DAS SEUFZEN DER ZAHLEN

FOR PIANO SOLO

KEVIN H. GRAY

FOREWORD

Das Seufzen der Zahlen was composed between February and April of 2011. It is intended as a tribute to a number of German or Germanic composers whose conceptualizations for keyboard frequently contain elements that I particularly admire. This music is therefore gratefully dedicated to Carola Bauckholt, Hanns Eisler, Burkhard Friedrich, Beat Furrer, Georg Friedrich Haas, Hermannn Keller, Sven-Ingo Koch, Robert HP Platz, Enno Poppe, Tobias PM Schneid, Wolfram Schurig, Charlotte Seither, Gunter Steinke, Karlheinz Stockhausen, Anton von Webern, and Bernd-Alois Zimmermann.

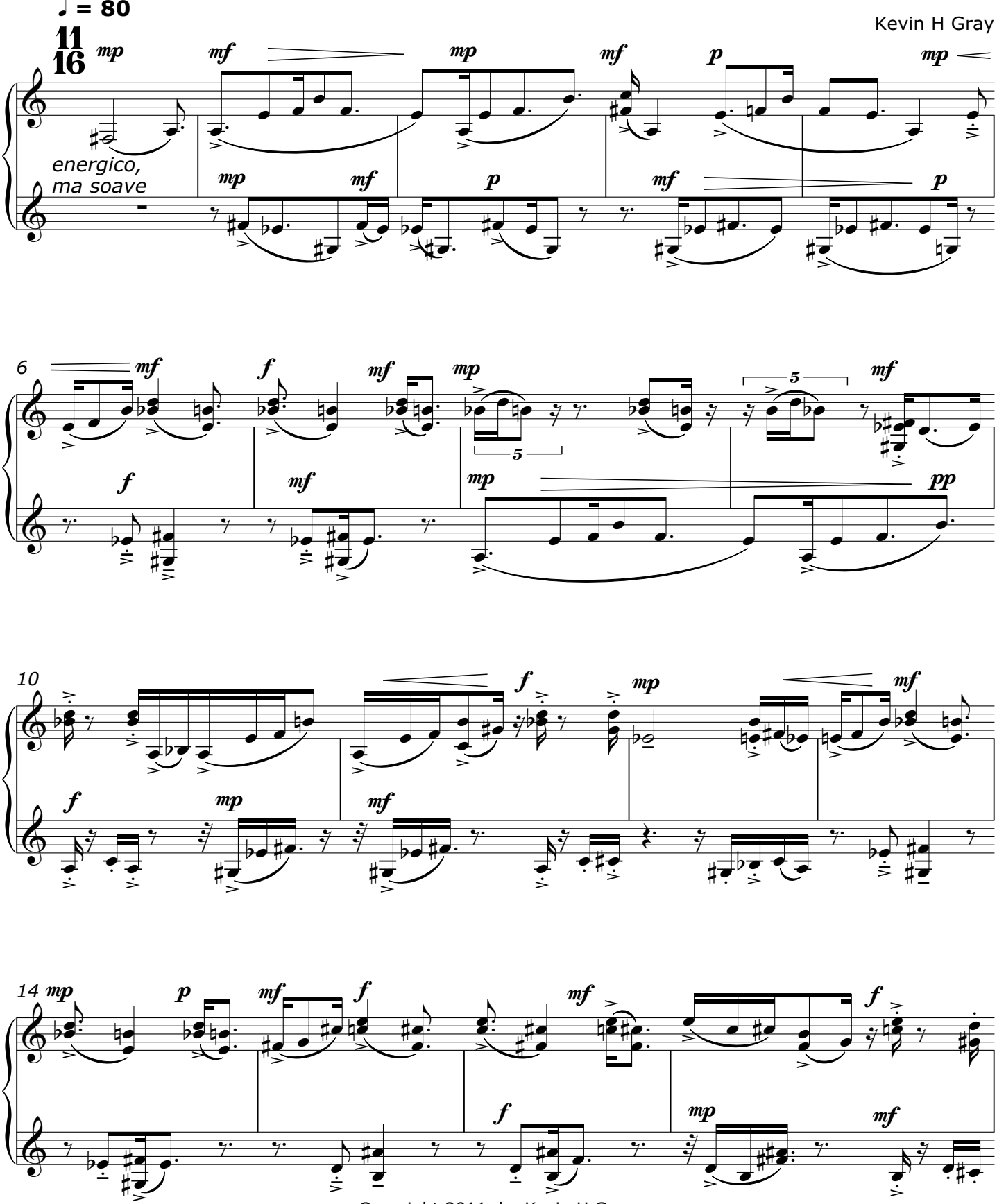
I will ever prefer performances of most of my piano music, and particularly this music, that are characterized by under-pedaling, rather than over-pedaling. In the case of *Das Seufzen der Zahlen*, it is only the fear that a Draconian interpretation of *secco* could prove too dry for some performance venues that prevents my prescribing that pedal be foresworn entirely.

