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Title
Wind-up Bird

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Emil Ernström

Wind-up Bird

for piano trio

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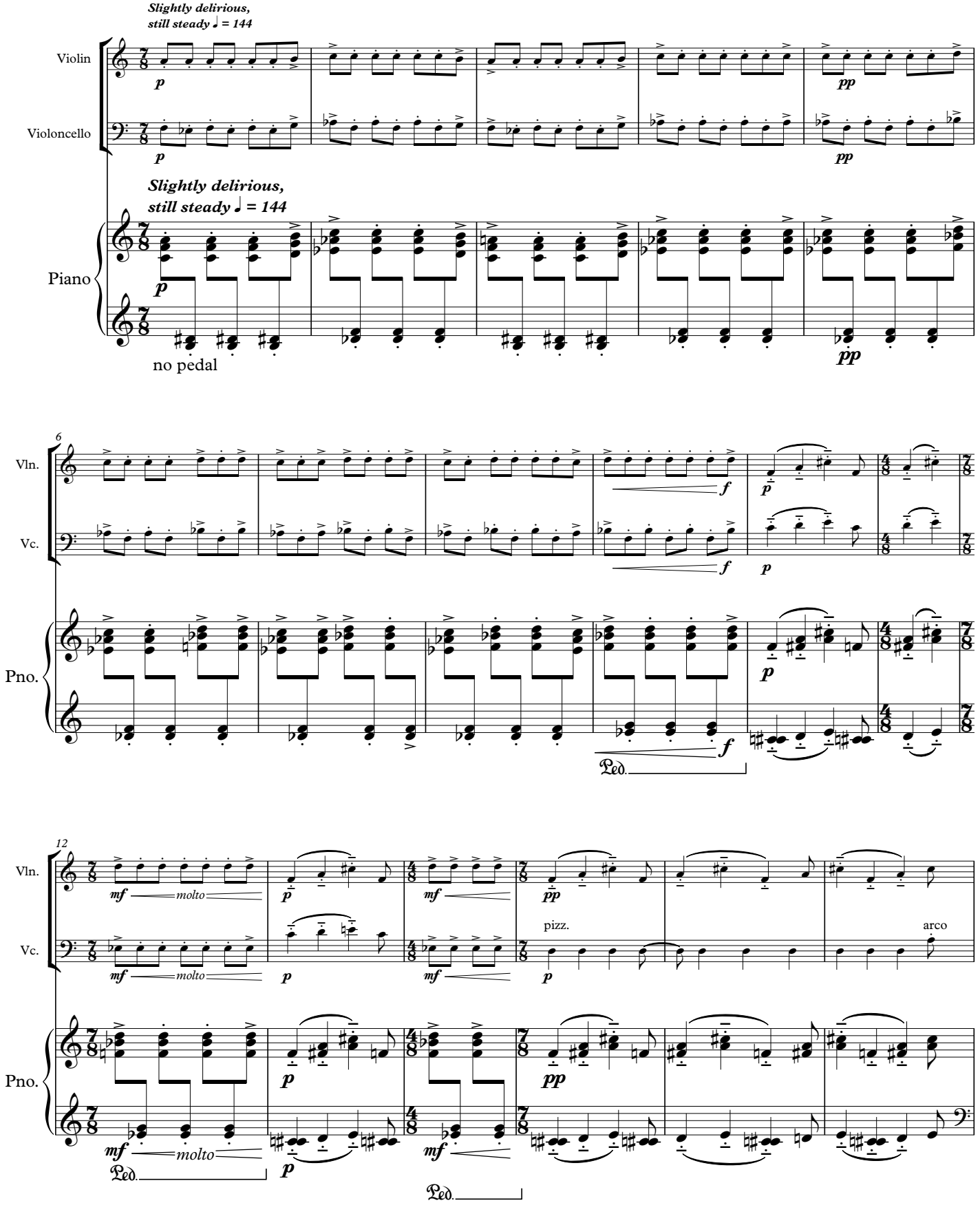
Program Note

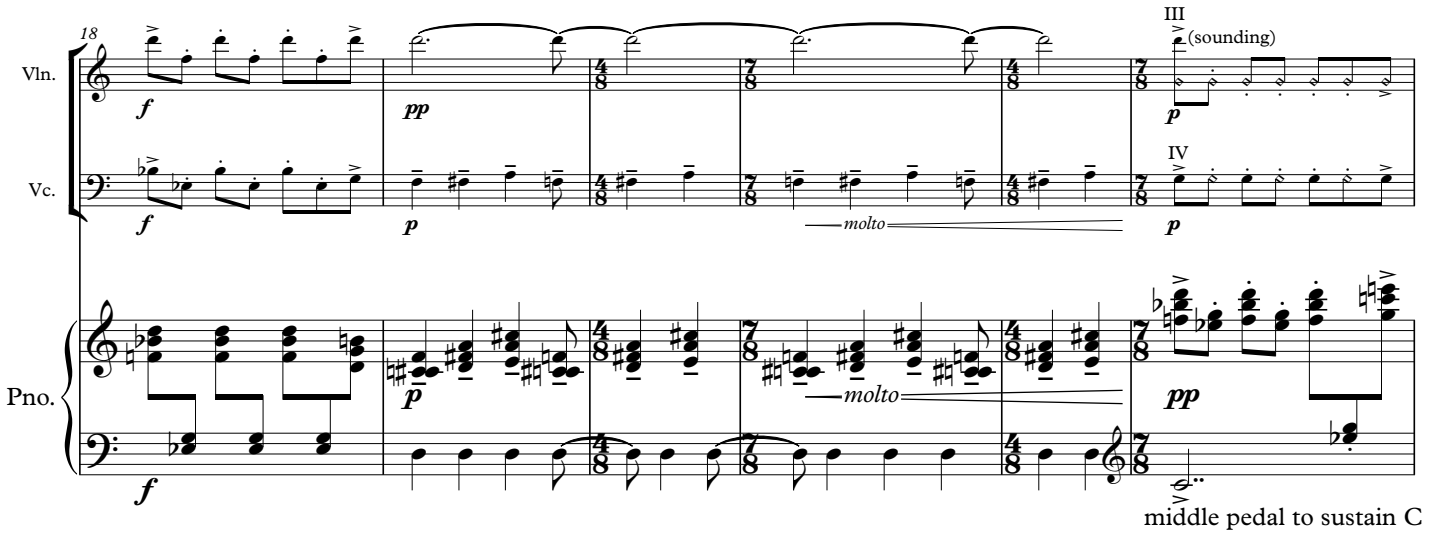
Wind-up Bird takes its name from Haruki Murakami's titular novel, though I'm not particularly inspired by Murakami's meandering narrative fantasy and more by the image of the wind-up bird itself. The wind-up bird is a machine, a collection of gears and coils, tightly wound yet ready to spring into action at moment's notice. The wind-up bird is not alive (it is a thing), but the precise construction of its mechanics attempt to dissuade us of this truth. It intends to portray life, the fluttering, palpitating sense that is existence, a being with a timepiece instead of a heart and and axles instead of veins, springs instead of tendons and aluminum instead of skin. It is dead, lifeless, yet the fluid motion of its wings seem to say otherwise. The wind-up bird has no heart, but its soul dreams of flight.

