Mozart's Twelve-tone Row

for Violin and Piano

early June—July 20, 2014
Duration: about 6 minutes 14 seconds

for Eric Pritchard

Over the last decade I have preferred to write pieces from about 15 to 25 minutes long; this is most suited to the kind of music that I write. In our fast-paced era of minute attention spans, what people want is music of much shorter duration. Almost all composition contests are for very short pieces. With extremely rare exceptions, my music is not being played on other people's concerts, where space is very tight; and longer works require more work to prepare, which is unrealistic for an unknown composer like me to ask of performers. Those who visit my website or YouTube channel usually stay for two or three minutes. Knowing this, I have frequently urged performers to consider playing single movements, but this happens infrequently. As a result I decided to write some short pieces for violin and piano that could be played together for the same effect as a single piece, but which would each stand alone.

The first of these pieces is a modern take on the most dissonant music written by Mozart; the final half of the final movement of his 40th Symphony. This section starts with what is very nearly a twelve-tone row. What I have done here, as I have done several times in the past, is to see what I would do with the key ideas of this piece written in my own style and form. This is by no means an arrangement of the original, but instead is an entirely new work. (Never fear—as I have never written in the twelve-tone style, which I find obnoxious in the extreme, I have not done so here either.)

Accidentals hold through the measure and not beyond, and do not refer to other octaves. Eric Pritchard edited the violin part.

Bill Robinson

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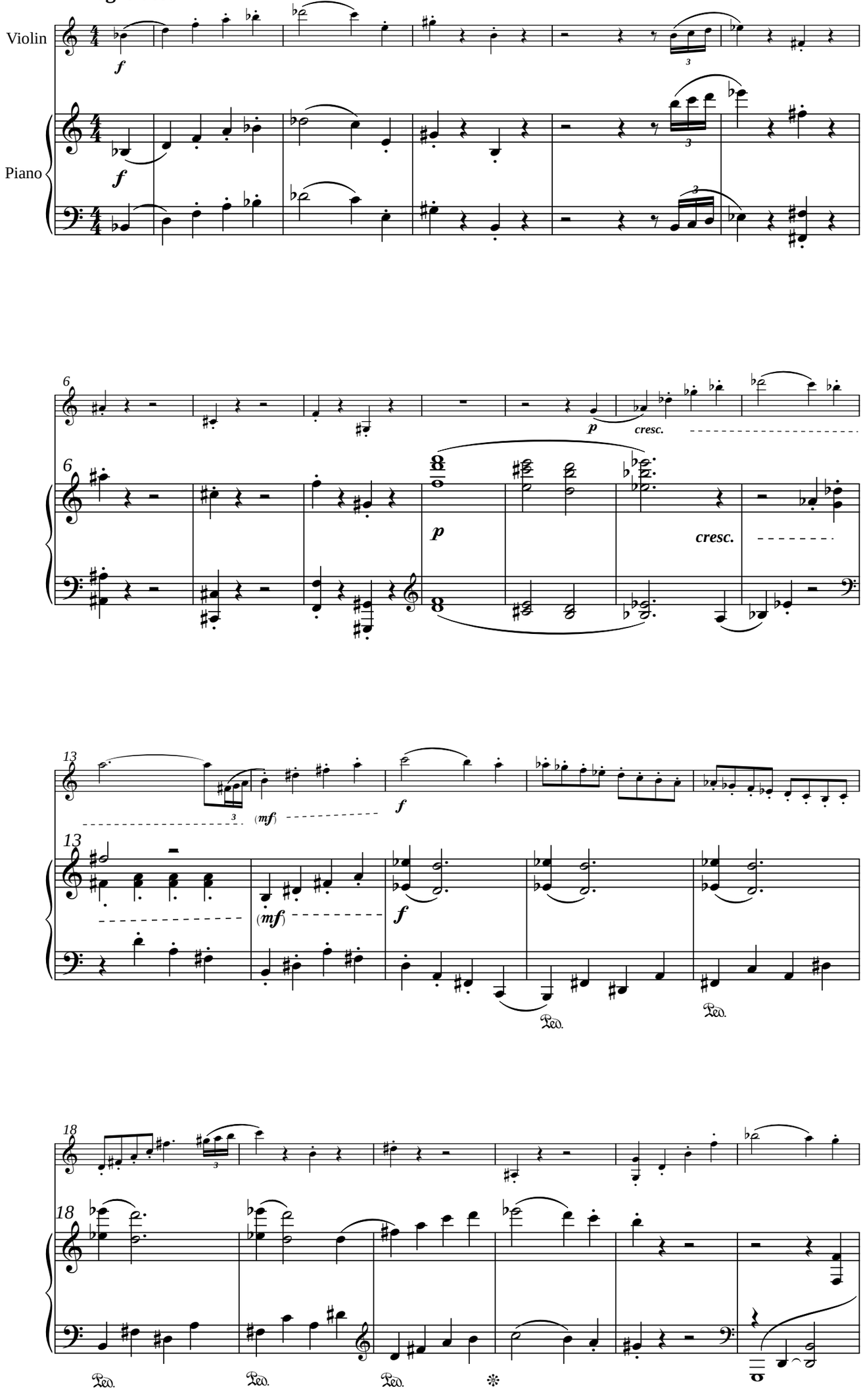
billrobinsonmusic.com

