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THE MUSICAL MOMENT:

FOR STRING QUARTET

SEUNGCHUL AHN

Bachelor of Music in Composition

Chung-Ang University

May, 2007

Submitted in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree

MASTER OF MUSIC

at the

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

October, 2010

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This masters thesis has been approved

for the Department of Music

and the College of Graduate Studies by

_____

Thesis Committee Chairperson, Andrew Rindfleisch

_____

Department & Date

_____

Chairman of the Music Department, Eric Ziolek

_____

Department & Date

_____

Professor of Composition, Greg D'Alessio

_____

Department & Date

DEDICATION

This piece is dedicated to my mother, my sisters, and my father, who is in heaven, without their support and encouragement, this accomplishment would not have been possible.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of Dr. Andrew Rindfleish, Dr. Greg D'Alessio, as well as the many members of Cleveland State University Department of Music. Without their great support, my understanding in music would not be as profoundly developed as it is today.

THE MUSICAL MOMENT:
FOR STRING QUARTET

SEUNGCHUL AHN

ABSTRACT

This piece represents the fusion of my life experiences in America and of studying abroad. Albeit, I had accomplished in Korea, when in America, I had become overwhelmed, and felt somewhat discouraged by a lack of focus. However, once I listened the string quartets of Bela Bartok, both my focus and my enthusiasm for writing music came back. The desired musical moment led me to write this string quartet for my thesis; this string quartet piece is fully filled with and admiration to Bartok. The overall piece is intended to express my journey – the thoughts, feelings, experiences of studying in U.S. moving from confusions to the joy of the musical moment as I regained my focus. My journey will go on for endless musical moments.

The piece consists of one movement, in which there are an introduction (mm. 1 – 27), an exposition (mm. 28 – 111), a development (mm. 112 – 168), a recapitulation (mm. 169 – 186), and coda (mm. 187 – the end). The introduction opens with a tranquil mood. In the exposition, the first theme of piece, the second violin melody of measure 40, is appeared in various ways and the second theme, the second violin melody of measure 63, is intertwined with the first theme in various ways as well. In the development, the second theme appears in various ways and leads to the climax, measure 157 to 168 as

well. The recapitulation, which includes the first and second theme, is playing a role of bridge to the coda. In the coda, viola and cello play a role of accompaniment for the first and second violin which play the first theme for the ending.

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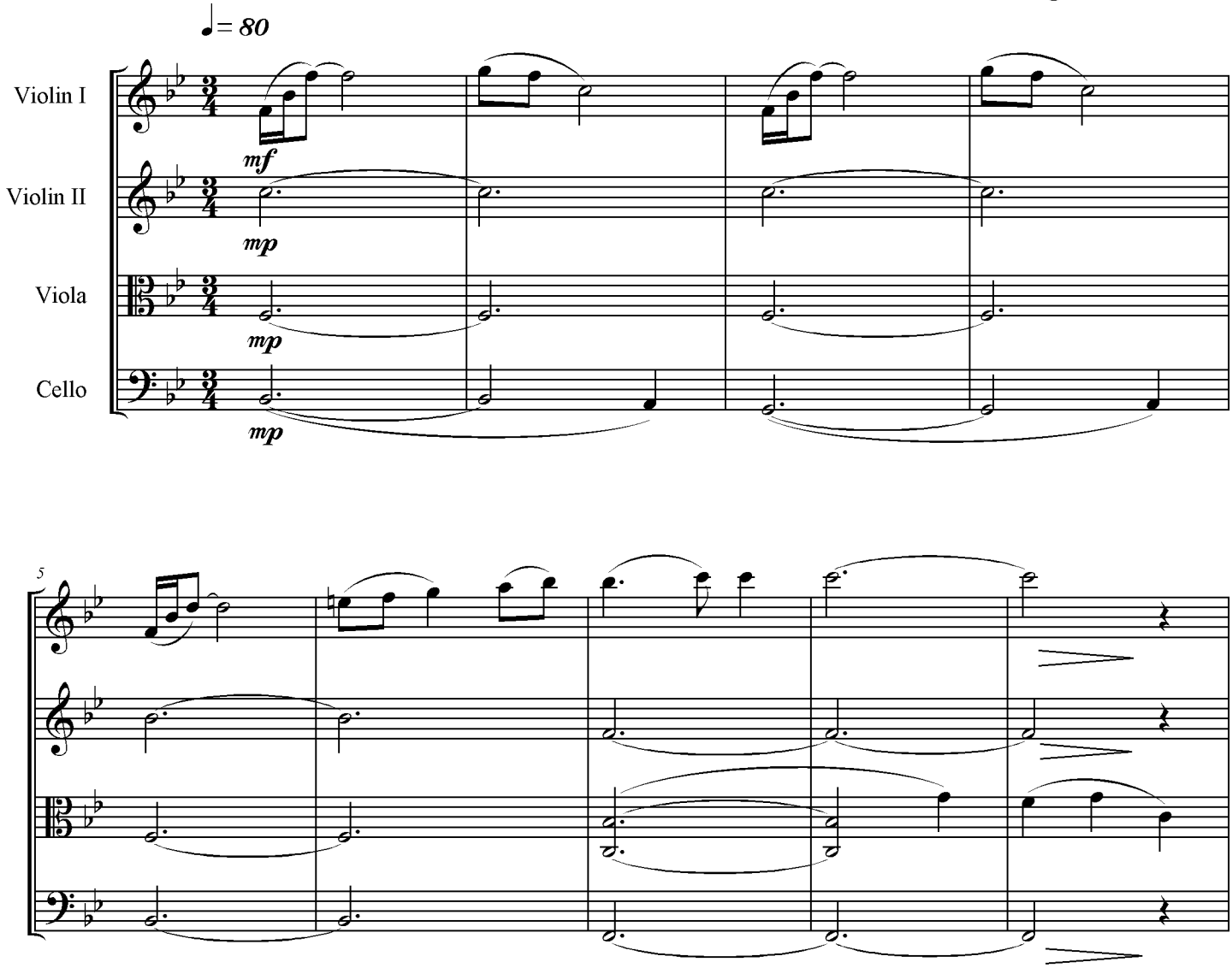
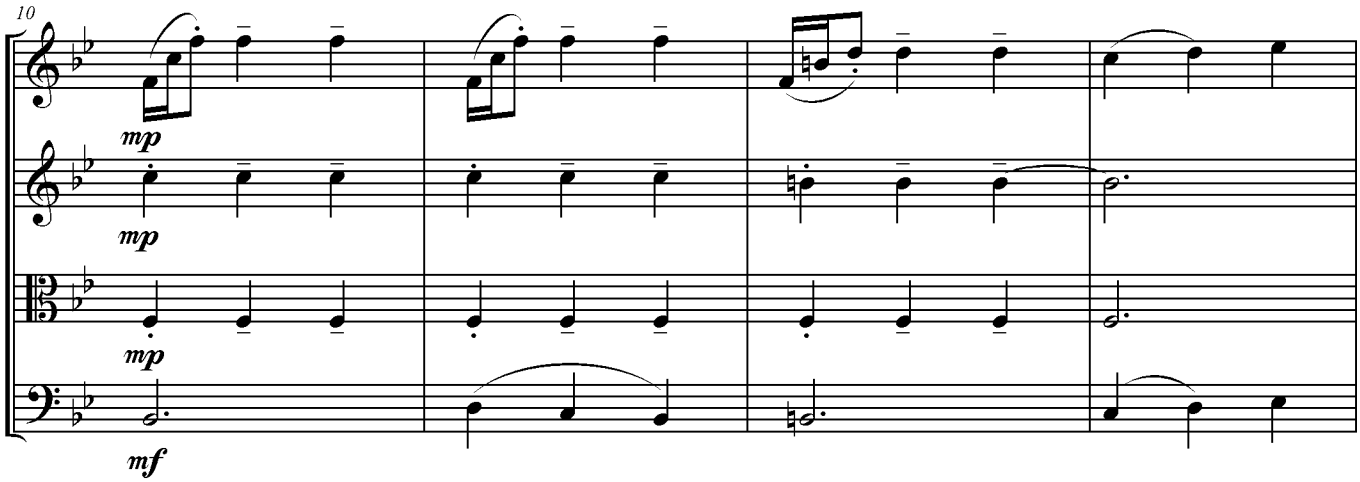
The Musical Moment:
For String Quartet

