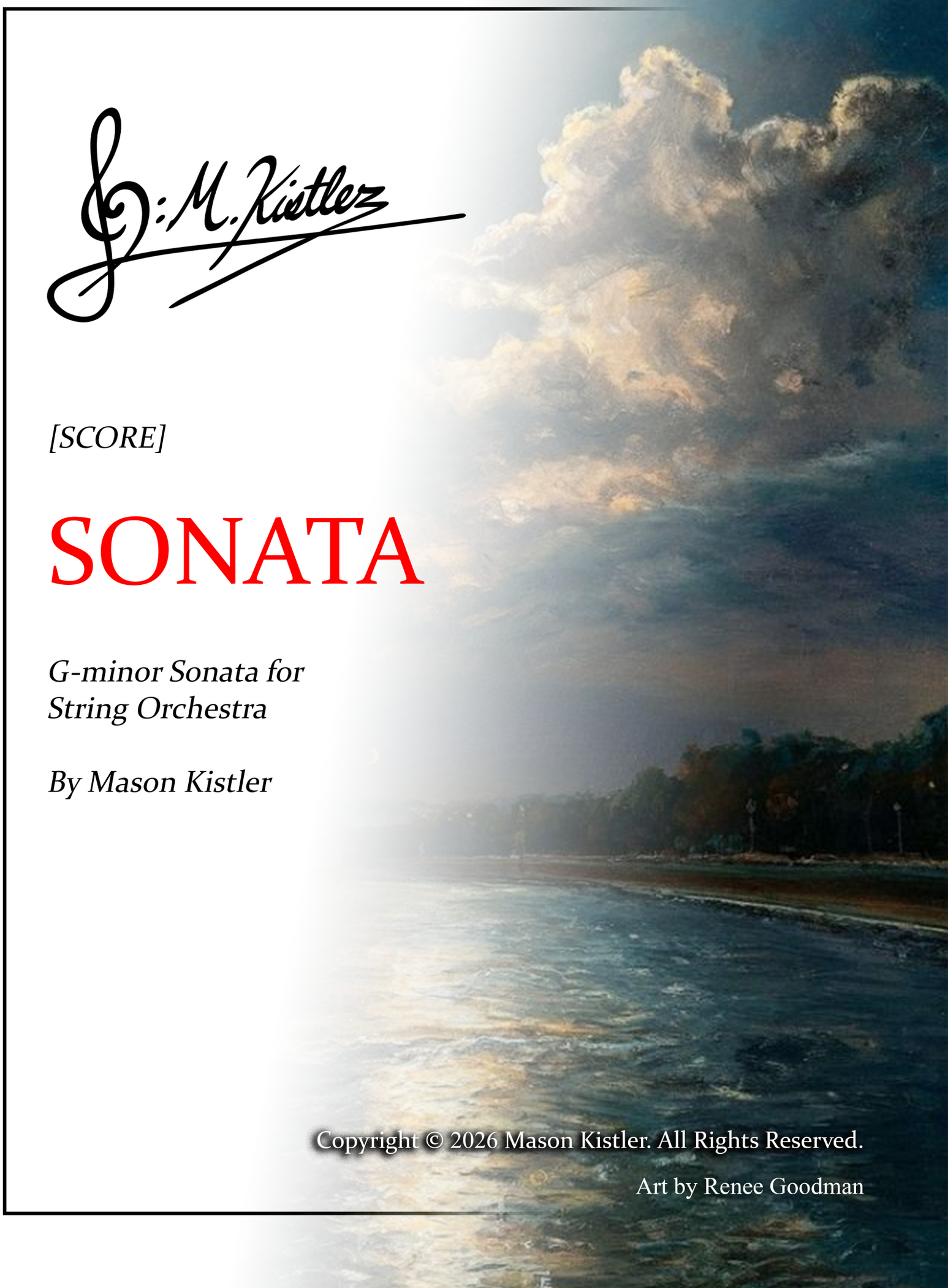

[SCORE]

SONATA

G-minor Sonata for
String Orchestra

By Mason Kistler

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Art by Renee Goodman

- S O N A T A -

G-minor Sonata for String Orchestra

By Mason Kistler

Duration:
c.14:00 minutes

M O V E M E N T S

I. Andantino mesto e cantabile

II. Largo, affettuoso

III. Allegro, con fuoco

INSTRUMENTATION

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

ABOUT THE WORK

Sonata in G-minor has been a work in my collection I have struggled to realize.The original first movement was made back in April of 2024, while the rest of the sonata was both created and completed in the summer of 2026. The two years in between these milestones saw an exponential growth in my skill and after a summer of listening to a large sum of chamber music, I felt inspired to finish the set and diversify my collection of works. In regard to its creation, it is reminiscent of both classical and romantic sonatas. In terms of form, it follows classical structures, however, in terms of musical content, it is romantic.

I. Andantino mesto e cantabile

This movement is the longest of the sonata. Set in sonata-rondo form (A-B-A'-C-A-B'-A"), it is not a complete one-to-one of a classical first movement. Instead of modulating to the relative major for the second theme, it modulates to the minor dominant. To add, while expected to have a repeat of the exposition, I opted to not do so and focus on an extensive development. The character of this movement is one I am indecisive about. I wrote it based on the idea of turmoil and loss of love, and as I listen to it, I find myself feeling a sense of anger, impatience, and longing from the music.

II. Largo, affettuoso

The second movement is quite the contrast to the first. Set in ternary form (A-B-A'), this Largo was inspiried partially by the orchestration from Khachaturian's "Adagio from Spartacus". It's musical content however, is one I found working at the piano. I decided to take a similar approach to the melody based on the theme from my piano quintet, "Dear October," and I believe it have been effective in execution. The A-sections have a smaller form within them, with it being AABA. In terms of the character of the movement, it is one about love and each section in the form breifly captures some of my experiences with finding romance.

III. Allegro, con fuoco

The third, final, and shortest movement of the sonata is one I had a lot of enjoyment writing. Set in ternary form (A-B-A'), this work proved to be challenging to write due to the tempo. I was indecisive on certain melodies or accompaniment patterns and I found myself writing a passage, erasing it, tweaking the original substance, then scrapping it all together before moving on. Now, at the end, I find myself feeling a sense of enjoyment for that effort and the overall finished piece. It is partially inspired by Rachmaninoff's Trio élégiaque No.1 in G minor. His string writing in that work is something I found myself coming back to again and again.

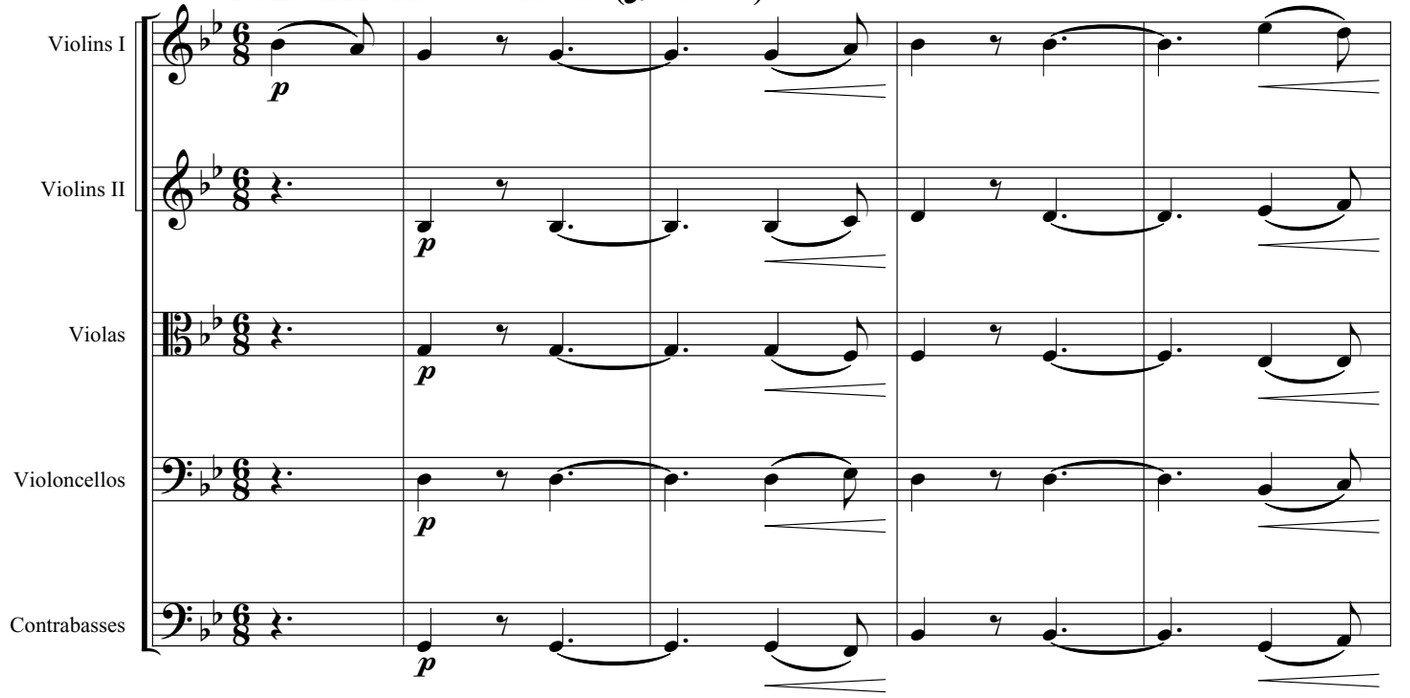
- SONATA IN G-MINOR -

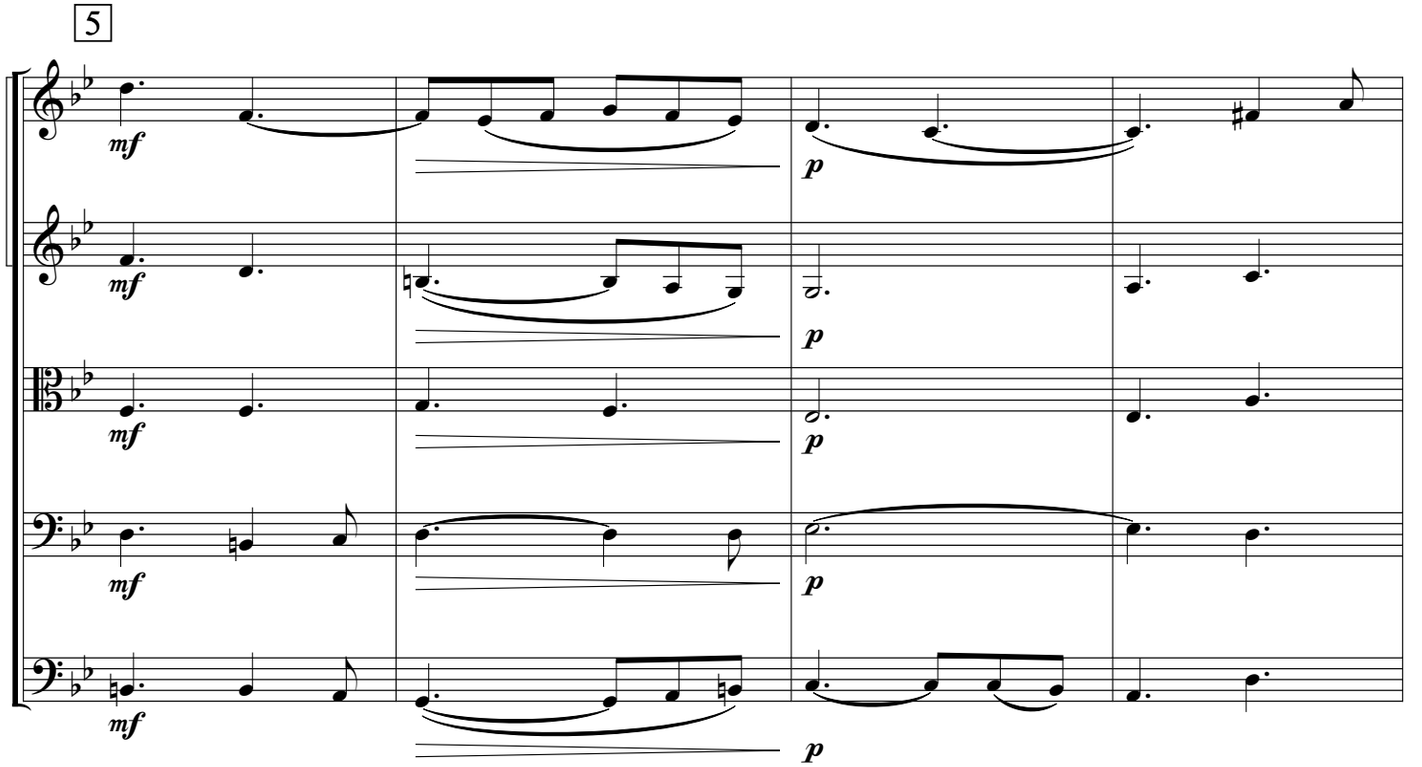
SCORE

For String Orchestra

Mason Kistler
(b. 2002)

I. Andantino mesto e cantabile (♩. = 60- 63)





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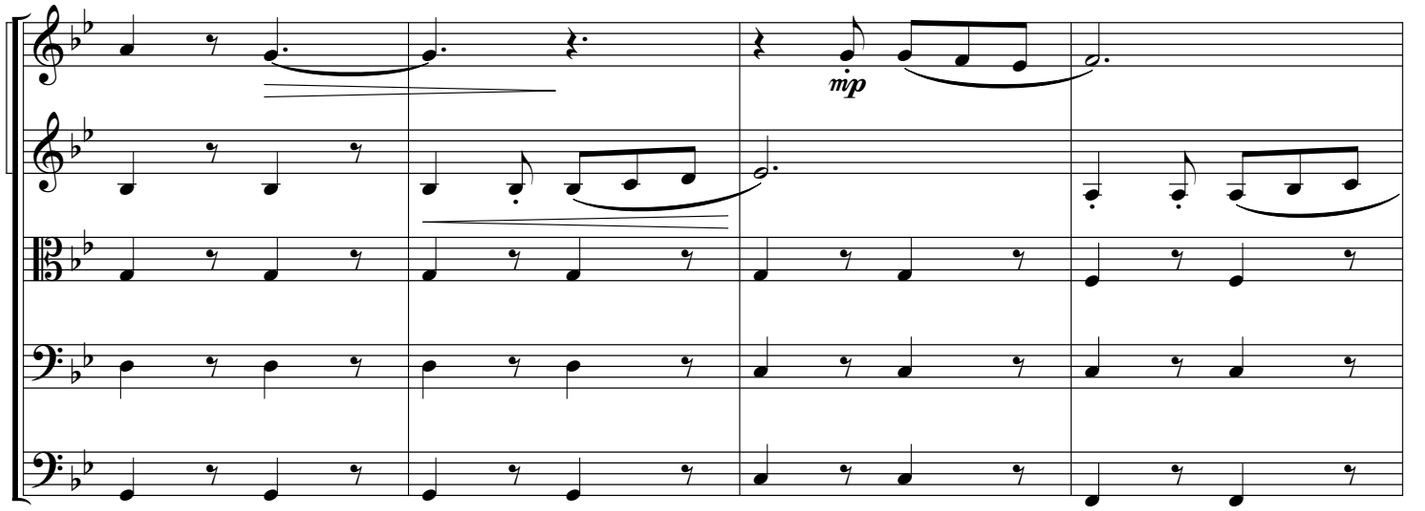

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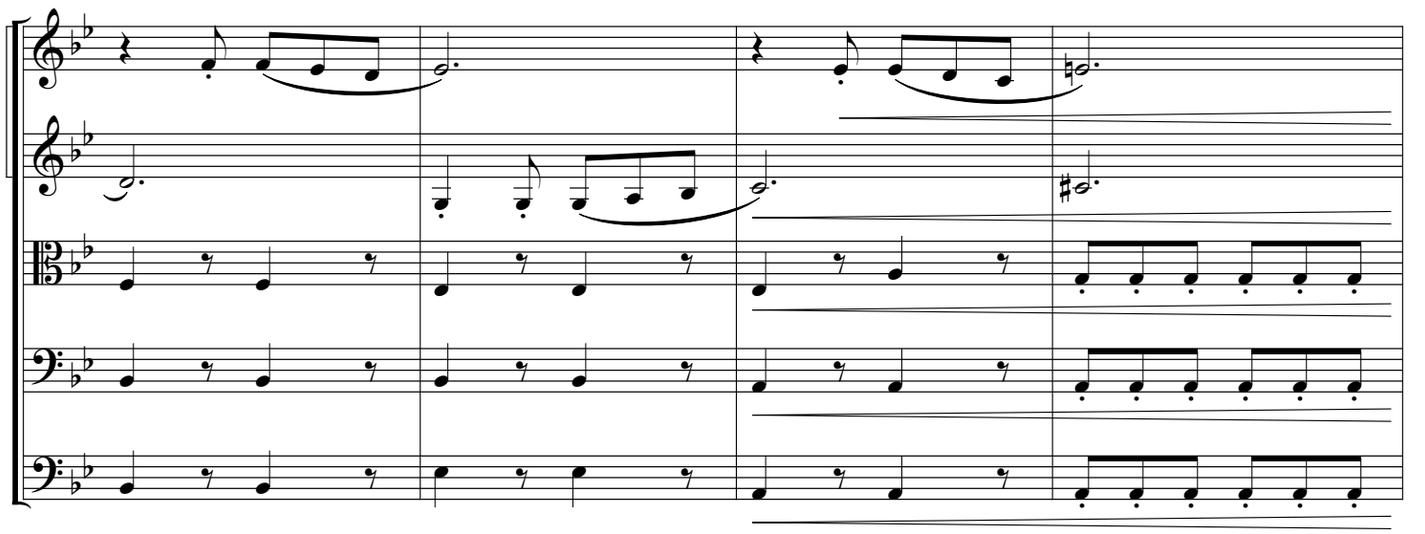

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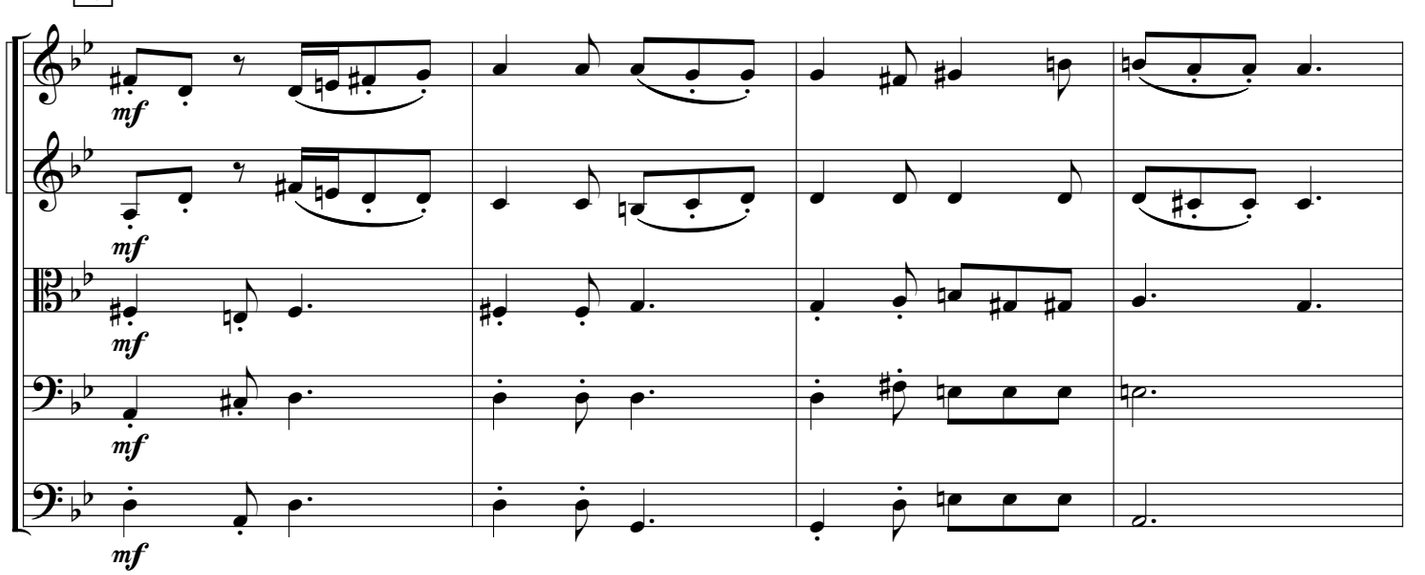
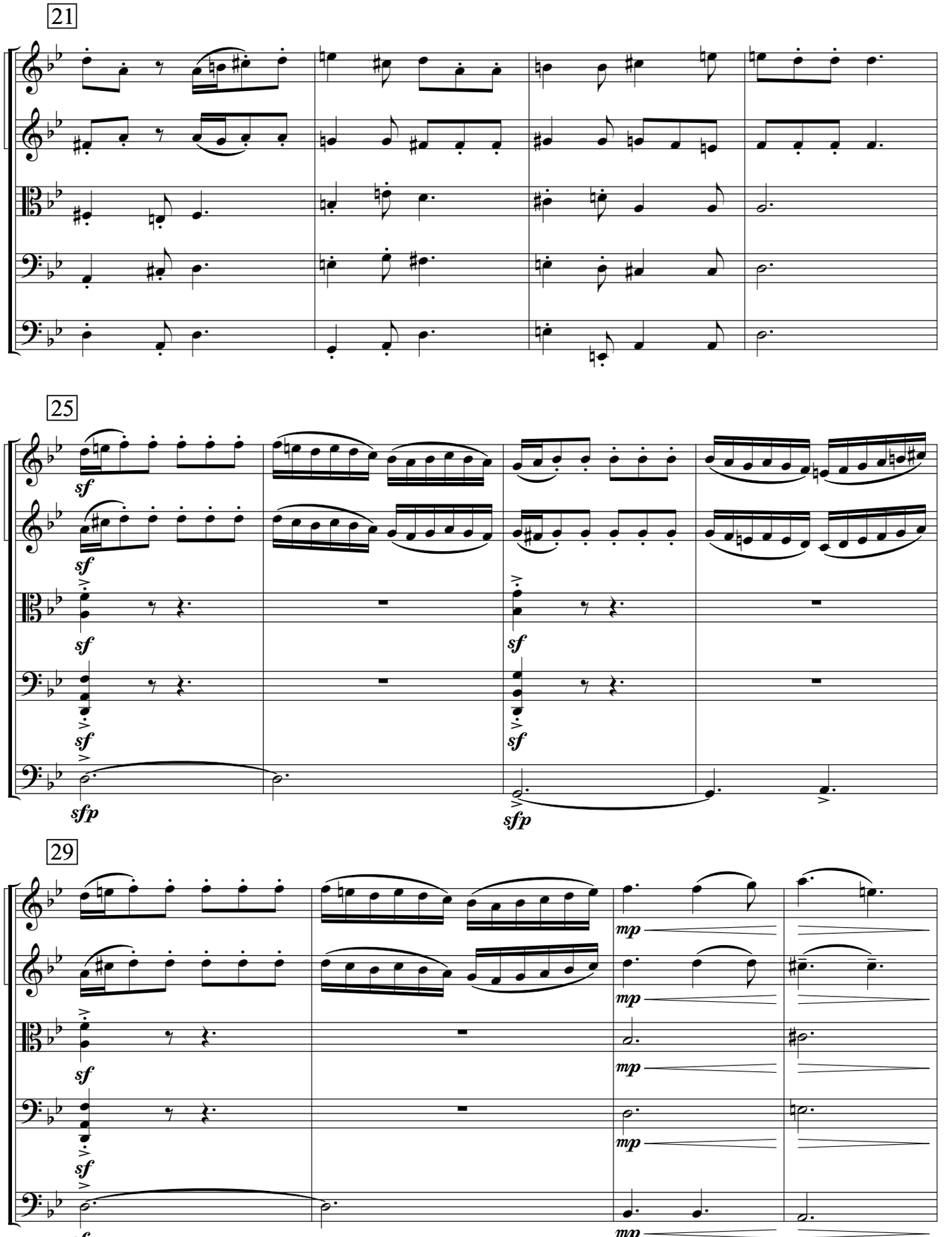
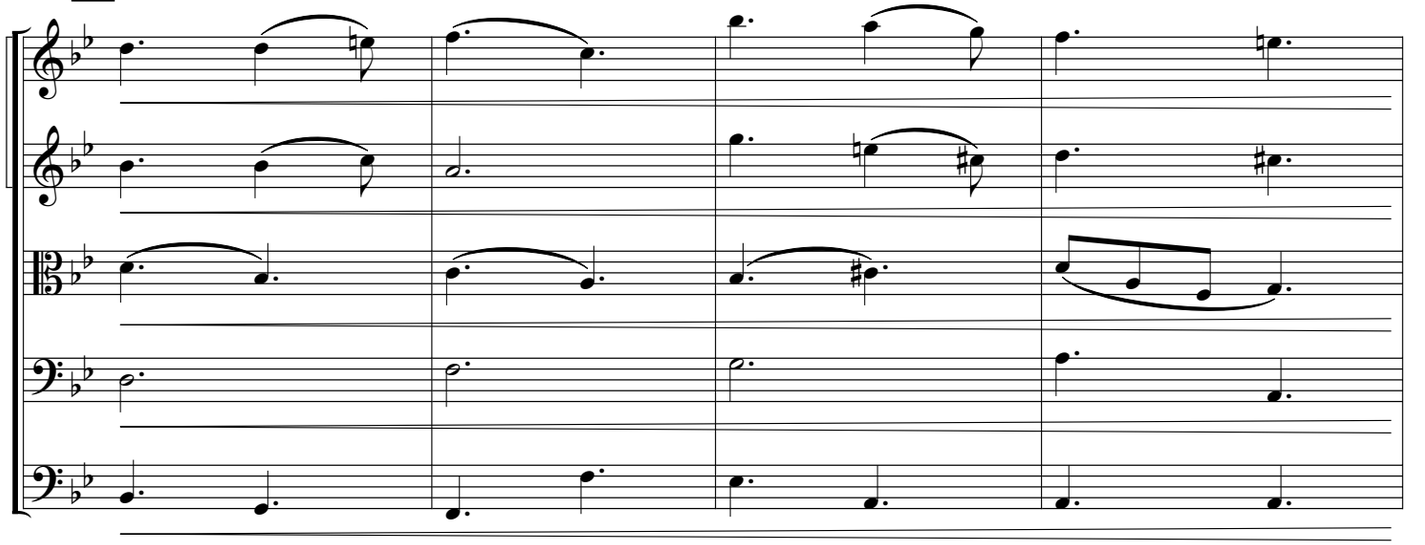



