SCORE

W.A.Mozart
Sonatas

Open Score ⟶

PRACTICE

Work through at least
five pages

When working on any of Mozart's early sonatas—the ones you haven't played before—follow these steps as you analyze each page:

- Start by marking circle notes according to the beats indicated by the time signature.
- Then, practice each hand separately, adjusting the fingering and circles as needed—adding or removing where appropriate.
- Finally, confirm your chosen circle notes by marking each one with an arrow.

In the very beginning, it's best to focus on practicing four measures at a time. This allows your hands to gradually adapt to the new sensations and motions, strengthening your muscle memory.
As you move through a piece, practice in four-bar sections, repeating each section hands separately and then together until the motion feels smooth, natural, and comfortable.

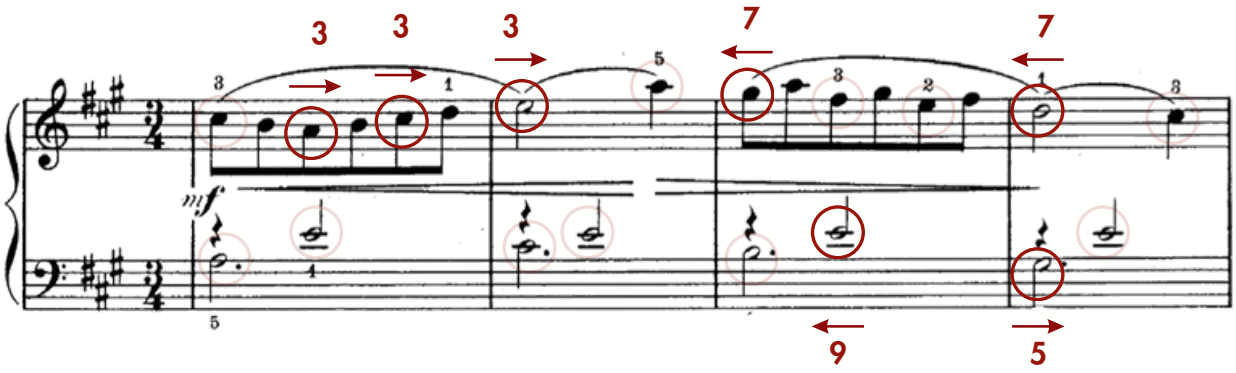
Remember that gently pressing dates onto your fingertips can create a slight natural stickiness, helping the finger pads cling more securely to the keys. This tactile feedback supports hand relaxation by increasing stability of contact with the key during playing.

Play slowly, without rhythm. And if, while playing hands together, you still feel the need to release tension in the waiting hand, feel free to add a ghost roll. This can support fluidity and prevent stiffness from building up.

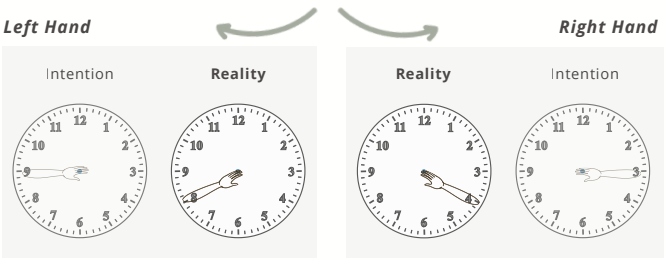
To develop more accurate, clear, and precise elbow movement—especially when practicing the first five pieces — I recommend (at least in the beginning) writing the *intended* direction “3” and “9 o’clock”, or “7” and “5” above each motion circle. This visual cue will help your mind aim precisely where the elbow should move. As you play, say the *intended* directional numbers out loud with a soft and relaxed voice, to reinforce the direction and distance of the movement. Once this becomes second nature, you can skip writing the arrows and the clock numbers.

Also, remember: the elbow should complete its motion and arrive at the new position before you press the next note. In other words, avoid starting the next note while your elbow is still moving.

