Howard Hersh

Braided River Nights

Alto Flute and Marimba

(Score in C)

Braided River Nights

Program Note

Braided River Nights was inspired by the dark and sensuous beauty of the alto flute and large marimba. In its ongoing texture, the two instruments are continually intertwined with one another, like the river after which the work is named. If one aspect of the piece suggests an exotic, romantic atmosphere, another – with its fleeting tunes - is reminiscent of traditional American riverside celebrations, especially near the end, with its quotation of Robert Lowry's famous hymn "Shall We Gather at the River."

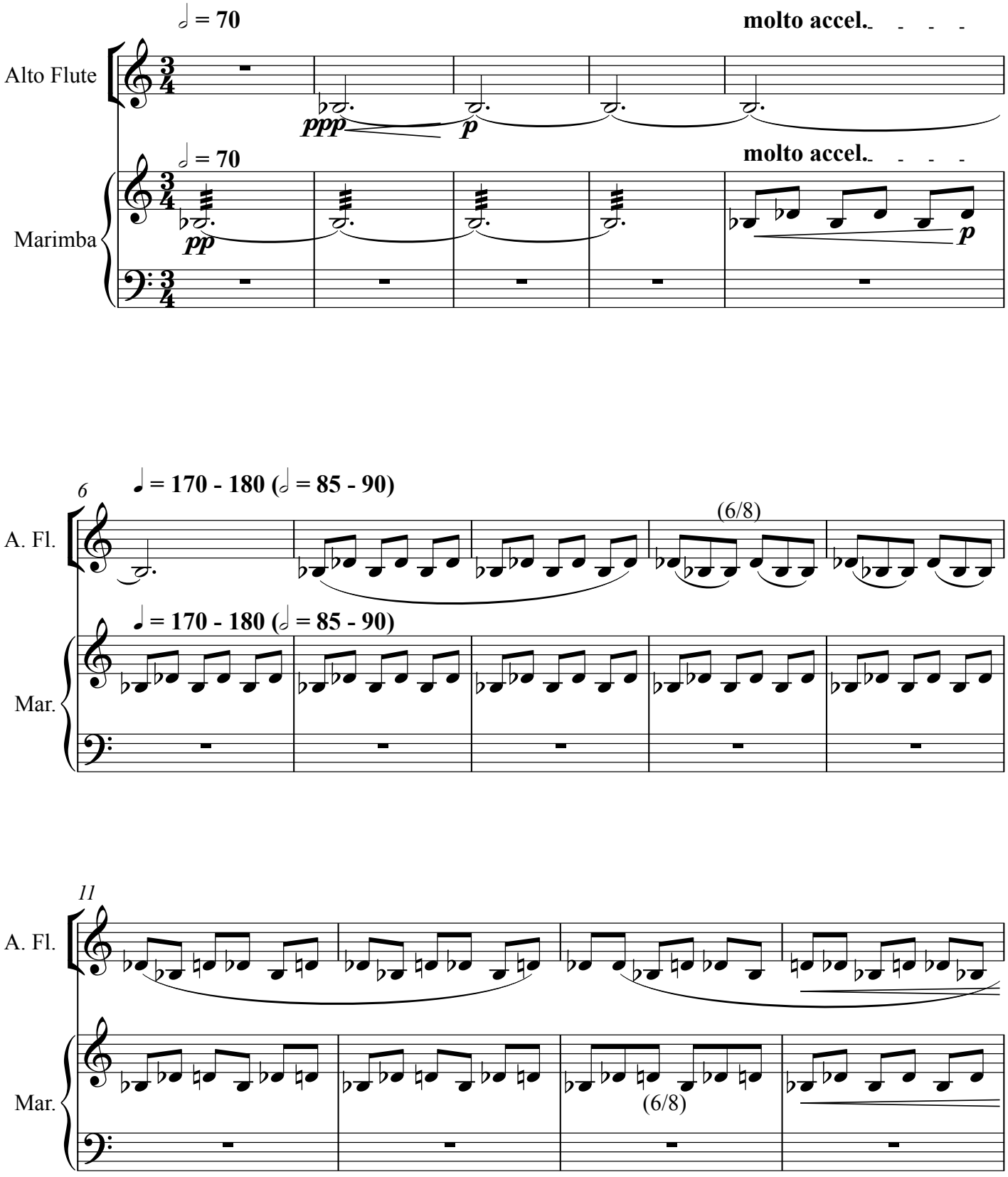
Braided River Nights was composed in 2003 for Jane Lenoir and premiered by Ms. Lenoir and Matthew Darling. It is available on Albany Record's CD, "The Pony Concerto."

