Patrick Harrex

Conjugation

... a little journey

for two pianos

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Conjugate, *v.t.* to give the various inflections or parts of (a verb) (*gram.*): to unite (*biochemistry*). - *v.i.* to undergo inflection (*gram*): to unite. - *adj.* joined: connected: coupled: occurring in pairs (*bot.*): reciprocally related: of two complex numbers, having their real parts equal and their imaginary parts equal but of opposite sign (*math.*). - *n.* a word agreeing in derivation with another word: anything conjugate with another - joined, or from the same root, or reciprocally related. - *n.* **conjugation** the act of joining: union: a connected view or statement of the inflectional forms of a verb (*gram.*): a class of verbs similarly inflected (*gram.*).....

Chambers English Dictionary

The miniature but exploratory nature of the work led me to add the subtitle as a homage to Paul Klee. His pictures, most of which are small scale, and writings make frequent cross references between painting and music. In one of his lectures* he imagined making 'a little journey', exploring progressively the characteristics of the line, a broken ('rhythmically interrupted') line and 'bundles of lines'. Meeting someone with the same ideas we experience 'convergence' and 'then differences' ('two lines moving independently'), and so on. Klee concludes that 'even .... a brief journey is full of impressions'.

Conjugation has also been on its own journey. It became the starting point for my *Hauptweg und Nebenwege* (Highway and Byways) (2003) written for the Luxembourg Sinfonietta.

Conjugation was given its first performance on 2 June 2001 by Nicolas Hodges and Rolf Hind, in the Assembly Rooms, Bath, during the 2001 Bath International Music Festival.

* *quoted in 'The Mind and Work of Paul Klee', Werner Haftmann, p 95 (Faber*)

PH

for Rolf Hind and Nicolas Hodges

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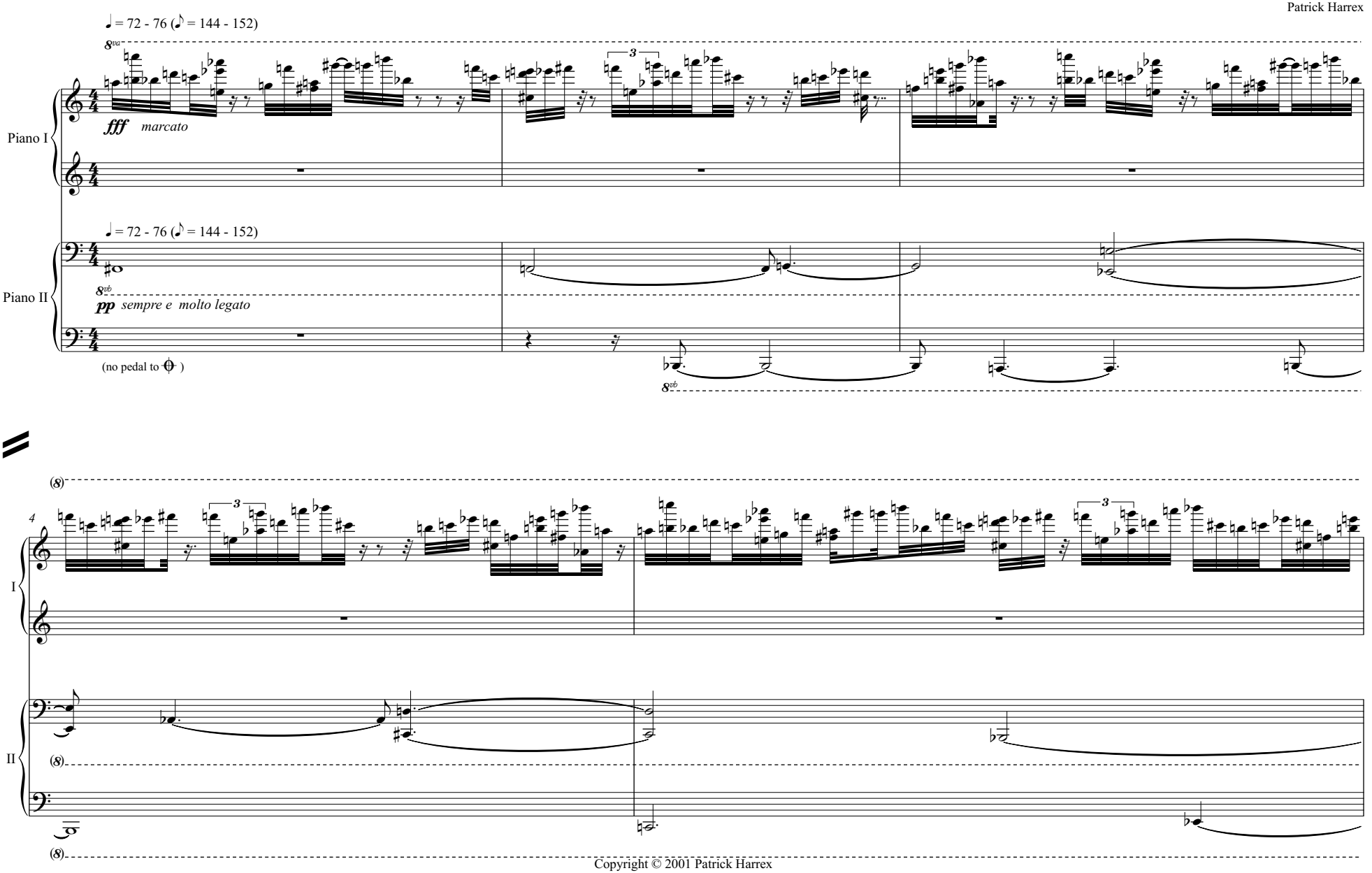

