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Author
Gilbertson, Michael

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Mother Chords

for string orchestra

Michael Gilbertson

(2017/18)

Mother Chords

Michael Gilbertson
(2017/18)

string orchestra version transcribed for the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles

Duration: 10 minutes

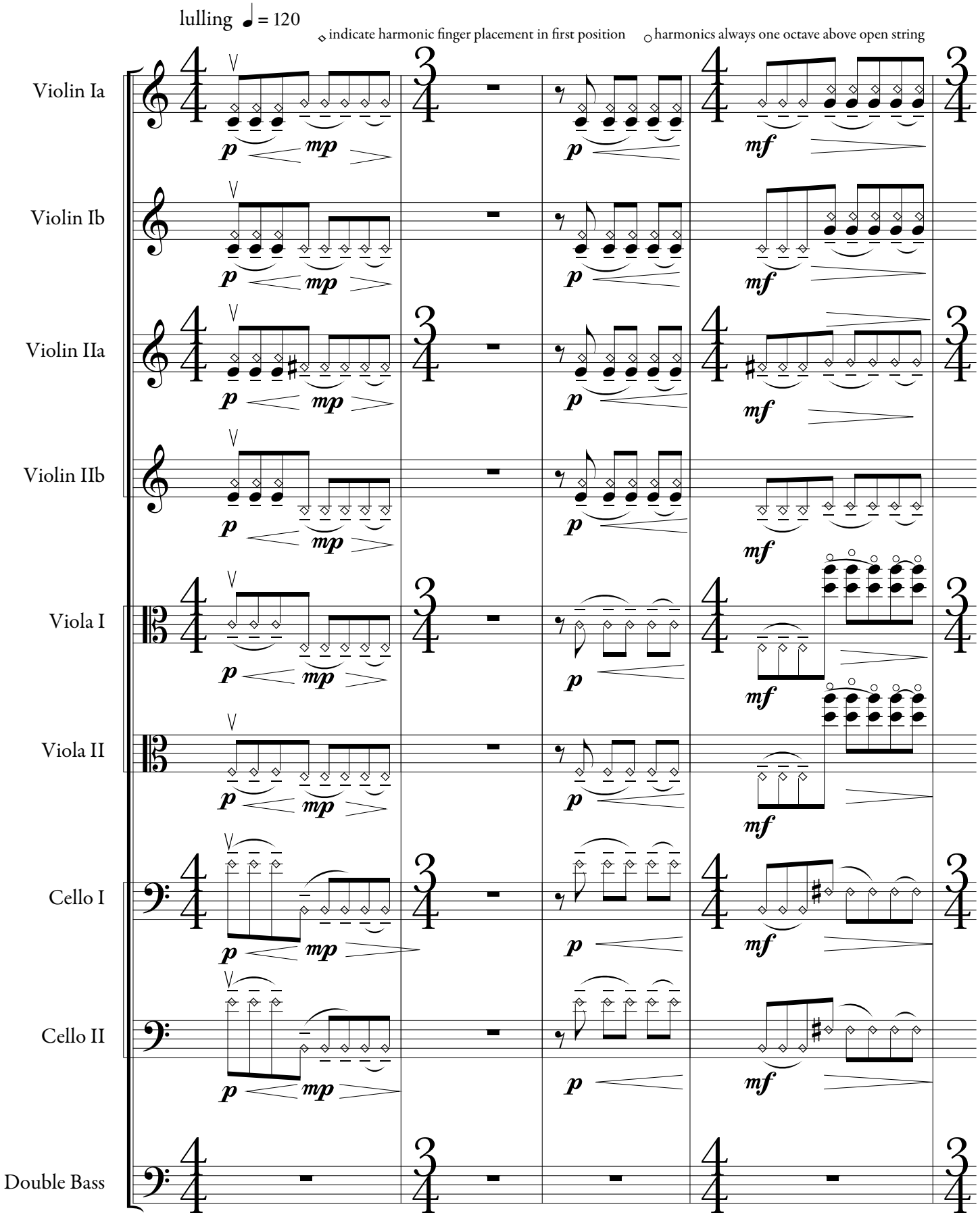
After several weeks of sketching this quartet in the fall of 2016, I started over in mid November as the piece became a sort of personal reaction to the presidential election. I felt the need to write something comforting, and thought of the pulsing chords that open Sibelius' Second Symphony. A similar gesture of lulling, repeated chords became the starting point for this work. The string harmonics are meant to evoke the image of a glass ceiling that looms over the piece, but is never broken.

Score

Mother Chords

String orchestra version transcribed for the Kaleidosocpe Chamber Orchestra

Michael Gilbertson



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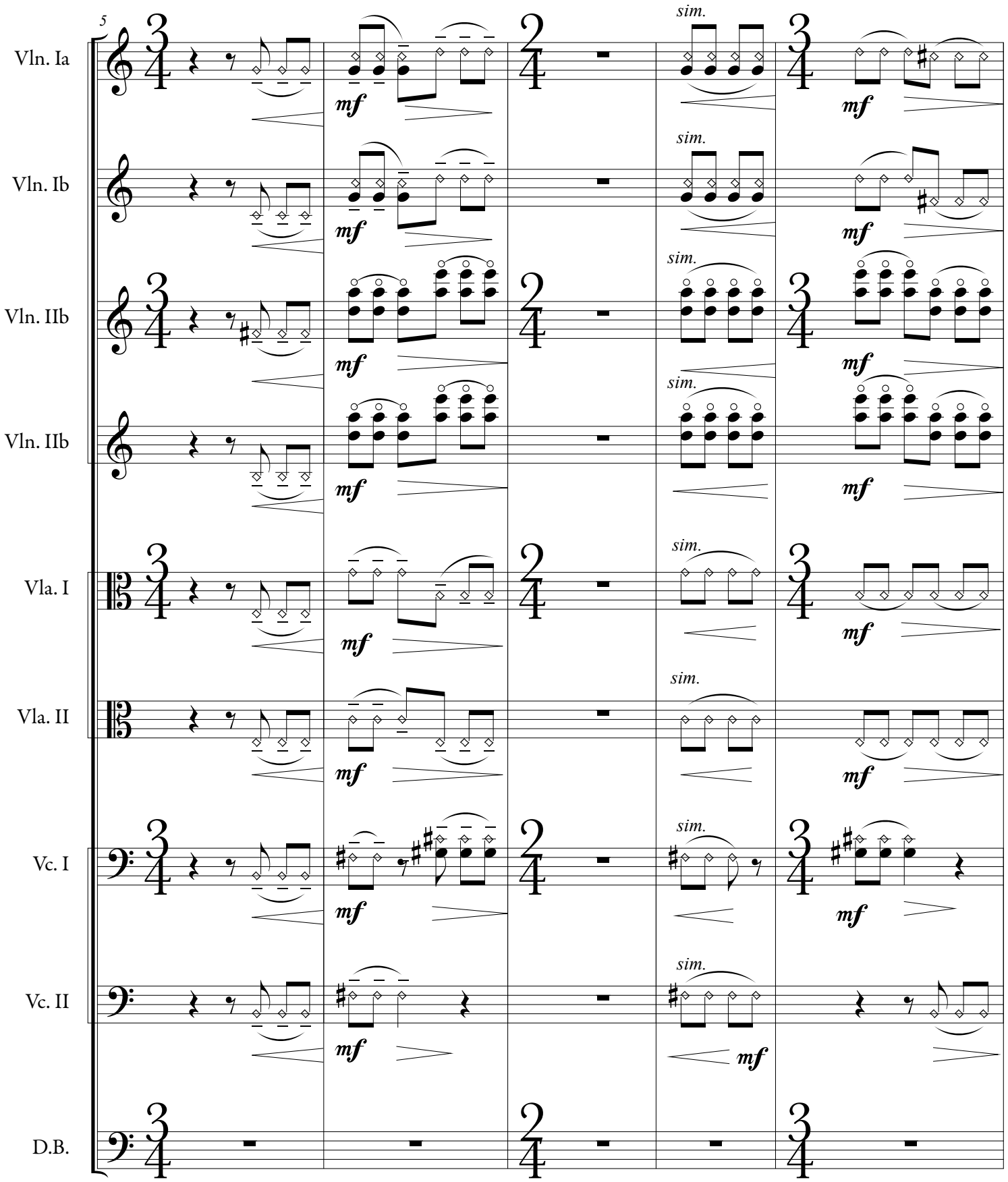
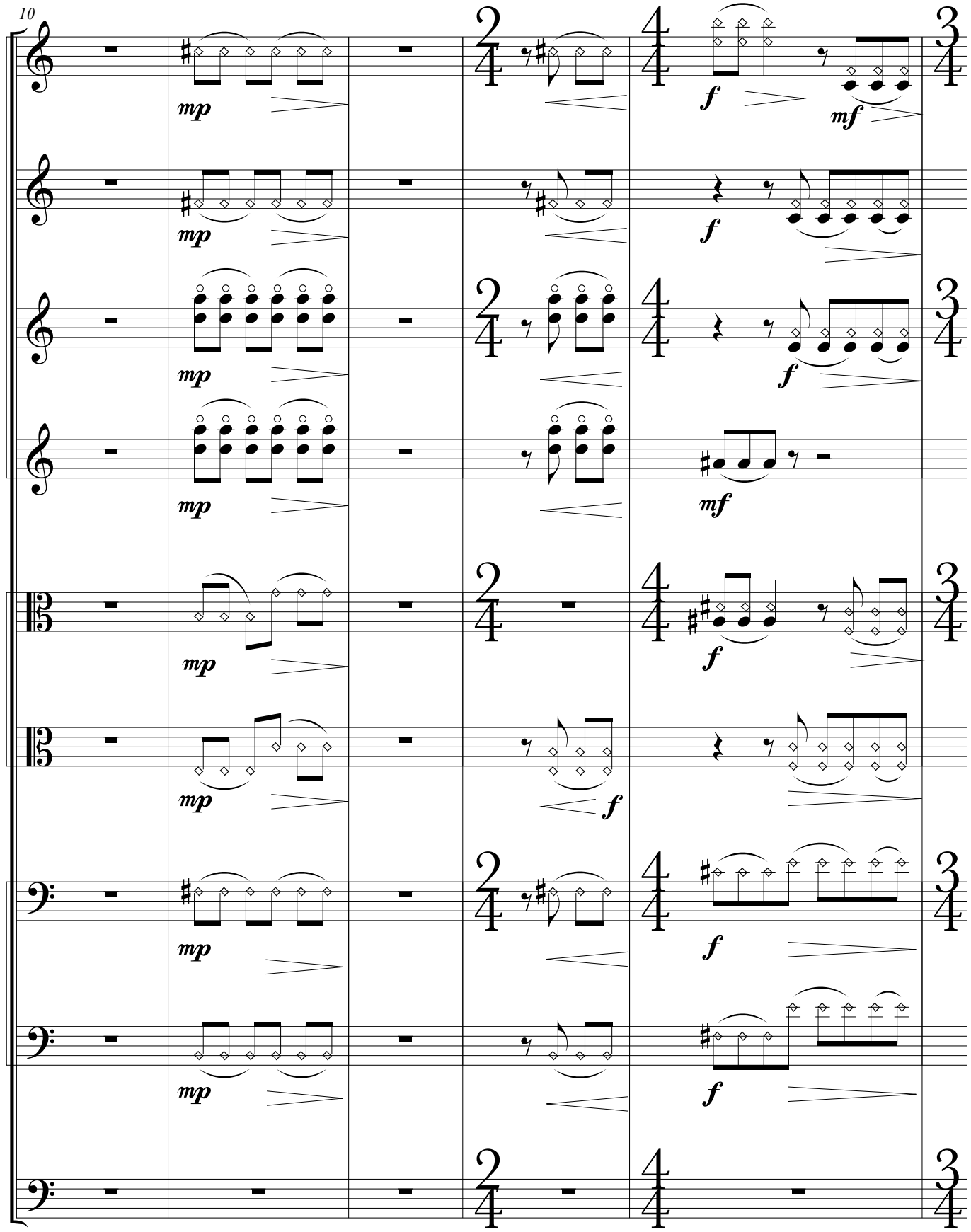
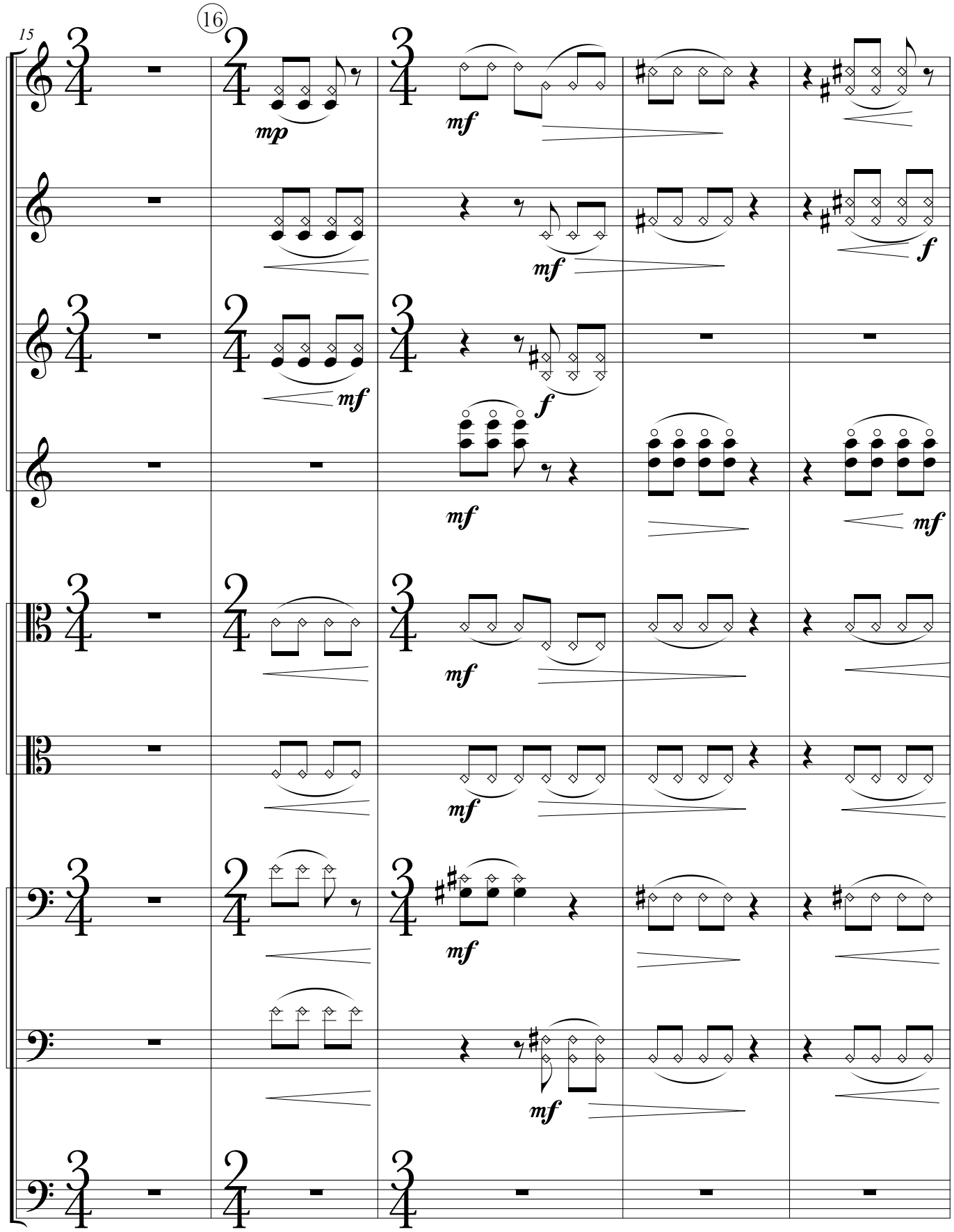
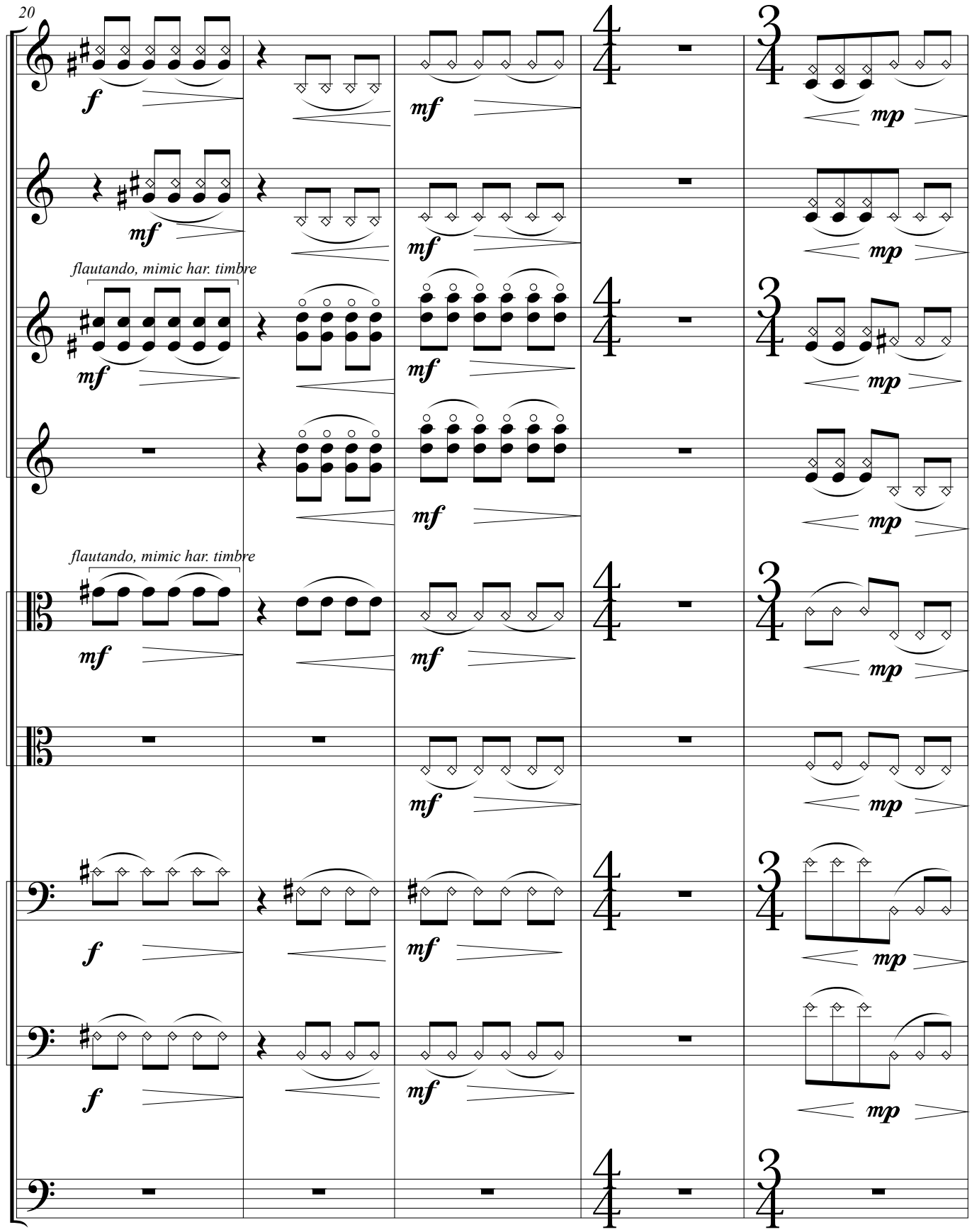
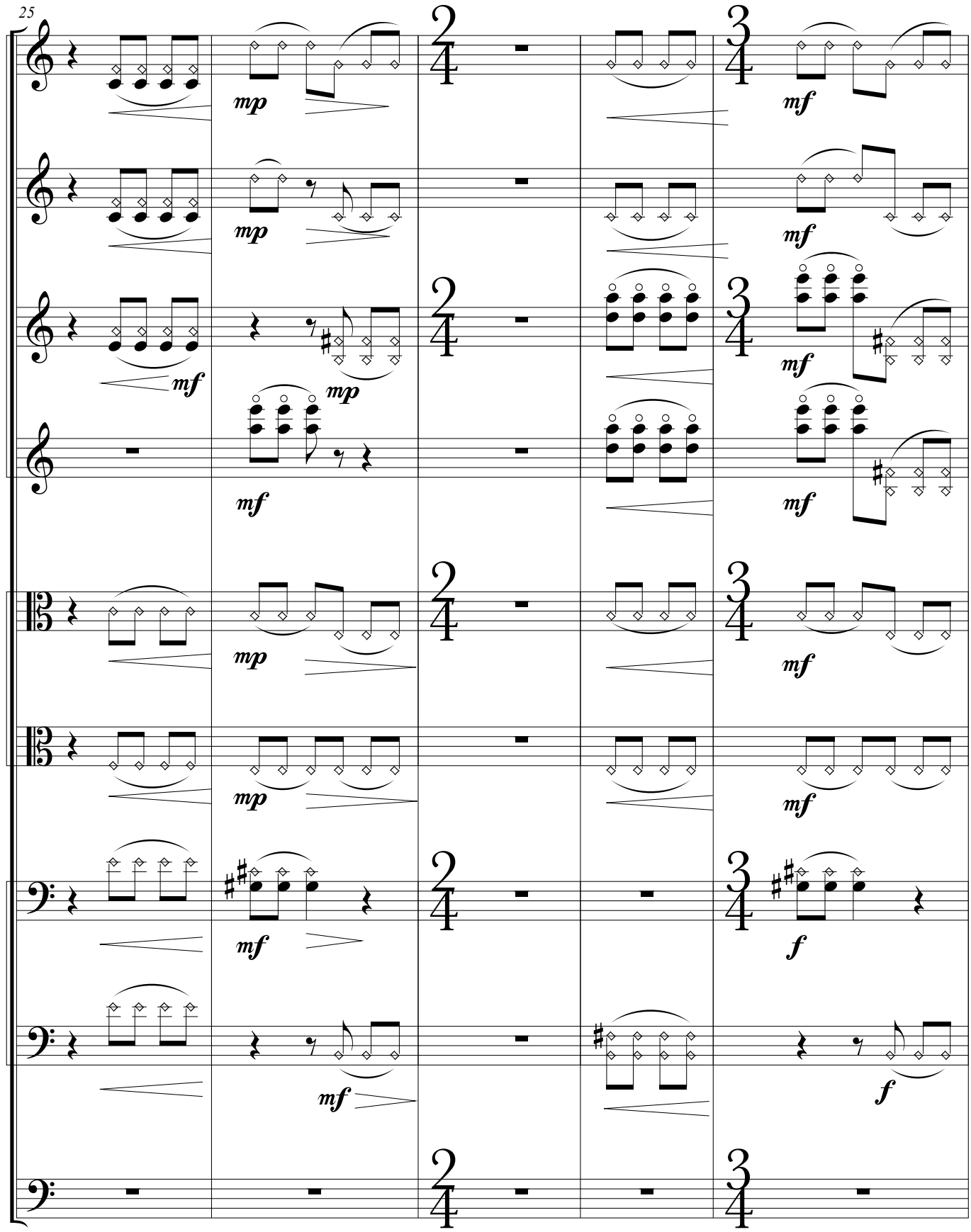
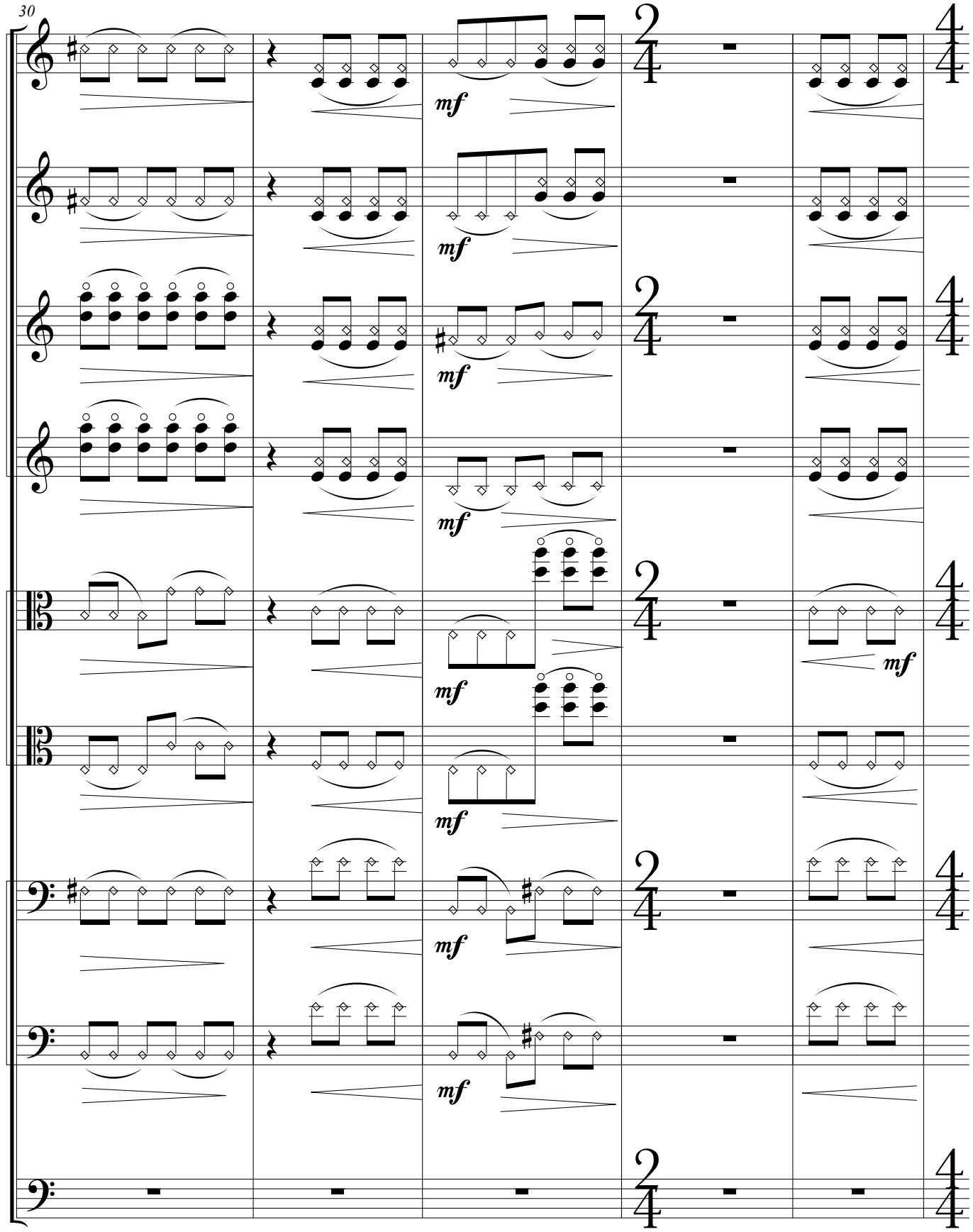

5
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
sim.

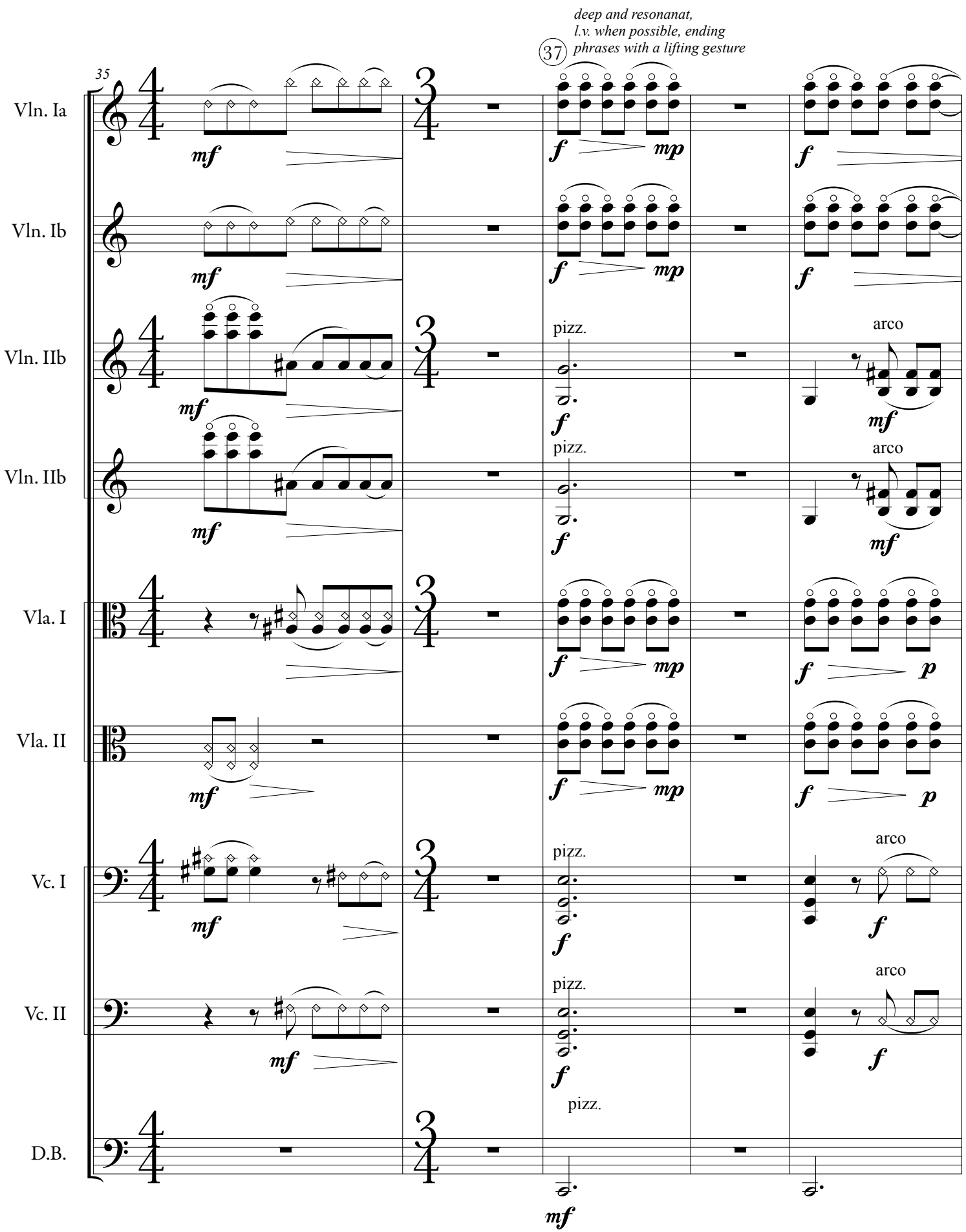

10
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp
f
mf

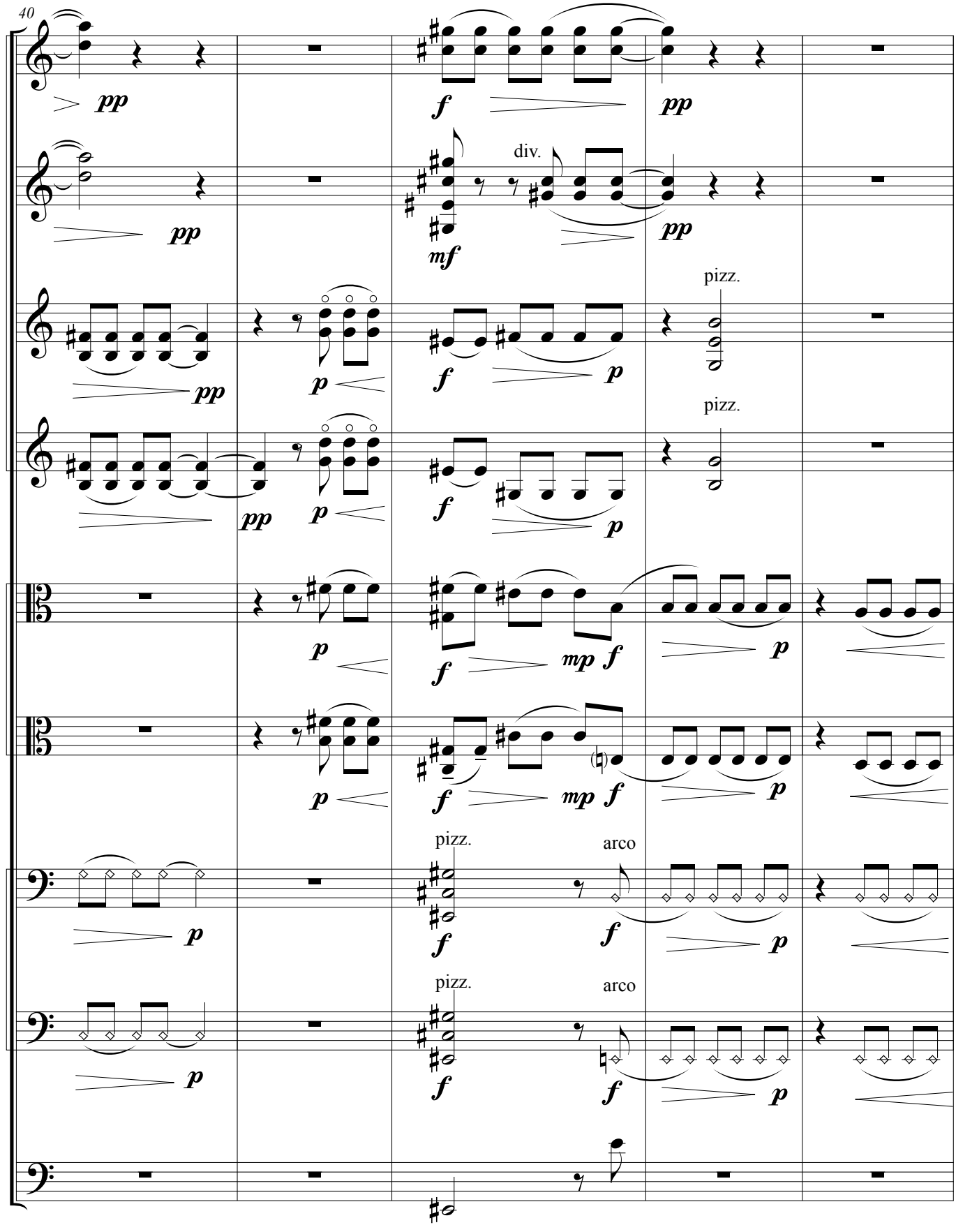

15
16
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp
mf
f

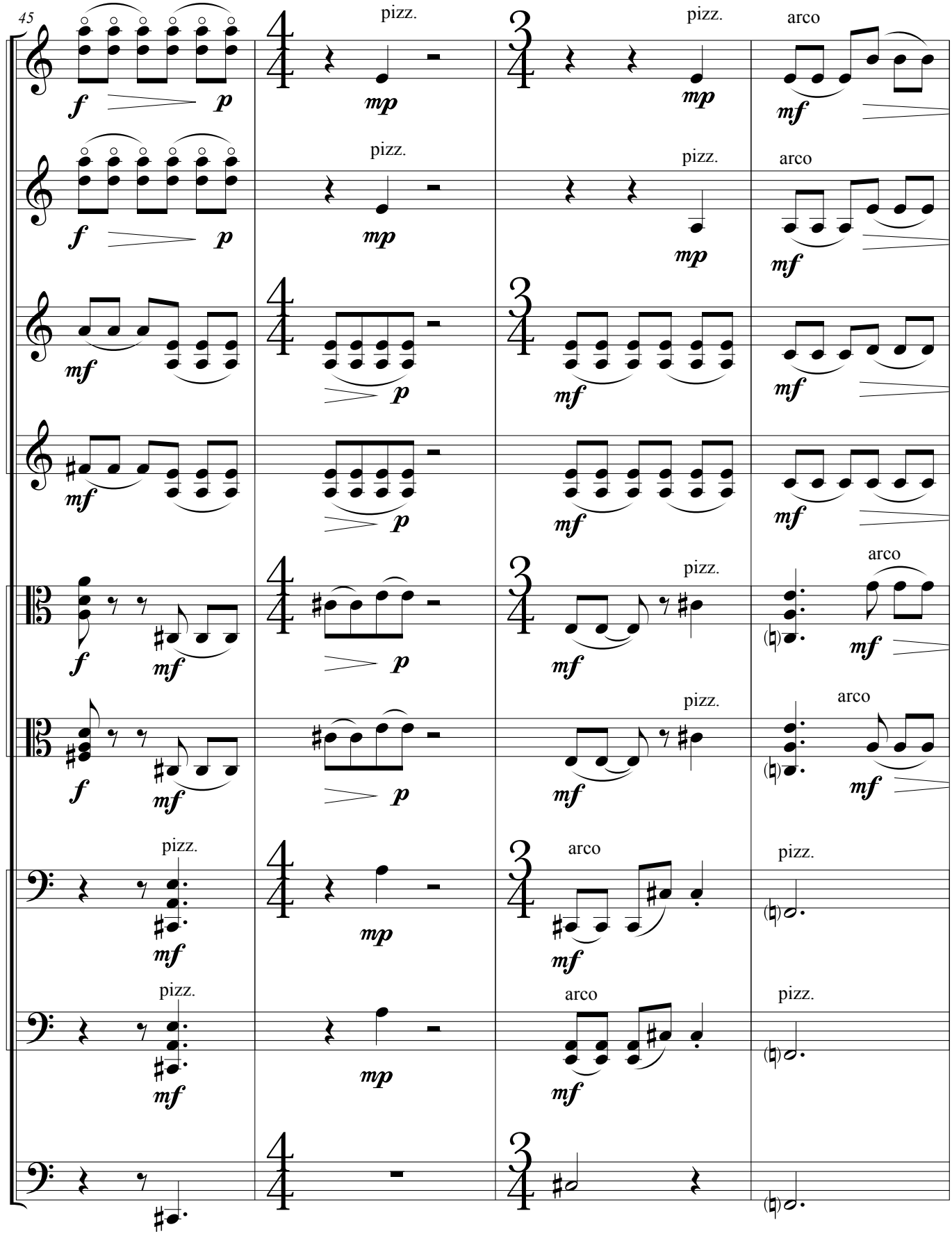

20
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
flautando, mimic har. timbre
flautando, mimic har. timbre
f
mf
mp

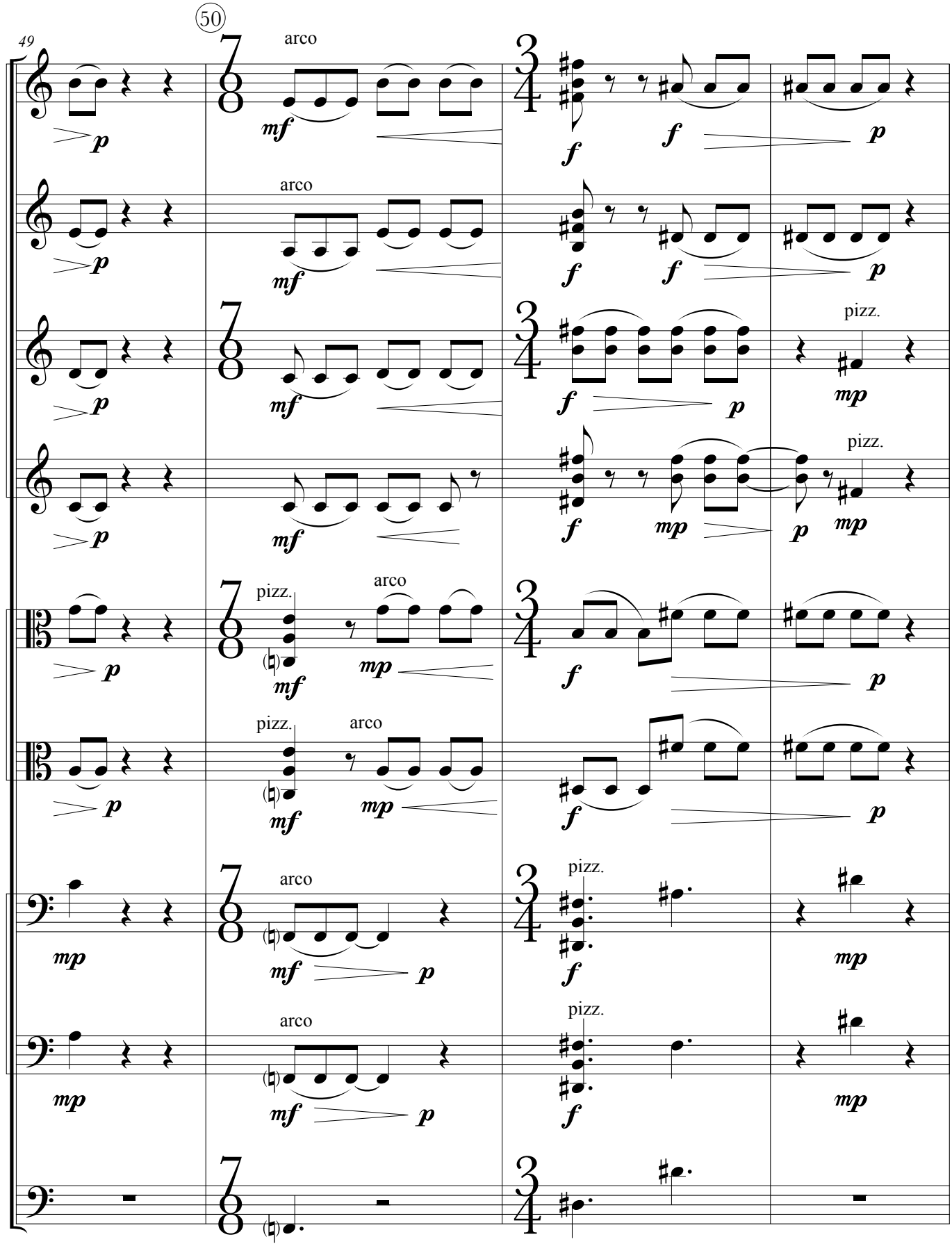

25
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp
mf
f

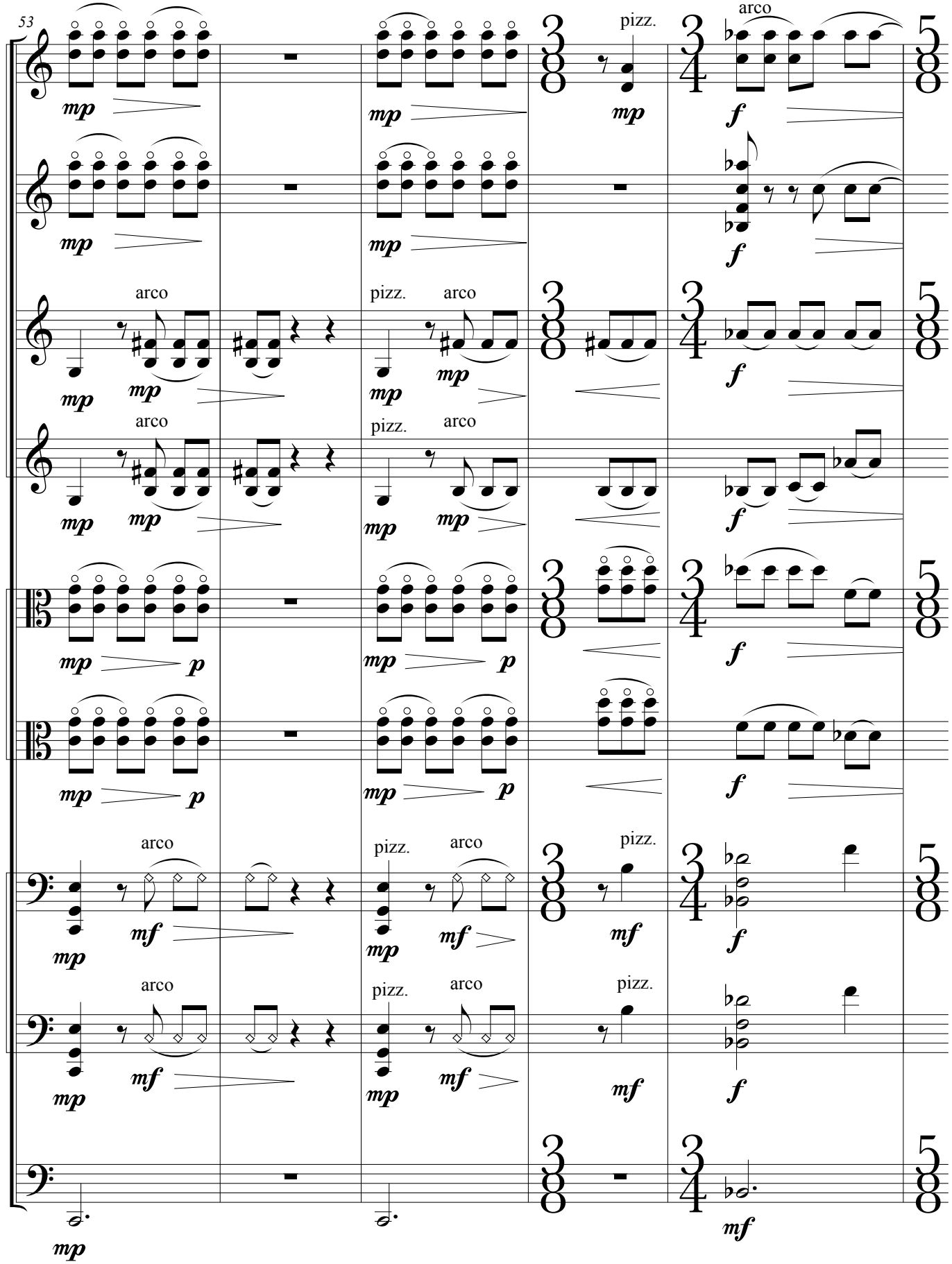

30
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf

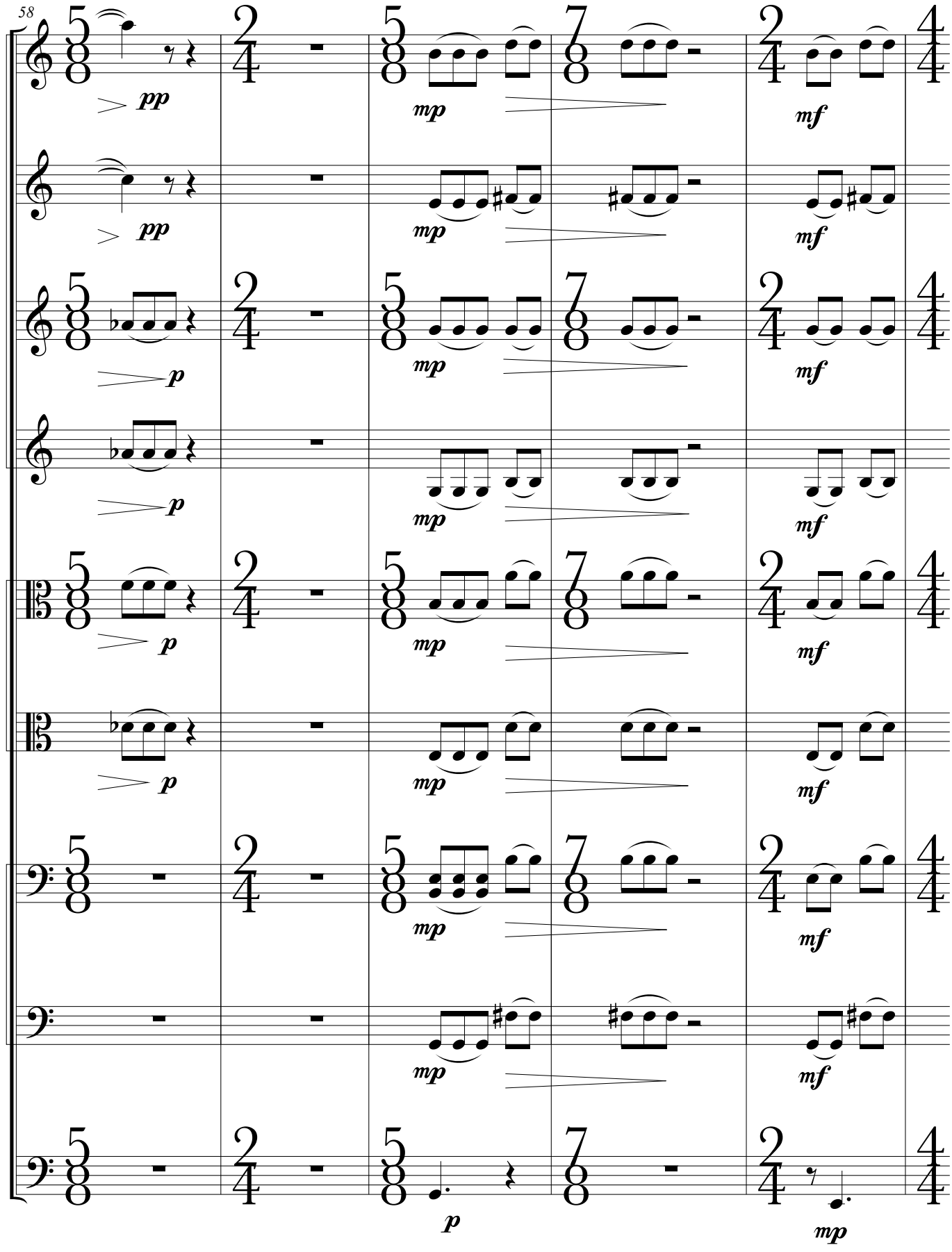

35
37
deep and resonanat,
l.v. when possible, ending
phrases with a lifting gesture
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
f
mp
p
pizz.
arco

