stanley grill

5 PASTORAL SCENES

for

oboe, bassoon, violin, viola & cello

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MUSIC BY STAN GRILL

VOCAL MUSIC

The Snow Begins (W.C. Williams)	1975	soprano, piano	3 min
Earth and Sea (Eskimo texts)	1975	soprano, piano	3 min
Preludes (T.S. Eliot)	1978	soprano, violin, cello	10 min
6 Songs (W.B. Yeats)	1983	soprano, piano	15 min
To a Child (W.B. Yeats)	1987	soprano, string quartet	20 min
Crazy Jane Sings (W.B. Yeats)	1999	soprano, fl, vn, va, vc, pn	25 min
Vignettes/Flowers (W.C. Williams)	2002	SATB, cello	18 min
Love Poems (W.C. Williams)	2003	SSAA	10 min
Vignettes/Trees (W.C. Williams)	2004	2 voices, 2 cellos	15 min
Thinking of You (John MacKenzie)	2005	soprano, vc, harp	7 min
Arietta s without words	2005	soprano, vc, harp	9 min
Scetate (Ferdinando Russo)	2005	SSATTBB	6 min
In Their Flight (Mark Doty)	2006	soprano, mezzo soprano, vn, vc	6 min
Rilke Songs	2009	soprano, va d'amore, vc	15 min
4 Songs to Poems by Hart Crane	2010	tenor, piano	12 min
Sonnets to Orpheus (Rilke)	2012	tenor, piano	35 min

MUSIC FOR STRINGS ALONE

6 Contrapuntal Pieces	1986	string quartet	20 min
For Laura	1987	string quartet	25 min
As Easy as 1,2,3	1987	string trio	10 min
The Beckoning Stars	2001	string quartet	13 min
Imaginary Dances	2001	violin solo	18 min
Short Stories	2003	vn, va, vc, db	18 min
Passion (a love duet)	2003	va, vc	9 min
Pavanne (for a world without war)	2005	string orchestra	8 min
Meditations for String Orchestra	2006	string orchestra	8 min
American Landscapes	2007	string quartet	24 min
Motet for String Orchestra	2008	string orchestra	7 min
Ecstasy	2009	viola solo	9 min
Transformations	2009	viola da gamba solo	12 min
Sonatine	2010	3 violins	9 min

CHAMBER MUSIC

Three for Three	1992	vn, vc, pn	16 min
Civil War Songs	1992	va, pn	18 min
Take Five	1993	2 vns, va, vc, pn	25 min
Serenade	1999	fl, vn, va, vc	11 min
Distant Music	2000	cl, vn/va, vc, pn	20 min
Driven by the Wind	2001	fl, vc, pn	25 min
Nonet (for New York)	2002	fl, ob, cl, hn, bn, 2vns, va, vc	35 min
A Little Sweet	2003	fl, vc	10 min
On the edge of sleep & dreaming	2003	hn, vc, harp	31 min
5 Pastoral Scenes	2004	ob, bn, vn, va, vc	30 min
I was dreaming of the sea…	2004	vn (or fl), vc, pn	7 min
Little Tales of Mirth & Woe	2004	vn (or fl), vc, pn	6 min
An Ode to the Possibility of Peace	2005	cl, vn, vc	15 min
Elements	2006	fl, ob, cl, hn, bn	11 min
Motet for Brass Instruments	2006	2 trp, hn, trb, tu	7 min

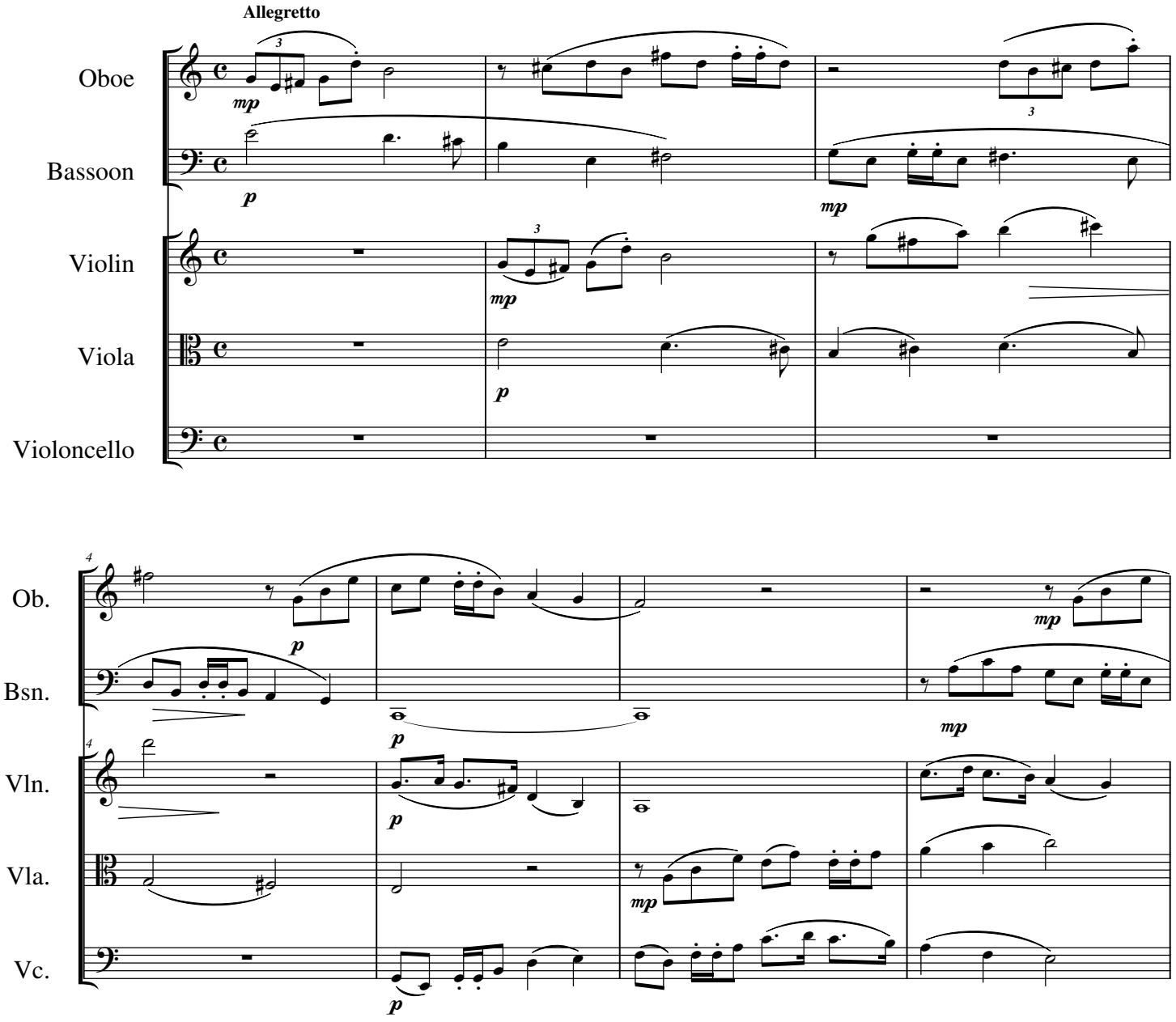
ORCHESTRAL MUSIC

Appalachian Songs	1988	chamber orchestra	25 min
Morning Music	2001	cl, string orchestra	22 min
Two Sad Songs (W.B. Yeats)	2002	soprano, string orchestra	15 min
Invisible Ballet	2003	strings & diverse instruments	33 min
Pluto	2005	orchestra	15 min
Ophelia Songs (Shakespeare)	2005	soprano, harp, string orchestra	12 min
Love's Little Pleasures	2008	soprano, string orchestra	15 min
The Four Elements	2009	va, string orchestra	22 min
Mystical Songs	2009	soprano, va, string orchestra	18 min

5 Pastoral Scenes

My initial idea for this music was to write a short romance of sorts for oboe and bassoon, with accompanying strings. However, as often happens, the music took off in a direction of its own, and the piece grew into a more ambitious series of musical scenes with a pastoral character. Without having planned it, it quickly expanded to 5 scenes in all, with an overall fast-slow-fast-slow-fast relationship between the movements. It started out with the dull, but functional title of "Quintet" before I knew where it was going, but now the work is titled, "5 Pastoral Scenes." All the time I was writing this, I thought it would be lovely to see Marsha Heller and Bill Scribner playing it together, so this music is dedicated to them both.

I



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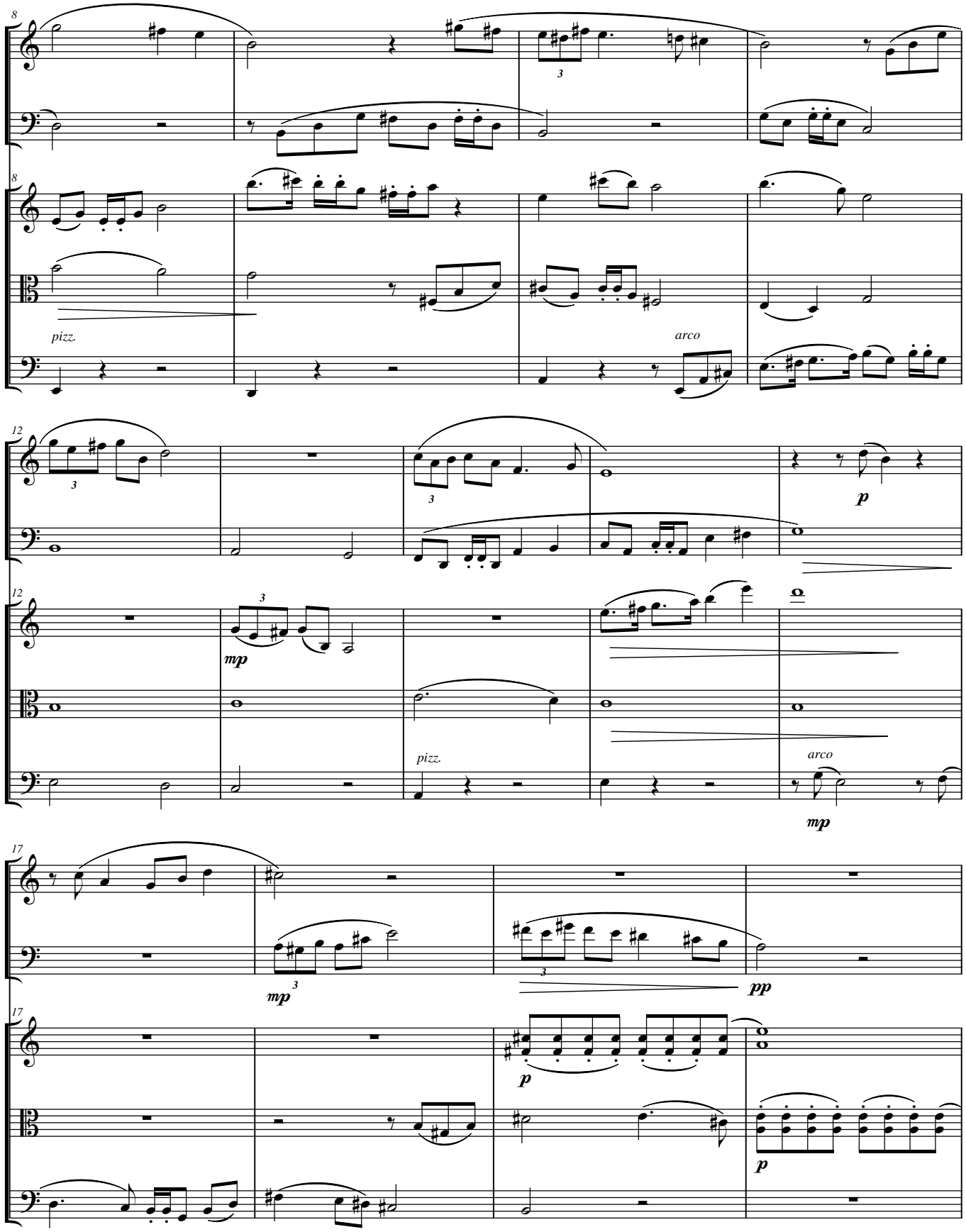
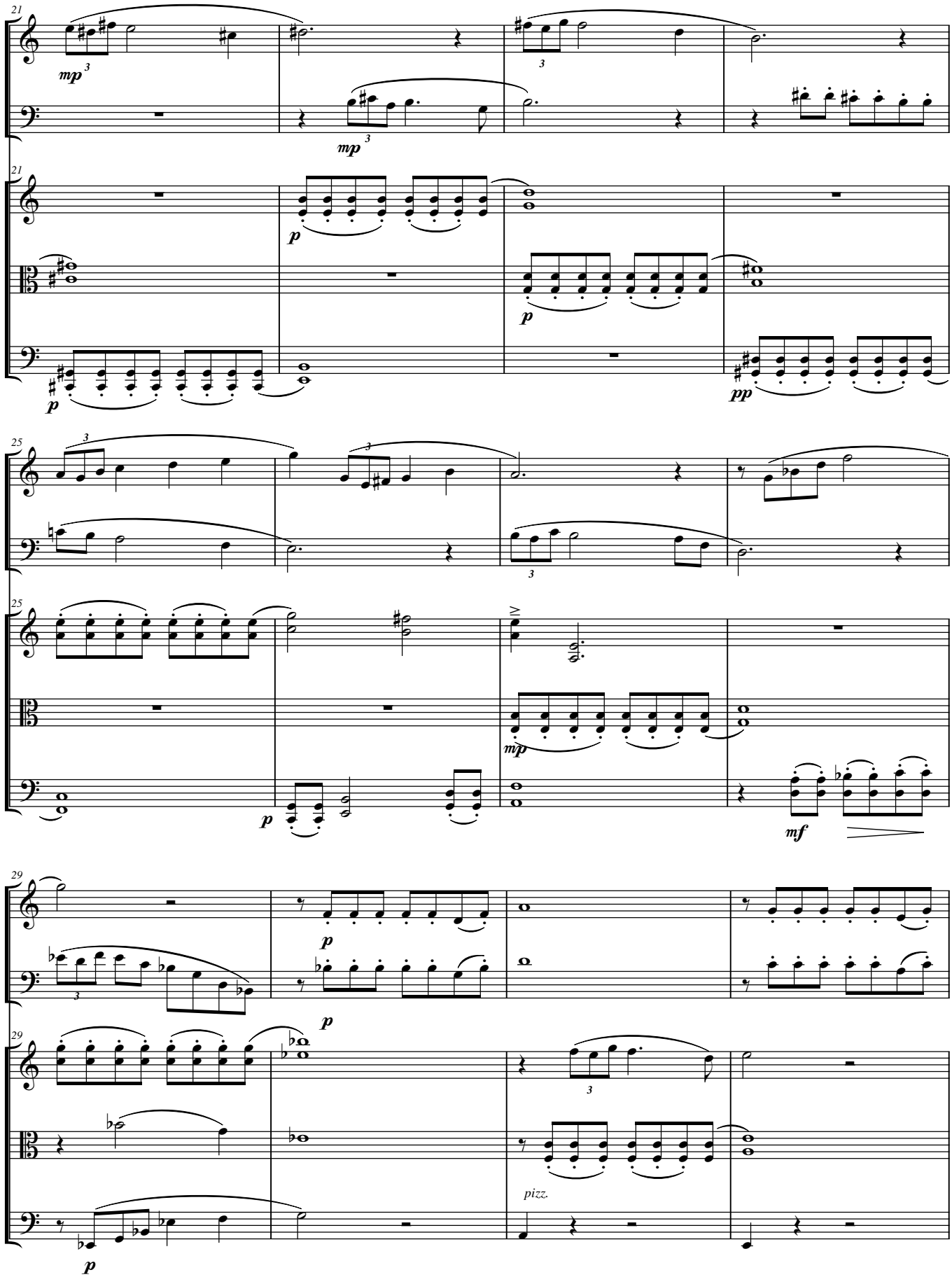

8
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
arco
12
p
mp
pizz.
arco
mp
17
mp
pp
p
p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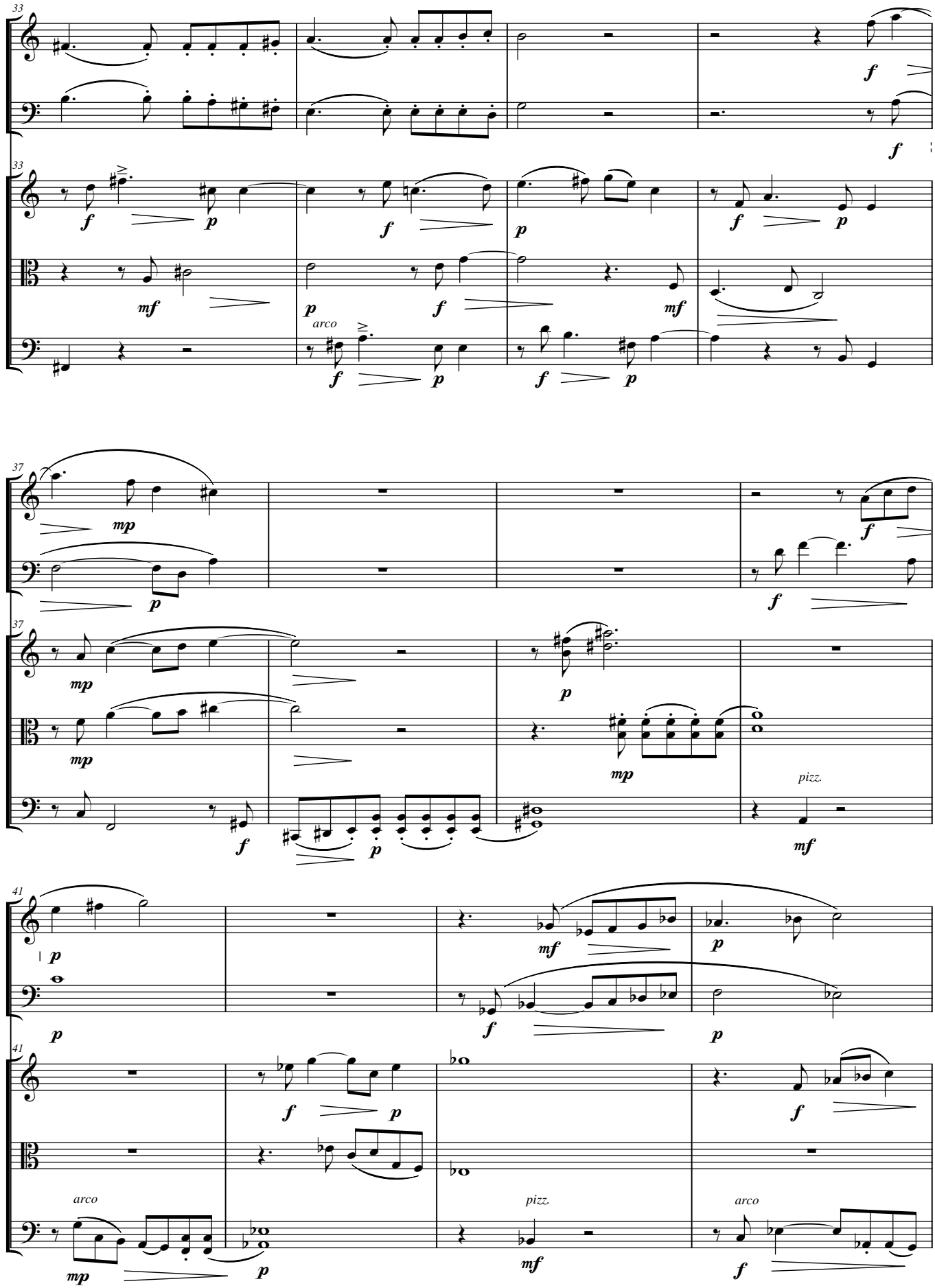
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
p
pp
25
mf
29
pizz.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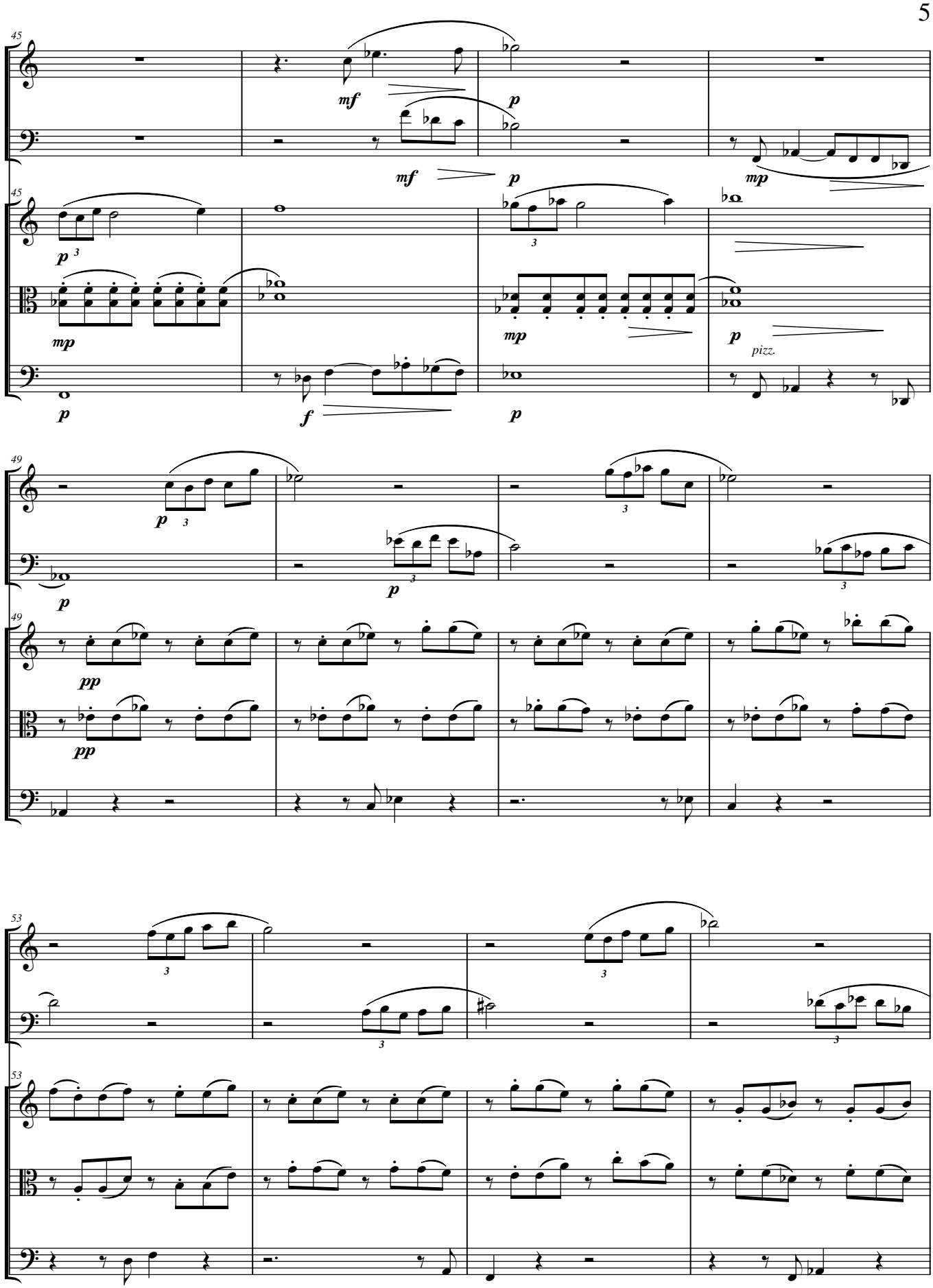
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
arco
37
mp
pizz.
41
mf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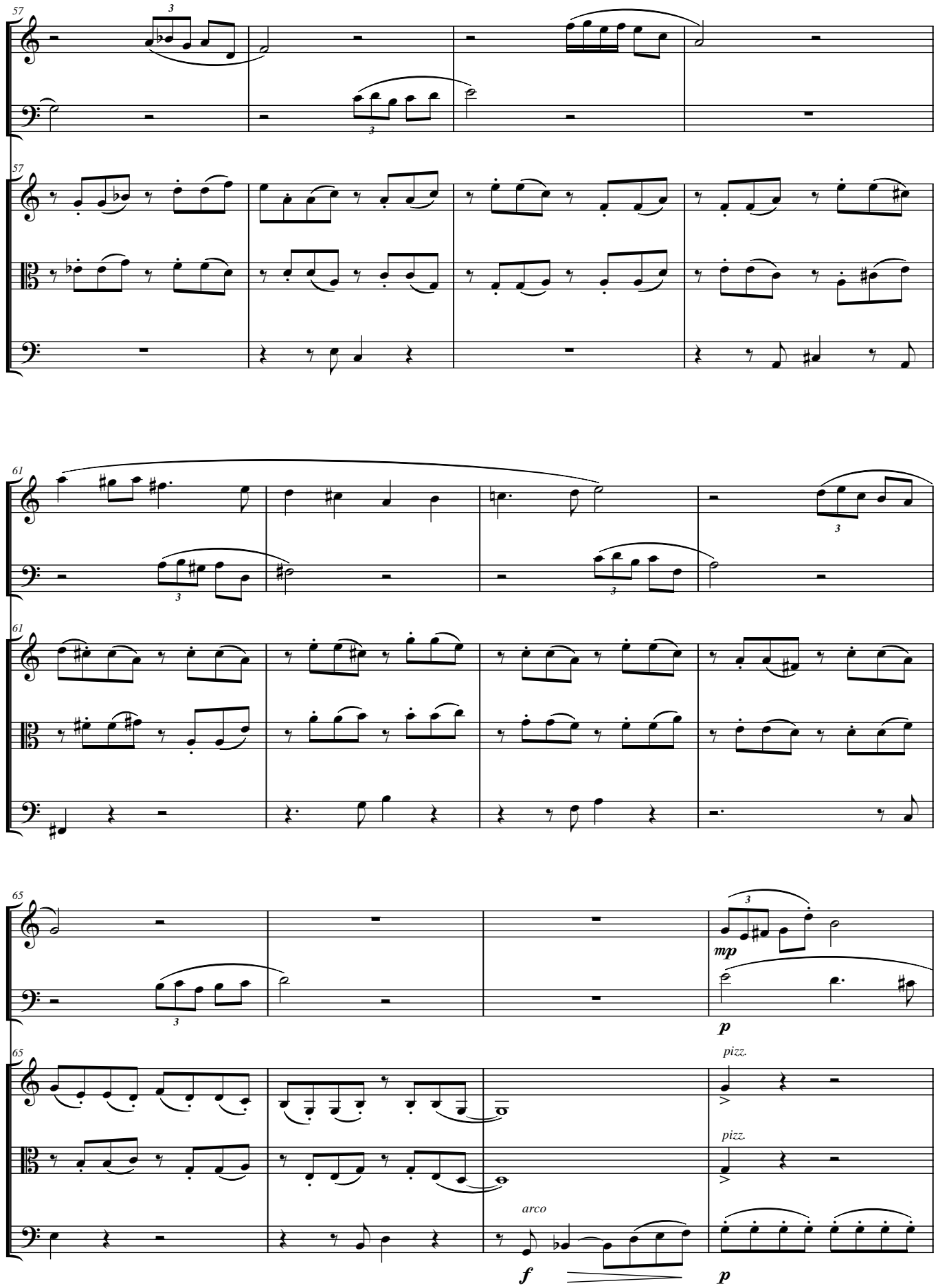
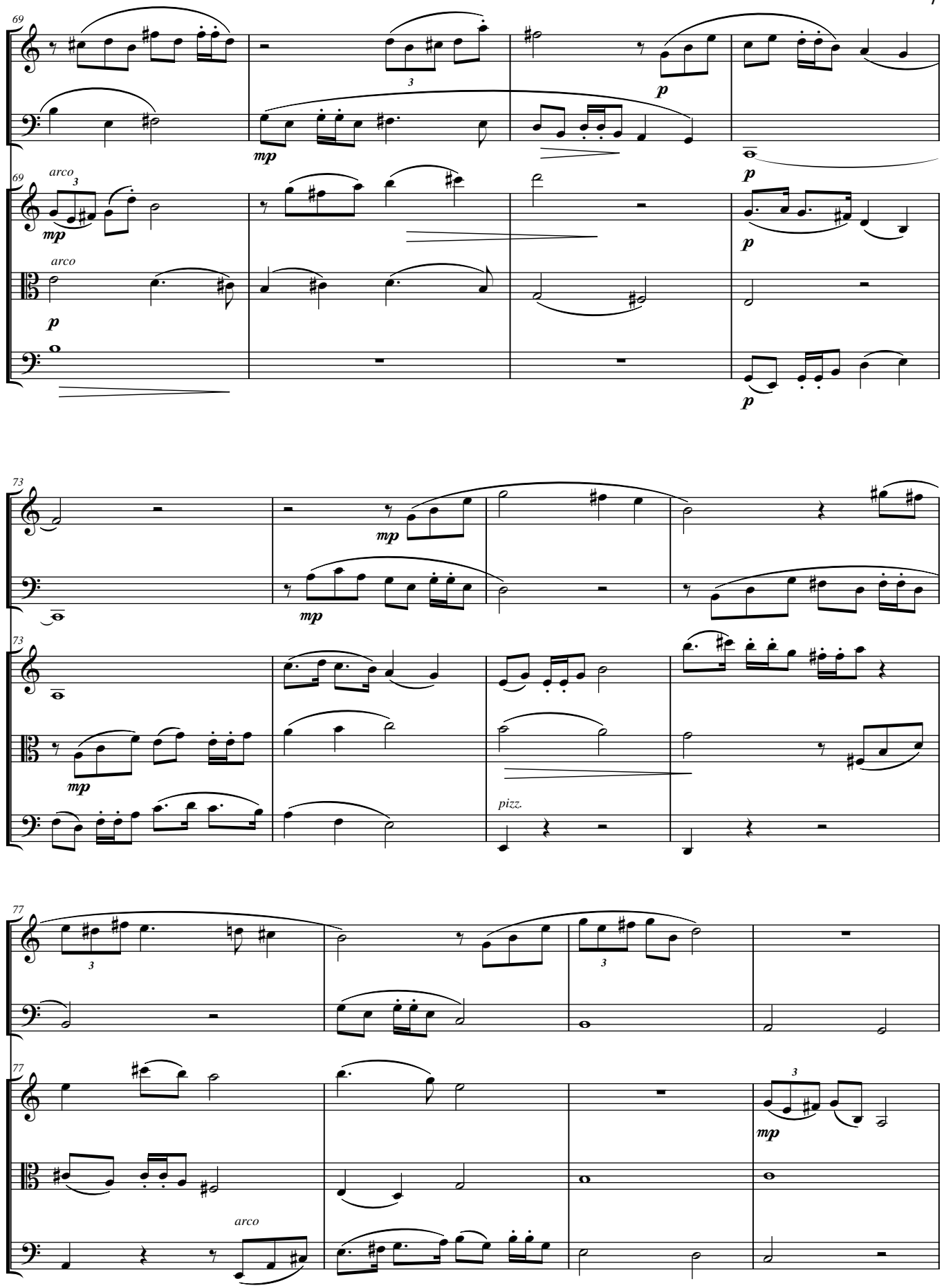
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mf
p
mp
f
pizz.
49
pp
53


