Matt Geer

The Forgettable Foreground

for pierrot ensemble

2022

Full Score

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www.mattgeer.co.uk

Programme note

I, like the majority, have difficulty with my concentration to the point that I give up. This is exacerbated by the fact that I hear voices. When I am encouraged to follow a musical narrative, my nervousness becomes impatience, which leades me to surrender to the sound. When I am presented with self-similar sound that sits on a static plane, I am able to keep my attention much better. I wrote this work to encourage the listener to actively move around the space, with limited direction and little micro-chronology embedded into the music itself. What may seem like the foreground material at points is, in fact, an equal component of the space. Over time, the music begins to fight against this, like it wants to tell you a story but your consciousness is becoming more fluid.

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The Forgettable Foreground

for pierrot ensemble

Duration: c. 5 minutes

Written for and workshopped by the Hard Rain Ensemble at Queen's University, Belfast.

Performance instructions:

Polymetric coordination (start of each bar):
Flute coordinates with the clarinet; violin coordinates with the cello. Piano remains metric and in solidarity throughout, except at absolute tempo changes.

Headless notes:
Ad lib. pitch, accidental markings are only advisory here.

Nested tuplets / microtonal accidentals :
Respective rhythmic accuracy and absolute pitches are not essential; think gesture over specifity.

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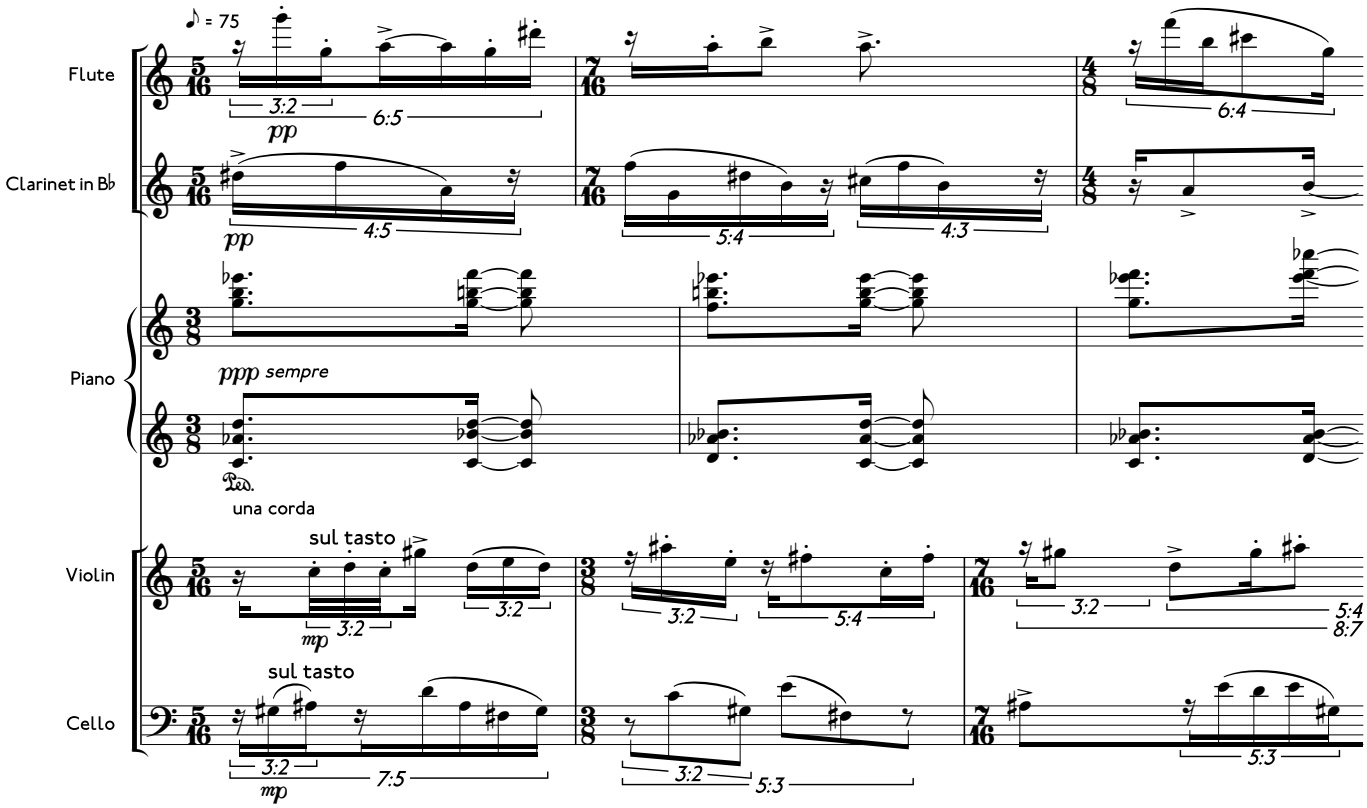