By the same token, while rubato is perhaps not entirely out of place, here and there, during this work, I trust that pianists will be sensitive to the fact that the overuse of this element will only serve to obscure the notated rhythms, which are the very breath of this music.

Kevin H. Gray
Summer, 2011

Das Seufzen der Zahlen

Kevin H Gray



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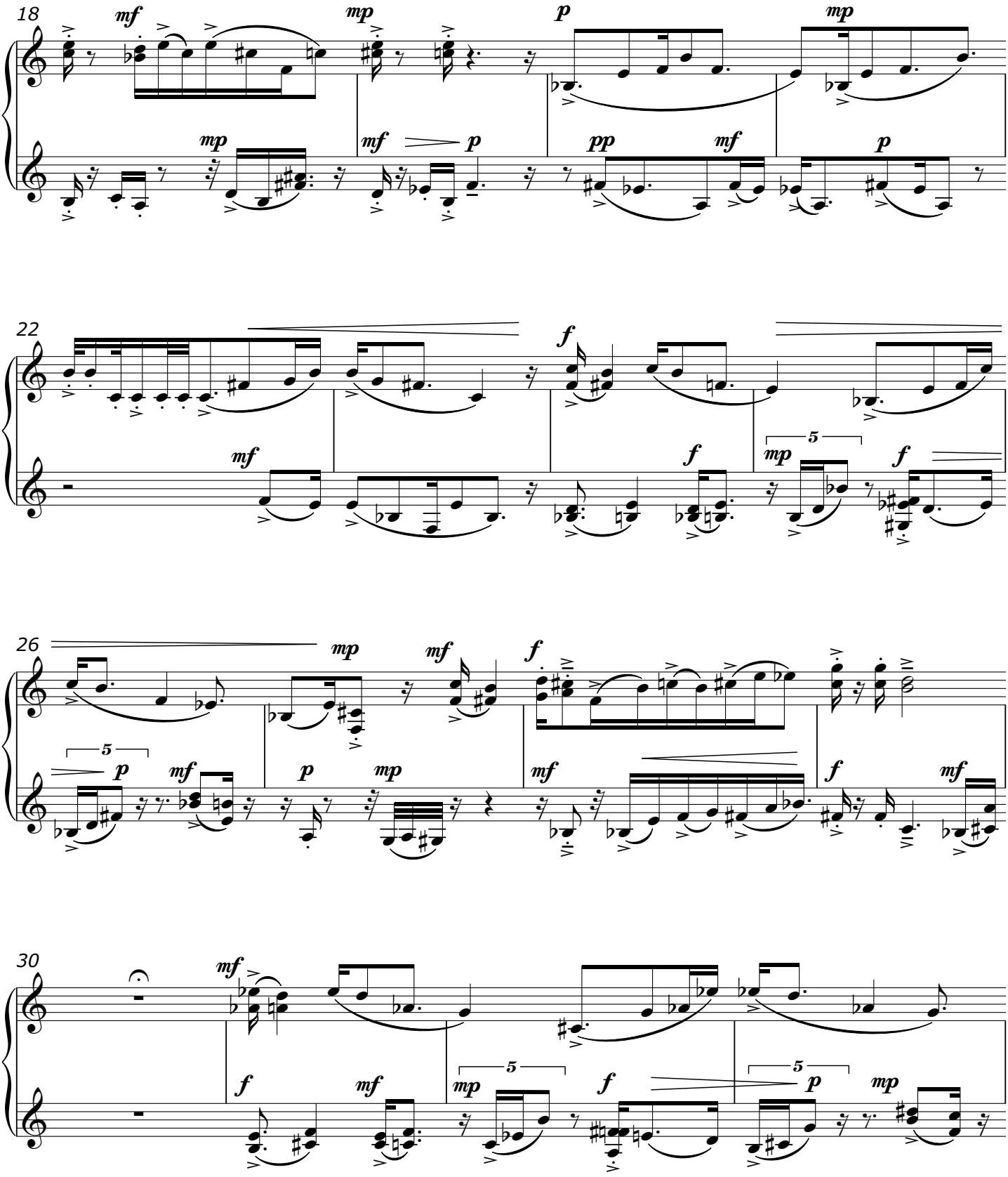

