Steven Juliani

IN THE DARK LIGHT

2016

for 16 horns

for study only

Transposed Score

Duration: ca. 7 minutes

In The Dark Light was written shortly after the presidential election in 2016.

Contemplating the election, Neil Gabler wrote:

America died on Nov. 8, 2016, not with a bang or a whimper, but at its own hand via electoral suicide.
We the people chose a man who has shredded our values, our morals, our compassion,
our tolerance, our decency, our sense of common purpose, our very identity — all the things that,
however tenuously, made a nation out of a country.
Whatever place we now live in is not the same place it was on Nov. 7.
No matter how the rest of the world looked at us on Nov. 7, they will now look at us differently.
We are likely to be a pariah country. And we are lost for it.
As I surveyed the ruin of that country this gray Wednesday morning,
I found weary consolation in W.H. Auden's poem, September 1, 1939, which concludes:

Defenseless under the night
Our world in stupor lies;
Yet, dotted everywhere,
Ironic points of light
Flash out wherever the Just
Exchange their messages:
May I, composed like them
Of Eros and of dust,
Beleaguered by the same
Negation and despair,
Show an affirming flame.

This piece explores the concepts of light and dark, hope, despair and affirmation,
as embraced in Auden's poem and Gabler's writing.

Ultimately the piece embraces Auden's wish for an affirming flame.

for study only

The horns should be arranged in four quartets, each quartet seated in two rows of two.
Horns 1-4 should be positioned in front of the three other quartets, which should be spread out behind.
There should be enough space between the back row quartets to create an antiphonal effect.
Horns 9-12 should be positioned directly behind Horns 1-4 with a similar gap between those two
quartets as there is between the others.

In The Dark Light was awarded Third Prize in the 2017 Twin Cities Horn Club
International Composition Competition for Large Horn Ensemble.

The Twin Cities Horn Club premiered In The Dark Light on September 10, 2017, conducted by
Herb Winslow in Woodbury, Minnesota.

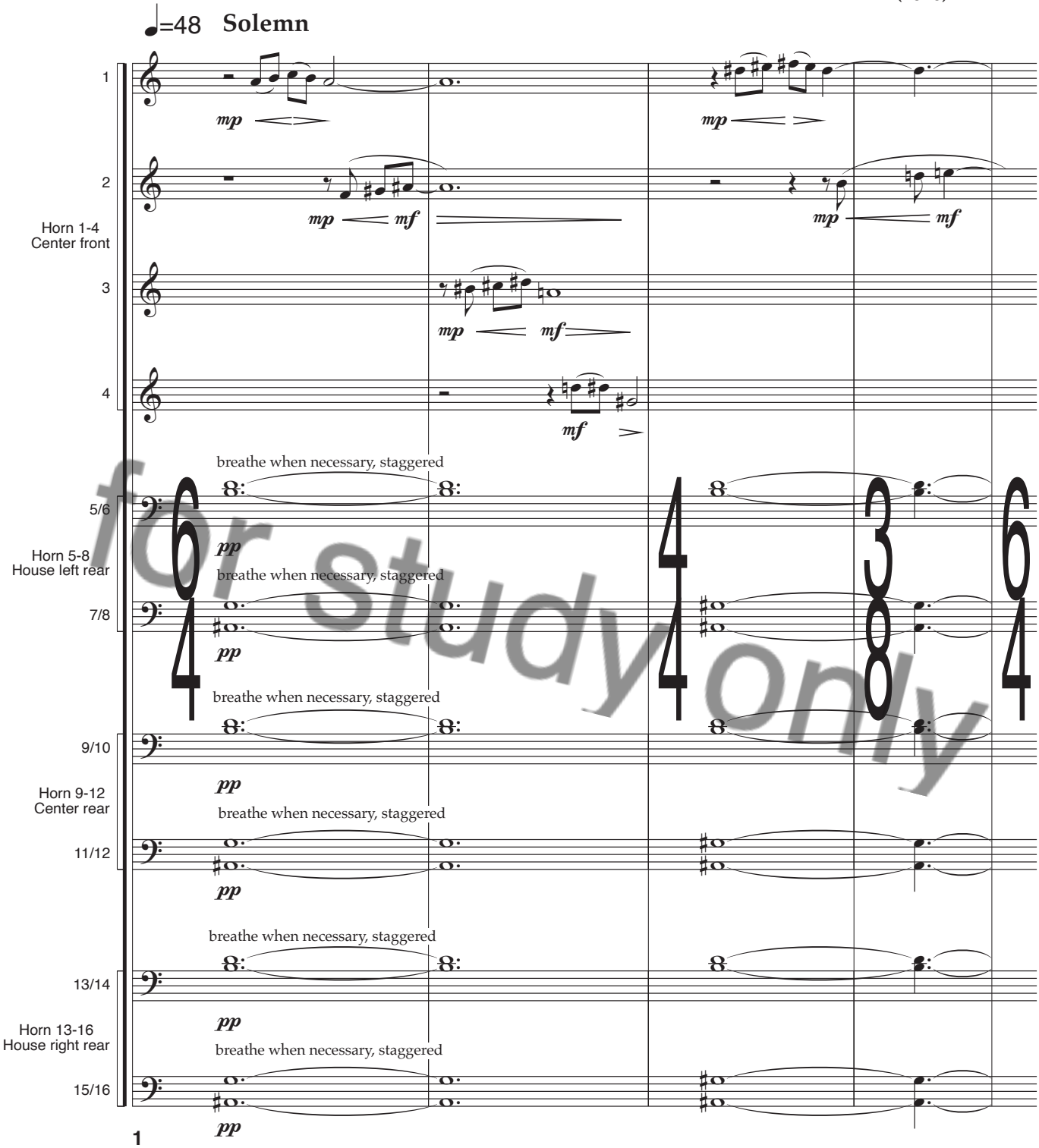
TRANSPOSED SCORE

IN THE DARK LIGHT

for the Twin Cities Horn Club

16 HORN VERSION

Composed by
STEVEN JULIANI
(2016)



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Opus 7, 11/30/16
Updated: 7/30/18

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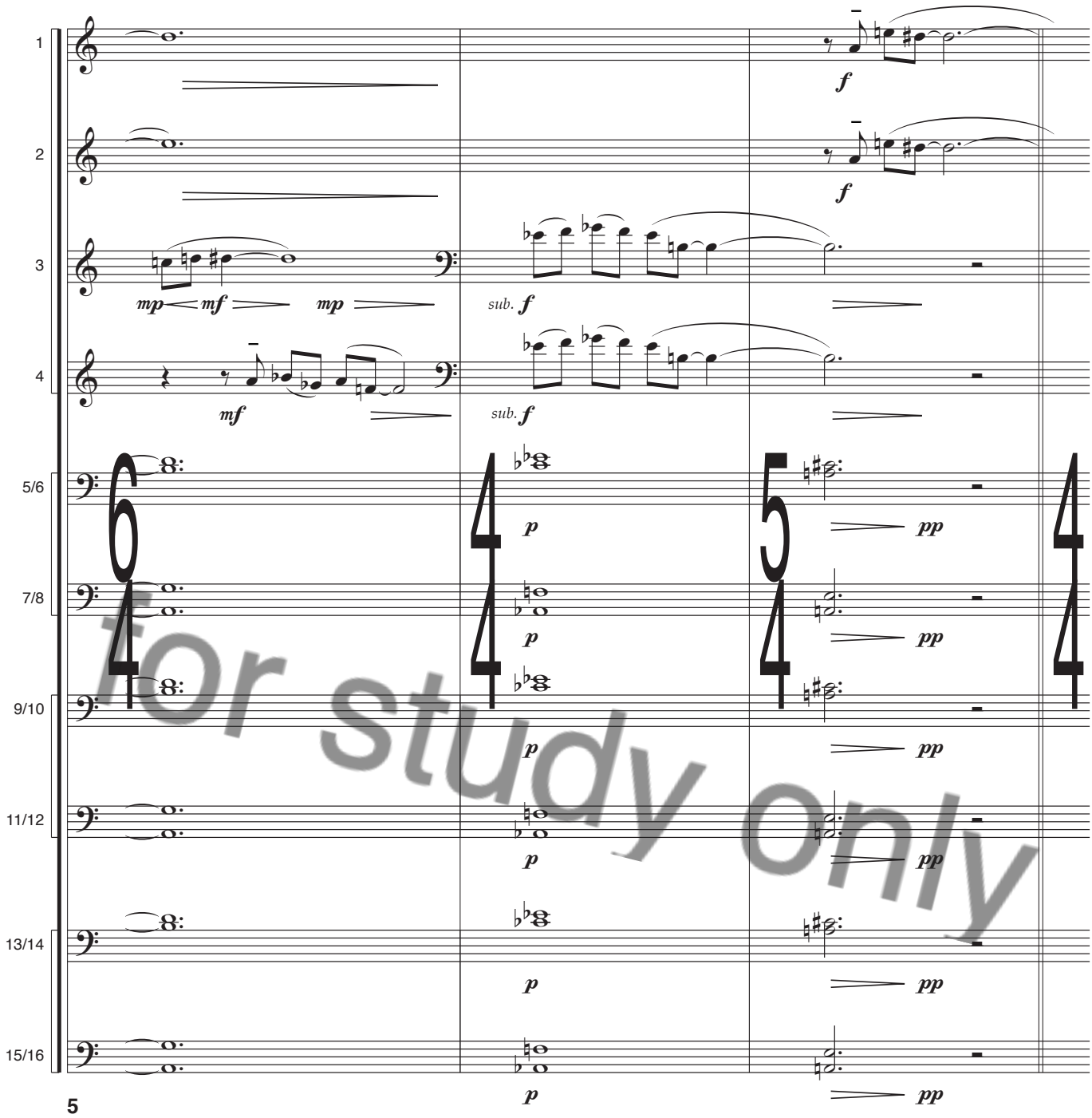

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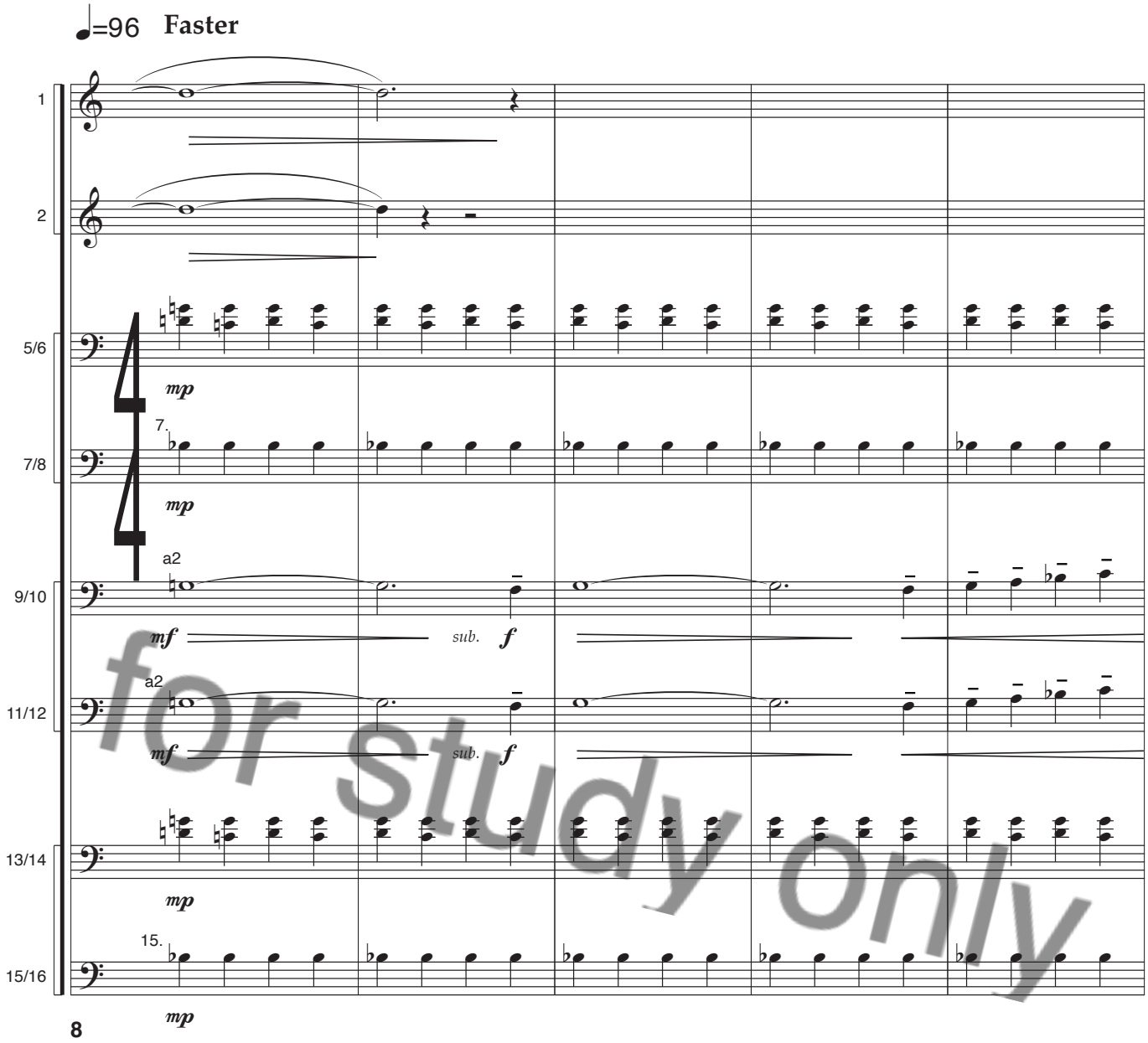

