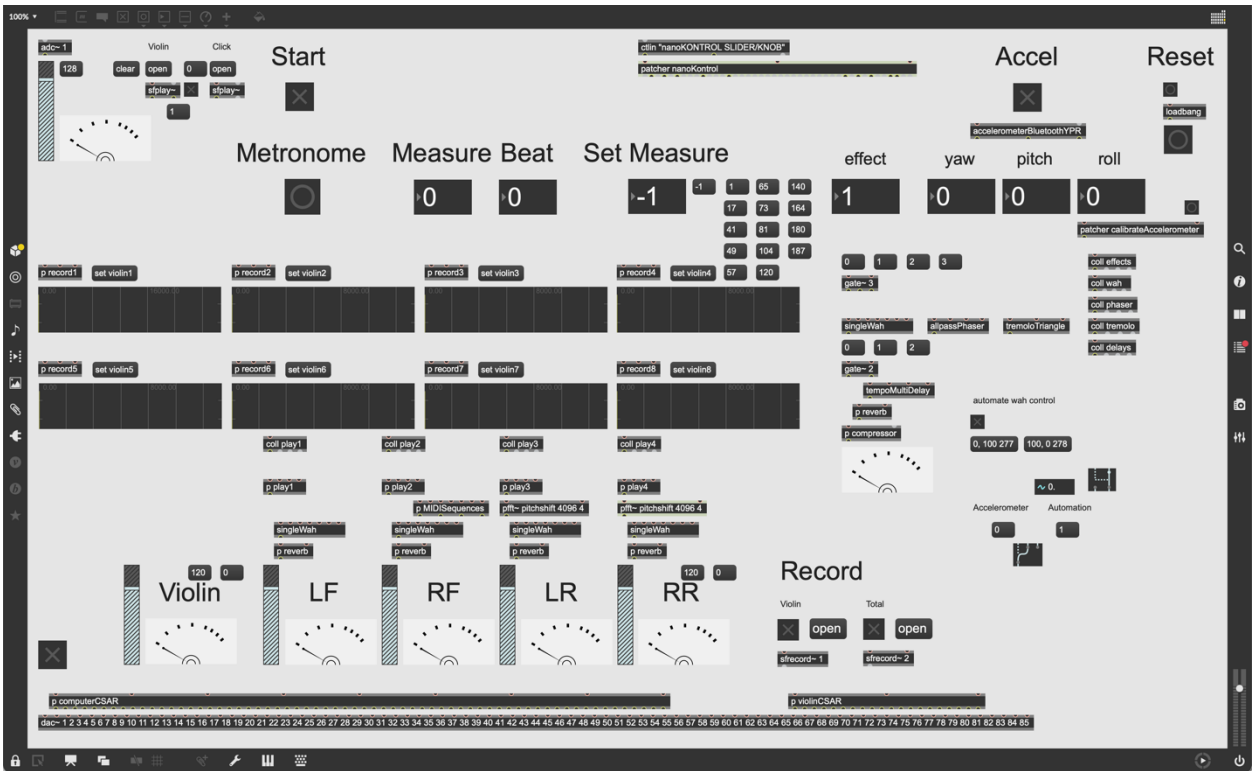
Il Prete Rosso

for amplified violin, motion sensor, and computer

Charles Nichols

Il Prete Rosso, for violin, motion sensor, and computer, was inspired by the violin concertos of Italian Baroque composer and virtuoso violinist Antonio Vivaldi, who was nicknamed The Red Priest because of his red hair and Catholic ordination. In the piece, the amplified violin is recorded live and played back in four parts, spatialized around the audience, as an accompaniment with itself. Following the violinist, a computer musician triggers wah, phaser, and delay effects, that process the amplified violin. A motion sensor on the hand of the violinist tracks bow arm performance gesture, to interactively control the frequency sweep of the wah effect. *Il Prete Rosso* was written for Sarah Plum, with a commission from Drake University, and composed at the Brush Creek artist retreat. The full premiere was performed in the 124.4-channel spatial audio system in the Cube of the Moss Arts Center at Virginia Tech.



