Ananda Sonata
for Violin and Piano

May 12—June 16, 2007
Duration: about 17 ½ minutes

Ananda-Eric Pritchard asked me to write a violin sonata for his recitals early in 2008, and as I had none in my catalog, it sounded like a very good idea. One of my early compositions was a sonata for violin and piano, written during my first year of college (1973 at Eastman), but it was immature and derivative and has not survived. This work, on the other hand, is fully mature and ready for consumption.

I'm not by nature a programmatic composer, so the first movement is not intended to have a literal title; however I've had a pretty tough time much of my life and in some way, a good deal of my music cannot help but reflect some of this. After I had written most of the first movement that it seemed right to call it "Hard Times". The second movement is intended as a kind of mantra; quite a few of my works are best heard with a repeated series of words mentally set to the music, and this is no exception. Since Ananda is involved with Sufism, it was most appropriate to use *Allah* as the mantra. And the last movement started off in 12 but then I knocked off a note leading to 11 per measure, then decided to continue the prime number meter idea and ended up with most meters in 5, 7, 11, and 13. In addition there are some fancy compound rhythms and some tricky playing, especially for the piano. The technical requirements for the first movement are moderate and the middle is easy, but the last movement does require real proficiency. If this results in only the first or second movements, or both, being performed at a future concert, this is perfectly acceptable.

Bill Robinson

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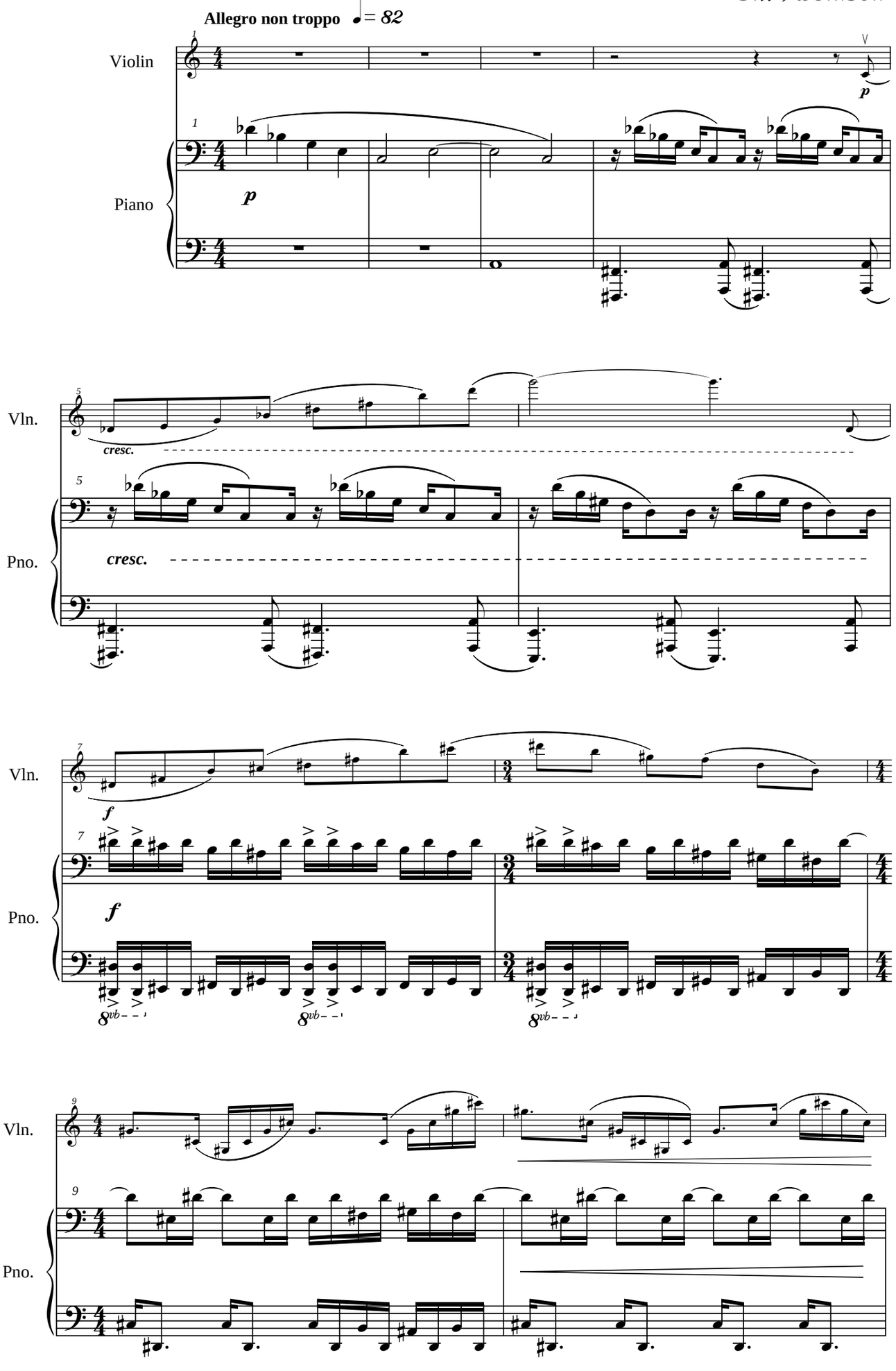
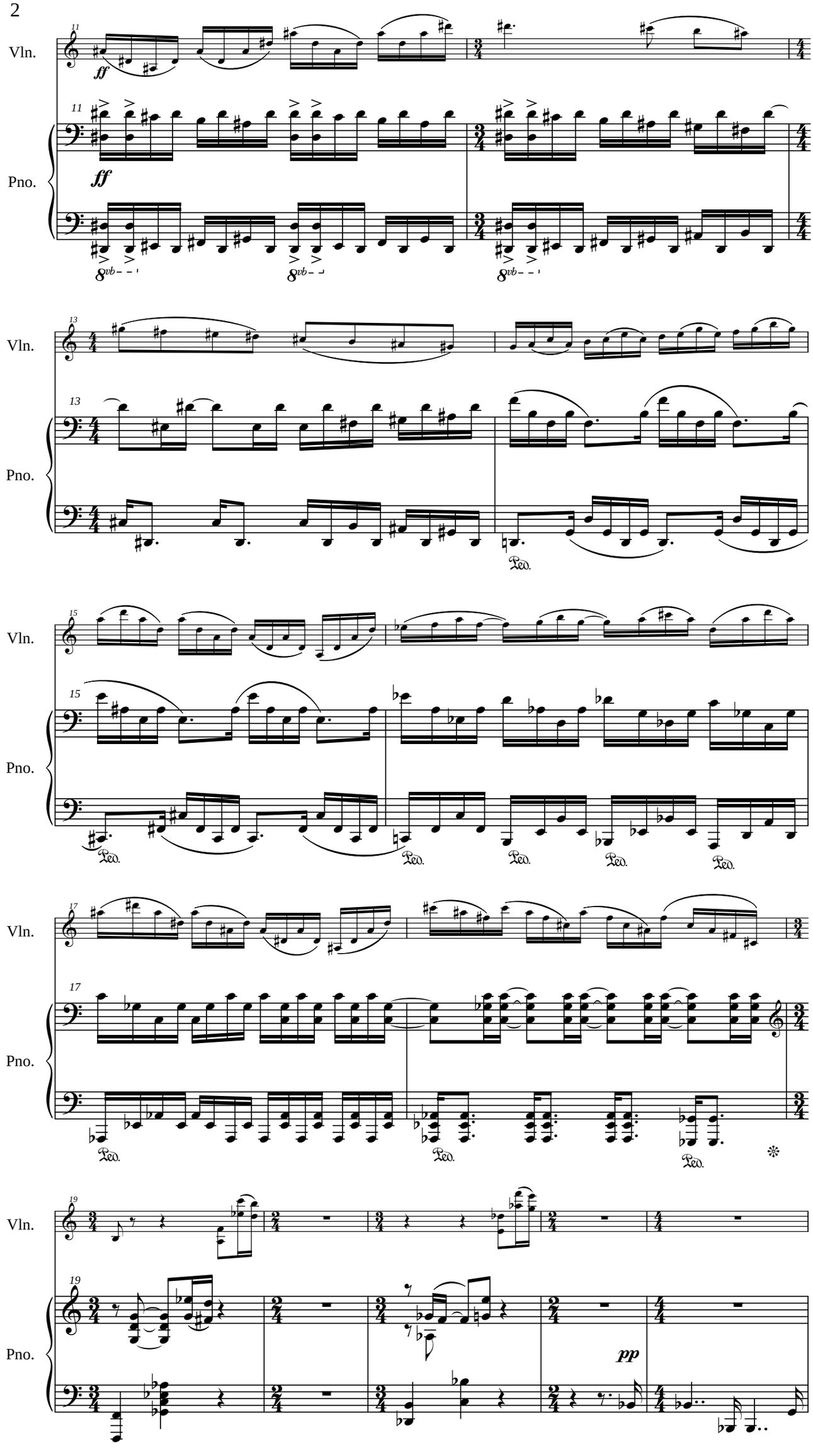
billrobinsonmusic.com

