J. S. Bach

Six Organ Trio Sonatas

BWV525-530

Transcribed for String Trio

(2 Violins & Violoncello)

Transcribed & Edited by Alan Bonds

ARCODORO
PUBLICATIONS

Six Trio Sonatas BWV 525-530 by Johann Sebastian Bach arranged for String Trio

The six organ sonatas are widely regarded as masterpieces for the instrument. There is an excellent and exhaustive essay on the collection in Wikipedia [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organ_Sonatas_(Bach)] which I highly recommend.
It begins:
"The organ sonatas, BWV 525–530 by Johann Sebastian Bach are a collection of six sonatas in trio sonata form. Each of the sonatas has three movements, with three independent parts in the two manuals and obbligato pedal. The collection was put together in Leipzig in the late 1720s and contained reworkings of prior compositions by Bach from earlier cantatas, organ works and chamber music as well as some newly composed movements. The sixth sonata, BWV 530, is the only one for which all three movements were specially composed for the collection. When played on an organ, the second manual part is often played an octave lower on the keyboard with appropriate registration. Commentators have suggested that the collection might partly have been intended for private study to perfect organ technique, some pointing out that its compass allows it to be played on a pedal clavichord. The collection of sonatas is generally regarded as one of Bach's masterpieces for organ. The sonatas are also considered to be amongst his most difficult compositions for the instrument.

The Wikipedia article goes on to say:
"The sonatas were described by Bach's biographer Johann Nikolaus Forkel as follows: Six sonatas or trios for two keyboards with obbligato pedal. Bach composed them for his eldest son, Willhelm Friedemann, who, by practising them, prepared himself to be the great organist he later became. It is impossible to say enough about their beauty. They were written when the composer was in his full maturity and can be considered his principal work of this kind."

There have been a huge number of transcriptions and arrangements for a variety of ensembles, including some by Bach himself, and later by Mozart (K. 404a), and through to Bartok and Kurtag.

This edition transposes some to more string-friendly keys (including the range).
Most are suitable for 2 violins and cello, but the second treble part could also suit the viola (especially if it is taken an octave lower as described above). Double-bass would also be possible.
I have not attempted to provide bowings rather leaving them to the discretion of the players.

Alan Bonds
Perth, Western Australia
April 2023
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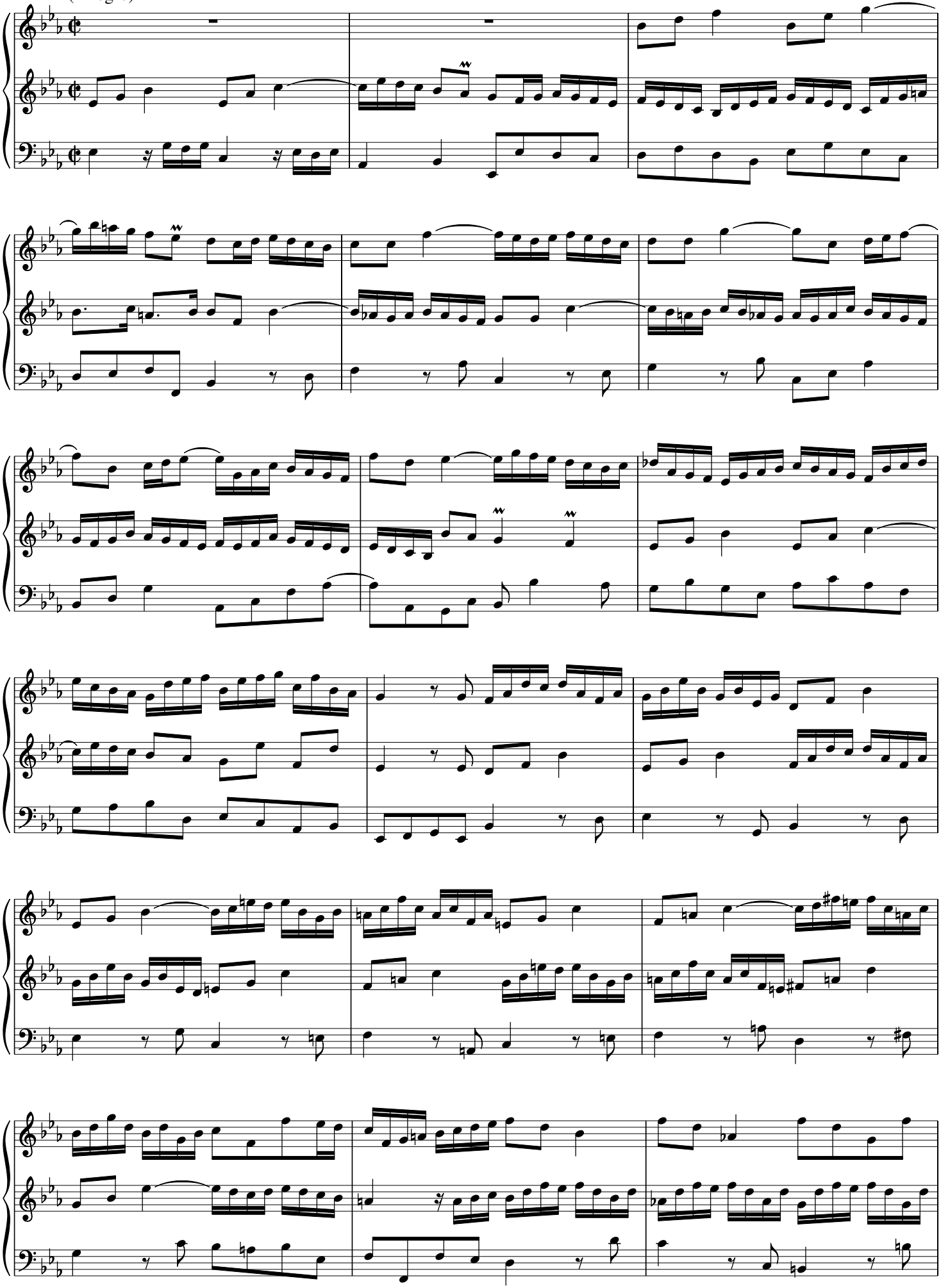
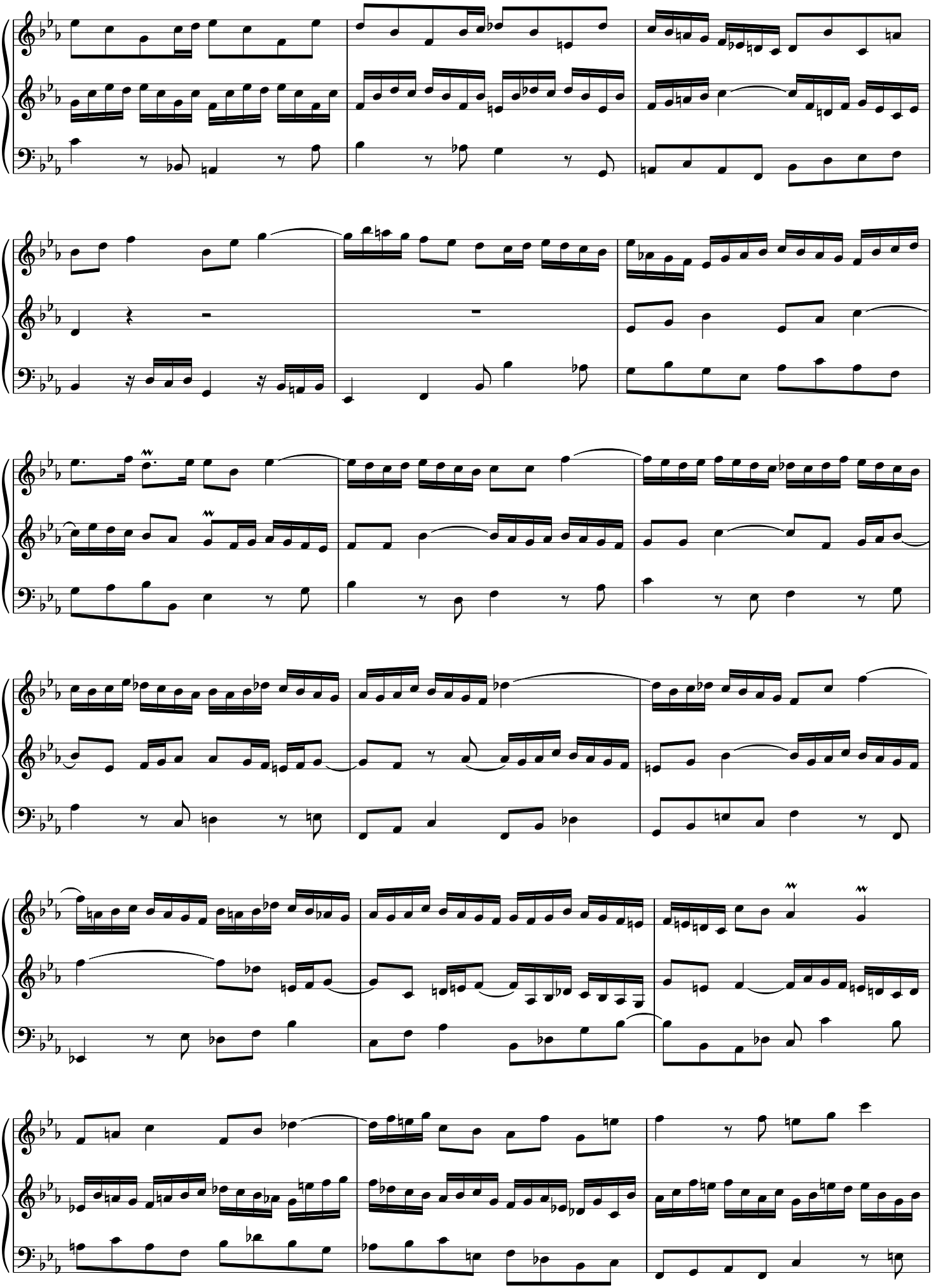
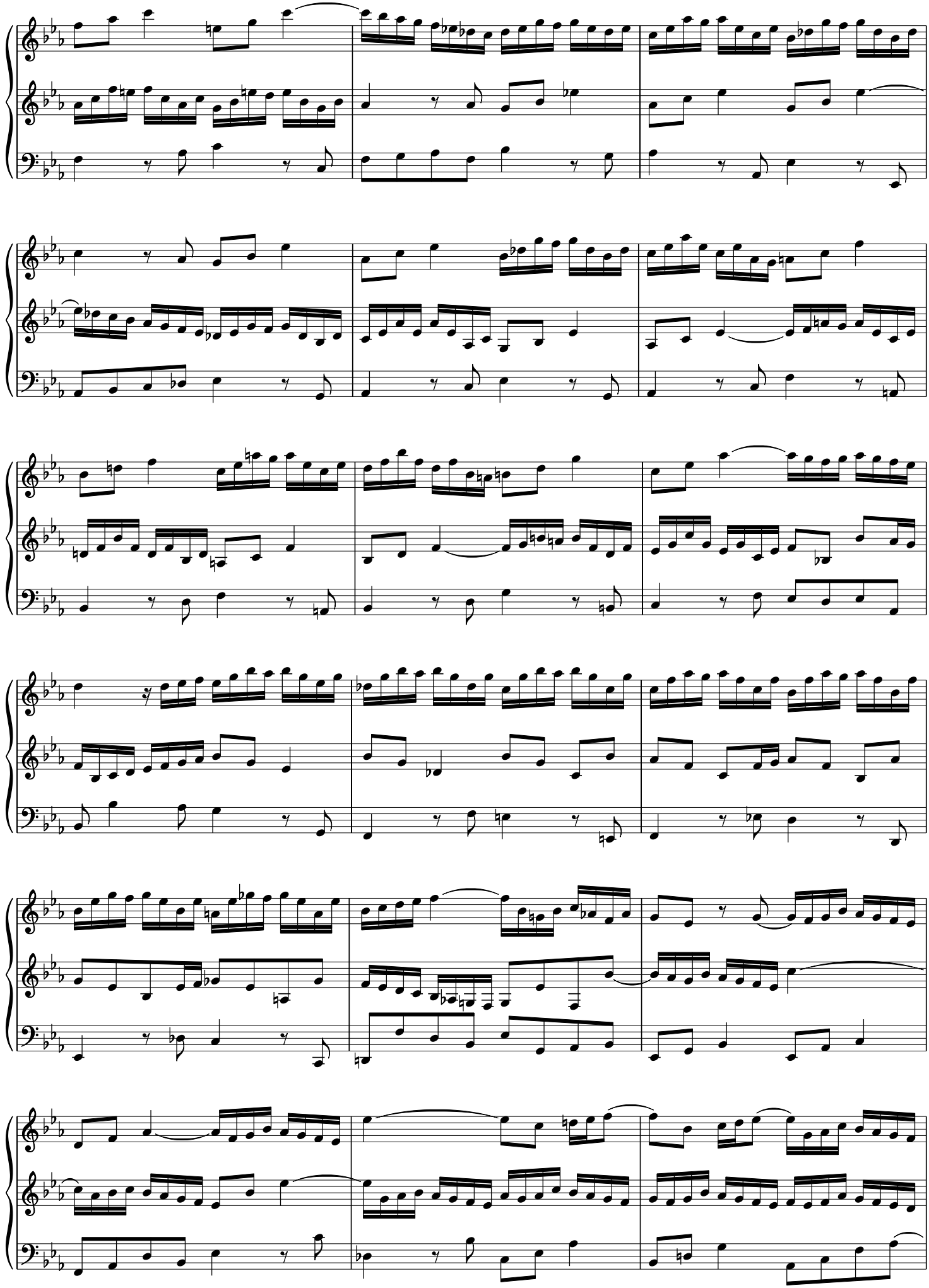
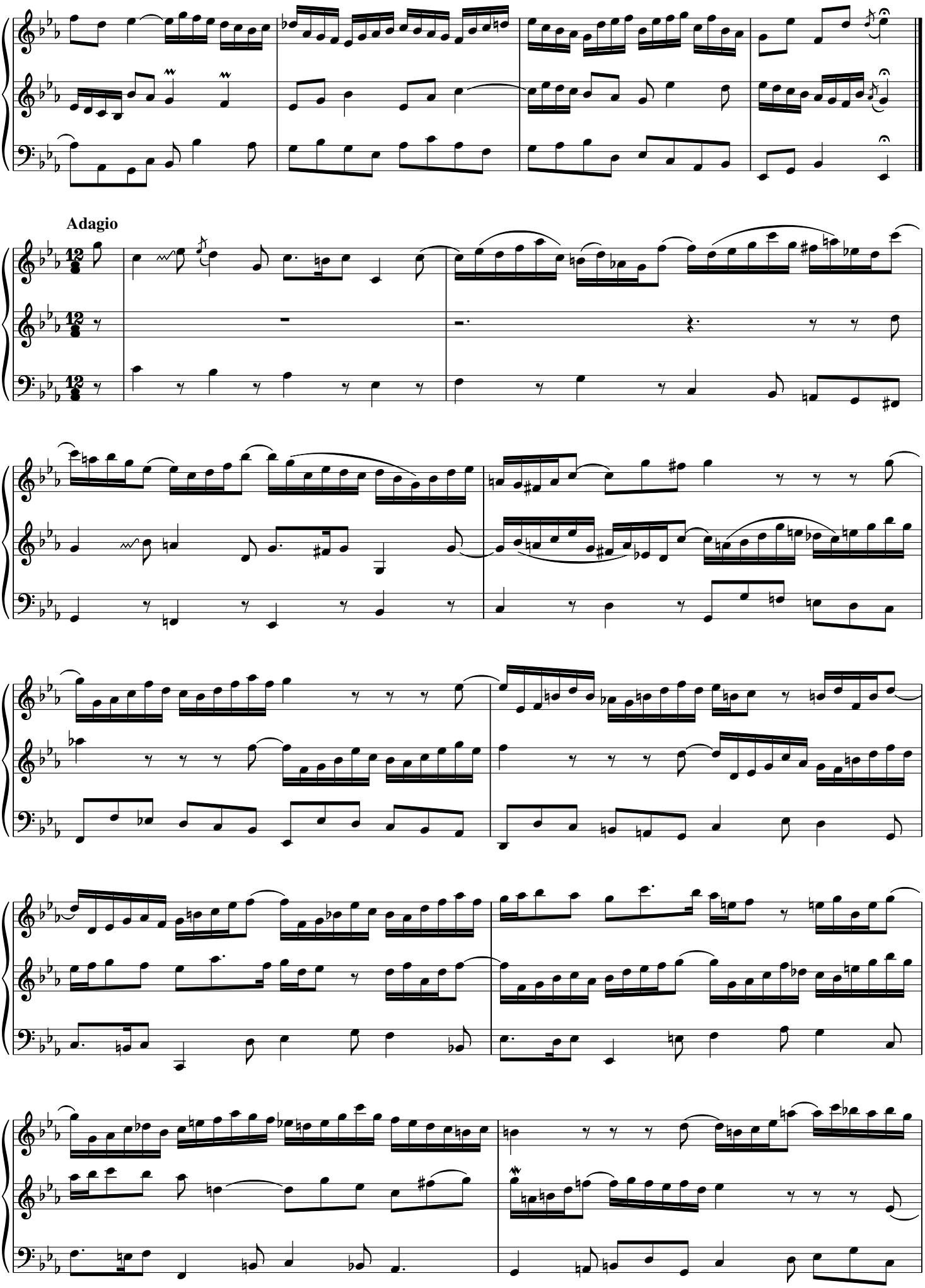
Sonata 1.

(Allegro)





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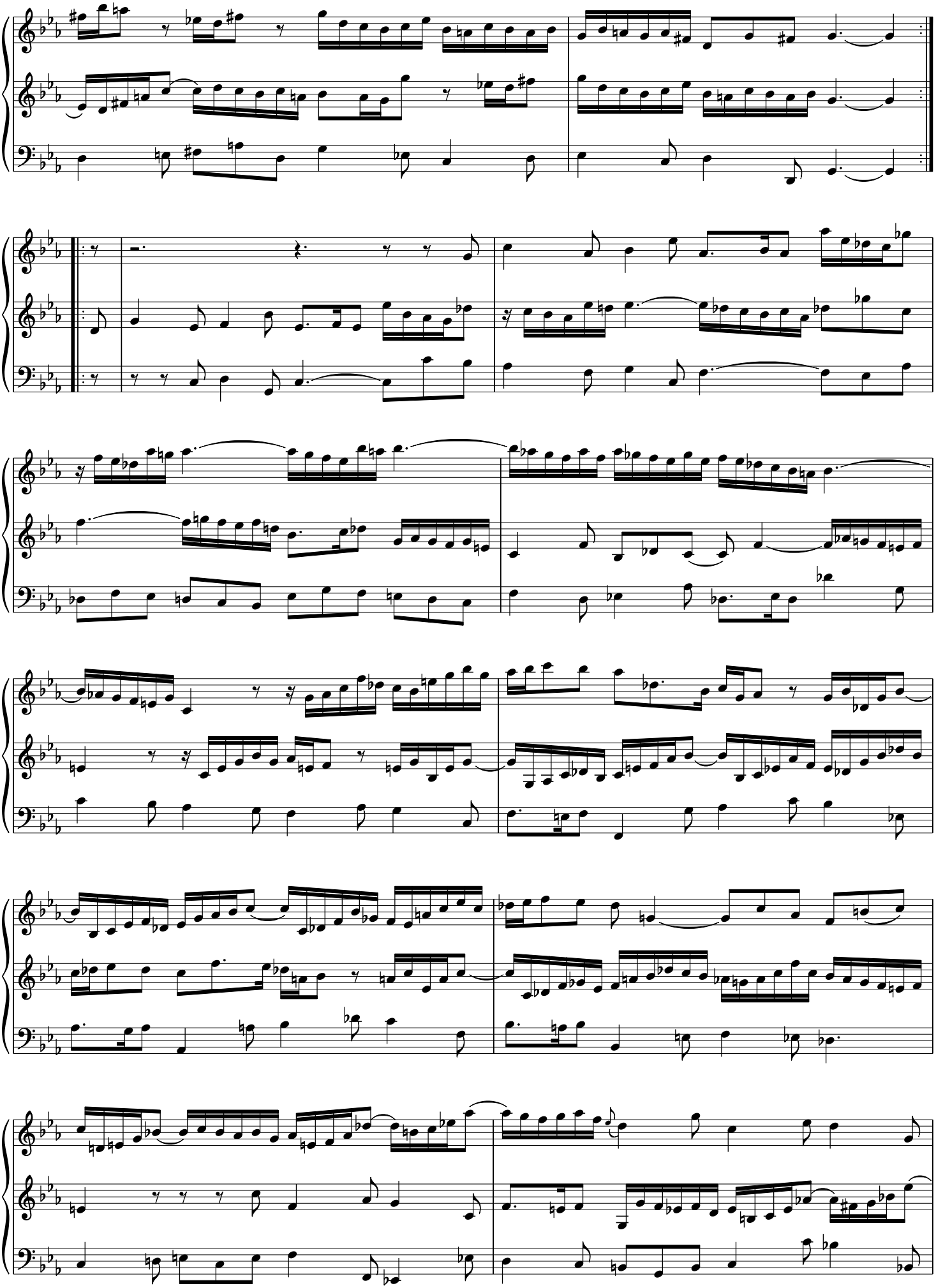
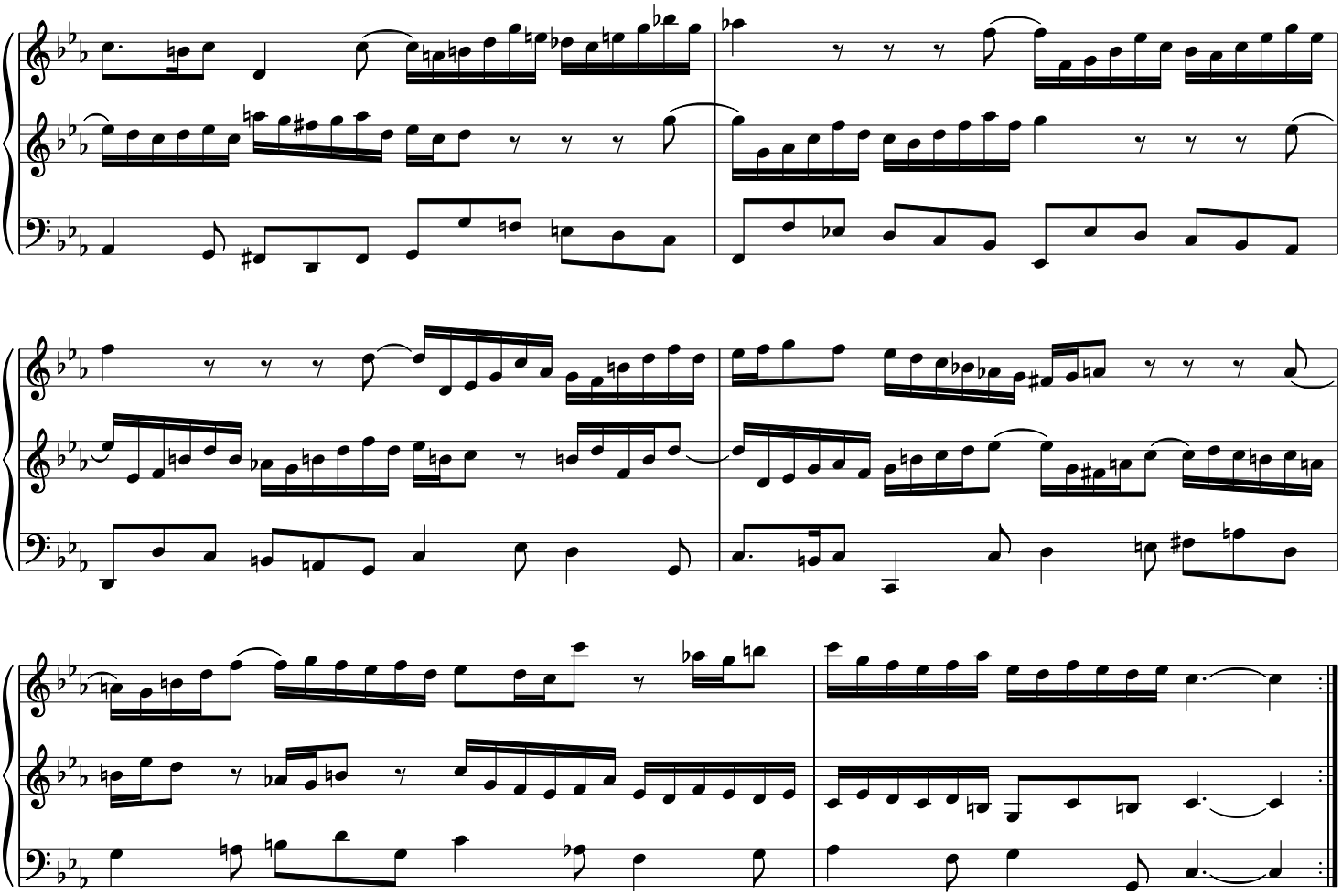
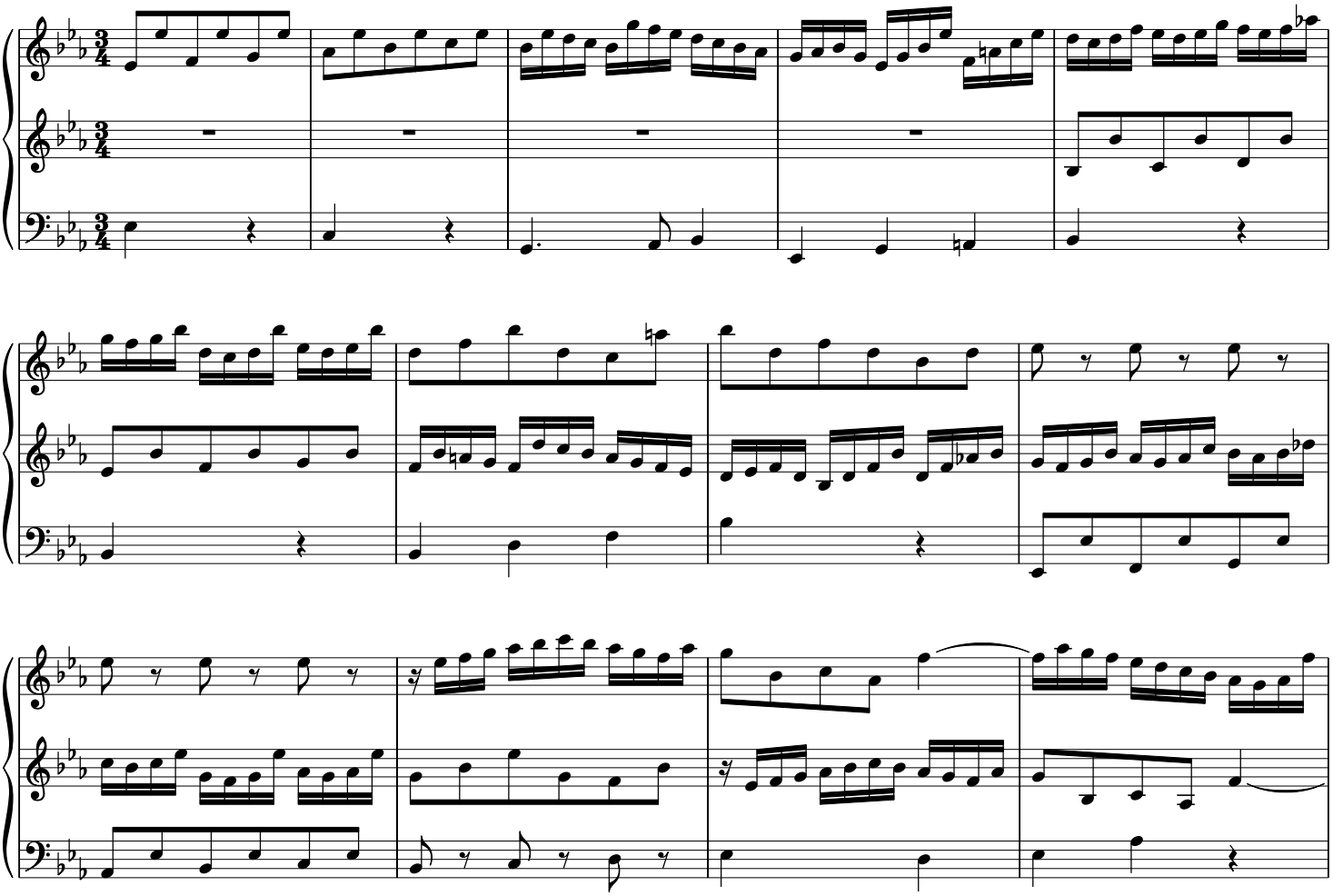
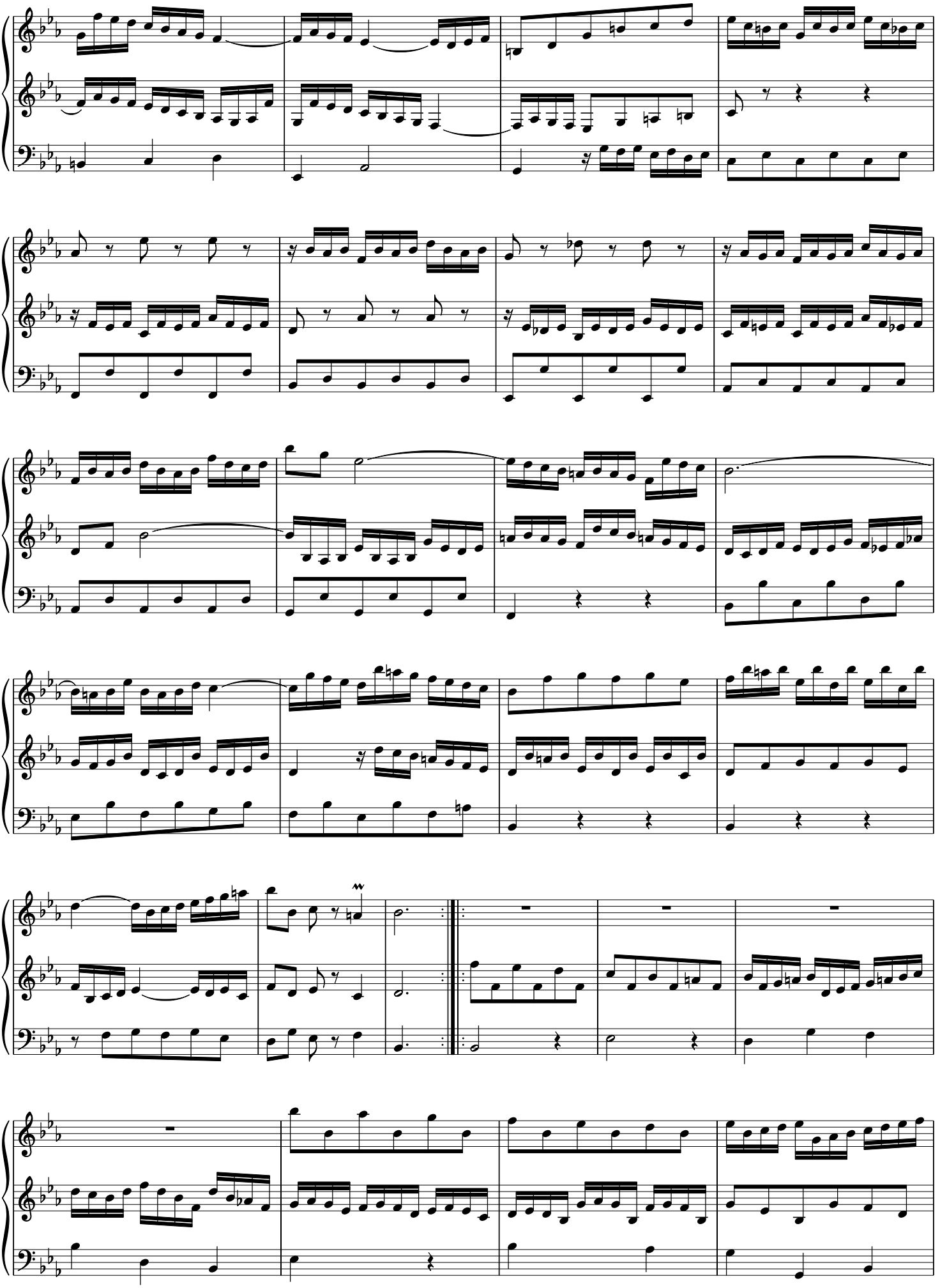
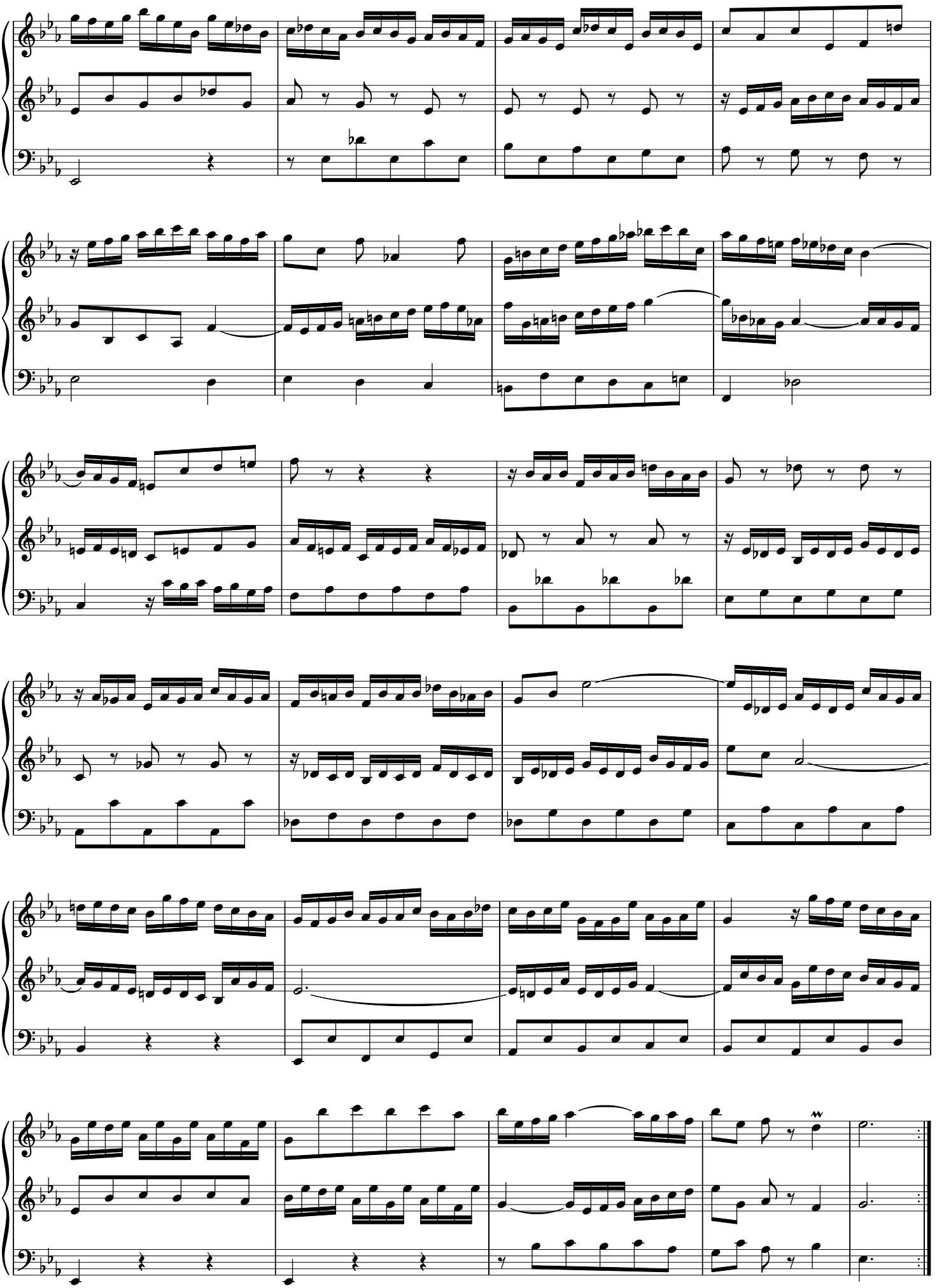




Allegro







Violin 1

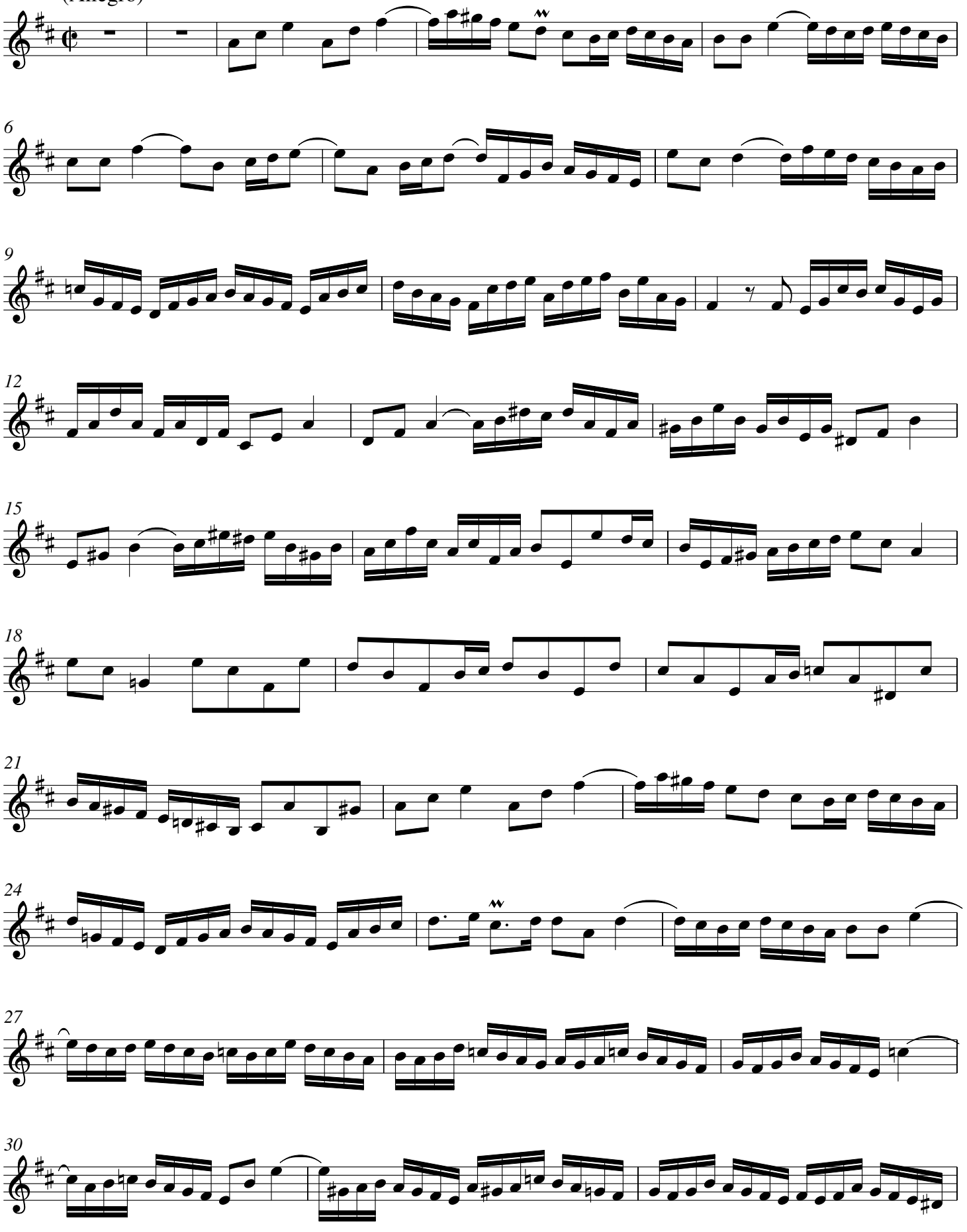
Trio Sonata No. 1

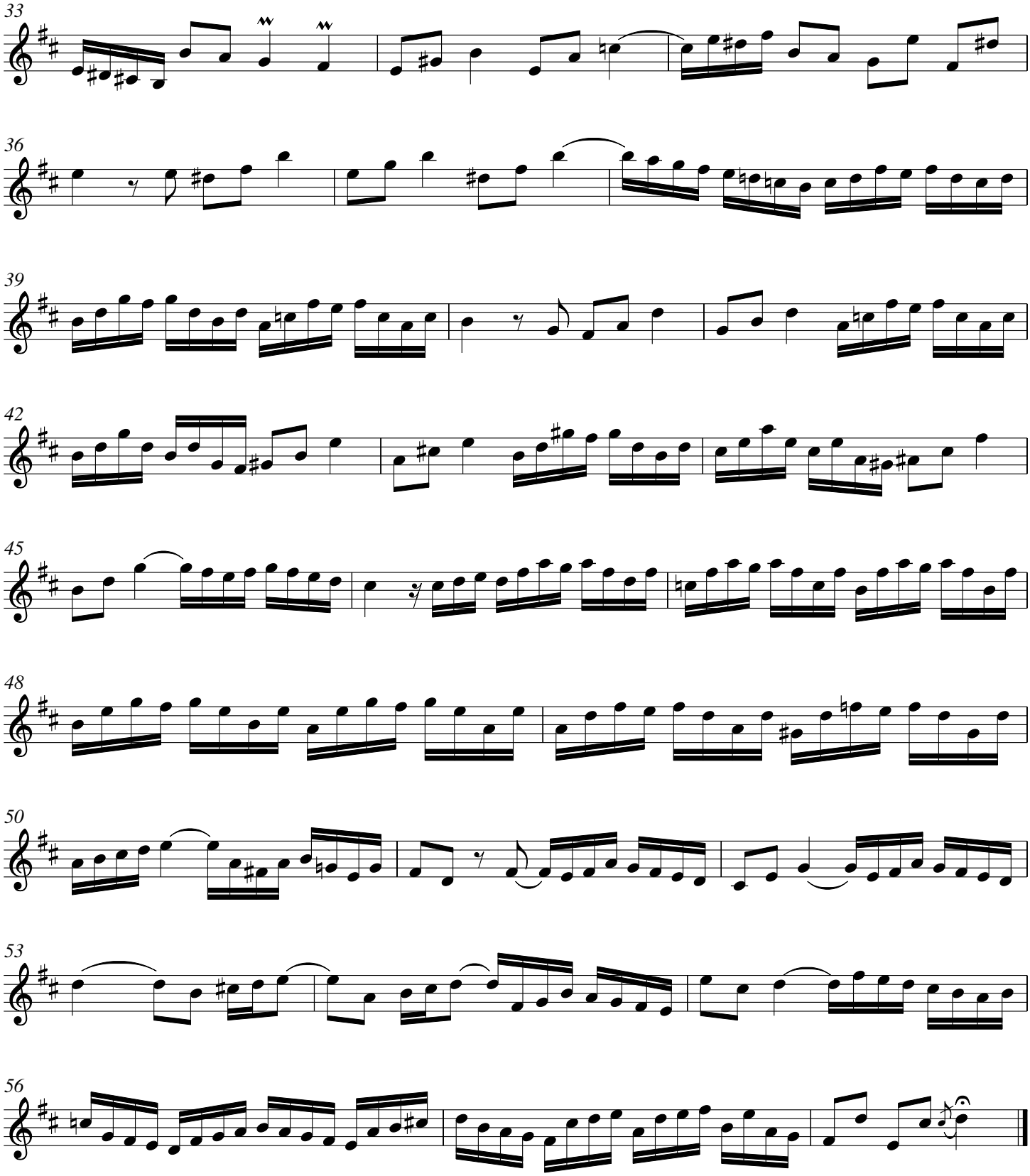
BWV 525

Originally in E♭ maj

J.S. Bach

(Allegro)

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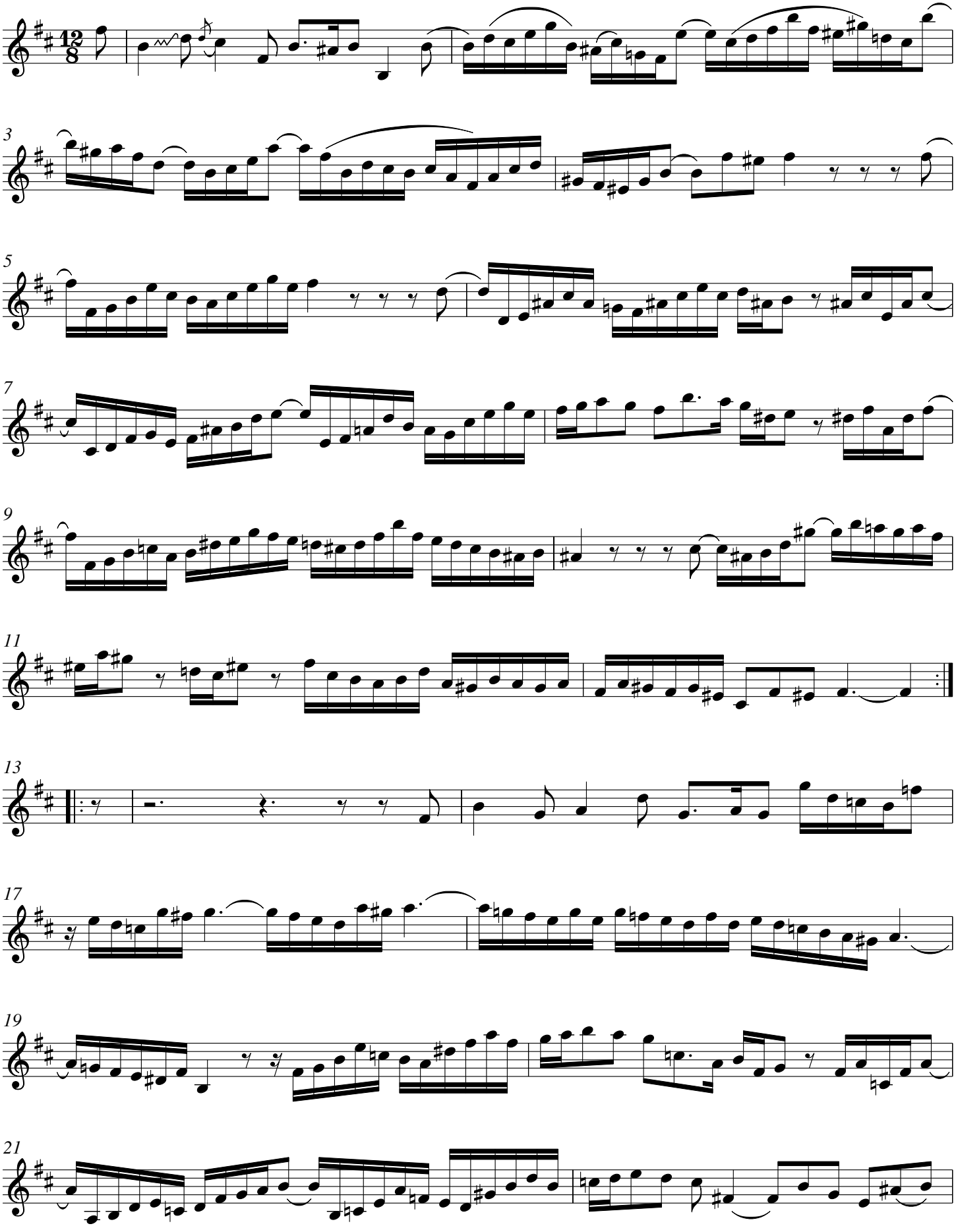
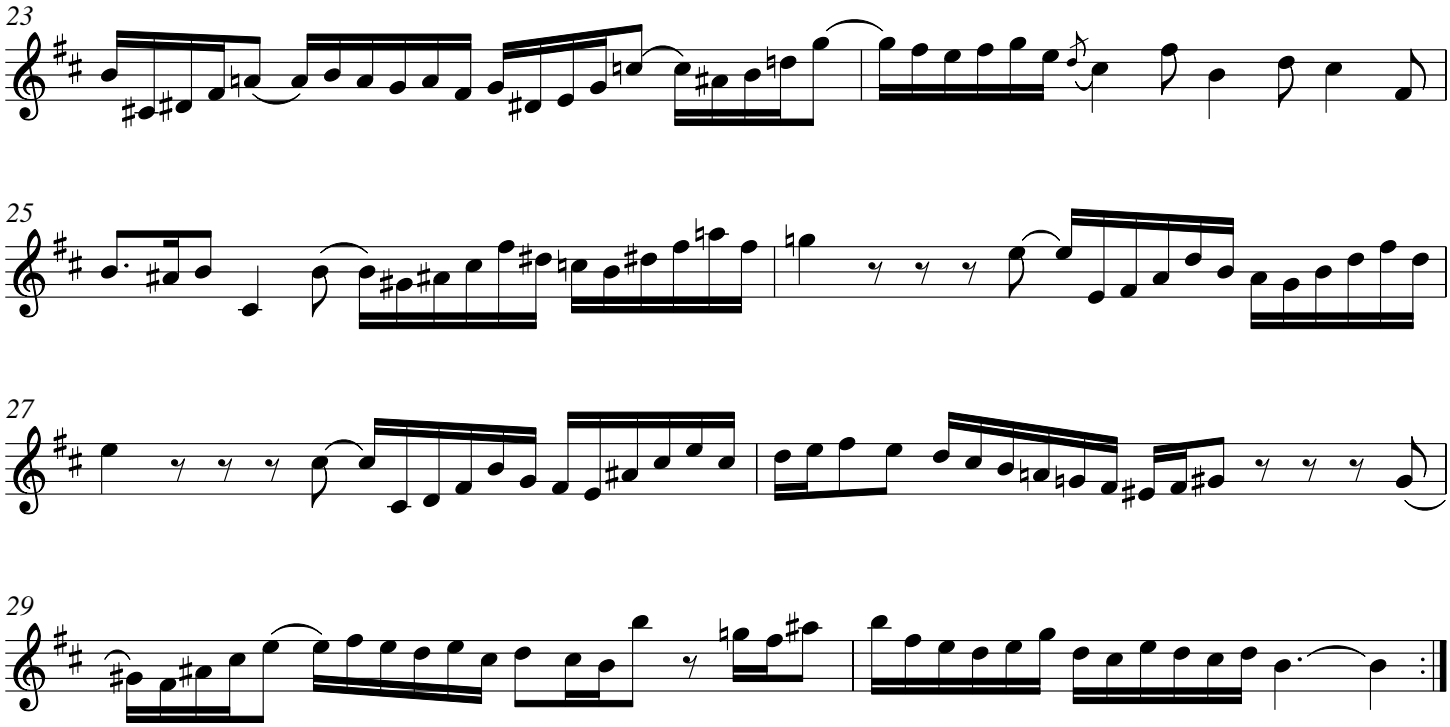
Adagio

