ETERNAL STARS

for

Brass Quintet

Trumpet 1 in B♭
(plus Flugelhorn)
Trumpet 2 in B♭
(plus Flugelhorn)
Horn in F
Trombone
Tuba

by

Brian K. Shepard

Score in C

Performance Time - 10:00

Program Note

I wrote **ETERNAL STARS** in memory of the three flight crews who gave their lives in America's pursuit of the exploration of outer space. From the beginning, I wanted this piece to be a celebration of their adventurous spirit and enthusiasm. To that end, **ETERNAL STARS** is built around ascending and "reaching" motives and melodies as well as energetic, driving rhythms. Although the piece is divided into three sections with meters corresponding to the number of members of the three flight crews (7, 3, and 7), it is not my intent that any section represents a particular crew. Rather, the three sections taken as a whole symbolize all the astronauts.

There are, in fact, a number of symbolic elements in **ETERNAL STARS**. These include—in addition to the melodic, sectional and metrical elements mentioned above—references to Gustav Holst's *The Planets*, the "rocket" motive made popular by the "Mannheim School" composers of the early Classical Period, and the hymn *Eternal Father Strong to Save* by John Dykes. Although this hymn is often referred to as *The Navy Hymn*, it has also become the unofficial Astronaut Hymn due to its references to perils during a long voyage. In recent years, it has even been given additional verses specifically related to the exploration of outer space.

ETERNAL STARS was composed on a commission from the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association (OMTA) as part of their "Commissioned Composer" program. It received its premiere on June 4, 2004 at the OMTA annual conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma by the Oklahoma Brass Quintet.

In Memoriam

Apollo 1
Virgil "Gus" Grissom • Edward White • Roger Chaffee

STS-51-L *Challenger*
Francis R. (Dick) Scobee • Michael J. Smith • Judith A. Resnik • Ronald E. McNair
Ellison S. Onizuka • Gregory B. Jarvis • Sharon Christa McAuliffe

STS-107 *Columbia*
Rick D. Husband • William C. McCool • Michael P. Anderson • David M. Brown
Kalpana Chawla • Laurel Blair Salton Clark • Ilan Ramon

• May You Shine On as Eternal Stars •

In memory of the crews of *Apollo 1*, STS-51-L *Challenger*, and STS-107 *Columbia*

Eternal Stars

Brian K. Shepard
ASCAP

Majestic (Broad & Marcato) ♩= 100

Trumpet 1 in B♭

Trumpet 2 in B♭

Horn in F

Trombone

Tuba

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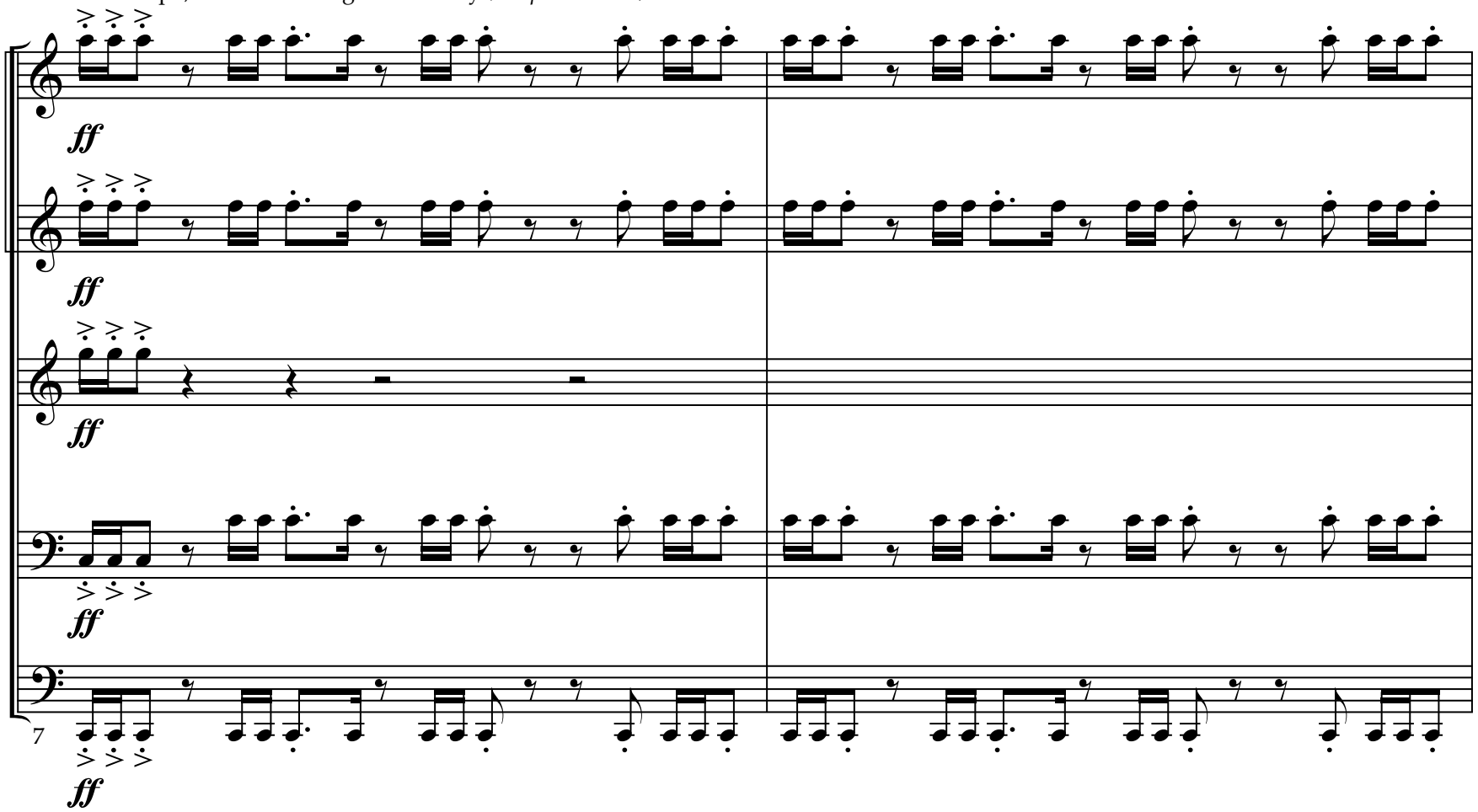
Same tempo, but with an urgent intensity *(sempre staccato)*



