Annotated for use with "Sonata Theory in the Undergraduate Classroom"
Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy 36 (2012)

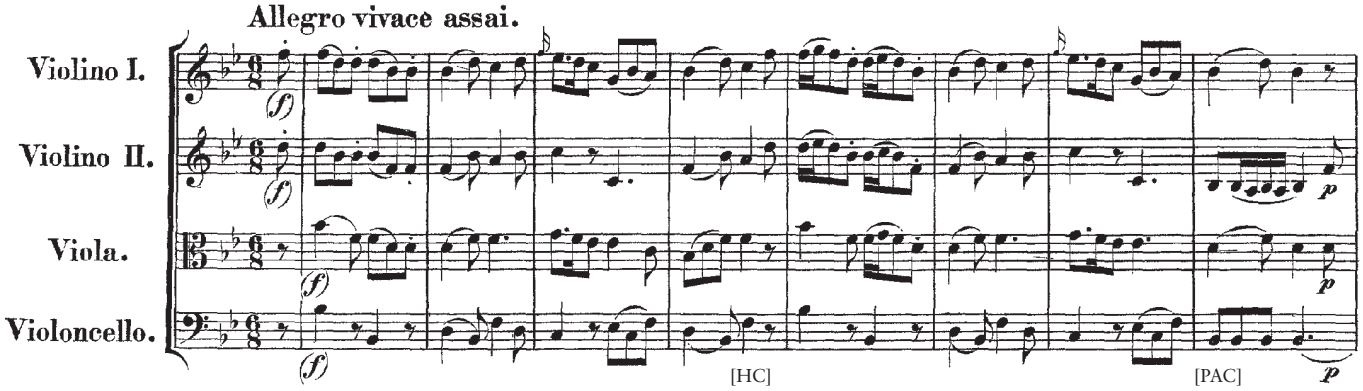
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1784)

String Quartet no. 15 in B♭, K. 458 ("The Hunt")

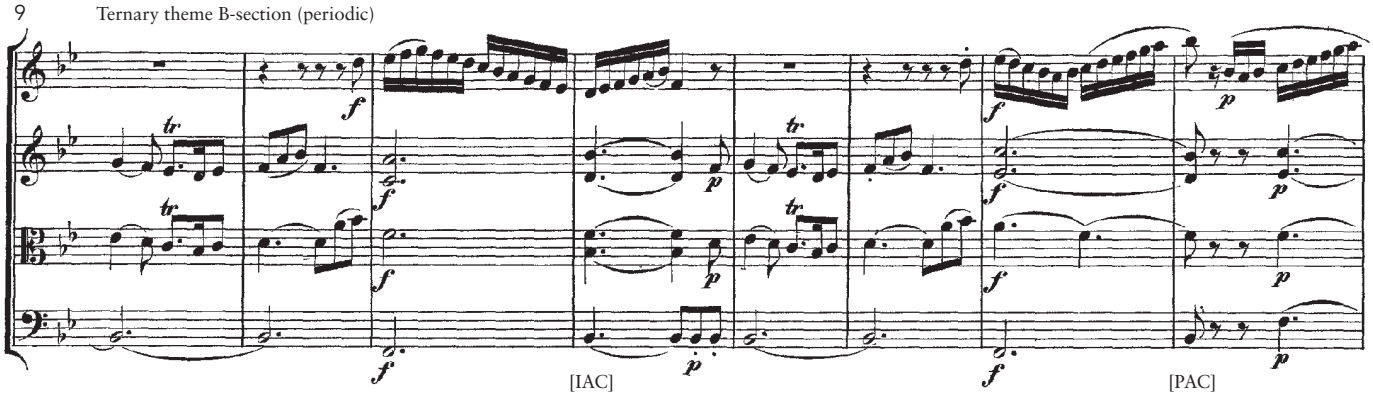
I.

EXPOSITION

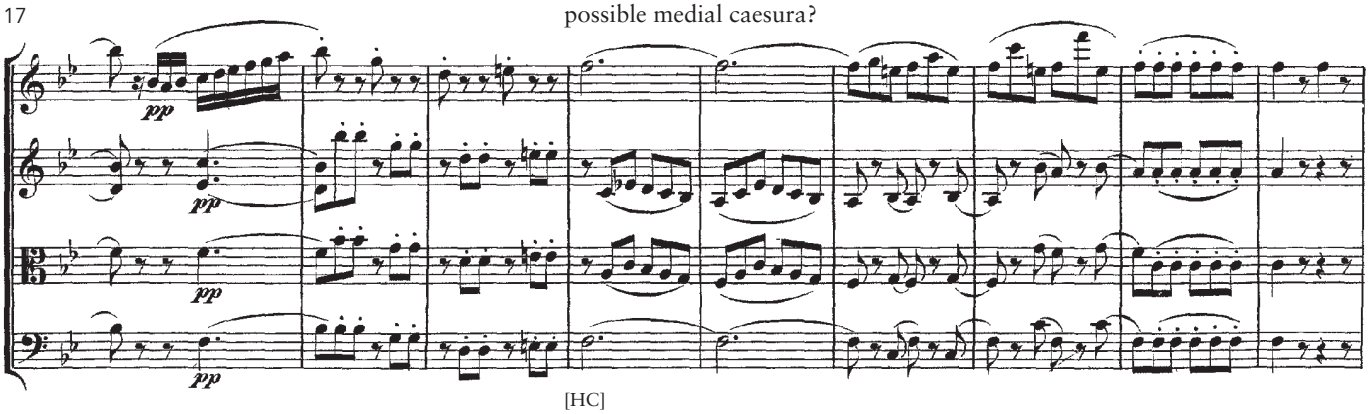
(P) Primary thematic area
Ternary theme A-section (periodic)