To the flutist: Because tempos and breathing capacities will change from performance to performance, I have left the chains of eighth notes unbroken; they will need to be adapted. Where necessary, please shorten notes at the end of measures, or possibly omit, so that the piece will be, and sound, comfortable.

Braided River Nights

Howard Hersh

Alto Flute and Marimba



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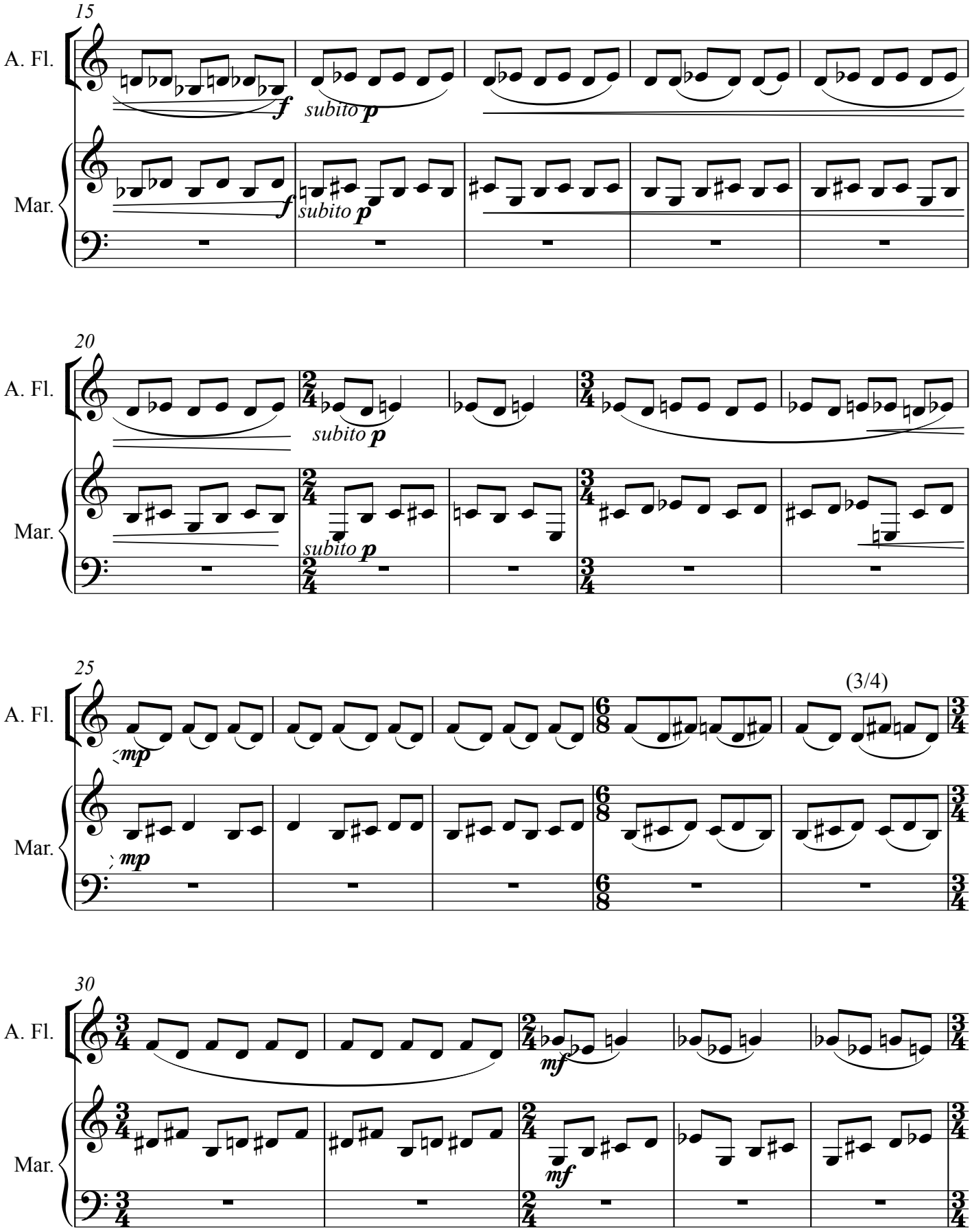
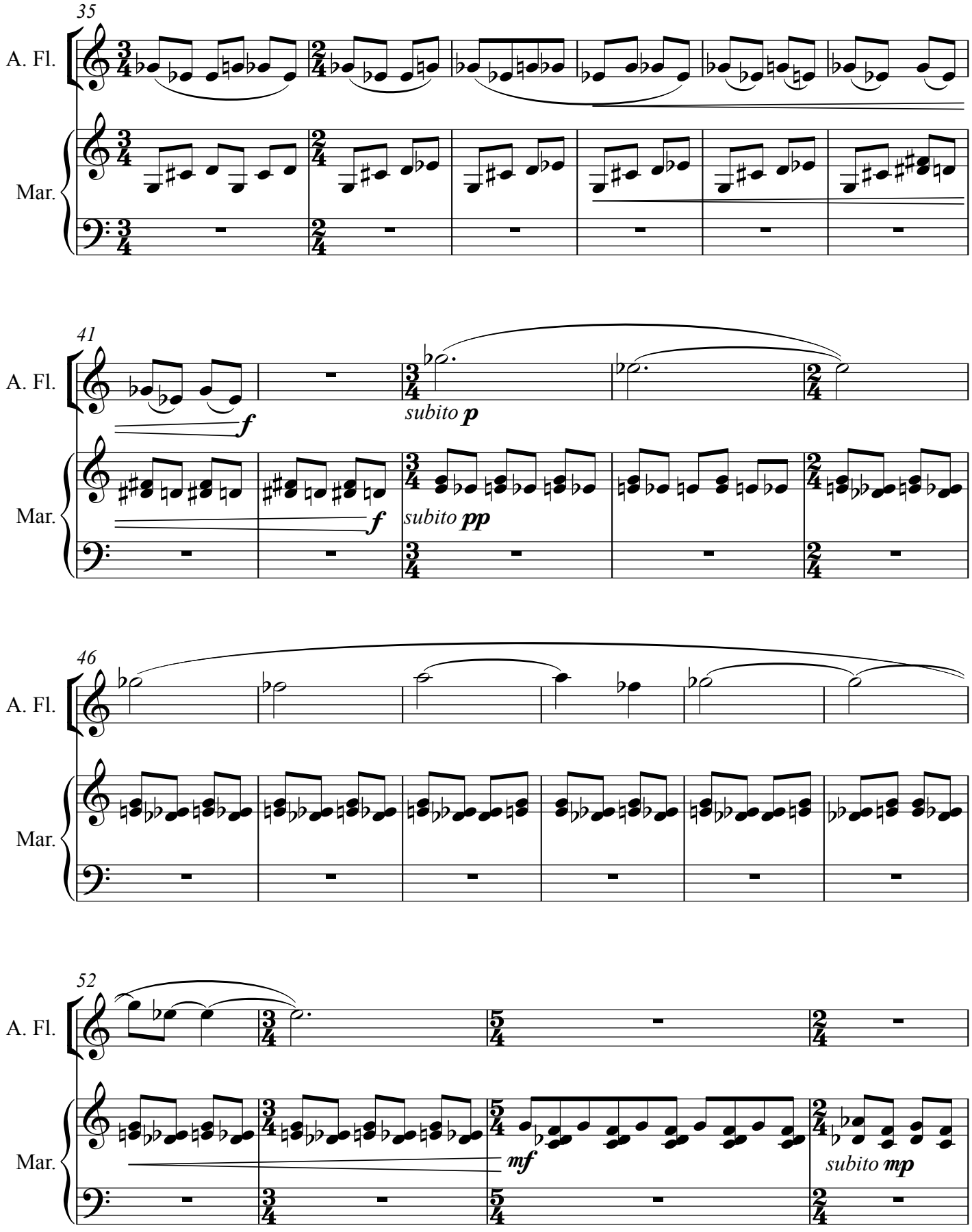
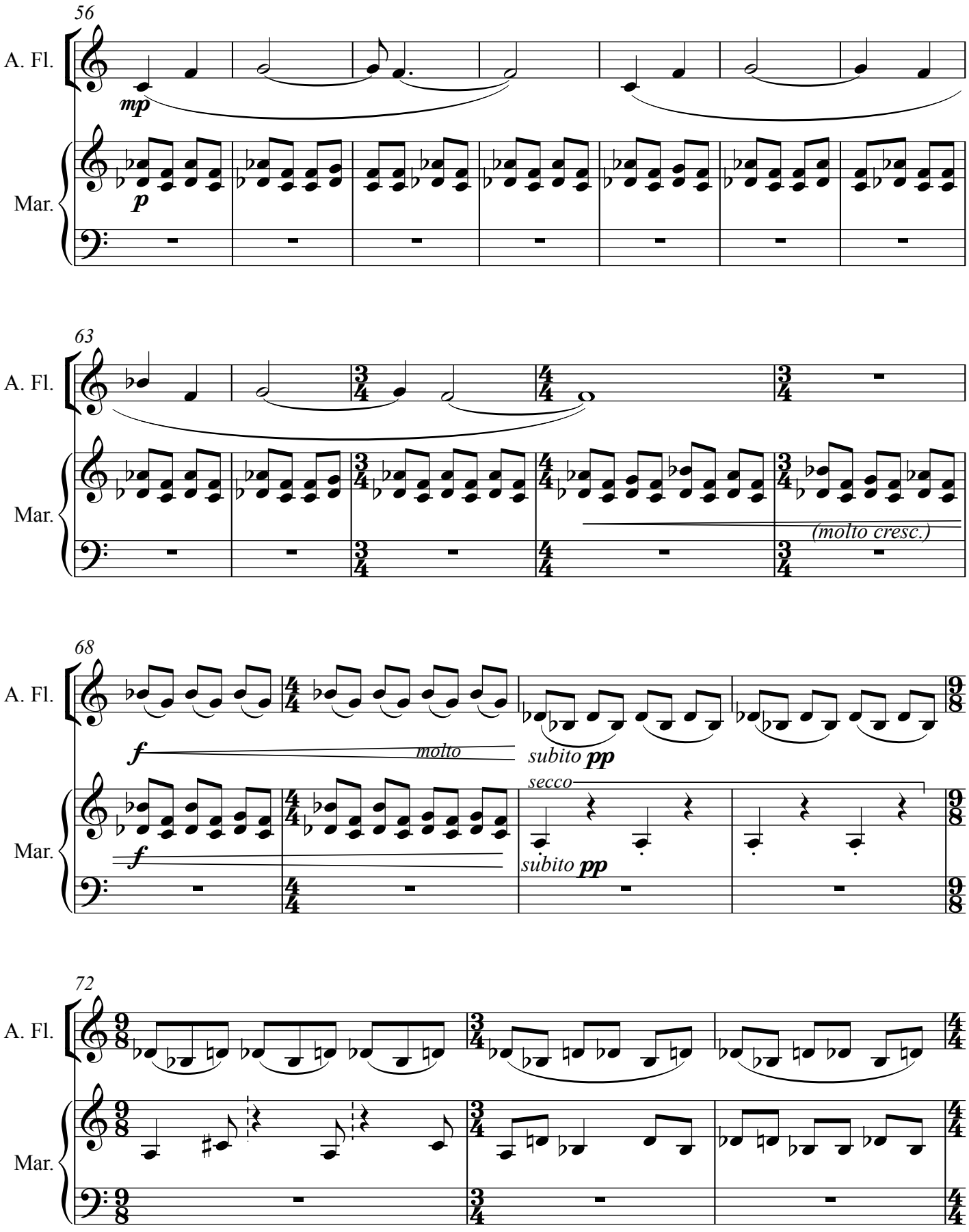
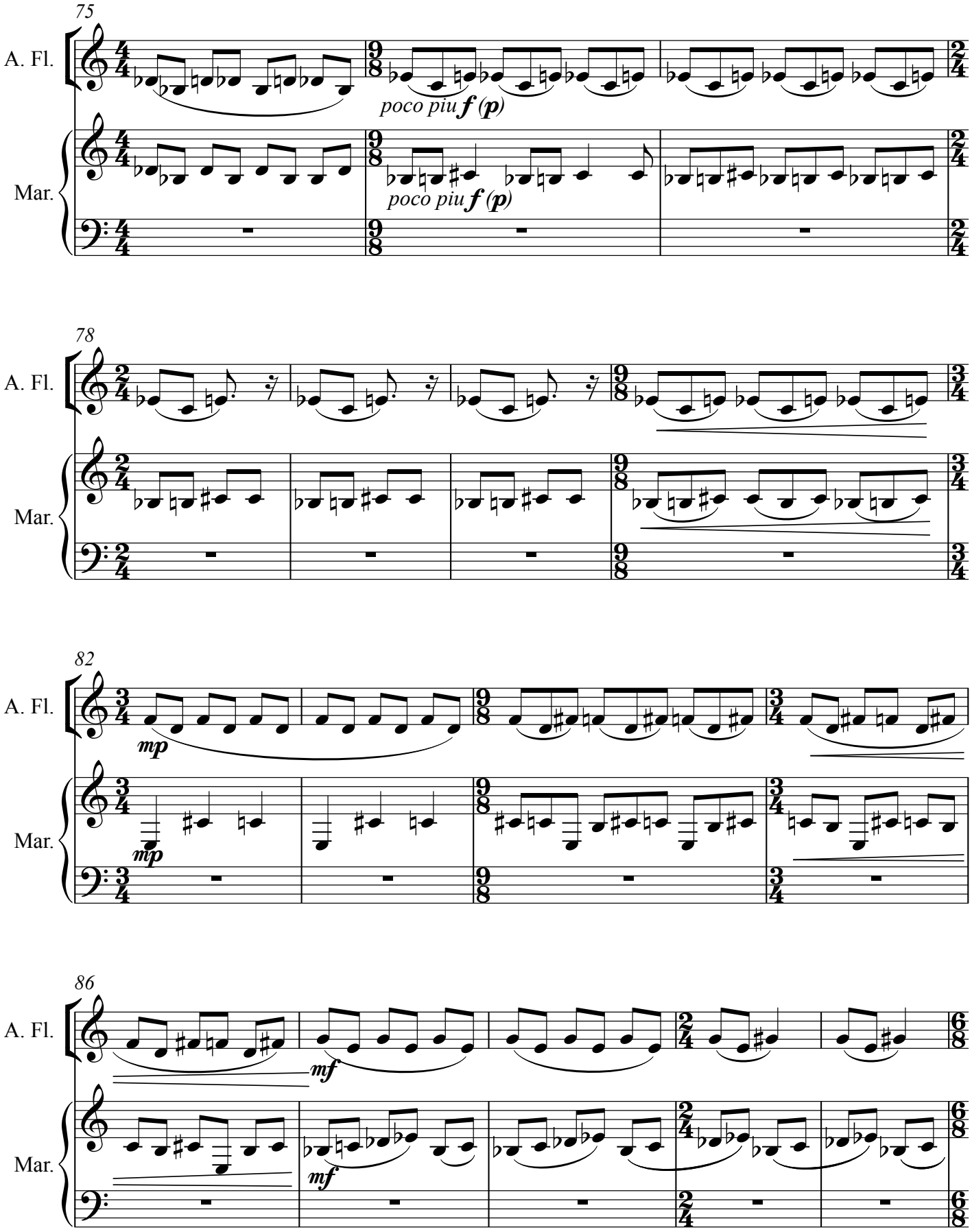
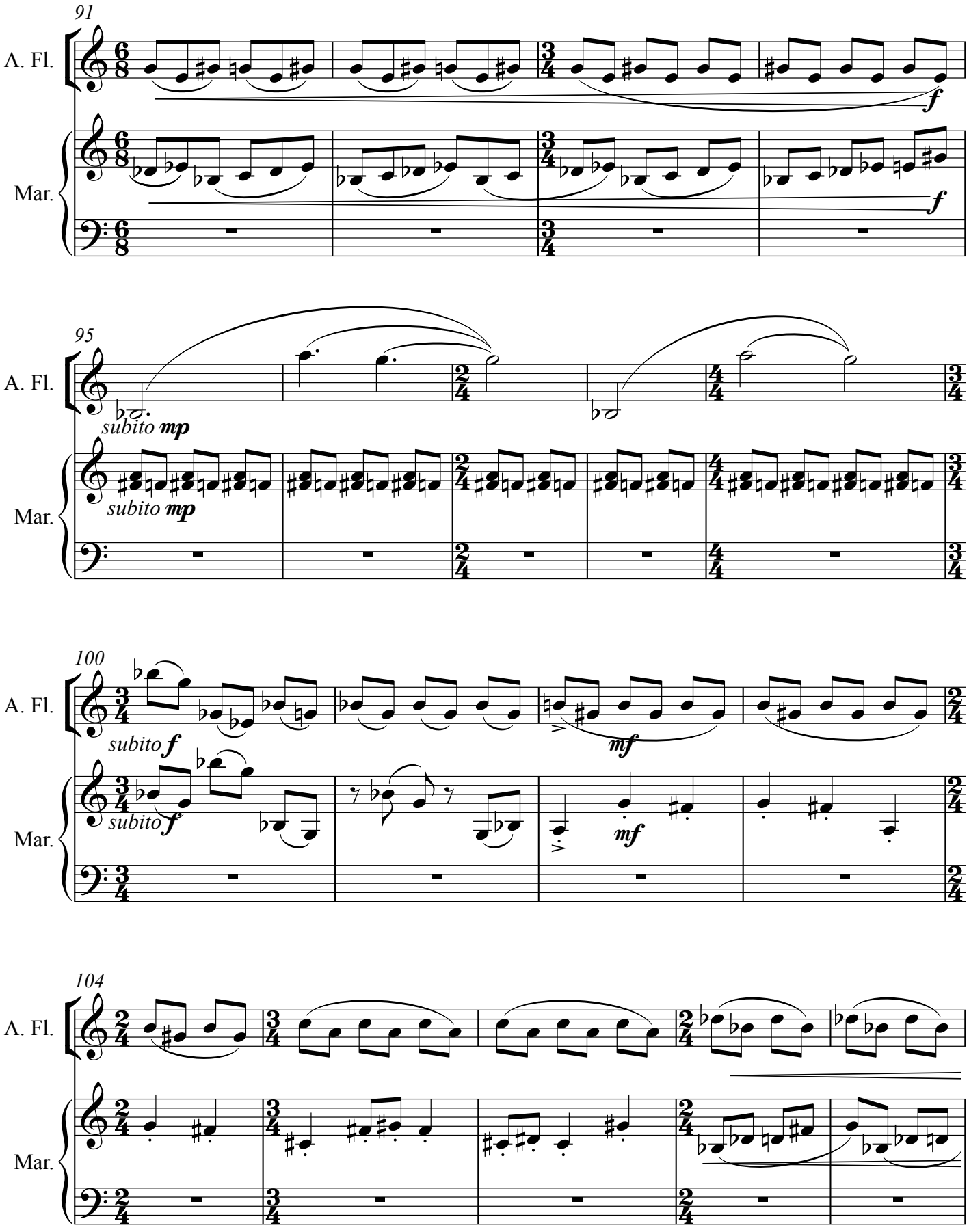
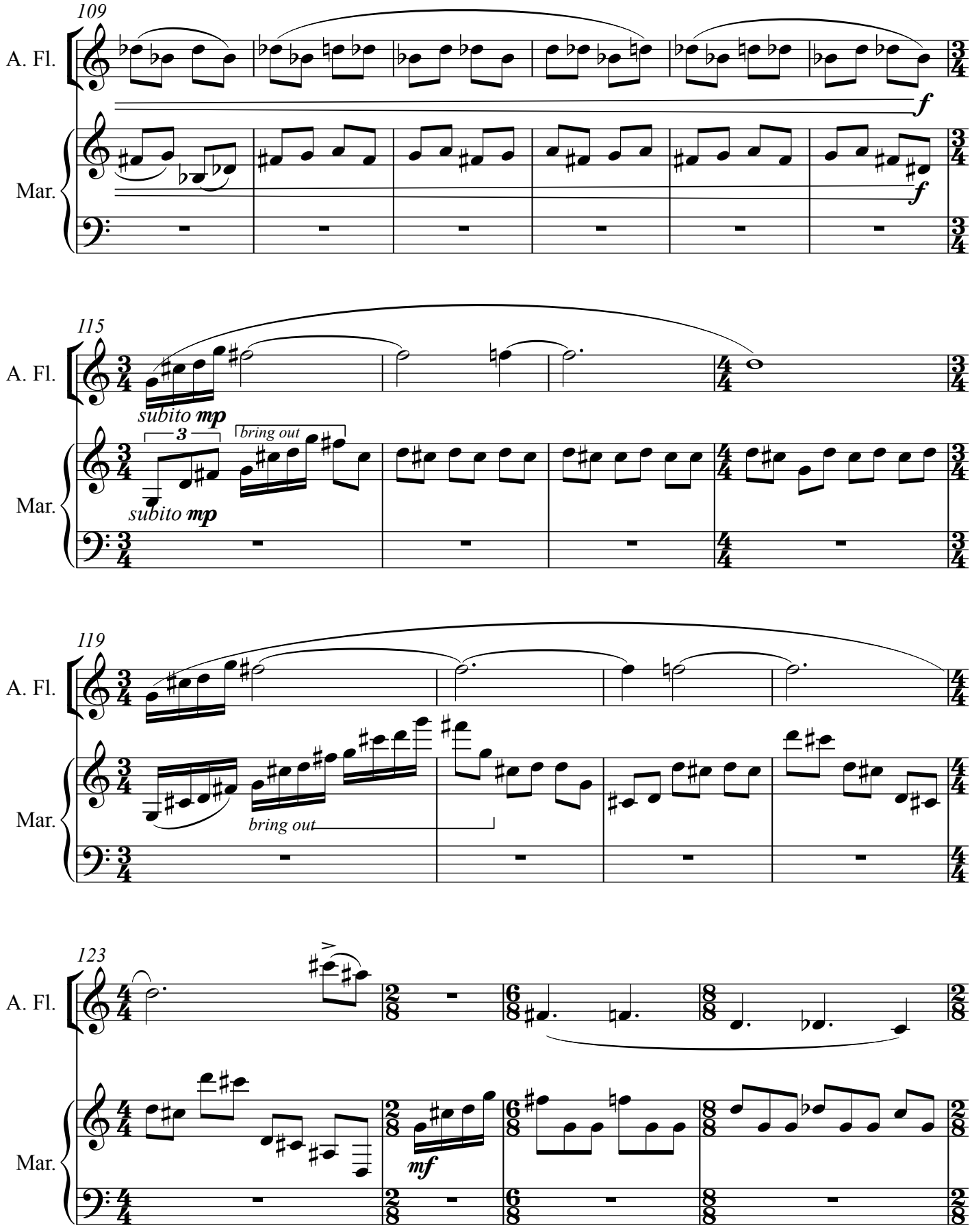

