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Download date: 04. Dec. 2023

Edward Nesbit

4 Ballades

(after Chopin)

4 BALLADES (AFTER CHOPIN)

EDWARD NESBIT

for piano solo

© 2020 by Edward Nesbit

Duration c. 36' 00"

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PERFORMANCE NOTES

Grace notes should be played before the beat.

Particularly in slow passages, rubato should be used freely - as if in Chopin.

PROGRAMME NOTE

My *4 Ballades* are based on the four Ballades of Chopin, each referring to its counterpart in Chopin's original cycle in different ways. The first Ballade follows the structure of Chopin's first Ballade closely, referring intermittently to the material of the Chopin without ever - with the exception of the first three notes - quoting it directly. The second Ballade takes a similar approach, although it comes closer to direct quotation in its coda. The third Ballade takes a quite new direction, being at different times both closer to and further away from the original: it contains two brief passages of literal transcription, while also introducing a new theme without an equivalent in Chopin's third Ballade, causing the stucture to veer wildly off course at times. The fourth Ballade is different again, and here the relationship to the Chopin is much more distant and abstract: like Chopin's final Ballade, it can be understood as a free variation form, in the ballade genre's characteristic 6/8 metre. Beyond these general considerations, however, my fourth Ballade runs its own course without close reference to its 19th-century counterpart.

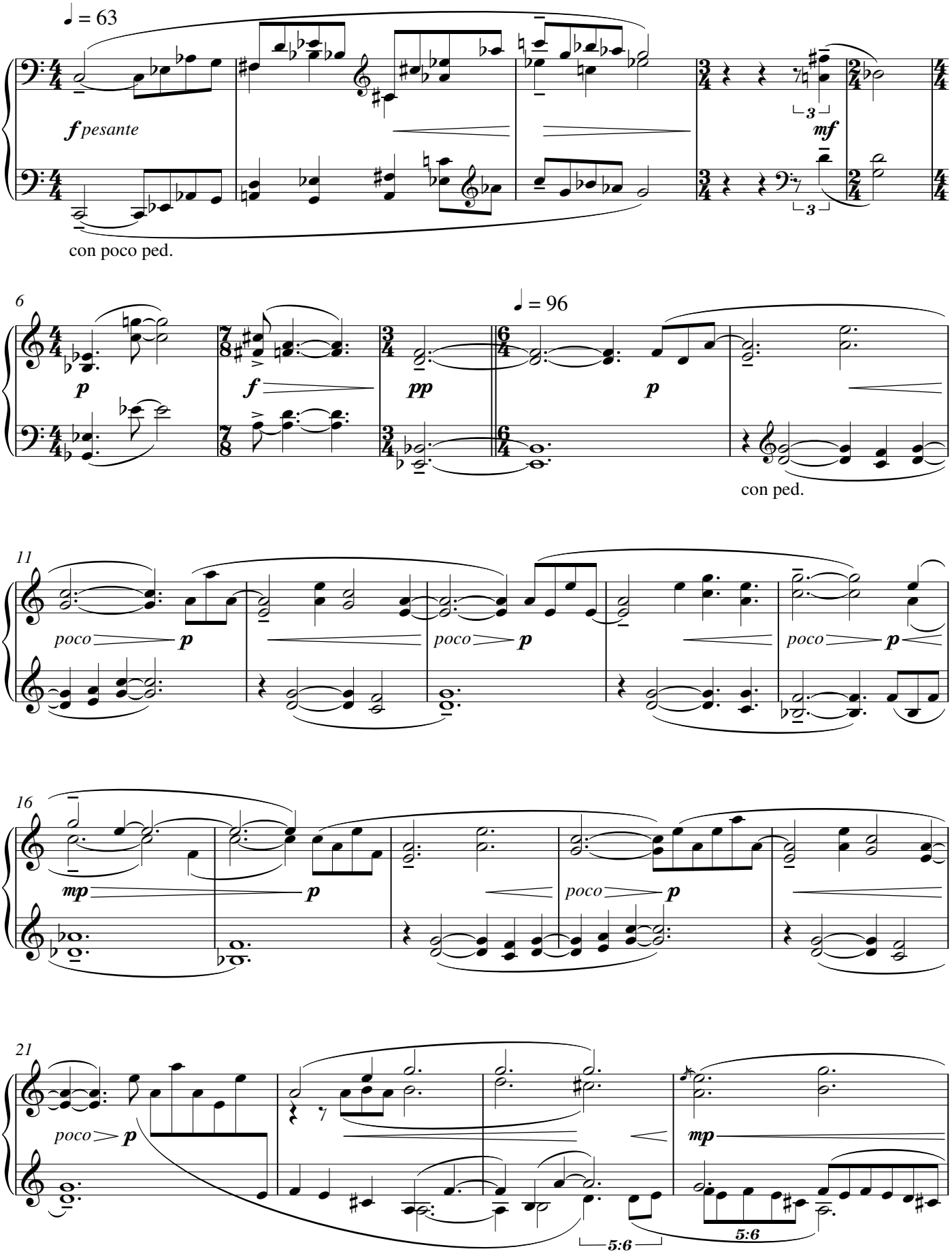
The cycle as a whole explores how the presence - implicit or explicit - of well-known pre-existing pieces in the background of a new set of compositions affects our experience of listening to the new music. The Chopin pieces come into and out of focus, both within and between Ballades, and in doing so create - I hope - another layer of structure and another layer of meaning.

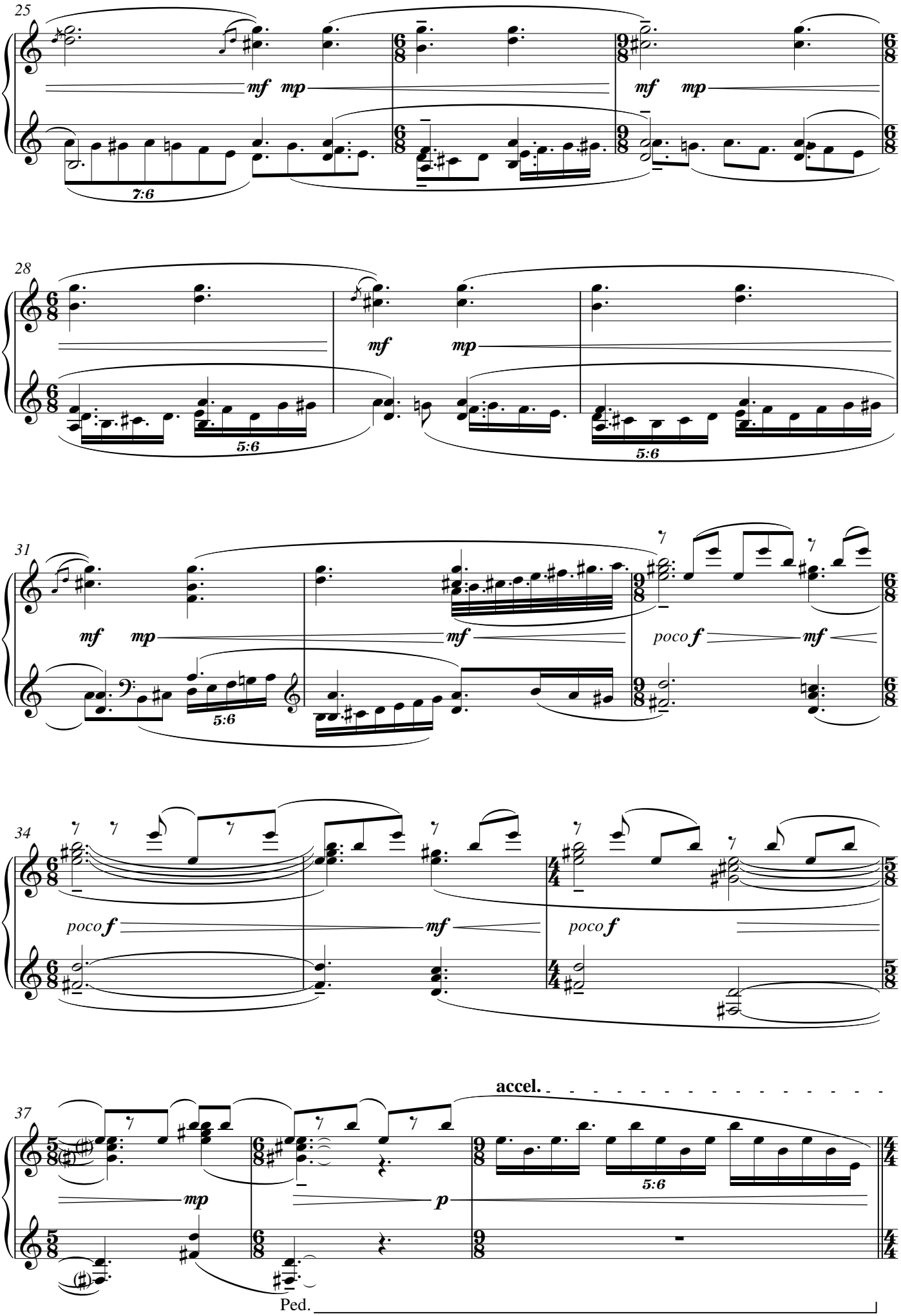
4 Ballades

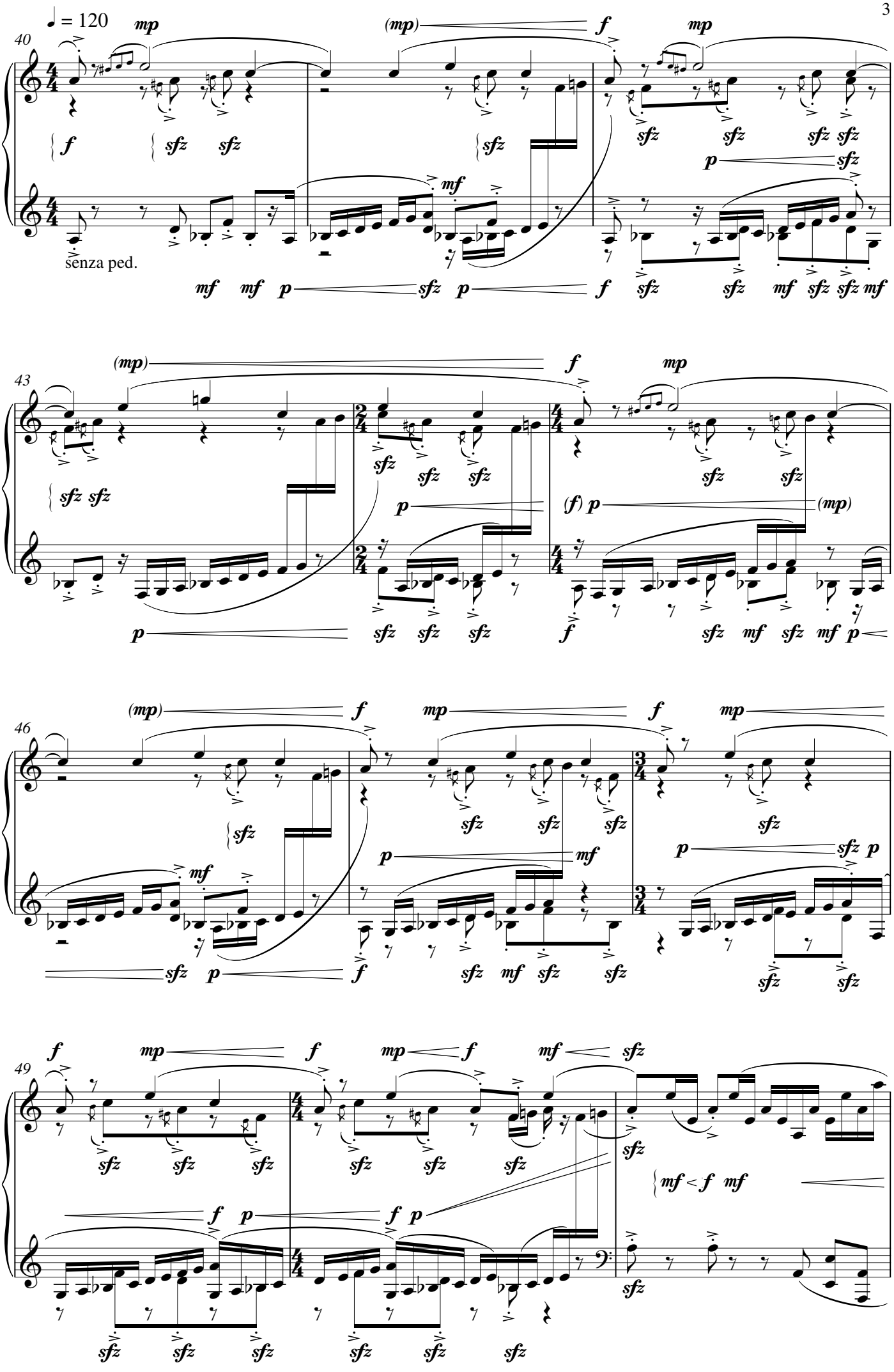
(after Chopin)

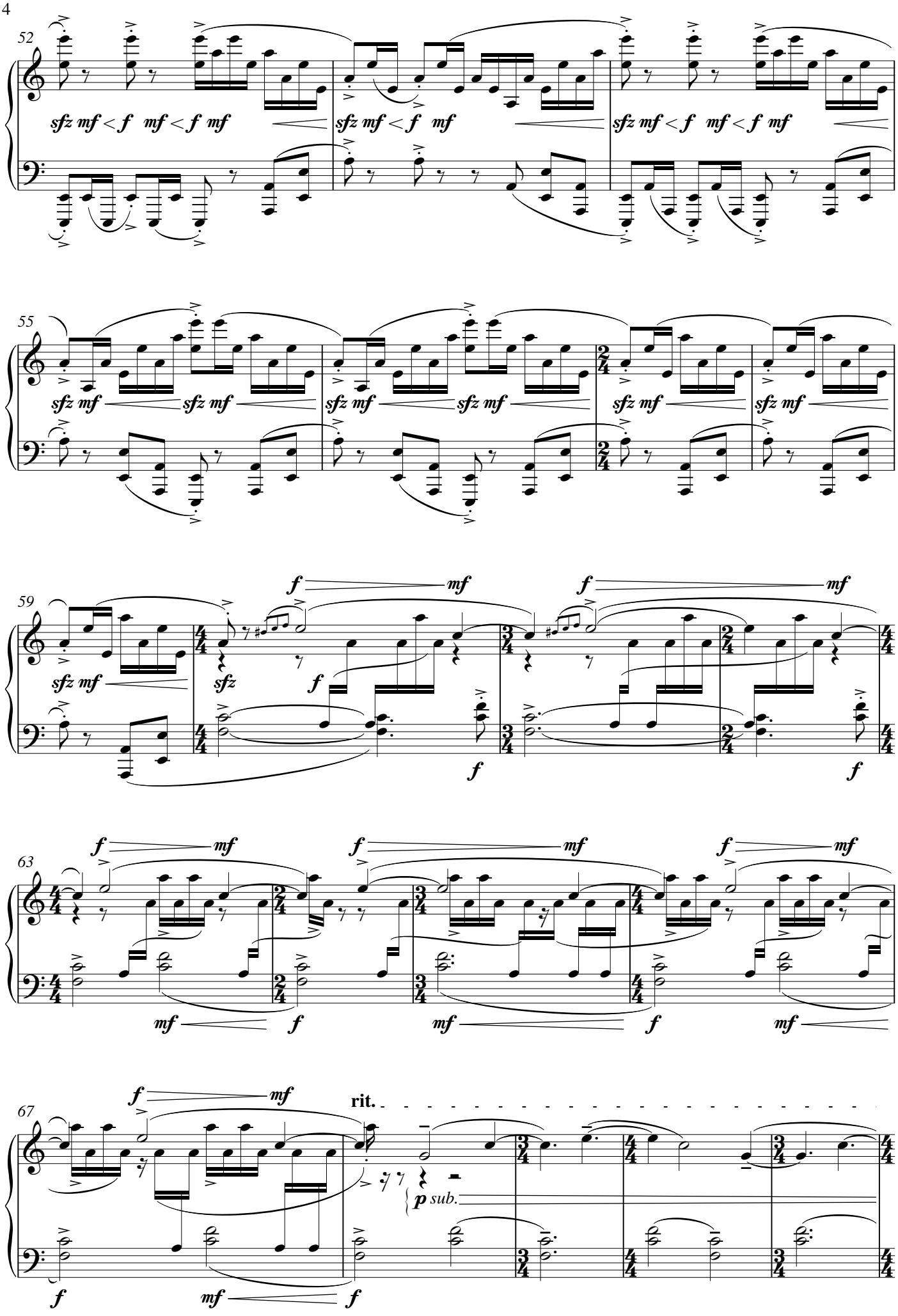
Ballade No. 1

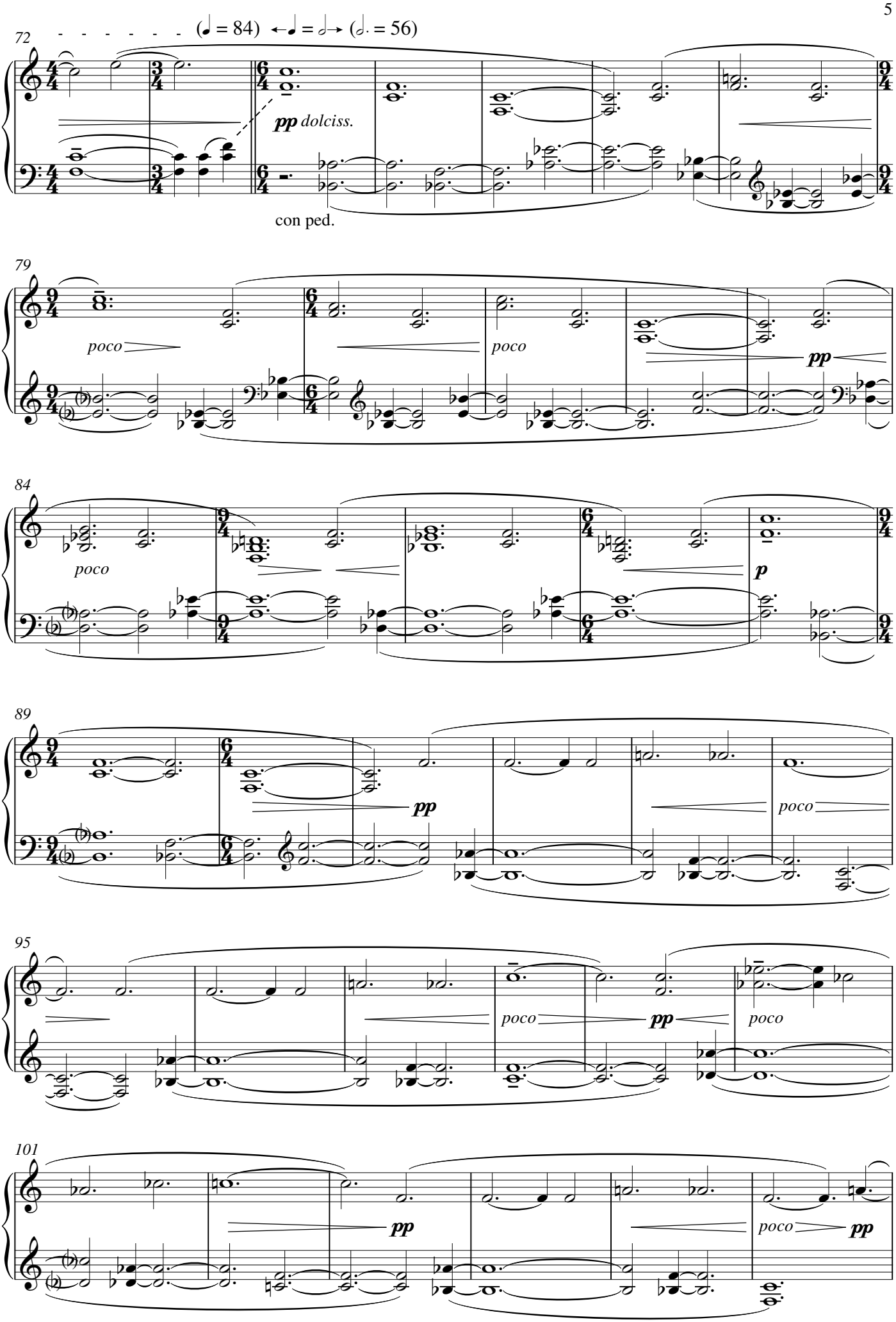
EDWARD NESBIT

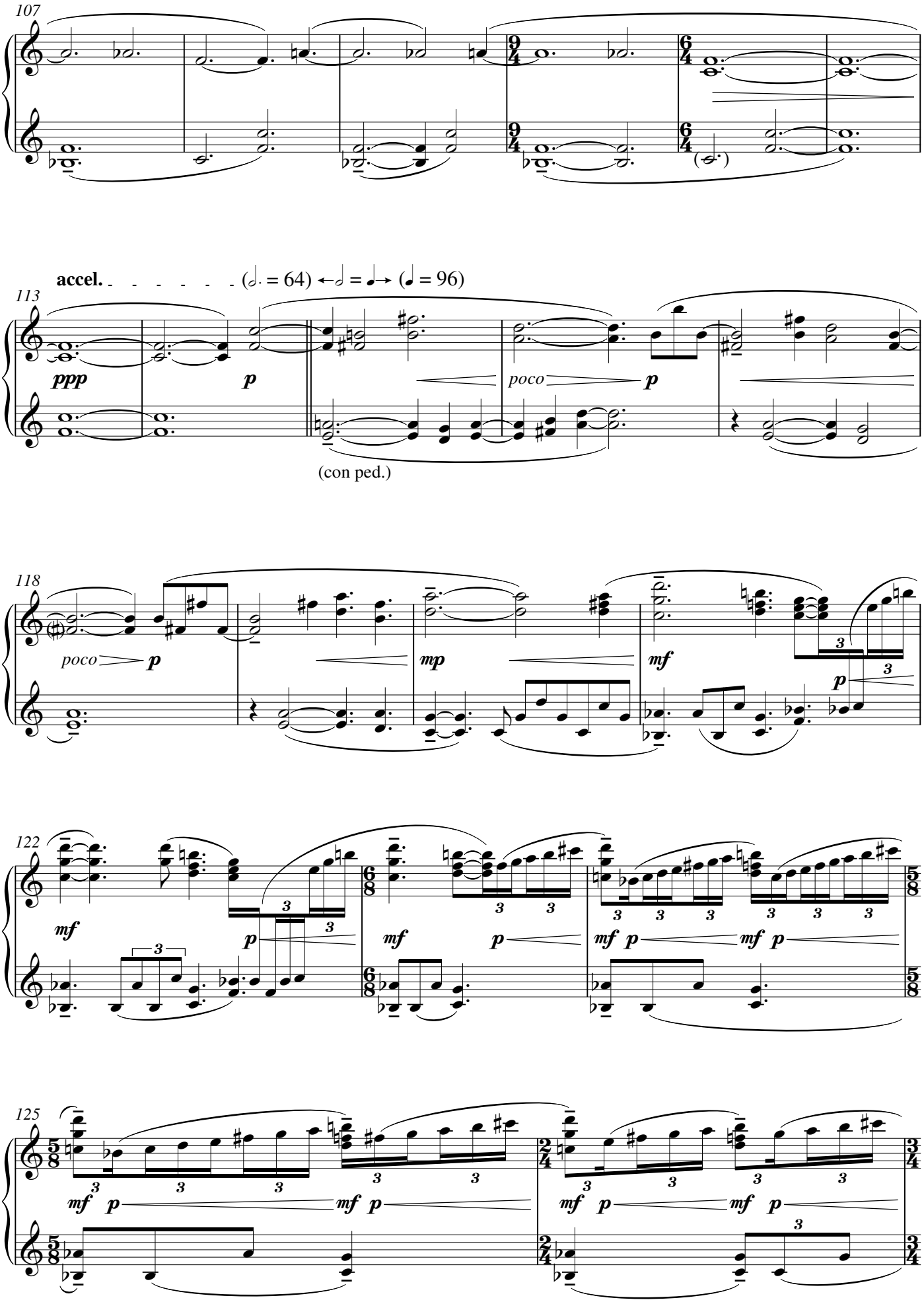


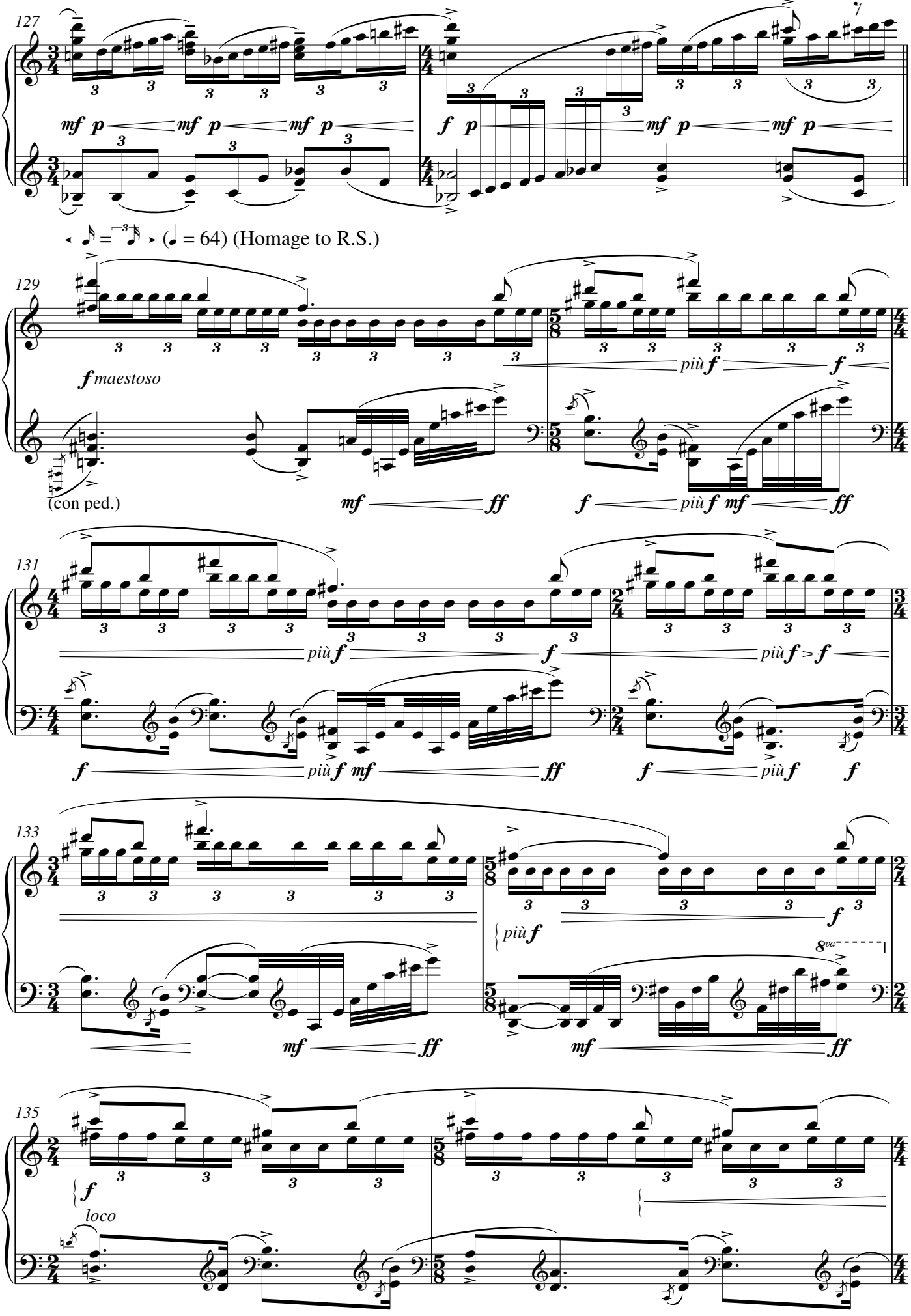

25
mf mp
7:6
mf mp
28
mf mp
5:6
5:6
31
mf mp
5:6
mf
poco f
mf
34
poco f
mf
poco f
37
mp
p
5:6
accel.
Ped.