Seungchul Ahn 2010

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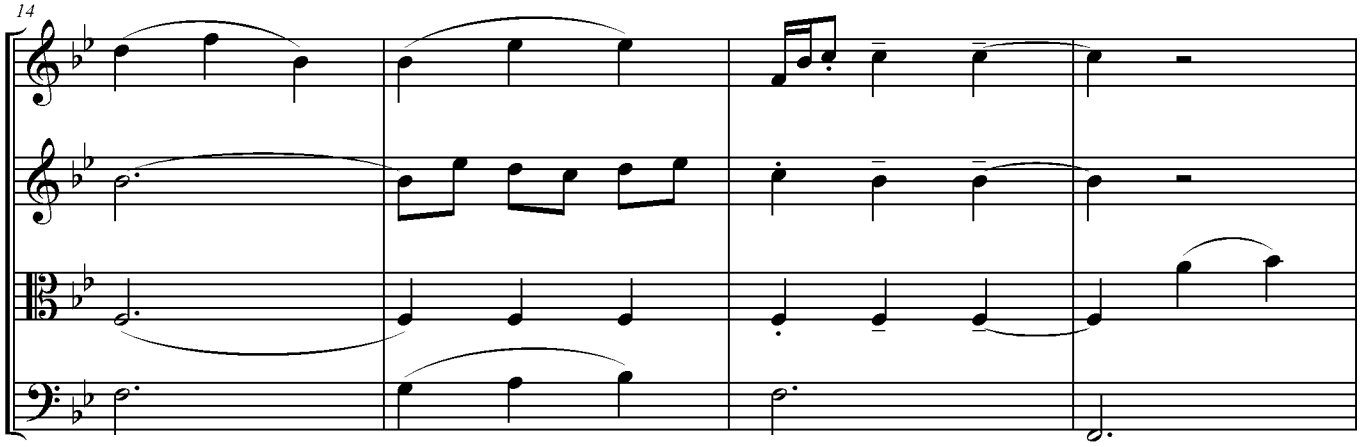
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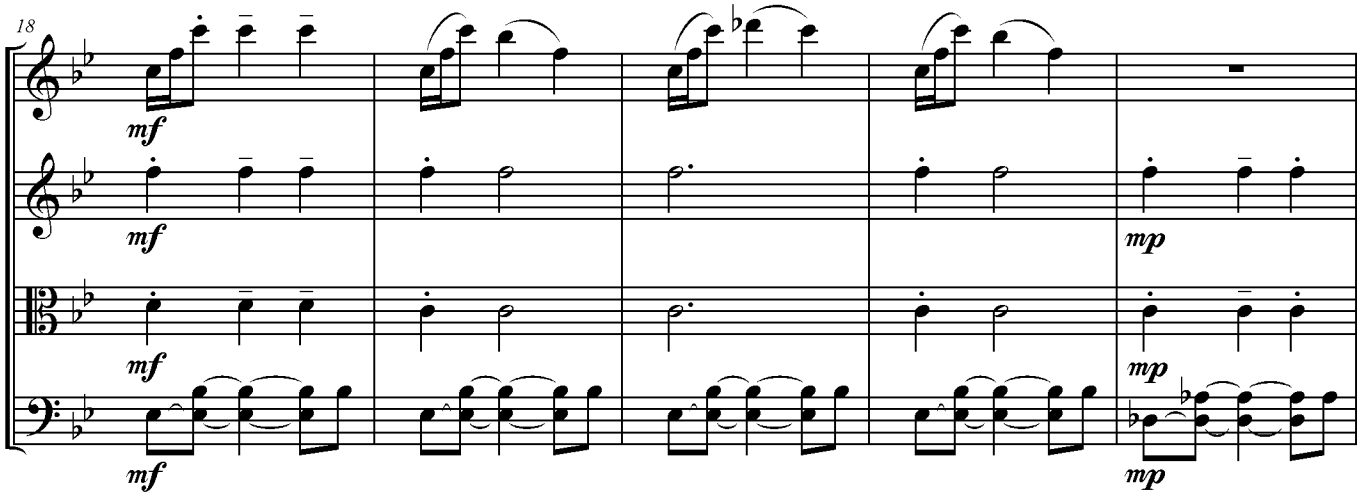
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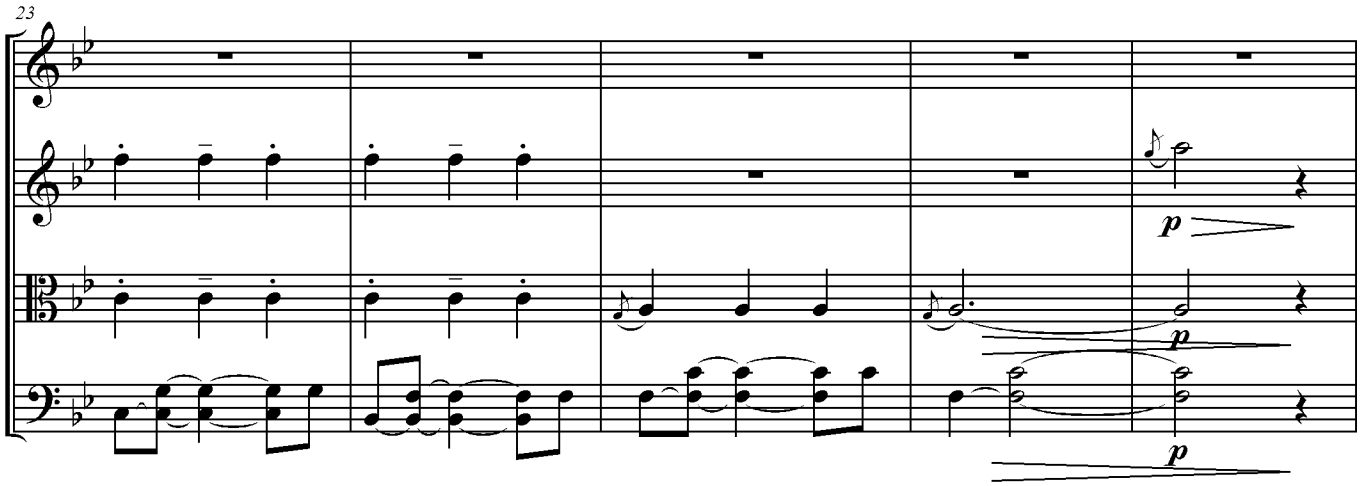
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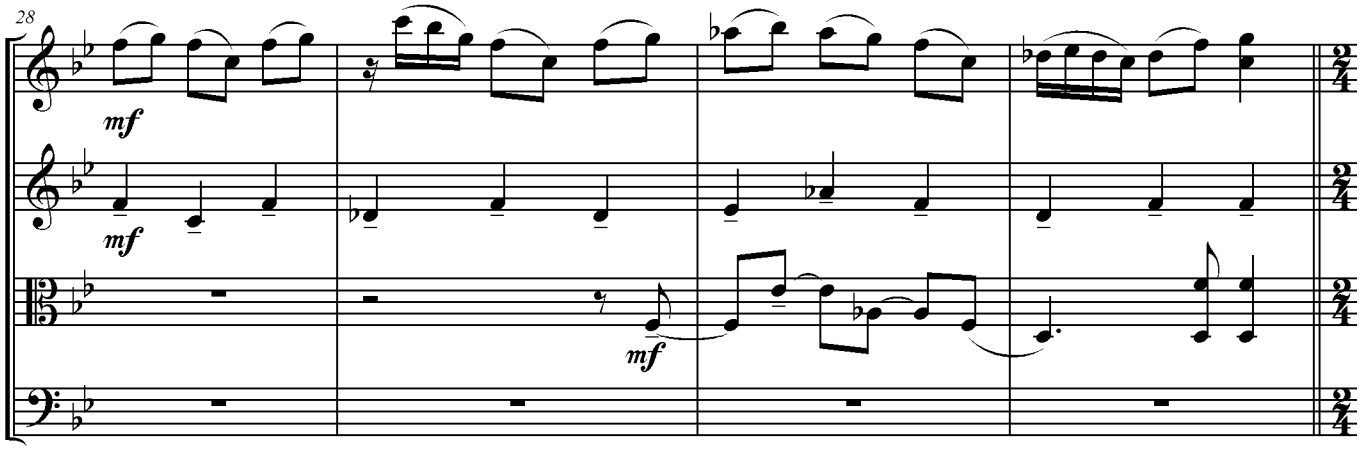
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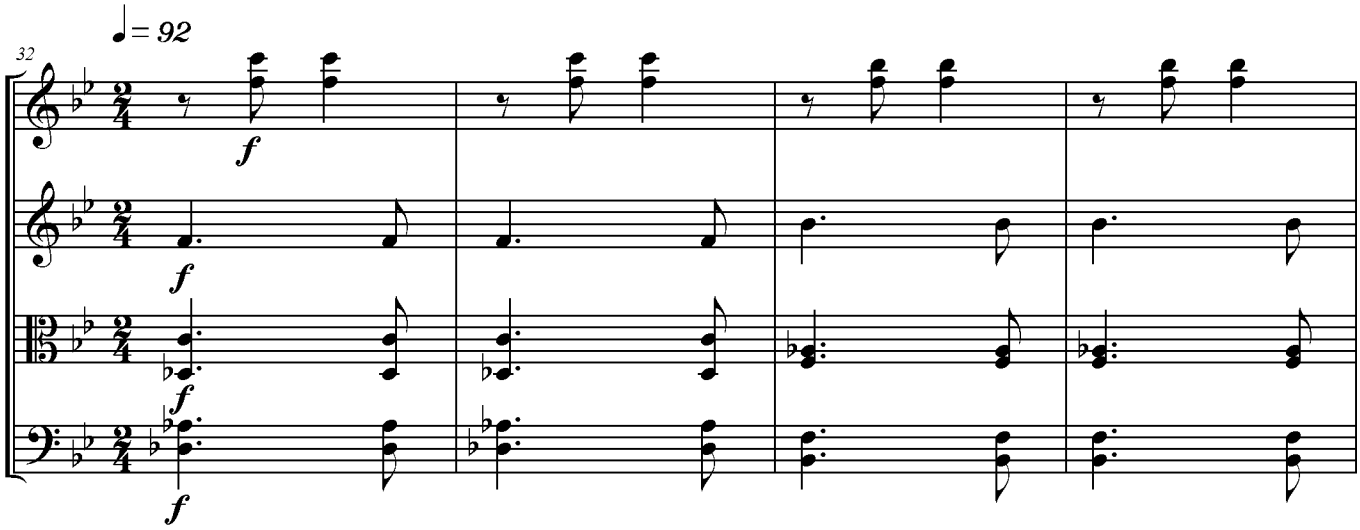
