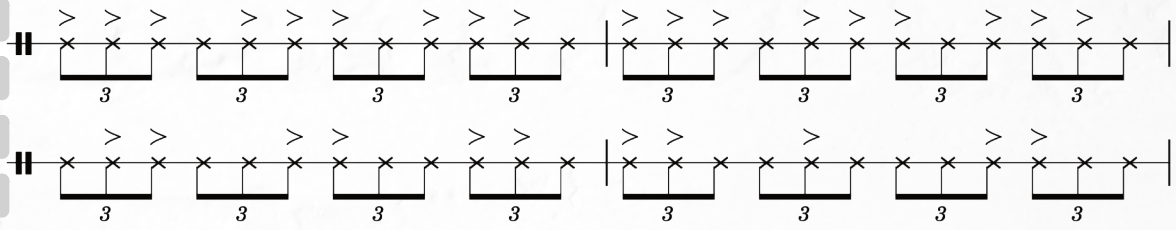
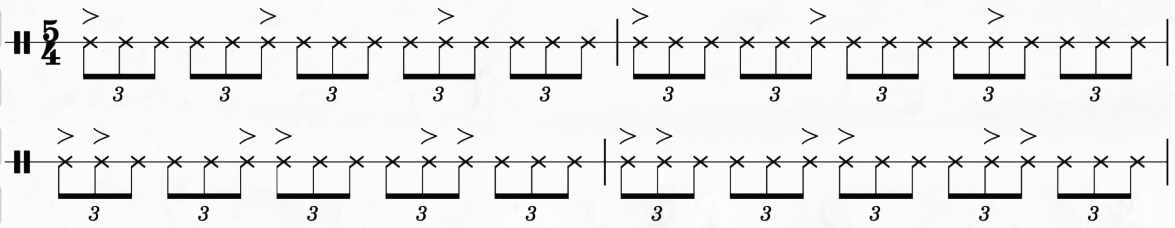


3 against 5 polyrhythm

Exercise 1



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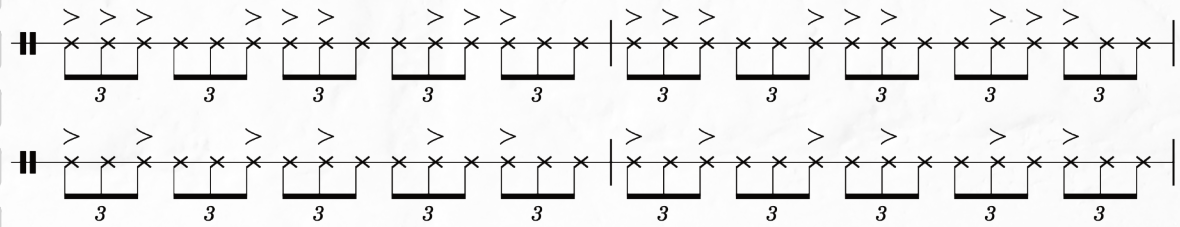

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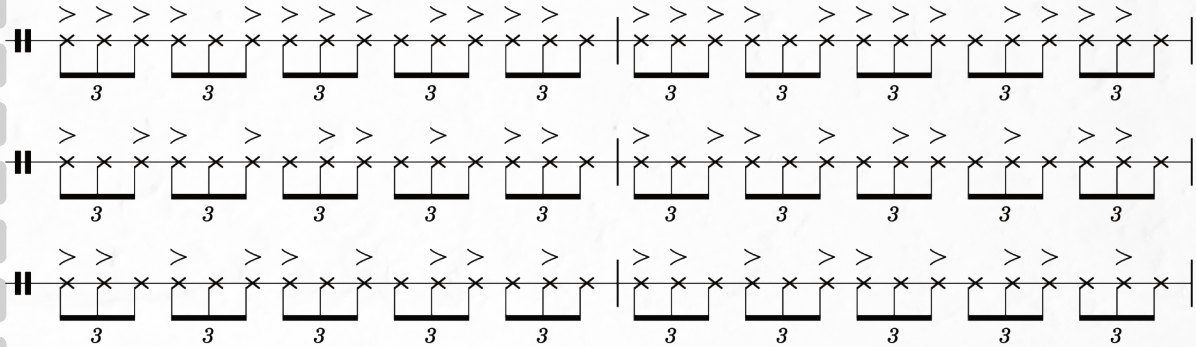