57
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
61
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
65
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
p
pizz.
pizz.
arco
f
p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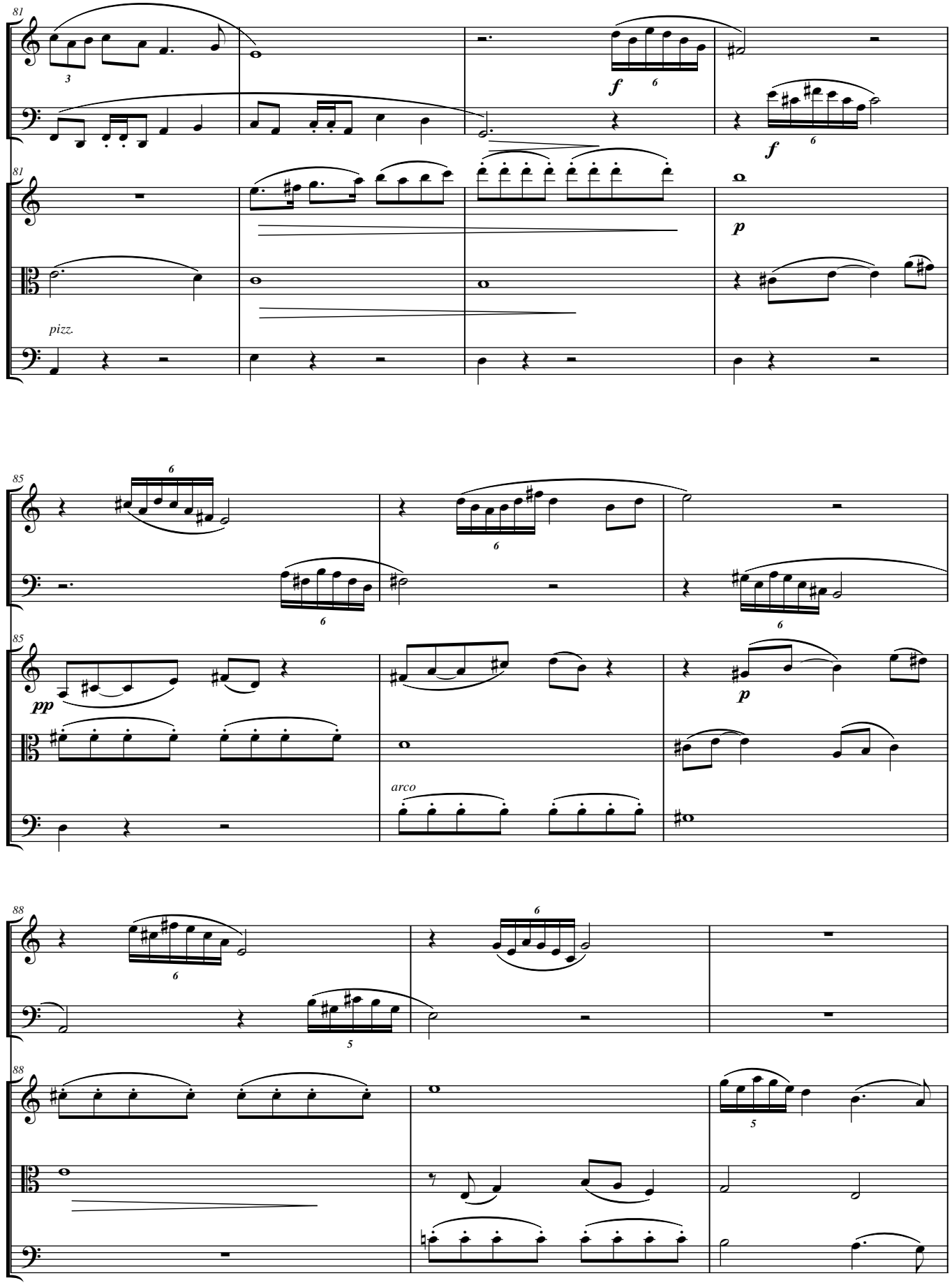
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
arco
arco
73
pizz.
77
arco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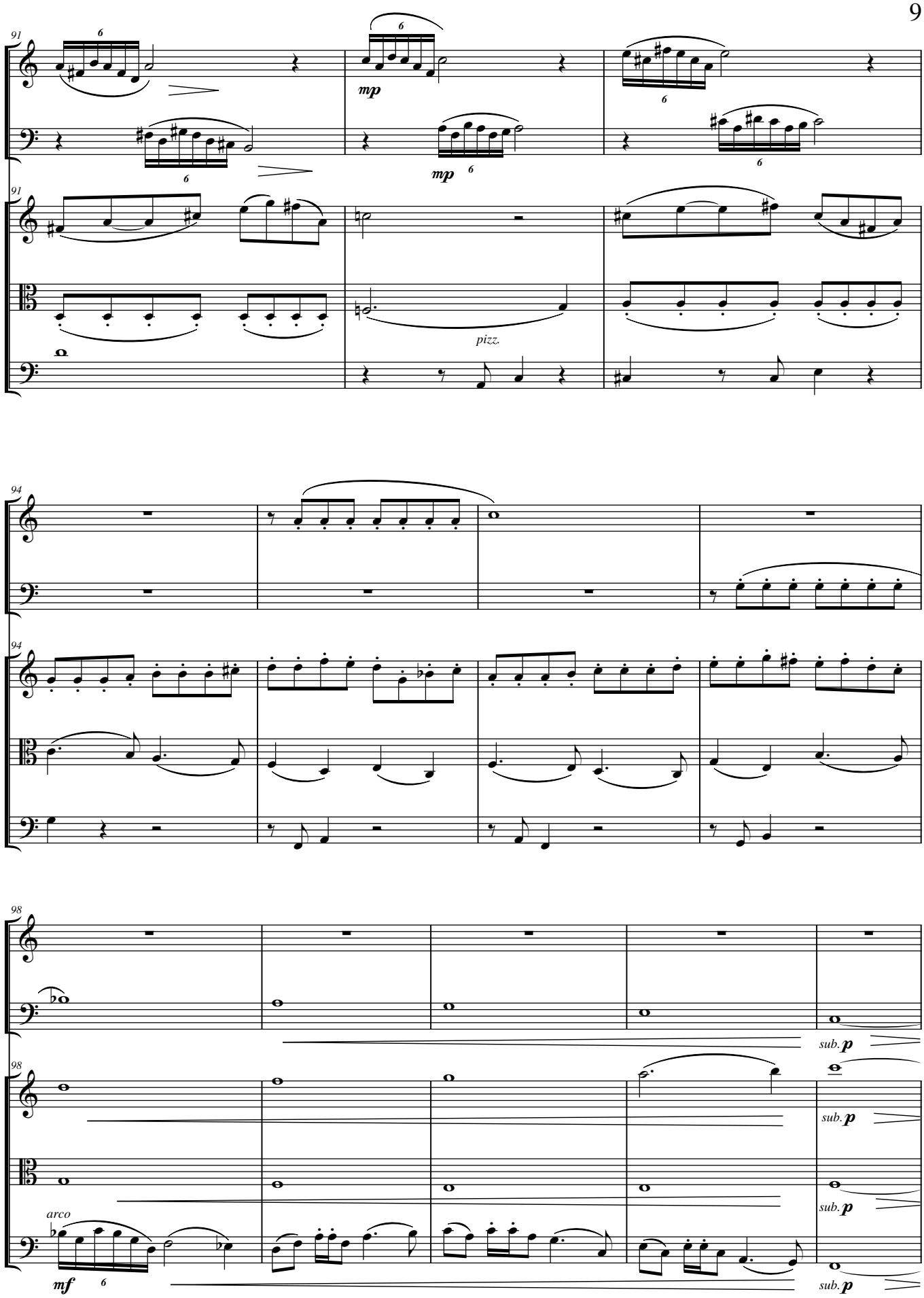
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
f
p
85
pp
arco
88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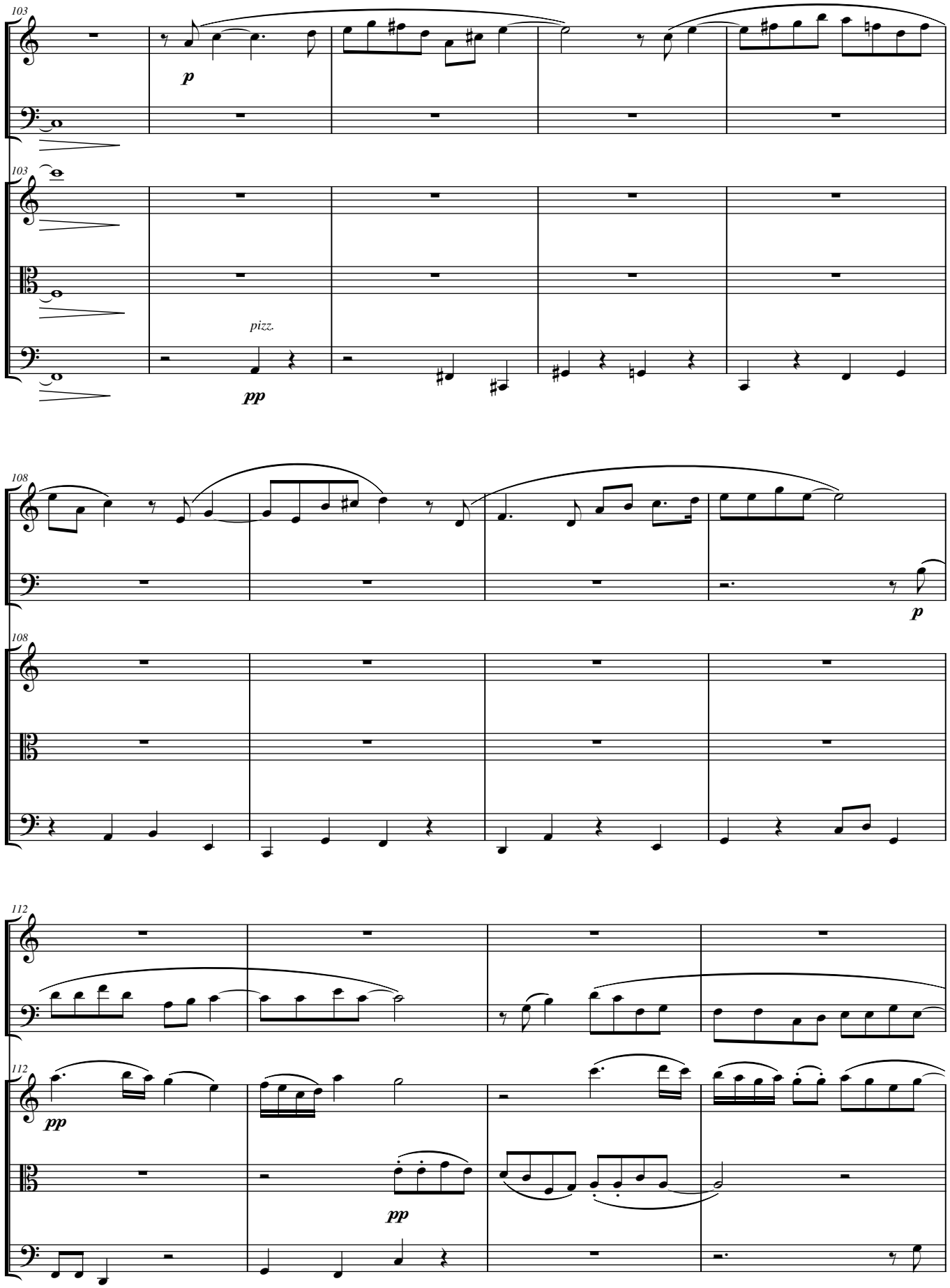
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
mp
pizz.
94
98
arco
mf
sub. p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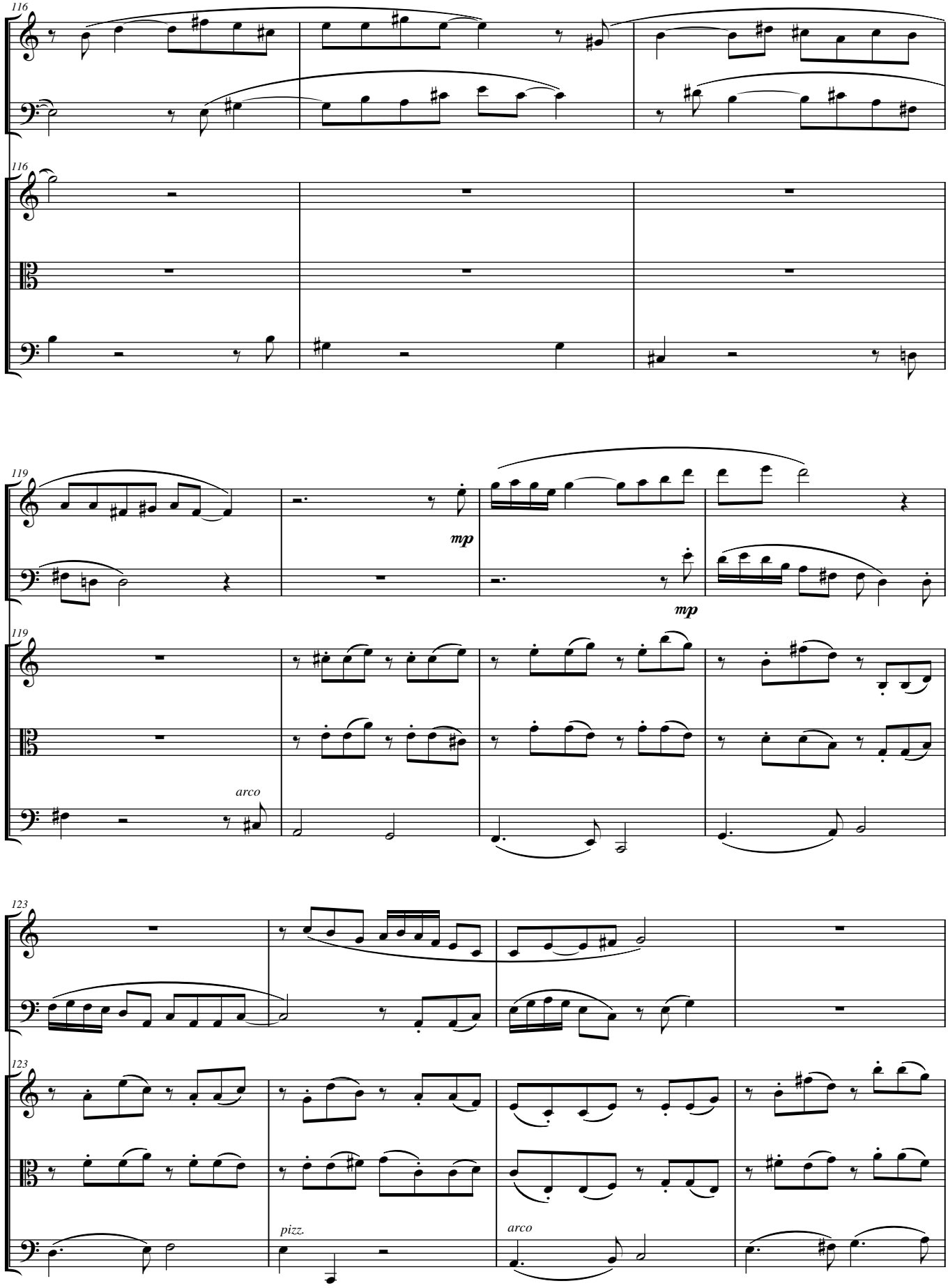
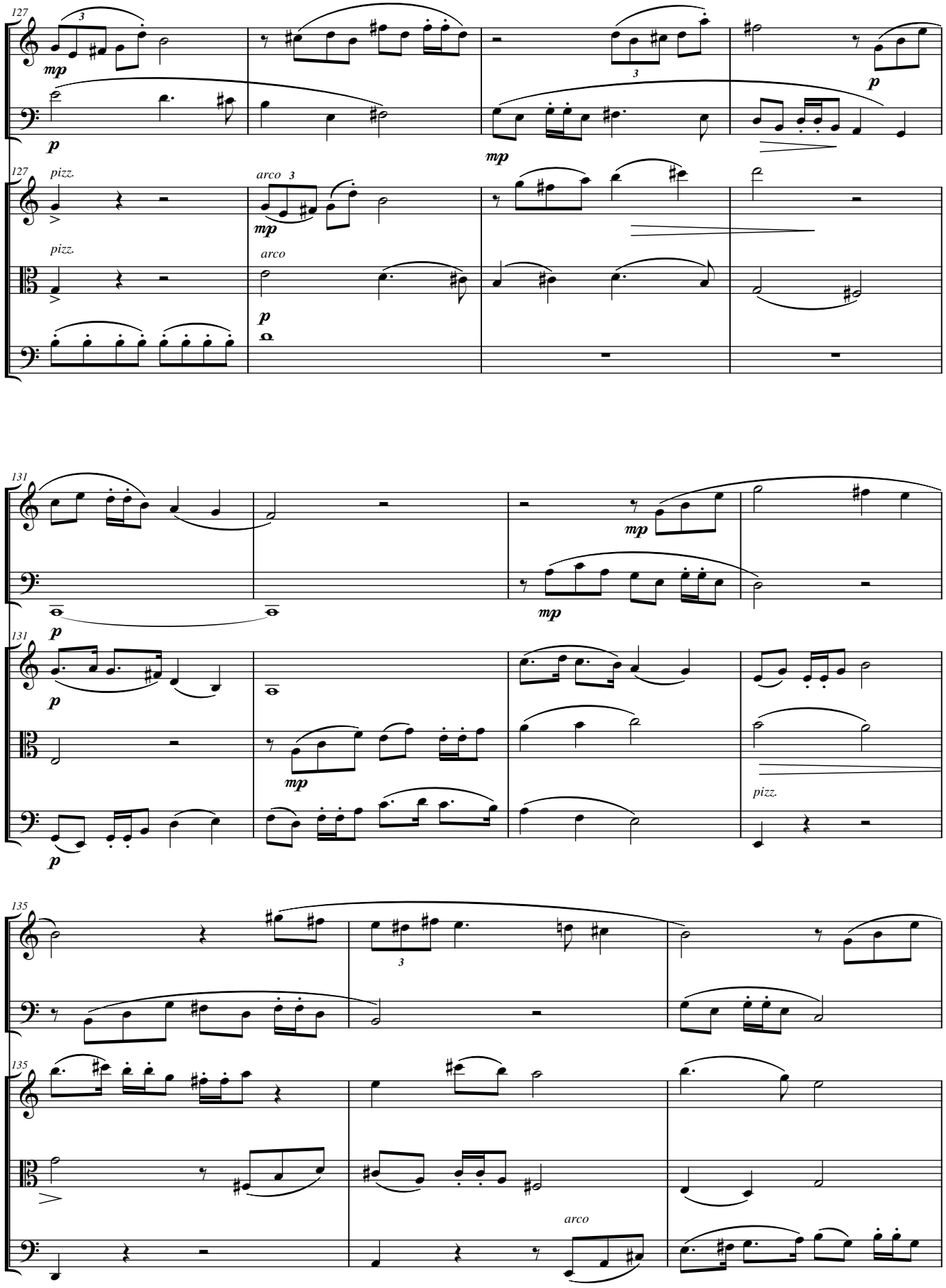
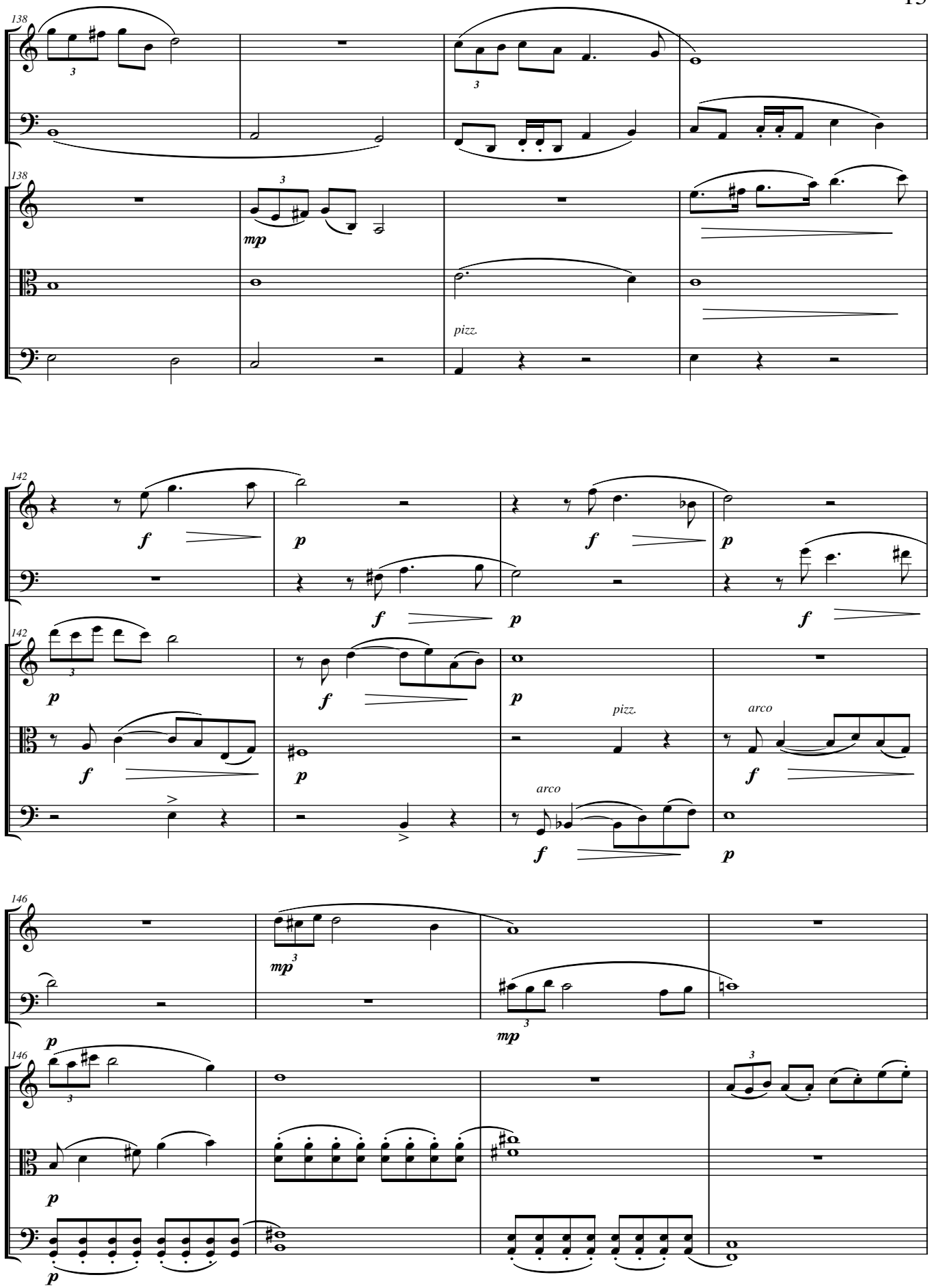
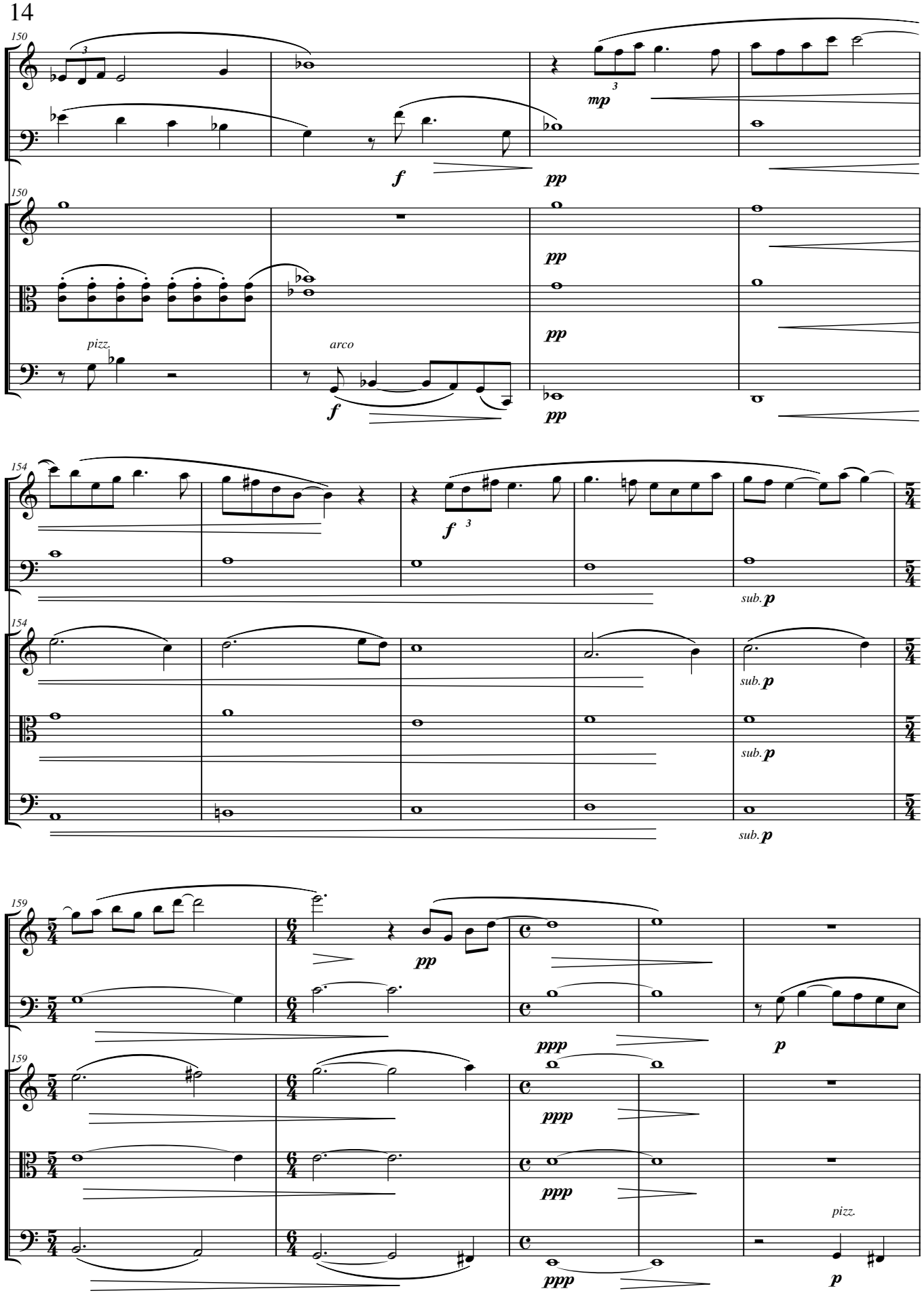
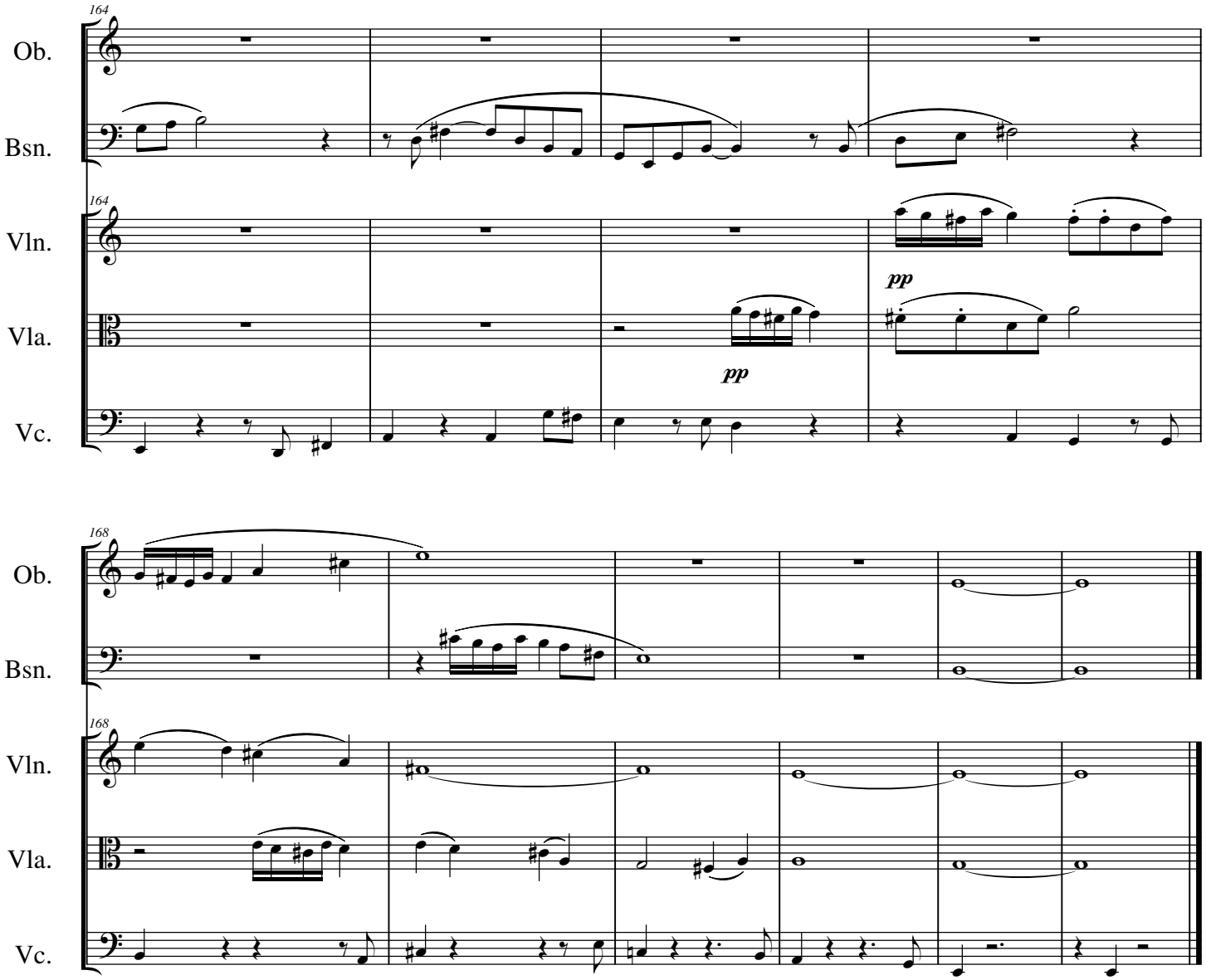
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
pizz.
pp
108
112


