Jessica Rudman

Laws of Entropy

for Solo Percussion

2010

ca. 6:00

Laws of Entropy

Equipment

D4:	Pedal Bass Drum
F4-G4:	Low Drums
B4:	Ringing Metal Instrument (Suspended Cymbal, Tam-tam, etc.)
D5-E5:	Wooden Objects or High Drums
G5-A5:	Metal (or Non-Wood, Non-Drum Objects)

Four mallets are required. Choice of mallets is left up to the player based upon the instruments selected.

The ringing metal instrument should be allowed to ring whenever struck and should never be dampened (not even at the end of the piece).

Program Notes

Entropy is a measure of the disorganization in a given "system". The second law of thermodynamics states that entropy will never decrease, but rather will increase until a uniform state of disorganization is reached. It seems to me that such a process will ultimately result in a stasis whose chaos is perfectly organized.

In the *Laws of Entropy*, I use various processes to transform the opening drum groove into a large-scale polyrhythmic ostinato that ultimately decays completely. The rules governing those changes include the systematic deletion of notes from the original pattern, the addition of subdivisions to that pattern, the intrusion of repeated pulses that conflict with the main meter, and the insertion of silence.

Laws of Entropy was written in 2010 for Cory Hills. He commissioned the work after my *Napoleon Complex* was awarded first prize in his 2009 Con/un/drum Solo Percussion Composition Competition.

Composer Contact Information

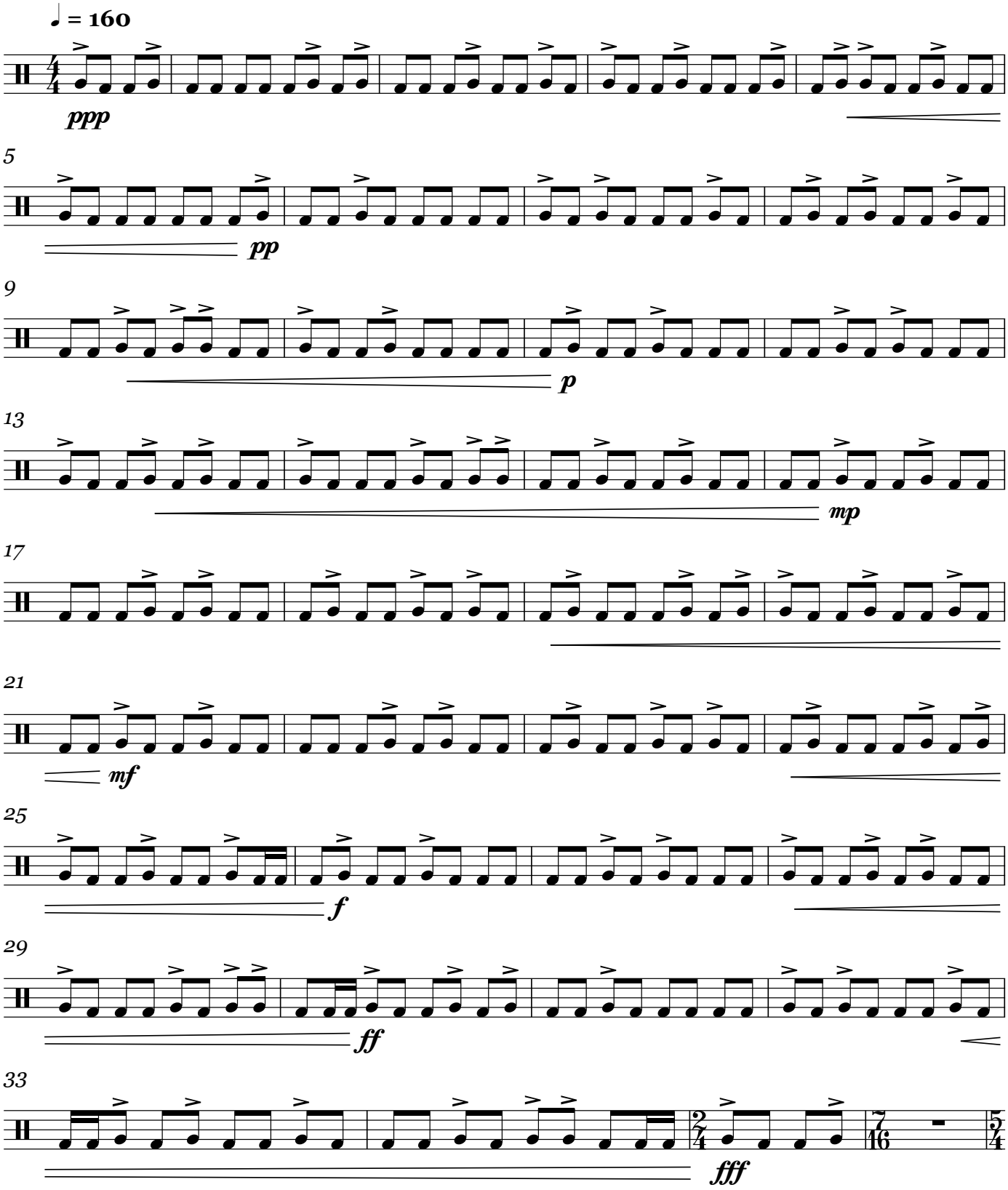
Jessica Rudman
Phone: 774-239-5878
Email: jessica_rudman@yahoo.com
Website: www.jessicarudman.com