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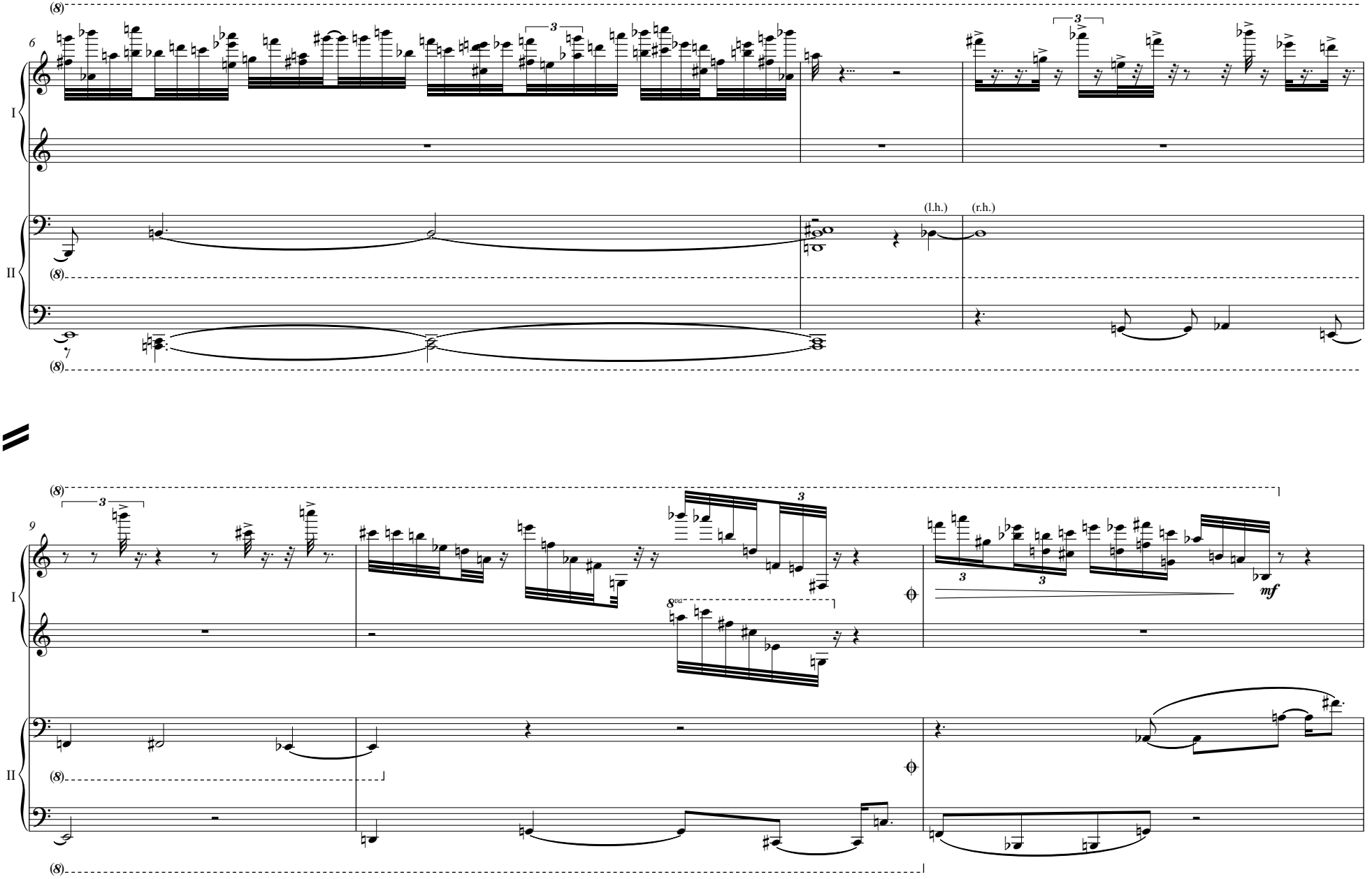