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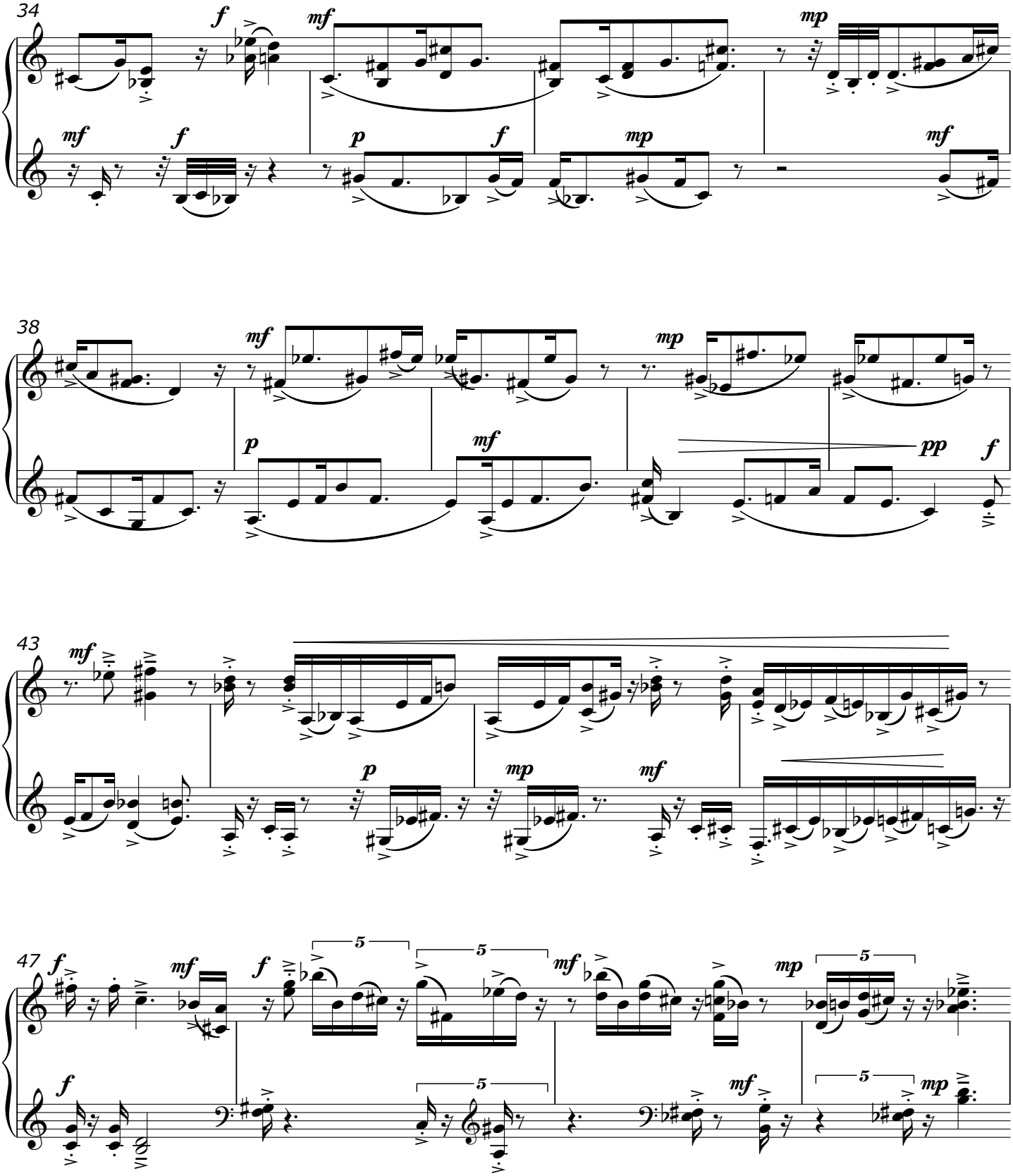