15
A. Fl.
Mar.
f
subito p
f
subito p
20
A. Fl.
Mar.
subito p
subito p
25
A. Fl.
Mar.
mp
mp
(3/4)
30
A. Fl.
Mar.
mf
mf

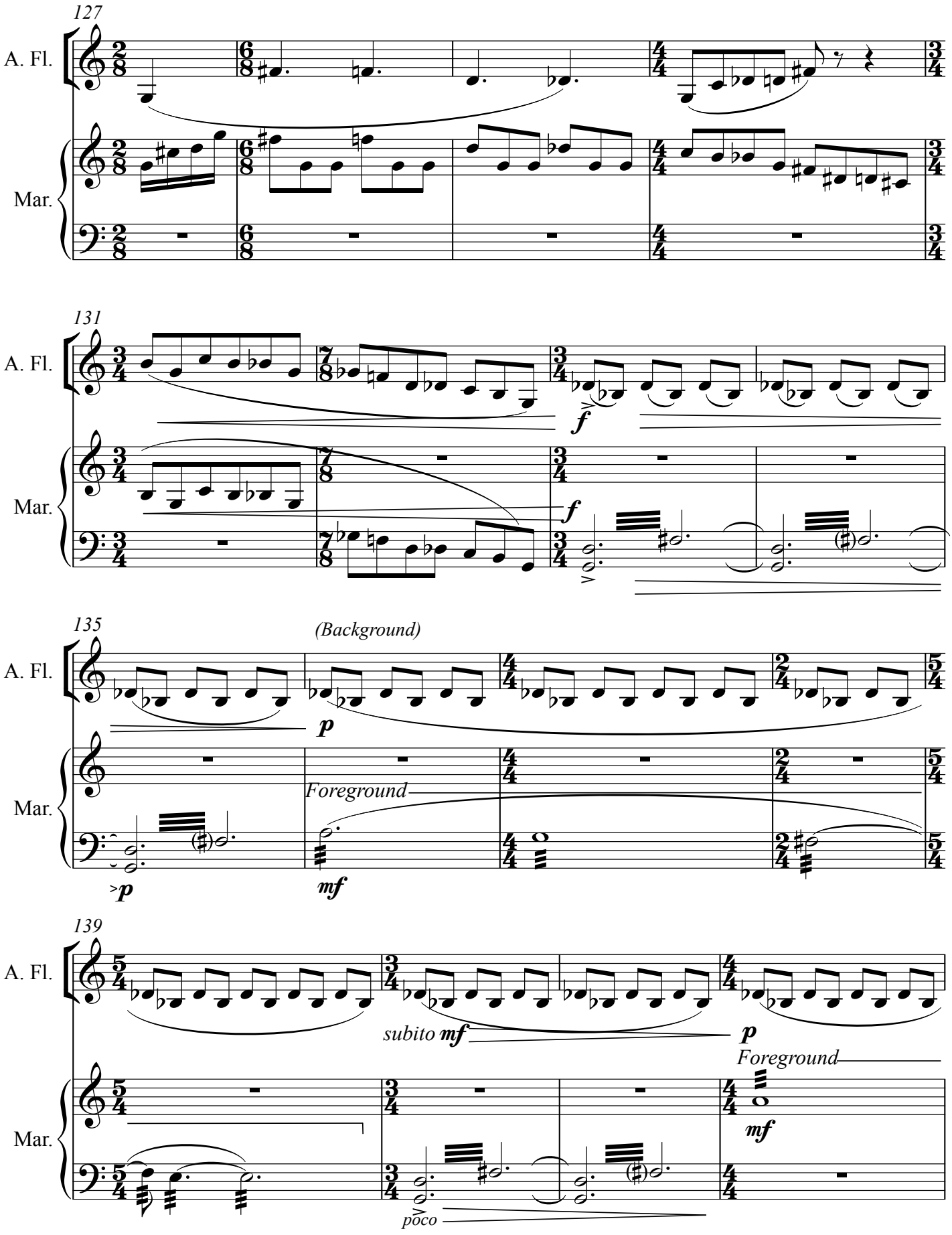

35
A. Fl.
Mar.
41
A. Fl.
Mar.
f
subito p
f
subito pp
46
A. Fl.
Mar.
52
A. Fl.
Mar.
mf
subito mp

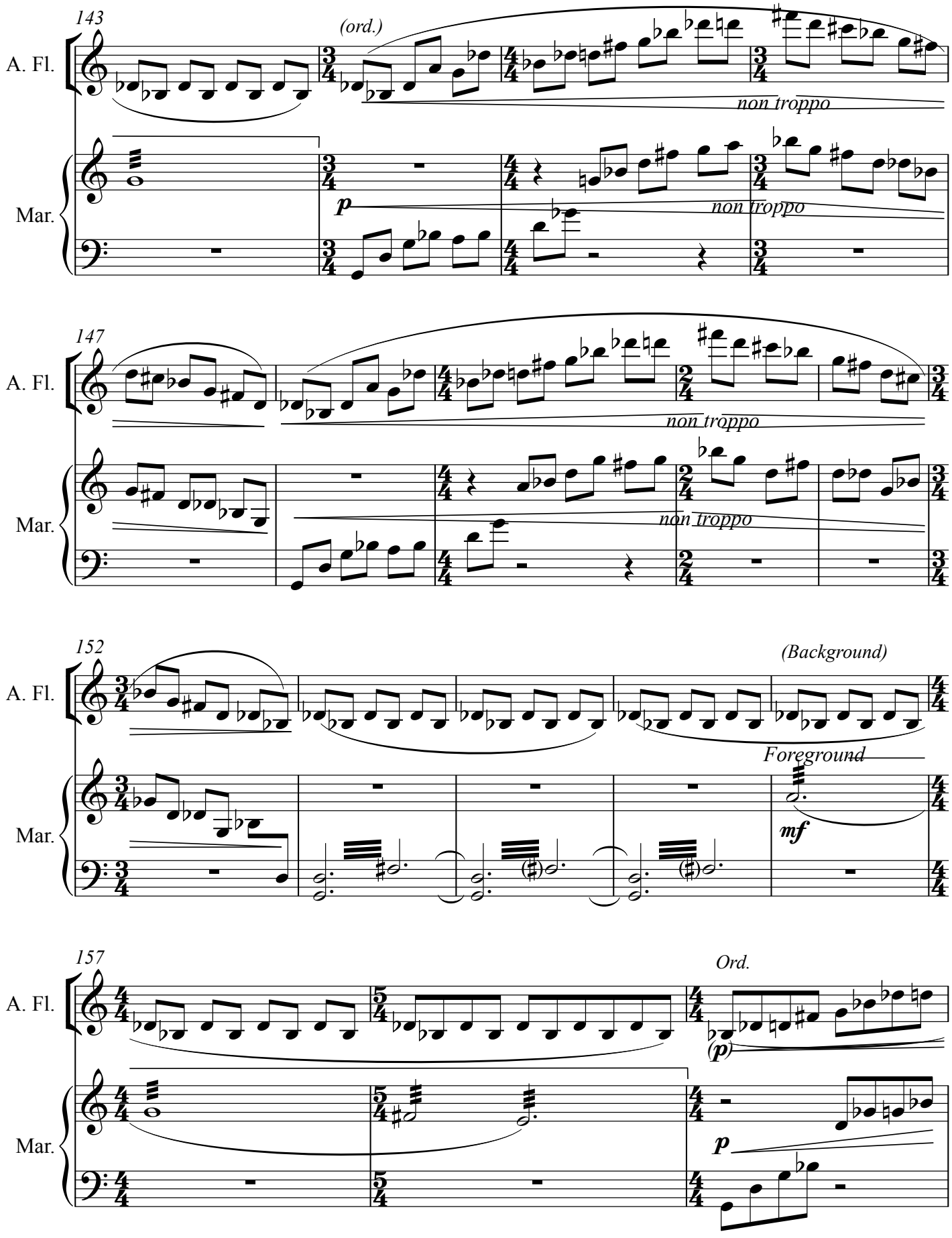

56
A. Fl.
mp
Mar.
p
63
A. Fl.
Mar.
(molto cresc.)
68
A. Fl.
f
molto
subito pp
Mar.
f
secco
subito pp
72
A. Fl.
Mar.

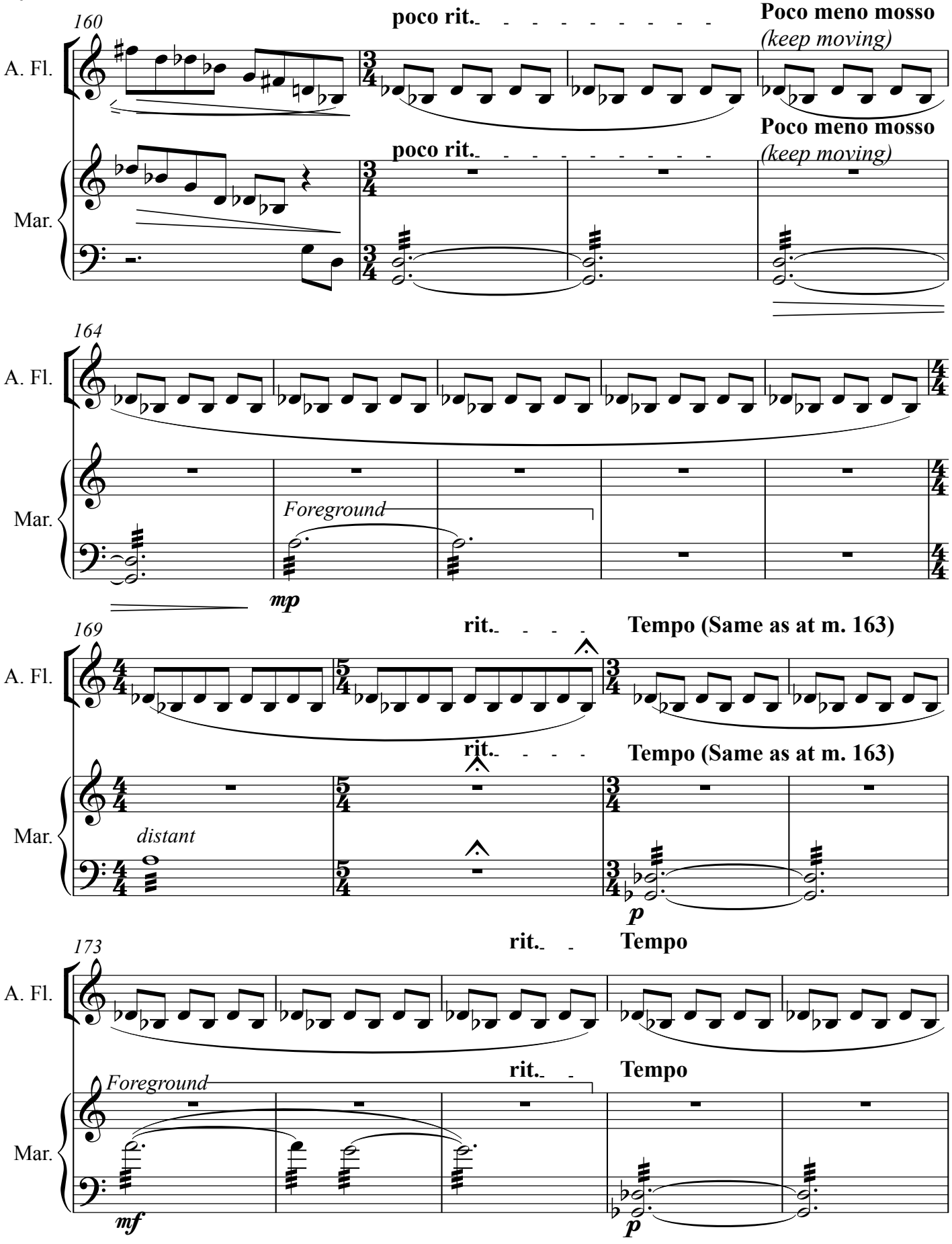

75
A. Fl.
Mar.
poco piu f (p)
poco piu f (p)
78
A. Fl.
Mar.
82
A. Fl.
Mar.
mp
mp
86
A. Fl.
Mar.
mf
mf

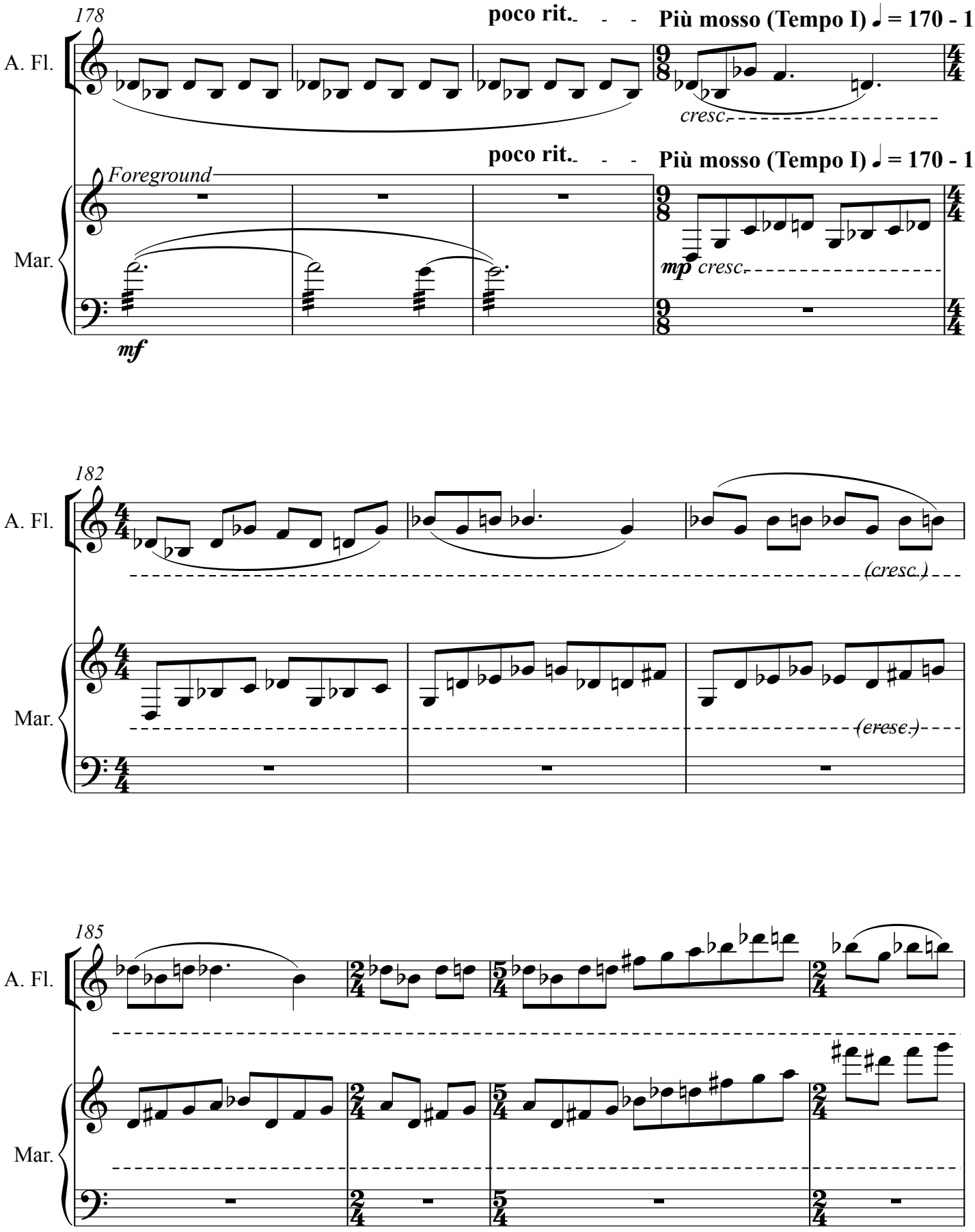

91
A. Fl.
Mar.
f
f
95
A. Fl.
Mar.
subito mp
subito mp
100
A. Fl.
Mar.
subito f
subito f
mf
mf
104
A. Fl.
Mar.

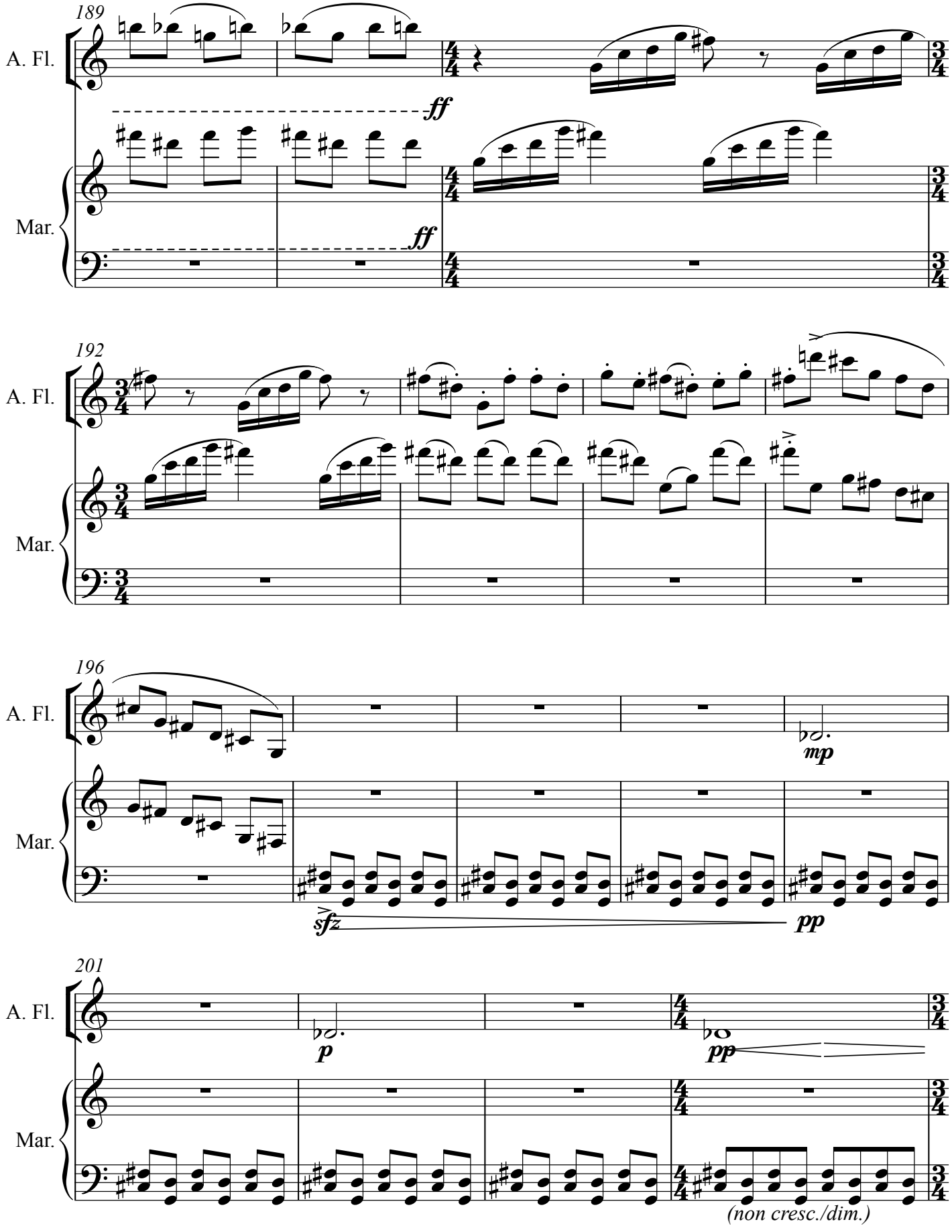

109
A. Fl.
Mar.
f
f
115
A. Fl.
Mar.
subito mp
3
bring out
subito mp
119
A. Fl.
Mar.
bring out
123
A. Fl.
Mar.
mf

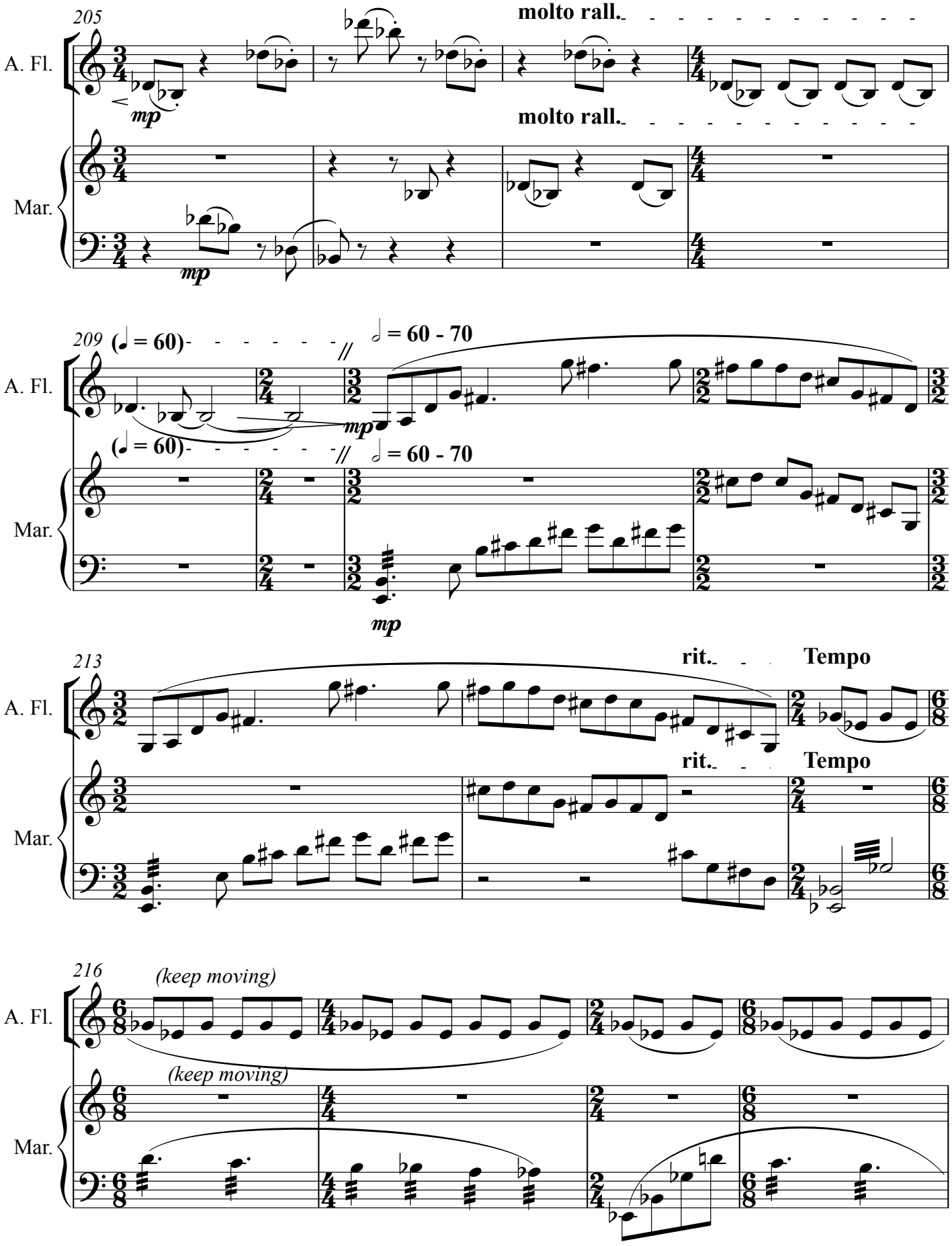

127
A. Fl.
Mar.
131
A. Fl.
Mar.
f
f
135
(Background)
A. Fl.
Mar.
p
Foreground
>p
mf
139
A. Fl.
Mar.
subito mf
p
Foreground
mf
poco