Written for Sarah Plum,
at the Brush Creek Ranch Arts Foundation

Il Prete Rosso

Charles Nichols

Exuberant, Playful, Flambouant ♩ = 108

Violin

Left Front Computer

Right Front Computer

Left Rear Computer

Right Rear Computer

mf *cresc.* *f*

5 *mf* *cresc.* *ff*

9 *f* *cresc.* *ff*

13

17 **1** *ff* *mf* *cresc.* *f*

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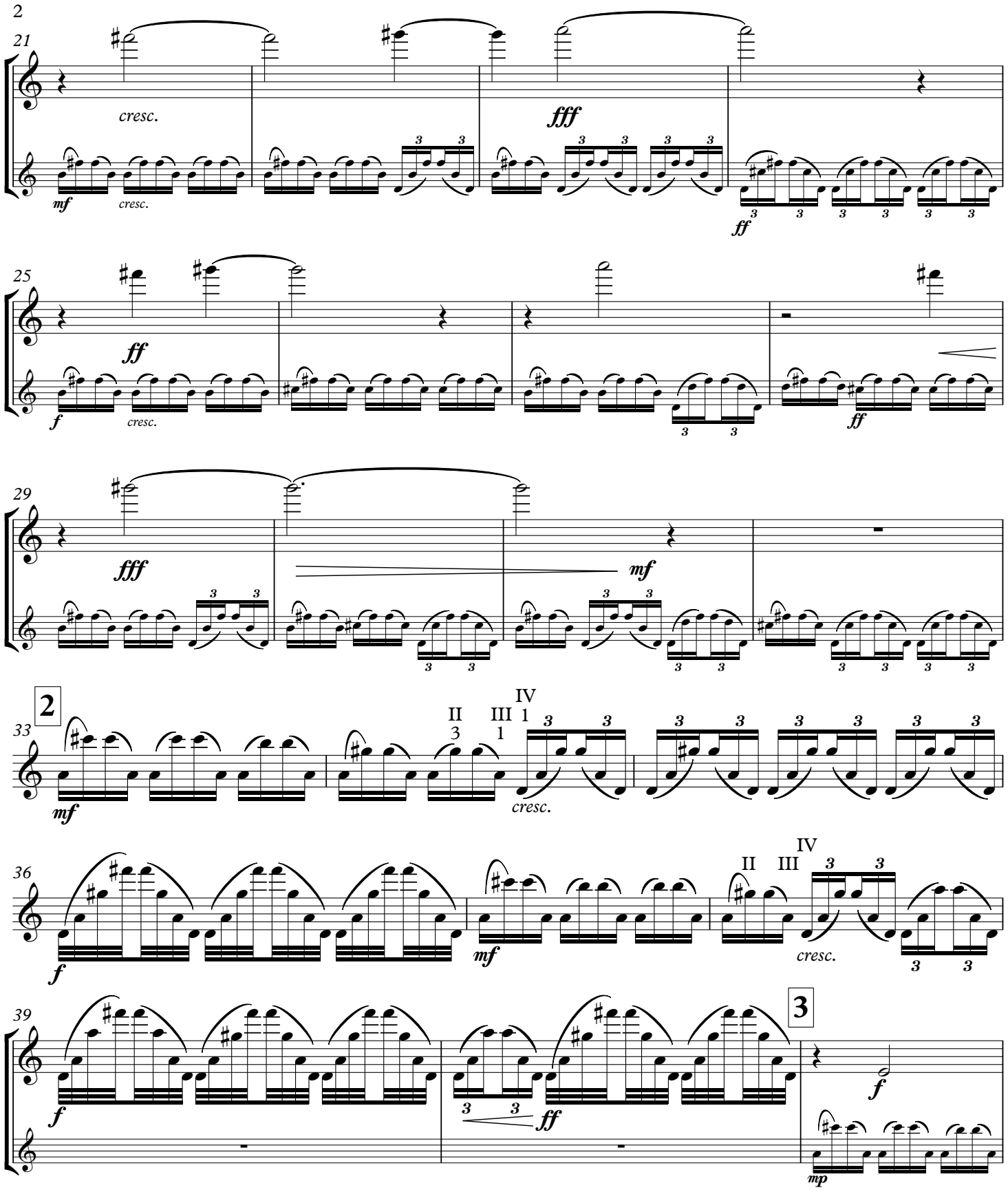
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cresc.
mf
cresc.
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ff
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f