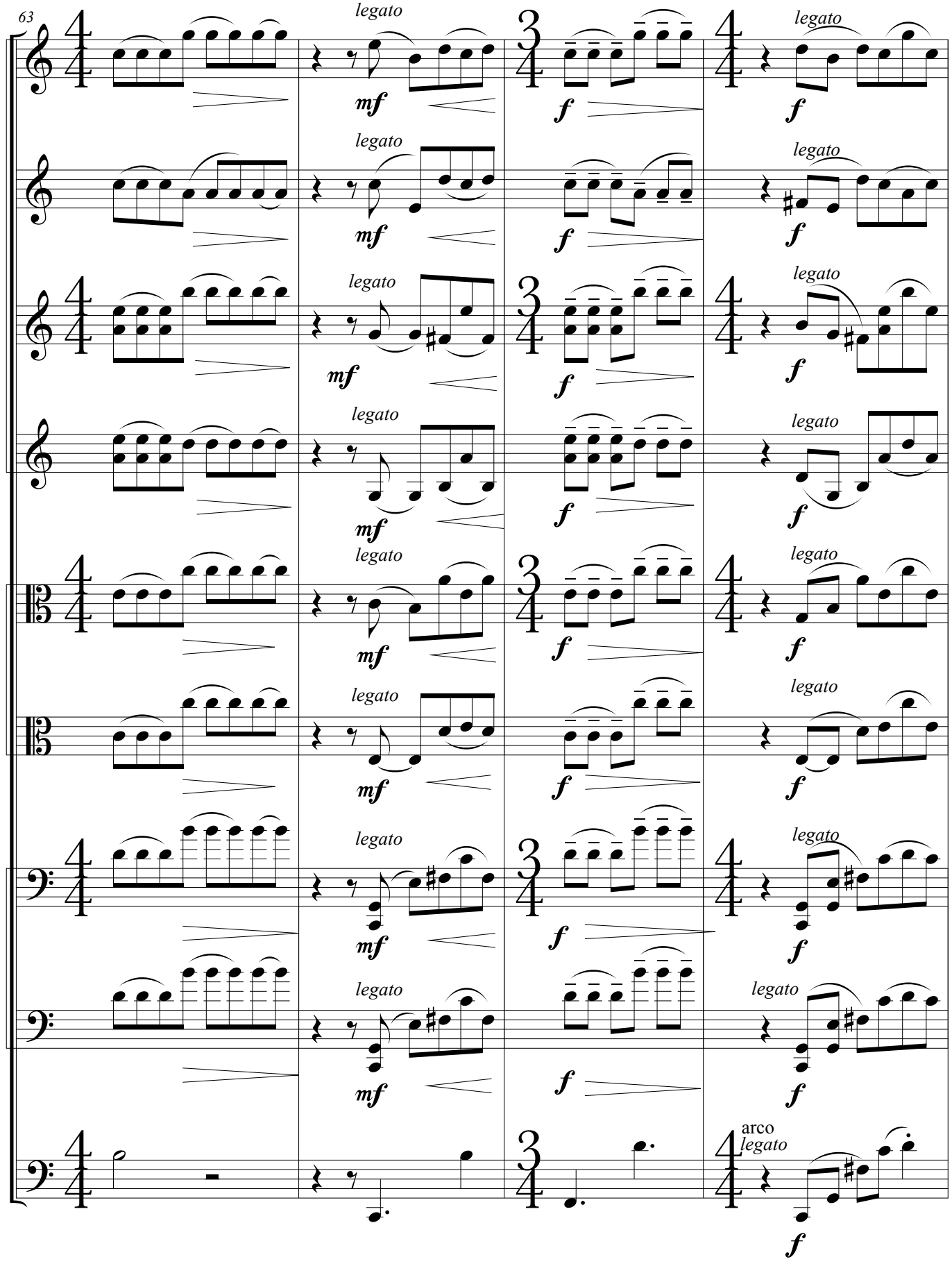

40
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
div.
pizz.
pizz.
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco

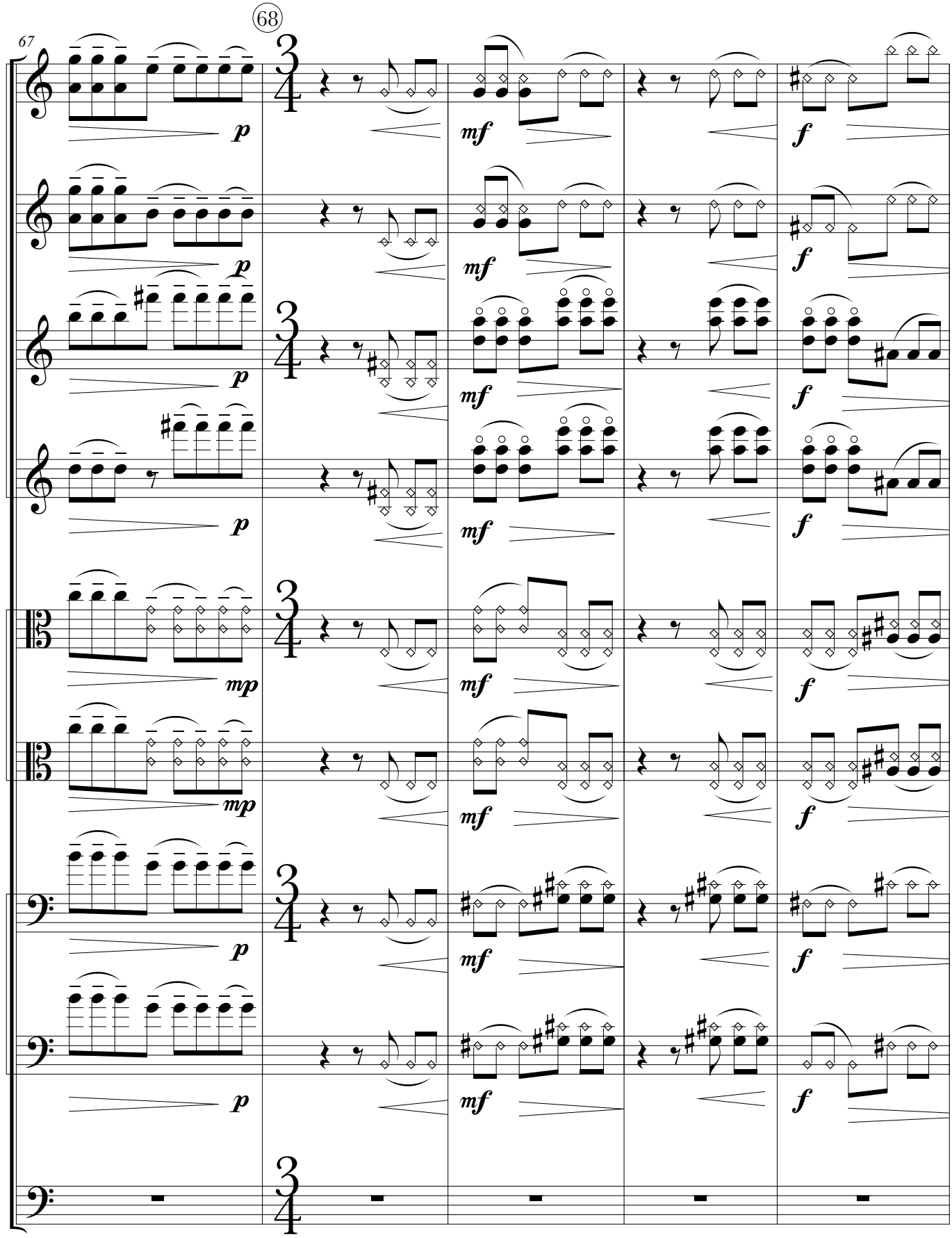

45
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.
arco
f
p
mp
mf

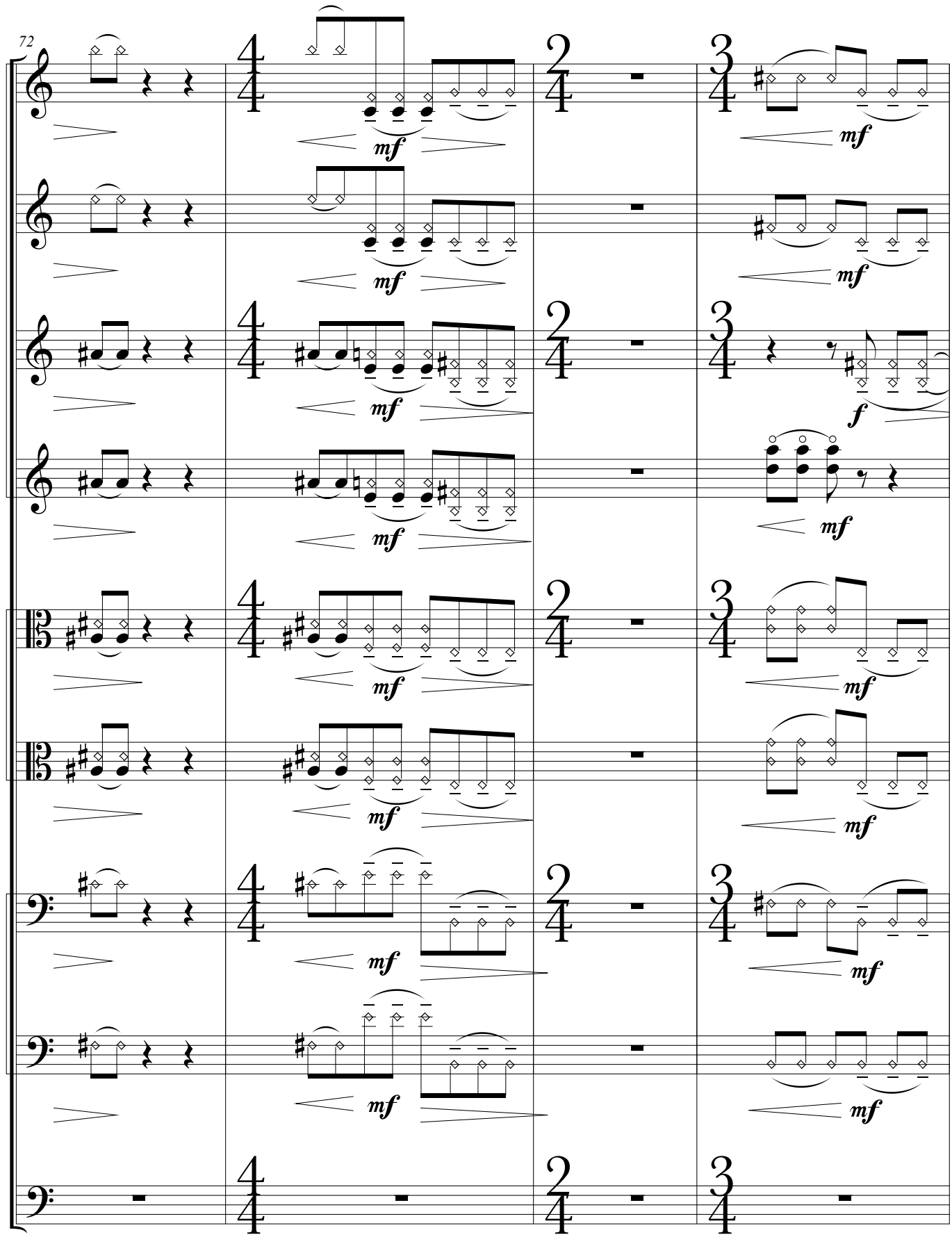

49
50
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
pizz.
p
mf
f
mp

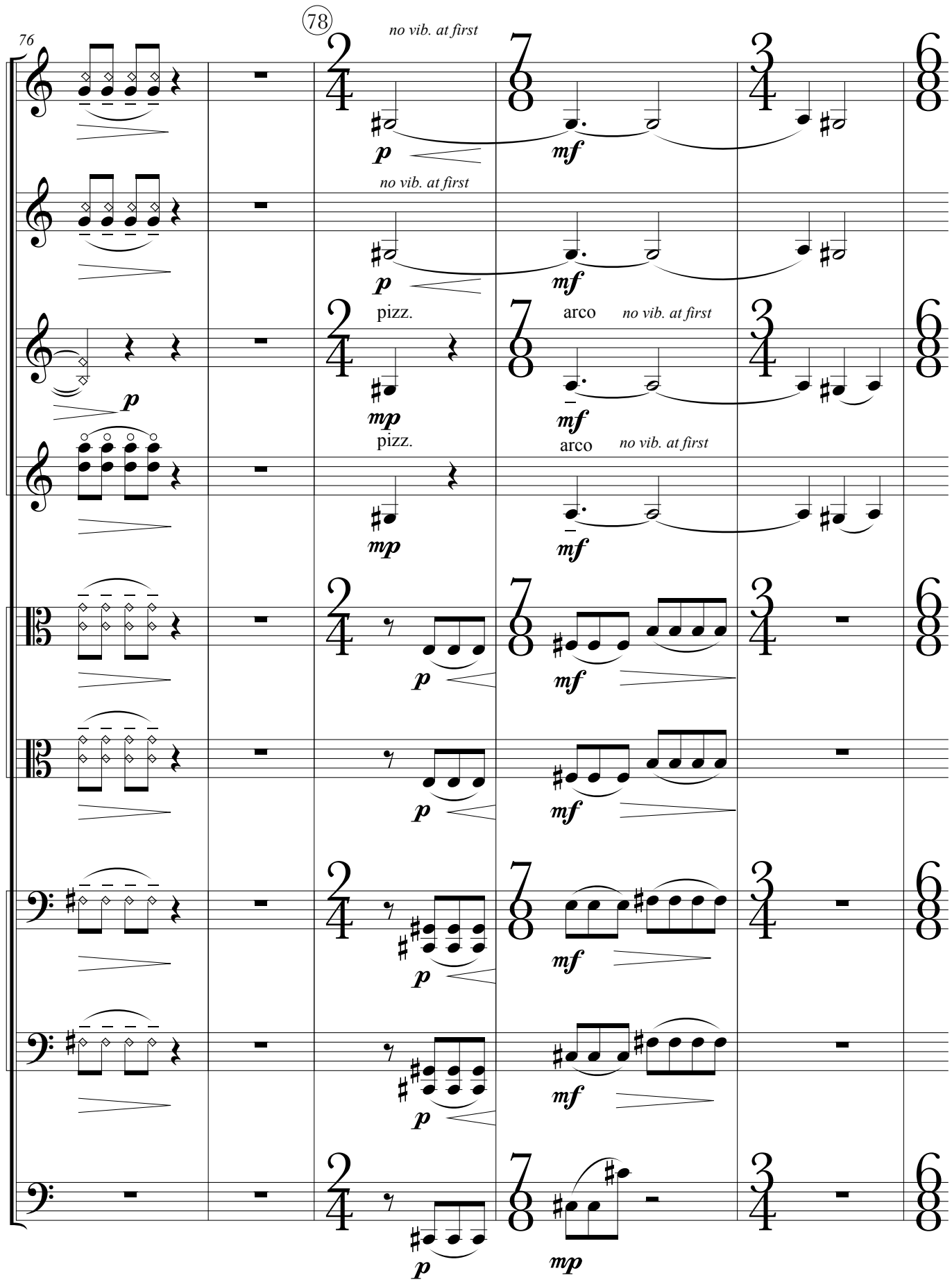

53
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
pizz.
mp
mf
p
f

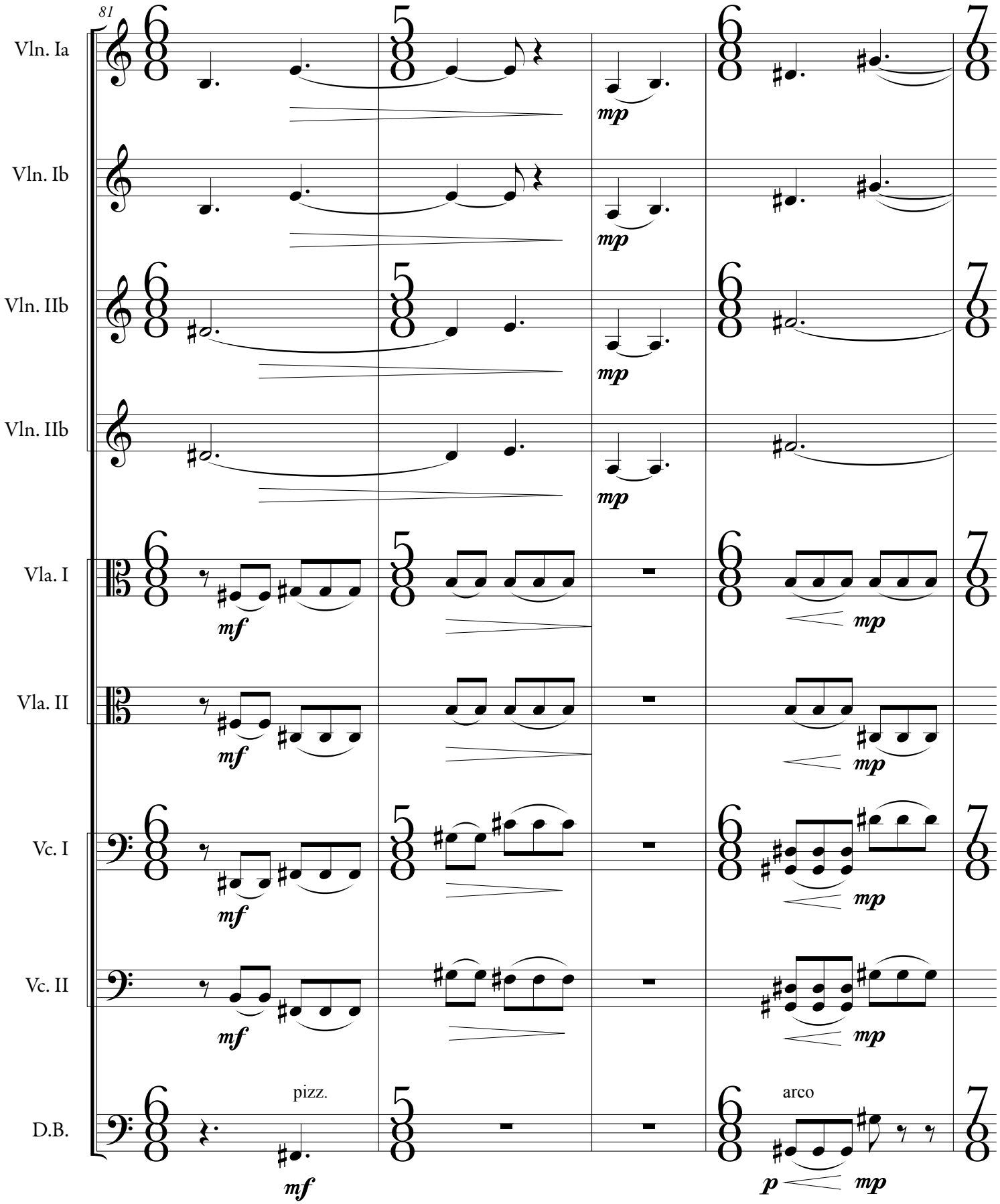

58
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pp
mp
mf
p

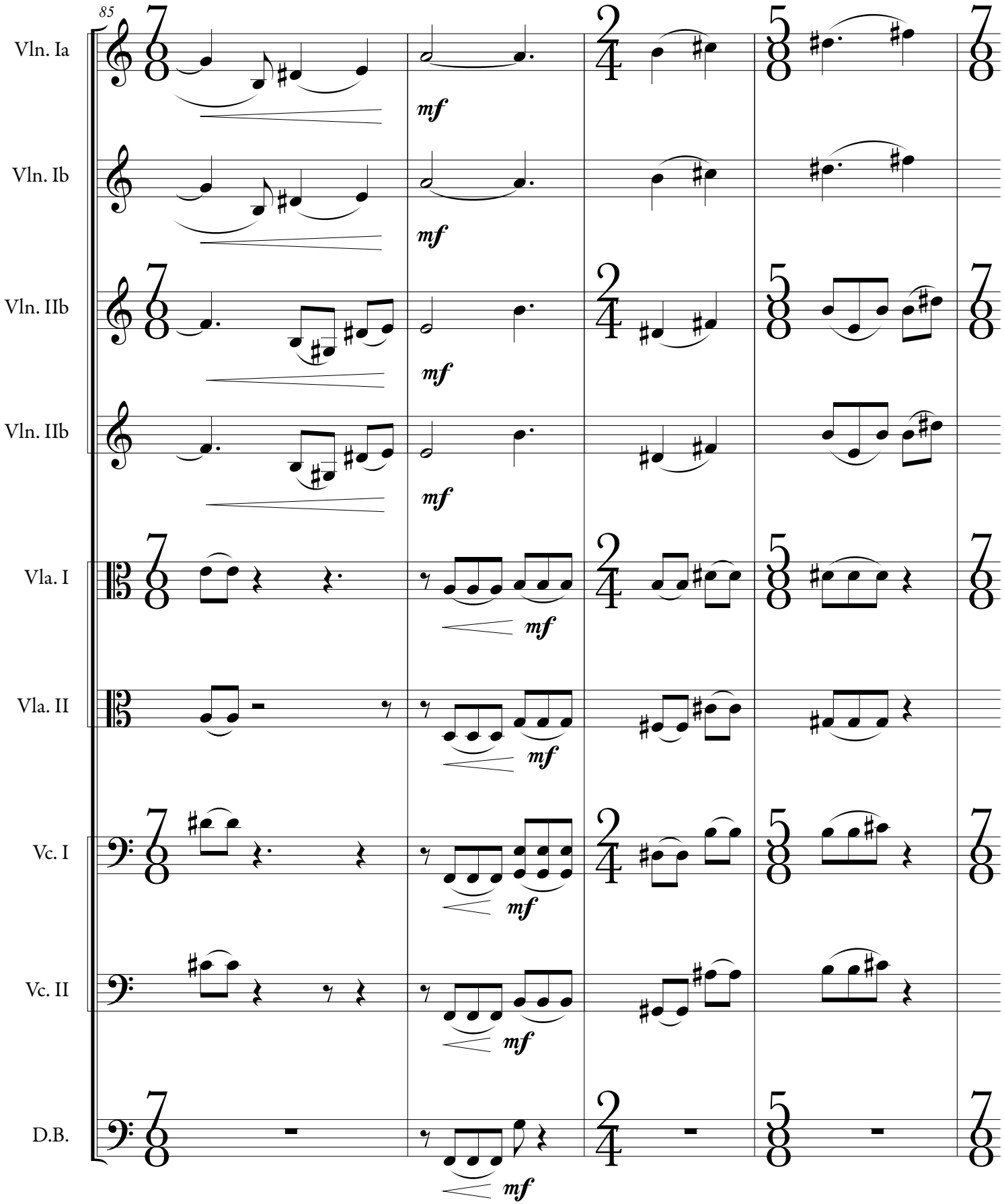

63
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
legato
mf
f
arco

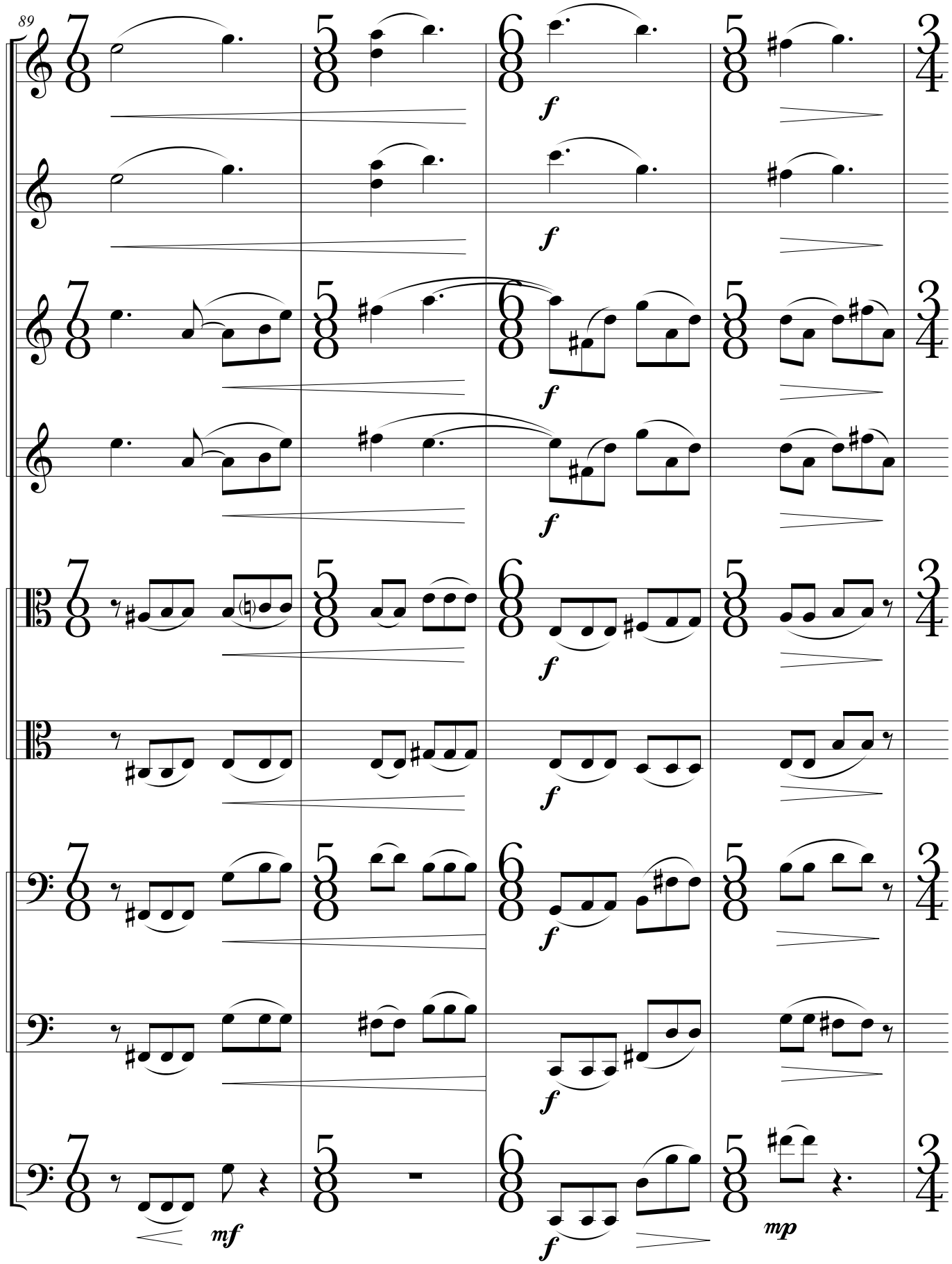

67
68
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
p
mf
f
mp

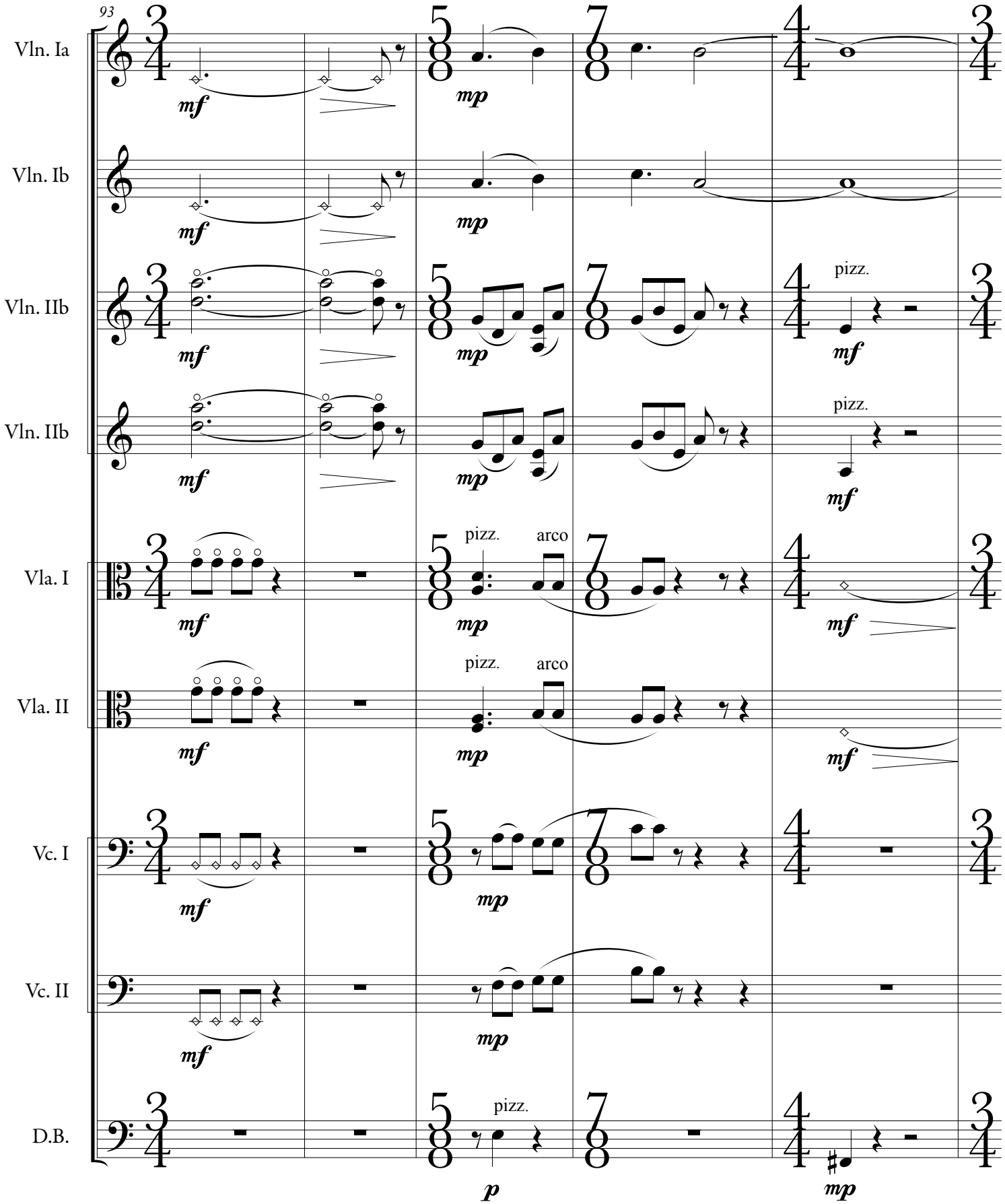

72
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
f

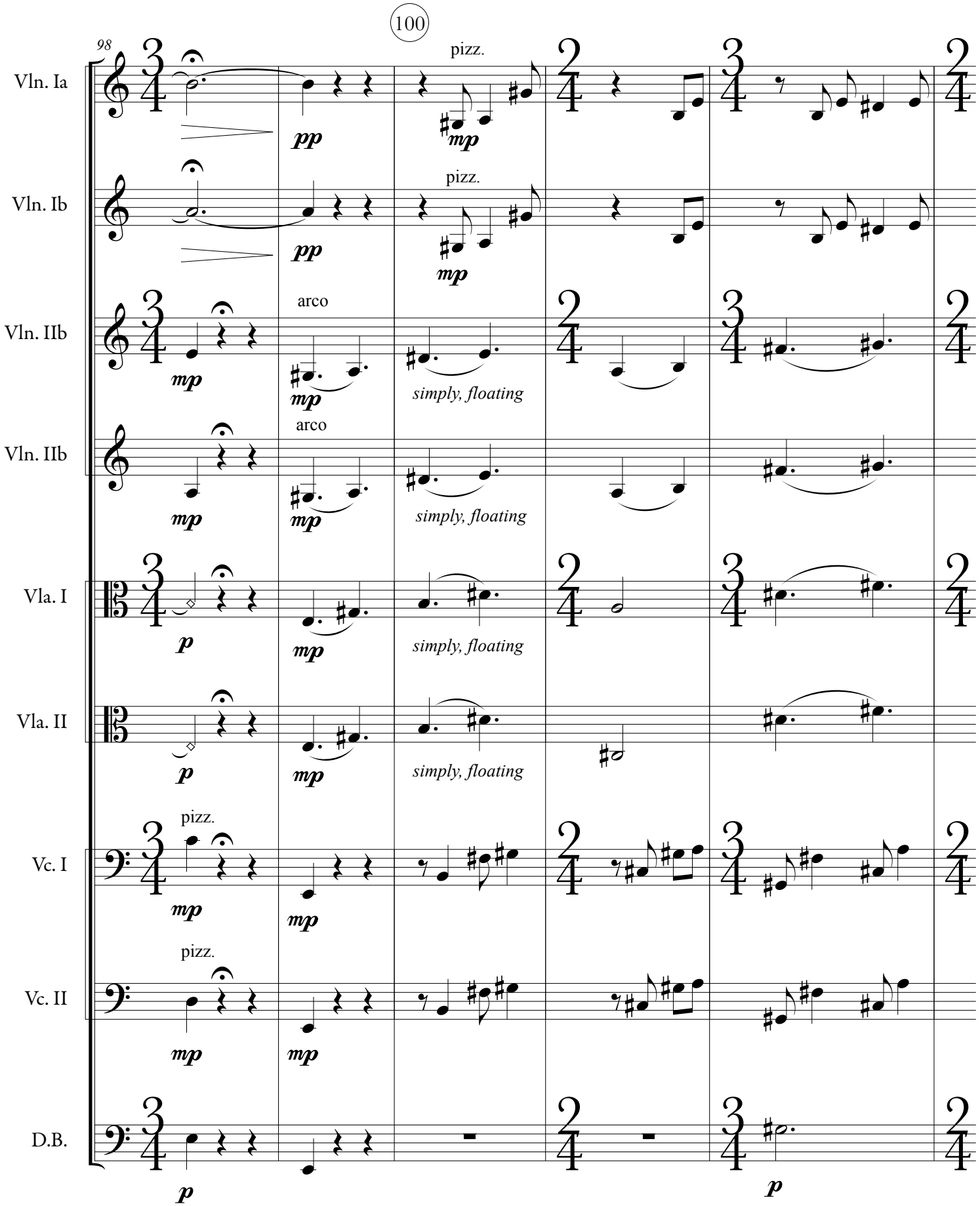

76
78
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
no vib. at first
no vib. at first
pizz.
arco
no vib. at first
pizz.
arco
no vib. at first
p
mf
mp

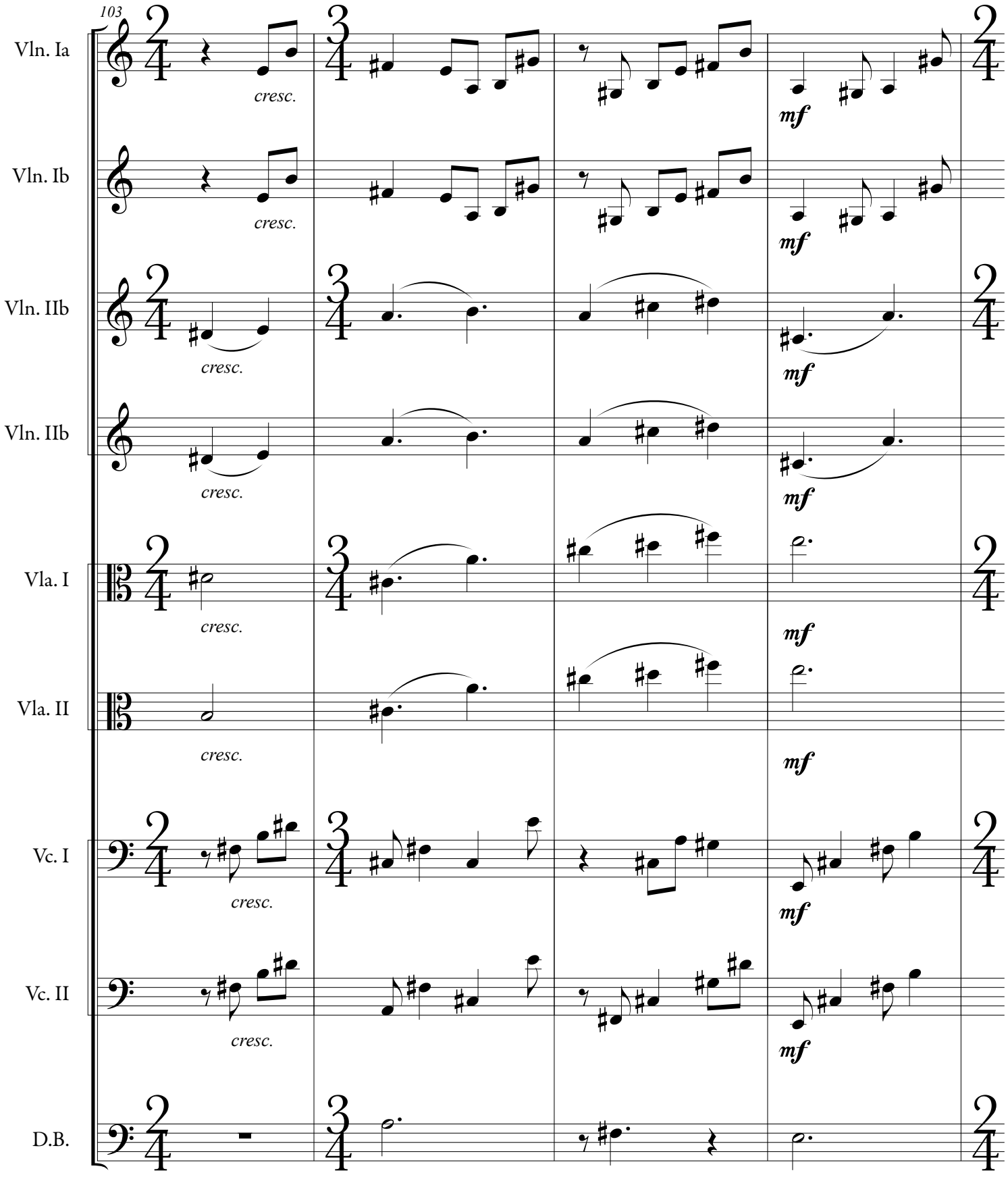

81
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.
arco
mf
mp
p

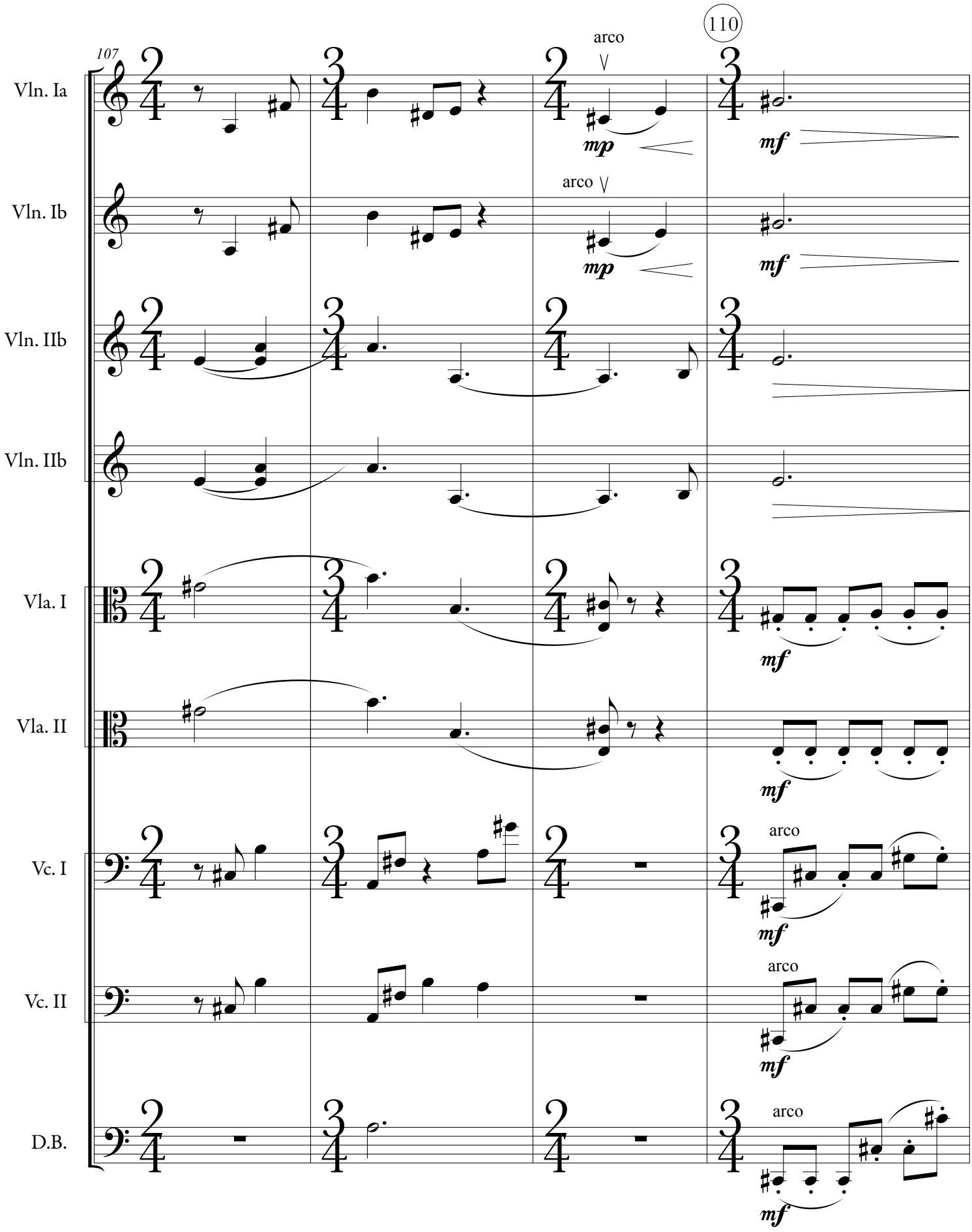

85
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf

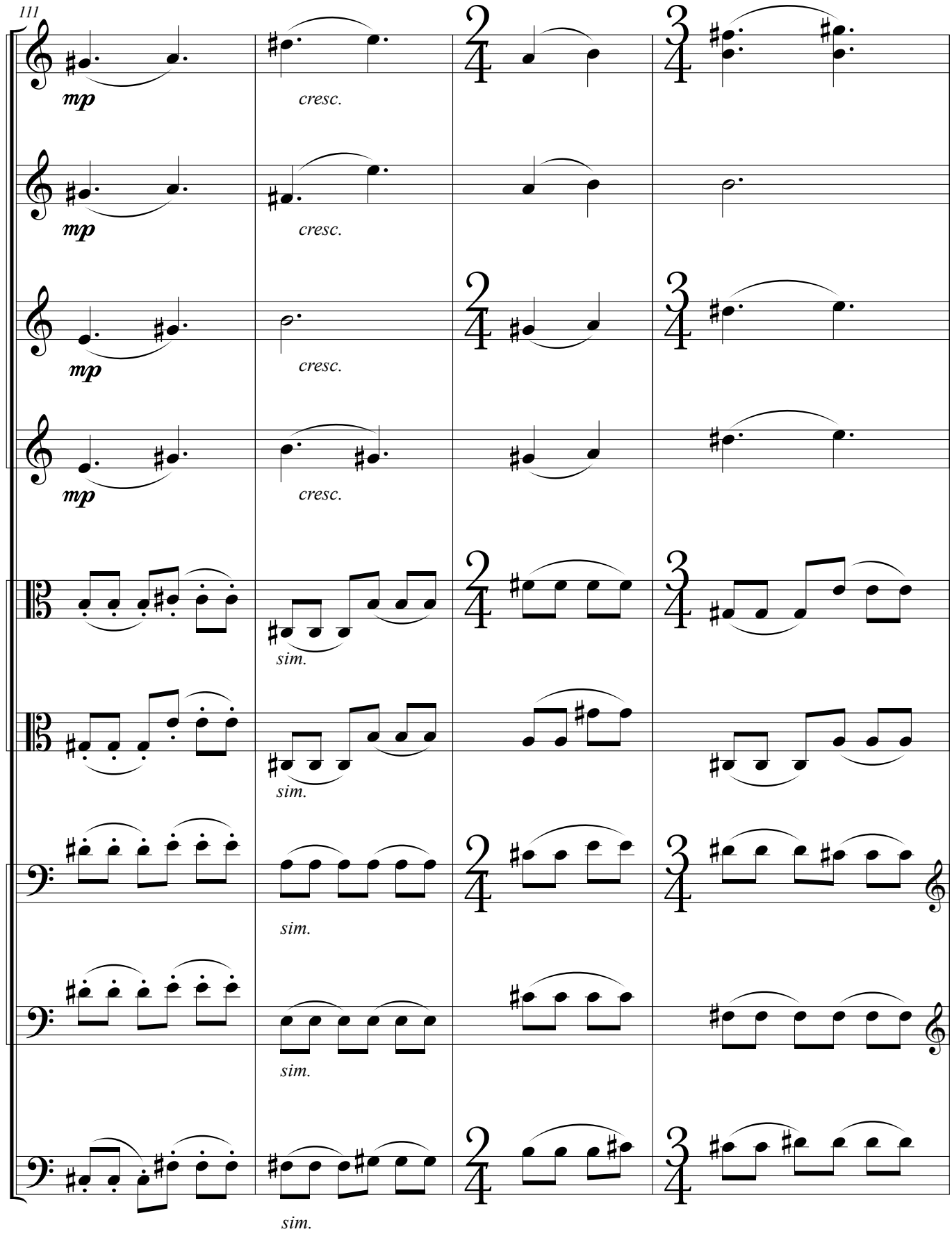

89
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
f
mf
mp

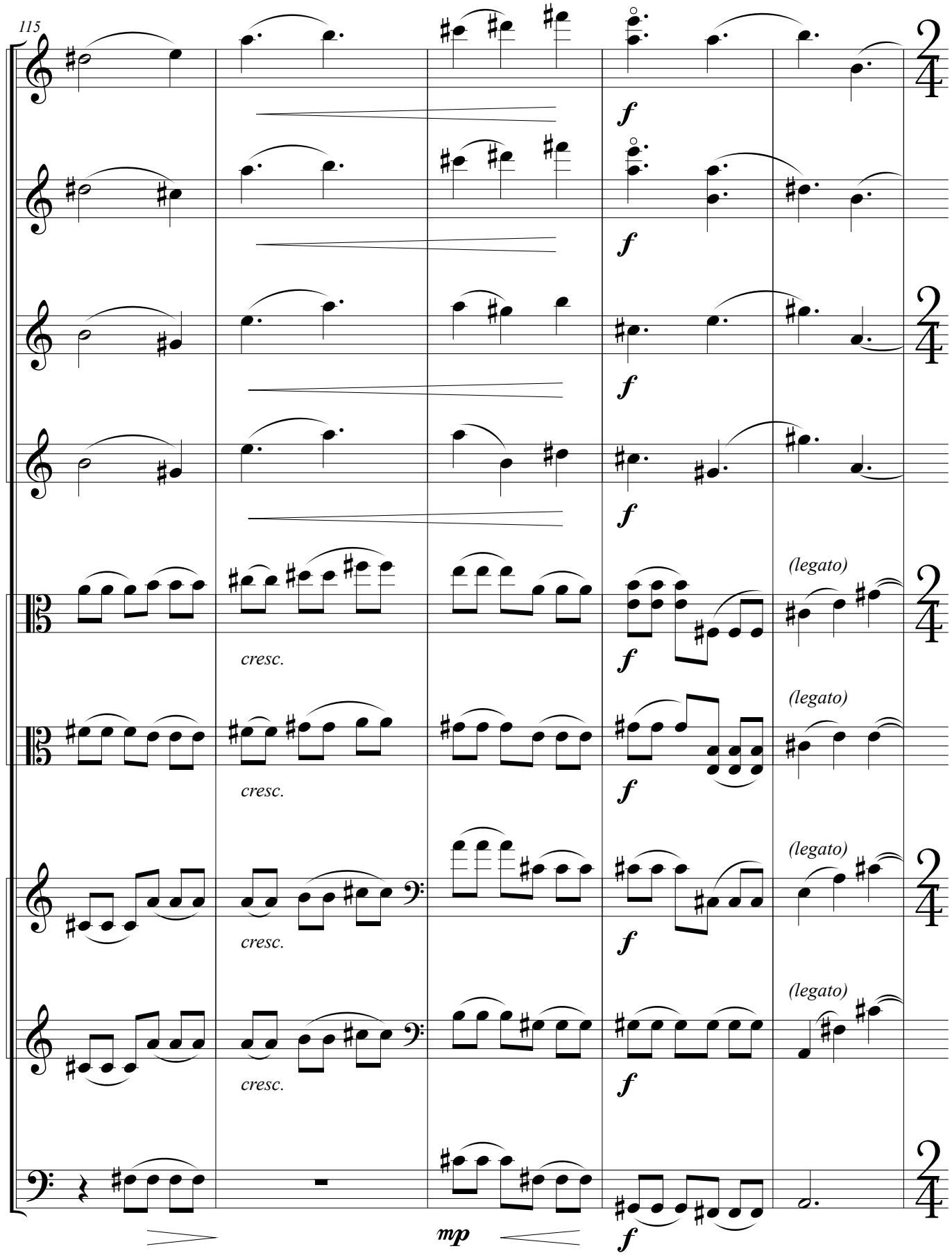

93
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
mp
pizz.
arco
p

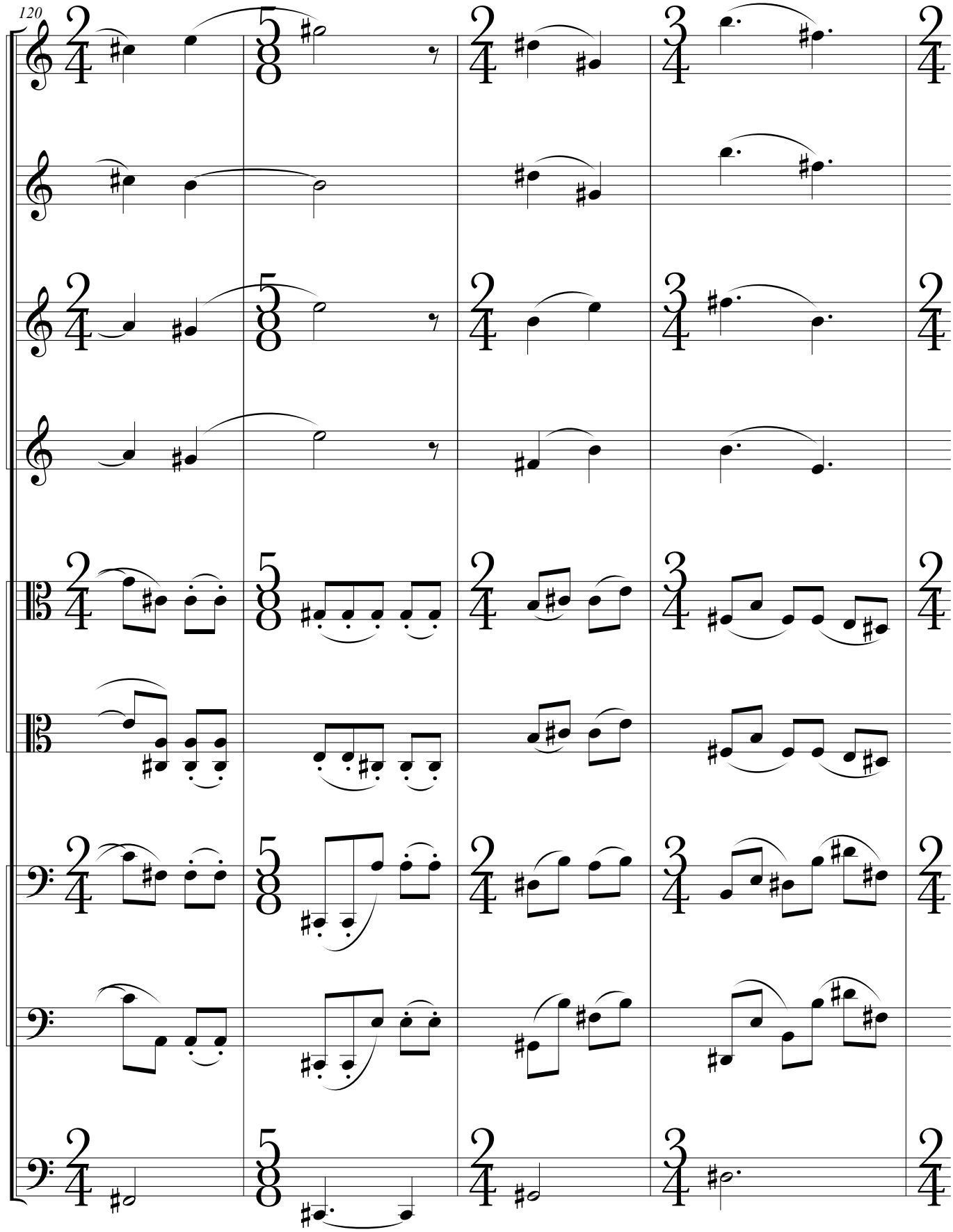

100
98
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.
arco
simply, floating

