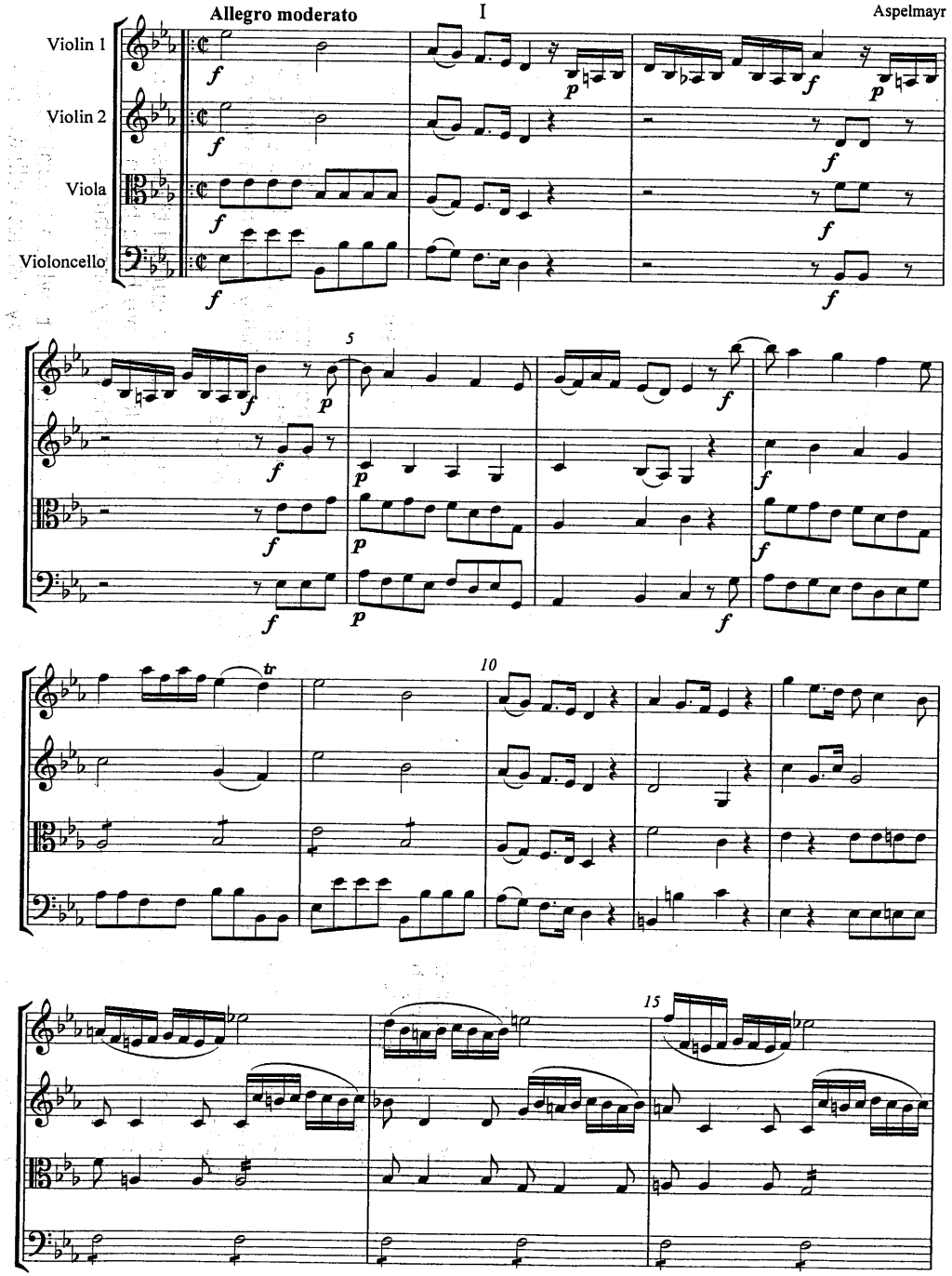
Allegro moderato I Aspelmayr



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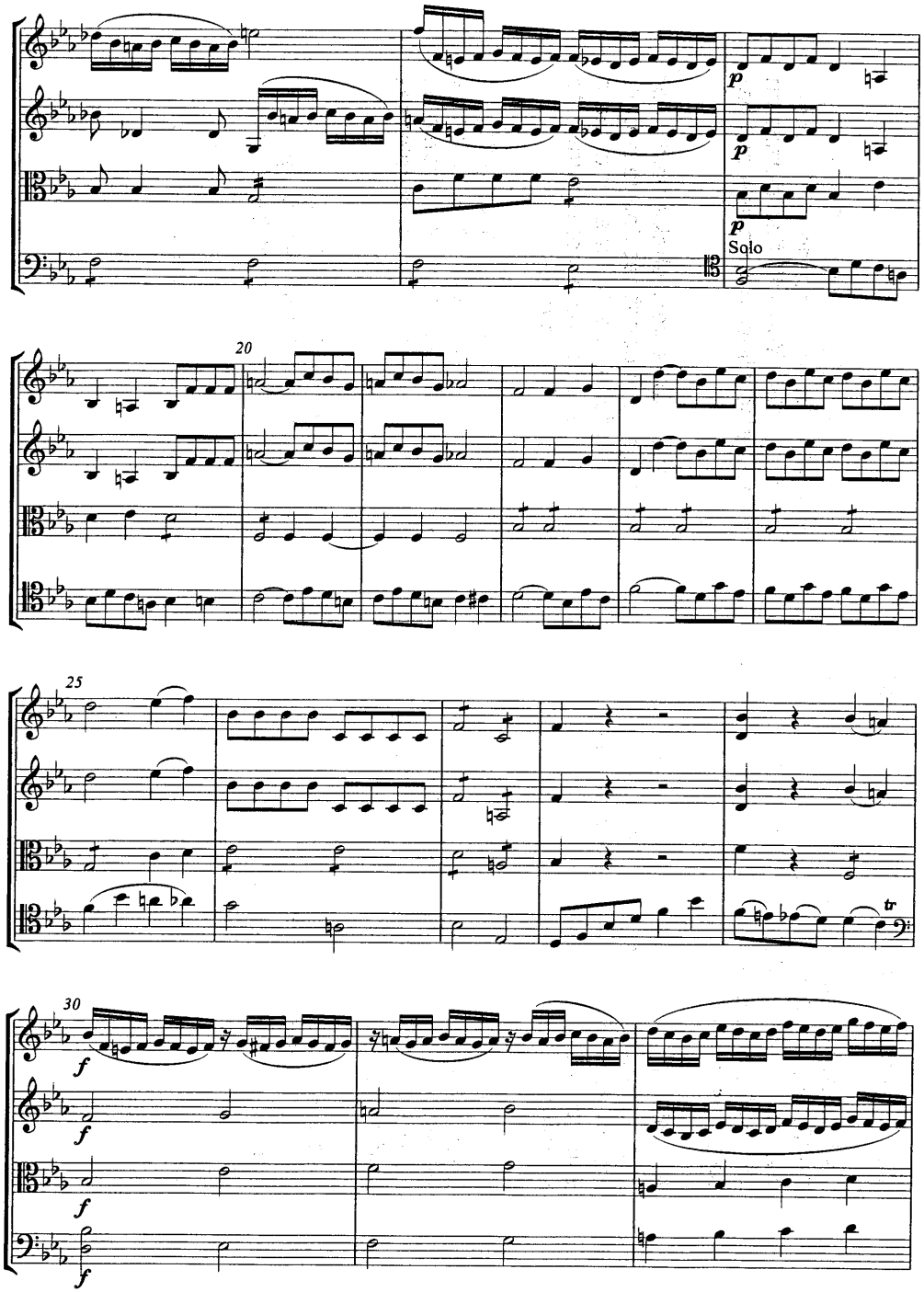
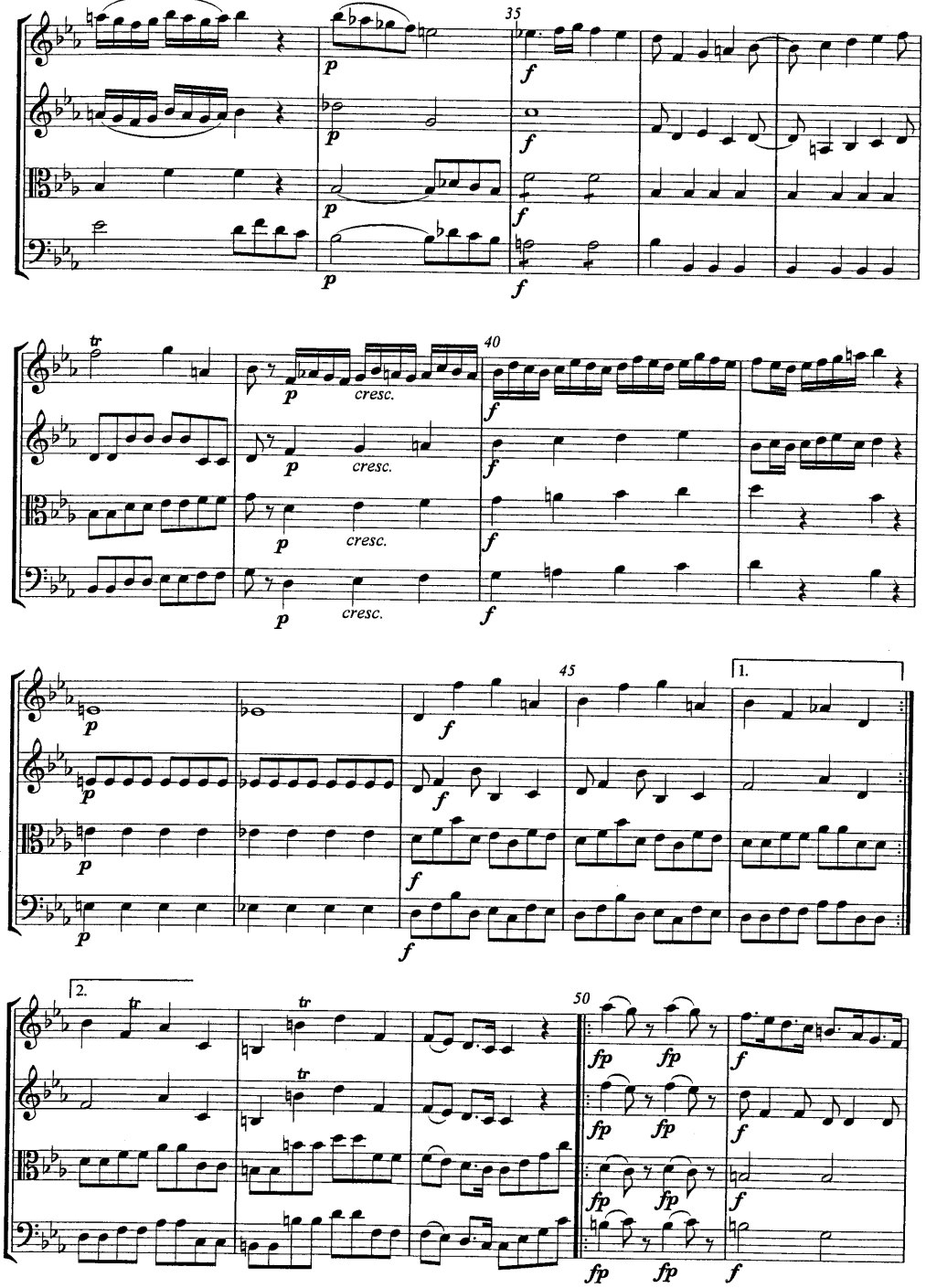
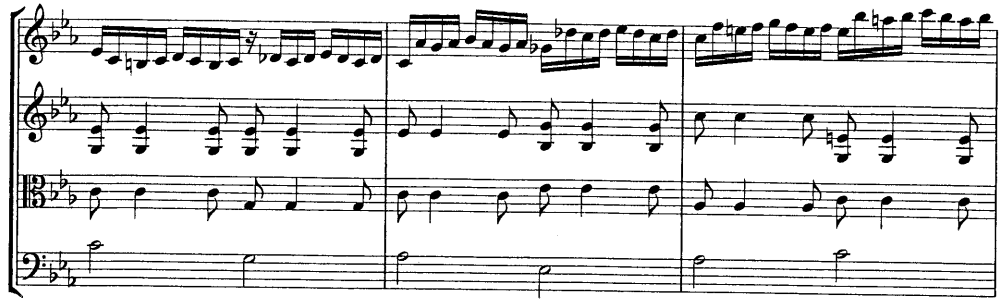