21
25
sf
sfp
29
mp

33



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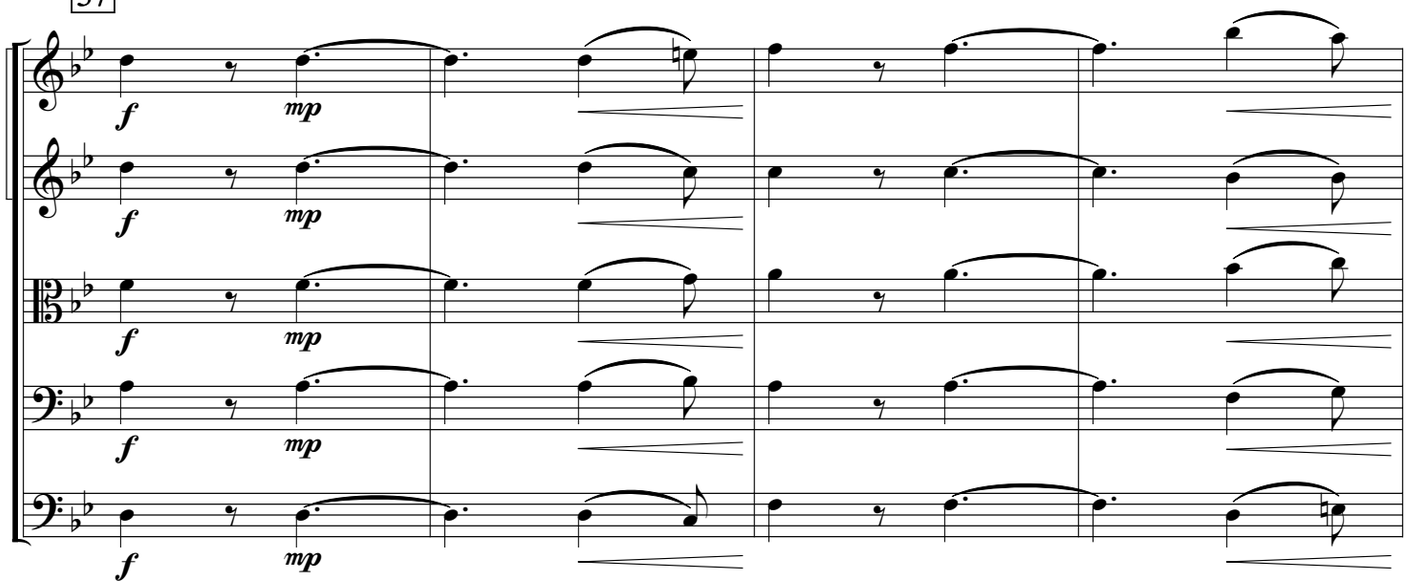

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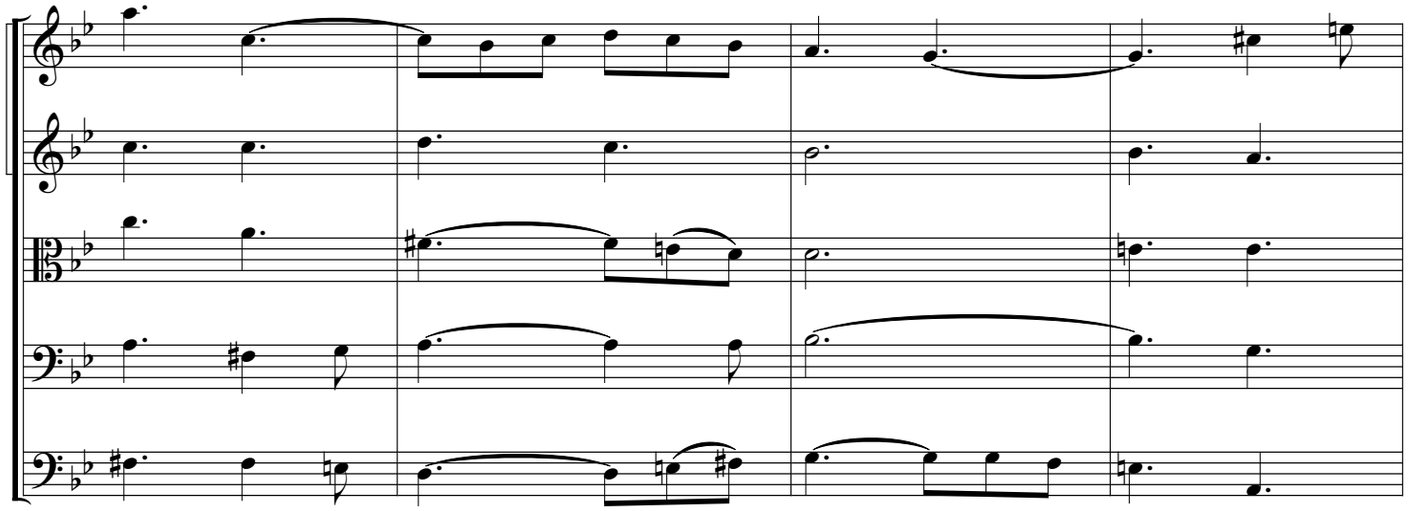
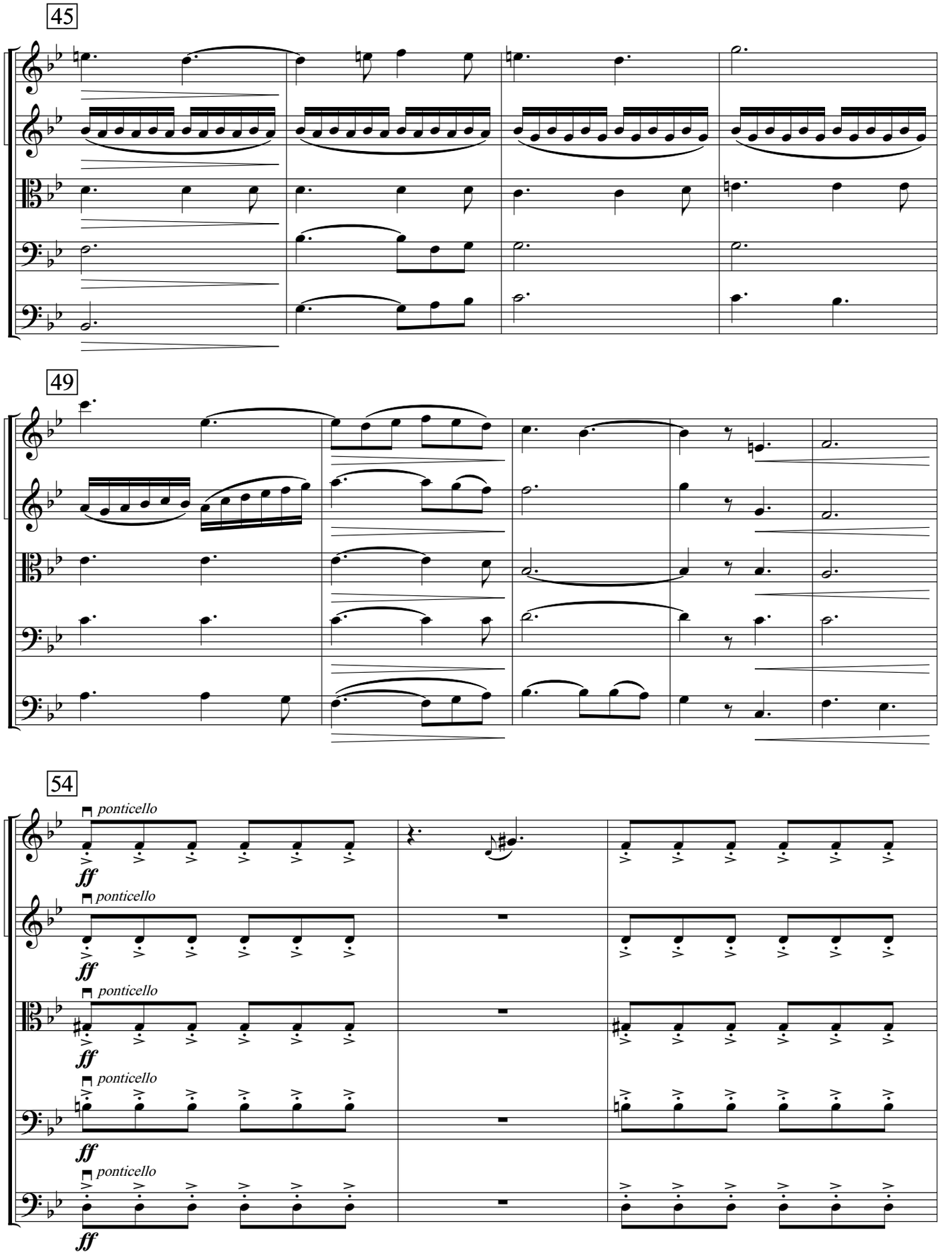



45
49
54
ponticello
ff

57

arco

arco

arco

arco

arco

60

f

f

f

f

64

ff

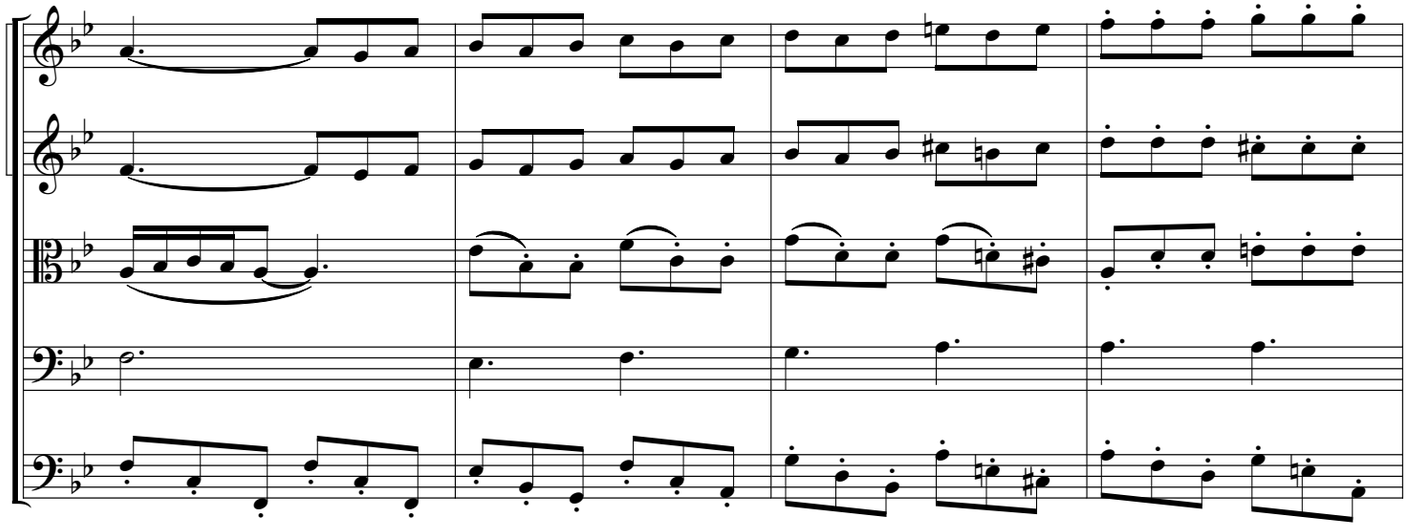
ff

ff

ff

ff

68



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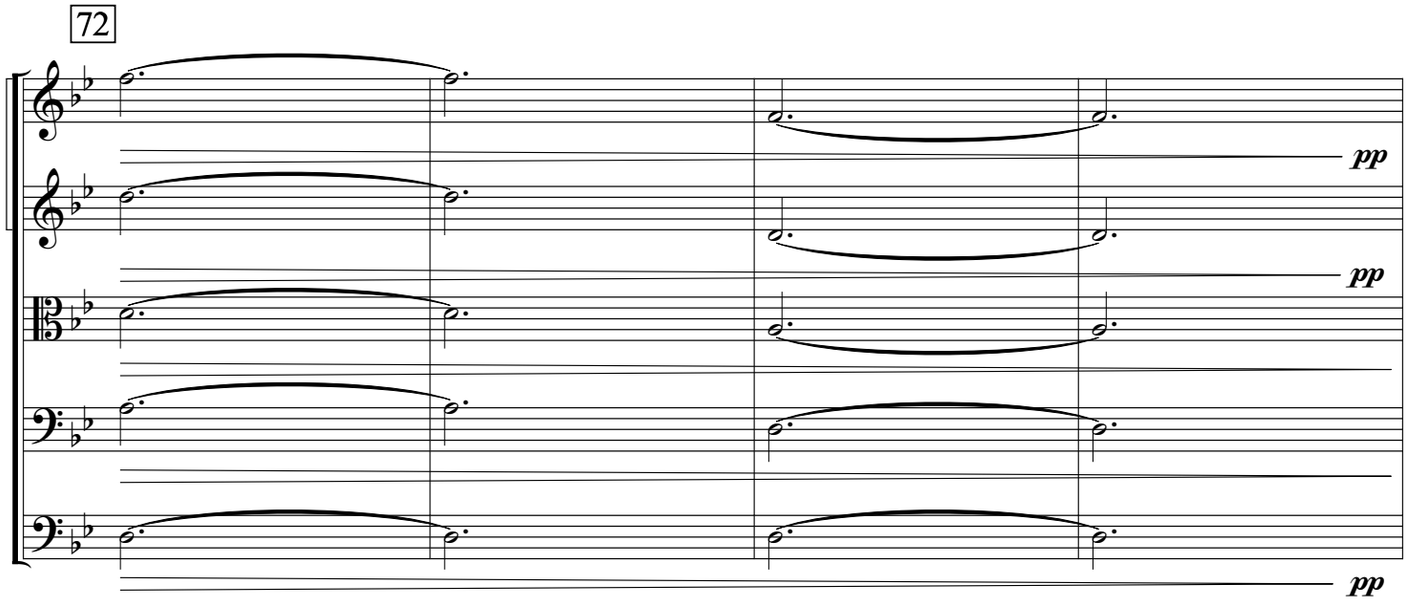

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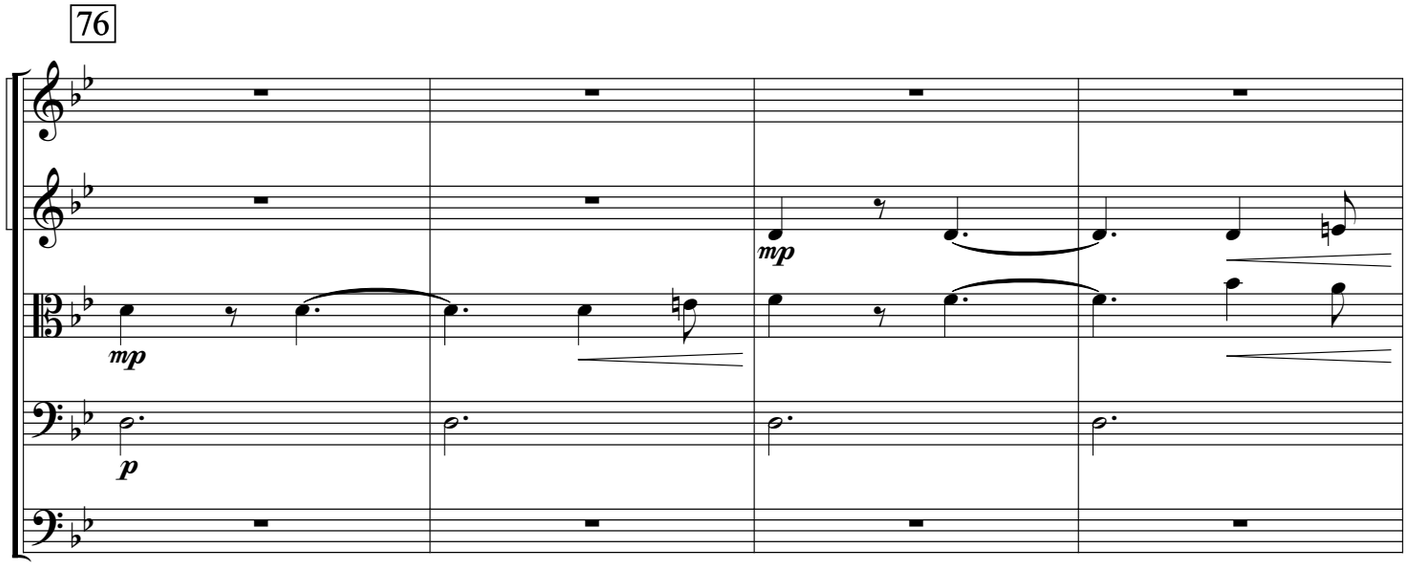

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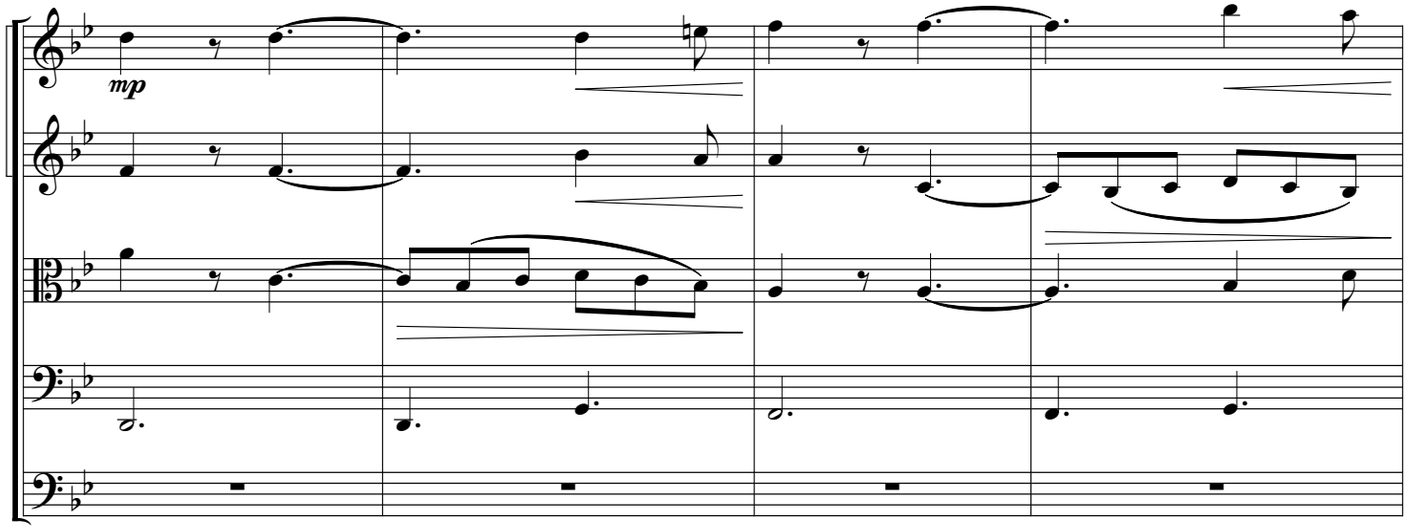

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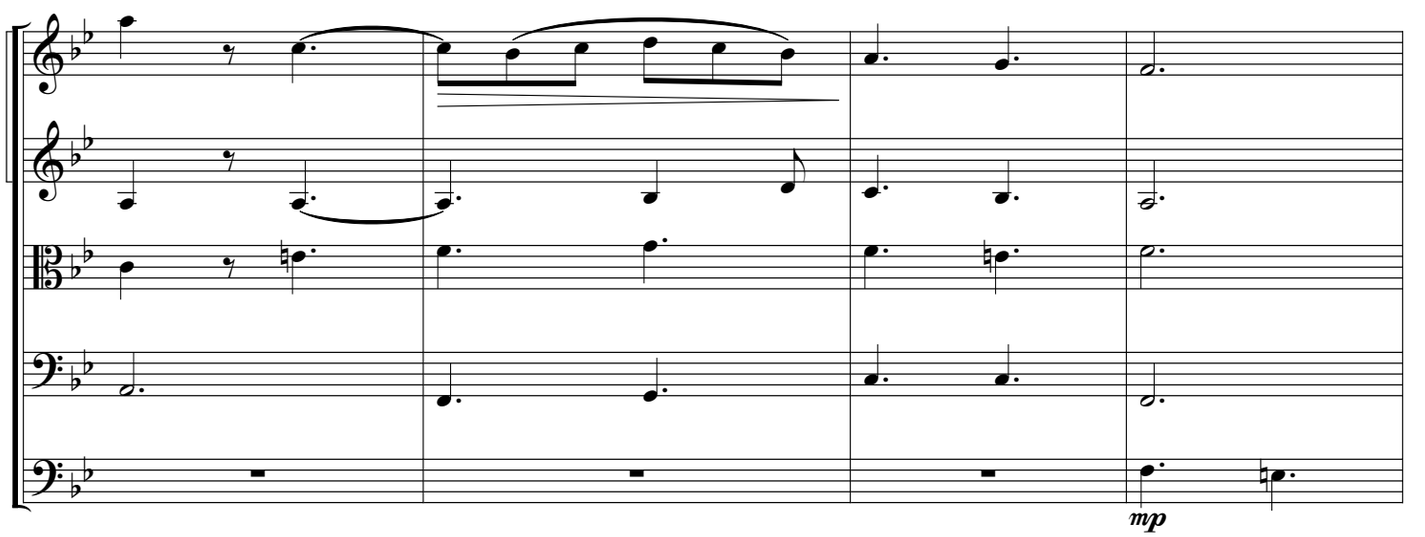

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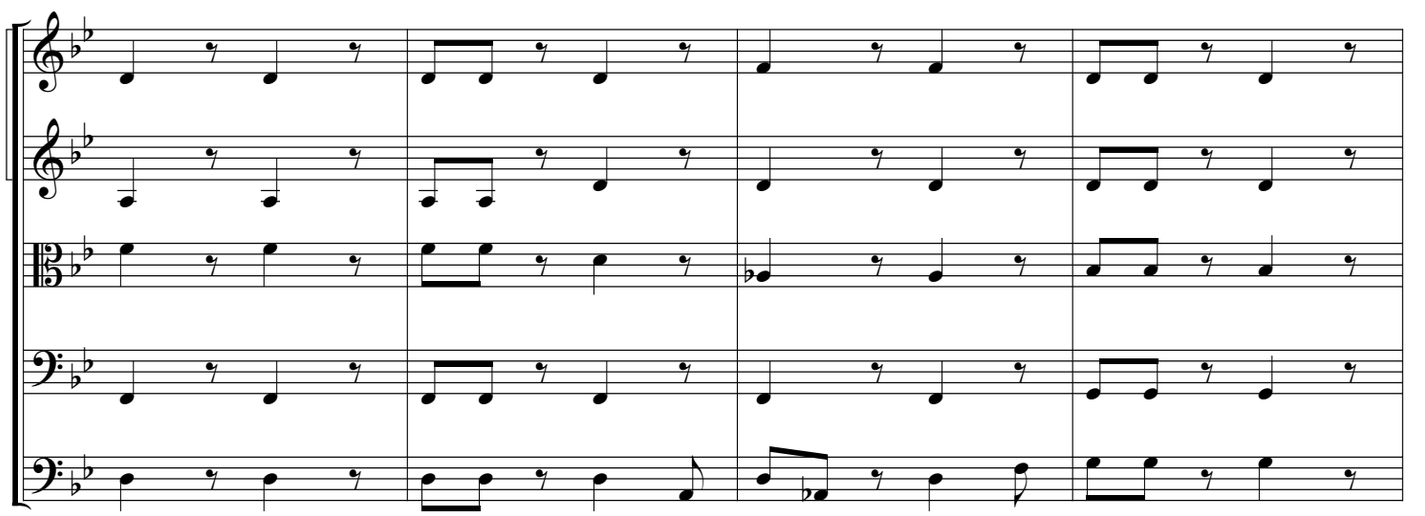


92

rall.