3 against 7 polyrhythm

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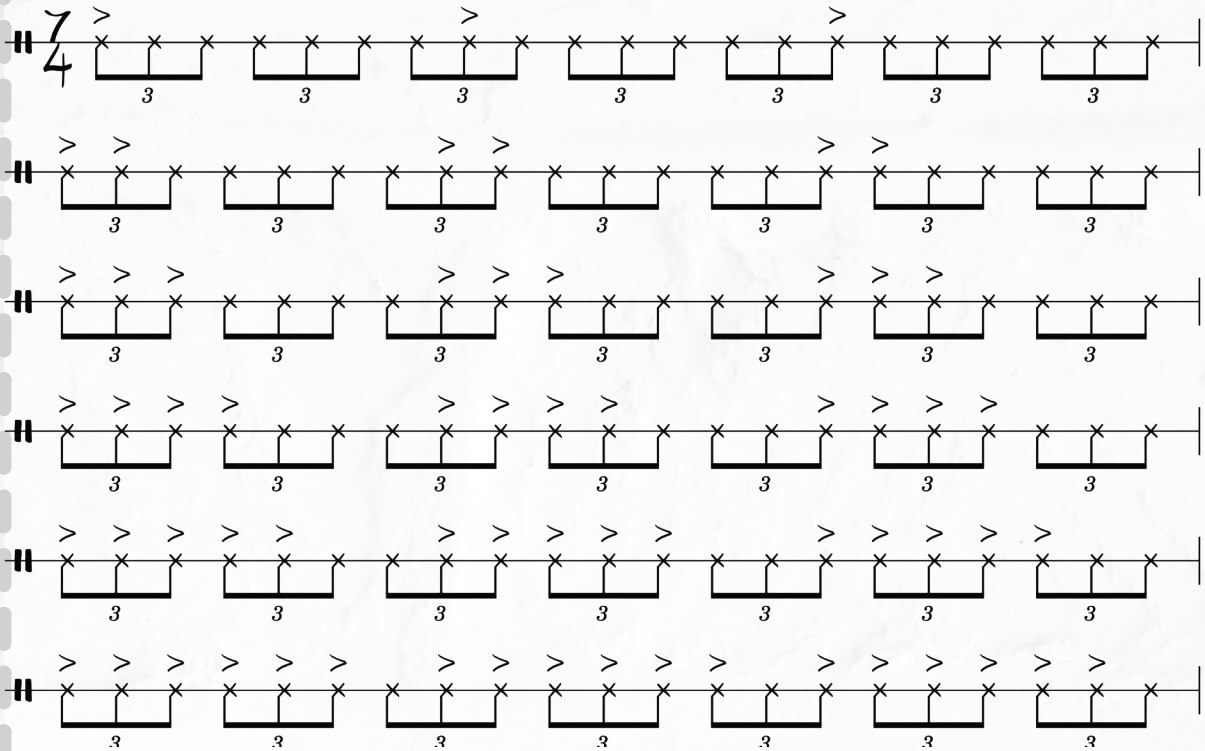

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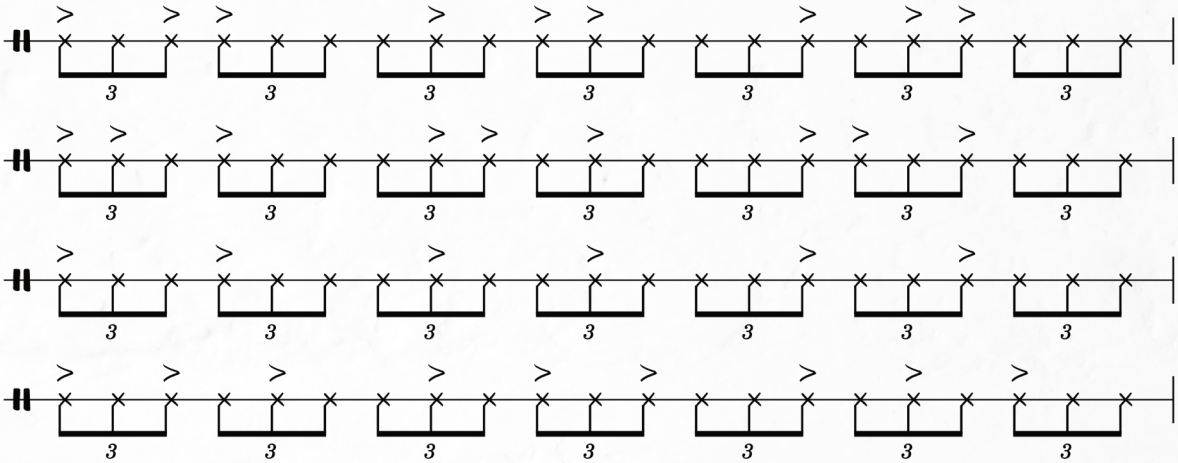
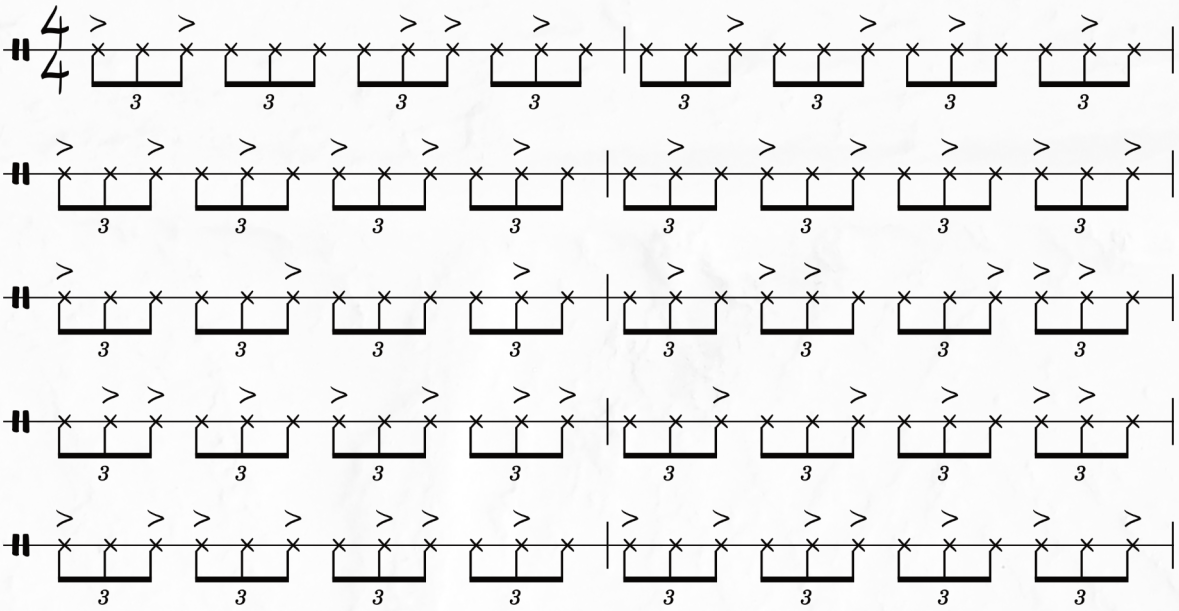