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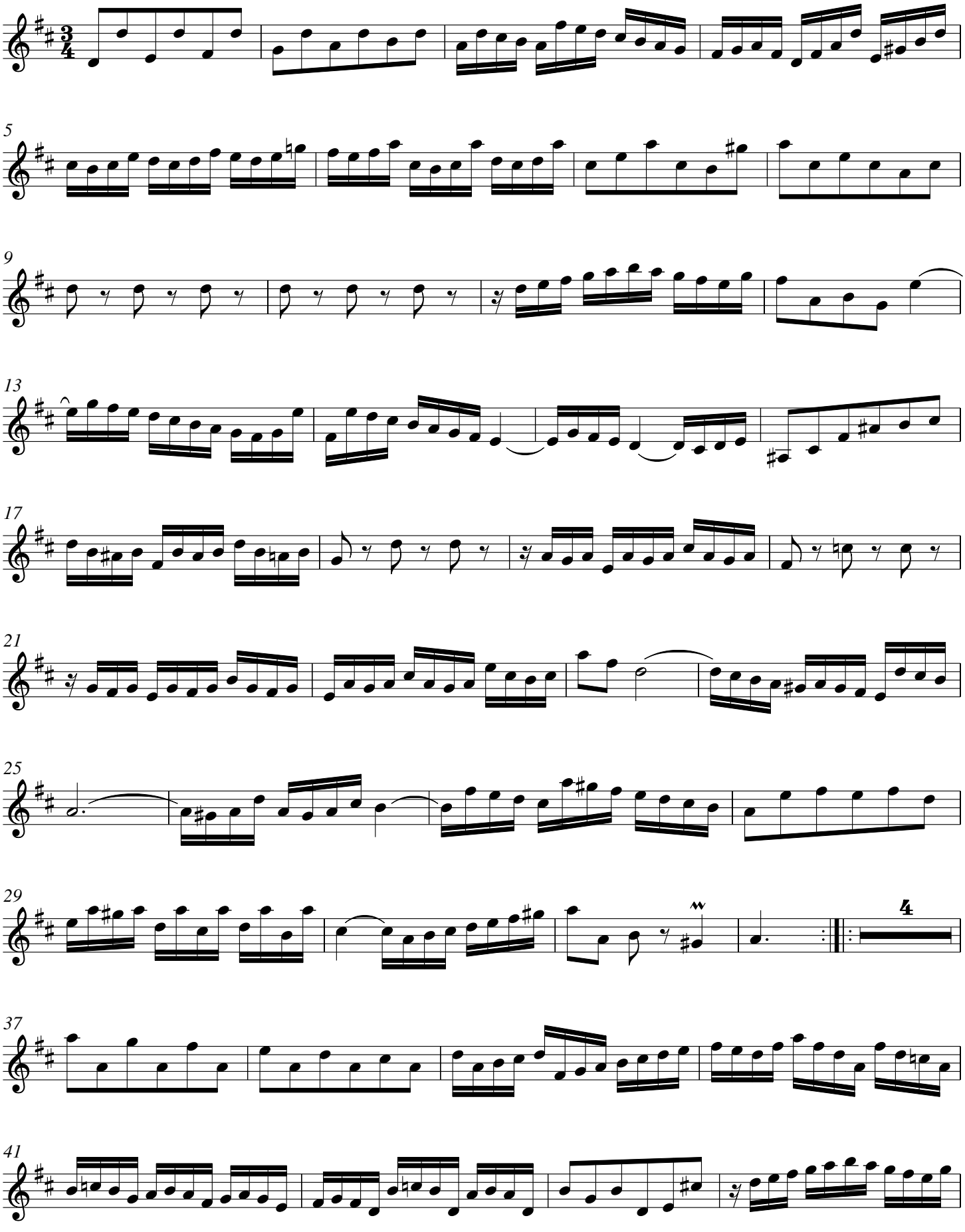
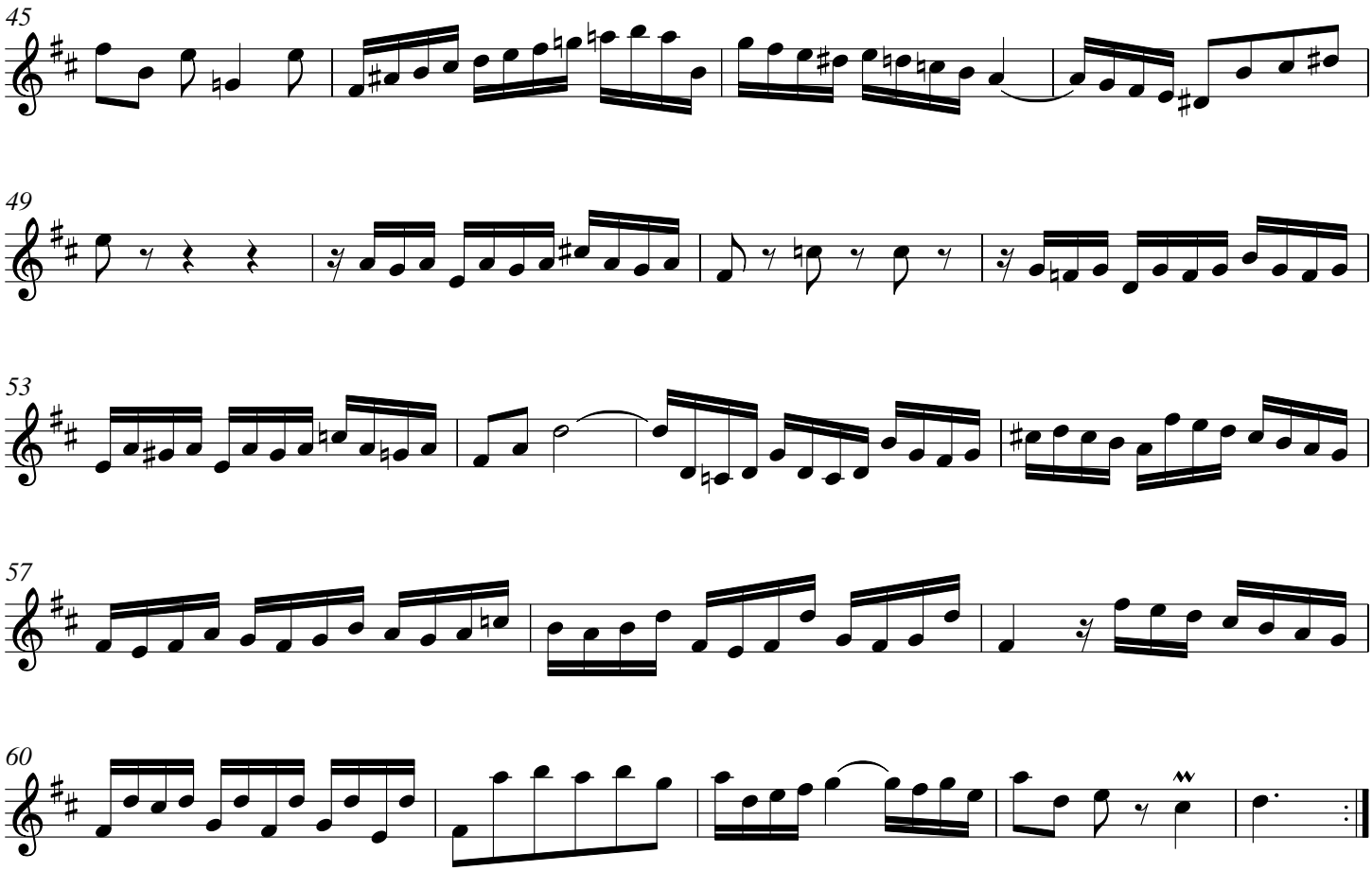
Allegro

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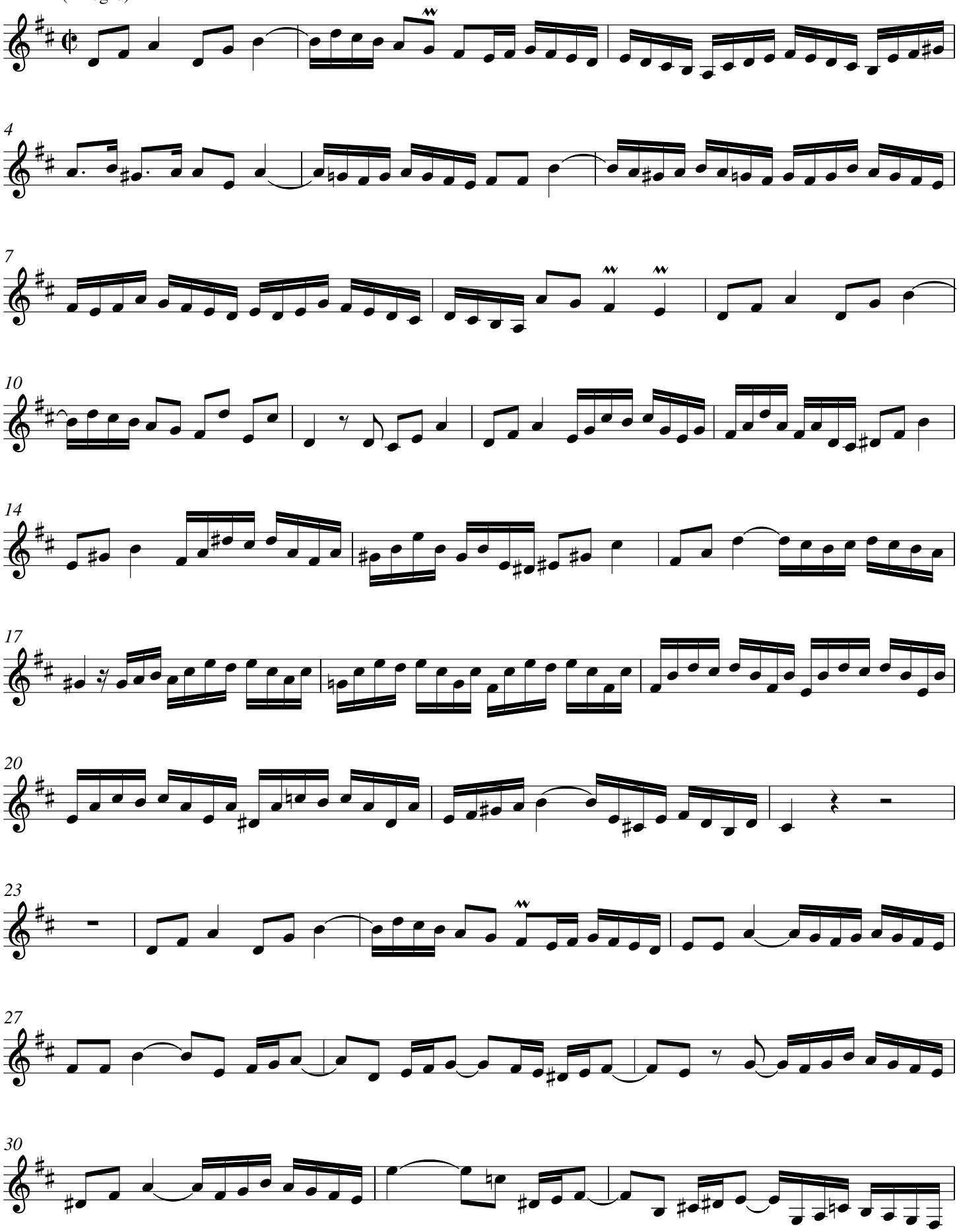
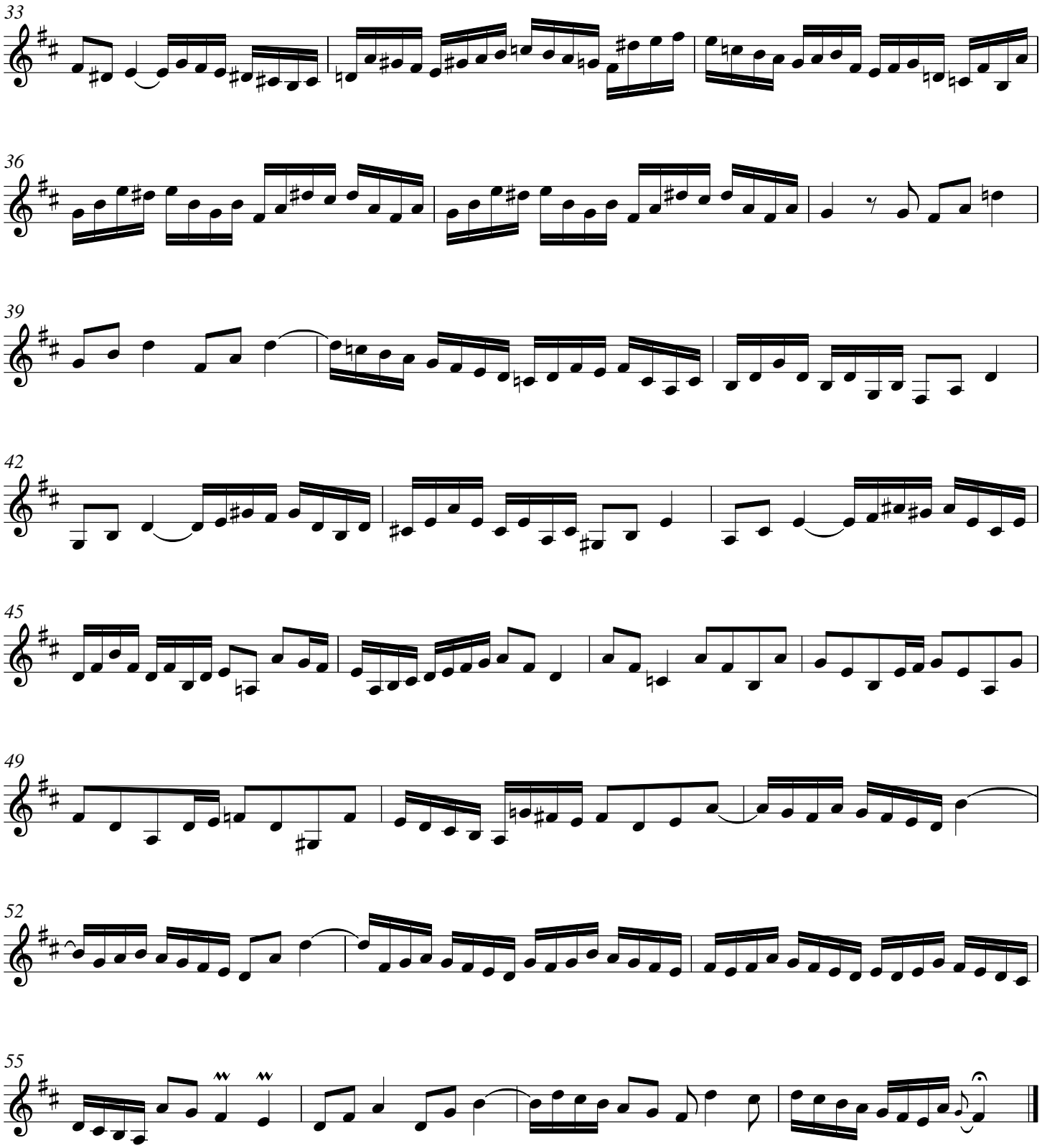
Trio Sonata No. 1

BWV 525

J.S. Bach

(Allegro)

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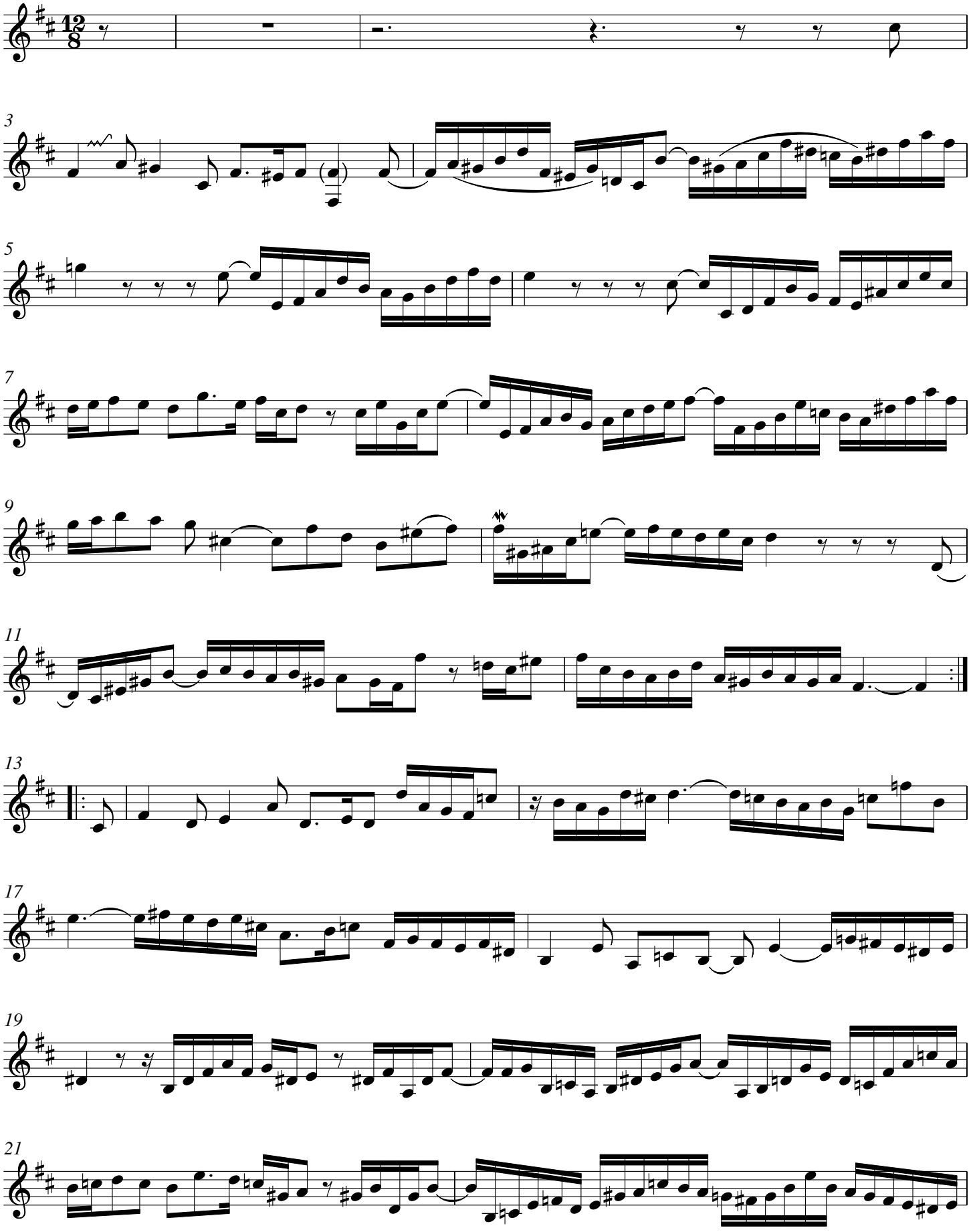
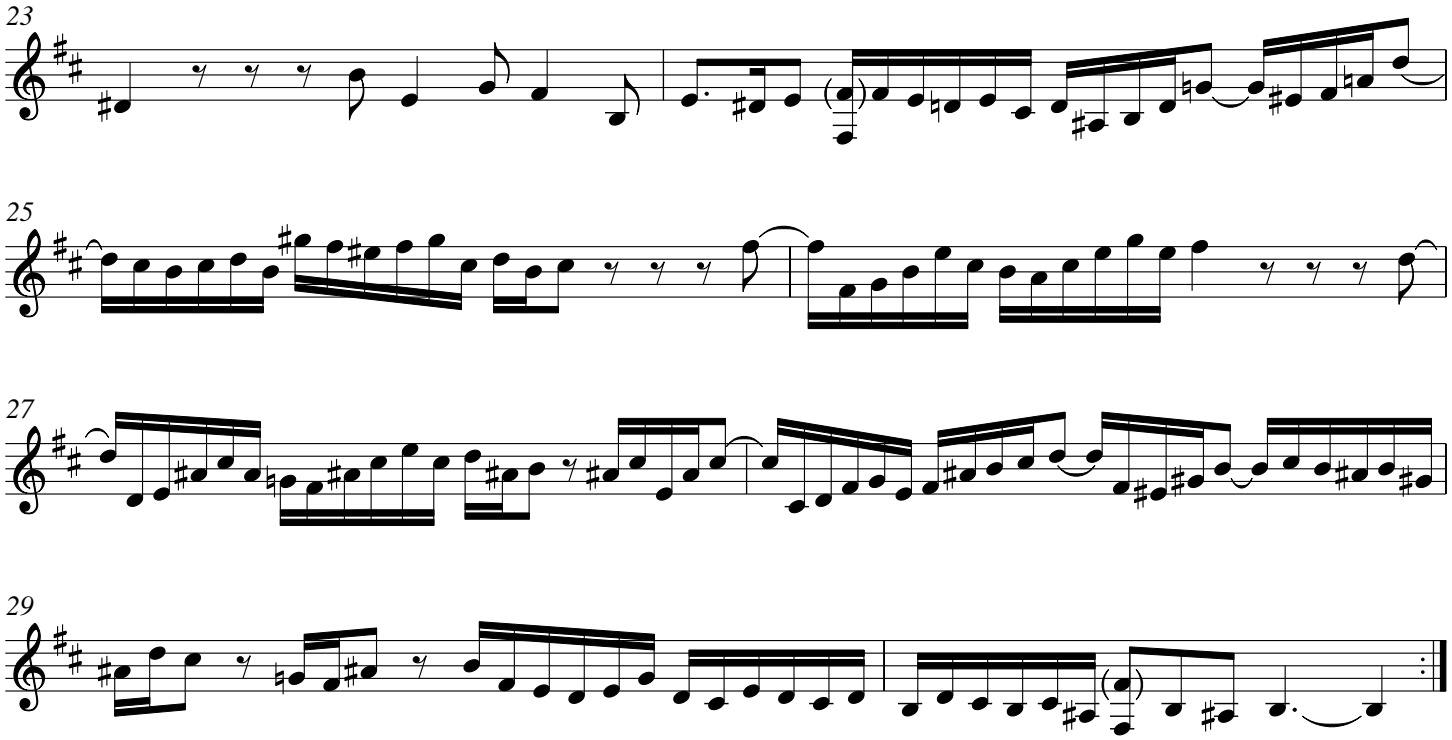
Adagio

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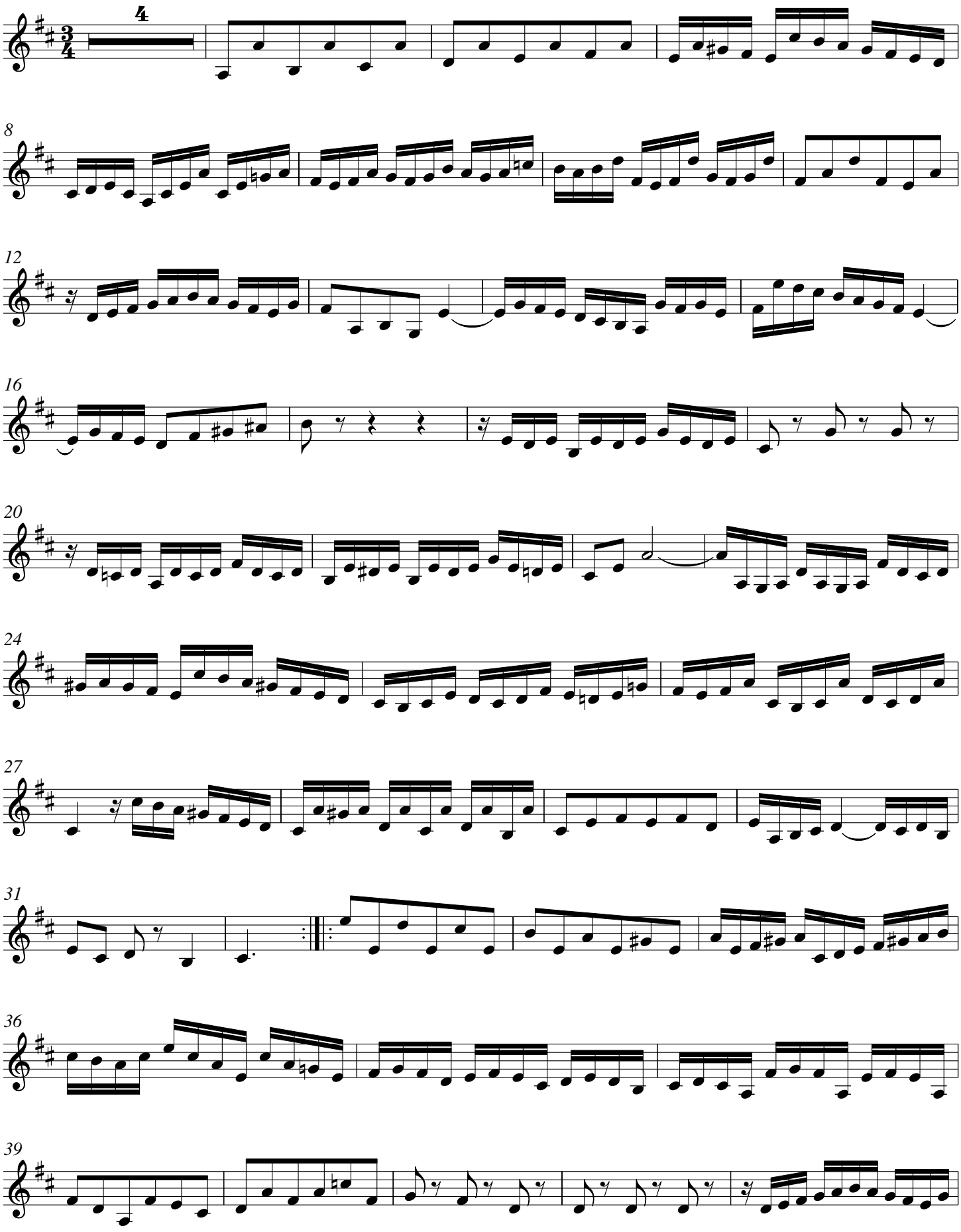
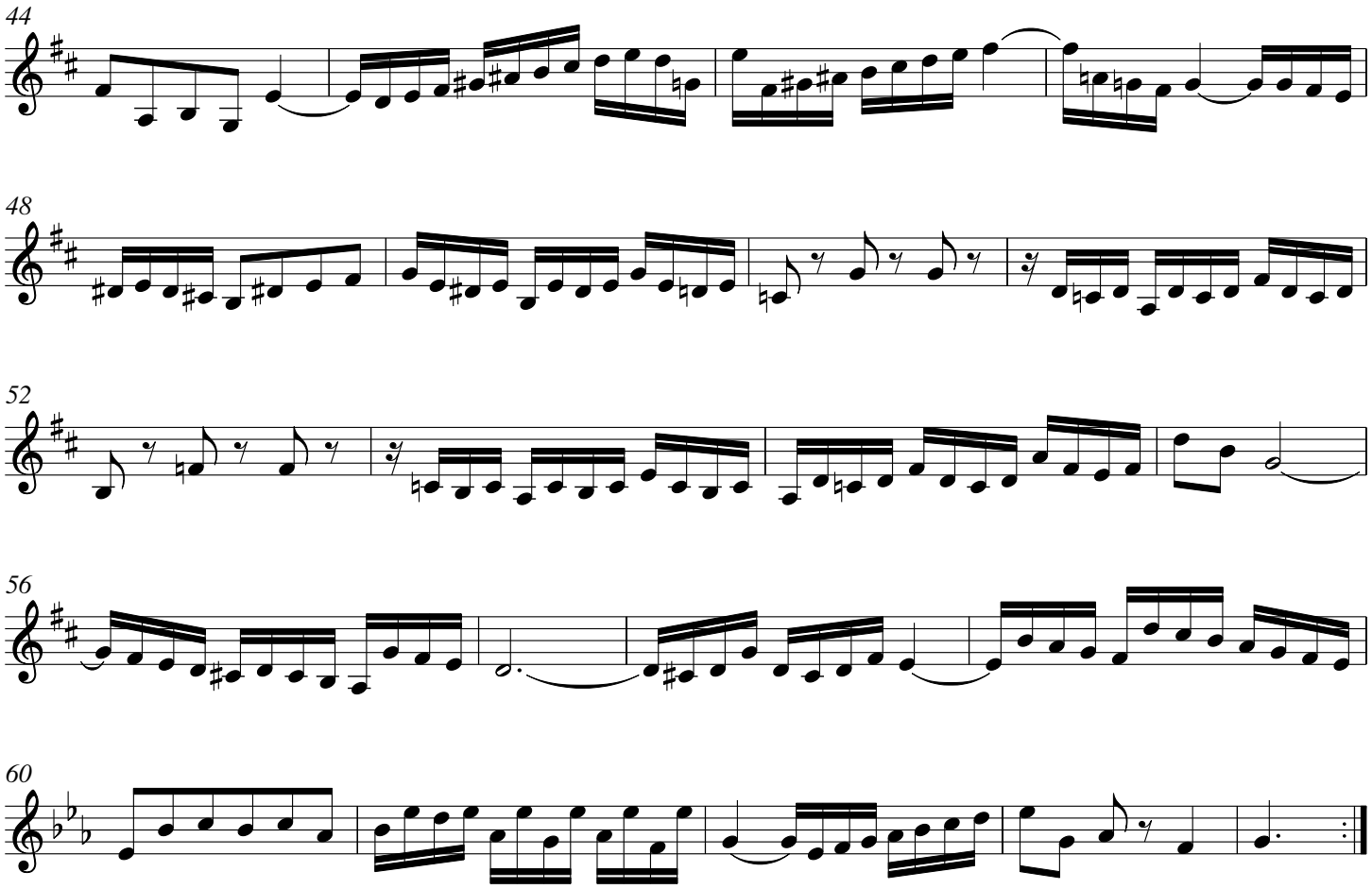
Allegro

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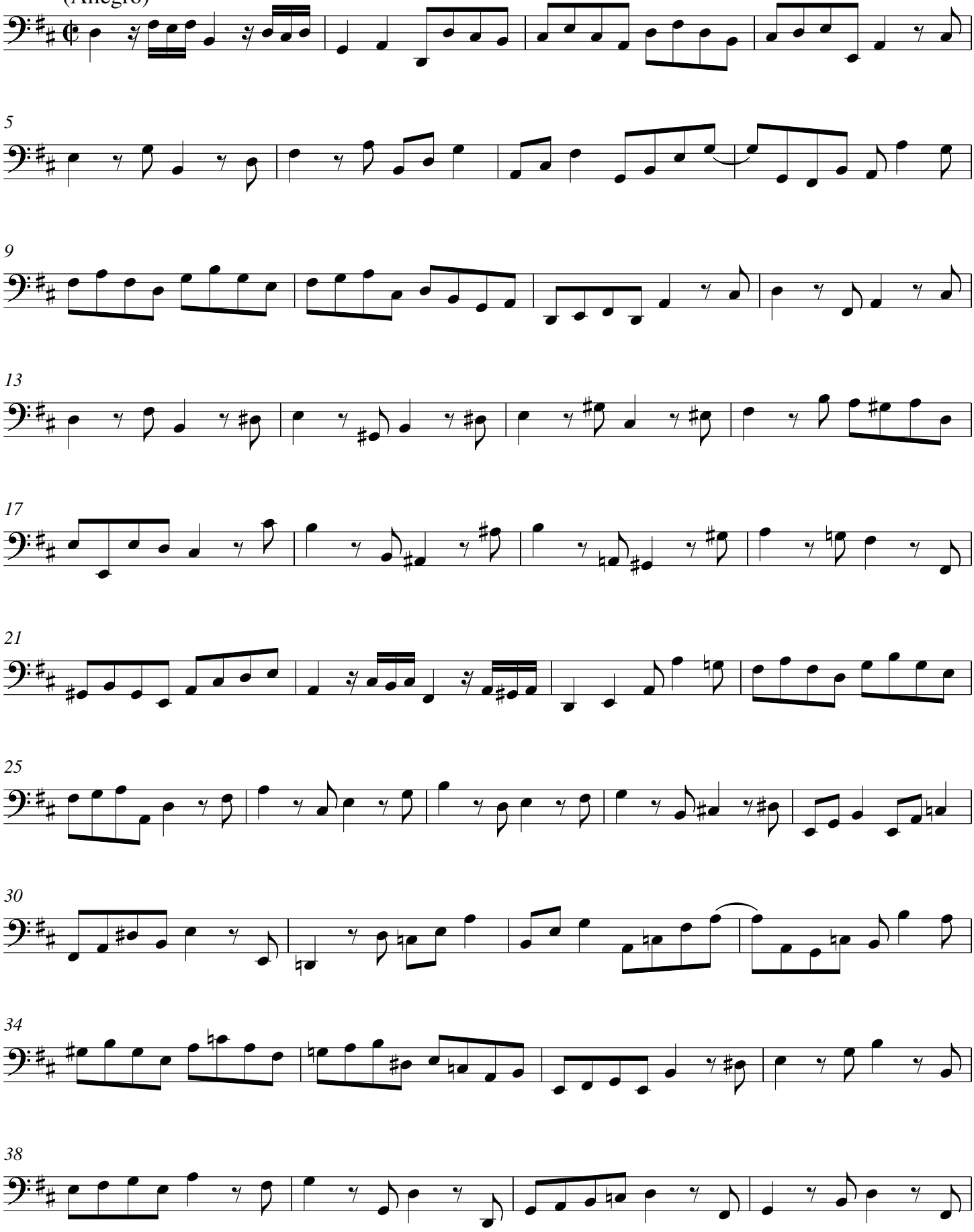
Violoncello

Trio Sonata No. 1

BWV 525

J.S. Bach

(Allegro)



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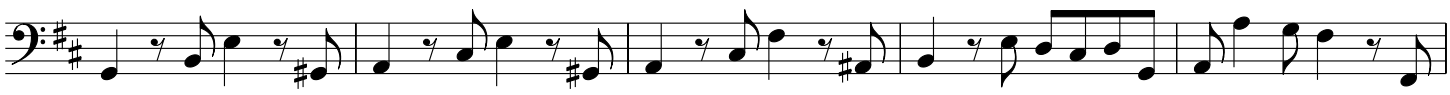

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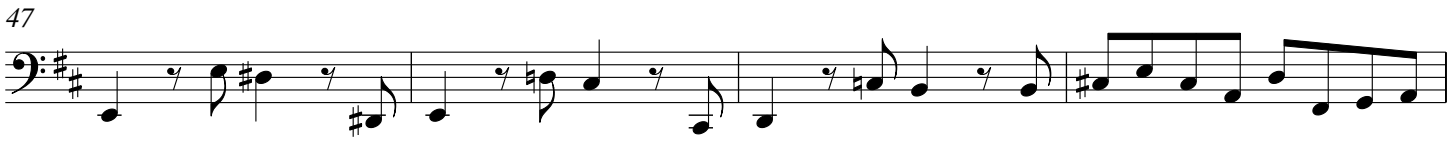

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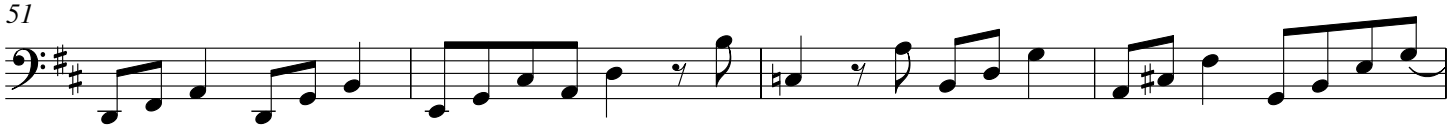

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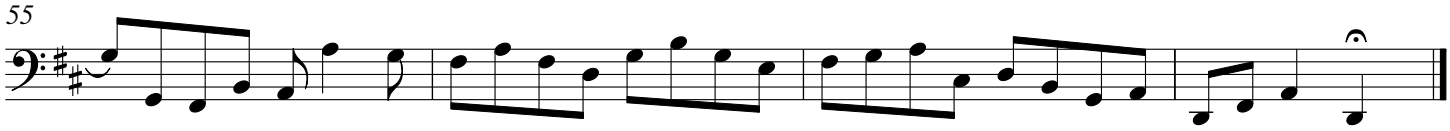
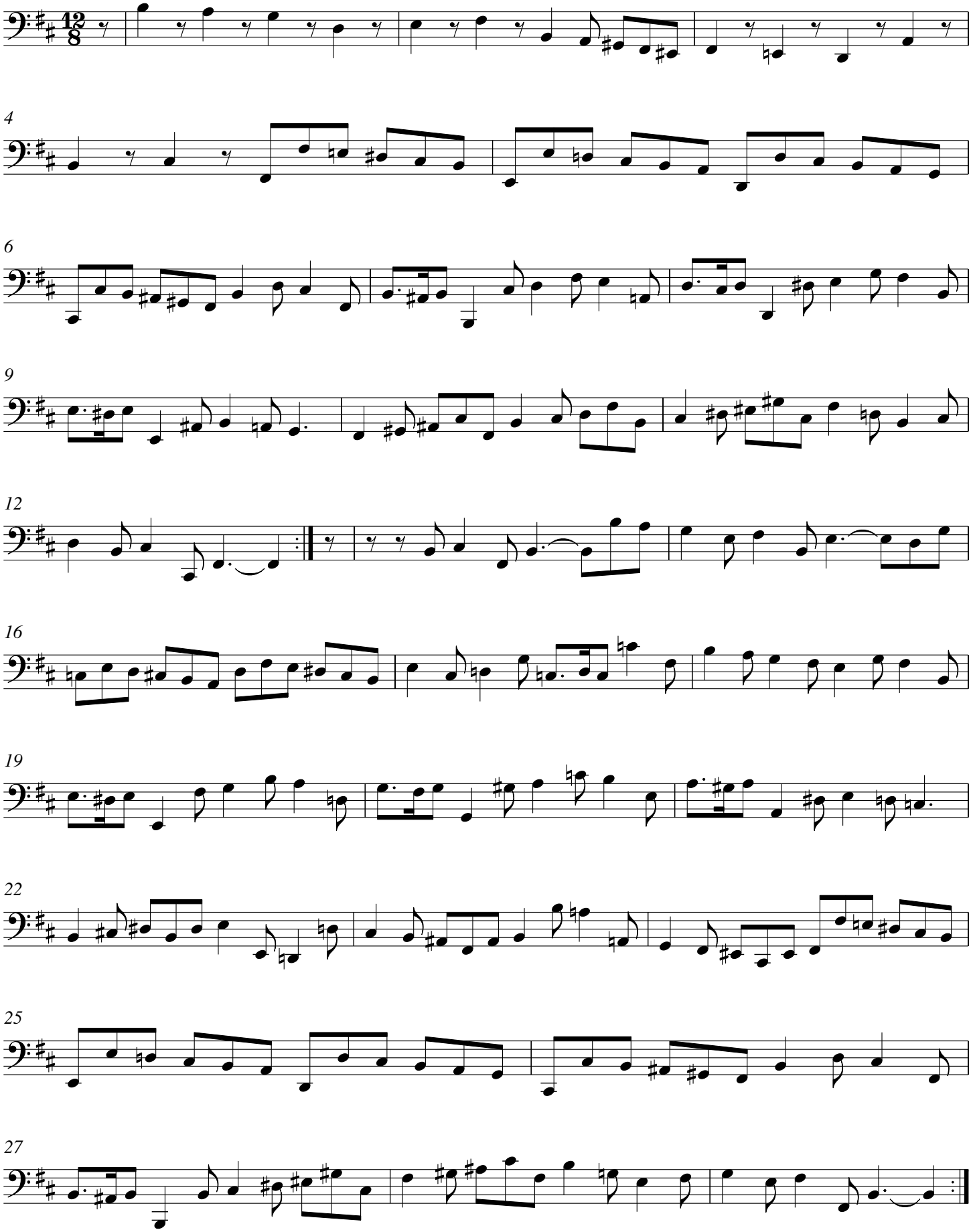


Adagio



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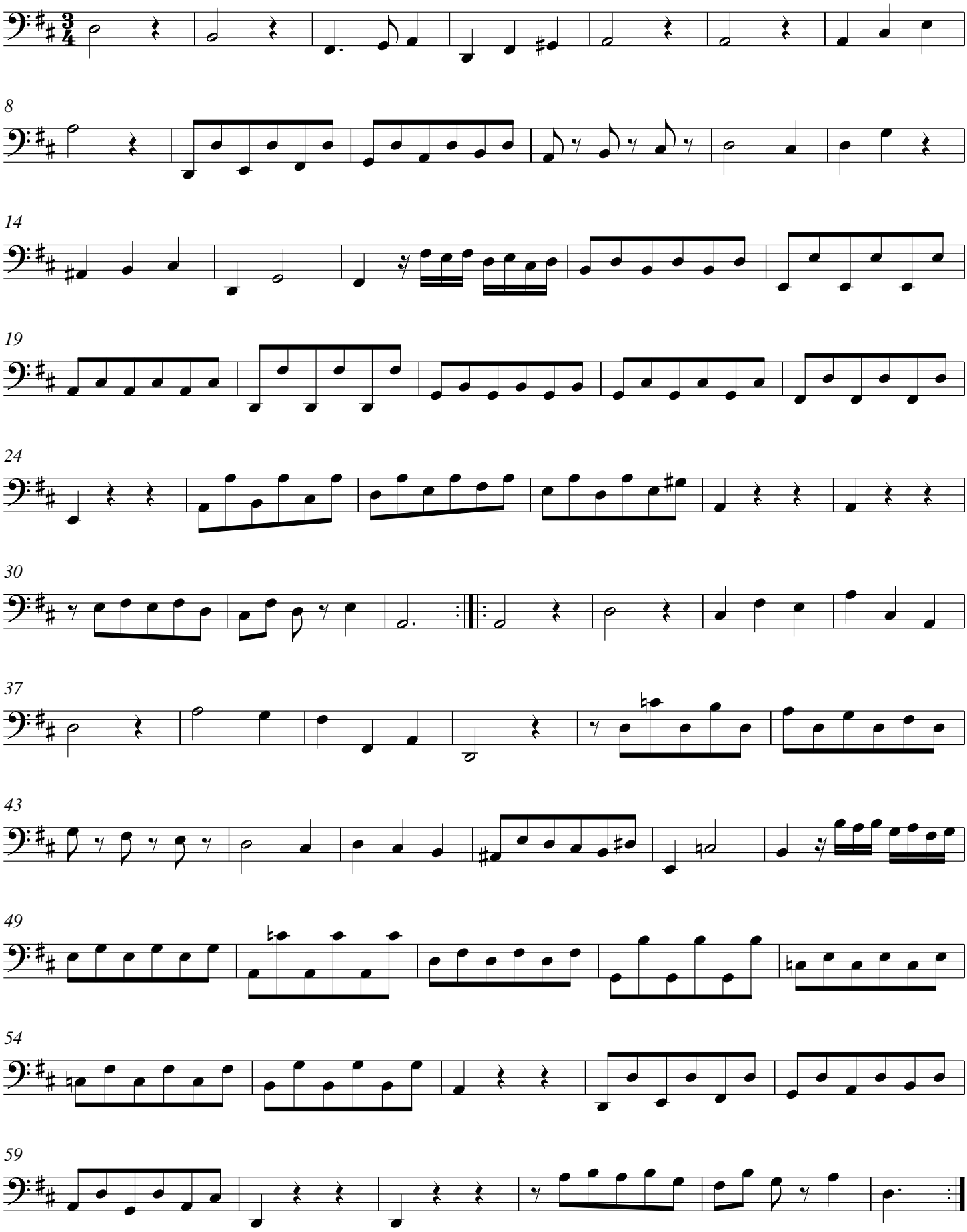