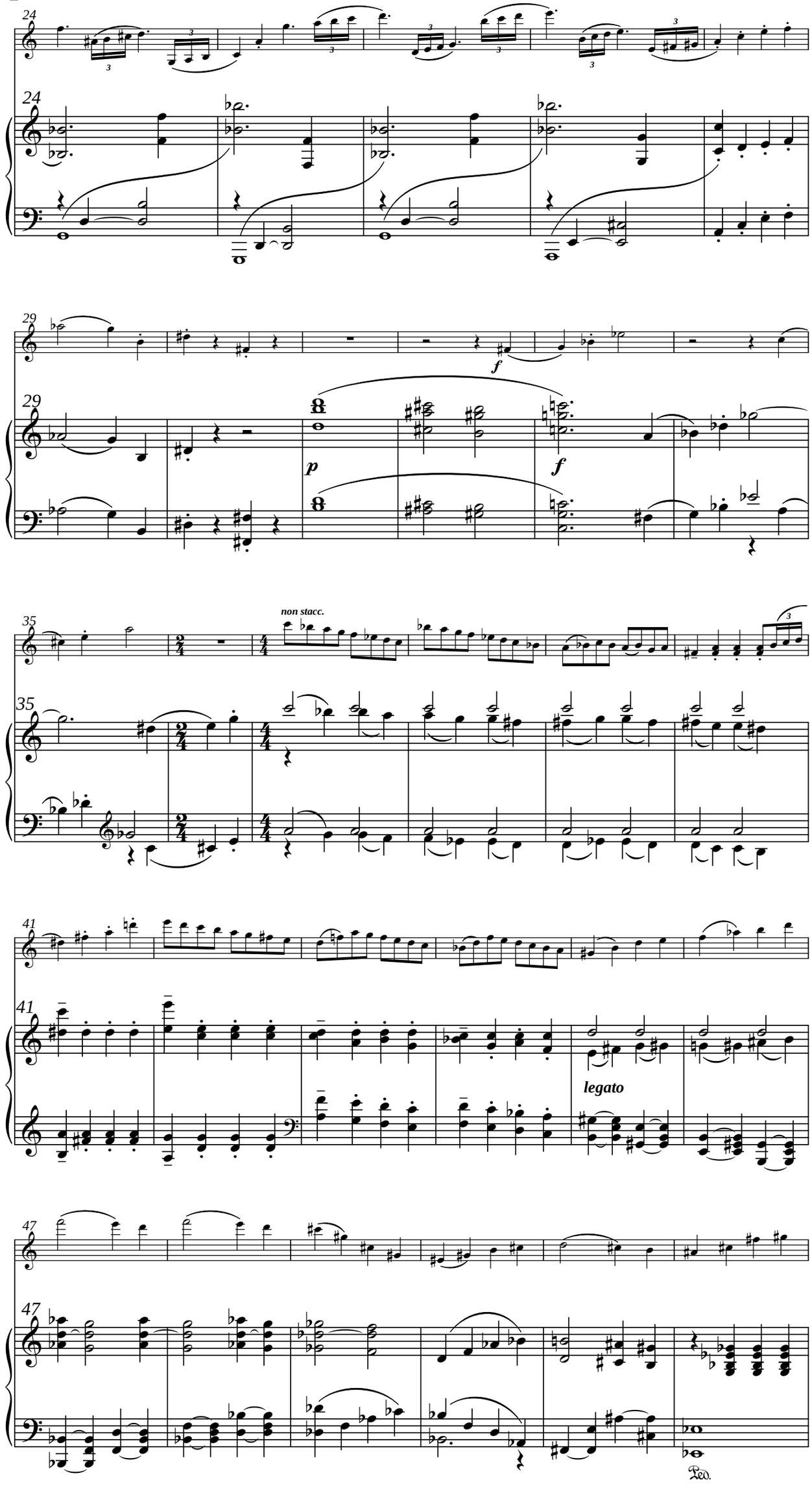
Mozart's Twelve-Tone Row

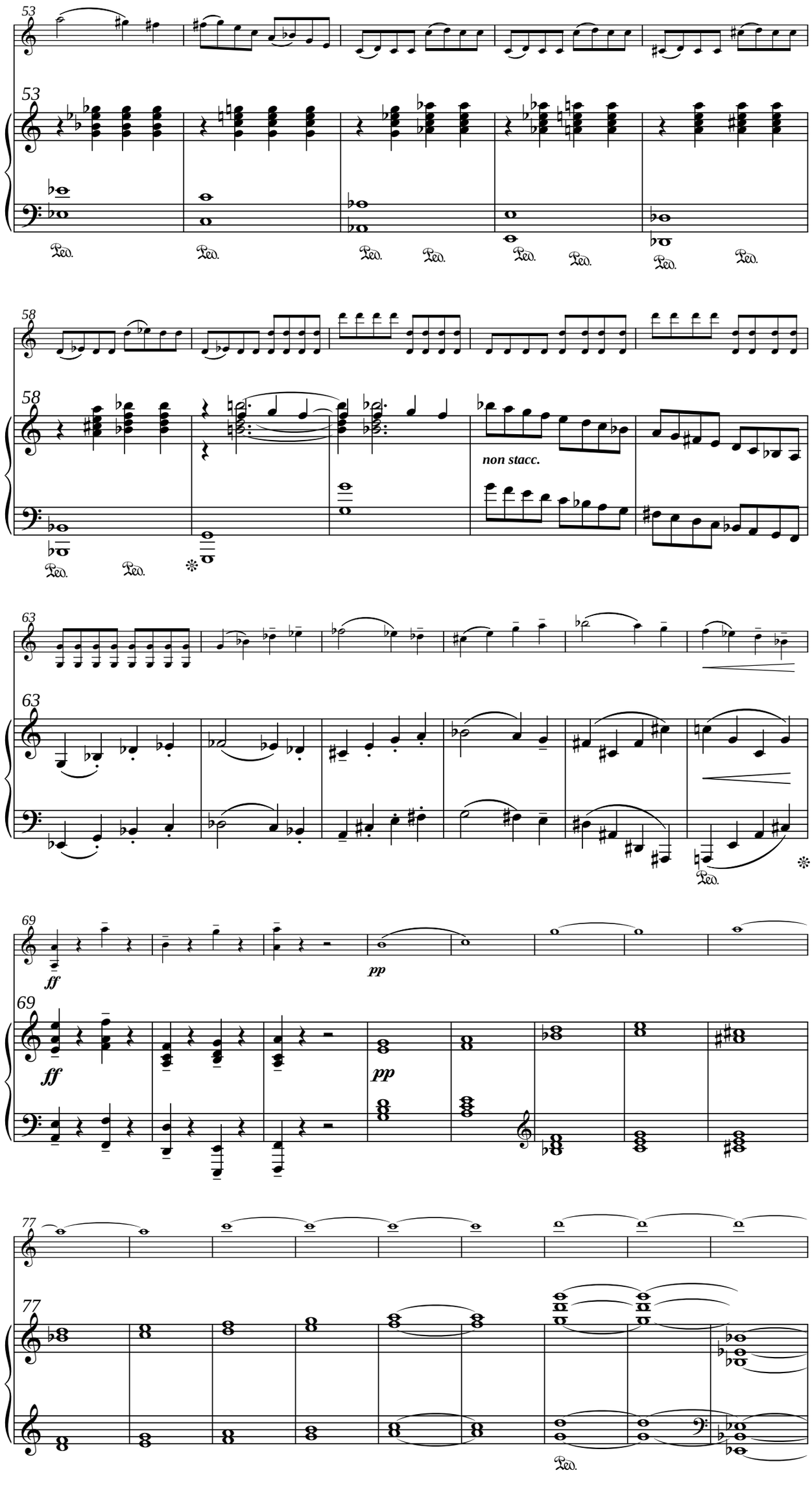
[6:14]

