GIOVANNI BOTTESINI

Complete Method

for

Double Bass

Part I

Transposed Three Semitones Down

Last update: 11 Aug 2020

Preface

Giovanni Bottesini (1821–1889) was an Italian composer, conductor, and music teacher. He was arguably also the most eminent double-bass player of his time, and his virtuosity on the instrument had earned him the title "the Paganini of the Double Bass." Bottesini toured the world extensively, and among his many accomplishments, was chosen by Verdi to conduct the world premiere of *Aida* in 1871.

Bottesini's instructional book *Complete Method for Double Bass,* in its various editions, has become a staple of the double-bass curriculum. Bottesini championed the three-string double bass — an earlier version of the instrument, missing today's E string, which was standard at the time in many parts of the world. Consequently, the lowest note in his original *Method* is low A (except for a few exercises, originally meant for solfège). This version of the book is transposed three semitones down from the original, for practicing purposes.

This digital edition of Bottesini's *Method* is based on the 1869 French edition issued by Léon Escudier, as found on the International Music Score Library Project website (imslp.org). It contains only the exercises (in a slightly different order), without the original text and illustrations, and does not include the second part of the book, titled "the double bass considered as a solo instrument." Due to the advances in double-bass technique since Bottesini's time, and given today's near-universality of four-string instruments, the original fingering, position, and bowing markings were omitted.

The latest version of this edition and additional material (the entire book transposed to all other keys, audio files, etc.) are available at yuvalnov.org/bottesini. To report mistakes in this document or to suggest improvements, please write to bottesini.method@gmail.com.

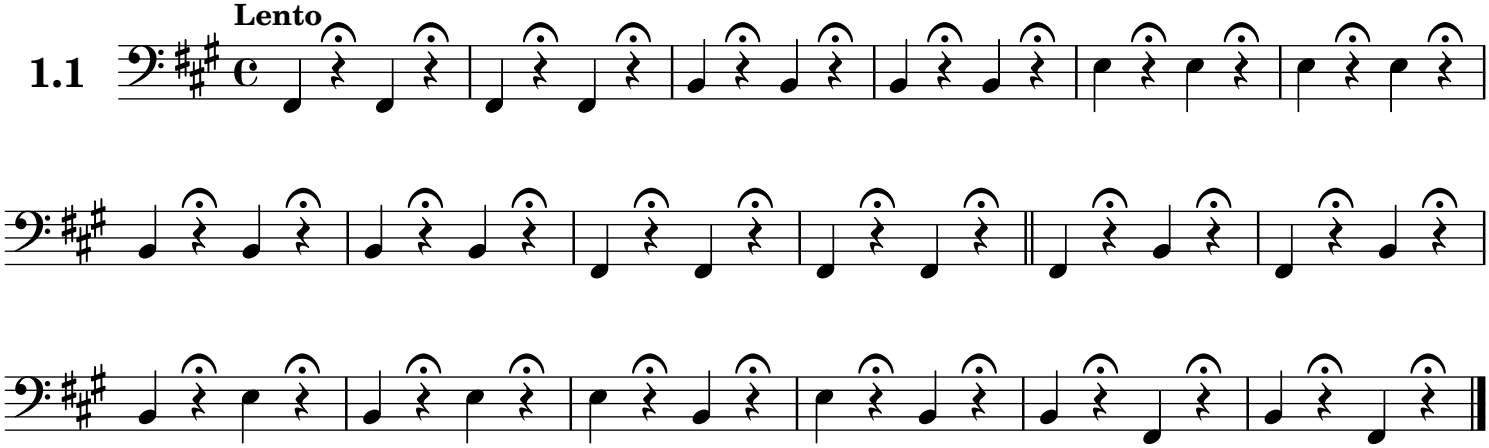
This edition and its source files are distributed under the CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 license. This roughly means that you can freely use, copy, redistribute, or modify them, but you may not use them for commercial purposes; if you modify or combine them with other work, you must attribute this source and share the derived work under the same license. For details, see creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0.

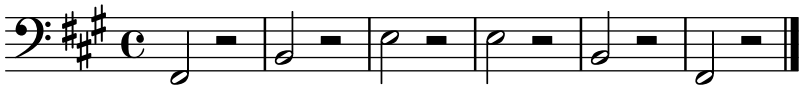
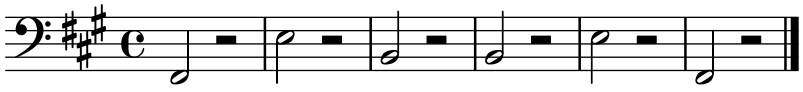
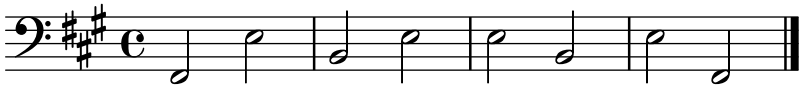
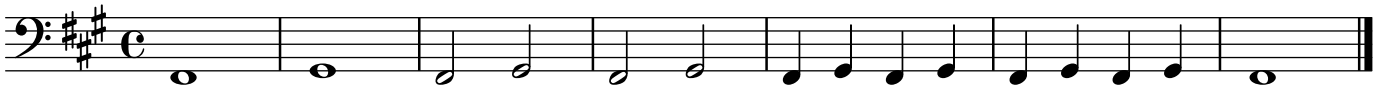
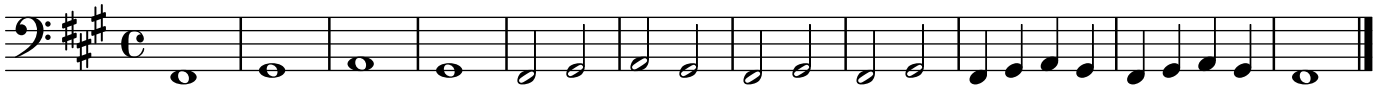
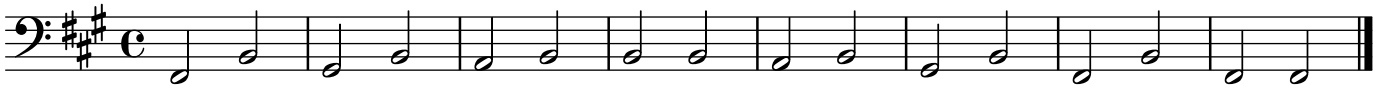
I dedicate this edition to my beloved daughter Naomi, a baker of fine pizzas and a hopelessly forgetful toothbrusher.

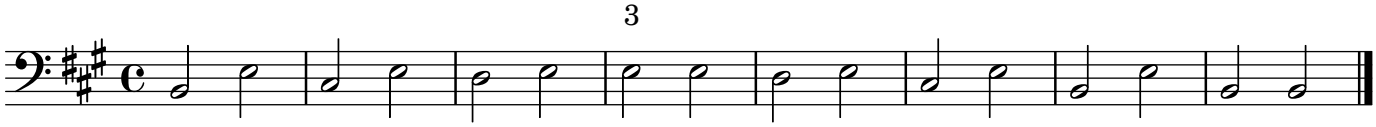
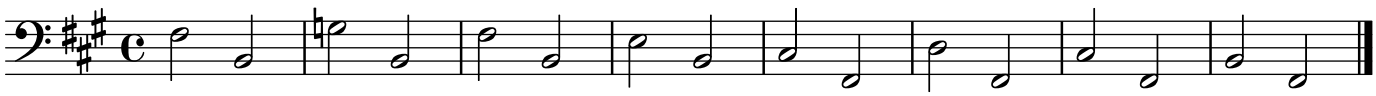
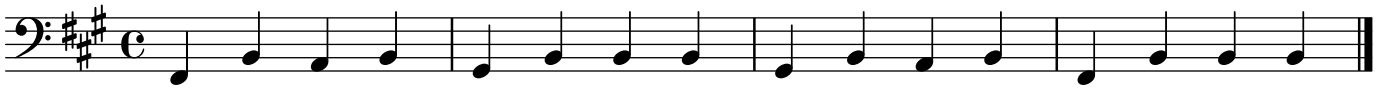
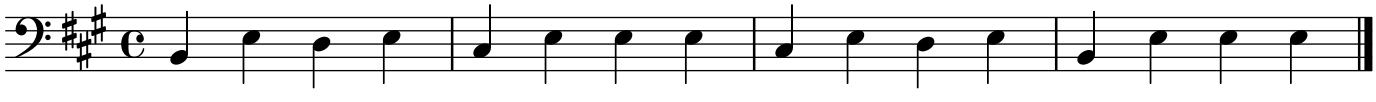
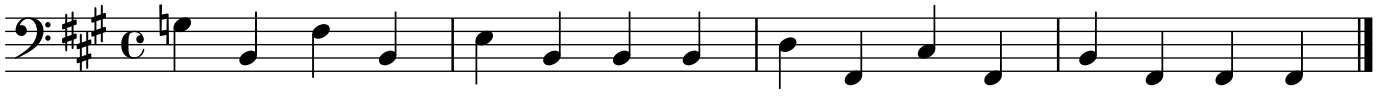
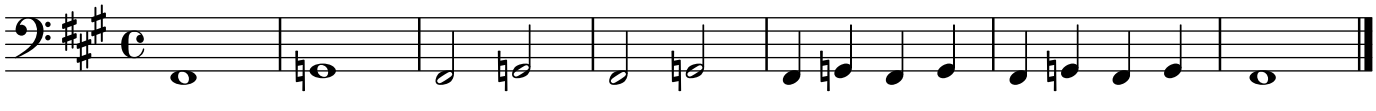
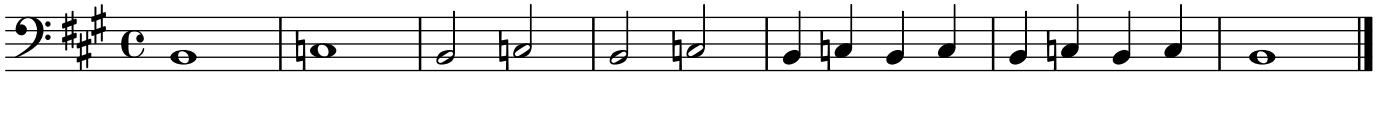
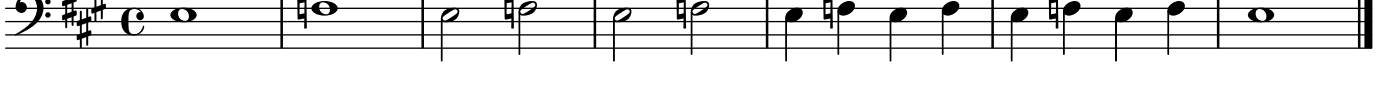
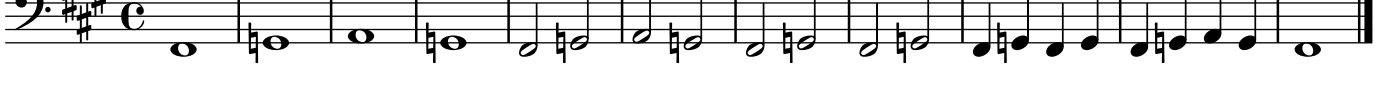
Yuval Nov
August 2020

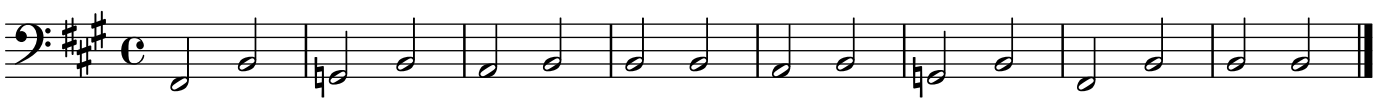
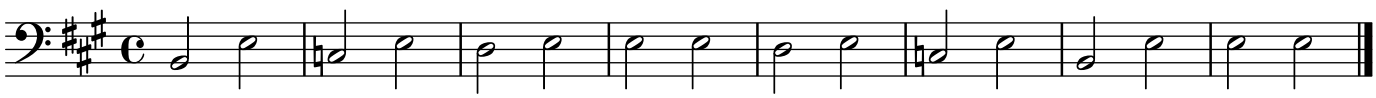
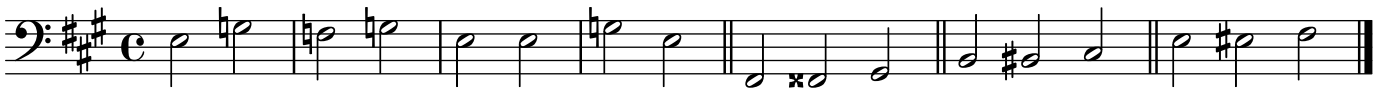
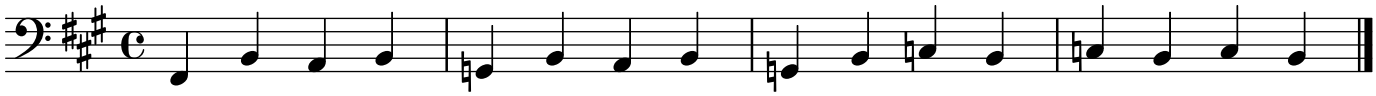
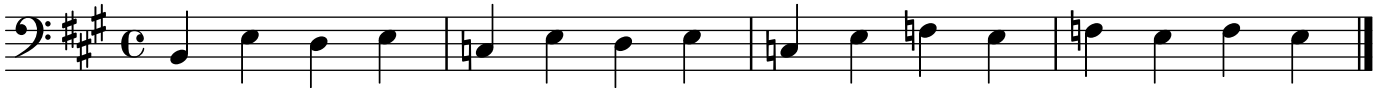
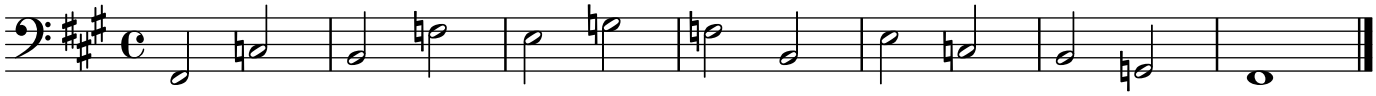
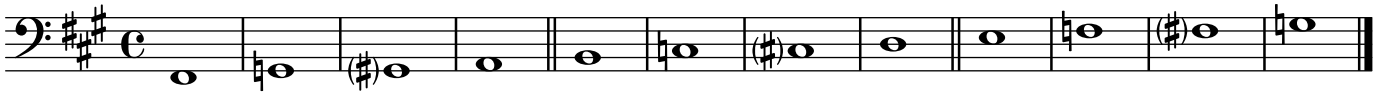
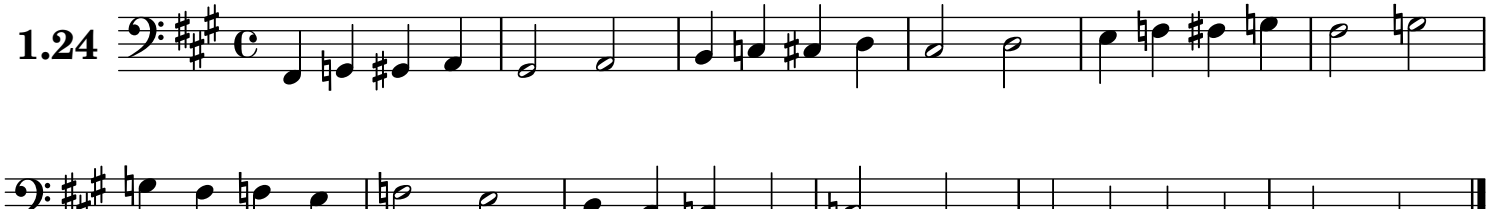
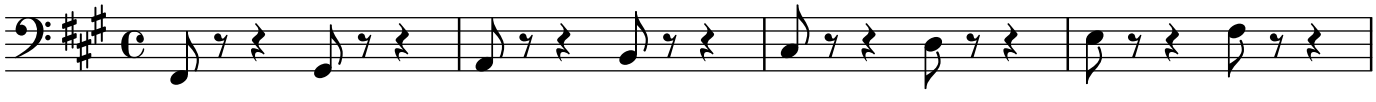
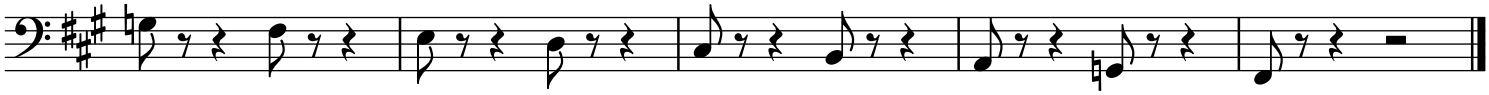
1. Preliminary Exercises

1.1 Lento

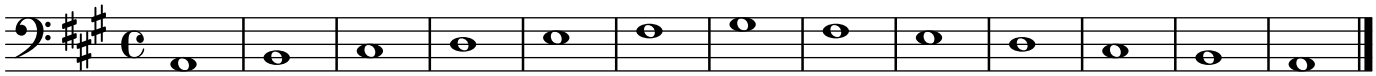
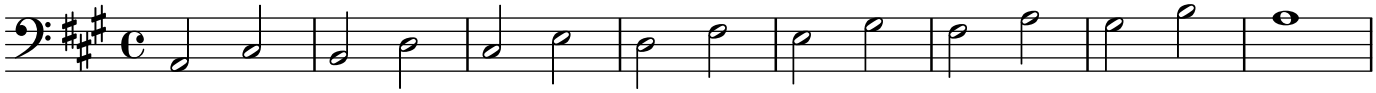
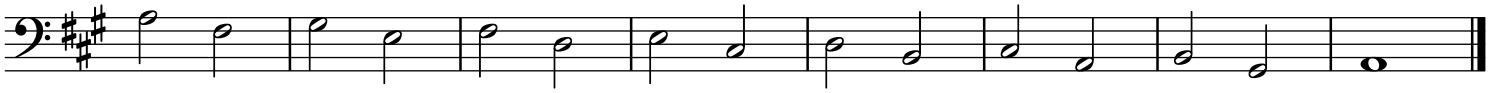
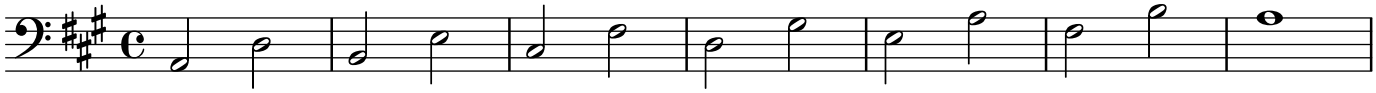
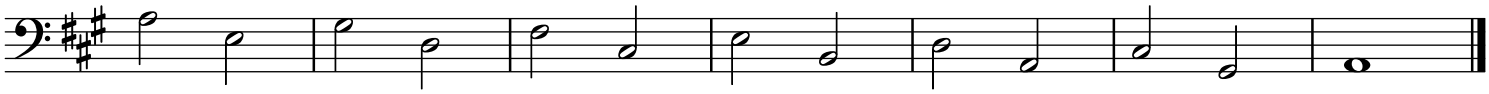
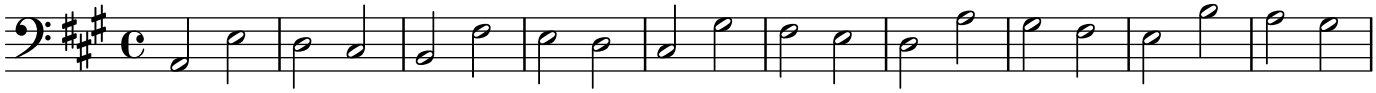
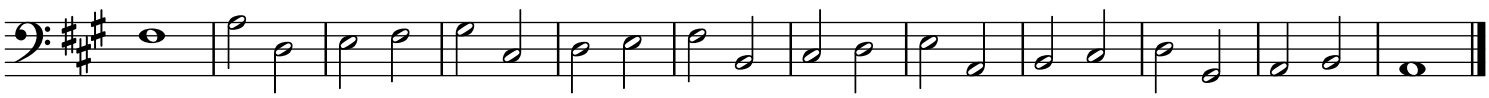
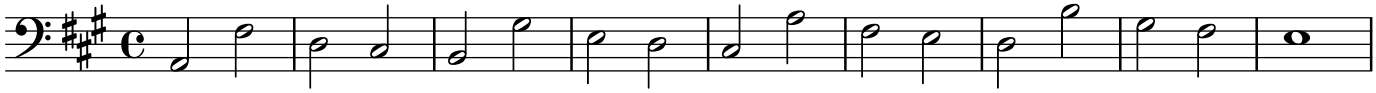
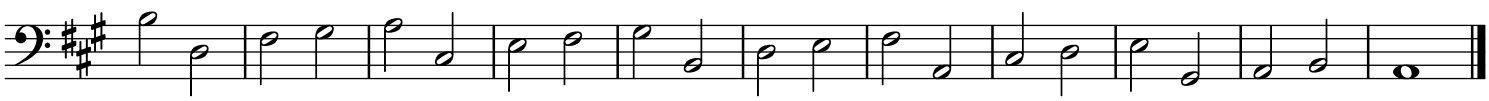
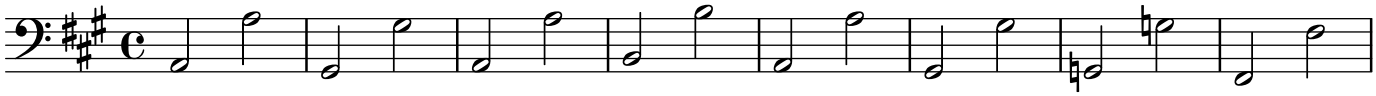
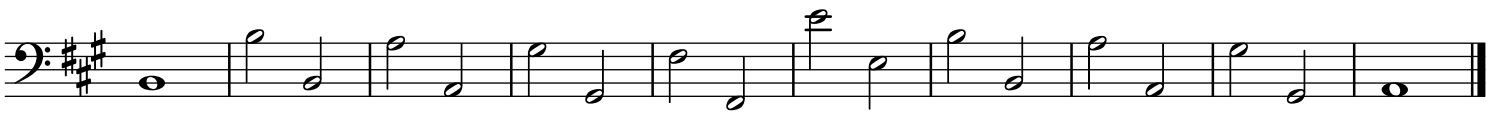
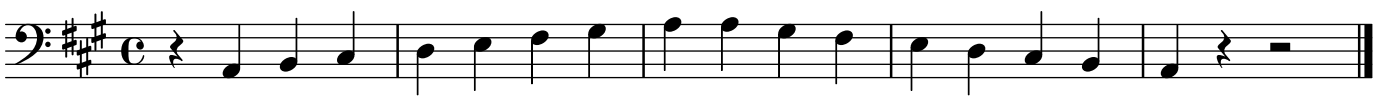
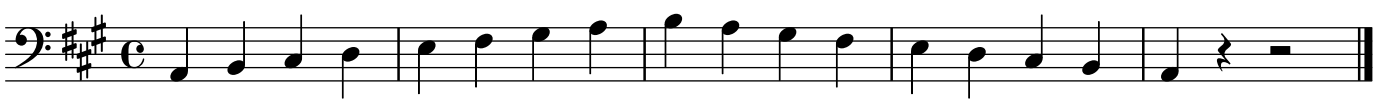
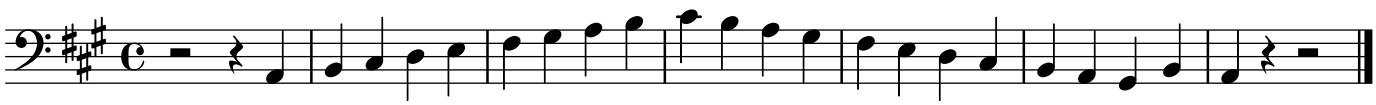
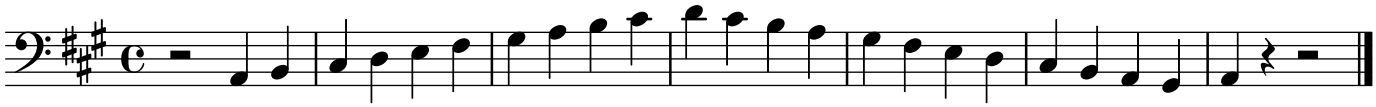
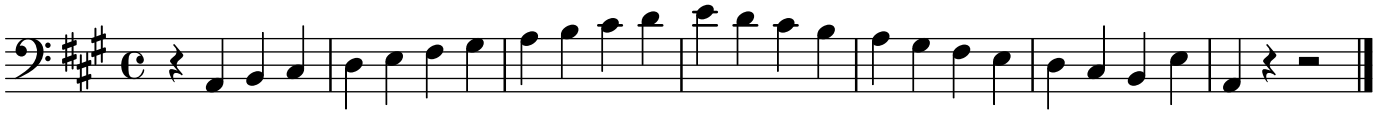
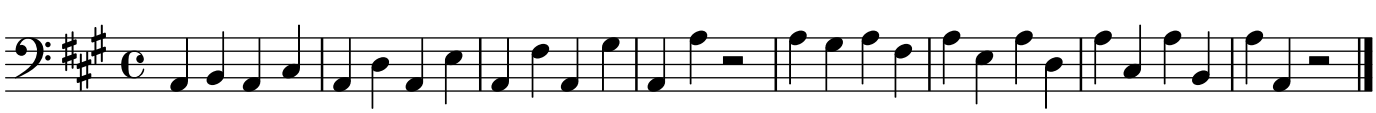
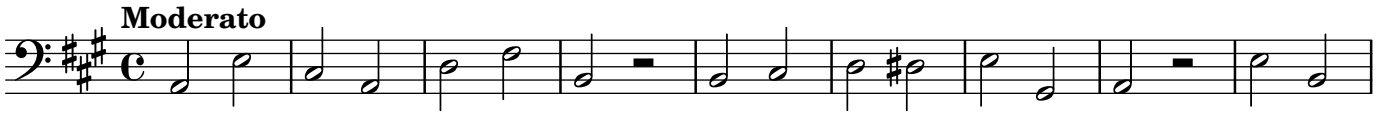
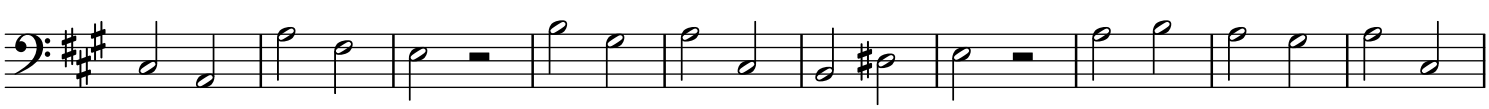
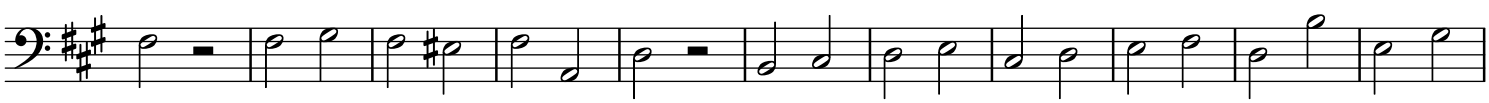
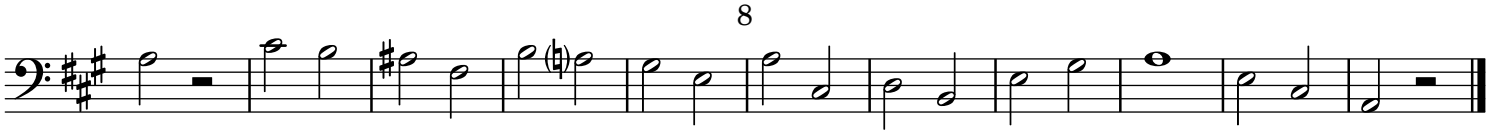
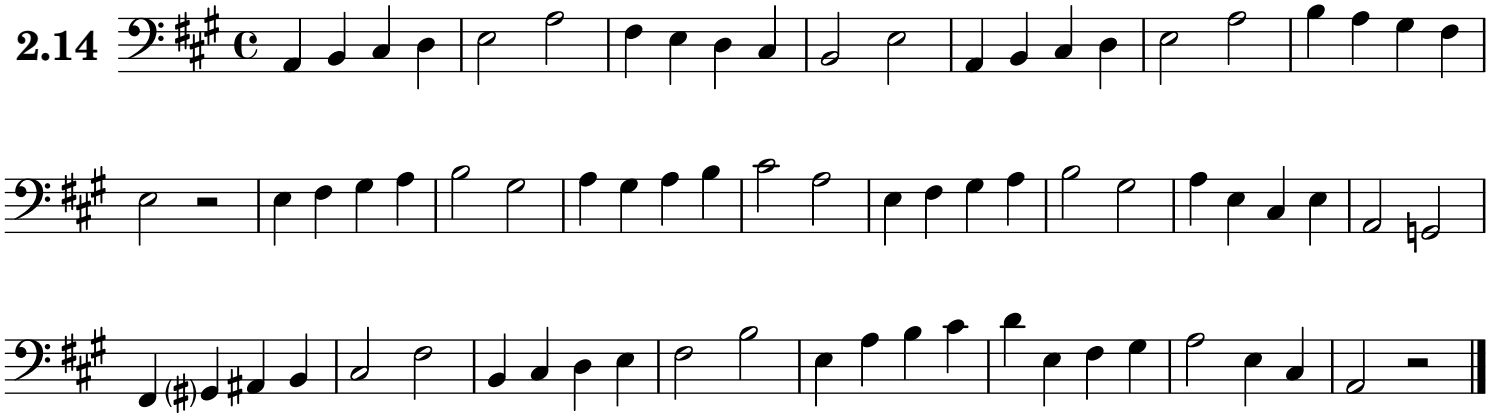
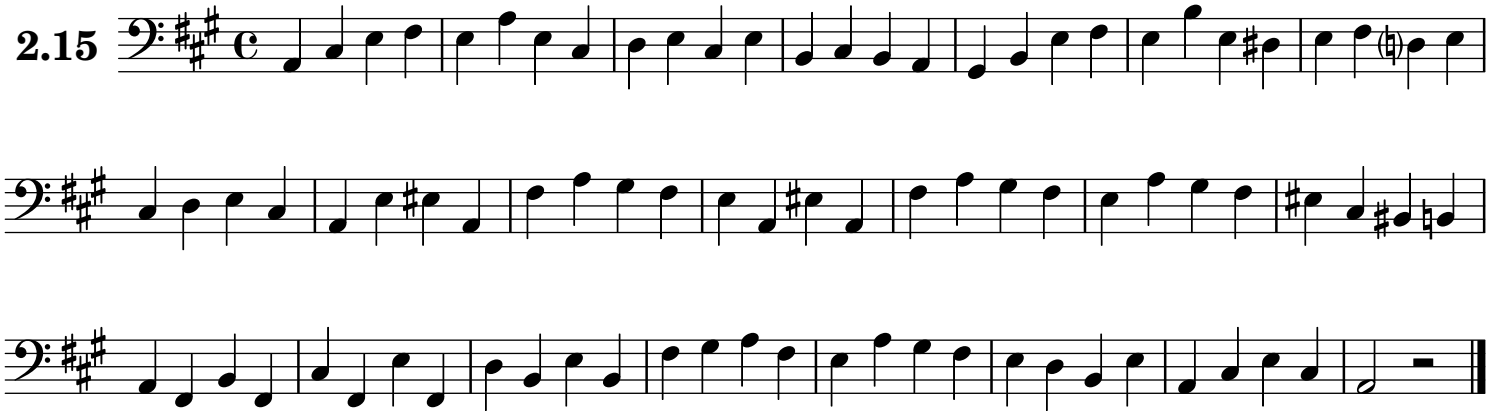