116
Ob.
Bsn.
116
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
119
Ob.
mp
Bsn.
mp
119
Vln.
Vla.
arco
Vc.
123
Ob.
Bsn.
123
Vln.
Vla.
pizz.
arco
Vc.

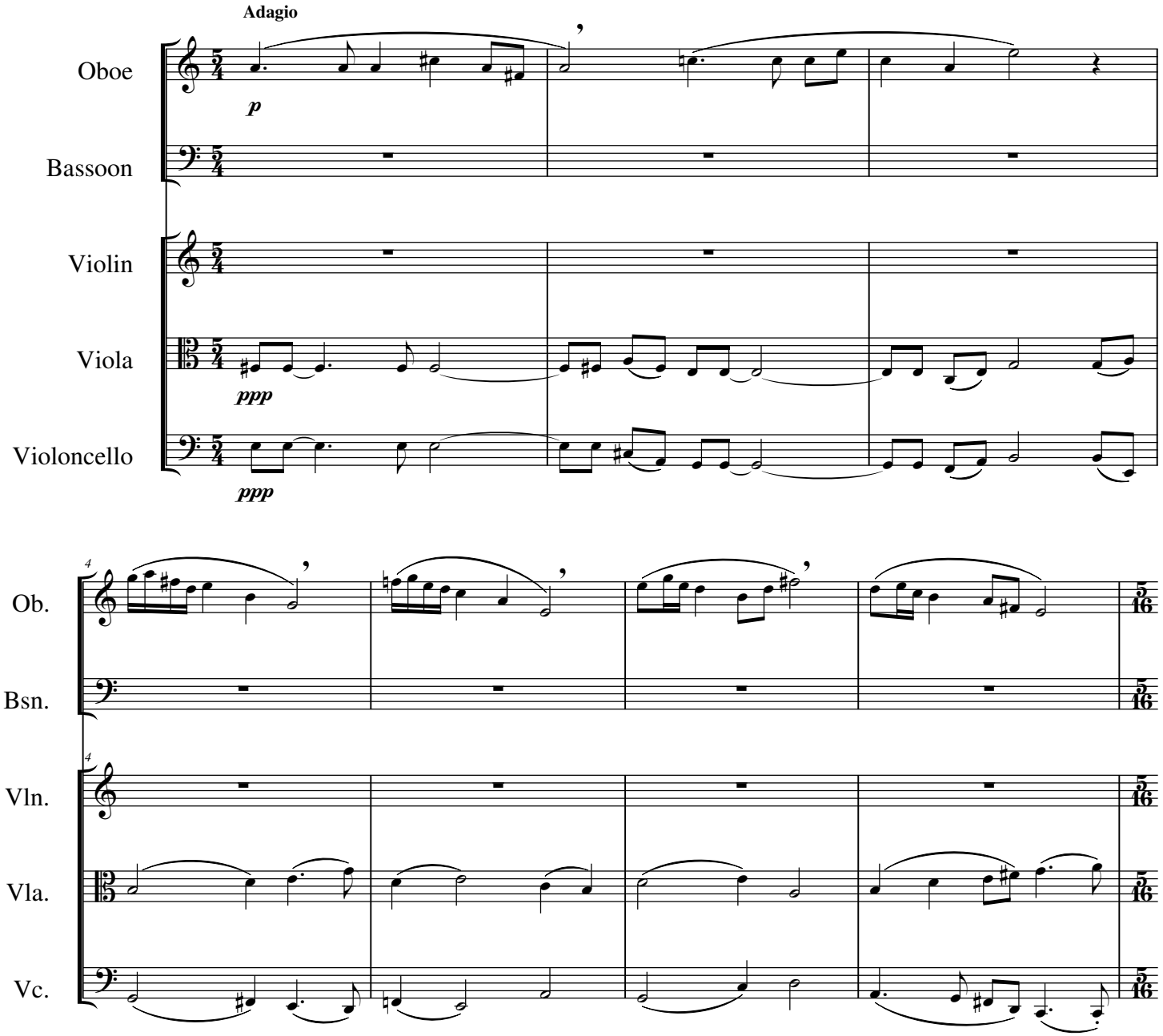

127
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
arco
131
135

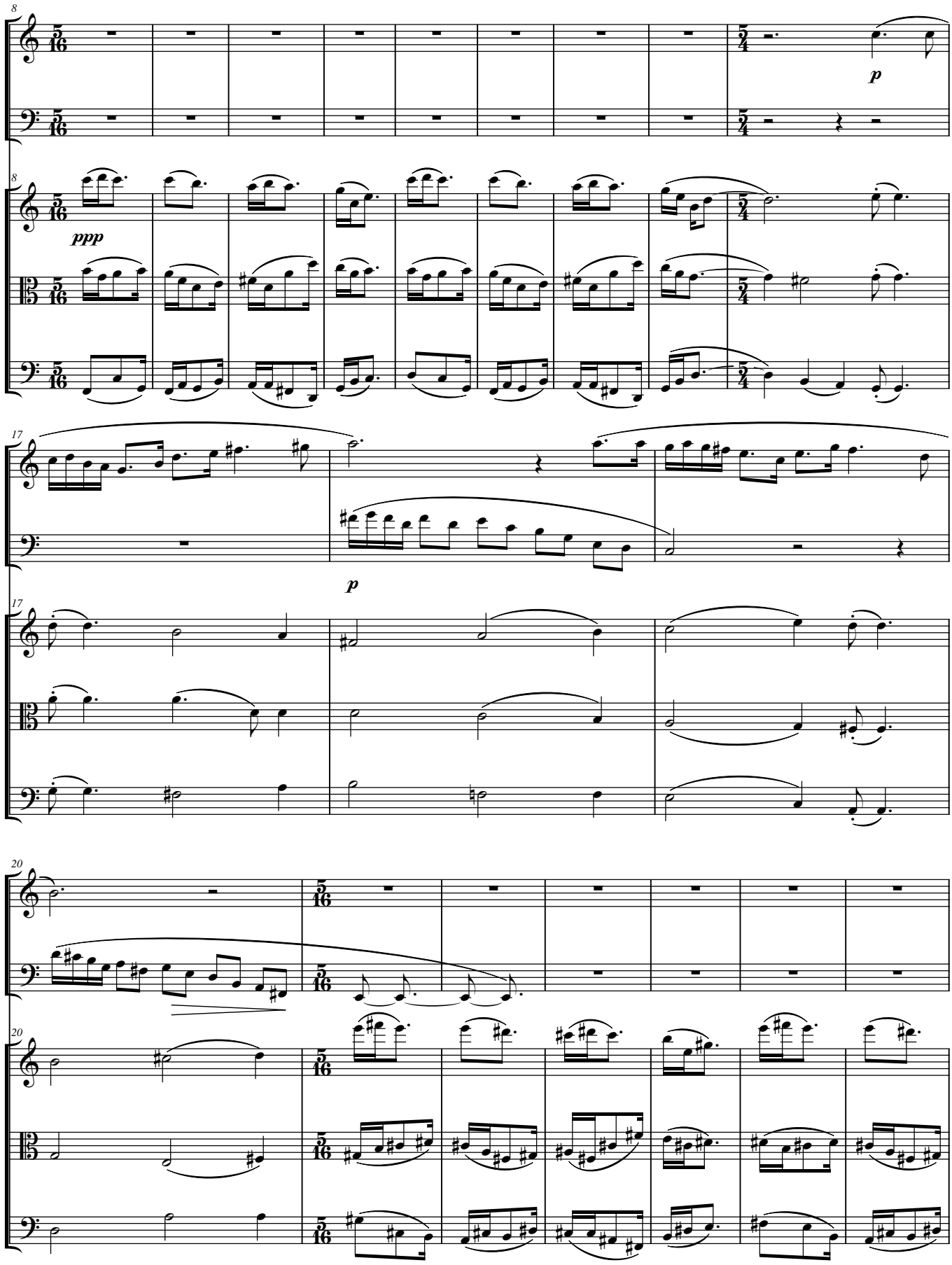

138
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
pizz.
142
f
p
arco
146
mp


150
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
arco
mp
f
pp
154
sub. p
159
ppp
p


164
Ob.
Bsn.
164
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pp
pp
168
Ob.
Bsn.
168
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