p
p
p
Solo
20
25
tr
30
f
f
f
f


35
40
cresc.
45
1.
2.
50
fp



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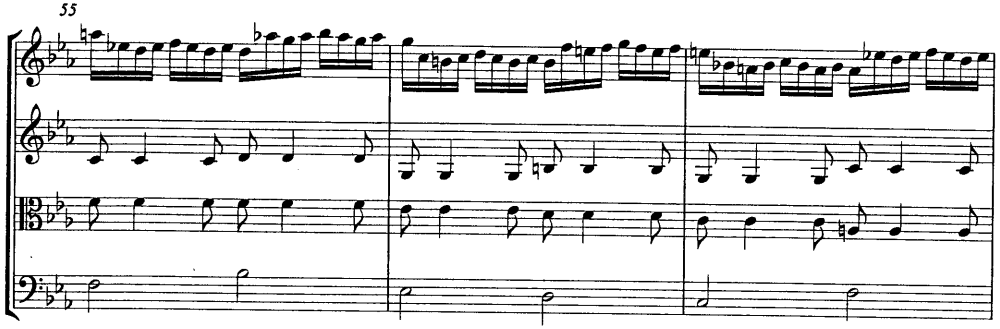

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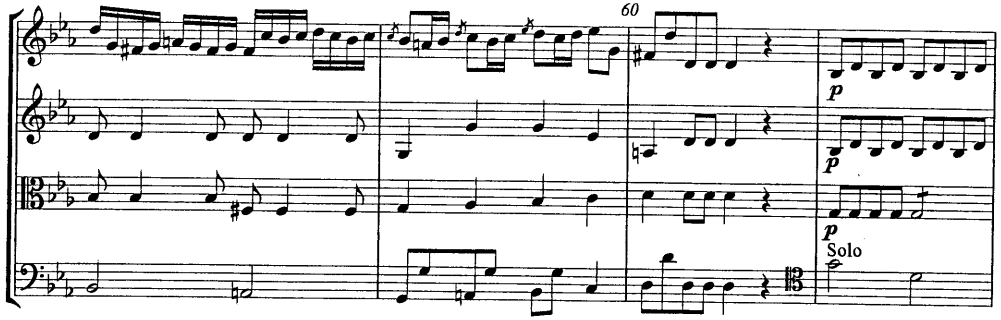

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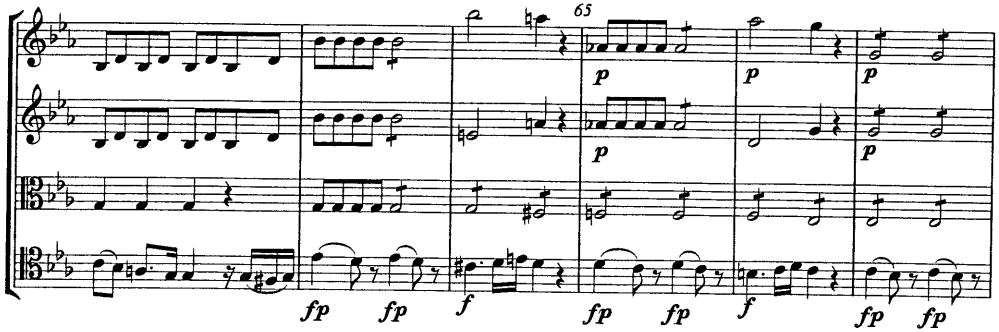

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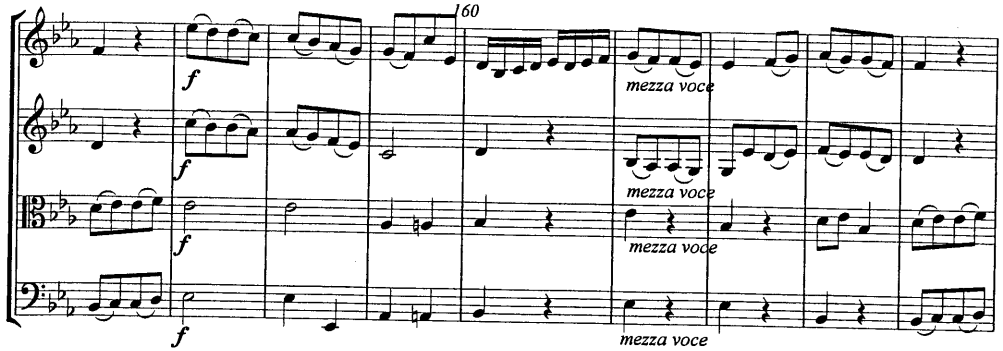

