# you've been talking in your sleep

for saxophone quartet

David Biedenbender

Bent Space Music

*you've been talking in your sleep* was commissioned by New Sounds Music, Incorporated The nonprofit organization of the PRISM Quartet, Timothy McAllister, soprano saxophone; Zachary Shemon, alto saxophone; Matthew Levy, tenor saxophone; Taimur Sullivan, ba:ritone saxophone.

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# Program Note

I am often fascinated by sleep and dreams and, consequently, the incredibly weird and bizarre thoughts, ideas, experiences, and sounds that come out of this seemingly inactive and tranquil aspect of human existence. For instance, while working late at night, I frequently hear my wife talking aloud, presumably either to me or to something or someone with whom she is interacting in her dreams. The language is neither English nor gibberish and contains familiar words and sounds but is completely incomprehensible to me. I often imagine what it would be like to talk with her while she sleeps and experience what she experiences, but alas, I am awake and she is asleep  there is a veil of consciousness between us. For this piece, I imagined a musical language that is a sort of synthesis of both the clarity and compete nonsense of this surreal language  a kind of dialogue between the conscious self and the sleeping self.

# Instrumentation

B♭ Soprano Saxophone

E♭ Alto Saxophone

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Transposed Score

duration: *ca.* 9:00

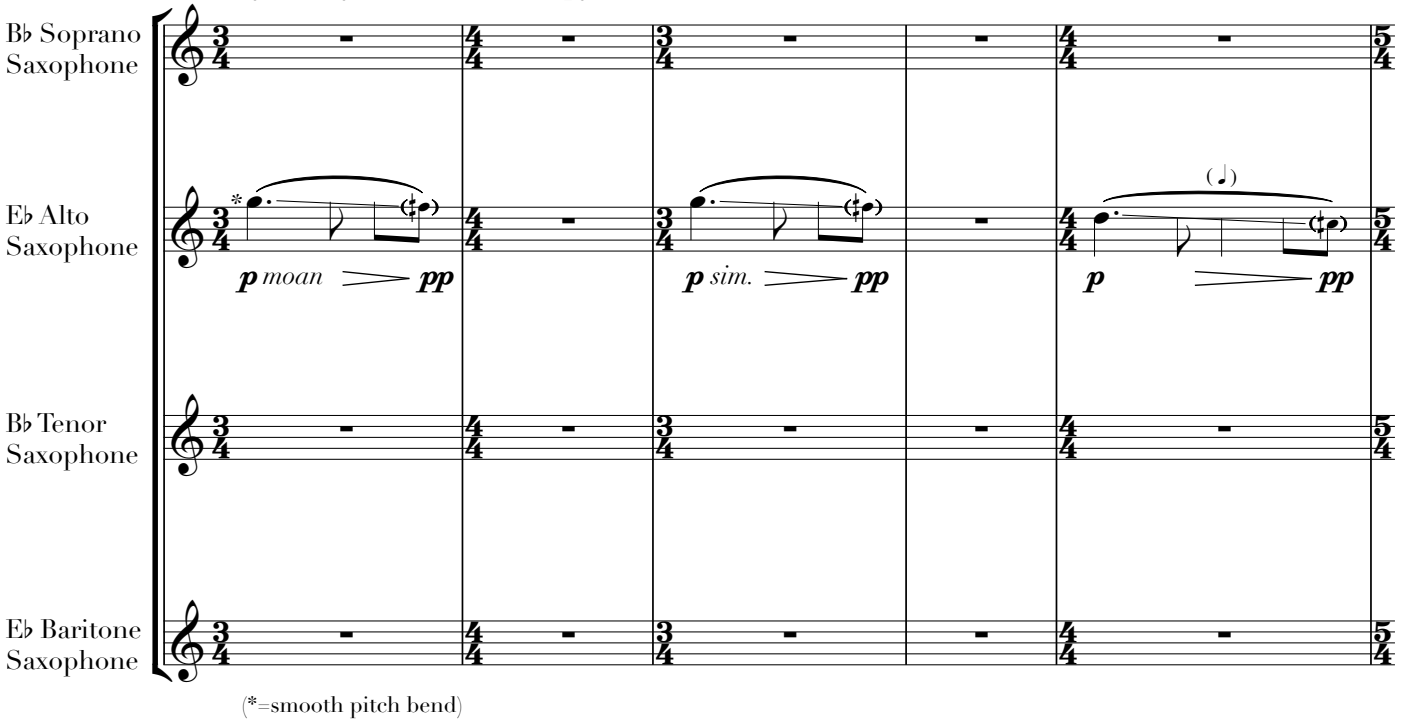
Transposed Score

*for the PRISM Quartet*

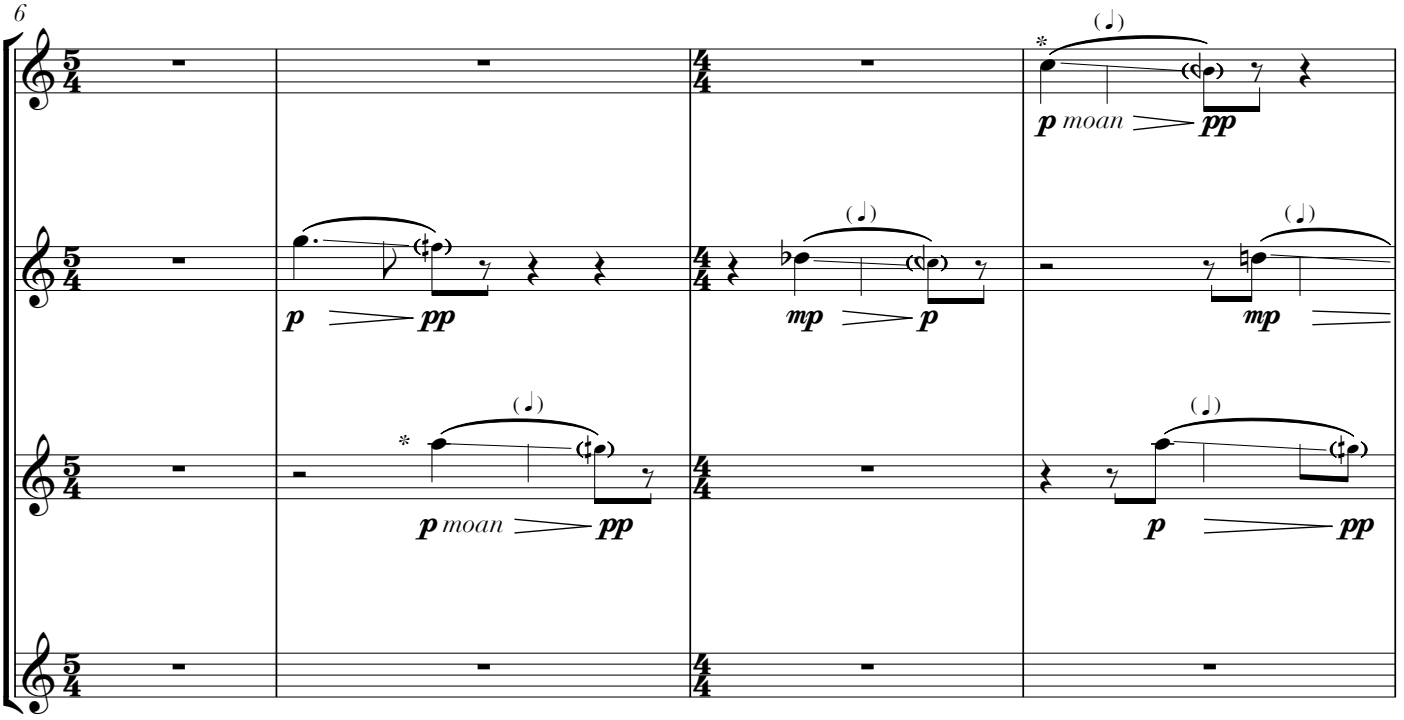
# you've been talking in your sleep

David Biedenbender

**Very slowly; eerie, still, sleepy ♩=56**




(*=smooth pitch bend)