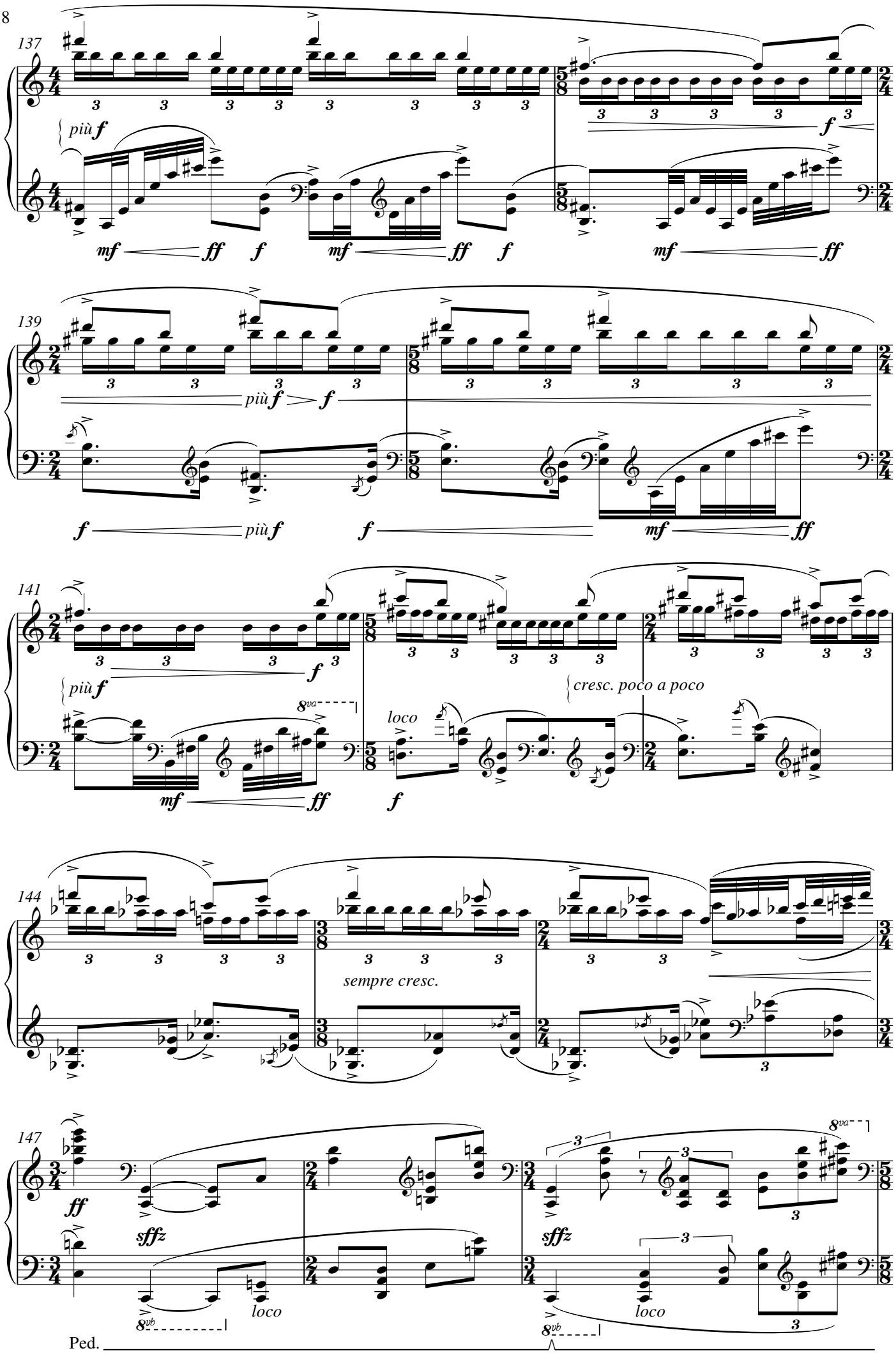

♩ = 120
40
43
46
49
senza ped.

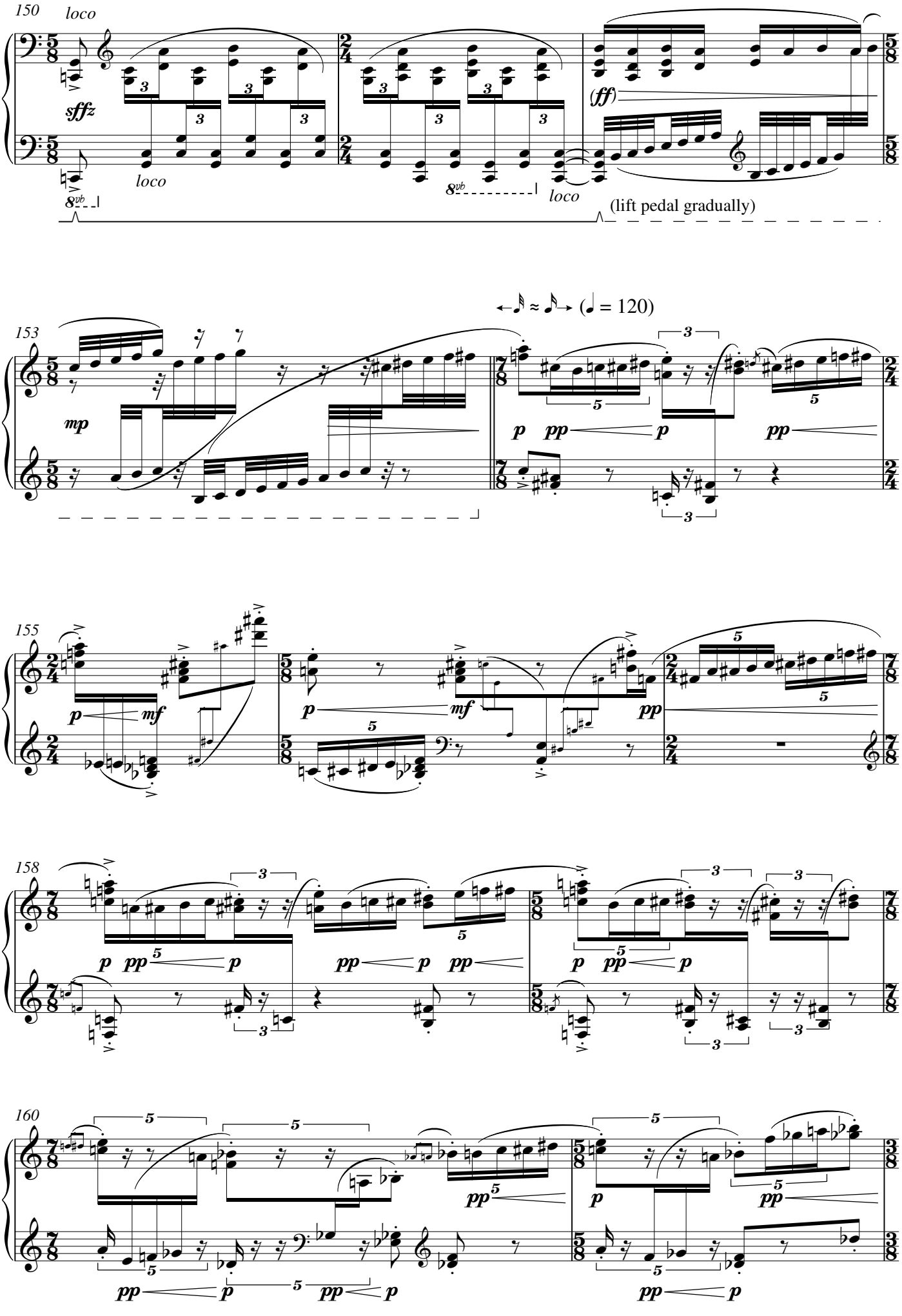

52
sfz mf < f mf < f mf
55
sfz mf
59
f mf
sfz
63
mf f
67
rit.
p sub.

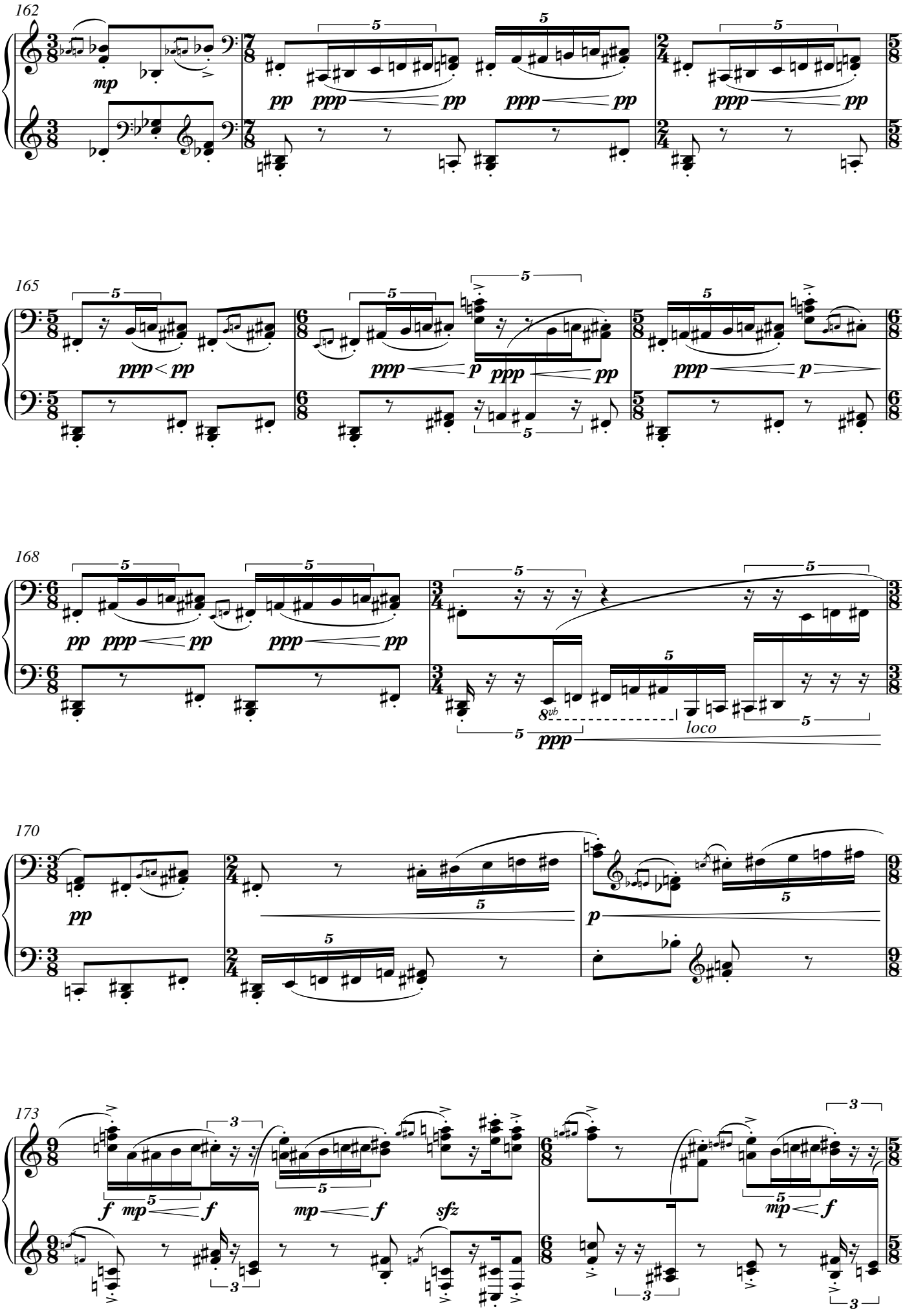

72
(♩ = 84) ←♩ = 𝅗𝅥→ (𝅗𝅥. = 56)
pp dolciss.
con ped.
79
poco
poco
pp
84
poco
p
89
pp
poco
95
poco
pp
poco
101
pp
poco
pp

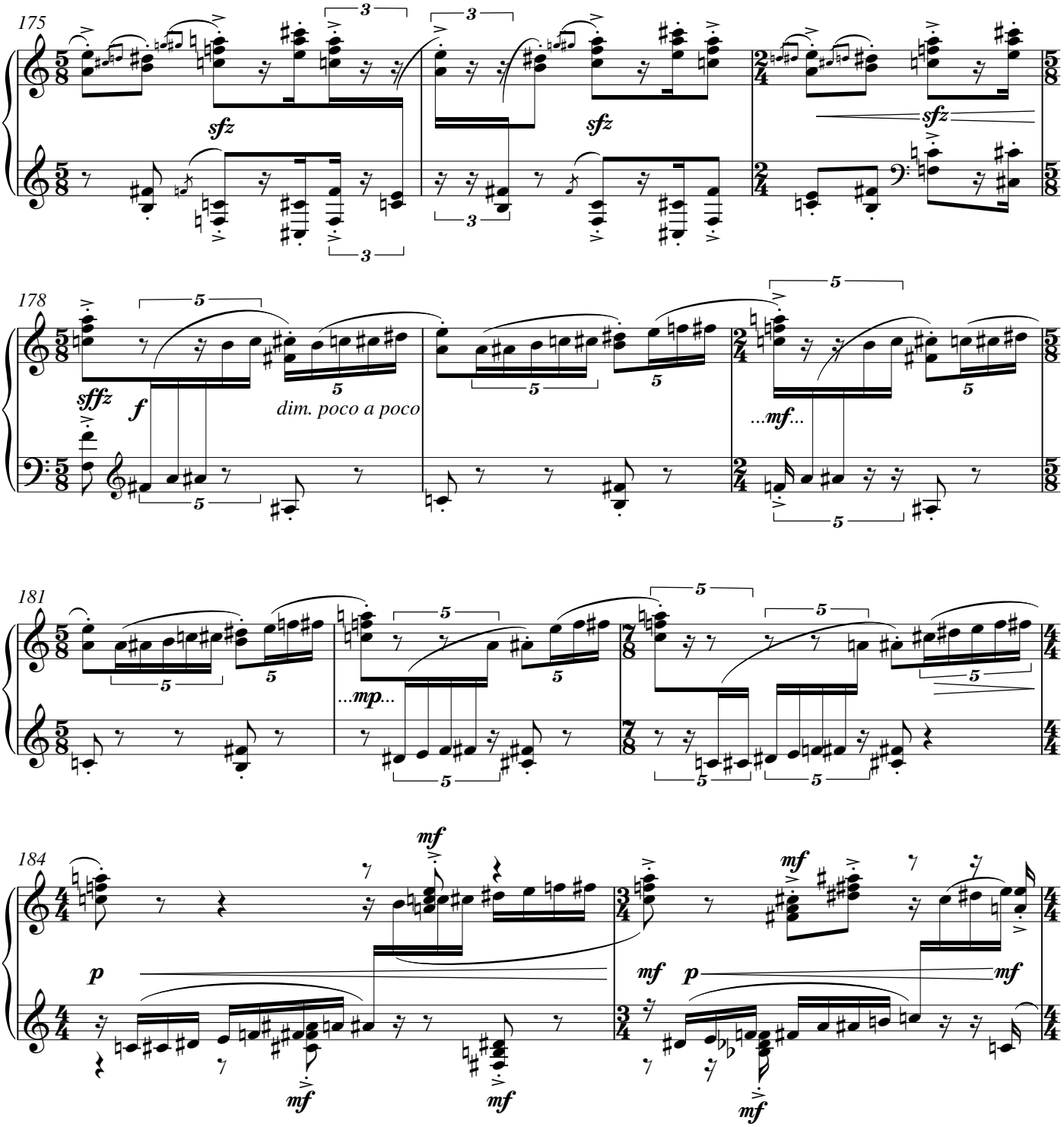

107
accel.
(𝅗𝅥. = 64) ←𝅗𝅥 = ♩→ (♩ = 96)
113
ppp
p
poco
p
(con ped.)
118
poco
p
mp
mf
p
122
mf
p
mf
p
mf p
mf p
125
mf p
mf p
mf p
mf p


127
mf p mf p mf p
f p mf p mf p
(♩ = 64) (Homage to R.S.)
129
f maestoso
più f f
(con ped.)
mf ff
f più f mf ff
131
più f f
più f > f
f più f mf ff
f più f f
133
più f
8va
mf ff
mf ff
135
f
loco

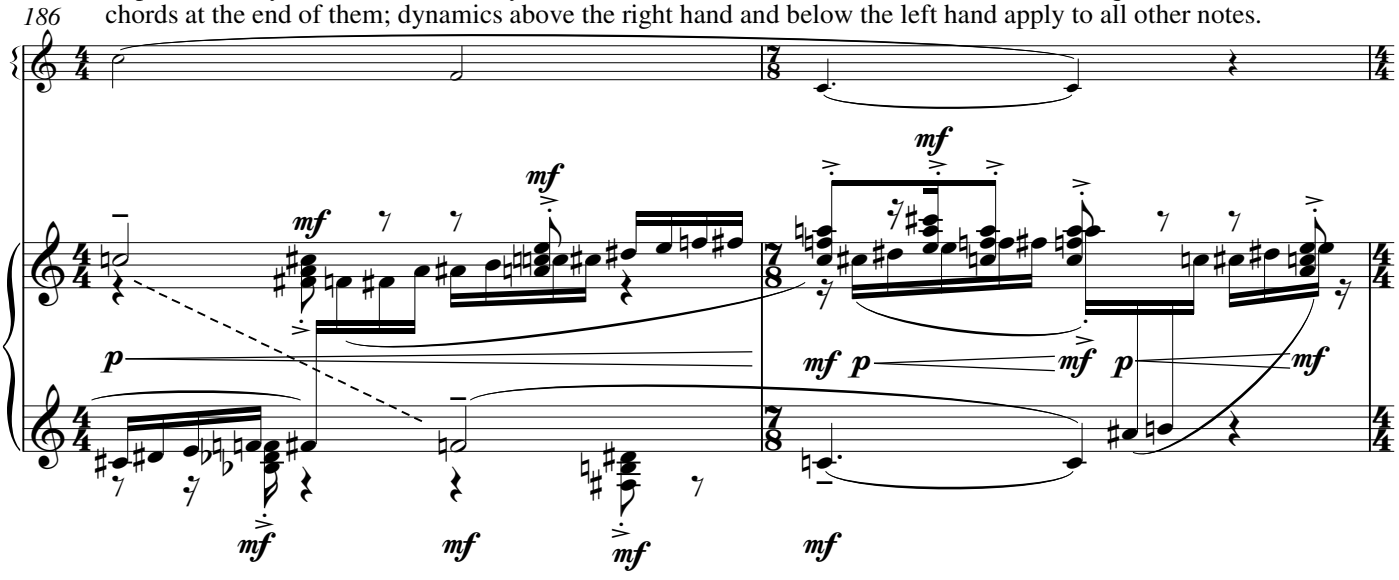

137
più f
mf
ff
f
139
più f
141
più f
8va
loco
cresc. poco a poco
144
sempre cresc.
147
sffz
8vb
Ped.

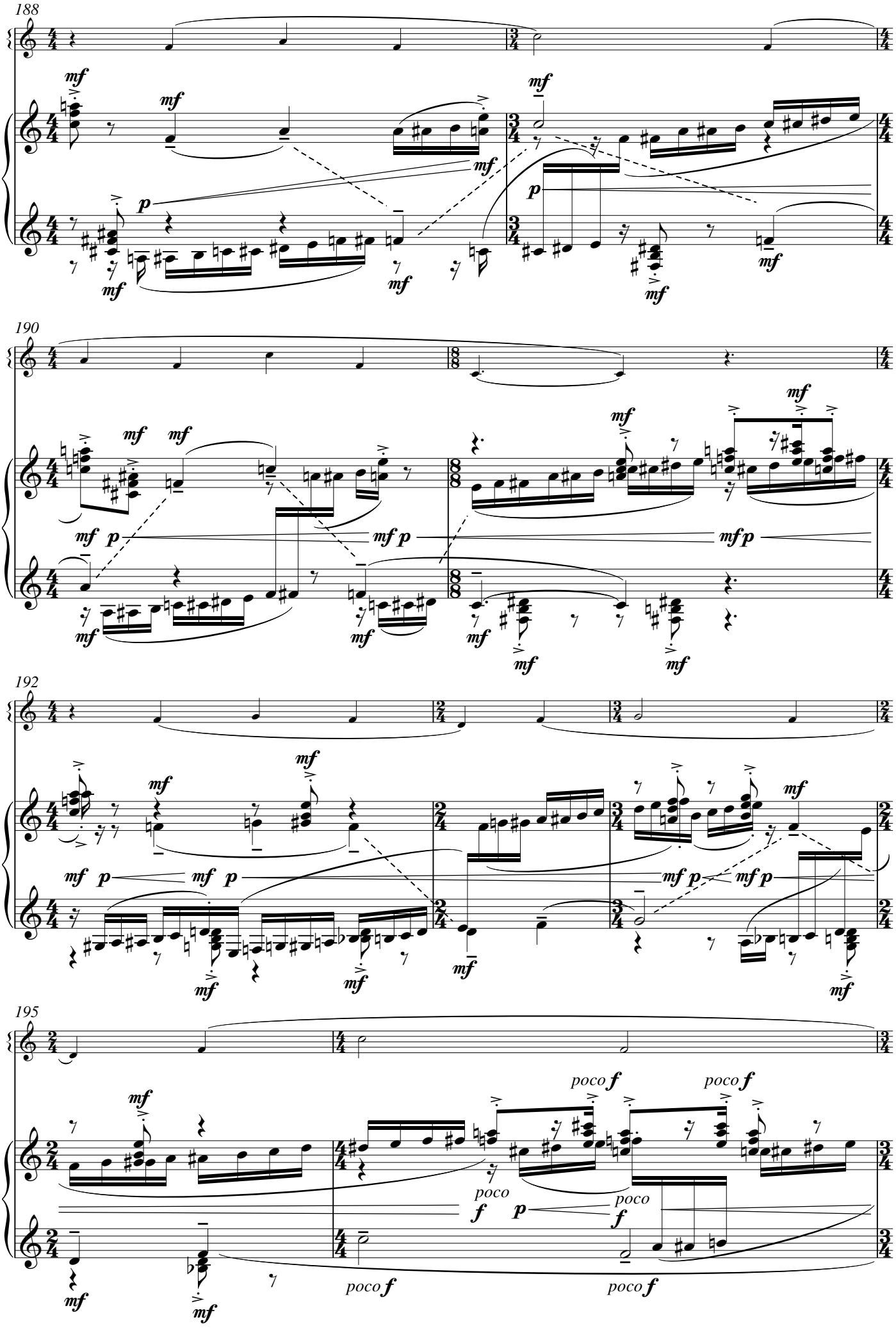

150
loco
sffz
(ff)
8vb
loco
(lift pedal gradually)
153
(♩ = 120)
mp
p
pp
155
mf
158
160

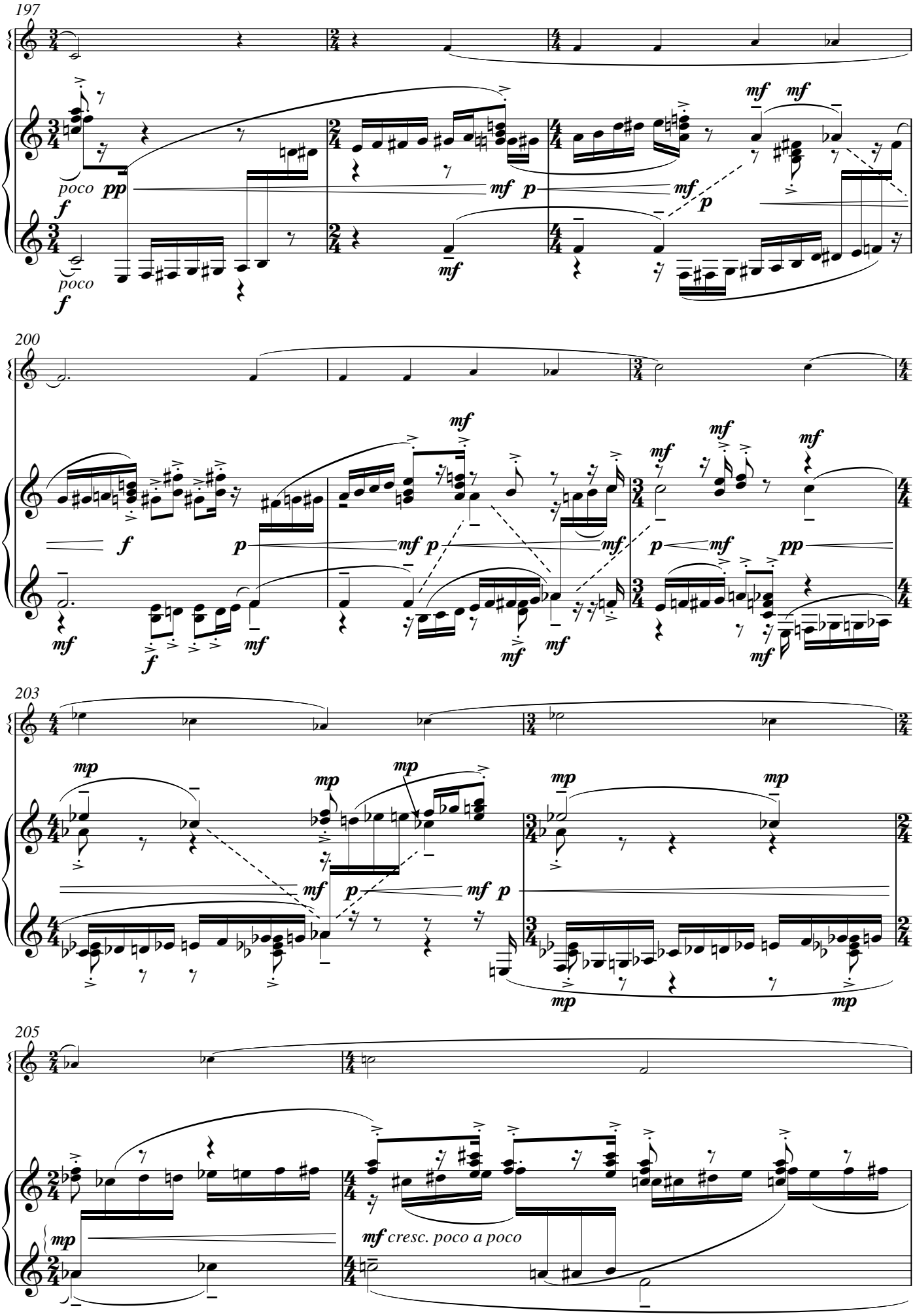

162
mp
pp
ppp
pp
ppp
pp
ppp
pp
165
ppp < pp
ppp
p
ppp
pp
ppp
p
168
pp
ppp
pp
ppp
pp
8vb
loco
ppp
170
pp
p
173
f
mp
f
mp
f
sfz
mp
f

