wirth metho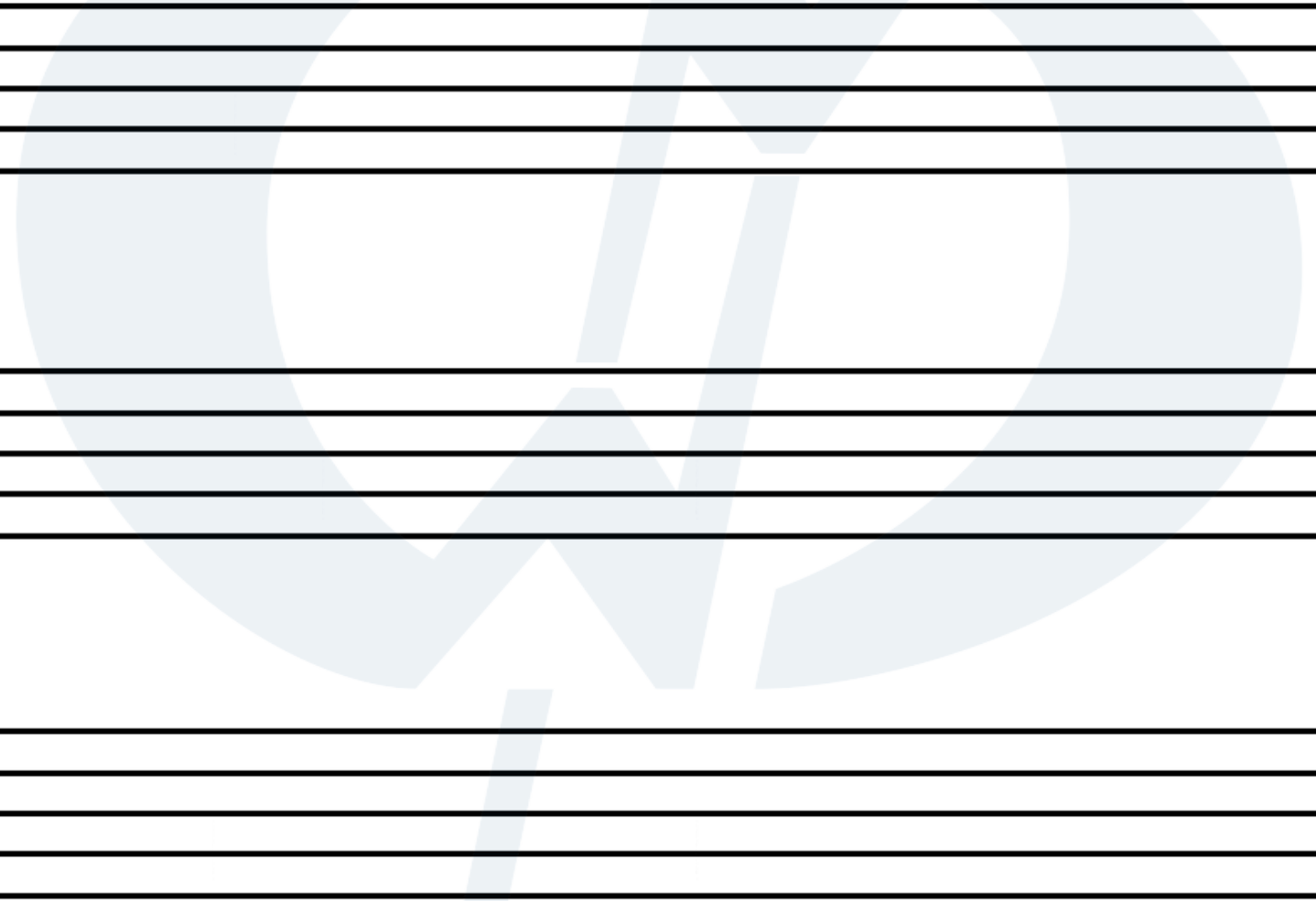d