9 Ternary theme B-section (periodic)



17 Prolonged half-cadential dominant:
possible medial caesura?



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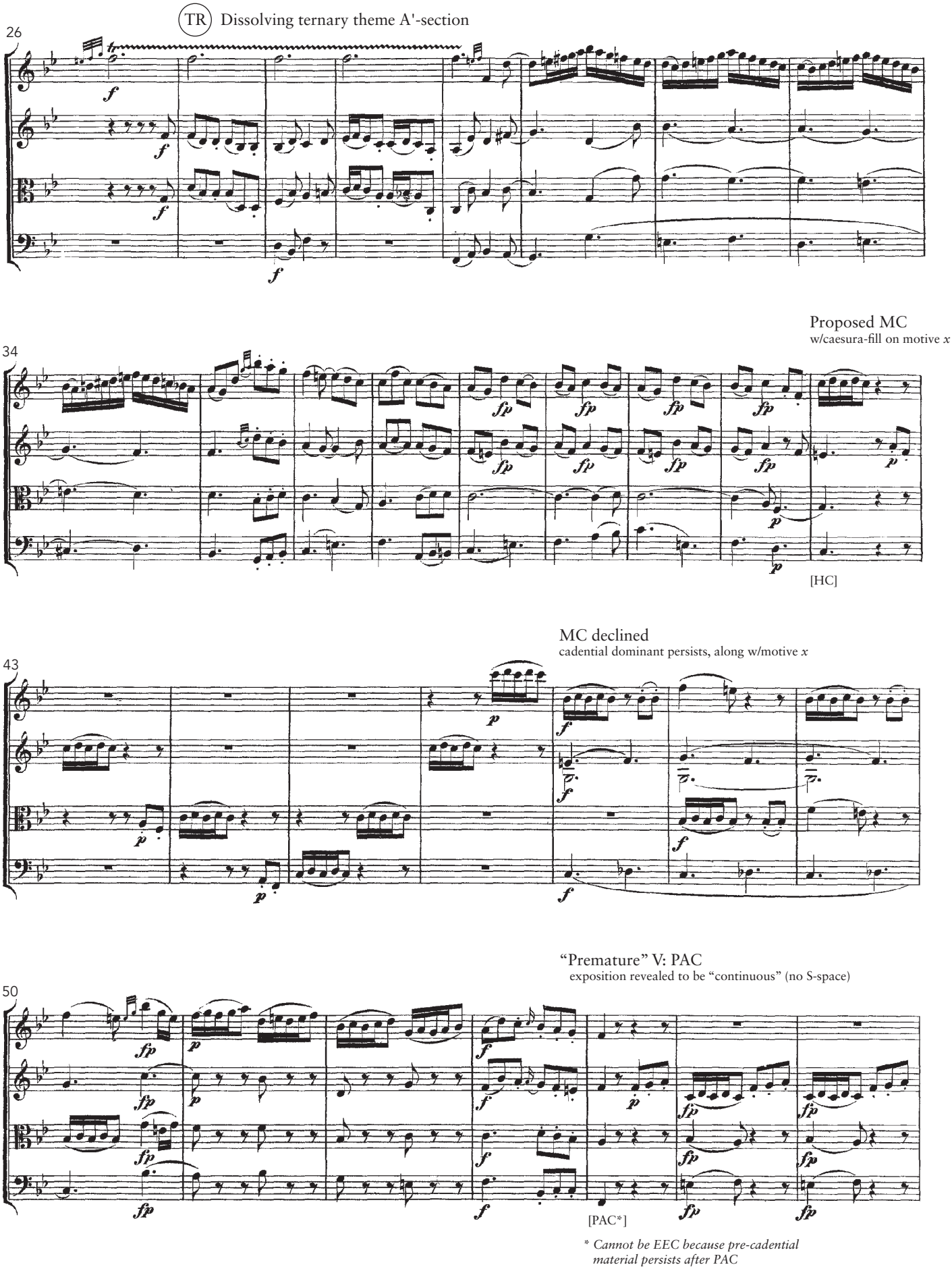
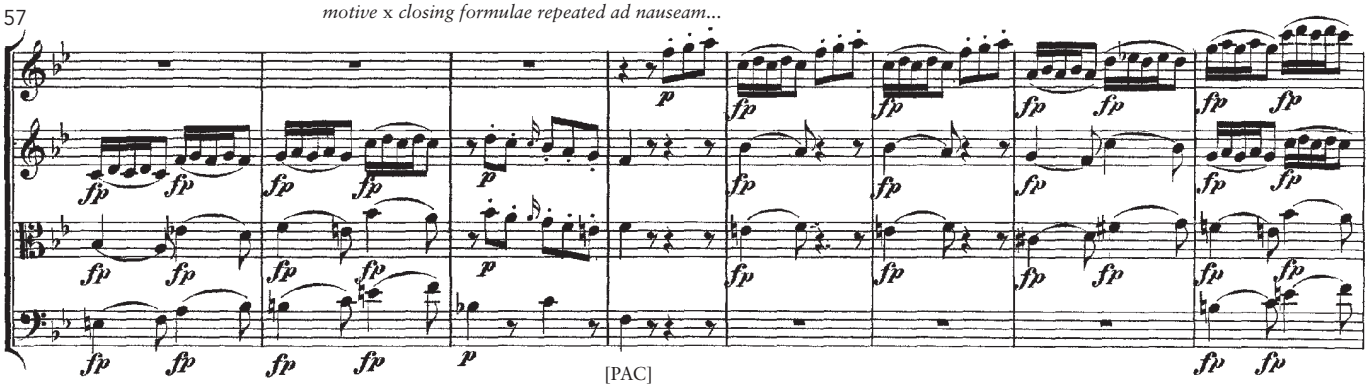
Score images from the 1877–1910 Breitkopf & Härtel edition (public domain)


TR
Dissolving ternary theme A'-section
26
Proposed MC
w/caesura-fill on motive *x*
34
[HC]
MC declined
cadential dominant persists, along w/motive *x*
43
"Premature" V: PAC
exposition revealed to be "continuous" (no S-space)
50
[PAC*]
* *Cannot be EEC because pre-cadential material persists after PAC*

57

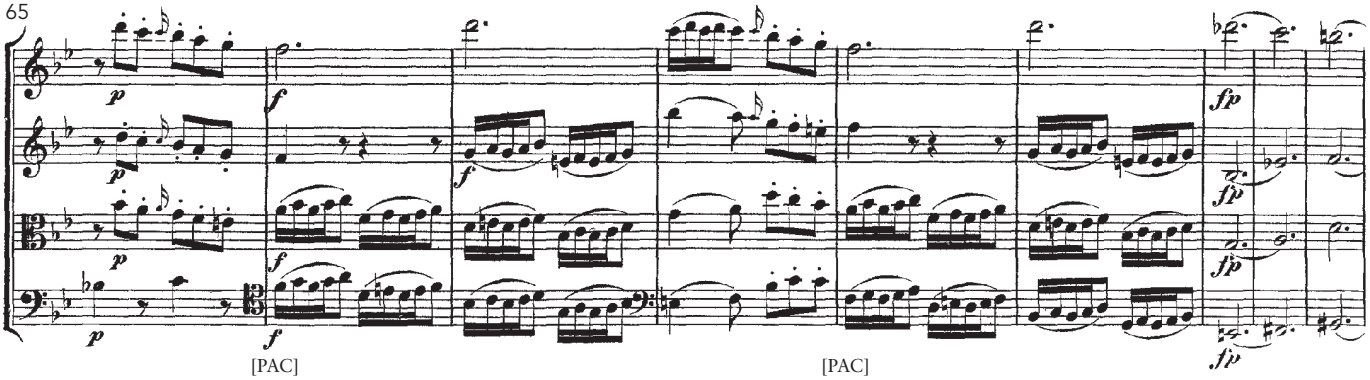
motive x *closing formulae repeated ad nauseam...*