II


Adagio
Oboe
Bassoon
Violin
Viola
Violoncello
p
ppp
ppp
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
4
4
5/16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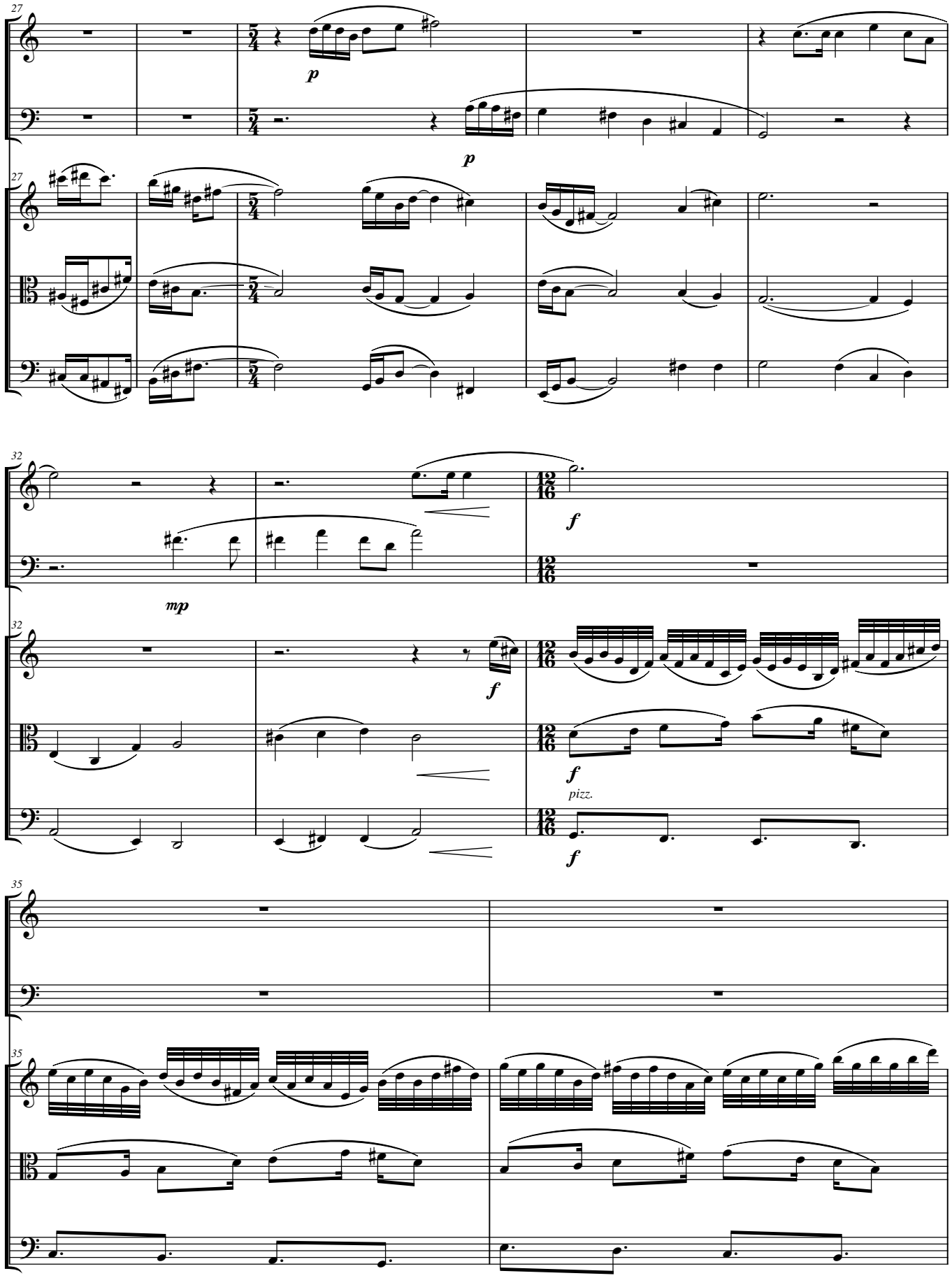
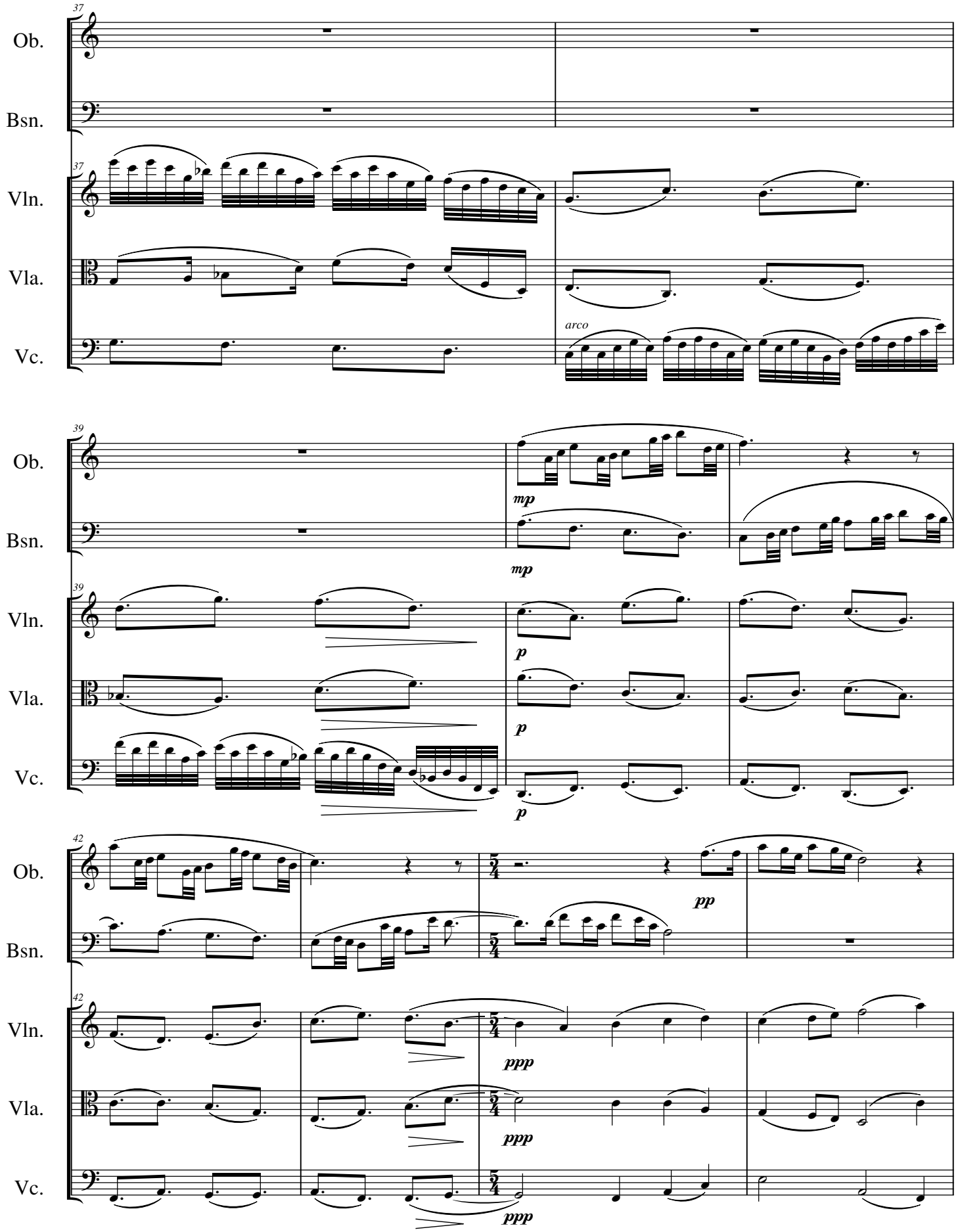
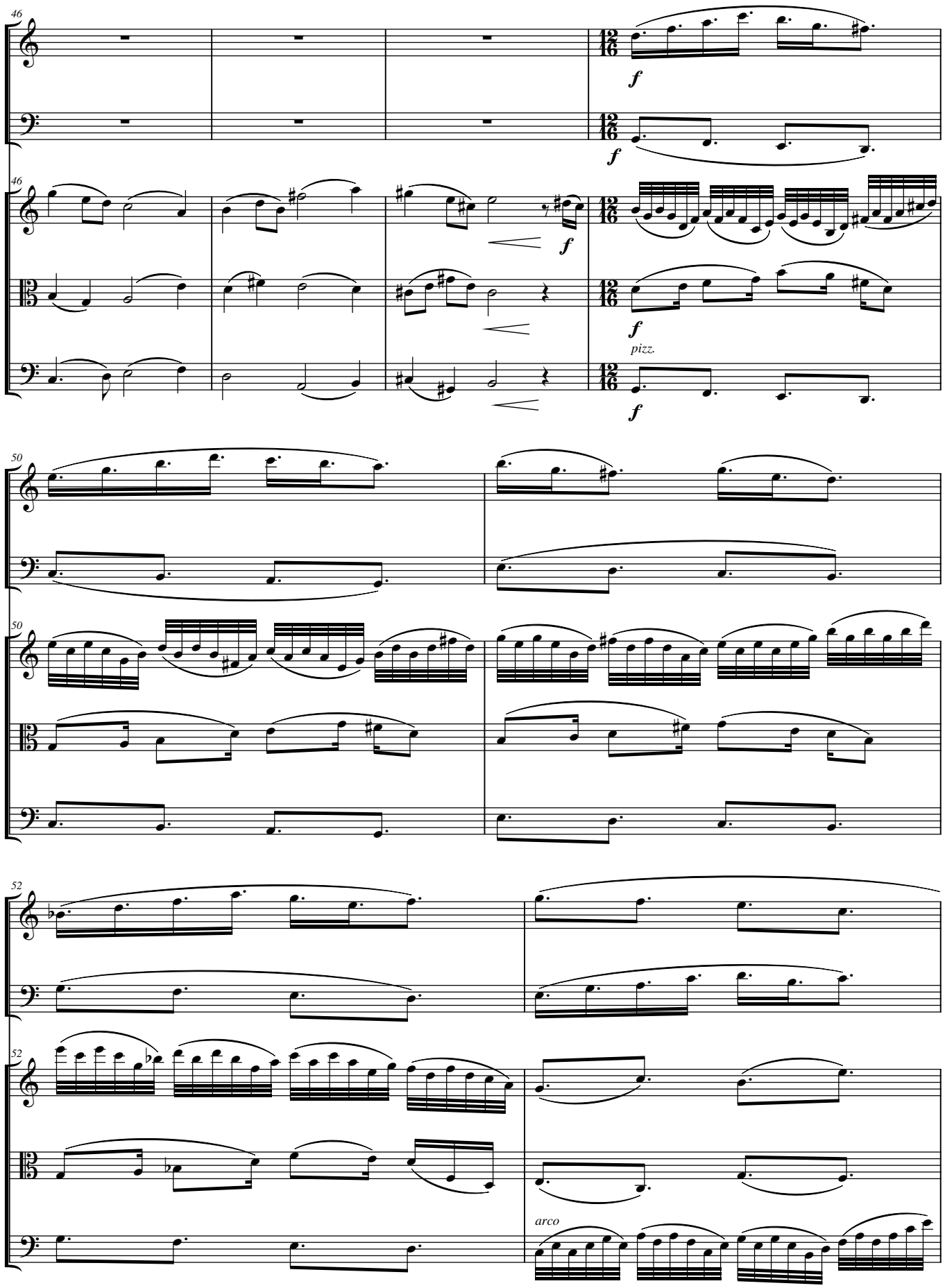
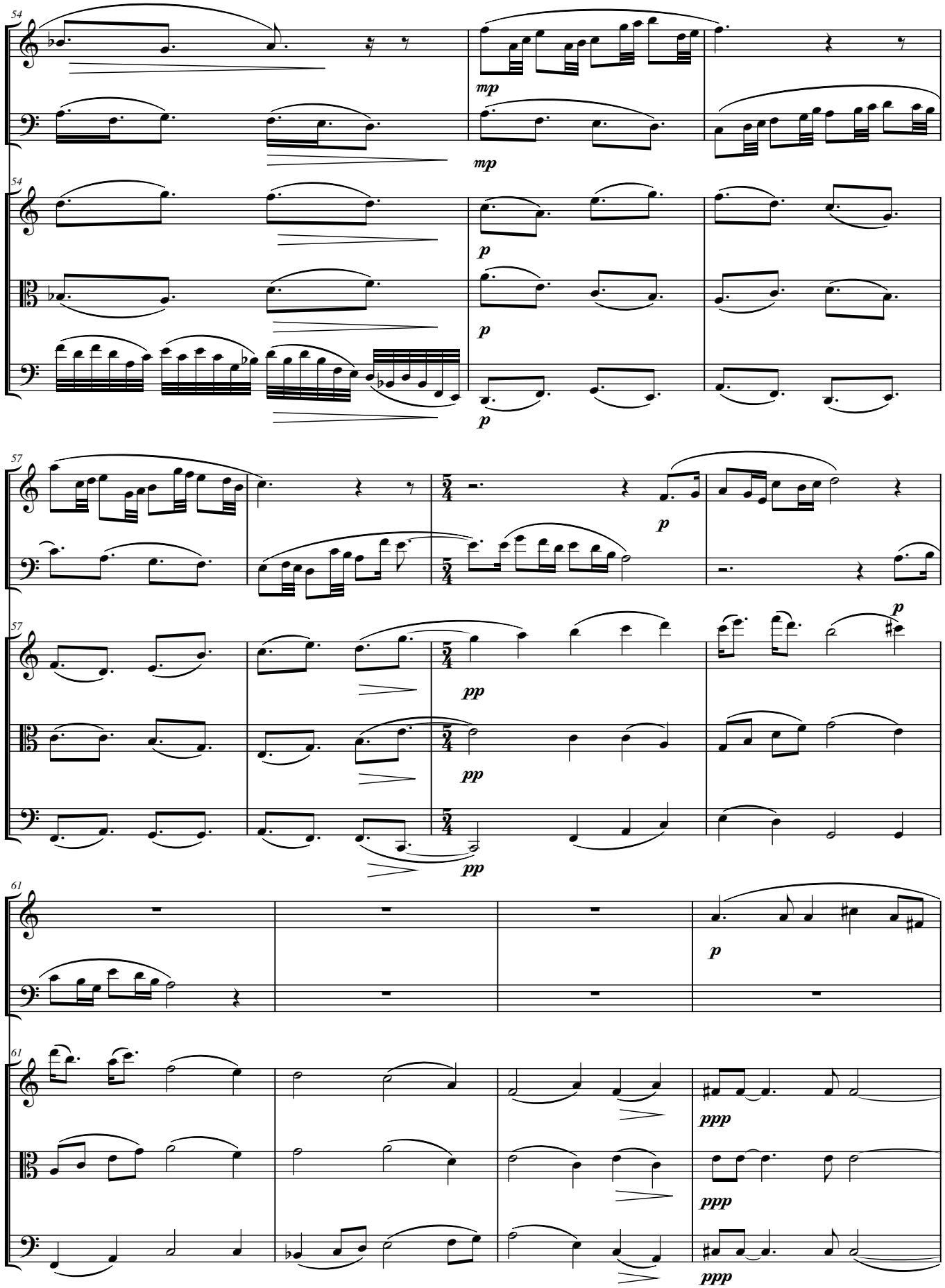
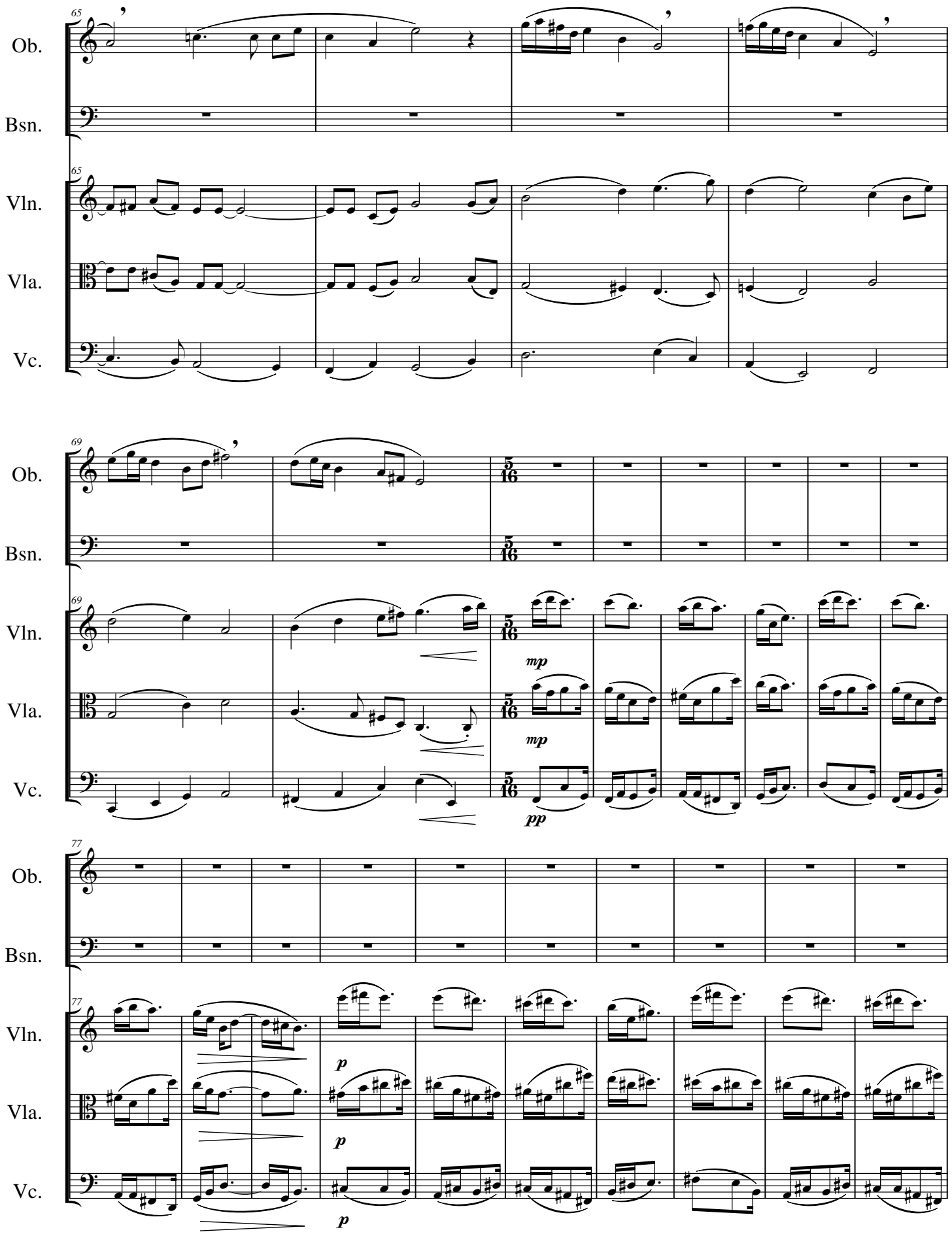
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ppp
p
17
20

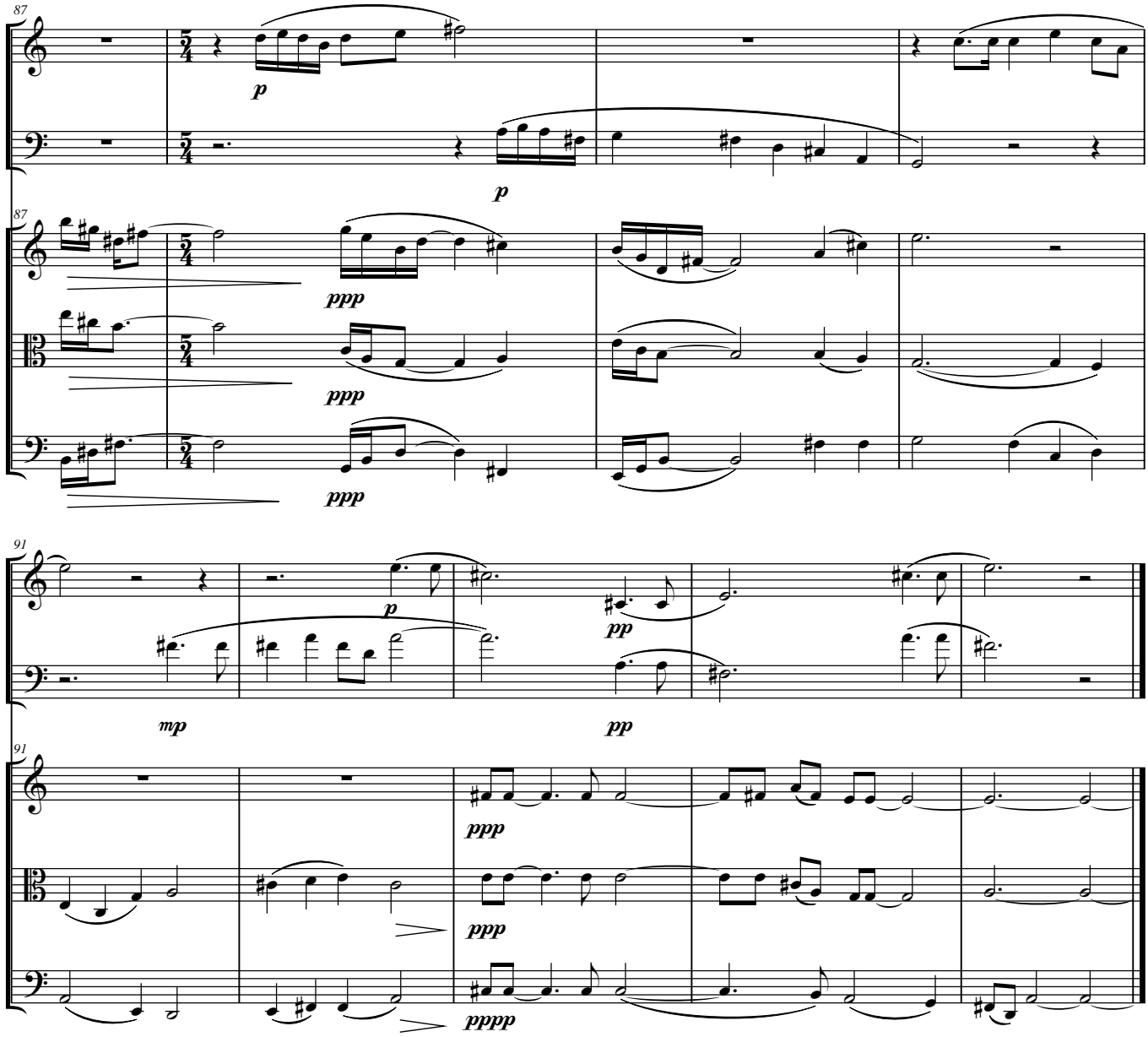

27
Ob.
Bsn.
p
p
27
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
32
Ob.
Bsn.
mp
f
32
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f
f
pizz.
f
35
Ob.
Bsn.
35
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.


37
Ob.
Bsn.
37
Vln.
Vla.
arco
Vc.
39
Ob.
mp
Bsn.
mp
39
Vln.
p
Vla.
p
Vc.
p
42
Ob.
pp
Bsn.
42
Vln.
ppp
Vla.
ppp
Vc.
ppp

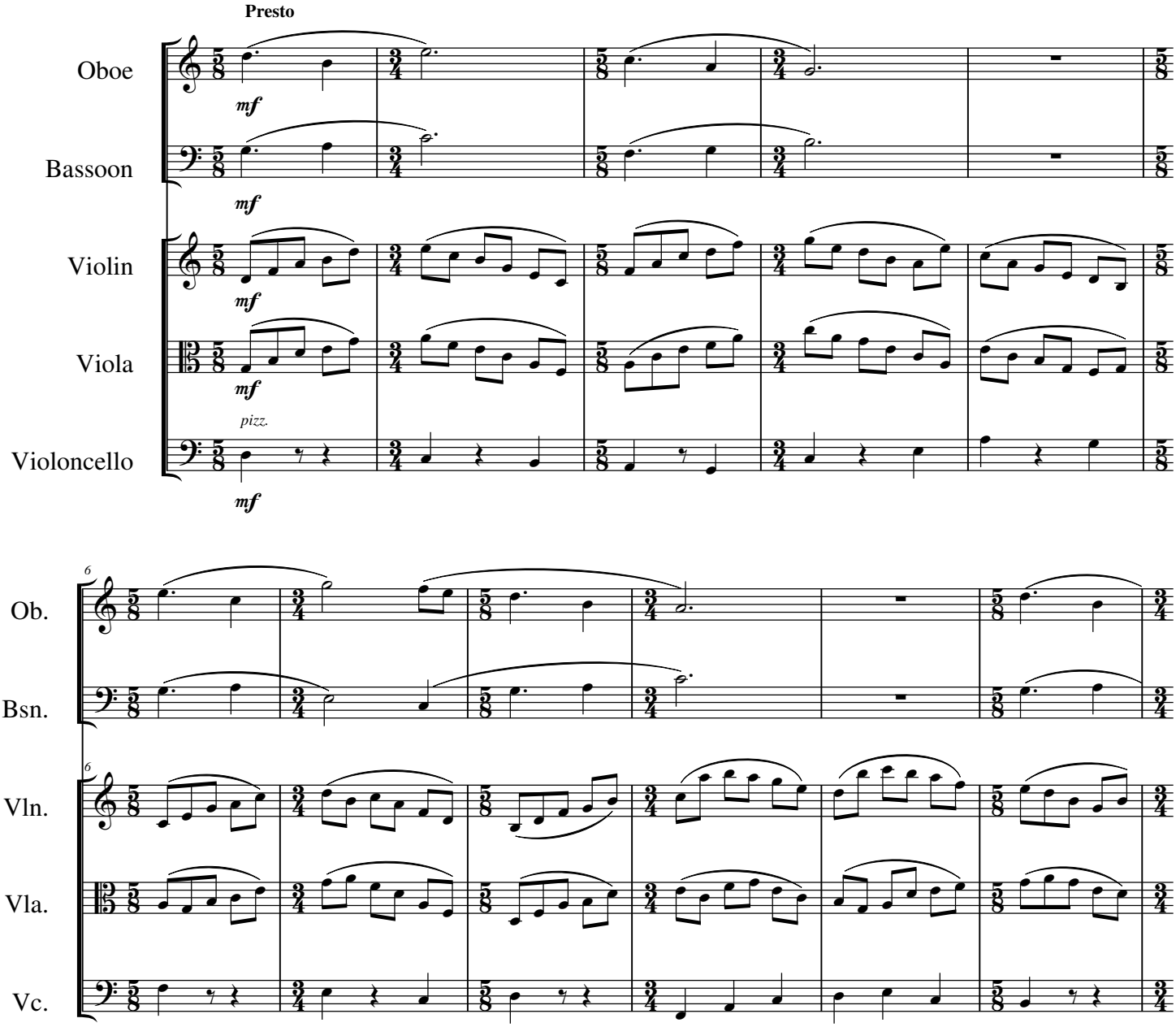

46
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f
pizz.
50
52
arco

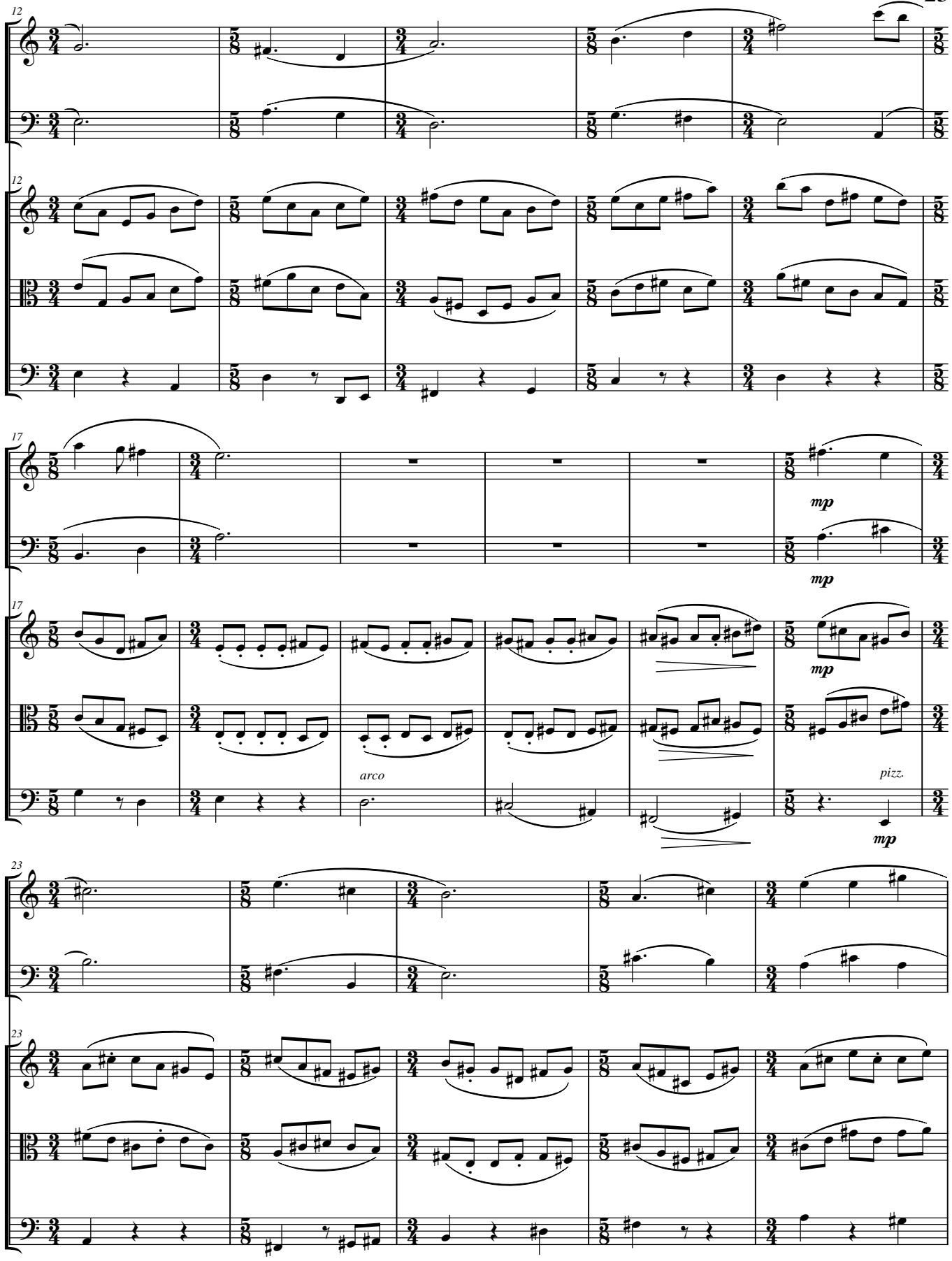

54
Ob.
Bsn.
mp
mp
54
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
p
p
57
Ob.
Bsn.
p
57
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pp
pp
pp
p
61
Ob.
Bsn.
p
61
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ppp
ppp
ppp


65
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
69
5/16
mp
mp
pp
77
p
p
p


87
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
ppp
91
mp
pp
pppp

III


Presto
Oboe
Bassoon
Violin
Viola
Violoncello
mf
pizz.
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
6