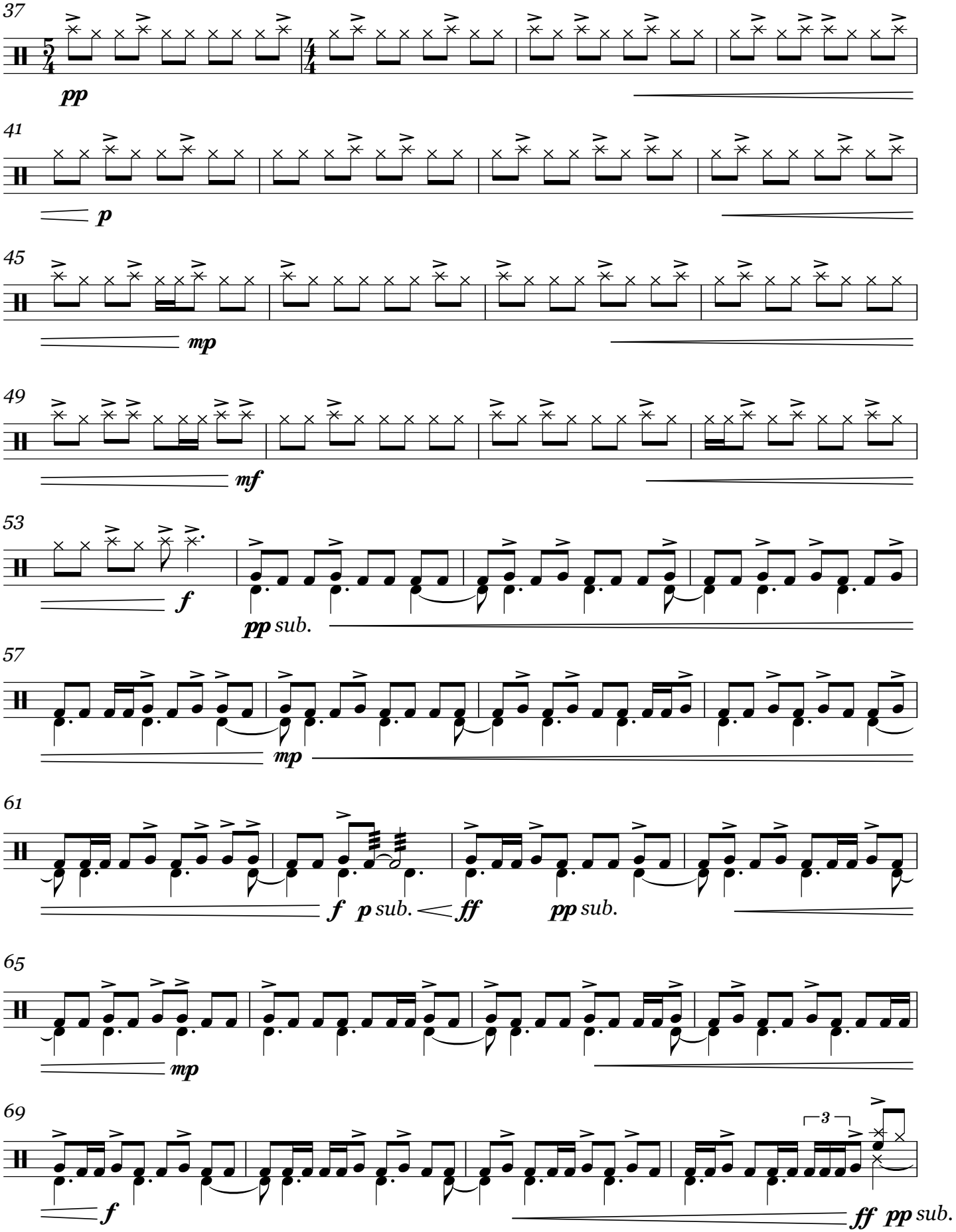
Commissioned by Cory Hills
through the 2009 Con/un/drum Solo Percussion Composition Competition