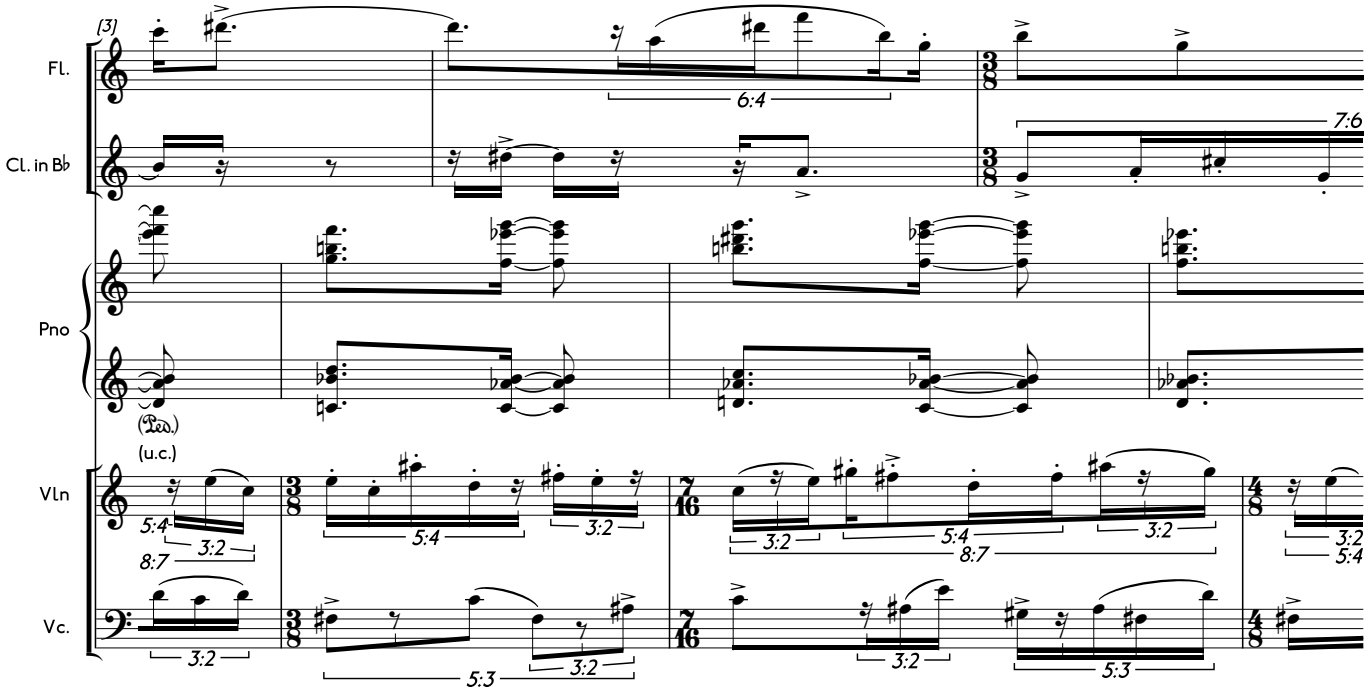

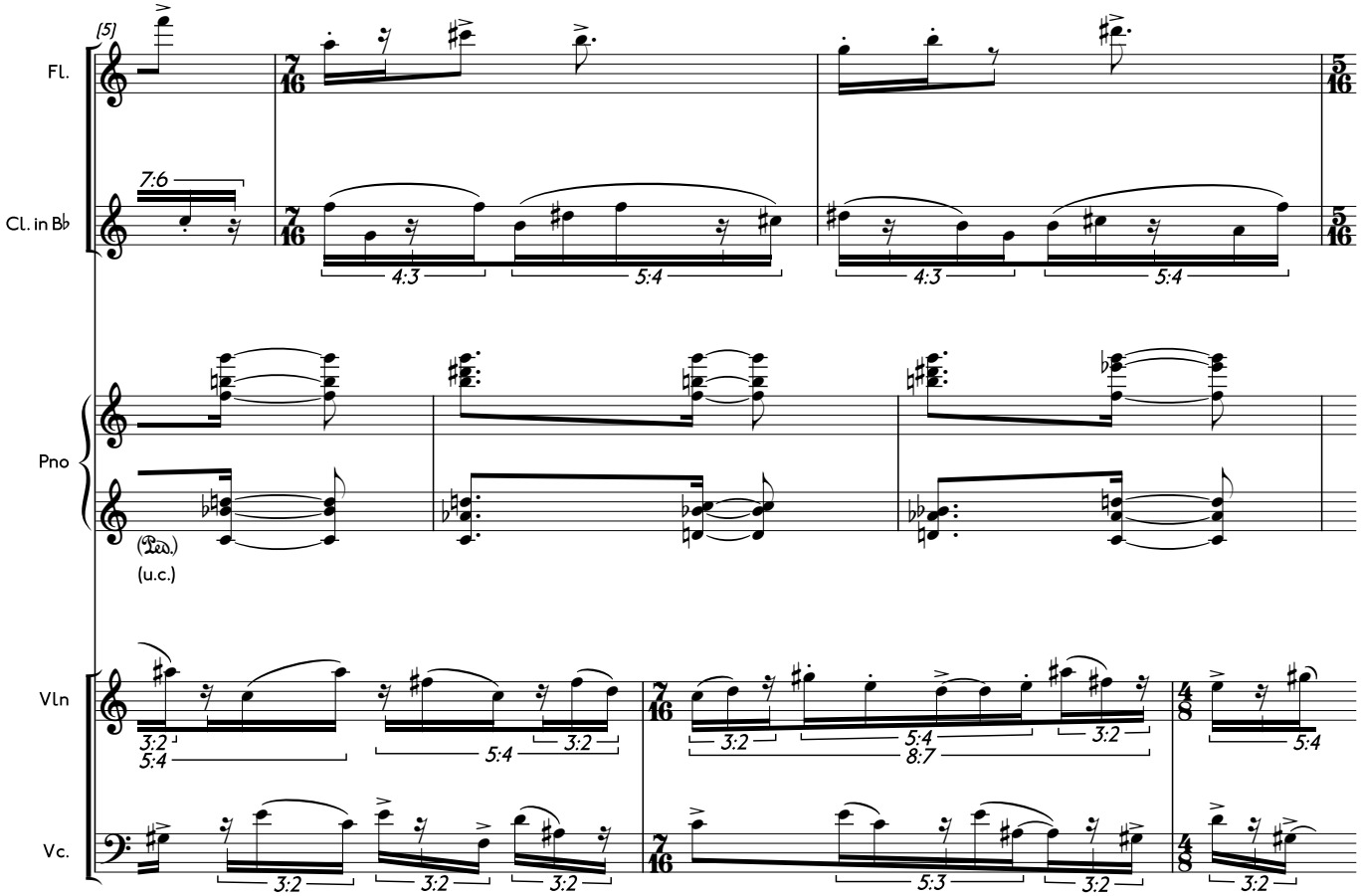
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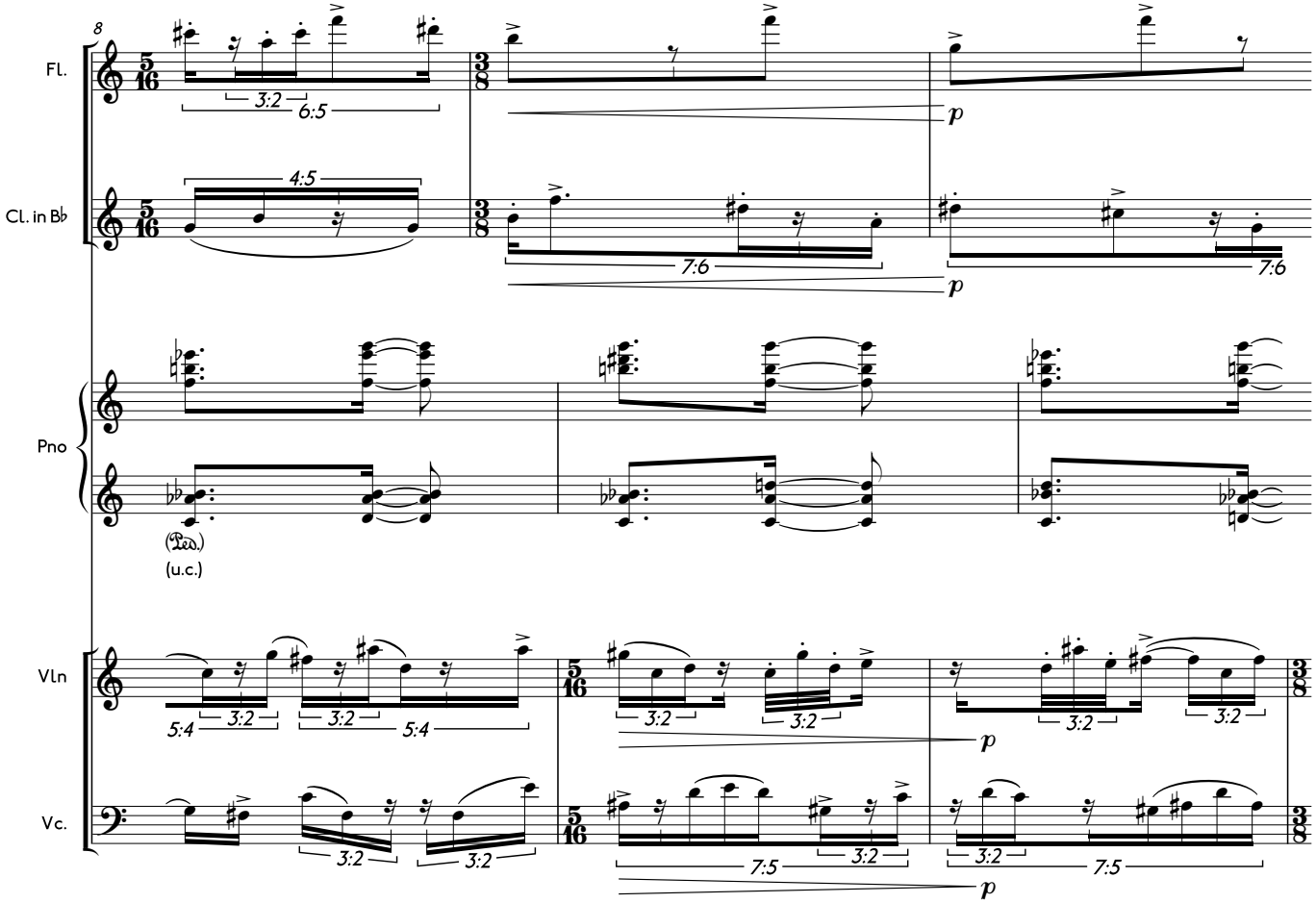
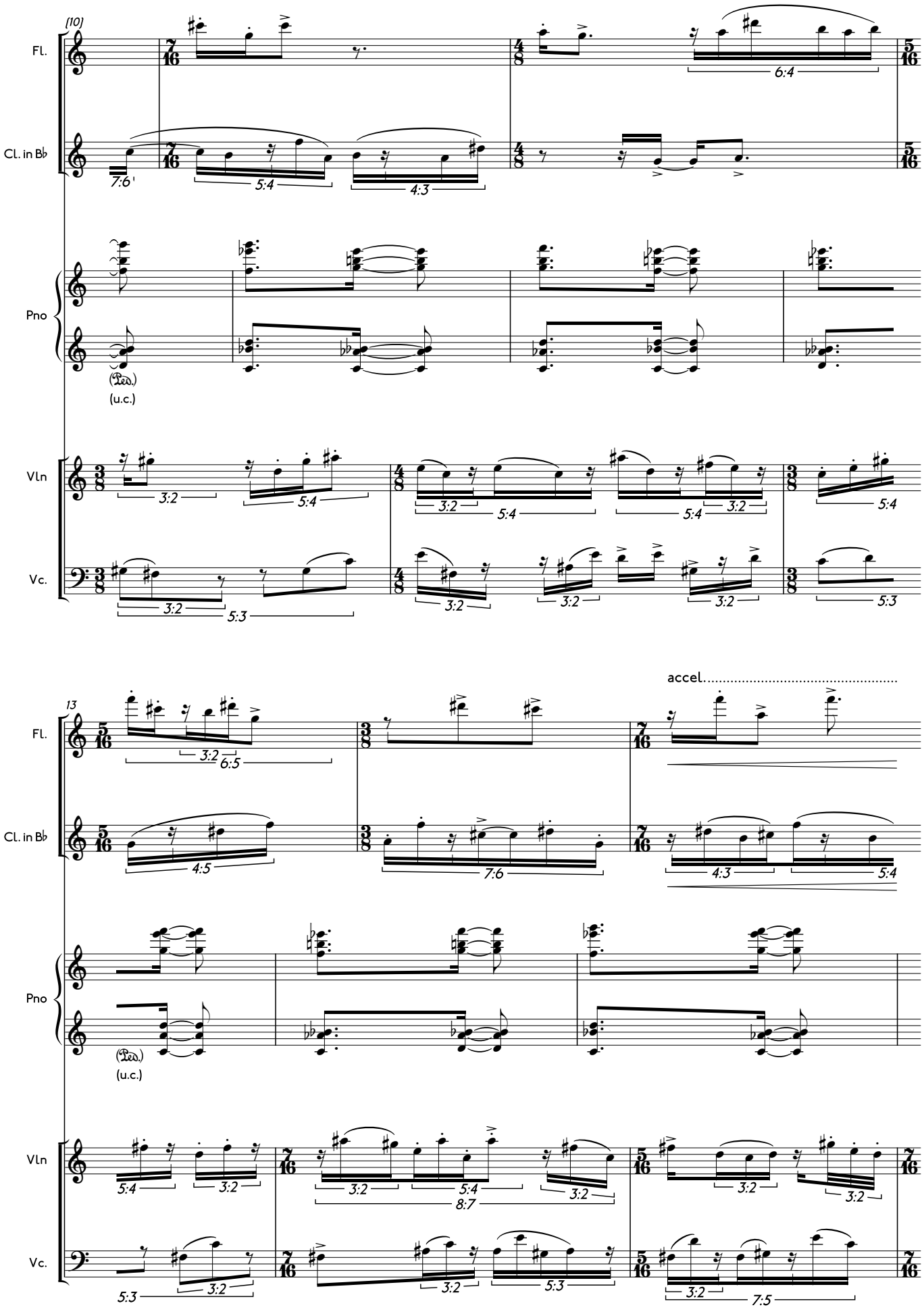
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
Vln
Vc.
(Ped.)
(u.c.)


