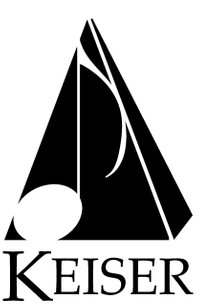
THE HEIFETZ SCALE BOOK

Endre Granat



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PREFACE

The Heifetz Scale Book is a compendium of scales and arpeggios as taught by Jascha Heifetz. The volume includes all major, melodic-minor and harmonic- minor scales in single notes, arpeggios, double stops, trills, harmonics and left hand pizzicatos.

Called "essential tools of violinists" by Heifetz, scales are an integral part of every violinist's practice regimen, the most efficient builder of virtuoso technique and the best material to keep the seasoned professional in peak shape.

Heifetz felt that scales should be practiced with utmost concentration. Technical issues need be identified, analyzed and isolated so that problems may be solved by well-planned remedial work. Scales initially should be practiced legato, without varying bowings*. Once both scales and bowings are mastered independently, the combination along with varying dynamics and rhythms will provide an endless supply of study material. To solve individual problems and weaknesses, Heifetz taught that scale, bowing, dynamic, and rhythm combinations be devised by the players themselves to best address their own needs.

Scales should be practiced with various fingerings to meet the demands of the repertoire where a familiar fingering or bowing may neither produce the tone color needed nor give sufficient clarity to the musical phrase. Fingering and bowing choices in repertoire should always be decided by musical considerations

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Danita Ng and Jason Poss for their enthusiastic, expert cooperation as well as to Professors Stephen Shipps and Sam Fischer for their valuable contribution in creating this document of Heifetz' core work that can now be shared with violinists and string players everywhere.

ENDRE GRANAT

The **Heifetz Scale Book** consists of 12 units, one for each note in the chromatic scale, organized as follows:

1. Three octave, single note scales and arpeggios
   major, melodic minor, and harmonic minor scales; arpeggios
2A. Four octave, single note scales and arpeggios in the keys of G—C
   major, melodic minor and harmonic minor scales; arpeggios
2B. Two octave, single note scales and arpeggios on one string in the keys of D-flat—F-sharp
   major, melodic minor and harmonic minor scales; arpeggios
3. Whole tone single note scales
4. Four octave chromatic scale
5. Scales in thirds—major, melodic minor, harmonic minor
6. Scales in fourths—major, melodic minor and harmonic minor
7. Scale in fifths—major, melodic minor and harmonic minor
8. Scales in sixths—major, melodic minor and harmonic minor
9. Scales in parallel and fingered octaves—major, melodic minor and harmonic minor
10. Scales in tenths—major, melodic minor and harmonic minor
11. Trills on two octave major scale in half notes
12. Harmonics based on a fourth, on a fifth and on a third
    a. major scale
    b. melodic minor scale
    c. harmonic minor scale and major/ minor arpeggios
13. Double harmonics
14. Left hand pizzicato
    a. Ascending major scale in broken thirds
    b. Descending major scale
    c. Descending minor arpeggio