[PAC]

Mozart "applies the brakes" to motive *x* proliferation

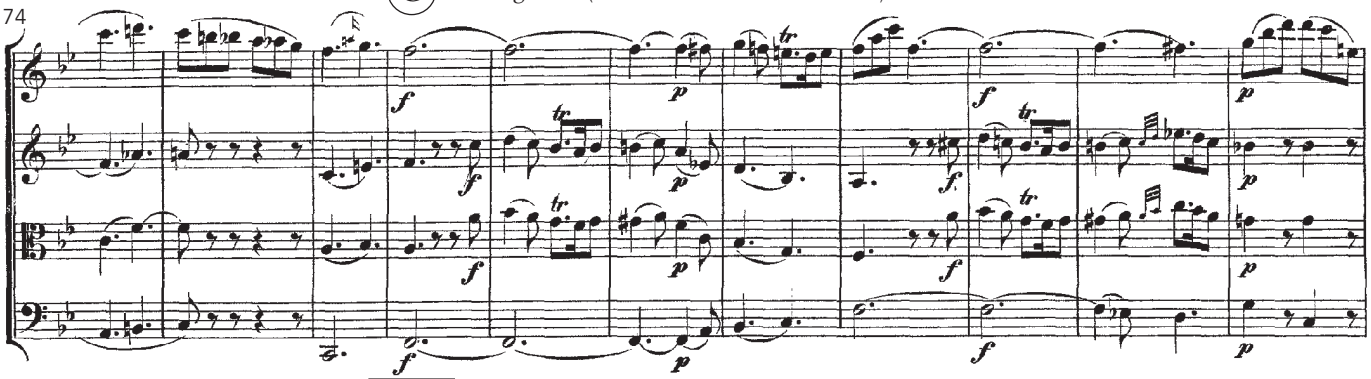
65



[PAC] [PAC]

Ⓒ Closing zone (based on P-theme B-section)

74



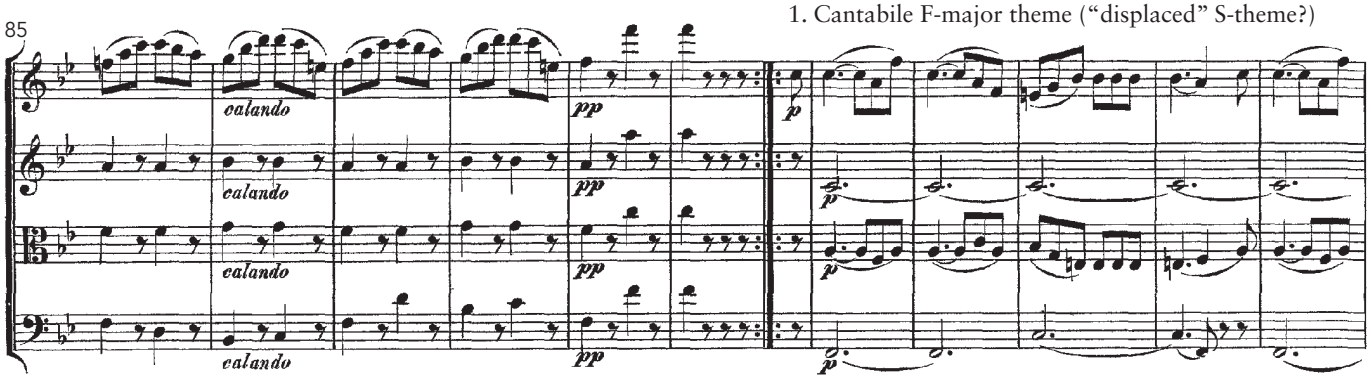
EEC!

"Essential Expositional Closure"