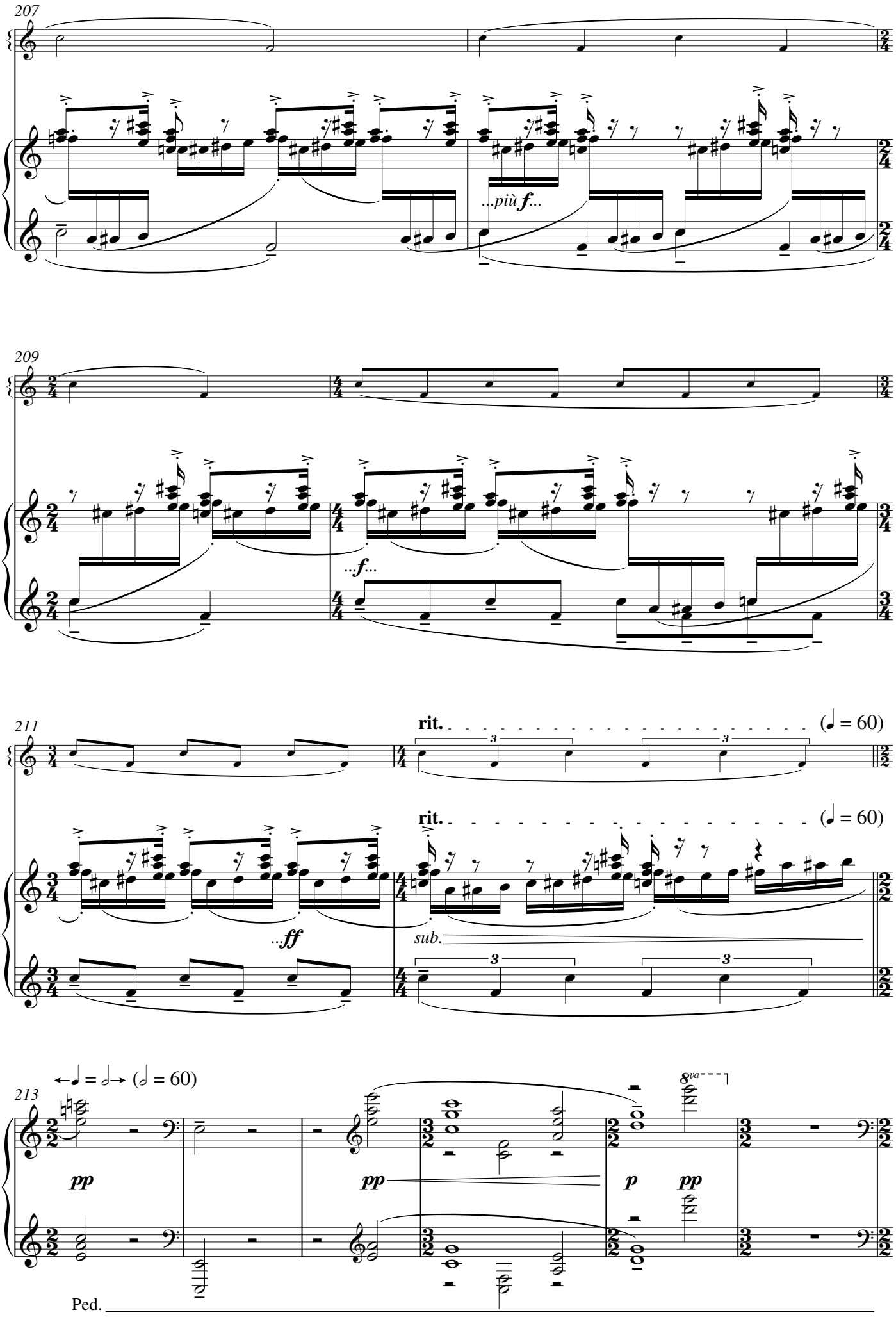


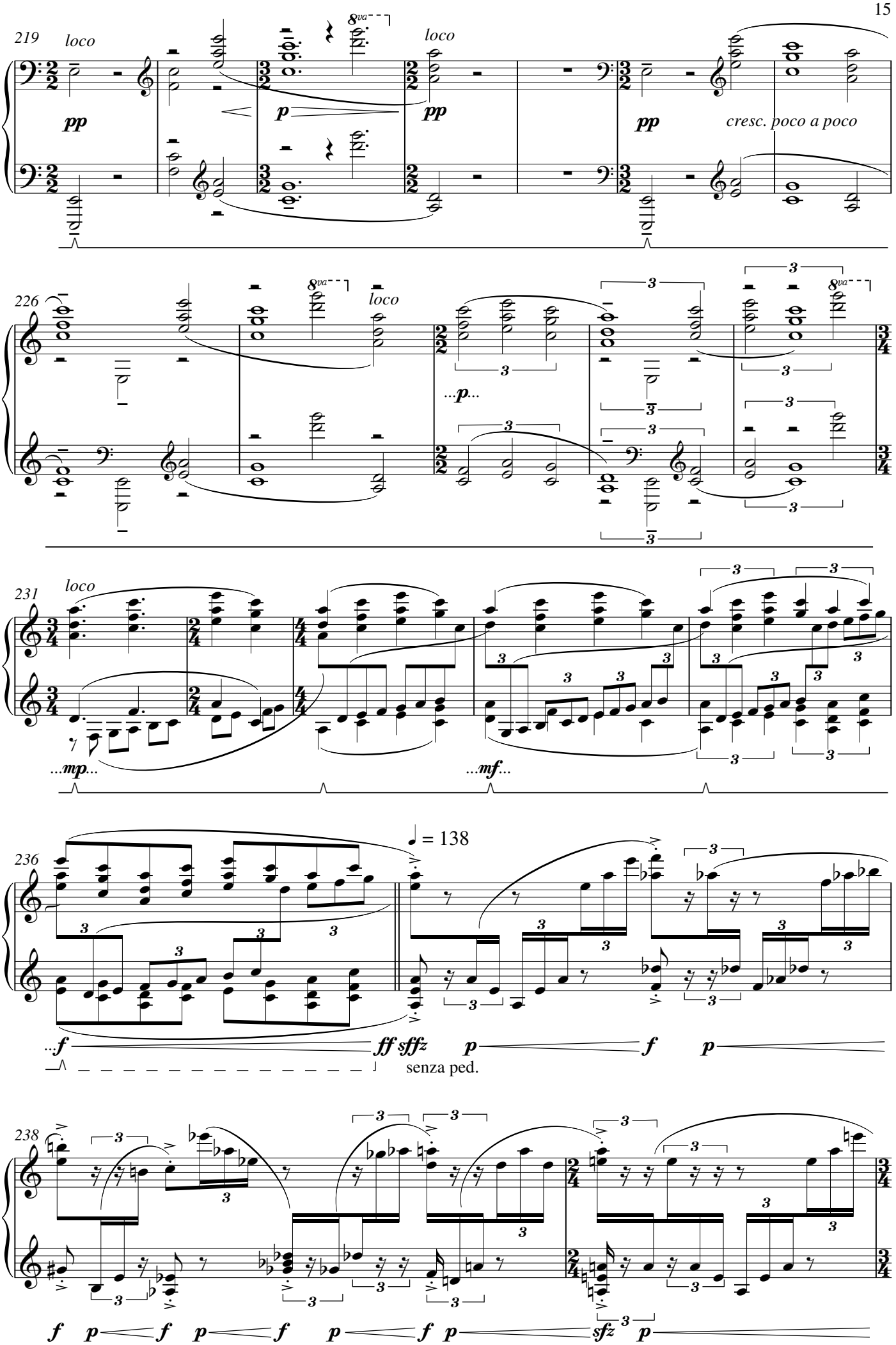
Implied Melody. NB: until bar 204 dynamics between the two main staves refer to the semiqwuaver scales and the chords at the end of them; dynamics above the right hand and below the left hand apply to all other notes.

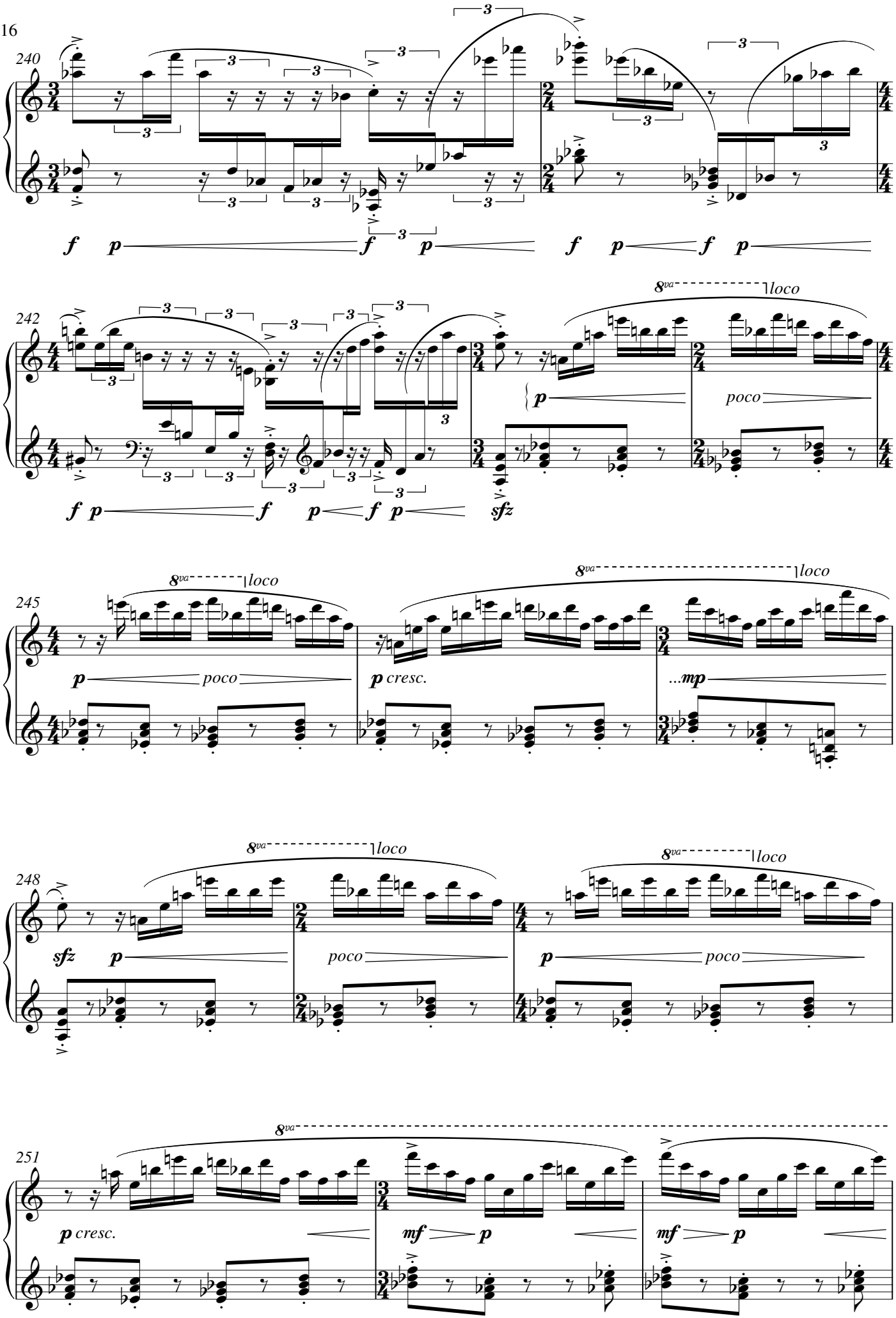


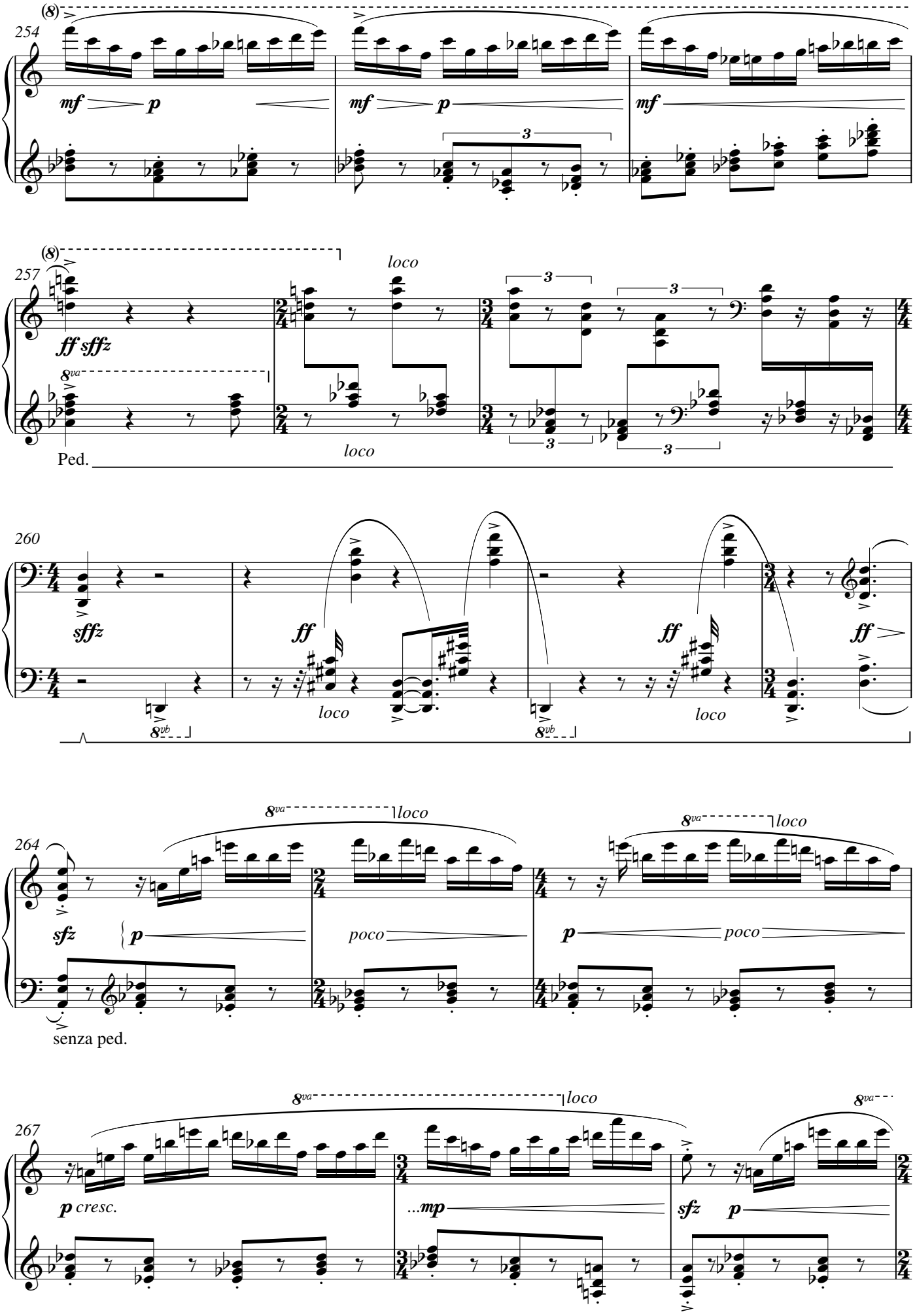

188
190
192
195
poco f
poco f
poco f
poco f

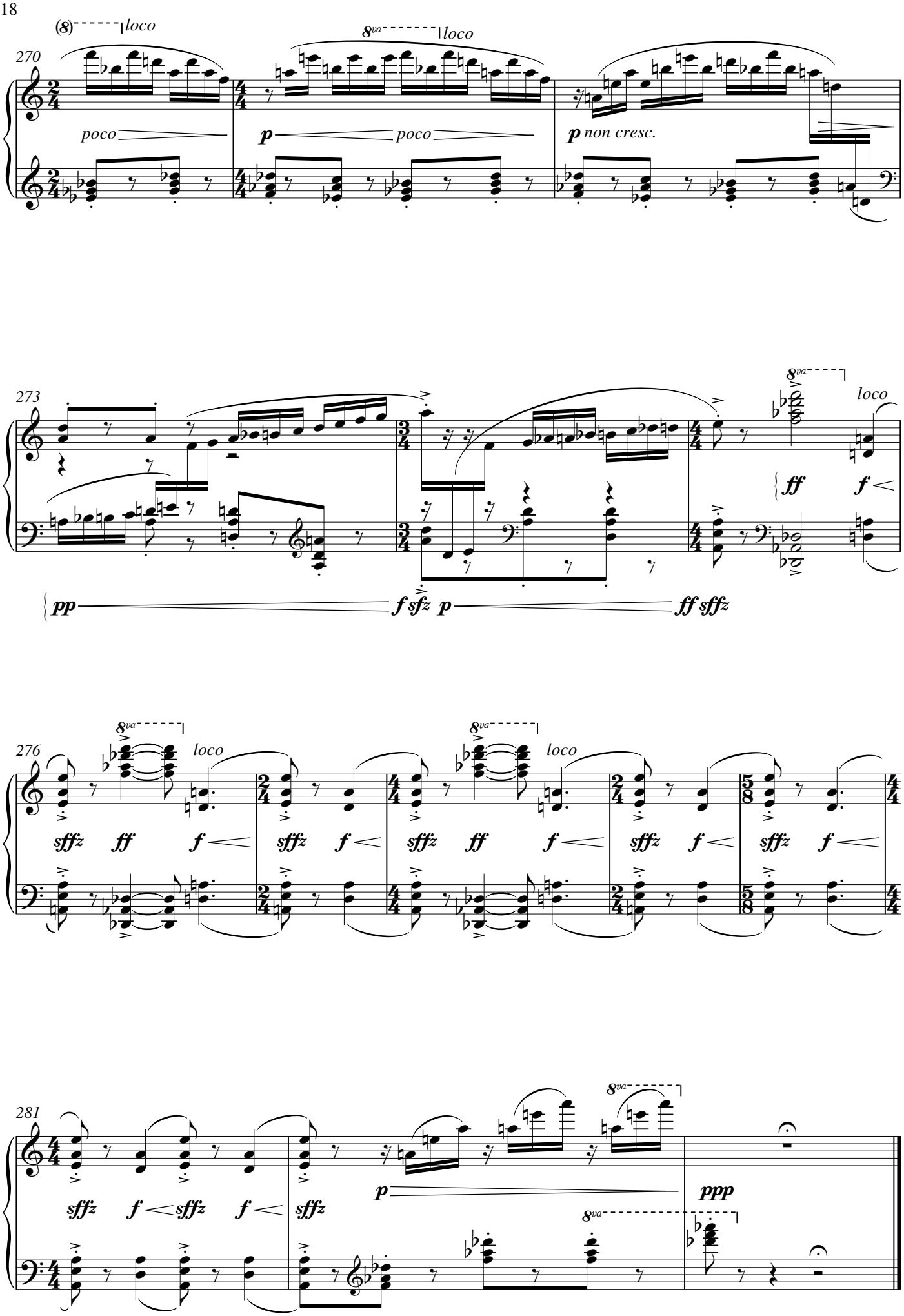

197
poco
pp
f
mf
p
mf
p
mf
mf
poco
f
mf
200
f
p
mf
p
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
p
mf
pp
mf
f
mf
mf
mf
mf
203
mp
mp
mp
mp
mp
mf
p
mf
p
mp
mp
205
mp
mf cresc. poco a poco


207
...più f...
209
...f...
211
rit.
(♩ = 60)
rit.
(♩ = 60)
...ff
sub.
213
←♩ = ♩→ (𝅗𝅥 = 60)
pp
pp
p
pp
8va
Ped.

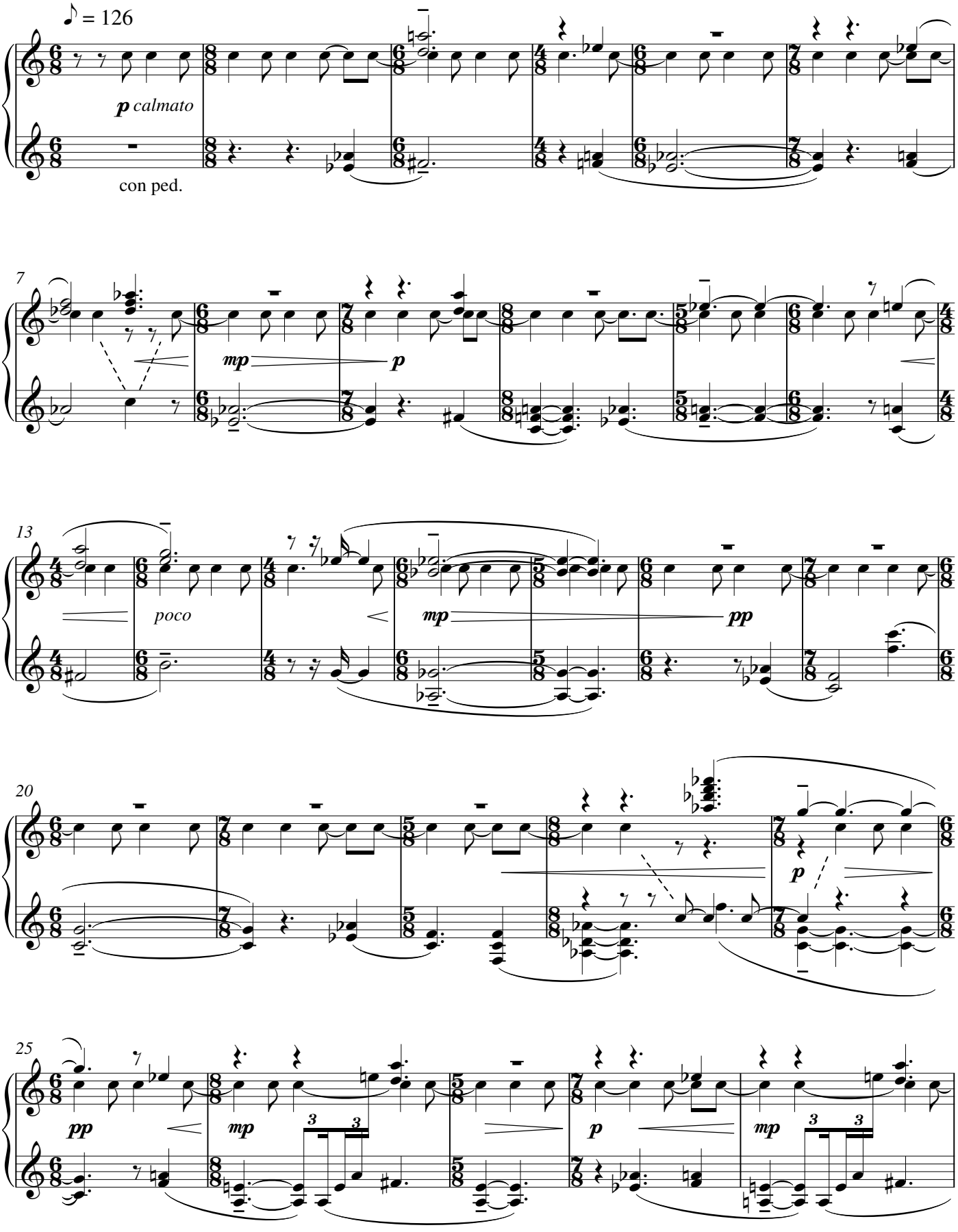

219
loco
pp
p
pp
loco
pp
cresc. poco a poco
226
loco
...p...
231
loco
...mp...
...mf...
236
= 138
...f
ff sffz
p
f
p
senza ped.
238
f
p
f
p
f
p
f
p
sfz
p

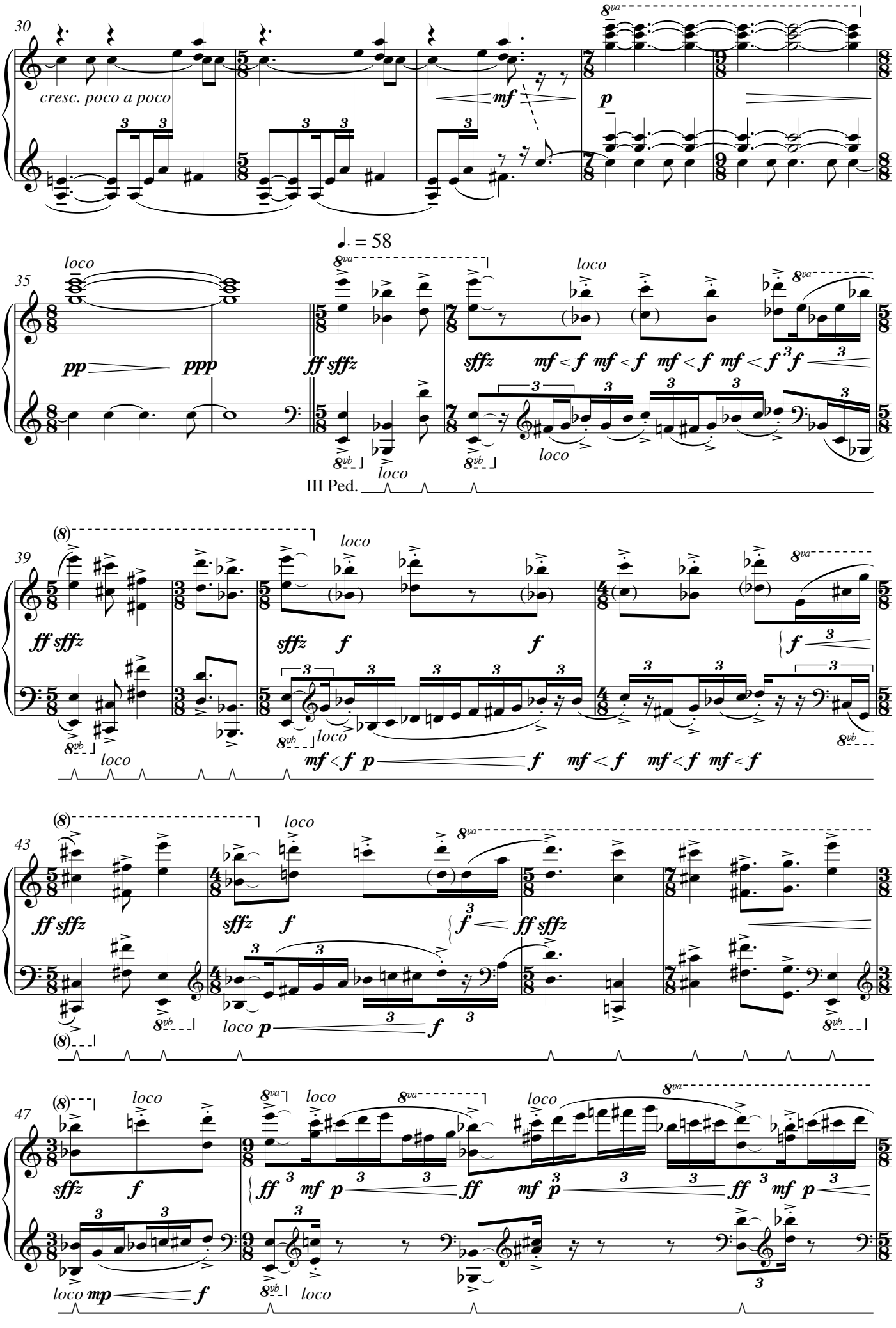

240
f p f p f p f p
242
f p f p f p f p sfz
8va loco
poco
245
p poco
p cresc.
8va loco
...mp
248
sfz p poco p poco
8va loco
251
p cresc.
mf p mf p
8va

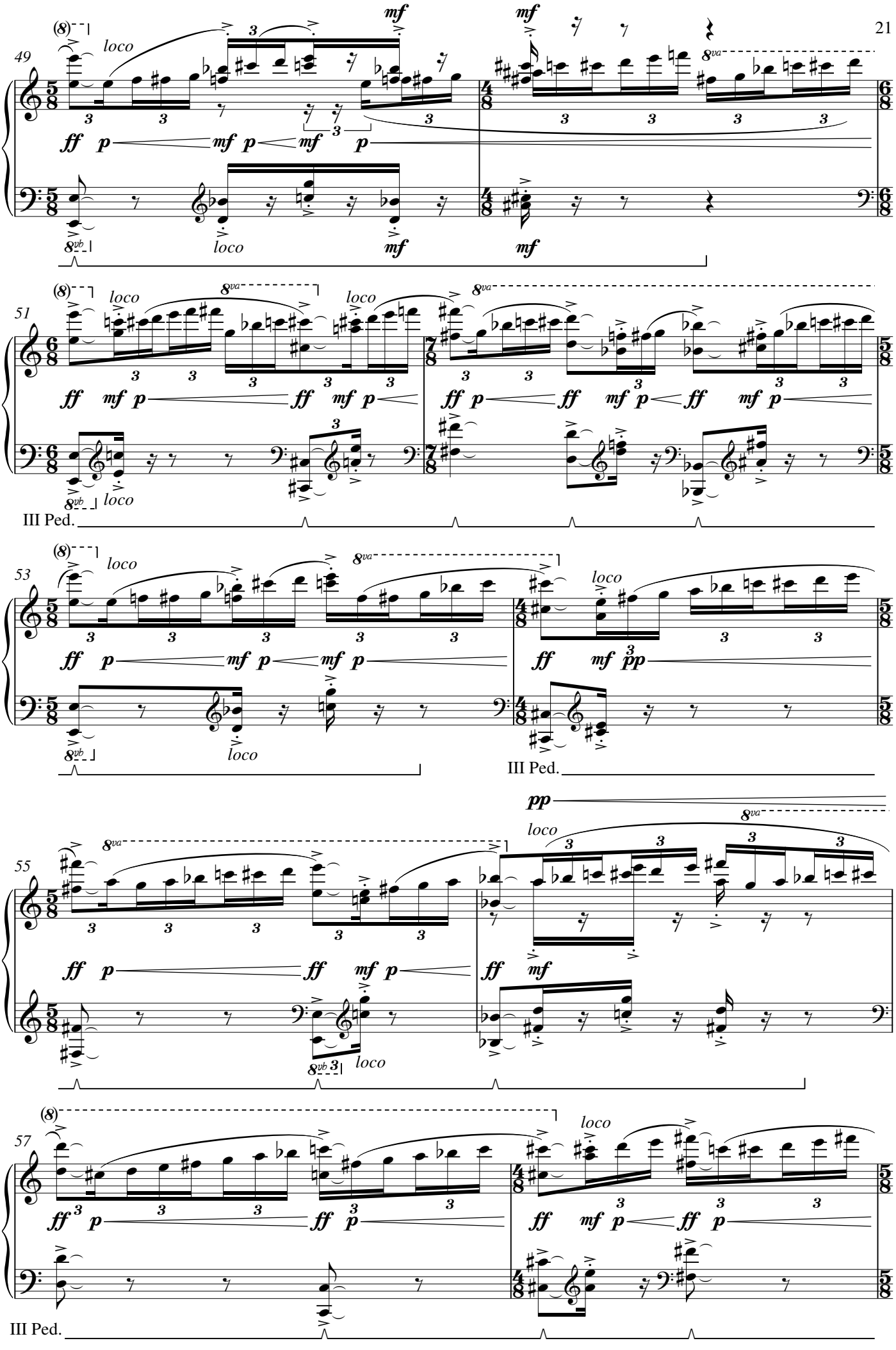

254
mf p
mf p
mf
257
ff sffz
loco
loco
Ped.
260
sffz
ff
loco
ff
loco
ff
264
sfz
p
poco
p
poco
loco
loco
senza ped.
267
p cresc.
...mp
sfz p
loco

