# *g. bottesini*

## *gran duetto 3*
## *for double basses*

*yorke edition*

# Editor's Note

Giovanni Bottesini, born 22nd December 1821, studied the violin, singing and tympani as a young boy. When, in 1835, his father entered him for a scholarship at the Milan Conservatory, he was obliged to take up the double bass as this was the only string scholarship available. So talented was he, that within five years he had won recognition as a brilliant bass player.

In 1846 he went to Havanna, where he wrote his first opera Cristoforo Colombo. His London debut in 1849 earned him the reputation of 'Paganini of the double bass', and lead to a succession of concert tours which took him all over the world. He became principal conductor of the Italian Opera in Paris in 1855. Travelling became almost an obsession, and he would never remain long in one place. In 1871 he went with Verdi to Cairo, where he directed the first performances of Verdi's Aida. His last appointment was that of Director of the Conservatory in Parma, where he died, almost penniless, on 7th July 1889.

Bottesini's major compositions include twelve operas, a Messa da Requiem and an oratorio The Gardens of Olivet. His many compositions for the double bass are notoriously difficult, and require a thorough technical knowledge of the instrument. The Tre Grandi Duetti per Contrabbasso were written while Bottesini was studying at Milan. They were dedicated to his teacher Luigi Rossi.

Rodney Slatford
London 1972

# Vorwort des Herausgebers

*Giovanni Bottesini wurde am 22 Dezember 1821 geboren. Noch als Knabe, studierte er schon Geige, Gesang und Pauke. Als sein Vater ihn 1835 für einen Freiplatz auf die Liste des Mailänder Konservatoriums setzen liess, sah Bottesini sich gezwungen, den Kontrabass zu lernen, weil mit diesem, als einziges Streichinstrument, ein Freiplatz verbunden war. Er erwies sich als so begabt, dass er schon innerhalb von fünf Jahren allgemein als ein hervorragender Bassist bekannt war.*

*1846 reiste Bottesini nach Havanna, wo er seine erste Oper, Cristoforo Colombo schrieb. Sein erstes öffentliches Auftreten in London (1849) brachte ihm den Ruf ein, der 'Paganini des Kontrabasses' zu sein. Es führte zu einer Reihe von Konzerttourneen, auf denen er die ganze Welt bereiste. 1855 wurde er erster Kapellmeister an der italienischen Oper in Paris. Das Reisen war ihm fast zur Notwendigkeit geworden, und er hielt es nie lang an einem Ort aus. 1871 begleitete er Verdi nach Kairo, wo er die Erstaufführung von Verdis Aida leitete. Das letzte Amt, das er bekleidete, war das des Direktors des Konservatoriums in Parma, wo er, fast gänzlich verarmt, am 7 Juli 1889 starb.*

*Zu seinen hauptsächlichsten Werken, sind zwölf Opern, eine Messa da Requiem und ein Oratorium, Die Gärten von Olivet, zu zählen. Die Vielzahl seiner Kompositionen für Kontrabass sind ihrer Schwierigkeiten wegen berühmt und erfordern eine vollkommene Beherrschung der Technik dieses Instruments. Die Tre Grandi Duetti per Contrabbasso stammen aus der Zeit, als Bottesini am Mailänder Konservatorium studierte. Sie sind seinem Lahrer, Luigi Rossi, gewidmet.*

*Rodney Slatford*
*London 1972*

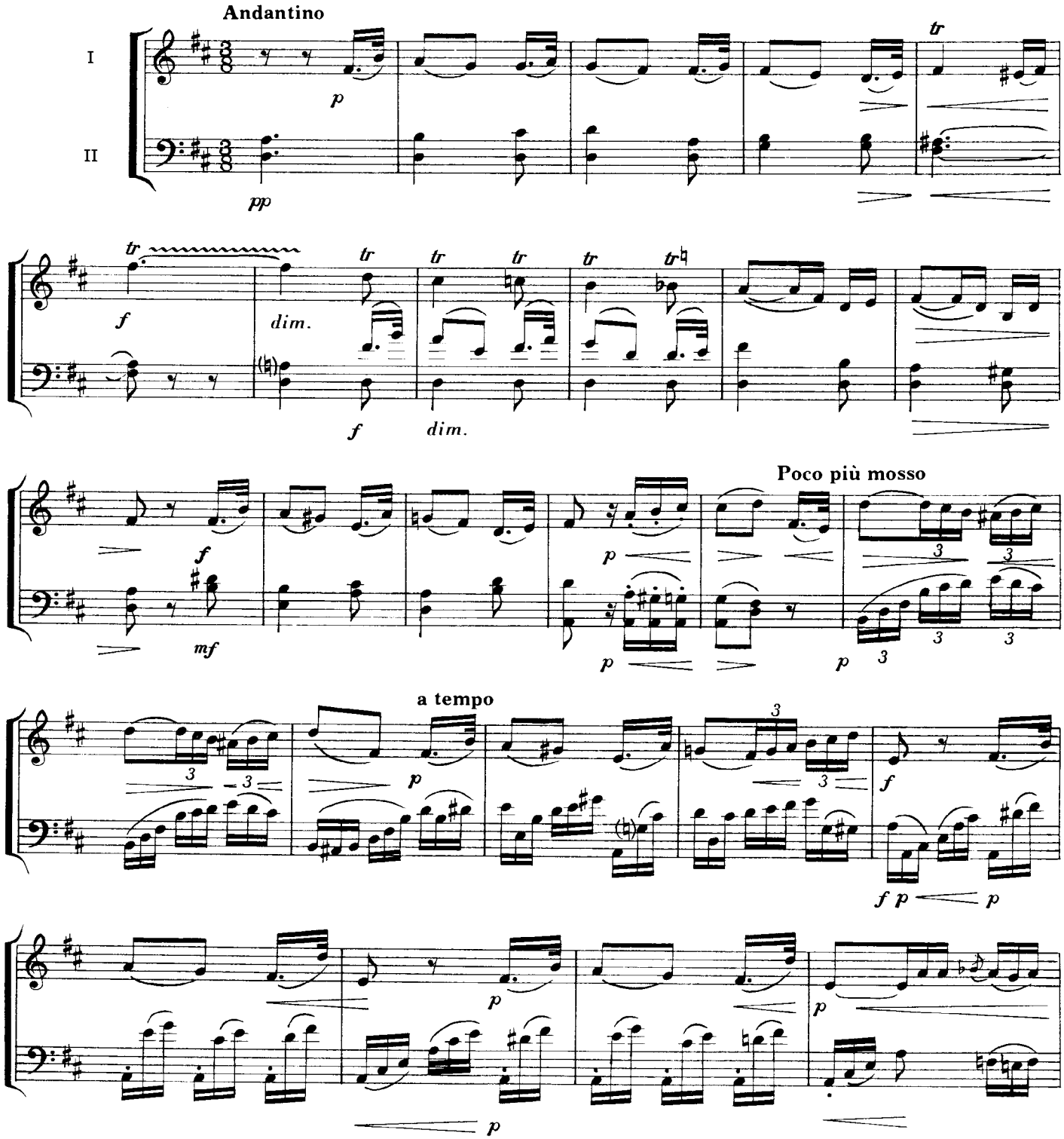
*deutsche Übersetzung*
*Stefan de Haan.*

