

Juraj Kojs

*The Guiding Night*

for violin and electronics

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San Juan de la Cruz: *Noche Oscura*

(the fifth verse)

5.

¡Oh noche que guiaste!

¡oh noche amable más que el alborada!

¡oh noche que juntaste

Amado con amada,

amada en el Amado transformada

Saint John of Cross: *Dark Night*

5.

O guiding night!

O night more kind than break of day!

O night that joined

Love with love,

Love in her lover transformed!

Translated by Eric Rosenbloom

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*The Guiding Night* belongs to a series of pieces inspired by poetry of St. John of Cross. These compositions explore instrumental sonorities that lie on the border of hearing. In *The Guiding Night*, violin predominantly produces colored noise. The concealed pitch becomes heard as the color of timbre. The electronic part uses the MAX/MSP implementation of the bowed and plucked string physical models designed by Stefania Serafin. The models are used to augment the sonorities of the physical violin through extending its registral and textural arenas. The models enable expanding the violin's parameters to unrealistic dimensions and consequently producing novel sonorities. Its signal additionally functions as a controller for individual parameters of the bowed and plucked string models. The DSP processing meets in Ableton Live via the MAX for Live bridge.

### Performance notes

The notation system is divided into computer part and parts, which represent components of violin body: tail, bridge, fingerboard, strings, nut, and scroll. The notation system changes in course of the composition.

There are two gesture layers to be read simultaneously. One signifies where on the violin the gesture should be performed, and the other suggests what particular string or notes should be bowed. Accidental harmonics and squeaks are desired as they contribute to the ethereal quality of the composition's sound.

### **Technical requirements**

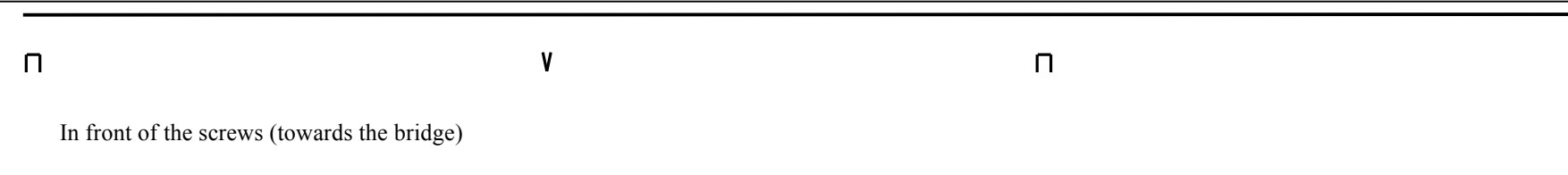
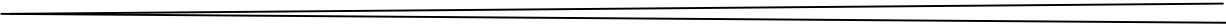
1 microphone, 1 Apple computer running Ableton Live 9 with Max for Live and MAX/MSP 6