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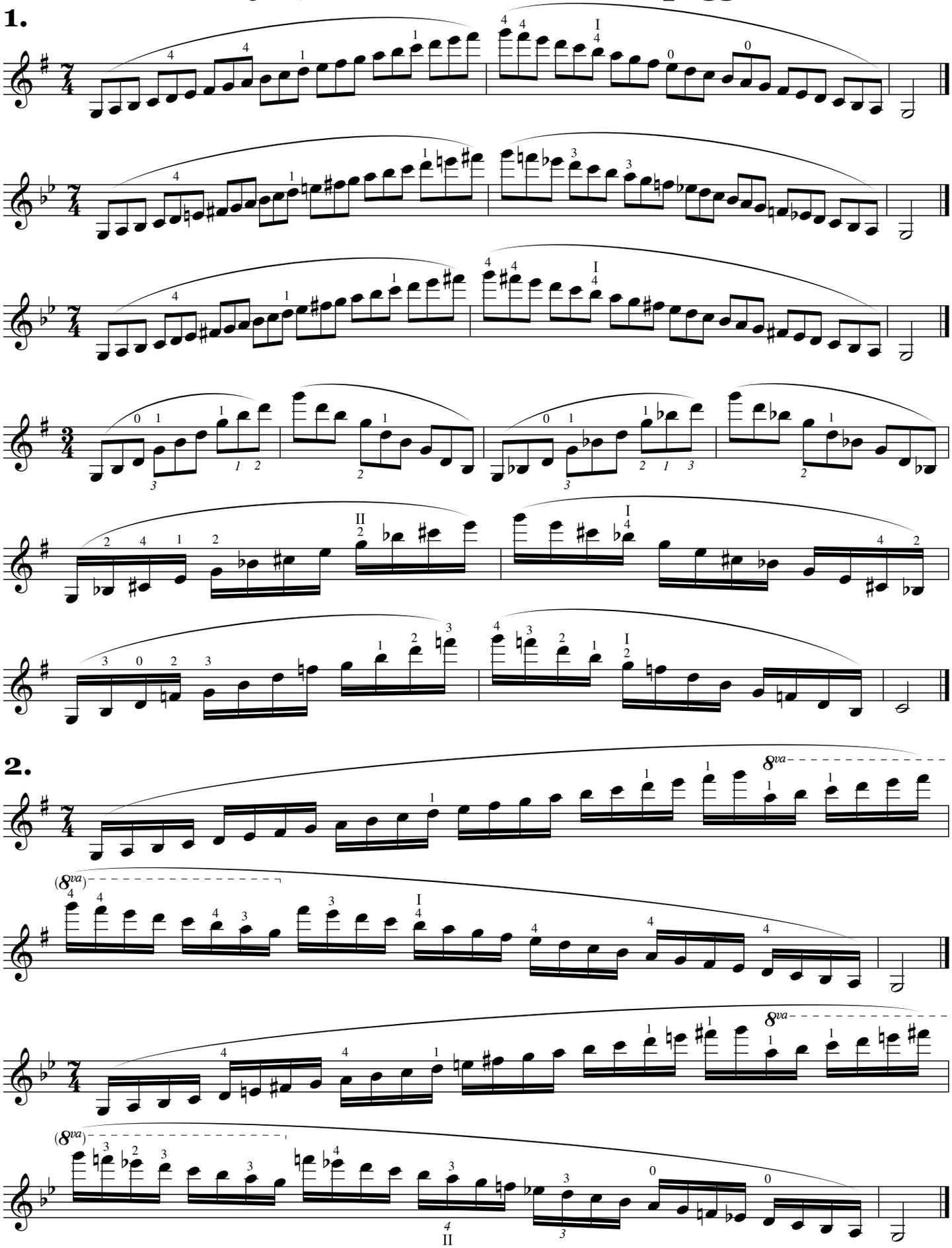
* For bowing exercises, "THE ESSENTIAL ŠEVČIK " edited by Endre Granat & Stephen Shipps (Lauren Keiser Music Publishing) is recommended.