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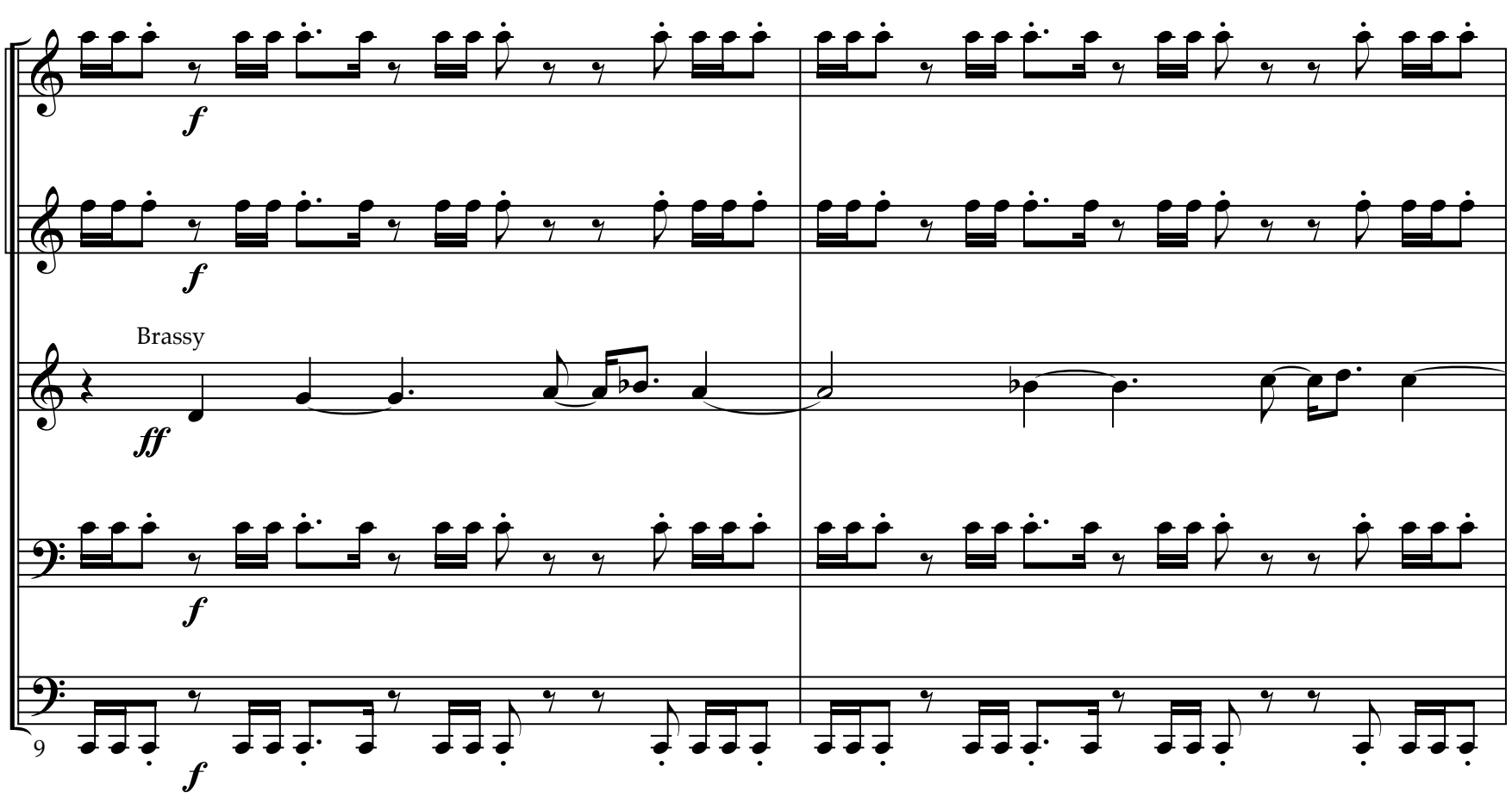


11

13

ff

15

B

17

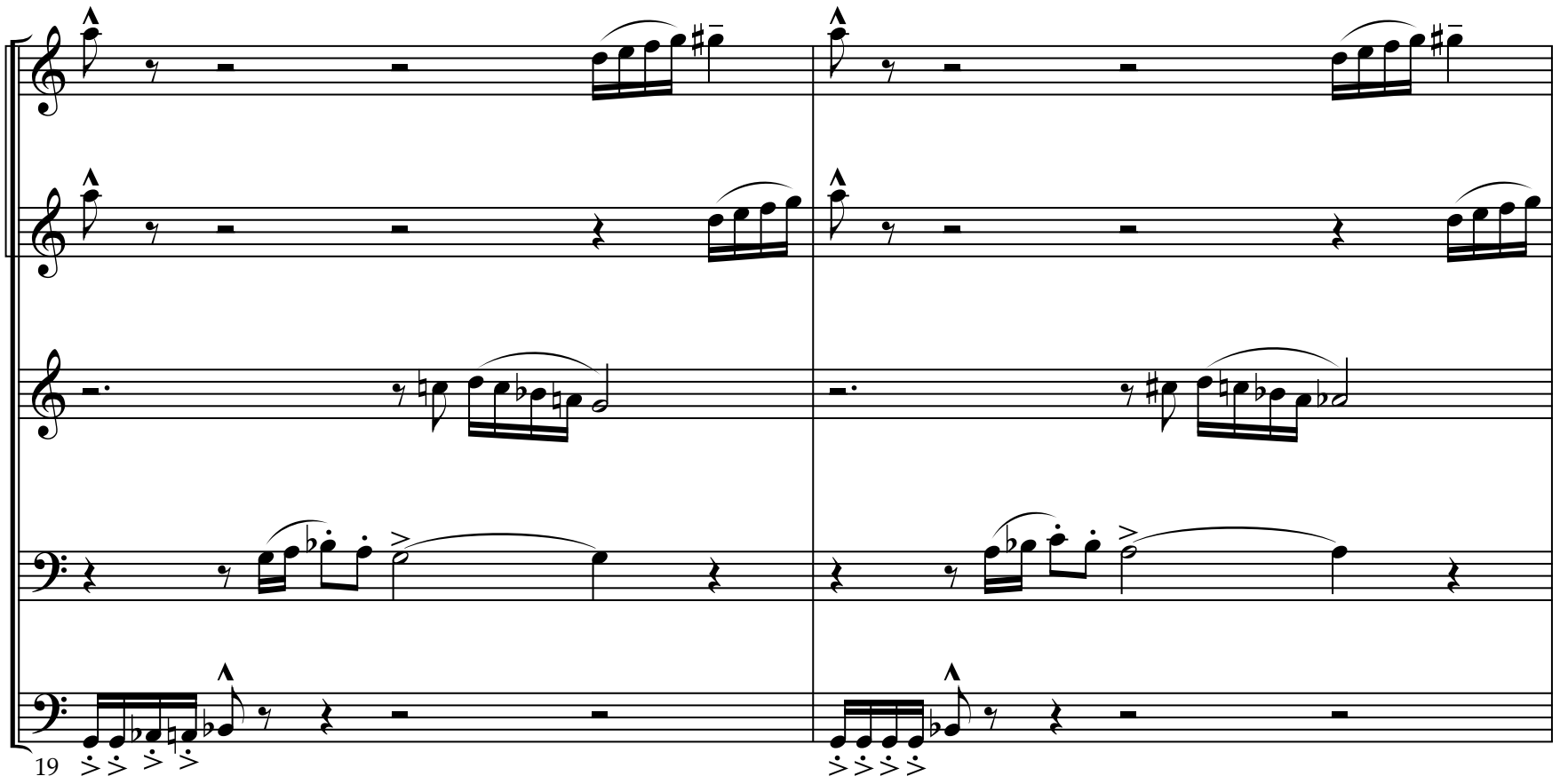
f

f

f

f

f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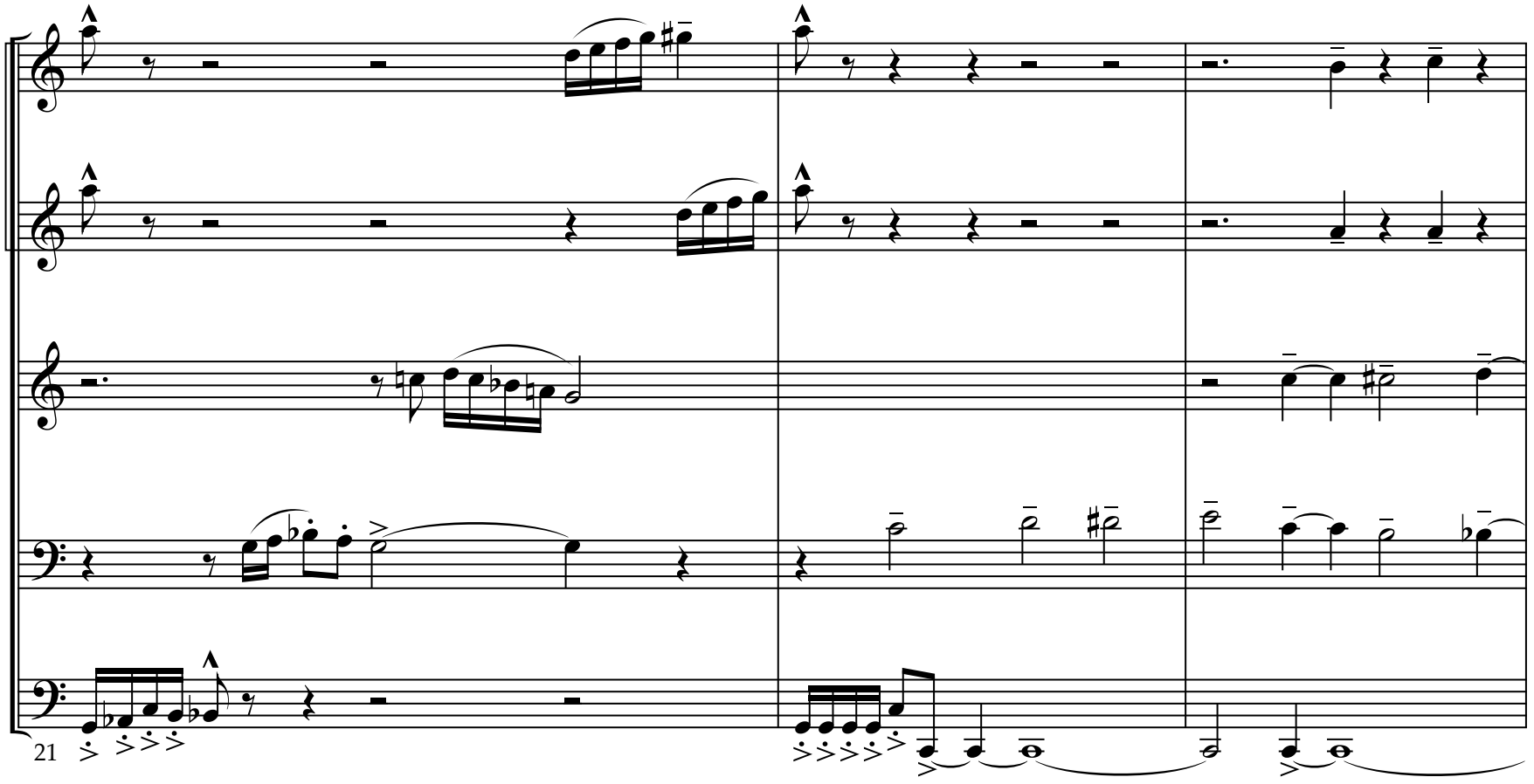