# GRAN DUETTO no. 3

## for two double basses

Edited by Rodney SLATFORD

Giovanni BOTTESINI

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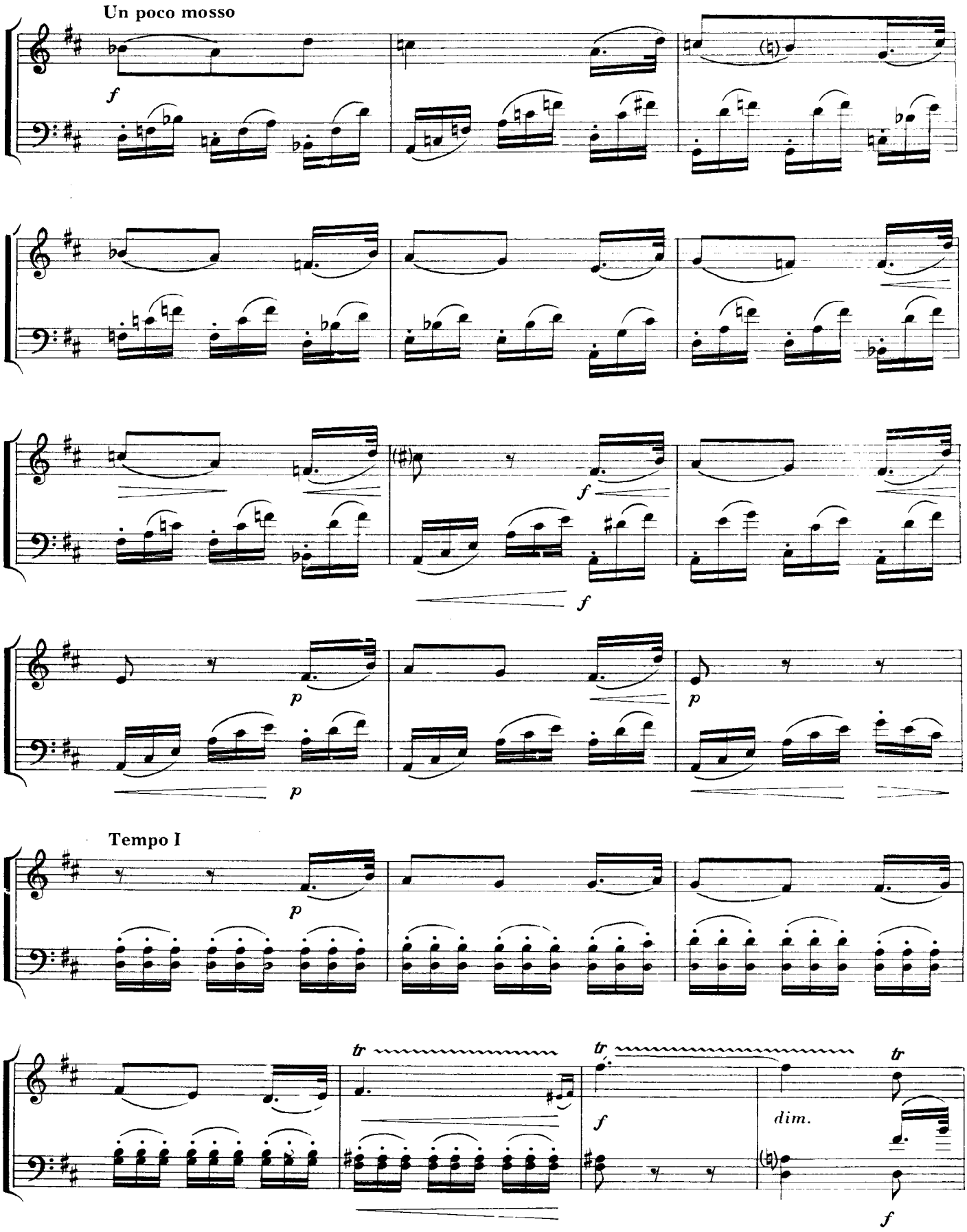
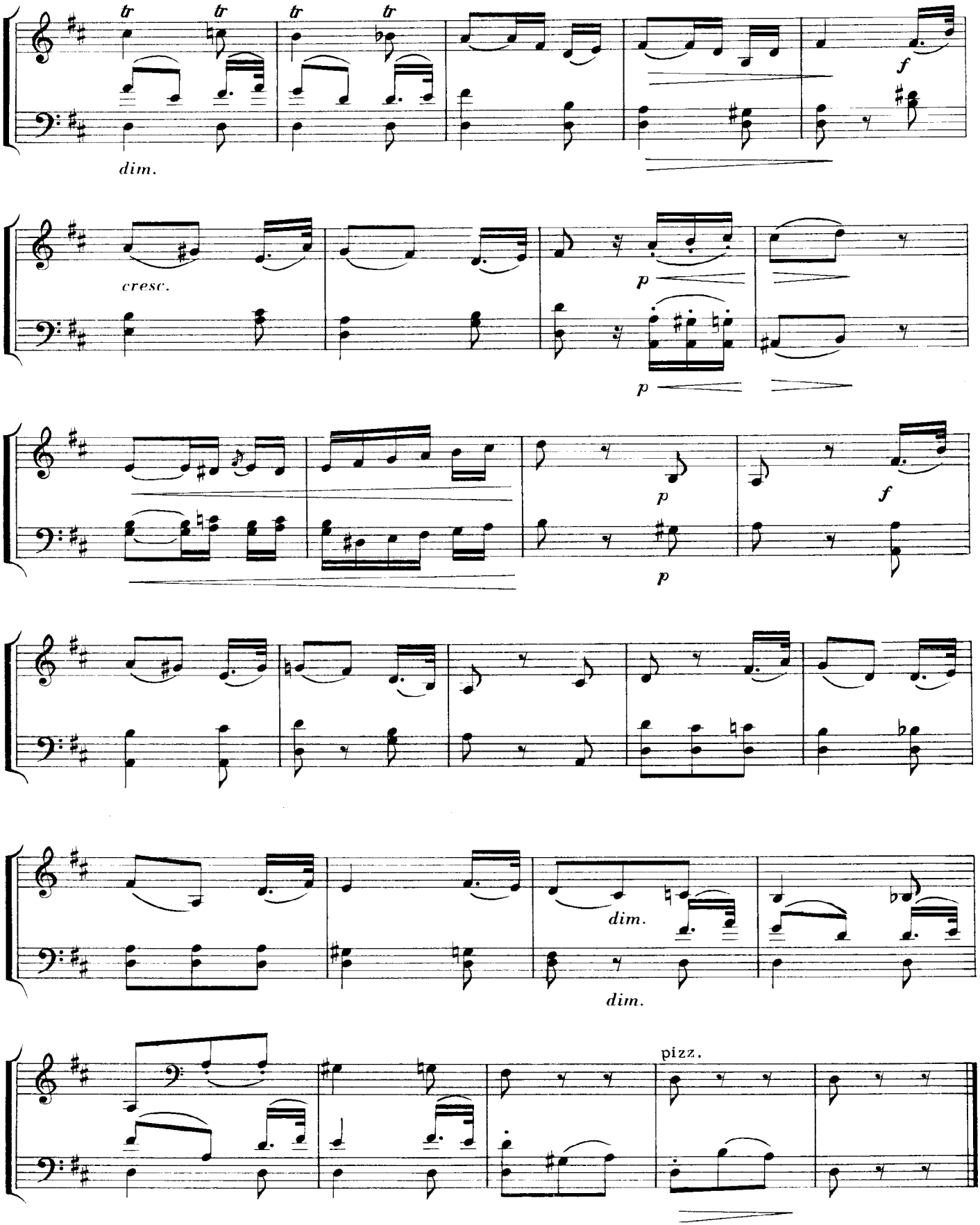
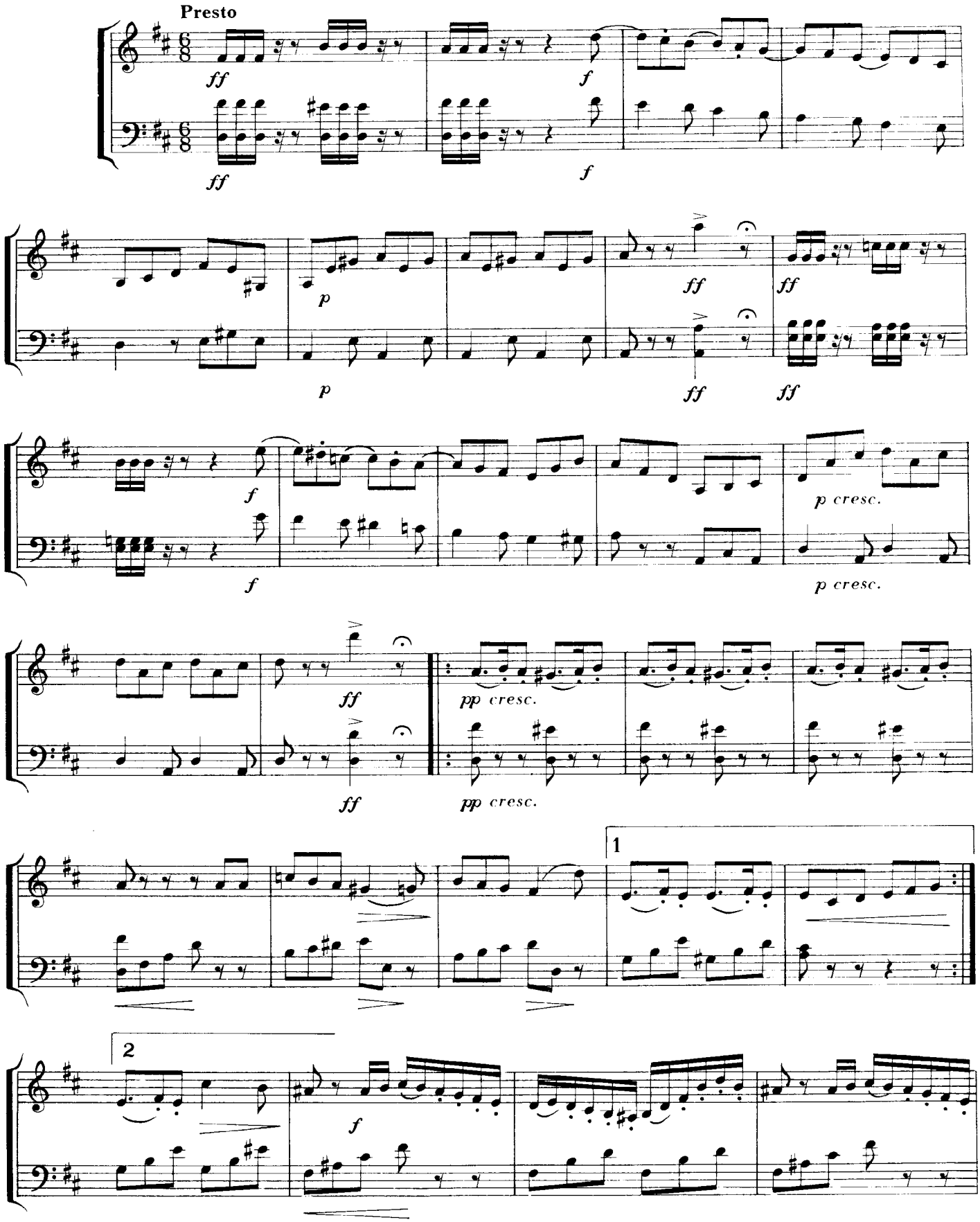