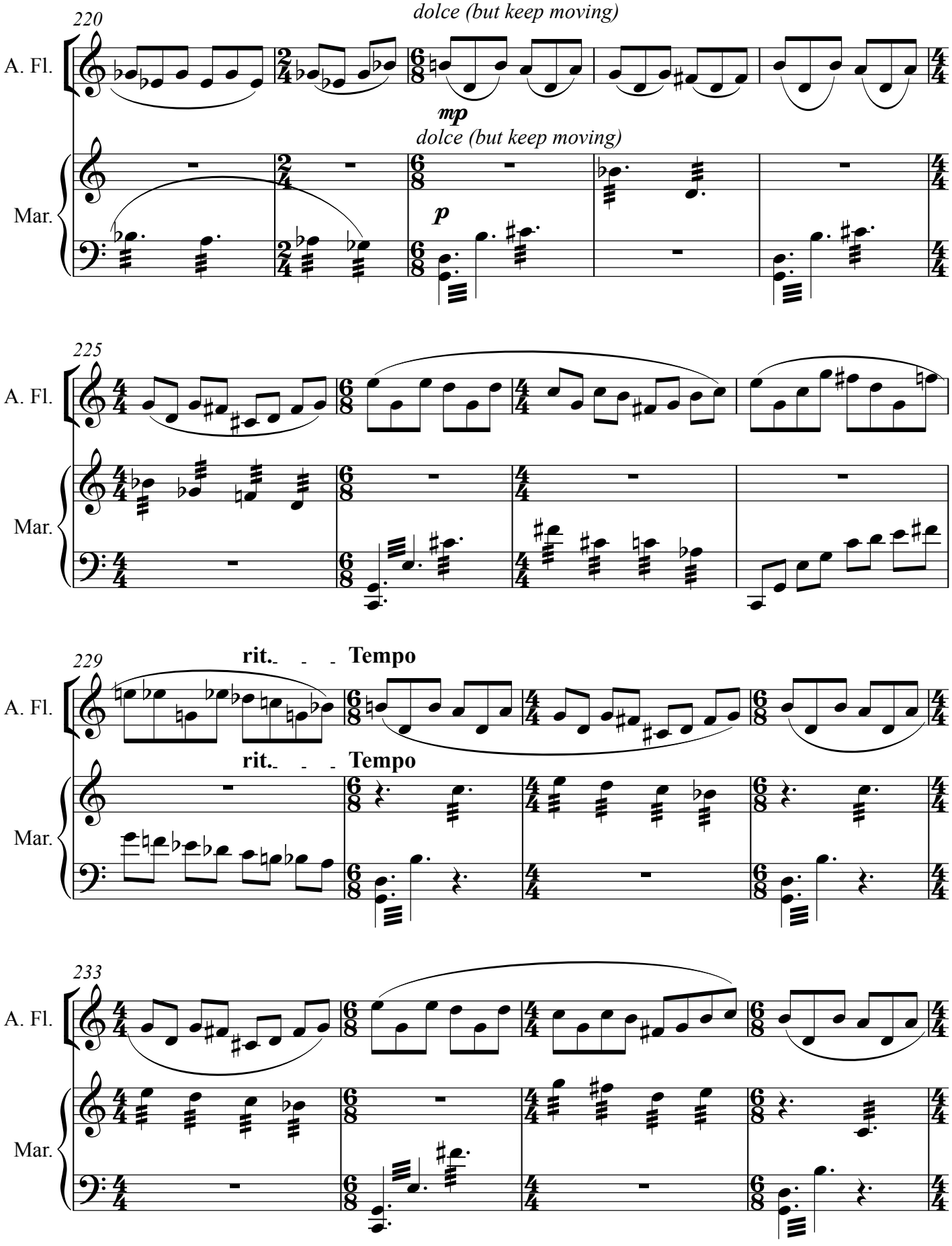

143
A. Fl.
(ord.)
non troppo
Mar.
p
non troppo
147
A. Fl.
non troppo
Mar.
non troppo
152
A. Fl.
(Background)
Foreground
Mar.
mf
157
A. Fl.
Ord.
(p)
Mar.
p

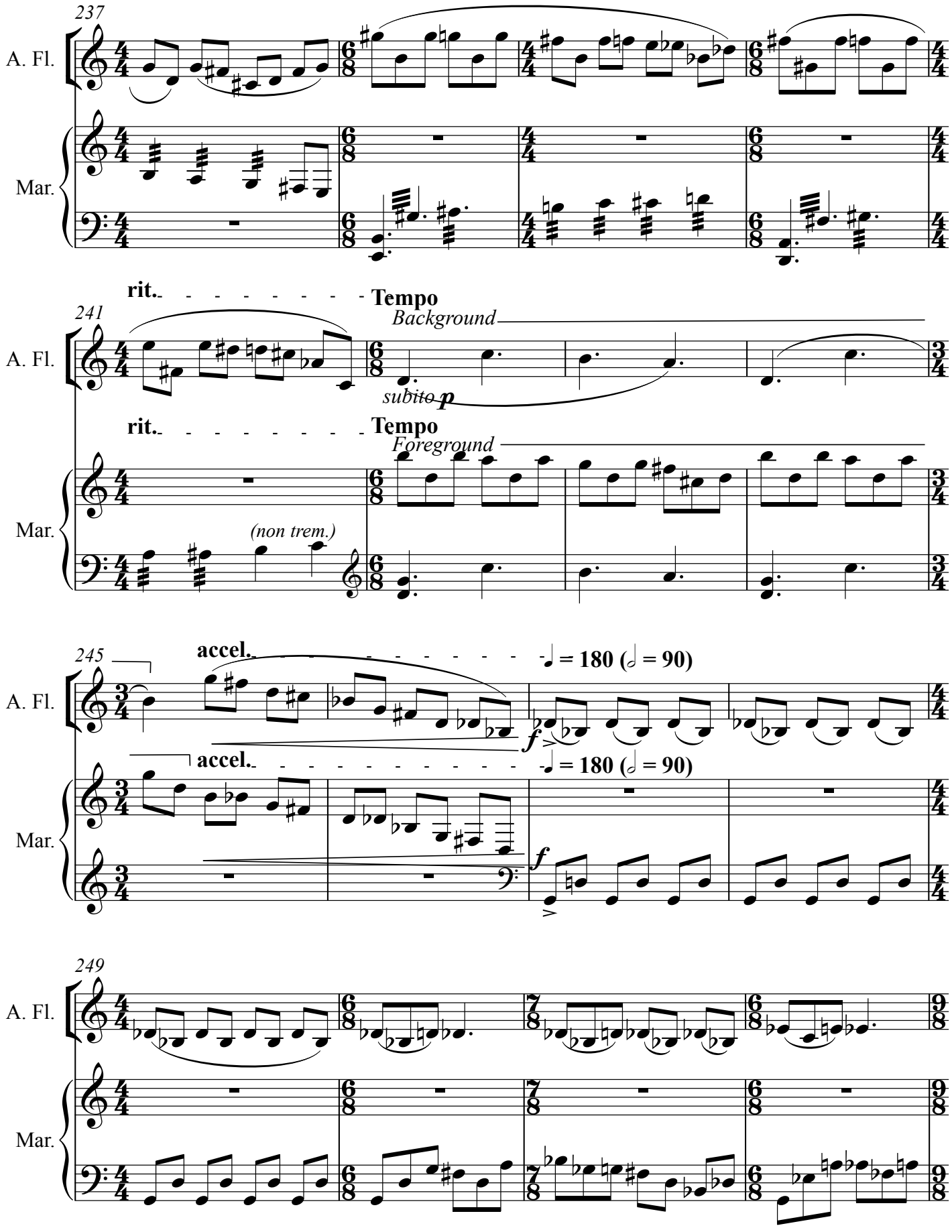

160
poco rit.
Poco meno mosso
(keep moving)
A. Fl.
Mar.
164
Foreground
mp
169
rit.
Tempo (Same as at m. 163)
distant
p
173
Foreground
mf

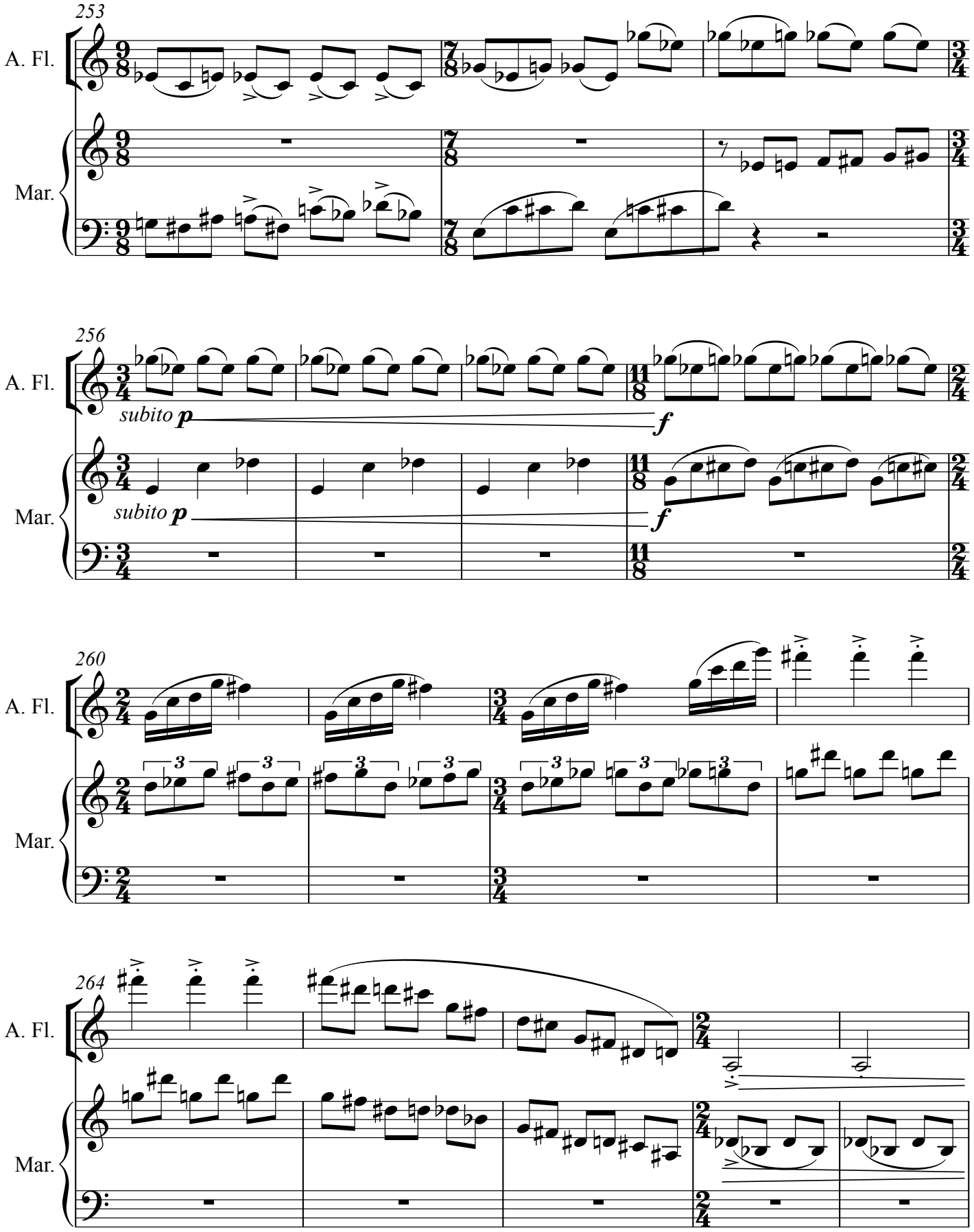

178
poco rit.
Più mosso (Tempo I) ♩ = 170 - 180
A. Fl.
cresc.
poco rit.
Più mosso (Tempo I) ♩ = 170 - 180
Foreground
Mar.
mf
mp cresc.
182
A. Fl.
(cresc.)
Mar.
(erese.)
185
A. Fl.
Mar.