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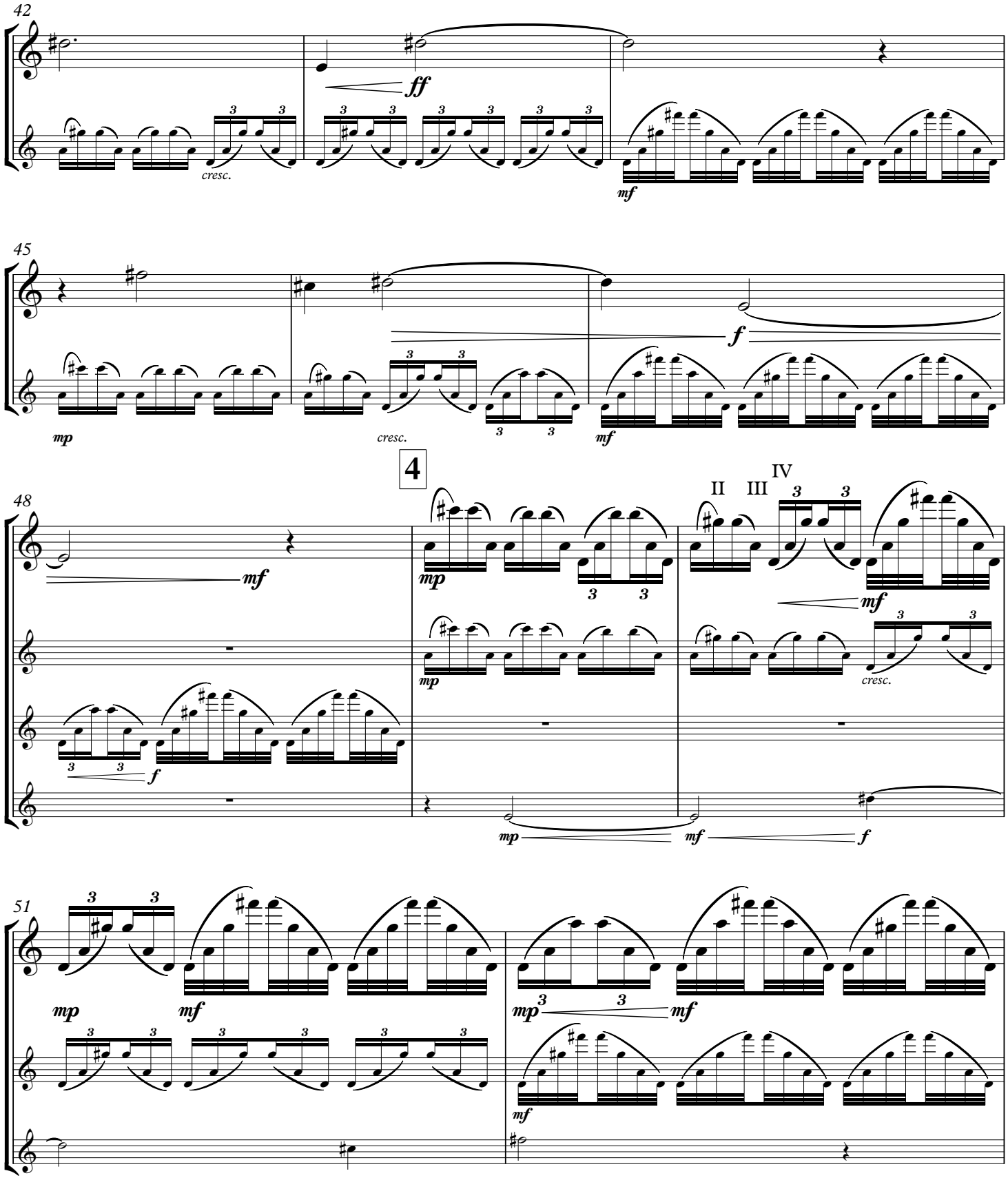
ff
29
fff
mf
2
33
mf
II
III
IV
3
1
1
cresc.
36
f
mf
II
III
IV
cresc.
39
f
ff
3
f
mp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ff
cresc.
mf
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mp
cresc.
f
mf
4
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II
III
IV
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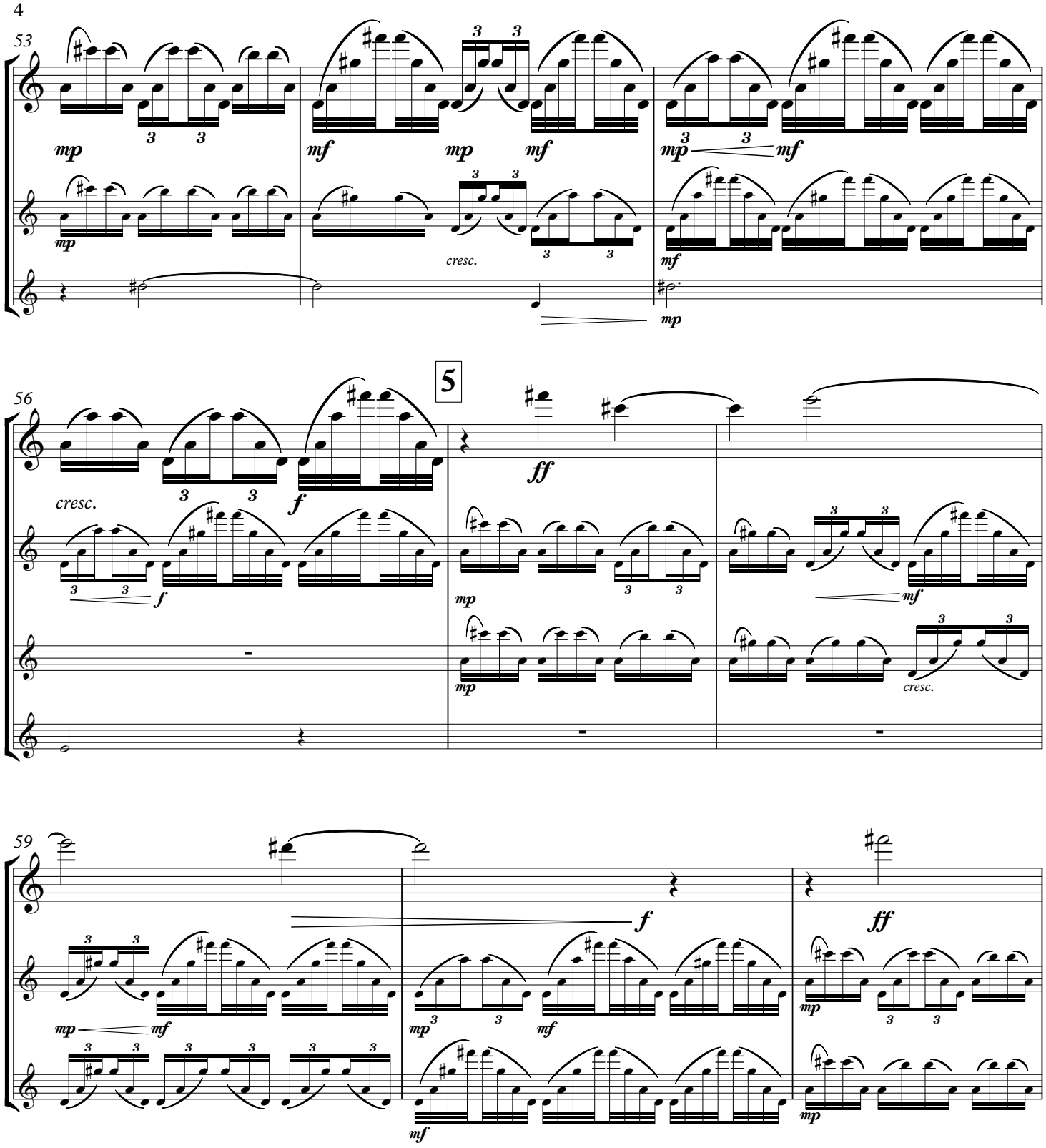
f
mp
mf
f
51
mp
mf
mp
mf
mf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mp
mf
mp
mf
mp
mf
mp
cresc.
