the mutiny of rivers

for ekg

christopher burns

Performance notes:

For both players

Performance duration should be established in advance. The minimum duration is fifteen minutes; the maximum is twenty-five.

English horn

There are thirteen leaves of music for English horn. You may play these leaves in any order, but you must play them all.

Any amount of silence in between leaves is possible.

The tempo (duration) of each leaf is at your discretion; maintain a consistent tempo throughout each leaf.

Certain leaves explicitly invite manipulation of the English horn timbre, through instrumental and/or electronic means. However, these are not the only leaves where timbral exploration is possible; think broadly about timbral possibilities at all times.

Accidentals persist throughout the measure of their appearance. Many reminder accidentals are provided.

Electronics

Six tracks of pre-recorded material are provided, each twenty-five minutes in duration. For performances less than twenty-five minutes in duration, you may begin from any point which will allow the tracks to run continuously throughout the performance. Play the tracks as given, without interruption or noncontiguous access.

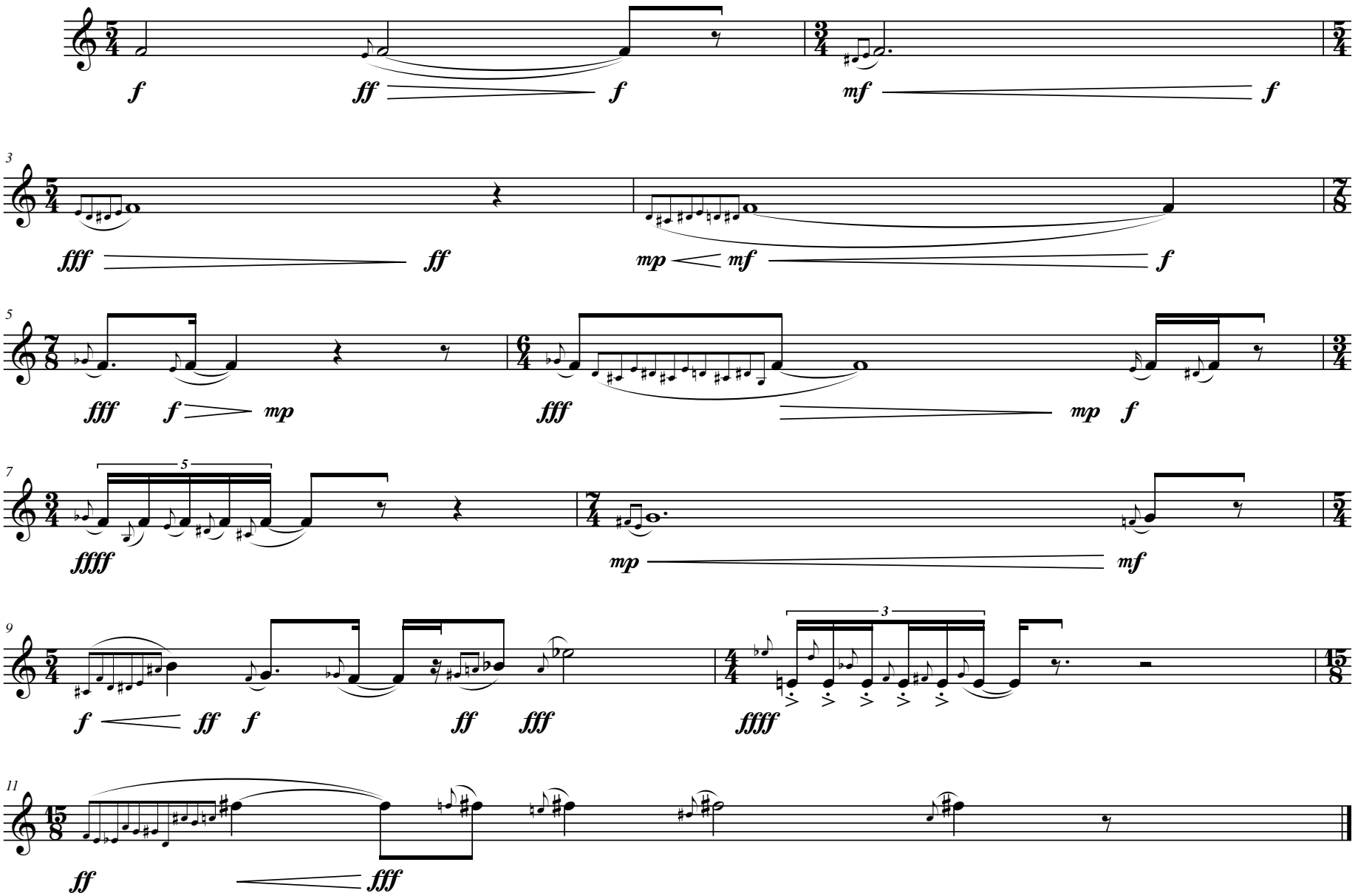
Overall volume, balance between individual tracks, and panning/diffusion are all at your discretion, and may be adjusted continuously. No more than five tracks of the pre-recorded material (and as few as zero) should be audible at any moment in the performance.