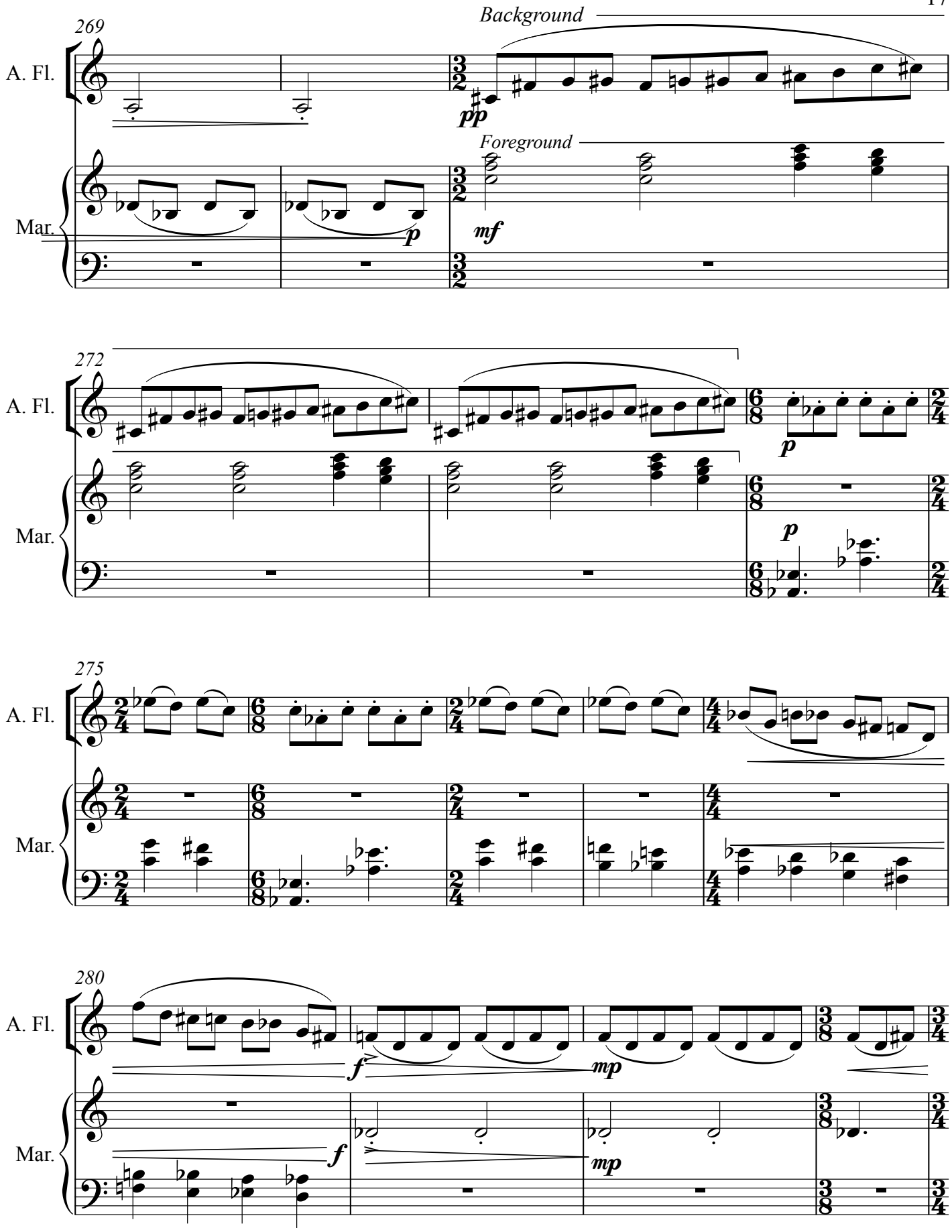

189
A. Fl.
Mar.
ff
ff
192
A. Fl.
Mar.
196
A. Fl.
Mar.
mp
sfz
pp
201
A. Fl.
Mar.
p
pp
(non cresc./dim.)

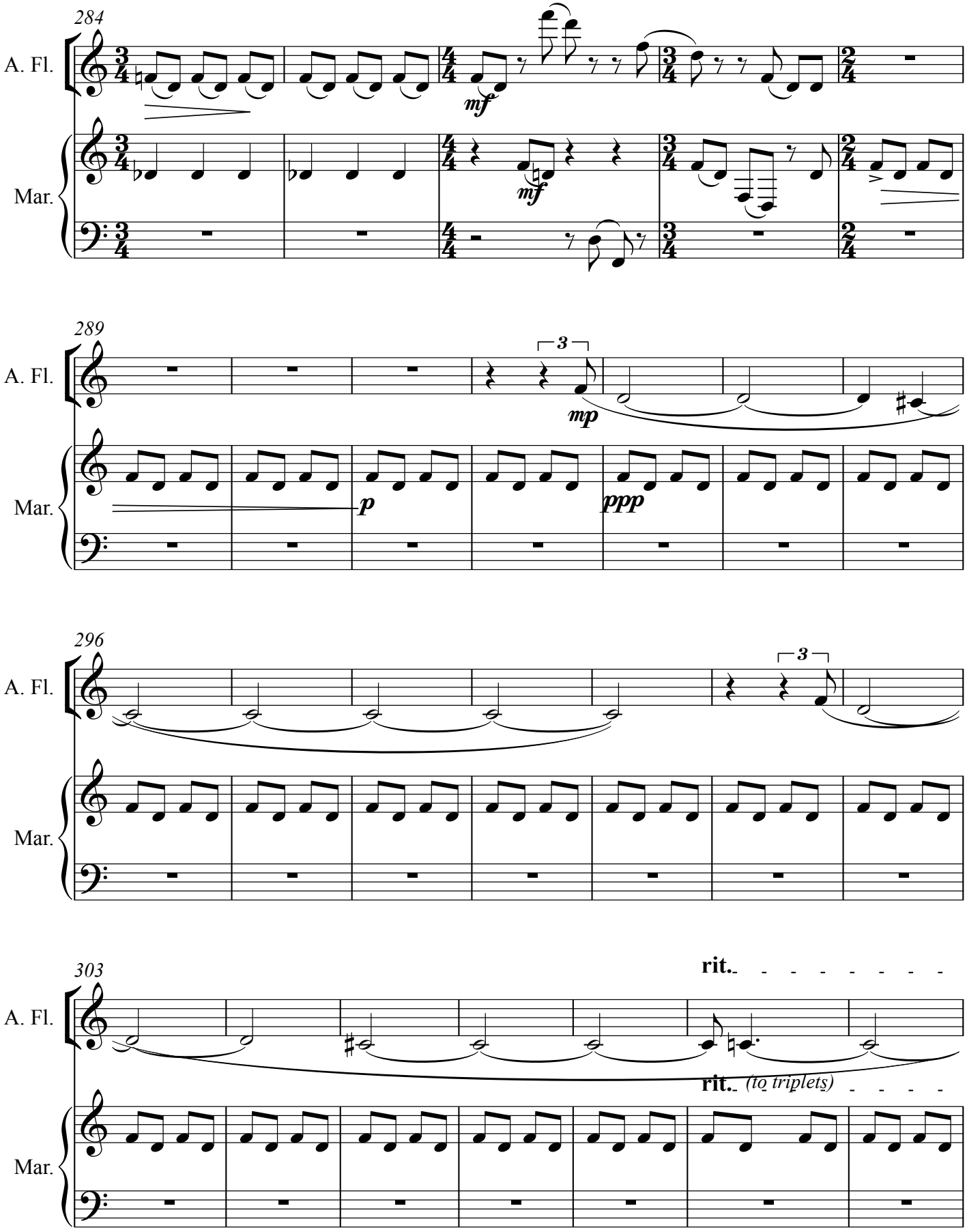

205
A. Fl.
Mar.
molto rall.
molto rall.
mp
mp
209
(♩ = 60)
♩ = 60 - 70
(♩ = 60)
♩ = 60 - 70
mp
mp
213
rit.
Tempo
rit.
Tempo
216
(keep moving)
(keep moving)

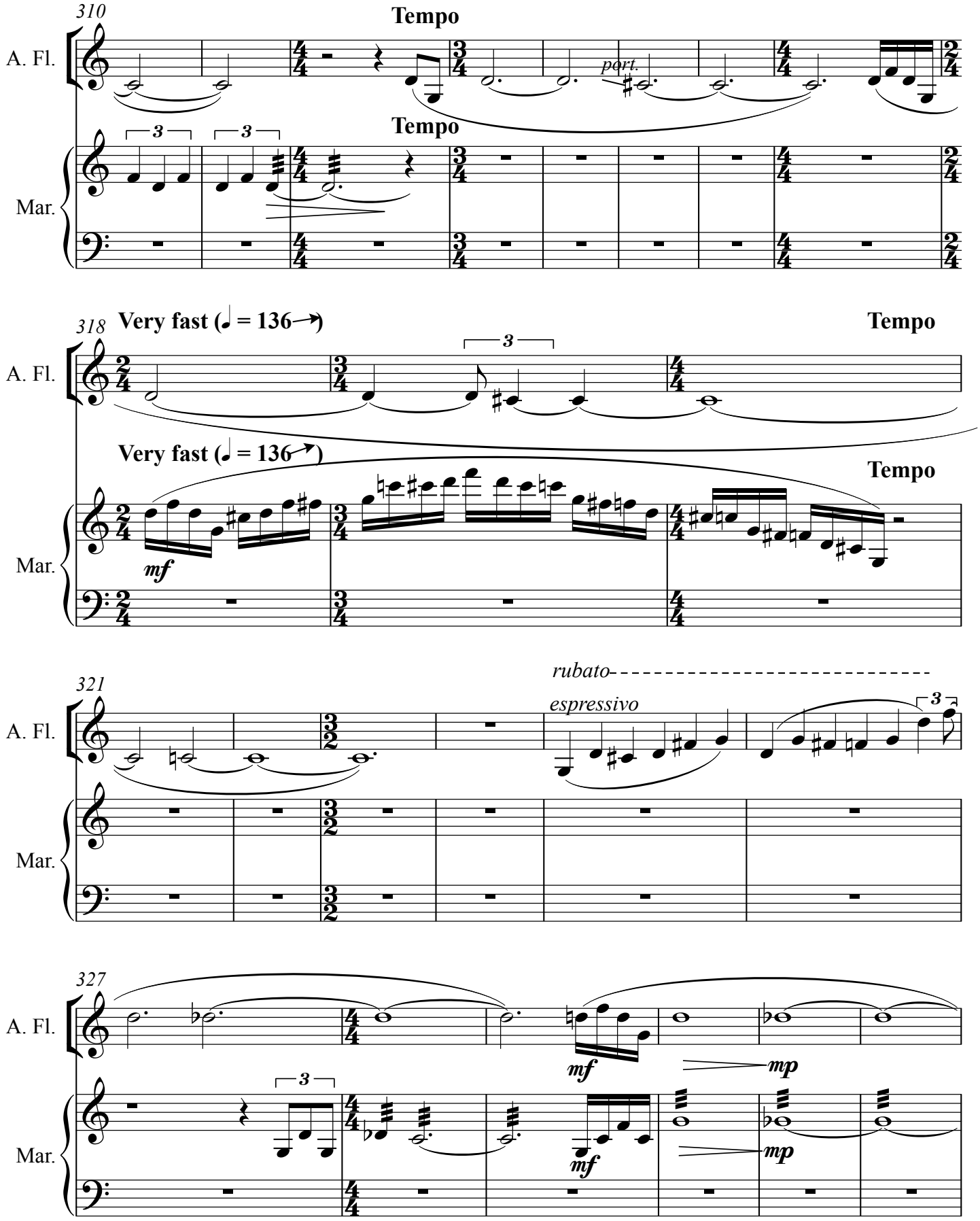

220
dolce (but keep moving)
A. Fl.
mp
dolce (but keep moving)
Mar.
p
225
A. Fl.
Mar.
229
rit.
Tempo
A. Fl.
rit.
Tempo
Mar.
233
A. Fl.
Mar.

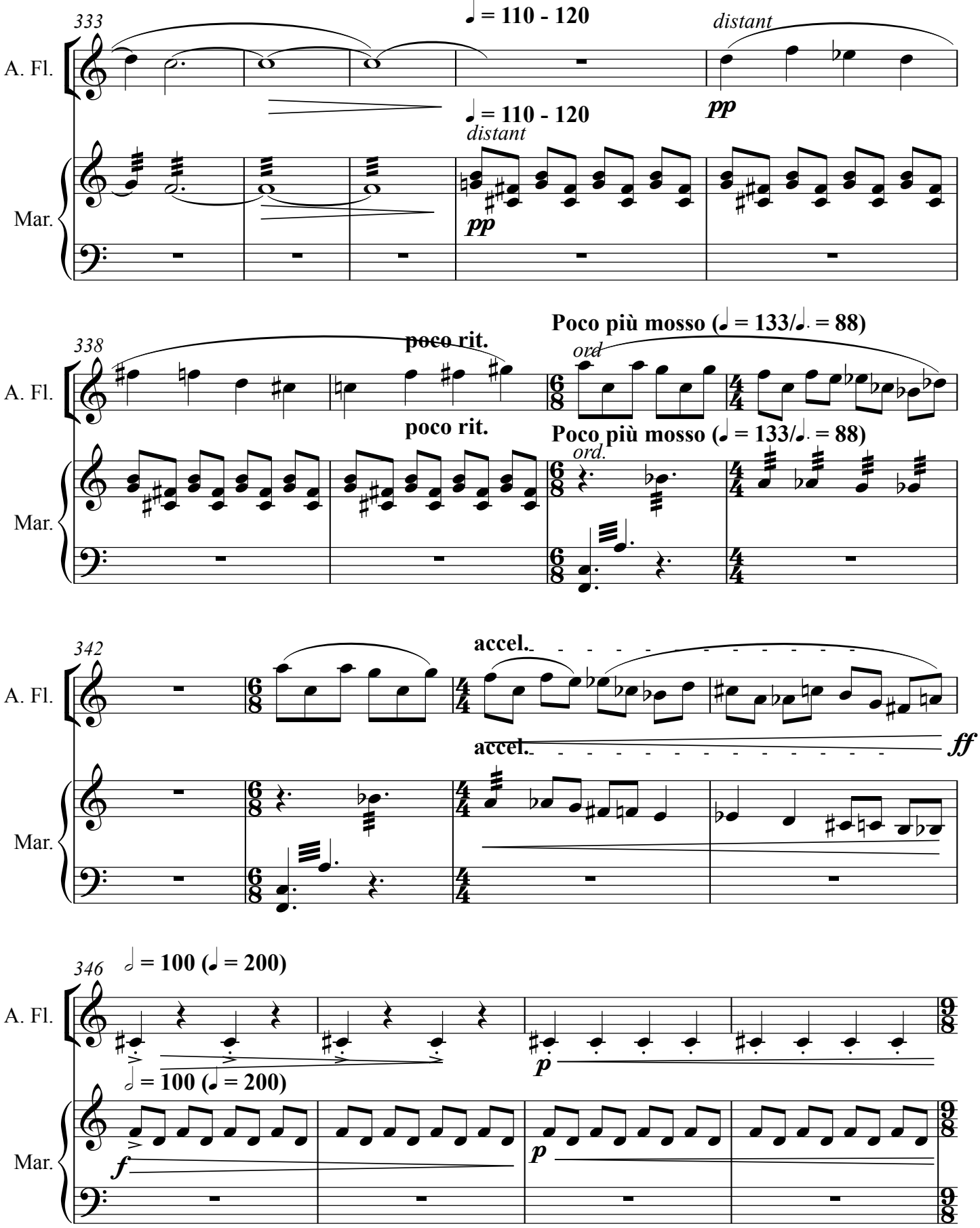

237
A. Fl.
Mar.
rit.
Tempo
241
Background
subito p
rit.
Tempo
Foreground
(non trem.)
245
accel.
♩ = 180 (𝅗𝅥 = 90)
f
accel.
♩ = 180 (𝅗𝅥 = 90)
f
249