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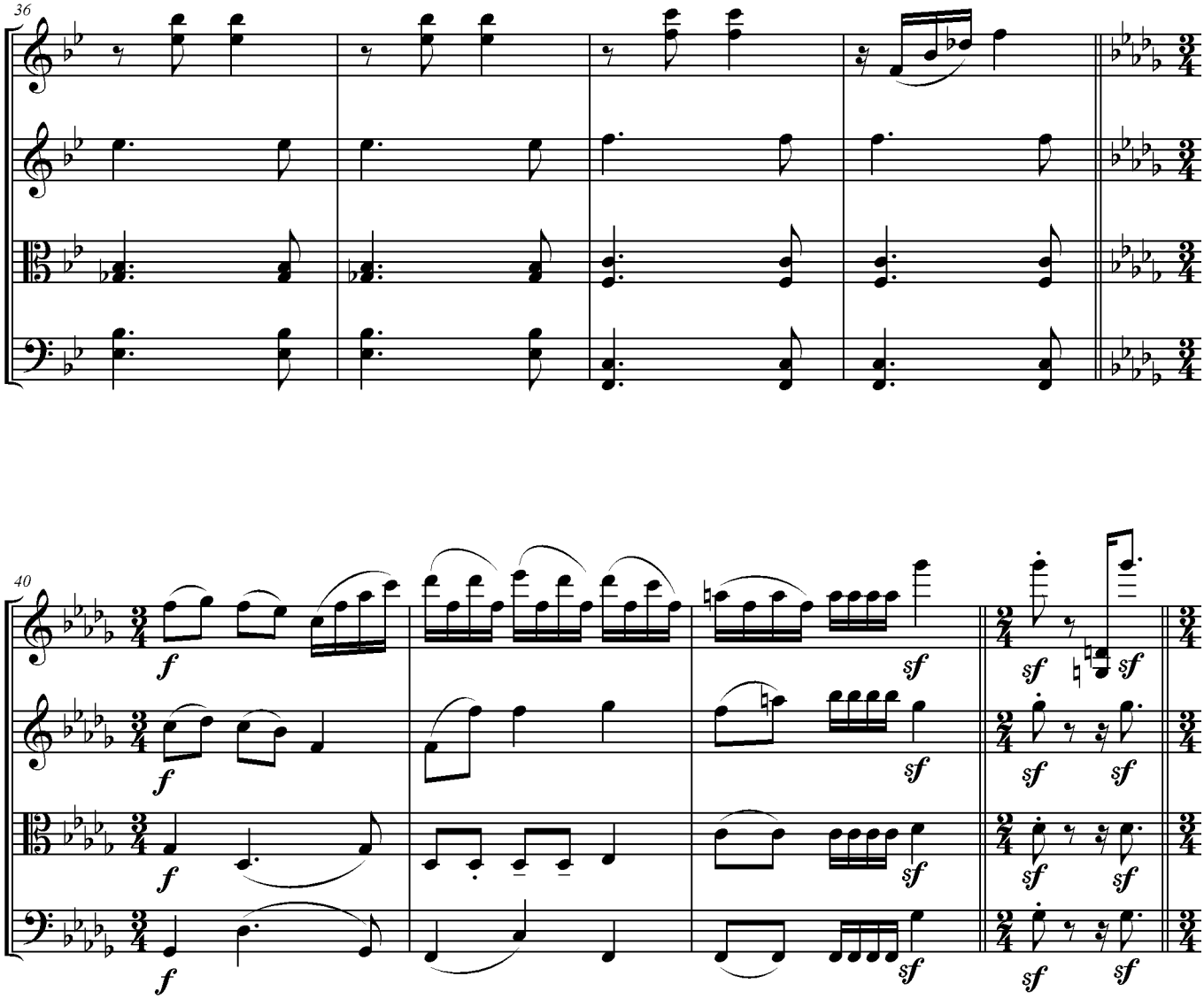
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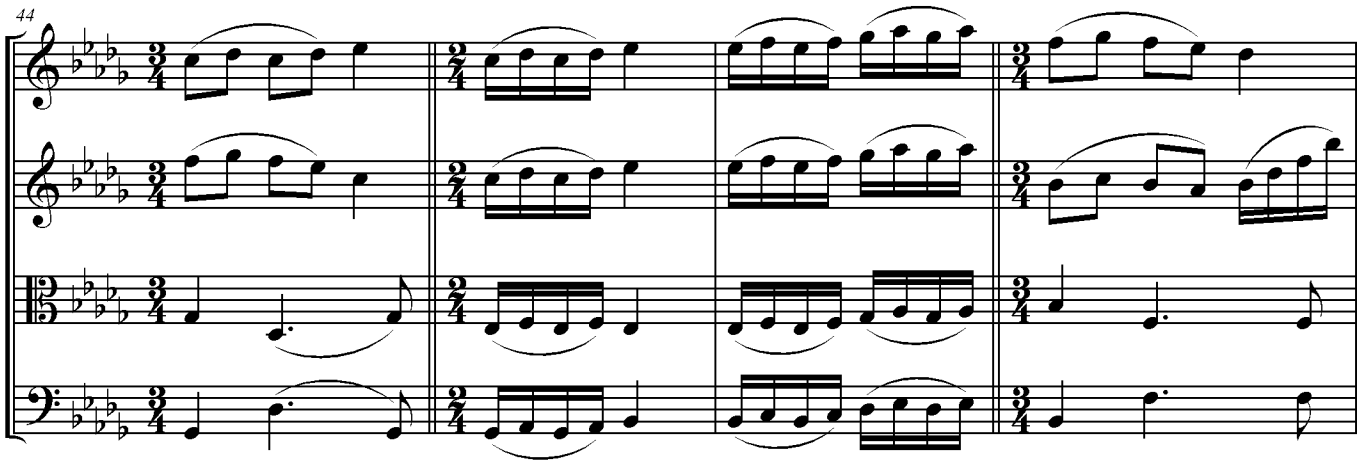
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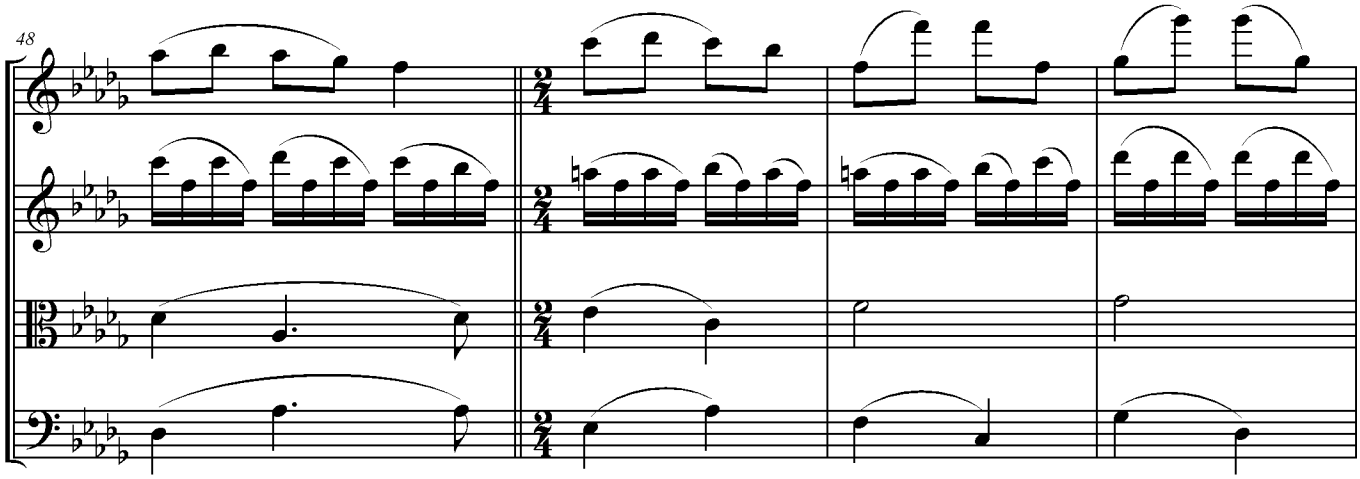
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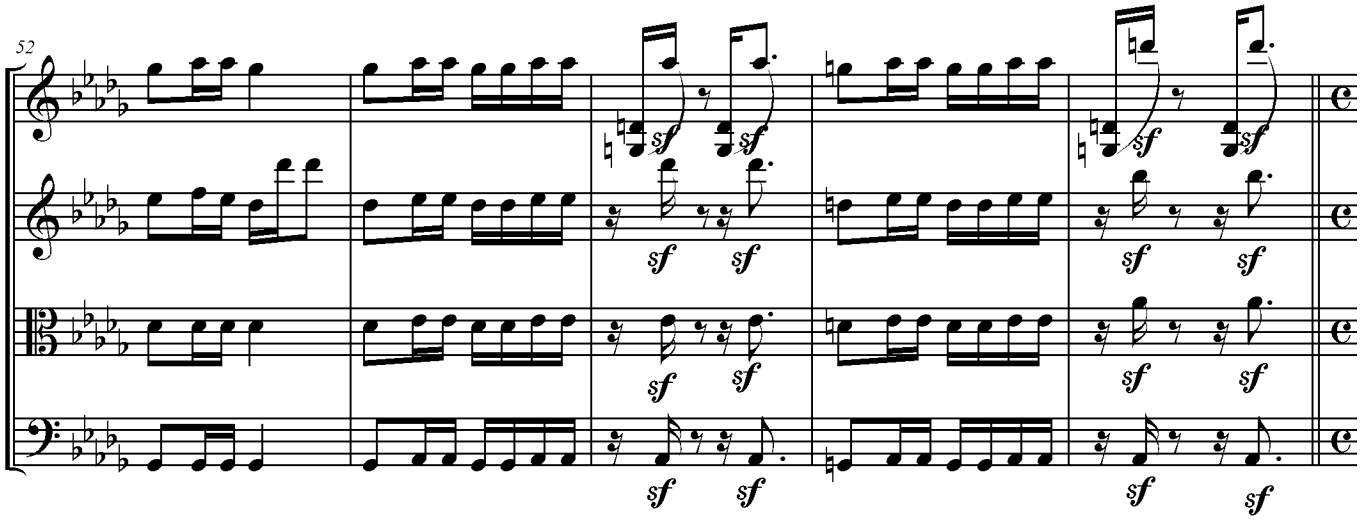
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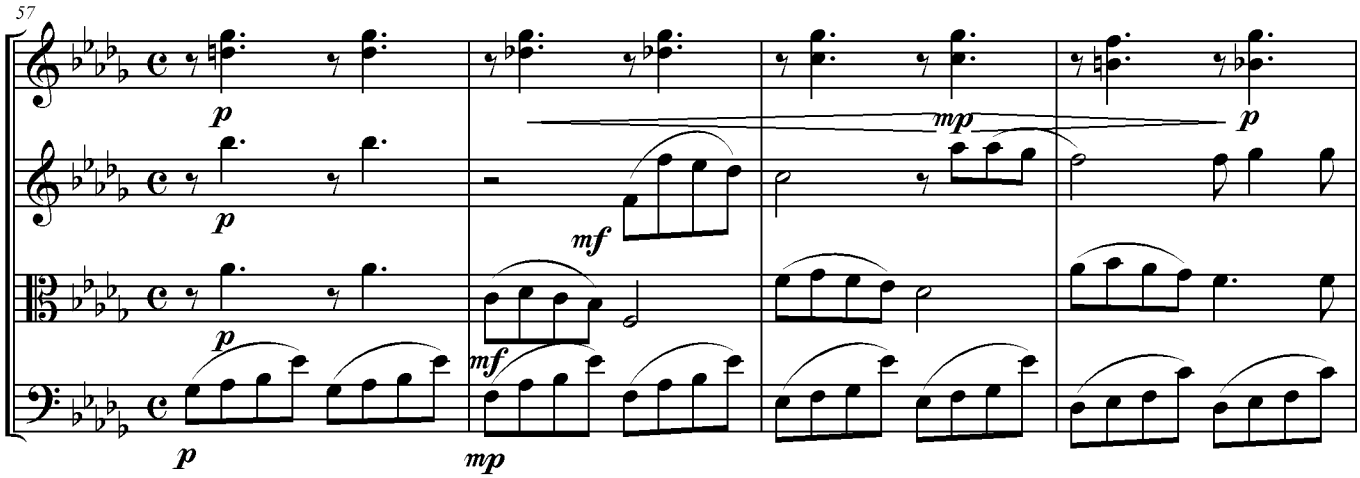
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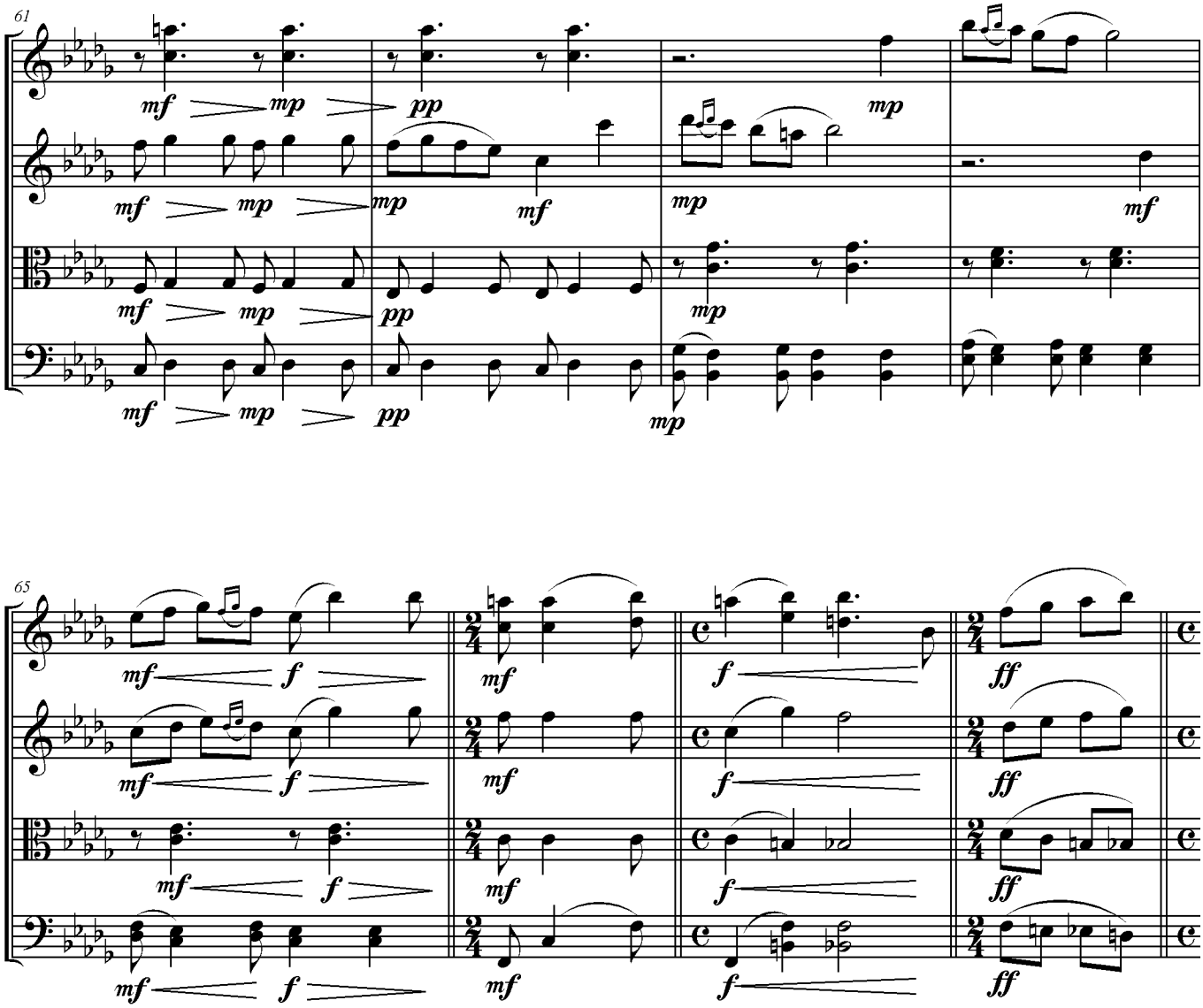