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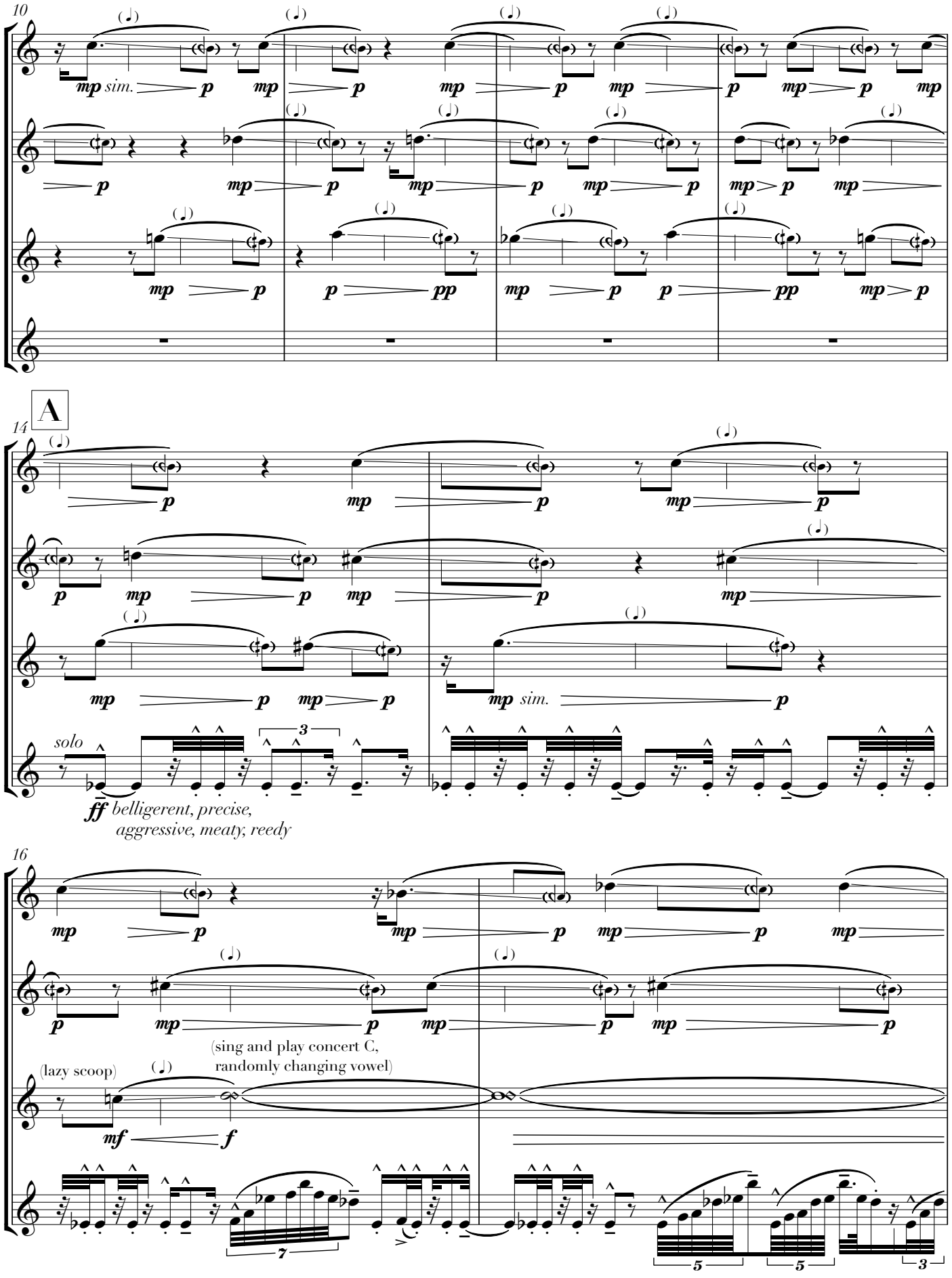
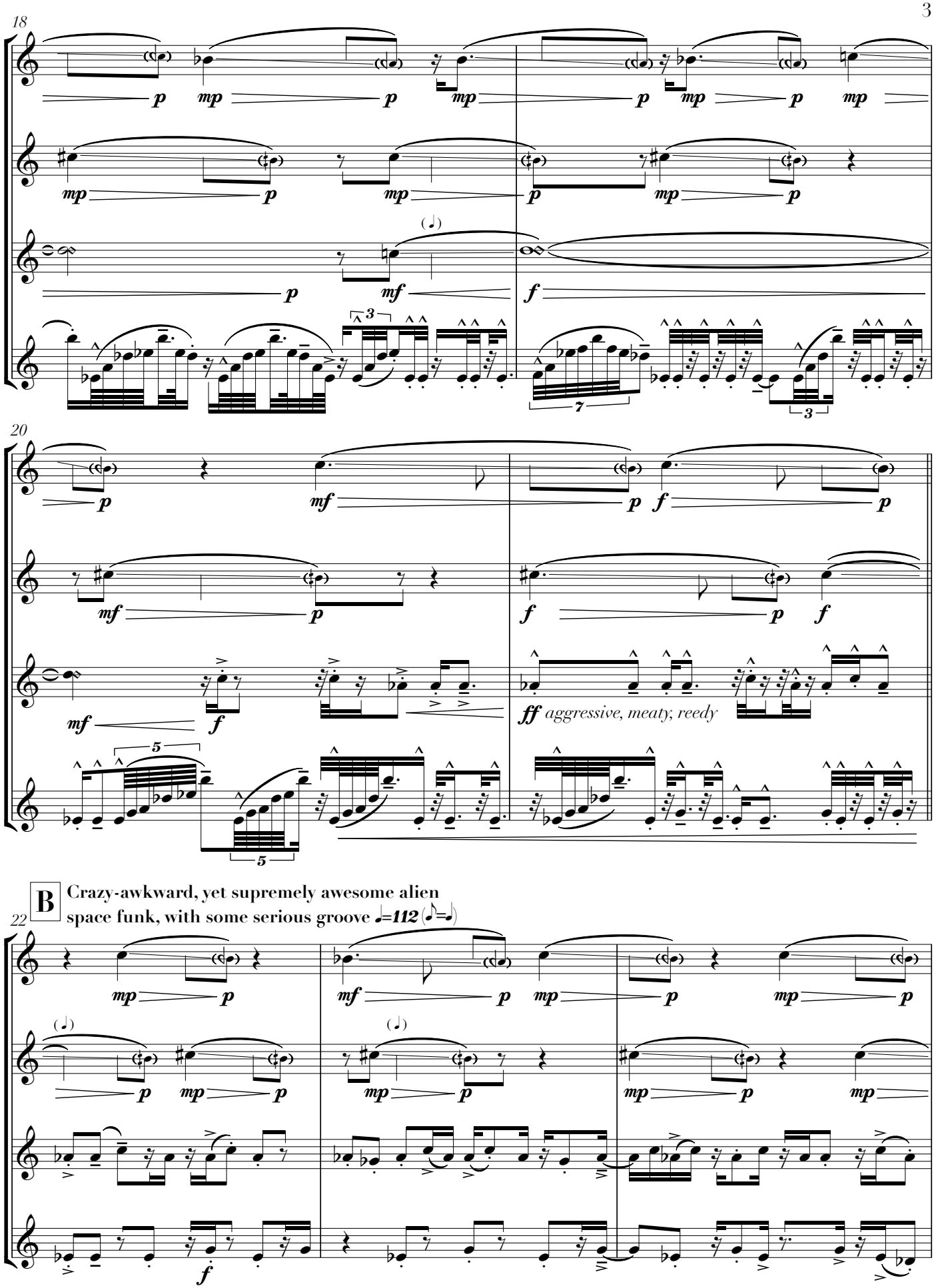