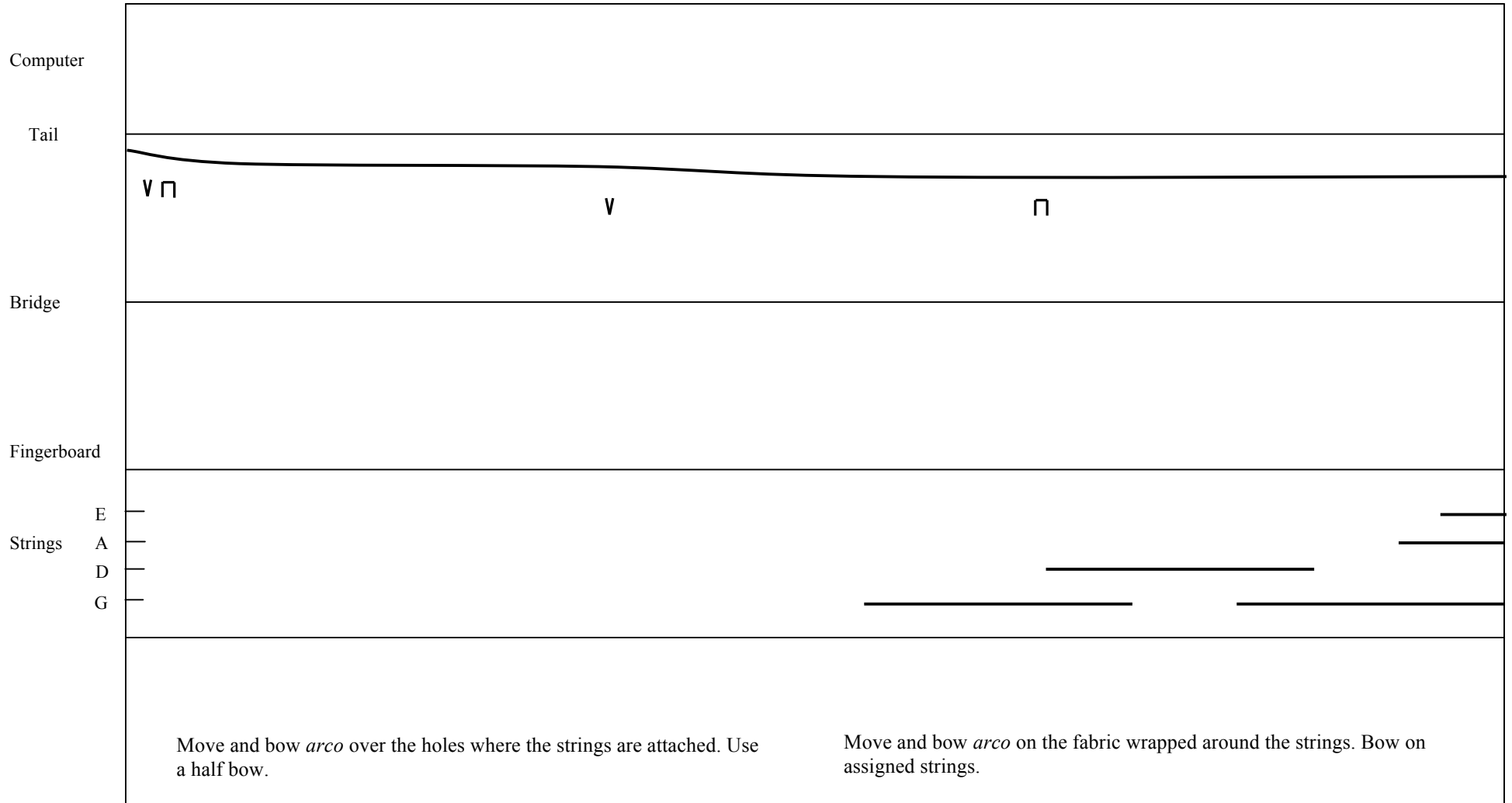
1 Firewire interface

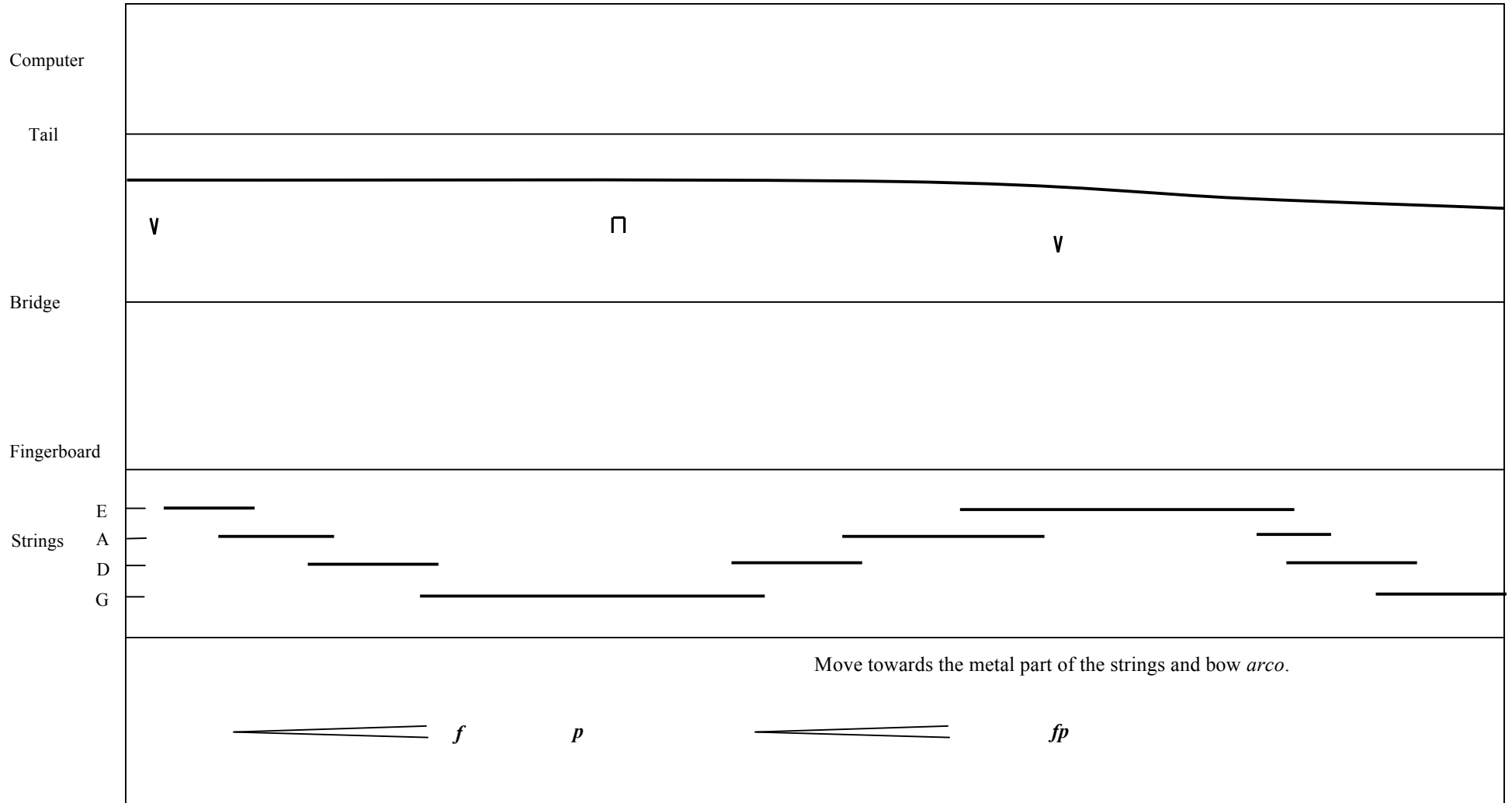
1 stereo audio playback system

