3d string = f#
5th string = g

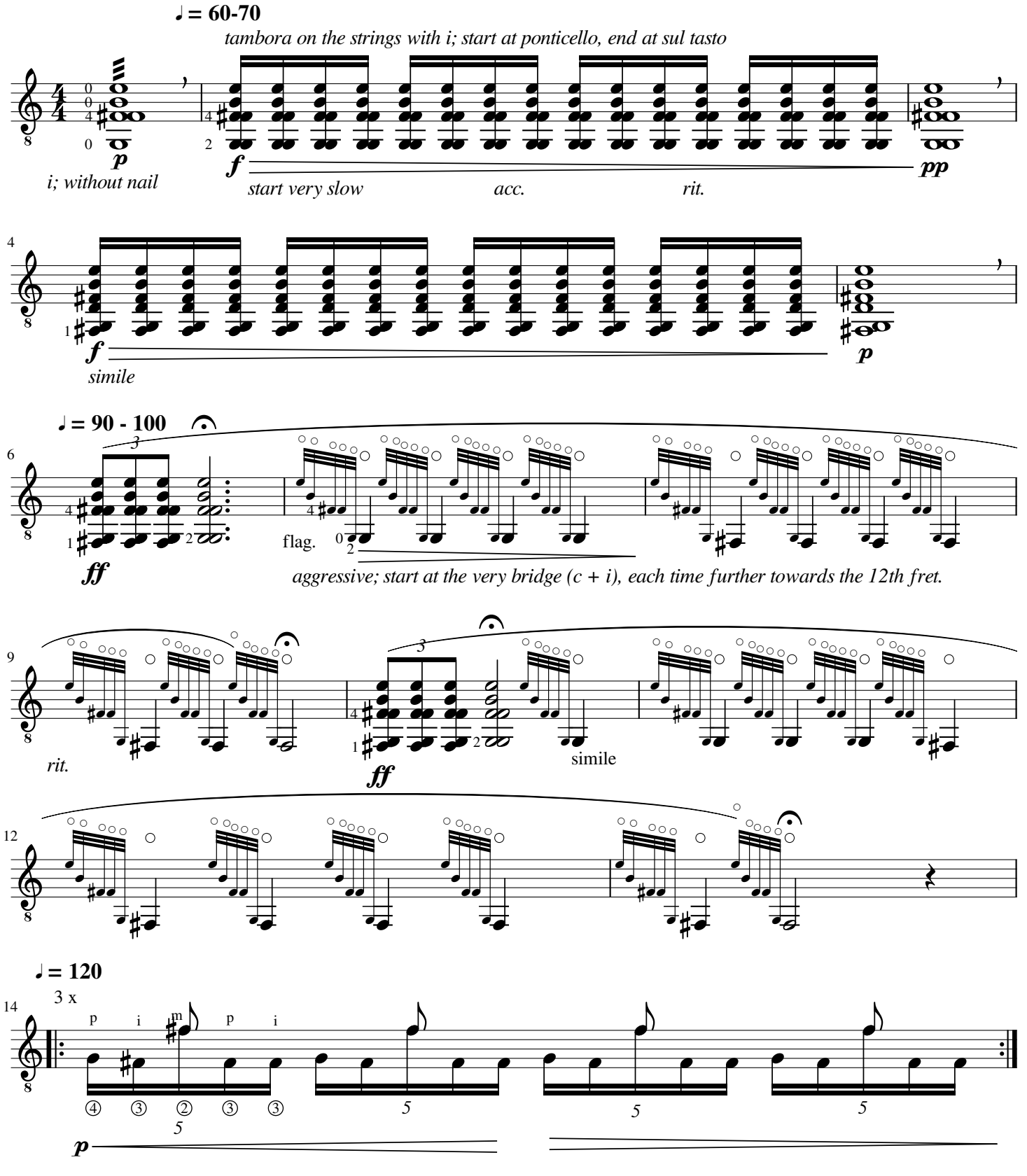
Polar

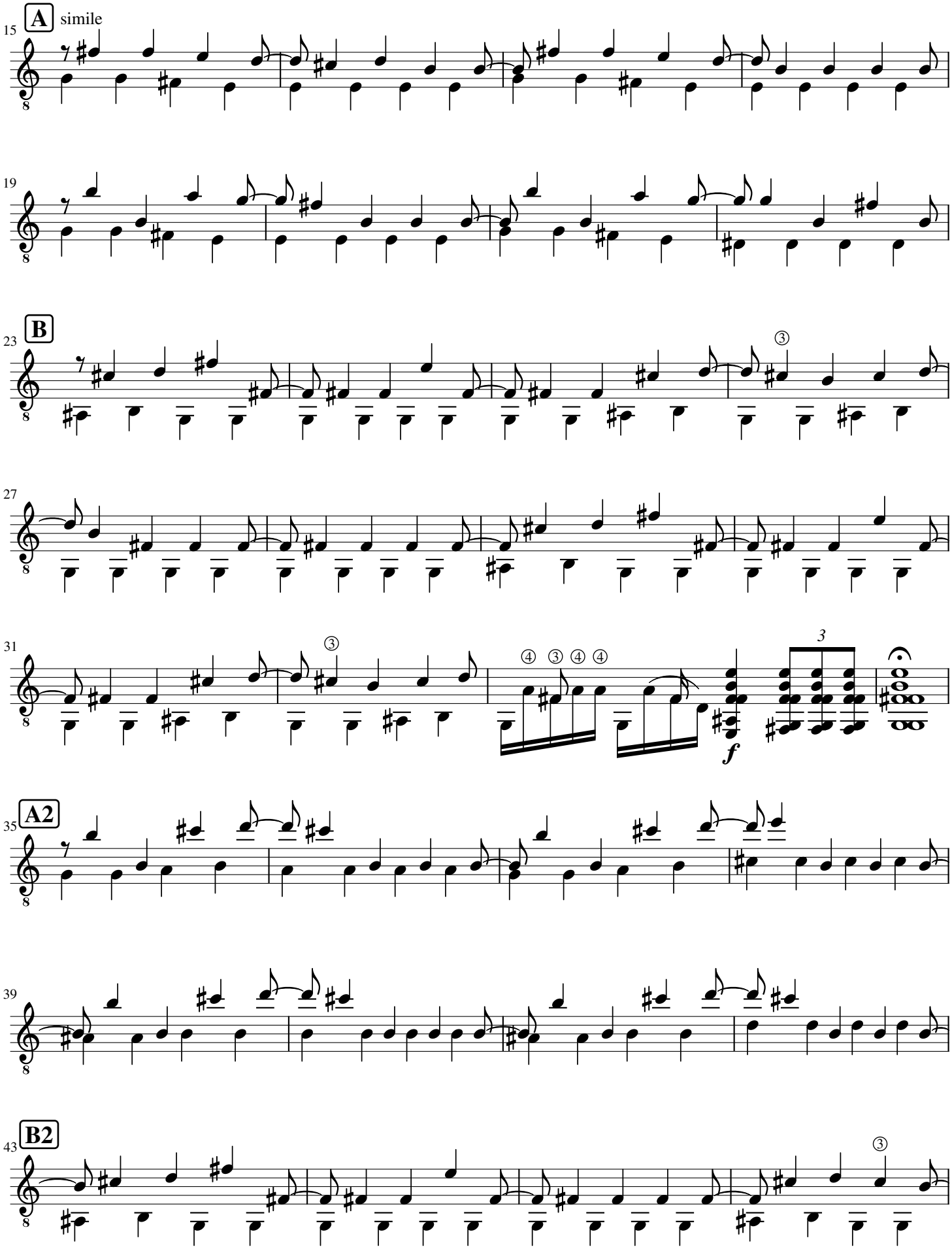
glow in the dark

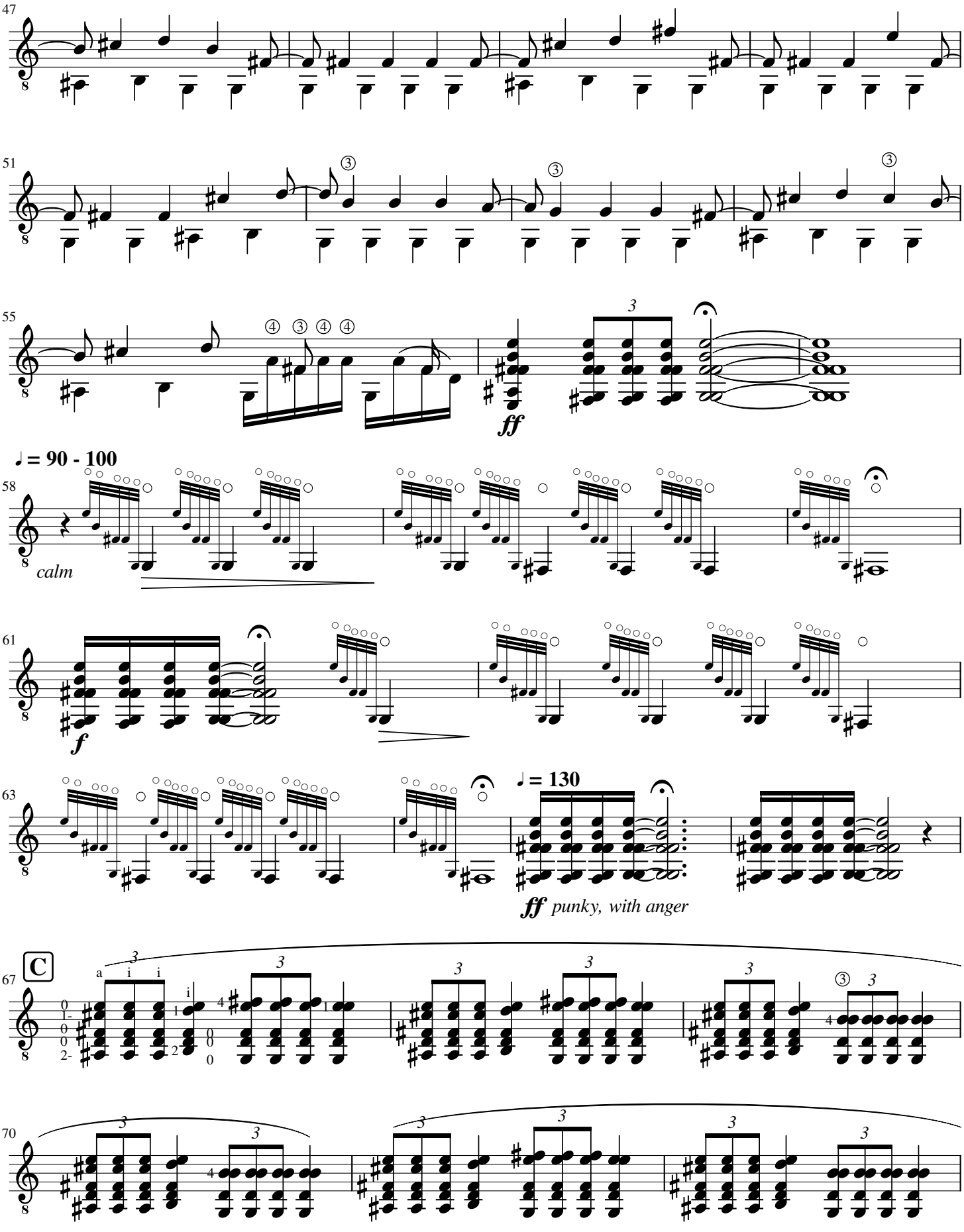
for guitar and soundfile / solo guitar

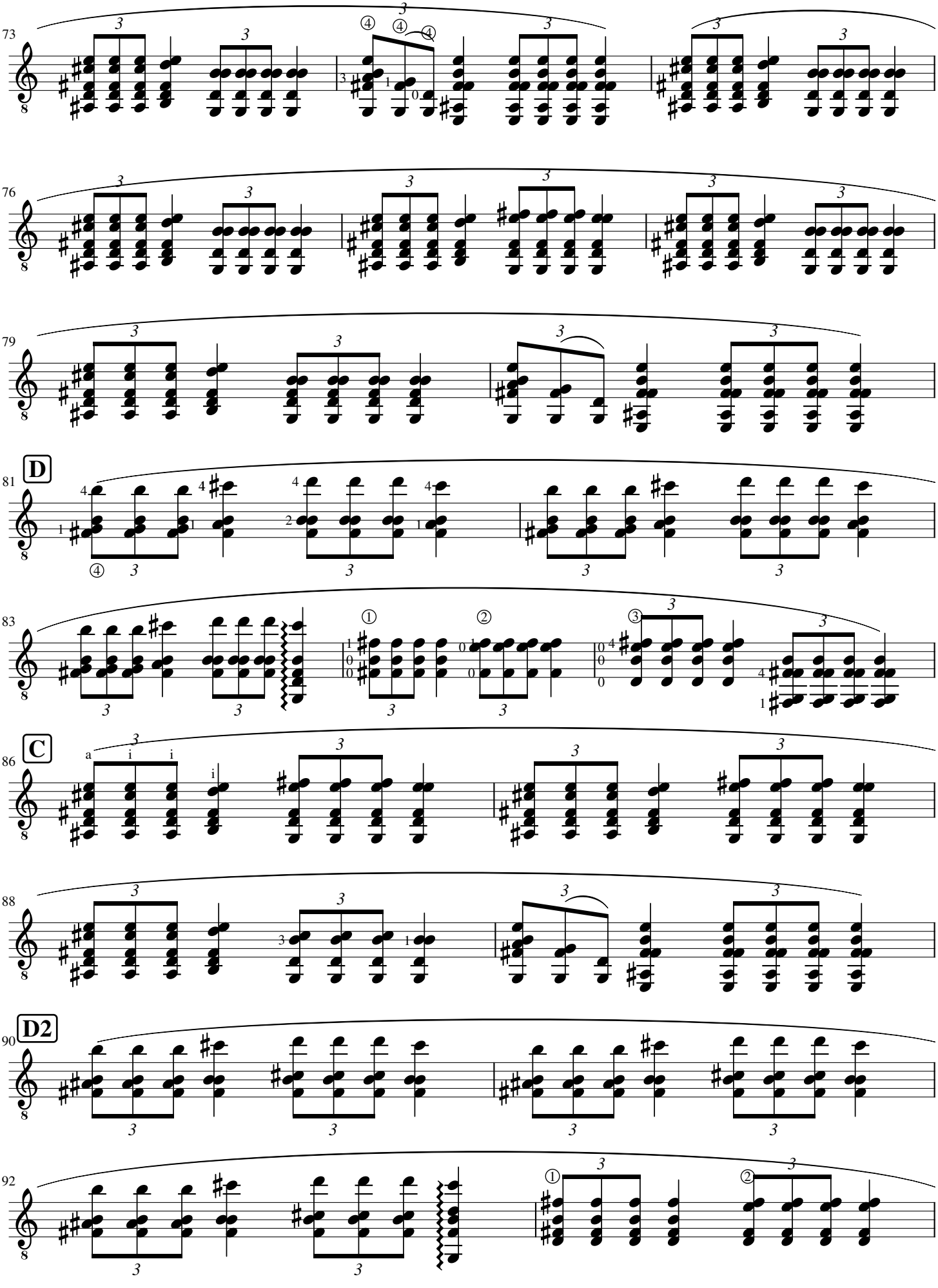
Jannis Wichmann

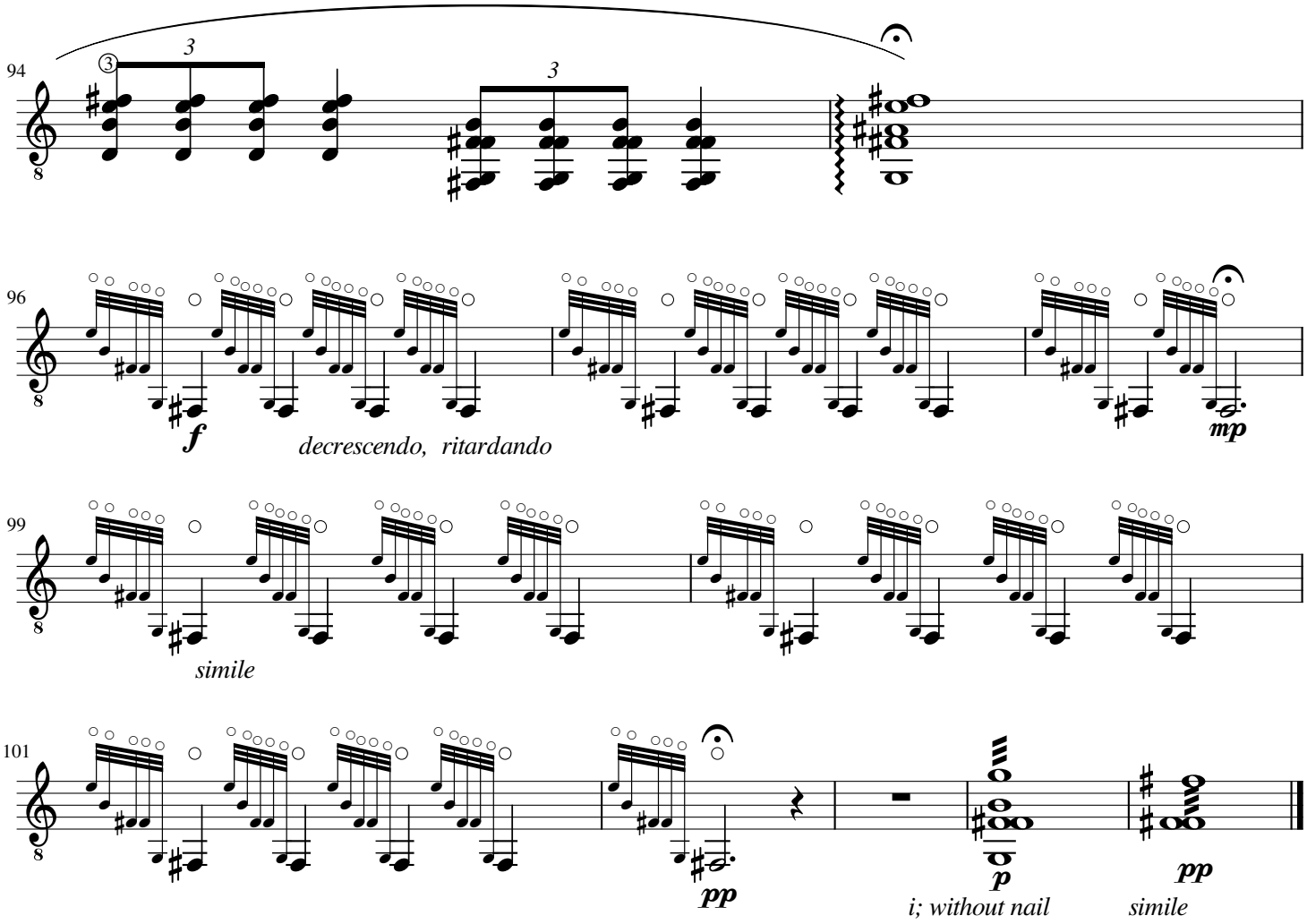
very free and improvisatory (play as written or change what you like)




A
simile
15
19
B
23
27
31
3
f
A2
35
39
B2
43


47
51
55
ff
♩ = 90 - 100
58
calm
61
f
63
♩ = 130
ff punky, with anger
C
67
70


73
76
79
D
81
83
C
86
88
D2
90
92


94
3
3
96
f
decrescendo, ritardando