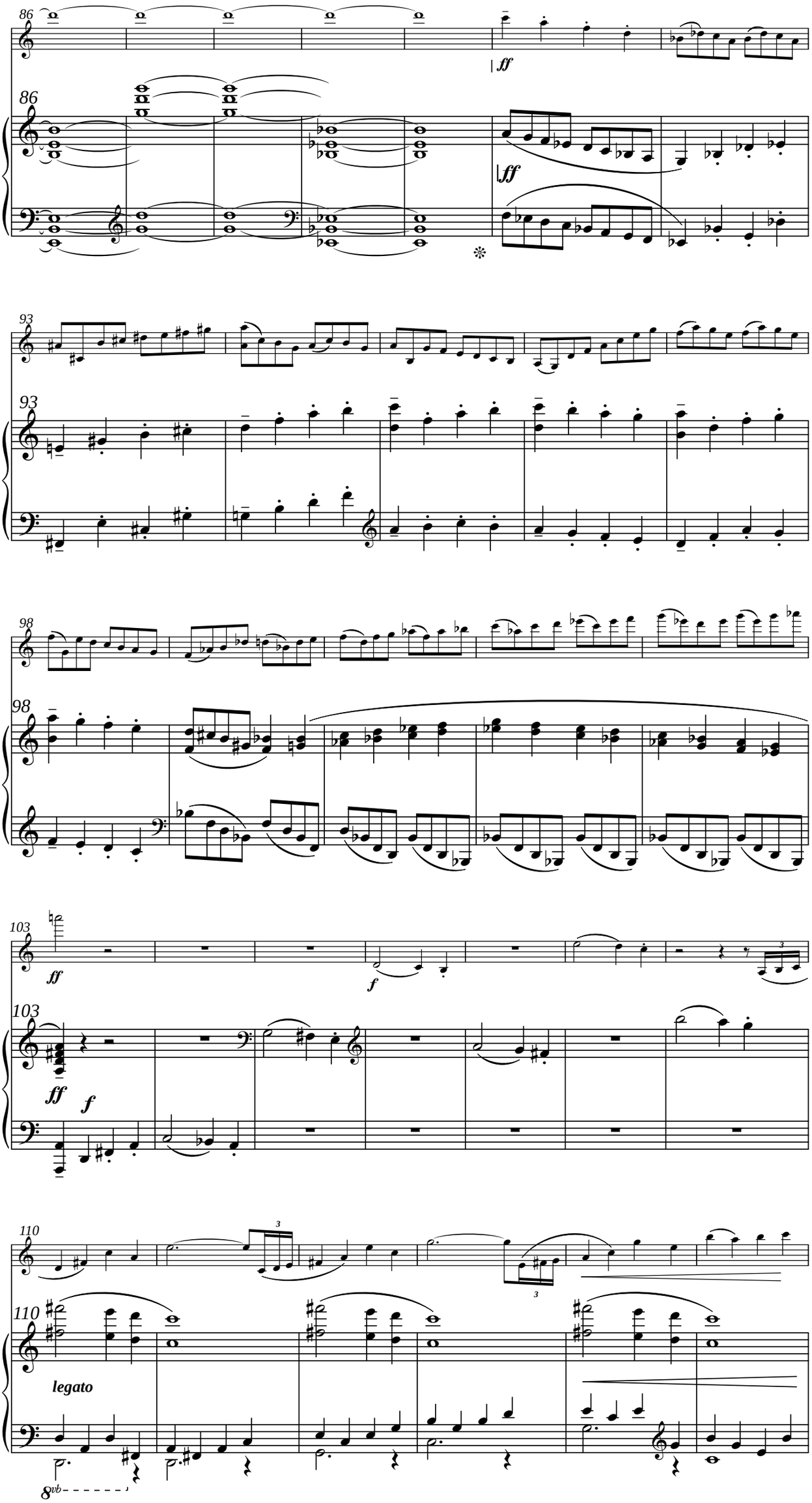
Allegro assai (𝅗𝅥 = 116)