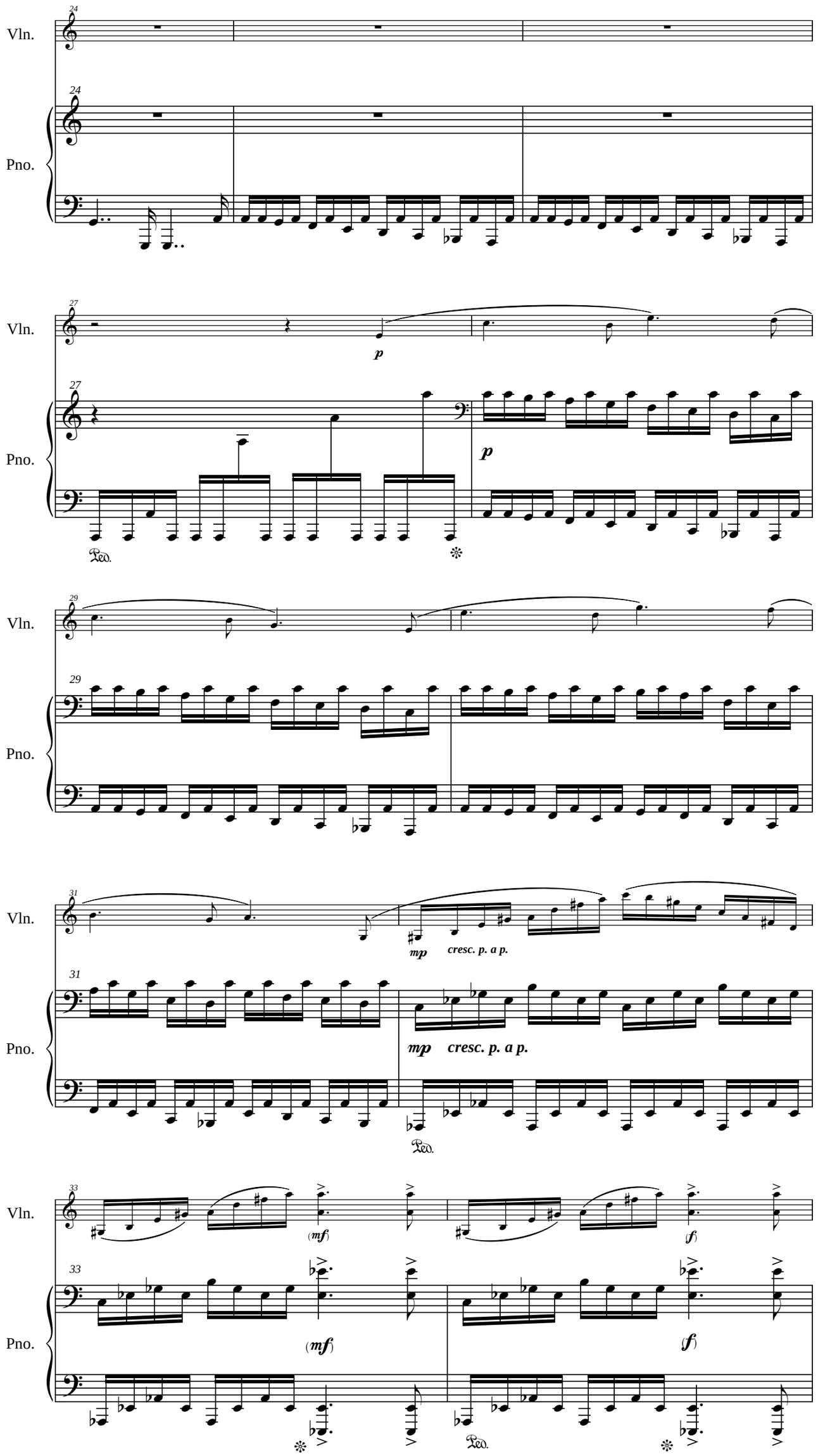
Ananda Sonata

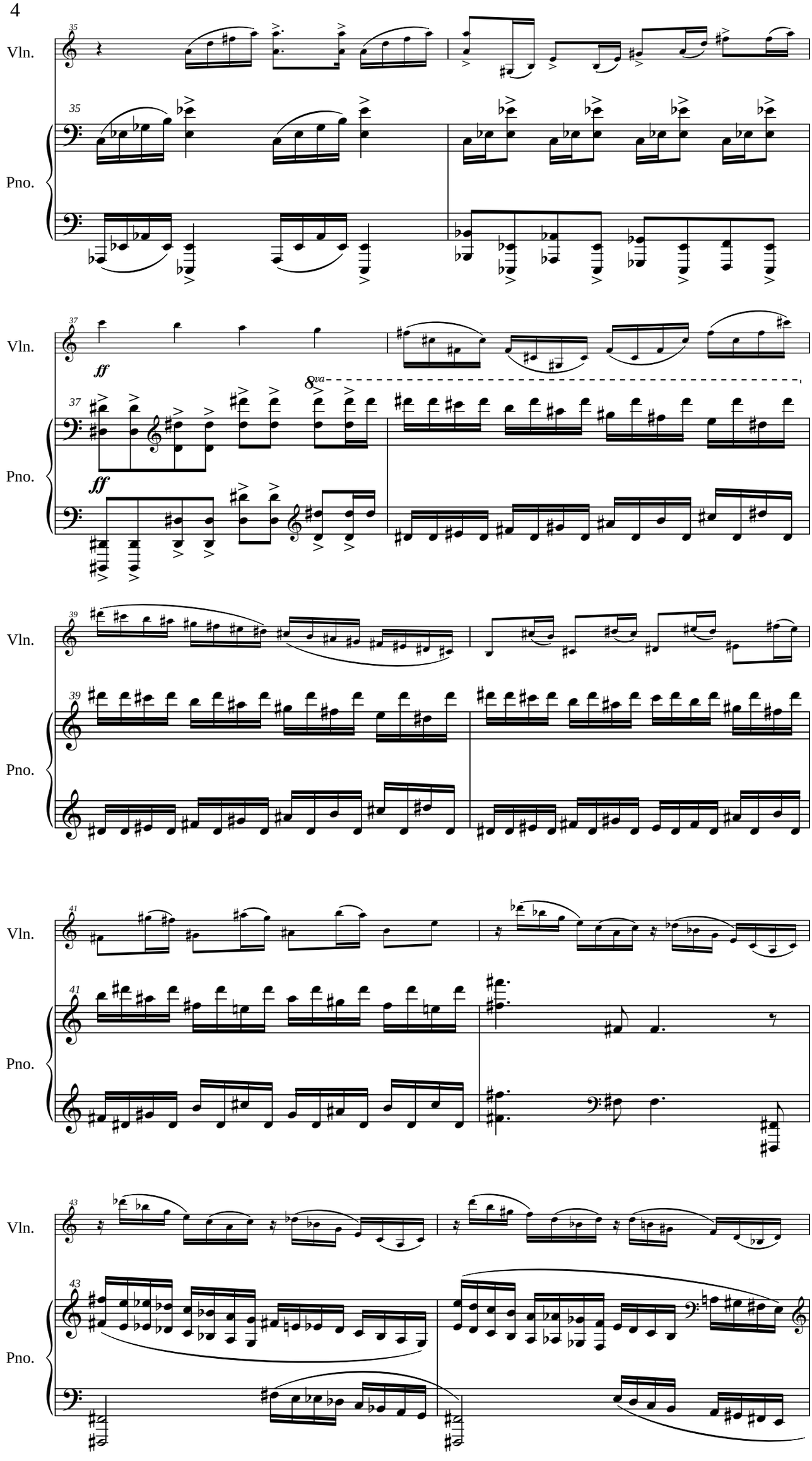
I. Hard Times [5:40]

