Steven Snowden

Traveler No. 65

For Sybarite5

Traveler No. 65

Commissioned for the *2016 ACF National Composition Contest,*
a program of the American Composers Forum.
Premiered by *Sybarite5* on October 22, 2016

Approximate duration: 6 min.

Program Notes

No. 65 was born in French Cameroons. In 1958, he was captured and sold to the US Air Force. Over the next two years, he underwent rigorous training in which his physical and emotional responses to extreme stress were recorded and compared to those of his peers. If his response was correct he was praised. If it was incorrect, electric shocks were administered to the soles of his feet. No. 65 performed exceptionally well and was the top candidate in his class.

On January 31, 1961, he was strapped into a small capsule and fitted with dozens of sub dermal sensors to constantly measure his physical condition. This capsule was secured to the top of a 2,562 lb. rocket that launched him 160 miles above the Atlantic Ocean at a top speed of 5,857 miles per hour. His heart rate rose to nearly three times its normal resting rate. After experiencing 7 minutes of weightlessness, his capsule re-entered the earth's atmosphere and eventually splashed down 422 miles off the coast of Florida.

By the time rescue helicopters arrived, the capsule had taken on 96 gallons of seawater as a result of damage sustained during re-entry. No. 65 was recovered alive. Physiological data suggested that he was under extreme duress for the majority of the journey and recovery process, but he completed his tasks as instructed. Expert behavioral analysis confirmed this, adding that he suffered severe bouts of anxiety and fear on his mission. He died of natural causes in 1983 and his remains can now be found in a drawer in the US National Museum of Health and Medicine in Silver Spring, MD.

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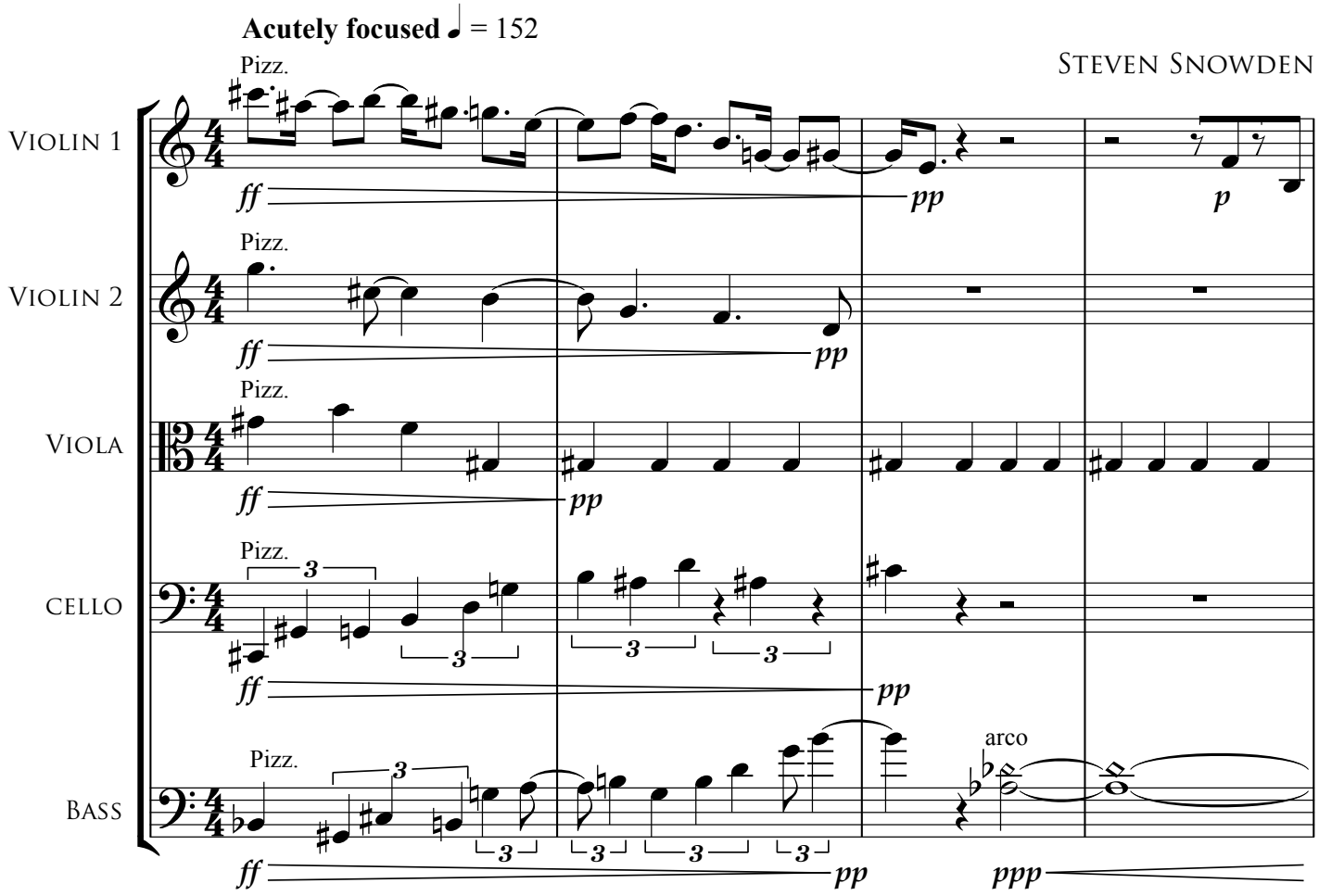
Traveler No. 65

For Sybarite5



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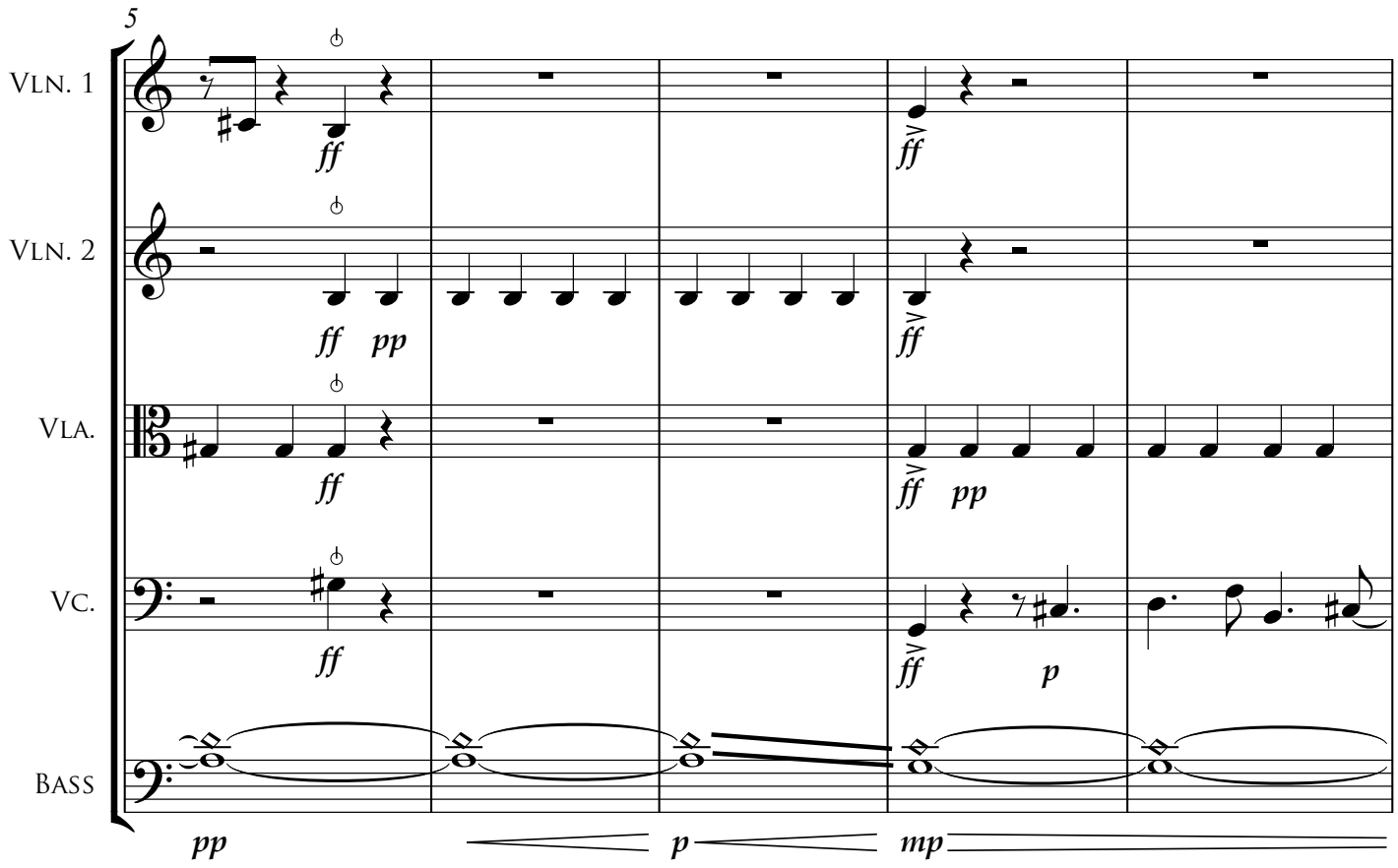
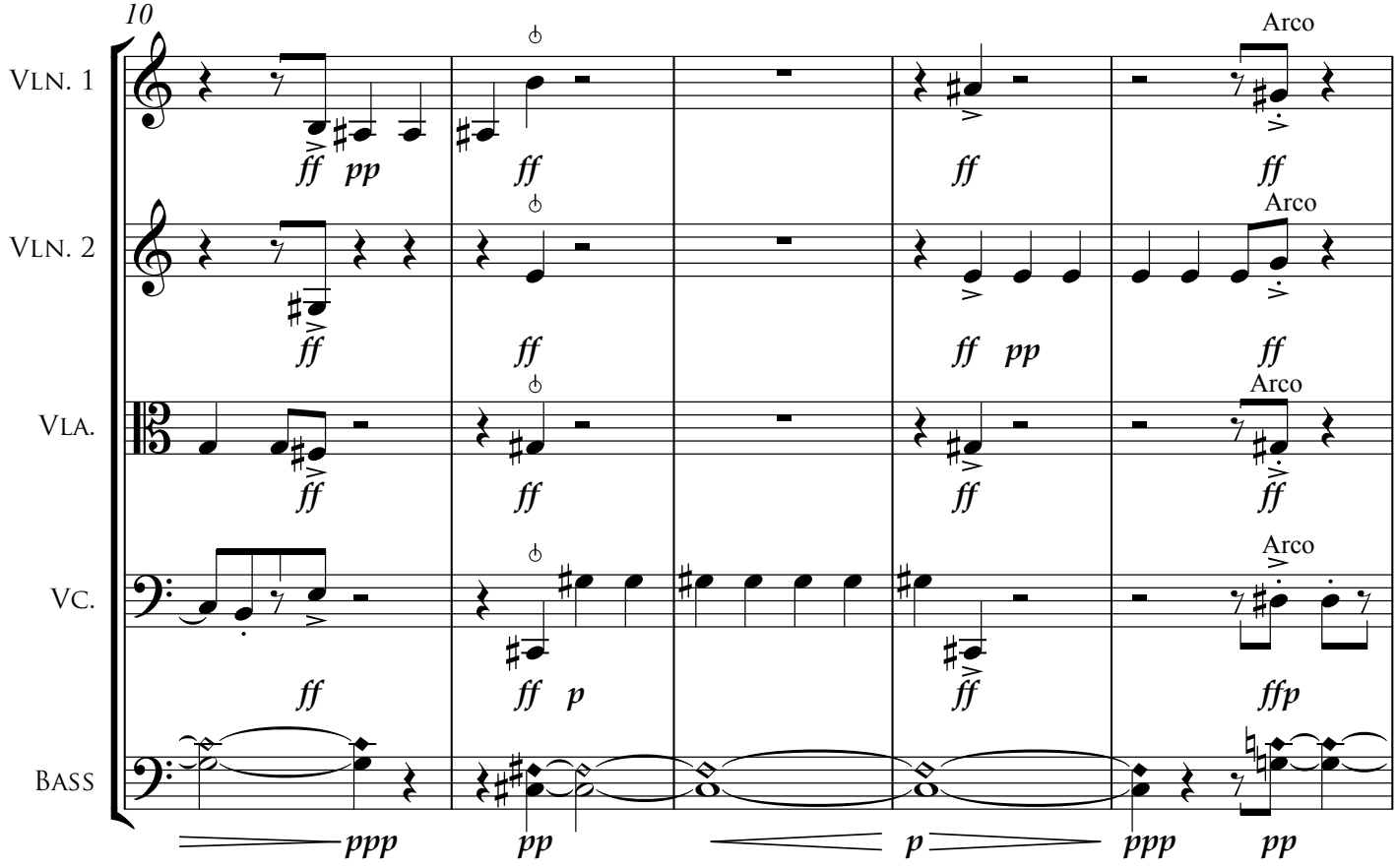

5
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ff
pp
mp
p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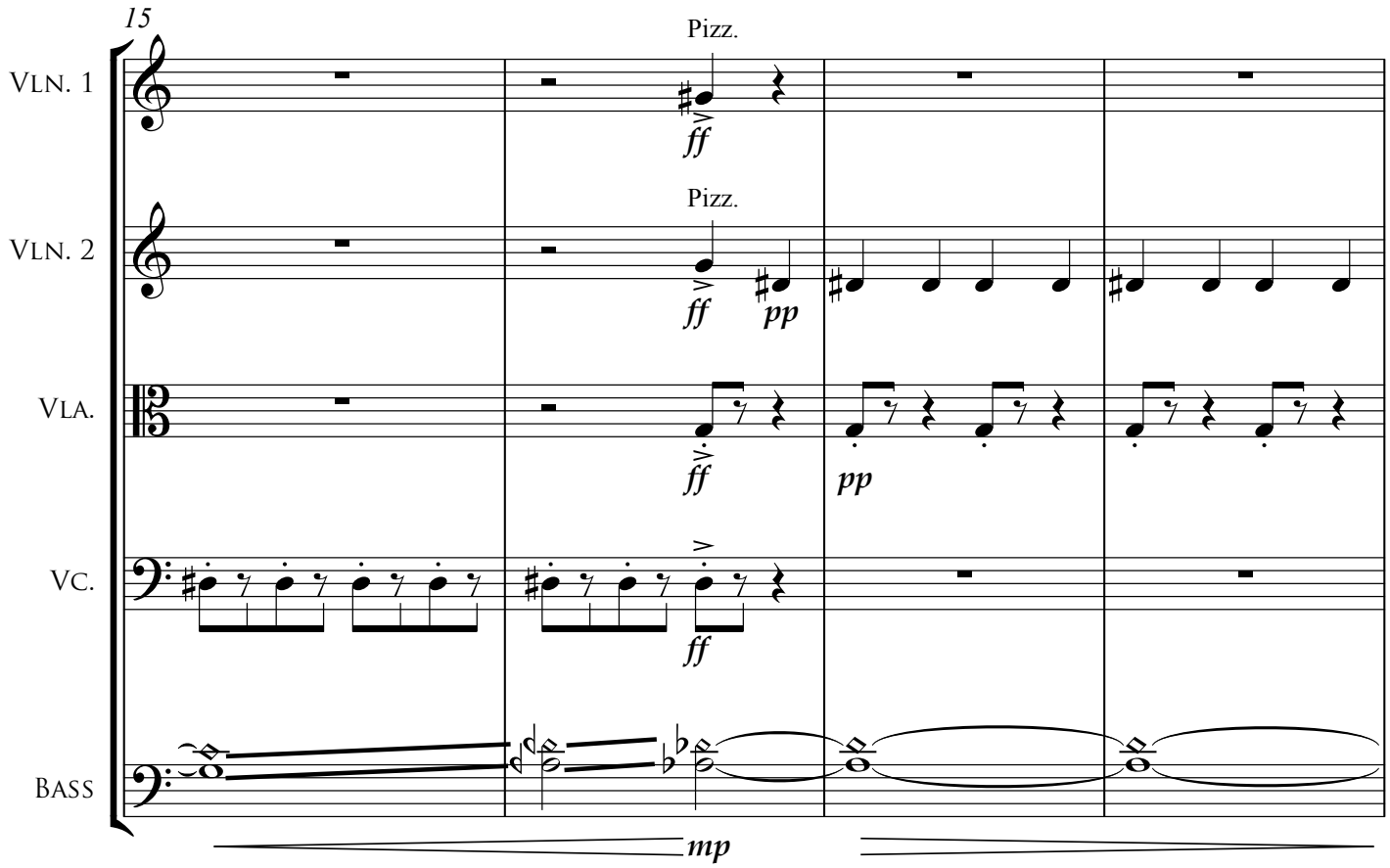
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
Arco
ff
pp
ppp
ffp
p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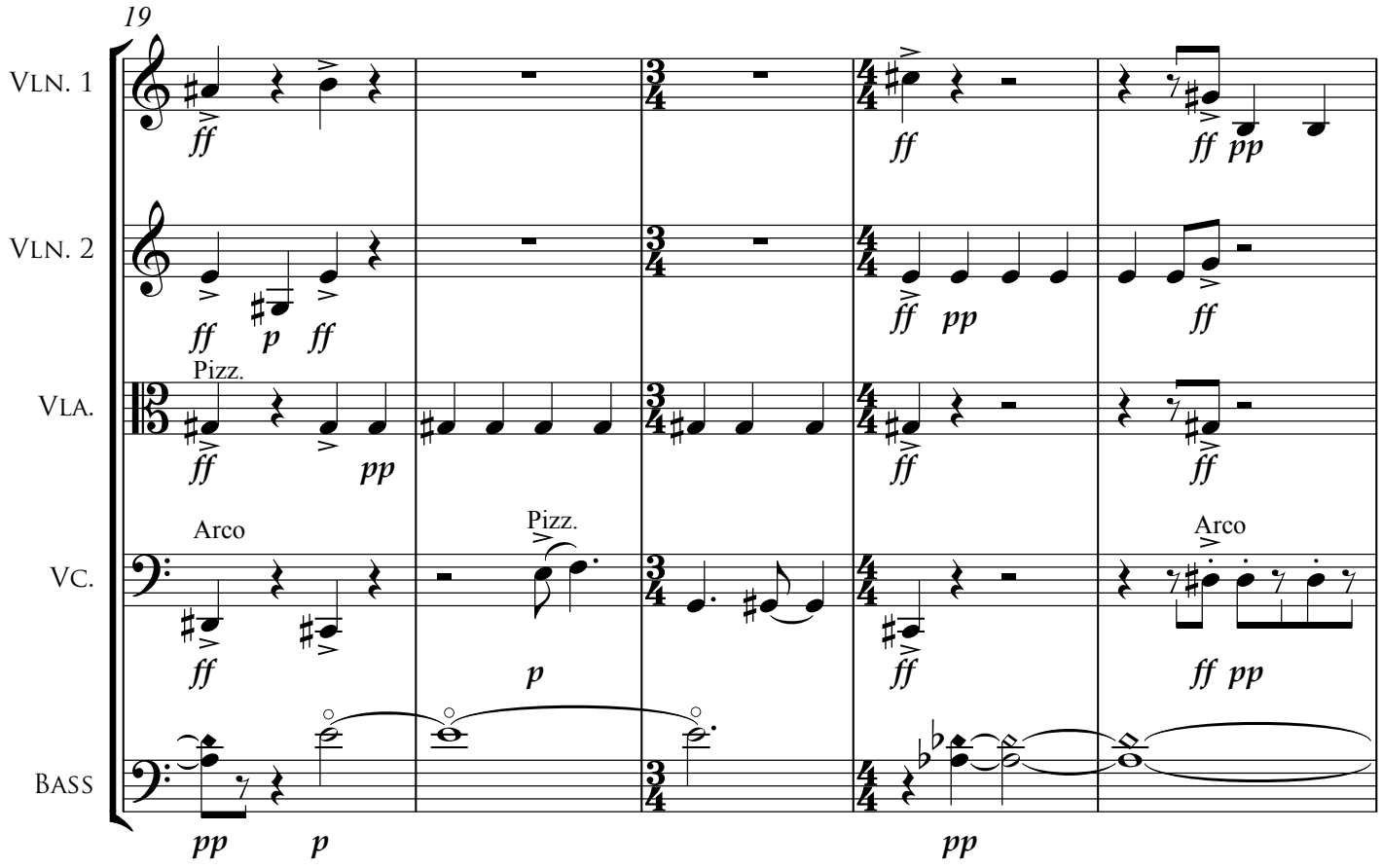
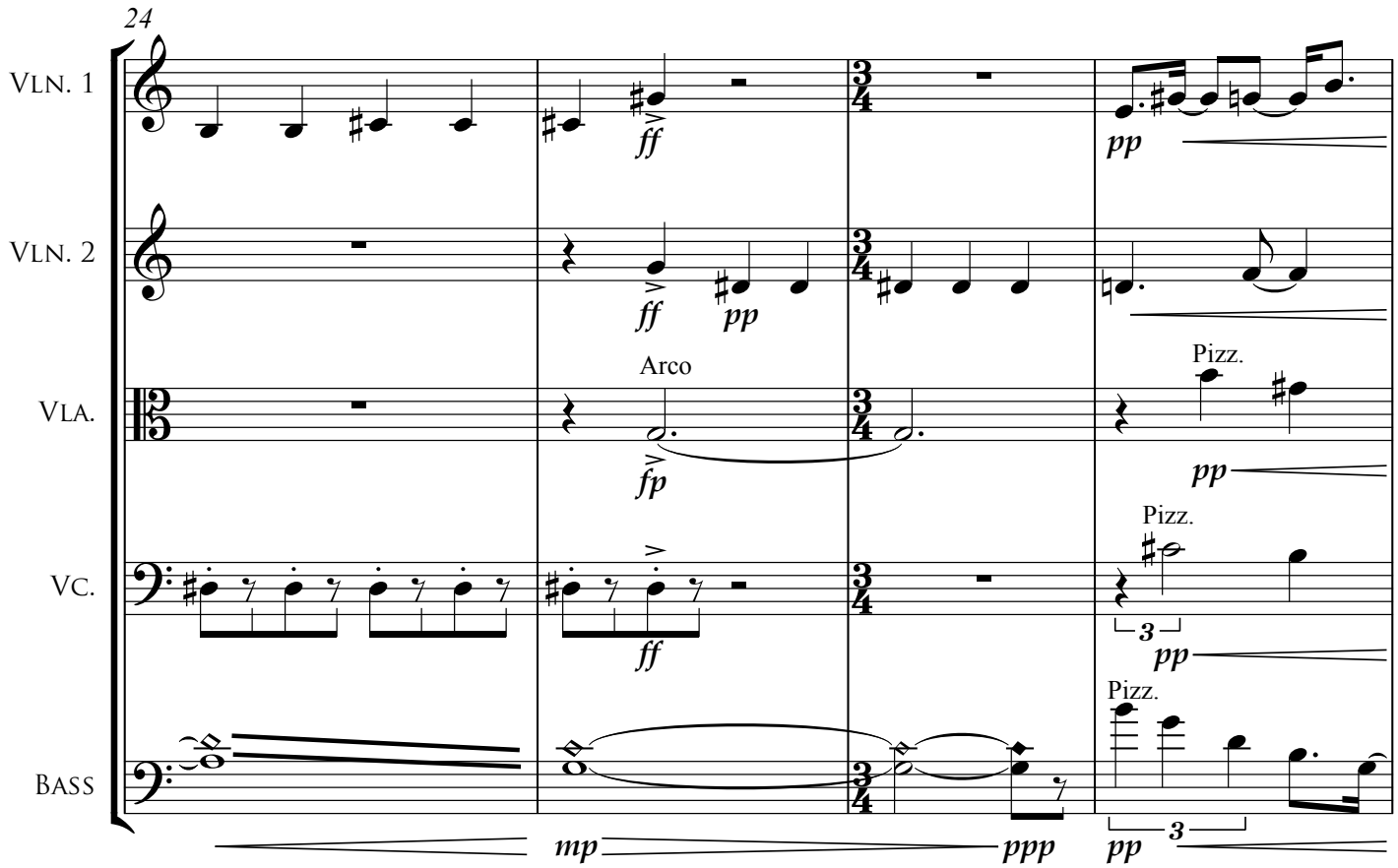
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
Pizz.
Pizz.
ff
ff pp
ff
pp
ff
mp