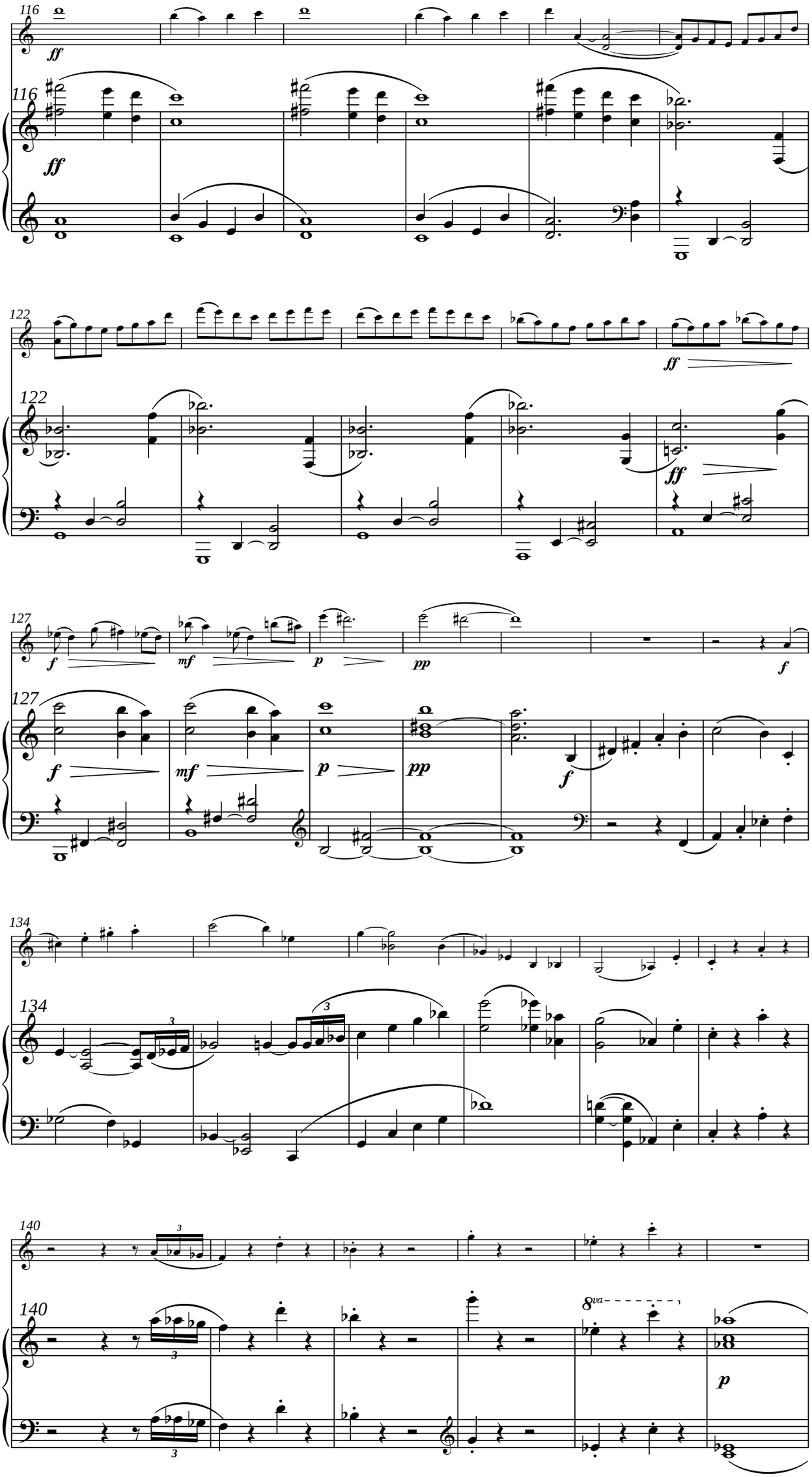
Bill Robinson

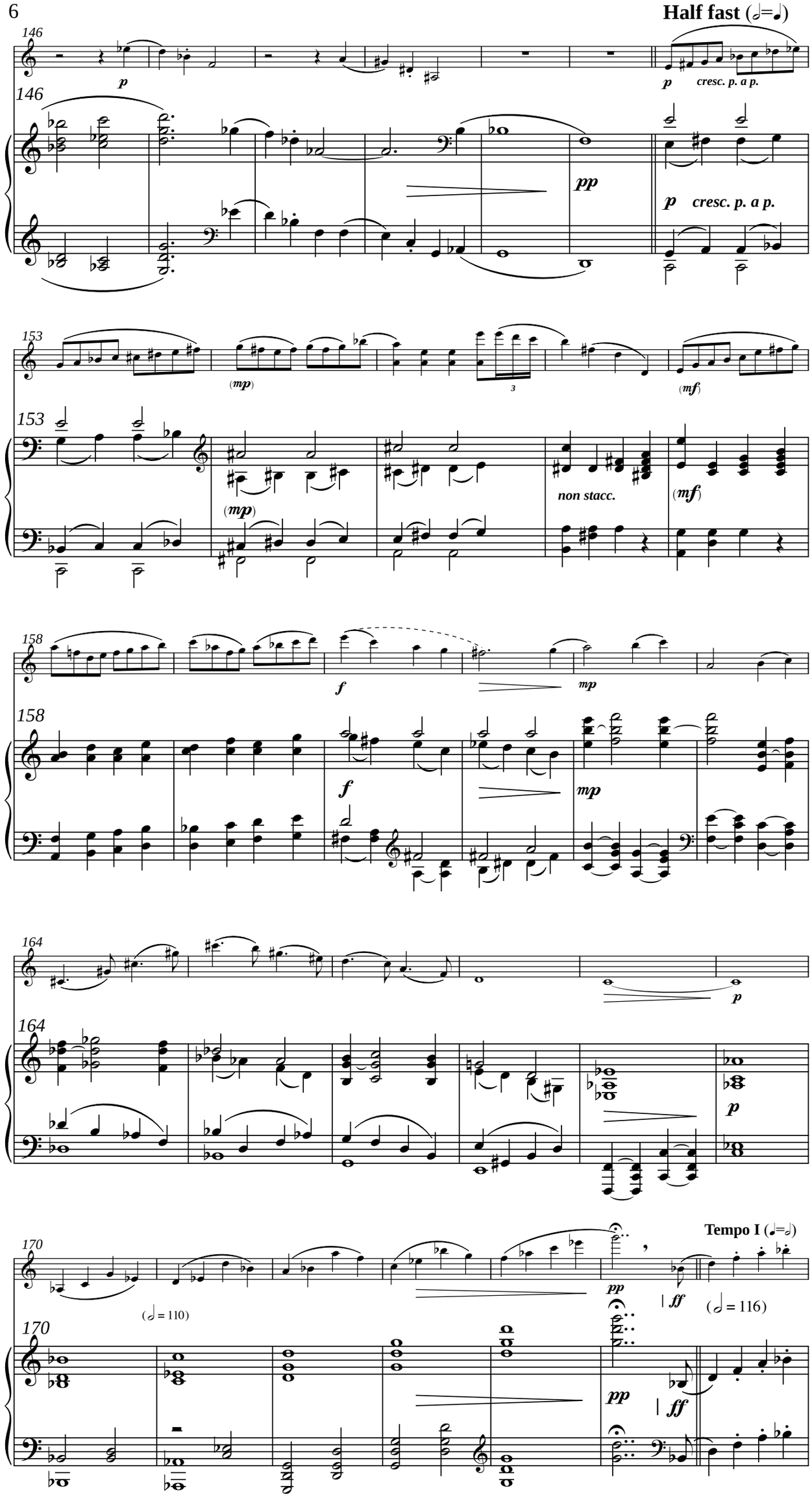