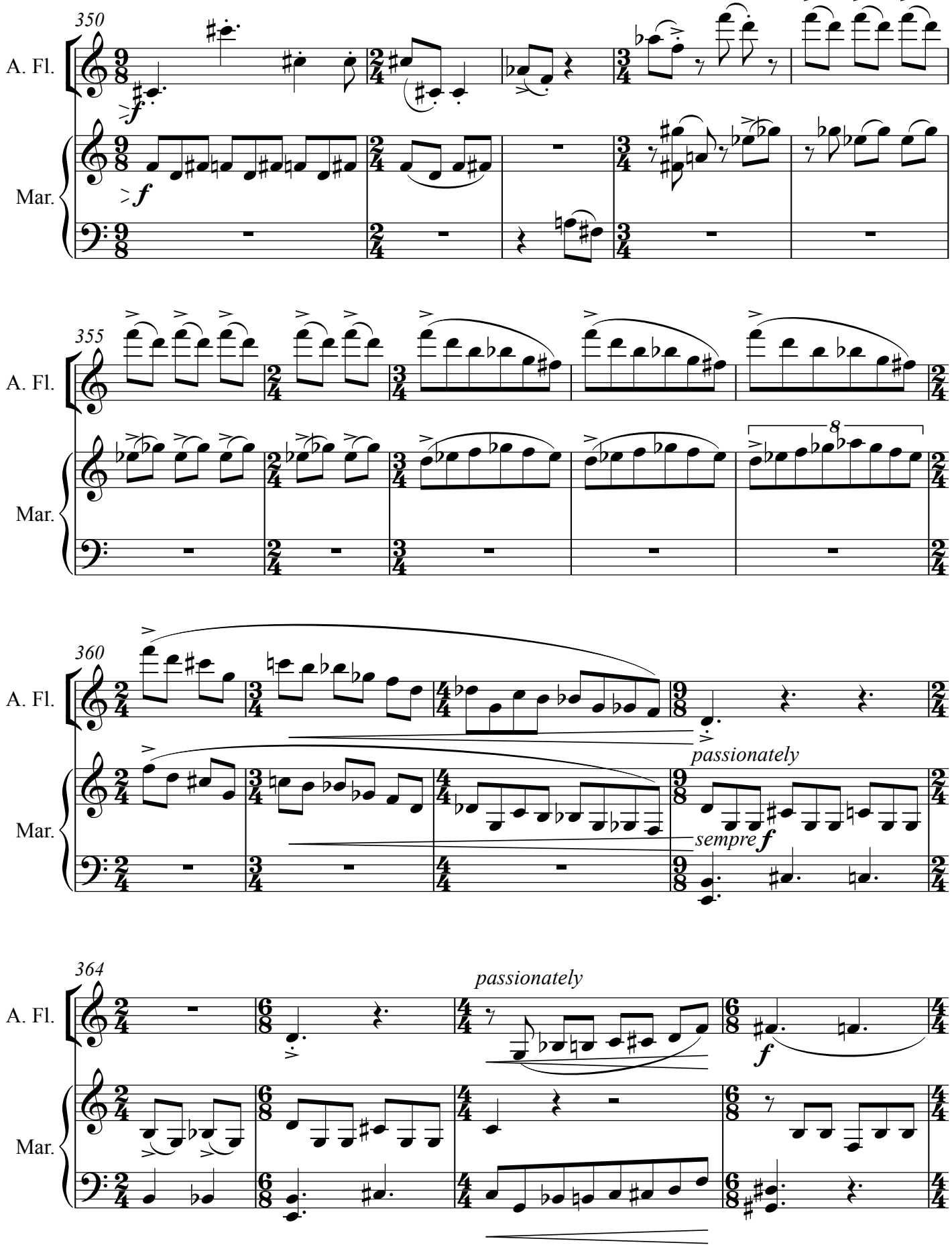

253
A. Fl.
Mar.
256
A. Fl.
subito p
f
Mar.
subito p
f
260
A. Fl.
Mar.
264
A. Fl.
Mar.

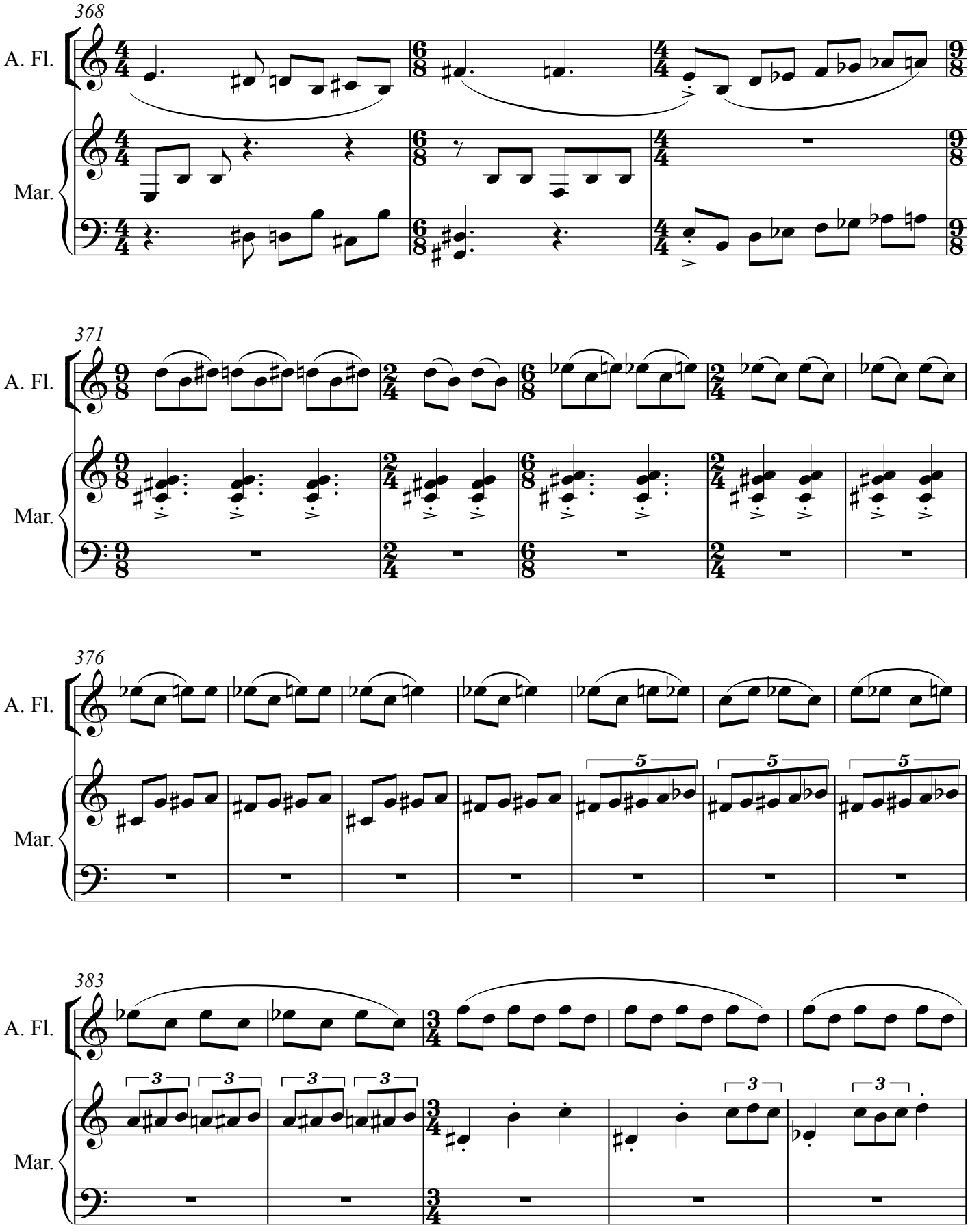

269
Background
A. Fl.
pp
Foreground
Mar.
p
mf
272
A. Fl.
p
Mar.
p
275
A. Fl.
Mar.
280
A. Fl.
f
mp
Mar.
f
mp

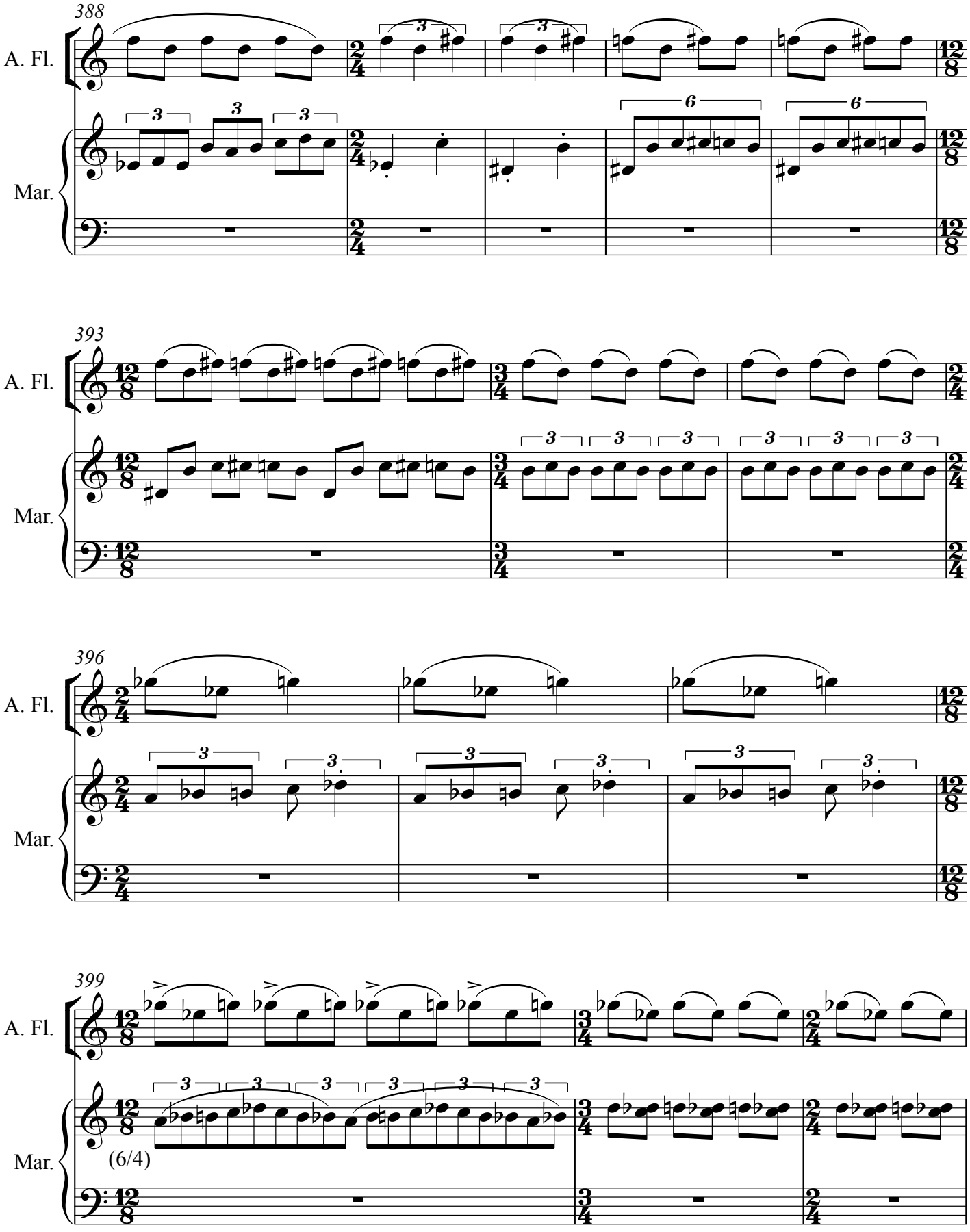

284
A. Fl.
Mar.
mf
mf
289
A. Fl.
Mar.
3
mp
p
ppp
296
A. Fl.
Mar.
3
303
A. Fl.
Mar.
rit.
rit.
(to triplets)

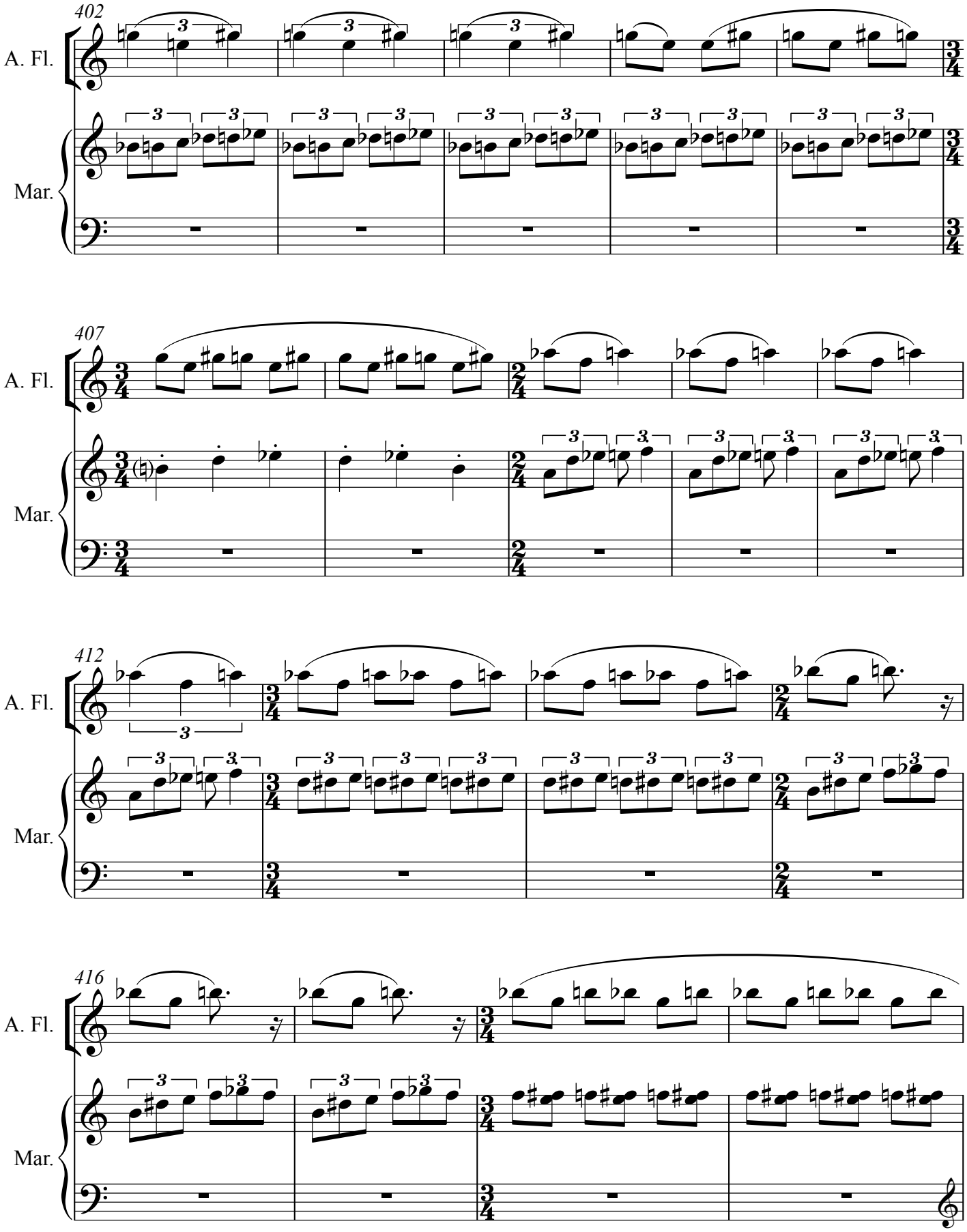

310
Tempo
A. Fl.
port.
Tempo
Mar.
318
Very fast (♩ = 136)
Tempo
A. Fl.
Very fast (♩ = 136)
Tempo
mf
Mar.
321
rubato
espressivo
A. Fl.
Mar.
327
A. Fl.
mf
mp
Mar.
mf
mp

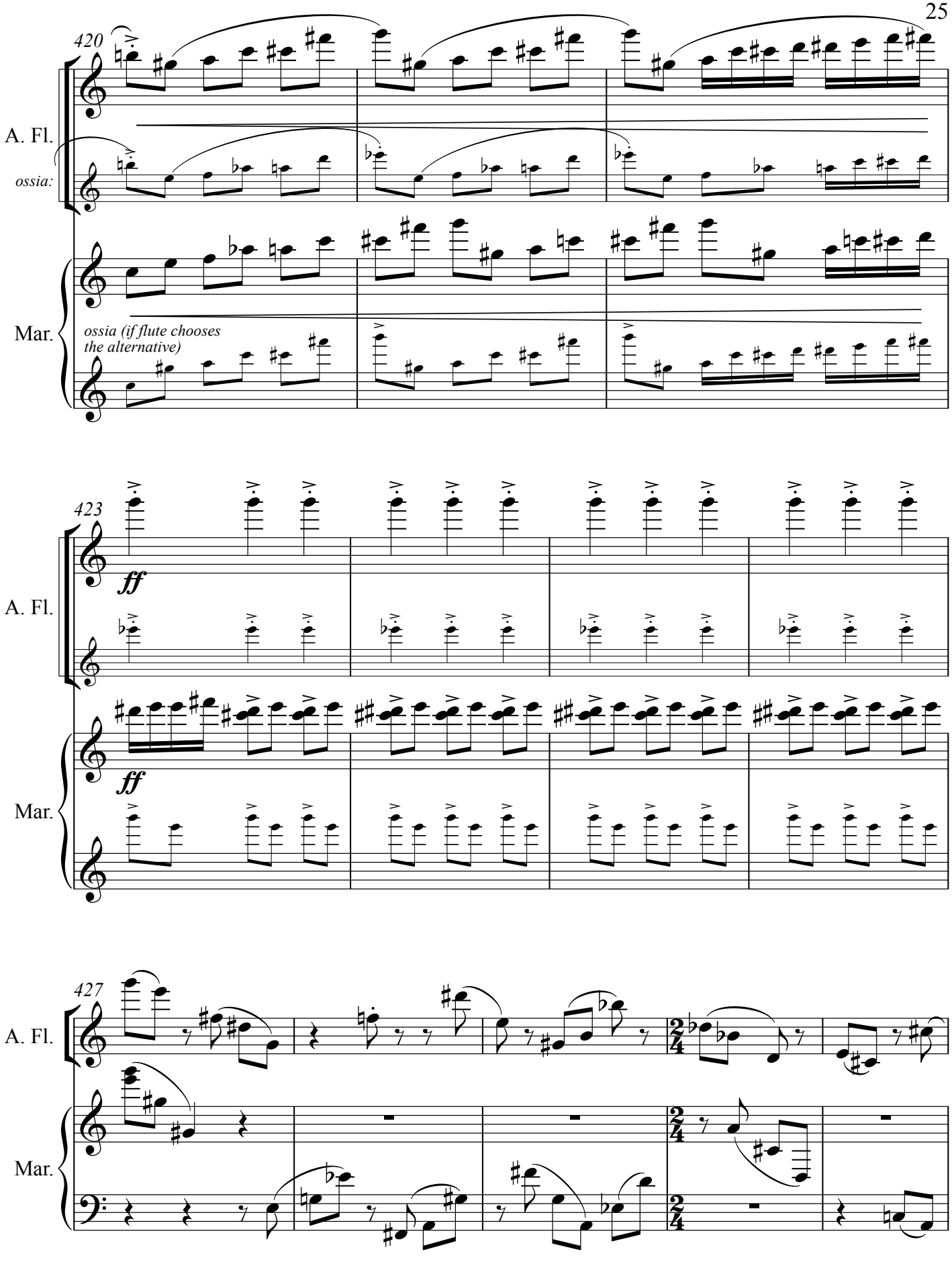

333
A. Fl.
♩ = 110 - 120
distant
pp
Mar.
♩ = 110 - 120
distant
pp
338
A. Fl.
poco rit.
Poco più mosso (♩ = 133/♩. = 88)
ord.
Mar.
poco rit.
Poco più mosso (♩ = 133/♩. = 88)
ord.
342
A. Fl.
accel.
accel.
ff
Mar.
346
A. Fl.
𝅗𝅥 = 100 (♩ = 200)
p
Mar.
𝅗𝅥 = 100 (♩ = 200)
f
p