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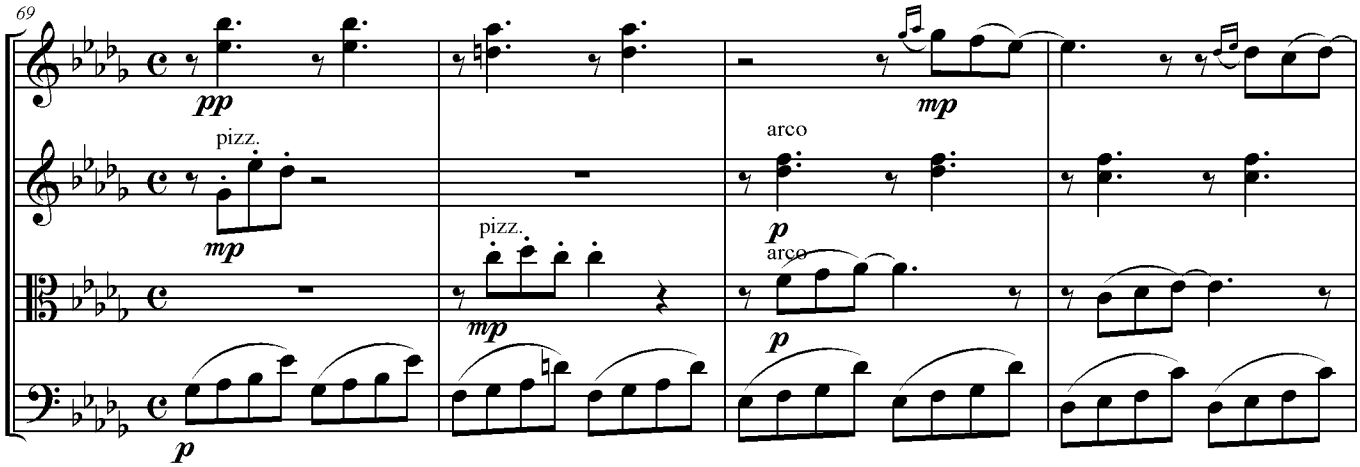
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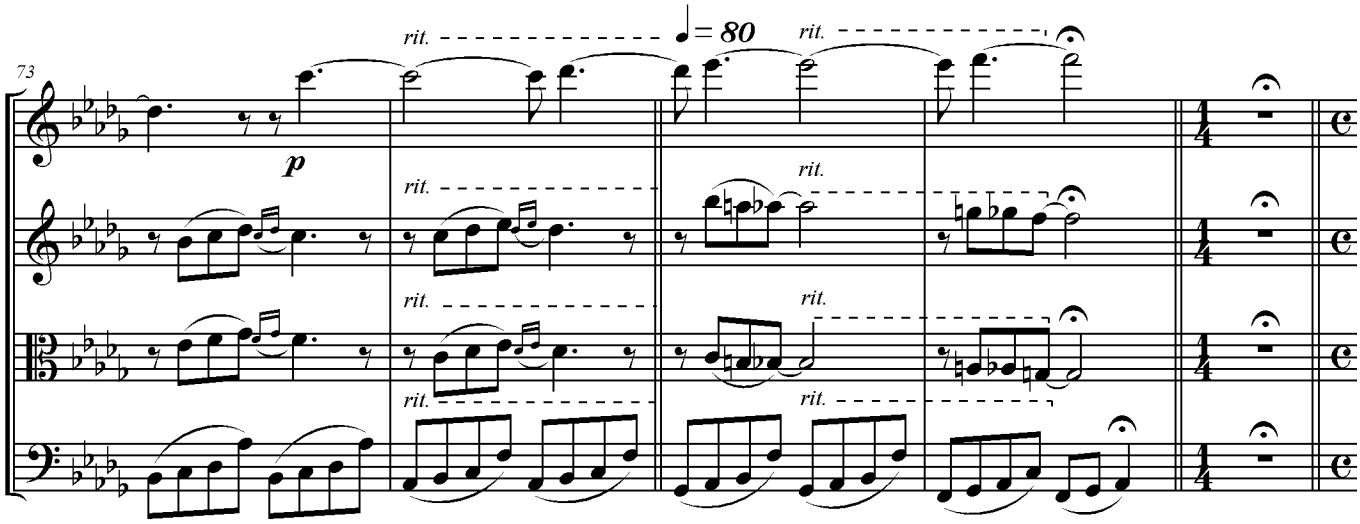
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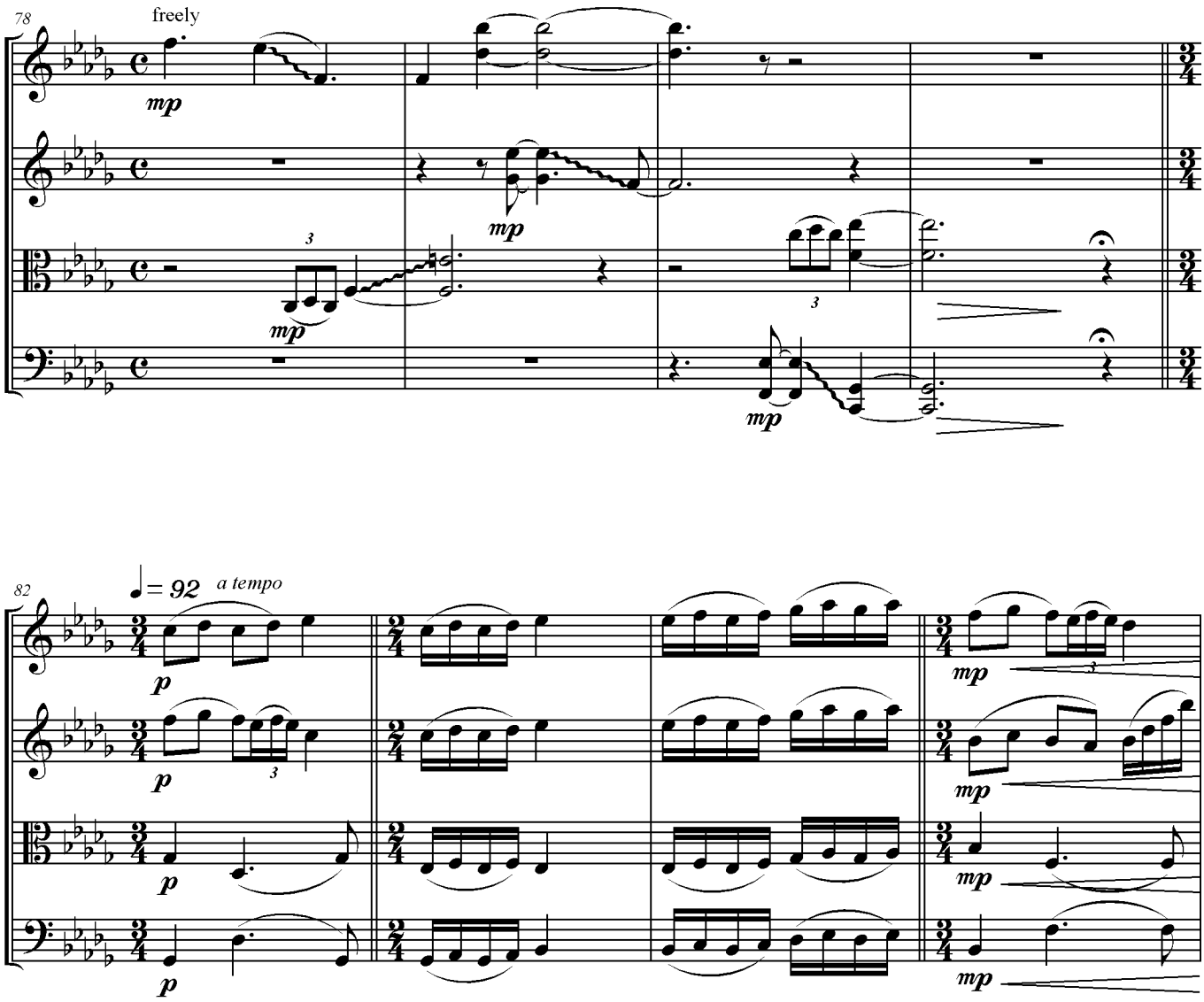
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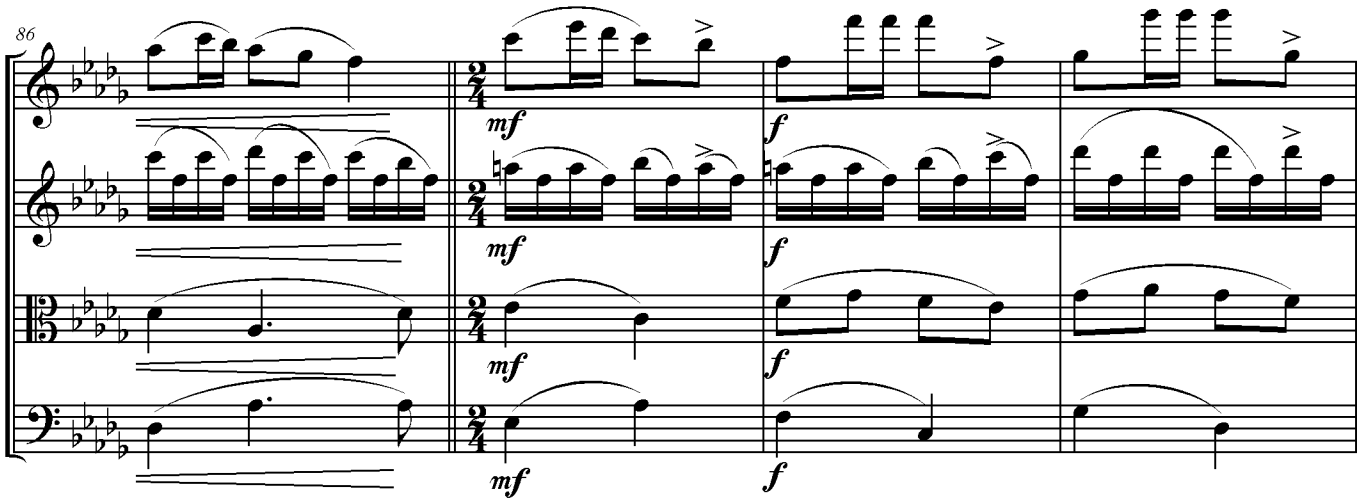
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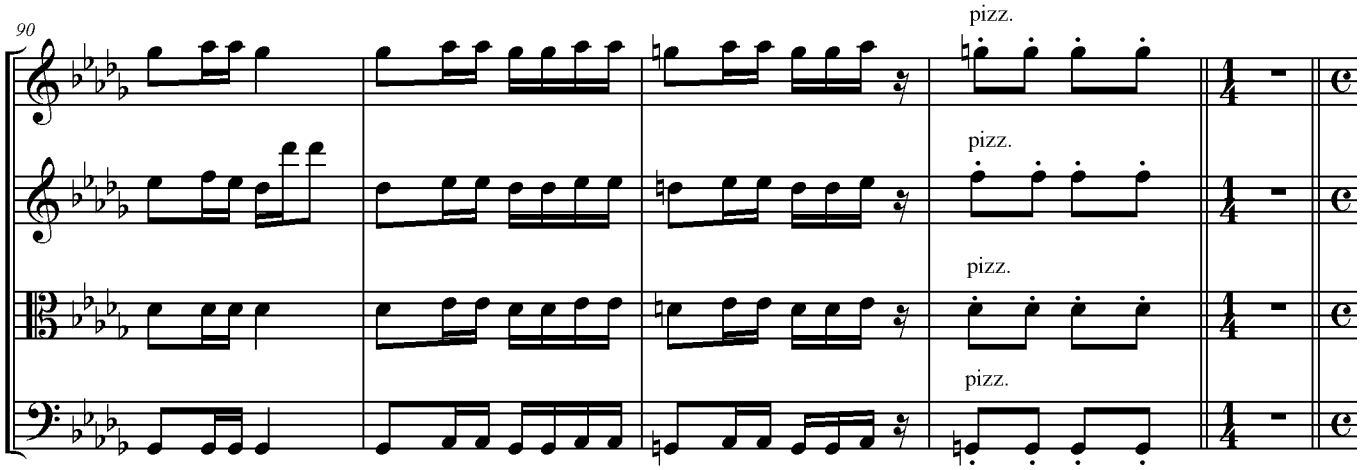
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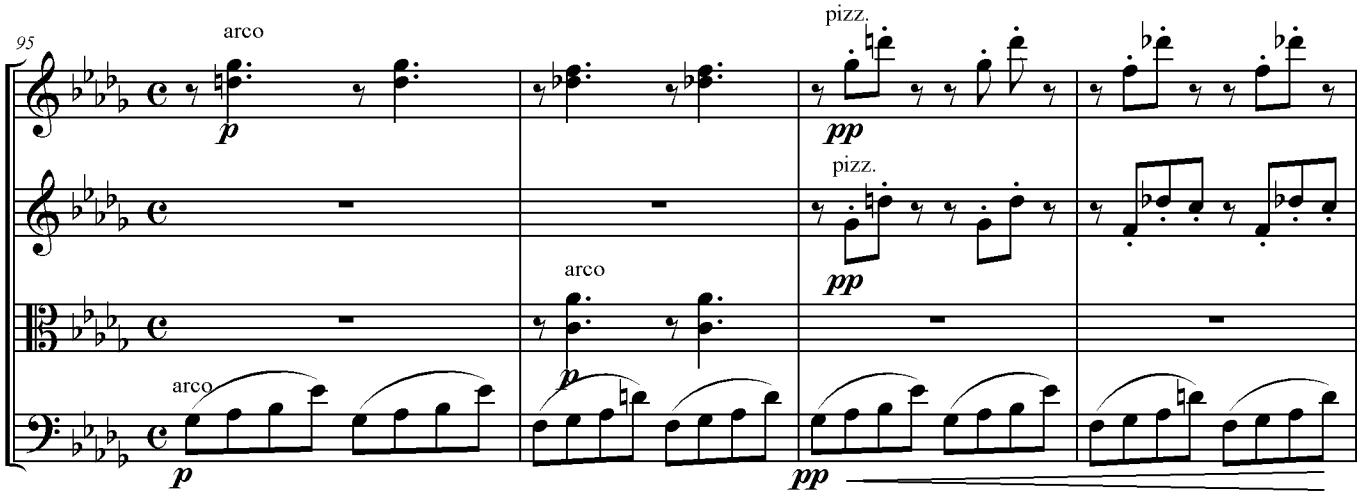