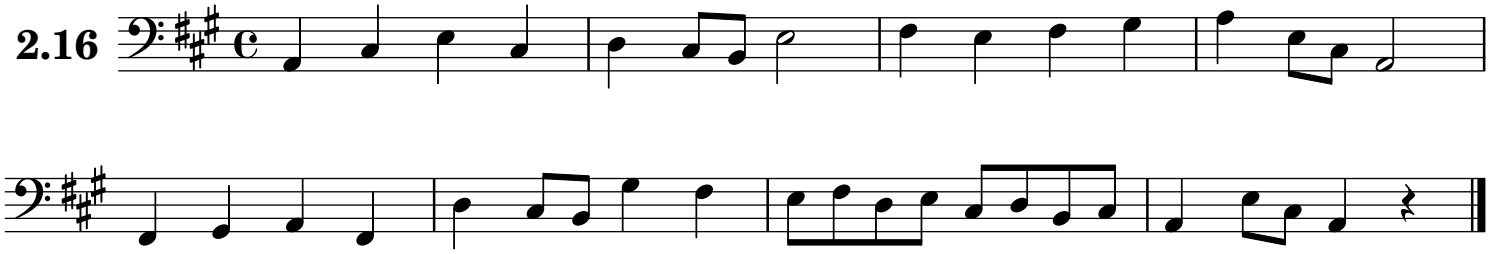
1.2

1.3

1.4

1.5

1.6

1.7

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

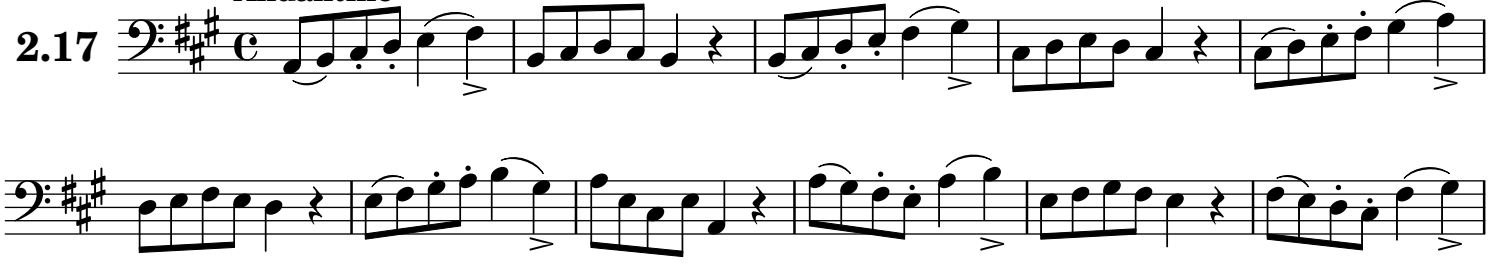
1.8

1.9

1.10

1.11

1.12

1.13

1.14

1.15

1.16

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

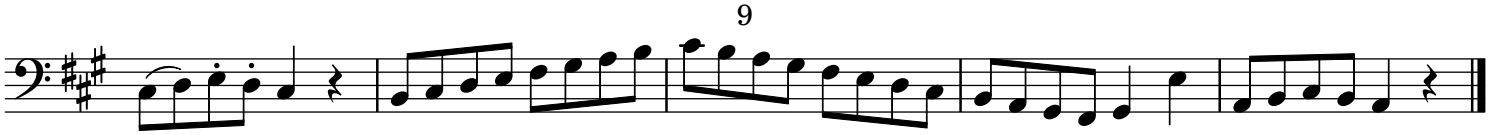
1.17

1.18

1.19

1.20

1.21

1.22

1.23

1.24

1.25

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

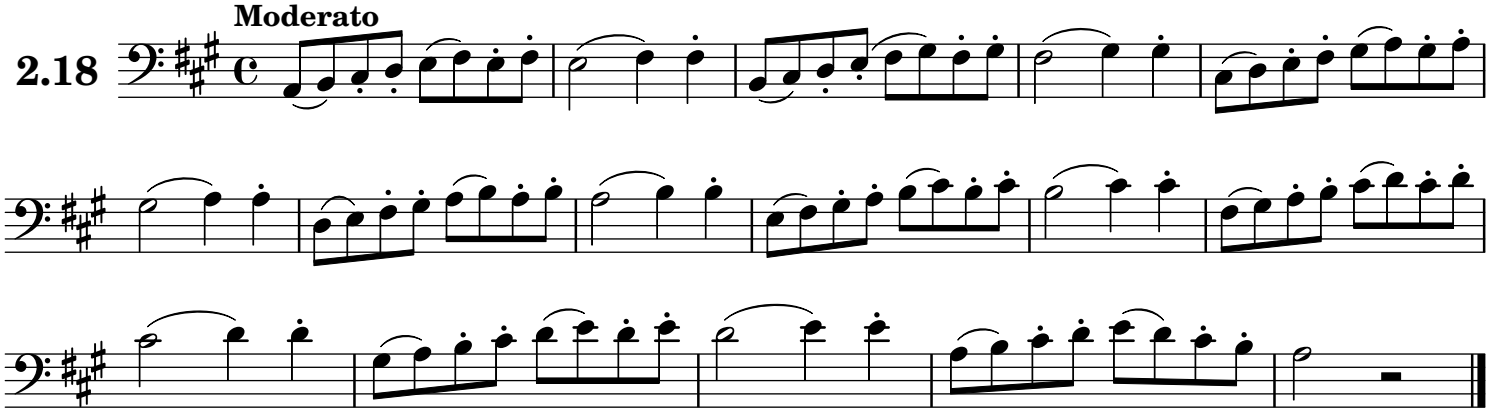
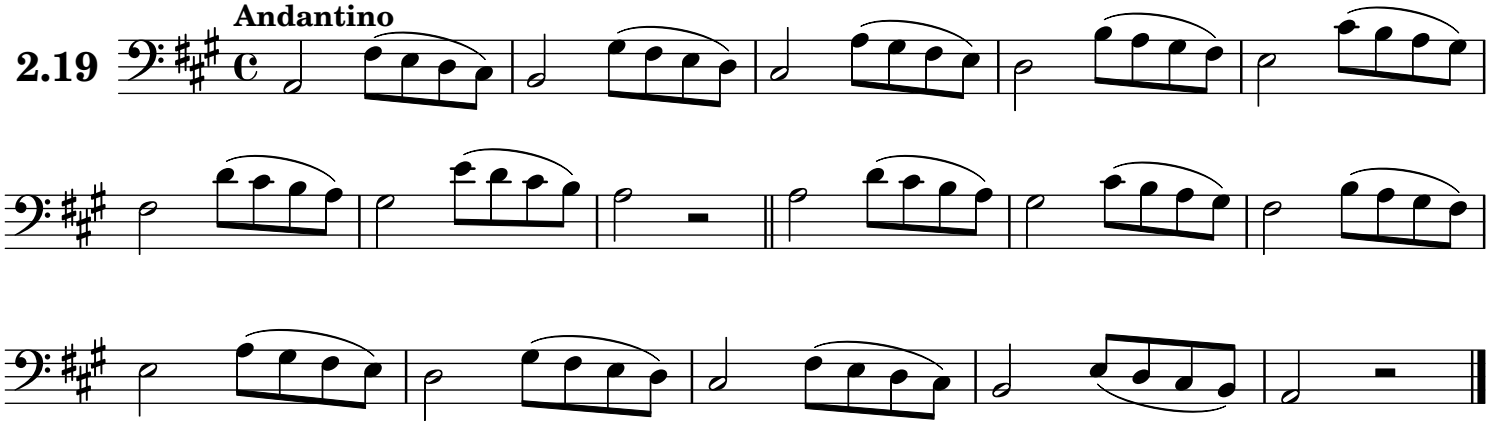
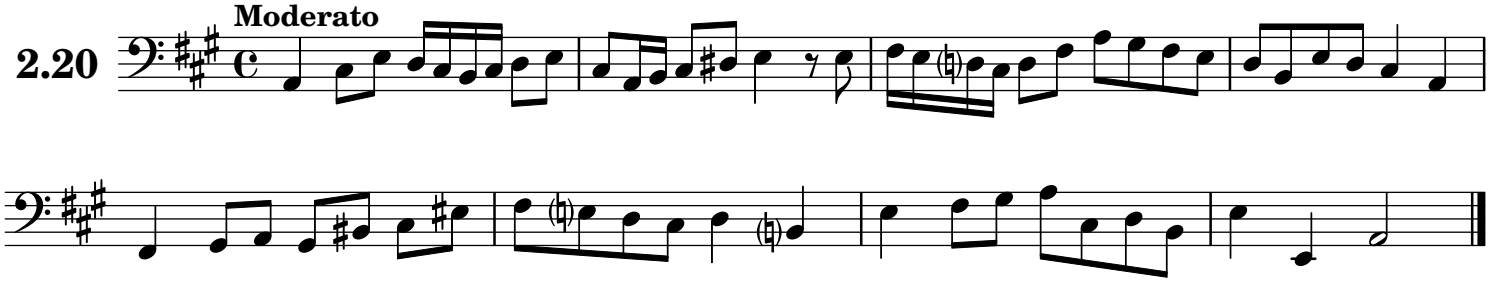
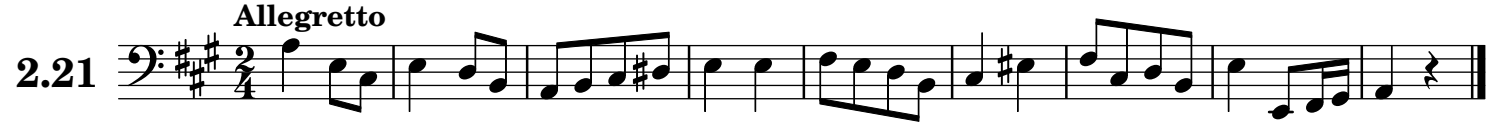
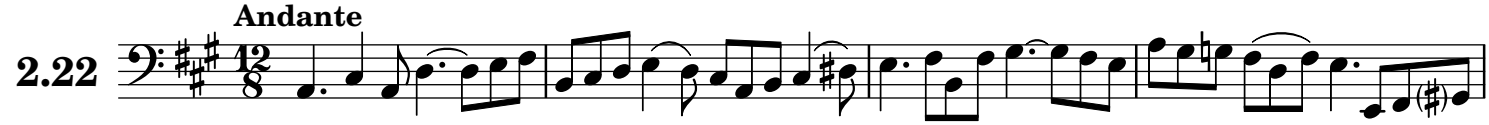
2. Exercises in A Major

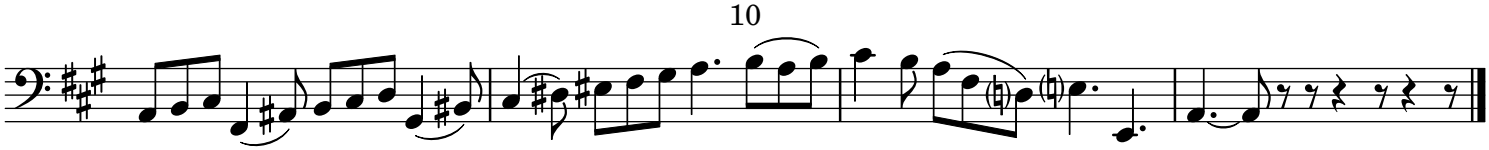
2.1

2.2

2.3

2.4

2.5

2.6

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

2.7

2.8

2.9

2.10

2.11

2.12

2.13 **Moderato**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

2.14 Andantino

2.15 Moderato

2.16

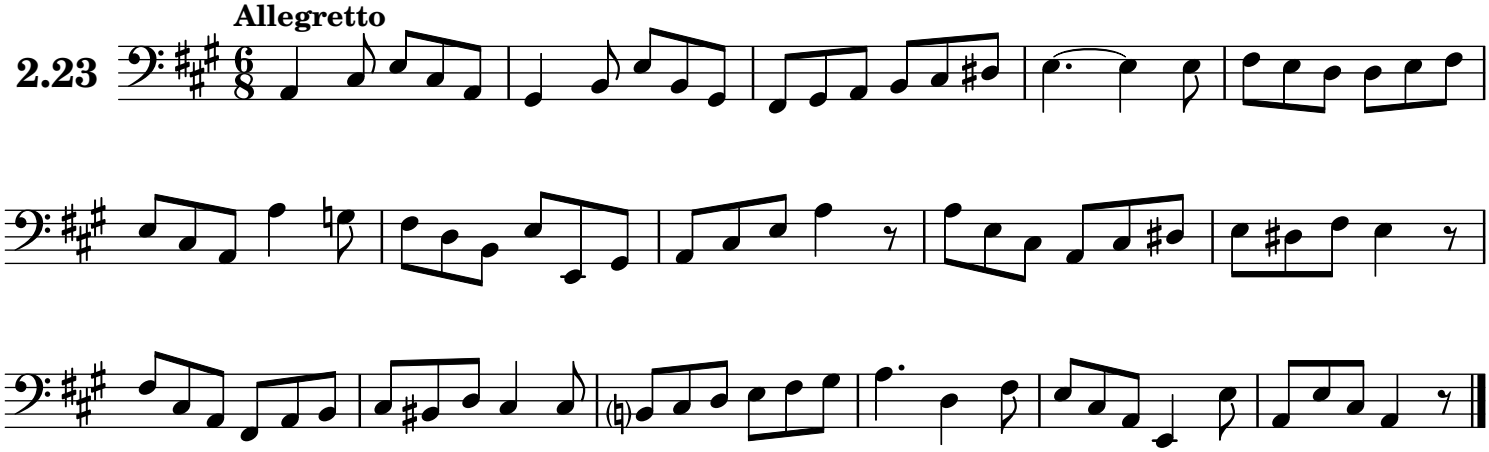
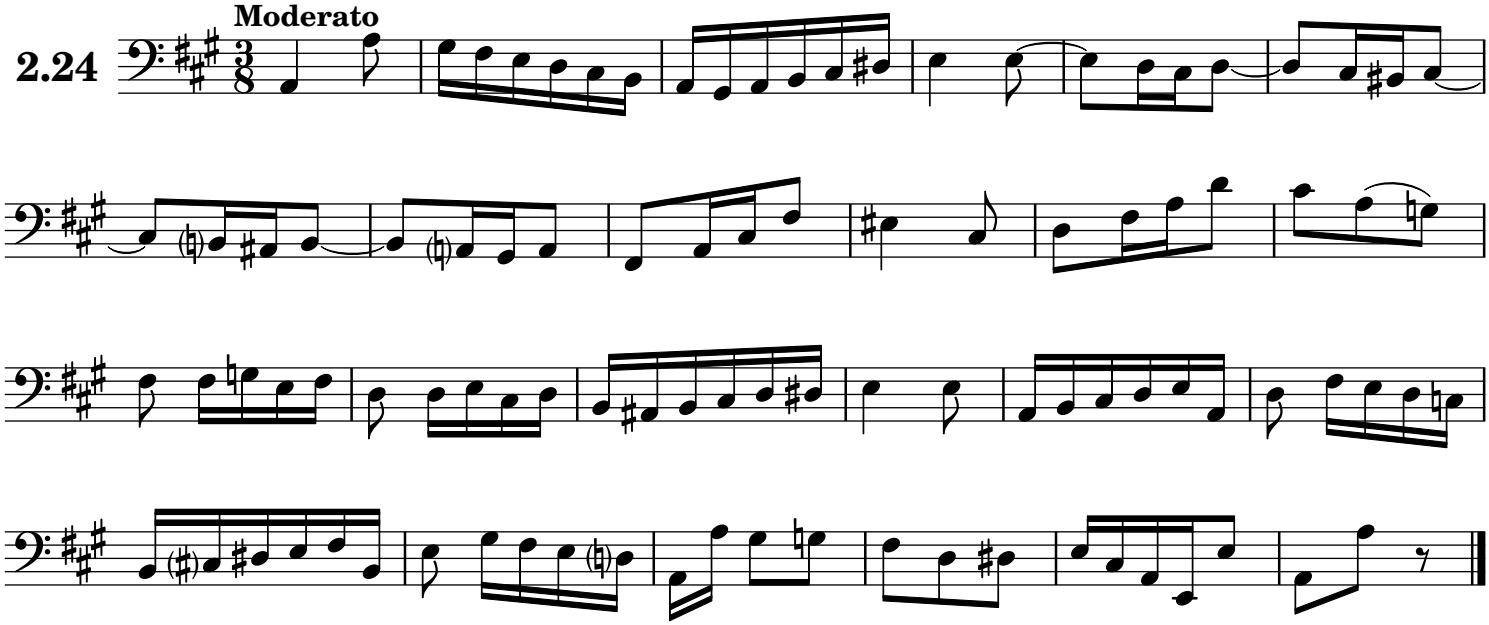
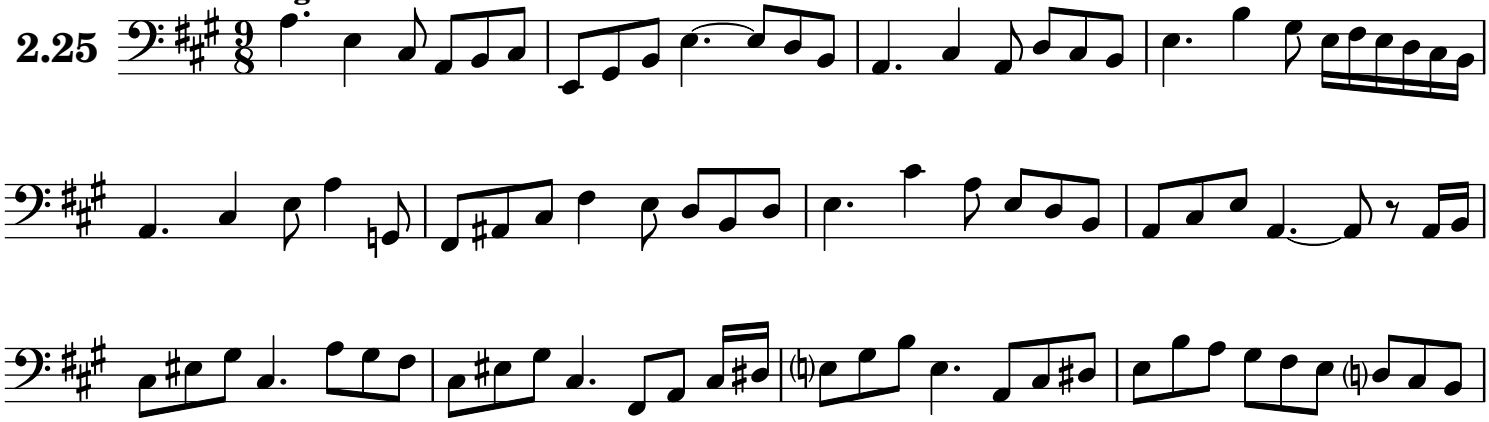
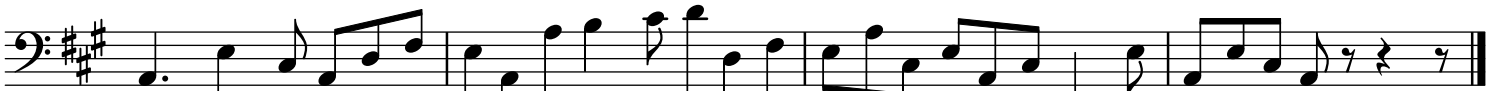
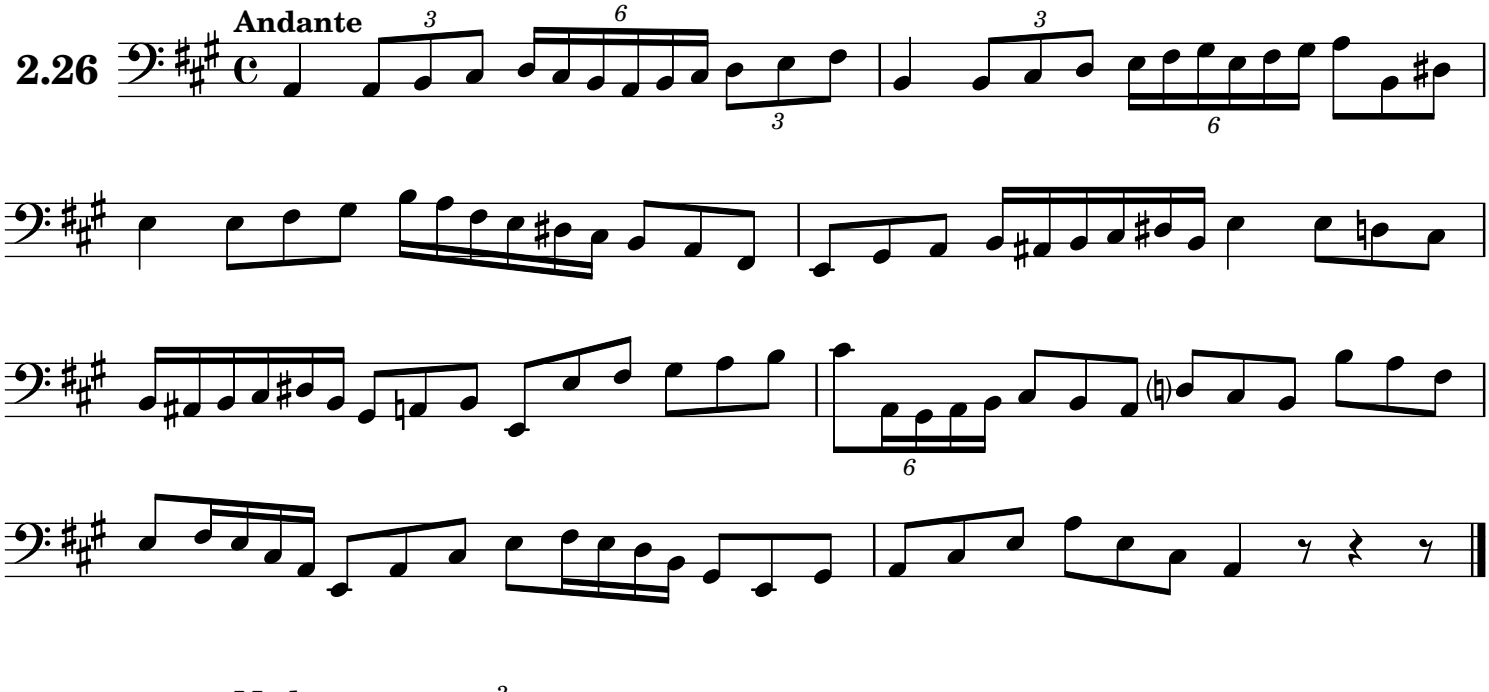
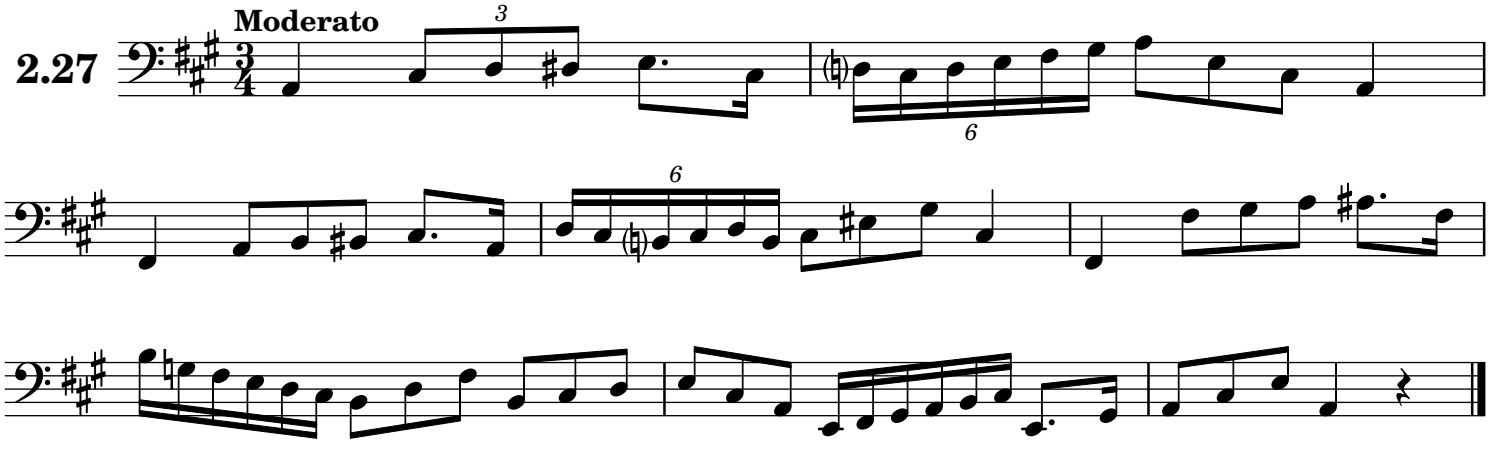
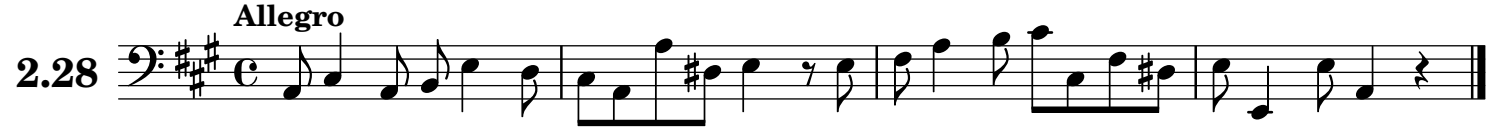


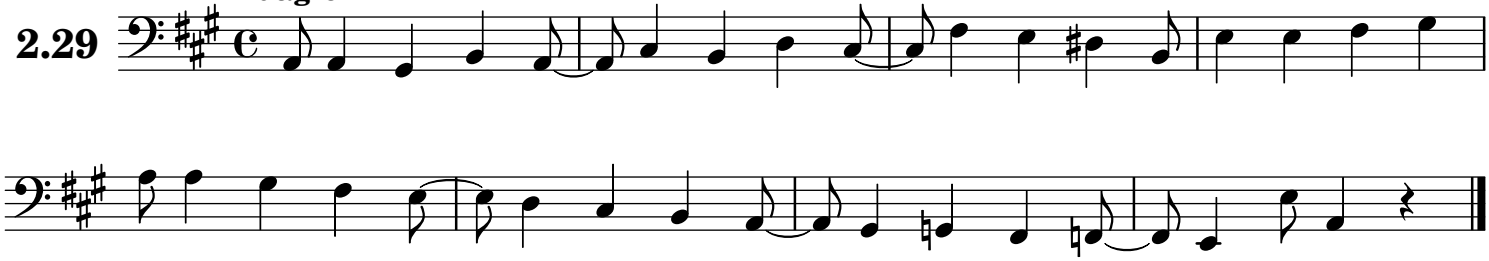
2.17 Andantino

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond



2.18 Moderato

2.19 Andantino

2.20 Moderato

2.21 Allegretto

2.22 Andante

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

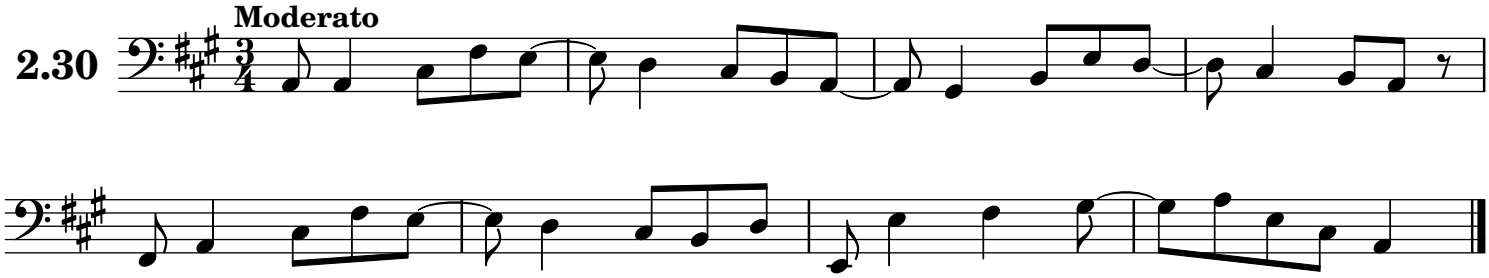


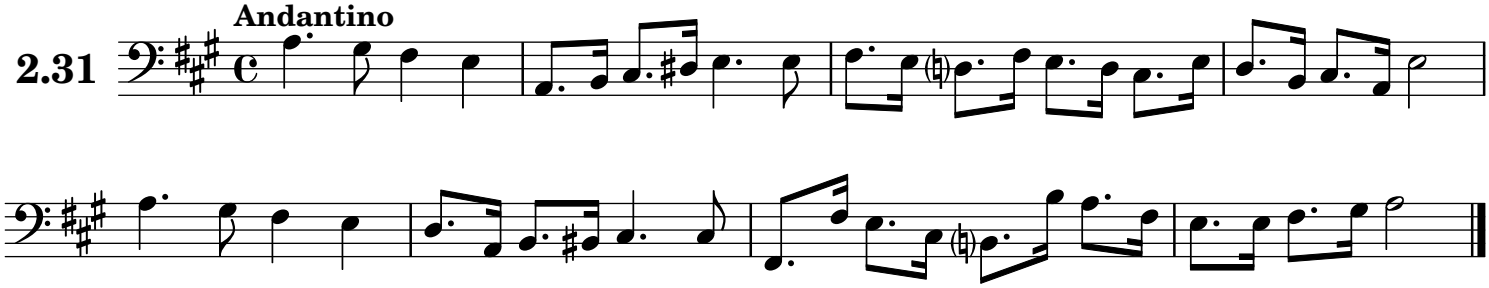
2.23 Allegretto

2.24 Moderato

2.25 Adagio

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

2.26 **Andante**

2.27 **Moderato**

2.28 **Allegro**

2.29 **Adagio**

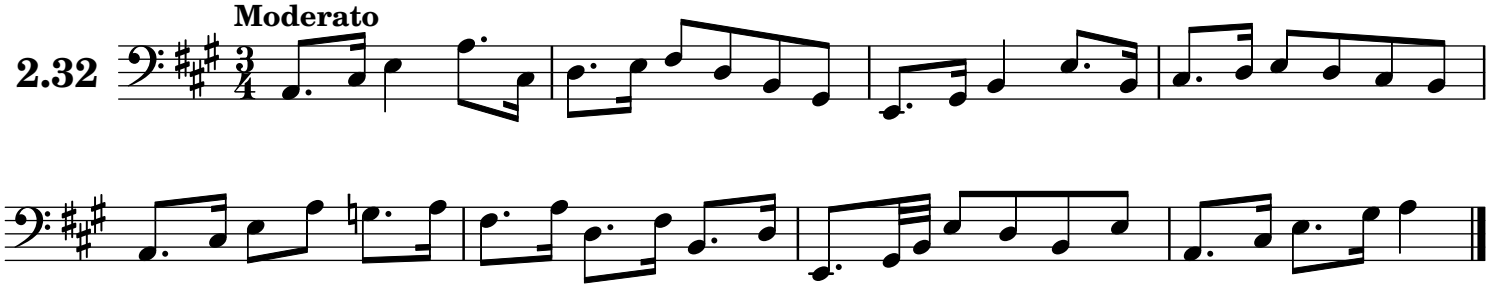


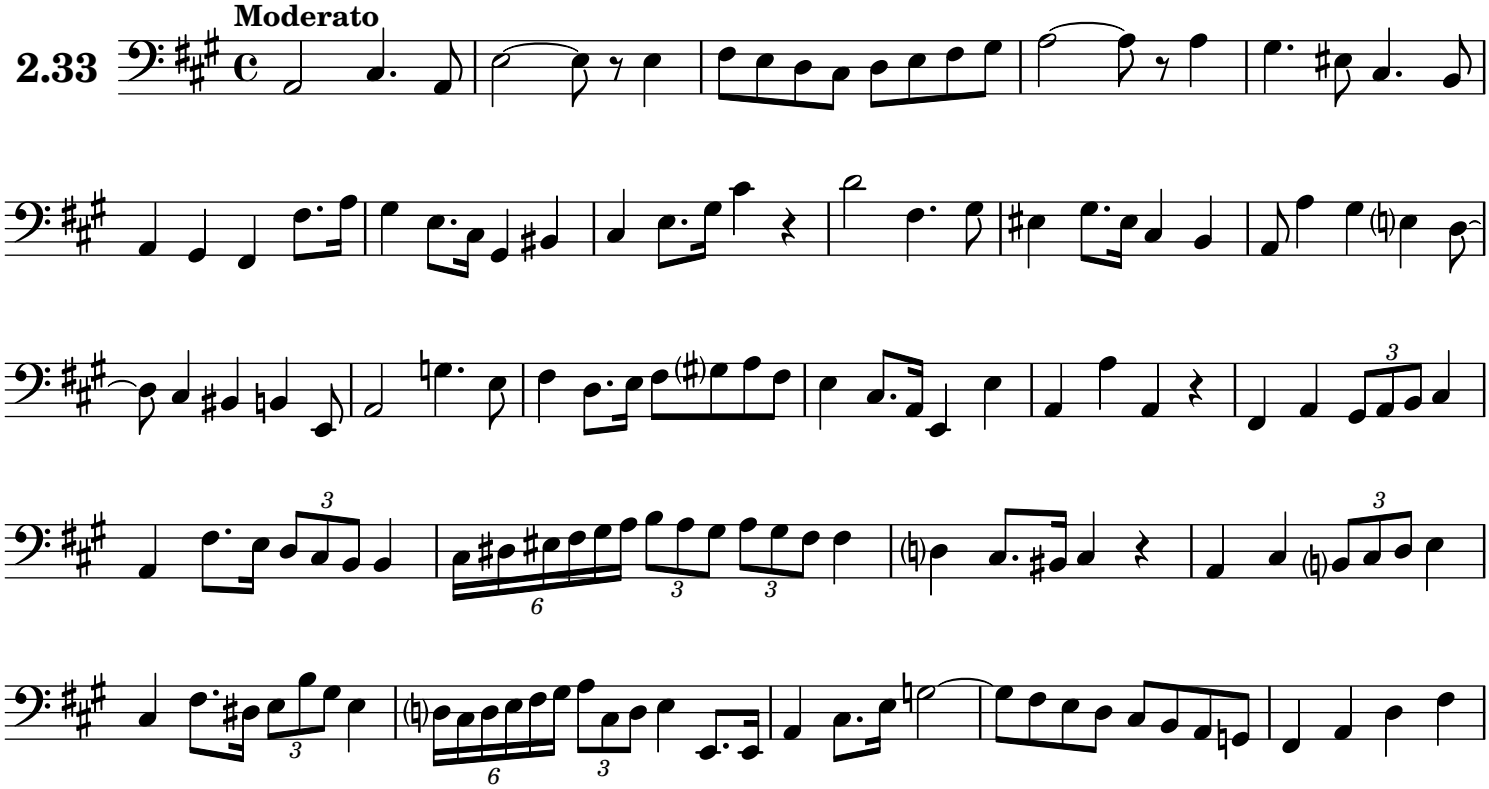
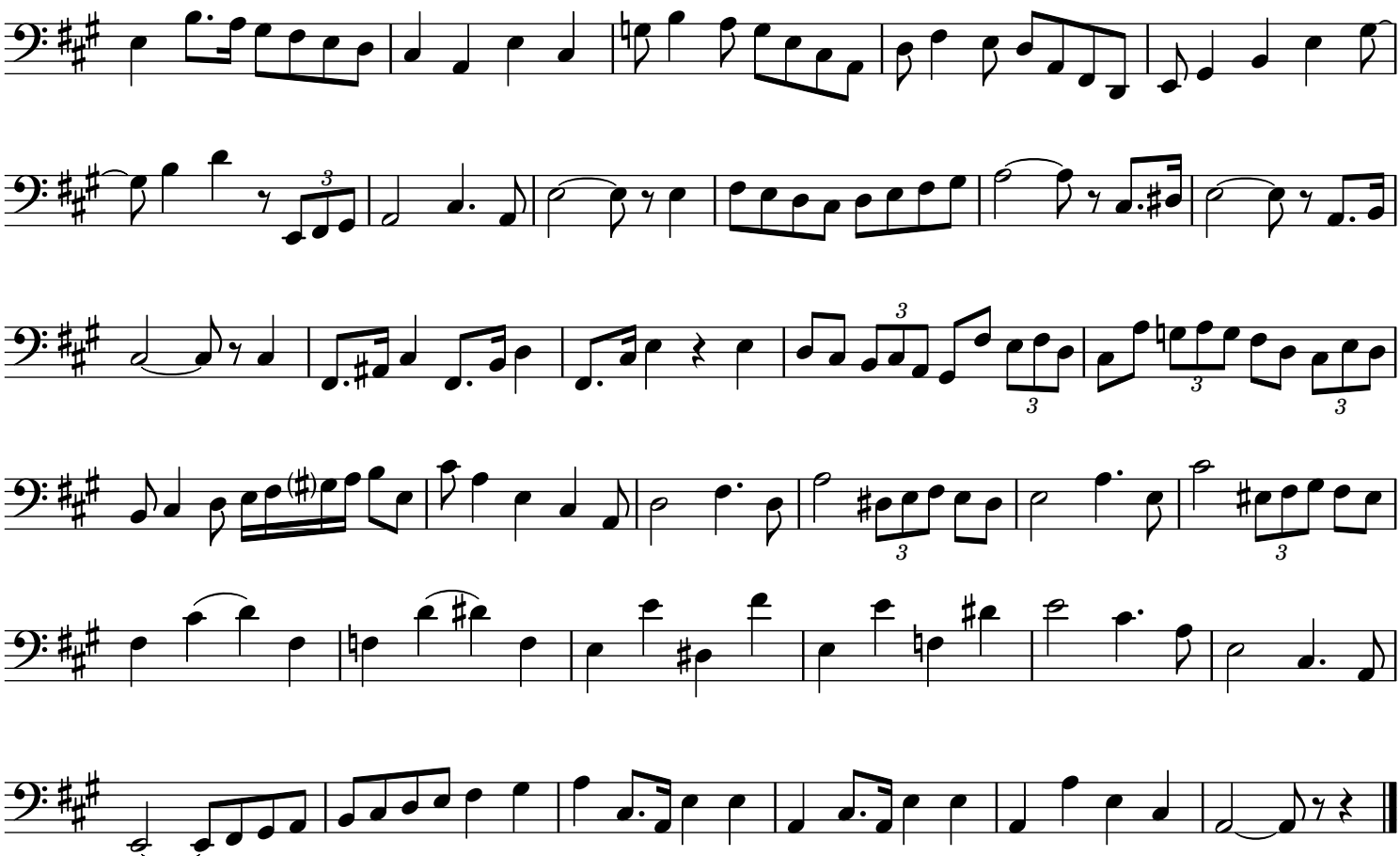
© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