8
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
Vln
Vc.
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
p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Fl.
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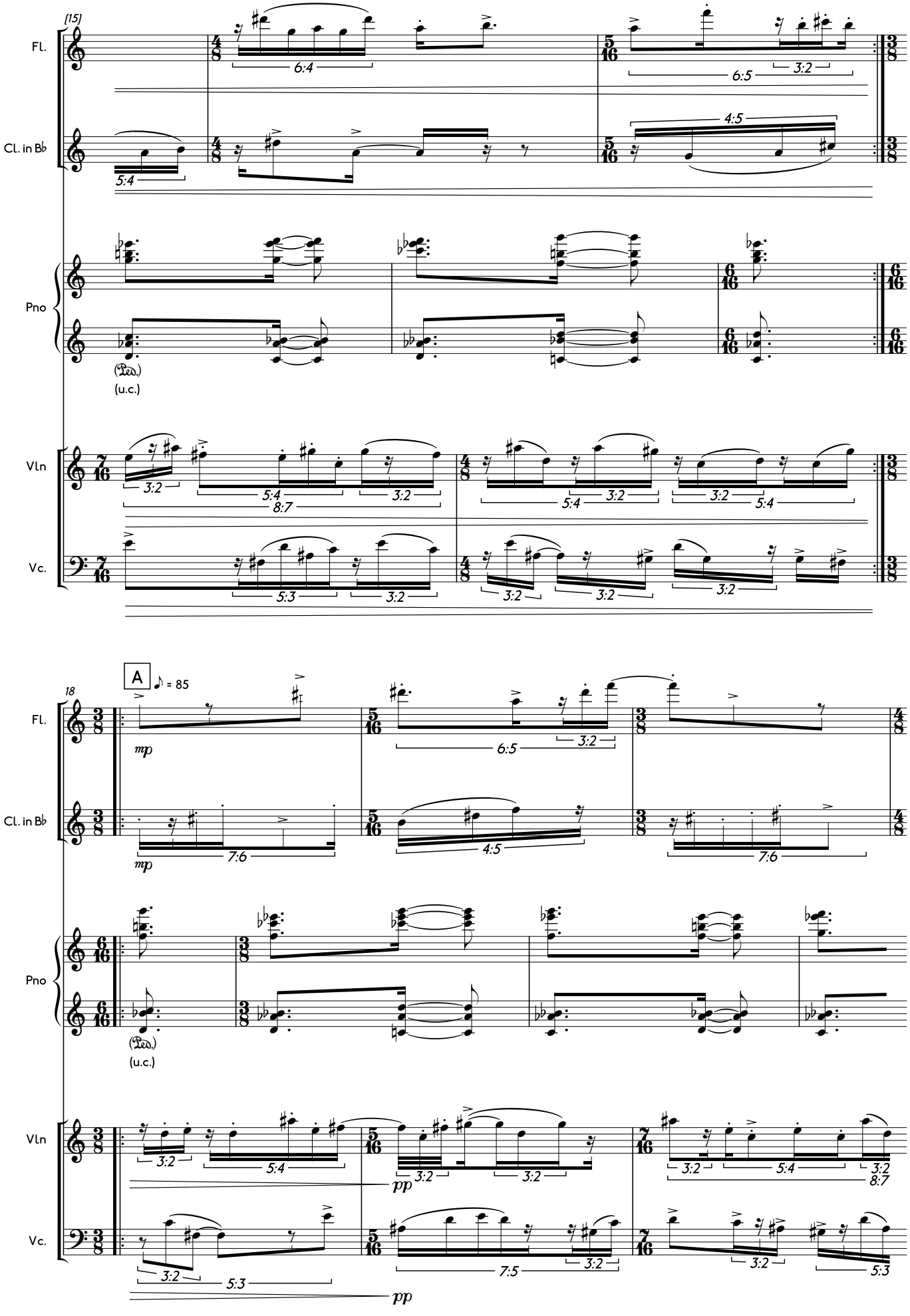
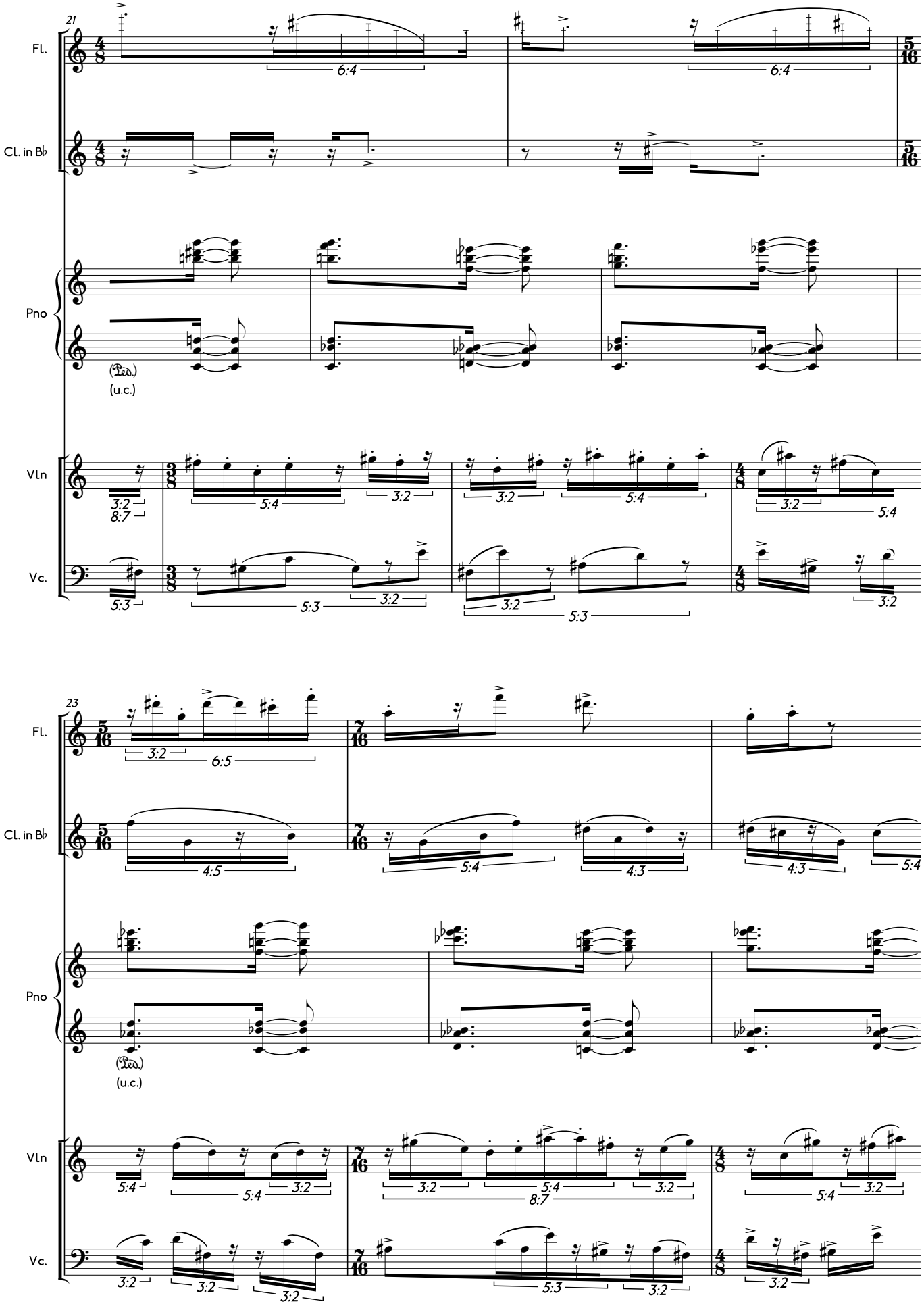
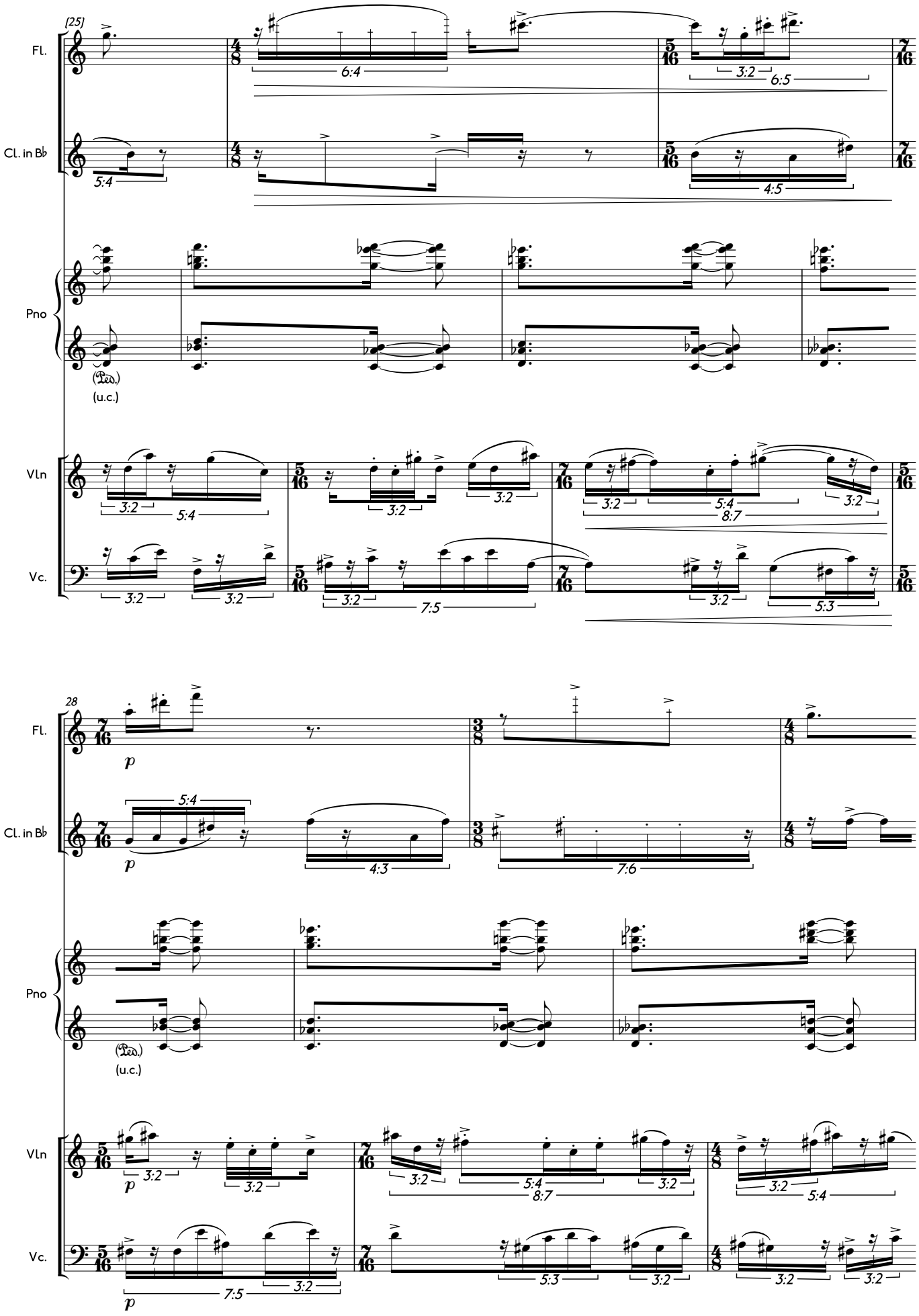
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.
13
accel.