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I
II
(8)
(l.h.)
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9
8va
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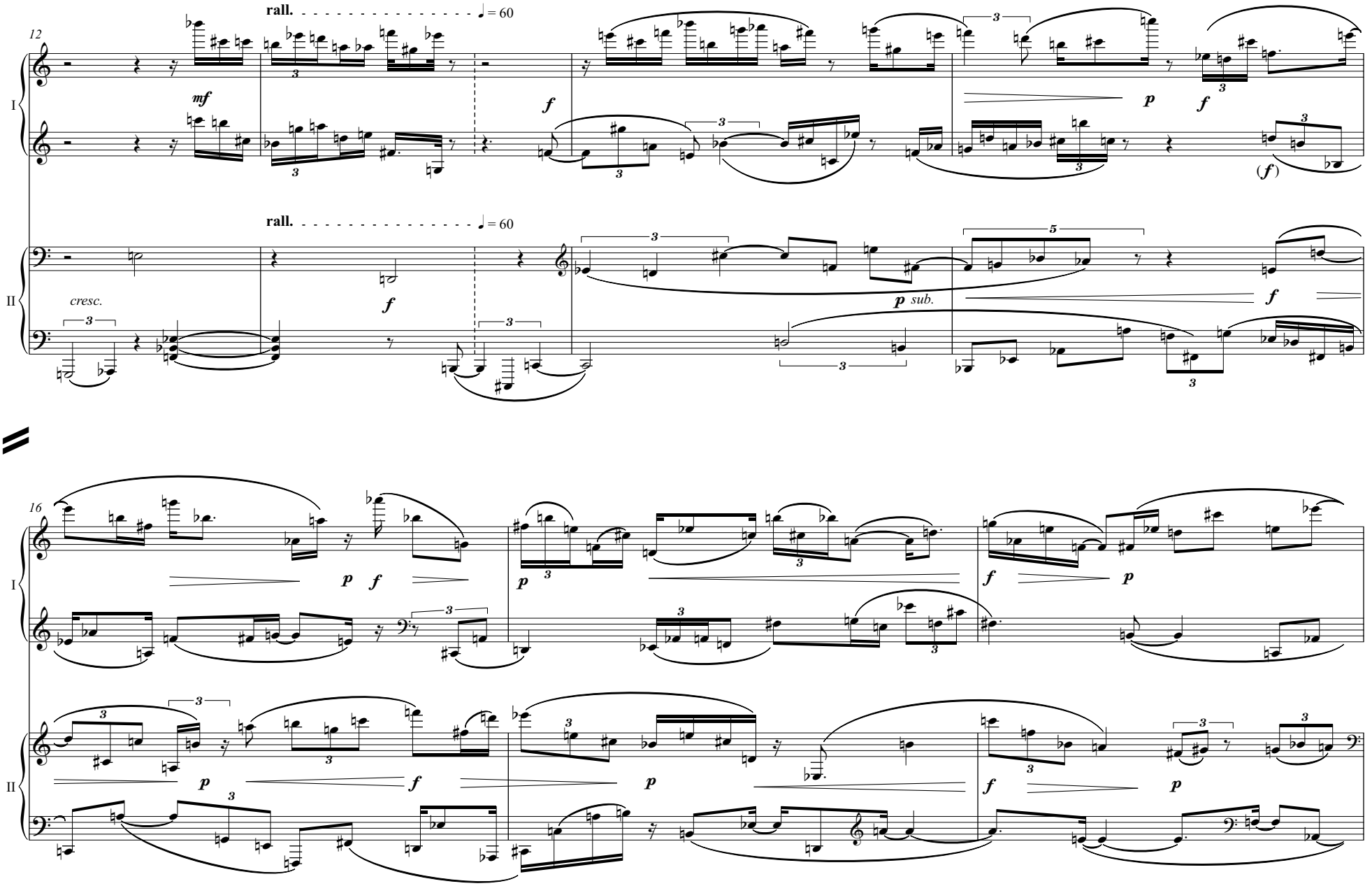
12
rall. ♩ = 60
mf
f
p
f
(f)
I