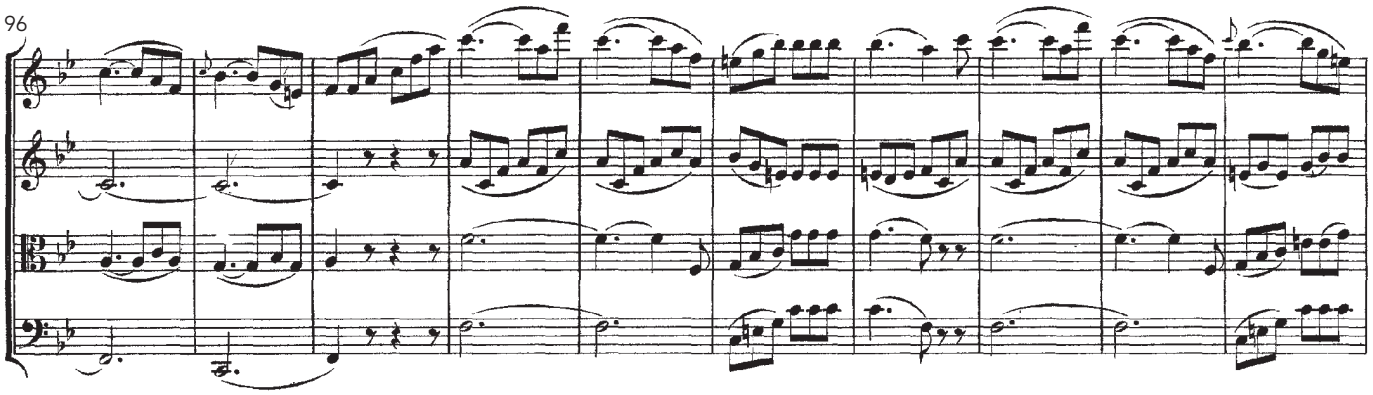
DEVELOPMENT

1. Cantabile F-major theme ("displaced" S-theme?)

85

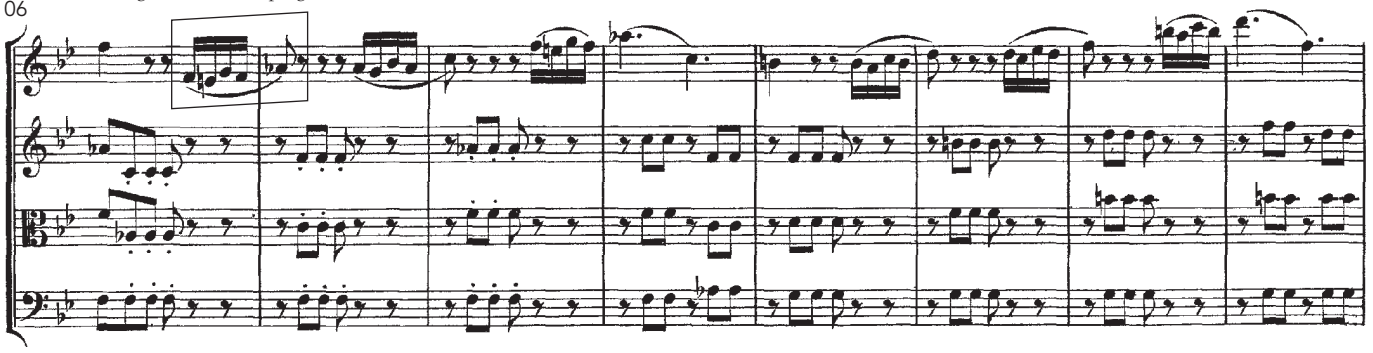


96

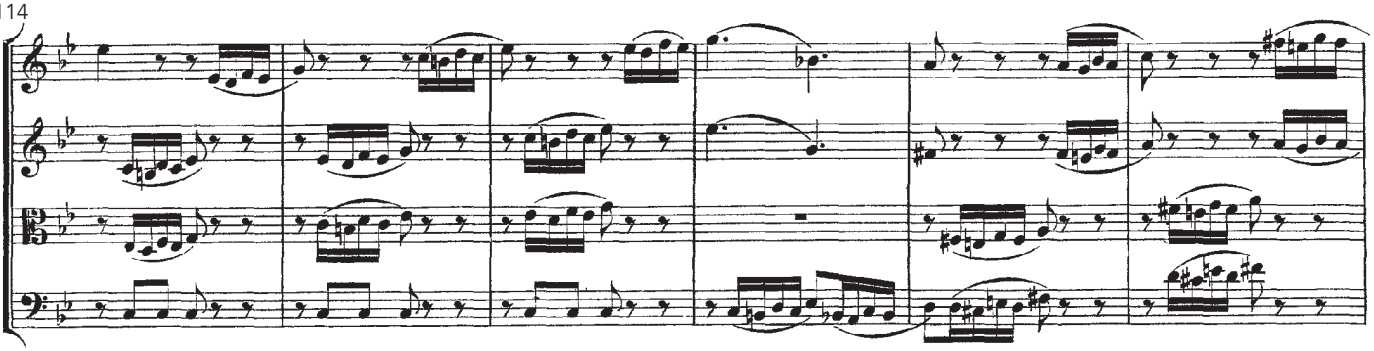


2. Motive *x* variant returns / modal collapse
ascending circle-of-fifths progression: Fm → Cm → Gm

106

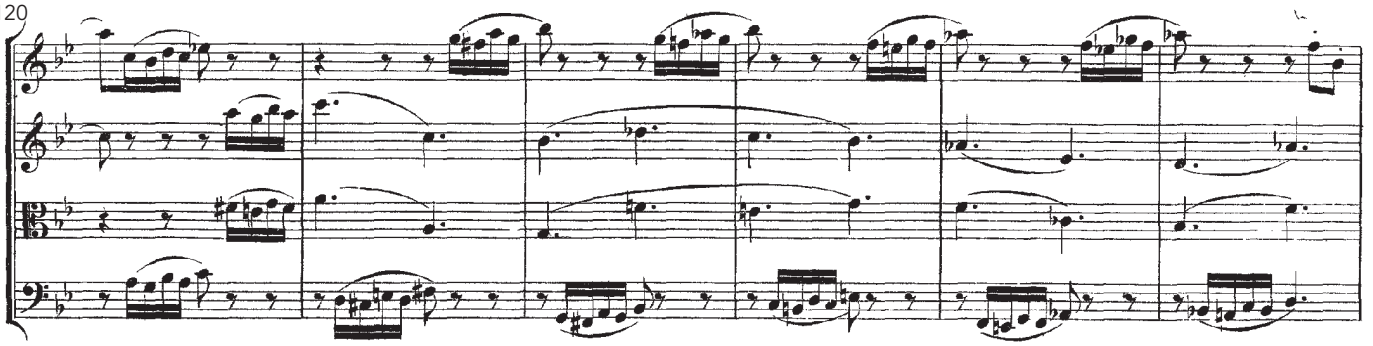


114



Reversal: accellerated circle-of-fifths descent leads to E-flat major...