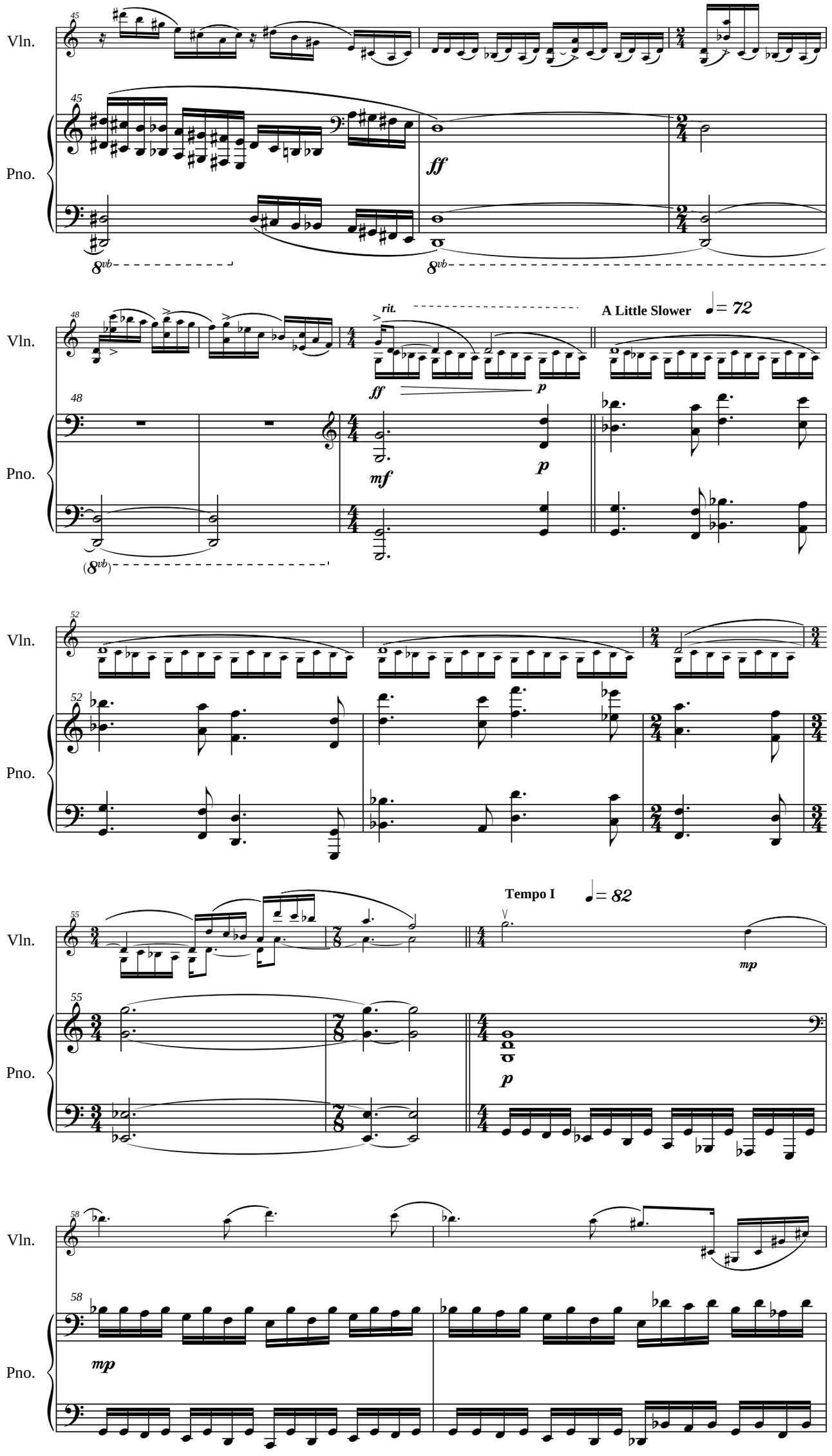
Bill Robinson

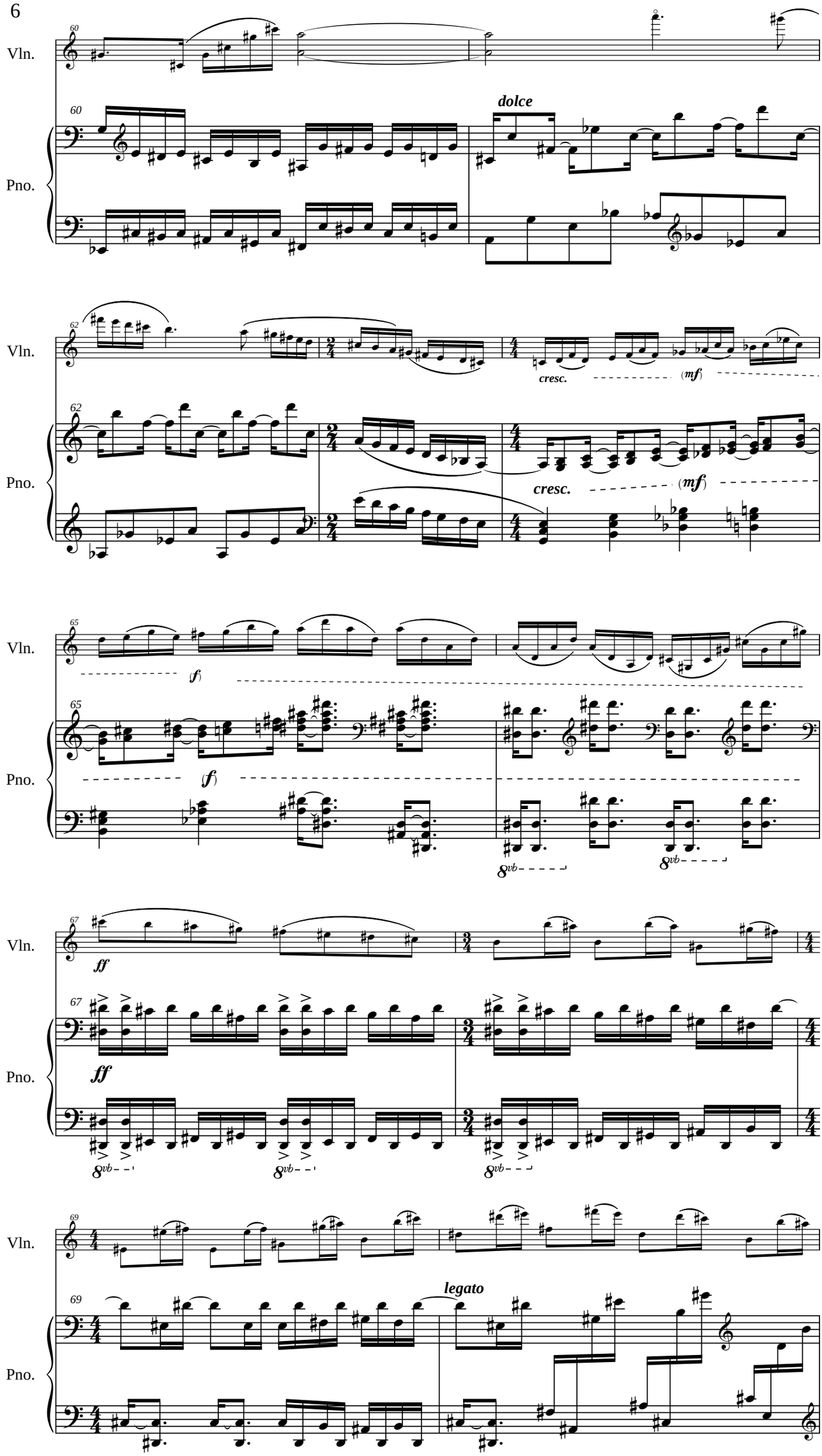


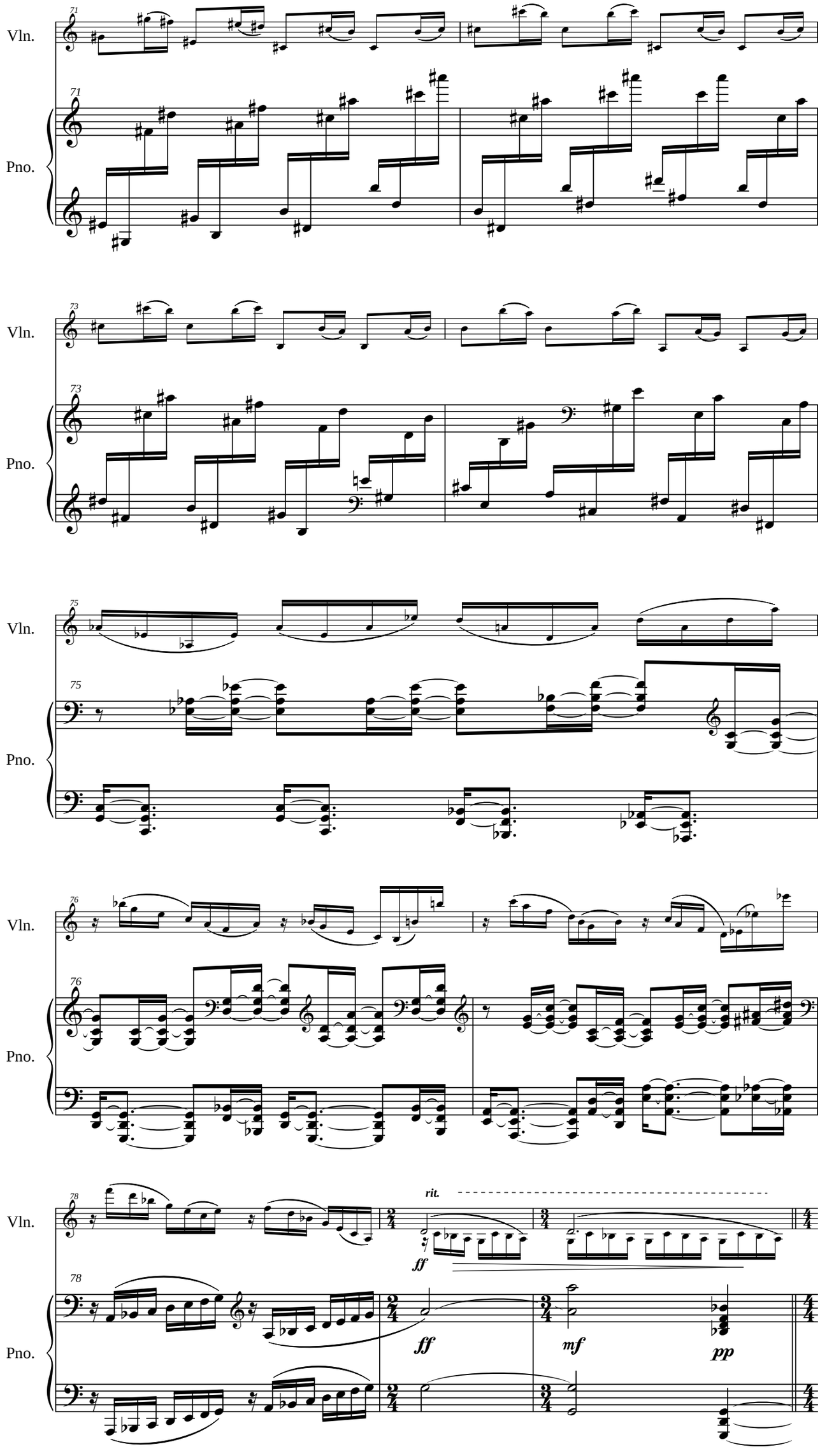

Vln.
Pno.
11
ff
8vb
13
15
Ped.
17
19
pp

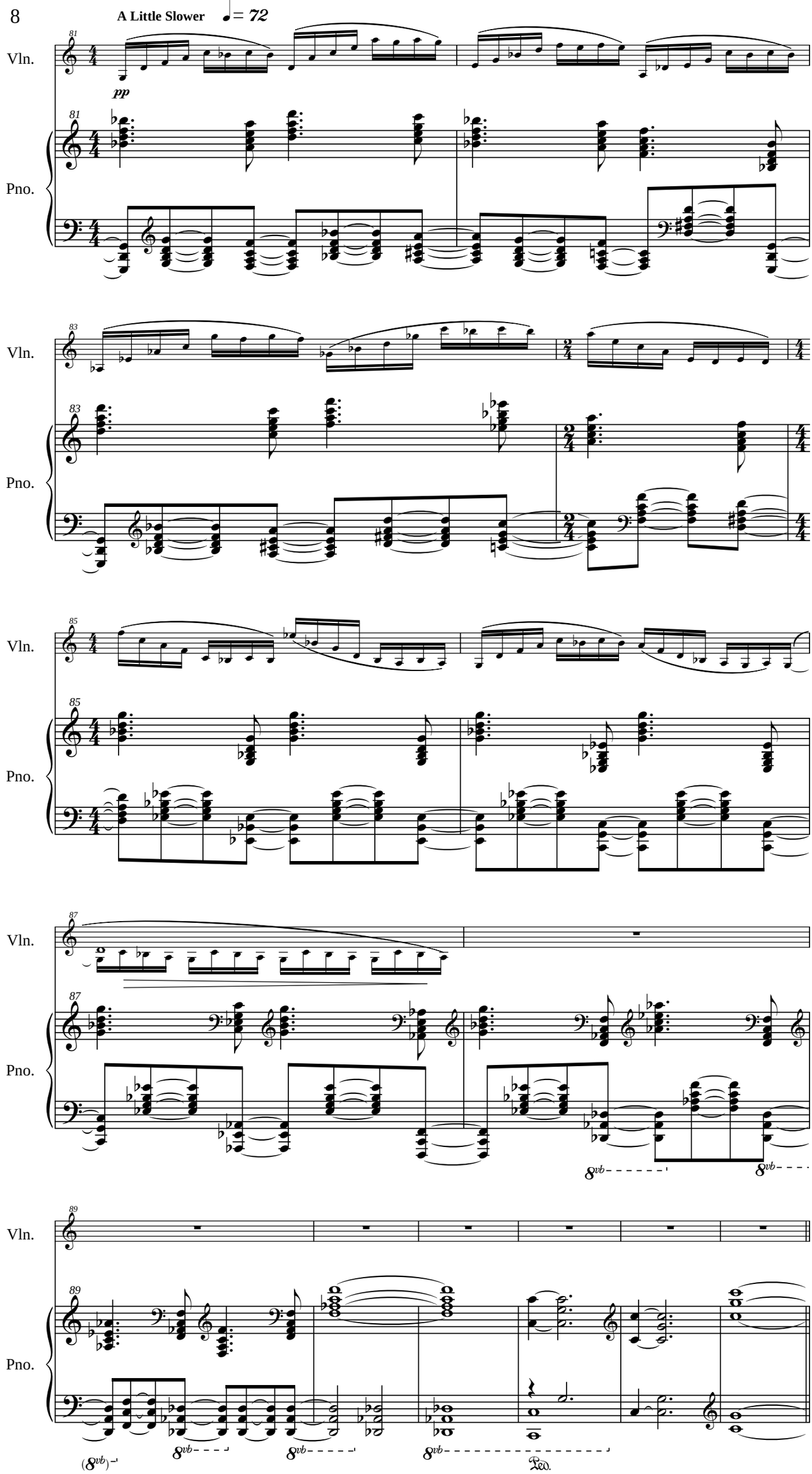

Vln.
Pno.
24
27
p
29
31
mp
cresc. p. a p.
33
(mf)
f

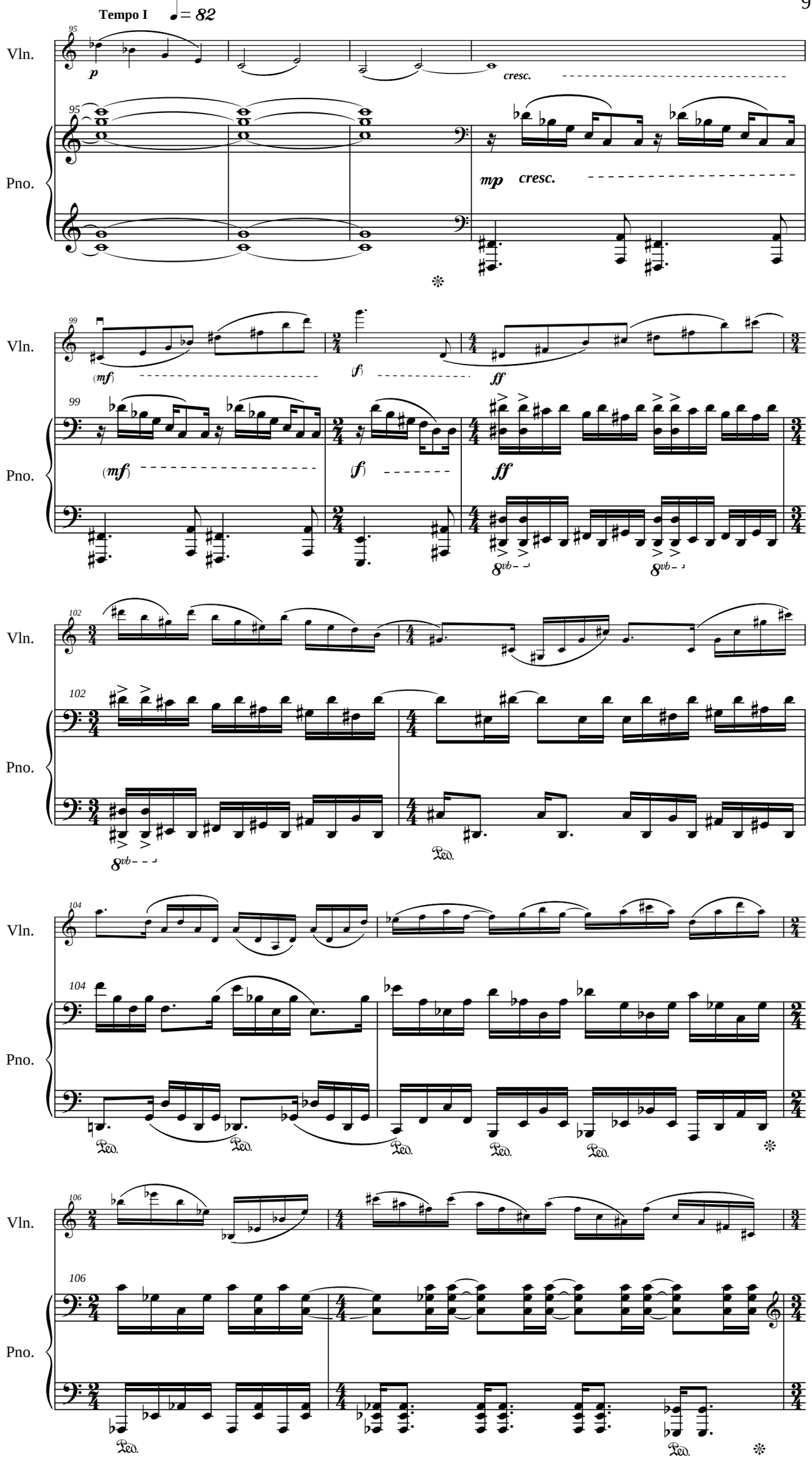

Vln.
Pno.
35
37
ff
8va
39
41
43

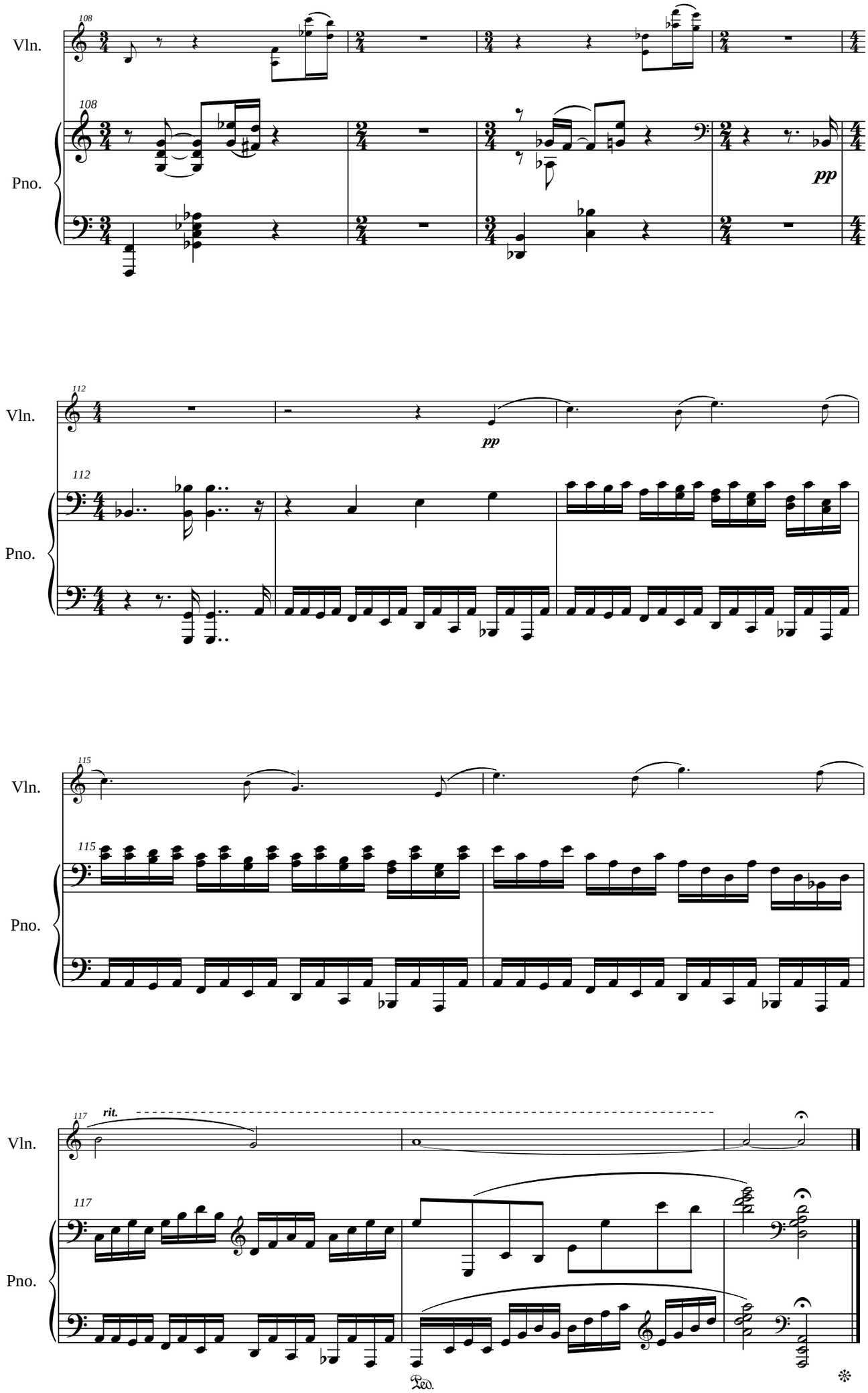

Vln.
Pno.
45
ff
8vb
48
rit.
A Little Slower
♩= 72
ff
p
mf
(8vb)
52
55
Tempo I
♩= 82
mp
58


Vln.
Pno.
60
dolce
62
cresc.
(mf)
65
(f)
67
ff
69
legato
8vb


Vln.
Pno.
71
73
75
76
78
rit.
ff
mf
pp


A Little Slower
♩= 72
pp
Vln.
Pno.
8vb
Ped.

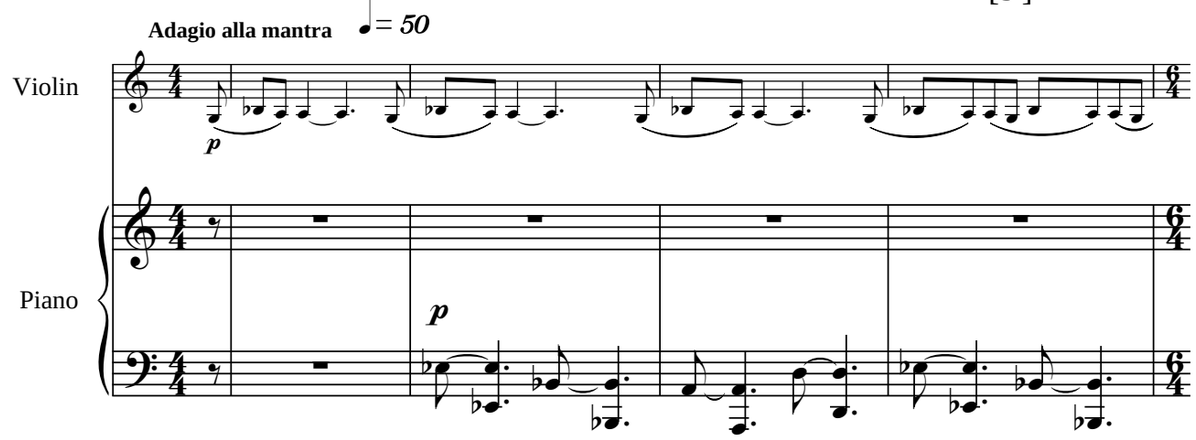

Tempo I
♩= 82
Vln.
Pno.
cresc.
mp
(mf)
f
ff
8vb
Ped.

