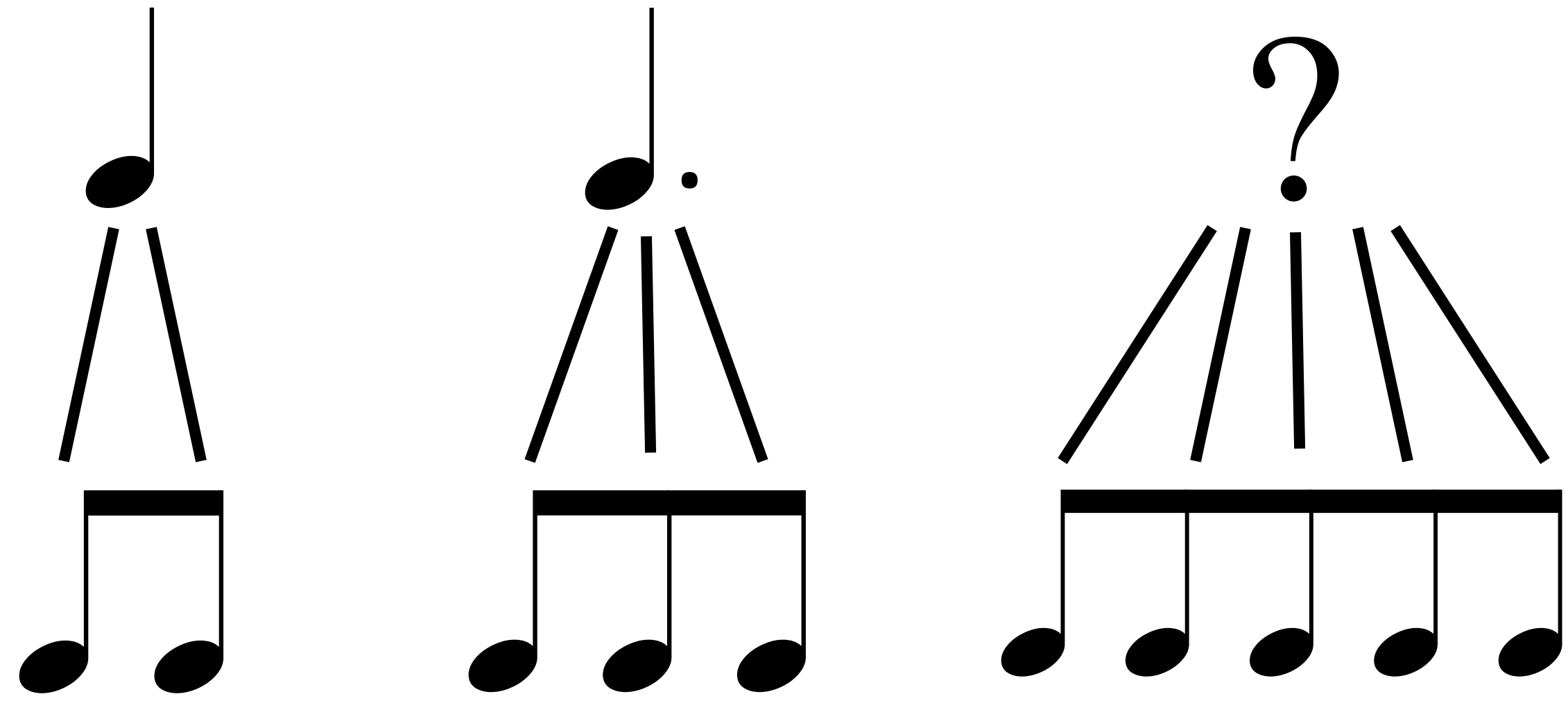


# On Rhythmic Notation and Nomenclature of Five-to-a-Beat Music

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## Problem:

Western music ignores the rhythmic potential of a pentamorous beat.