Originally in D minor

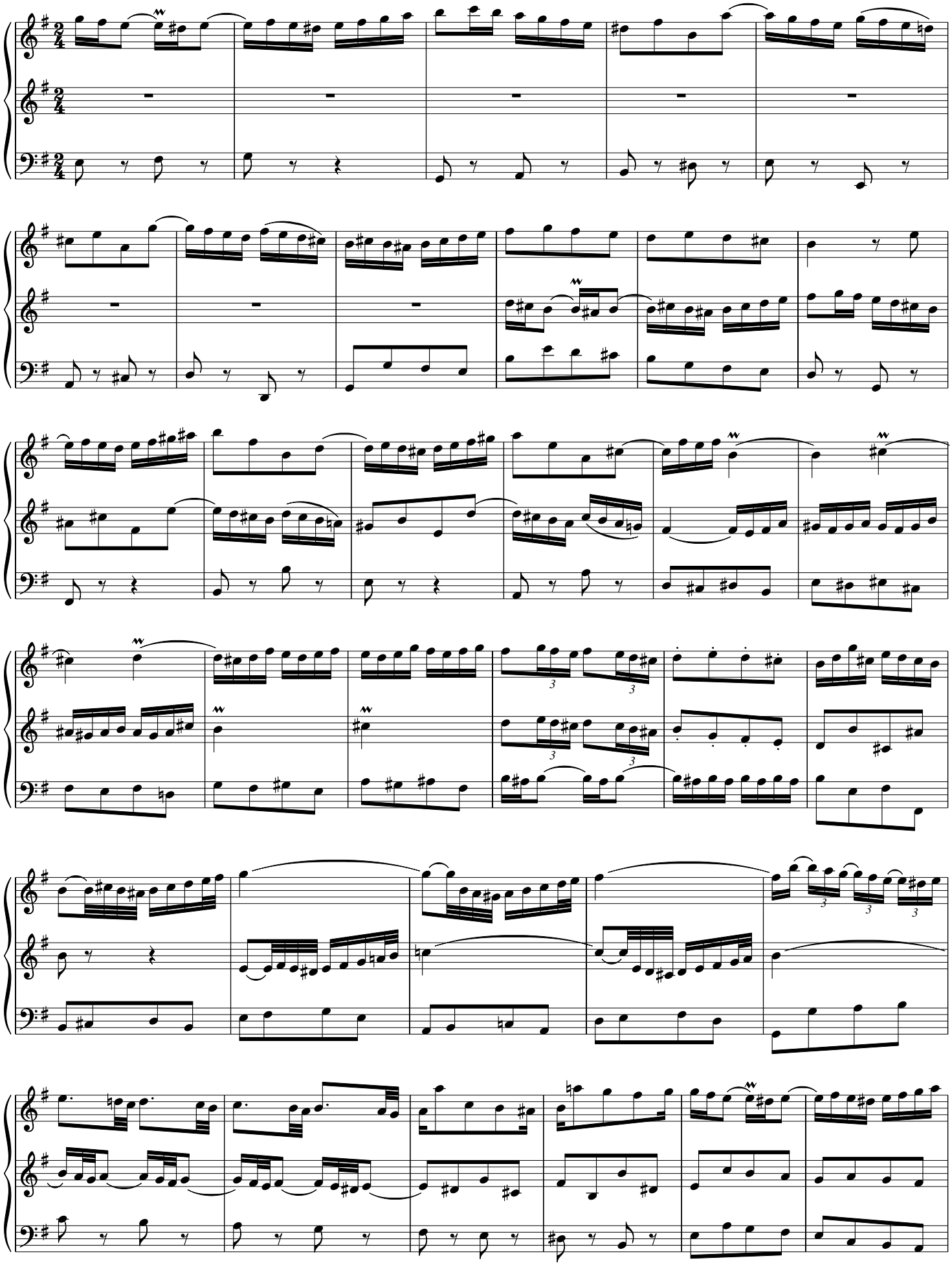
Trio Sonata No. 3

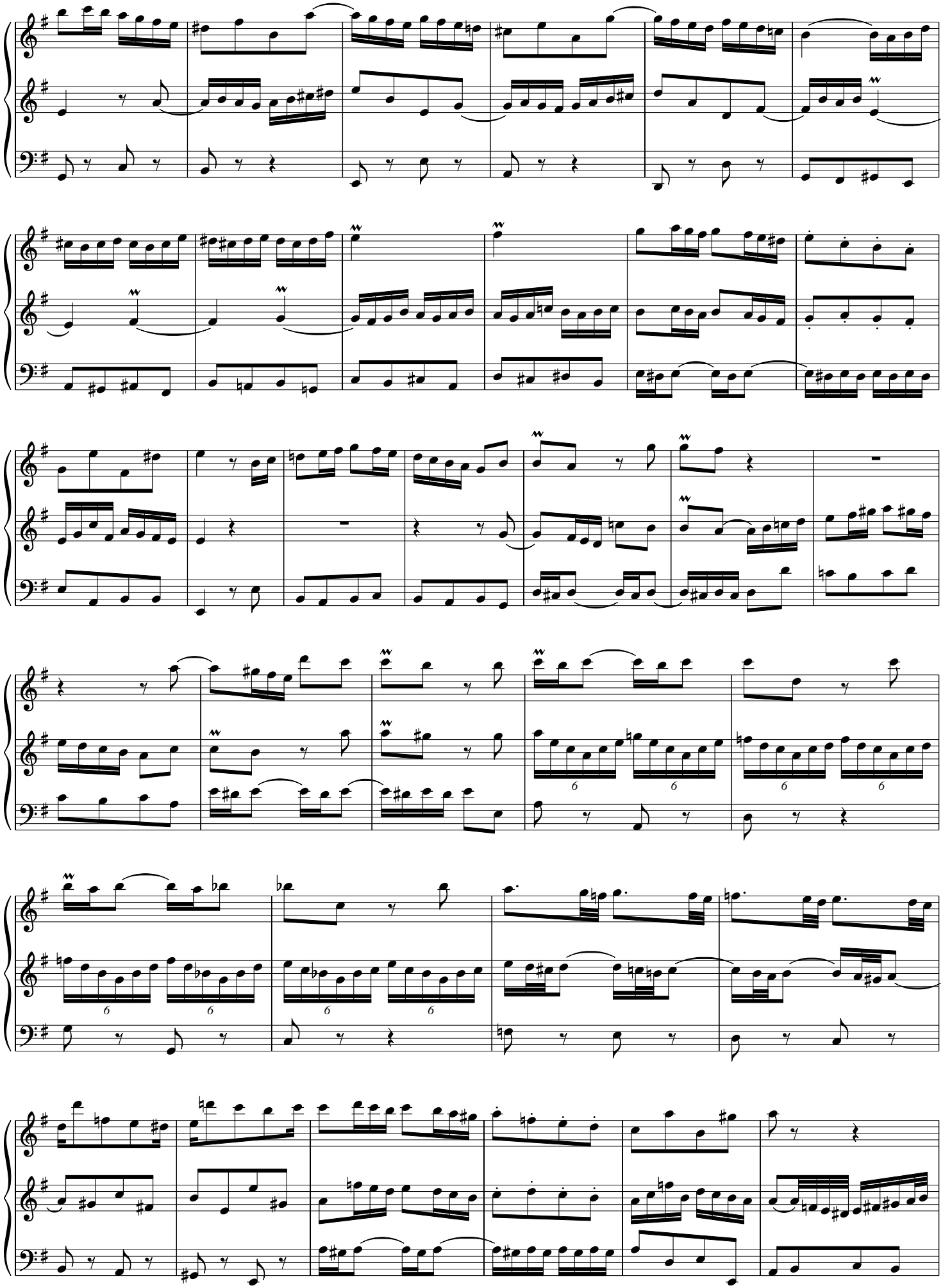
BWV 527

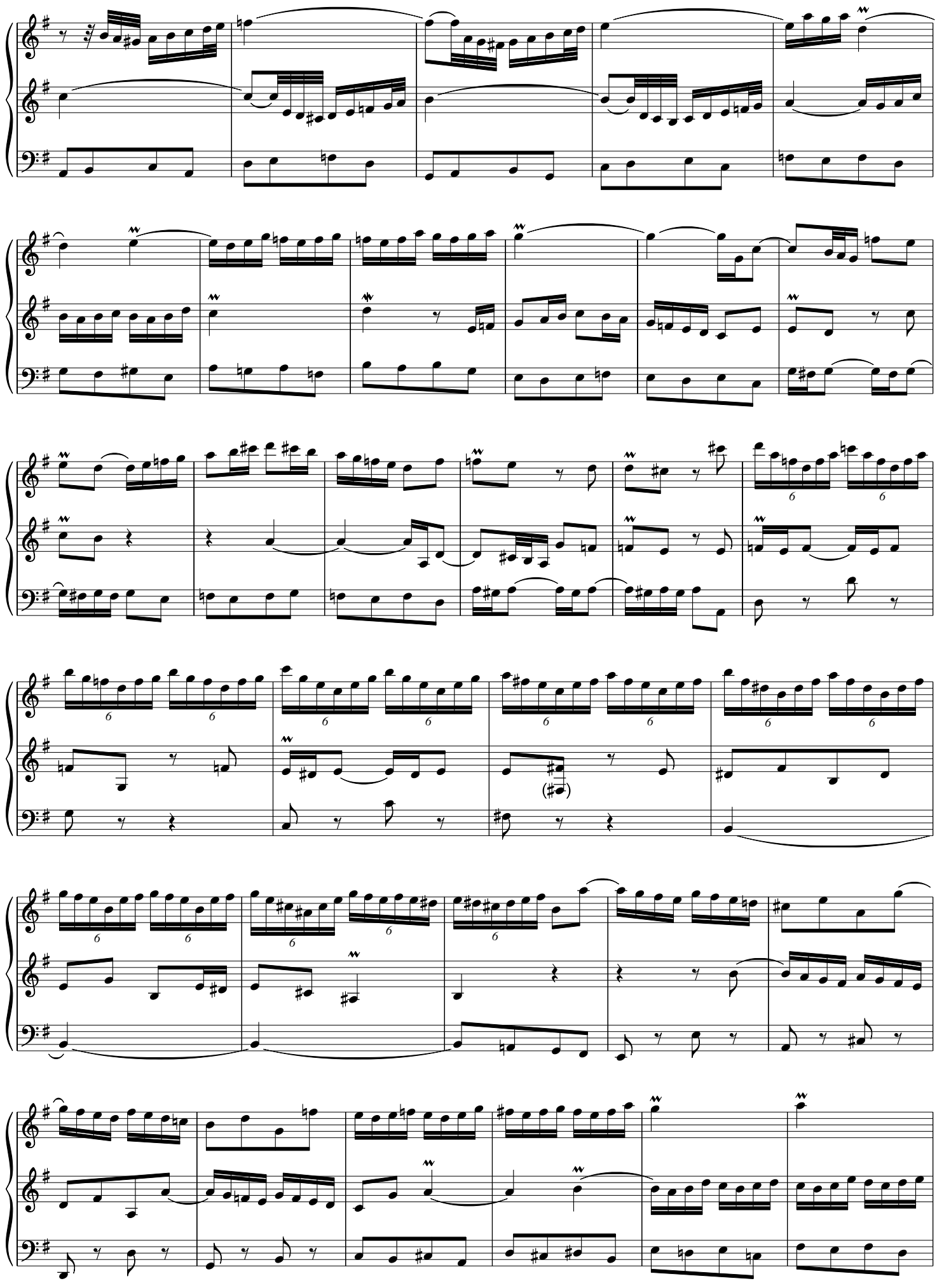
J.S. Bach

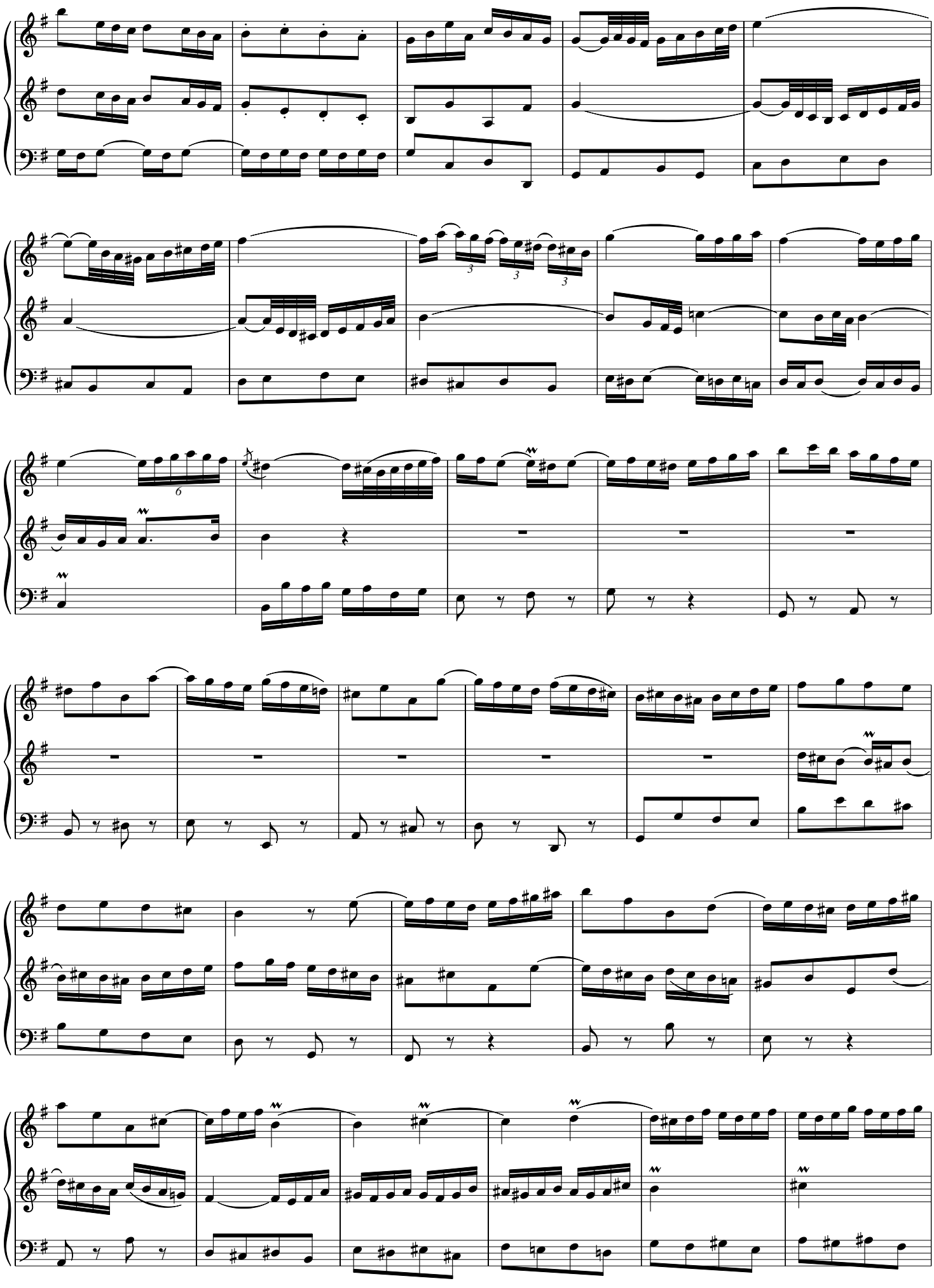
Transcribed by A.E. Bonds

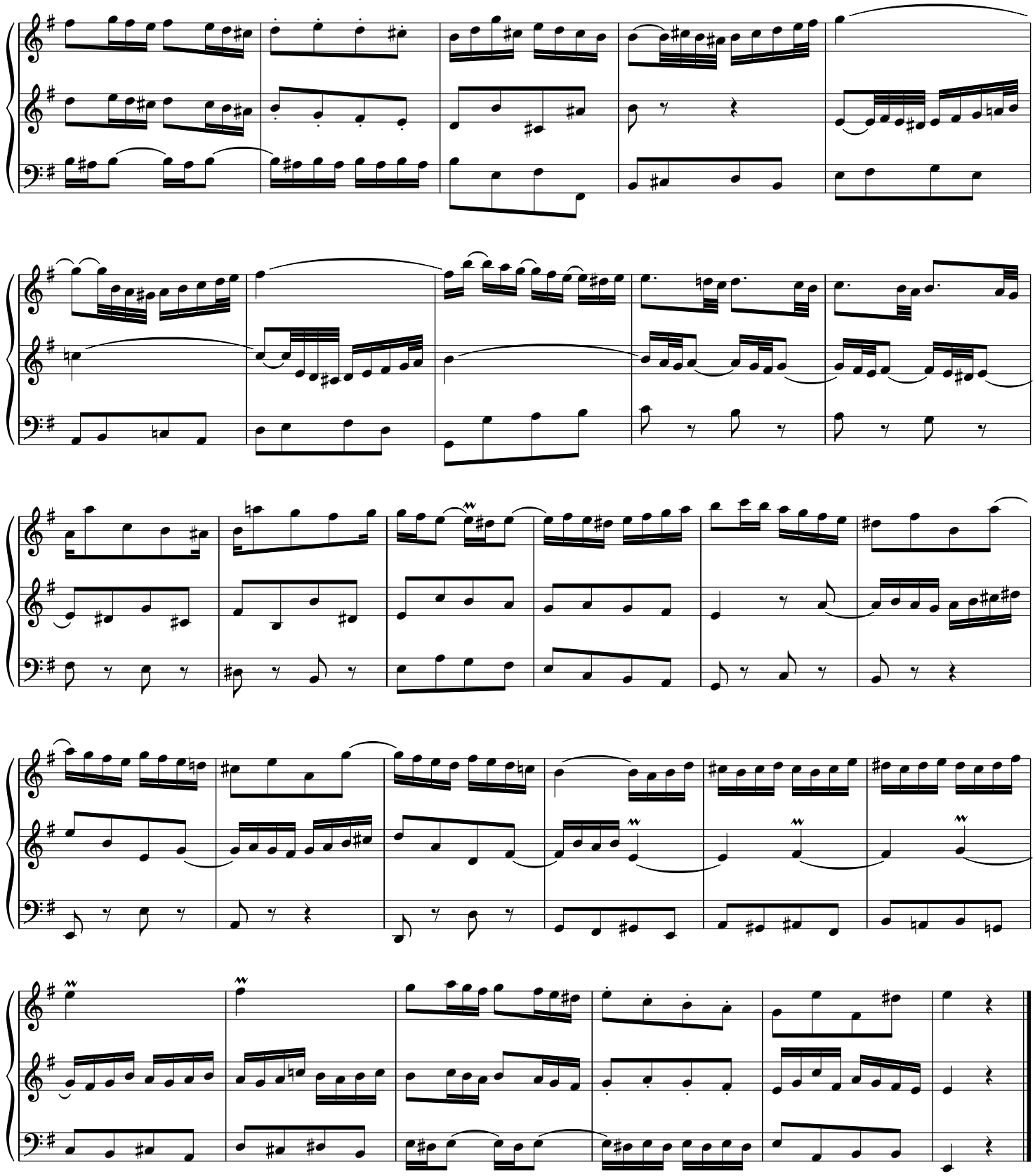
Vivace



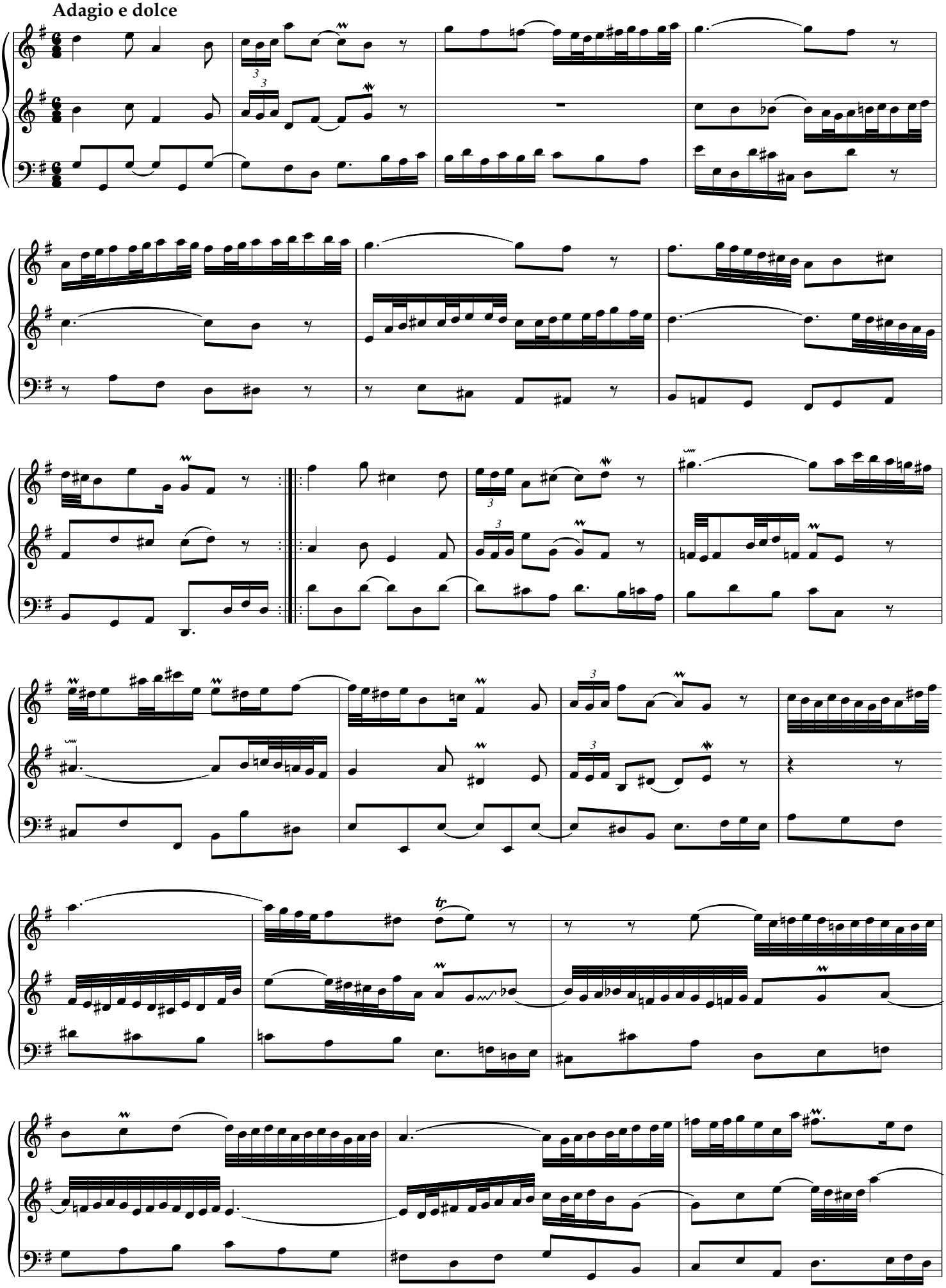


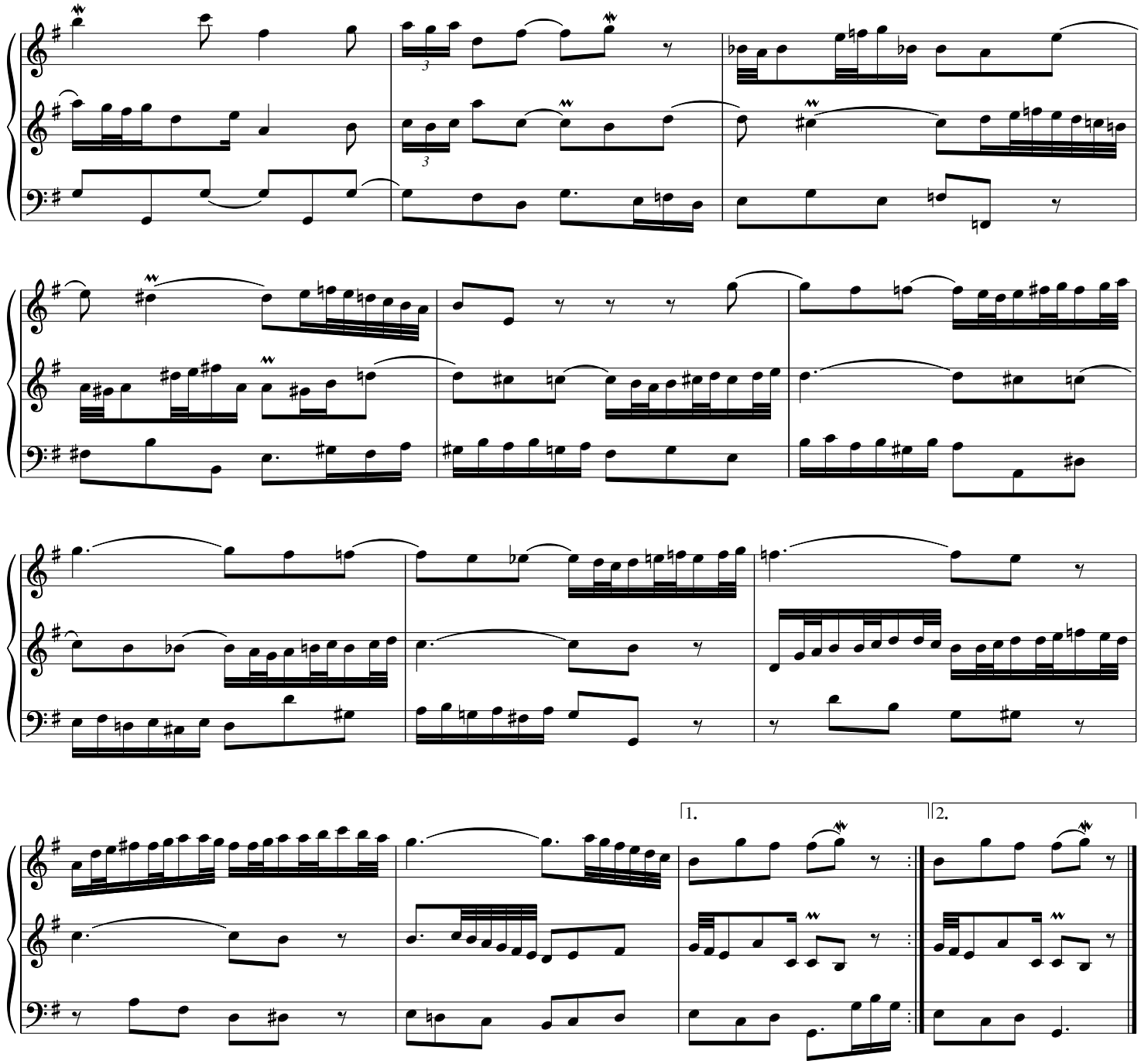






Adagio e dolce

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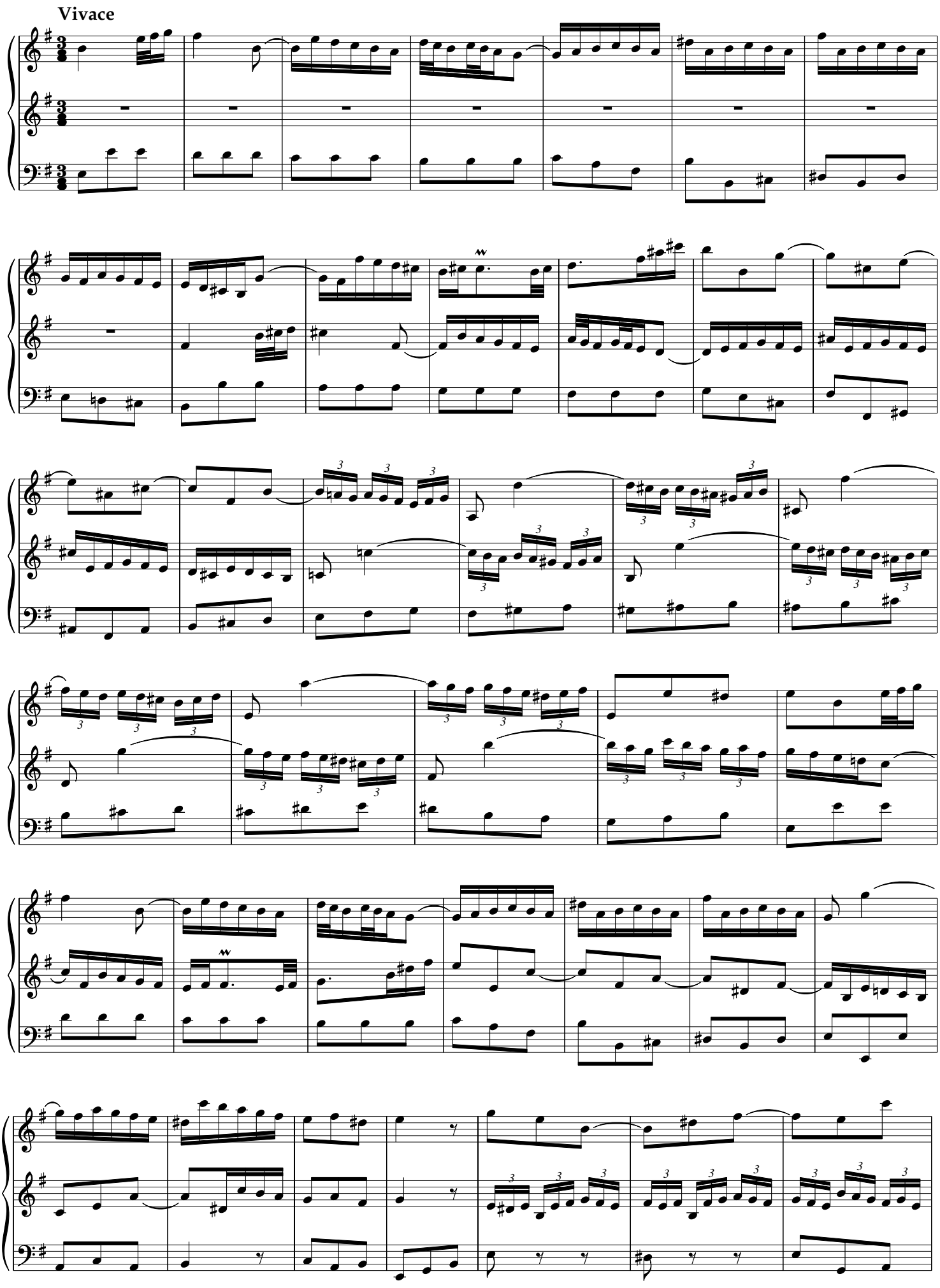
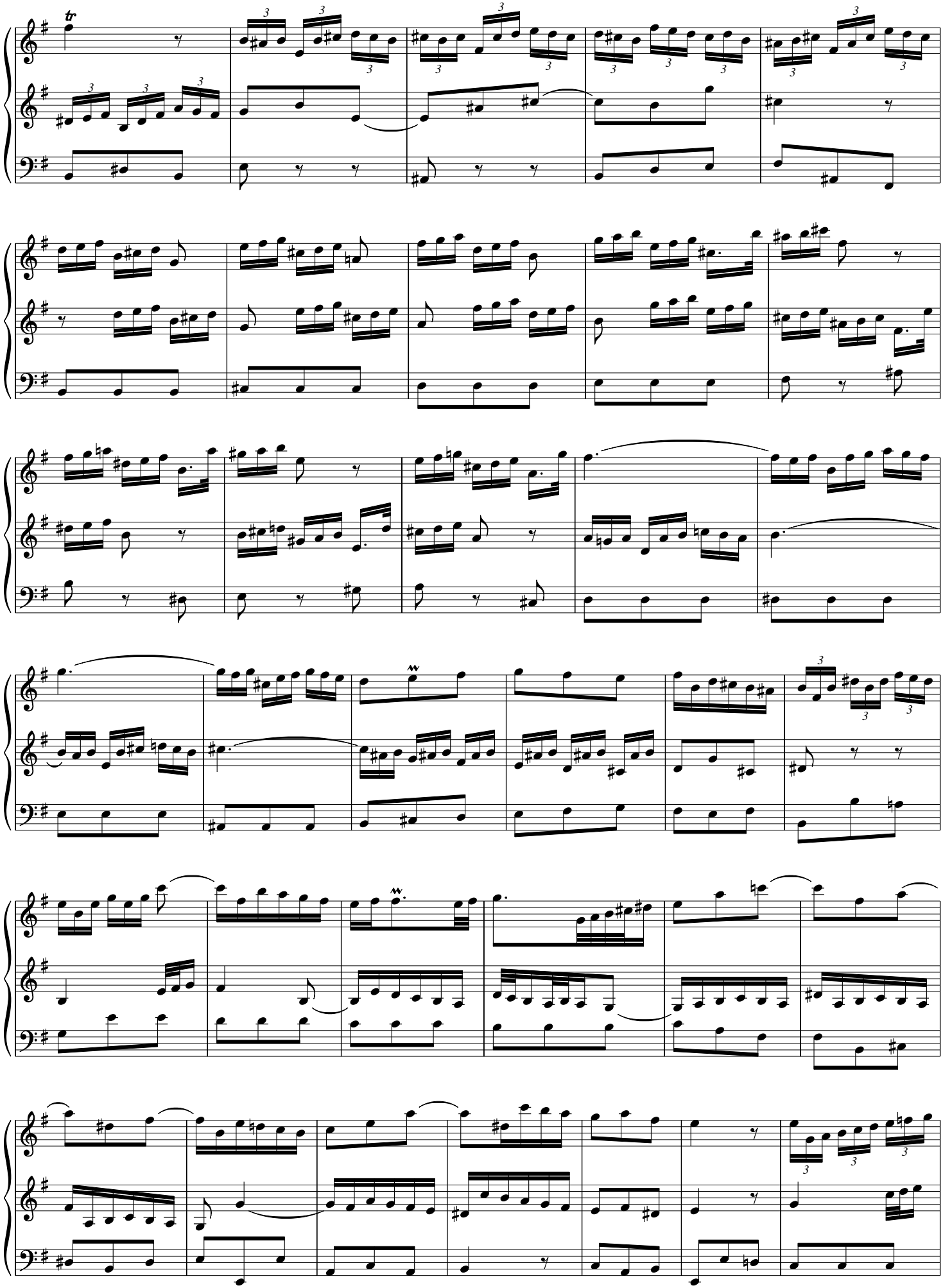
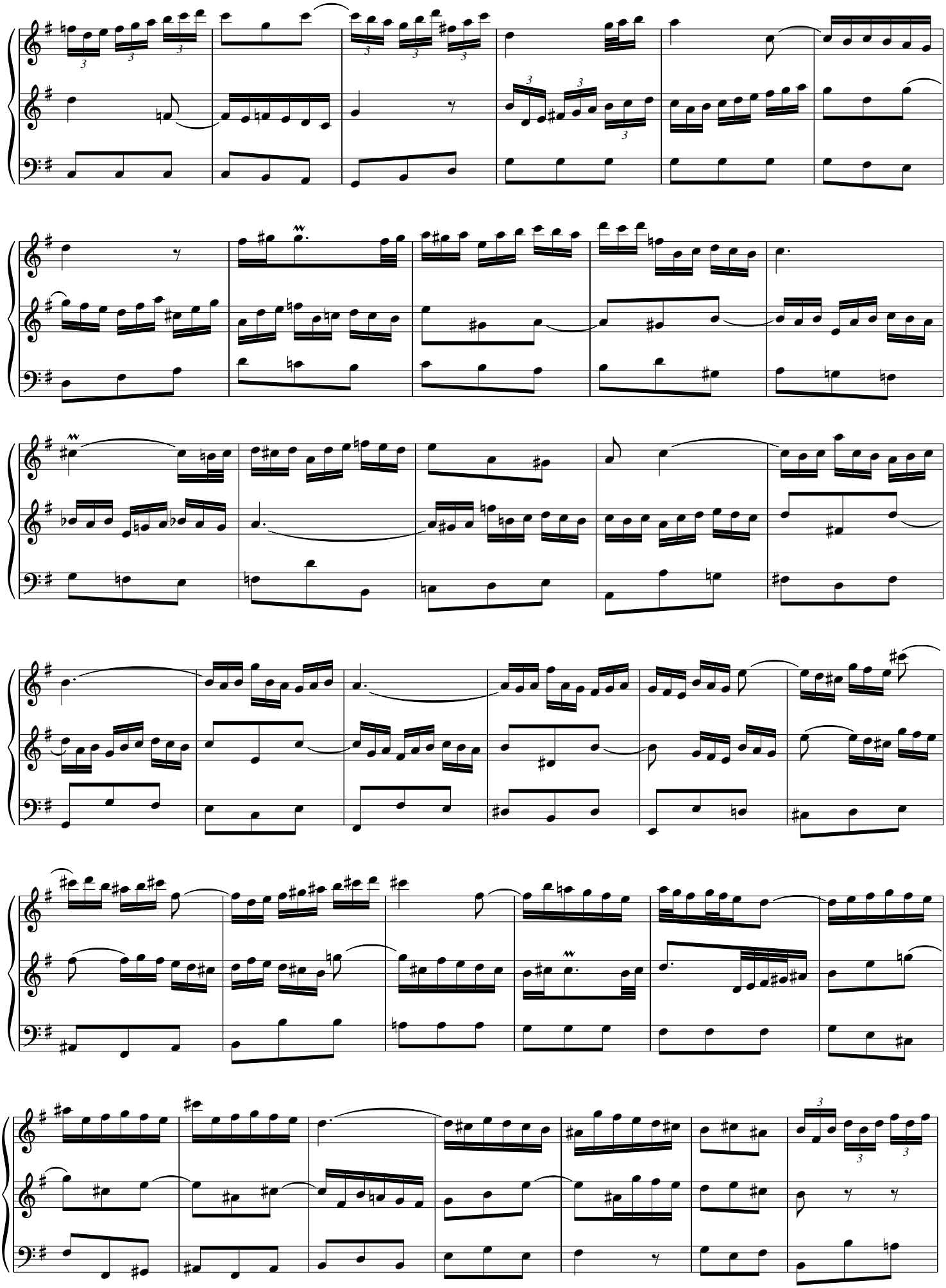
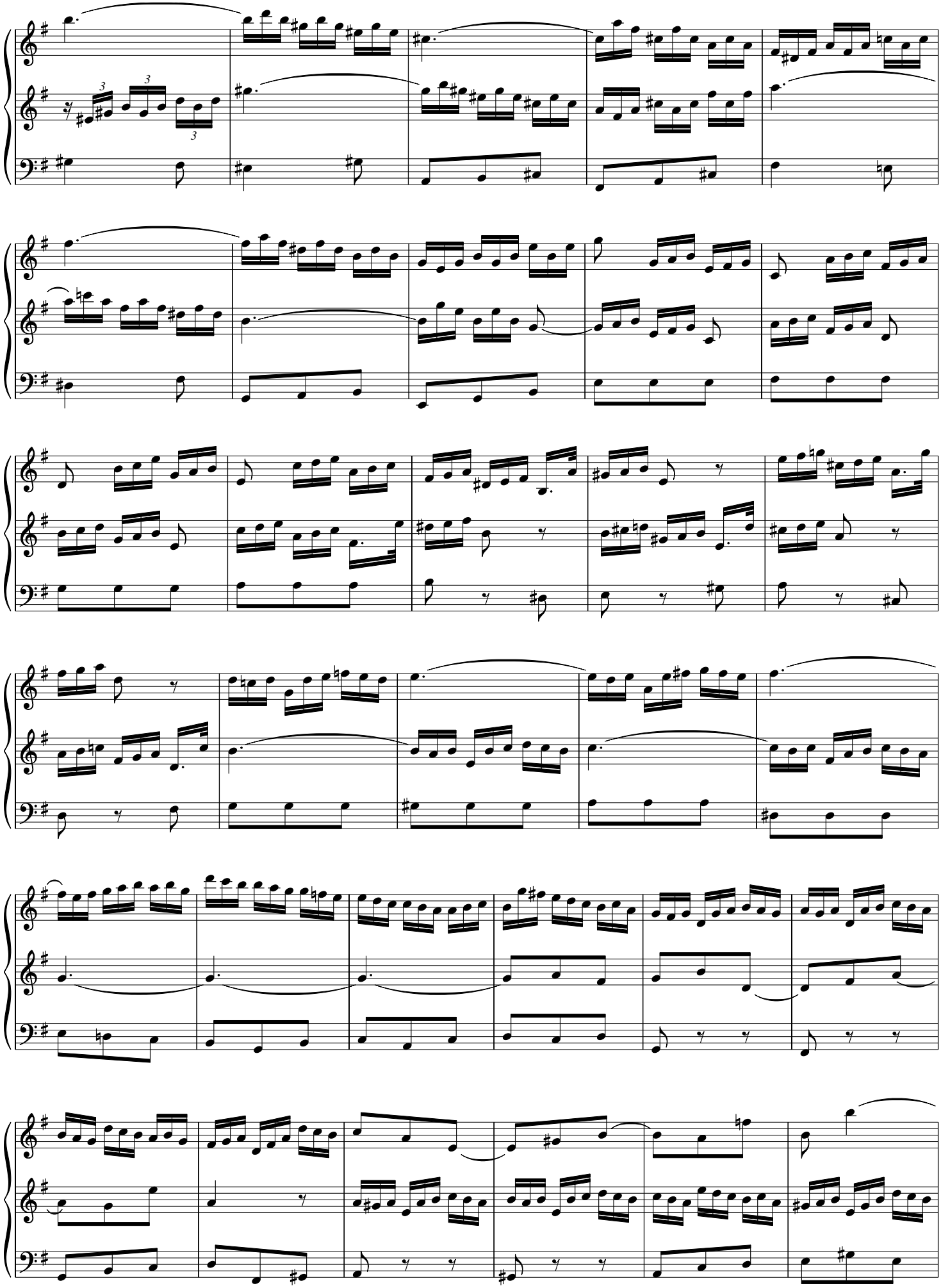
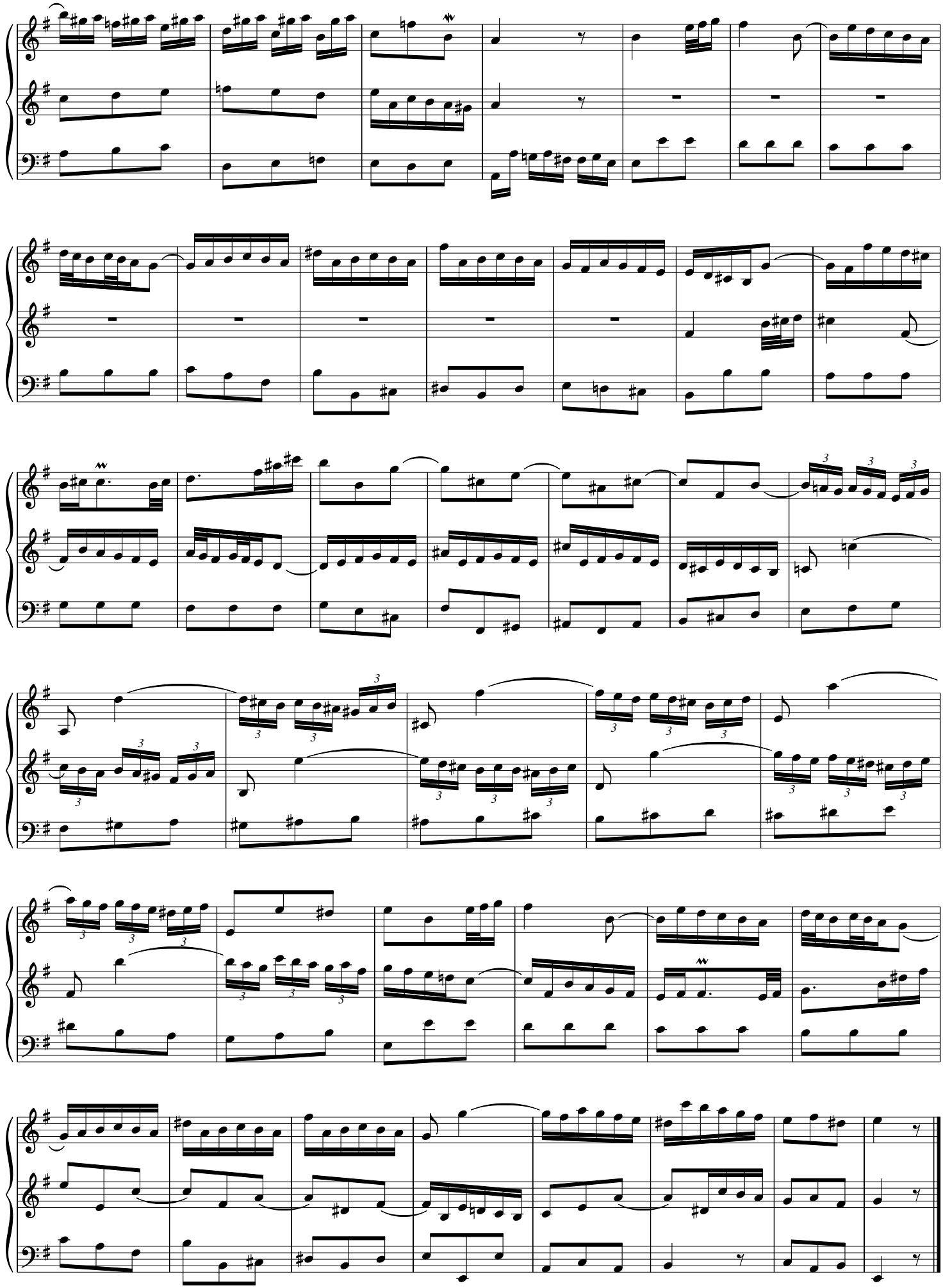

