Brandenburg Concerto 5

BWV 1050, mov. 3 (Allegro)

Johann Sebastian Bach

arranged by Paul De Bra for
accordion ensemble (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, bass)

The Brandenburg Concerto nr. 5 is written for three solo instruments (harpsichord, flute, violin) and strings. Bach supposedly wrote this concerto (in 1719) shortly after obtaining a new harpsichord. To show off the new instrument he gave it a prominent role, sparking the birth of what would later become many more concertos for keyboard (harpsichord or piano). In the arrangement the harpsichord part has been divided over two solo parts (acc. 1 and 2). Acc. 3 plays the flute and acc. 4 the solo violin. Acc. 5 is mostly the “ripieni” (all other violins), acc. 6 the viola(s) and the bass does cello, double base or both. Although this can be played with 7 players it may sound better with a few players in acc. 5 and 6. The indicated dynamics assume the volume of a few players. Because the harpsichord has little control over dynamics it cannot overpower the other instruments. As a result also on accordion the solo parts acc. 1 and 2 should not try to overpower the other voices.
Bach really went overboard with the keyboard parts so some virtuoso players are needed for the very fast runs. Other than that this arrangement is not extremely difficult. The original is written in 2/4 with lots of triplets. The arrangement simply uses 6/8, which is easier to read.

A recording by Professor P is available on YouTube, played using different accordions and bass accordion.

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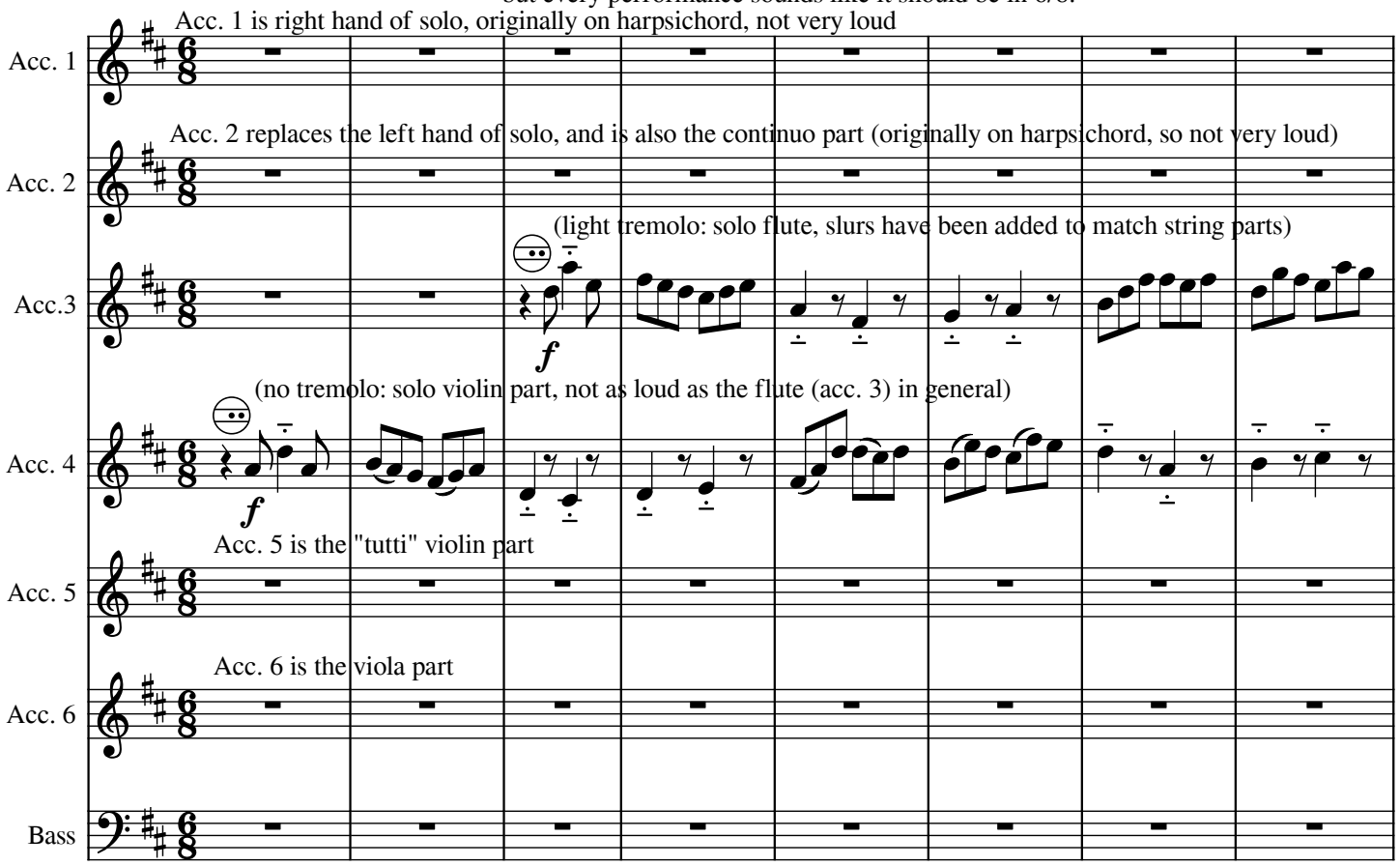
Brandenburg Concerto nr. 5

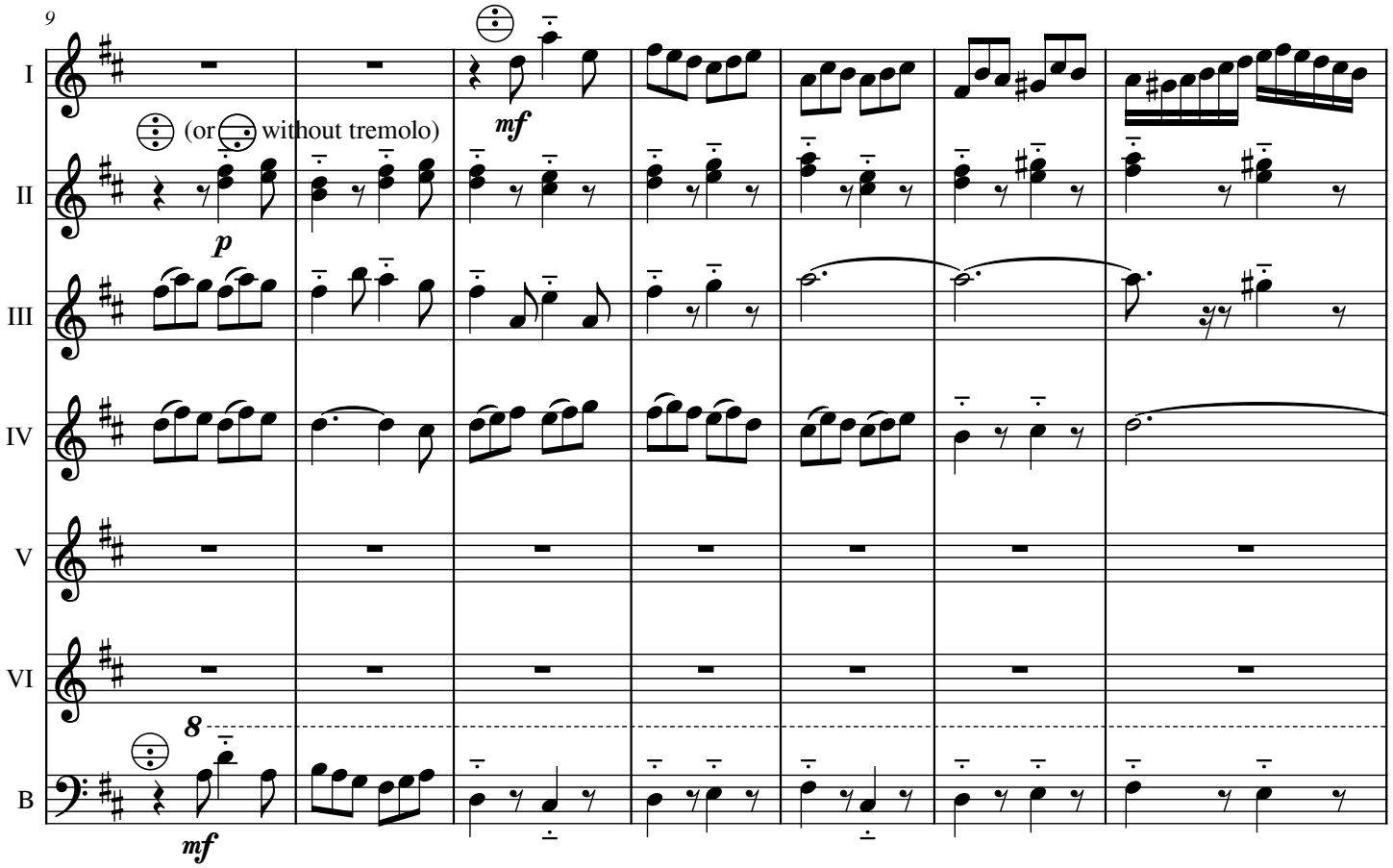
mov. 3: Allegro

Johann Sebastian Bach
arr. Paul De Bra

♩. = ca. 125 (120-130)
tutti/tutto molto leggiero

Originally this is written in 2/4 with lots (!!!) of triplets,
but every performance sounds like it should be in 6/8.





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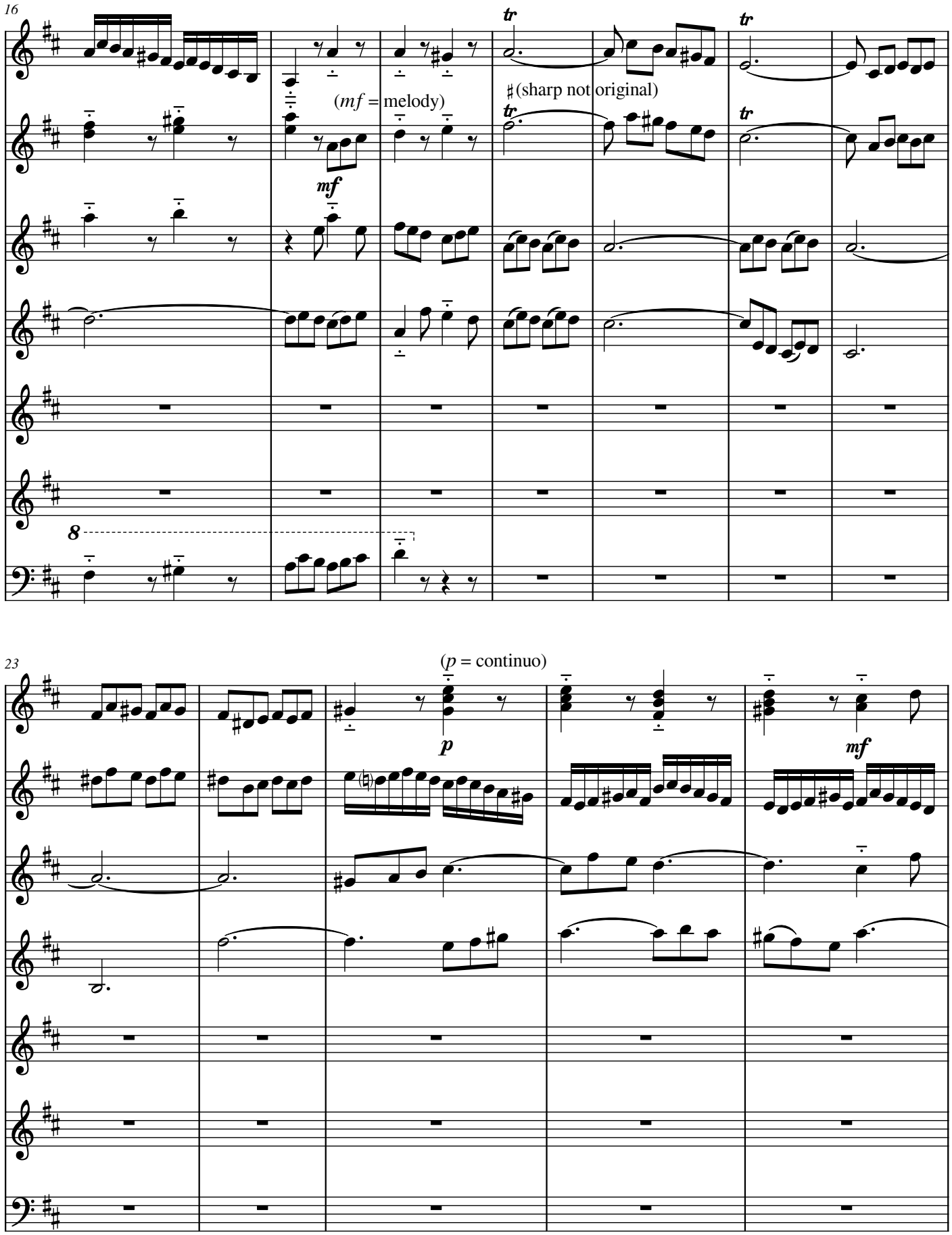

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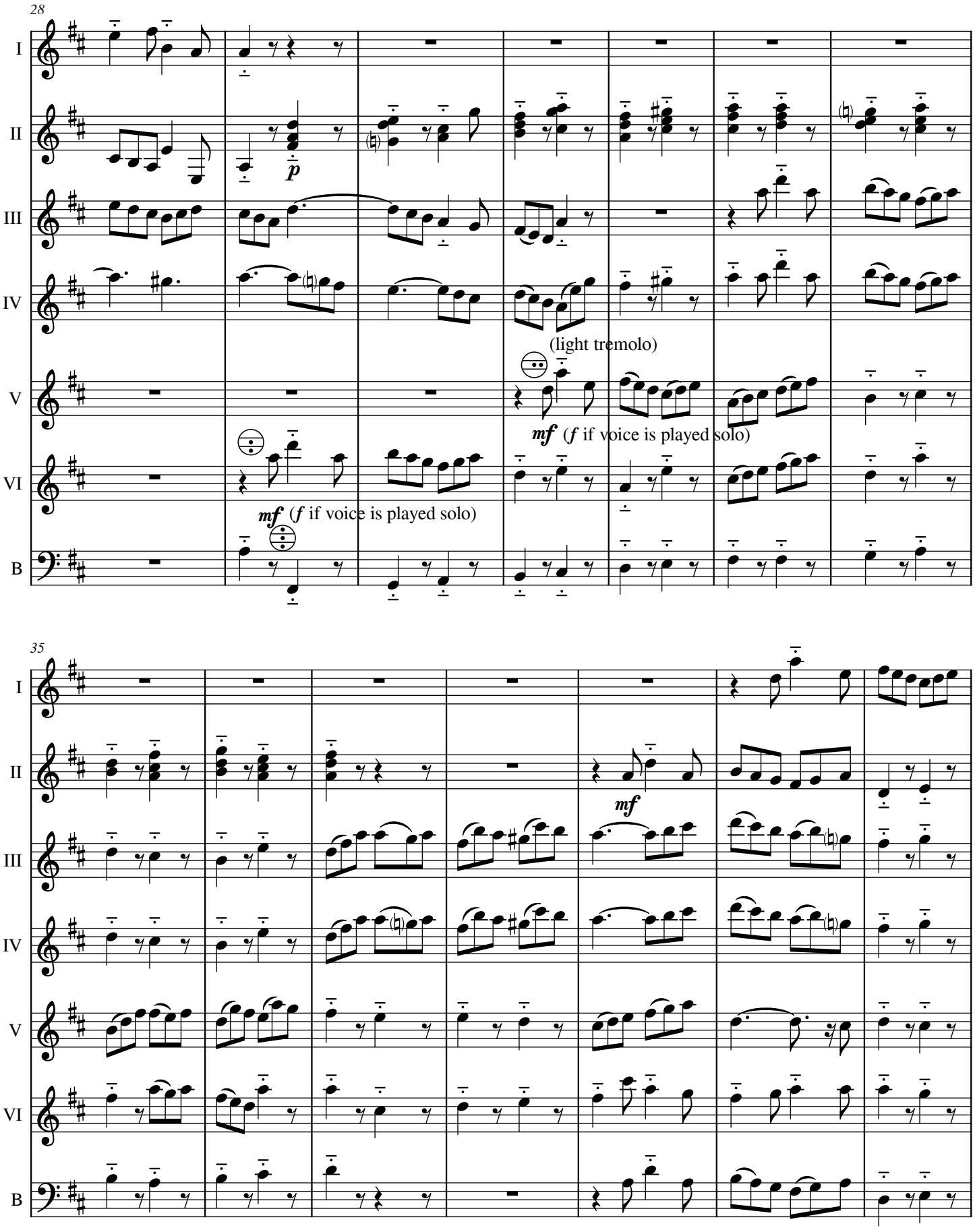