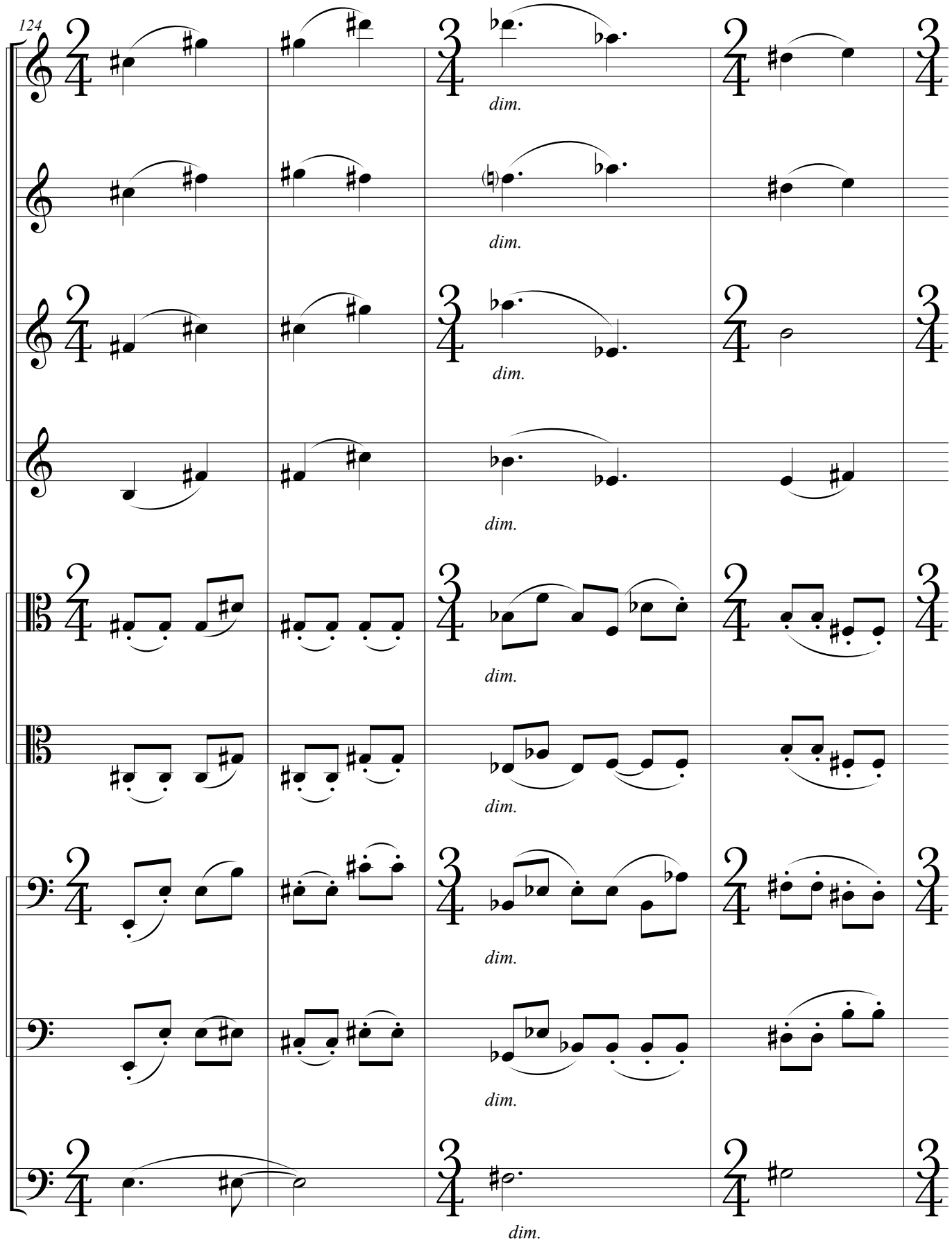

103
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
cresc.
mf

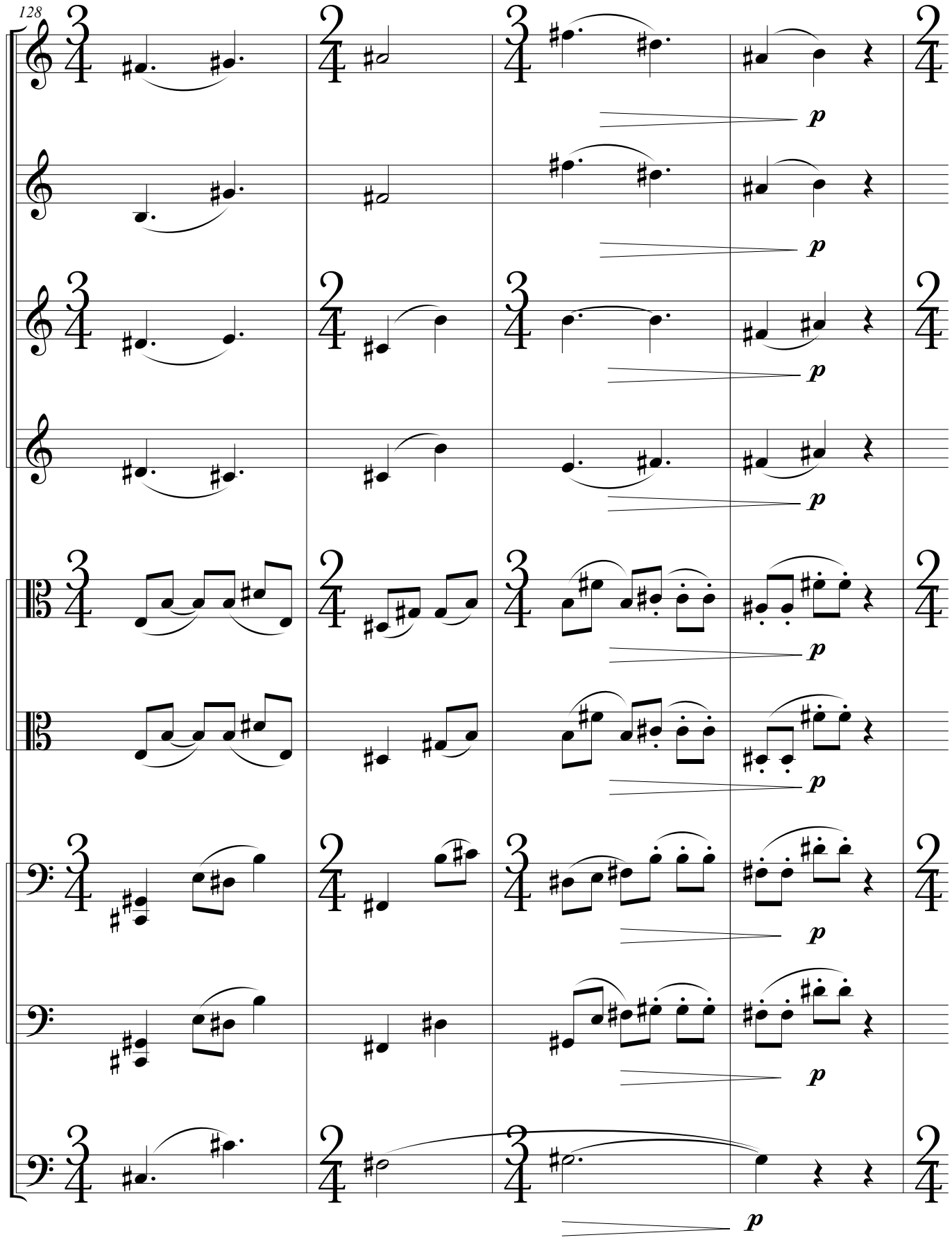

107
110
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
mp
mf

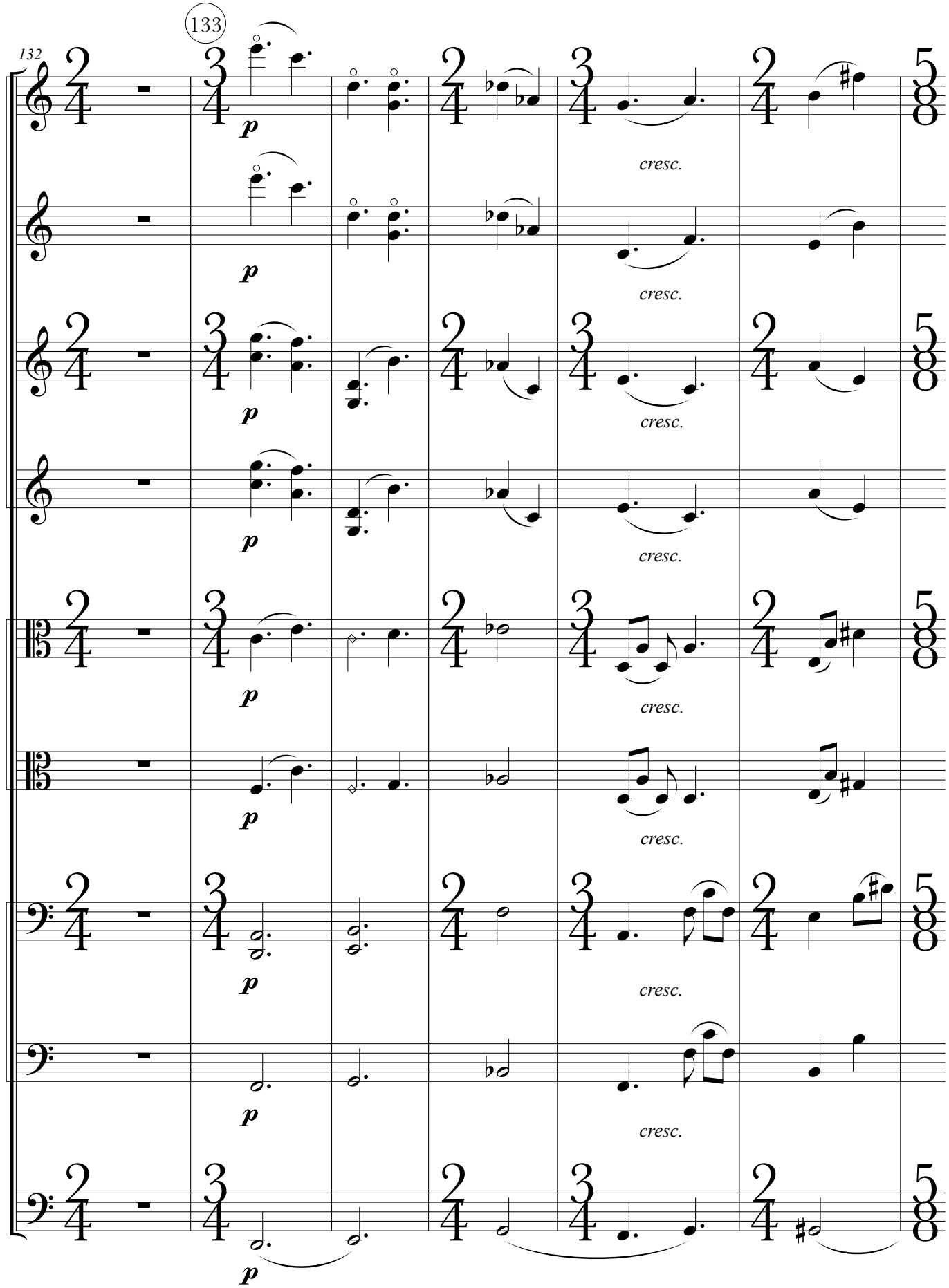

111
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp
cresc.
sim.

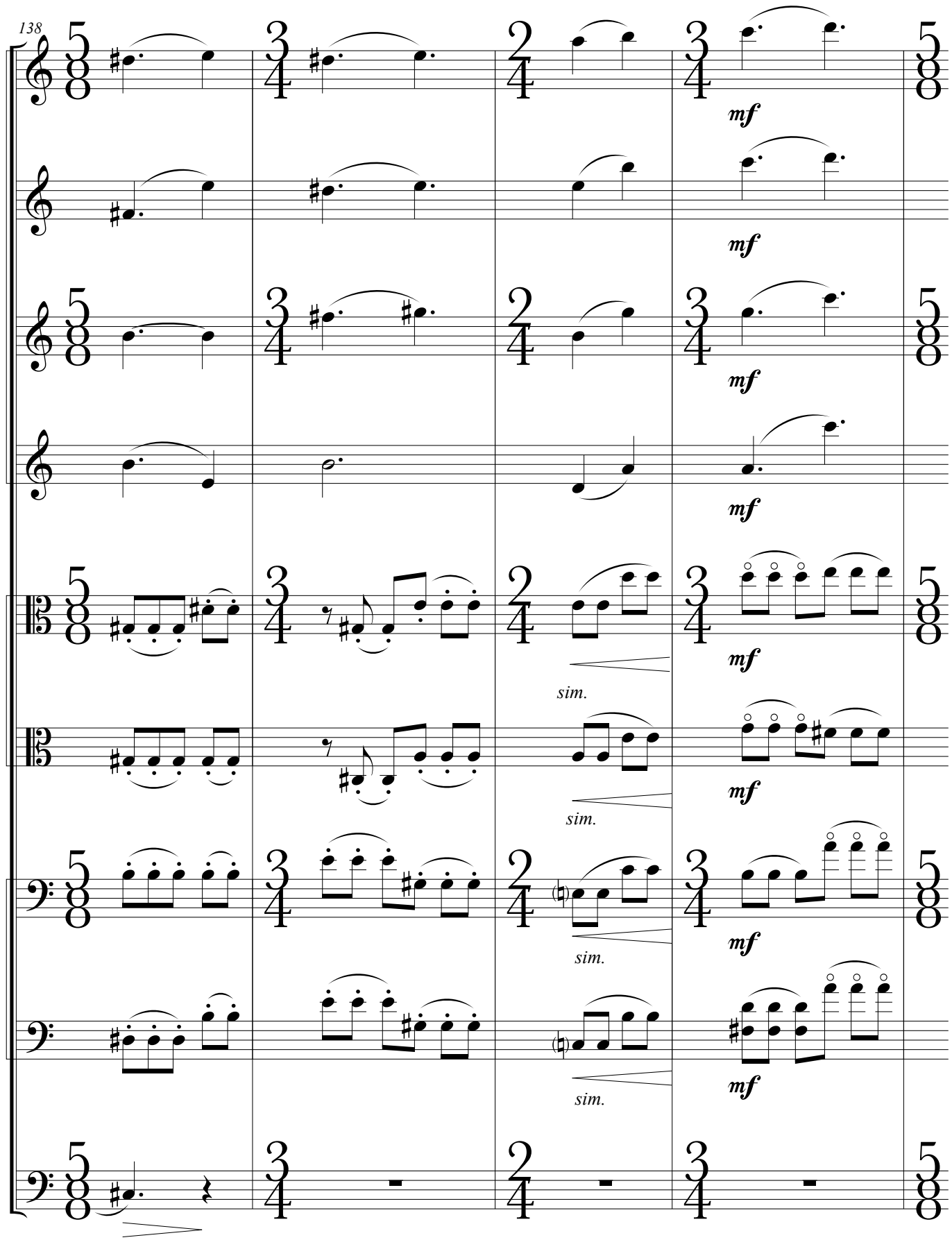

115
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
f
cresc.
(legato)
mp

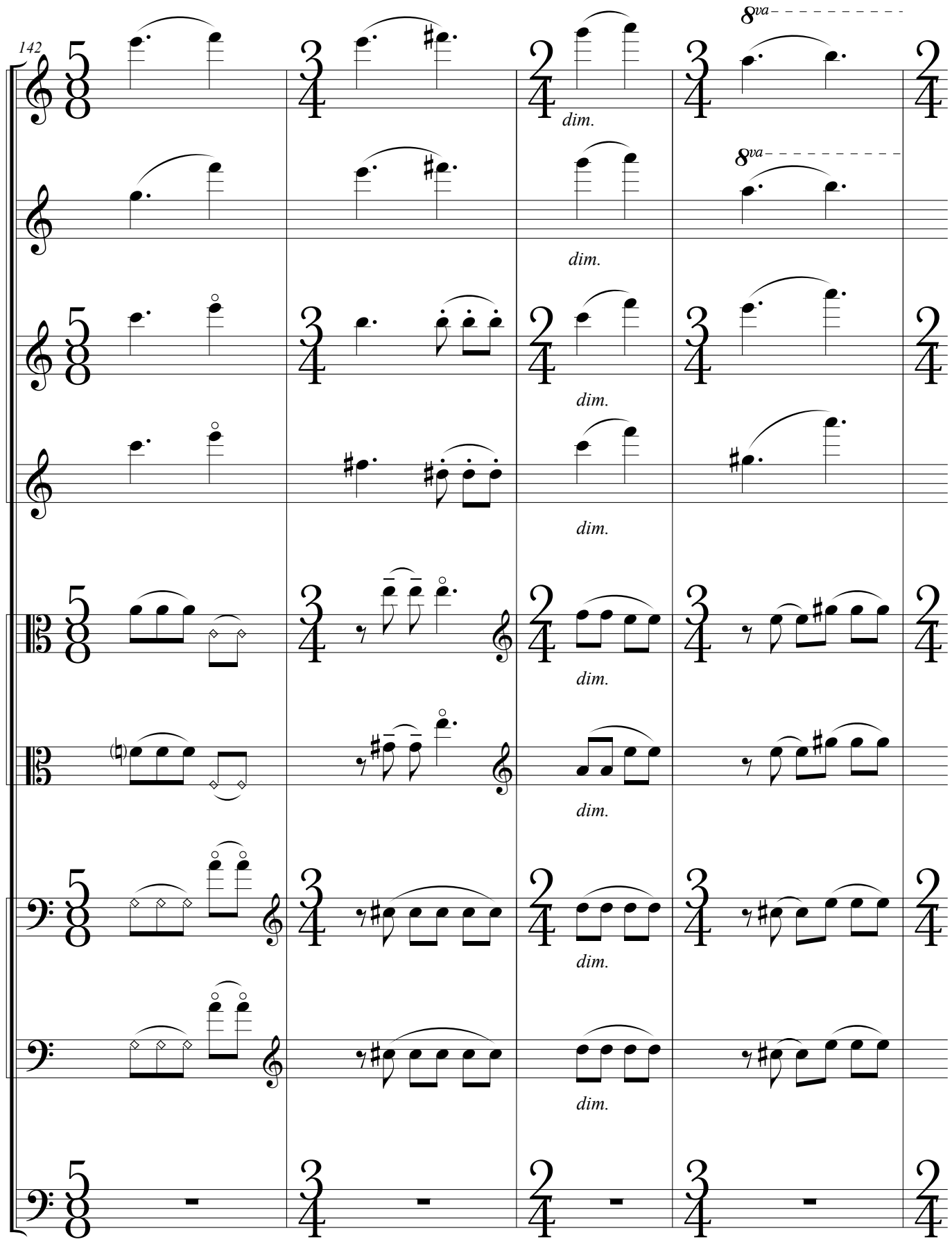

120
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

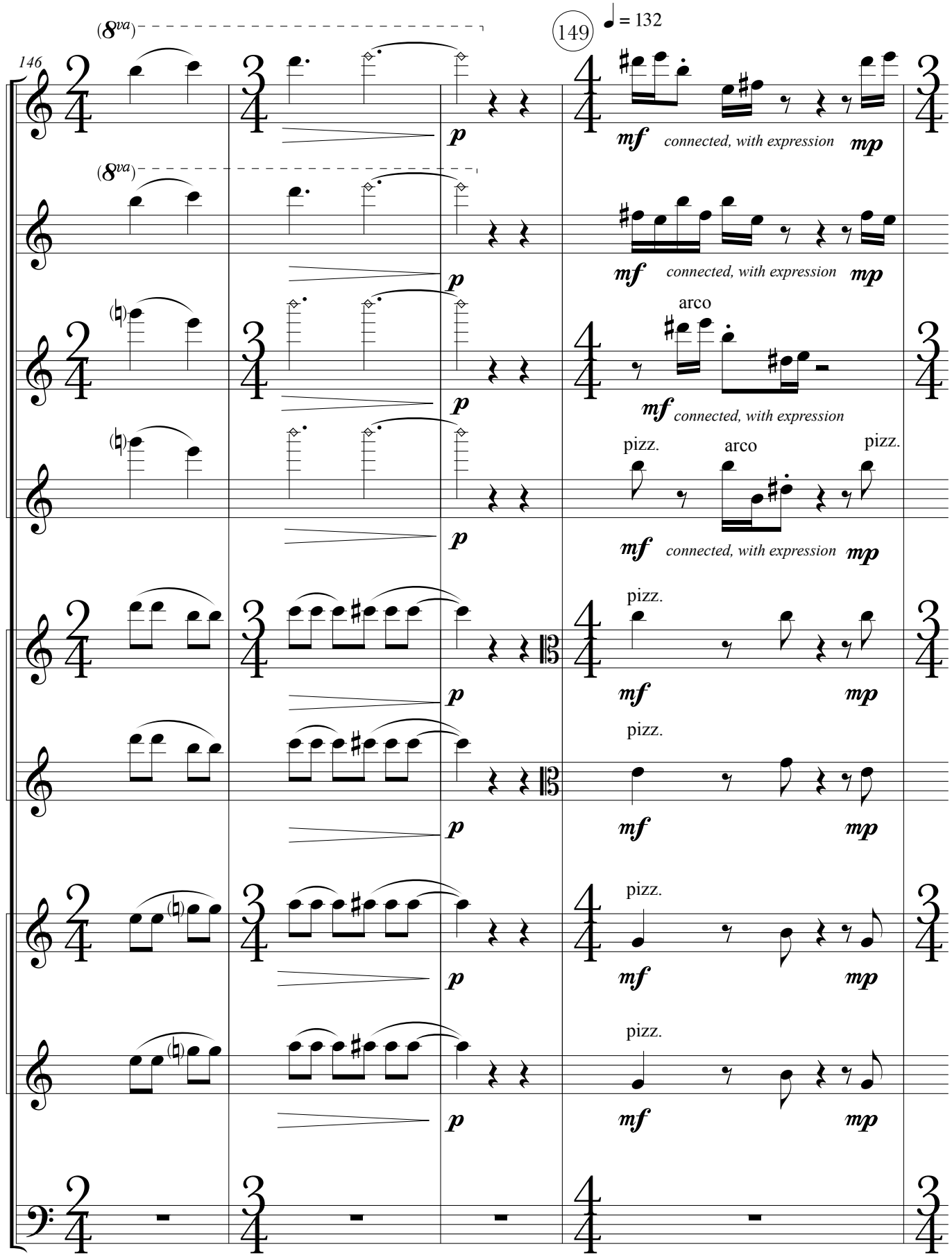

124
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
dim.

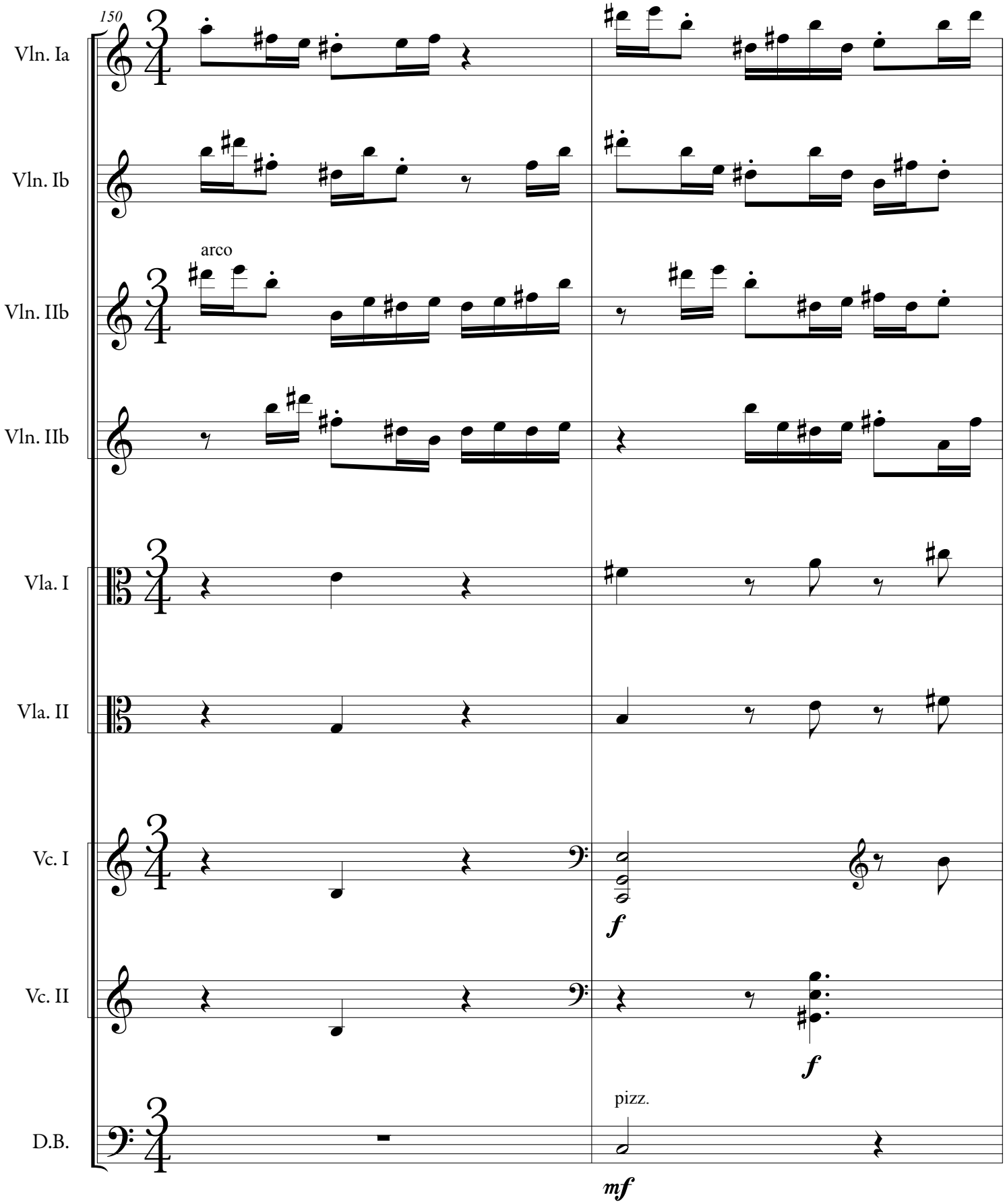

128
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
p

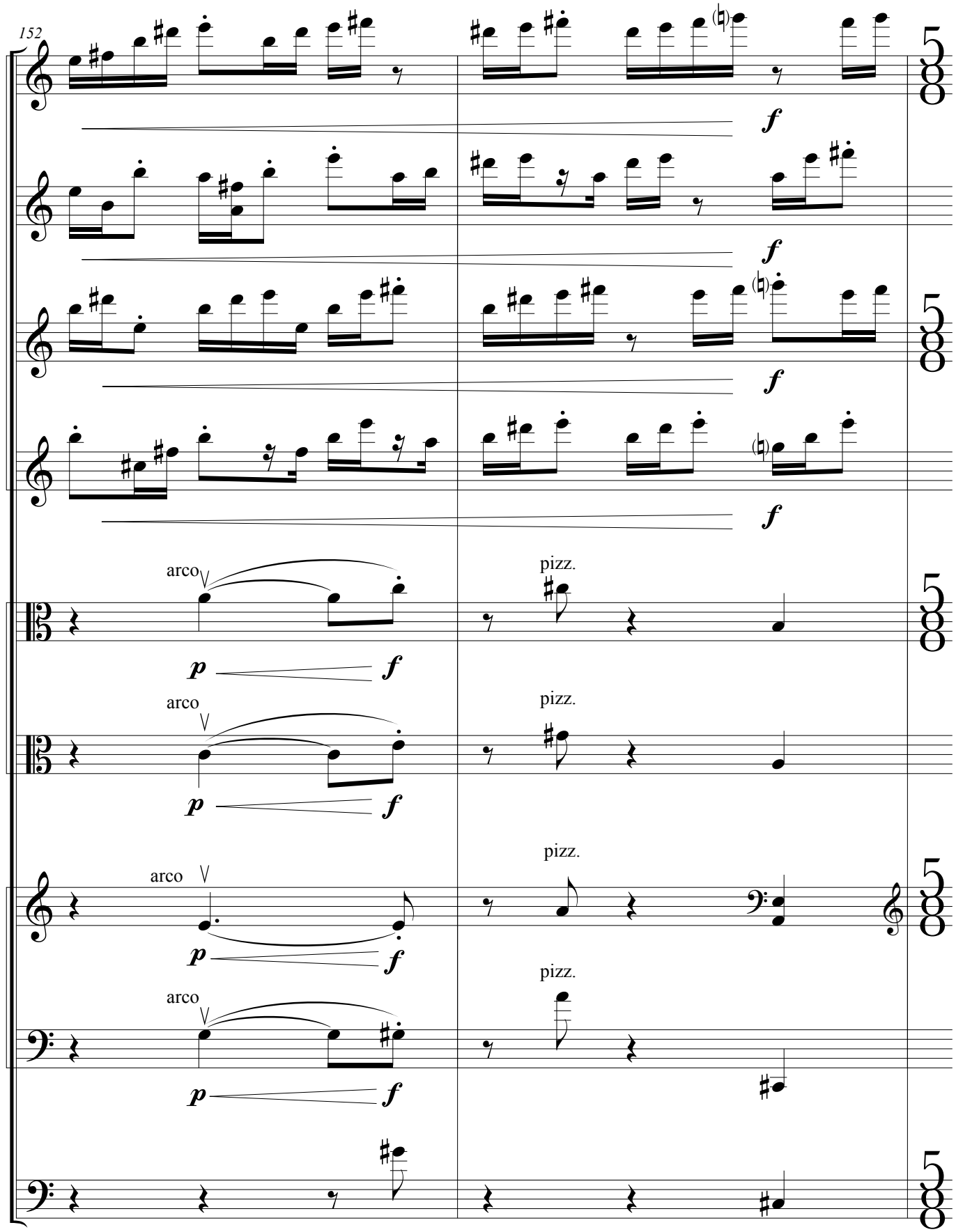

132
133
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
p
cresc.

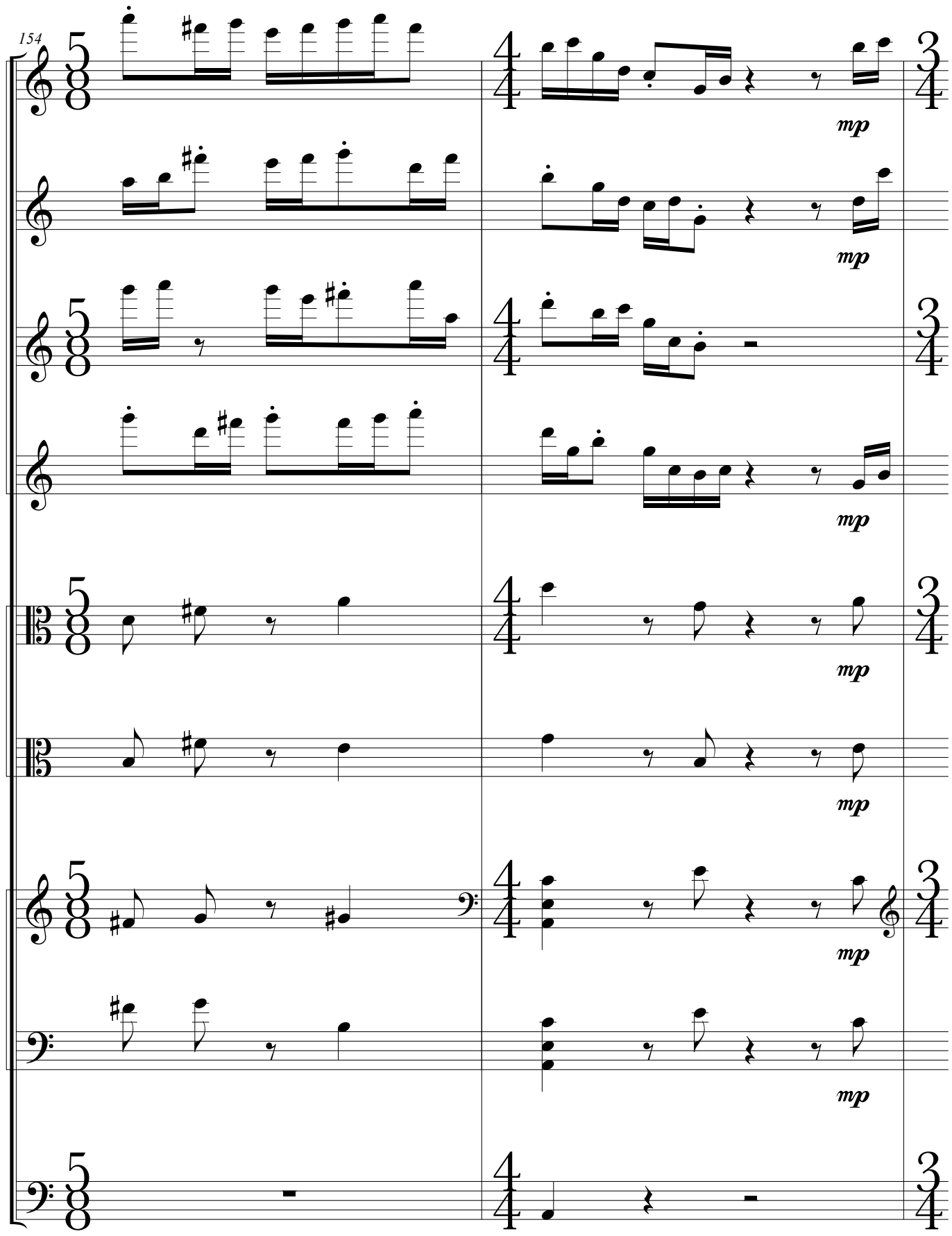

138
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
sim.

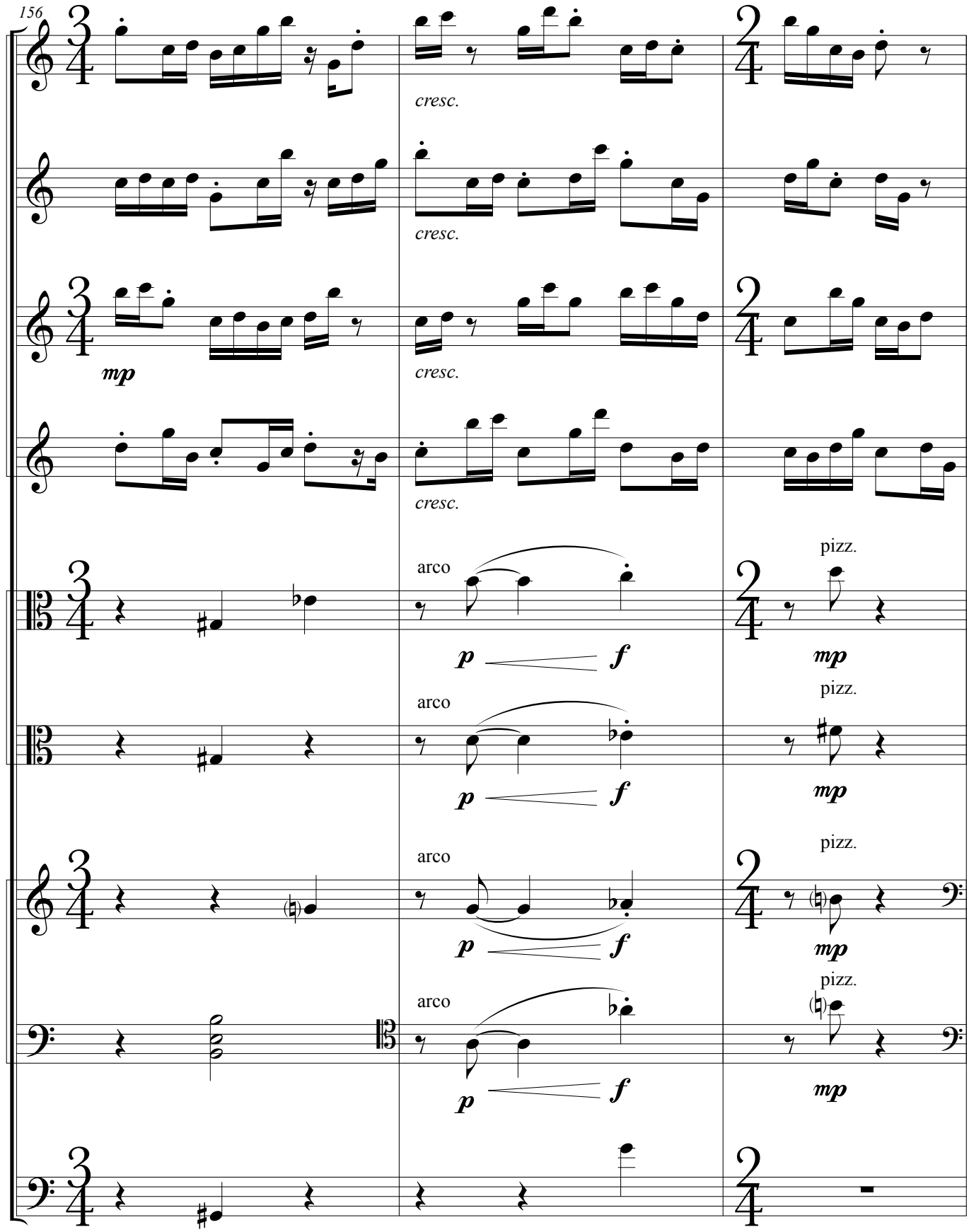

142
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
8va
dim.

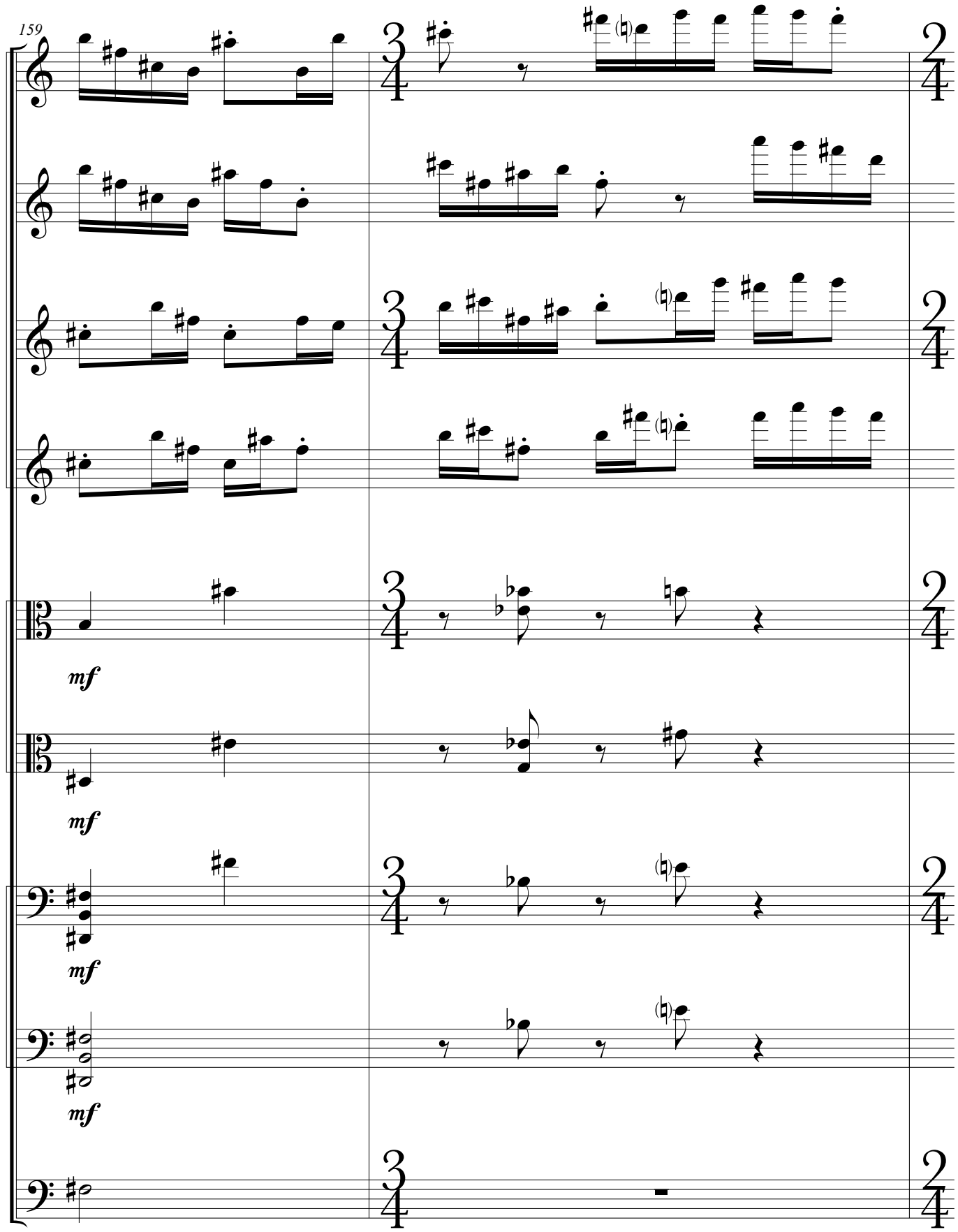

146
149
♩ = 132
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
(8va)
p
mf
mp
connected, with expression
arco
pizz.

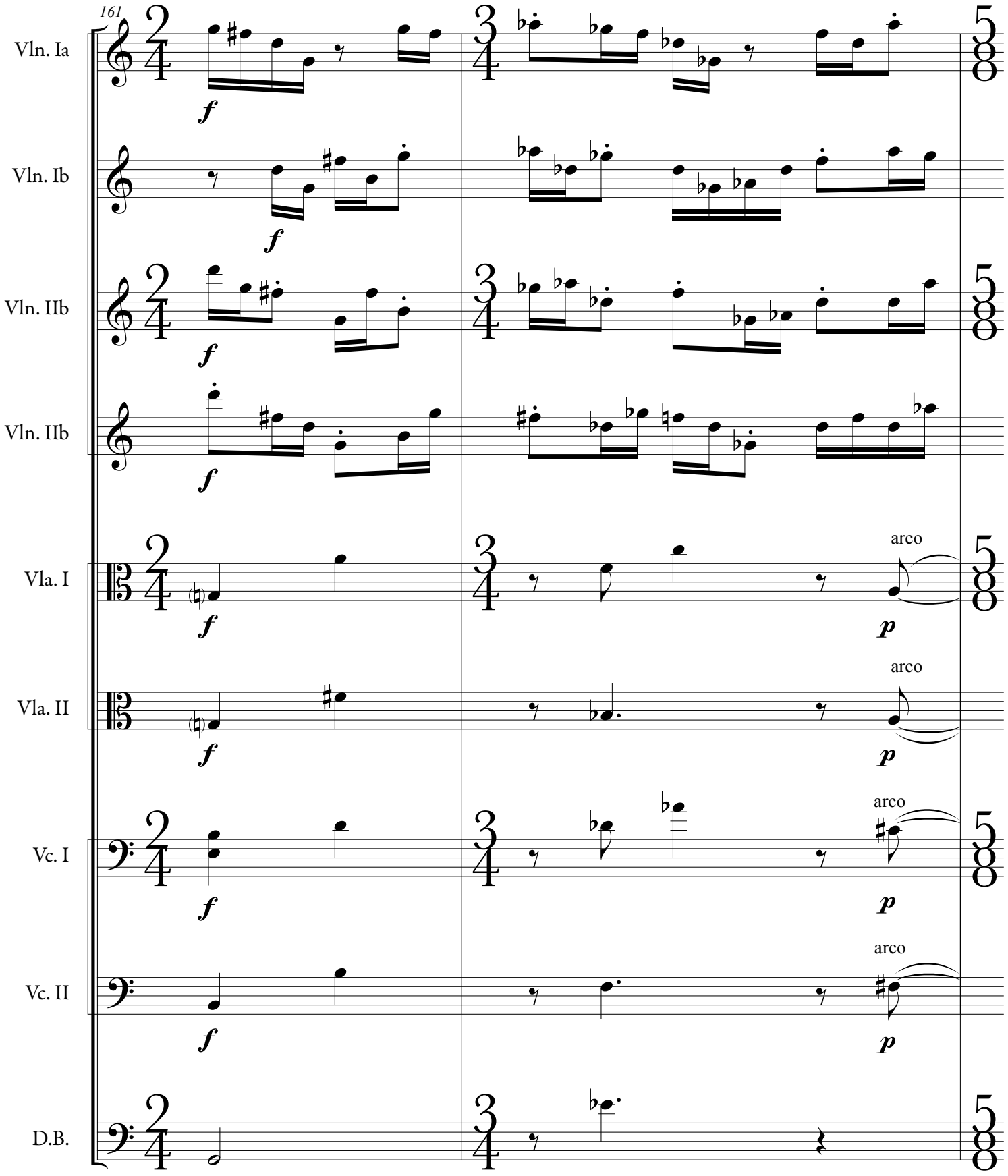

150
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
arco
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
f
Vc. II
f
pizz.
D.B.
mf