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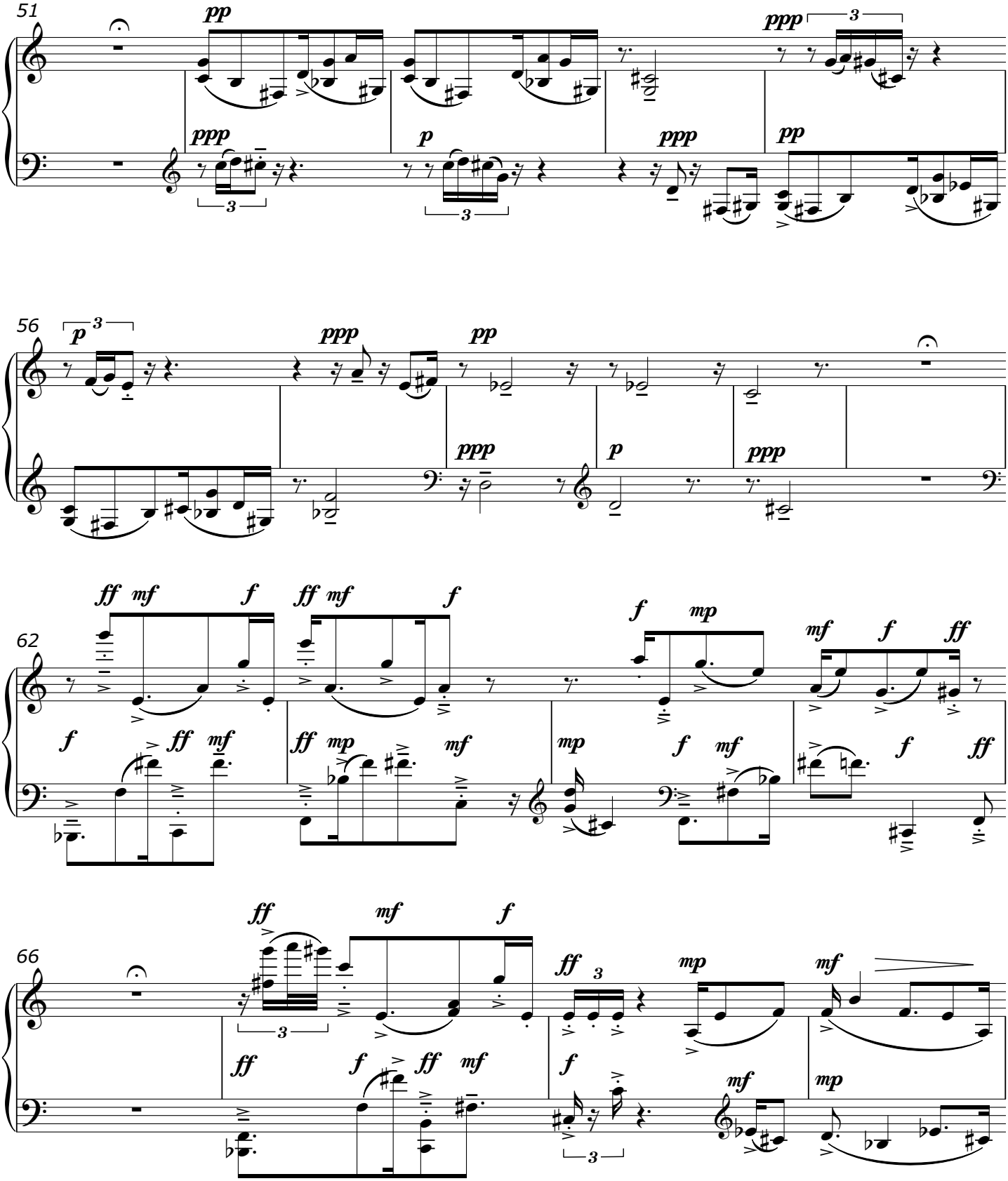