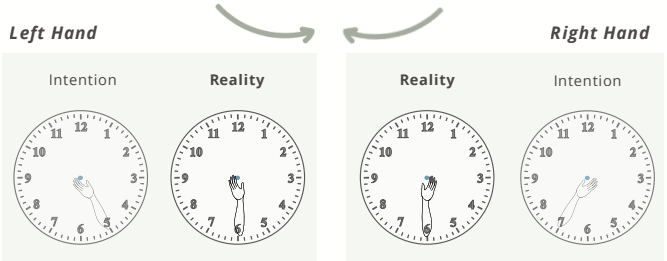
Remind yourself to touch the keys lightly and gently, and to release the circled note with a soft, not connected to the next note, touch — even if the next note feels easily reachable.

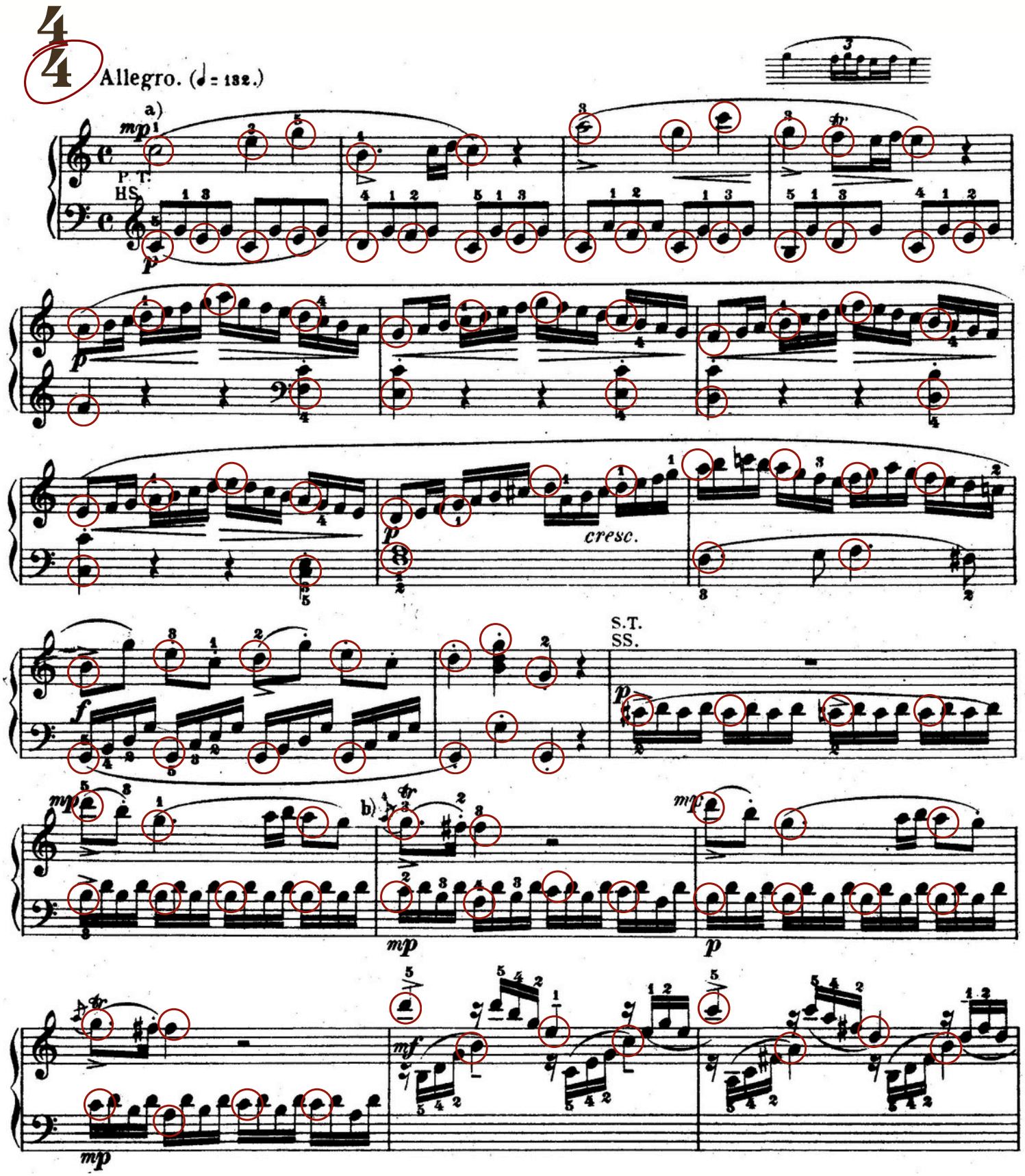


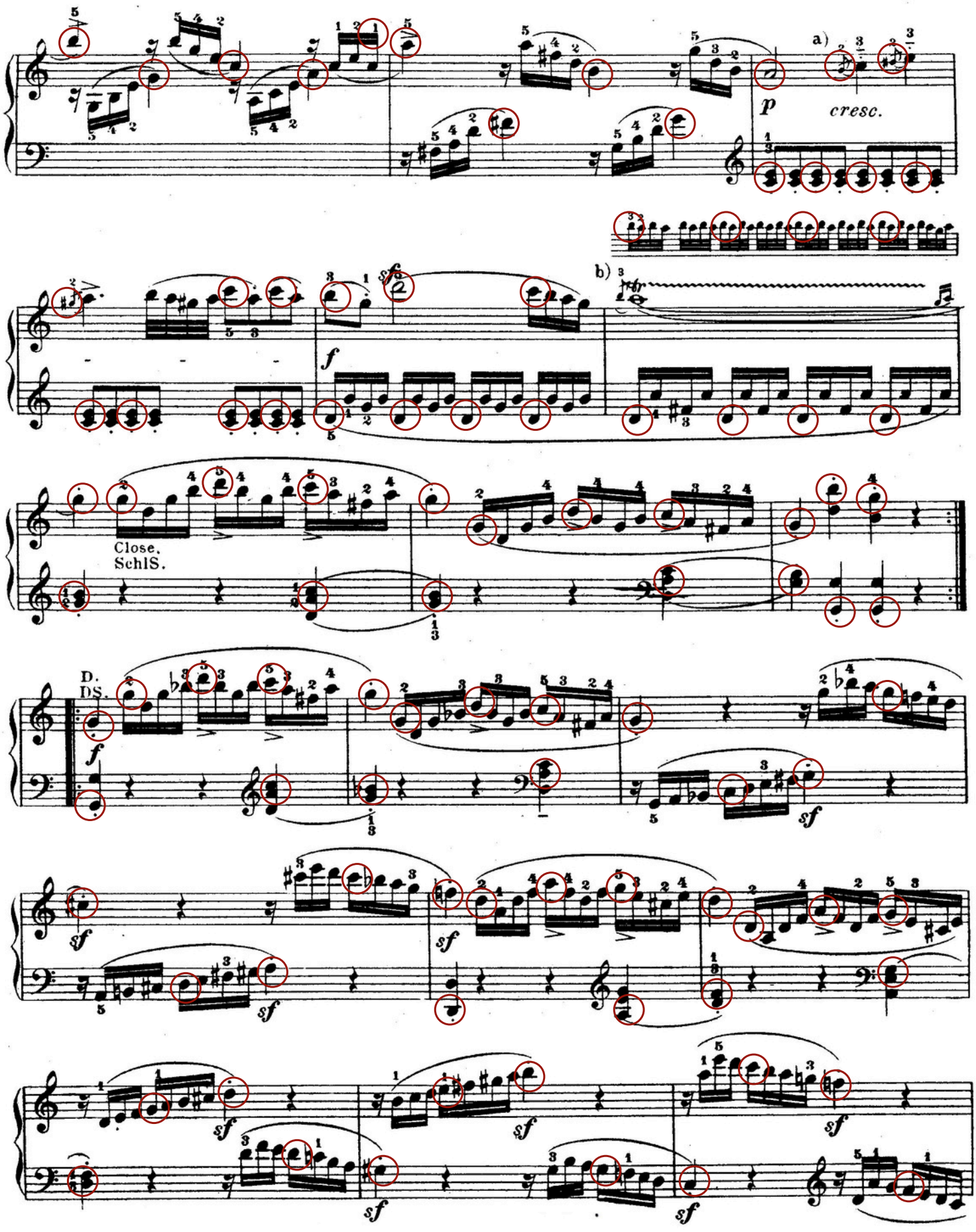
When moving outward, aim mentally for 3 and 9 o'clock, but expect your arm to actually reach closer to 4 and 8 o'clock to stay relaxed.