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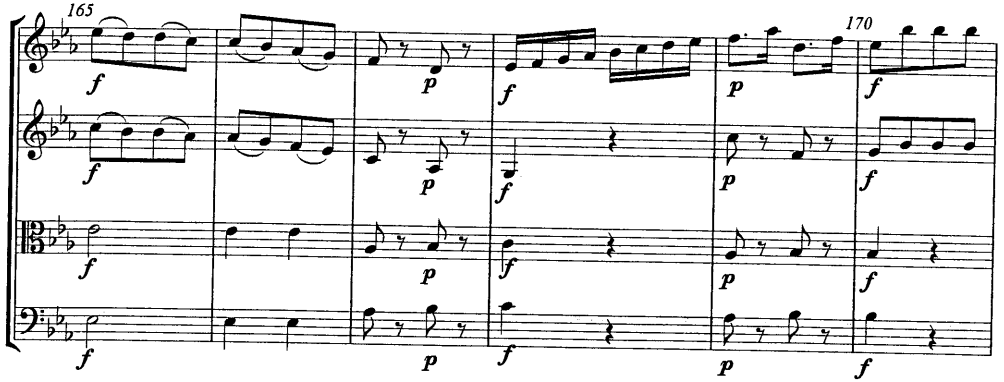

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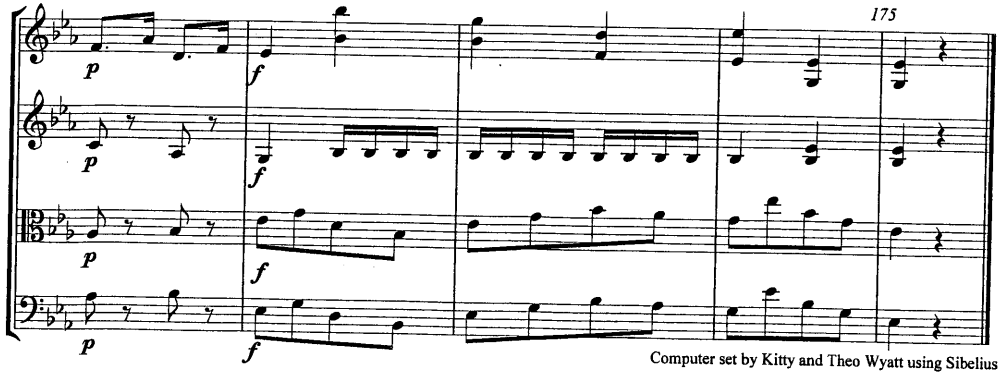
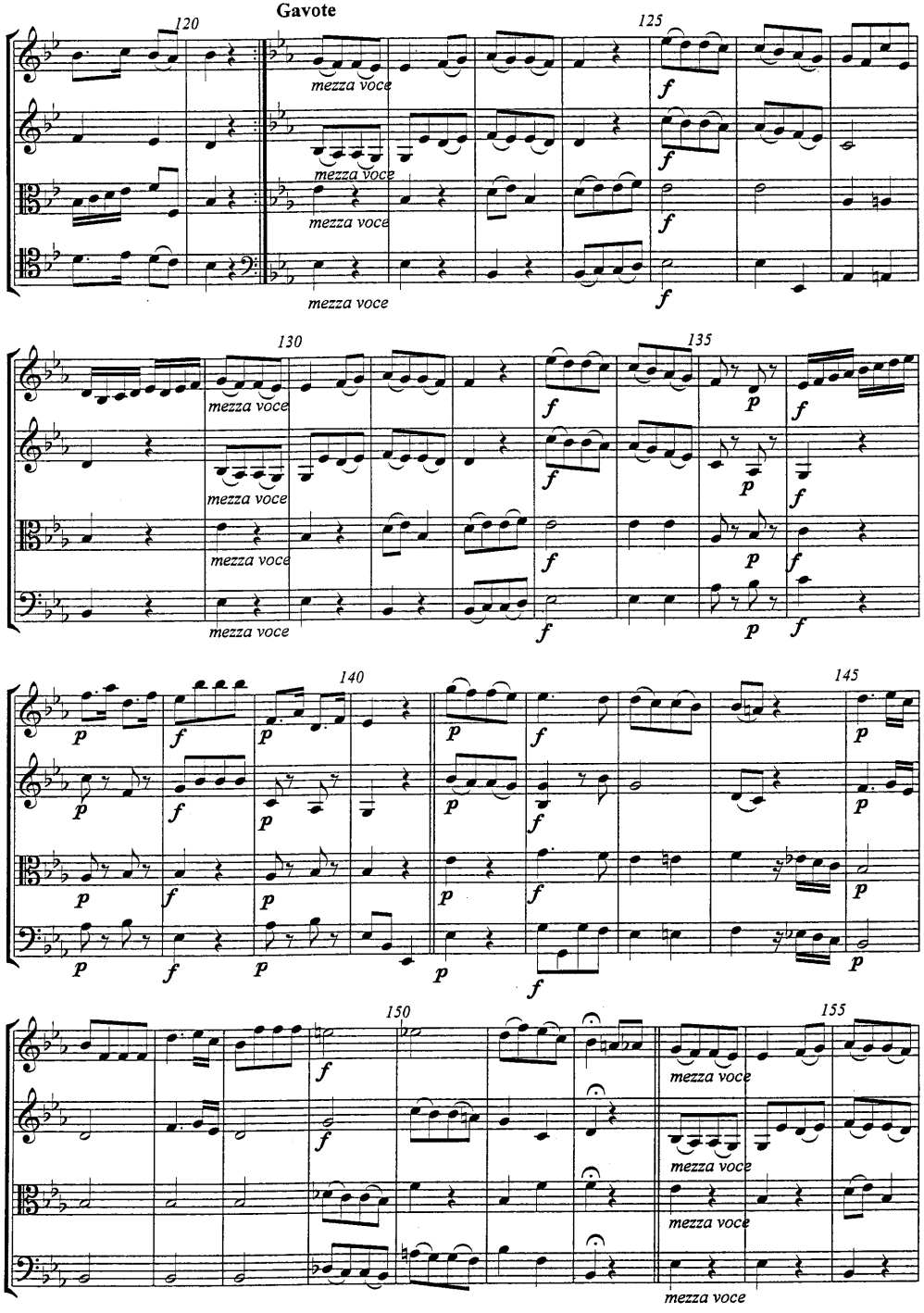
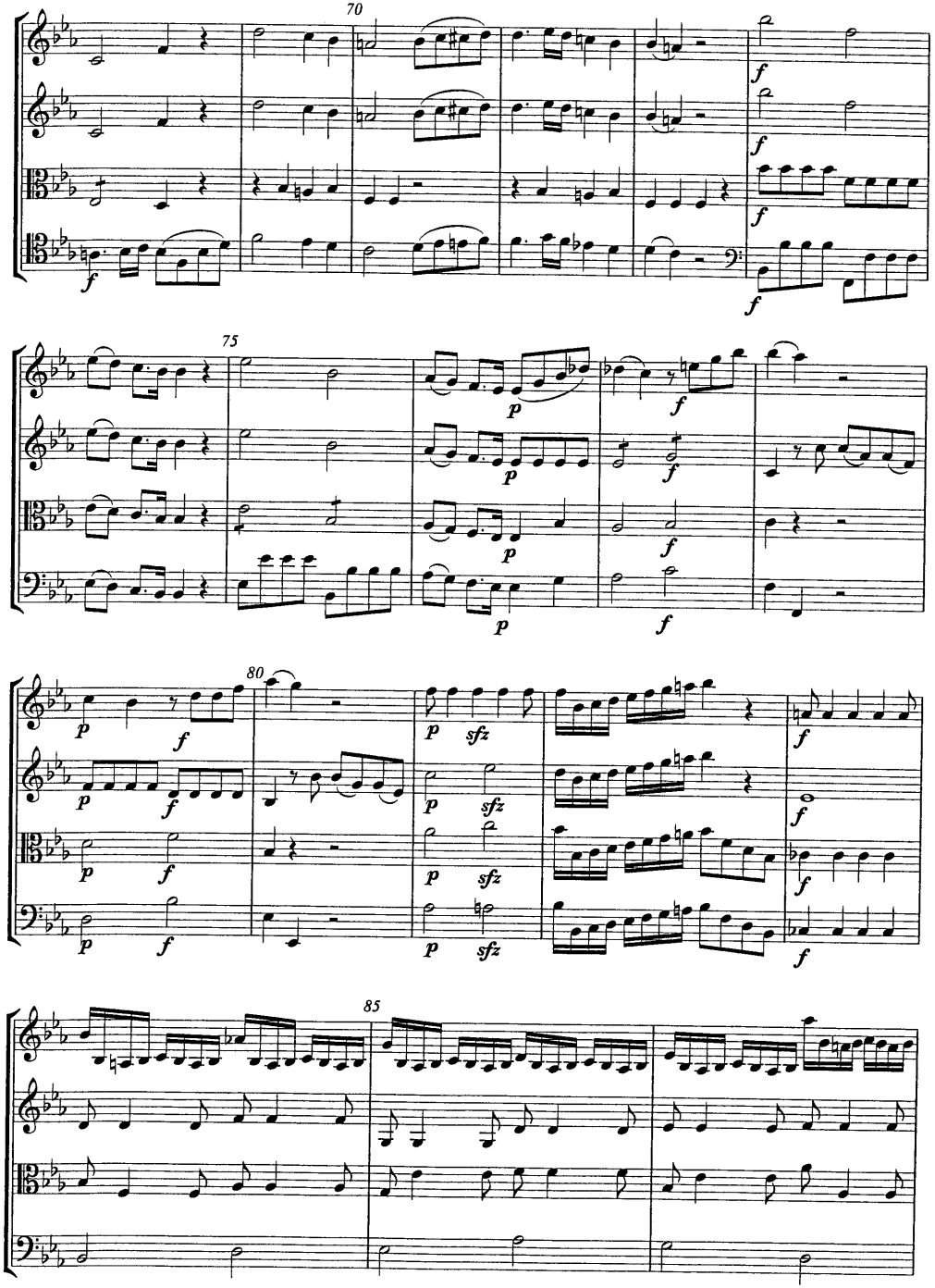
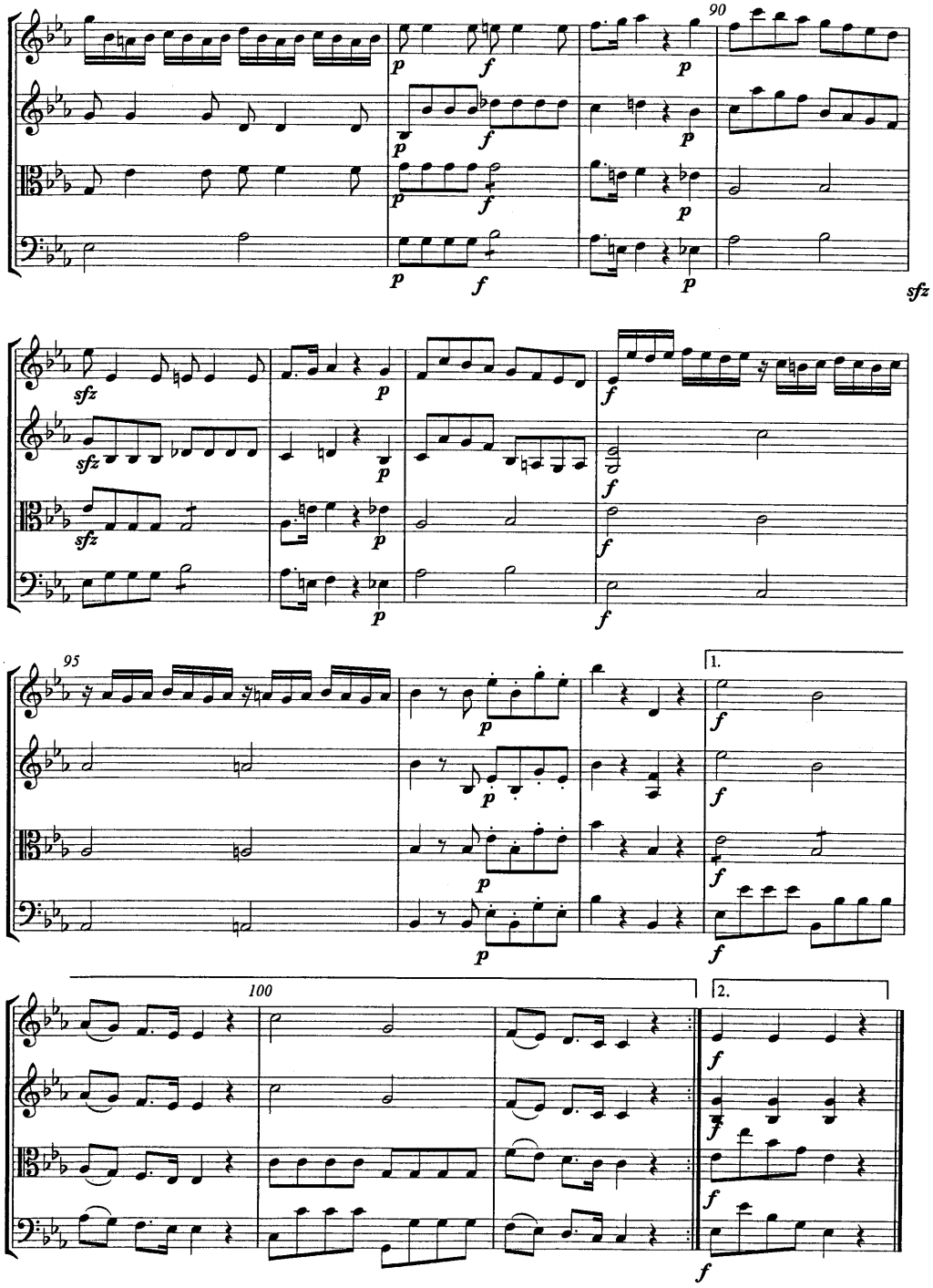