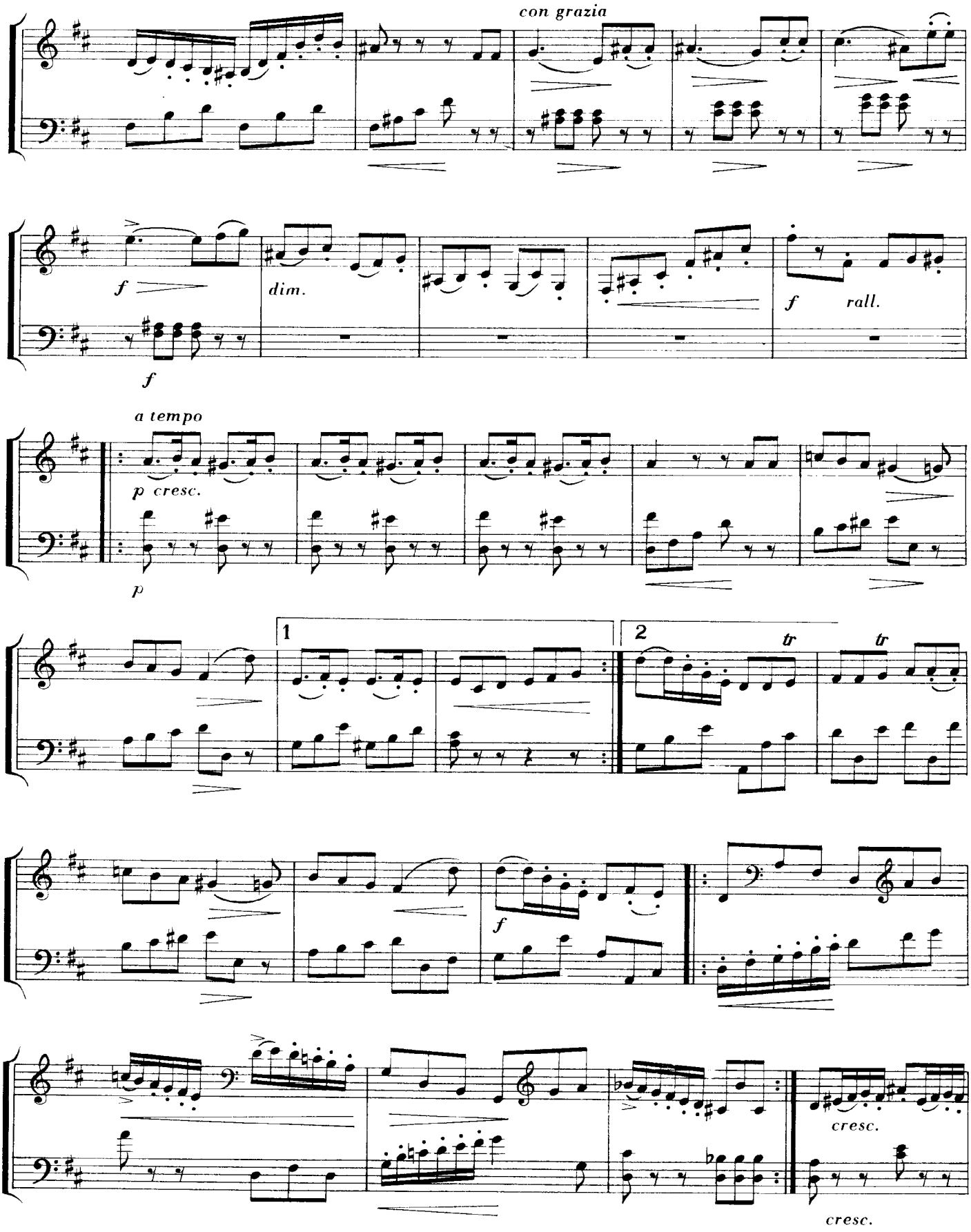
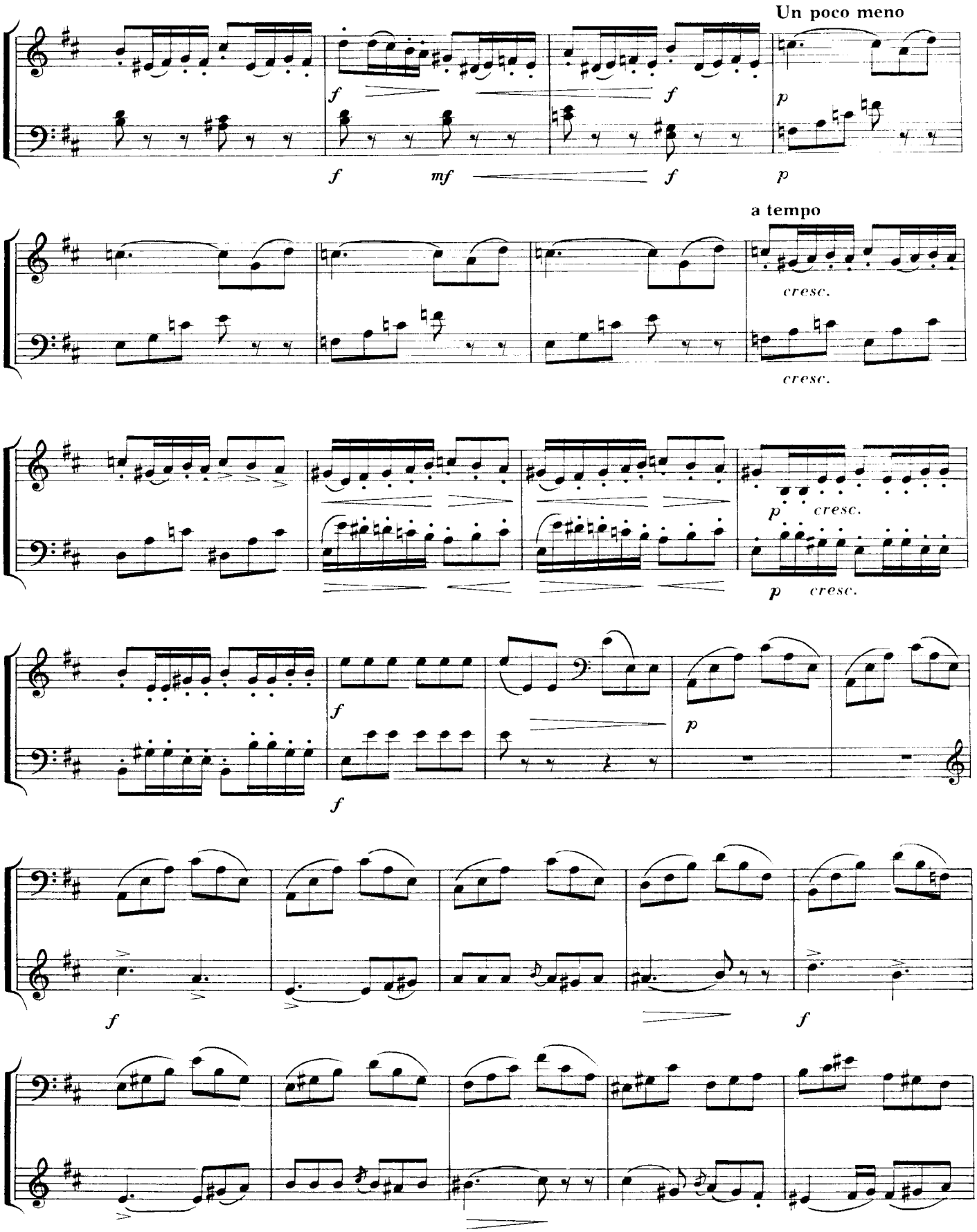
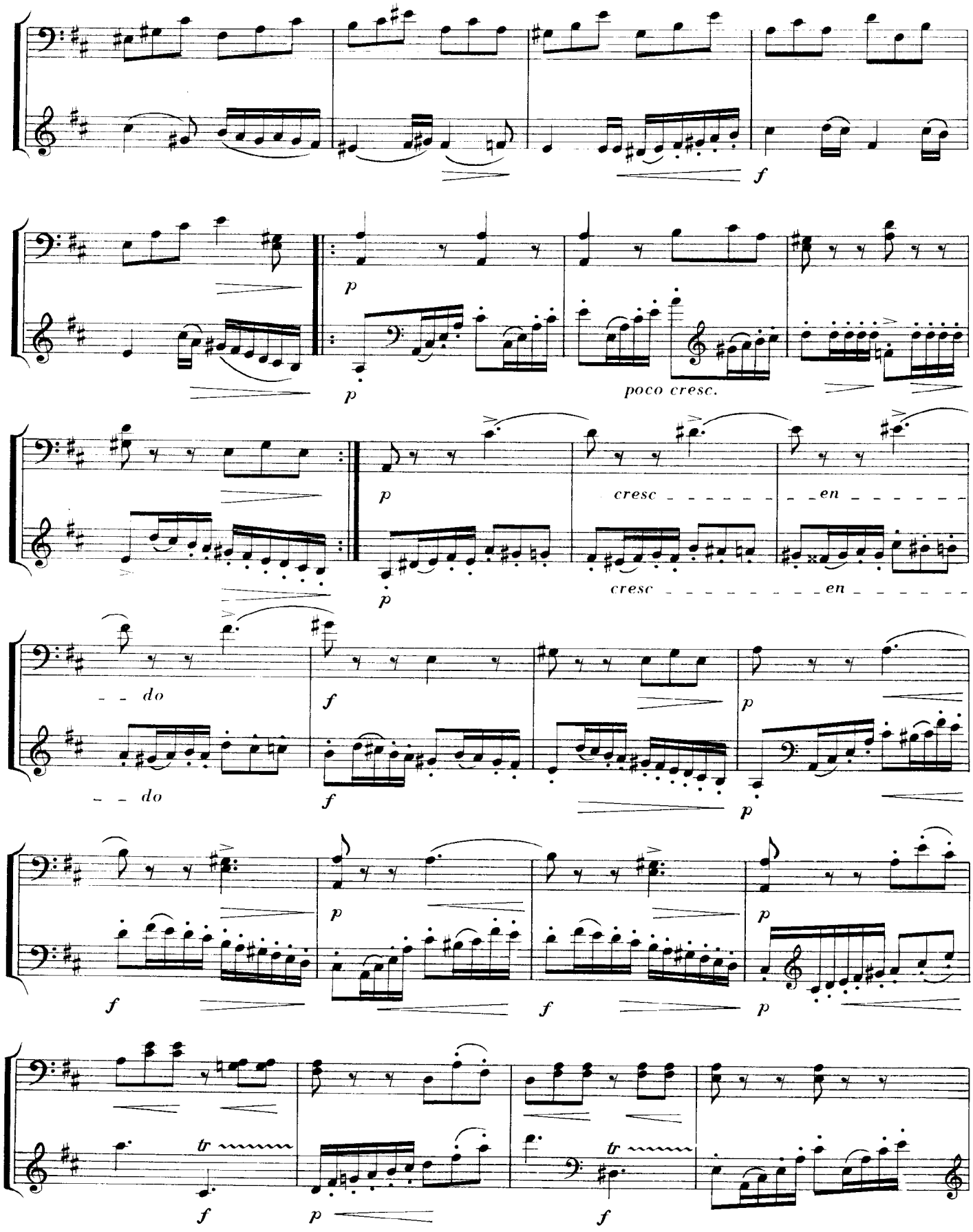