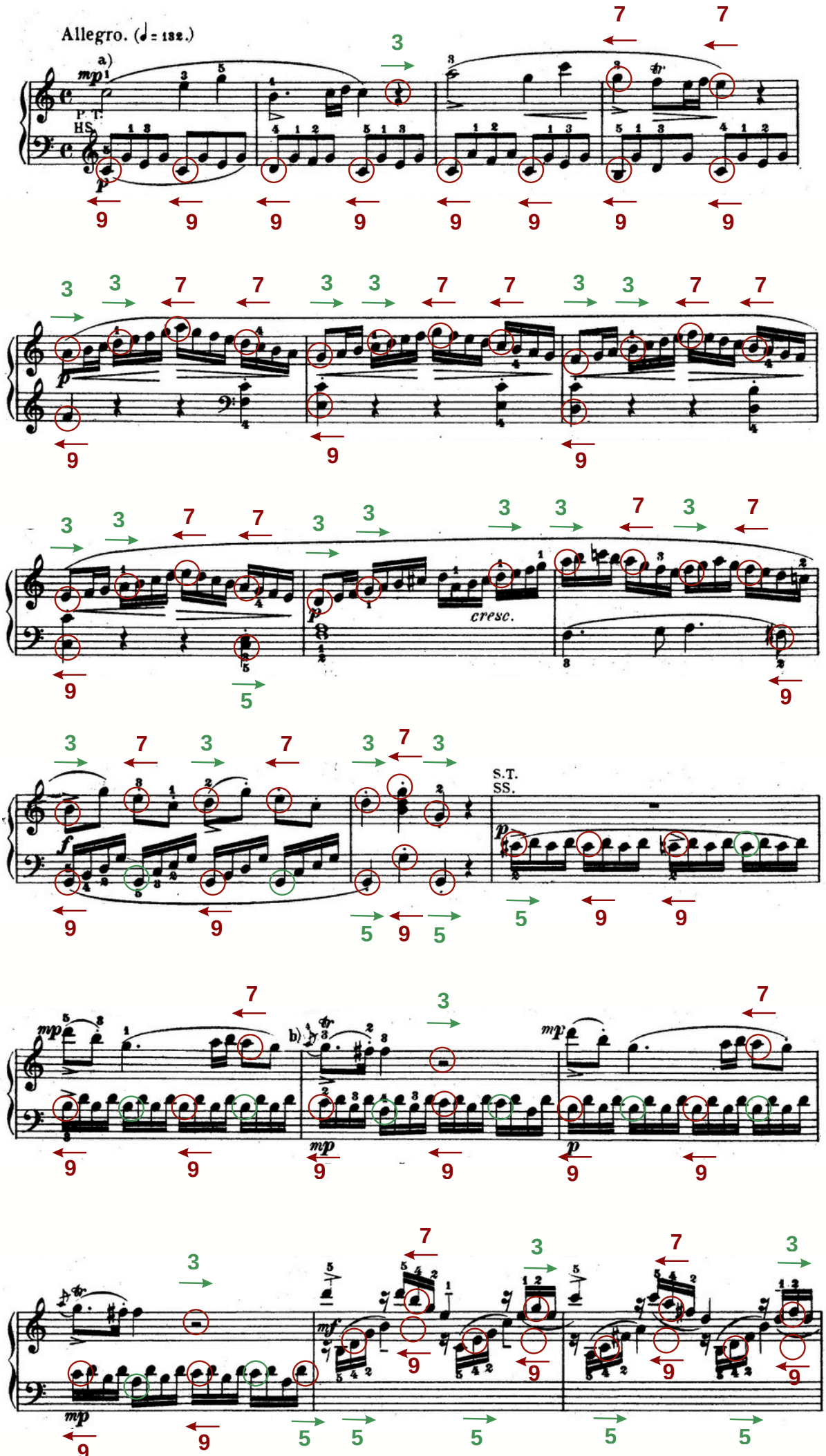


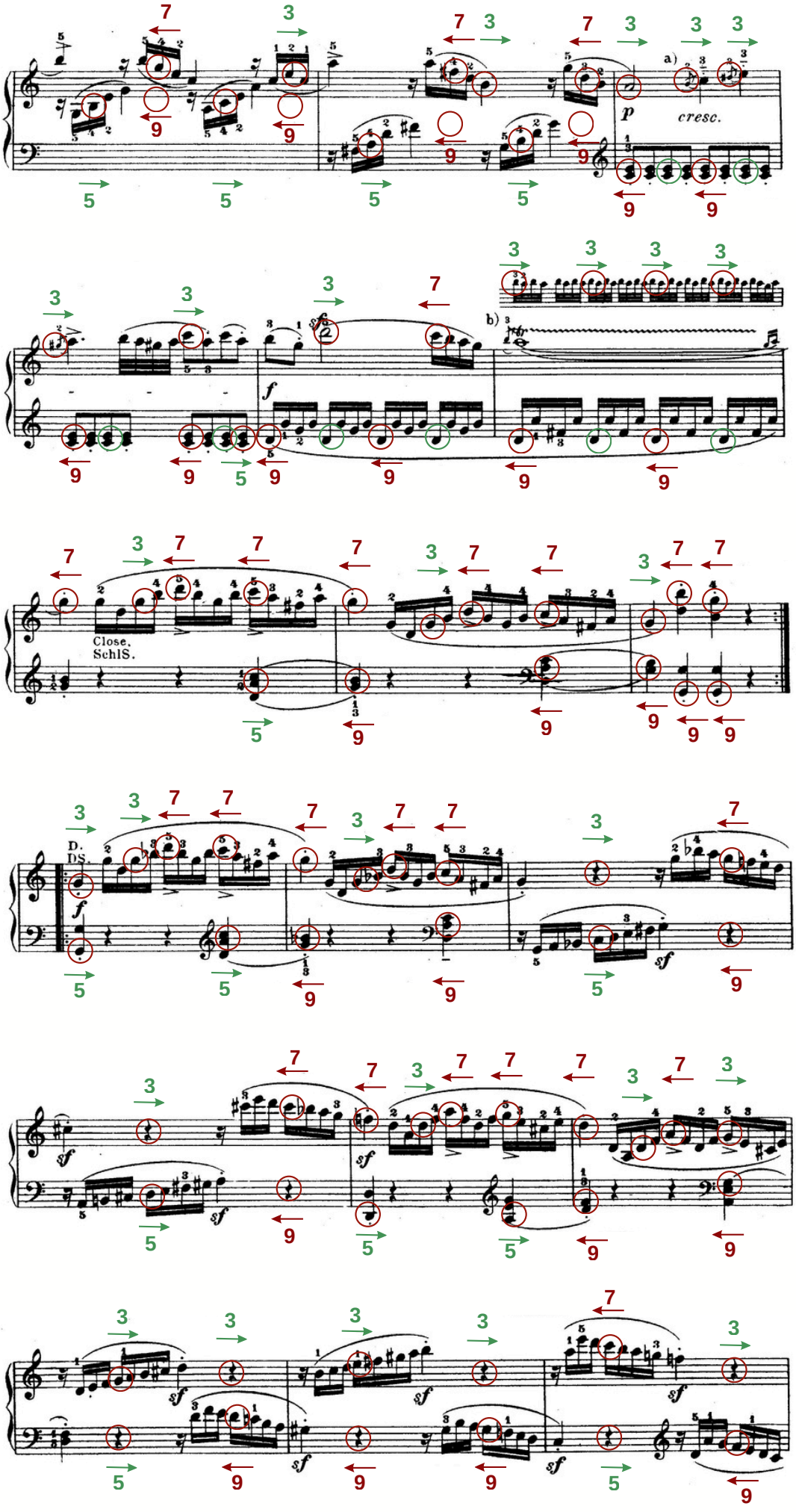
When moving inward, aim for 7 and 5 o'clock, but expect to land around 6 o'clock with both hands.