You may apply additional electronic manipulation or processing to any of the sounding tracks at your discretion.

Each track features three general categories of sound material. Each category of sound material appears on two tracks:

track 1: acoustic feedback, granulated English horn material, echoing drones
track 2: acoustic feedback, digital feedback, time-stretched electric guitar
track 3: digital feedback, English horn material with a variety of treatments, reverberant English horn "chorale"
track 4: granulated English horn material, English horn material with a variety of treatments, drones with melodic contours imposed
track 5: time-stretched electric guitar, drones with melodic contours imposed, layered English horn material
track 6: echoing drones, reverberant English horn "chorale", layered English horn material

grace notes are to be played on the beat, with the "main note" filling the remainder of its written duration

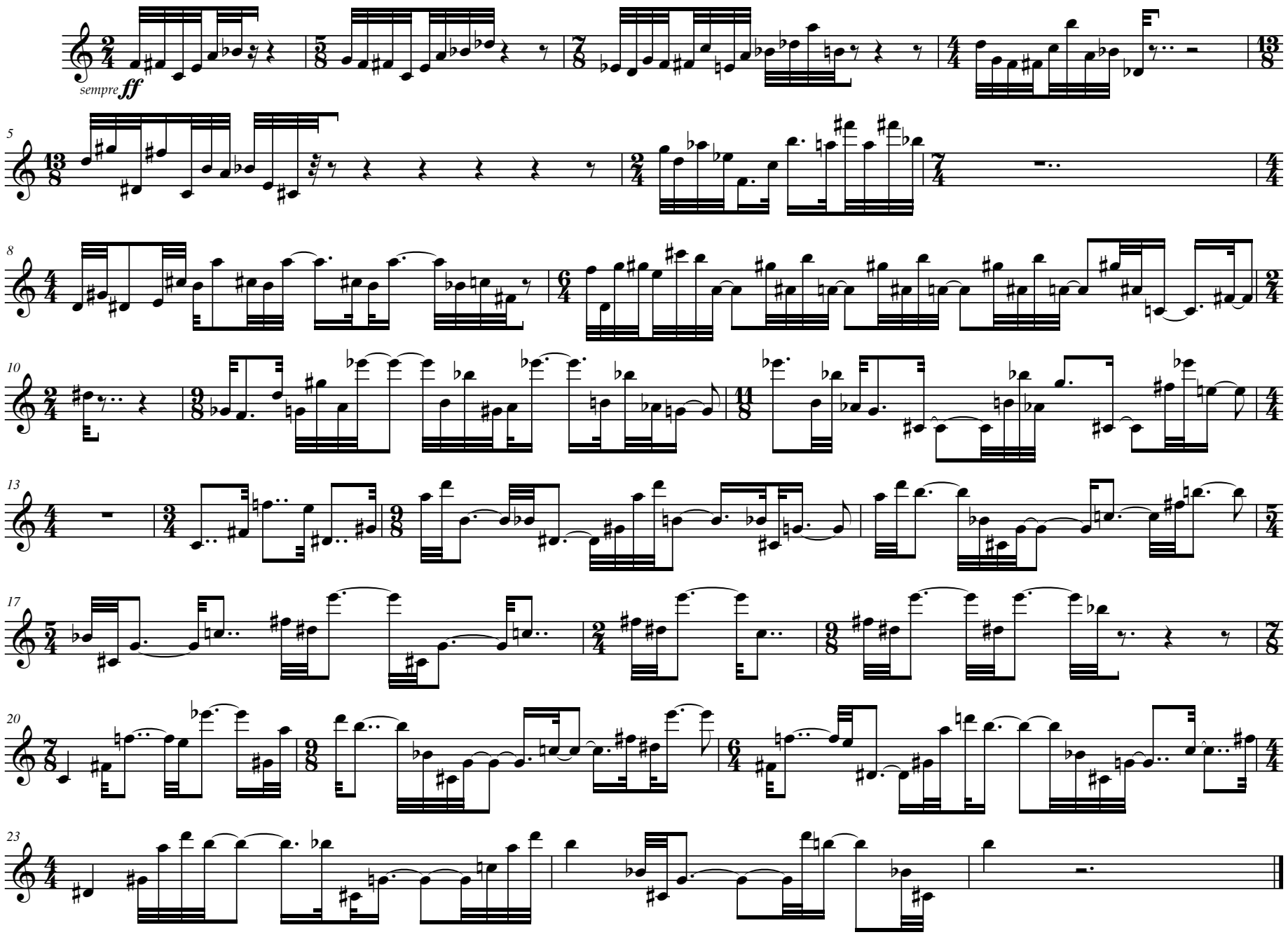


drone

on a single pitch

continuously and gradually

varying in both dynamics and timbre


double-tongue if tempo is suitable
sempre ff