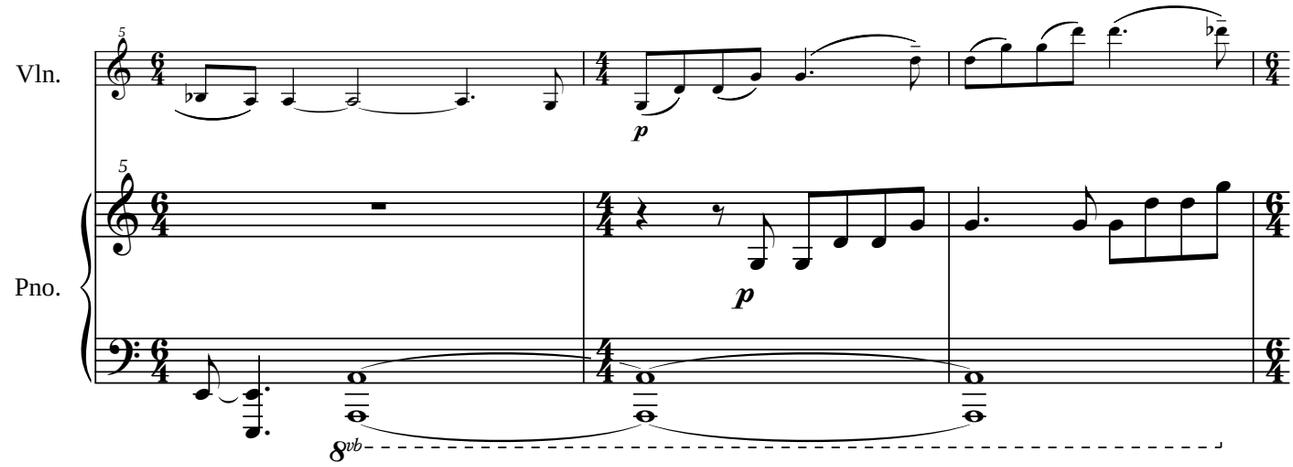

108
Vln.
108
Pno.
pp
112
Vln.
pp
112
Pno.
115
Vln.
115
Pno.
117
rit.
Vln.
117
Pno.
Ped.

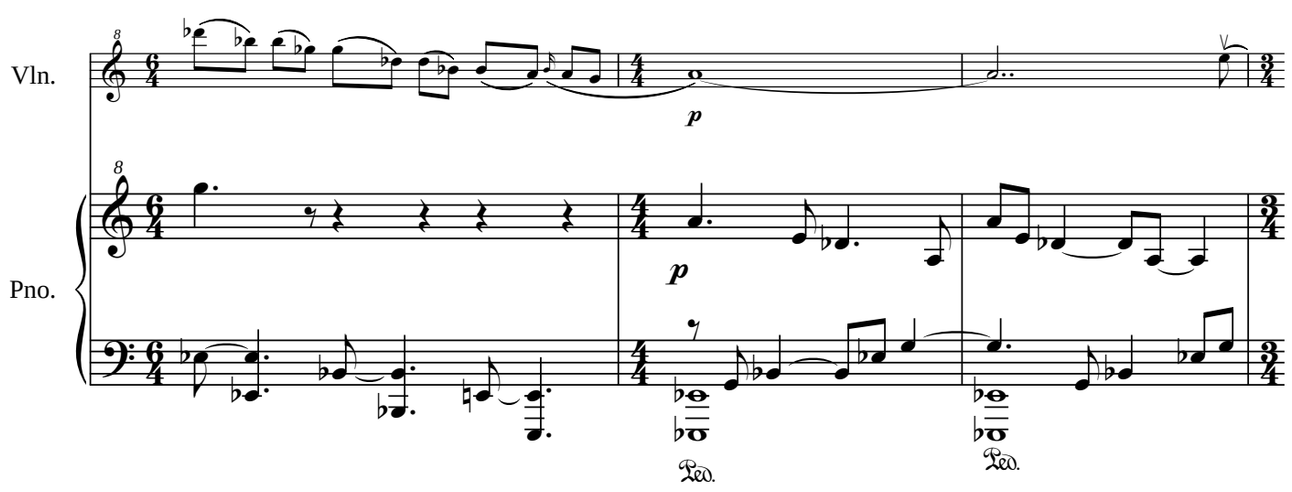
II. Allah

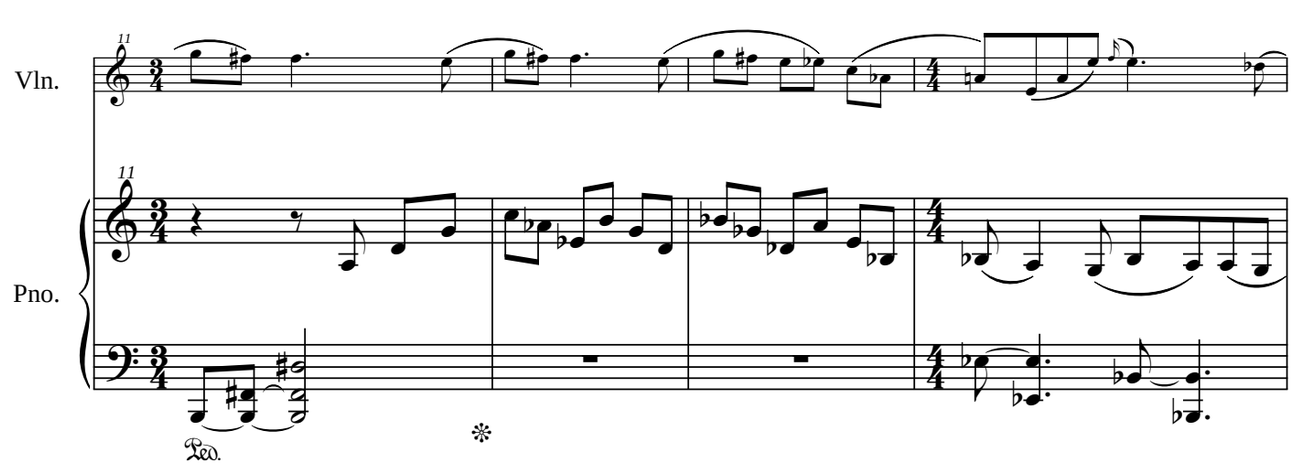
[5']