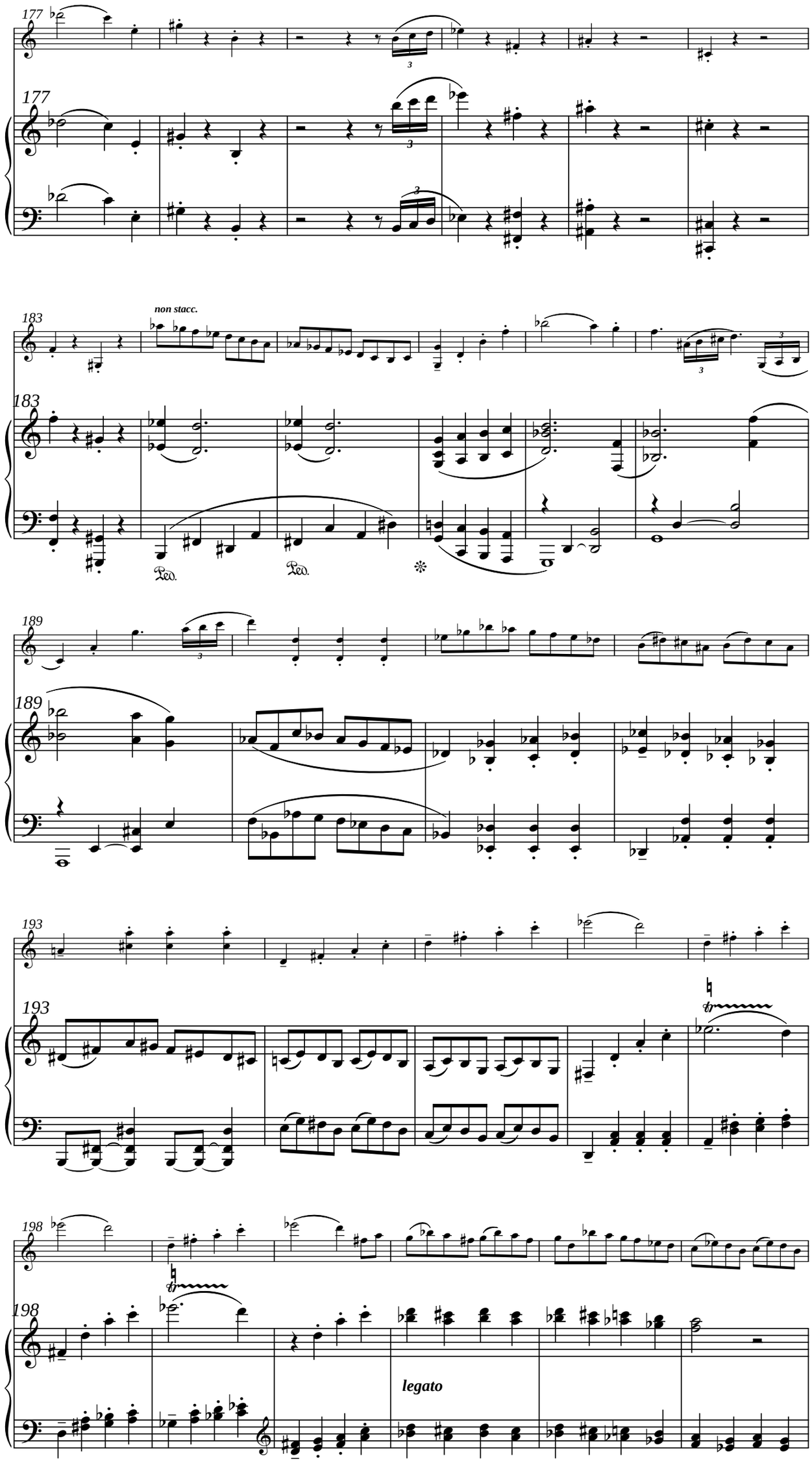

24
29
f
p
f
35
non stacc.
41
legato
47
Ped.

