Mass Destruction

for viola and computer disc

Bill Alves

Mass Destruction requires a viola that has been retuned. The part is written in scordatura, i.e. the player should play the part as written. A reference tone for each string is included on the performance CD, but here are the tunings:

A string	456.30 hz	7/4 above C, or 63 cents (1/3 of a tone) higher than normal
D string	268.89 hz	33/16 above C, or 151 cents (3/4 of a tone) lower than normal
G string	195.56 hz	normal tuning
C string	130.37 hz	normal tuning

I recommend that the viola be amplified, and, if the player is so inclined and the equipment available, that a "fuzz" distortion effect of the sort used by electric guitarists be added from measure 177 to the end. The playback should be fairly loud throughout.

Program note:

Mass Destruction pits a retuned electric viola trying desperately to keep up with an increasingly hysterical march. The sounds of the computer-generated part come entirely from speeches of George W. Bush spliced, resonated, and set into a mad beat.

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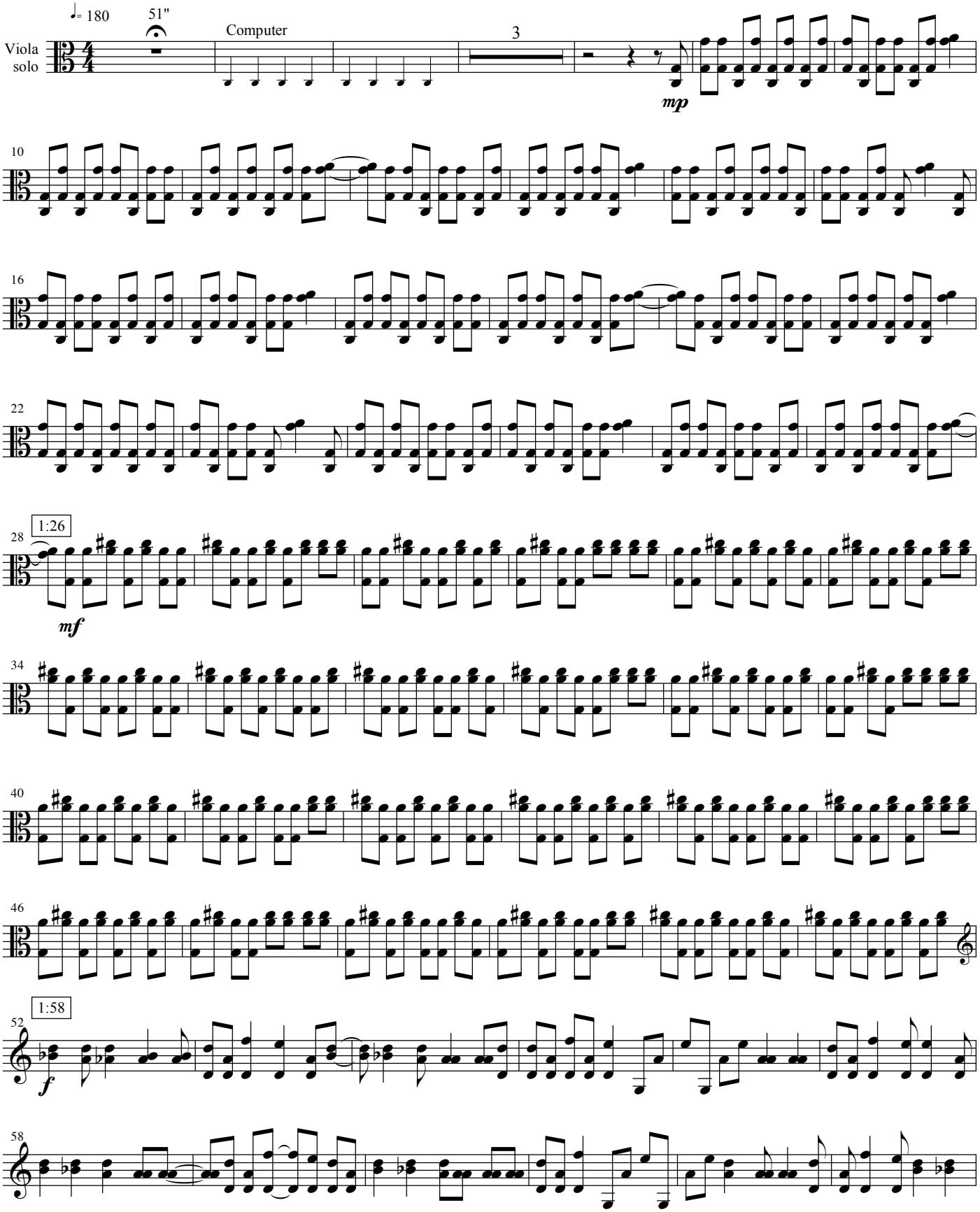
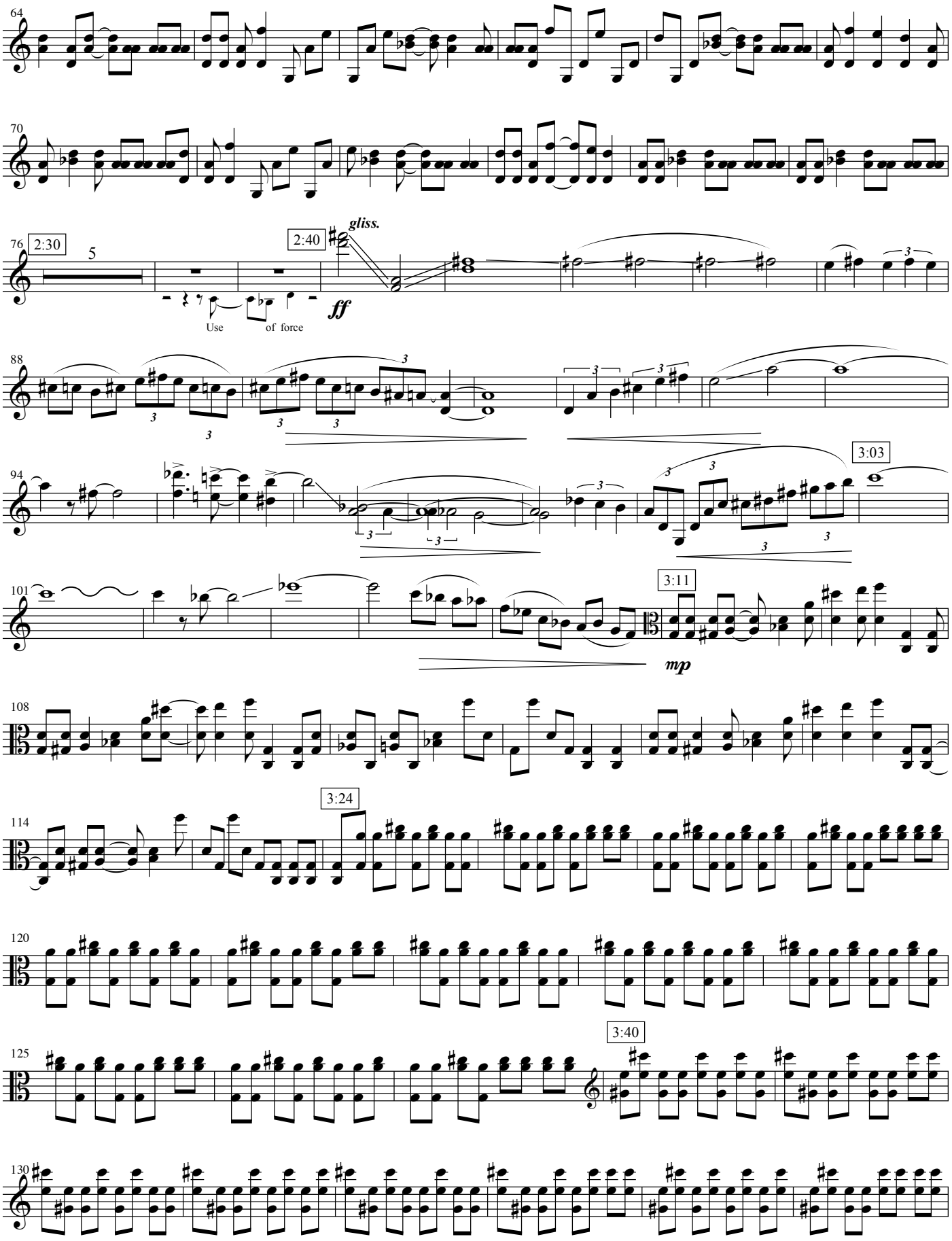