120

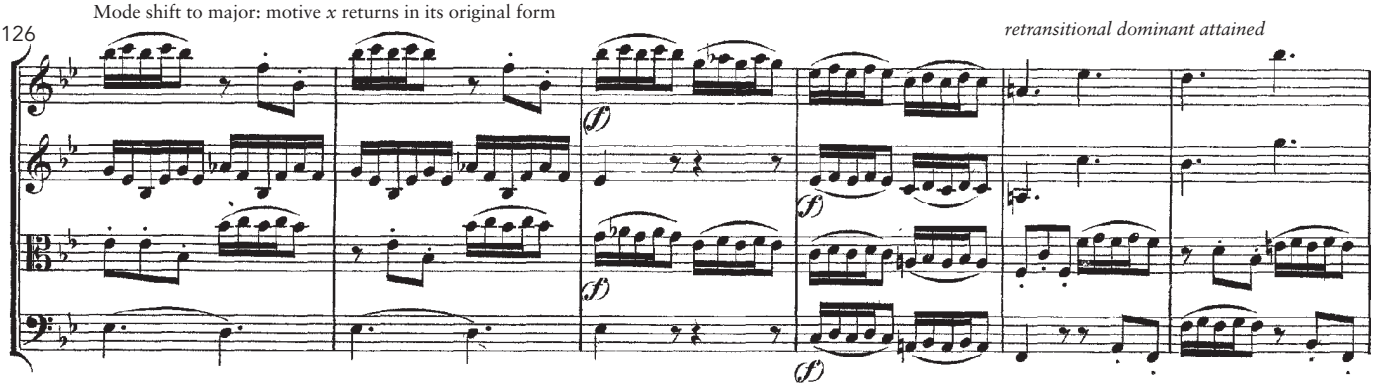


3. Retransition

Mode shift to major: motive *x* returns in its original form

126

retransitional dominant attained

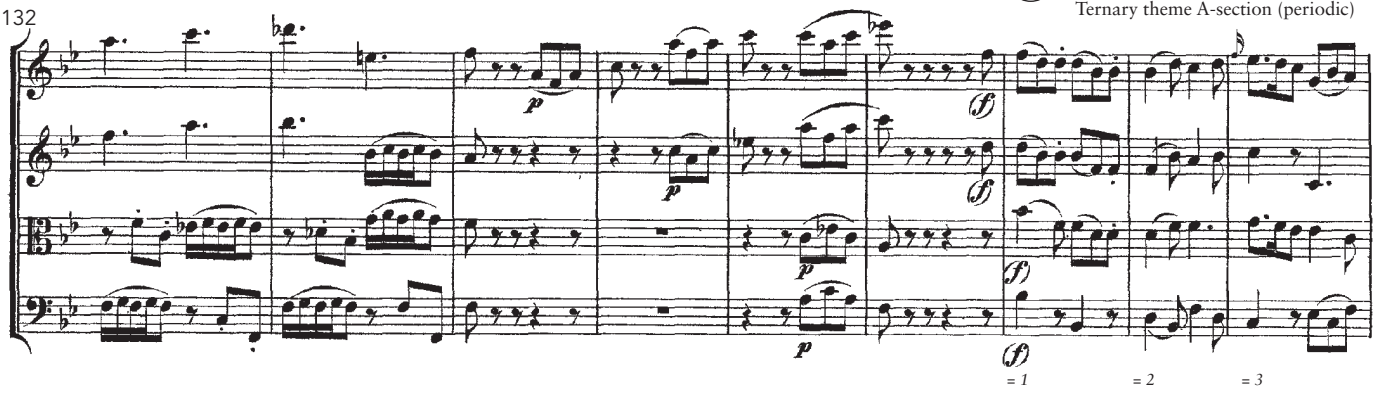


Recapitulation

P Primary thematic area

Ternary theme A-section (periodic)

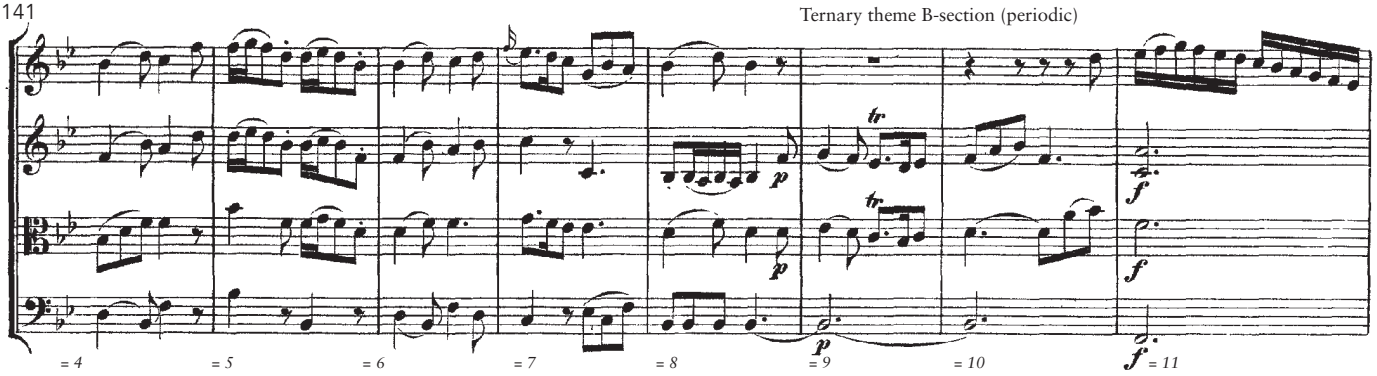
132



= 1 = 2 = 3

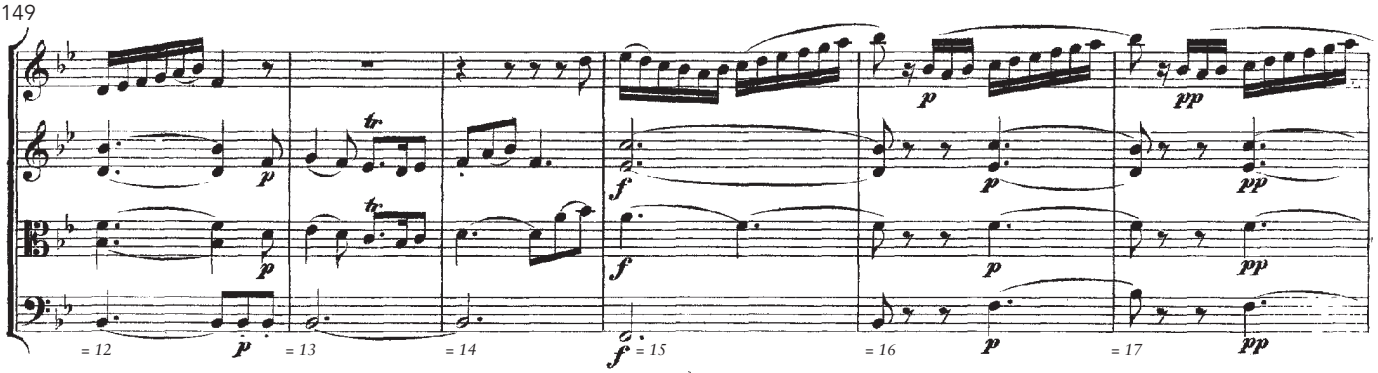
Ternary theme B-section (periodic)