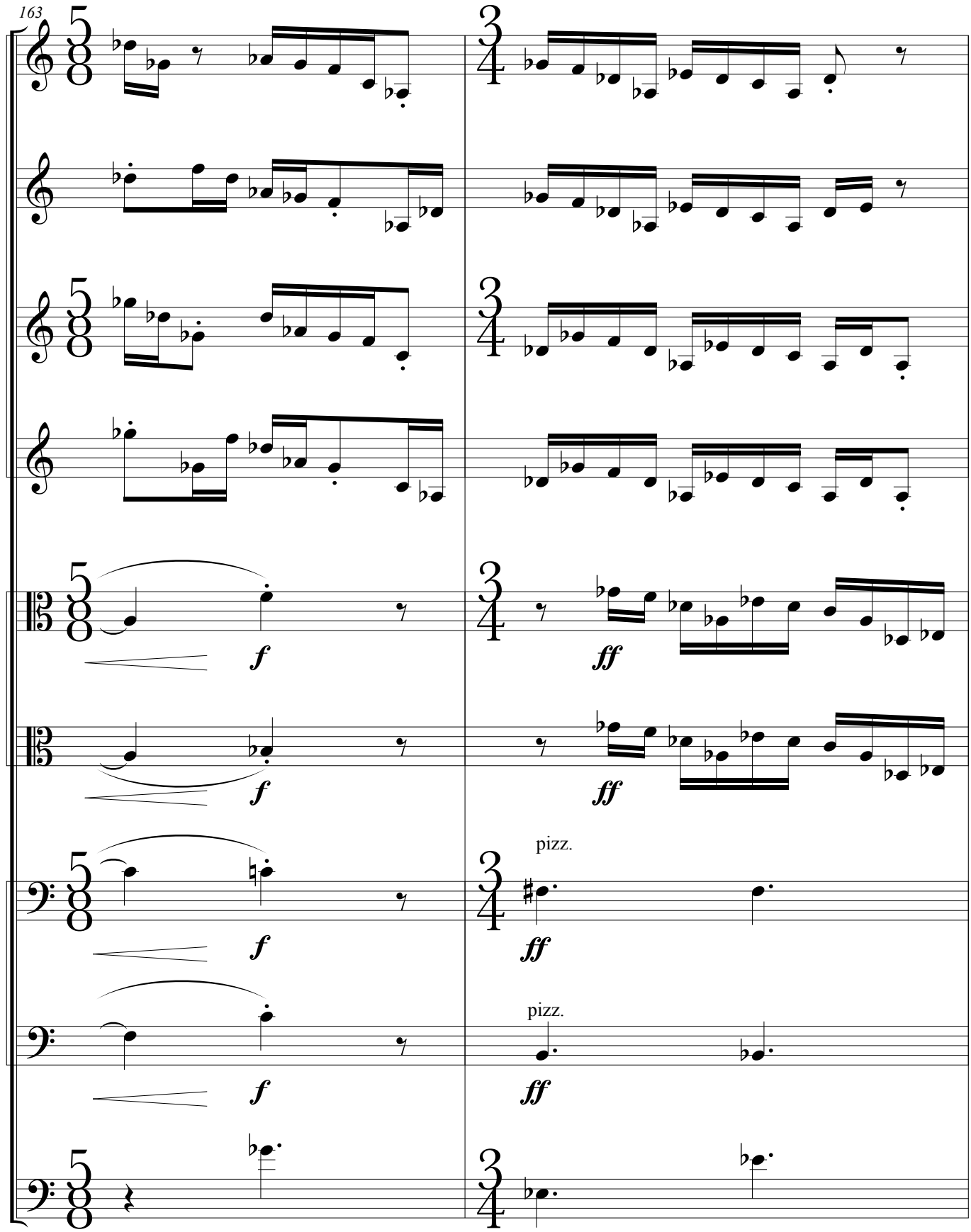

152
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
pizz.
p
f
5

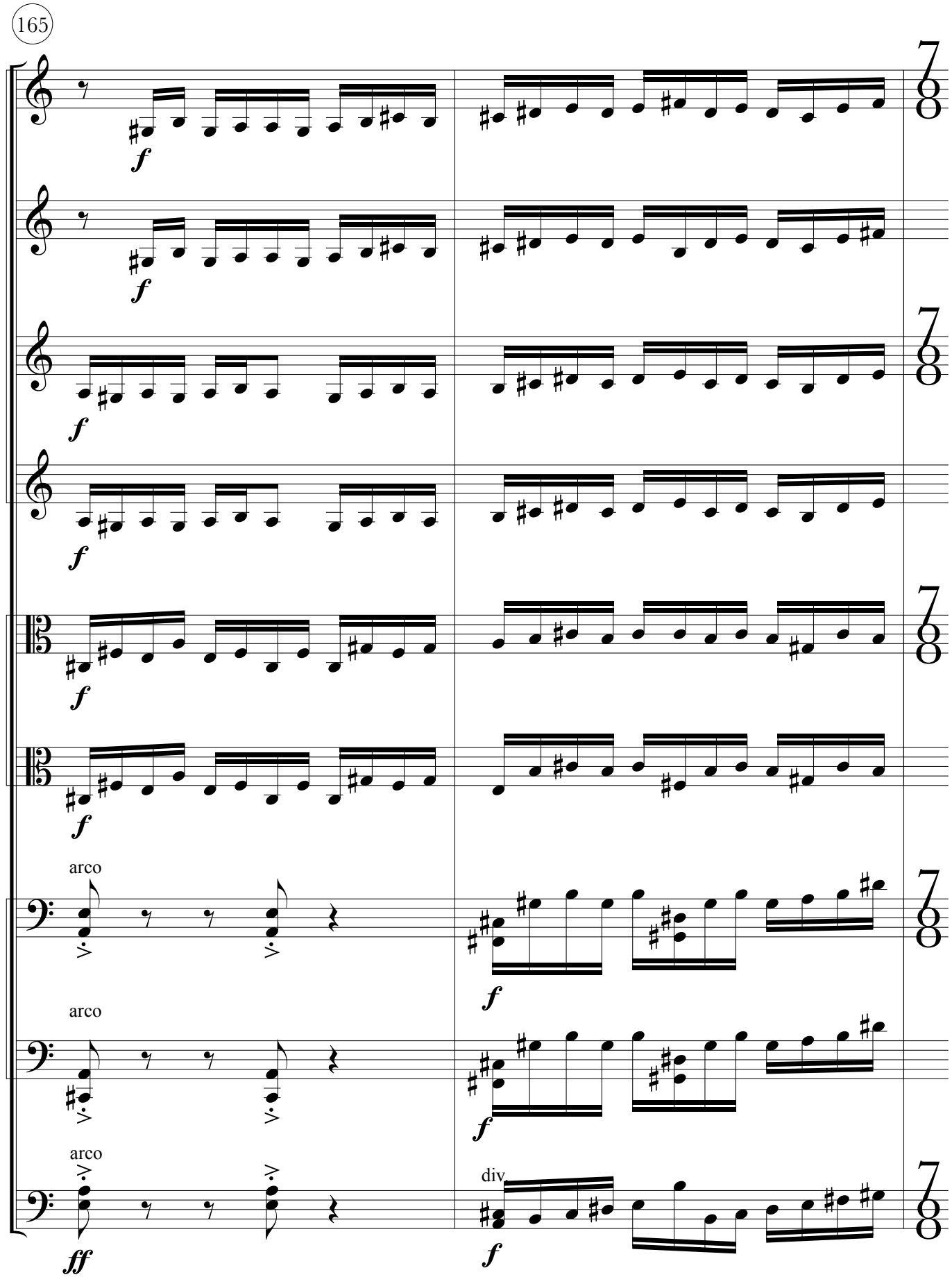

154
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp

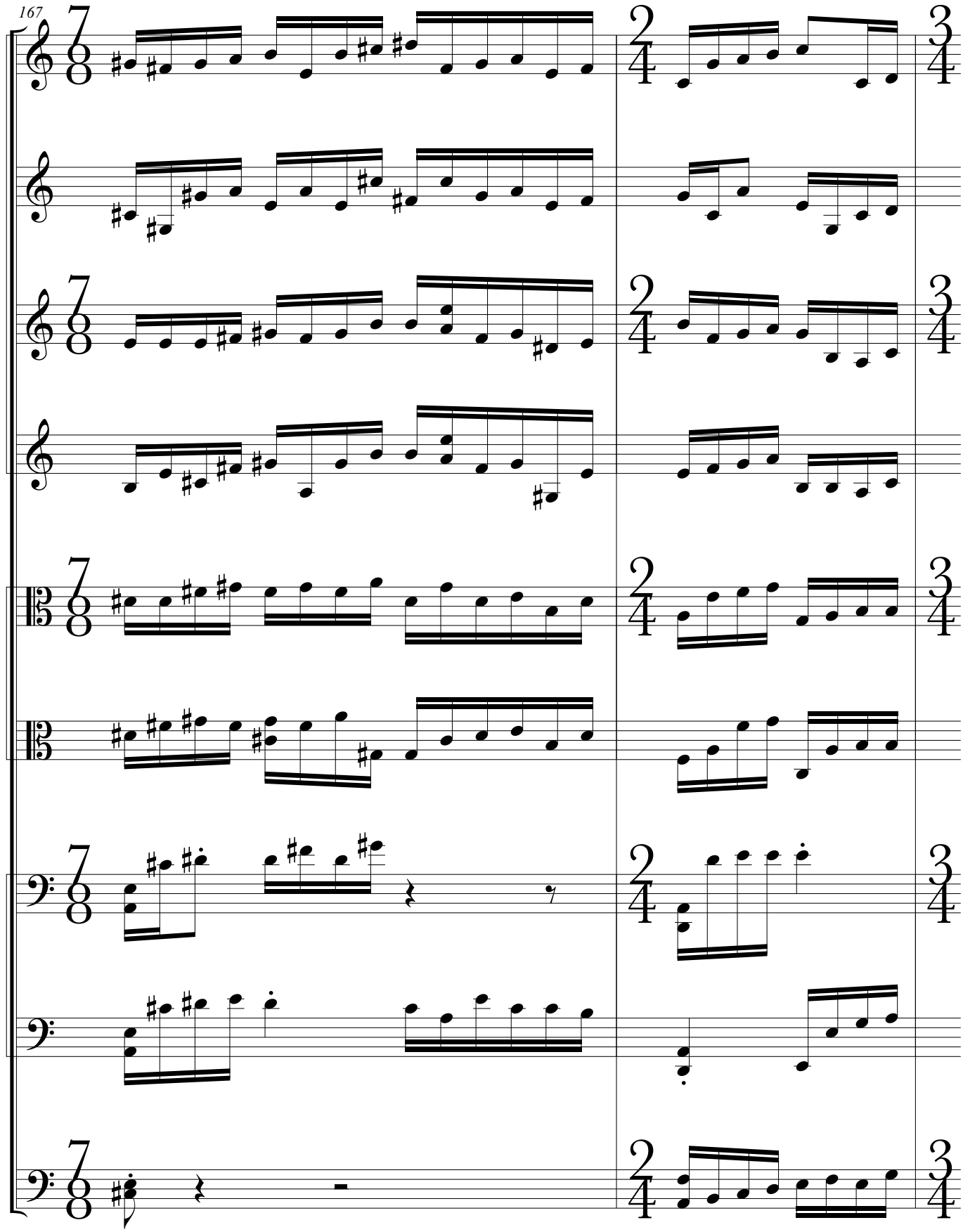

156
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
cresc.
mp
arco
pizz.
p
f

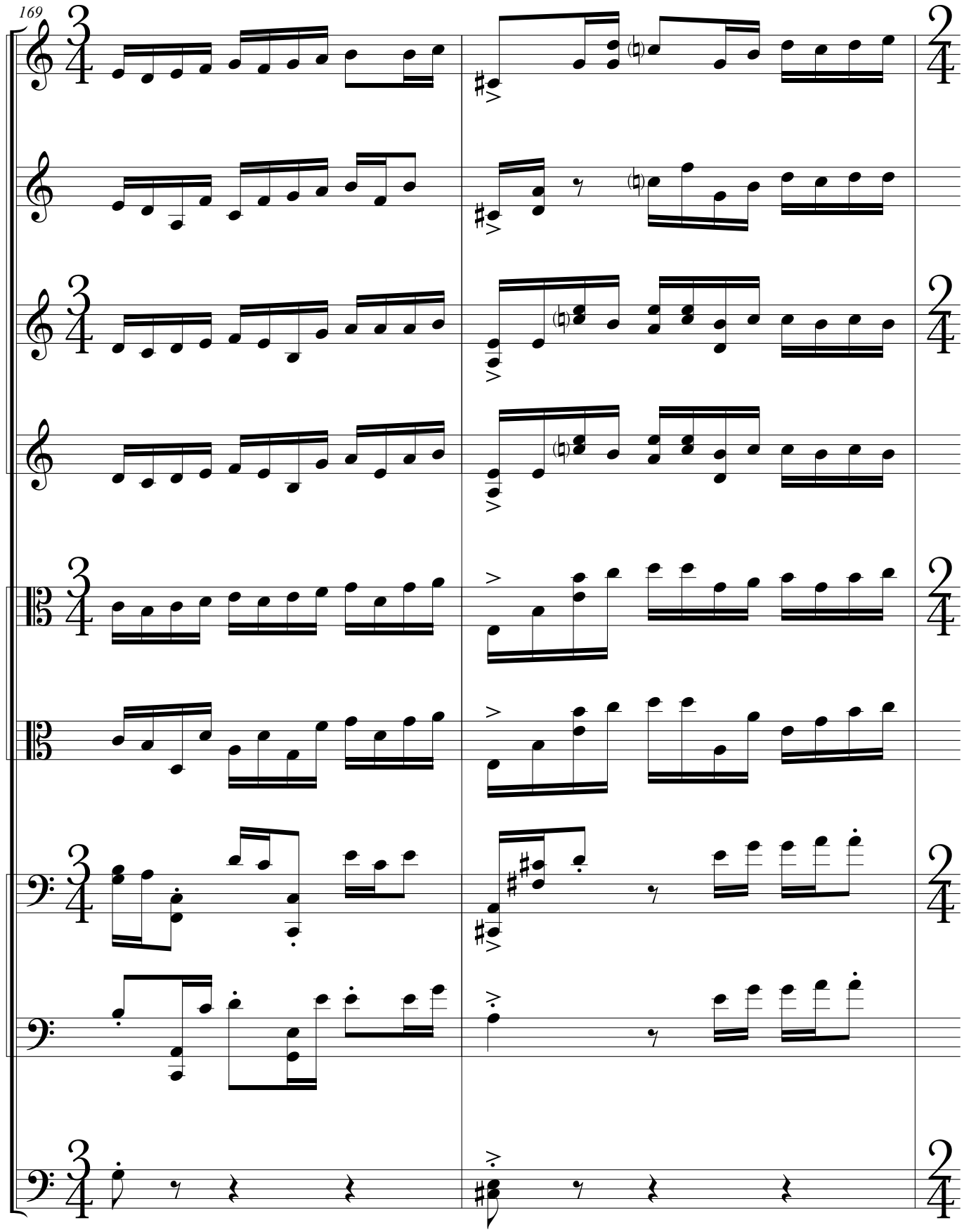

159
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
mf
Vla. II
mf
Vc. I
mf
Vc. II
mf
D.B.

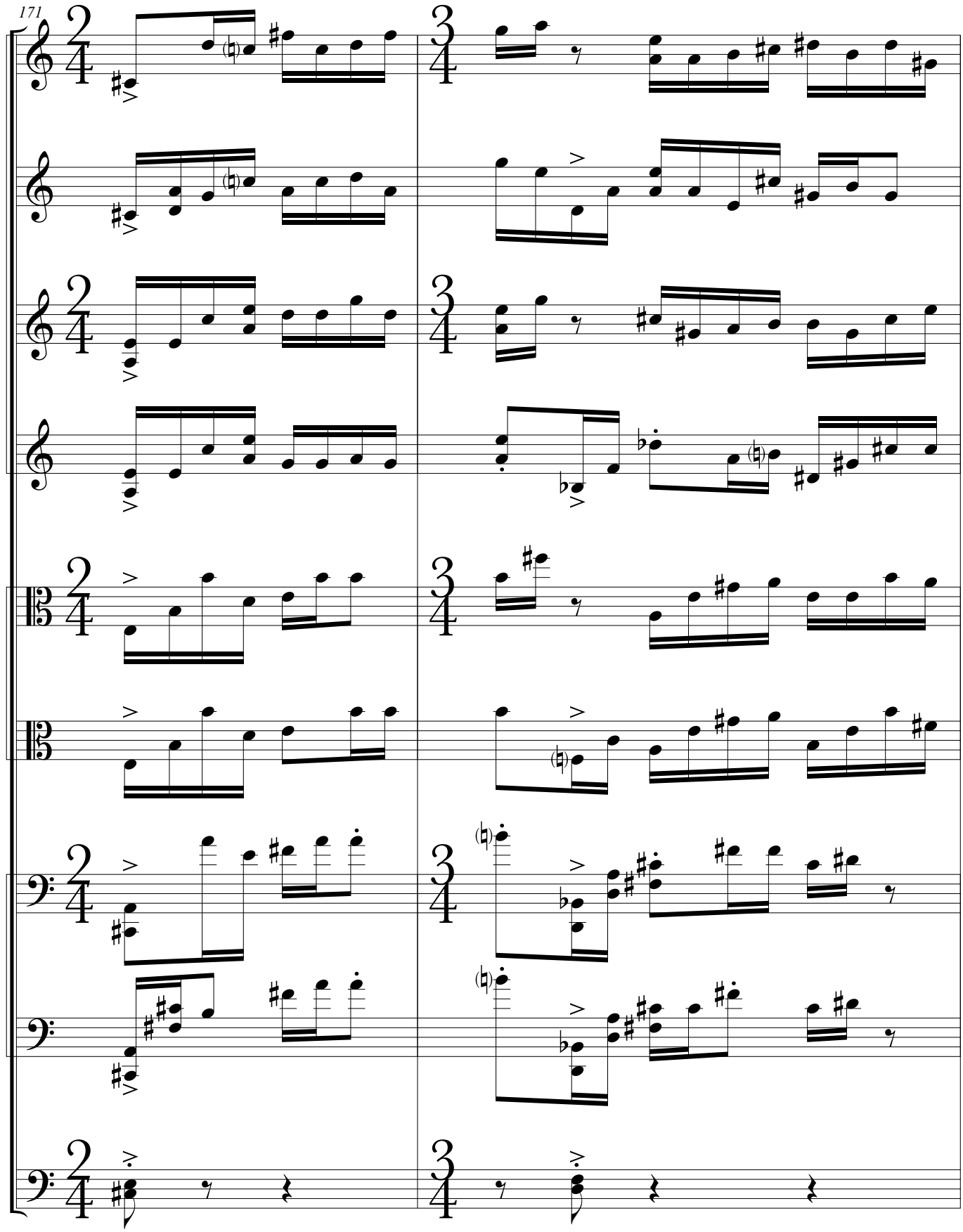

161
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
f
p
arco

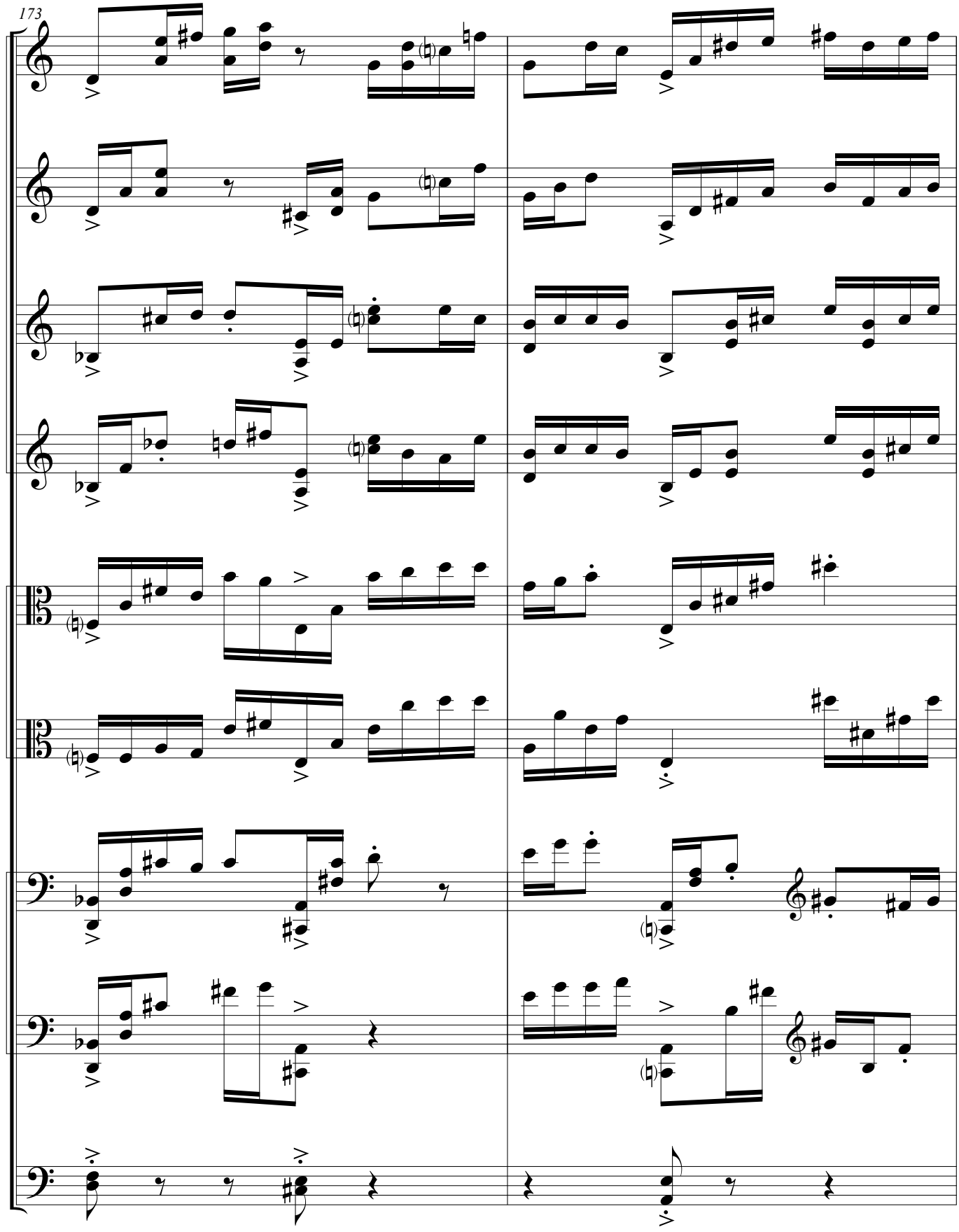

163
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
f
ff
pizz.