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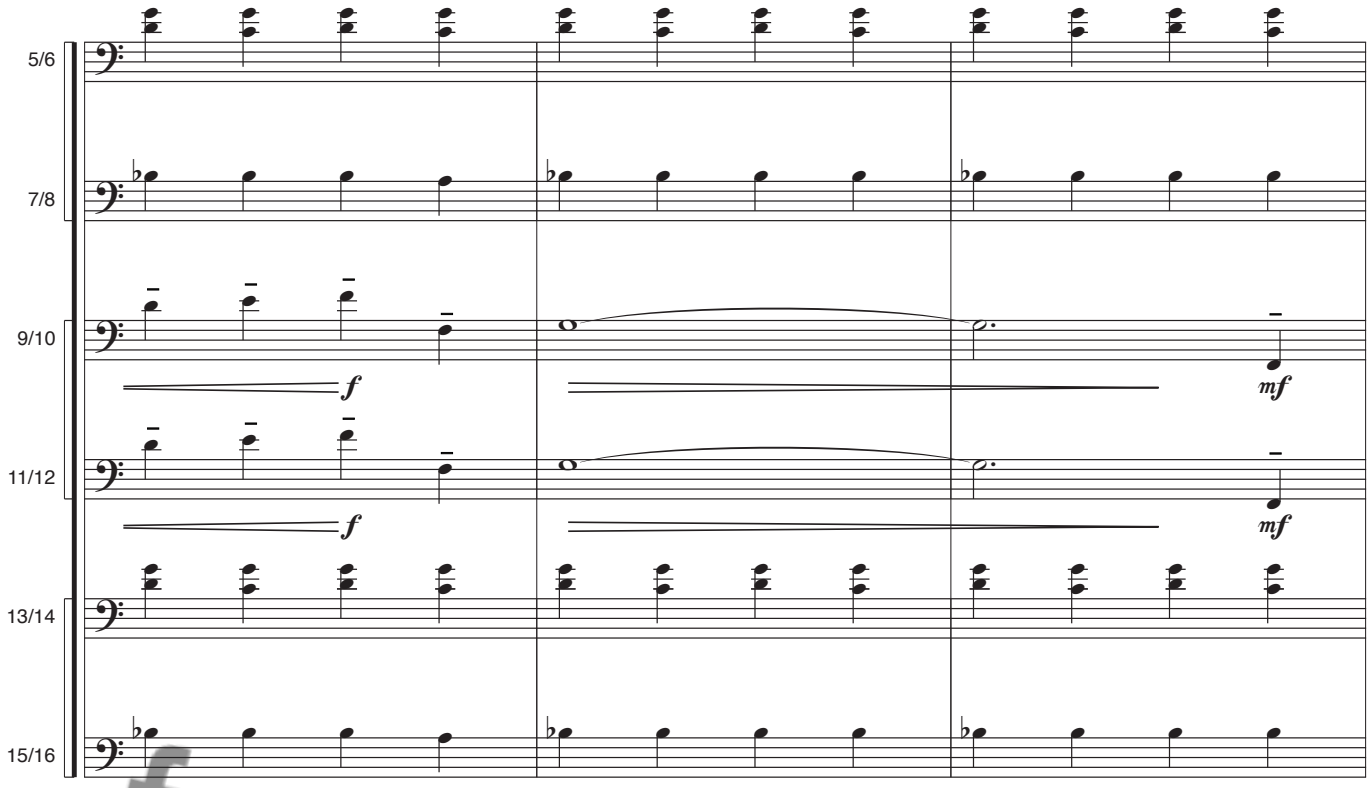

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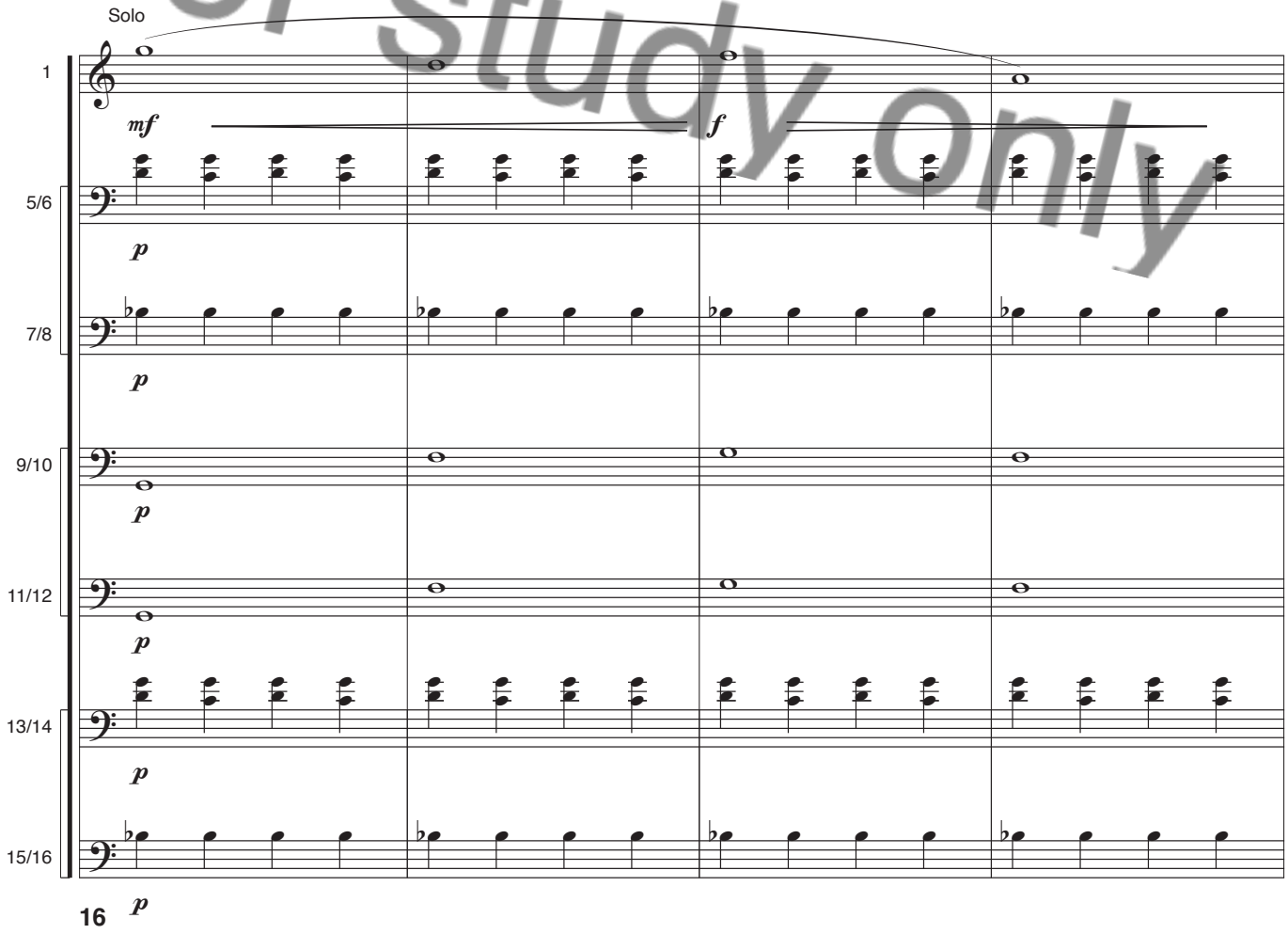

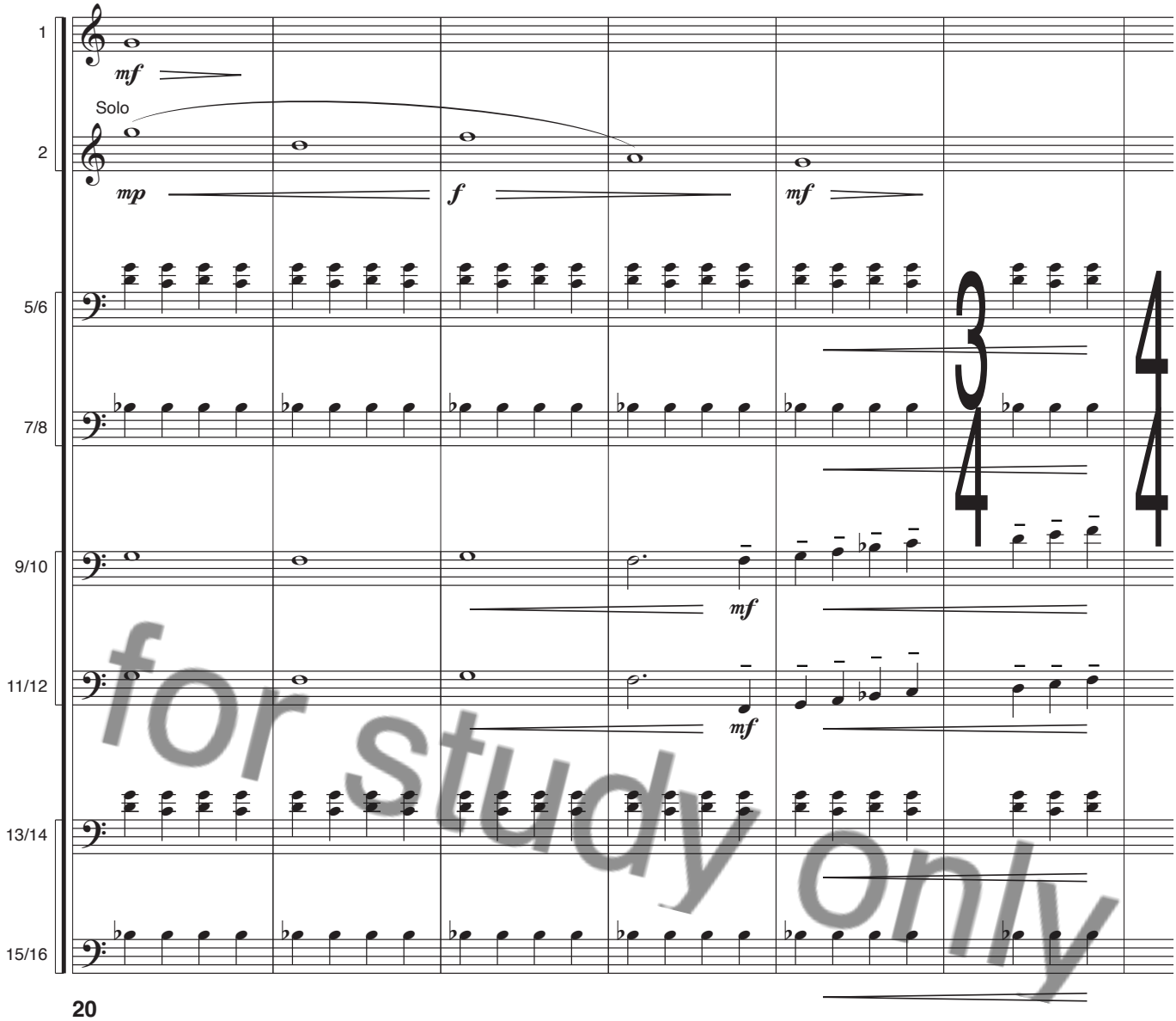

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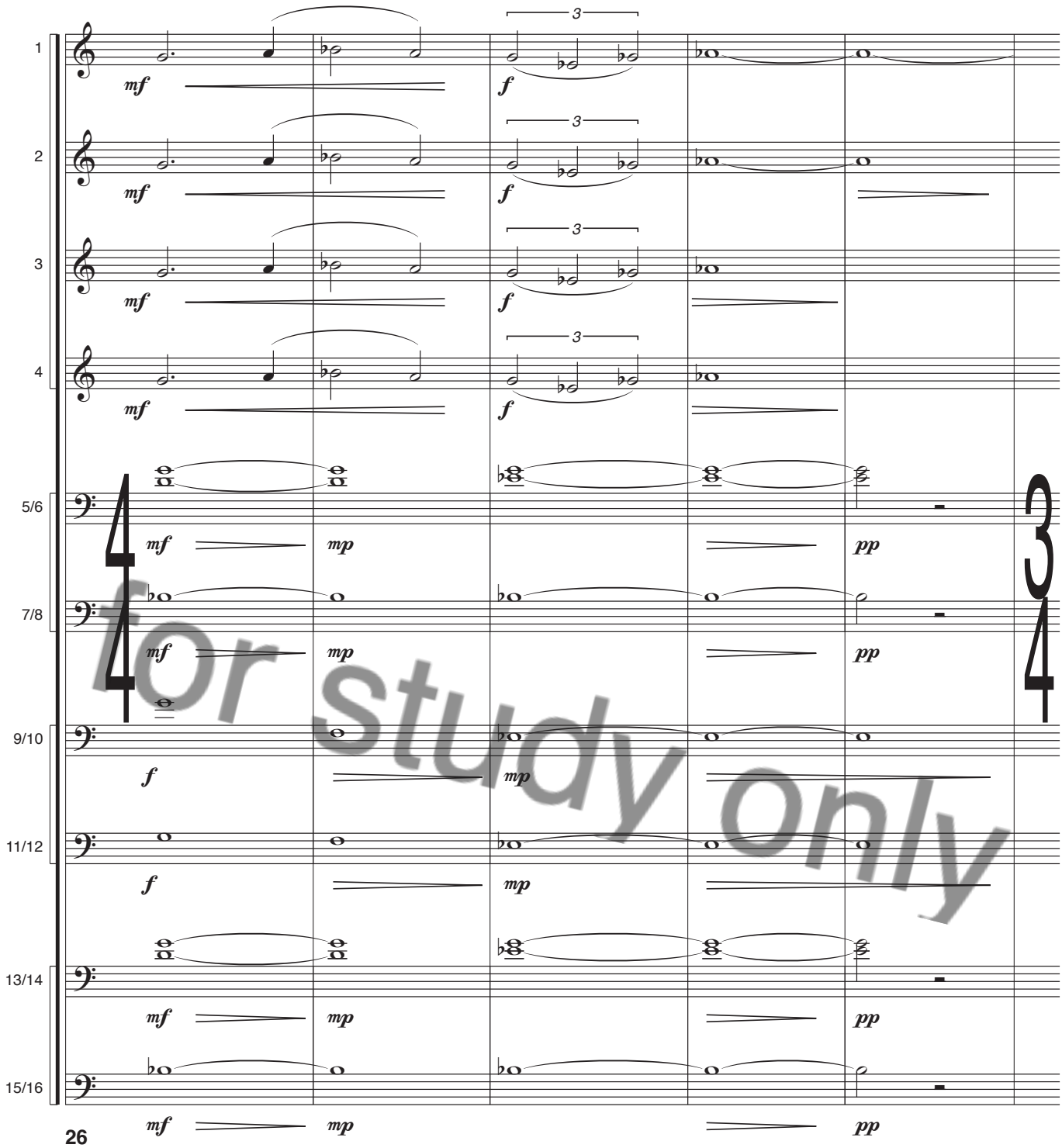

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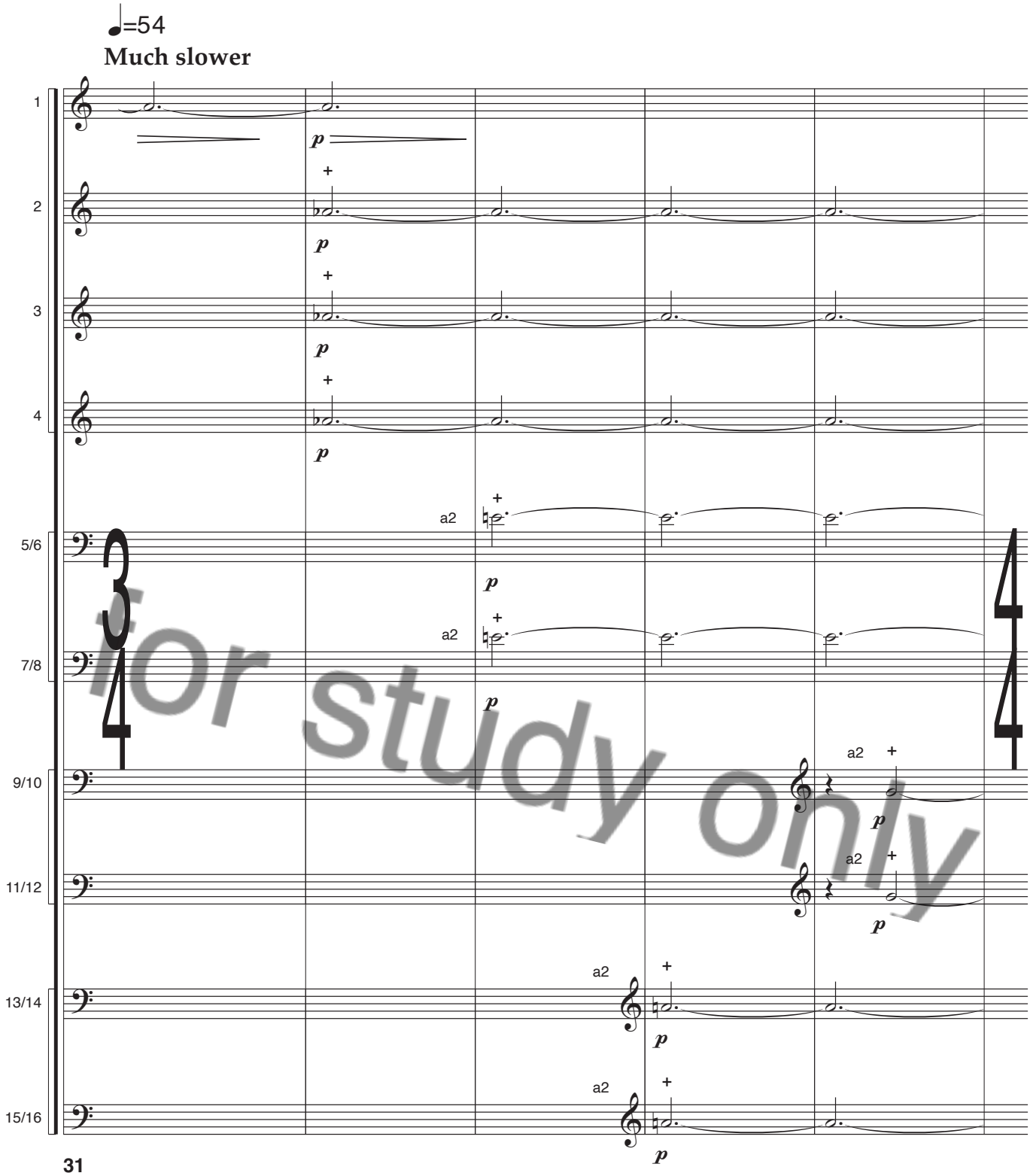