improvise highly contrasting

gestures

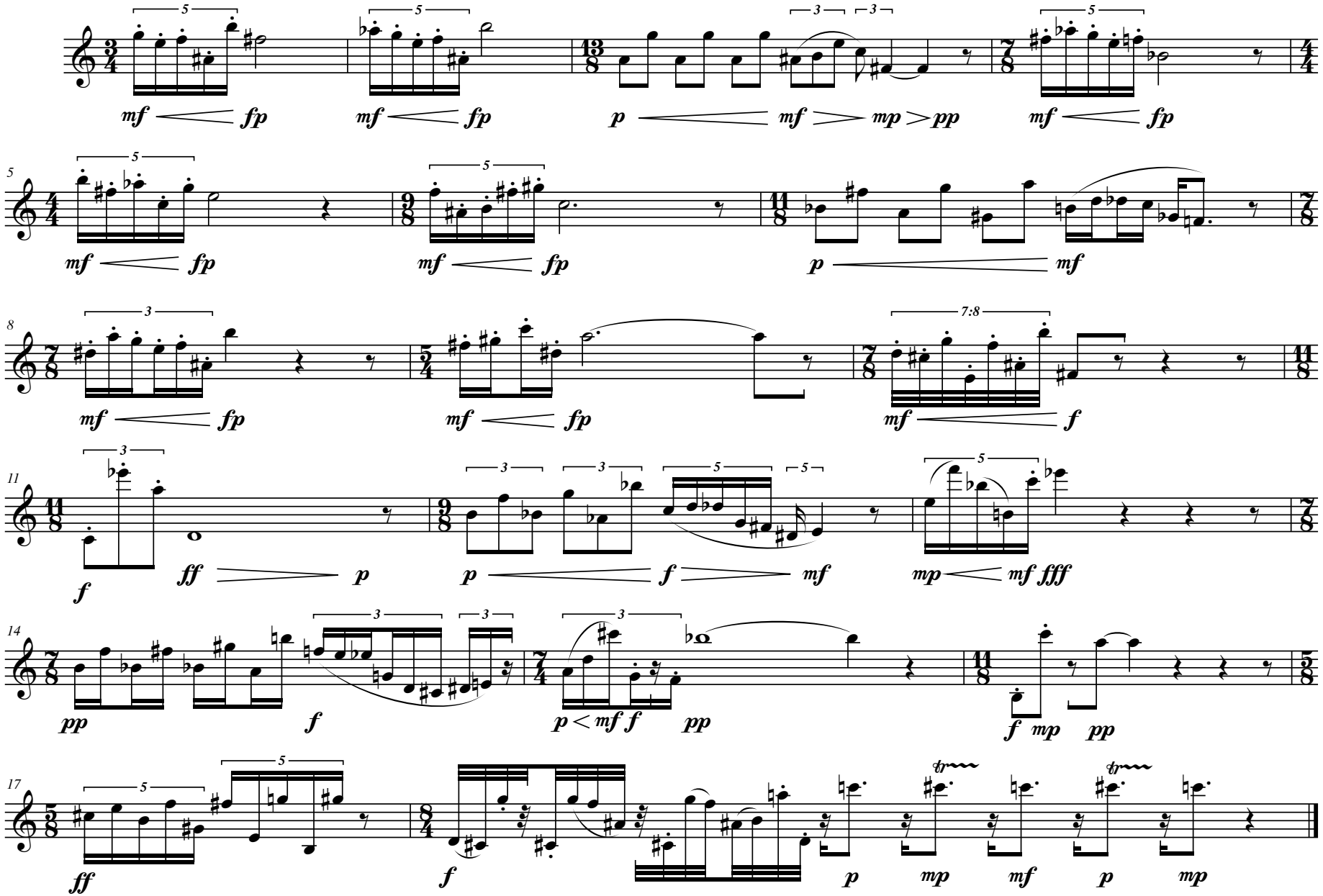
all sharing a common duration

separate gestures with

silences

sharing another common duration

trill to the semitone above the written pitch



play every single

possible pitch

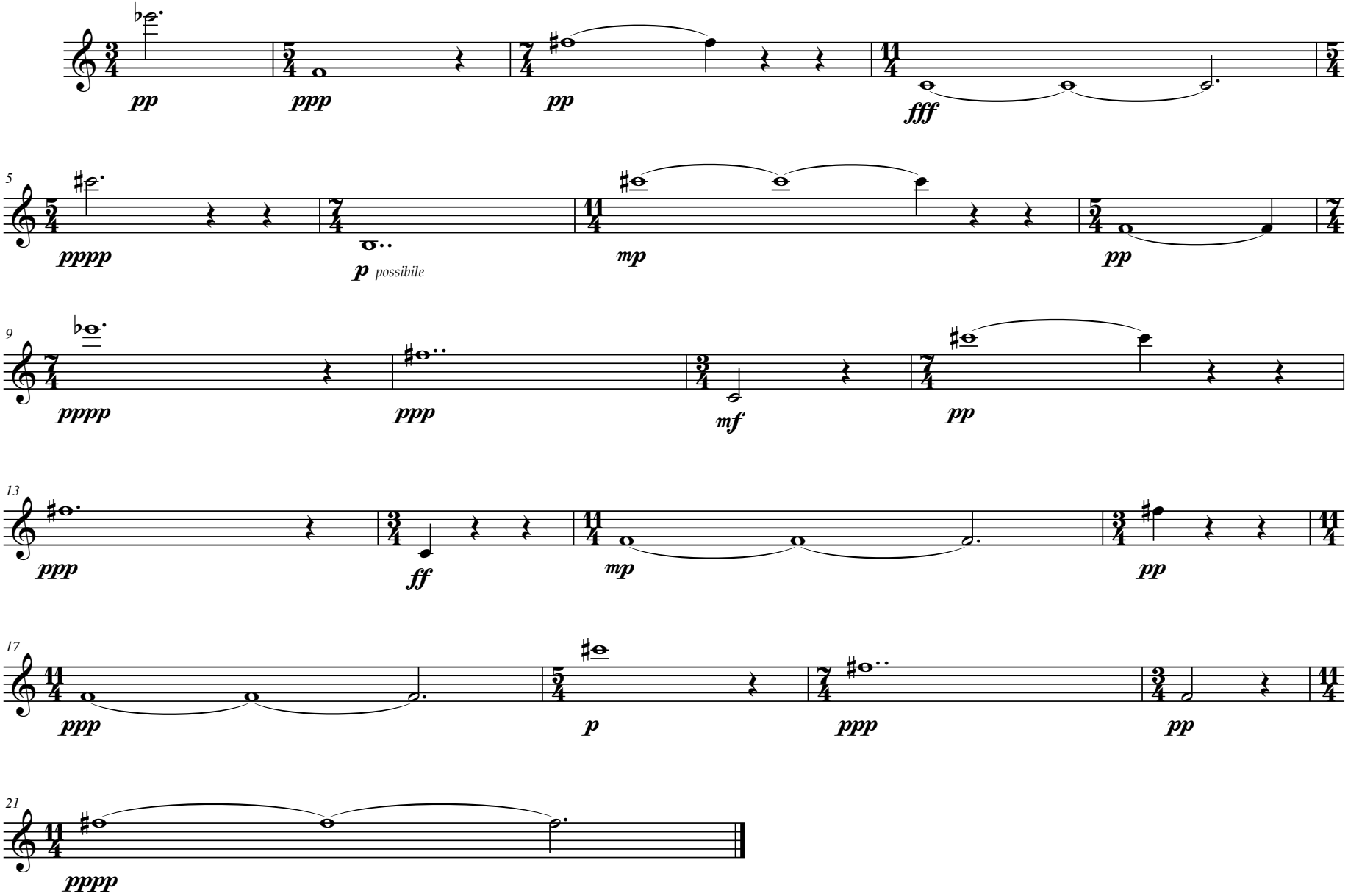
presto possible

crescendo
from *niente* to
maximum loudness

articulation and timbral
inflections as desired

avoid
perceptible
intervallic
pattern

maximize timbral contrast between adjacent events using any available instrumental and/or electronic resources