Vivace









Violin 1

Originally in D minor

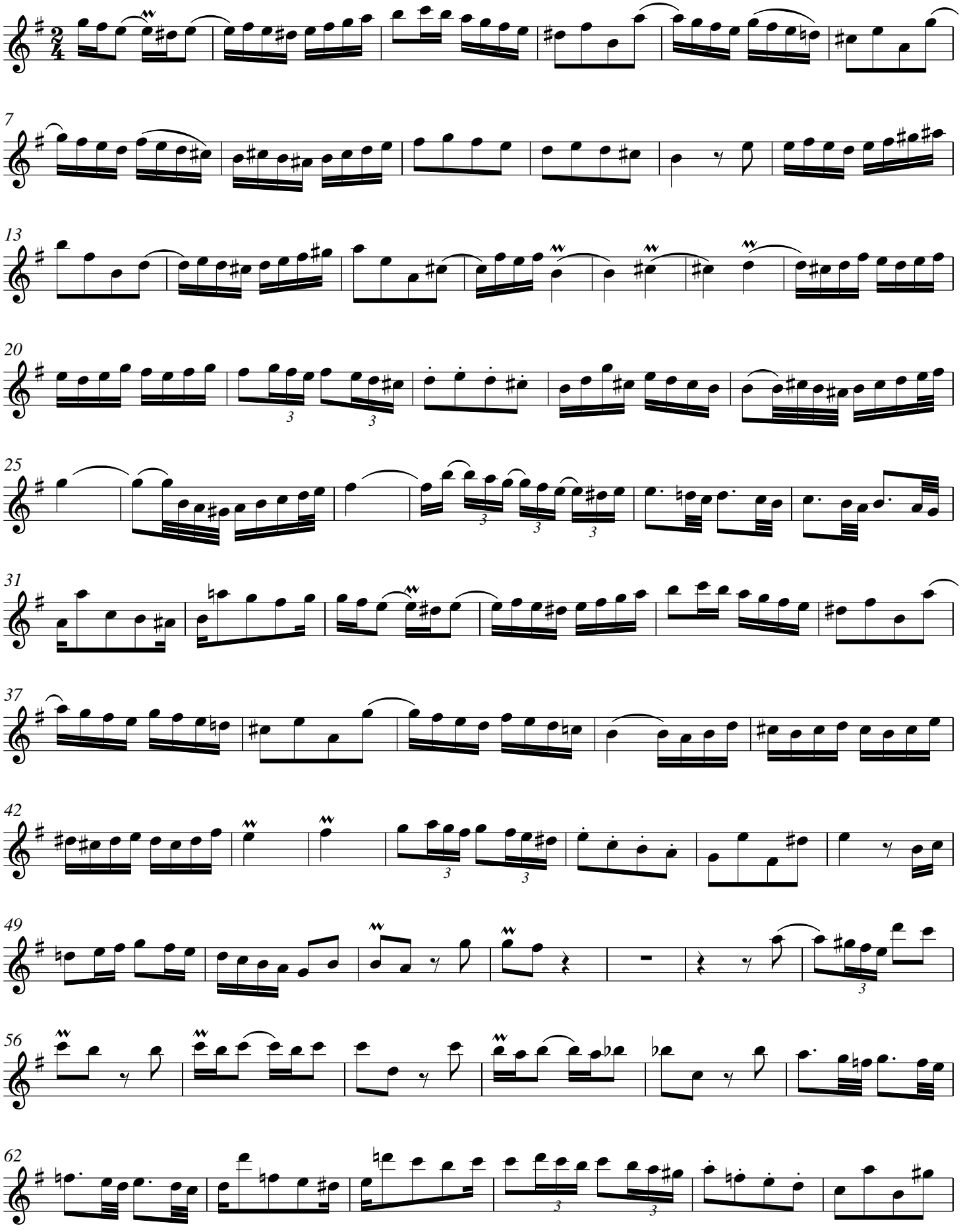
Trio Sonata No. 3

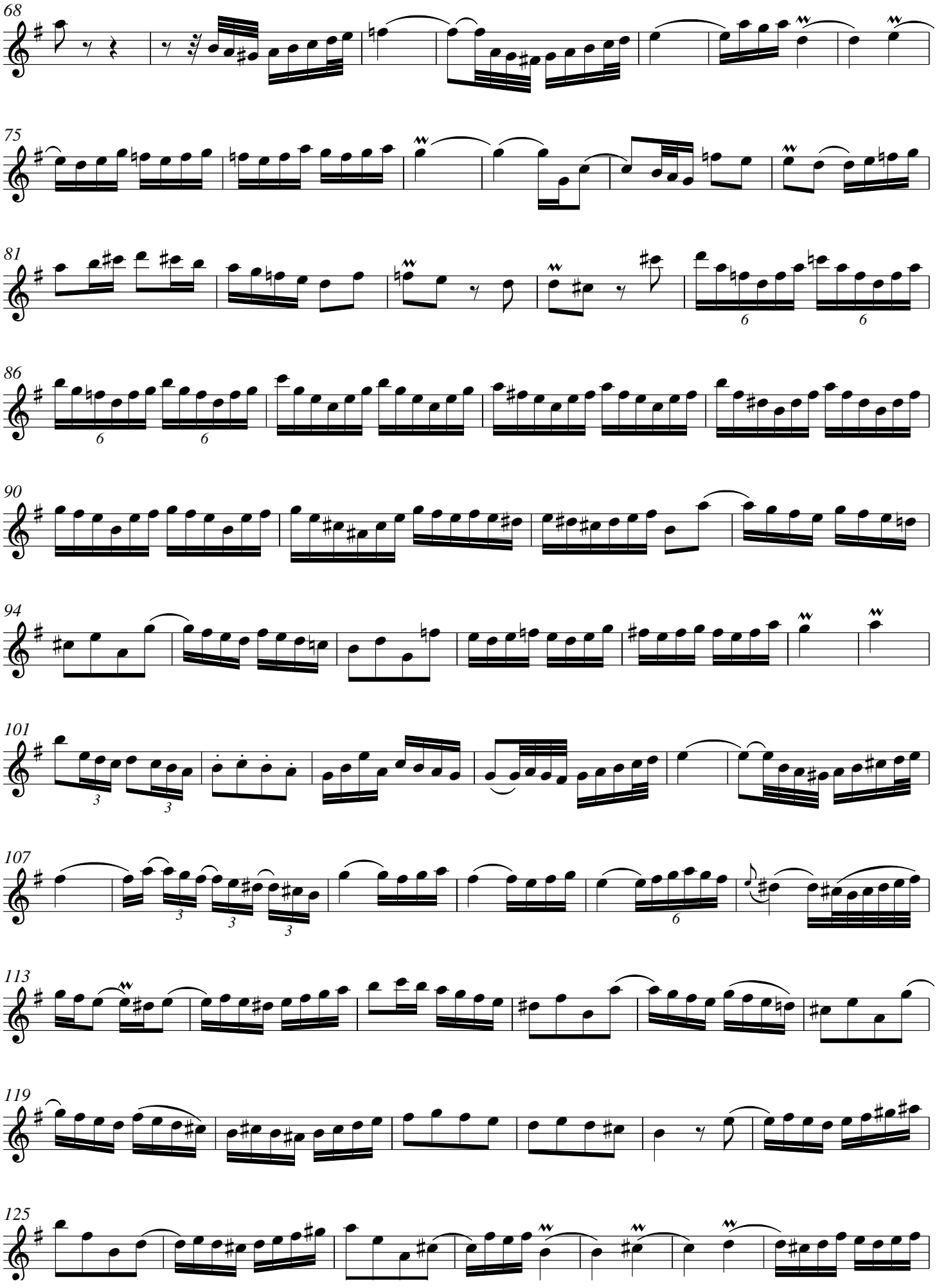
BWV 527

J.S. Bach

Transcribed by A.E. Bonds

Andante

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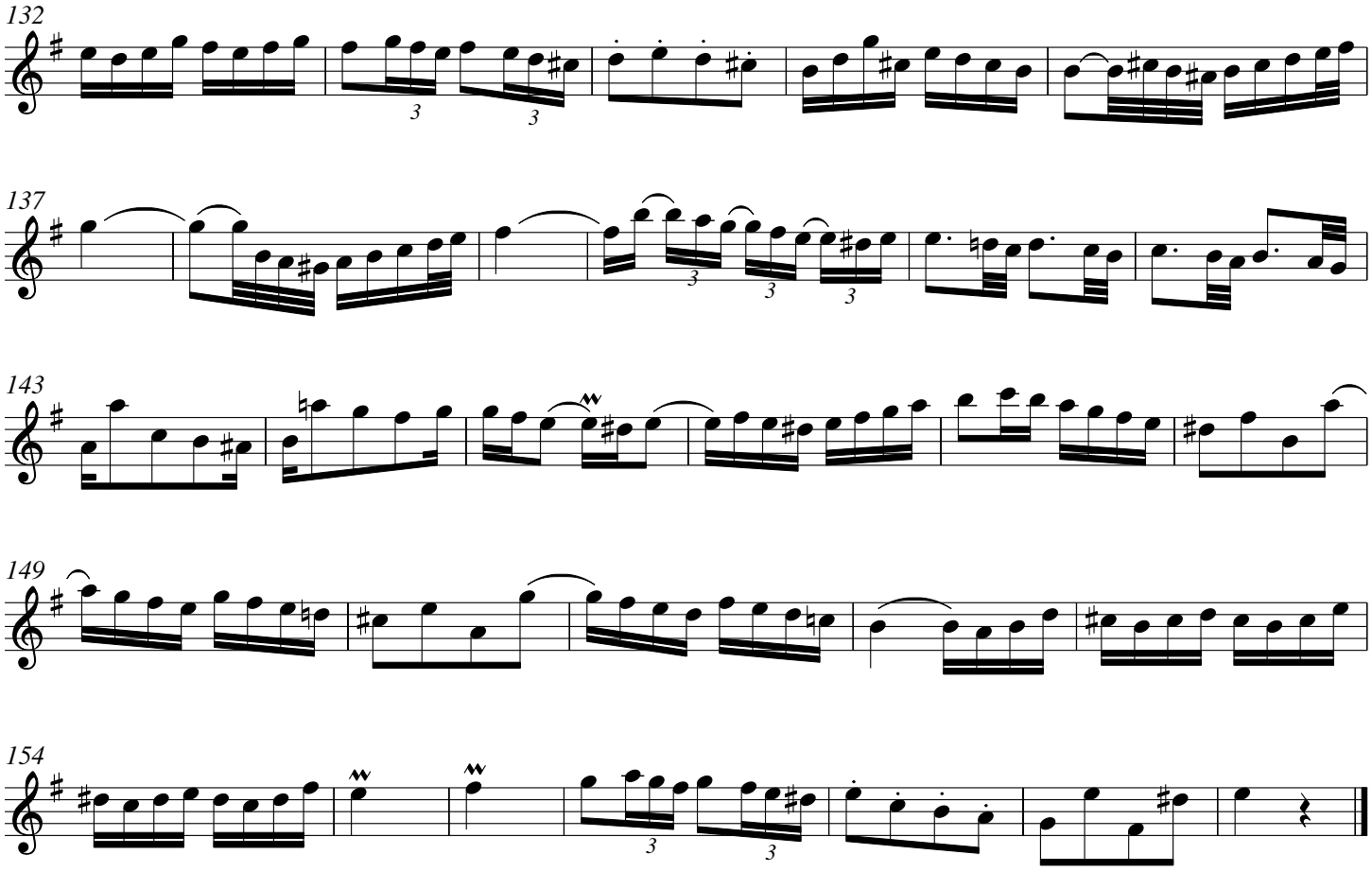
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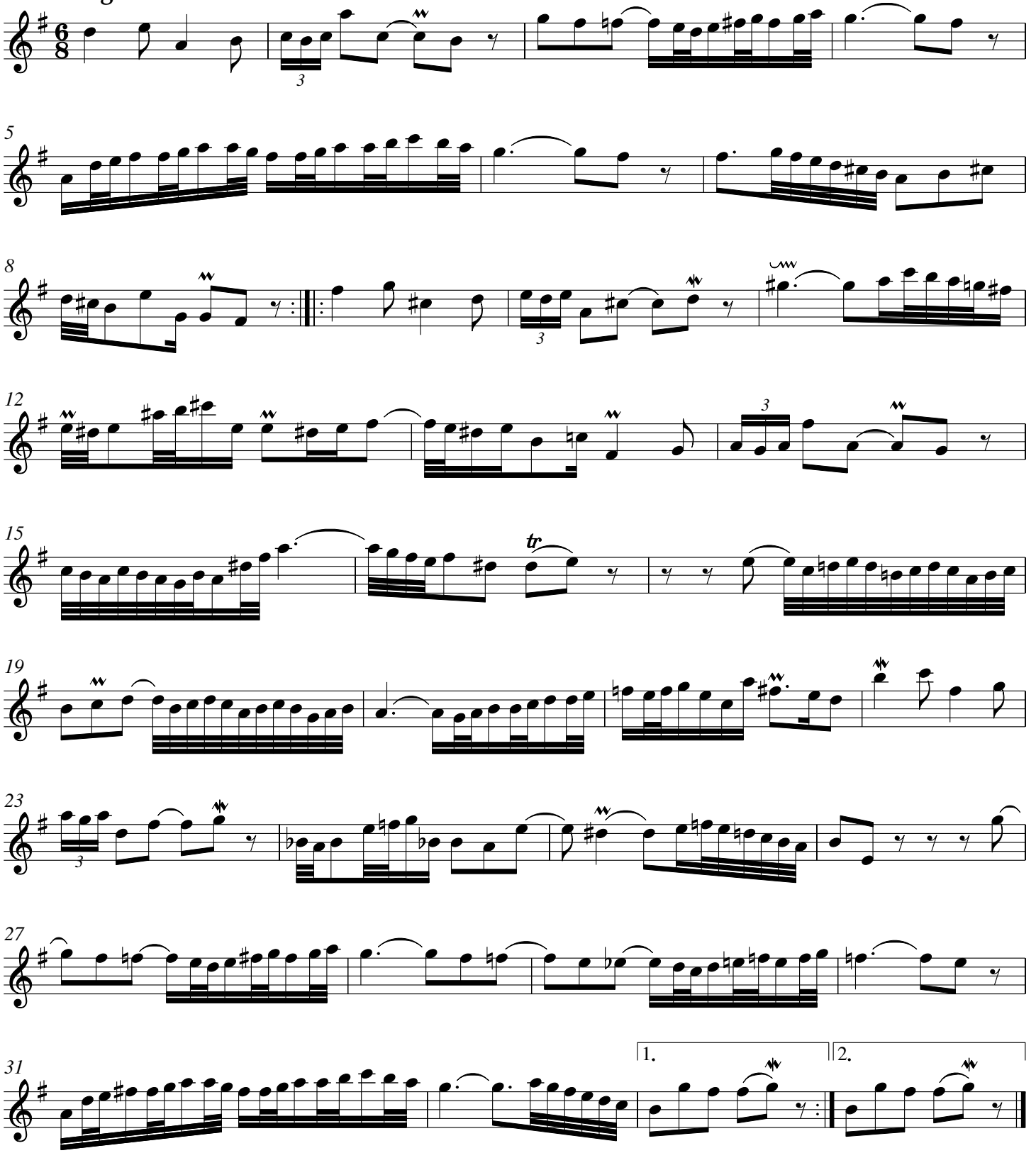
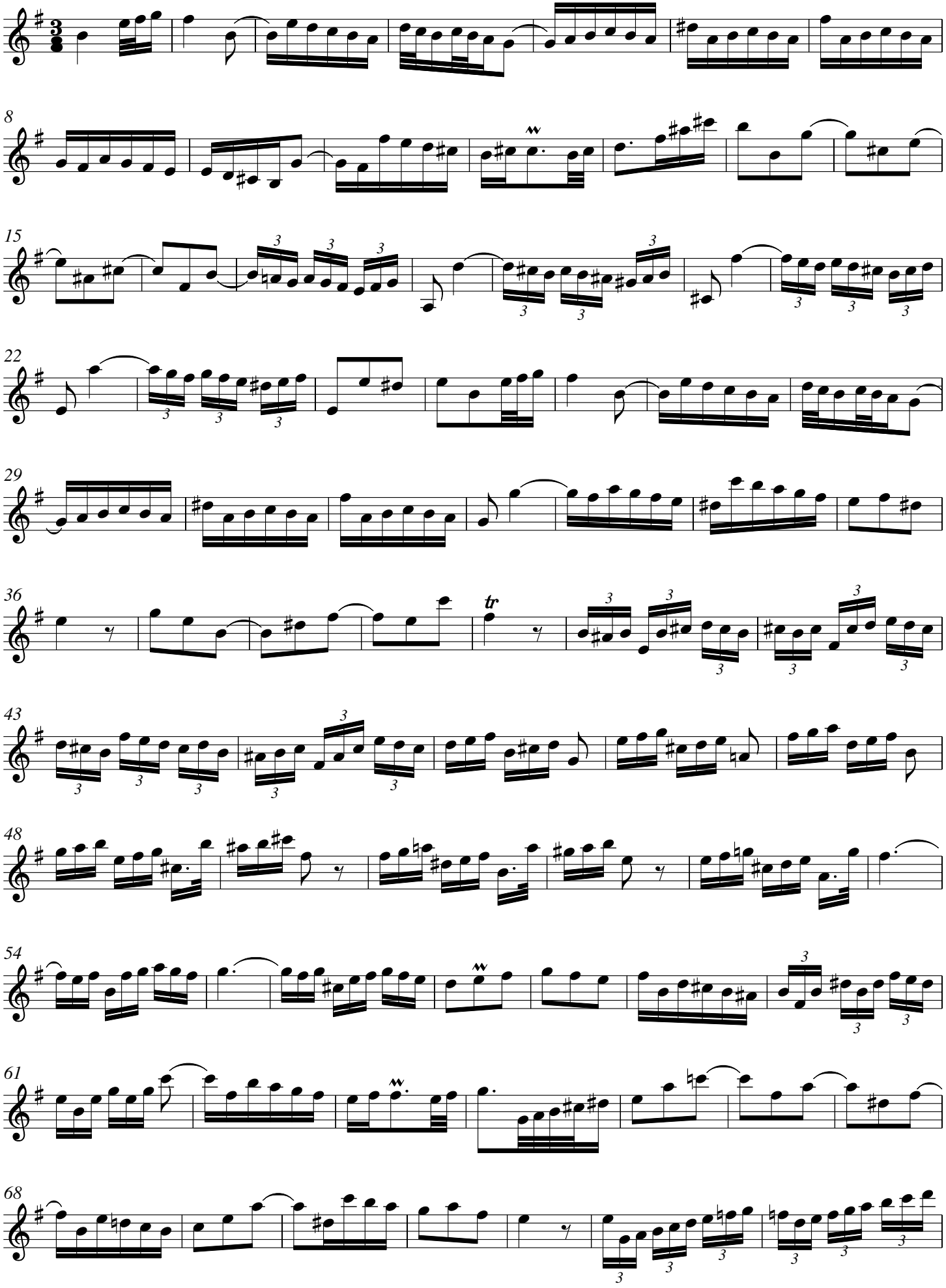
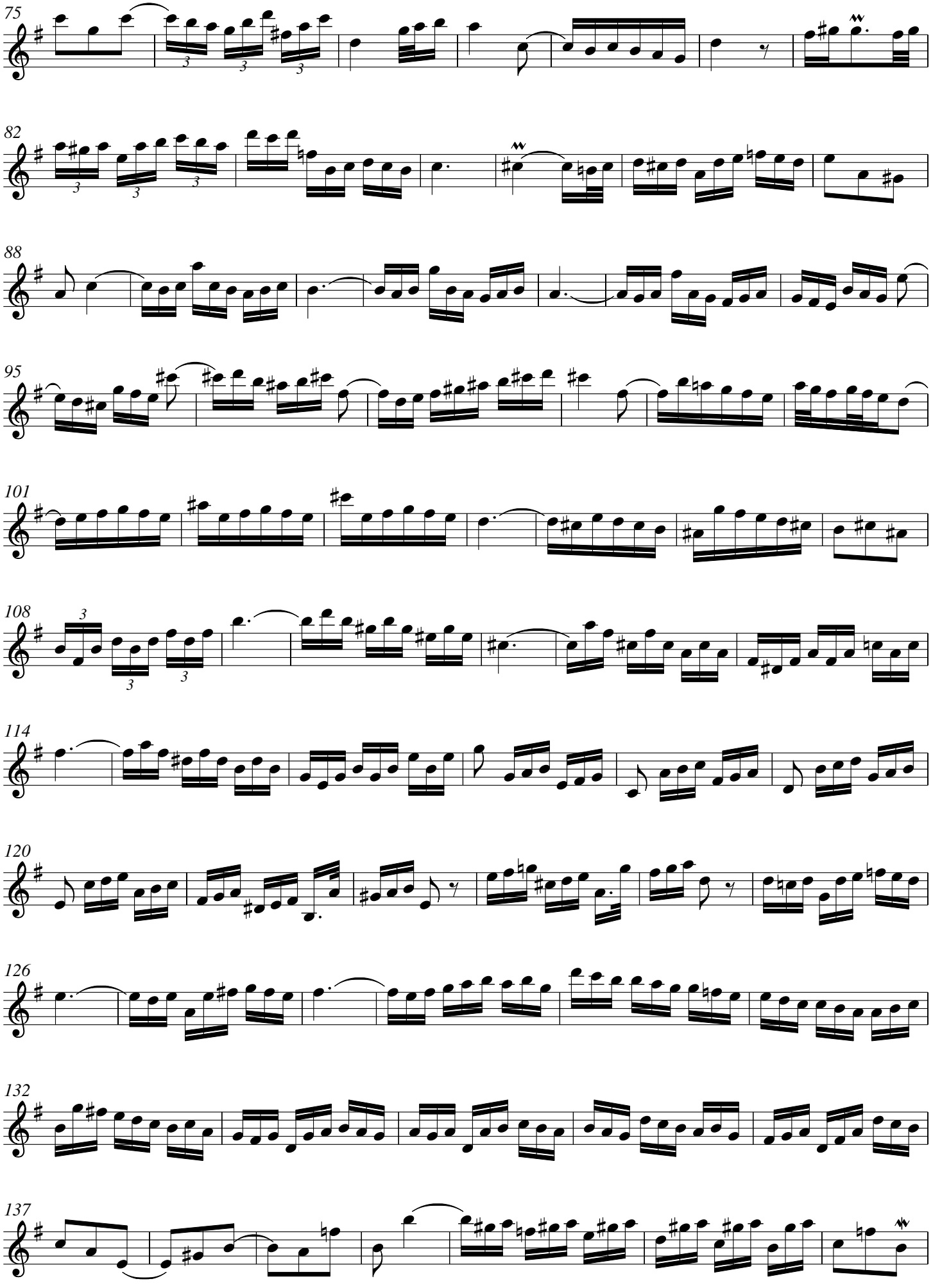
Adagio e dolce



Vivace

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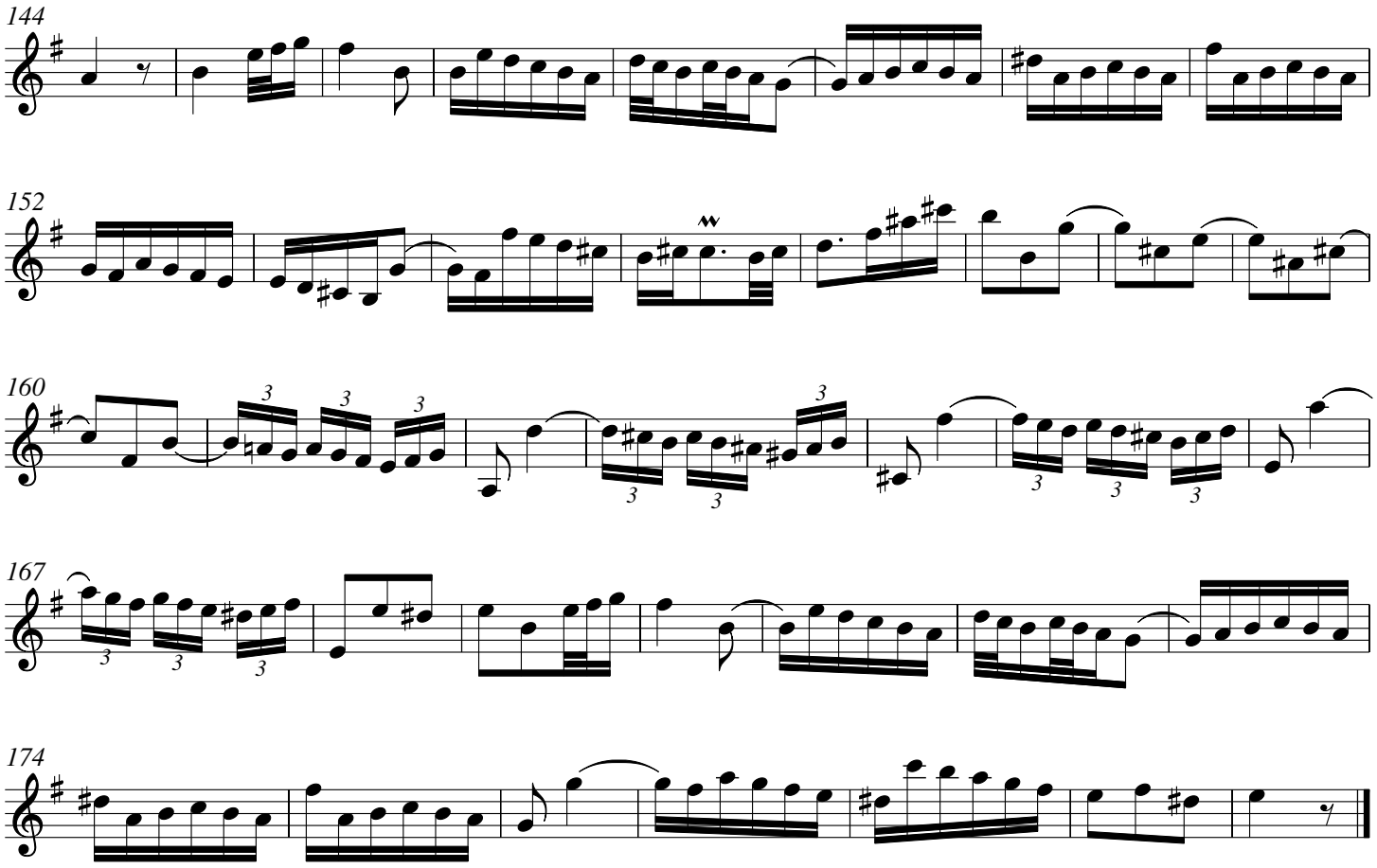
144
152
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174

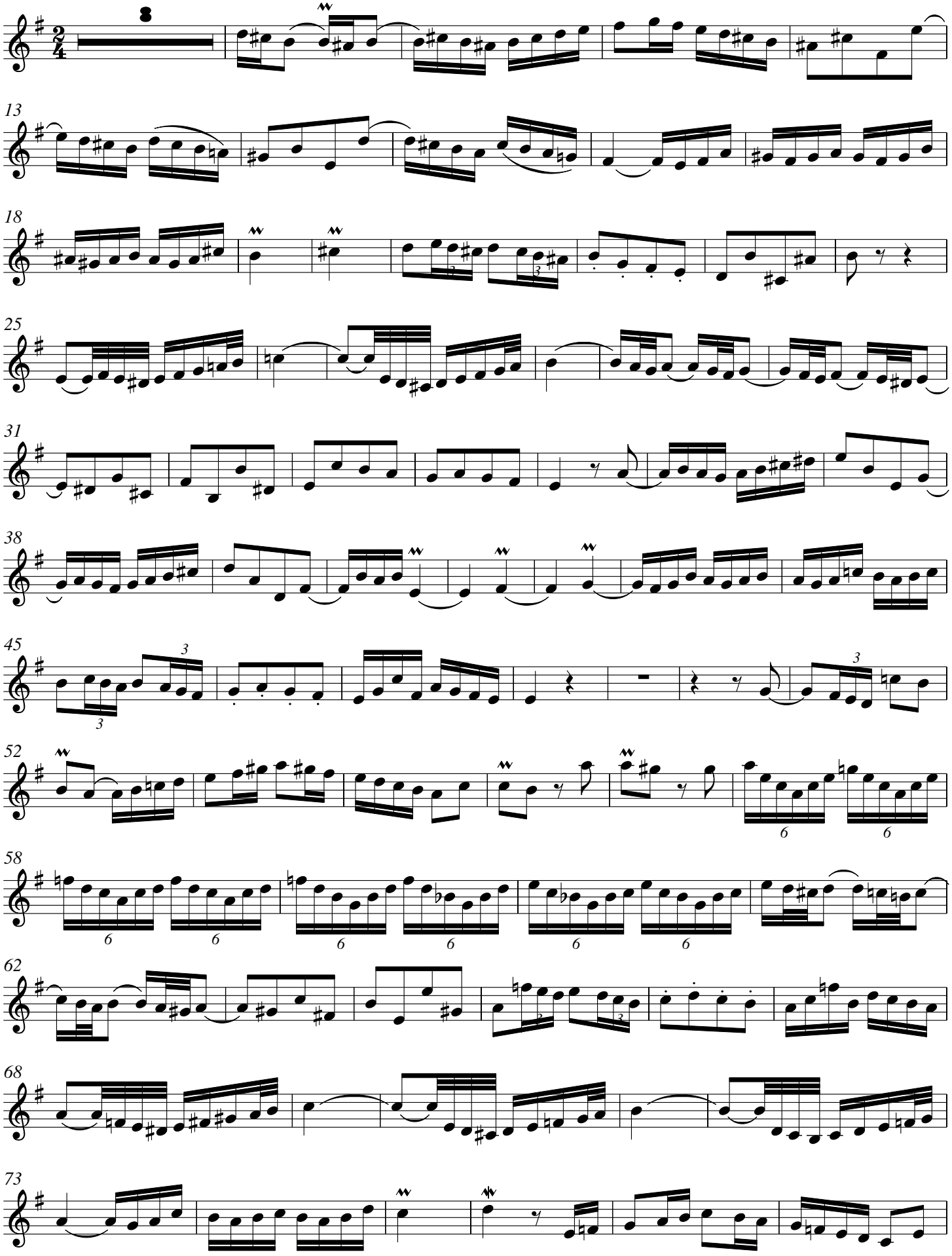
Violin 2
Originally in D minor

Trio Sonata No. 3

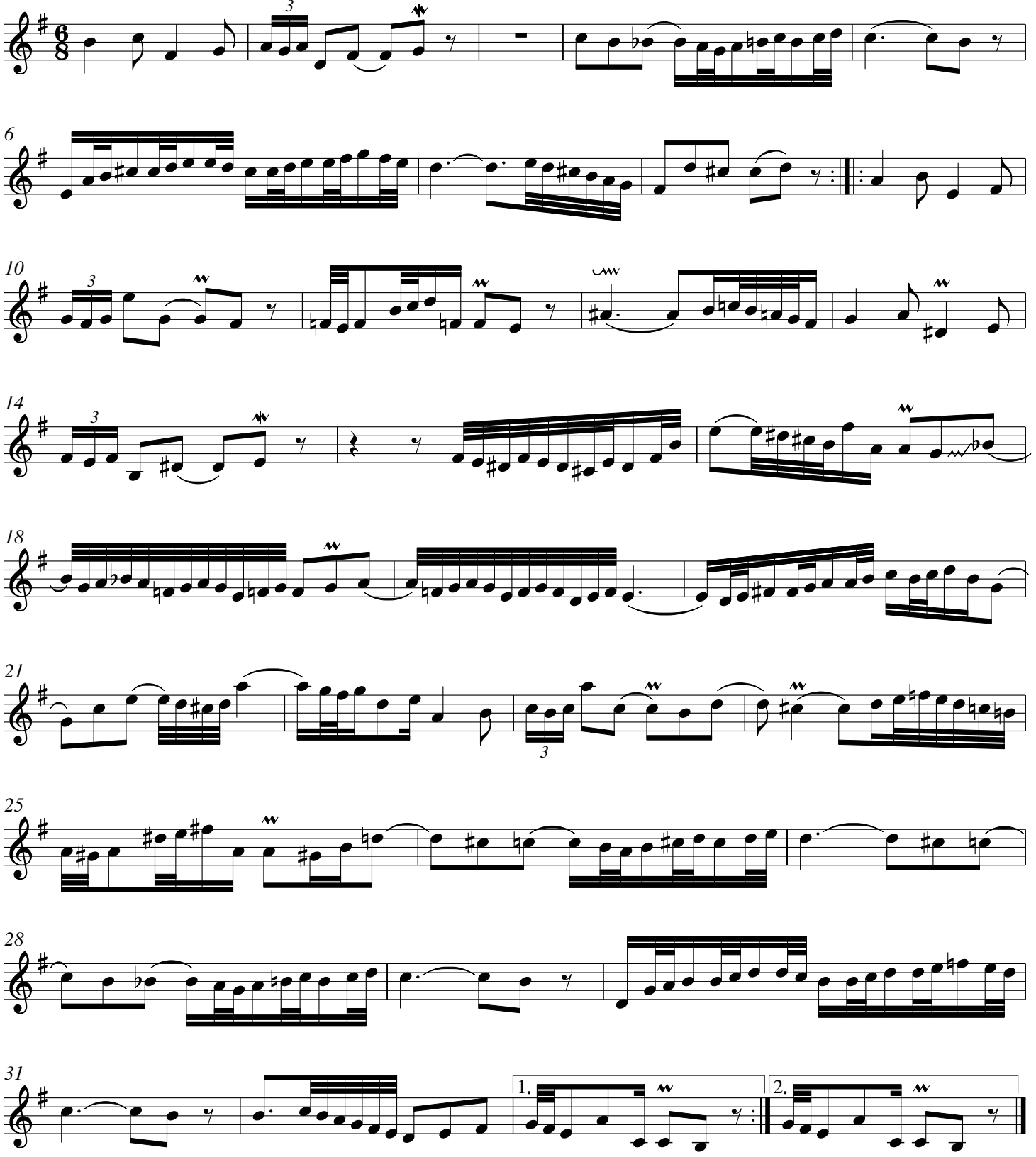
BWV 527

J.S. Bach
Transcribed by A.E. Bonds

Andante

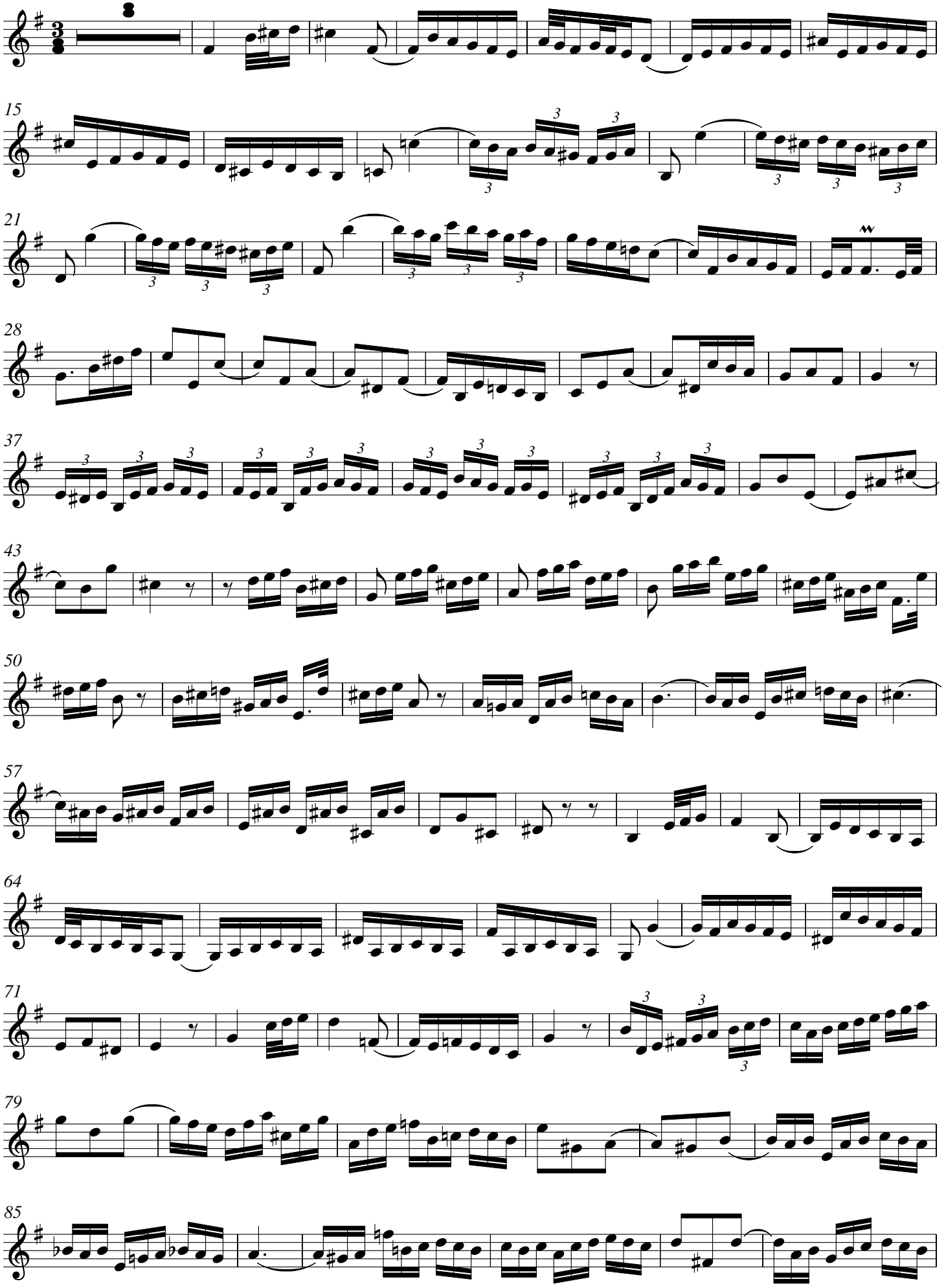


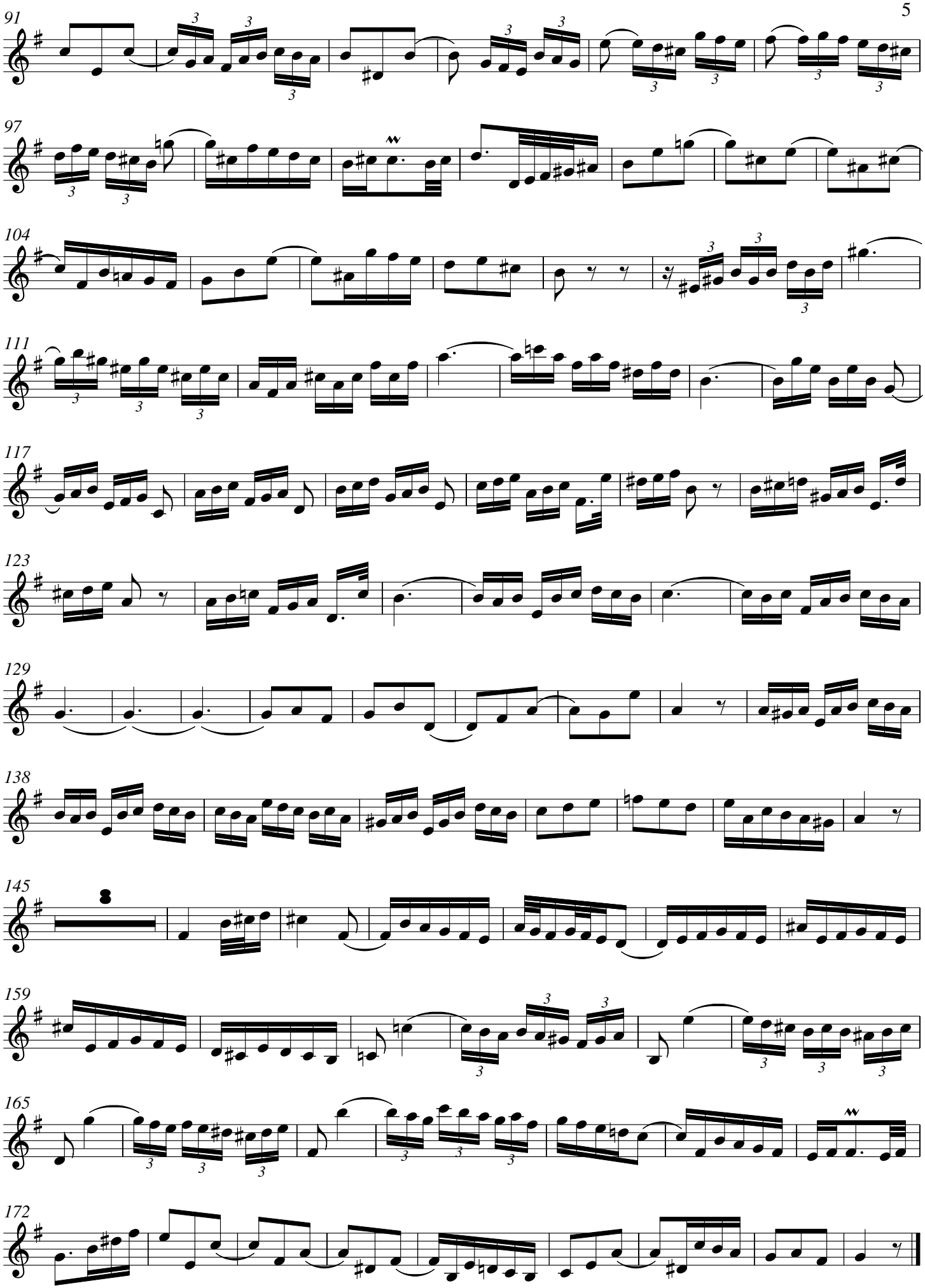
Adagio e dolce



Violin 2

Vivace




91
97
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172

Violoncello

Originally in D minor

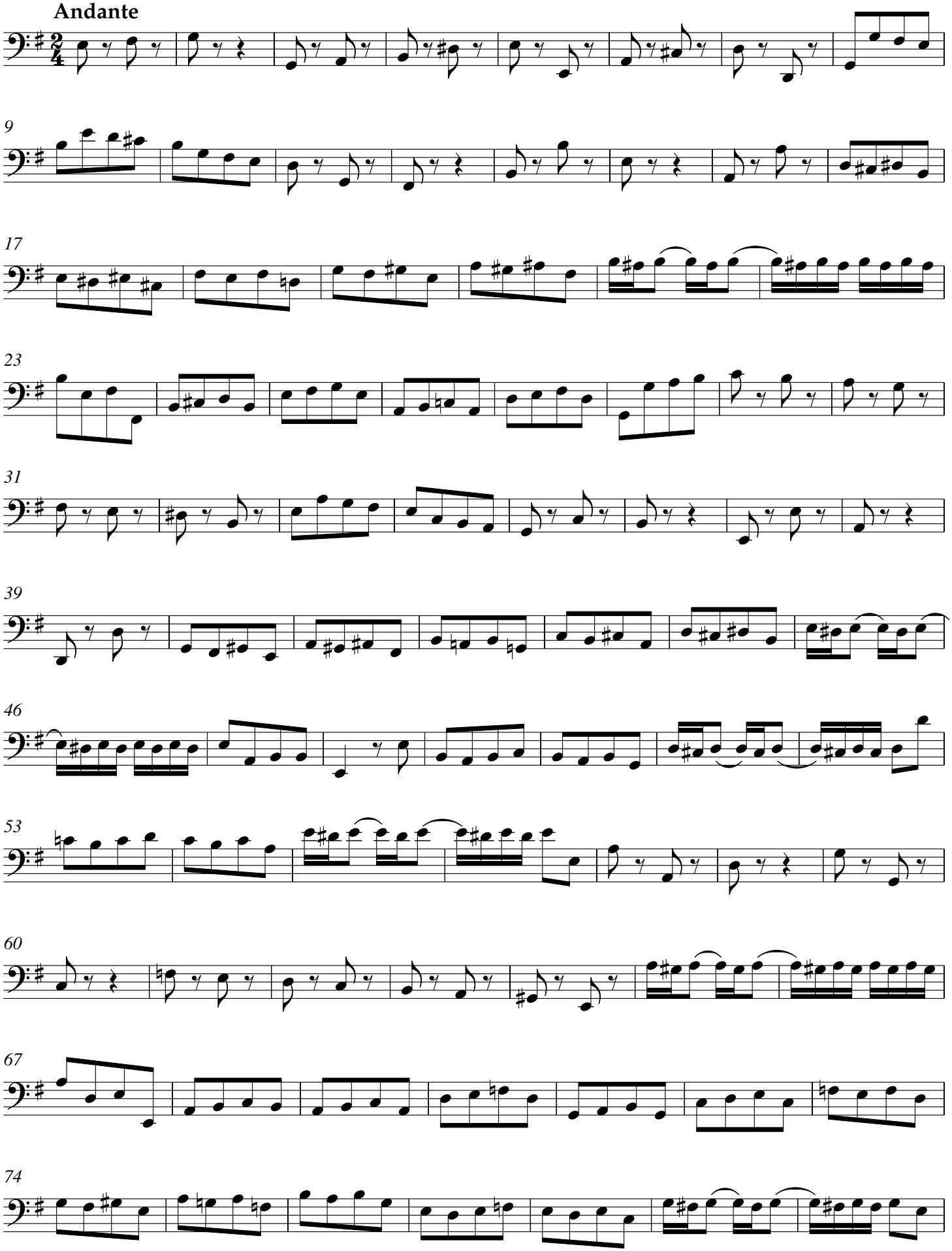
Trio Sonata No. 3

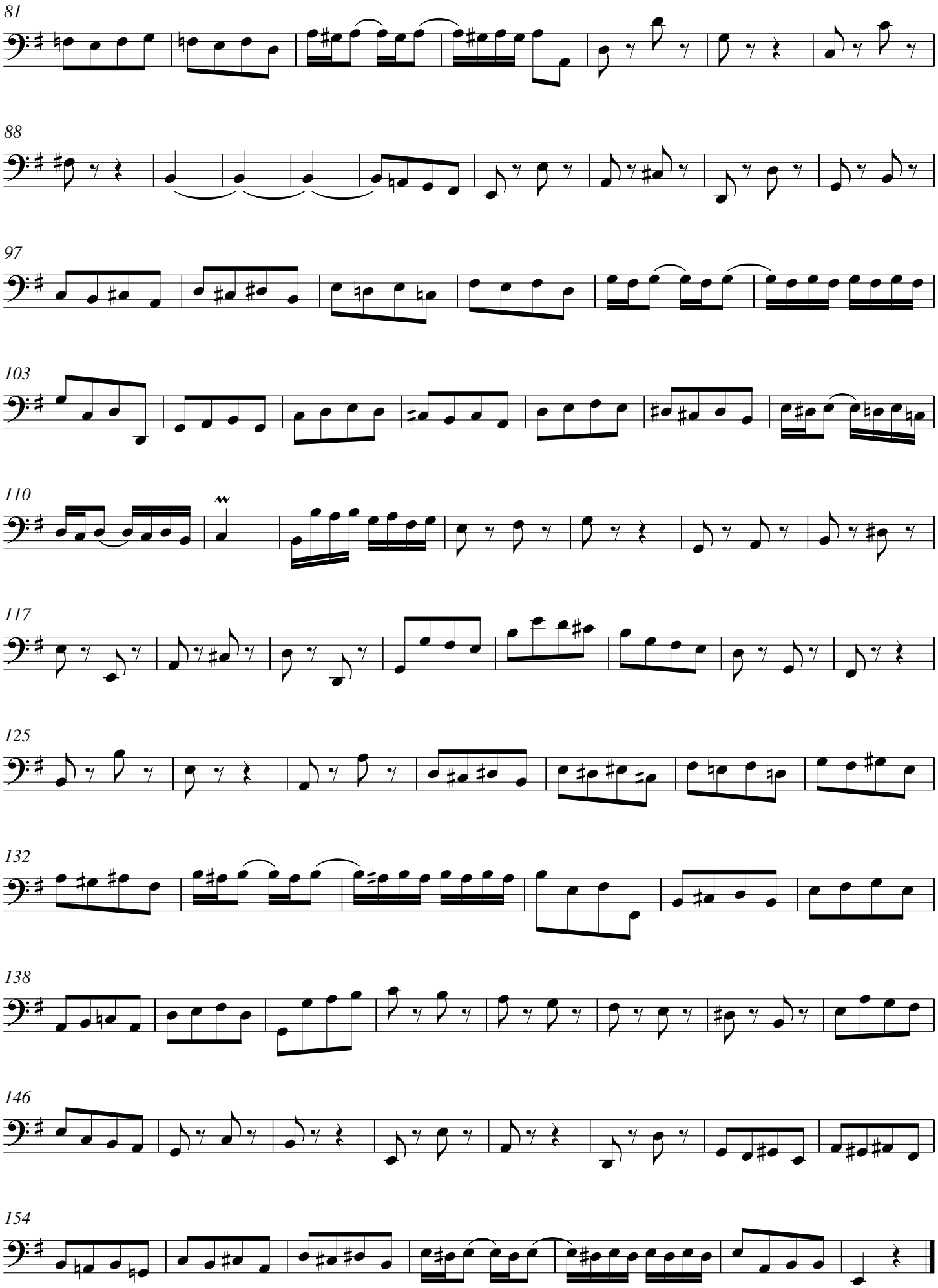
BWV 527

J.S. Bach

Transcribed by A.E. Bonds

Andante

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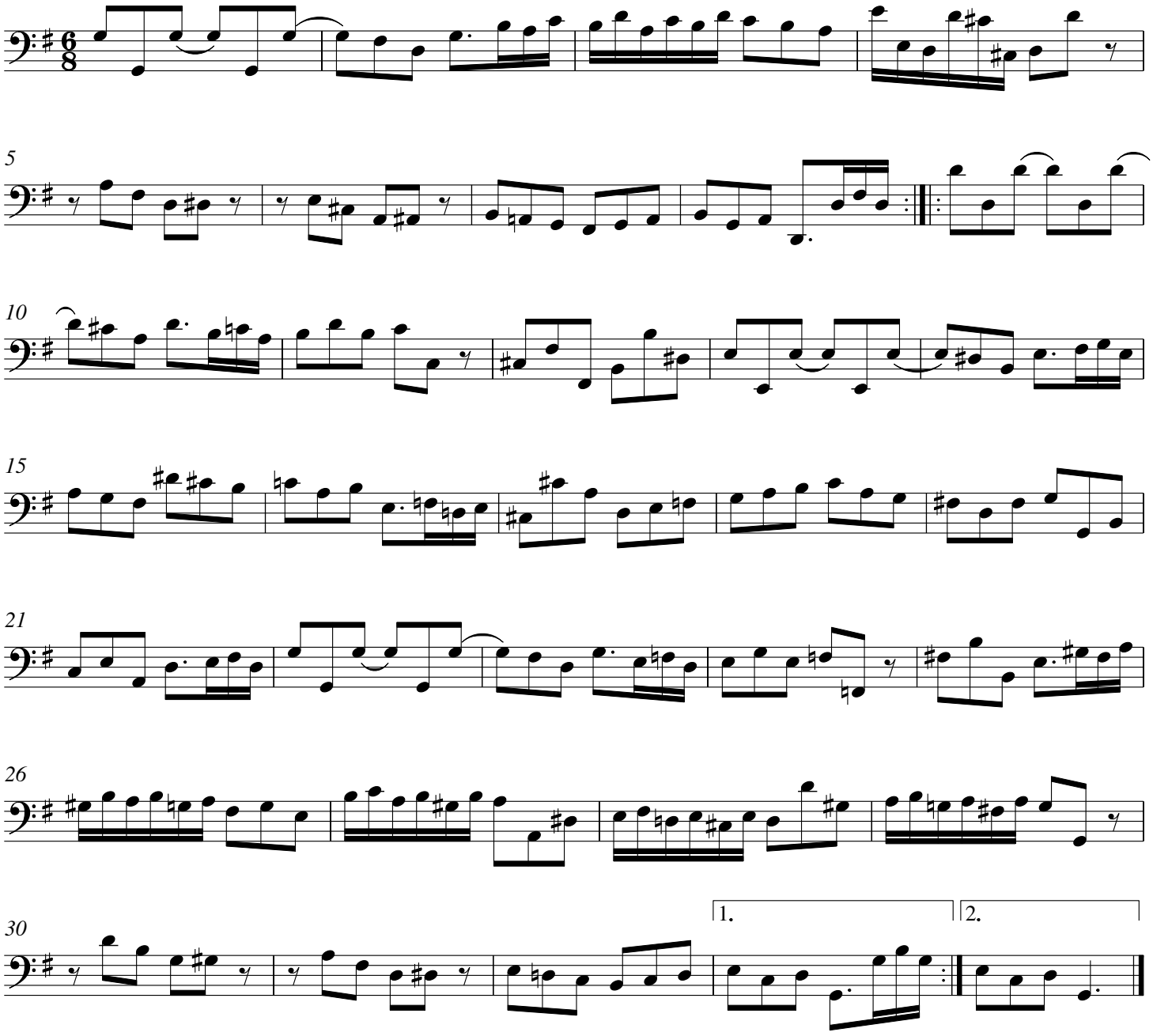
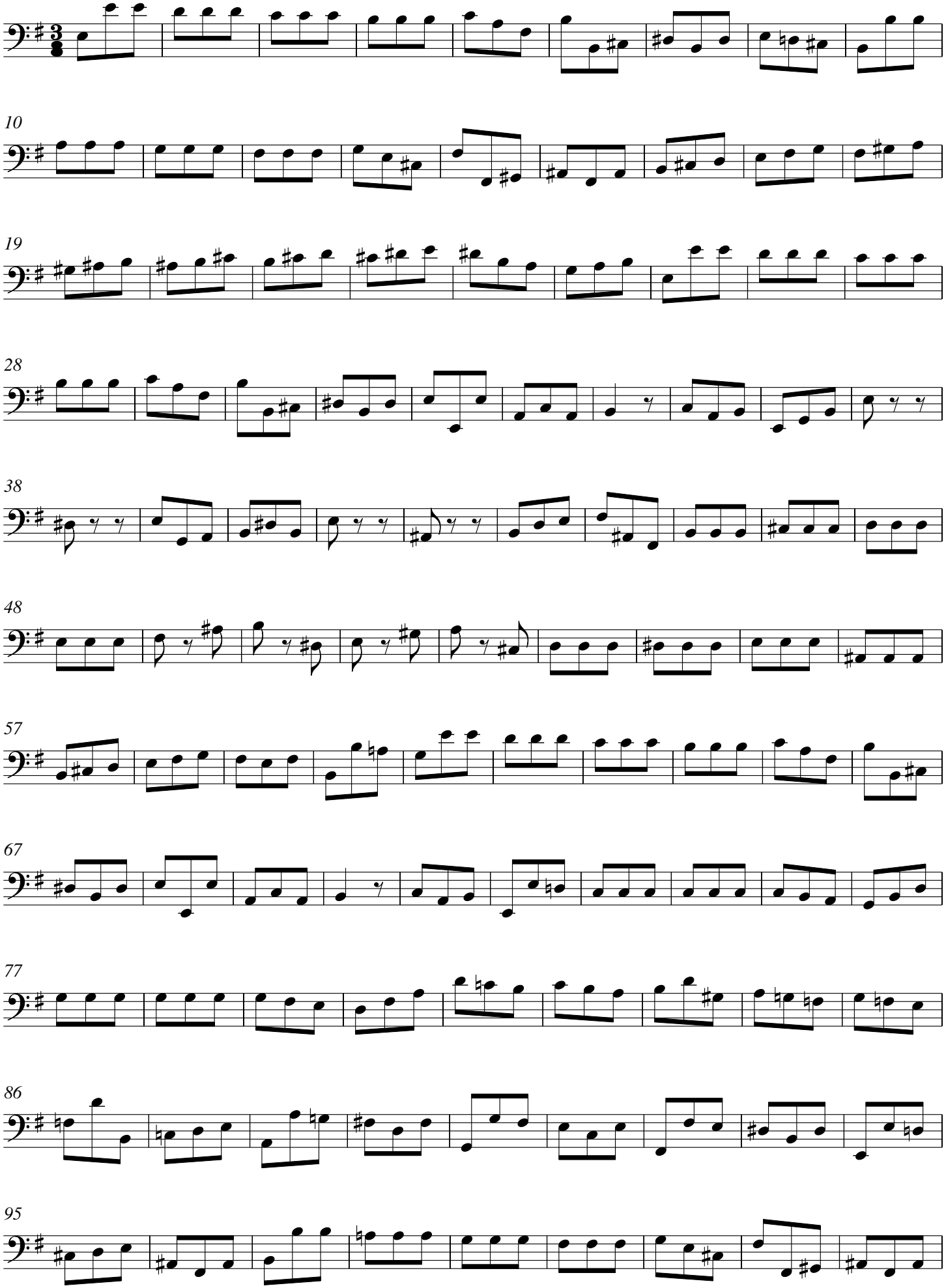
Adagio e dolce



Vivace



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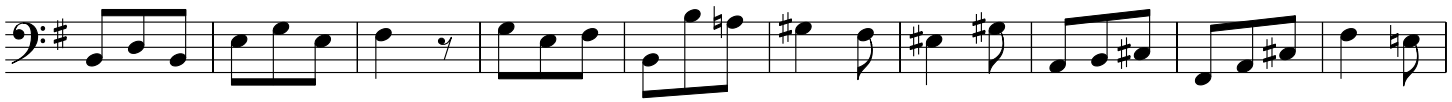

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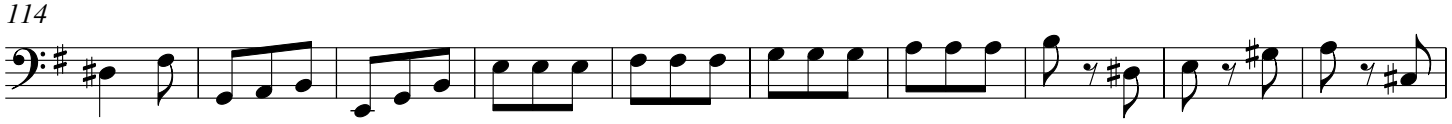

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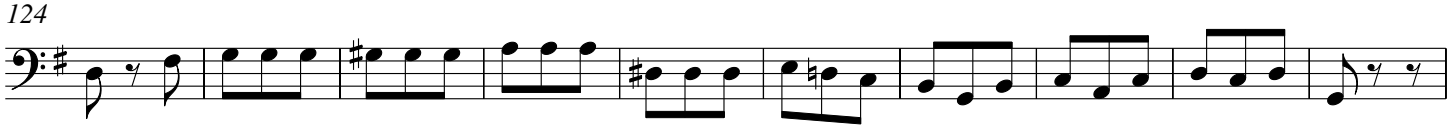

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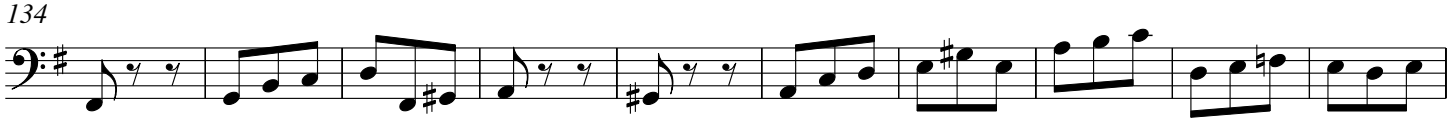

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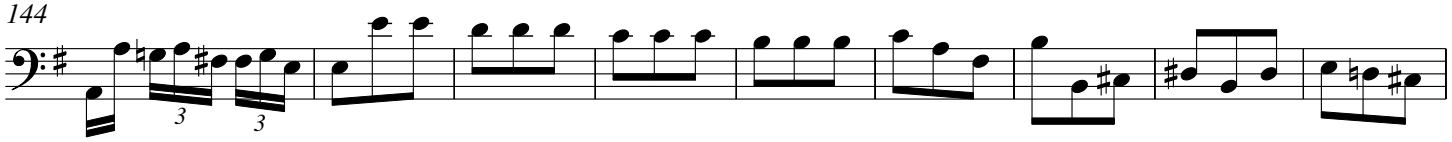

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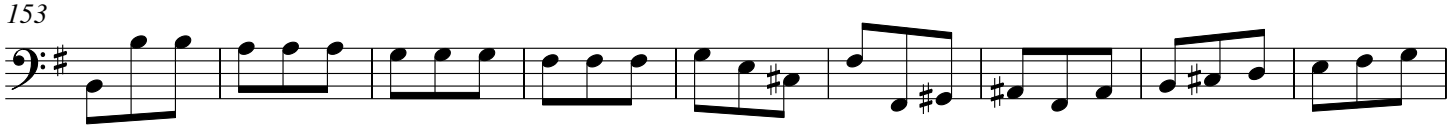

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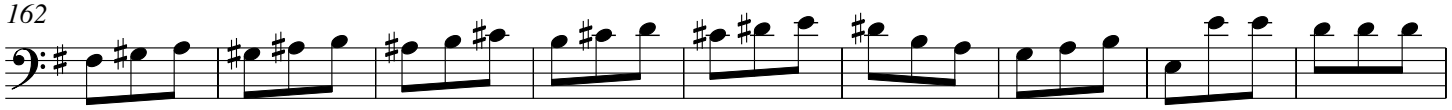

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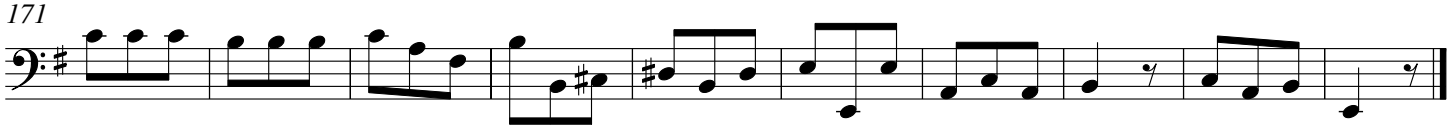