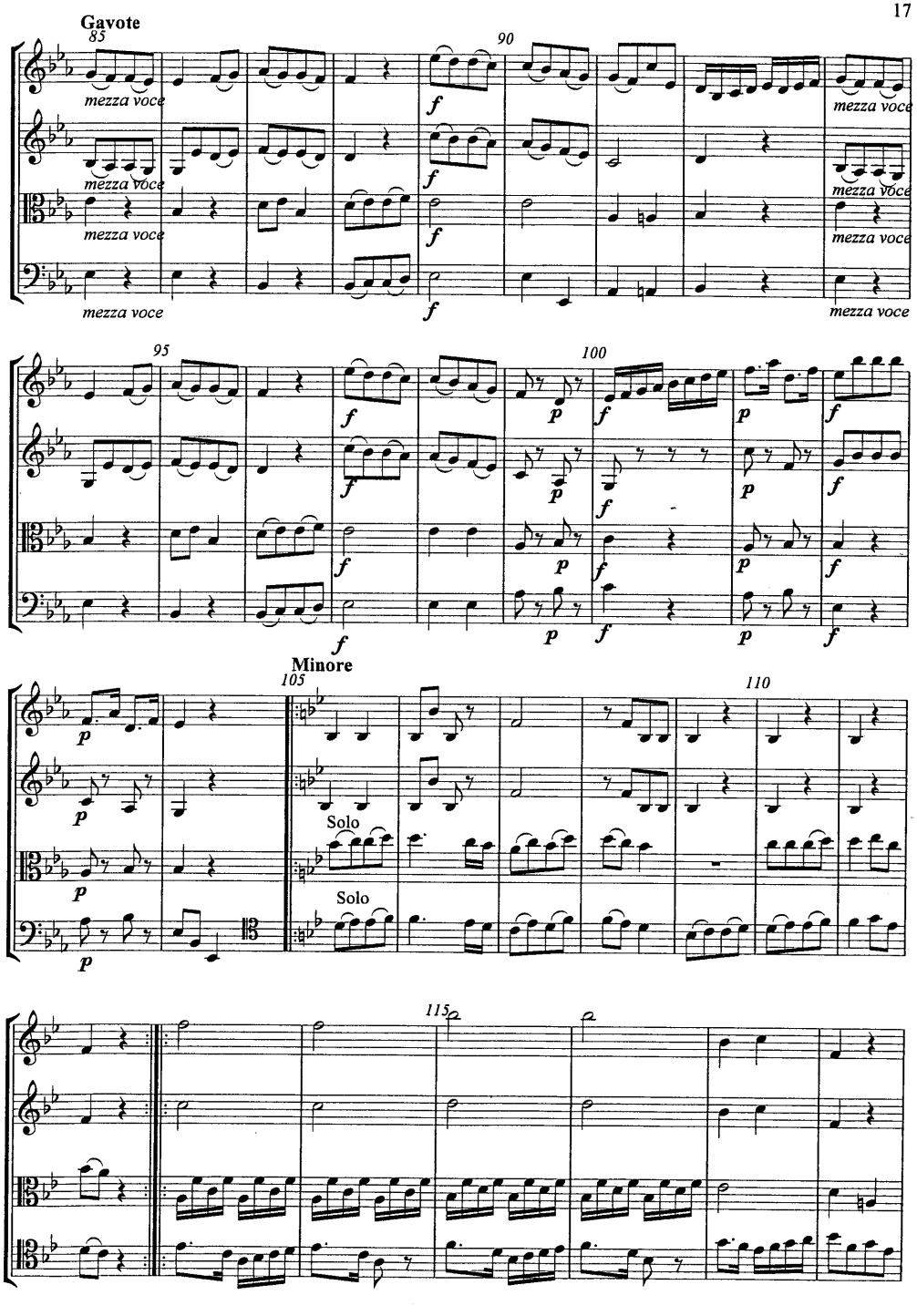
Computer set by Kitty and Theo Wyatt using Sibelius 4