12
Ob.
Bsn.
12
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
17
Ob.
Bsn.
mp
mp
17
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
arco
pizz.
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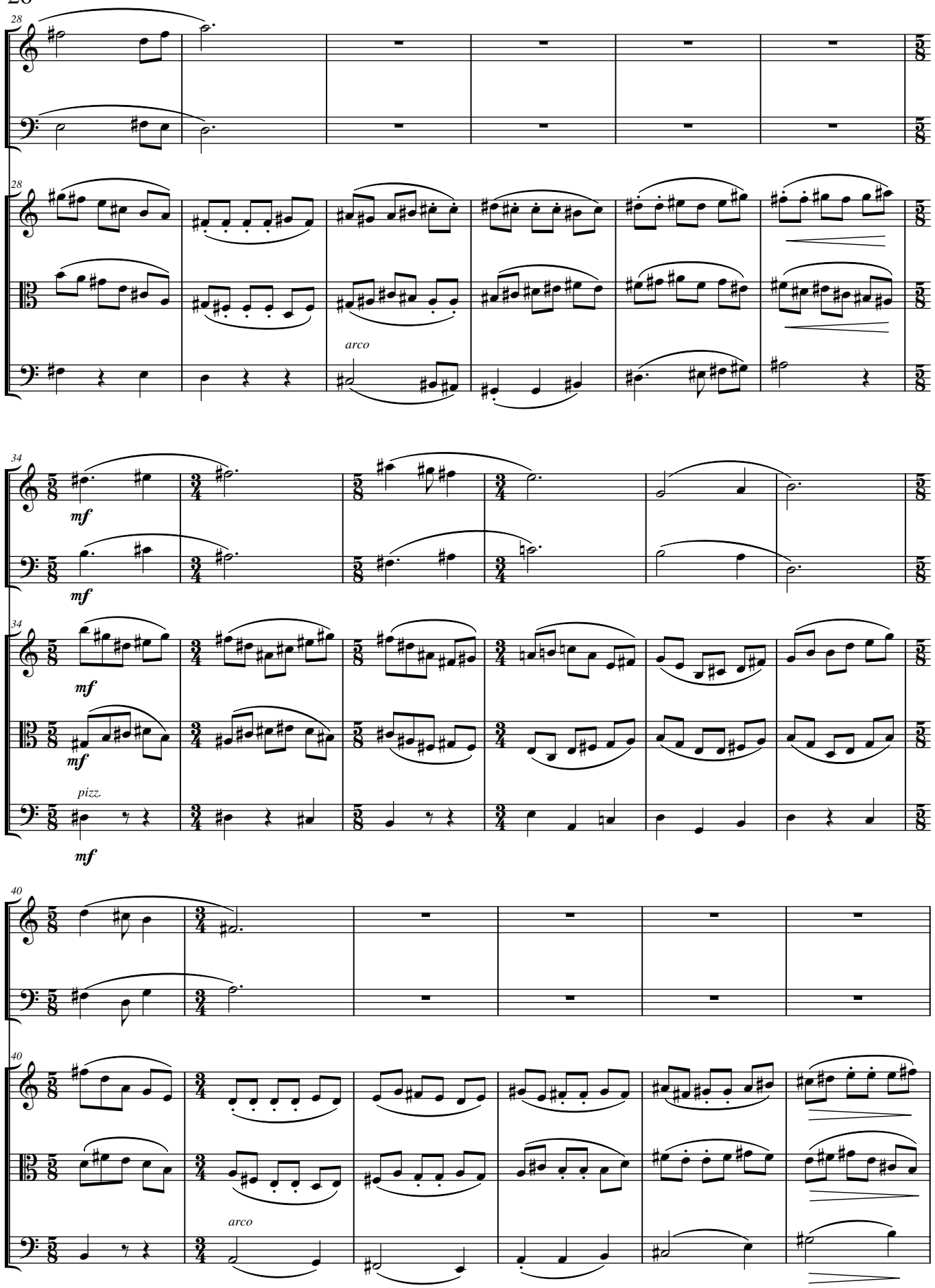
Vla.
Vc.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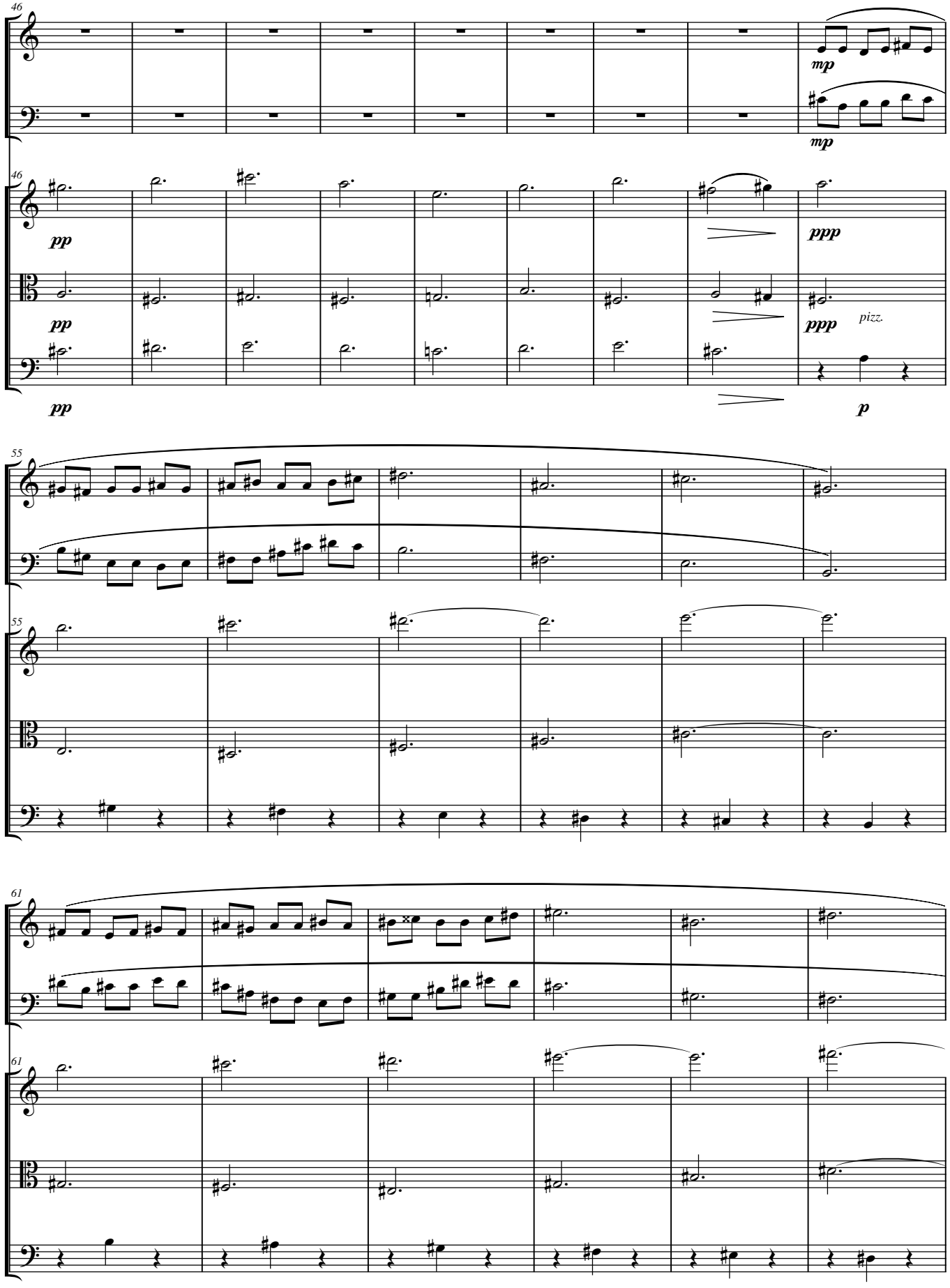
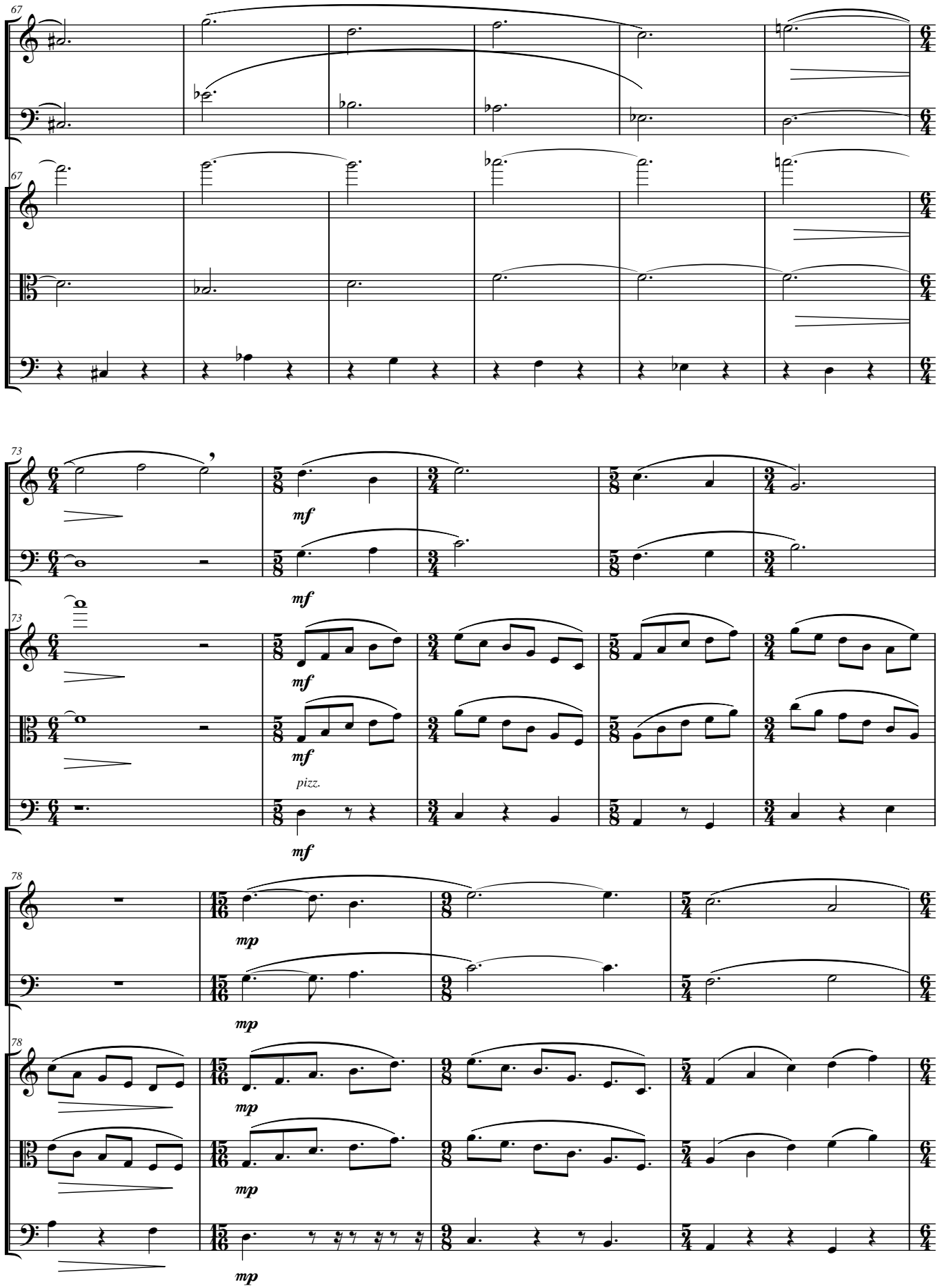
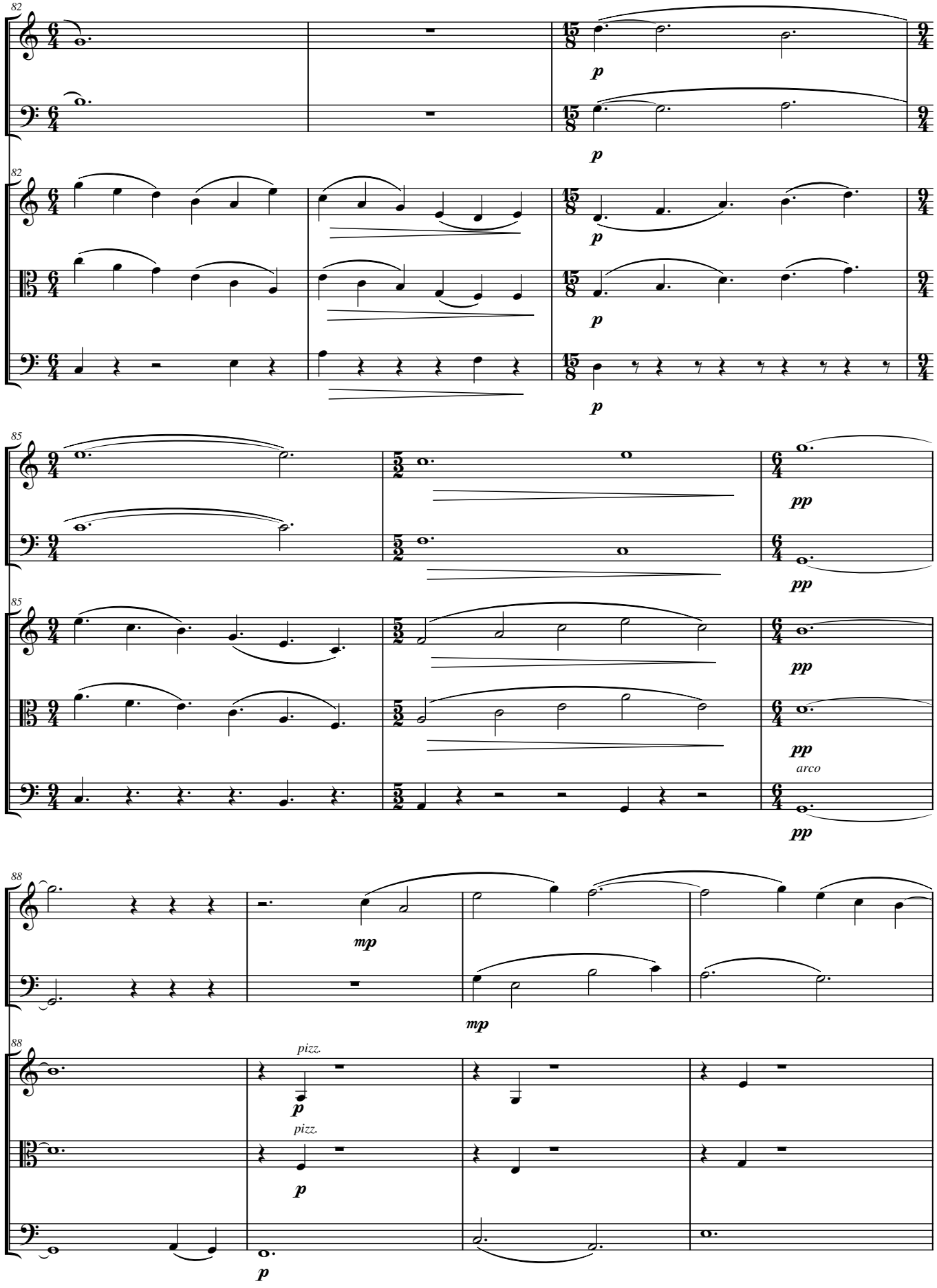
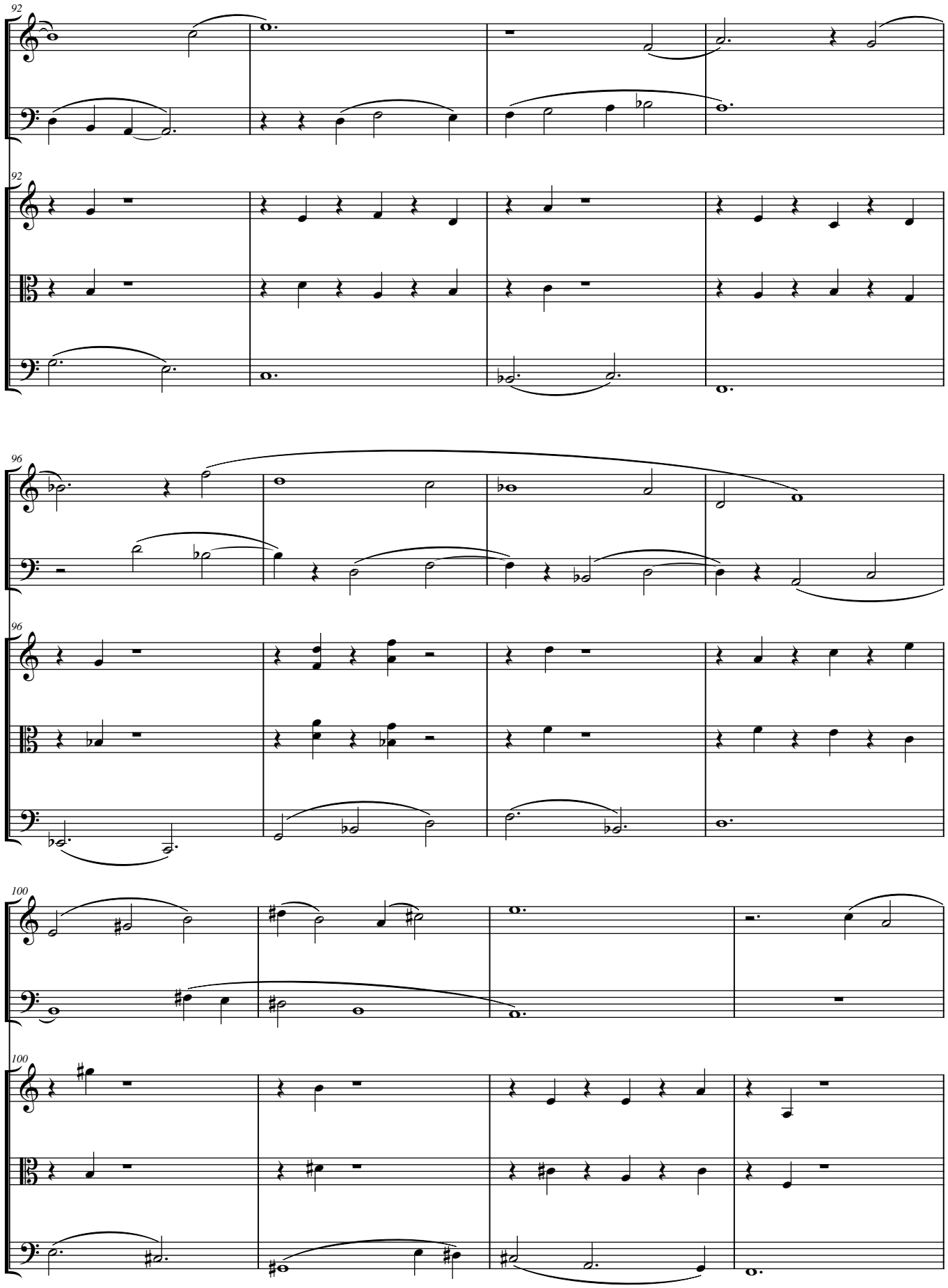
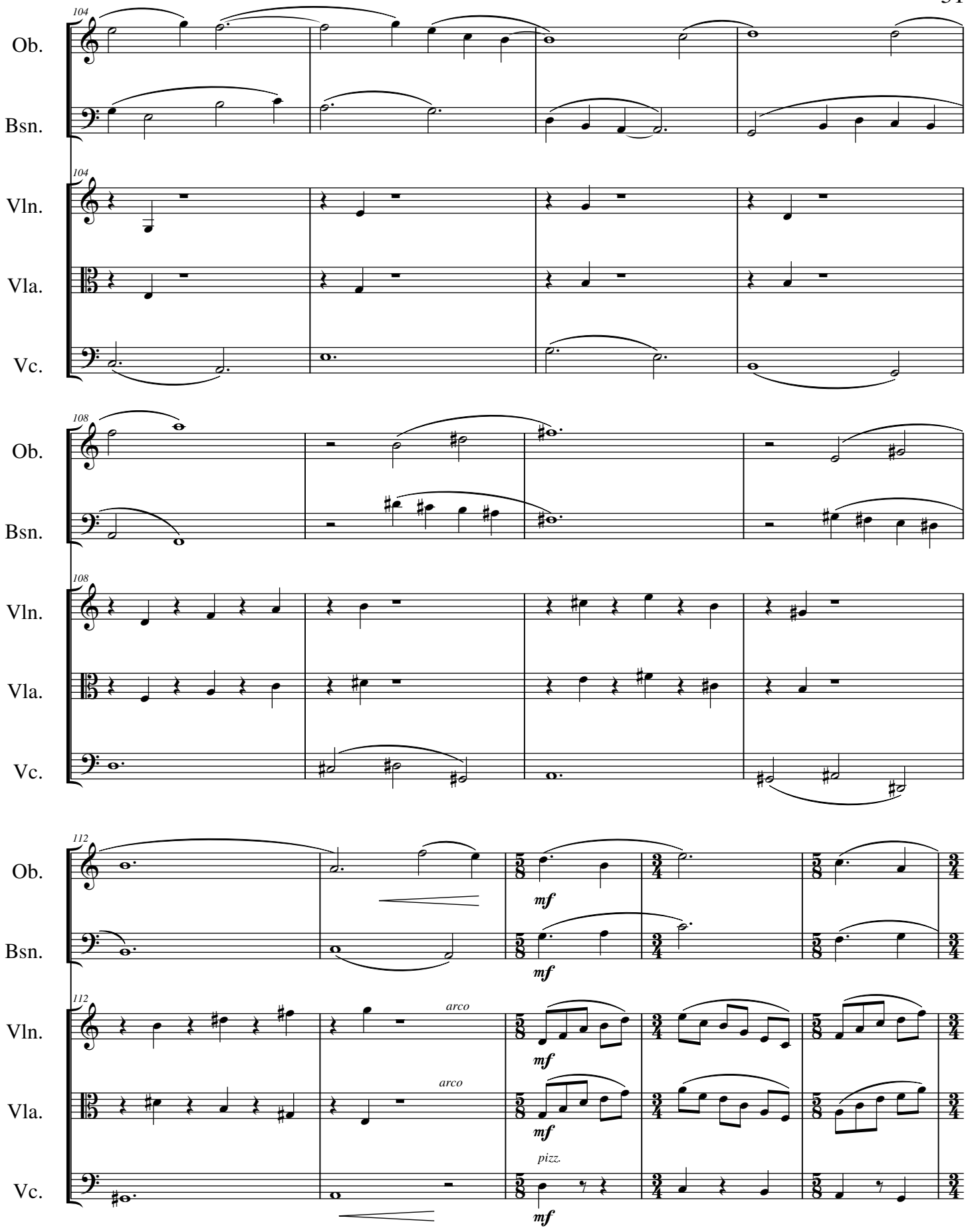
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
arco
Vc.
34
mf
pizz.
40
arco

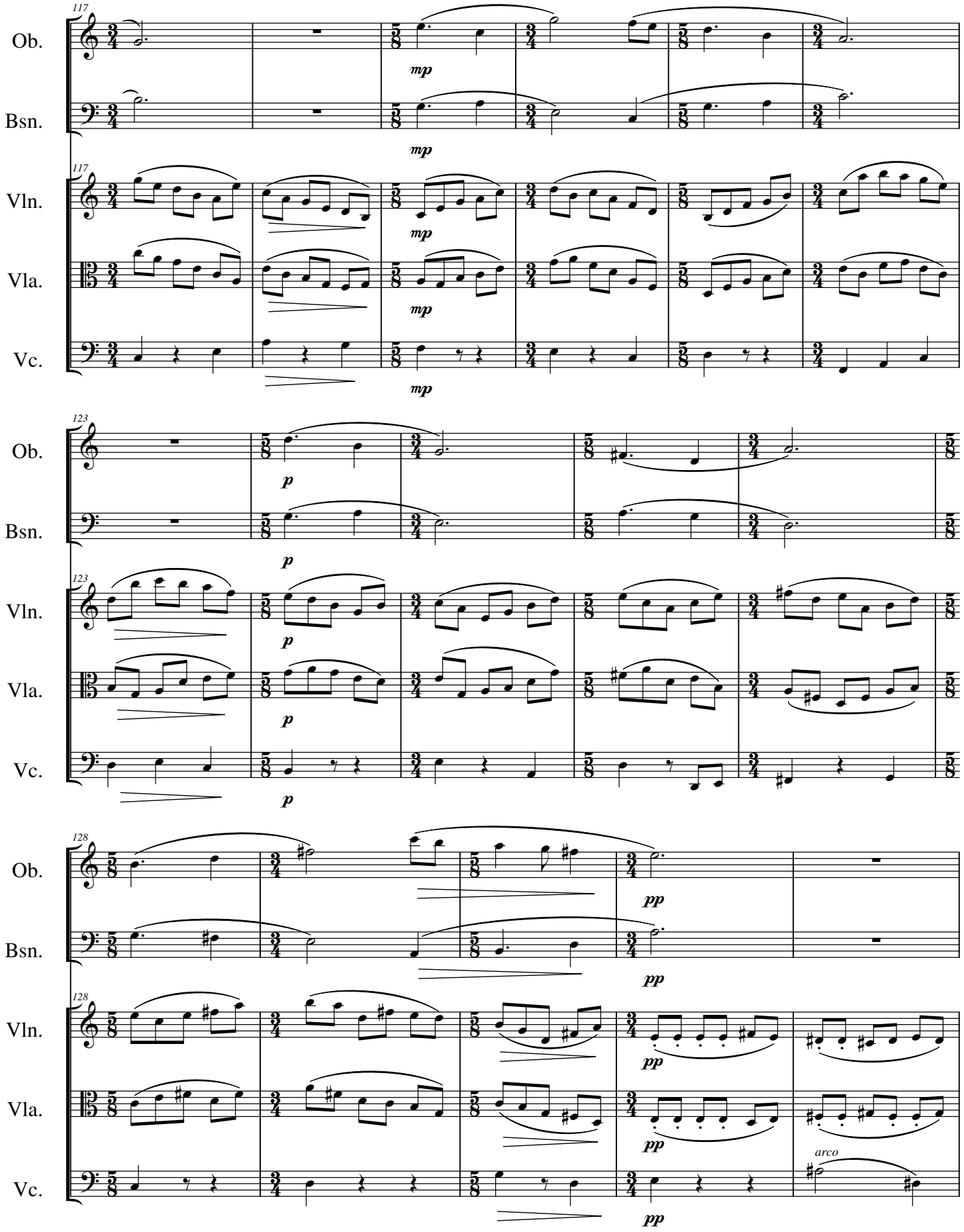

46
Ob.
Bsn.
mp
mp
46
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pp
pp
pp
ppp
ppp
pizz.
p
55
Ob.
Bsn.
55
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
61
Ob.
Bsn.
61
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

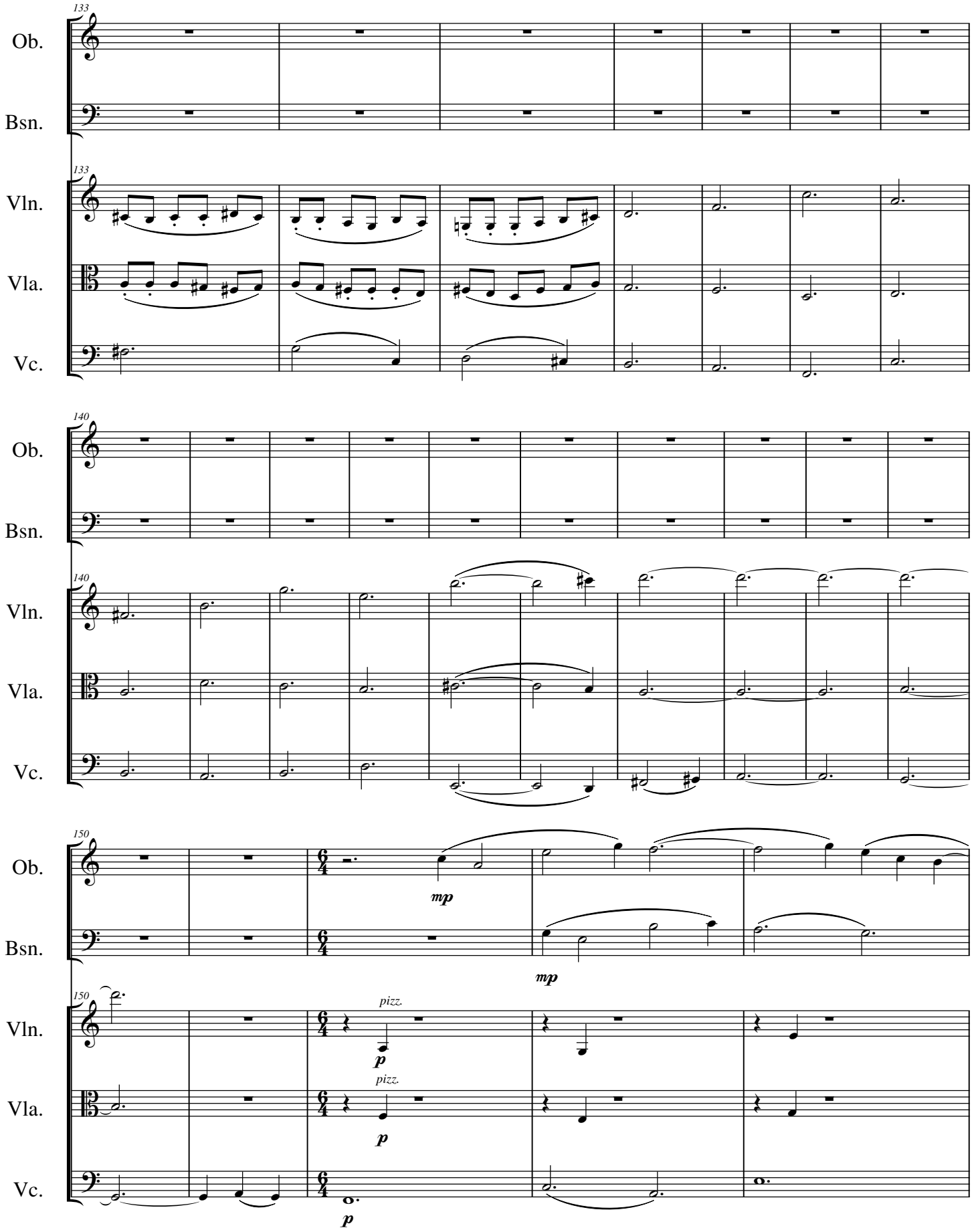

67
Ob.
Bsn.
67
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
73
Ob.
mf
Bsn.
mf
73
Vln.
mf
Vla.
mf
pizz.
Vc.
mf
78
Ob.
mp
Bsn.
mp
78
Vln.
mp
Vla.
mp
Vc.
mp