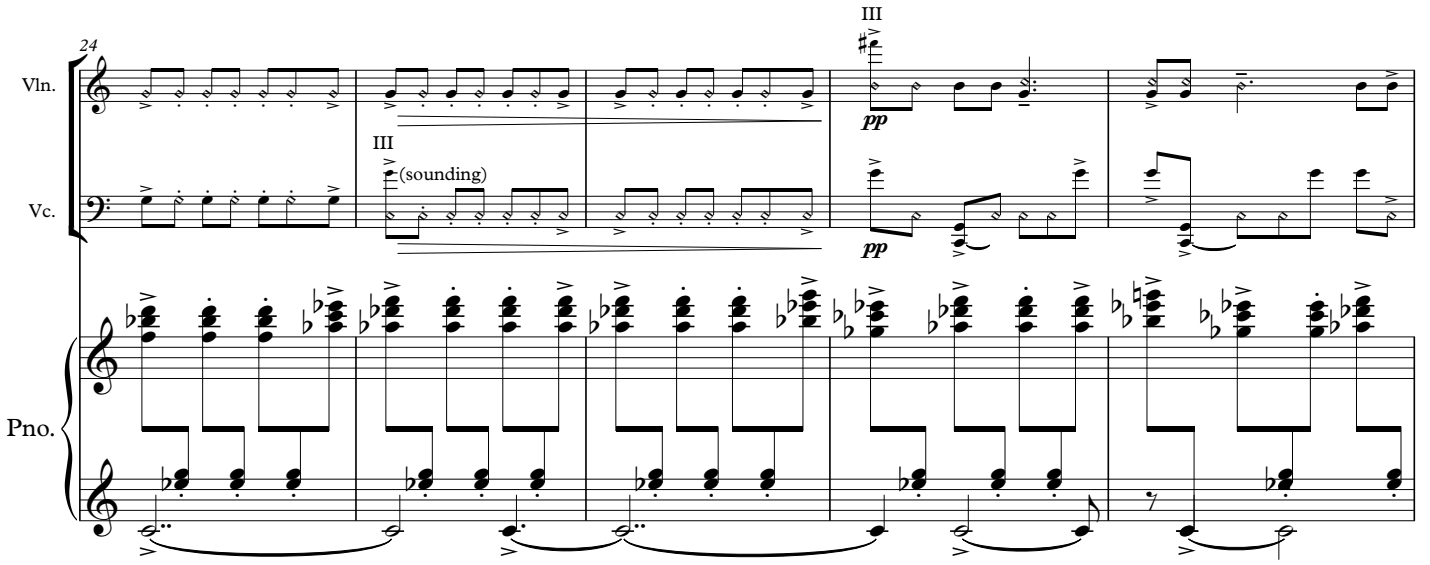
duration: ca 6 minutes

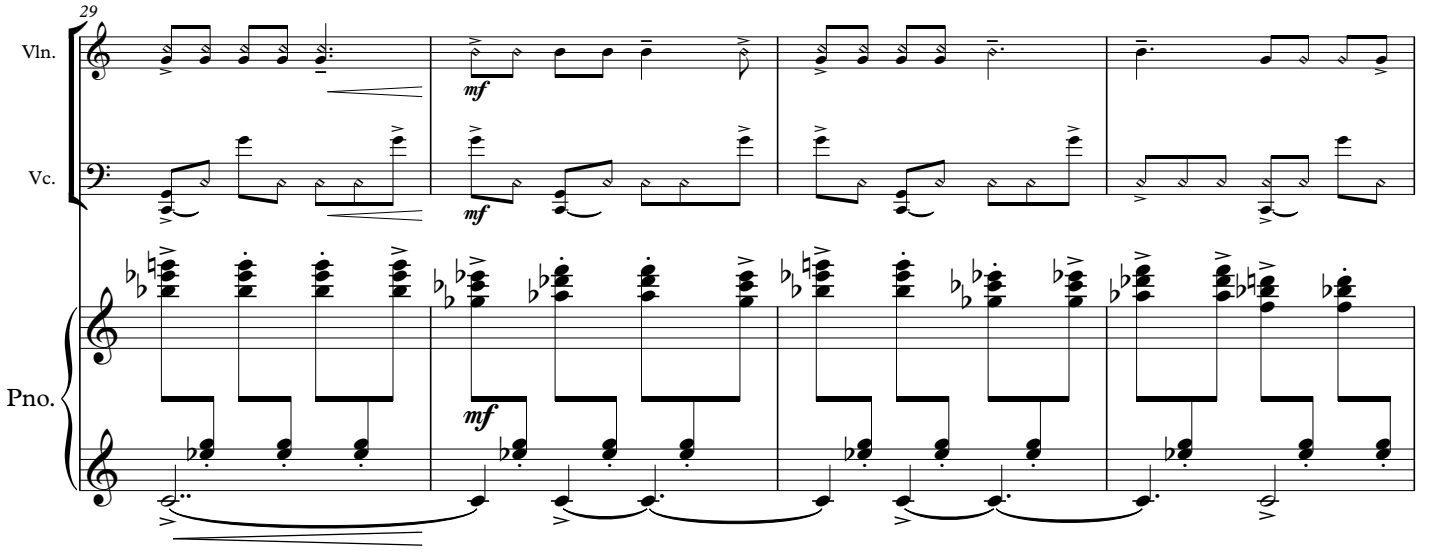
Wind-Up Bird

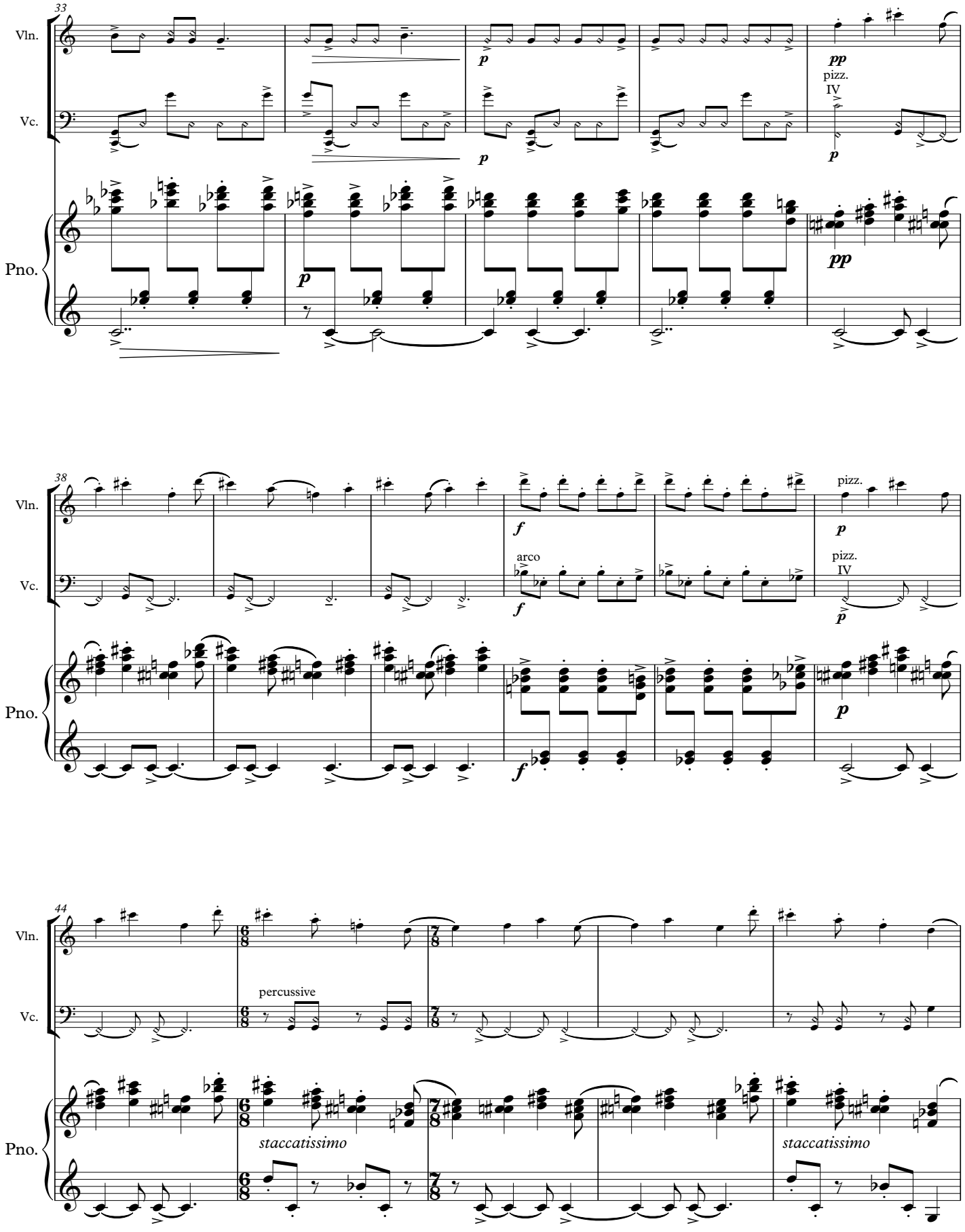
Emil Ernström