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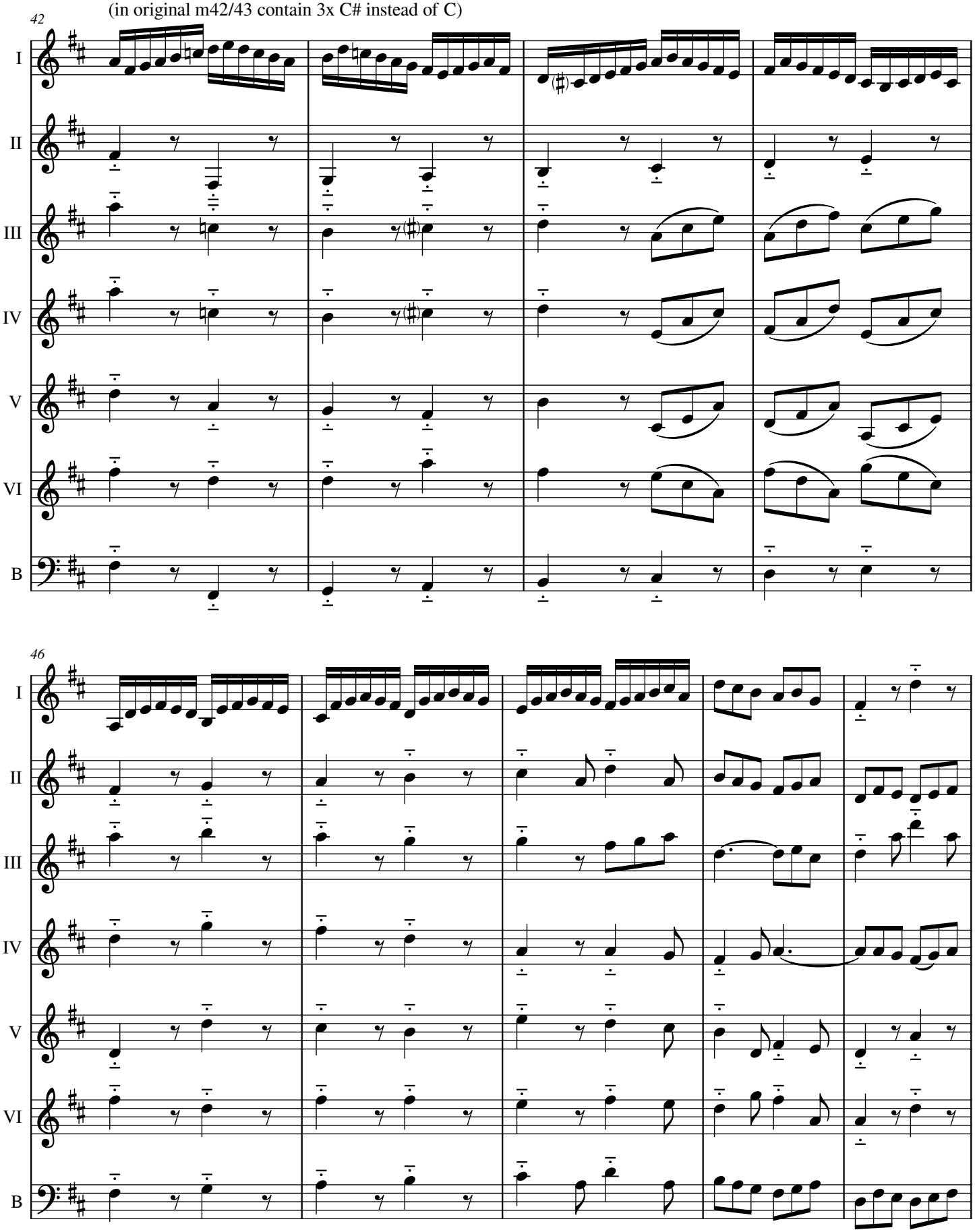
(in original m42/43 contain 3x C# instead of C)



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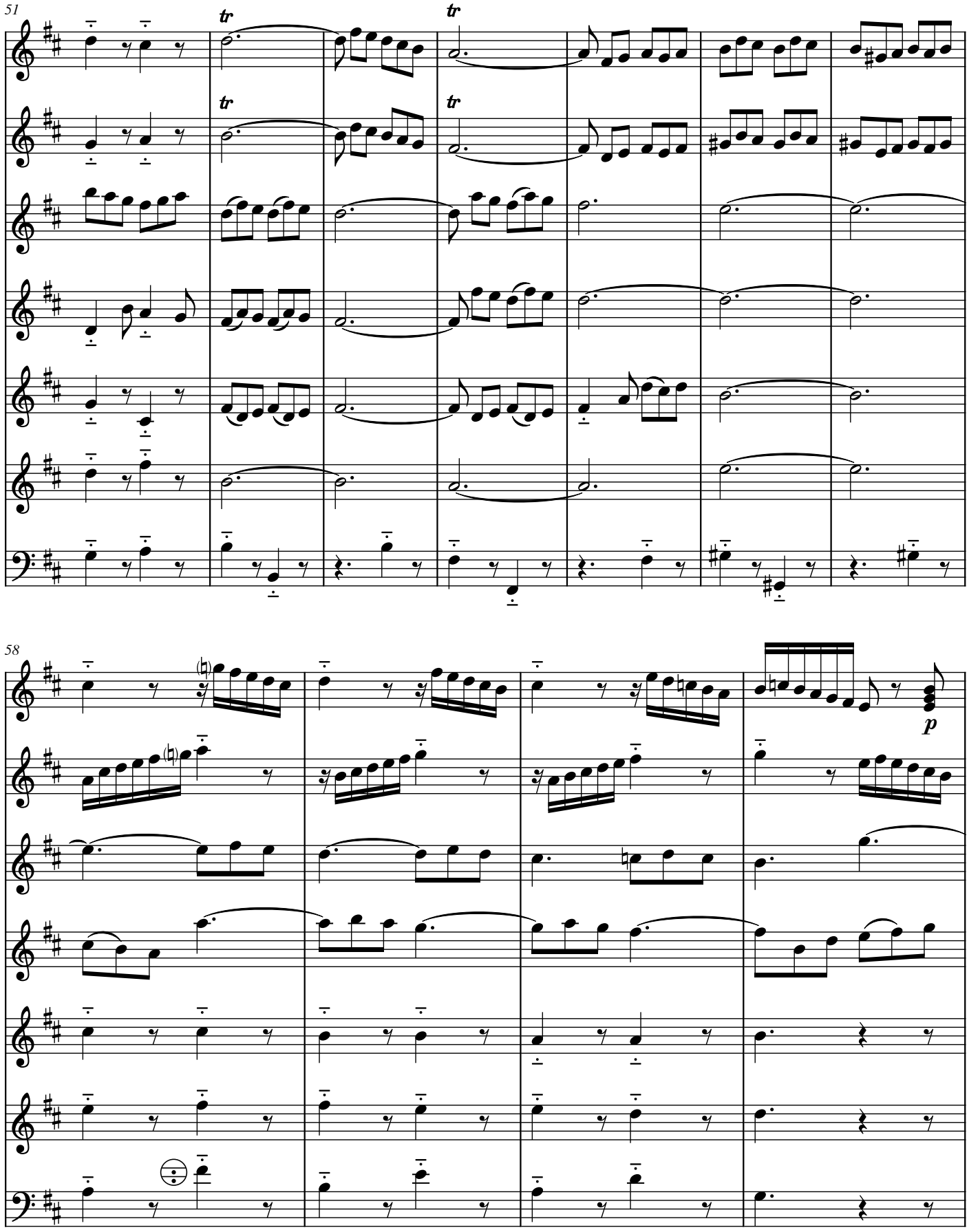

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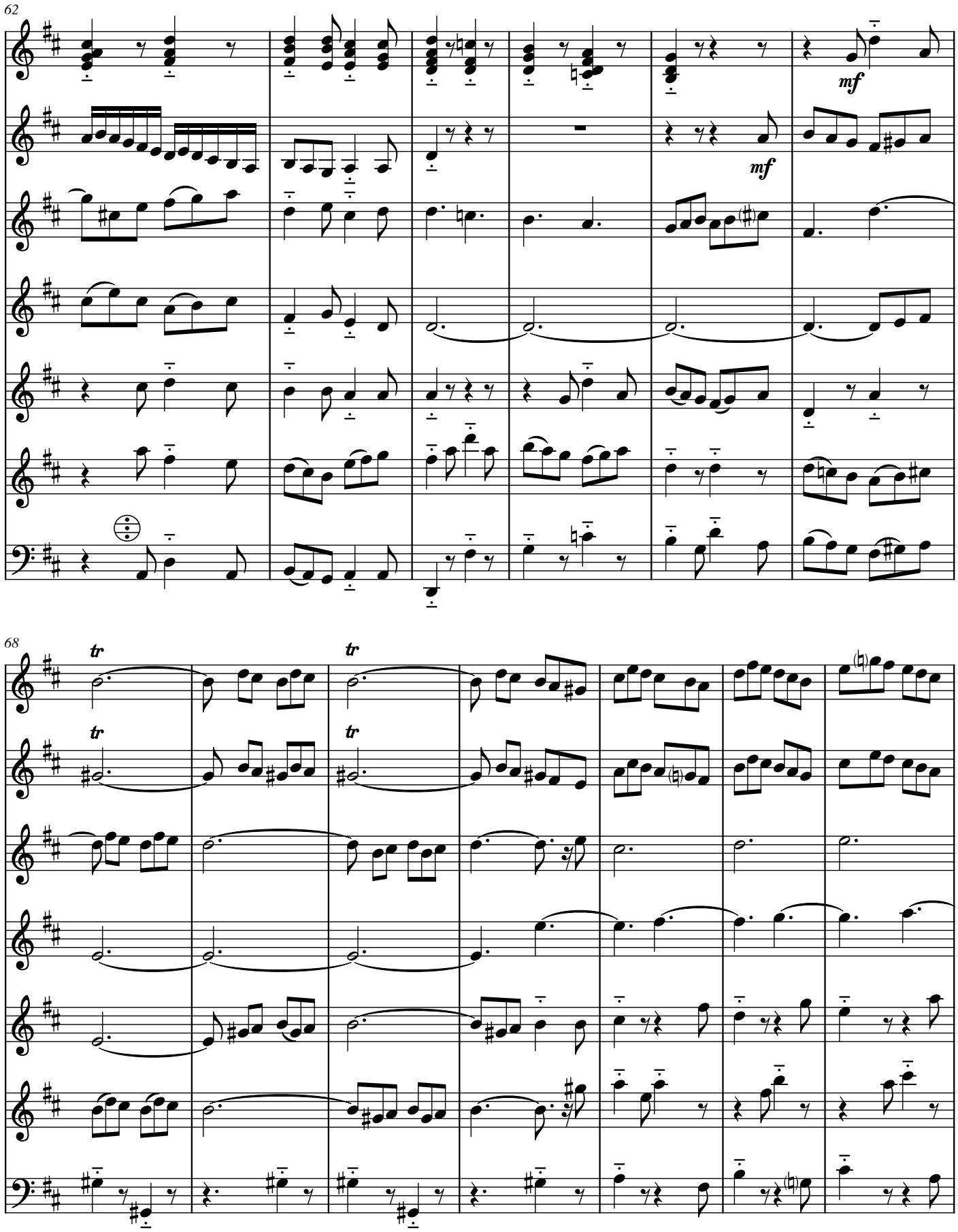

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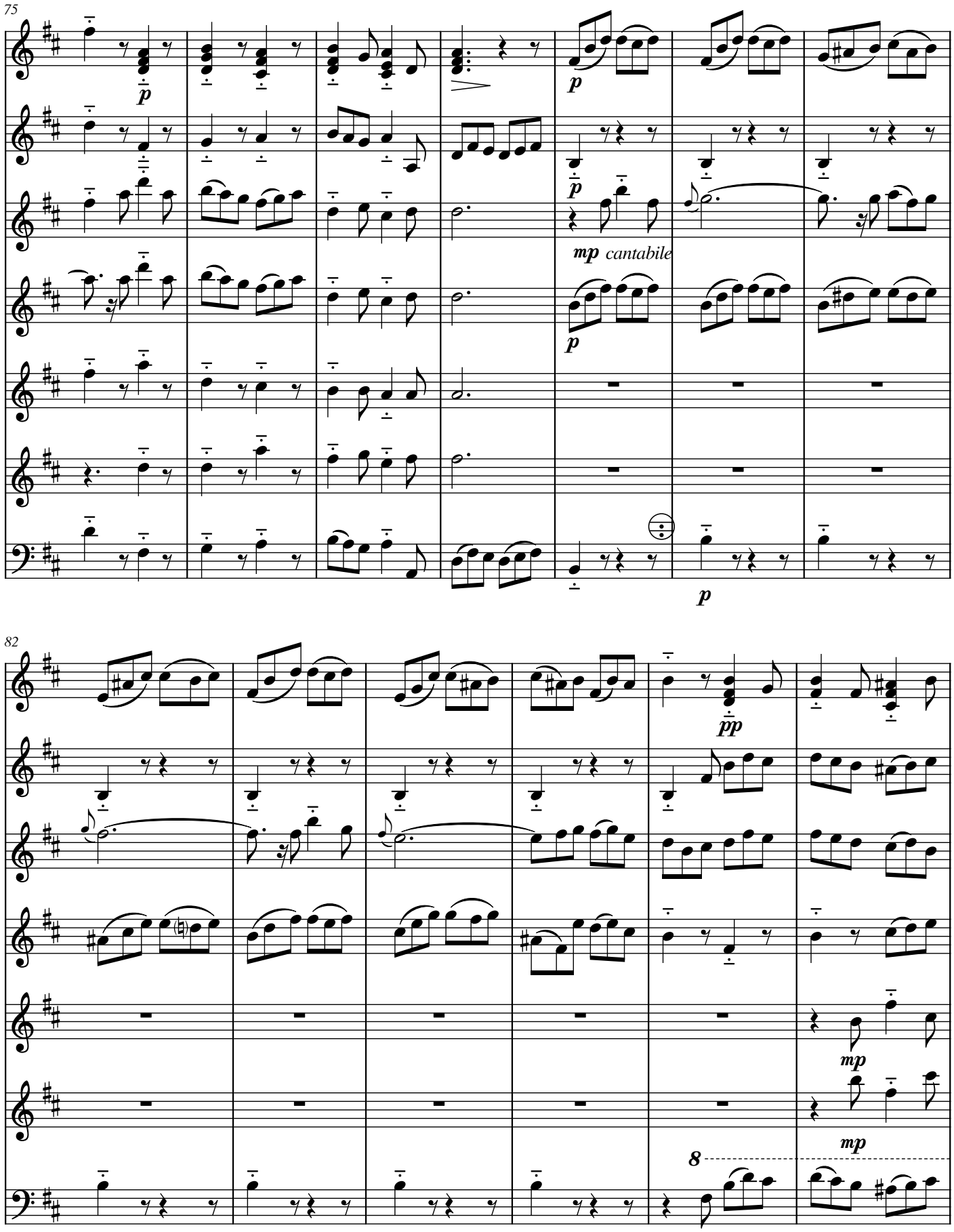