21

In a Chorale style, yet maintaining the previous intensity

24

C

27

29

31

In a Chorlae style (as before) - - -

35

38

ff

ff

ff

ff

D

40

ff

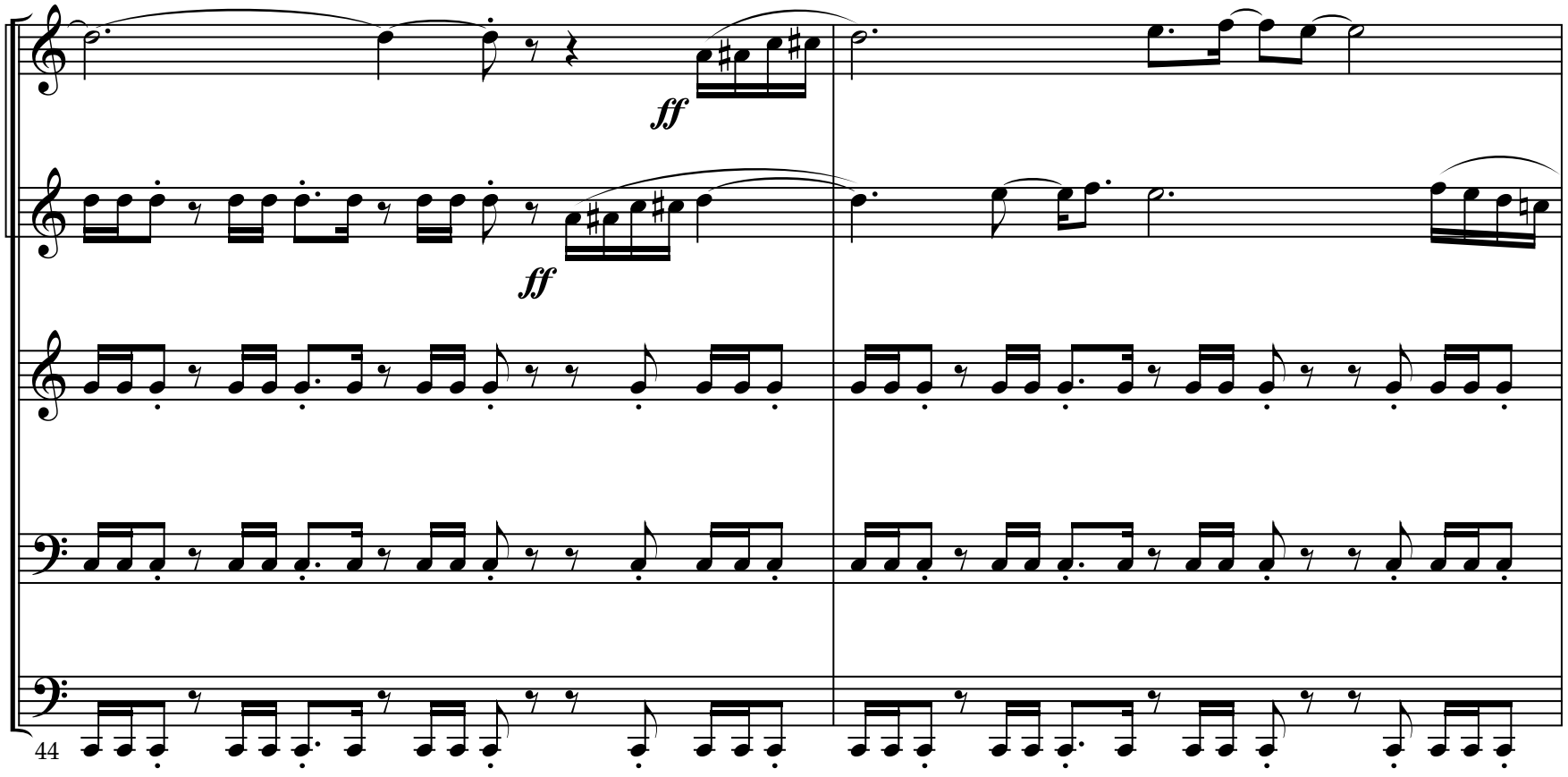
f

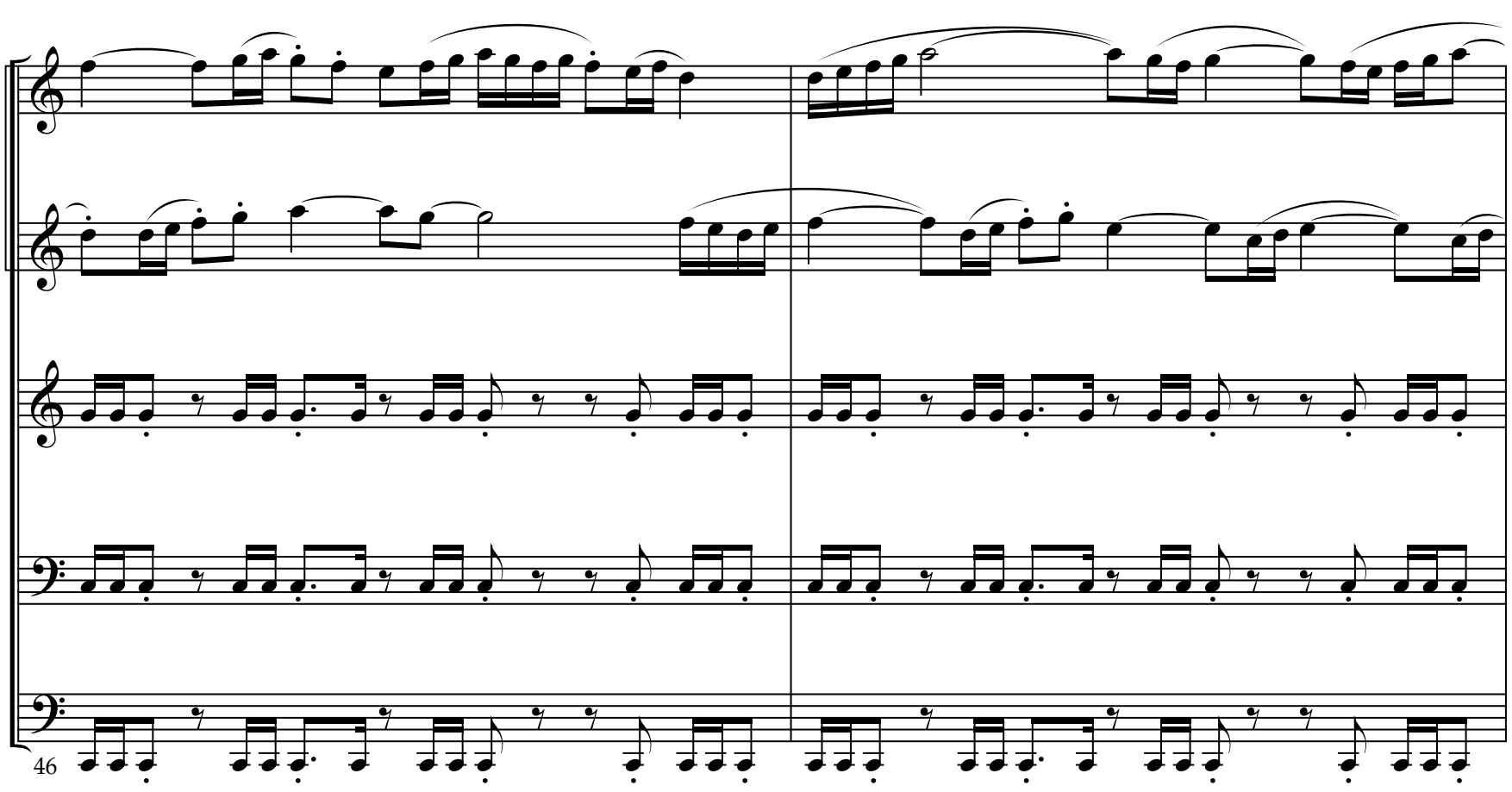
f

f

f

42


ff
ff
44


46

48

ff

ff

ff

50

f

f

f

f

mf

mf

mf

mf

52

E Stately ♩= 72

no *ritard*

Brief

Flugelhorn (in B♭)

pp

Brief

Flugelhorn (in B♭)

pp

Brief

mp

pp

mp

Brief

pp

Brief

54

p

Connect to Horn entrance on beat 3

pp

62

mp *pp* *mp*

p *pp*

pp

pp

p *pp*

70

F

p

p

p *mp*

p *mp*

*ossia G ♯

77

mf

mf

f

gradual cresc.

gradual cresc.

G

85

ff

ff

ff

p

ff

p

pp

pp

pp

pp

mp

p

95

p *pp* *mp* *p*

pp

pp

p *mp* *pp*

p *pp*

104

Trumpet

fp

Trumpet

fp

p *mf* *fp*

p *mf* *fp*

p *fp*

H Lively and Excited ♩= *160* (3 + 2 + 2 throughout)