Triplet summary

Exercise 1



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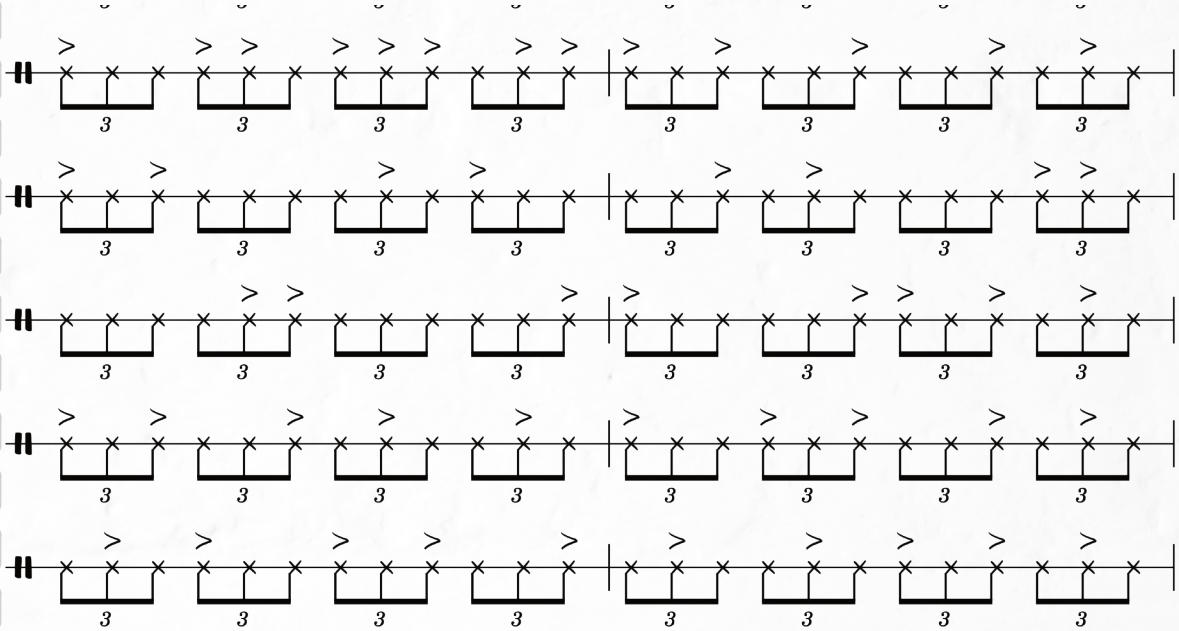
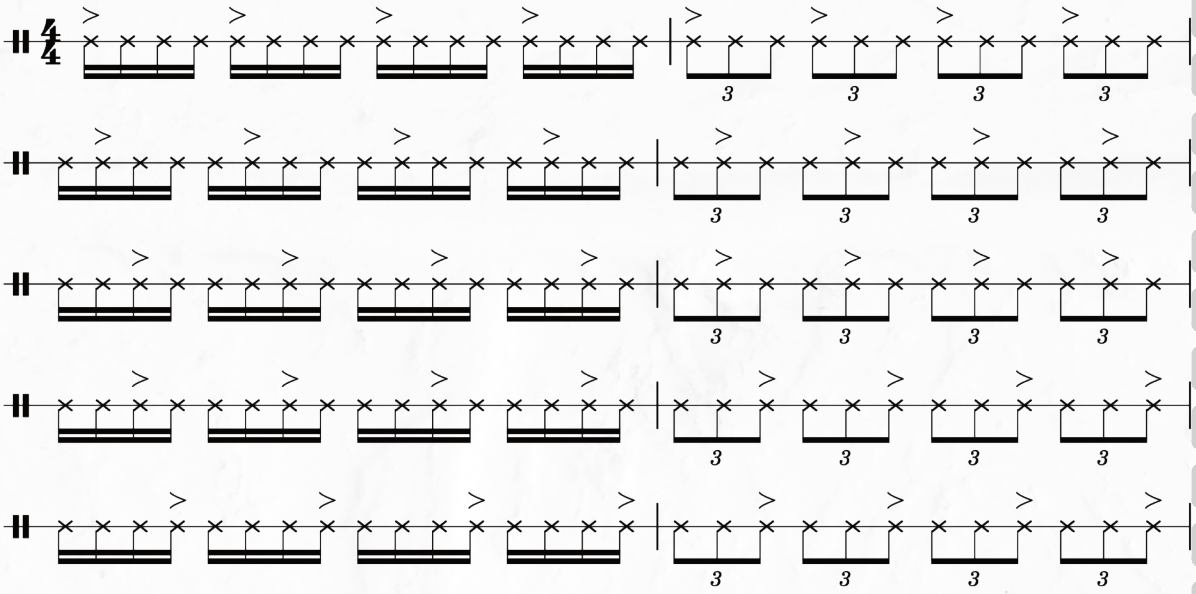
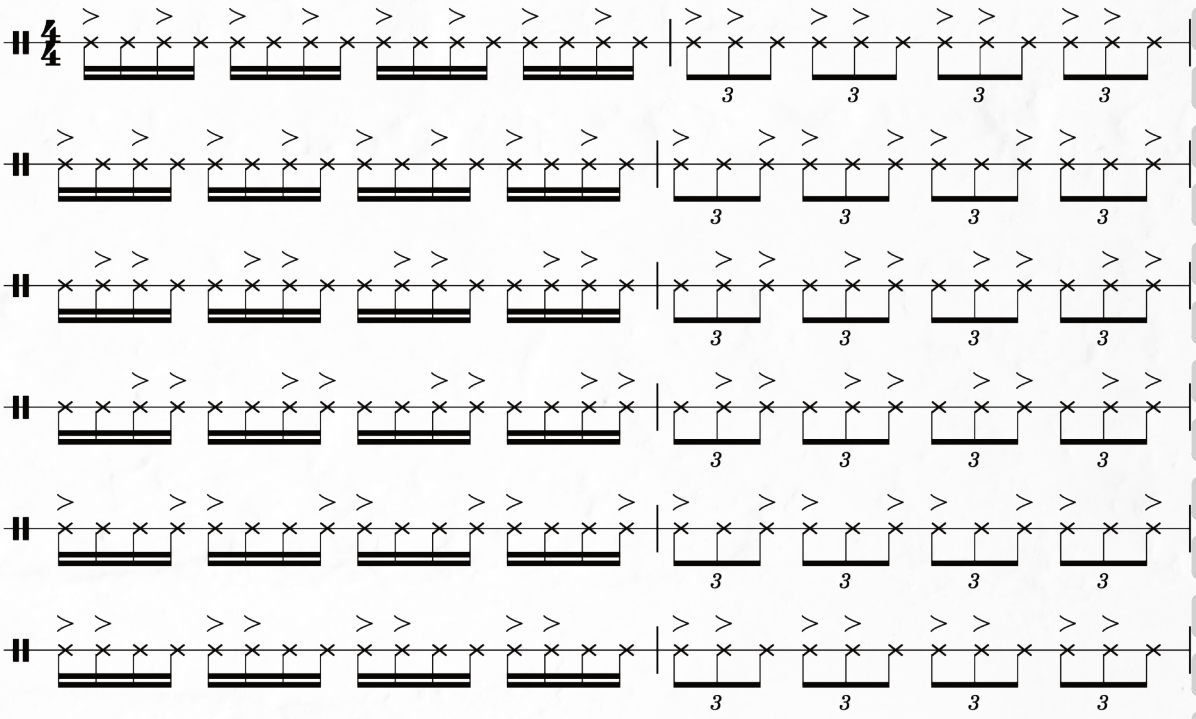