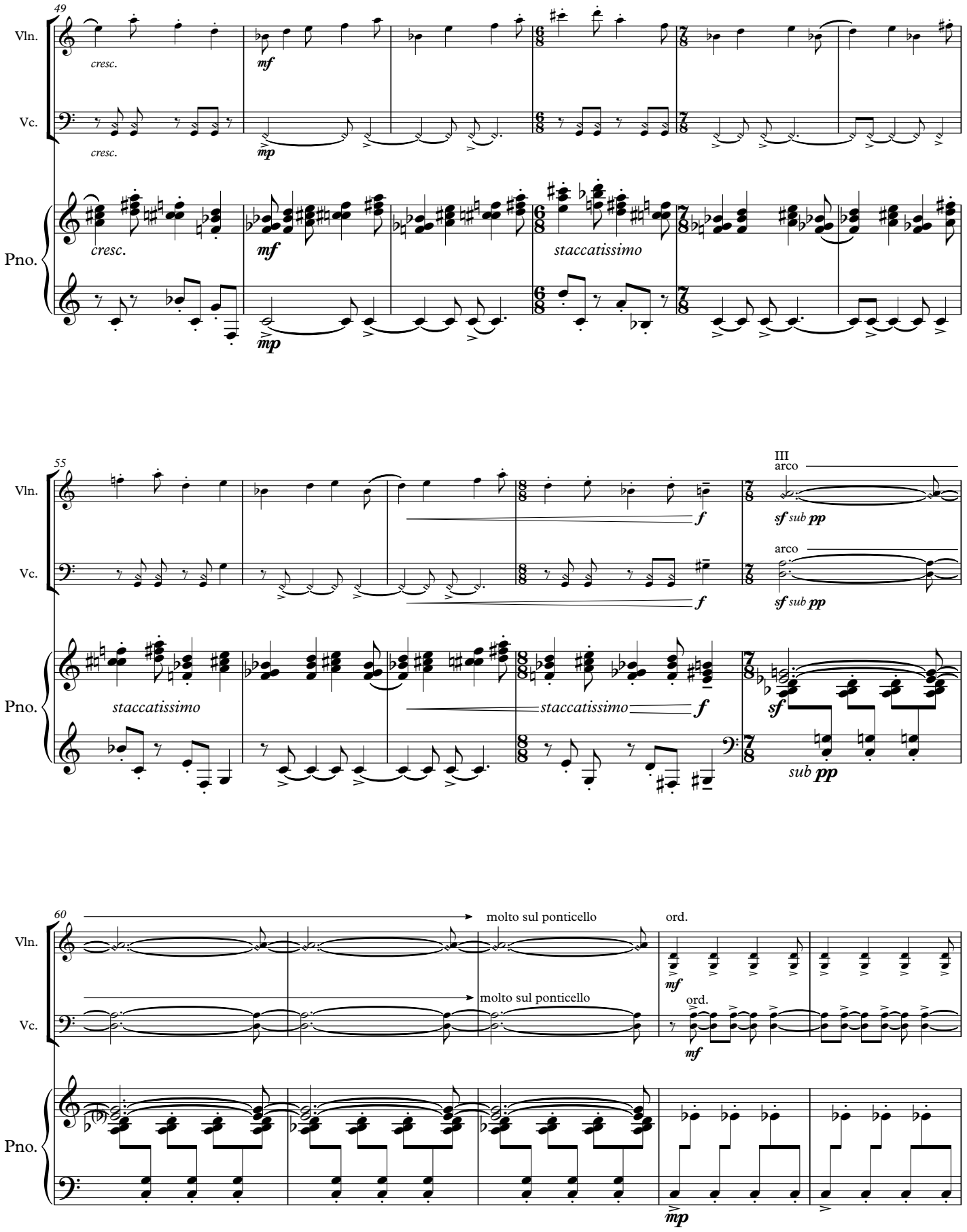


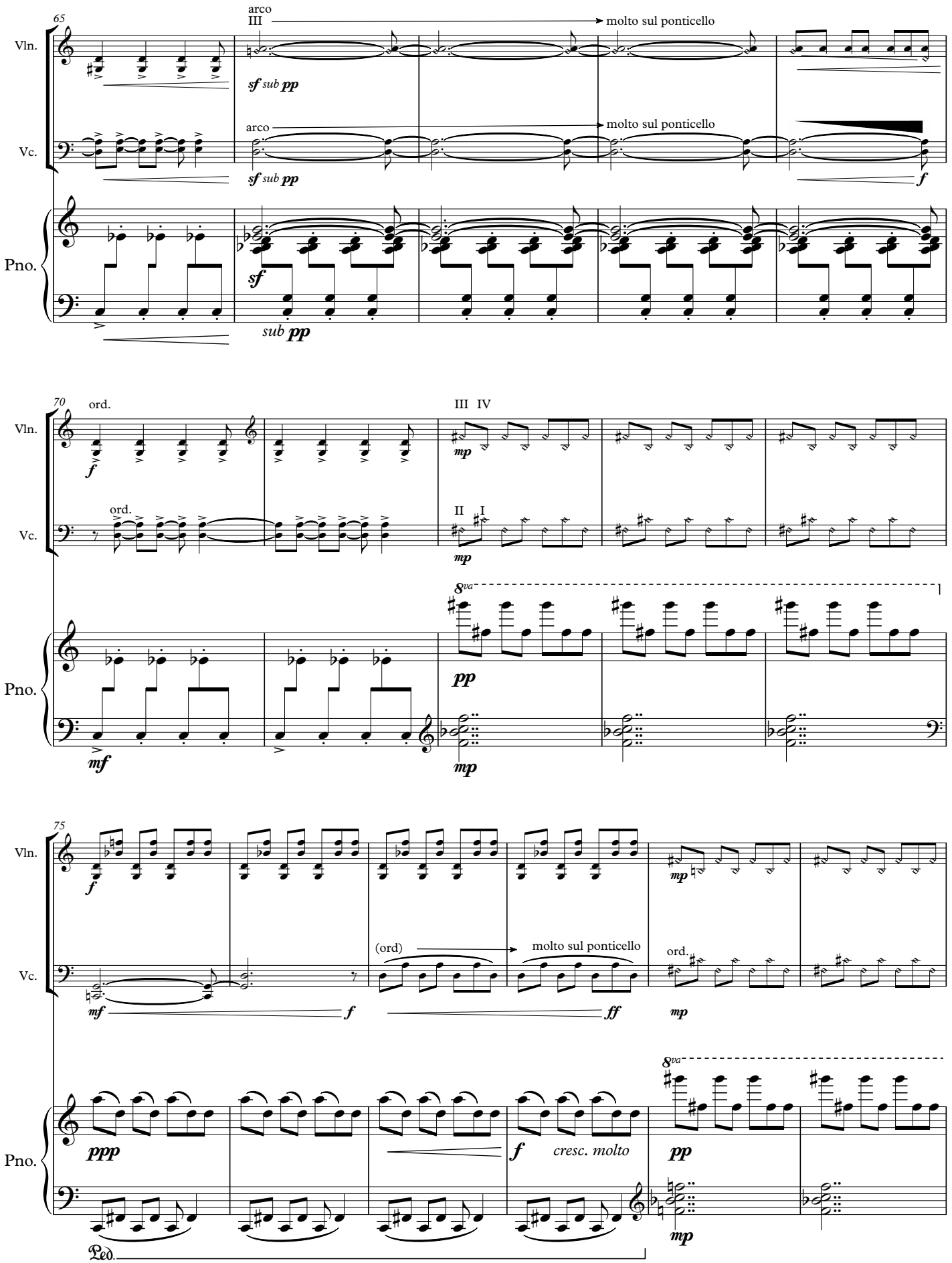

18
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
III
(sounding)
IV
molto
molto
middle pedal to sustain C