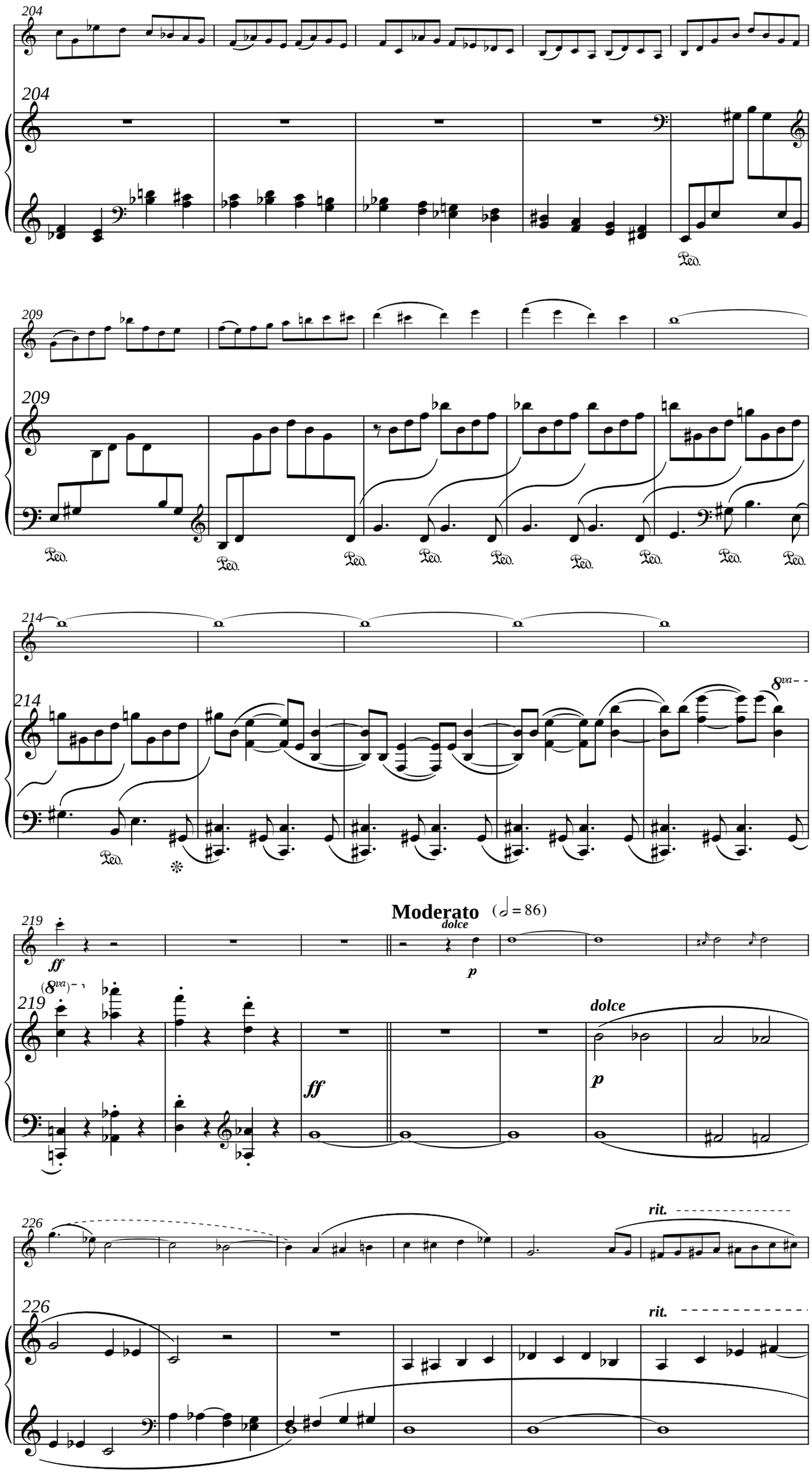

53
53
Ped.
58
58
non stacc.
Ped.
63
63
Ped.
69
69
ff
pp
77
77
Ped.