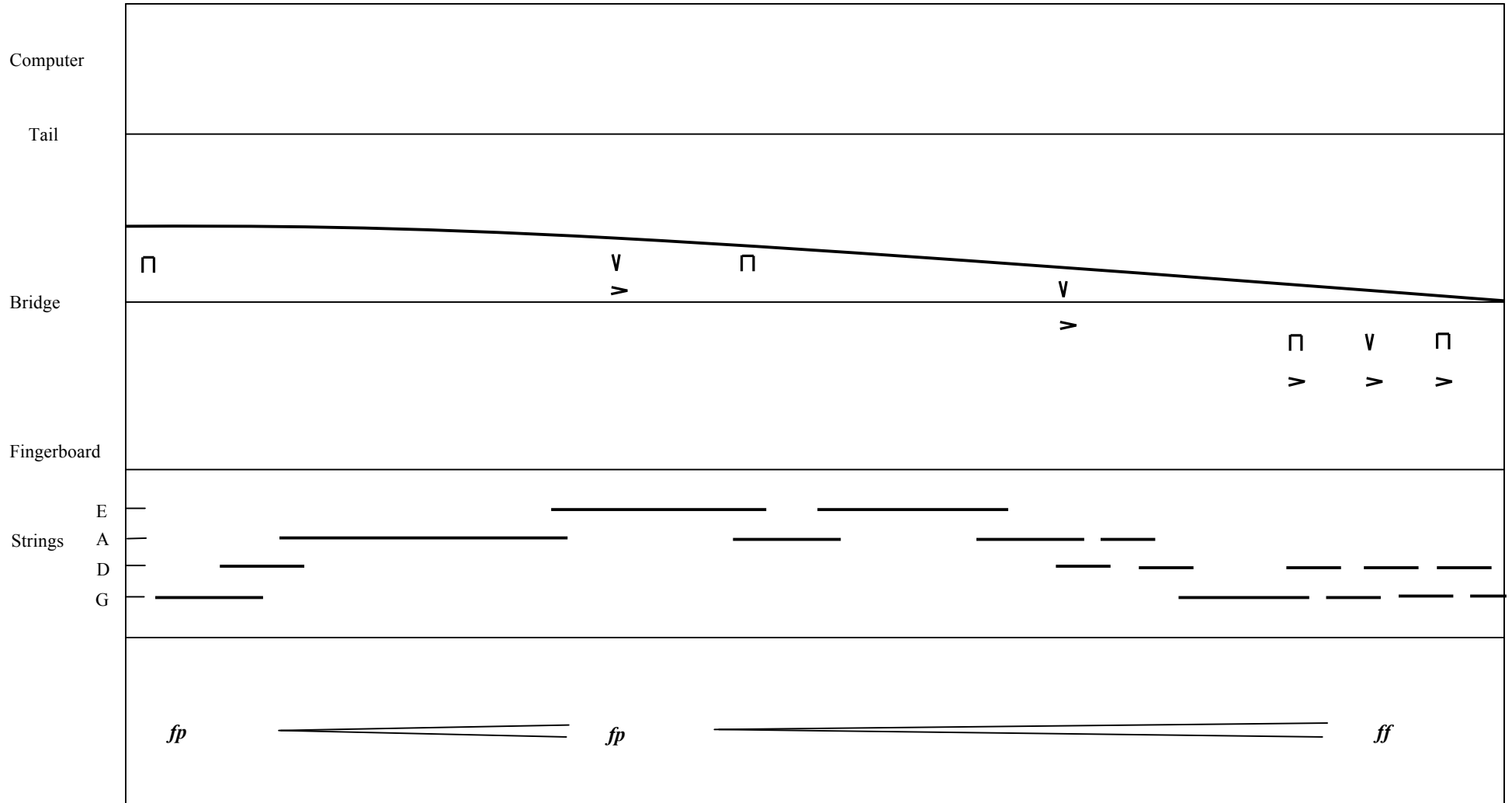
MAX/MSP physical models of plucked and bowed strings designed by Stefania Serafin can be provided upon request.