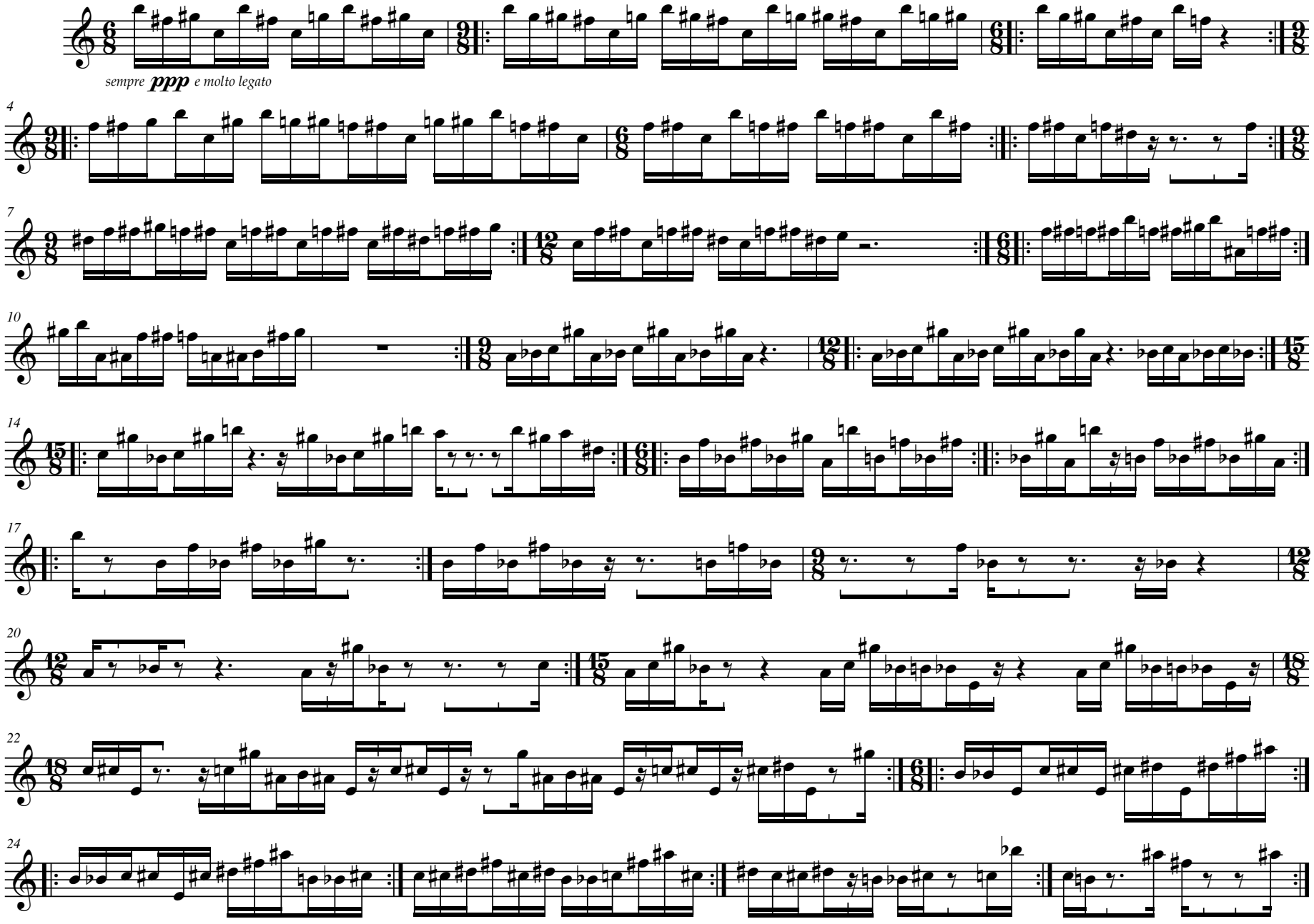
improvise a gesture

repeat the gesture
while applying a variation

repeat the variation
while applying another variation

continue this process

repeats at the performer's discretion: any number of repeats, from any notated end point, to any previous start point