G major, G minor Scales and Arpeggios



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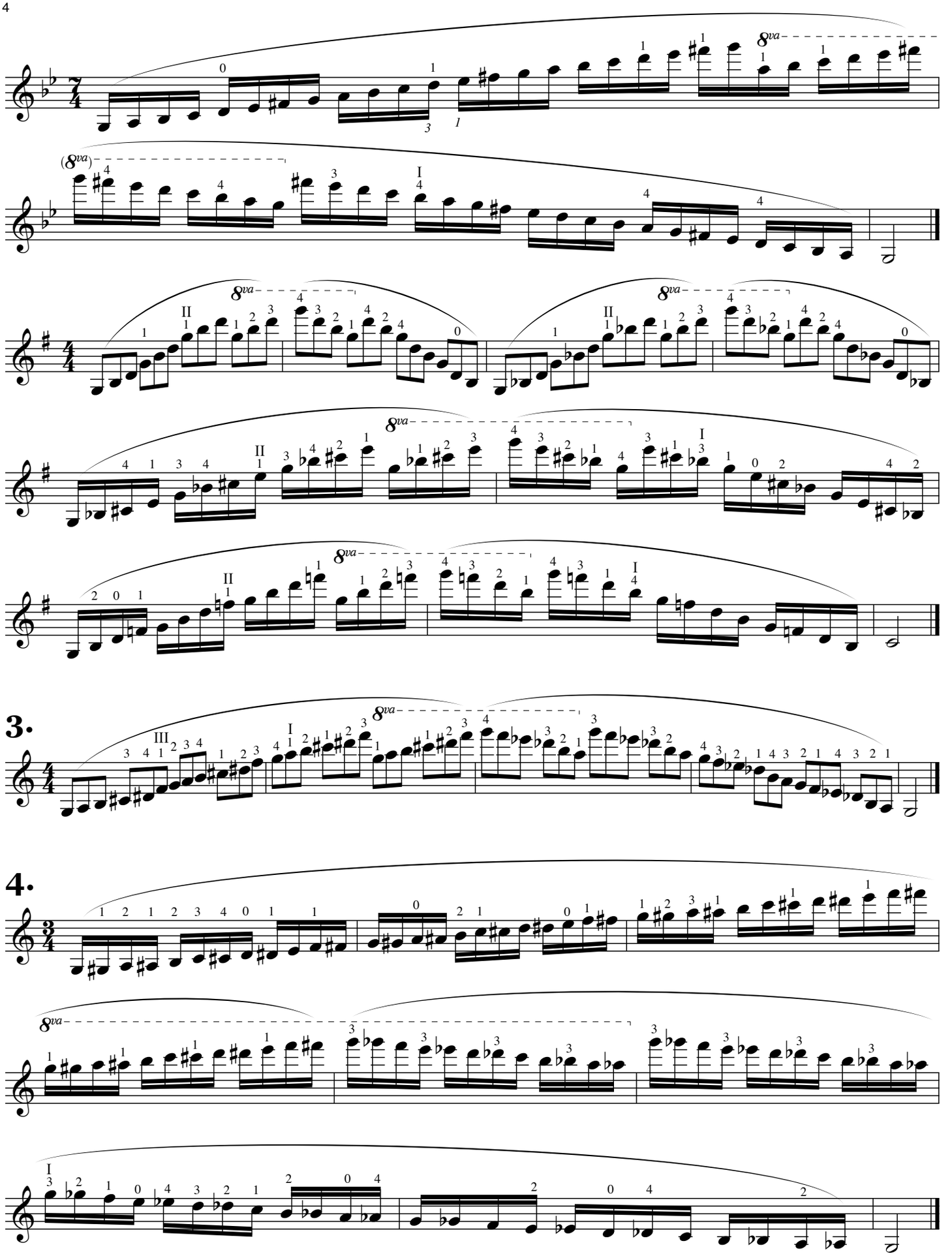