rall. ♩ = 60
cresc.
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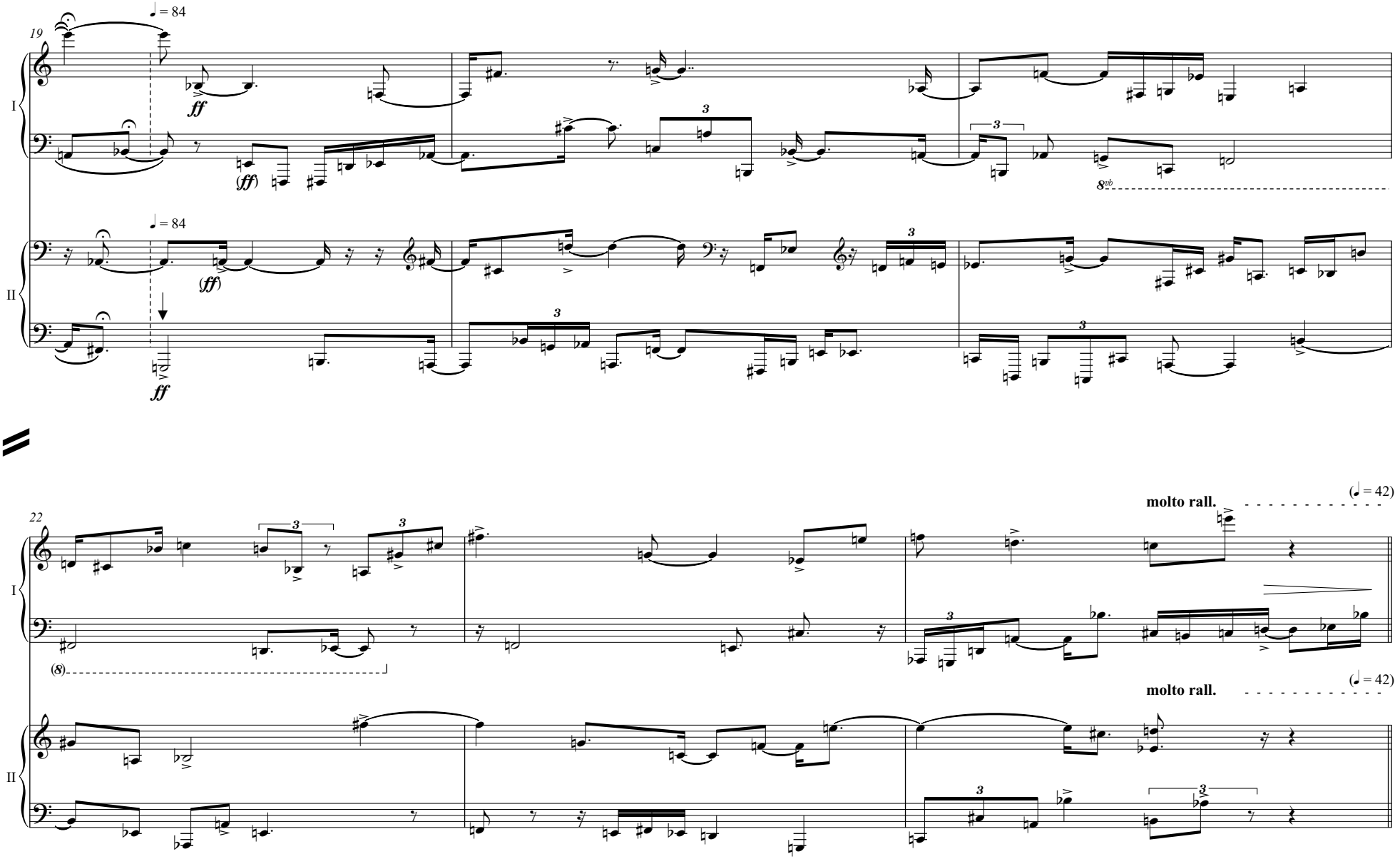