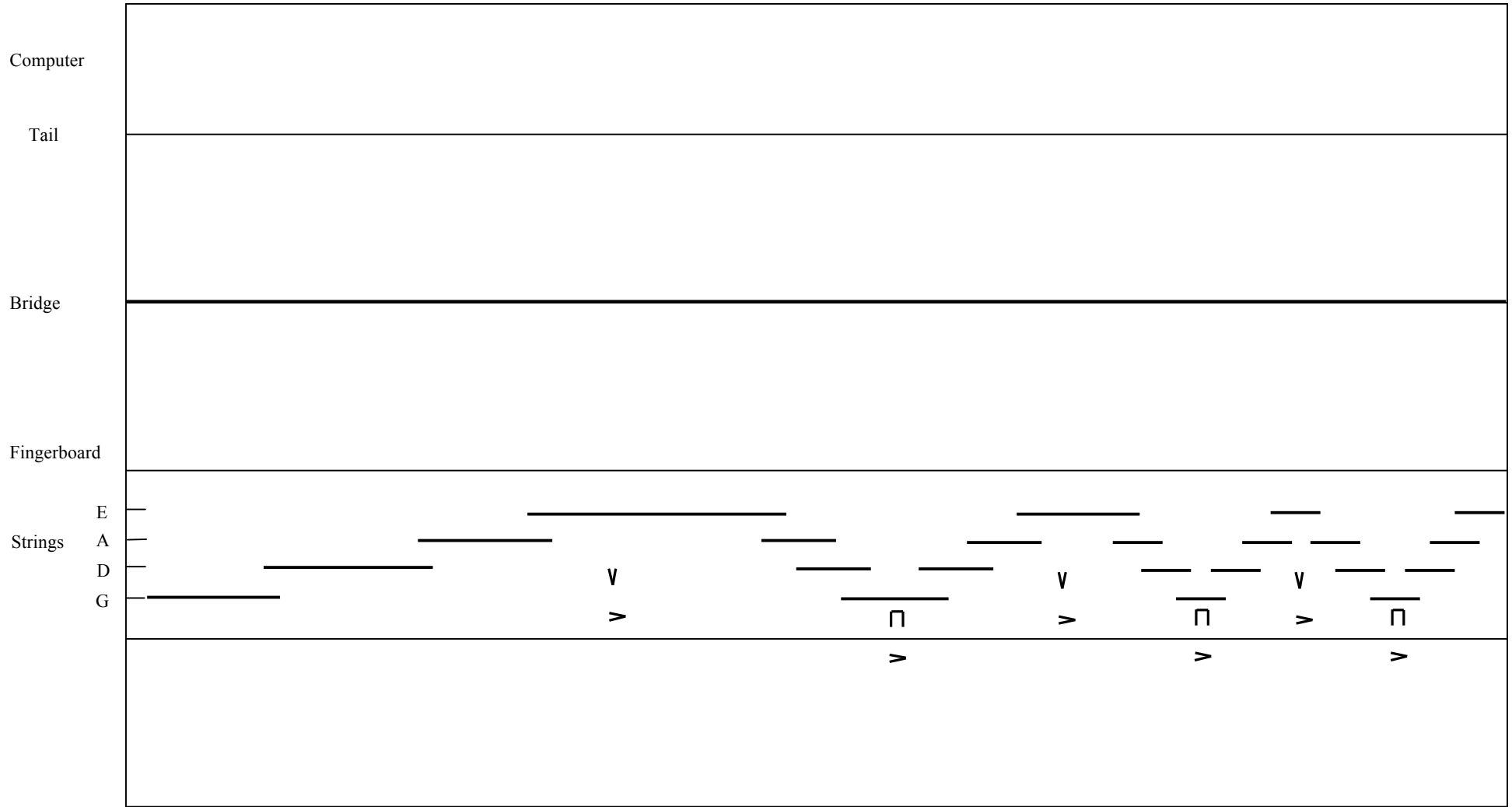
Duration: upto 10 minutes

Computer									
Tail	 <p style="text-align: center;">In front of the screws (towards the bridge)</p>								
Bridge									
Fingerboard									
Strings	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="147 876 178 901">E</td> <td data-bbox="178 876 210 901">—</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="147 917 178 941">A</td> <td data-bbox="178 917 210 941">—</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="147 958 178 982">D</td> <td data-bbox="178 958 210 982">—</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="147 998 178 1023">G</td> <td data-bbox="178 998 210 1023">—</td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="210 1136 1722 1177">Apply no rosin. Bow <i>arco</i> as close to the screws as possible, touching them. Change bowing imperceptibly. Use the full bow. Produce noise.</p> <p data-bbox="210 1177 252 1209"><i>pp</i></p>  <p data-bbox="1827 1177 1890 1209"><i>mf</i></p>	E	—	A	—	D	—	G	—
E	—								
A	—								
D	—								
G	—								

