Sonata in F Major

for Soprano or Concert Ukulele

Michael Bemmels

2022

Sonata in F Major - Composer Notes

Oh my, what have I done?! A new three-movement classical sonata for ukulele now exists for humans on Earth. I must wonder: "Is this an attention-seeking gimmick, or a serious work of art?" The formal structures are there, the musical language is there, the traditional notated score is there… but, *the instrument*...! Why, the frets are so tiny, the range is so narrow, the sound is so cute like a toy! Could this instrument really be the vessel for a true piece of art?

But hold on, why am *I* asking *you*? As the composer, shouldn't it be *my* duty to explain the meaning of this creation? I aught to think and think and think, and select a set of thoughts that I happen to believe are true, and then use a variety of means to attempt to convince others to likewise believe in the validity of those thoughts. Perhaps I could employ machines to measure certain things about this Sonata, and generate "facts" using commonly accepted (though ultimately entirely human-fabricated) logical systems. From my own limited perspective as an adult human being, those measurements would appear to indicate some permanently existing qualities that could not possibly be disputed or refuted for the rest of eternity! As long as I prudently present thoughts that are not too dissimilar from those of my audience, then it might generally appear that those thoughts are indeed actually representing *the truth*!

Then again, I might think one thought while eating breakfast, and another entirely different one while driving to work. I might later talk to a 5-year old who somehow completely disembowels in my mind the lingering remembrances of advice I inherited from a professor long ago. Oh, what a lamentable task it is to attempt to expound a "true" and "objective" set of ideas! The very fabric of external reality is constantly changing, as is the fabric of my own internal reality. How could I cling to any particular experience or view, and sincerely believe that it is fundamentally and permanently true for all beings, at all times? How could I possibly present it to others as being *the truth*, when I myself don't even believe in it?!

We travel then, hopefully not into nihilistic dismay, but into an enlivening realization that we are all capable of *creating* the realities we experience. We strive not to *find irrefutable truth* (an absurd impossibility!), but to work to *create* our own realities in the way that seems most relevant, wise and meaningful at the time that we are creating it.

Though they are rather strange, it is my hope that this unconventional composition and written introduction are beneficial and relevant creations. At least, that's what I think today, at this particular moment in time (but who am I to say what reality *you* aught to make of it?).

Michael Bemmels
Vancouver, Canada, February 2022

Sonata in F Major

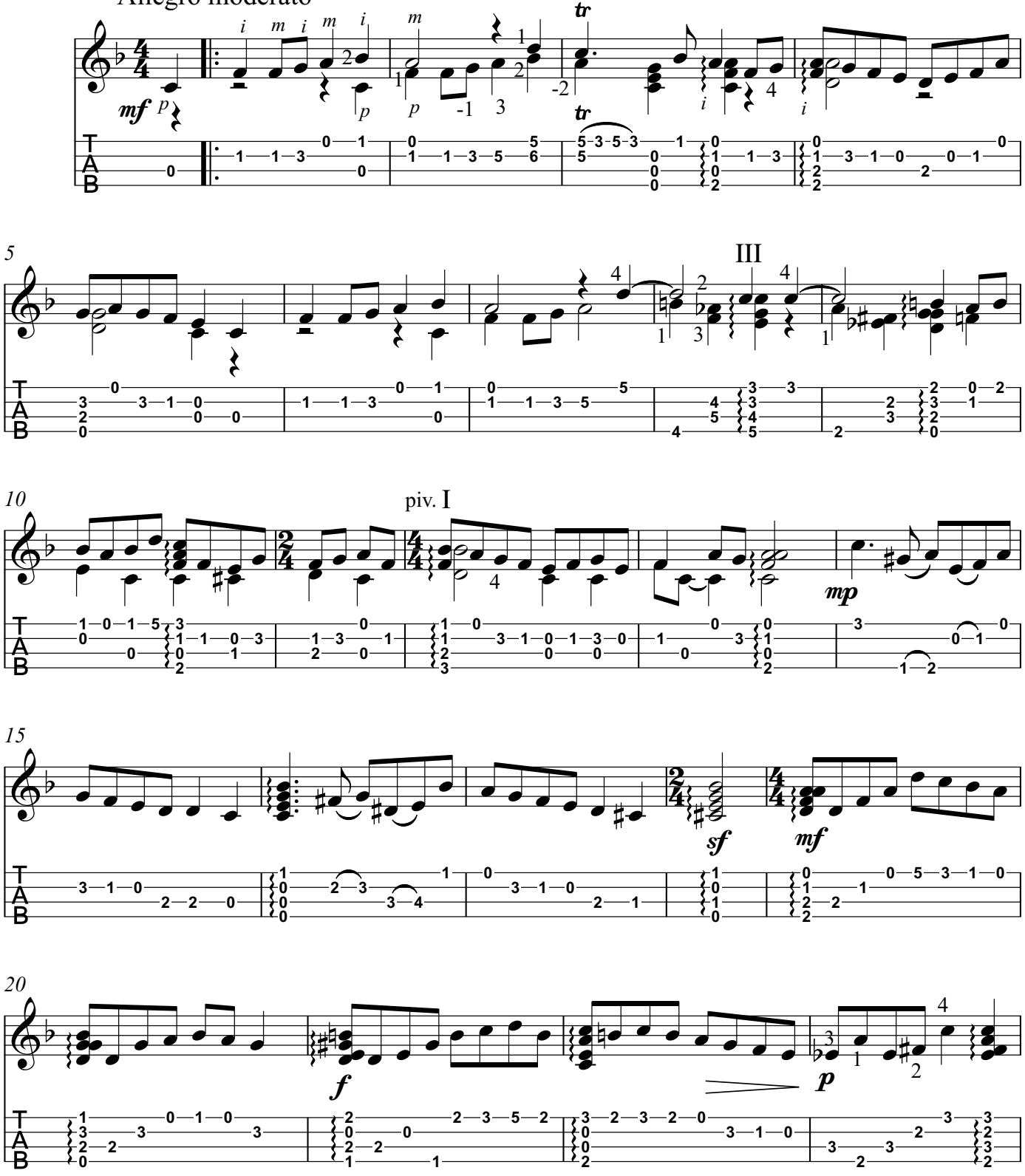
for Soprano or Concert Ukulele

Re-entrant tuning
G4-C4-E4-A4

I

Michael Bemmels
(2022)