Gavote

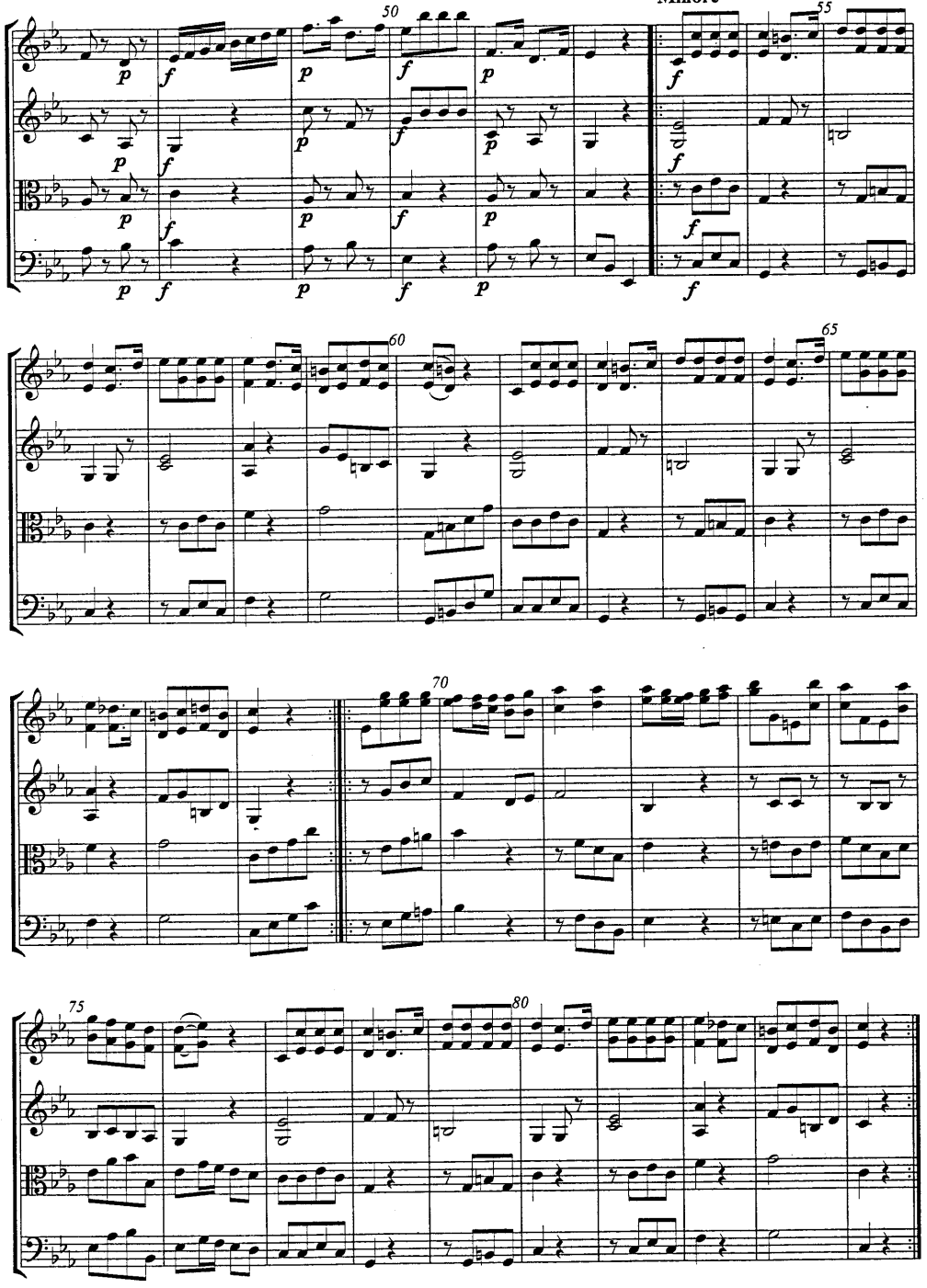





90
sfz
95
1.
100
2.