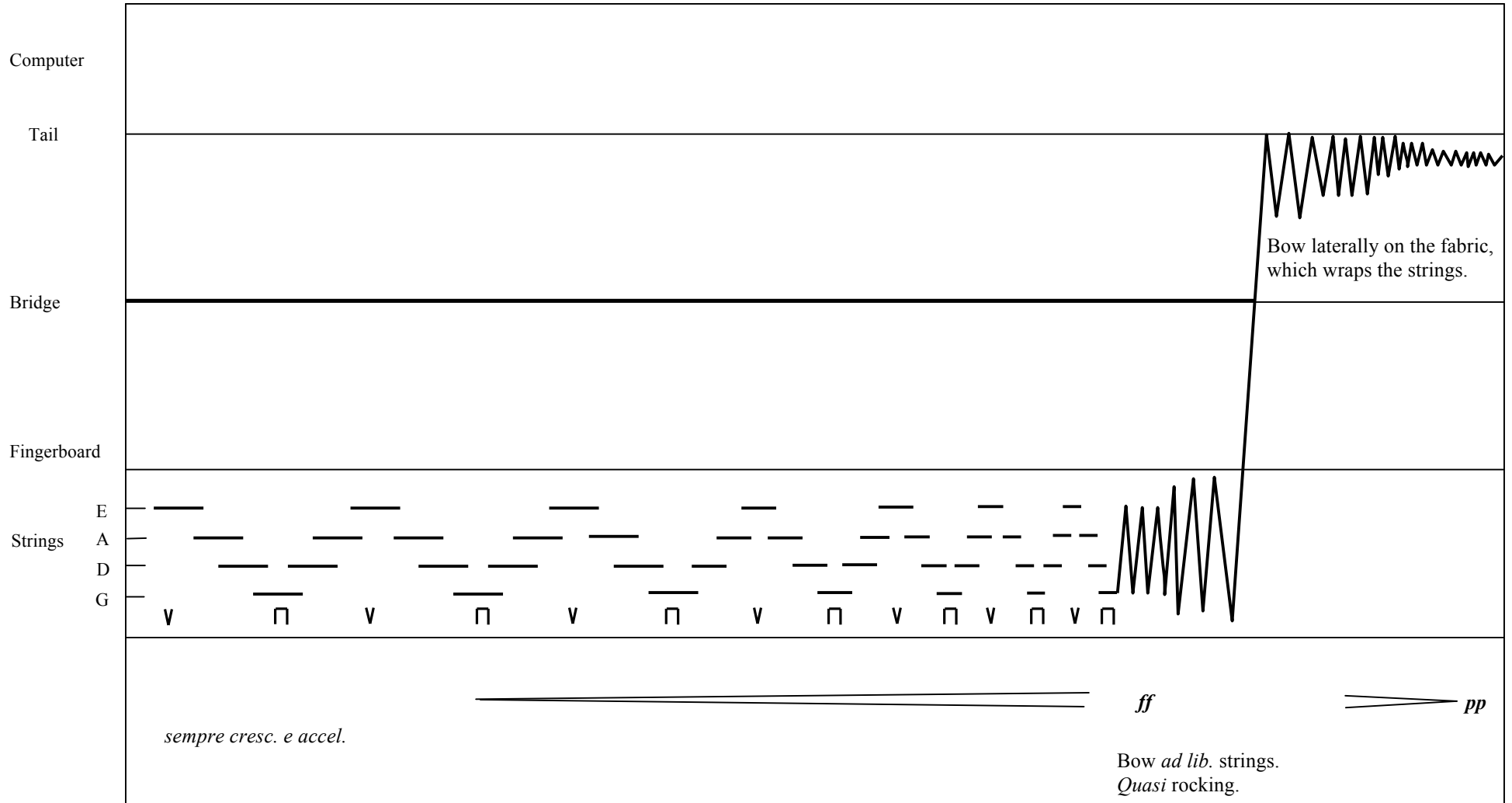












Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

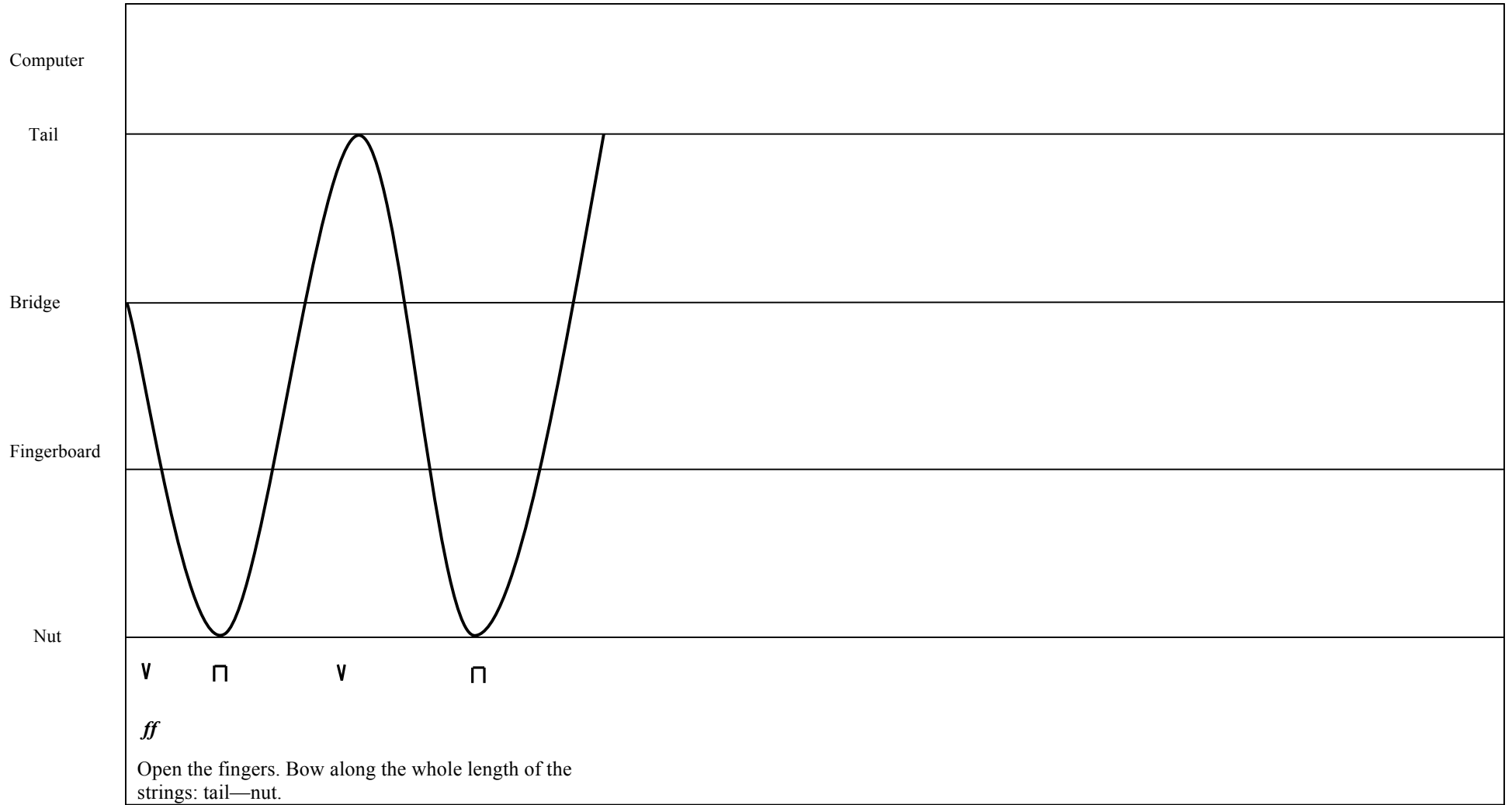
Fingers

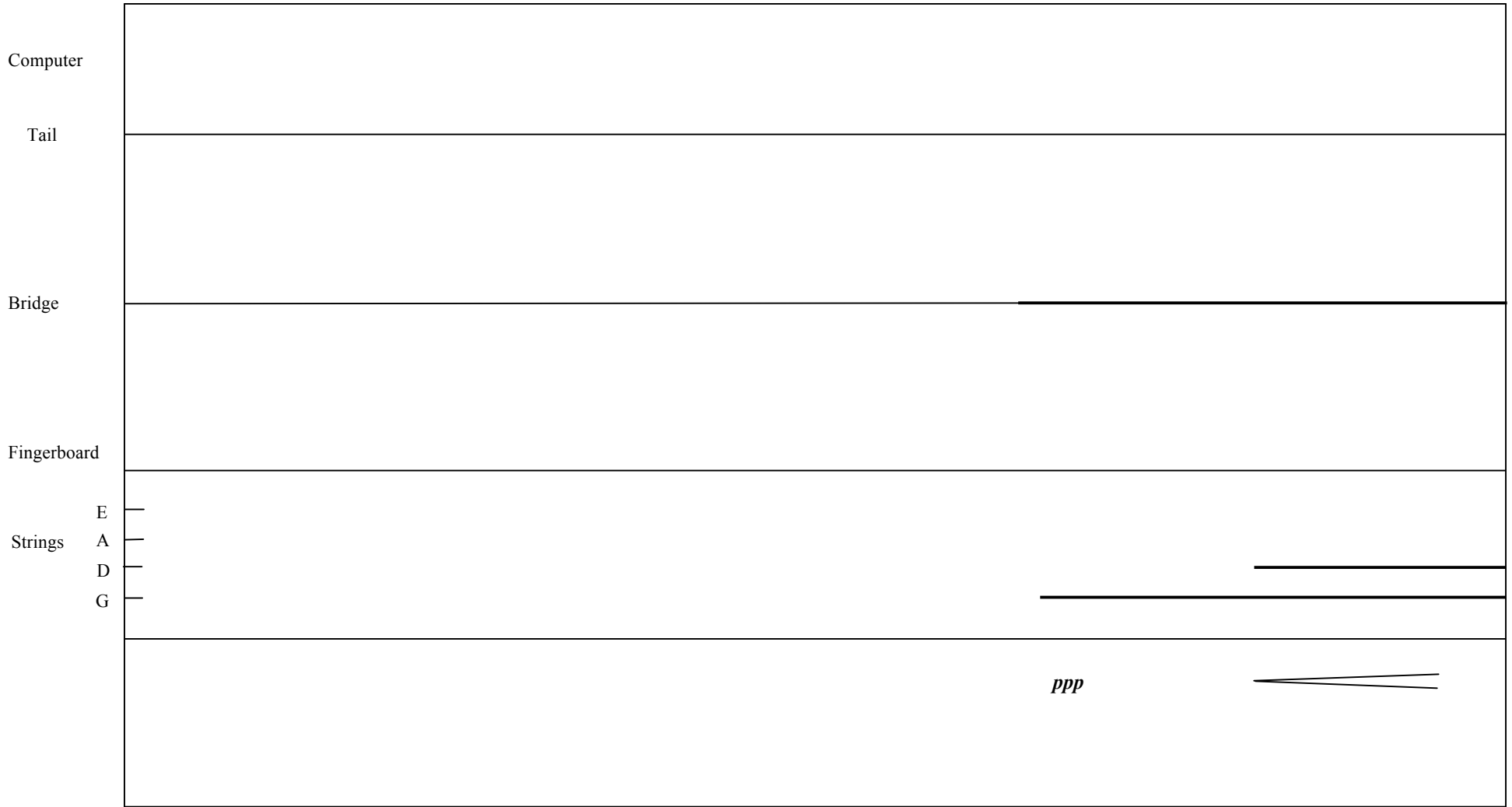
Nut

□ ▽ □ ▽ *simile*

Bow in circular motion clockwise.  
 Cover all strings lightly with your left hand.  
 Bow on all strings: *G—E—G*  
 Create pulse.

*pp*





Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

*sul ad lib.*

Bow freely. Allow squeaks and harmonics to sound.

*pp*

The image shows a musical score for a violin part, with a diagram of the instrument body above it. The diagram is divided into five horizontal sections: Computer, Tail, Bridge, Fingerboard, and Nut. The Bridge section shows a wavy line representing the bridge, with the text *sul ad lib.* above it. The Fingerboard section is empty. The Nut section contains a musical staff with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a time signature of 4/4. The music starts with a *pp* dynamic marking. The first four notes are quarter notes: B-flat, A, G, and F, all under a single slur. The fifth note is a quarter note G, also under the slur. The sixth note is a quarter note G, under a separate slur. The seventh note is a quarter note G, also under a separate slur. The eighth note is a quarter note G, under a final slur. The text "Bow freely. Allow squeaks and harmonics to sound." is written in the Fingerboard section.

Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

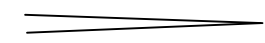
Nut

*sul ad lib.*

Musical notation on a staff with a treble clef. It features a melodic line starting with a quarter note, followed by a sharp sign and another quarter note, then a half note. A slur covers these three notes. Further right, there are three eighth notes, each with a fermata above it, also covered by a slur.



*mp*



*pp*

Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

The image shows a musical score for guitar, divided into five horizontal sections: Computer, Tail, Bridge, Fingerboard, and Nut. The Bridge section contains two diagrams of the guitar body, each with a thick line representing the bridge plate. The first diagram is labeled *sul A* and the second is labeled *sul A-E-A-D-E-A*. The Nut section contains a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff begins with a whole note chord (F#4, A4, C5) marked with a fermata. This is followed by a half note (F#4), a quarter note (A4) marked with an 8va and a fermata, and a half note (F#4). A slur covers the final three notes: a quarter note (Bb4), a quarter note (A4), and a quarter note (F#4). Below the staff, dynamic markings are indicated with wedges: *mp* (mezzo-piano) for the first half note, *pp* (pianissimo) for the quarter note, *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the first half note of the slur, and *pp* for the second half note of the slur.

Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

The image displays a musical score and a bridge diagram for a string instrument. The score is written on a five-line staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a half note on the first line (E5) with a fermata above it. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is placed below the staff, with a wedge-shaped hairpin indicating a crescendo leading to the note. Above the staff, a bridge diagram shows a horizontal line representing the bridge. The left end of the line is slightly elevated, and the right end is slightly lowered. Three vertical lines are drawn across the bridge, each topped with a 'v' symbol and a right-pointing arrow below it. The text *sul E* is centered above the bridge. The diagram is divided into five horizontal sections labeled on the left: Computer, Tail, Bridge, Fingerboard, and Nut.



Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

The image shows a musical score for guitar, divided into five horizontal sections: Computer, Tail, Bridge, Fingerboard, and Nut. The Bridge section contains a diagram of the bridge with two points of contact labeled *sul E* and *sul G*, each with a downward-pointing arrow. The Nut section contains a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of the notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, and F5. A slur covers the first four notes, and another slur covers the last two. Dynamics are indicated below the staff: *pp* at the start, a wedge-shaped crescendo from *mf* to *pp* under the first slur, a wedge-shaped decrescendo from *mf* to *p* under the second slur, and a wedge-shaped decrescendo from *f* to *p* at the end.

Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

*sul E*

*sul E*

*pp* *mf* *pp* *f* *pp*

*Gliss.*

*8va*

*8va*

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for guitar, divided into five horizontal sections: Computer, Tail, Bridge, Fingerboard, and Nut. The Bridge section contains two diagrams of the guitar bridge. The first diagram shows a flat bridge with a line labeled 'sul E' pointing to the top edge. The second diagram shows a wavy bridge with a line labeled 'sul E' pointing to the top edge. The Nut section contains a musical staff with a treble clef. The first measure has a dynamic marking of 'pp' and a crescendo leading to 'mf', followed by a decrescendo to 'pp'. A 'Gliss.' marking is above the notes. The second measure has a dynamic marking of 'f' and a decrescendo to 'pp'. The third measure has a dynamic marking of 'pp'. There are two '8va' markings above the notes in the second and third measures, with dashed lines indicating octave transposition.

Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

8<sup>va</sup>

*pp*

*f* > *pp*

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for guitar. At the top, there are five horizontal lines representing different parts of the guitar body: Computer, Tail, Bridge, Fingerboard, and Nut. A solid black line is drawn across these lines, starting from the Fingerboard level, rising to the Bridge level, staying flat, dipping slightly below the Bridge level, rising back to the Bridge level, and finally rising sharply above the Bridge level. Below these lines is a musical staff with a treble clef. The staff contains a melodic line with a long slur over the first seven notes. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), and D4 (quarter). The eighth note D4 has a fermata. Above the staff, a dashed line labeled '8<sup>va</sup>' indicates an octave transposition. Below the staff, the dynamic marking 'pp' is under the first note, and a hairpin crescendo/decrescendo symbol is under the last five notes, with 'f' at the peak and '> pp' at the end.

Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

□ v *simile*

Hold strings tightly in the middle.

*arco*

8<sup>va</sup>

*p* *f* *p* *pp* *mp* *pp*

With fingernails  
(close to the bridge)

Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

Scroll

*arco* on the scroll.  
*Alternate bowing.*

□    ▽

*p*      *f*      *pp*      *mp*

*sva*-----

6

The image shows a musical score for a string instrument, likely a violin or viola, with a scroll. The score is divided into six horizontal sections: Computer, Tail, Bridge, Fingerboard, Nut, and Scroll. The scroll section contains a musical staff with a treble clef. The score begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and a wedge-shaped hairpin indicating a crescendo to *f* (forte). This is followed by a section of music with a dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo) and a wedge-shaped hairpin indicating a crescendo to *mp* (mezzo-piano). The music features a sixteenth-note figure with a slur and a dynamic marking of *sva* (sforzando) above it. The number 6 is written below the staff, indicating a sixteenth-note figure. Above the scroll section, there are two bowing symbols: a square symbol (□) and a downward-pointing triangle symbol (▽), with a dashed line extending from the triangle. The text "arco on the scroll. Alternate bowing." is written above the scroll section.

Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

Scroll

Bow *arco* along the strings on the *E* scroll.  
*Alternate bowing.*  
 Allow squeaks to sound.

*p*  $\nabla$  *mf*      *f*     $\triangleright$  *p*     $\nabla$  *f*

Computer

Tail

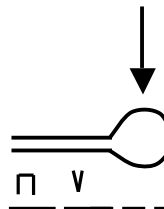
Bridge

Fingerboard

Nut

Scroll

Bow *arco* along the strings on  
the *E* scroll.  
*Alternate bowing.*  
Allow squeaks to sound.



$\square$   $\nabla$



*f*  $\rightrightarrows$  *p*  $\leftrightsquigarrow$  *ff*

Computer

Tail

Bridge

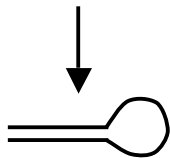
Fingerboard

Fingers

Nut

Scrolls

*sempre E scroll*  
*col legno*  
*Alternate bowing.*

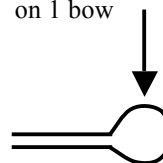


*arco*  
*simile*



*f*  $\rightrightarrows$  *p*

*arco*  
on 1 bow



*ff*  $\rightrightarrows$  *pp*



Computer

Tail

Bridge

Fingerboard

Fingers

Nut

Scroll

*col legno*  
Alternate bowing.

*arco simile*

Bow slowly.  
Allow squeaks.

*p*  $\rightrightarrows$  *pp*      *f*  $\rightrightarrows$  *p*      *f*  $\rightrightarrows$  *p*      *ff*

*gva-*



Computer	
Tail	
Bridge	
Fingerboard	
Fingers	
Nut	
Scroll	