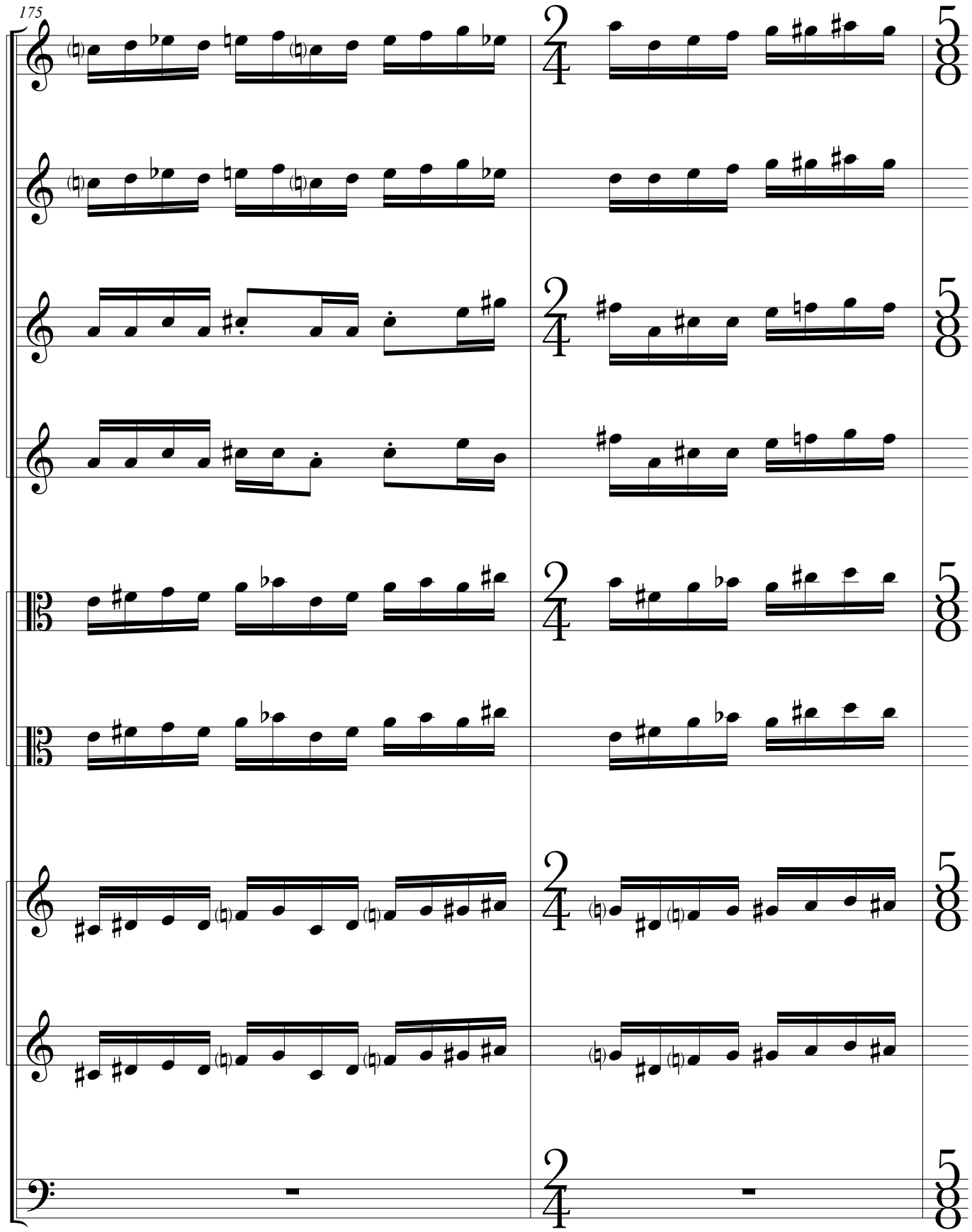

165
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
arco
arco
div.
f
ff

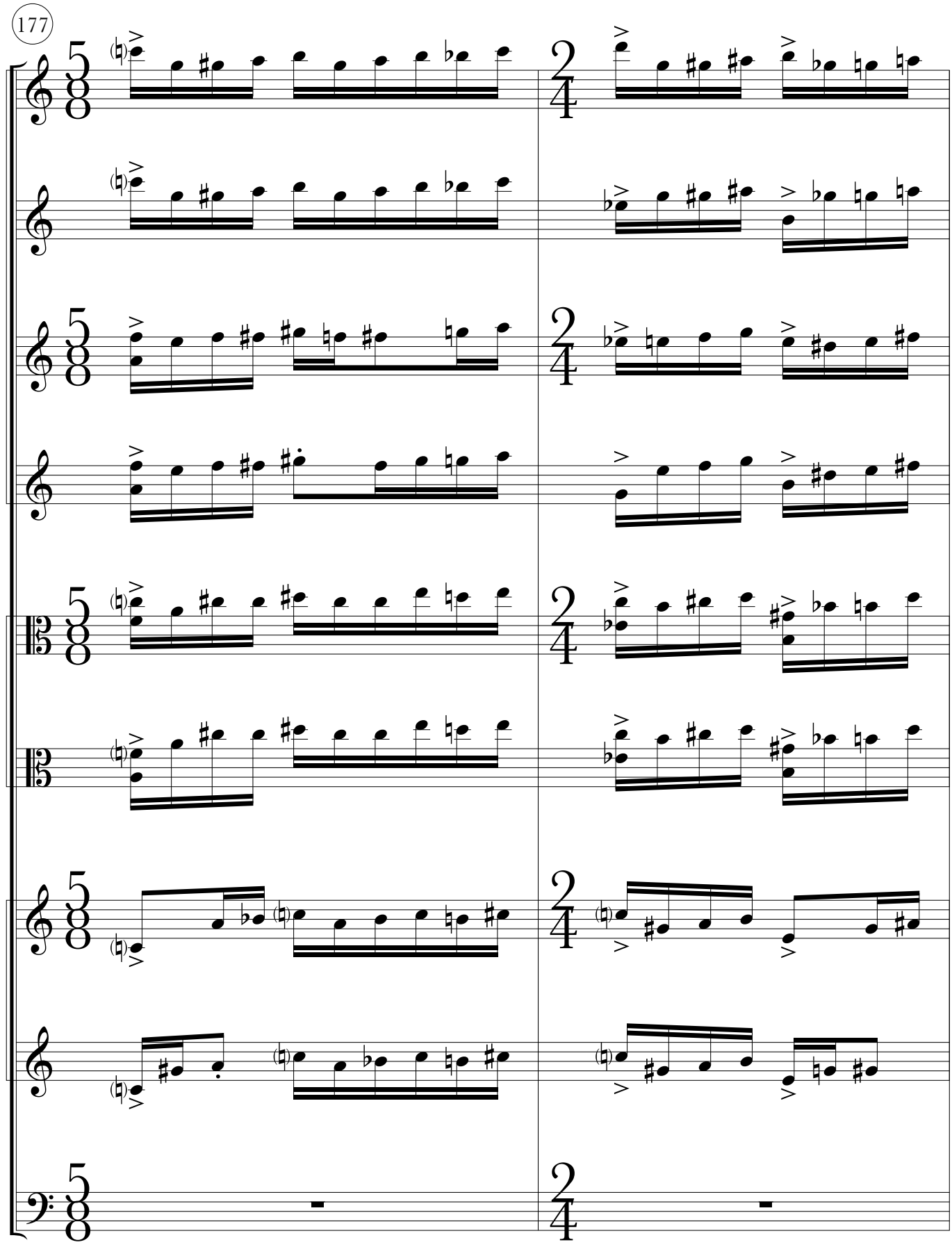

167
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

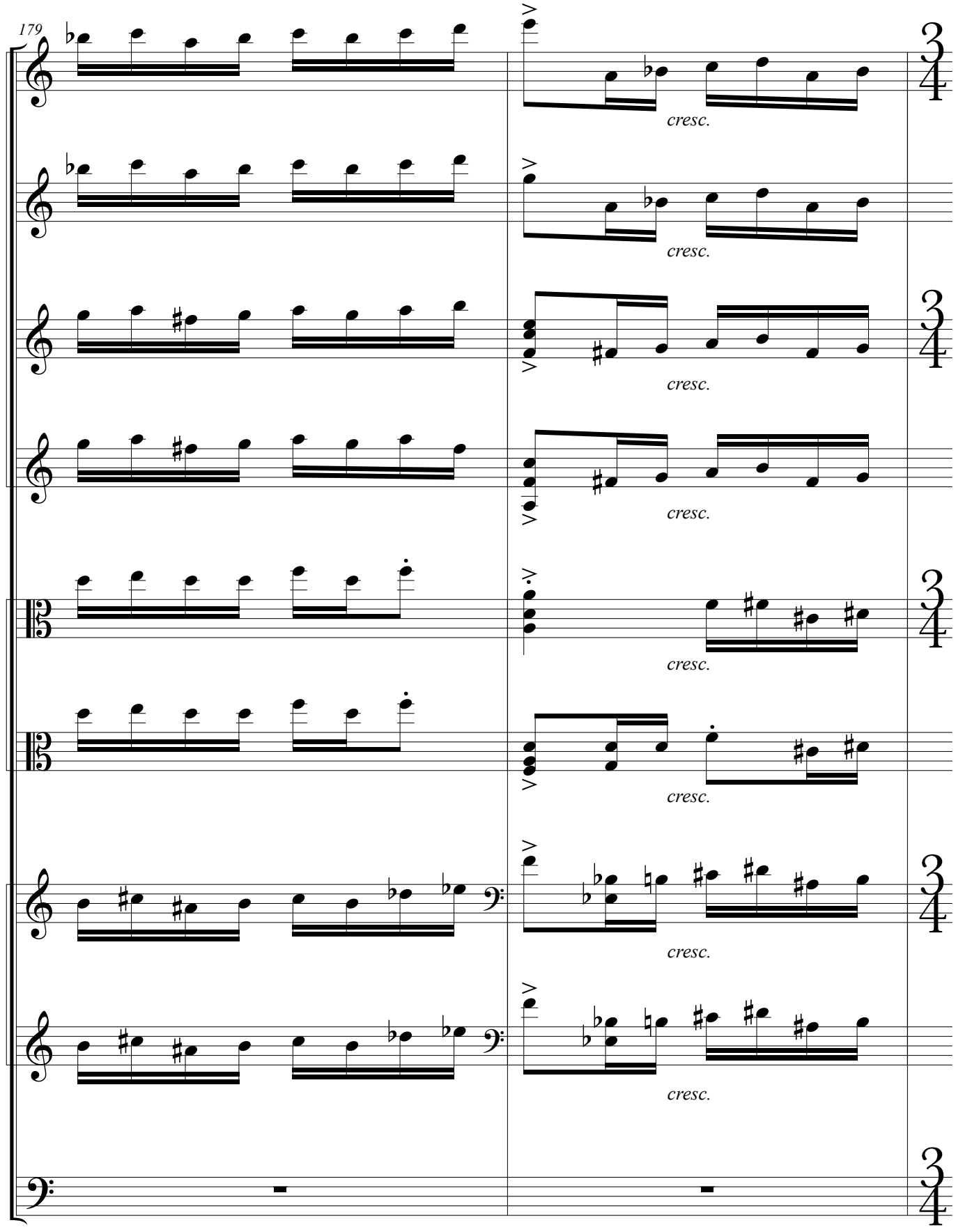

169
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

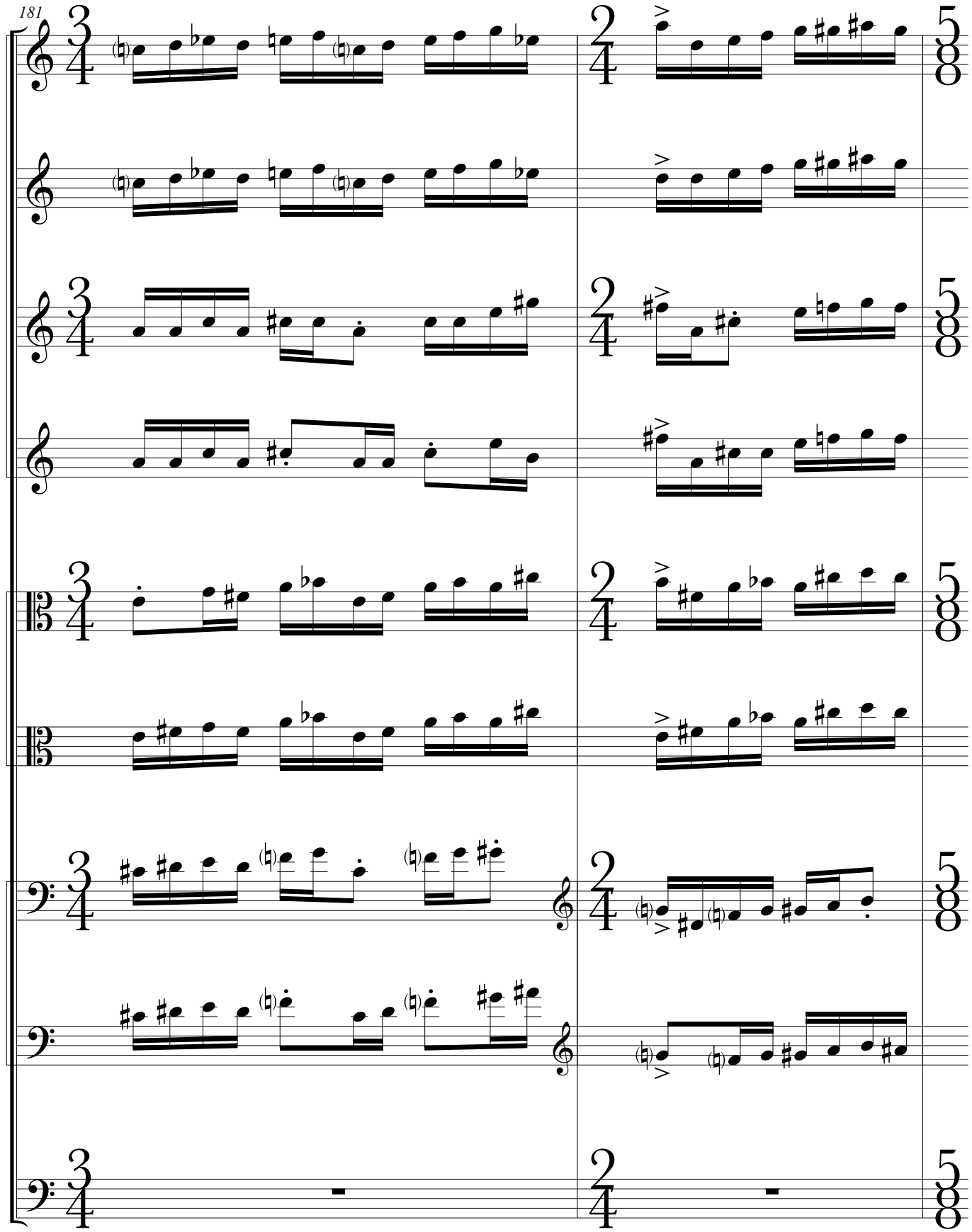

171
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

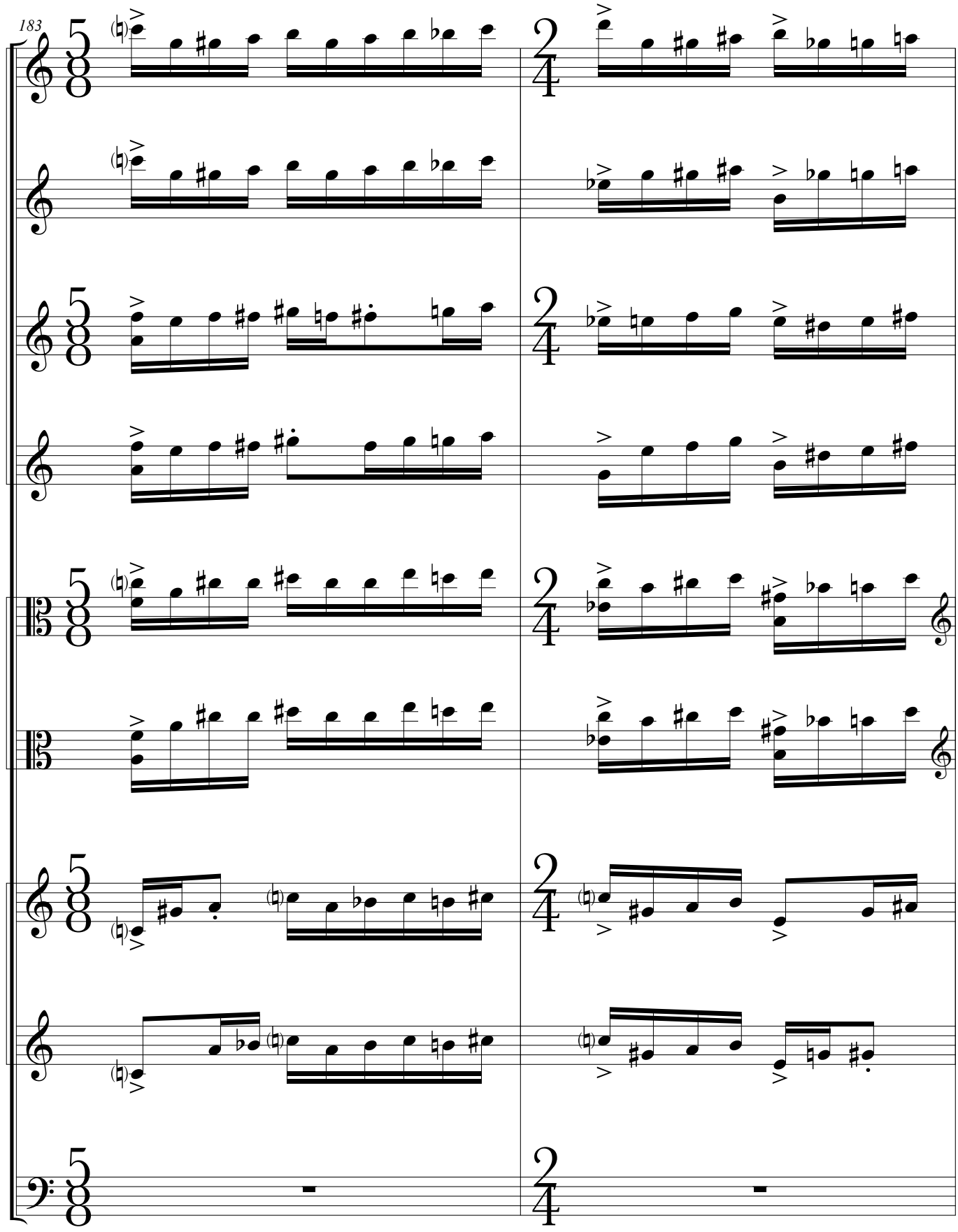

173
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

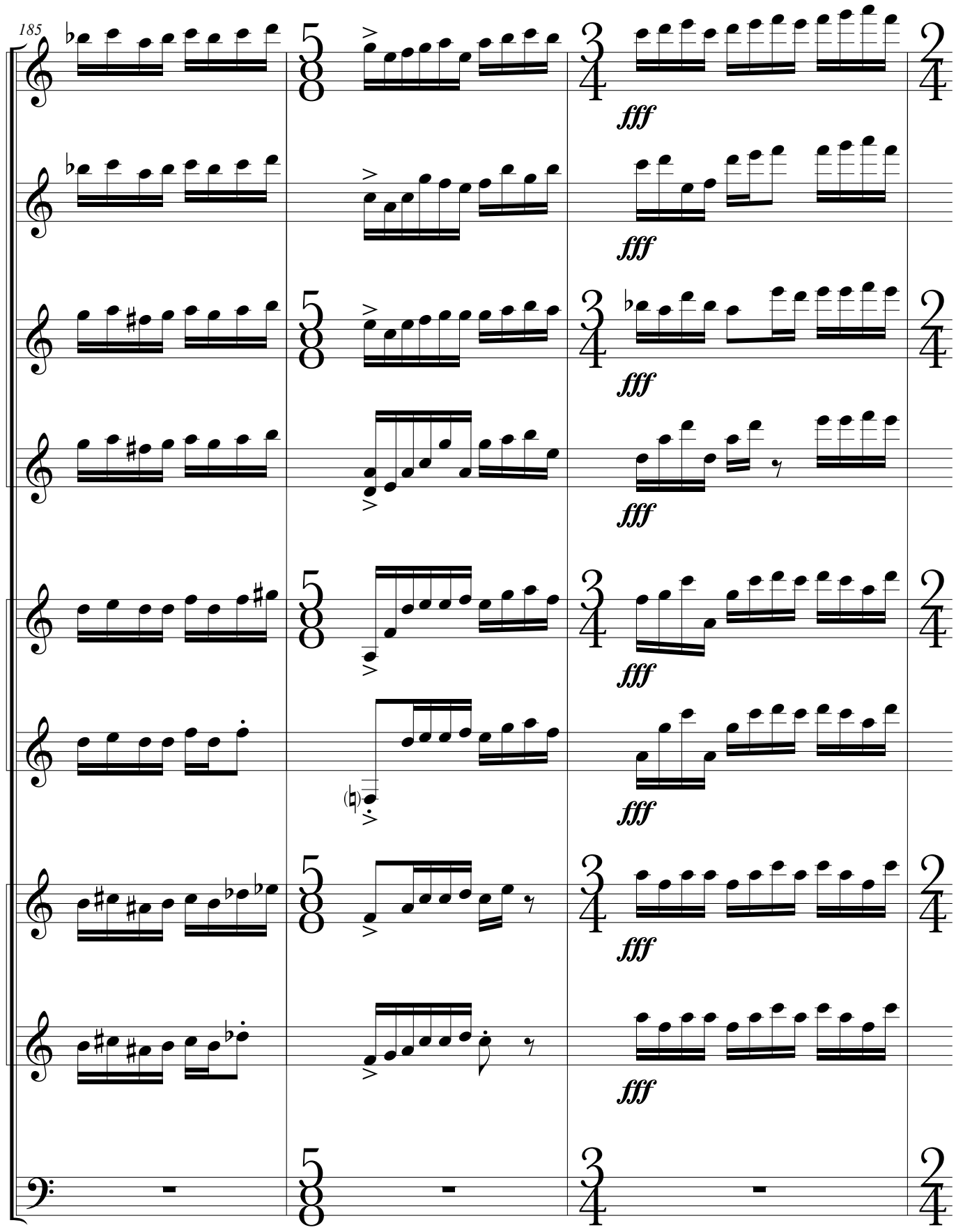

175
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
2
4
5
8

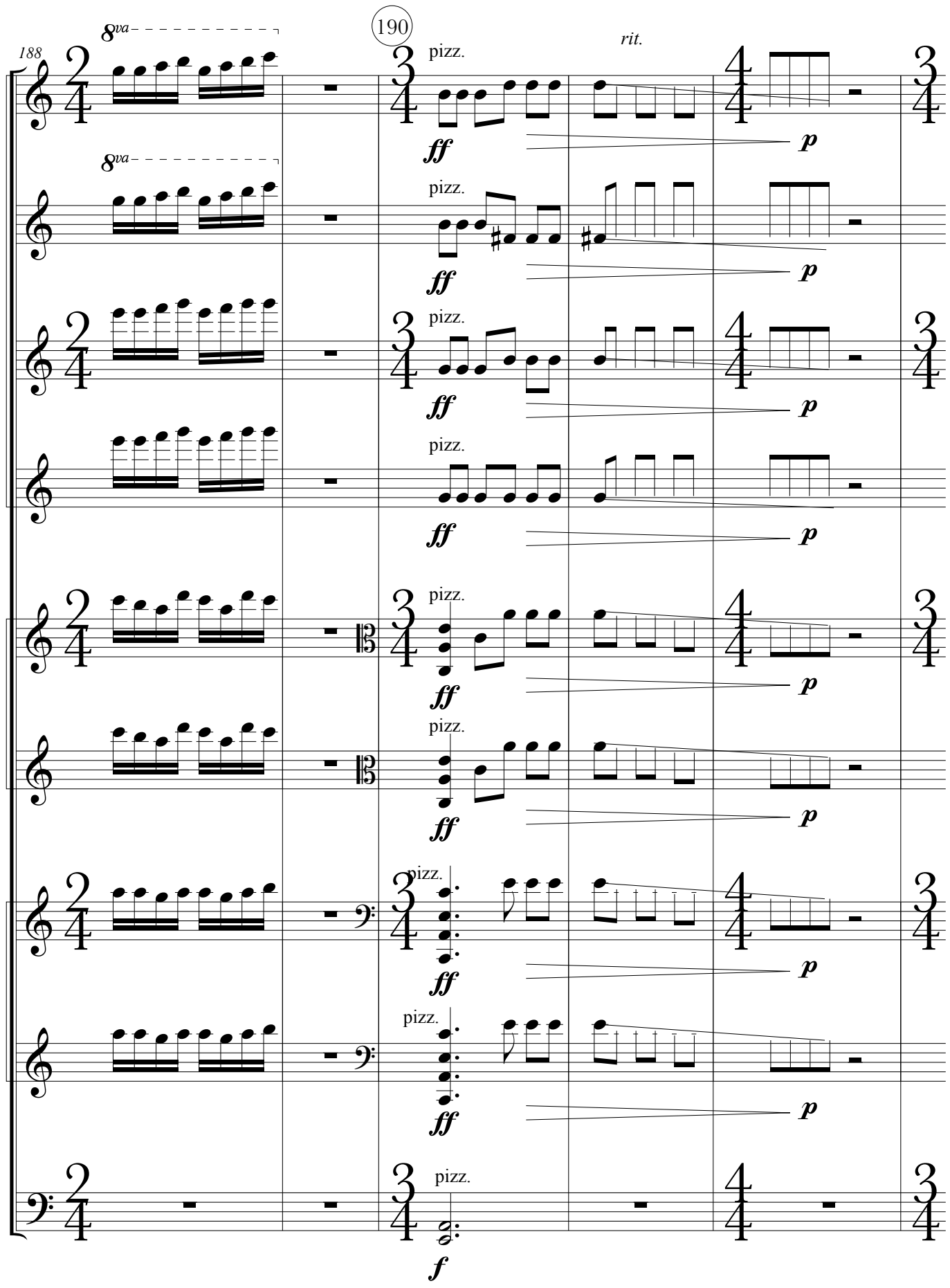

177
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

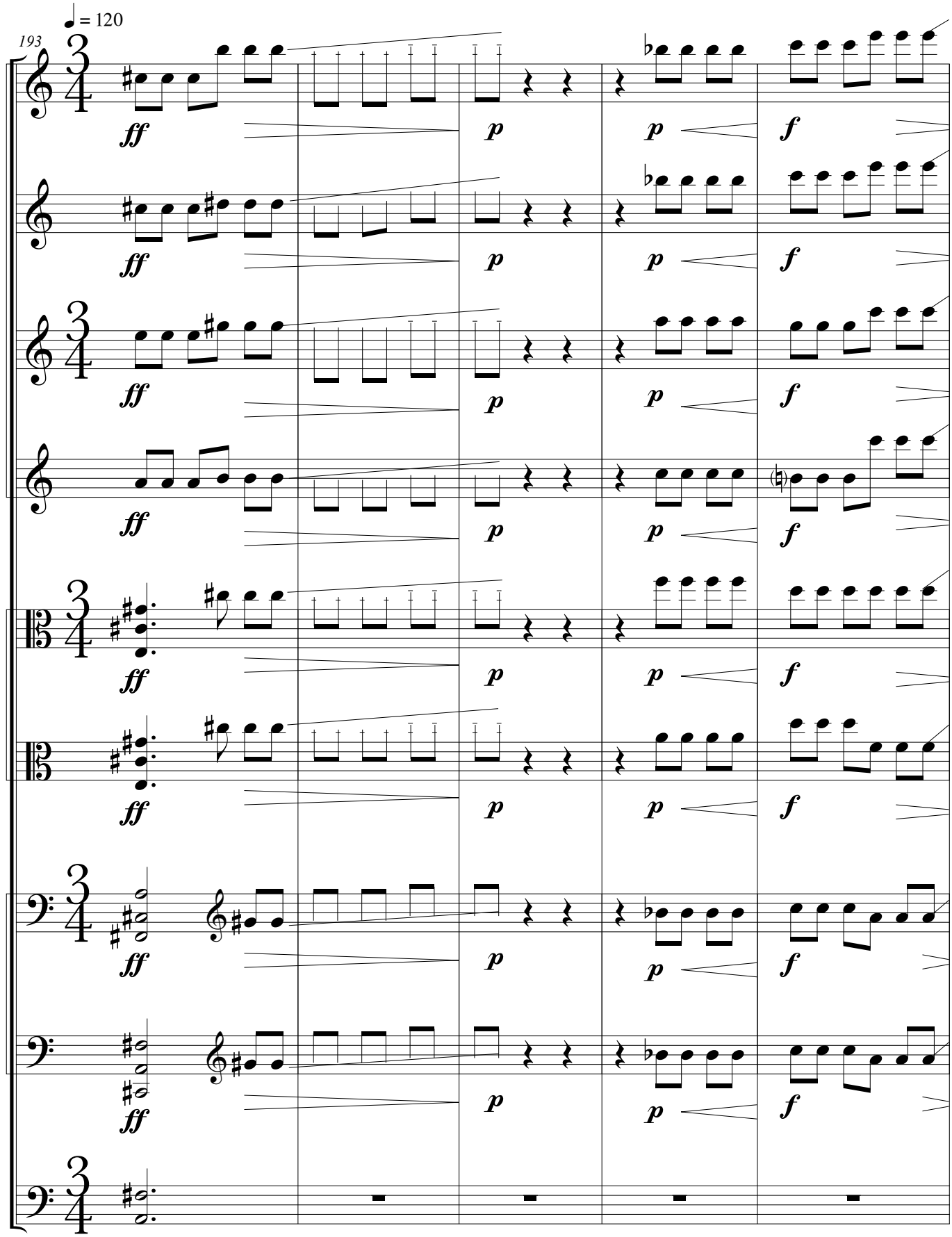

179
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
cresc.
3
4

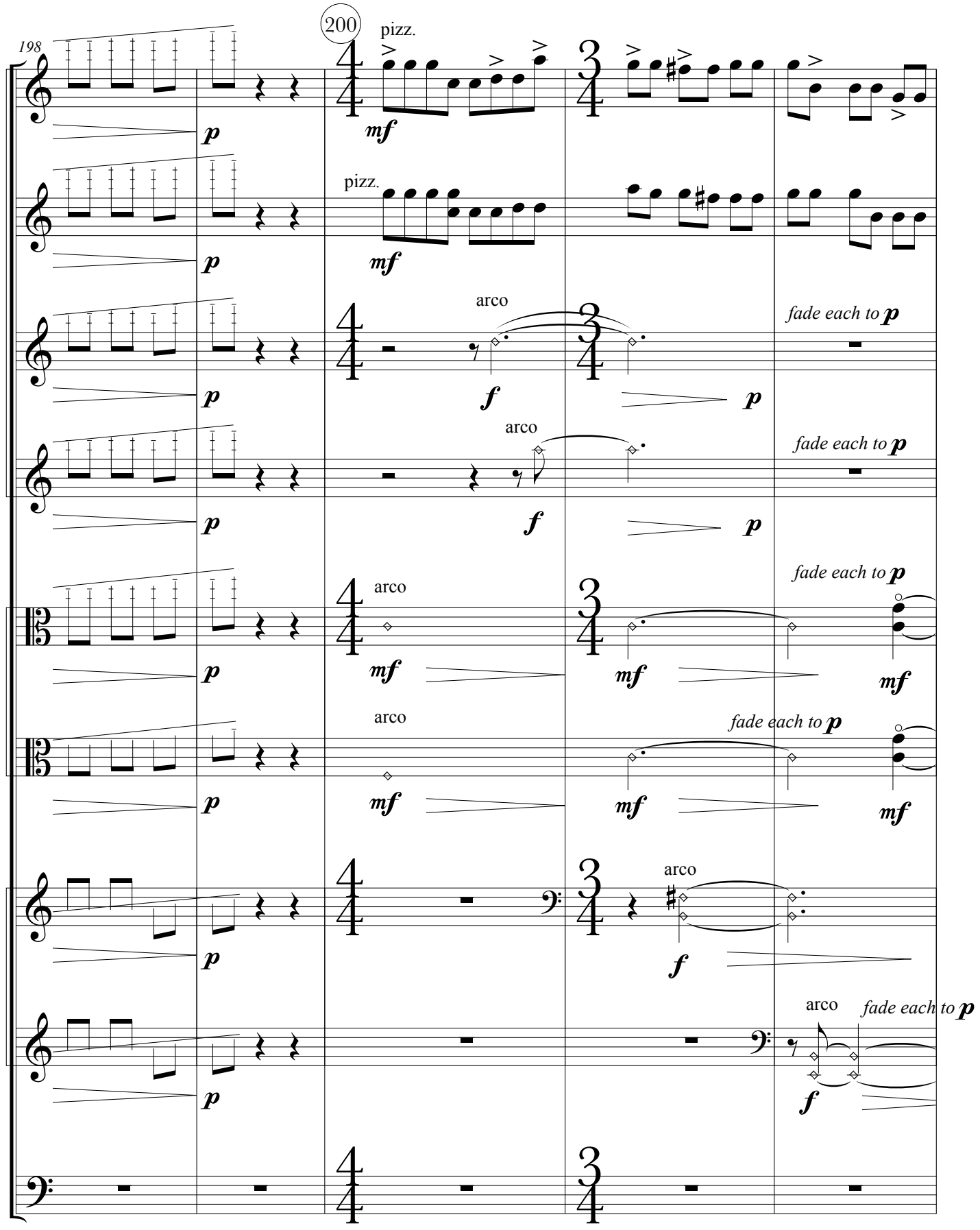

181
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

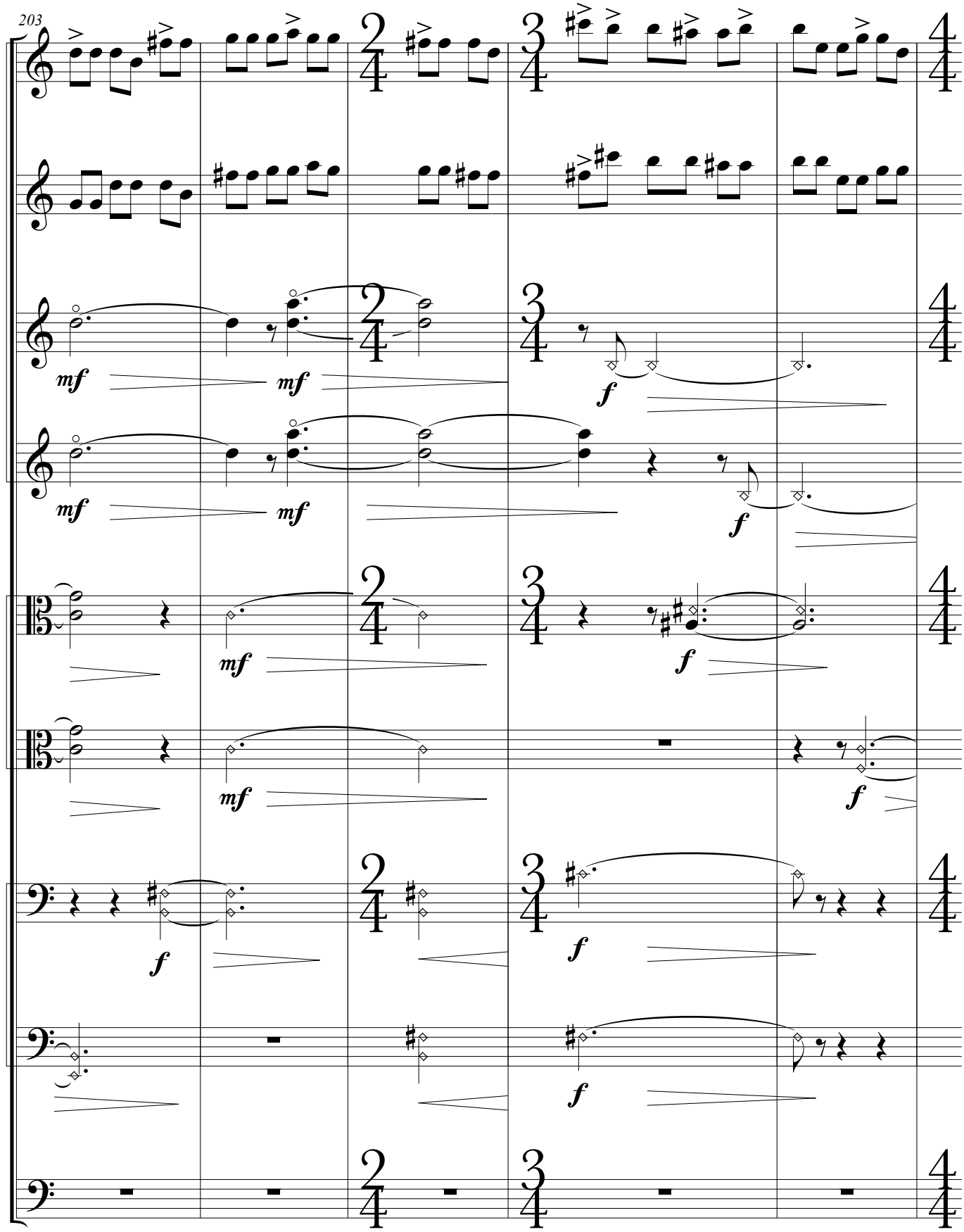

183
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

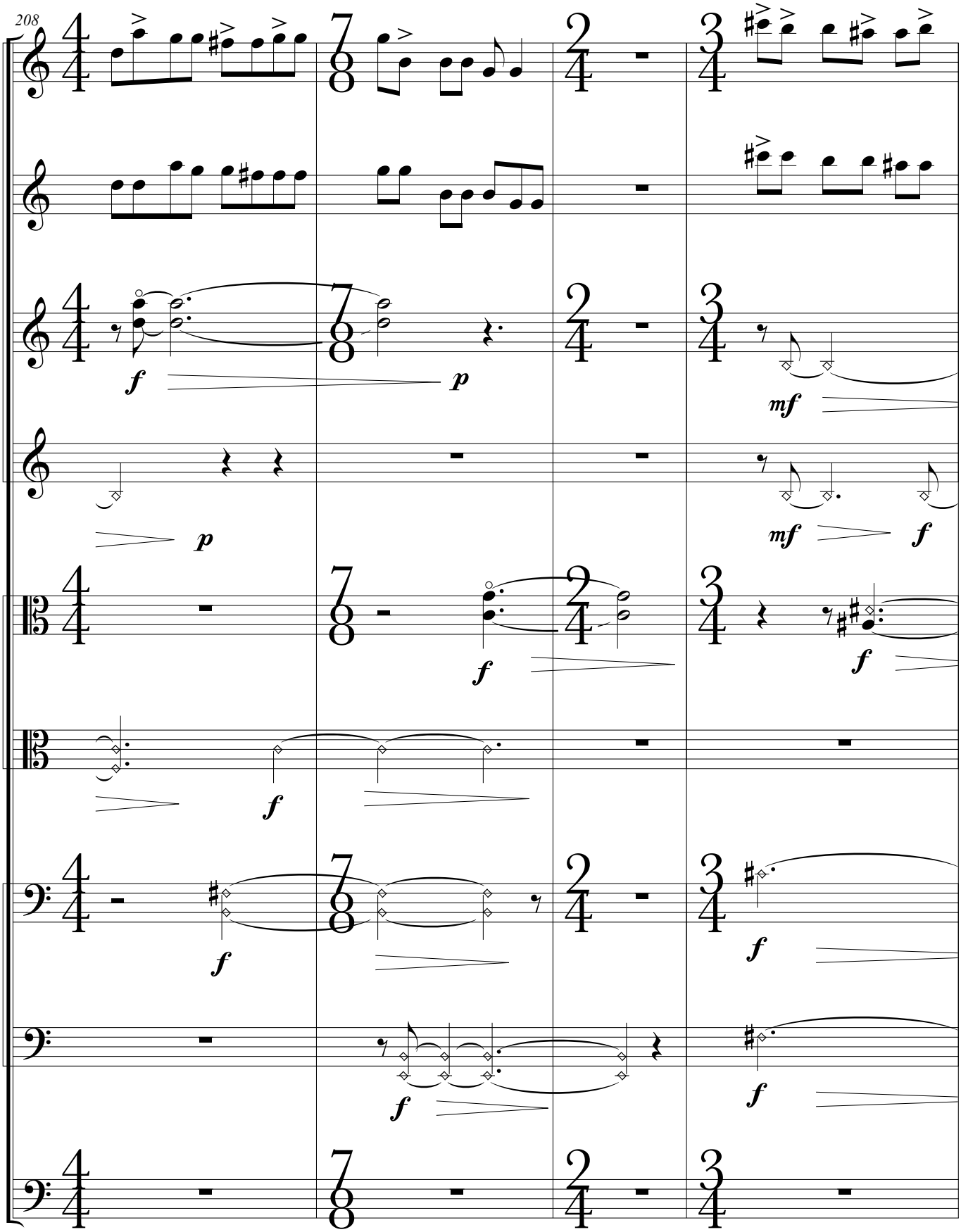

185
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
fff

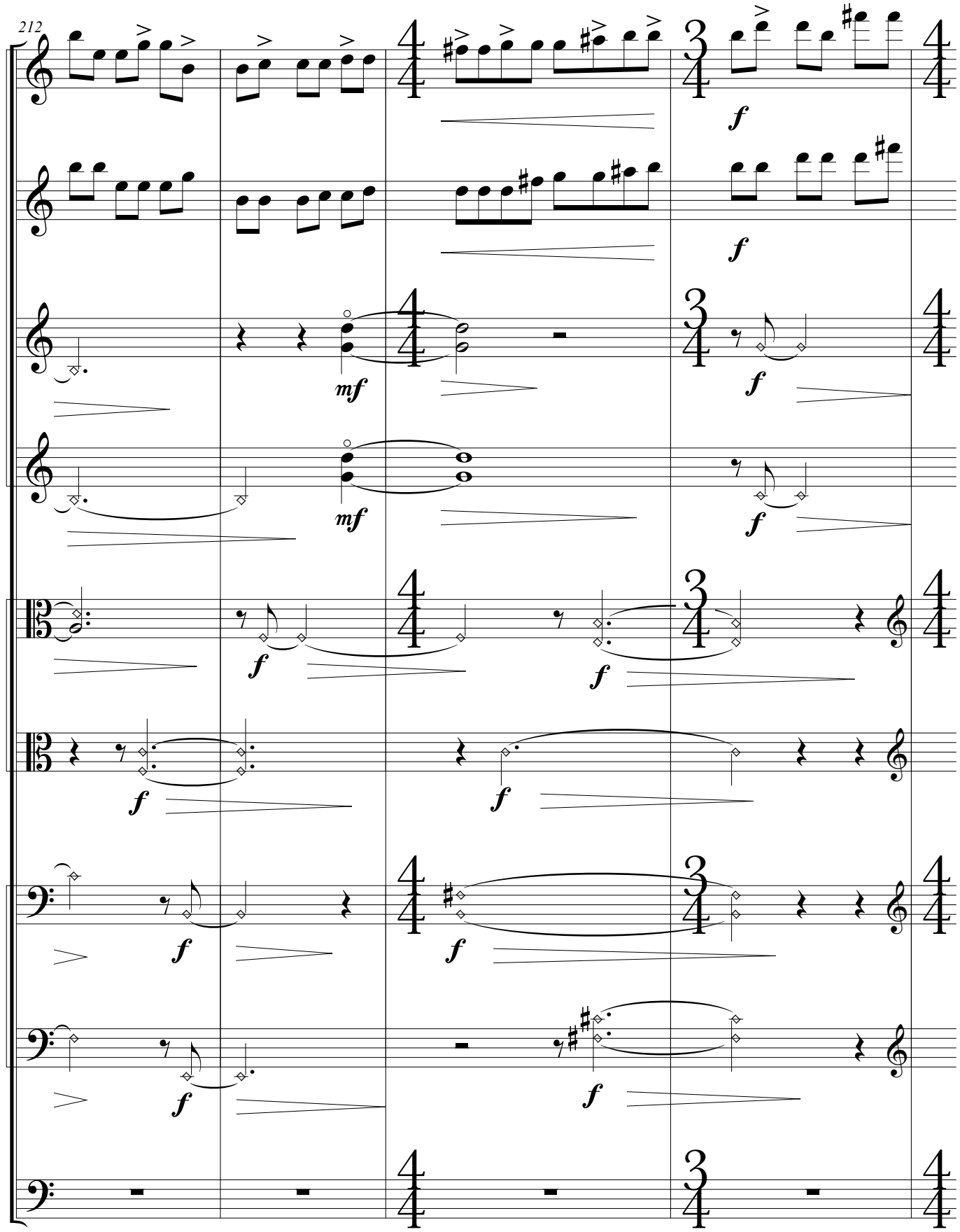

188
190
rit.
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
8va
pizz.
ff
p
f

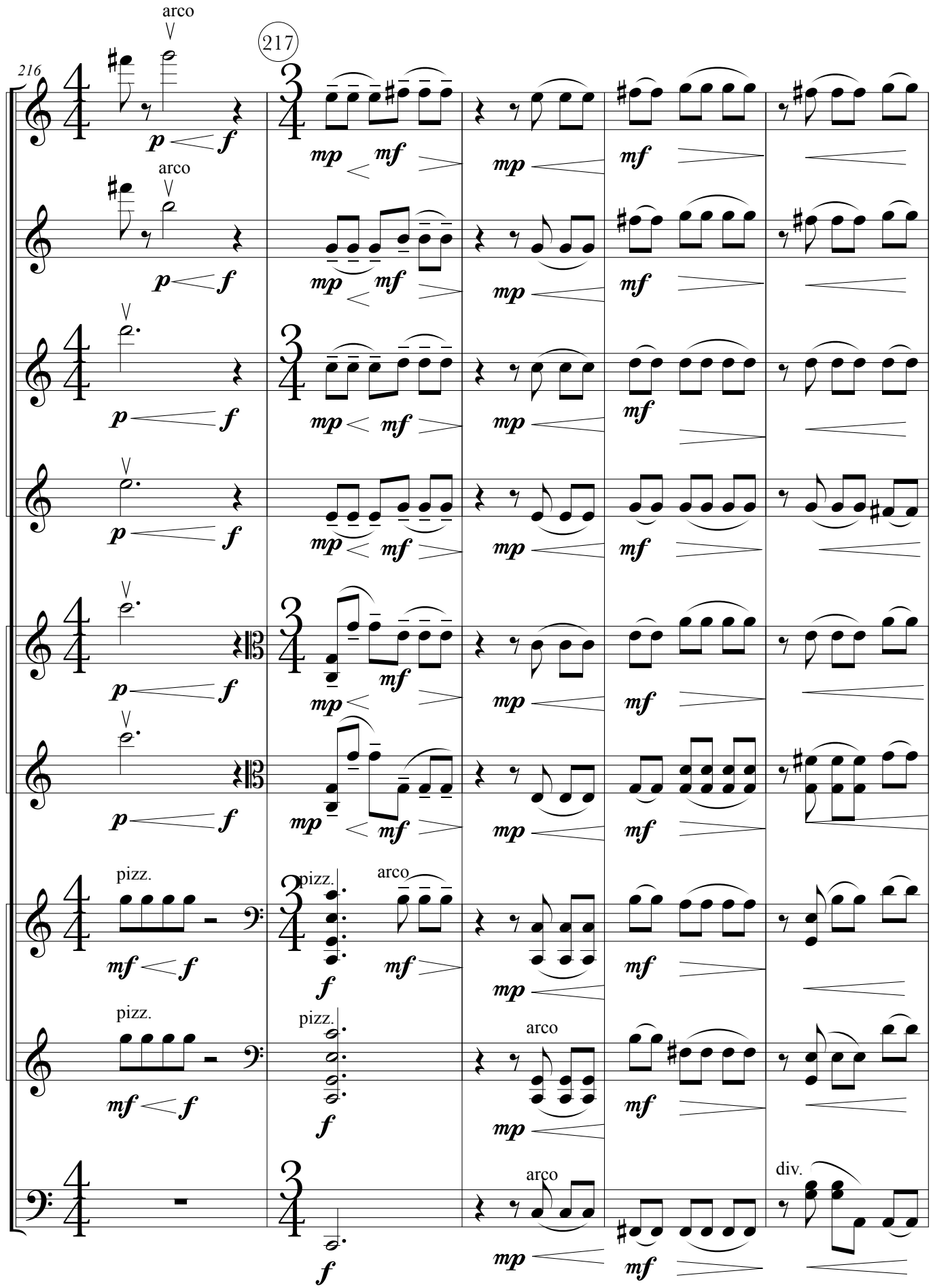

193
♩ = 120
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
ff
p
p
f

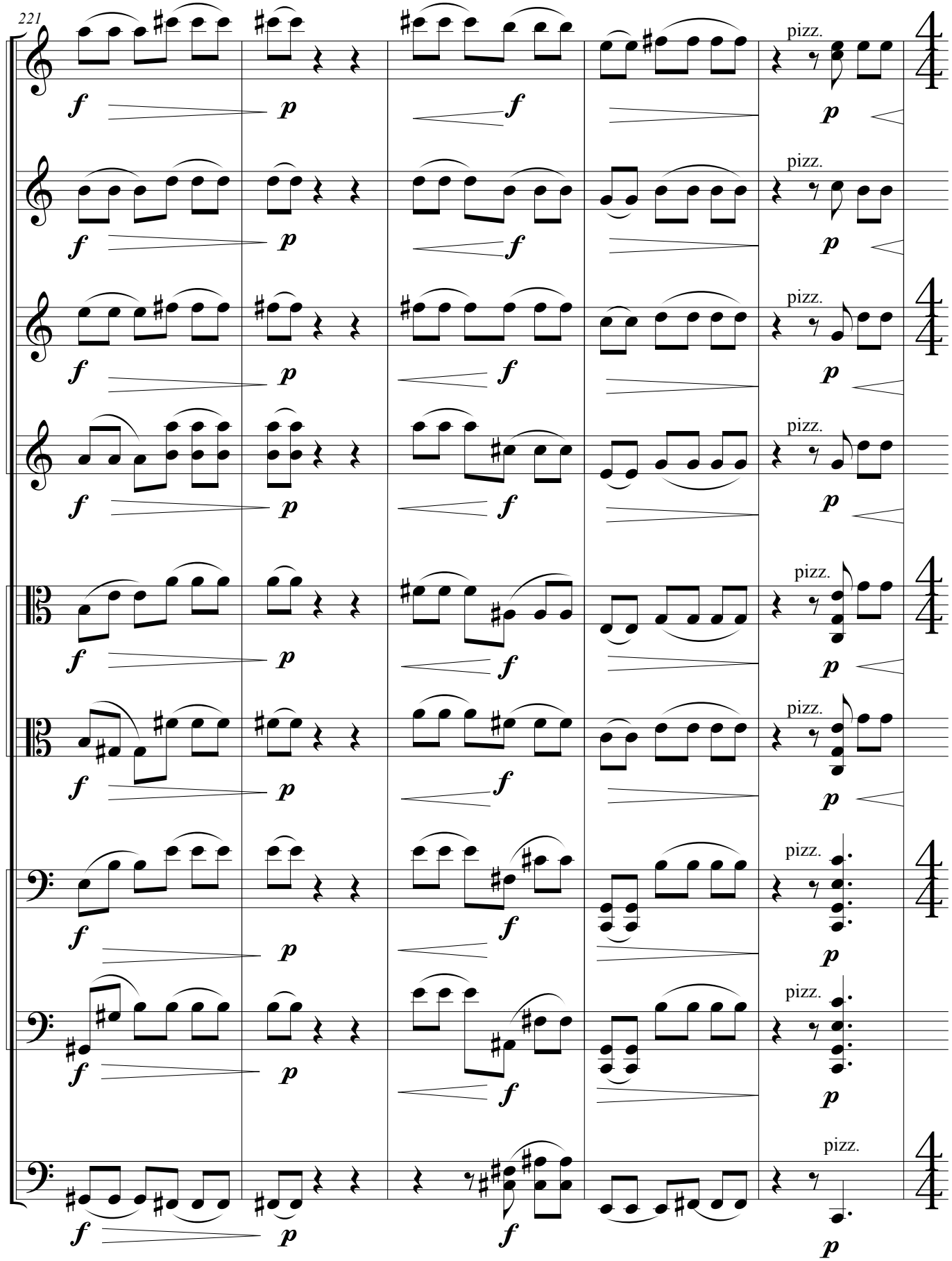

198
200
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.
arco
fade each to p
p
mf
f

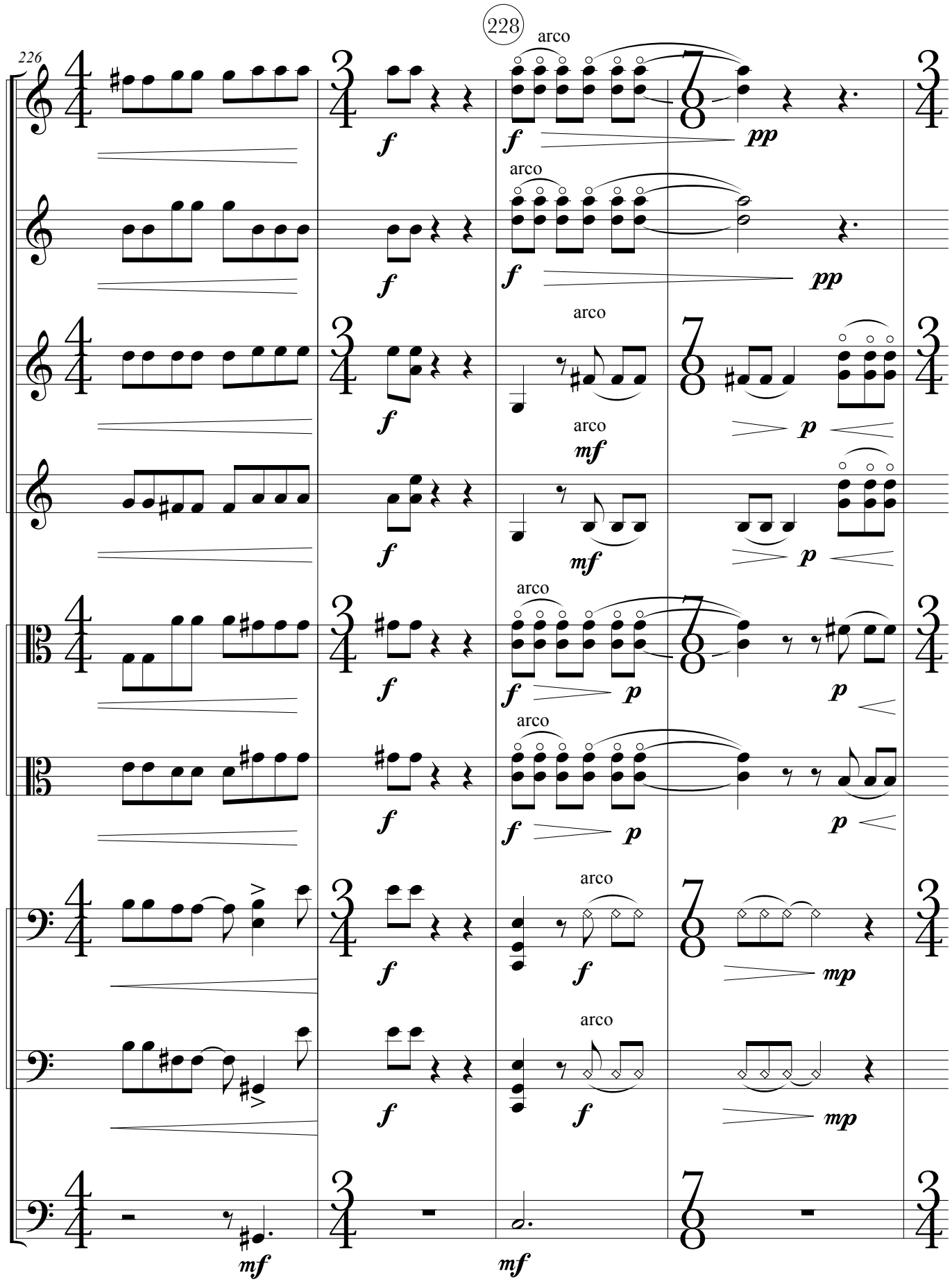

203
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
f

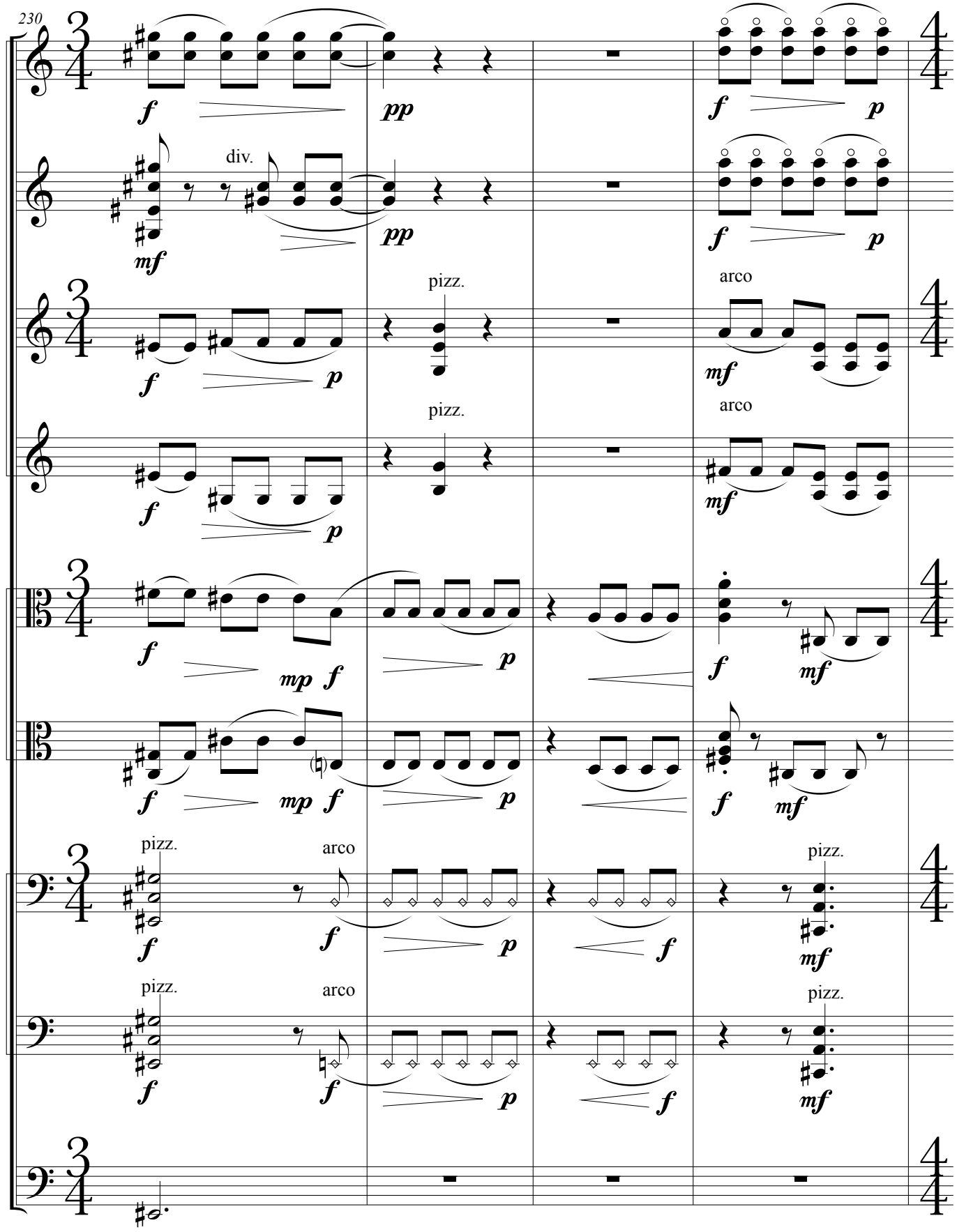

208
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
f
p
mf
f

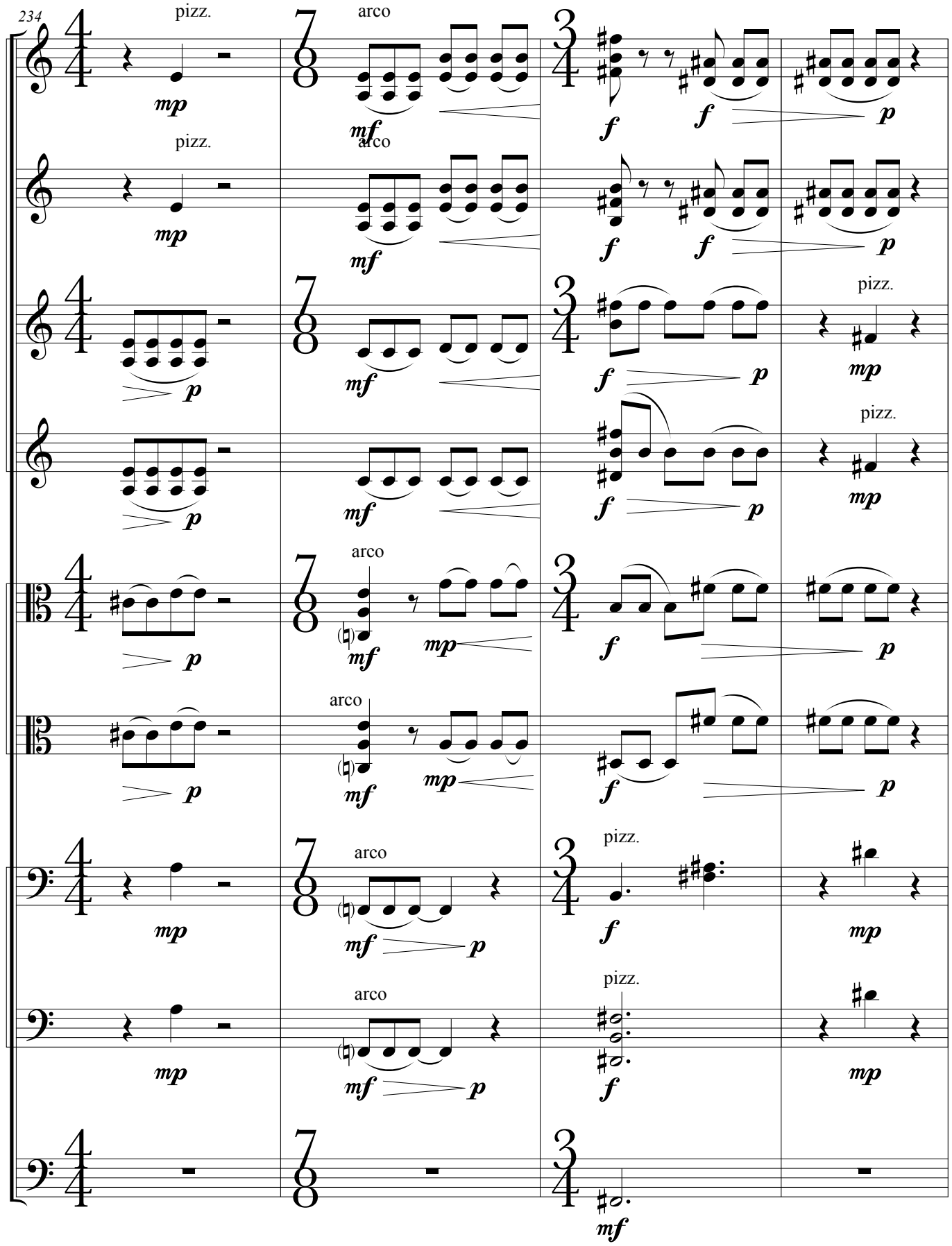

212
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
f
mf

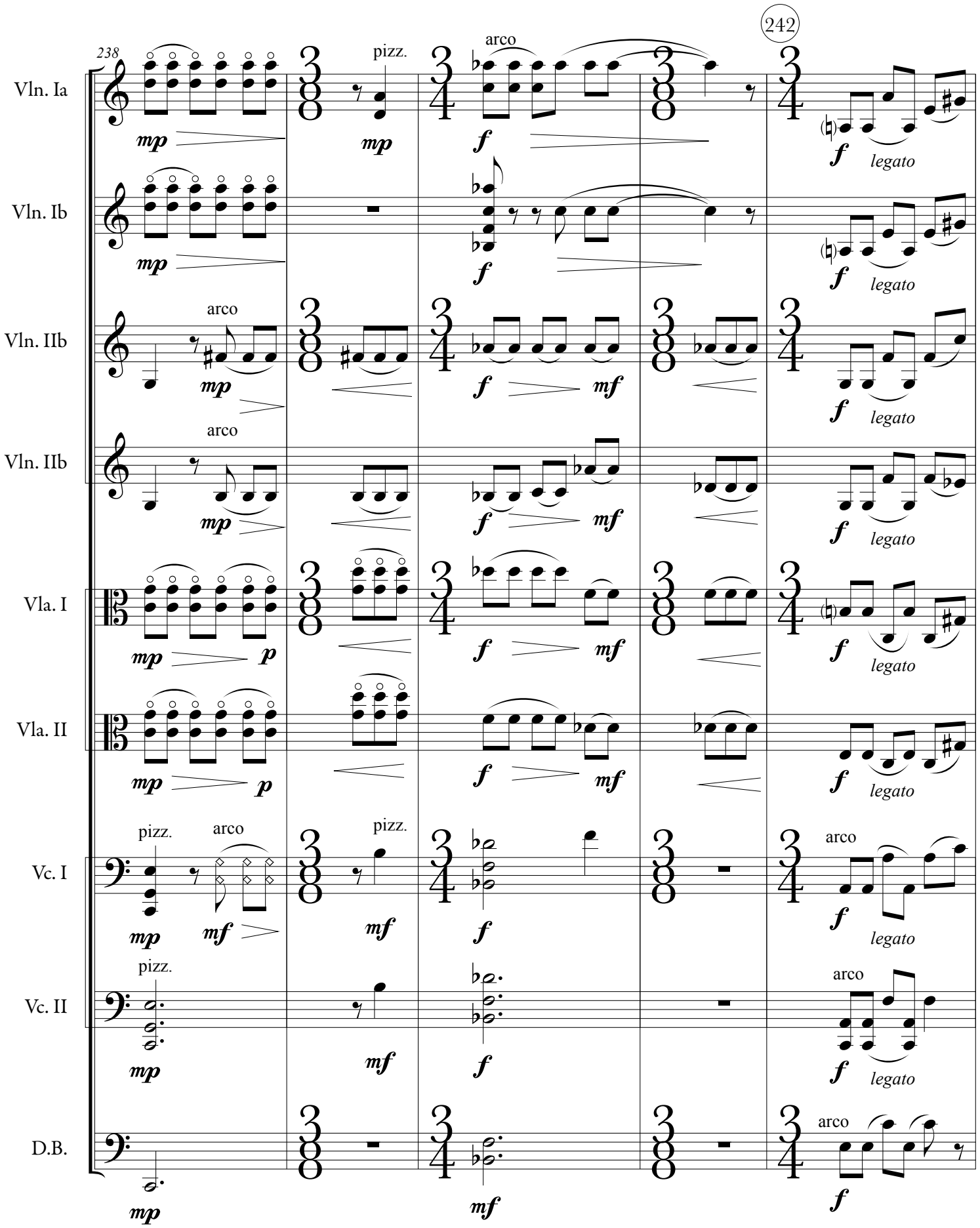

216
217
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
pizz.
div.
p
f
mp
mf

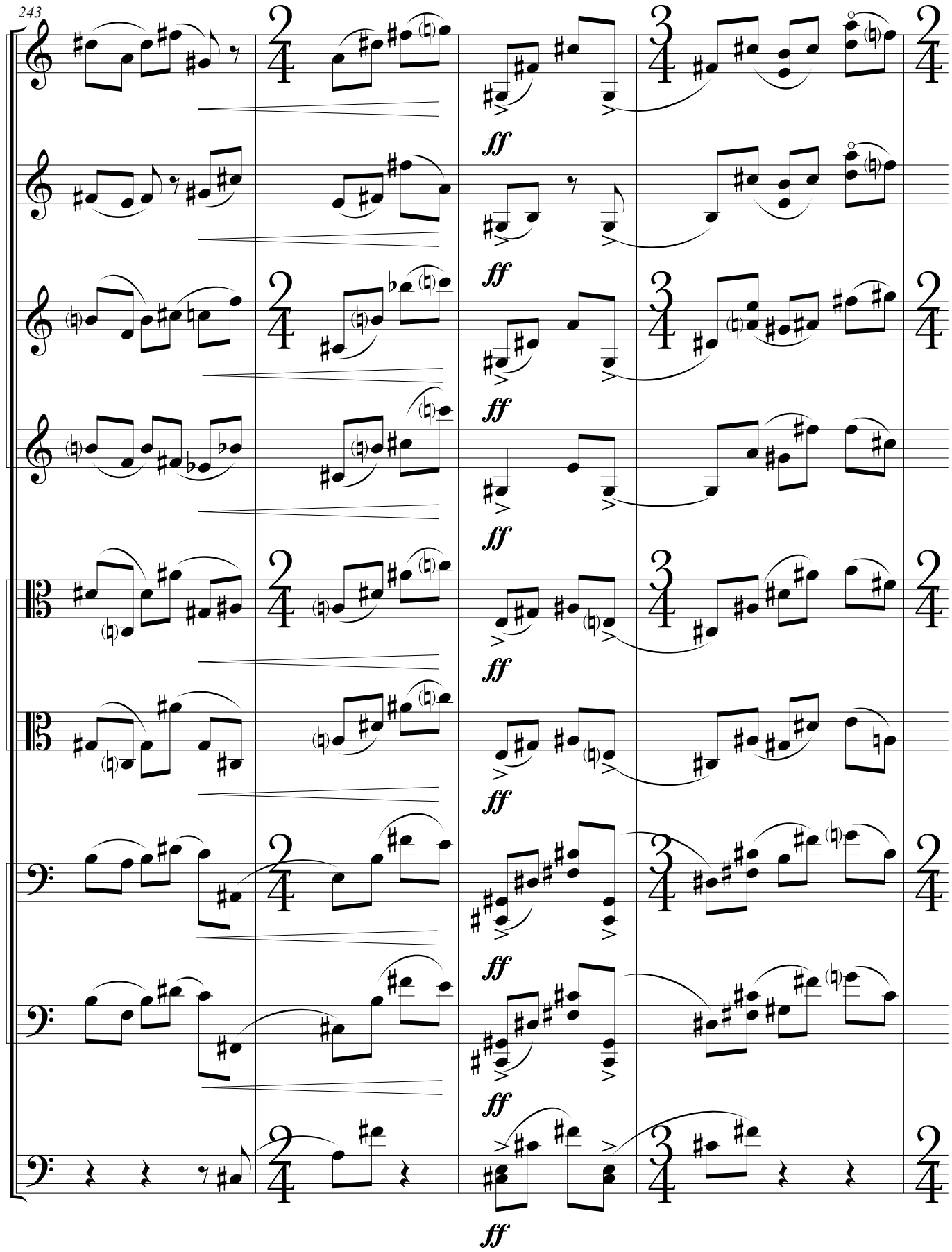

221
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.

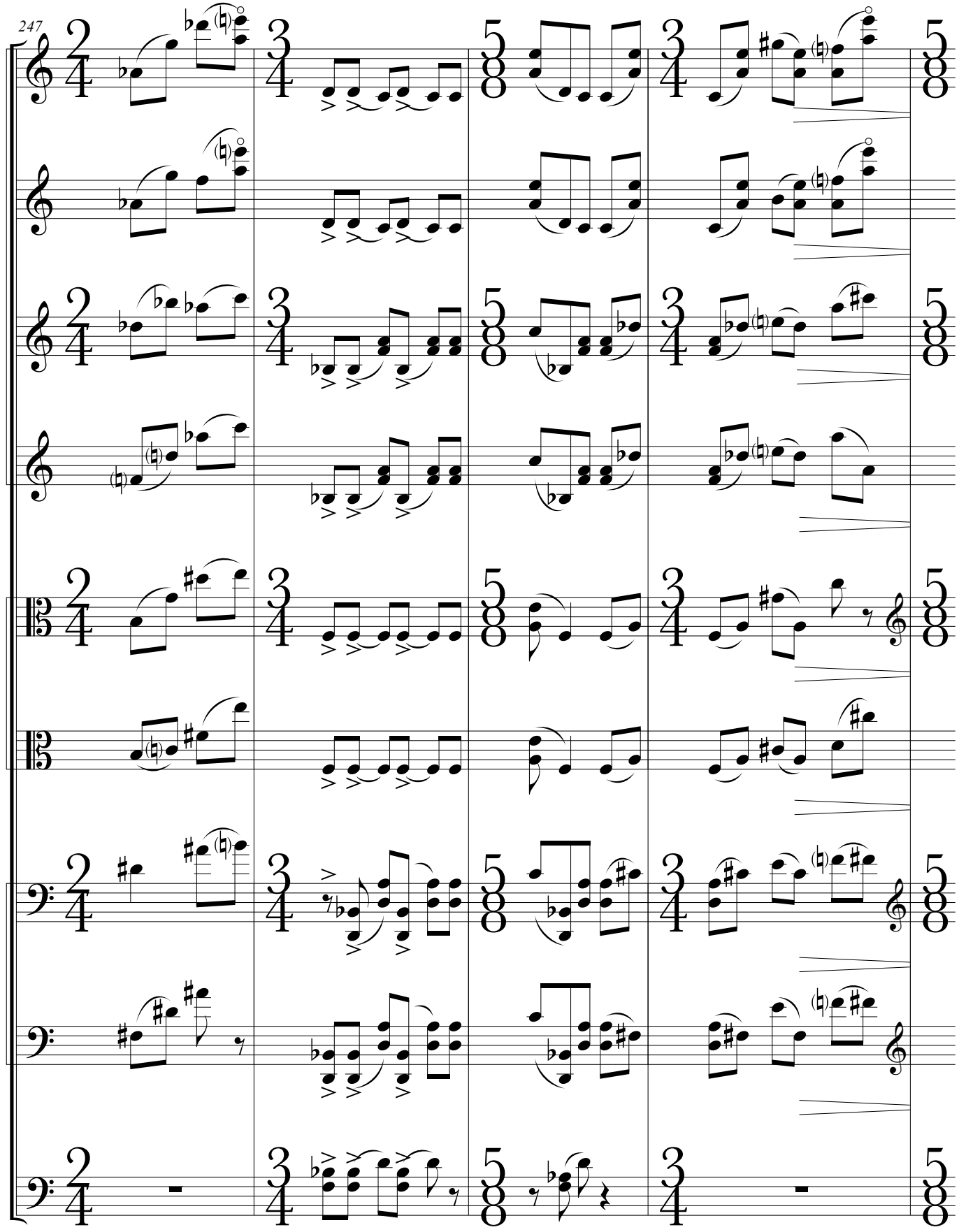

226
228
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
f
pp
mf
p
mp

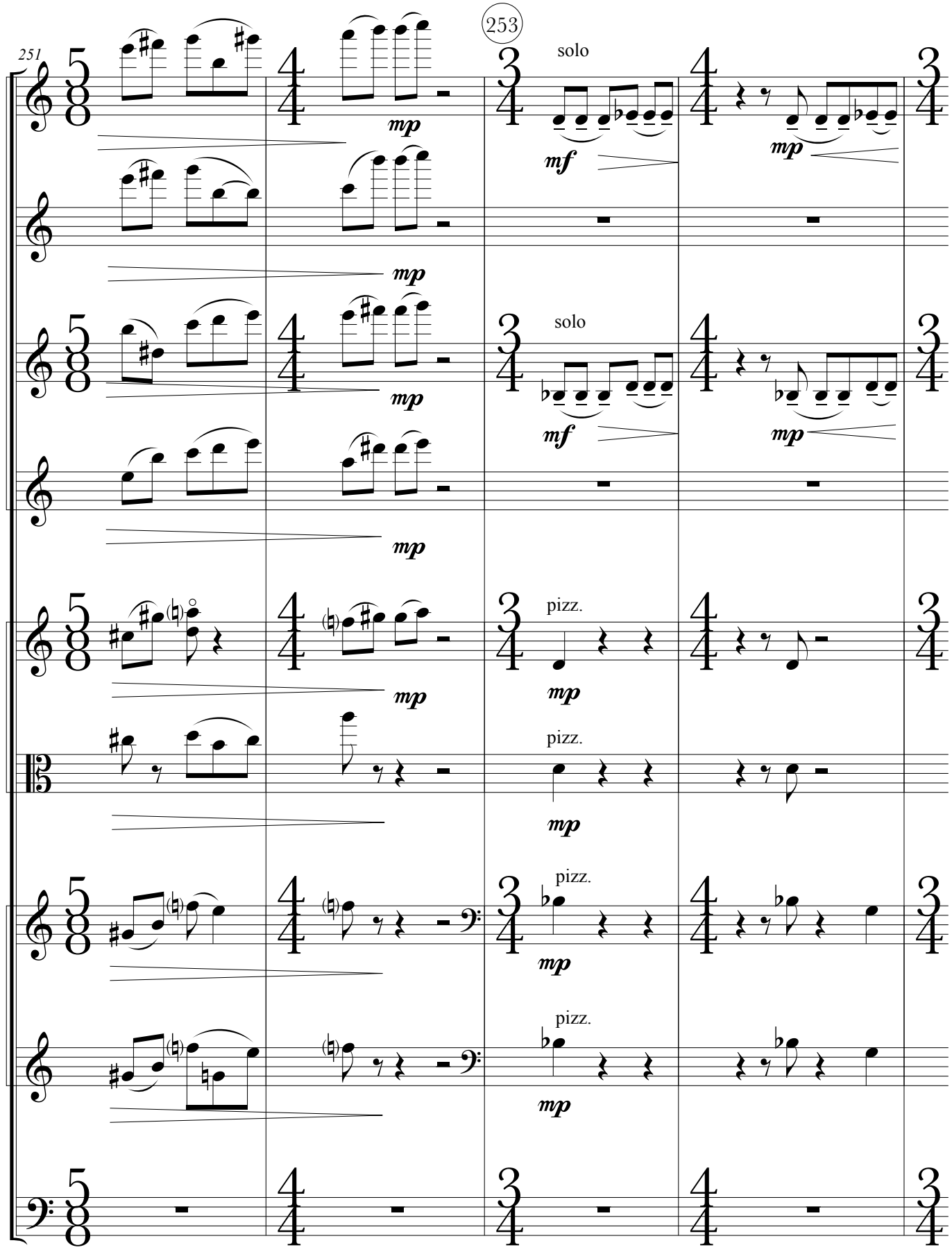

230
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
div.
pizz.
arco

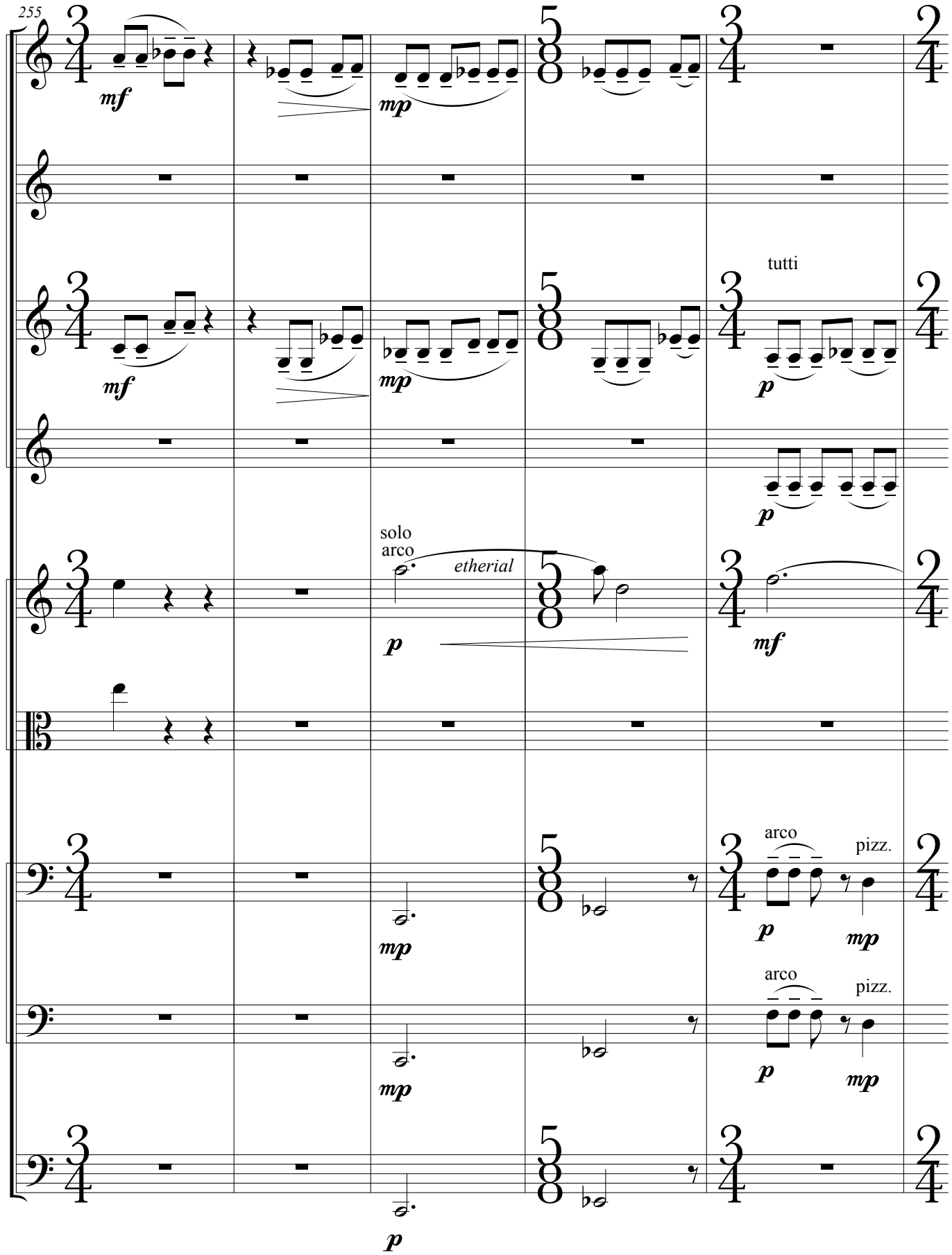

234
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.
arco
mp
mf
f
p

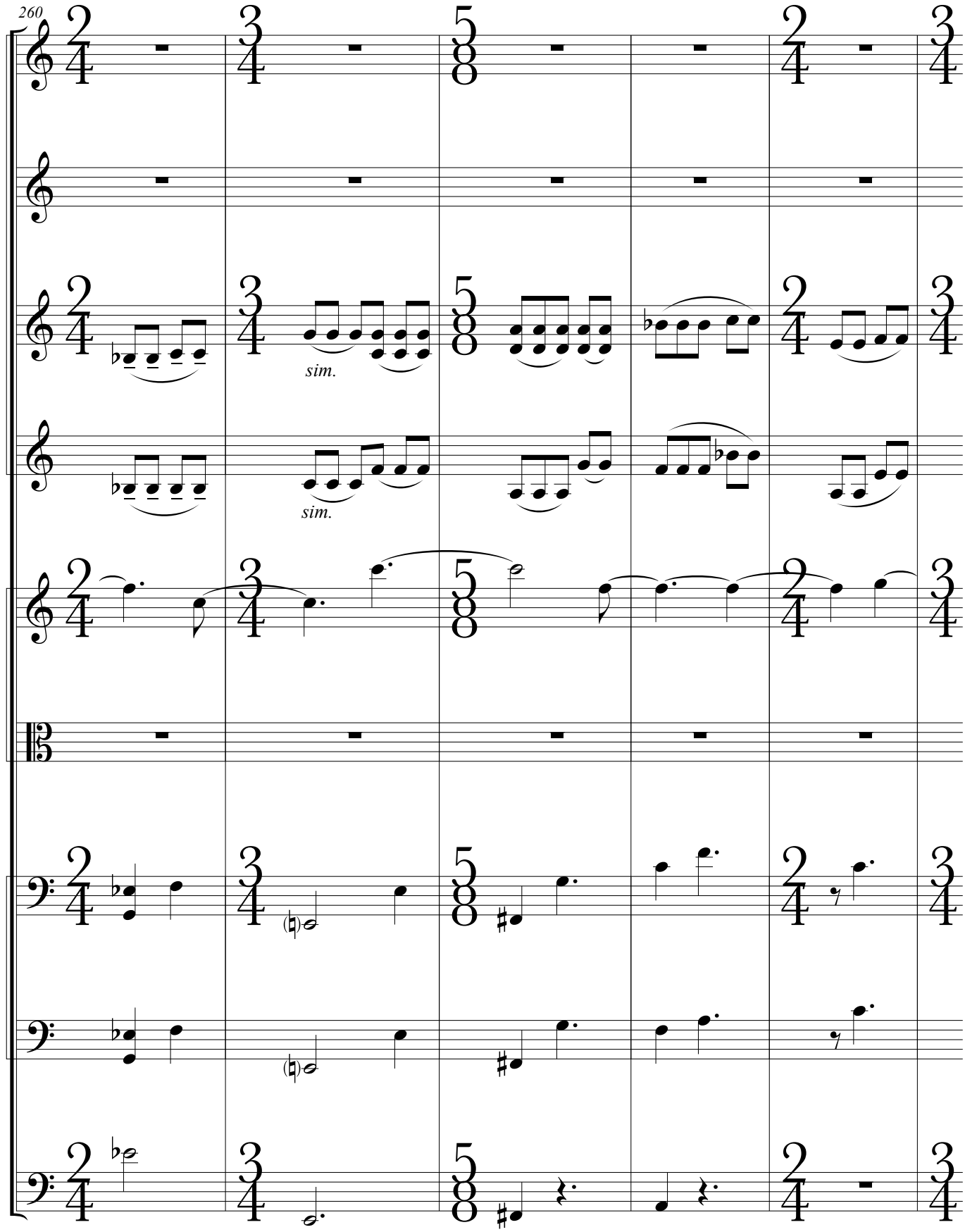

238
242
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.
arco
legato
mp
mf
f
p