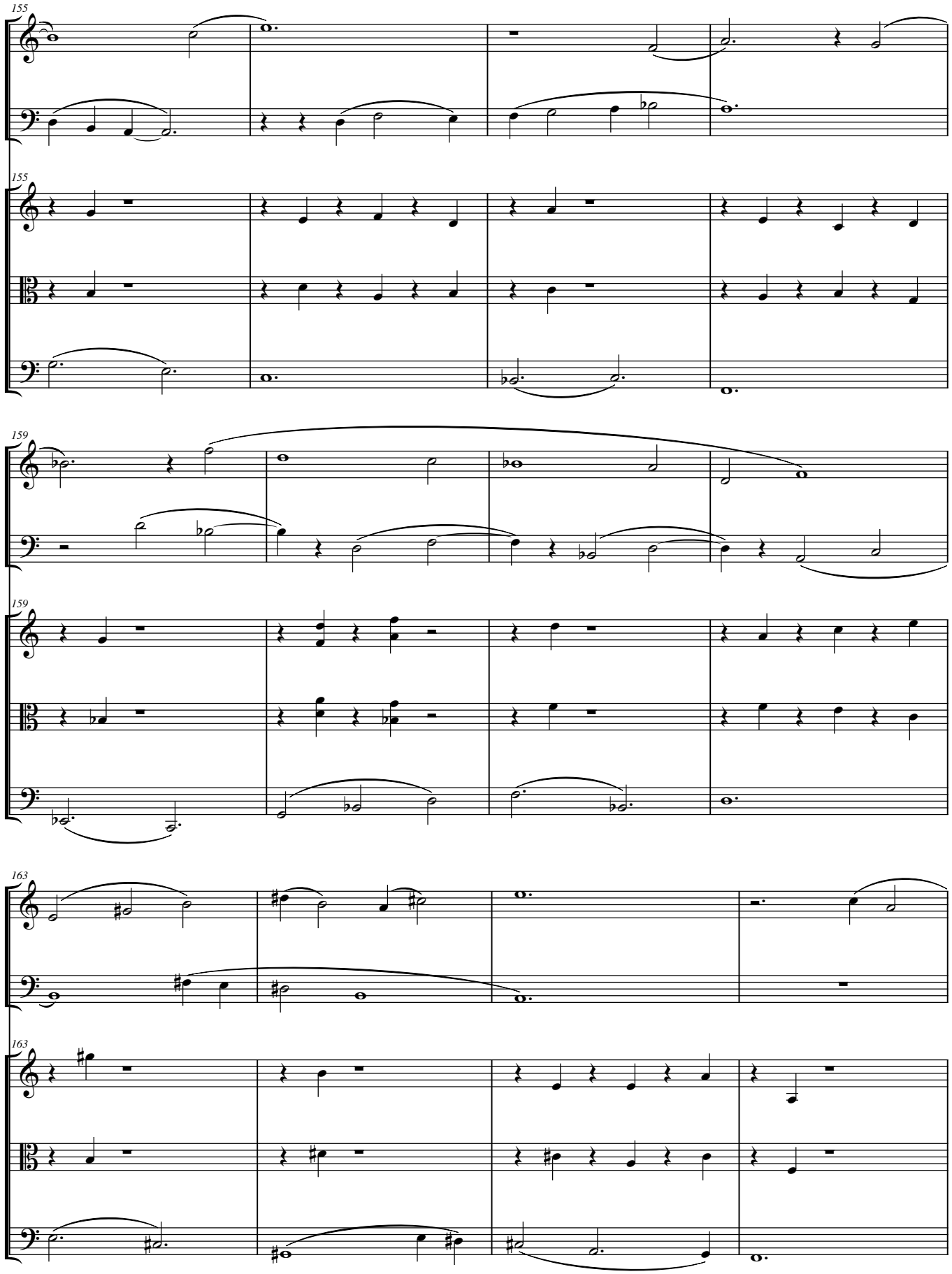

82
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
85
pp
arco
88
mp
pizz.

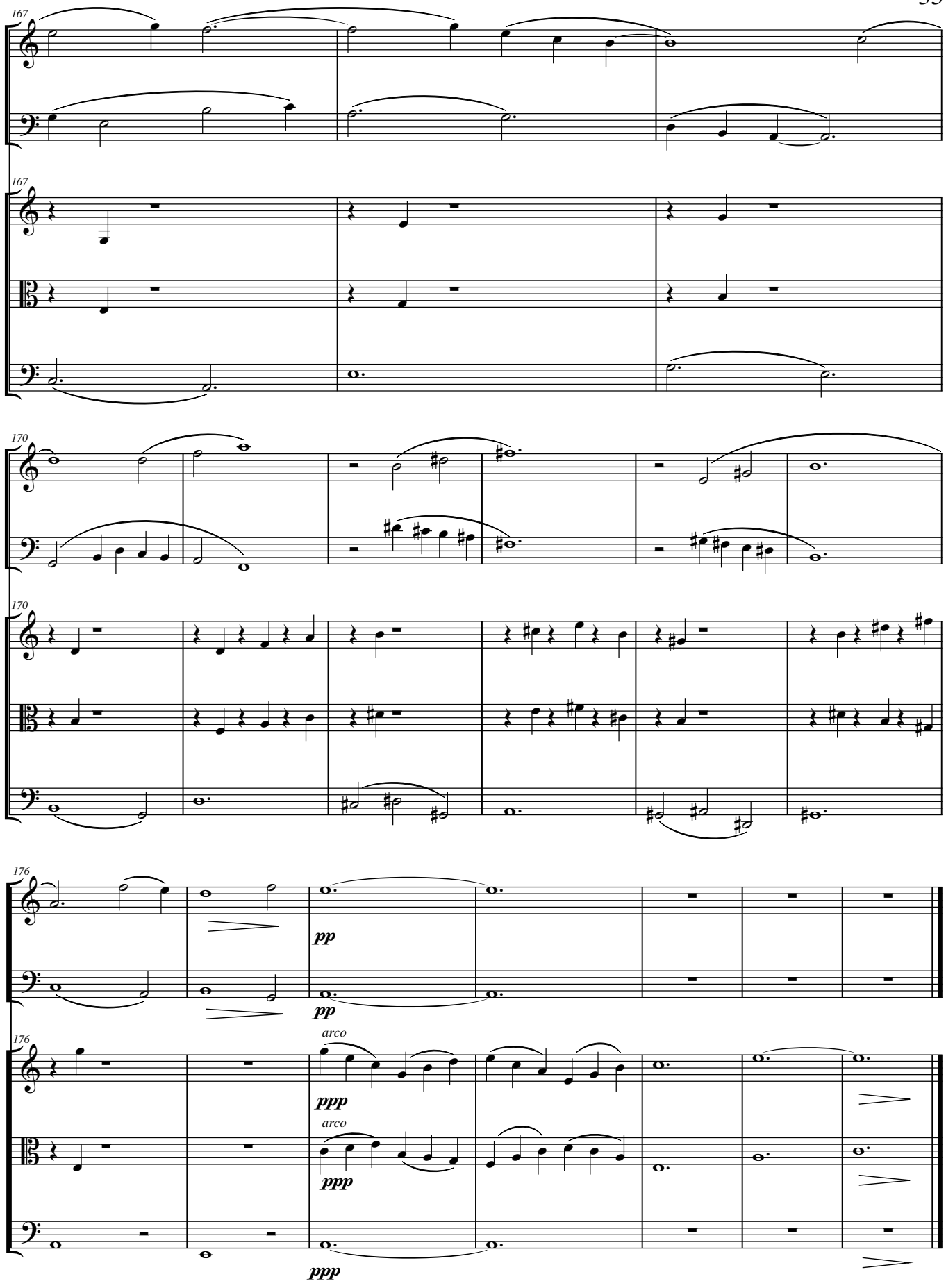

92
Ob.
Bsn.
92
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
96
Ob.
Bsn.
96
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
100
Ob.
Bsn.
100
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.


104
Ob.
Bsn.
104
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
108
Ob.
Bsn.
108
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
112
Ob.
mf
Bsn.
mf
112
Vln.
arco
mf
Vla.
arco
mf
Vc.
pizz.
mf

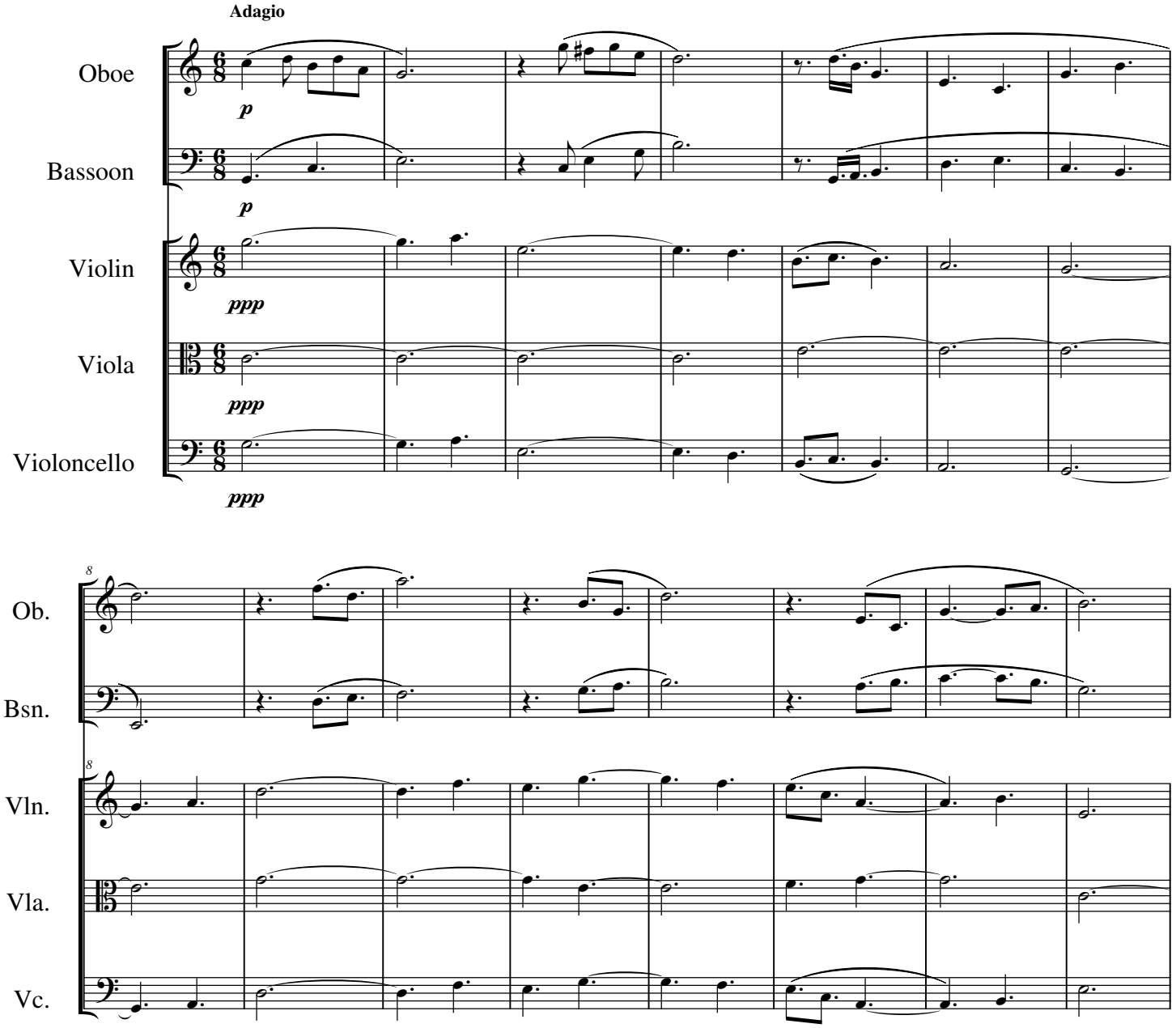

117
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
123
p
128
pp
arco

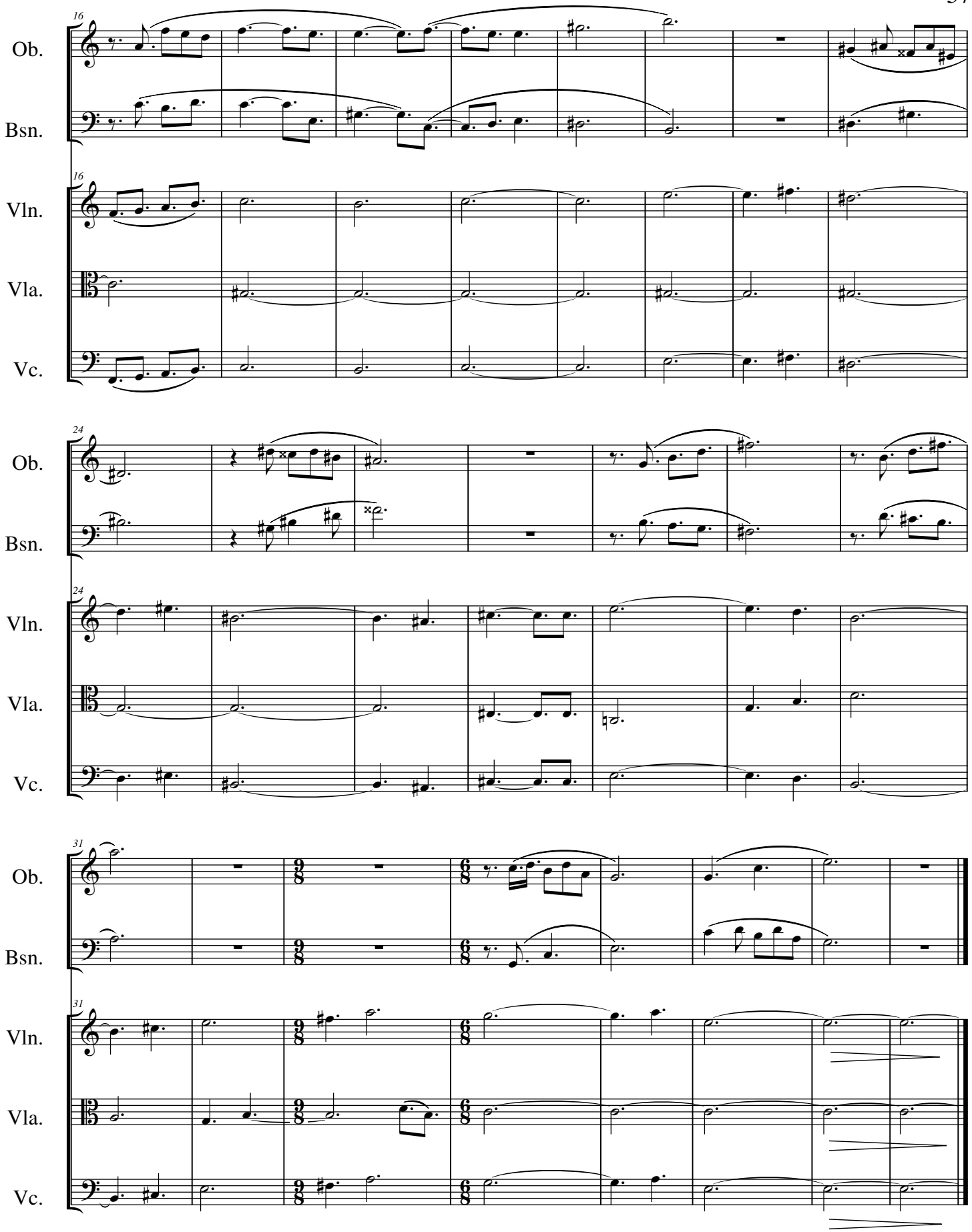

133
Ob.
Bsn.
133
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
140
Ob.
Bsn.
140
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
150
Ob.
mp
Bsn.
mp
150
Vln.
pizz.
p
Vla.
pizz.
p
Vc.
p


155
Ob.
Bsn.
155
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
159
Ob.
Bsn.
159
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
163
Ob.
Bsn.
163
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

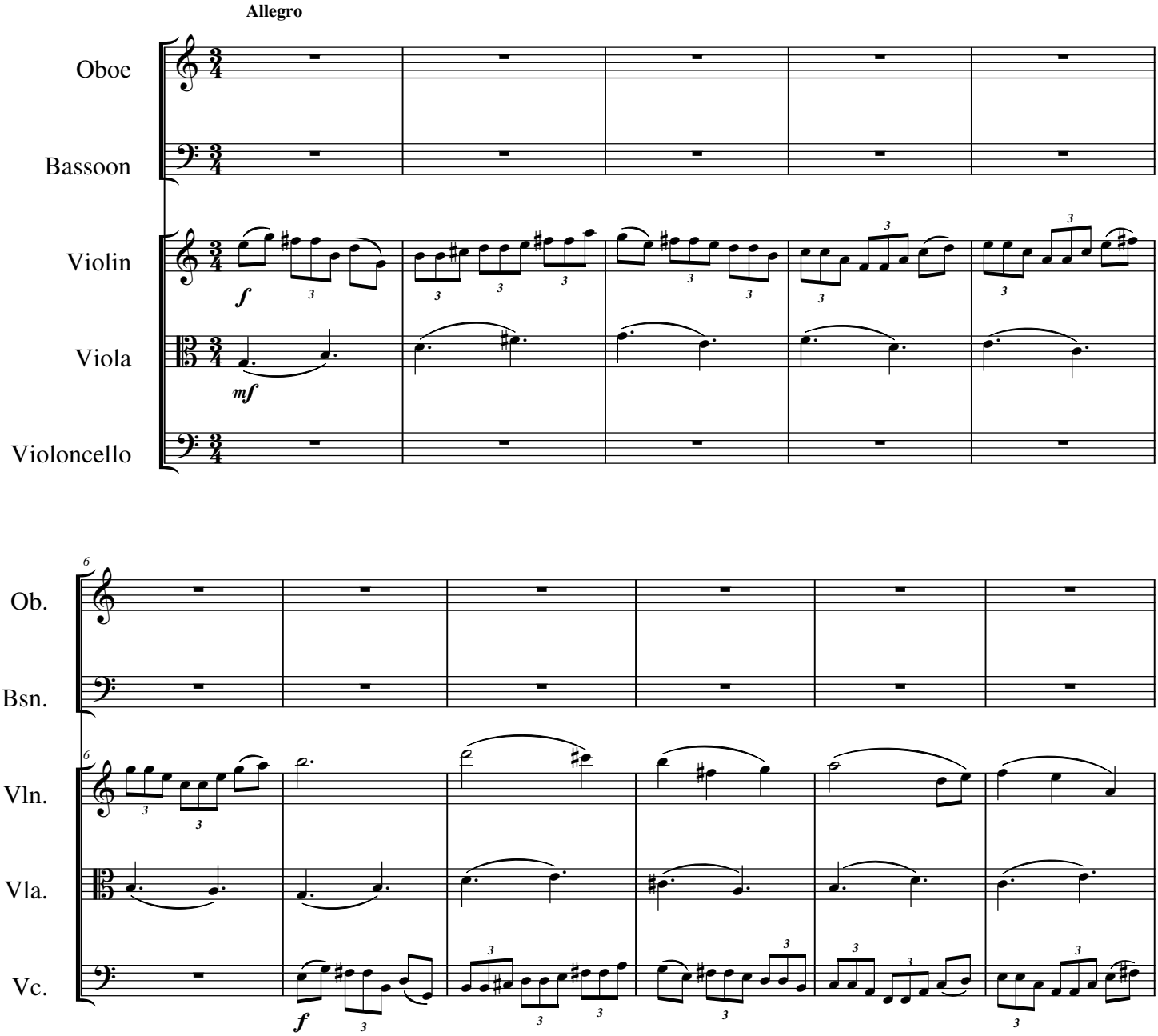

167
Ob.
Bsn.
167
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
170
Ob.
Bsn.
170
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
176
Ob.
pp
Bsn.
pp
176
arco
Vln.
ppp
arco
Vla.
ppp
Vc.
ppp

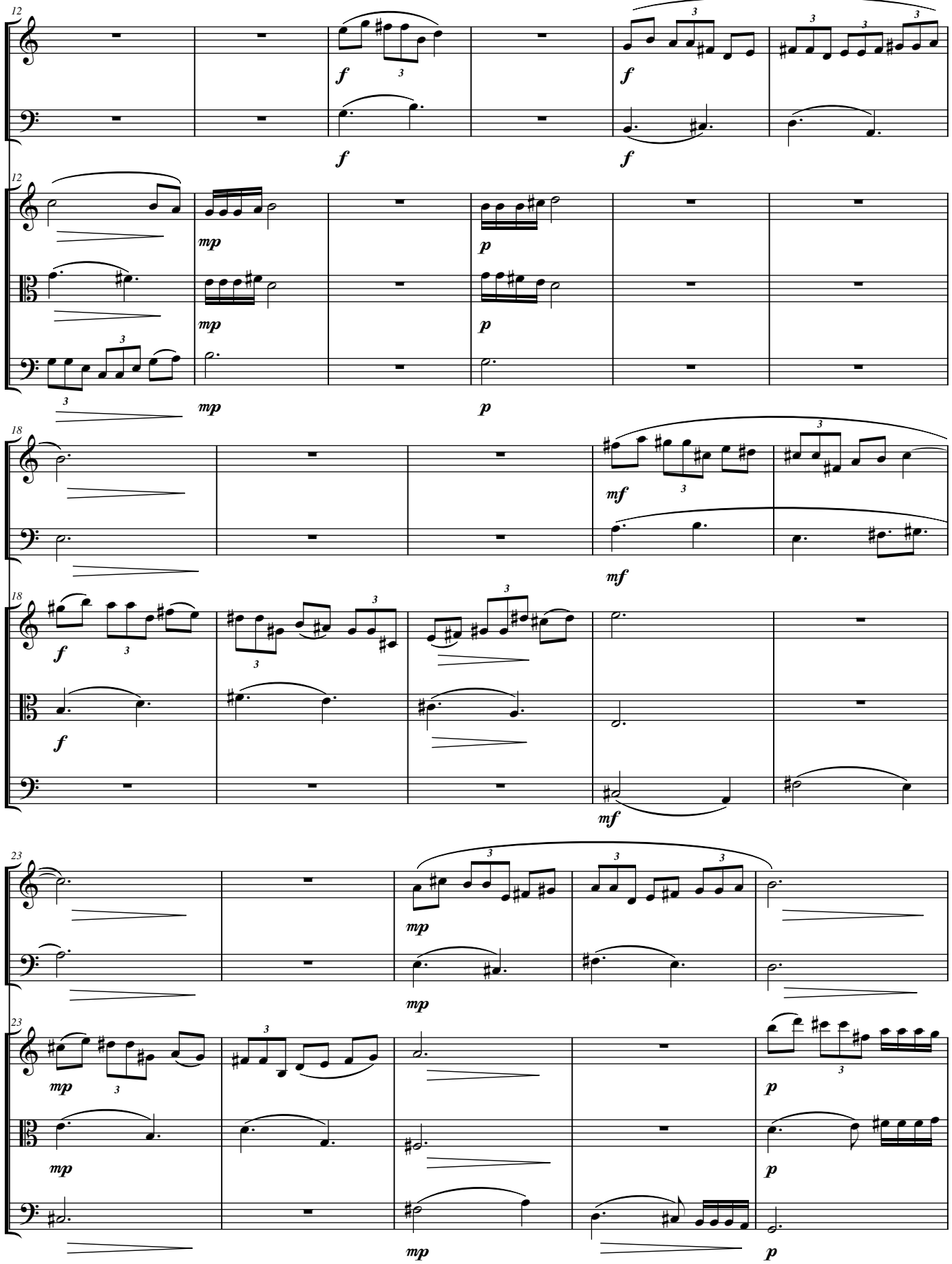
IV

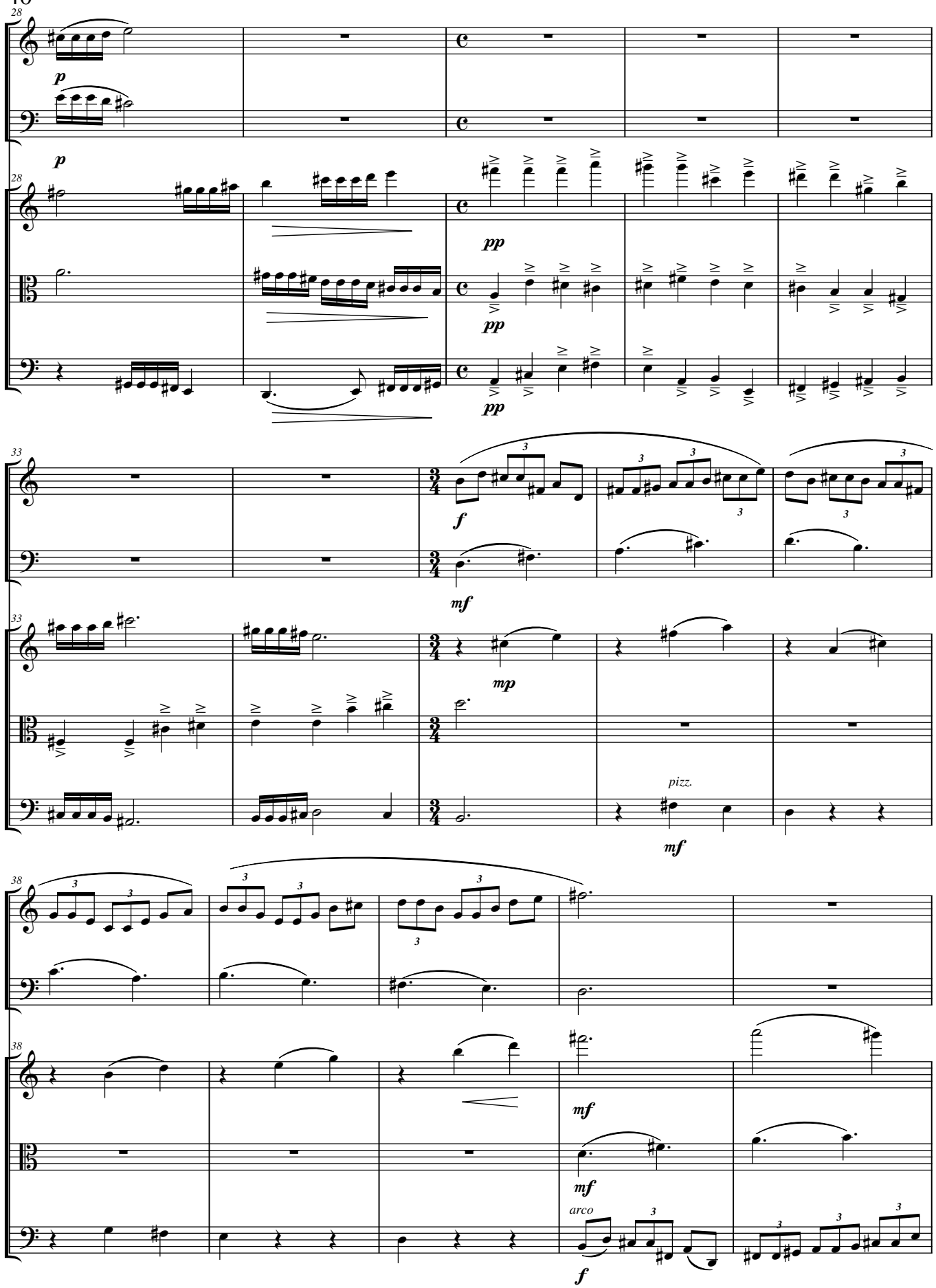

Adagio
Oboe
Bassoon
Violin
Viola
Violoncello
p
p
ppp
ppp
ppp
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