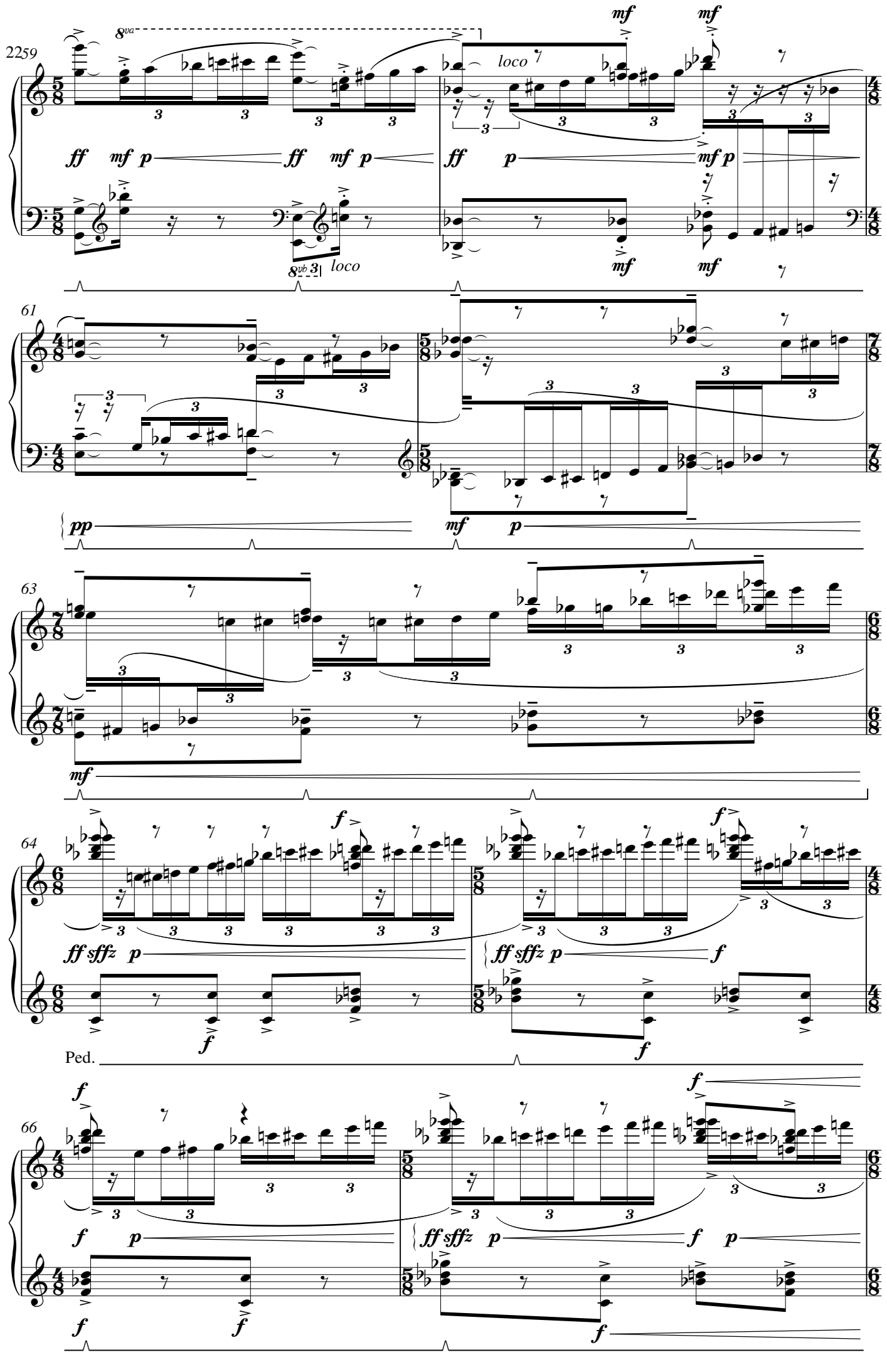

(8) loco
8va loco
270
poco
p poco
p non cresc.
273
8va
loco
ff f
pp f sfz p ff sffz
276
8va
loco
sffz ff f
sffz f
281
sffz f sffz f
sffz
p
8va
ppp

Ballade No. 2

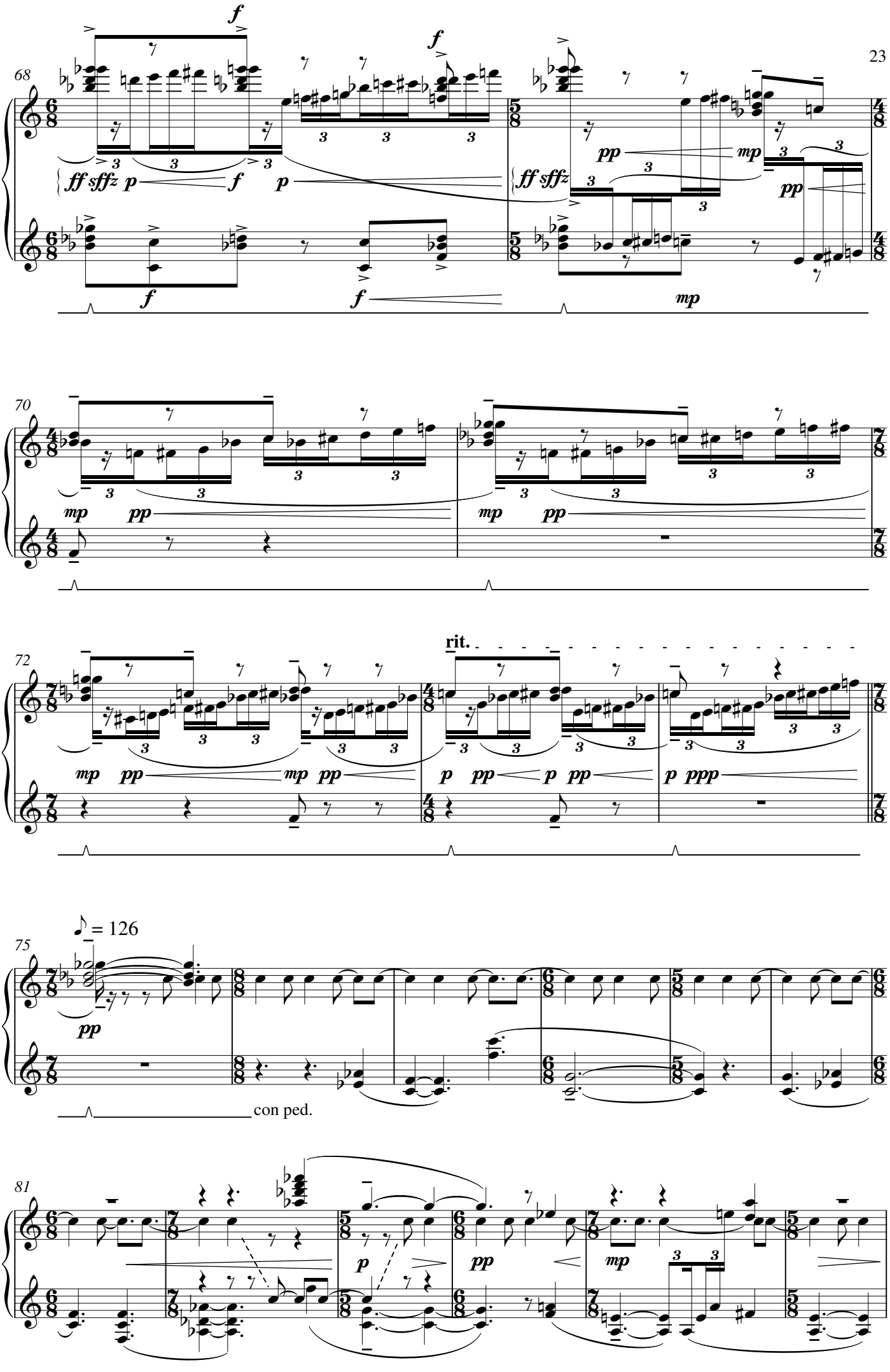


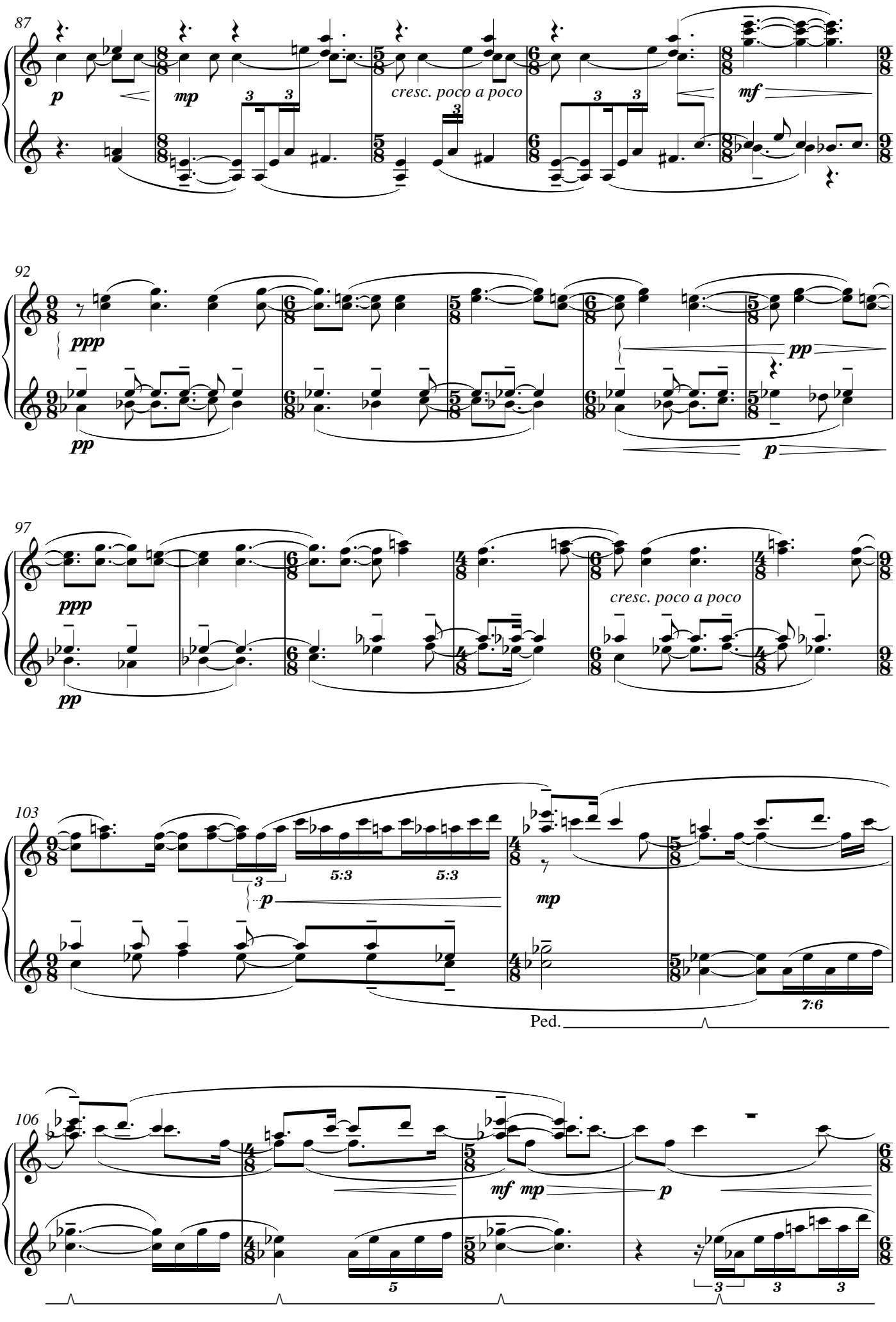

cresc. poco a poco
♩. = 58
loco
III Ped.

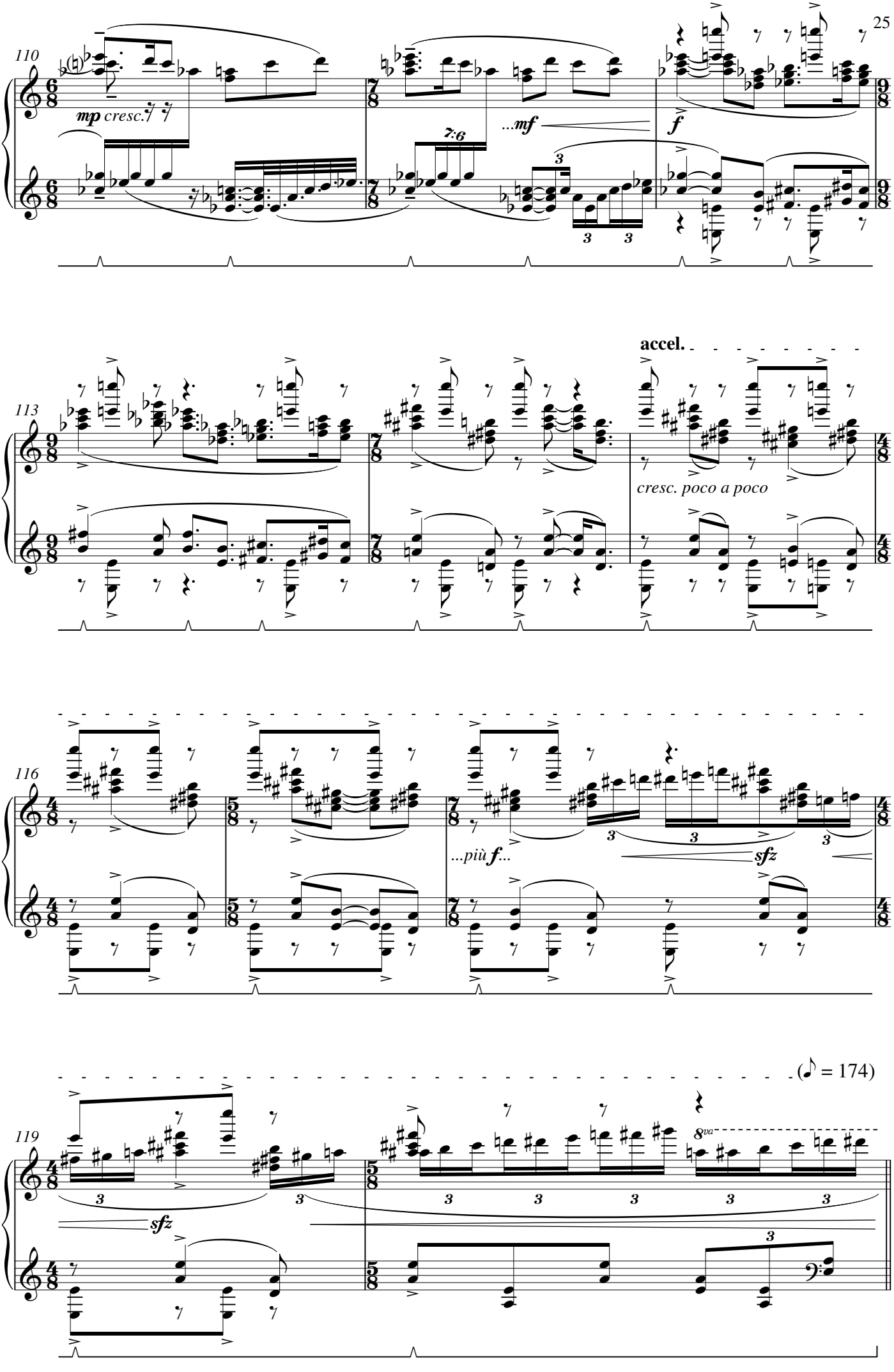

49
51
53
55
57
loco
mf
ff
p
pp
III Ped.

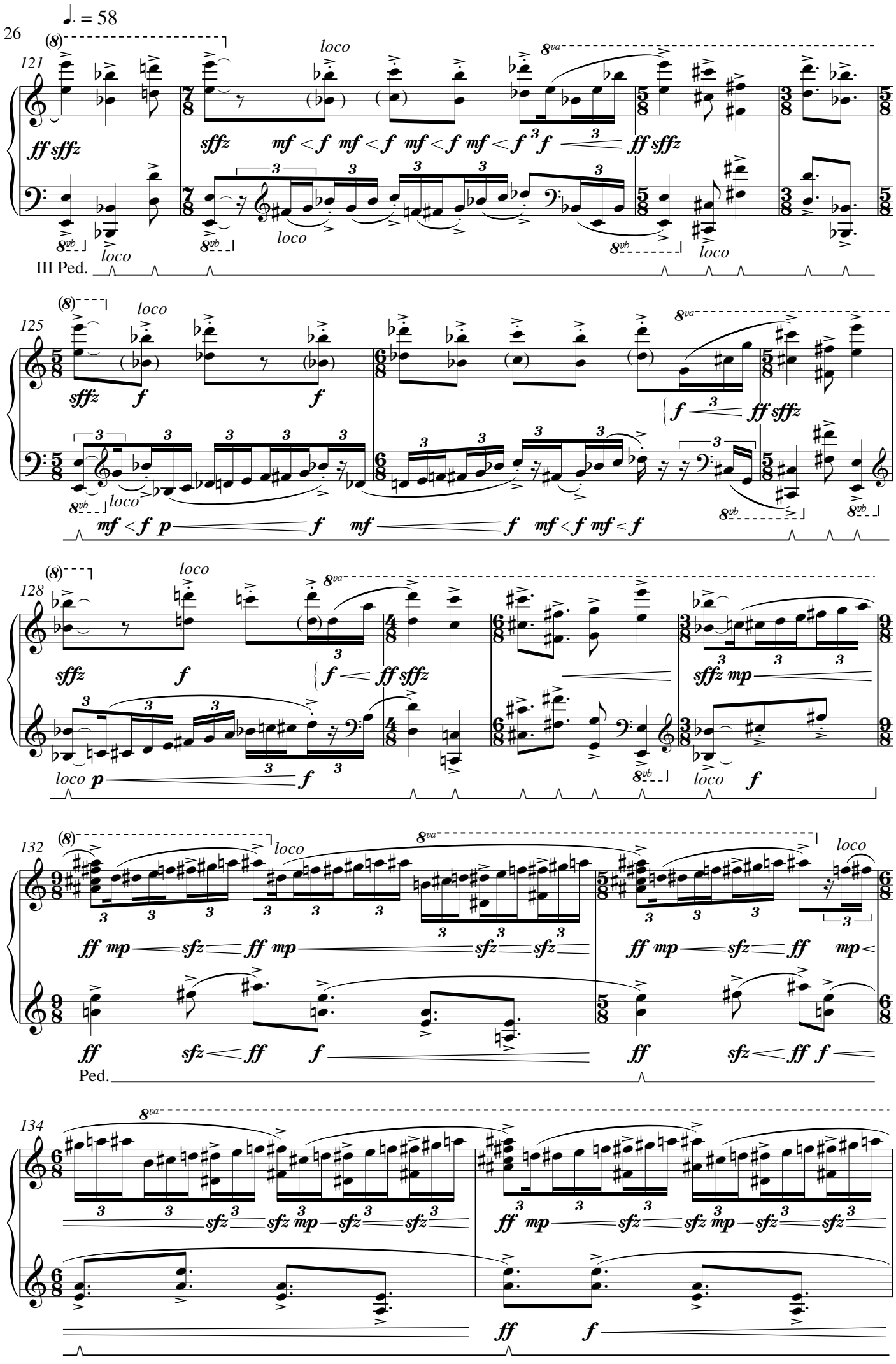


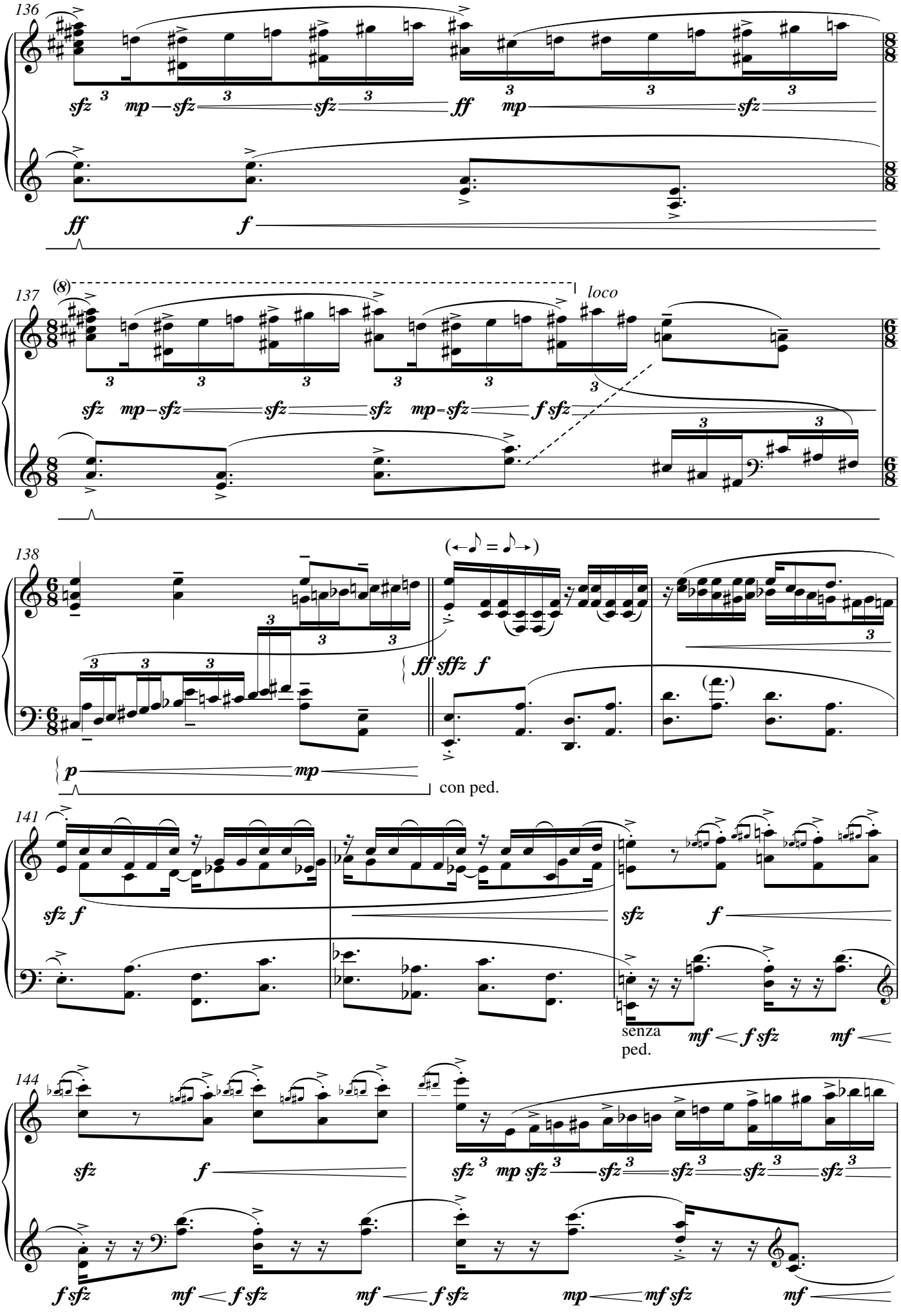
2259
8va
loco
mf
ff
p
8vb
61
pp
63
64
ff sffz
f
Ped.
66

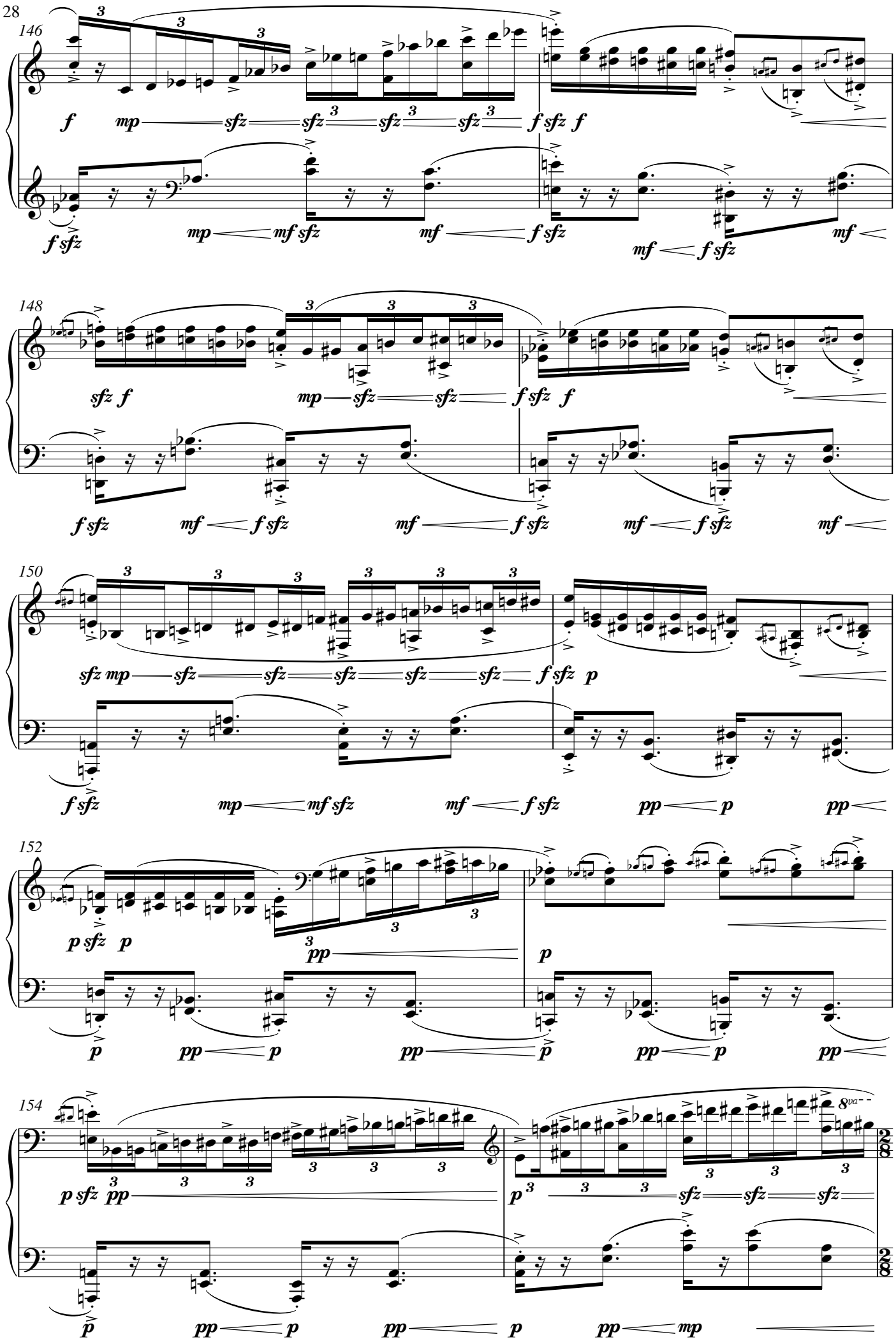

68
70
72
rit.
75
♪ = 126
con ped.
81

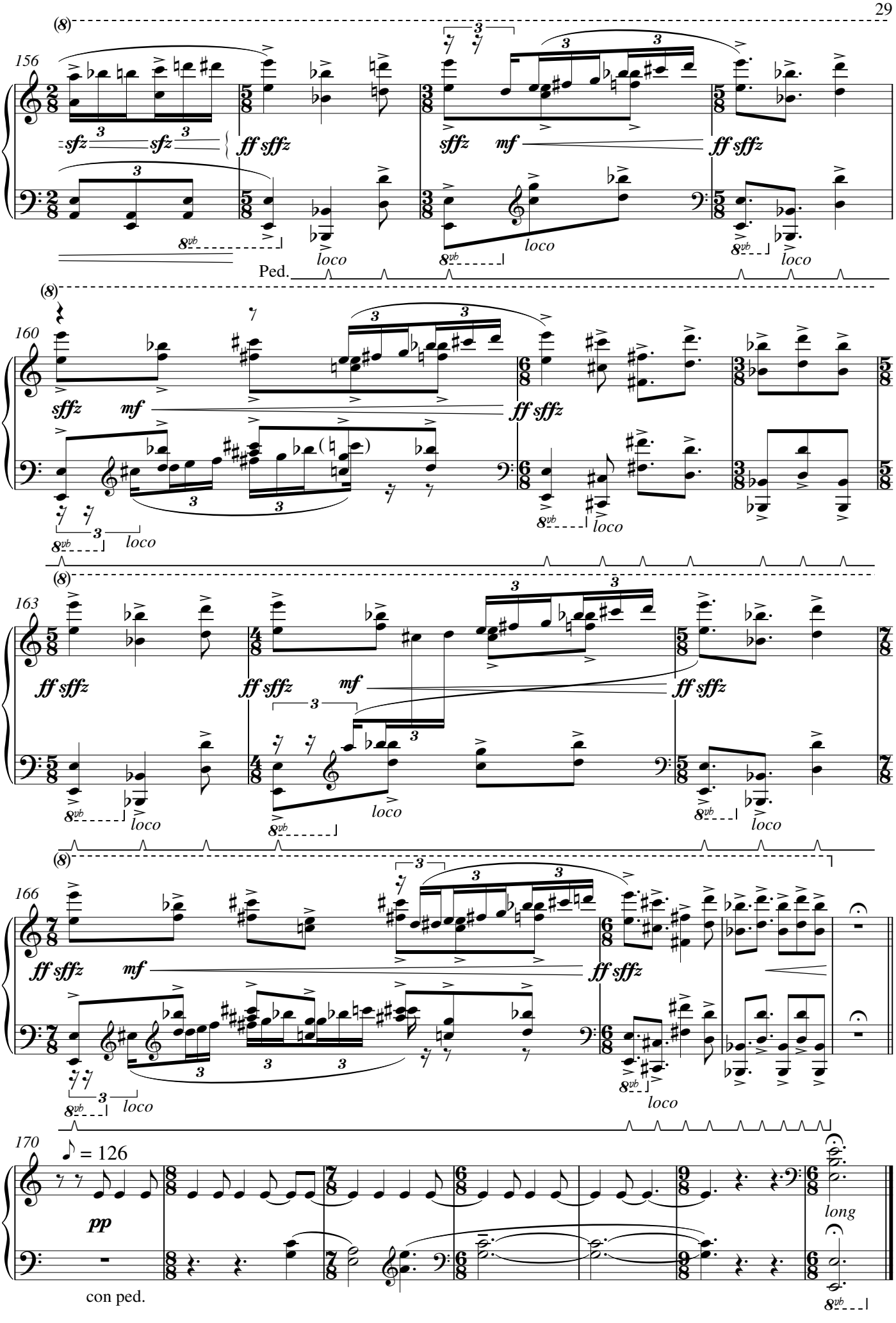

87
p
mp
cresc. poco a poco
mf
92
ppp
pp
pp
p
97
ppp
pp
cresc. poco a poco
103
p
mp
5:3
5:3
7:6
Ped.
106
mf mp
p
5