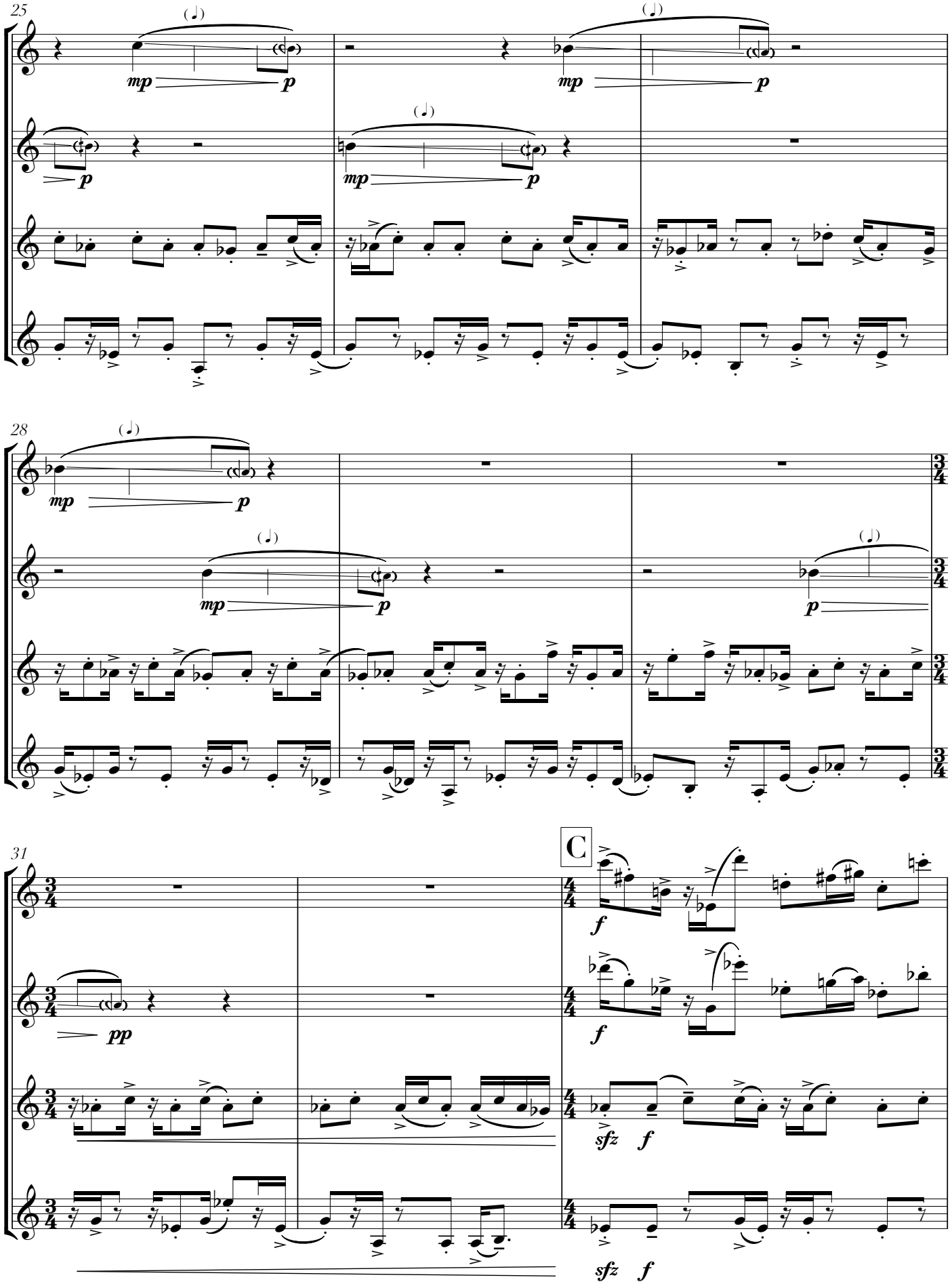
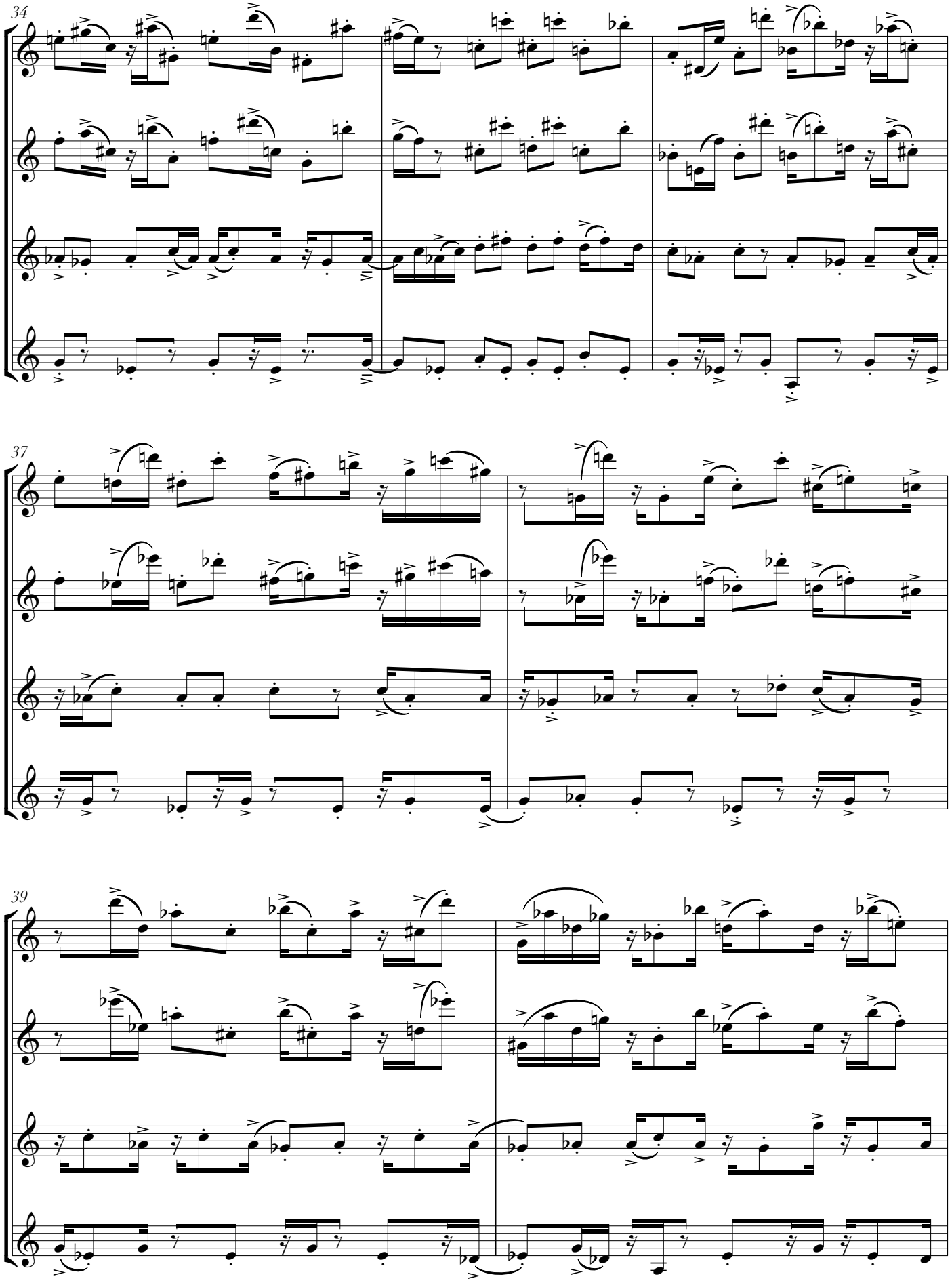
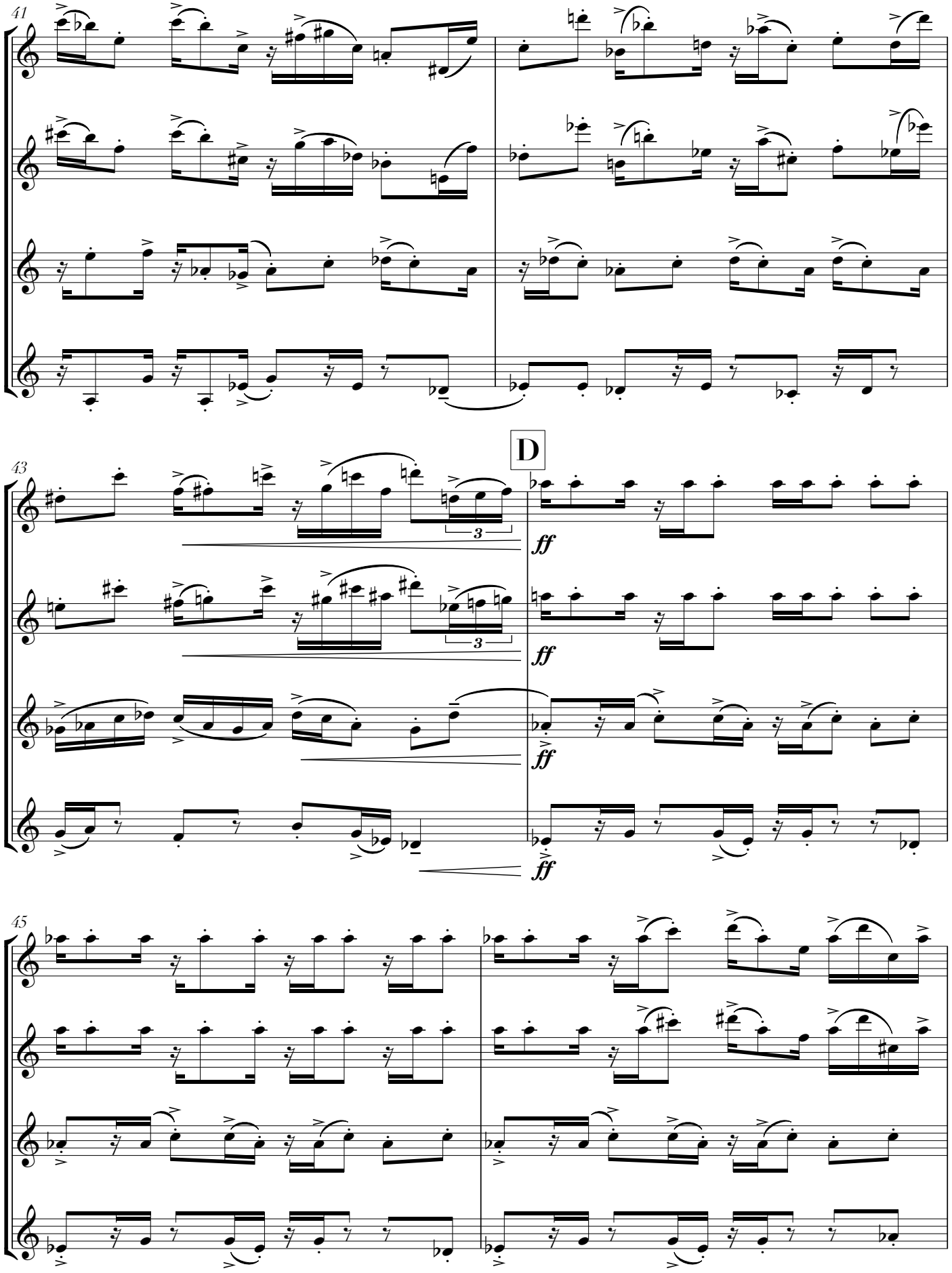
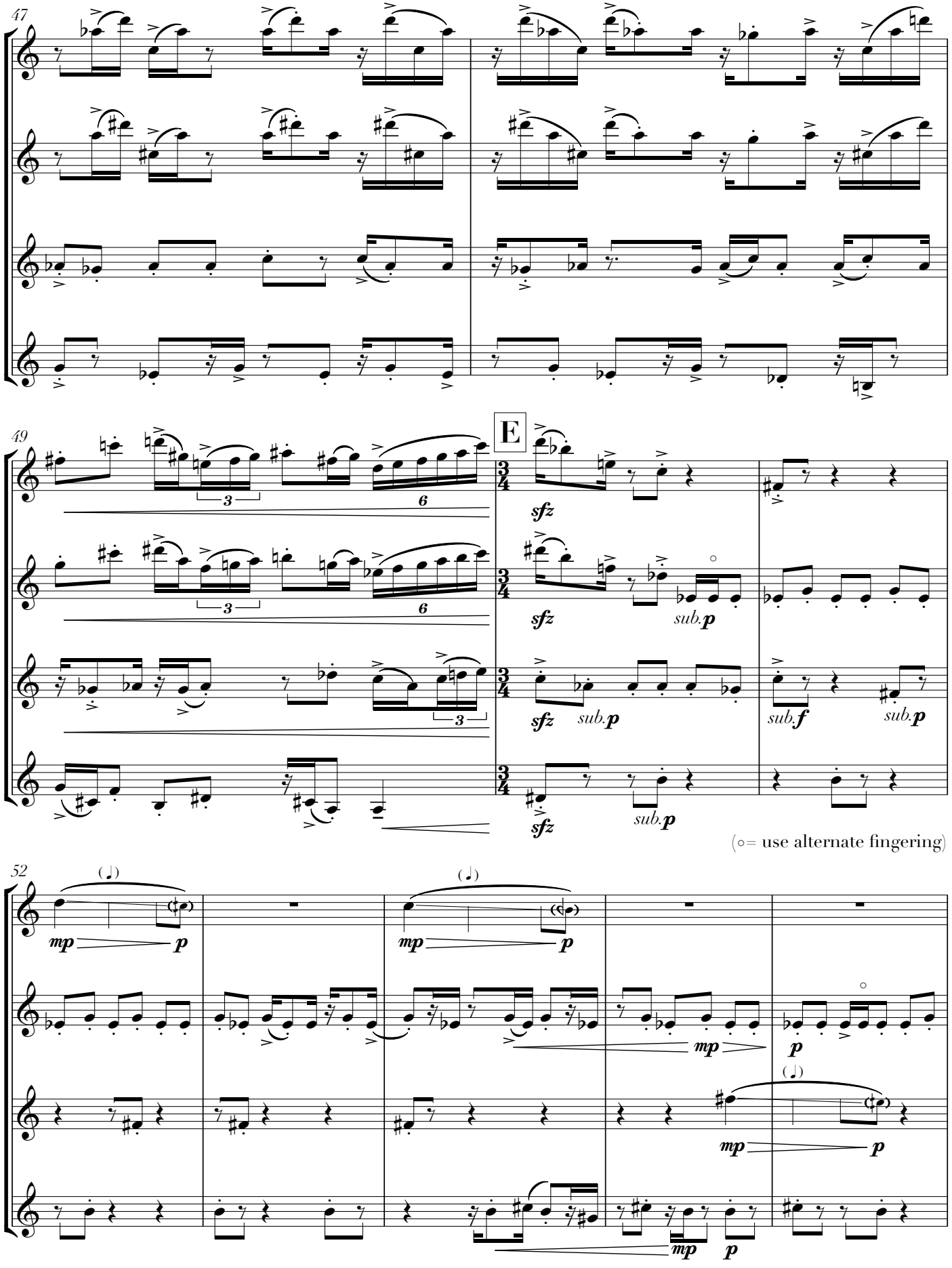