19
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
Pizz.
Arco
Pizz.
Arco
ff
ff pp
p
ff
pp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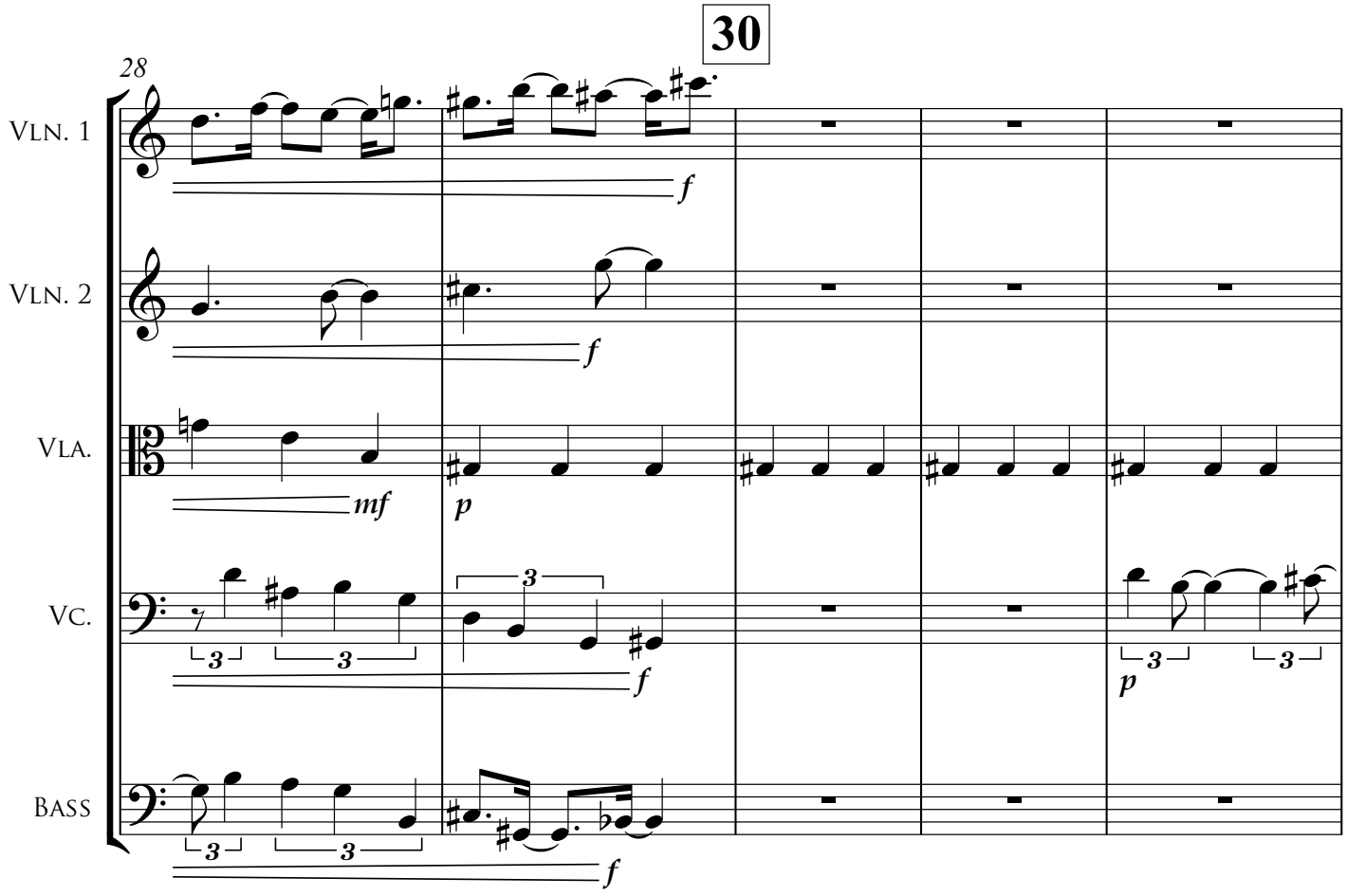
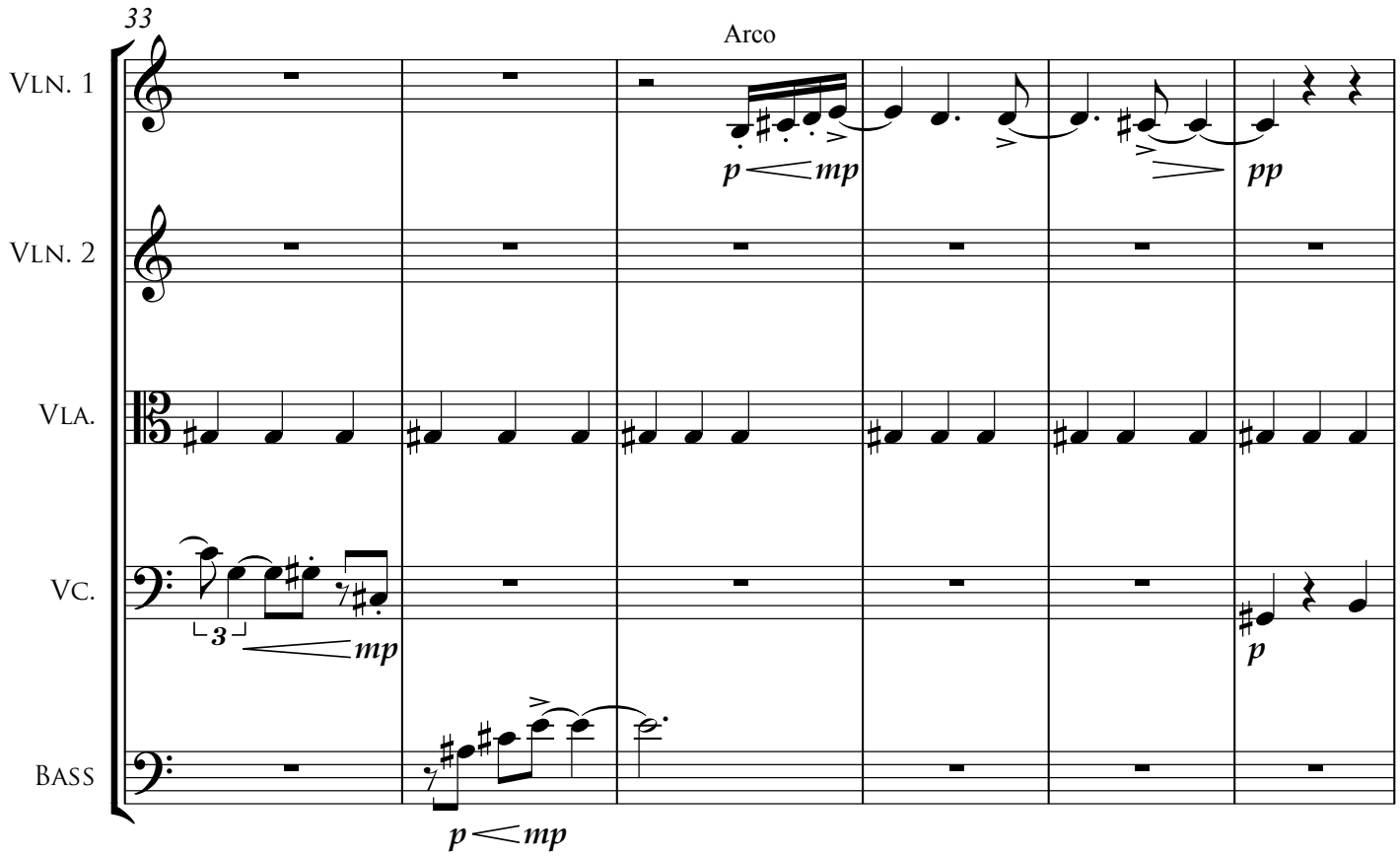
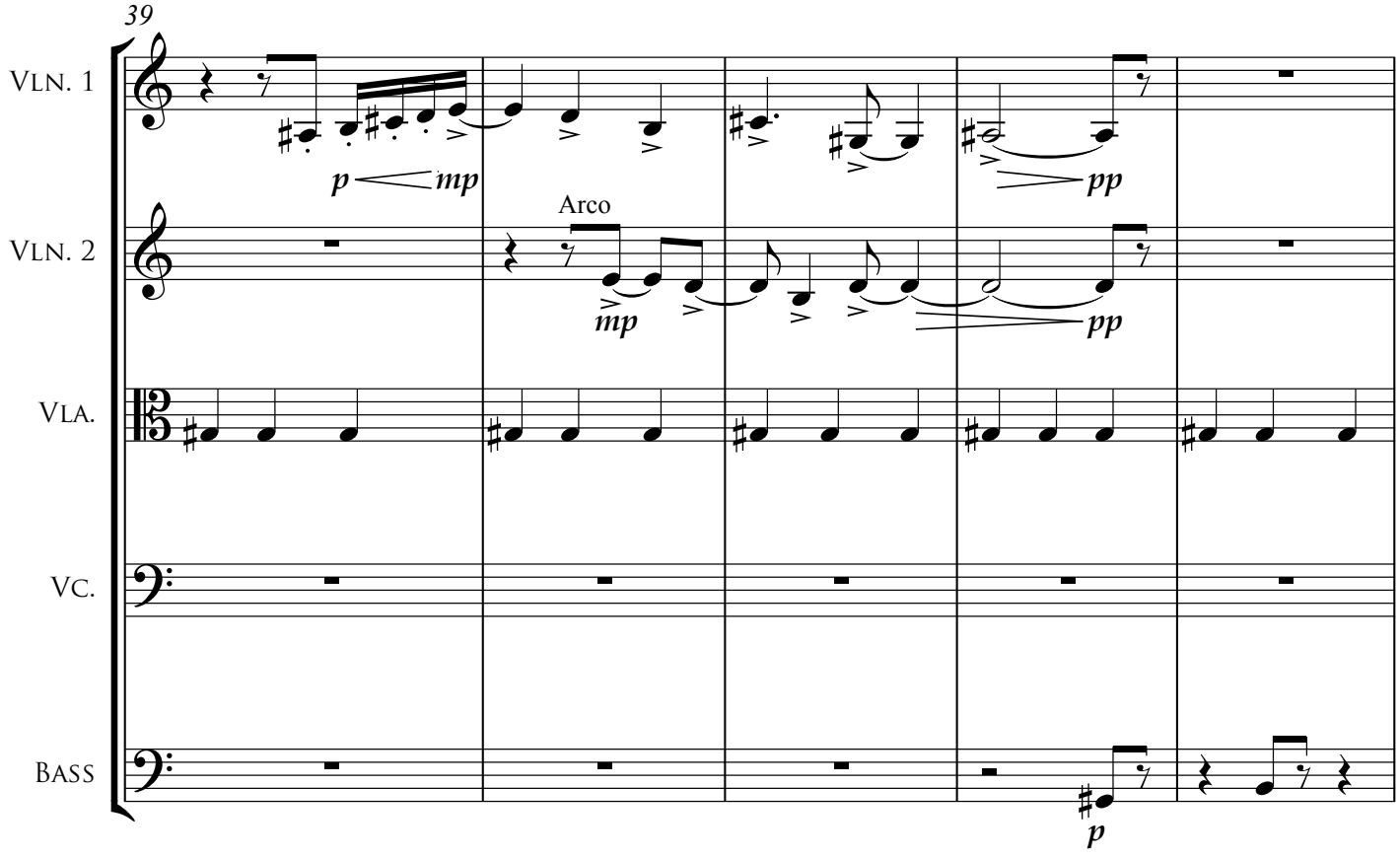
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ff
pp
Arco
fp
Pizz.
mp
ppp


30
28
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
f
mf
p


33
Arco
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
p mp
pp
3
mp
p
p mp


39
Vln. 1
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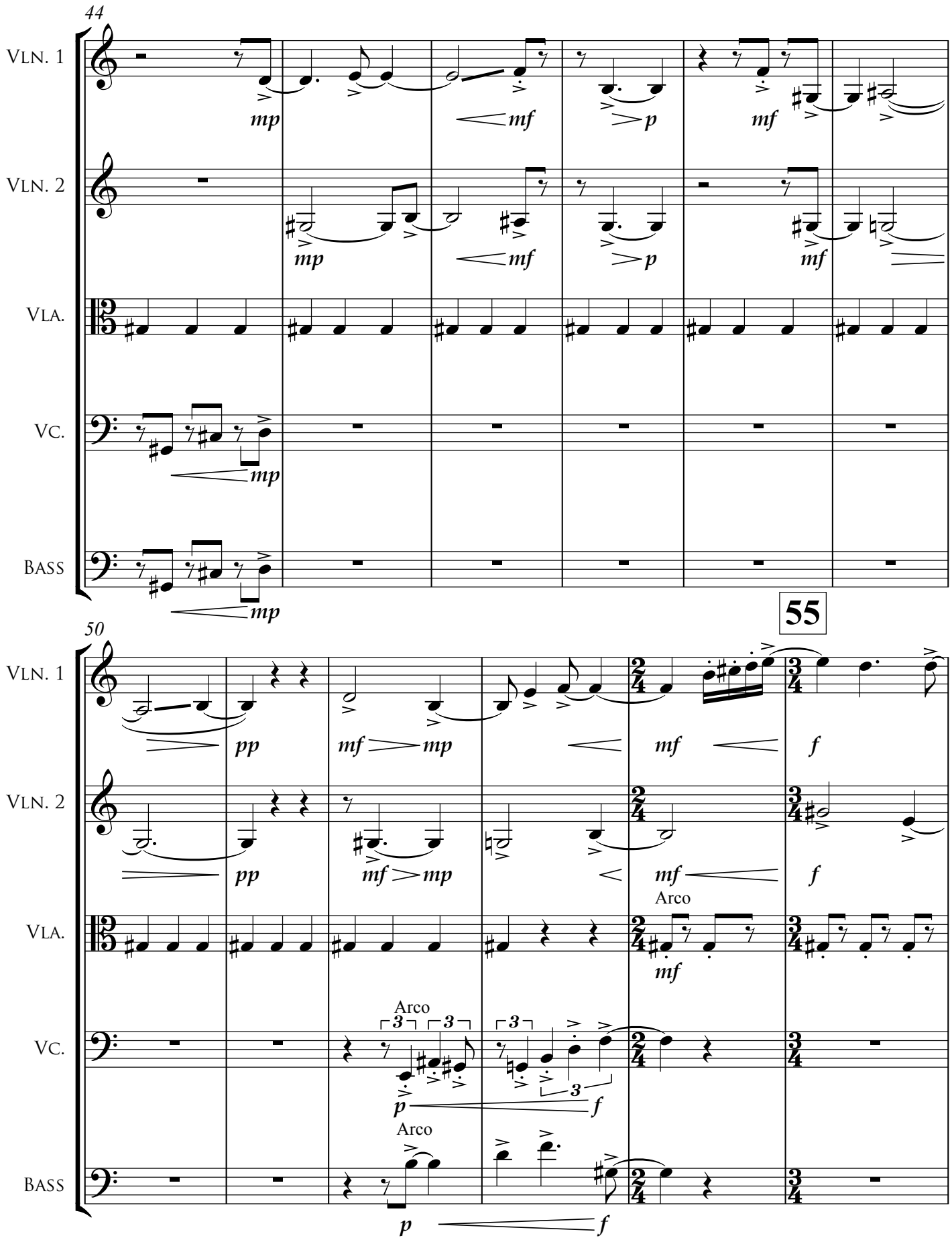
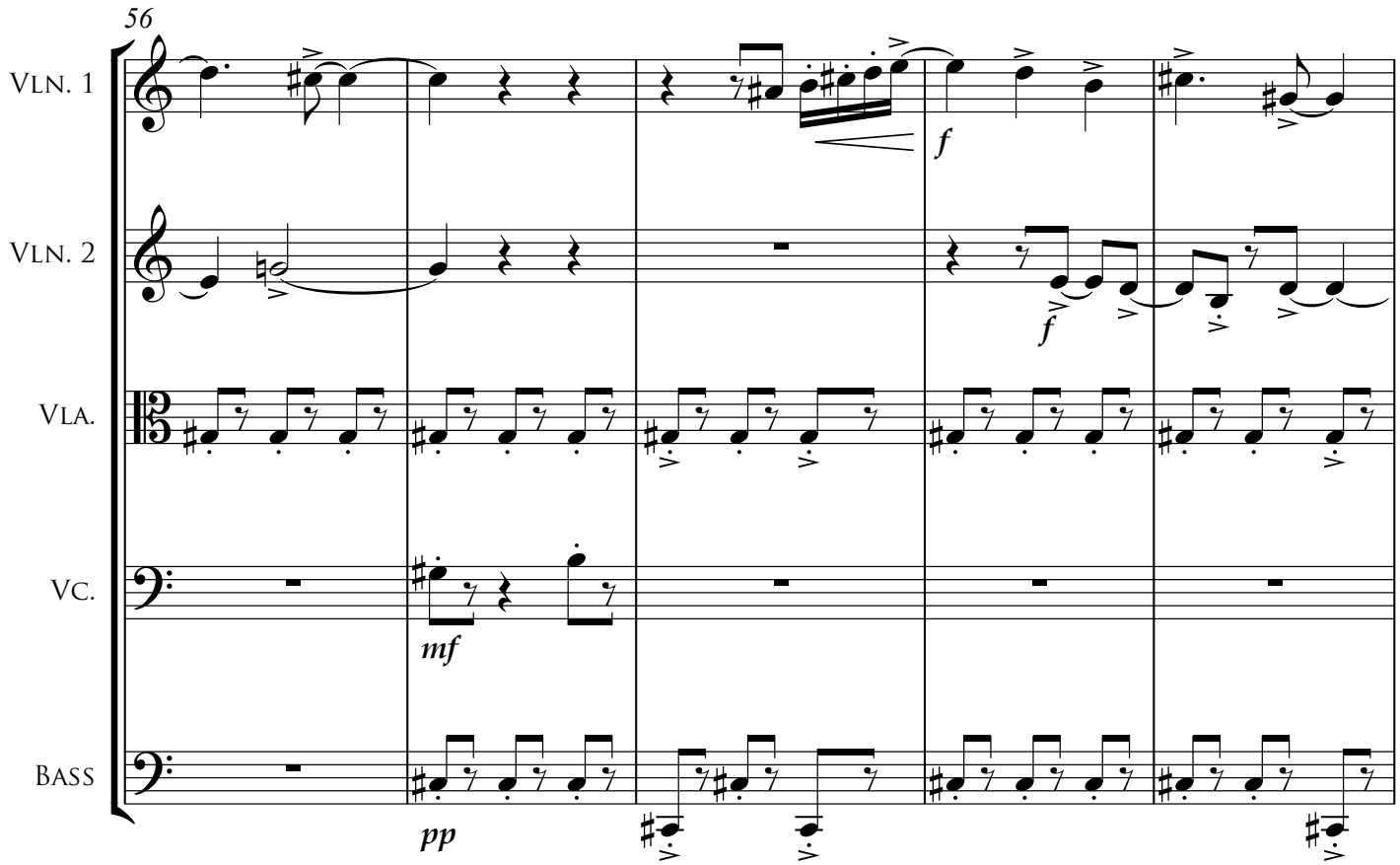
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
p mp
Arco
mp
pp
pp
p