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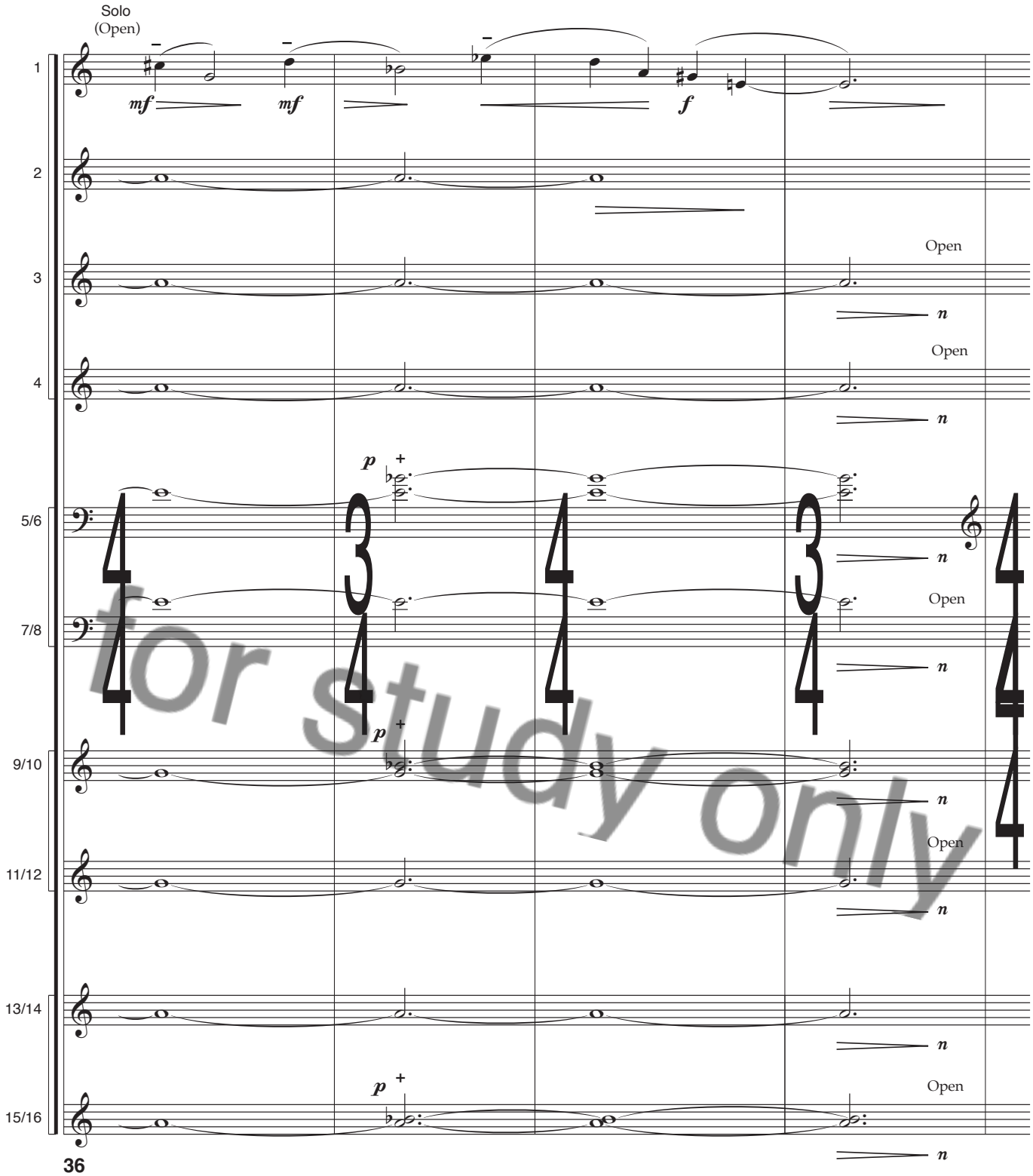

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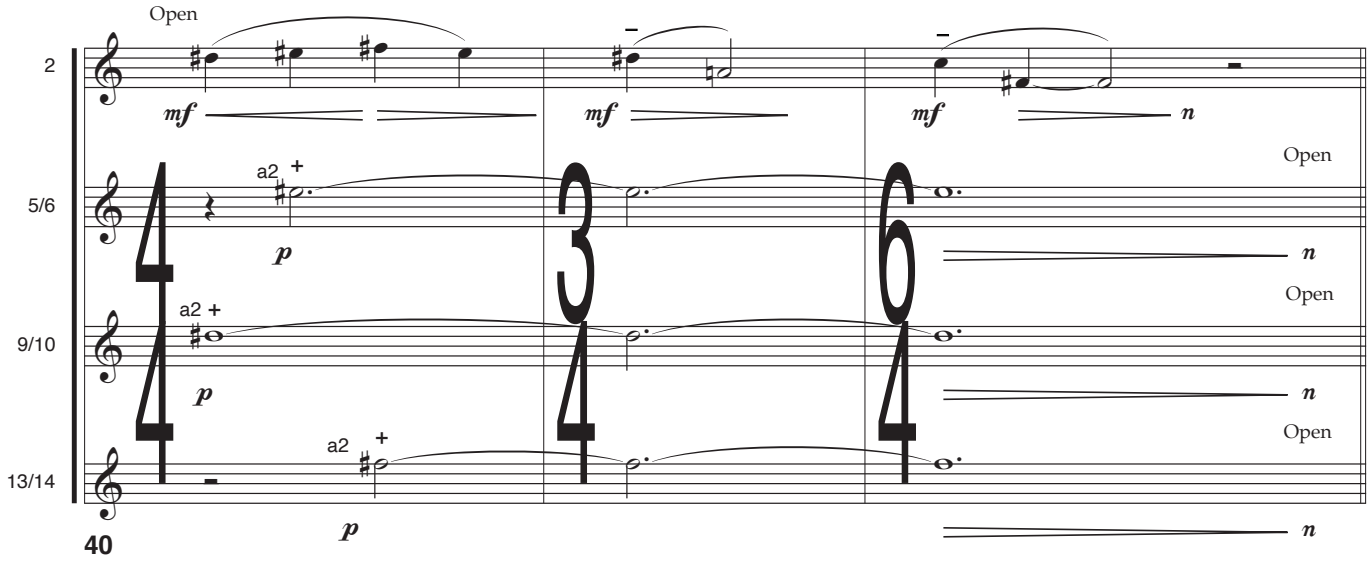

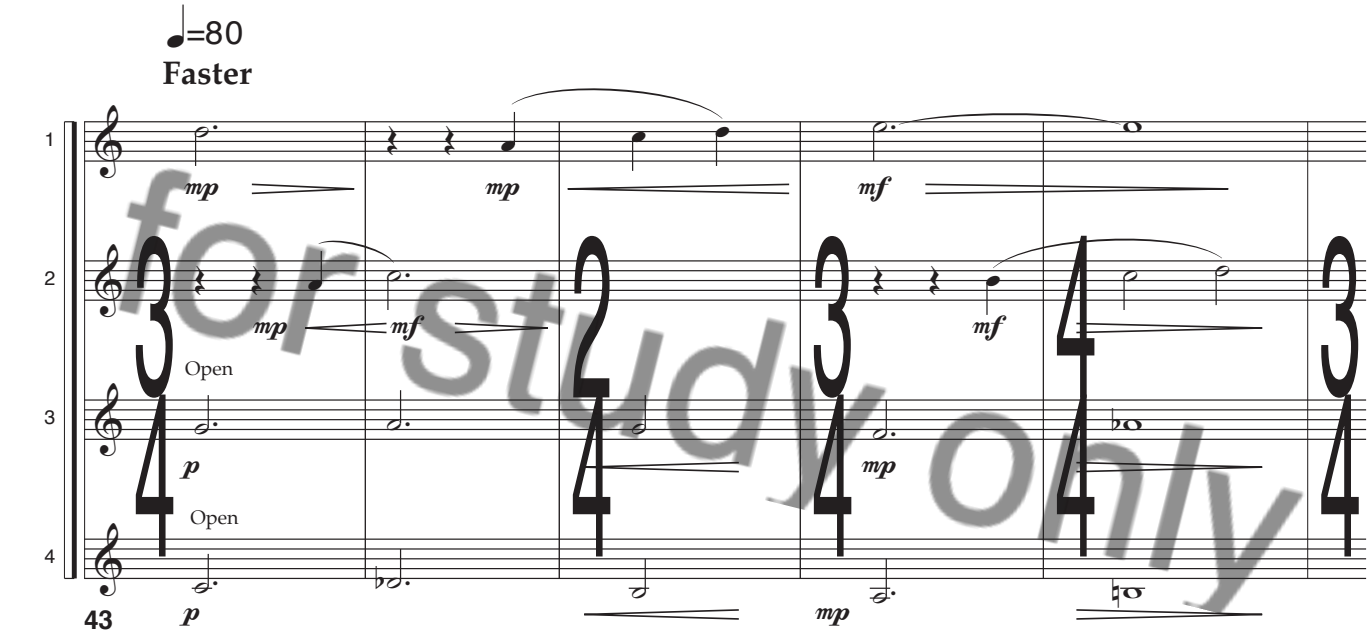

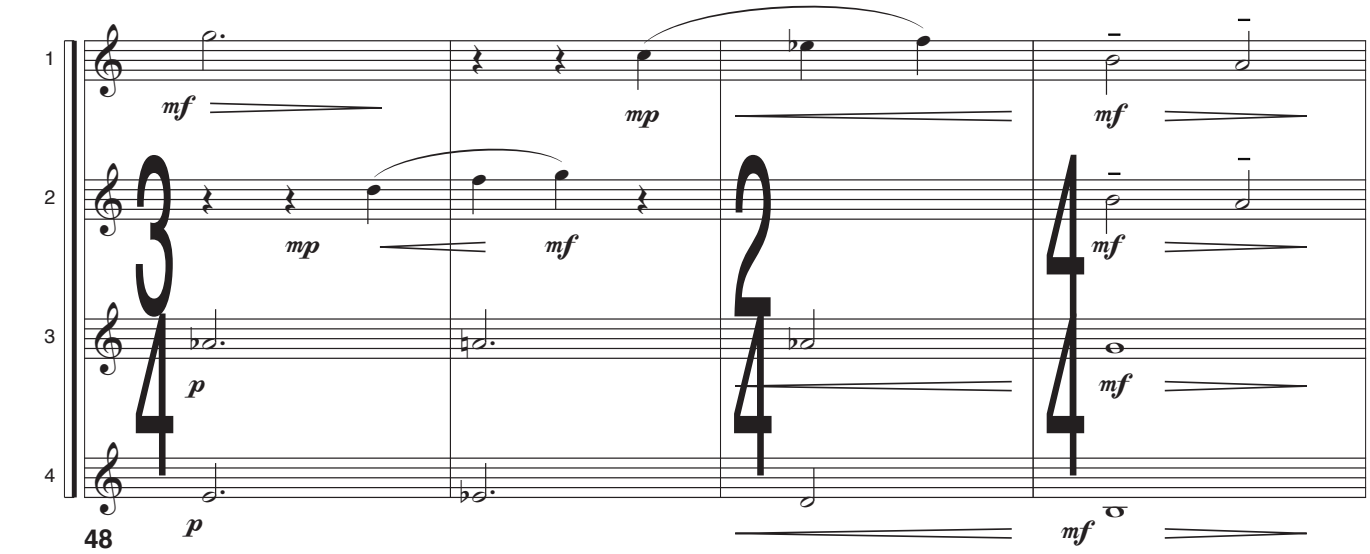

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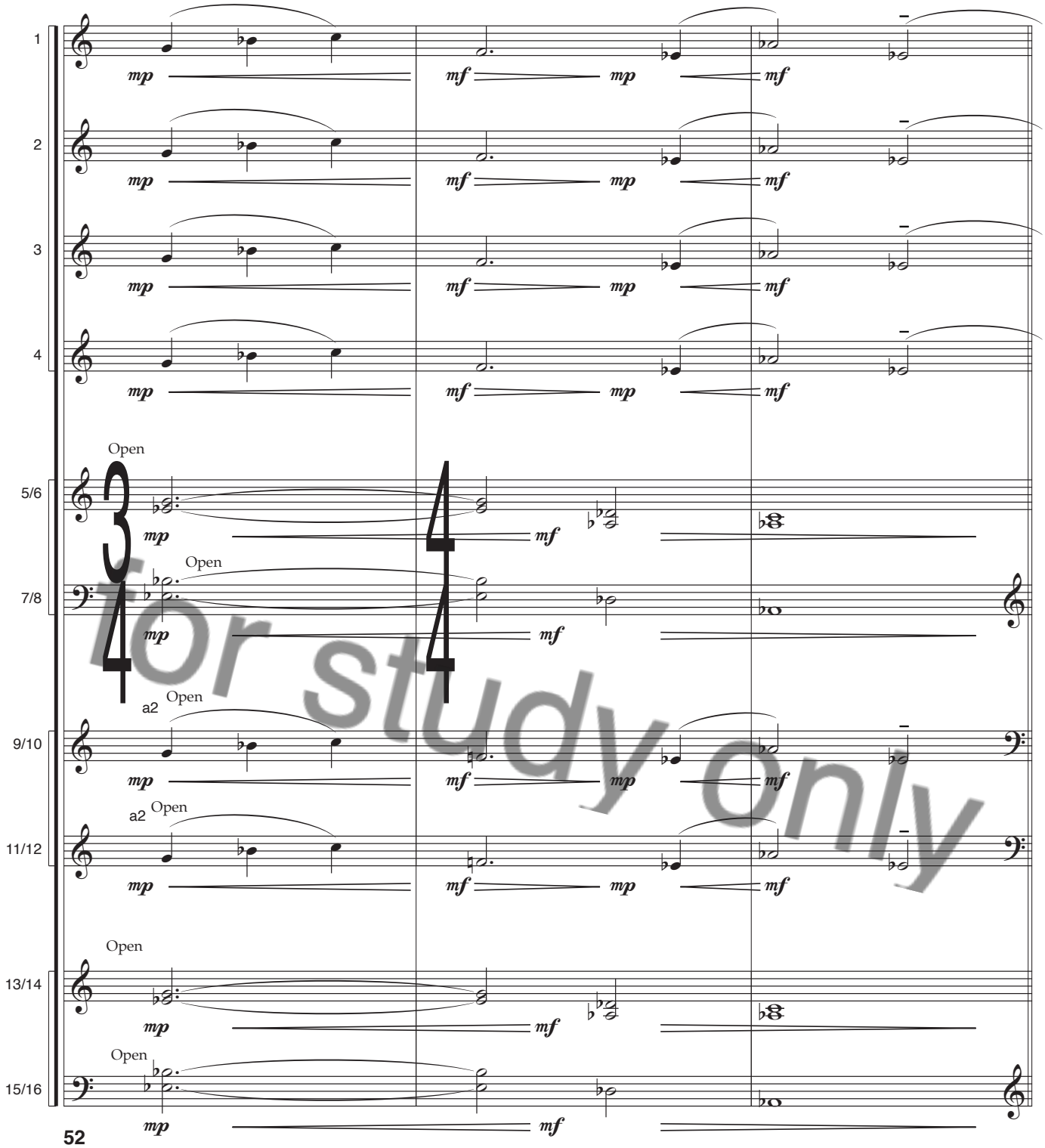