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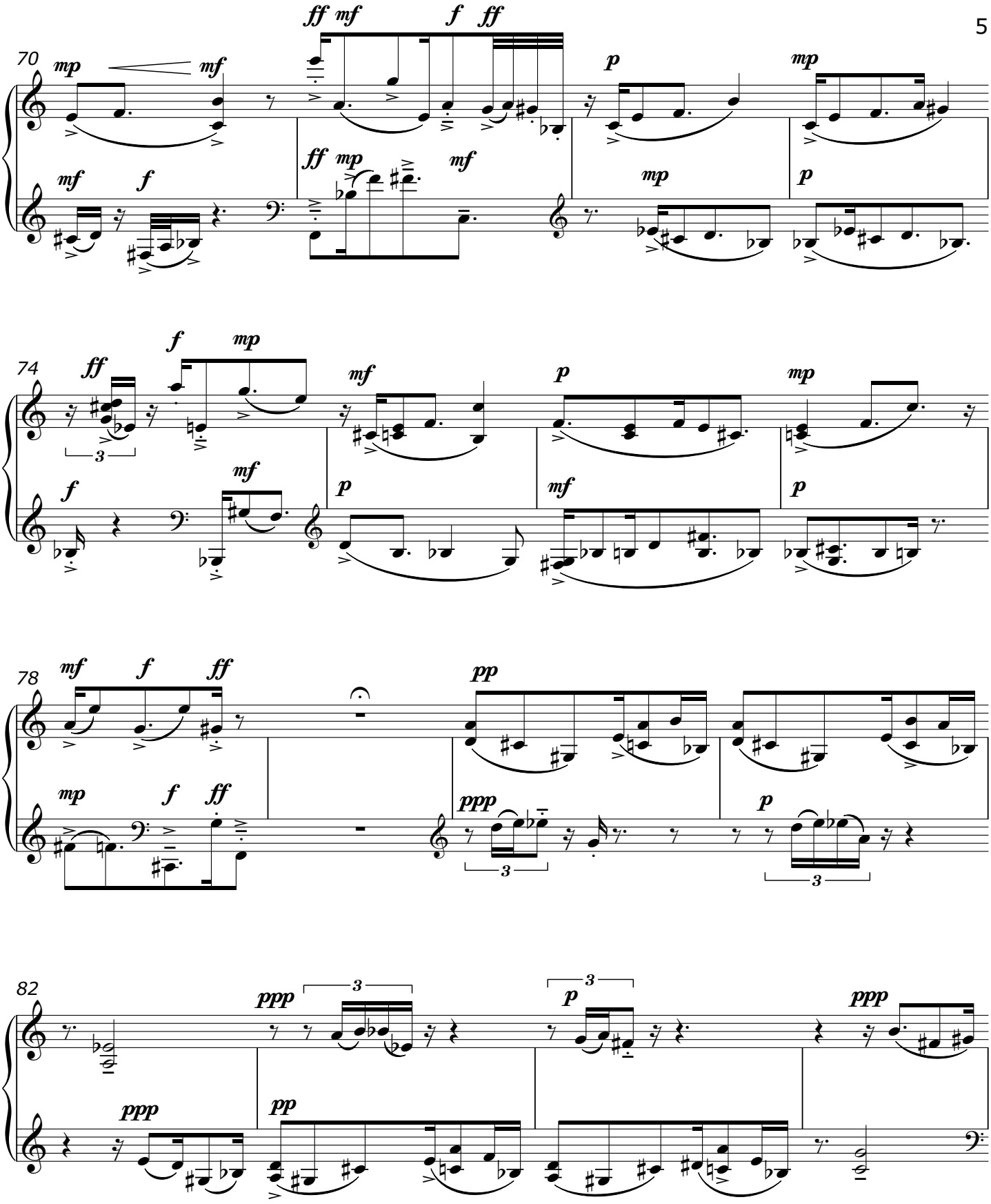