## Current Solution: The Tuplet

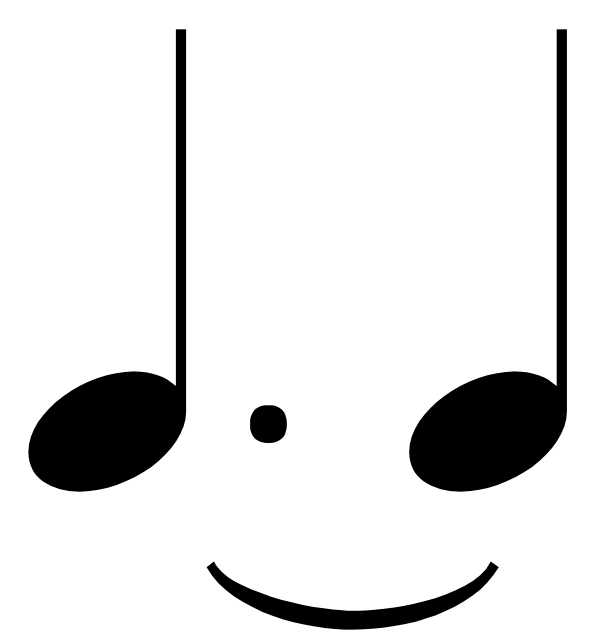
Scriabin, *Prelude* Op. 16, No. 2, mm. 1-8



### Drawbacks:

- Not applied consistently (as in example)
- Adds clutter with brackets and numbers (when used)
- Suggests an exception, not a rule

## Inelegant Solution: The Tie



### Drawbacks:

- Suggests asymmetrical meter
- Clutters visual field with ties
- Other meters don't have to rely on it

## All Notation Must Maintain

- Simplicity
- Clarity
- Uniqueness
- Expandability
- Utility

## Model: The Augmentation Dot Scriabin Re-notated

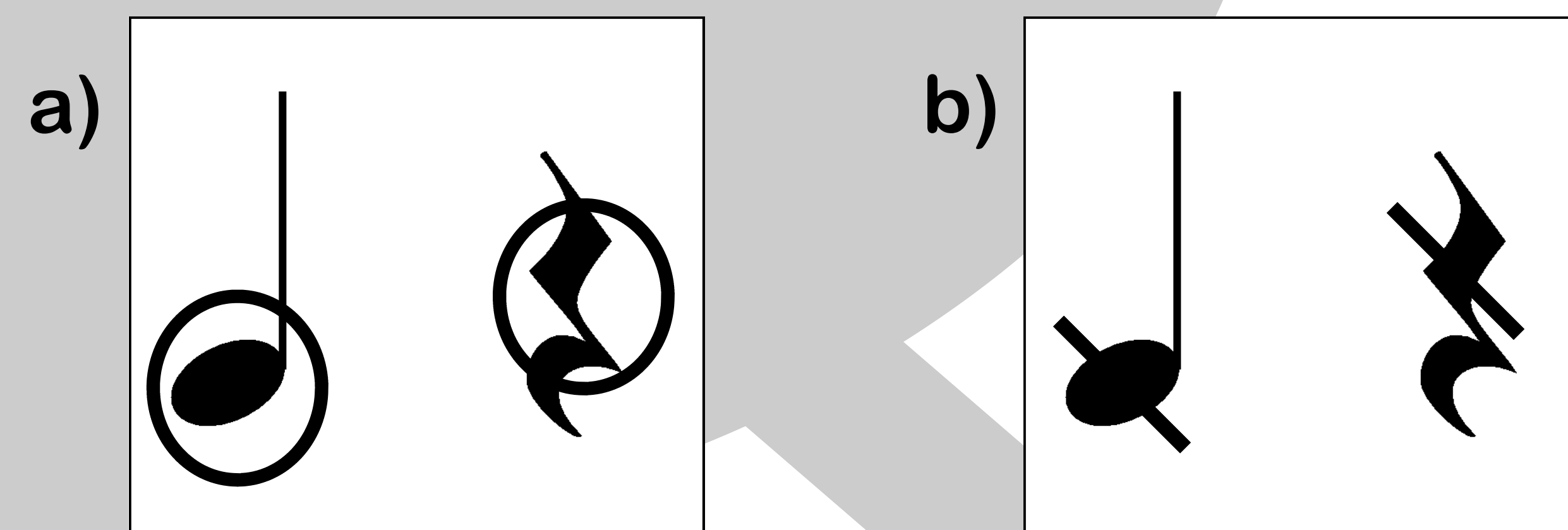
- Existing pedagogical concept
- Bifurcates to other dotted values
- Applies to notes and rests
- Hard to misread
- Unobtrusive