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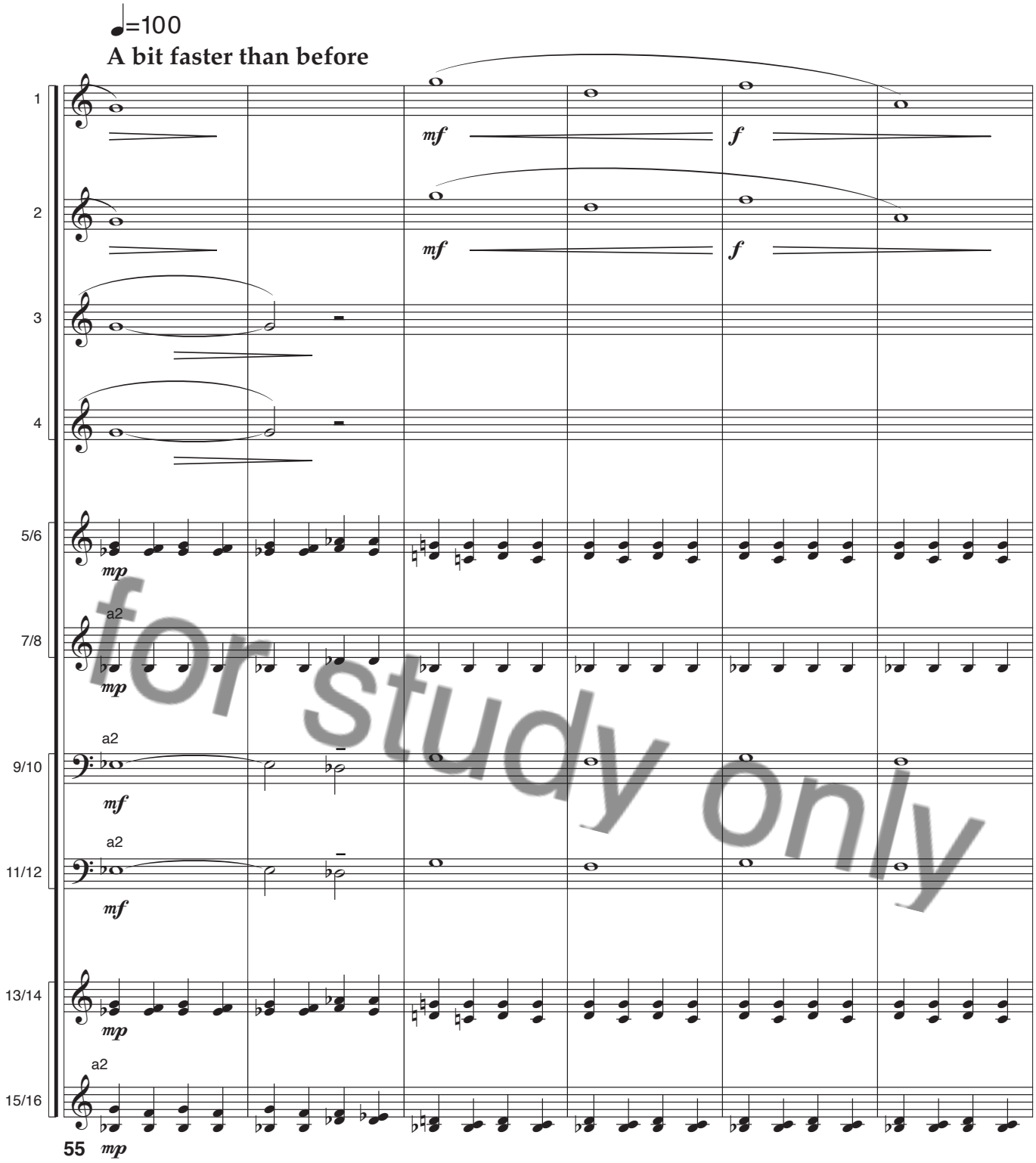

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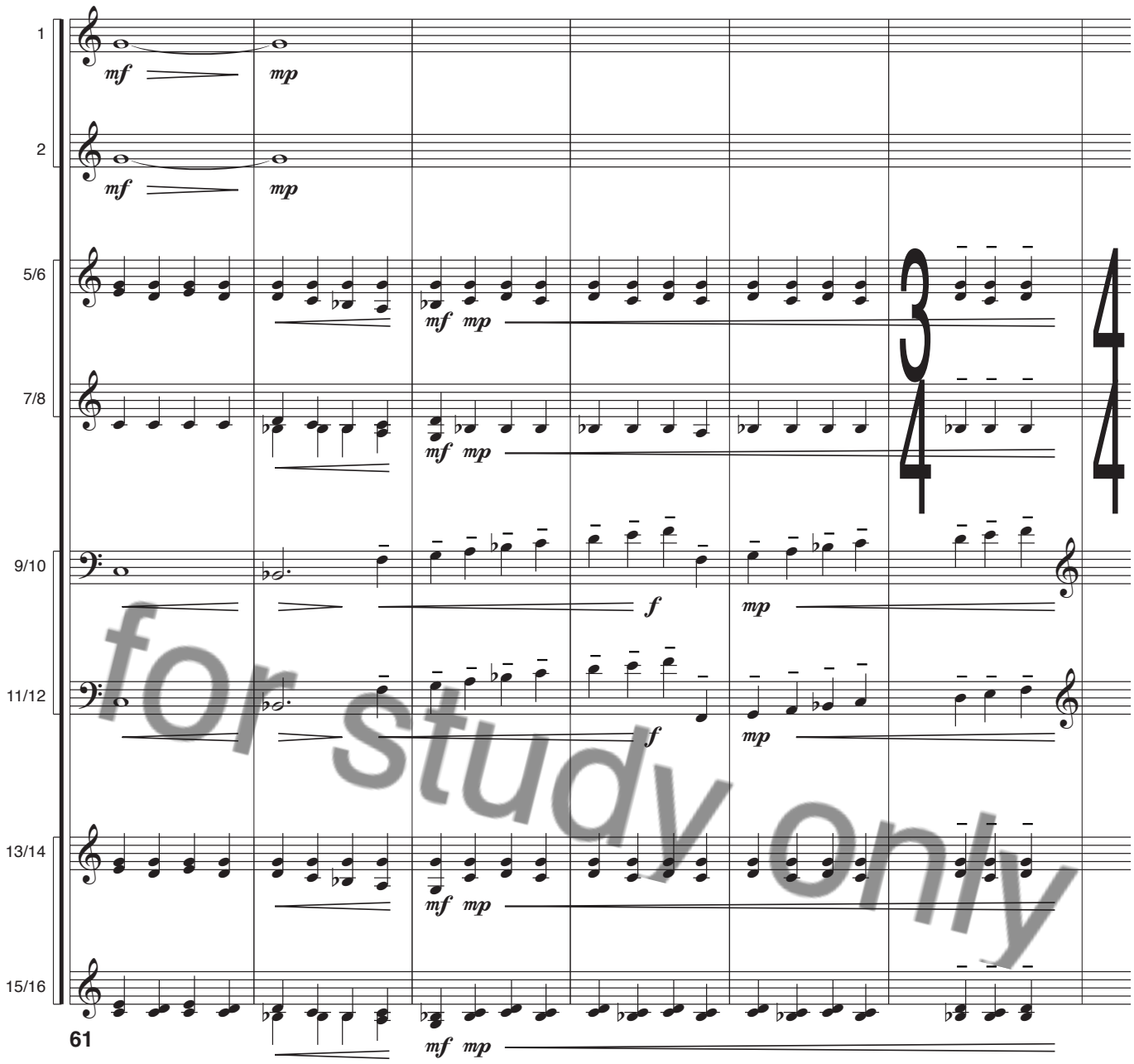

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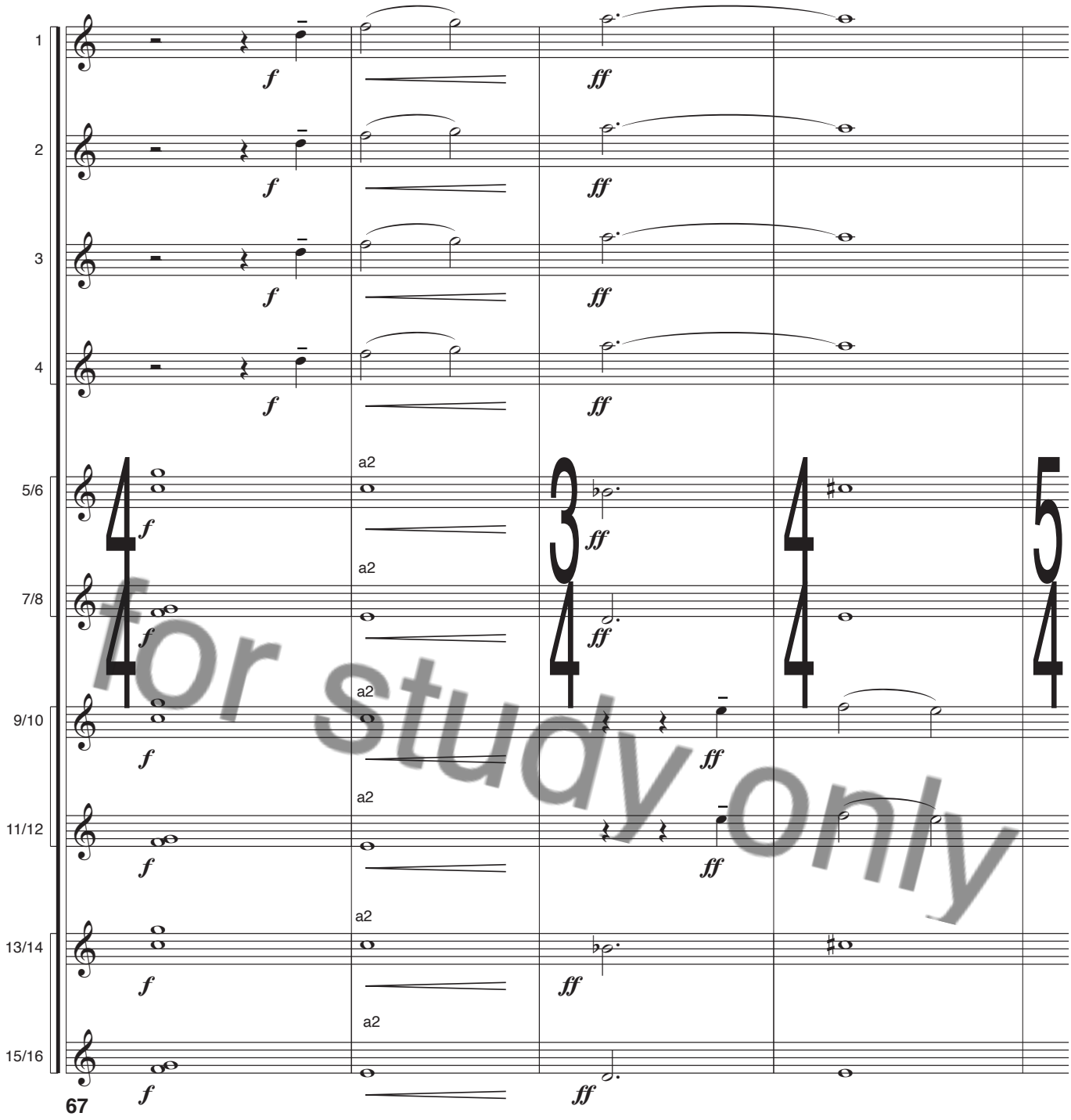