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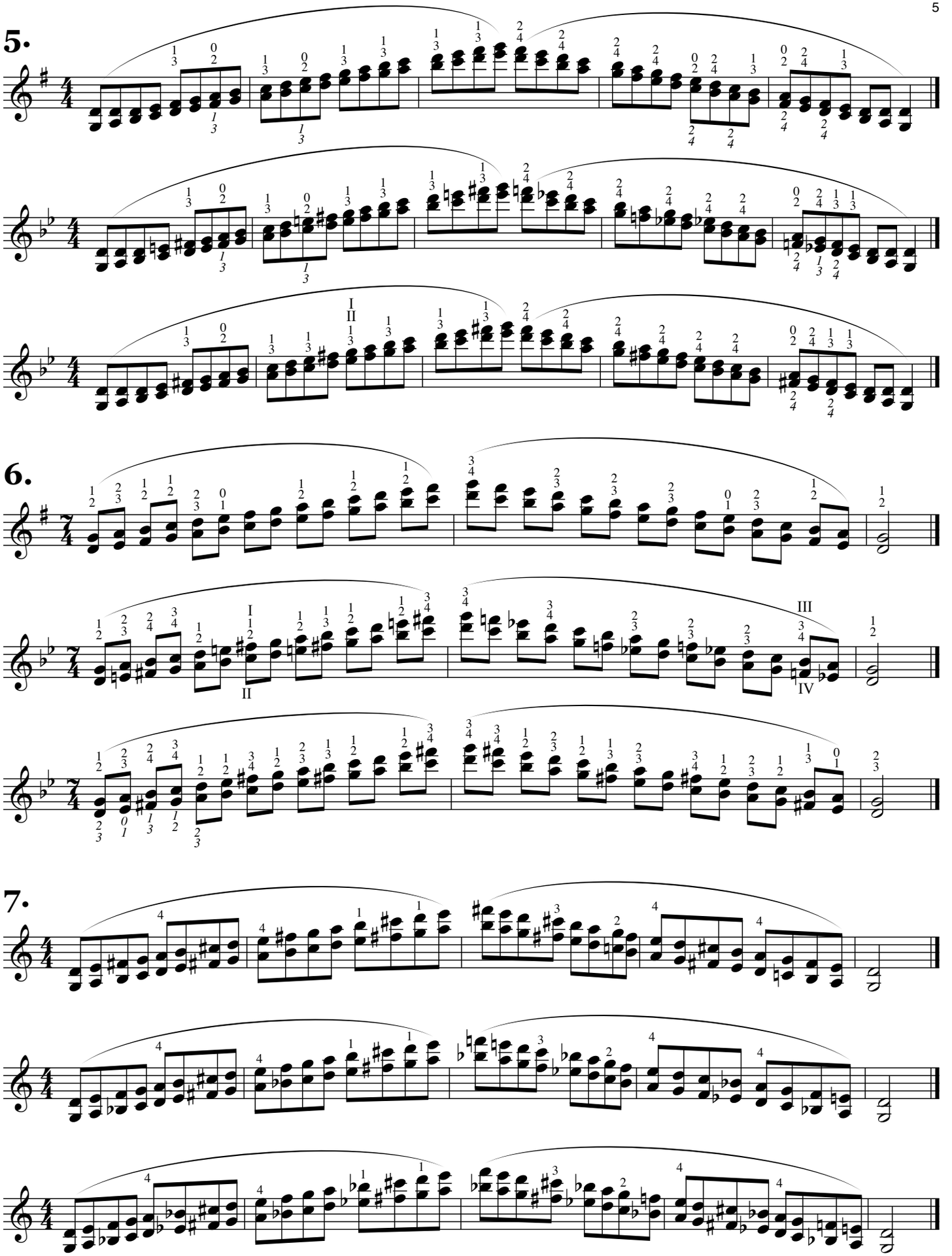