110
mp cresc.
7:6
...mf
f
accel.
113
cresc. poco a poco
116
...più f...
sfz
(♪ = 174)
119
sfz
8va

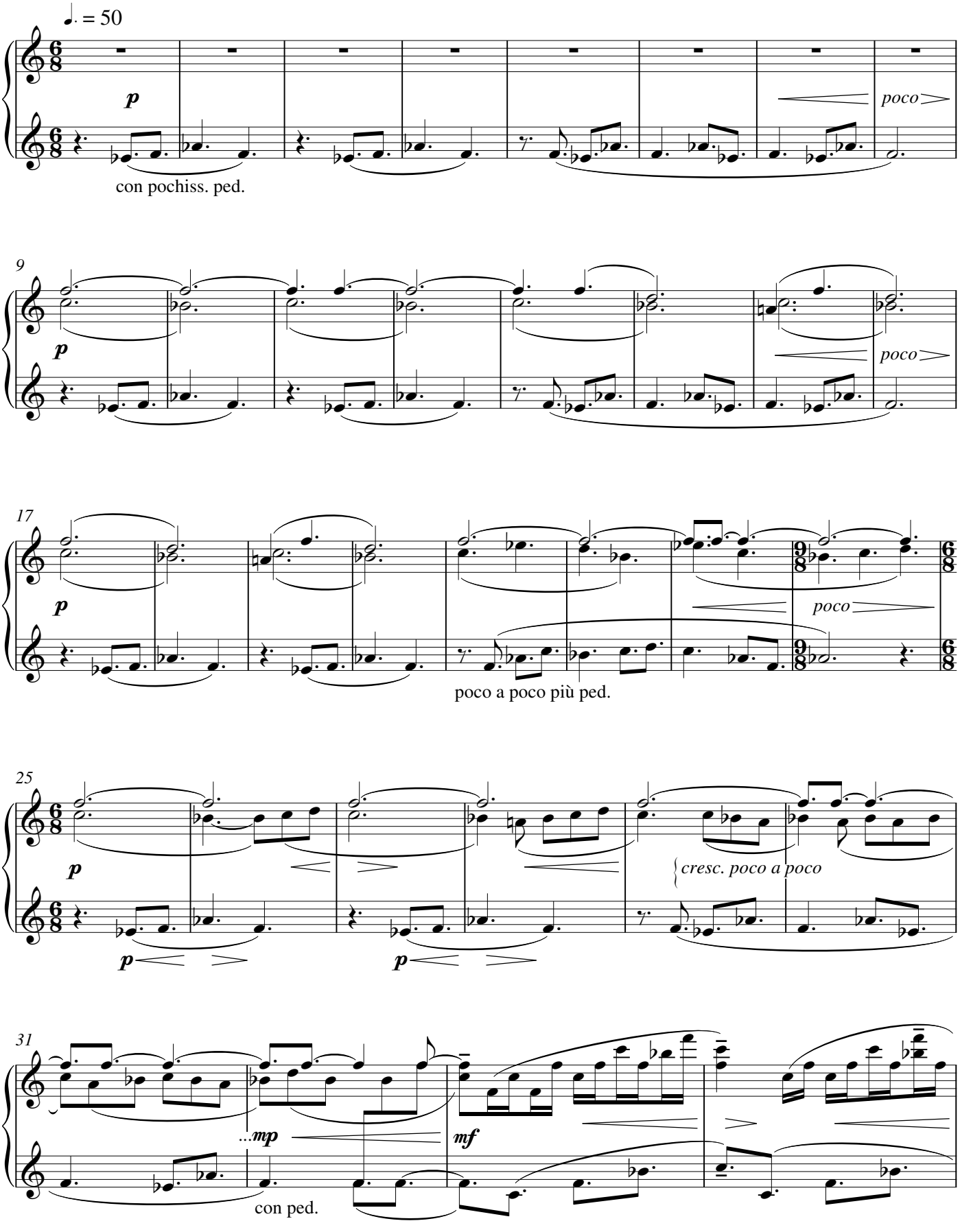

♩. = 58
121
(8)
loco
8va
ff sffz
sffz
mf < f mf < f mf < f mf < f
3 f
ff sffz
8vb
loco
III Ped.
125
sffz
f
f
f
ff sffz
mf < f p
f
mf
f
mf < f mf < f
128
sffz
f
ff sffz
sffz mp
loco p
f
loco
f
132
ff mp
sfz
ff mp
sfz
sfz
ff mp
sfz
ff
mp
ff
sfz
ff
f
ff
sfz
ff f
Ped.
134
sfz
sfz mp
sfz
sfz
ff mp
sfz
sfz mp
sfz
sfz
ff
f

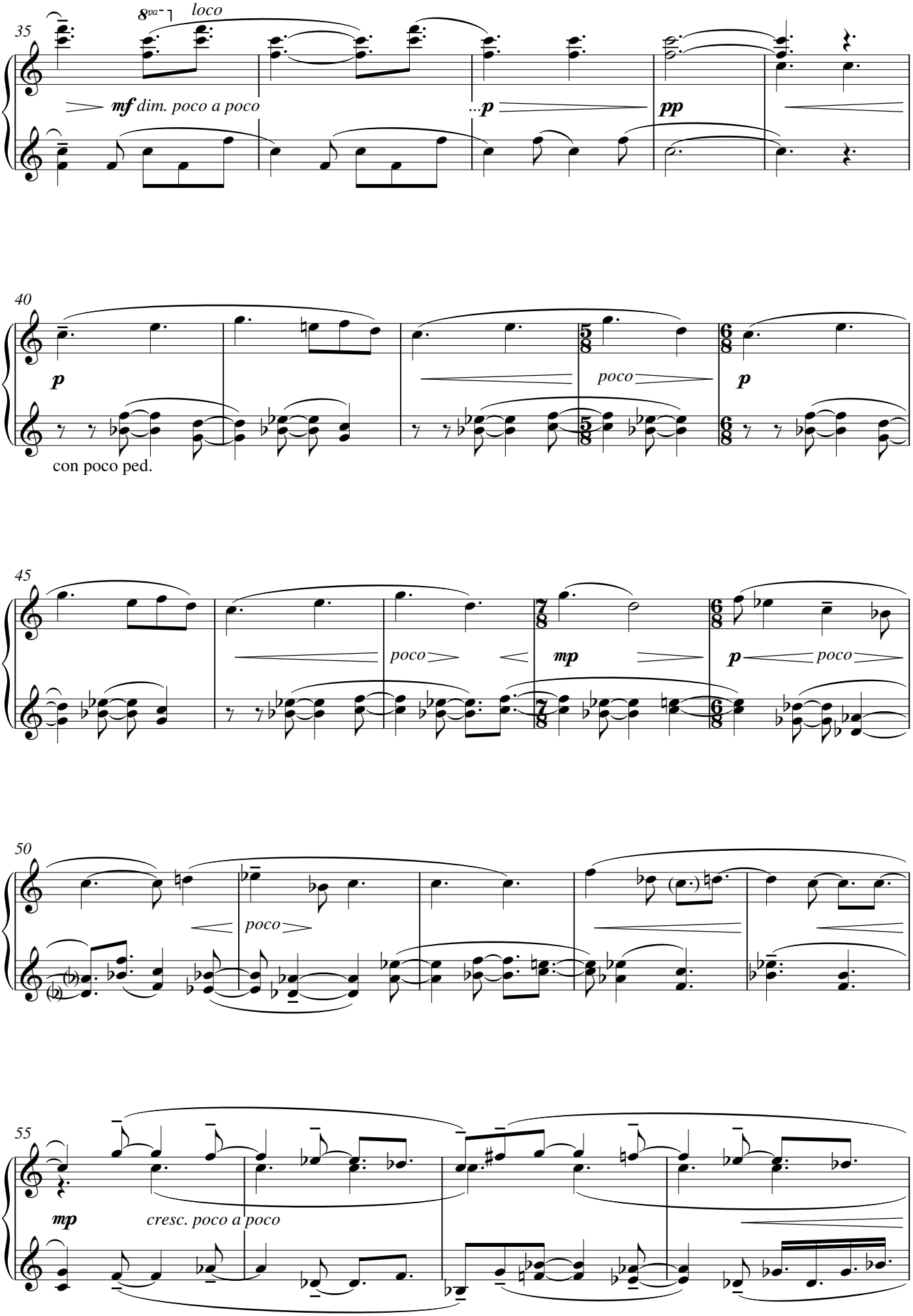

(8)
136
sfz mp sfz sfz ff mp sfz
ff f
(8)
137
loco
sfz mp sfz sfz sfz mp sfz f sfz
138
(←♪ = ♪→)
ff sffz f
p mp
con ped.
141
sfz f
sfz f
senza ped.
mf f sfz mf
144
sfz f
sfz mp sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz
f sfz mf f sfz mf f sfz mp mf sfz mf

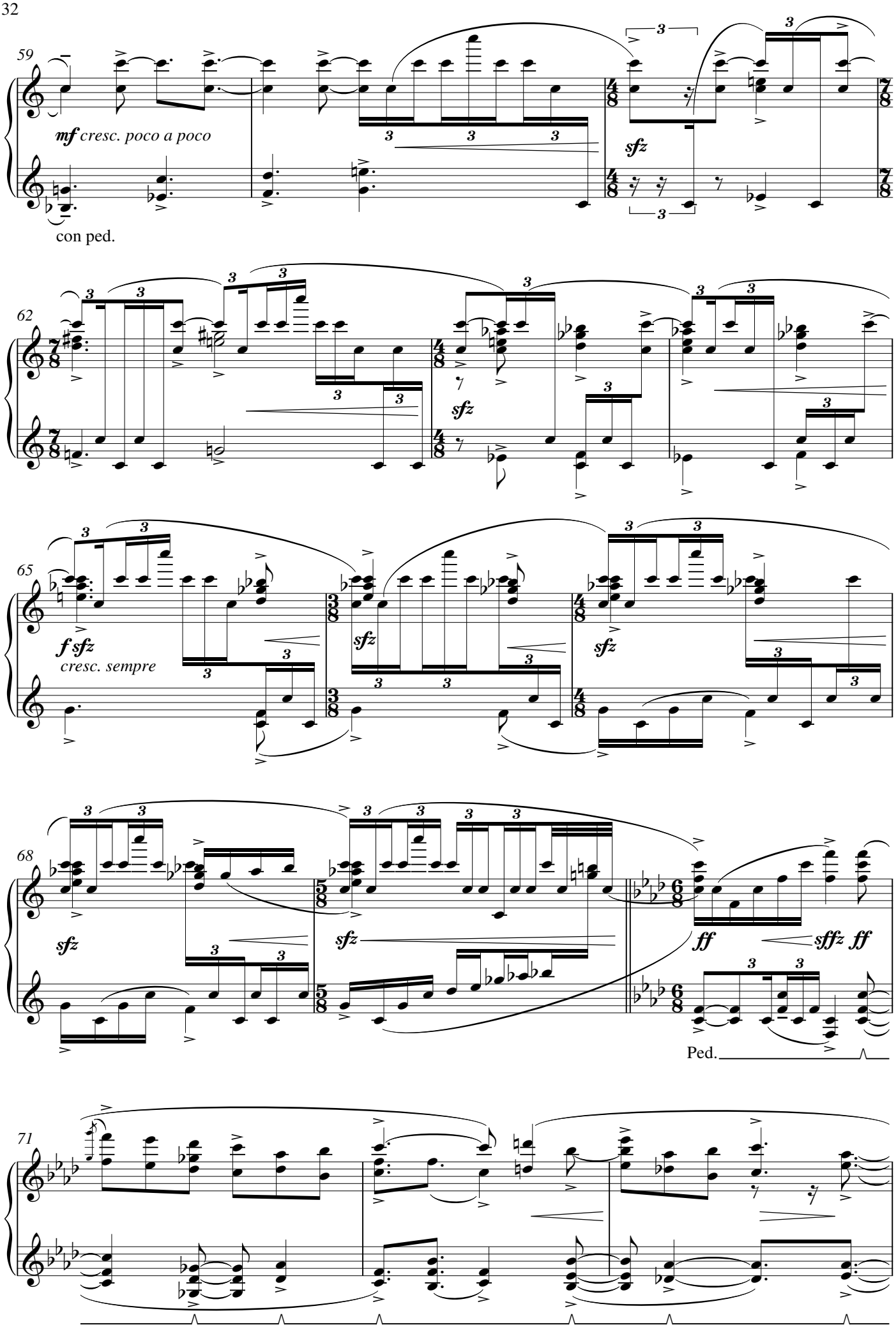

146
148
150
152
154
8va

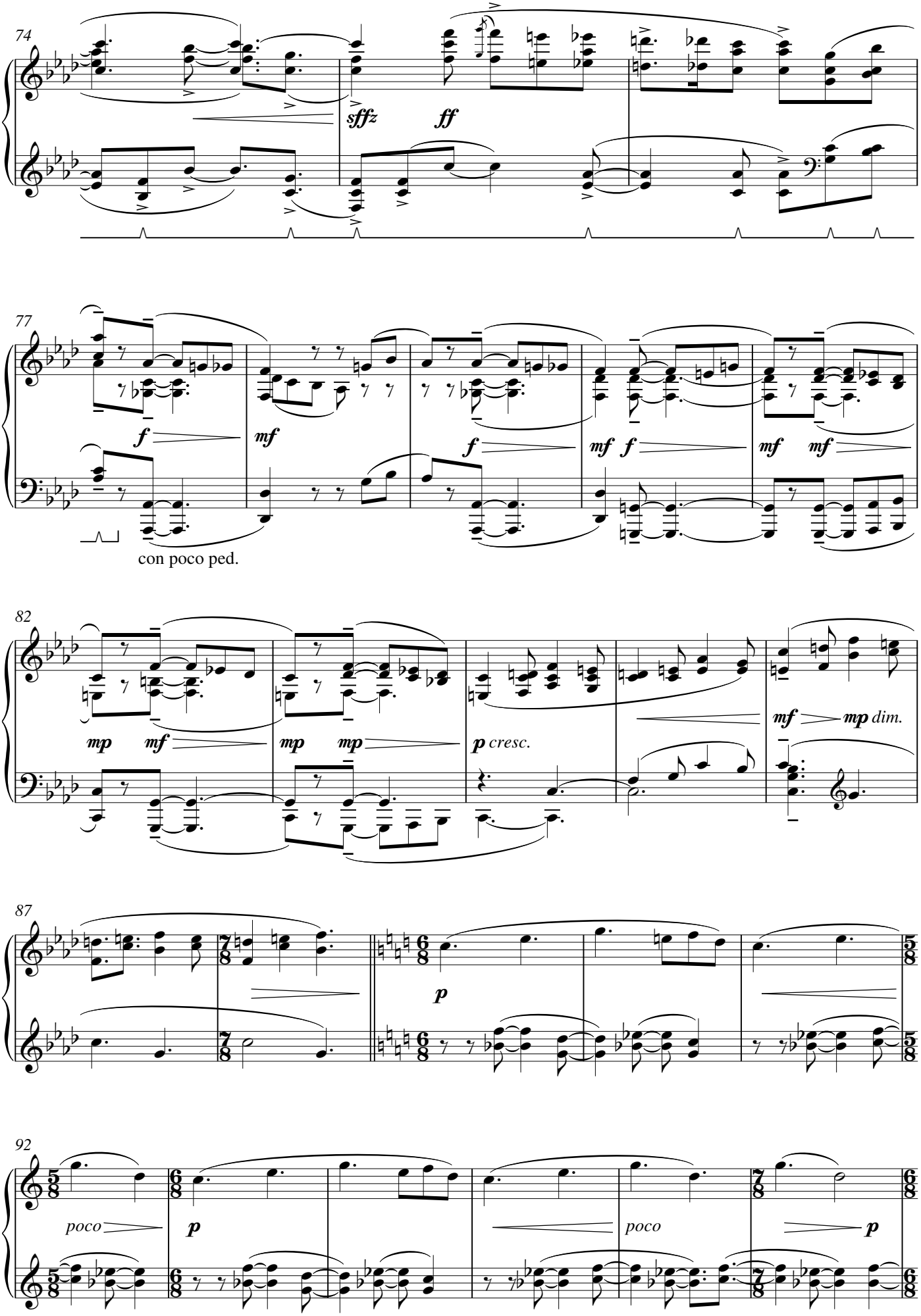

156
sfz sfz
ff sffz
sffz mf
ff sffz
loco
Ped.
160
sffz mf
ff sffz
loco
163
ff sffz
ff sffz mf
ff sffz
loco
166
ff sffz mf
ff sffz
loco
170
♪ = 126
pp
long
con ped.

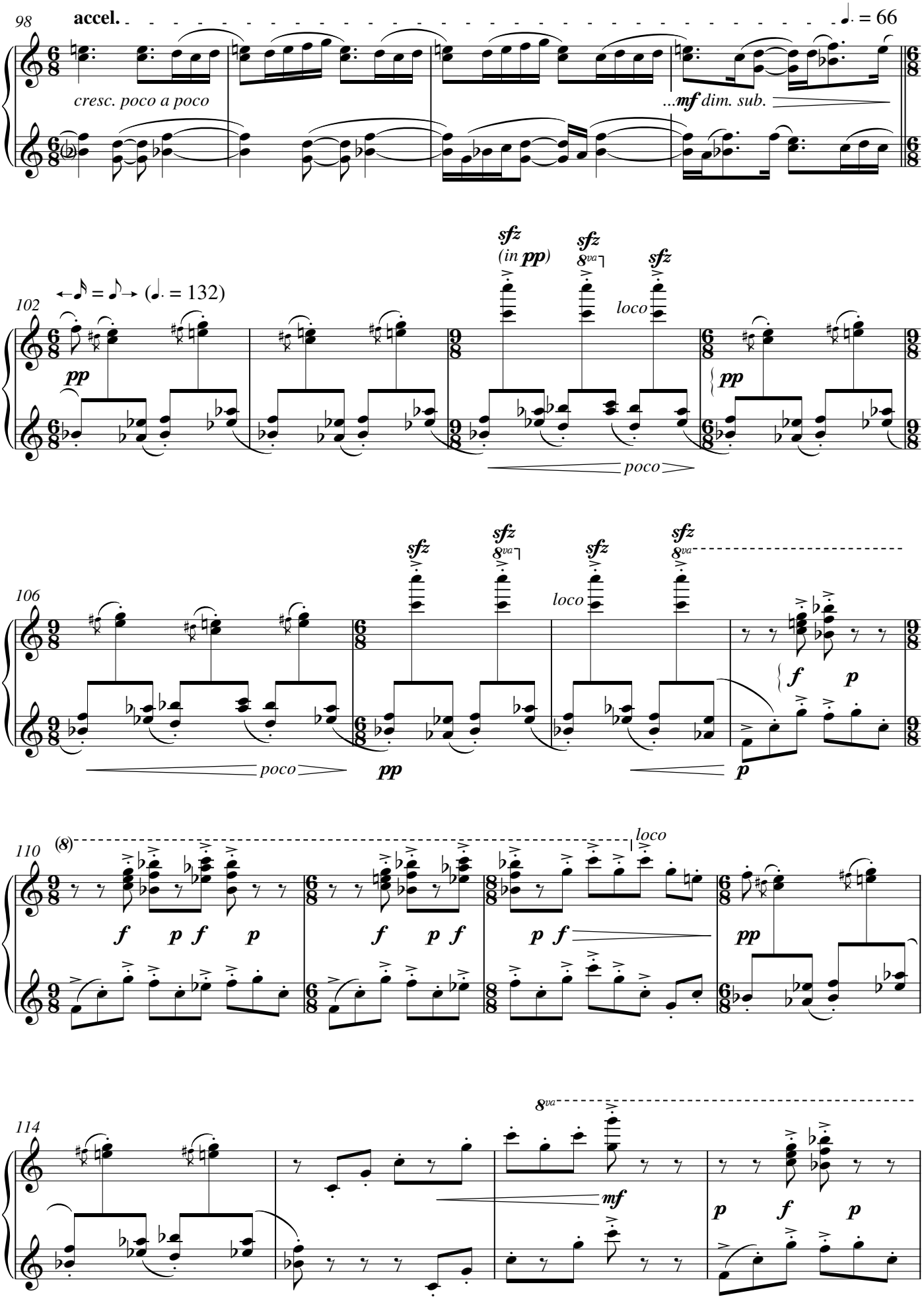
Ballade No. 3

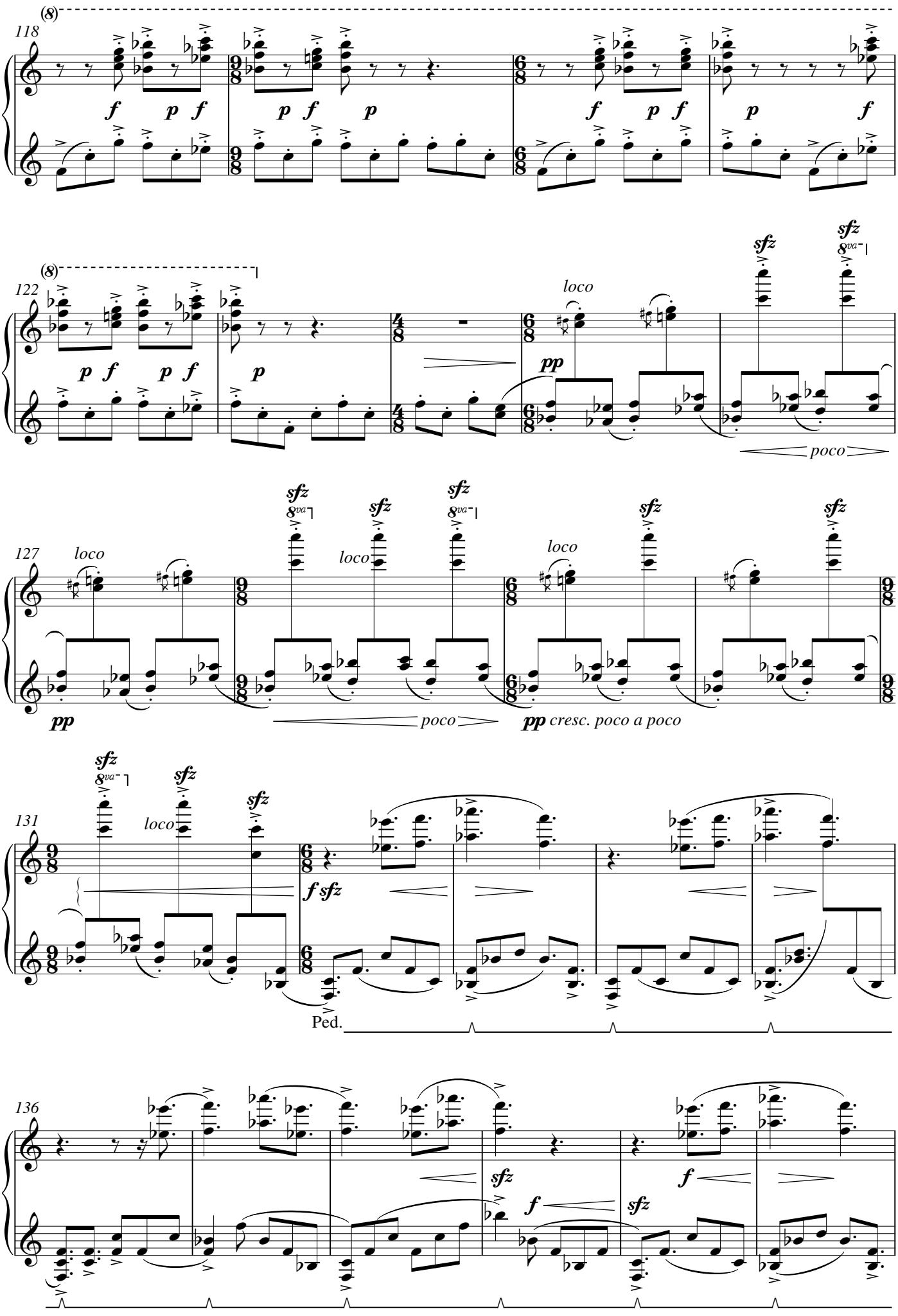

♩. = 50
p
poco
con pochiss. ped.
9
p
poco
17
p
poco
poco a poco più ped.
25
p
p
p
cresc. poco a poco
31
...mp
mf
con ped.