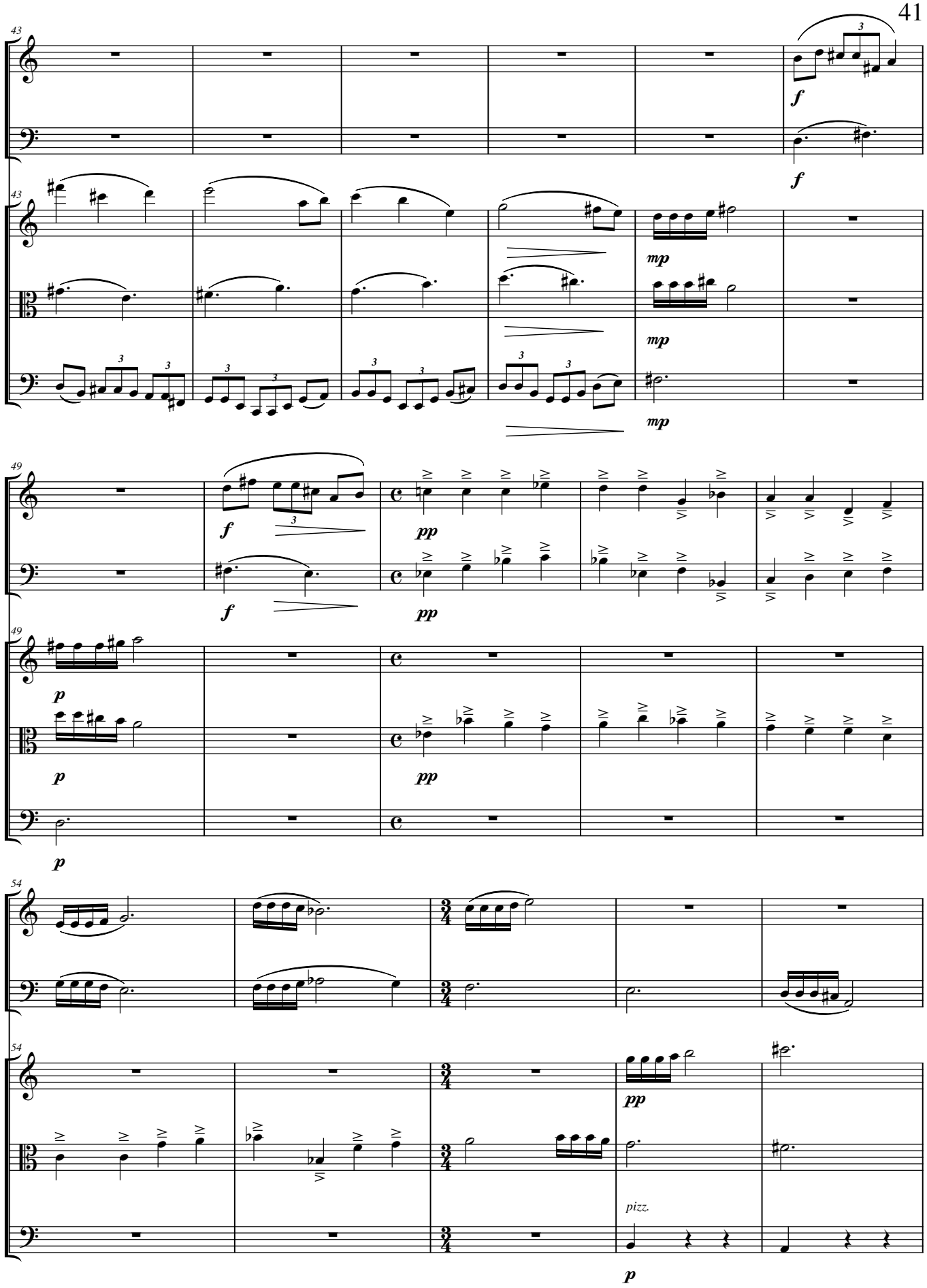

16
Ob.
Bsn.
16
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
24
Ob.
Bsn.
24
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
31
Ob.
Bsn.
31
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

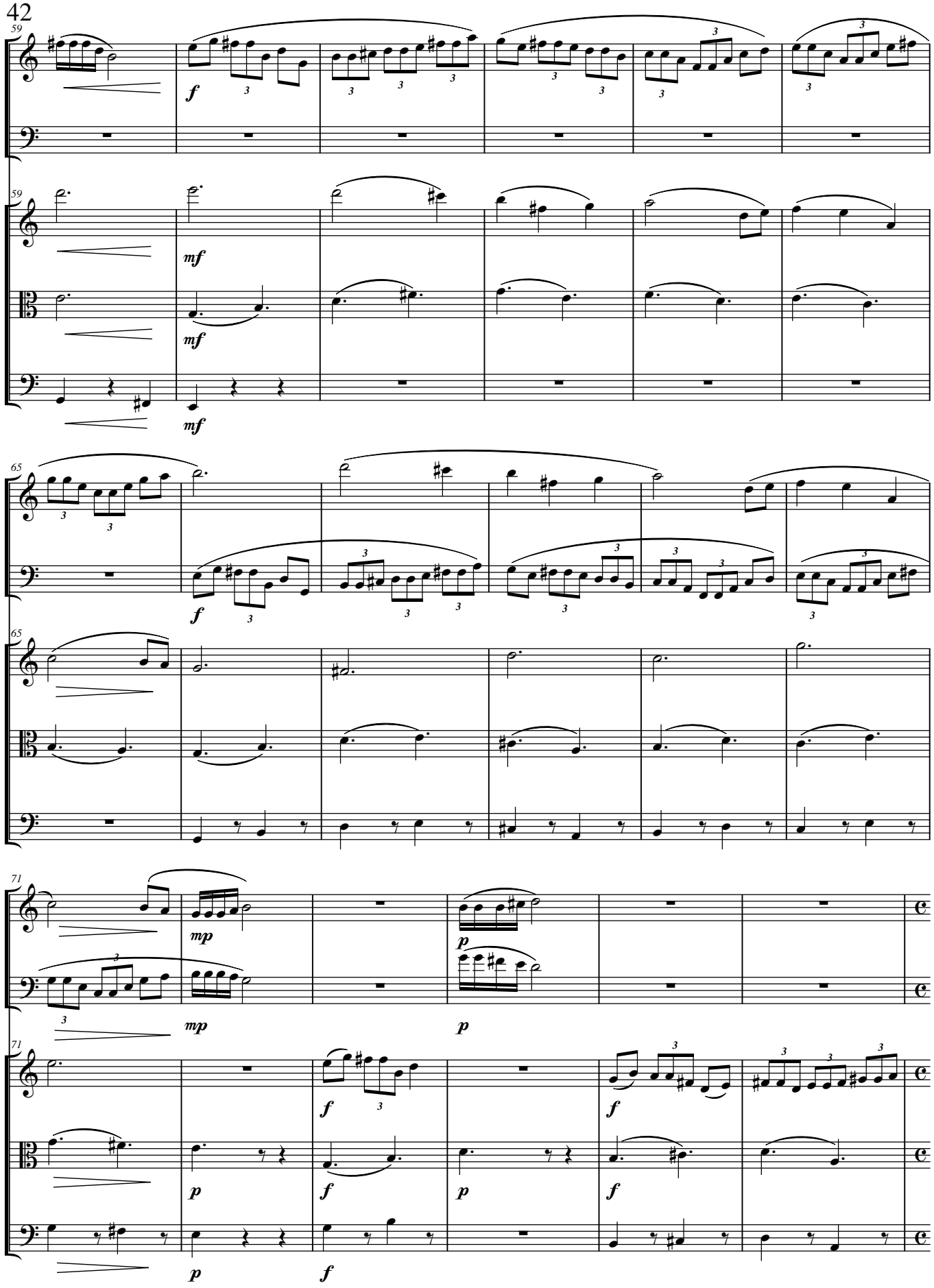
V

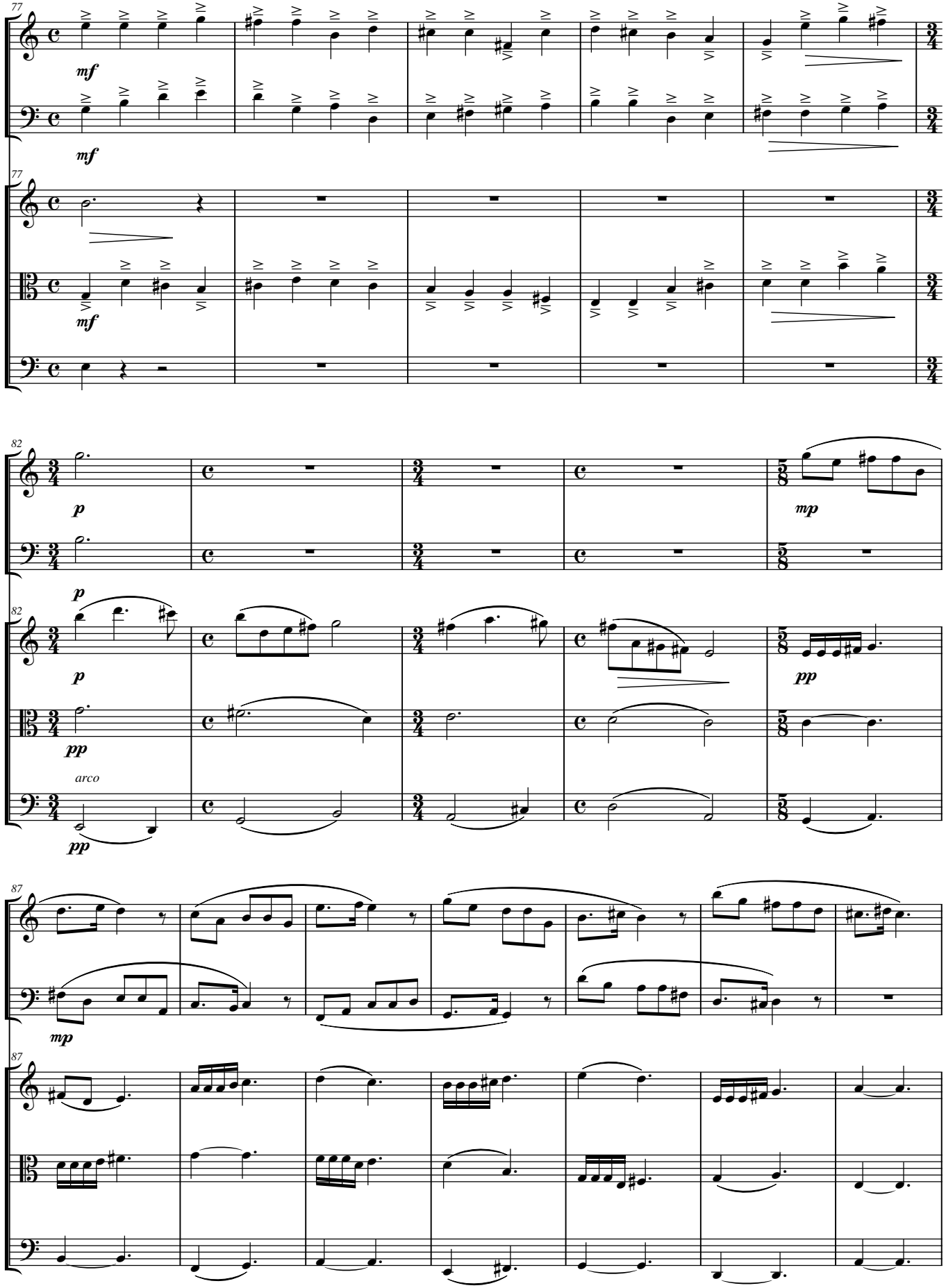

Allegro
Oboe
Bassoon
Violin
Viola
Violoncello
f
mf
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
6
f

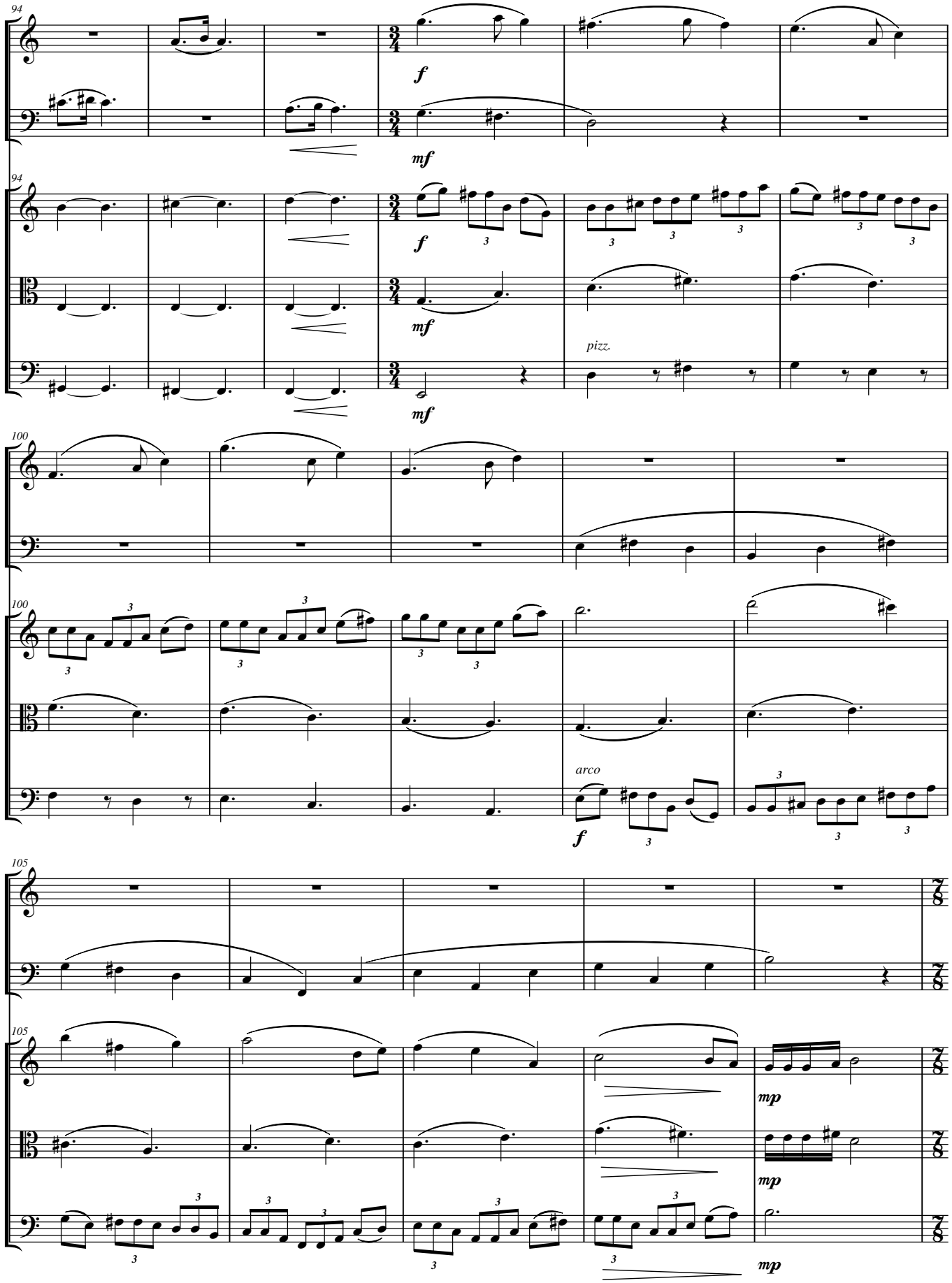

12
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
18
23
f
mp
p
mf

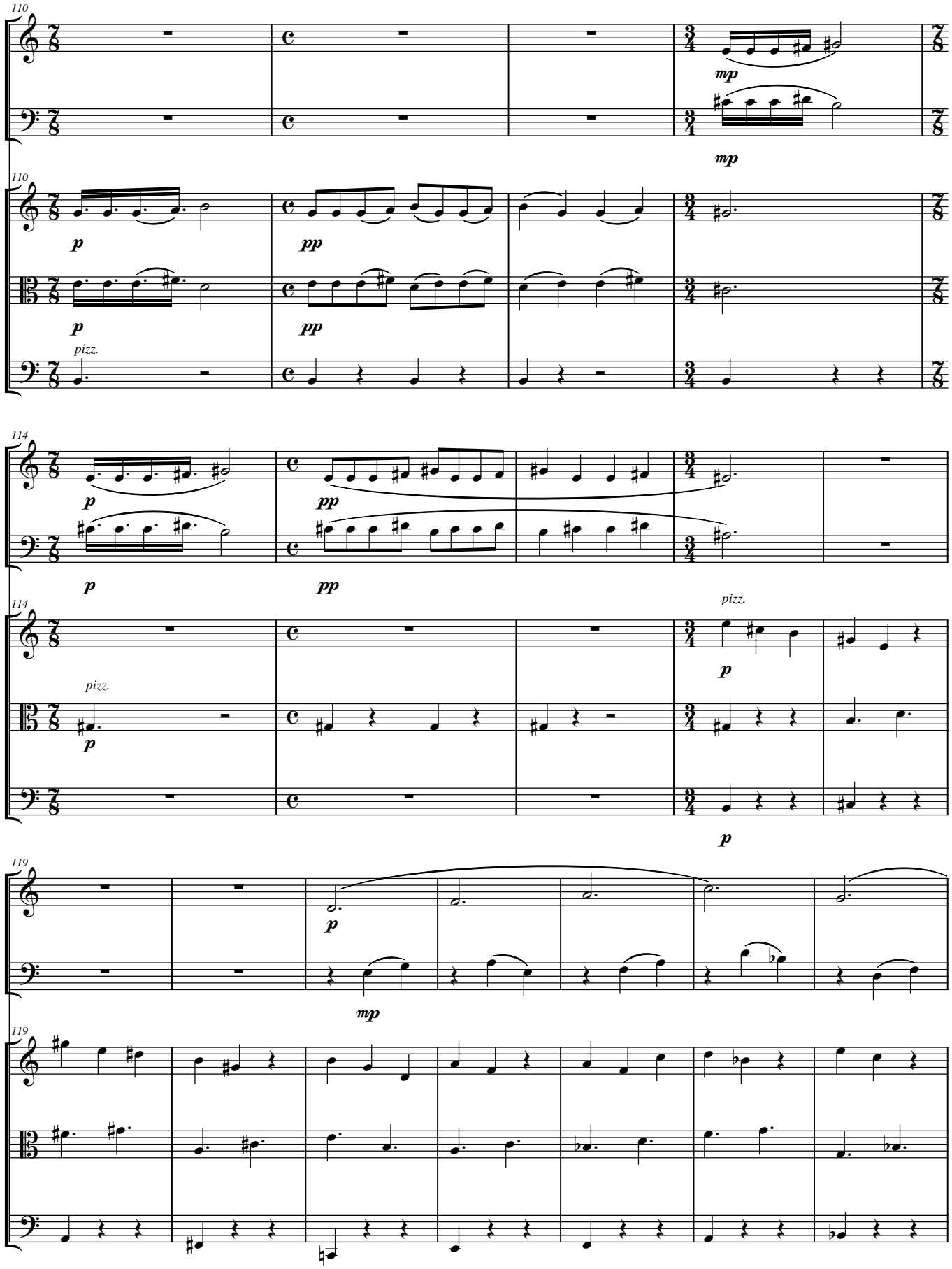

28
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
pp
33
f
mf
mp
pizz.
38
arco

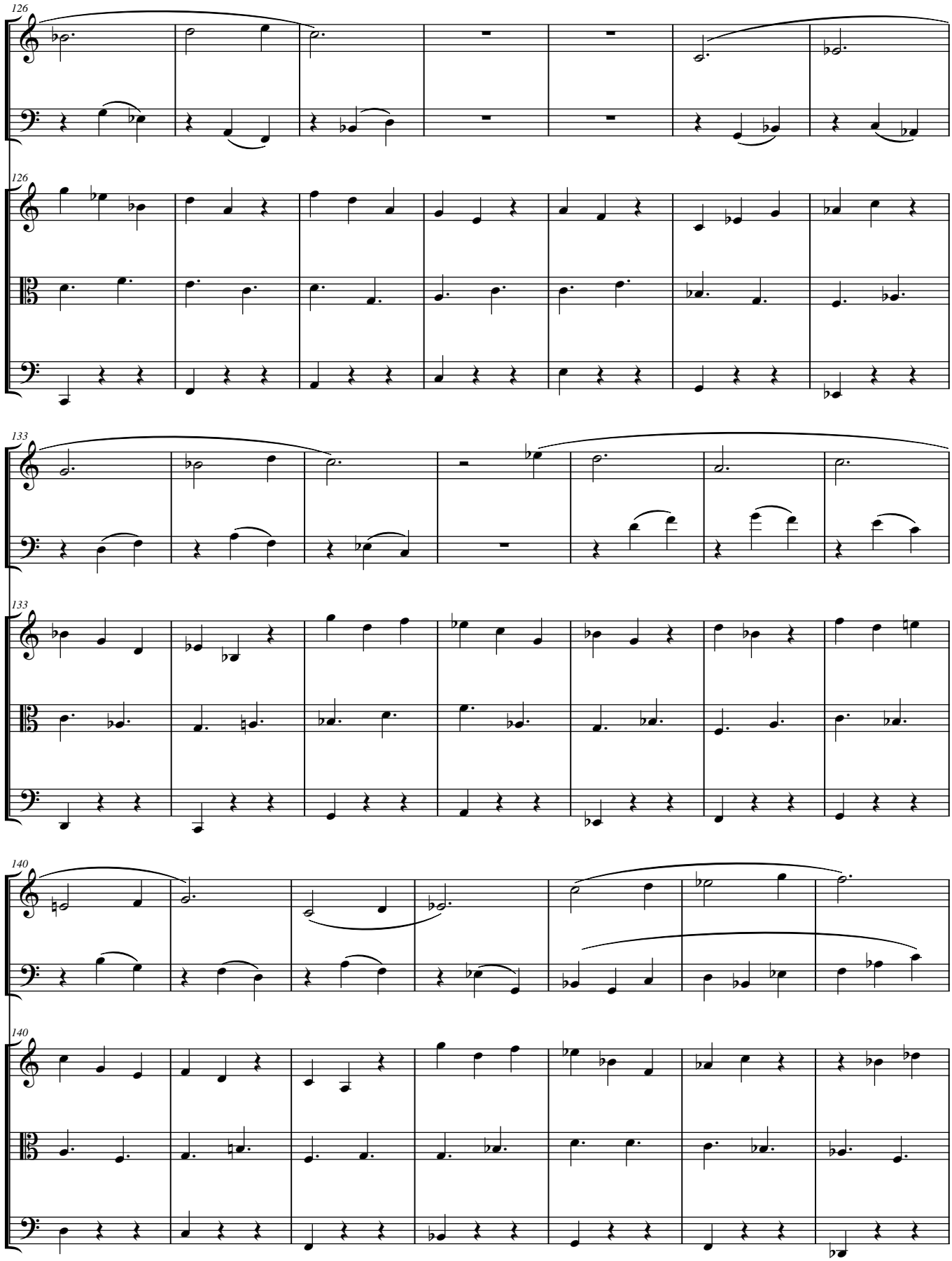

43
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f
mp
49
pp
p
54
pizz.