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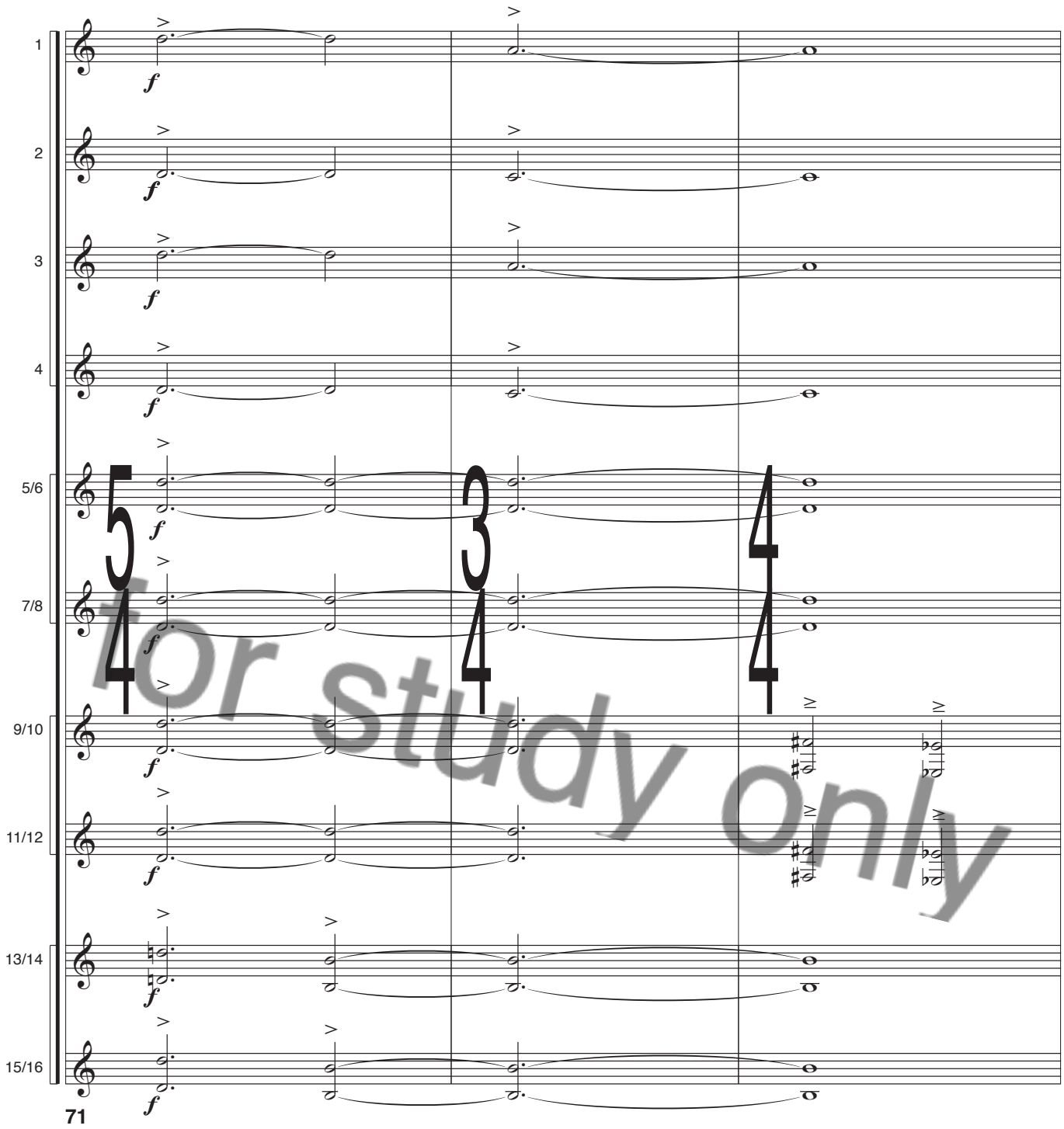

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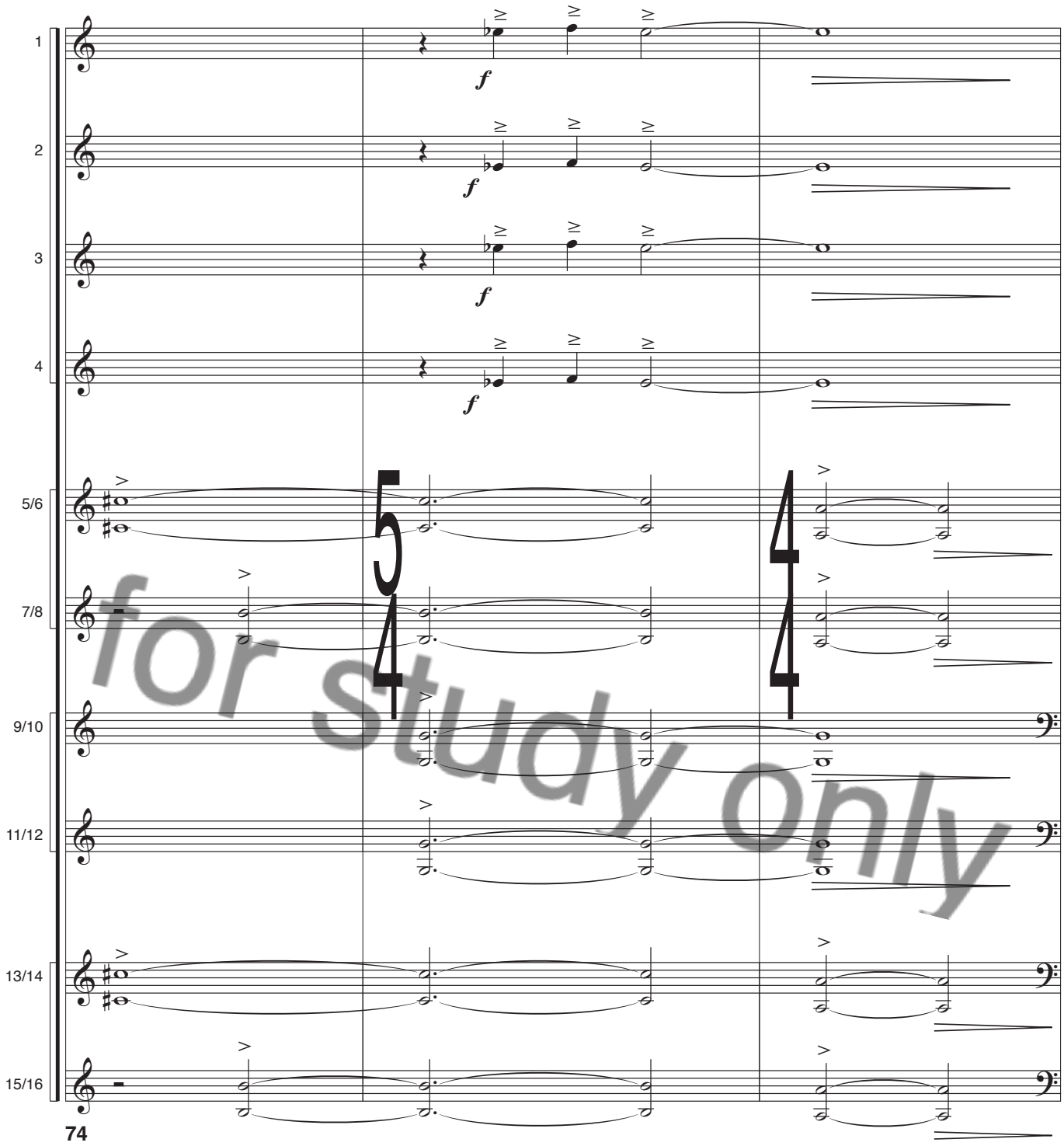

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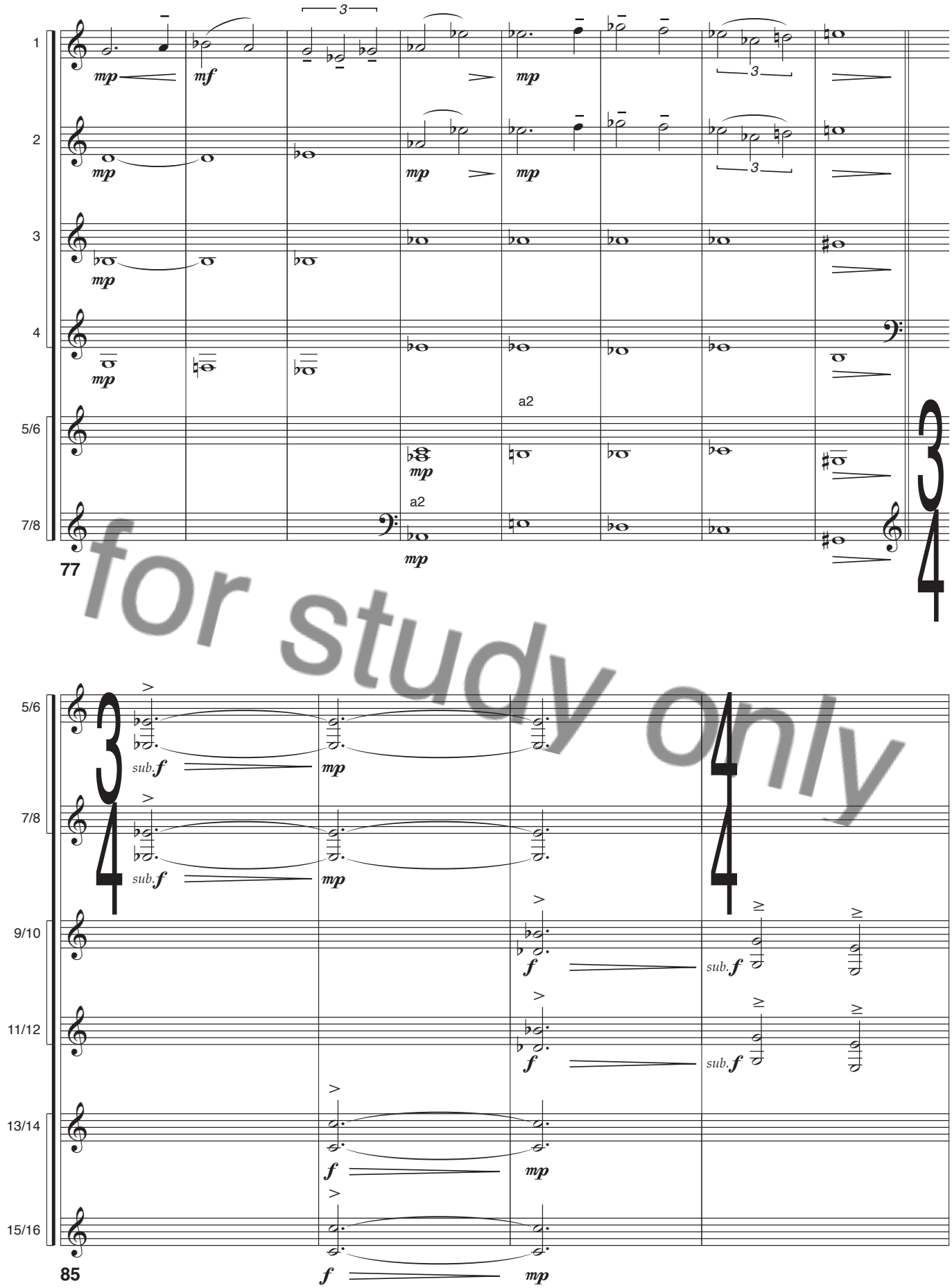

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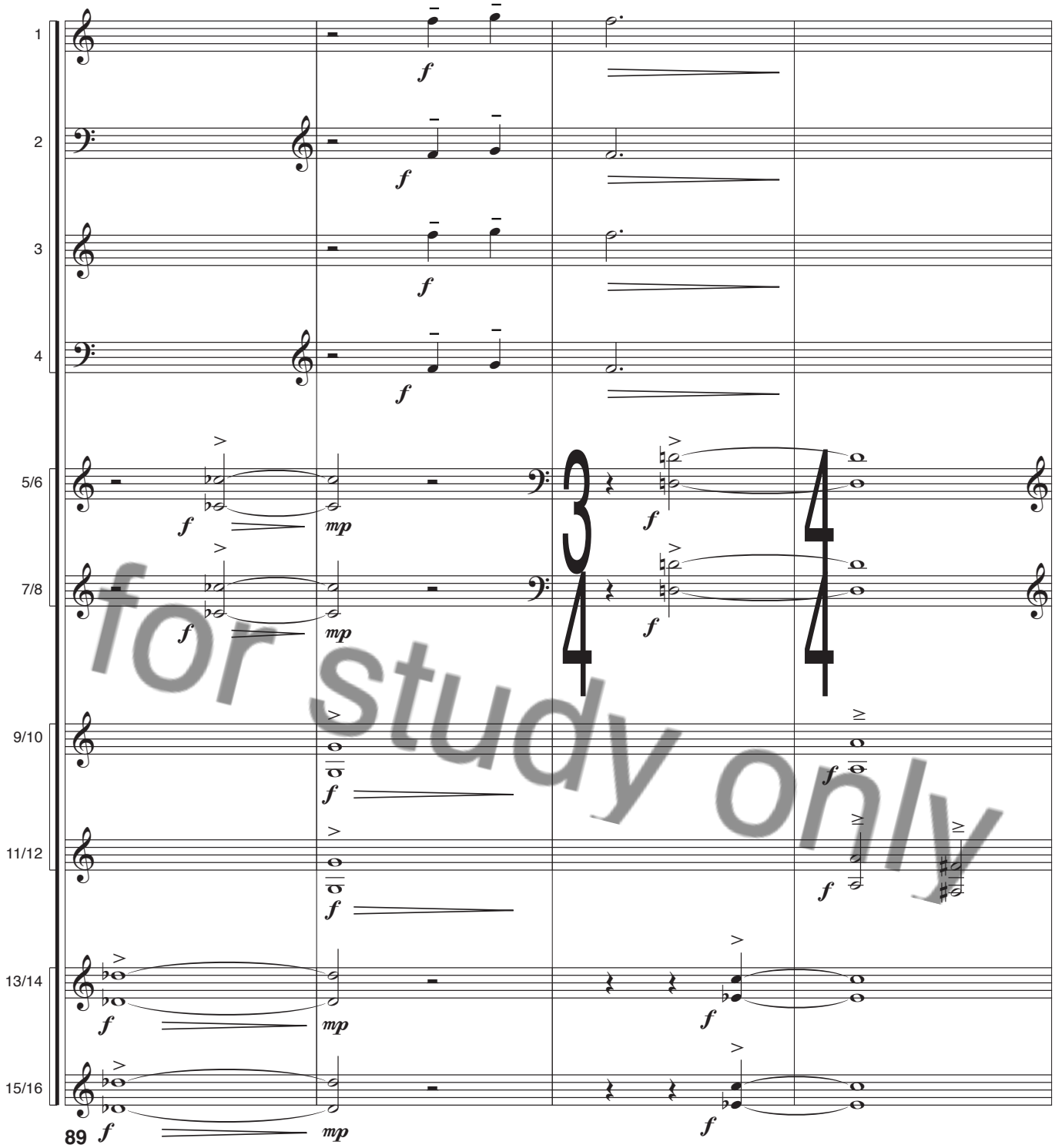