Trio Sonata No. 4

BWV 528

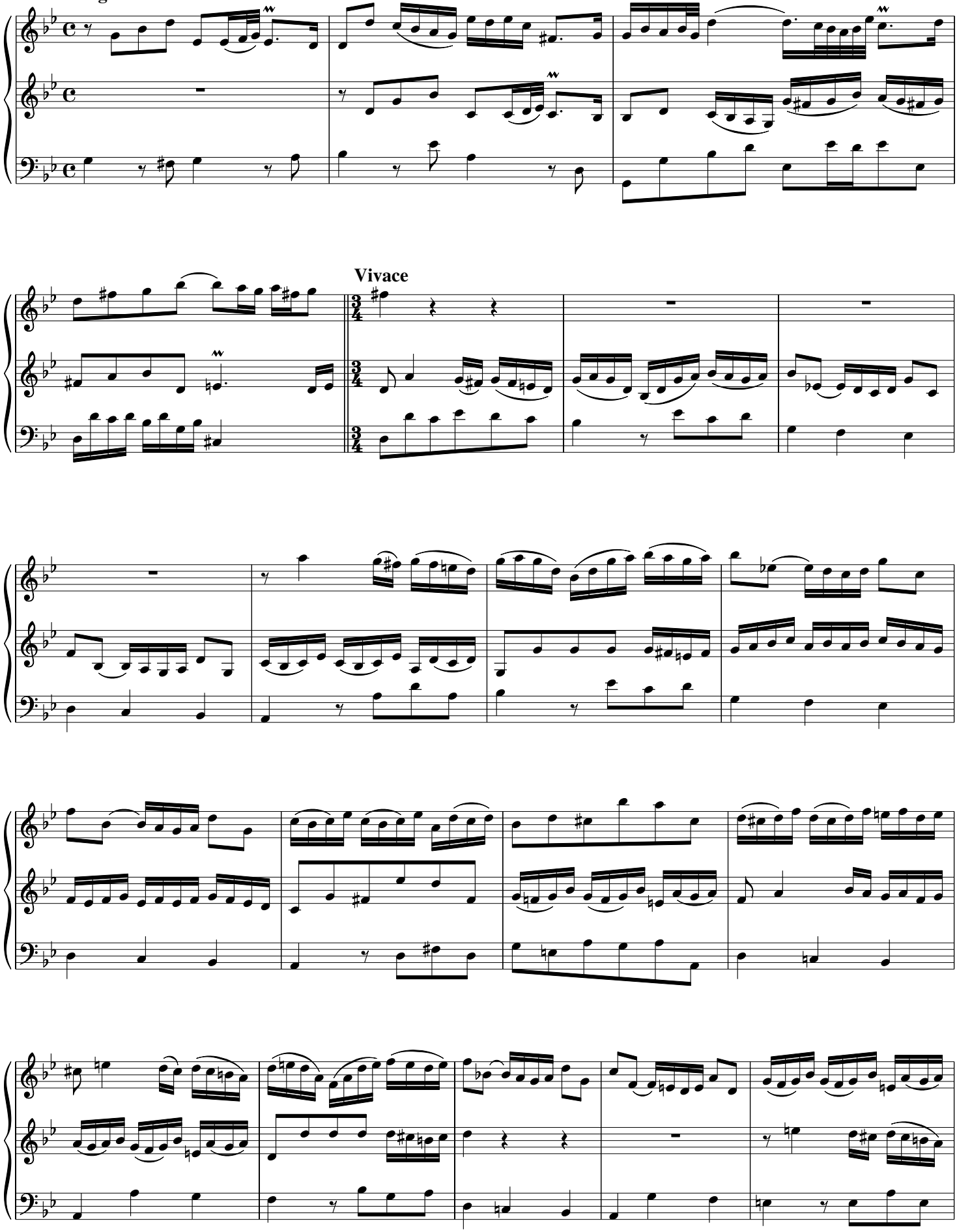
Originally in E minor

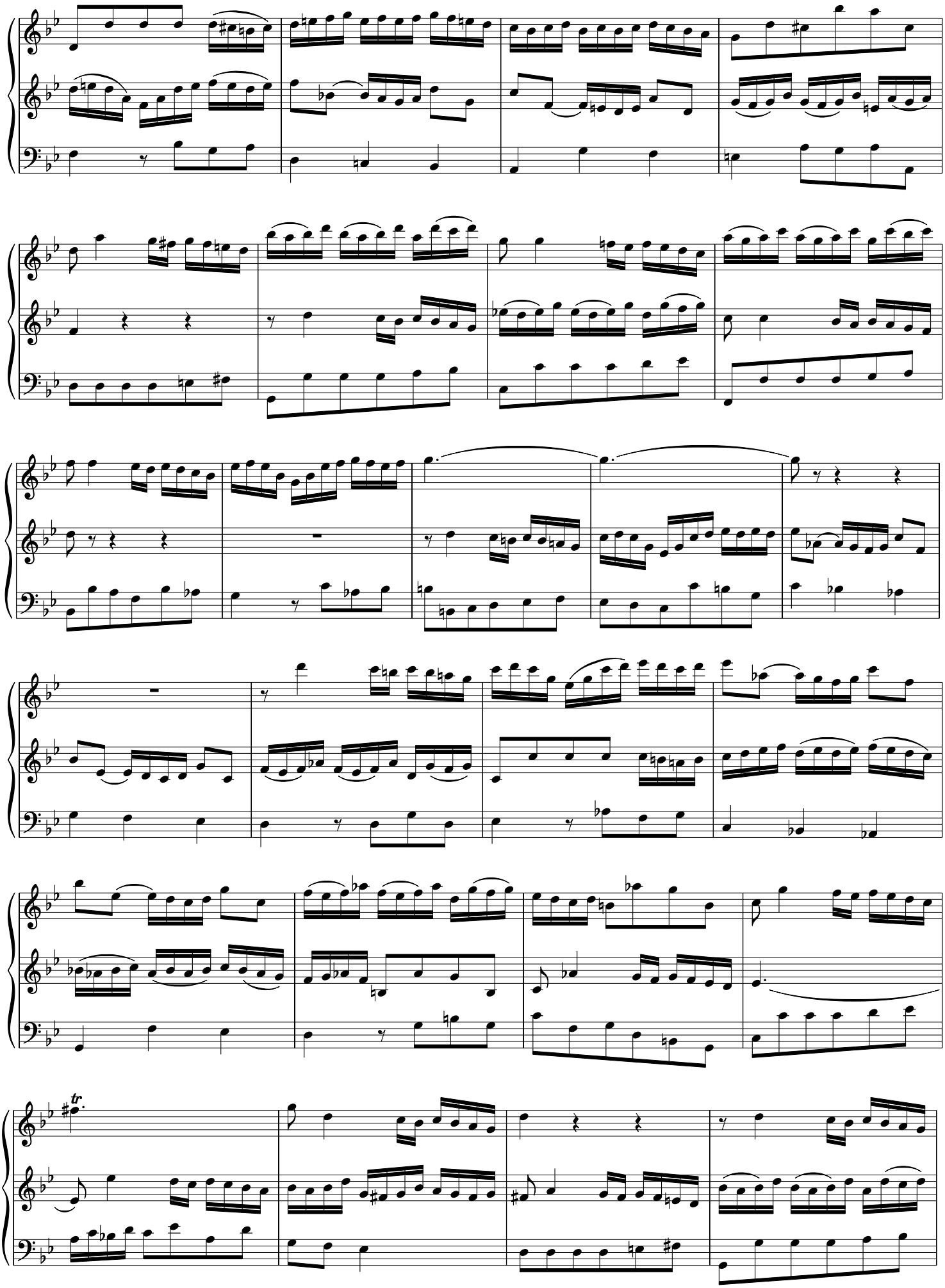
J.S. Bach

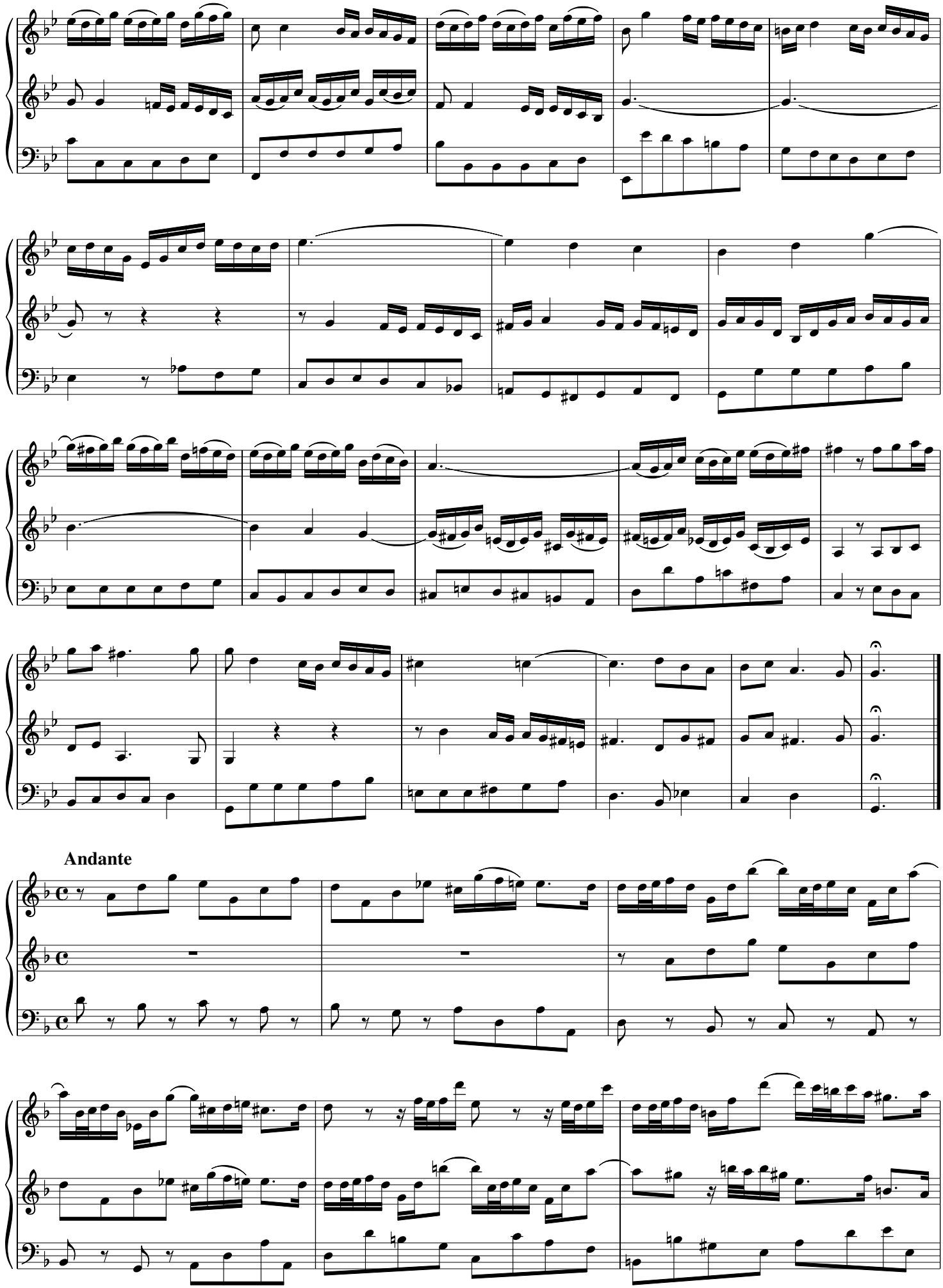
transcribed by A.E. Bonds

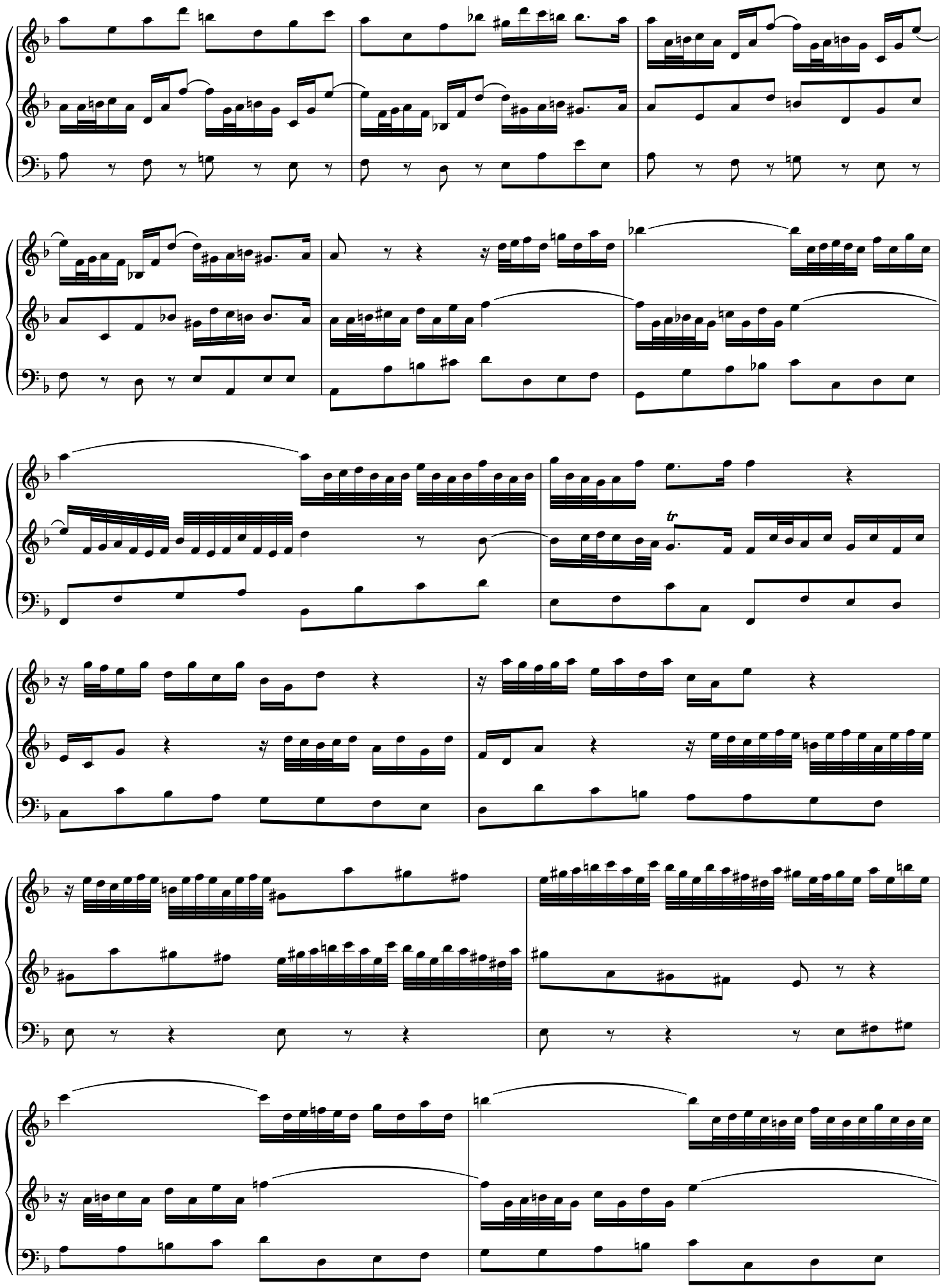
Adagio

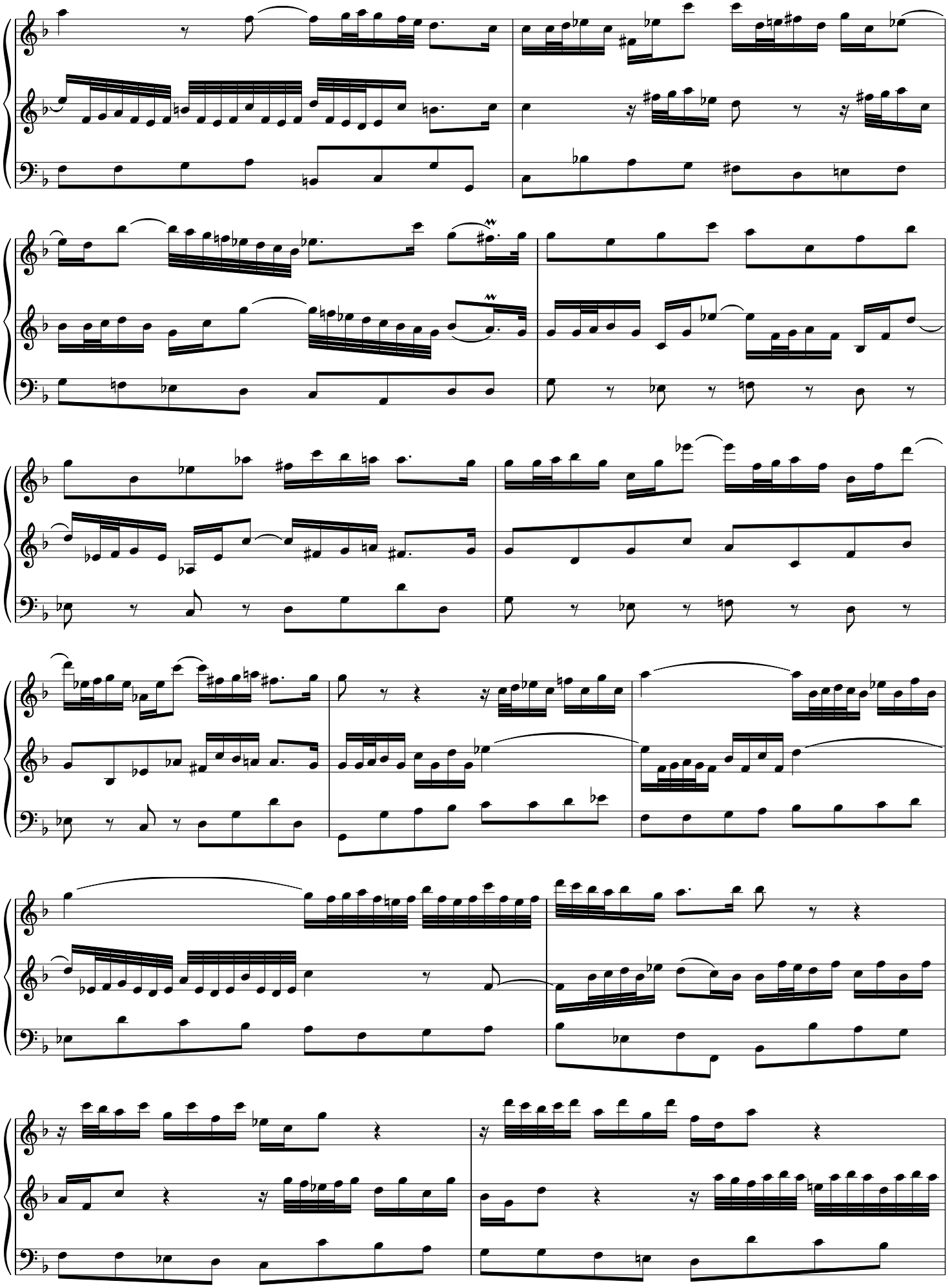
Vivace

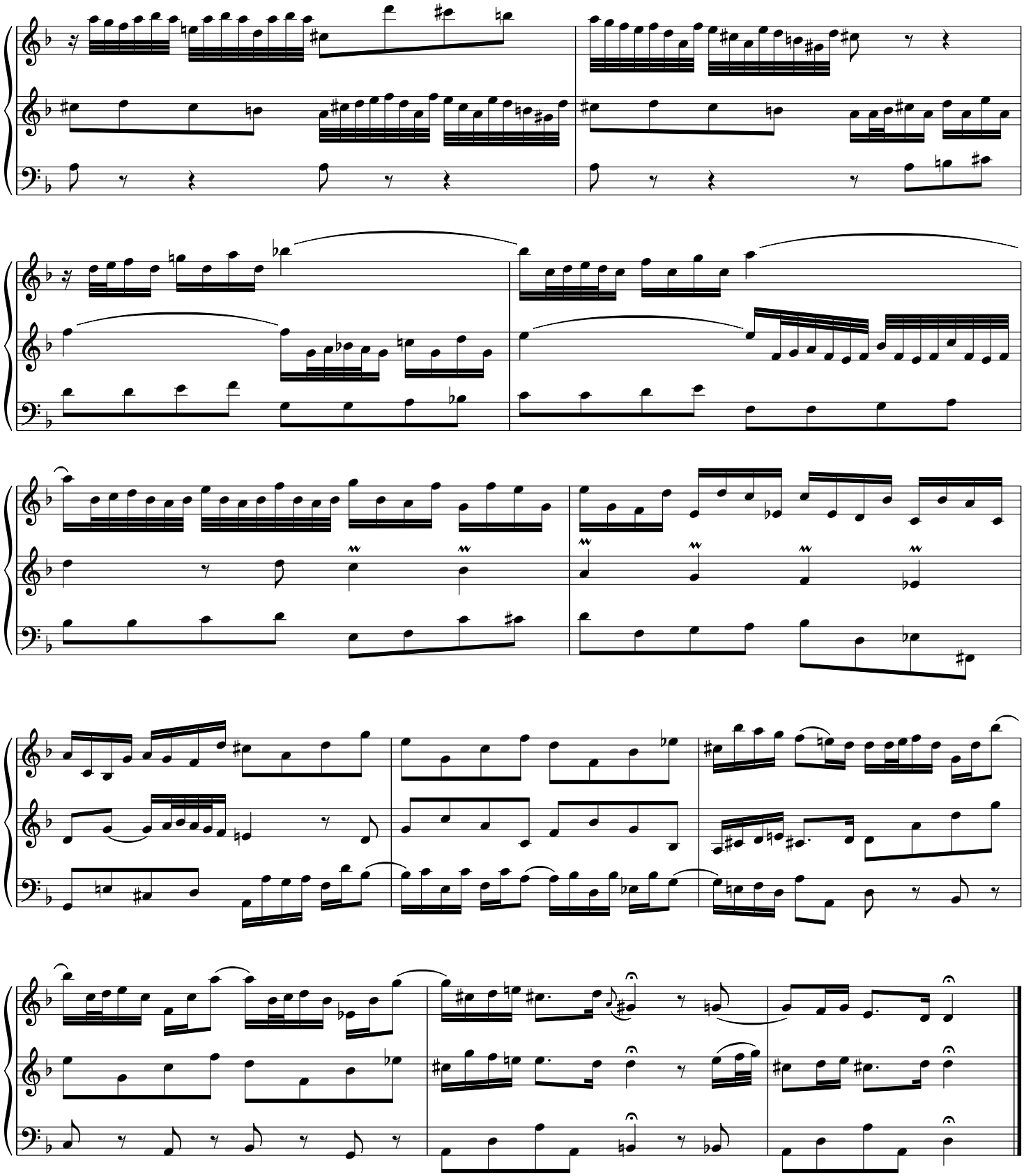




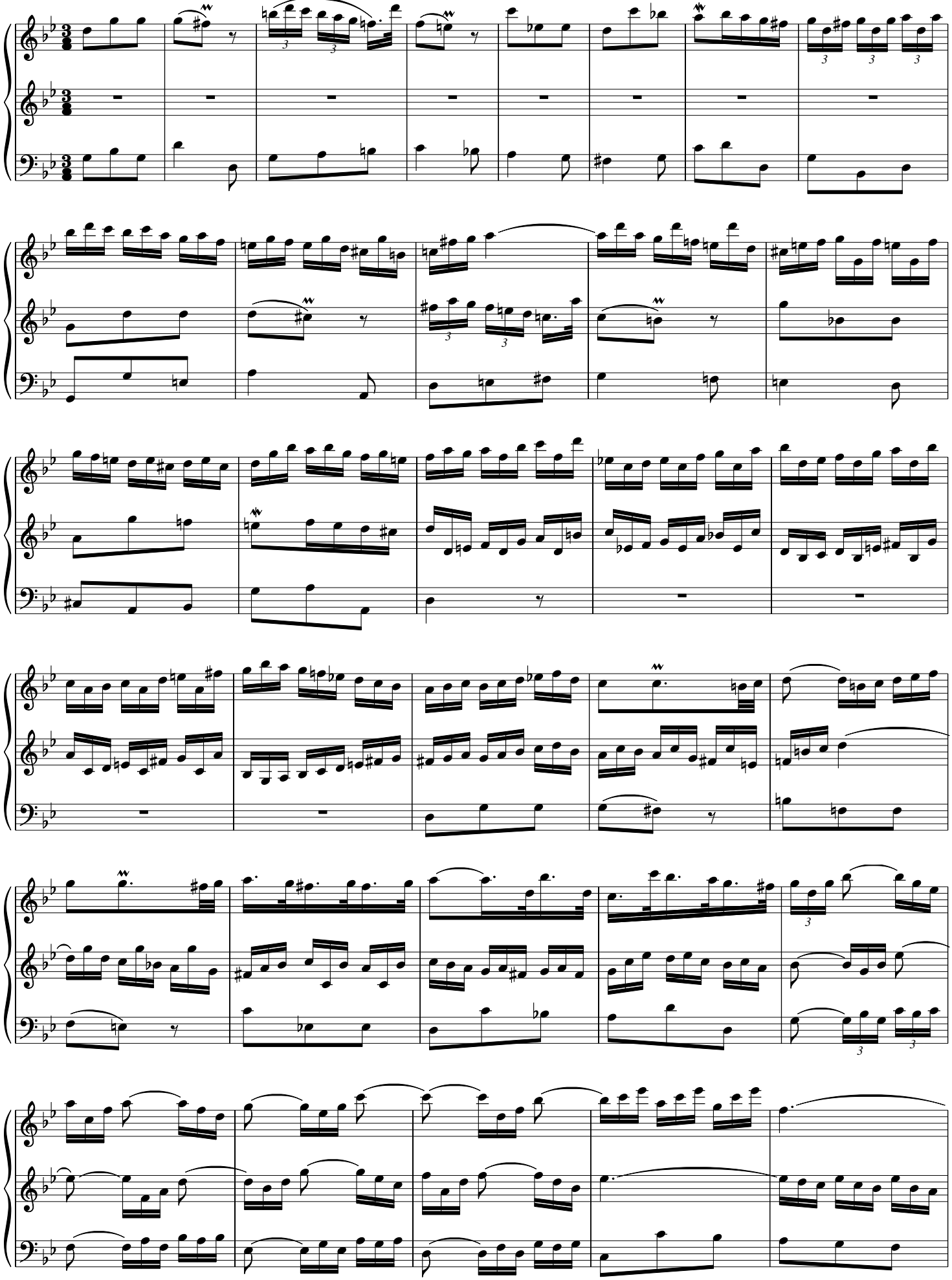

Andante

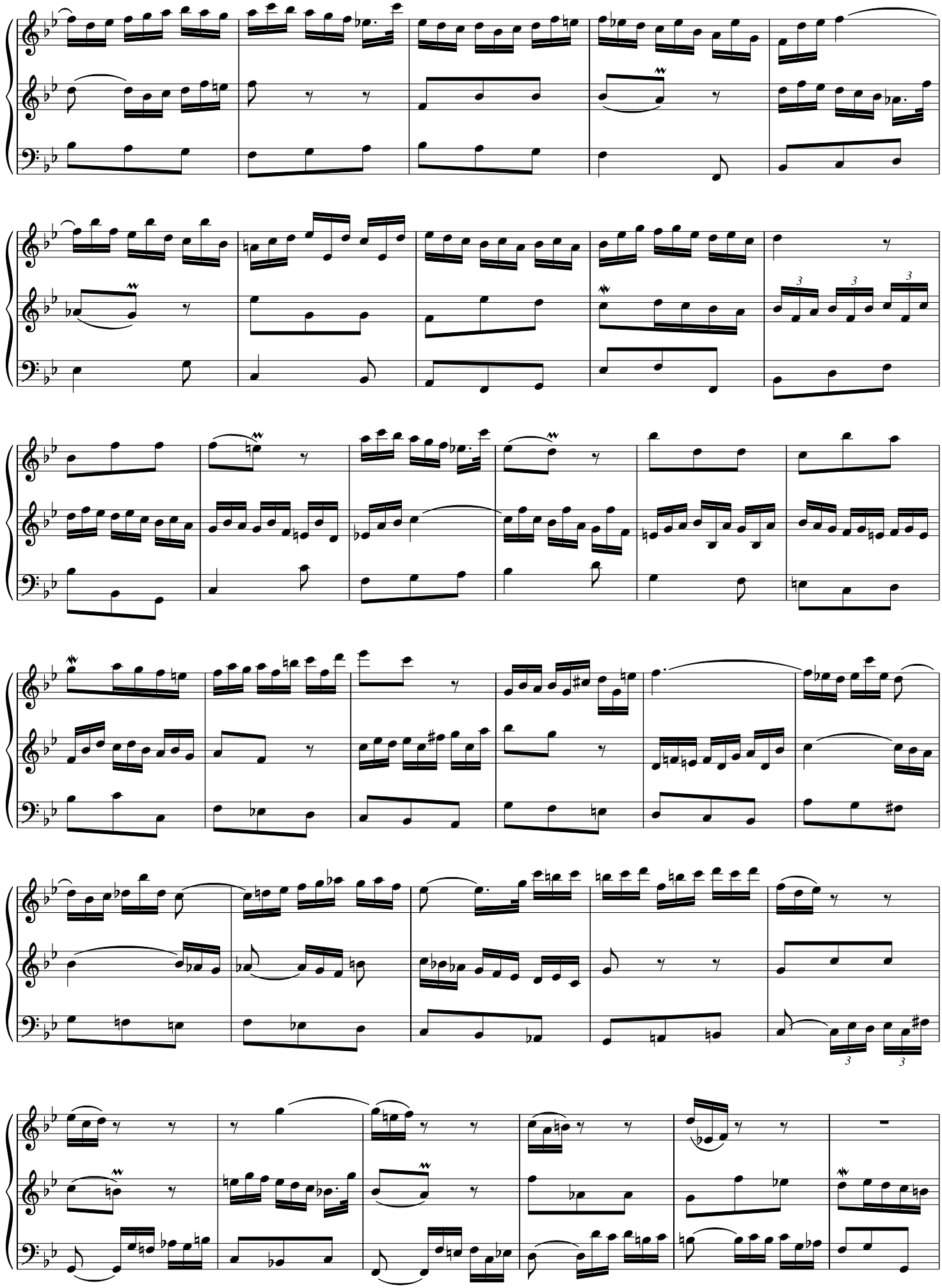


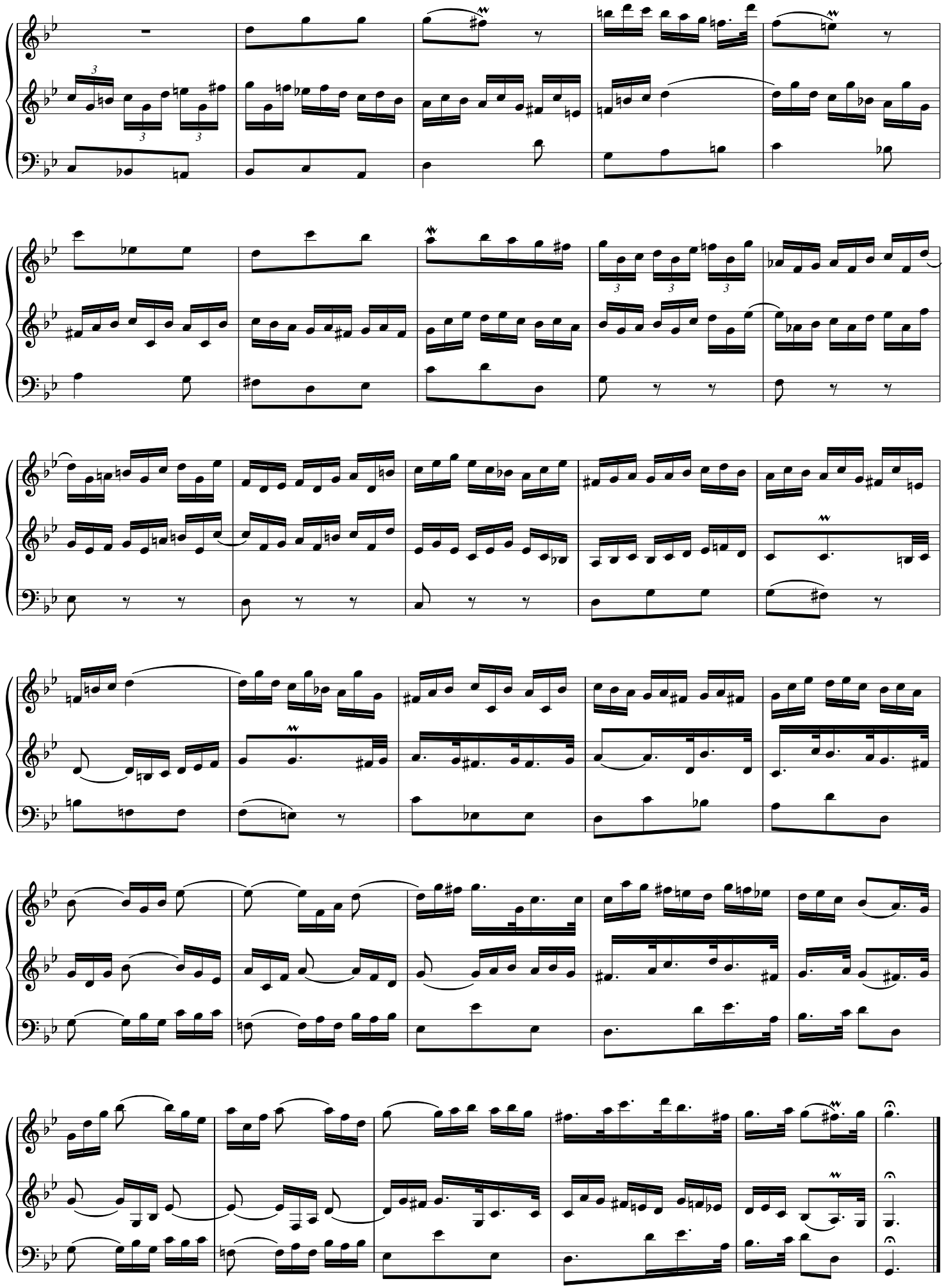




Un poco Allegro







Violin 1

Originally in E minor

Trio Sonata No. 4

BWV 528

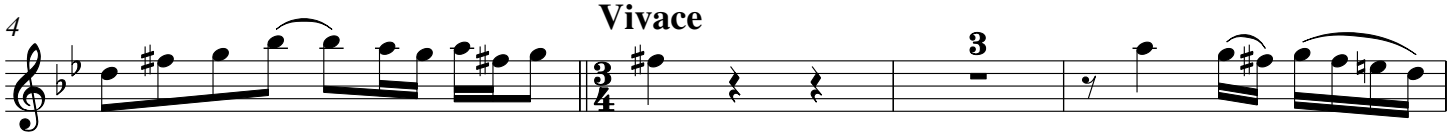
J.S. Bach

Transcribed by A.E. Bonds

Adagio

4

Vivace



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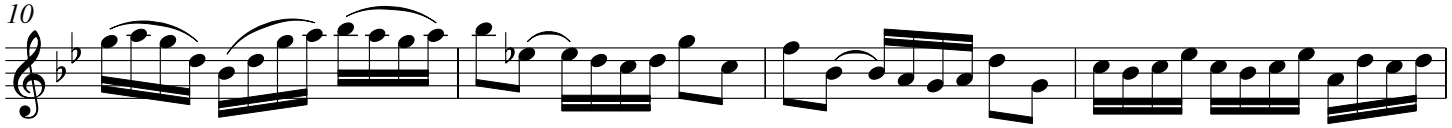

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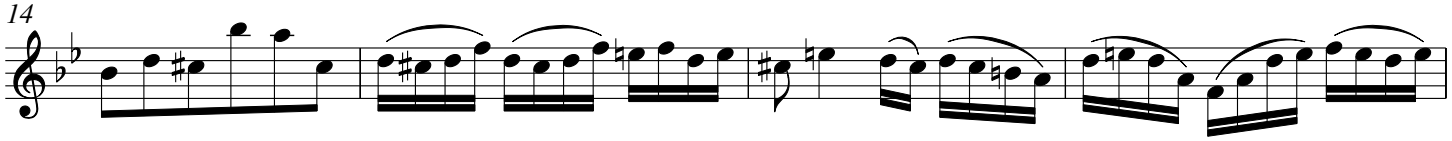

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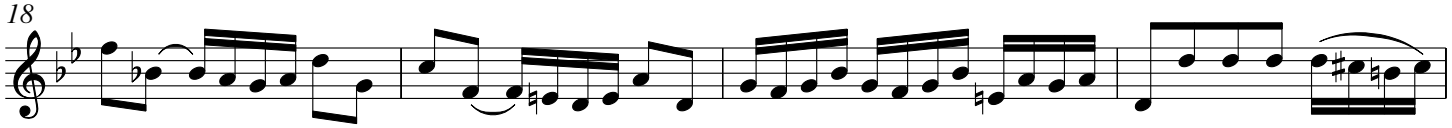

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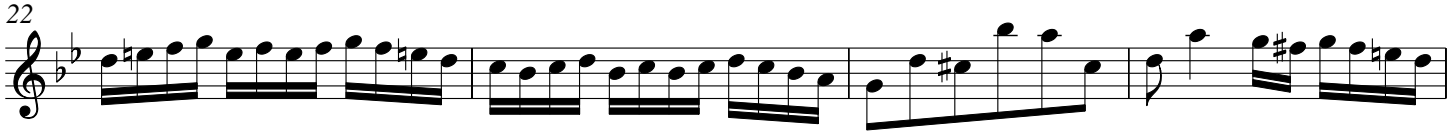

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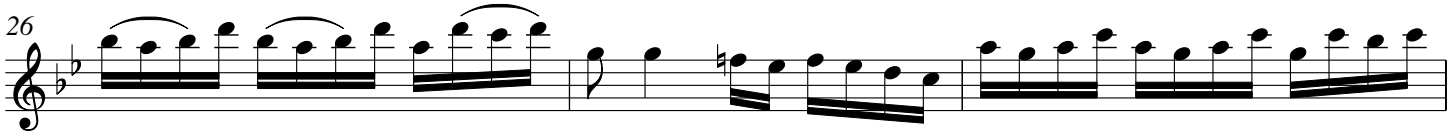

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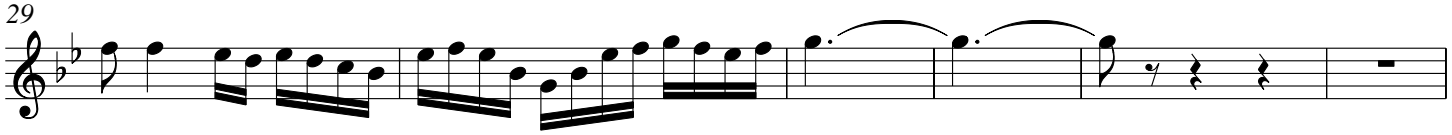

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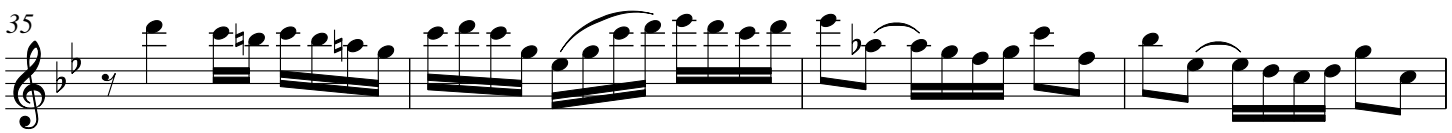

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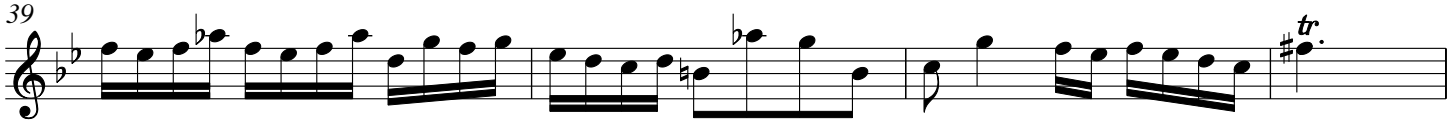

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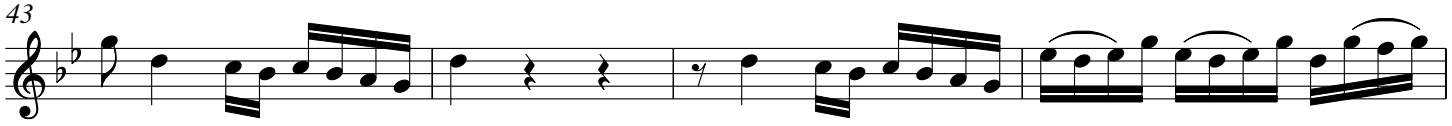
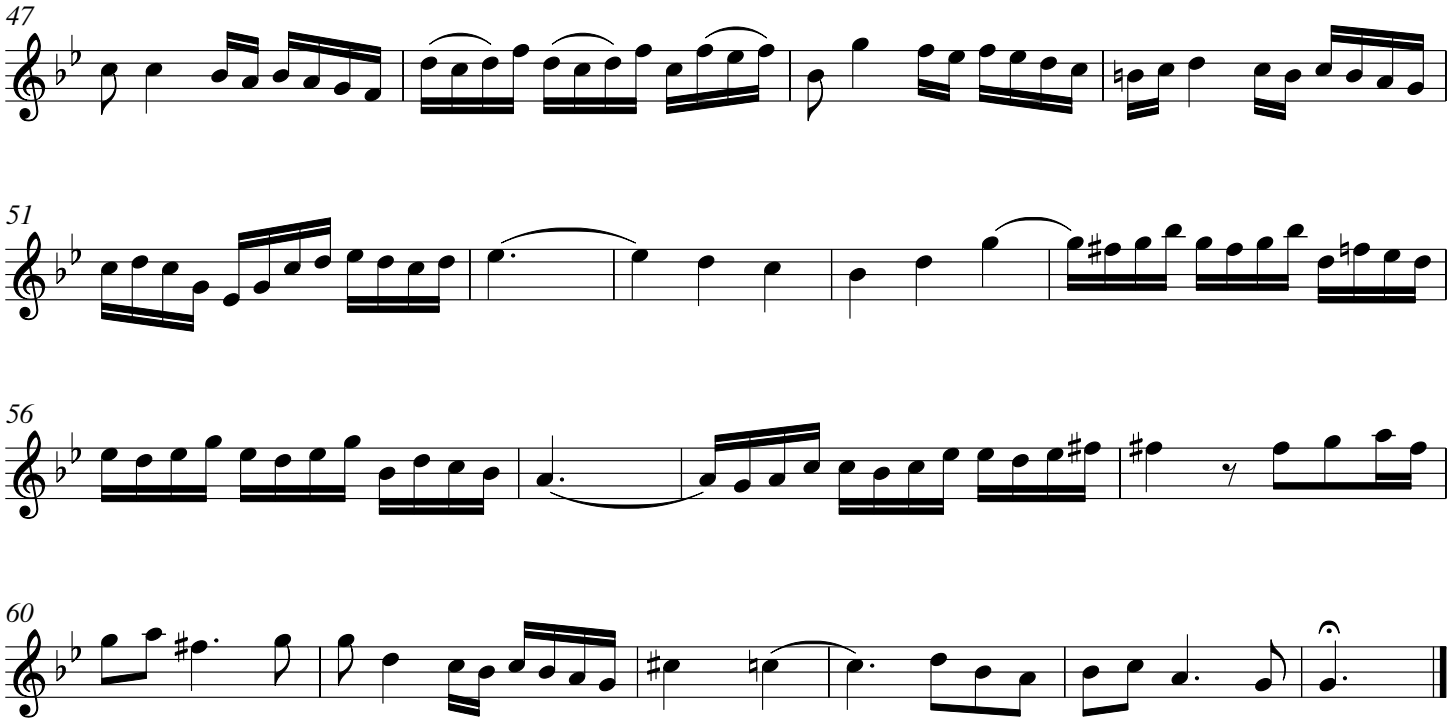
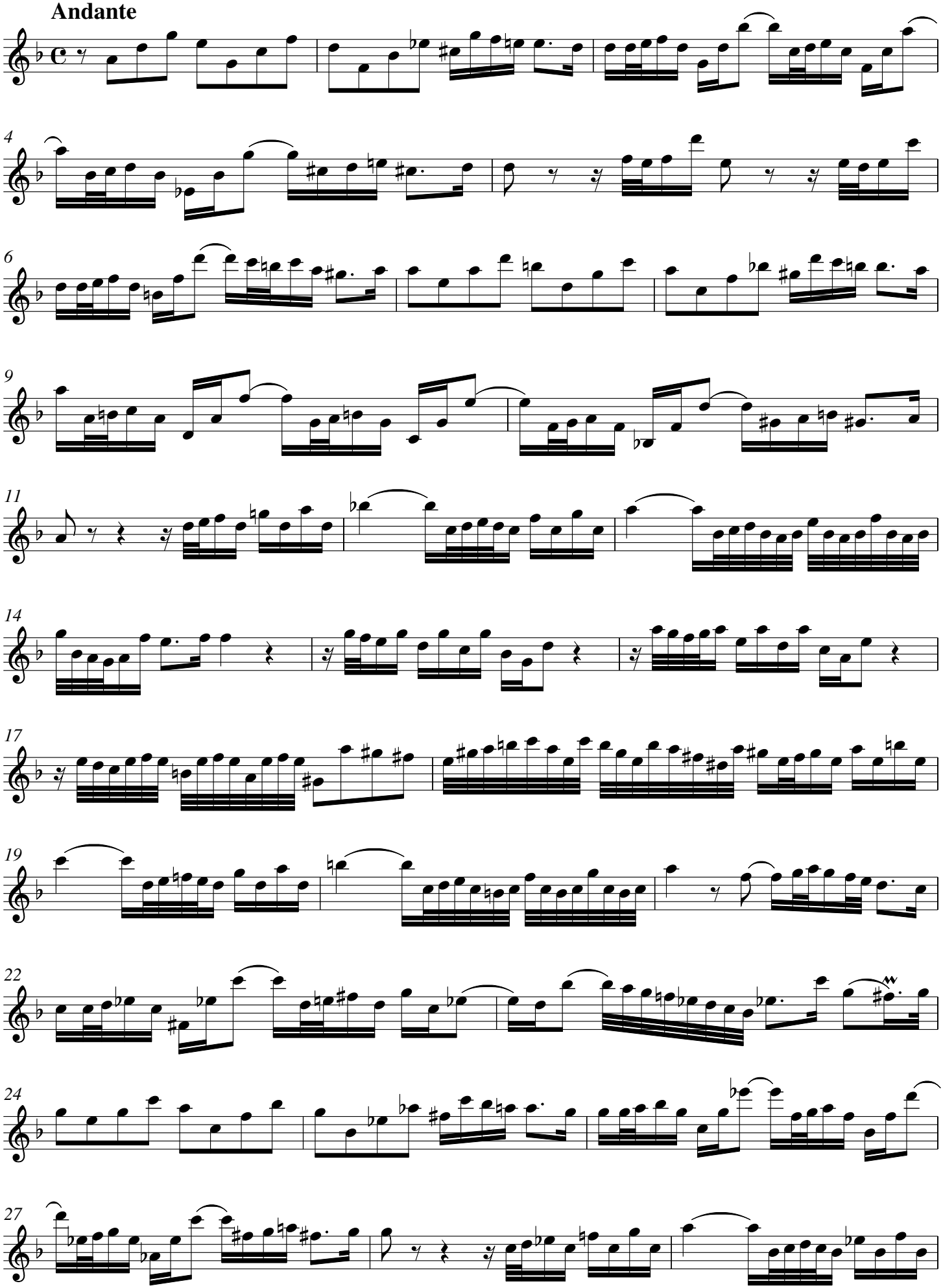
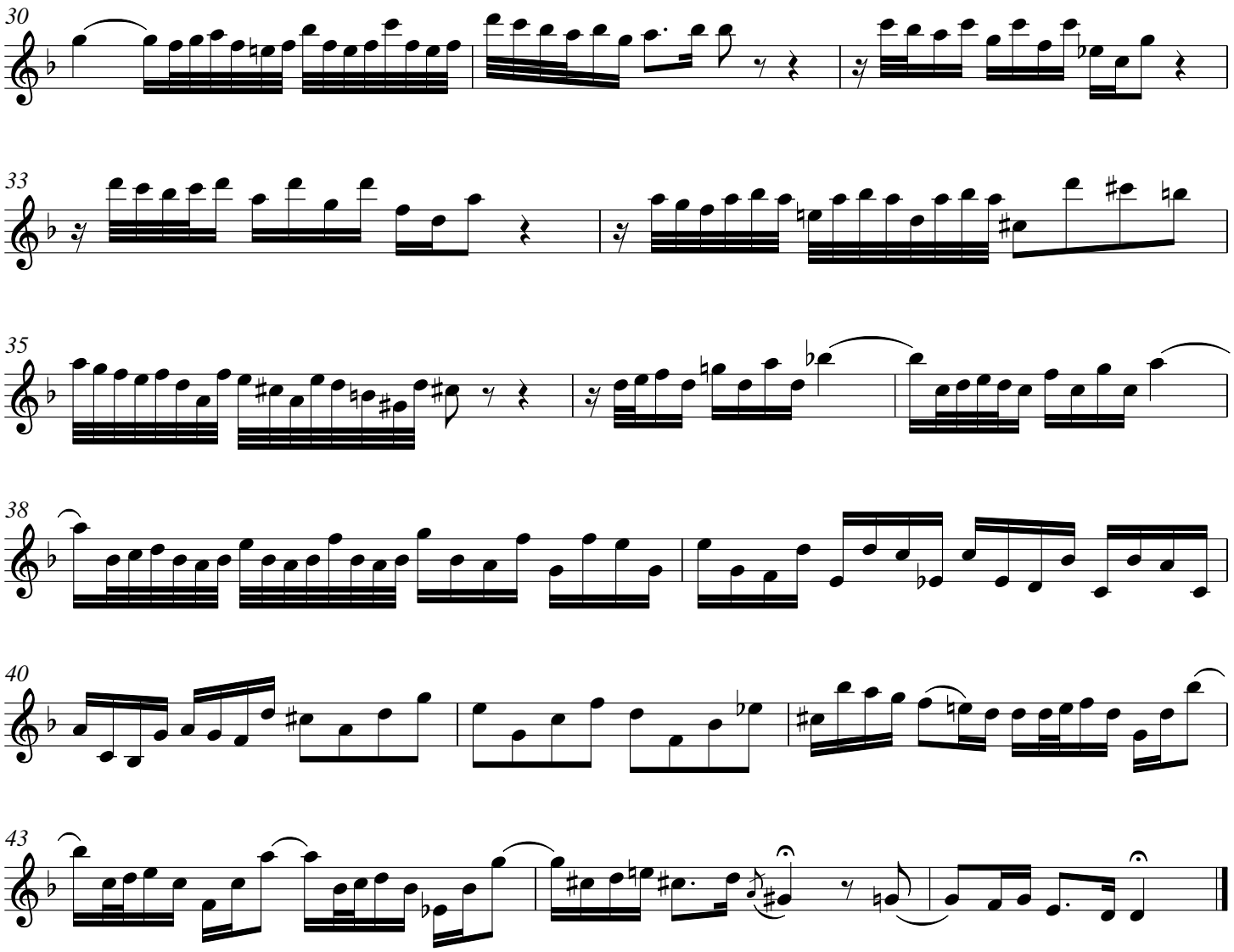