[15]
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.
A
♪ = 85
18
mp
pp


21
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.
23
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.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Fl.
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Pno
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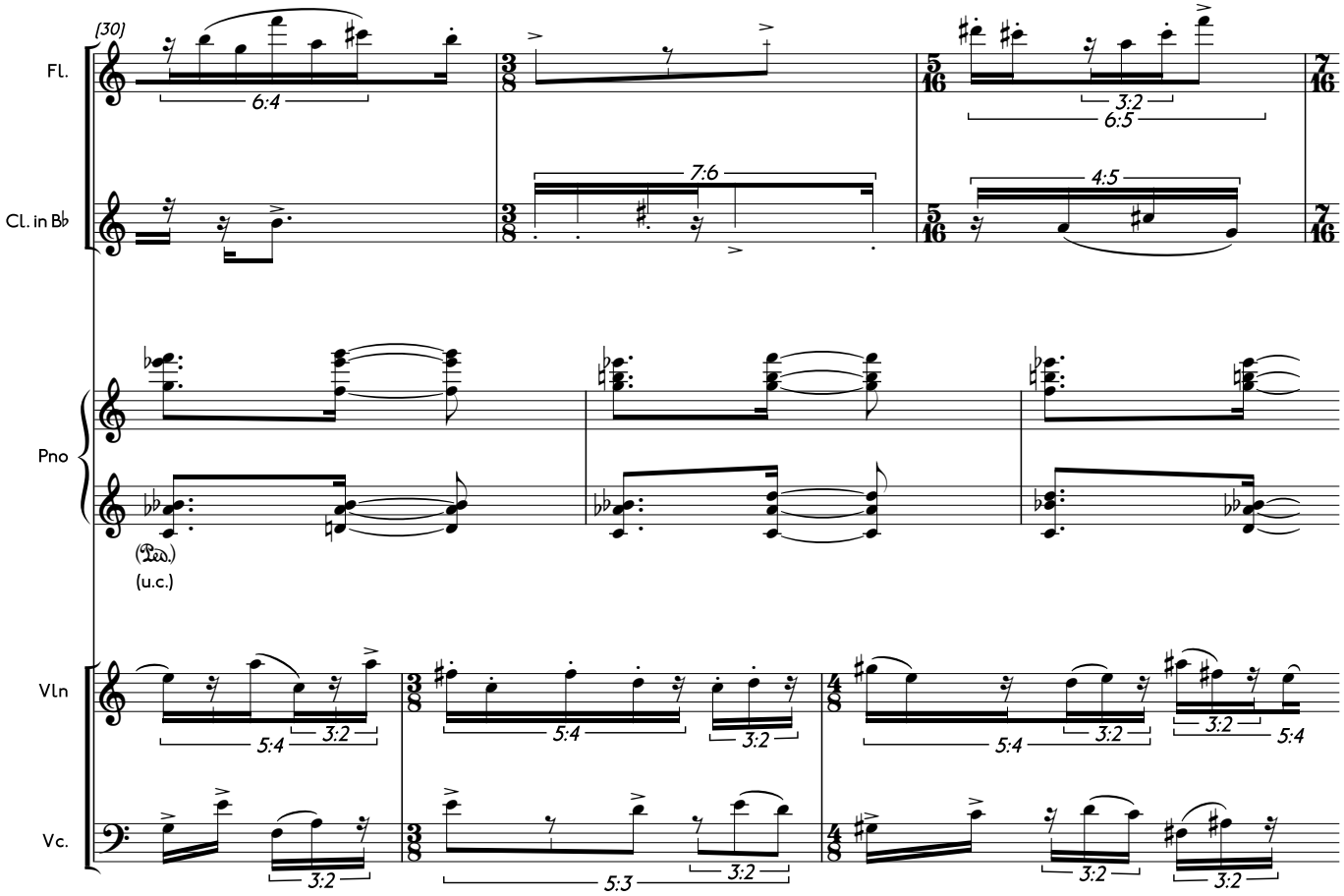
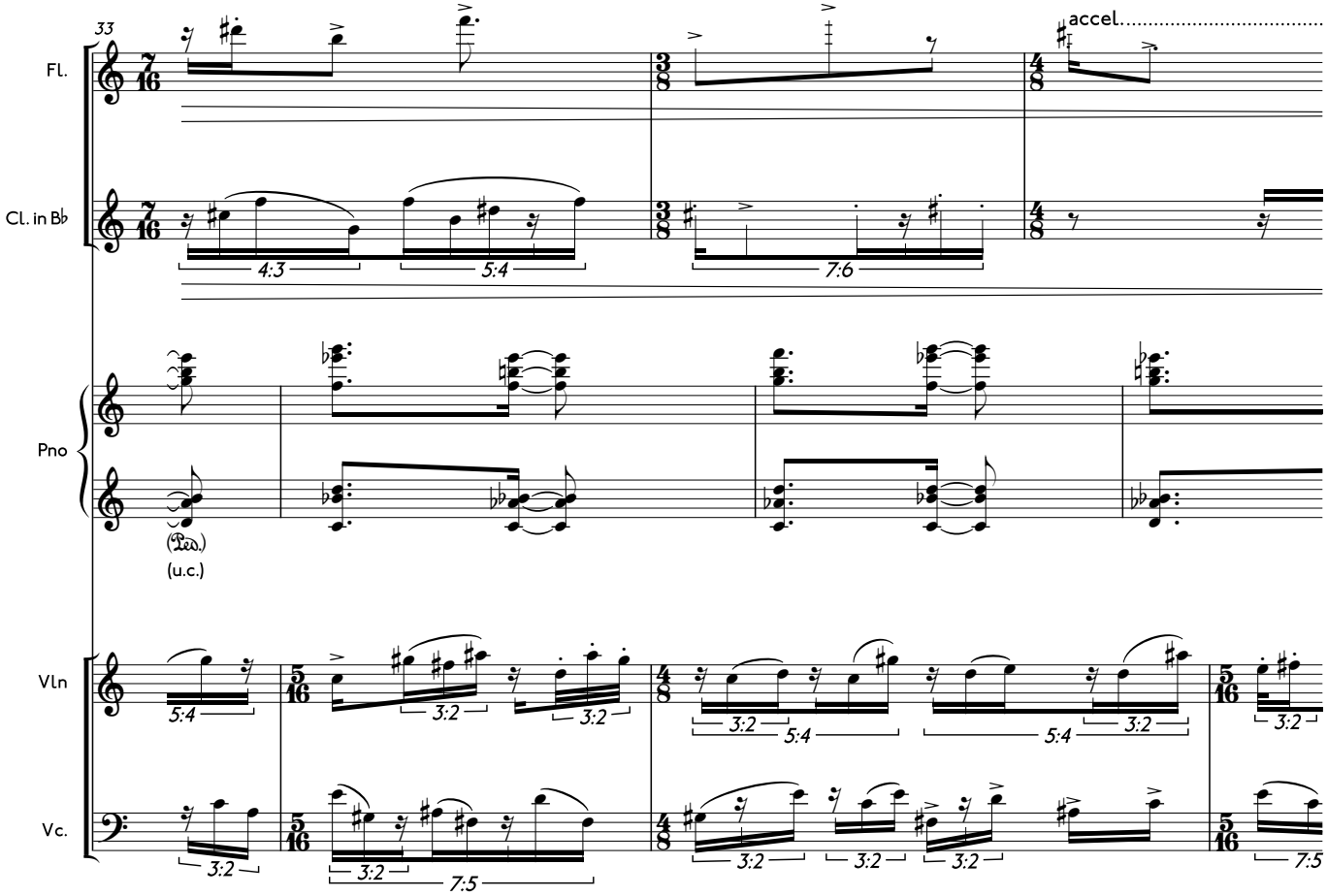
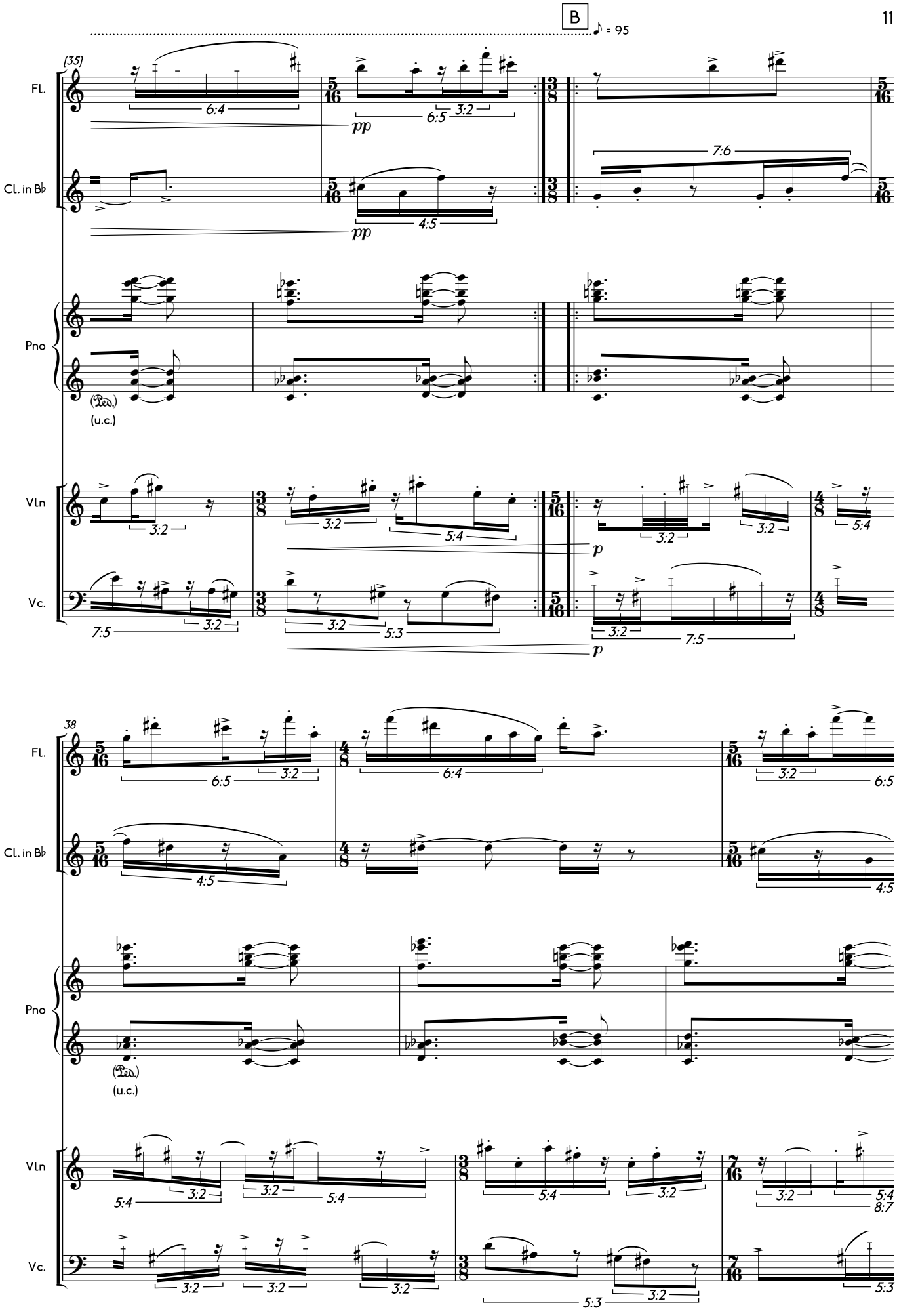
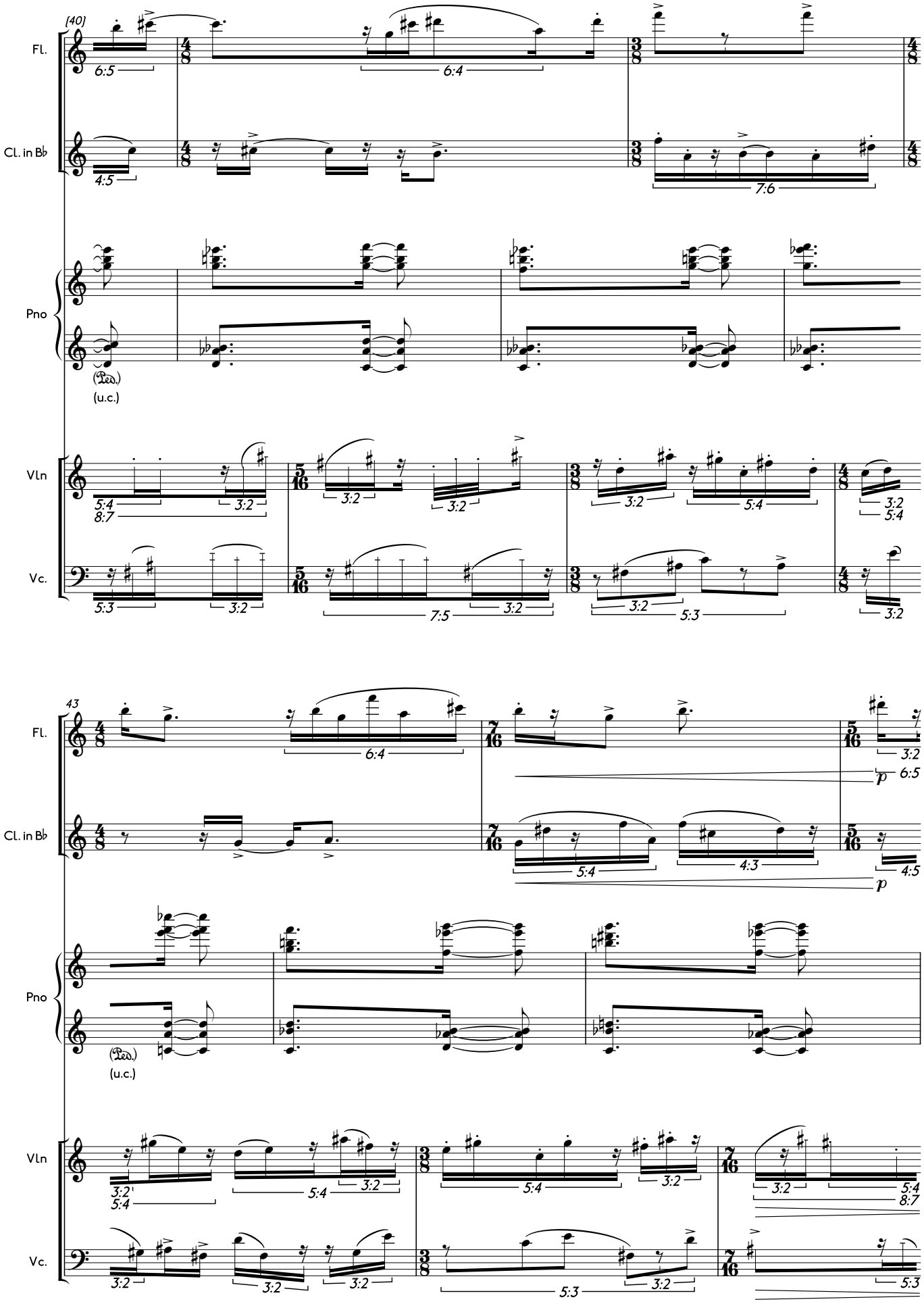
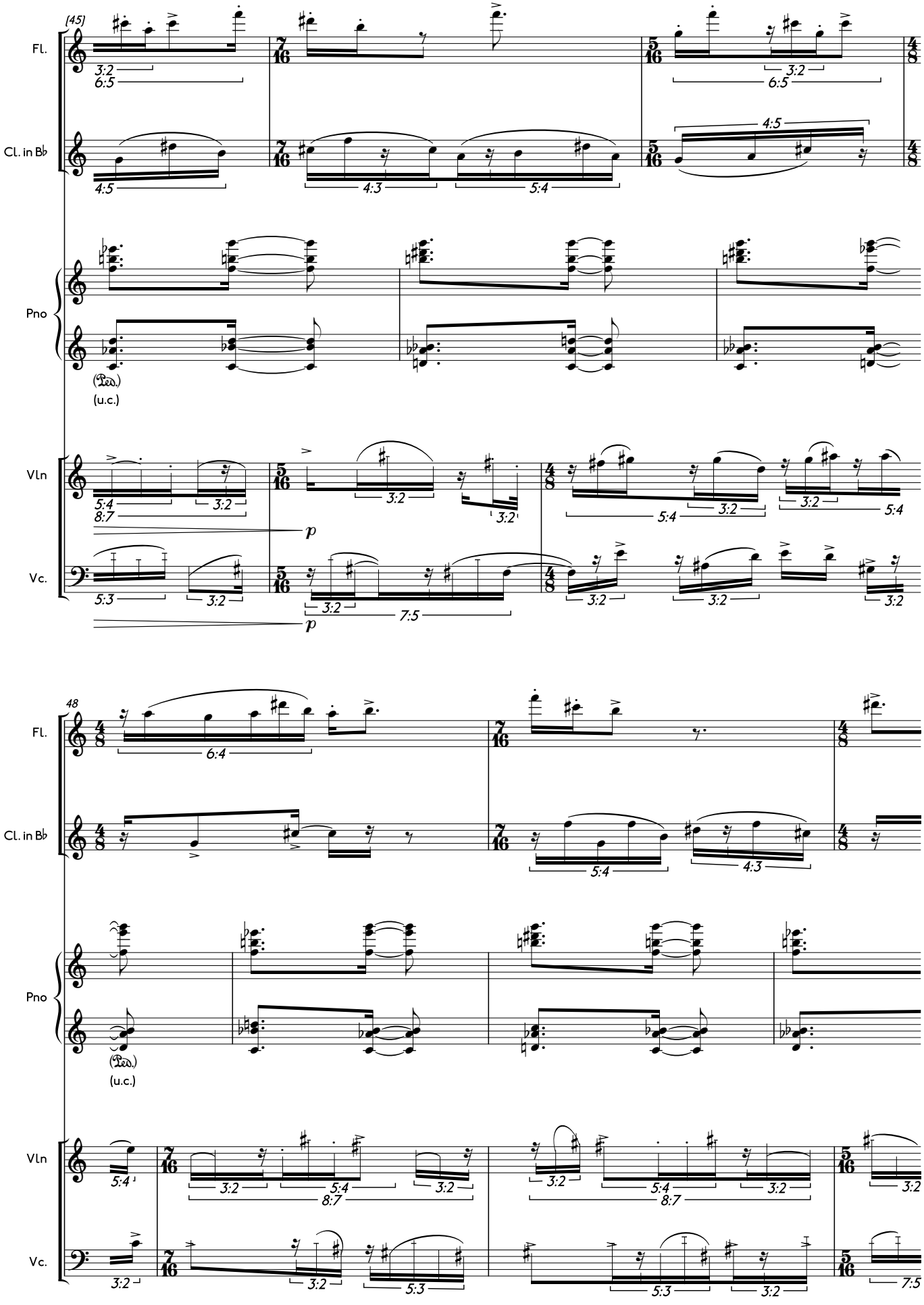
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.
28
p