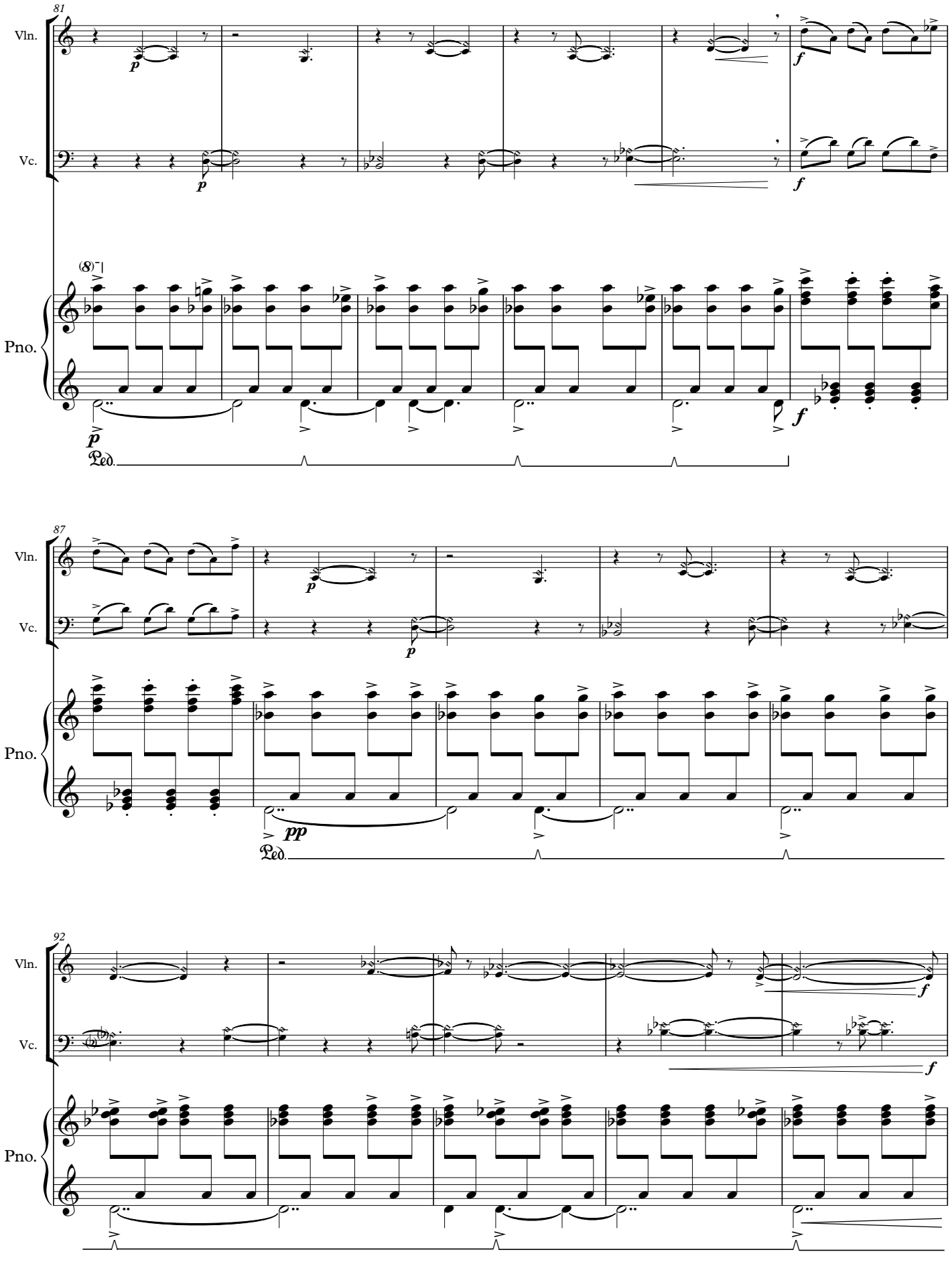

24
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
III
(sounding)
III

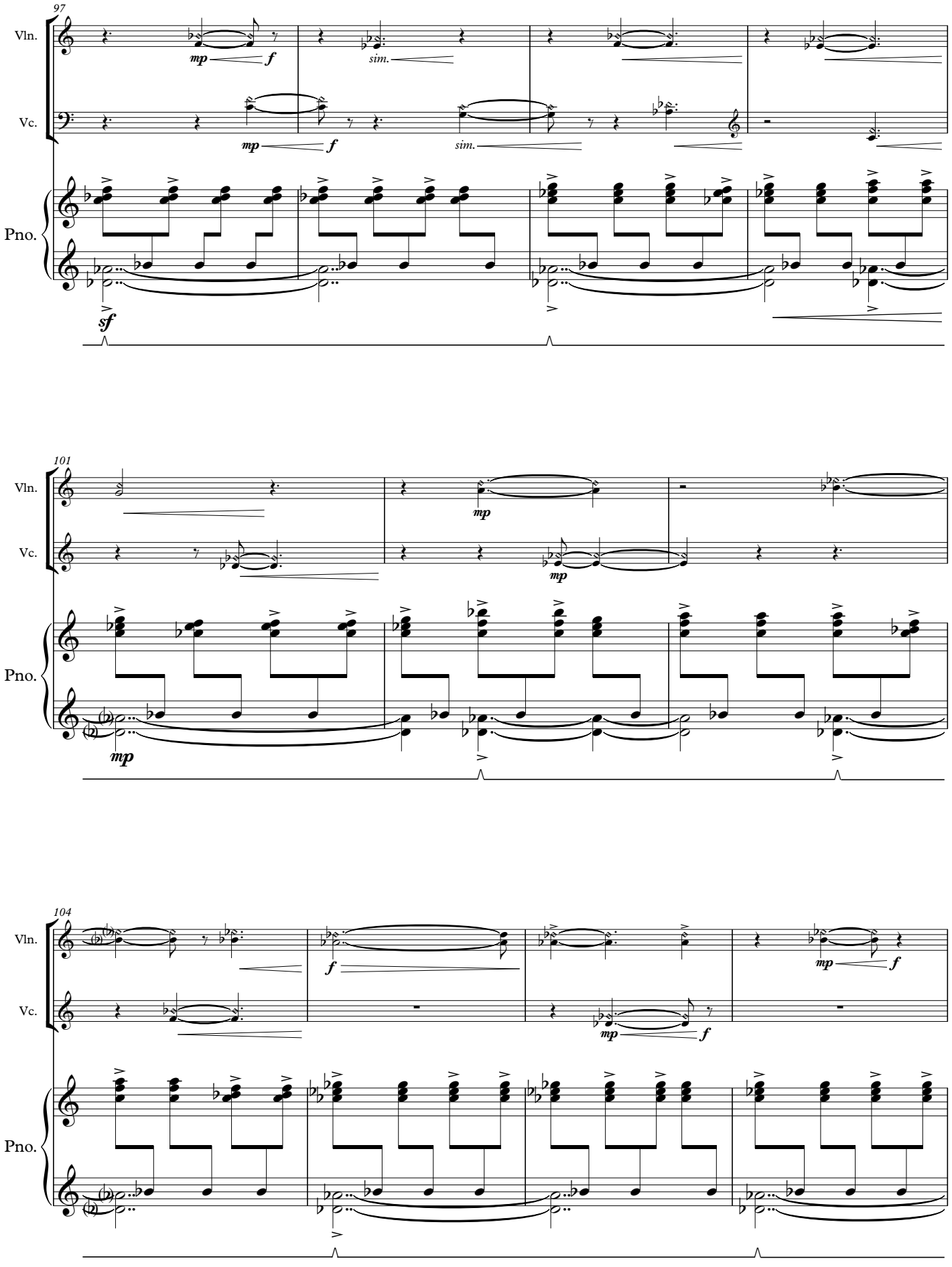

29
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.

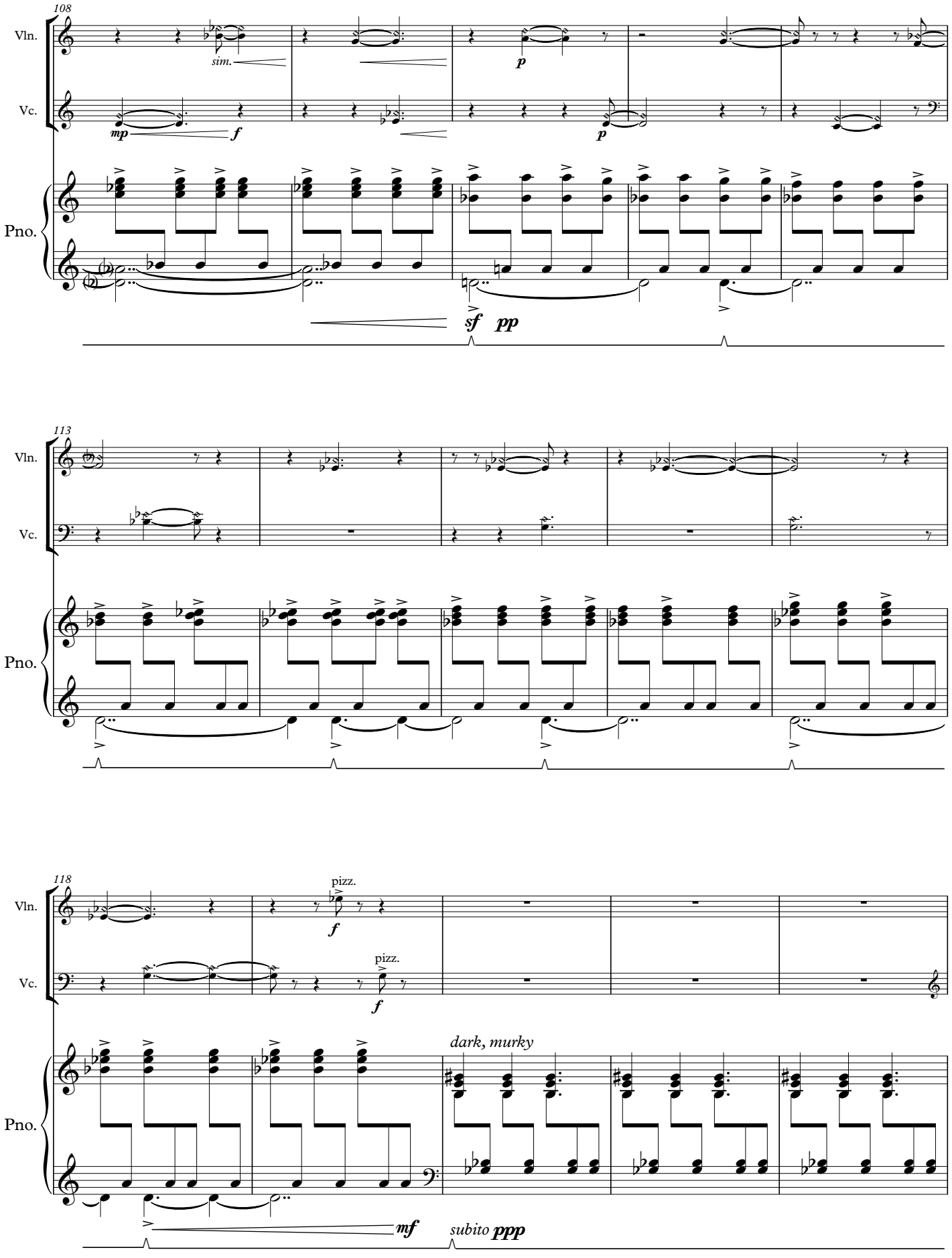

33
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
p
pp
pizz.
IV
38
f
arco
44
percussive
staccatissimo