10
mp sim.
p
mp
pp
A
14
solo
3
ff belligerent, precise,
aggressive, meaty, reedy
16
(sing and play concert C,
randomly changing vowel)
(lazy scoop)
mf
f
7
5
5
3

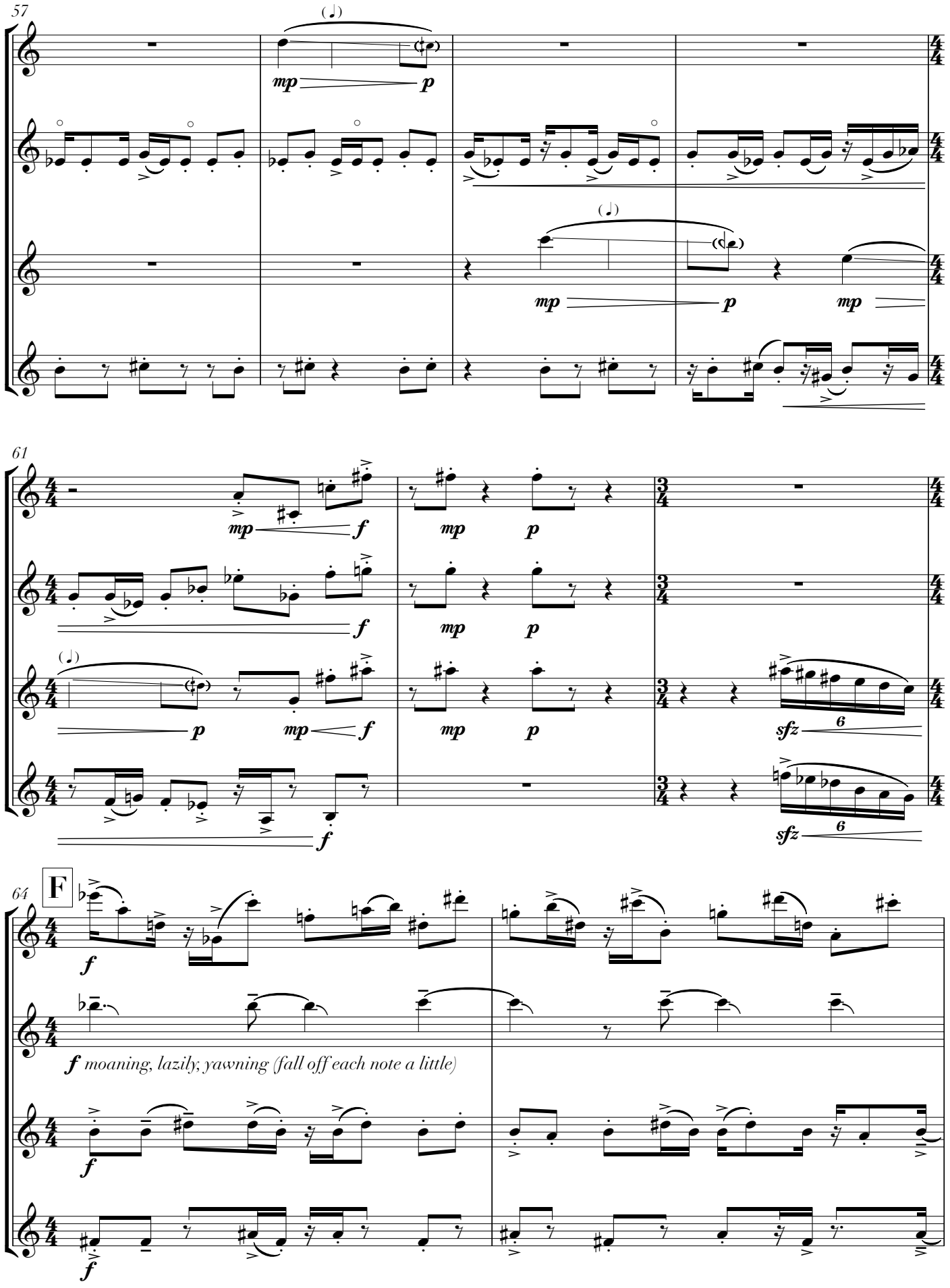

18
20
ff aggressive, meaty, reedy
B
Crazy-awkward, yet supremely awesome alien space funk, with some serious groove ♩=112 (♪=♩)
22