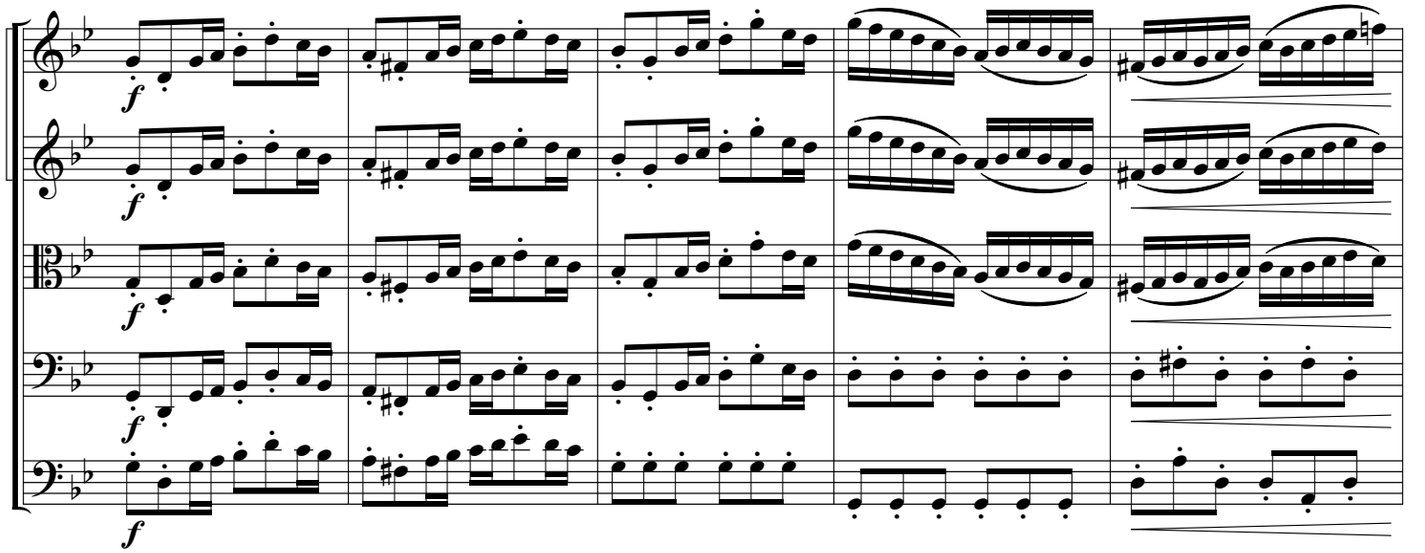
96

a tempo

mf

99

102



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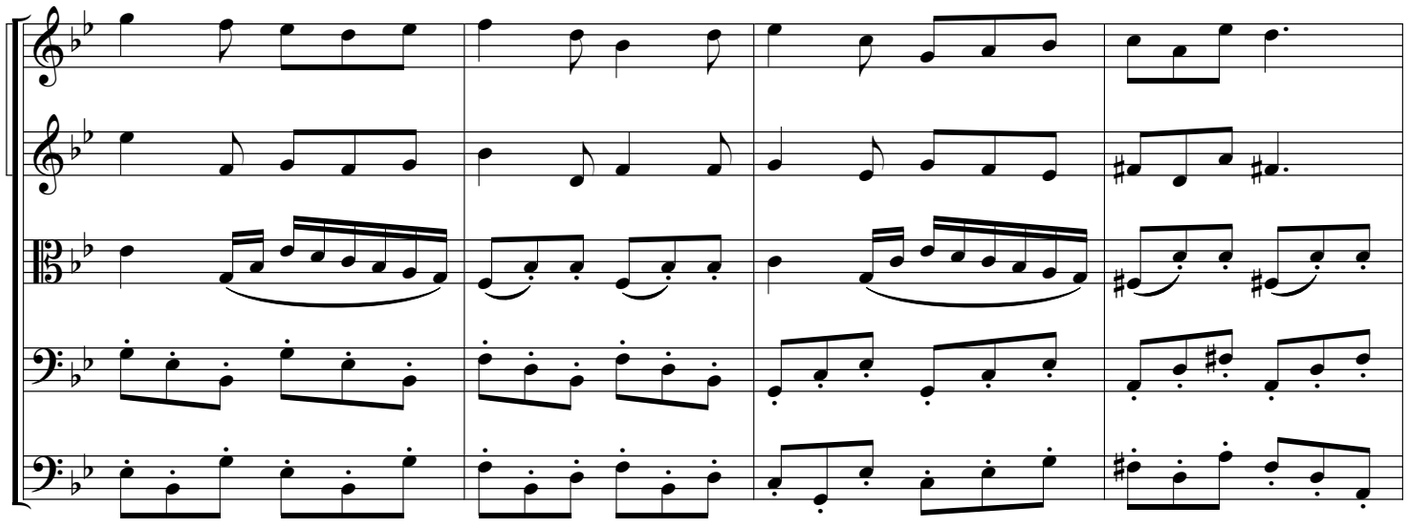

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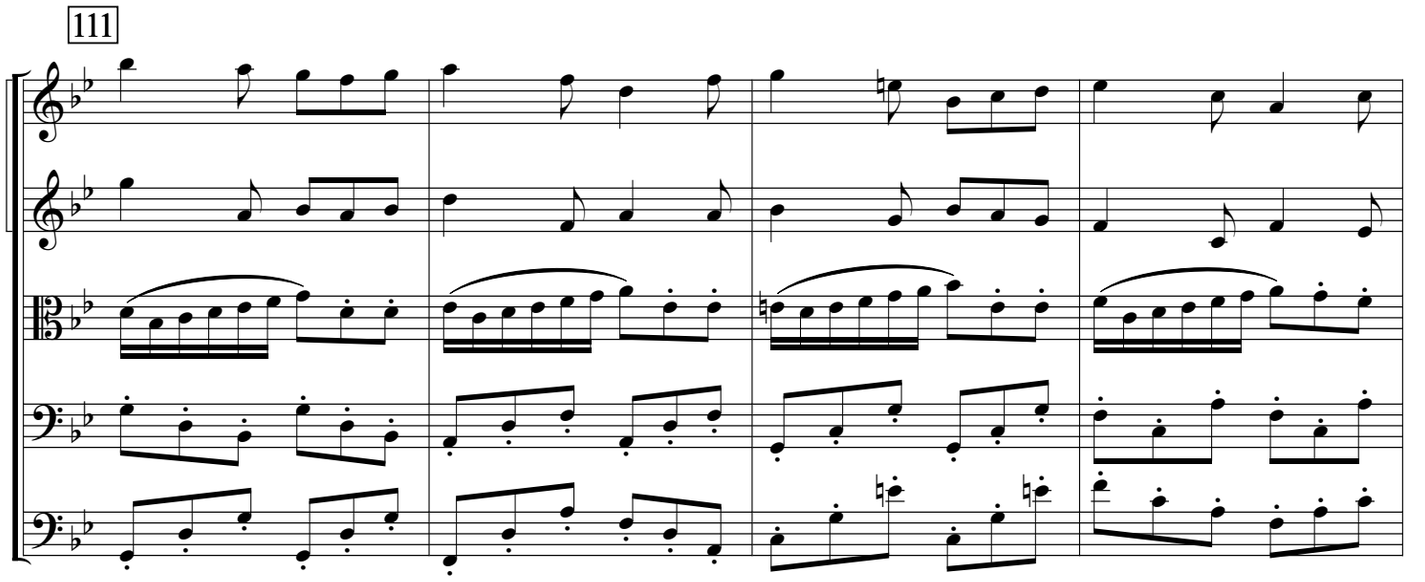


115

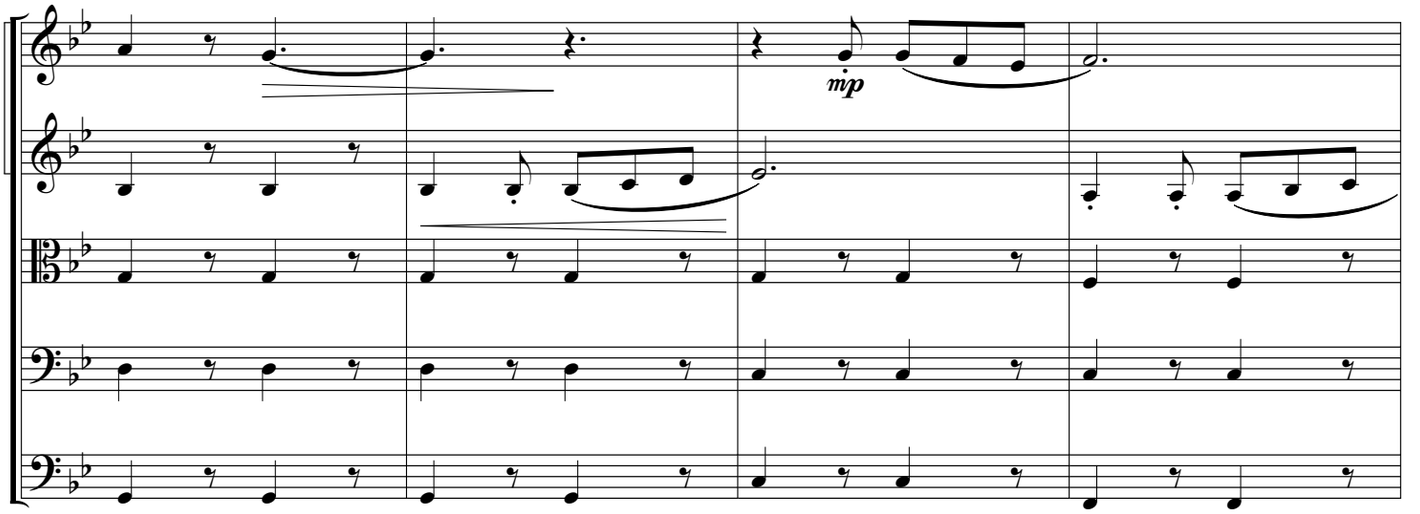
molto rit.

120

a tempo

125

129



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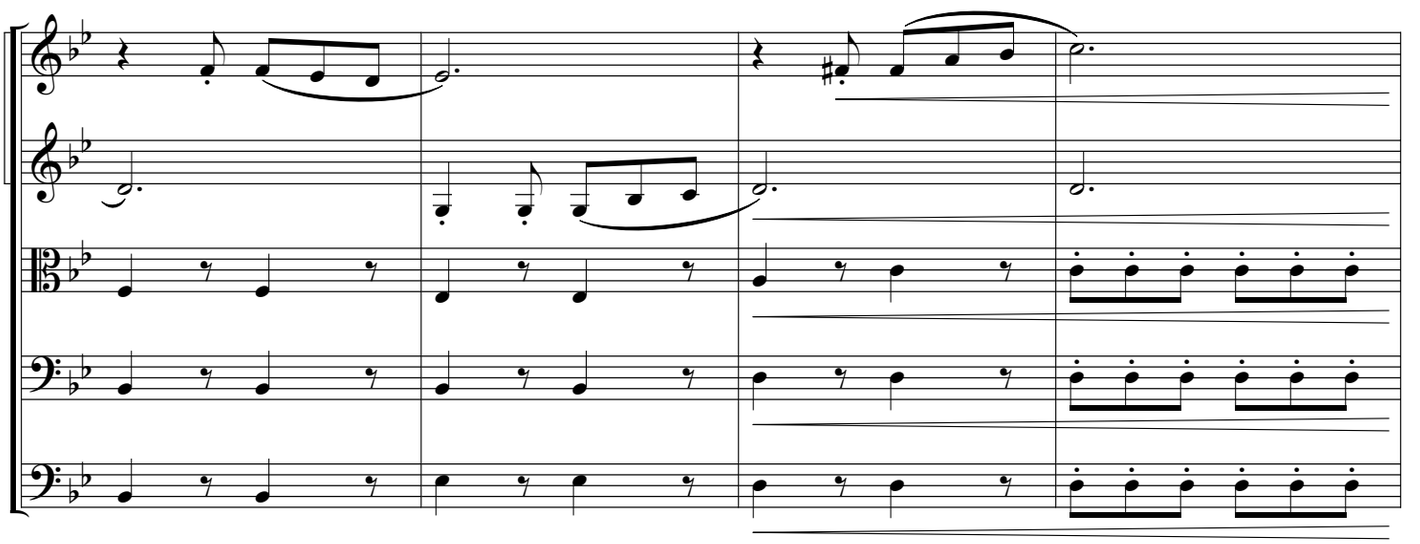

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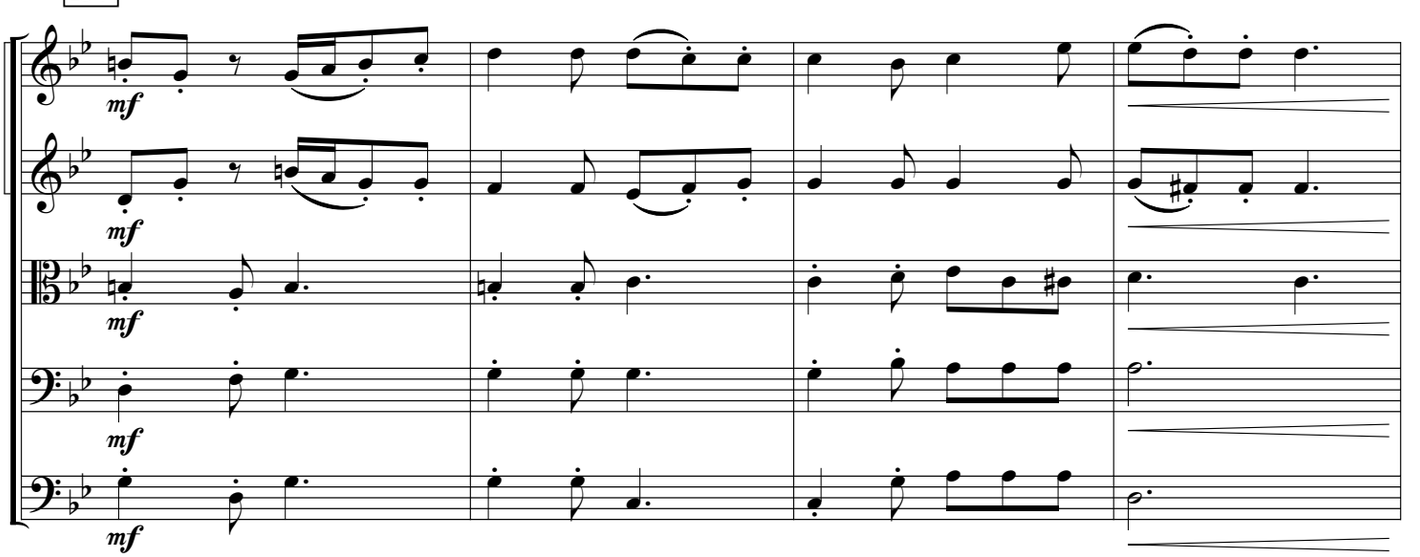
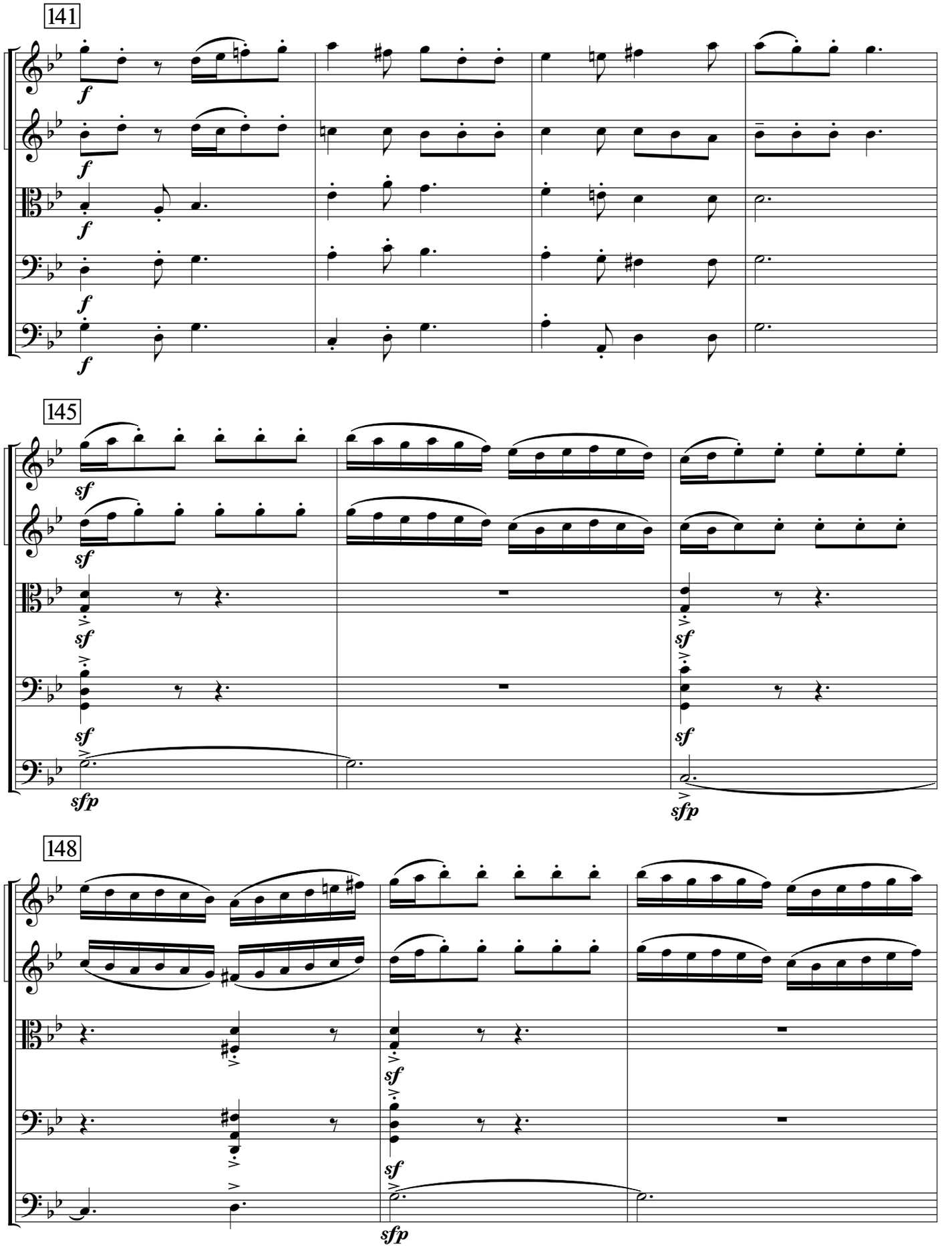
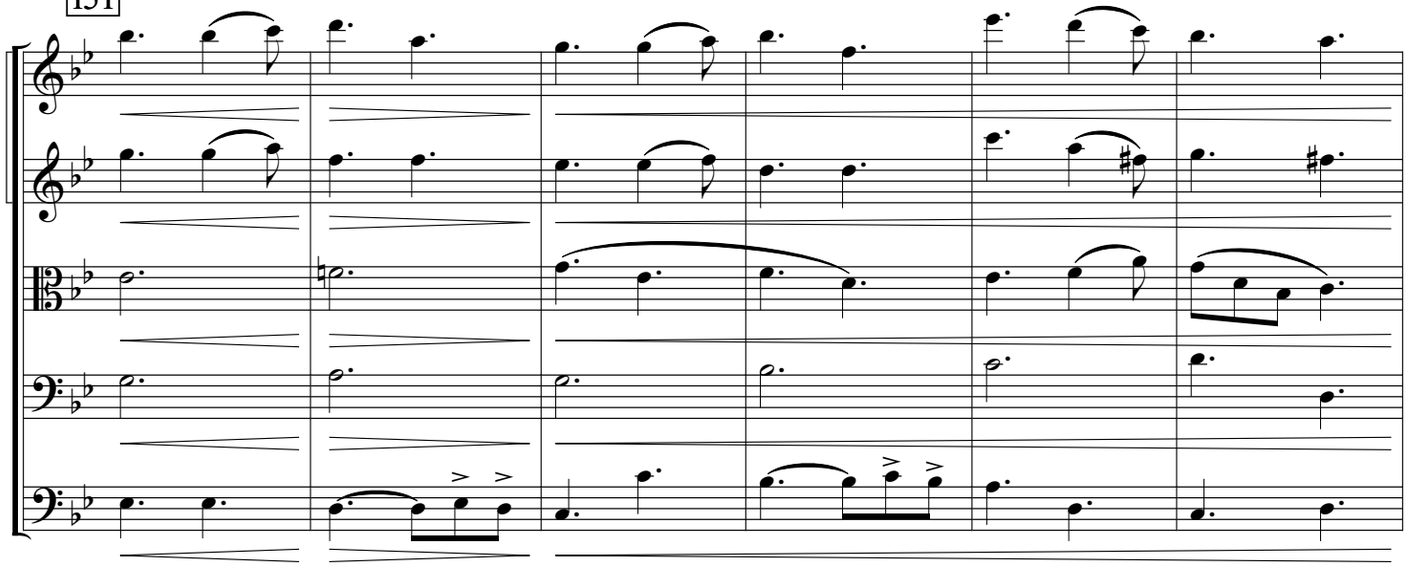


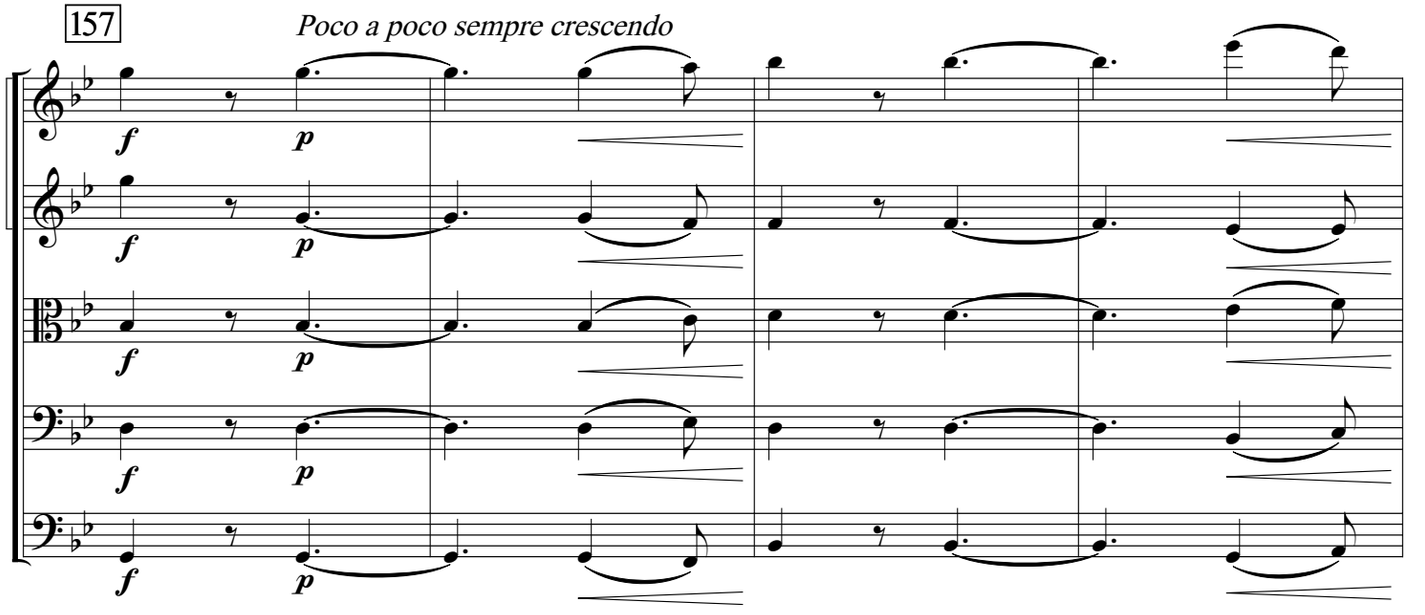

141
f
145
sf
sfp
148

151



157

Poco a poco sempre crescendo



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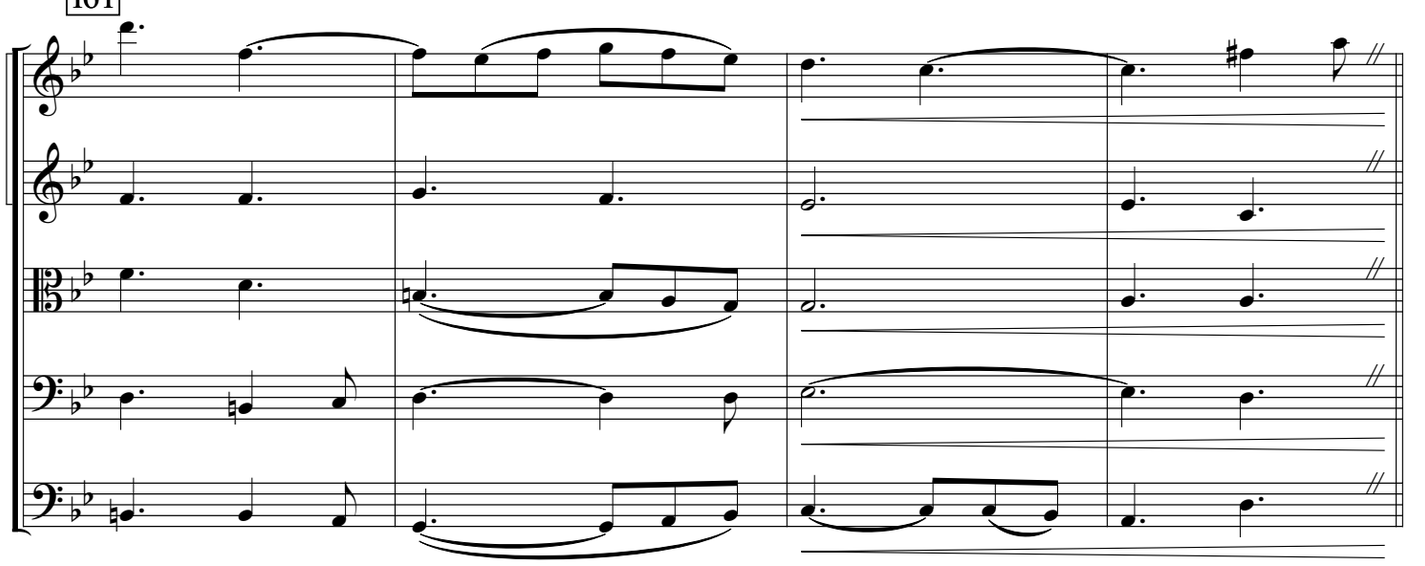
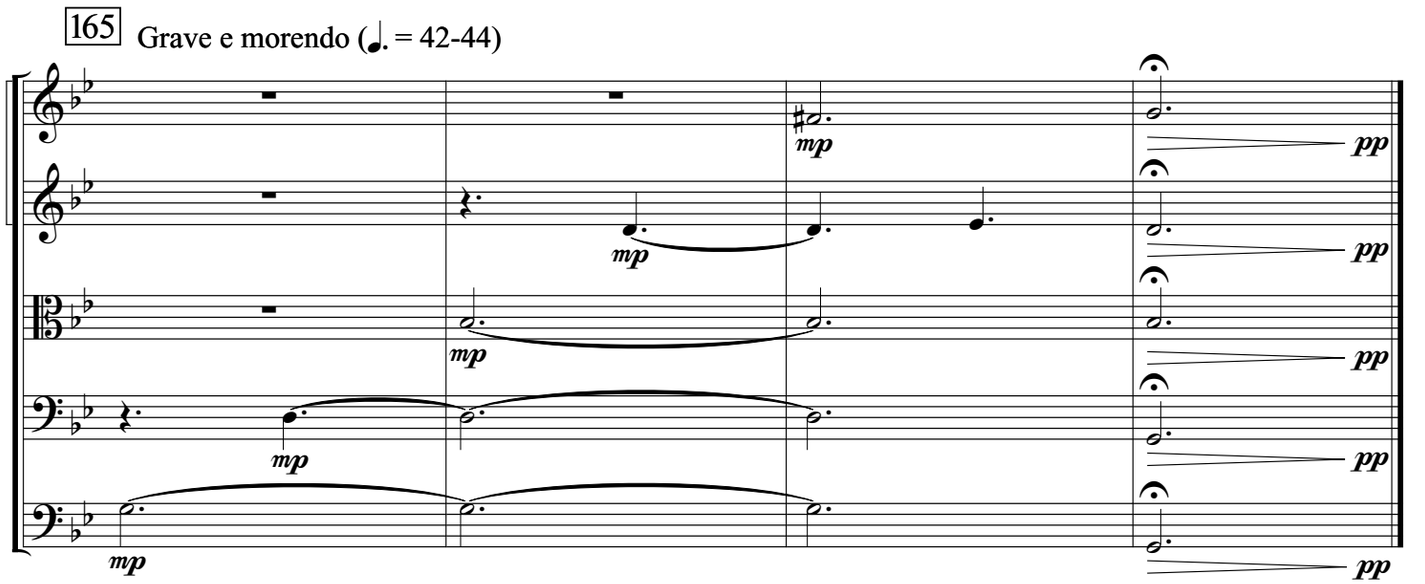
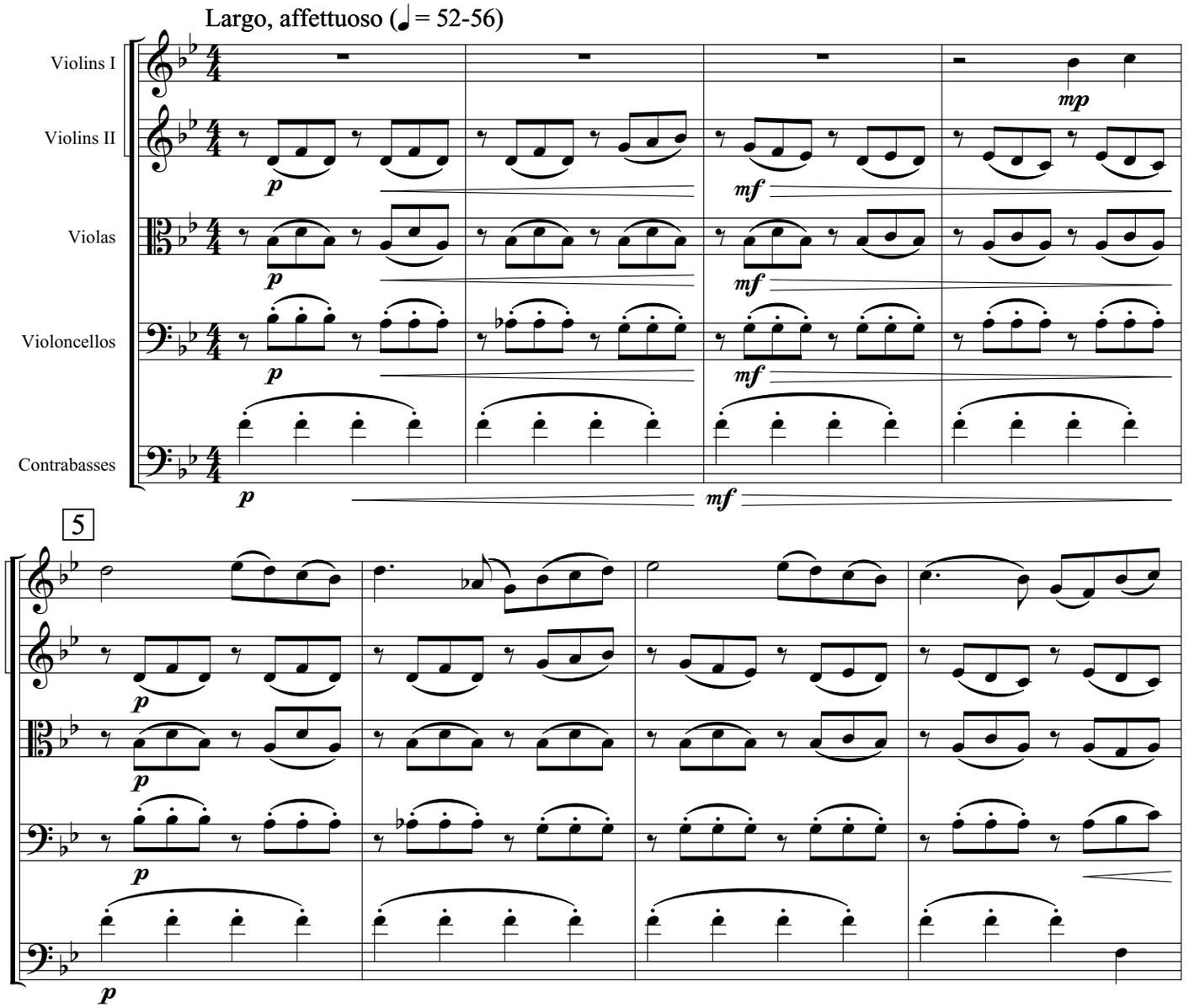
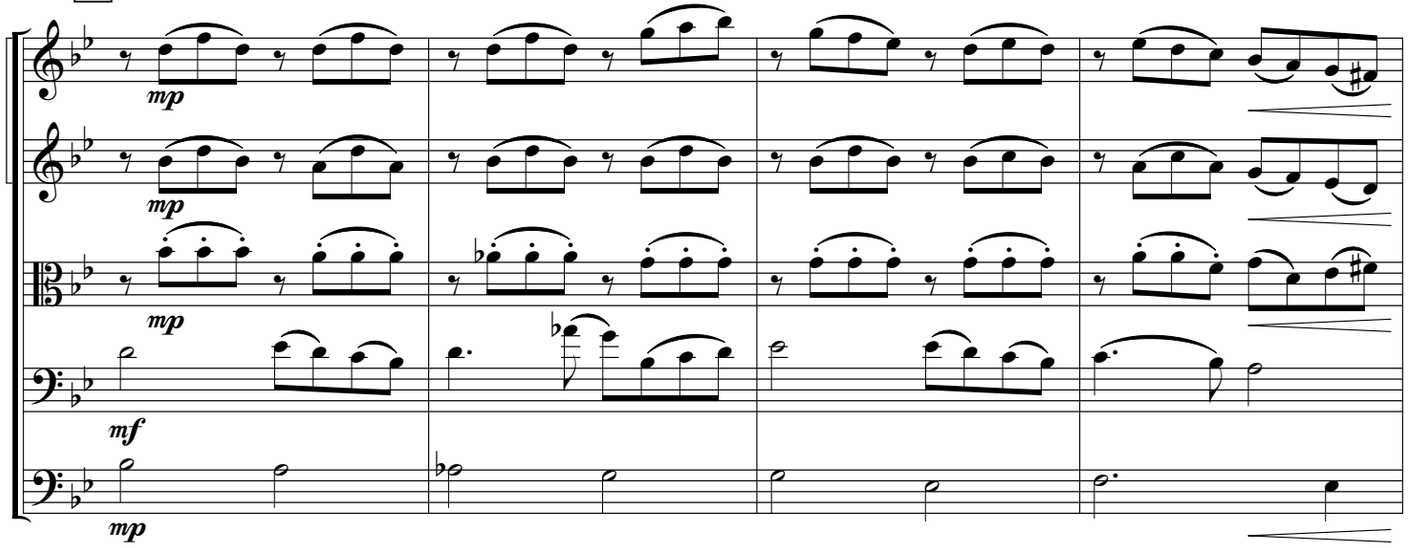