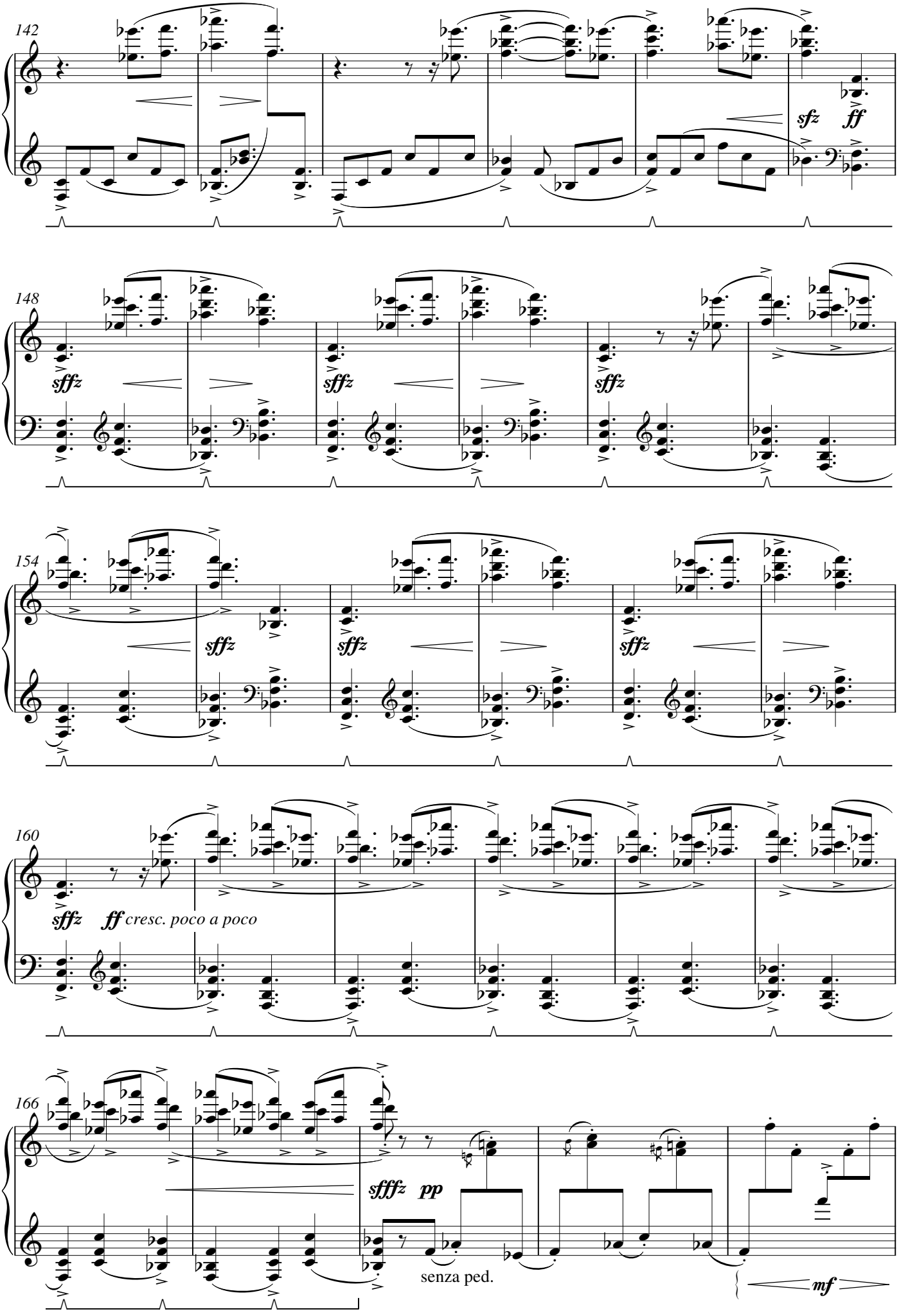

35
8va
loco
mf dim. poco a poco
...p
pp
40
p
poco
p
con poco ped.
45
poco
mp
p
poco
50
poco
55
mp
cresc. poco a poco

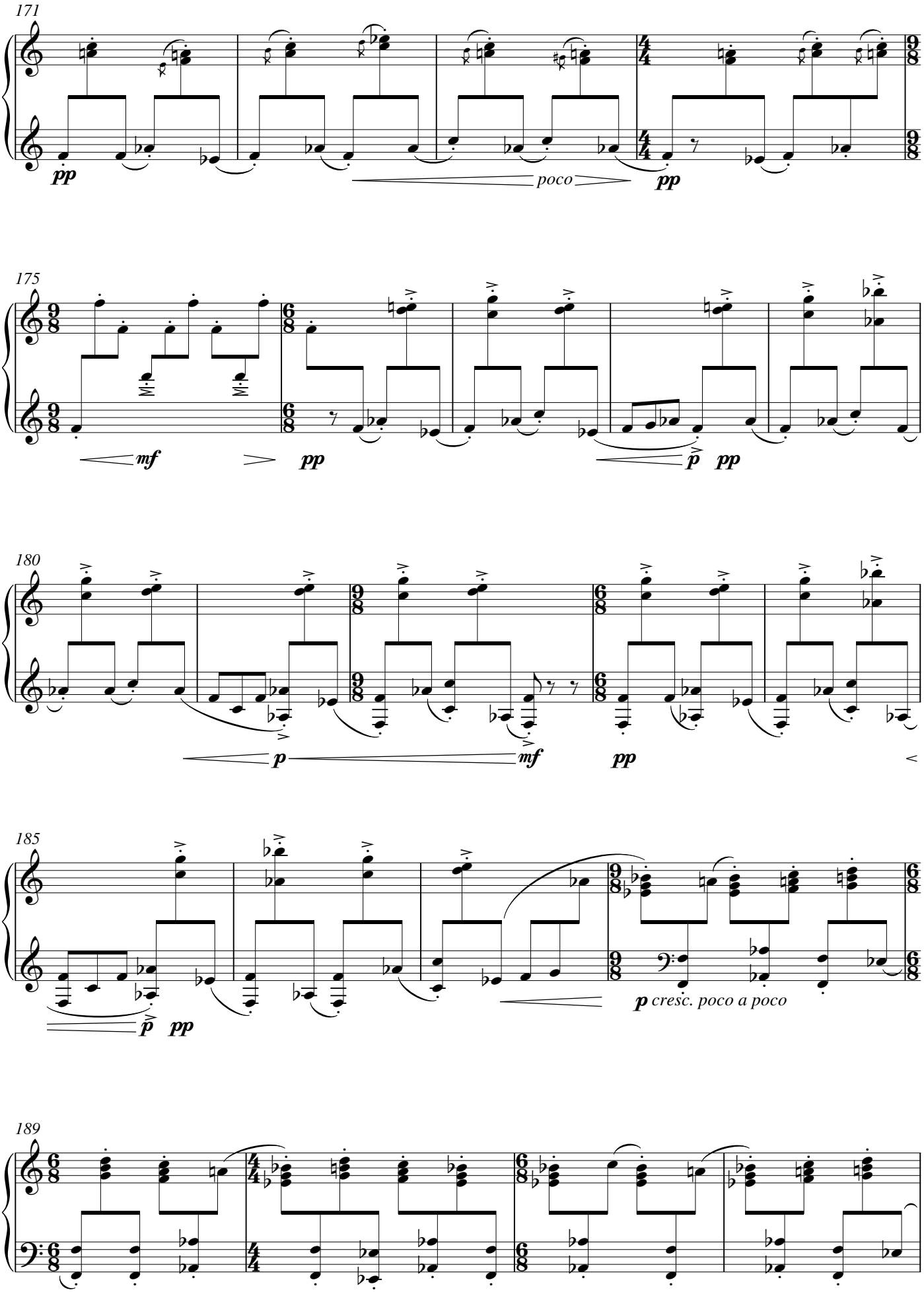

59
mf cresc. poco a poco
sfz
con ped.
62
sfz
65
f sfz
cresc. sempre
sfz
sfz
68
sfz
sfz
ff
sffz ff
Ped.
71

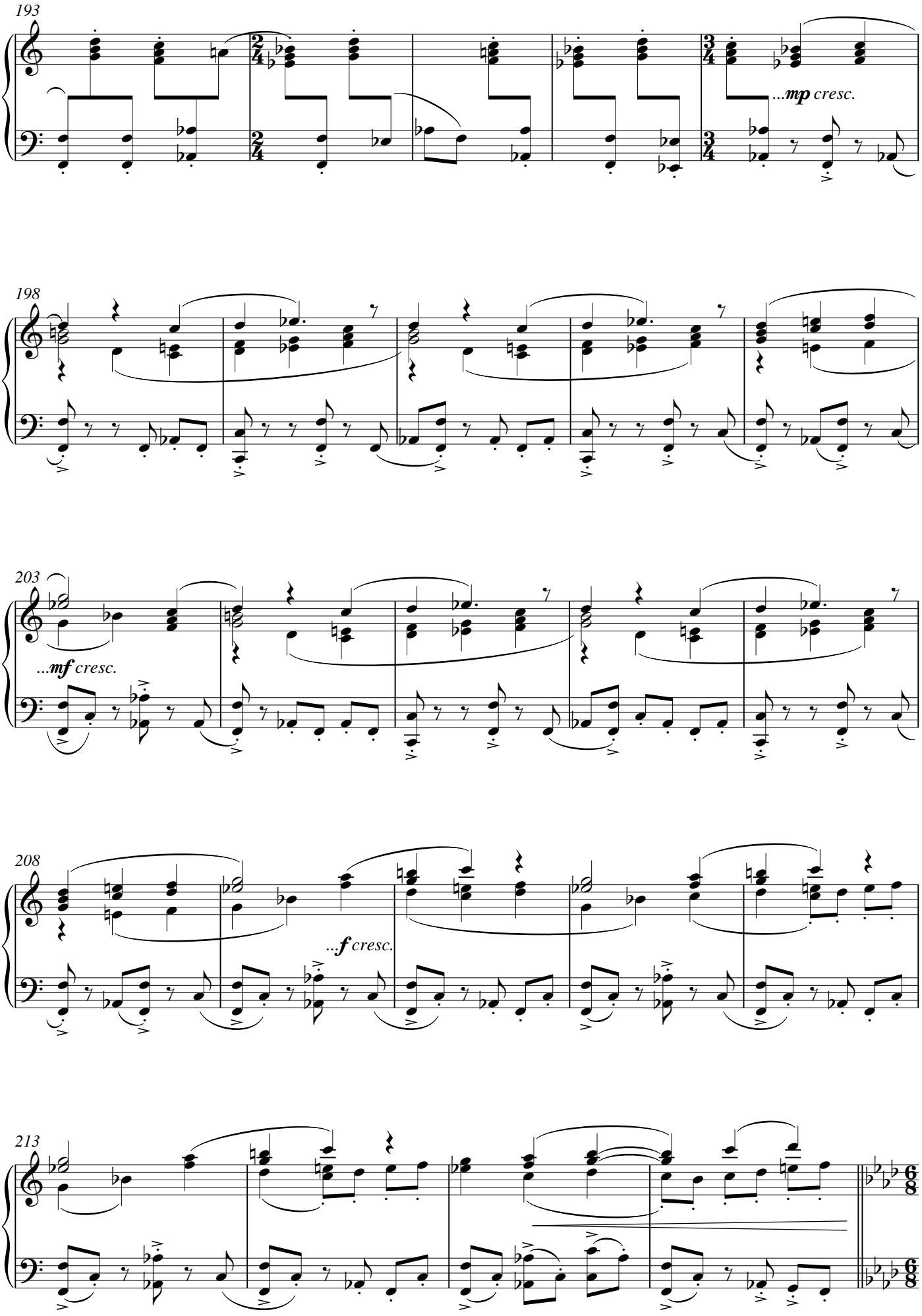

74
sffz
ff
77
f
mf
f
mf f
mf mf
con poco ped.
82
mp mf
mp mp
p cresc.
mf mp dim.
87
p
92
poco
p
poco
p

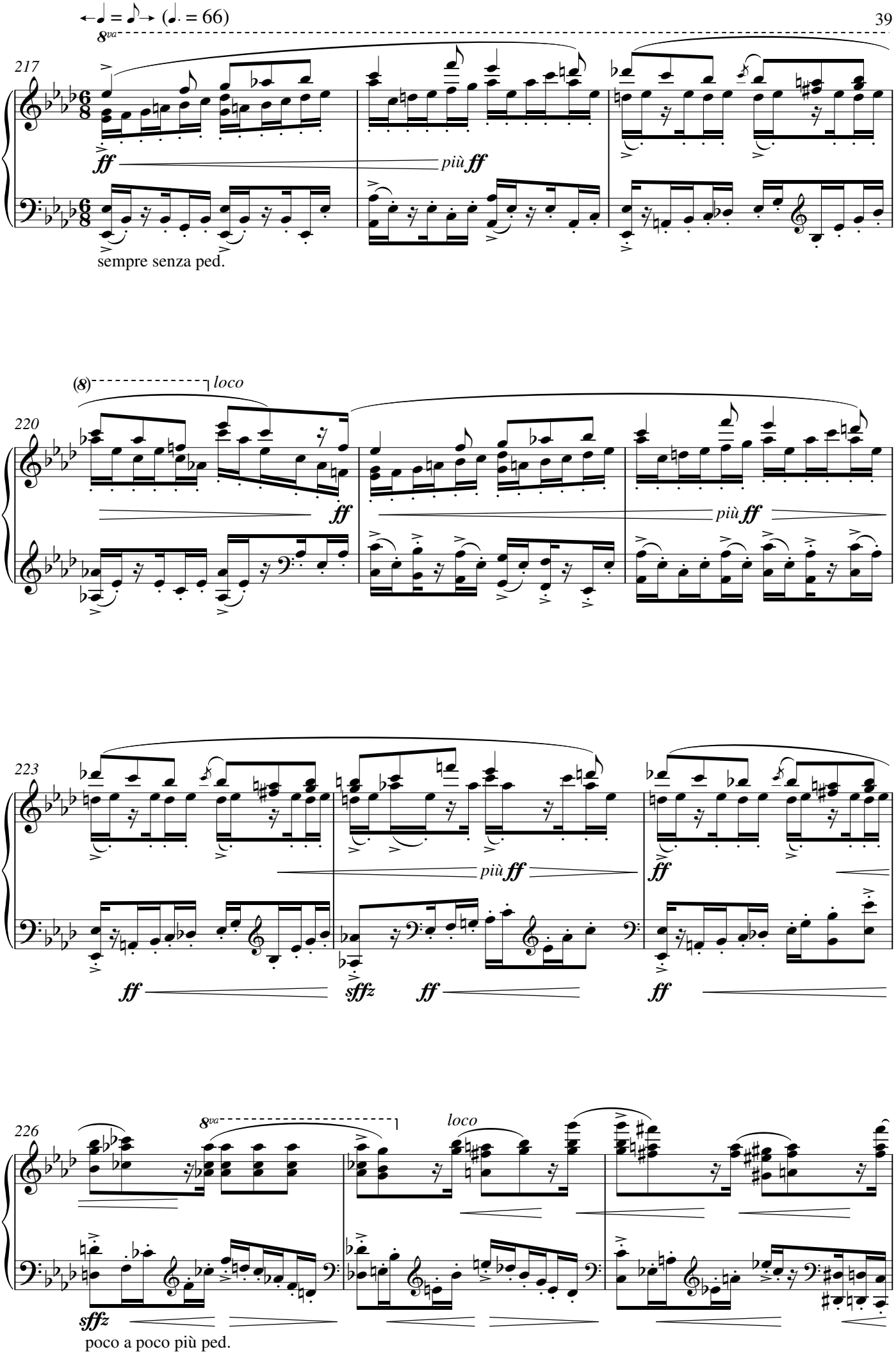

98
accel.
♩. = 66
cresc. poco a poco
...mf dim. sub.
102
𝅗𝅥 = ♪ (♩. = 132)
pp
sfz (in pp)
sfz 8va
sfz
loco
poco
106
sfz
sfz 8va
sfz
sfz 8va
loco
poco
pp
f p
p
110
(8)
loco
f p f p
f p f
p f
pp
114
8va
mf
p f p

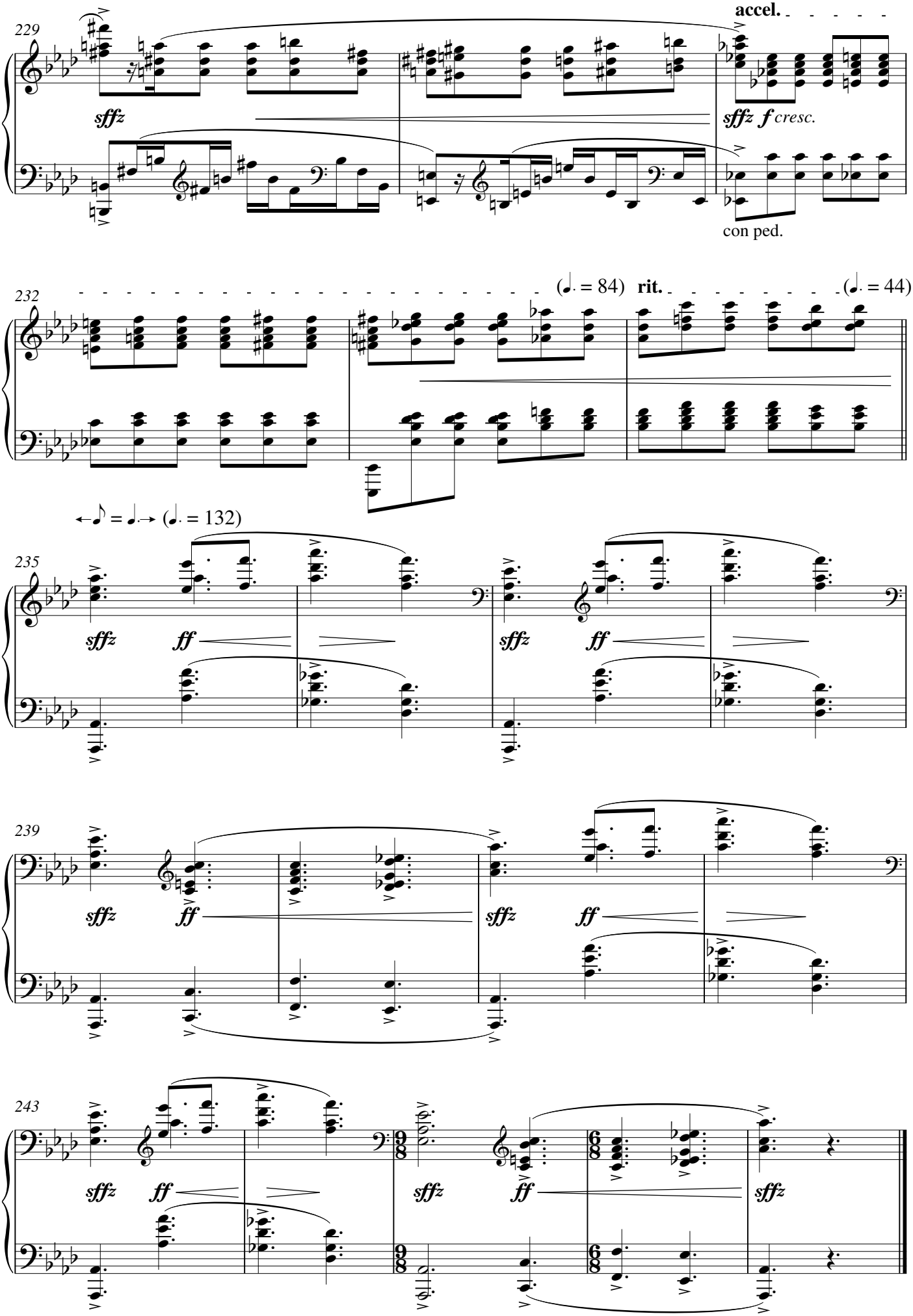

(8)
118
f p f
p f p
f p f
p f
(8)
122
p f p f
p
loco
pp
sfz
8va
poco
127
loco
pp
poco
pp cresc. poco a poco
131
f sfz
Ped.
136
sfz
f


142
sfz
ff
148
sffz
sffz
sffz
154
sffz
sffz
sffz
160
sffz
ff cresc. poco a poco
166
sffz
pp
senza ped.
mf

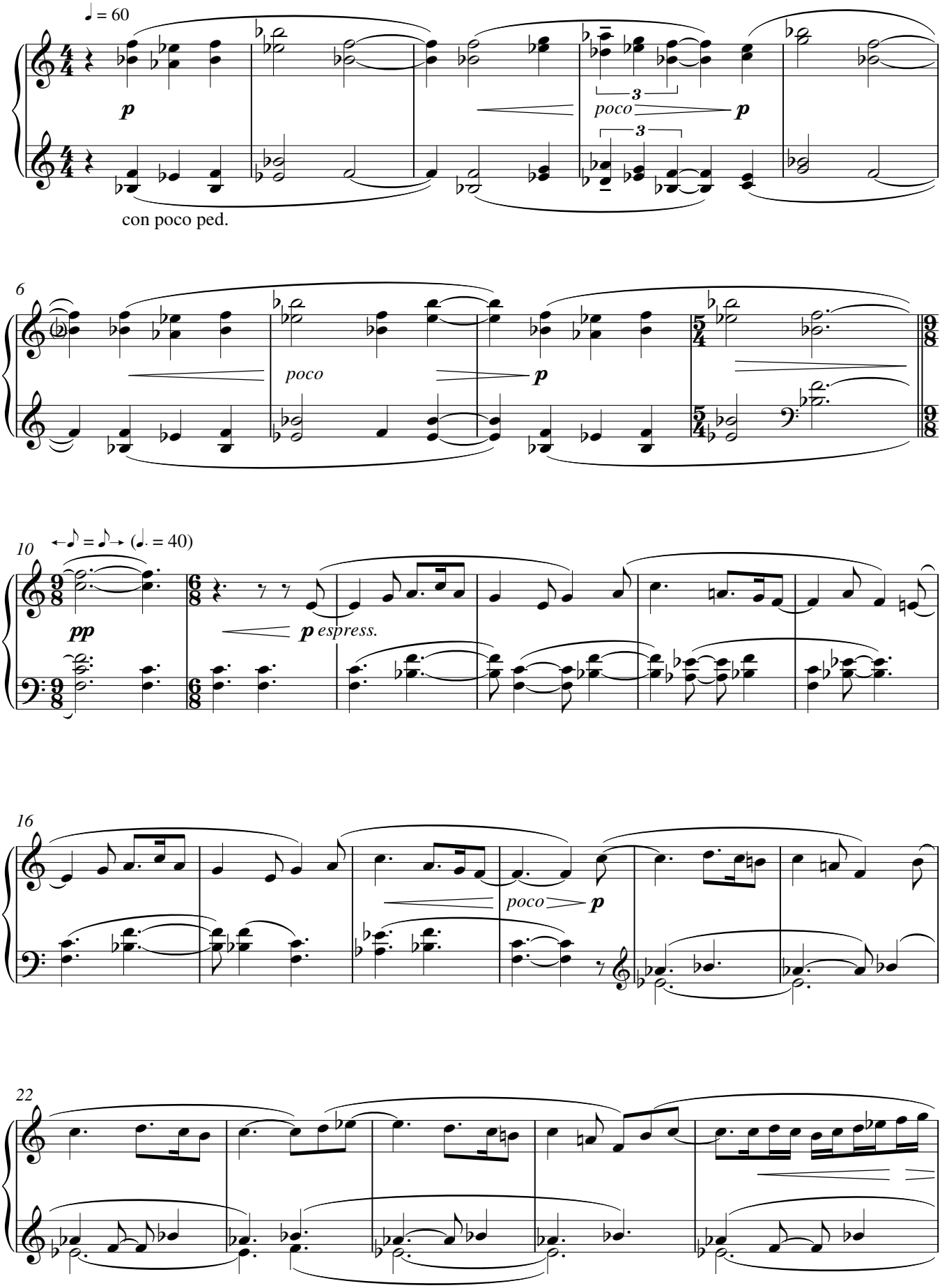

171
pp
poco
pp
175
mf
pp
p
pp
180
p
mf
pp
185
p
pp
p cresc. poco a poco
189

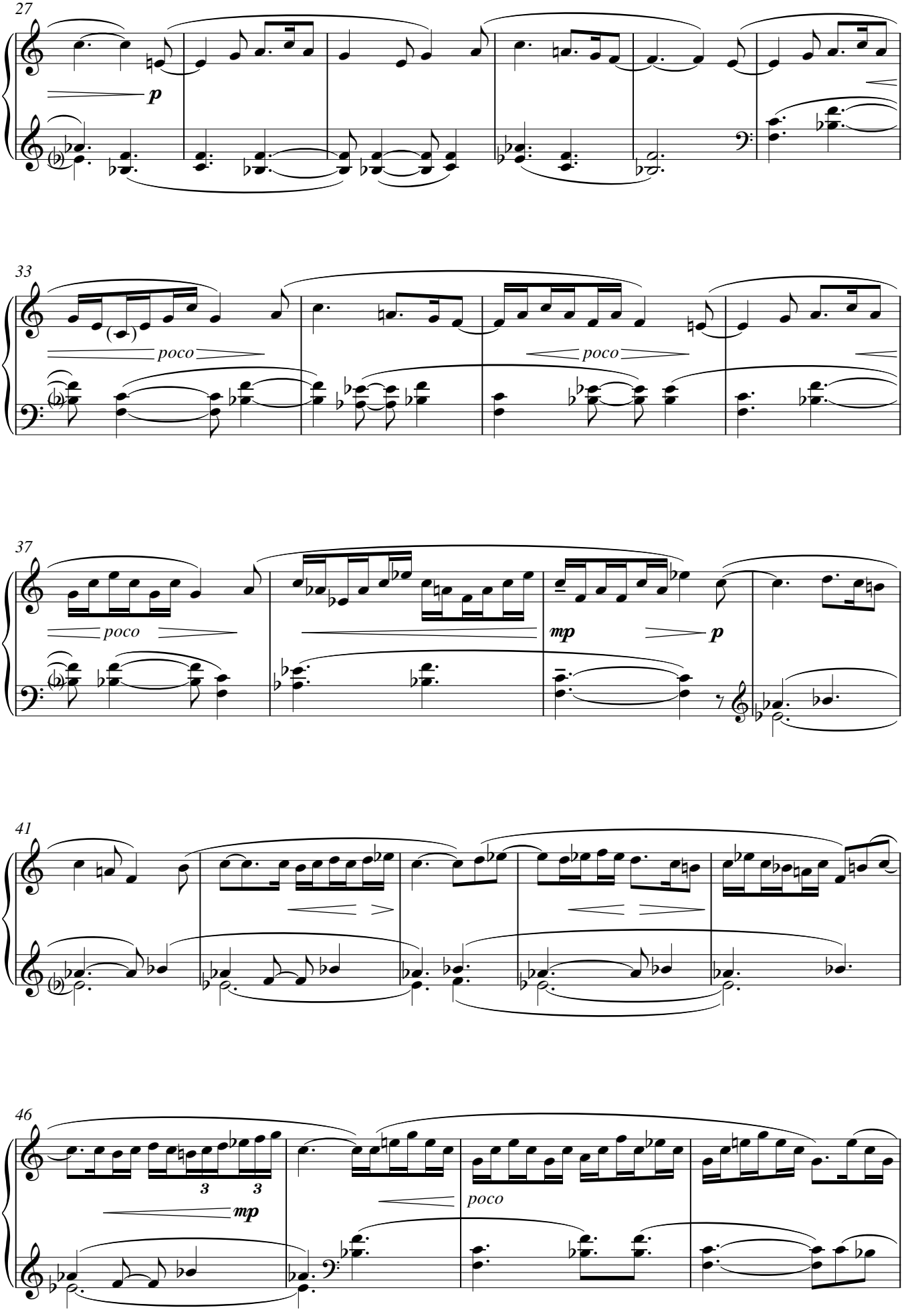

193
...mp cresc.
198
203
...mf cresc.
208
...f cresc.
213

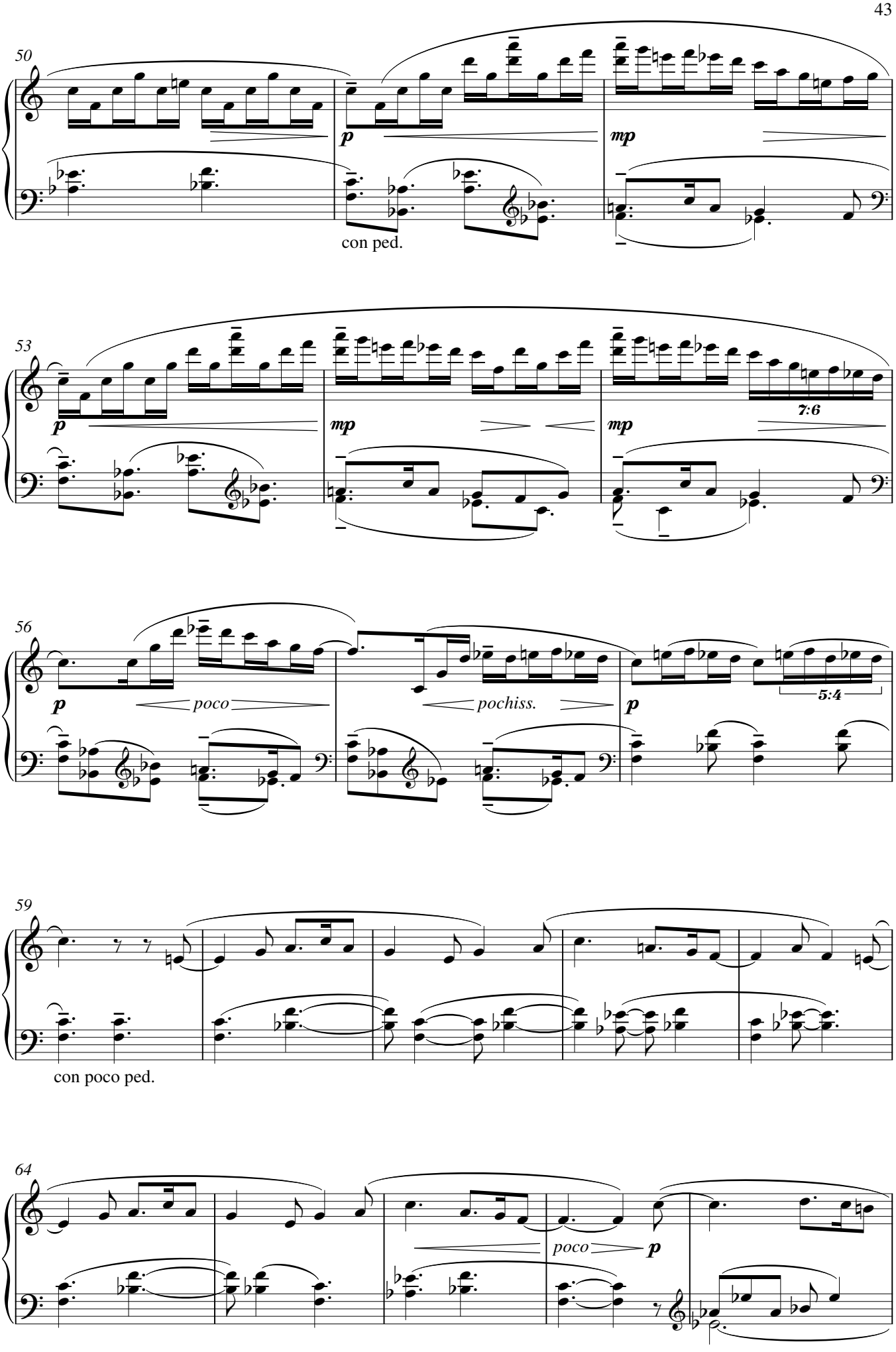

(♩ = ♪) (♩. = 66)
8va
217
ff
più ff
sempre senza ped.
(8)
loco
220
ff
più ff
223
più ff
ff
ff
sffz
ff
ff
226
8va
loco
sffz
poco a poco più ped.