44
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
mp
mf
p
mf
mp
mf
p
mf
mp
55
50
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
pp
mf
mp
mf
f
pp
mf
mp
mf
f
Arco
mf
Arco
3
3
3
p
f
Arco
p
f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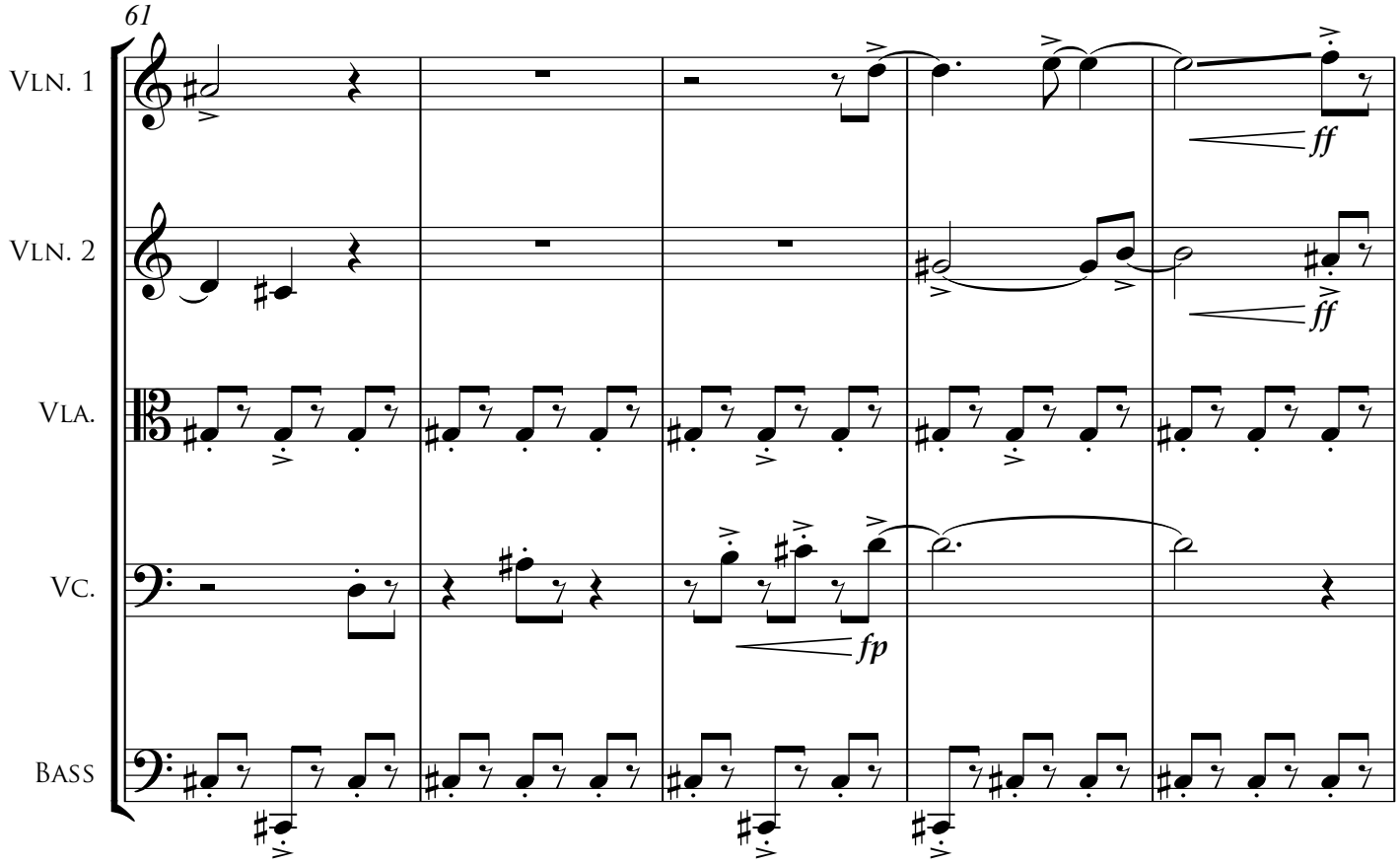
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
f
f
mf
pp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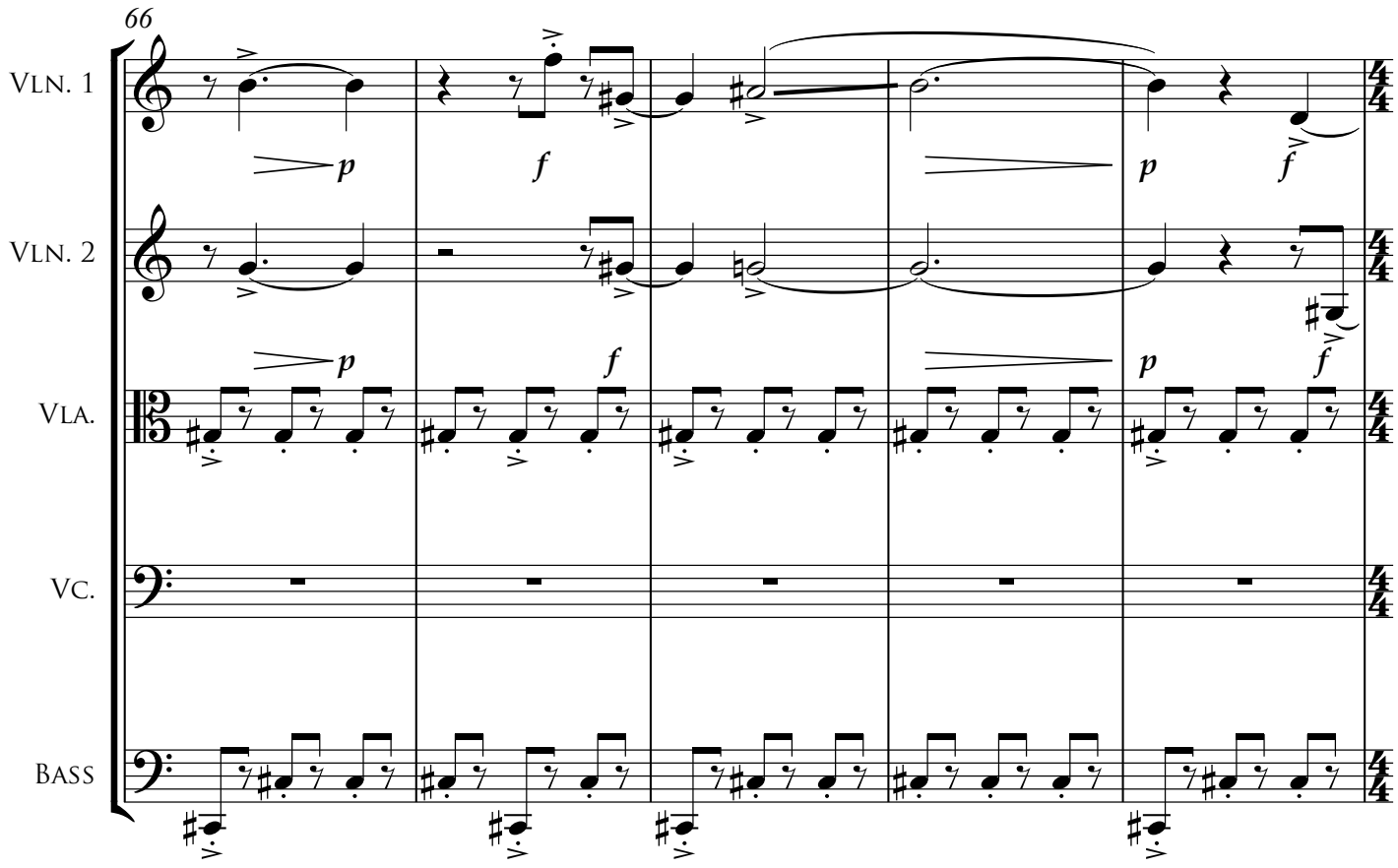
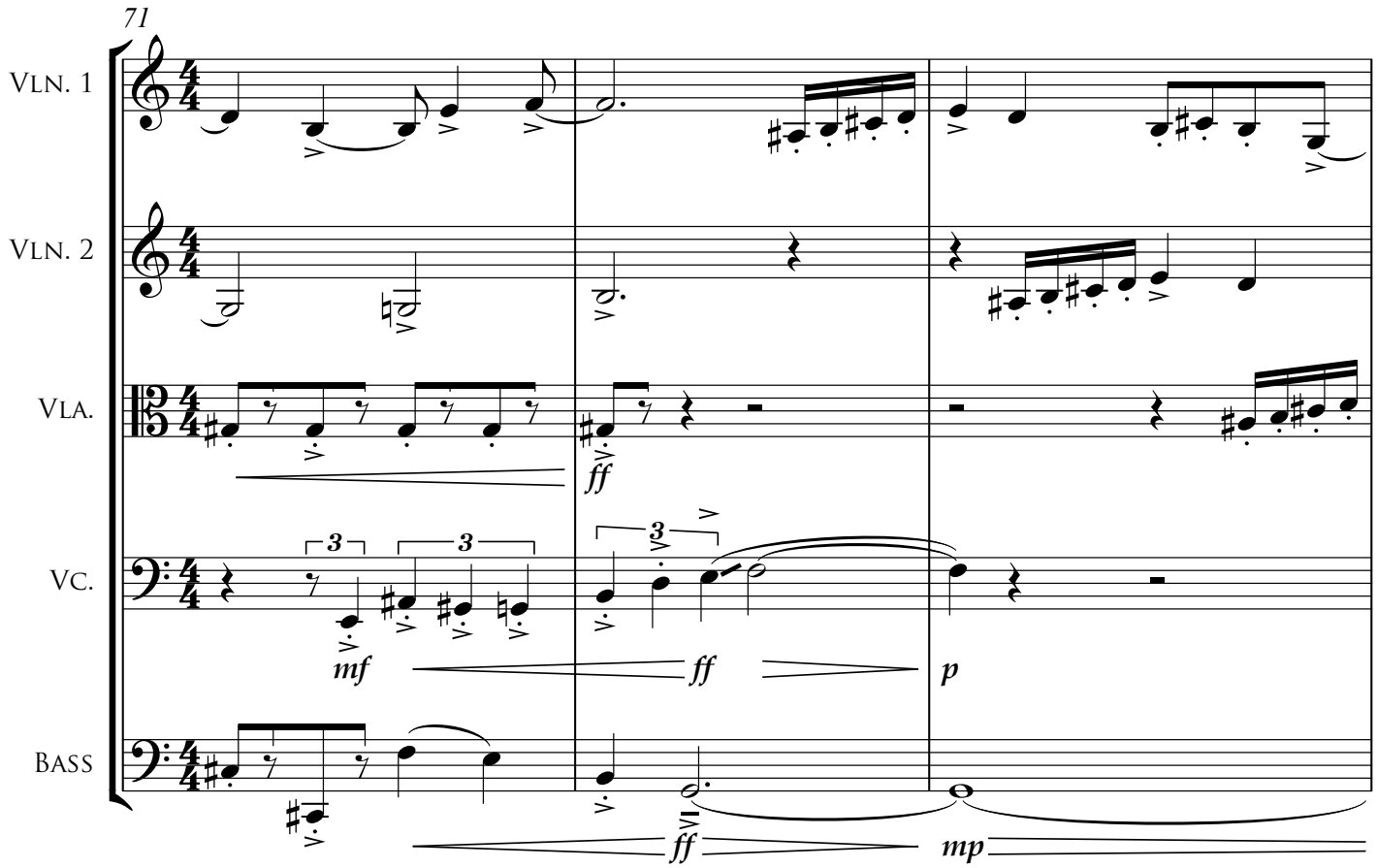
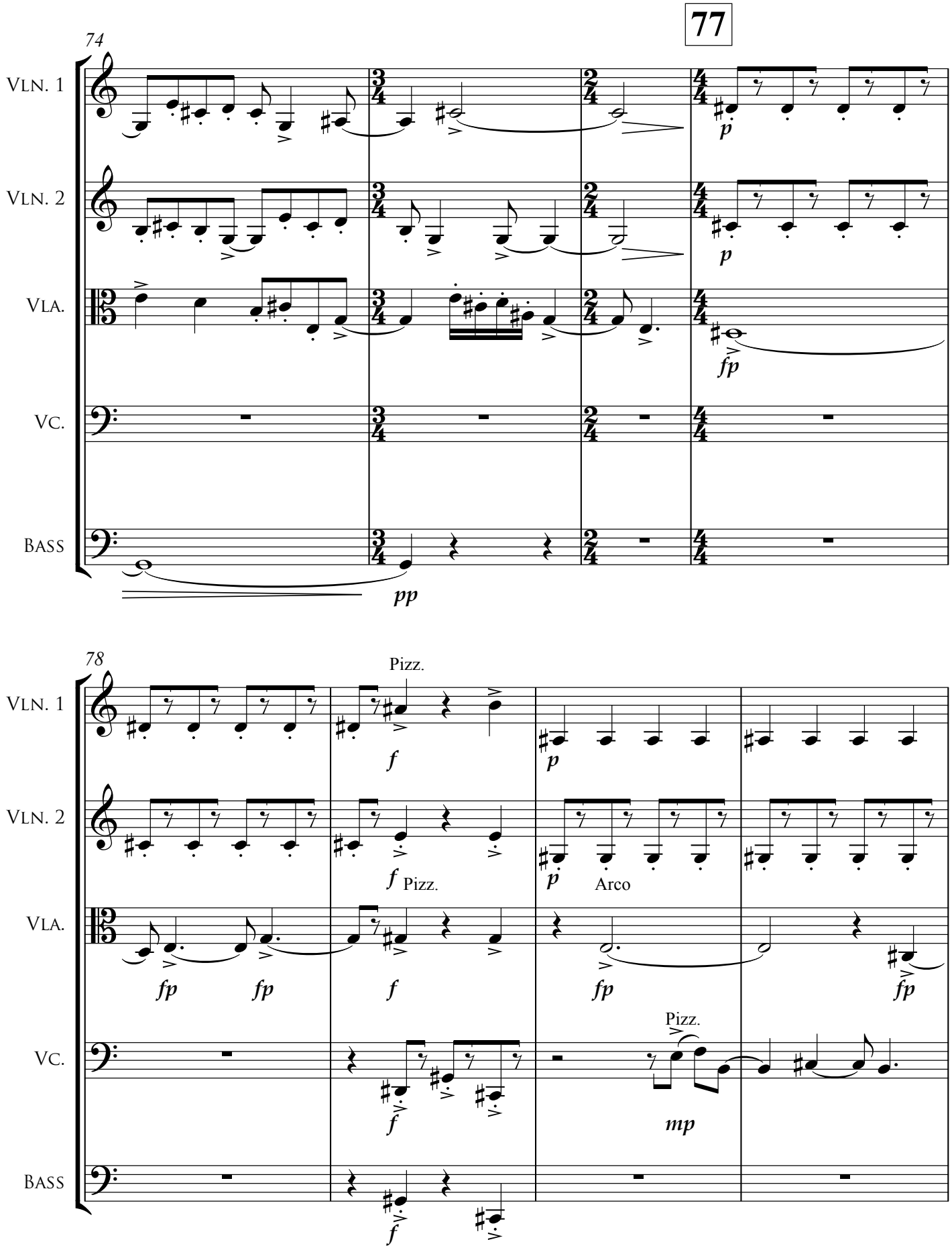
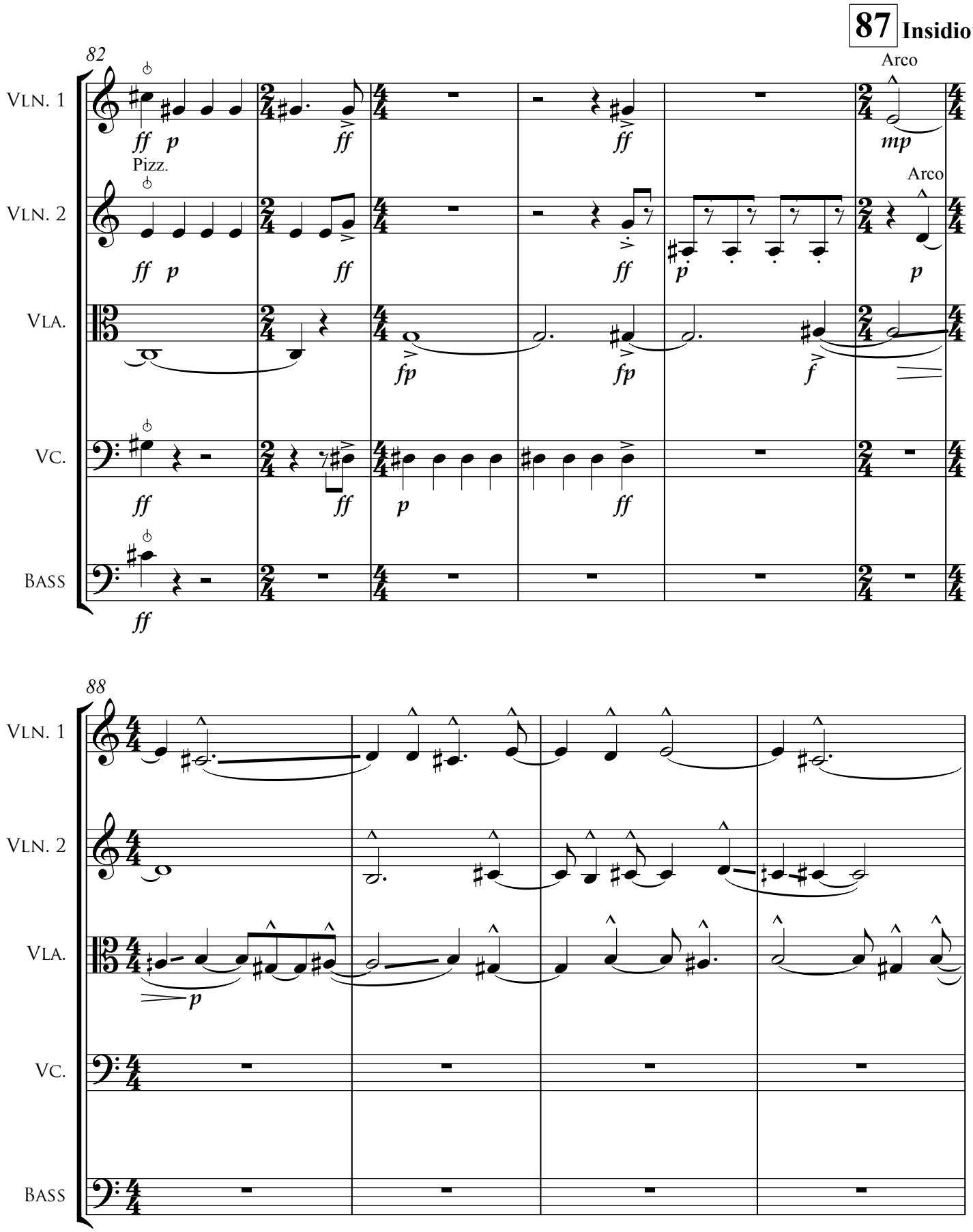
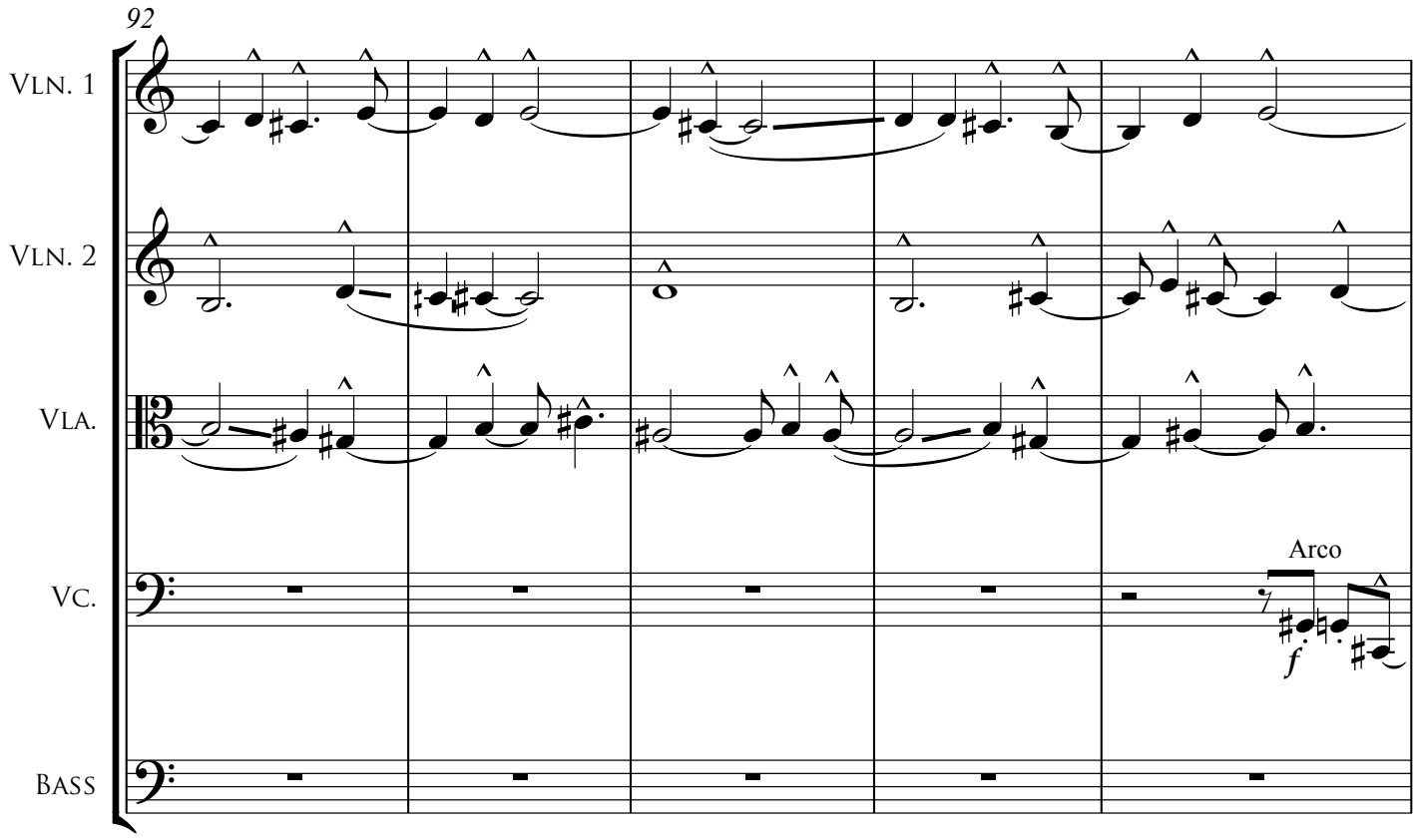
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ff
ff
fp


66
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
p
f
p
f


71
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ff
3
3
3
mf
ff
p
ff
mp


77
74
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
p
p
fp
pp
78
Pizz.
f
p
f
Pizz.
p
Arco
fp
fp
f
fp
fp
Pizz.
f
mp
f


87 Insidious, serp
82
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
Pizz.
Arco
Arco
ff p
ff
ff
mp
ff p
ff
ff
p
p
fp
fp
f
ff
ff
p
ff
ff
88
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
p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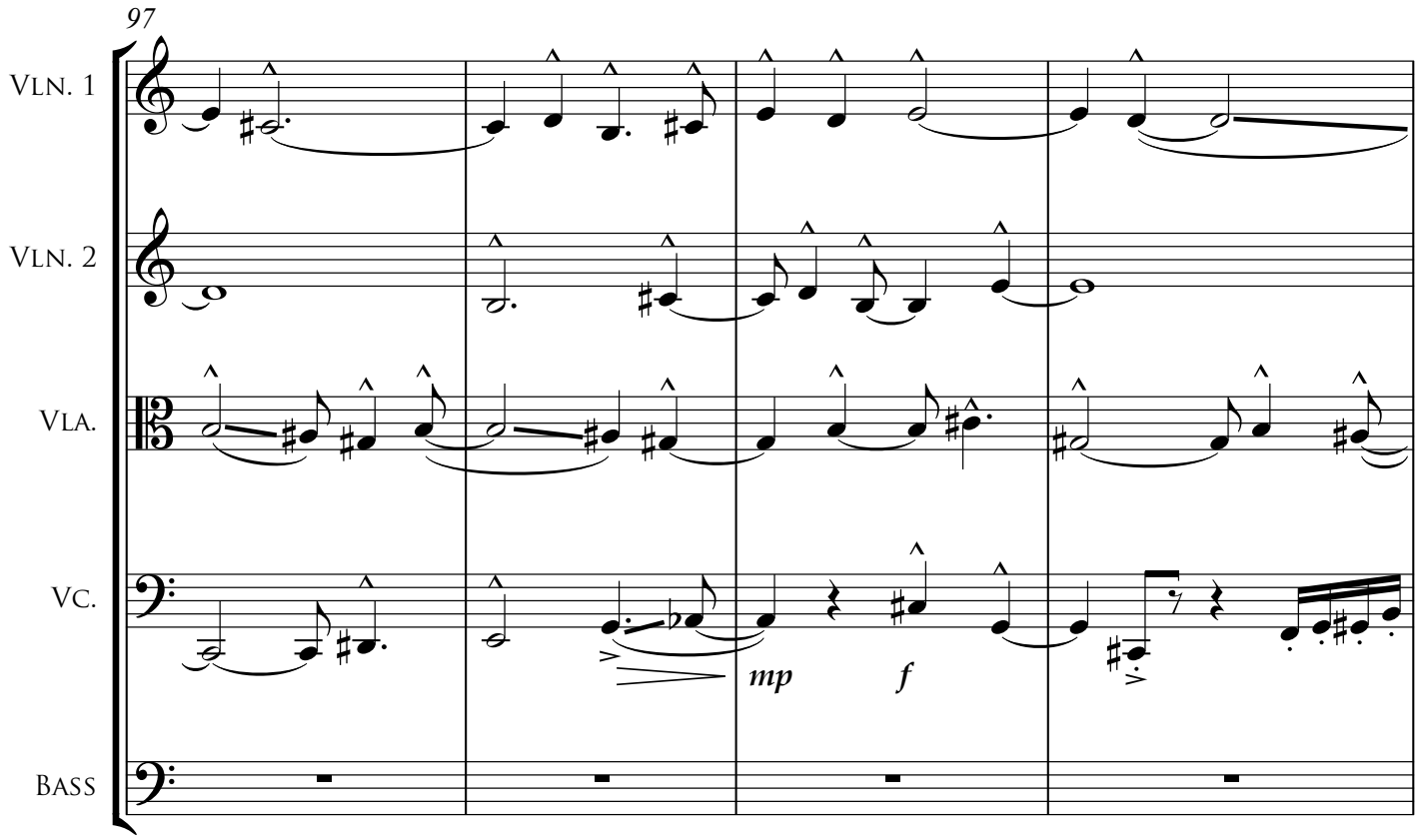
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
Arco
f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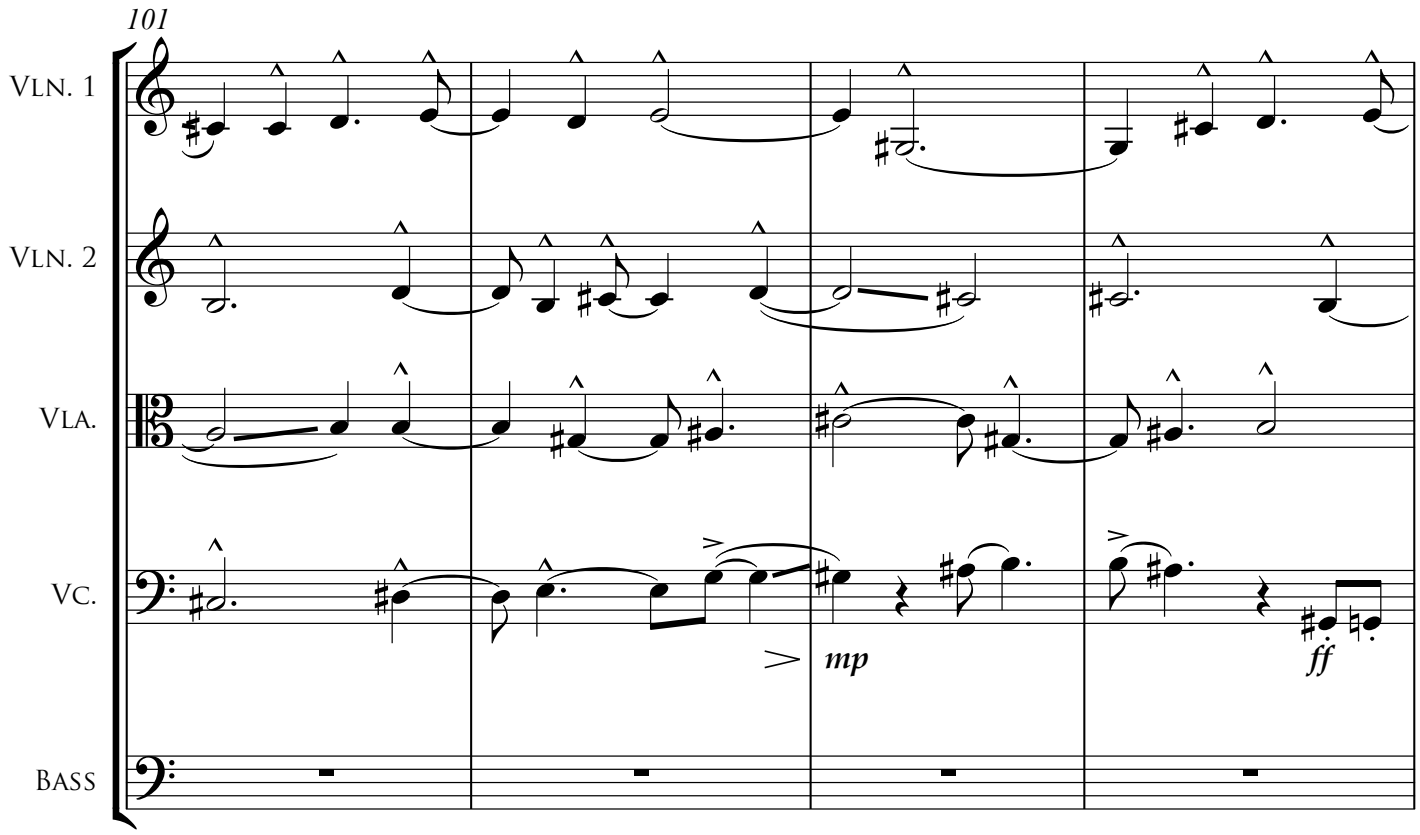
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
mp
f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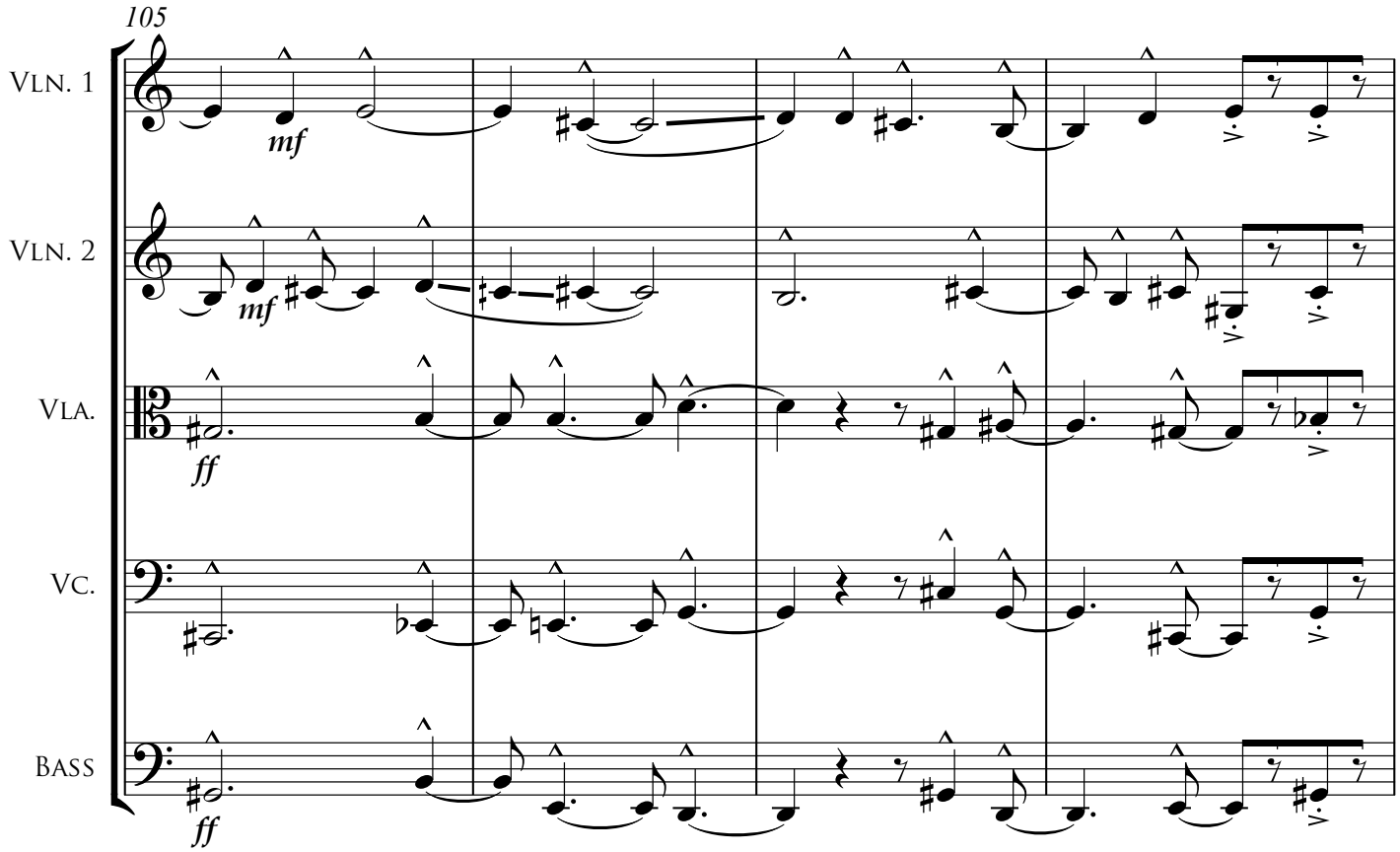
Vc.
Bass
mp
ff