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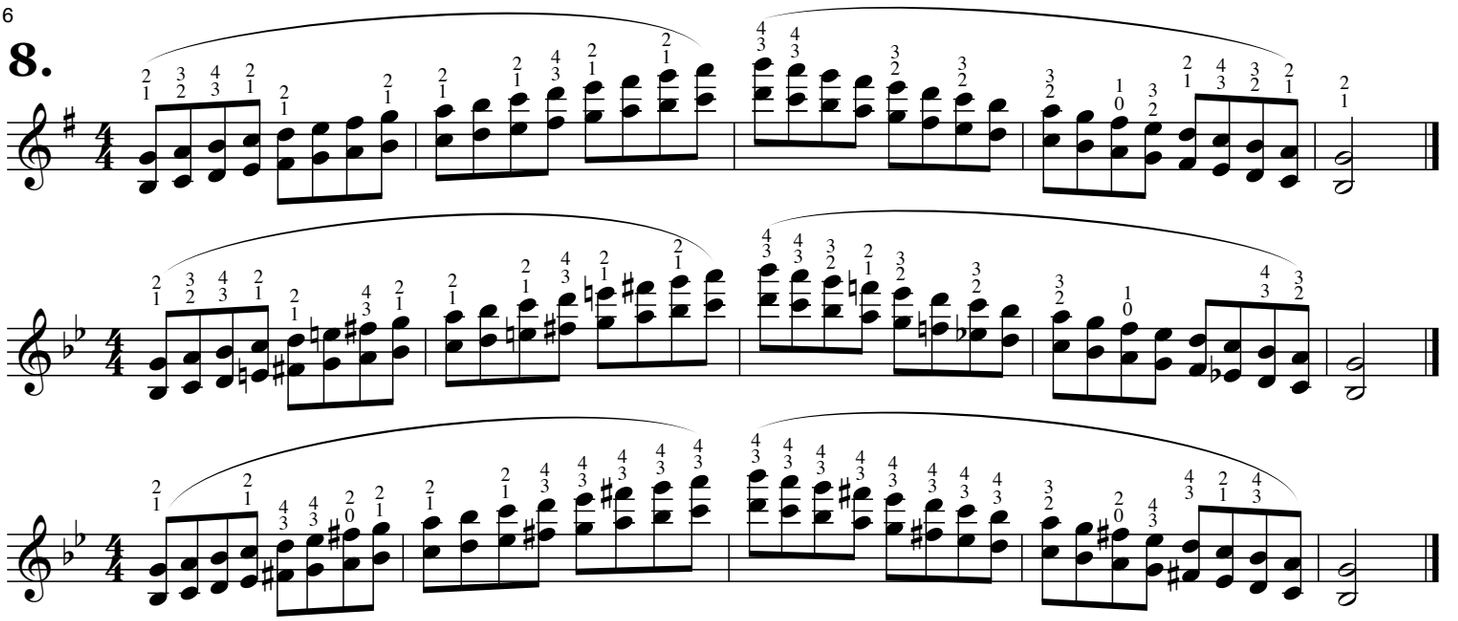

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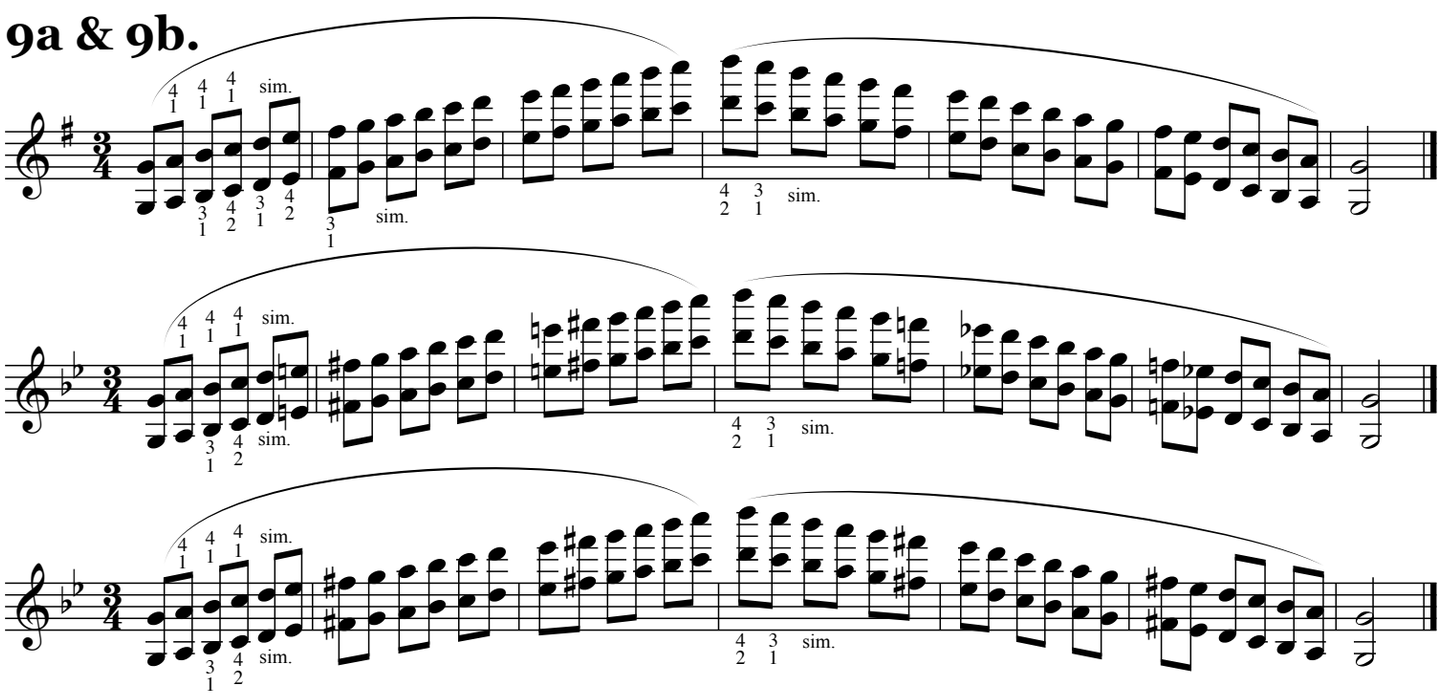