Un poco mosso
27
30
33
36
Tempo I
39
42
tr
dim.

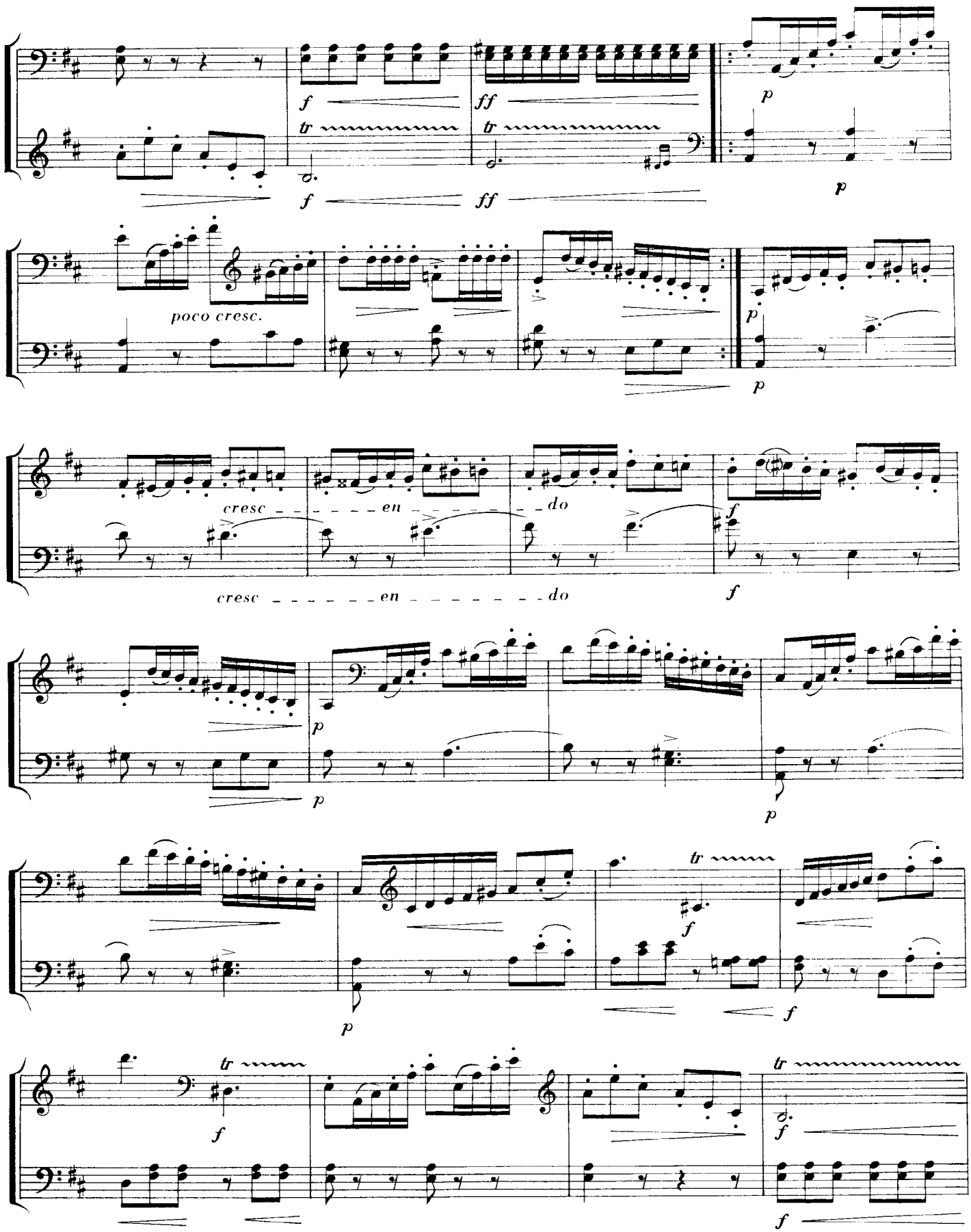

46
tr
tr
tr
tr
dim.
f
51
cresc.
p
p
55
p
f
p
59
64
dim.
dim.
68
pizz.