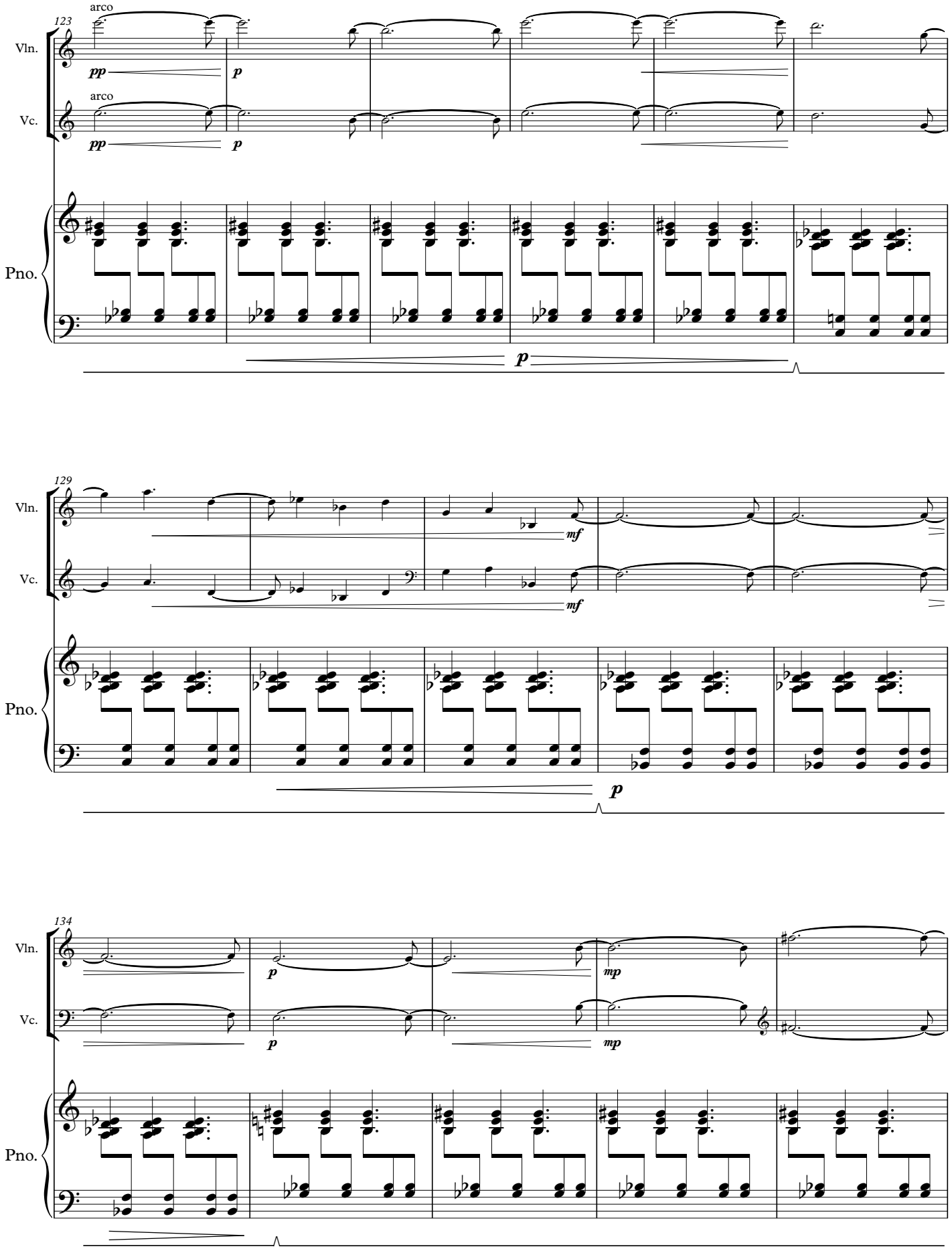

49
Vln.
cresc.
mf
Vc.
cresc.
mp
Pno.
cresc.
mf
staccatissimo
mp
55
Vln.
f
III
arco
sf sub pp
Vc.
f
arco
sf sub pp
Pno.
staccatissimo
staccatissimo
f
sf
sub pp
60
molto sul ponticello
ord.
Vln.
mf
molto sul ponticello
ord.
Vc.
mf
Pno.
mp

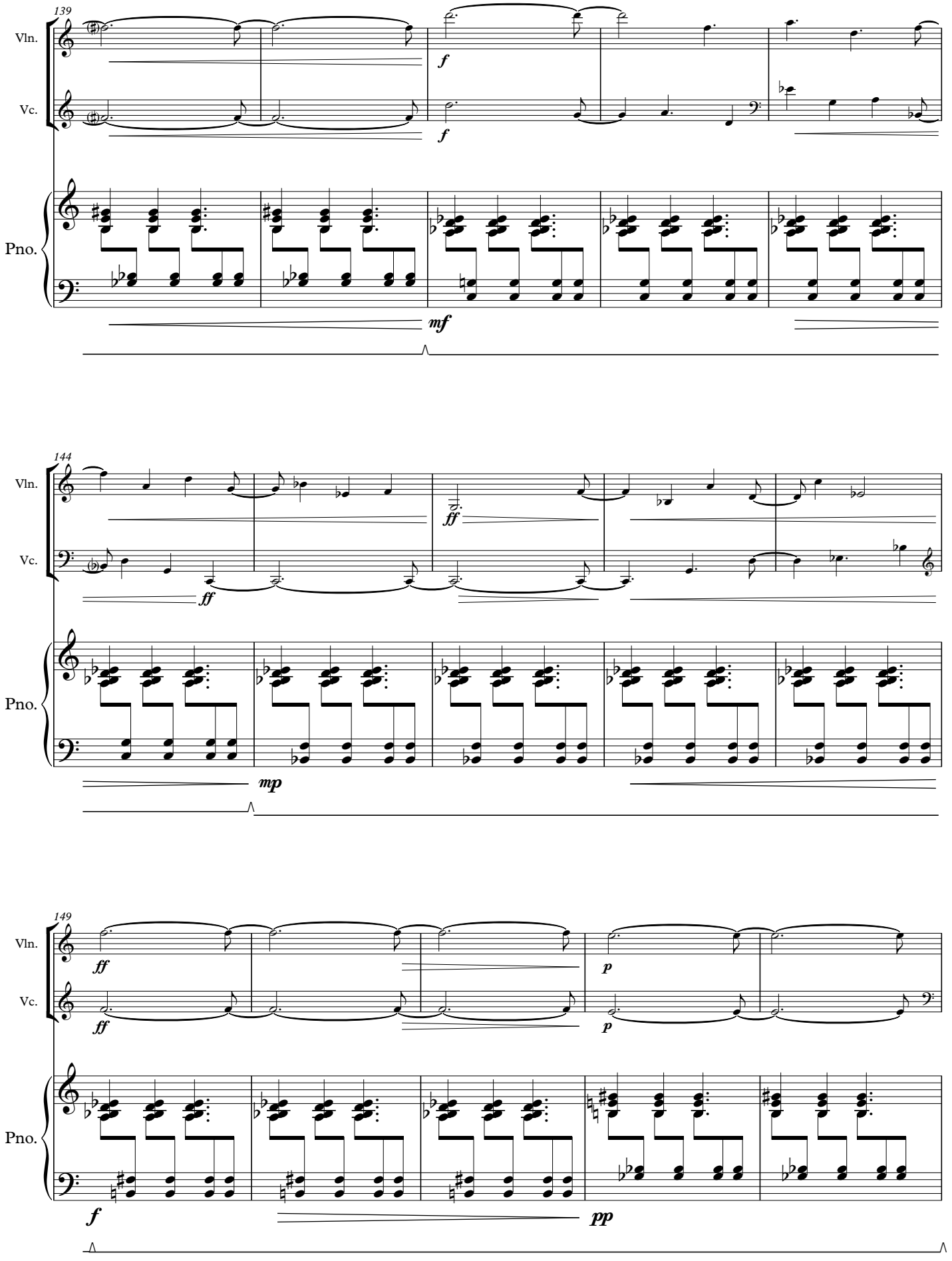

65
Vln.
arco
III
molto sul ponticello
sf sub pp
Vc.
arco
molto sul ponticello
sf sub pp
f
Pno.
sf
sub pp
70
ord.
III IV
f
mp
ord.
II I
mp
8va
pp
mf
mp
75
Vln.
f
mp
Vc.
(ord)
molto sul ponticello
ord.
mf
f
ff
mp
8va
Pno.
ppp
f
cresc. molto
pp
mp
Ped.