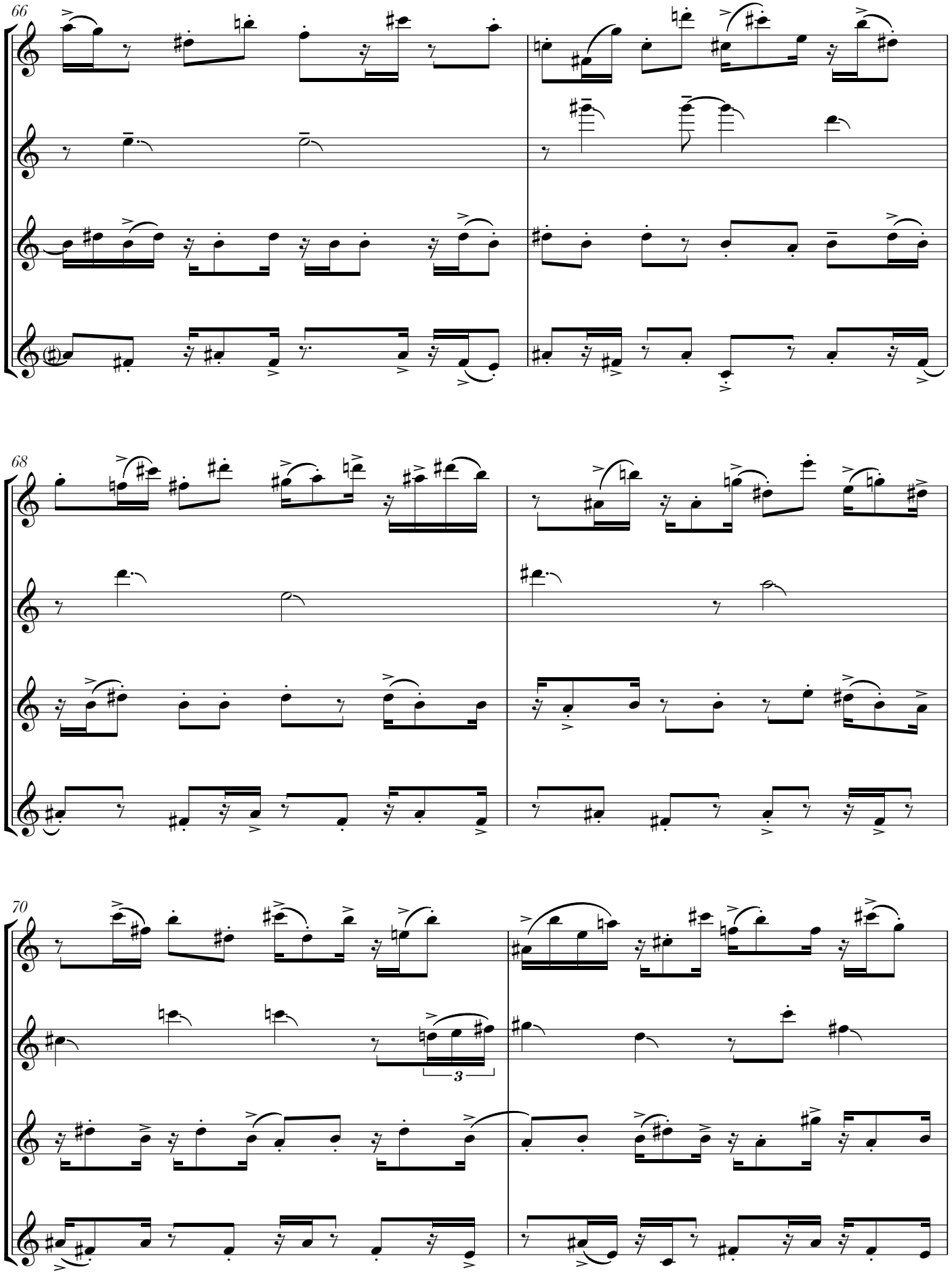

25
mp
p
28
mp
p
31
C
pp
f
sfz
f

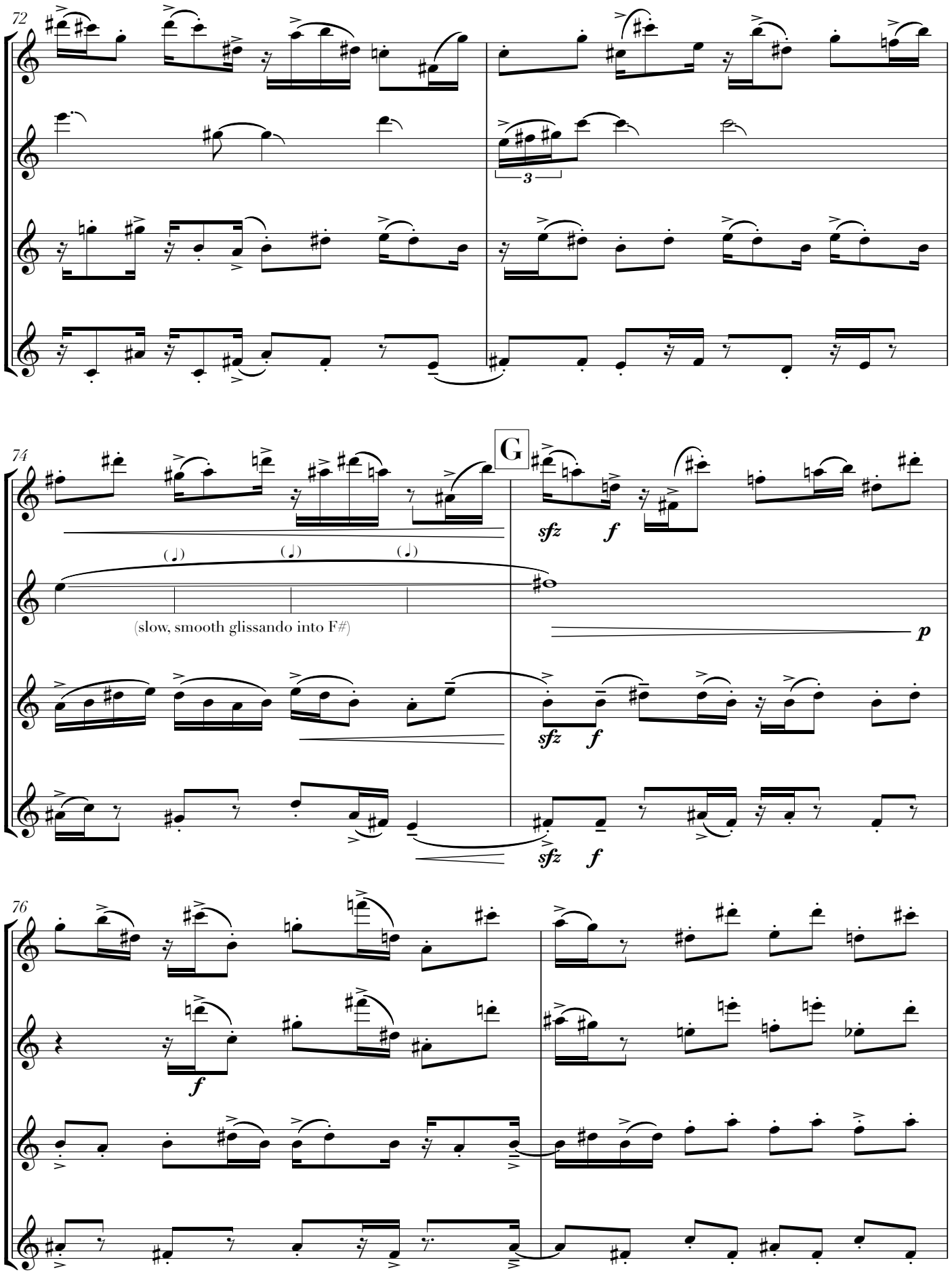

34
37
39

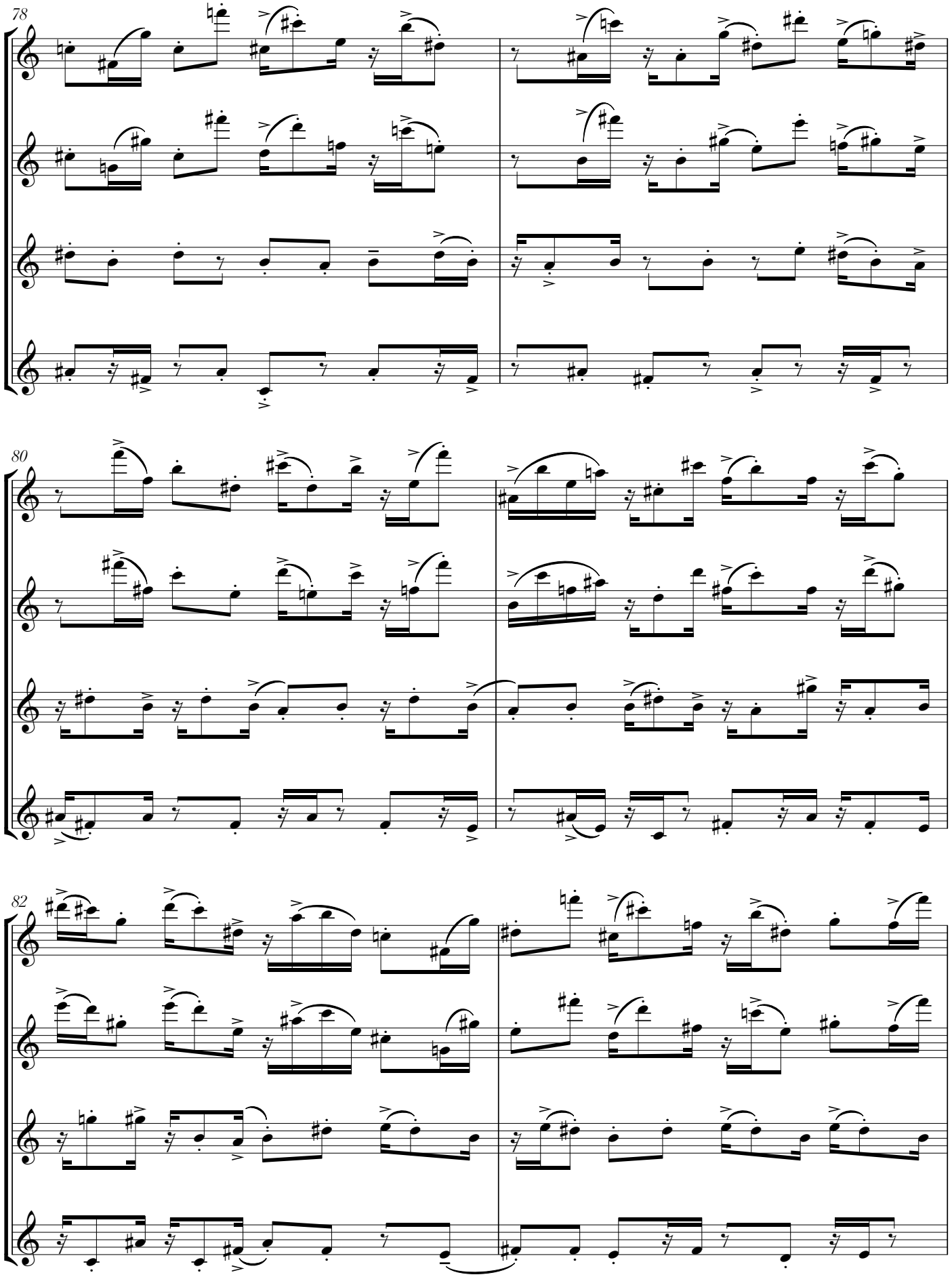

41
43
D
ff
ff
ff
ff
45

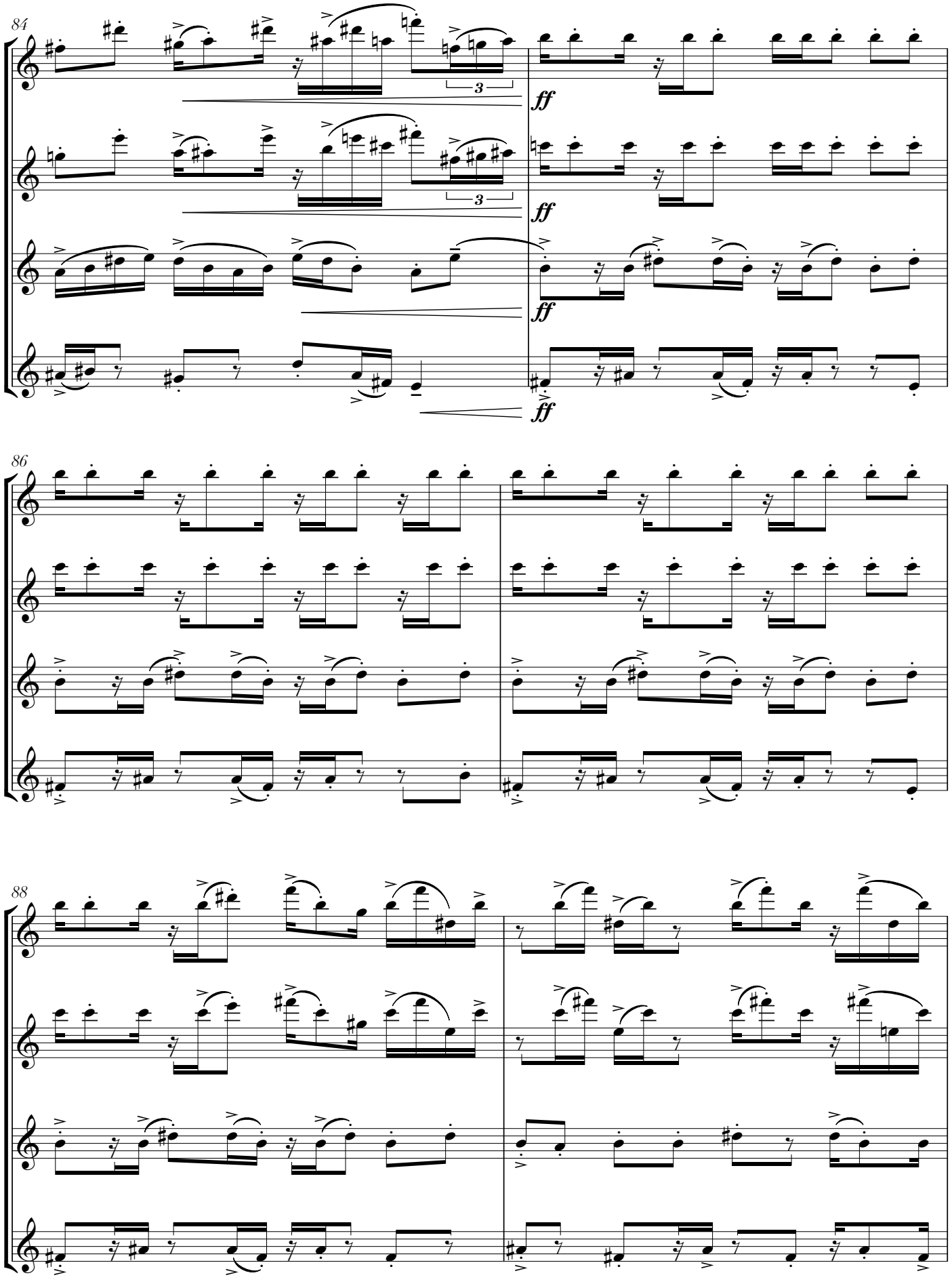

47
49
E
sfz
sub.p
sub.f
(○= use alternate fingering)
52
mp
p

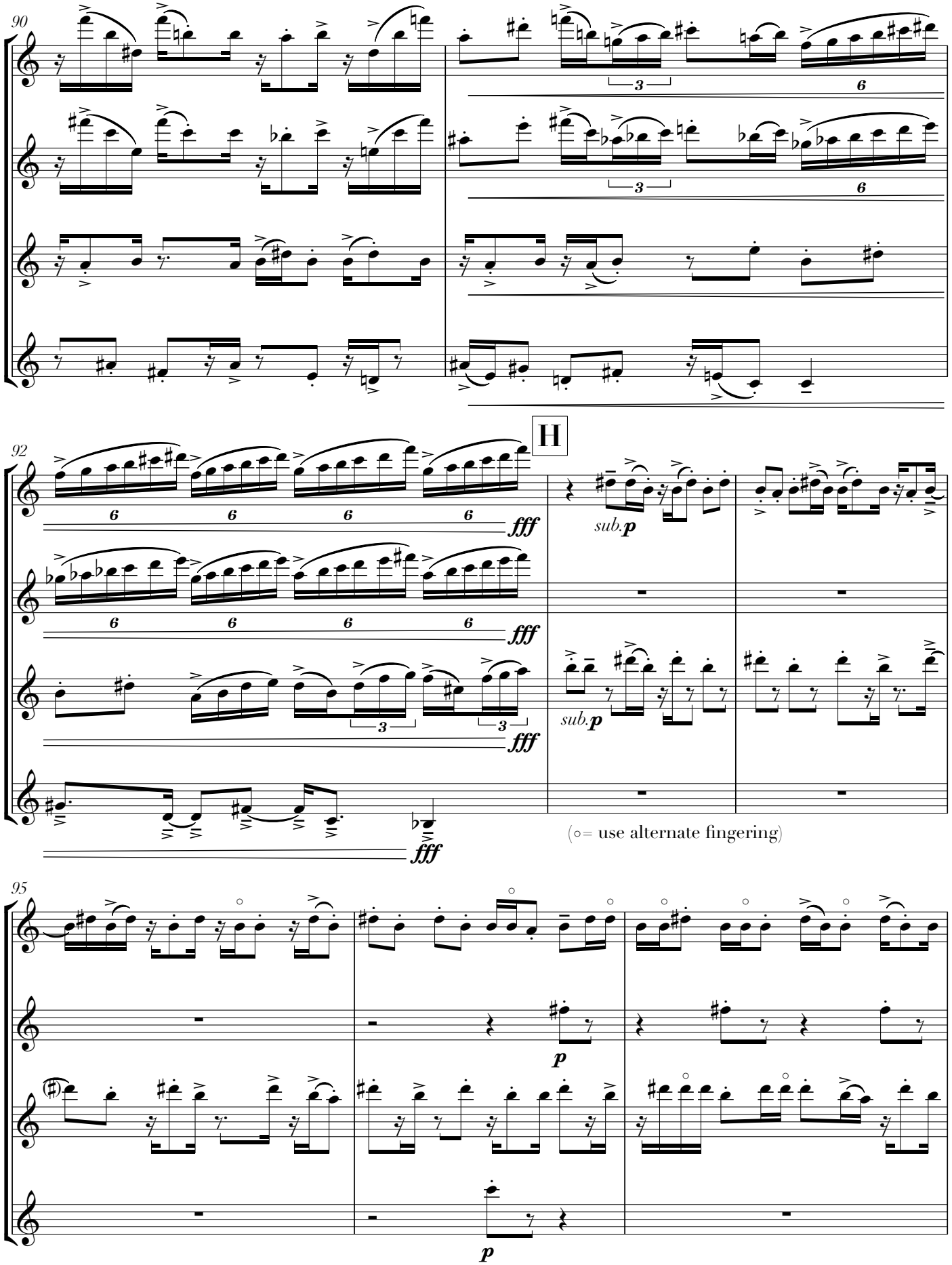

57
61
64
F
mp
p
f
sfz
6
f moaning, lazily, yawning (fall off each note a little)