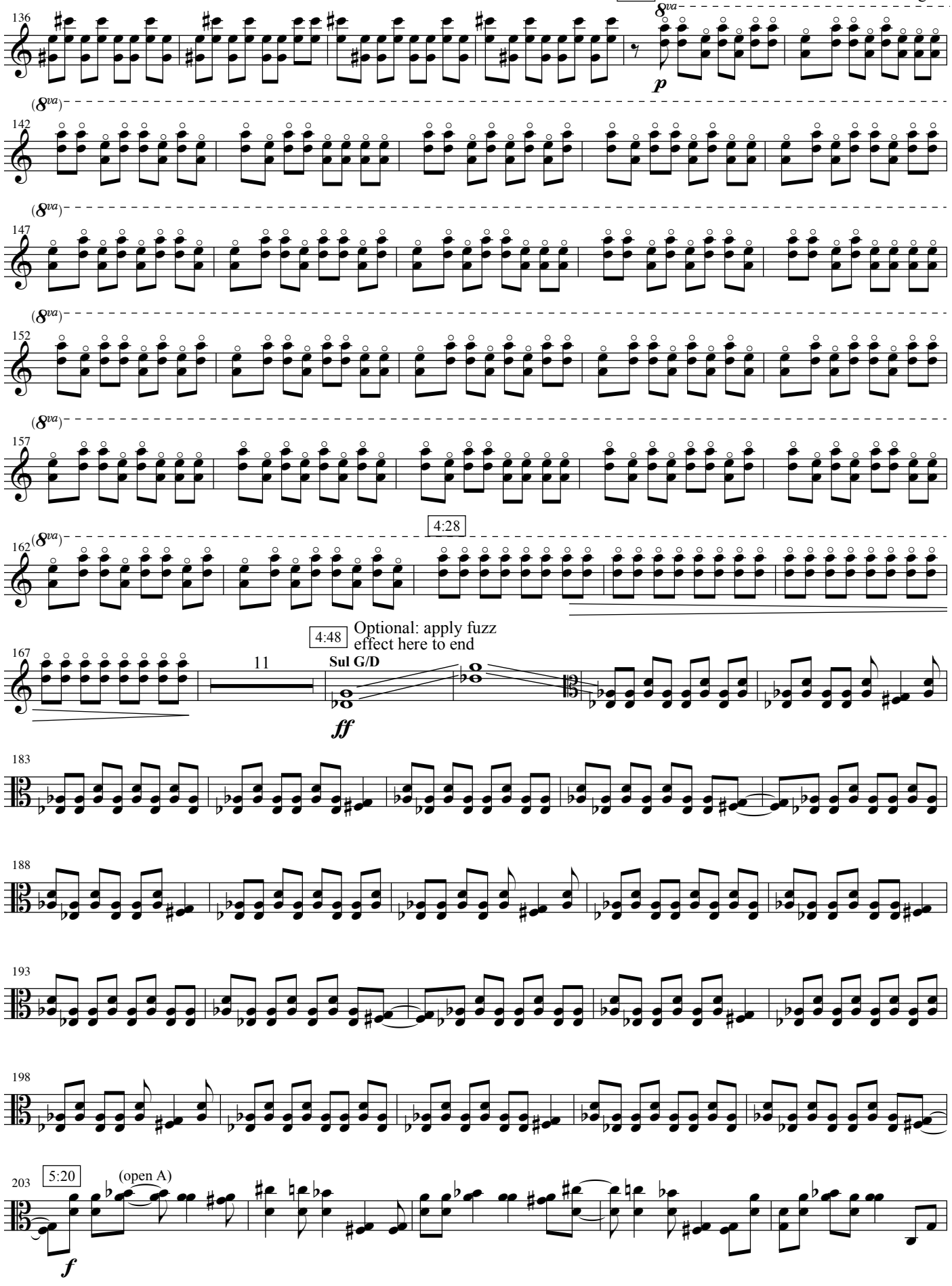
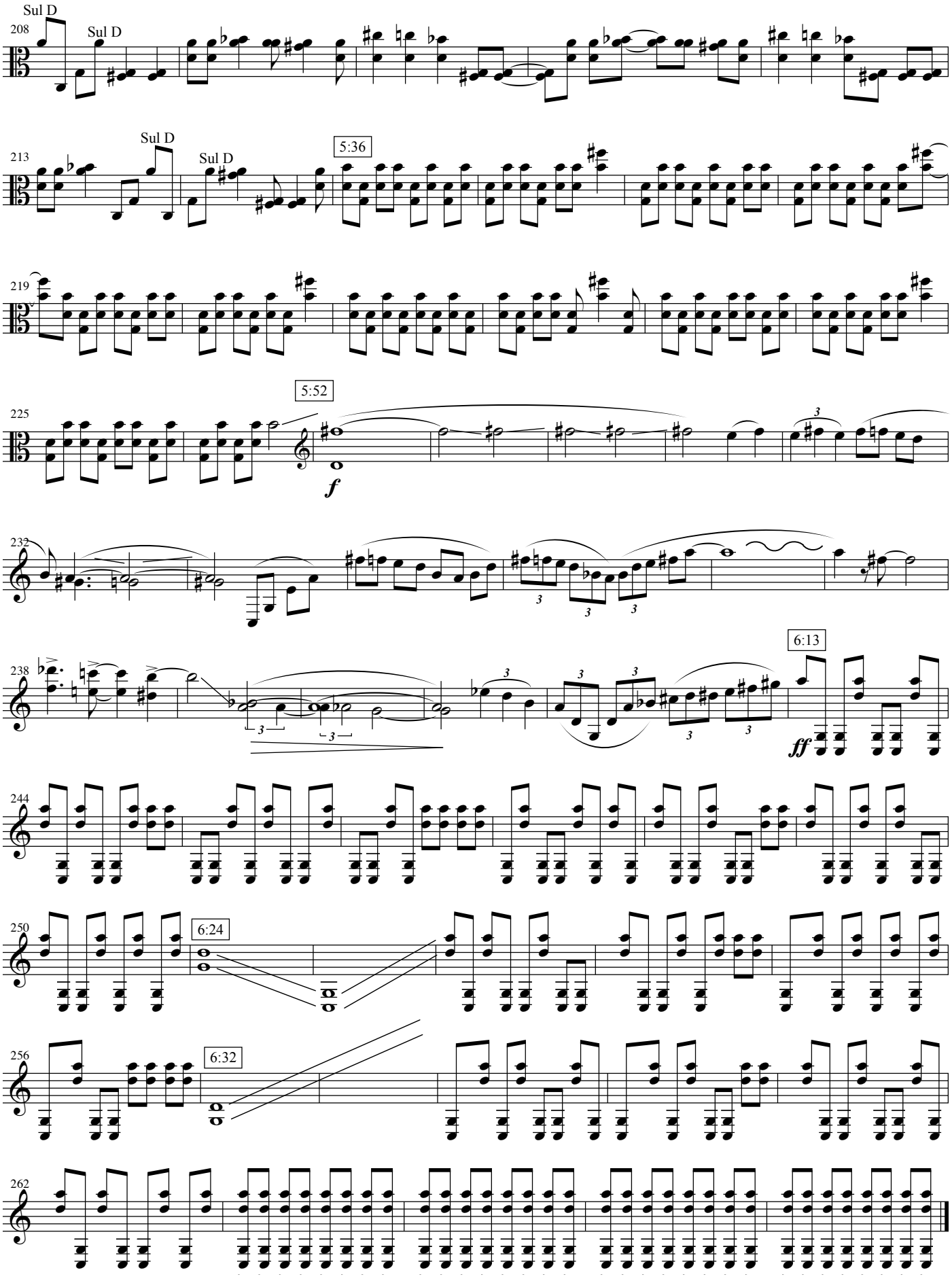



64
70
76
2:30
5
2:40
gliss.
ff
Use
of force
88
94
3:03
101
3:11
mp
108
114
3:24
120
125
3:40
130


136
8va
p
(8va)
142
147
152
157
162
4:28
4:48
Optional: apply fuzz effect here to end
167
11
Sul G/D
ff
183
188
193
198
203
5:20
(open A)
f


Sul D
208
Sul D
213
Sul D
Sul D
5:36
219
225
5:52
f
232
238
6:13
ff
244
250
6:24
256
6:32
262