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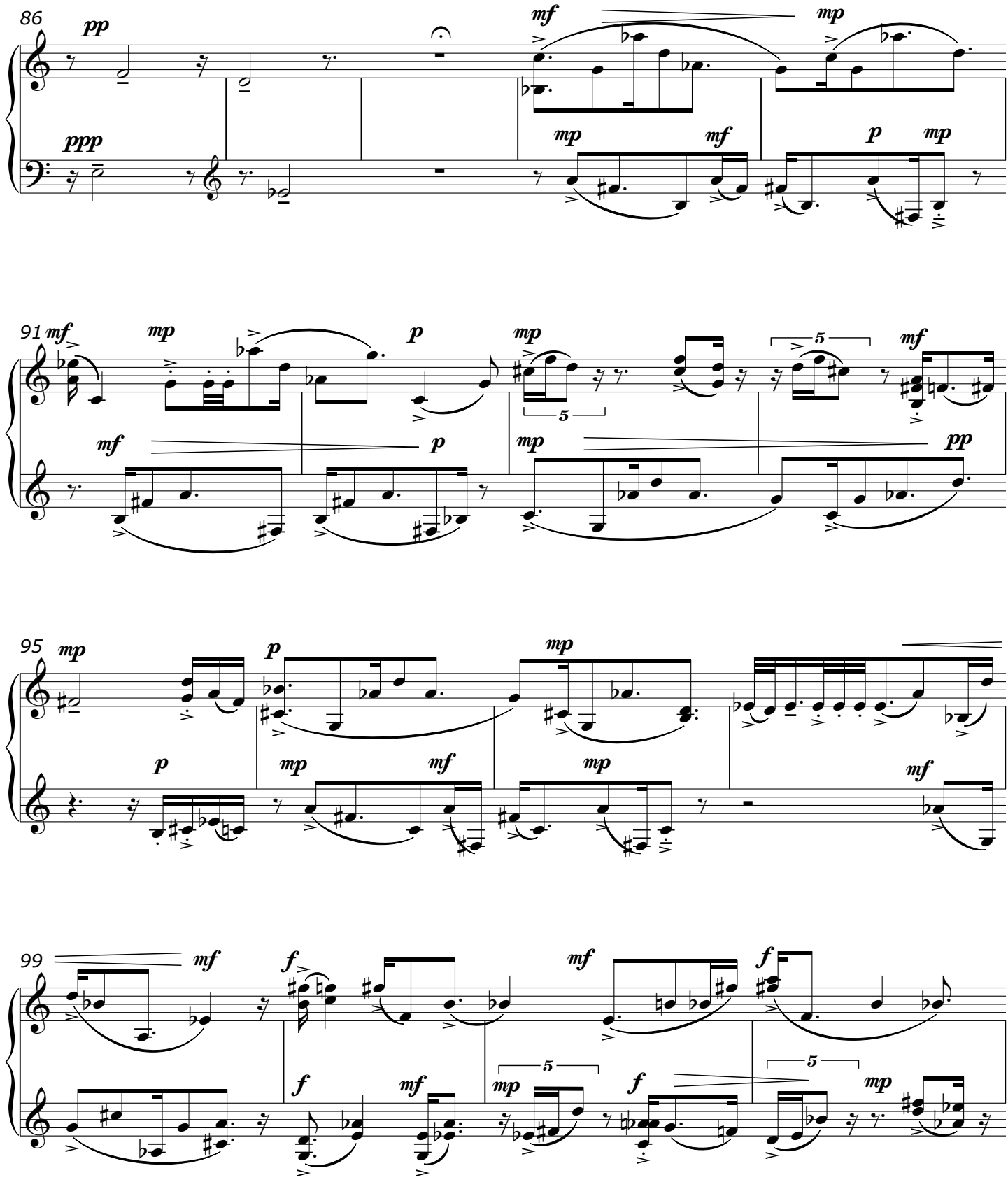

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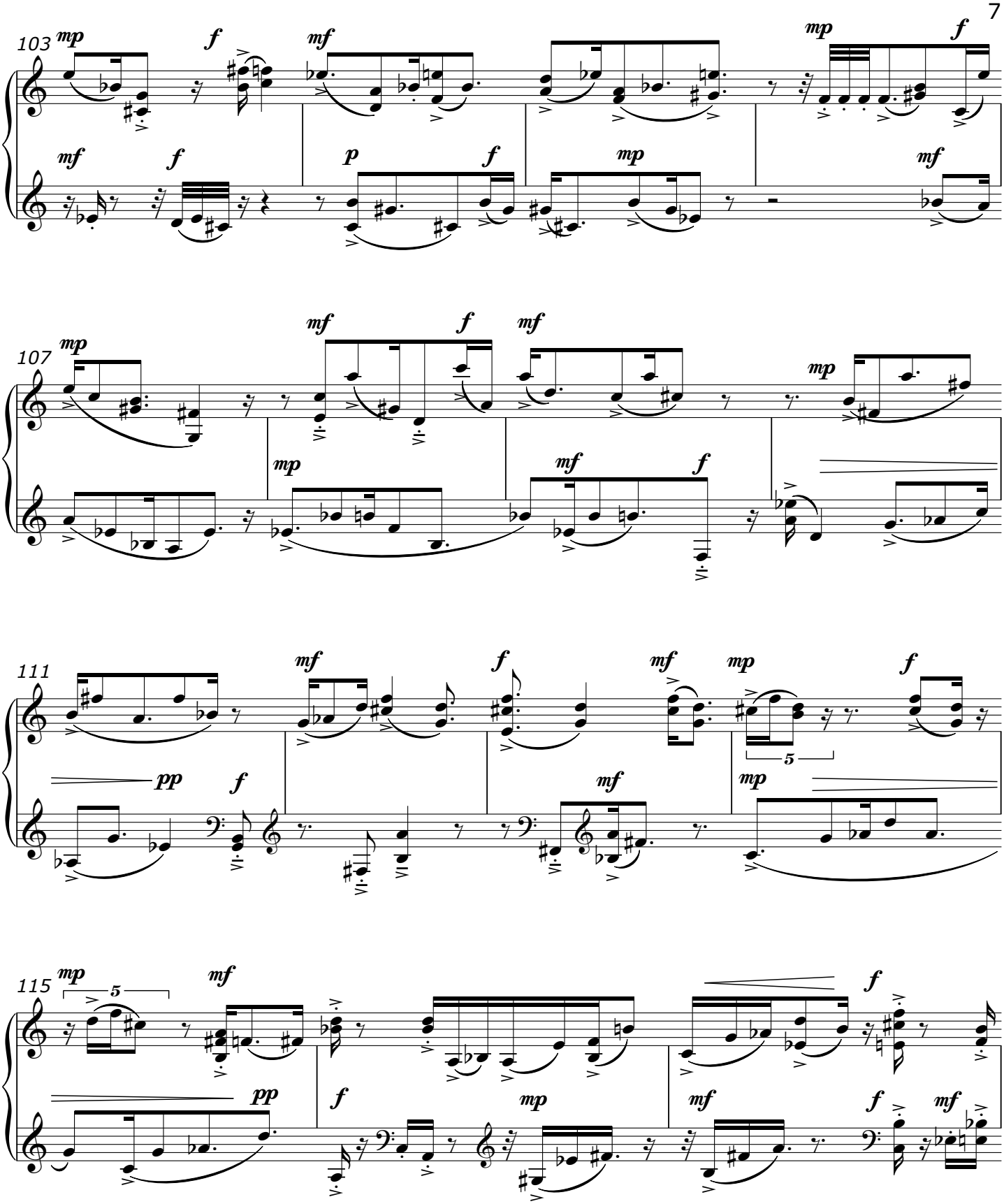