165
Grave e morendo (♩. = 42-44)
mp
pp

II.


Largo, affettuoso (♩ = 52-56)
Violins I
Violins II
Violas
Violoncellos
Contrabasses
p
mf
5

9



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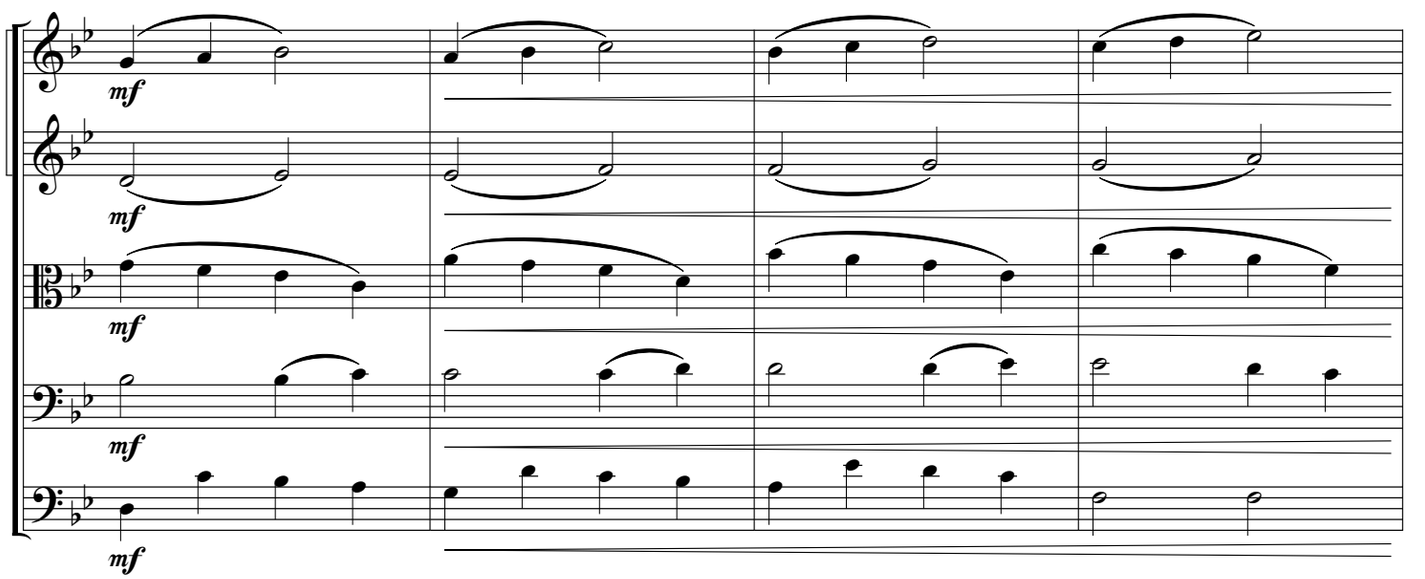

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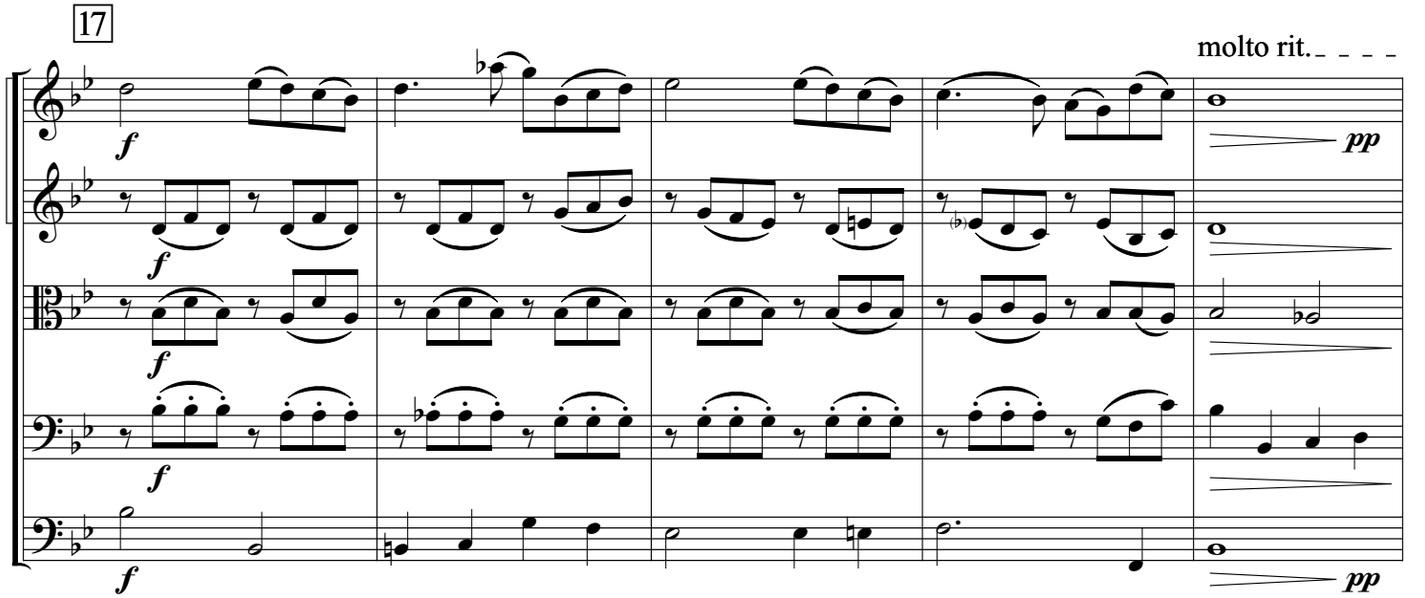
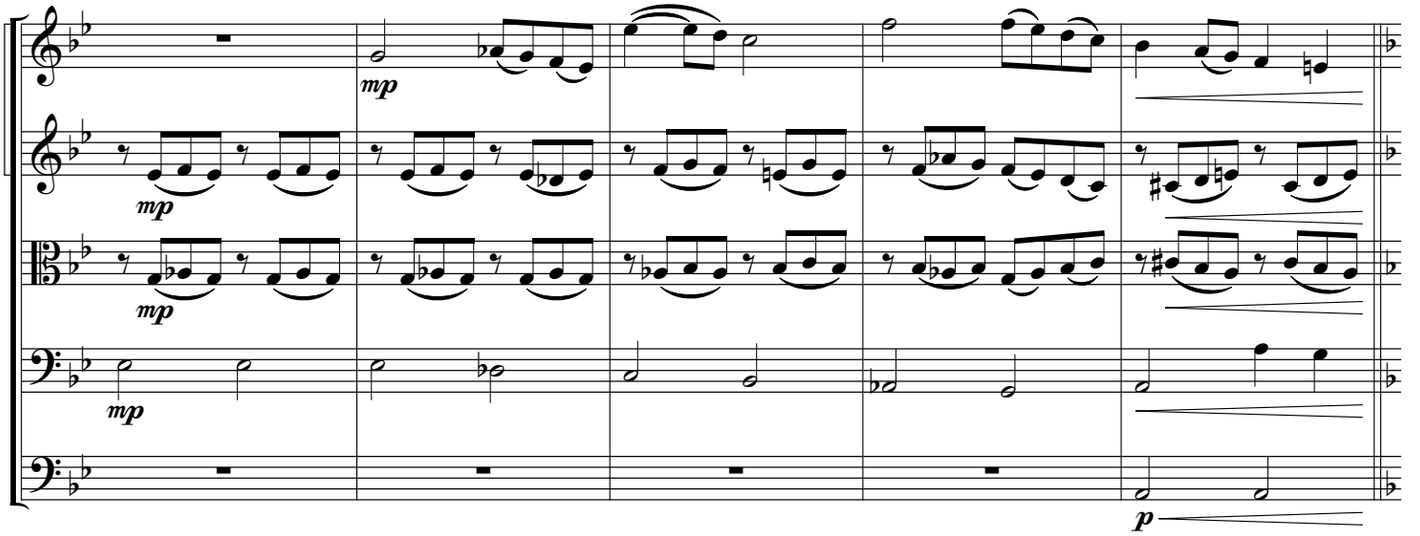
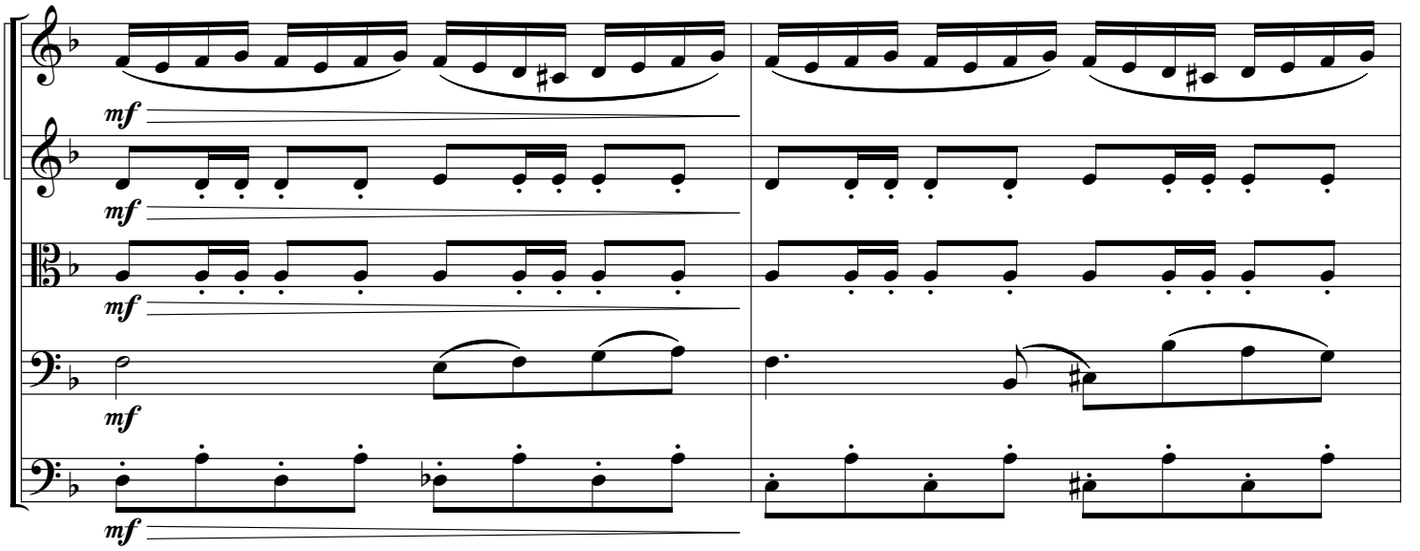


22 a tempo, poco accelerando



27 Con moto, solenne (♩= 63-66)



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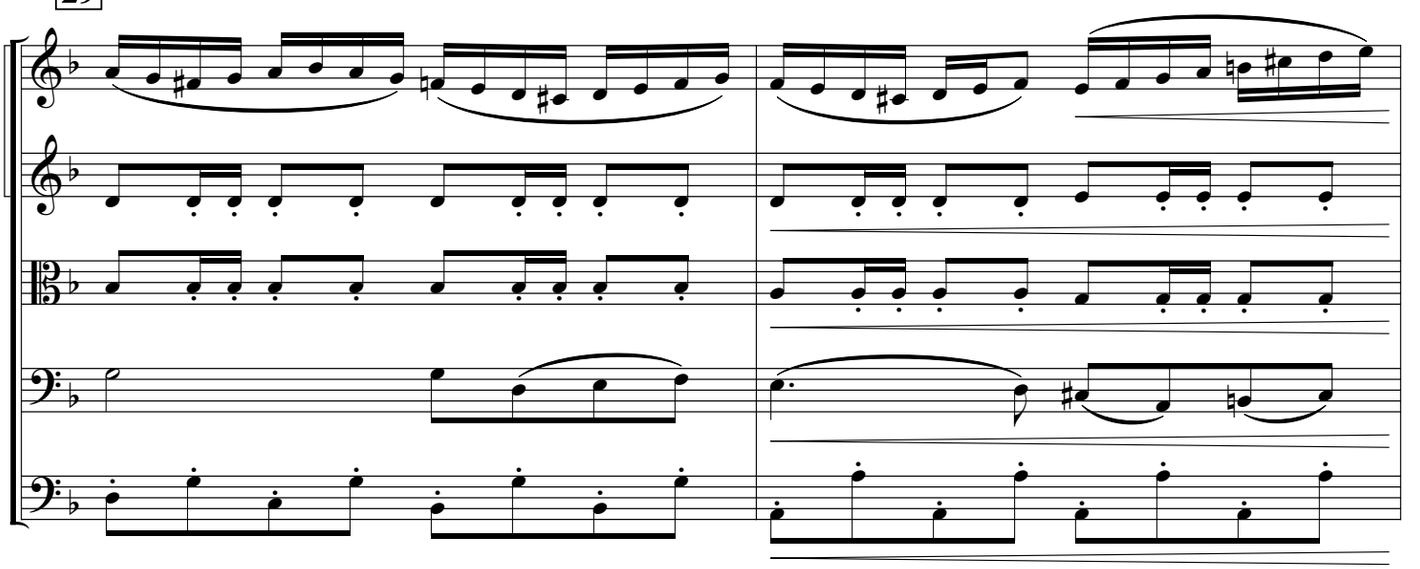

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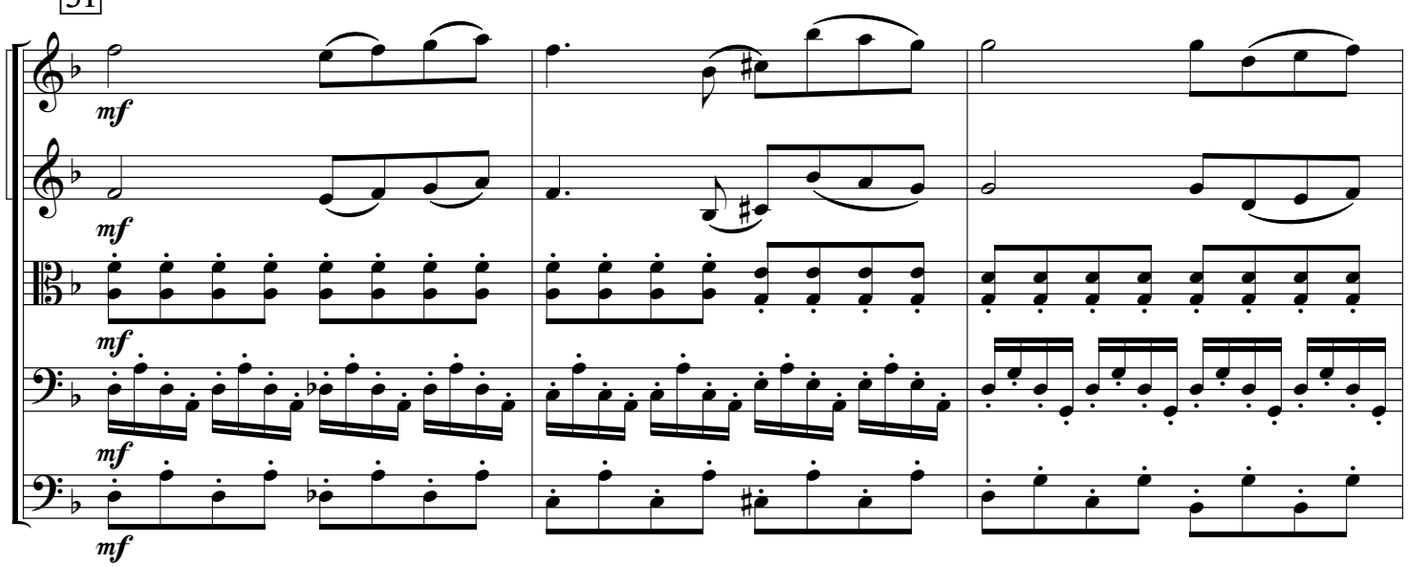

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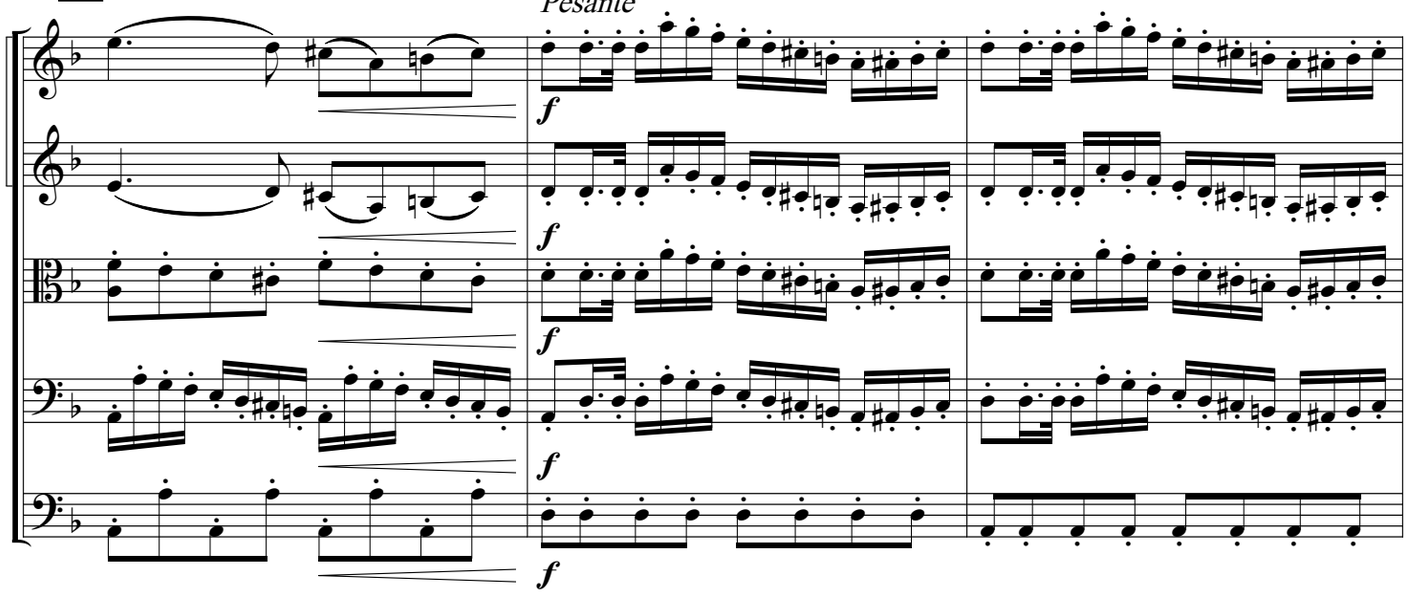
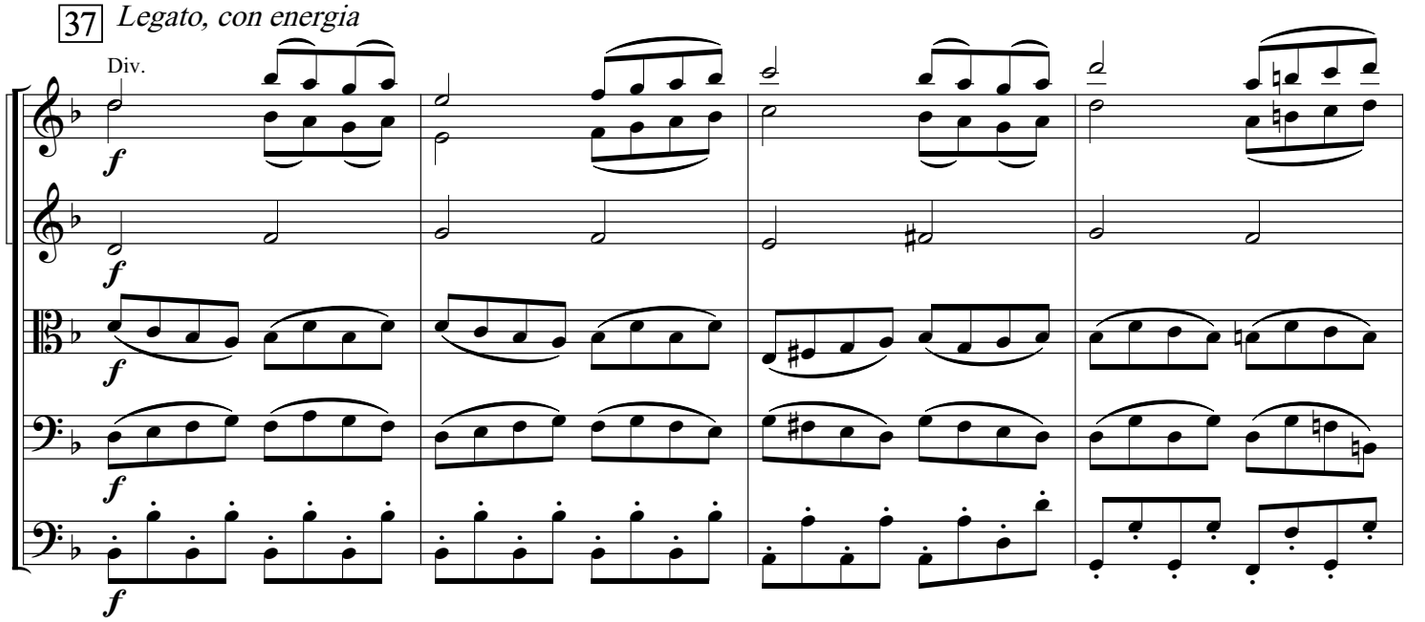
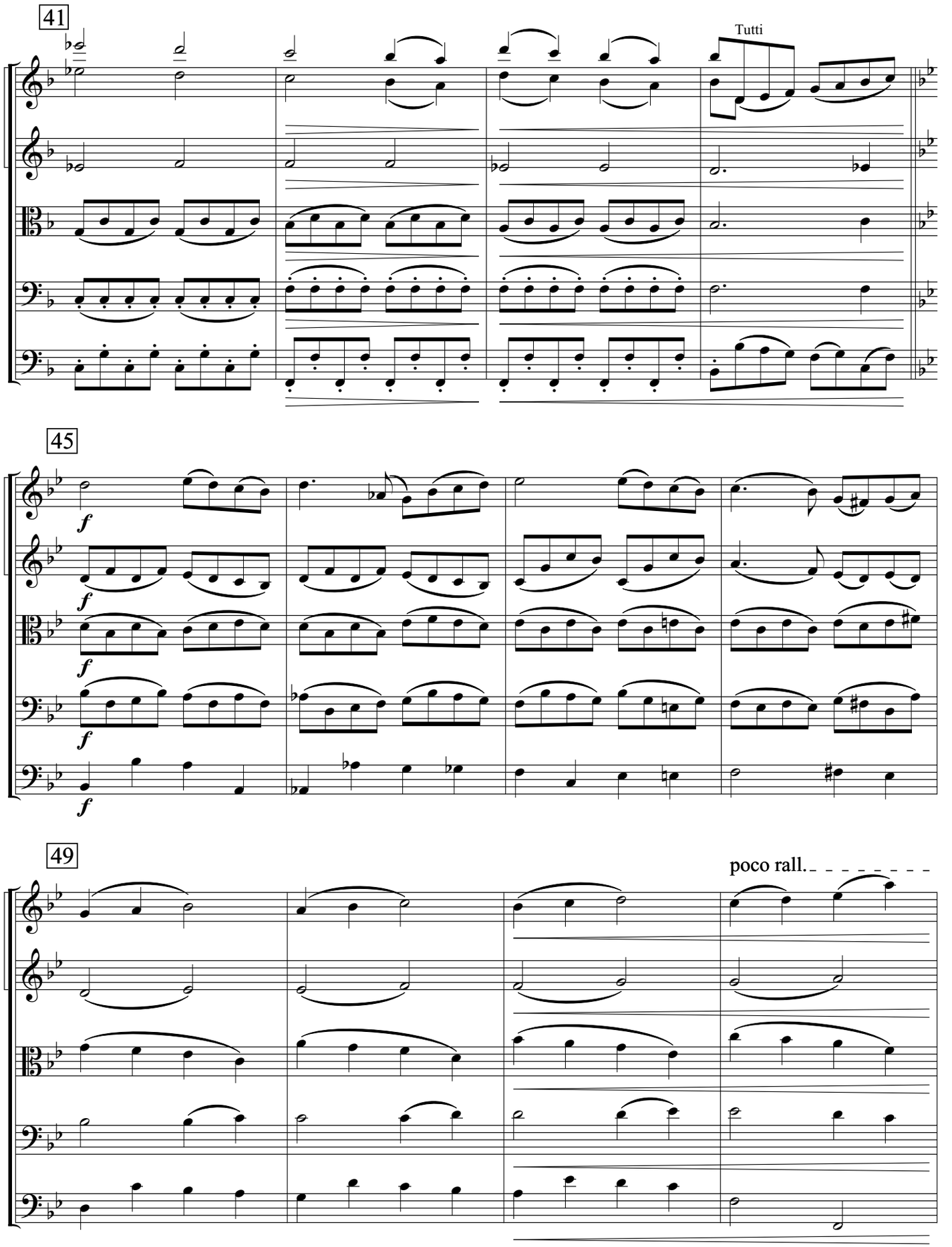
Pesante