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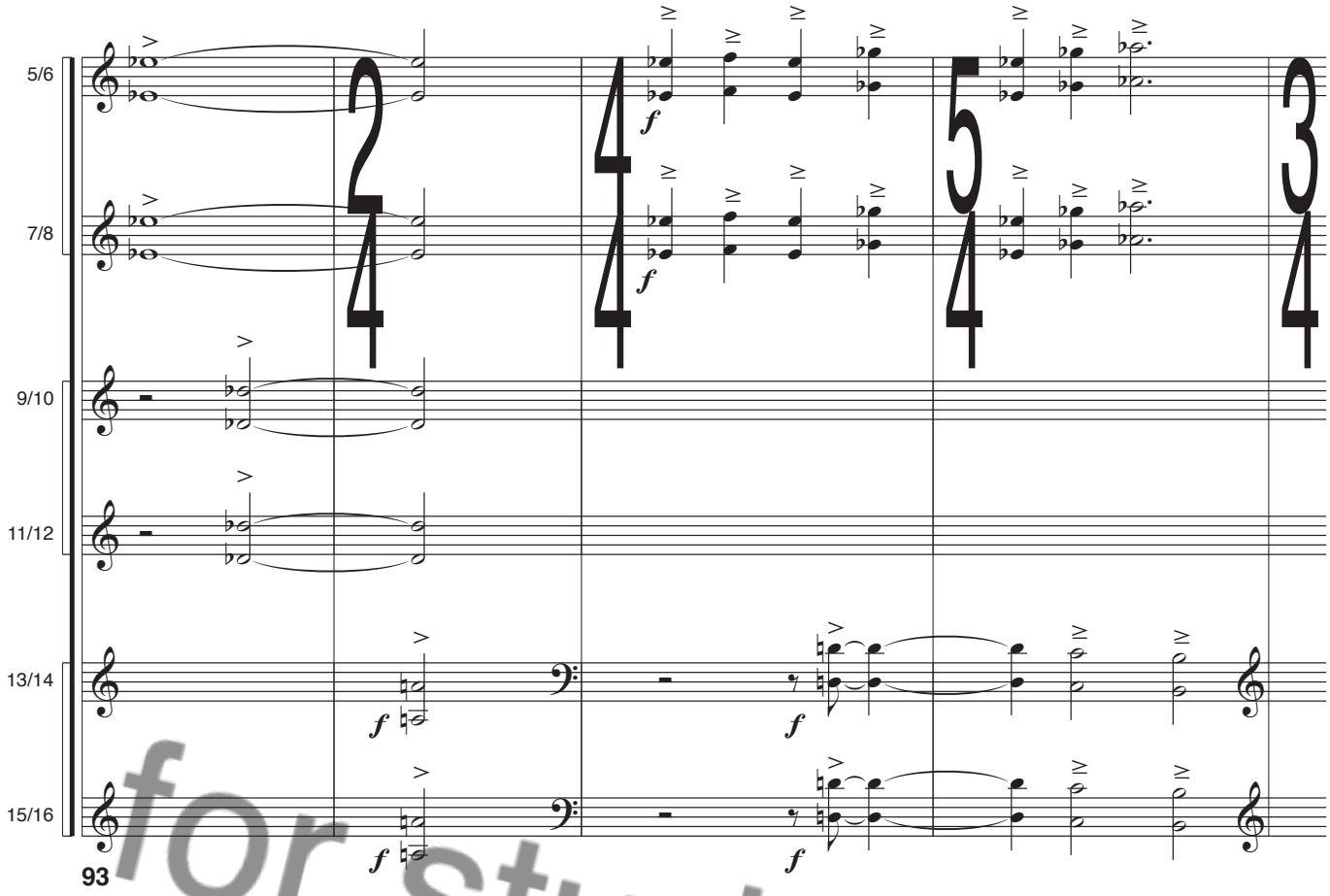

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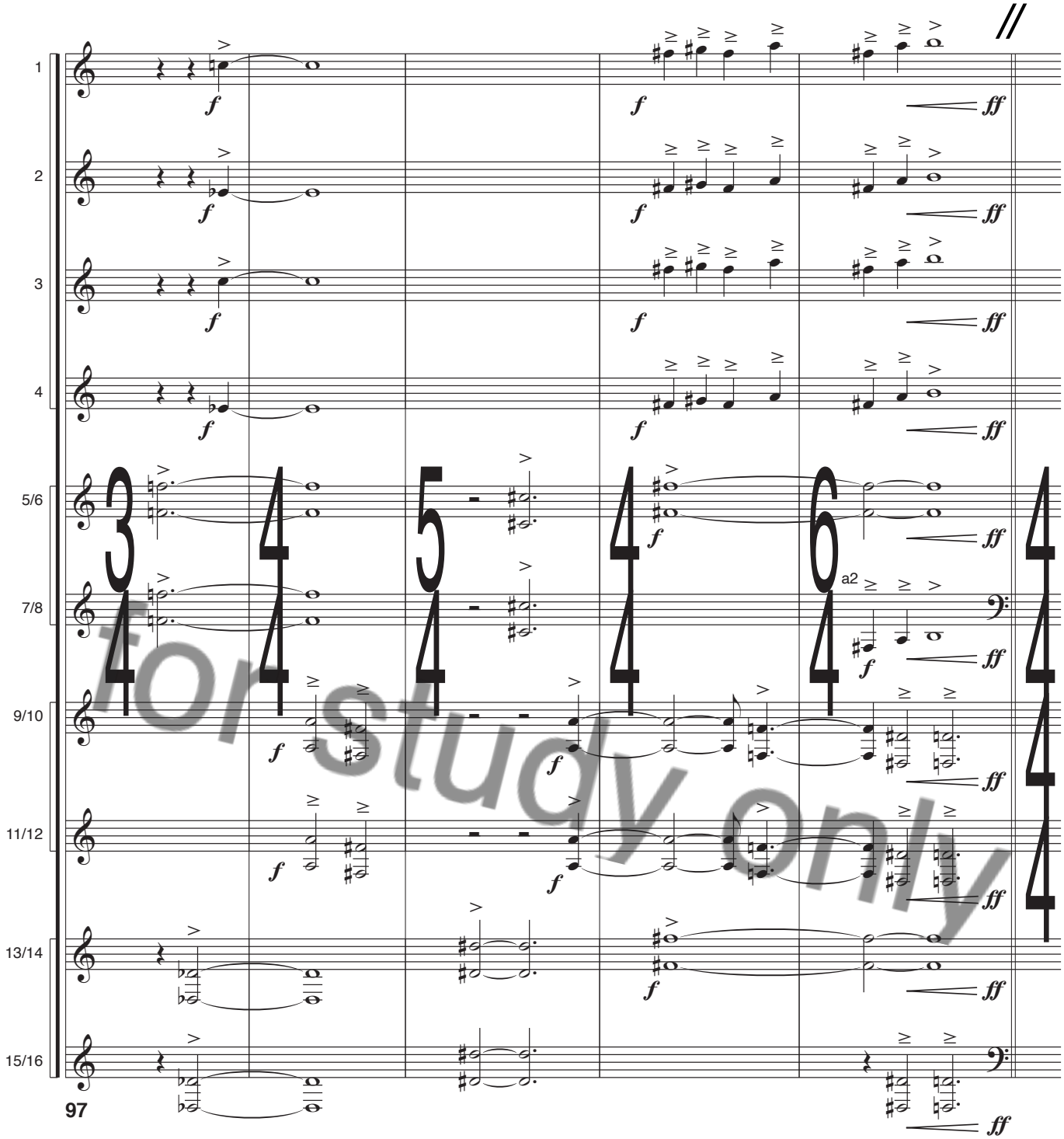

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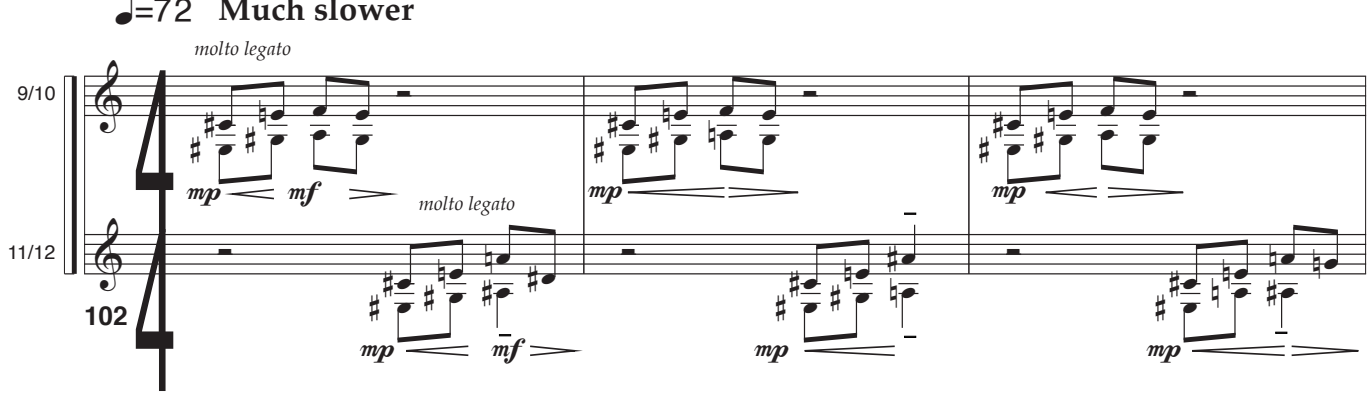

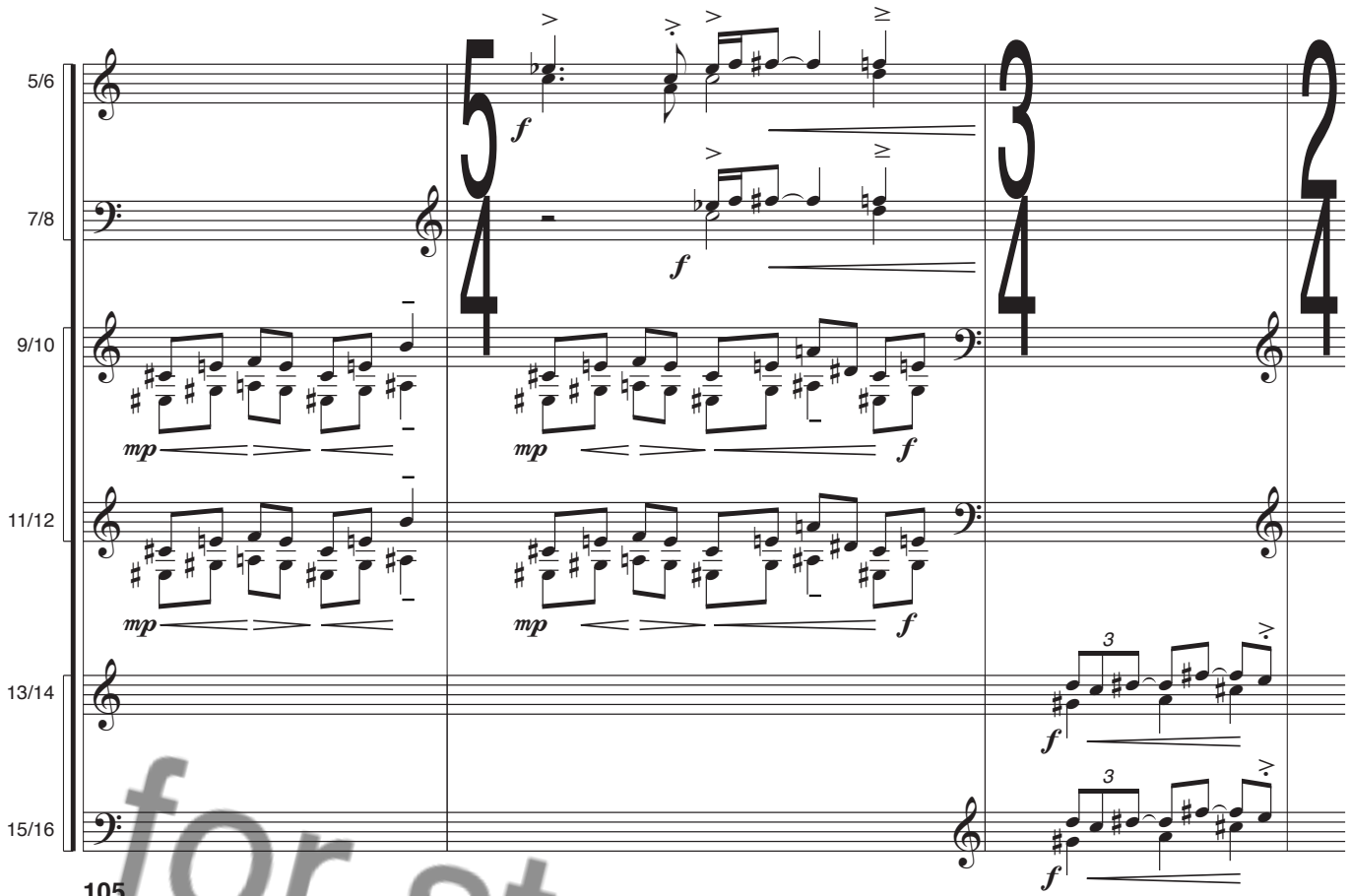

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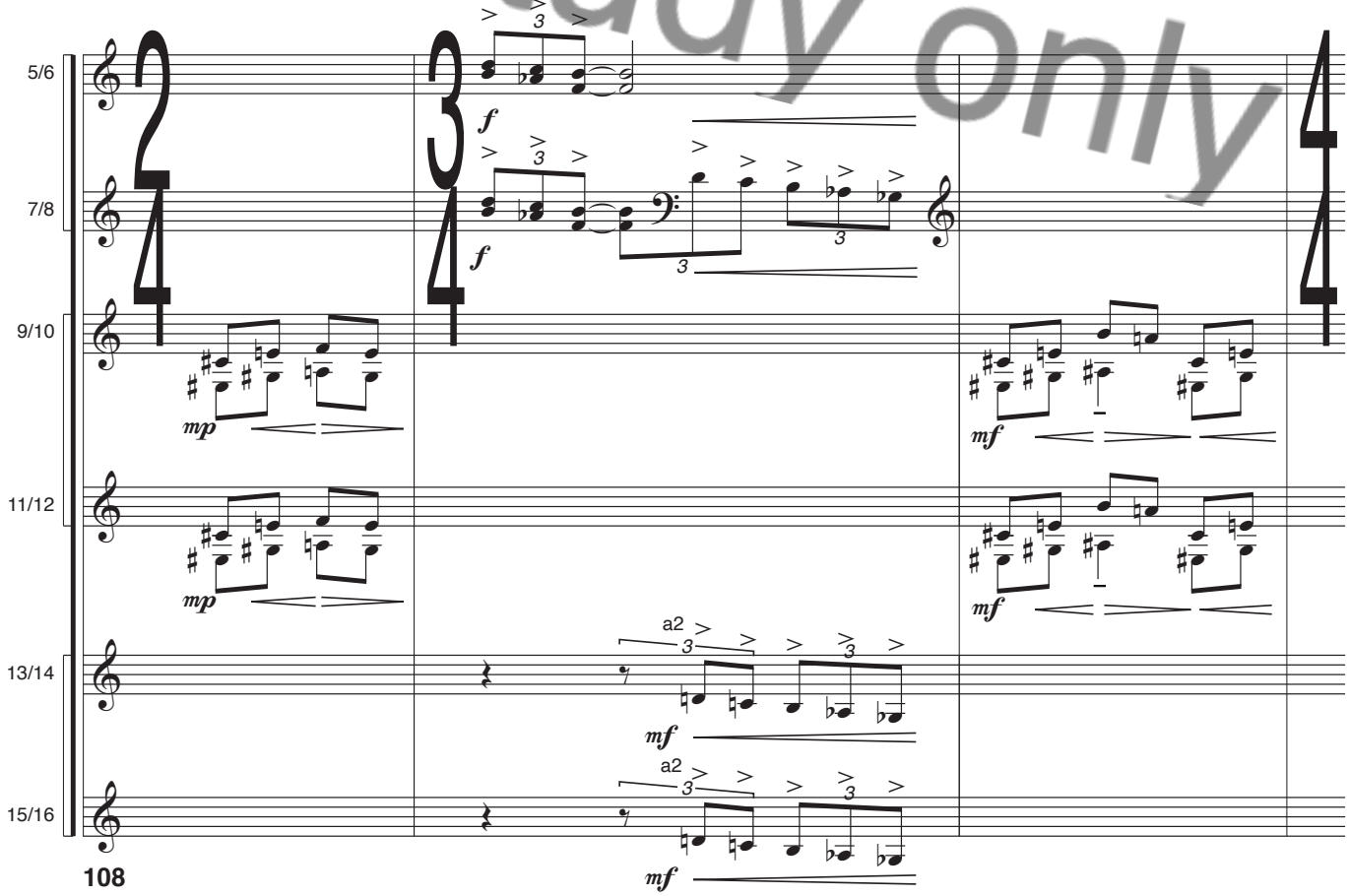