2.30 Moderato

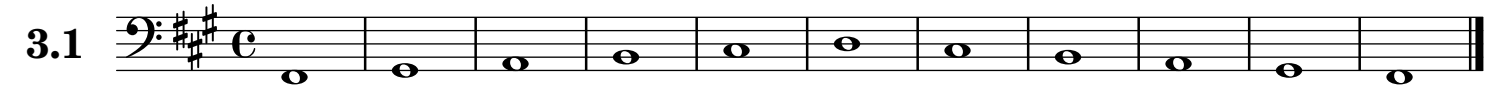
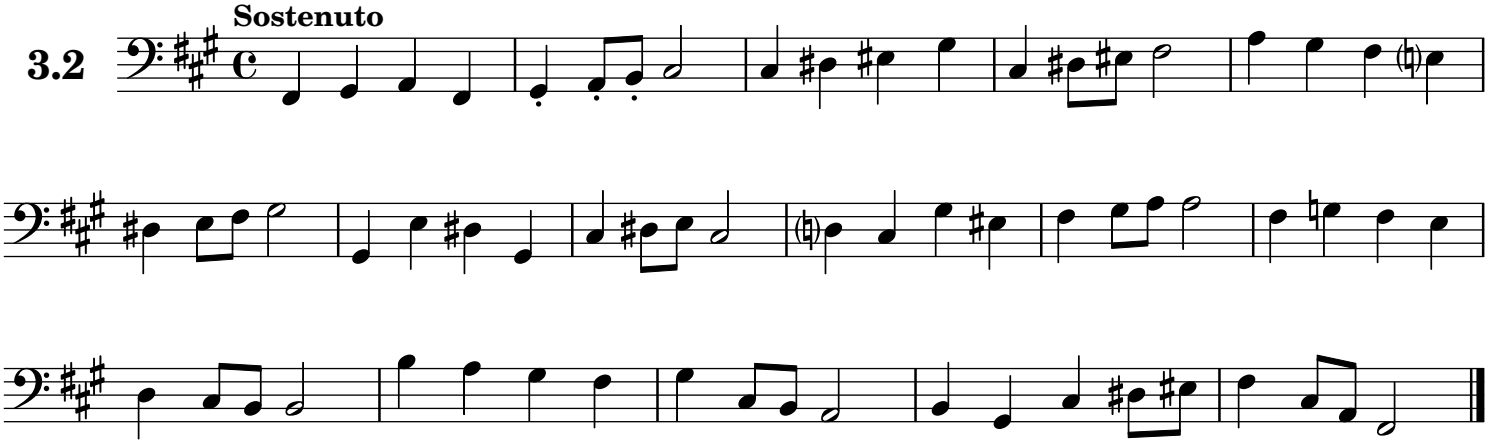
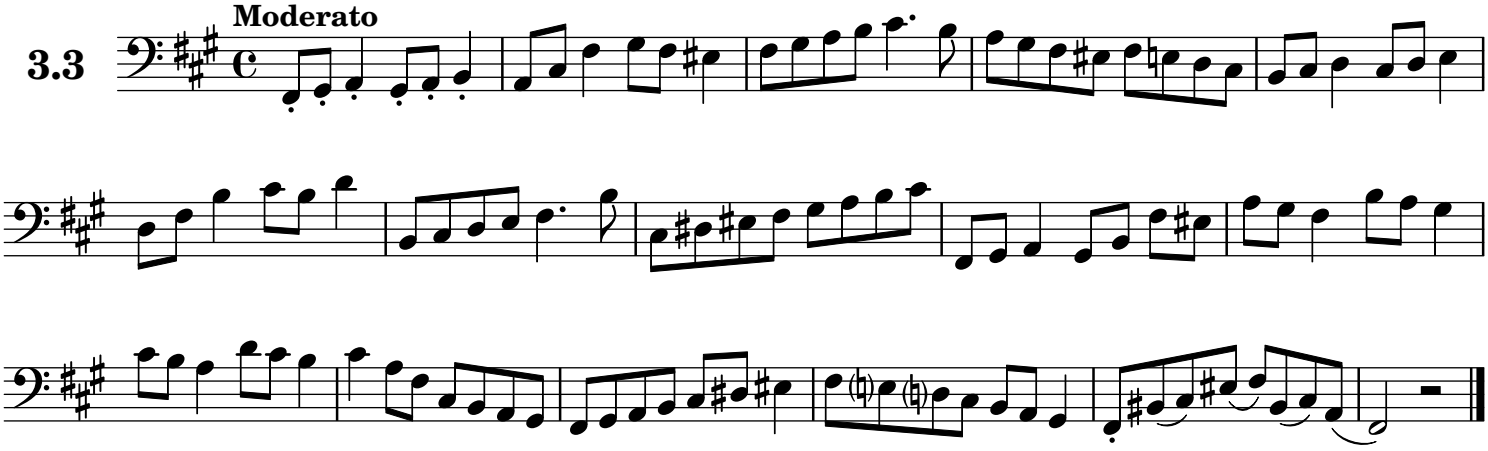
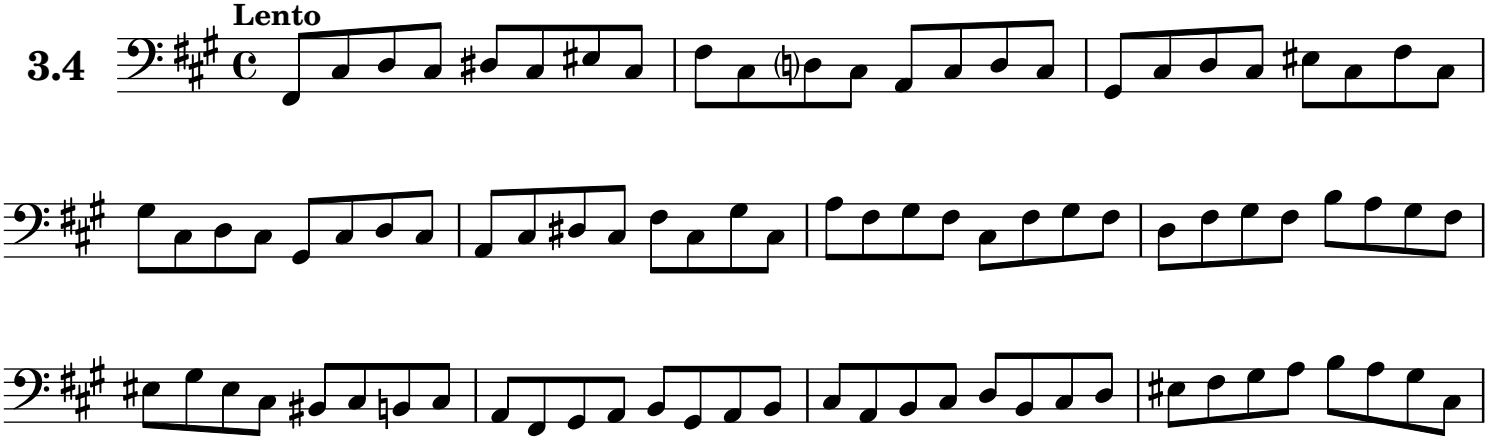
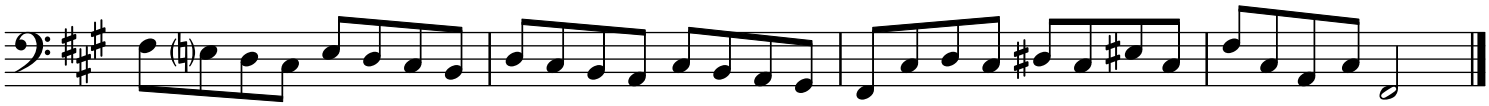
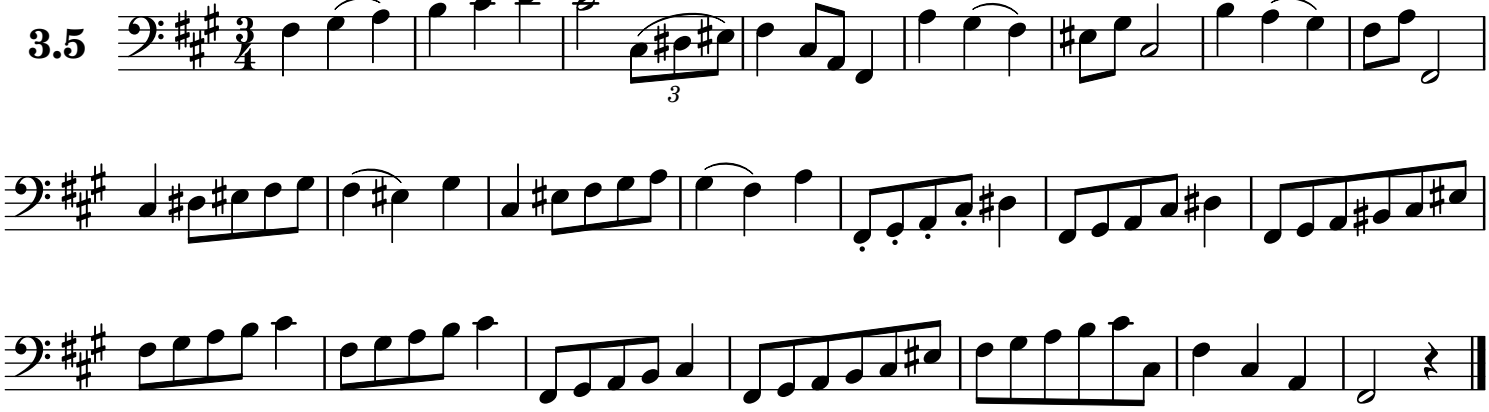
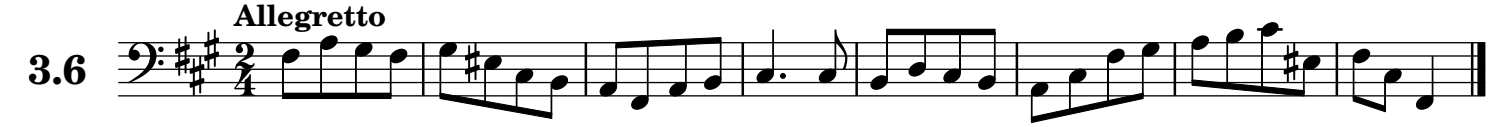
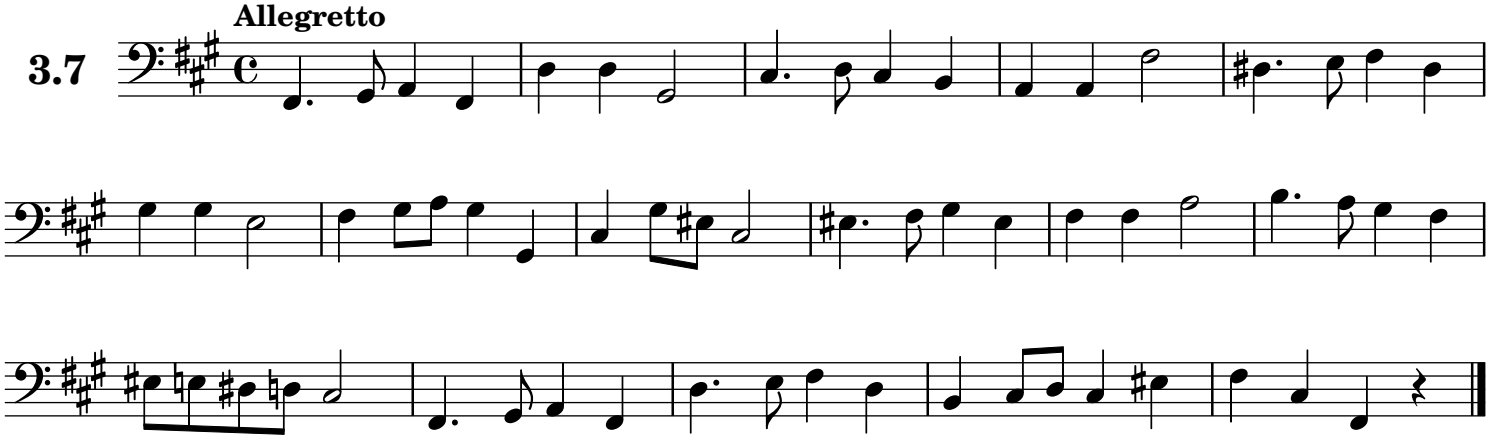
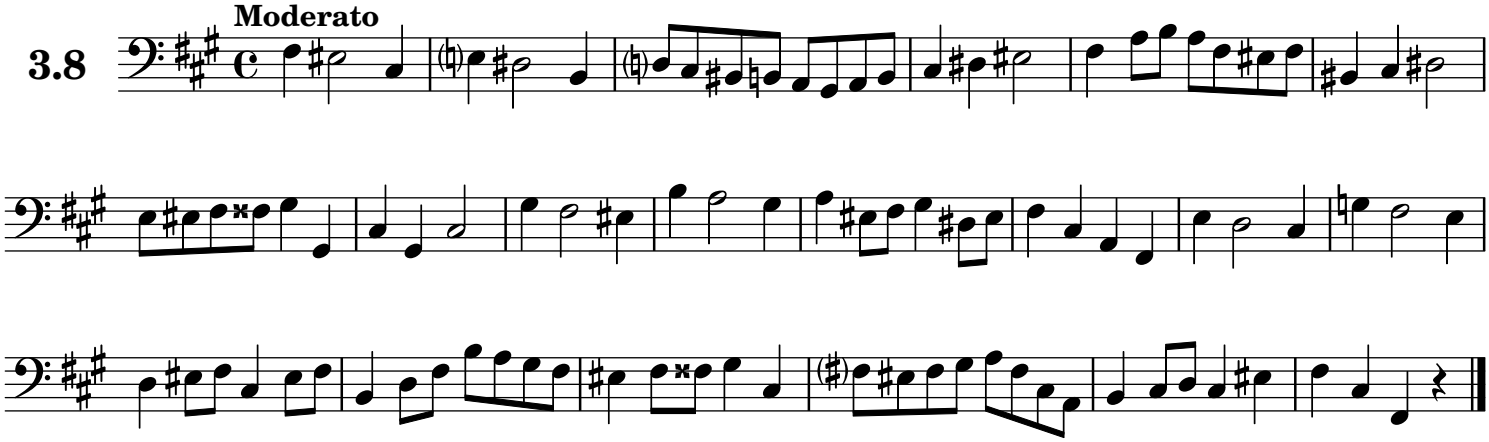


2.31 Andantino

2.32 Moderato

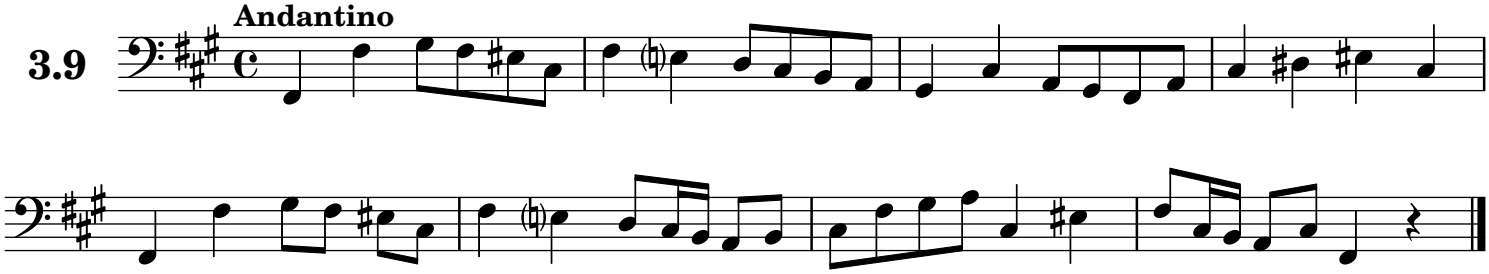


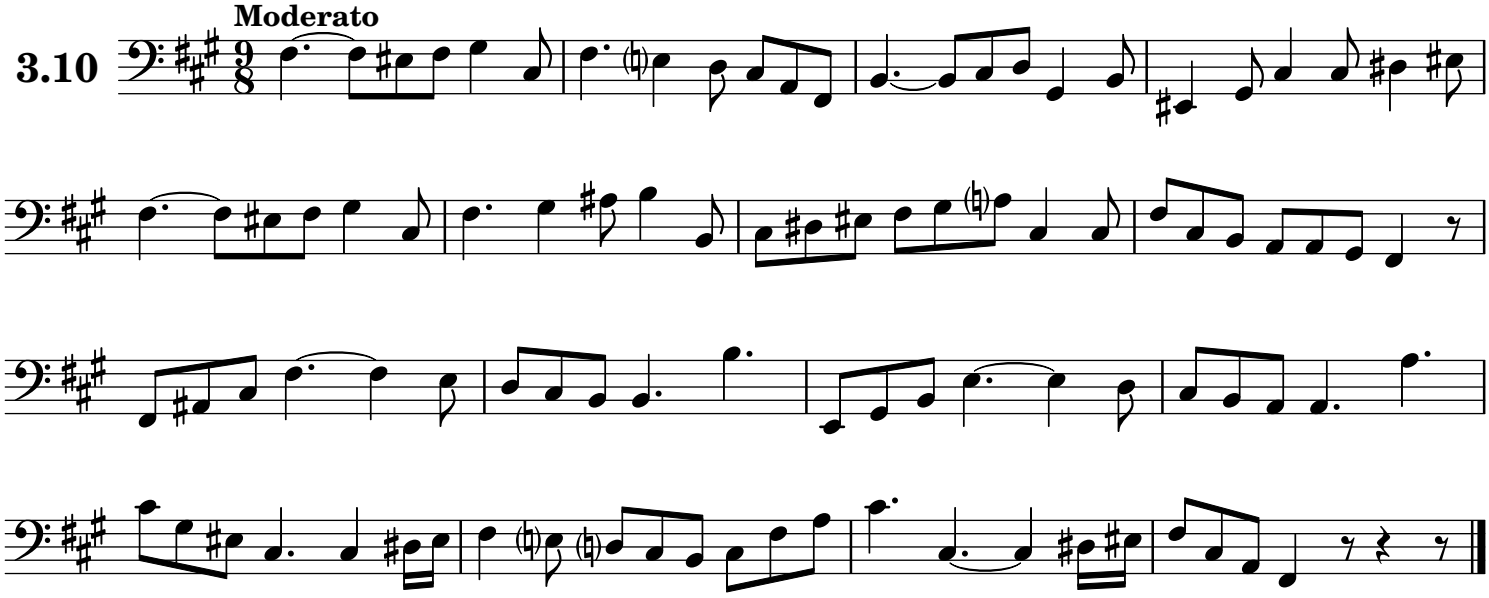
2.33 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

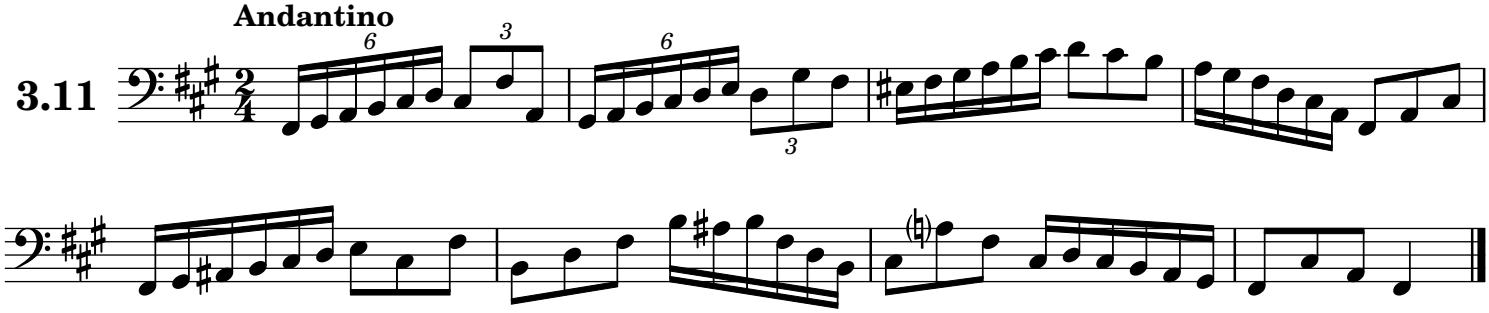
3. Exercises in F-Sharp Minor

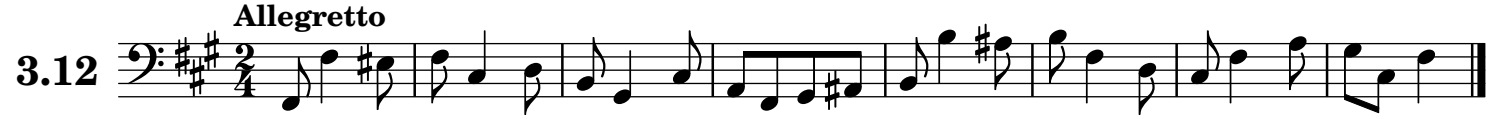
3.1

3.2 **Sostenuto**

3.3 **Moderato**

3.4 **Lento**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

3.5 Andante

3.6 Allegretto

3.7 Allegretto

3.8 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

3.9 **Andantino**

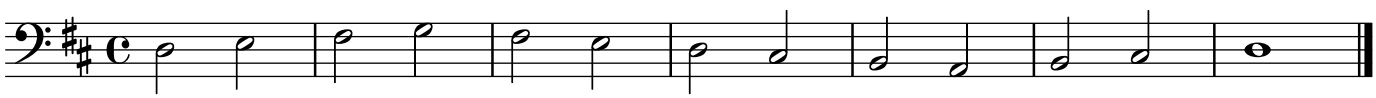
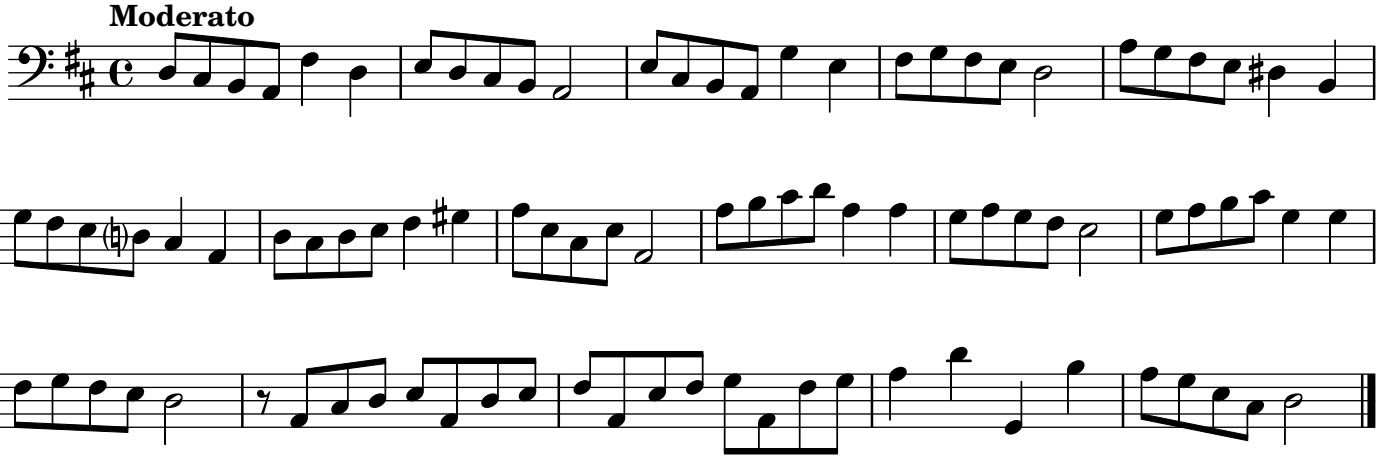
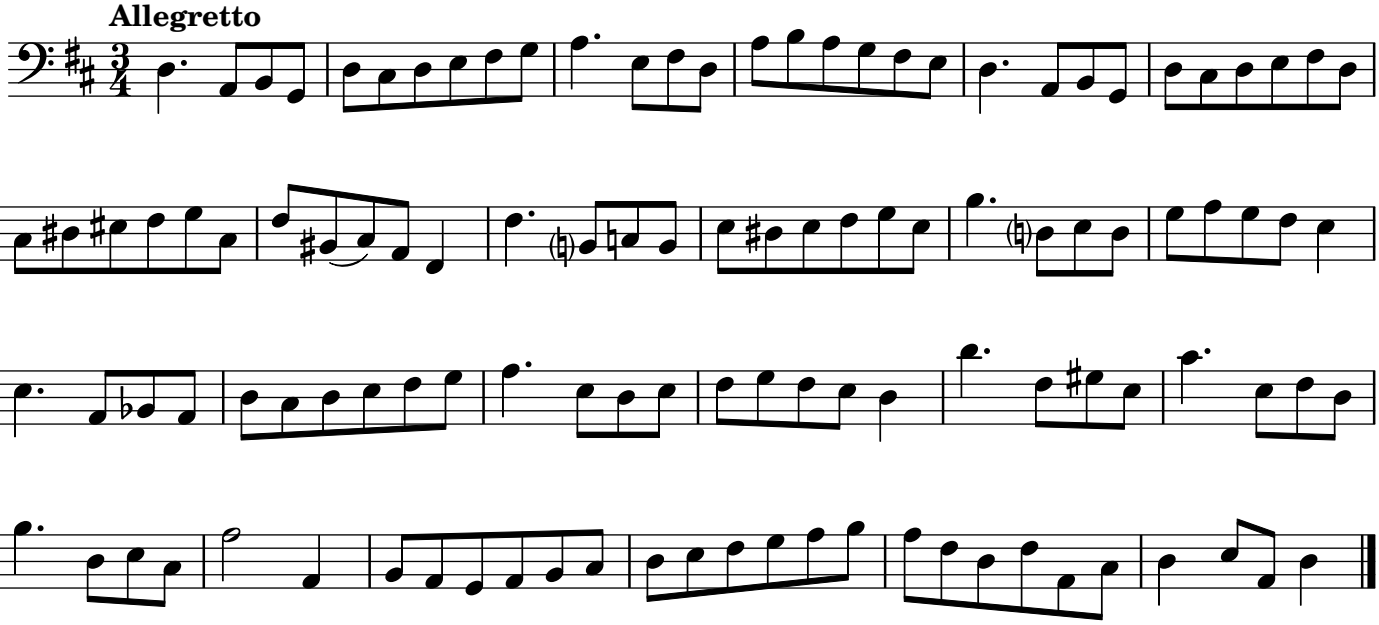
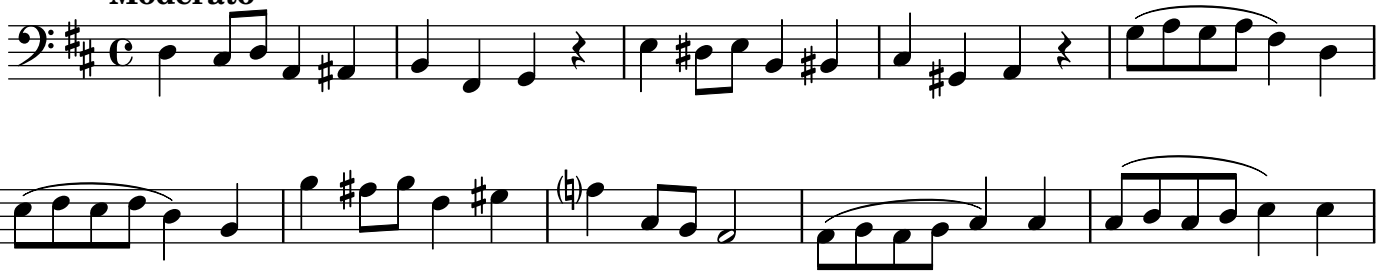