Allegro moderato



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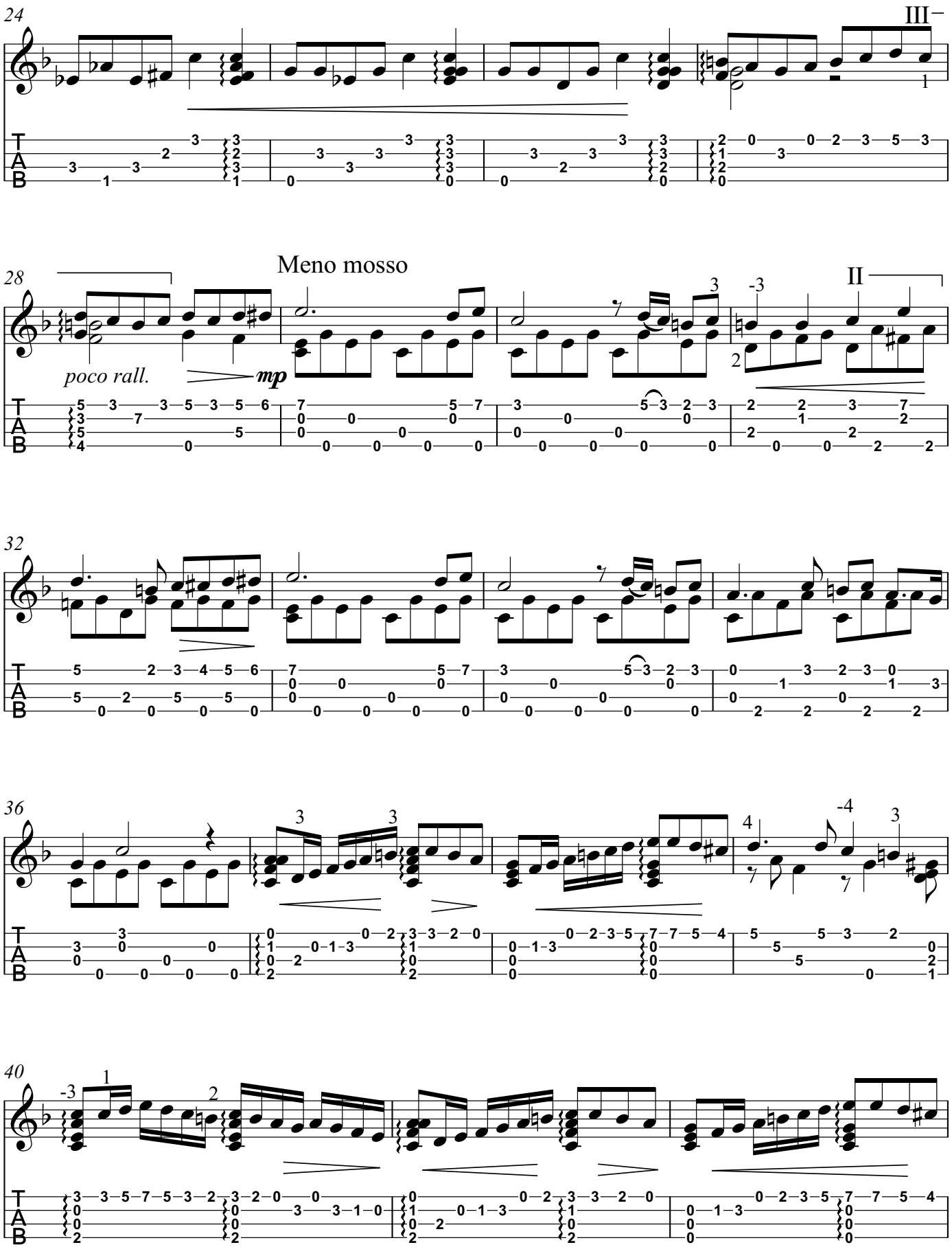
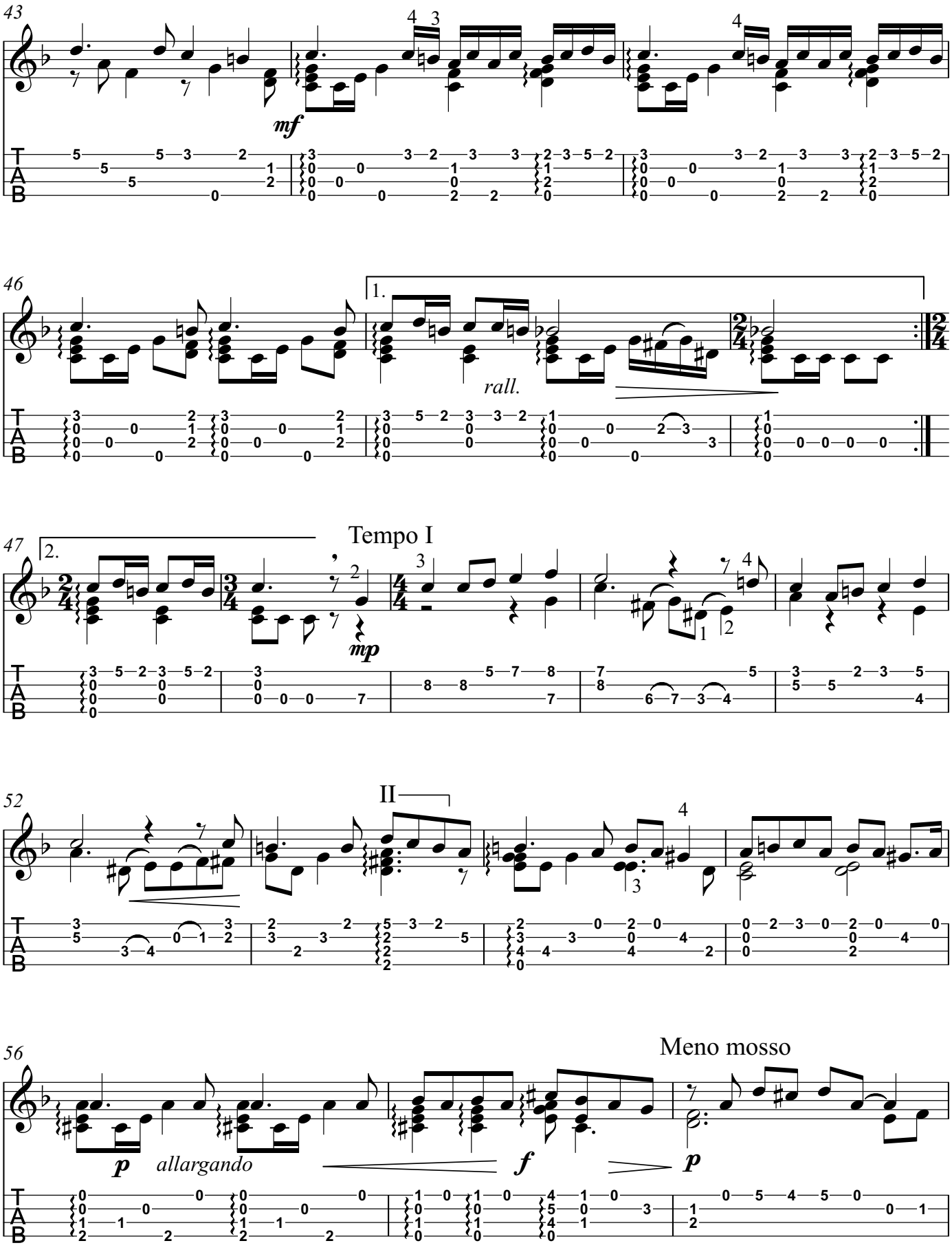
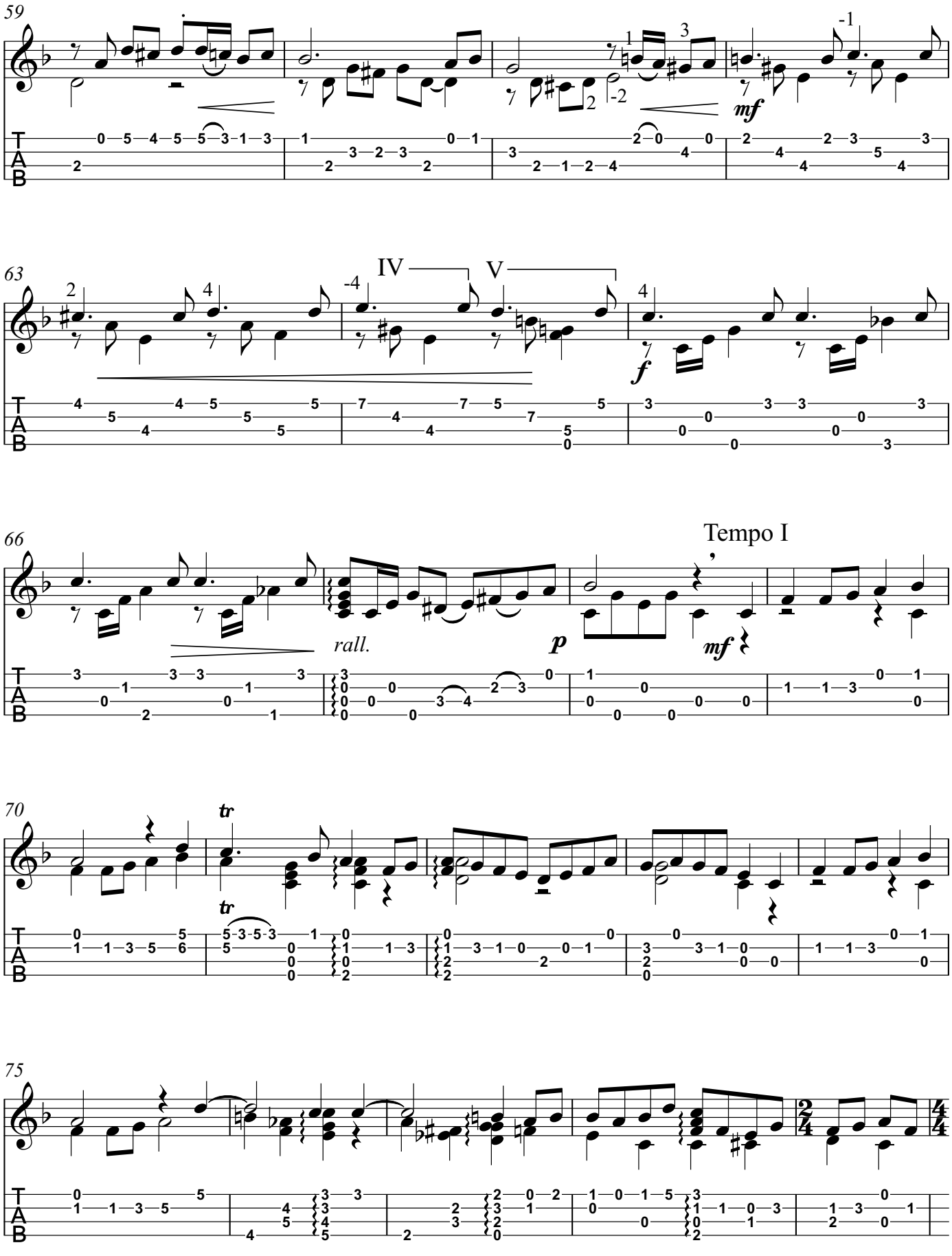