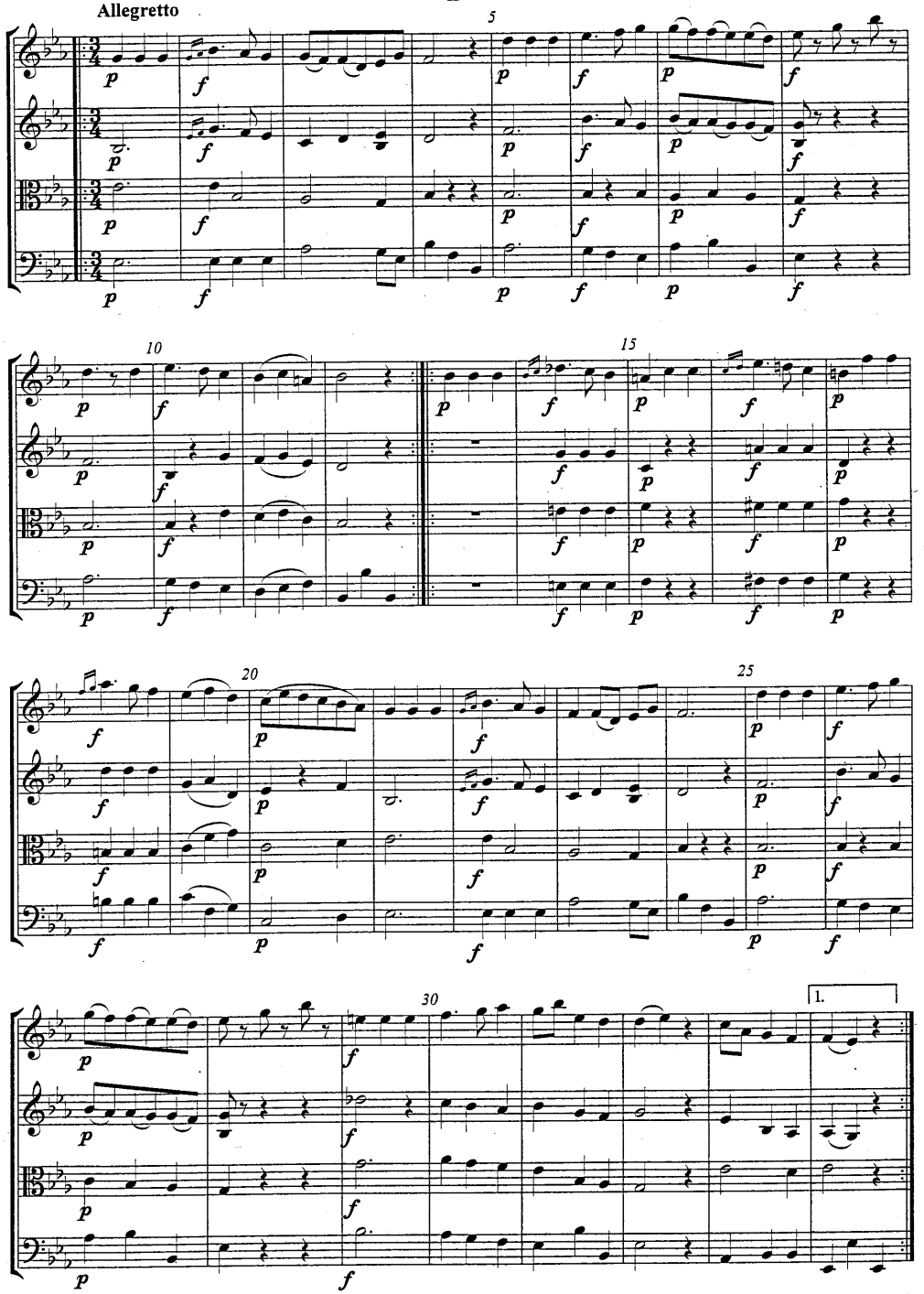

Gavote
85
90
mezza voce
95
100
Minore
105
110
Solo
115

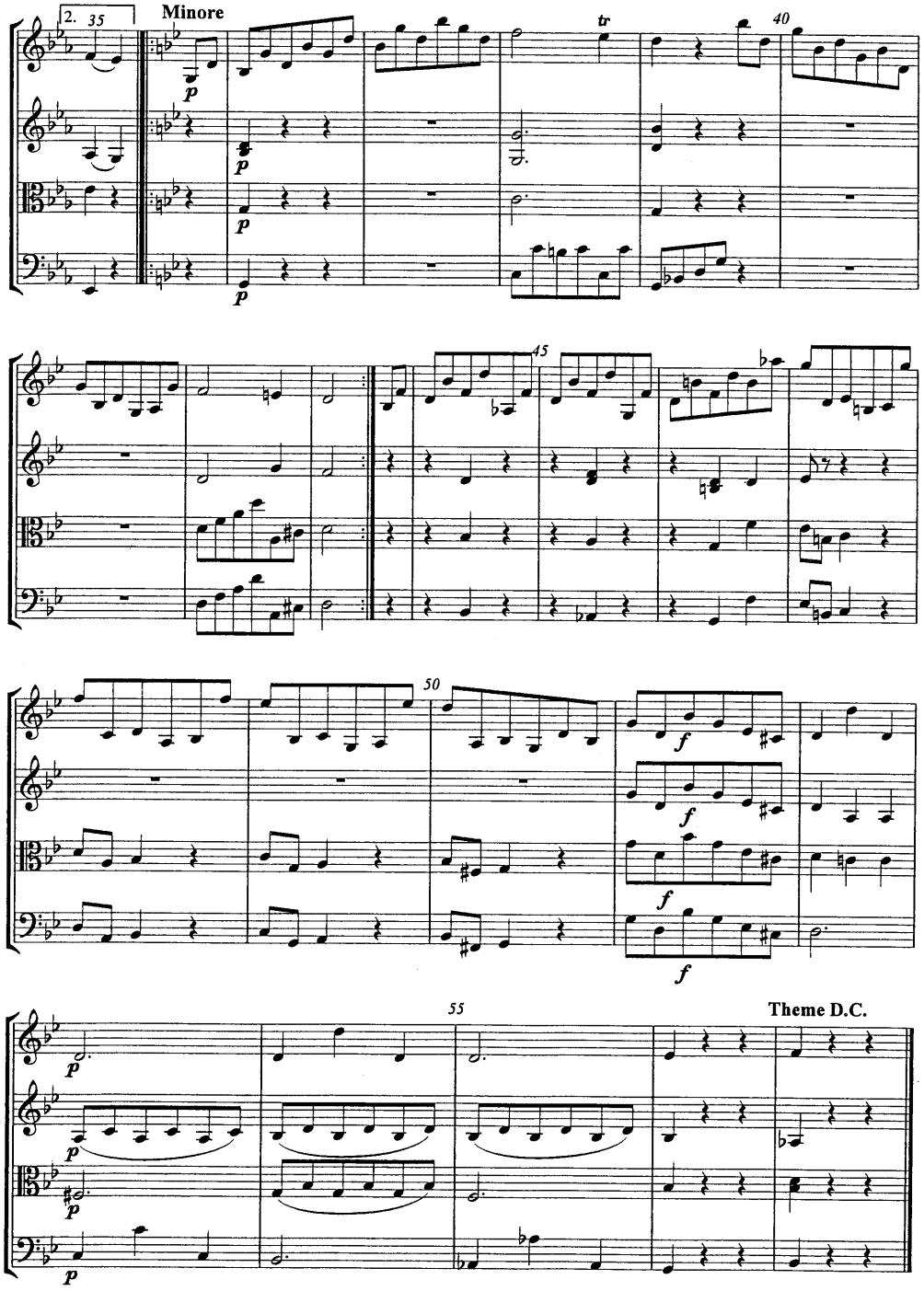
Minore

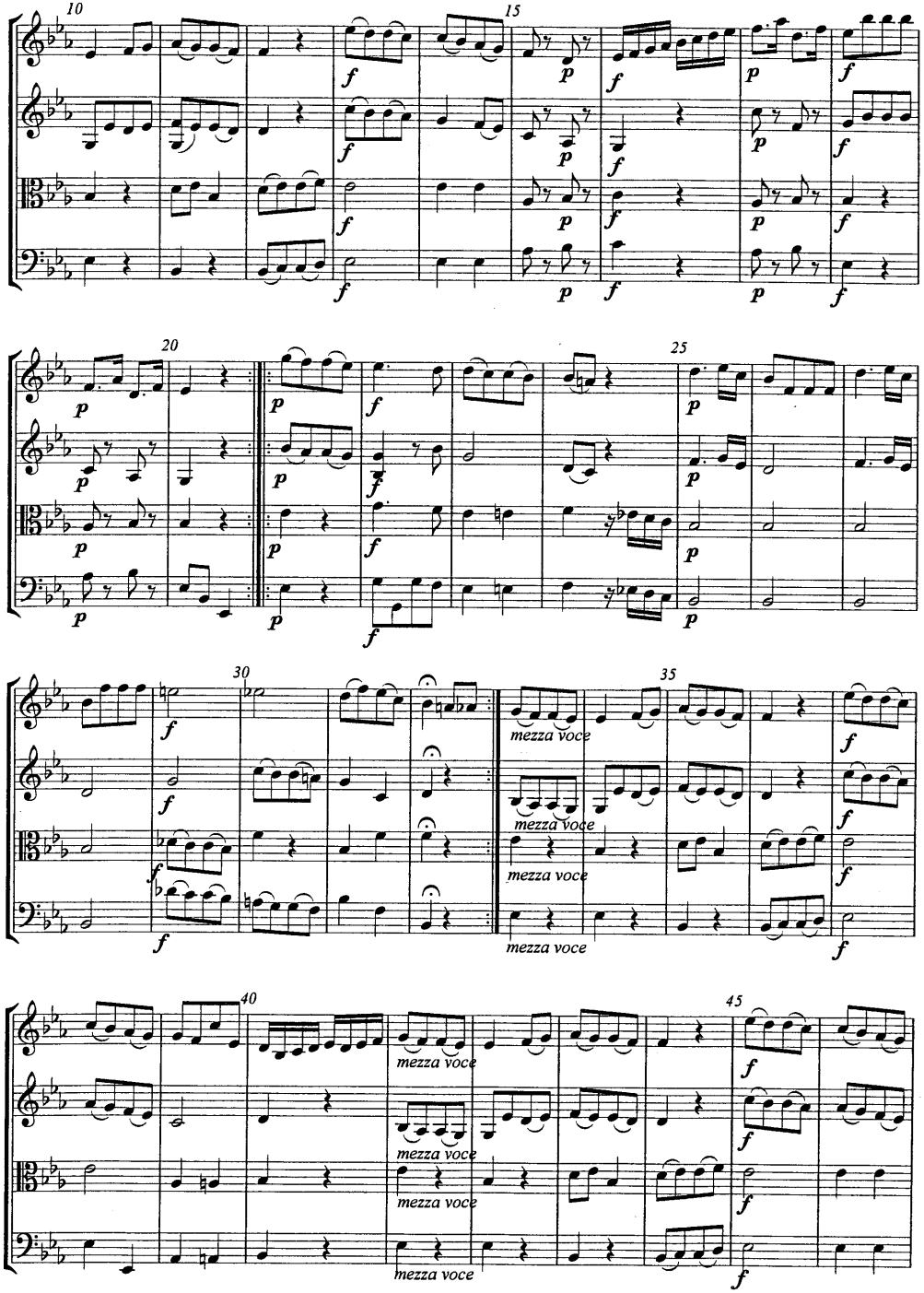


Menuetto
Allegretto

II




2.
35
Minore
40
45
50
55
Theme D.C.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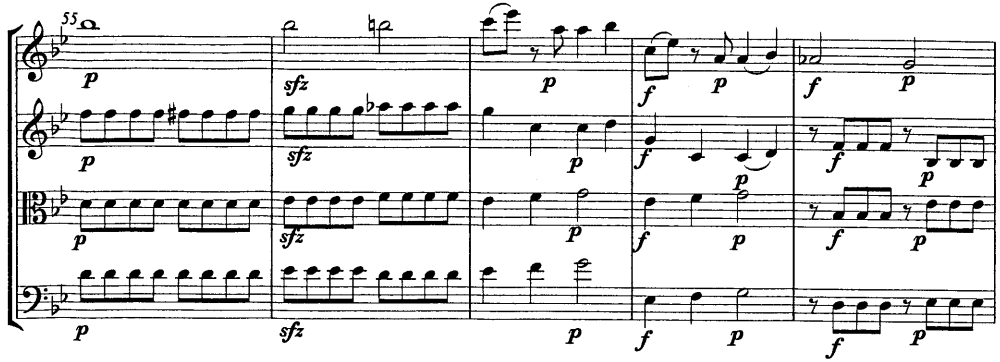
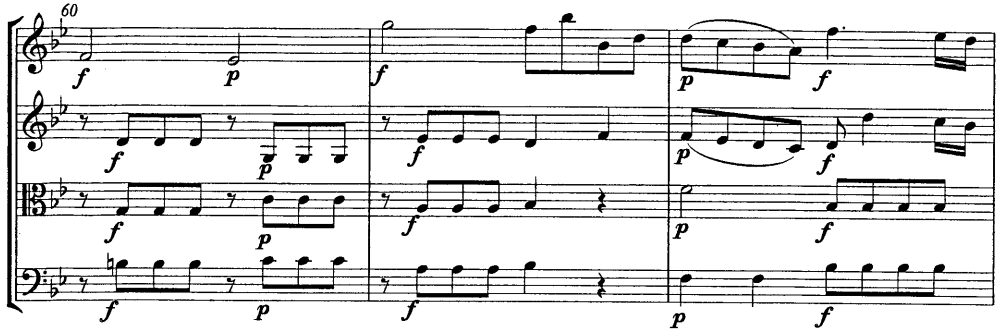
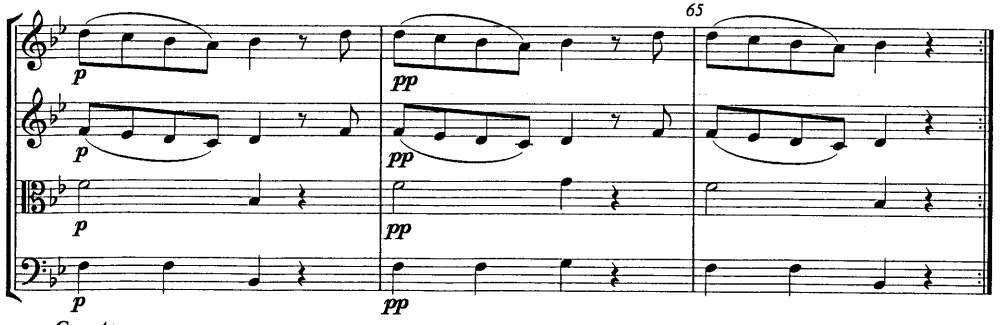
35
40
45
mezza voce