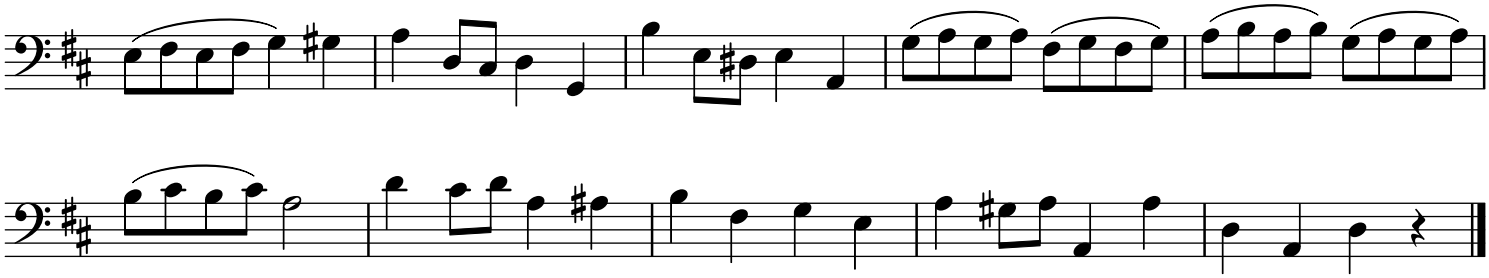
3.10 **Moderato**

3.11 **Andantino**

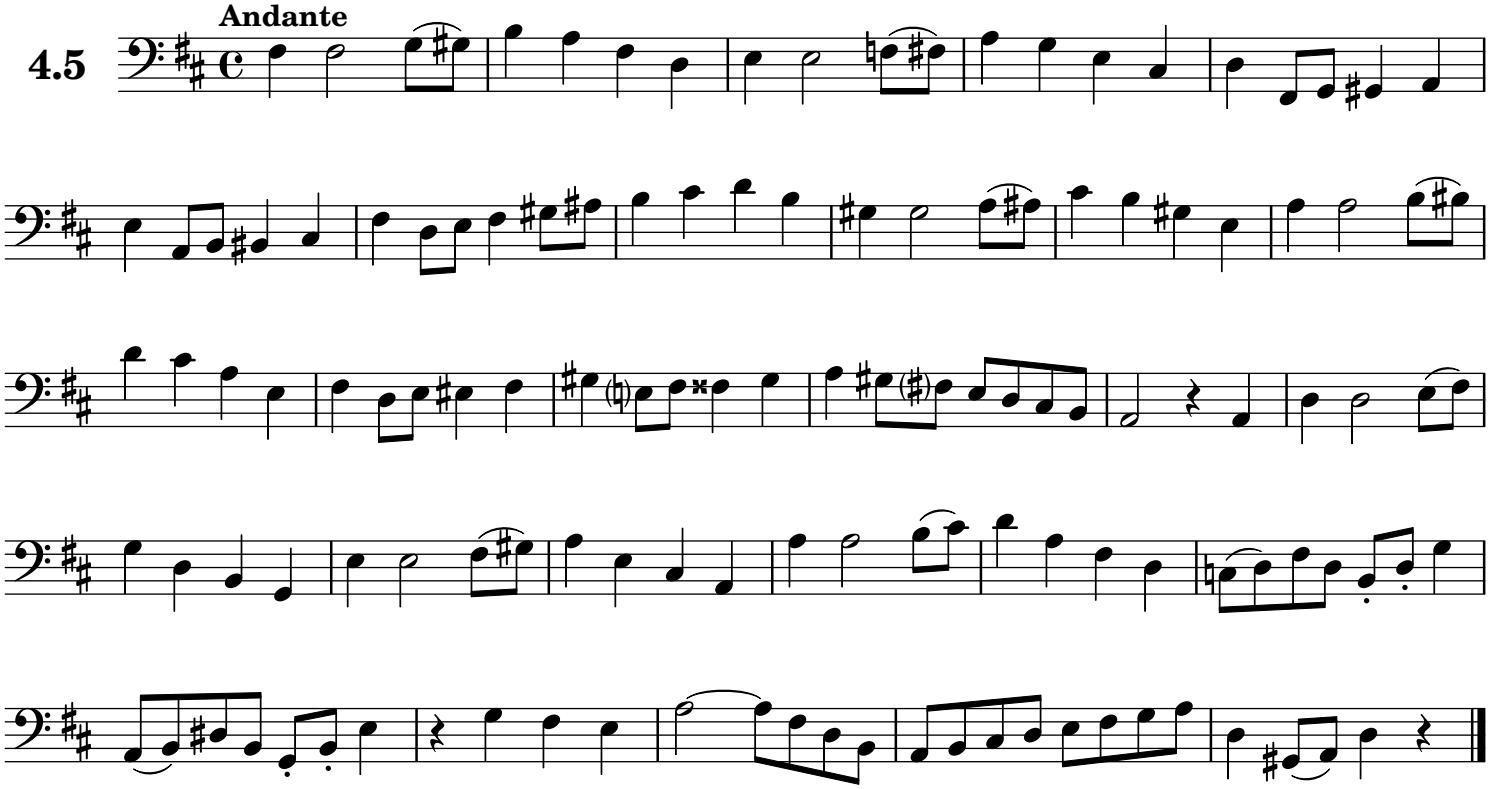
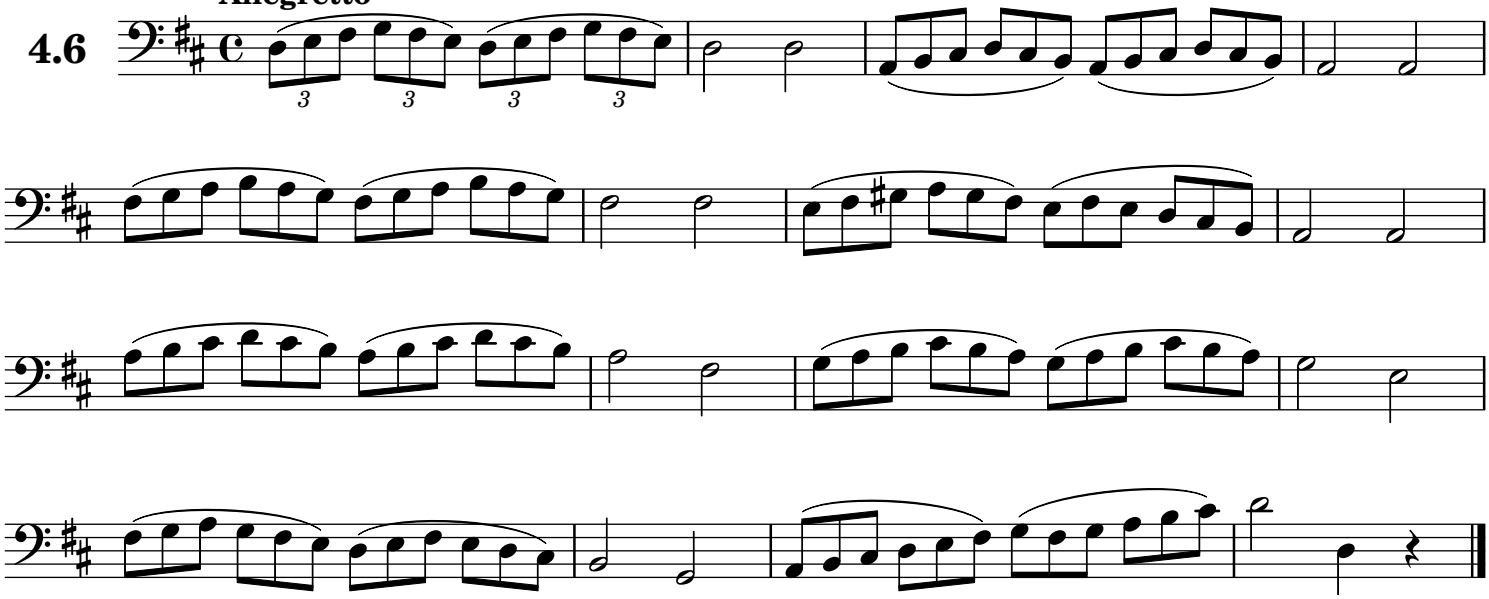


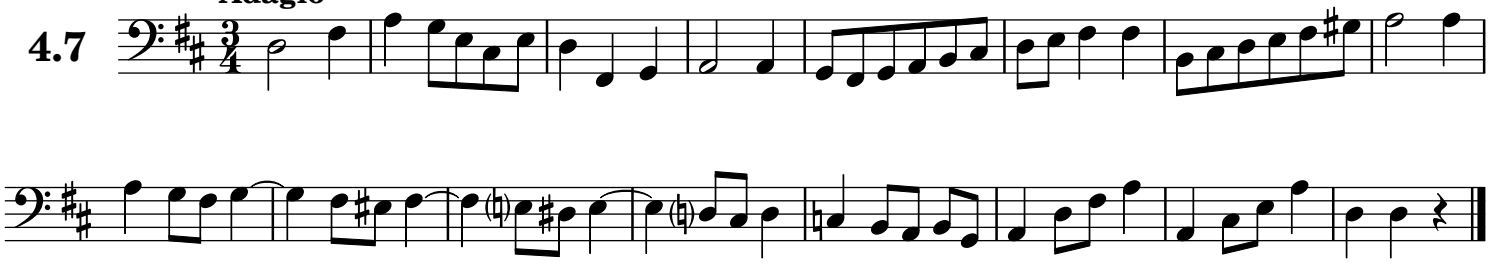
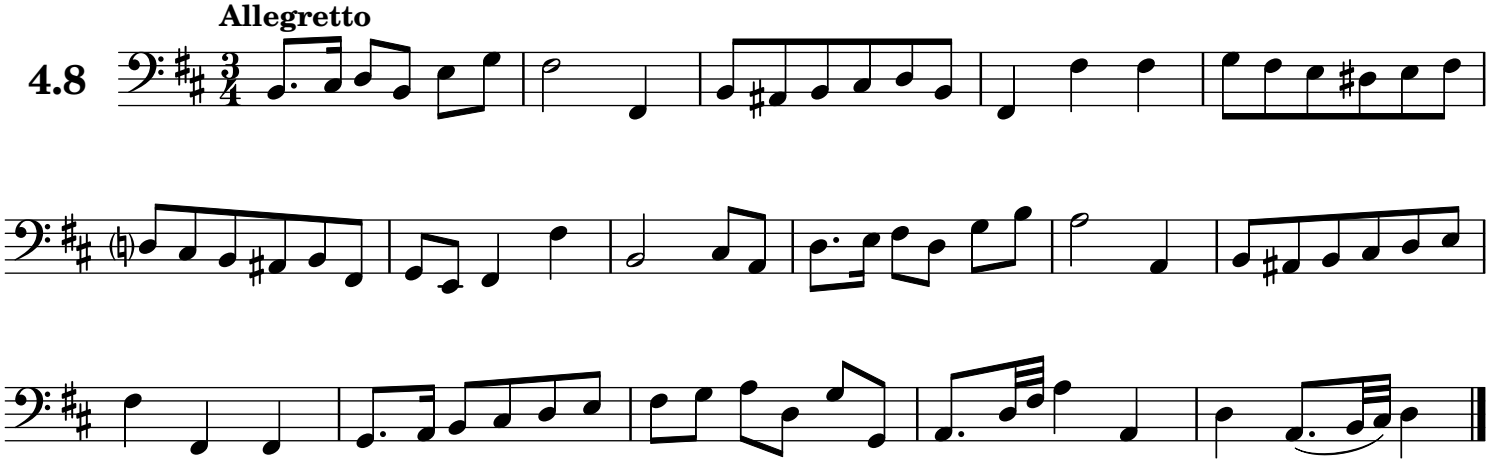
3.12 **Allegretto**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

4. Exercises in D Major

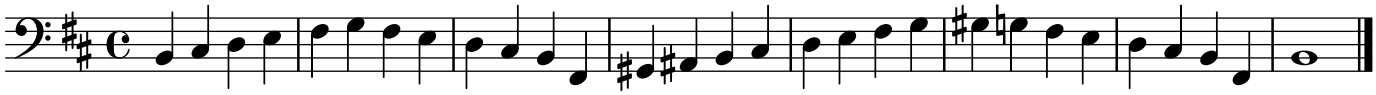
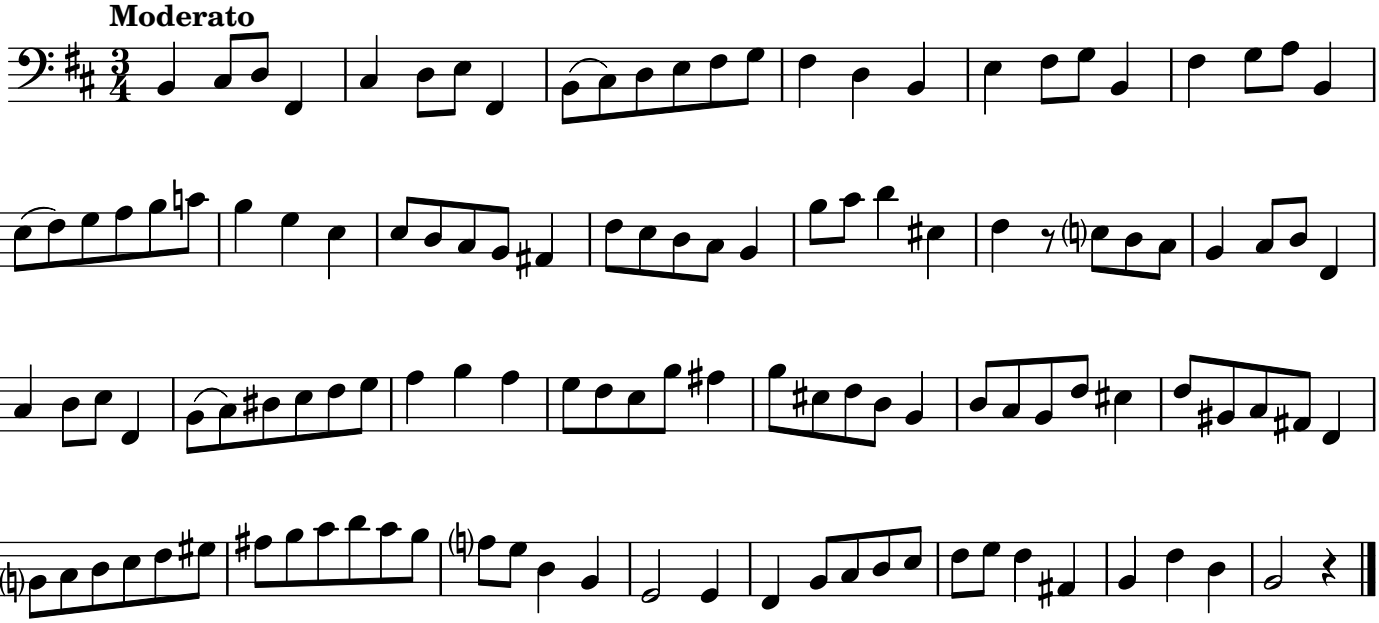
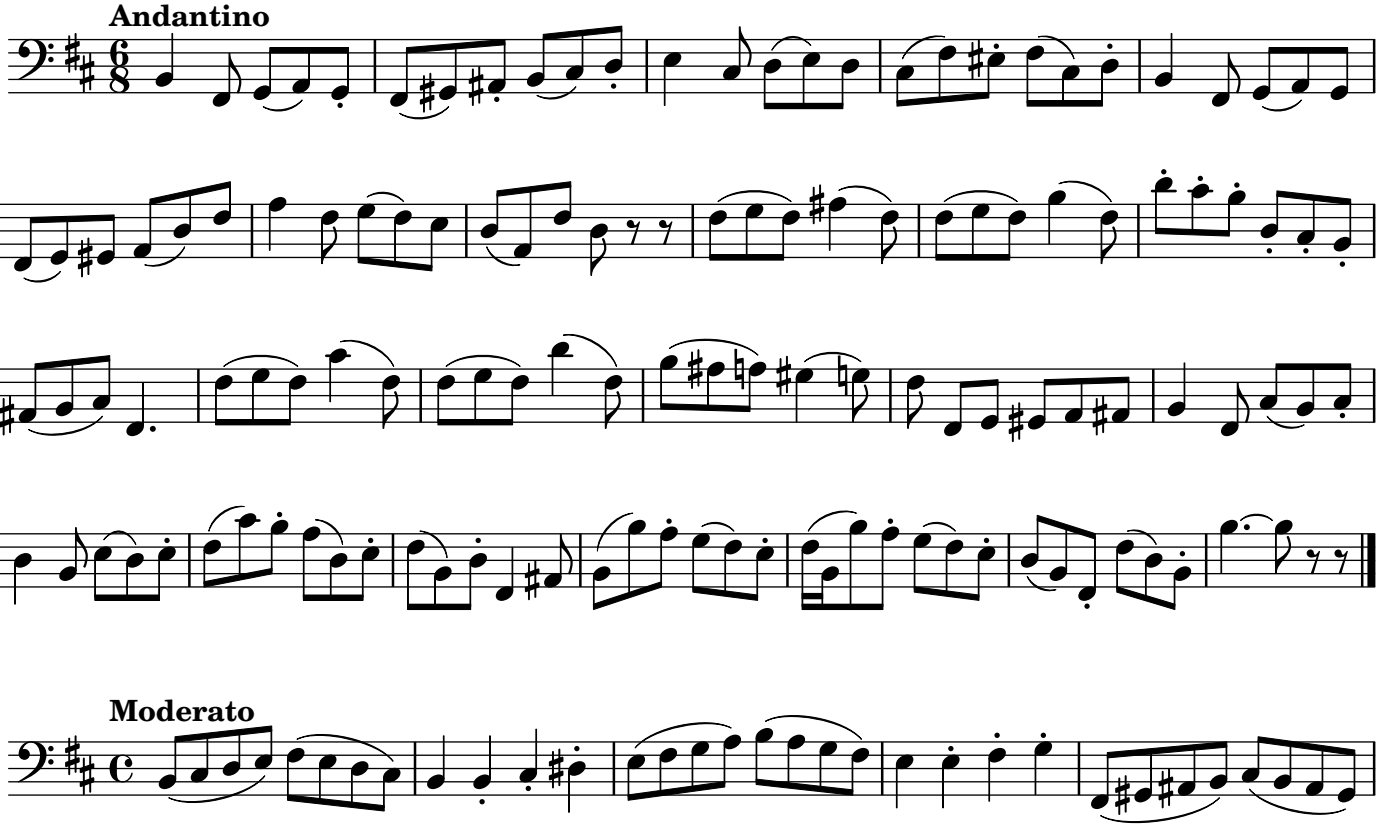
4.1

4.2 Moderato

4.3 Allegretto

4.4 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

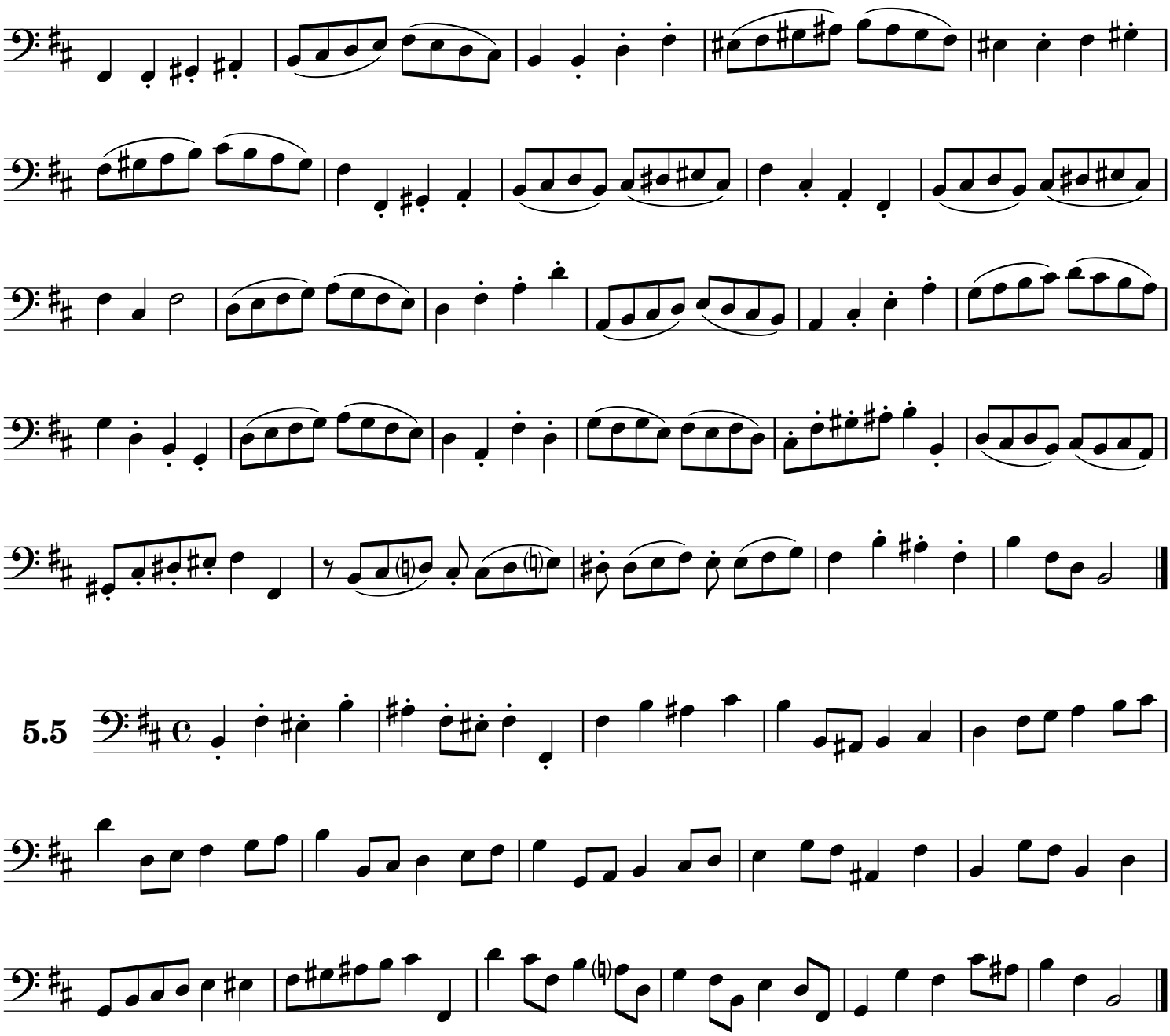


4.5 **Andante**

4.6 **Allegretto**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

4.7 **Adagio**

4.8 **Allegretto**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

5. Exercises in B Minor

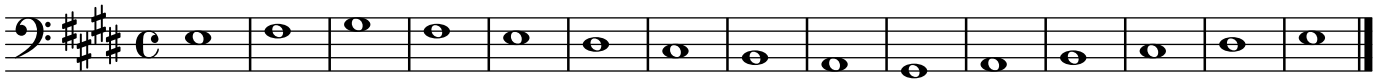
5.1

5.2 Moderato

5.3 Andantino

5.4 Moderato

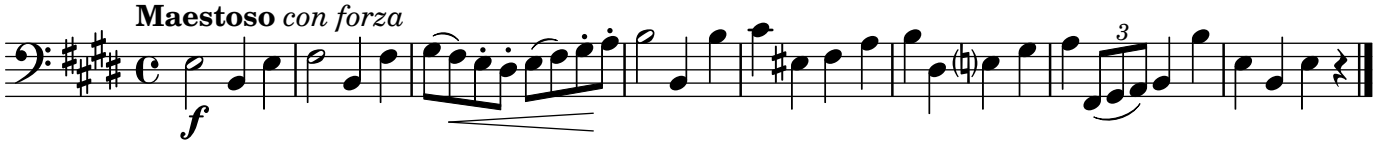
© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

5.5

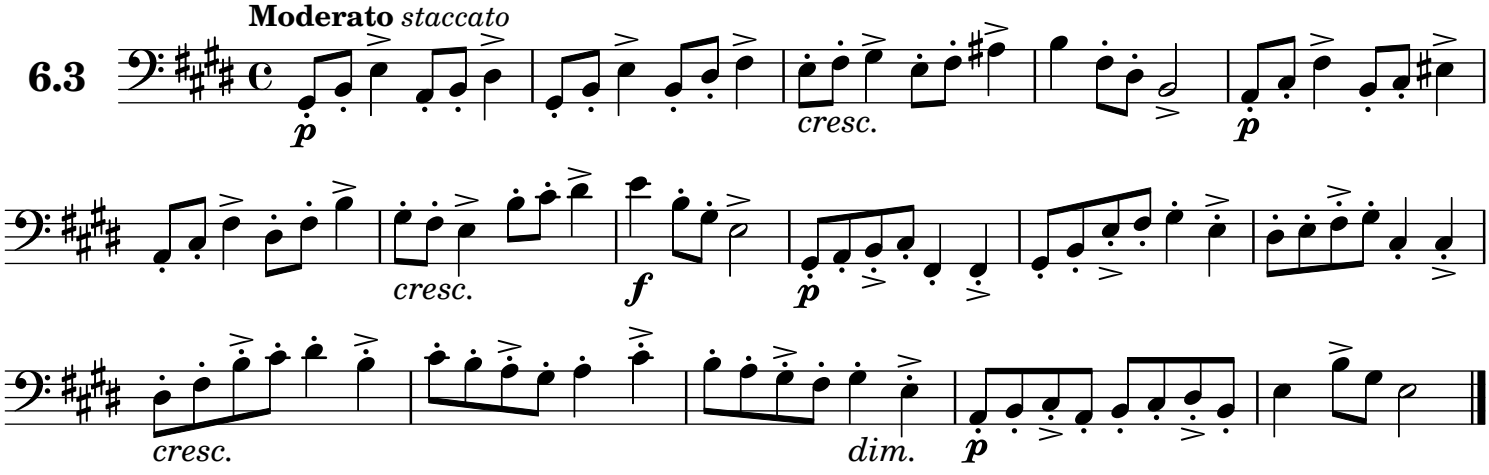
© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

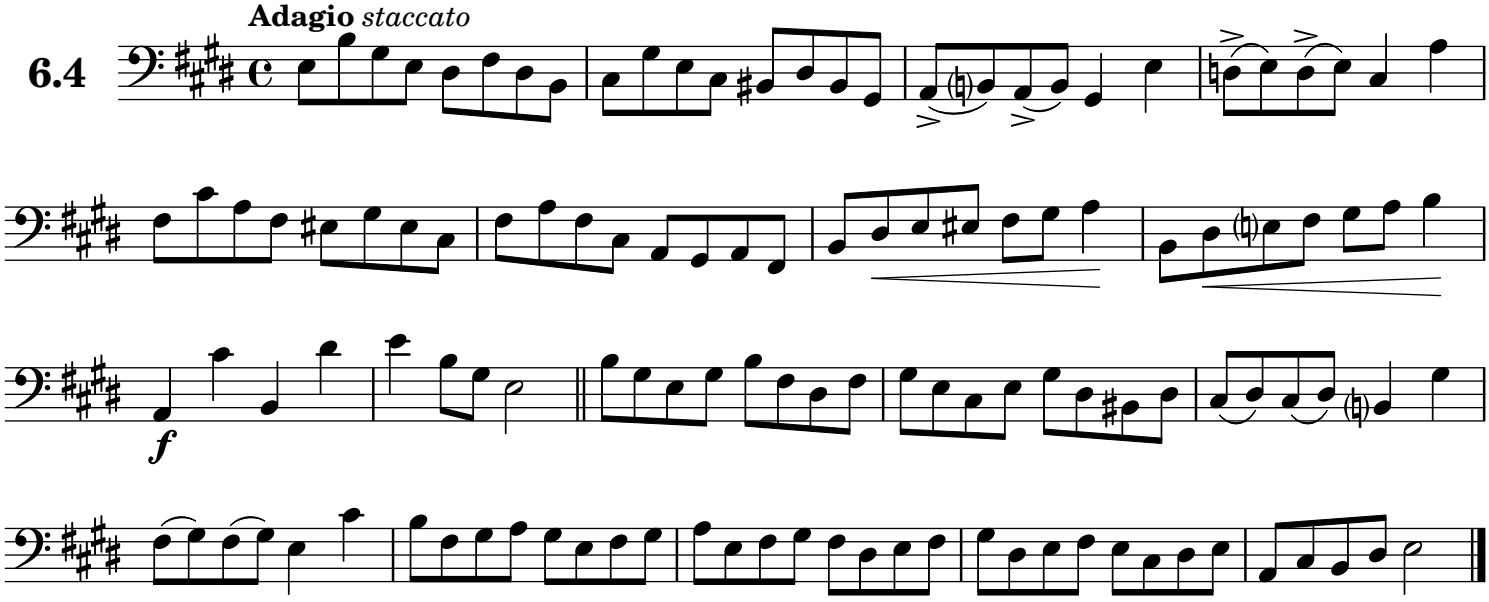
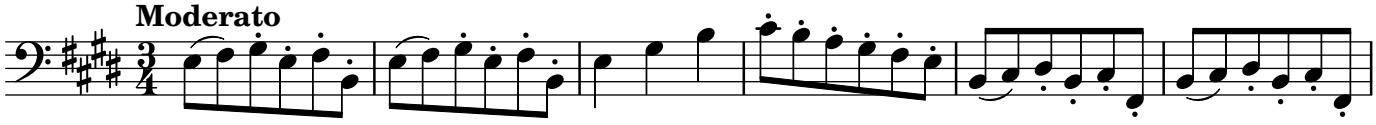
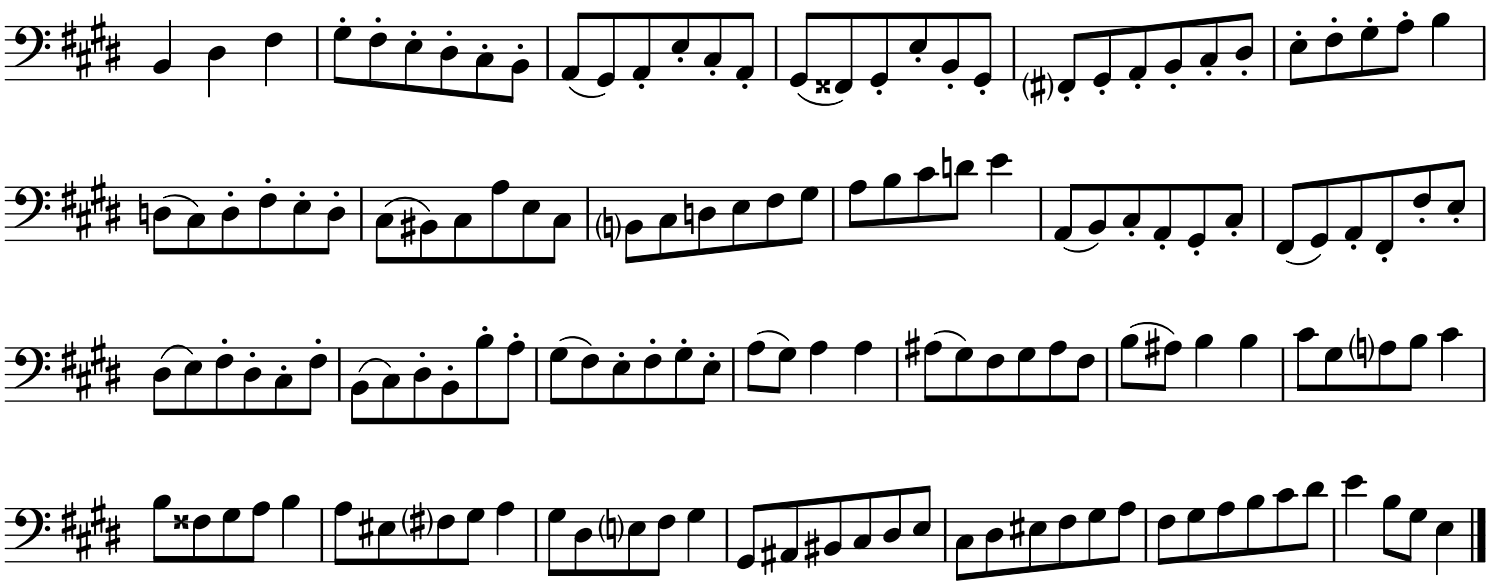
6. Exercises in E Major