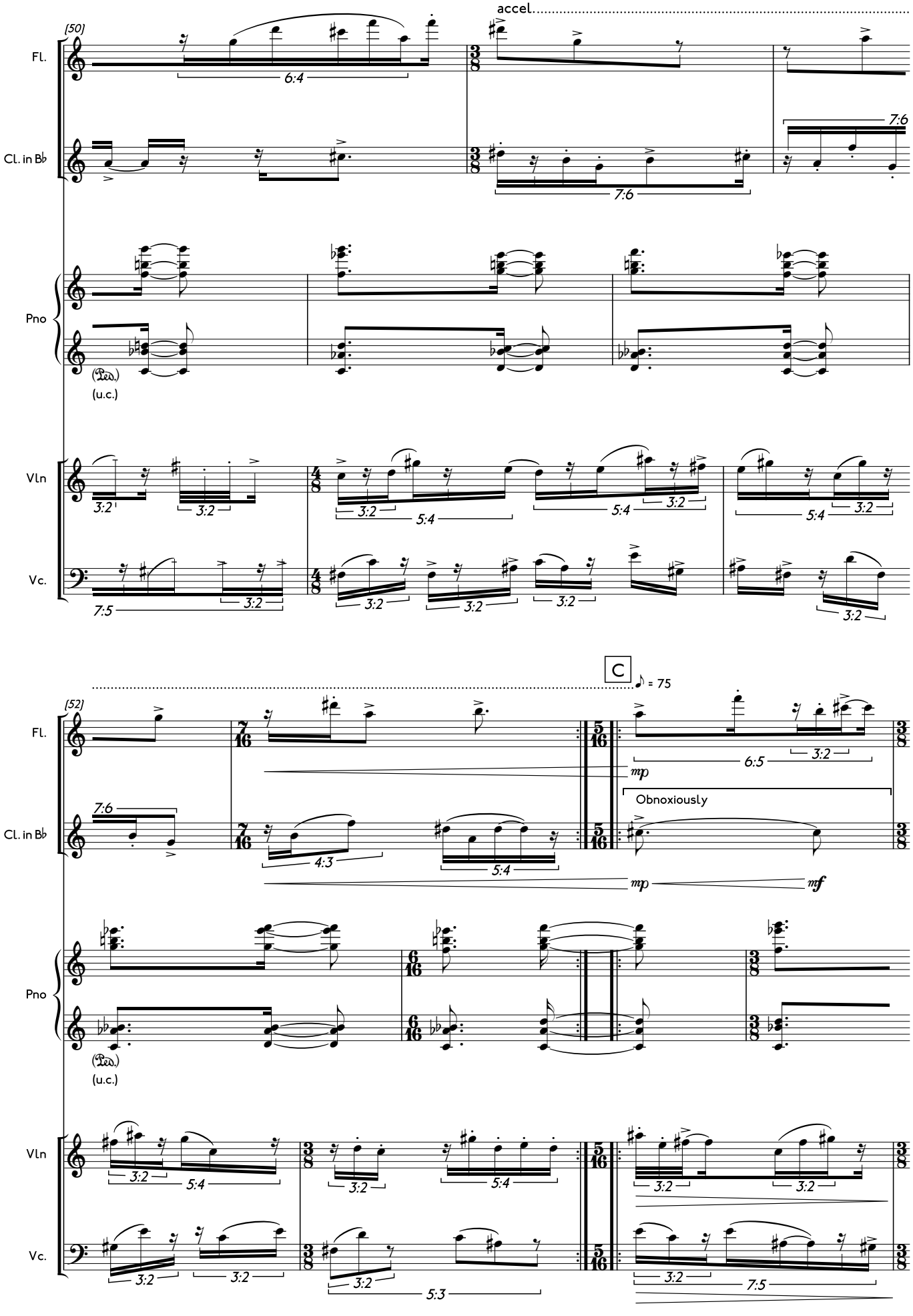

[30]
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.
6:4
3:2
6:5
7:6
4:5
5:4
3:2
5:4
3:2
5:4
3:2
3:2
3:2
5:3
3:2
3:2
3:2