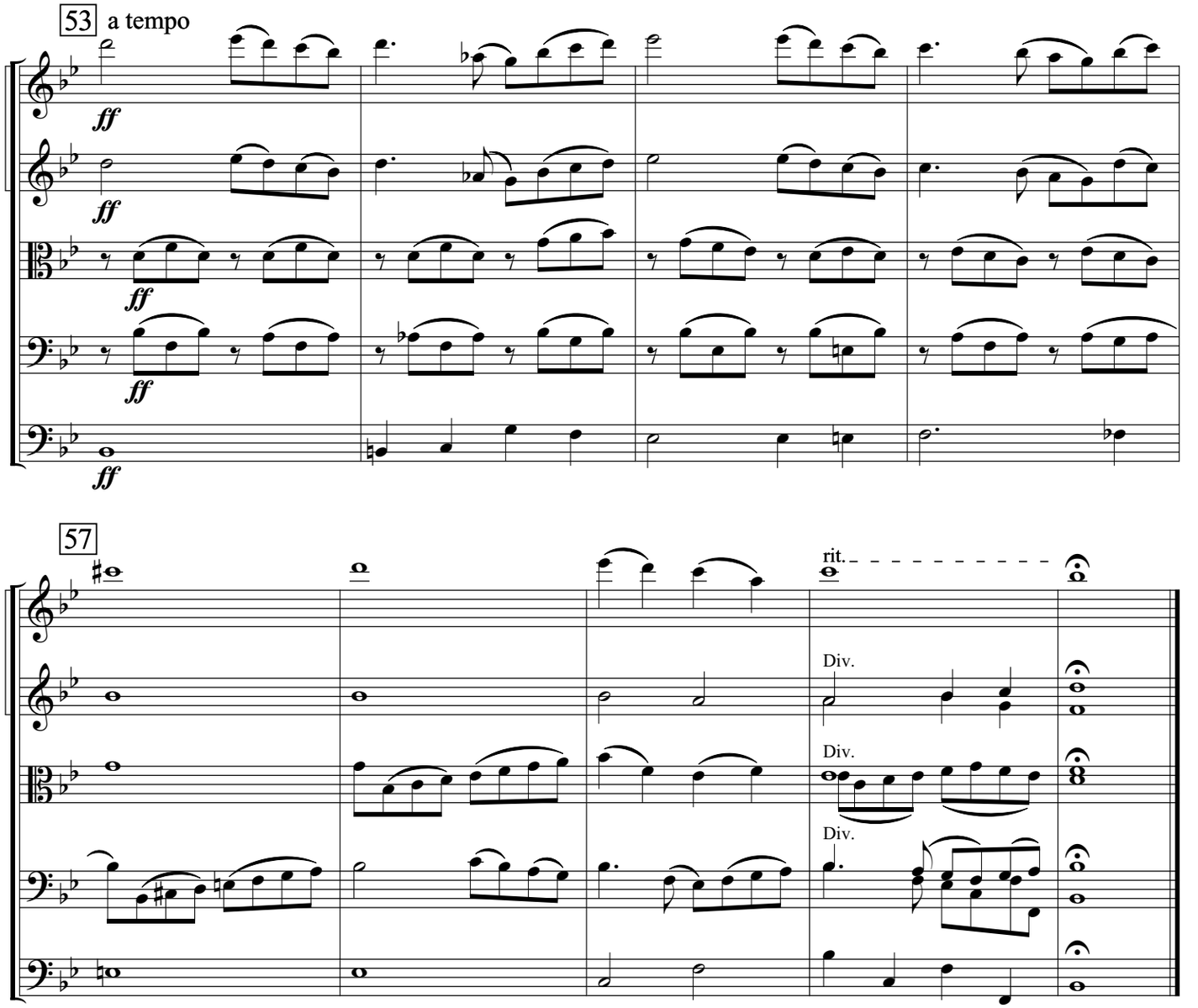


37 *Legato, con energia*

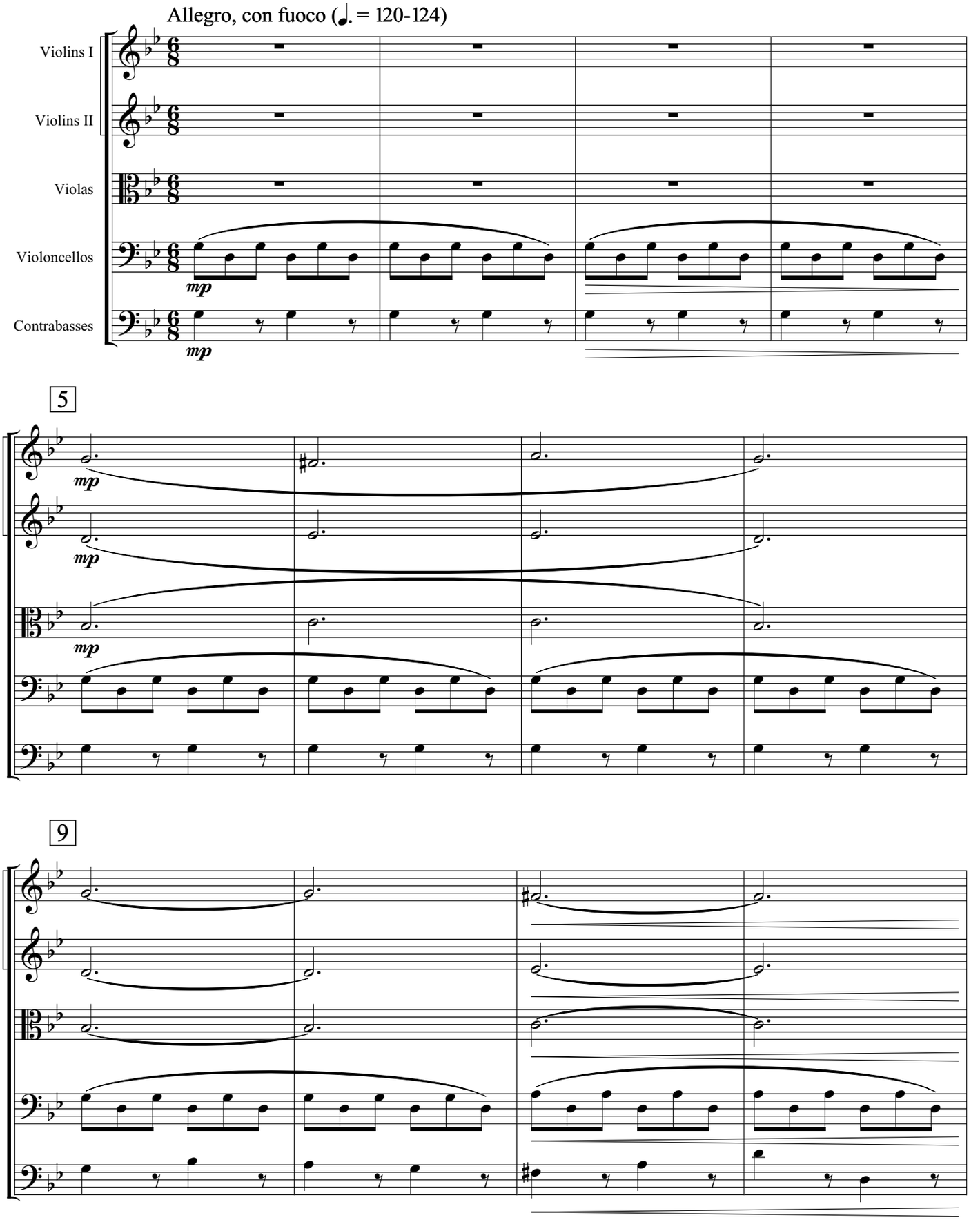
Div.



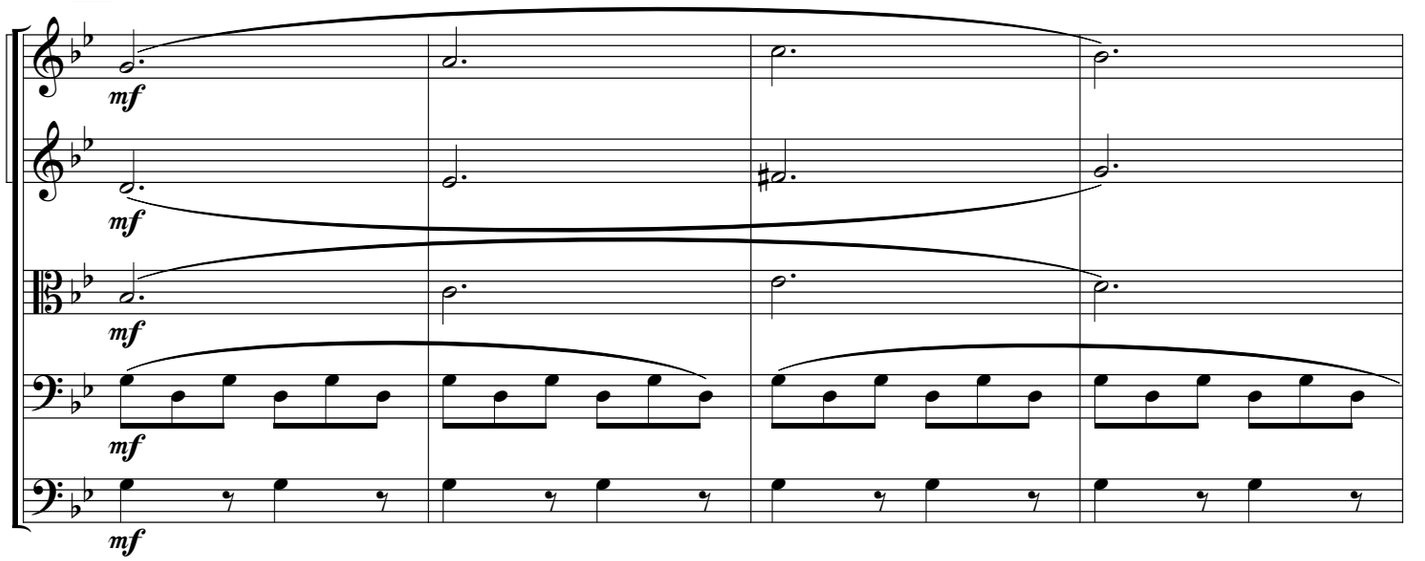

41
Tutti
45
f
49
poco rall.


53
a tempo
ff
ff
ff
ff
57
rit.
Div.
Div.
Div.

III.


Allegro, con fuoco (♩. = 120-124)
Violins I
Violins II
Violas
Violoncellos
Contrabasses
mp
5
9

13



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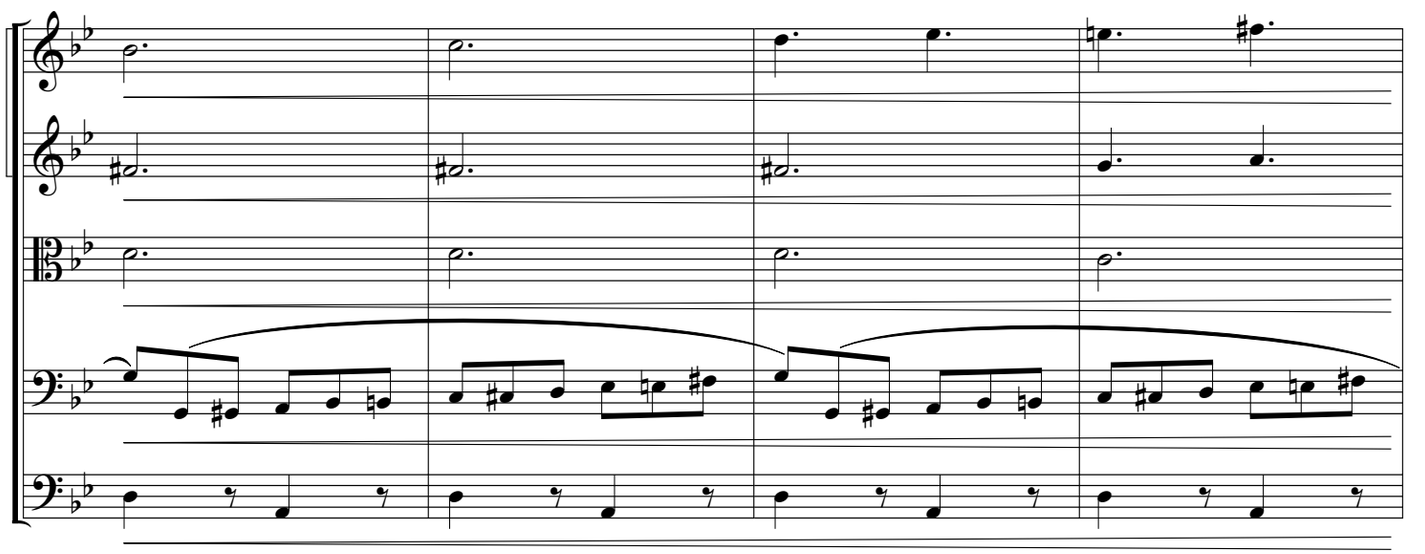

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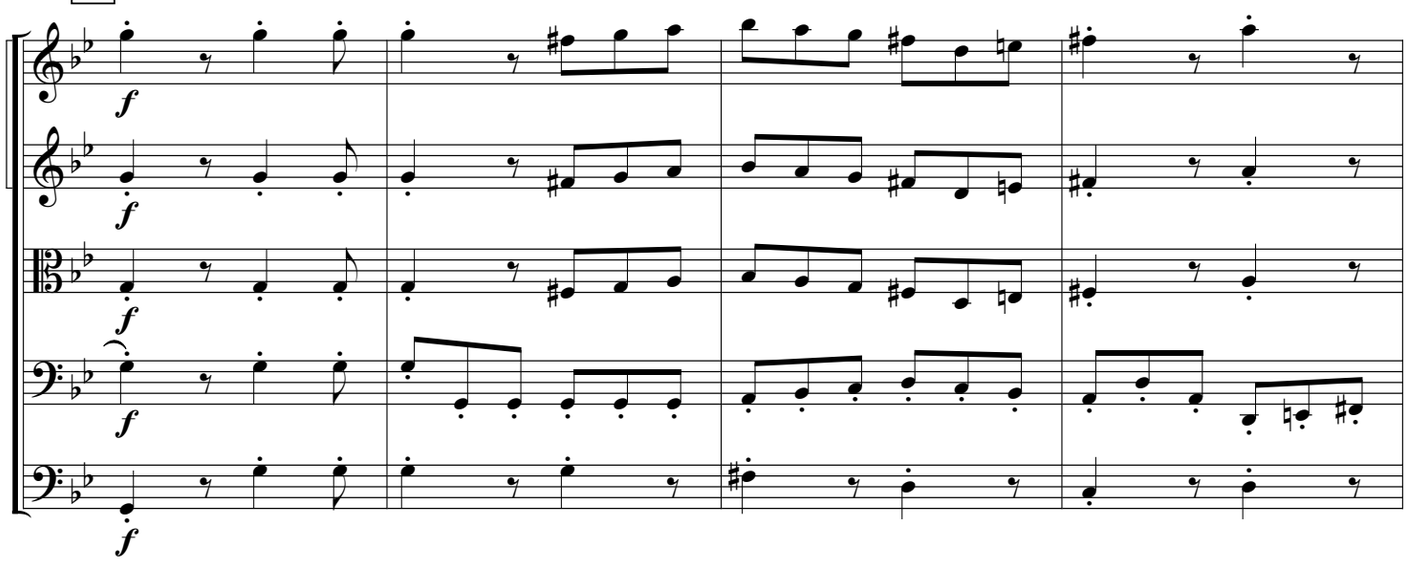

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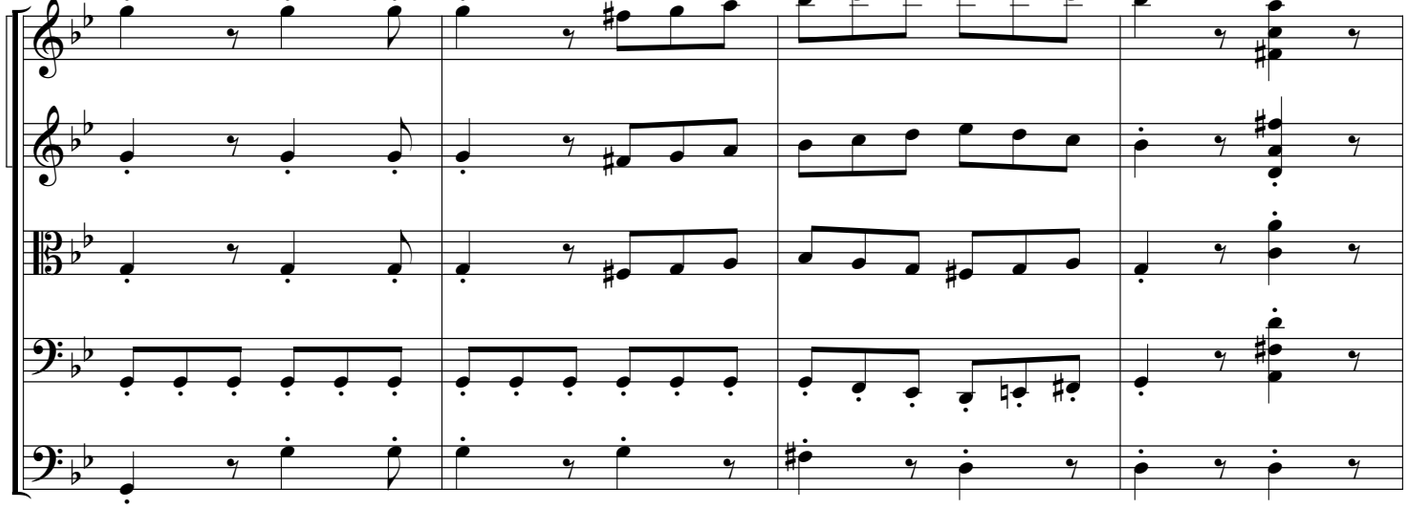

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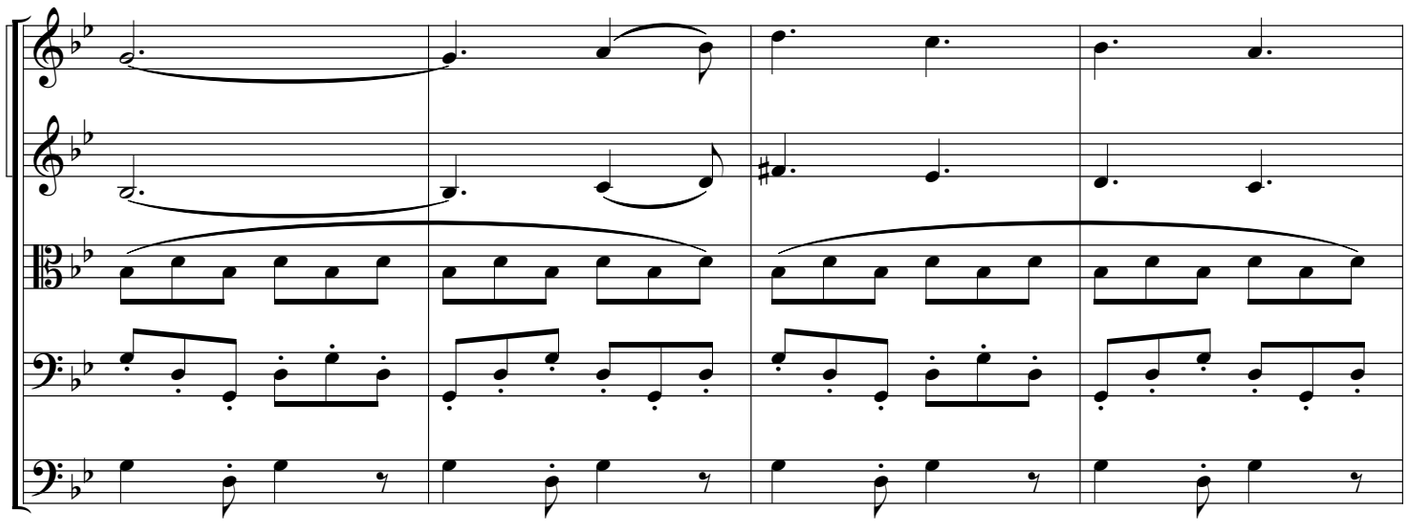

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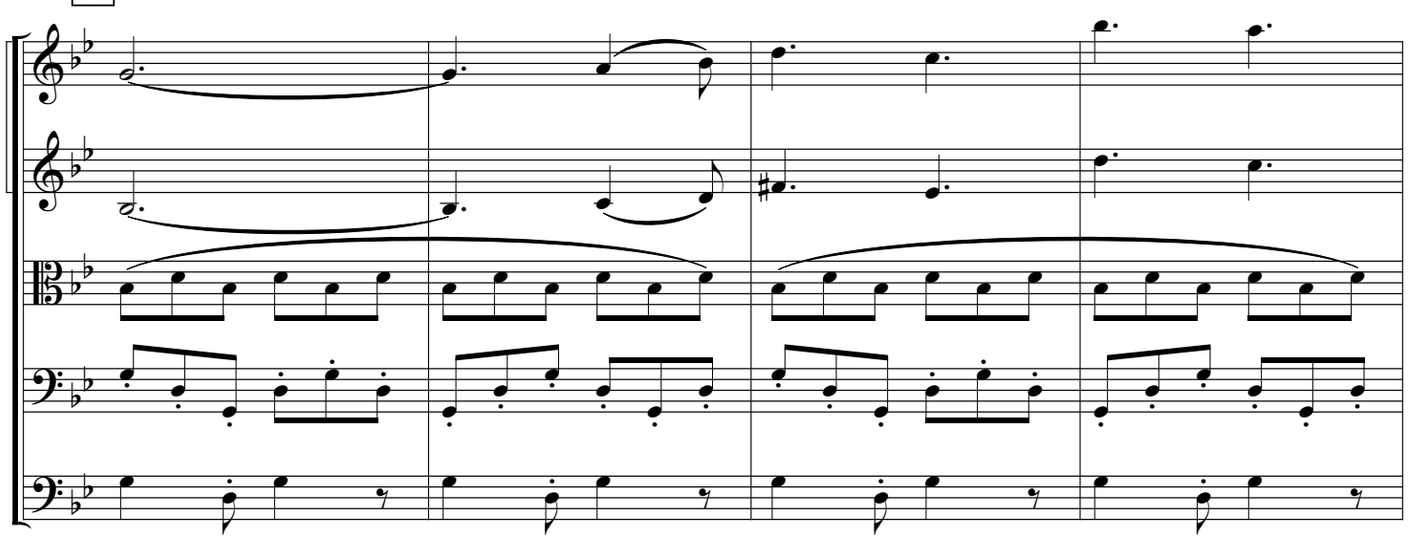

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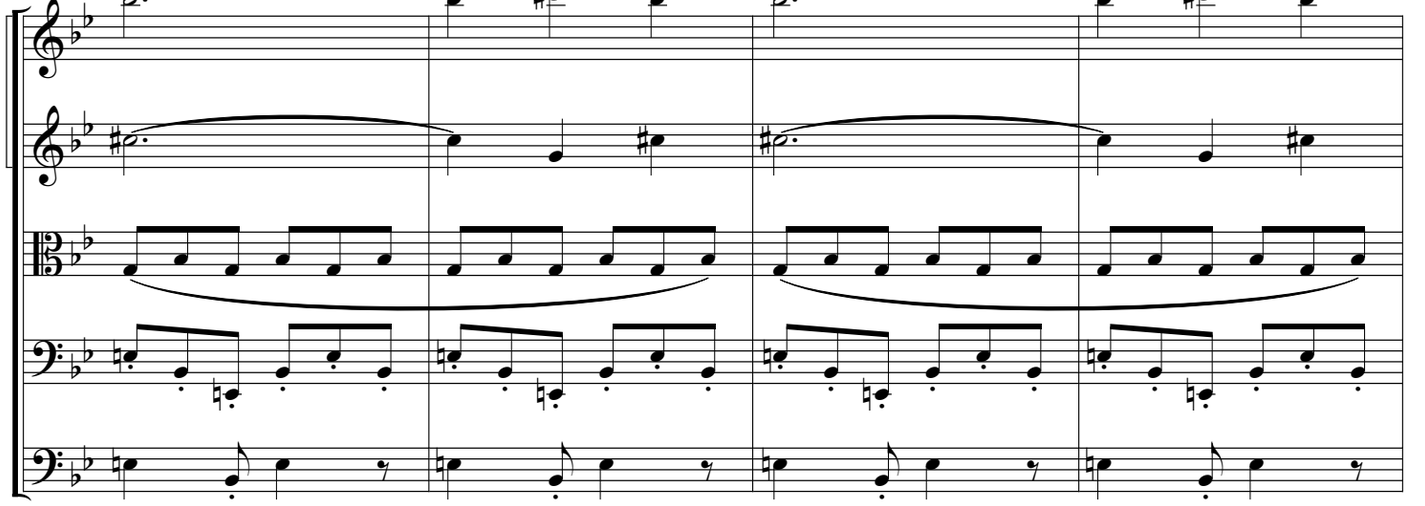