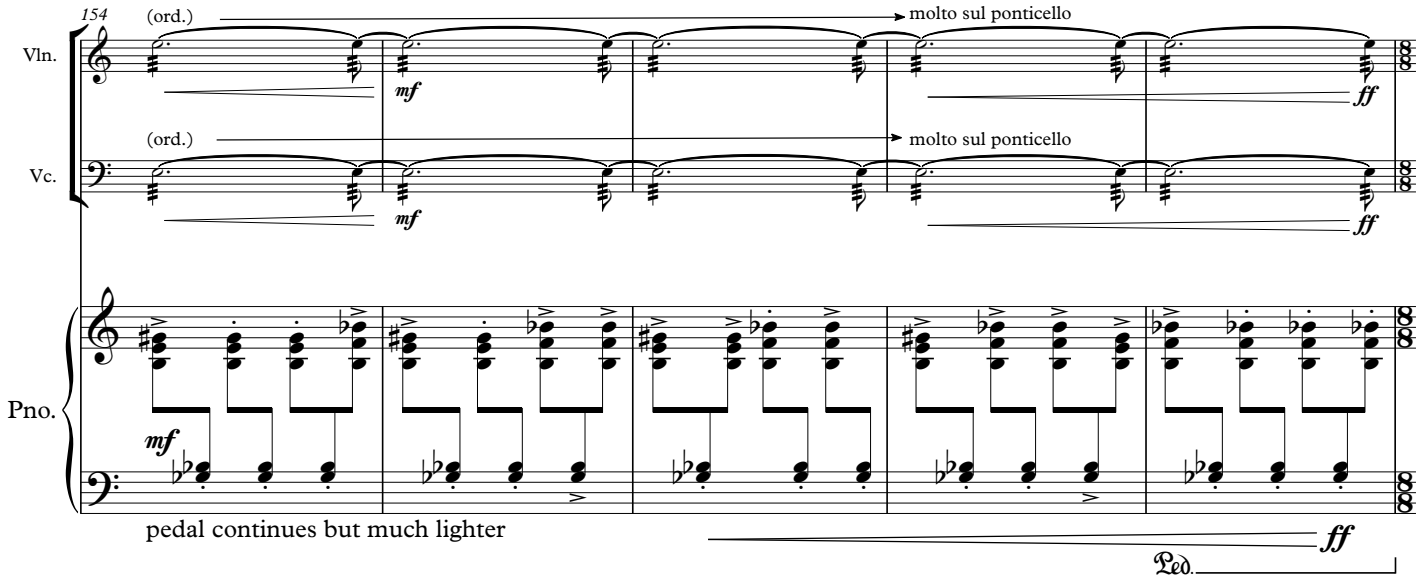

81
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
(8)
87
92

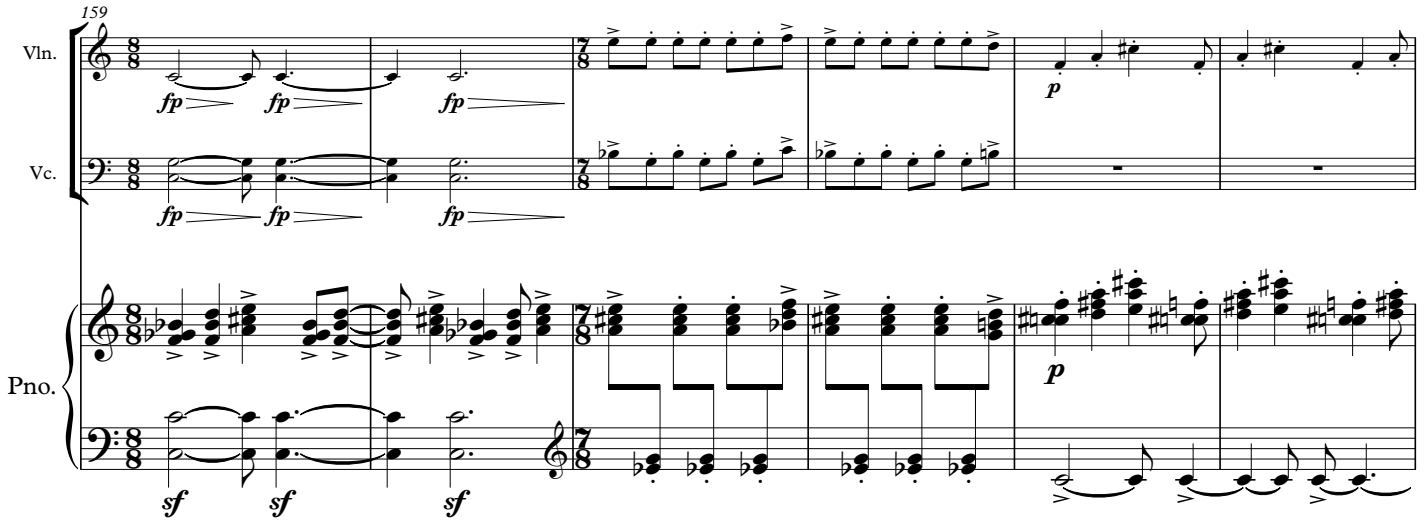

97
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
mp
f
sim.
sf
101
mp
104
f
mp

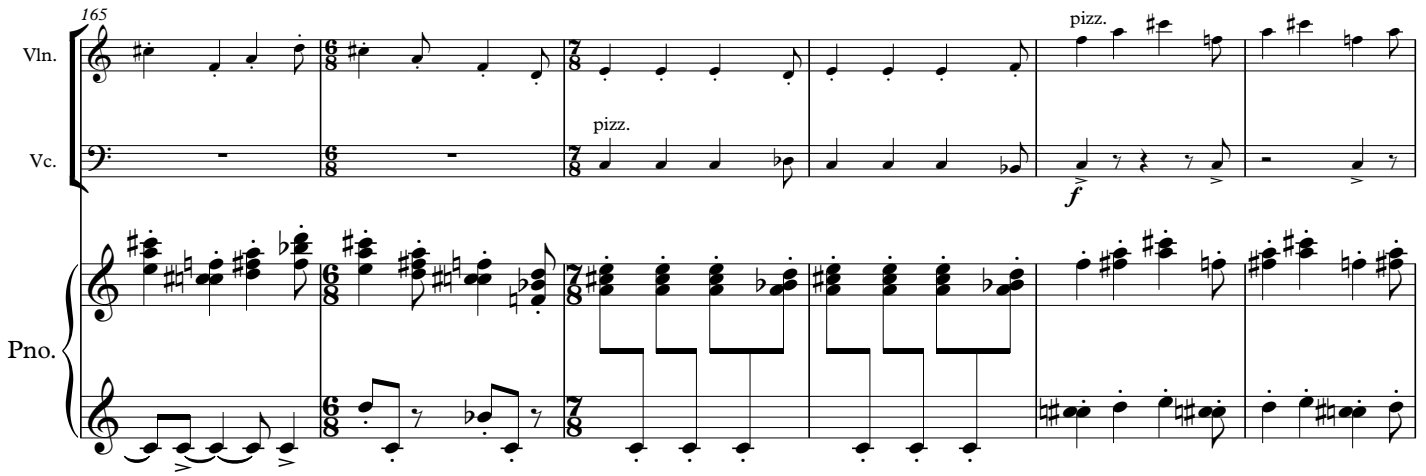

108
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
sim.
mp
f
p
p
sf
pp
113
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
118
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
f
pizz.
f
dark, murky
mf
subito ppp

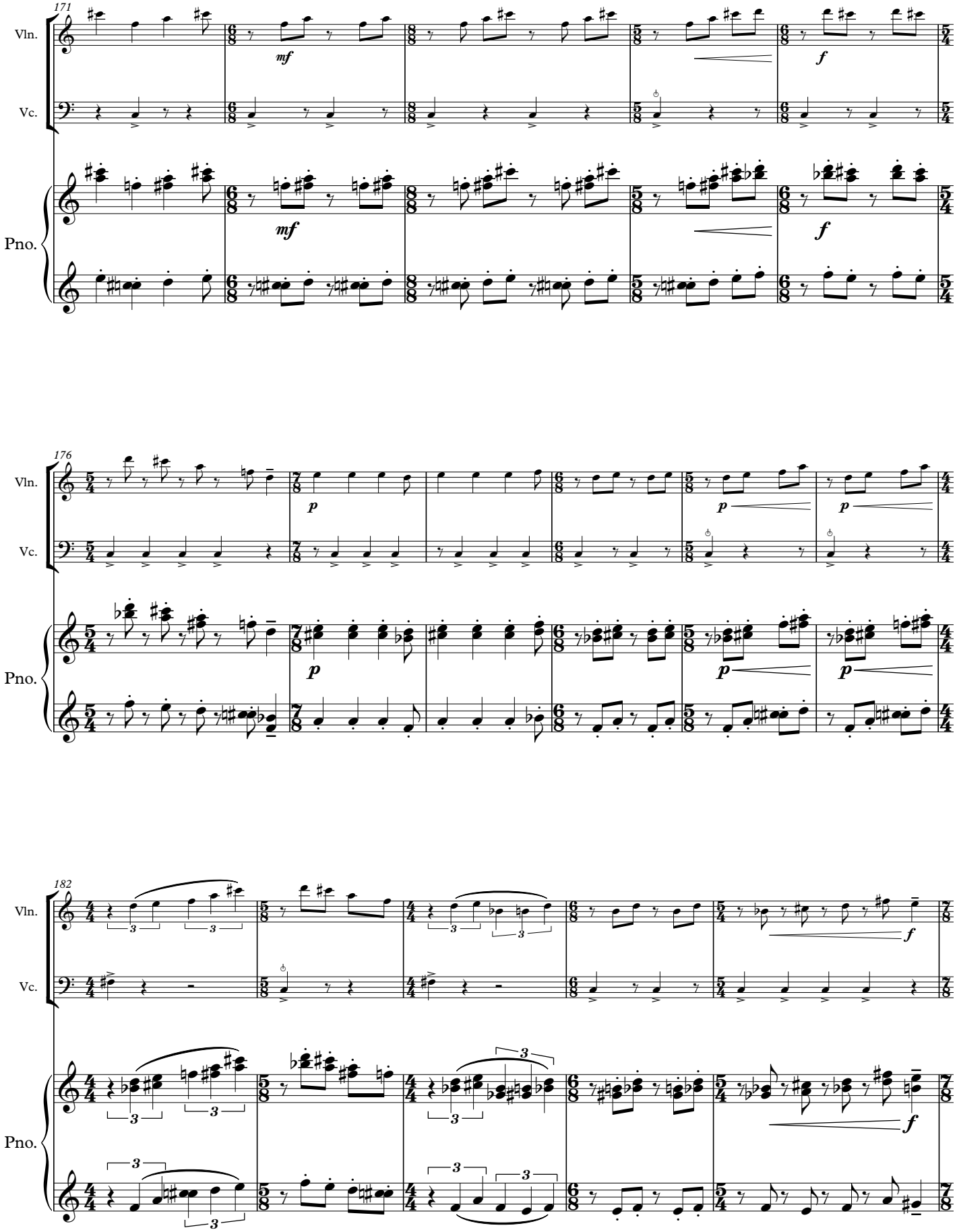

123
arco
Vln.
pp
p
arco
Vc.
pp
p
Pno.
p
129
Vln.
mf
Vc.
mf
Pno.
p
134
Vln.
p
mp
Vc.
p
mp
Pno.