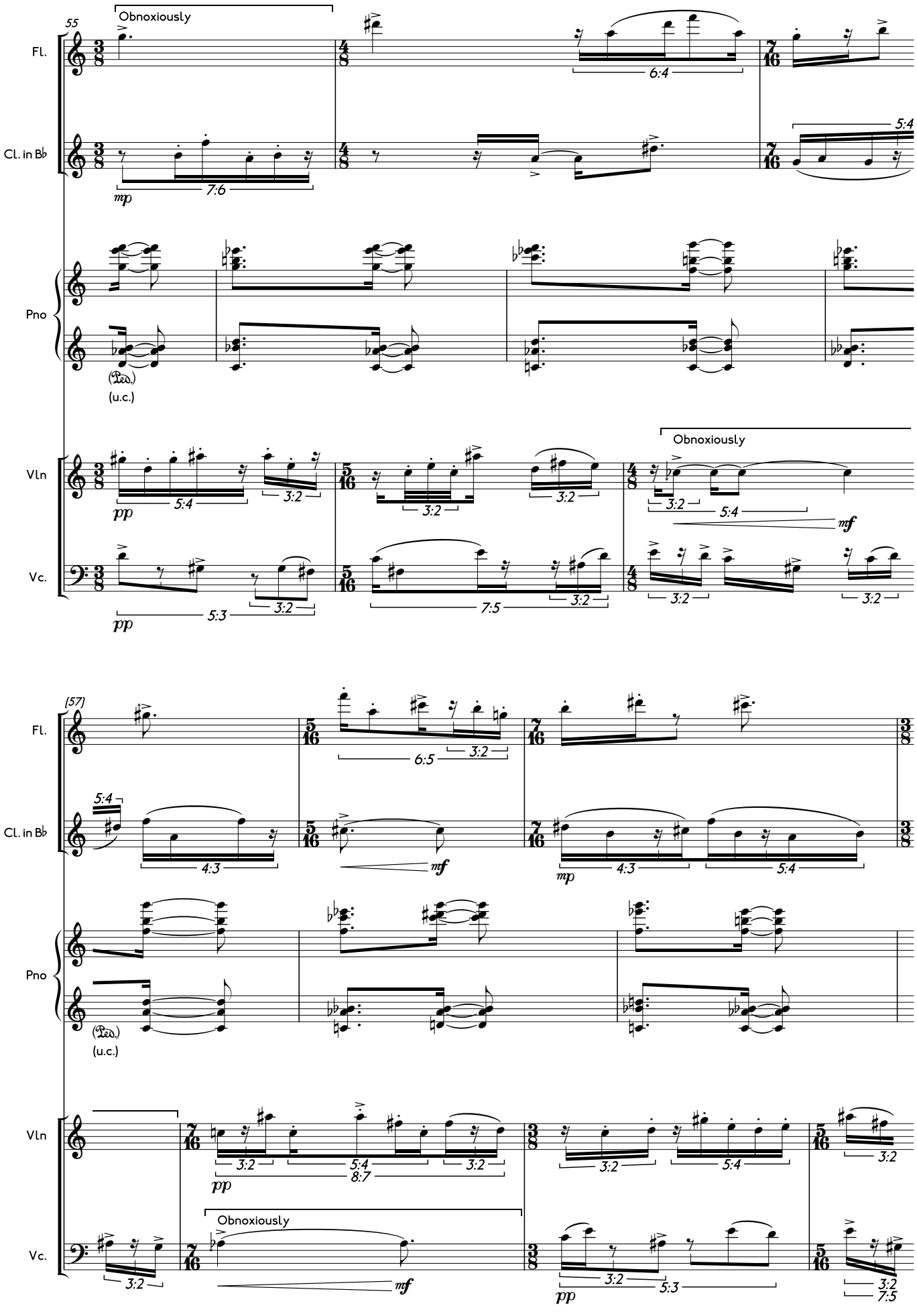

33
accel.
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.
4:3
5:4
7:6
5:4
3:2
3:2
3:2
5:4
5:4
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2
7:5
3:2
3:2
3:2
7:5

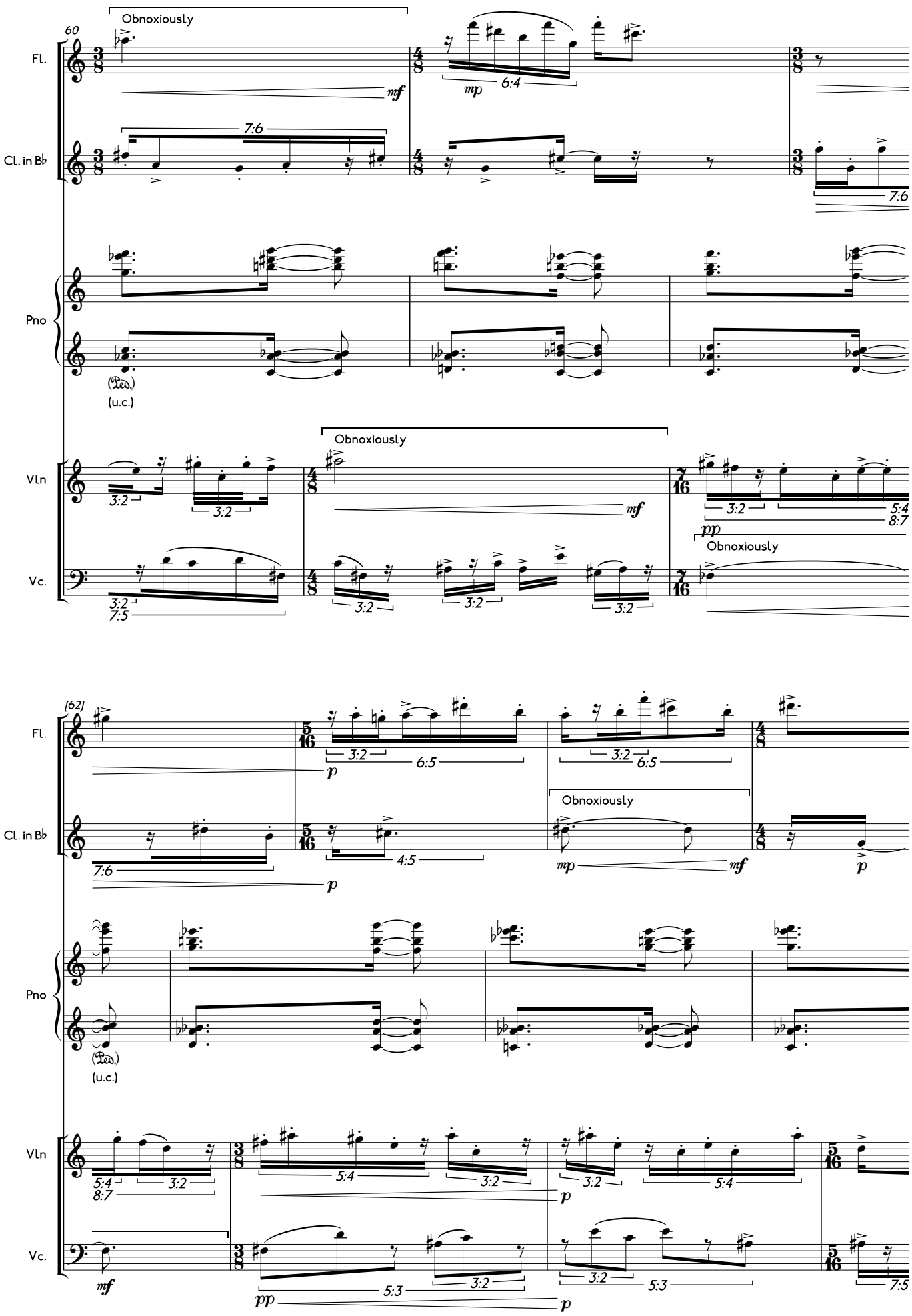

B
♪ = 95
[35]
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
Vln
Vc.
pp
p
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
38

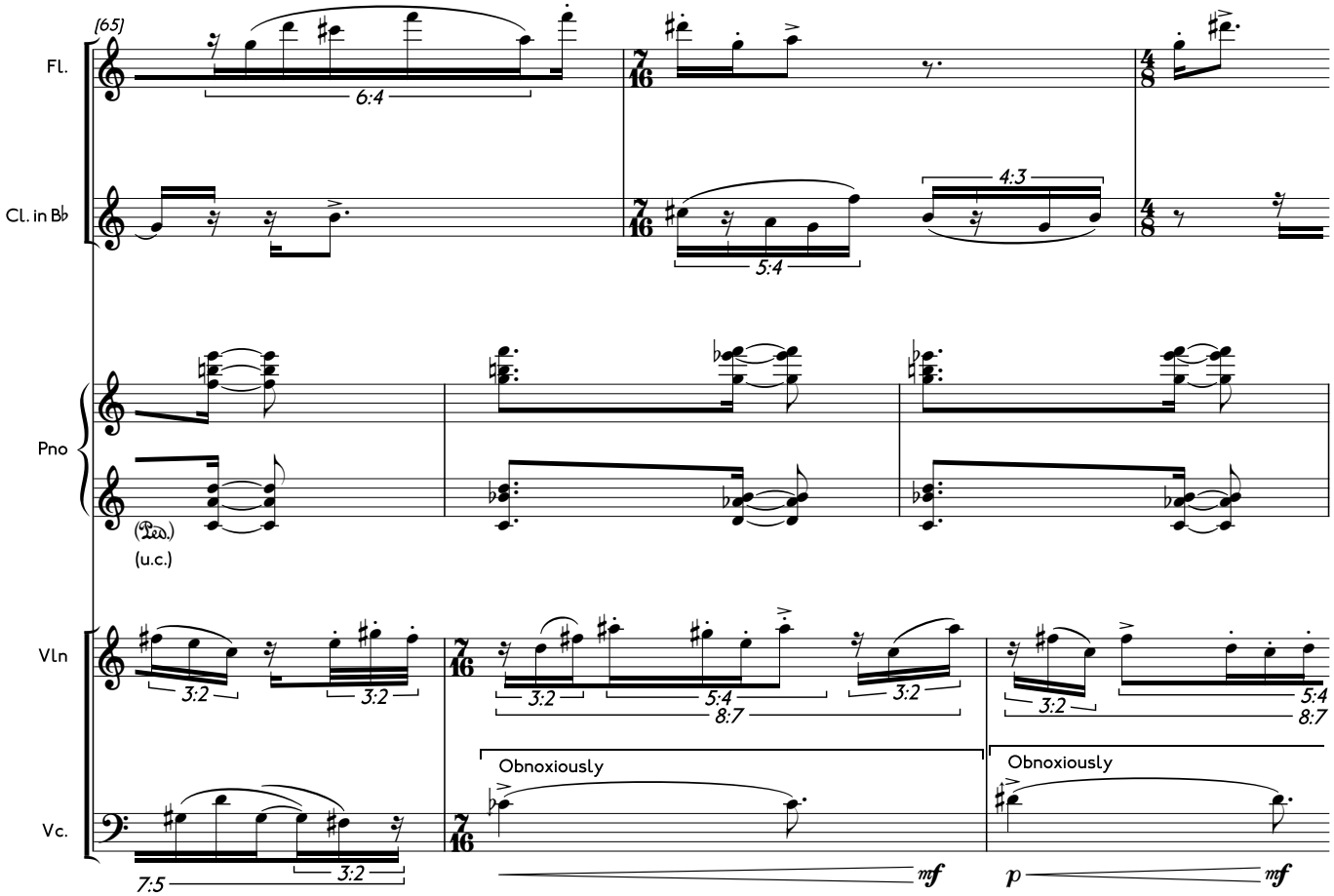

[40]
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.
43
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.