6.1

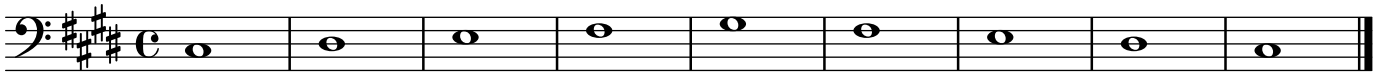
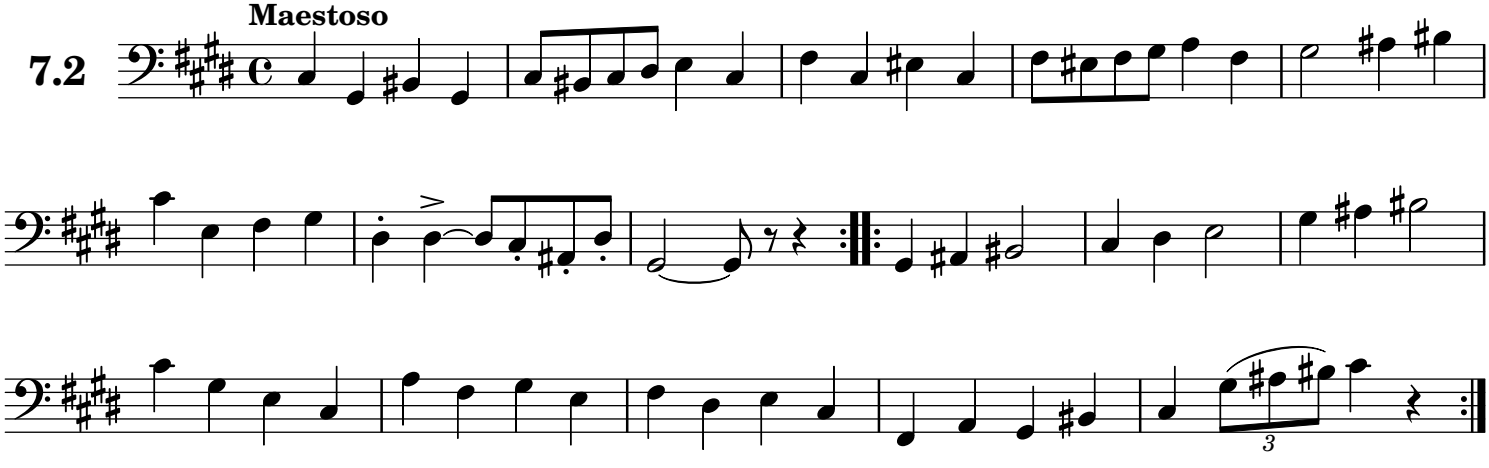
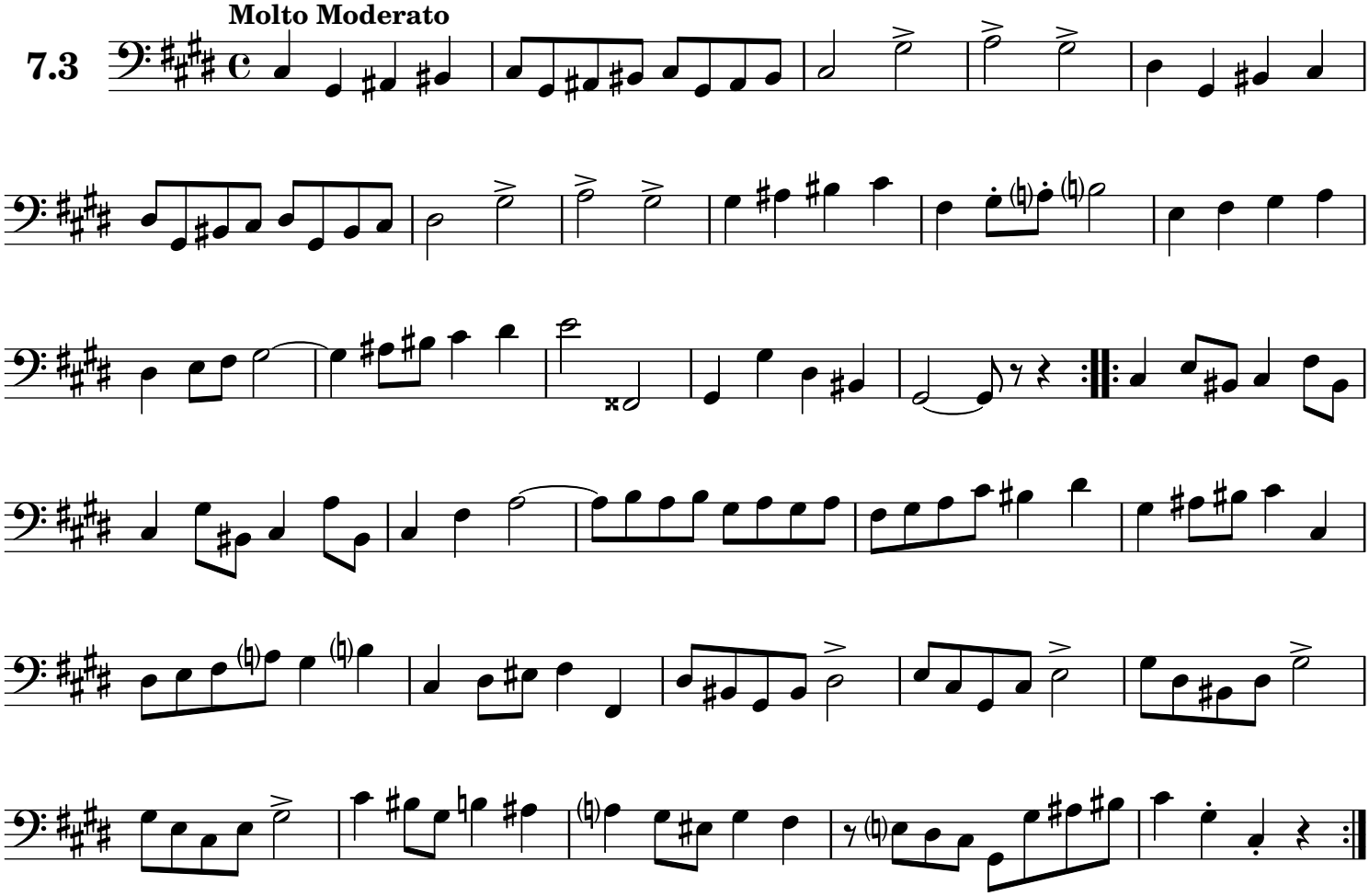


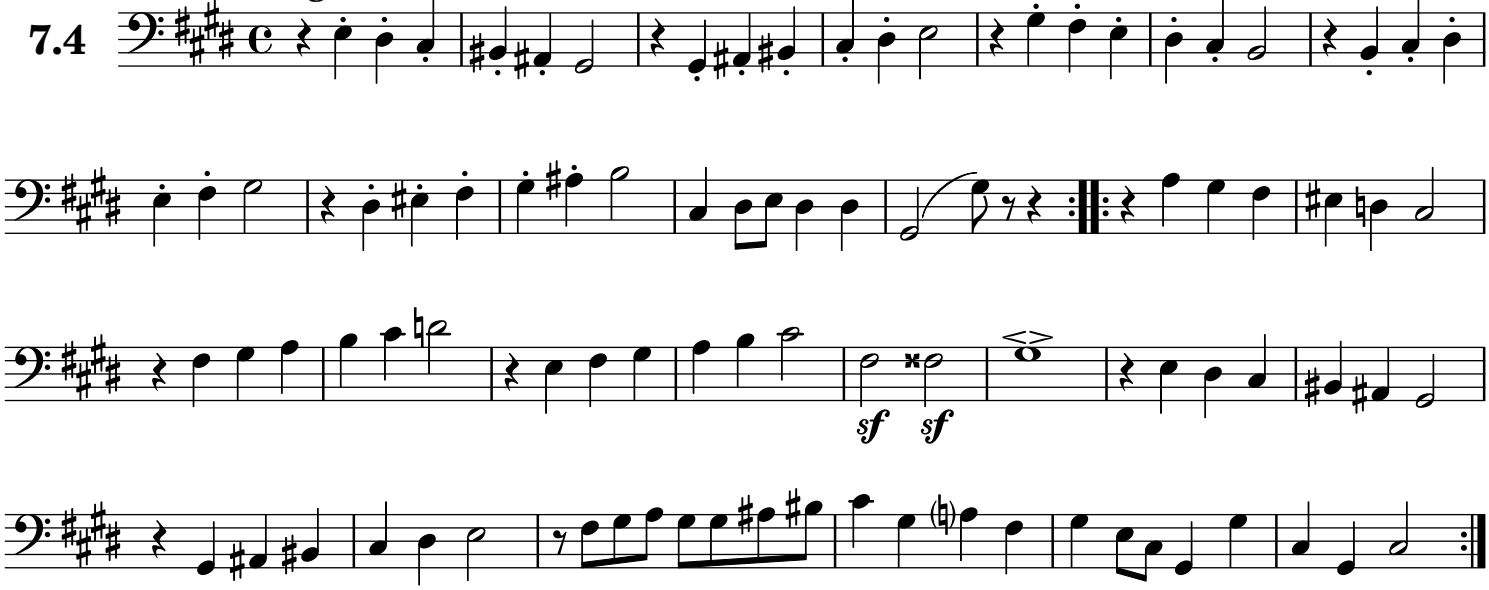
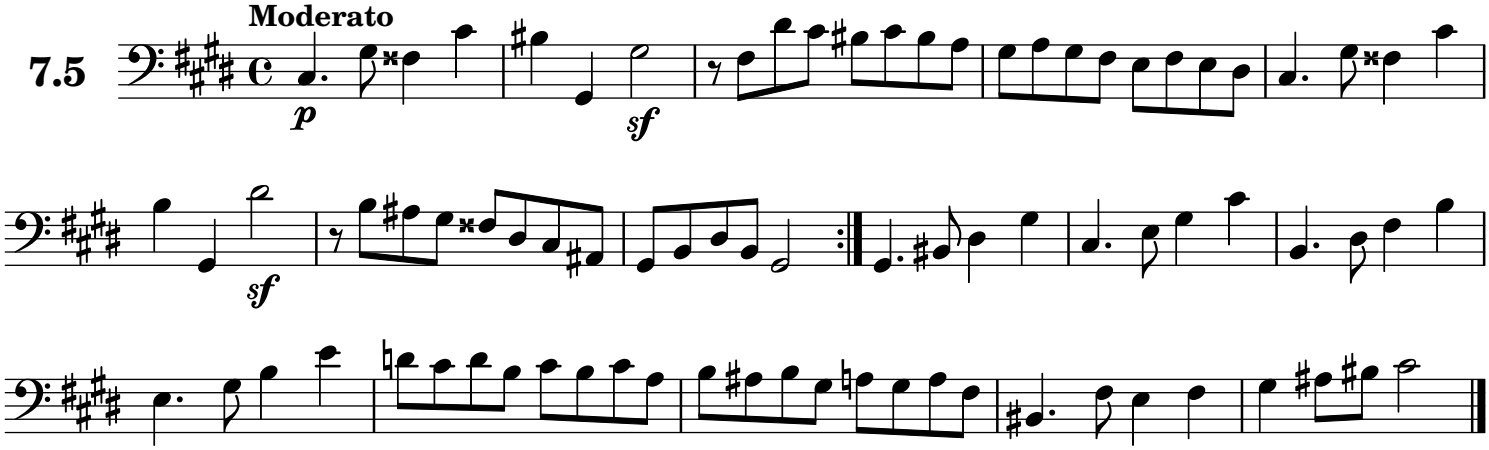
6.2 **Maestoso** *con forza*

6.3 **Moderato** *staccato*



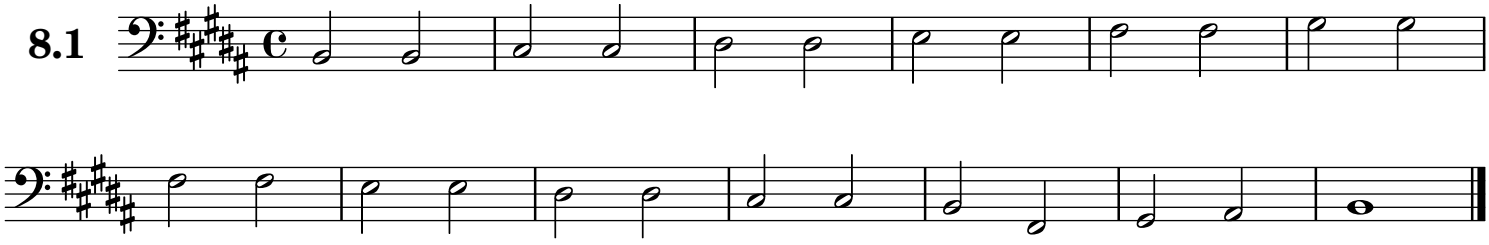
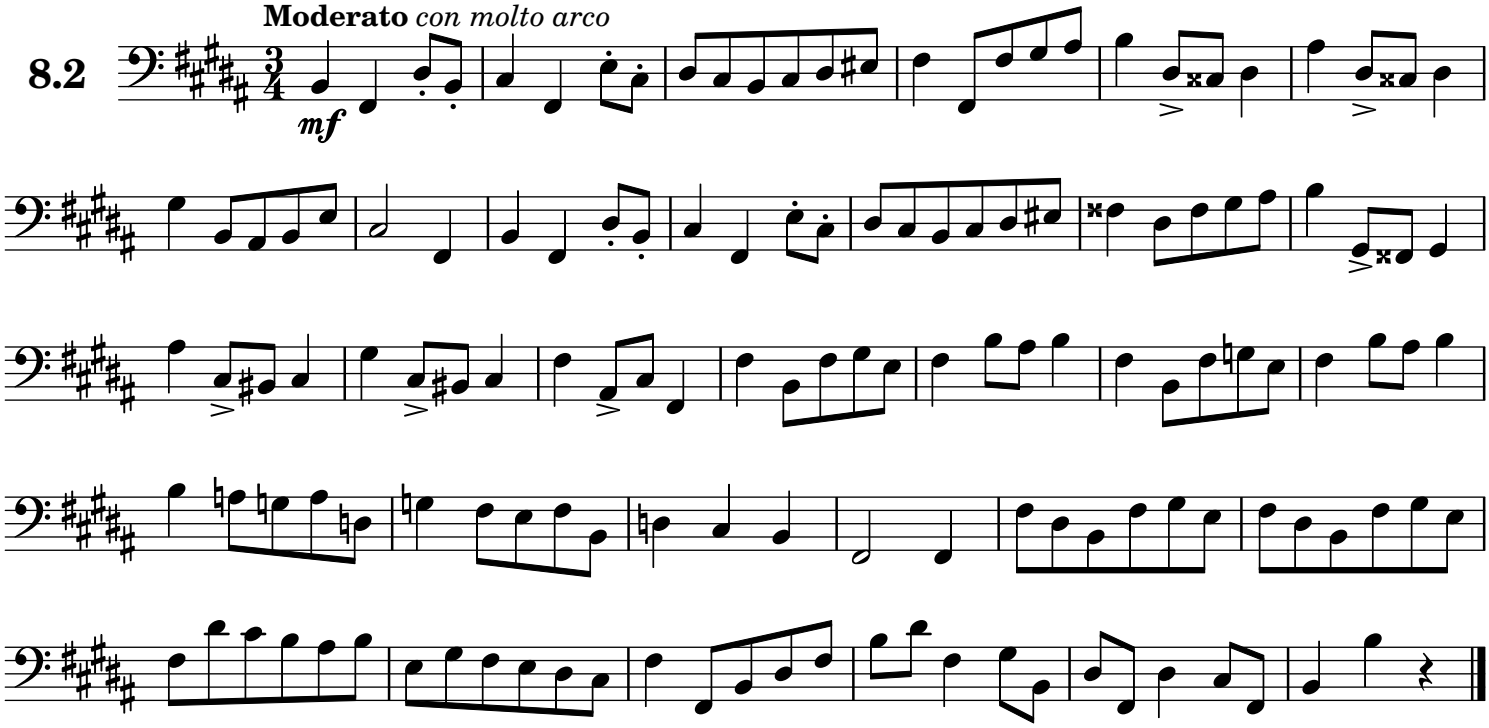
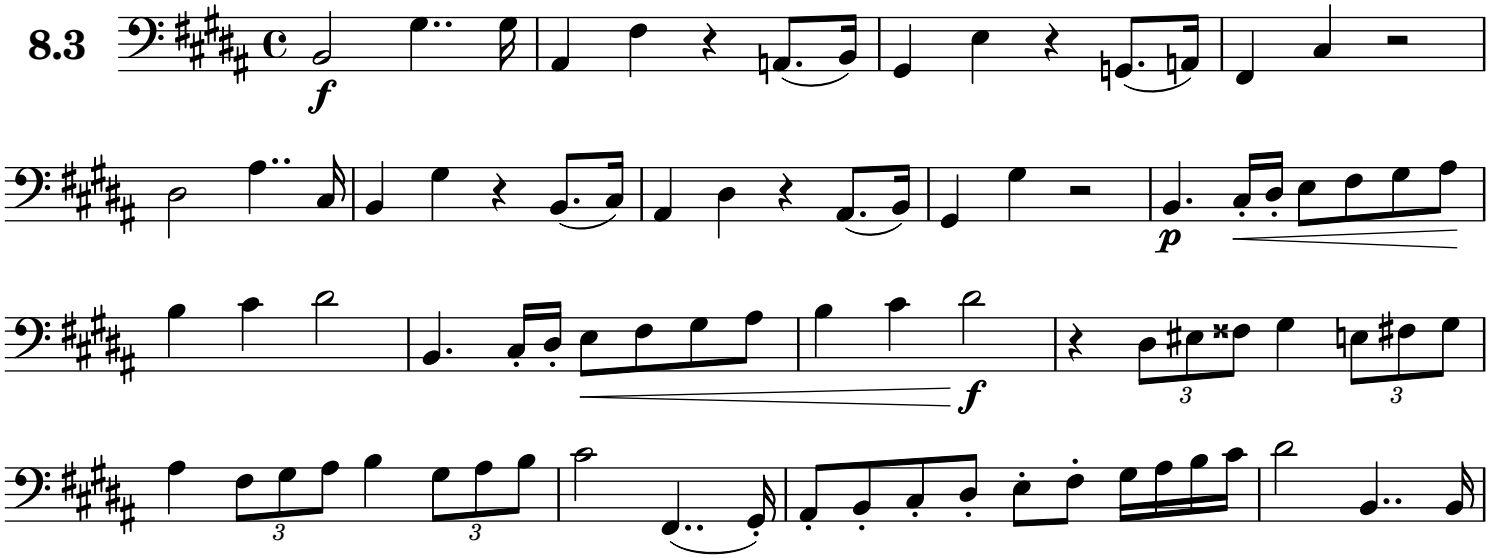
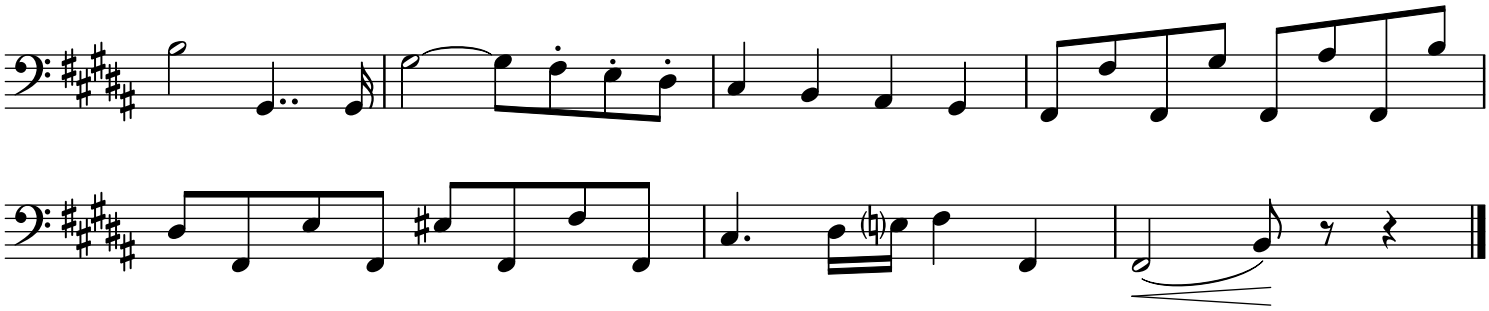
6.4 **Adagio** *staccato*

6.5 **Moderato**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

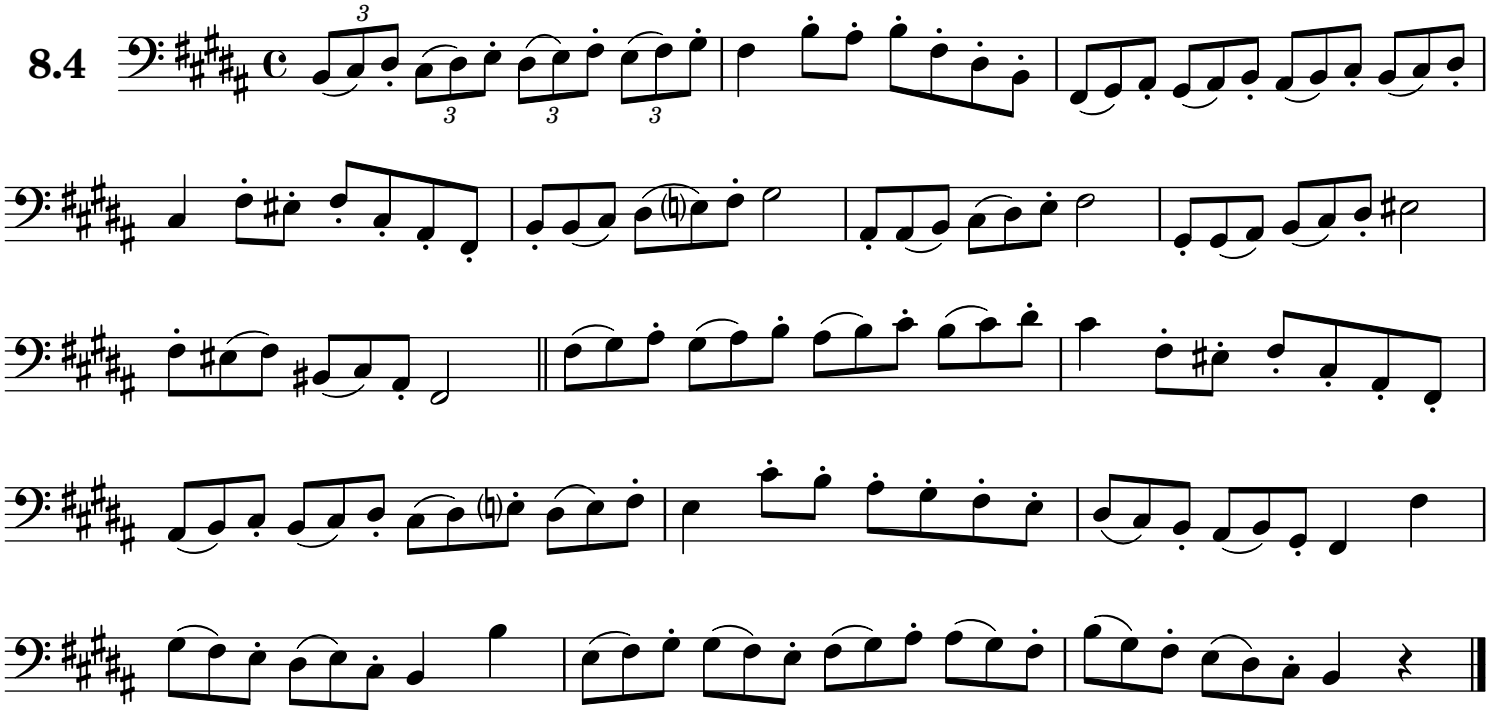
7. Exercises in C-Sharp Minor

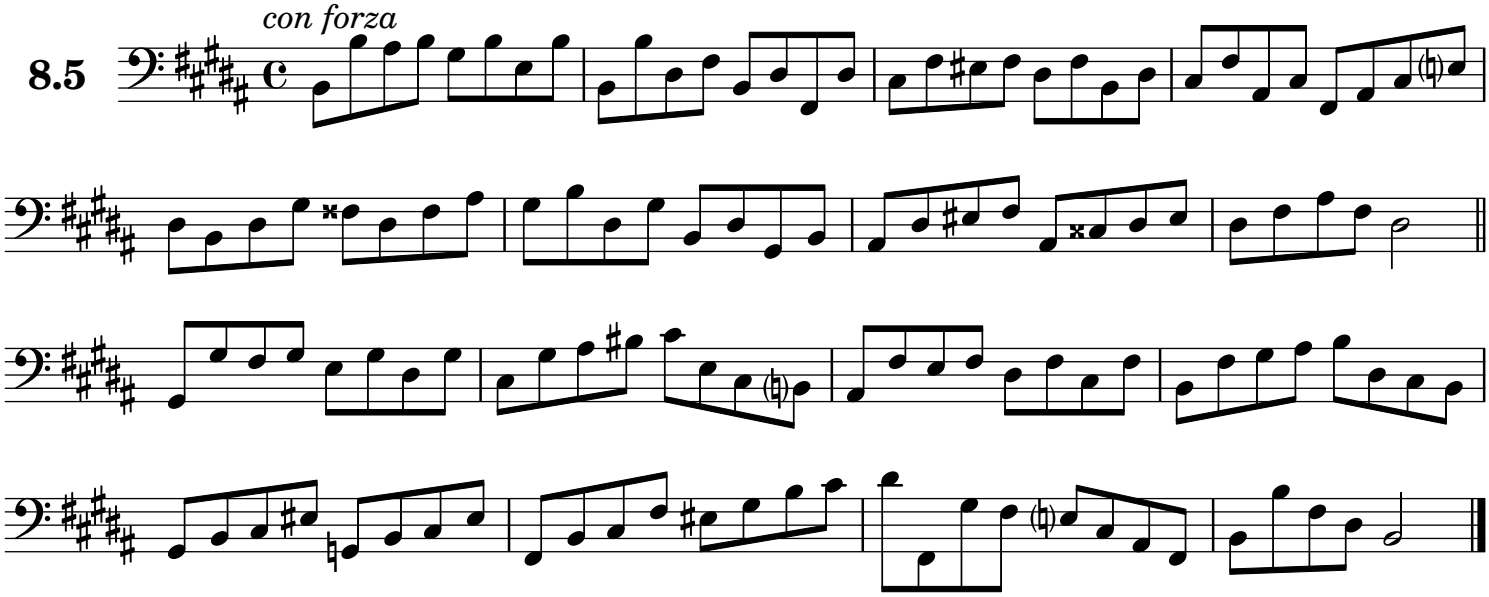
7.1

7.2 Maestoso

7.3 Molto Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

7.4 Adagio

7.5 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

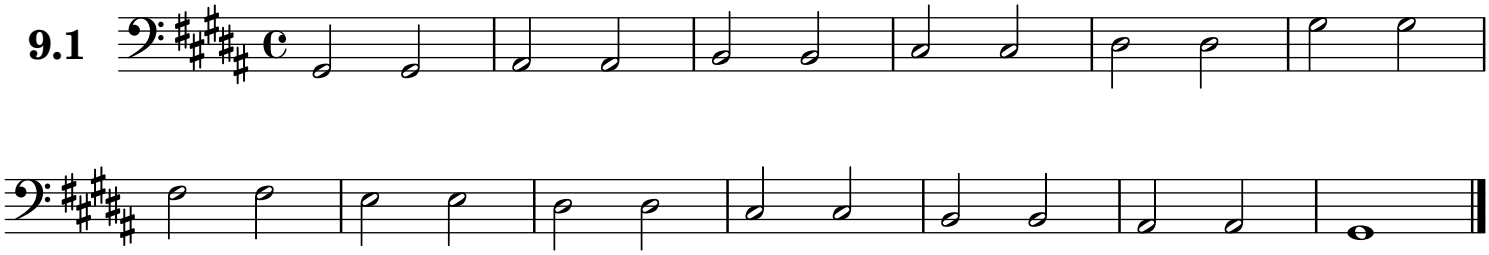
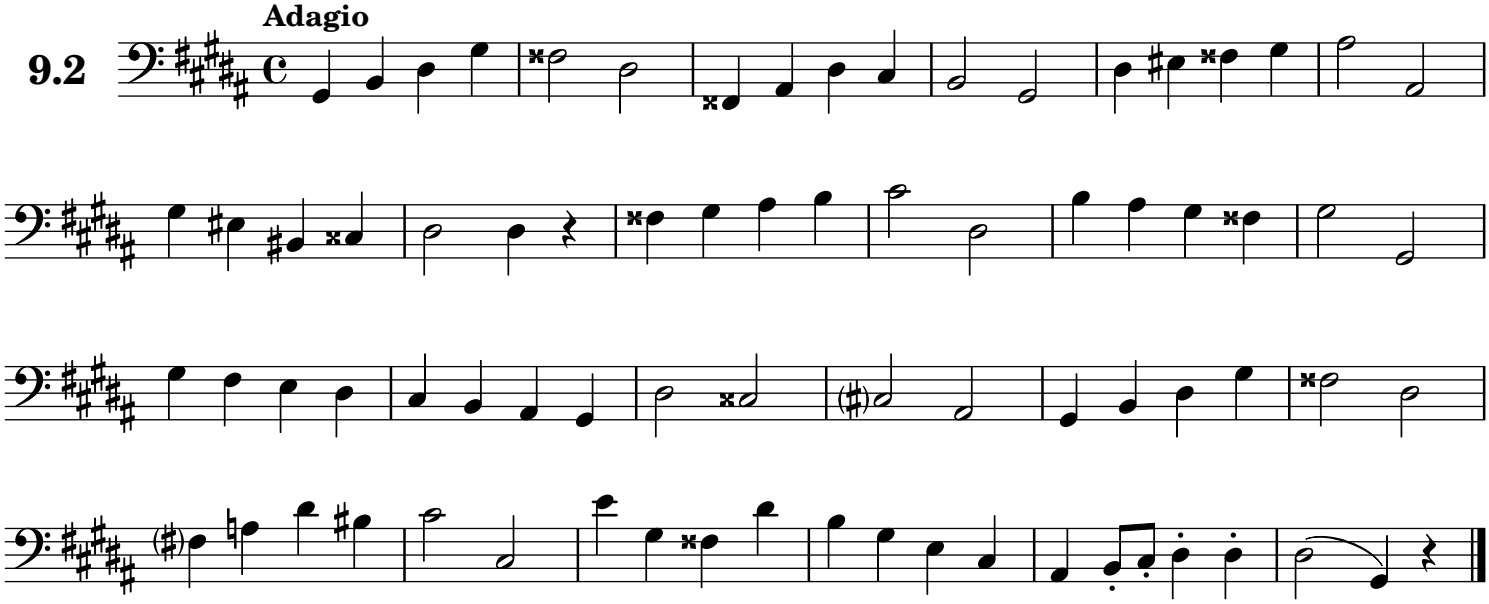
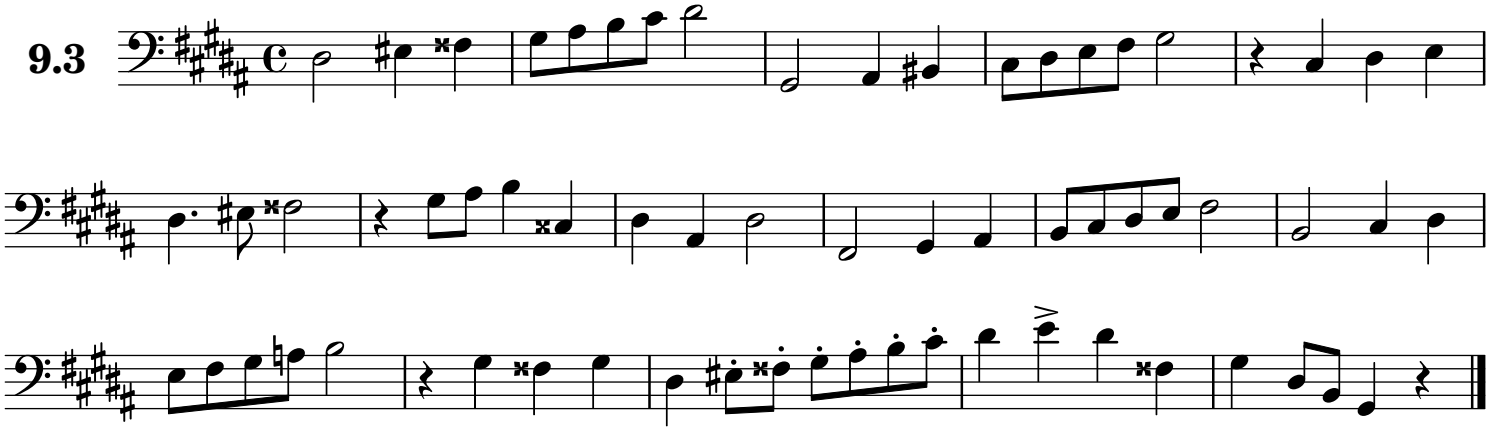
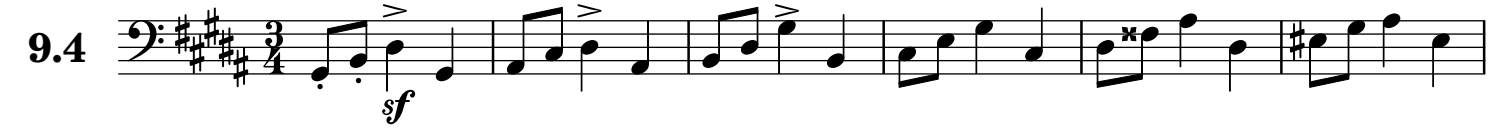
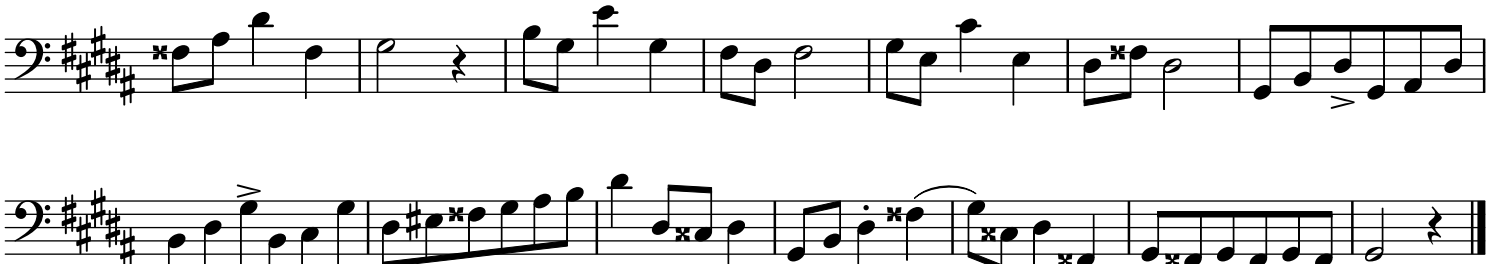
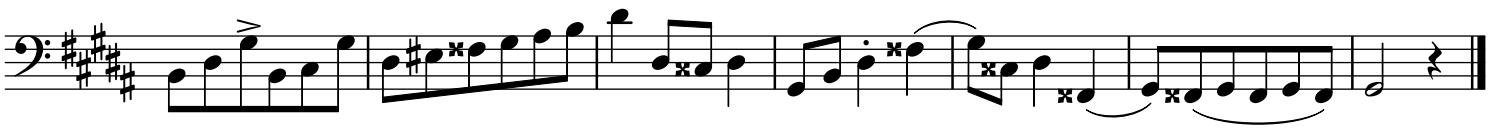
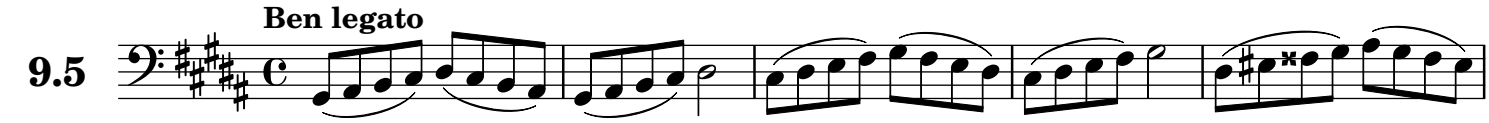
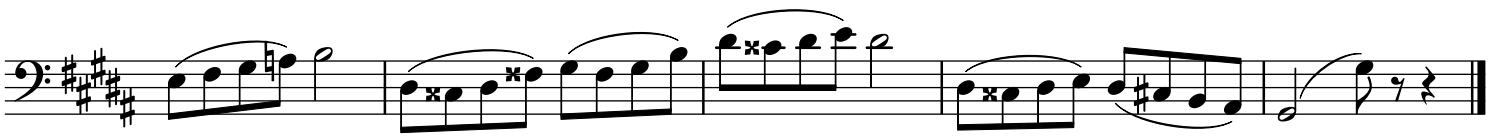
8. Exercises in B Major