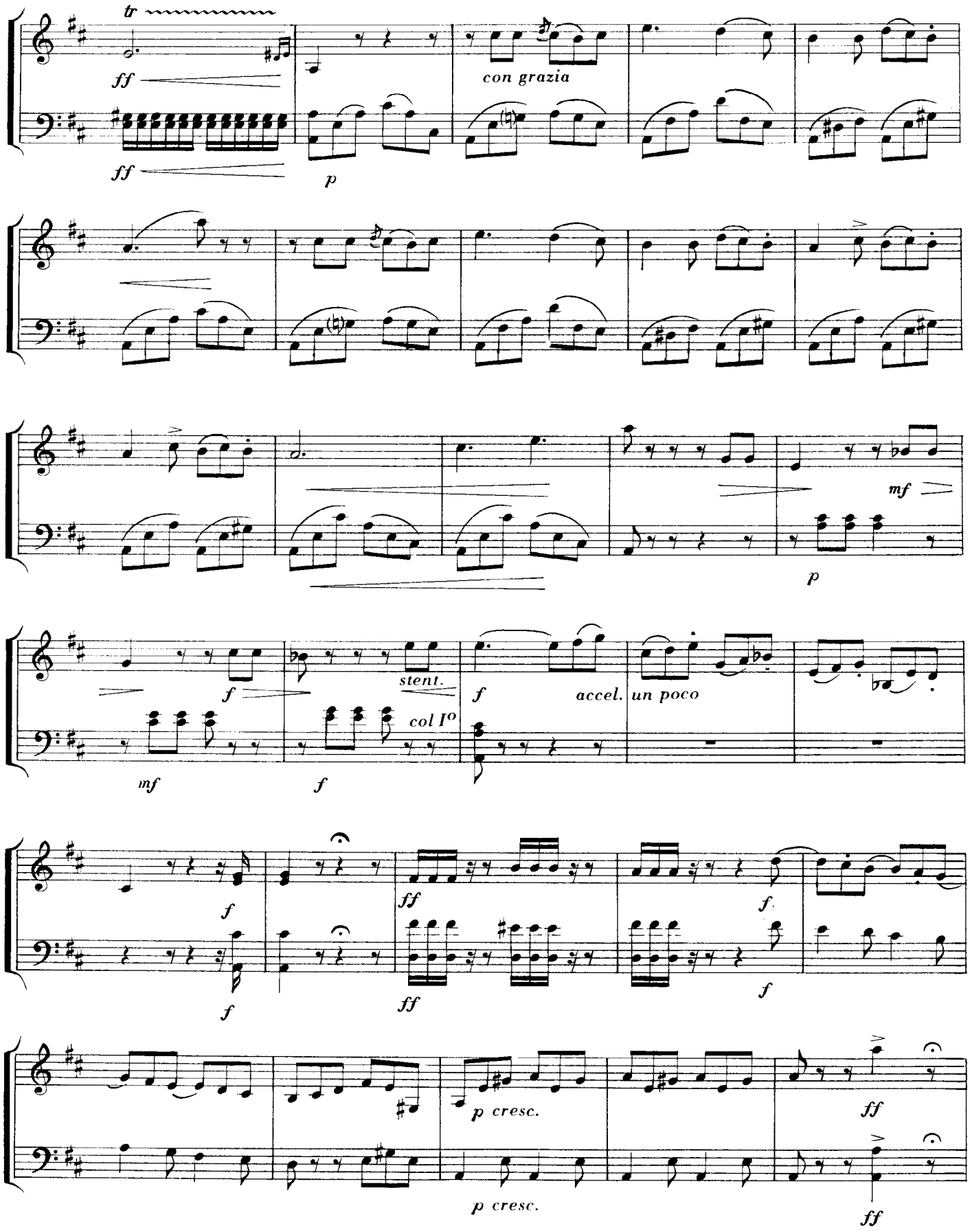

Presto
ff
f
ff
f
5
p
ff
ff
p
ff
ff
10
f
p cresc.
f
p cresc.
15
ff
pp cresc.
ff
pp cresc.
20
(28)
1
31
2
f

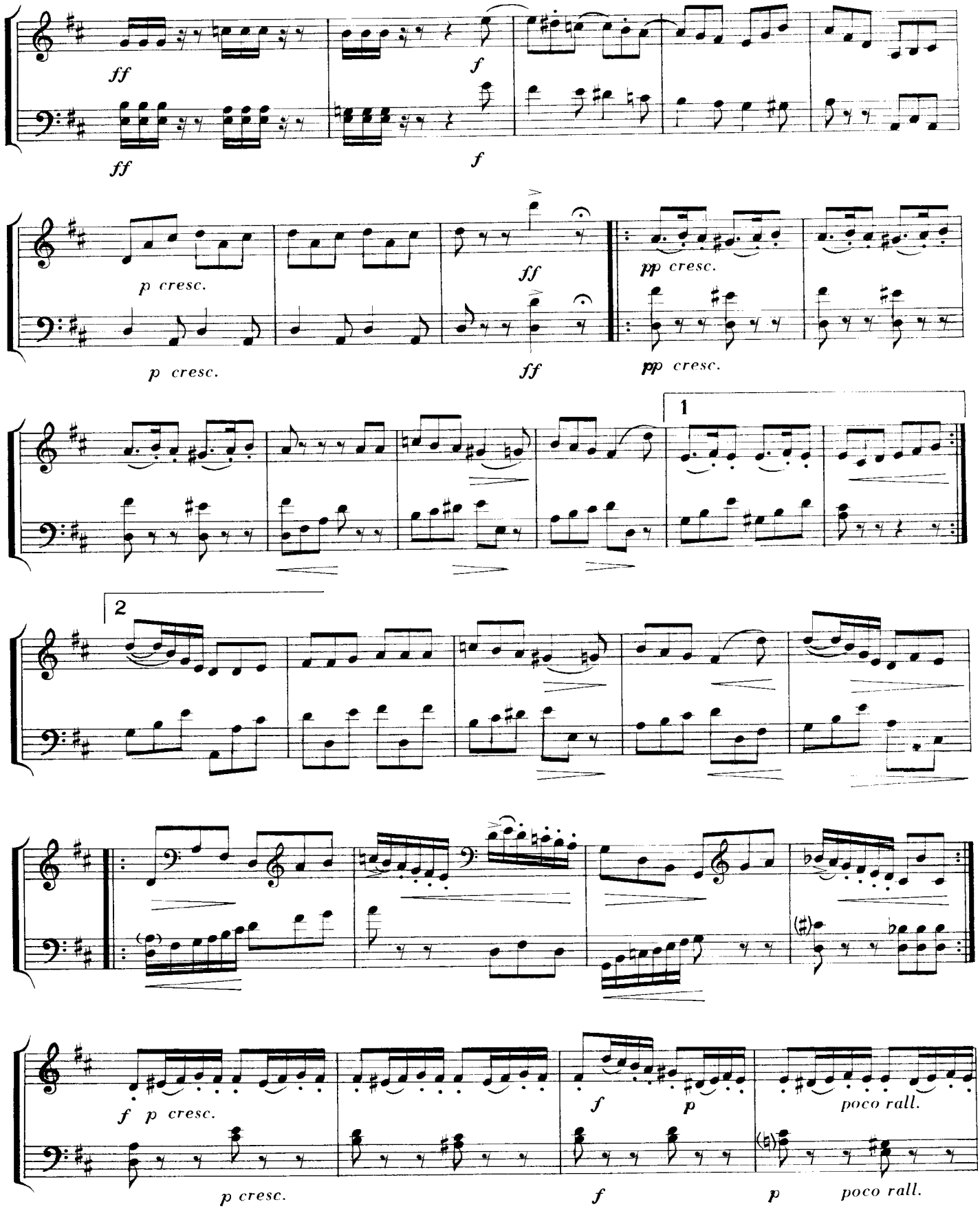

con grazia
35
f
dim.
40
f
f
rall.
a tempo
45
(53)
p cresc.
p
1
2
tr
tr
50
(58)
61
f
65
(69)
cresc.
cresc.