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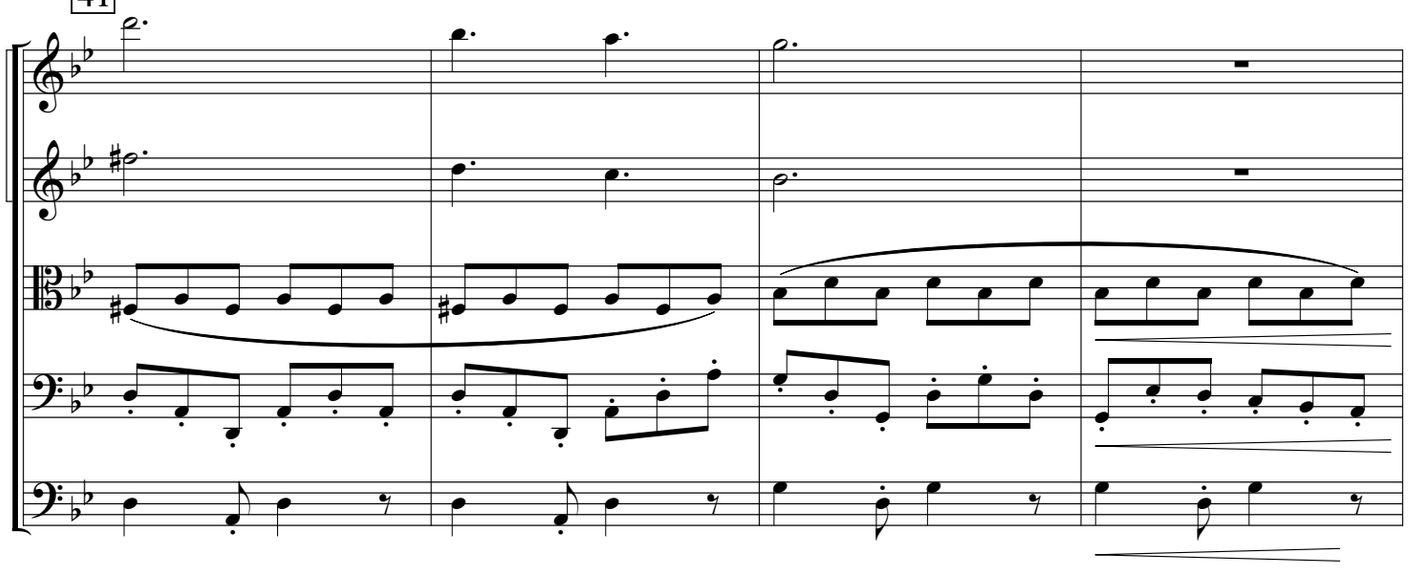

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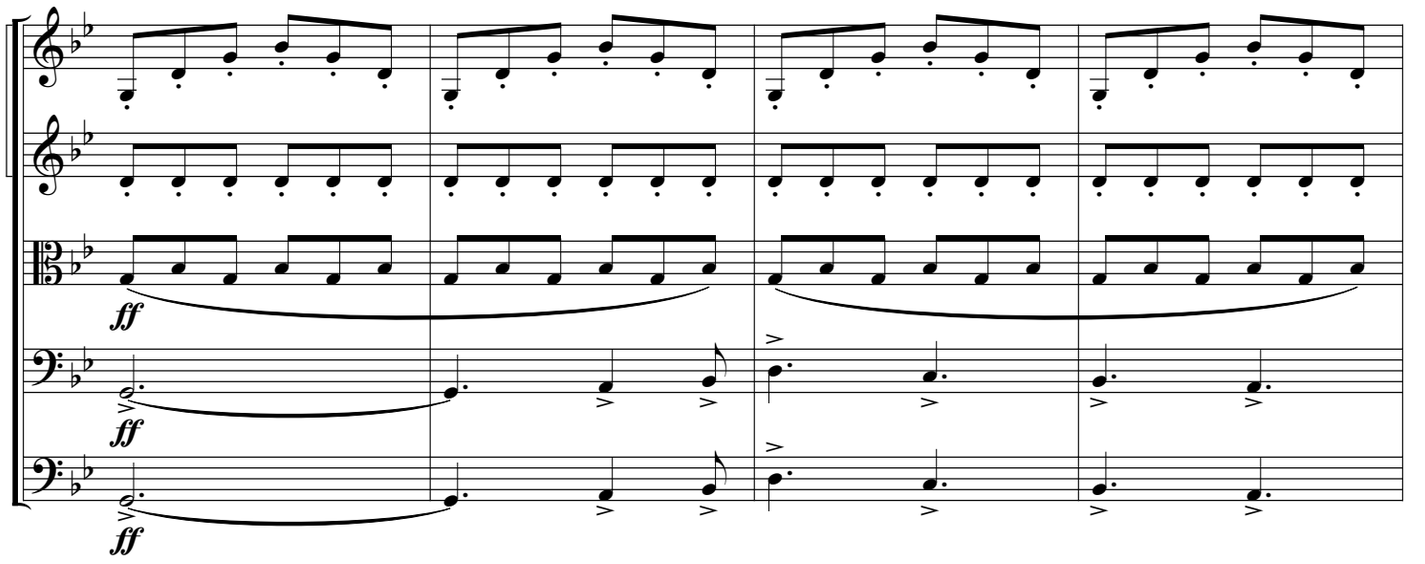

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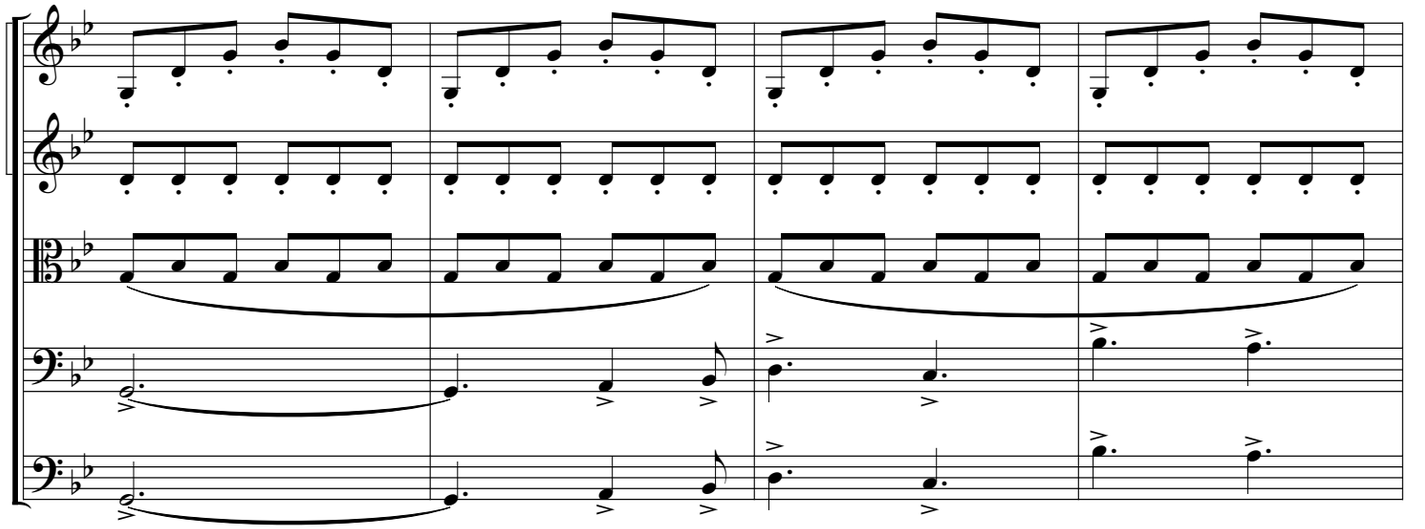

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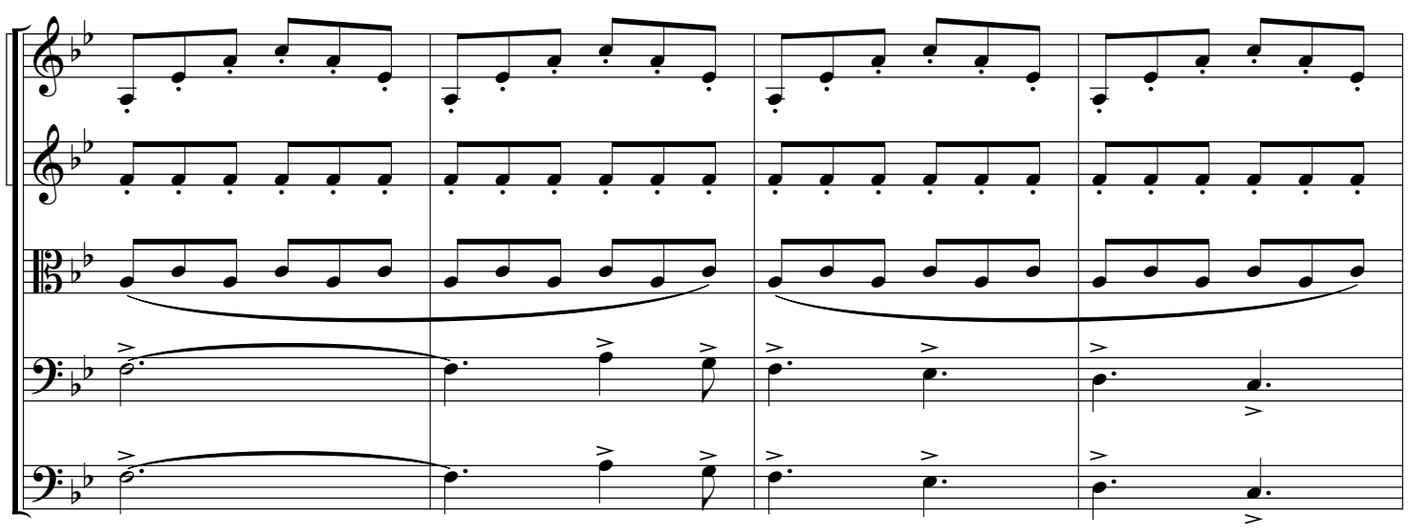

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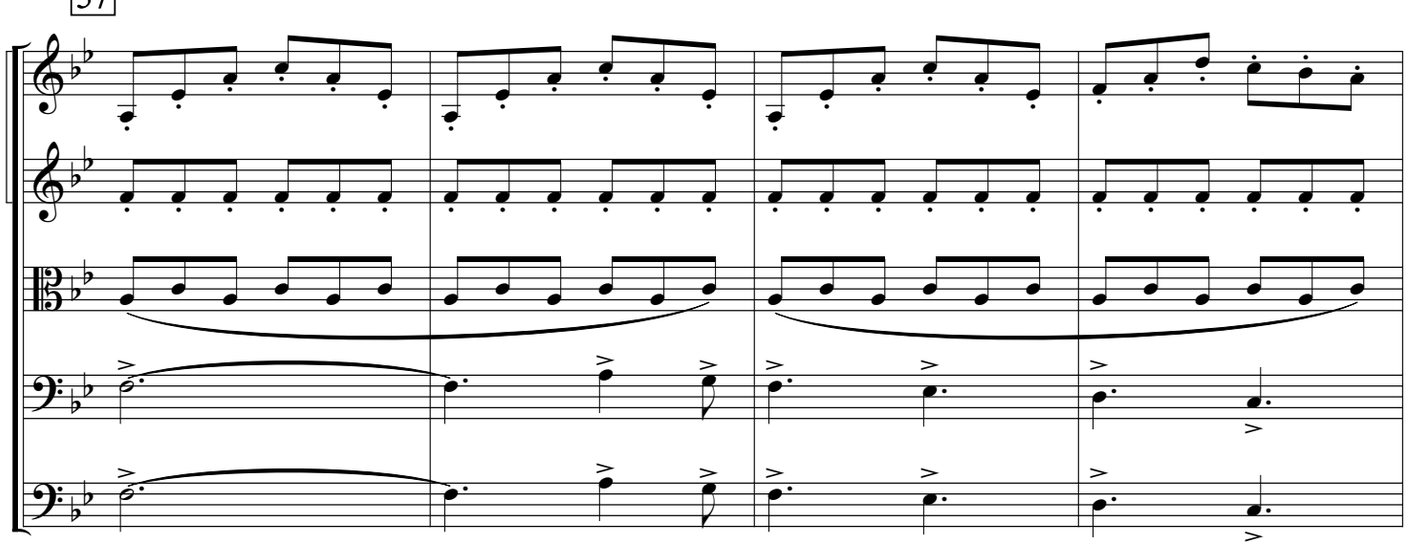
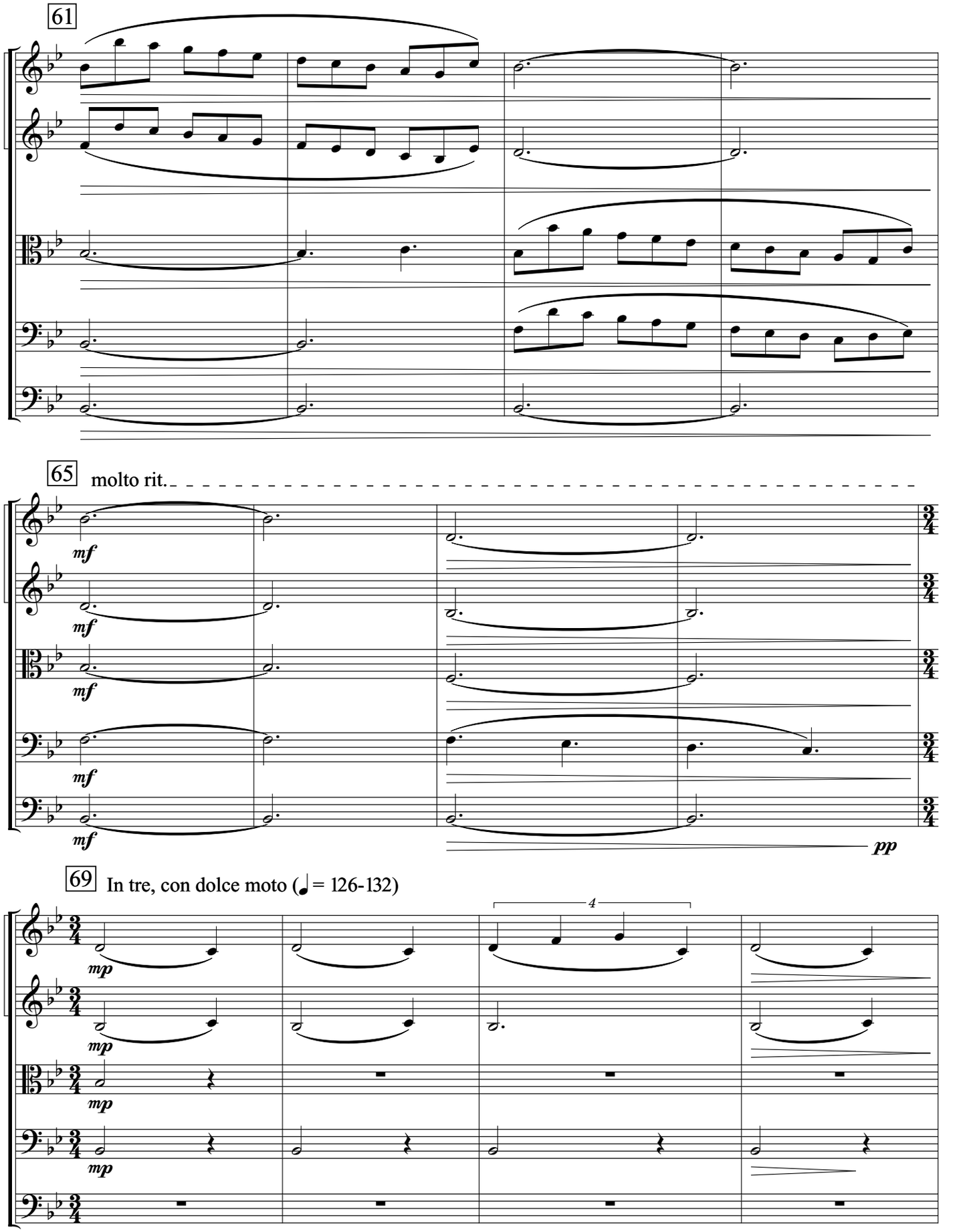
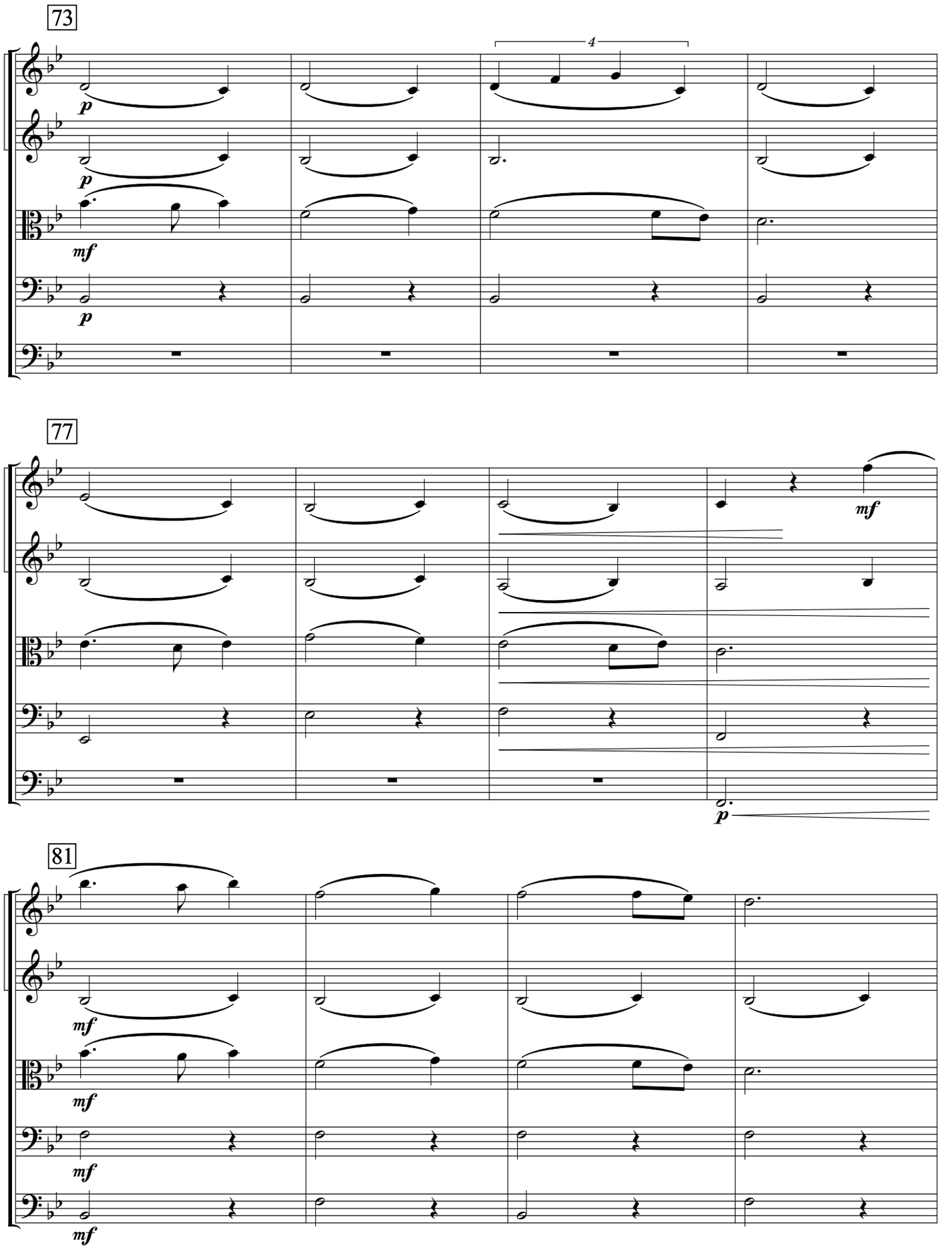
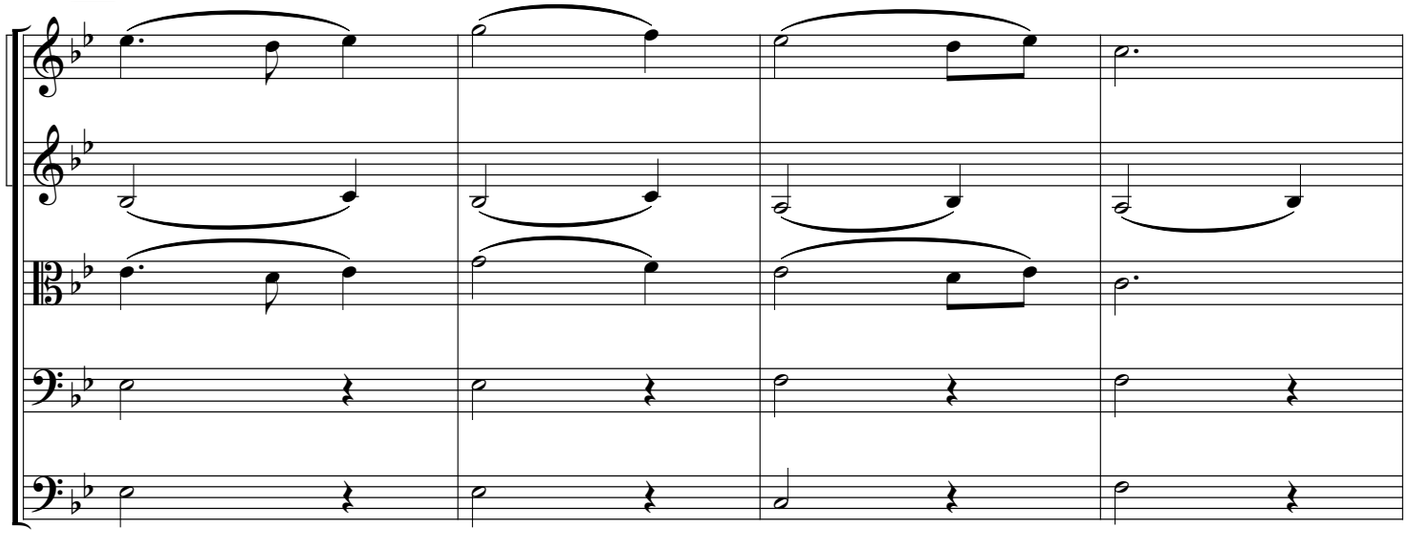