Triplets & 16th notes - 1 bar

Exercise 1

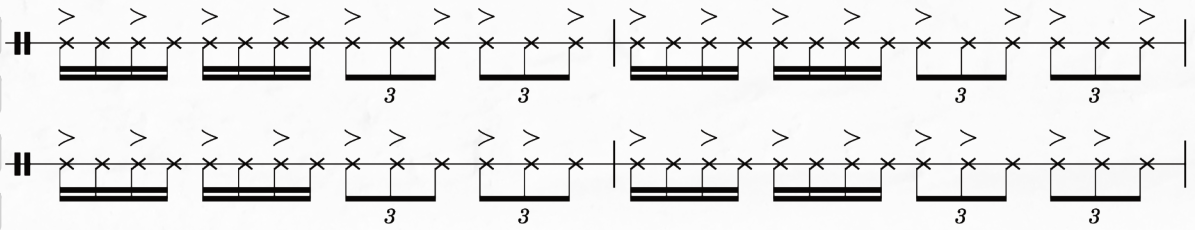


Exercise 2

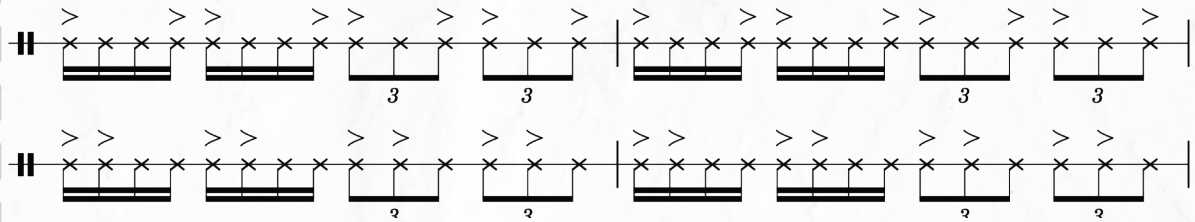


Triplets & 16th notes - 2 beats

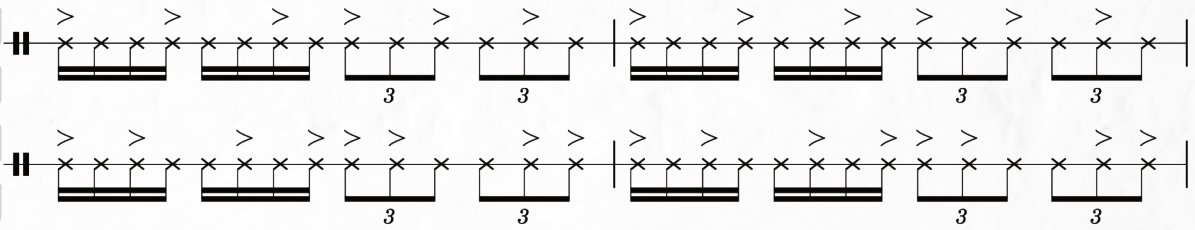
Exercise 1



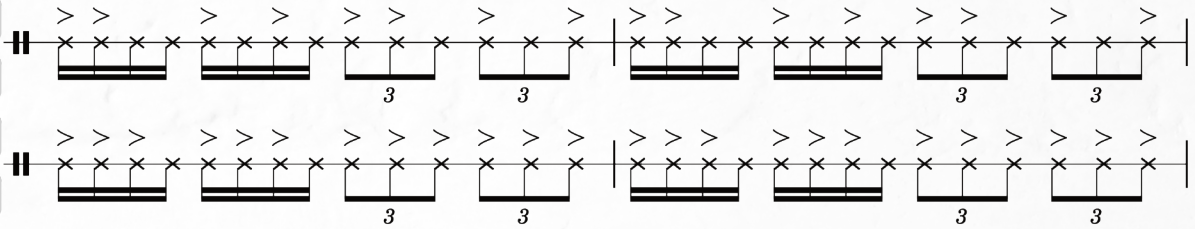
Exercise 2



Exercise 3

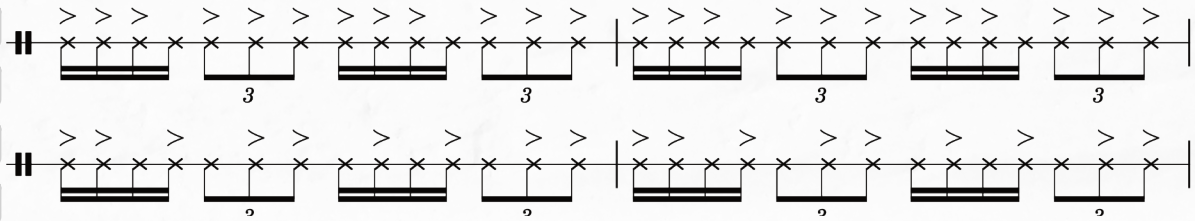


Exercise 4



Triplets & 16th notes - 1 beats

Exercise 1