105
Vln. 1
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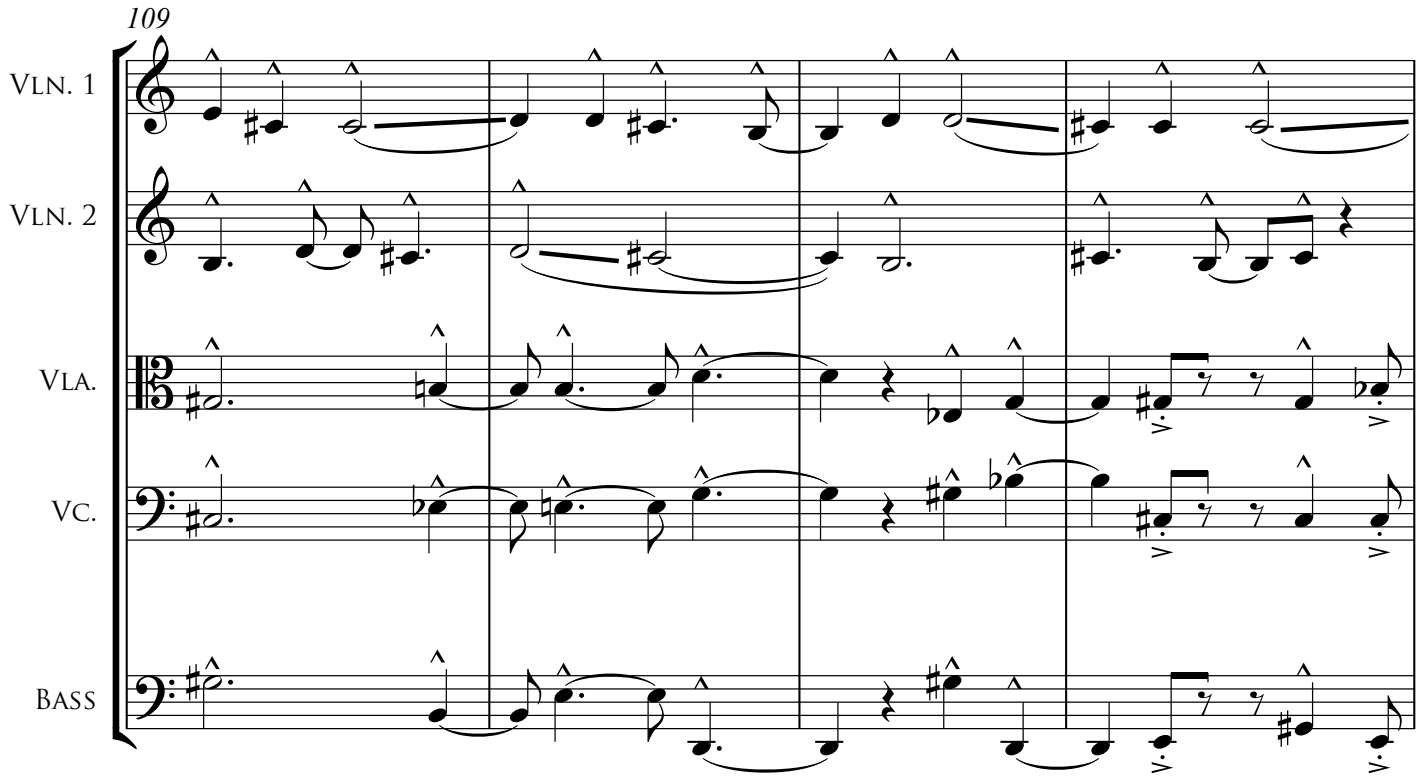
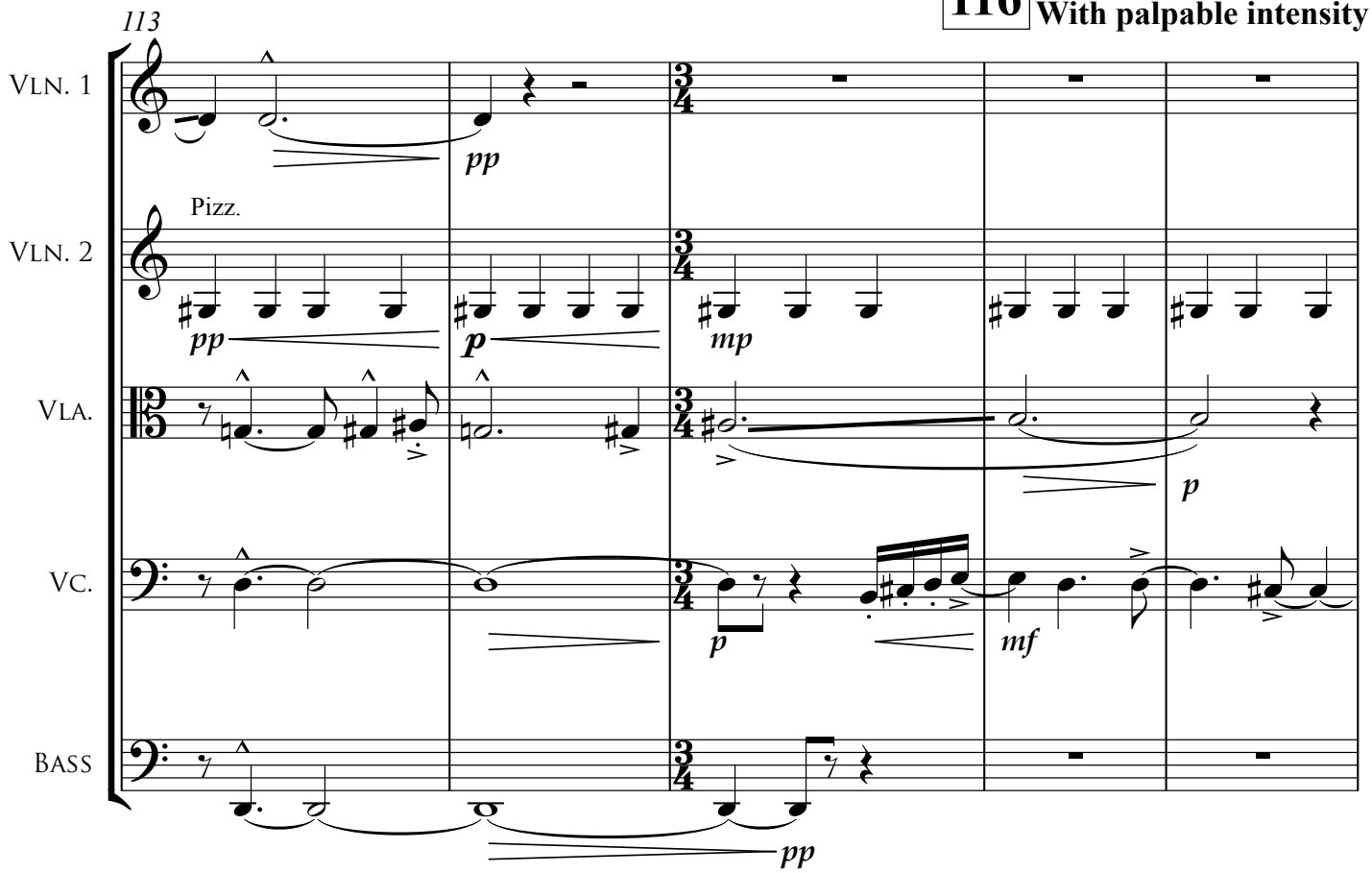
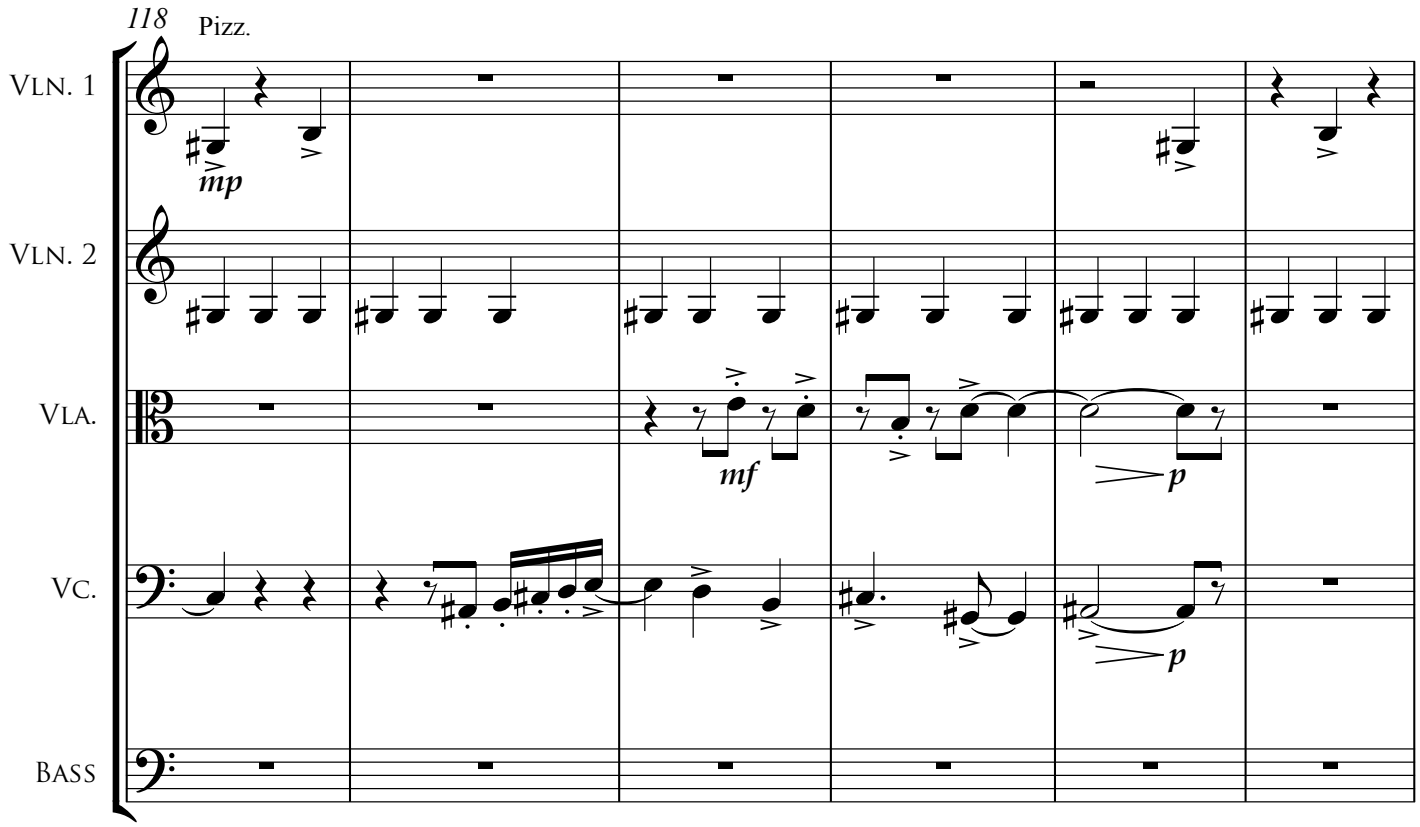
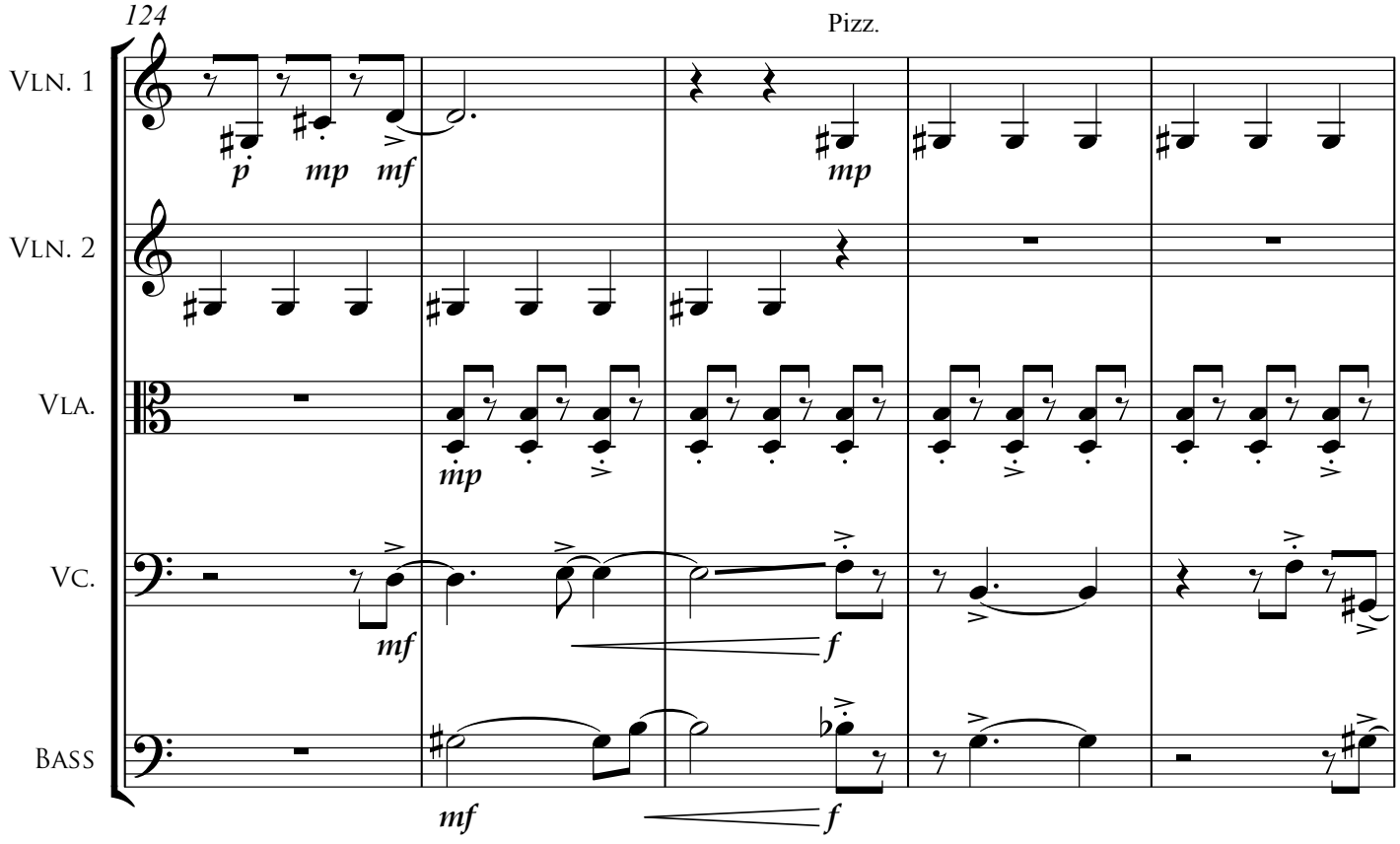
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
mf
mf
ff
ff

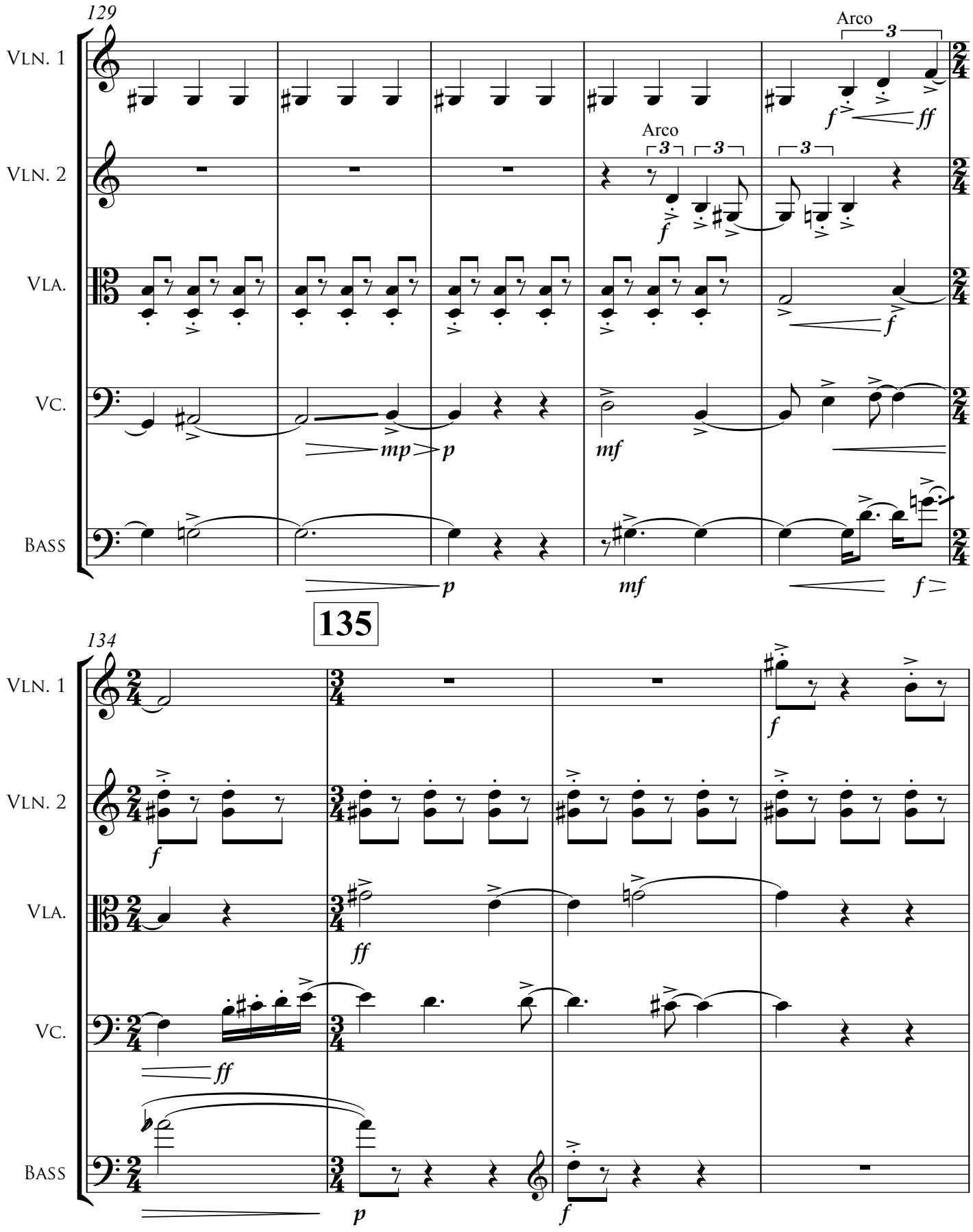


116 **With palpable intensity**




118
Pizz.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
mp
mf
p
p


124
Pizz.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
p
mp
mf
mp
mp
mf
f
mf
f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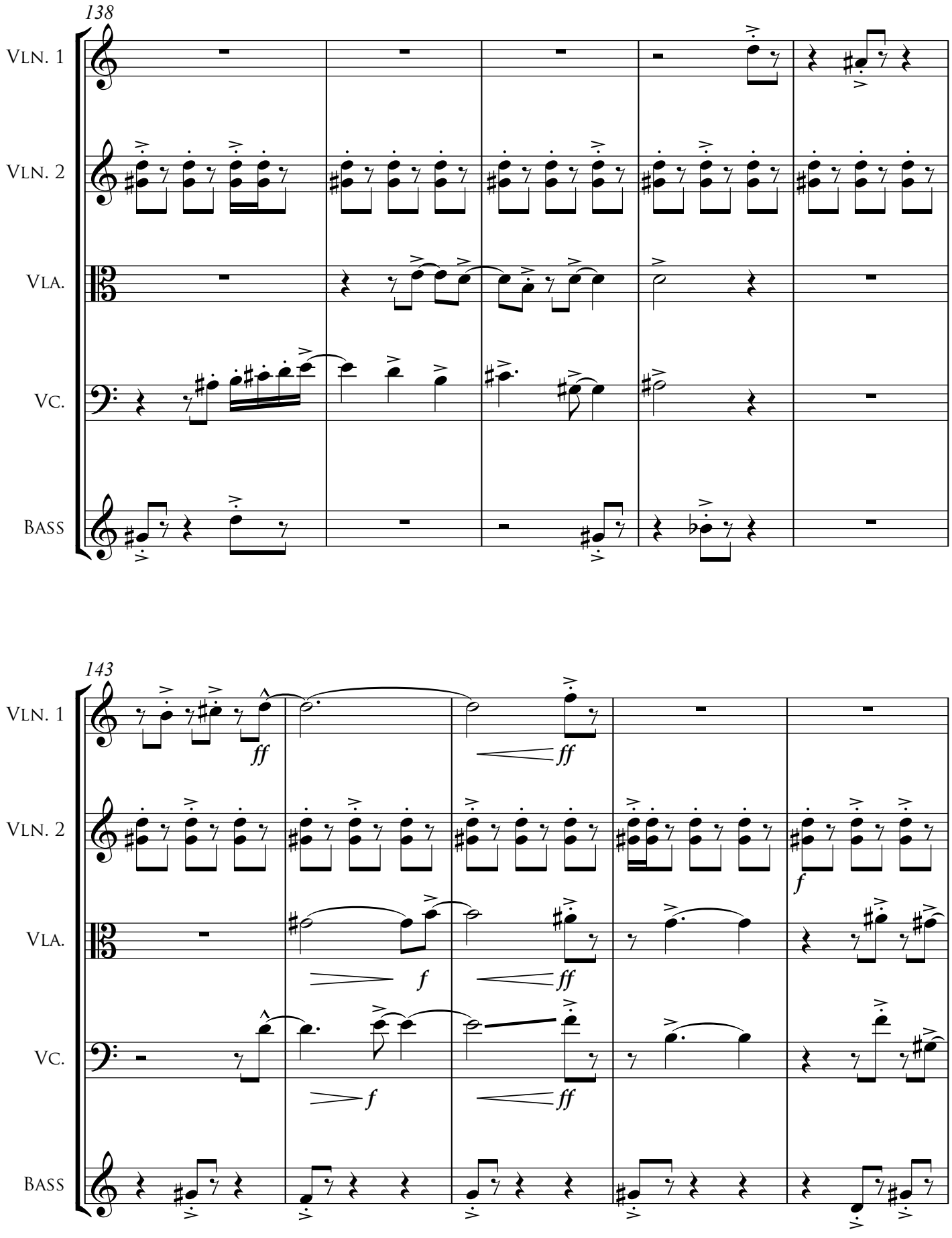
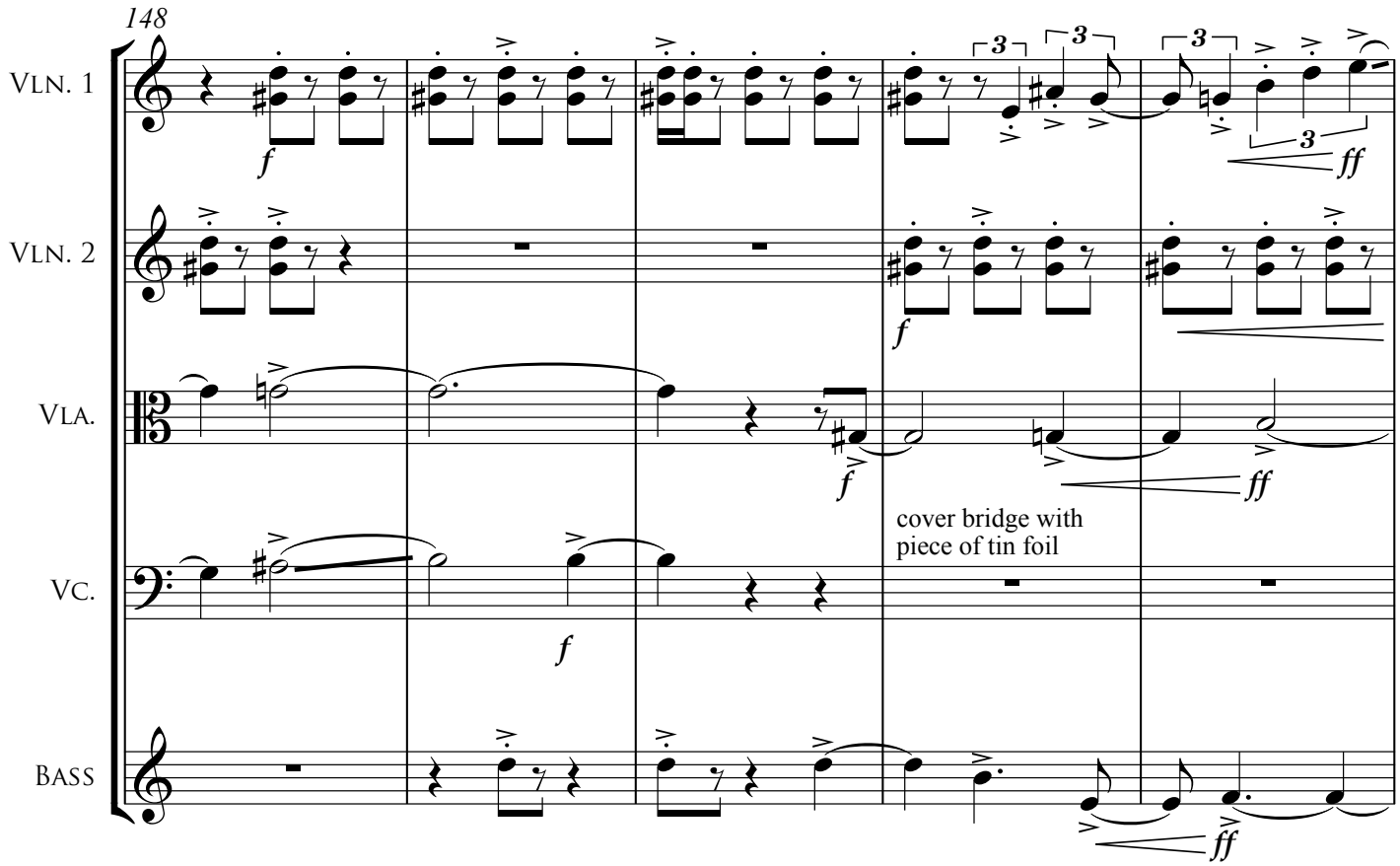
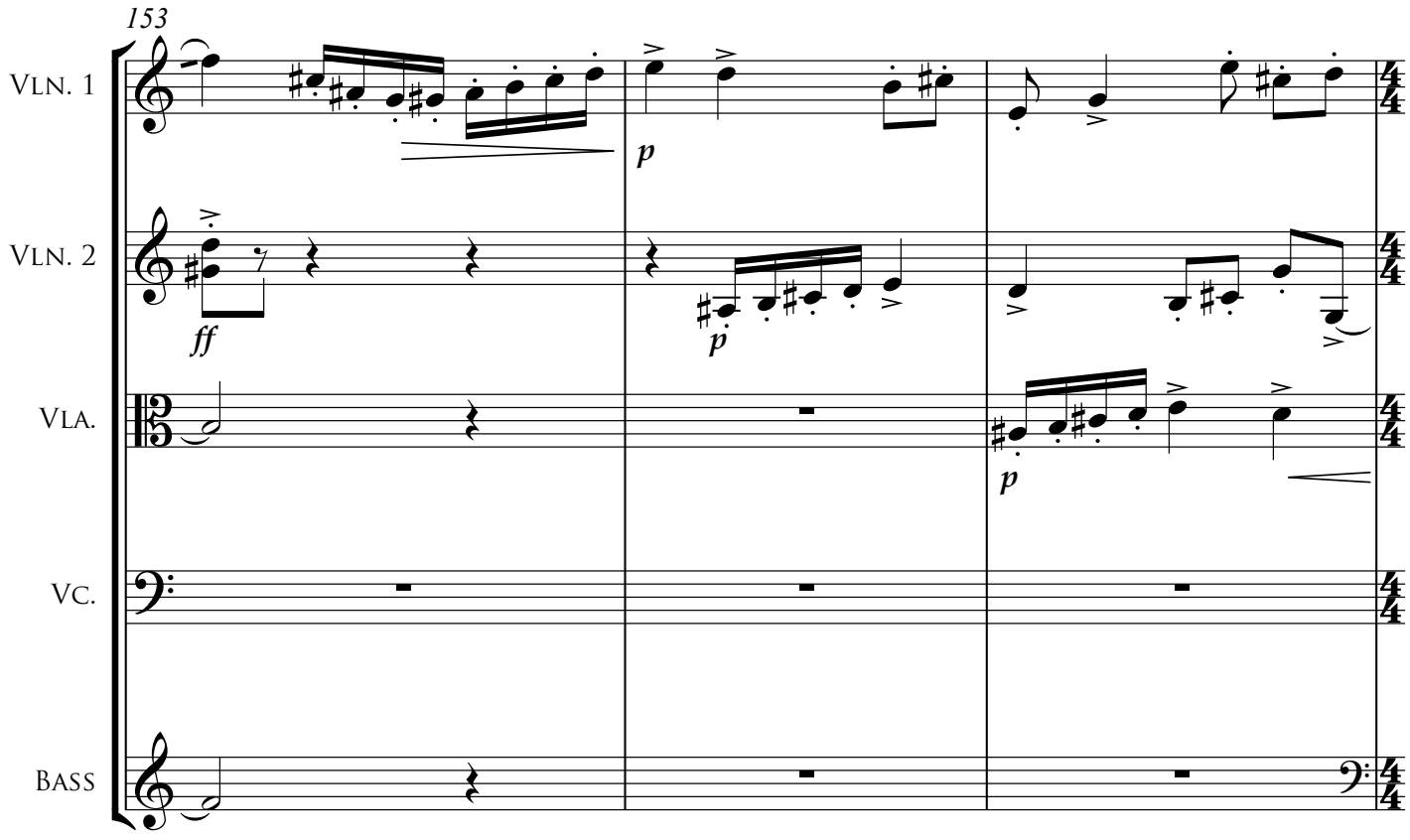
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
Arco
Arco
135
134