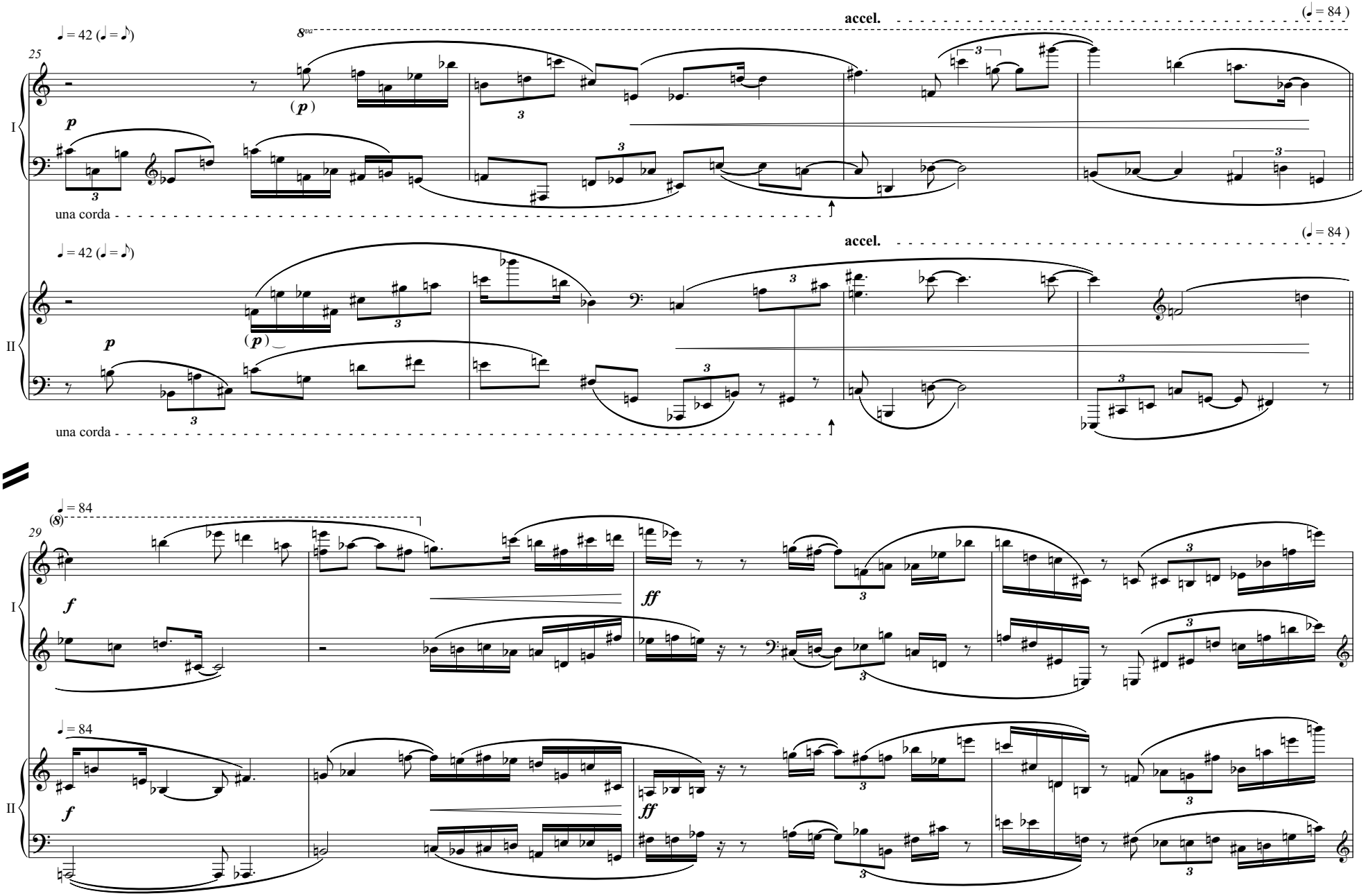
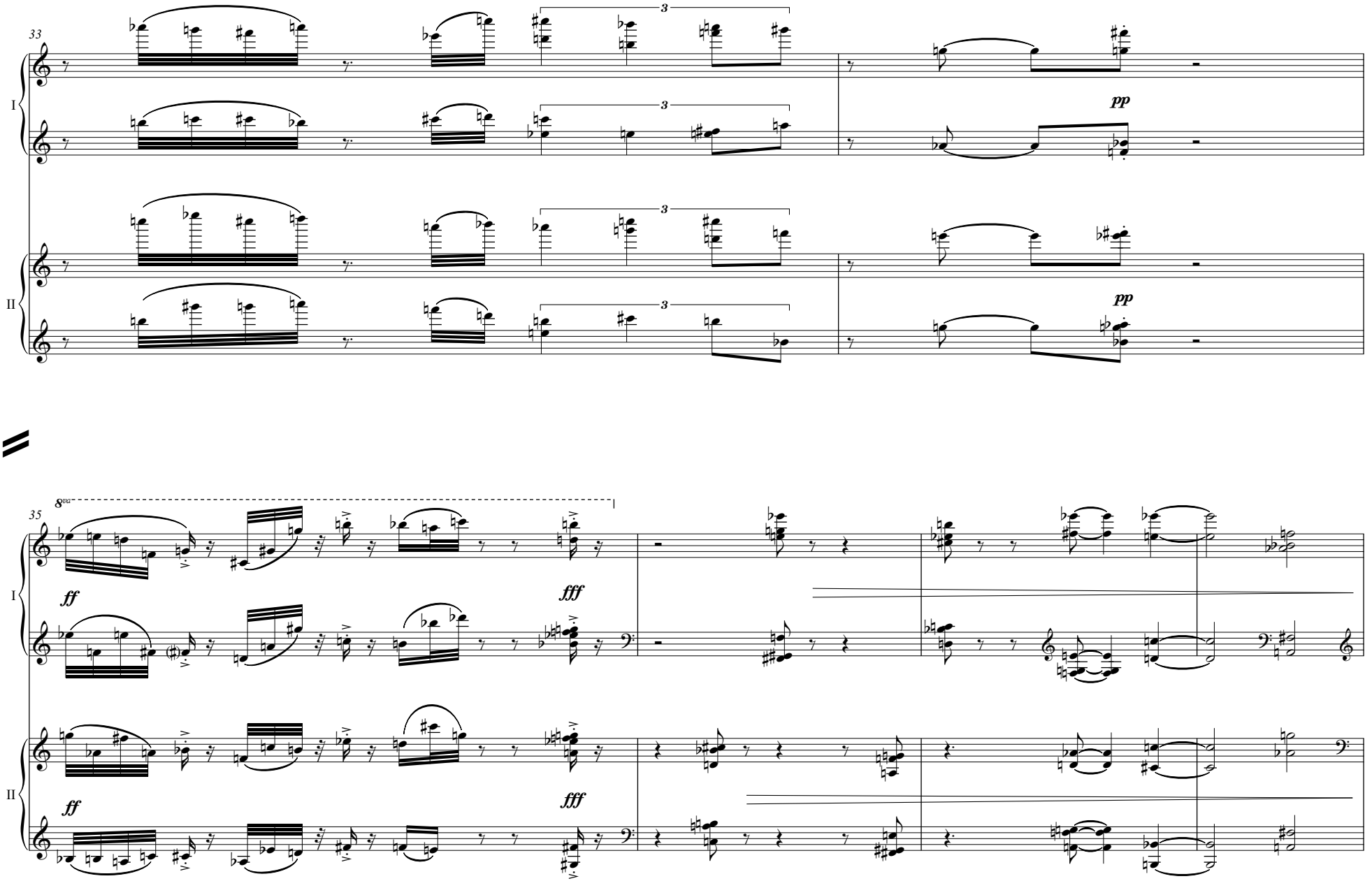
p sub.
f
II
16
p
f
p
f
p
f
p
f
p
f
I
II