8.1

8.2 **Moderato** *con molto arco*

8.3

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

Lentamente

8.4

con forza

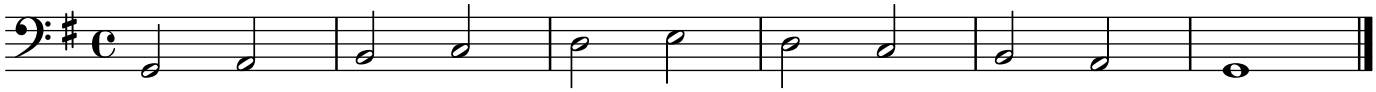
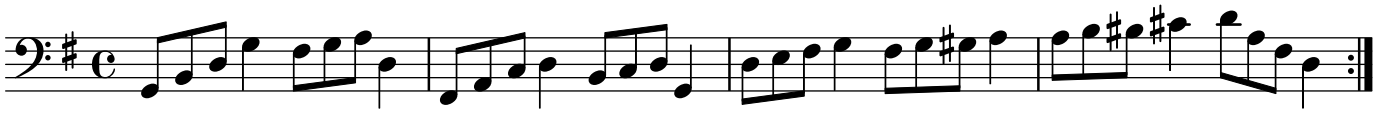
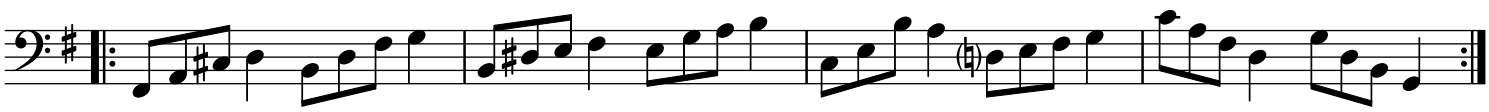
8.5

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

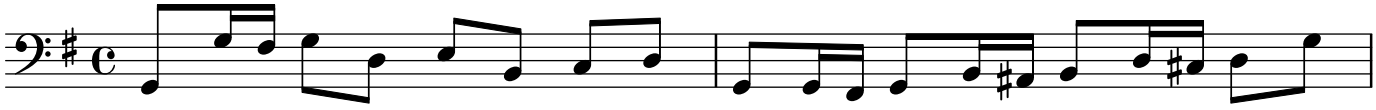
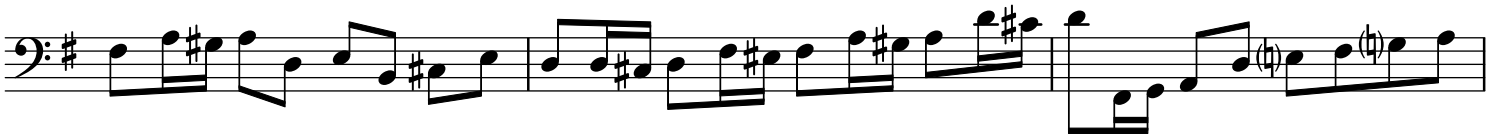
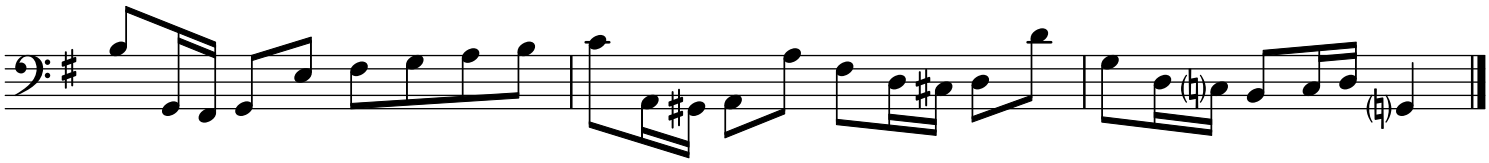
9. Exercises in G-Sharp Minor

9.1

9.2

9.3

9.4

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

9.5 **Ben legato**



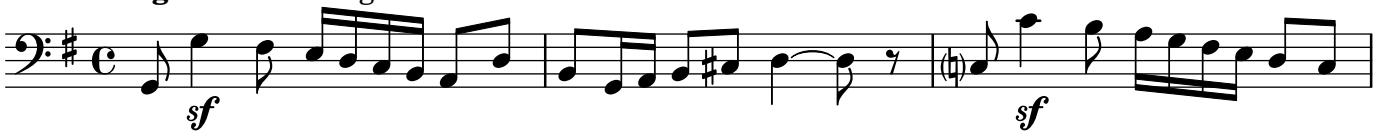
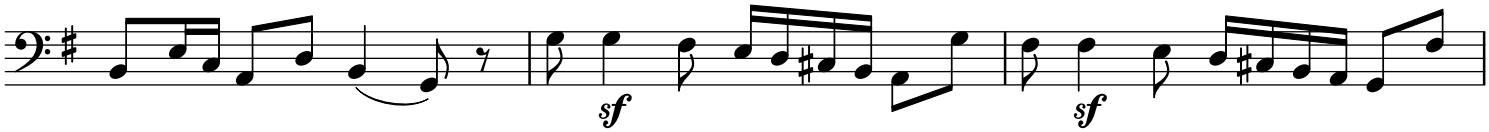
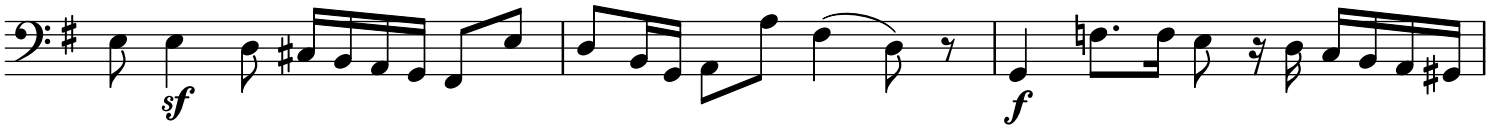
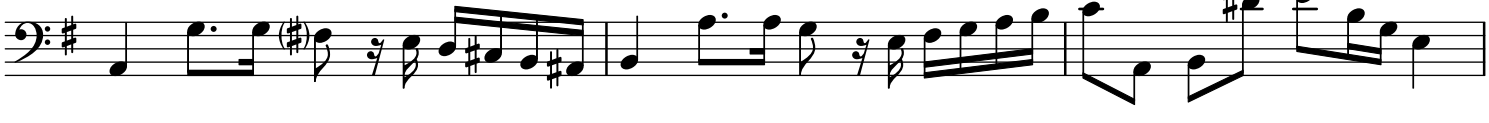
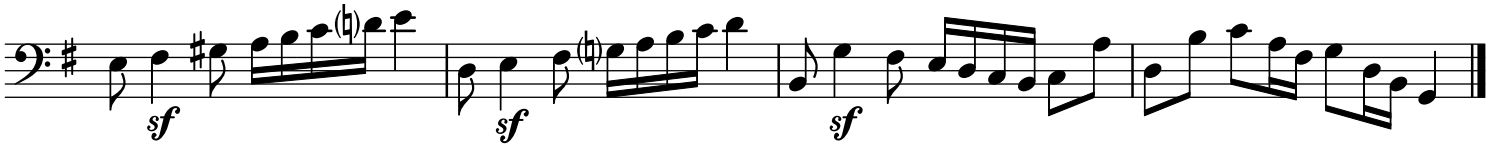
© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

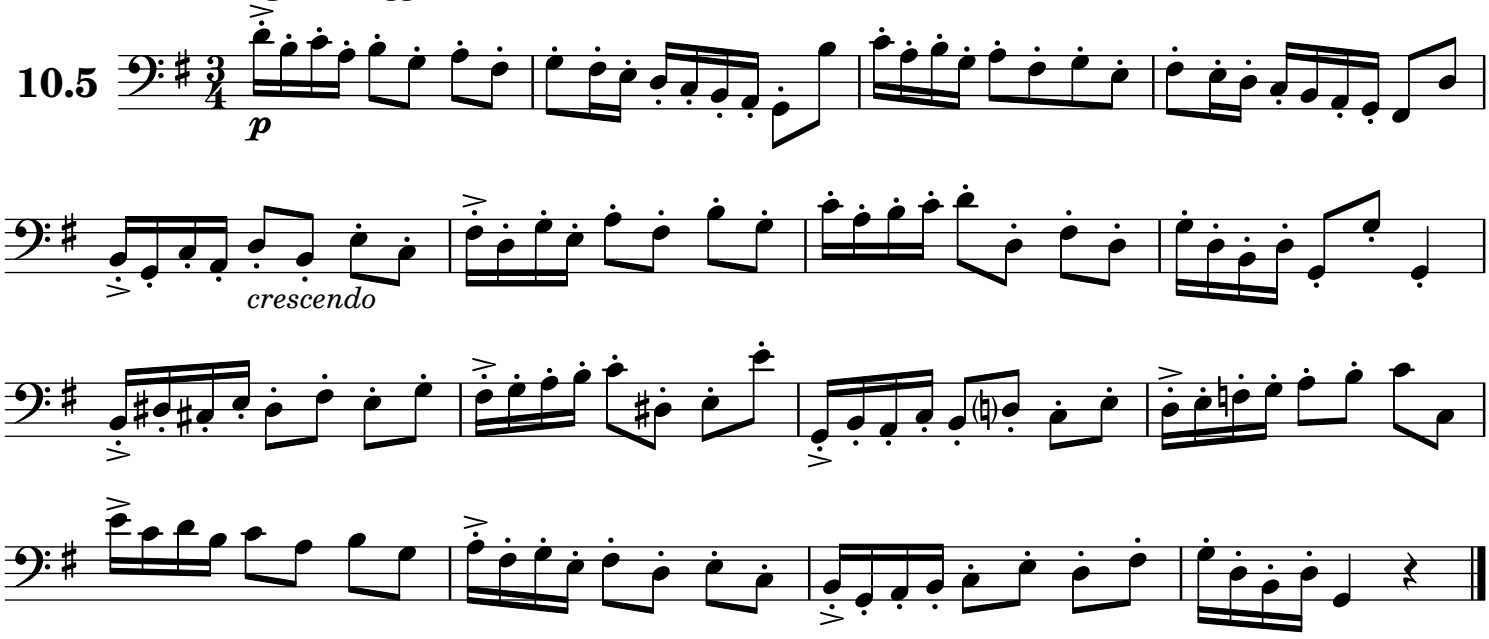
10. Exercises in G Major

10.1

10.2

Moderato *ben marcato e staccato*

10.3



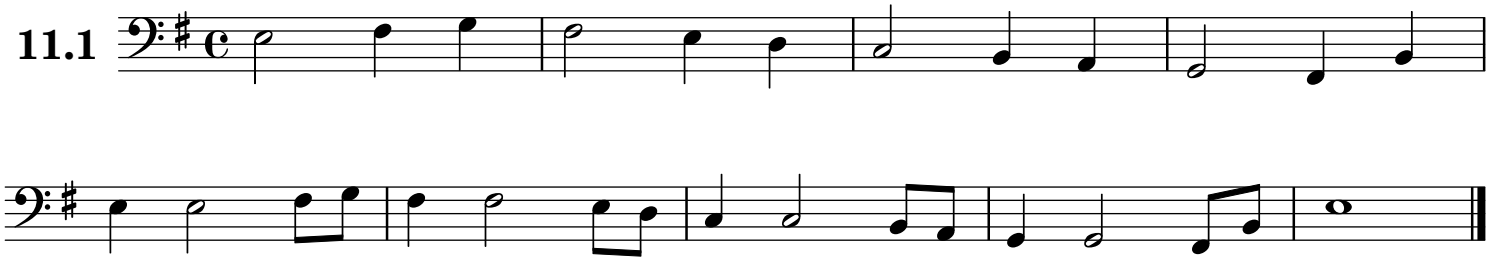
Allegretto *con energia*

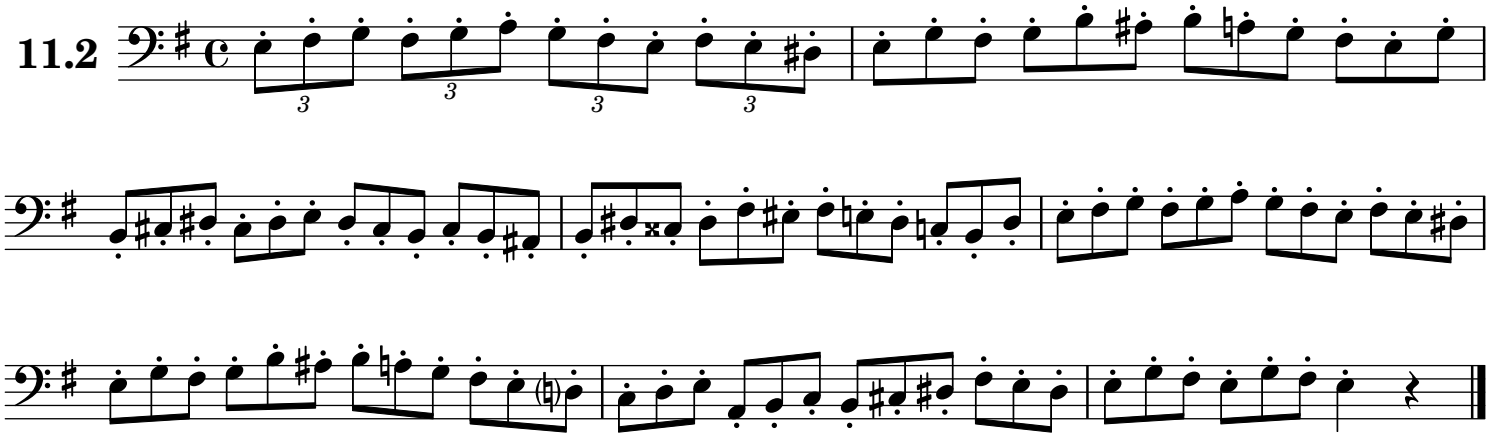
10.4

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

Allegretto *leggiero*

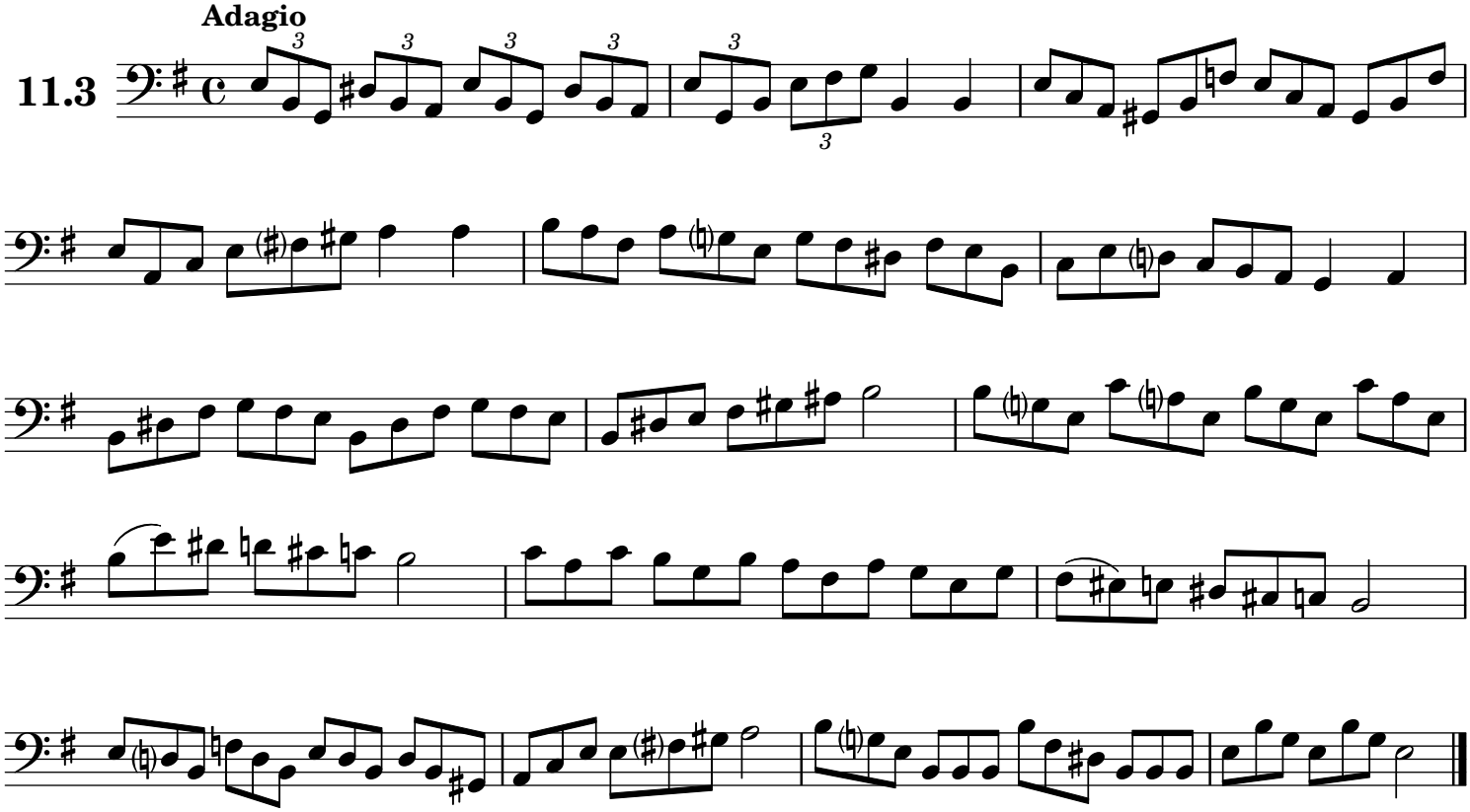
10.5

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

11. Exercises in E Minor

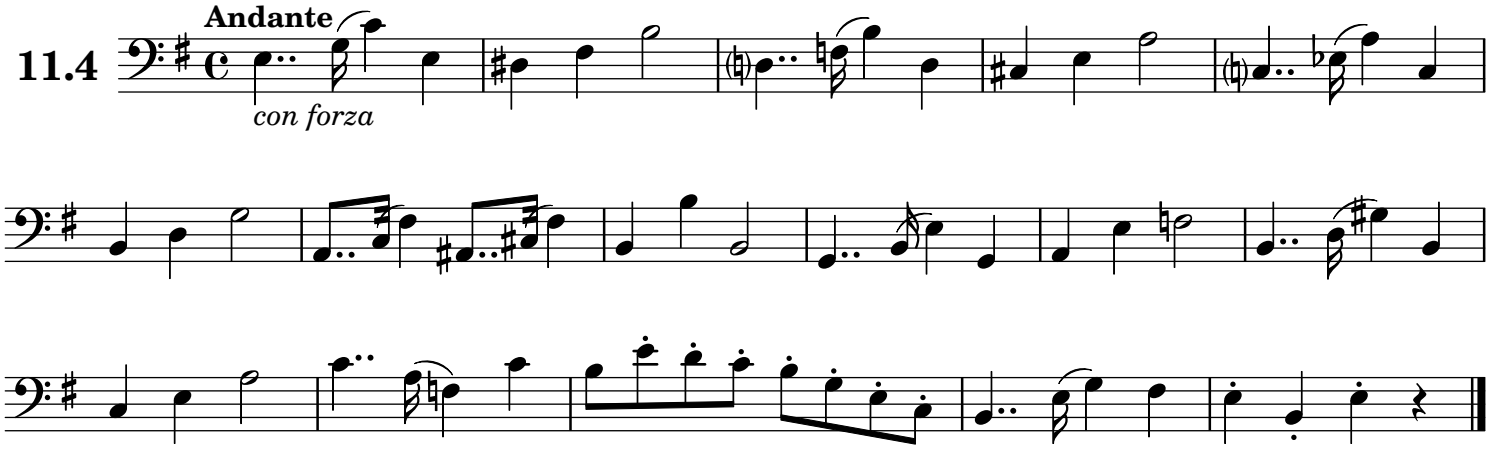
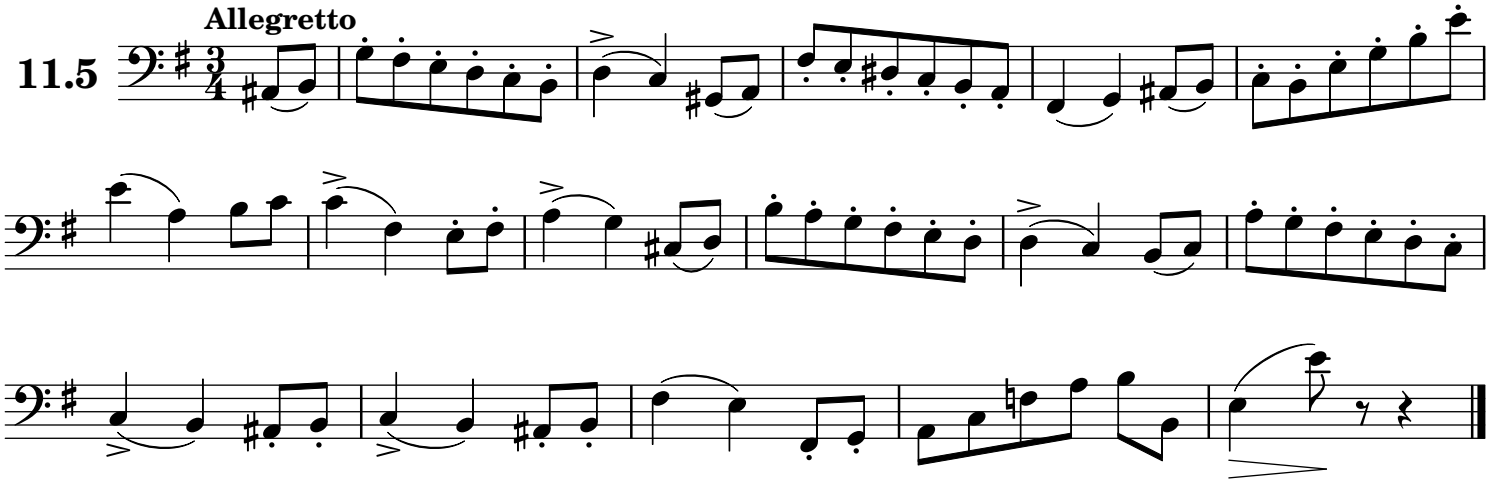
11.1