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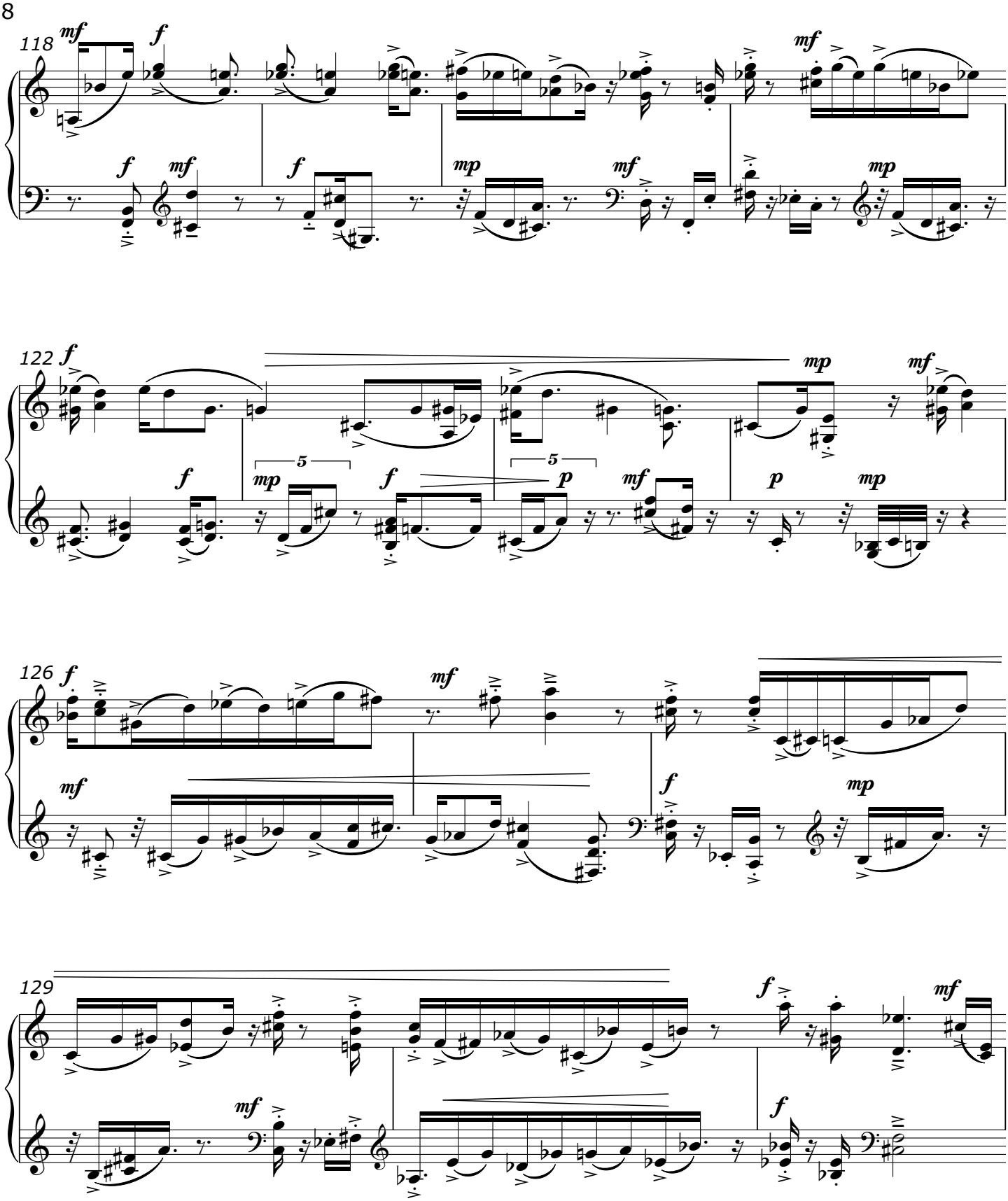