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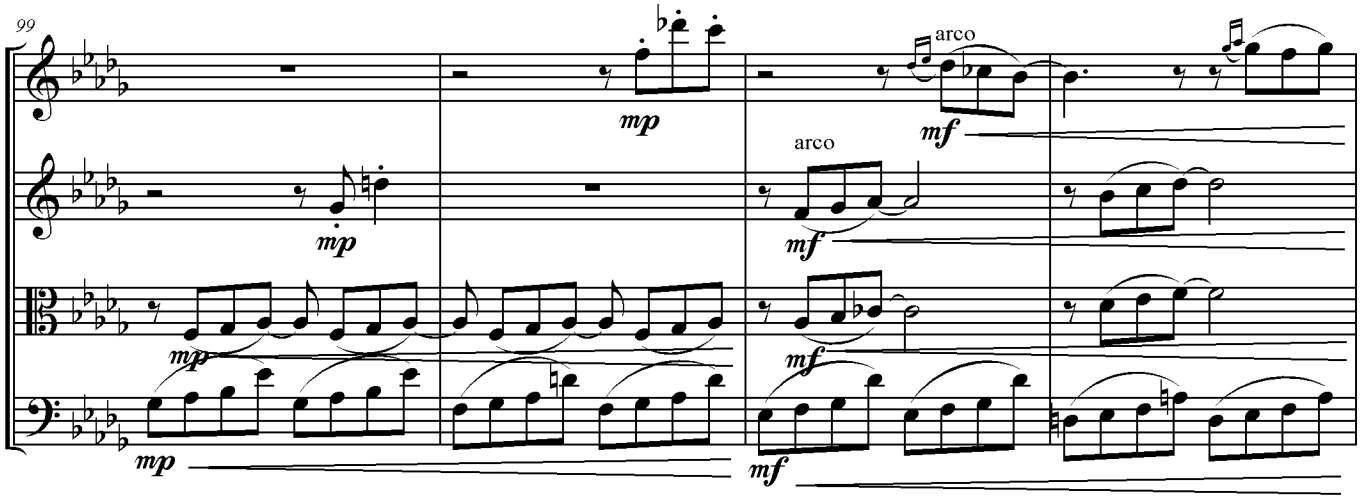
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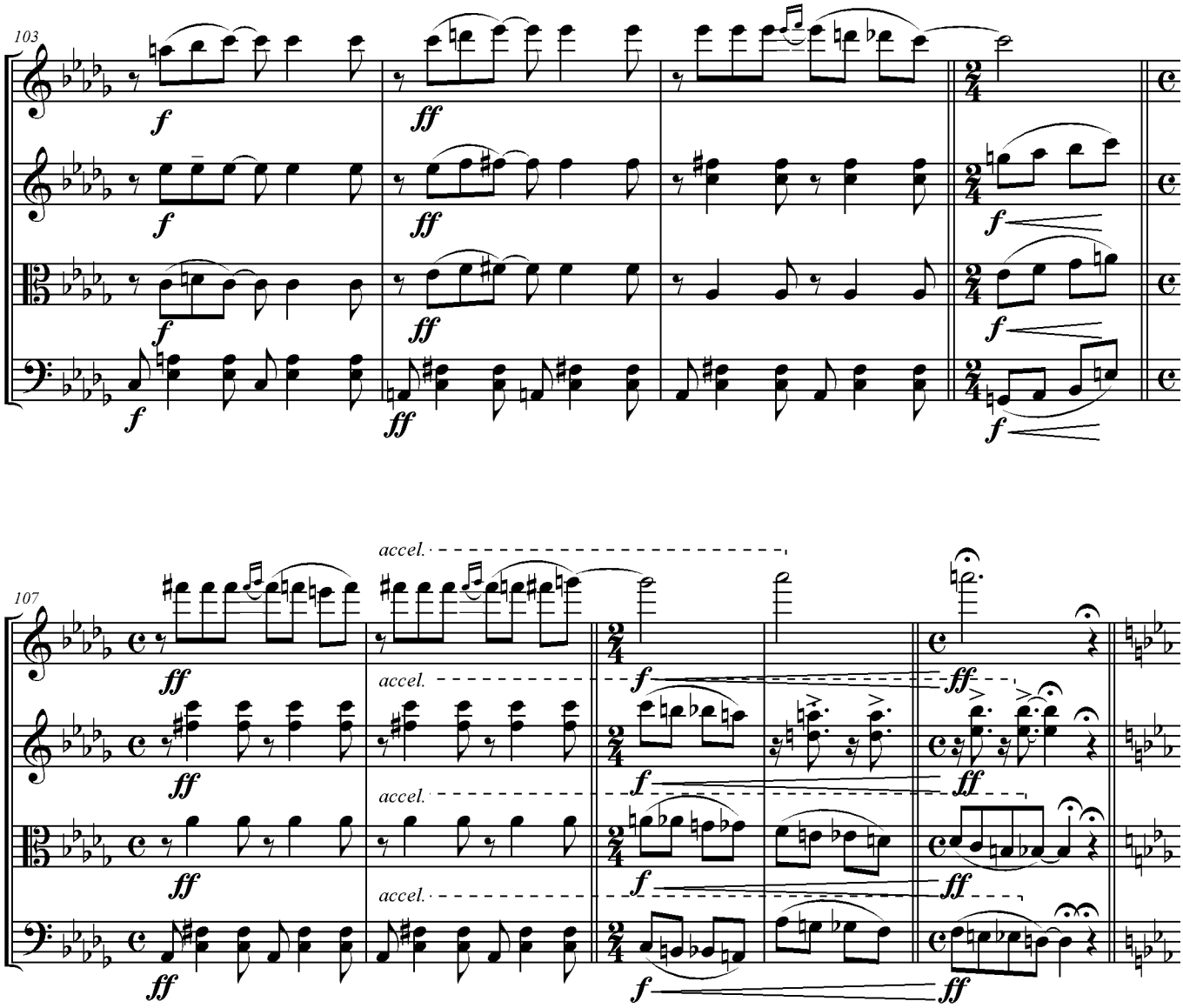
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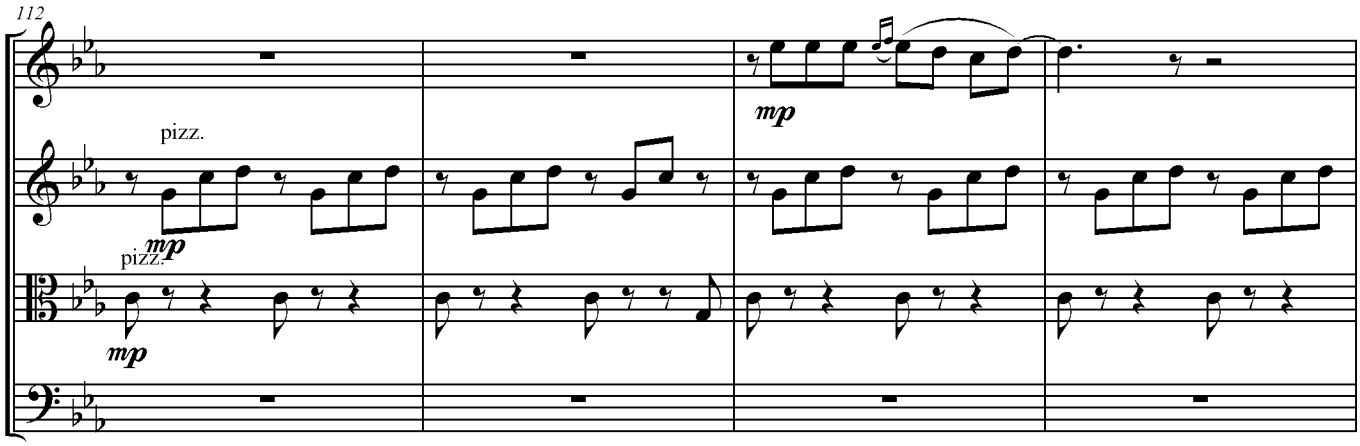
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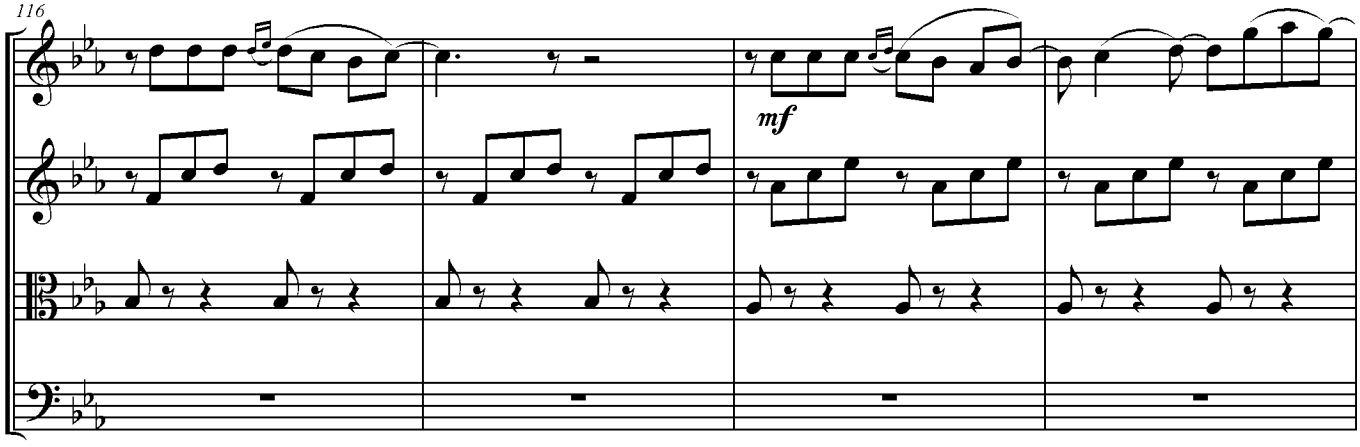
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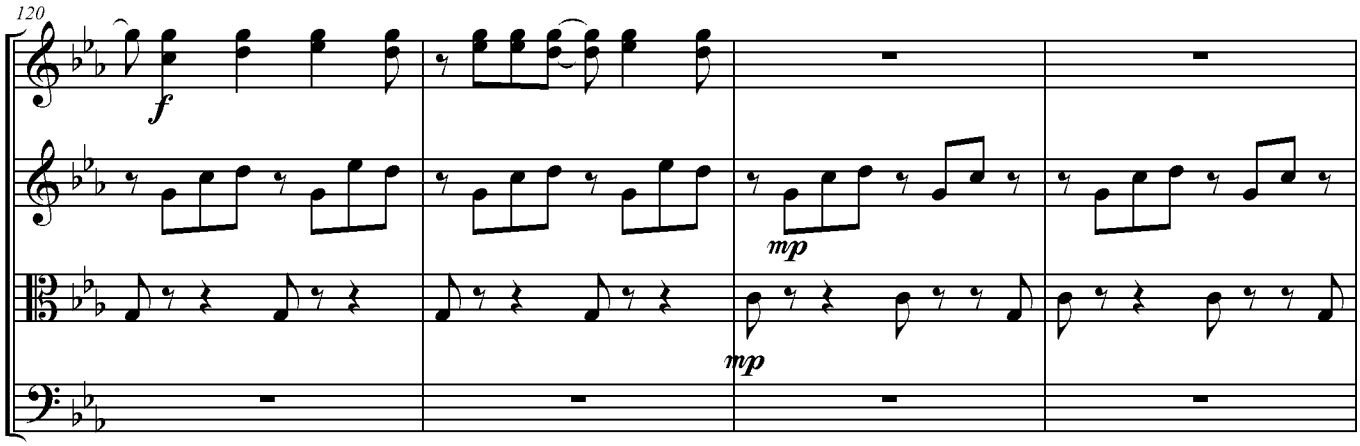
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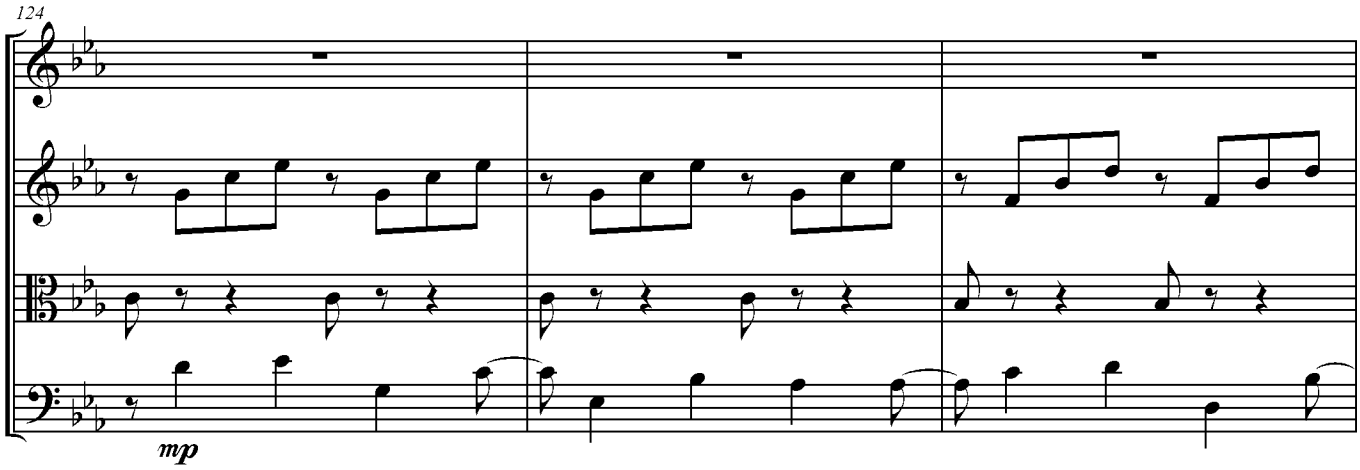