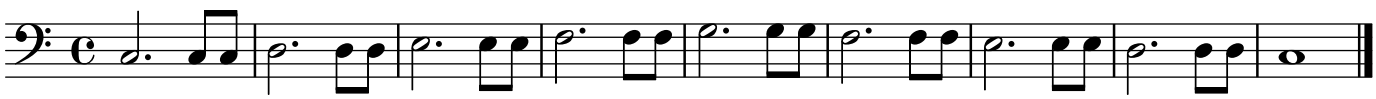
11.2

11.3

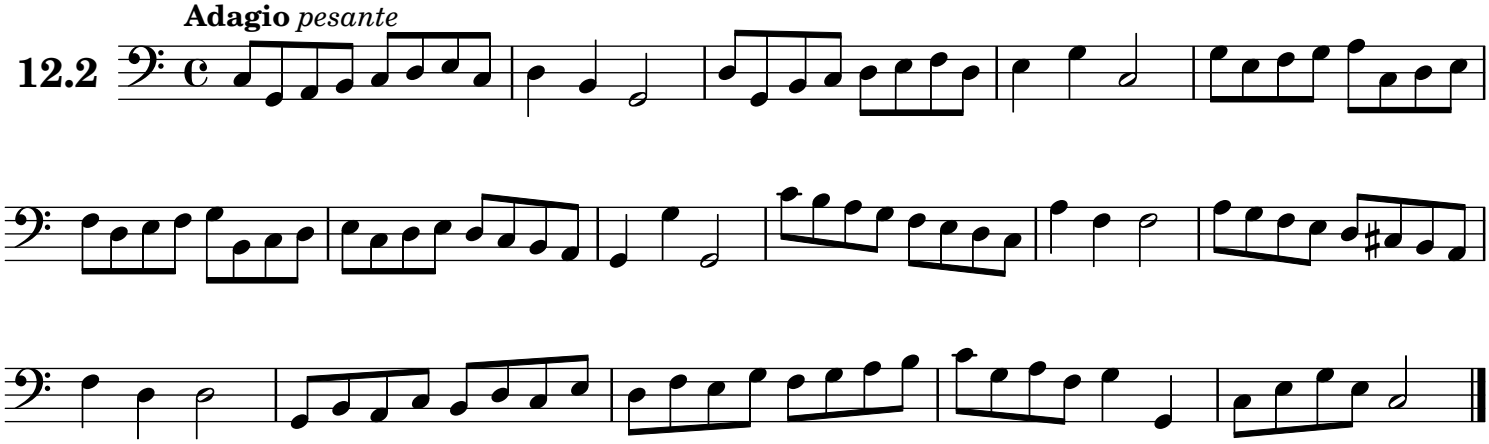
Adagio

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

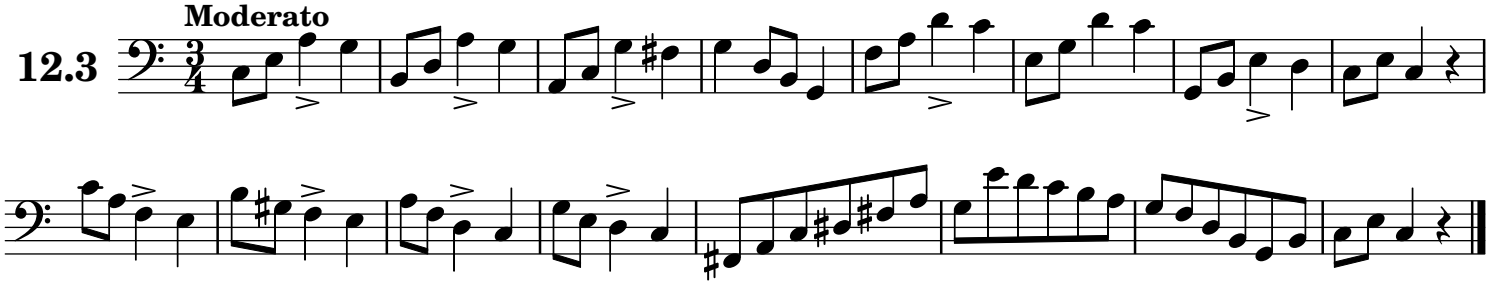
11.4 **Andante**

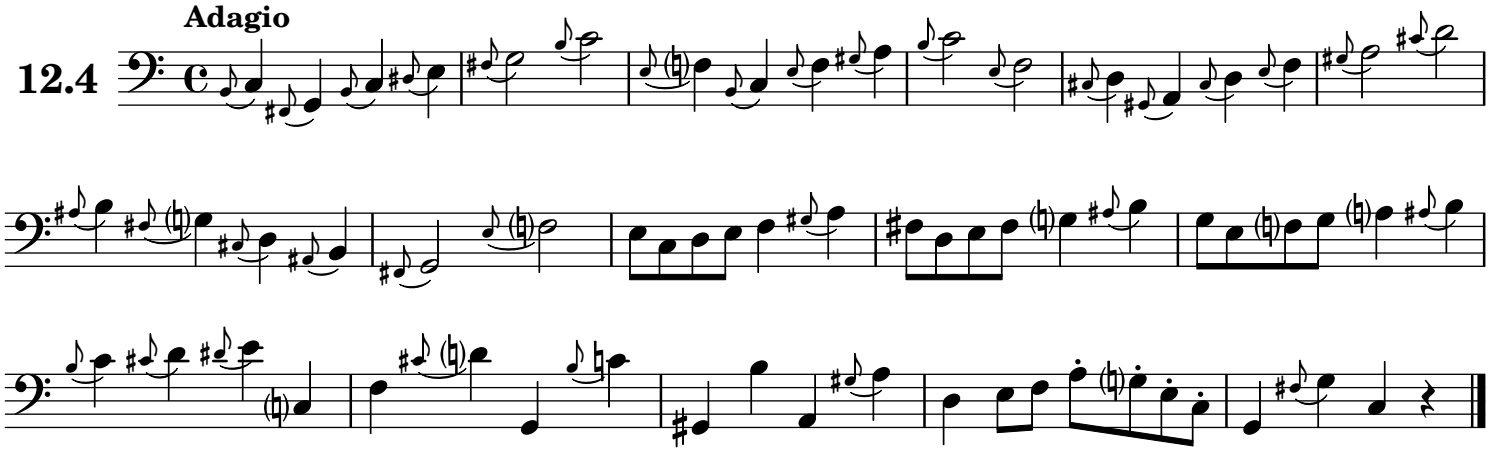
con forza

11.5 **Allegretto**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

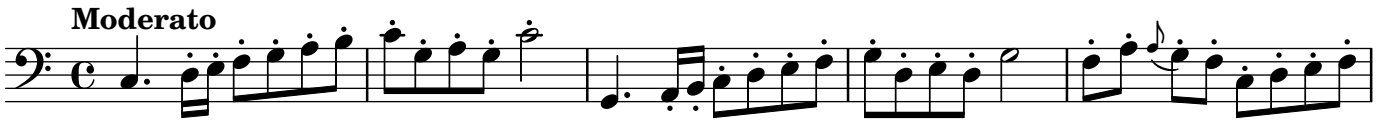
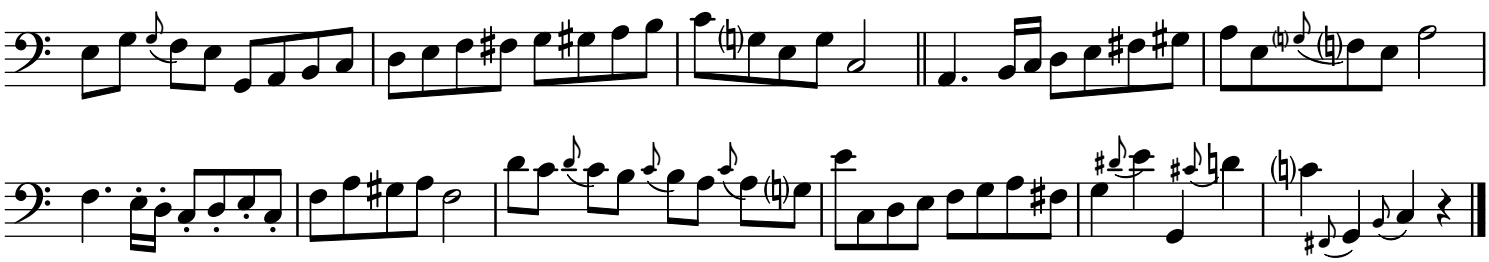
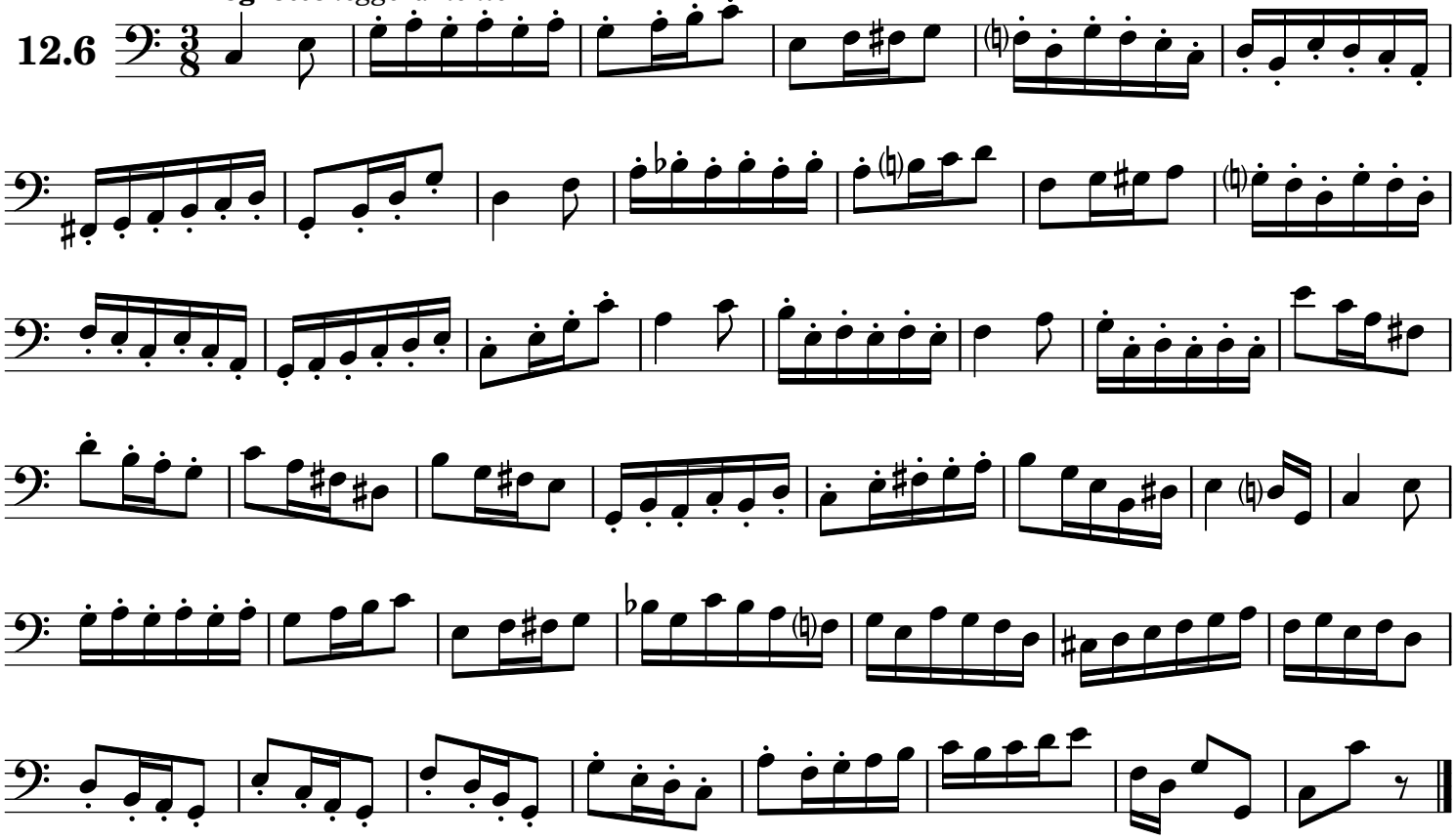
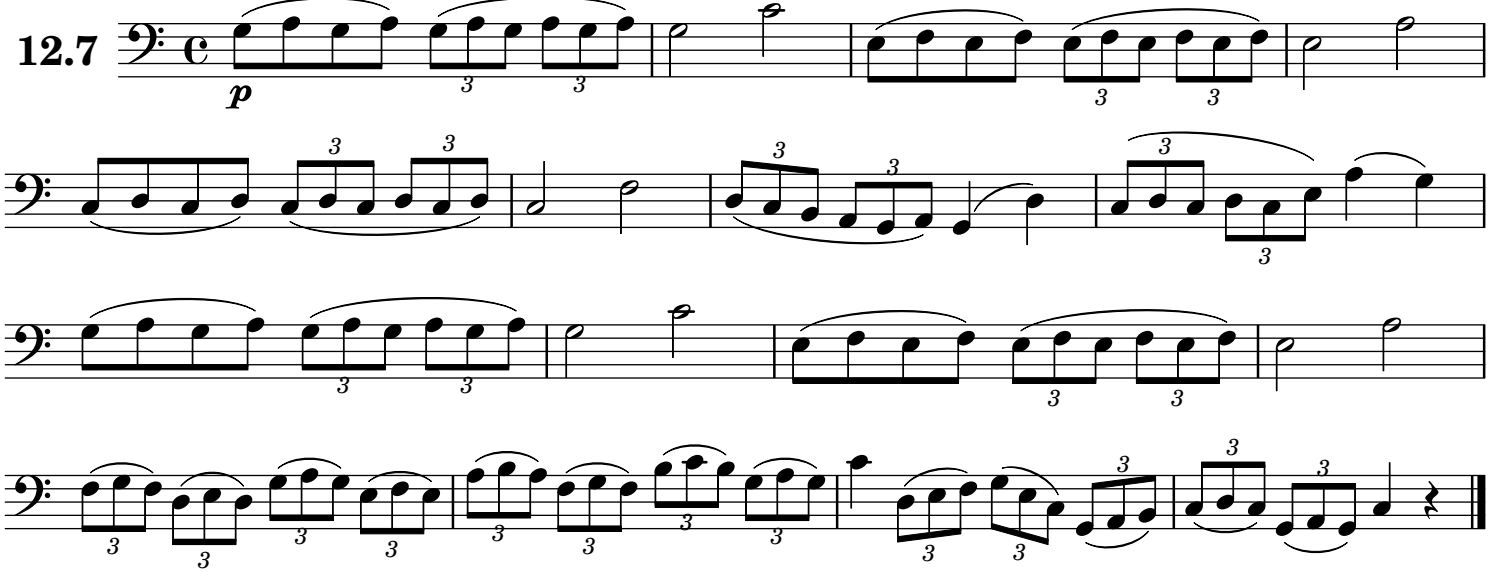
12. Exercises in C Major

12.1

Adagio *pesante*

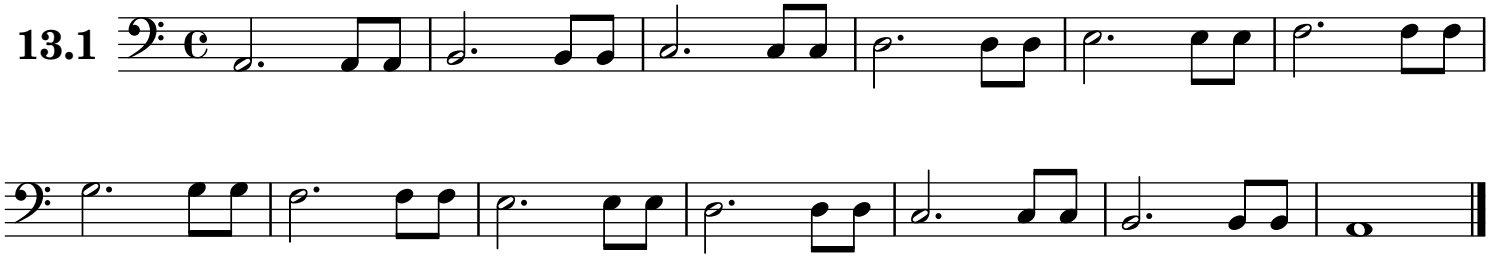
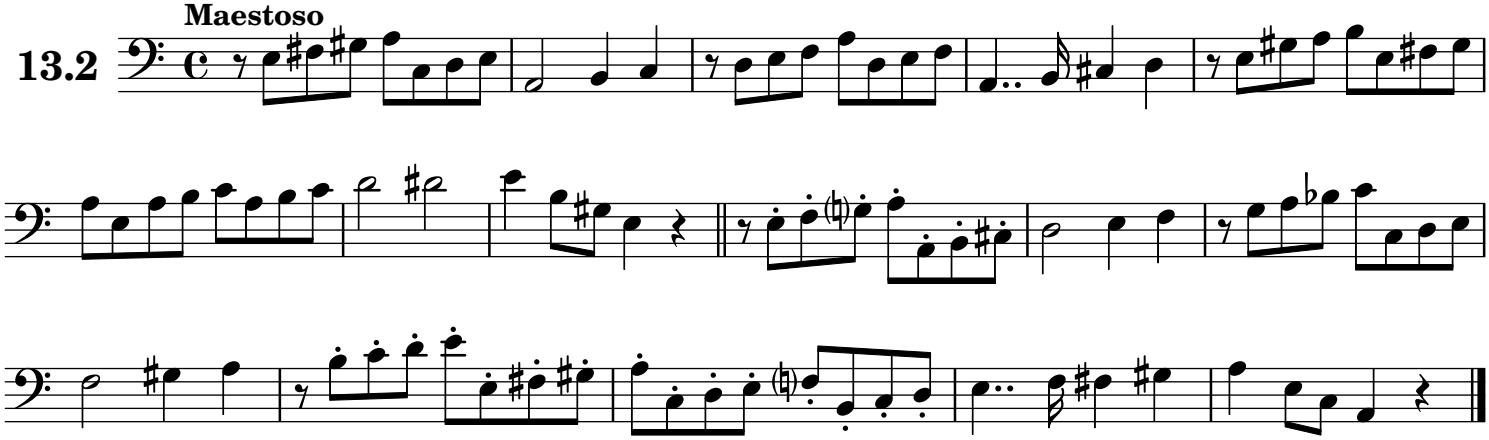
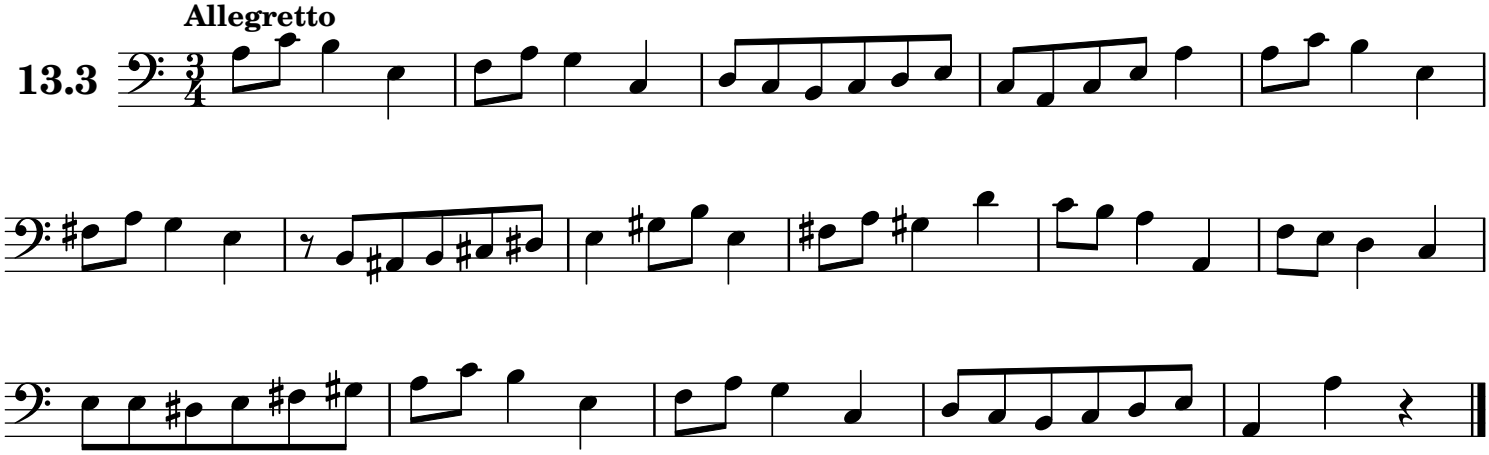
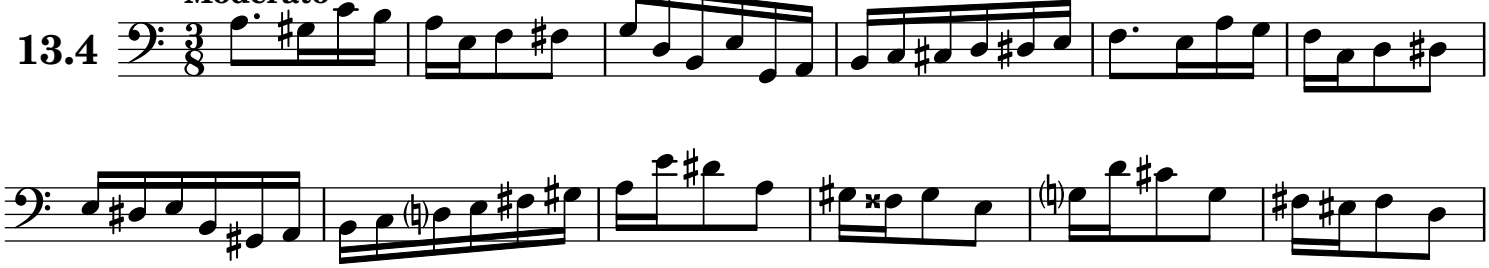
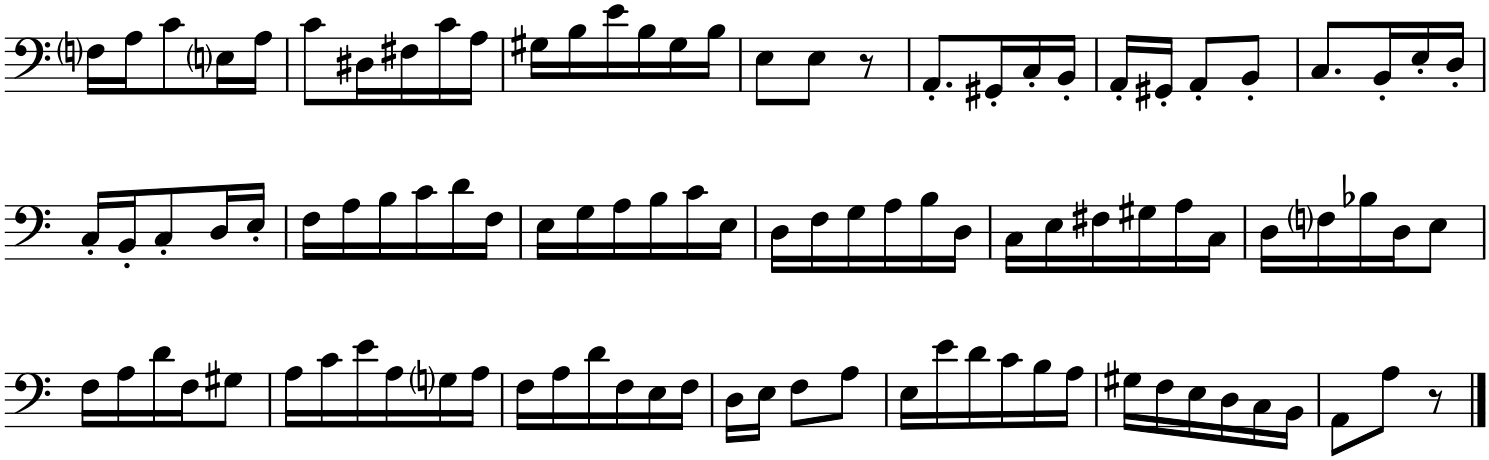
12.2

Moderato

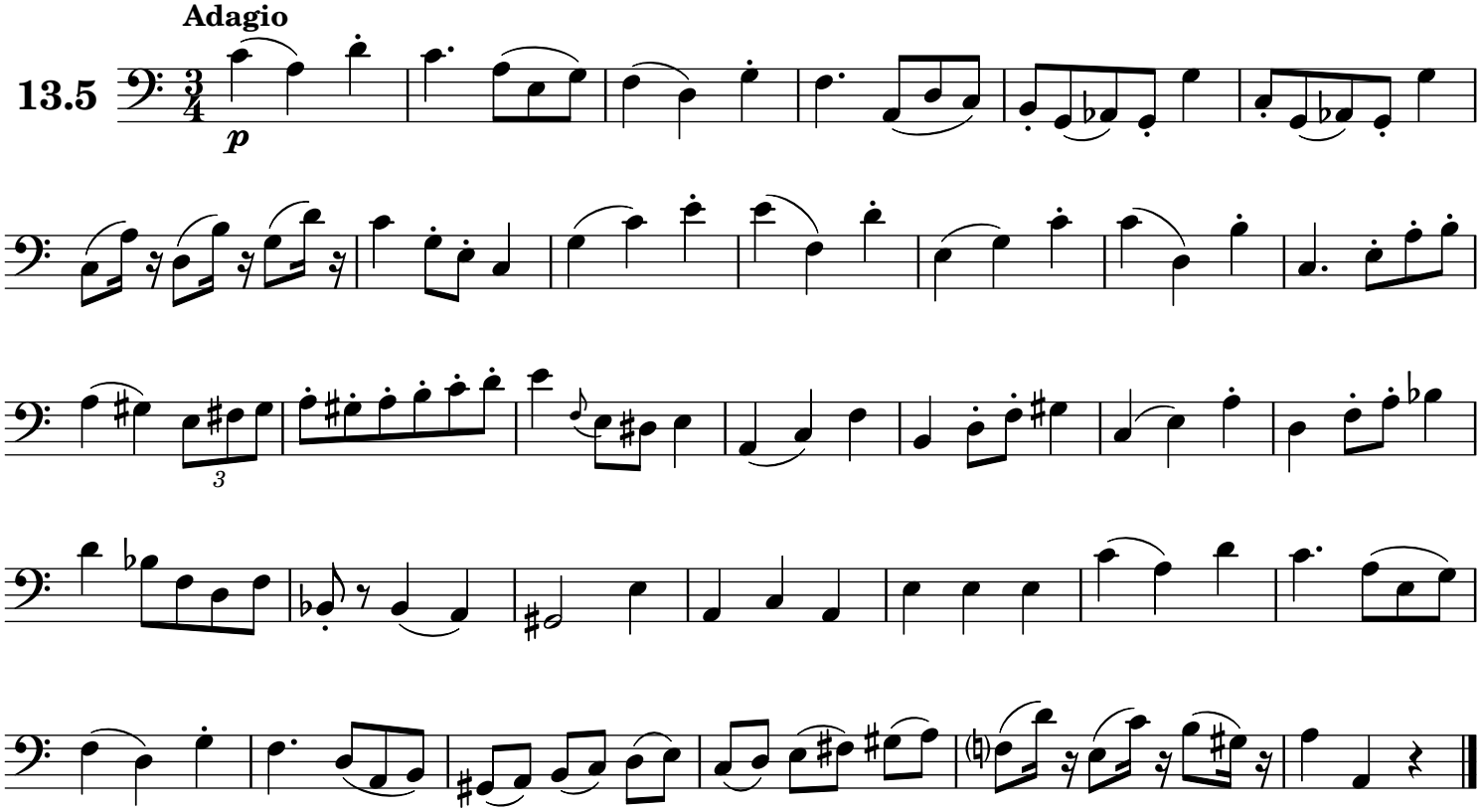
12.3

Adagio

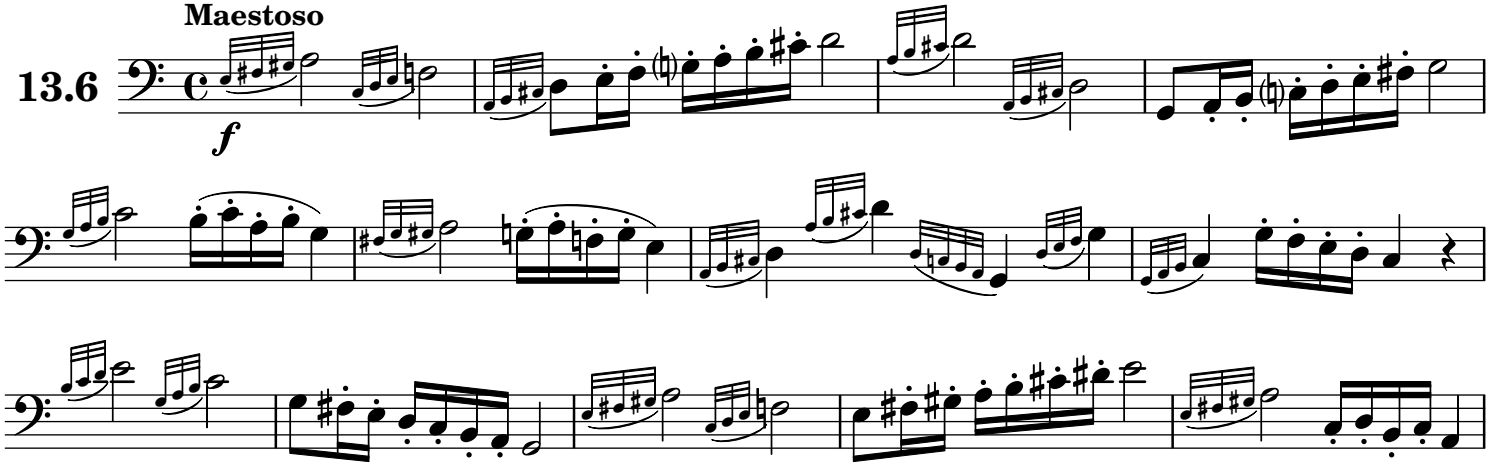
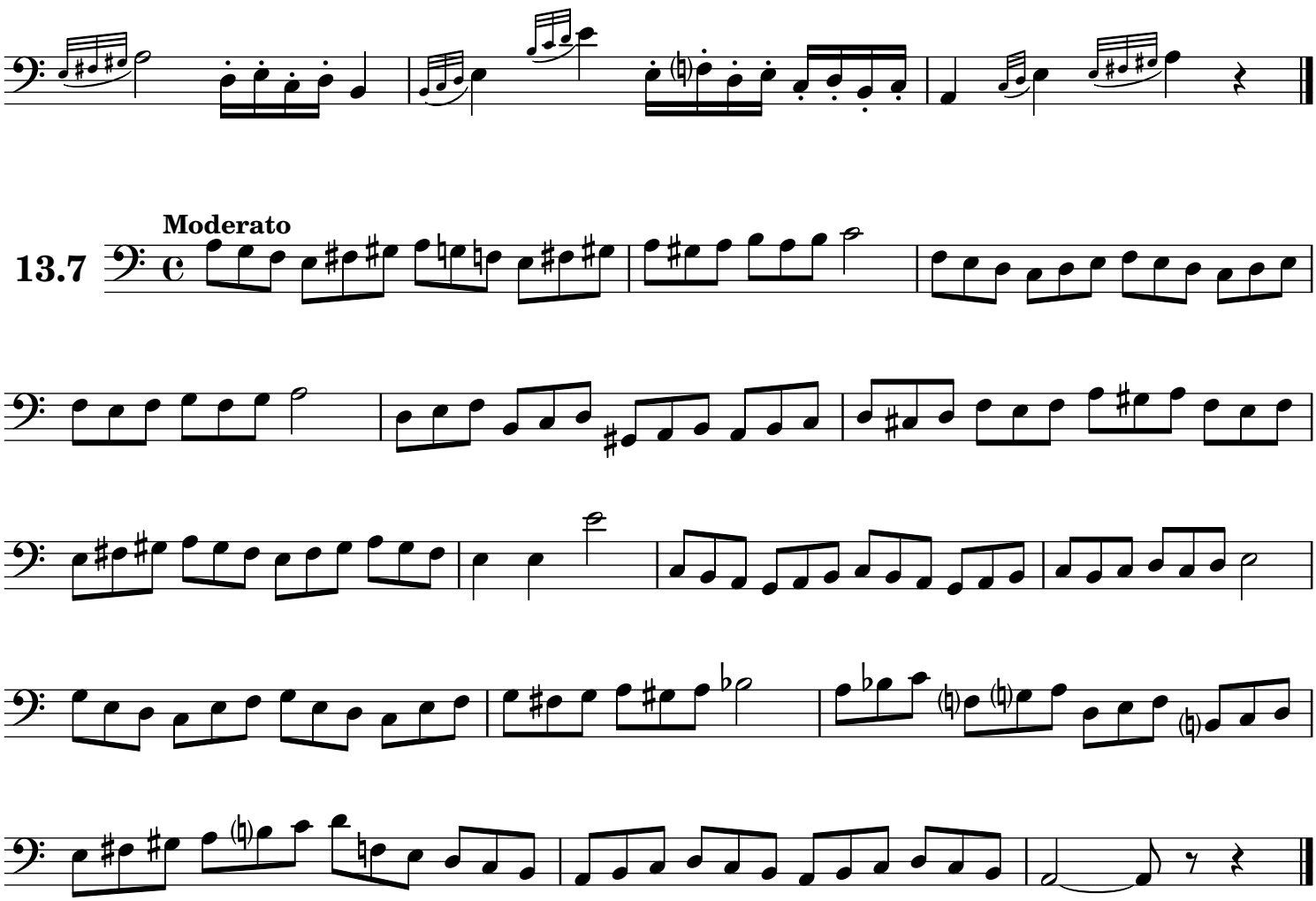
12.4

Moderato

12.5

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

12.6 **Allegretto** *leggeramente*

12.7 **Adagio**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

13. Exercises in A Minor

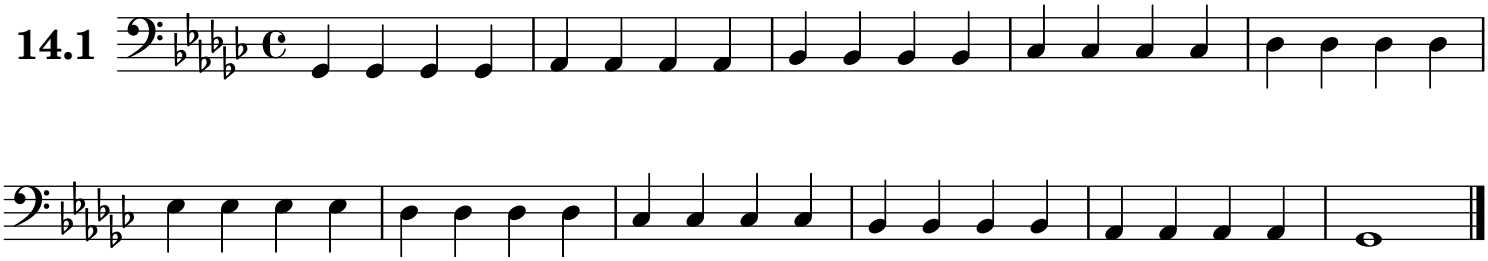
13.1

13.2 Maestoso

13.3 Allegretto

13.4 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

Adagio

13.5

Maestoso

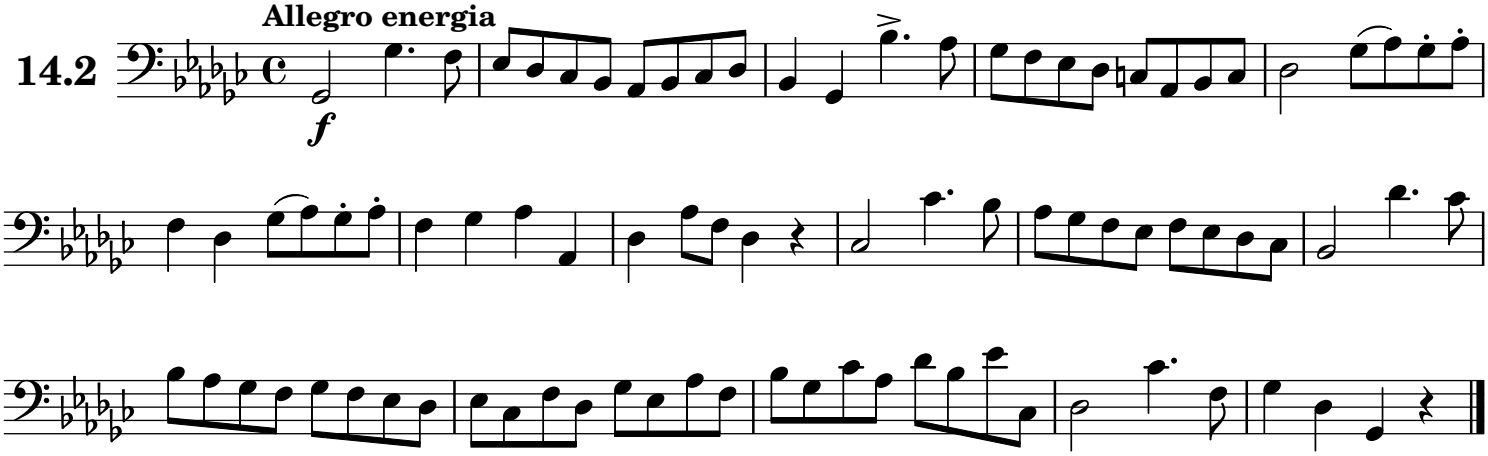
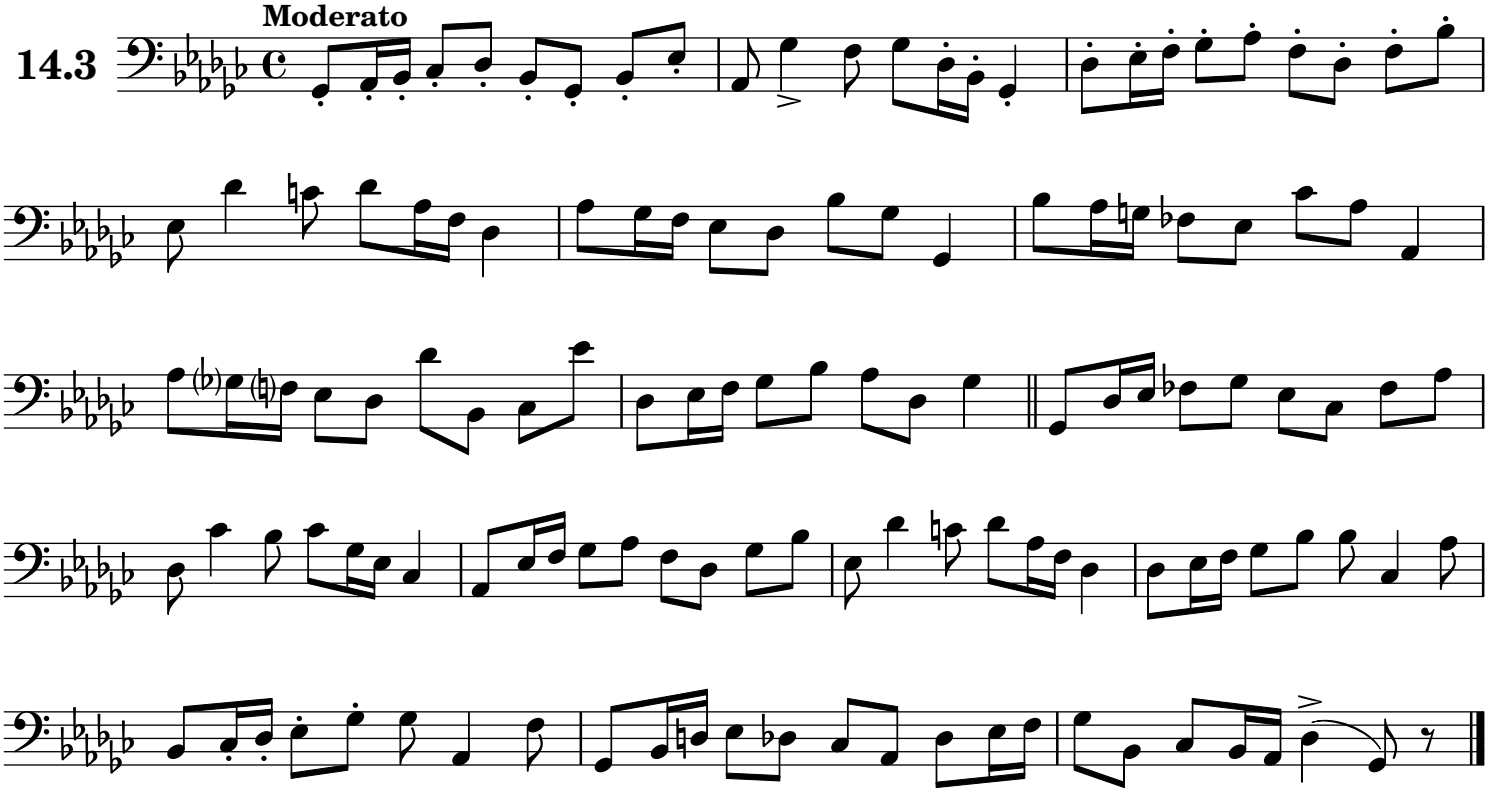
13.6