138
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
143
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ff
ff
f
f
ff
f
ff


148
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
f
ff
cover bridge with
piece of tin foil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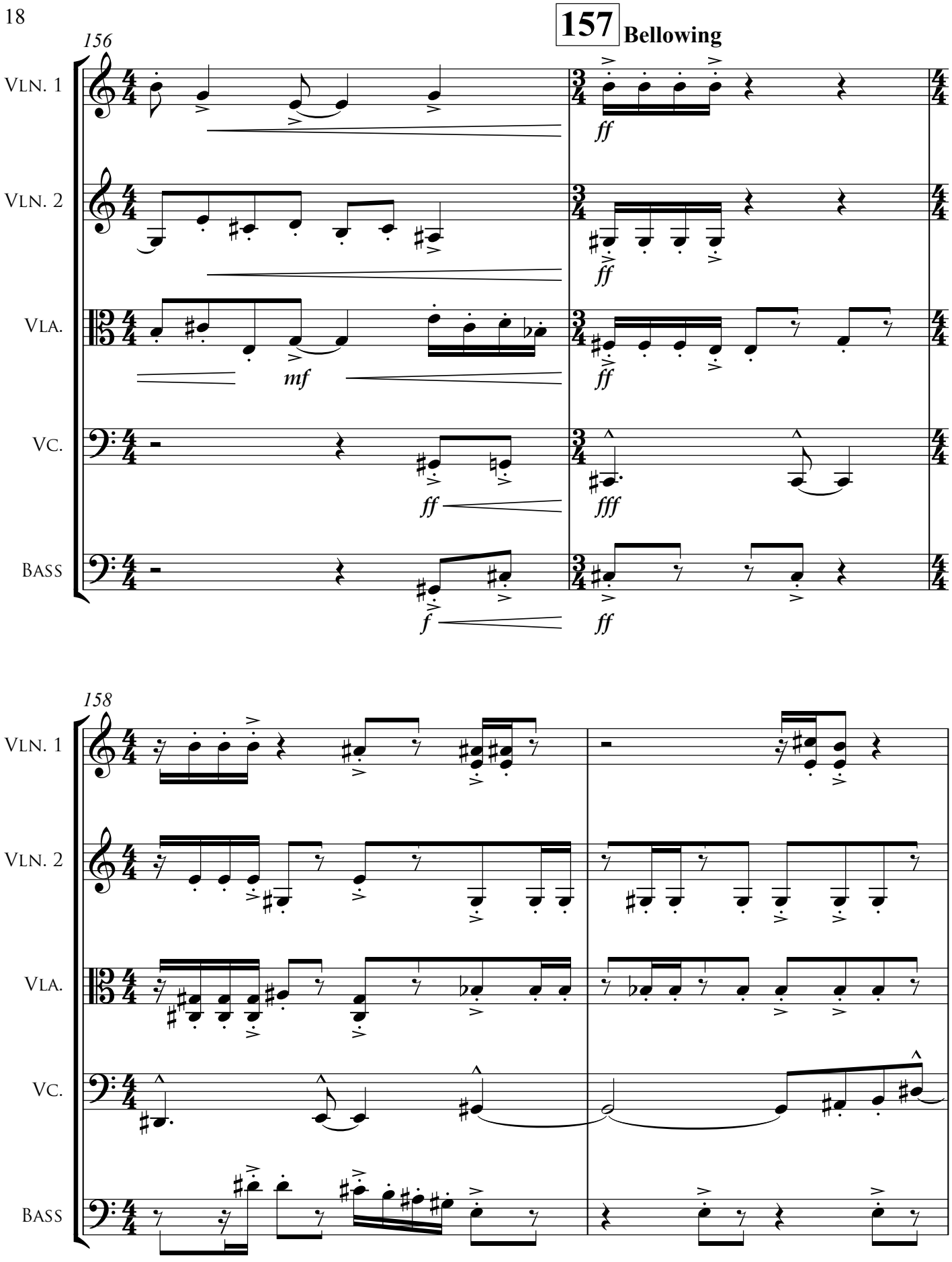
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ff
p


156
157
Bellowing
Vln. 1
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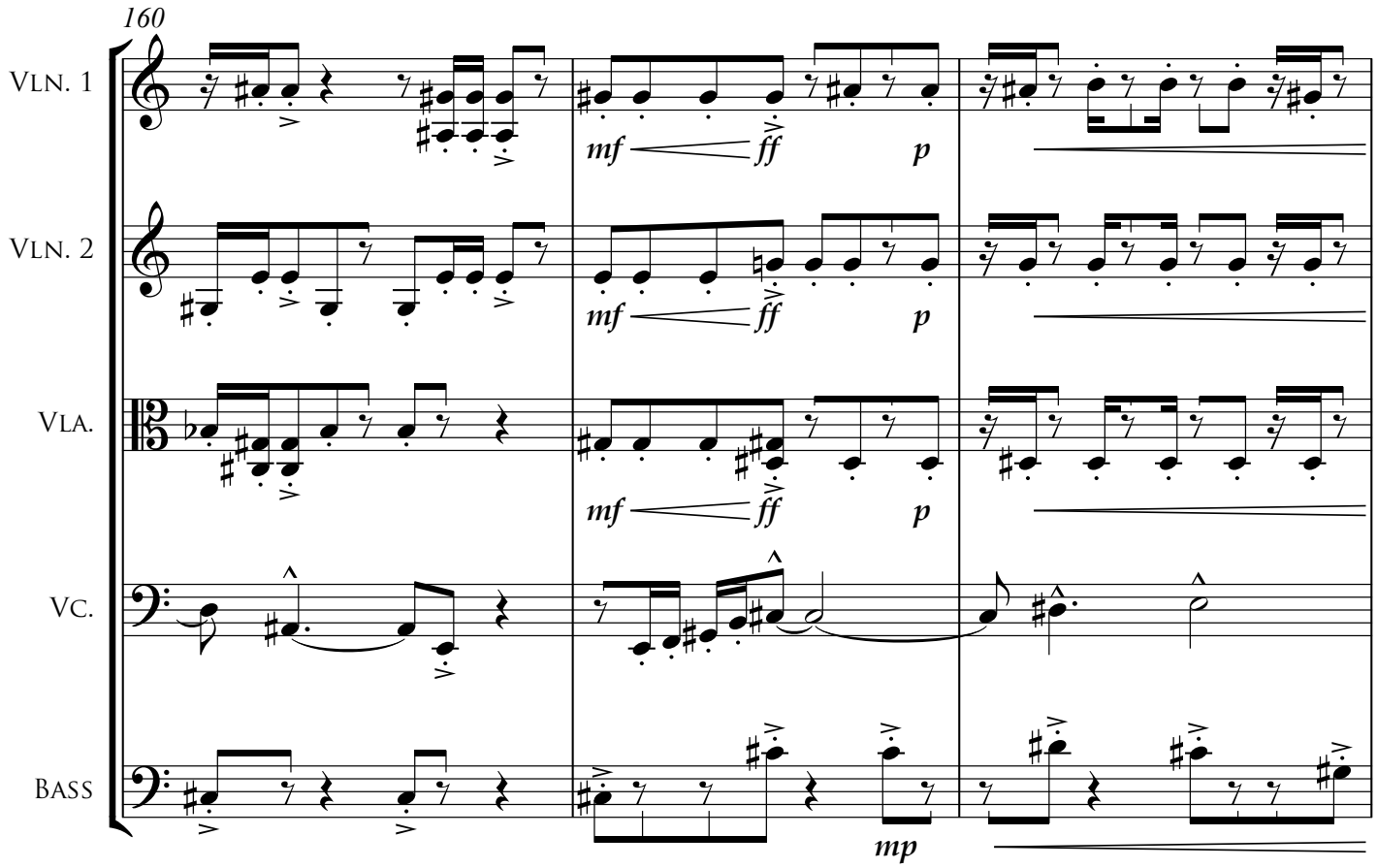
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ff
mf
fff
f
158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Vln. 1
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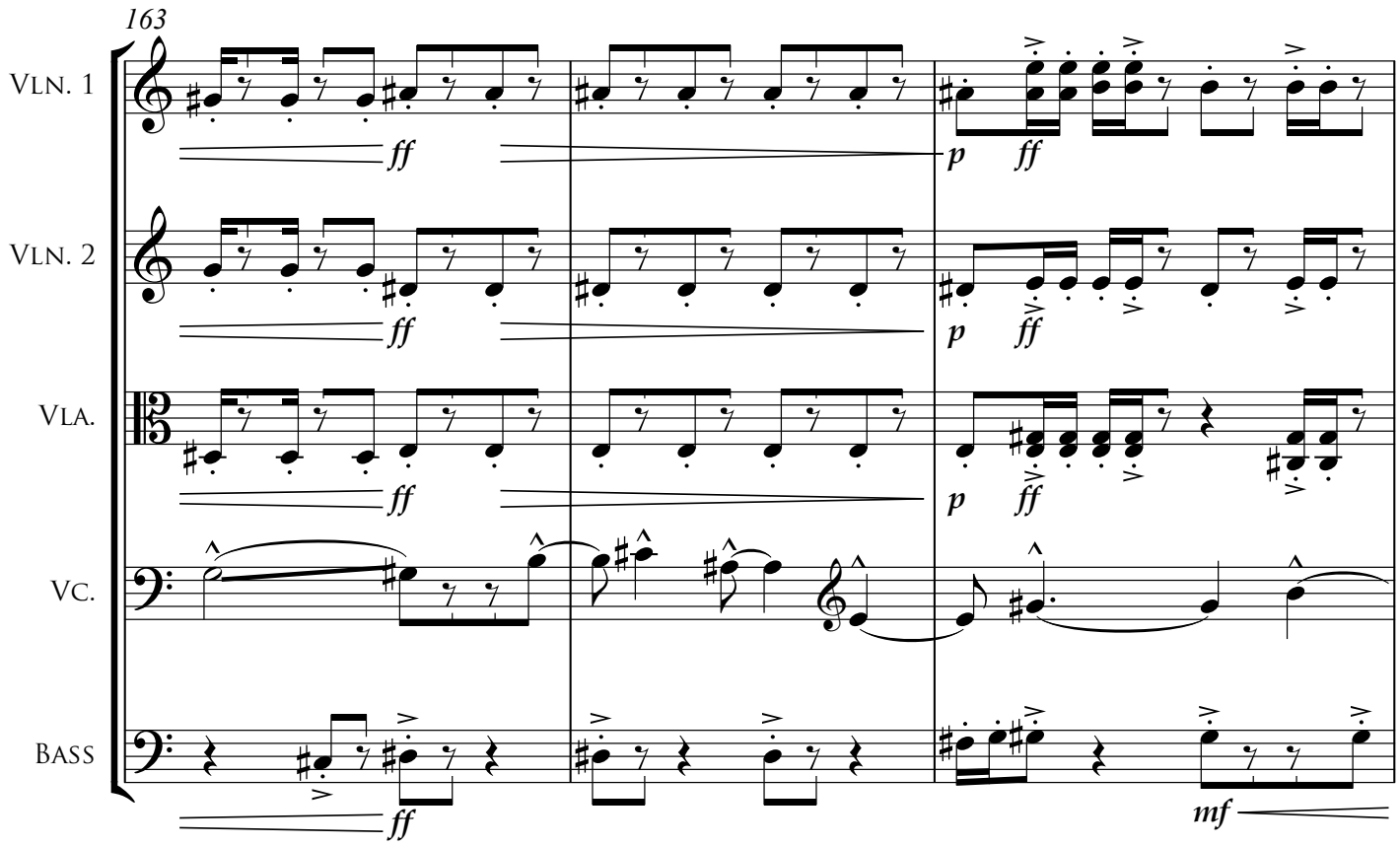
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
mf
ff
p
mp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Vln. 1
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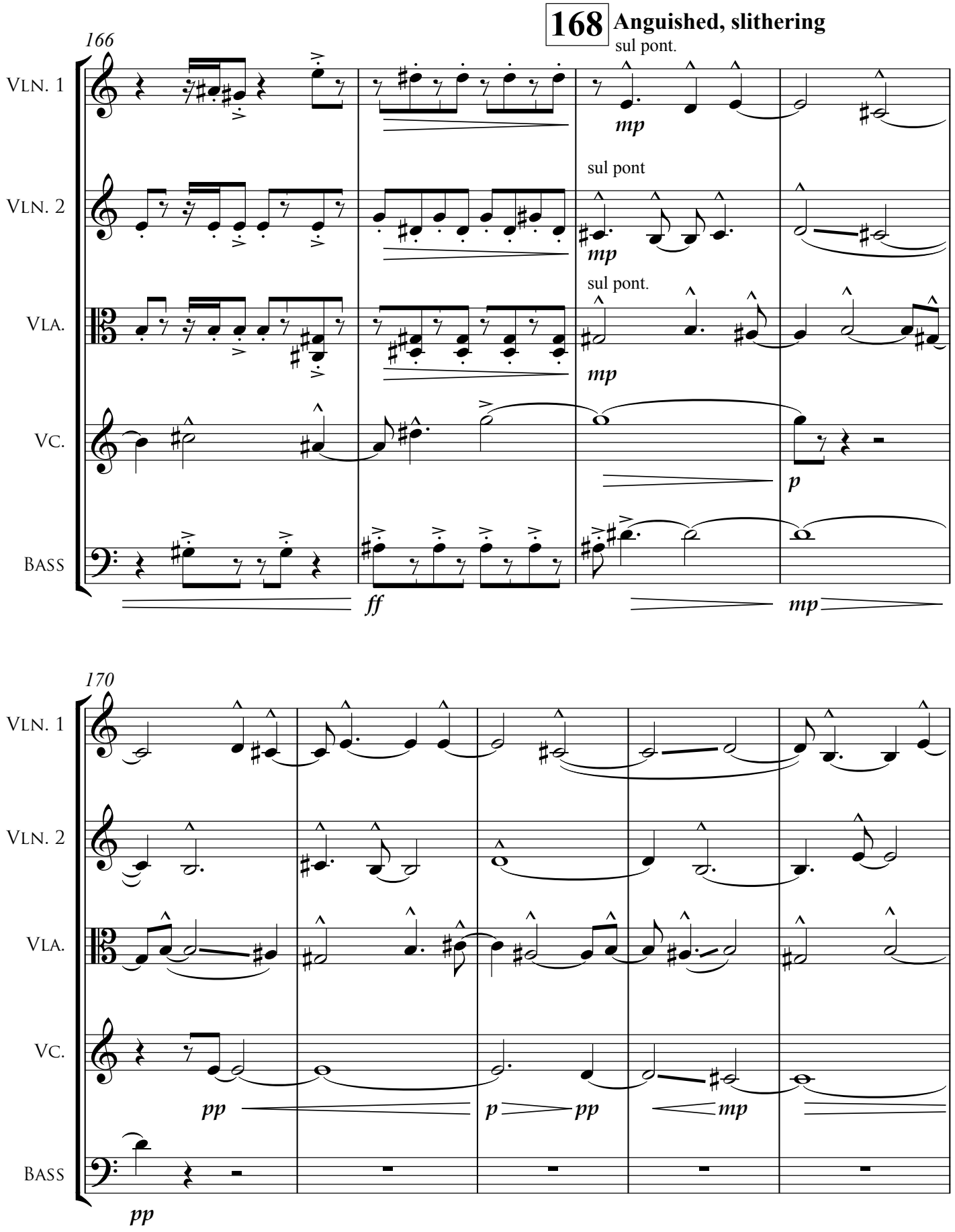
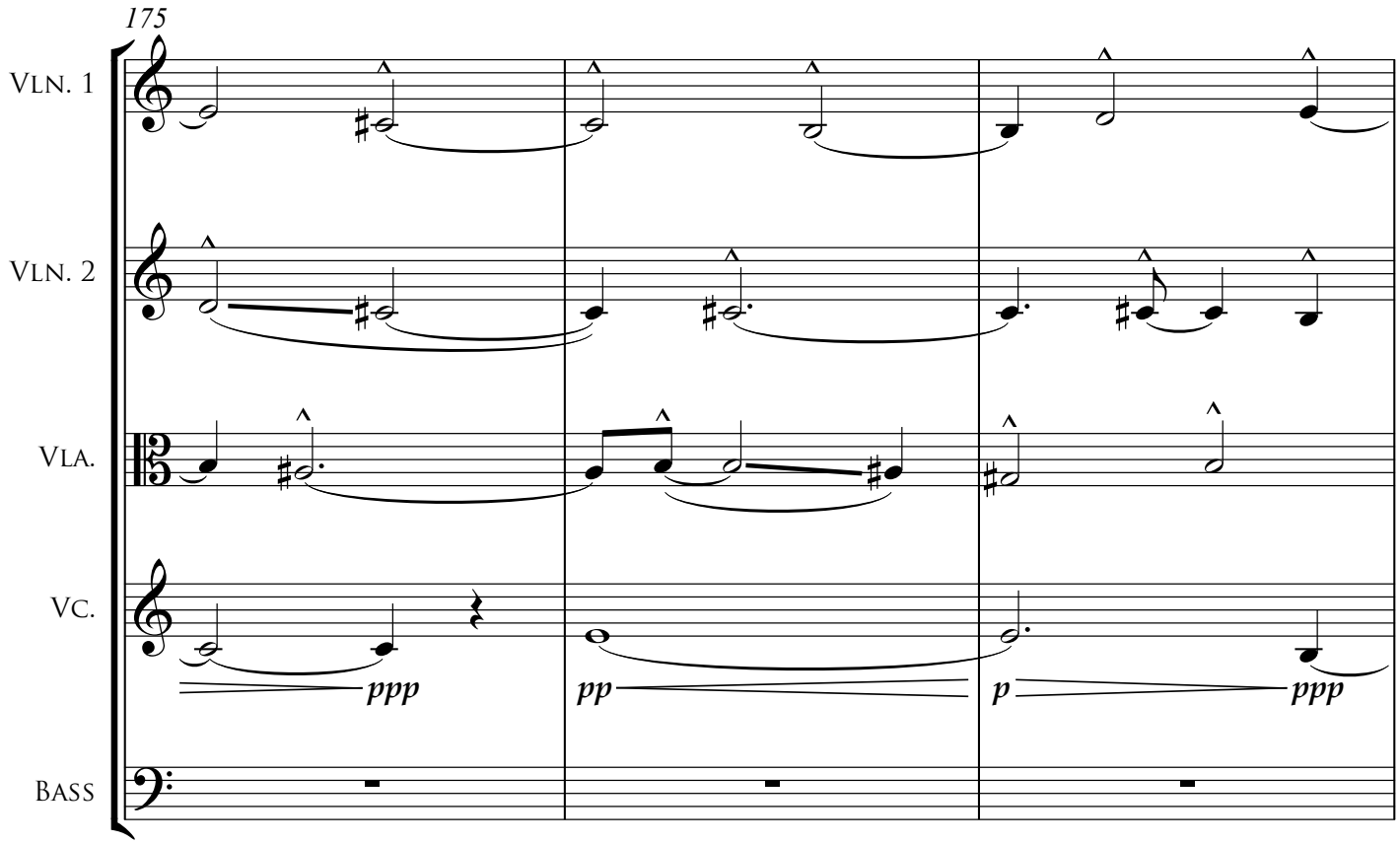
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ff
p
mf