Laws of Entropy

for Solo Percussion

Jessica Rudman (b. 1982)

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pp
41
p
45
mp
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mf
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pp sub.
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mp
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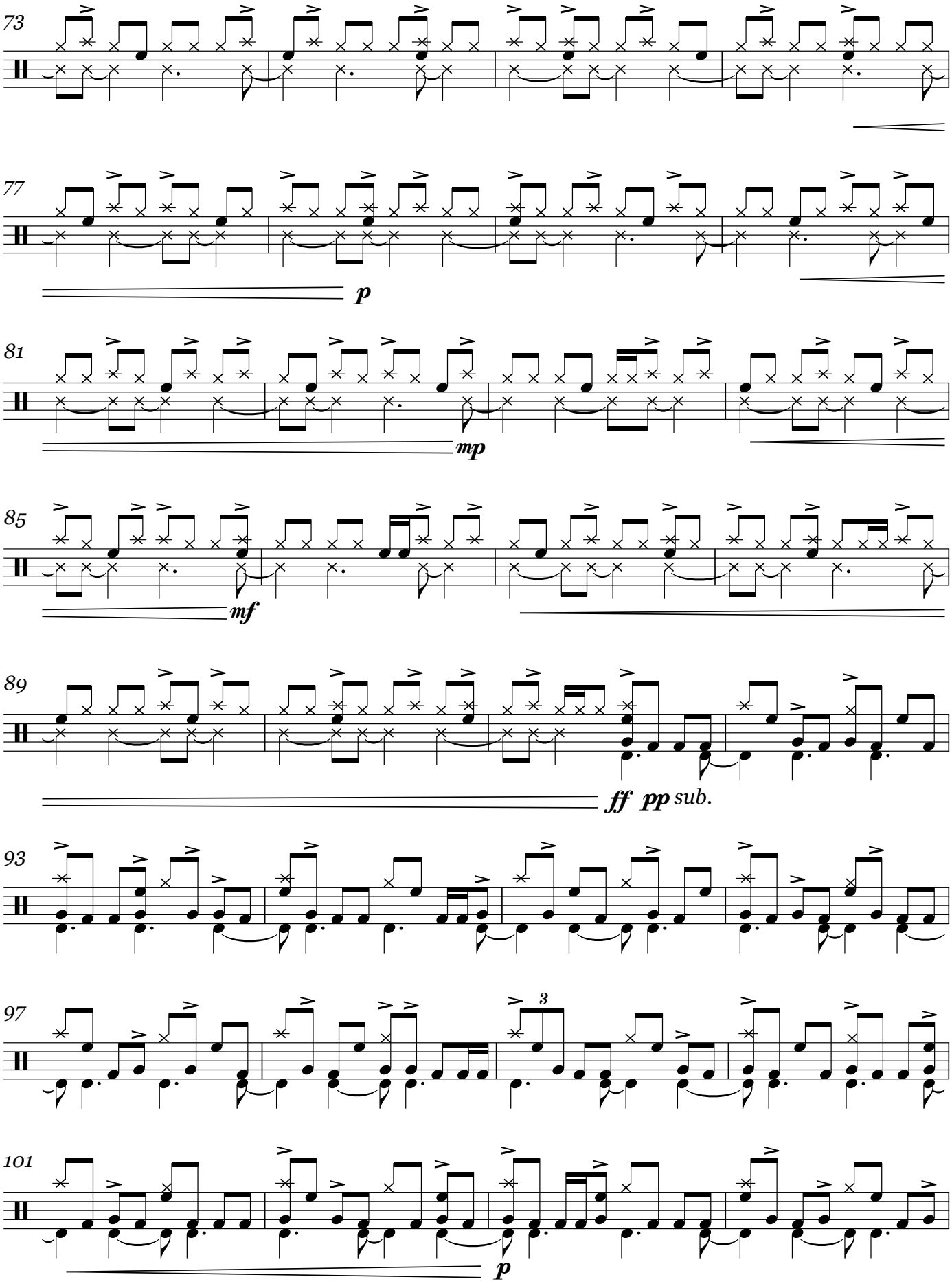
f p sub.