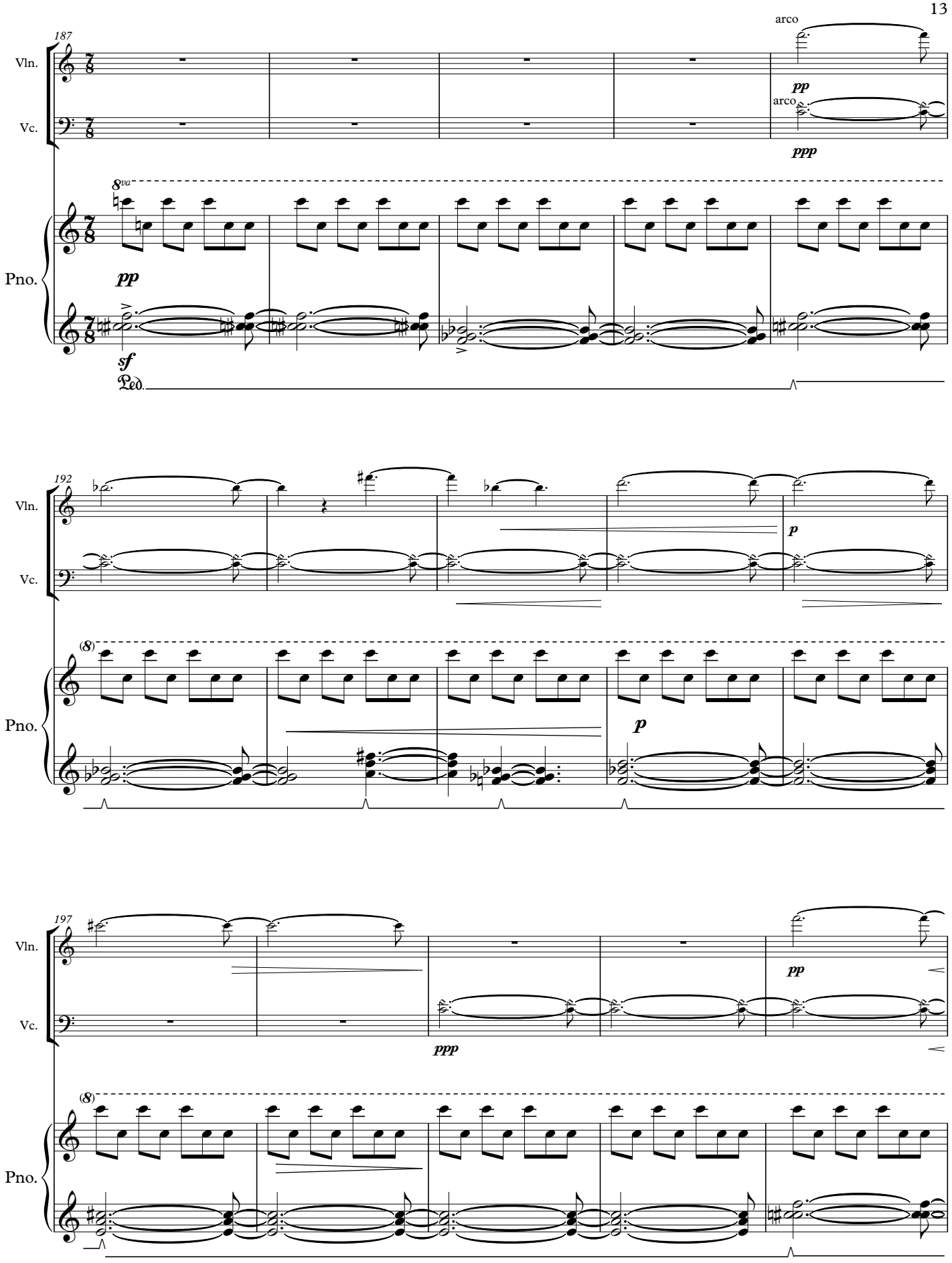

139
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
f
f
mf
144
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
ff
mp
149
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
ff
p
p
f
pp

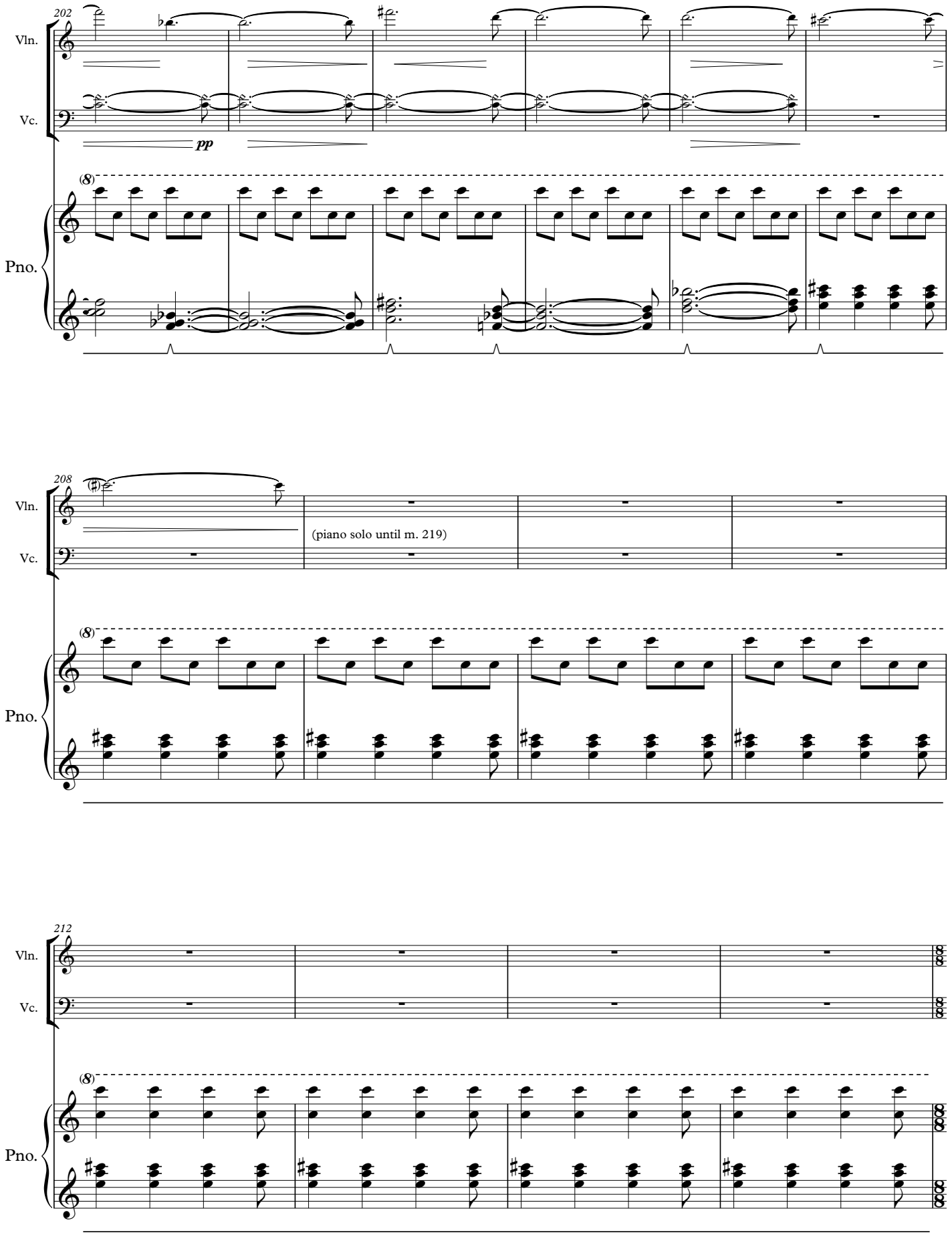

154
(ord.)
molto sul ponticello
Vln.
mf
ff
(ord.)
molto sul ponticello
Vc.
mf
ff
Pno.
mf
pedal continues but much lighter
ff
Ped.