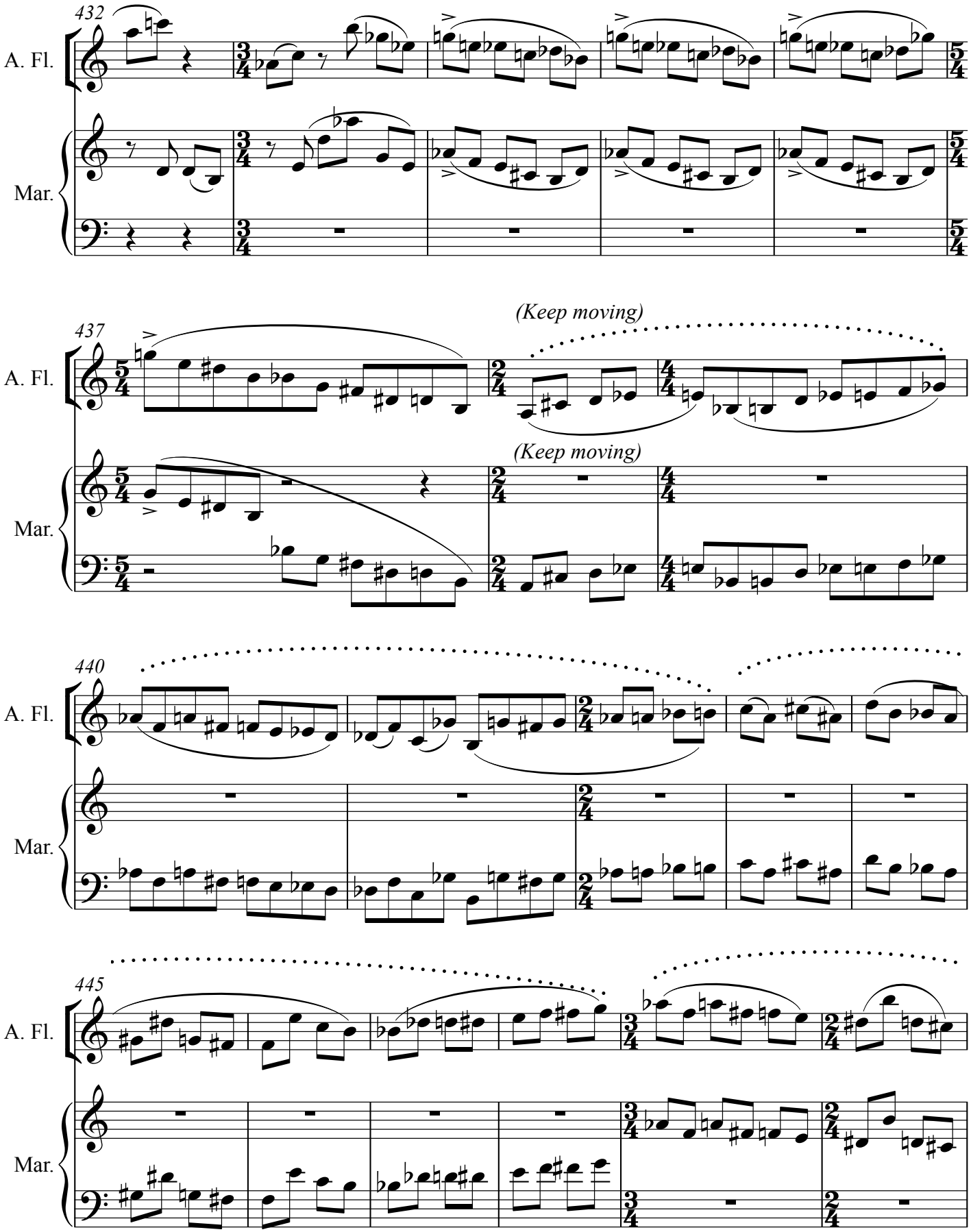

350
A. Fl.
Mar.
355
A. Fl.
Mar.
8
360
A. Fl.
passionately
Mar.
sempre f
364
A. Fl.
passionately
Mar.

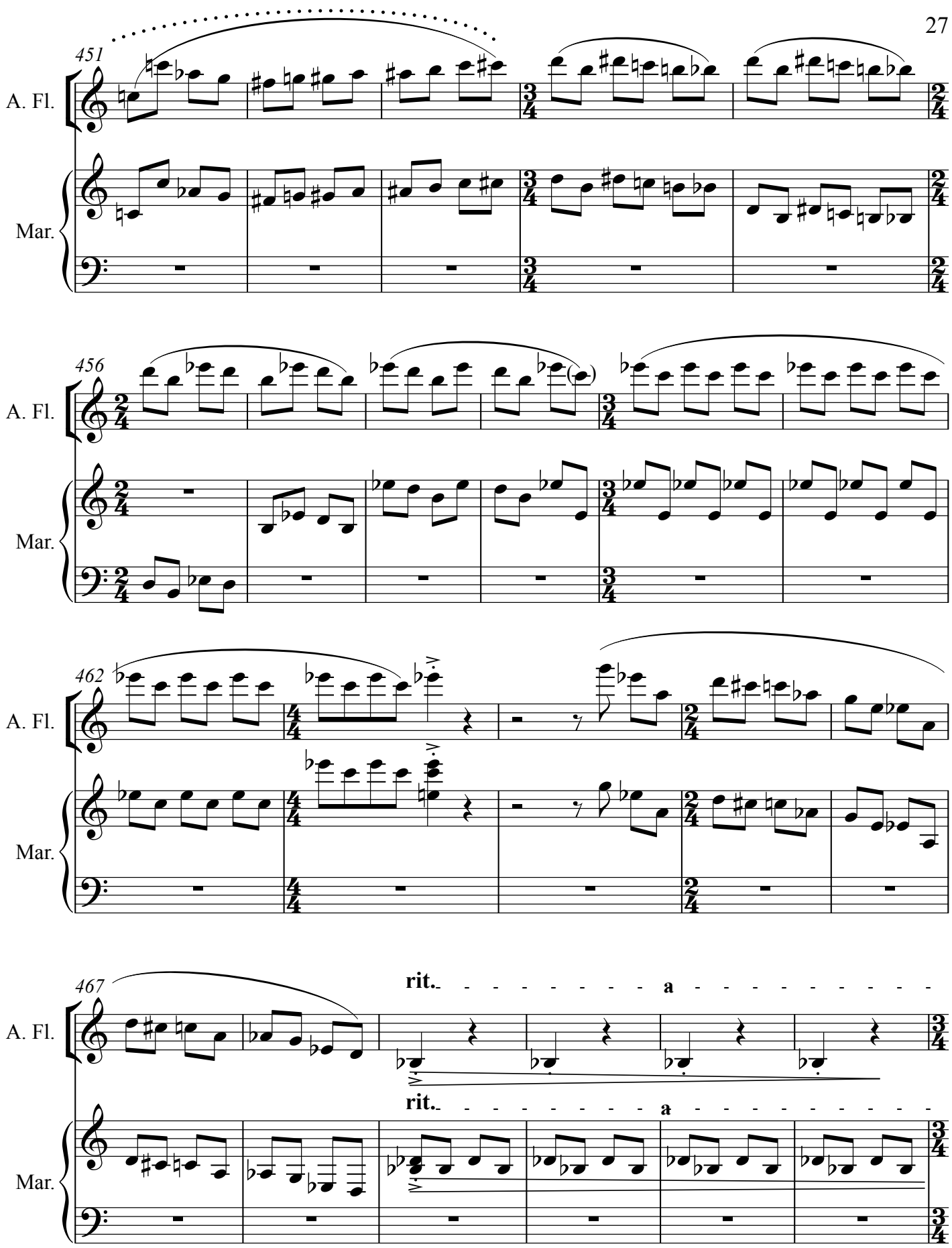

368
A. Fl.
Mar.
371
A. Fl.
Mar.
376
A. Fl.
Mar.
383
A. Fl.
Mar.

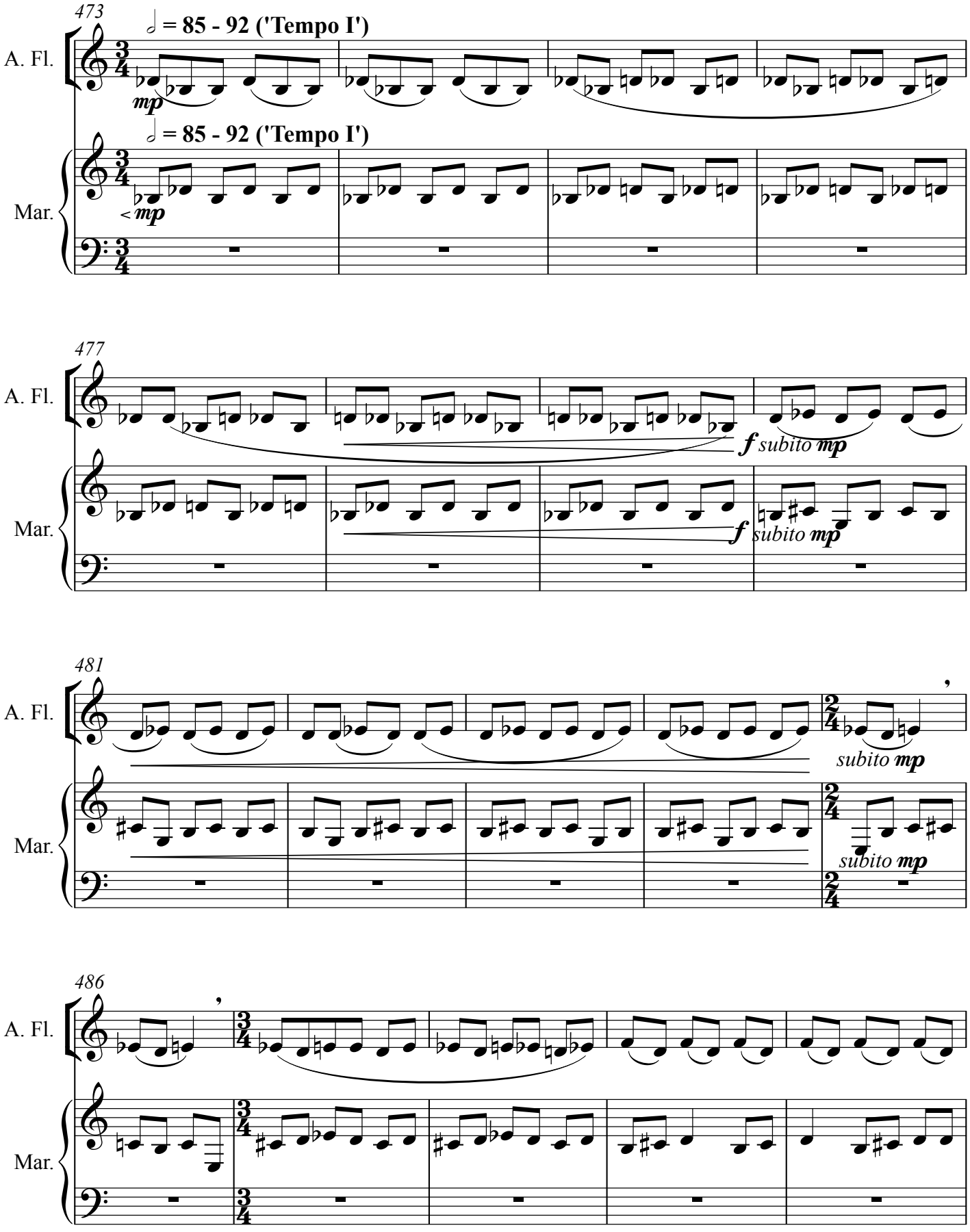

388
A. Fl.
Mar.
393
A. Fl.
Mar.
396
A. Fl.
Mar.
399
A. Fl.
Mar.
(6/4)

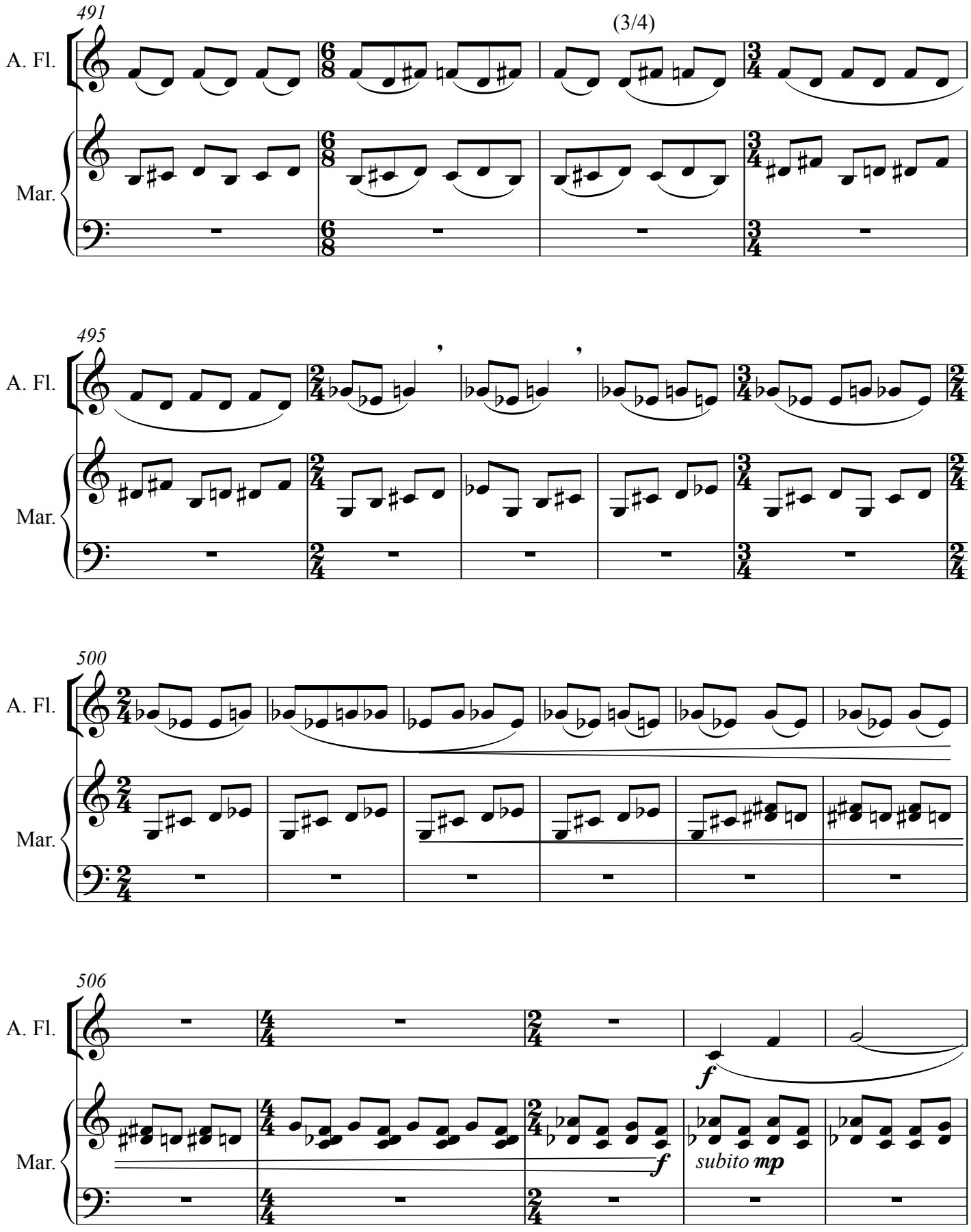

402
A. Fl.
Mar.
407
A. Fl.
Mar.
412
A. Fl.
Mar.
416
A. Fl.
Mar.

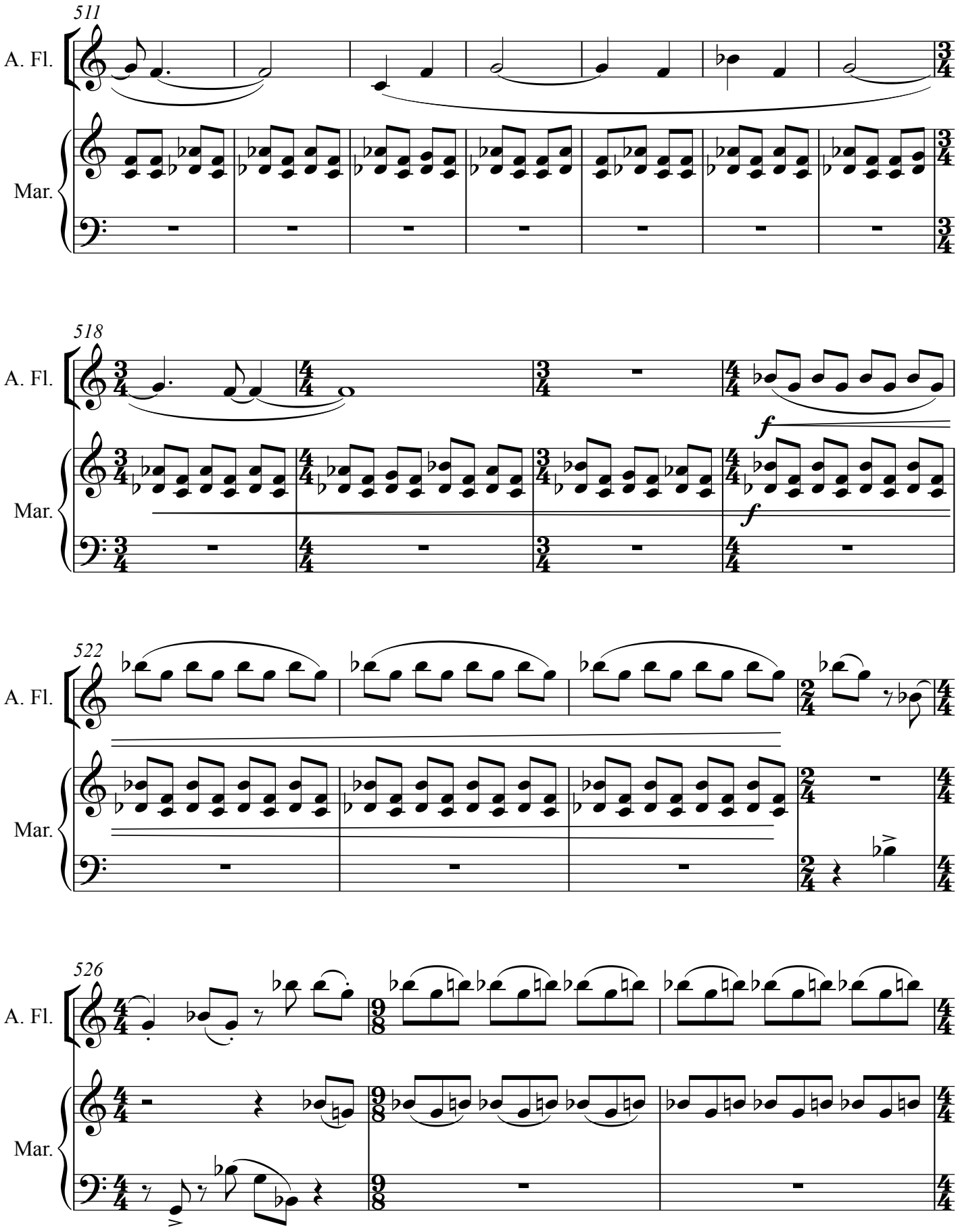

420
A. Fl.
ossia:
Mar.
ossia (if flute chooses the alternative)
423
ff
A. Fl.
ff
Mar.
427
A. Fl.
Mar.

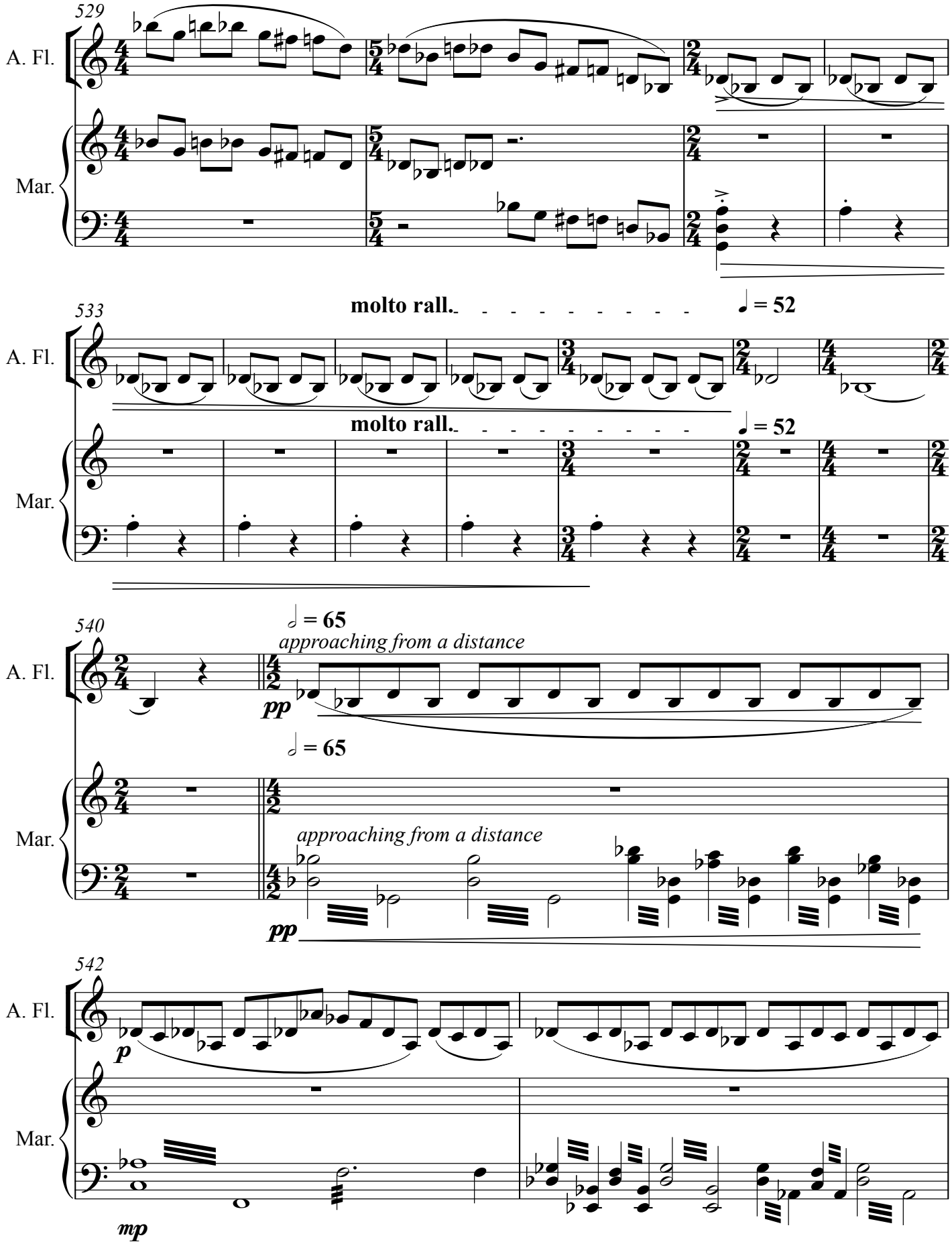

432
A. Fl.
Mar.
437
(Keep moving)
(Keep moving)
440
445

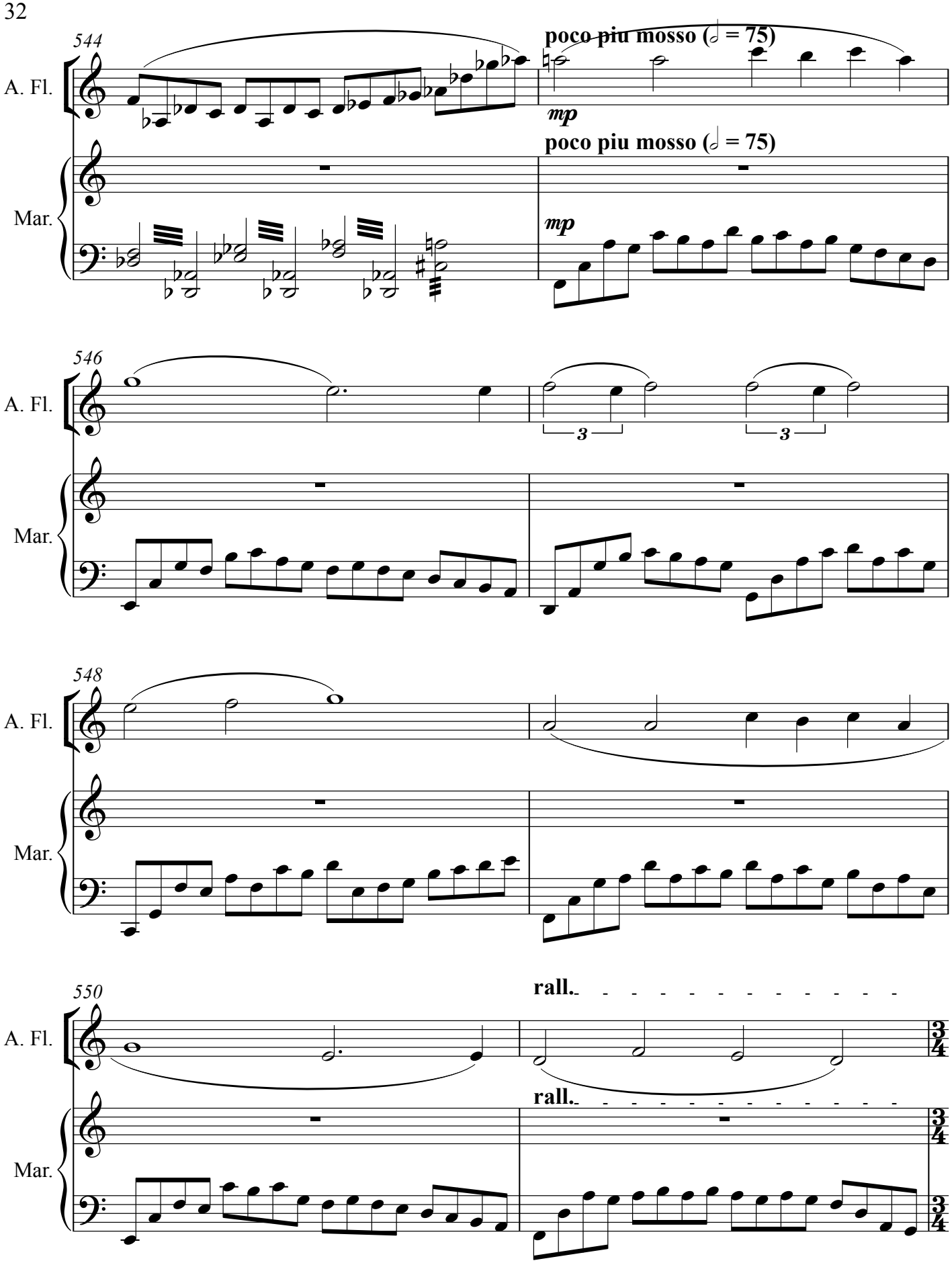

451
A. Fl.
Mar.
456
A. Fl.
Mar.
462
A. Fl.
Mar.
467
rit.
a
A. Fl.
Mar.

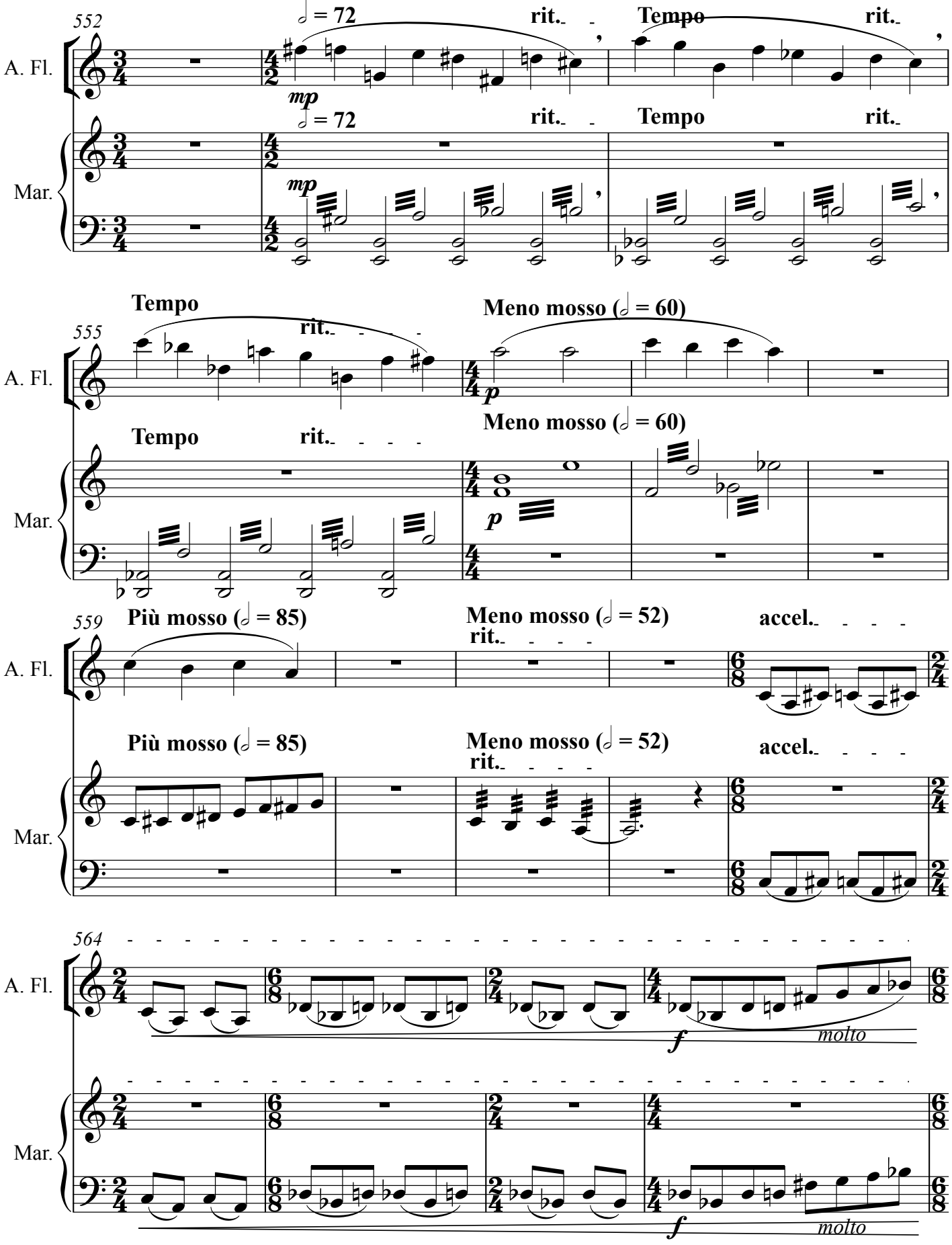