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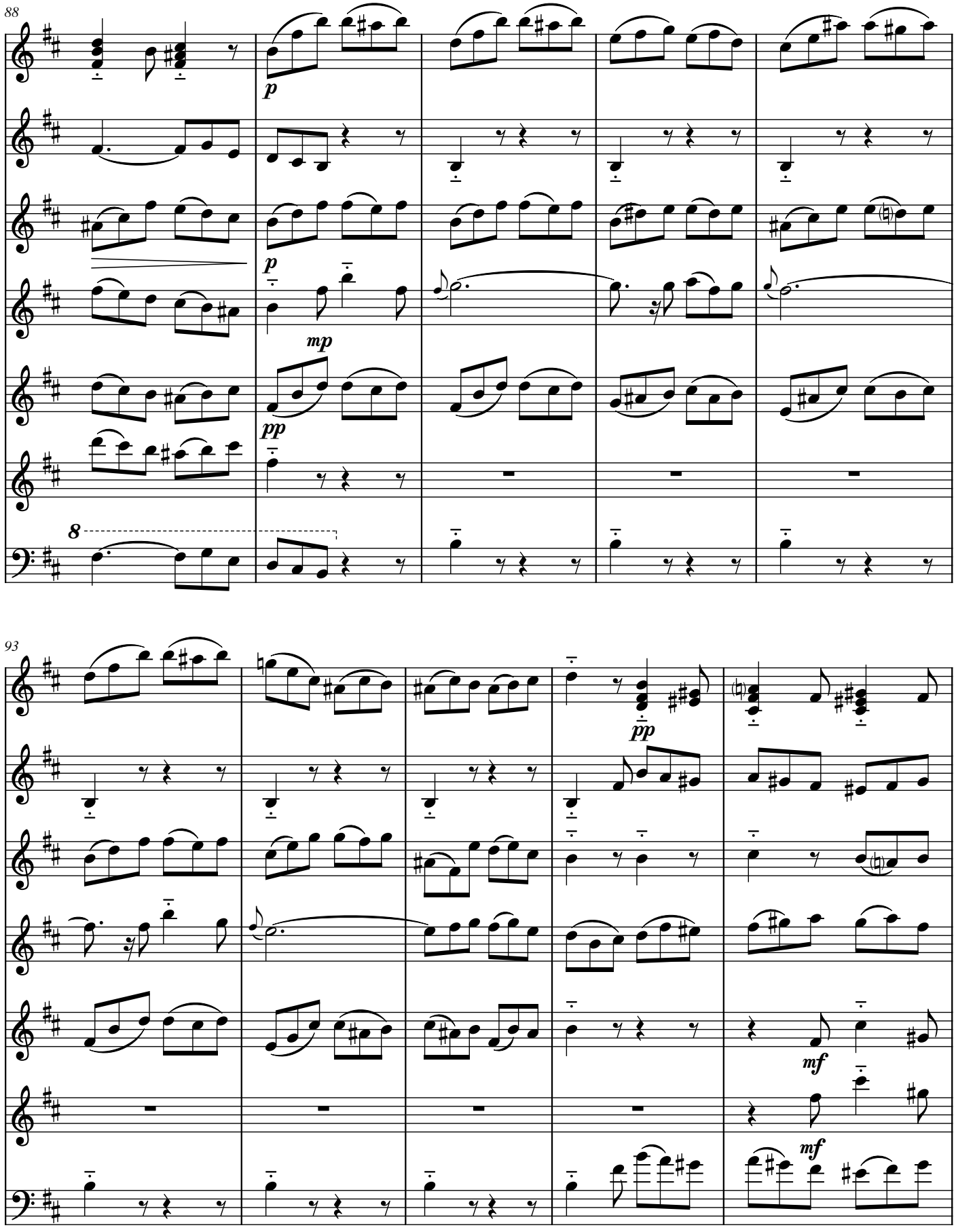

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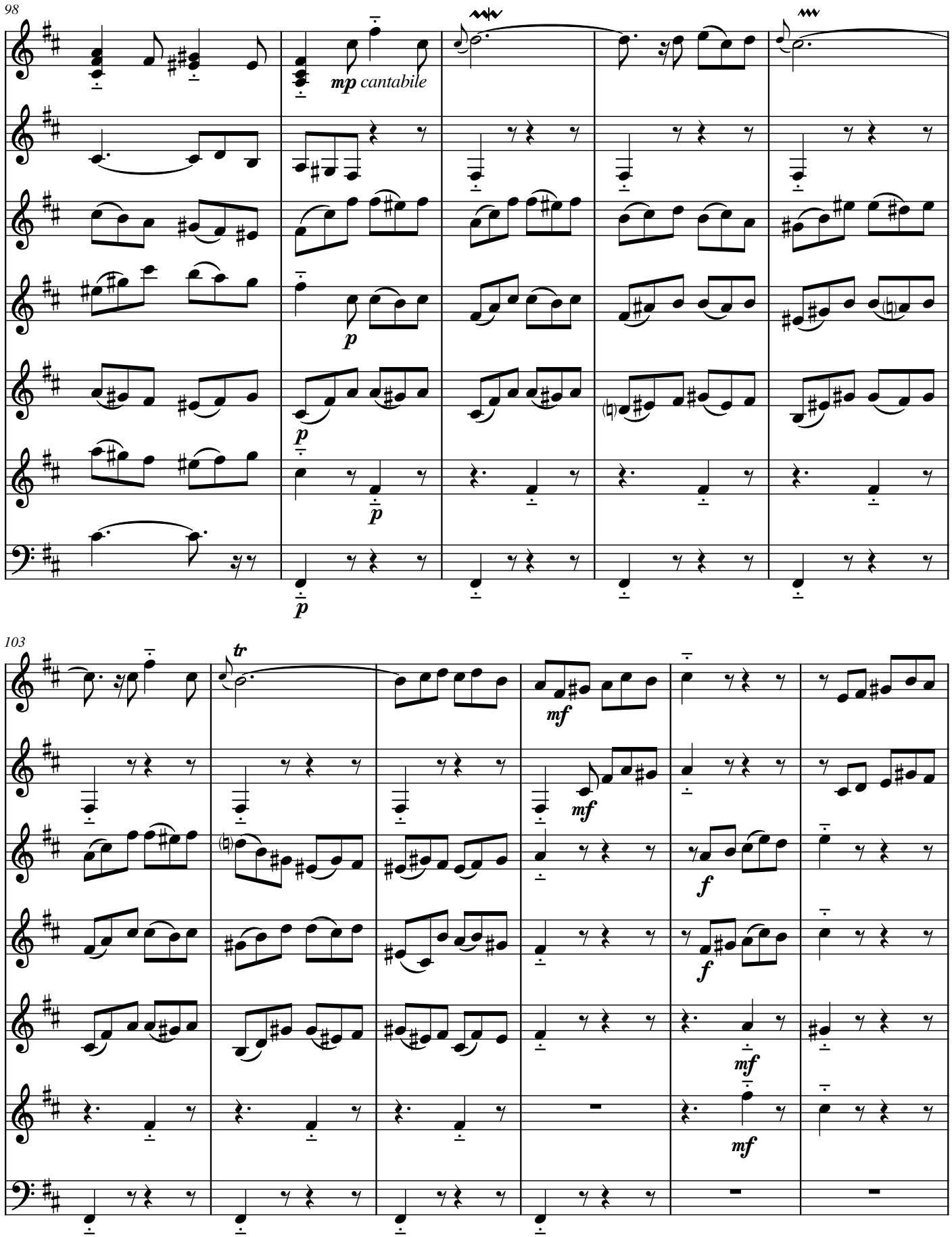

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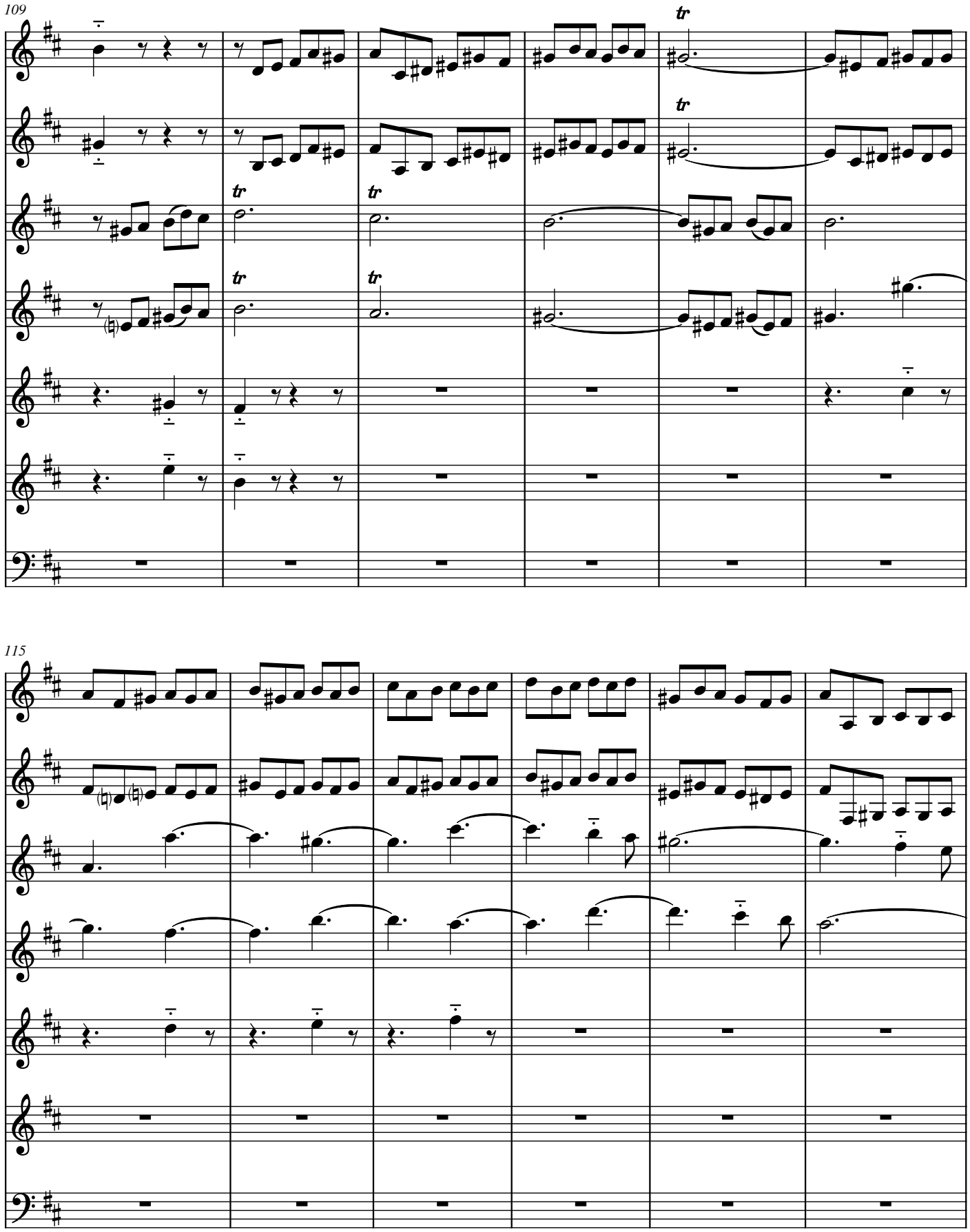

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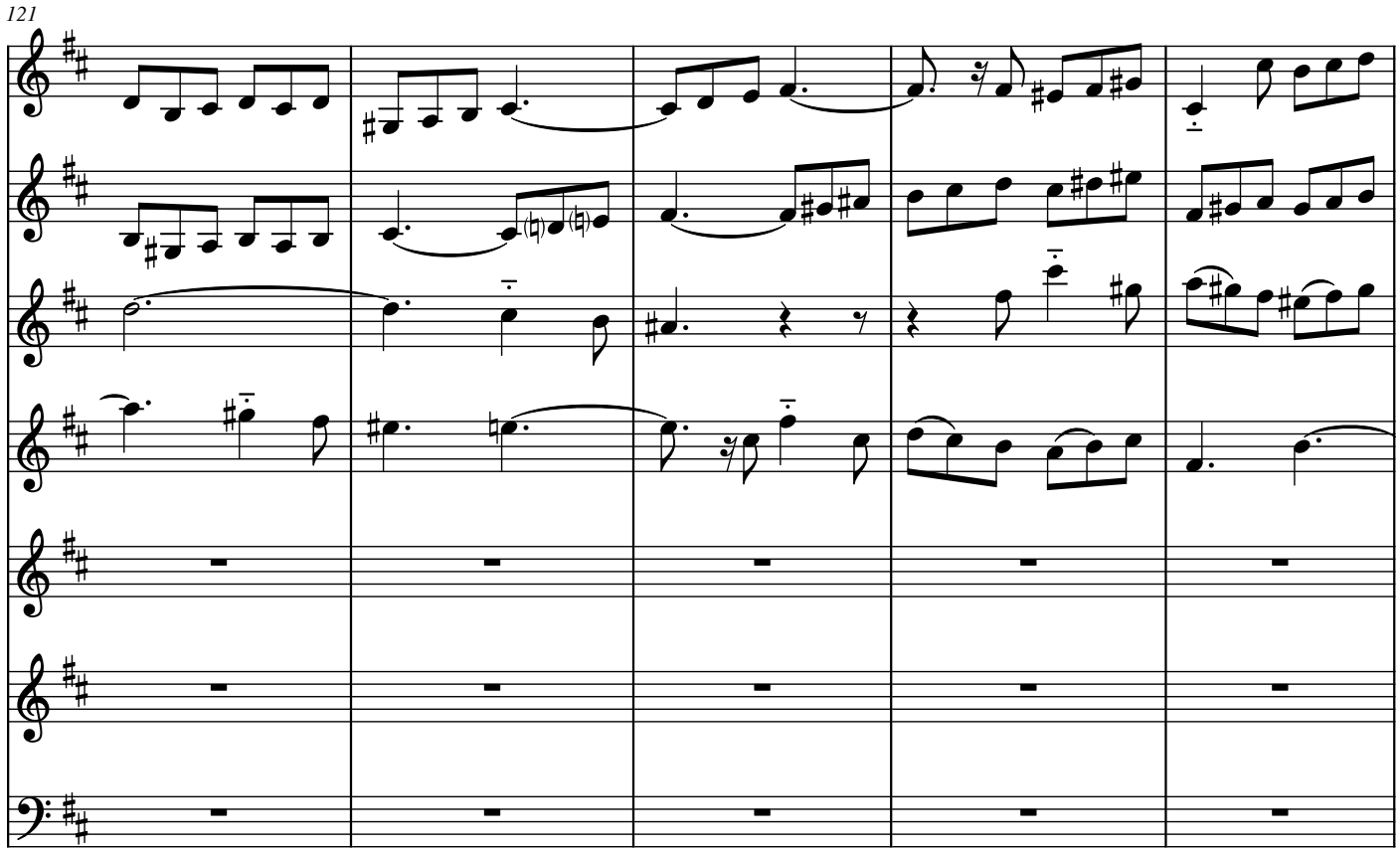