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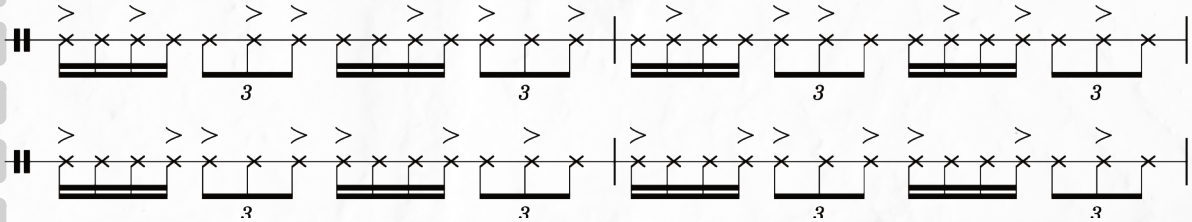

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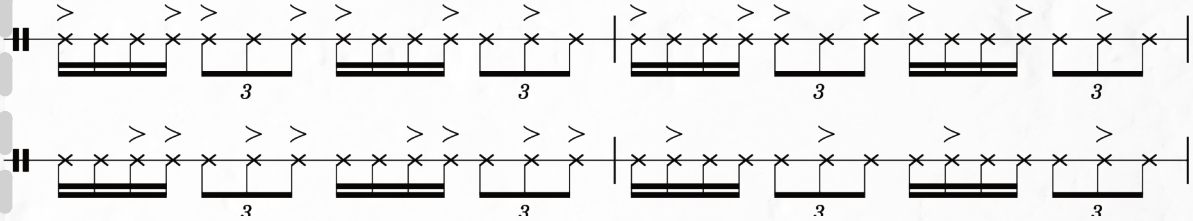

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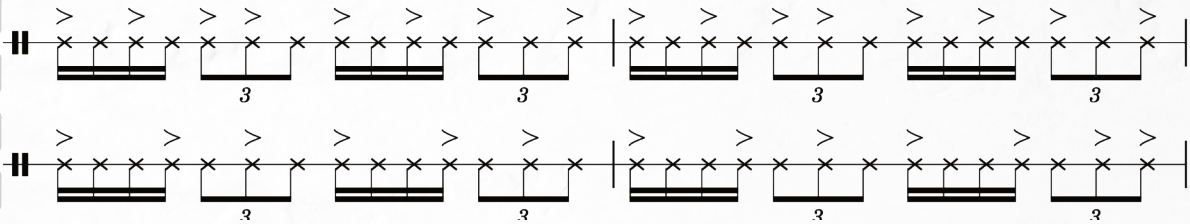
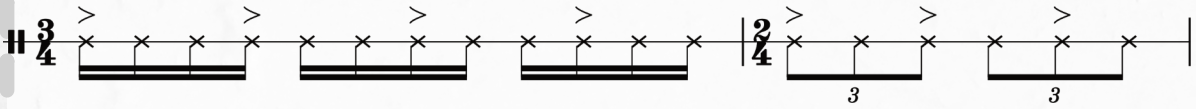


Triplets & 16th notes - polyrhythms

Exercise 1



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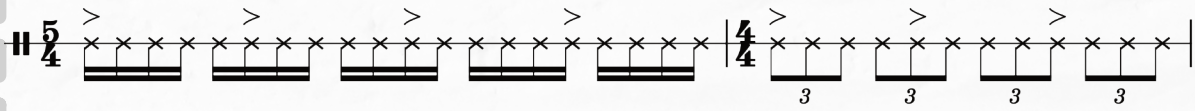