Allegro. (♩ = 132.)
a)
P. T.
HS.
cresc.
S.T.
SS.
b)

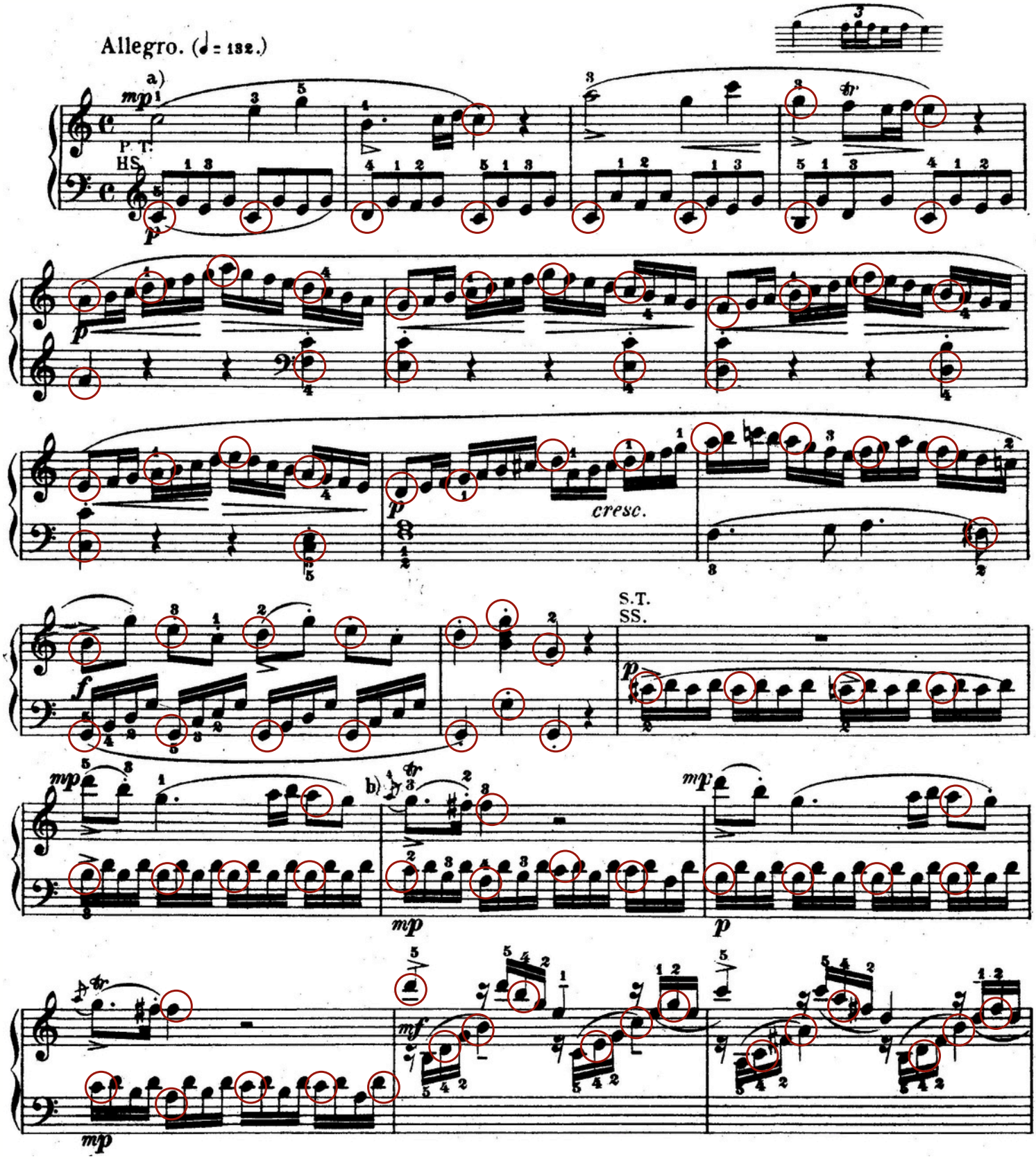

a)
p
cresc.
b)
sfz
f
Close.
Schls.
D.
DS.
f
sf
sf
sf
sf
sf
sf
sf

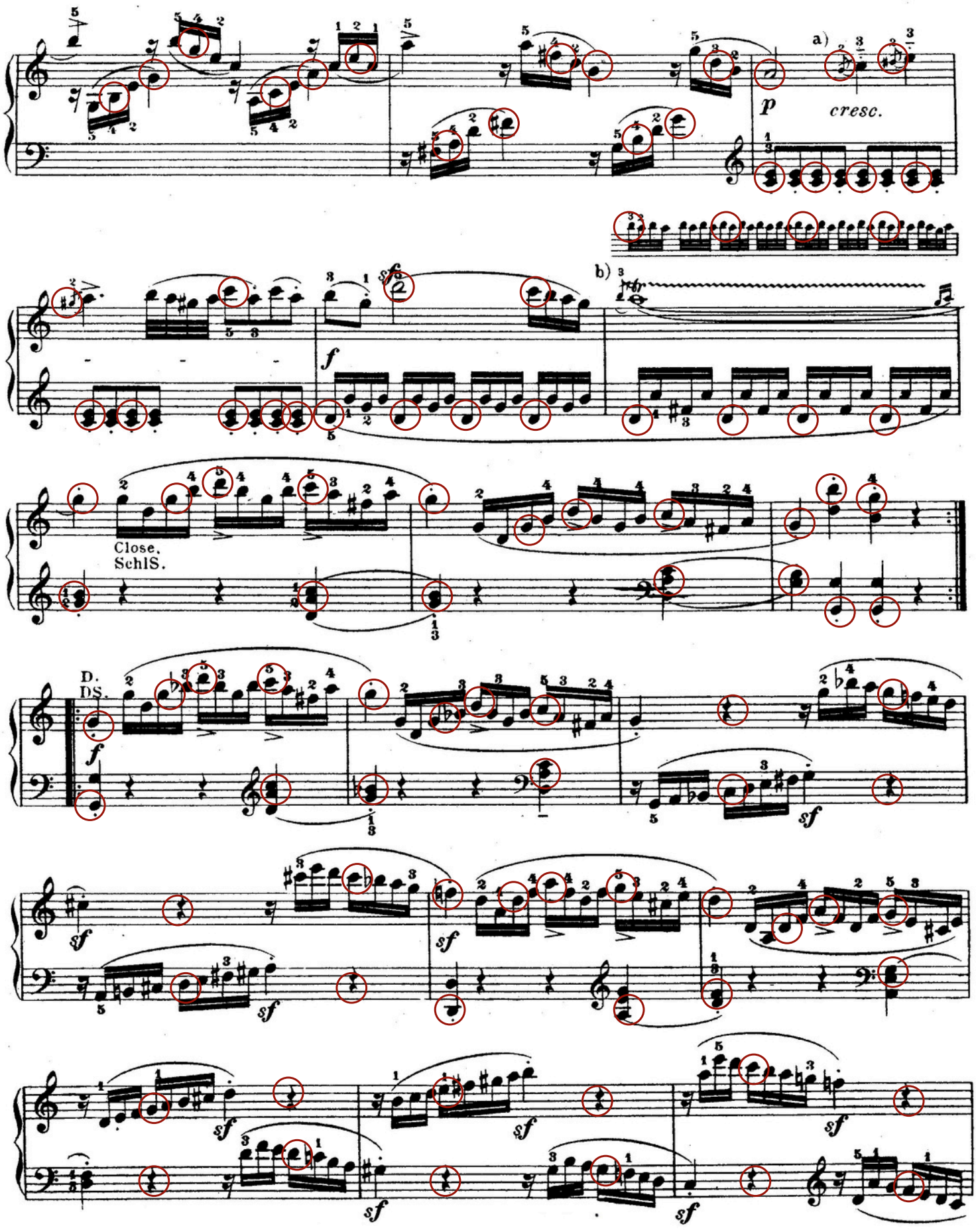

Allegro. (♩= 132.)
a)
mp
P. T.
HS
p
cresc.
S.T.
SS.
b)
mf


a)
p
cresc.
b)
f
Close.
SchlS.
D.
DS.
f
sf

Optional arrows and intended directional cues are only meant to support visual clarity and ease of mind during the earliest stages of practicing elbow motion in position-change notes.

Once the motion becomes familiar, there's no need to continue marking arrows or indicating the intended direction of the elbow.




a)
p
cresc.
b)
sfz
f
Close.
Schls.
D.
DS.
f
sf
sf
sf
sf
sf
sf