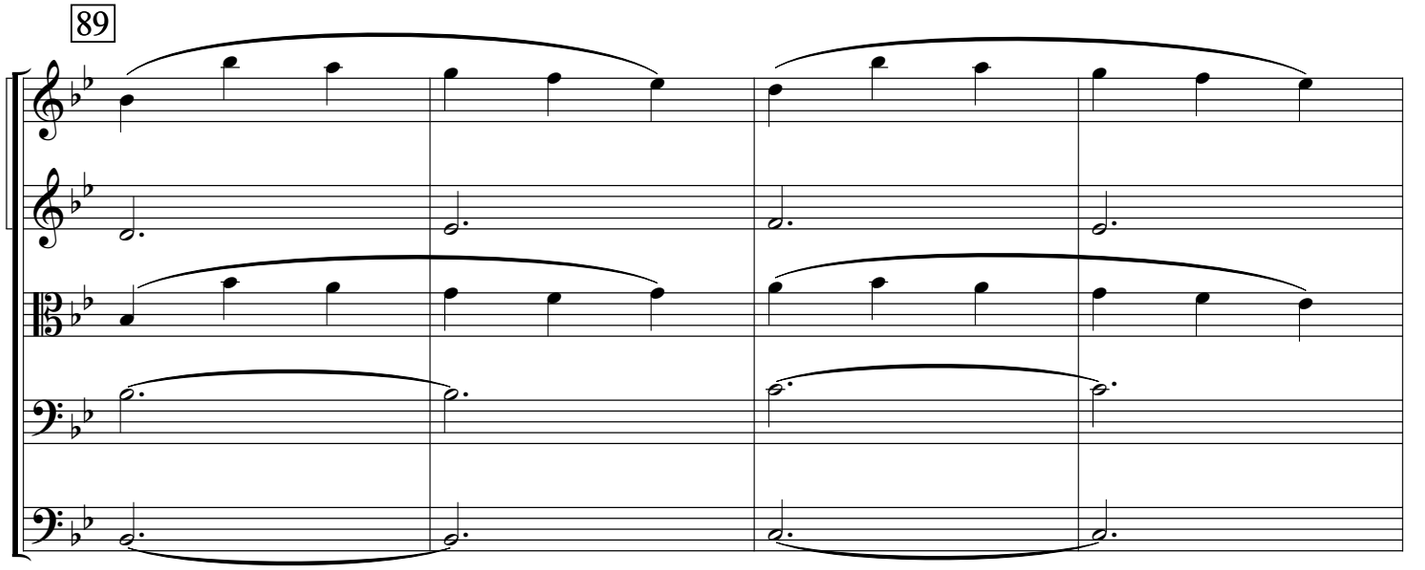

61
65
molto rit.
mf
pp
69
In tre, con dolce moto (♩= 126-132)
mp
4


73
4
p
p
mf
p
77
mf
p
81
mf
mf
mf
mf

85



89



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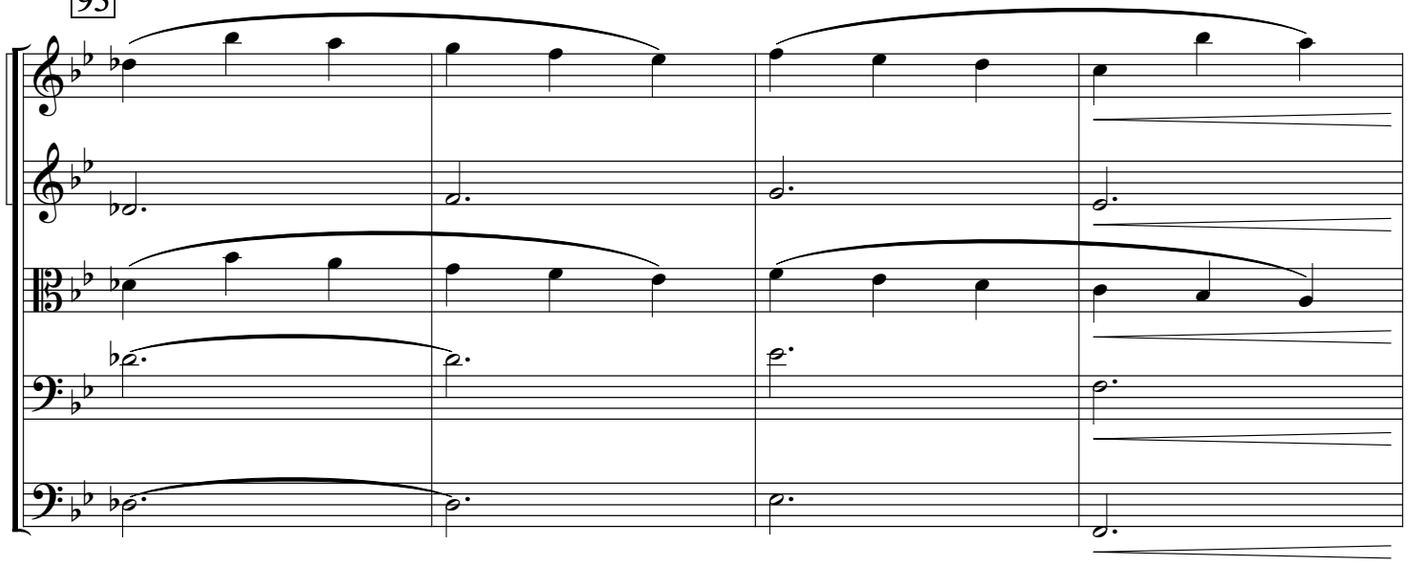
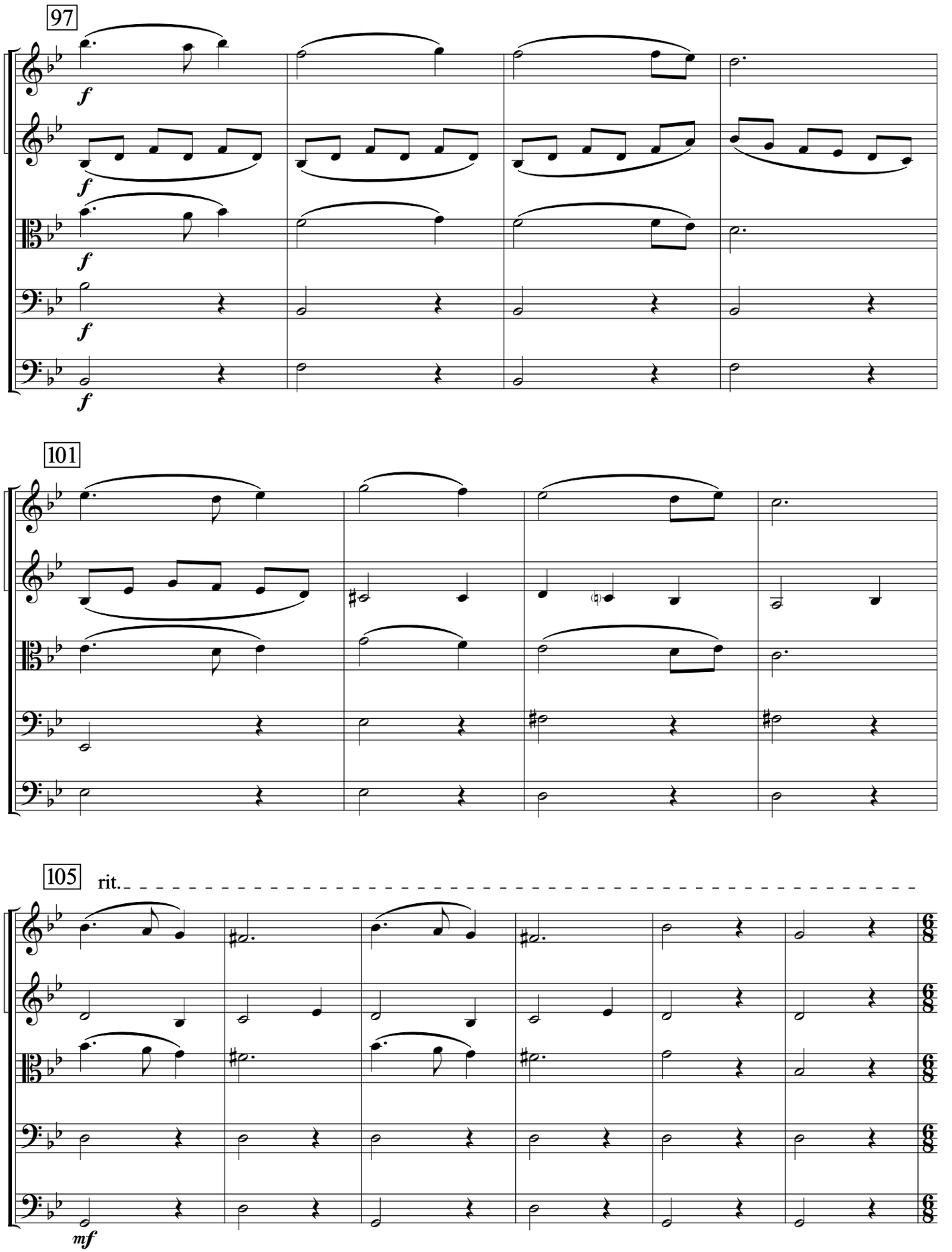
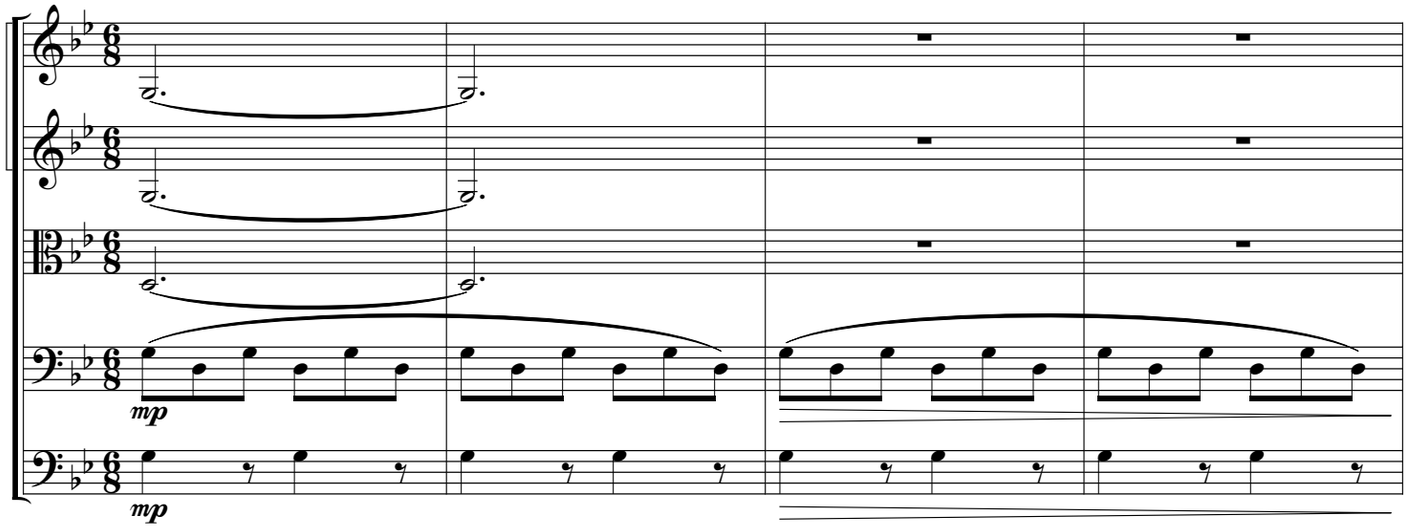
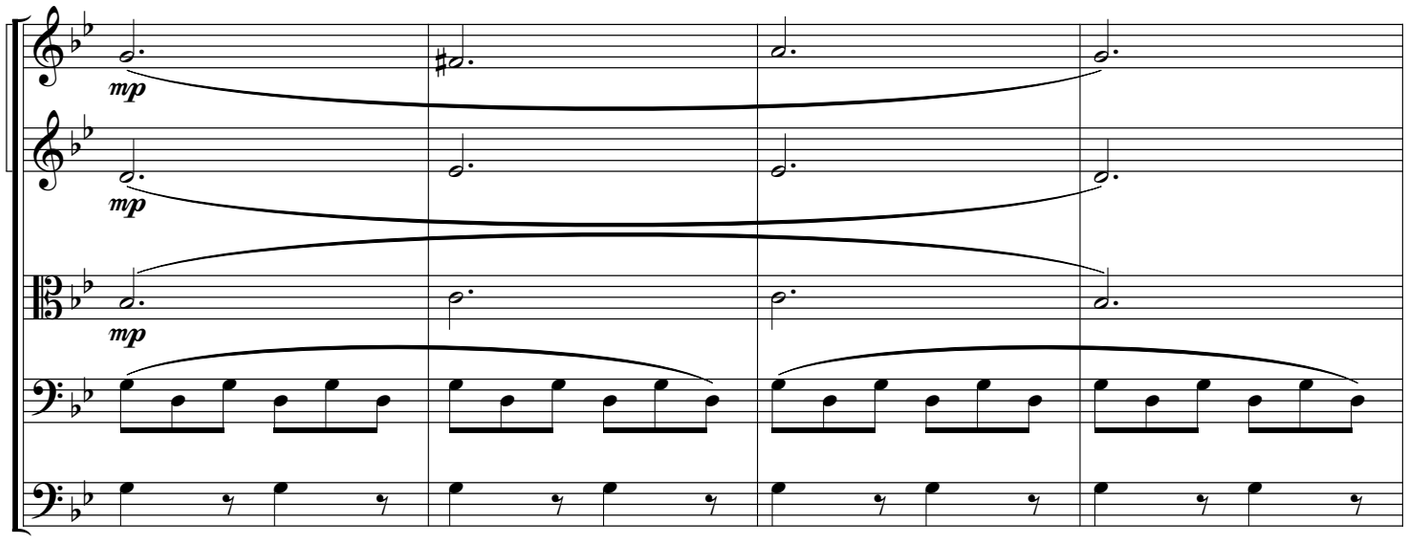



97
f
f
f
f
f
101
105
rit.
mf

111 Allegro, con fuoco (♩. = 120-124)



115



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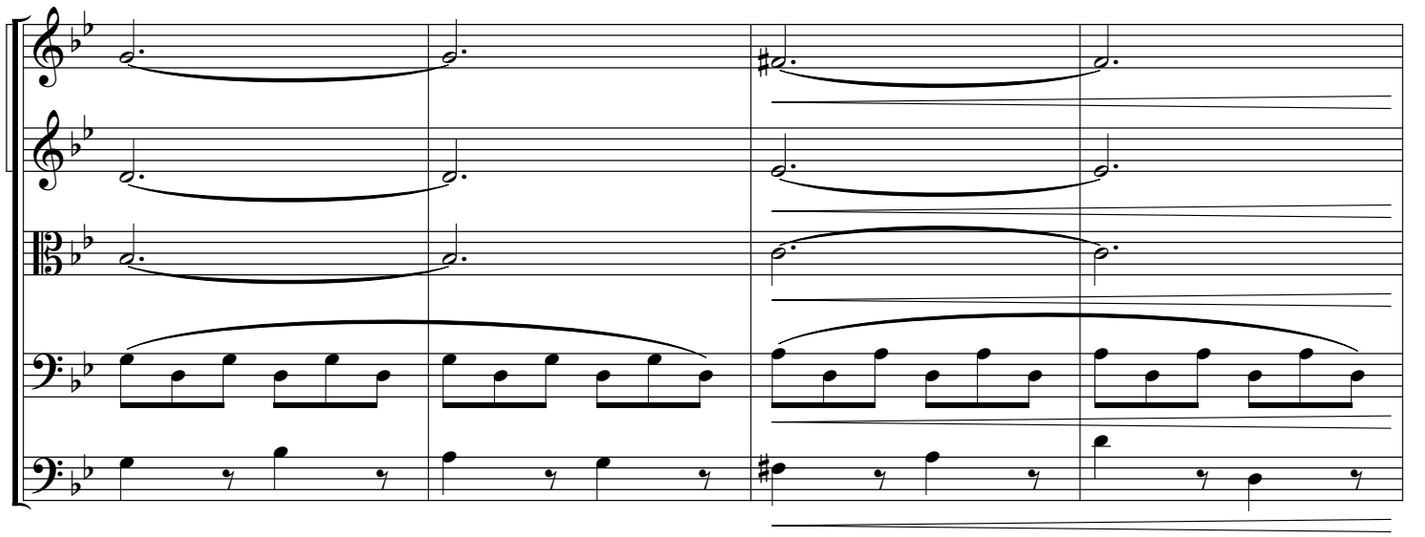

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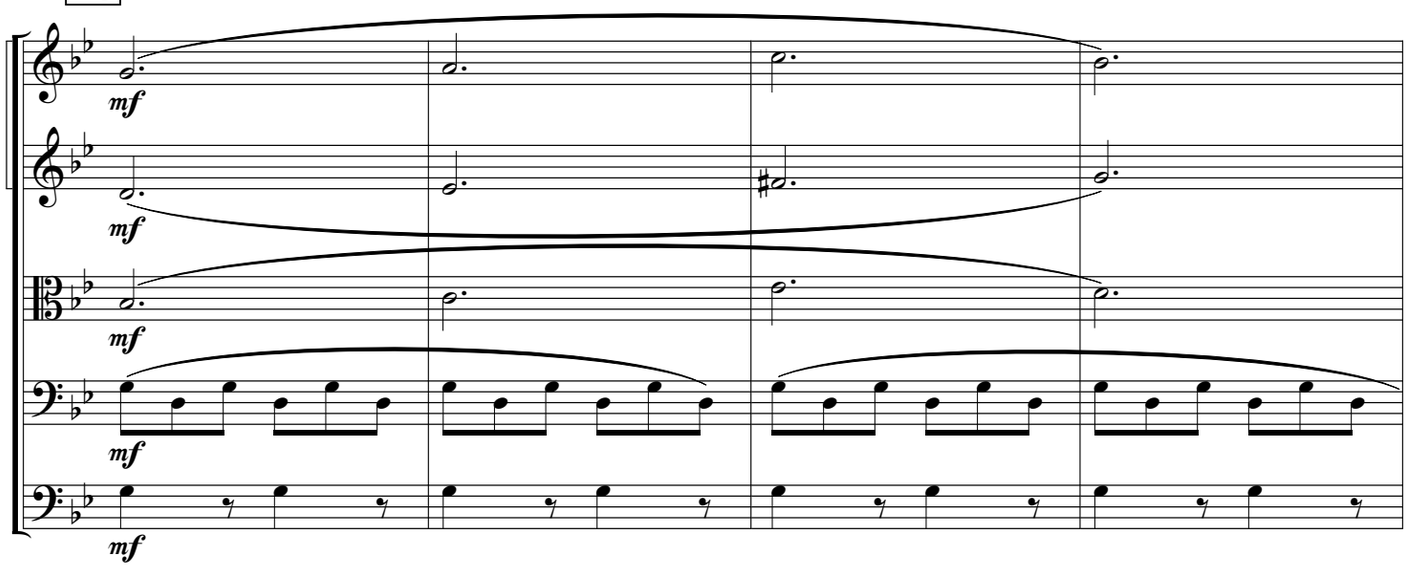
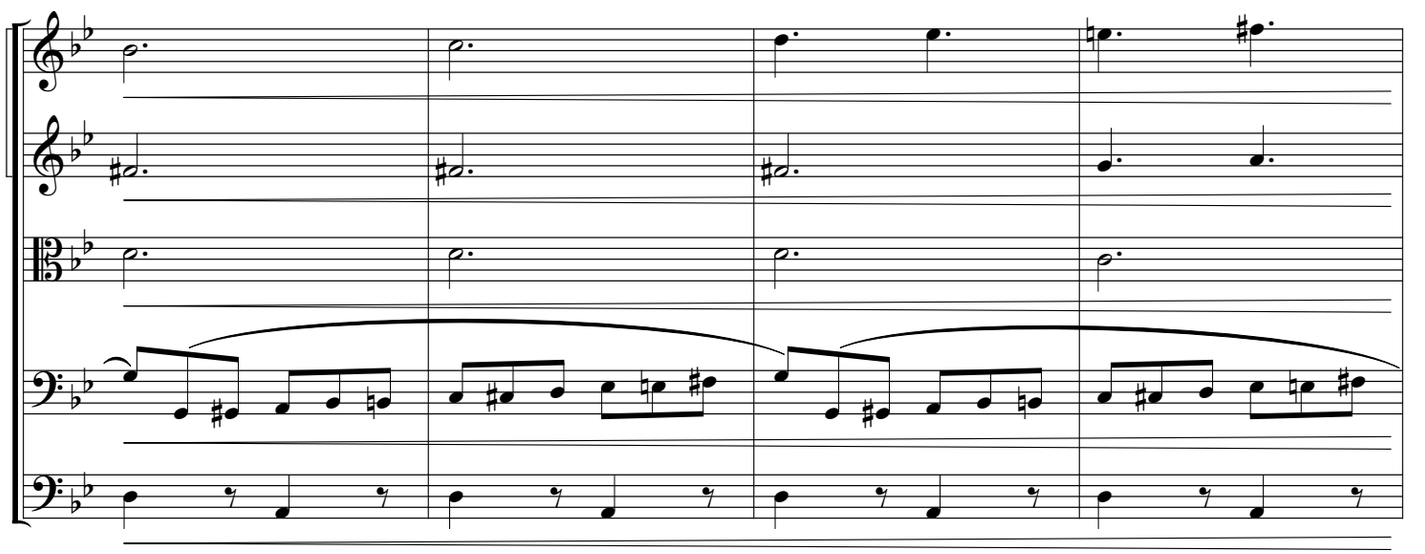


127



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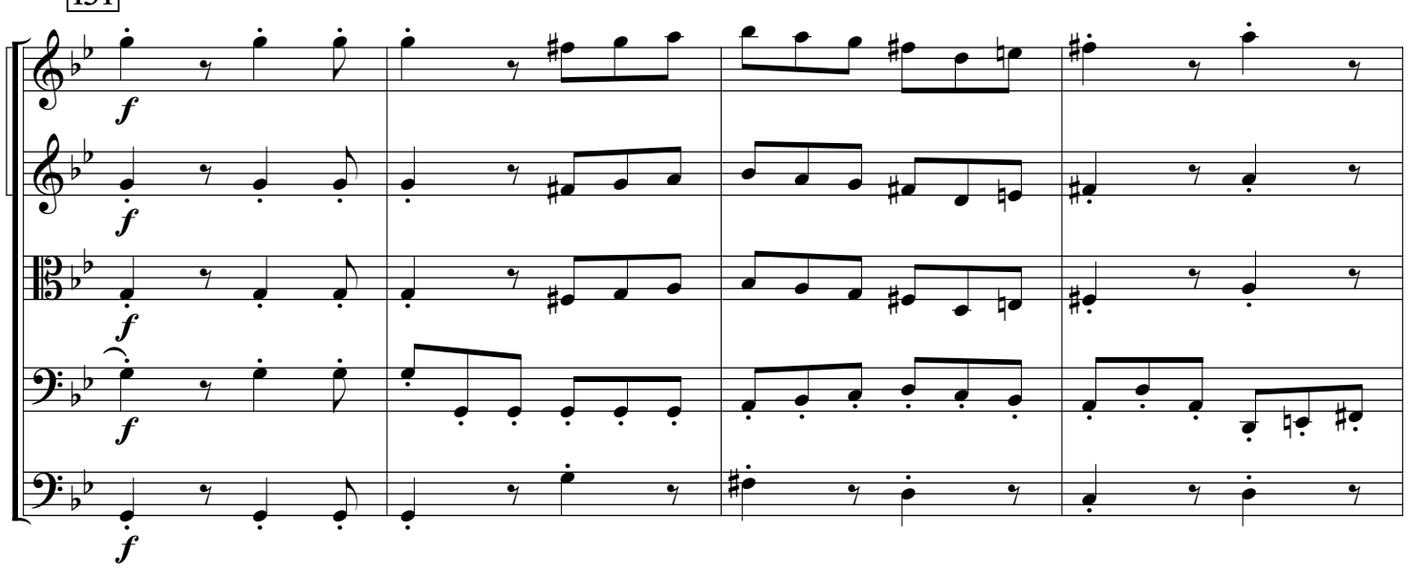

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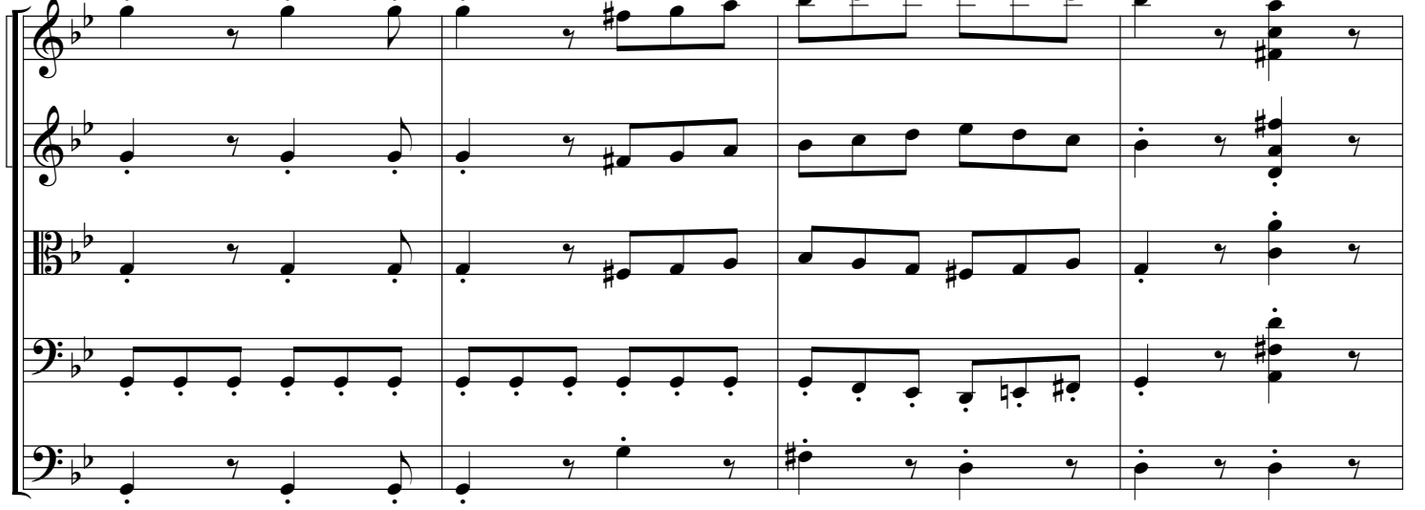

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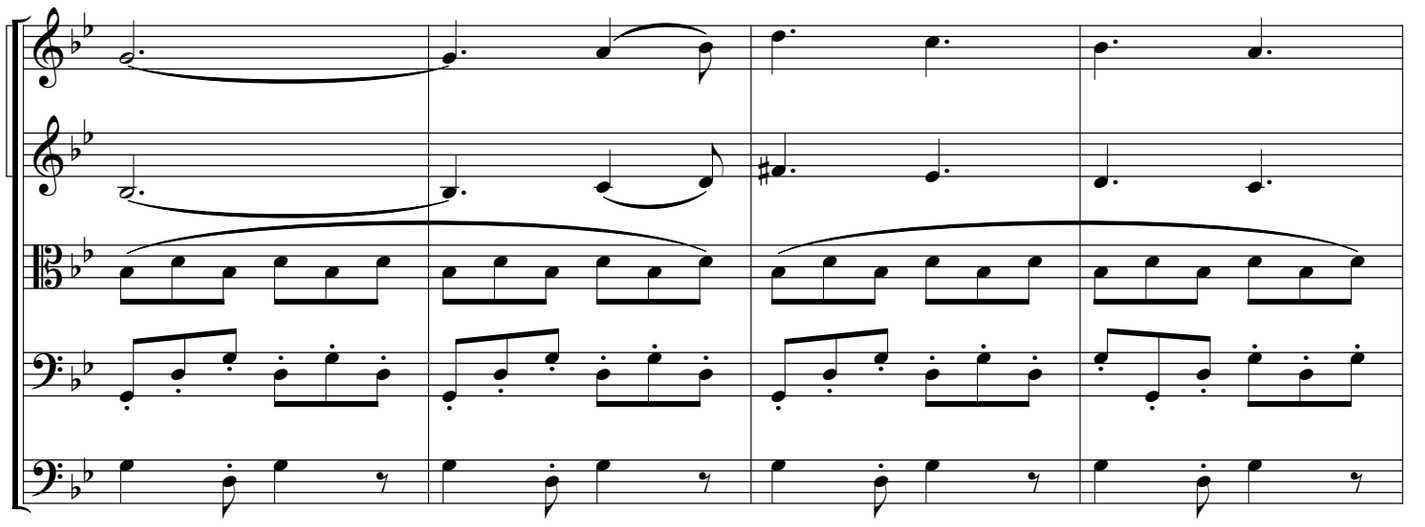

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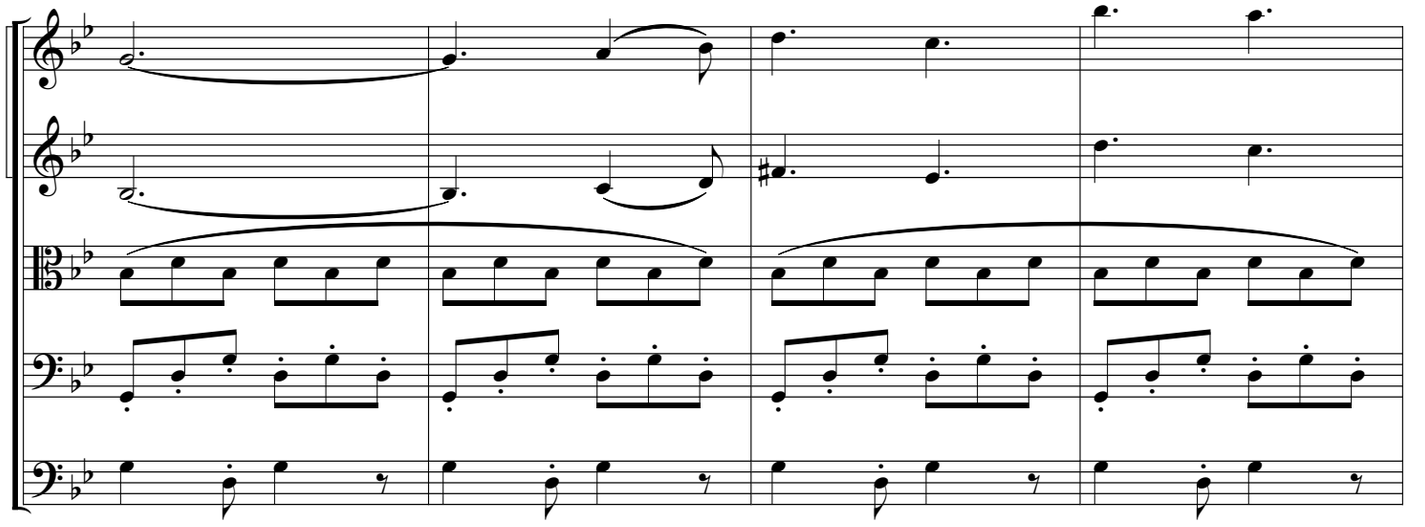