mf
mp
56
5
cresc.
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mp
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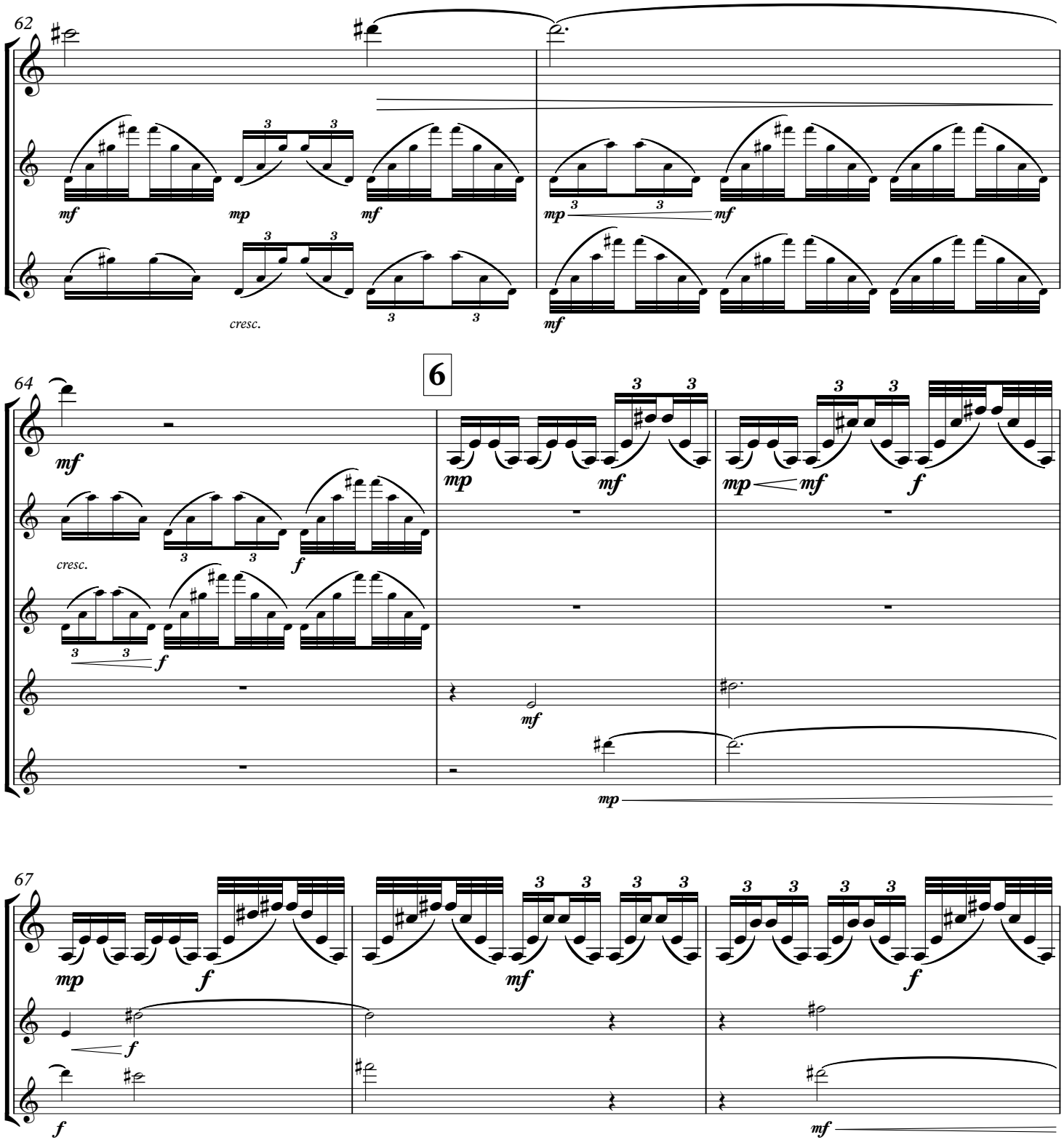
59
mp
mf
mp
mf
f
mf
ff
mp
mp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mp
mf
mp
mf
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mf
6
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mf
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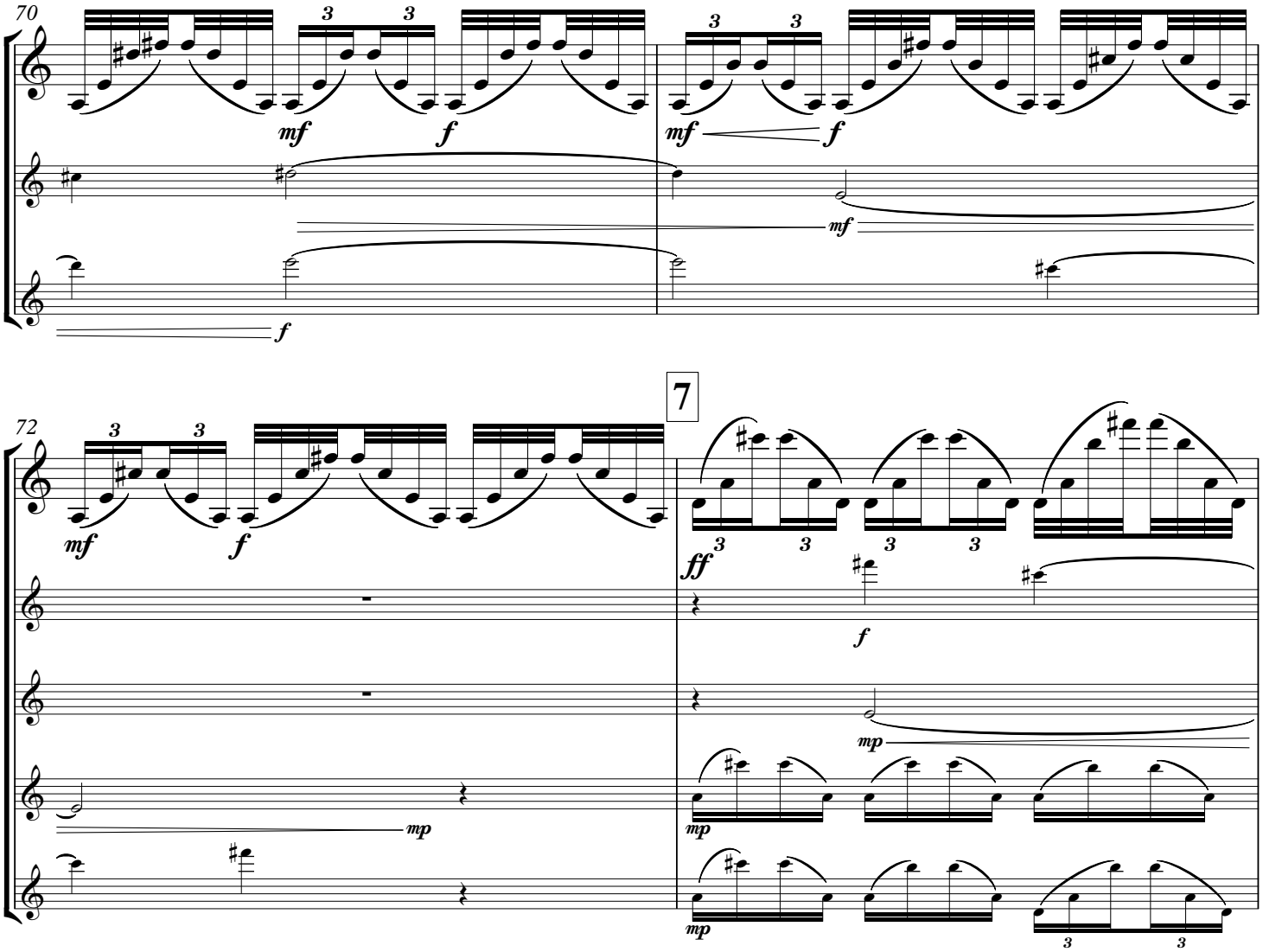
f
mf
mp
67
mp
f
mf
f
f
f
mf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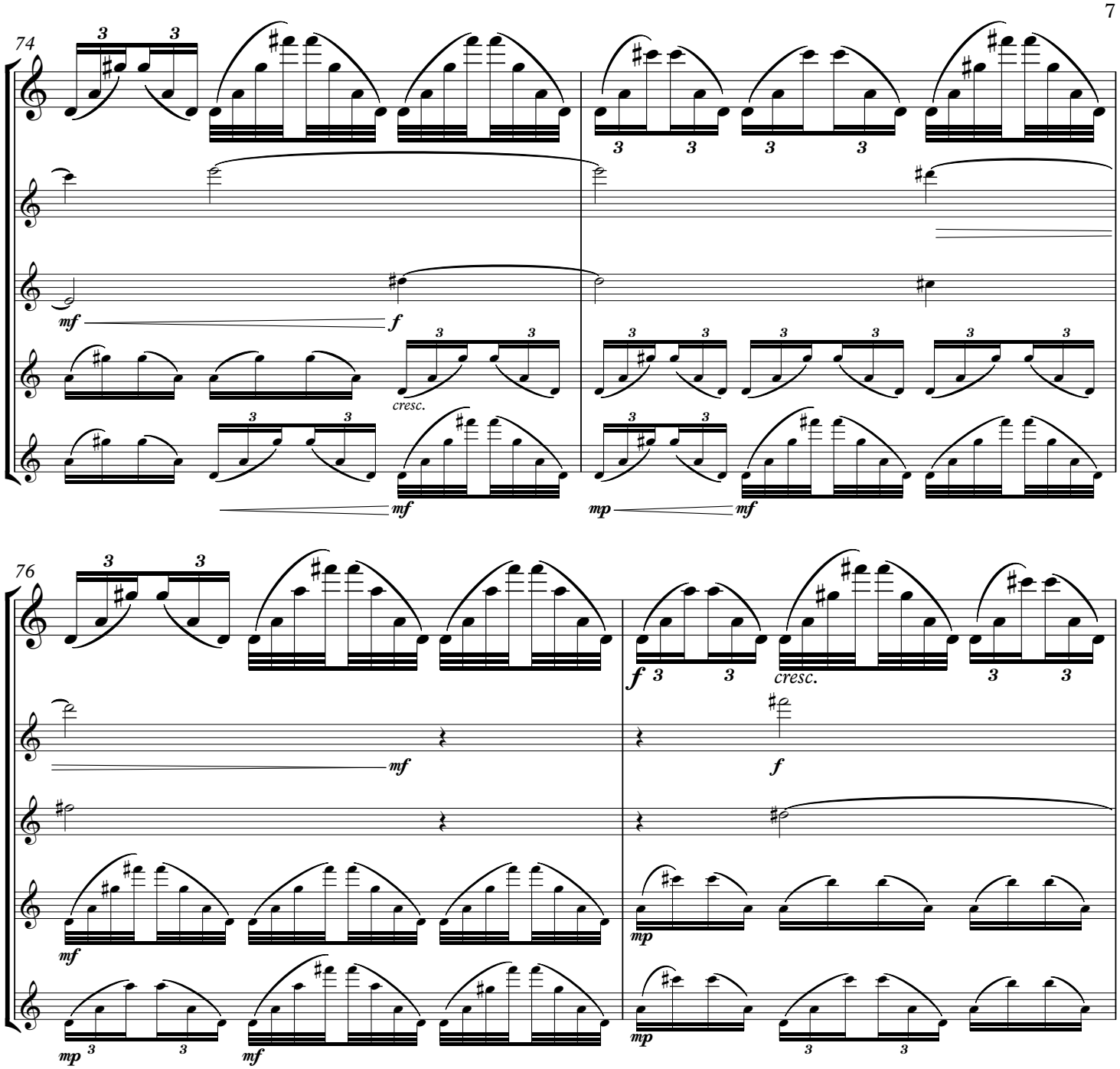