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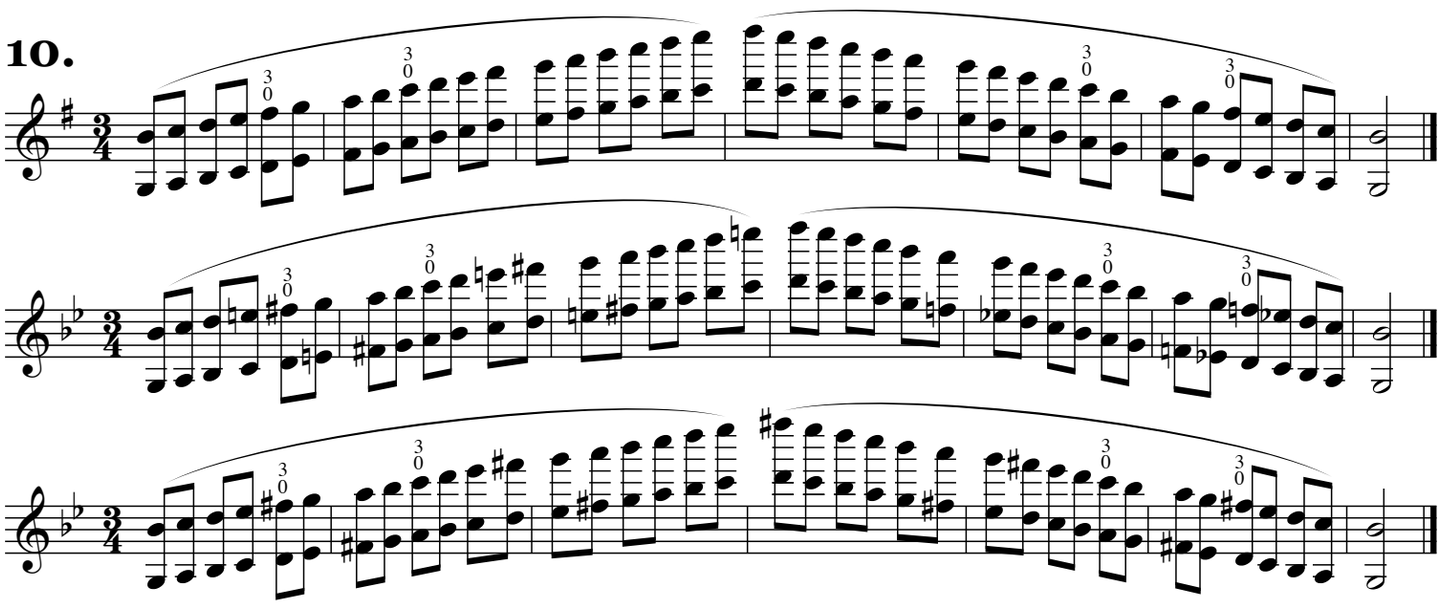

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