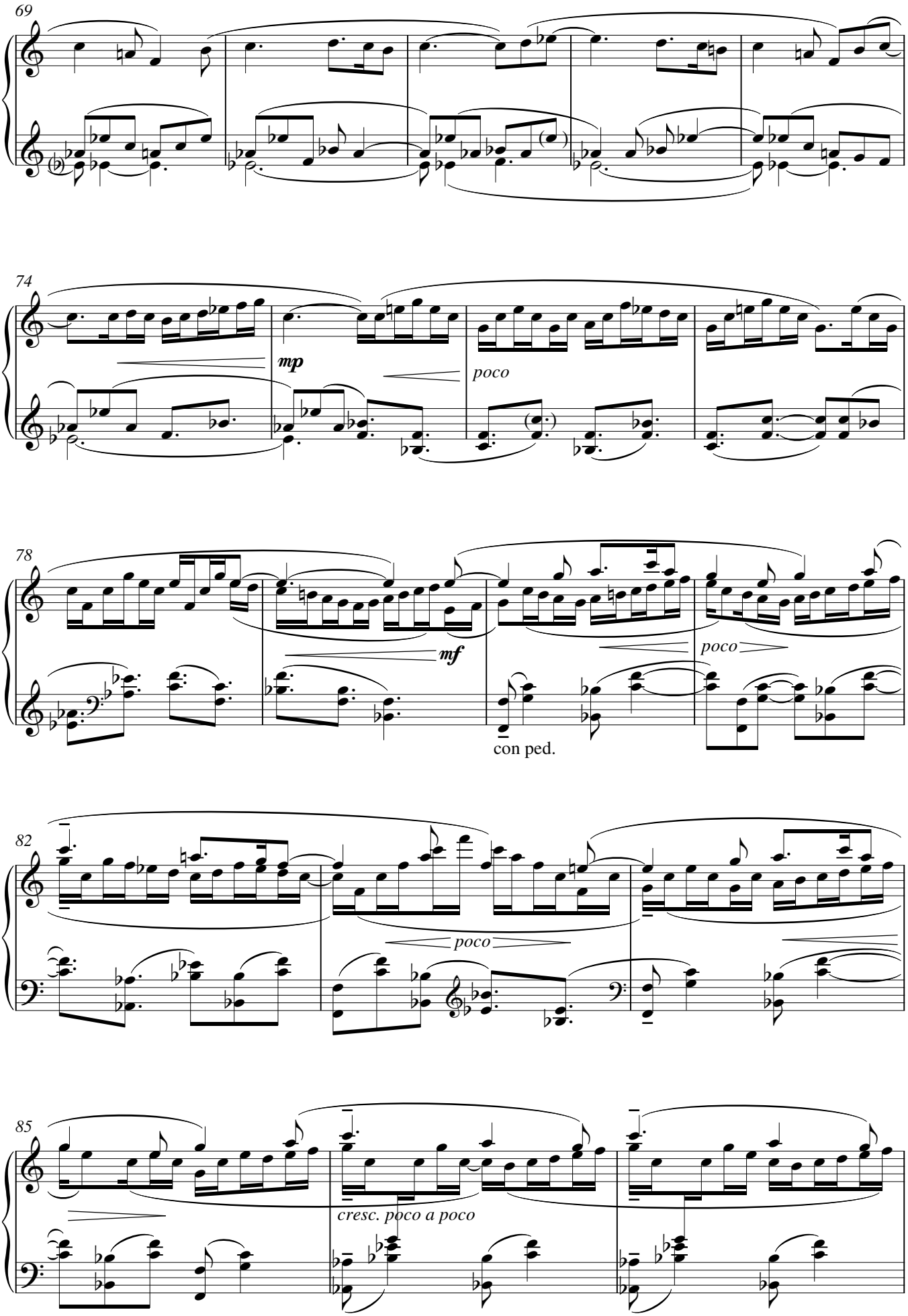

229
accel.
sffz
sffz f cresc.
con ped.
232
(♩. = 84) rit.
(♩. = 44)
♩ = ♩. (♩. = 132)
235
sffz
ff
239
243

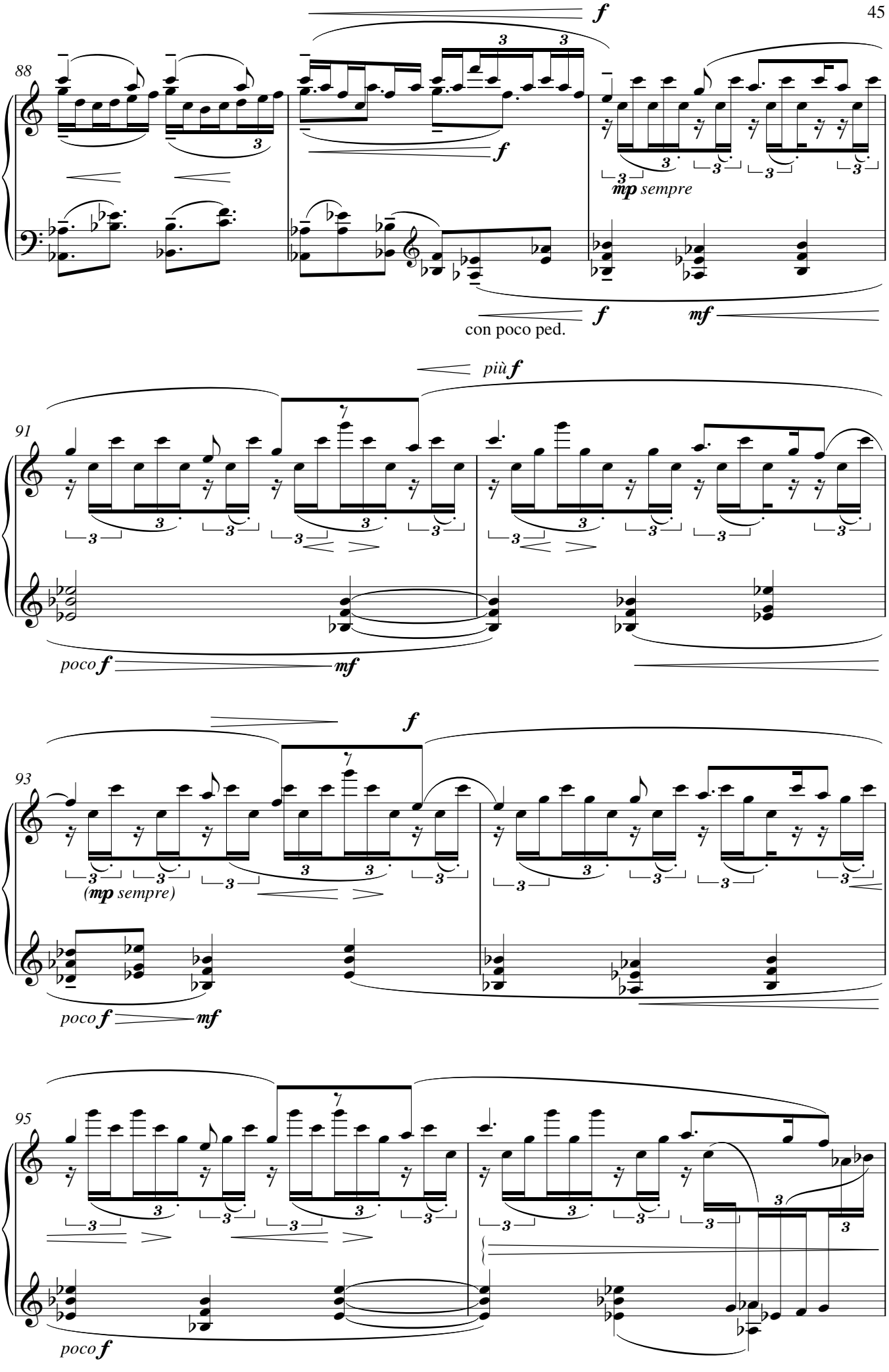
Ballade No. 4

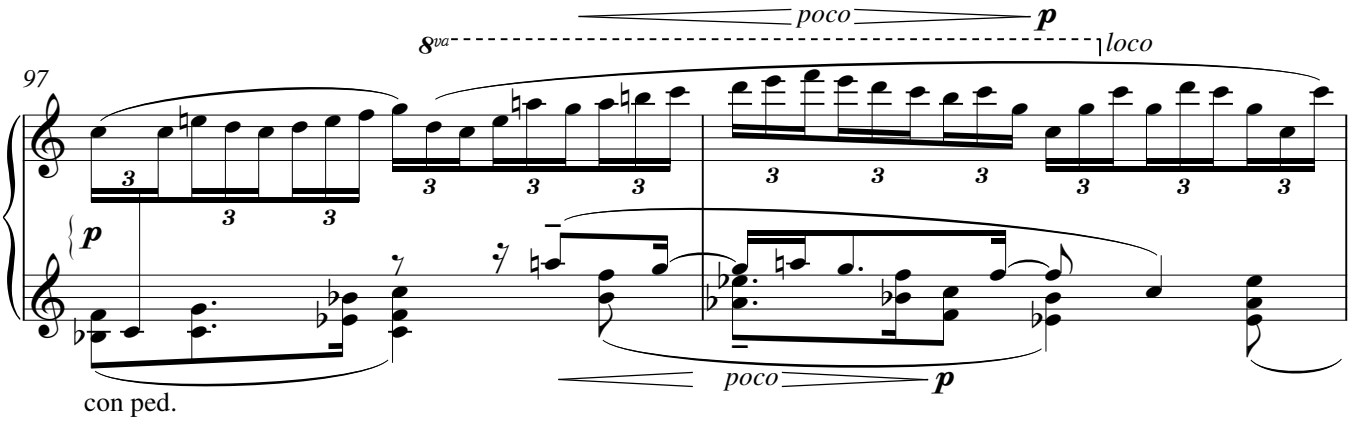


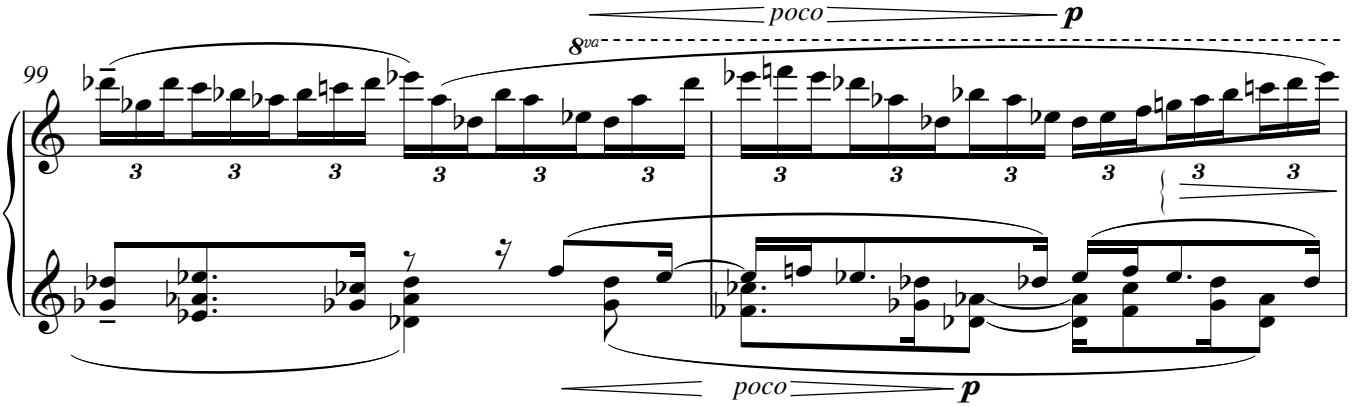

27
p
33
poco
poco
37
poco
mp
p
41
46
3
3
mp
poco

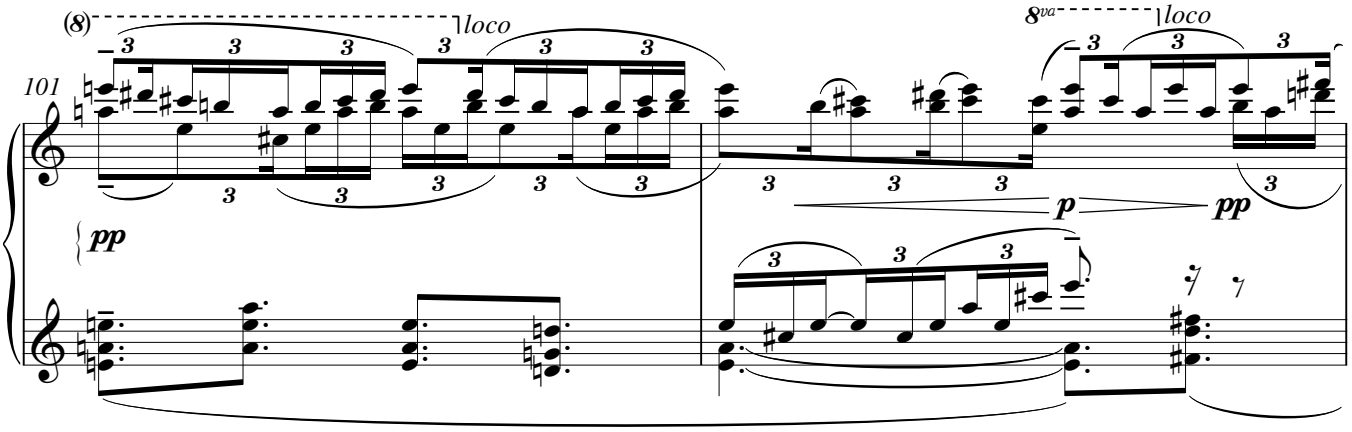

50
p
mp
con ped.
53
p
mp
mp
7:6
56
p
poco
pochiss.
p
5:4
59
con poco ped.
64
poco
p

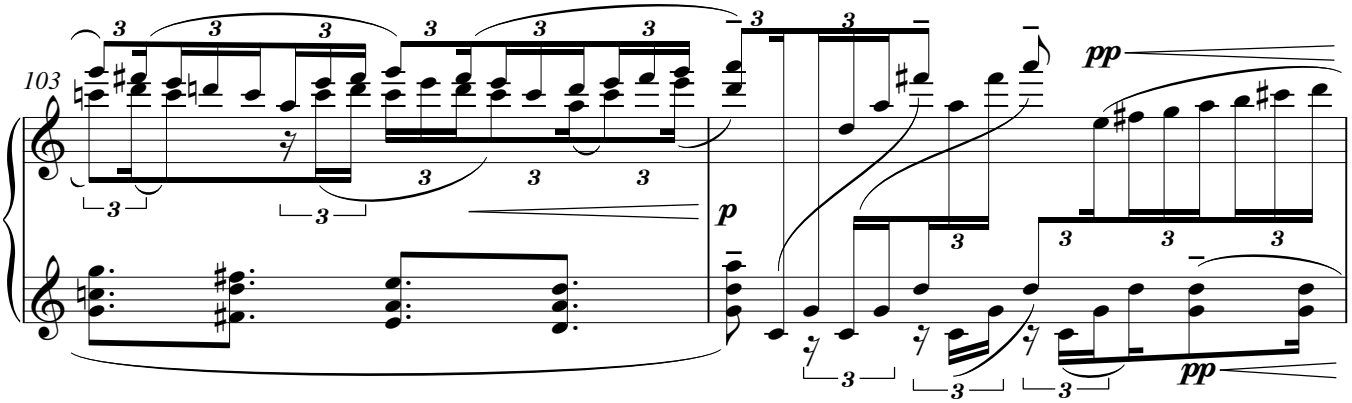

69
74
mp
poco
78
mf
poco
con ped.
82
poco
85
cresc. poco a poco

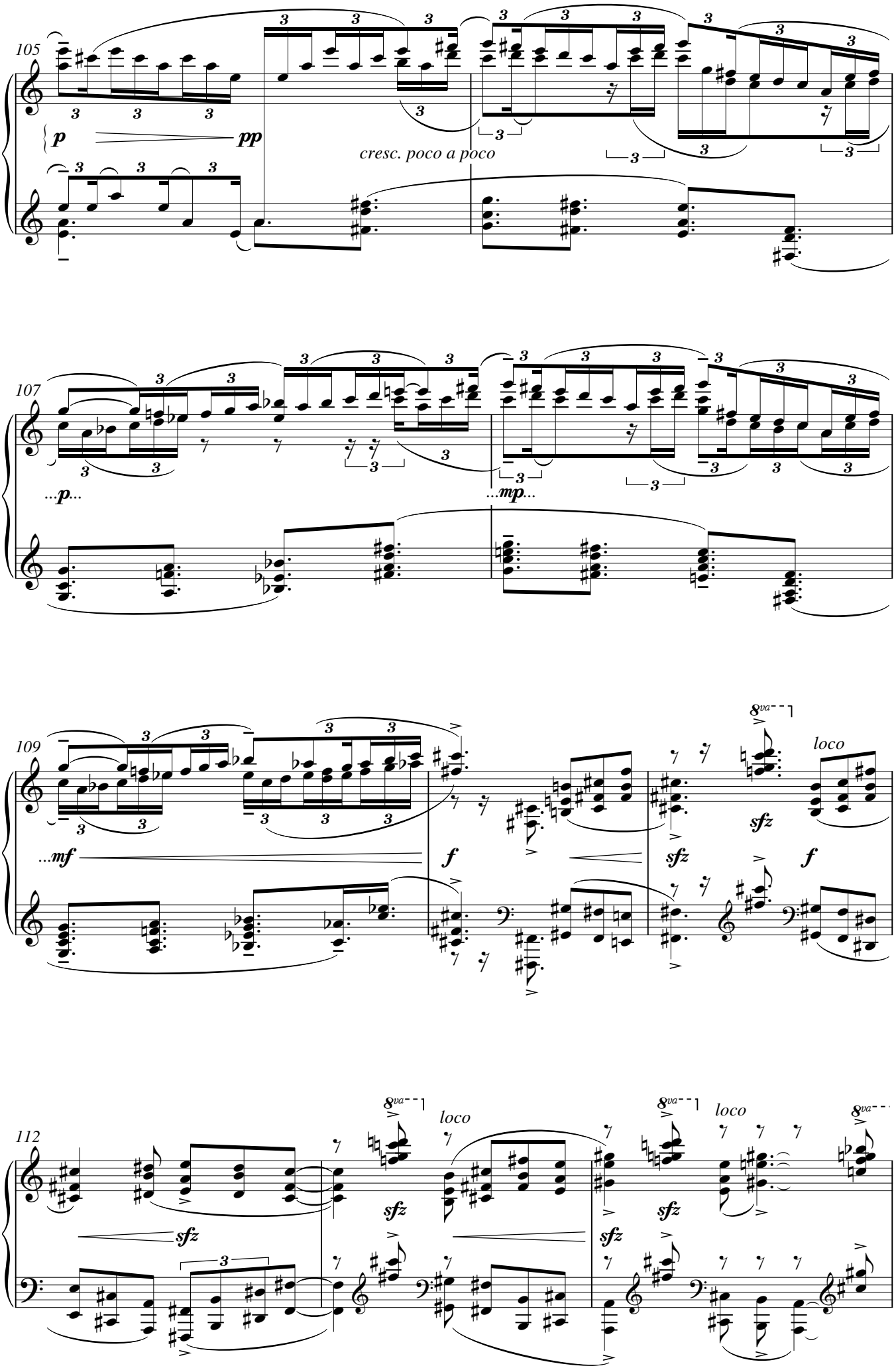

88
f
f
mp sempre
f
mf
con poco ped.
91
più f
poco f
mf
93
f
(mp sempre)
poco f
mf
95
poco f

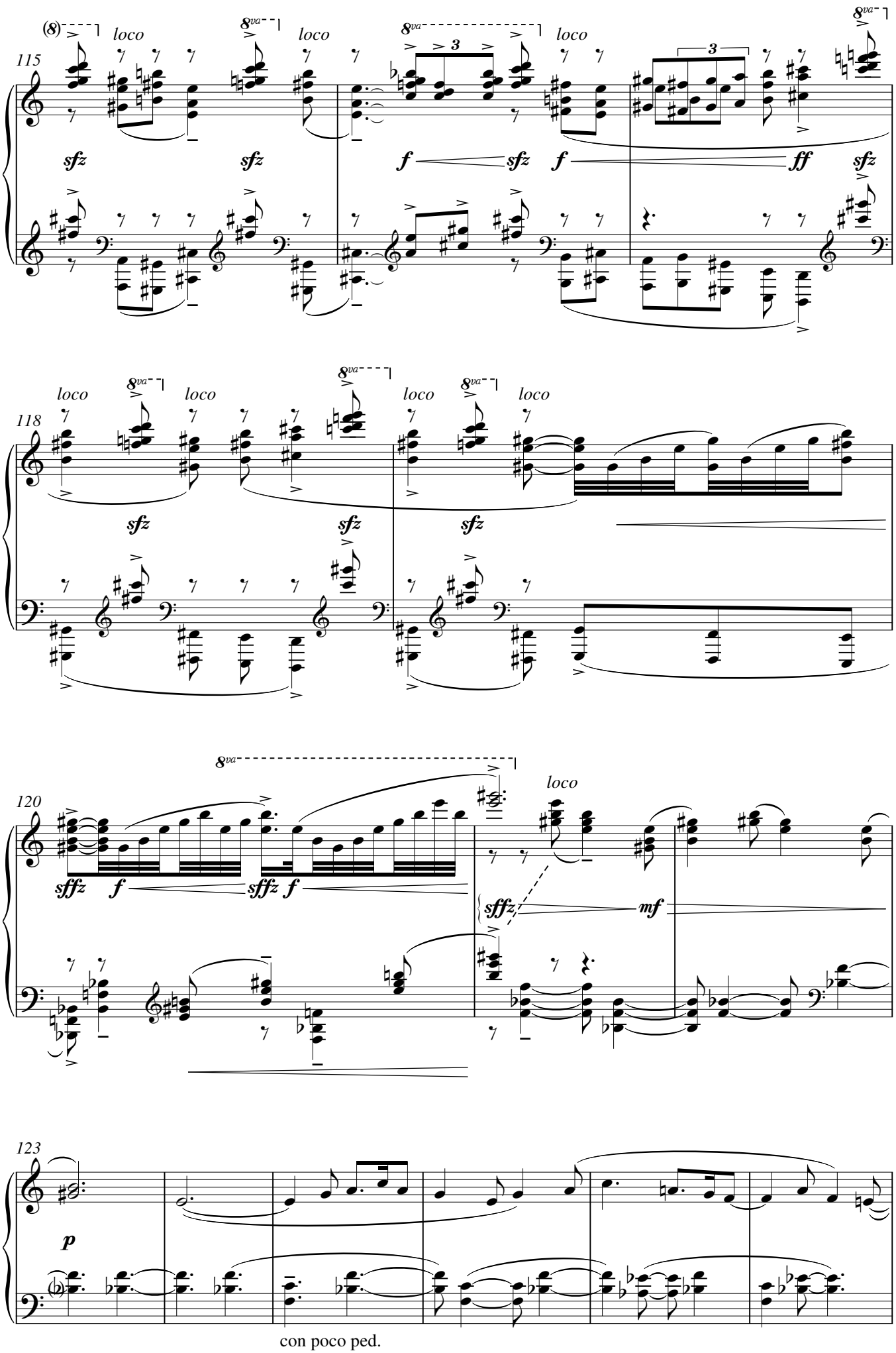

poco
p
8va
loco
97
p
poco
p
con ped.

