

Experiment

Experiment

- Please fill out a slip
 - For each musical example, rate how hard it is to understand what is going on, on a scale from 0 to 10:



Example 1

Rate how hard it is to understand what is going on,
on a scale from 0 to 10



Example 2

Rate how hard it is to understand what is going on,
on a scale from 0 to 10



Example 3

Rate how hard it is to understand what is going on,
on a scale from 0 to 10



Intelligibility vs.
Bewilderment as a
Compositional Tool in
Conlon Nancarrow's Study
No. 37 for Player Piano

Robert Willey
Univ. of Louisiana at Lafayette

Complexity /
Intelligibility

Complexity

Latin Complexus
"Twisted together"

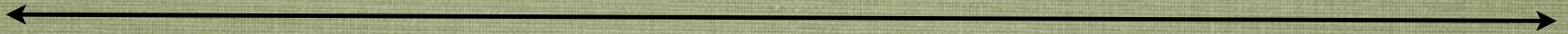


Contrapuntal music

Resultant

Intelligible

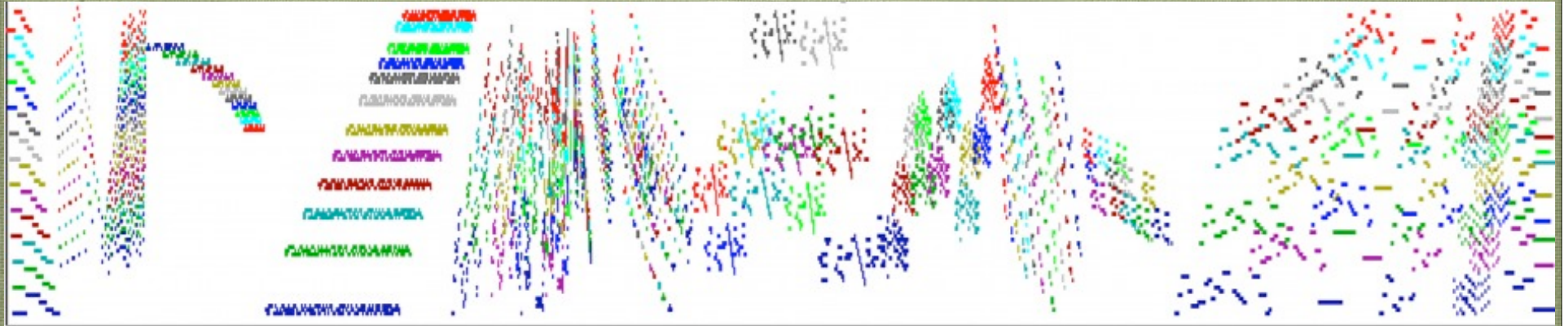
Bewildering



easy to understand

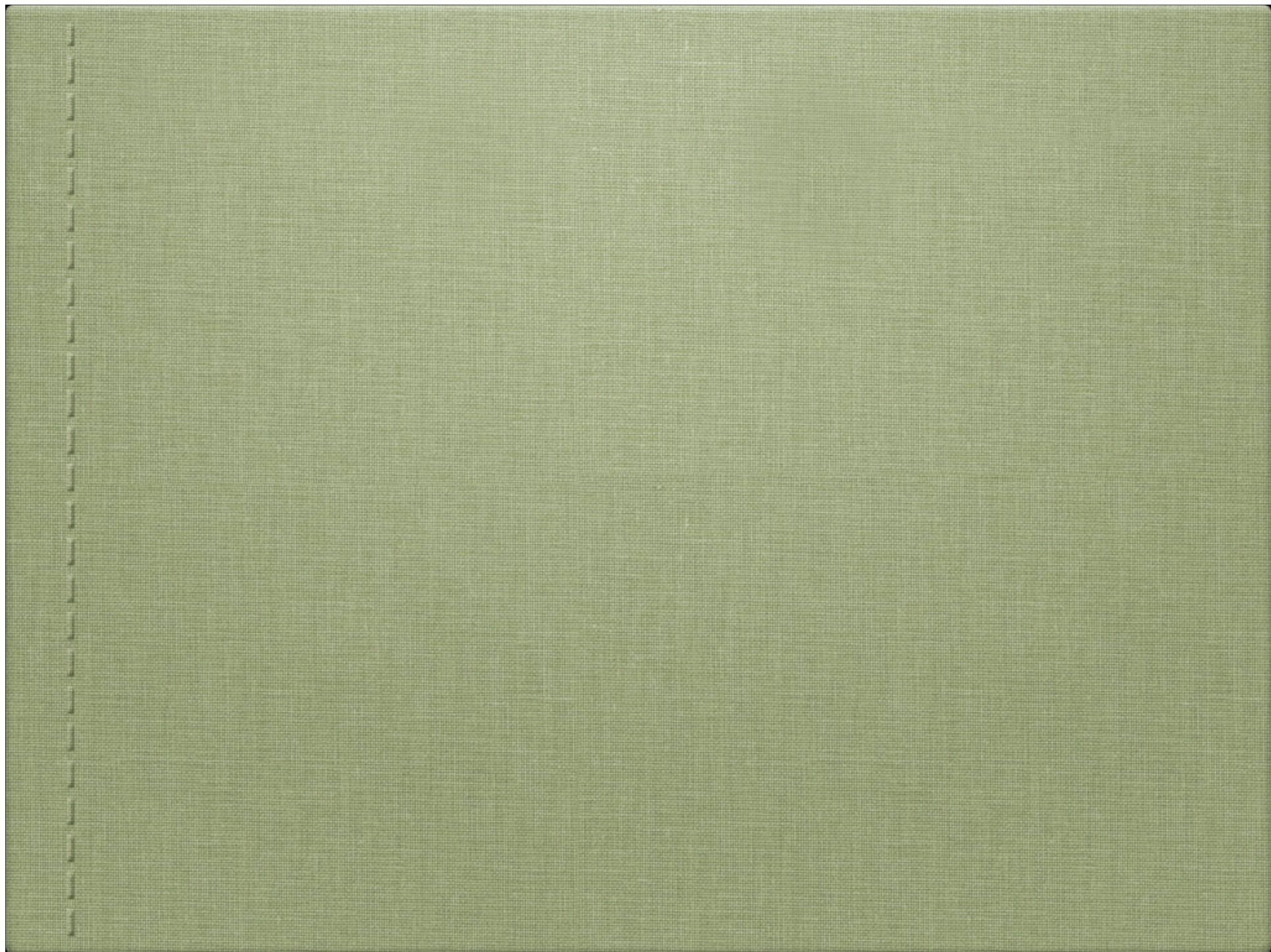
hard to understand





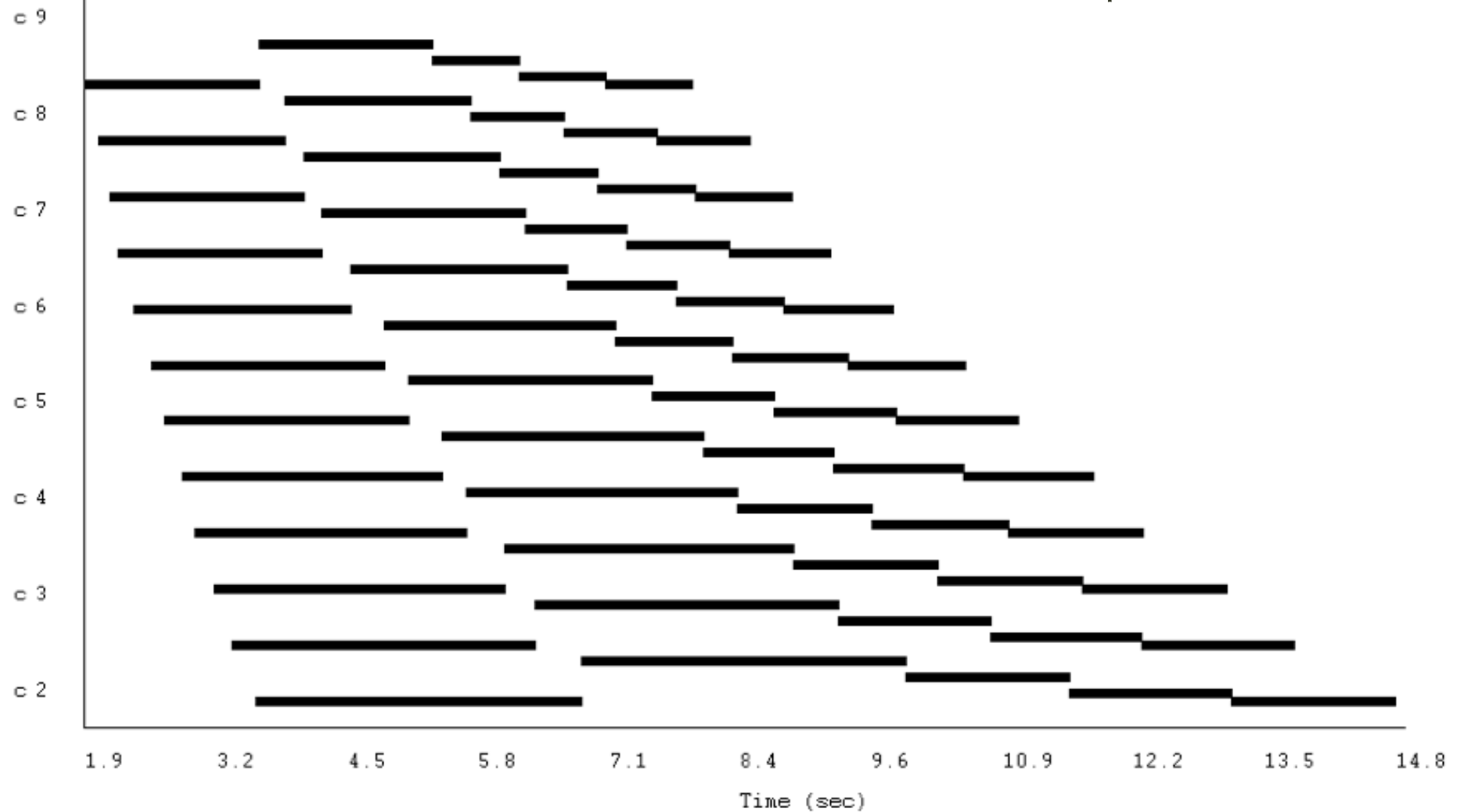
Study No. 37 for Player Piano