141

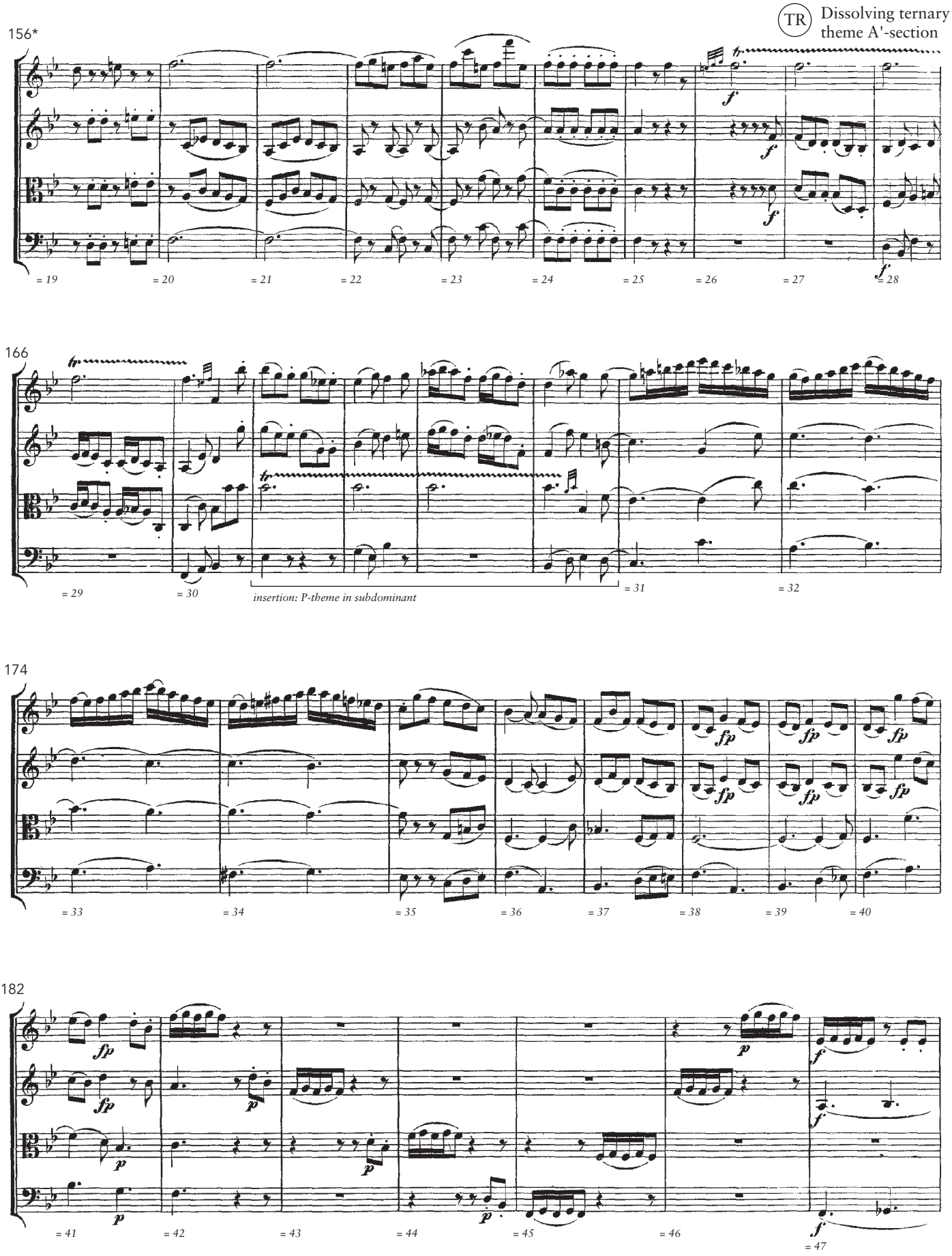


= 4 = 5 = 6 = 7 = 8 = 9 = 10 = 11

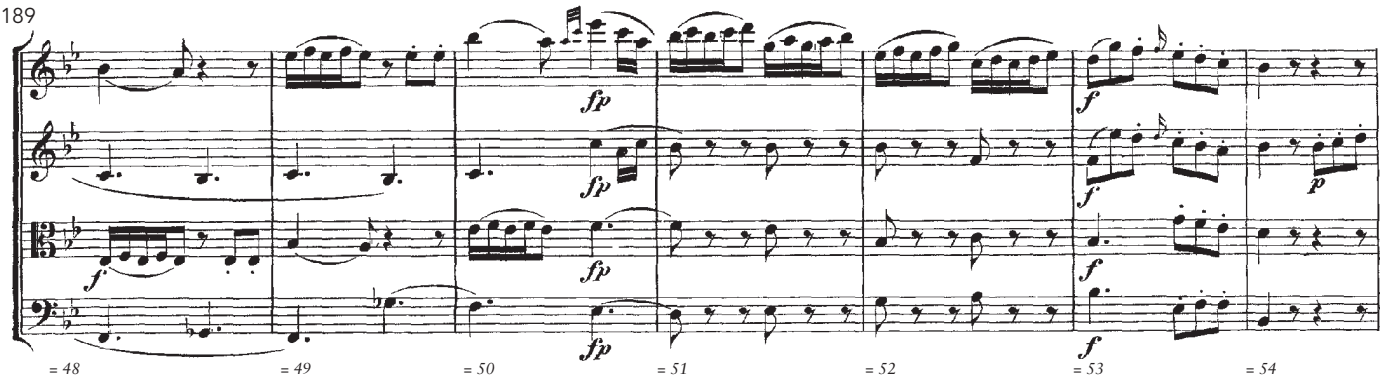
149



= 12 = 13 = 14 = 15 = 16 = 17

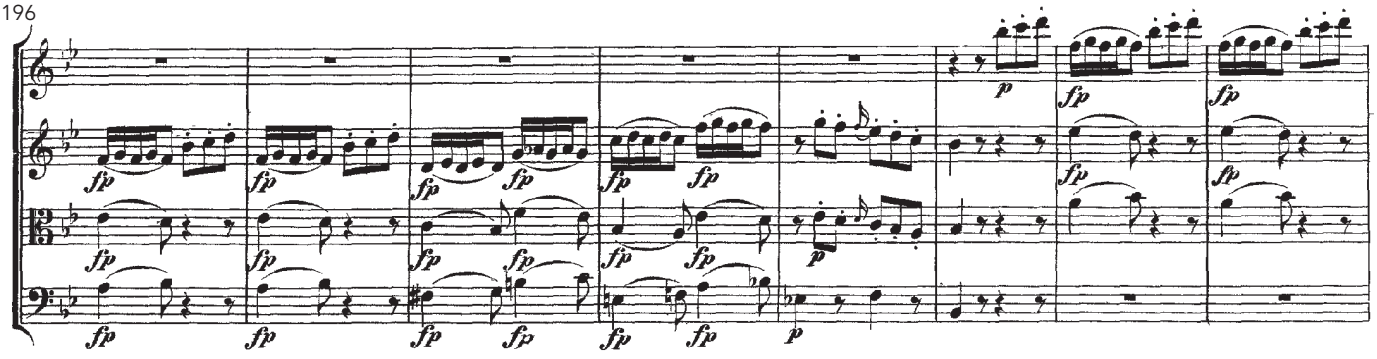

TR
Dissolving ternary theme A'-section
156*
166
174
182
insertion: P-theme in subdominant
* The Breitkopf & Härtel edition on which this score is based omits Mozart's bar 155 (= 18)!