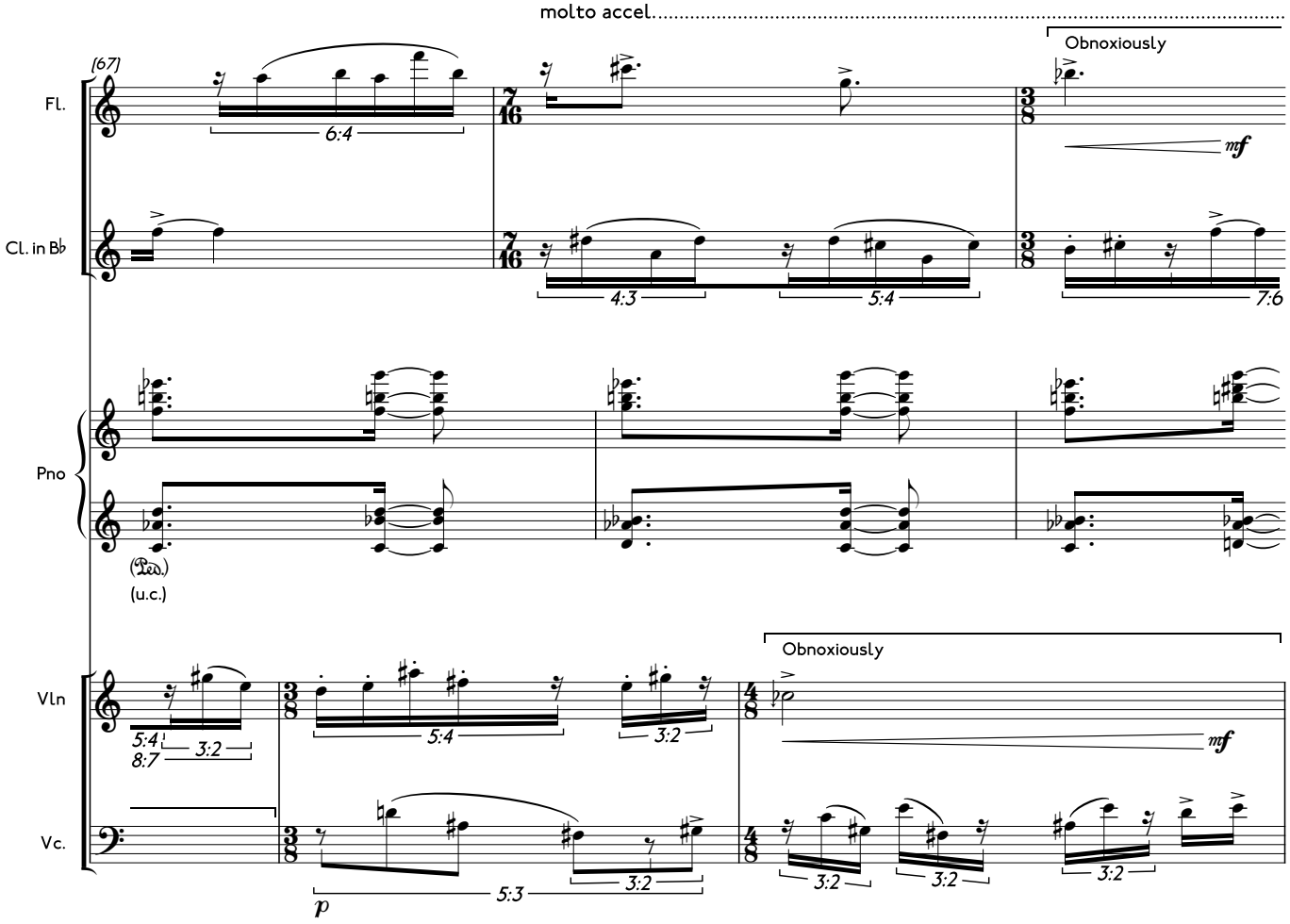

[45]
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.
p
48
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.

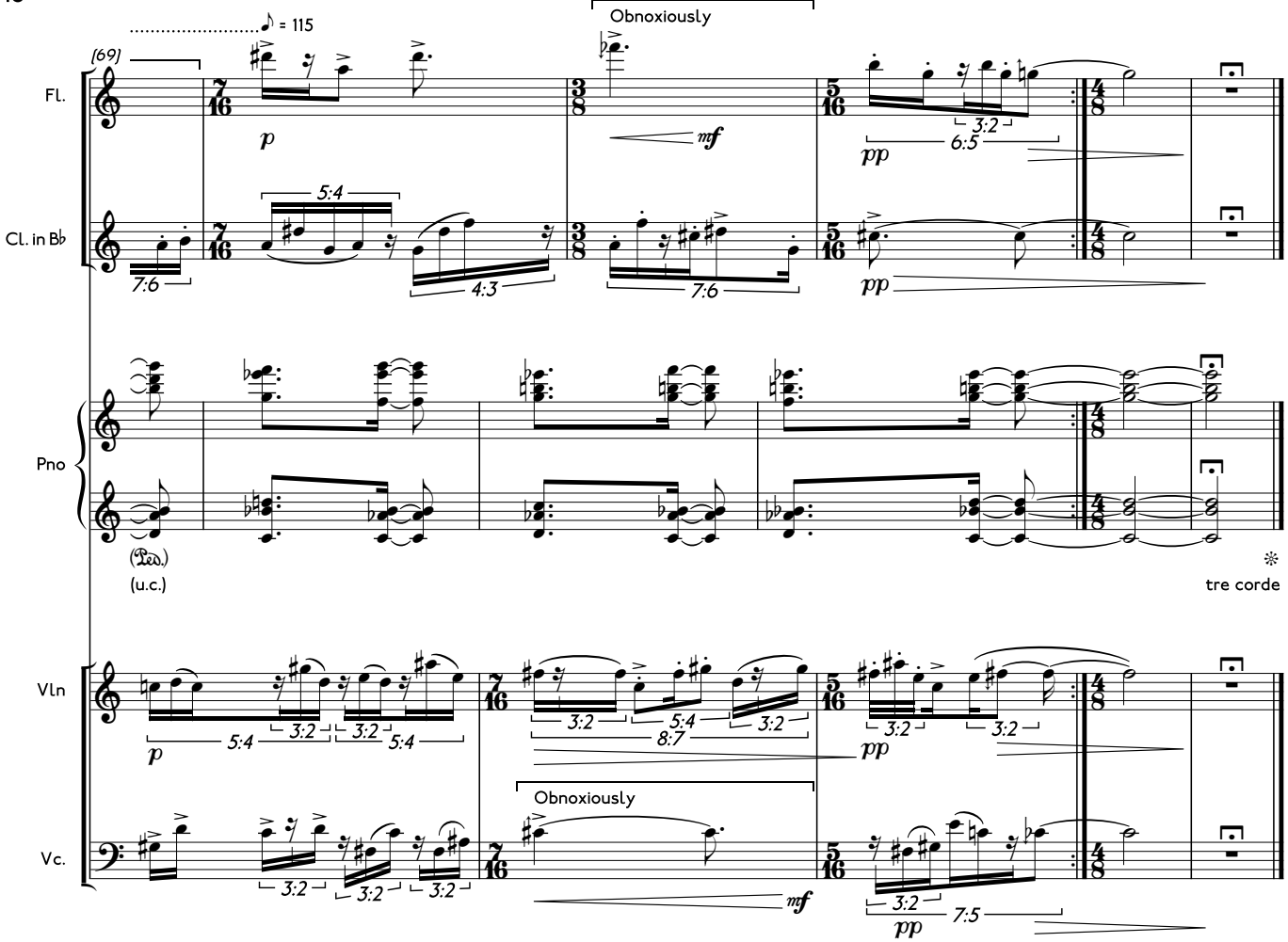

accel.
[50]
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Vln
Vc.
6:4
7:6
3:2
5:4
7:5
C
♪ = 75
[52]
mp
Obnoxiously
mf
4:3
6:5
5:3


55
Obnoxiously
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
Vln
Vc.
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Obnoxiously
[57]
Obnoxiously


60
Obnoxiously
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
Vln
Vc.
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Obnoxiously
Obnoxiously
[62]
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
Vln
Vc.
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
Obnoxiously


[65]
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
Vln
Vc.
6:4
4:3
5:4
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
3:2
8:7
Obnoxiously
mf
p


molto accel.
[67]
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
Vln
Vc.
Obnoxiously
6:4
4:3
5:4
7:6
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
3:2
5:3
mf
p


♪ = 115
[69]
Obnoxiously
Fl.
Cl. in B♭
Pno
Vln
Vc.
p
mf
pp
(Ped.)
(u.c.)
tre corde
Obnoxiously
5:4
7:6
4:3
7:6
3:2
6:5
pp
5:4
3:2
3:2
5:4
p
3:2
5:4
8:7
3:2
pp
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2
3:2
mf
3:2
pp
7:5