mf
f
mf
f
mf
f
72
mf
f
7
ff
f
mp
mp
mp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mp
mp
mf
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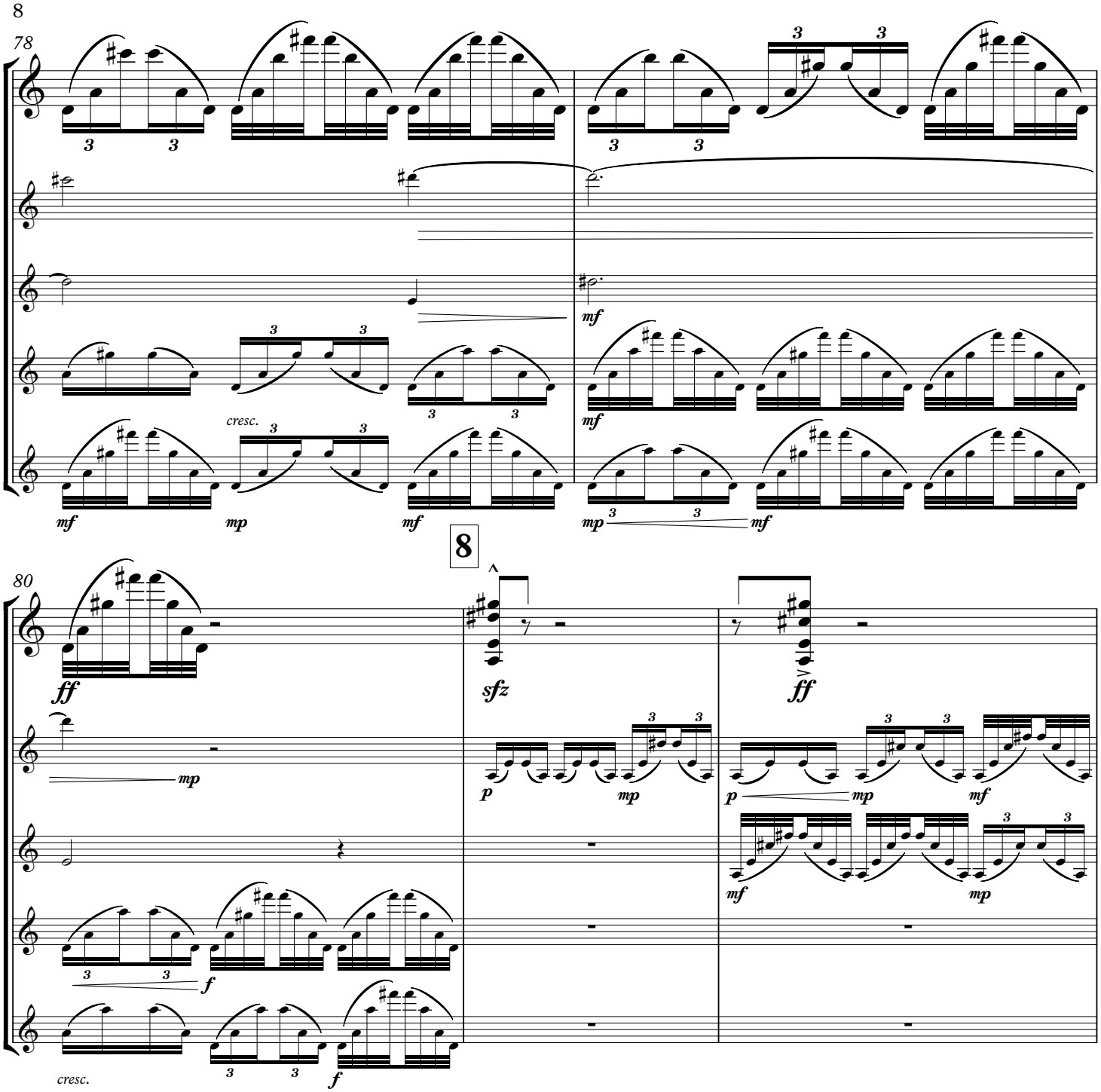
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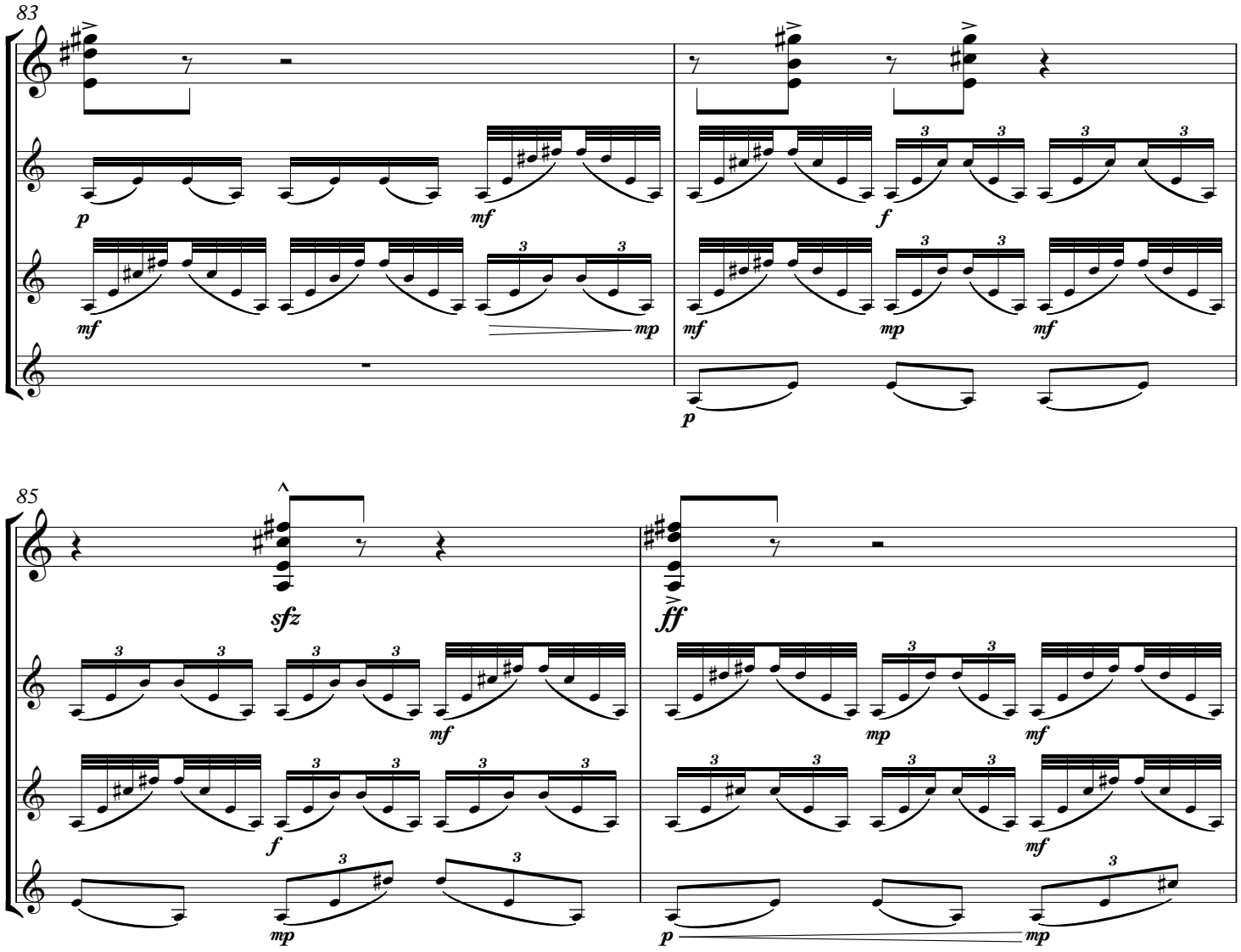
ff
p
mp
mf
mf
mp
f
cresc.
f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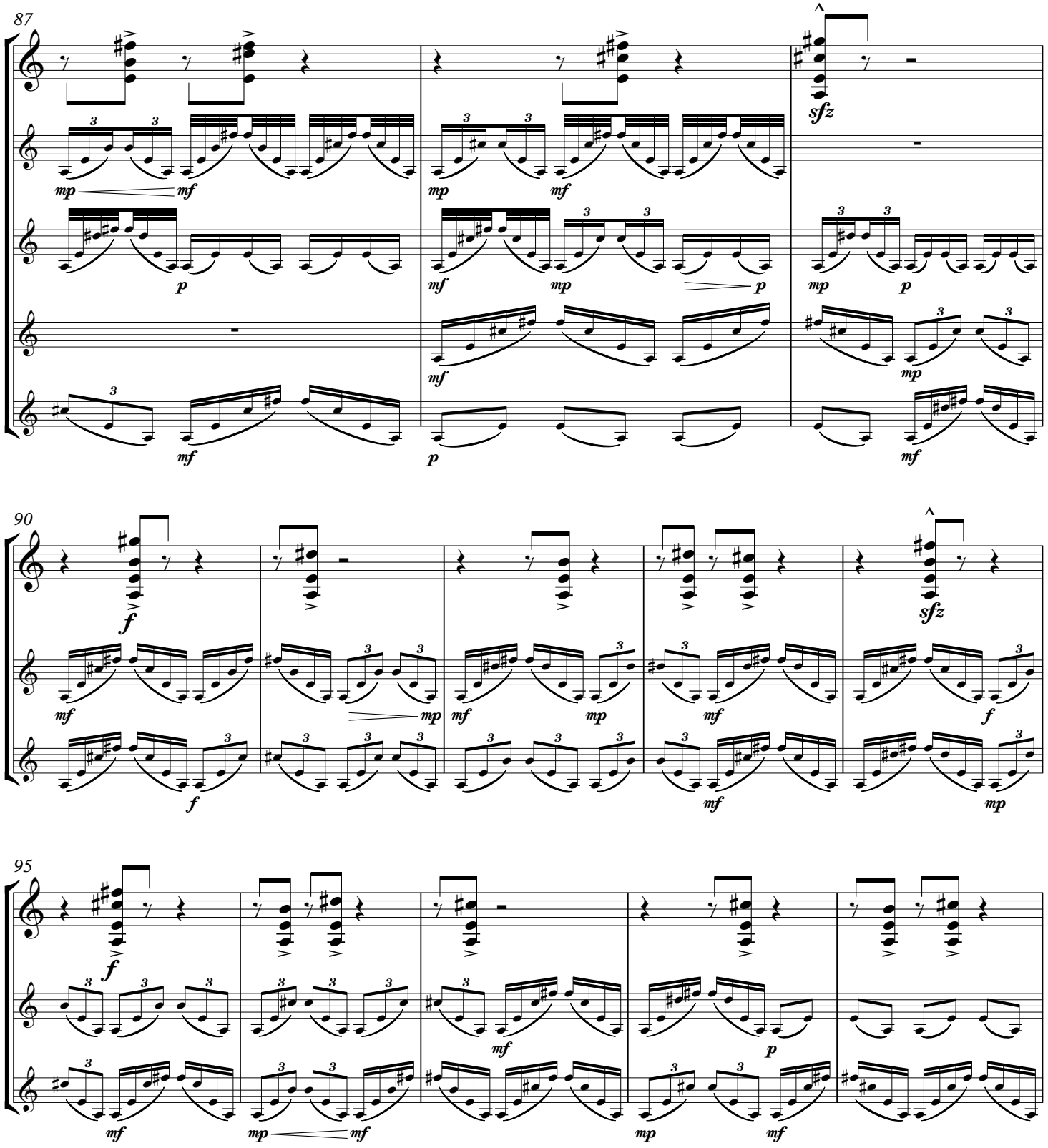
mf
mf
p
mp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mf
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mf
p
mf
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sfz