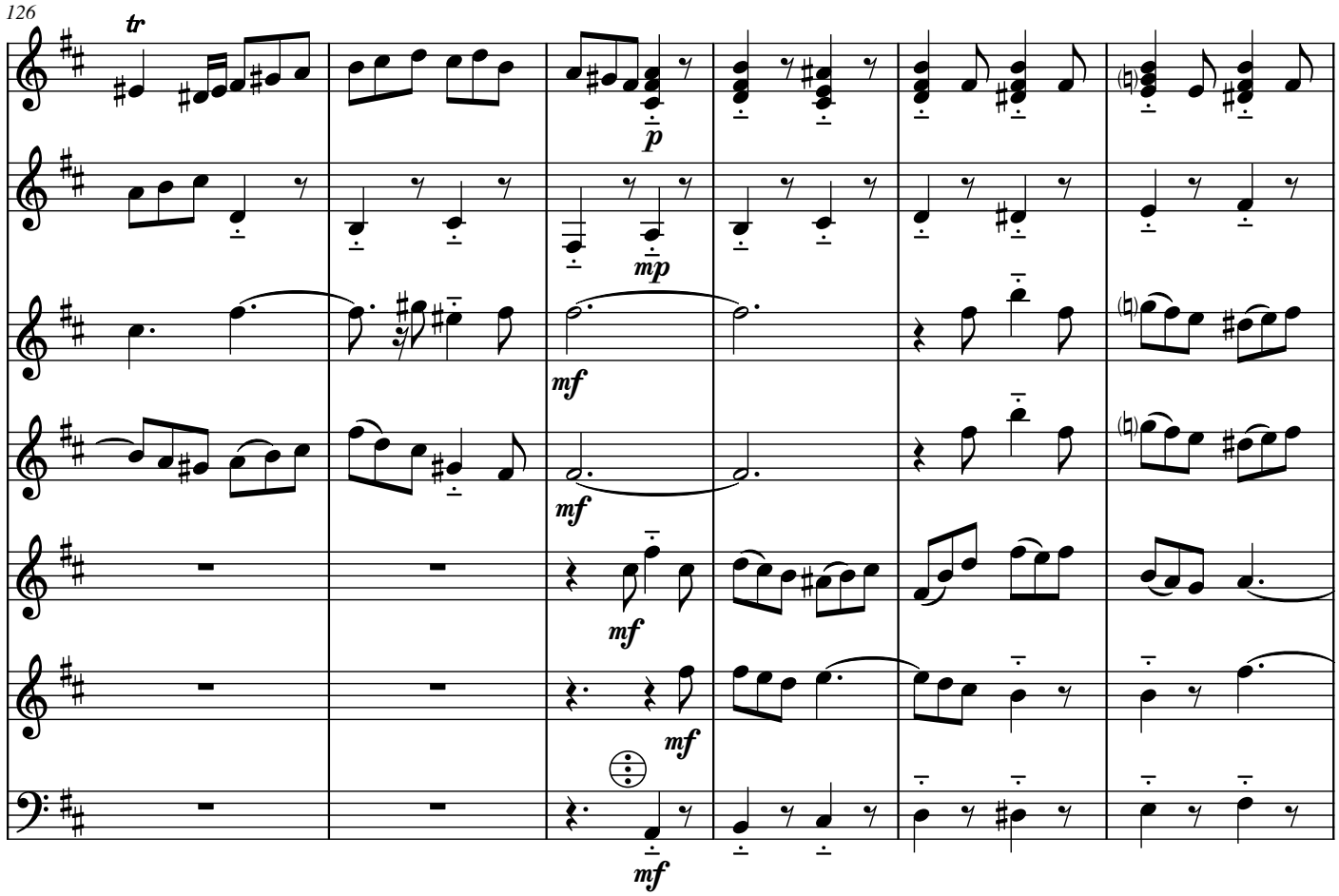

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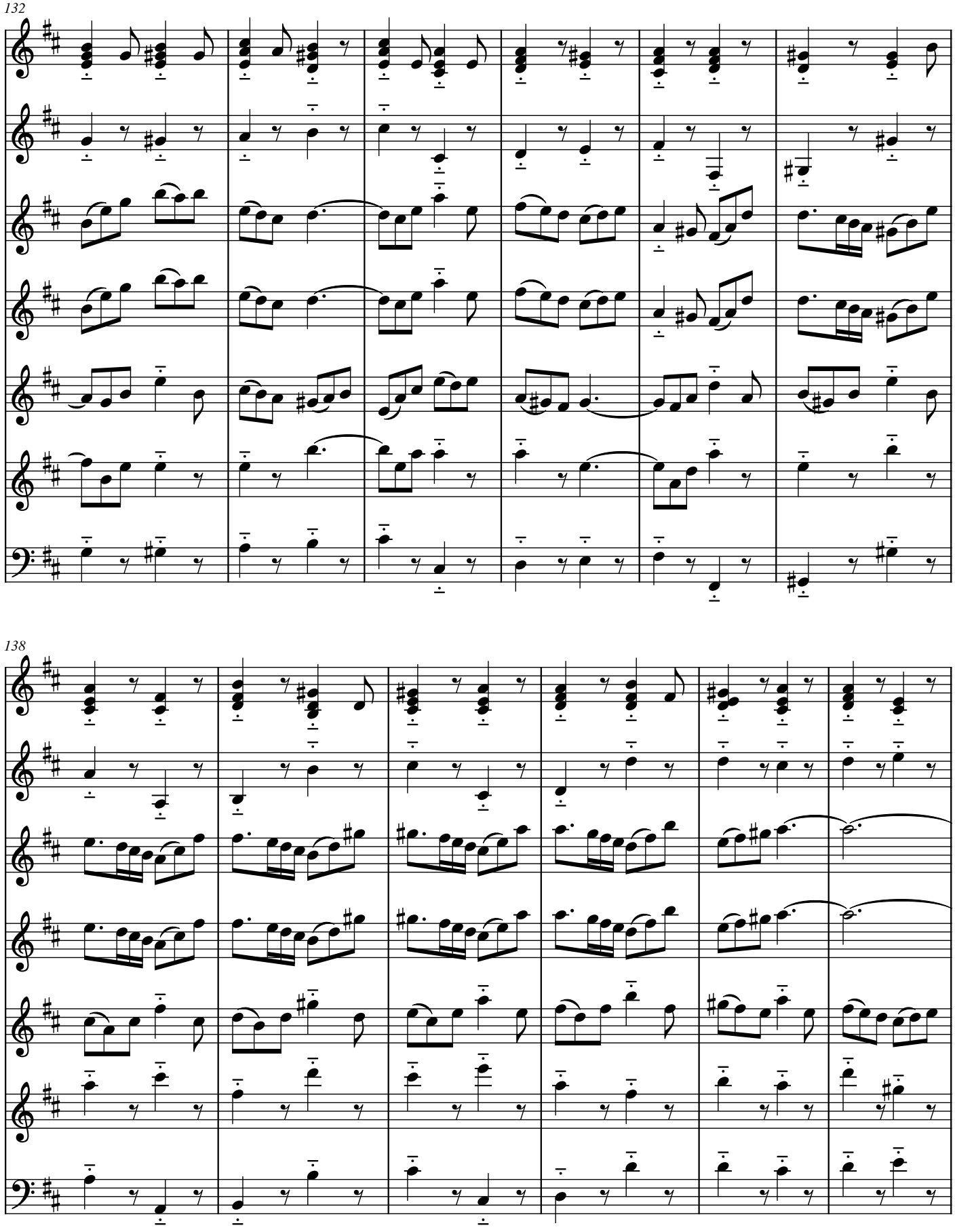

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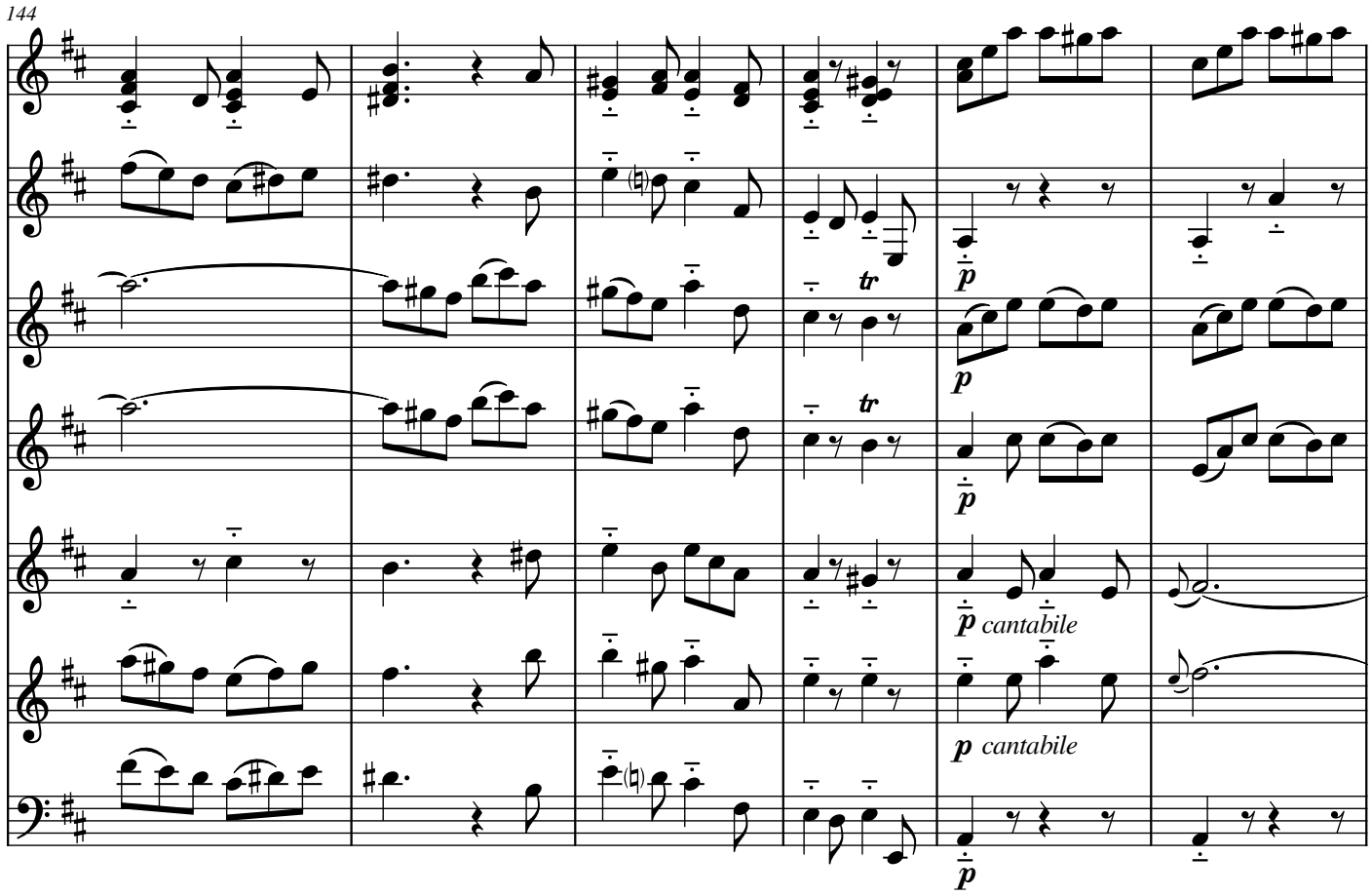

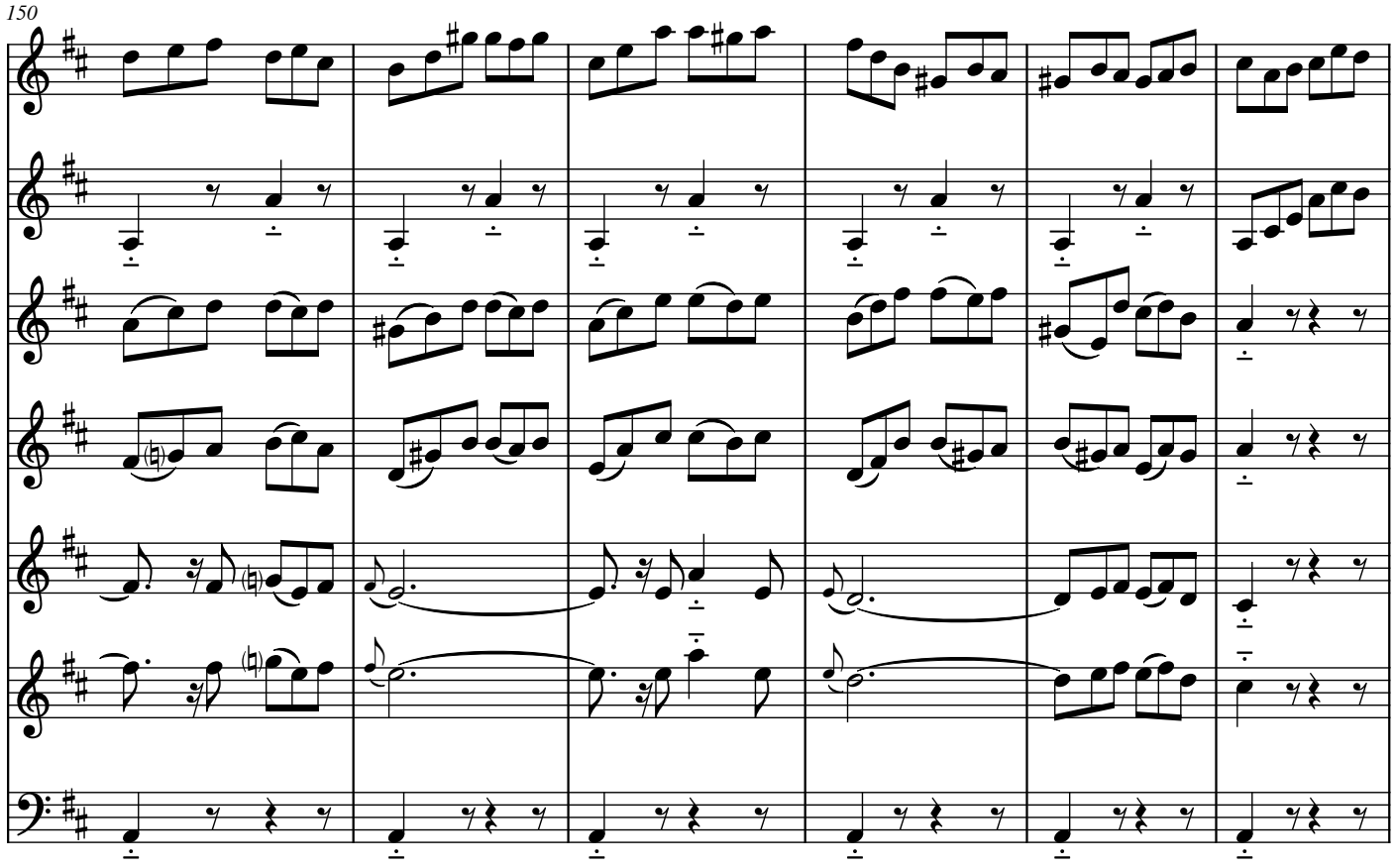

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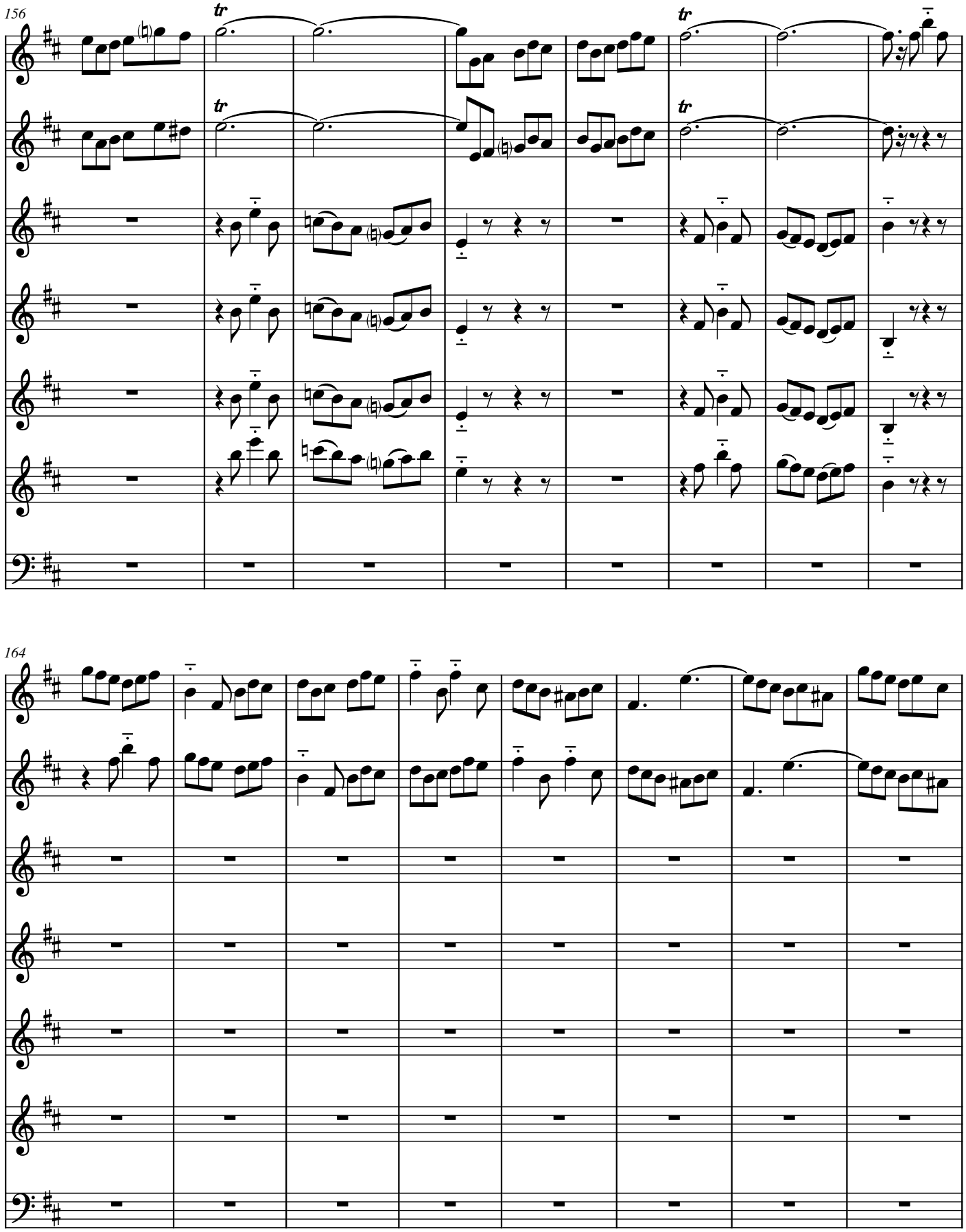