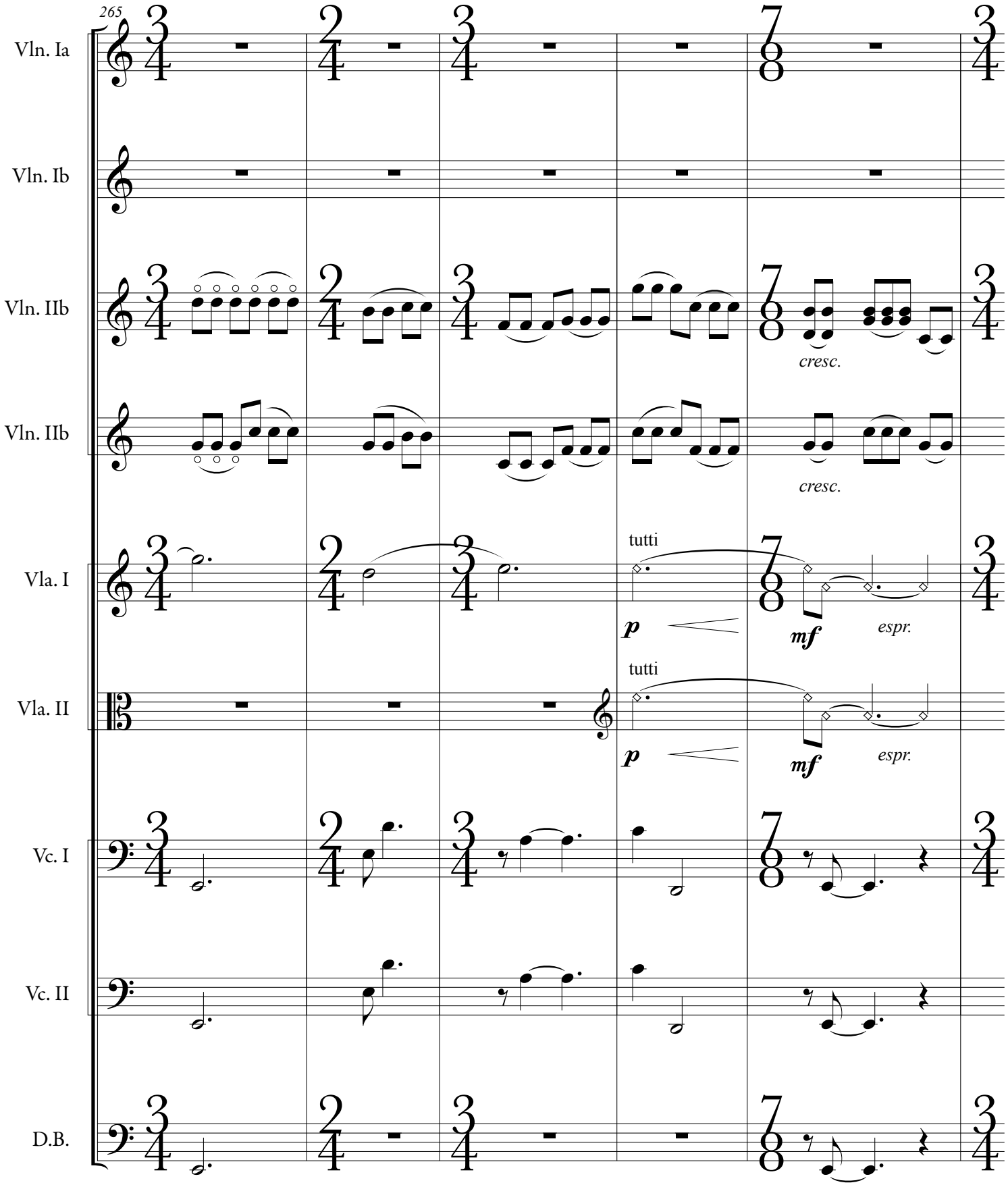

243
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
ff

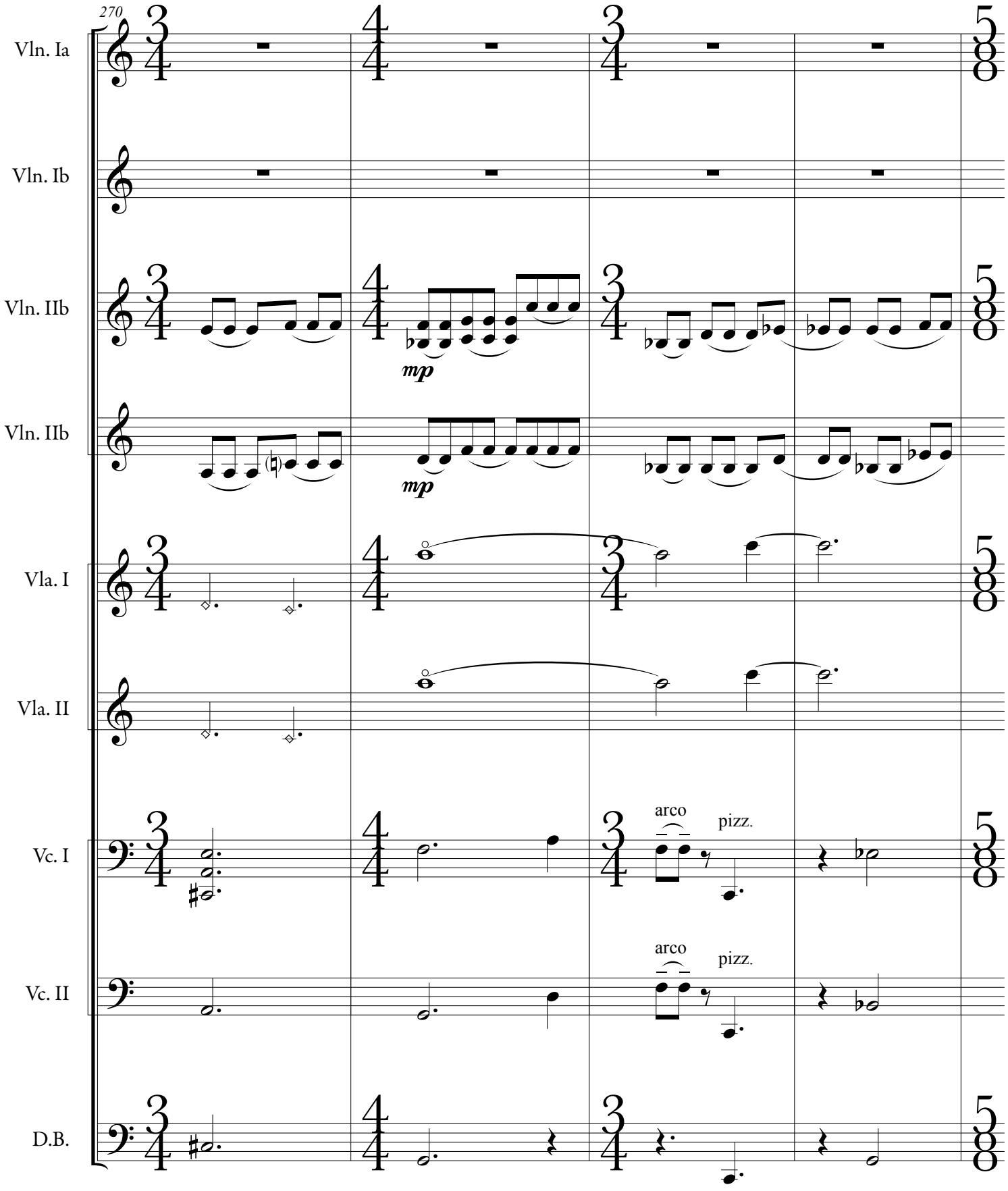

247
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

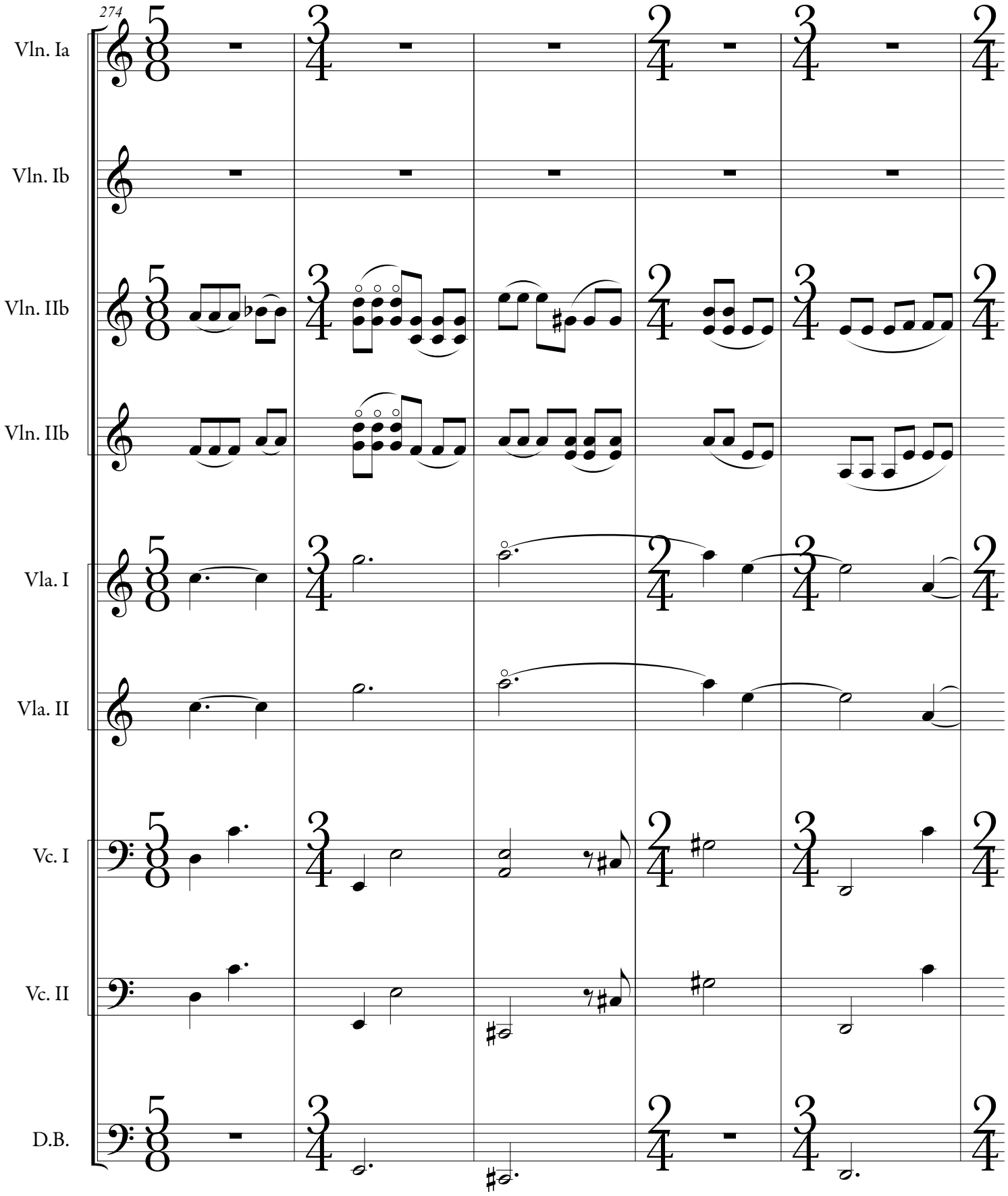

251
253
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
solo
solo
pizz.
pizz.
pizz.
pizz.
mp
mf

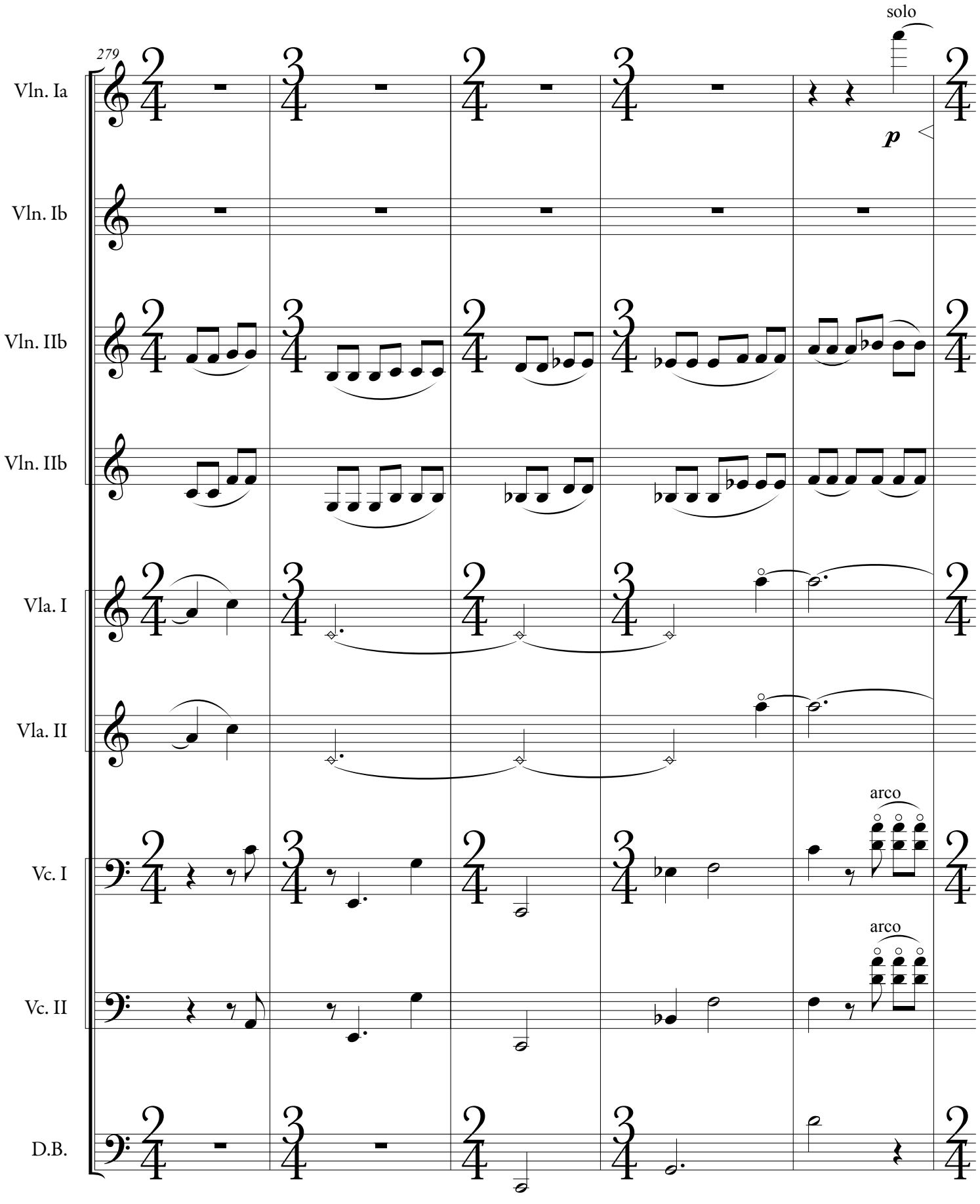

255
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
mp
p
tutti
solo
arco
etherial
arco
pizz.

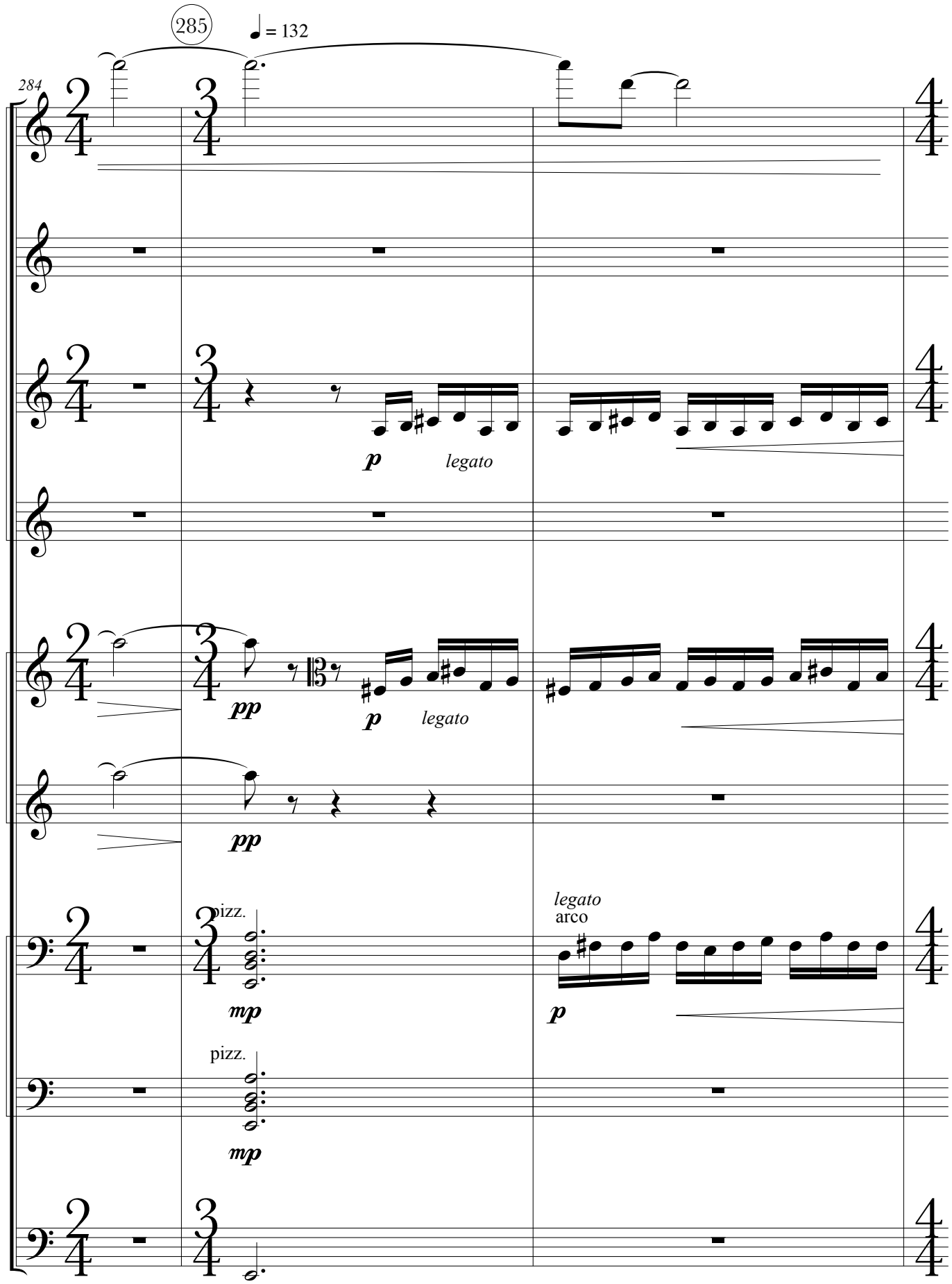

260
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
sim.
Vln. IIb
sim.
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

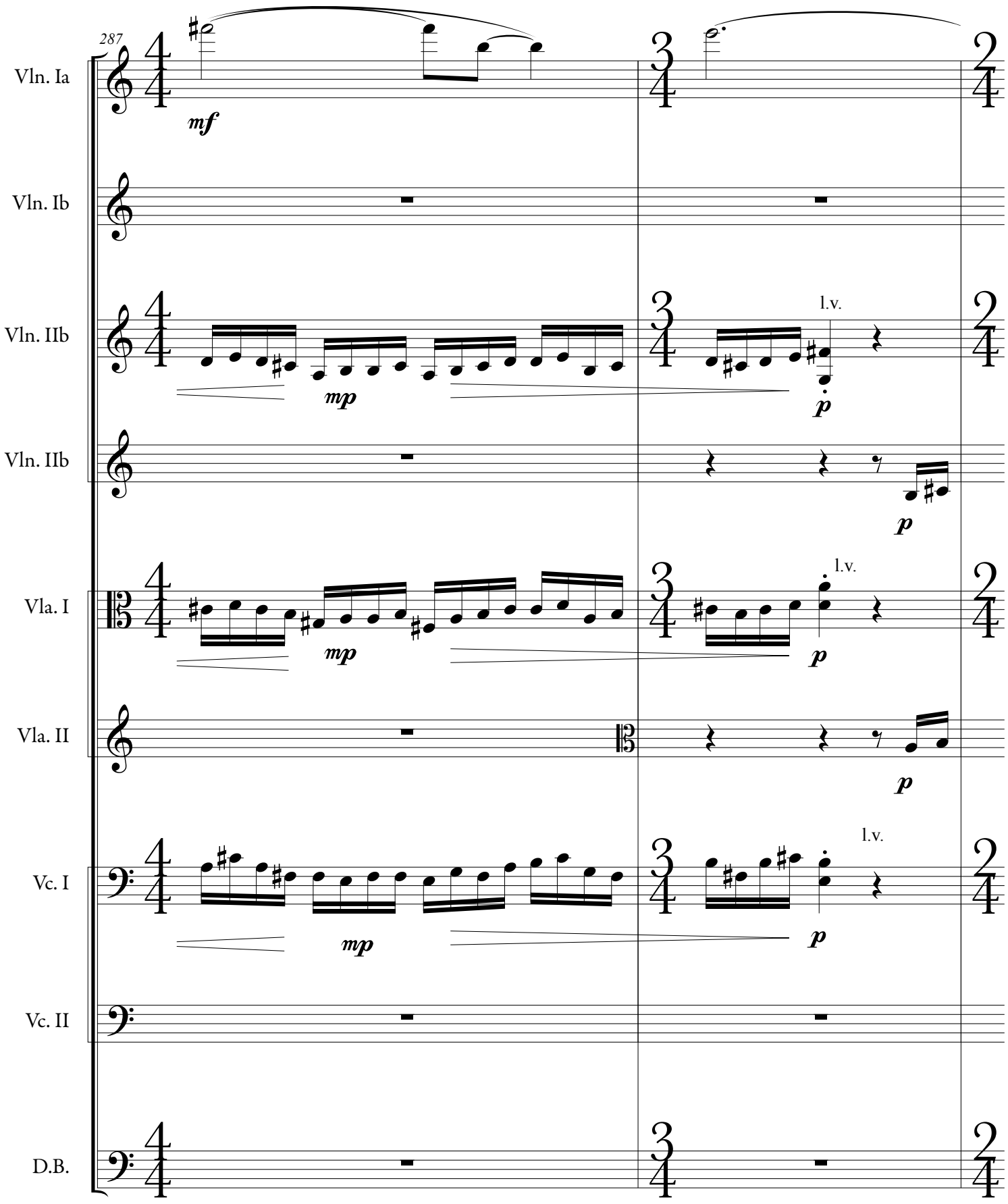

265
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
cresc.
Vln. IIb
cresc.
Vla. I
tutti
p
mf
espr.
Vla. II
tutti
p
mf
espr.
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

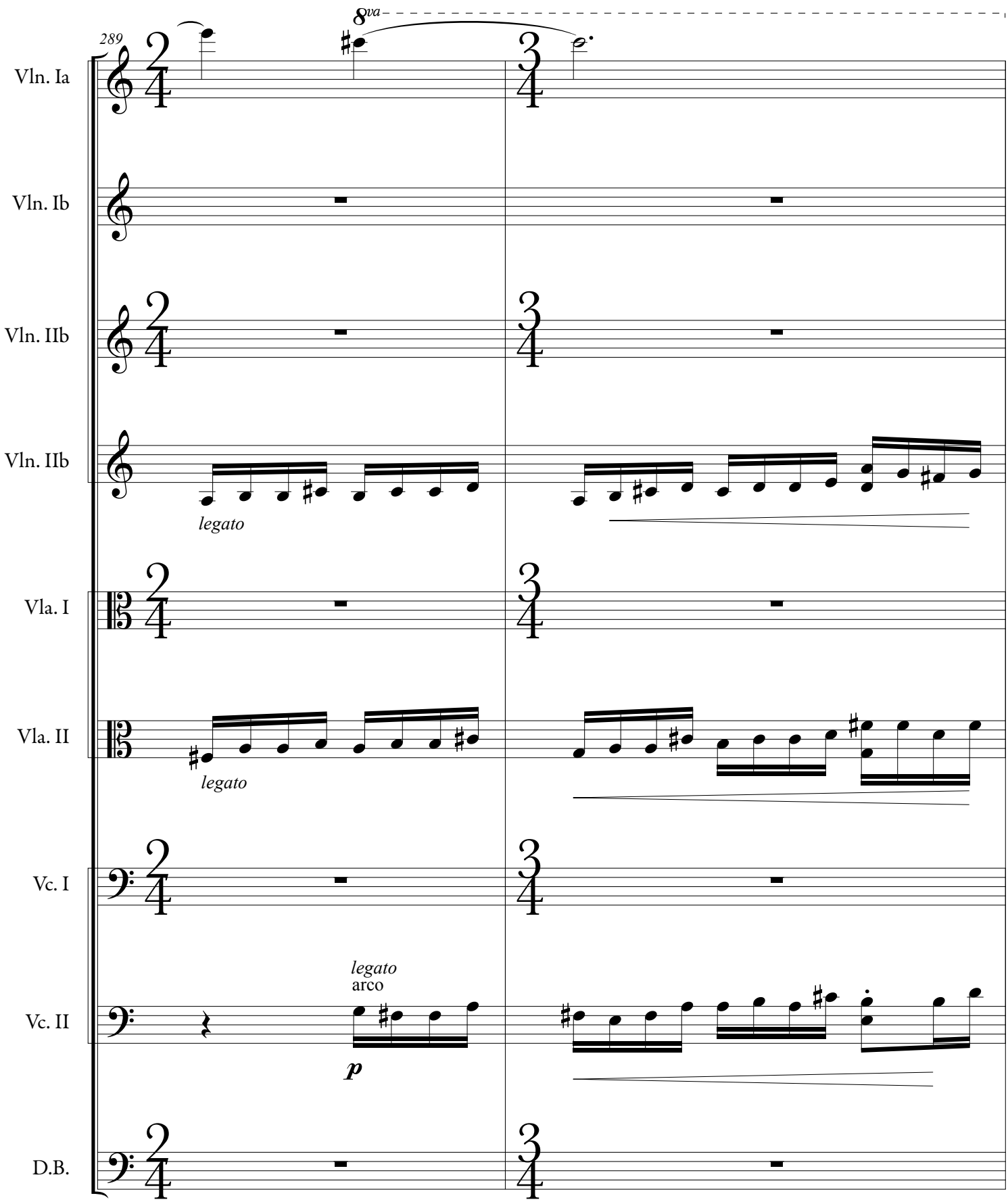

270
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp
mp
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.

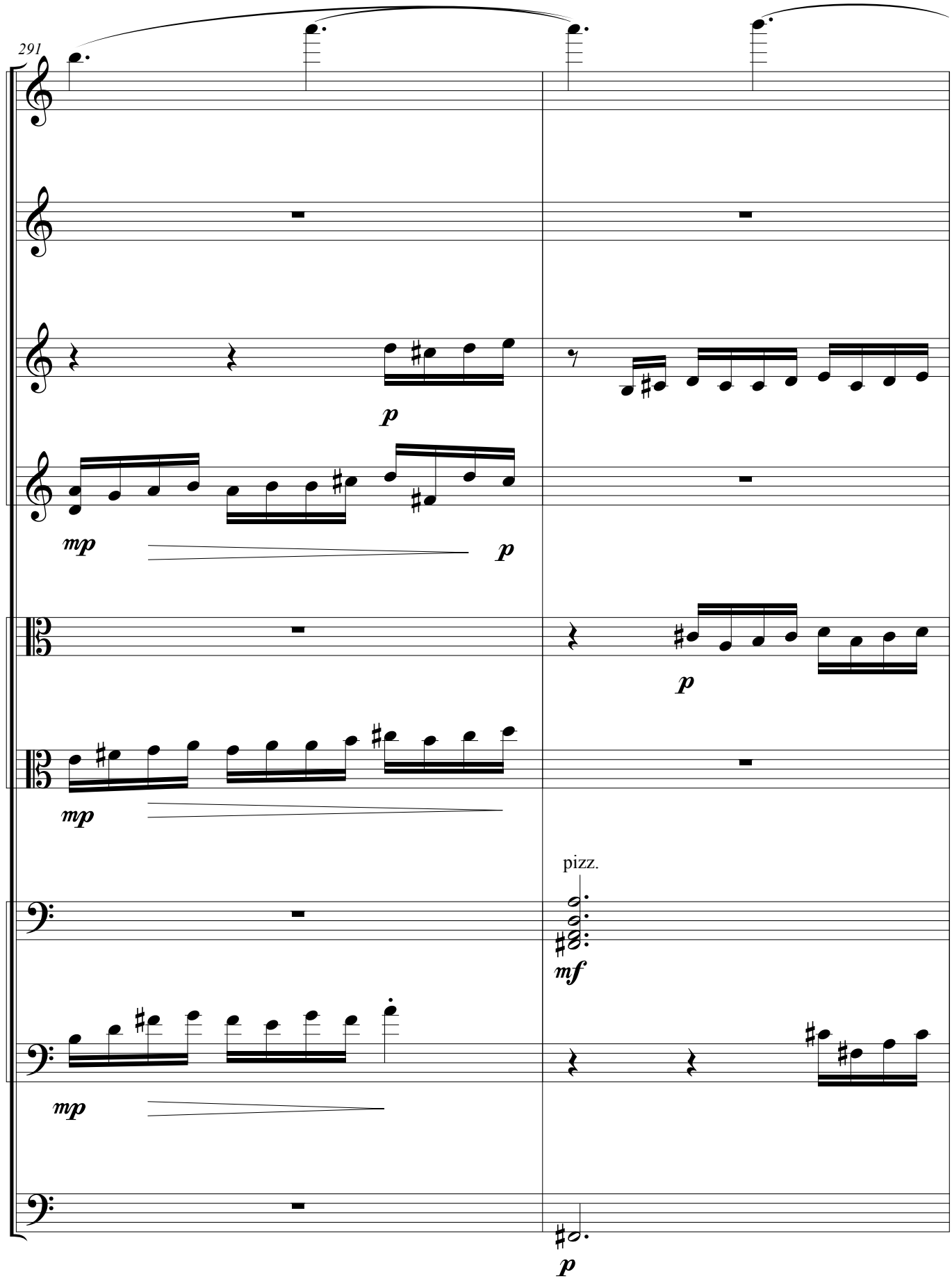

274
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

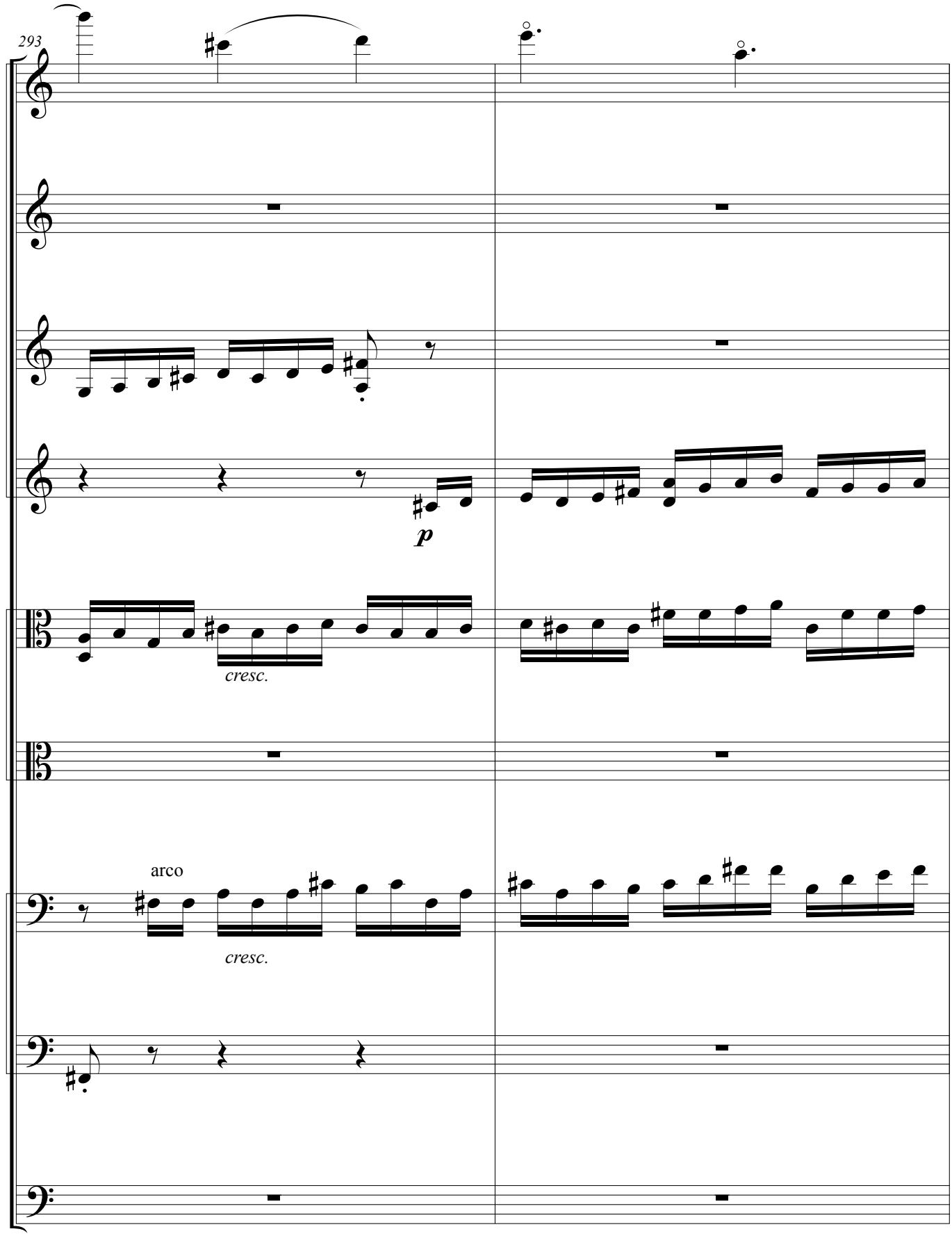

279
solo
p
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
arco
Vc. I
arco
Vc. II
D.B.

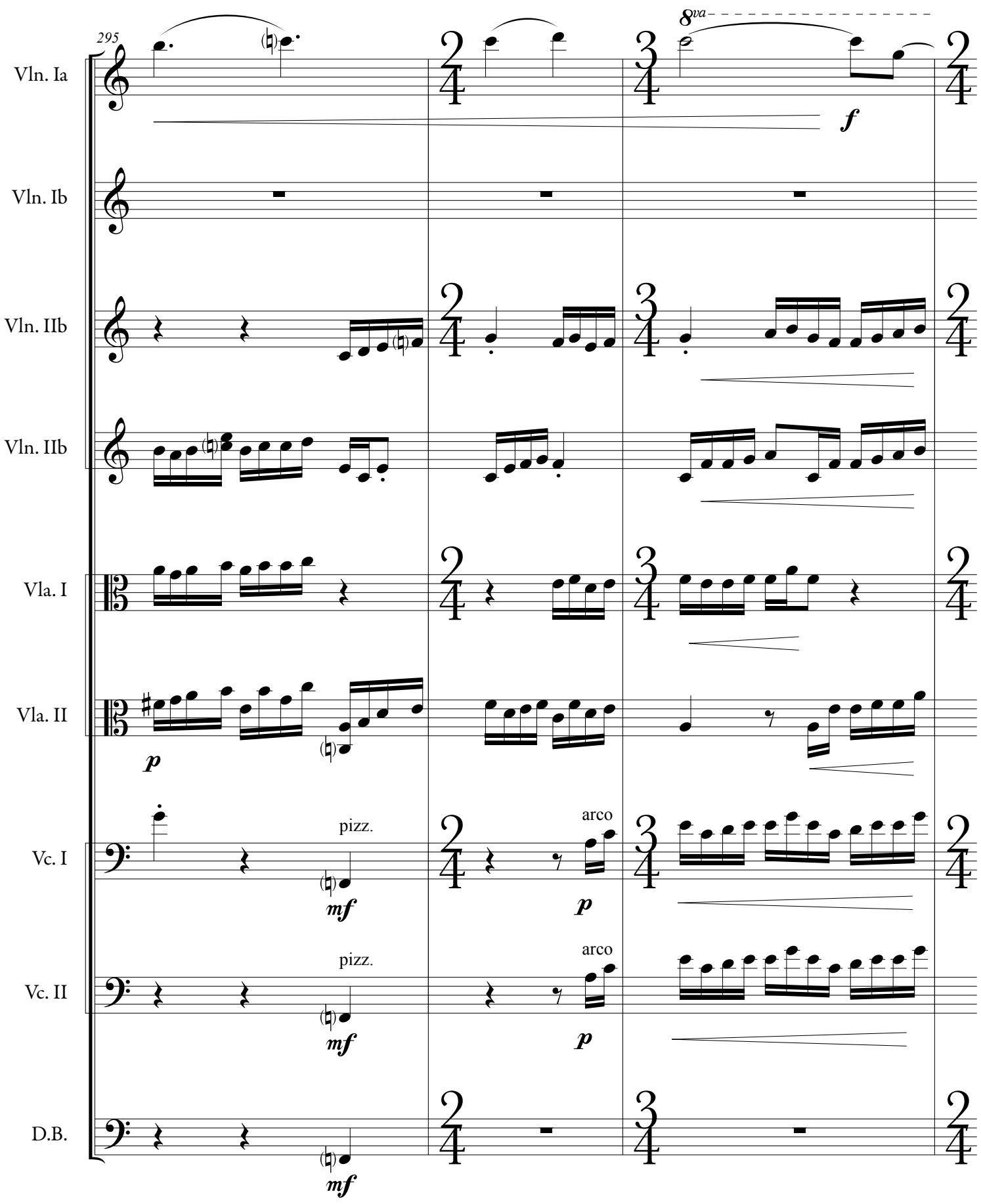

285
♩ = 132
284
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
p
legato
pp
p
legato
pp
pizz.
mp
legato
arco
p
pizz.
mp

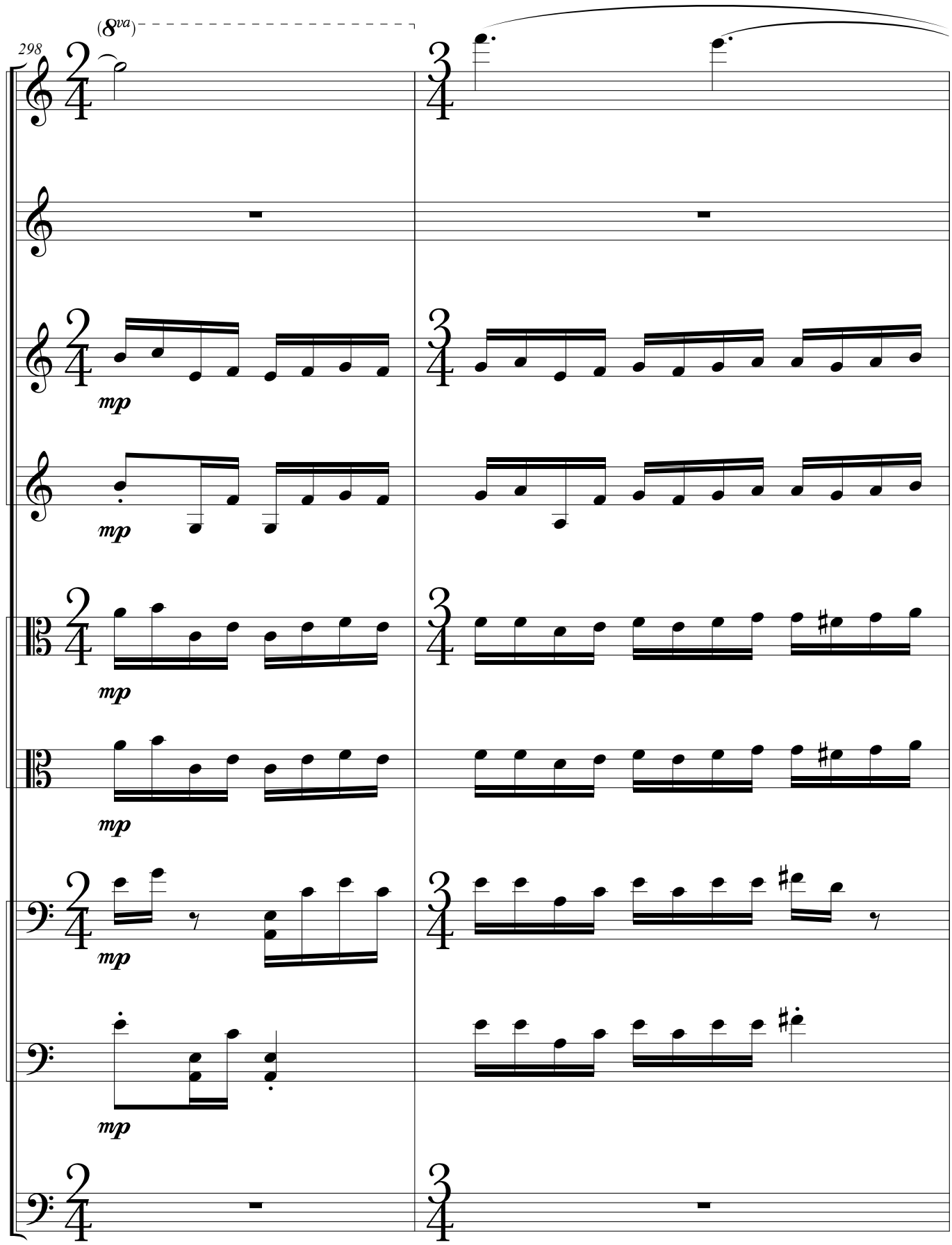

287
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
mp
p
l.v.

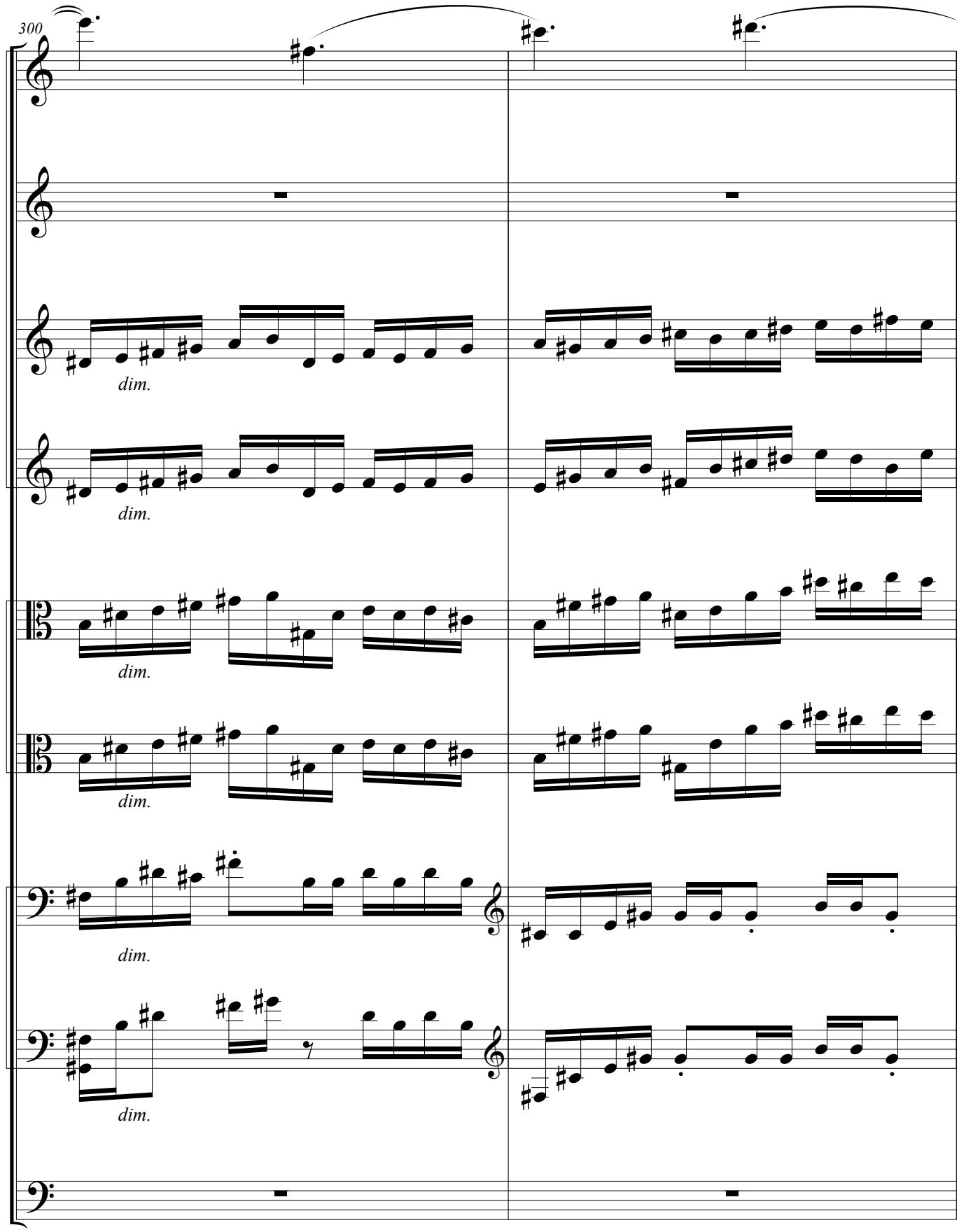

289
8va
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
legato
Vla. I
Vla. II
legato
Vc. I
legato
arco
Vc. II
p
D.B.