168
Anguished, slithering
166
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
sul pont.
sul pont
sul pont.
mp
p
ff
mp
170
pp
p
pp
mp
pp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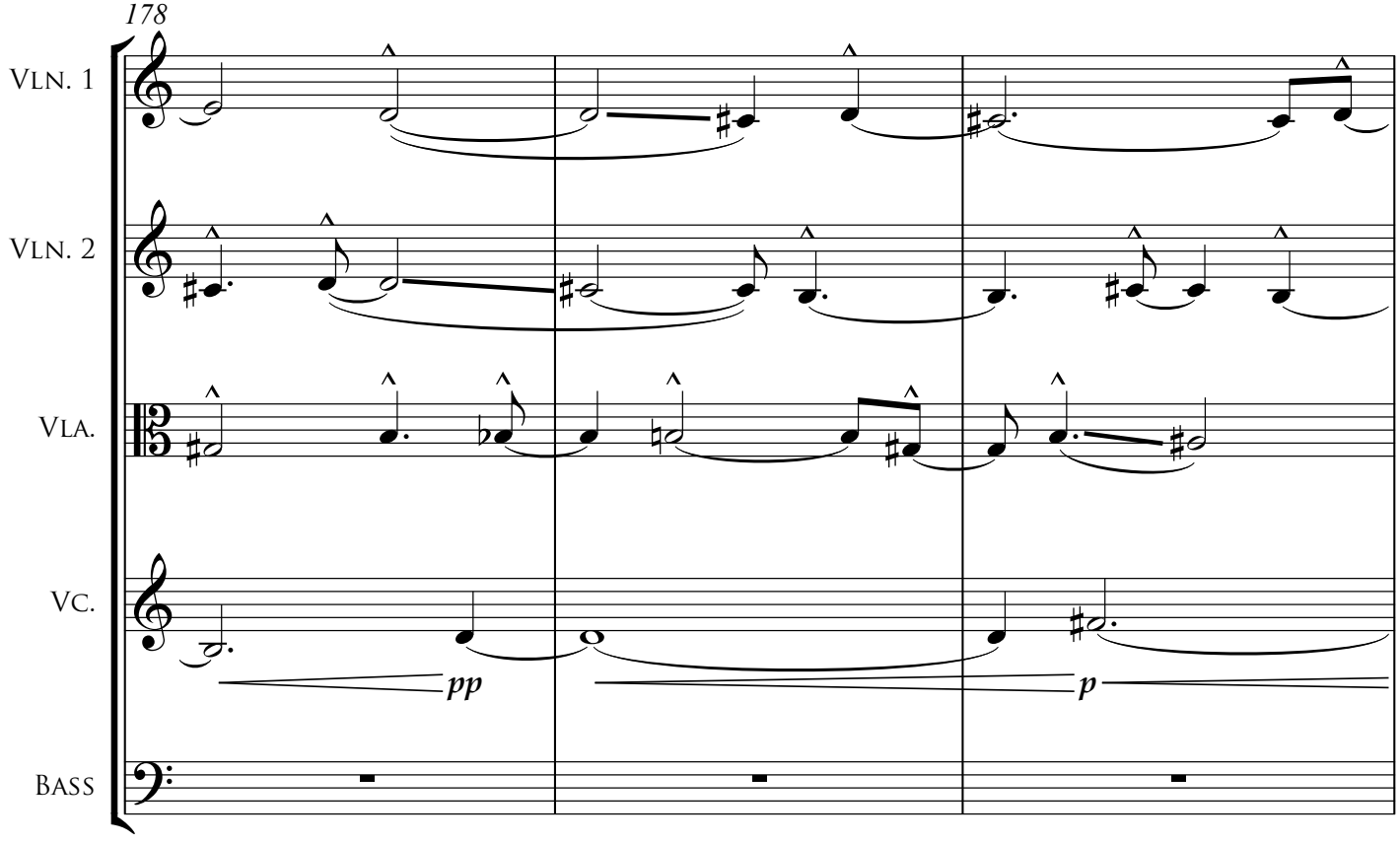
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ppp
pp
p
ppp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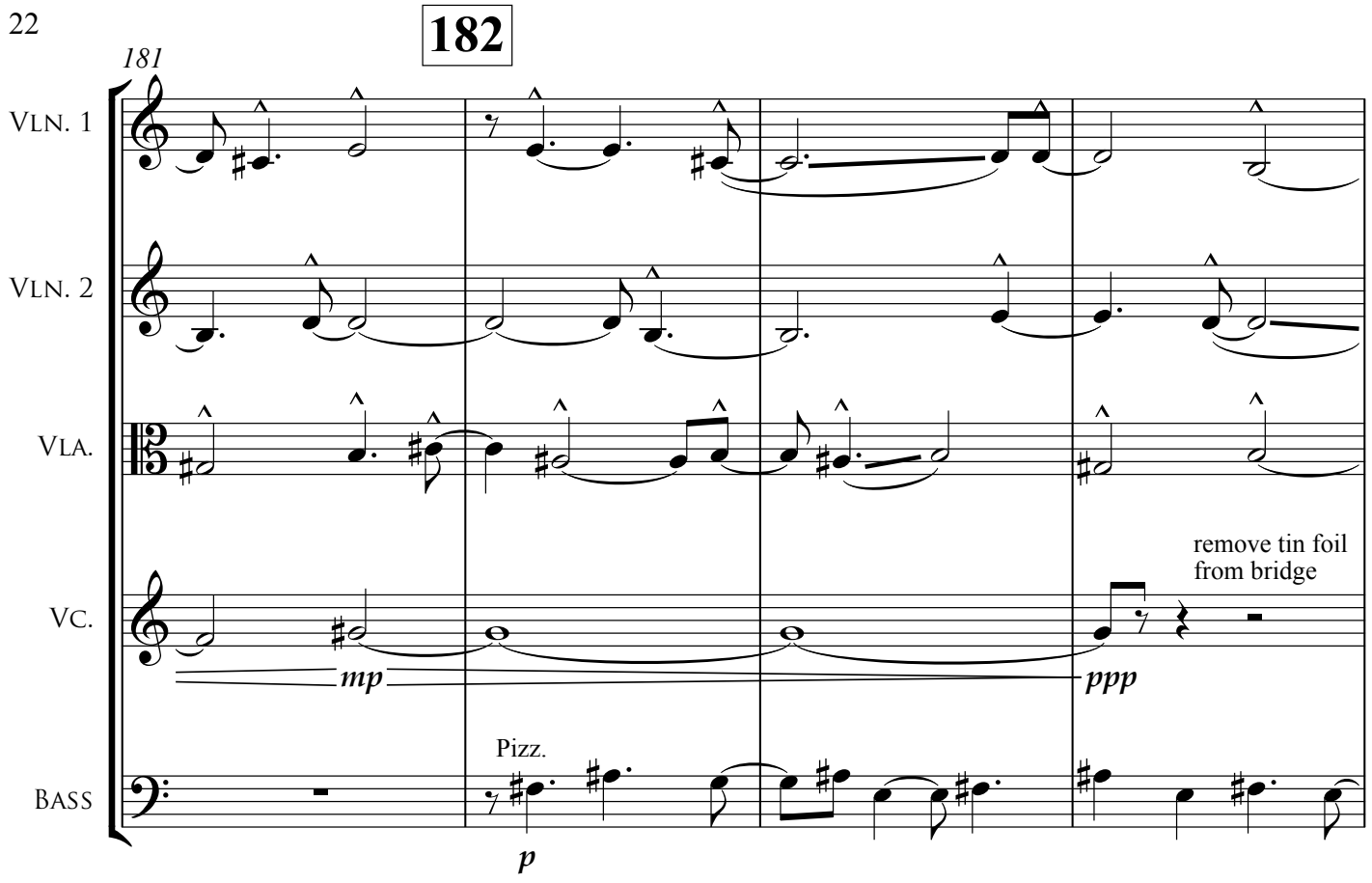
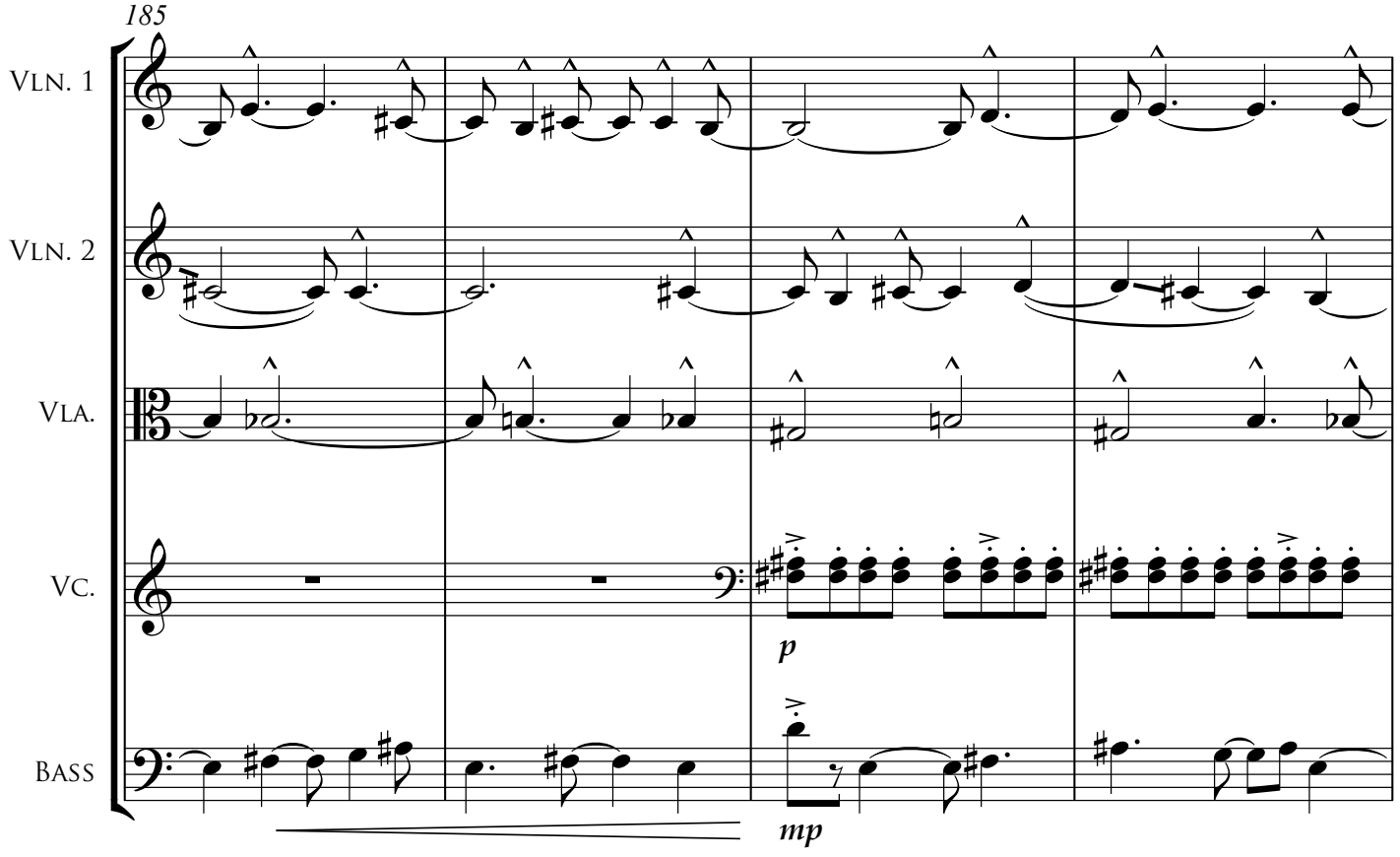
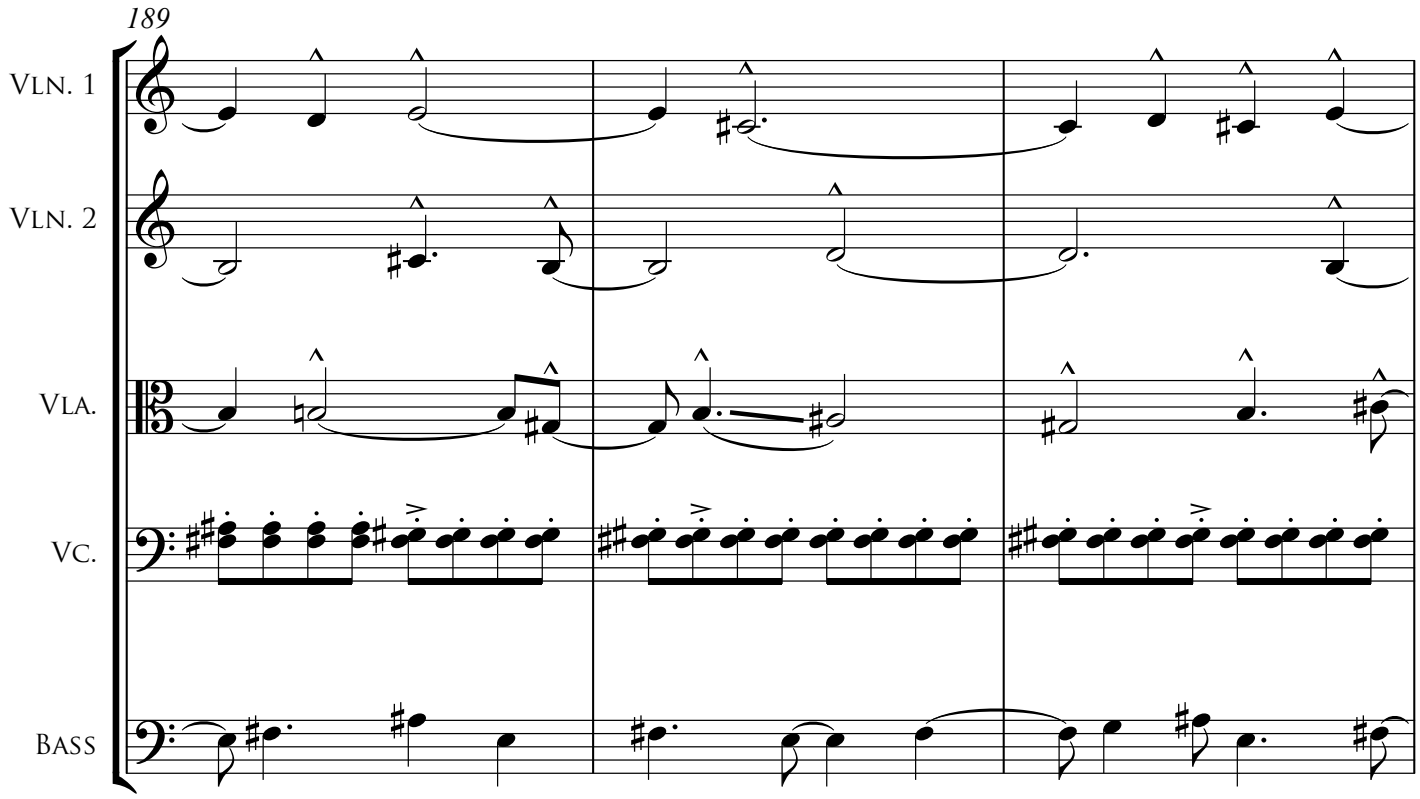
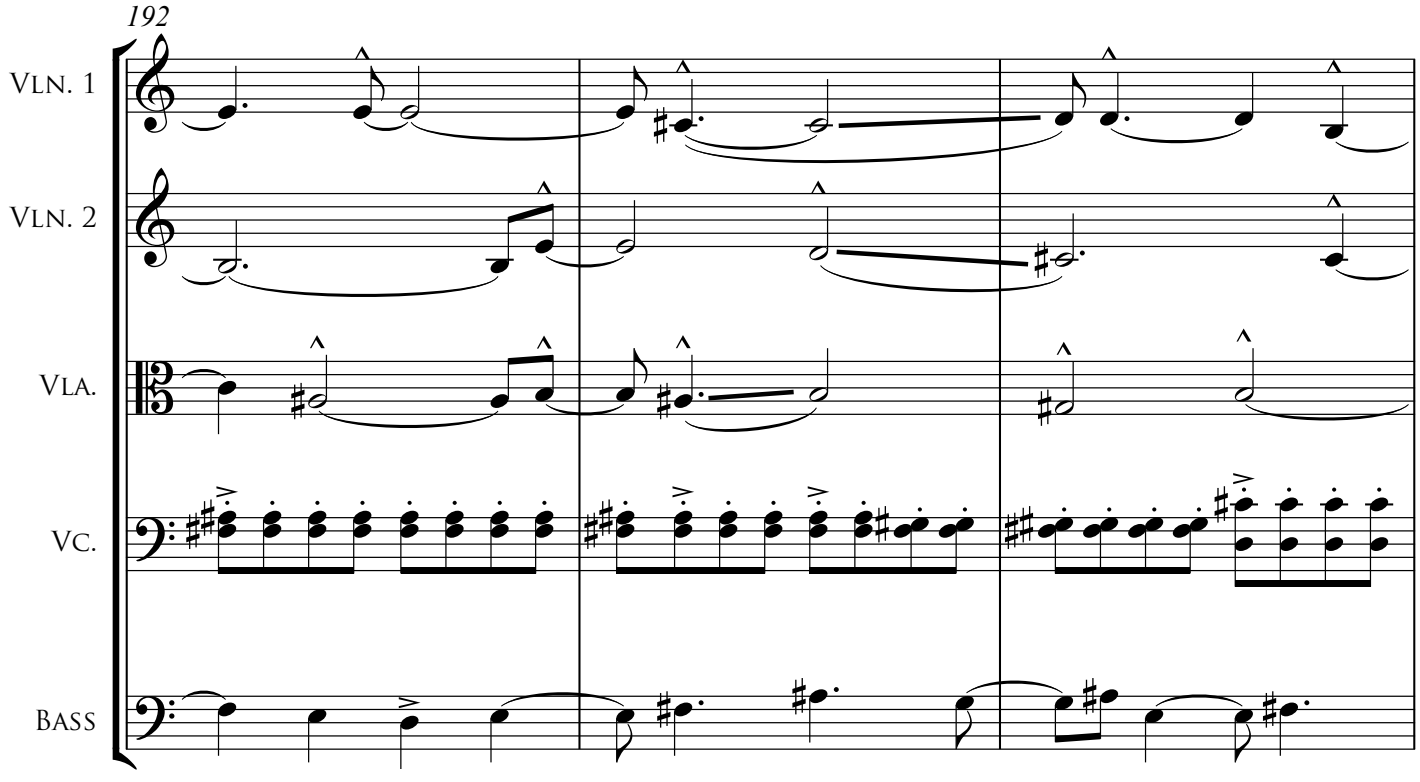
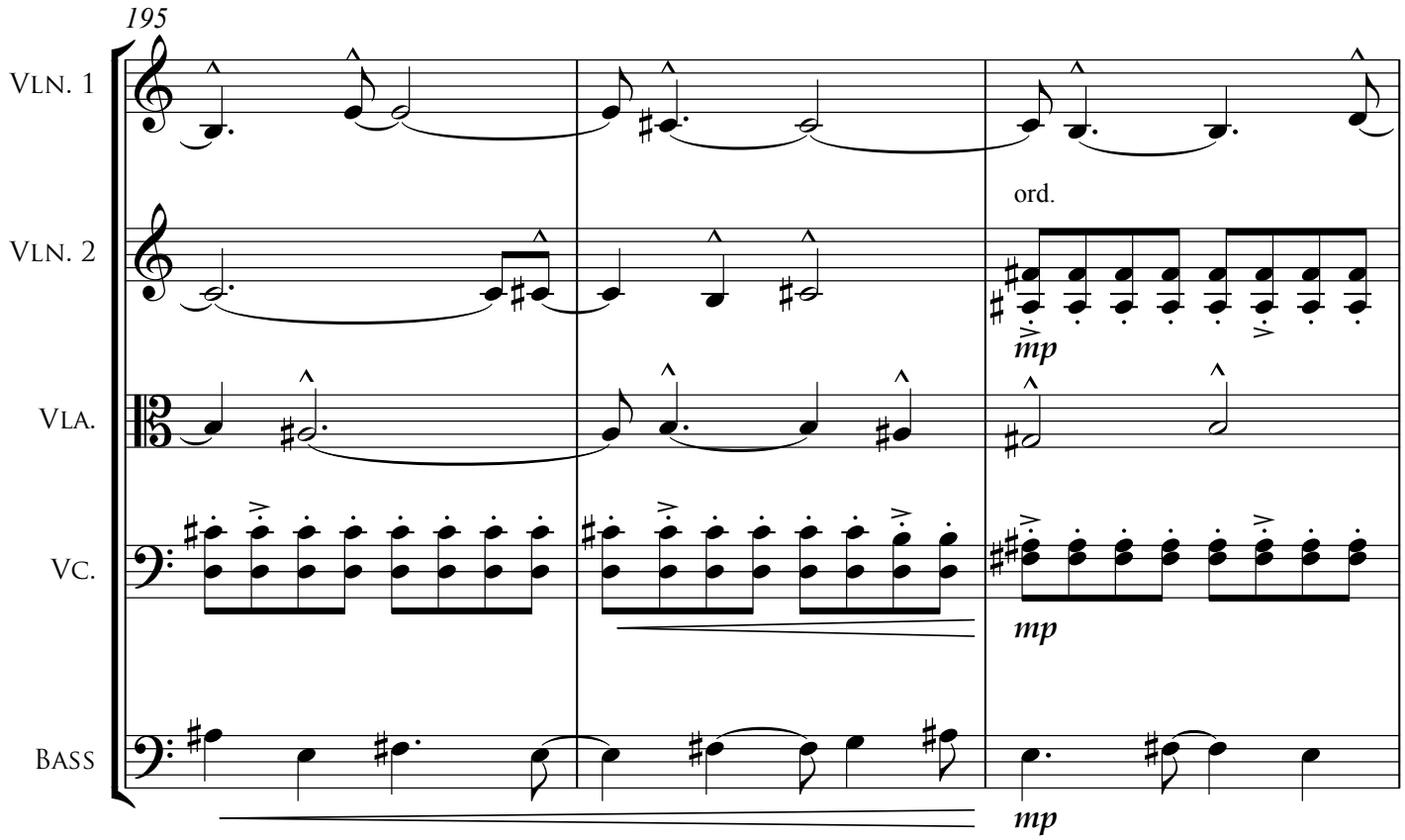
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
pp
p

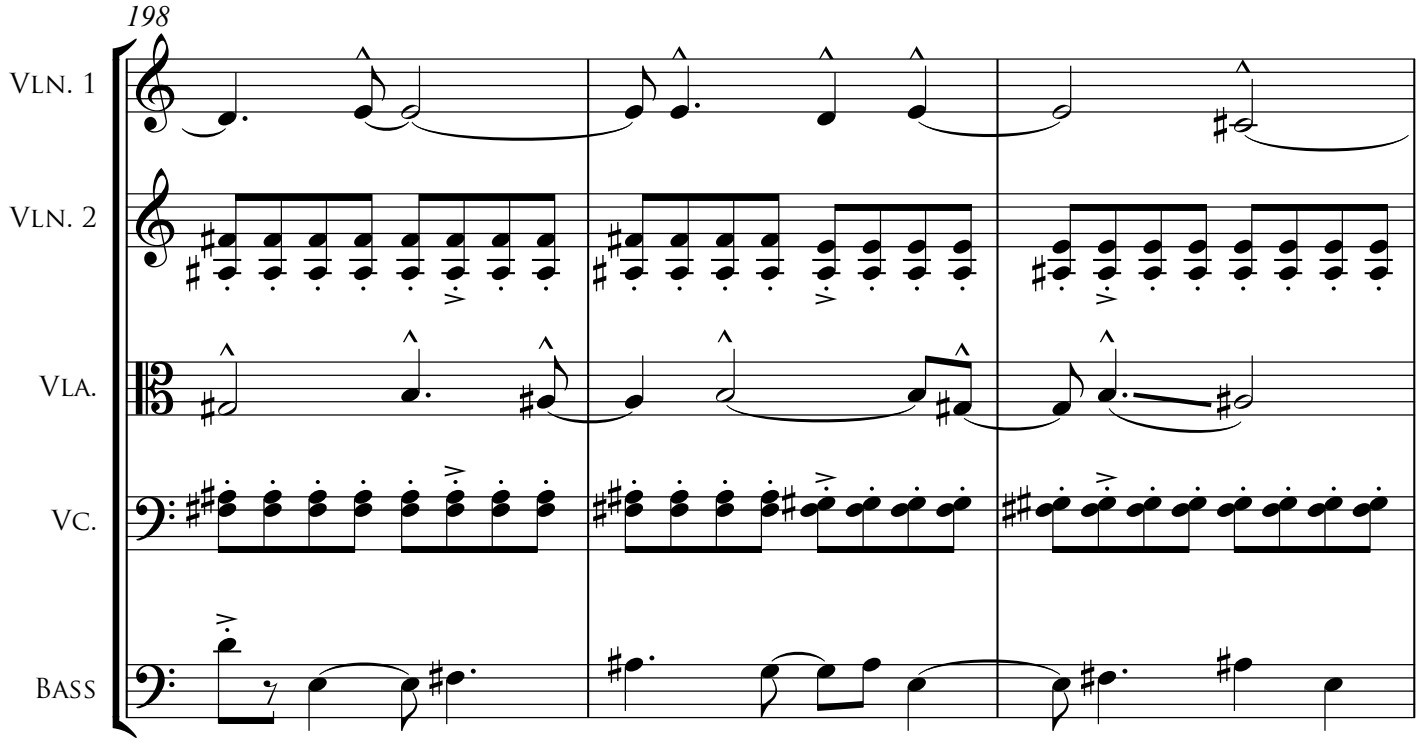

182
181
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
remove tin foil
from bridge
mp
ppp
Pizz.
p