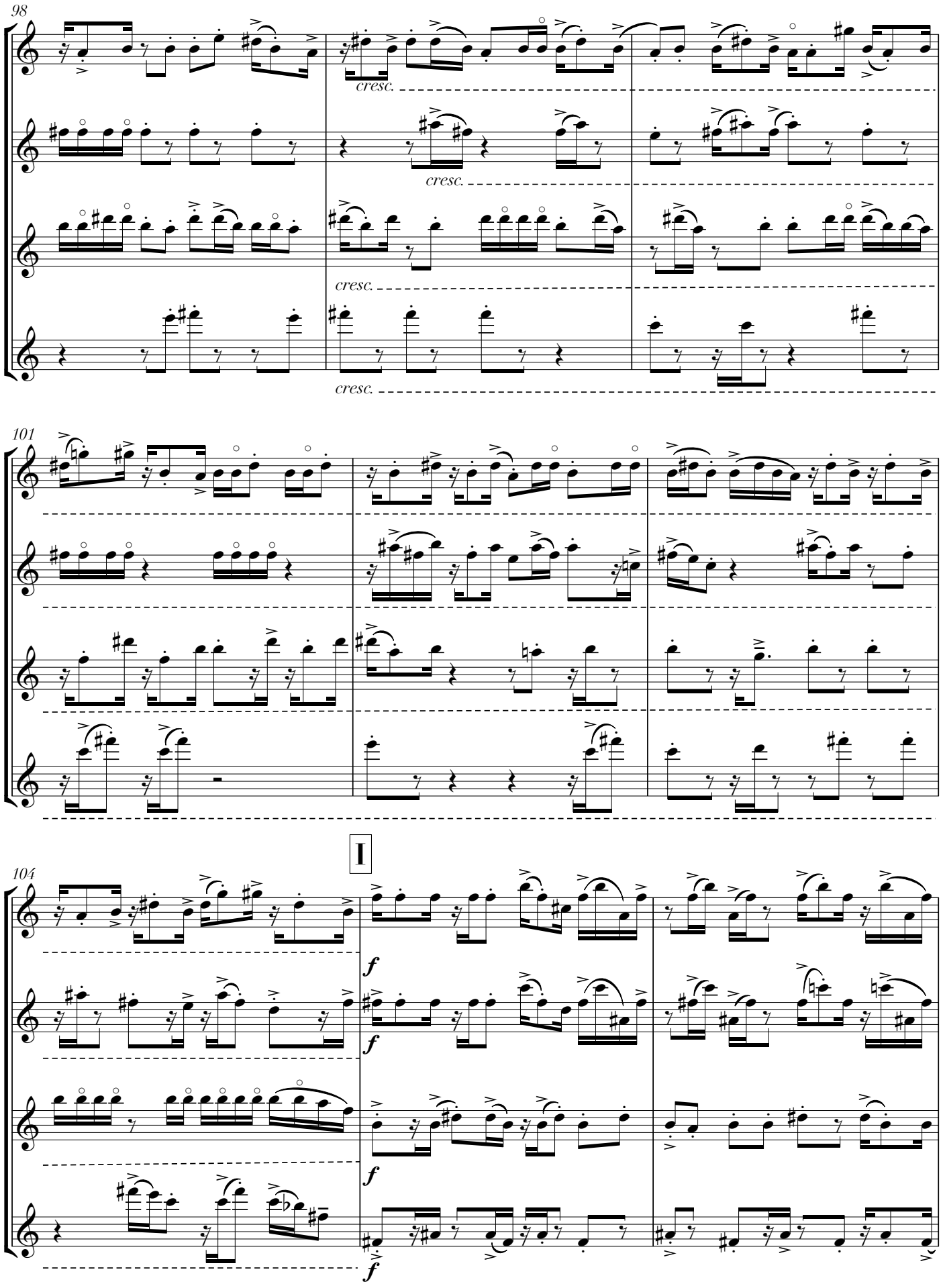

66
68
70
3

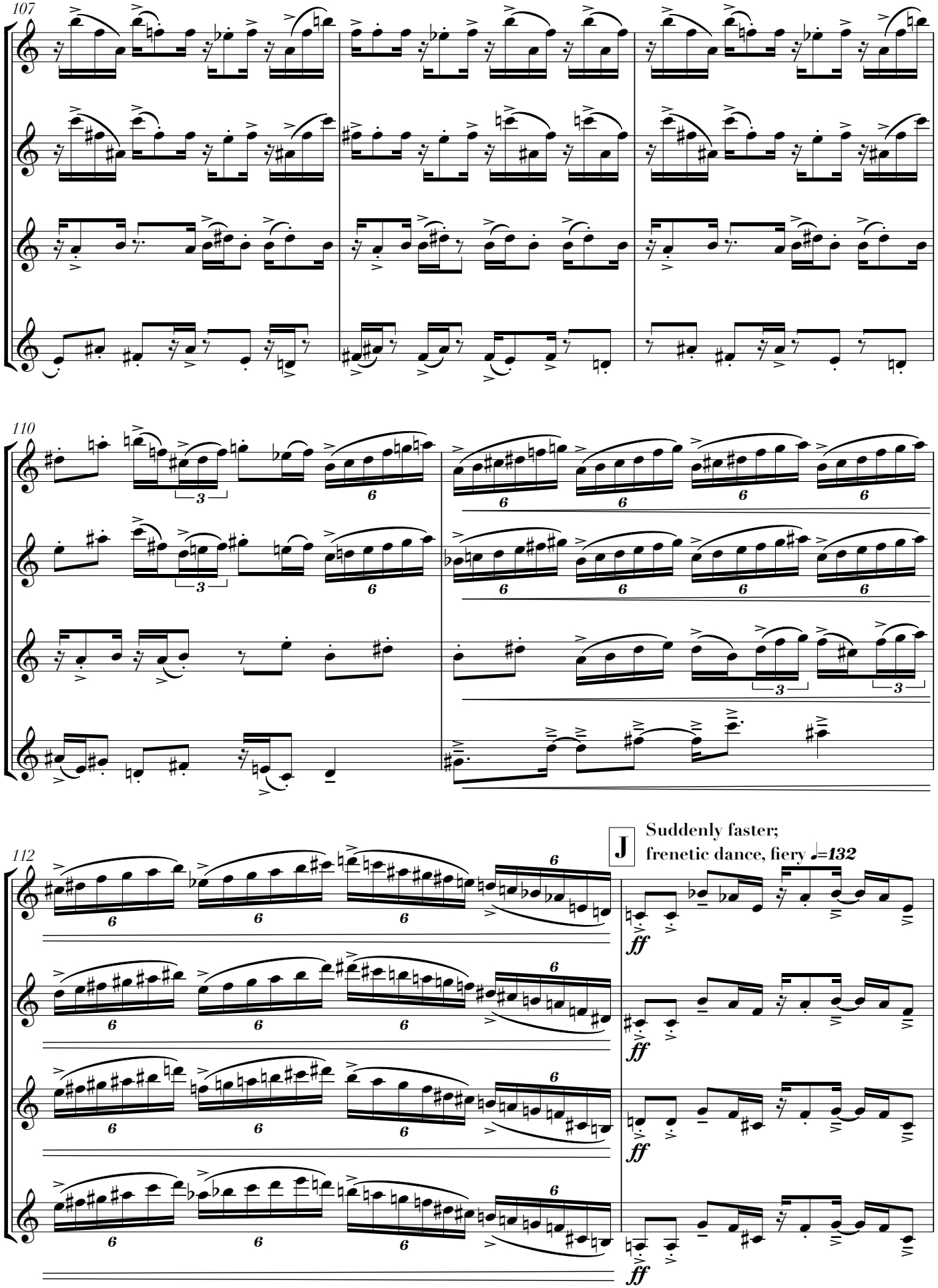

72
74
G
sfz
f
(slow, smooth glissando into F#)
p
76

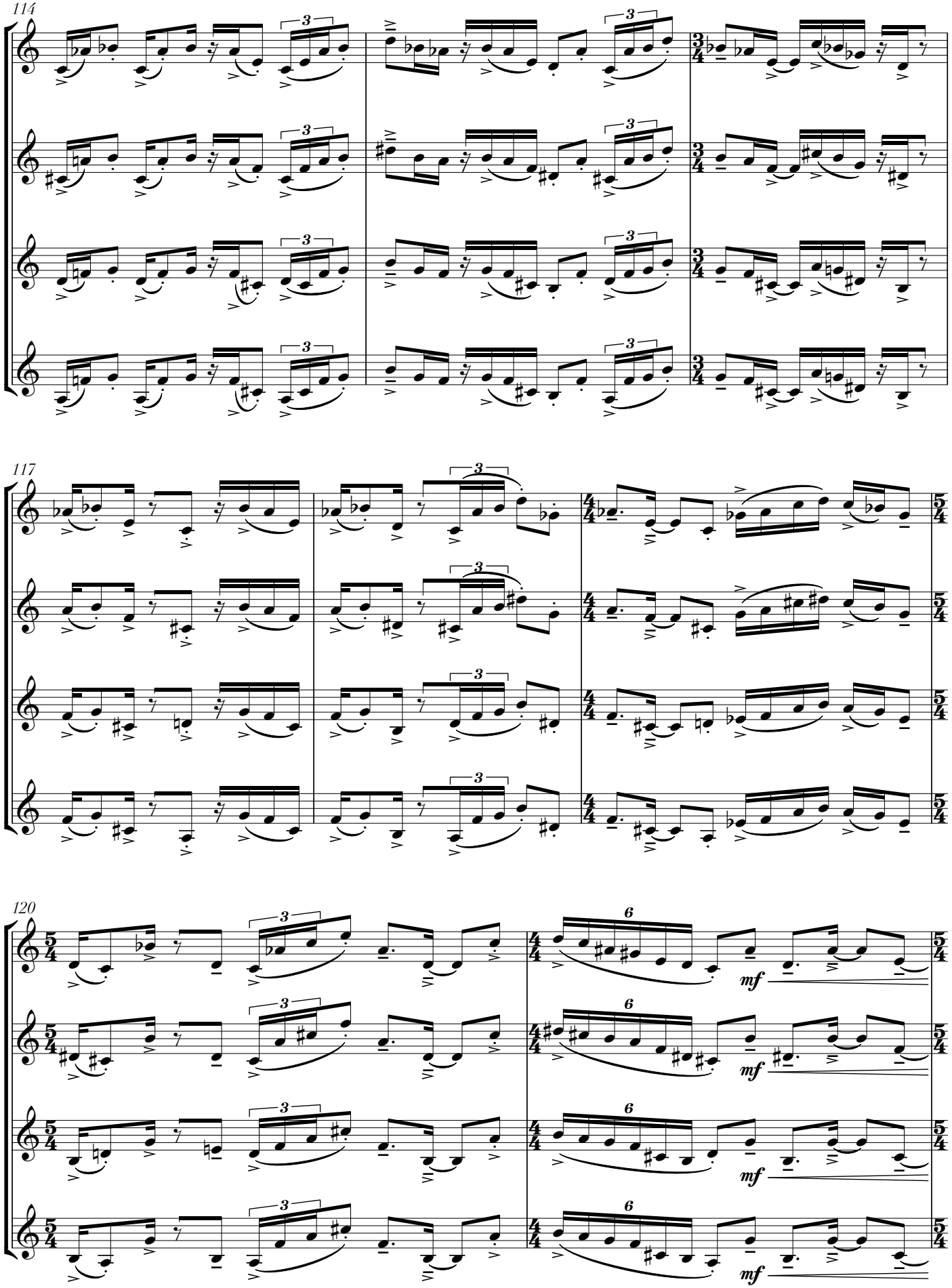

78
80
82

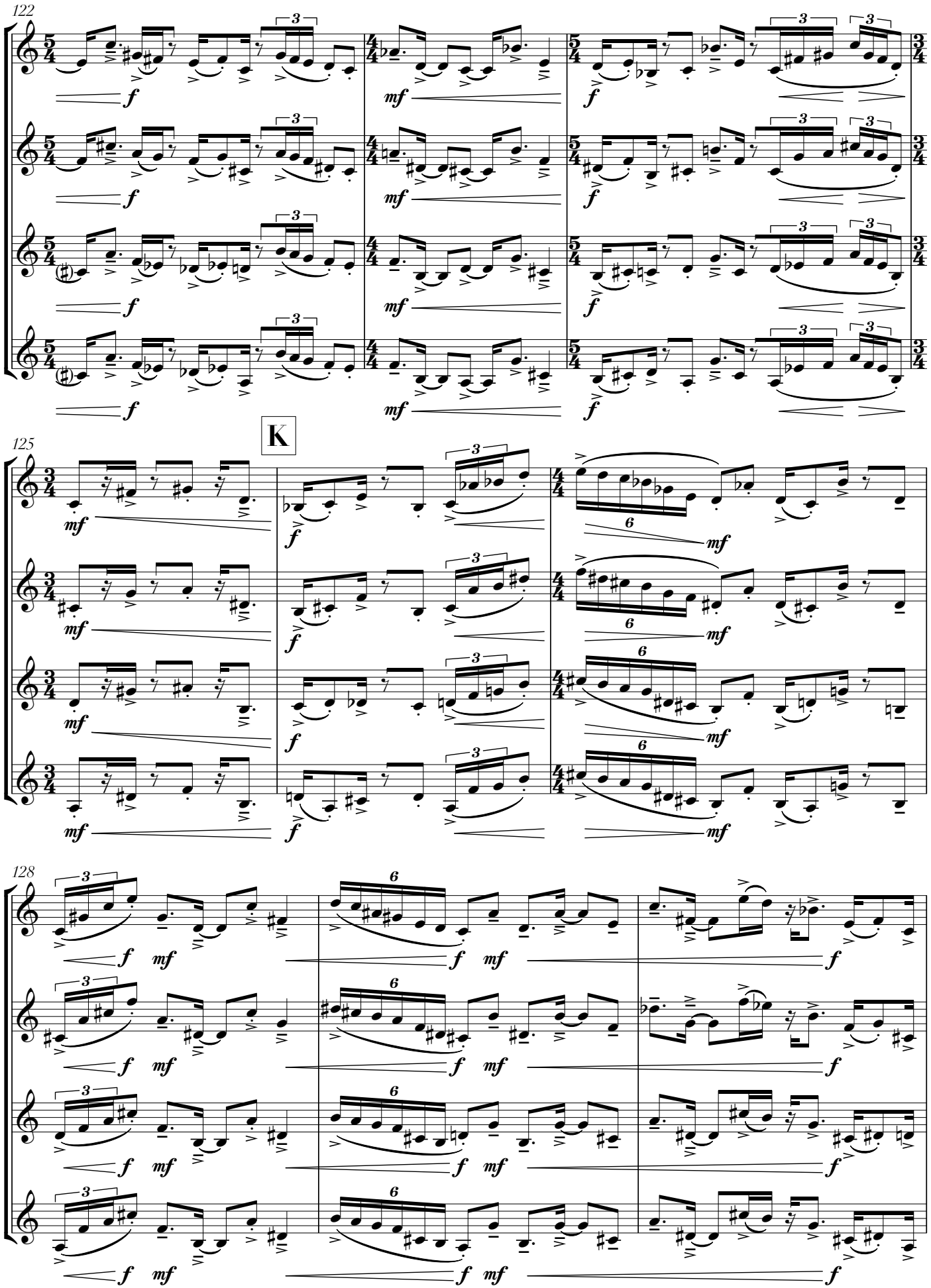

84
3
3
ff
ff
ff
ff
86
88

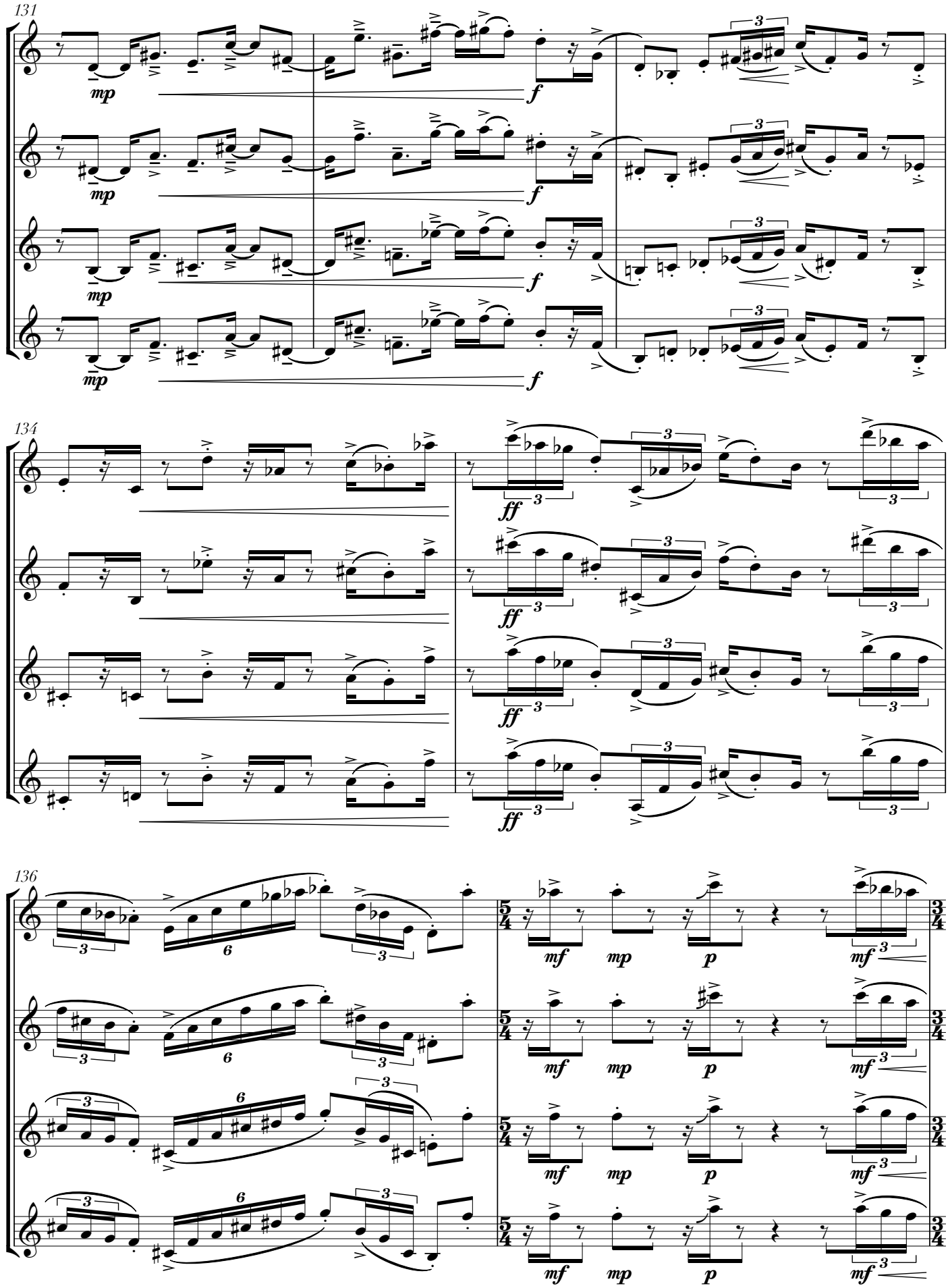

90
92
H
fff
sub. p
95
p
(○= use alternate fingering)