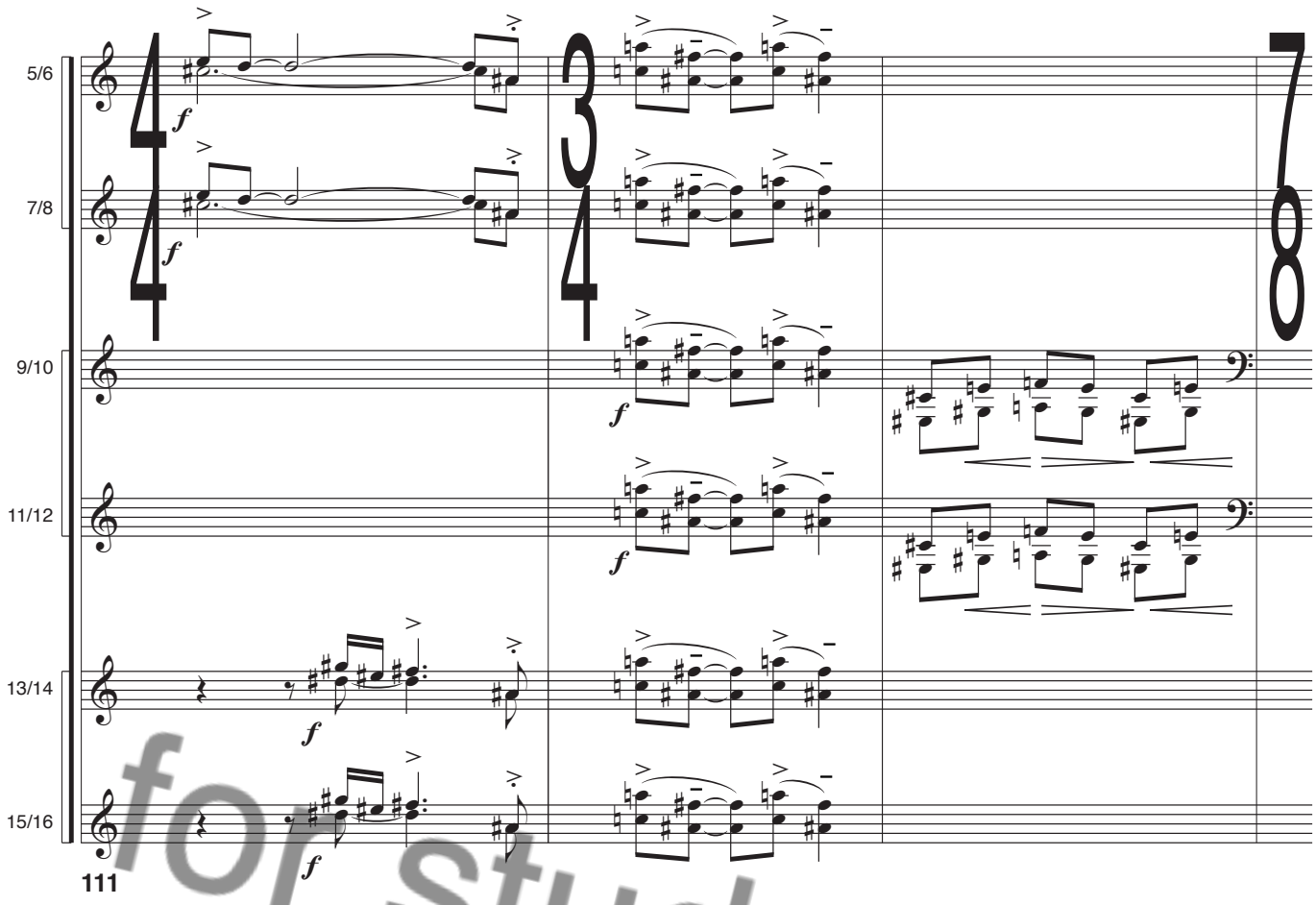

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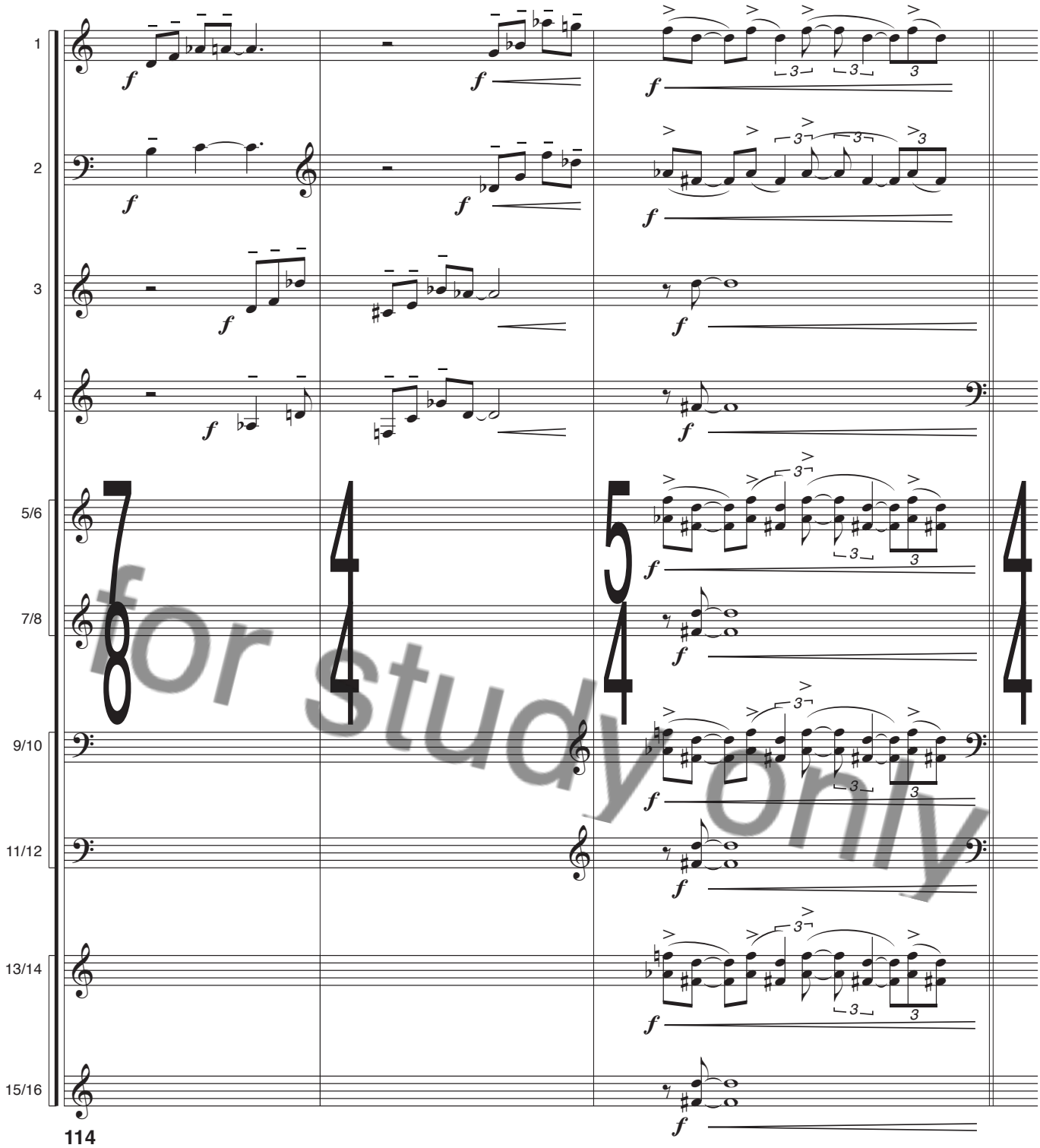

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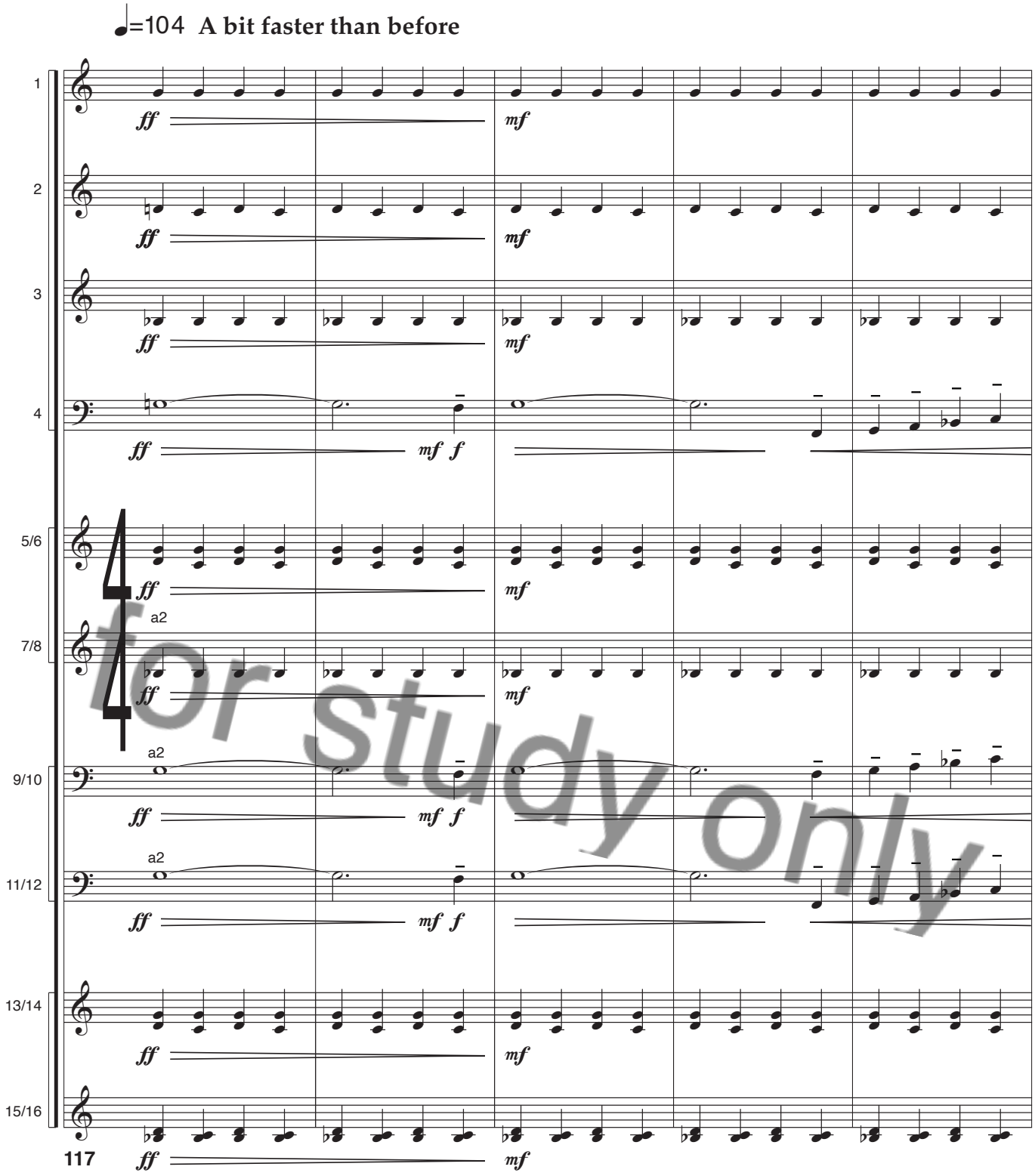

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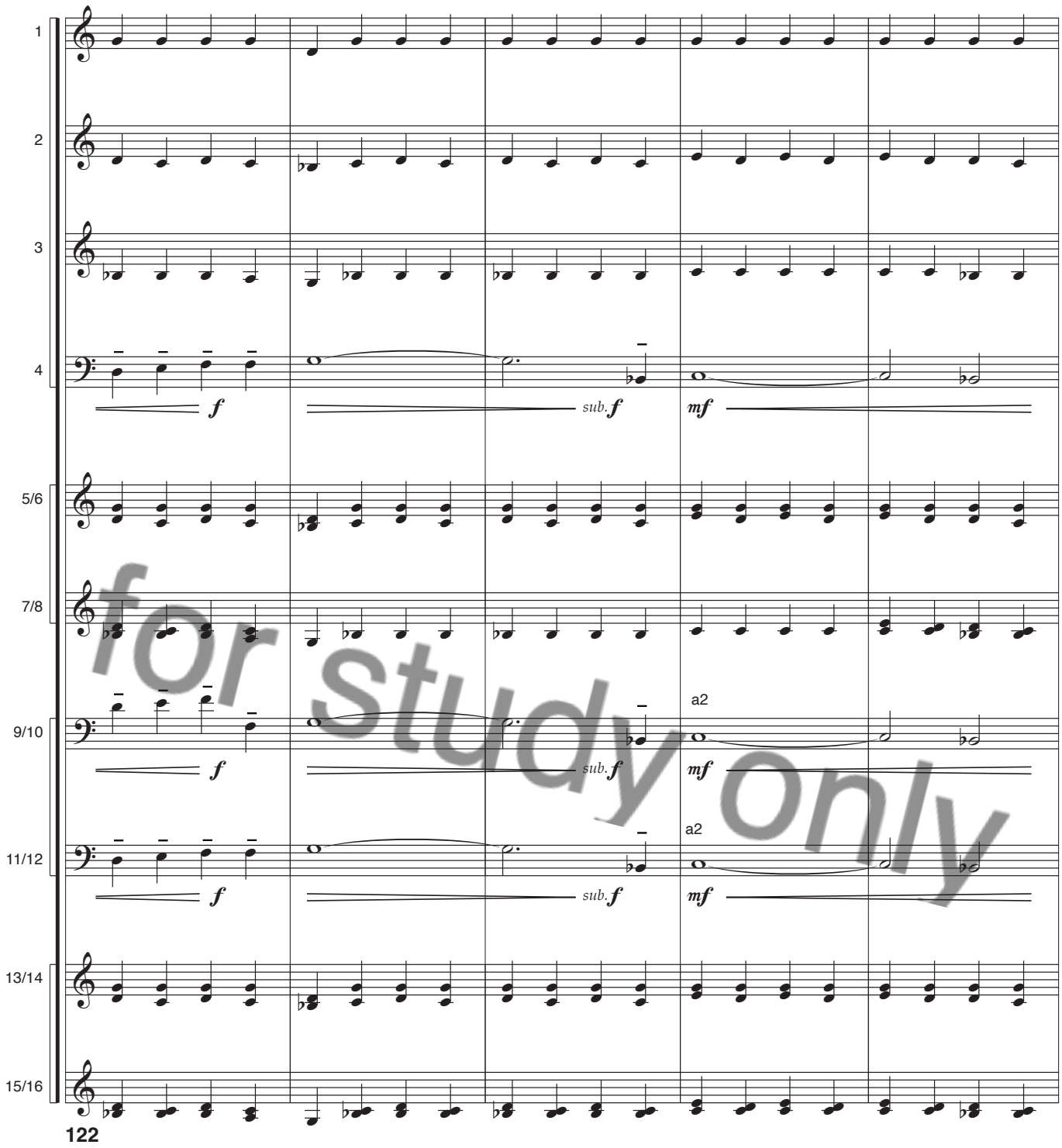