Violin 1



Andante

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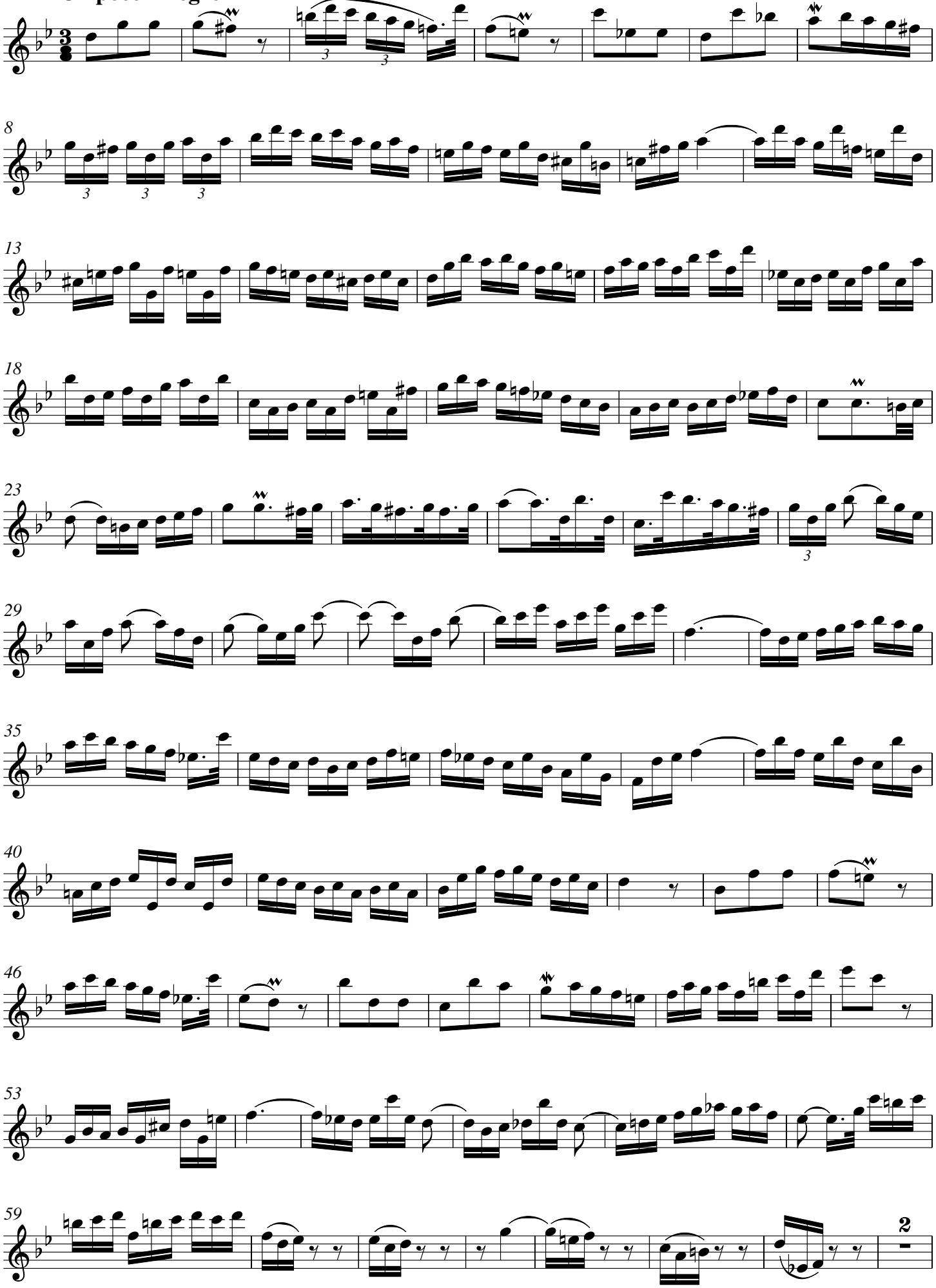
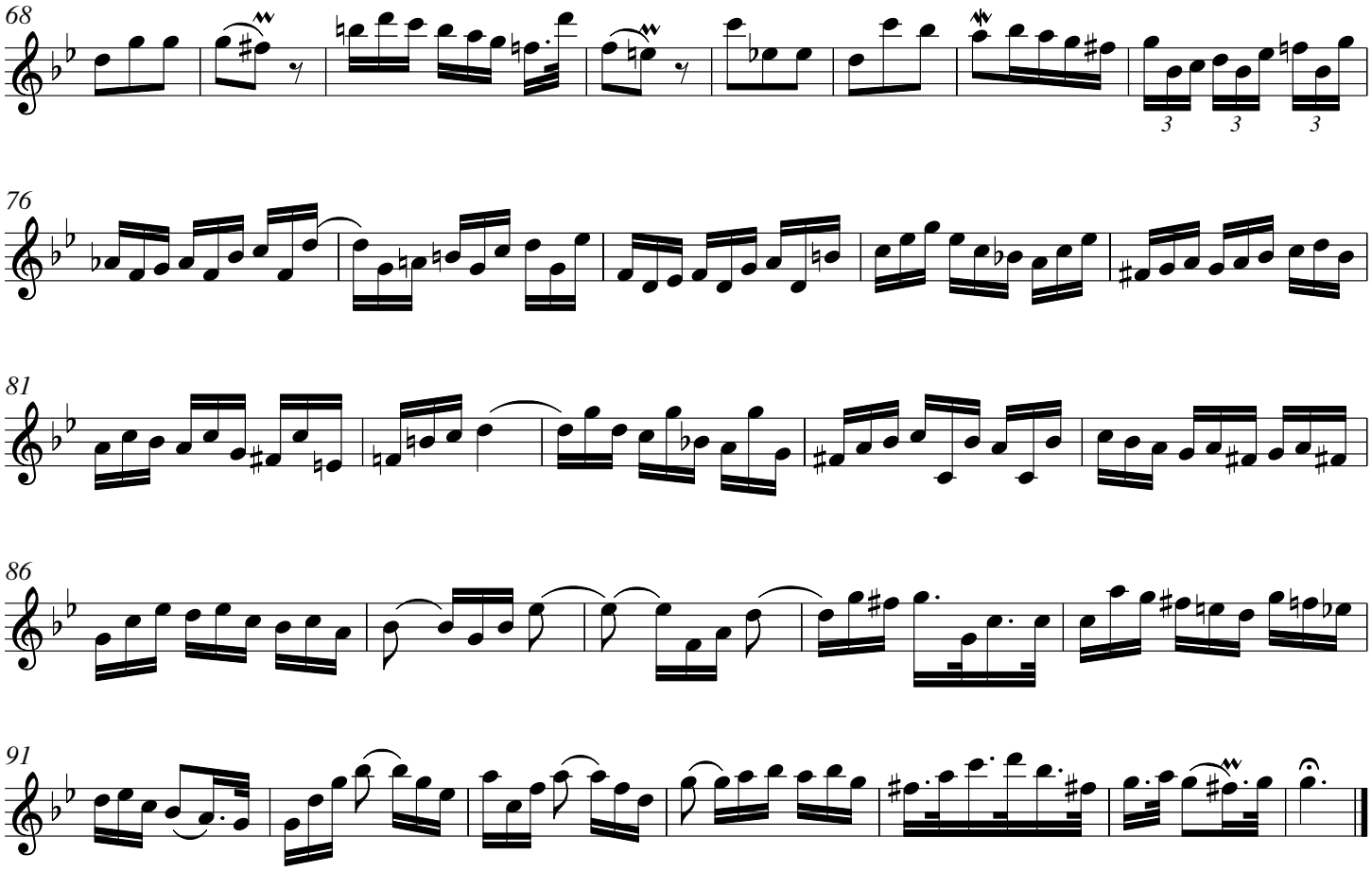
43

Violin 1

Un poco Allegro



Violin 1



Violin 2

Trio Sonata No. 4

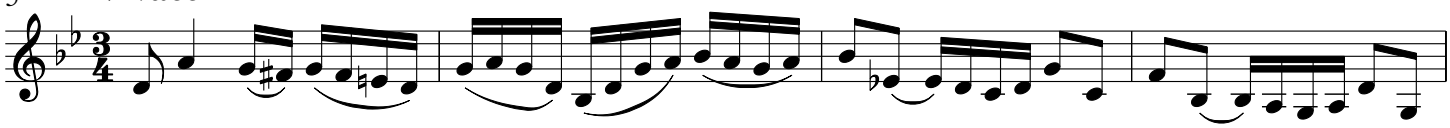
BWV 528

Originally in E minor

J.S. Bach
Transcribed by A. E. Bonds

Adagio

5 **Vivace**



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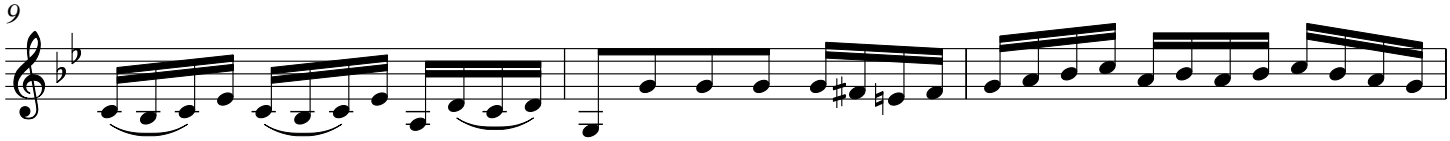

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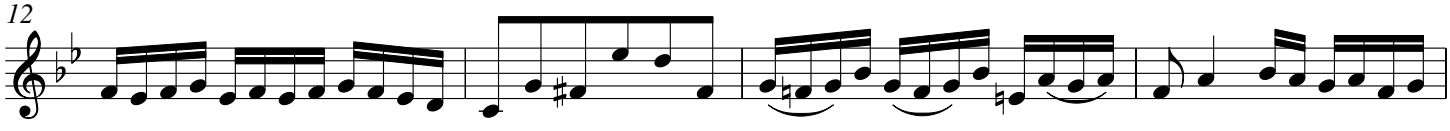

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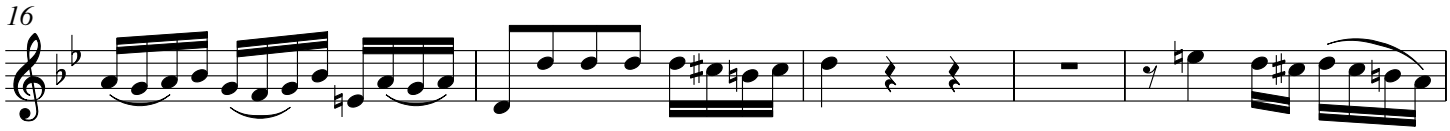

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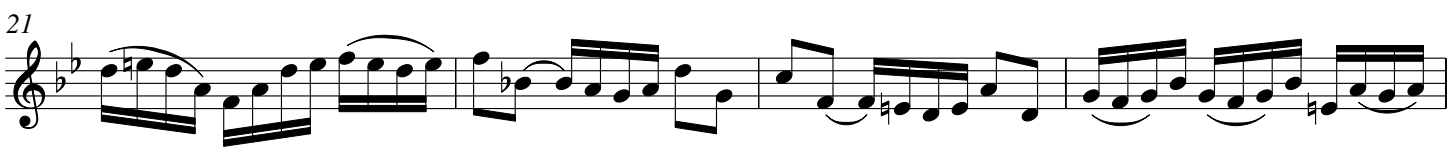

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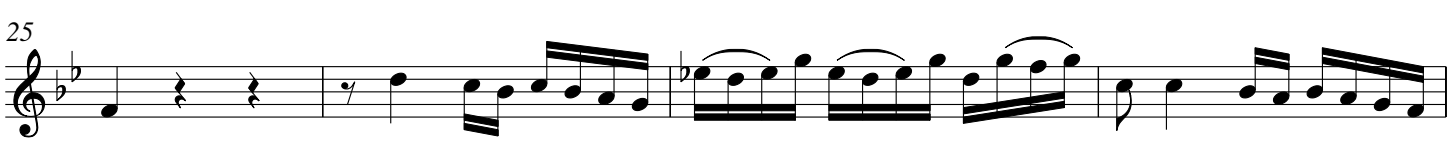

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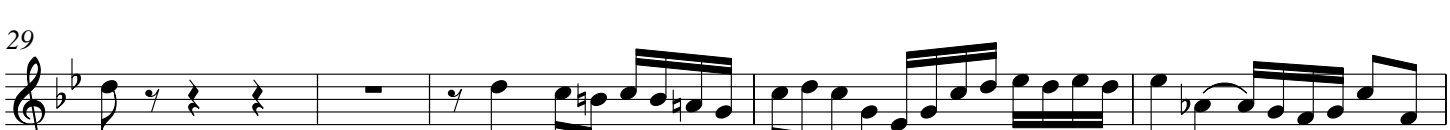

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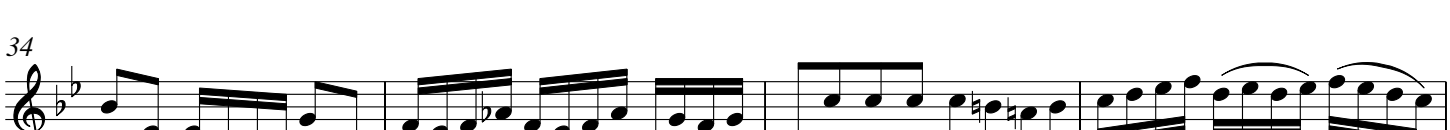

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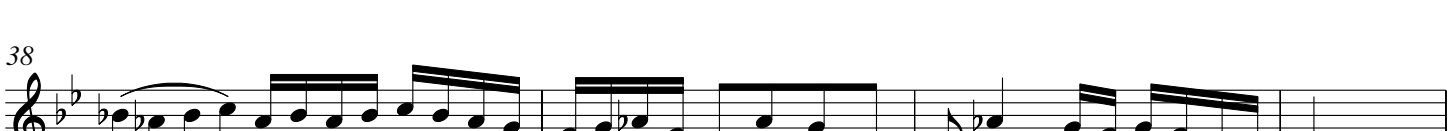

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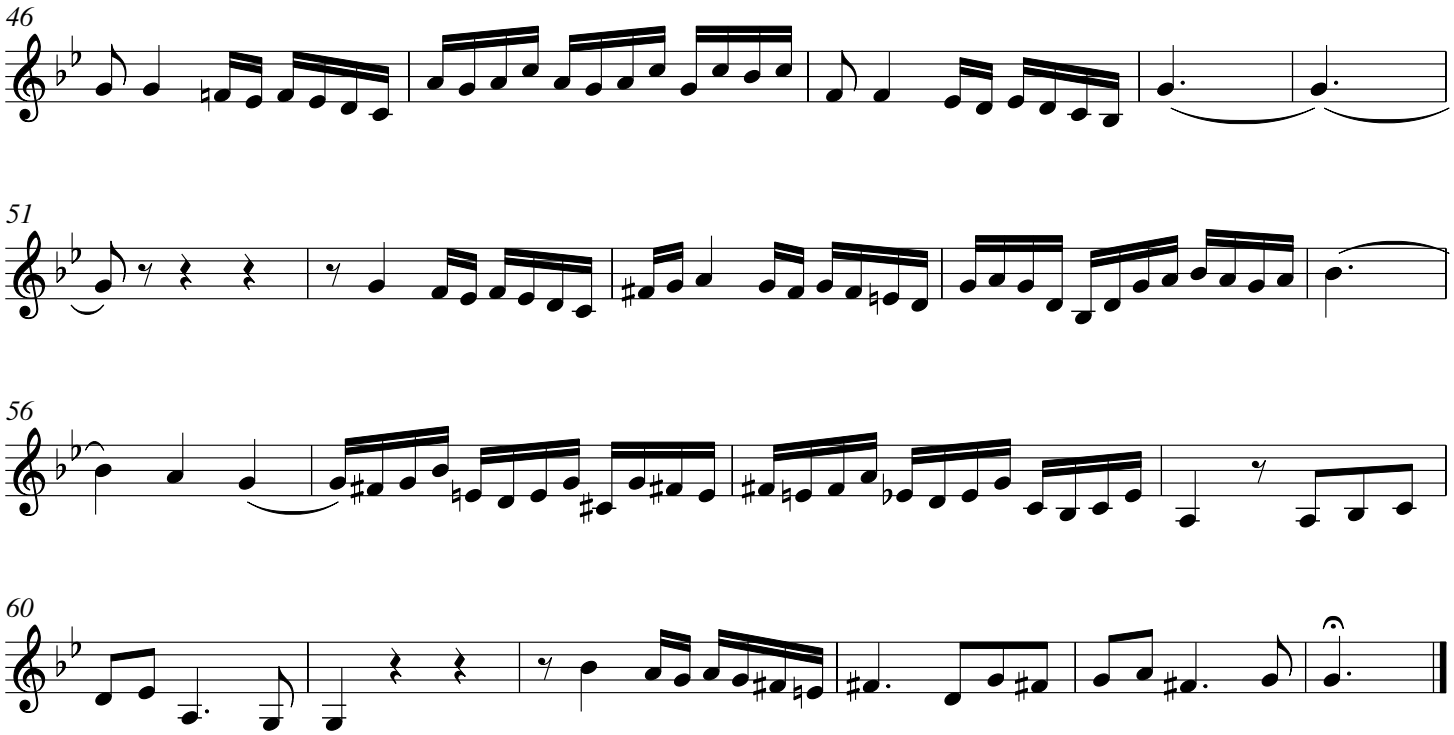
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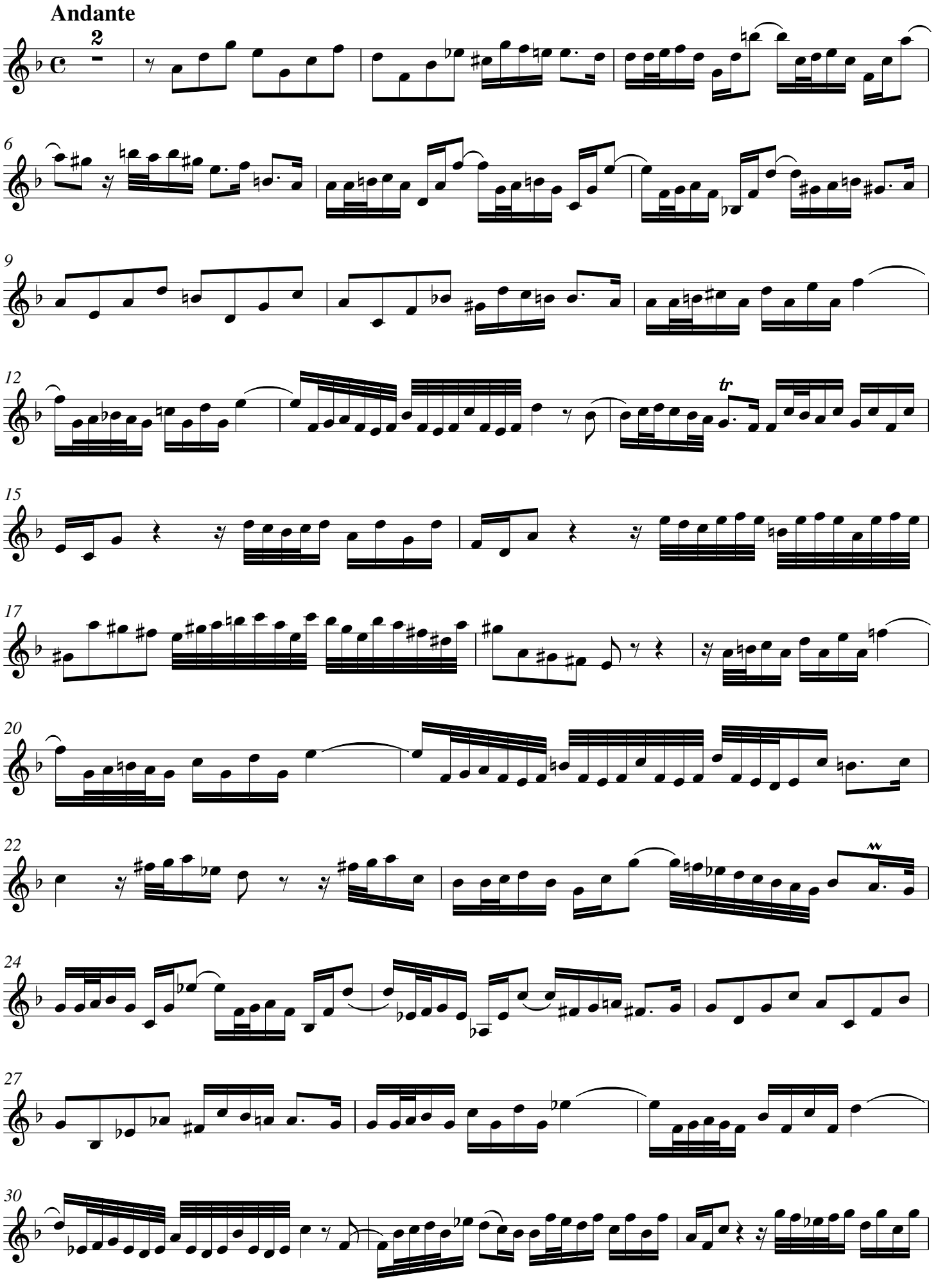
Andante
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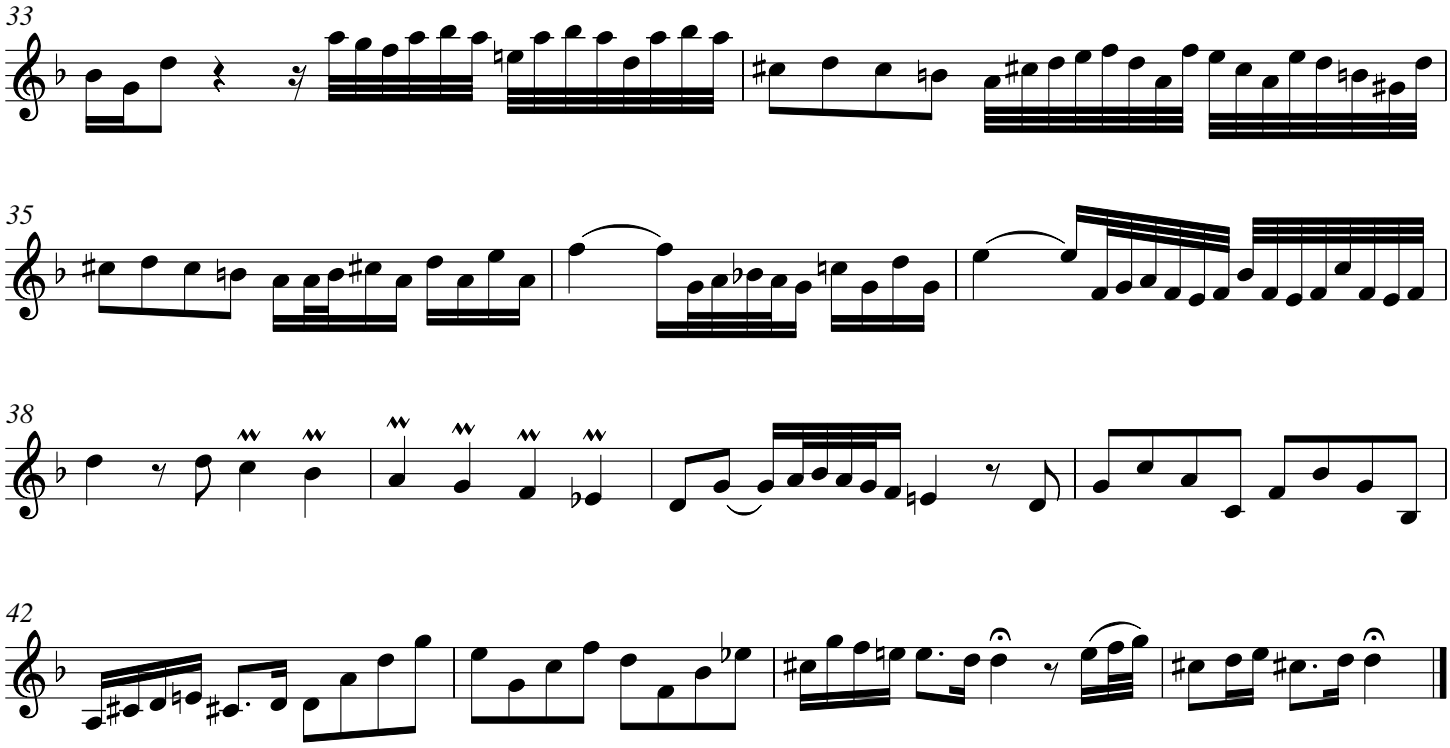
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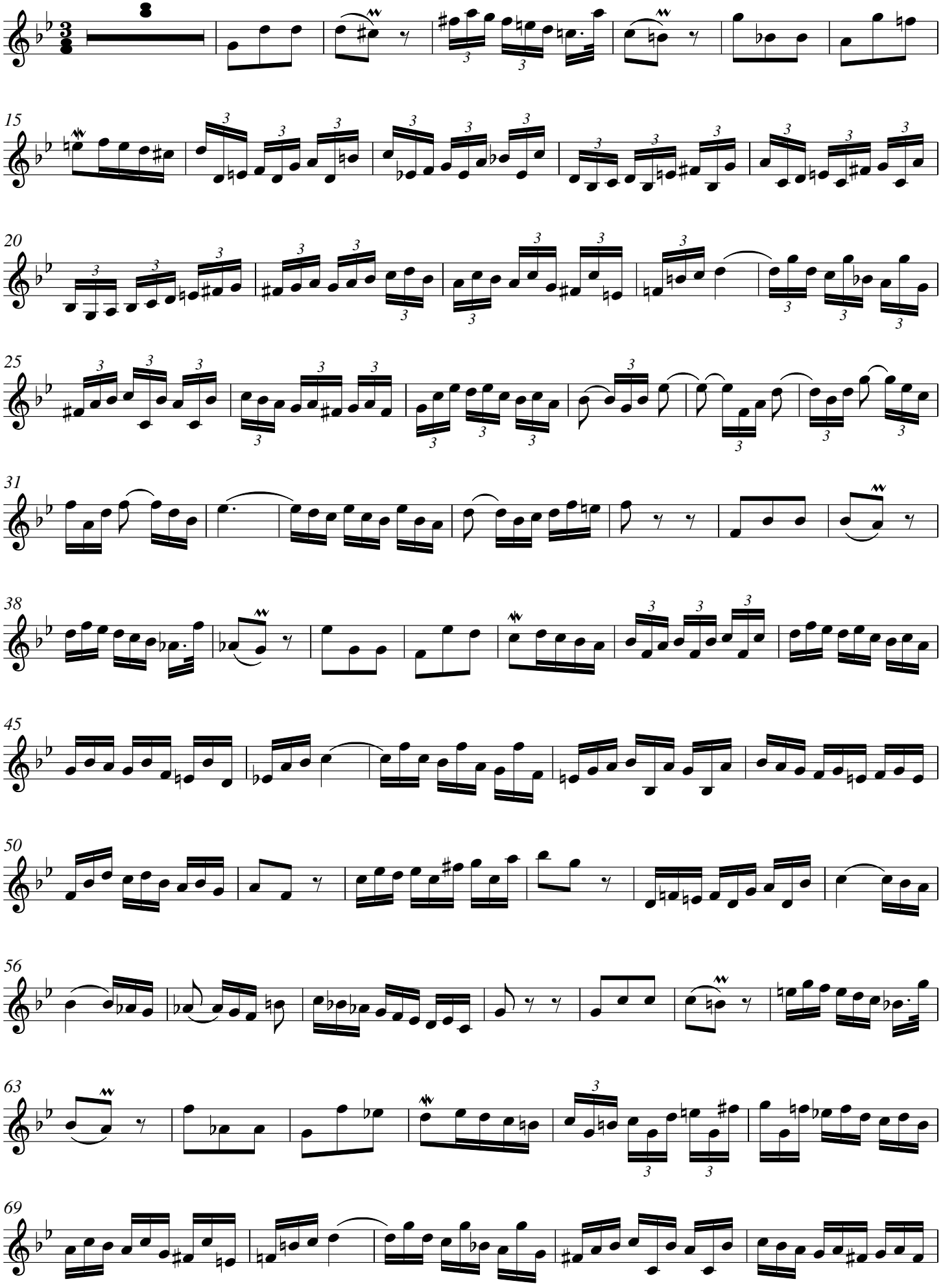
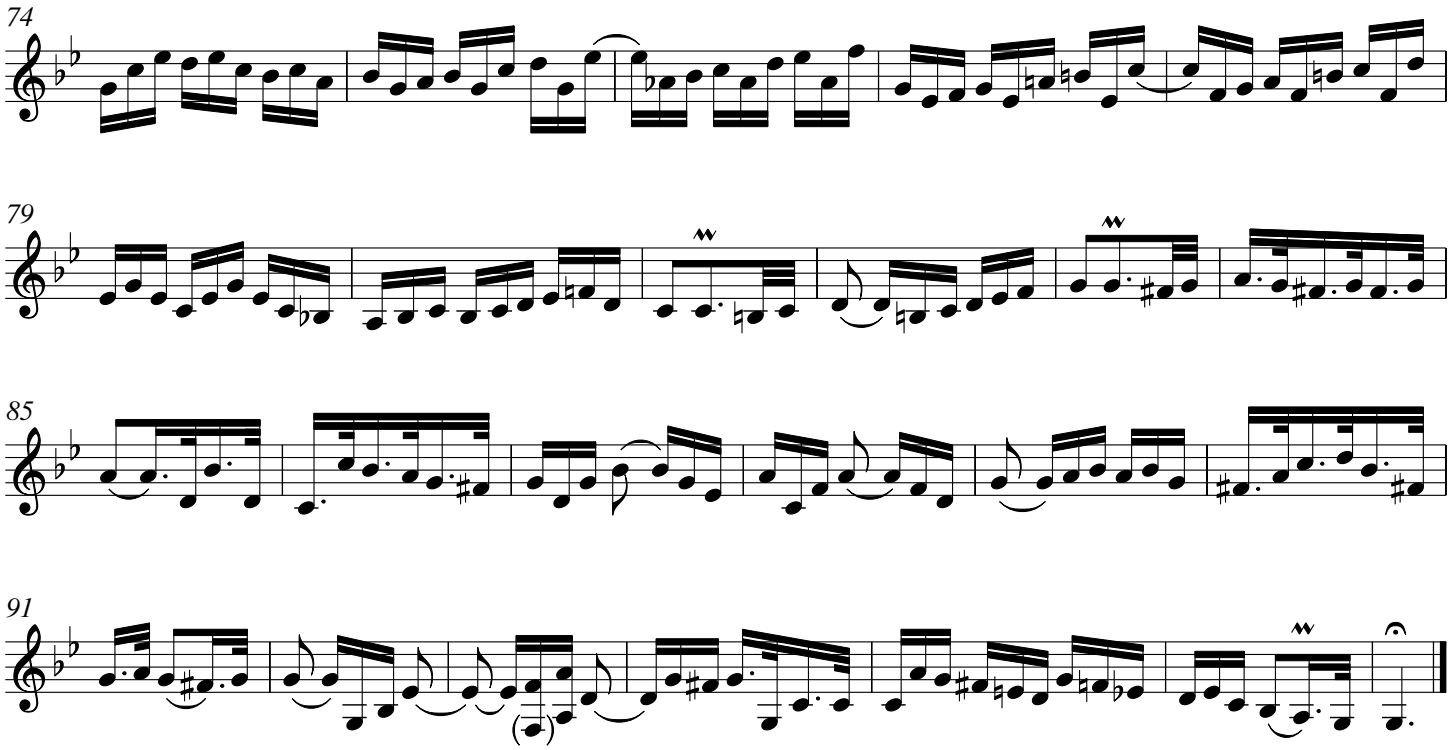
38
42