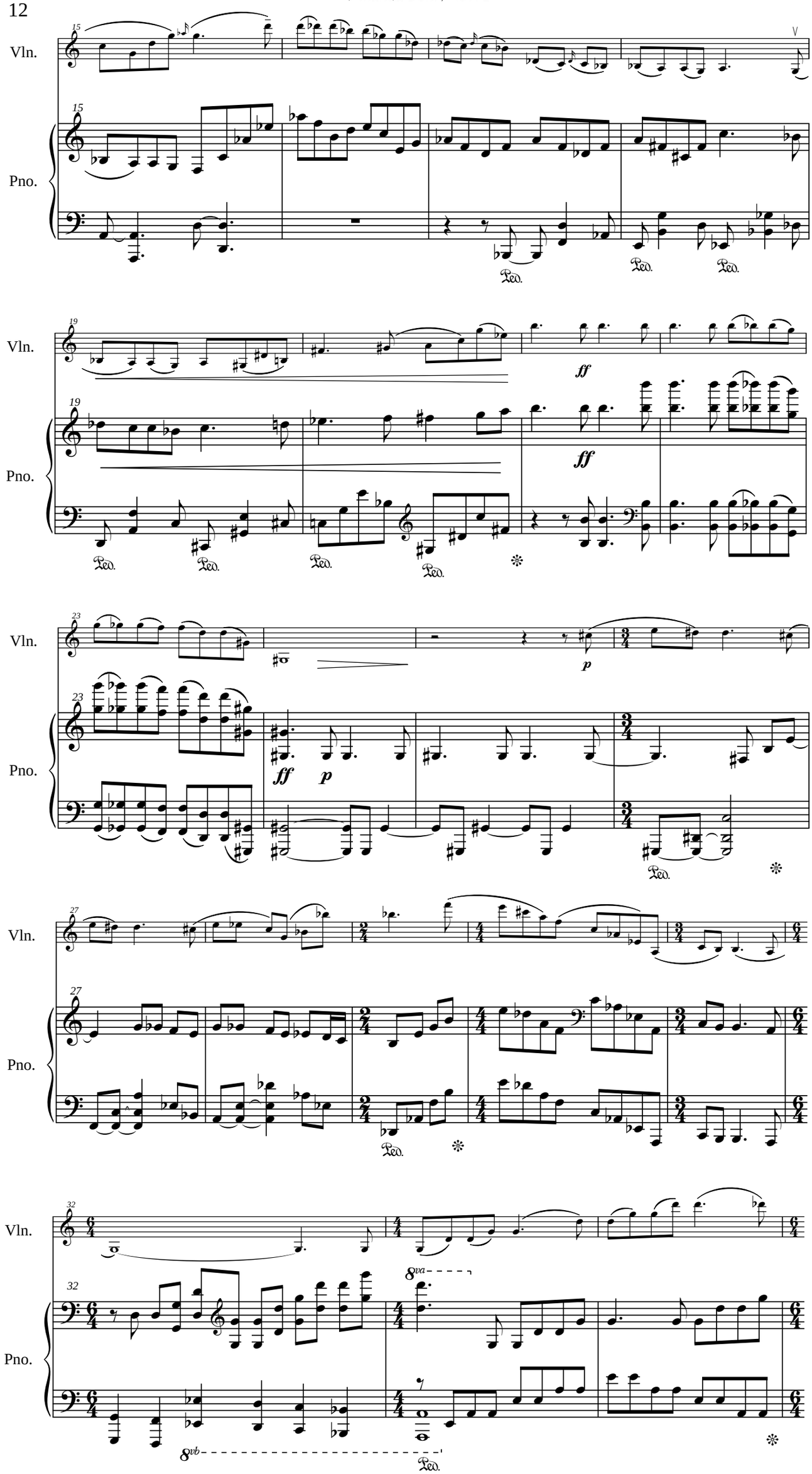
Adagio alla mantra ♩= 50

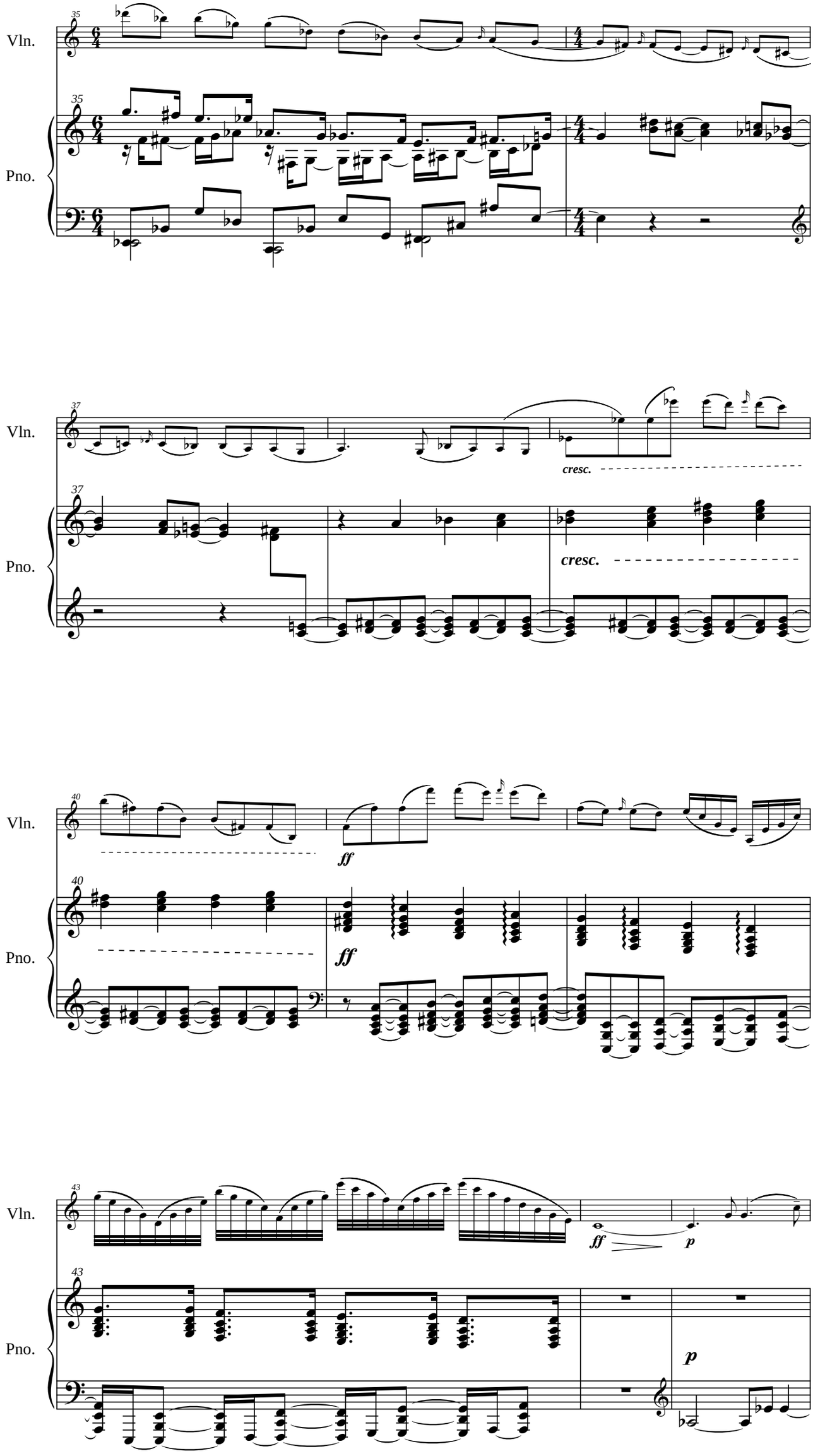


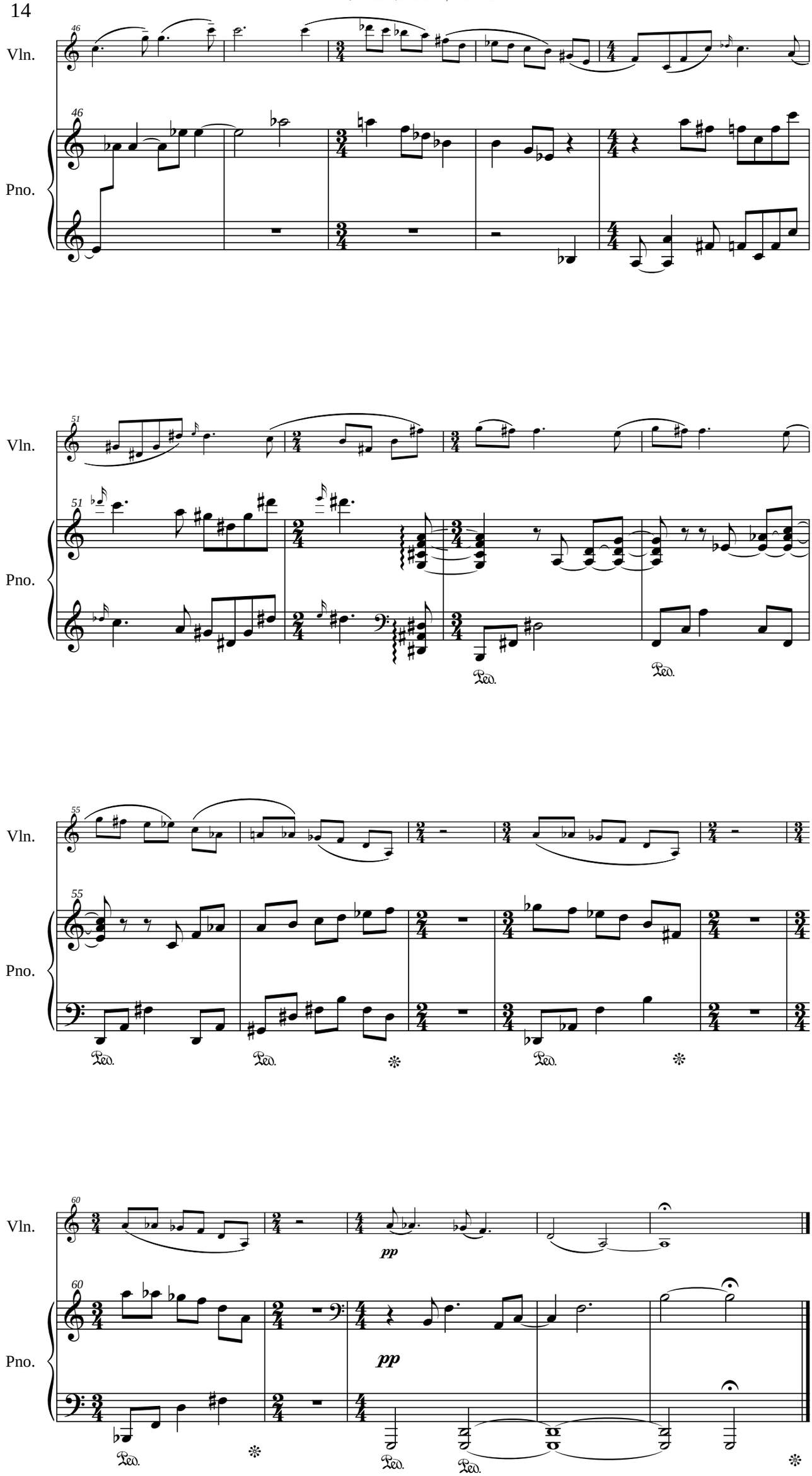




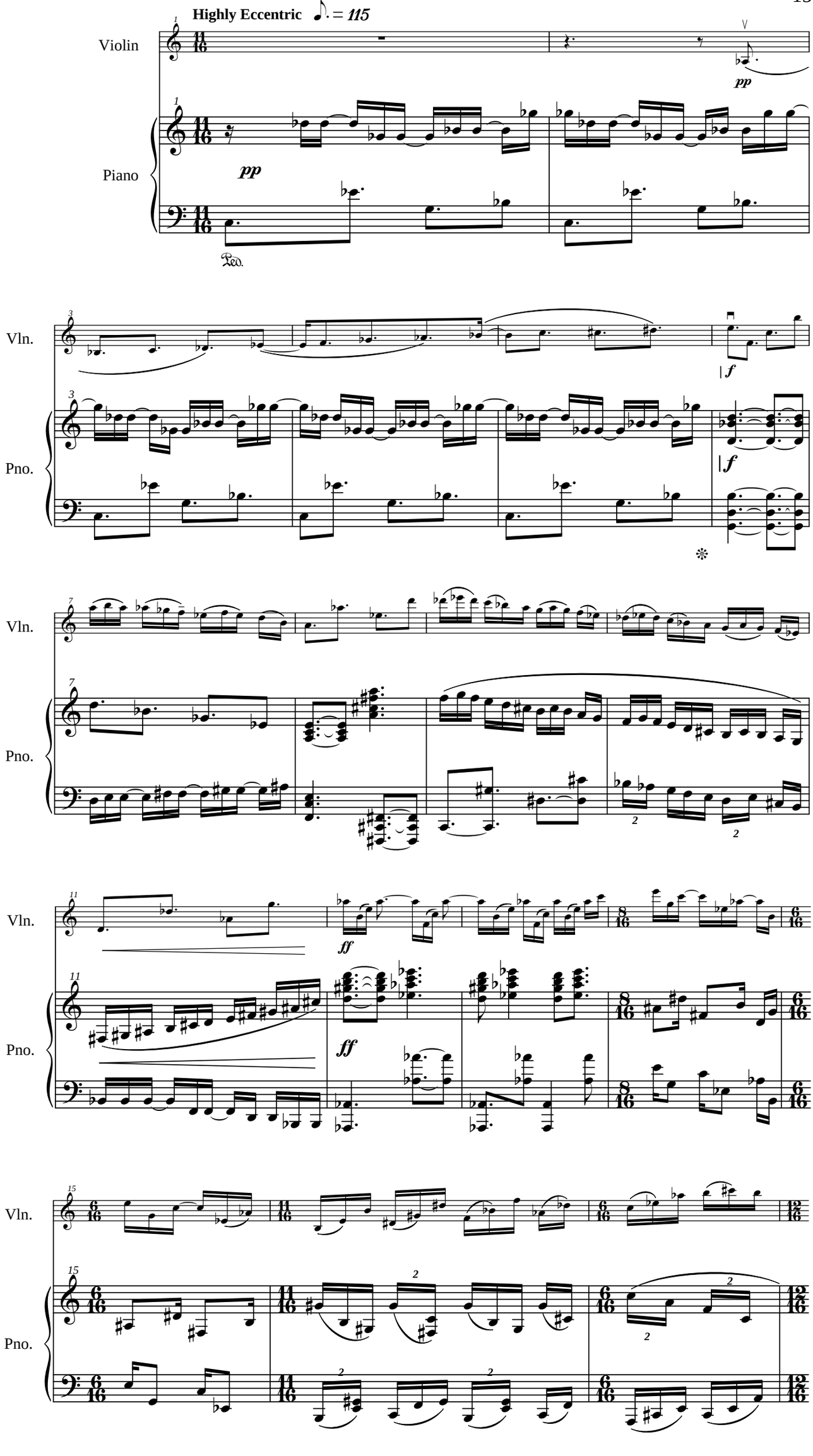


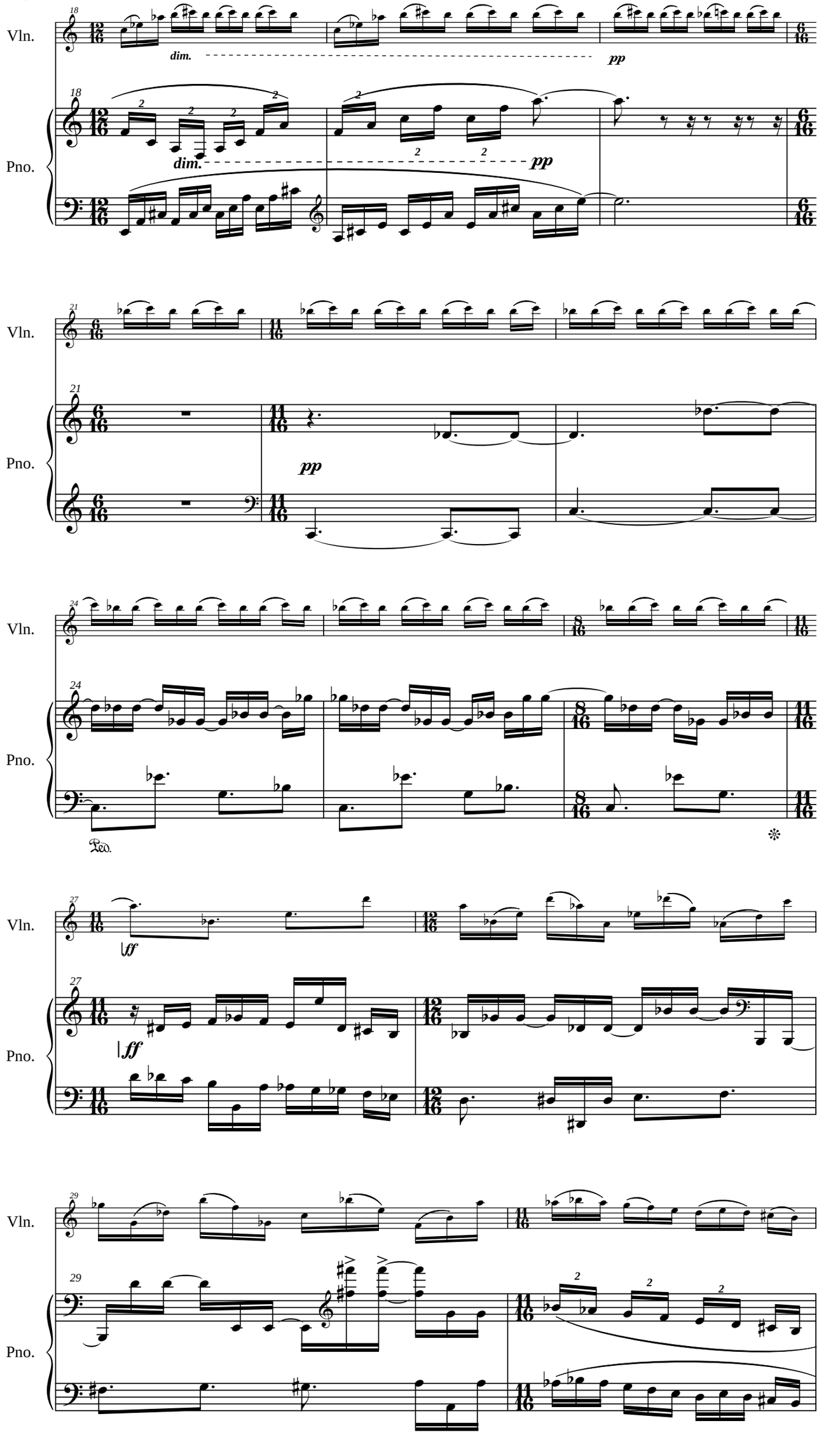

Vln.
Pno.
15
19
23
27
32
ff
p
8va
8vb
Ped.