113

119

Gallant

f

126

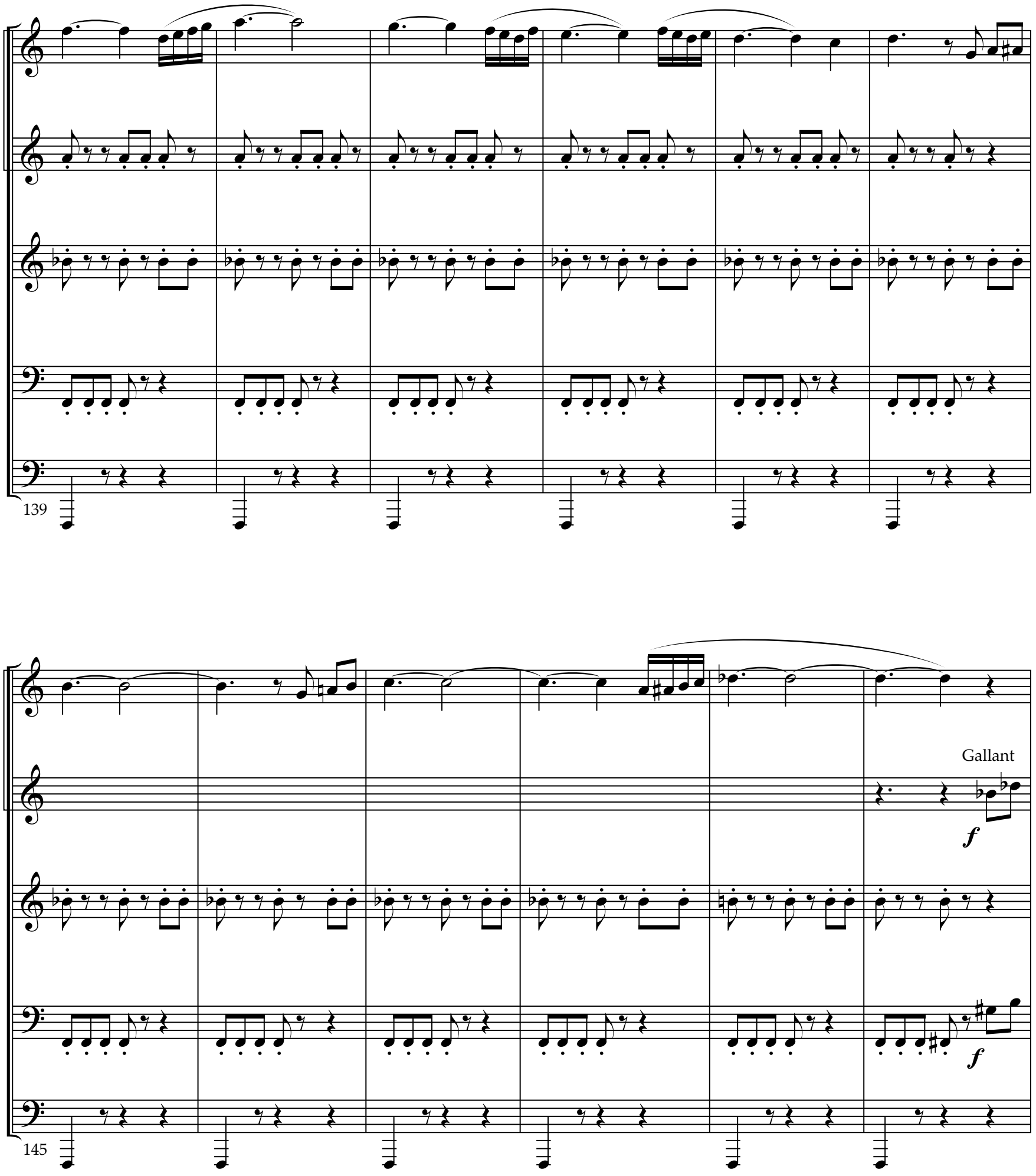
mf

mf

mf

133

mf


139
145
Gallant
f
f

J

151

f

156

160

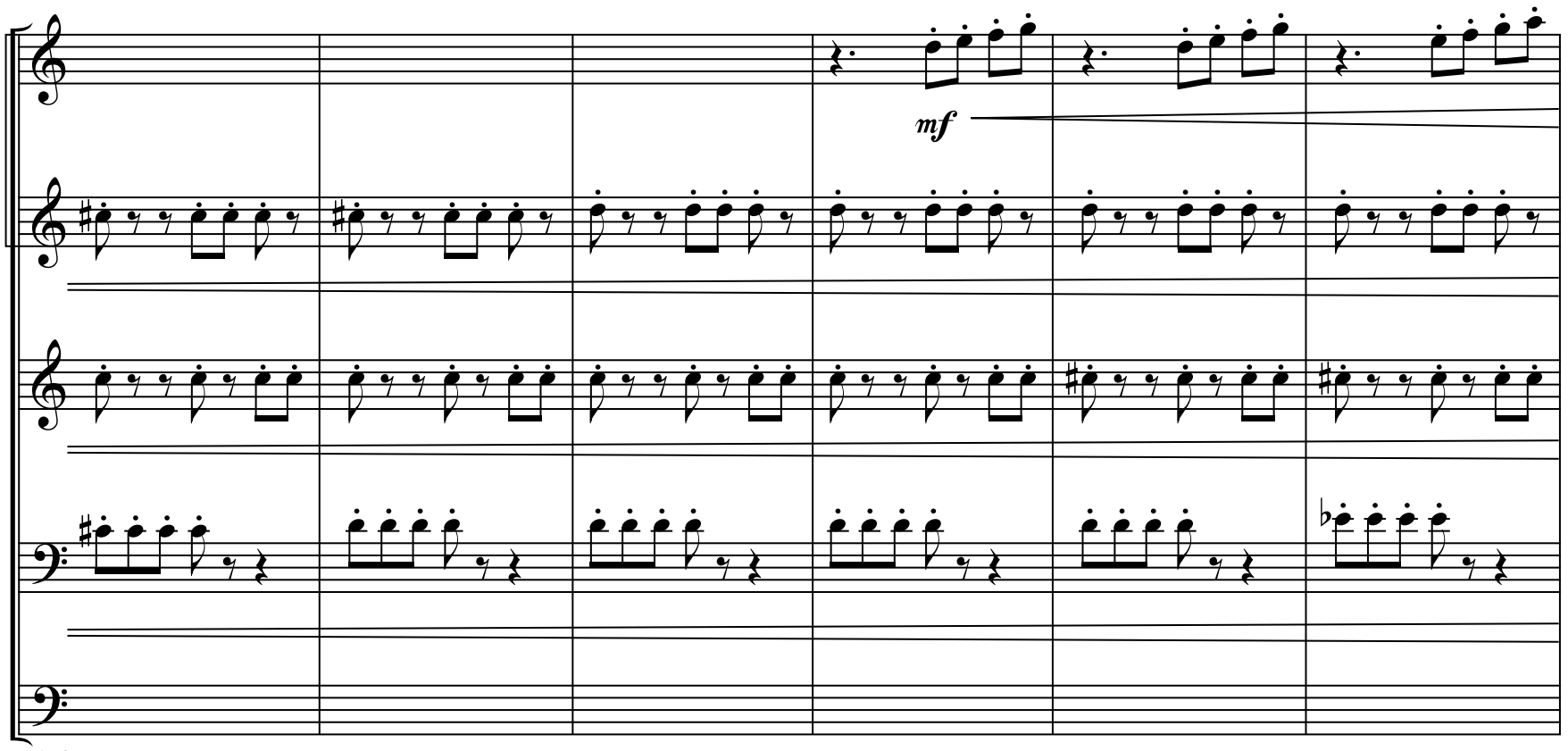
K

165

subito ***p***

subito ***p***

subito ***p***



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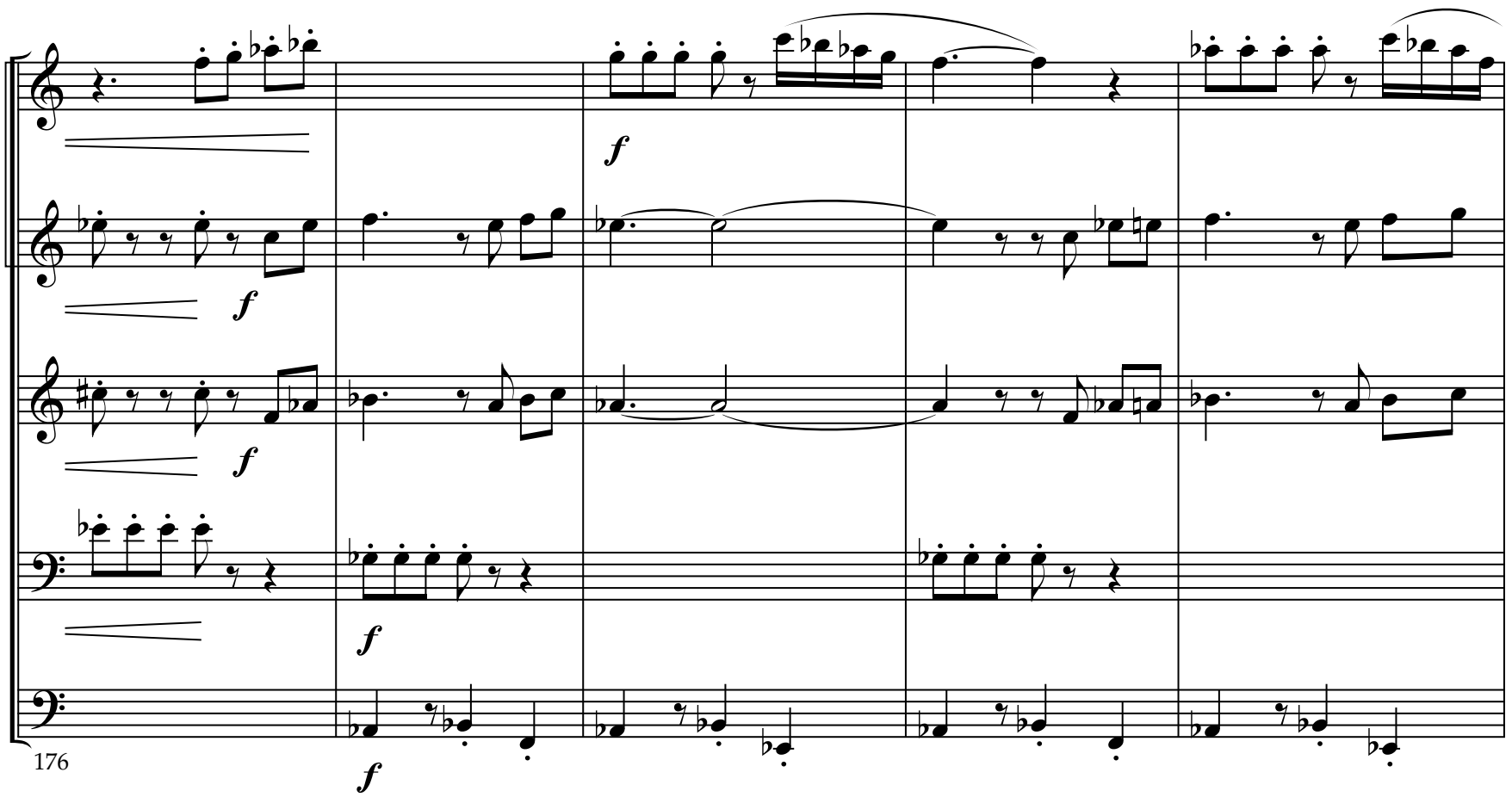