185
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
p
mp


189
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass


192
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass


195
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ord.
mp
mp
mp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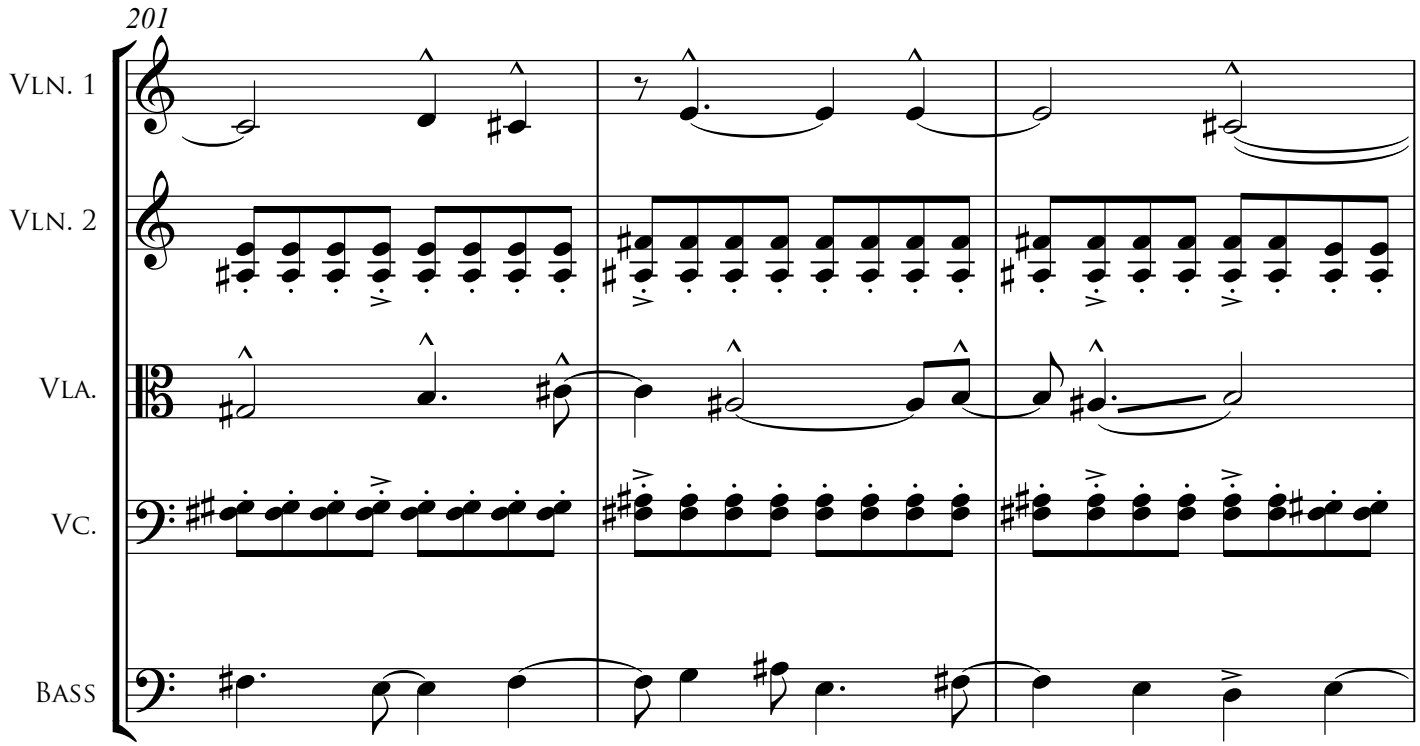
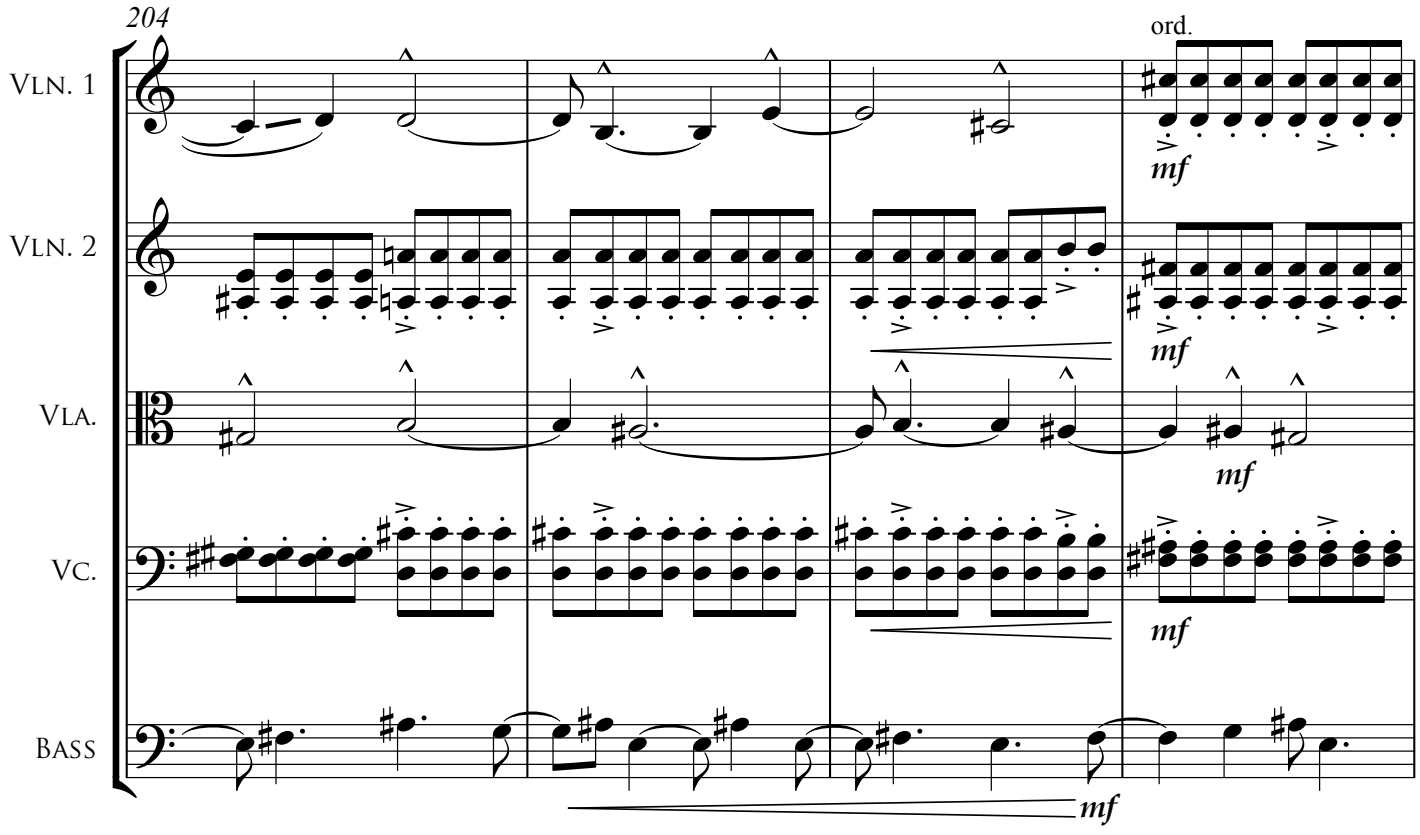
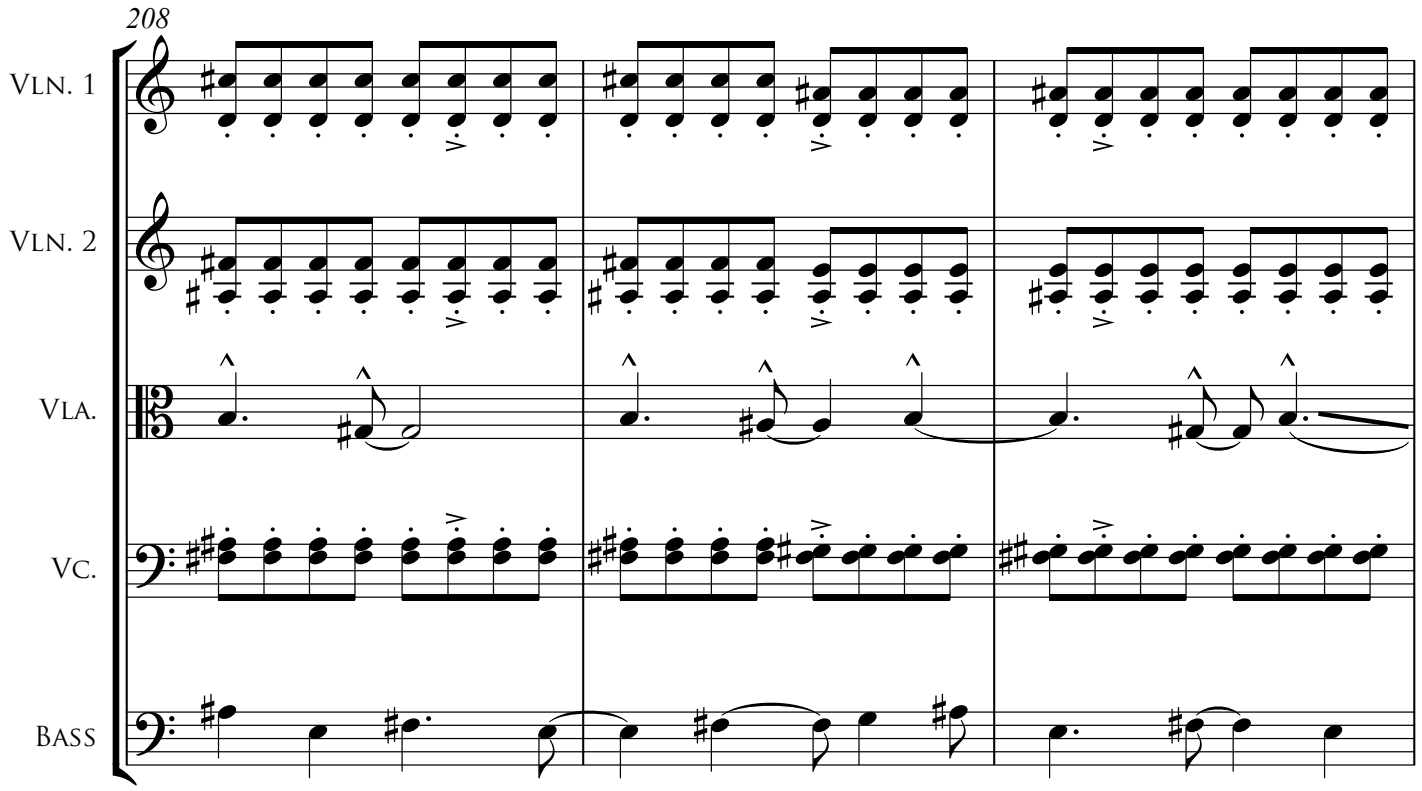
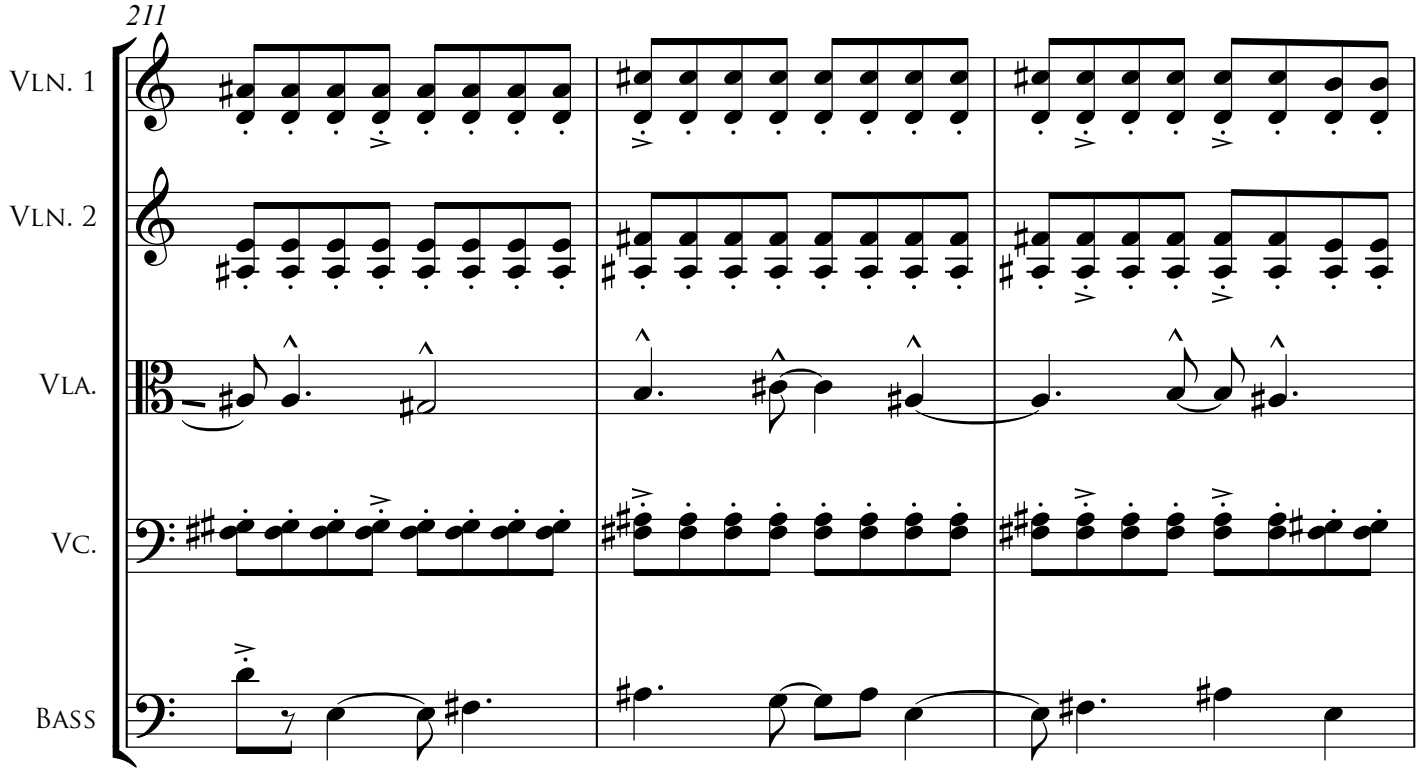
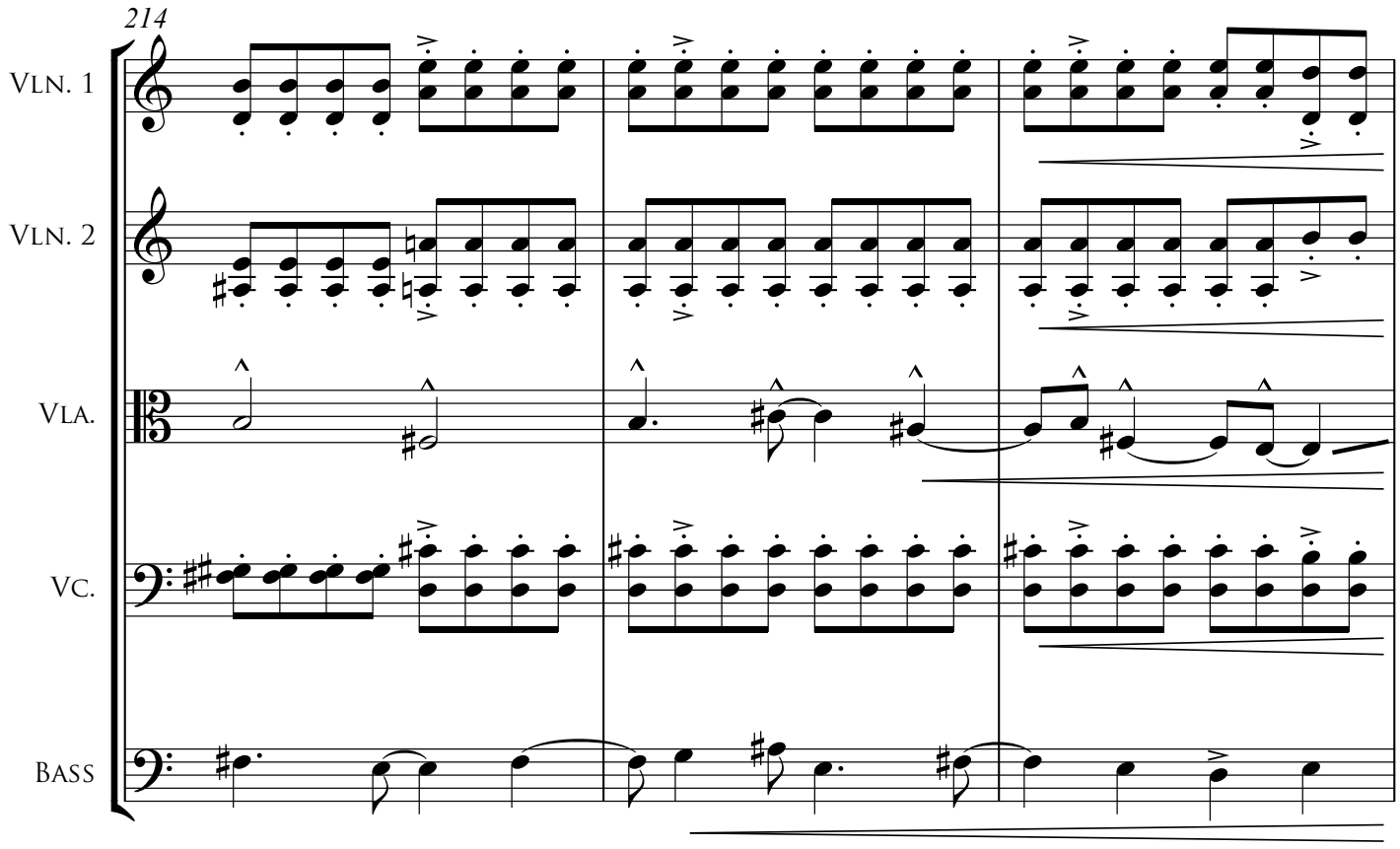
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass