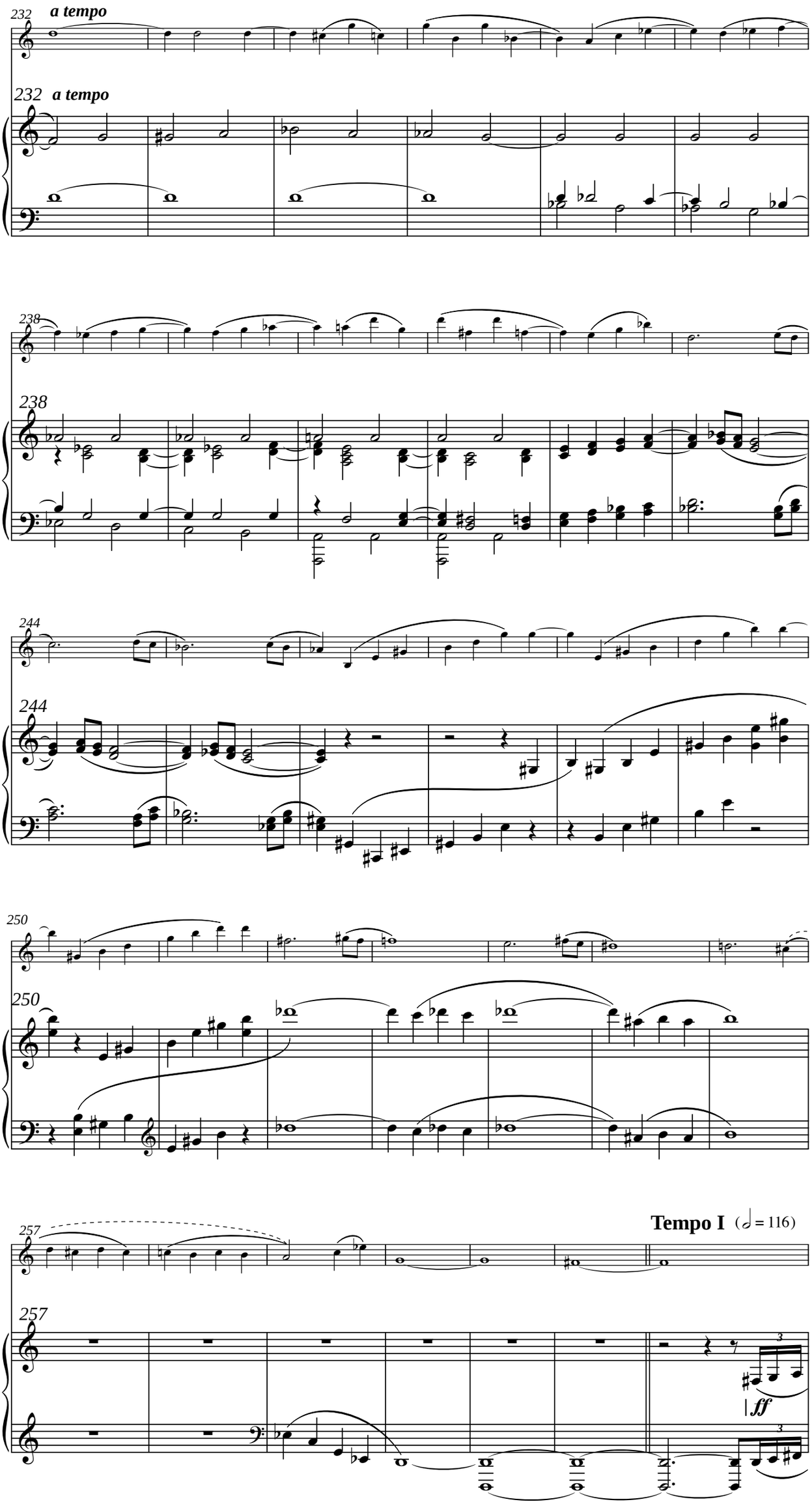

86
ff
86
ff
93
93
98
98
103
ff
f
103
ff
f
110
110
legato
8vb

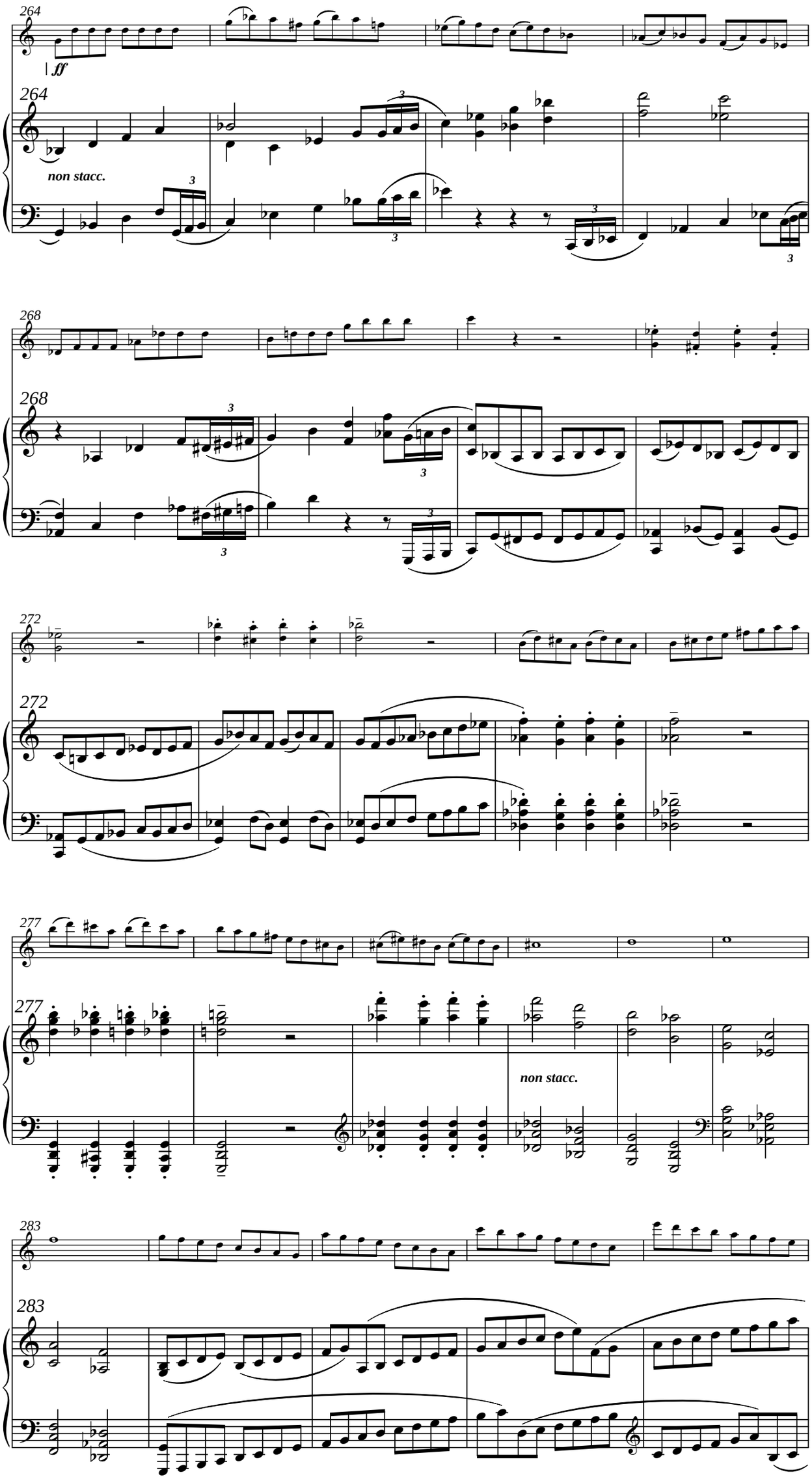

116
ff
116
ff
122
ff
122
ff
127
f
mf
p
pp
f
127
f
mf
p
pp
f
134
134
140
140
8va
p

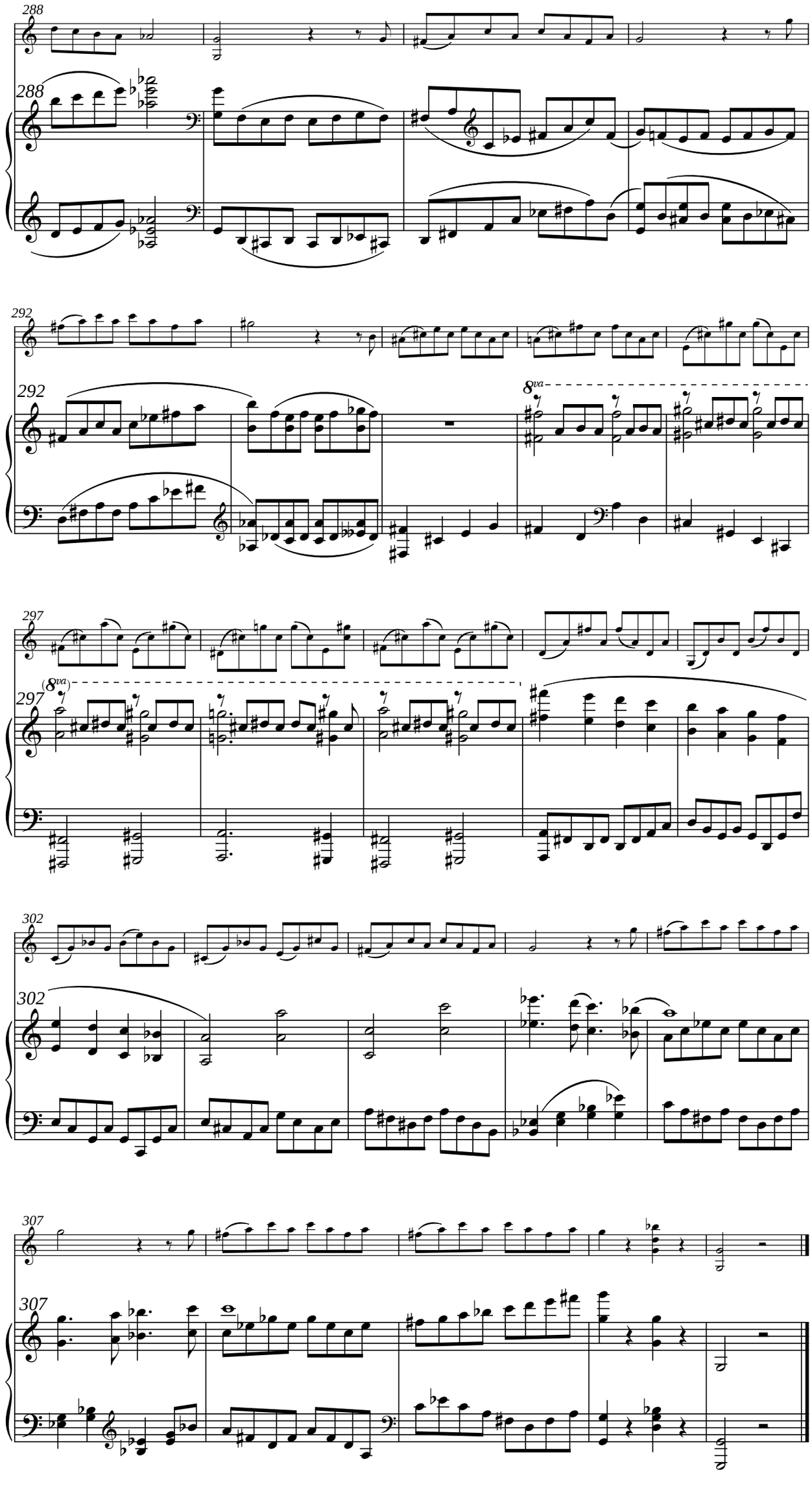

Half fast (𝅗𝅥=♩)
146
p
cresc. p. a p.
pp
153
(mp)
(mf)
non stacc.
158
f
mp
164
p
170
(𝅗𝅥 = 110)
pp
ff
Tempo I (♩=𝅗𝅥)
(𝅗𝅥 = 116)


177
177
183
non stacc.
183
Ped.
Ped.
189
189
193
193
198
198
legato


204
209
214
219
226
Moderato
(𝅗𝅥 = 86)
dolce
ff
p
rit.
8va
(8va)


232 a tempo
232 a tempo
238
238
244
244
250
250
257
Tempo I (𝅗𝅥 = 116)
257
ff


264
ff
264
non stacc.
268
268
272
272
277
277
non stacc.
283
283


288
288
292
292
8va
297
297
8va
302
302
307
307