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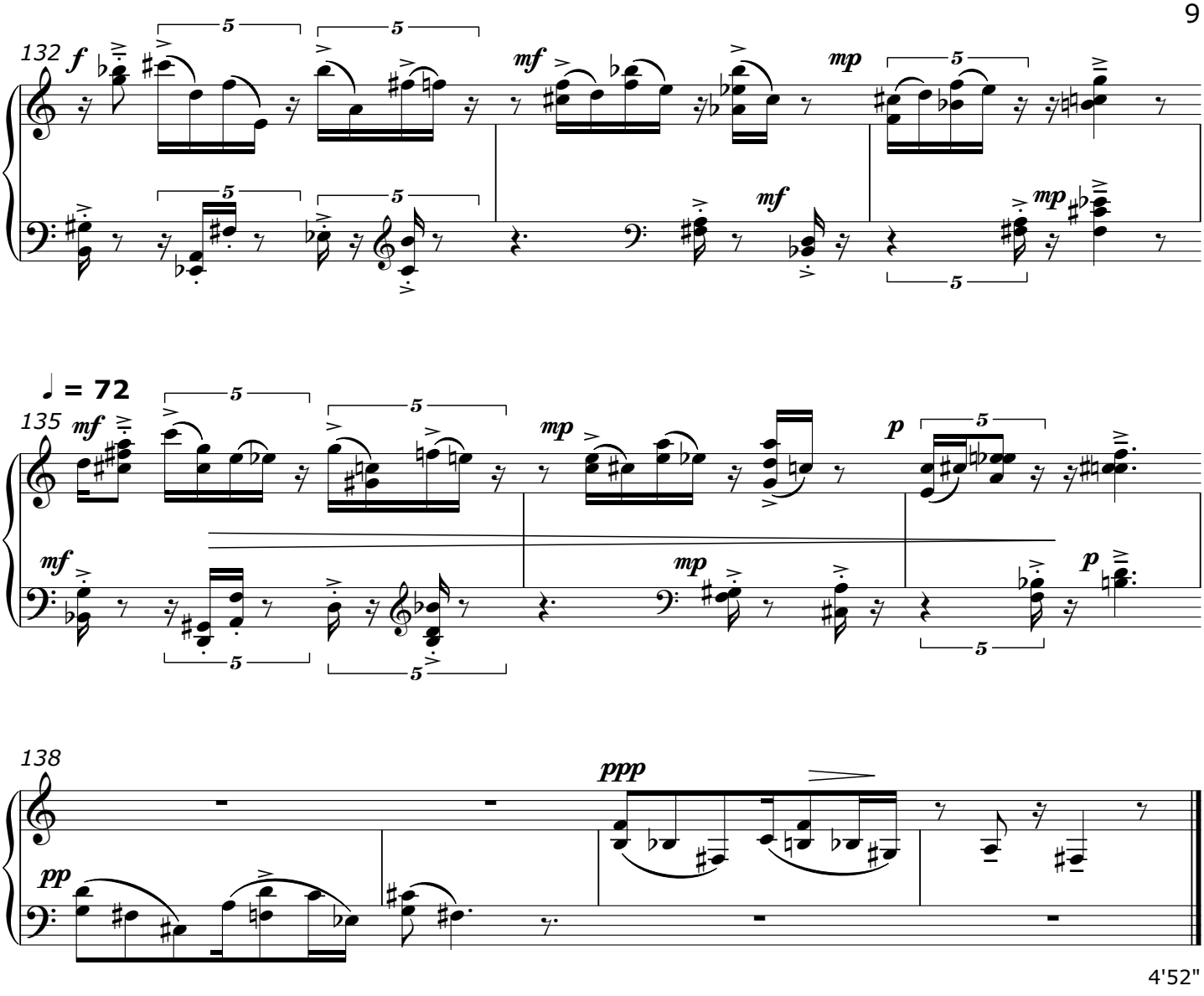

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