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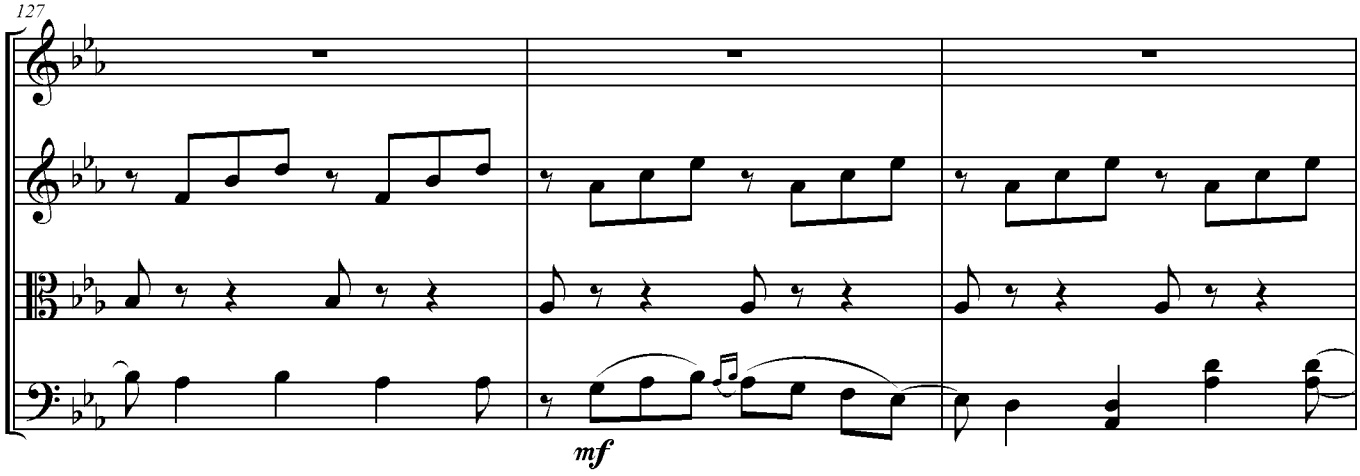
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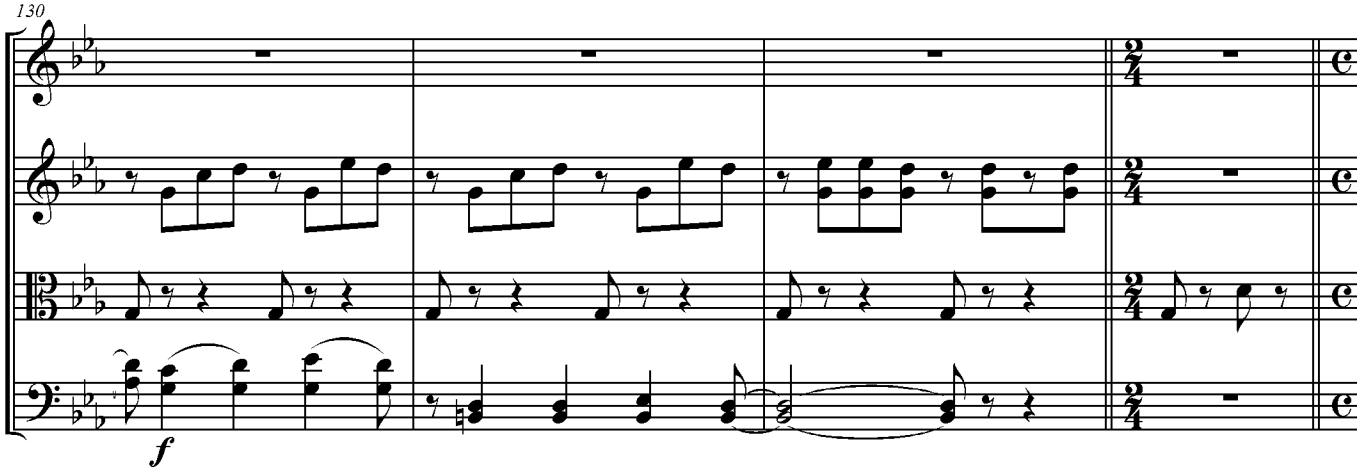
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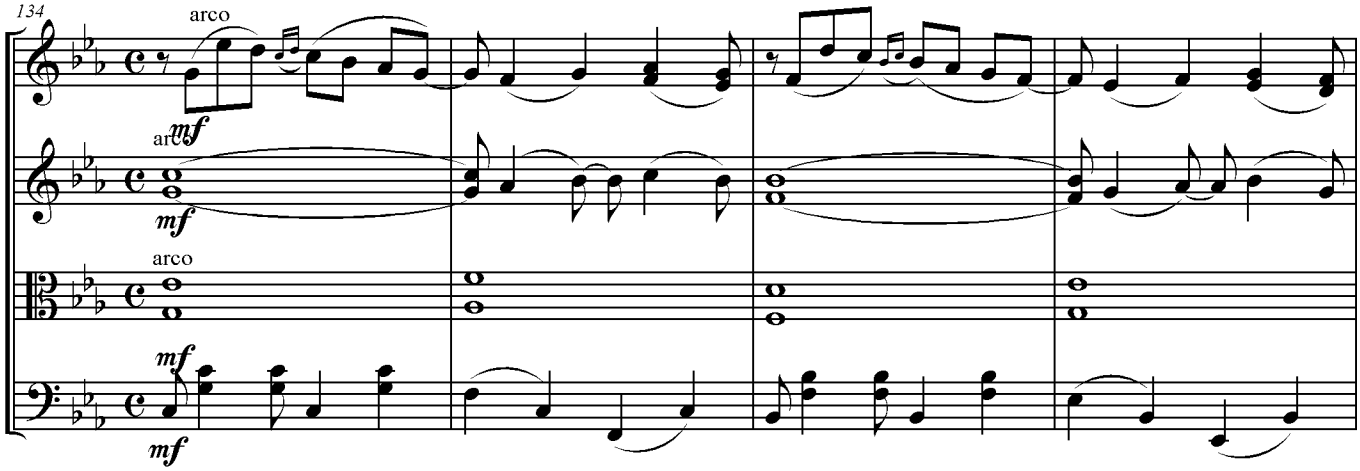
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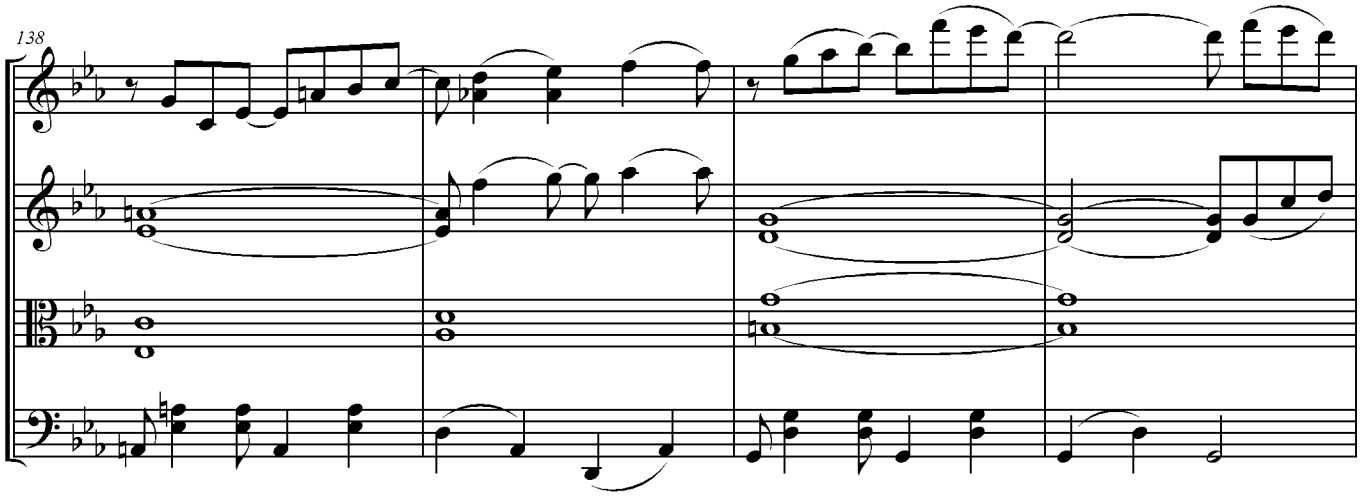
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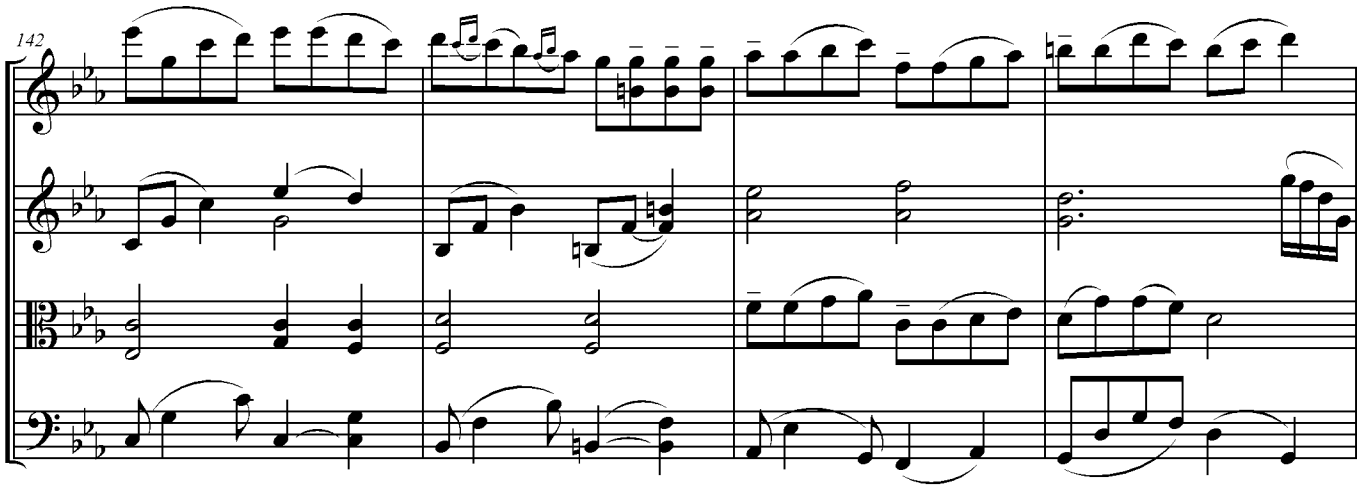