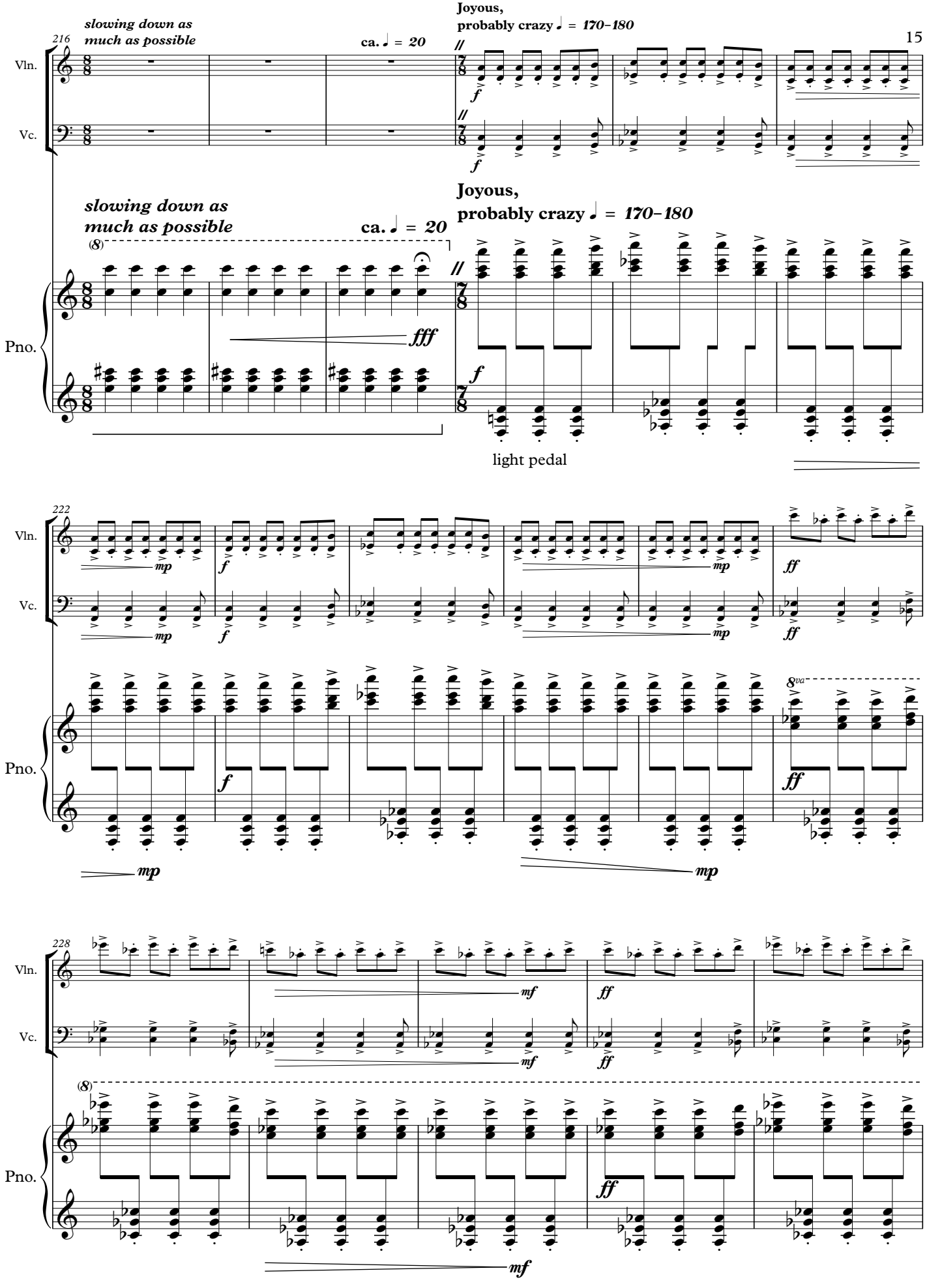

159
Vln.
fp
fp
fp
p
Vc.
fp
fp
fp
Pno.
p
sf
sf
sf

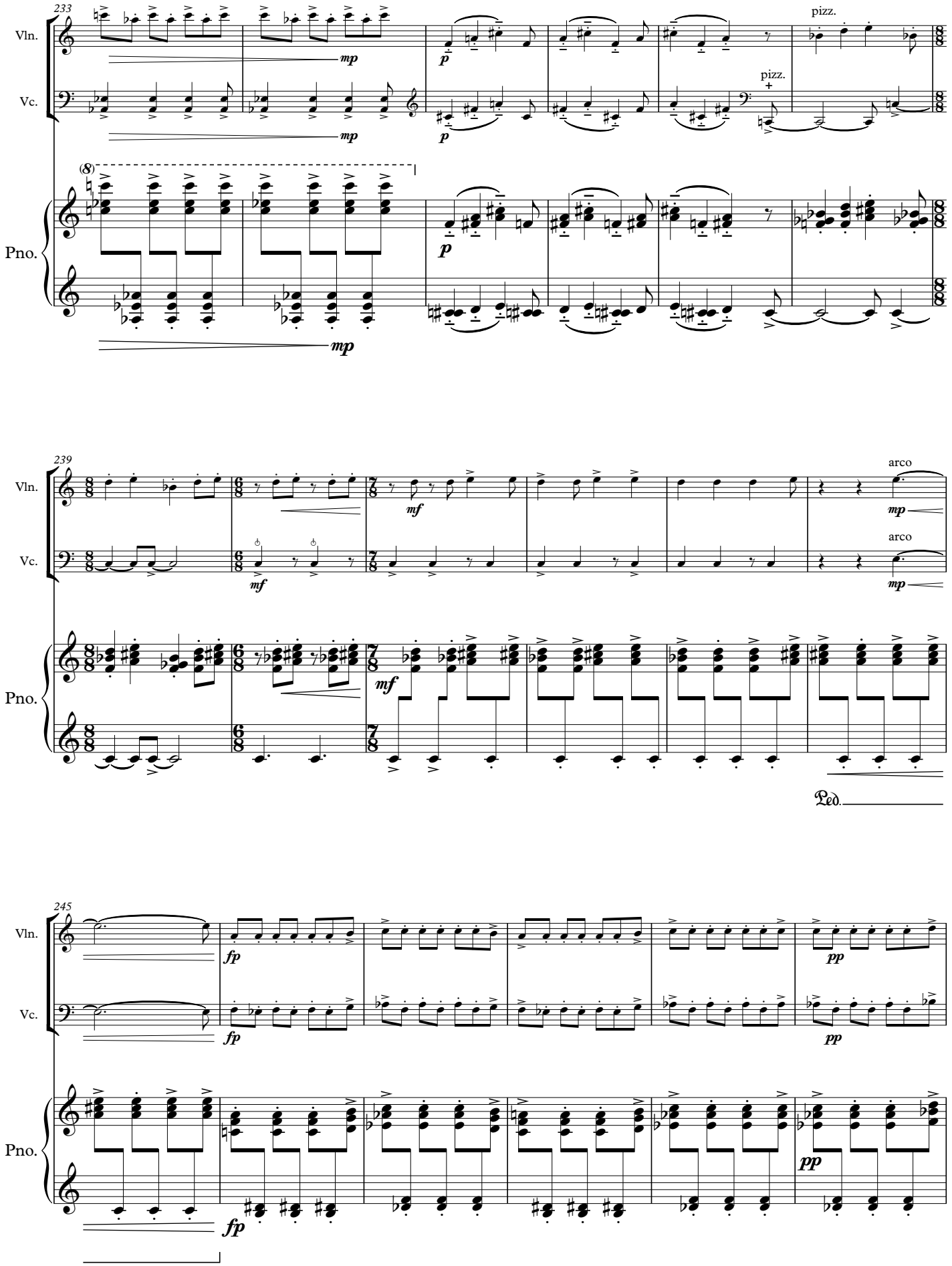

165
Vln.
pizz.
pizz.
Vc.
f
Pno.

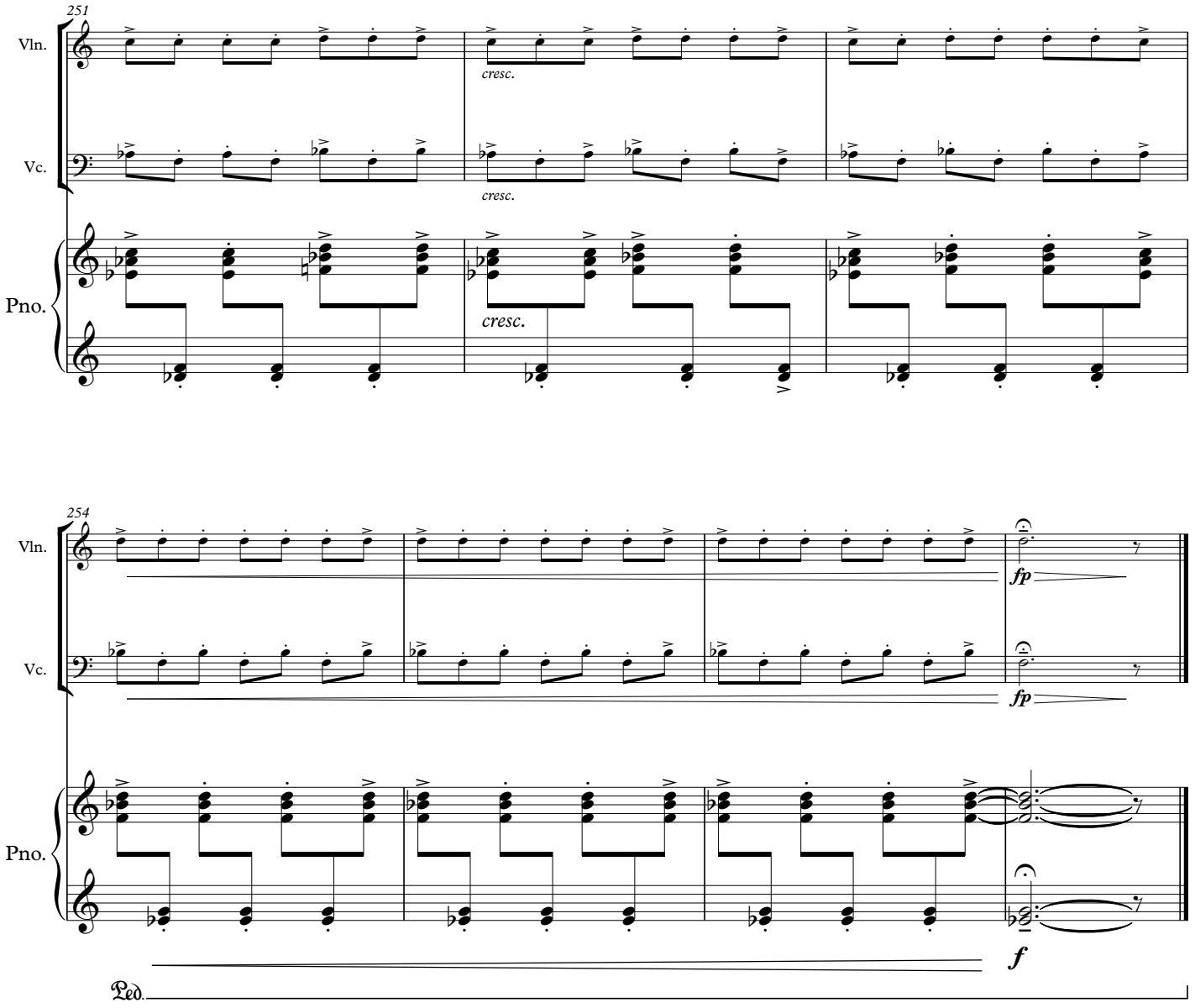

171
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
mf
f
176
p
182
3


187
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
pp
arco
ppp
8va
pp
sf
Ped.
192
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
(8)
p
p
197
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ppp
pp
(8)


202
Vln.
Vc.
pp
(8)
Pno.
208
Vln.
Vc.
(piano solo until m. 219)
(8)
Pno.
212
Vln.
Vc.
(8)
Pno.


216
slowing down as much as possible
ca. ♩ = 20
Joyous, probably crazy ♩ = 170–180
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
fff
f
light pedal
222
mp
ff
8va
228
mf


233
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
mp
p
pizz.
pizz.
+
(8)
239
mf
arco
arco
Ped.
245
fp
pp


251
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.

254
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
fp
fp
f
Ped.