$$\text{Note with dot} = \text{Note} \times \frac{3}{2} \quad ? = \text{Note} \times \frac{5}{4}$$

## Successful Solution Will Avoid:

- Reuse of the dot
- Arabic numerals (overused)
- Change of notehead shape, which:
  - is already used to indicate timbre
  - cannot be applied to rests
- Change of stems or flags, because:
  - lacking in some notes and all rests
  - indicate level of division
- Color
- Obsolescence of current practice

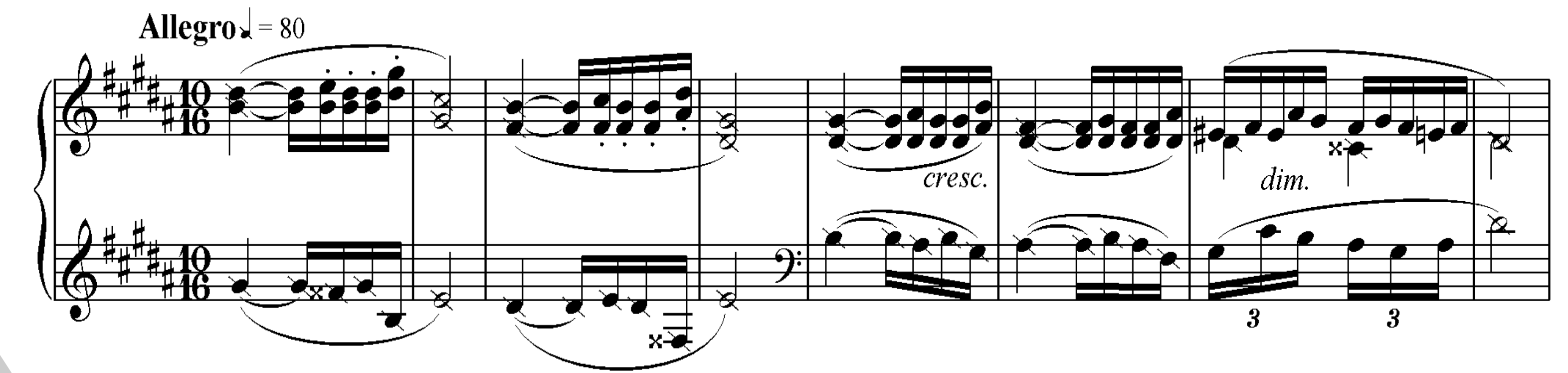
## Two Proposals:



- This notation adds to clutter, particularly in chords, and may be confused with the half note.
- This notation is not readily expandable, but the double-dot is already available for seven-to-a-beat:

$$\text{Note with double dots} = \text{Note} \times \frac{7}{4}$$

Scriabin, *Prelude* Op. 16, No. 2, mm. 1-8, re-notated with quintuplous notation



### Advantages:

- Clarity without clutter
- Fewer tuplets
- Nothing has to be assumed
- Symbols already available in music fonts

## Revised Nomenclature

### Meter (unchanged):

- duple—2-to-a-bar
- triple—3-to-a-bar
- quadruple—4-to-a-bar

### Time (new terms):

- duplous—2-to-a-beat (formerly "simple")
- triplous—3-to-a-beat (formerly "compound")
- quintuplous—5-to-a-beat

## Meter Signature Top Numbers

	Time (division of beat)			
Meter (beats per measure)	duplous	triplous	quintuplous	(septuplous)
duple	2	6	10	14
triple	3	9	15	21
quadruple	4	12	20	28

## Quintuplous Rhythms