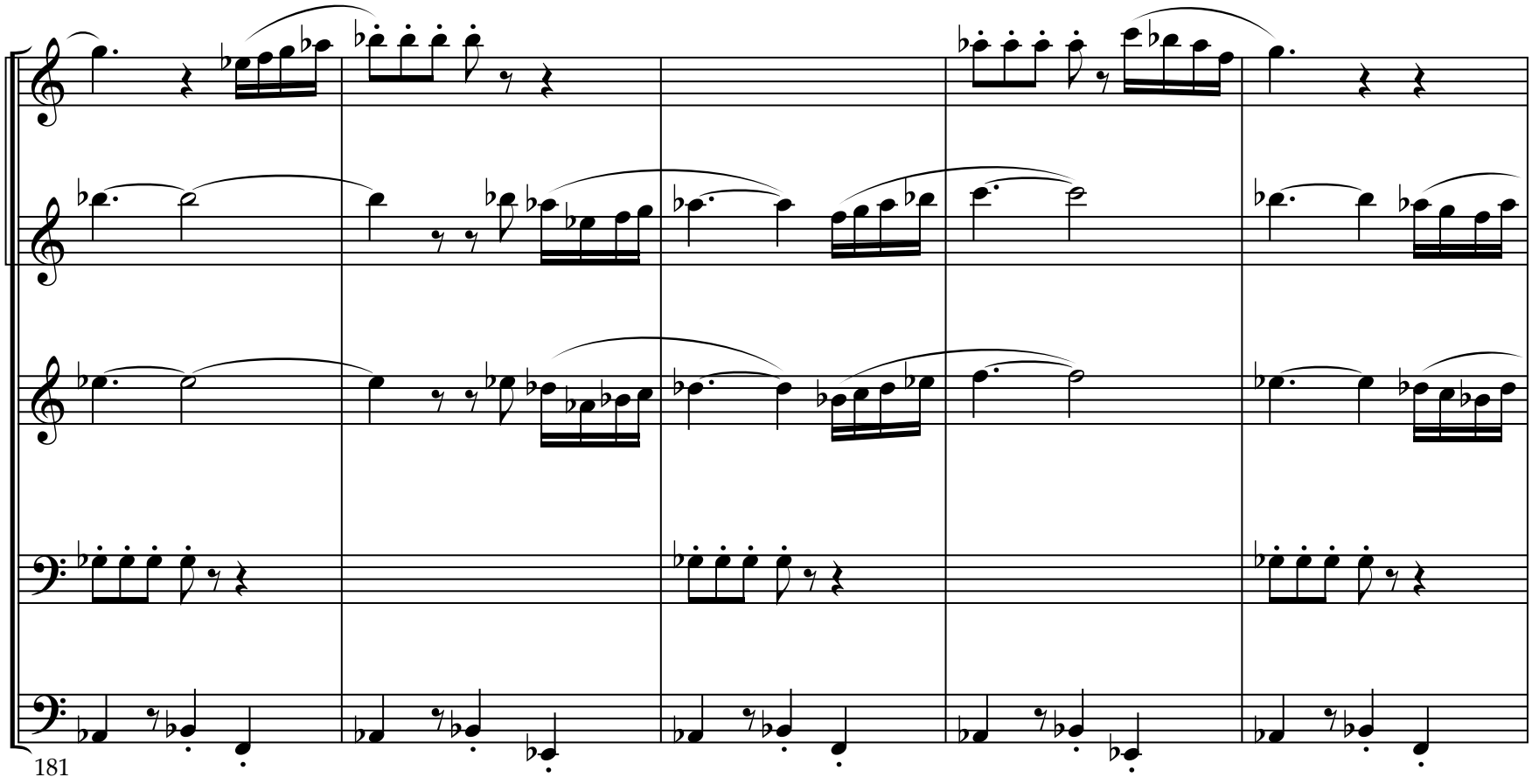
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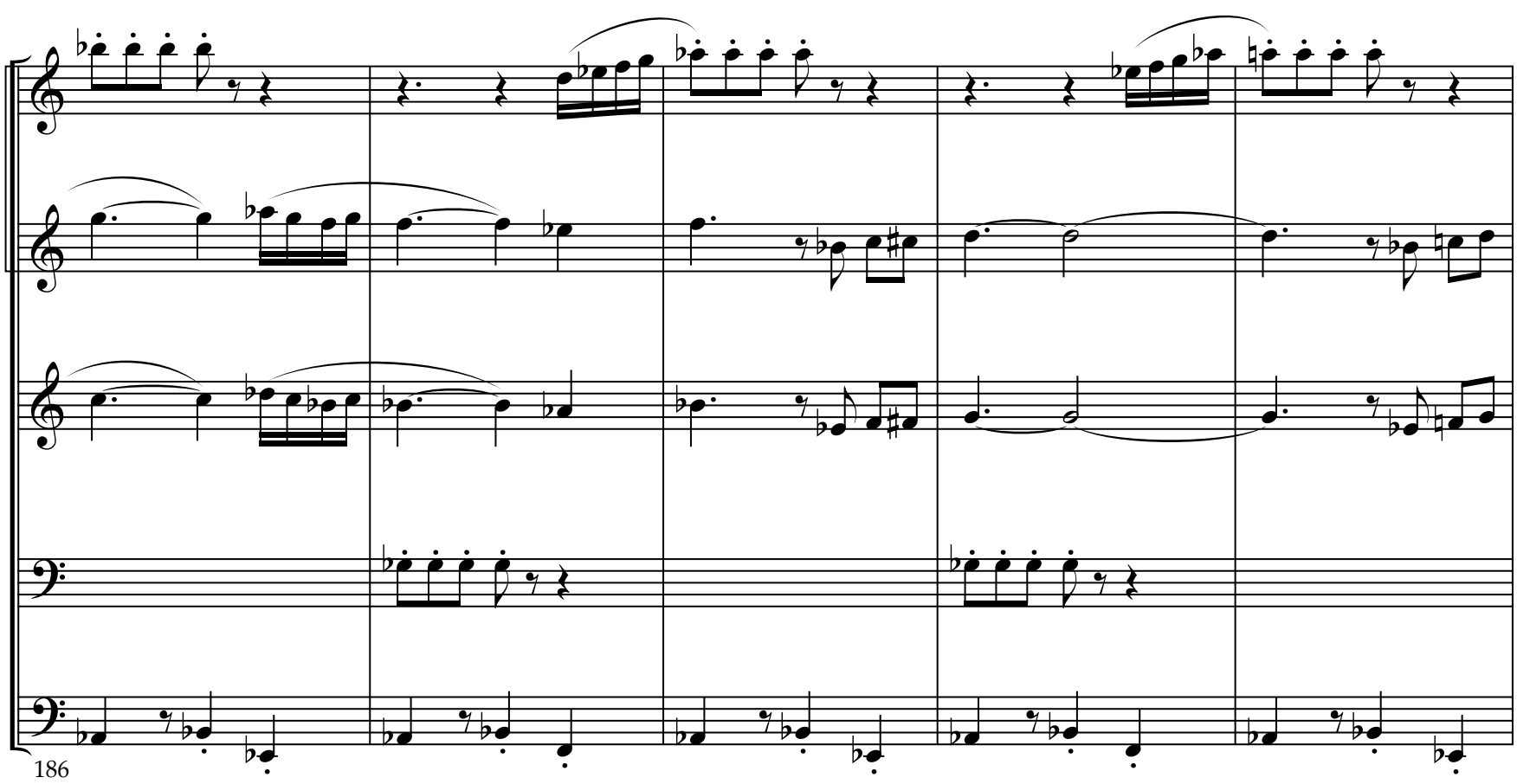
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