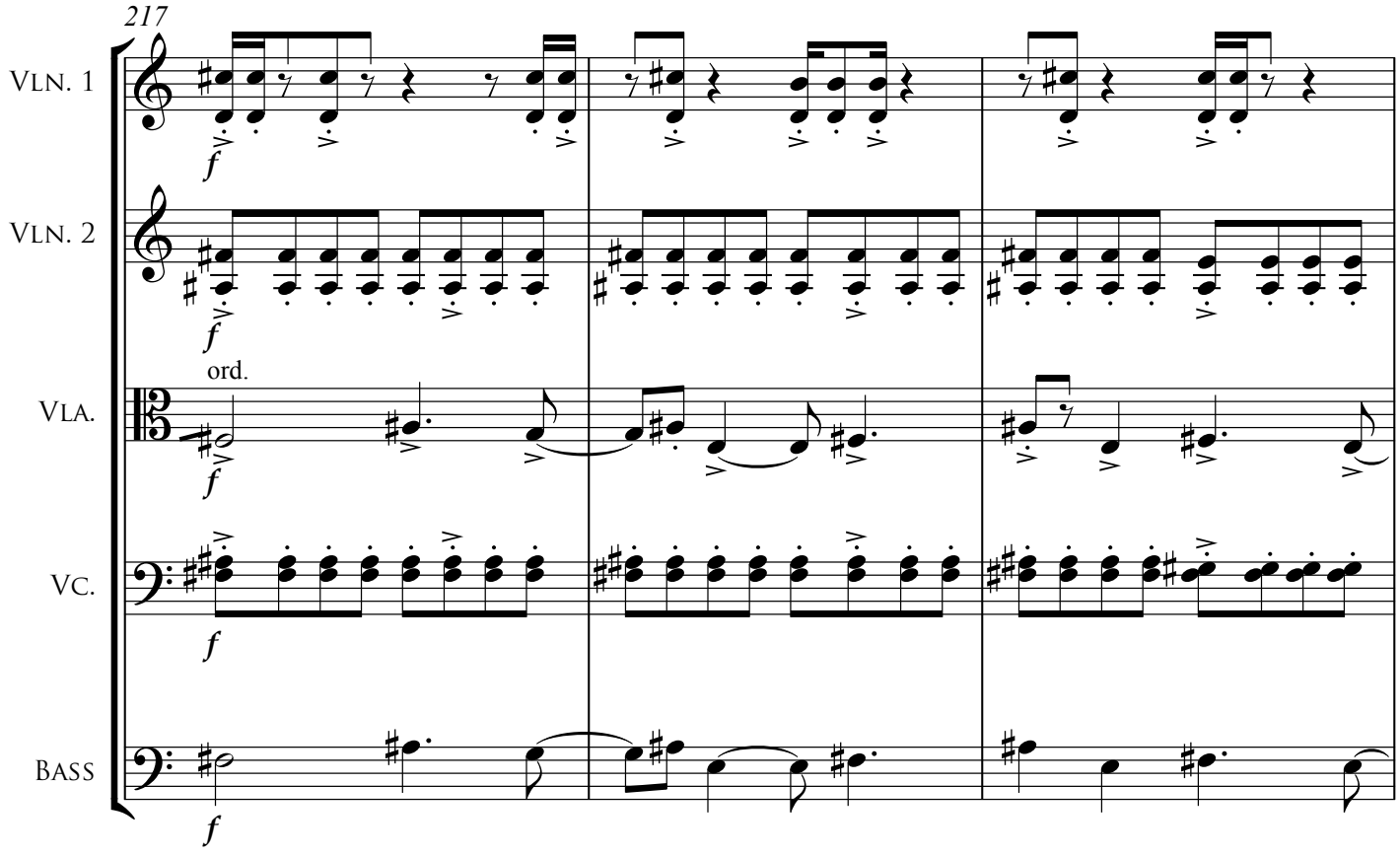

201
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass

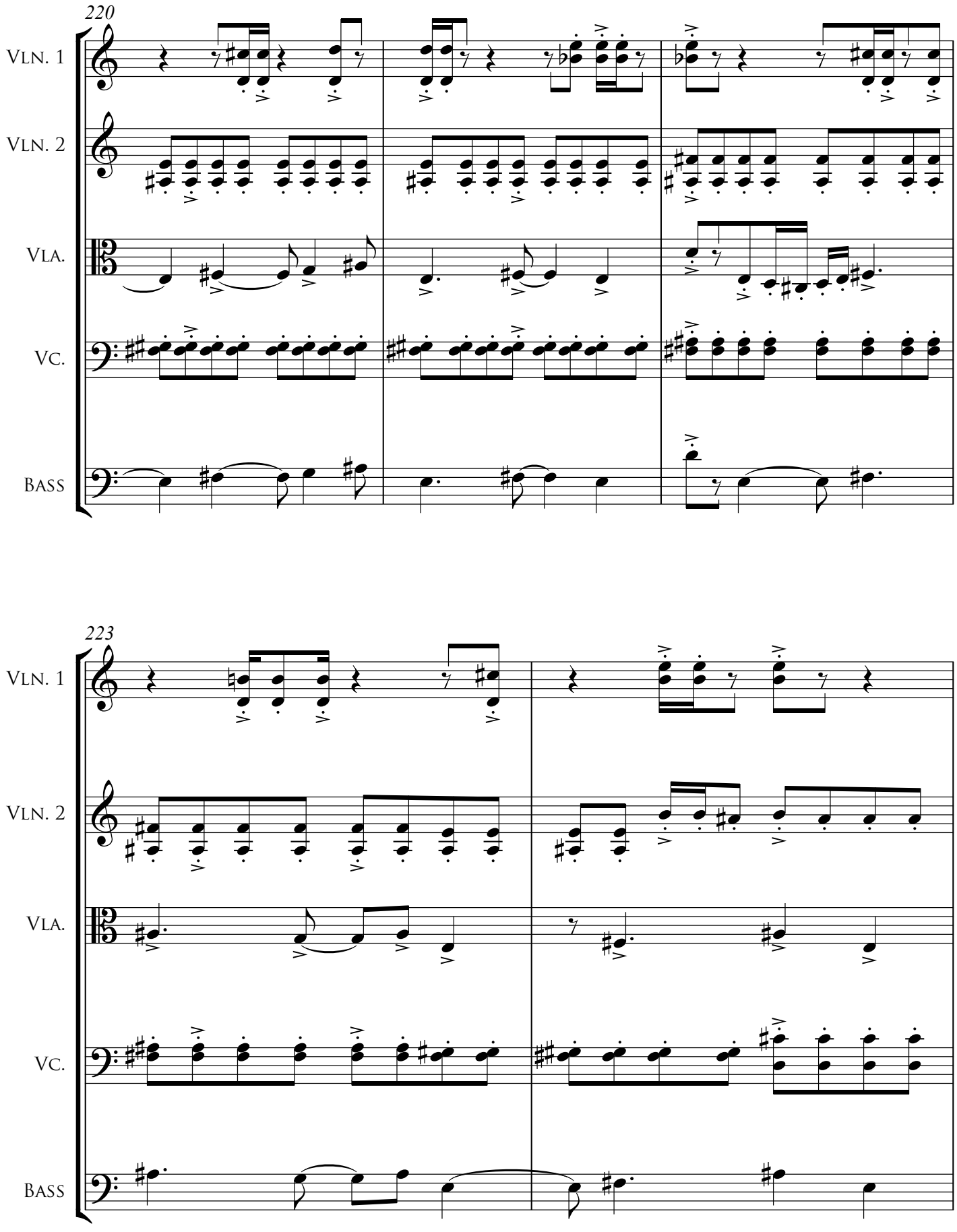

204
ord.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf

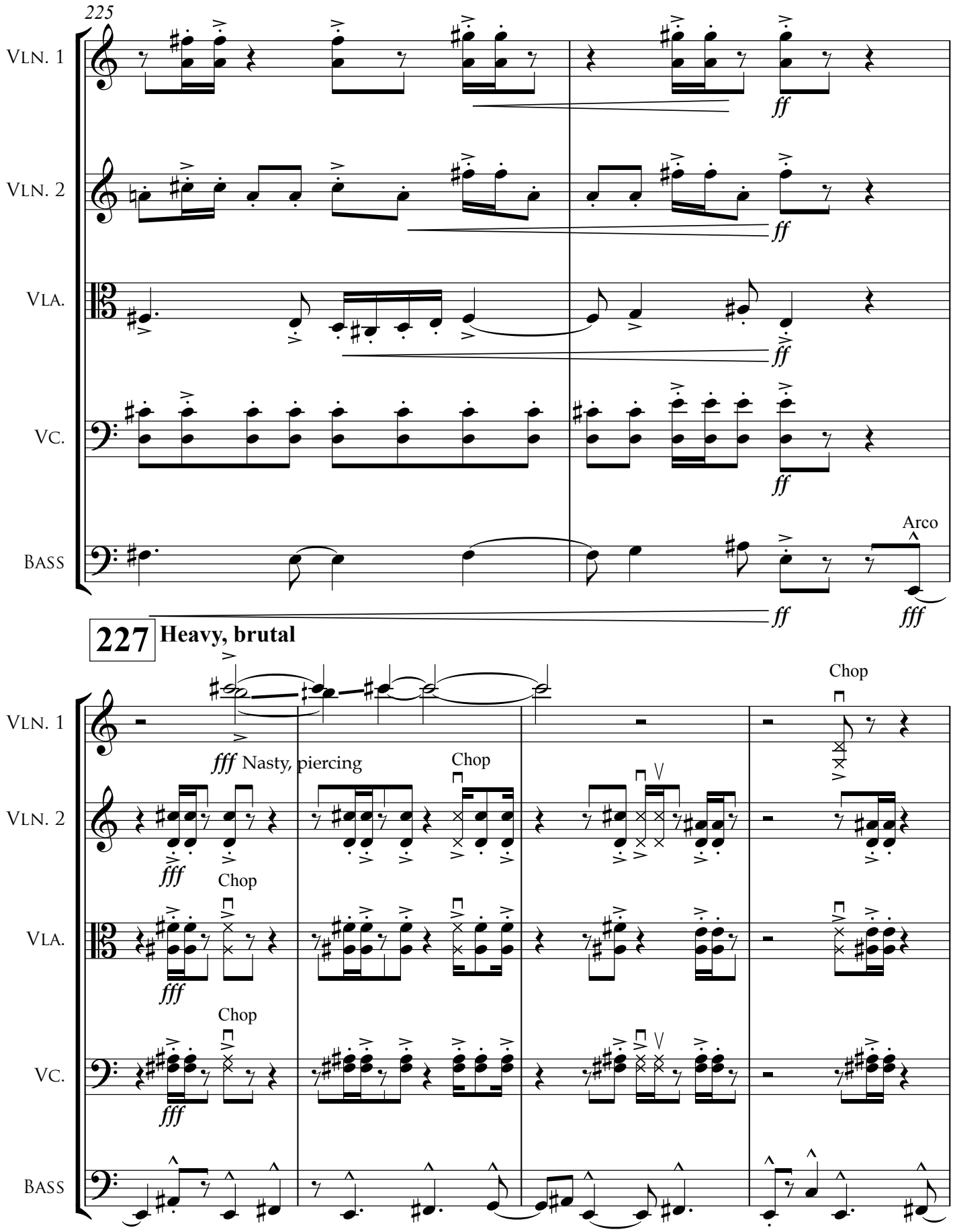

208
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass

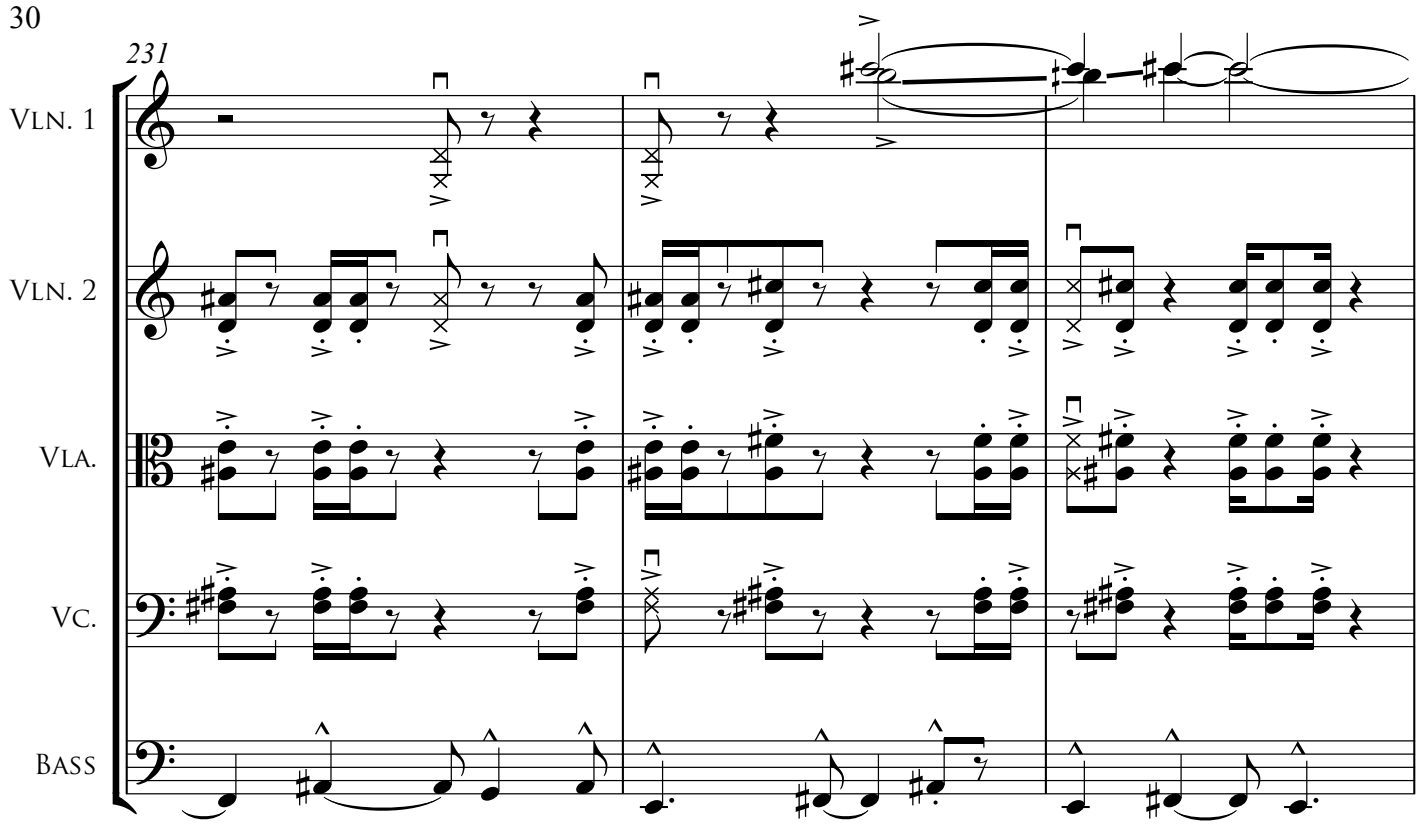

211
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass

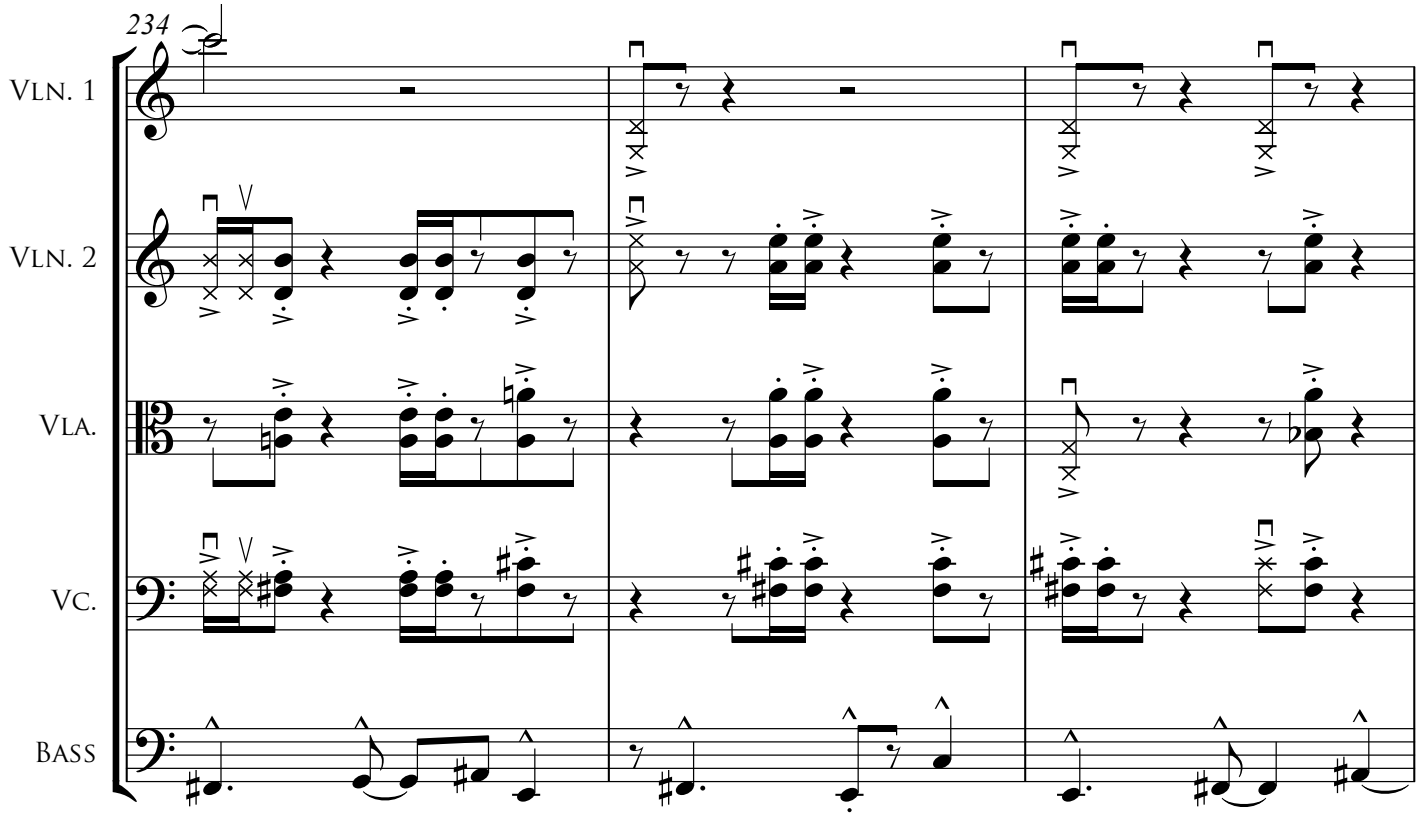

214
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass

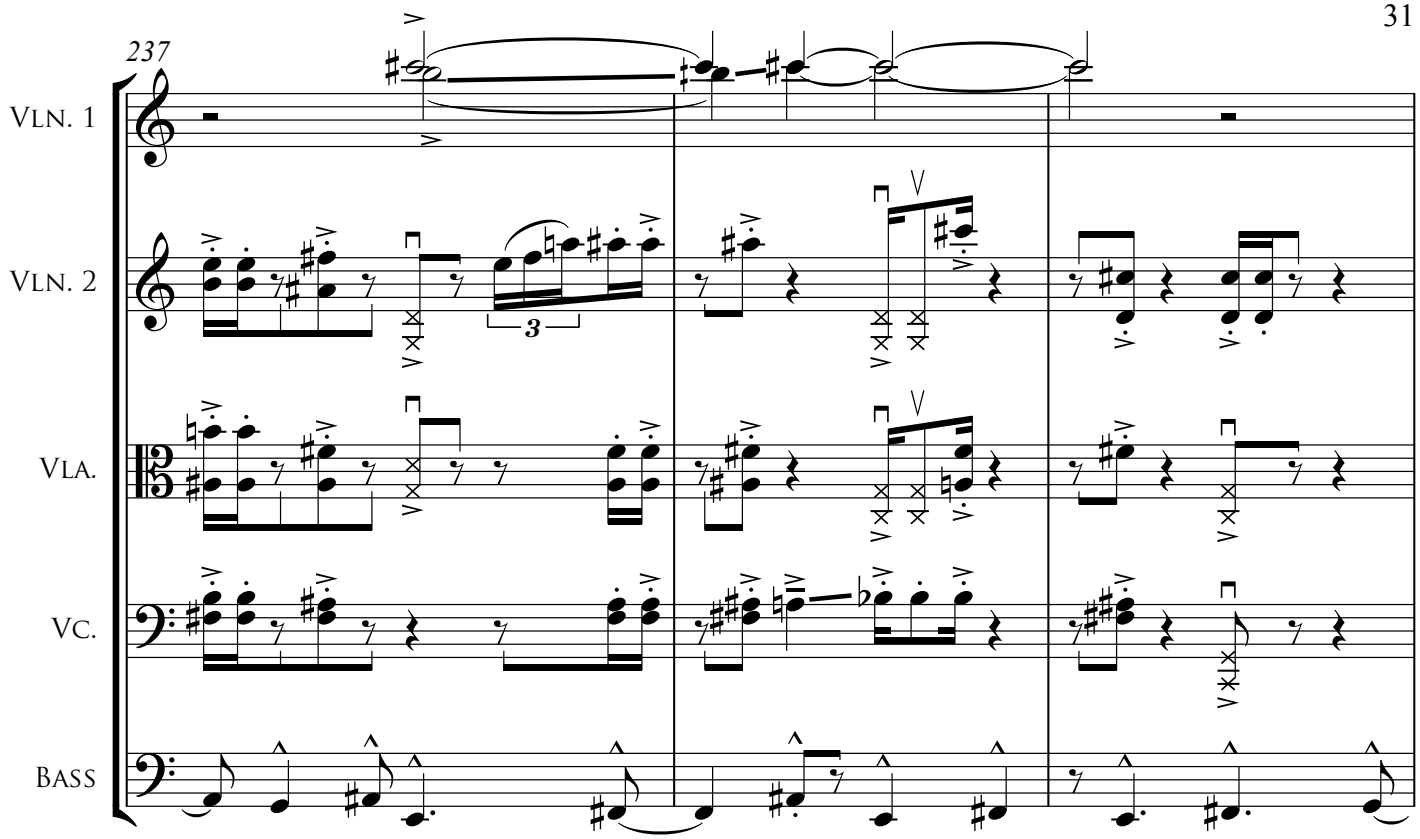

217
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
f
ord.

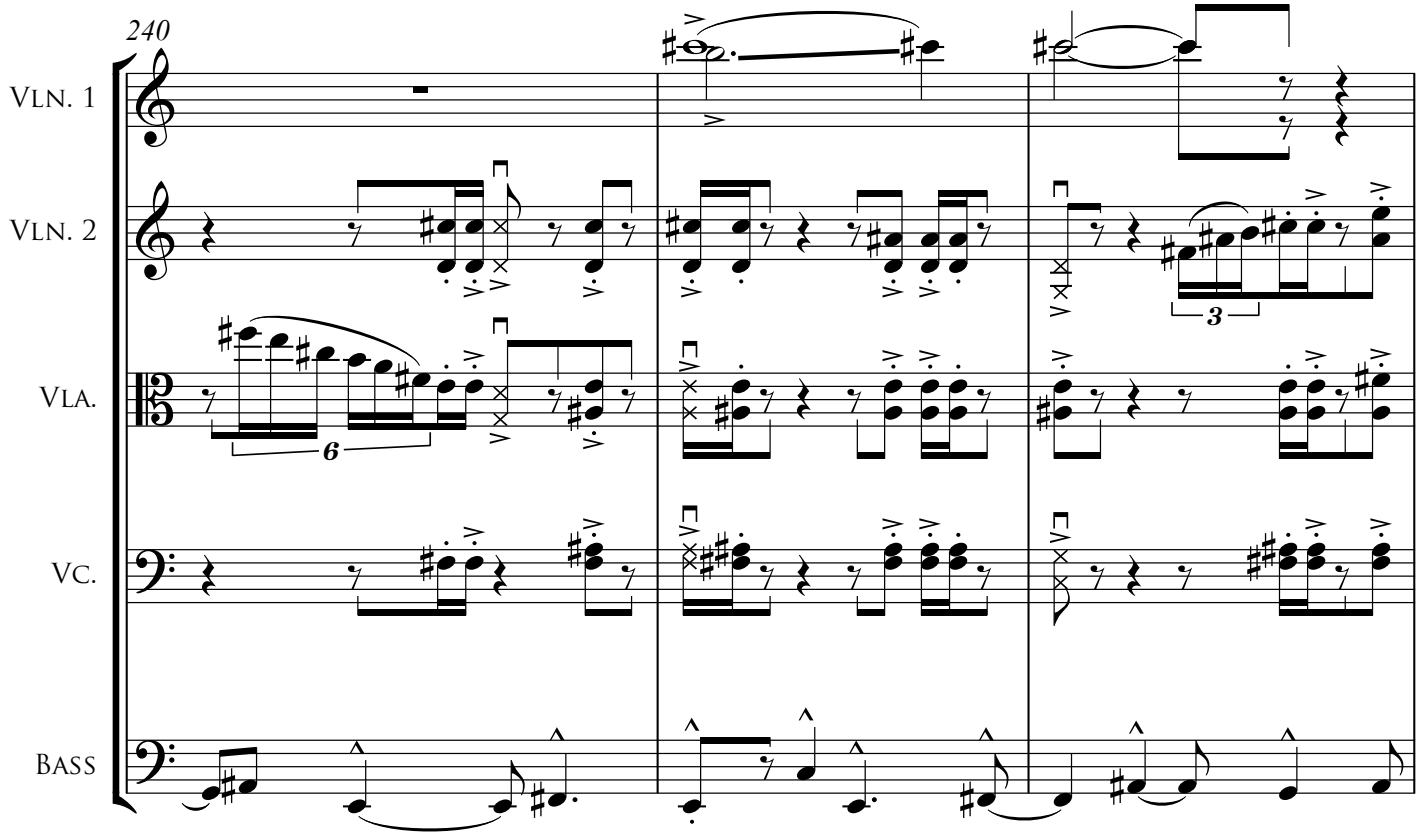

220
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
223
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass

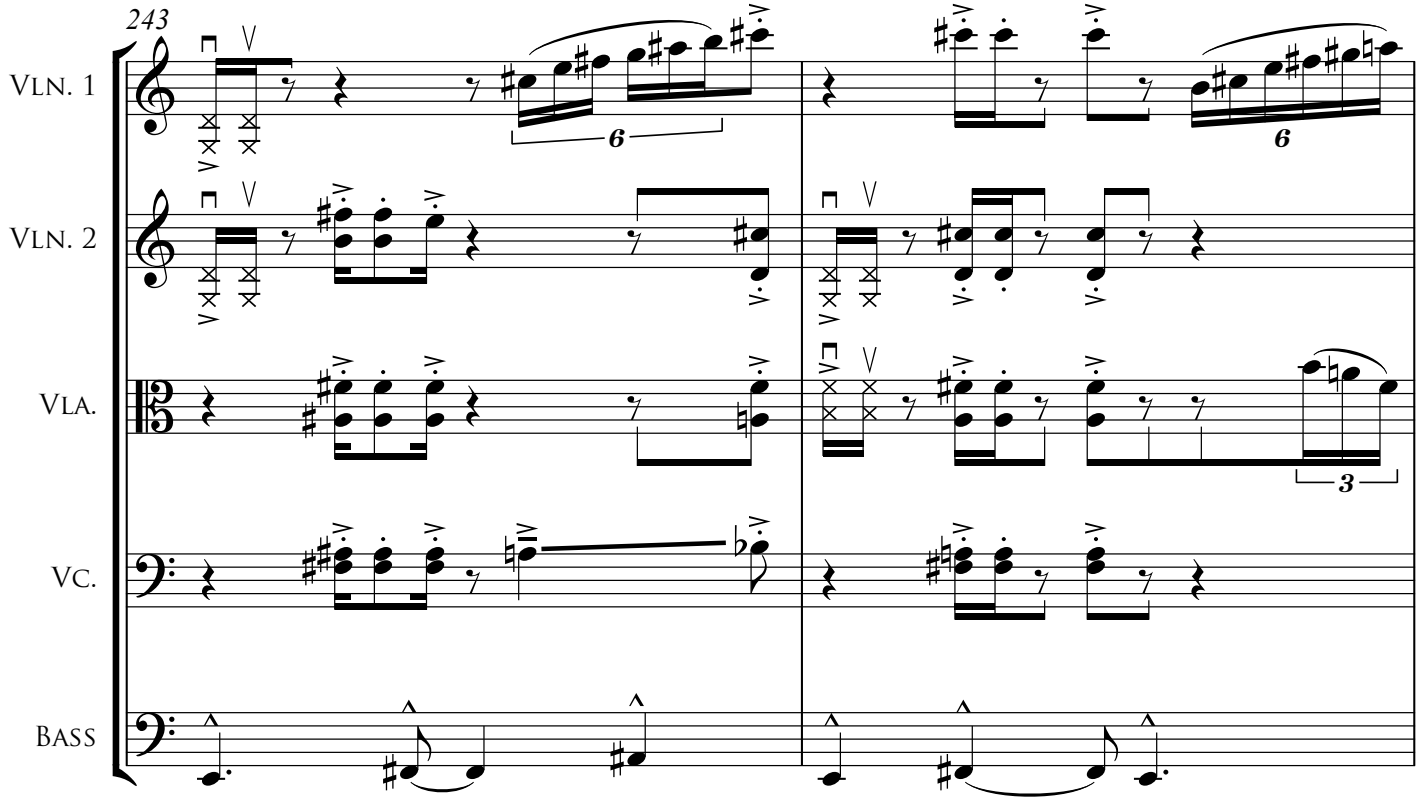

225
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
ff
Arco
fff
227
Heavy, brutal
fff Nasty, piercing
Chop

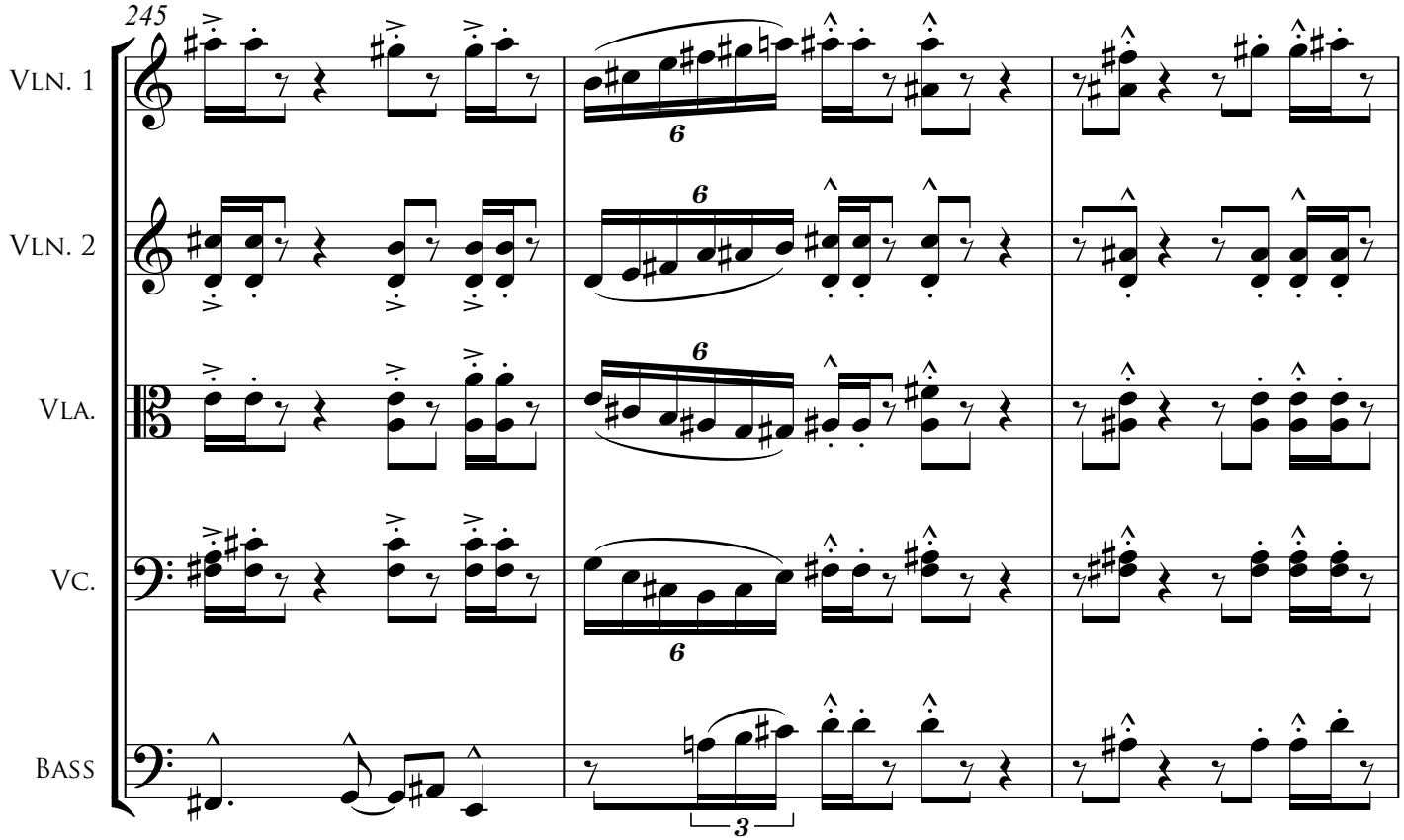

231
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass

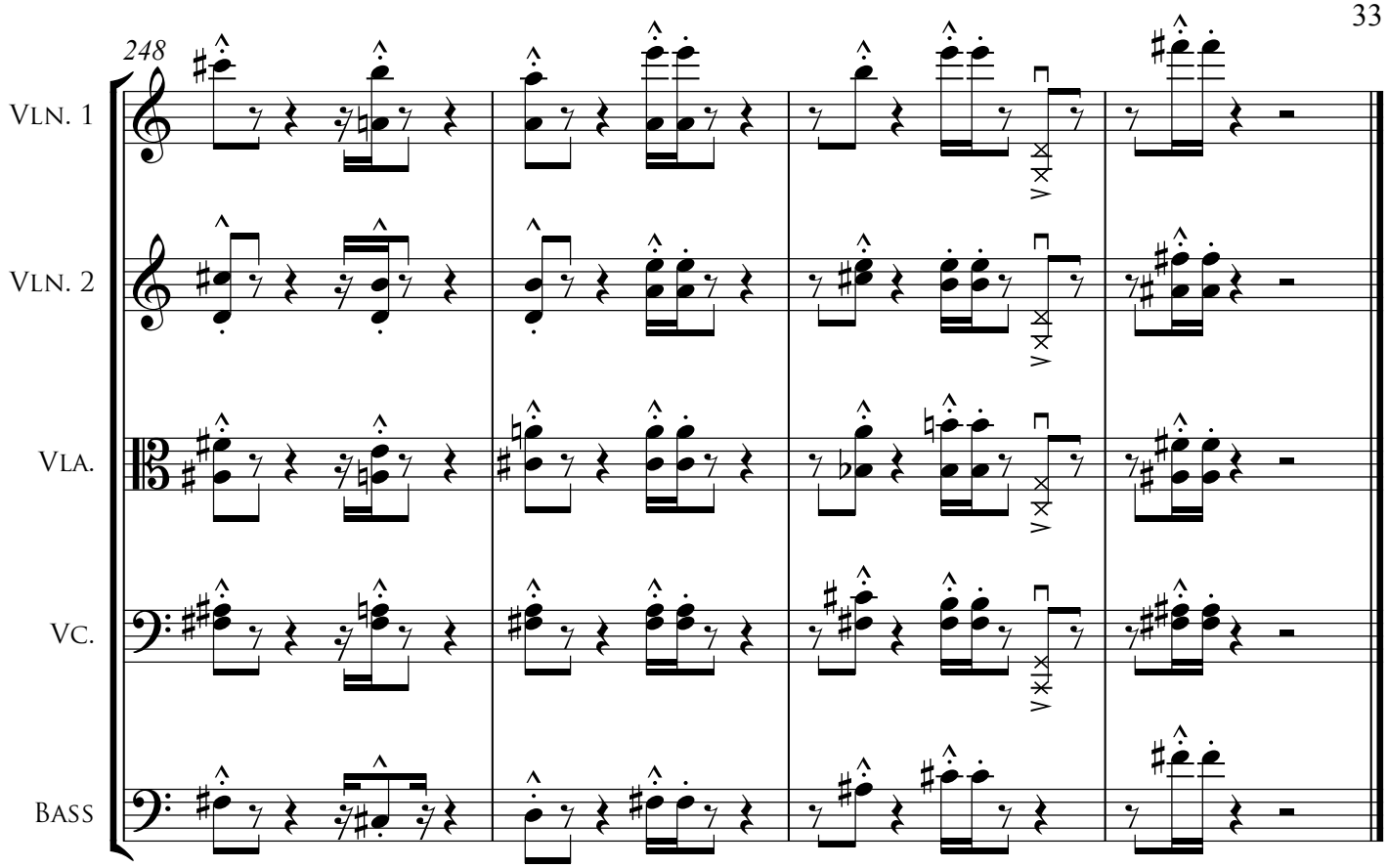

234
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass


237
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
3


240
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
6
3


243
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
6
6
3


245
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass
6
6
6
6
3


248
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Bass