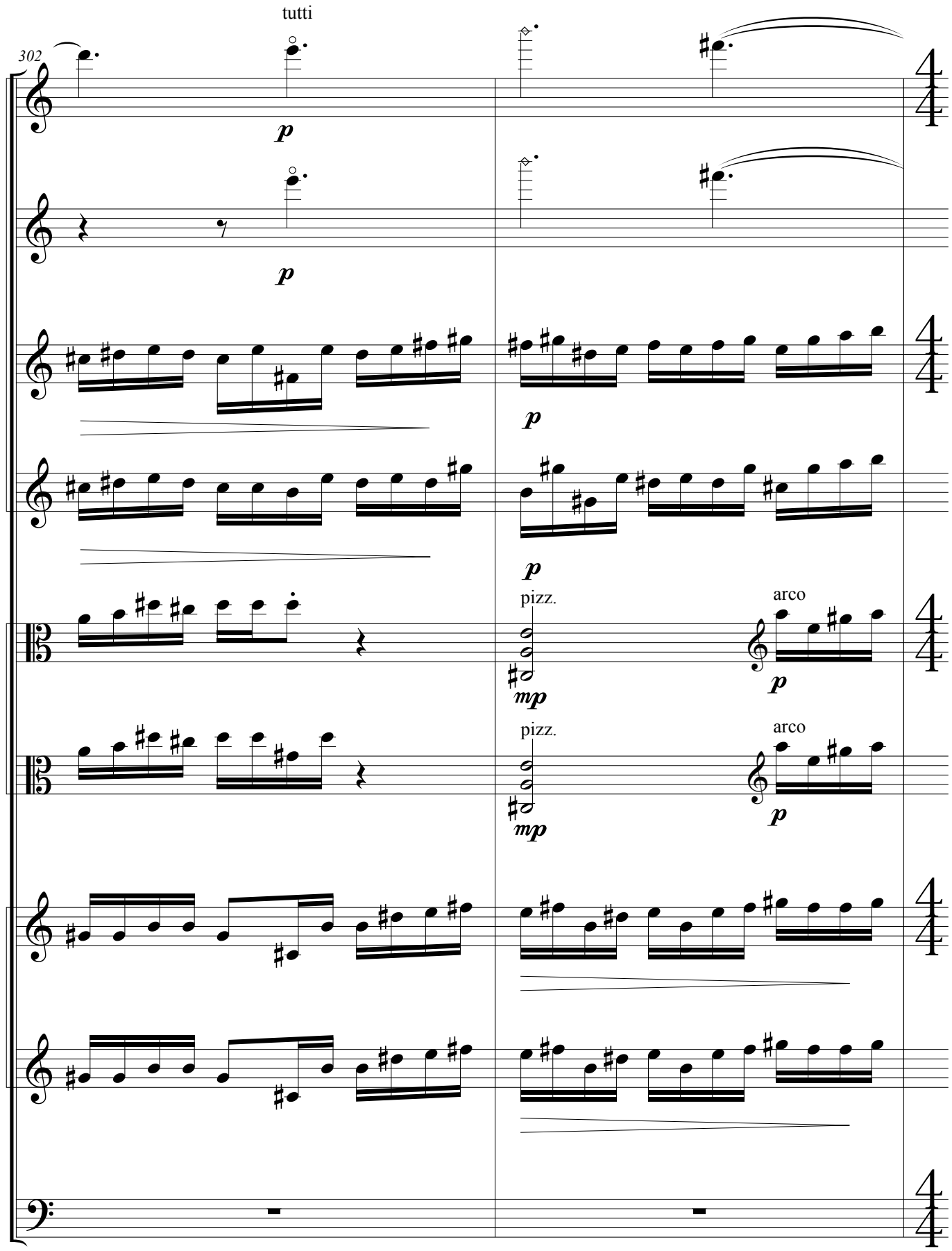

291
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp
p
mp
p
p
mp
pizz.
mf
mp
p

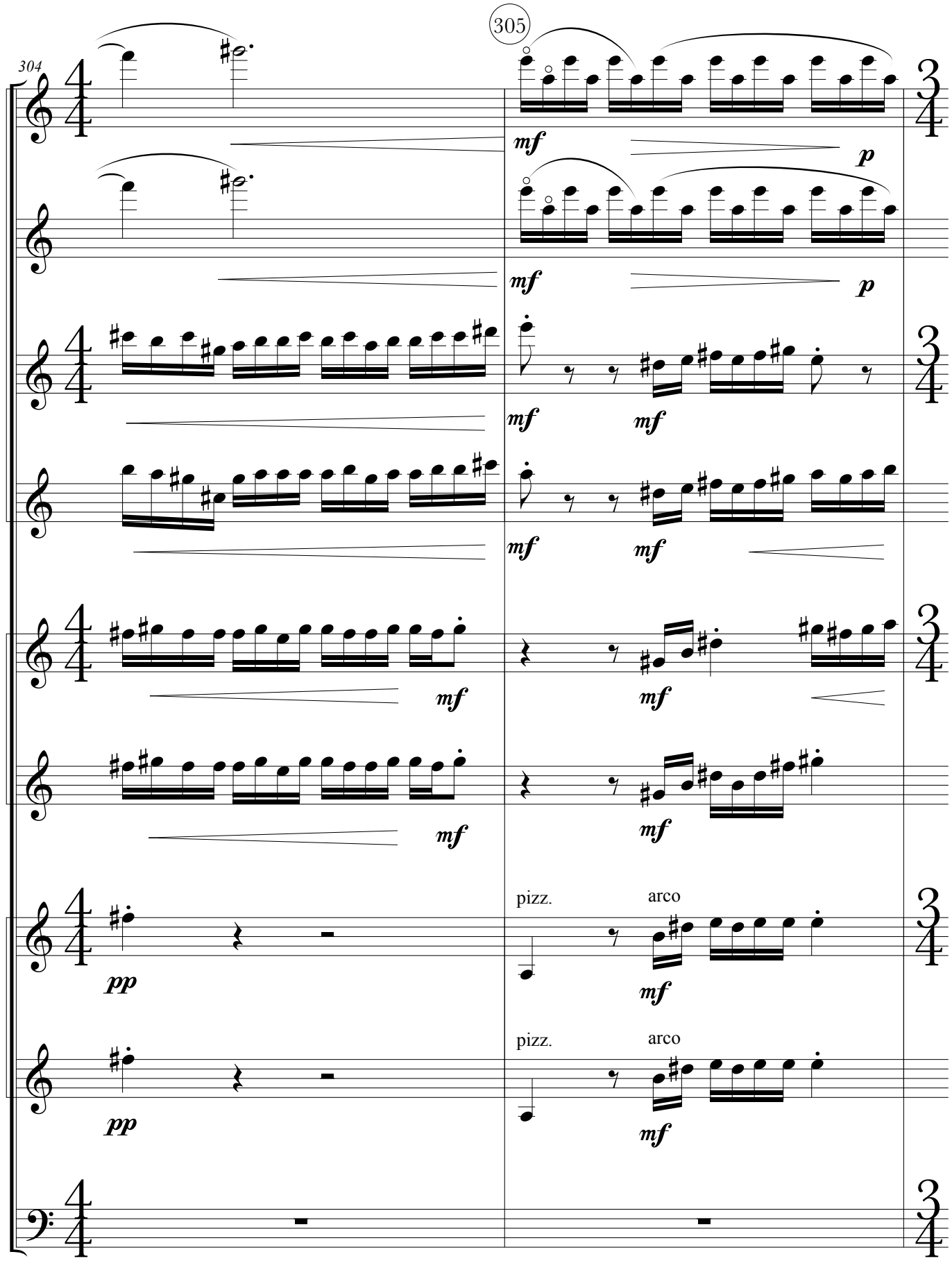

293
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
p
Vla. I
cresc.
Vla. II
arco
Vc. I
cresc.
Vc. II
D.B.

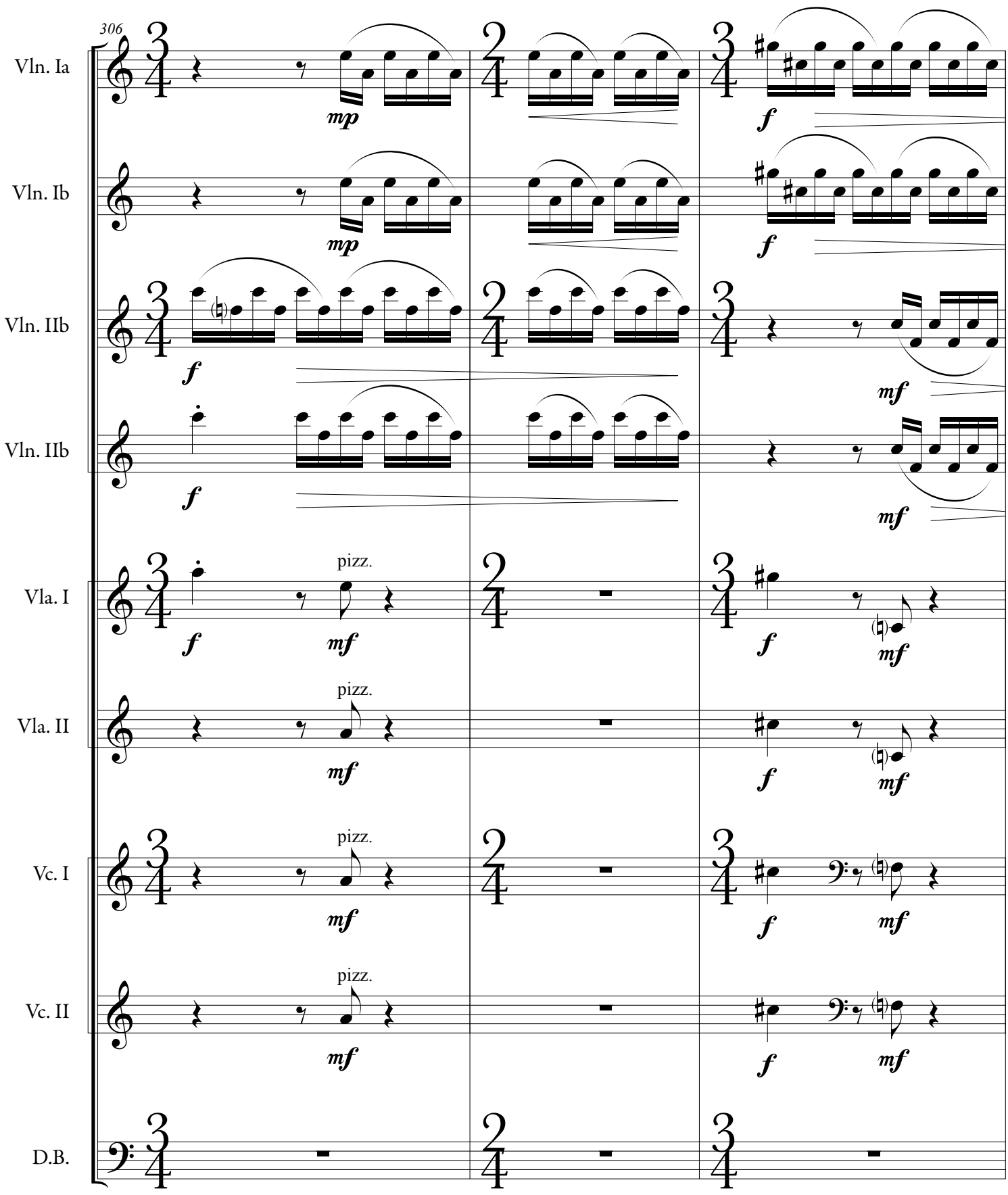

295
8va
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
f
p
mf
p
mf
p
mf

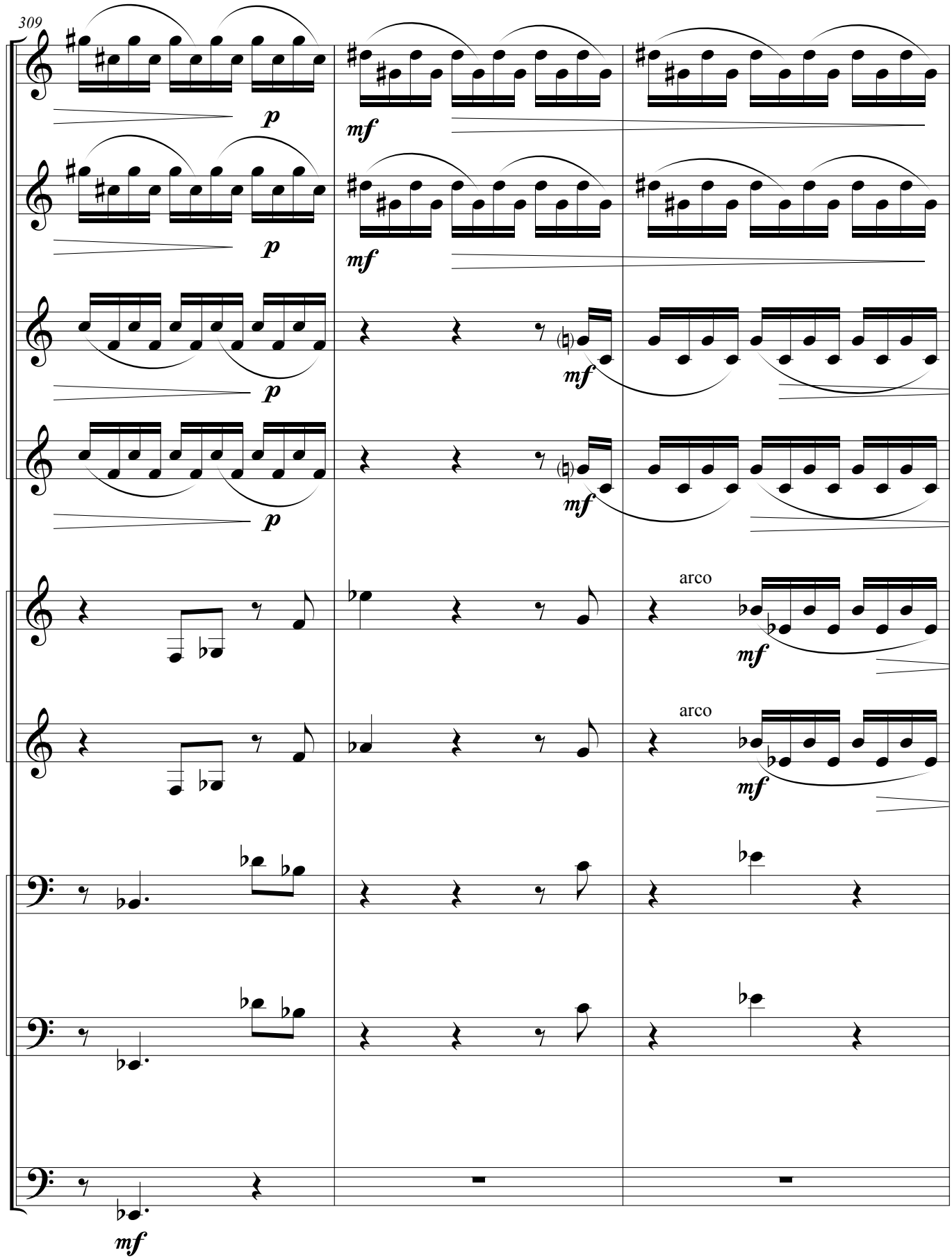

298
(8va)
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
mp
Vln. IIb
mp
Vla. I
mp
Vla. II
mp
Vc. I
mp
Vc. II
mp
D.B.

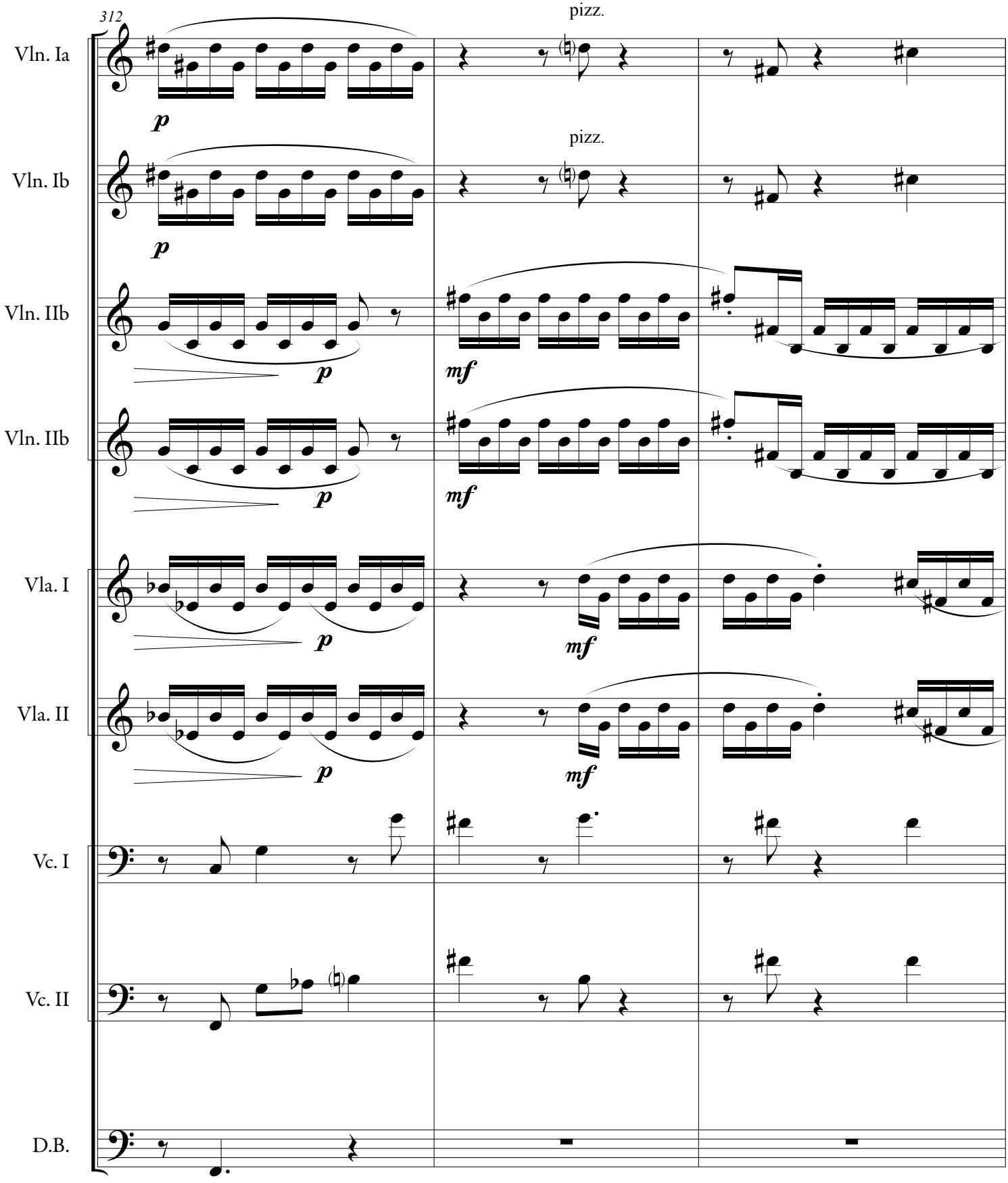

300
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
dim.
Vln. IIb
dim.
Vla. I
dim.
Vla. II
dim.
Vc. I
dim.
Vc. II
dim.
D.B.

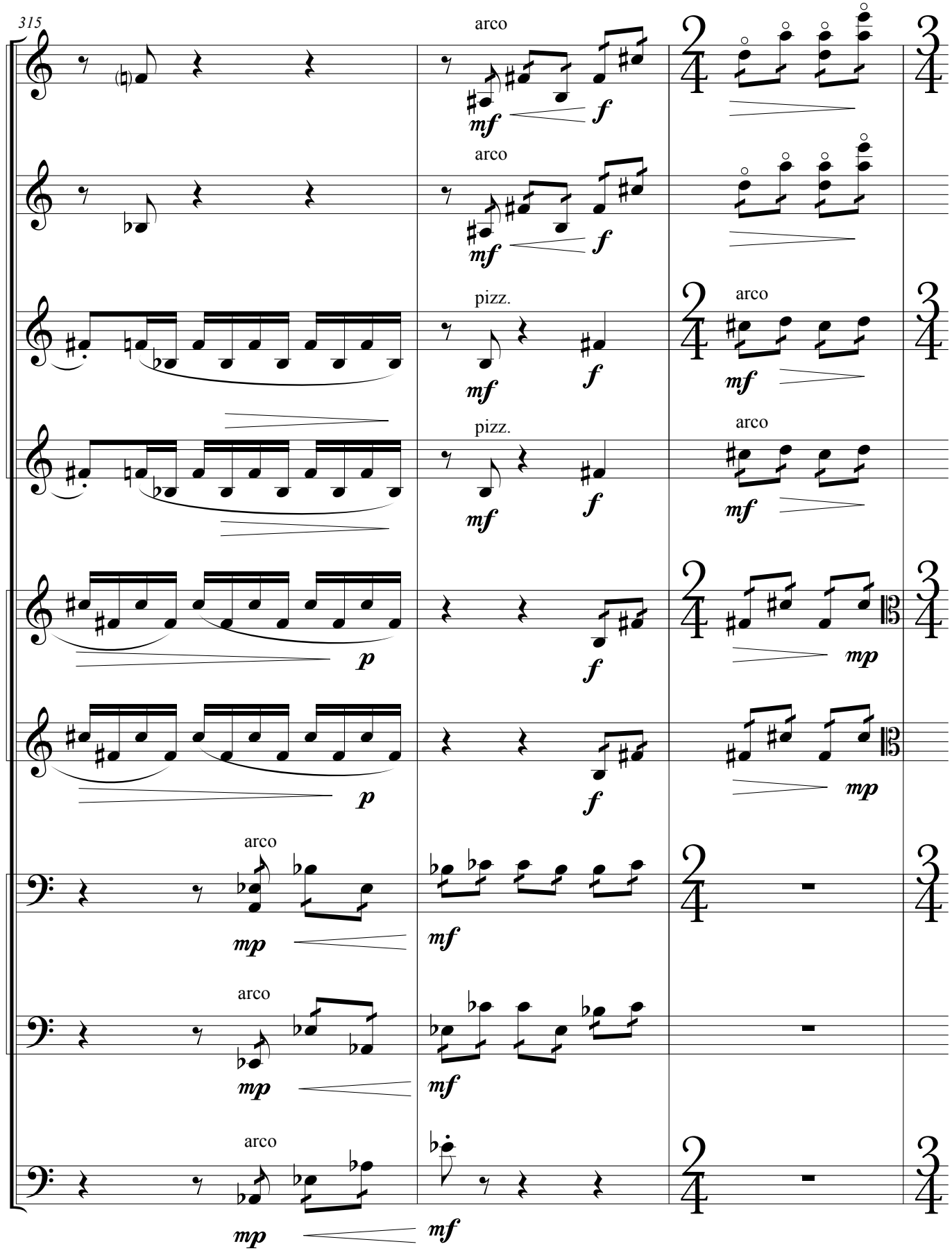

tutti
302
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
p
mp
pizz.
arco

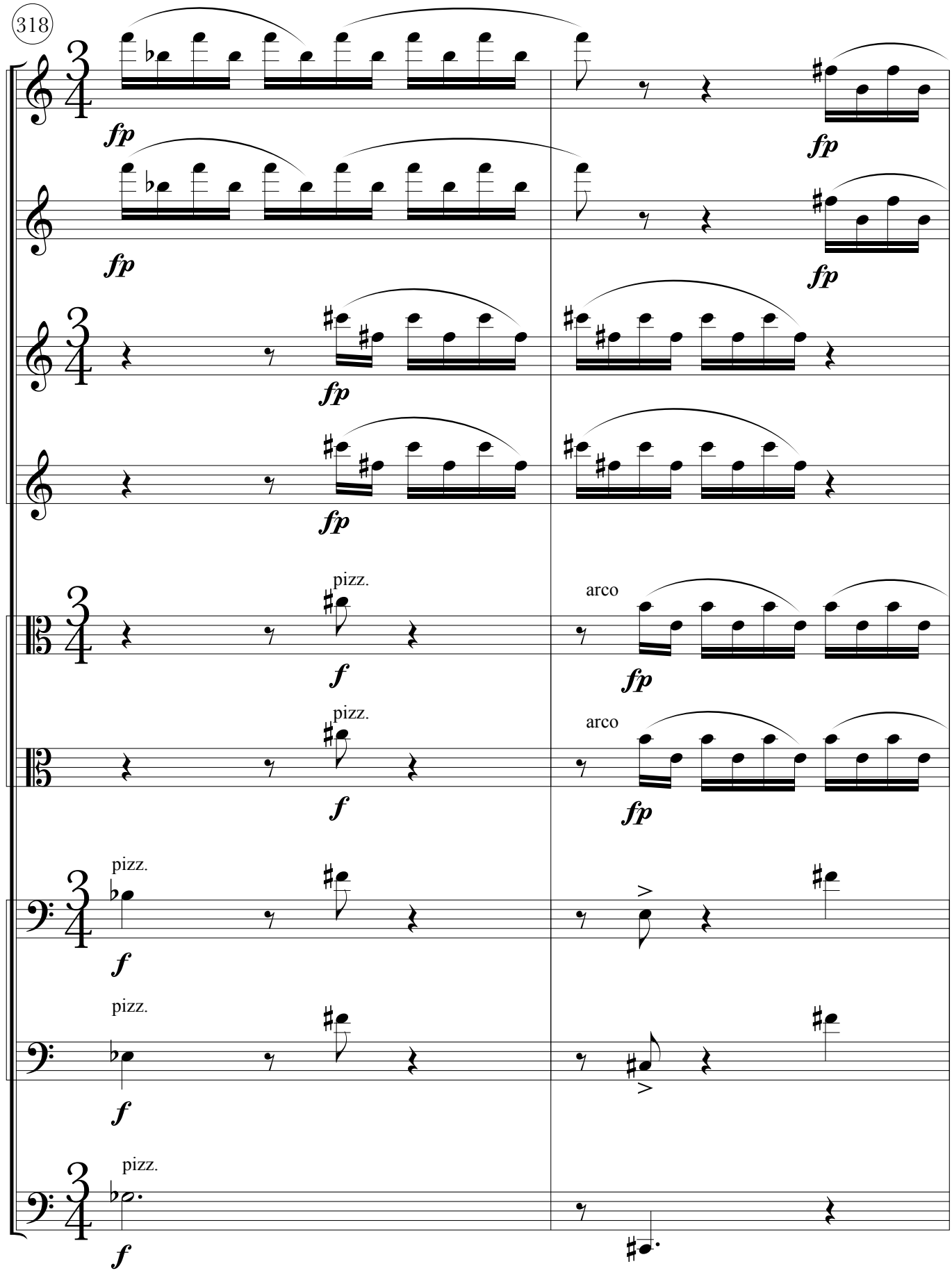

304
305
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
p
pp
pizz.
arco

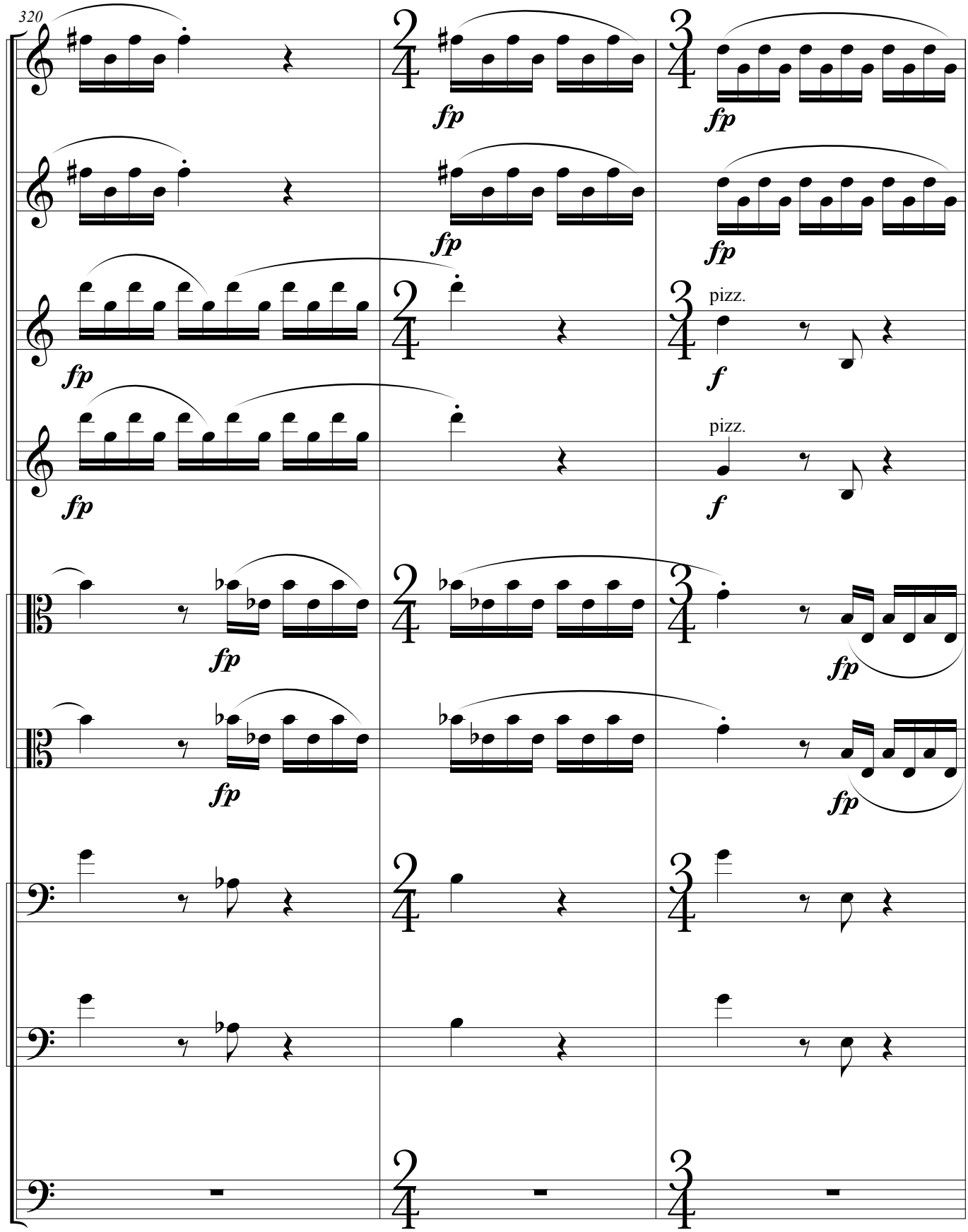

306
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.

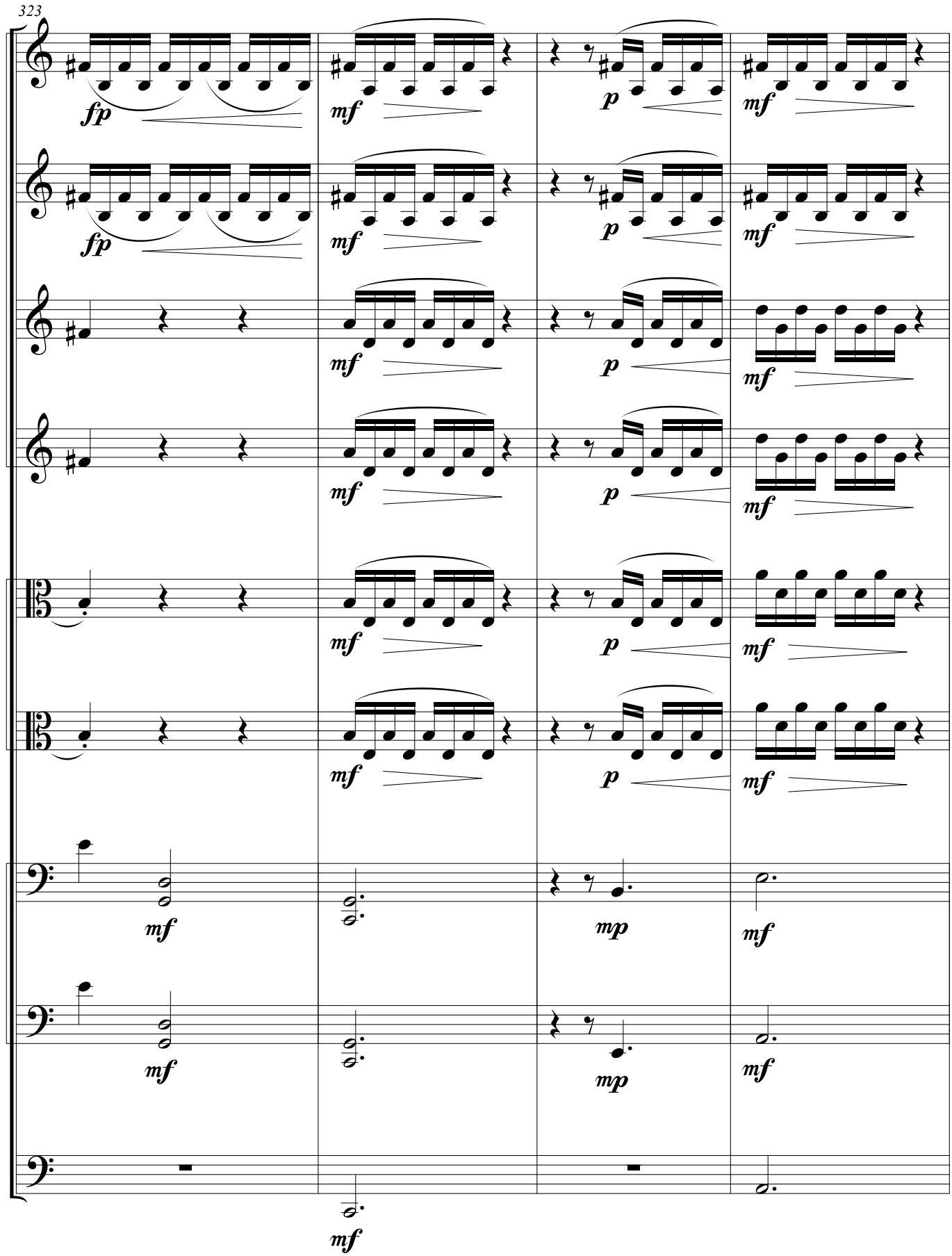

309
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
p
mf
arco

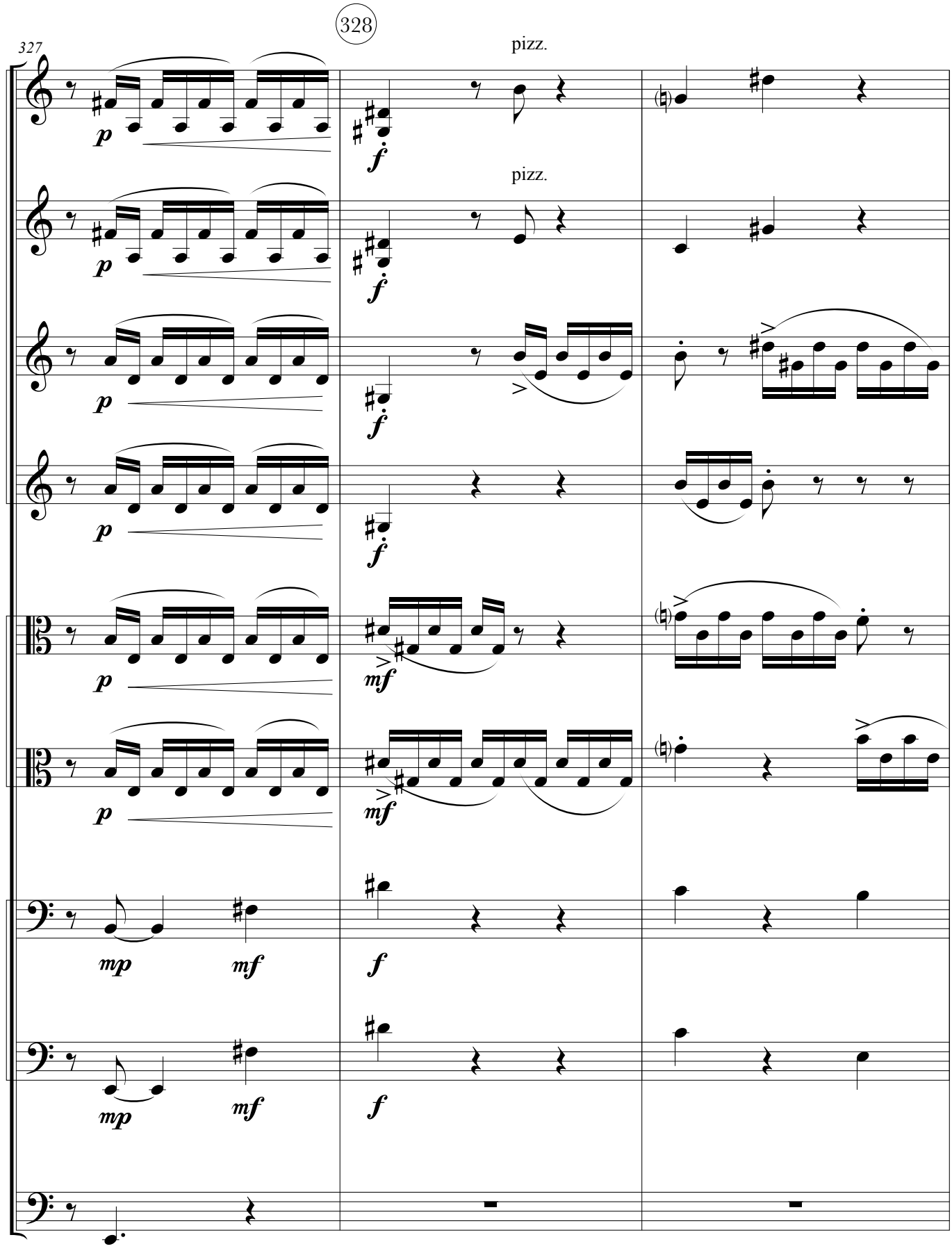

312
pizz.
pizz.
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
p
mf

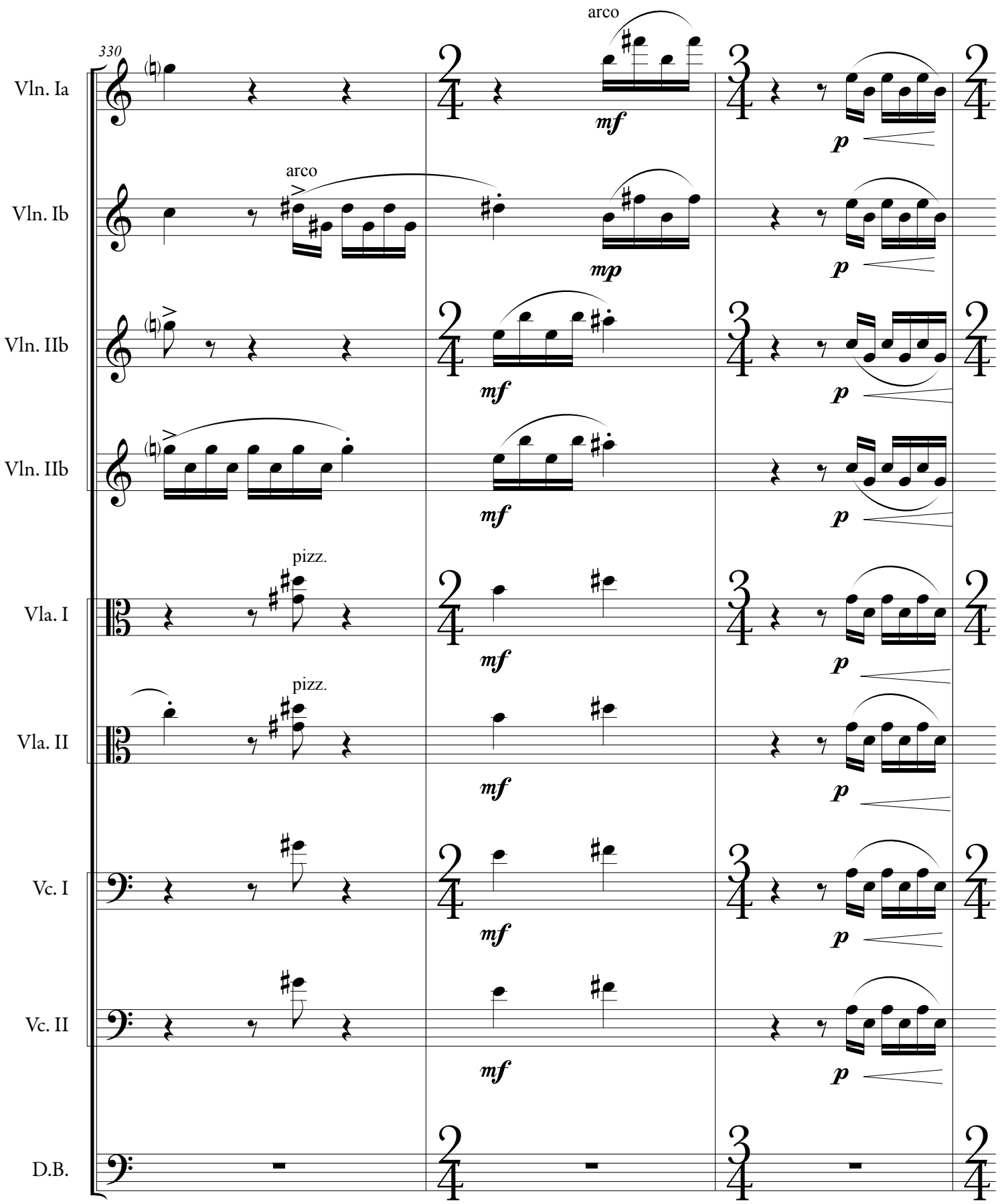

315
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
pizz.
mf
f
p
mp

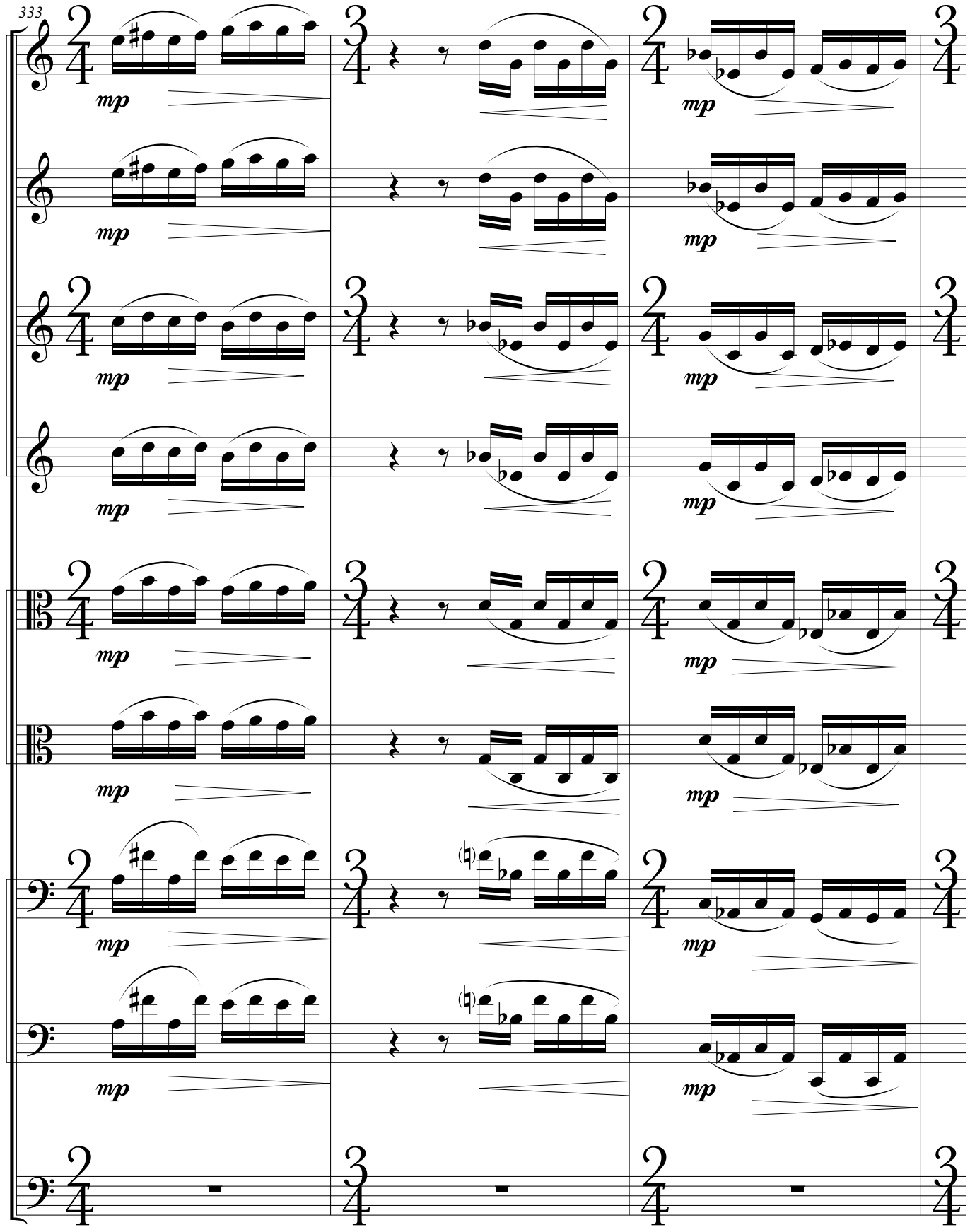

318
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
fp
f
pizz.
arco

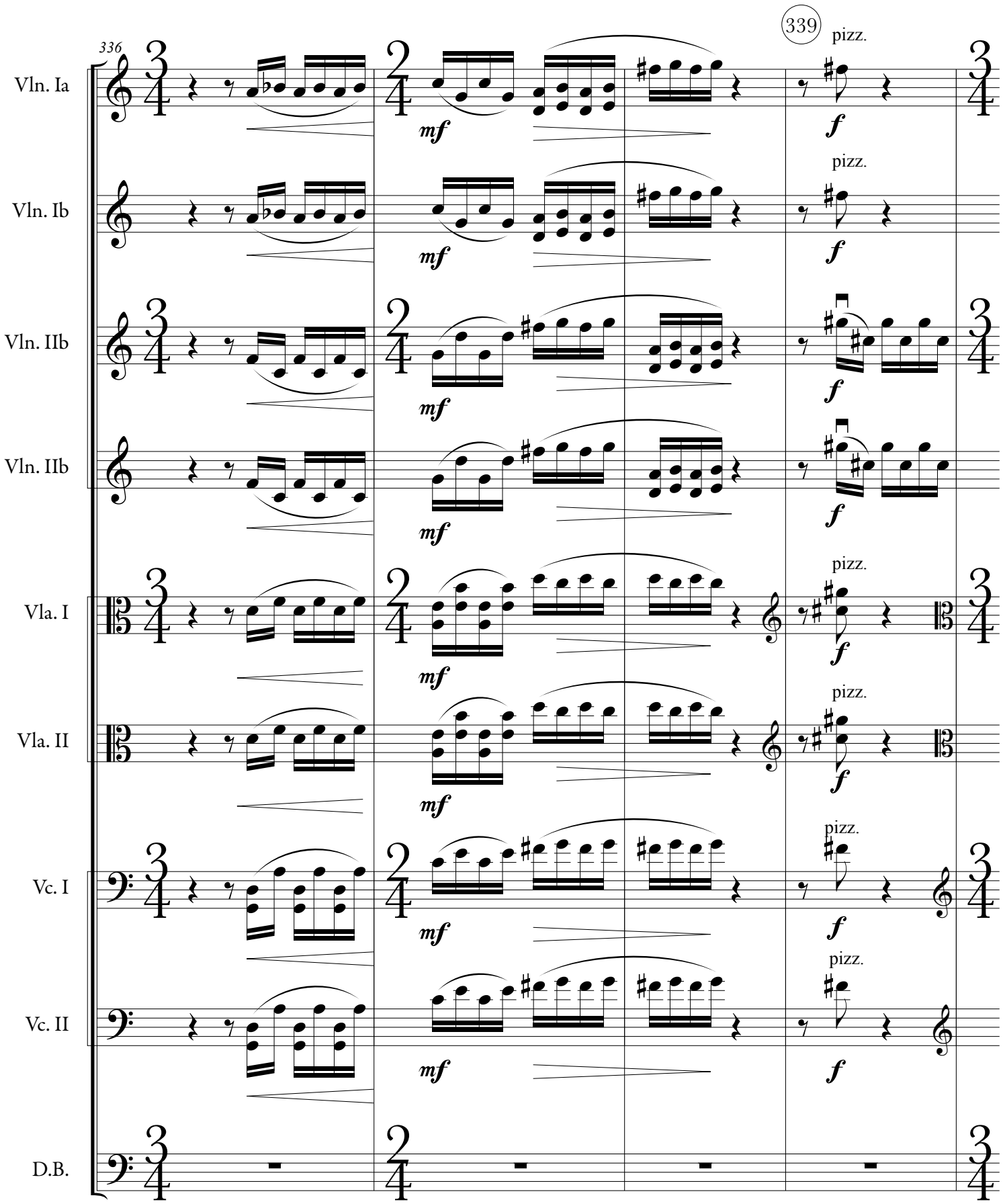

320
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
fp
f
pizz.