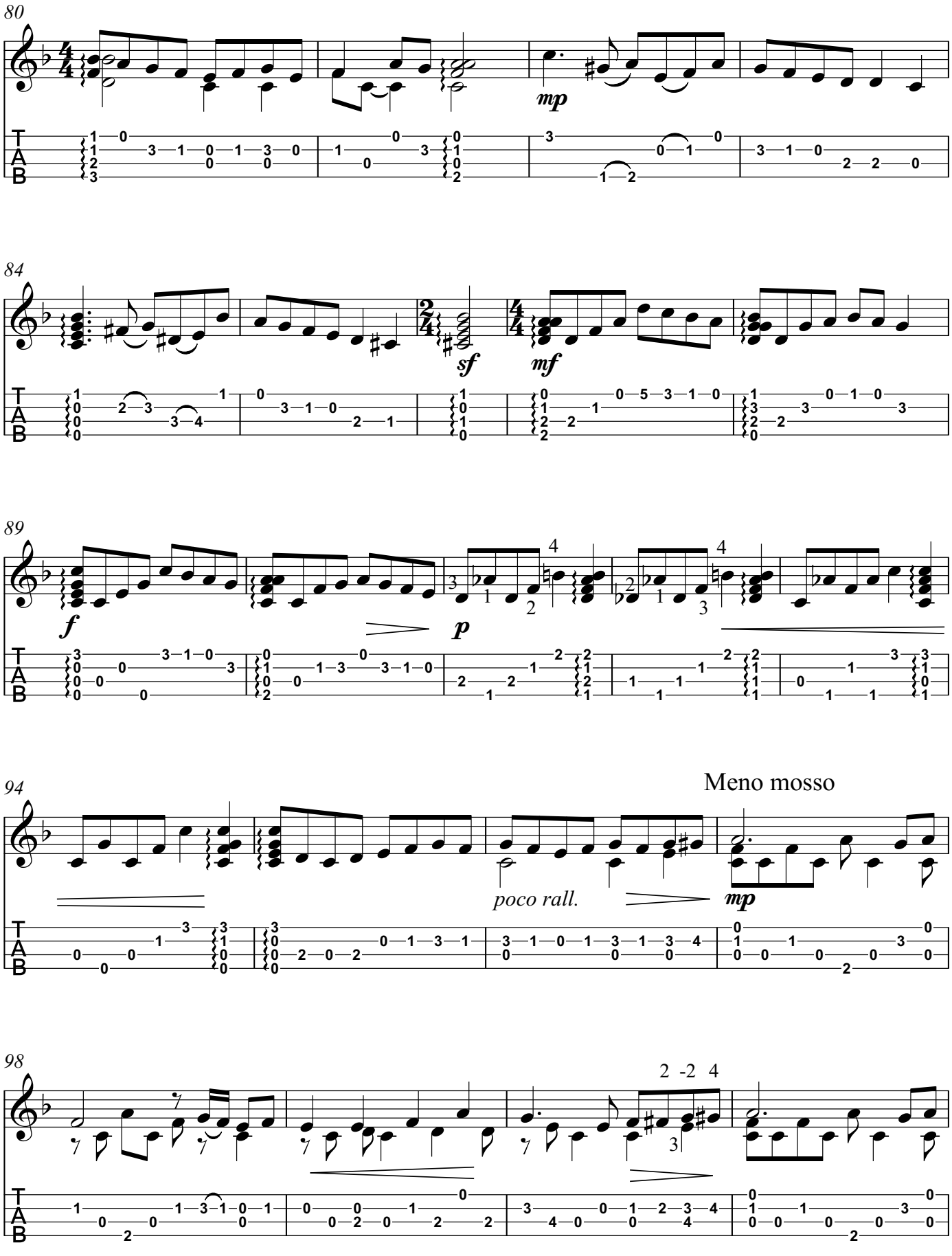
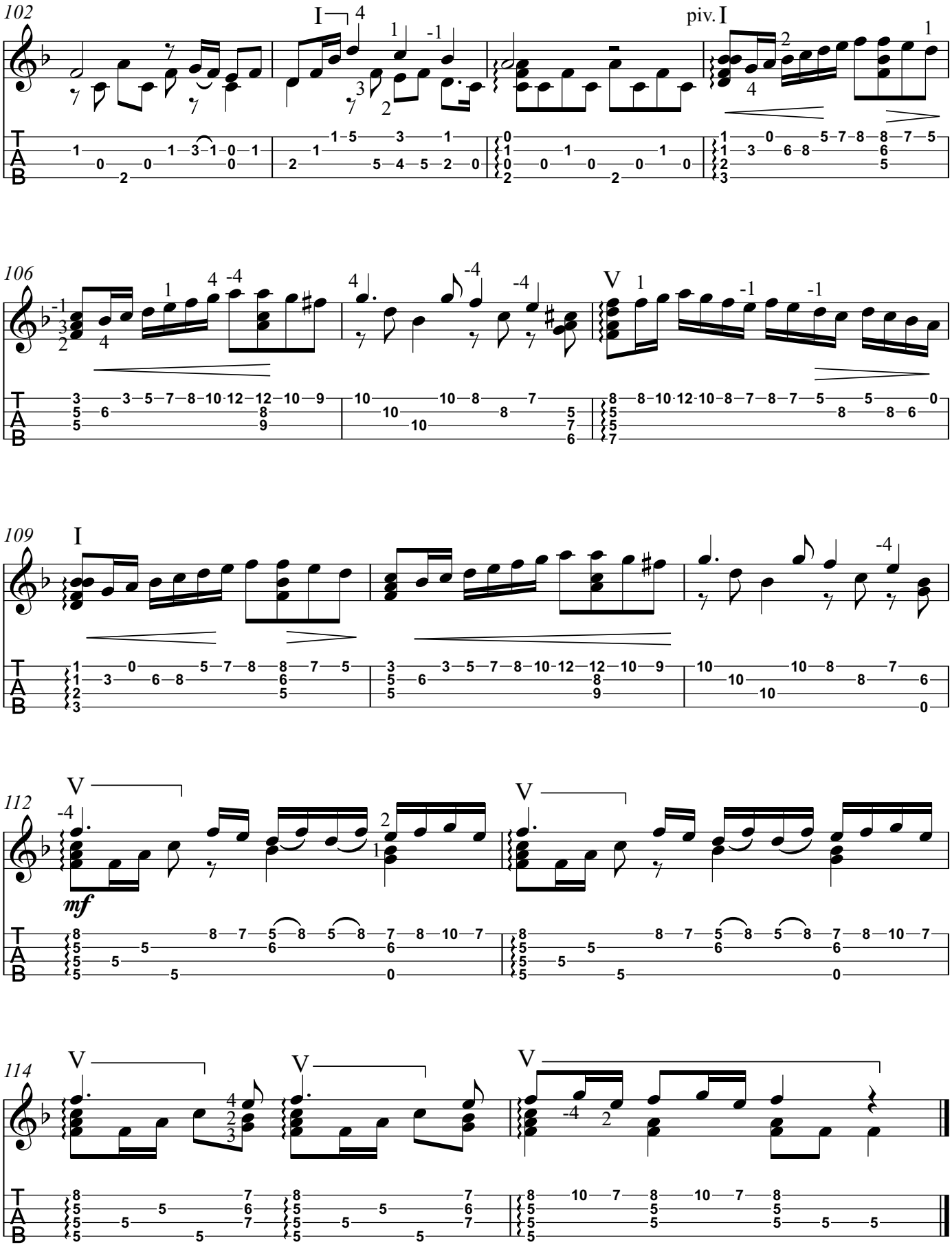