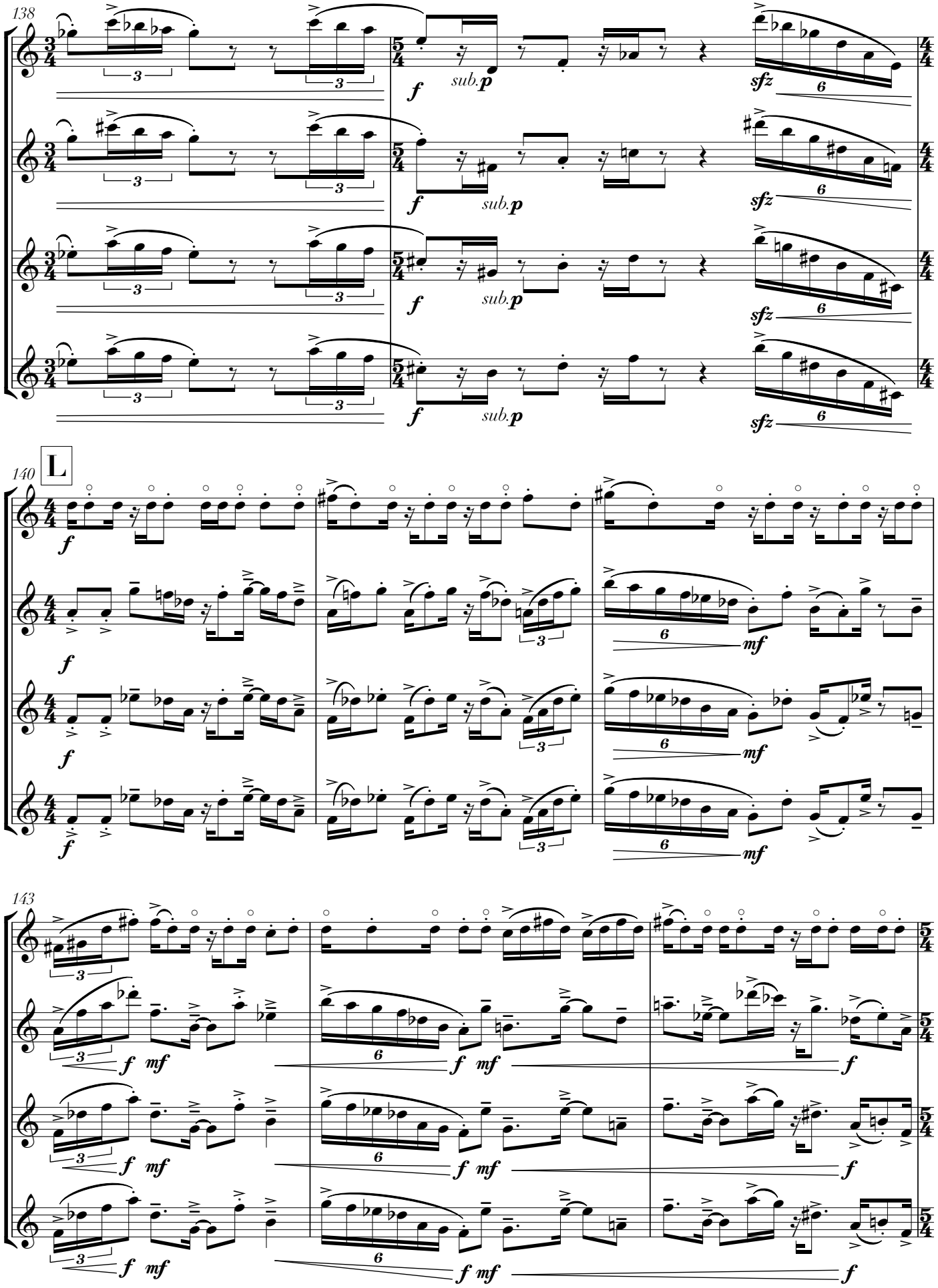

98
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
101
I
104
f
f
f
f

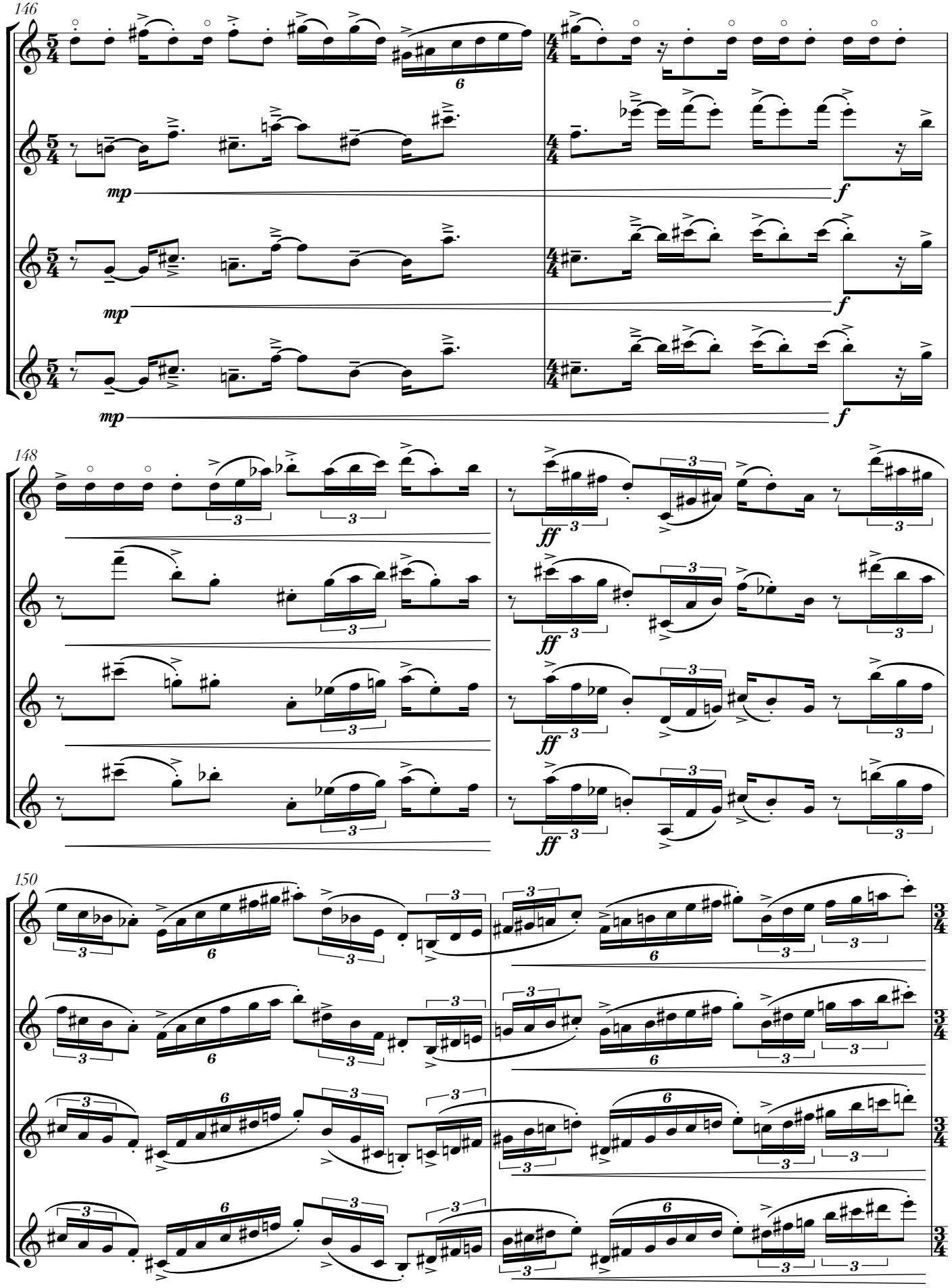

107
110
112
J
Suddenly faster;
frenetic dance, fiery ♩=132
ff

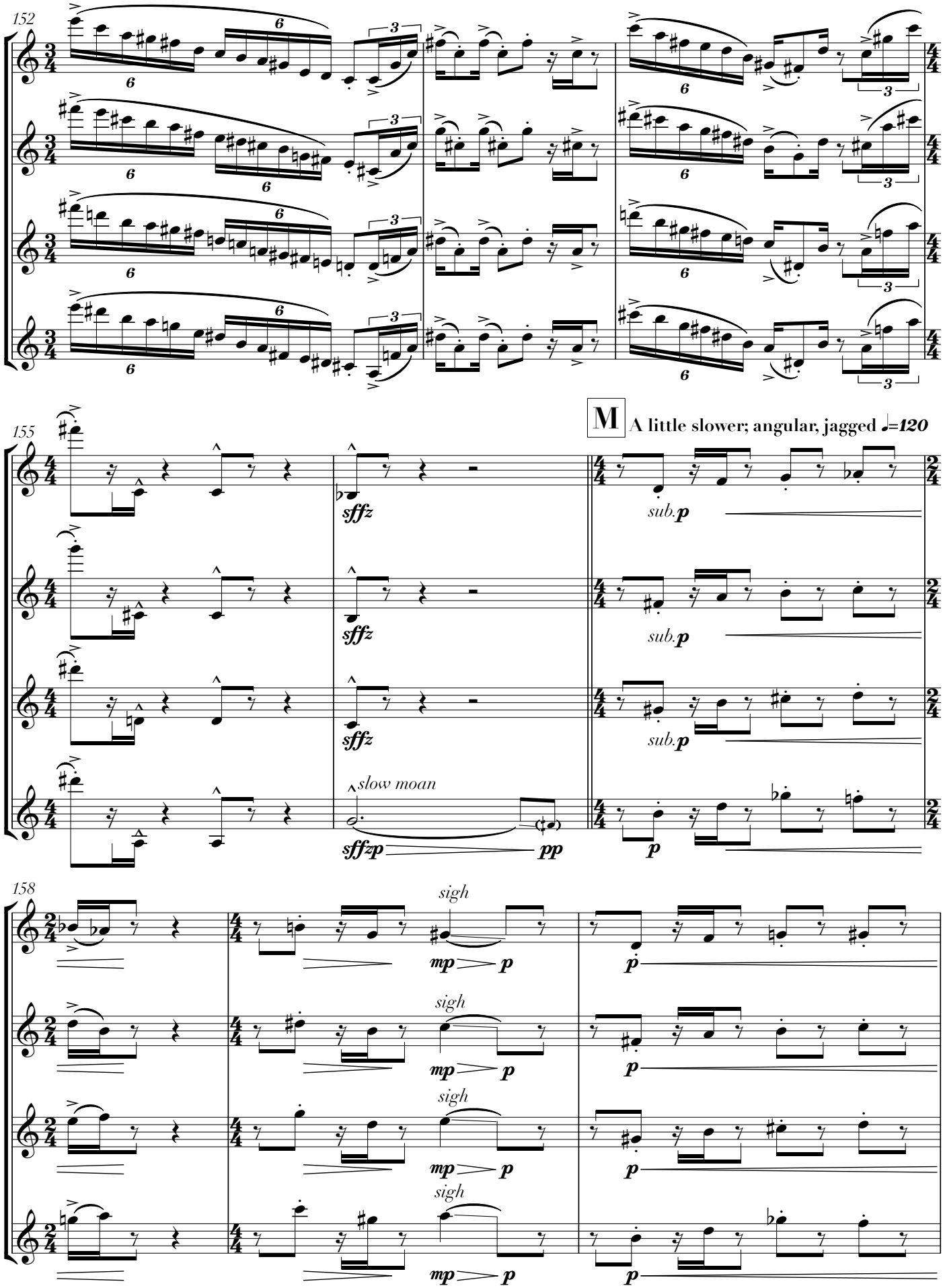

114
117
120
mf
mf
mf

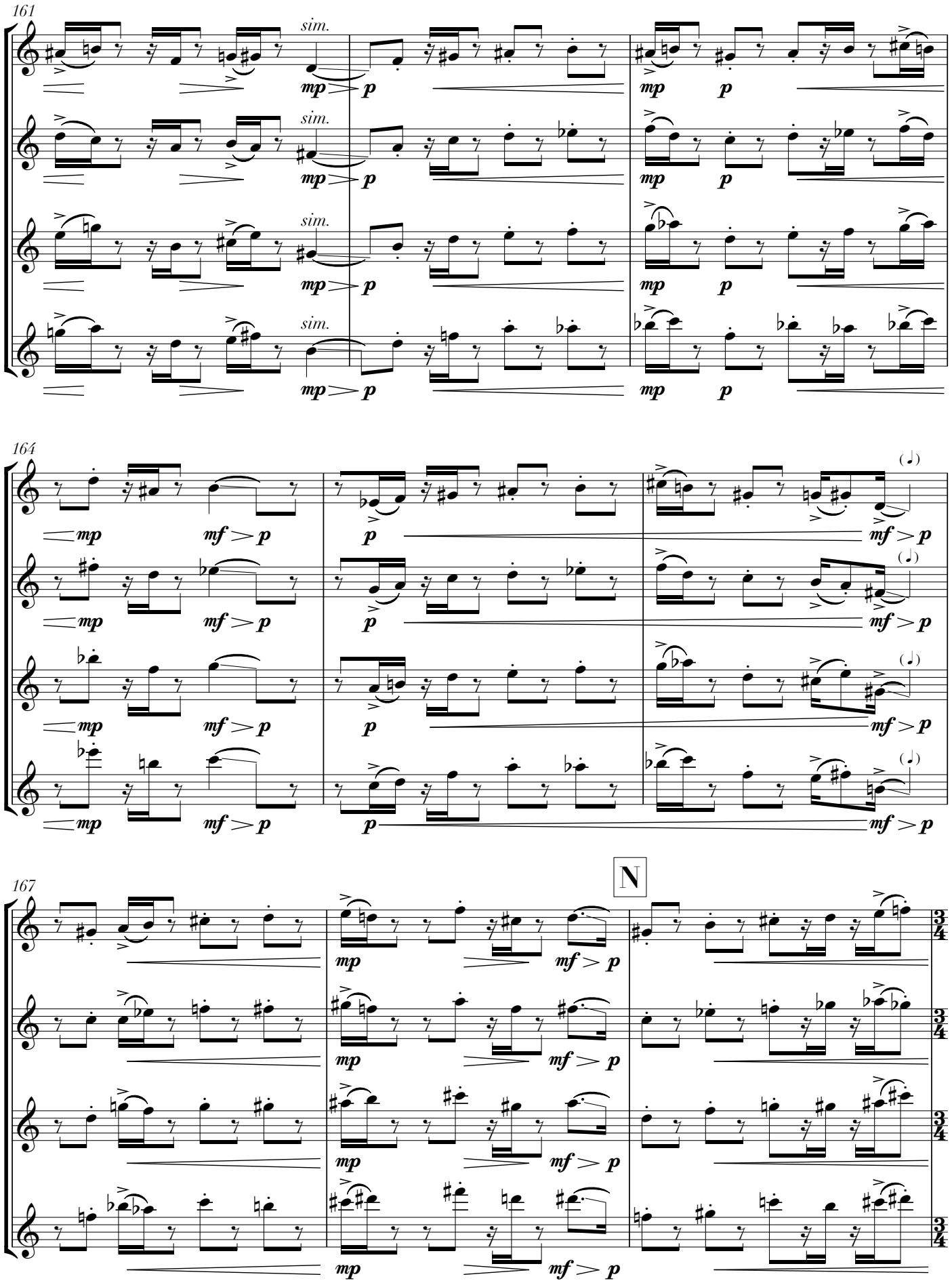

122
125
K
128

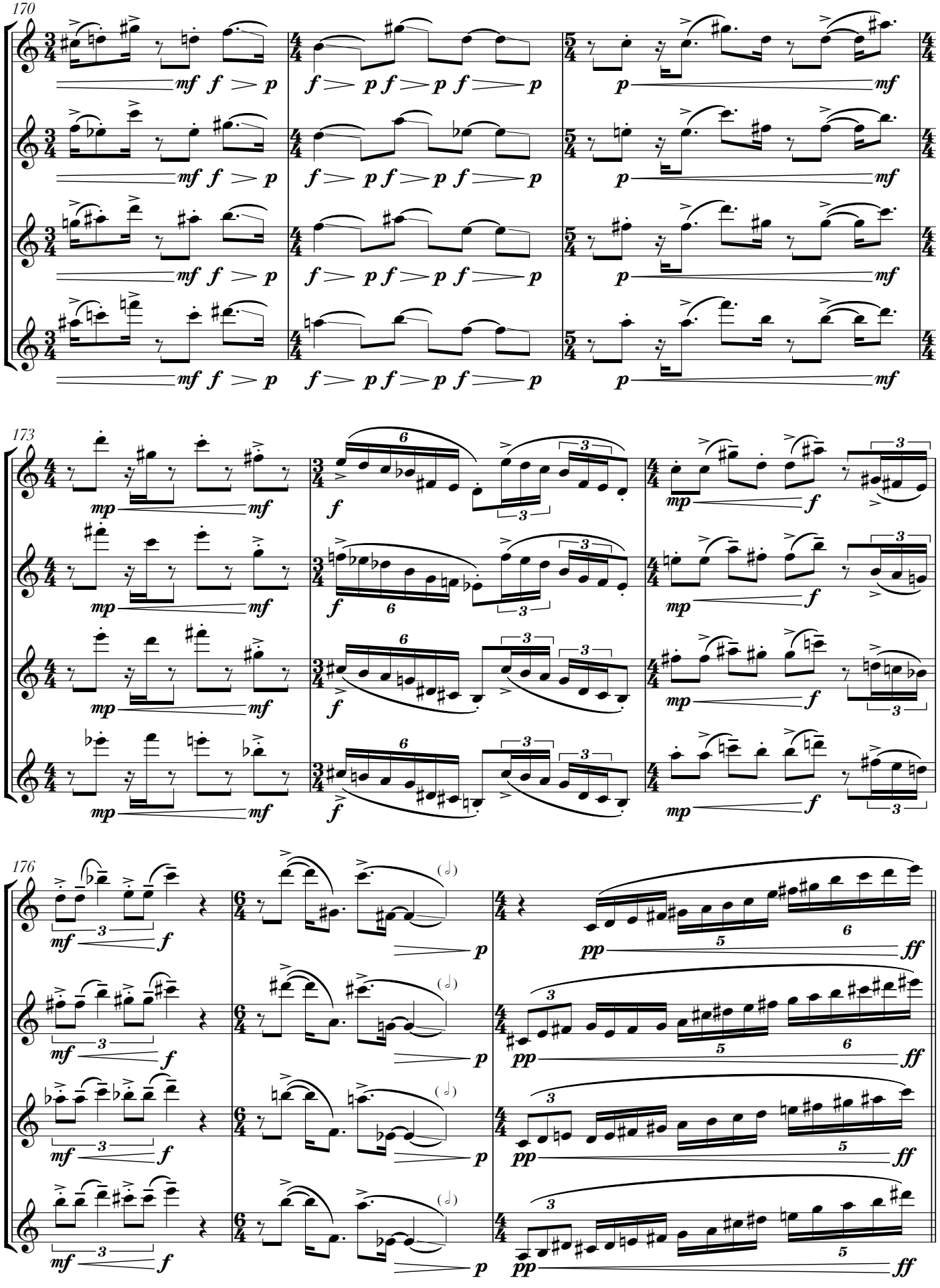

131
mp
f
134
ff
136
mf
mp
p


138
sub.p
sfz
140
L
mf
143


146
148
150
mp
f
ff


152
155
M
A little slower; angular, jagged ♩=120
sffz
sub.p
slow moan
sffzp
pp
p
158
sigh
mp
p