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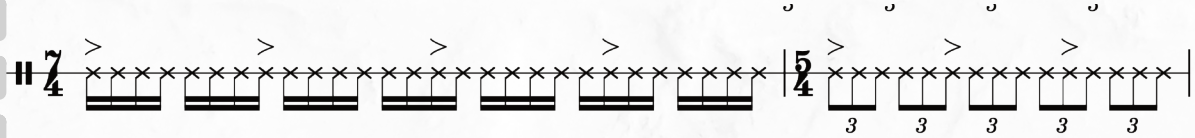

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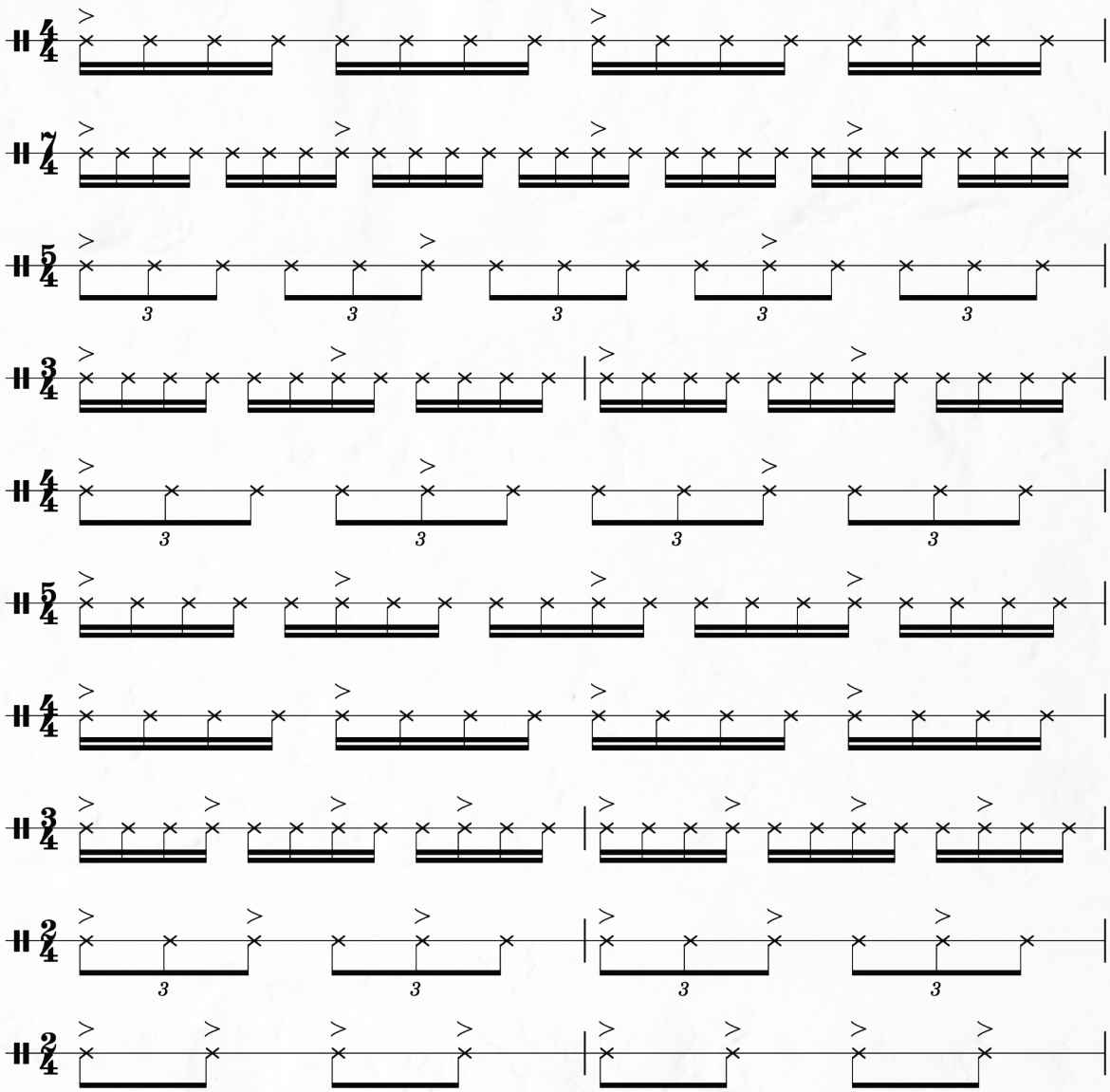
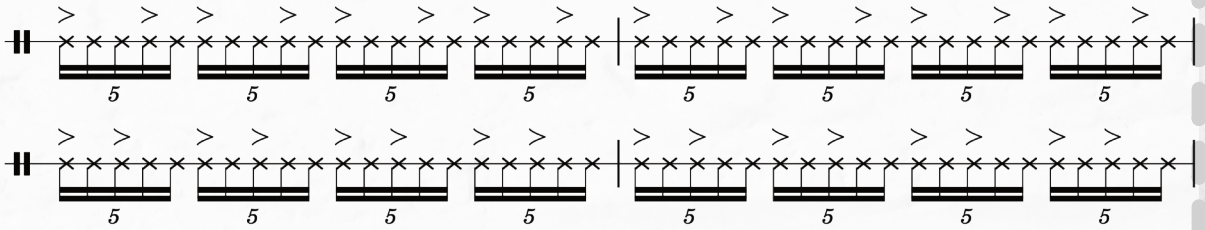