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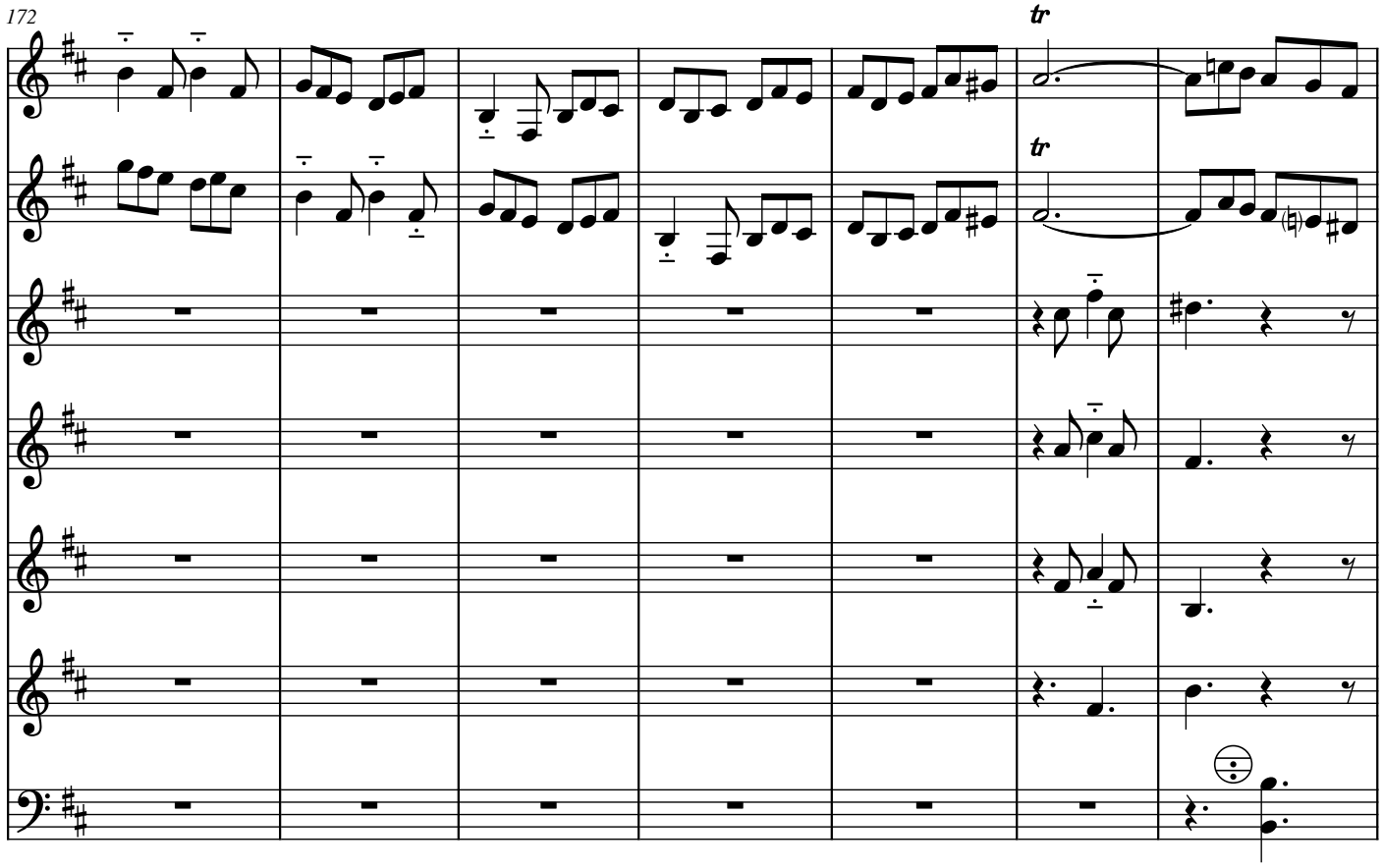

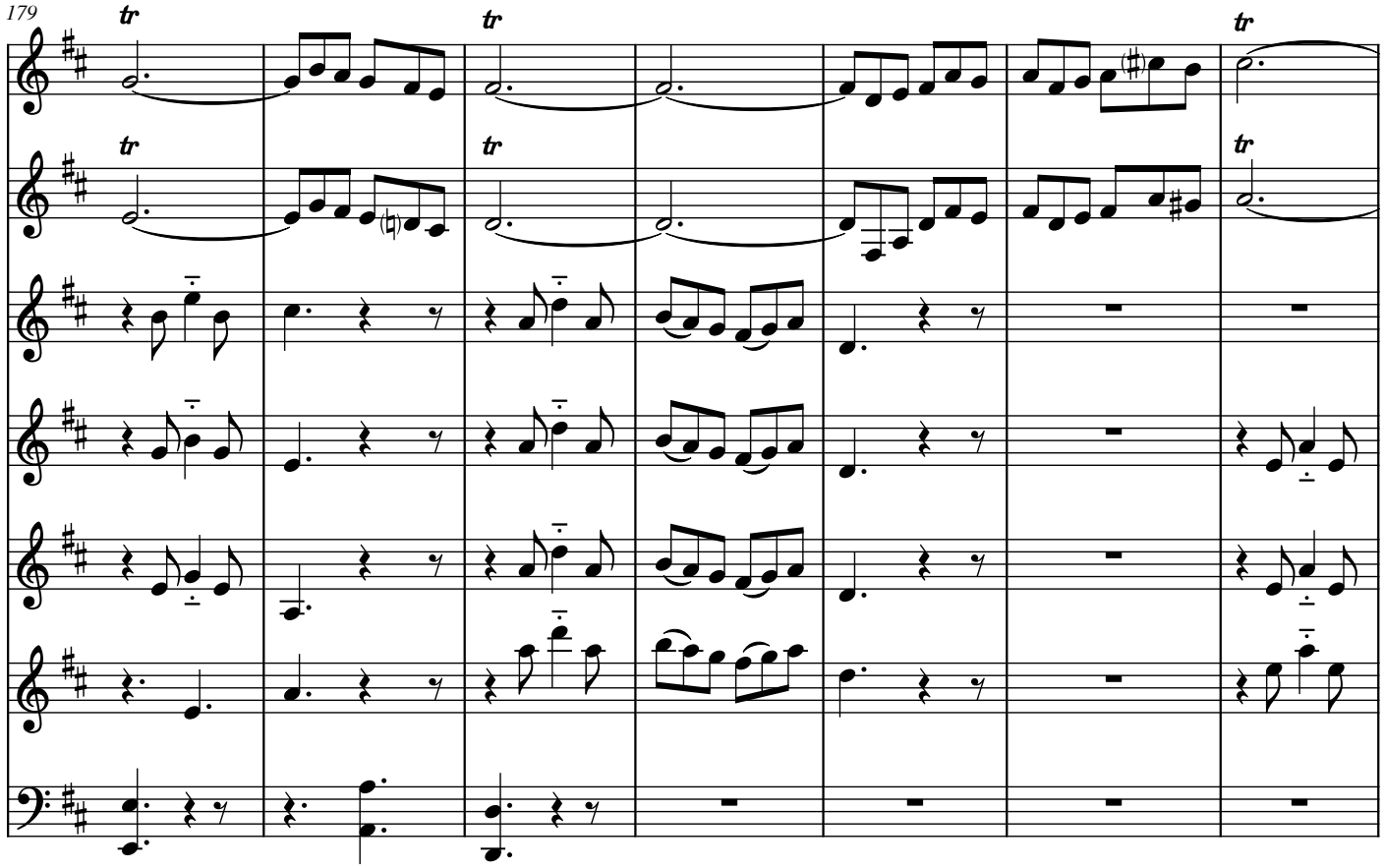

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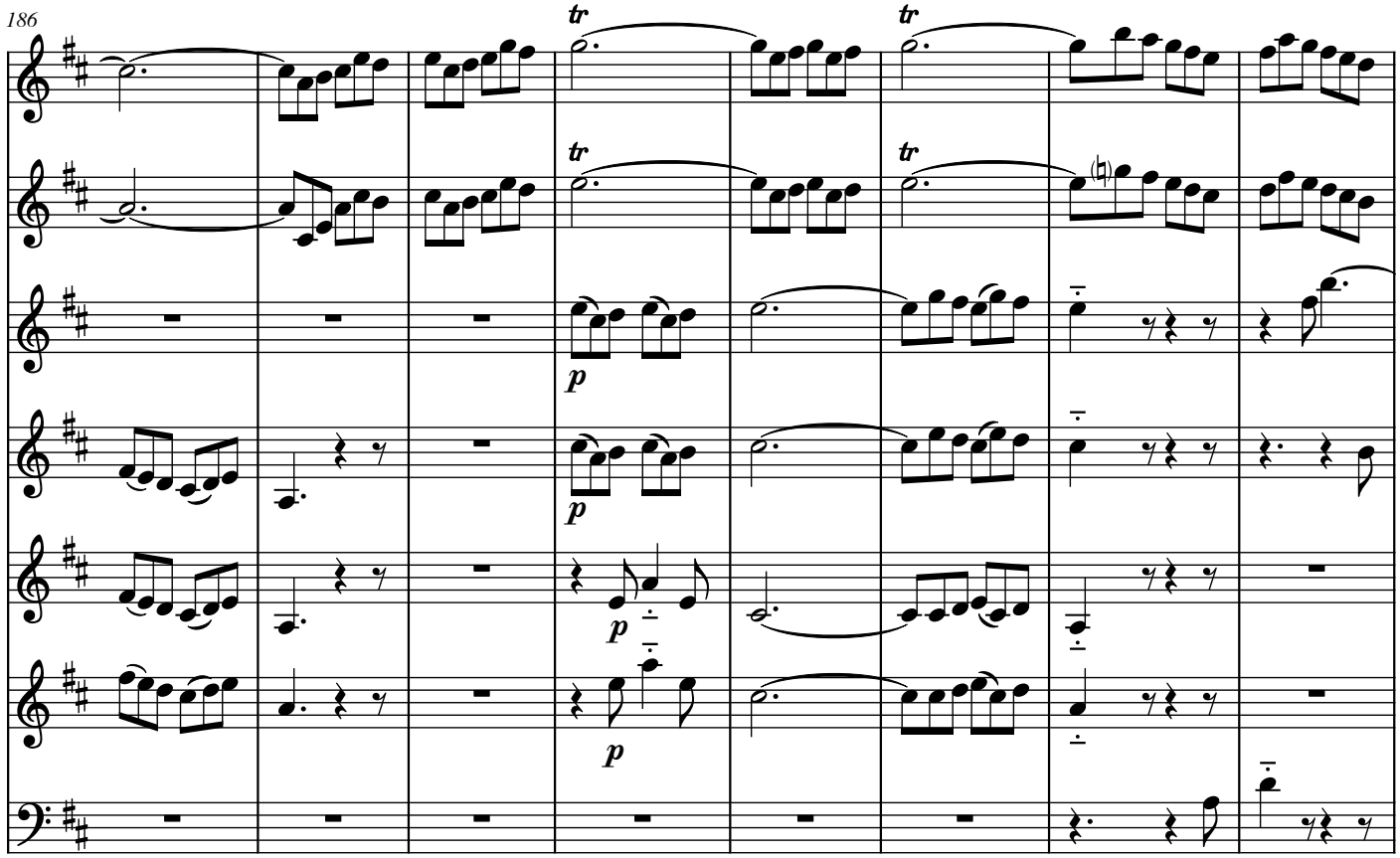