189



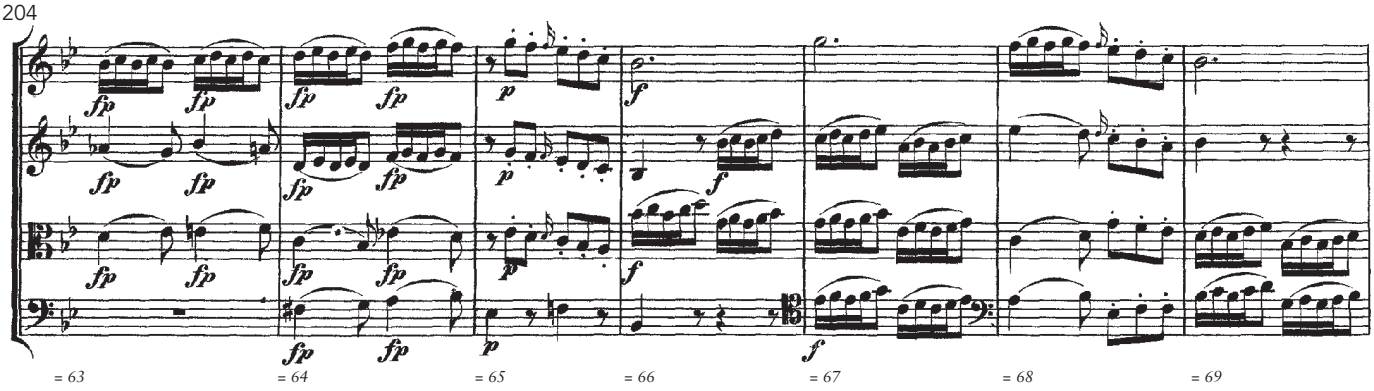
= 48 = 49 = 50 = 51 = 52 = 53 = 54

196



= 55 = 56 = 57 = 58 = 59 = 60 = 61 = 62

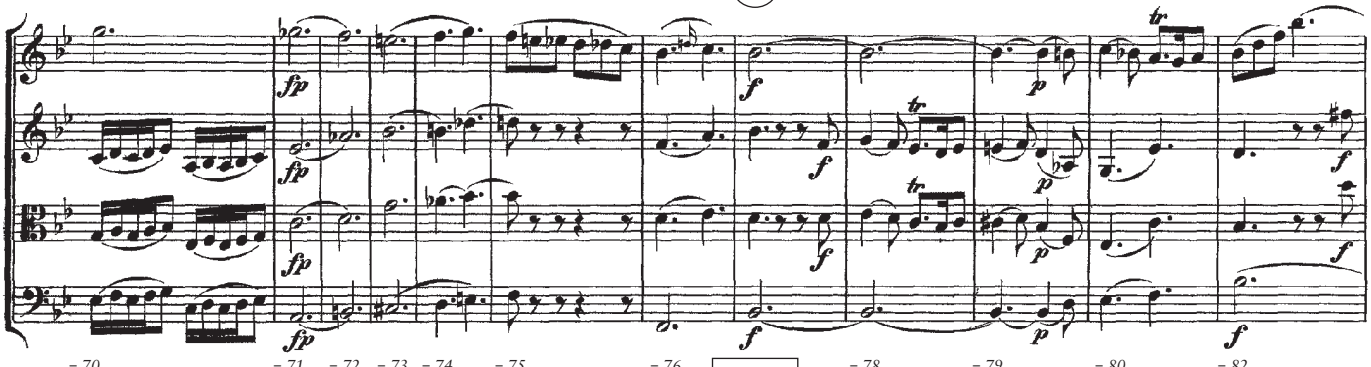
204



= 63 = 64 = 65 = 66 = 67 = 68 = 69

211

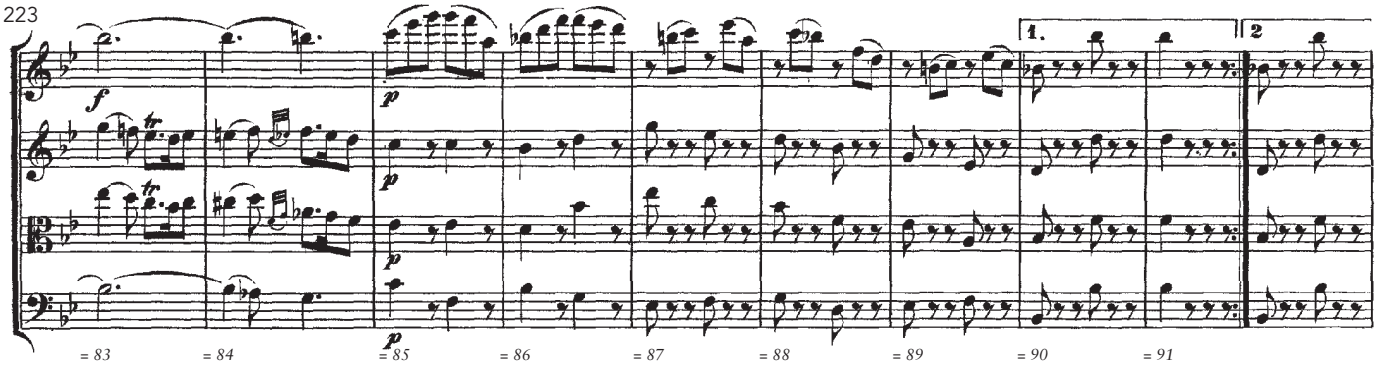
Ⓒ Closing zone (based on P-theme B-section)



= 70 = 71 = 72 = 73 = 74 = 75 = 76 ESC! = 78 = 79 = 80 = 82

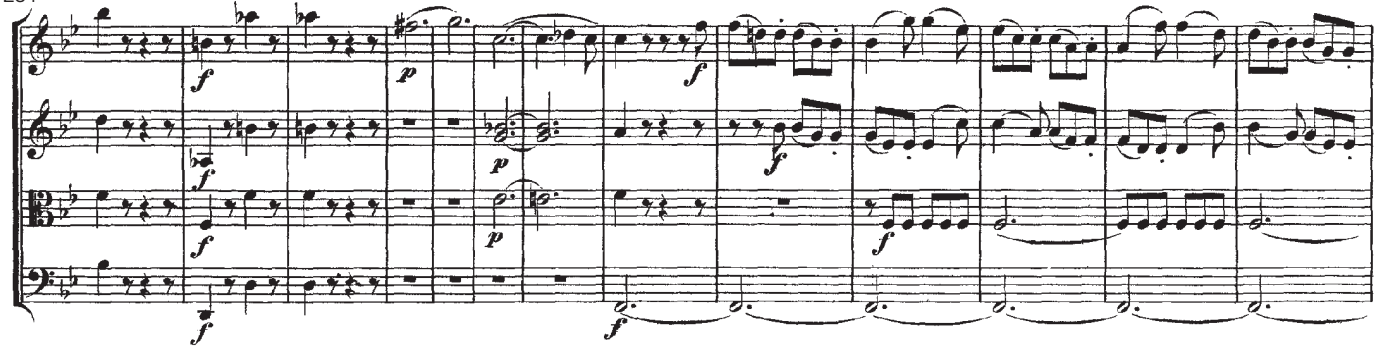
"Essential Structural Closure"