Further exploration: Quintuplets

Exercise 1



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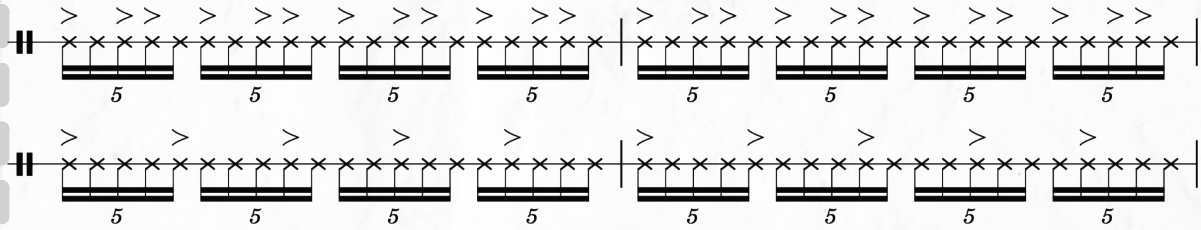

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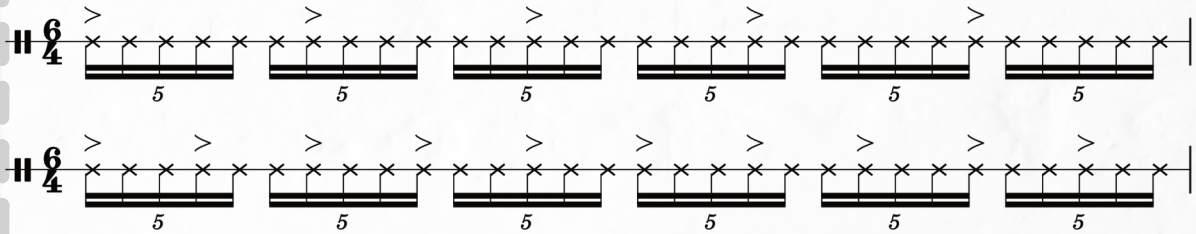
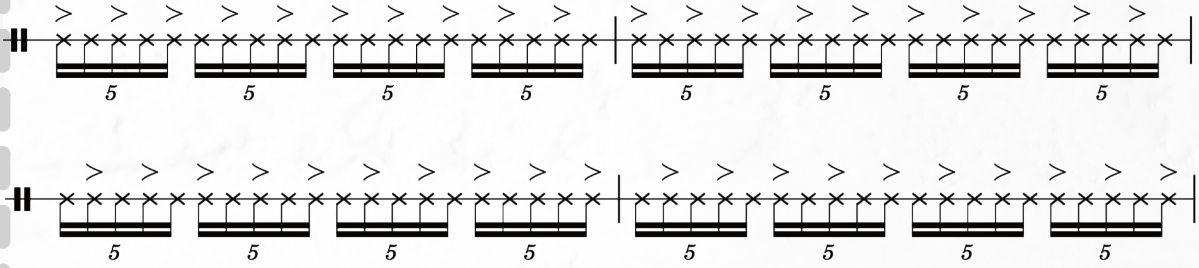
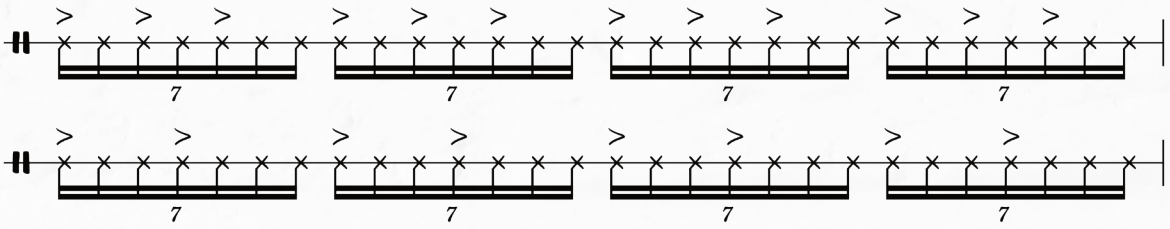


Exercise 4



Further exploration: Septuplets

Exercise 1



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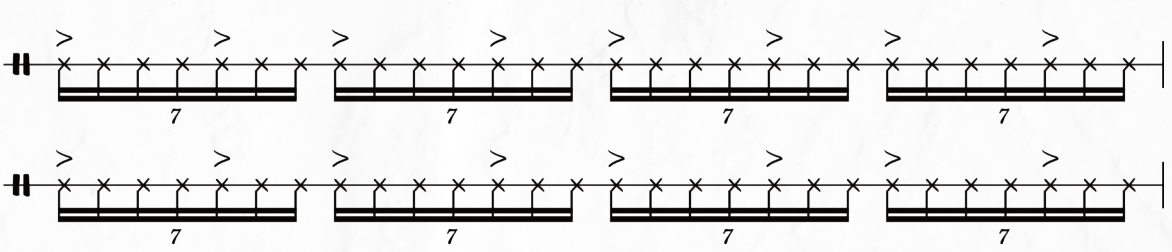