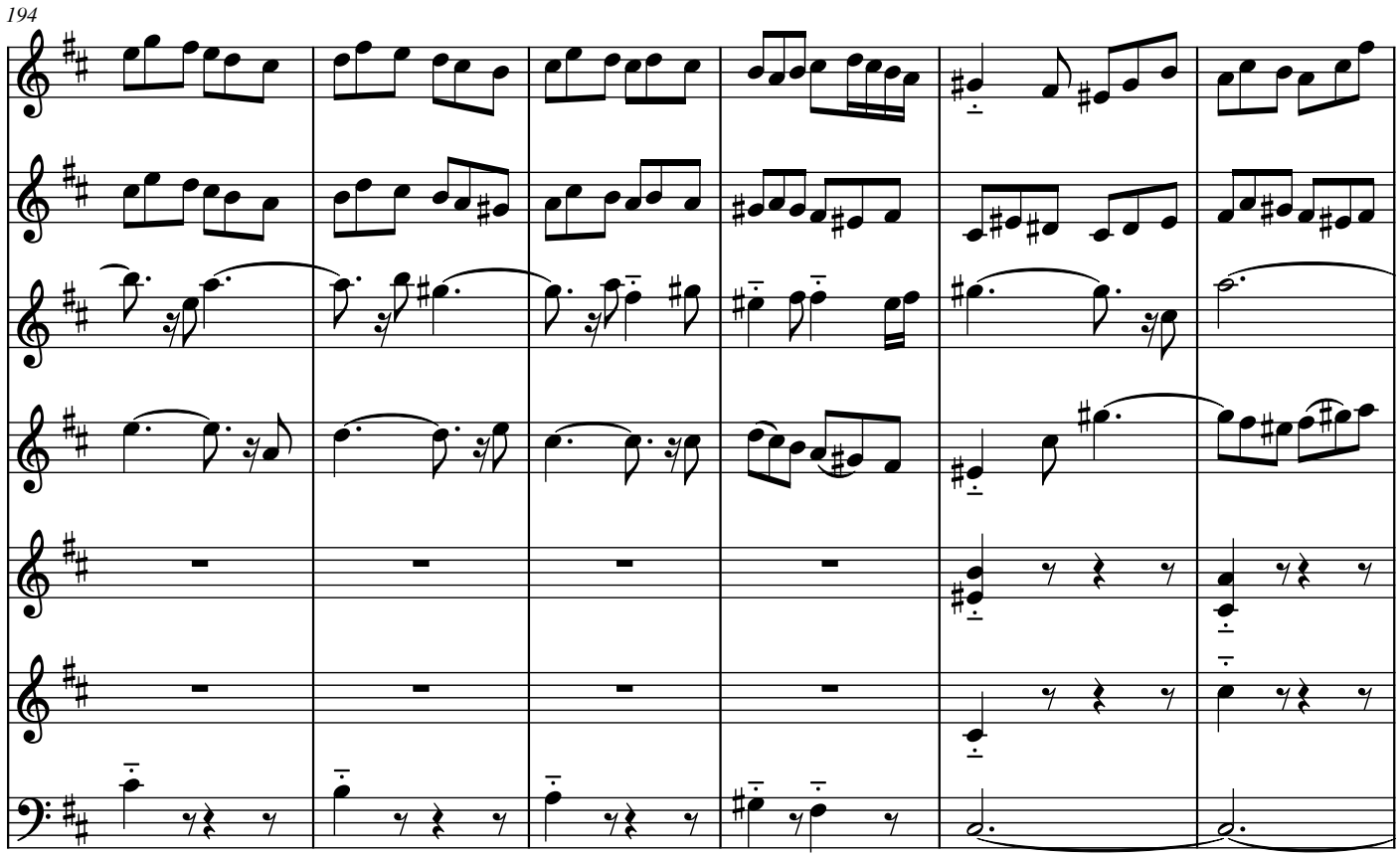

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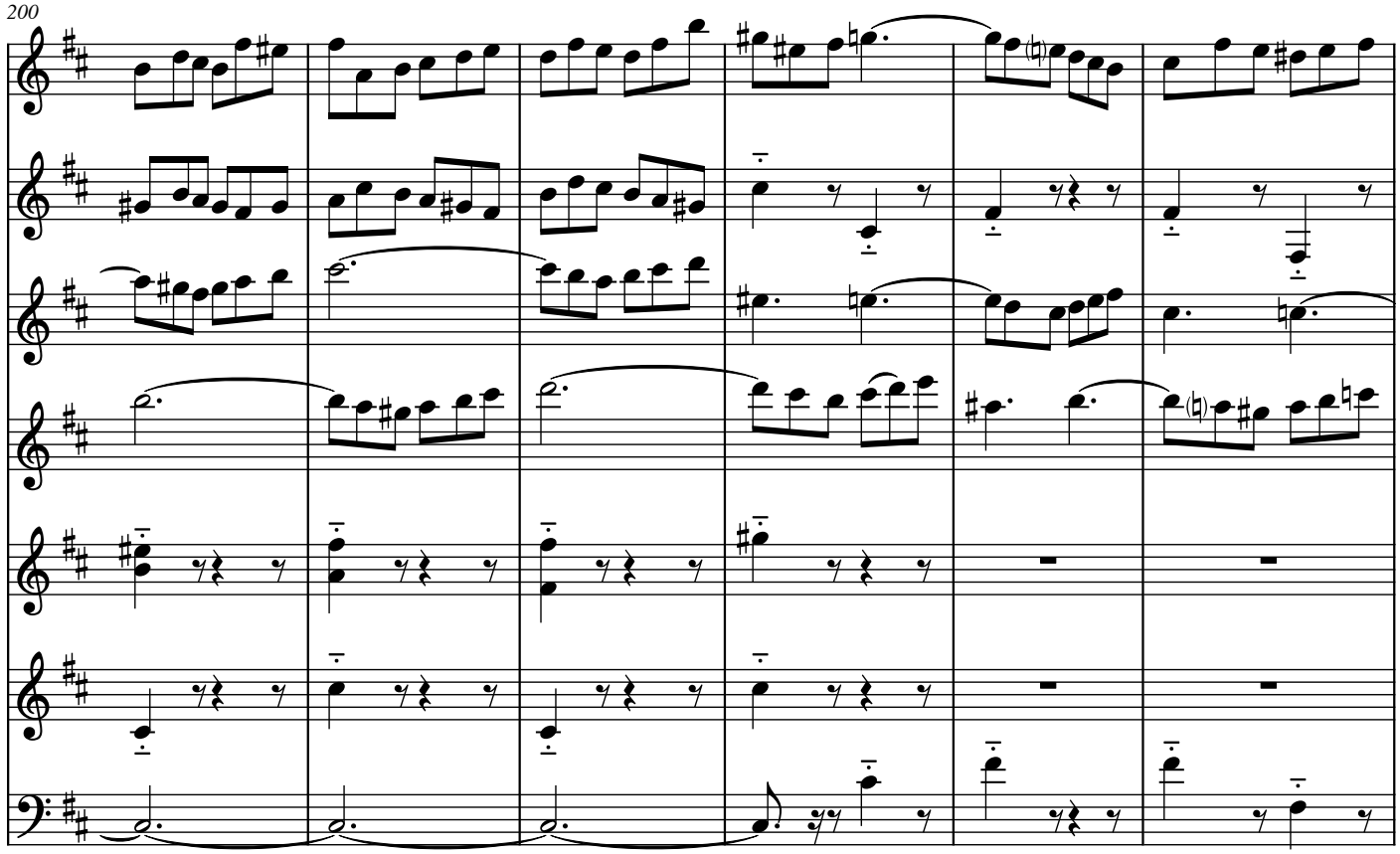

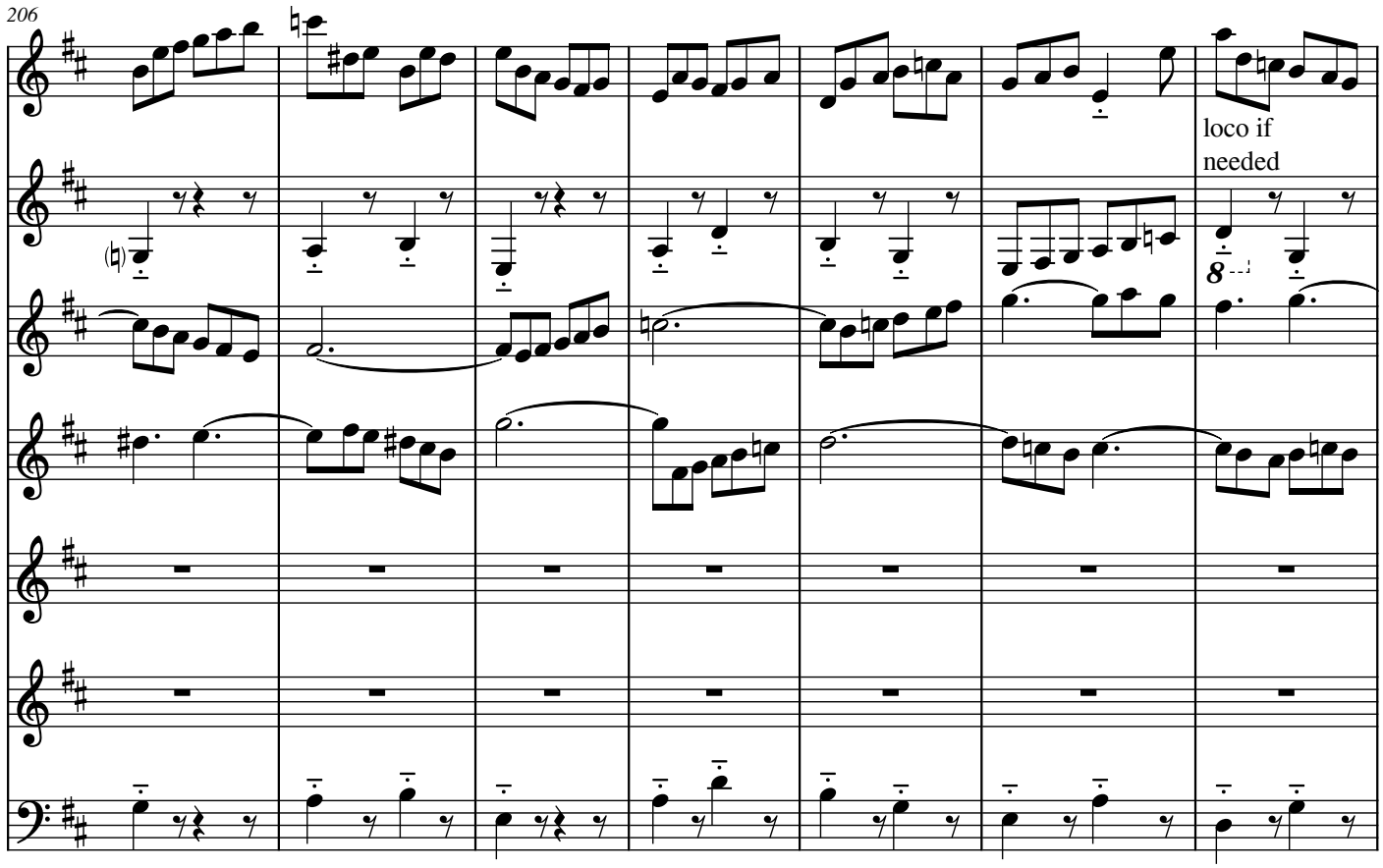

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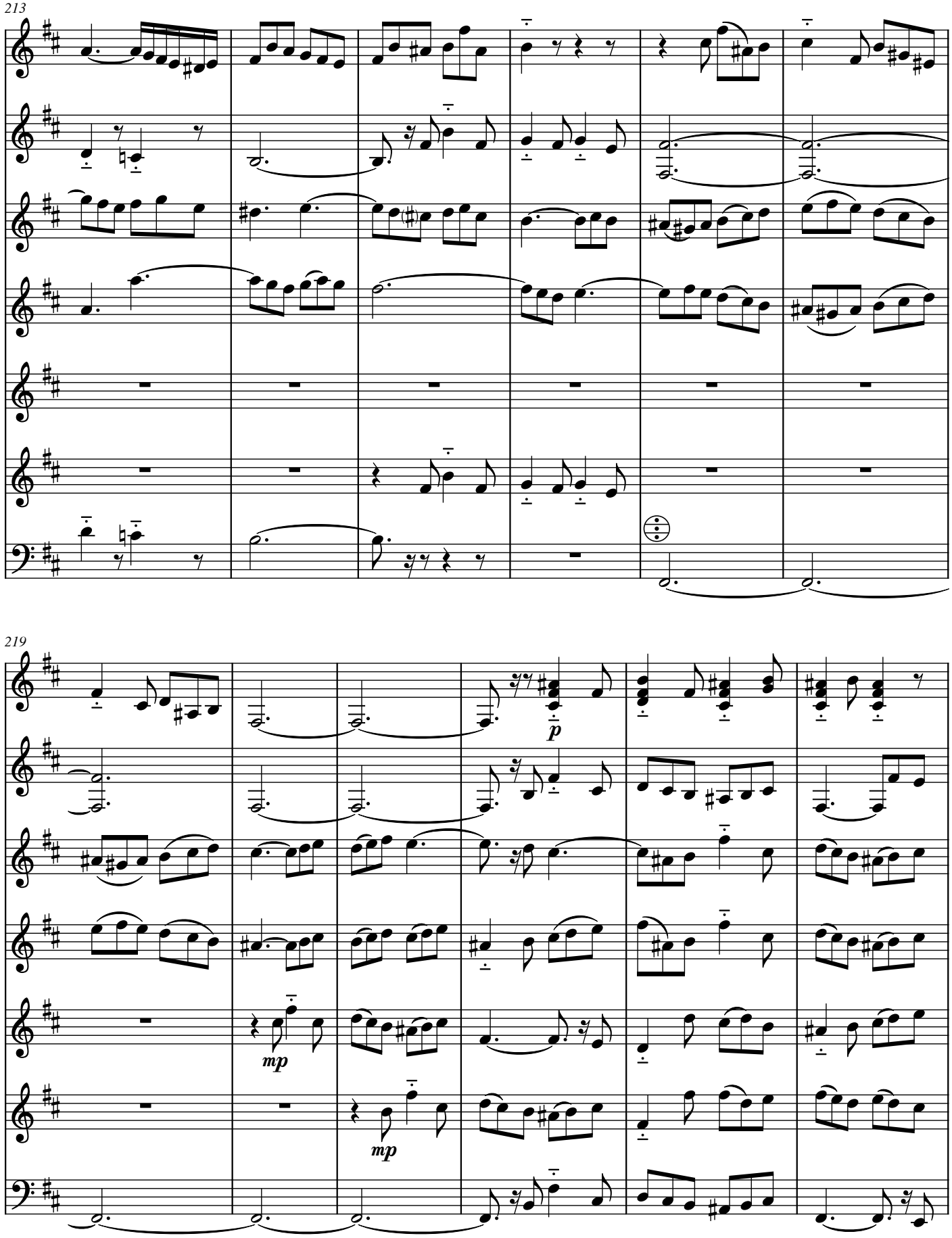

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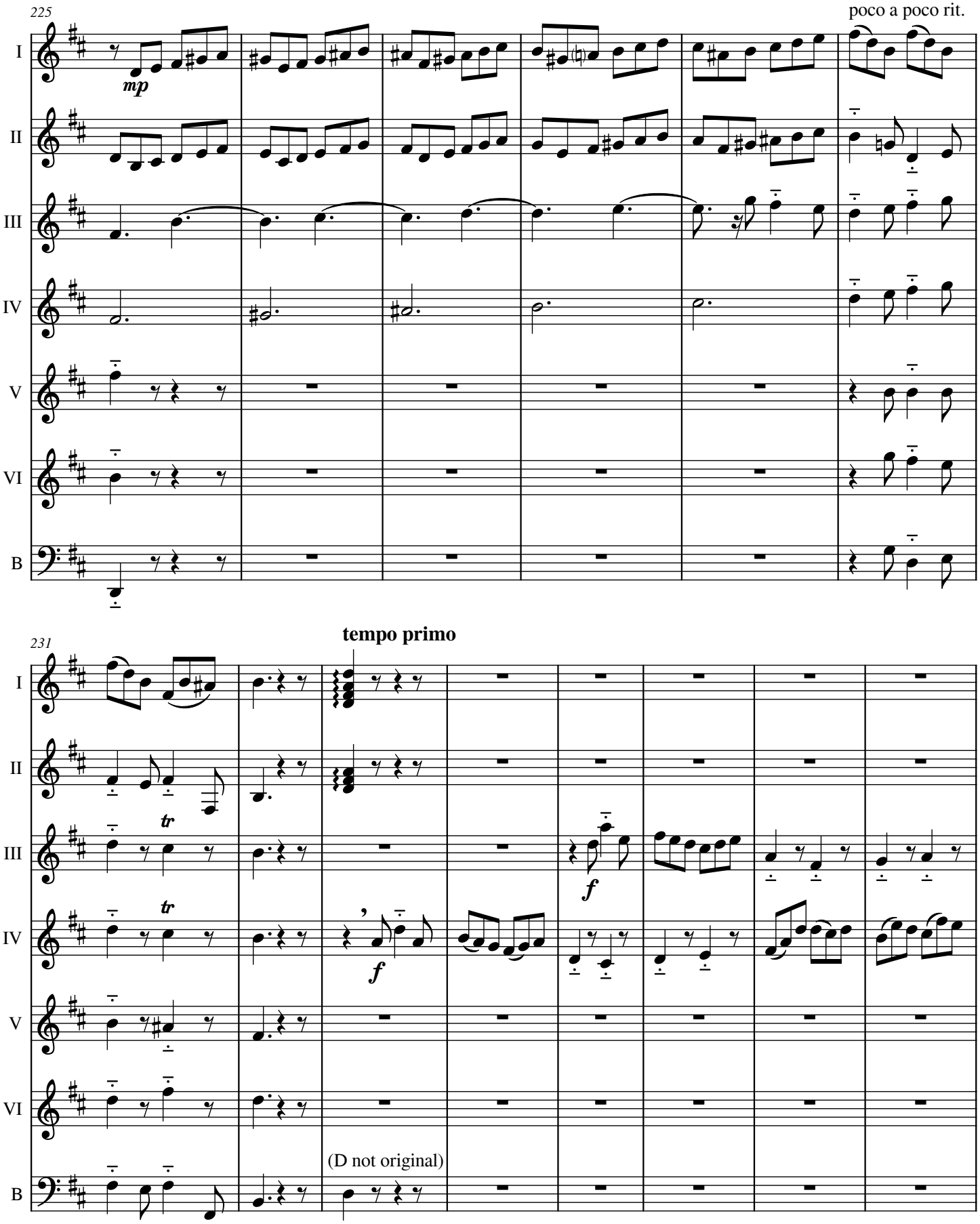

