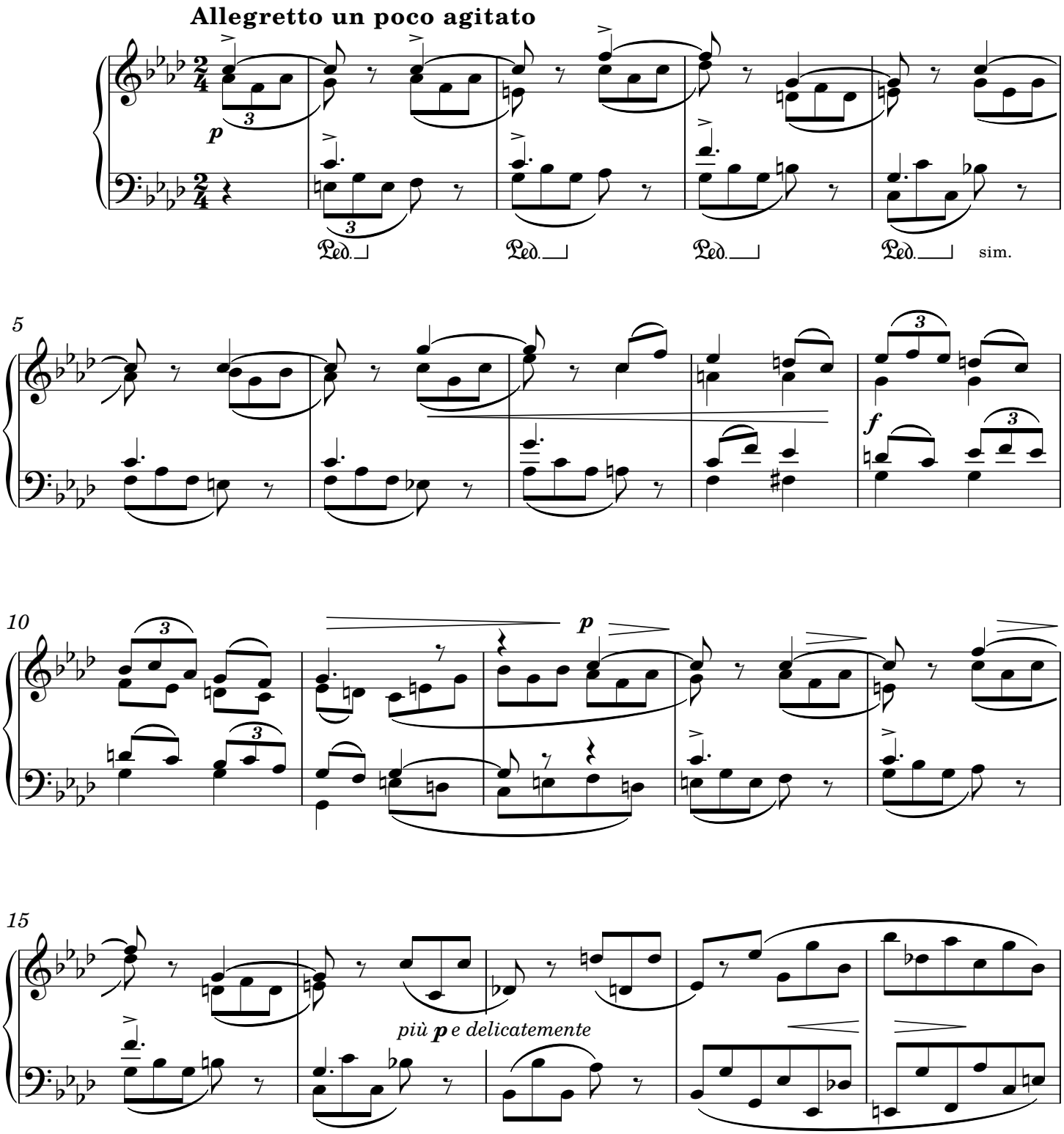
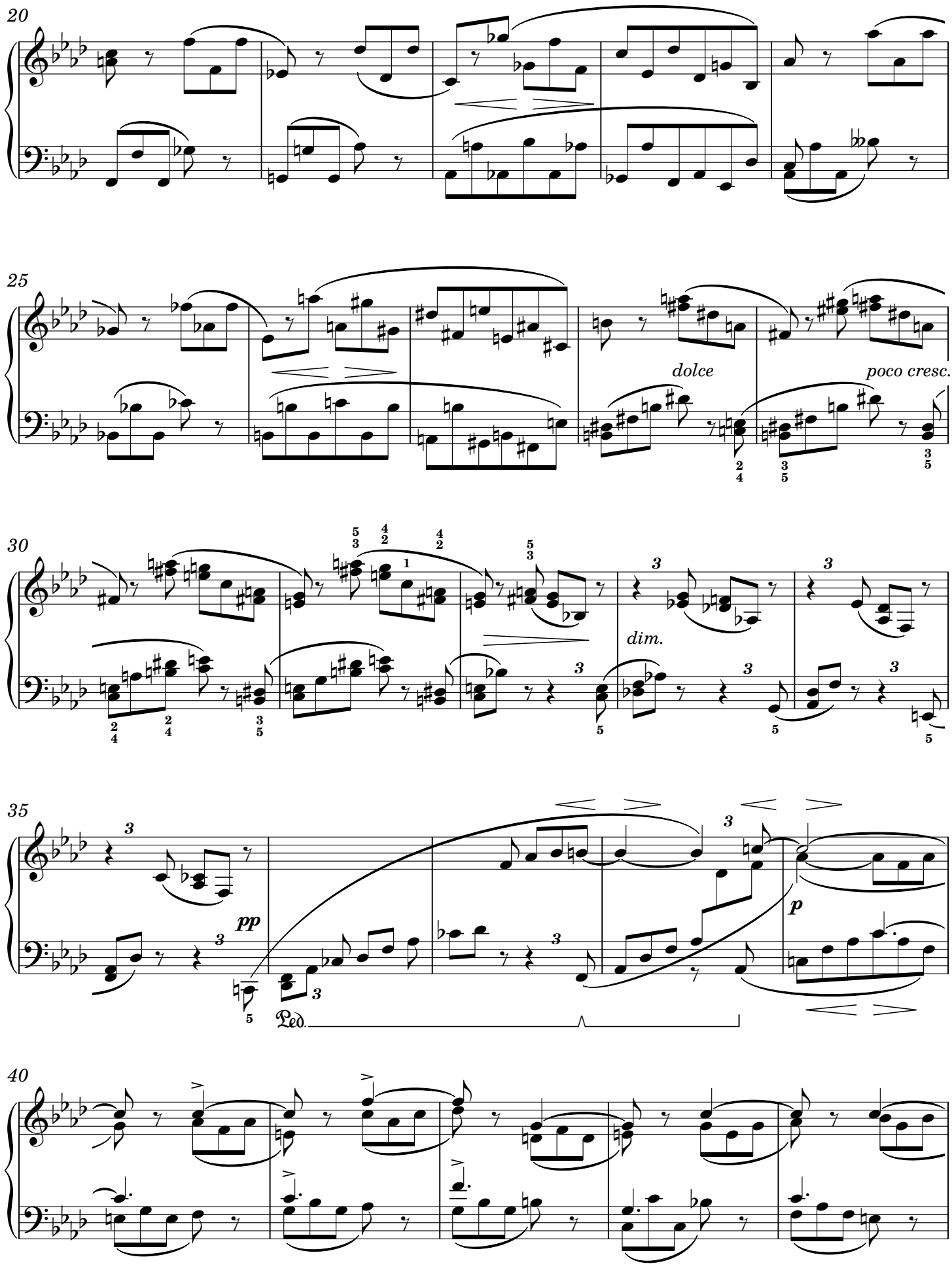
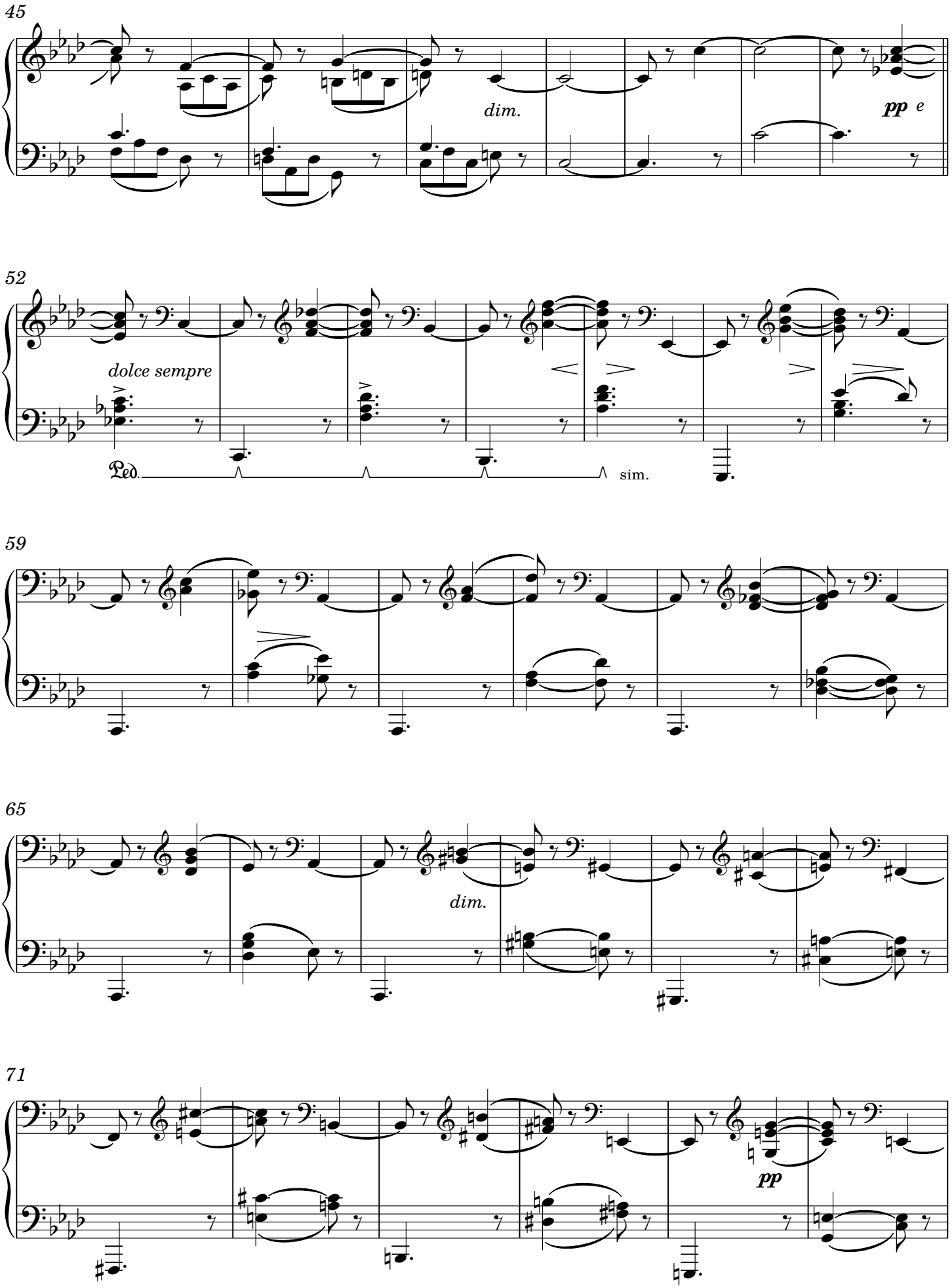
Johannes BRAHMS (1833-1897)
Intermezzo in F minor Op 118 No 4

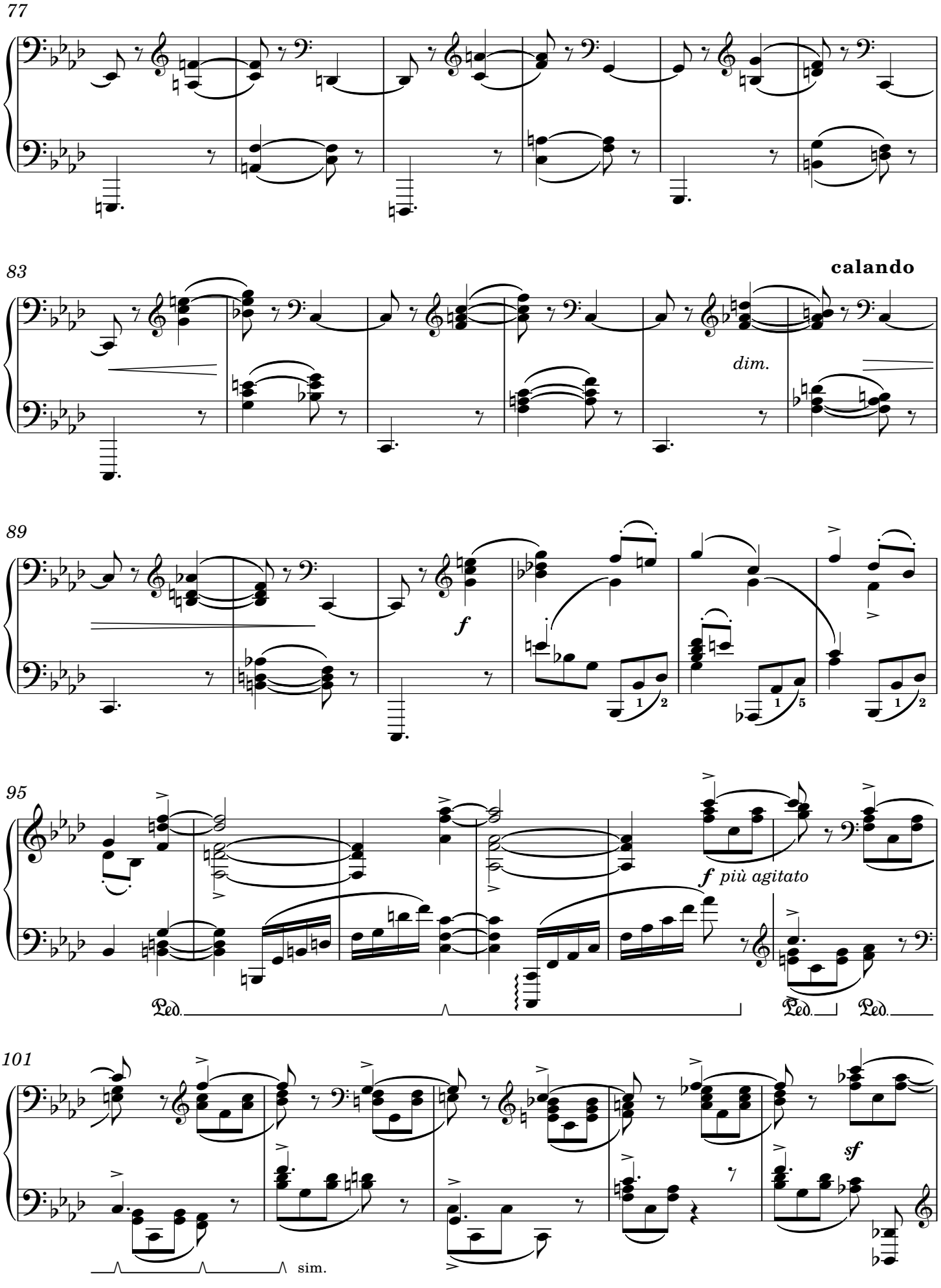
ADVANCED

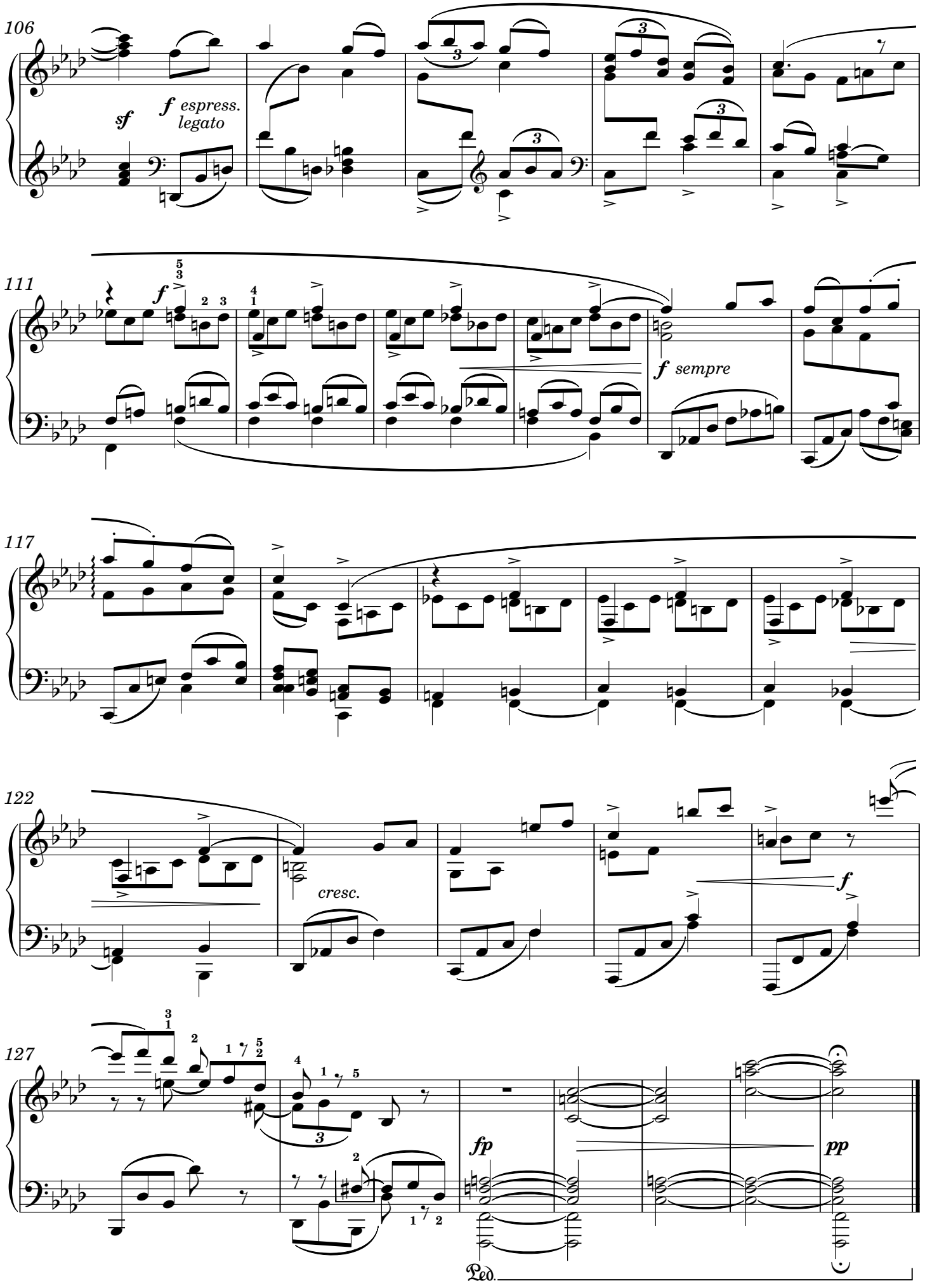
Brahms wrote his late piano pieces with Clara Schumann in his head. He would send them to her for her approval, always bearing in mind her arthritic hands and trying to avoid huge stretches and a lot of filigree passage work which she would have found difficult at that point in her life. However, even if these mature works might, at first sight, seem less technically complicated to play, it's worth remembering that looks can be deceptive! There are challenges aplenty for the performer: the pianist needs an incredible control of the instrument, a real ability to use rubato perfectly and tastefully, and a well-honed sense of line and structure. This is the language of Brahms's maturity. And it needs to come directly from the soul.




20
25
dolce
poco cresc.
30
dim.
35
pp
Ped.
p
40


45
dim.
pp e
52
dolce sempre
Ped.
sim.
59
65
dim.
71
pp


77
83
calando
dim.
89
f
95
f più agitato
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
101
sf
sim.


106
sf
f espress.
legato
111
f
f sempre
117
122
cresc.
f
127
fp
pp
Ped.