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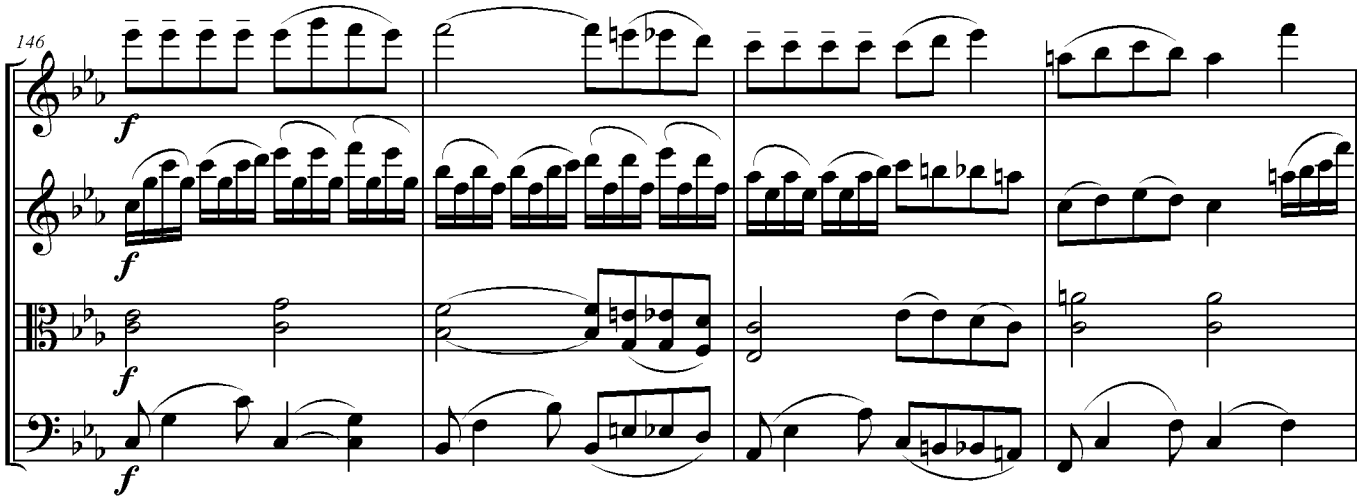
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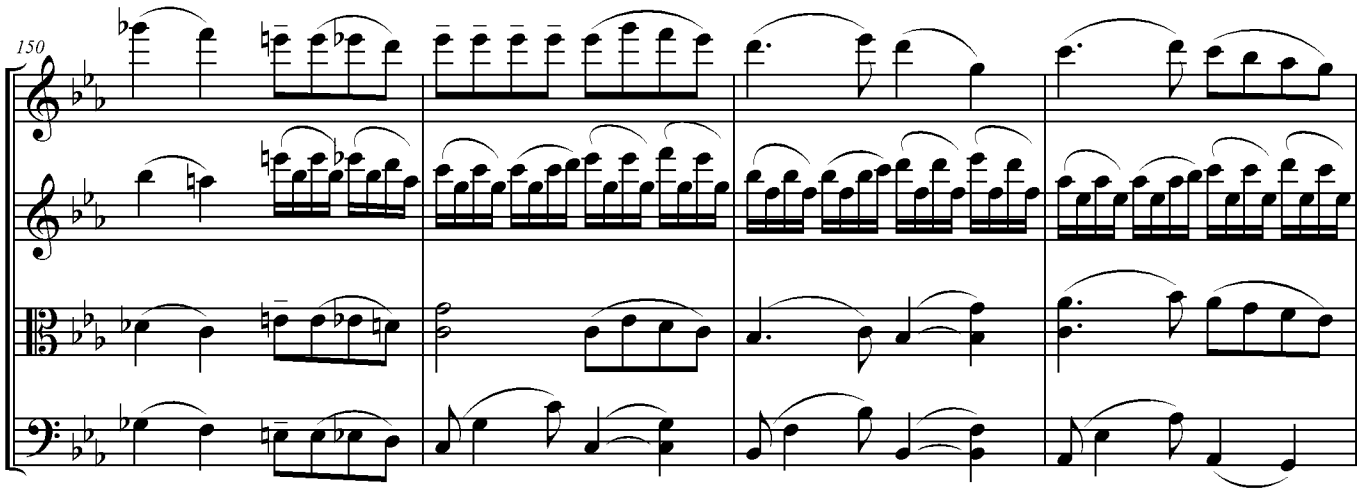
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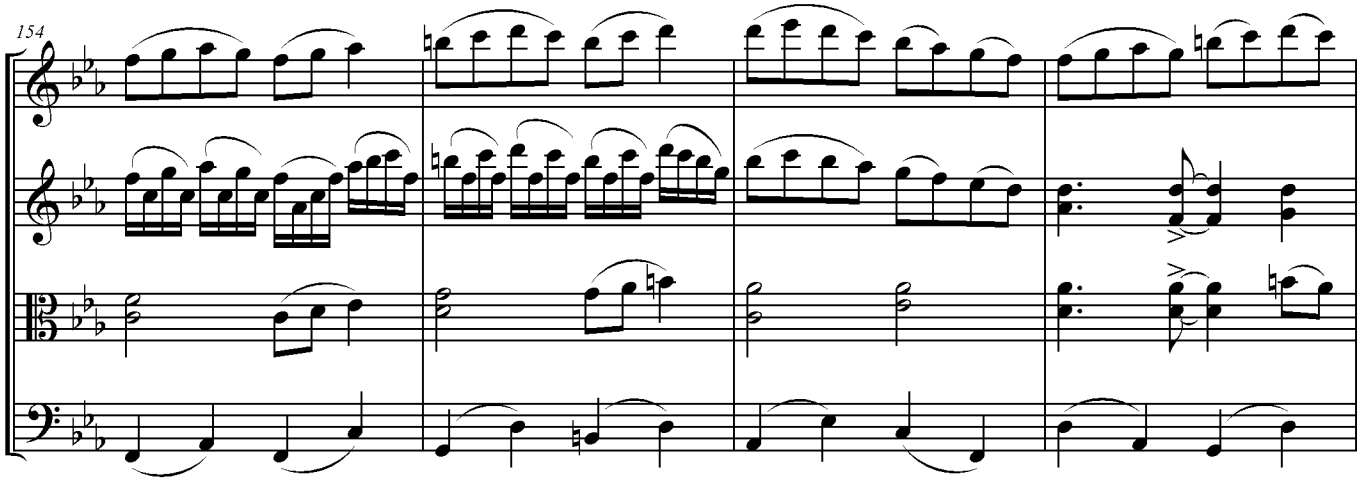
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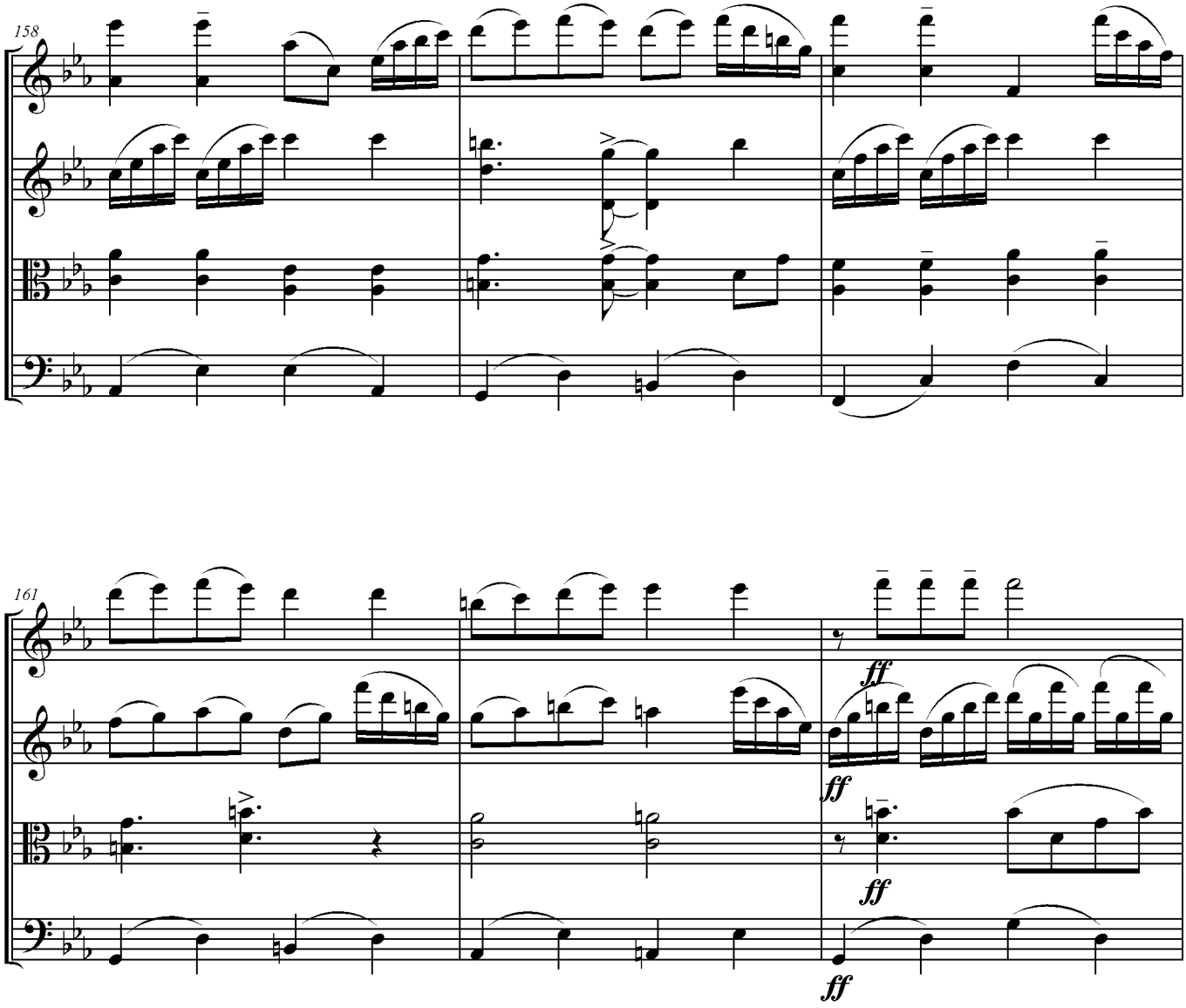
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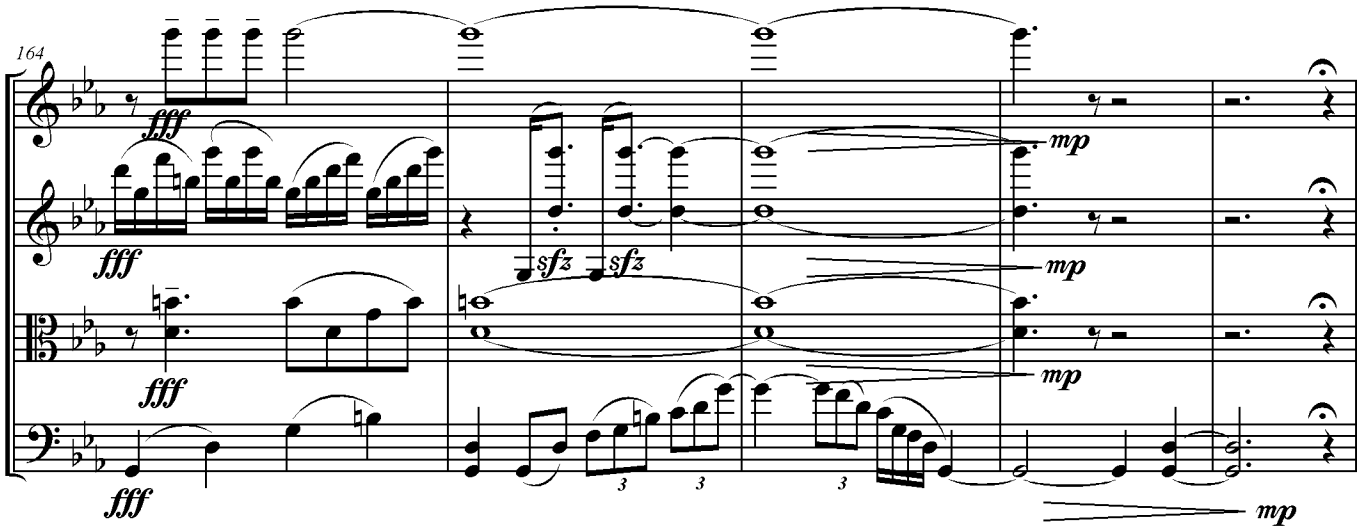
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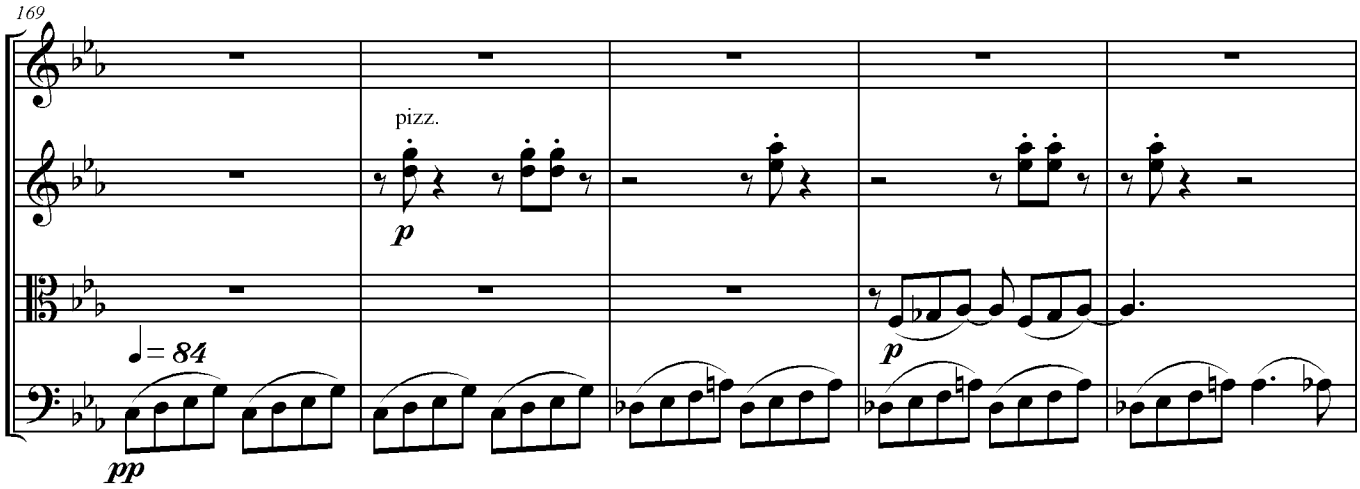