ff
pp sub.
65
mp
69
f
3
ff pp sub.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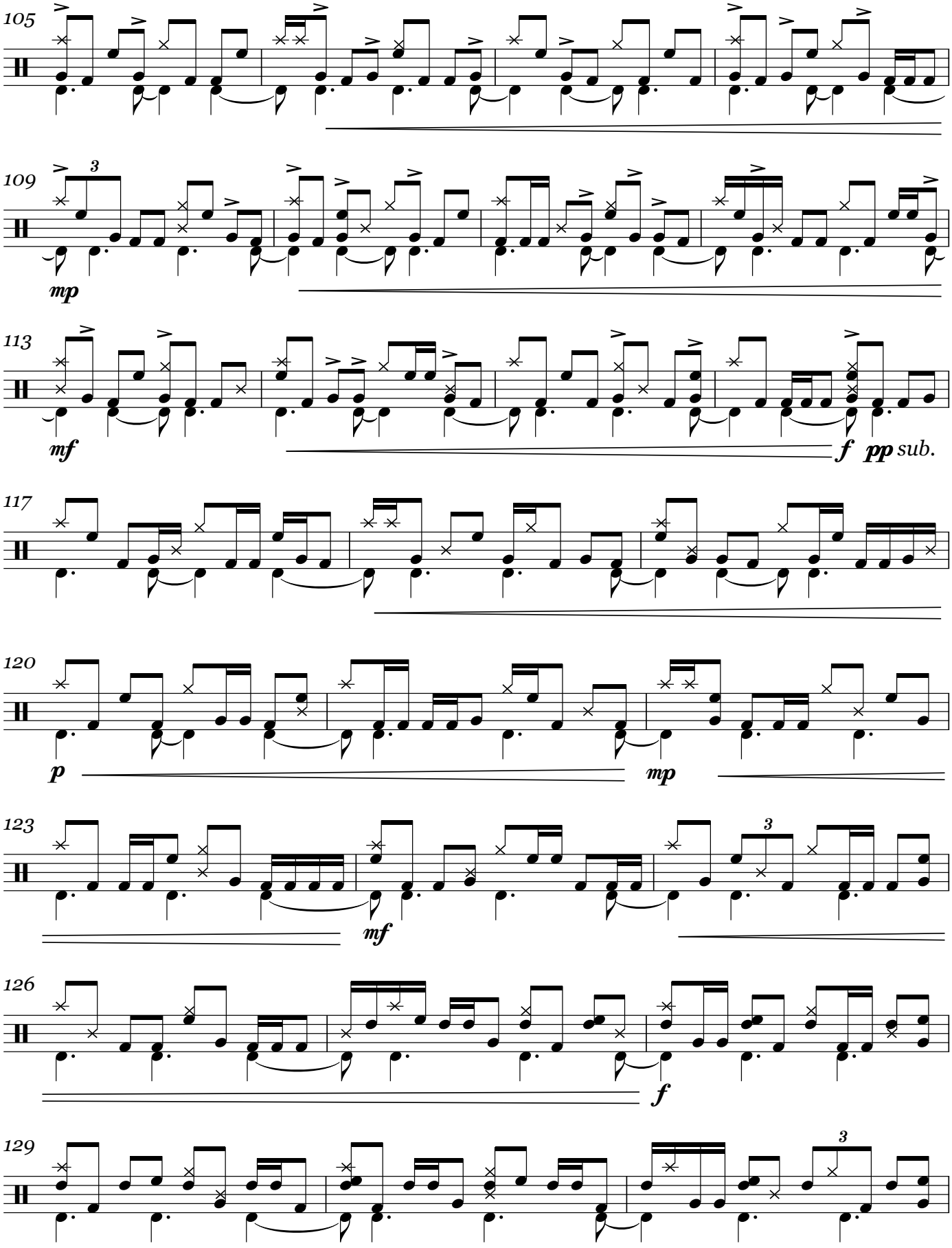
mf
89
ff pp sub.
93
97
3
101
p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109