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95
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mf
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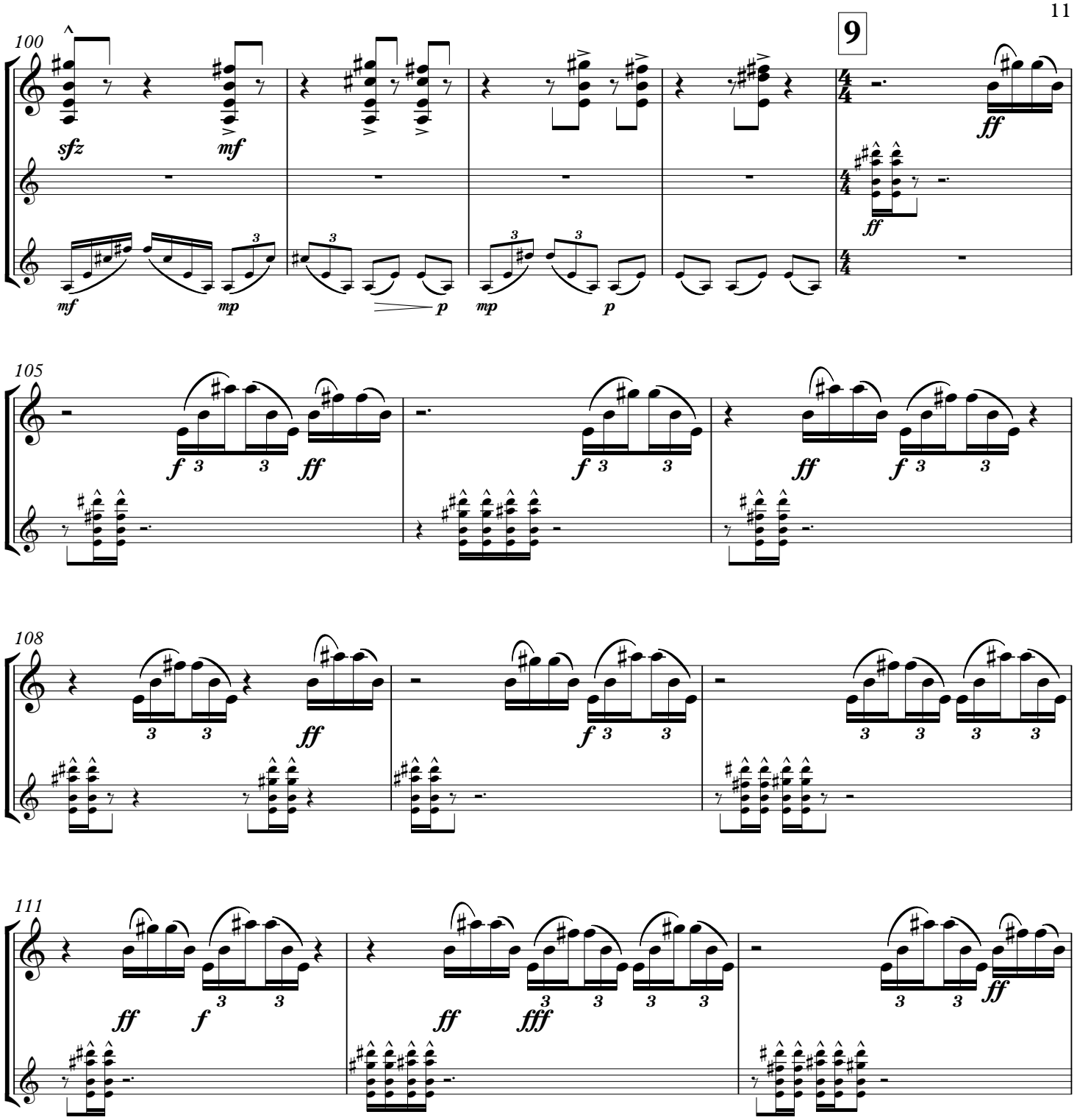
mf
mf
p
mp
mf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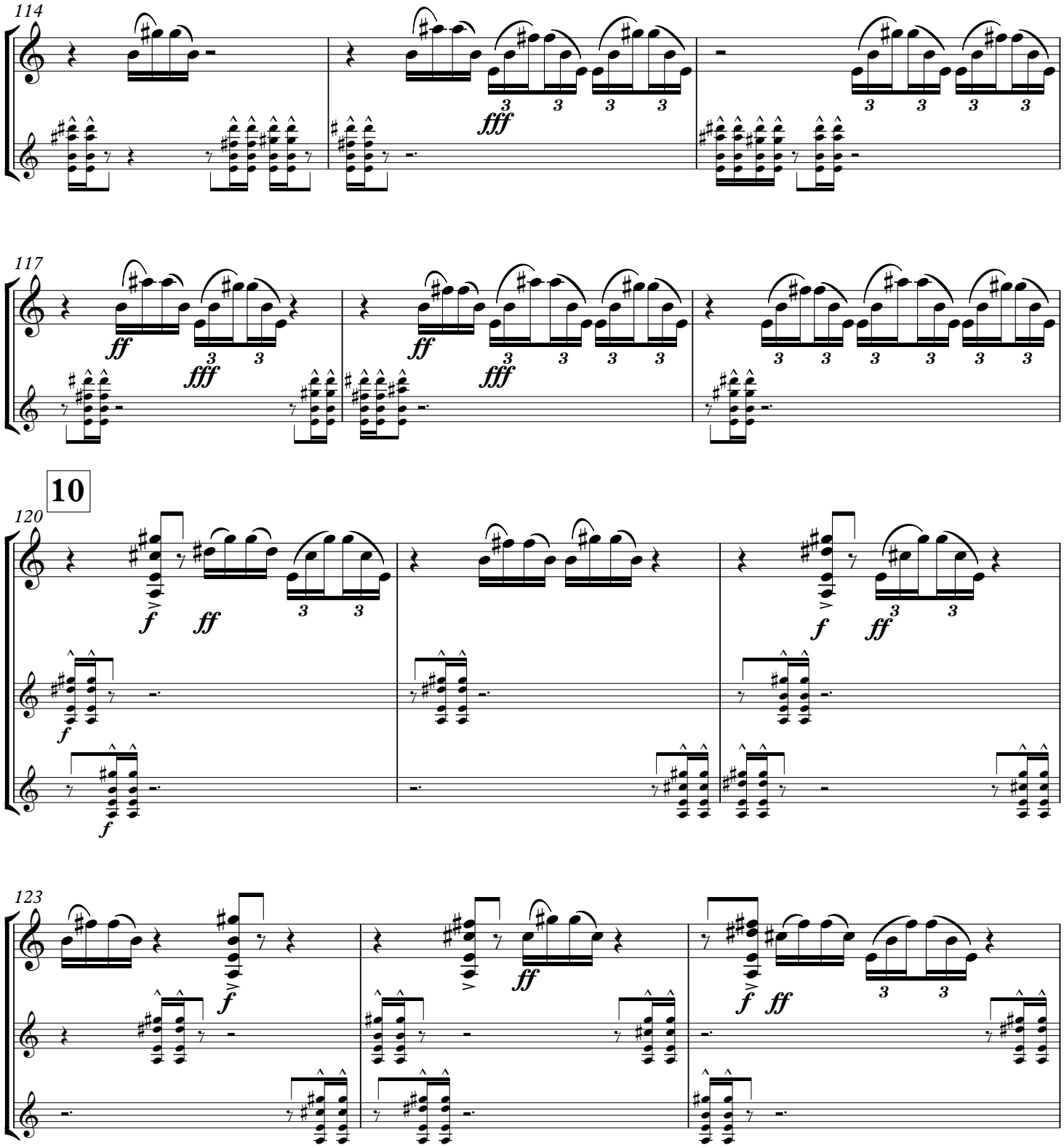
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f
ff
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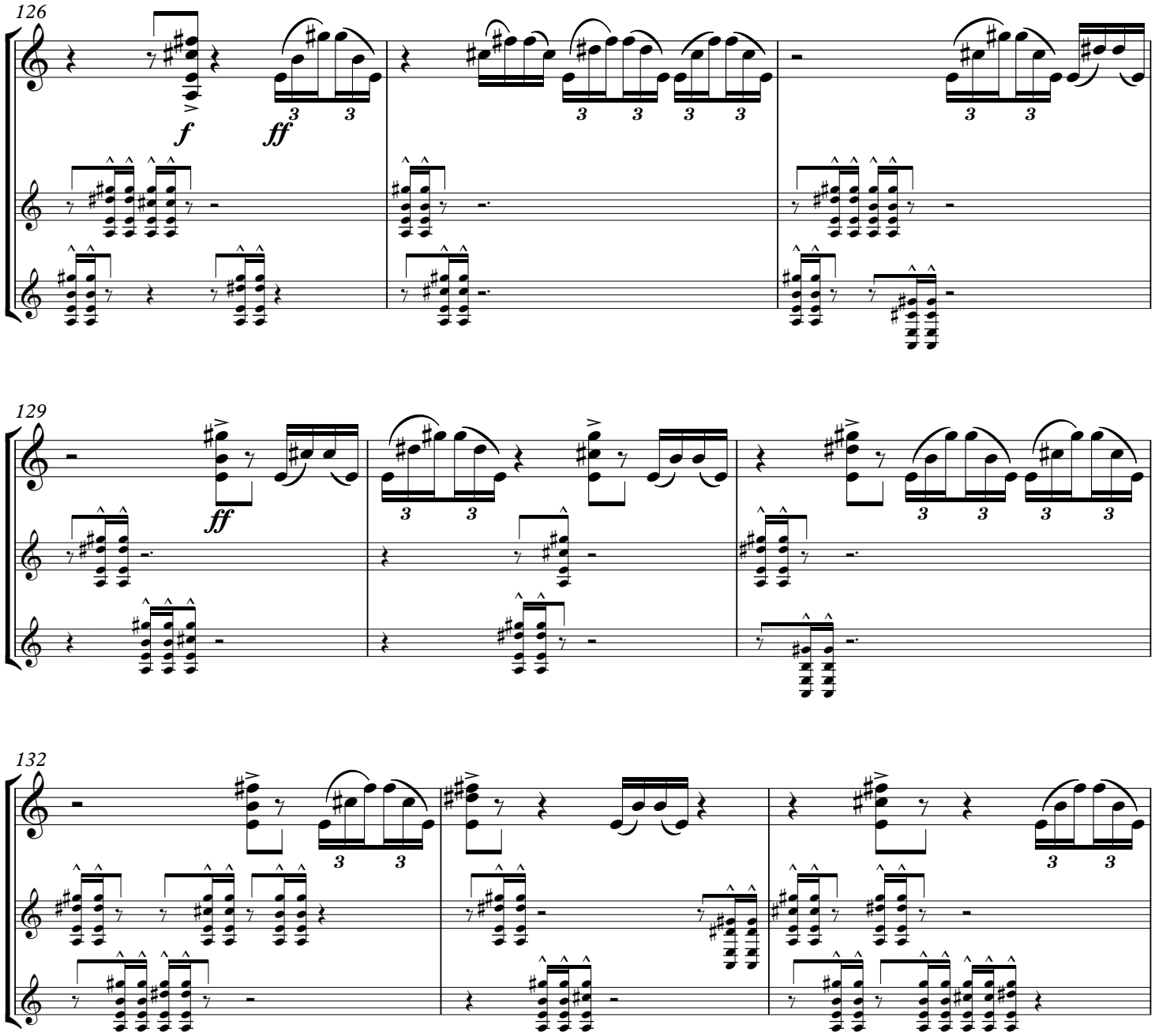
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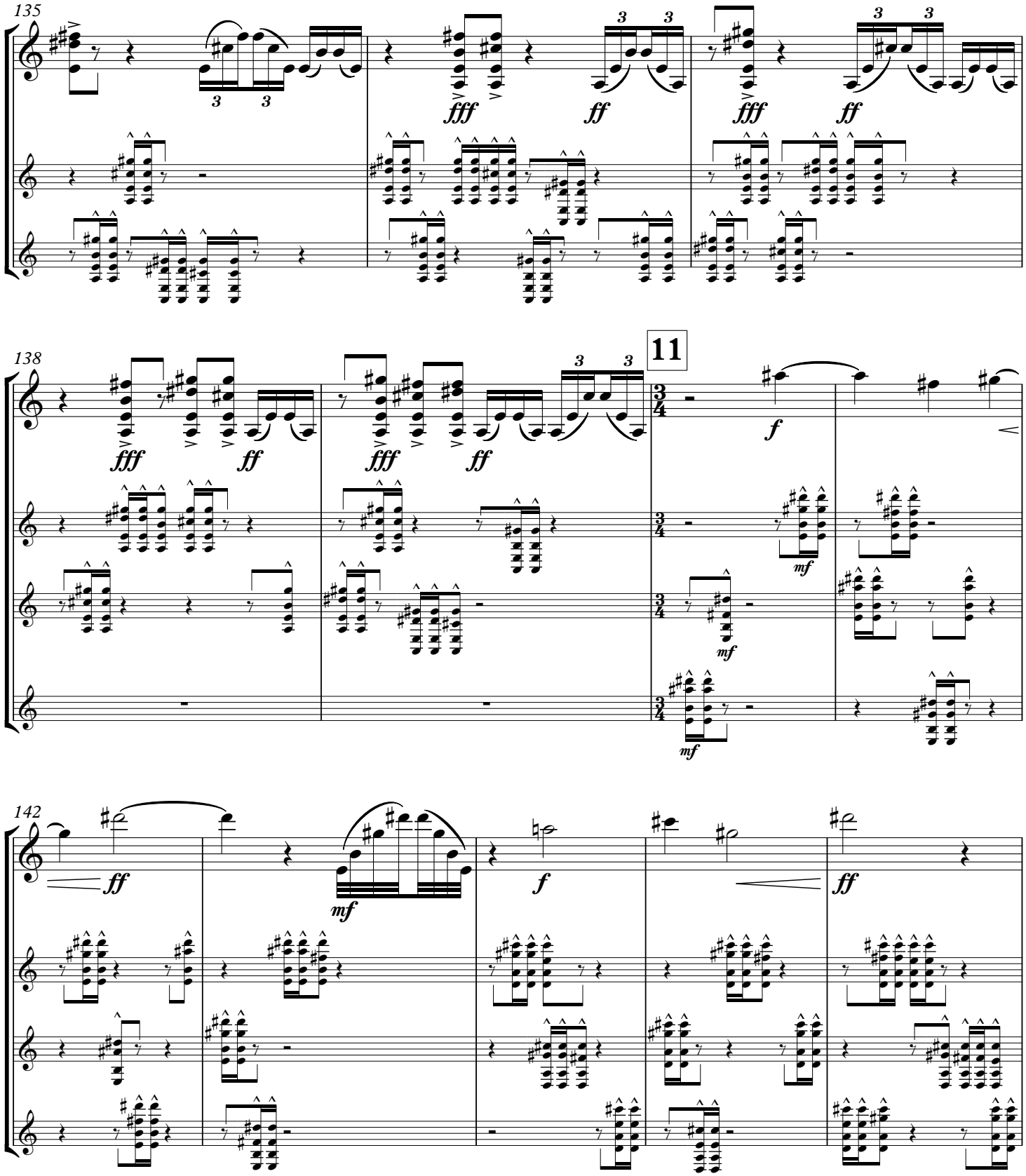