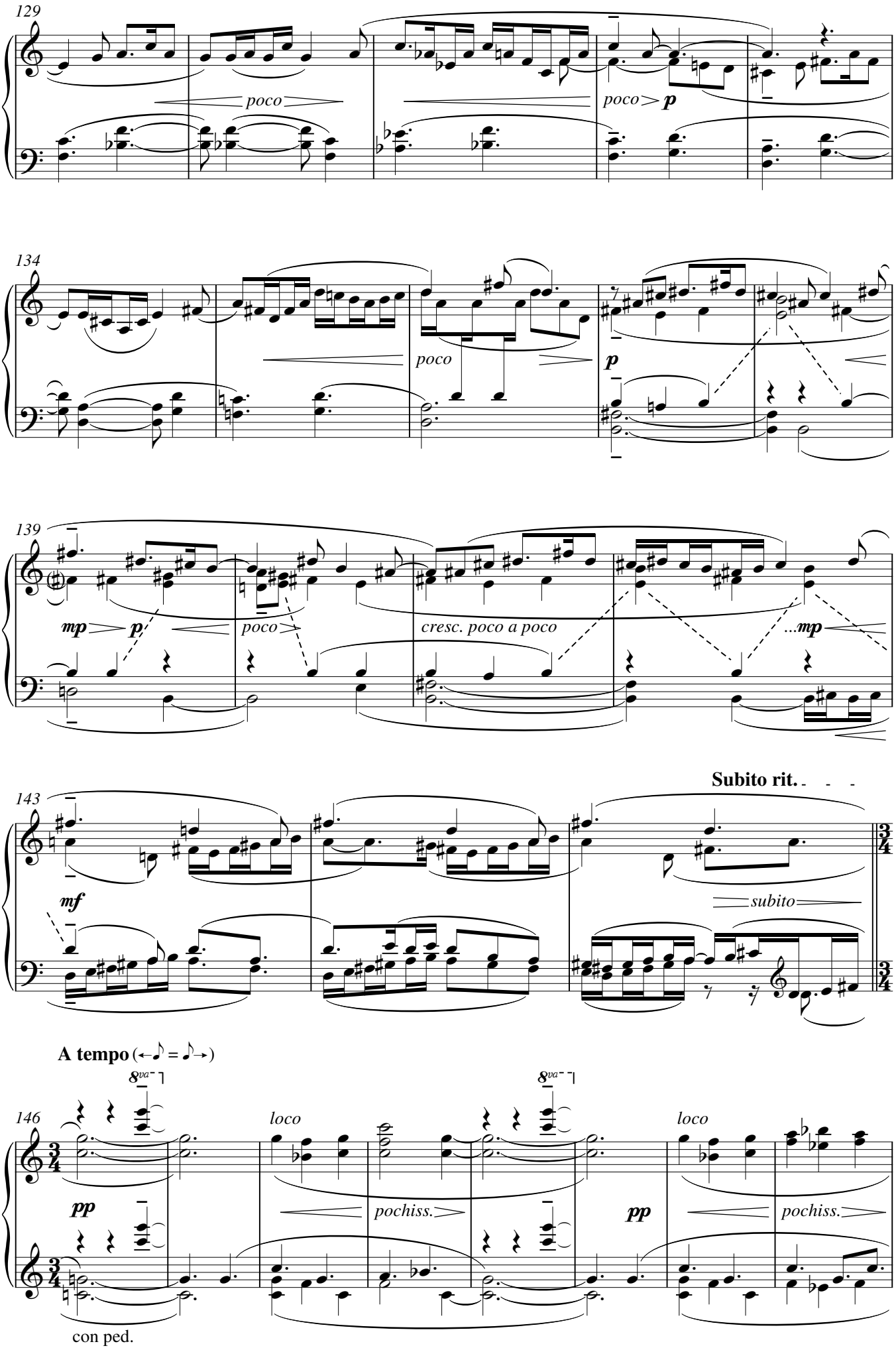

poco
p
8va
99
poco
p

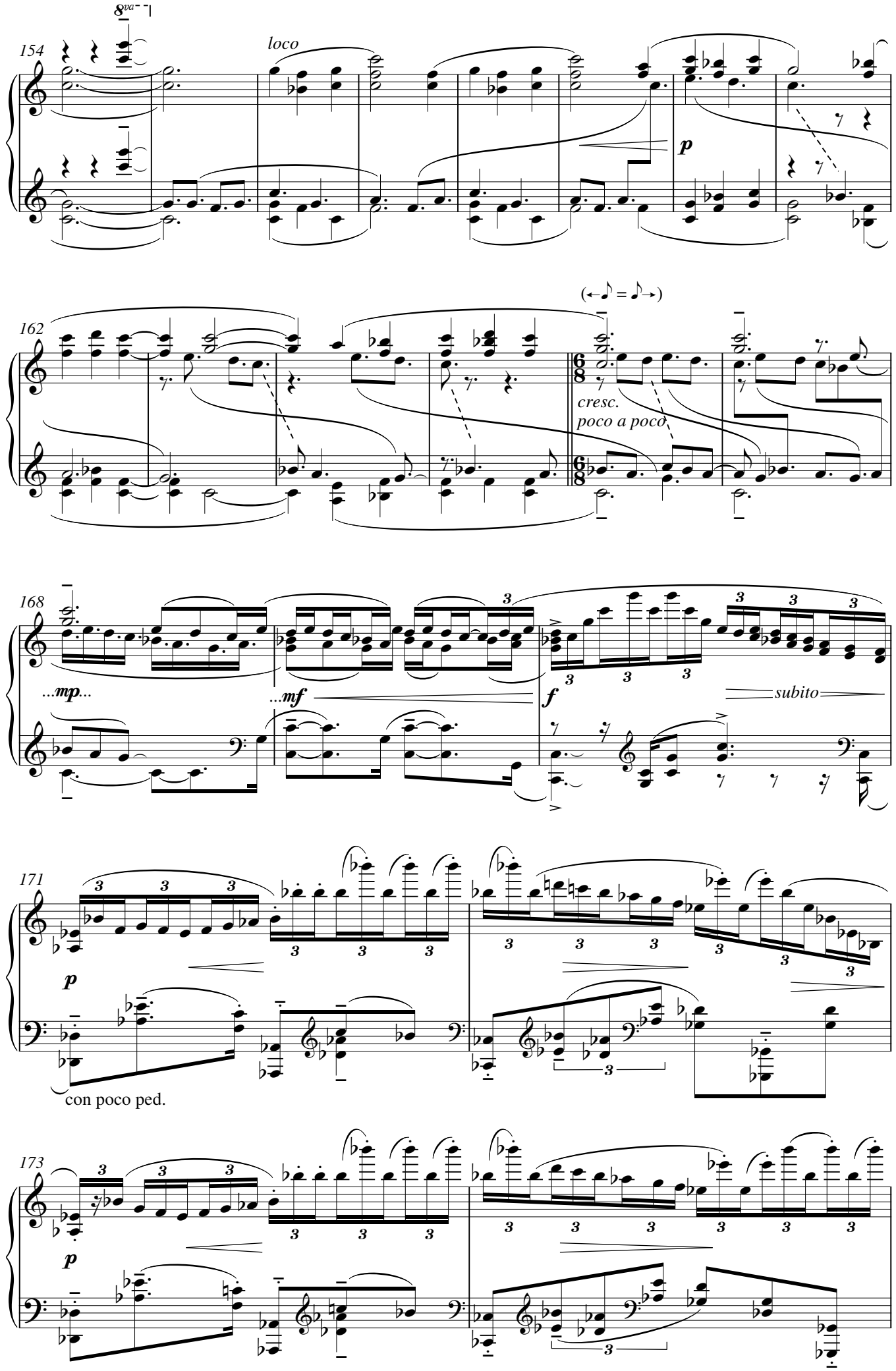

(8)
loco
8va
loco
101
pp
p
pp

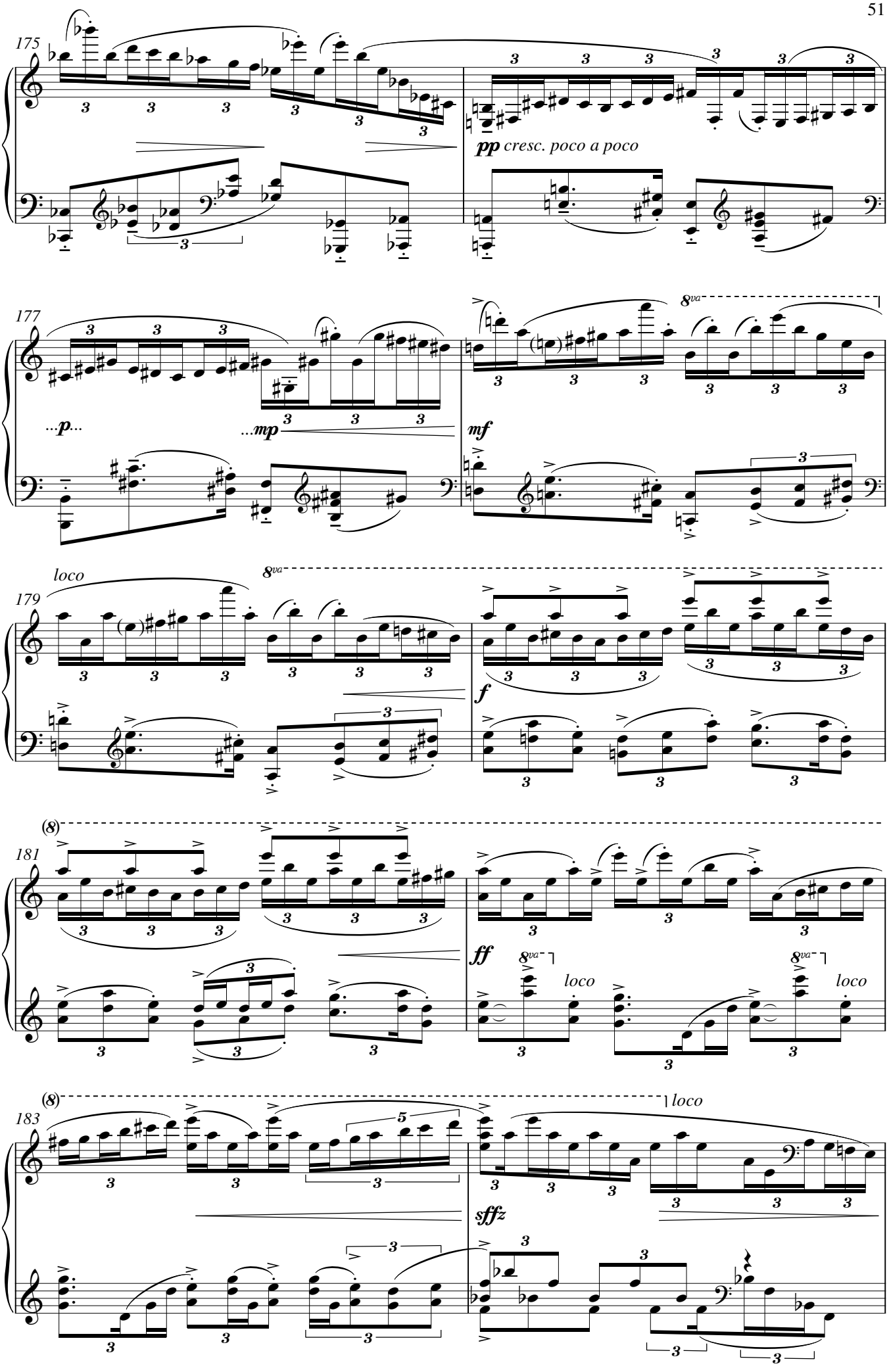

103
p
pp
pp

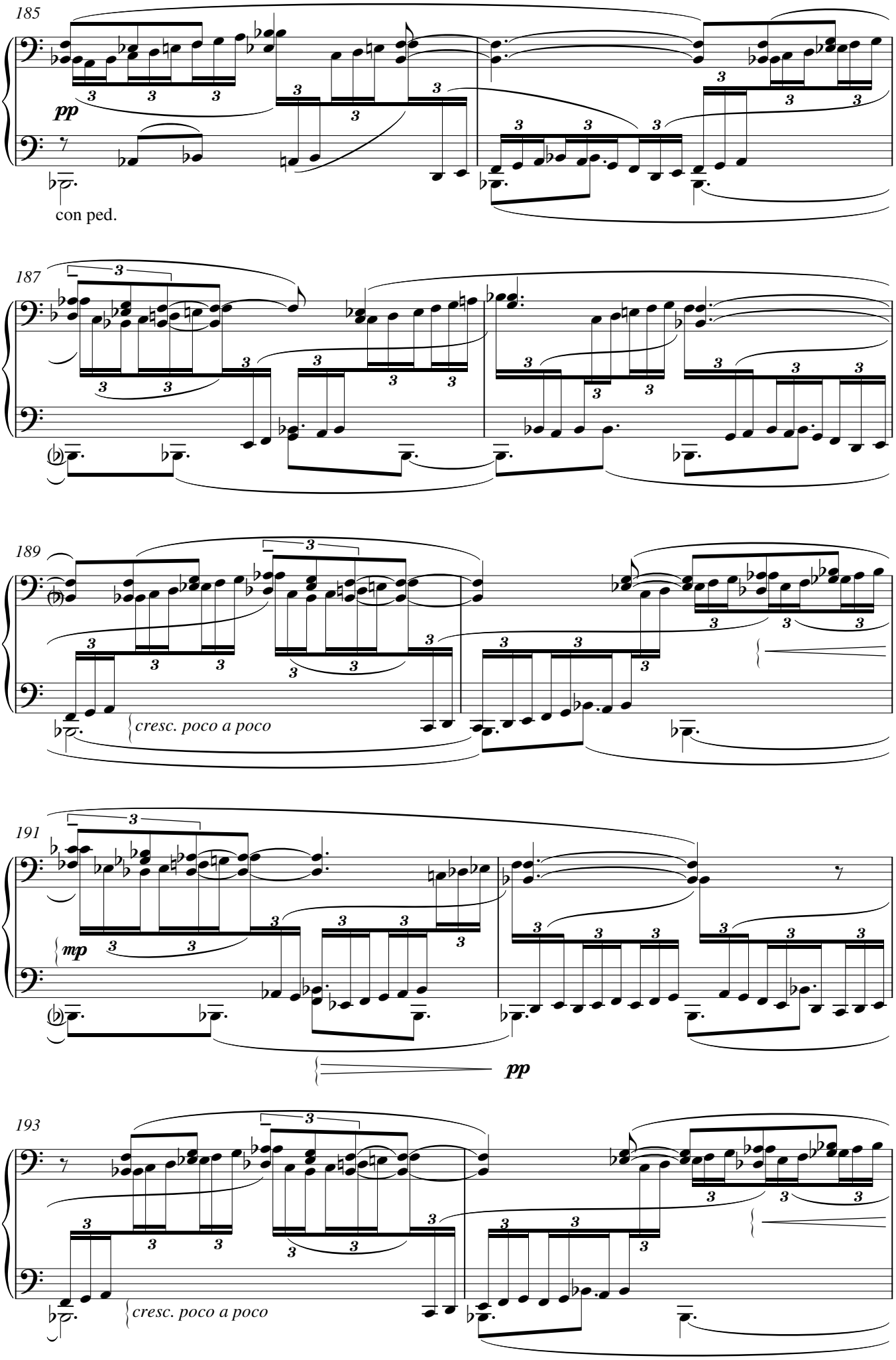

105
p
pp
cresc. poco a poco
107
...p...
...mp...
109
...mf
f
sfz
loco
8va
112
sfz

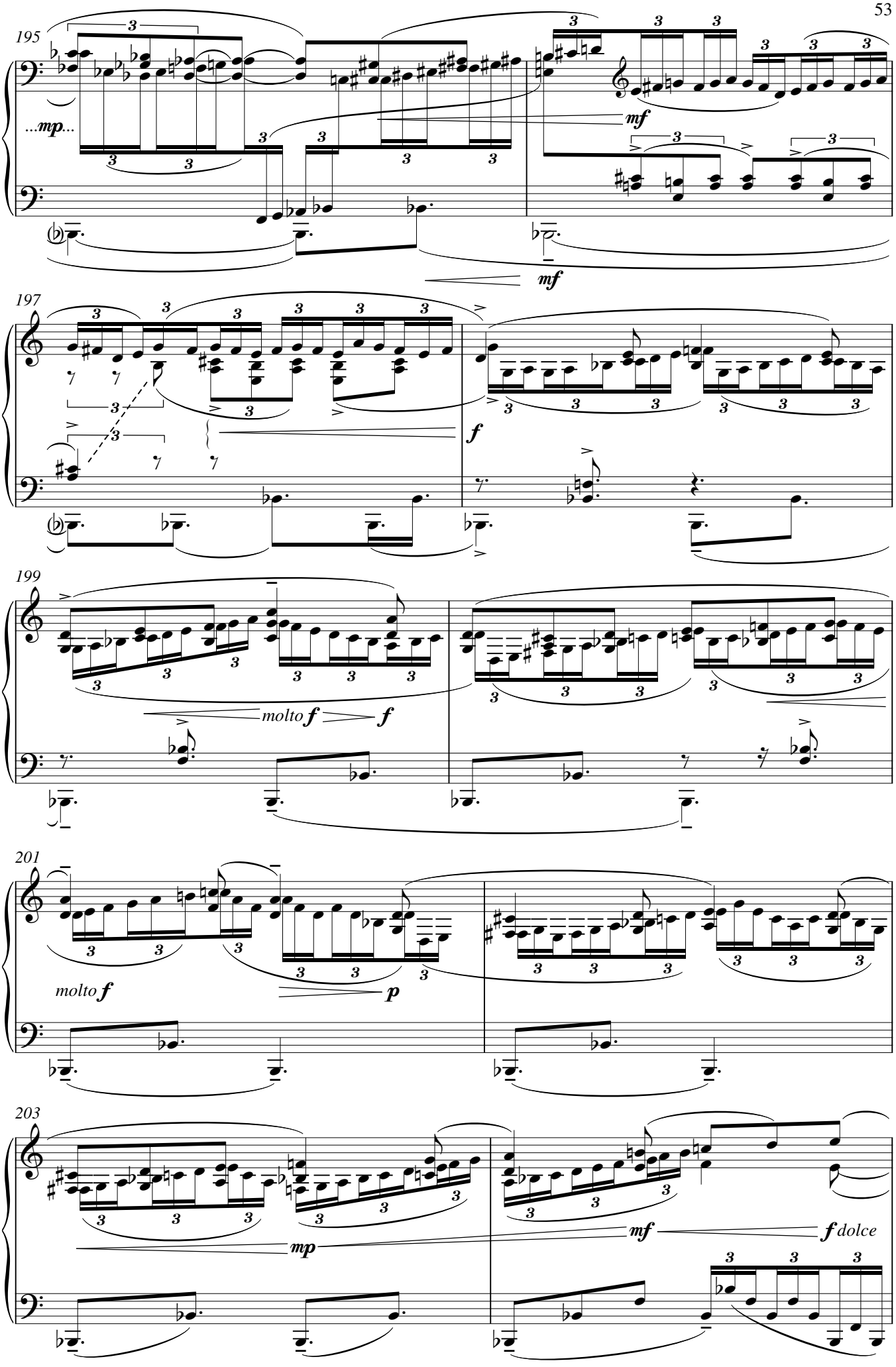

115
118
120
123
loco
sfz
f
ff
sffz
mf
p
con poco ped.

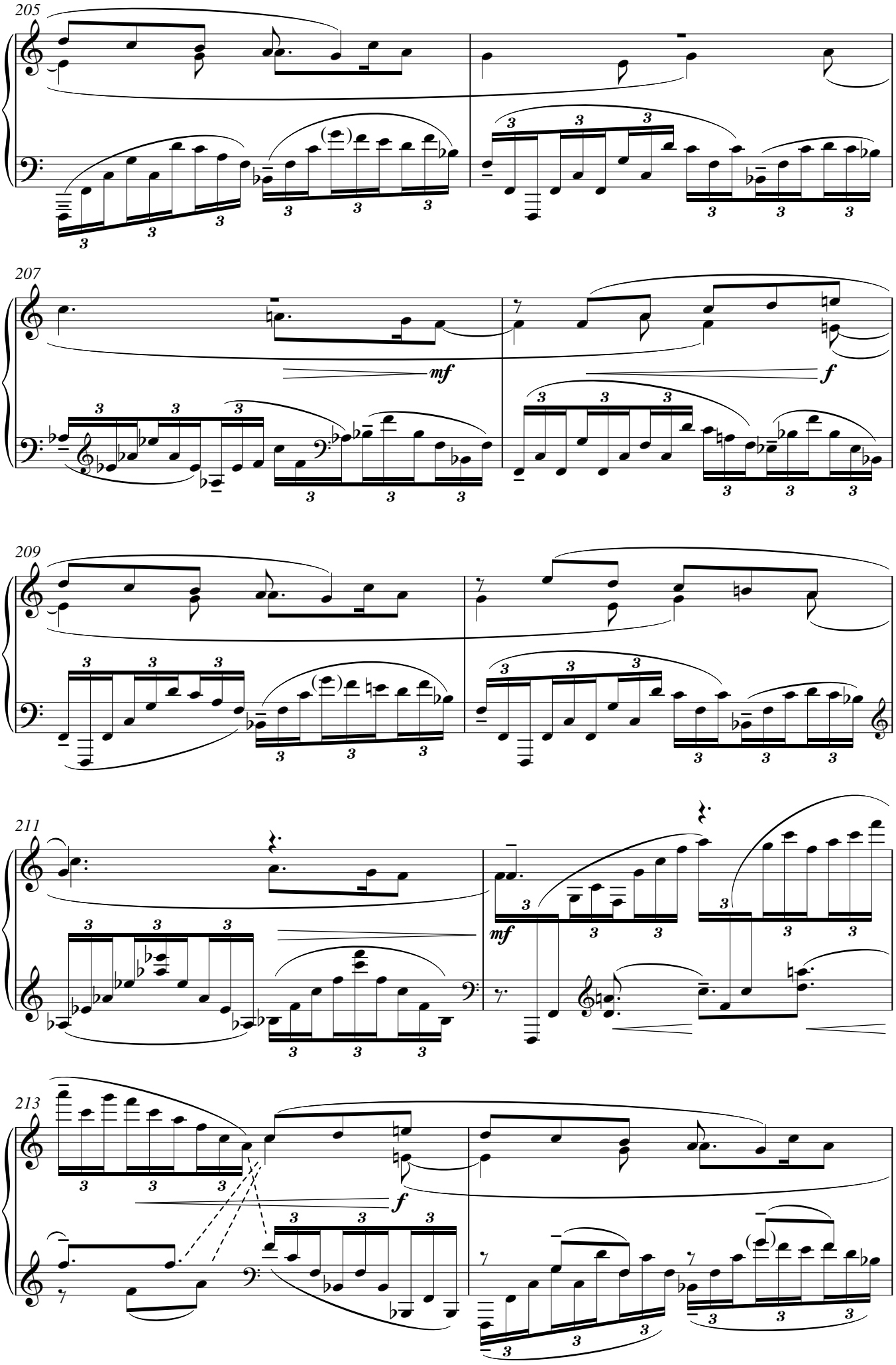

129
poco
poco
p
134
poco
p
139
mp
p
poco
cresc. poco a poco
...mp
143
Subito rit.
mf
subito
A tempo
146
8va
loco
pp
pochiss.
pp
pochiss.
con ped.

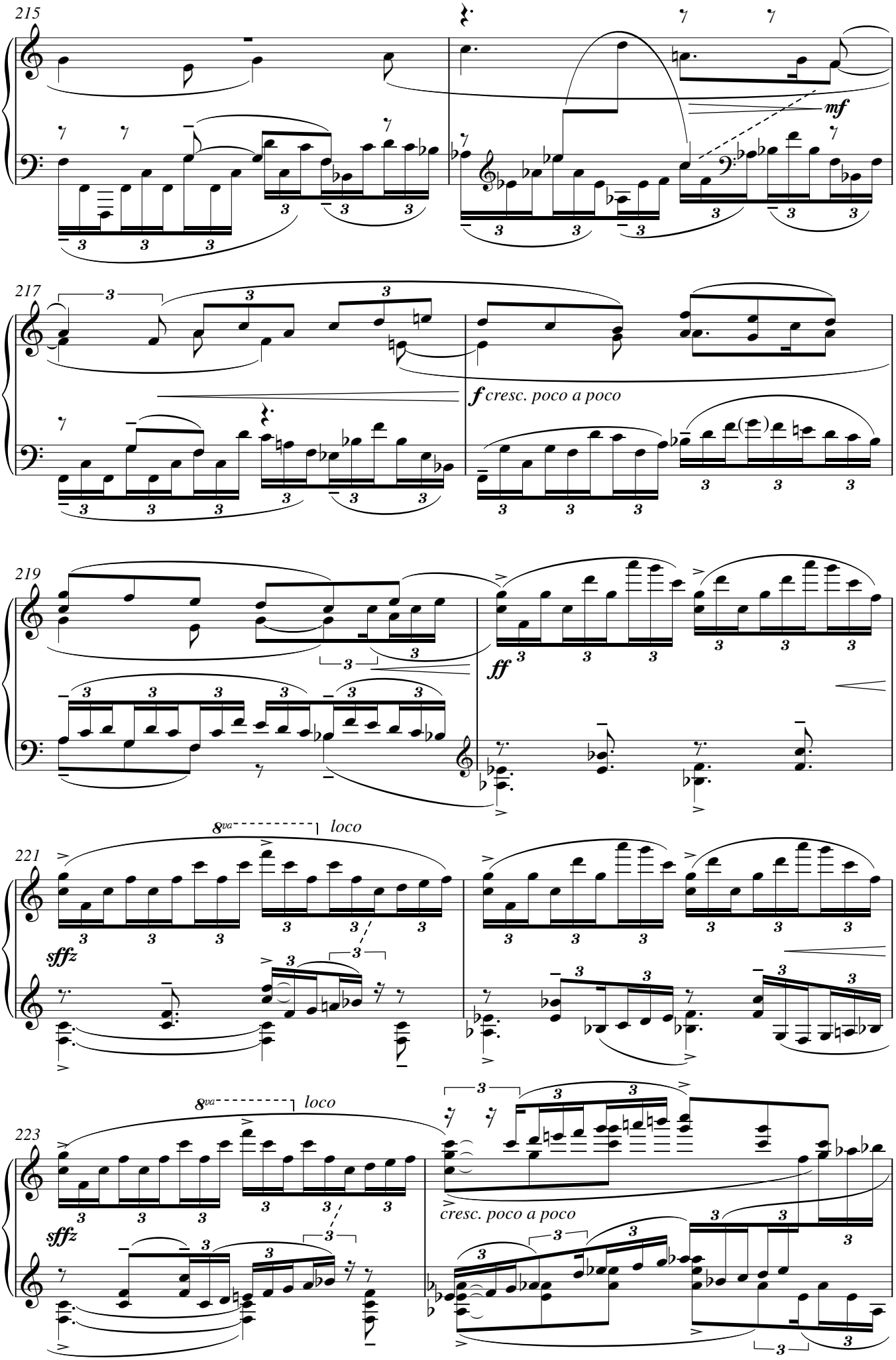

8va
154
loco
p
162
(♩ = ♪)
cresc.
poco a poco
168
...mp...
...mf
f
subito
171
p
con poco ped.
173
p

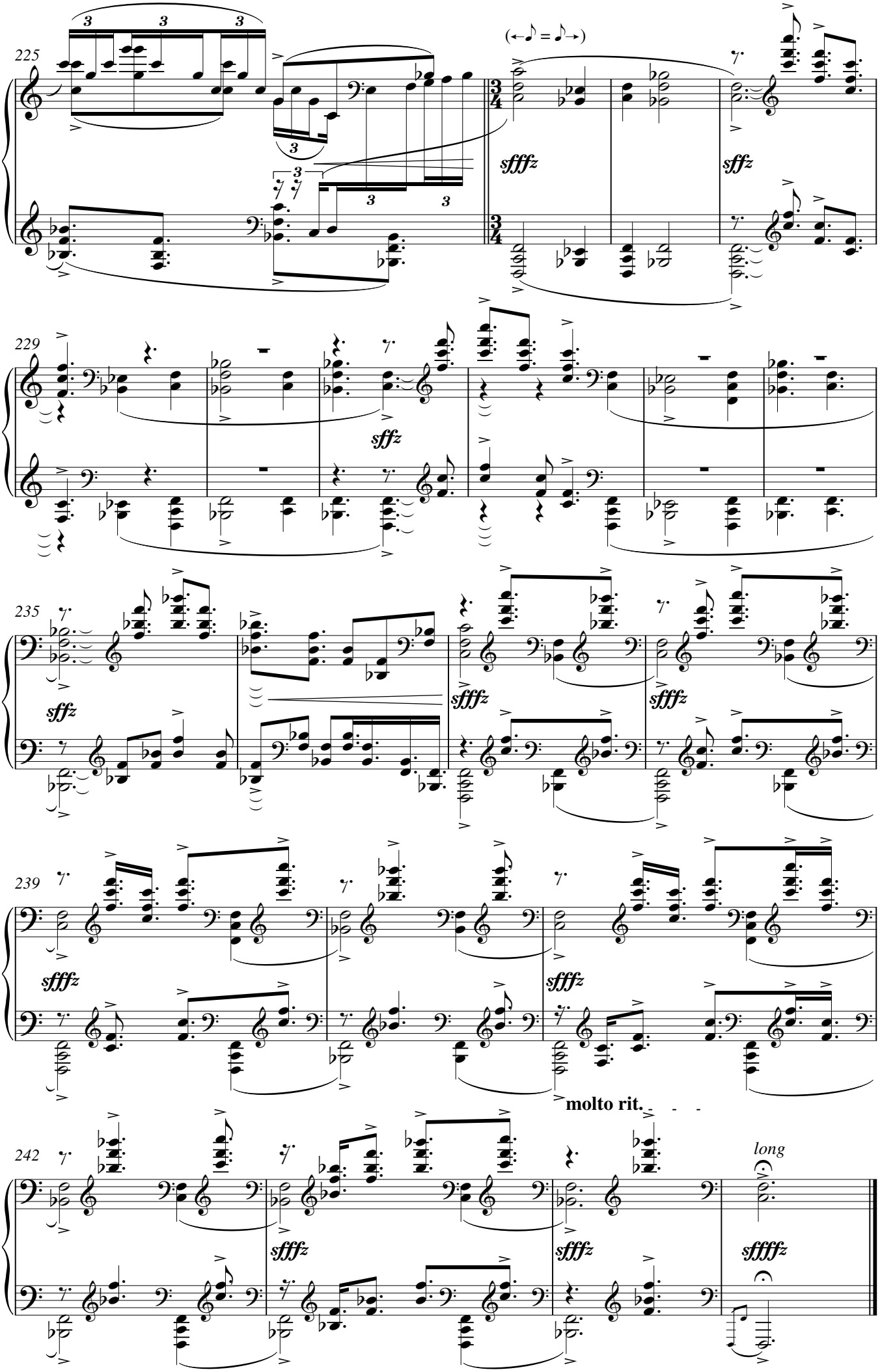

175
pp cresc. poco a poco
177
...p...
...mp
mf
179
loco
8va
f
181
(8)
ff
8va
loco
183
(8)
loco
sffz


185
pp
con ped.
187
189
cresc. poco a poco
191
mp
pp
193
cresc. poco a poco


195
...mp...
mf
mf
197
f
199
molto f
f
201
molto f
p
203
mp
mf
f dolce


205
207
mf
f
209
211
mf
213
f


215
mf
217
f cresc. poco a poco
219
ff
221
8va loco
sffz
223
8va loco
sffz
cresc. poco a poco


225
(←♪ = ♪→)
sfffz
sffz
229
sffz
235
sffz
sfffz
sfffz
239
sfffz
sfffz
molto rit.
242
long
sfffz
sfffz
sfffz