161
sim.
mp
p
164
mf
N
3/4


170
173
176

179 **O** **A little slower; relaxed and always grooving ♩=112**

*sub.* ***p***

*sub.* ***p***

*sub.* ***p***

182

185

***mp***

***mp***

***mp***

188 **P**

*mp*

191

*cresc.*

193

196 **Q**

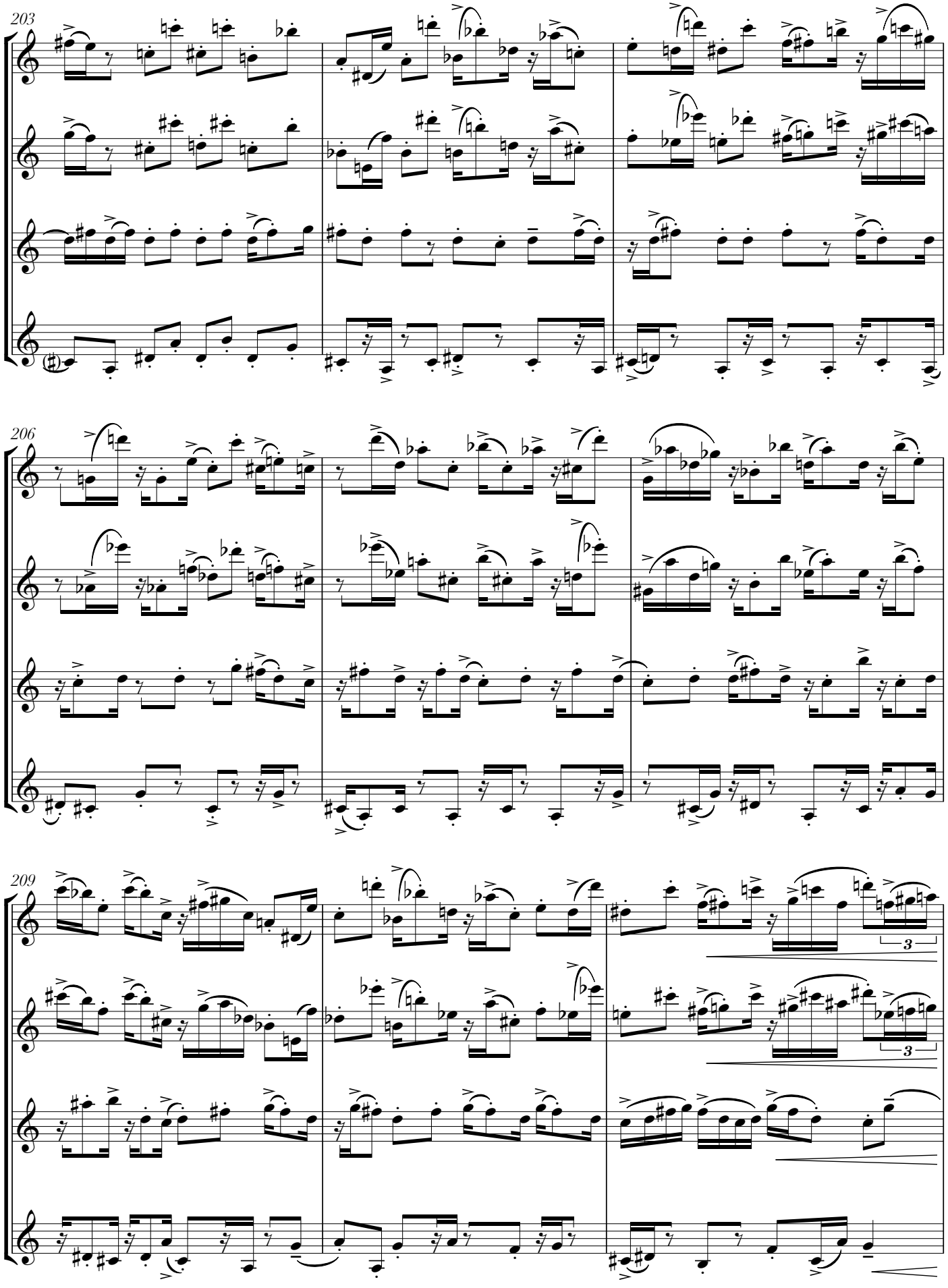
*mf*

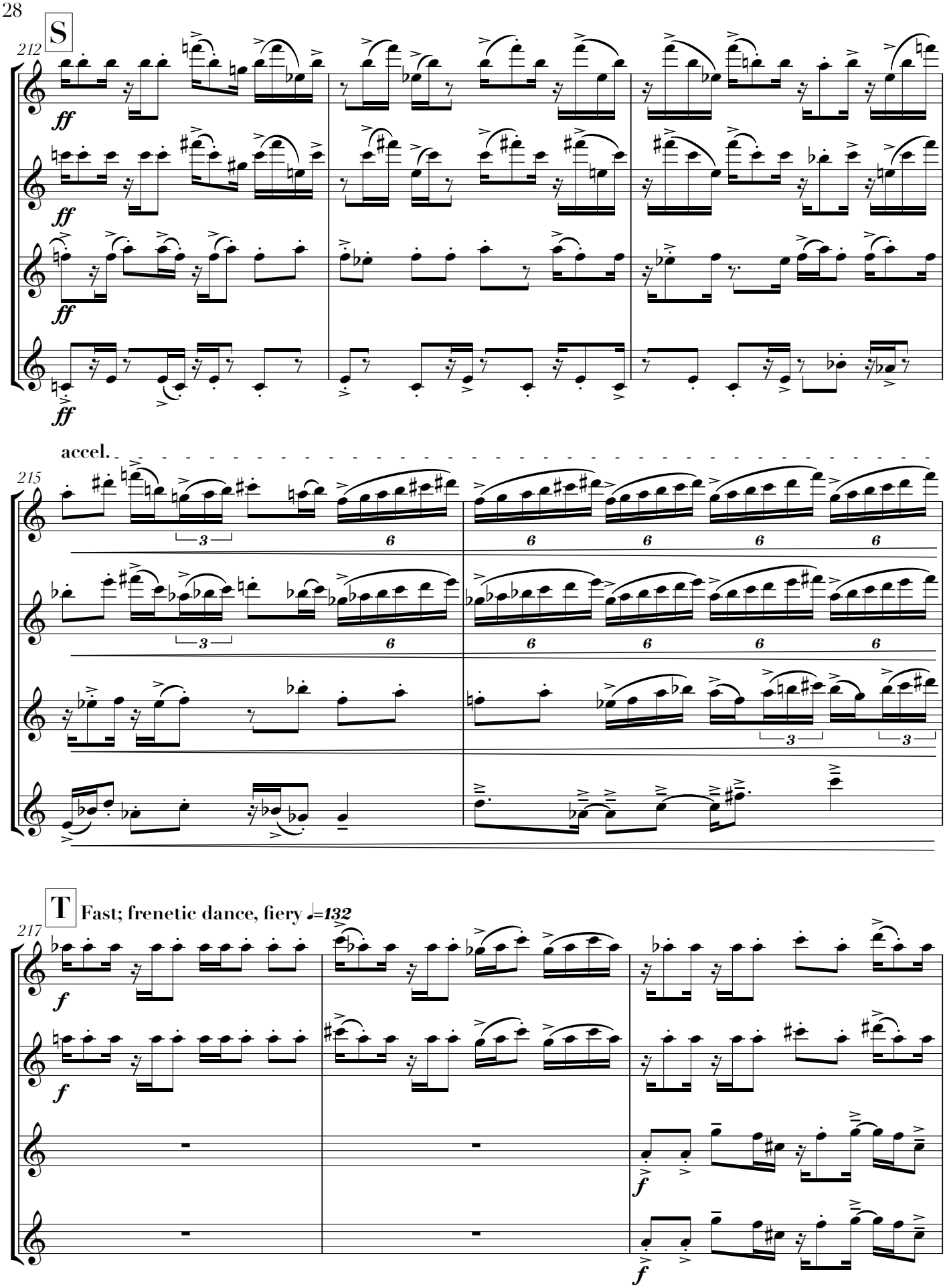
199

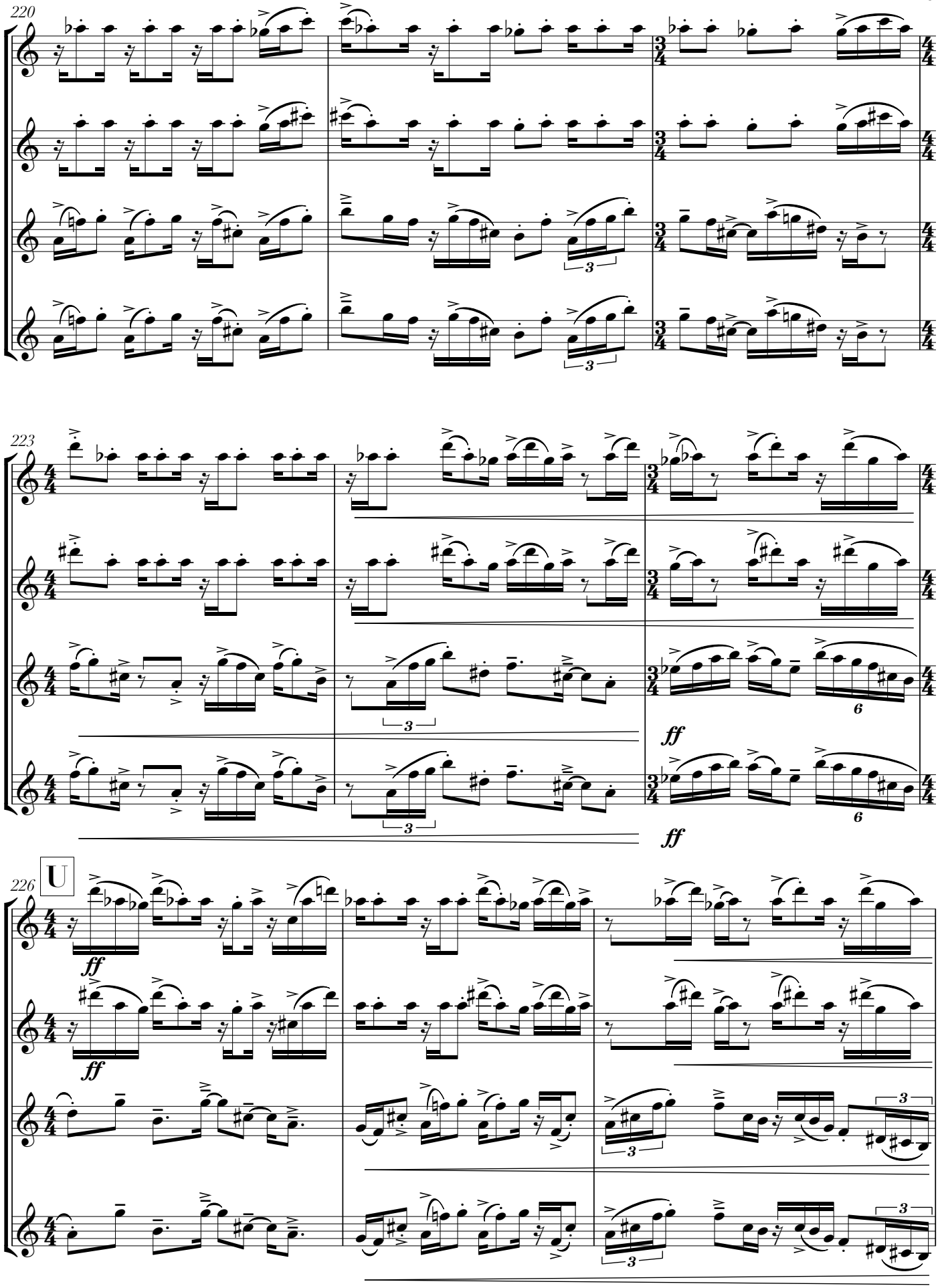
**R**

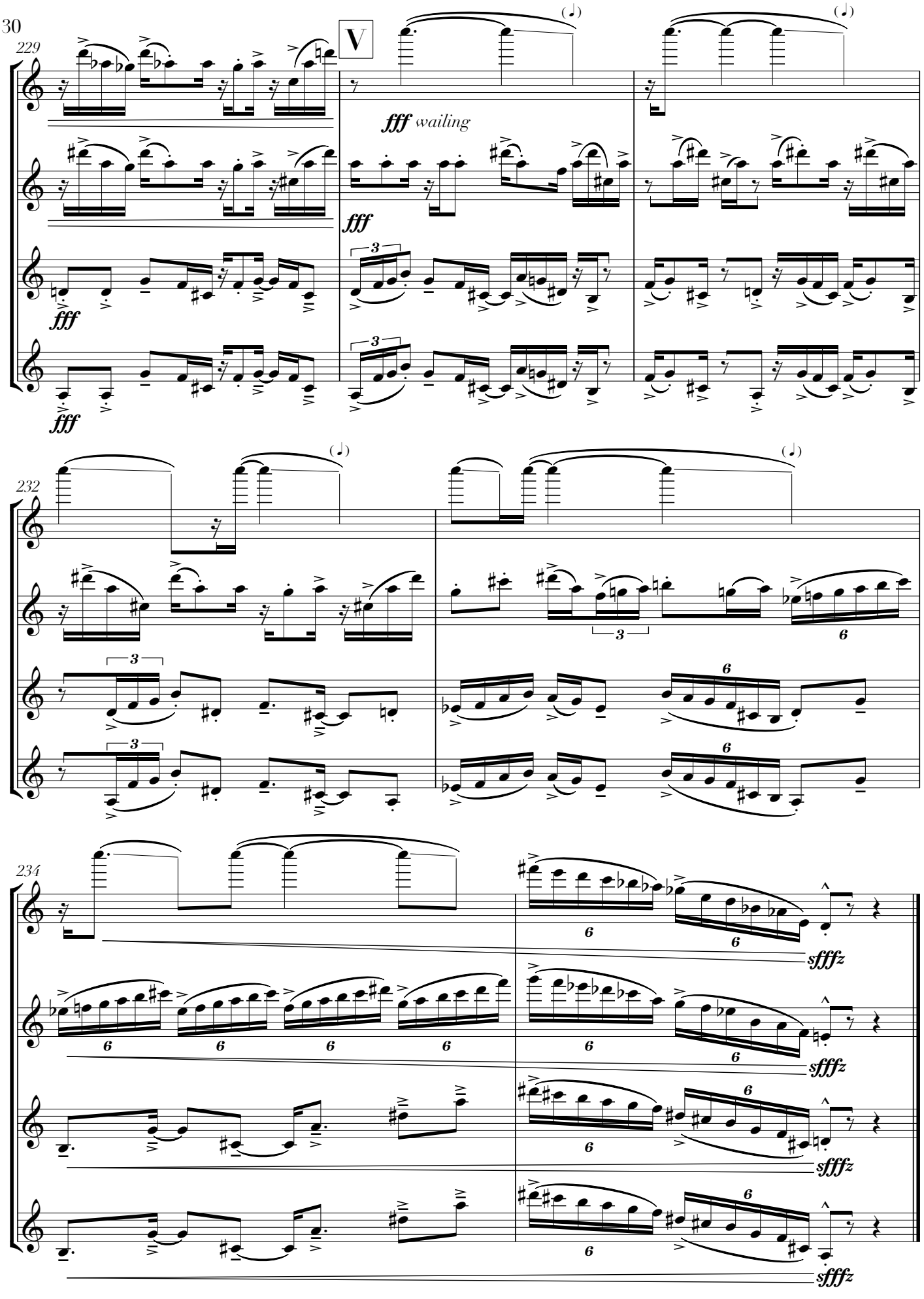
201

*f*


203
206
209
3
3


S
212
ff
ff
ff
ff
accel.
215
3
6
6
6
6
6
3
3
T
Fast; frenetic dance, fiery ♩=132
217
f
f
f
f


220
223
226
U
ff
ff
ff
ff
3
3
3
3
3
6
6


229
V
fff wailing
fff
232
234
sfffz