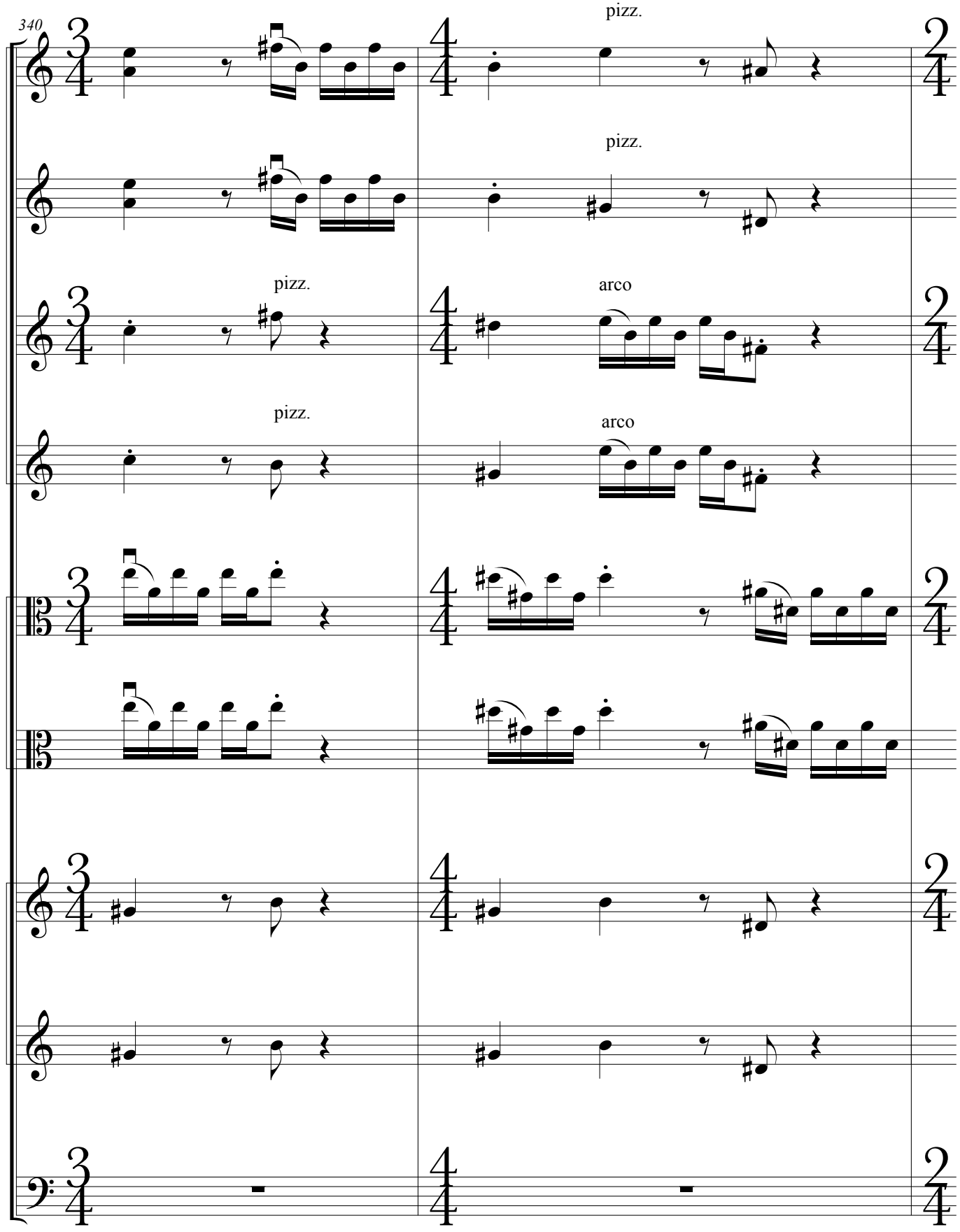

323
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
fp
mf
p
mf
mp
mf

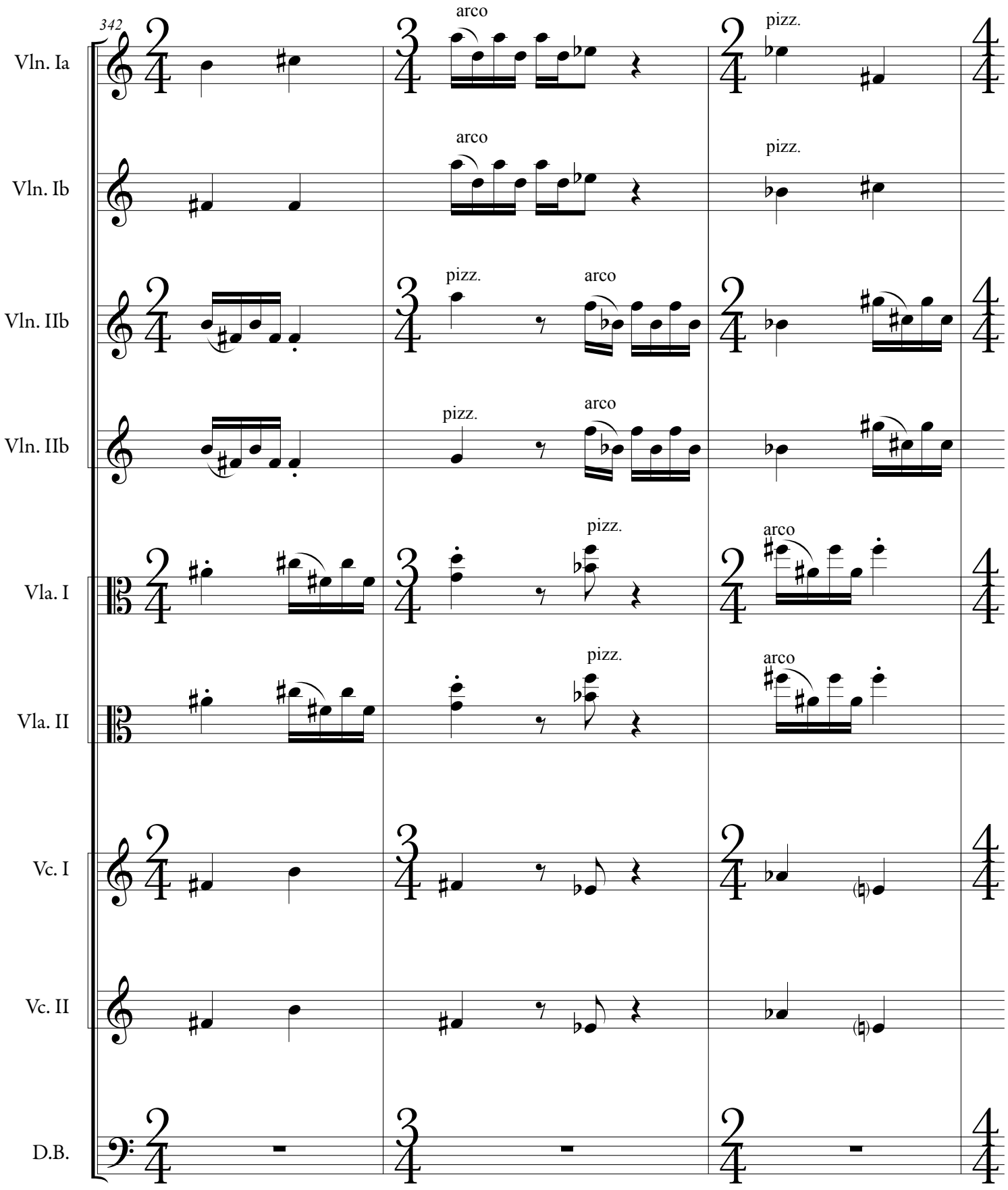

328
327
pizz.
pizz.
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
p
f
mf
mp

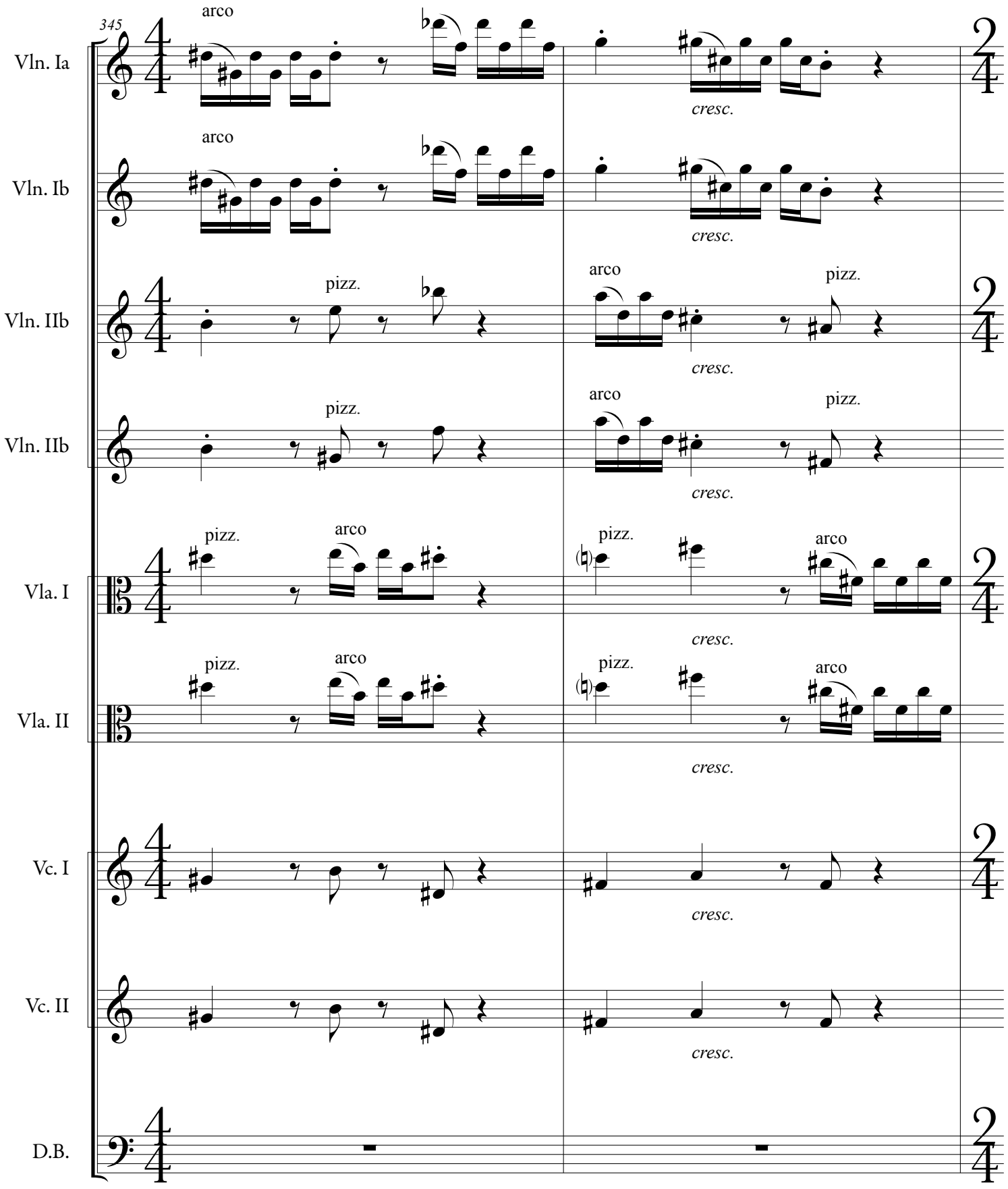

330
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
arco
pizz.
pizz.
mf
mp
p

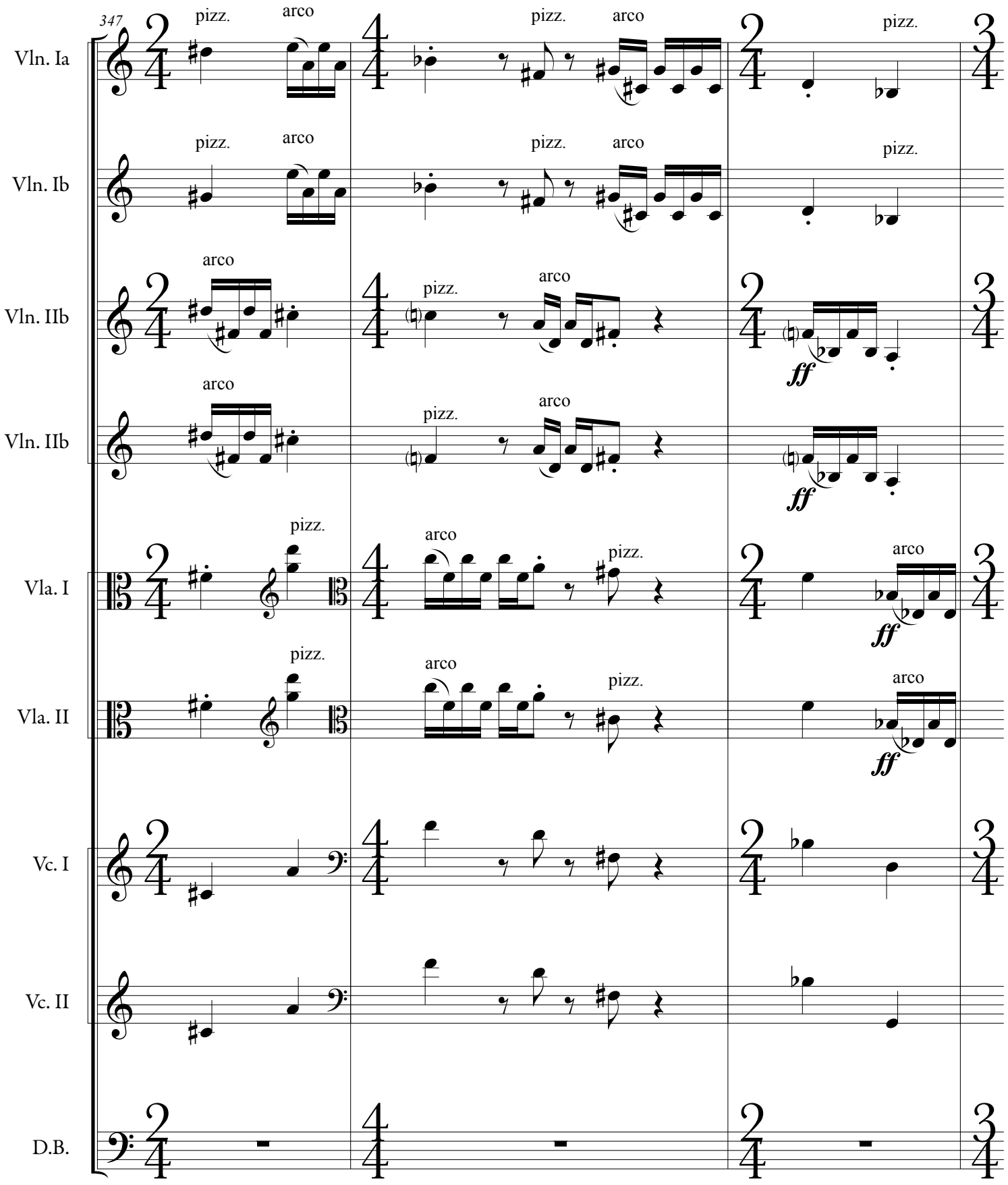

333
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp

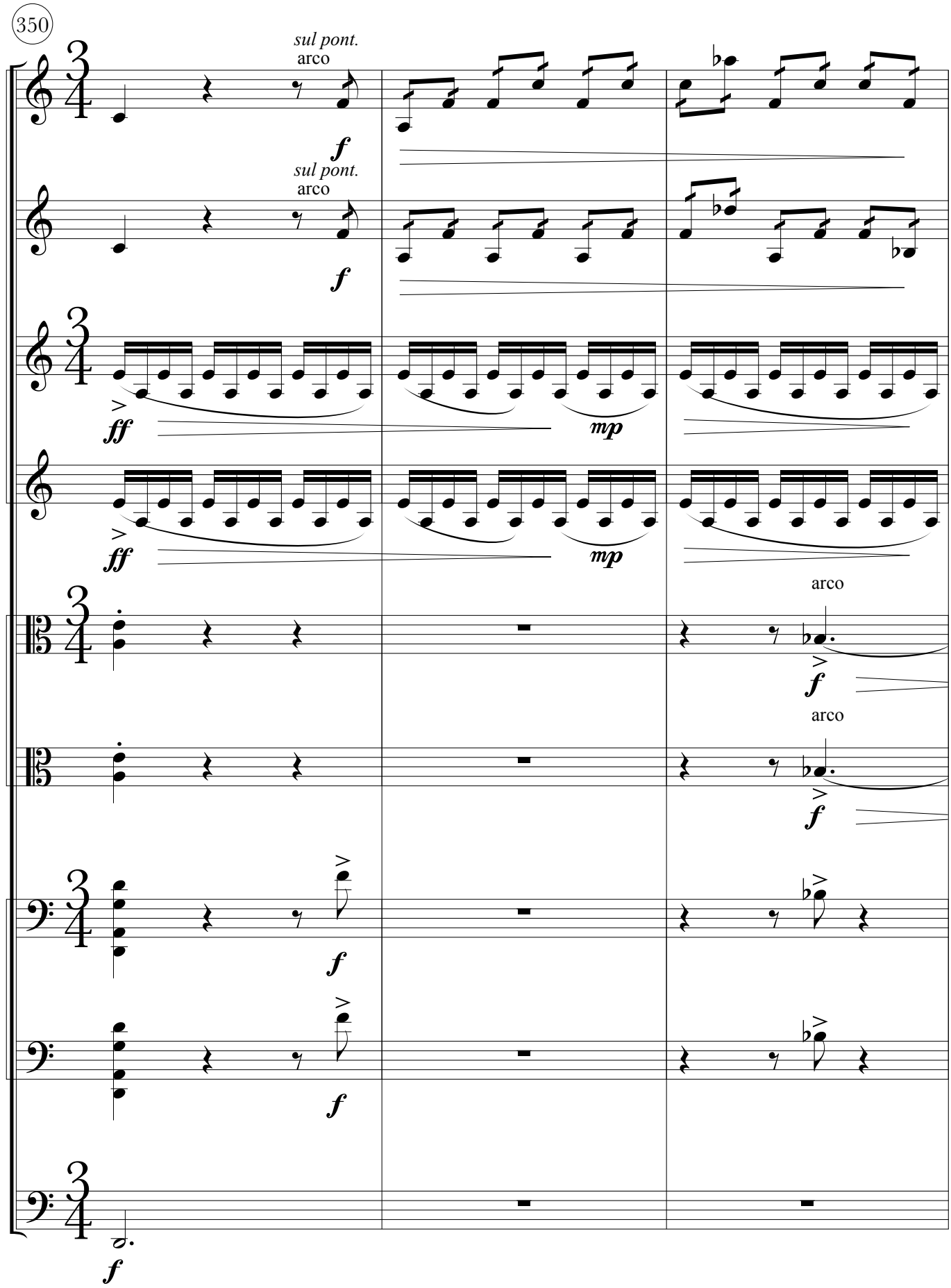

336
339
pizz.
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
f

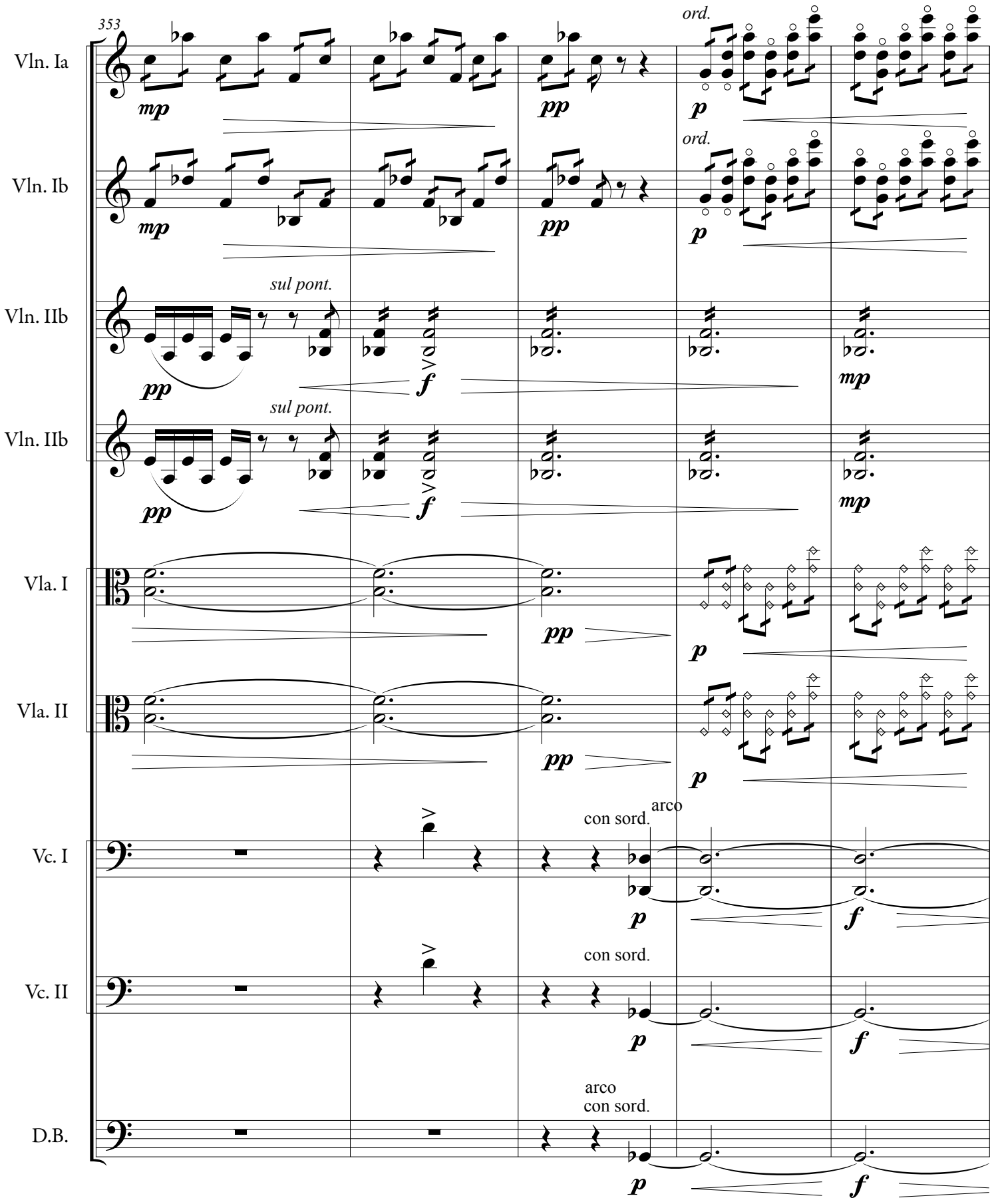

340
Vln. Ia
pizz.
Vln. Ib
pizz.
Vln. IIb
pizz.
arco
Vln. IIb
pizz.
arco
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.

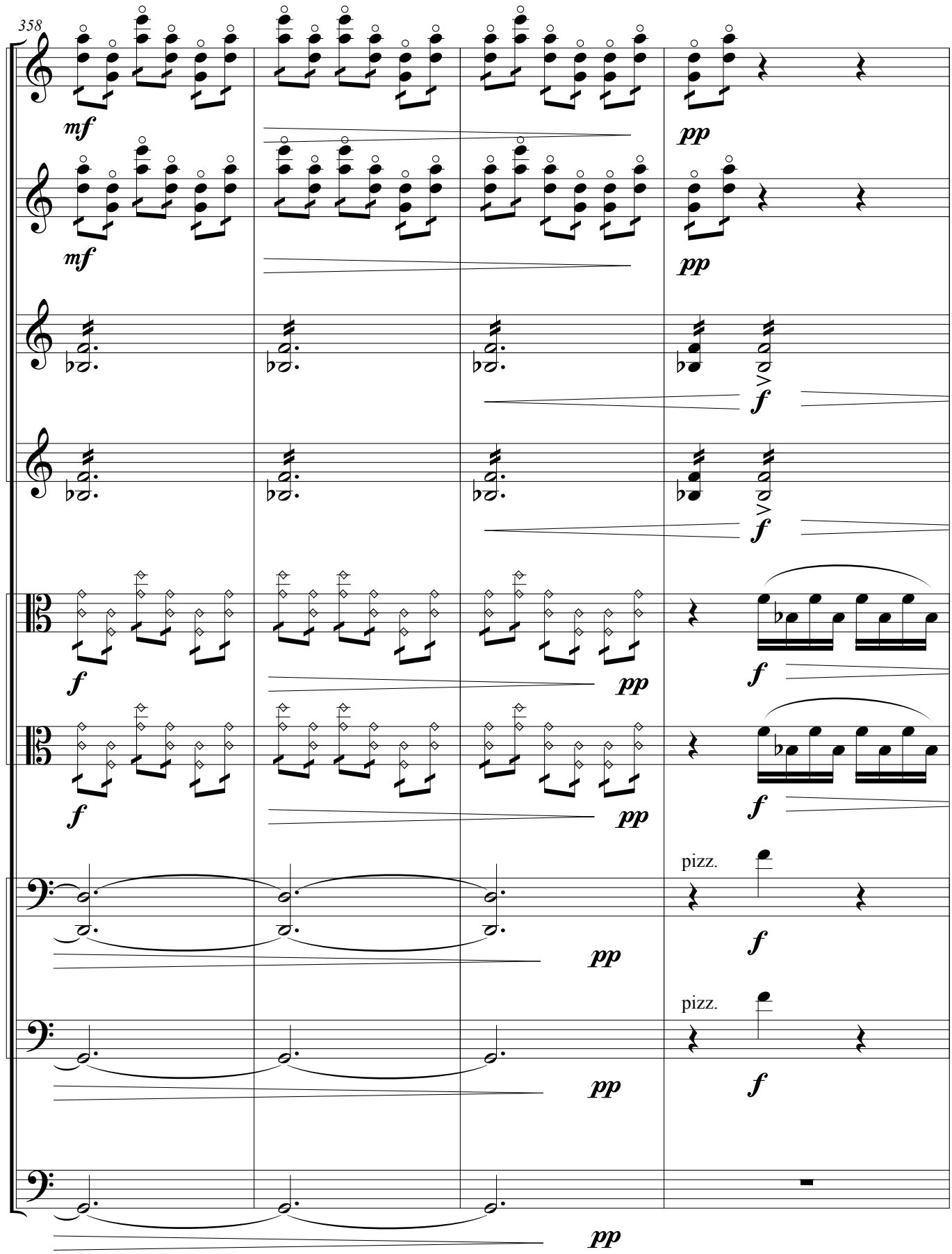

342
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco

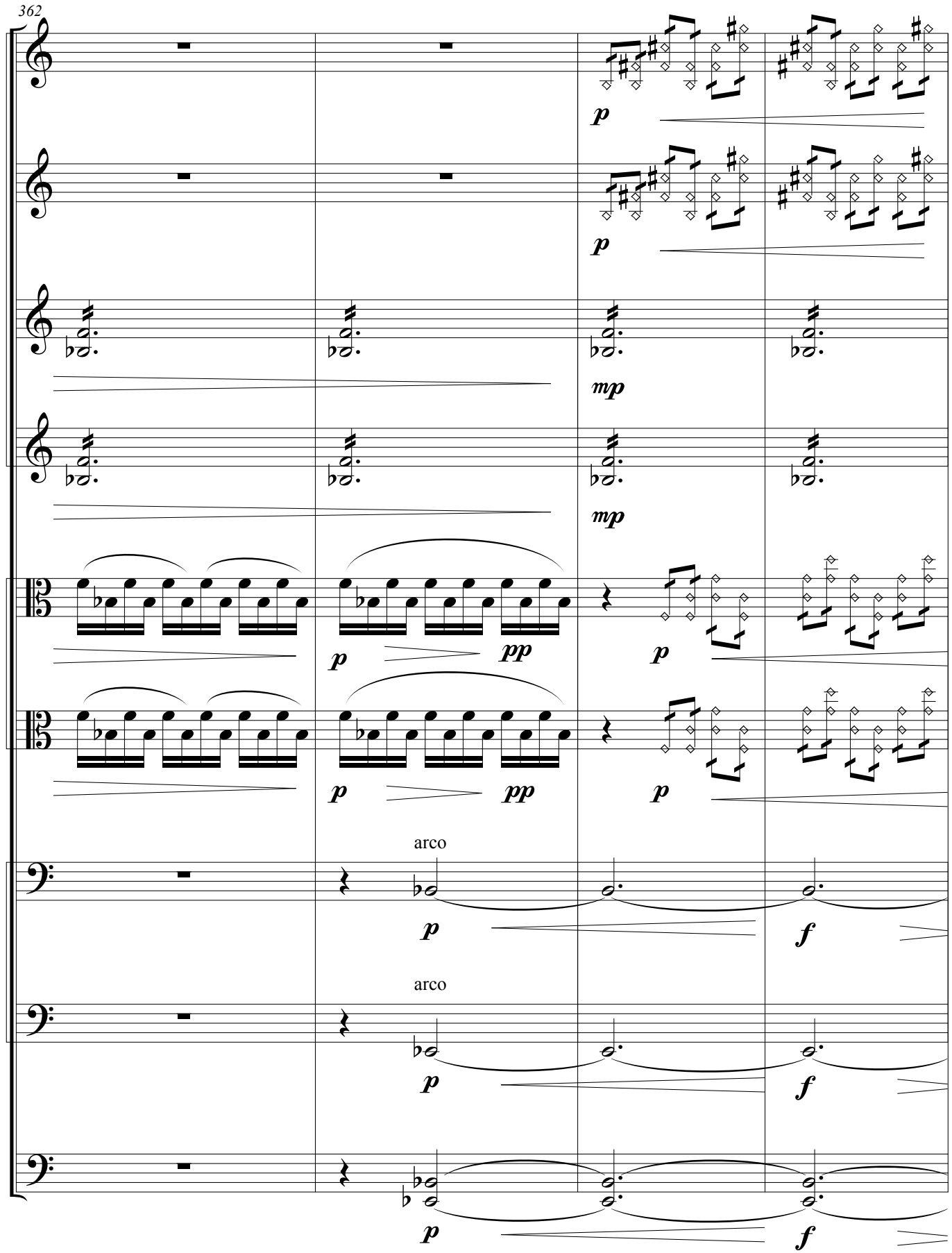

345
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
pizz.
cresc.

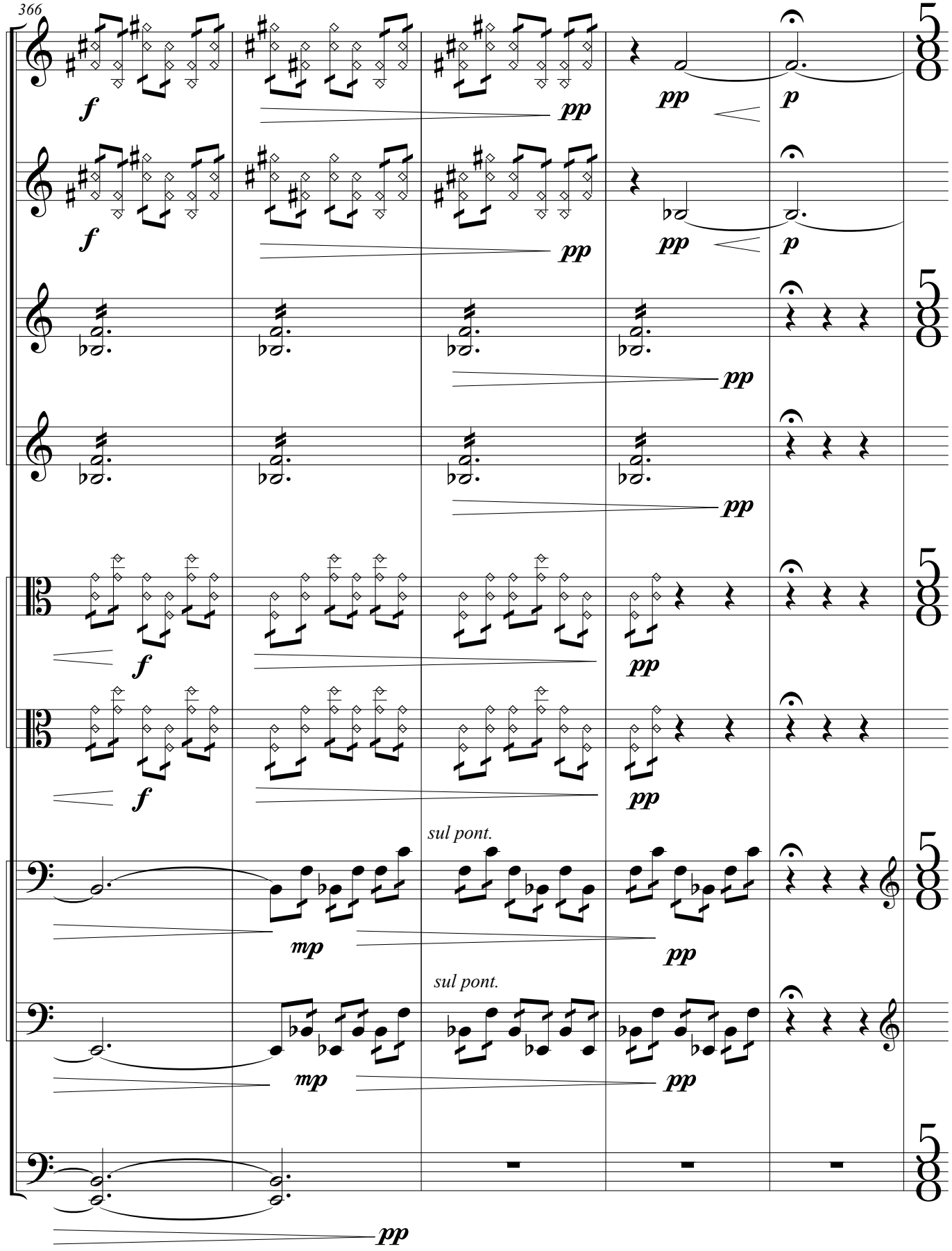

347
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pizz.
arco
ff

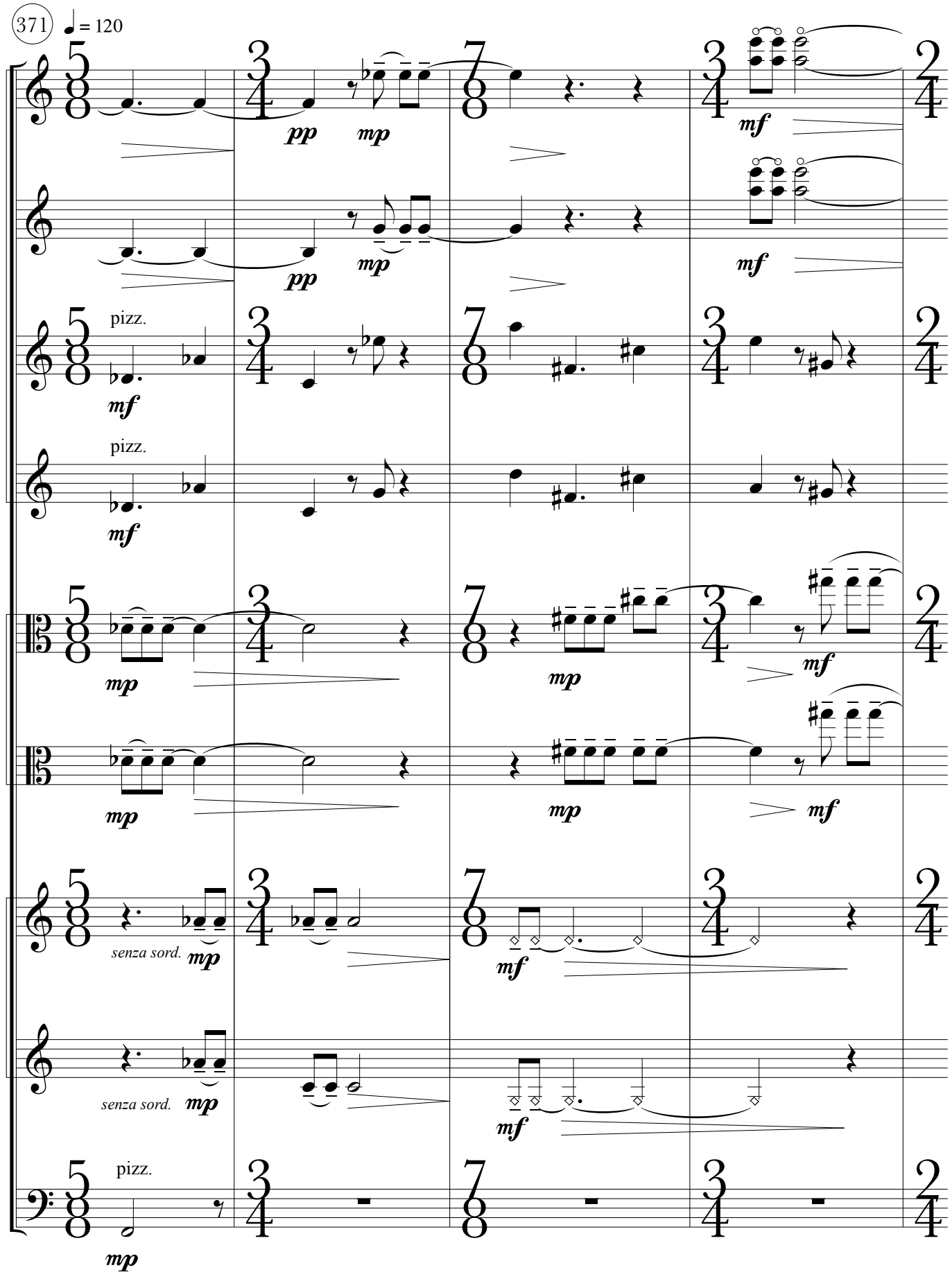

350
Vln. Ia
sul pont.
arco
f
Vln. Ib
sul pont.
arco
f
Vln. IIb
ff
mp
Vln. IIb
ff
mp
Vla. I
arco
f
Vla. II
arco
f
Vc. I
f
Vc. II
f
D.B.
f

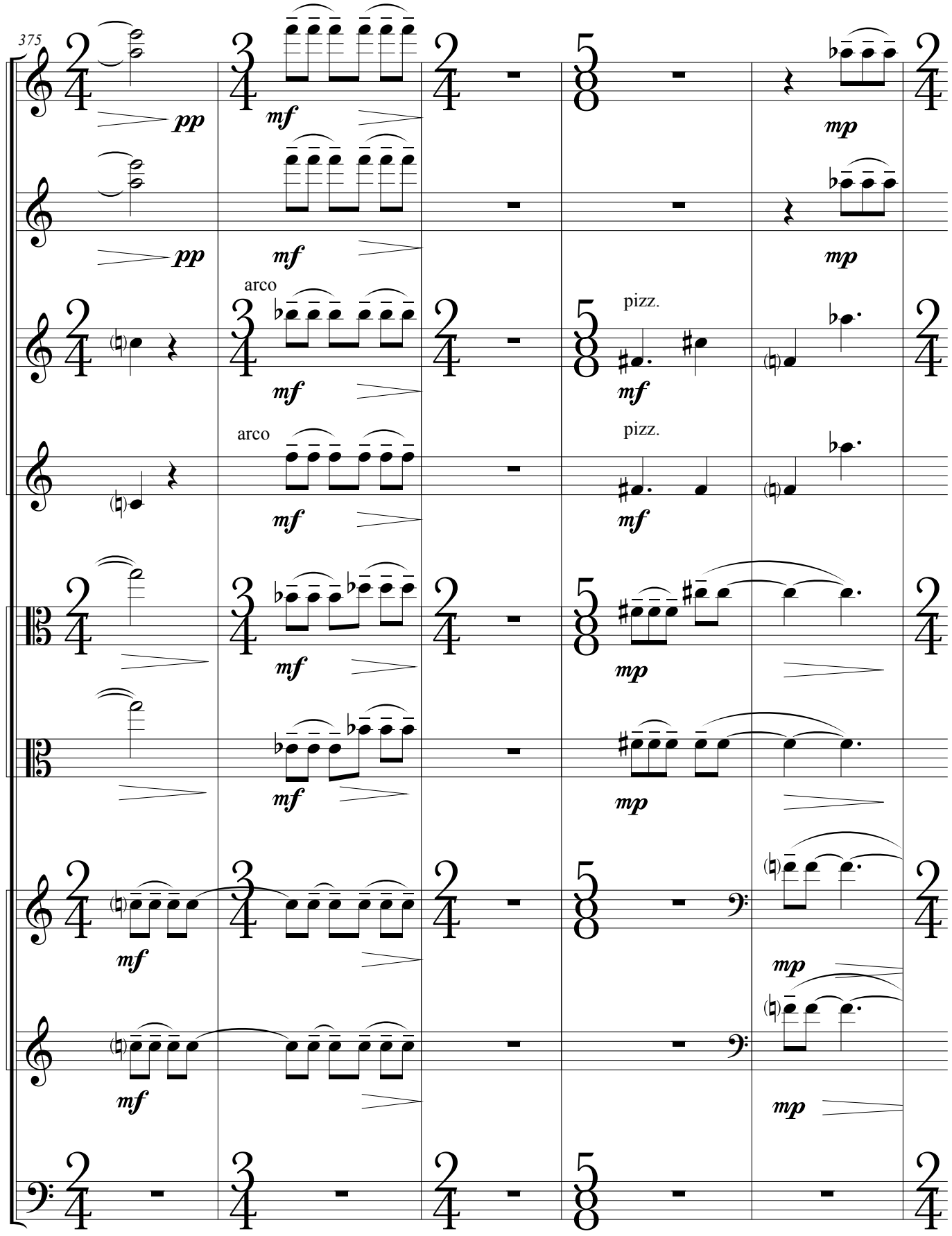

353
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp
pp
p
f
ord.
sul pont.
con sord.
arco
arco
con sord.

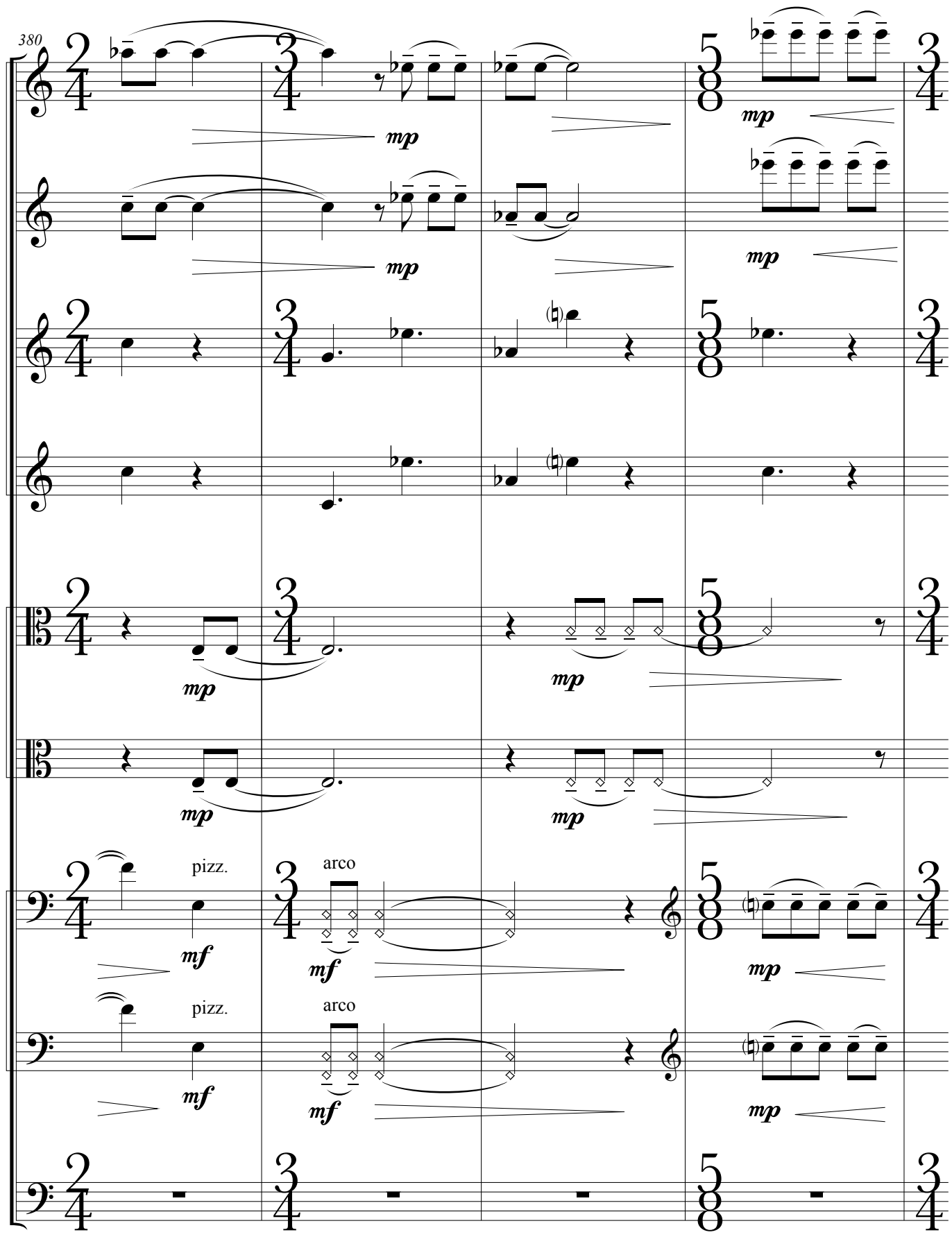

358
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
pp
f
pizz.

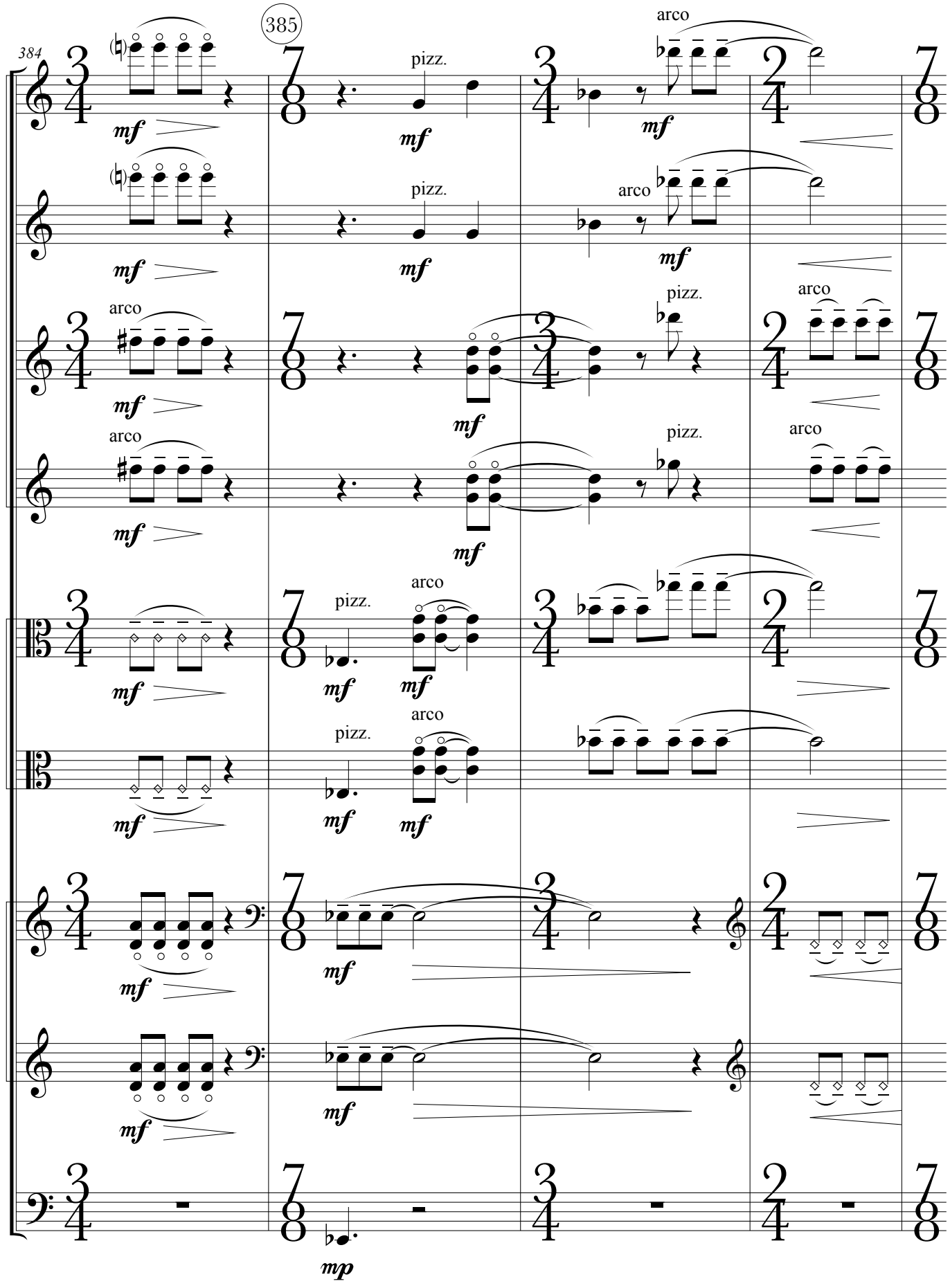

362
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
arco
arco
p
mp
pp
f

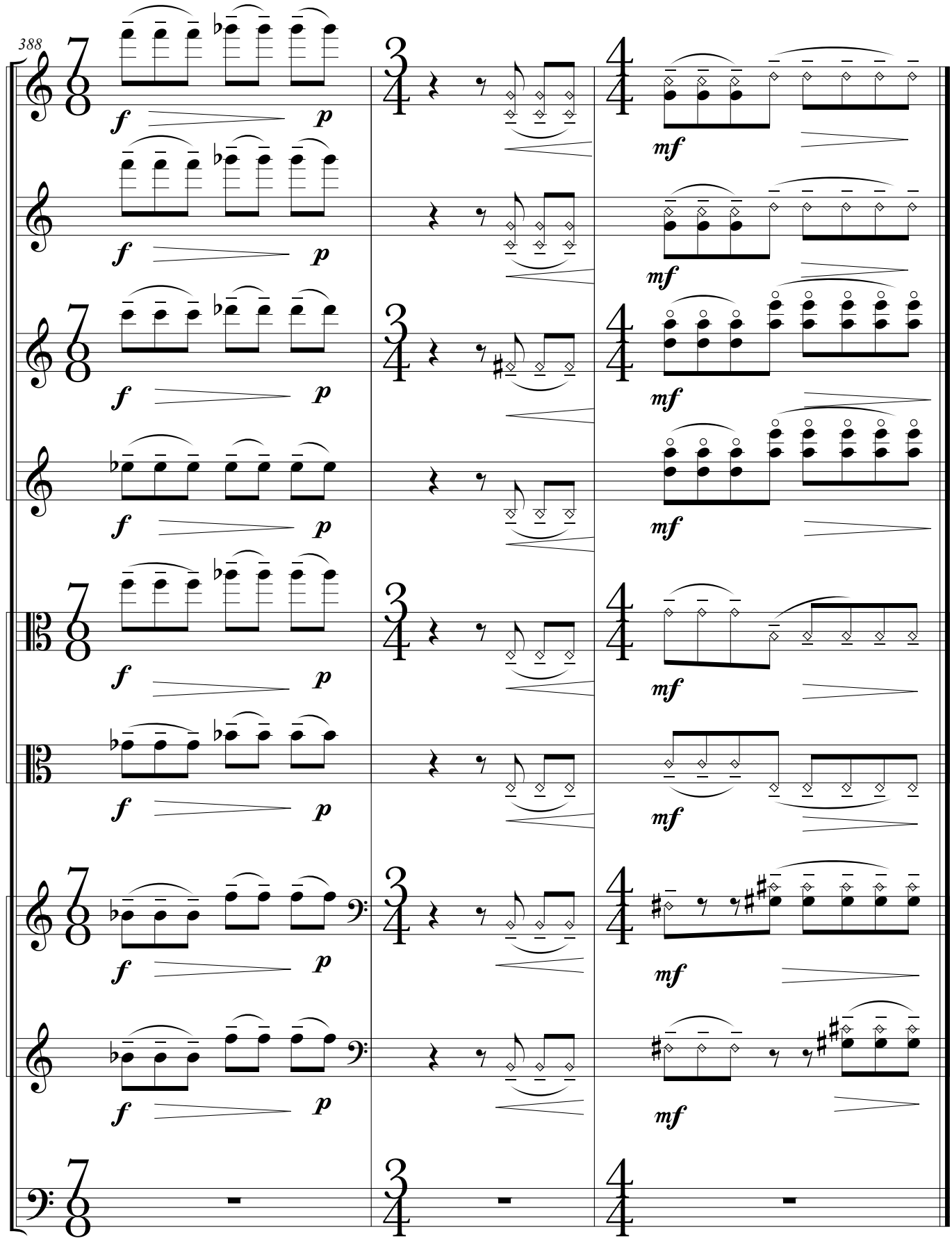

366
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
sul pont.
sul pont.


371
♩ = 120
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
pizz.
Vln. IIb
pizz.
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
senza sord.
Vc. II
senza sord.
D.B.
pizz.
pp
mp
mf


375
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
pp
mf
mp
arco
pizz.


380
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mp
mf
pizz.
arco


384
385
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
mf
mp
pizz.
arco


388
Vln. Ia
Vln. Ib
Vln. IIb
Vln. IIb
Vla. I
Vla. II
Vc. I
Vc. II
D.B.
f
p
mf