24
III
28
Meno mosso
poco rall.
mp
II
32
36
40

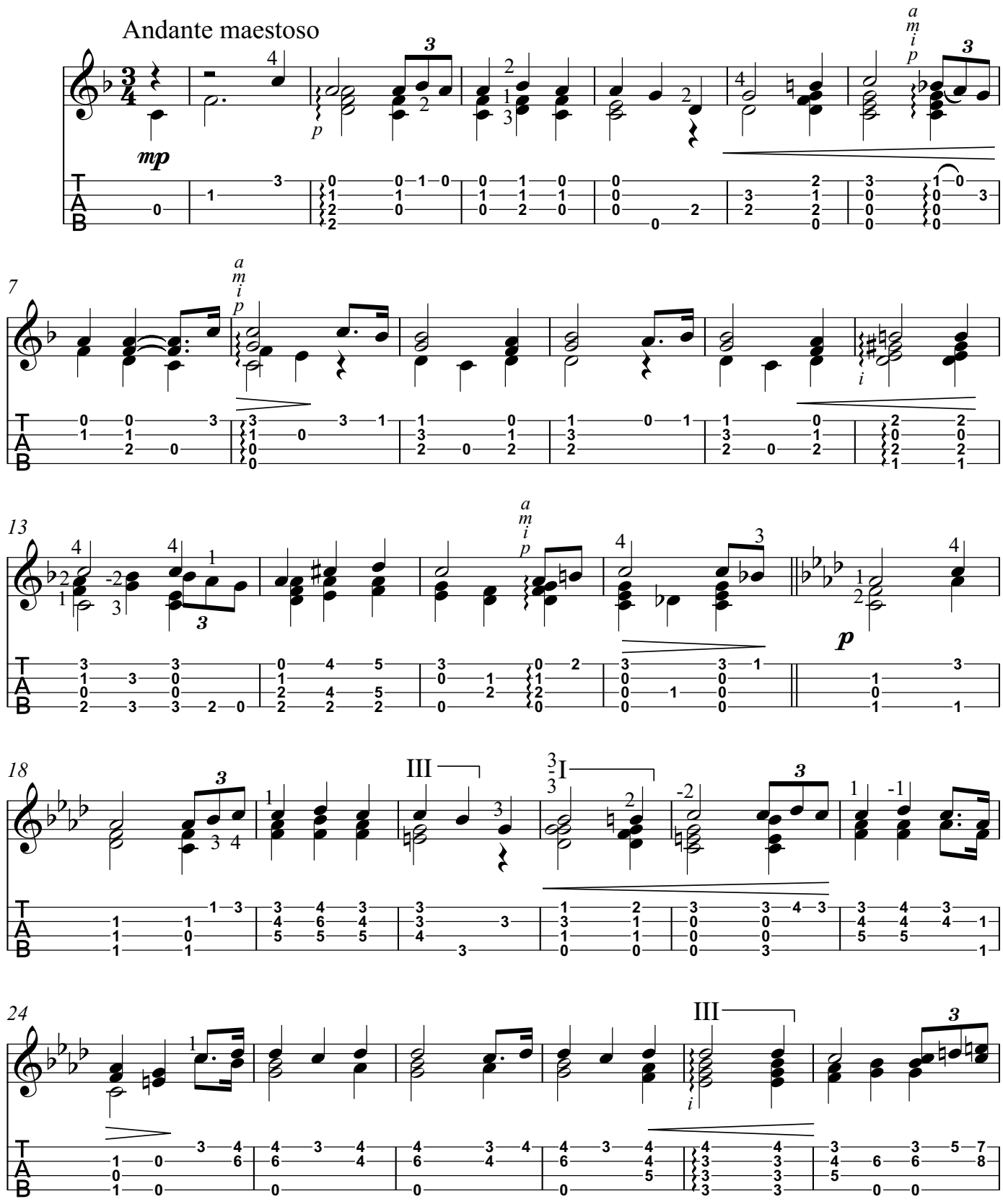

43
mf
46
1.
rall.
47
2.
Tempo I
mp
52
II
56
p
allargando
f
Meno mosso
p

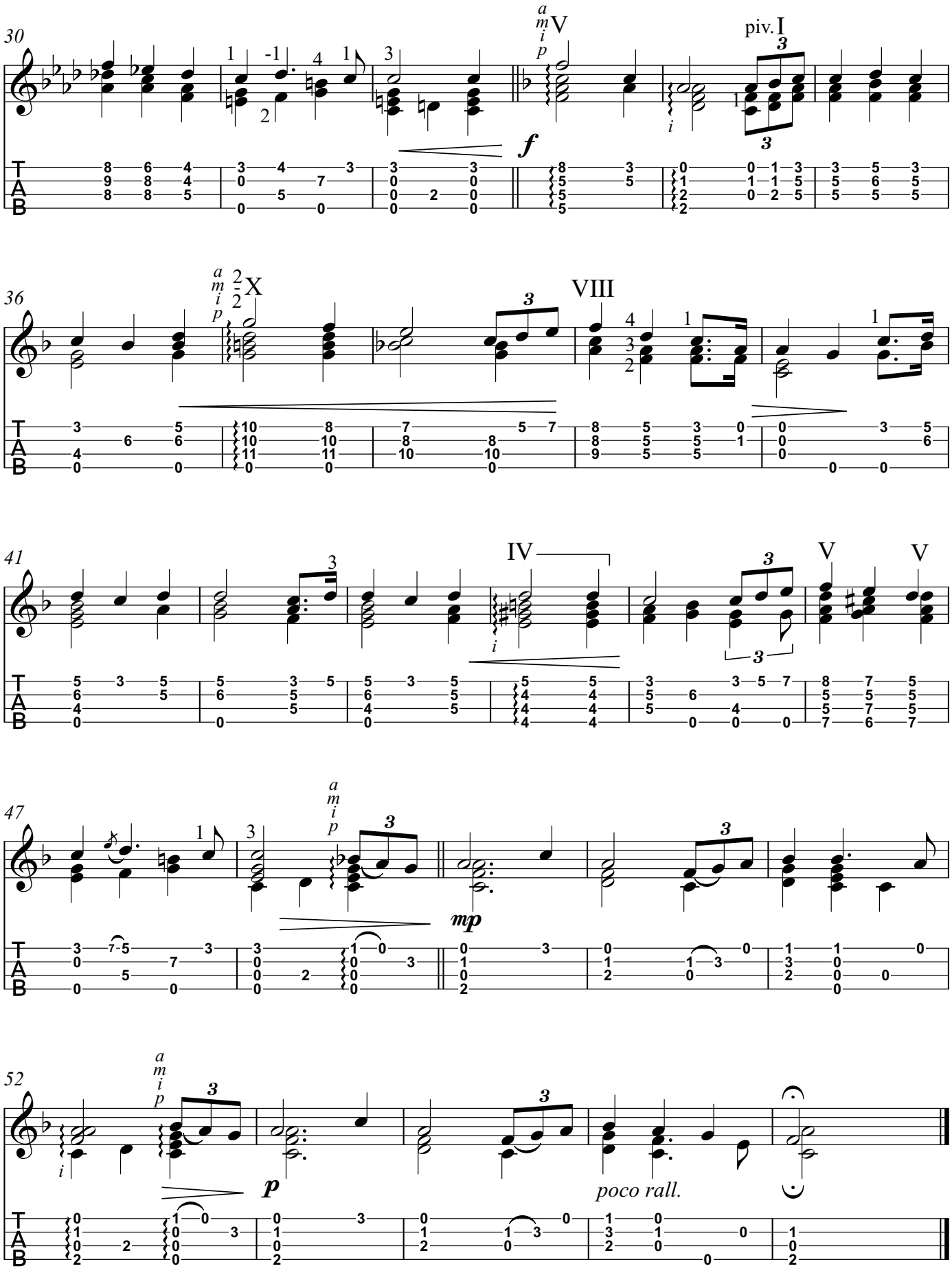

59
63
IV
V
66
Tempo I