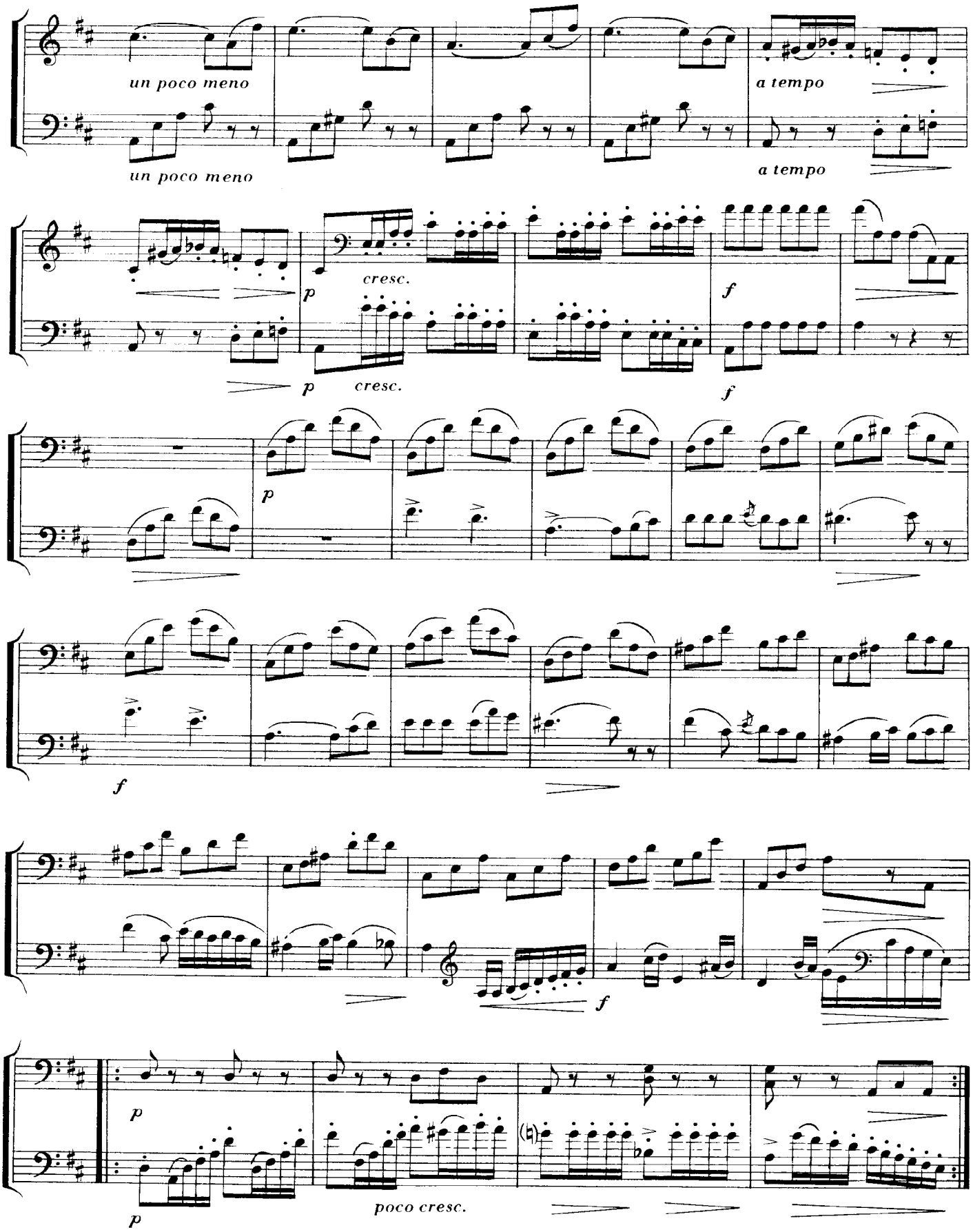

Un poco meno
a tempo
cresc.
73
77
81
85
90
95

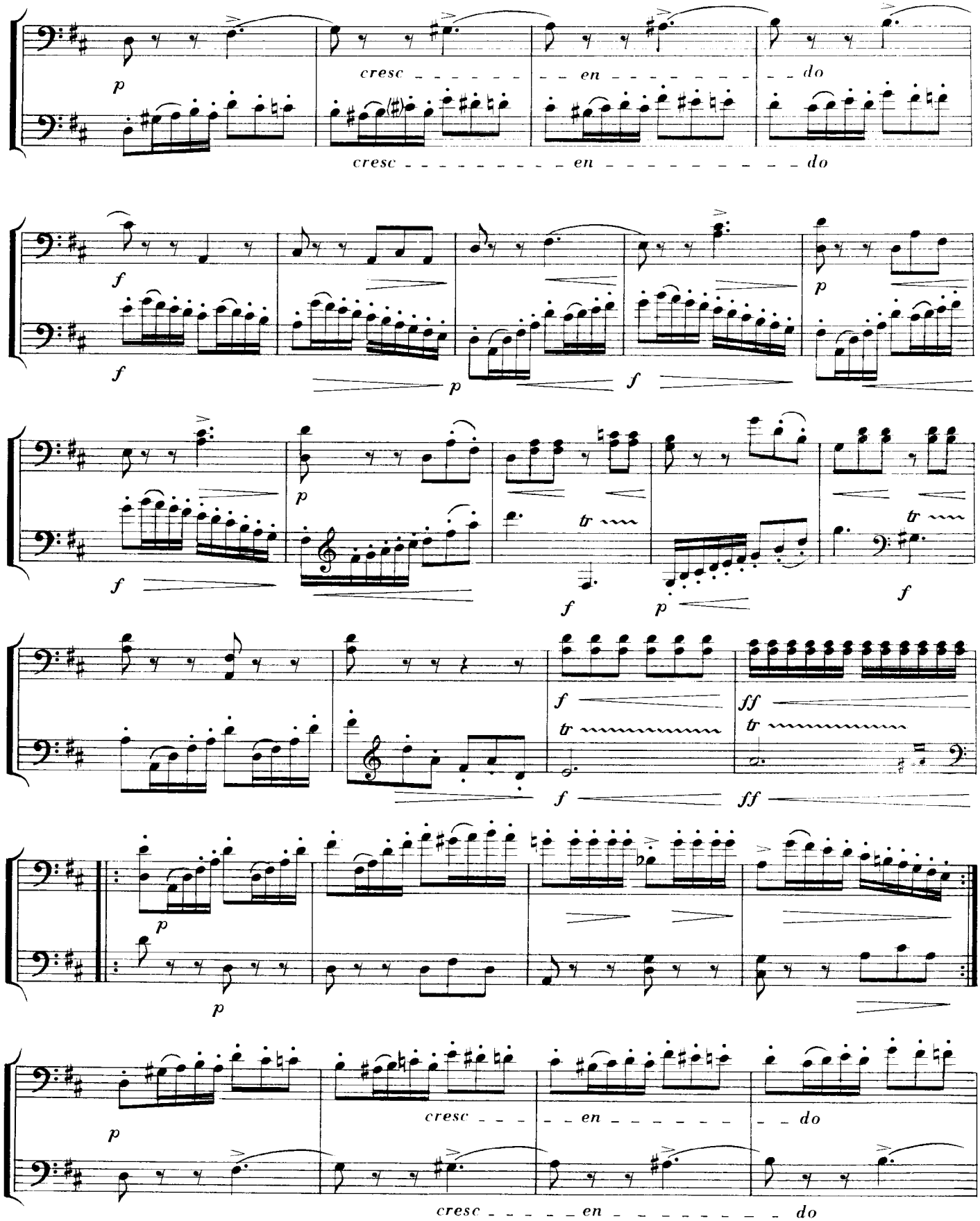

100
f
104
p
p
poco cresc.
108
(112)
p
cresc en
p
cresc en
116
do
f
do
f
p
p
120
f
p
f
p
124
tr
f
p
tr
f

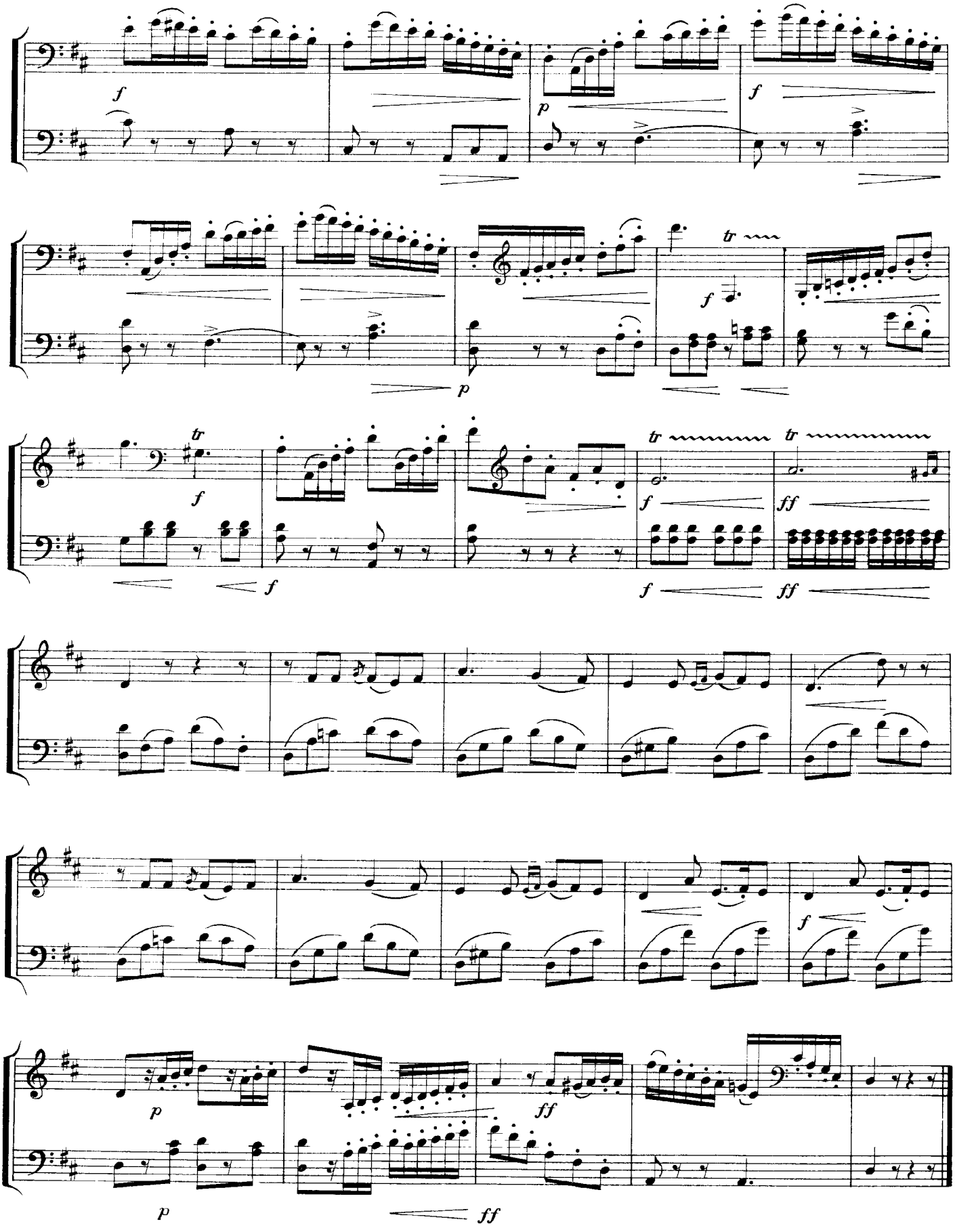

128
f
tr
ff
tr
p
f
ff
p
132
(136)
poco cresc.
p
p
140
cresc - - - - - en - - - - - - - do
f
cresc - - - - - - - en - - - - - - - do
f
144
p
p
p
148
tr
f
p
f
152
tr
f
tr
f
f


156
tr
ff
ff
p
con grazia
161
166
mf
p
171
f
mf
f
stent.
col I°
f
accel.
un poco
176
f
f
ff
ff
f
f
181
p cresc.
p cresc.
ff
ff


186
ff
ff
f
f
191
p cresc.
p cresc.
ff
ff
pp cresc.
pp cresc.
196
(204)
1
208
2
213
(217)
221
f p cresc.
p cresc.
f
p
f
poco rall.
p
poco rall.


225
un poco meno
un poco meno
a tempo
a tempo
230
p
cresc.
p
cresc.
f
f
235
p
241
f
247
f
252
(256)
p
p
poco cresc.


260
p
cresc - - - - - - - - en - - - - - - - - - - do
cresc - - - - - - - - - - - en - - - - - - - - - - - do
264
f
f
p
f
p
269
f
p
f
tr
f
p
tr
f
274
f
tr
ff
tr
f
ff
278
(282)
p
p
286
p
cresc - - - - - - - - en - - - - - - - - - - do
cresc - - - - - - - - - - - en - - - - - - - - - - - do


290
294
299
304
309
314