473
♩ = 85 - 92 ('Tempo I')
A. Fl.
mp
♩ = 85 - 92 ('Tempo I')
Mar.
mp
477
A. Fl.
f subito mp
Mar.
f subito mp
481
A. Fl.
subito mp
Mar.
subito mp
486
A. Fl.
Mar.

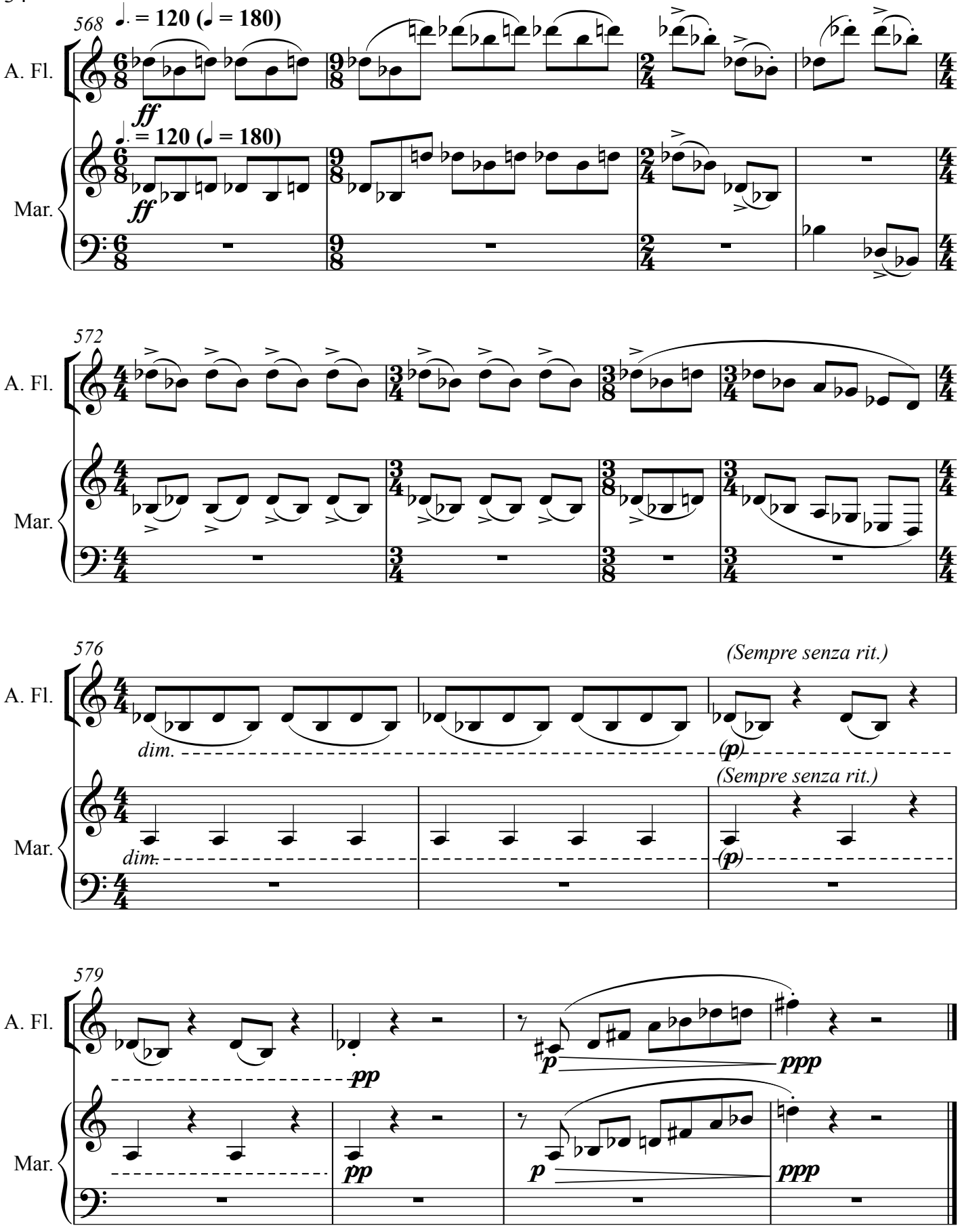

491
(3/4)
A. Fl.
Mar.
495
A. Fl.
Mar.
500
A. Fl.
Mar.
506
A. Fl.
f
Mar.
f
subito mp


511
A. Fl.
Mar.
518
A. Fl.
Mar.
f
f
522
A. Fl.
Mar.
526
A. Fl.
Mar.


529
A. Fl.
Mar.
533
molto rall.
♩ = 52
molto rall.
♩ = 52
A. Fl.
Mar.
540
𝅗𝅥 = 65
approaching from a distance
pp
𝅗𝅥 = 65
approaching from a distance
pp
A. Fl.
Mar.
542
p
mp


544
A. Fl.
poco piu mosso (𝅗𝅥 = 75)
mp
Mar.
poco piu mosso (𝅗𝅥 = 75)
mp
546
A. Fl.
3
3
Mar.
548
A. Fl.
Mar.
550
A. Fl.
rall.
Mar.
rall.
3/4
3/4


552
A. Fl.
Mar.
mp
𝅗𝅥 = 72
rit.
Tempo
rit.
555
Tempo
rit.
Meno mosso (𝅗𝅥 = 60)
p
559
Più mosso (𝅗𝅥 = 85)
Meno mosso (𝅗𝅥 = 52)
accel.
564
f
molto



Howard Hersh/Nevada City/May 8. 2004 (3/07)