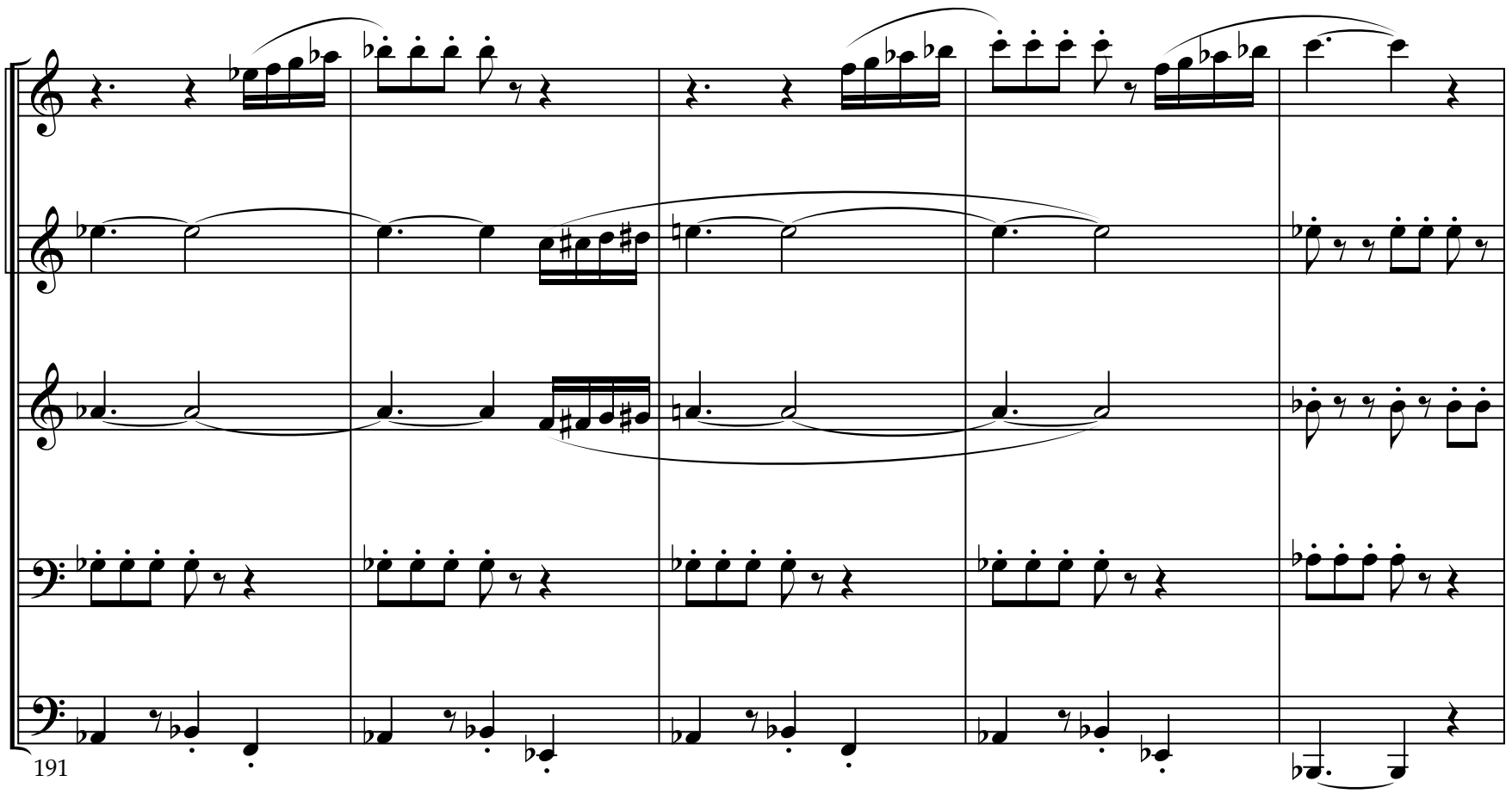
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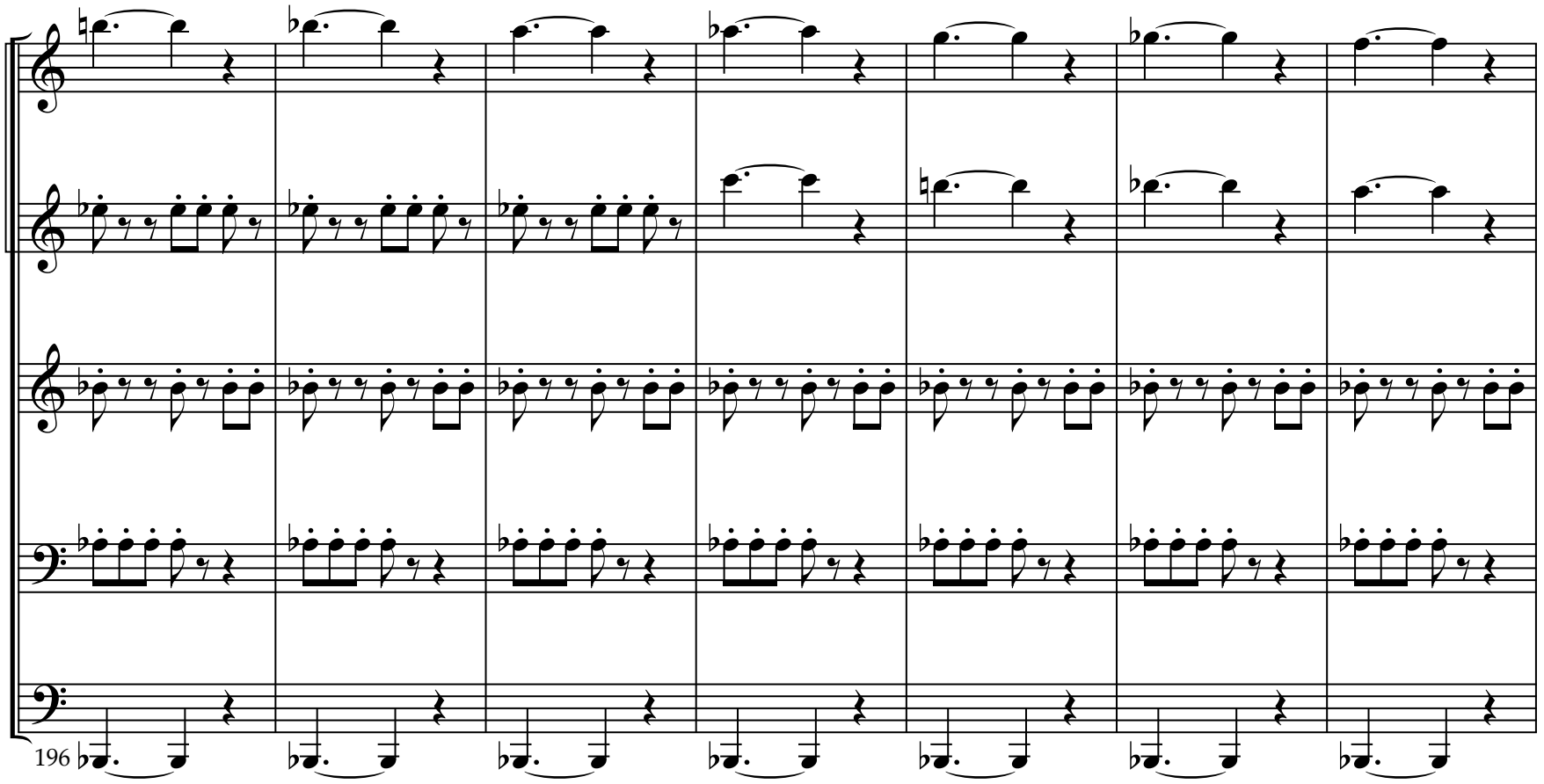