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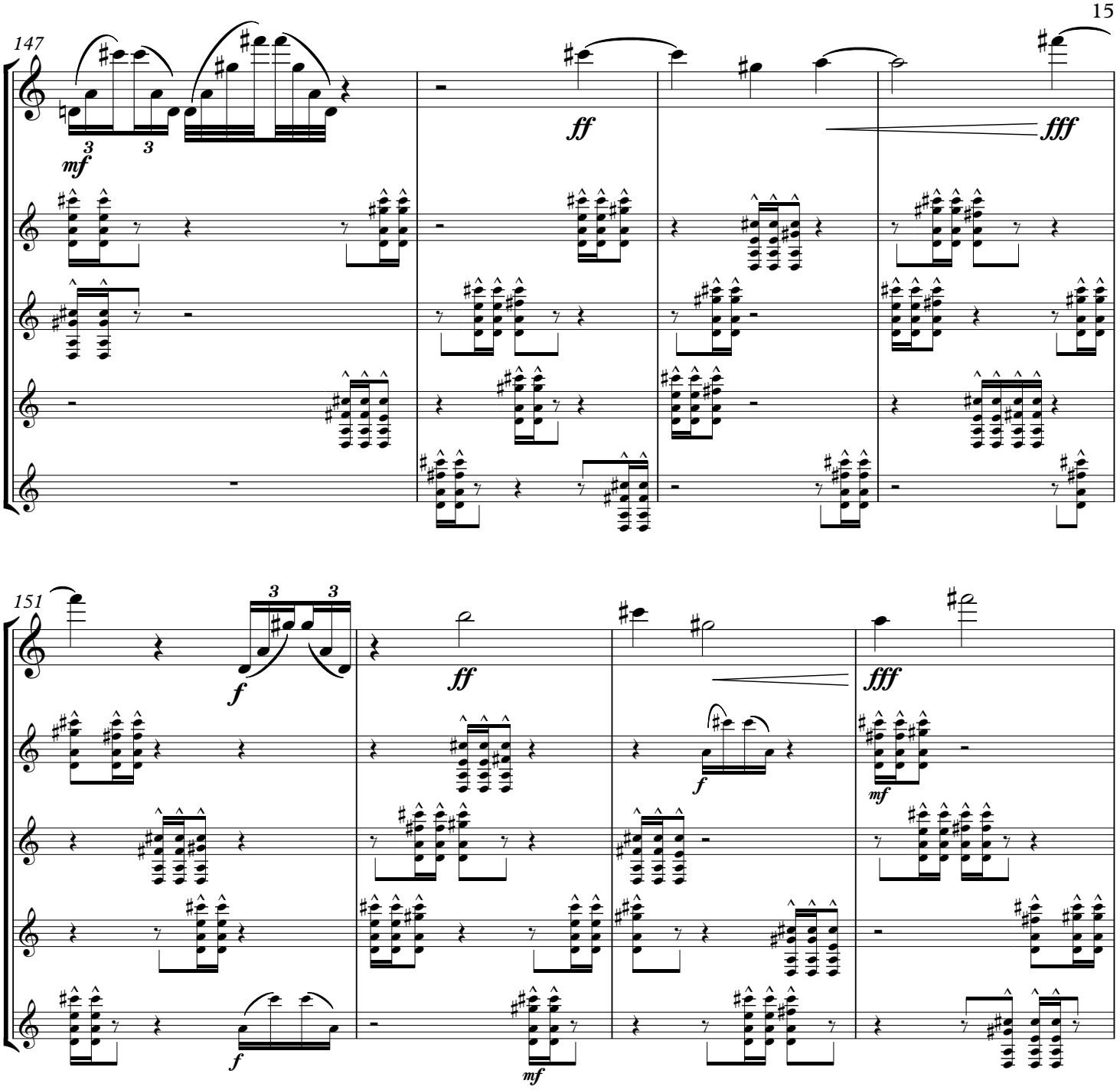
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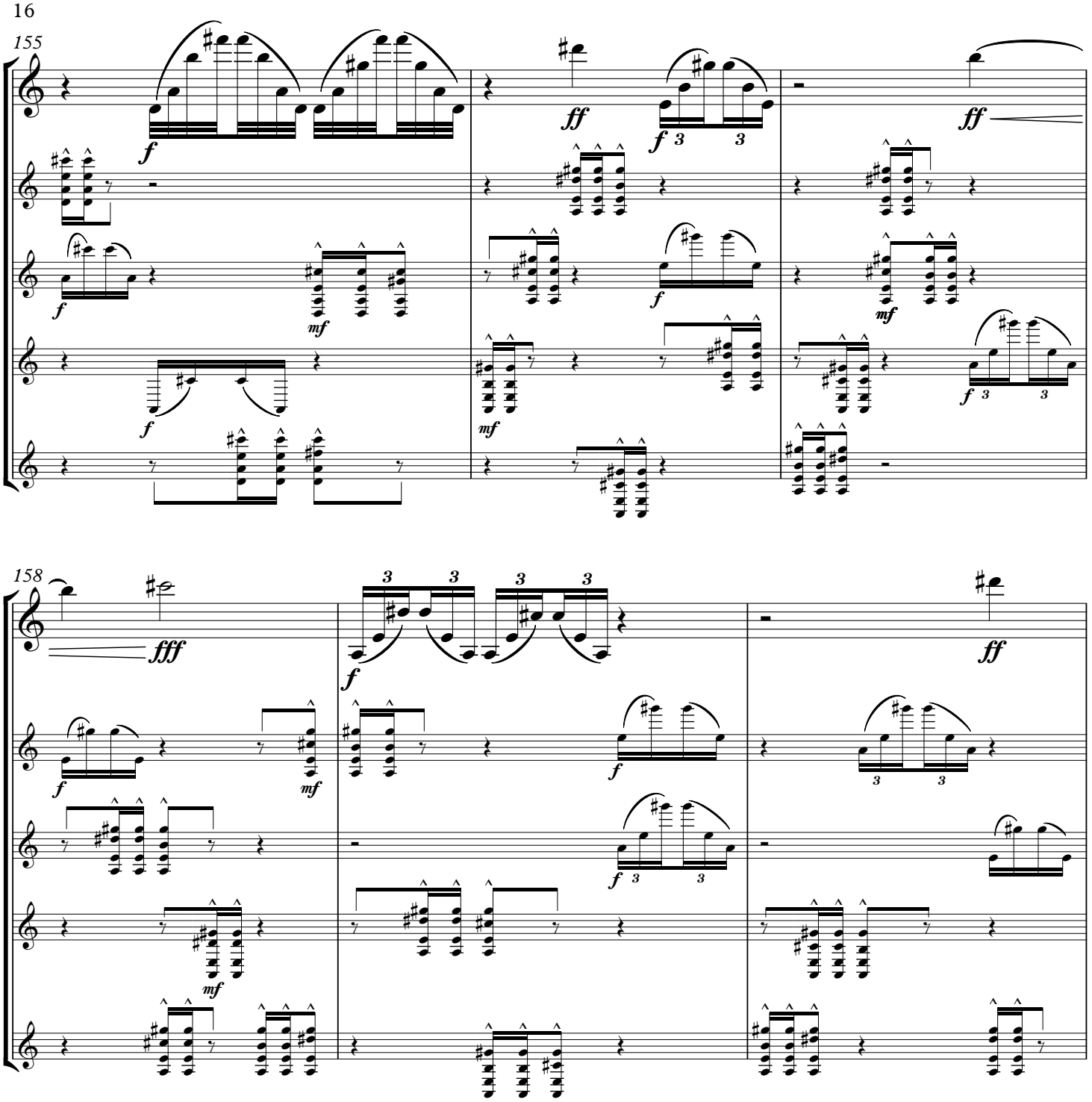
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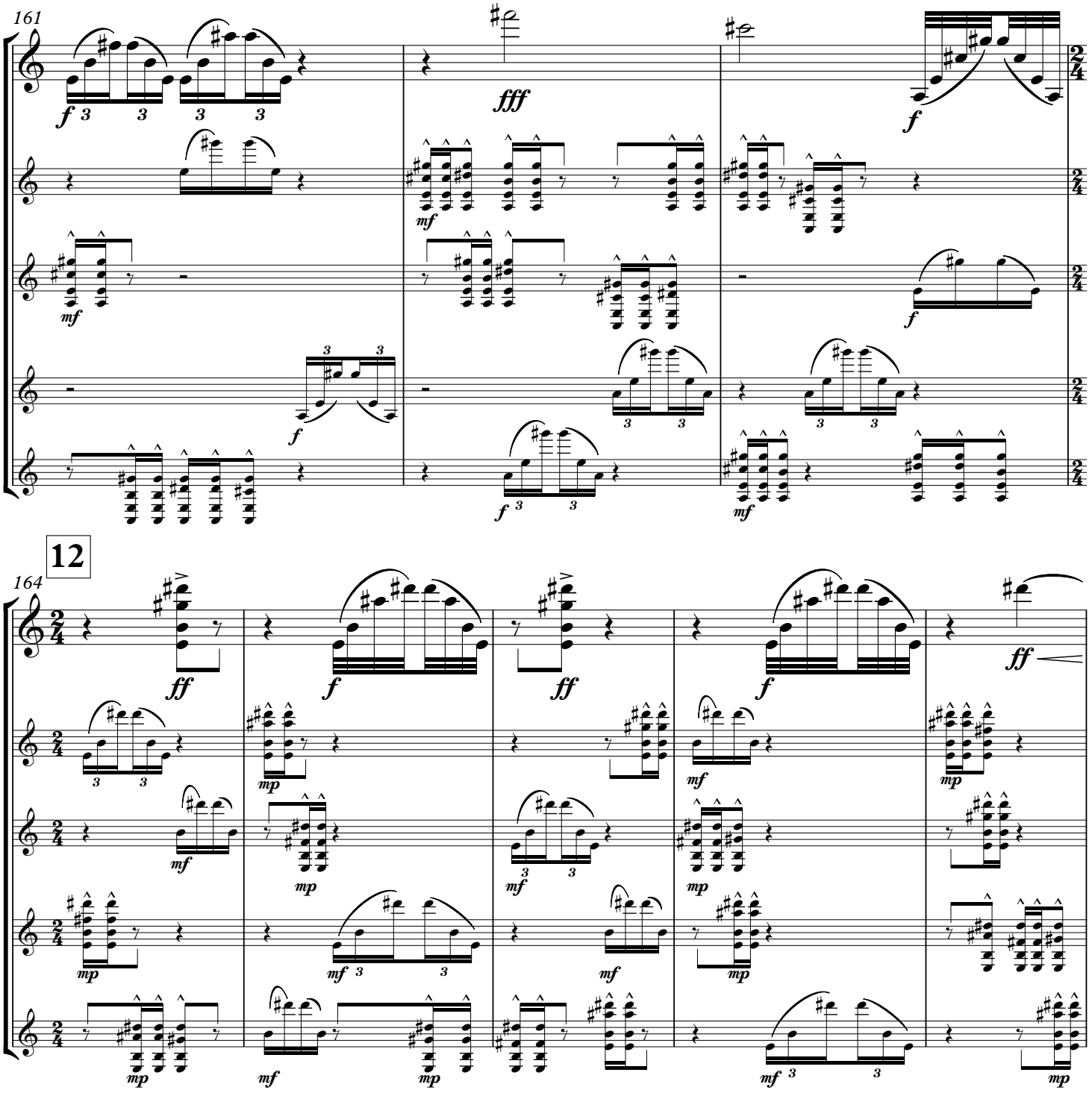
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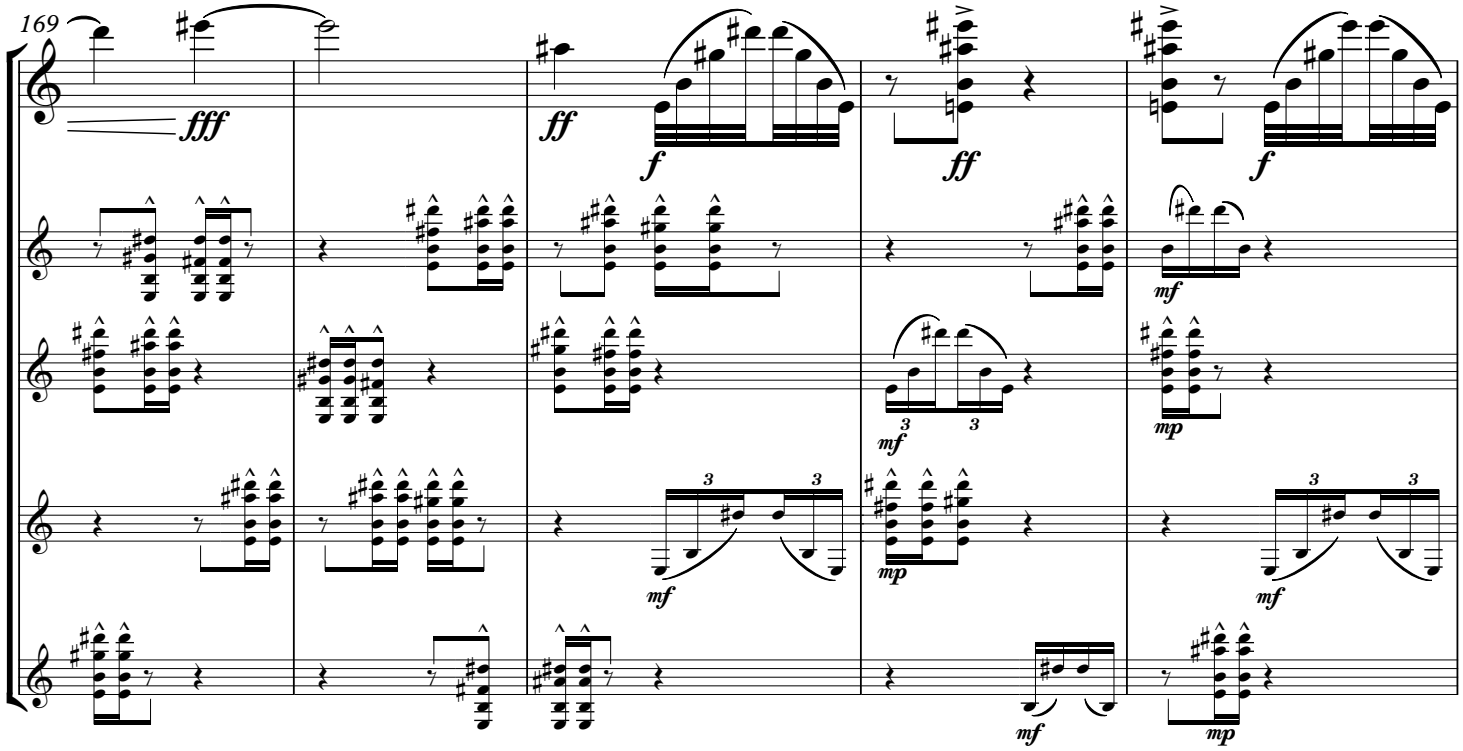
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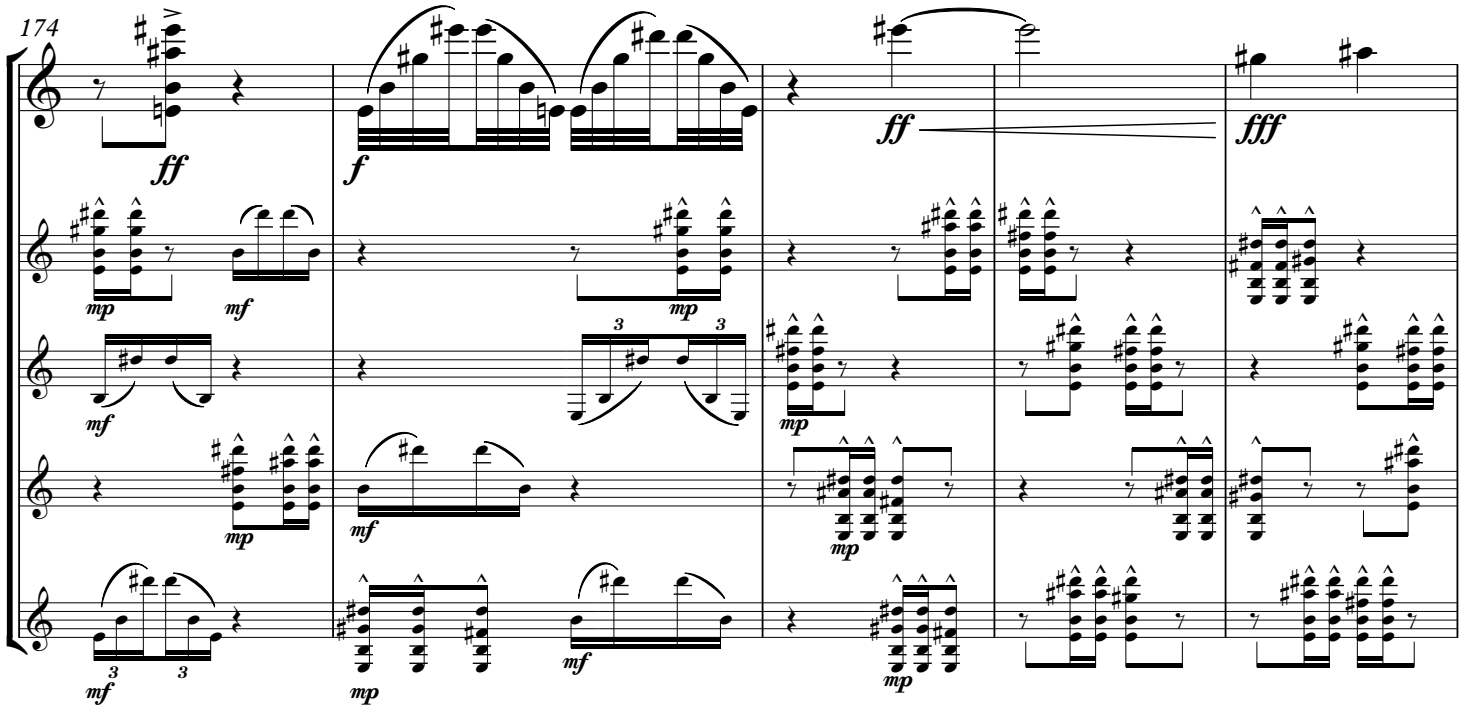
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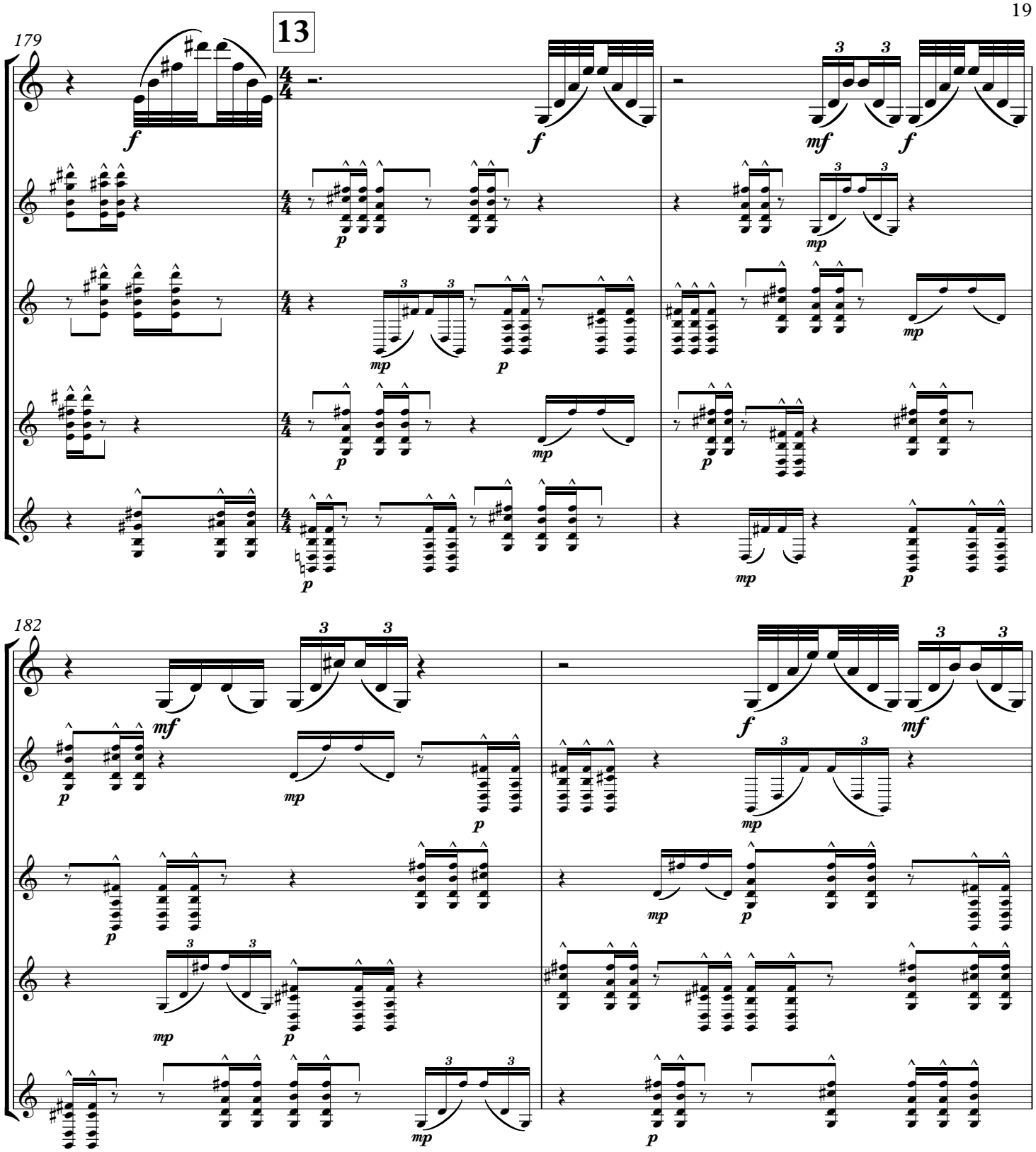