223

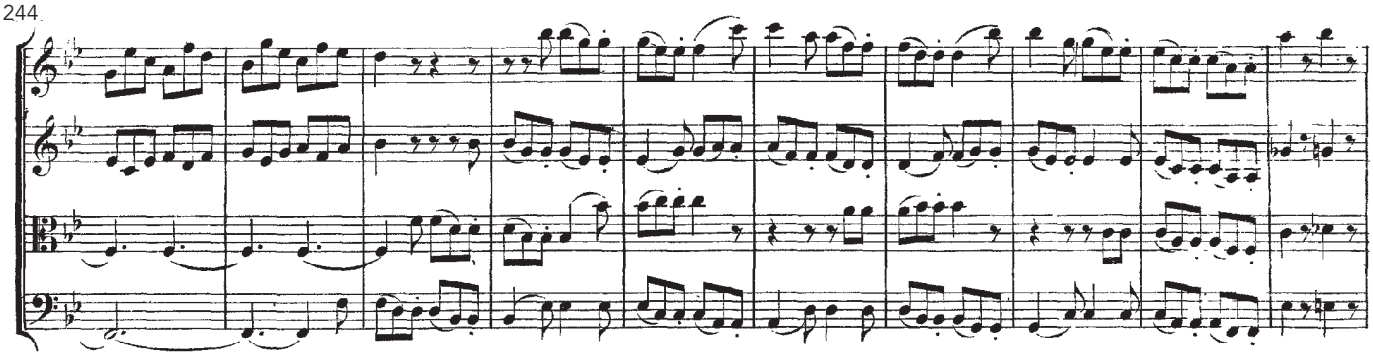


CODA Contrapuntal fantasy on P-theme

231

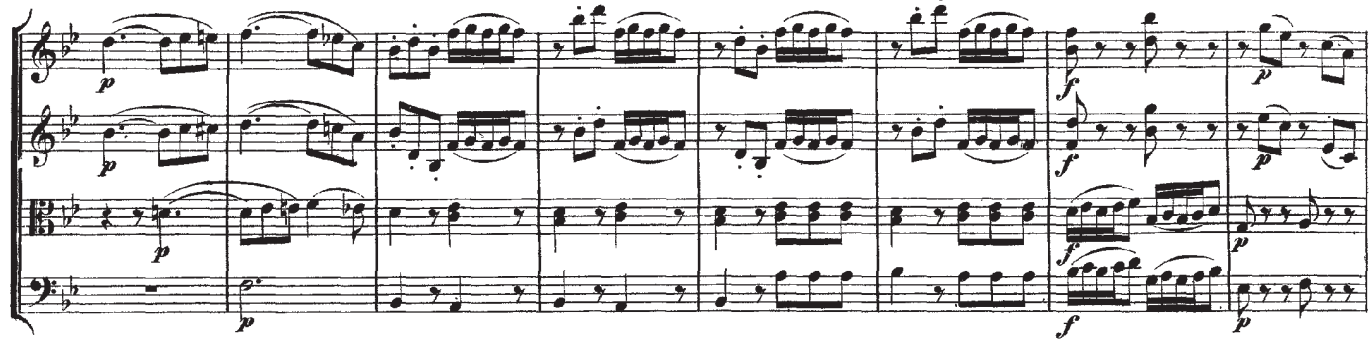


244



motive x *returns again...*

254



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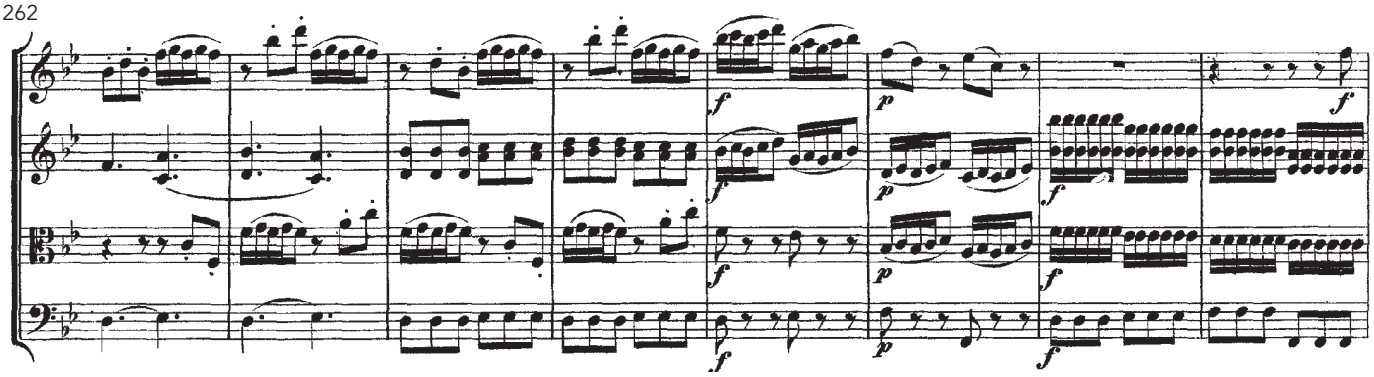
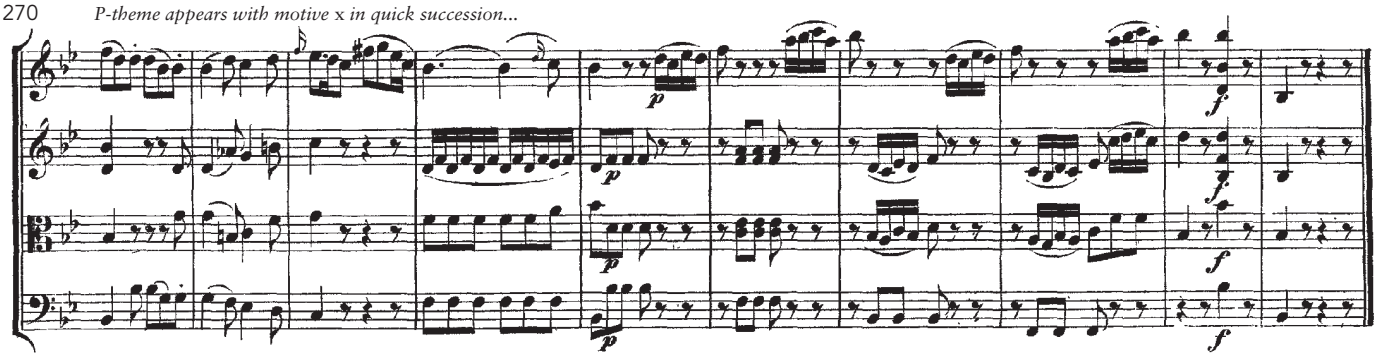
270 *P-theme appears with motive* x *in quick succession...*