Un poco Allegro




74
79
85
91

Violoncello

Trio Sonata No. 4

BWV 528

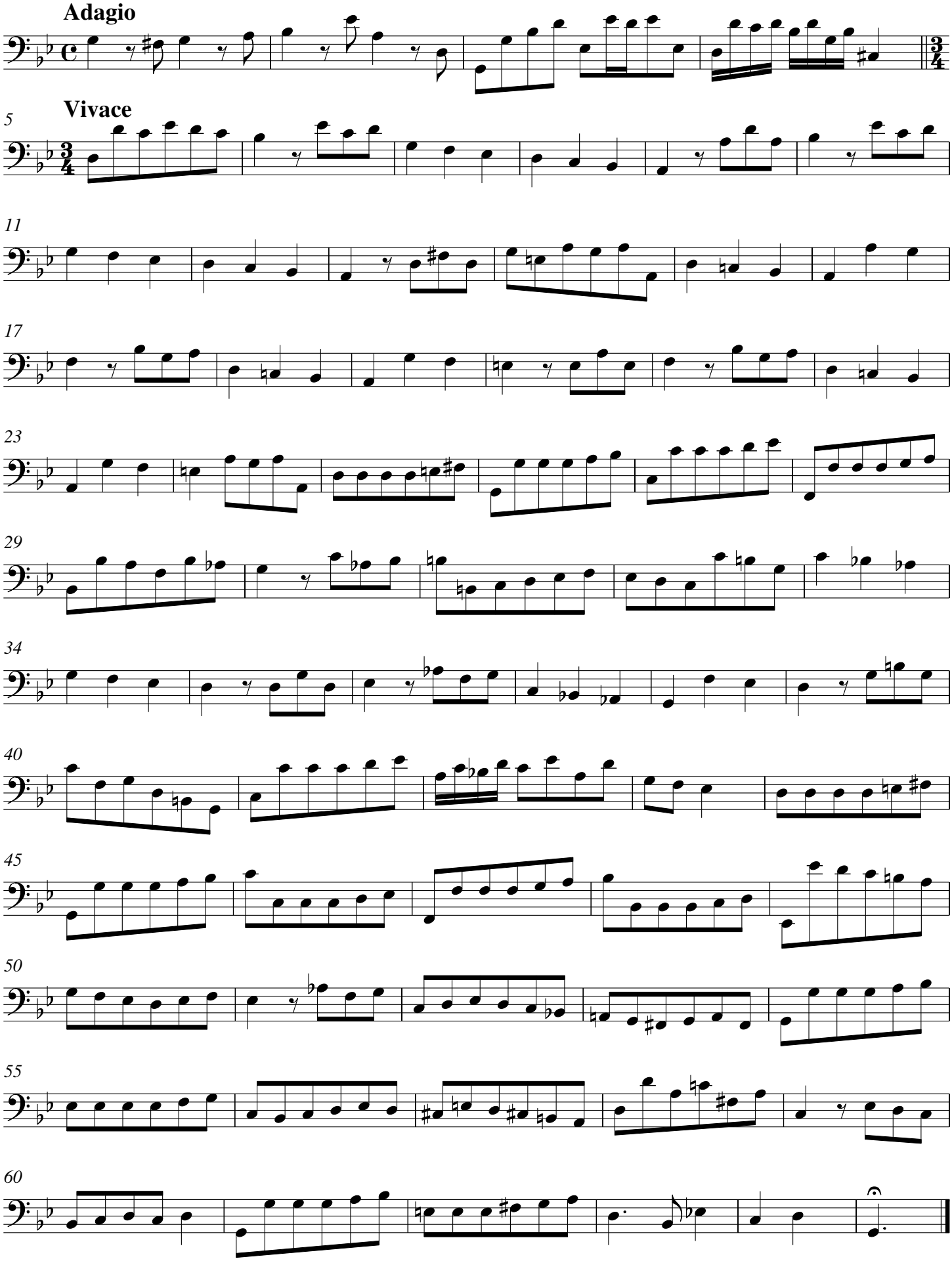
Originally in E minor

J.S. Bach

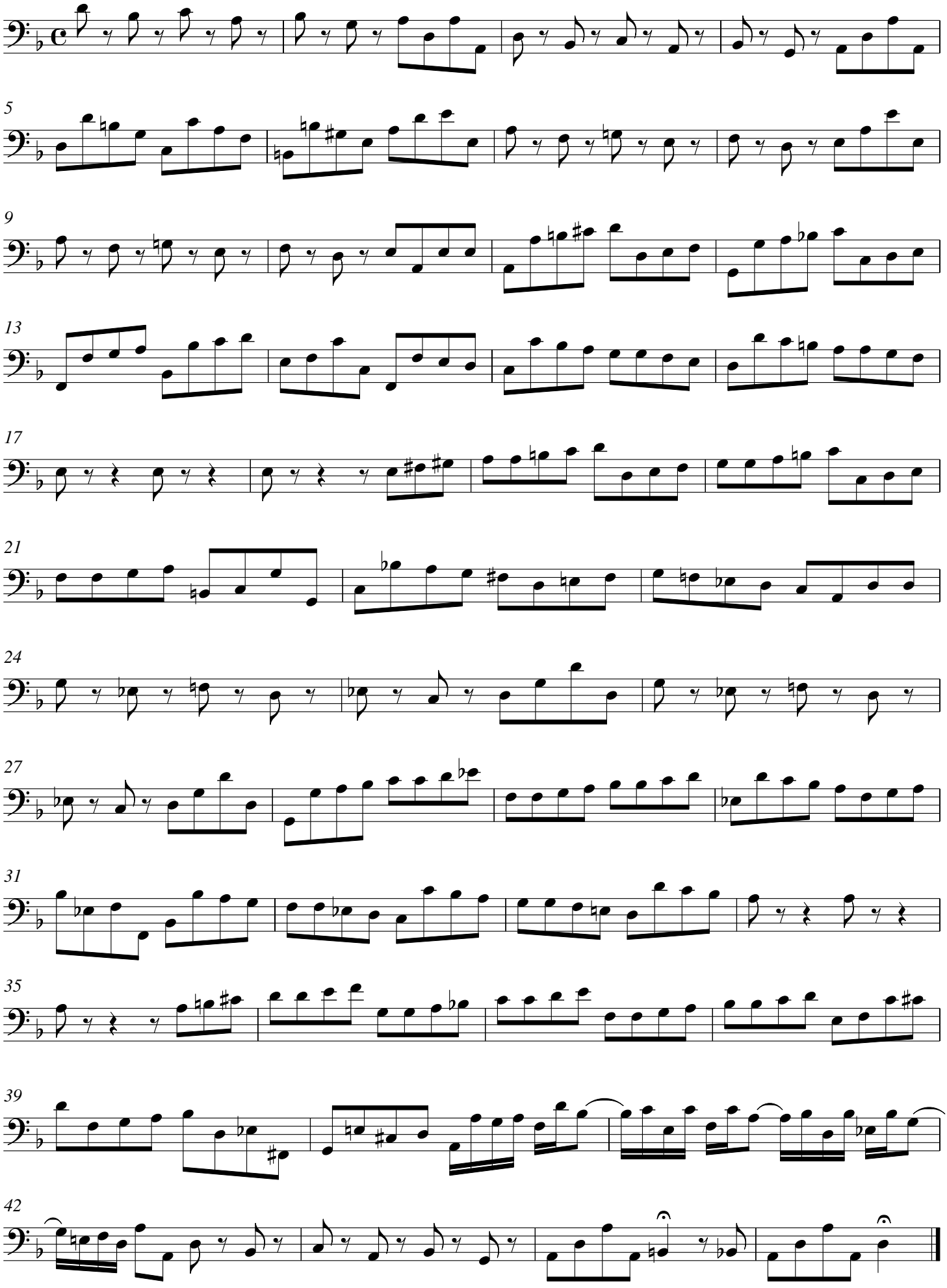
Transcribed by A. E. Bonds

Adagio

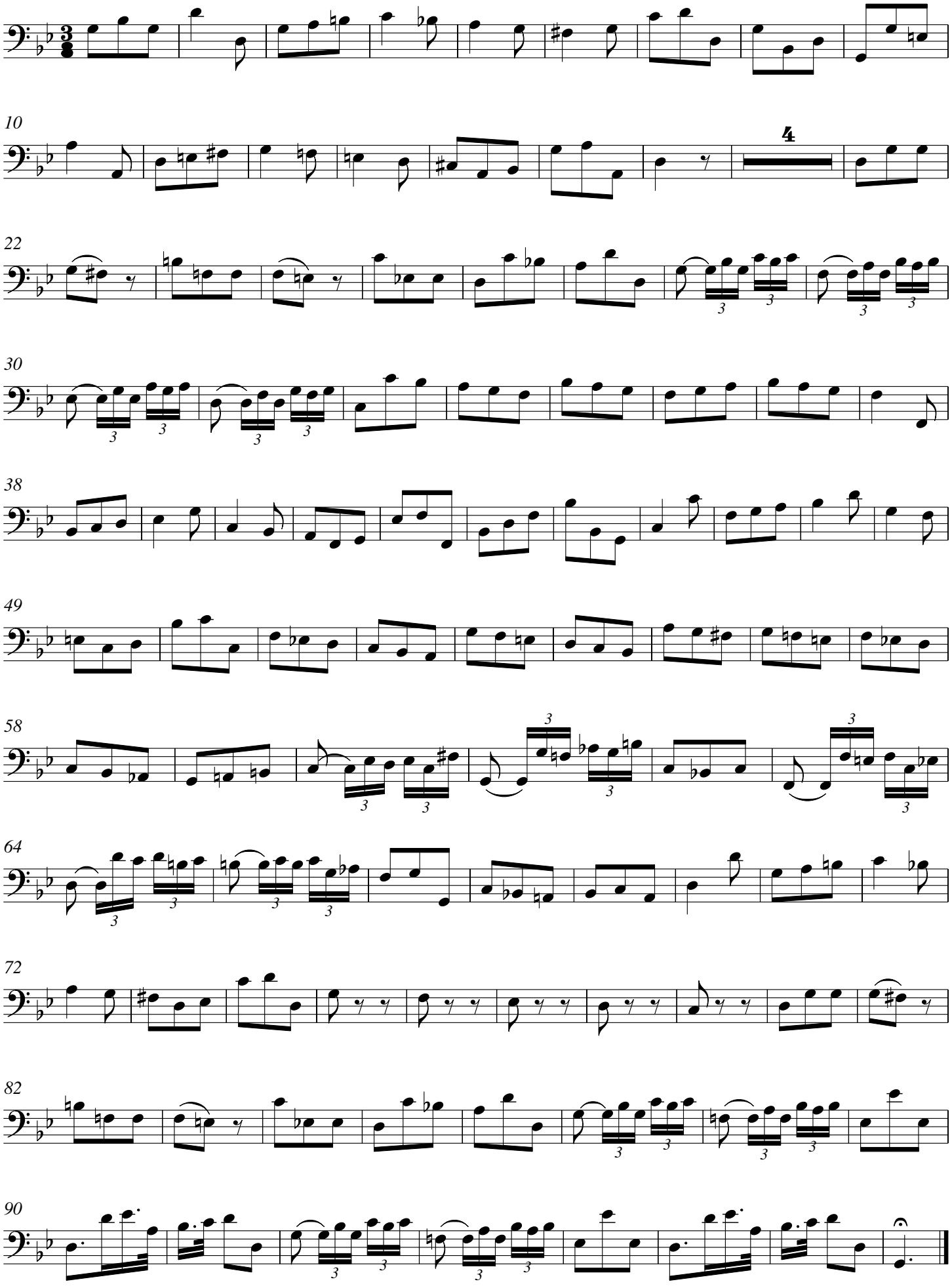
Vivace



Andante



Un poco Allegro

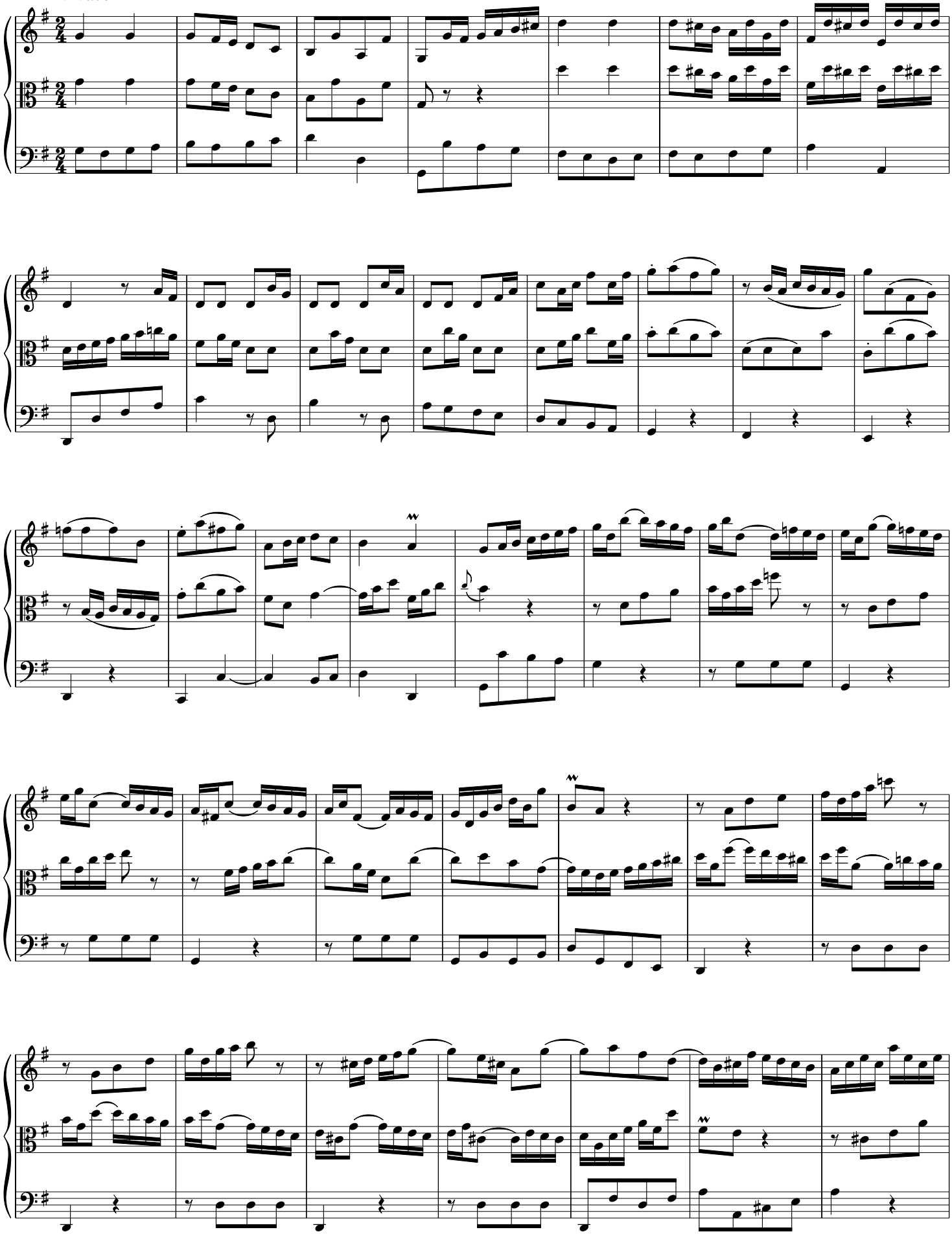


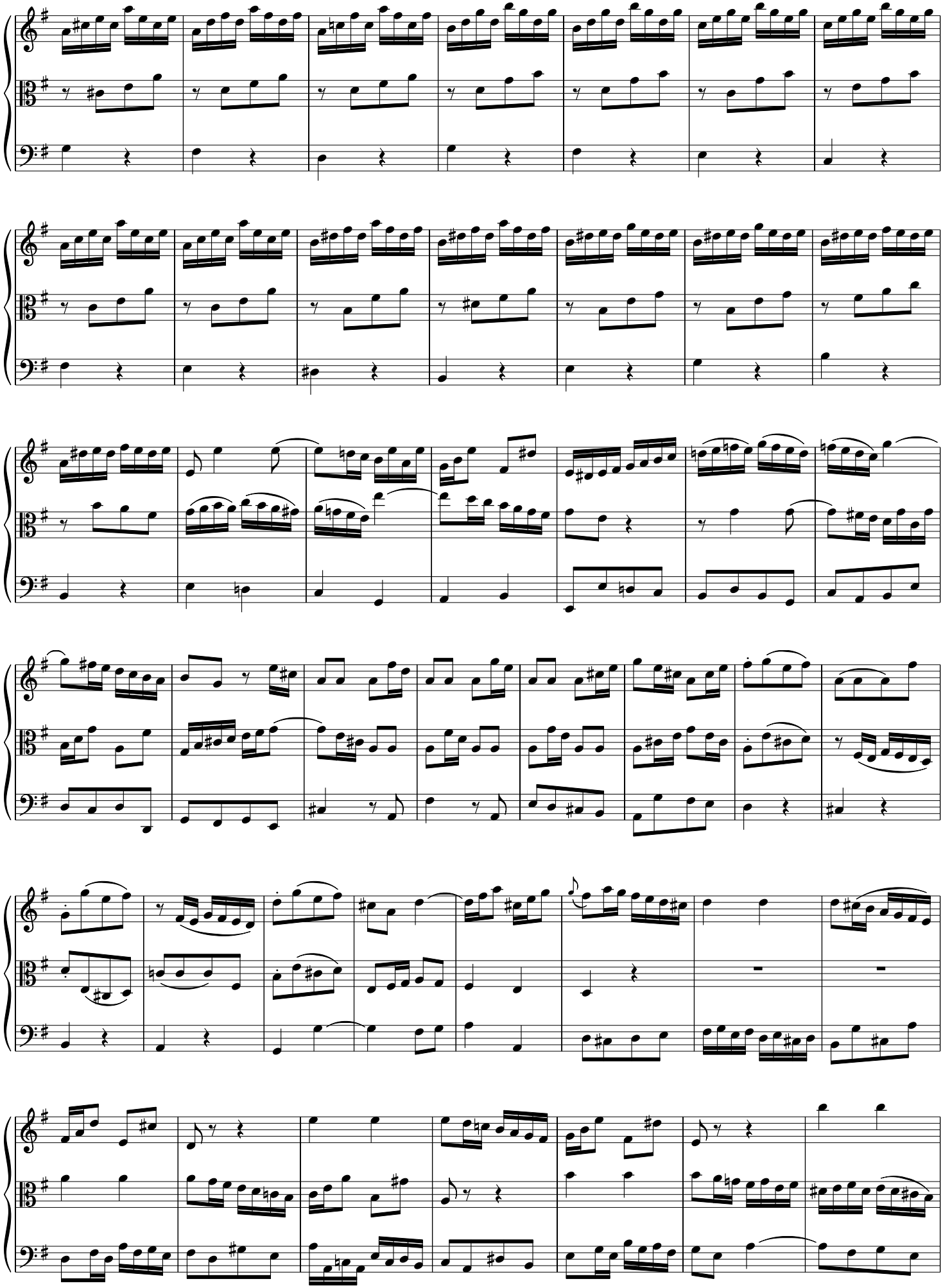
Trio Sonata No. 6

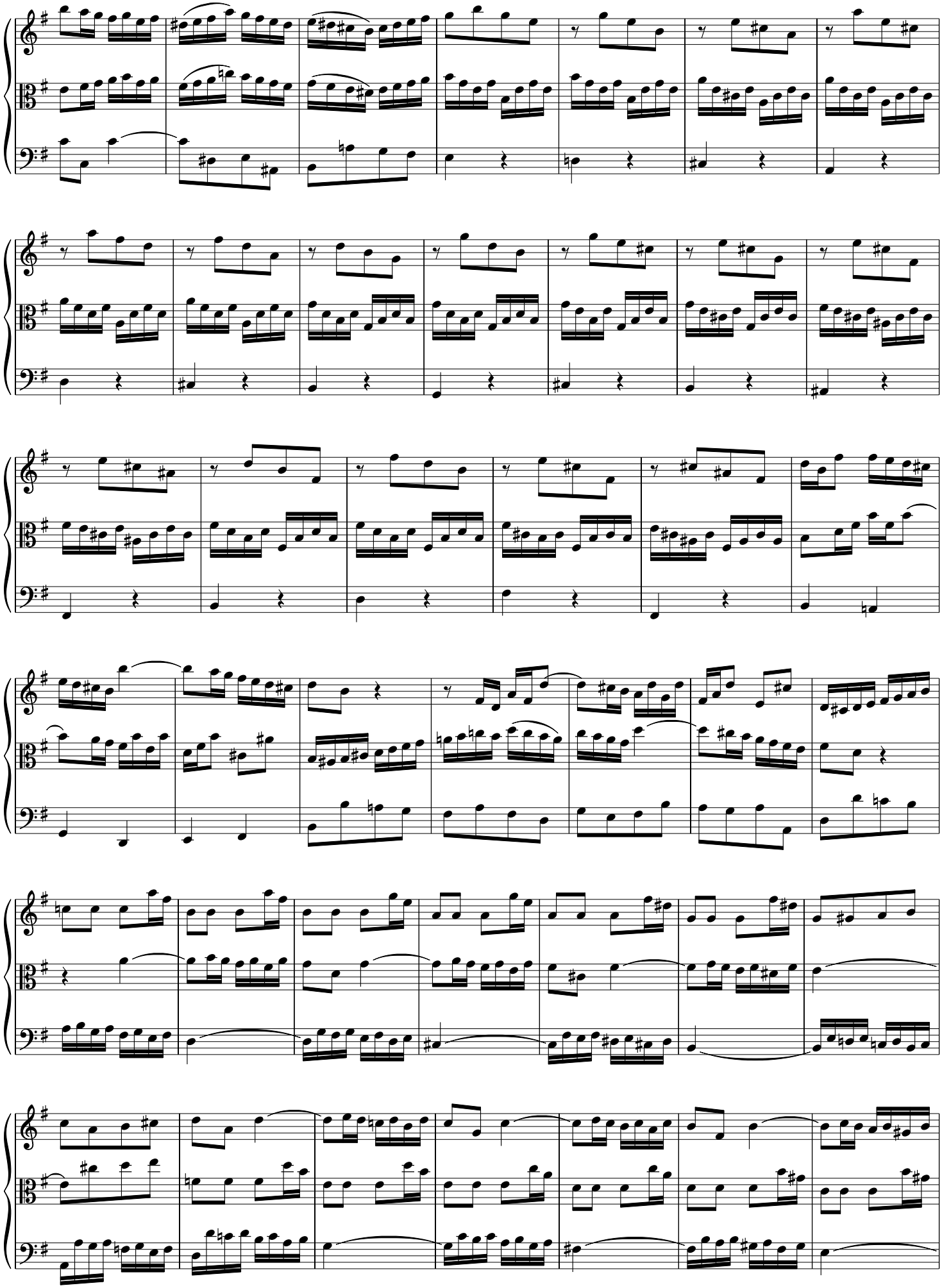
BWV 530

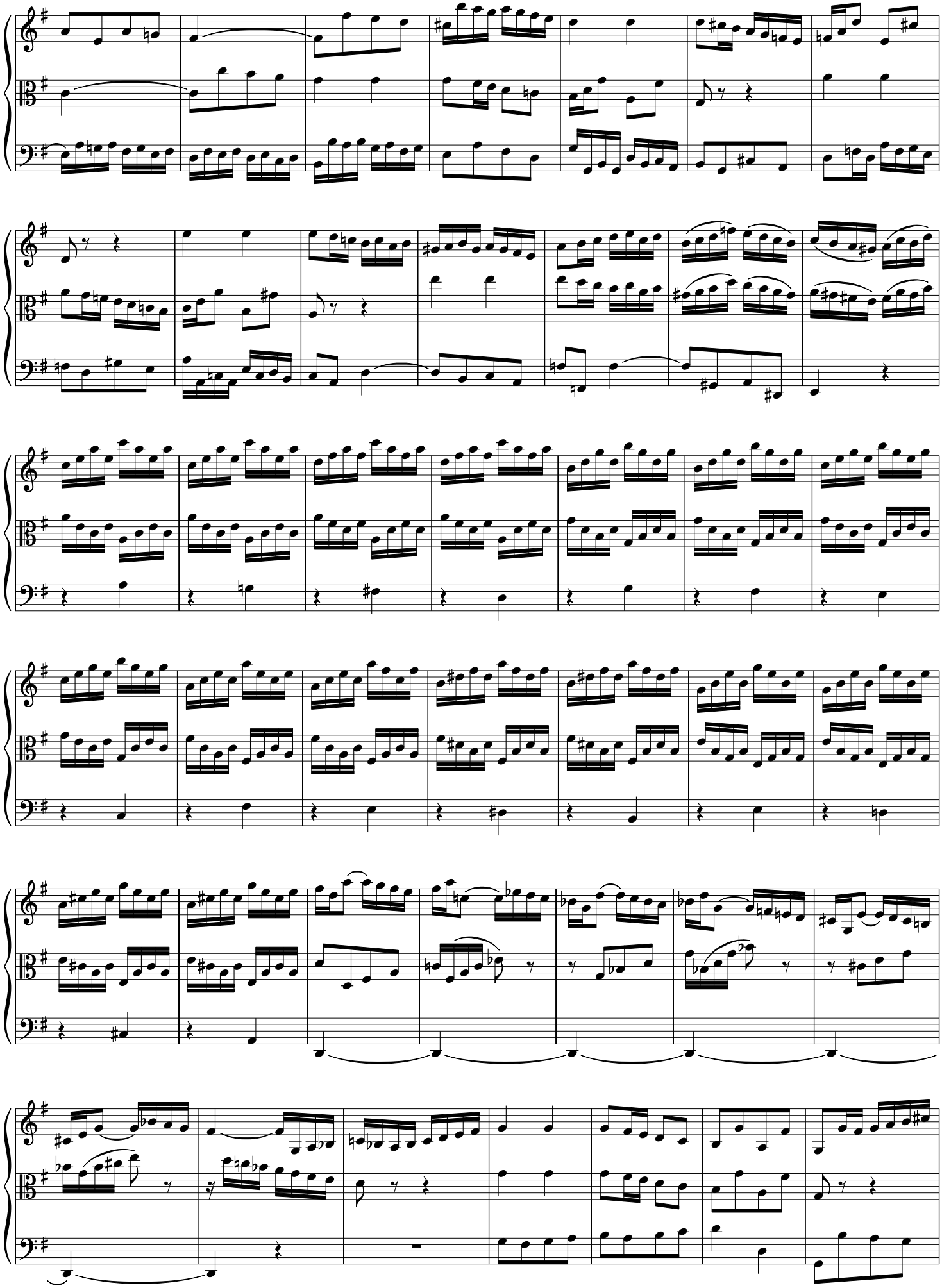
J.S. Bach

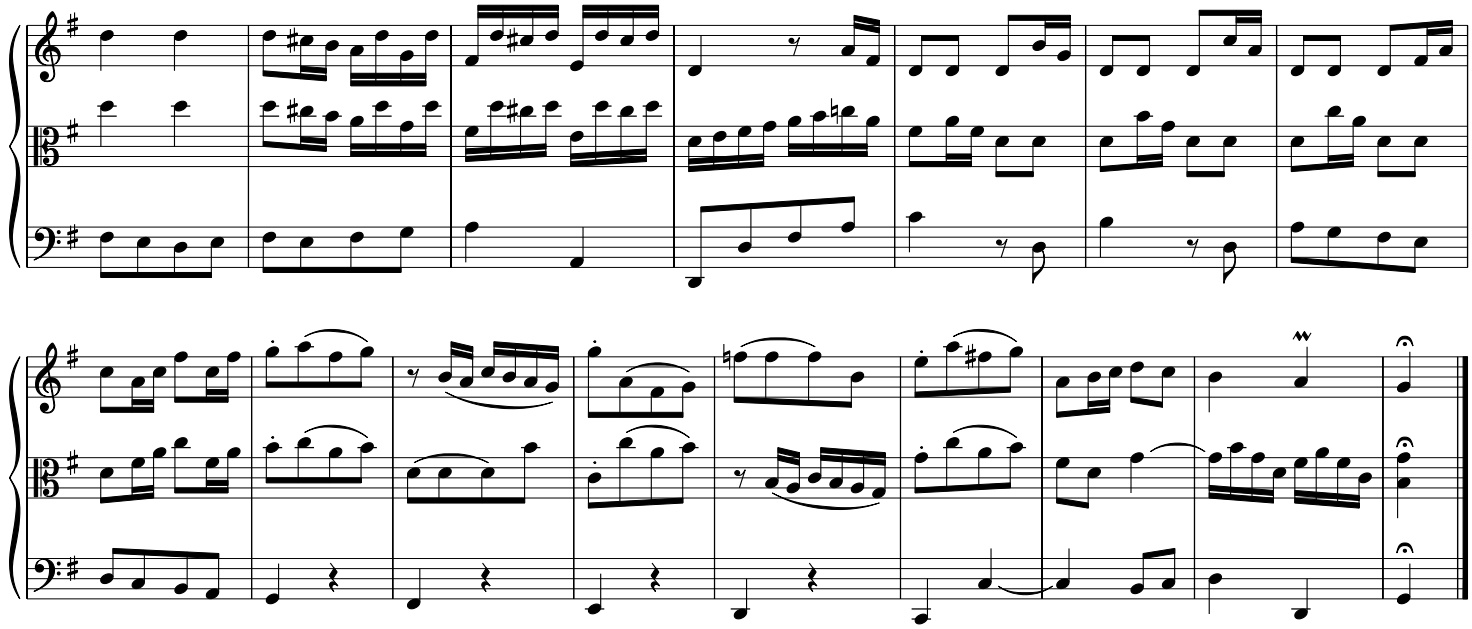
Vivace



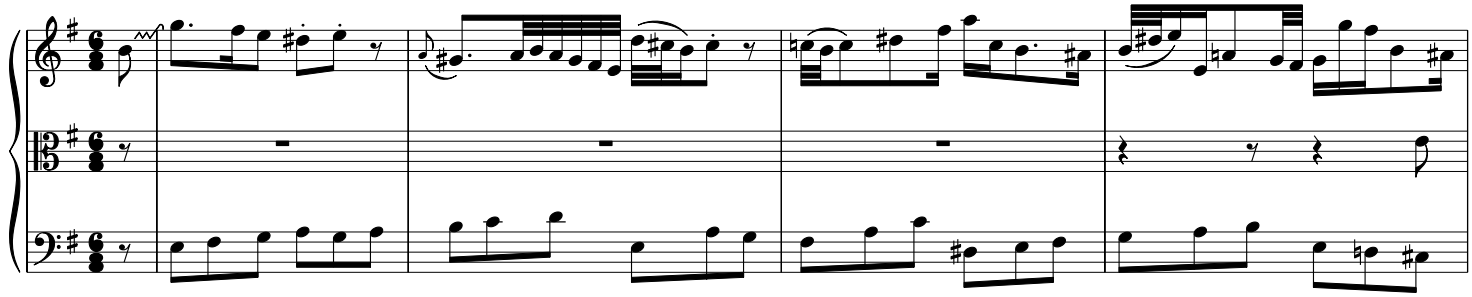


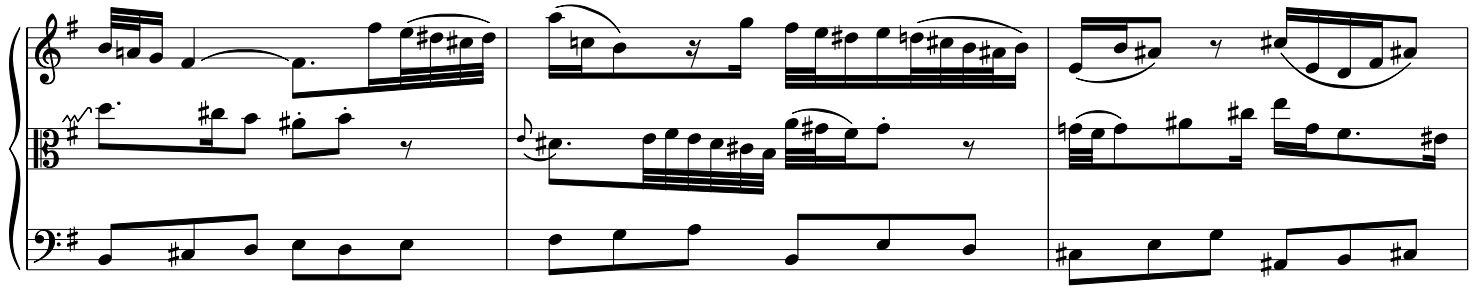


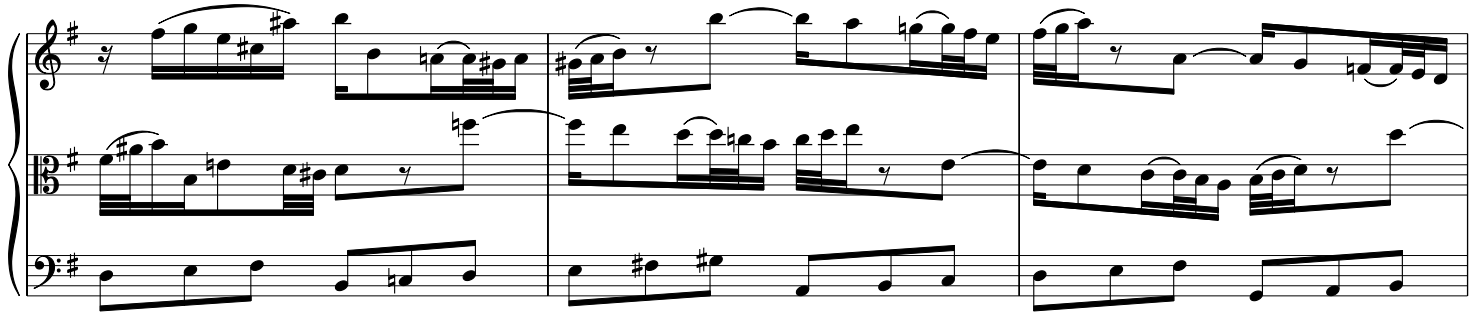


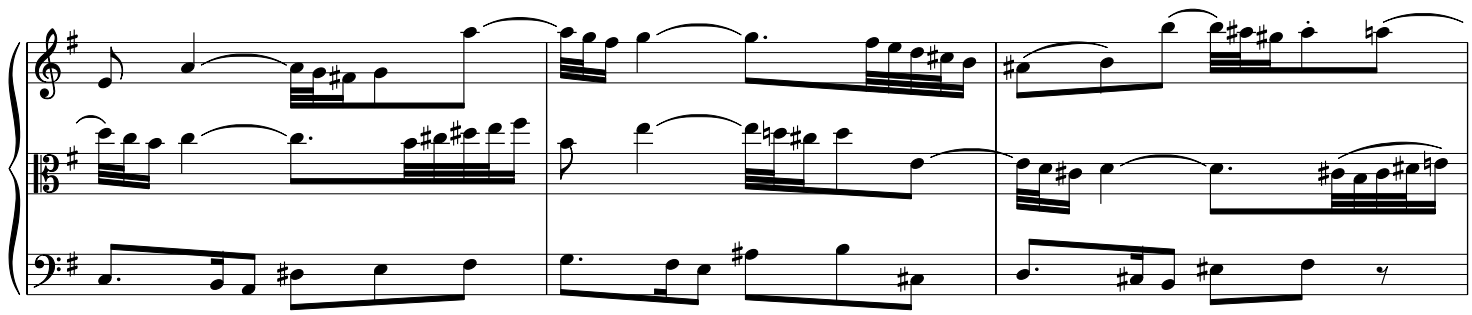


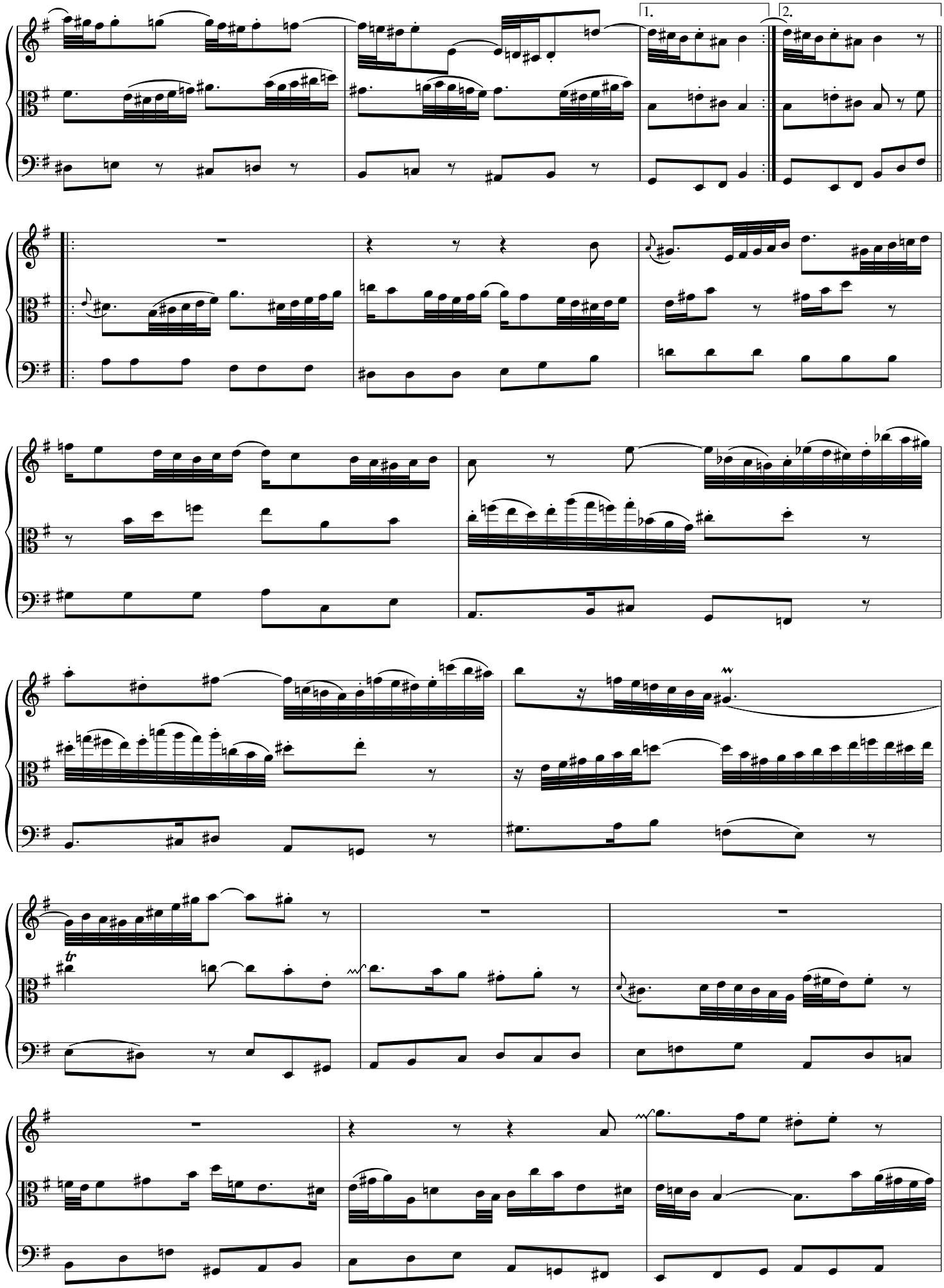
Lento







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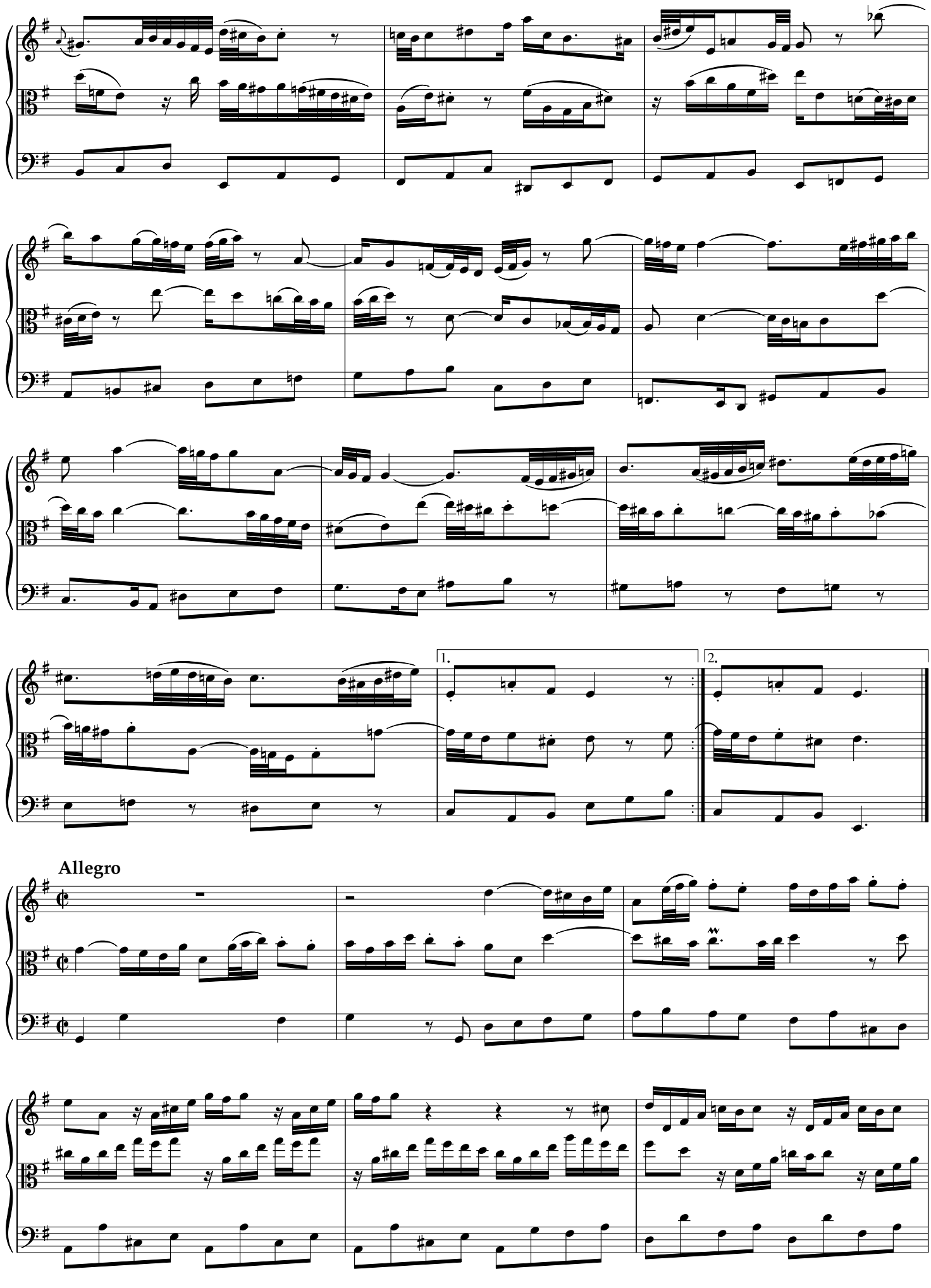
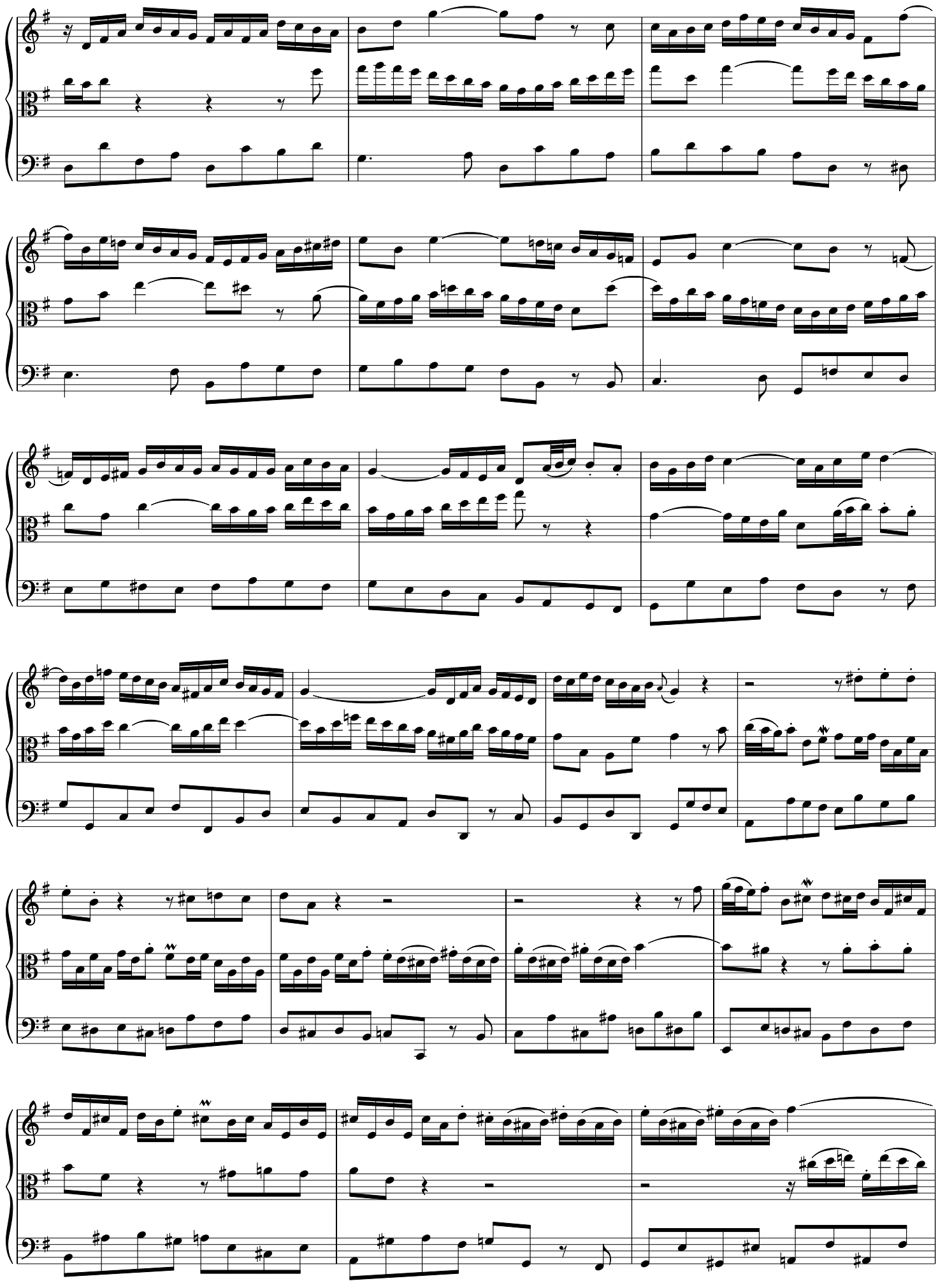
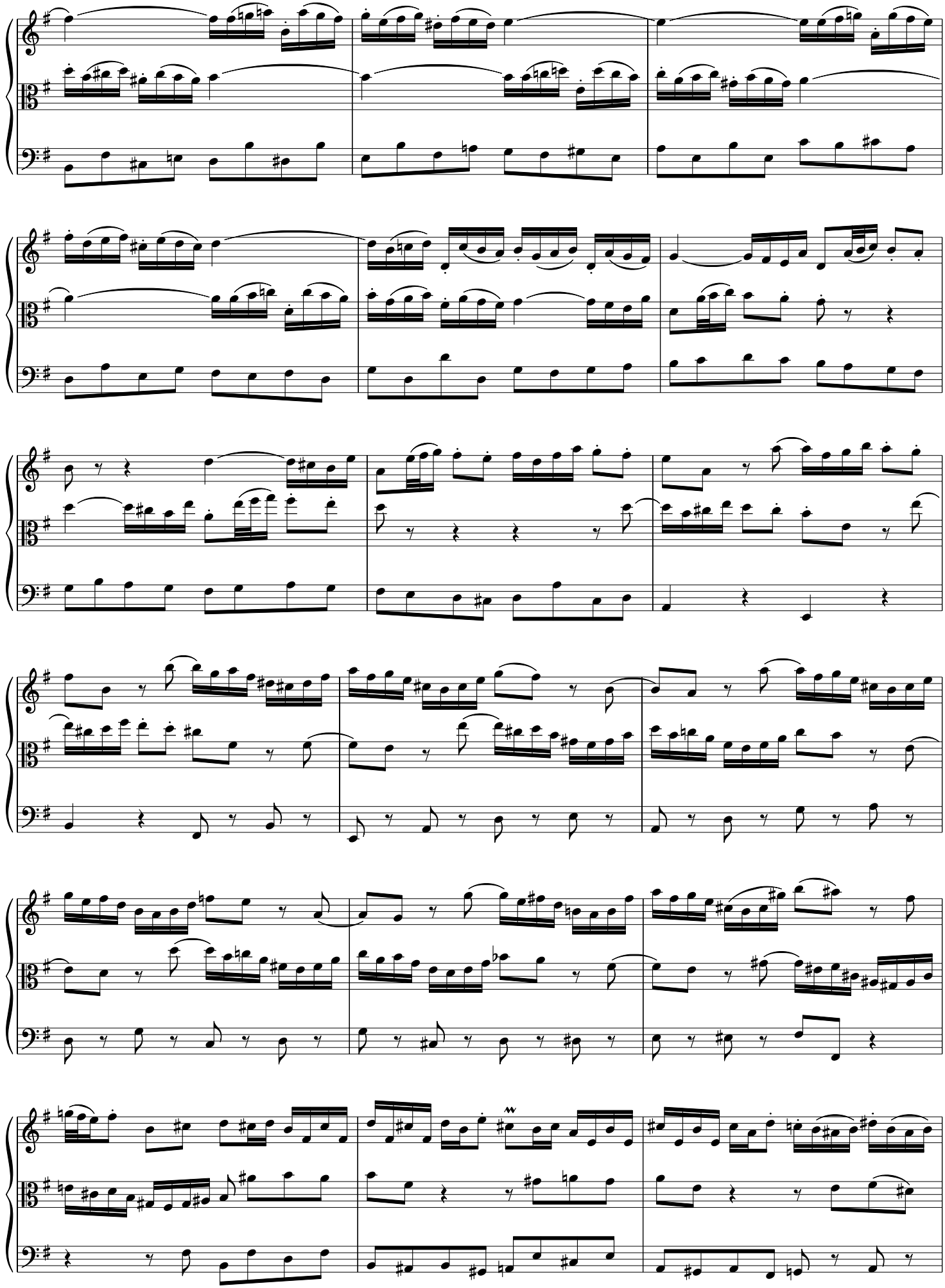
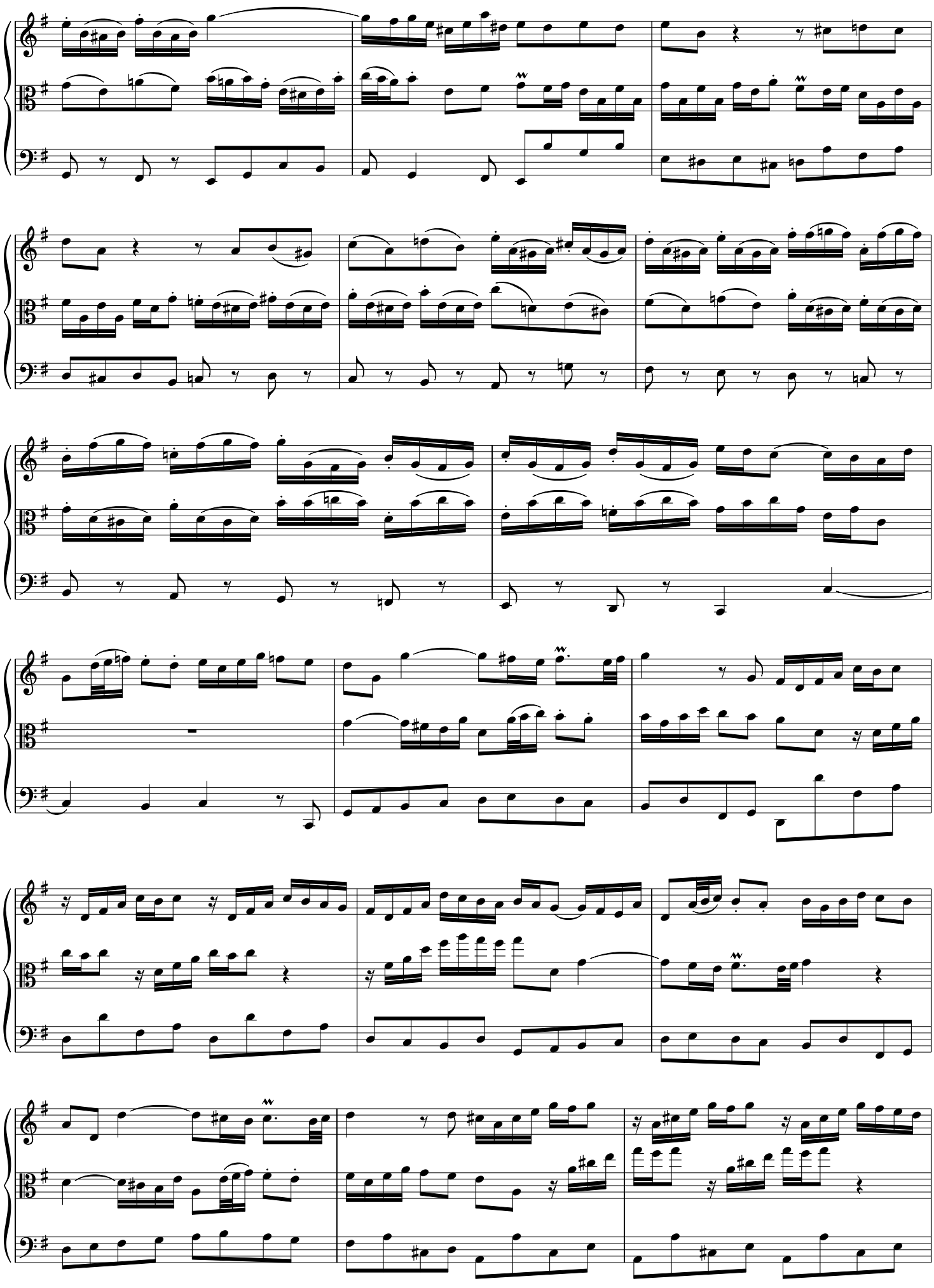
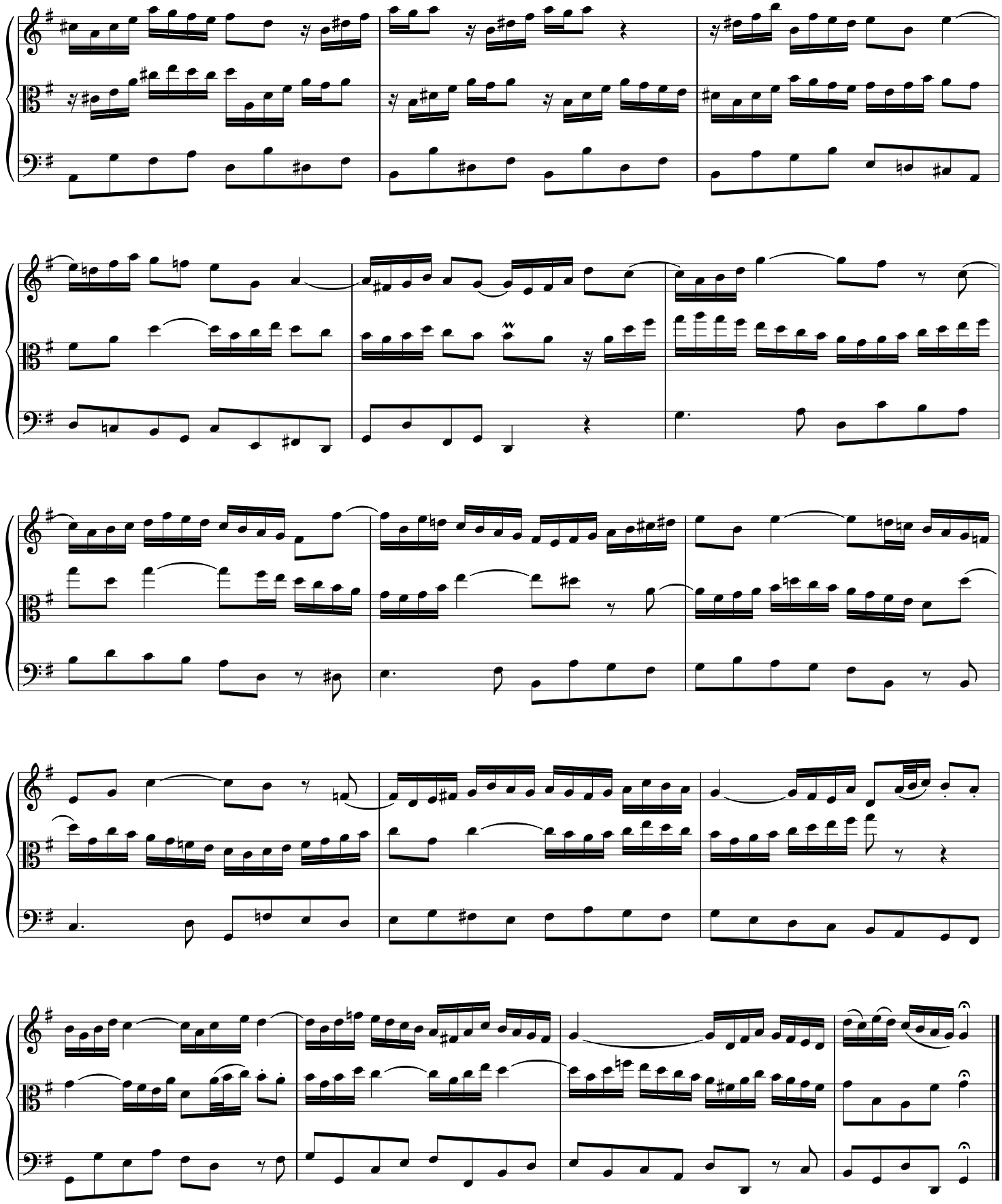

1.
2.
Allegro







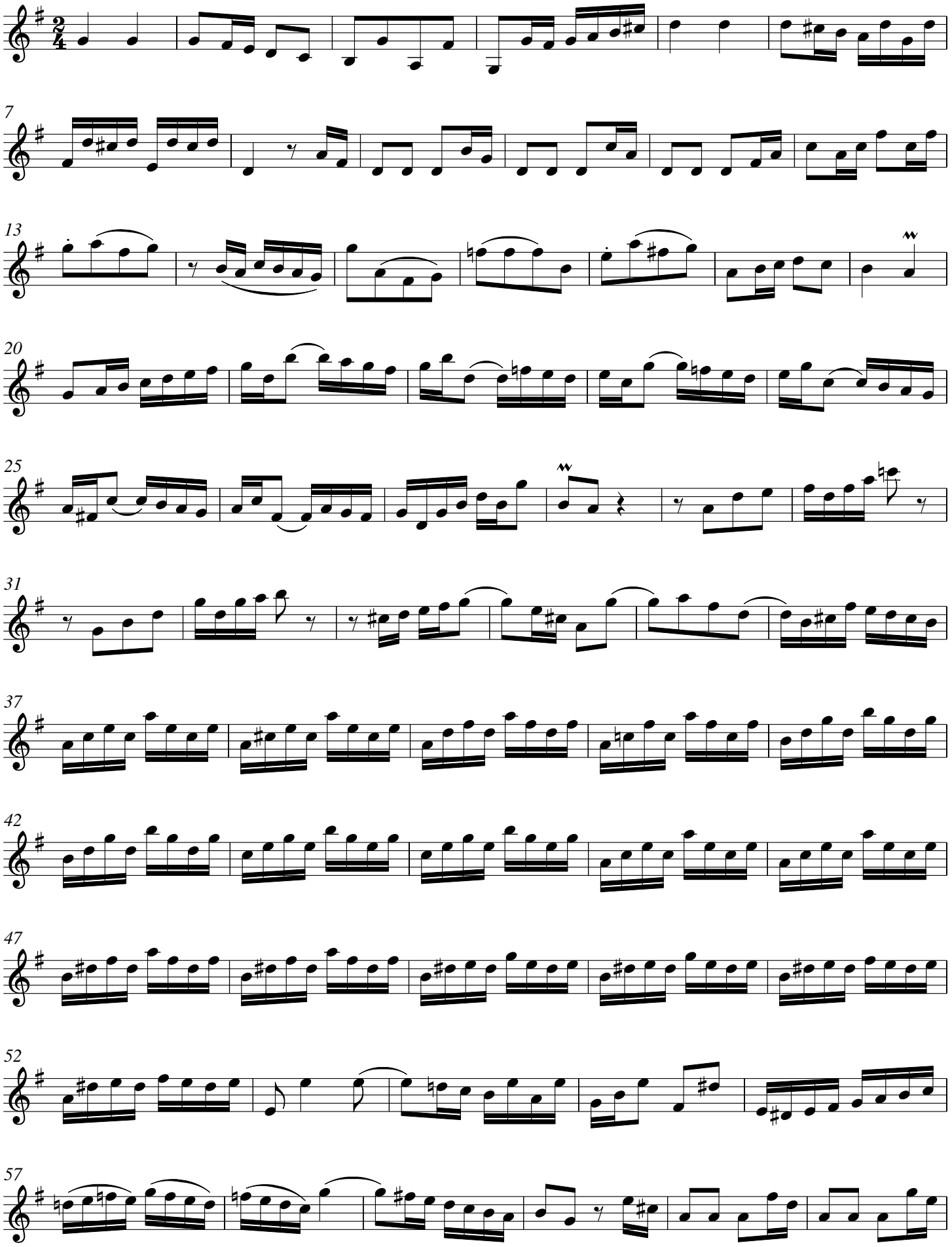


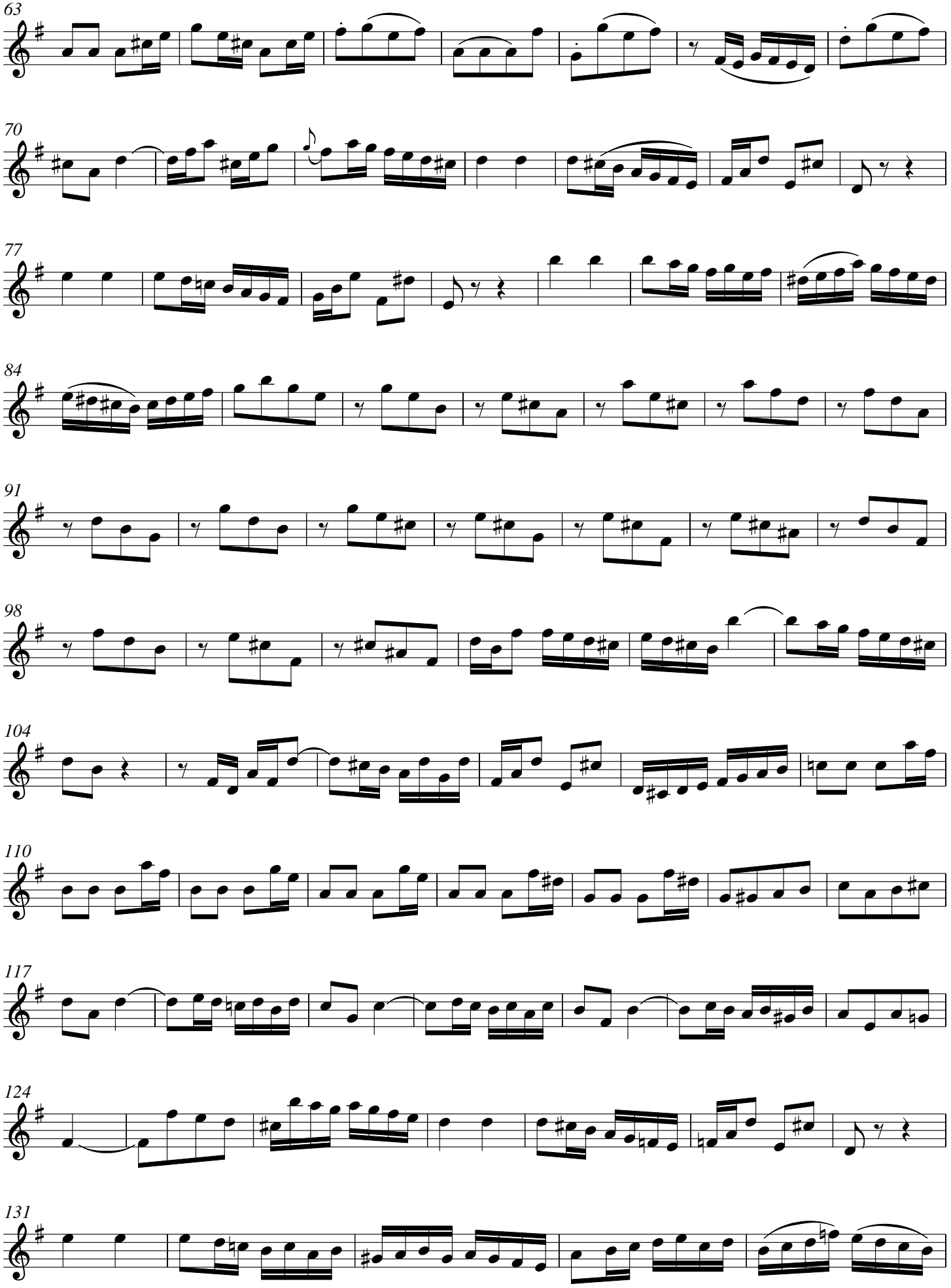
Trio Sonata No. 6

BWV 530

J.S. Bach

Vivace

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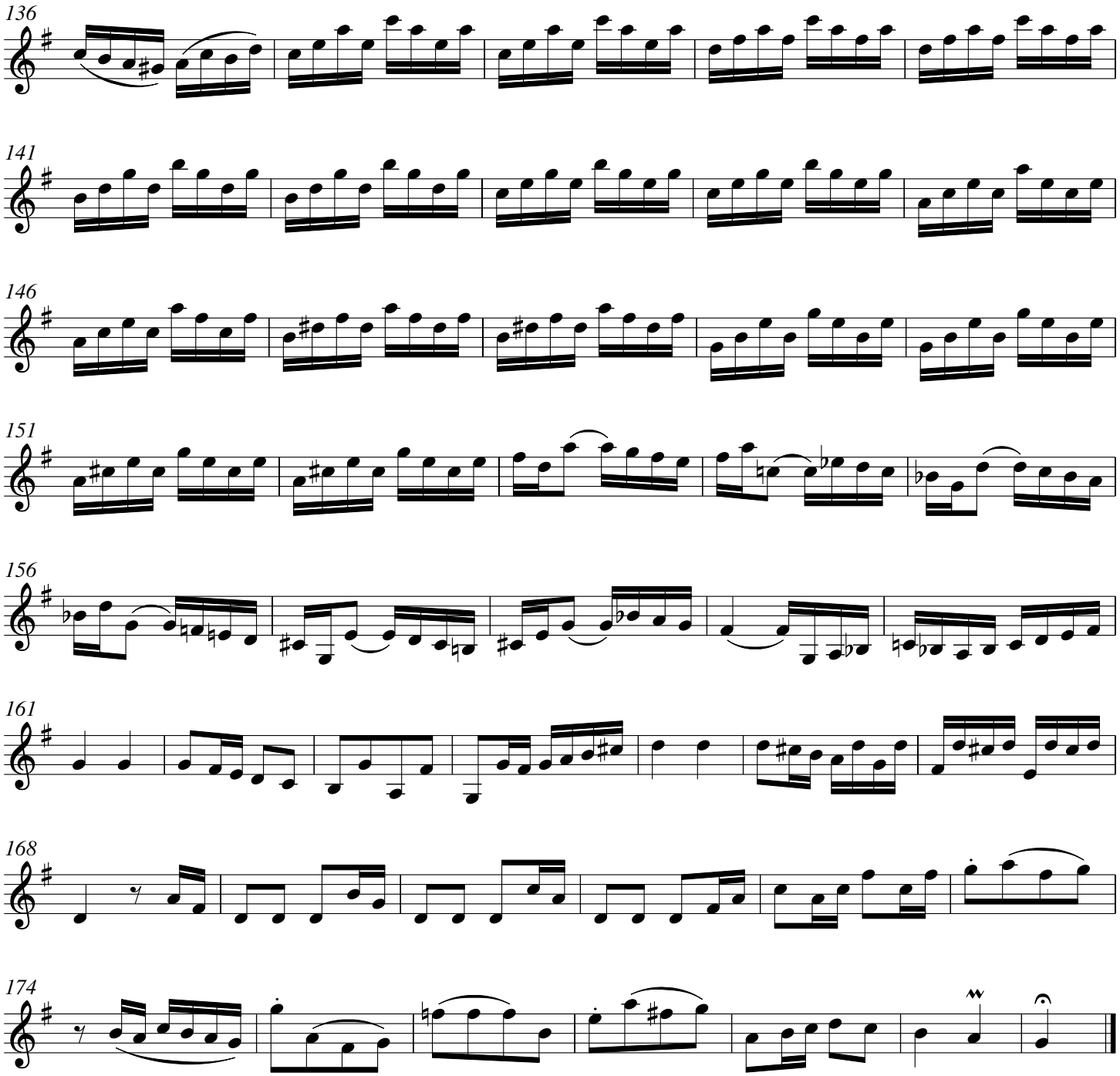
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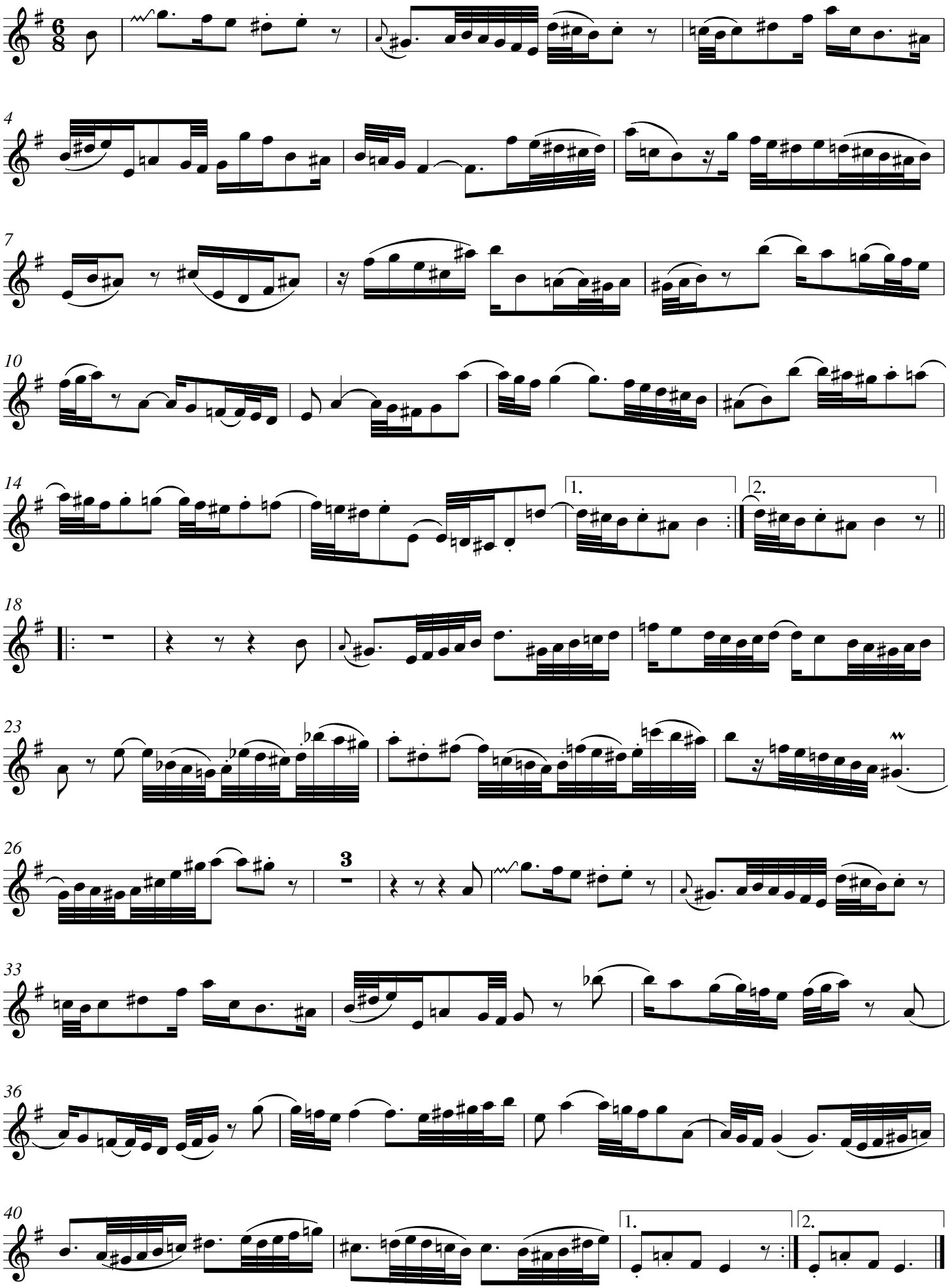
Lento