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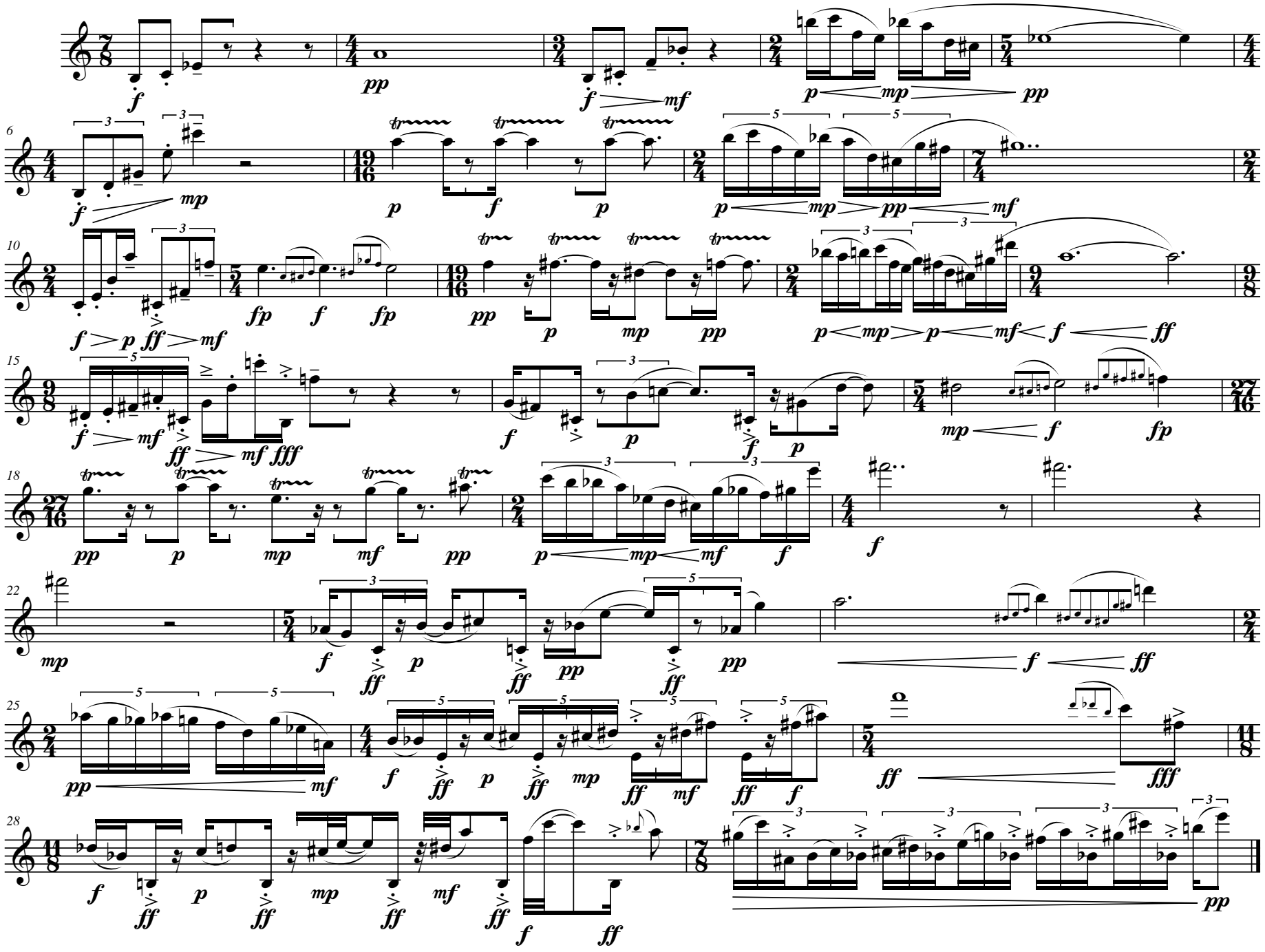
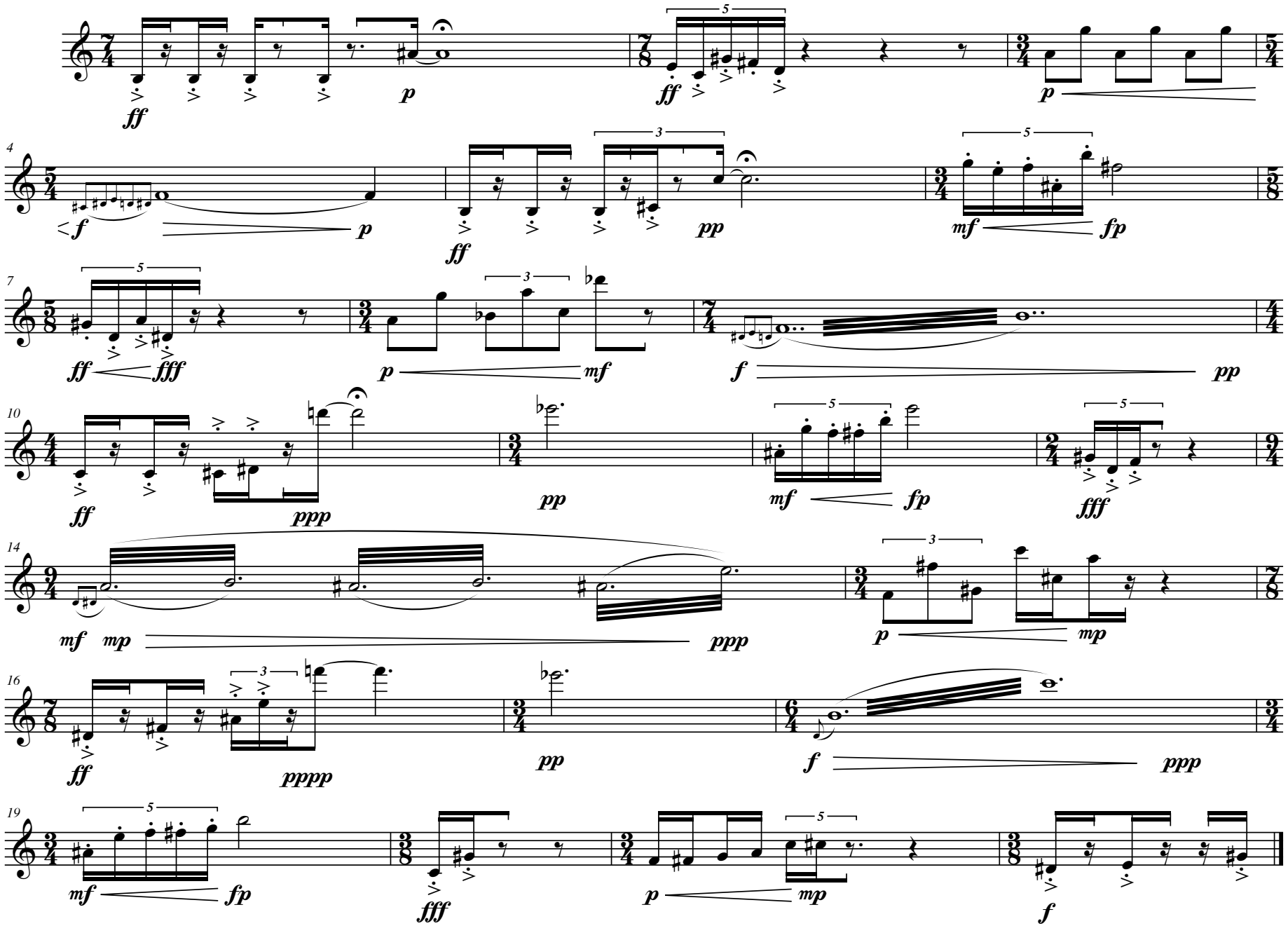
trill to the semitone above the written pitch



what
is
necessary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