19
♩ = 84
I
ff
(ff)
8vb
II
(ff)
ff
22
molto rall.
(♩ = 42)
(8)


accel.
(♩ = 84)
♩ = 42 (♩ = ♪)
8va
25
I
p
(p)
una corda
accel.
(♩ = 84)
♩ = 42 (♩ = ♪)
II
p
(p)
una corda
♩ = 84
(8)
29
I
f
ff
♩ = 84
II
f
ff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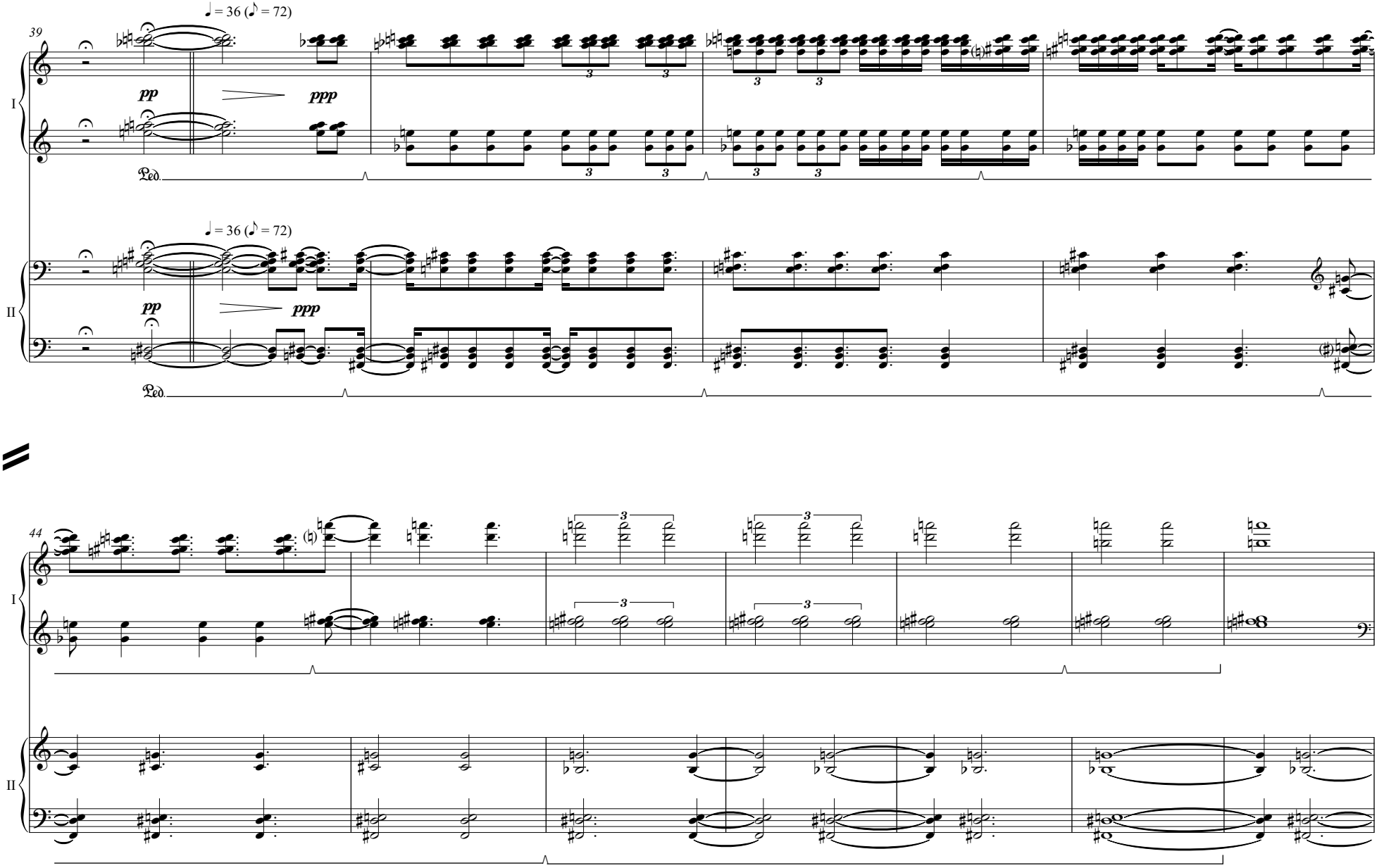