196

M

203

209

215

N

mf

221

mf

228

mf

mf

234

O

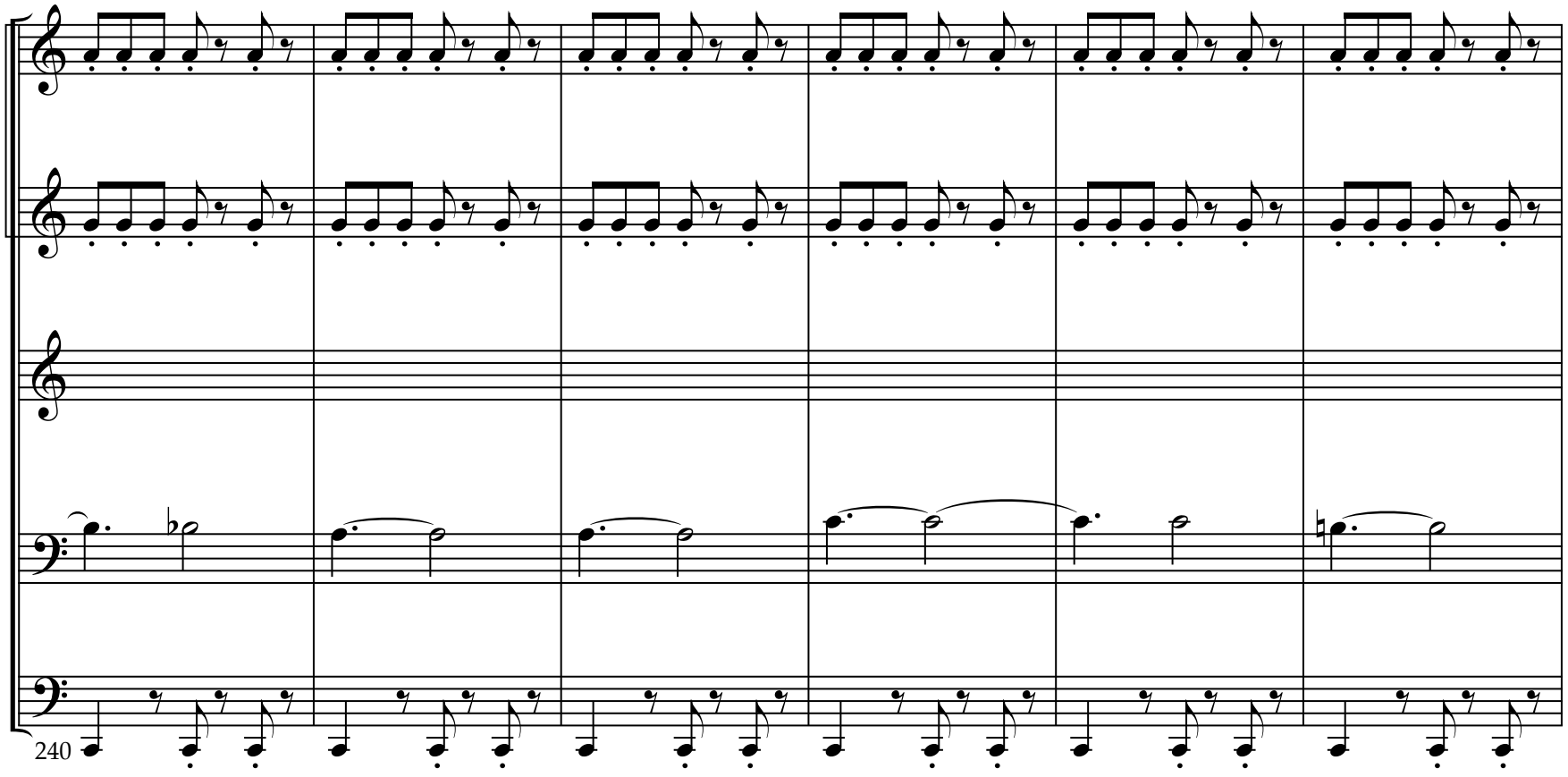
mp

mp

mf

f

mp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