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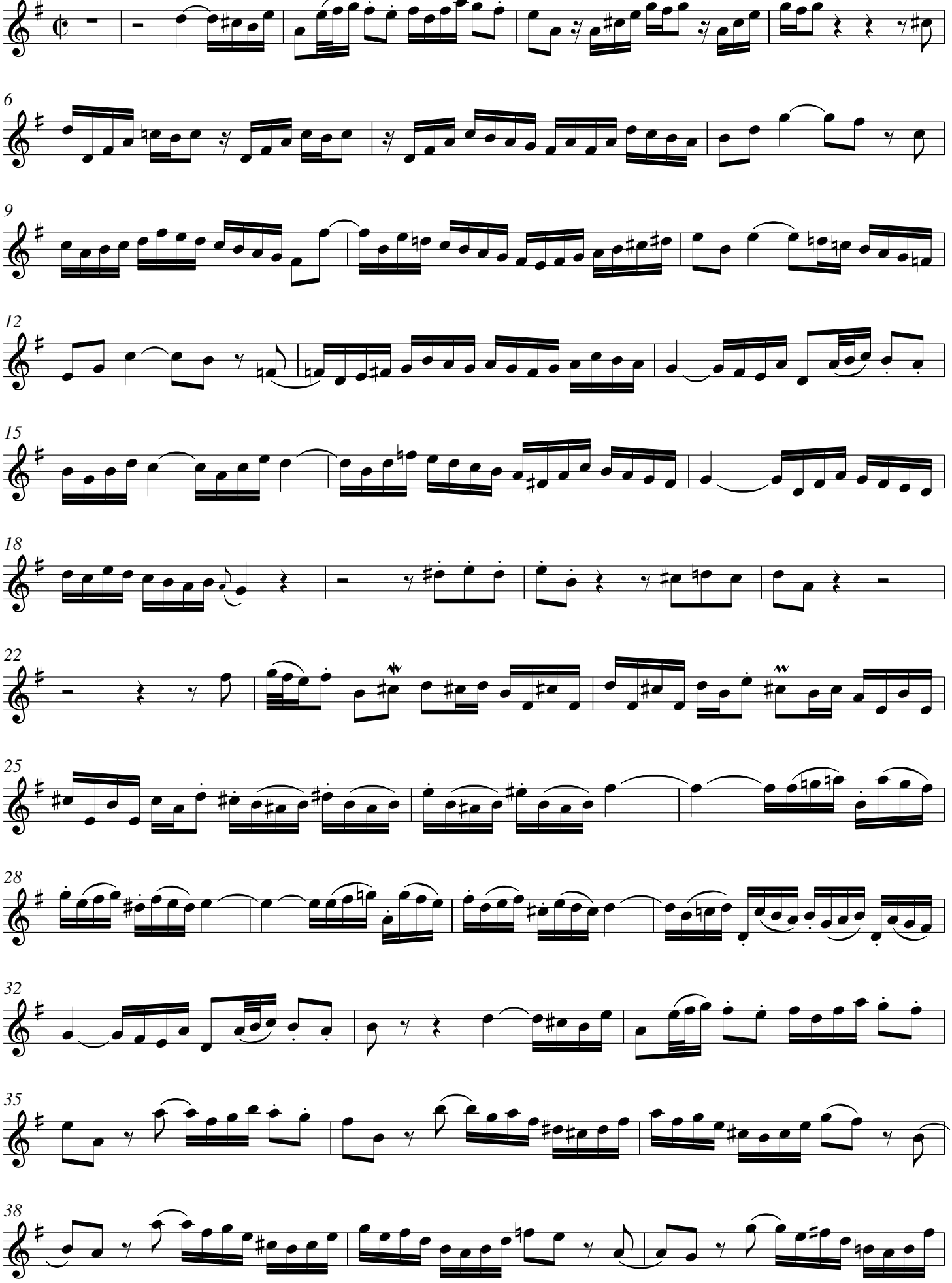

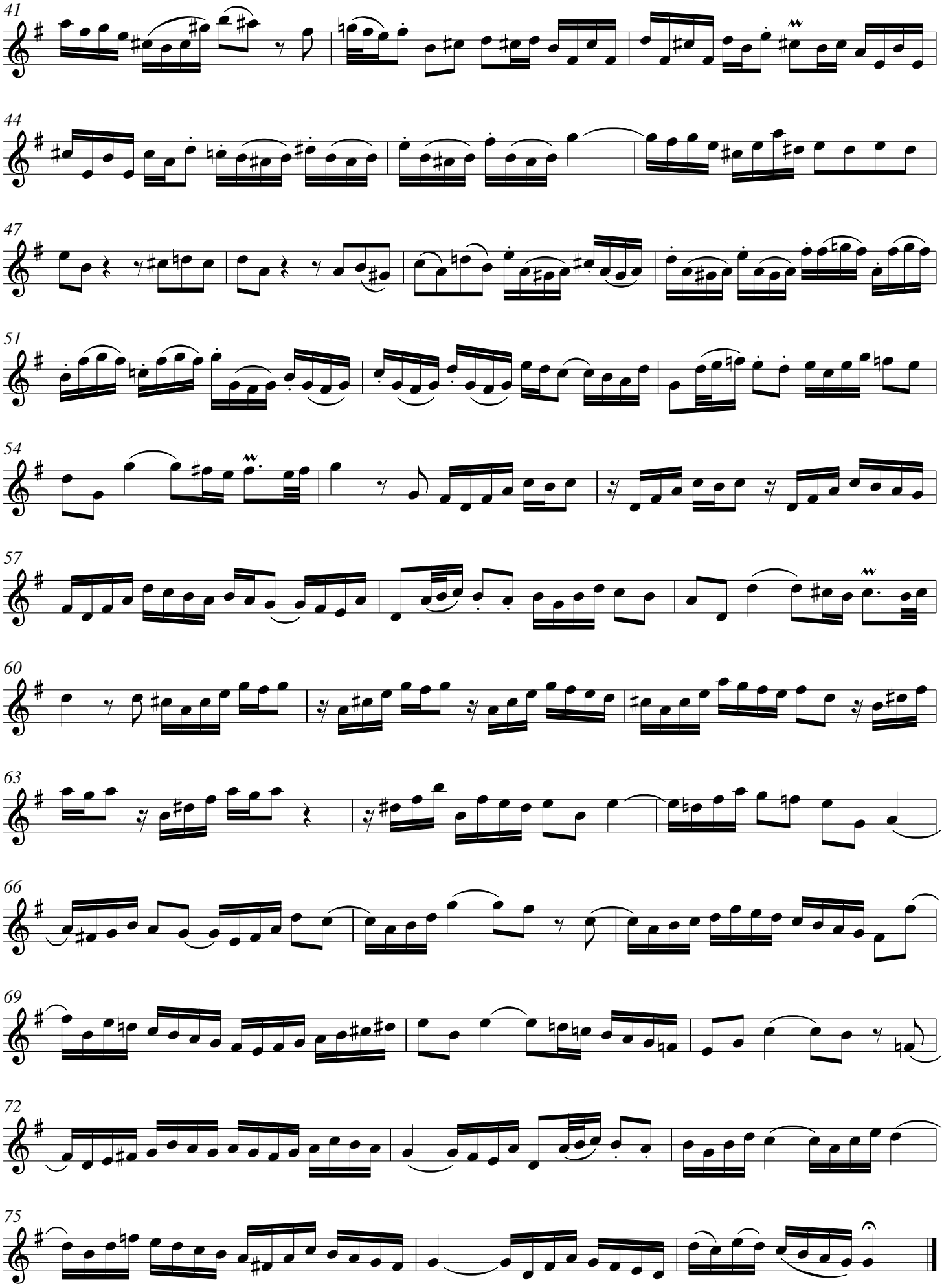
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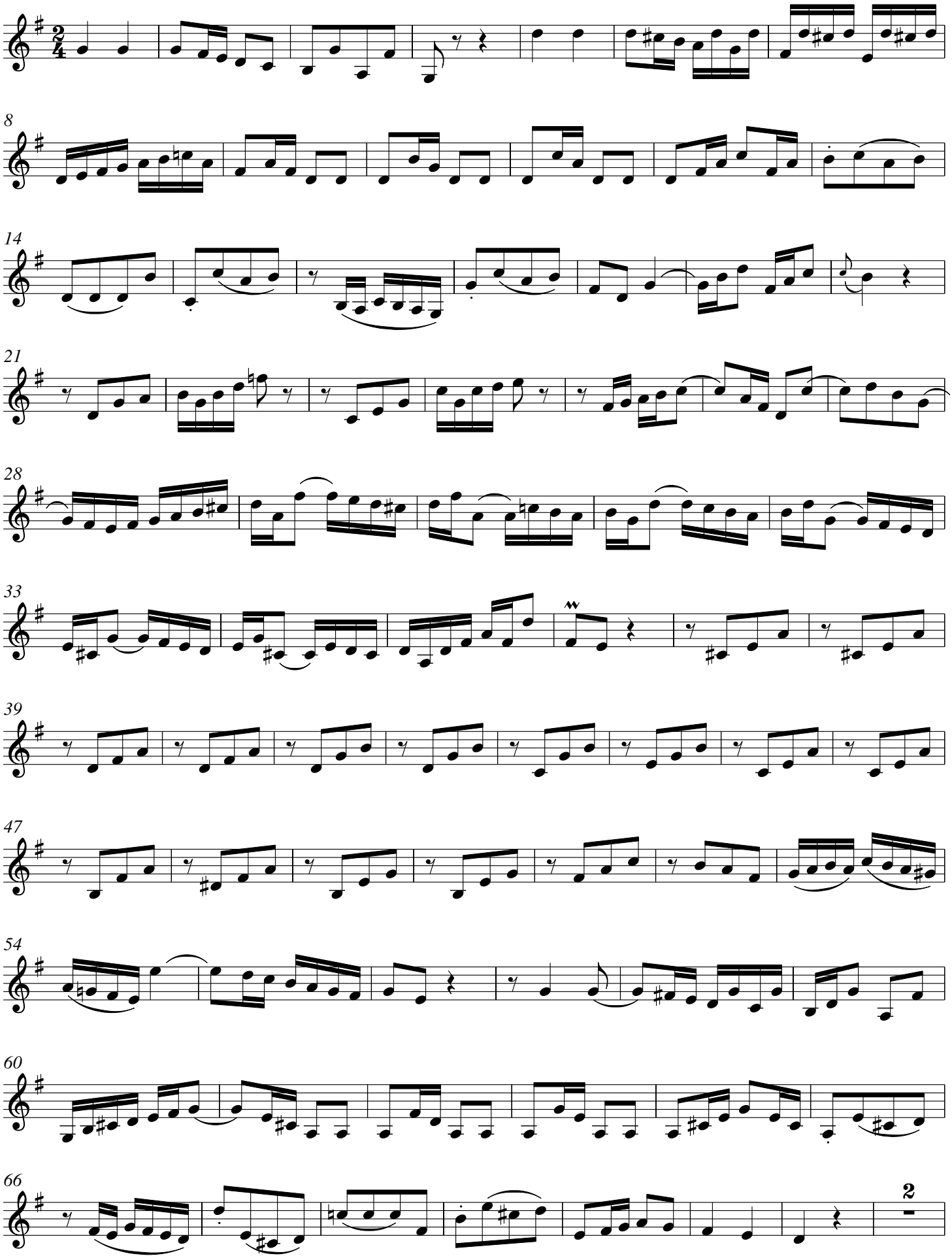
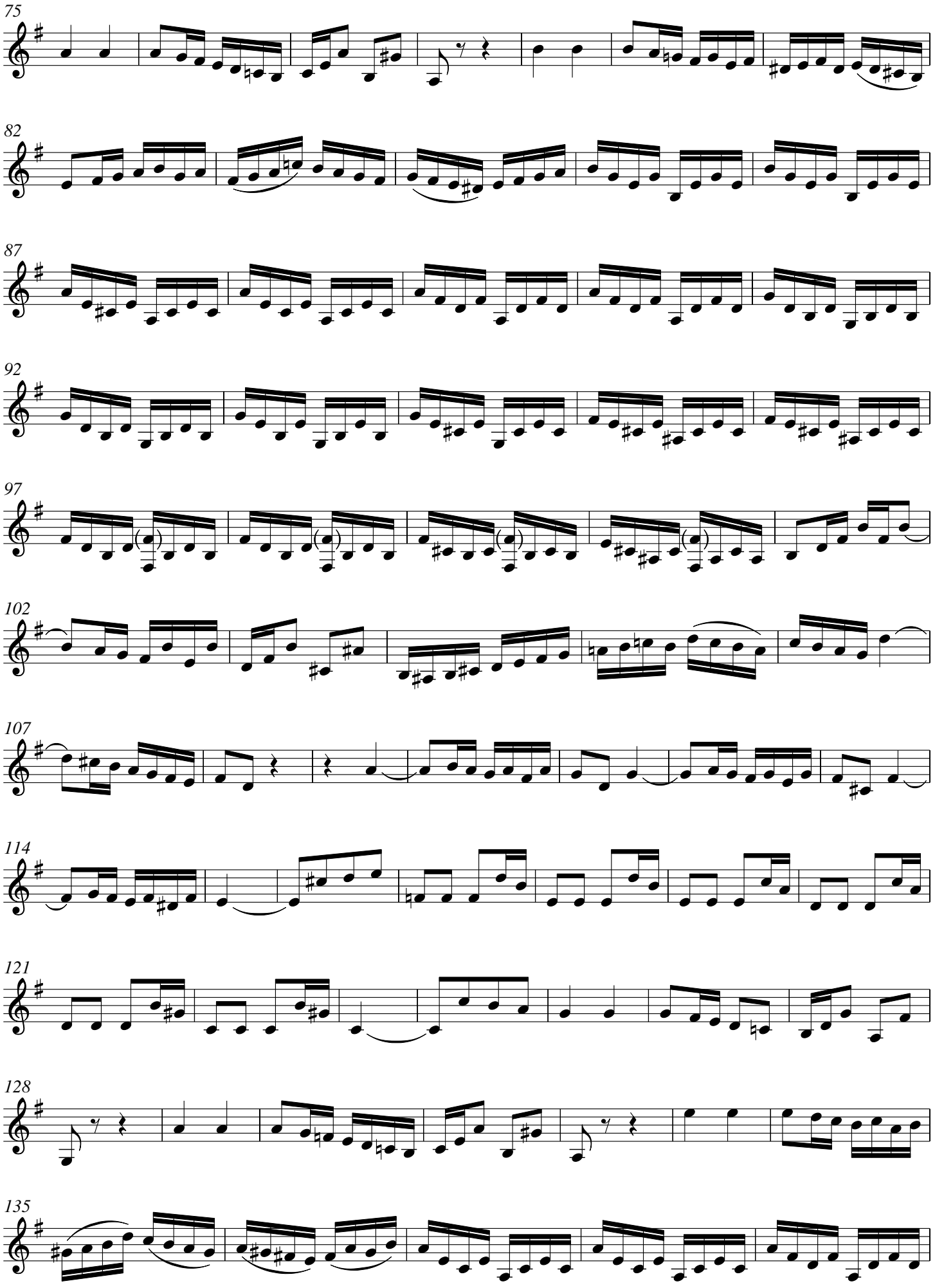
Trio Sonata No. 6

BWV 530

J.S. Bach

Vivace

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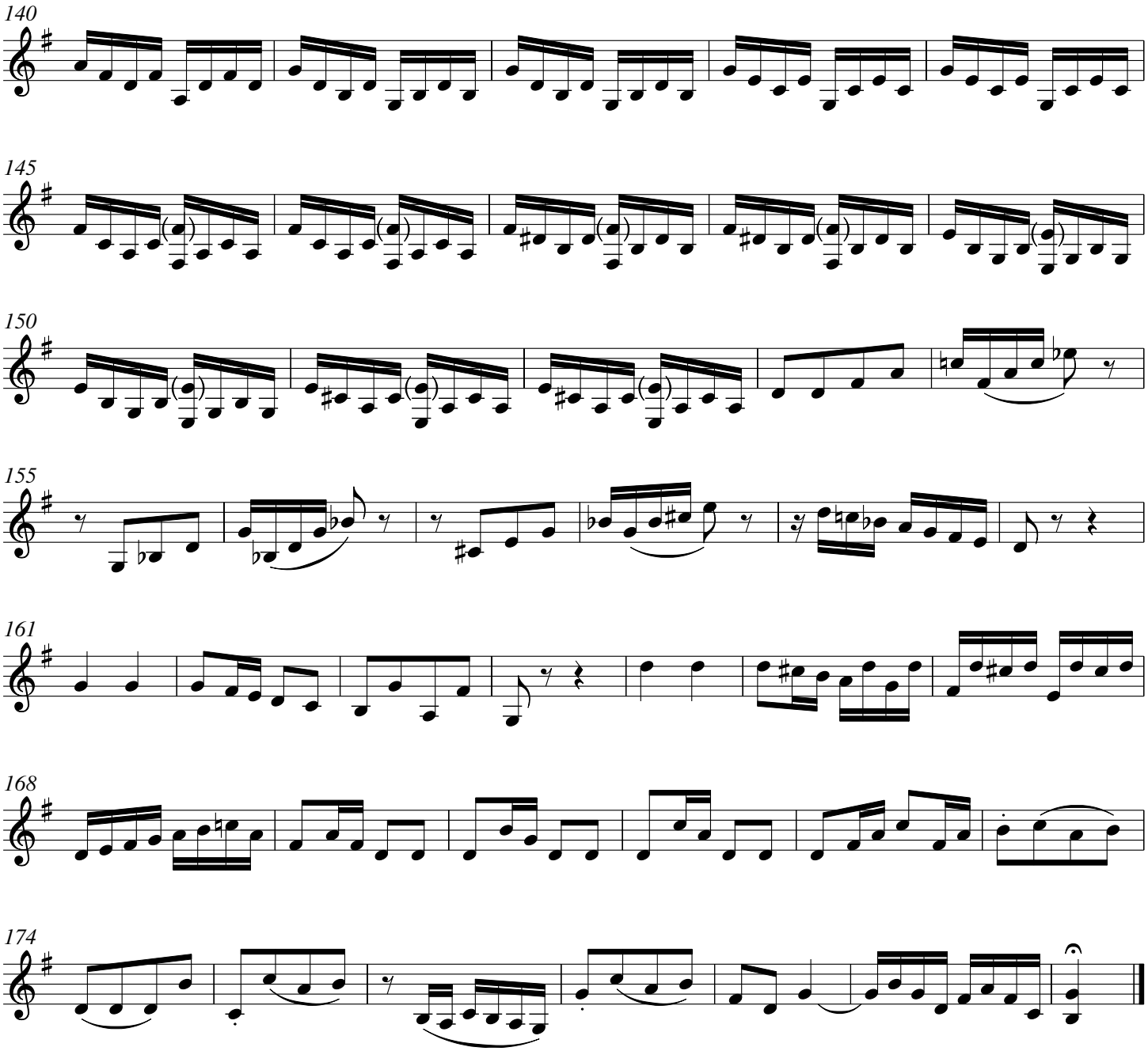
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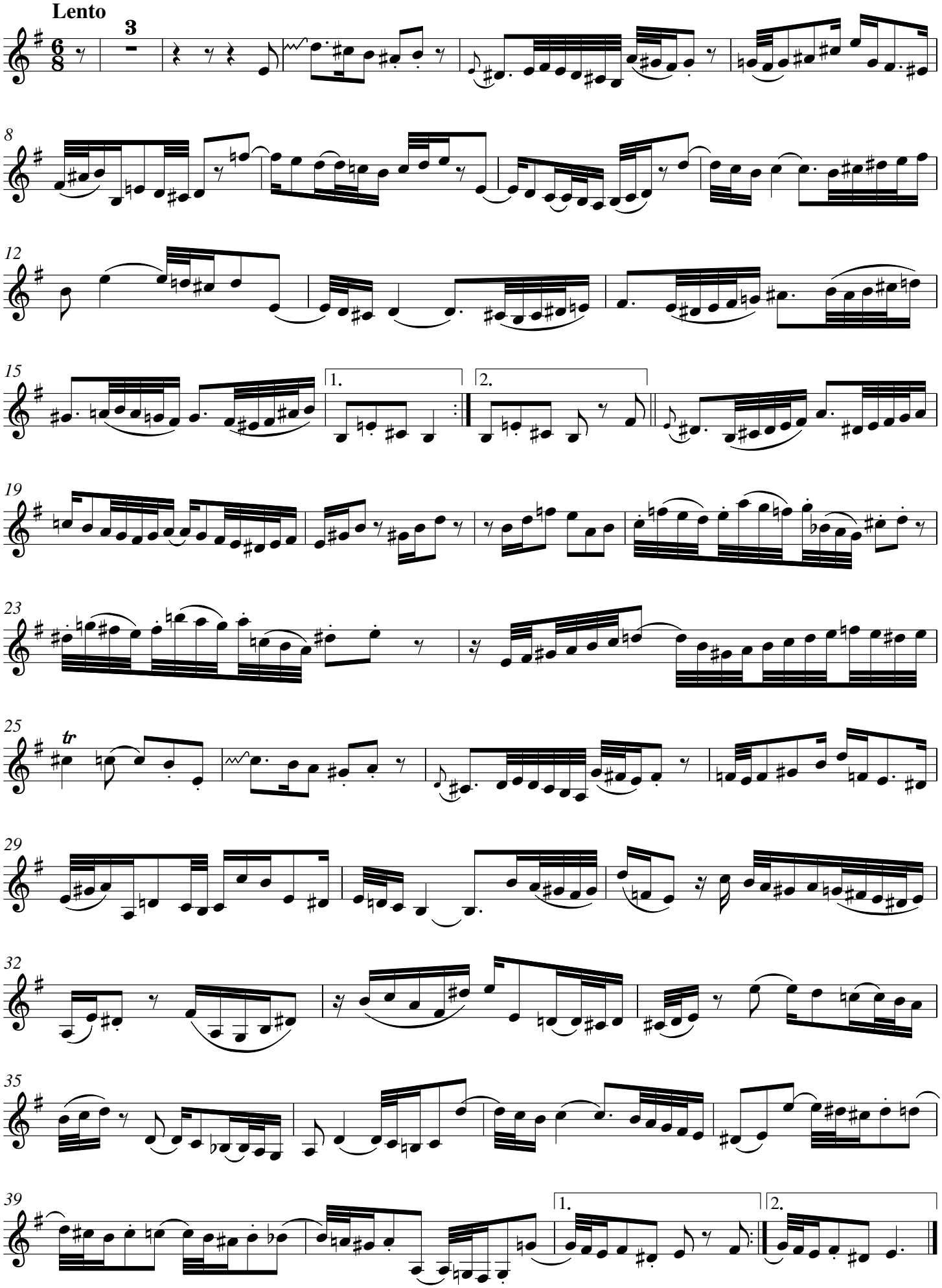
Lento
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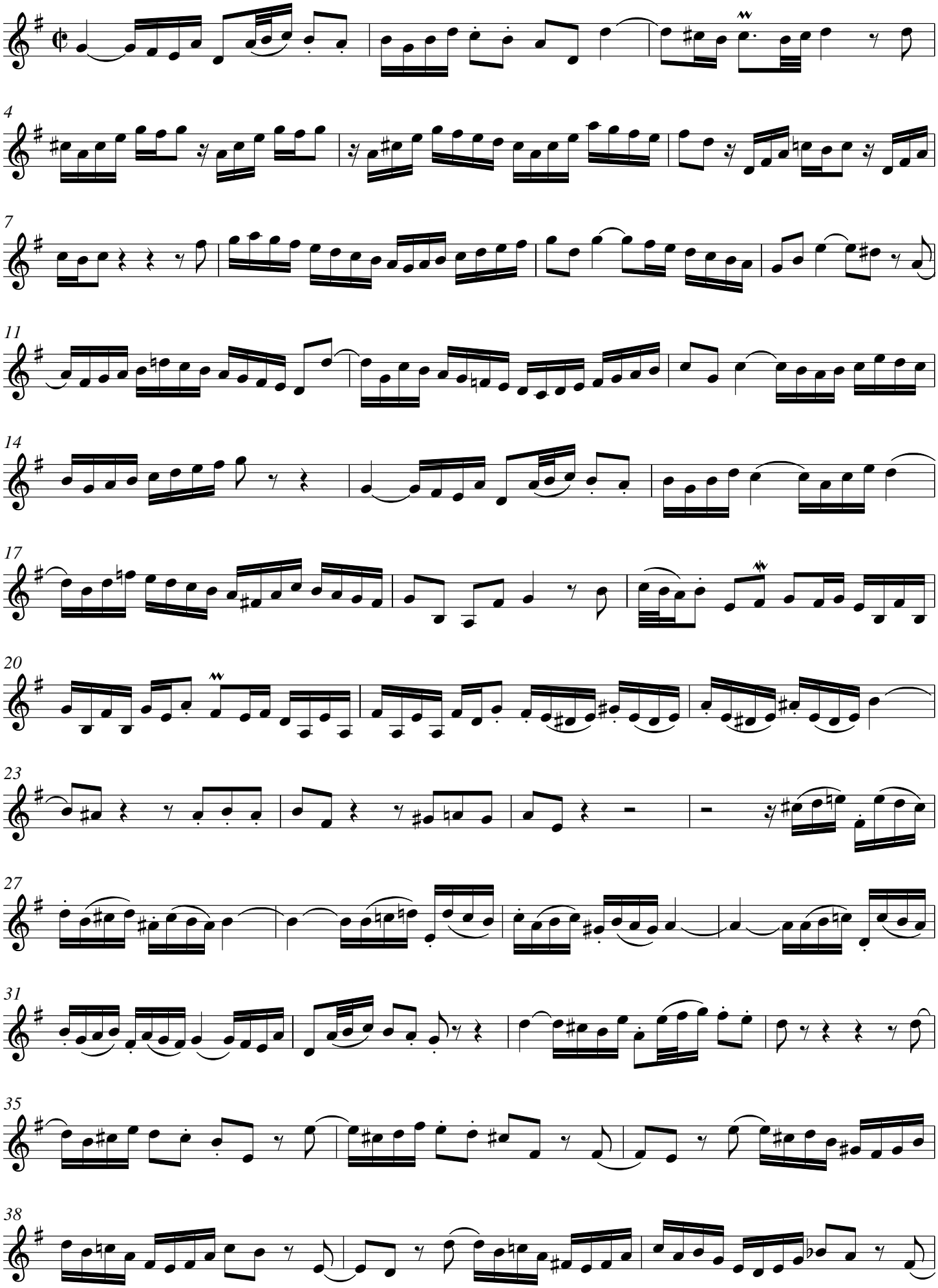
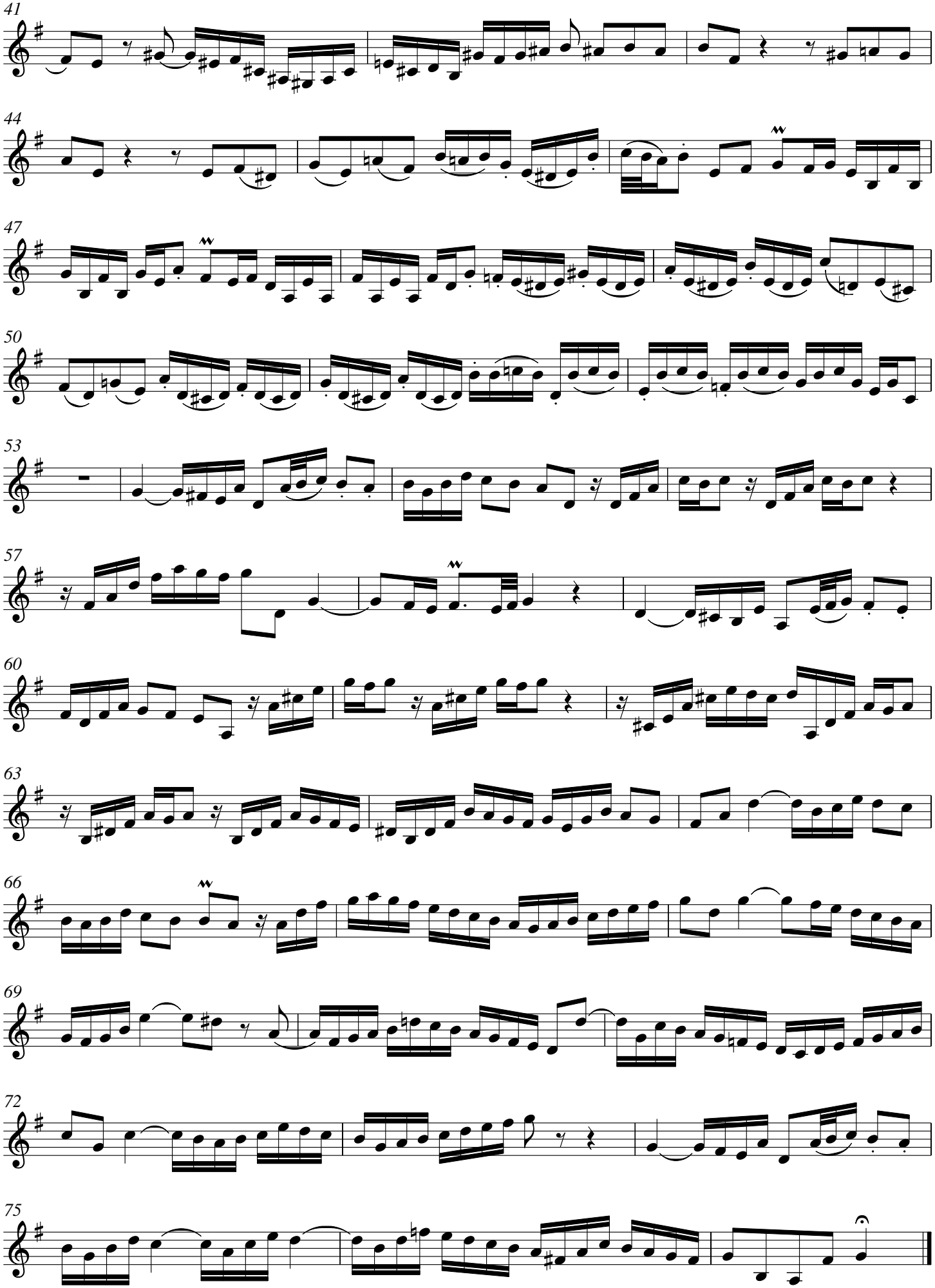
1.
2.

Allegro

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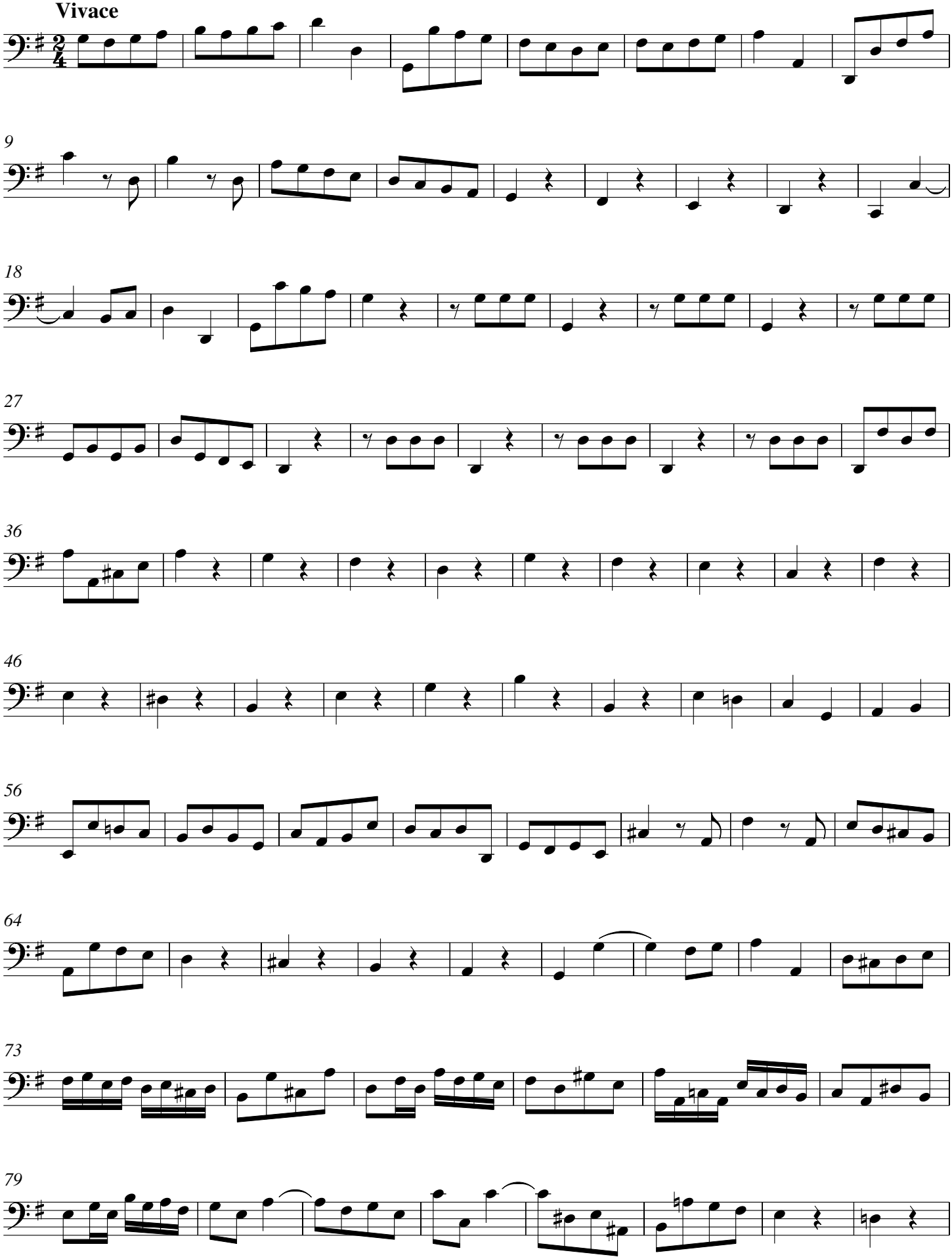
Violoncello

Trio Sonata No. 6

BWV 530

J.S. Bach

Vivace



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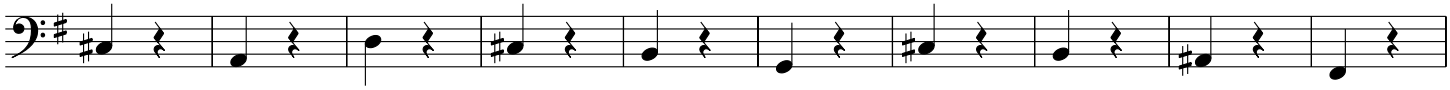

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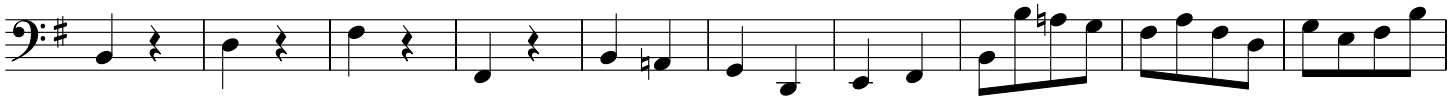

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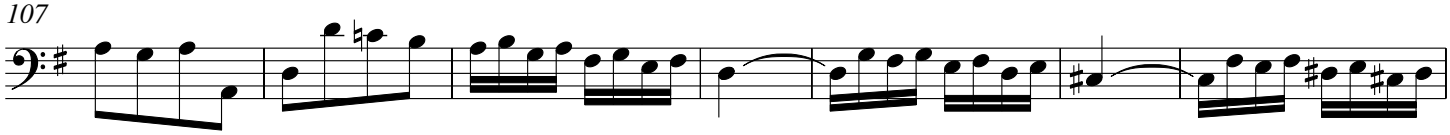

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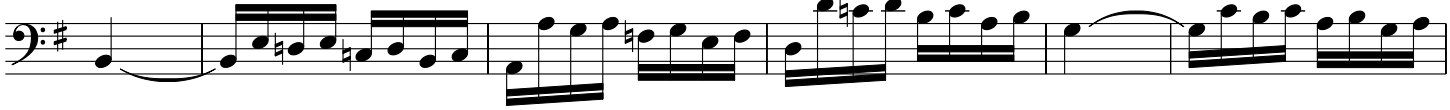

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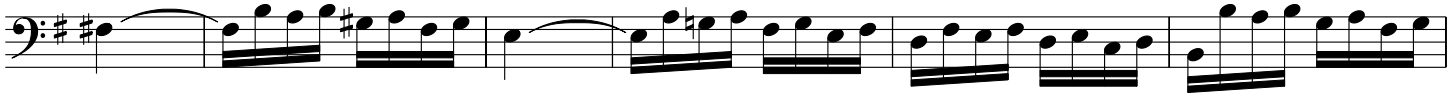

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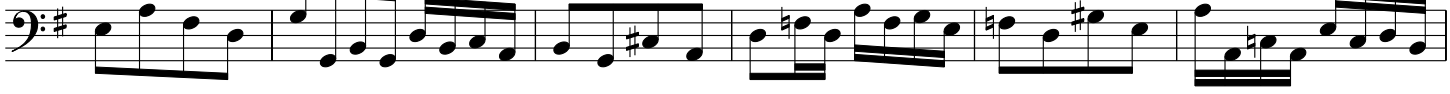

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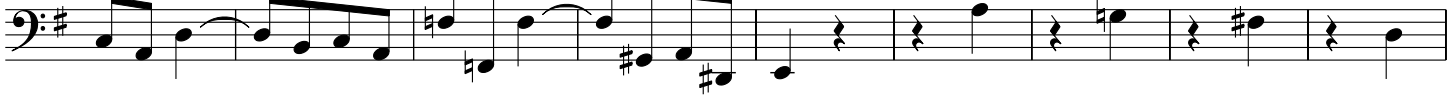

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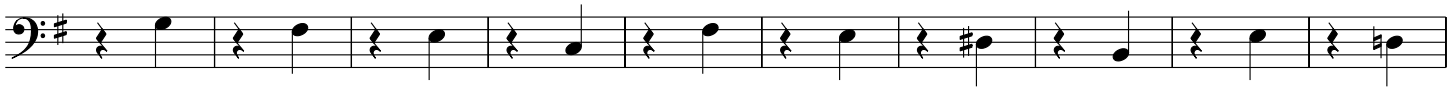

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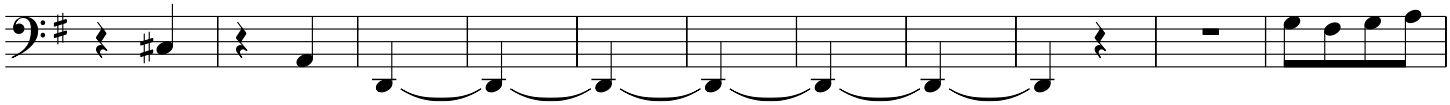

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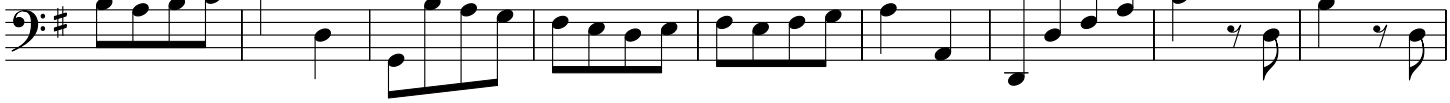

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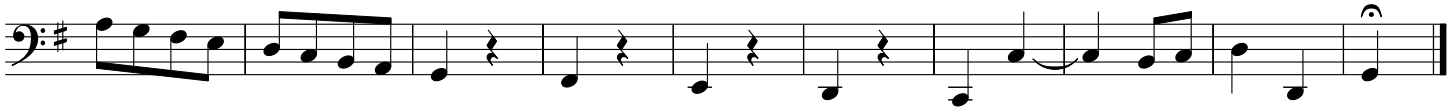
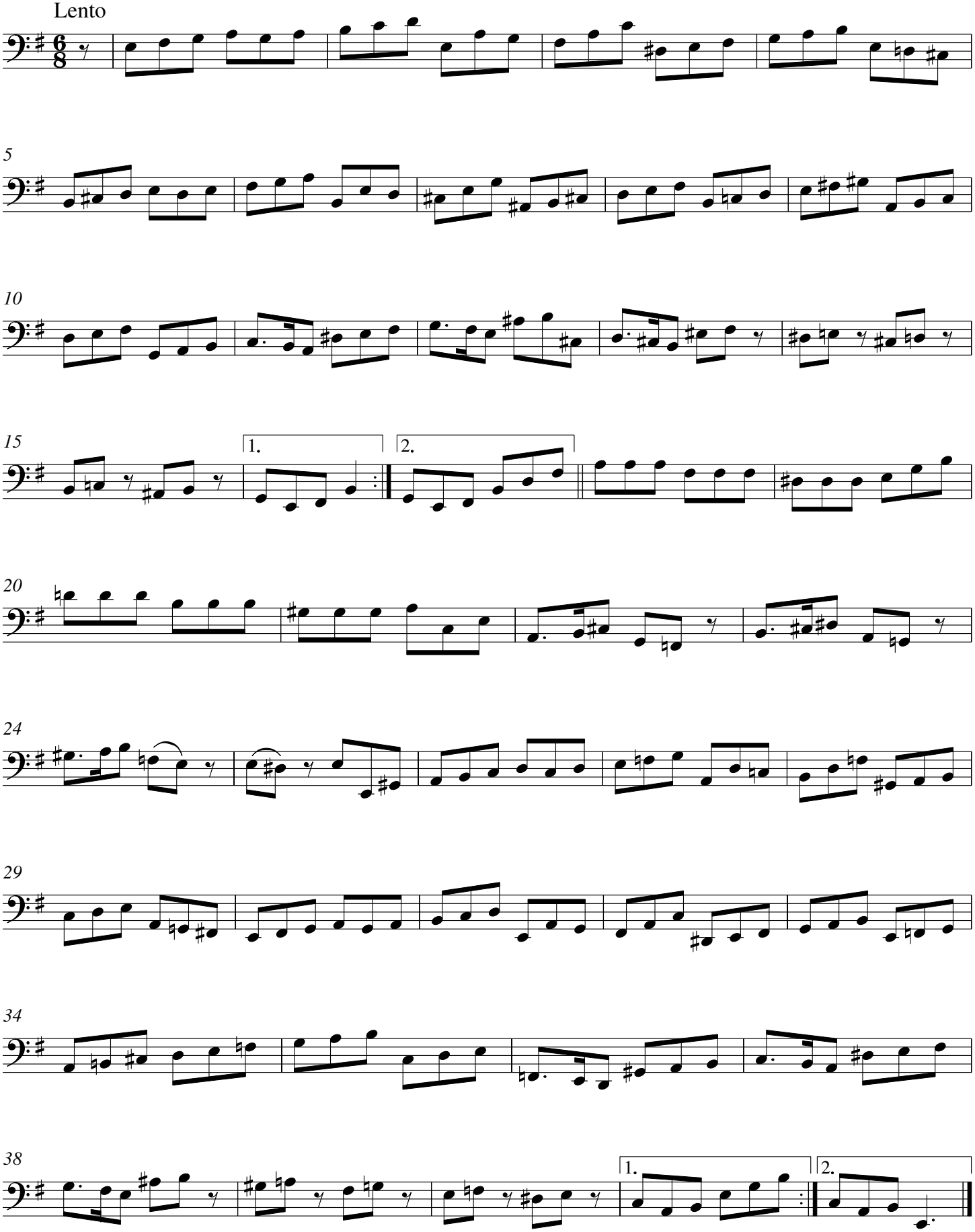
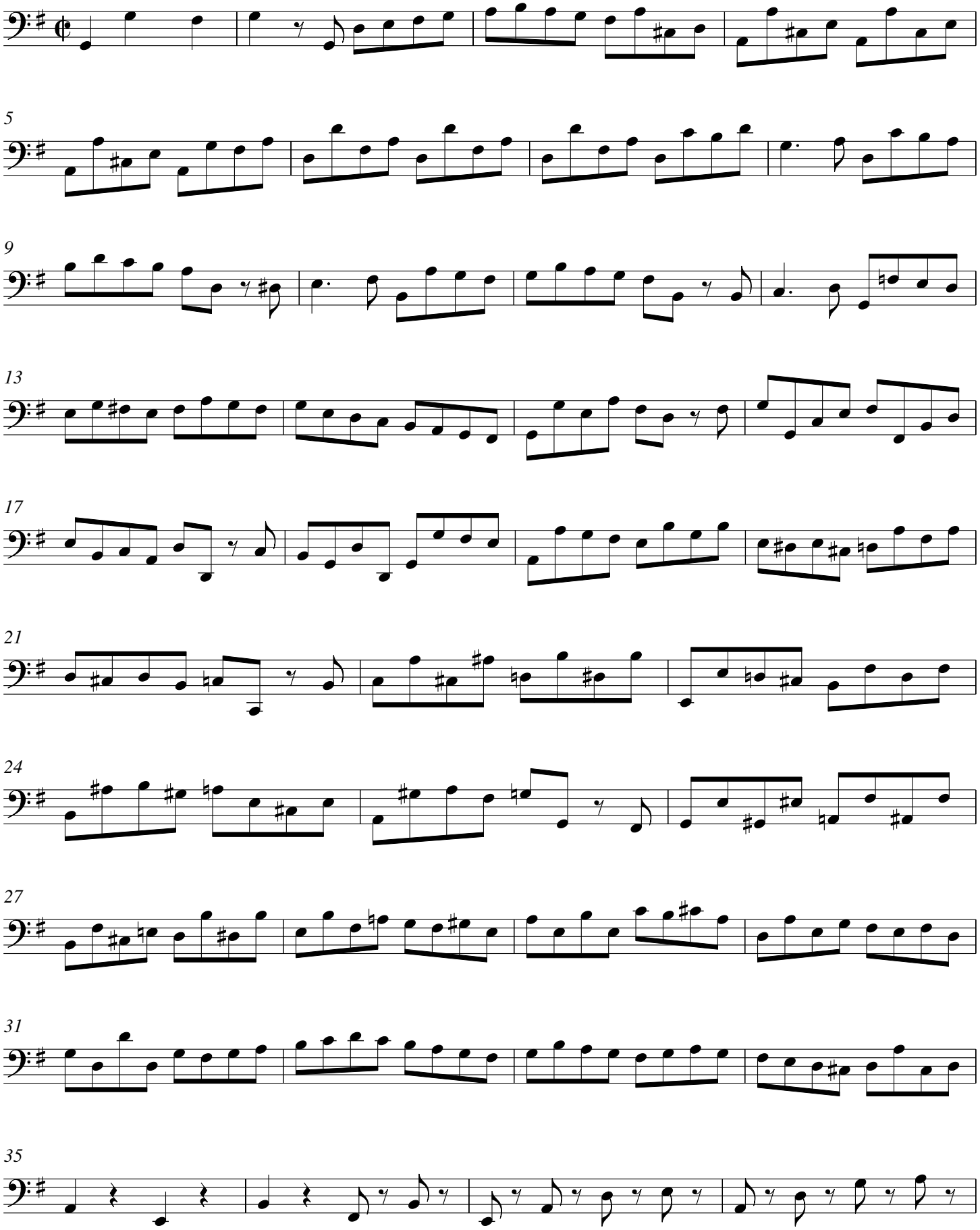
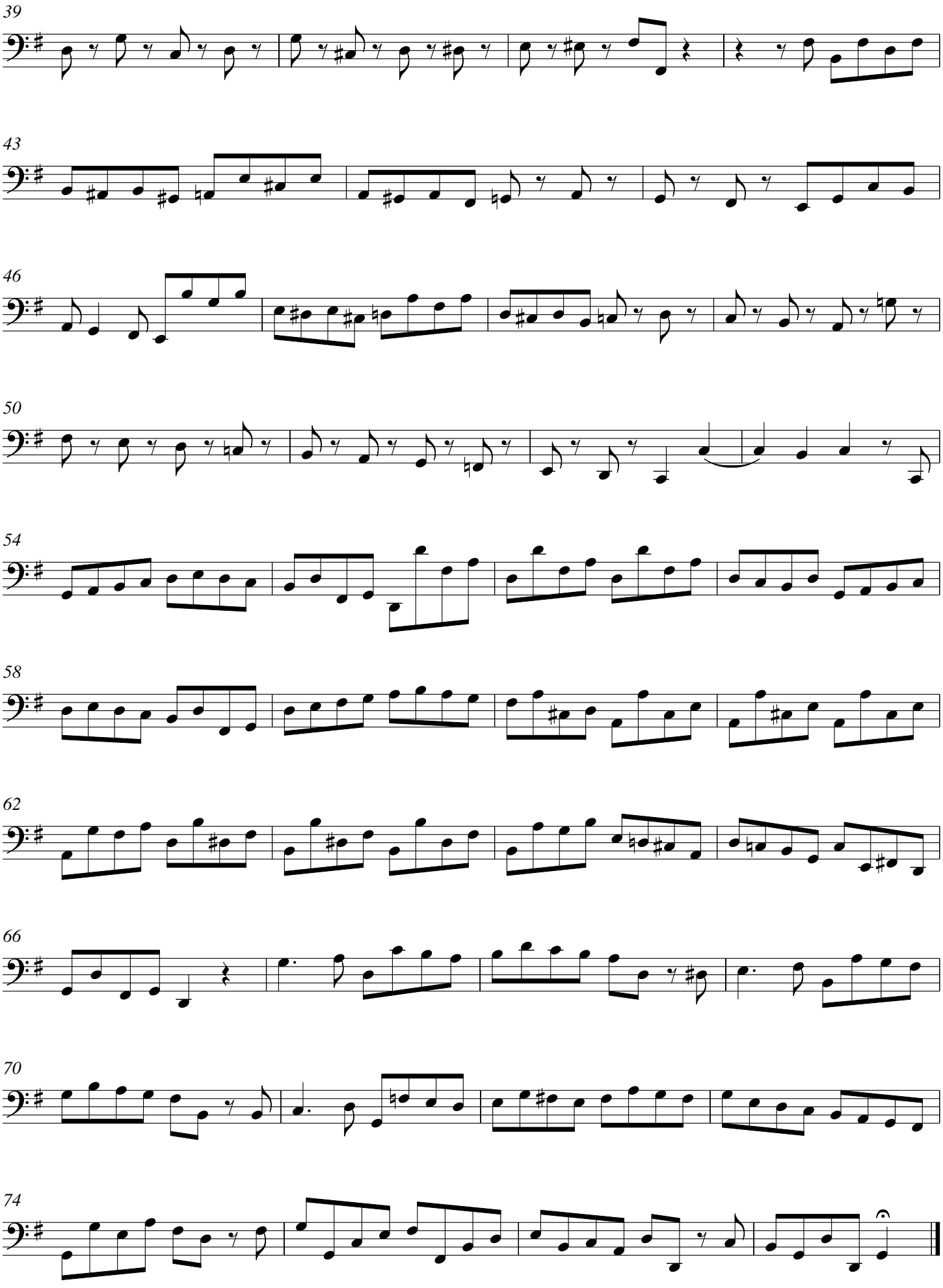


Lento



Allegro

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