3
mp
113
mf
f
pp sub.
117
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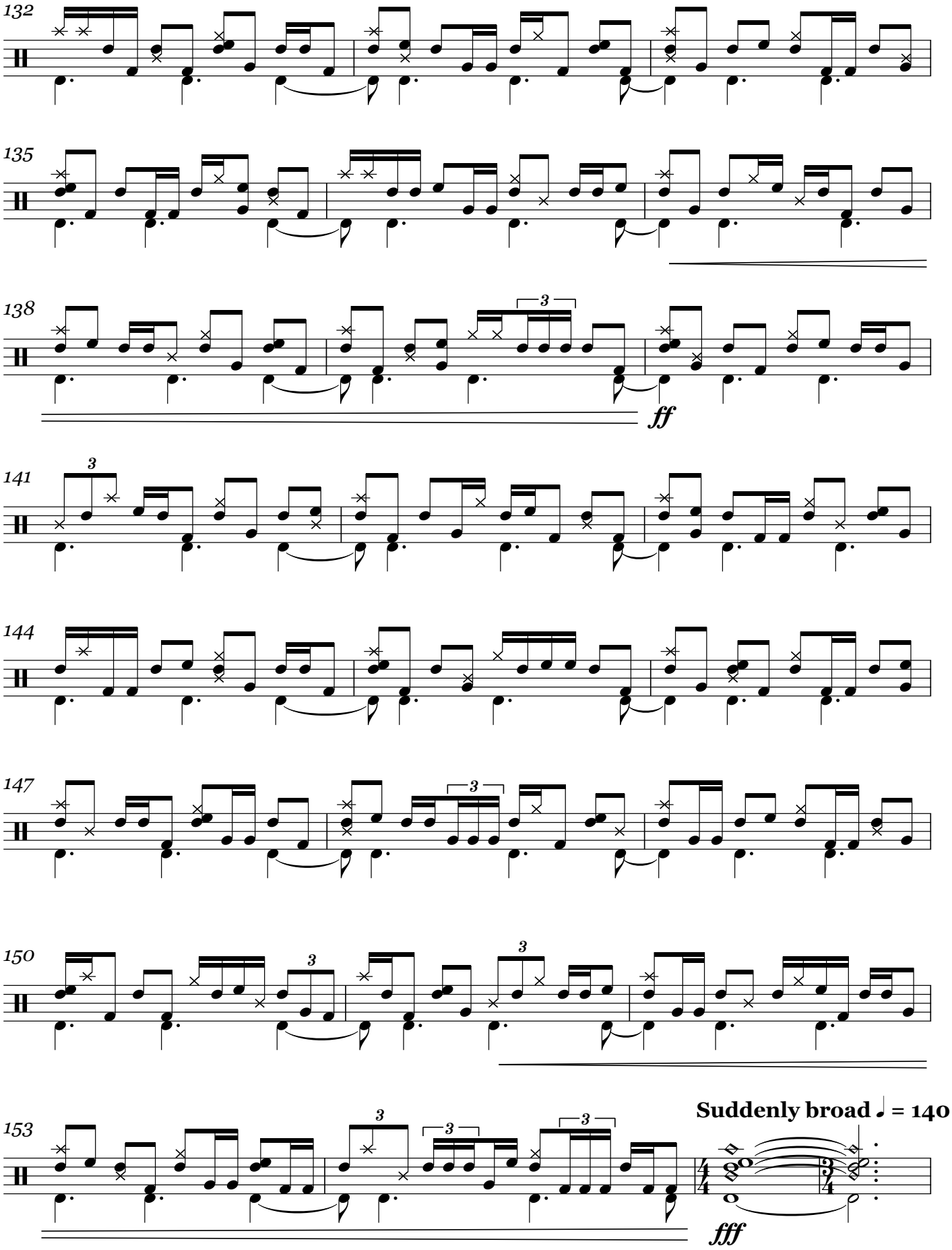
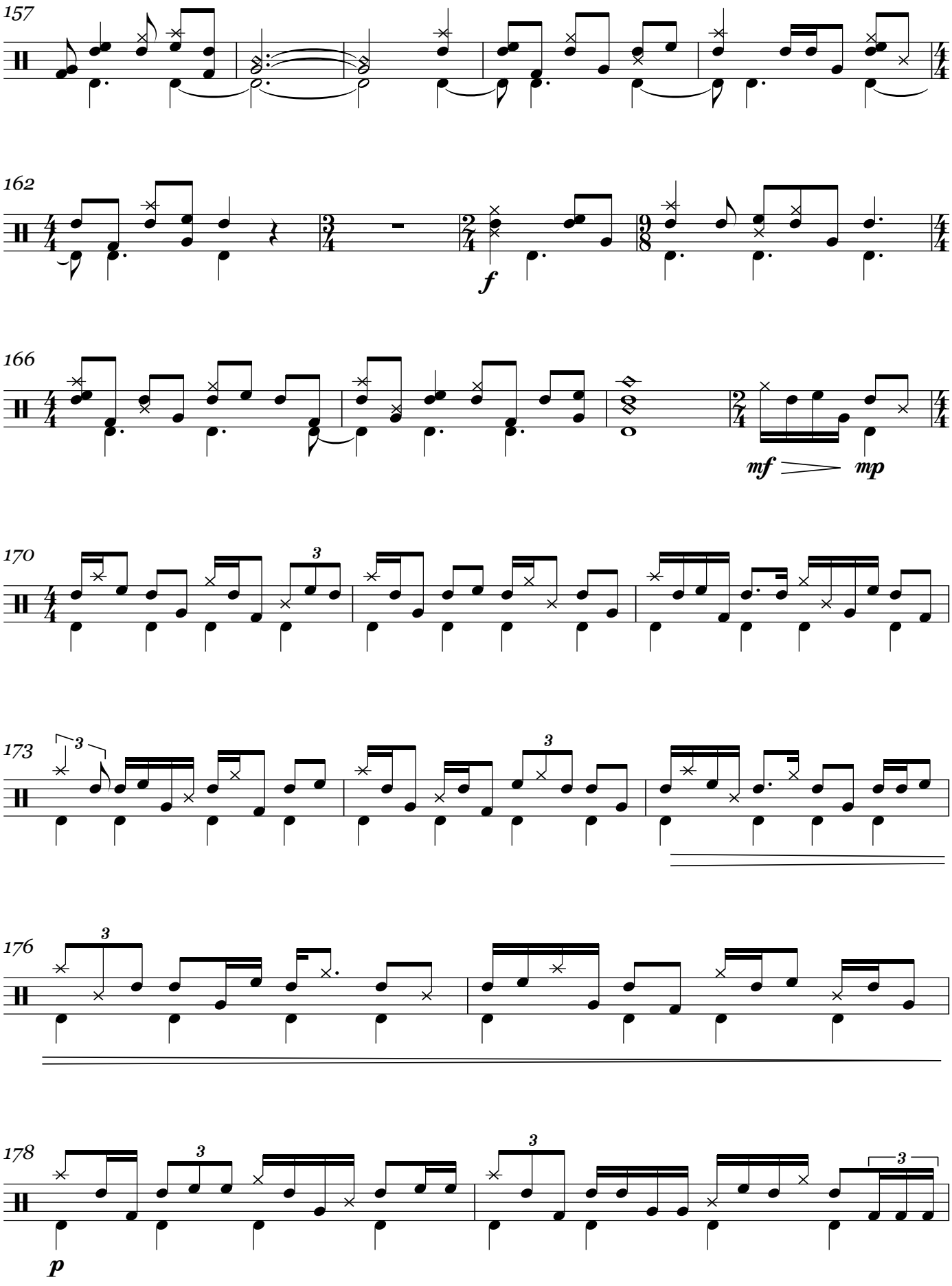
p
mp
123
mf
3
126
f
129
3