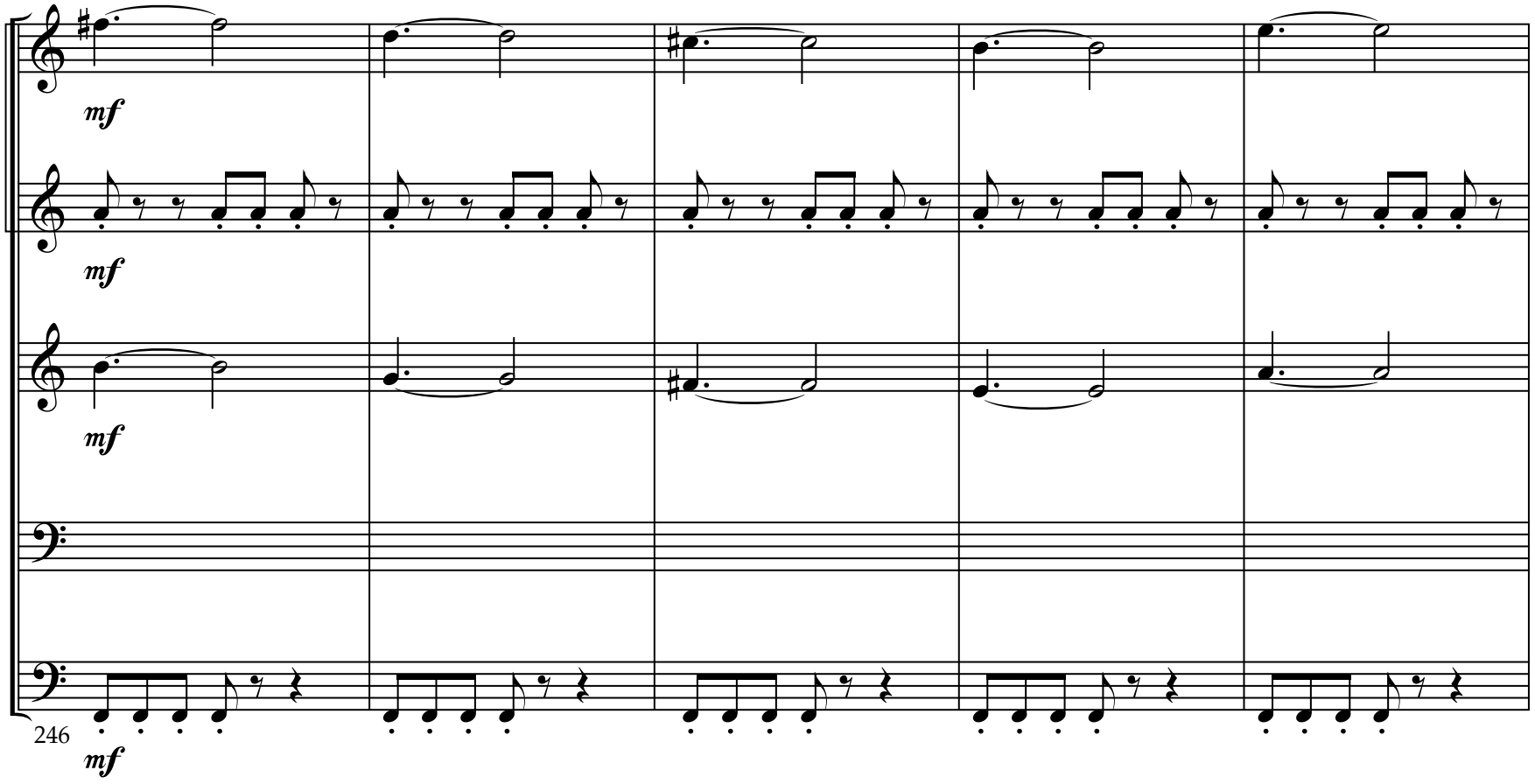

mf
mf
mf
246
mf

P

f

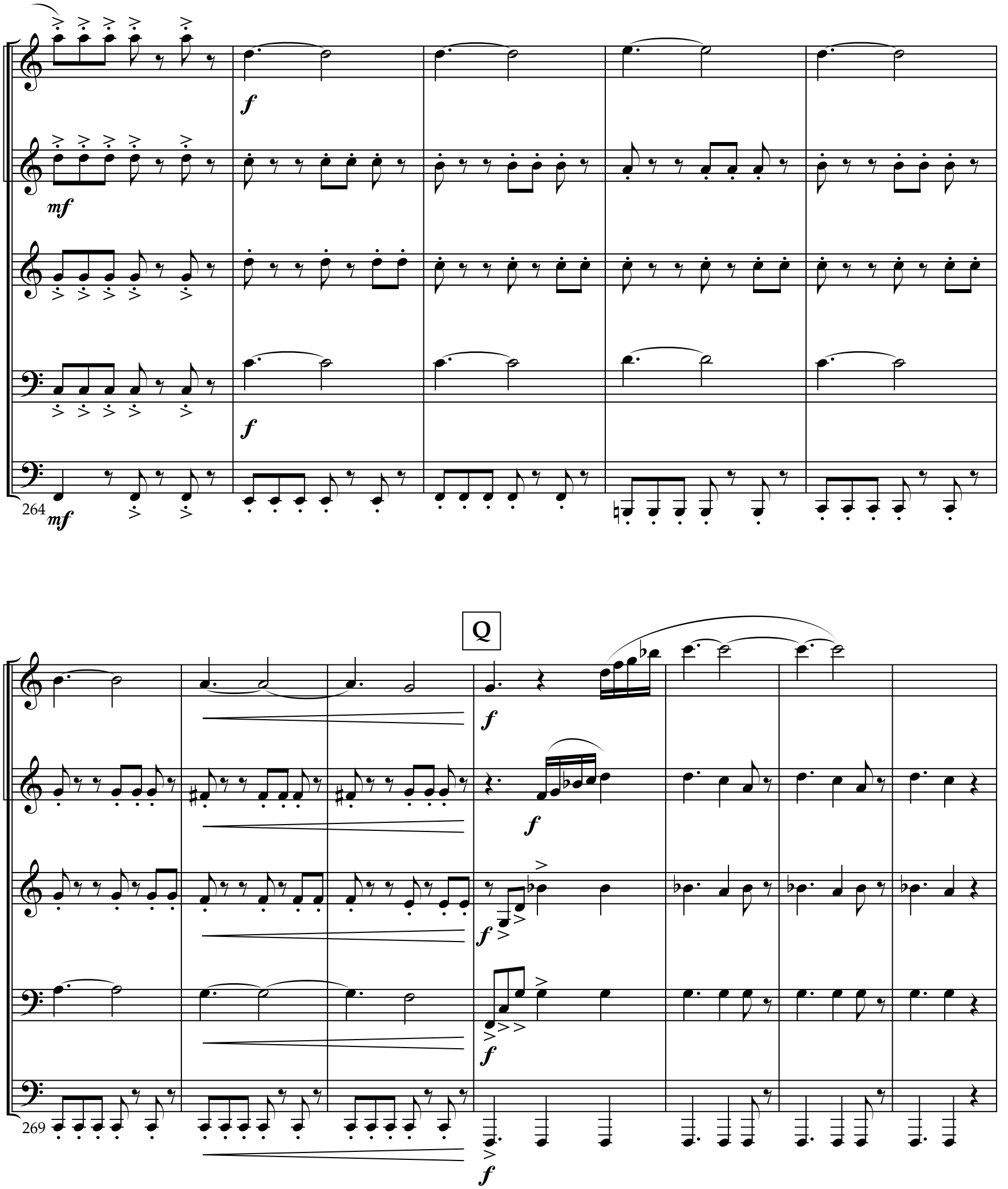
mf

mf

251

mf

258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Q
269

276

282

ff