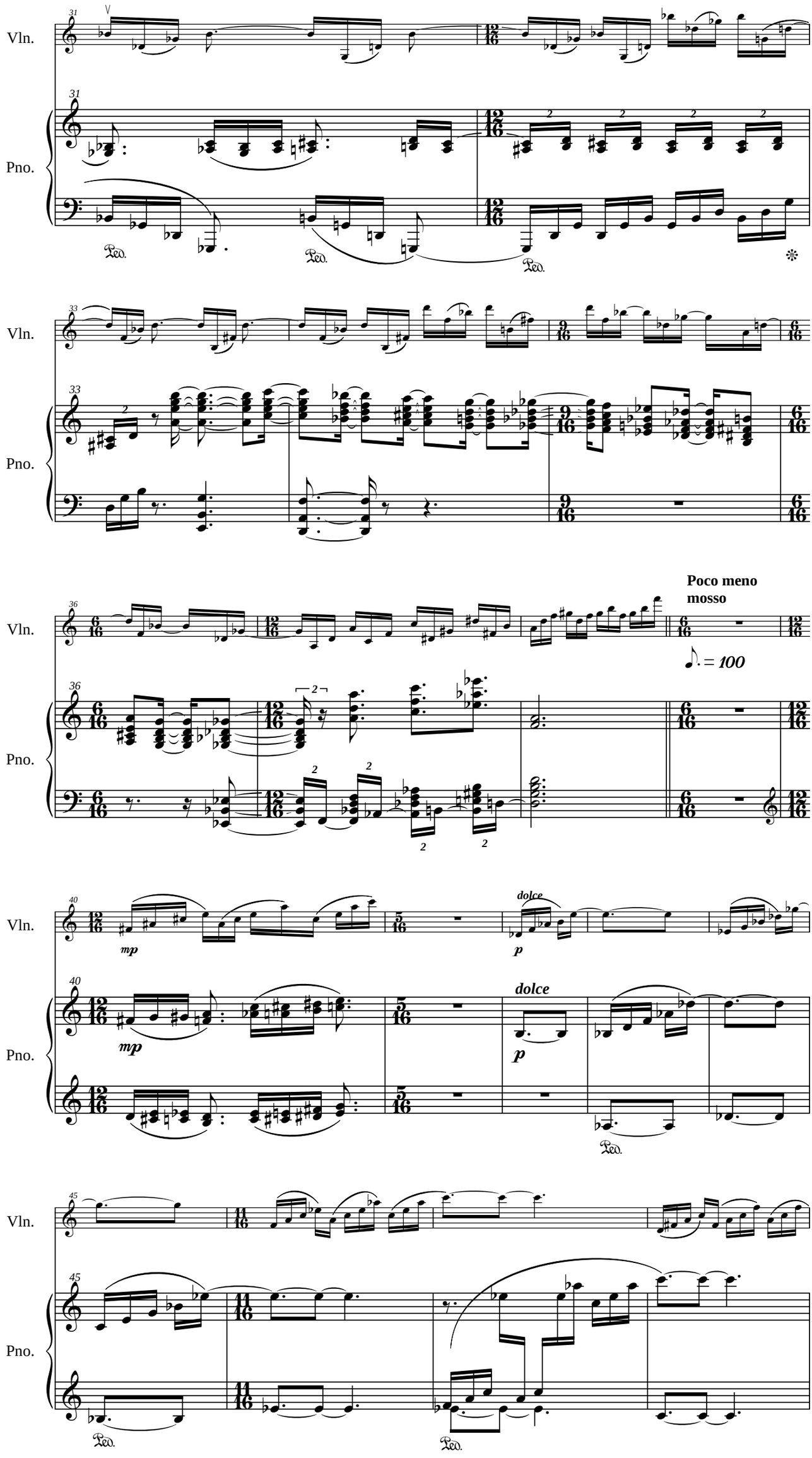

Vln.
Pno.
35
cresc.
37
ff
40
43
p

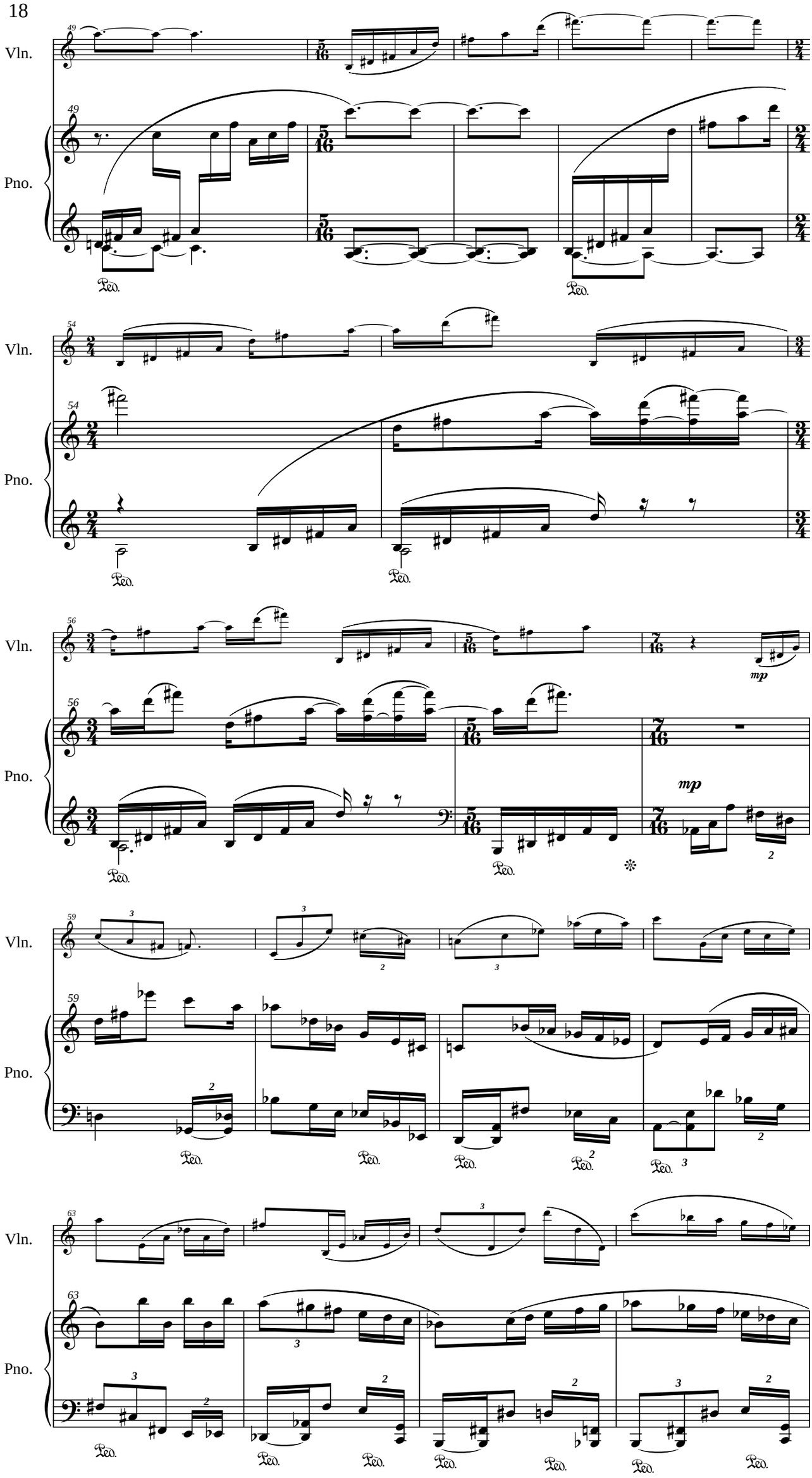

Vln.
Pno.
46
51
55
60
pp
Ped.

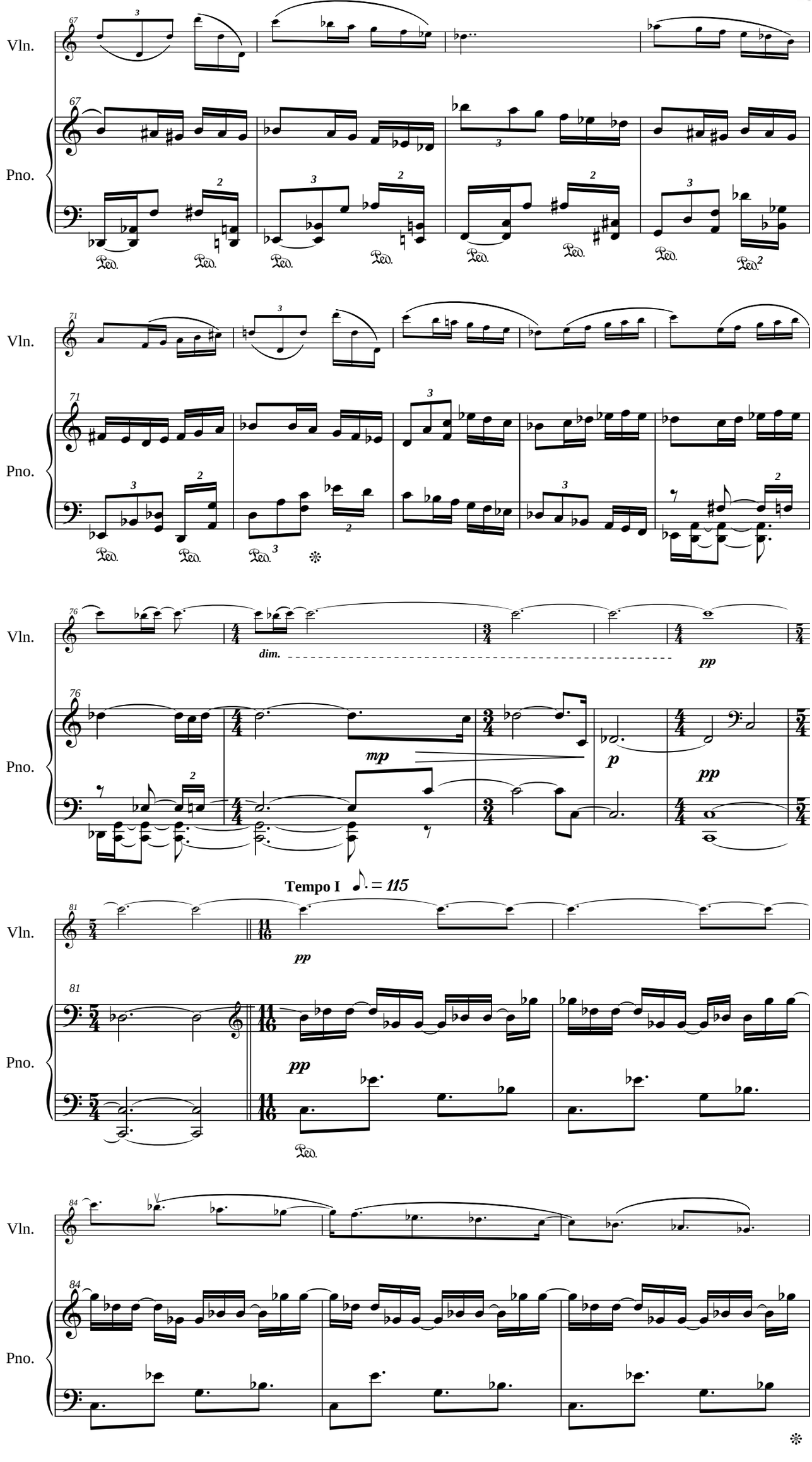
III. Prime Times [6:50]