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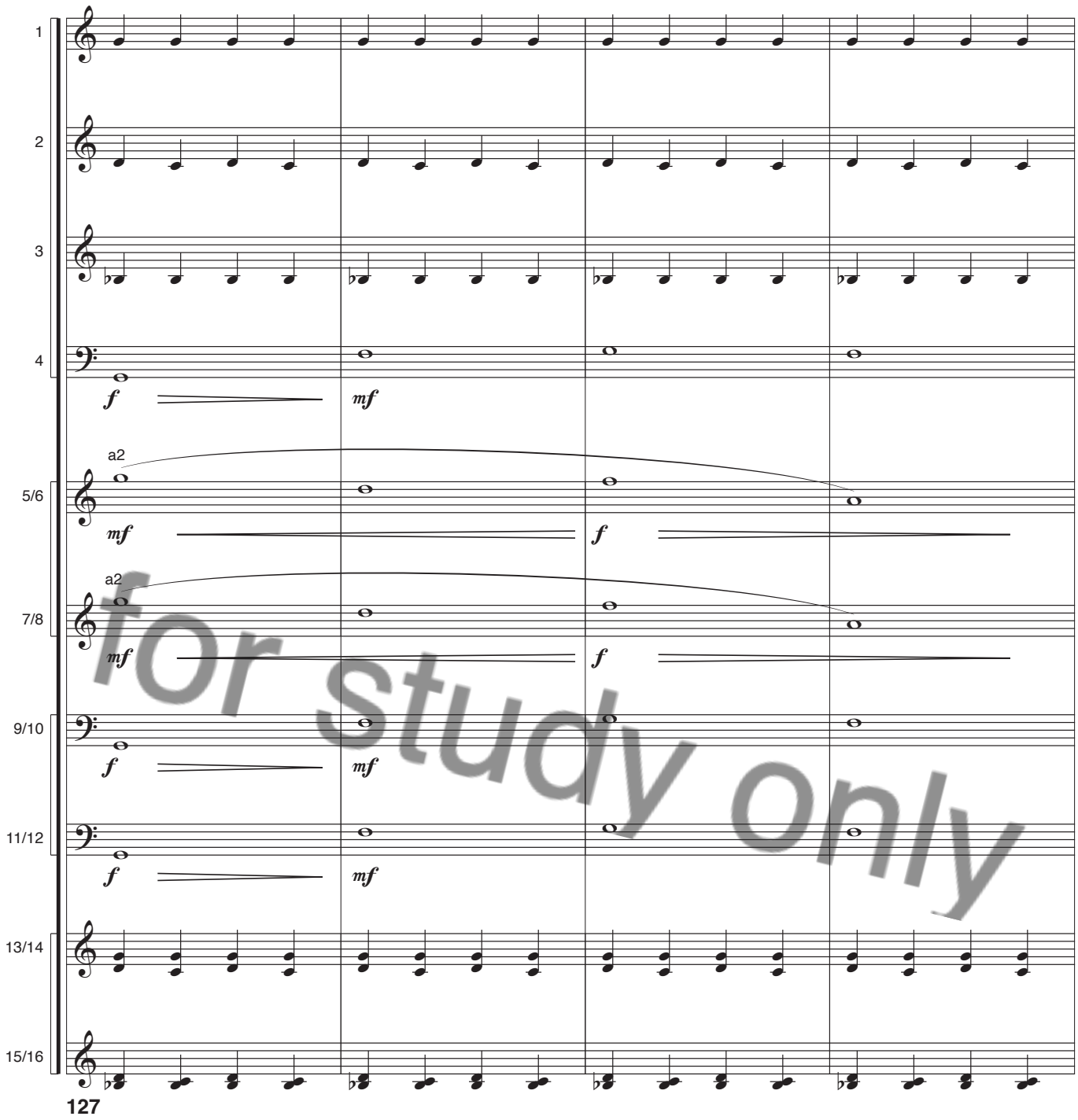

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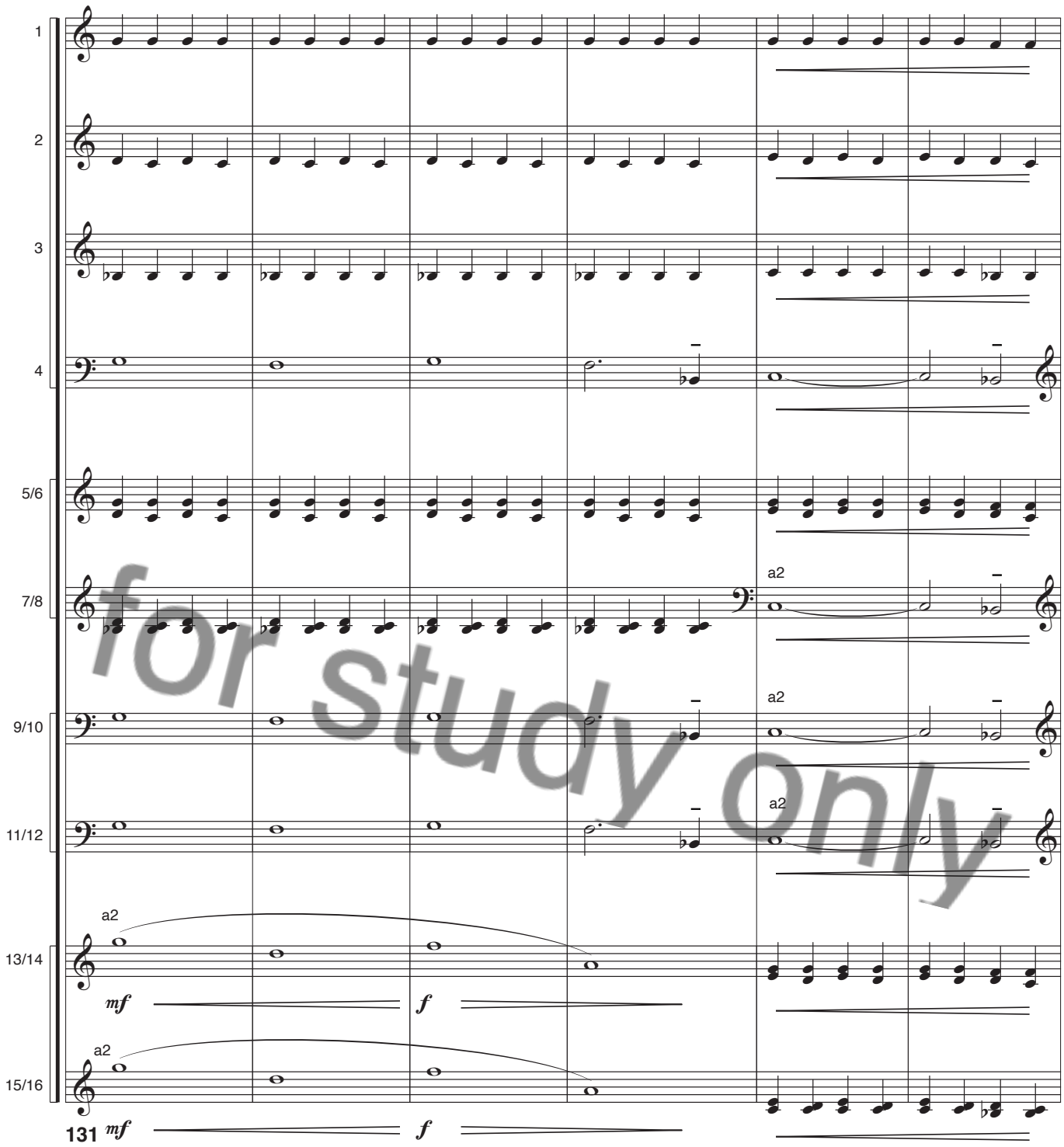

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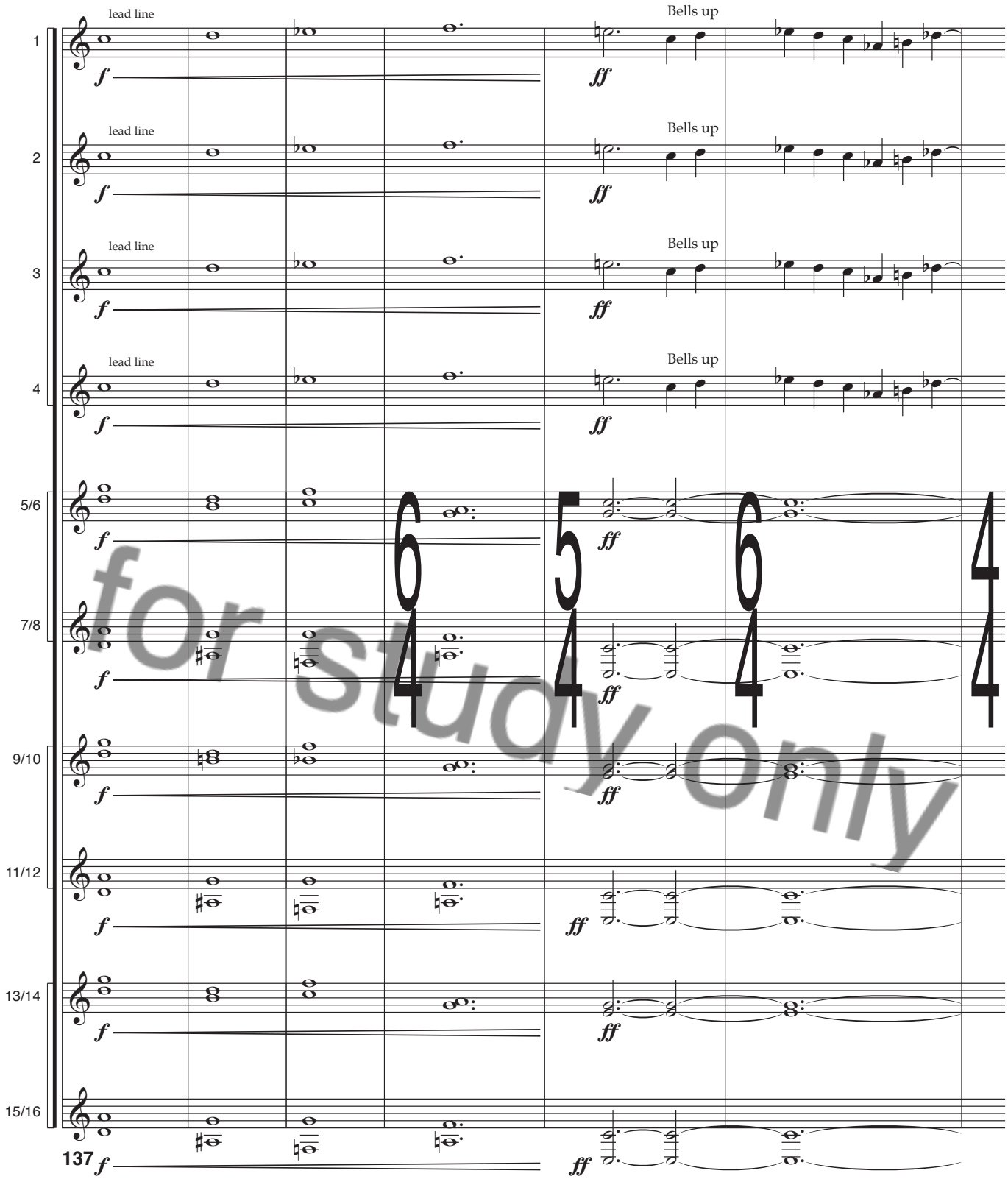

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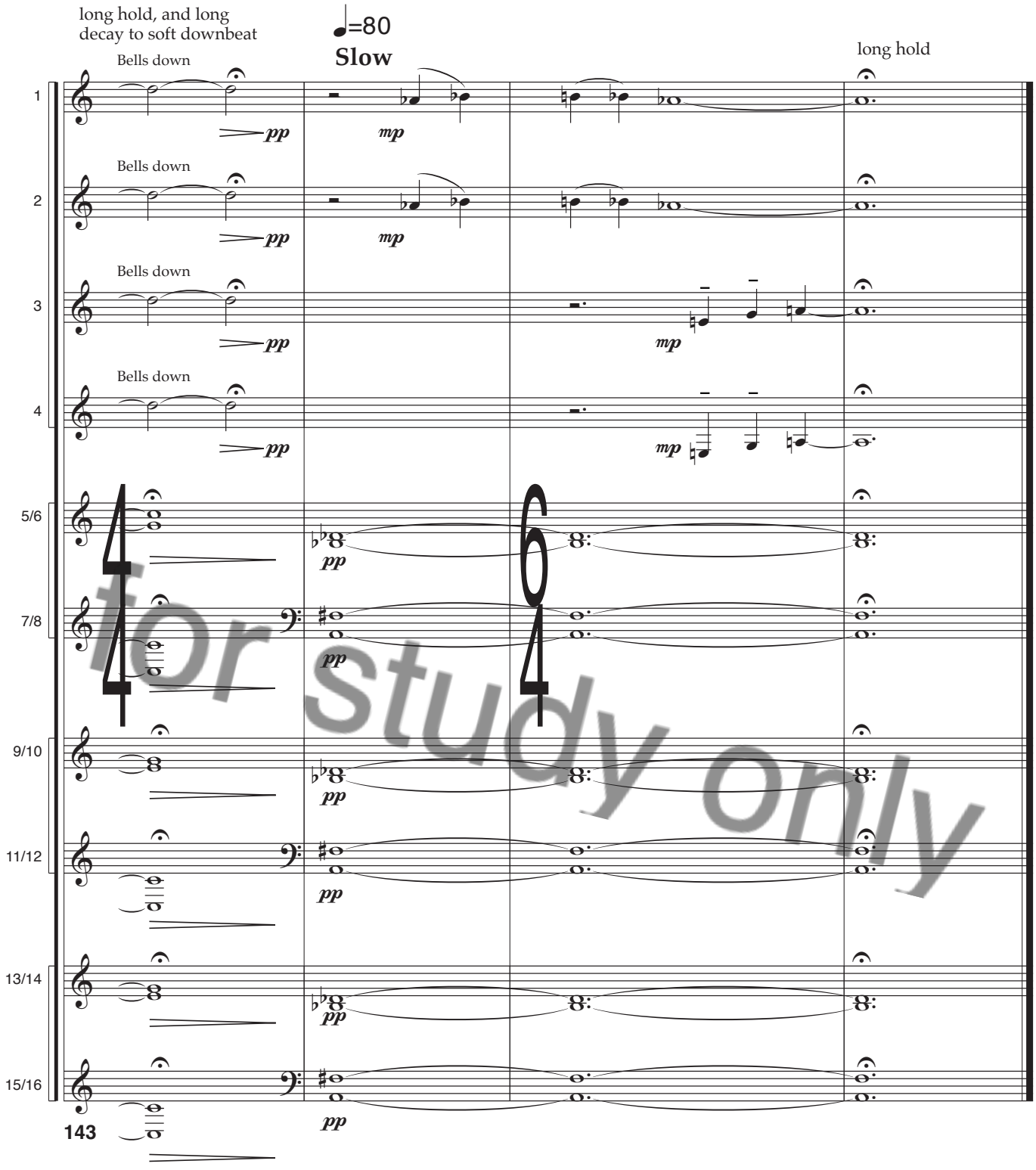

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