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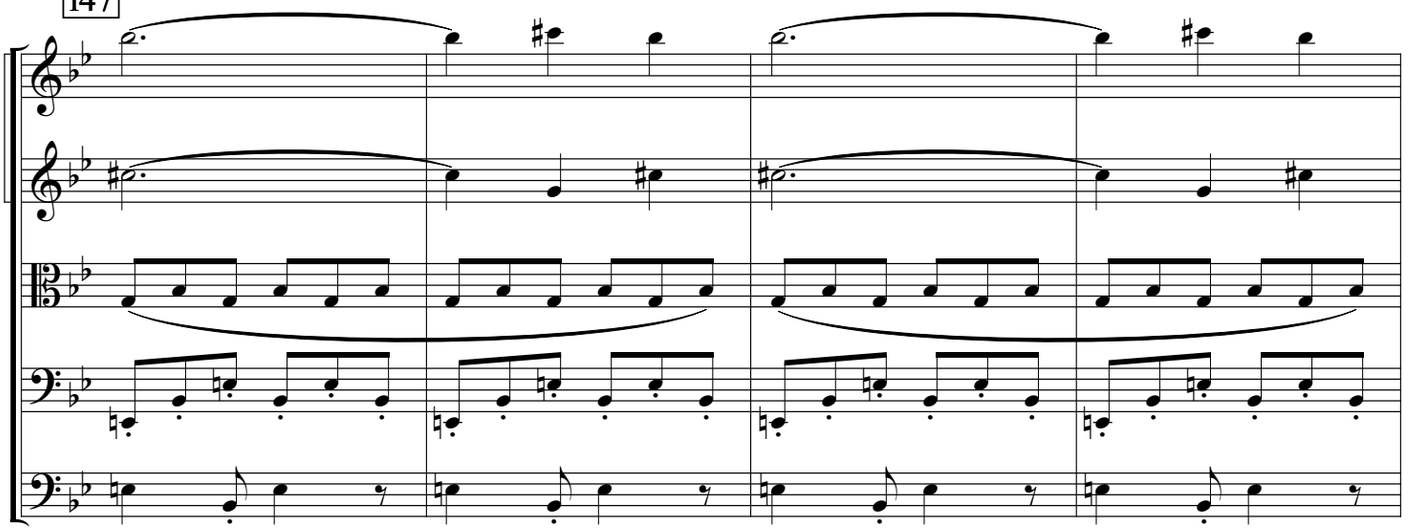

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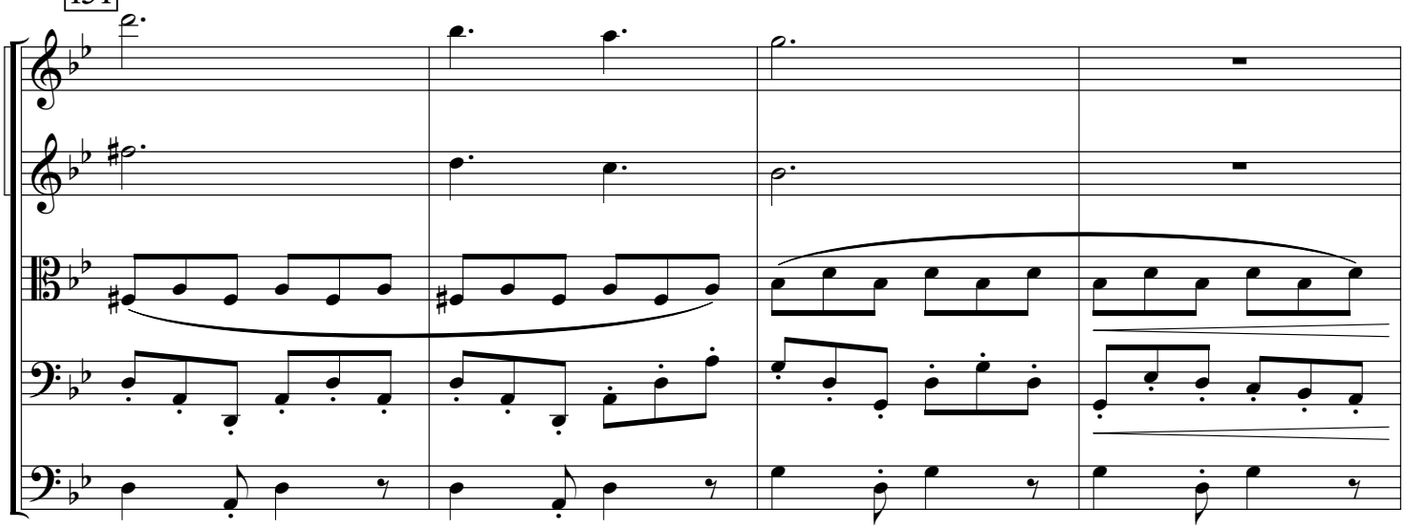

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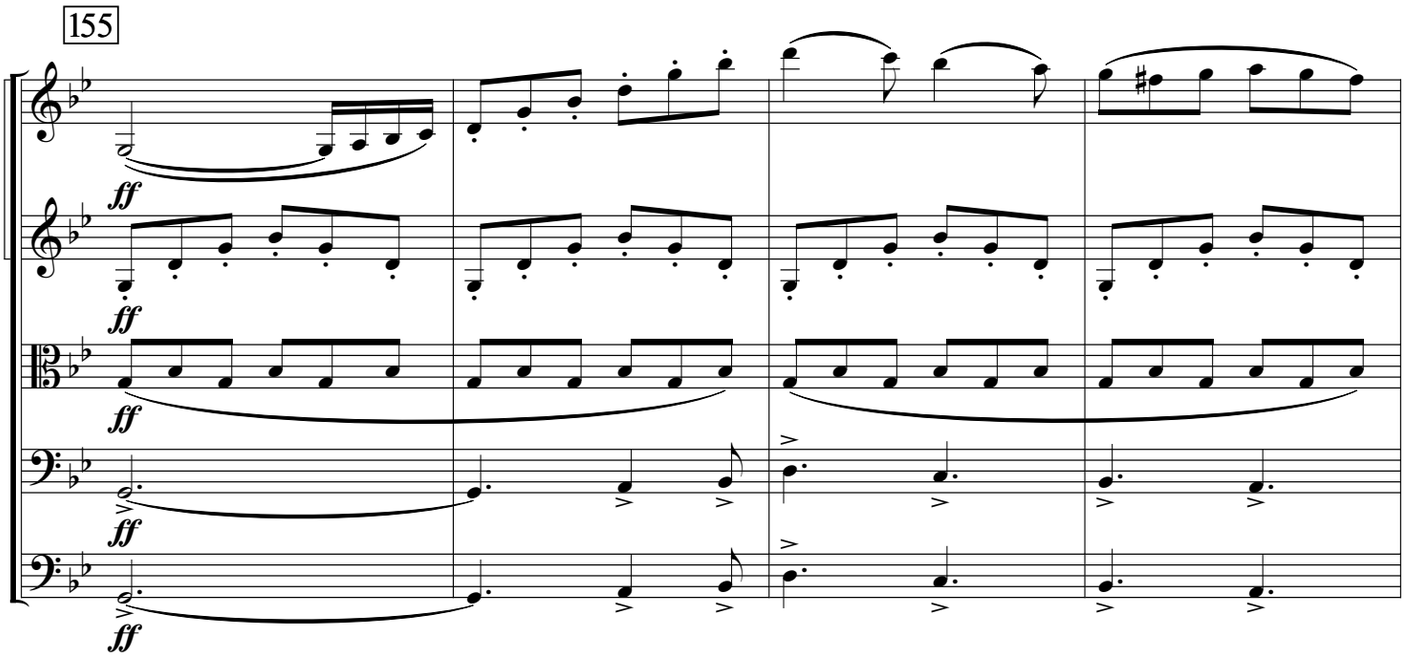

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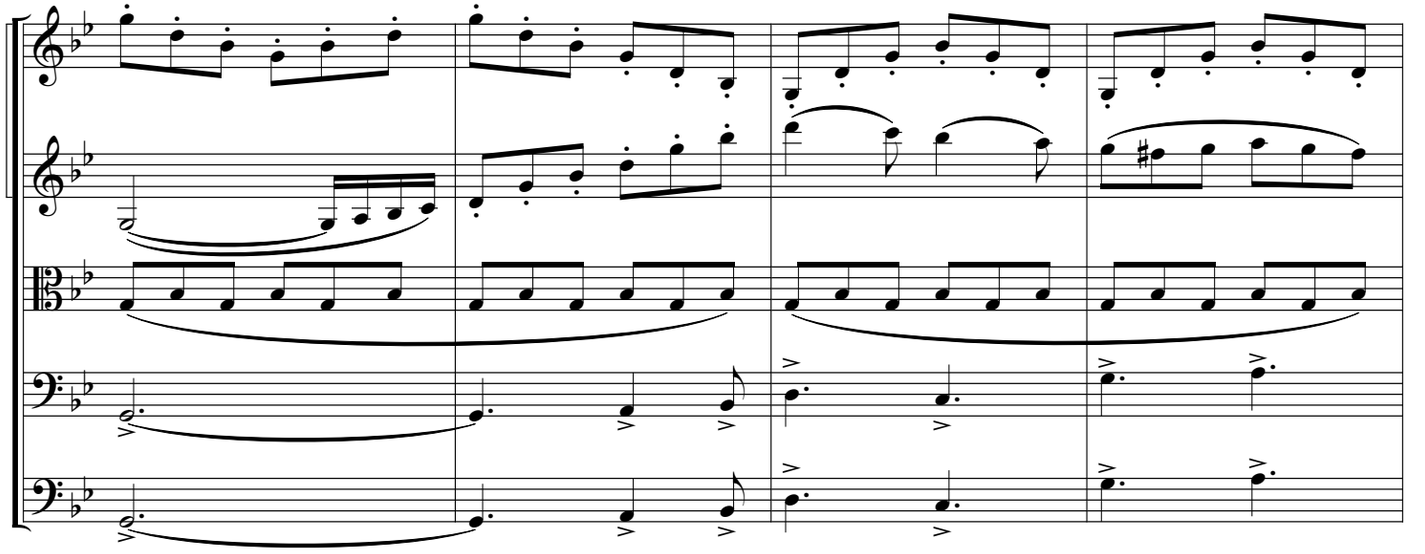

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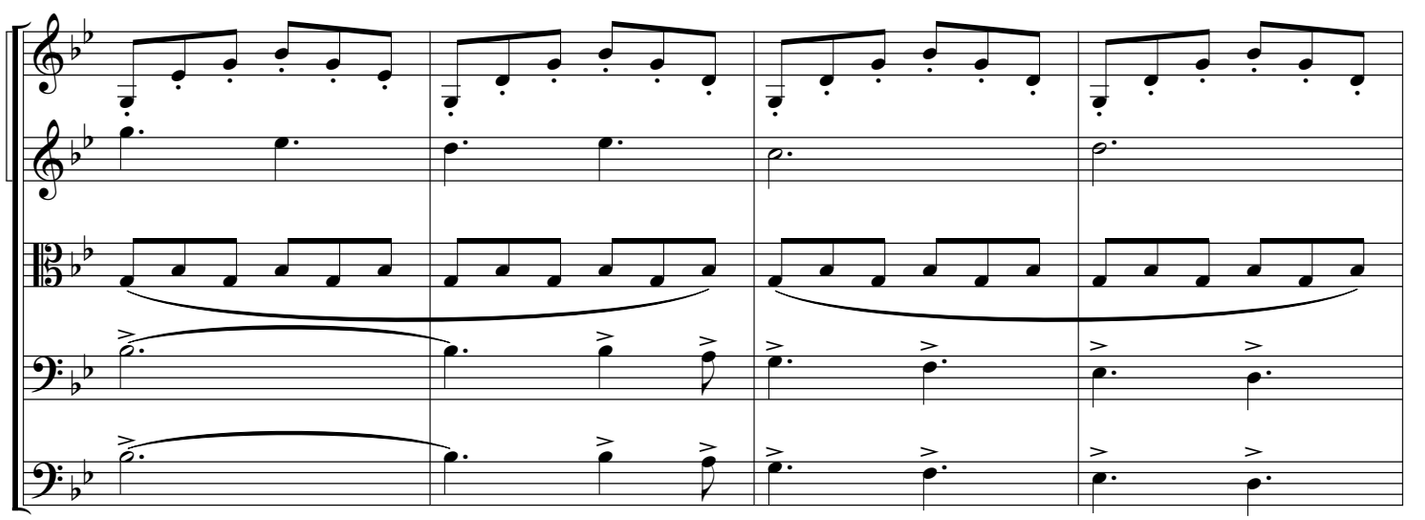

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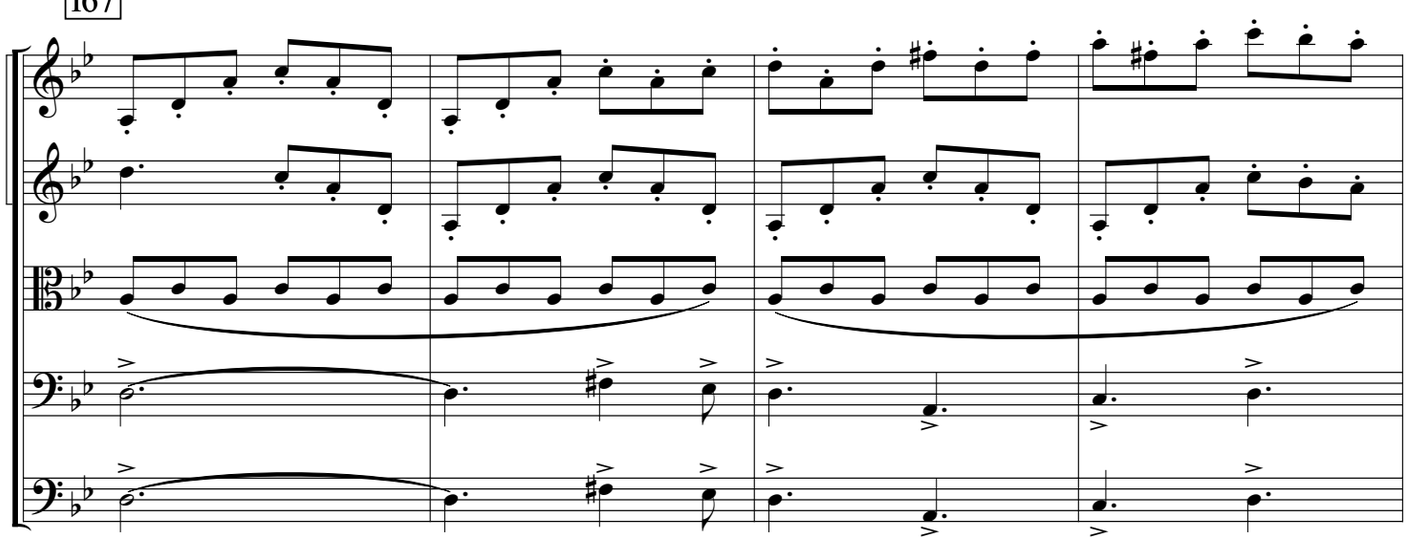

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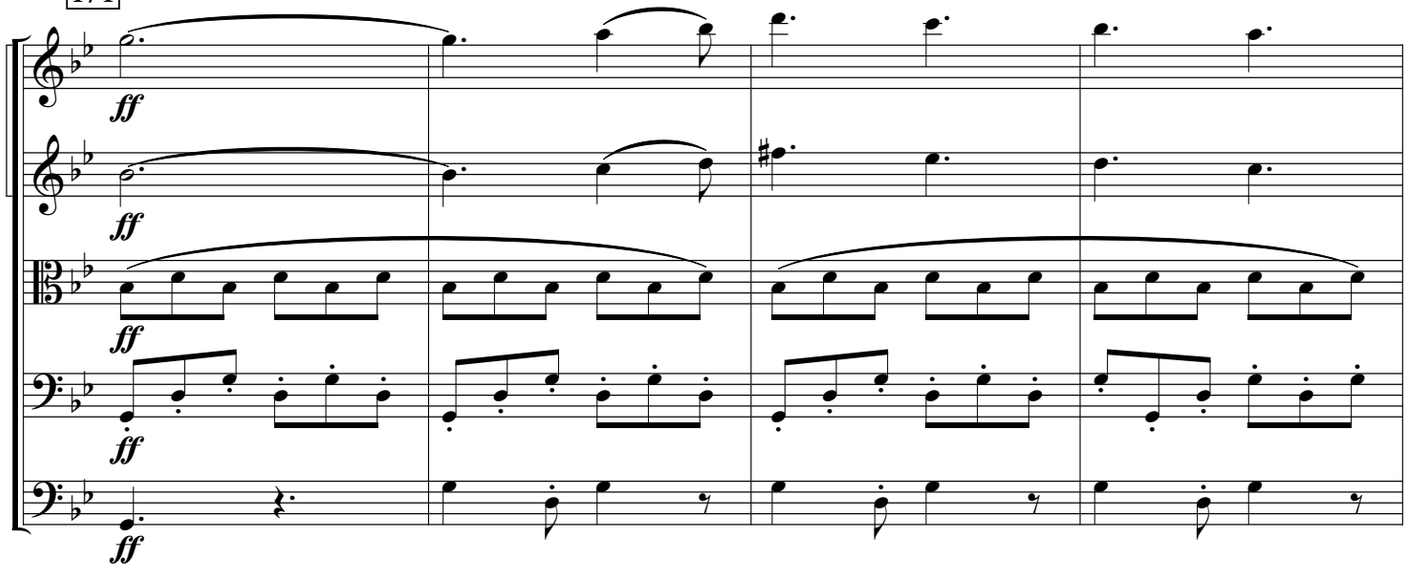

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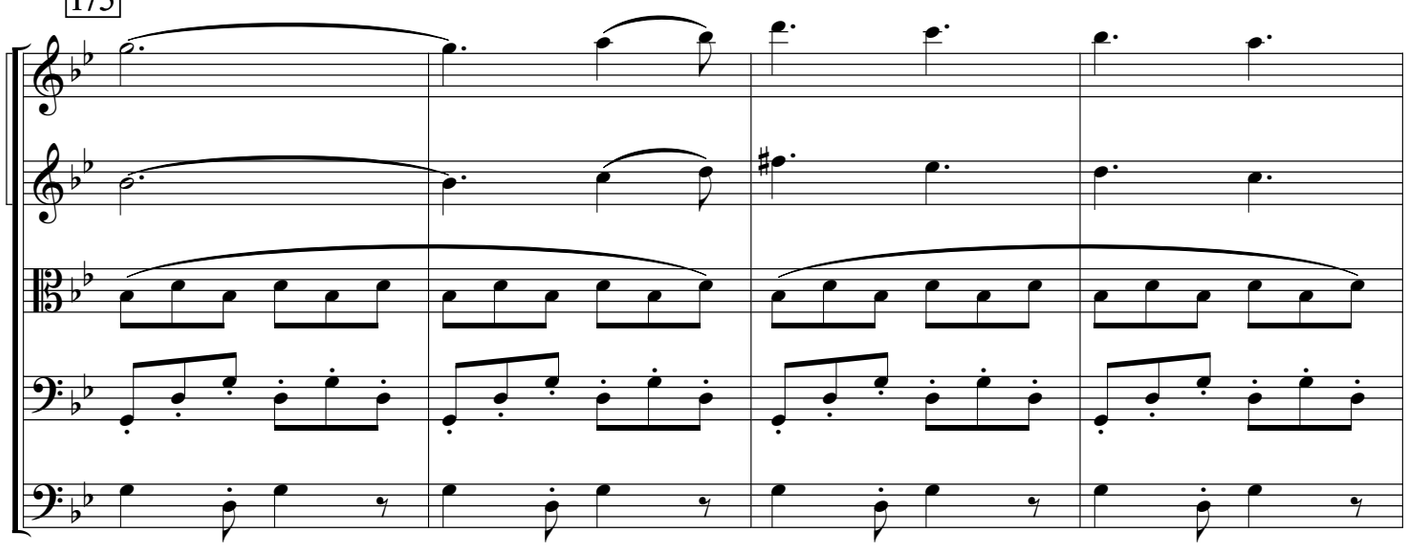

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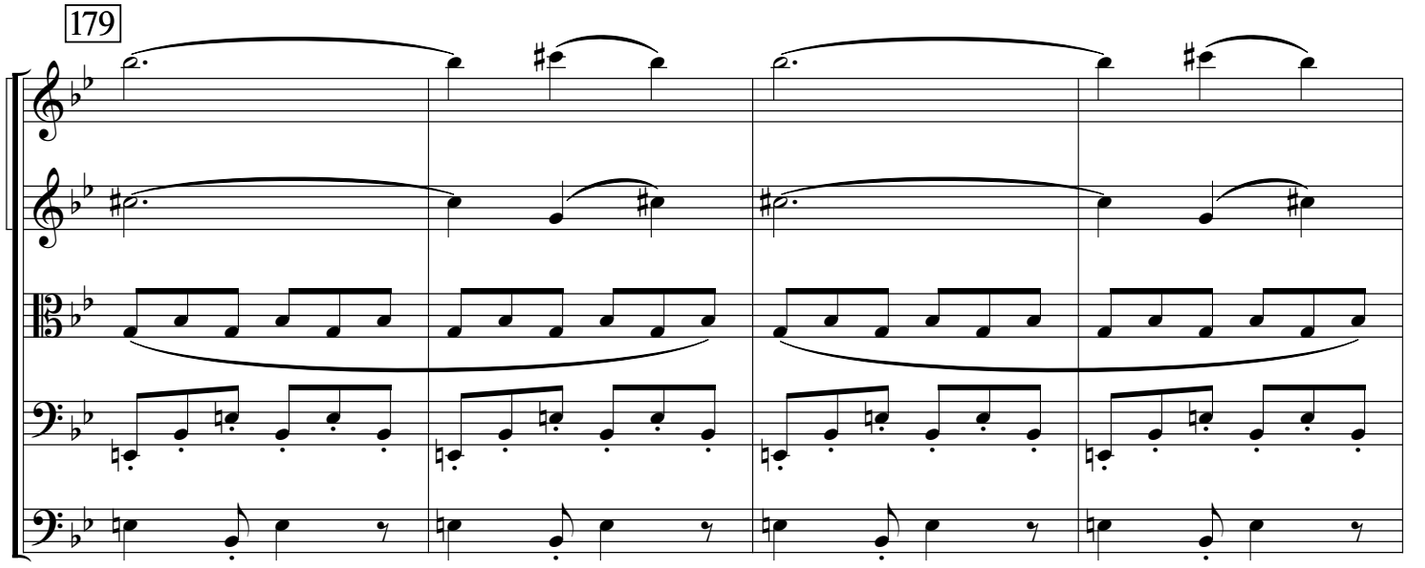

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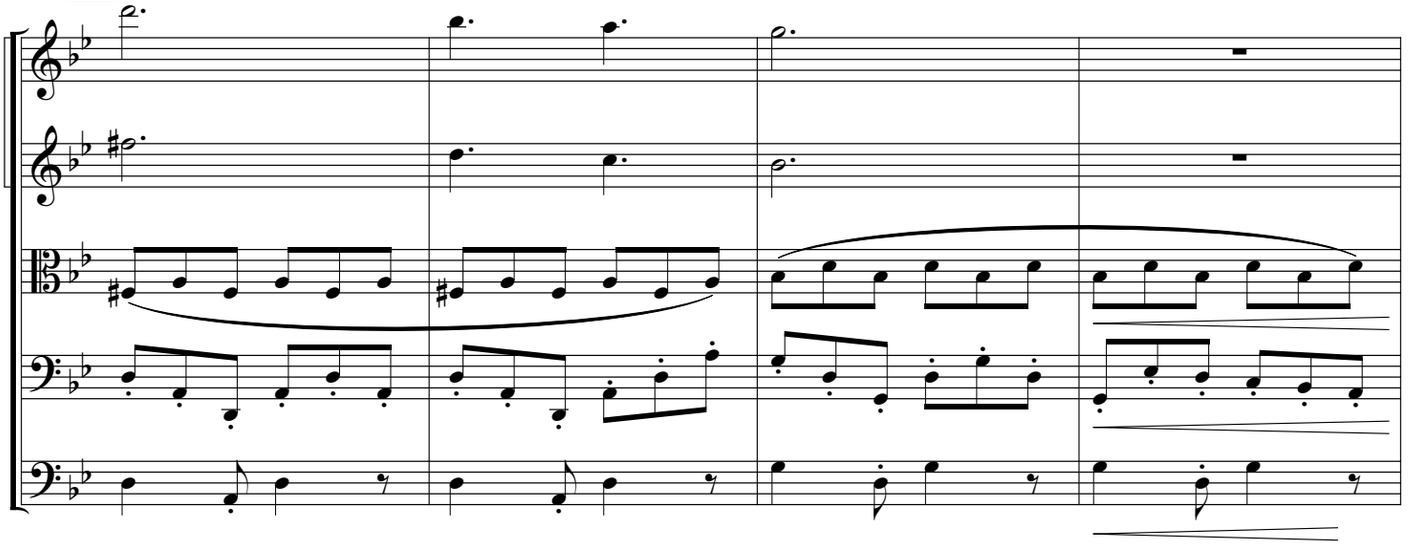
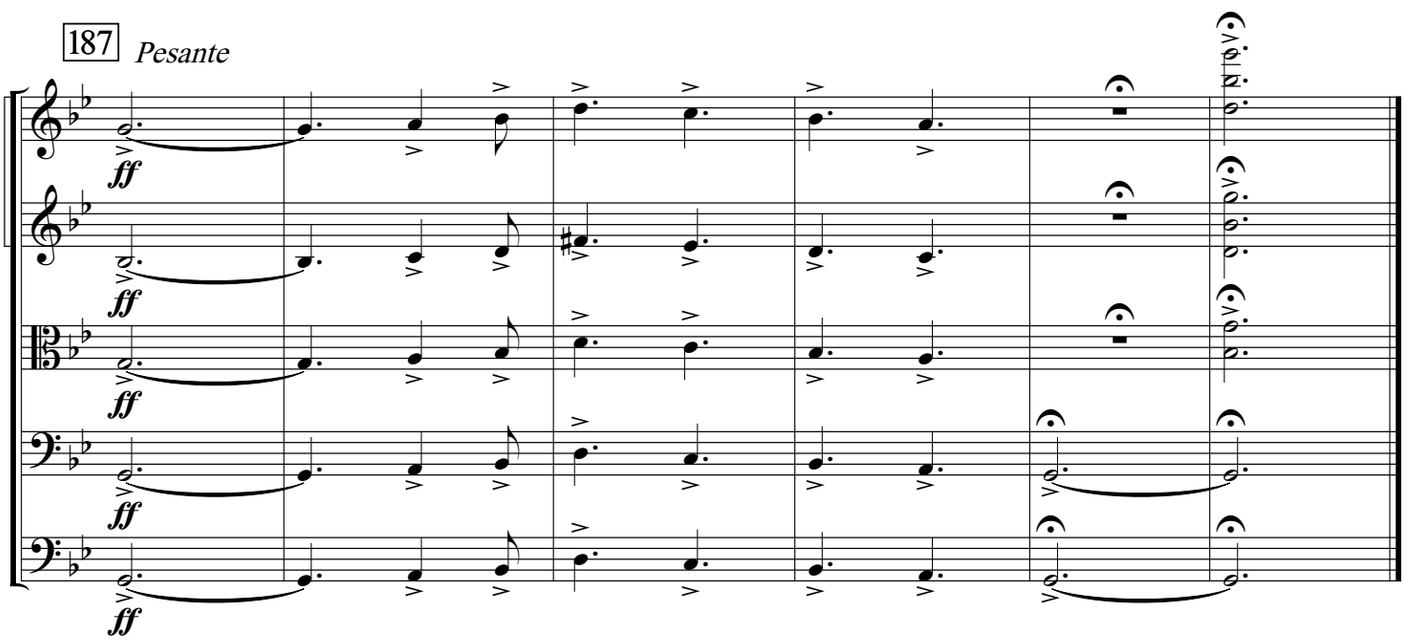
187 *Pesante*