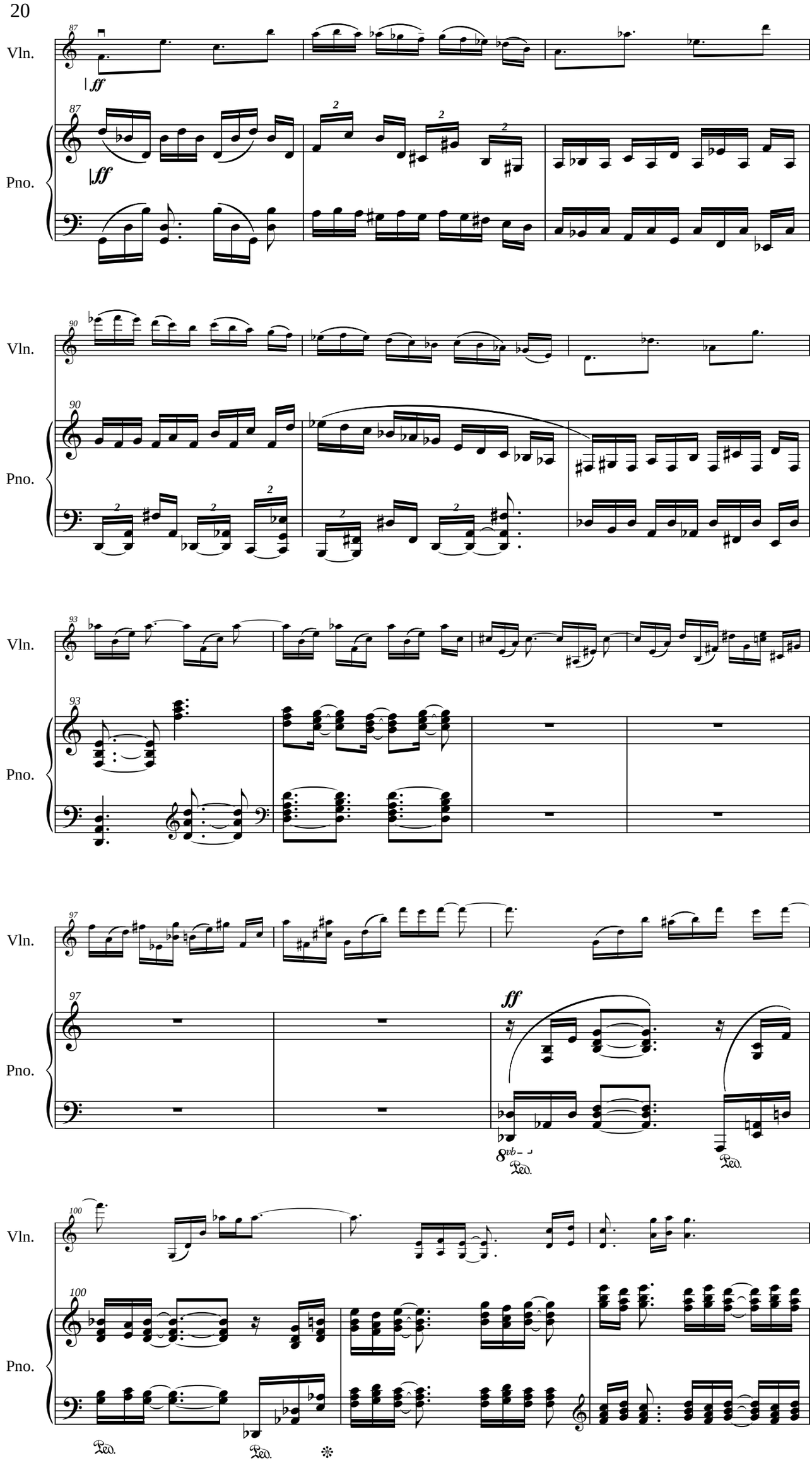


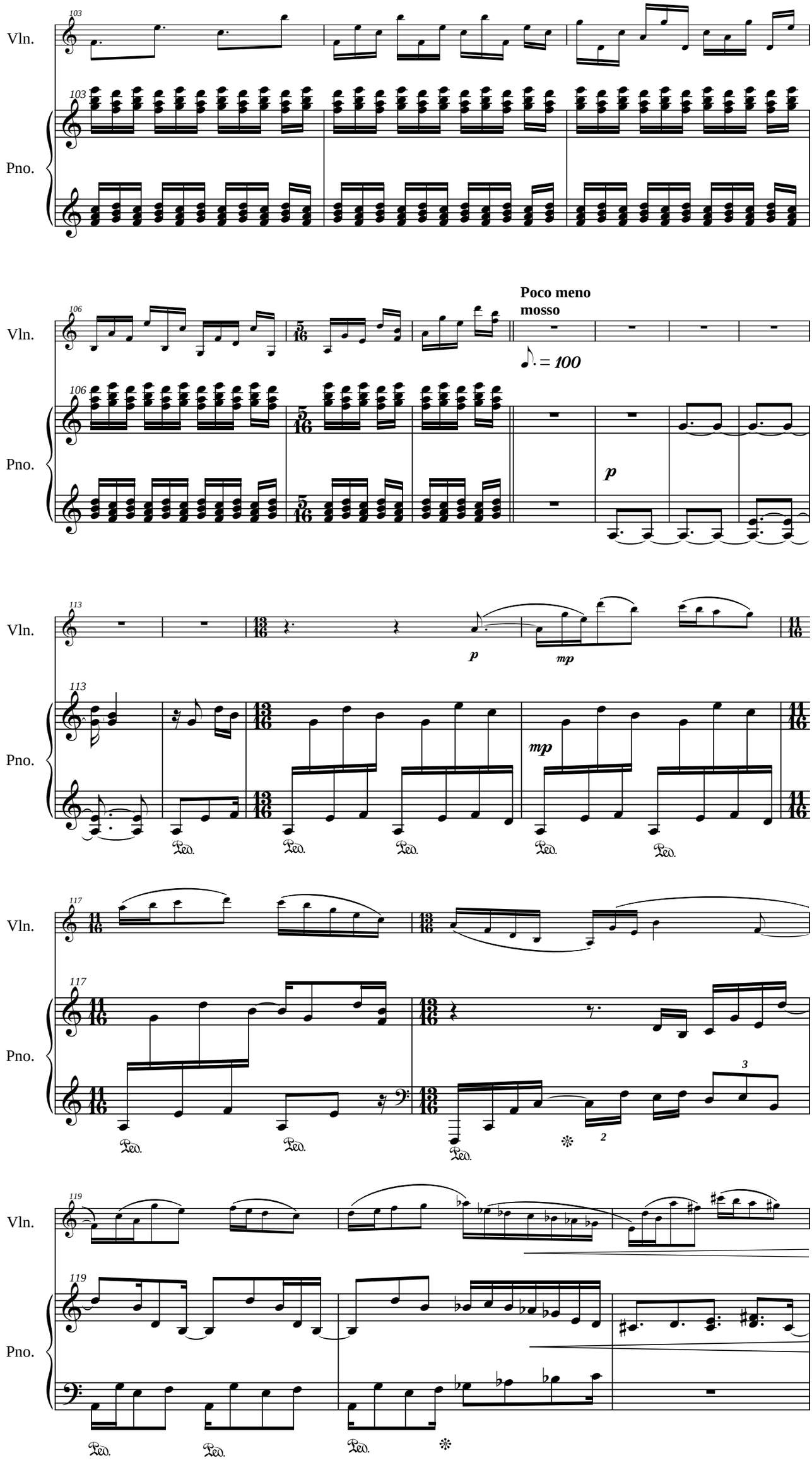

Vln.
Pno.
18
dim.
pp
21
pp
24
Ped.
27
ff
29

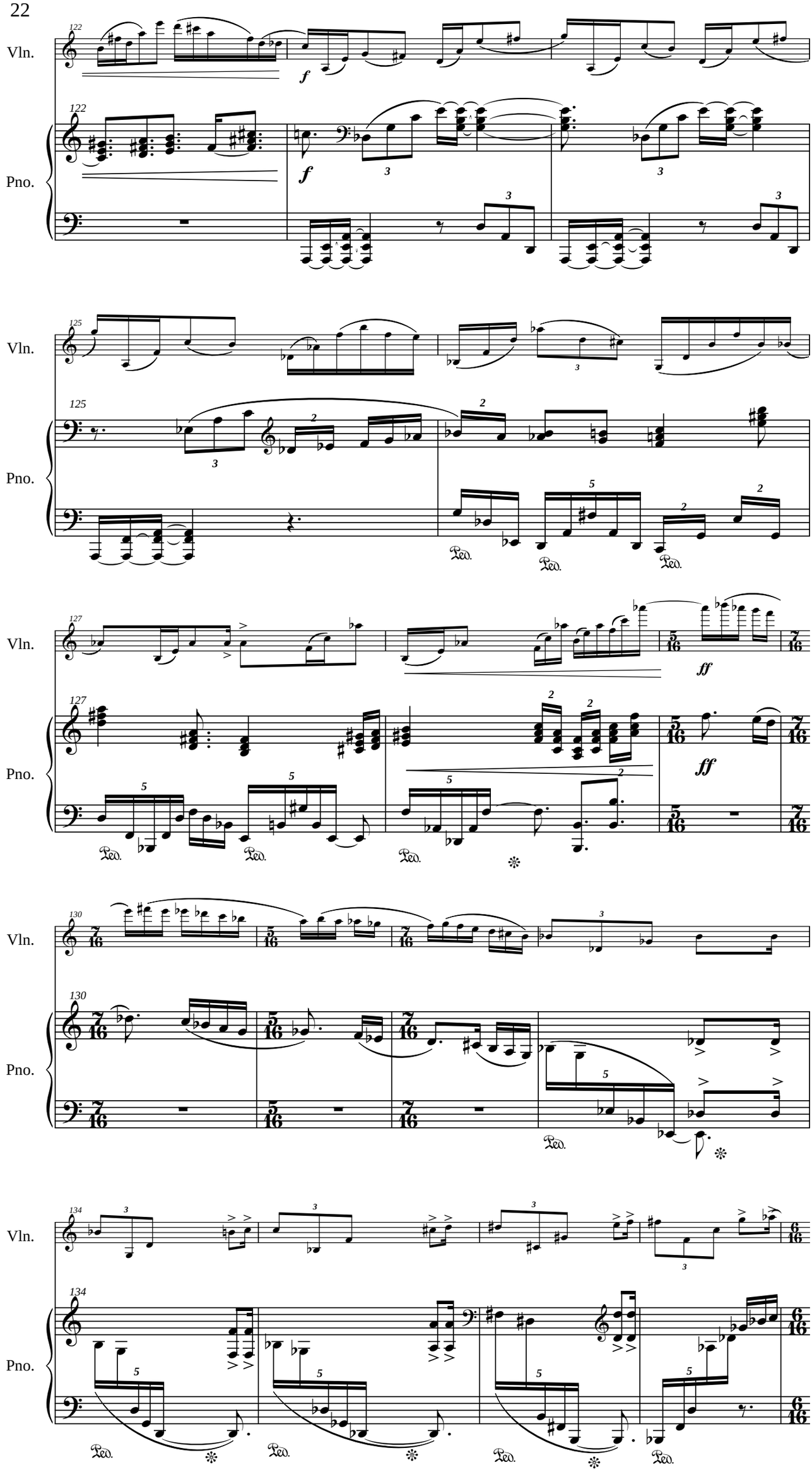

Vln.
Pno.
31
33
36
40
45
Poco meno mosso
♩. = 100
dolce
mp
p
Ped.

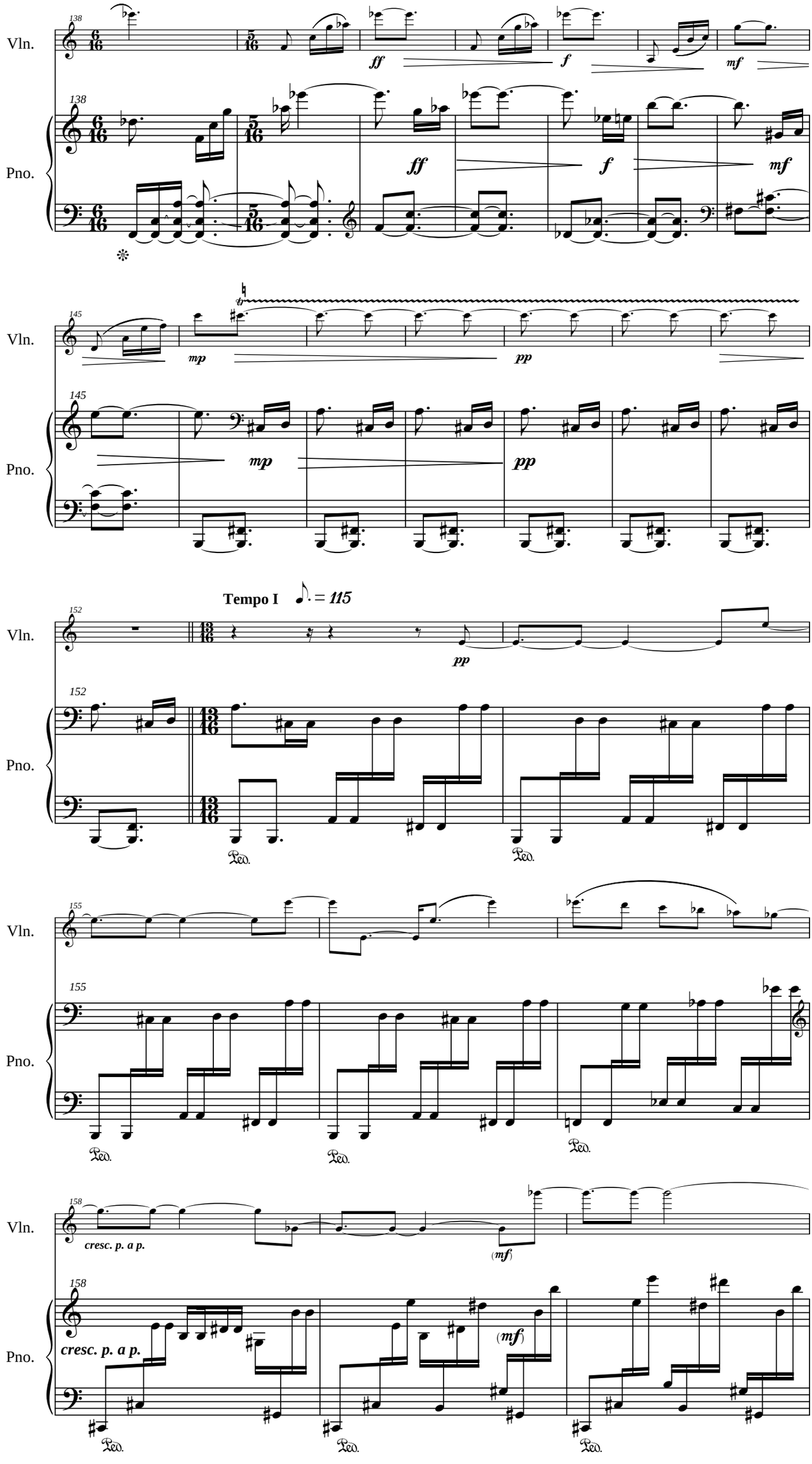

Vln.
Pno.
49
54
56
59
63
mp
Ped.

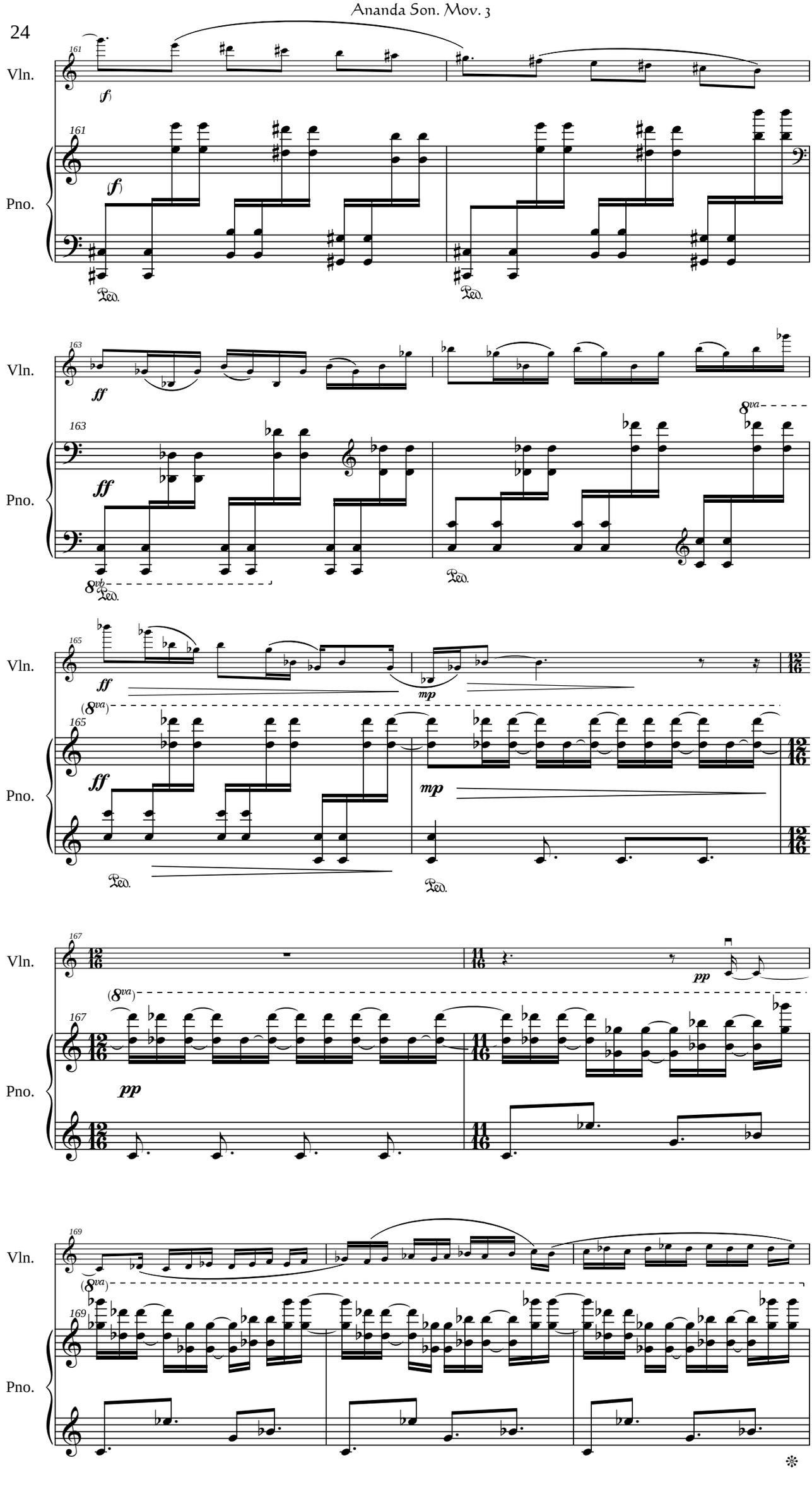

Vln.
Pno.
67
71
76
81
84
dim.
pp
mp
p
Tempo I
♪. = 115
Ped.