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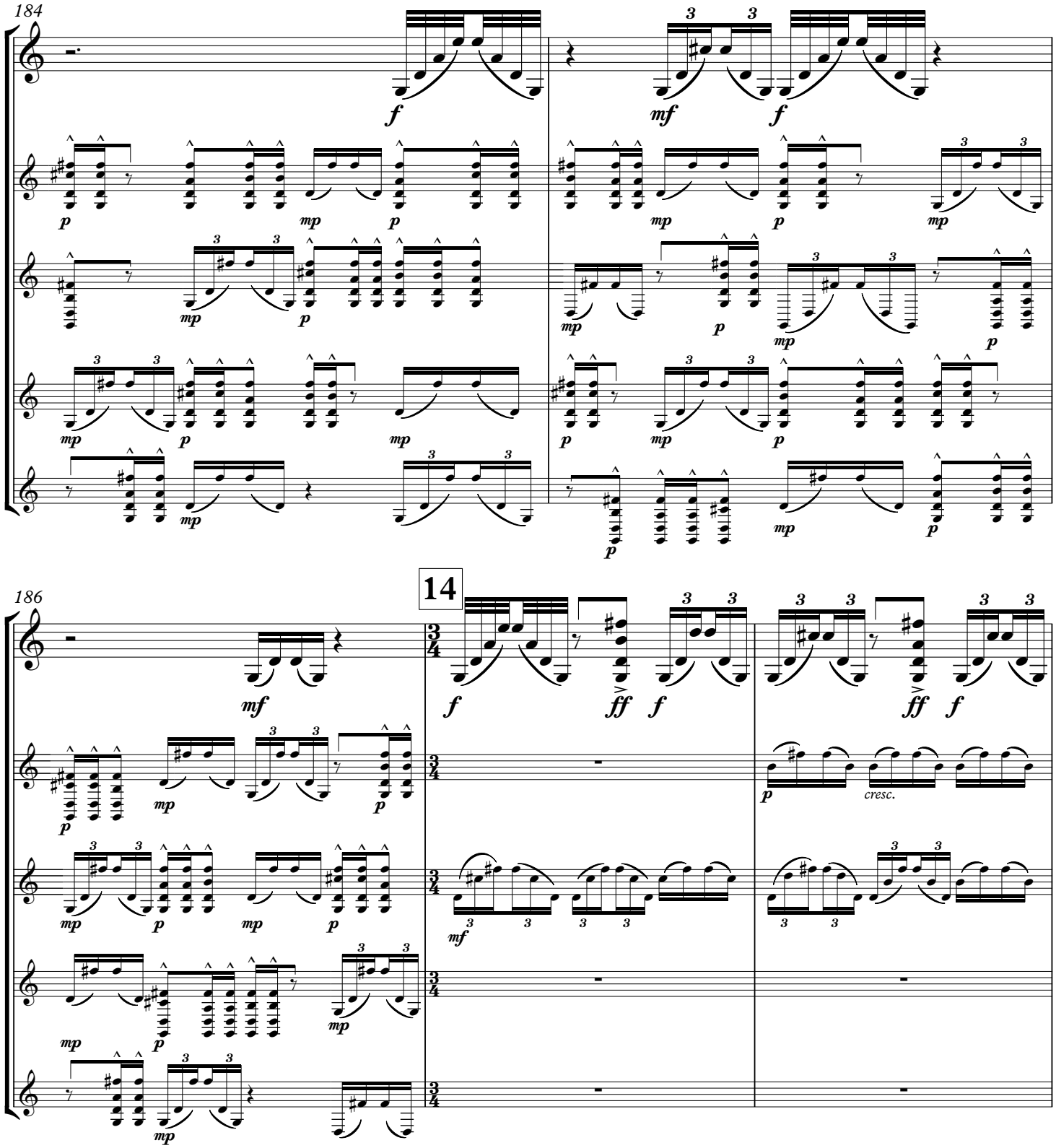
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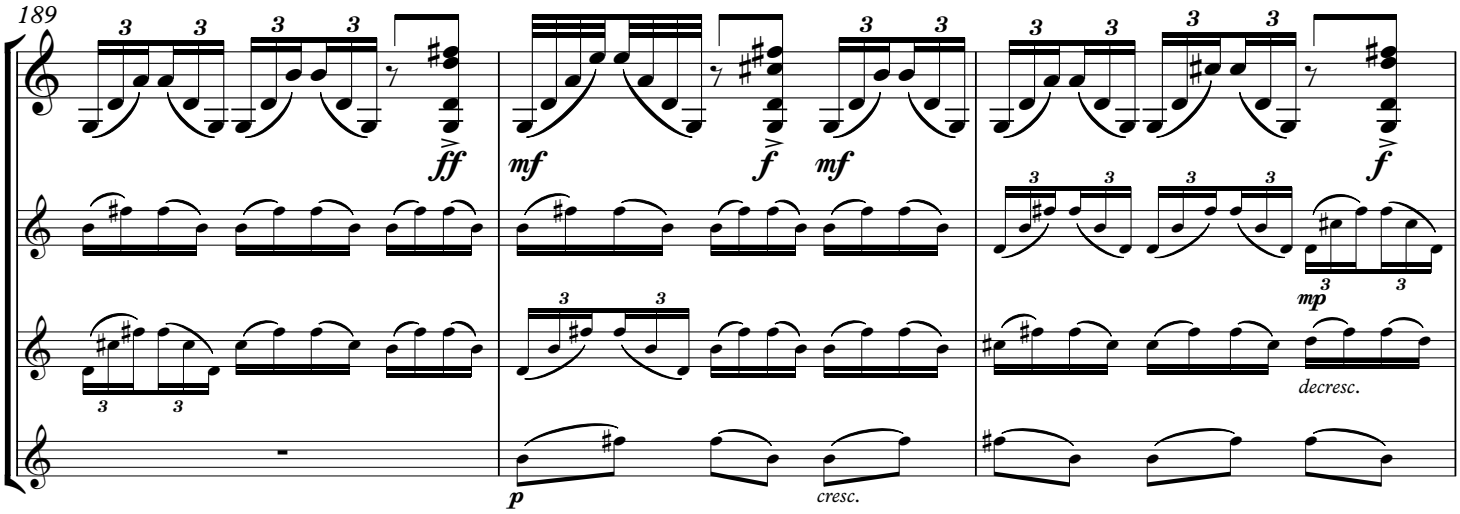
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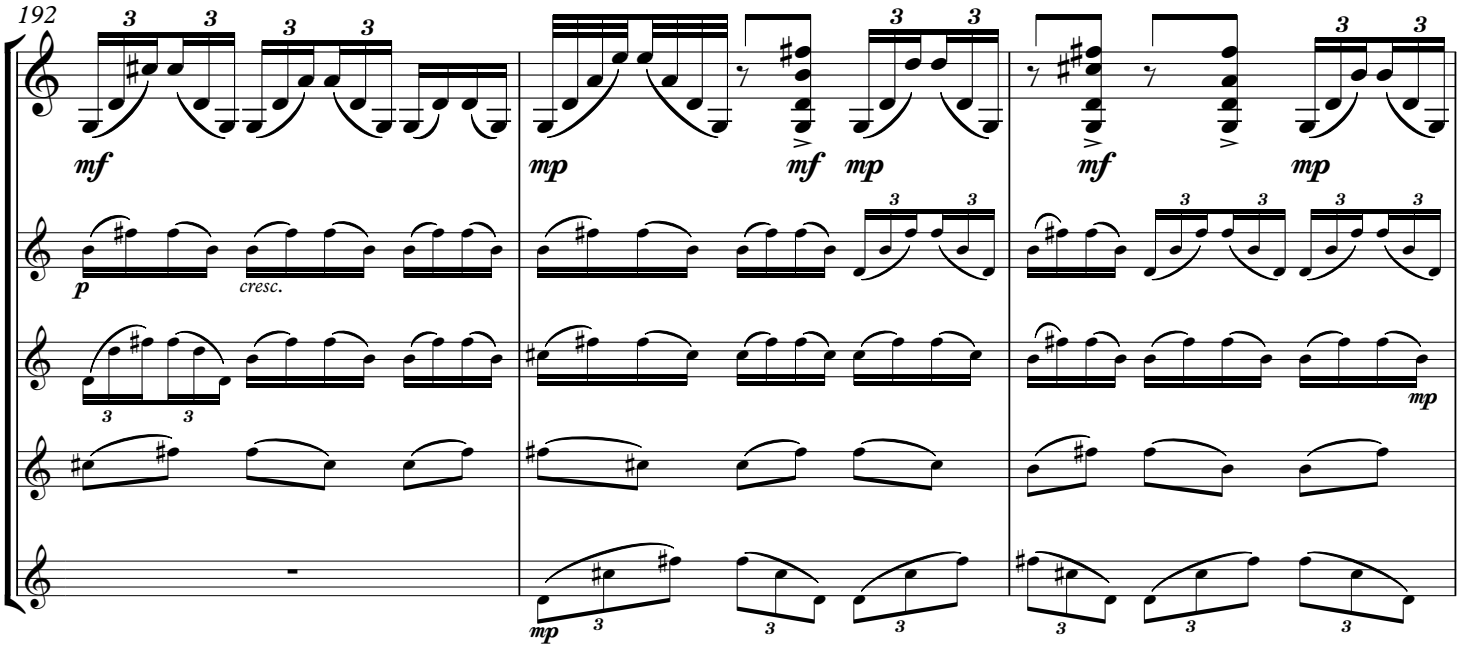
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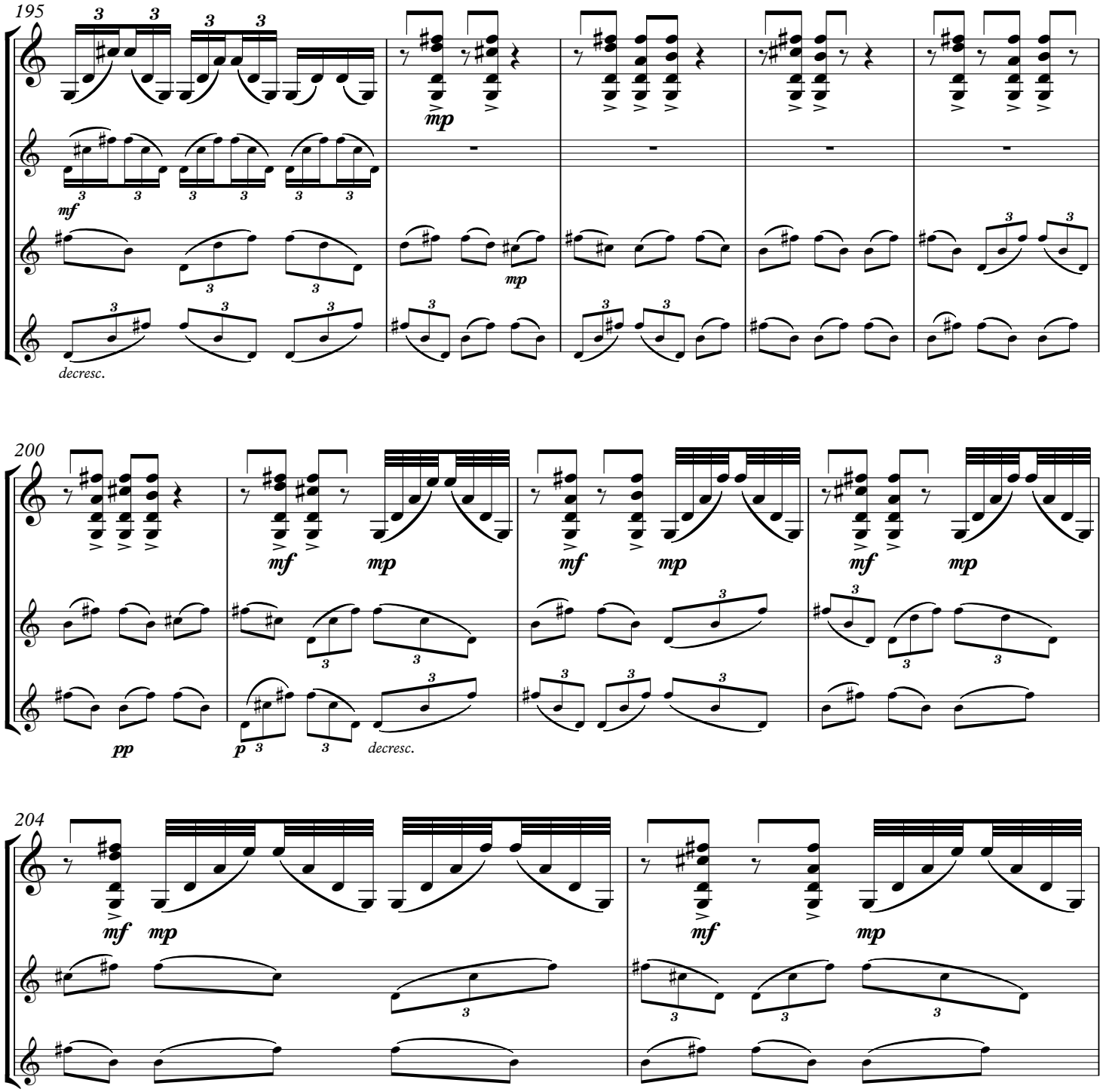
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mp
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mf
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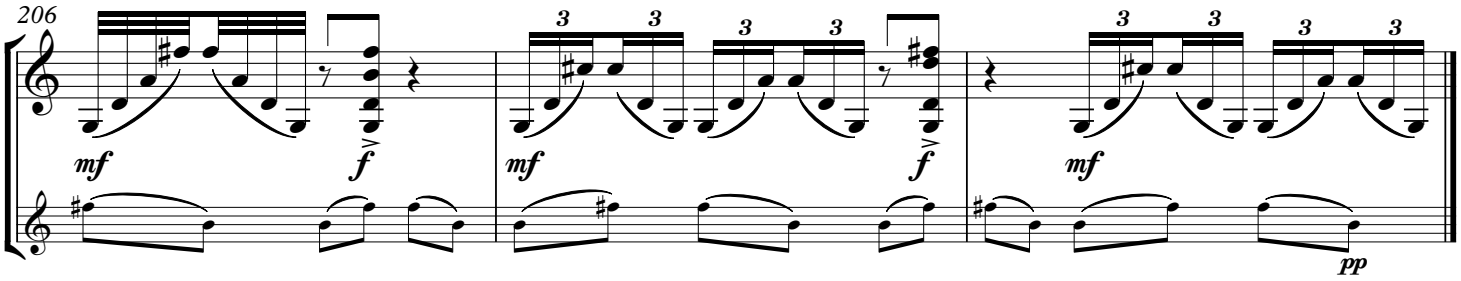
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