rall.
70
75


80
mp
84
sf
mf
89
f
p
94
Meno mosso
poco rall.
mp
98
2 -2 4

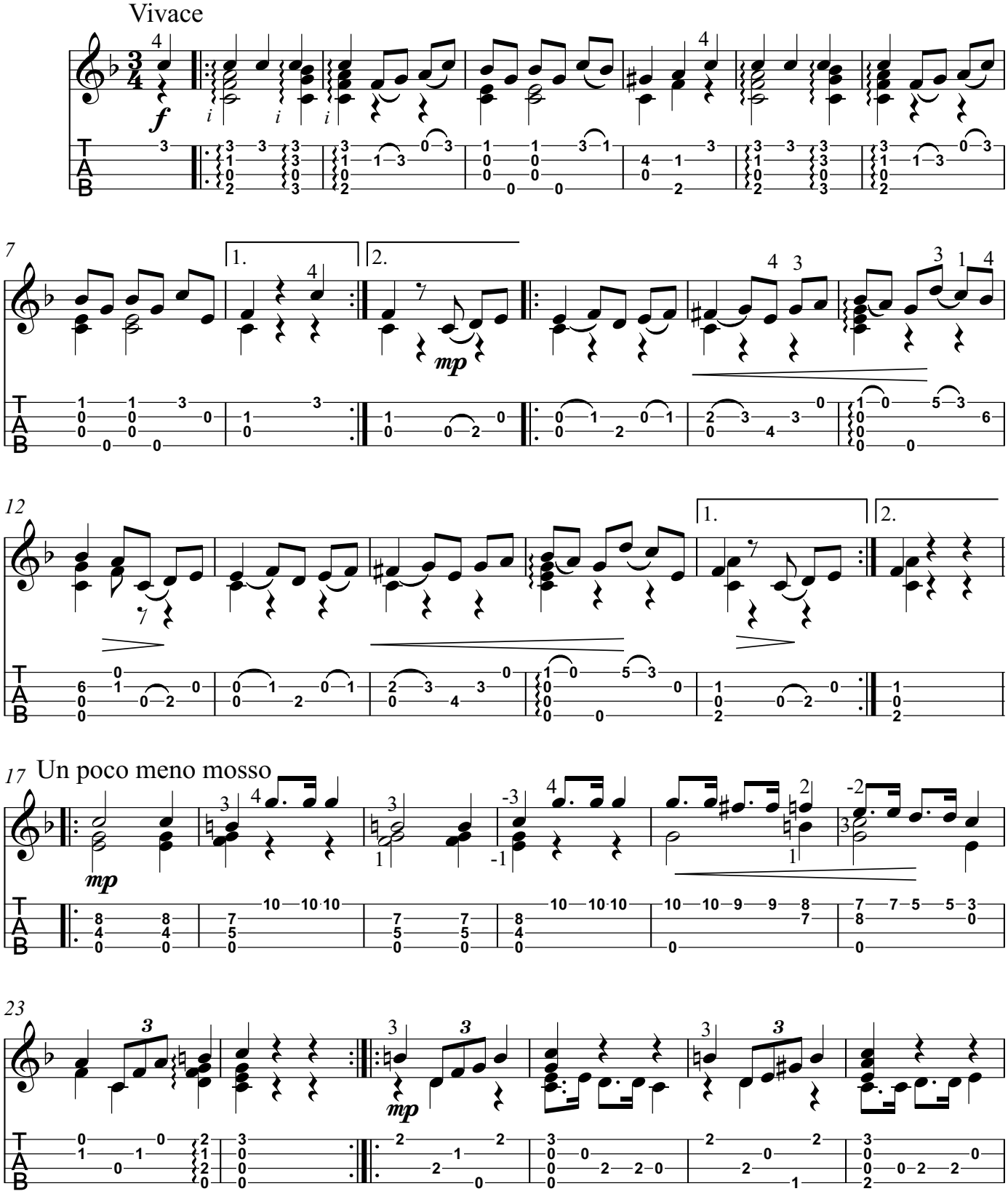

102
I
piv. I
106
V
109
I
112
V
mf
114
V

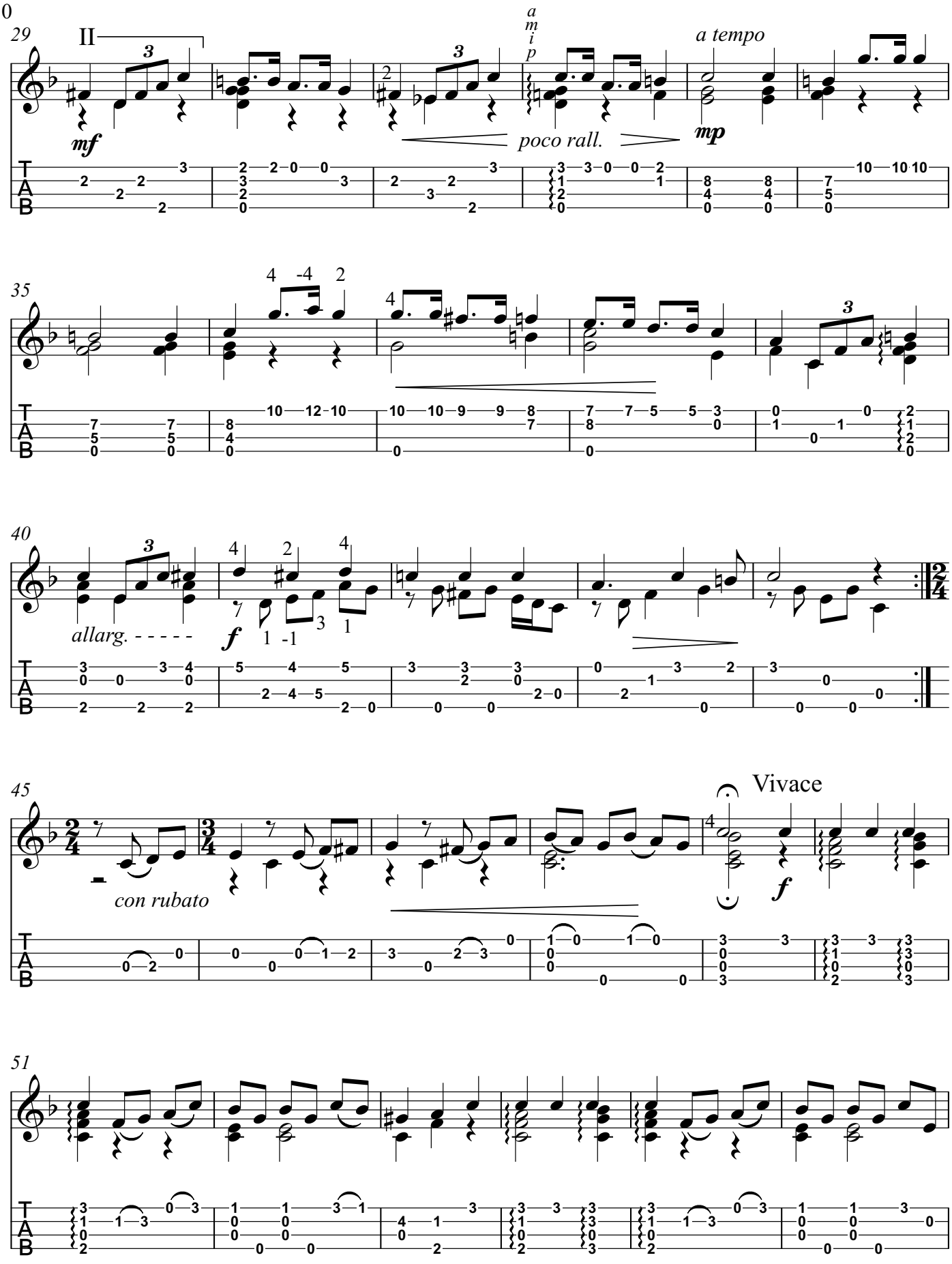
II