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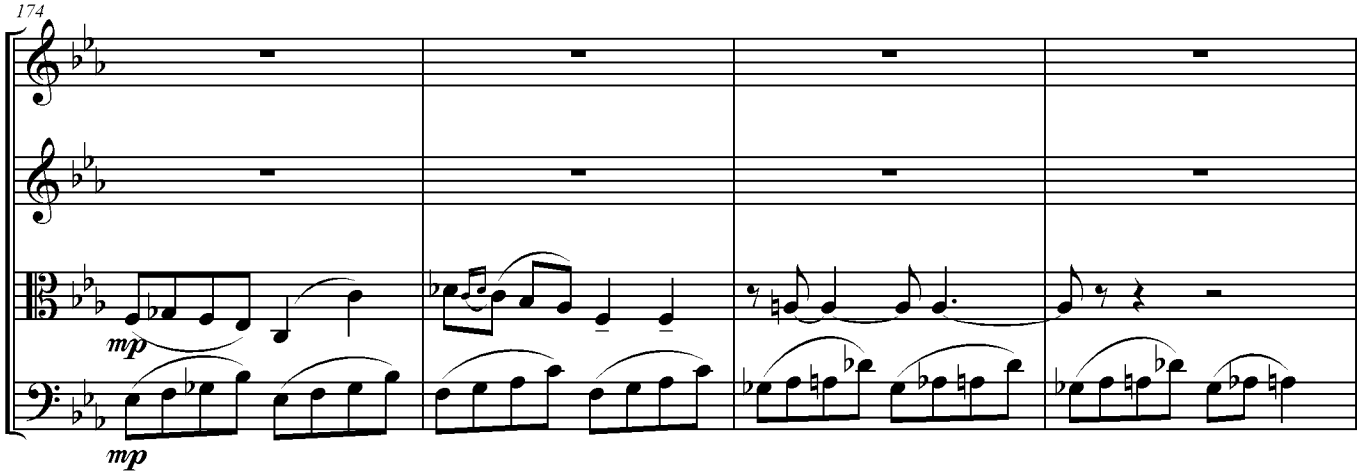
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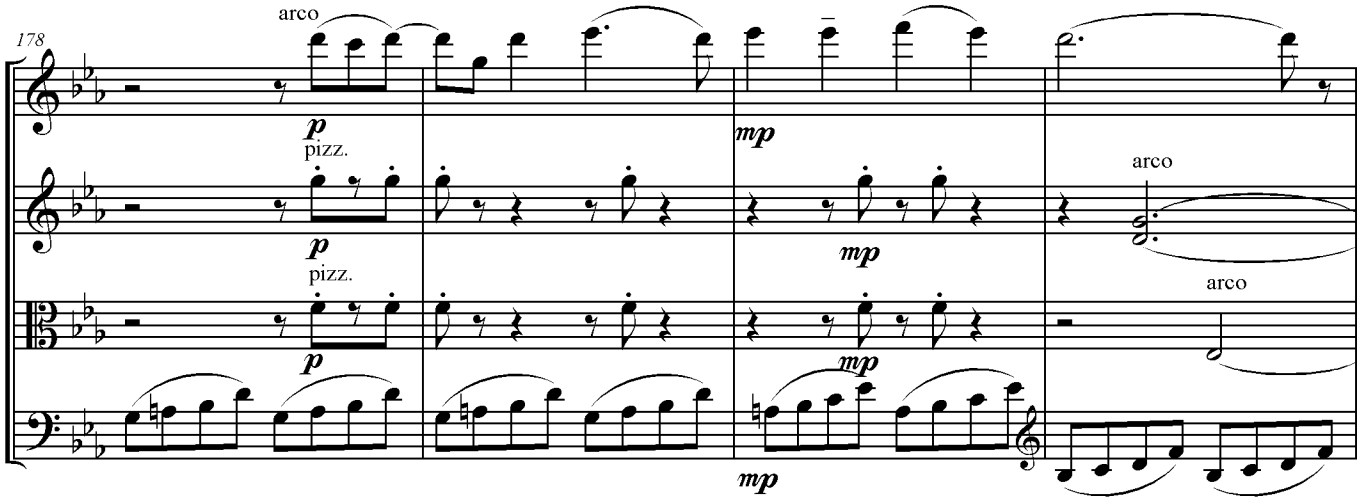
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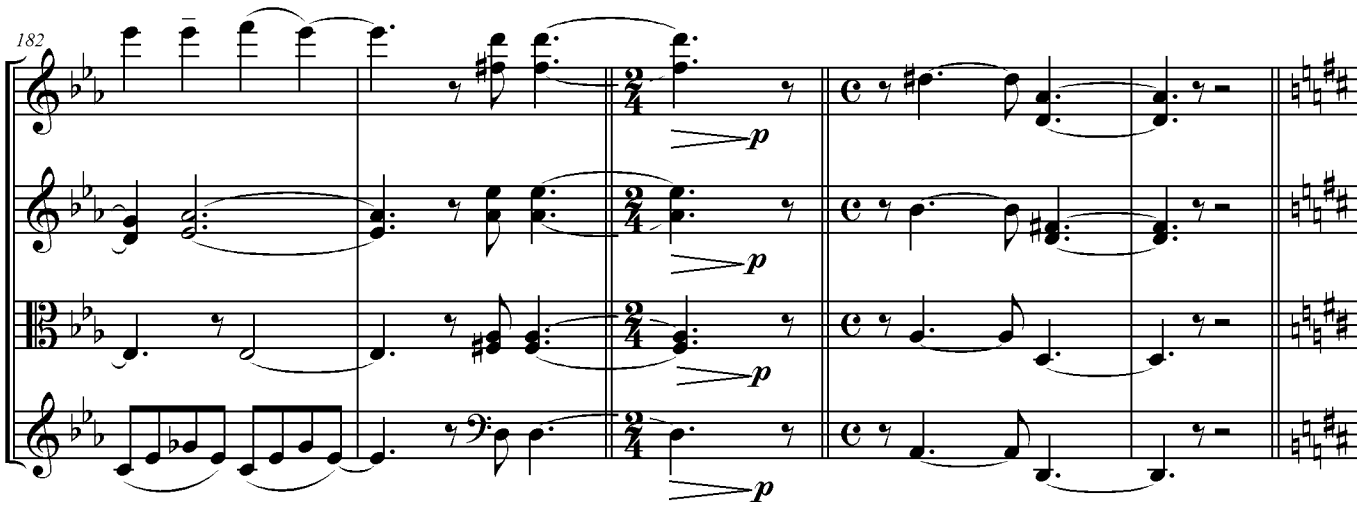
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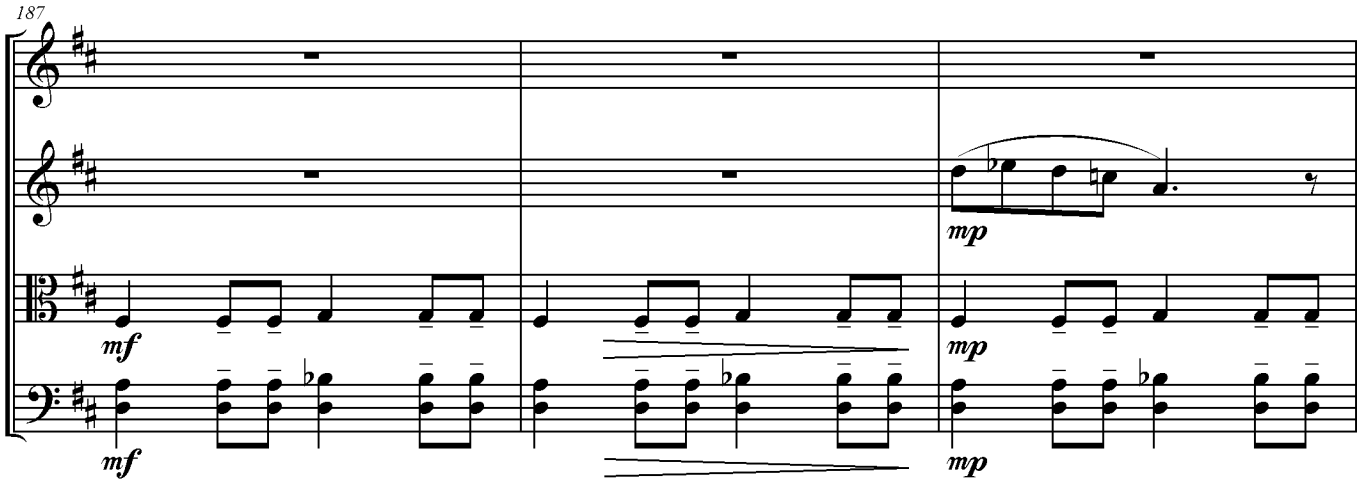
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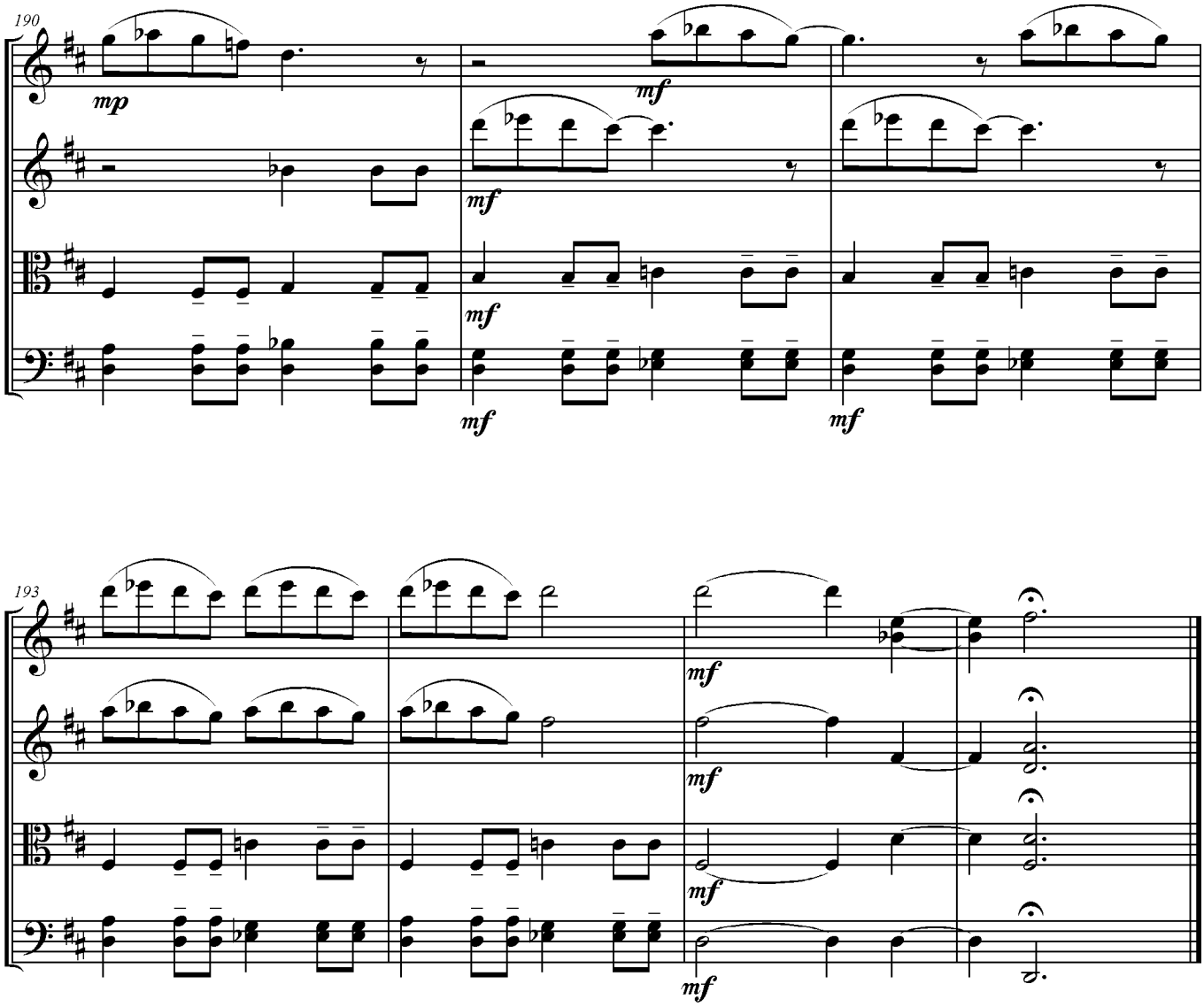
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