132
135
138
3
ff
141
3
144
147
3
150
3
3
153
3
3
3
Suddenly broad ♩ = 140
fff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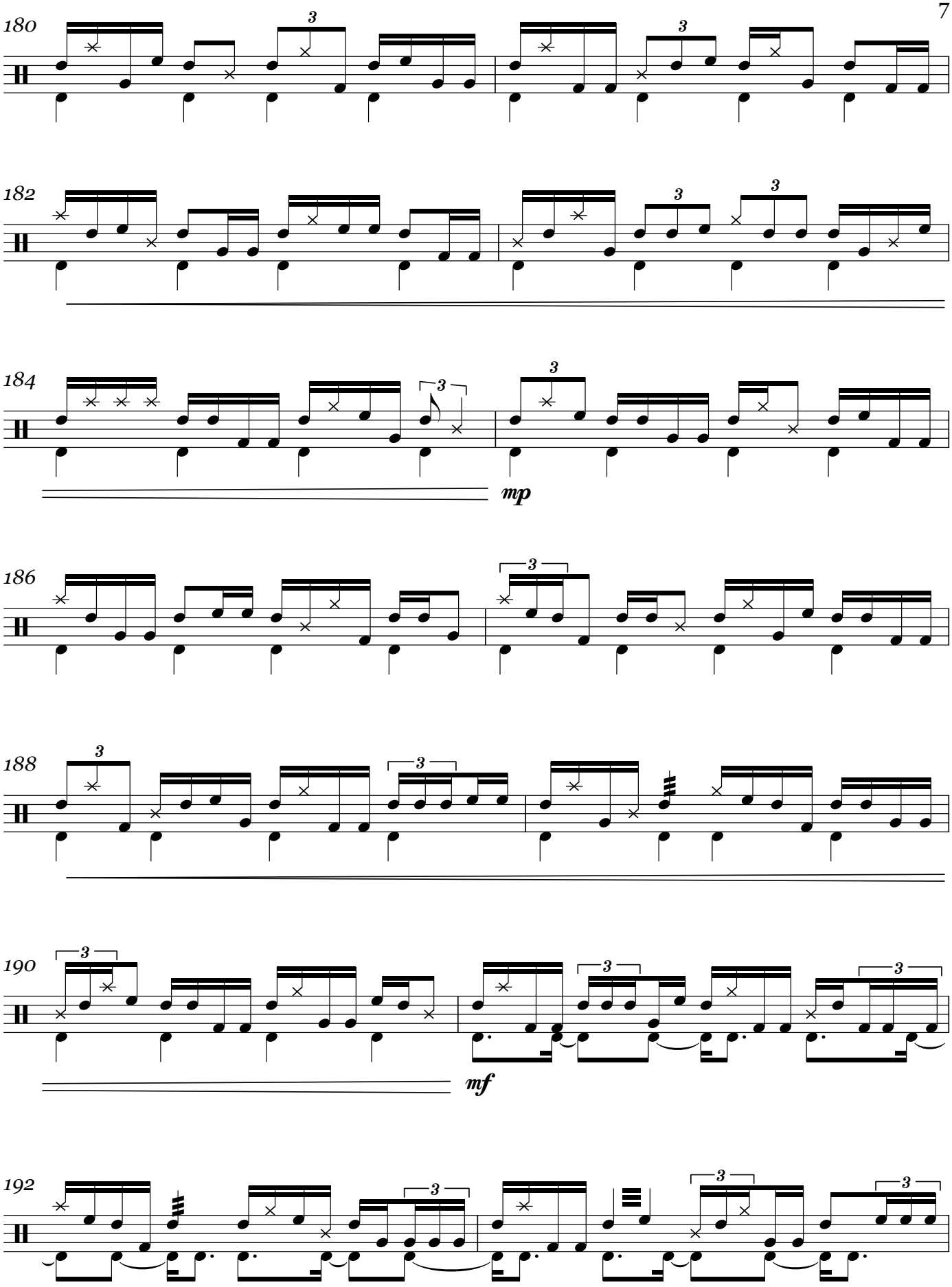
162
f
166
mf
mp
170
3
173
3
176
3
178
3
3
p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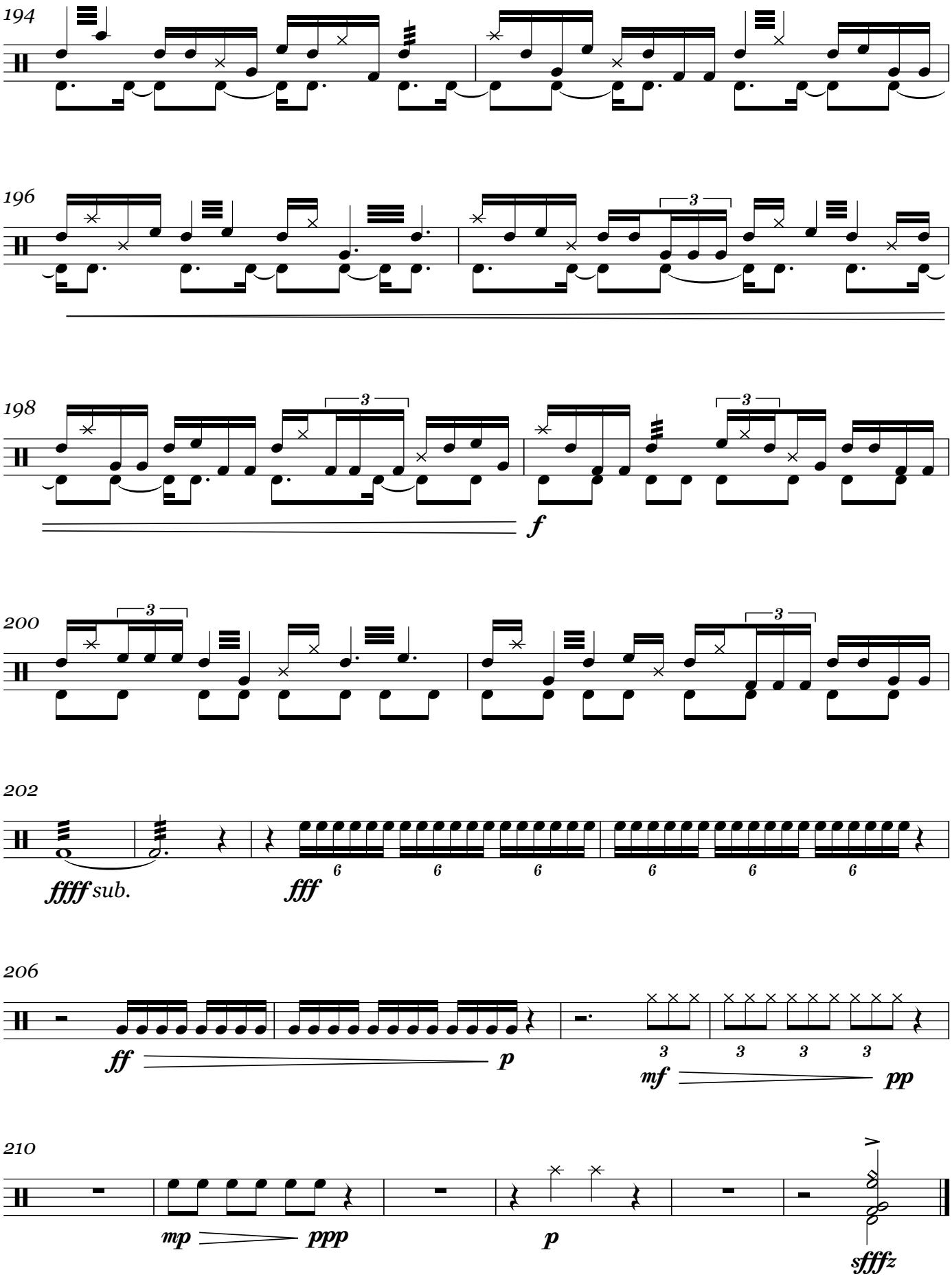
184
mp
186
188
190
mf
192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196
198
200
202
206
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3
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ffff sub.
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6
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