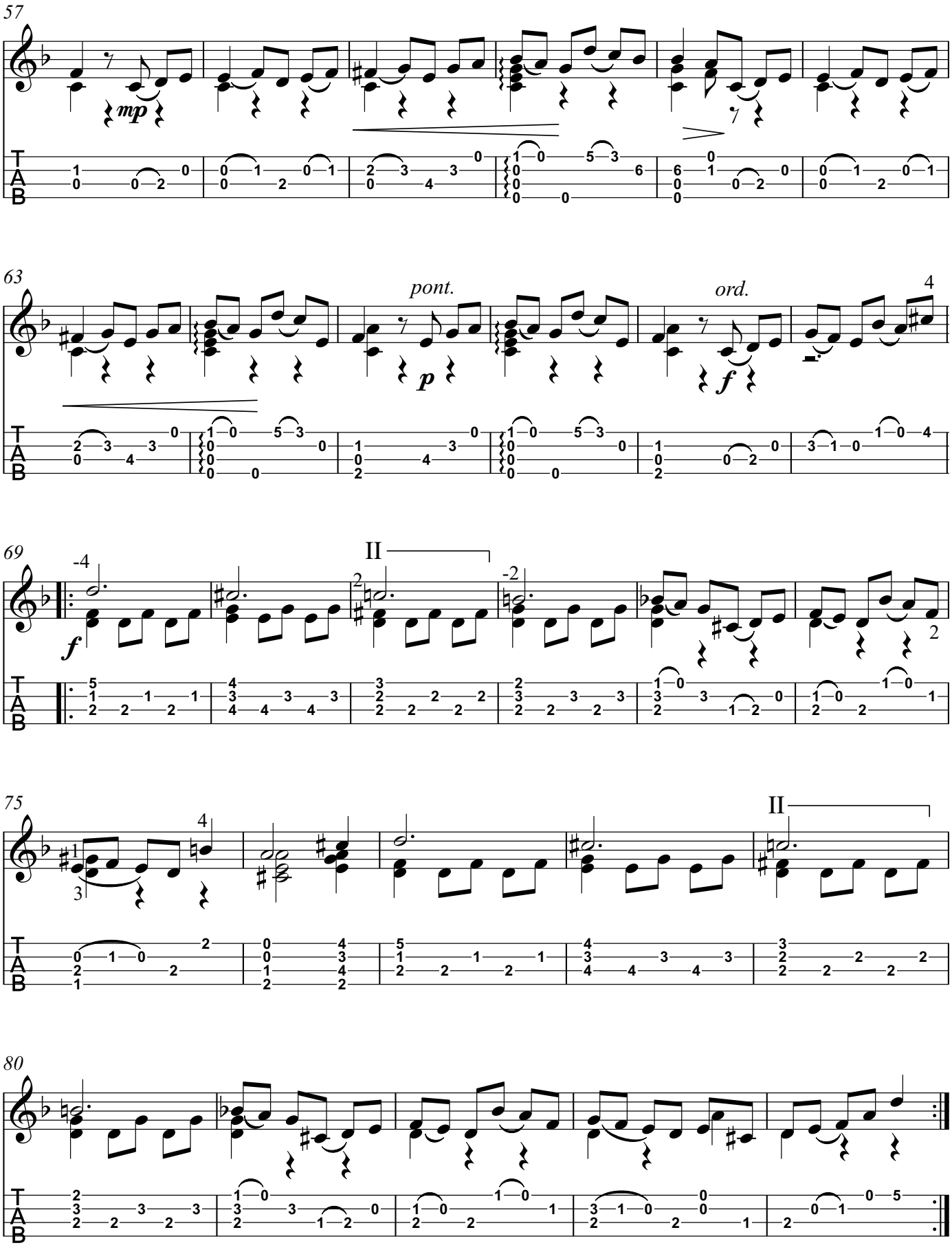


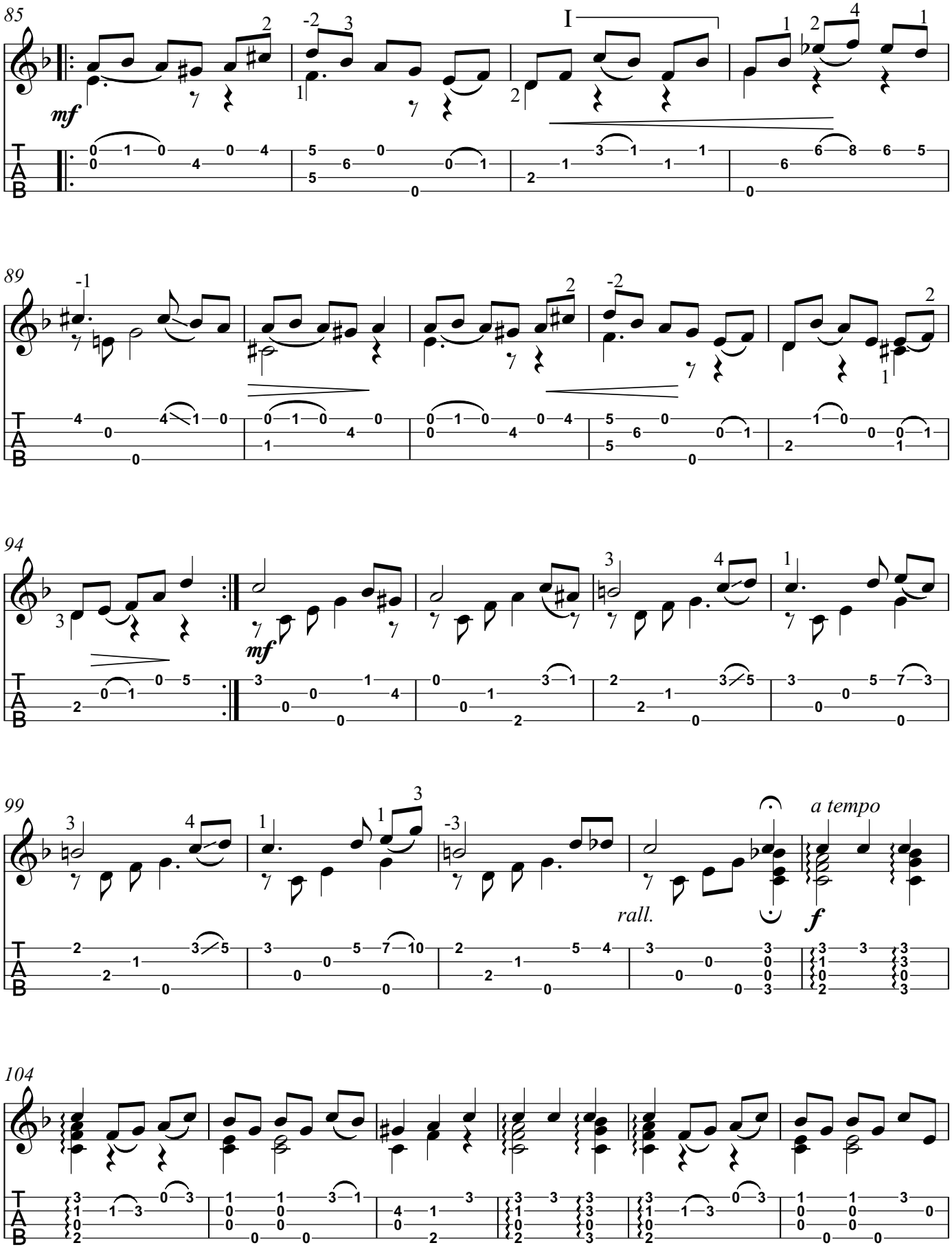

30
a m i p
V
piv. I
f
36
a m i p
X
VIII
41
IV
V
V
i
47
a m i p
mp
52
a m i p
p
poco rall.

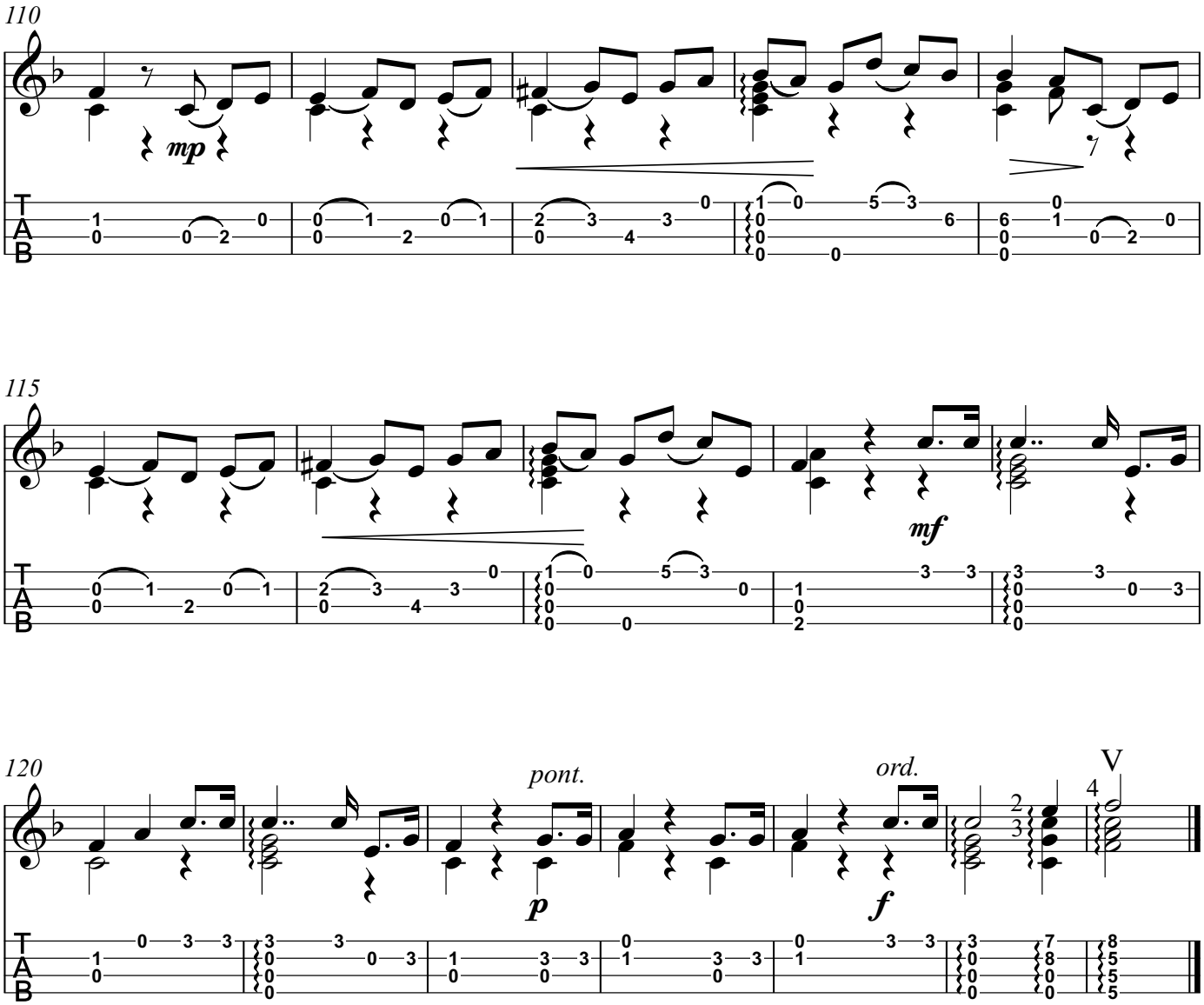
III




29
II
mf
a
m
i
p
poco rall.
a tempo
mp
35
4 -4 2
4
40
allarg. - - - - -
f
1 -1
45
con rubato
Vivace
f
51


57
mp
63
pont.
p
ord.
f
4
69
-4
II
2
-2
f
2
75
4
II
80


85
mf
I
89
94
mf
99
rall.
a tempo
f
104


110
mp
115
mf
120
pont.
p
ord.
f
V