I
II
3
pp
35
8va
ff
fff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pp
ppp
I
Ped.
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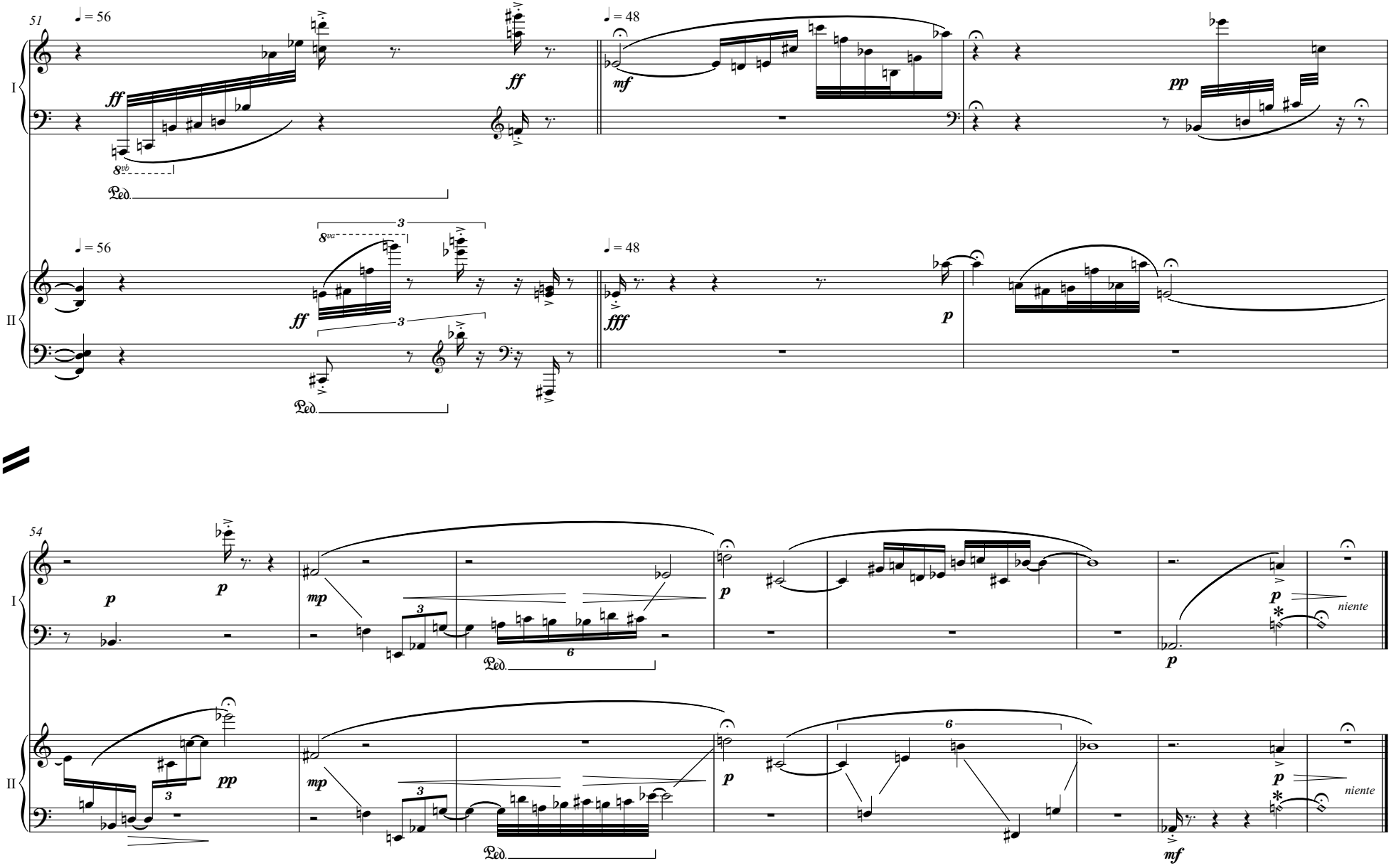
pp
ppp
II
Ped.
44
I
II



* depress key silently