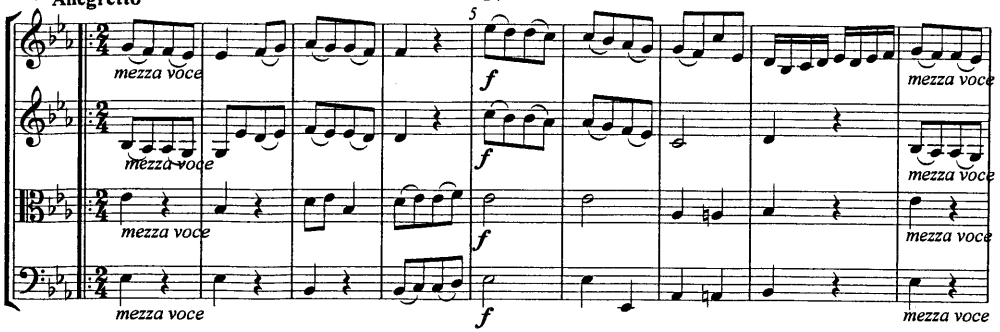




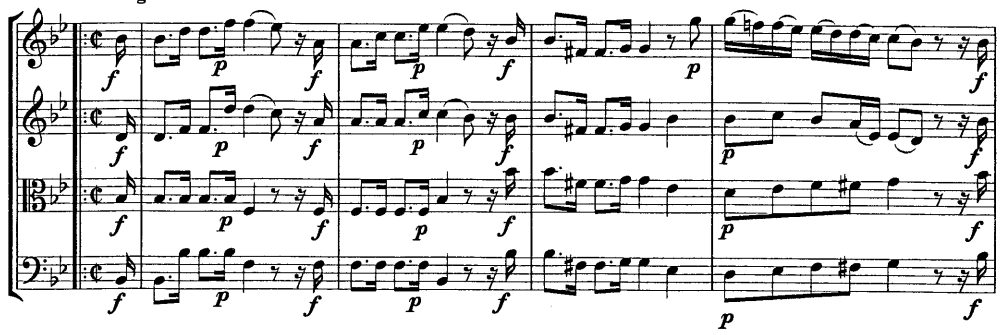


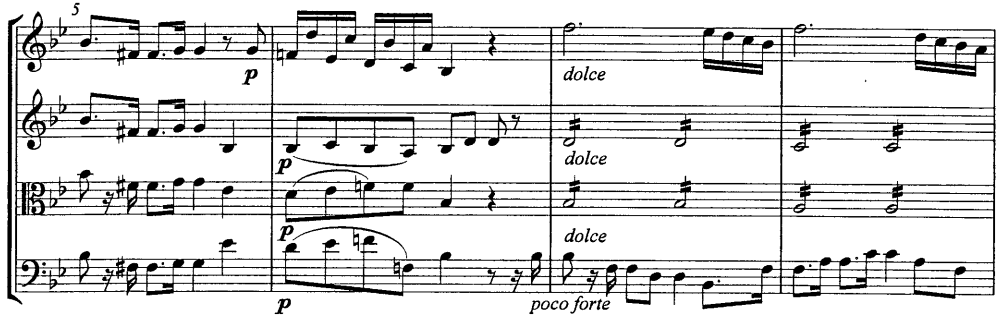
Gavote
Allegretto

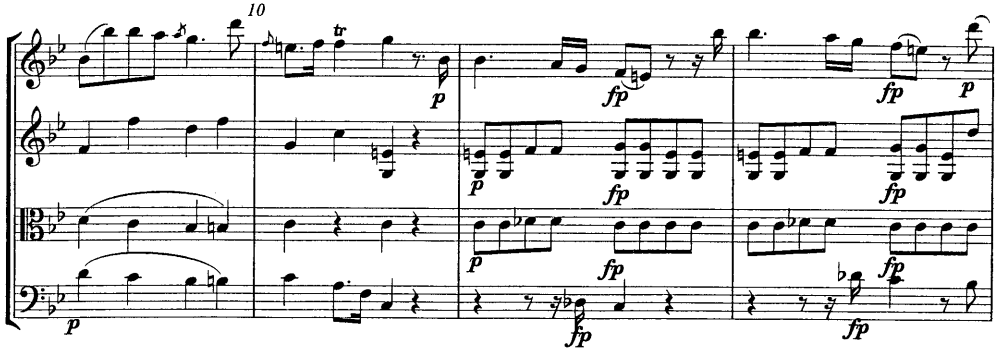
IV

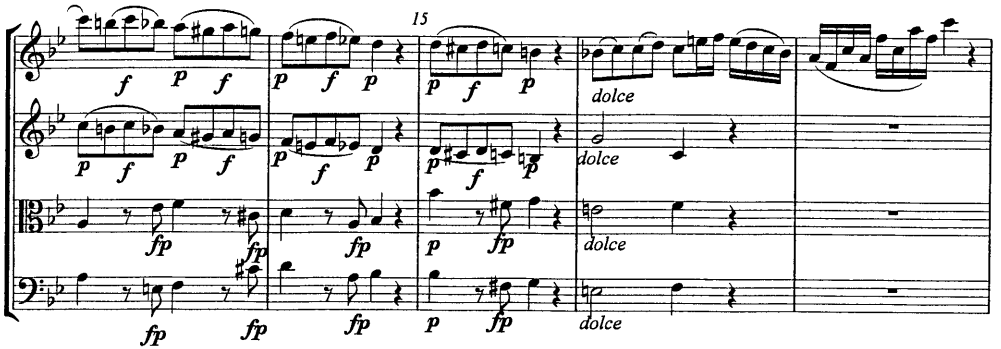


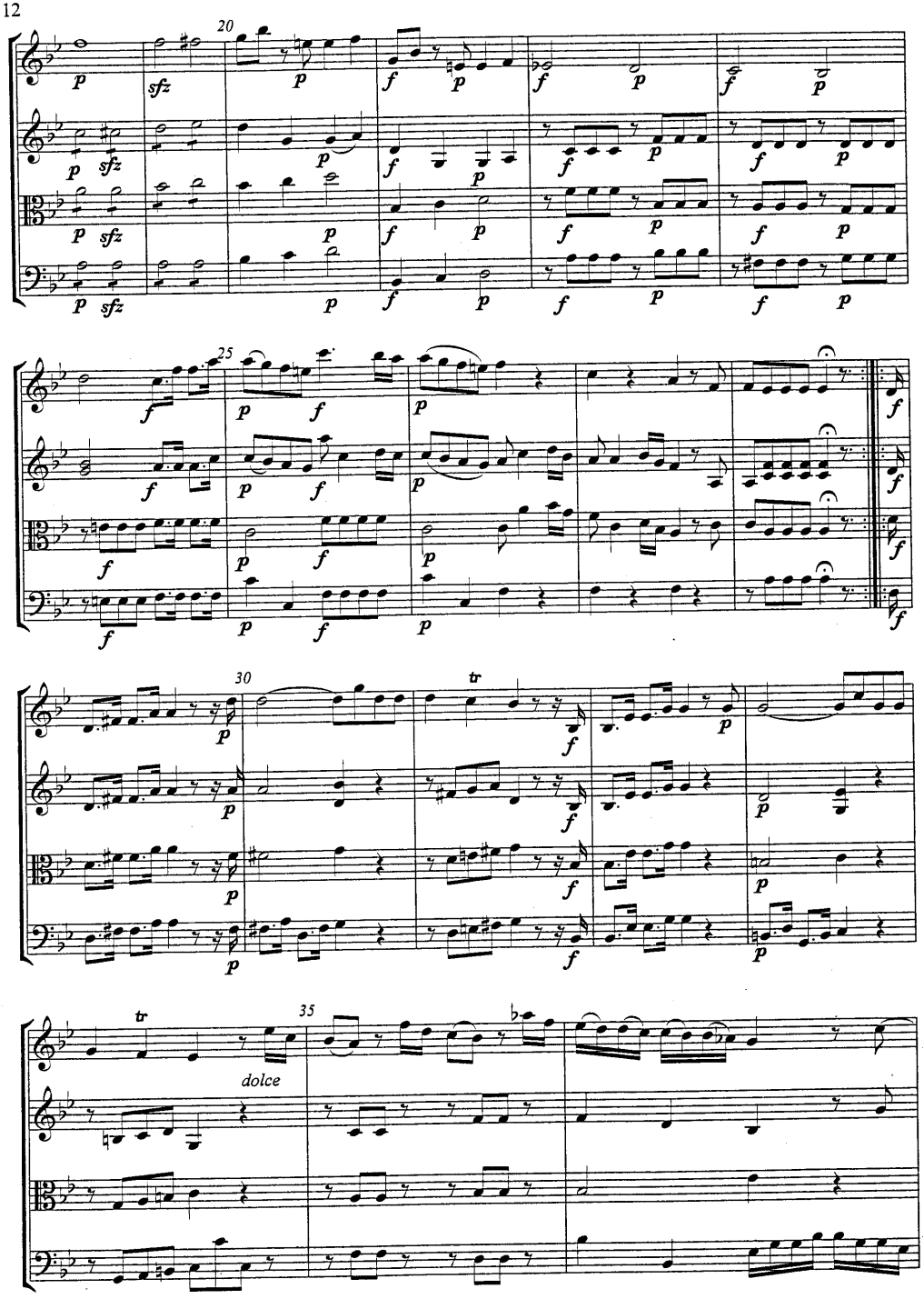
Adagio

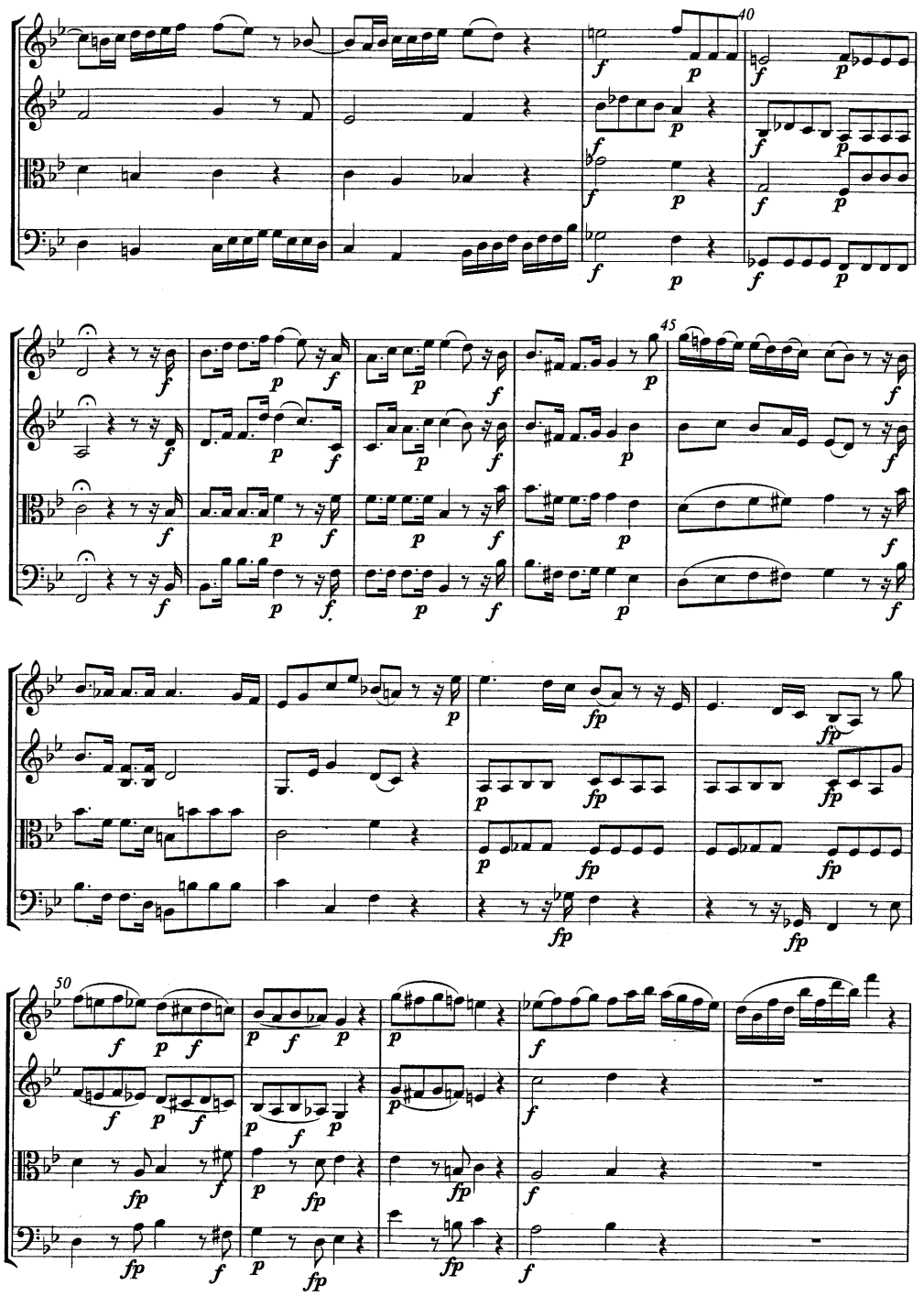









20
25
30
35
dolce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Franz Aspelmayr (1728-1786) was an Austrian composer and violinist who learned the violin from his dancing-master father. It is not known whether or from whom he received any formal instruction in composition. He was on the musical staff of Count Morzin from 1759 to 1761, at the same time as Haydn; and for the following two years was composer at the Kärtnertortheater. He later collaborated with the choreographer and dancer Noverre who settled in Vienna in 1771 and composed at least five ballet scores for him. He played violin at aristocratic gatherings and on Christmas Day 1781 was a member of the quartet which gave the first performance of Haydn's Op.33 quartets, for which each of the performers received a lavish gift and Haydn himself received a gold box set with diamonds. He helped to found and was an official of the Tonkünstler-Sozietät, a benevolent society for the relief of indigent musicians and their families and in his last, poverty-stricken years was one of its beneficiaries.

He composed at least 34 string quartets. His chamber works mix elements of baroque and classical style and help trace the gradual independence of chamber music from continuo practice.

This quartet is from a collection of 24 Aspelmayr quartets in manuscript in the National Music Library in Stockholm. They are believed to have been bought in Paris or Germany around 1825 by Johan Mazer (1790-1847). With his circle of enthusiastic (and intrepid) amateur and professional friends he explored the whole of the contemporary quartet repertoire including the late quartets of Beethoven as soon as they appeared in print, He founded in Stockholm the Mazer Chamber Music Society which still flourishes. And it was the current Chairman of that society, David William-Olsson, who generously made photocopies available to Merton Music.

MERTON MUSIC

ASPELMAYR

String Quartet in E flat

SCORE

Merton Music
8 Wilton Grove
London SW19 3QX England
Phone/Fax: 020 8540 2708 (+44 20 8540 2708)
e-mail: mertonmusic@argonet.co.uk
www.ourtext.co.uk

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