- 12 canons
- 12 voices
- Scale of tempos suggested by Henry Cowell

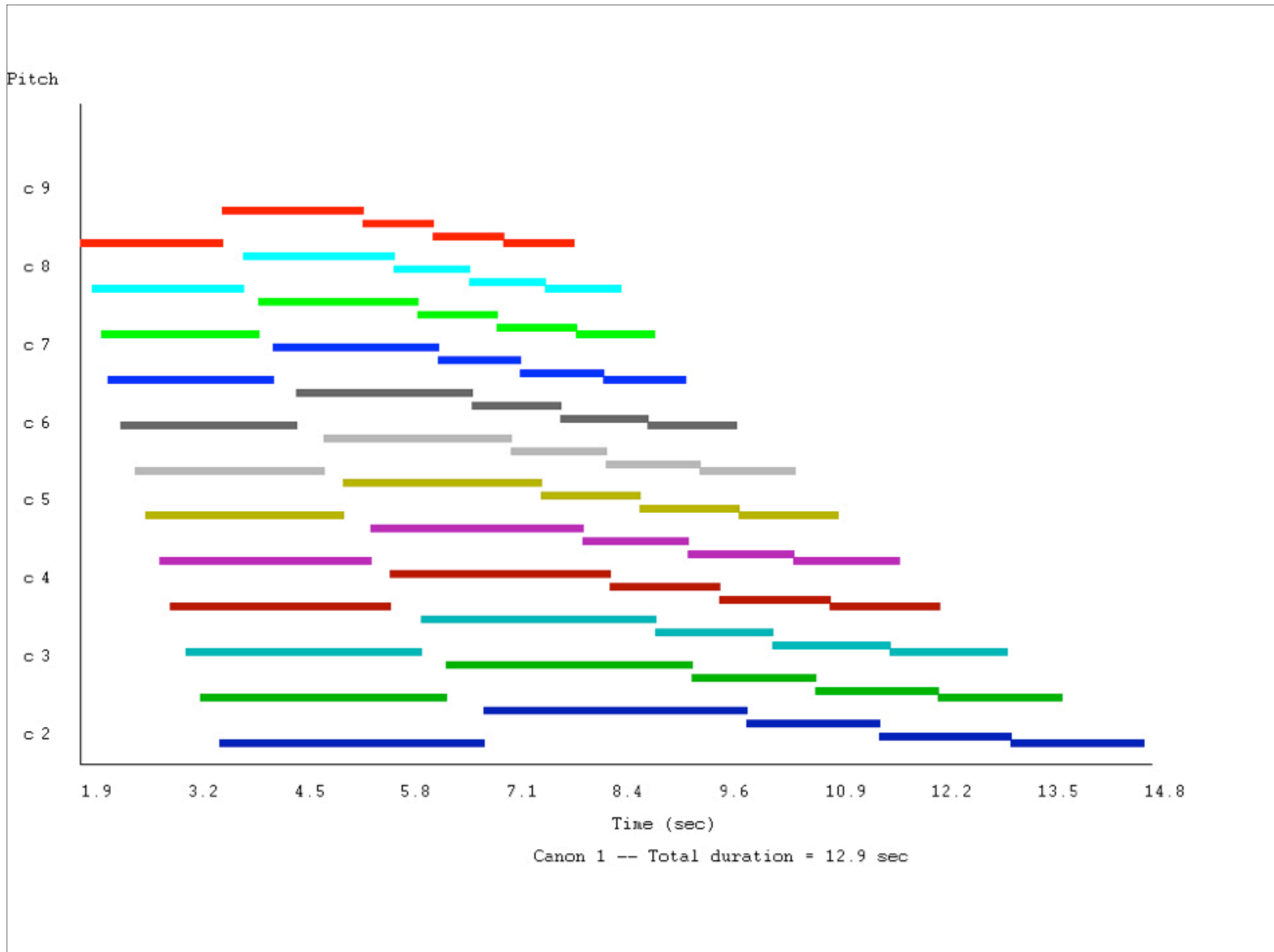


Pitch

Example 1

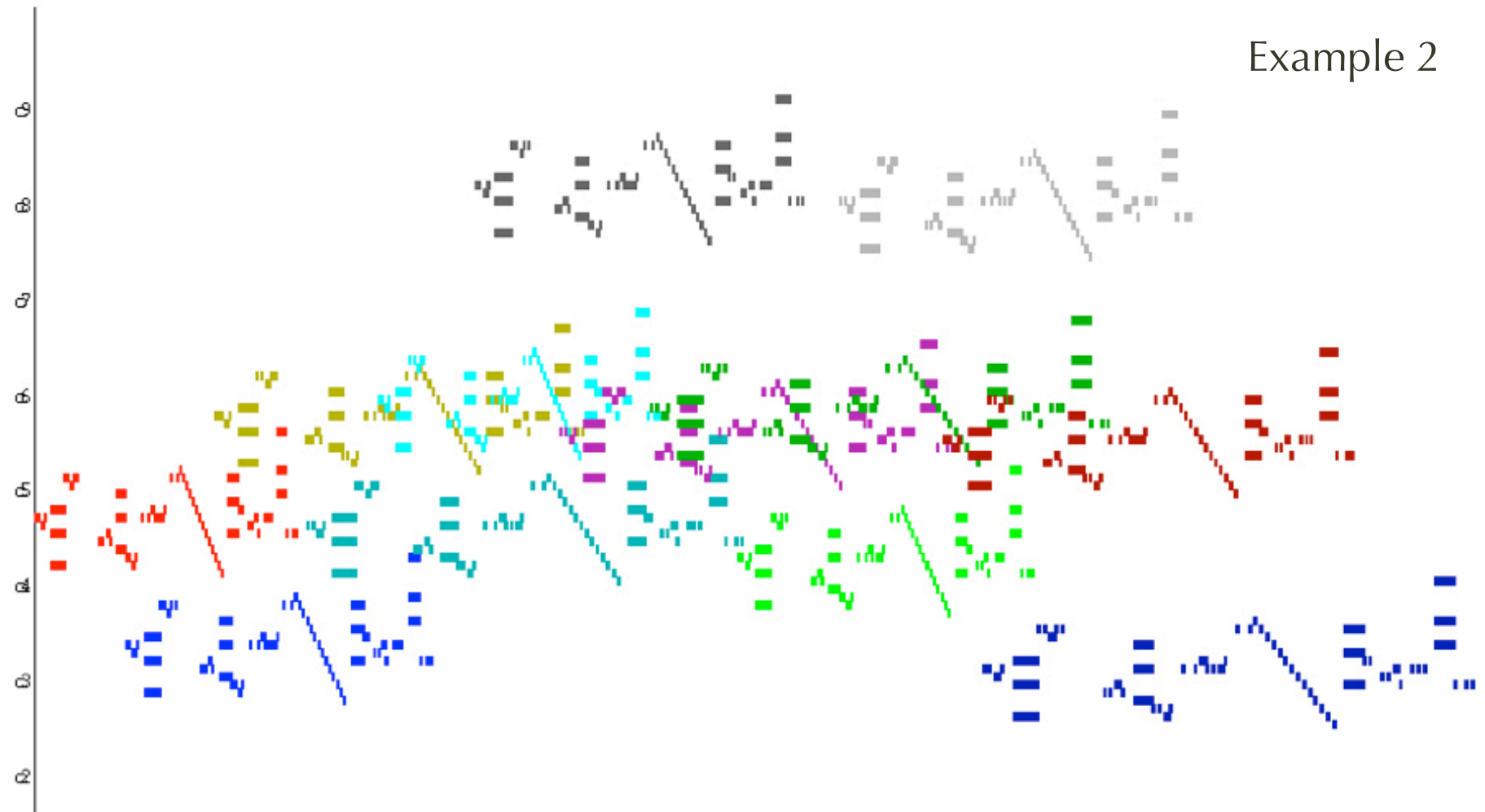


Canon 1 -- Total duration = 12.9 sec



Pitch