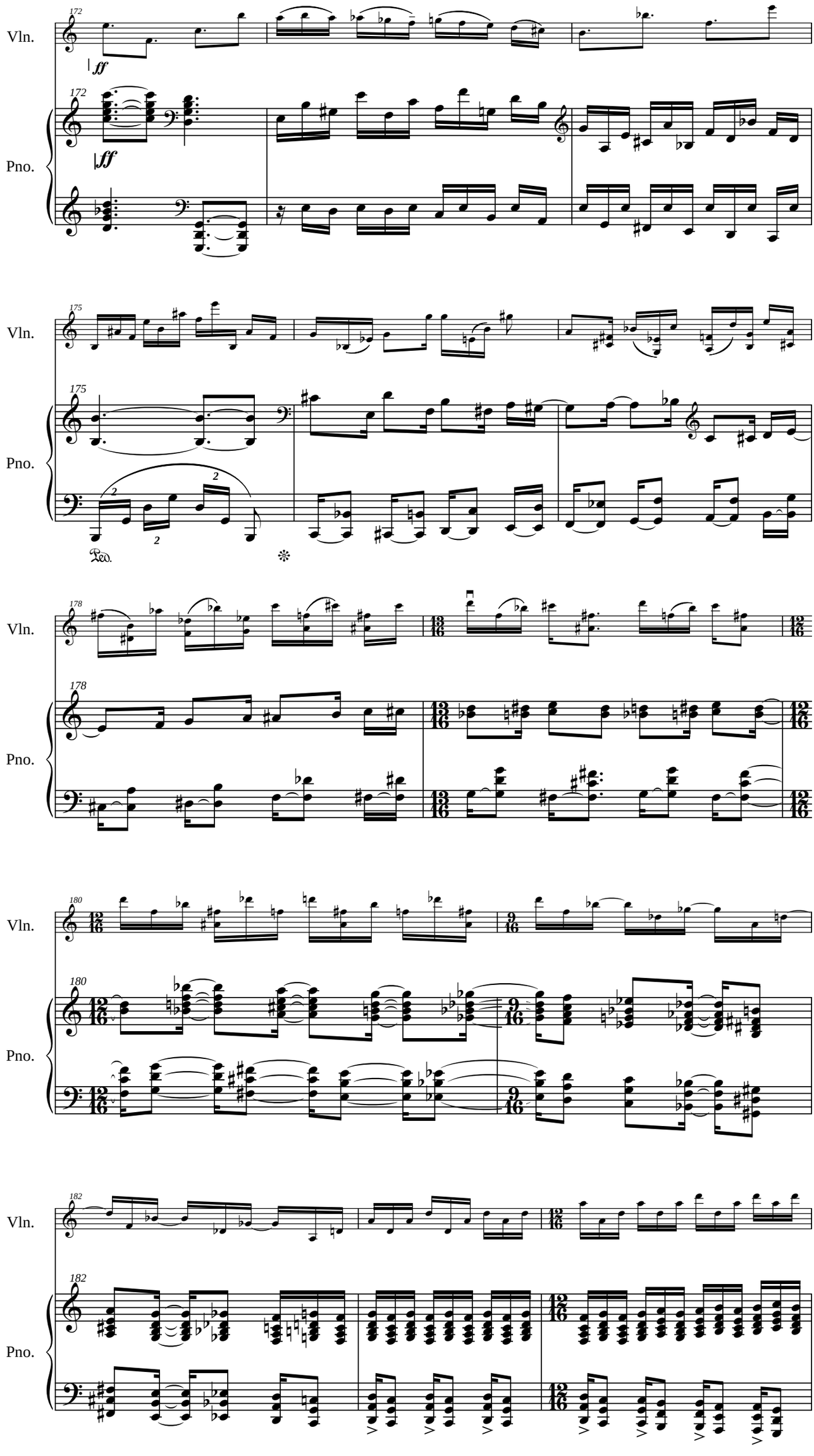

Vln.
Pno.
87
ff
90
93
97
100
8vb
Ped.
*

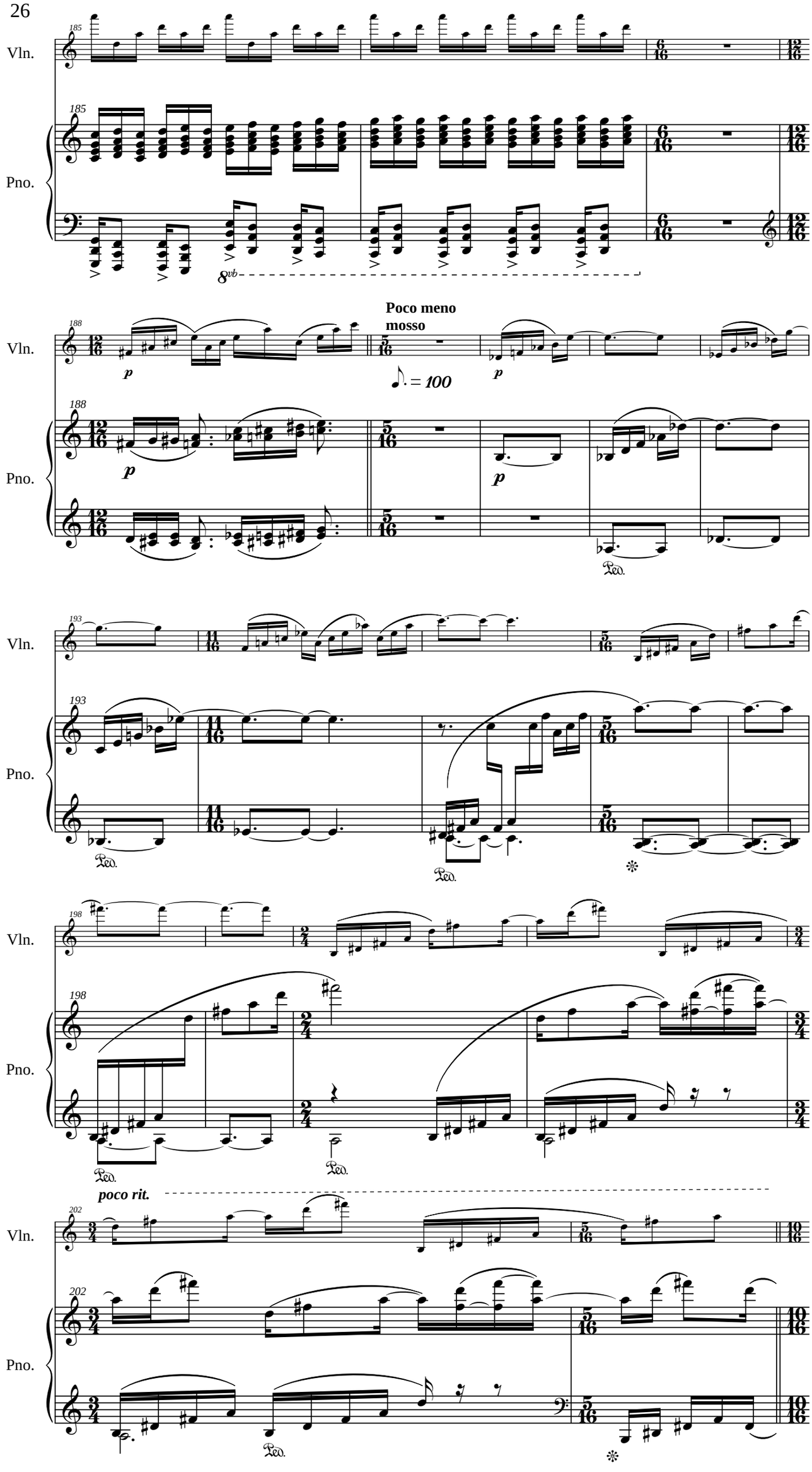

Vln.
Pno.
103
106
Poco meno mosso
♩. = 100
p
113
mp
117
119
Ped.

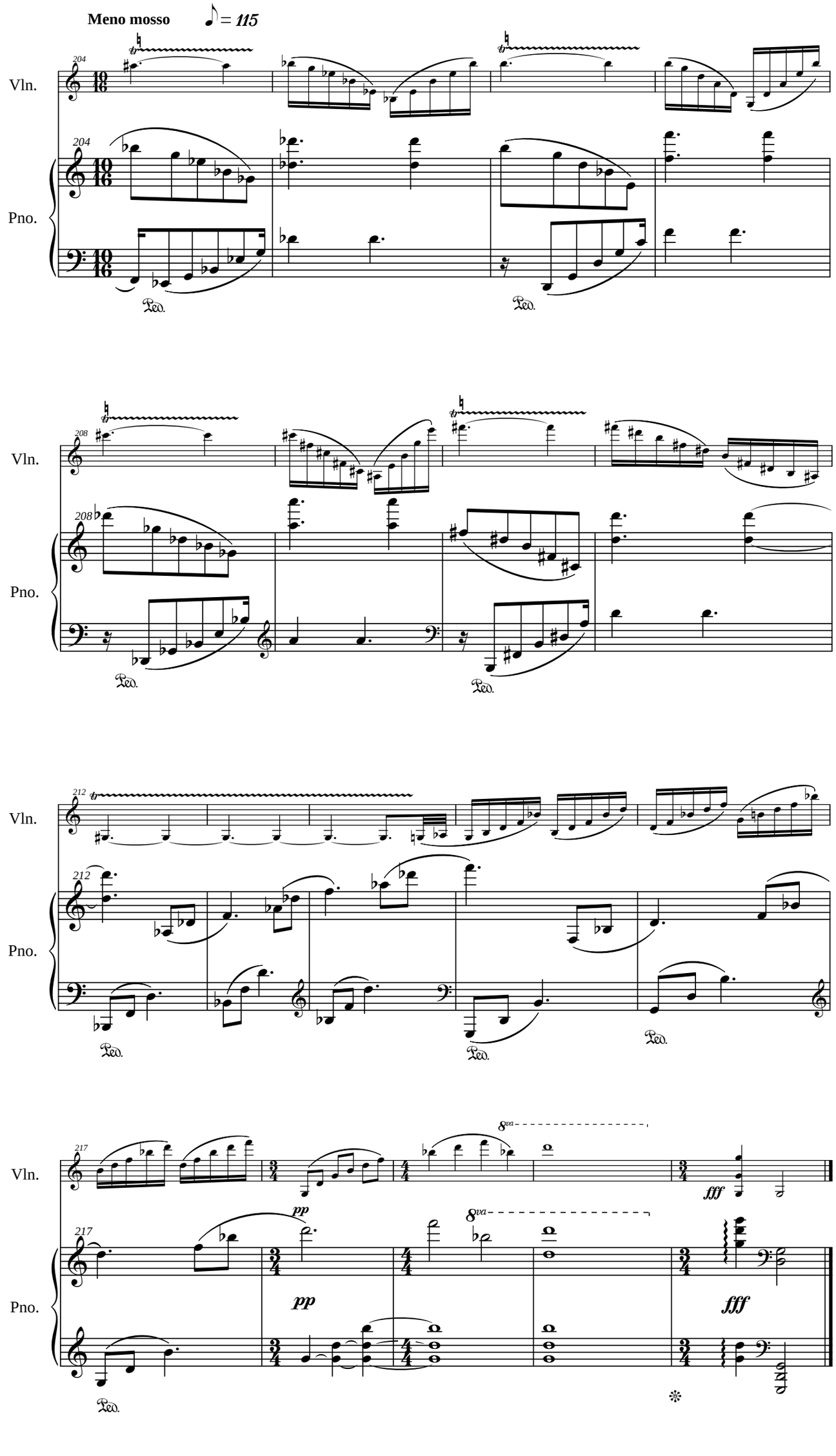

Vln.
Pno.
122
f
125
127
ff
130
134
Ped.


Vln.
Pno.
138
ff
f
mf
145
mp
pp
Tempo I
♪. = 115
152
155
158
cresc. p. a p.
(mf)
Ped.


Vln.
Pno.
161
(f)
Ped.
163
ff
8va
8vb
165
mp
167
pp
169


Vln.
Pno.
172
ff
175
Ped.
178
180
182


Vln.
Pno.
185
8vb
Poco meno mosso
188
p
♩. = 100
193
Ped.
198
poco rit.
202


Meno mosso
♪ = 115
Vln.
Pno.
204
208
212
217
pp
fff
8va
Ped.