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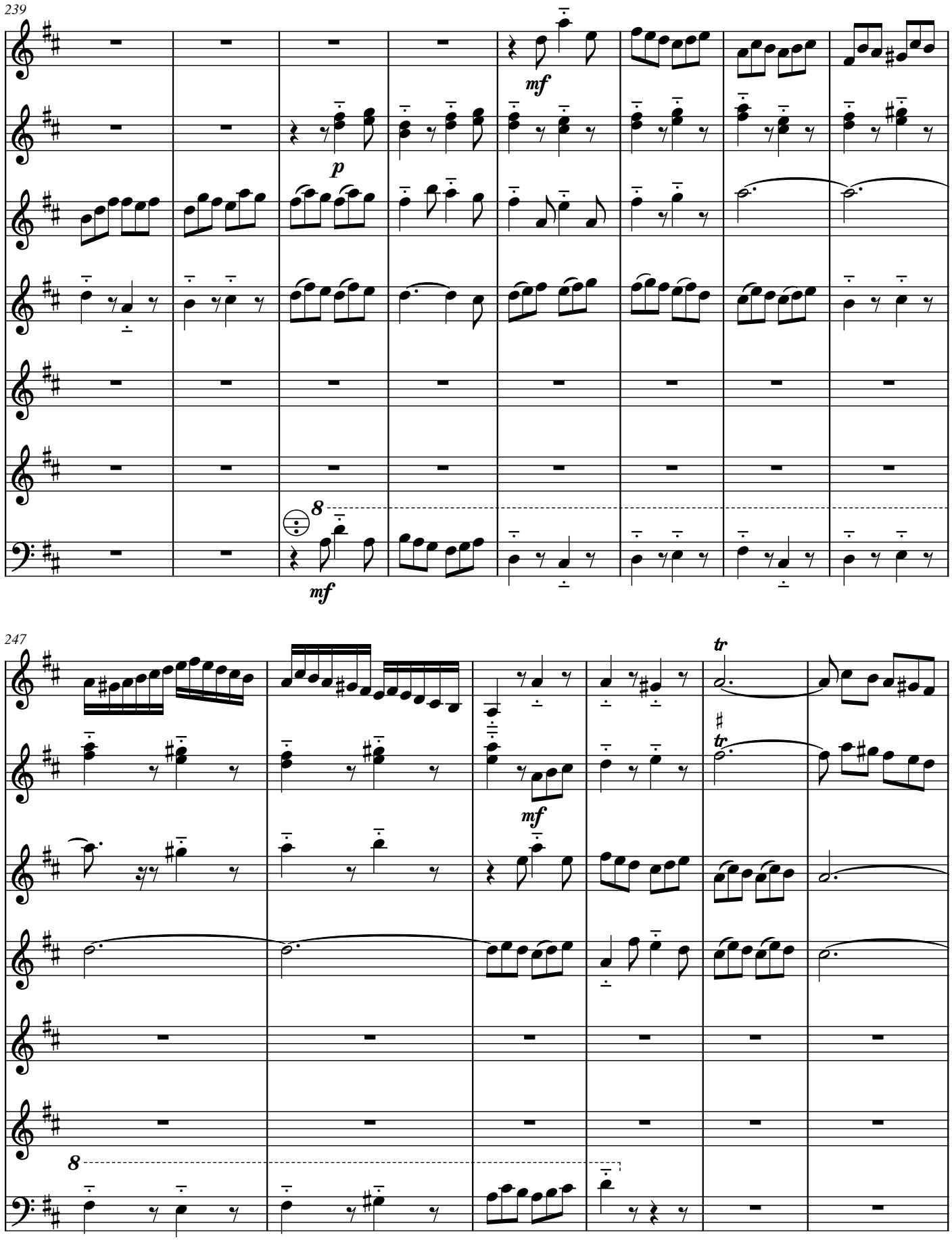

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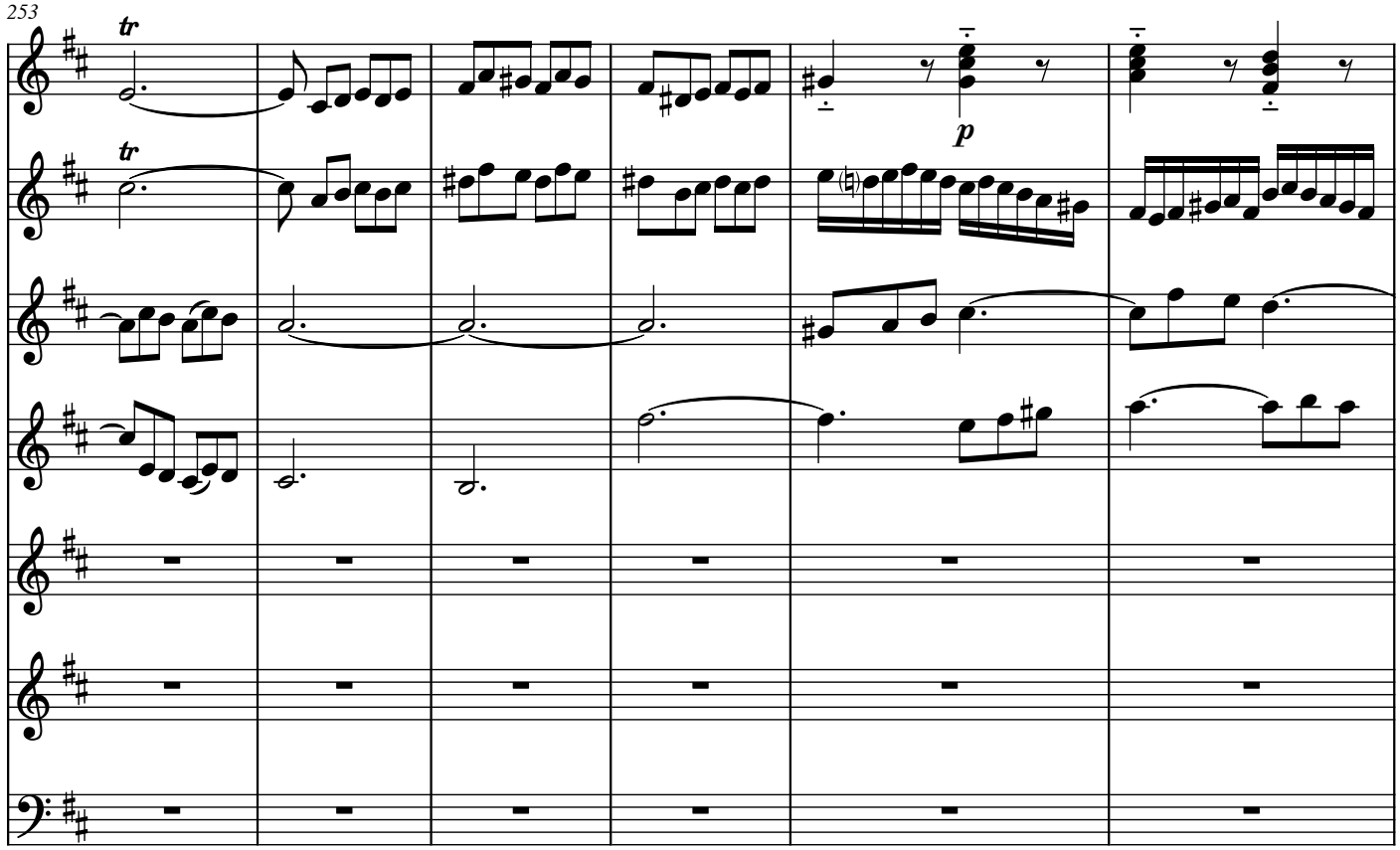

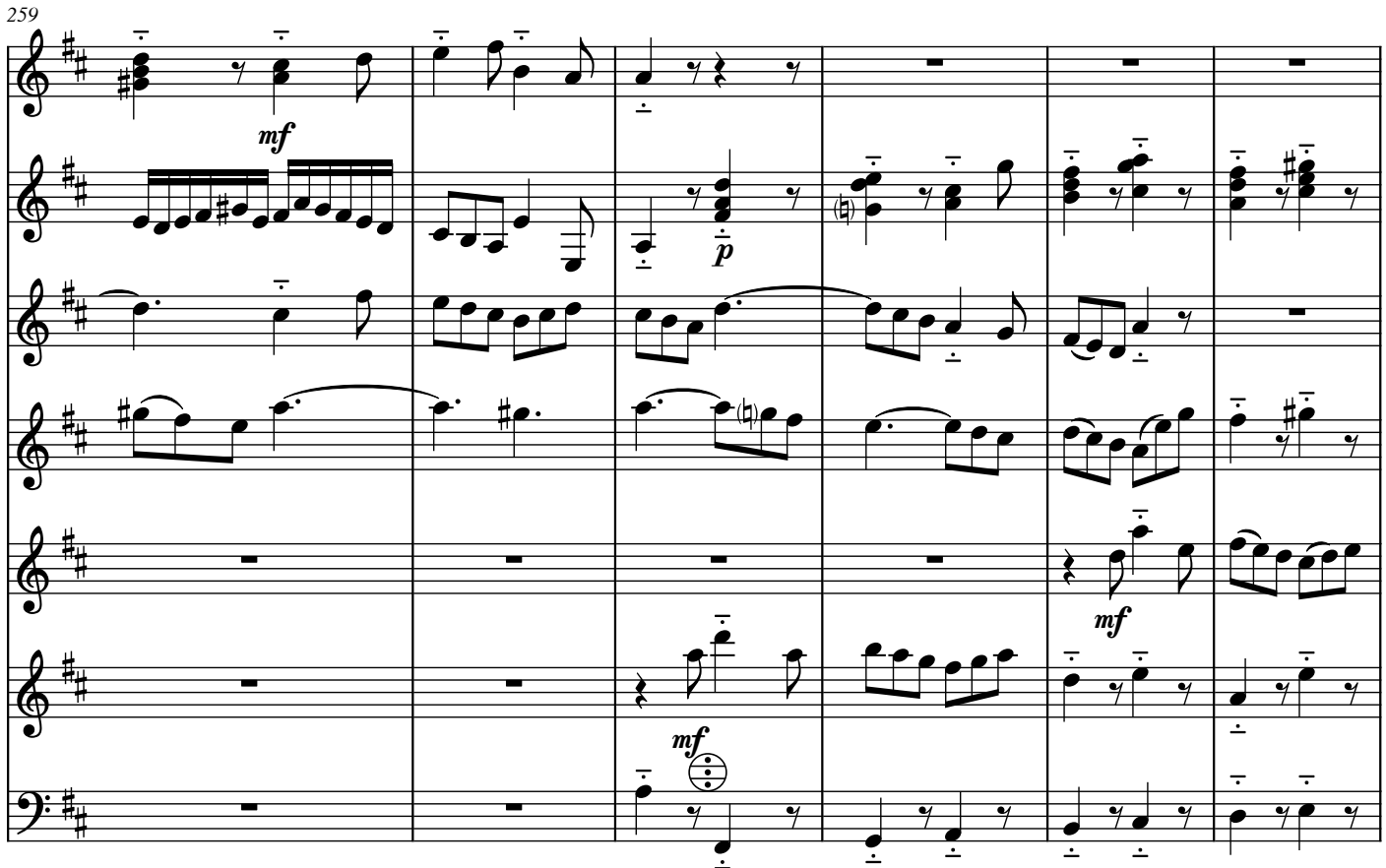

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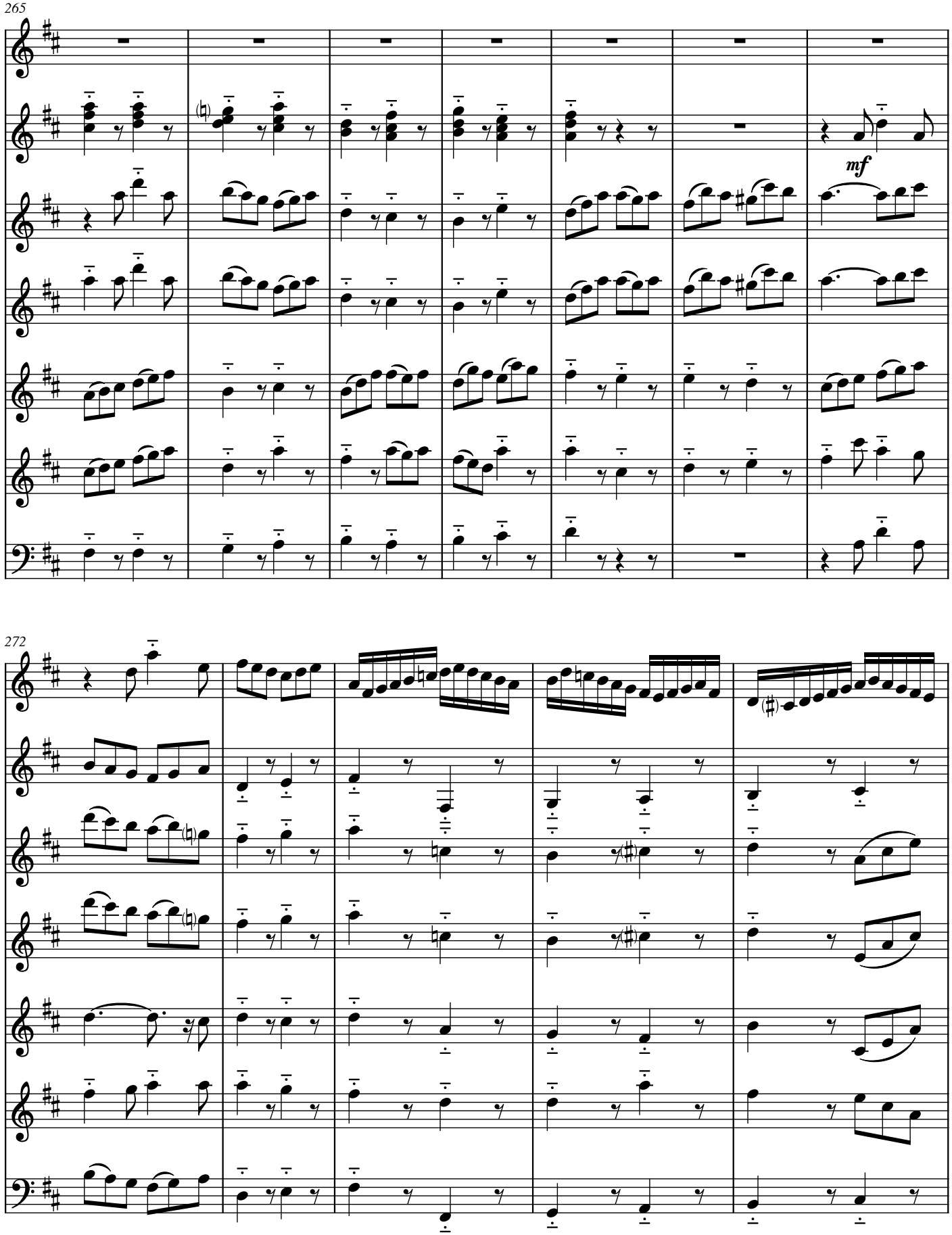

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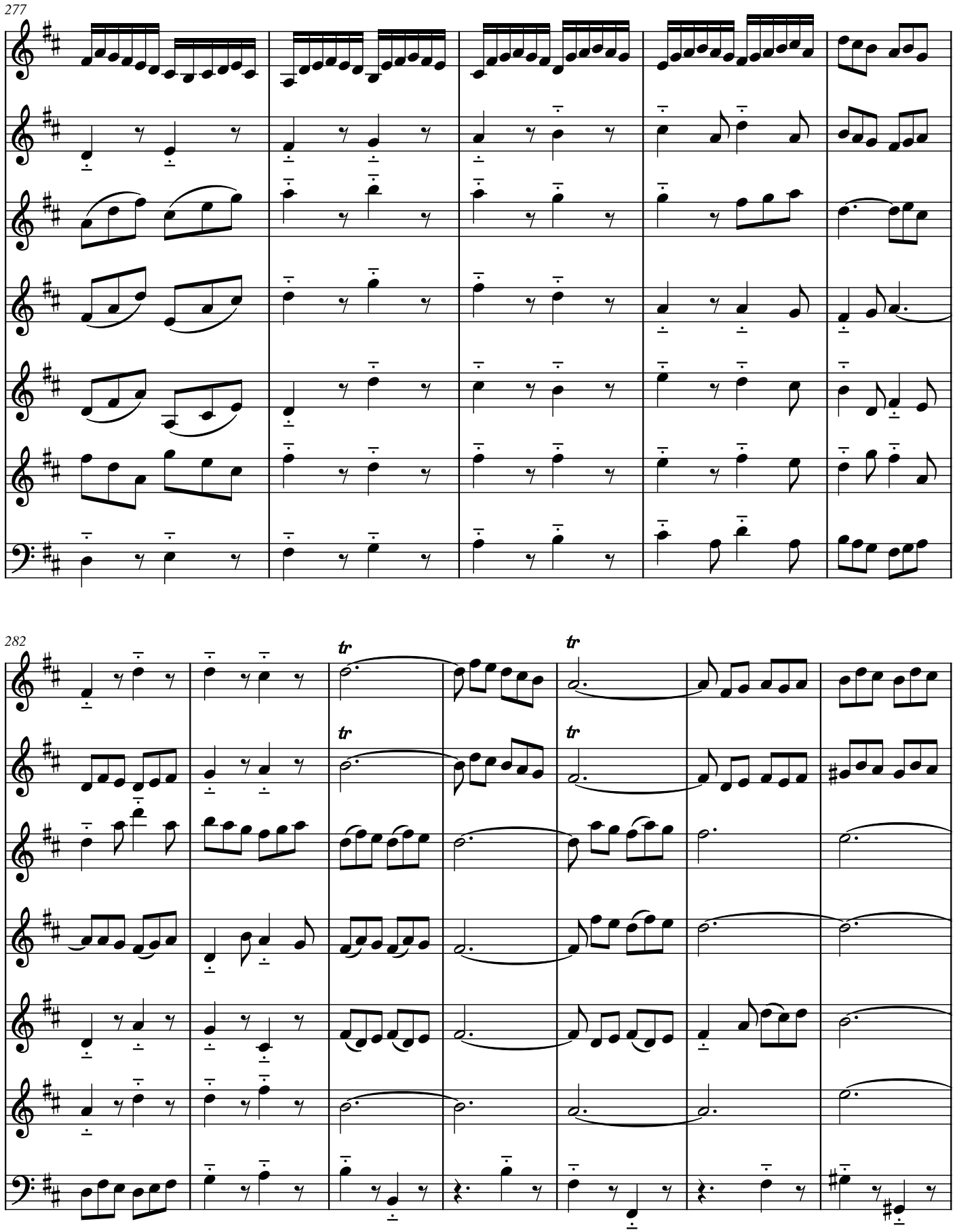