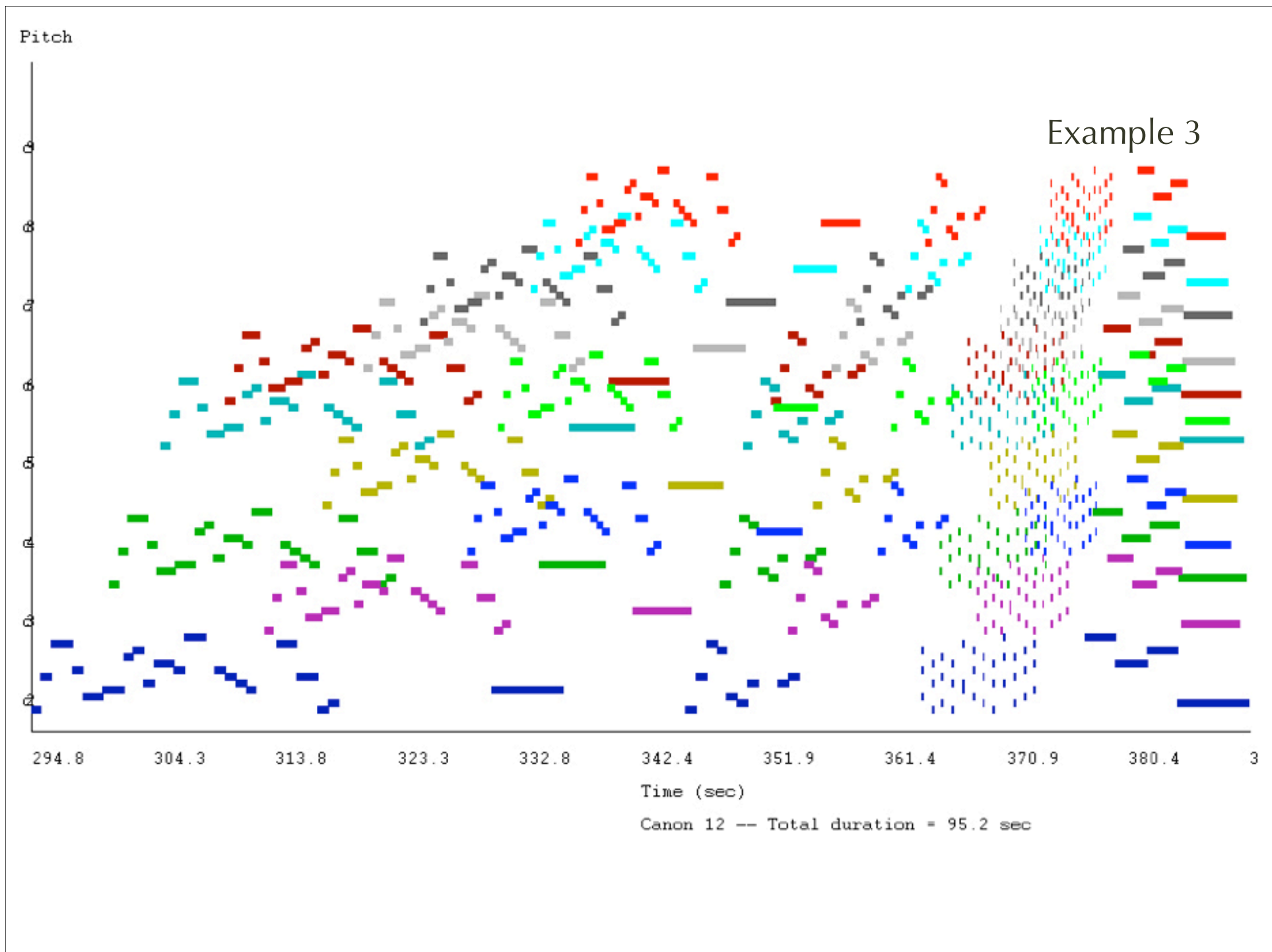
Example 2

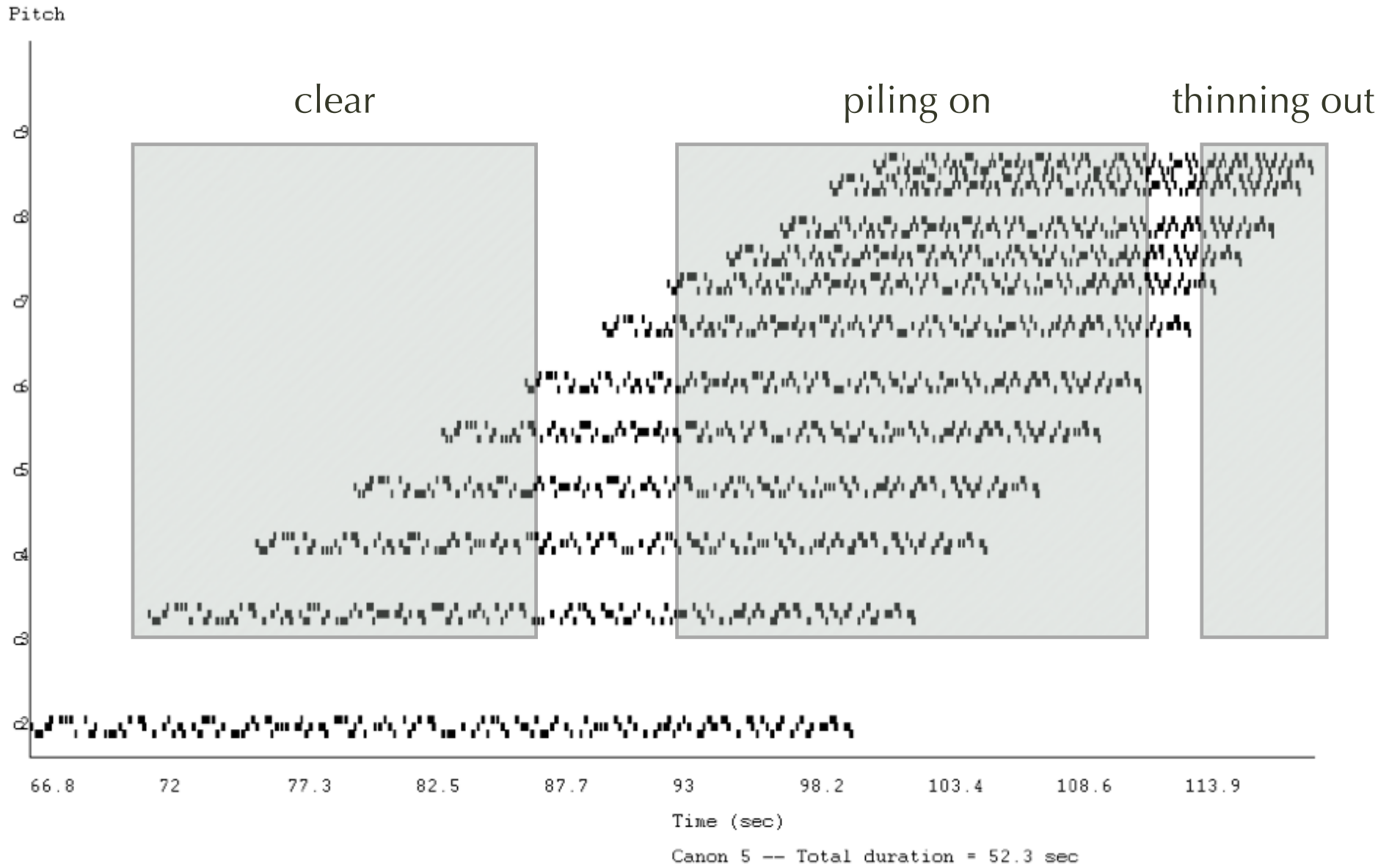


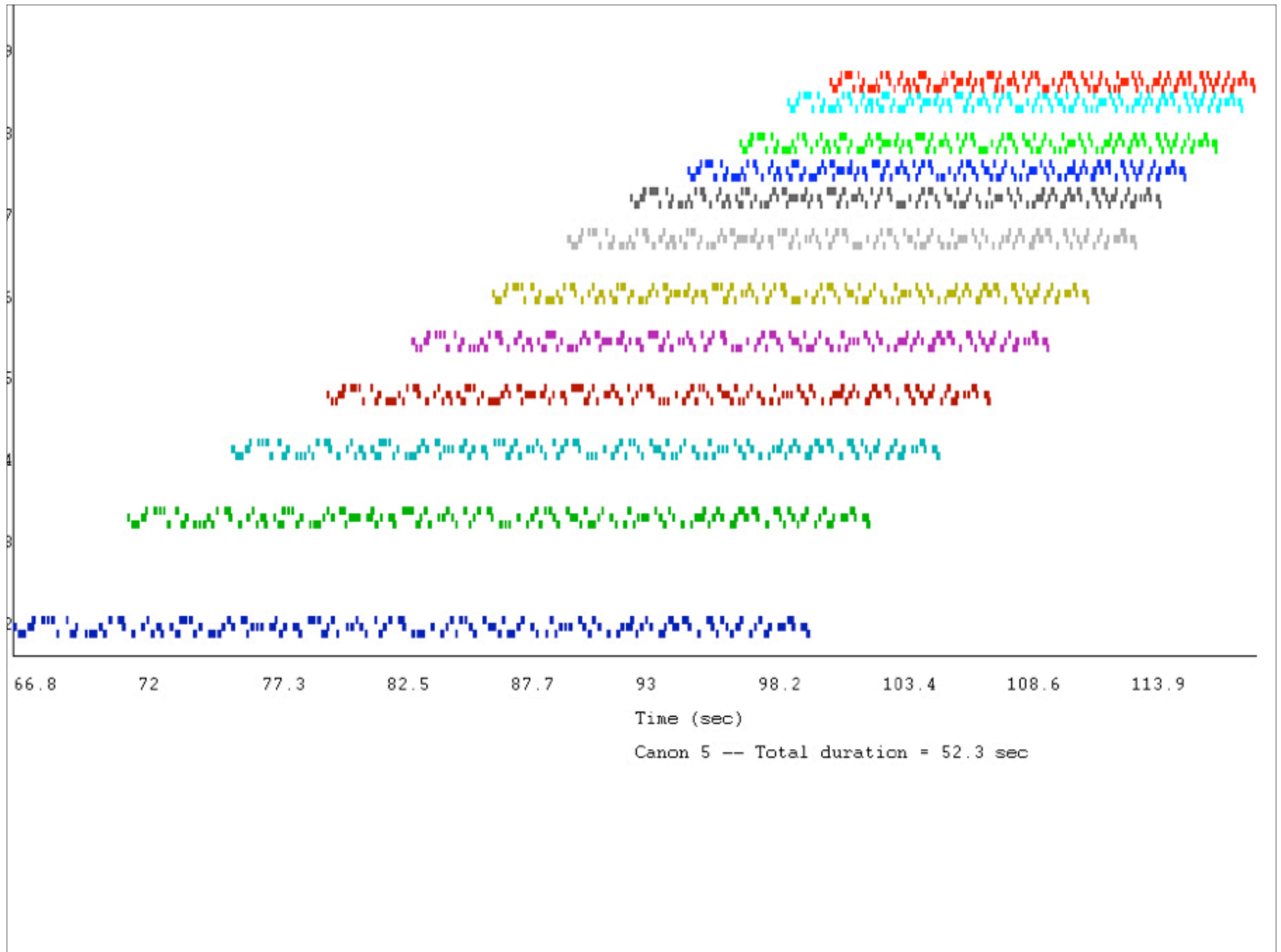
173.9 178.6 183.4 188.2 192.9 197.7 202.5 207.2 212 216.8

Time (sec)

Canon 8 -- Total duration = 47.7 sec







Perception

Predicting Complexity

Electronic Realizations

Study No. 11

Nancarrow Centennial Symposium and associated concerts



February 29 deadline for proposals
Online, September 27 - October 27

<http://conlonnancarrow.org>