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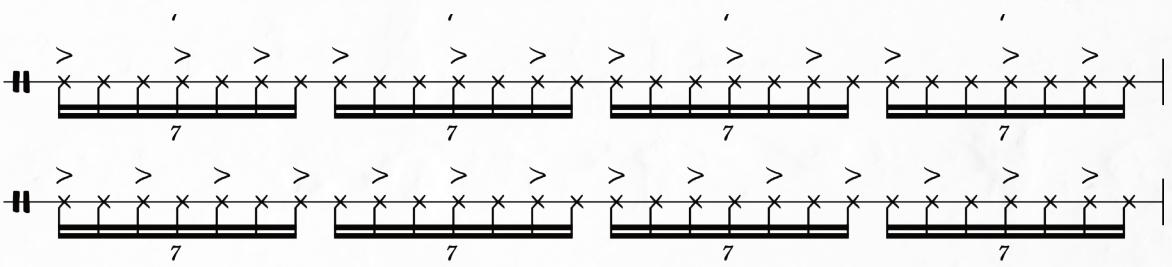
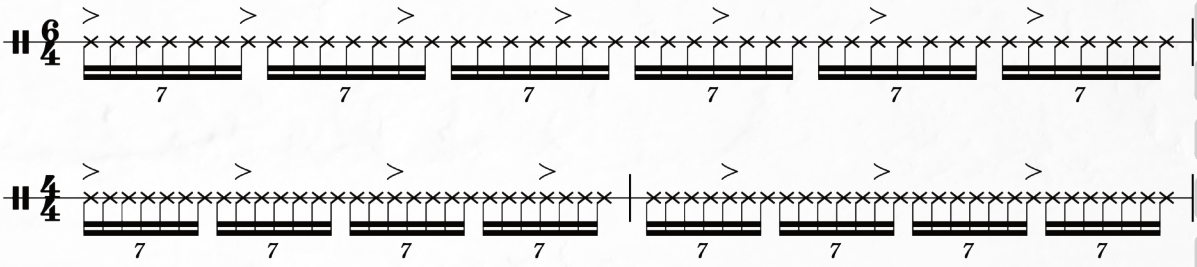
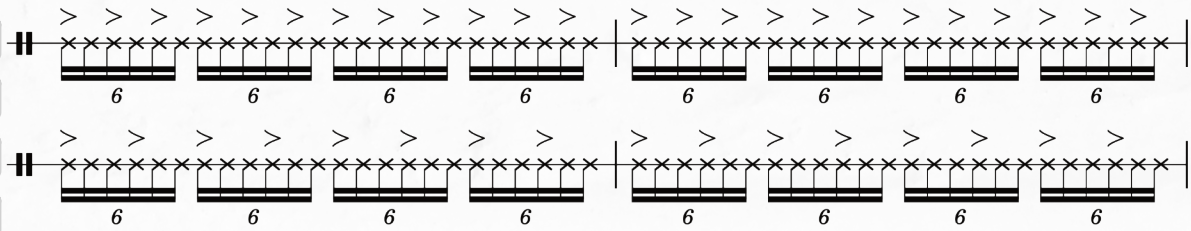


Exercise 4



Further exploration: Sixtuplets

Exercise 1



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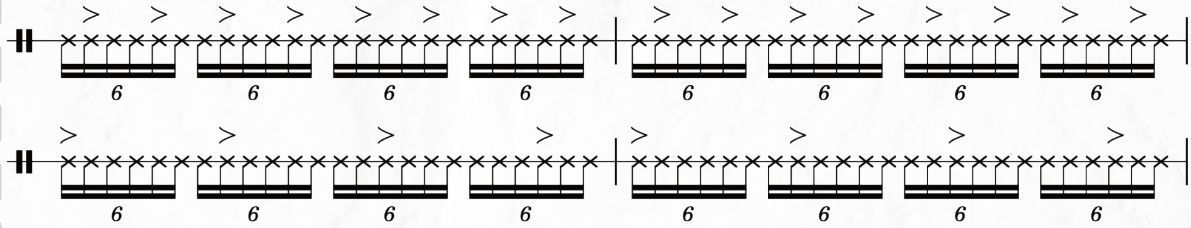

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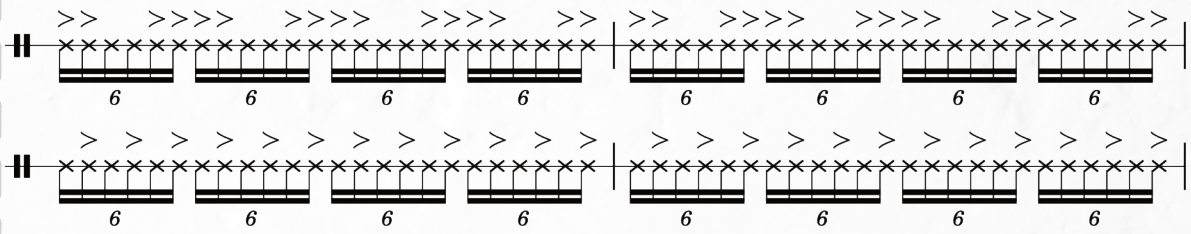
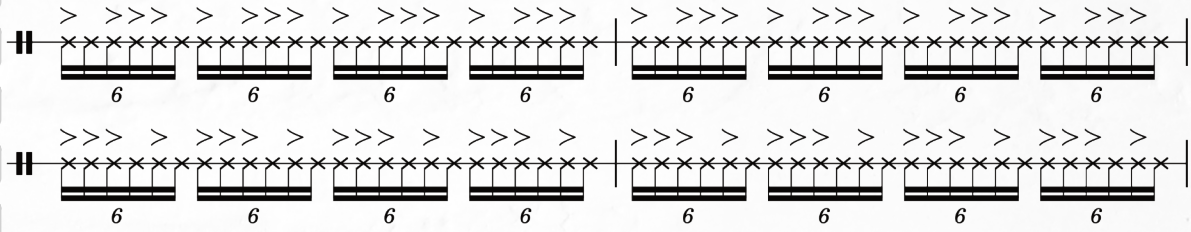
Exercise 4