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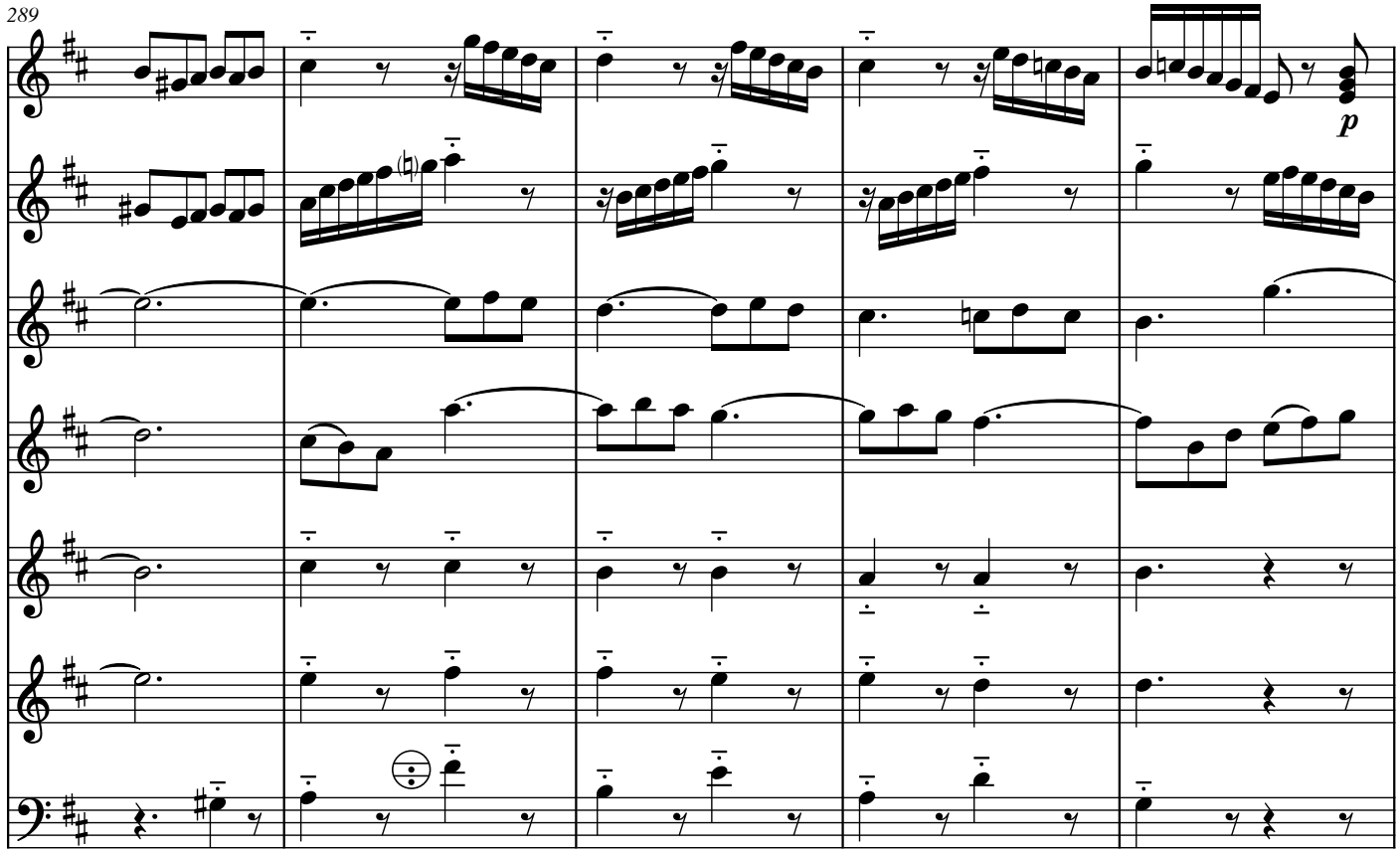

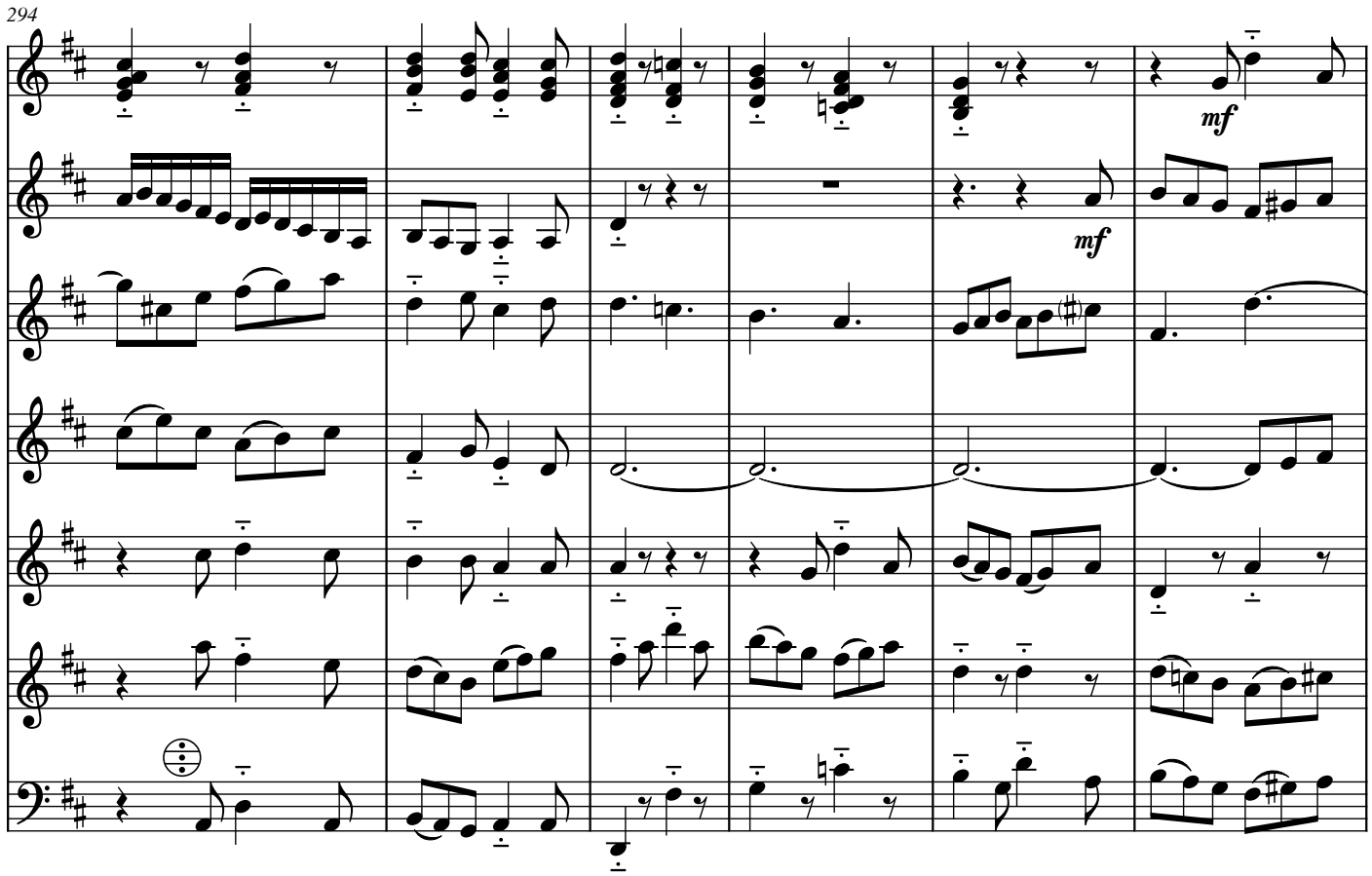

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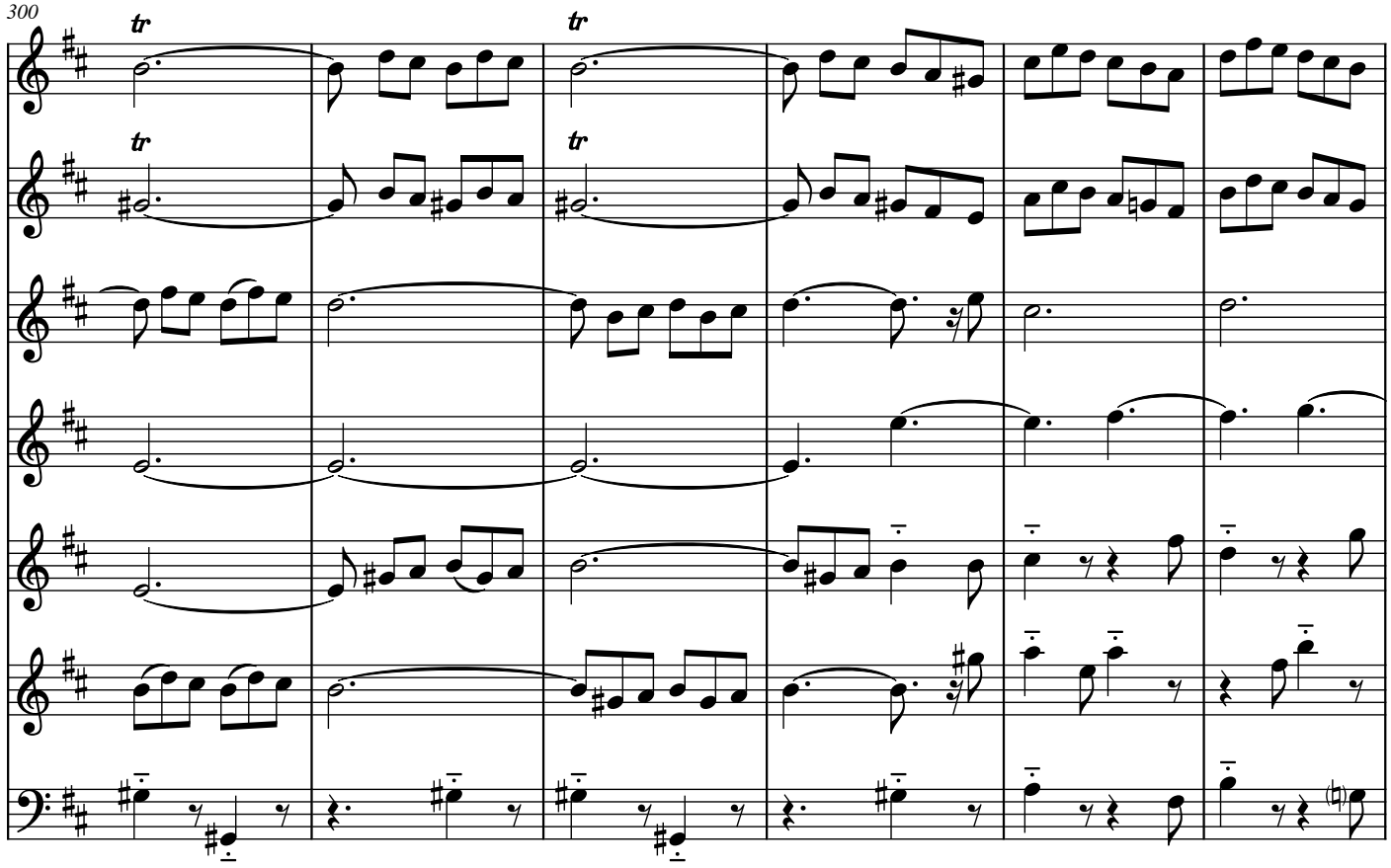

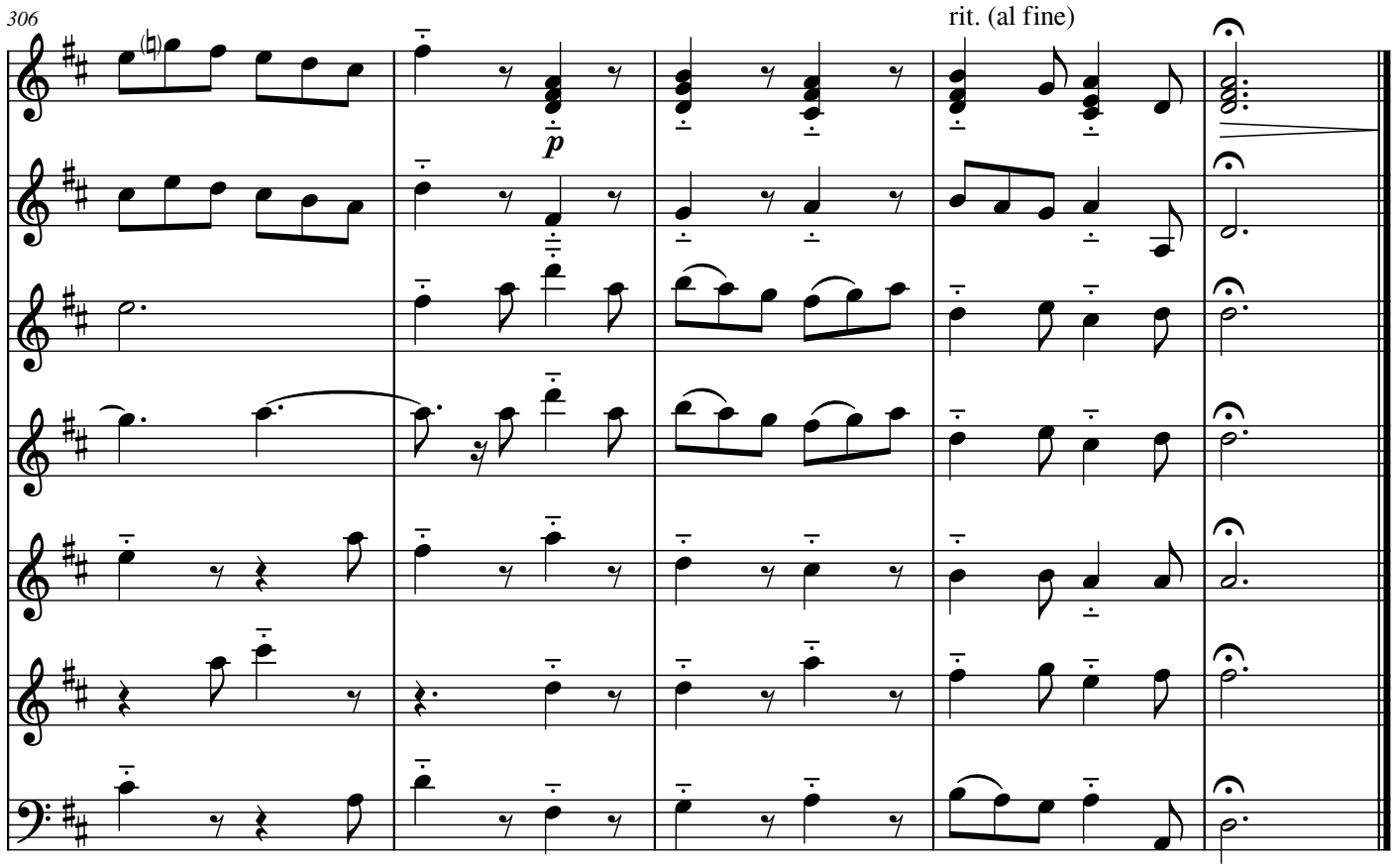

PDB 7/5/23

For more arrangements, check out www.de-bra.nl/arrangements.html
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