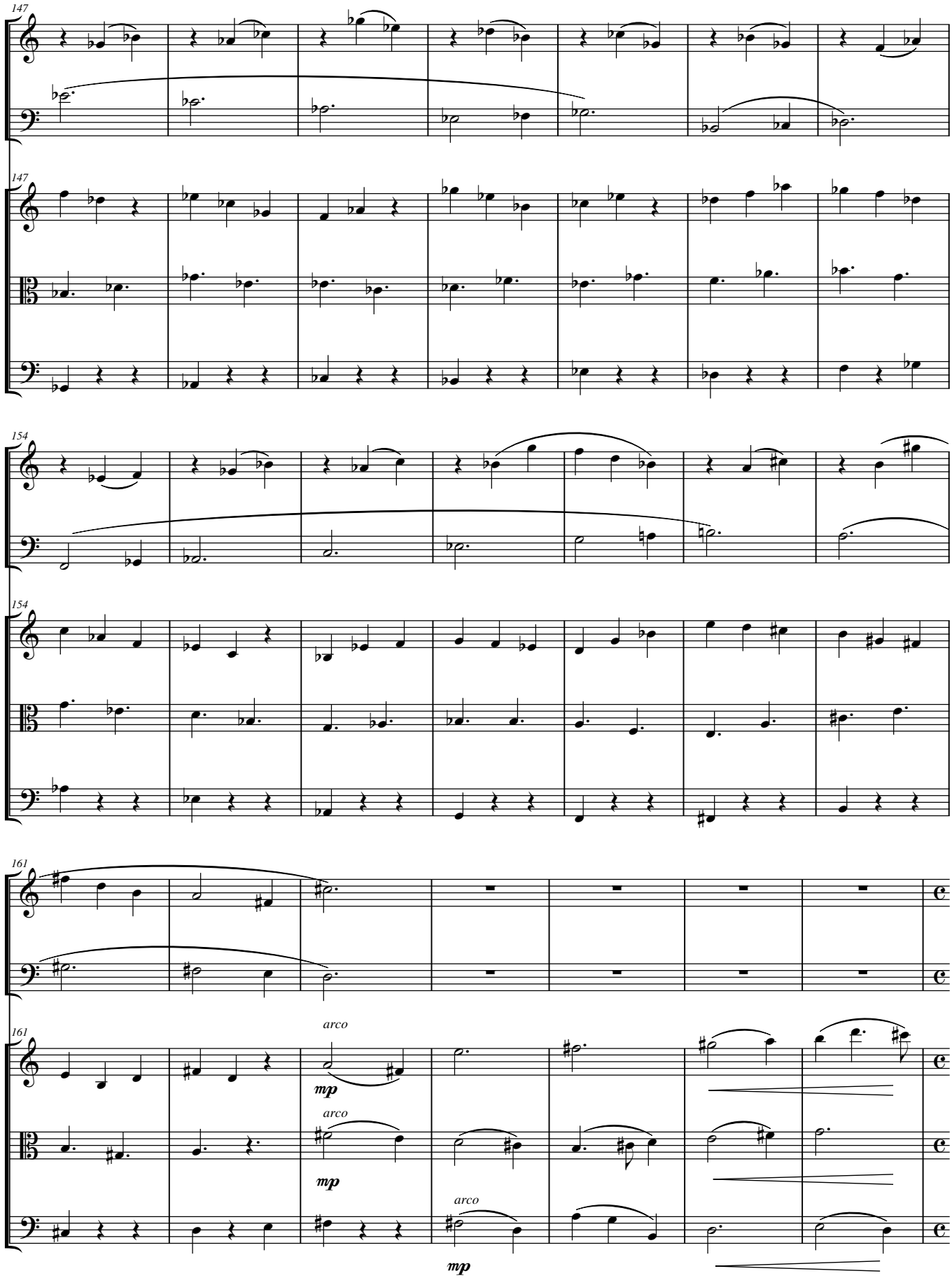

59
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f
mf
65
71
mp
p

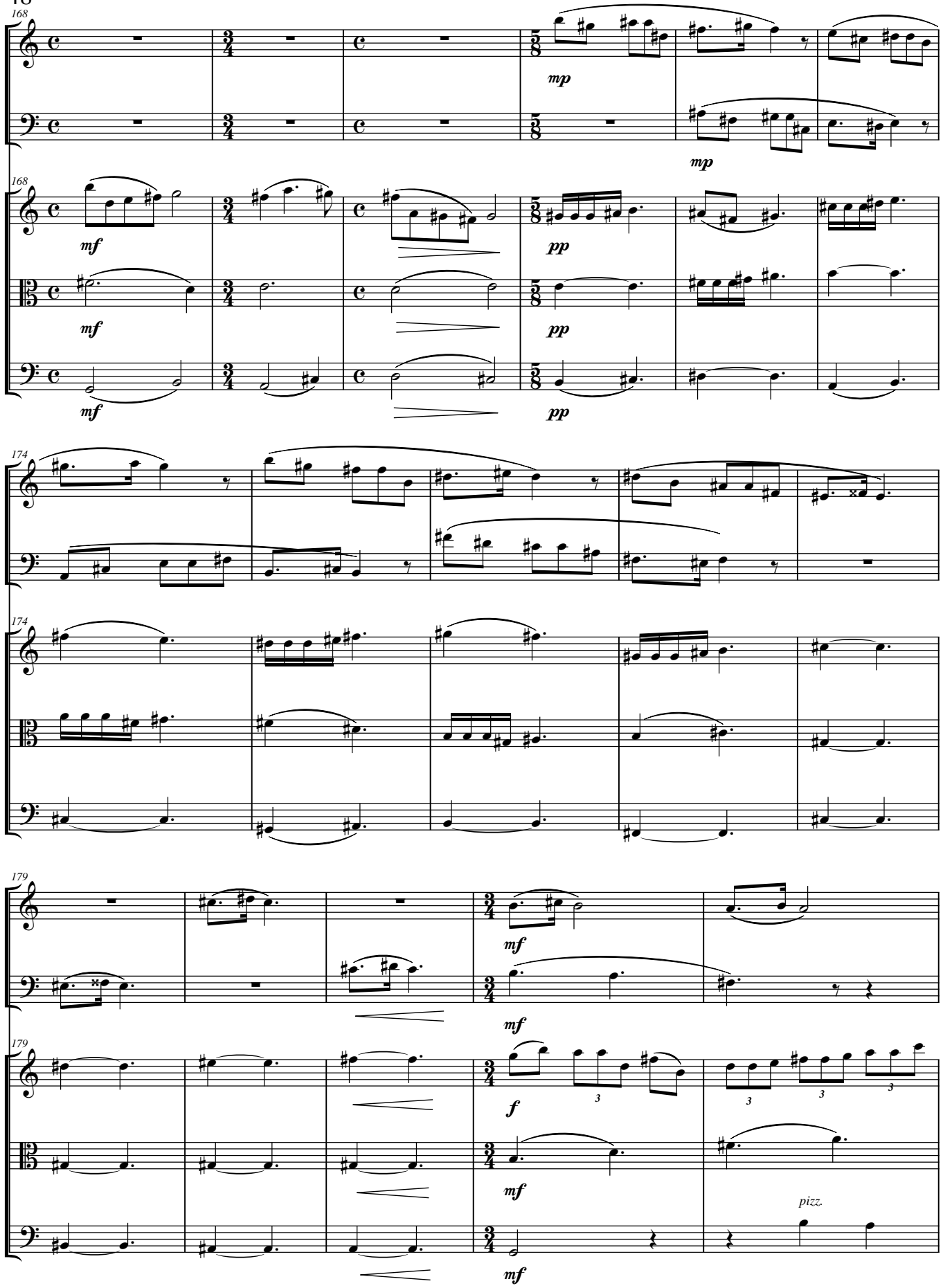

77
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mf
82
p
mp
pp
arco
87

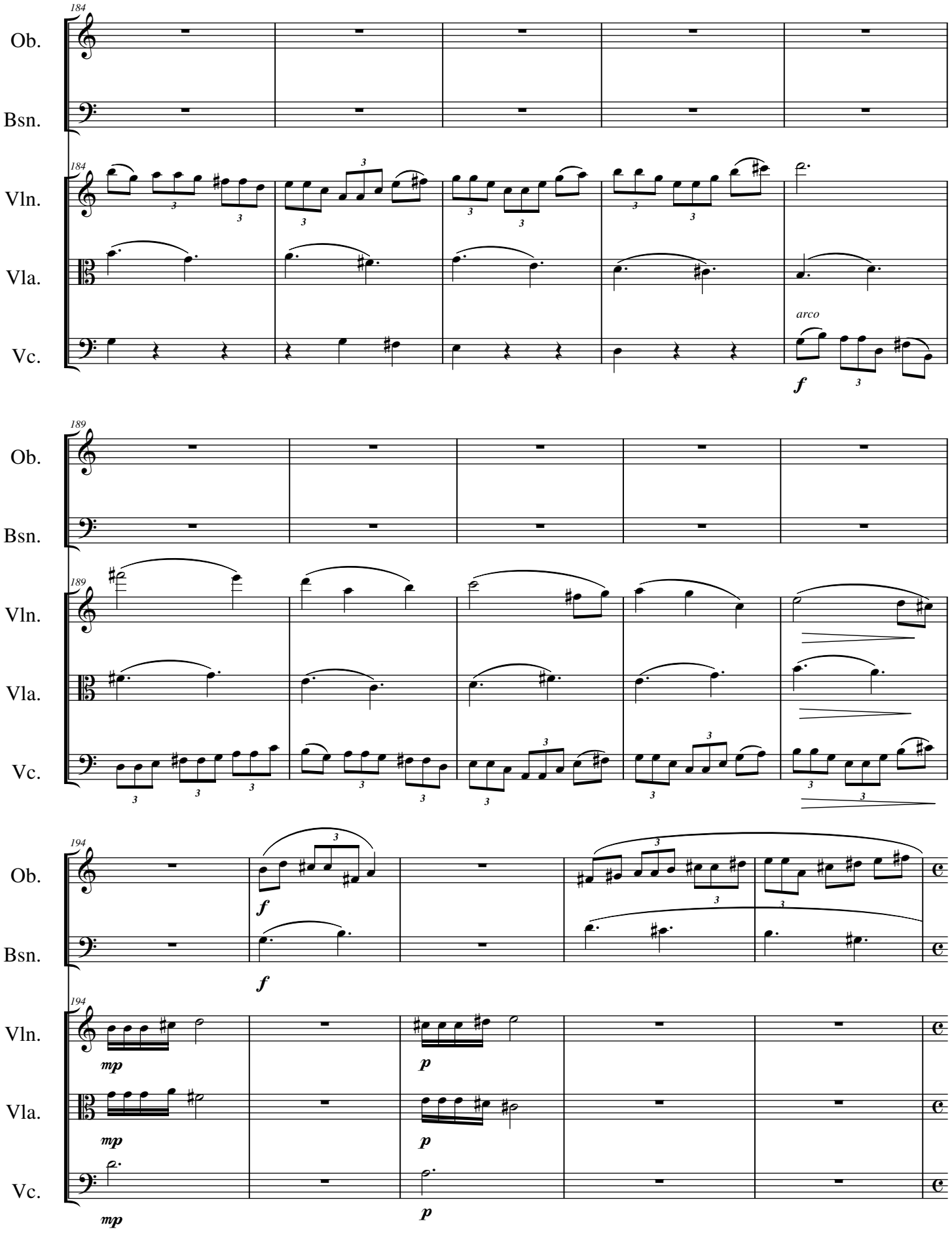

94
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f
mf
pizz.
100
arco
105
mp

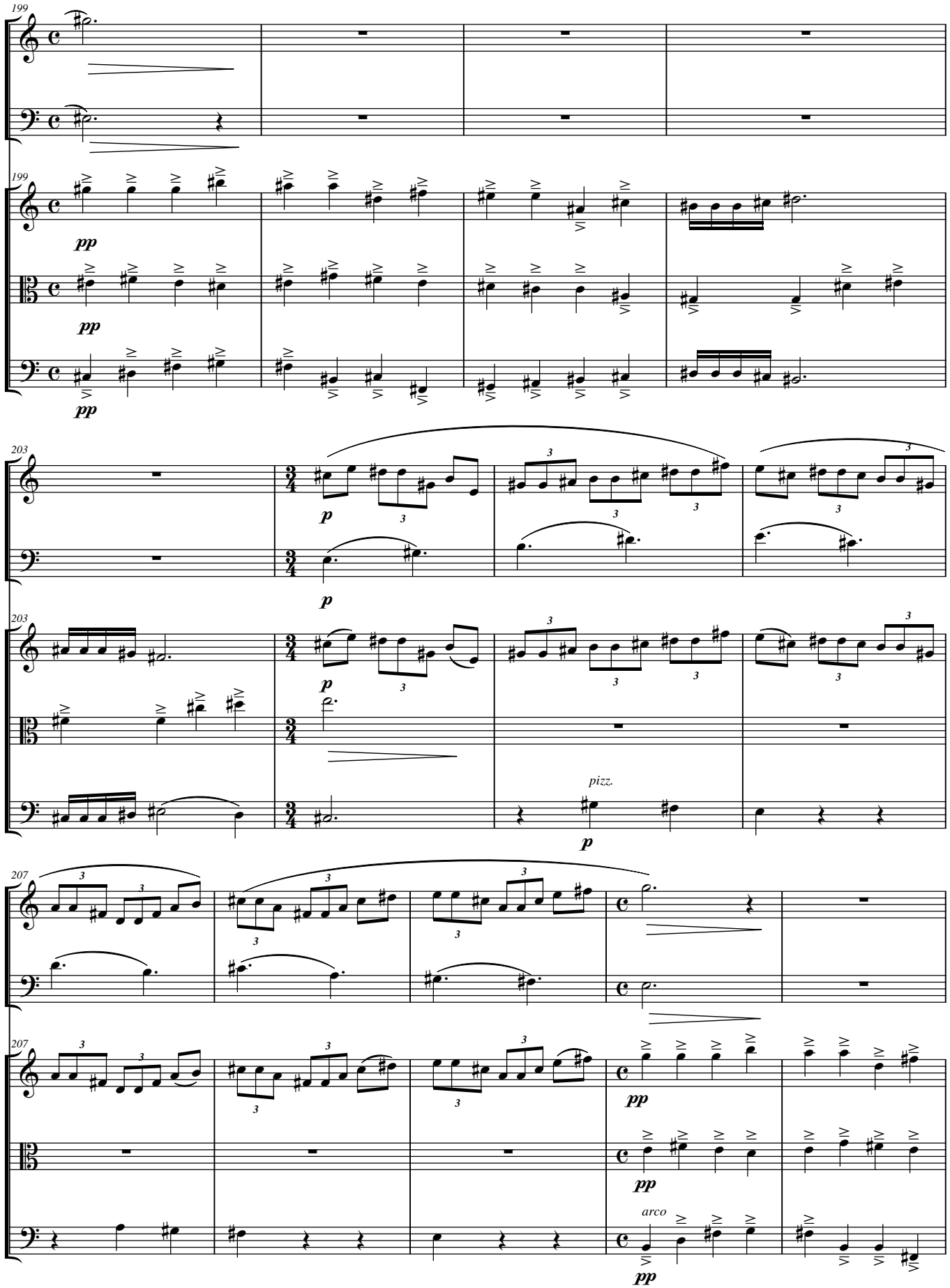

110
Ob.
Bsn.
mp
mp
110
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
pp
p
pp
pizz.
114
Ob.
Bsn.
p
pp
p
pp
114
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
p
pizz.
p
p
119
Ob.
Bsn.
p
mp
119
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

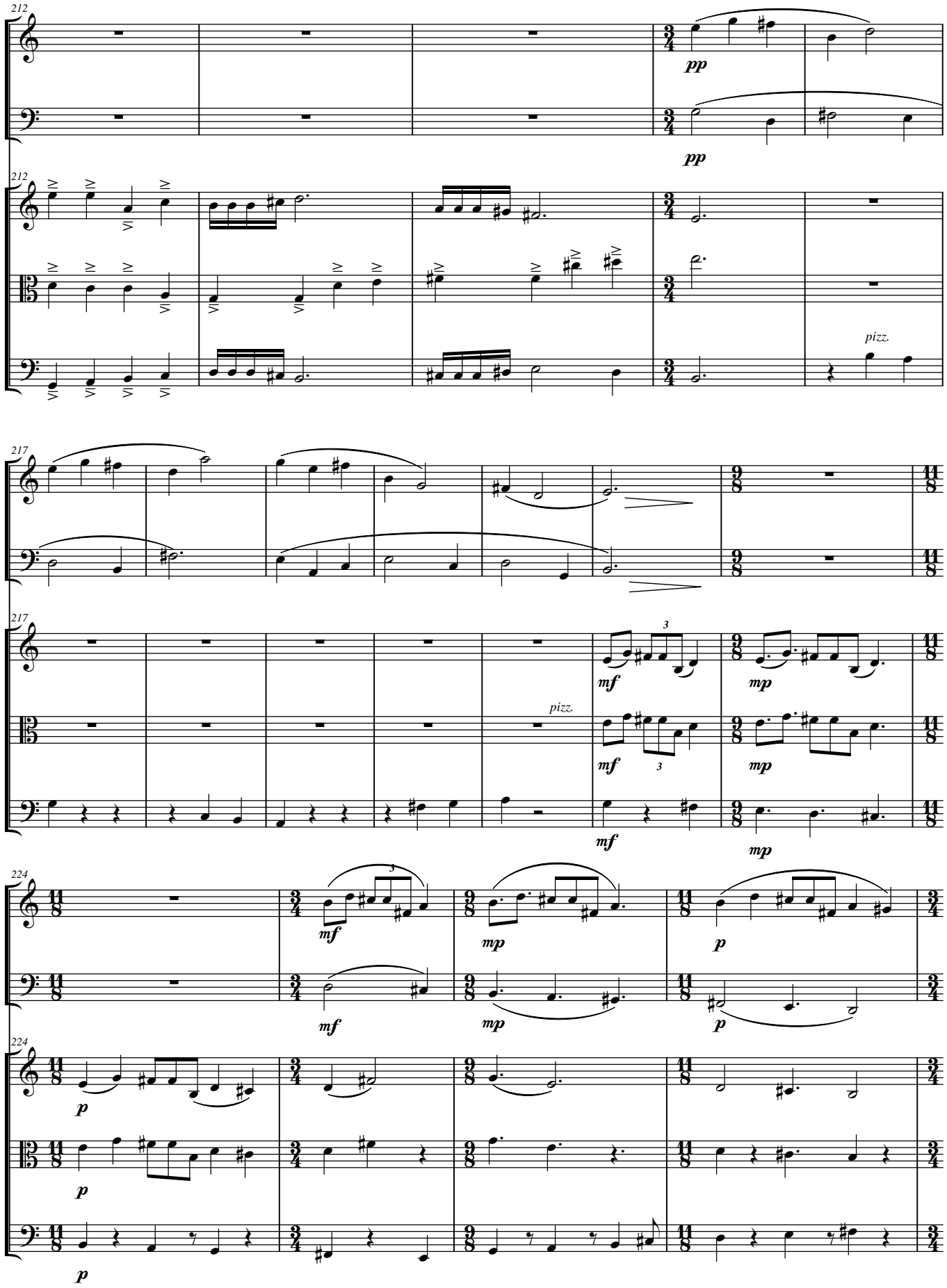

126
Ob.
Bsn.
126
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
133
Ob.
Bsn.
133
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
140
Ob.
Bsn.
140
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

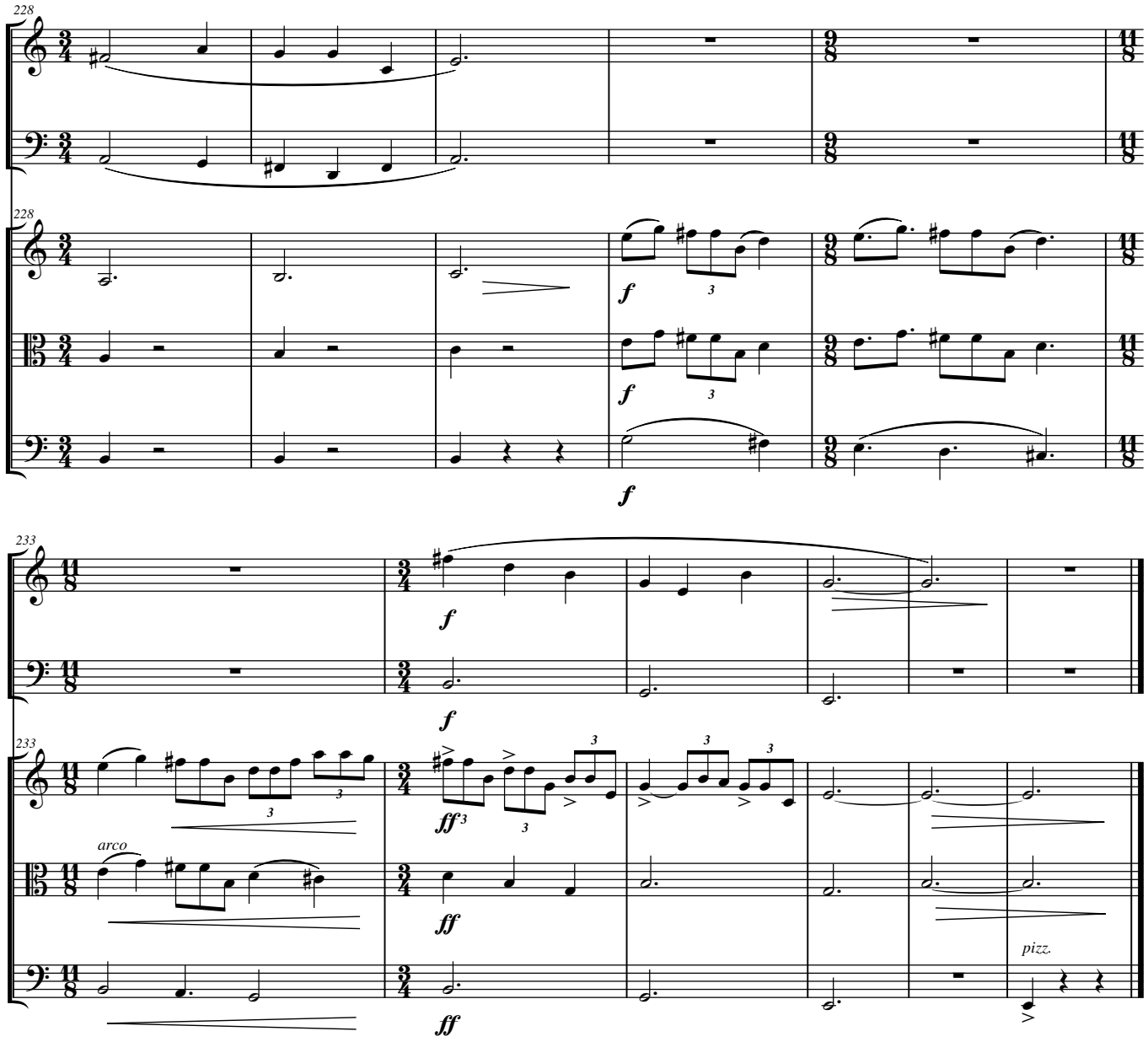

147
Ob.
Bsn.
147
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
154
Ob.
Bsn.
154
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
161
Ob.
Bsn.
161
arco
mp
Vln.
arco
mp
Vla.
arco
mp
Vc.


168
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
mf
pp
174
179
f
pizz.


184
Ob.
Bsn.
184
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
arco
f
189
Ob.
Bsn.
189
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
194
Ob.
f
Bsn.
f
194
Vln.
mp
p
Vla.
mp
p
Vc.
mp
p


199
Ob.
Bsn.
199
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pp
pp
pp
203
Ob.
Bsn.
203
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
p
p
pizz.
207
Ob.
Bsn.
207
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pp
pp
arco
pp


212
Ob.
Bsn.
pp
pp
212
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
217
Ob.
Bsn.
217
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
mf
mp
mf
mp
mf
mp
224
Ob.
Bsn.
mf
mp
p
mf
mp
p
224
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
p
p


228
Ob.
Bsn.
228
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f
f
f
233
Ob.
Bsn.
233
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f
f
ff
ff
arco
pizz.

A few words about (and by) the composer

Stan Grill was raised in the Bronx, studied at the Bronx House School of Music, and later graduated from the Manhattan School of Music with undergrad and graduate degrees in music theory. He studied piano with Robert Helps and Leon Kushner and composition with Ursula Mamlok and Joseph Prostakoff. Major works include music for string orchestra and voice, string orchestra and clarinet, a nonet for winds and strings, and several song cycles for mixed voices and chamber ensemble. Performances have been produced by the composer, as well as presented by the Composers Guild of New Jersey, the St. Paul's Church Festival of the Arts, the Leonia Chamber Players, the New York Composers Circle, the Northern New Jersey Camerata, the Bronx Arts Ensemble and the Duo + Ensemble. During the 2004-06 seasons, he was composer in residence of One World Symphony, a New York City based orchestra. One World Symphony has premiered several major works, including "Invisible Ballet" for orchestra, "Two Sad Songs" setting poems by W.B. Yeats for soprano & string orchestra, and a cycle of songs for two cellos and two mezzo sopranos setting poems by the New Jersey poet William Carlos Williams. In 2006, One World commissioned three works – a setting of the Ophelia songs from Shakespeare's "Hamlet" for soprano, harp and string orchestra, an orchestral work, "Pluto," for a program featuring Holst's "The Planets," and a setting of poetry for a concert honoring those who lost their lives on 9/11. Recent works include "The Four Elements" for viola and string orchestra commissioned by violist Brett Deubner and "Mystical Songs" for soprano, viola and string orchestra commissioned by the Universidad Tecnica Particular de Loja. In 2009, an entire program of music by Stan Grill was performed in Tokyo by the Duo + Ensemble. He currently works in Philadelpia, and lives happily in New Jersey with his wife, cats and piano.

"As I see it, as much as we strive to find reason and purpose in our having been born into this amazing, mysterious and awe-inspiring universe, that attempt is largely futile. It is however, the best part of our nature that obliges us to make the attempt, though the most we can hope for is to gain some small degree of understanding of the world around us, and, more importantly, of ourselves. To achieve this, we each approach the problem in our own way, uniquely shaped by our cultural background, innate talents and abilities, education and so on. For some, science may be the window through which they best perceive and interpret the world, for others, religion. For those to whom the world seems to express itself most clearly and beautifully through sound, music is the voice that speaks to us and through which we, in turn, best express ourselves. Now, I can write notes that will make pretty music because I've been trained to do so – but the best of my music has arrived, rather inexplicably, as part of a personal effort to understand the world and myself. It is, in a way, an act of translation. The world says something, I try to understand it, and then translate it into musical language. The particular musical language which I speak, is, of course, a product of my conservatory training and personal musical tastes, but hopefully, the outcome, imperfect a translation as it may be, will convey to others something of its original intent."

Stan's music is melodic, modal, contrapuntal, characterized by extended, interweaving lines. His musical influences span the centuries, and include Machaut, Josquin, Palestrina, Monteverdi, Lassus, Britten, Ives, Vaughn Williams and Shostakovich. Two main themes permeate many of the pieces - music intended to influence the minds and hearts of those who hear it in such a way as to encourage thoughts about the possibility of world peace - and music composed in an attempt to translate something about the nature of the physical world.

Complete scores are available in the American Music Center's on-line library. Please go to Stan's web page at **American Music Center**.

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