mp
99
simile
101
pp
p
i; without nail
simile
pp

I composed and recorded the piece "glow in the dark" for classical guitar and soundfile in September 2022 for the polar sounds project. The project was initiated by Stuart Fowkes in 2022 (Cities and Memory) in cooperation with the Alfred Wegener Institute/Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research. Musicians were invited to write and record a composition to a scientific field recording from the polar ice and to artistically address the issues of sustainability and climate change in their discipline.

I chose field recording No. 43, from which I created the sound file for my composition. Originally this field recording it is a two-minute recording of arctic seismic shooting that occur at regular intervals of about 12 sec. Seismic shooting is used for exploring the seafloor for oil and gas depostits. The shots are sent from ships and the echoes are analysed with the help of underwater microphones. Not only the exploitation of resources but also the search for them has destructive consequences for marine life.

I only lightly processed the field recording itself with an equalizer and a compressor. The aim was to reduce the noise and to better bring out the interesting clicking, crunching and cracking sounds.
I have tried to make the bass range a little more precise, but the sound impression remains rather a hint of massive violence. Finally the field recording was changed to stereo, now it has more depth and spatiality.

The sound file is published under the following conditions:
CC-BY 4.0 Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research 2022.

Note for performer: as an alternative to the sextuplets, the first four notes can also be played as a fast arpeggio with p, i, m, a. Ideally, the note repetitions with p, i on the quintuplet and on the sextuplet are at the same tempo.

There is no scheduled coordination to the soundfile, but it is nice if the soundfile starts and ends without the guitar. If the soundfile is too short for your interpretation, send me a message and I will extend it.

You can play the piece with or without the soundfile.

You can download the sound file and score from my website (or write me a mail).
Please write to me if you perform the piece.

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