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

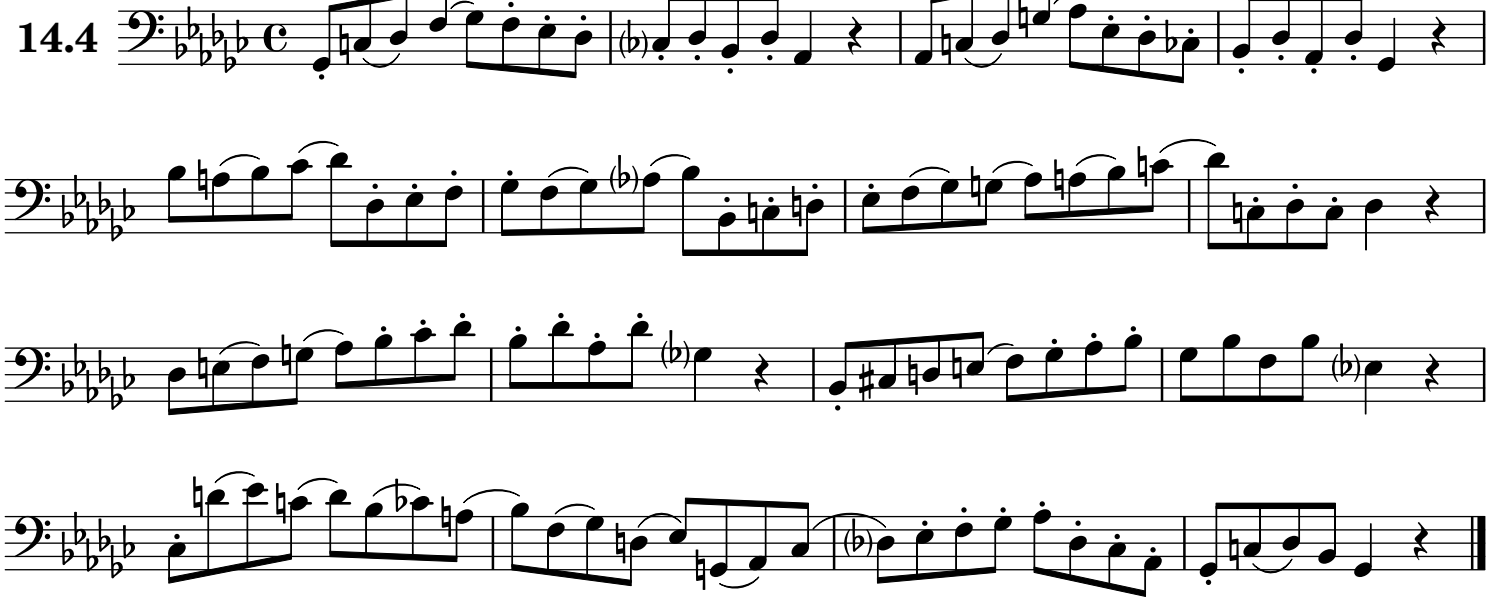
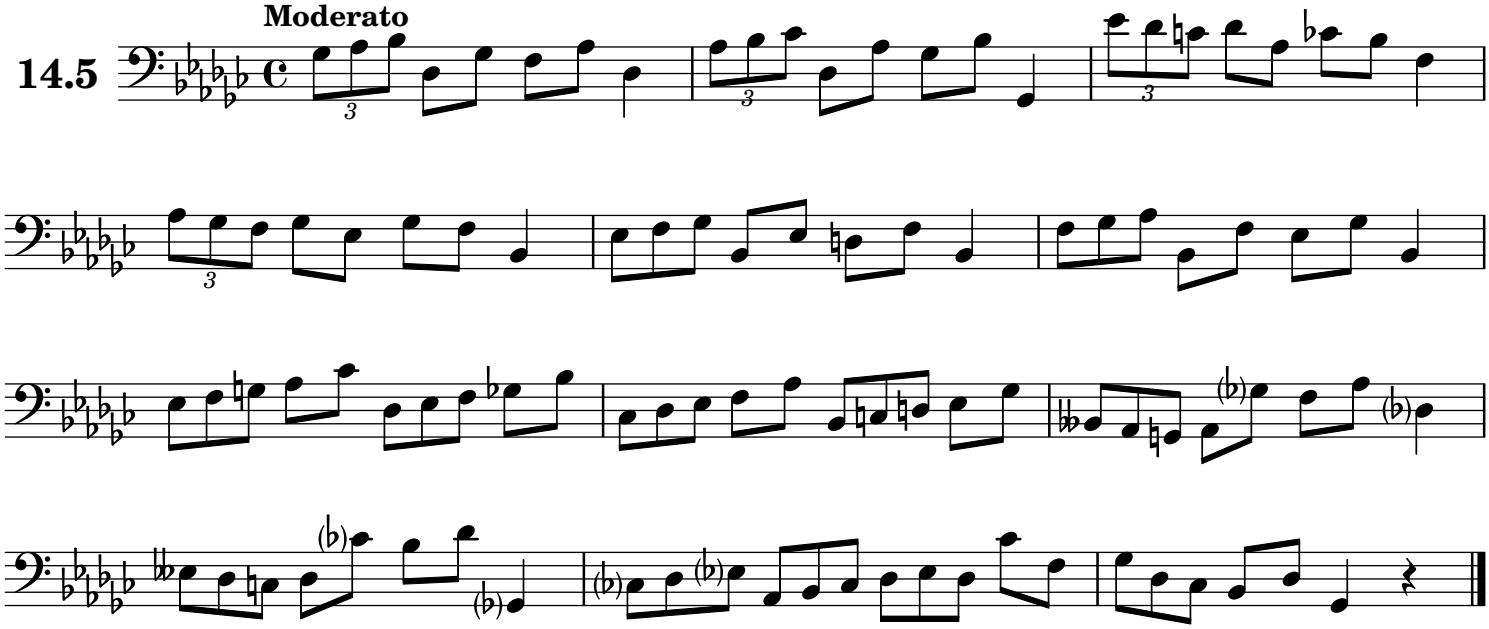
14. Exercises in G-Flat Major

14.1

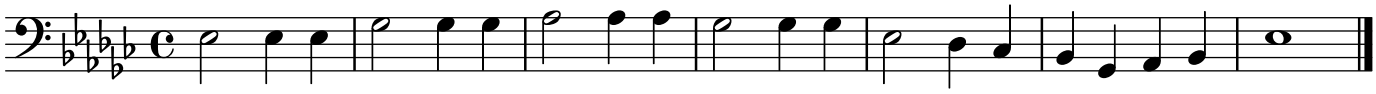
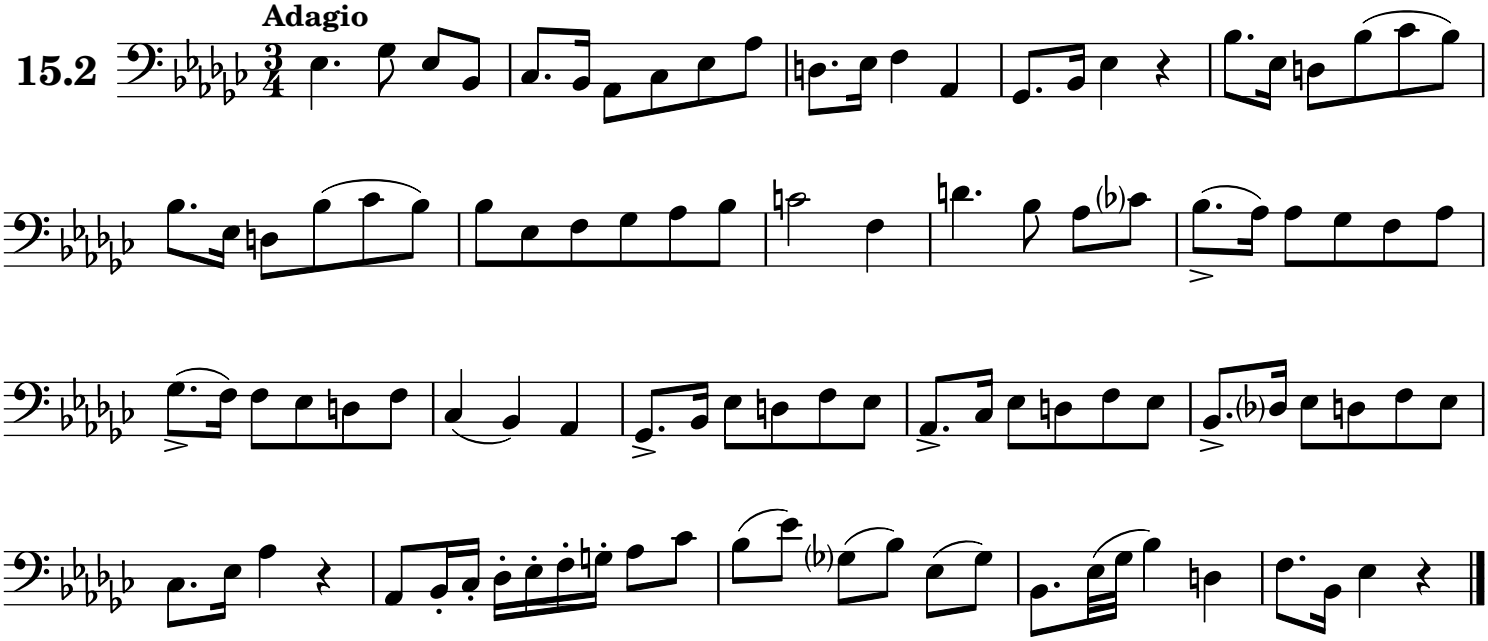
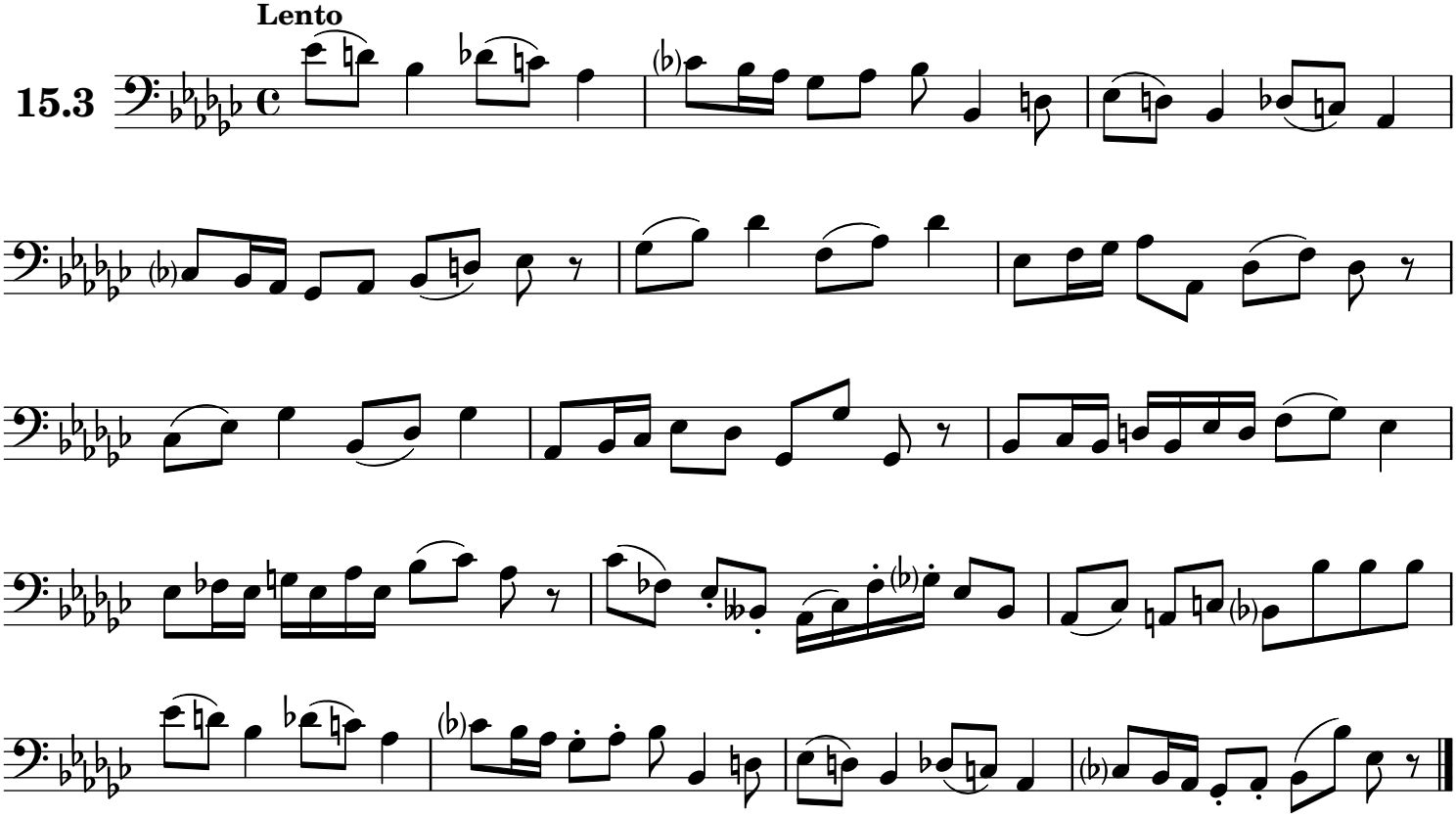


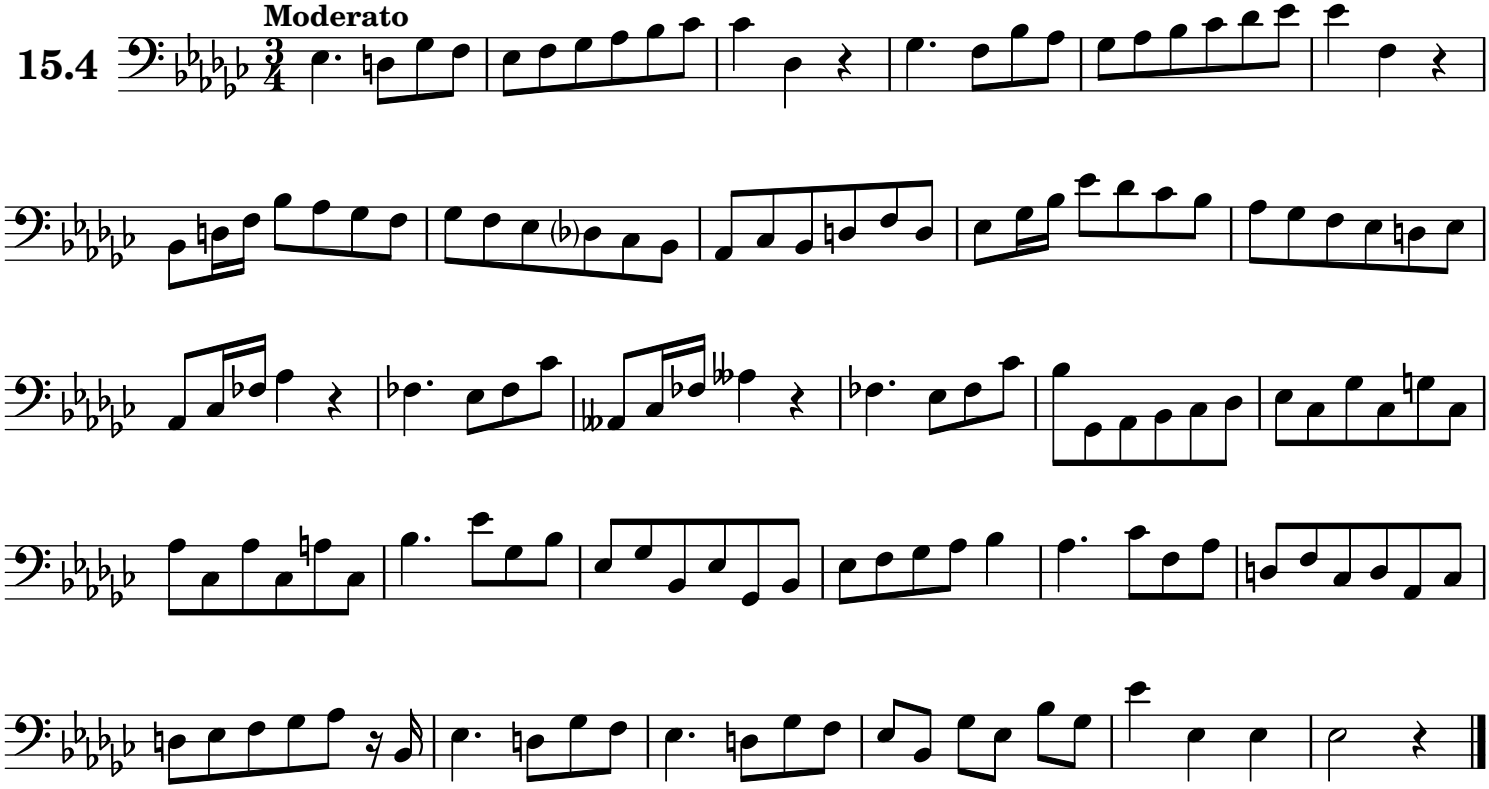
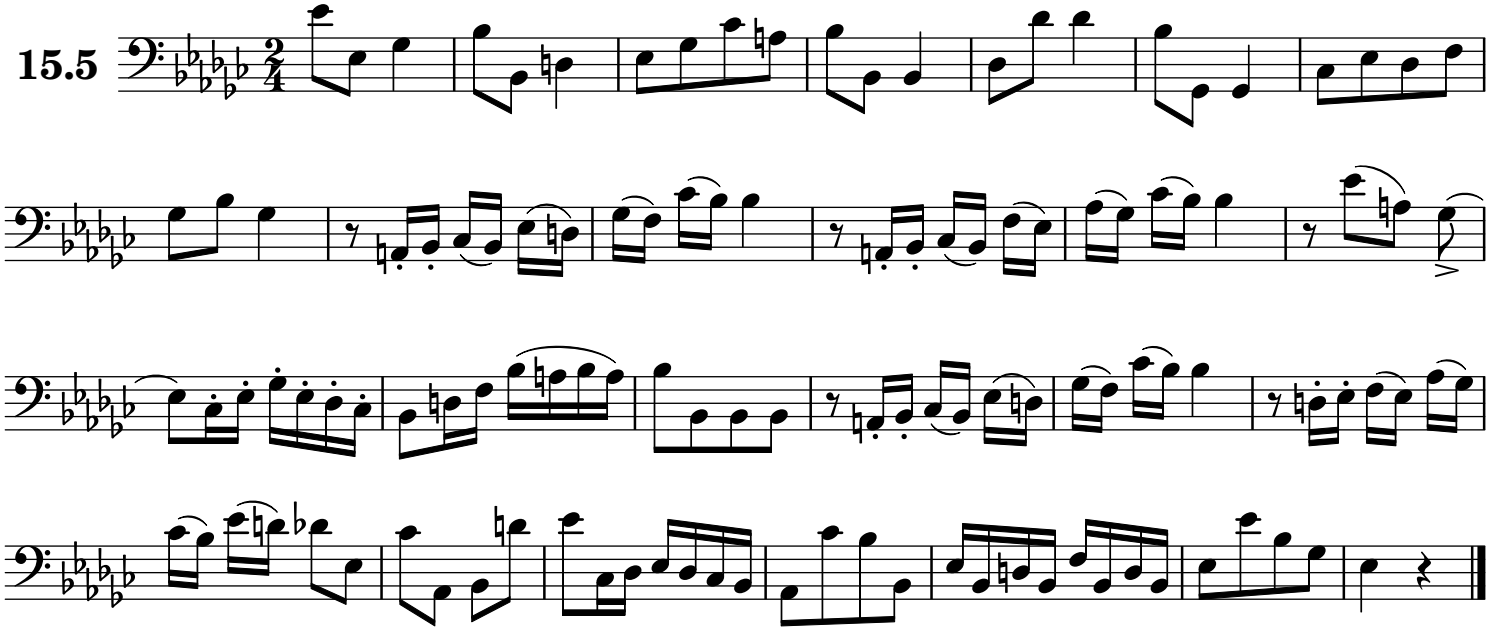
14.2 Allegro energia

f

14.3 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

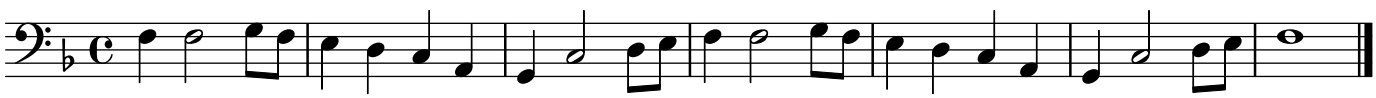
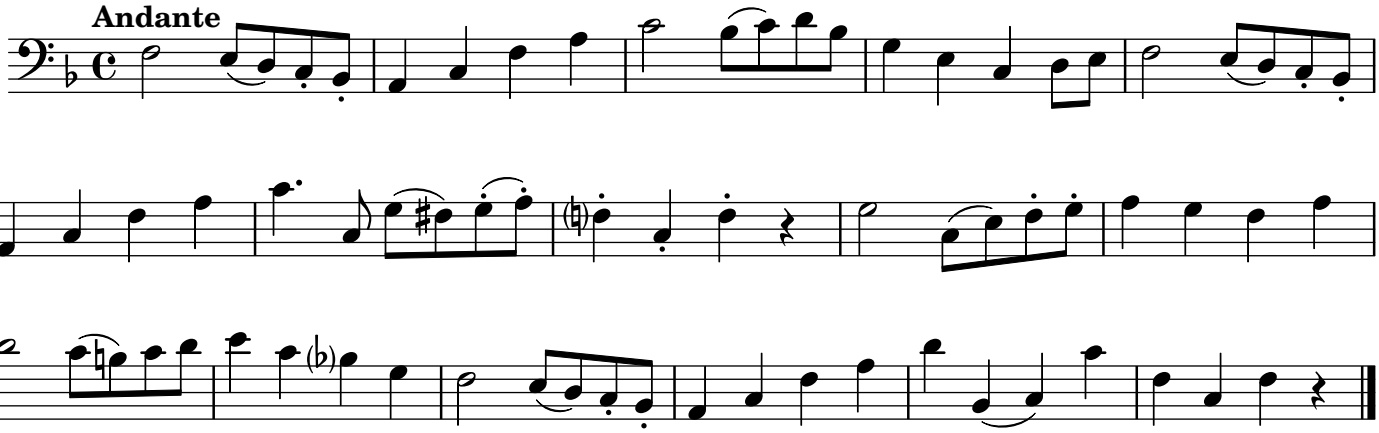
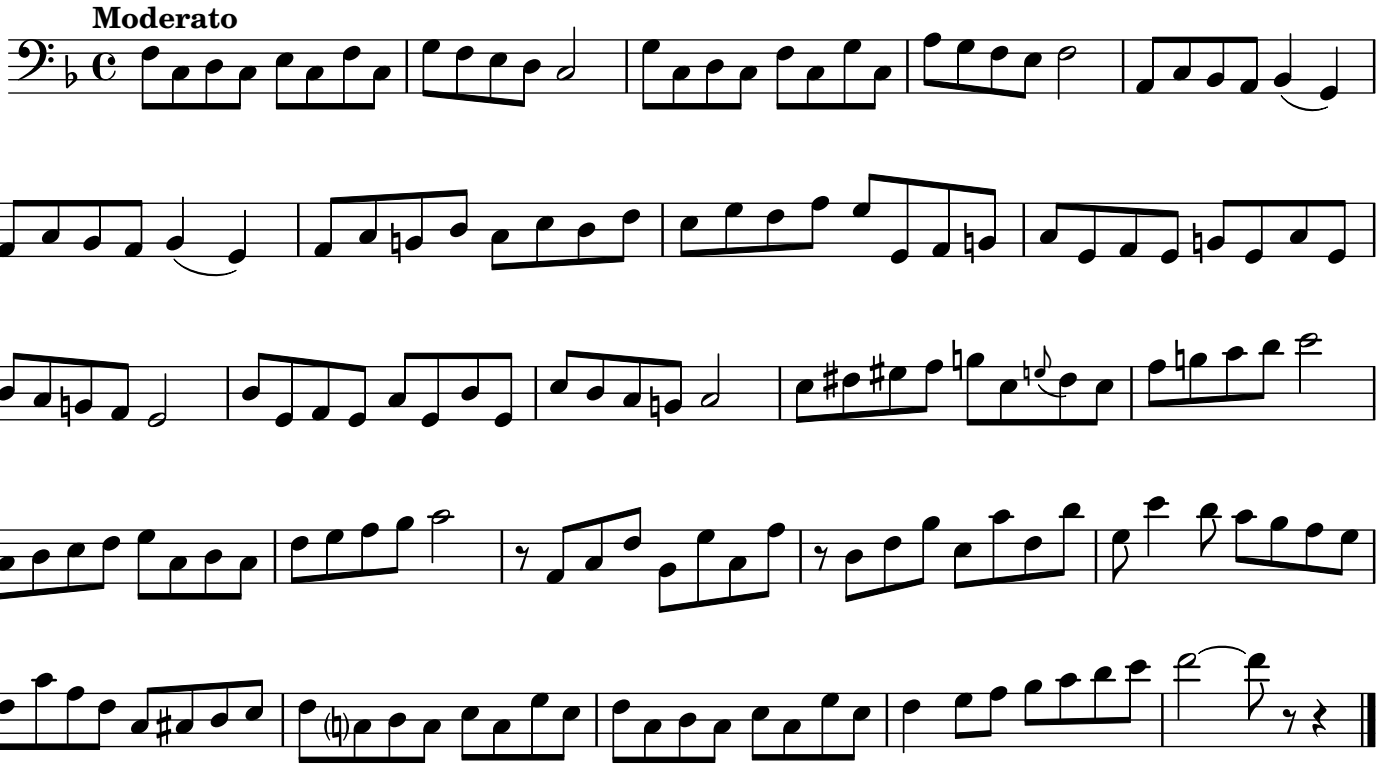
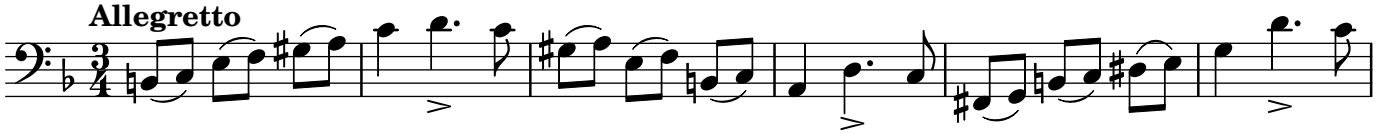
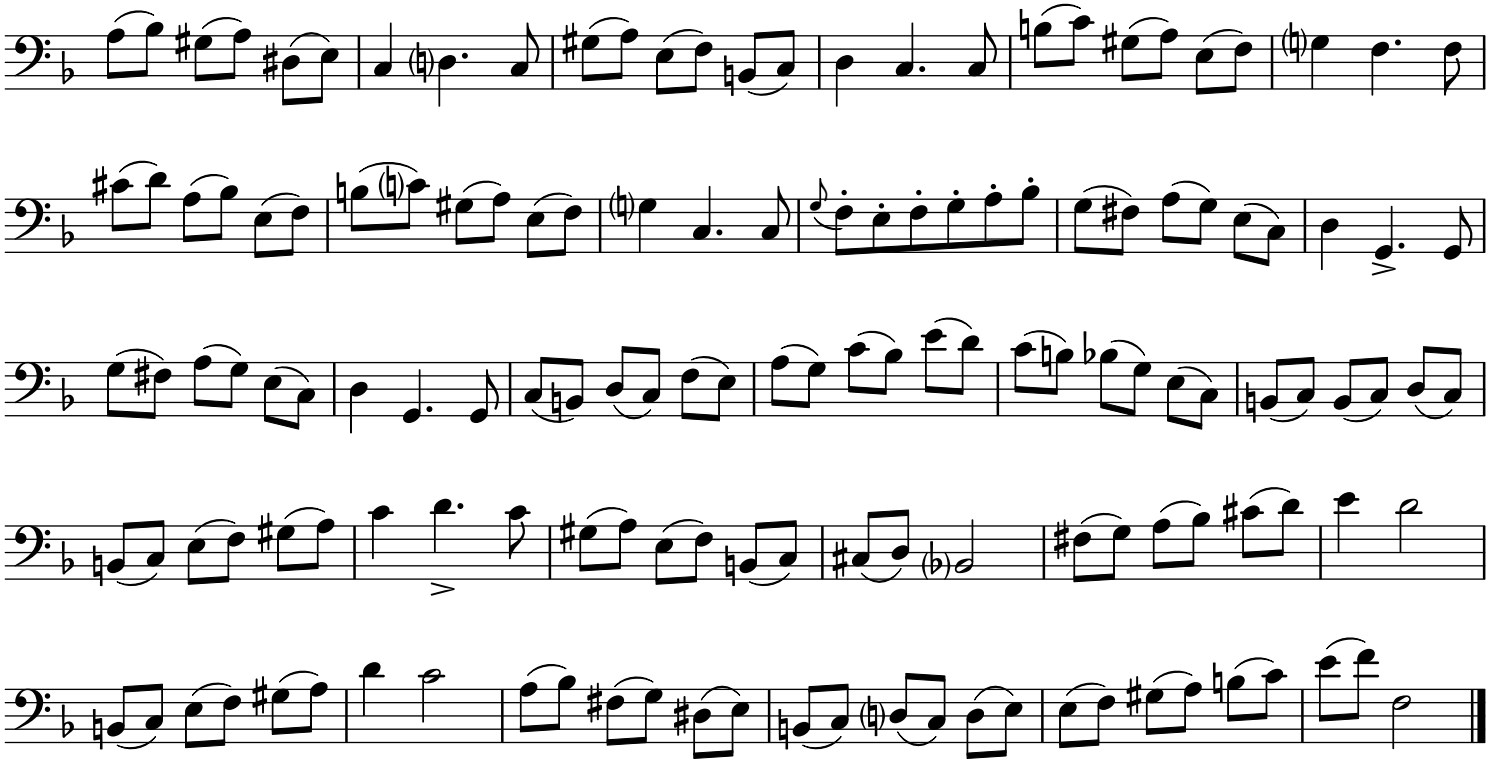
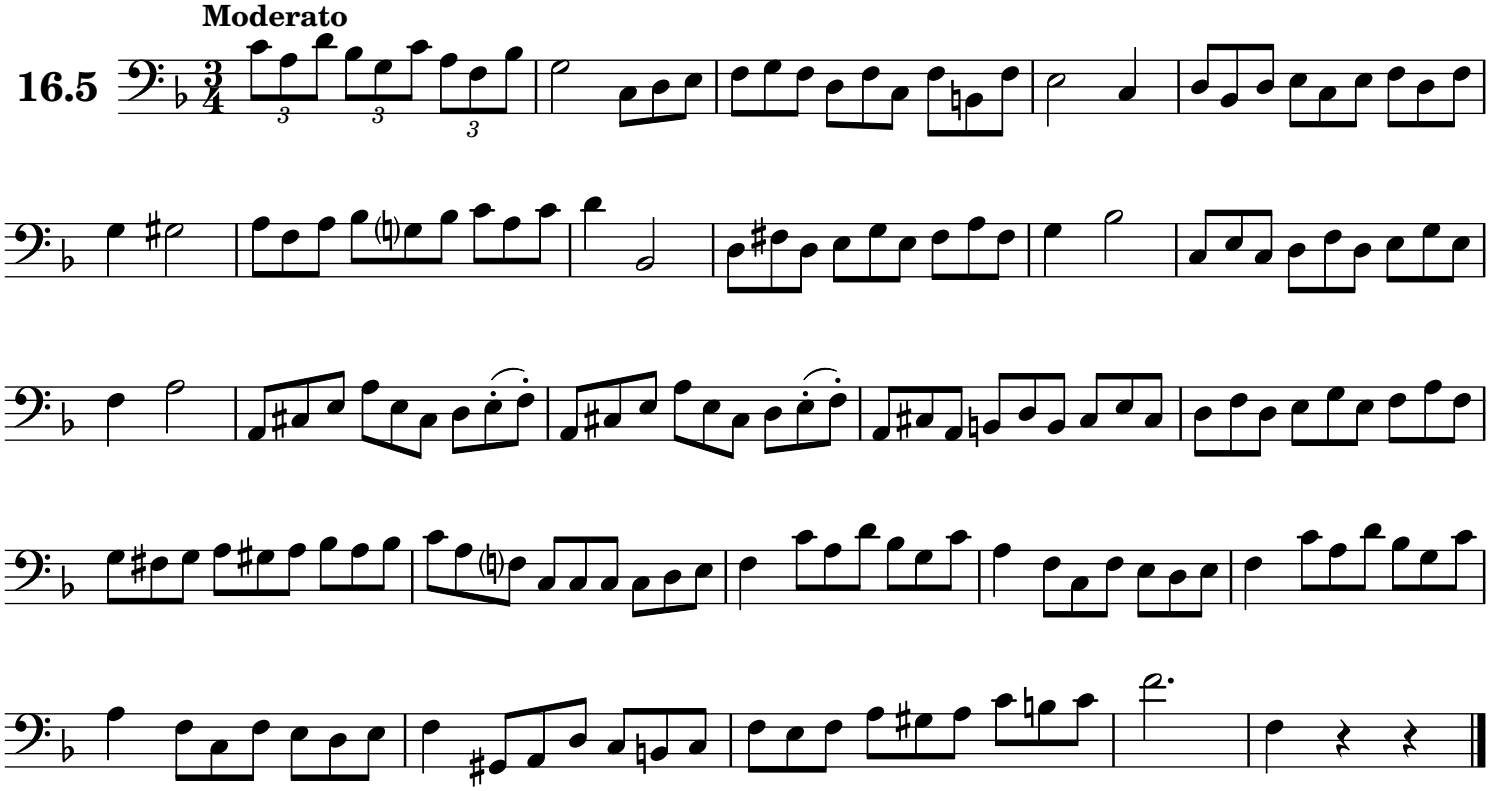
14.4 **Adagio**

14.5 **Moderato**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

15. Exercises in E-Flat Minor

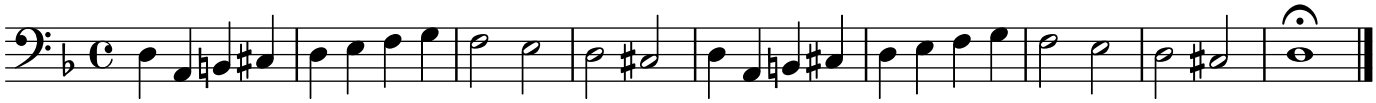
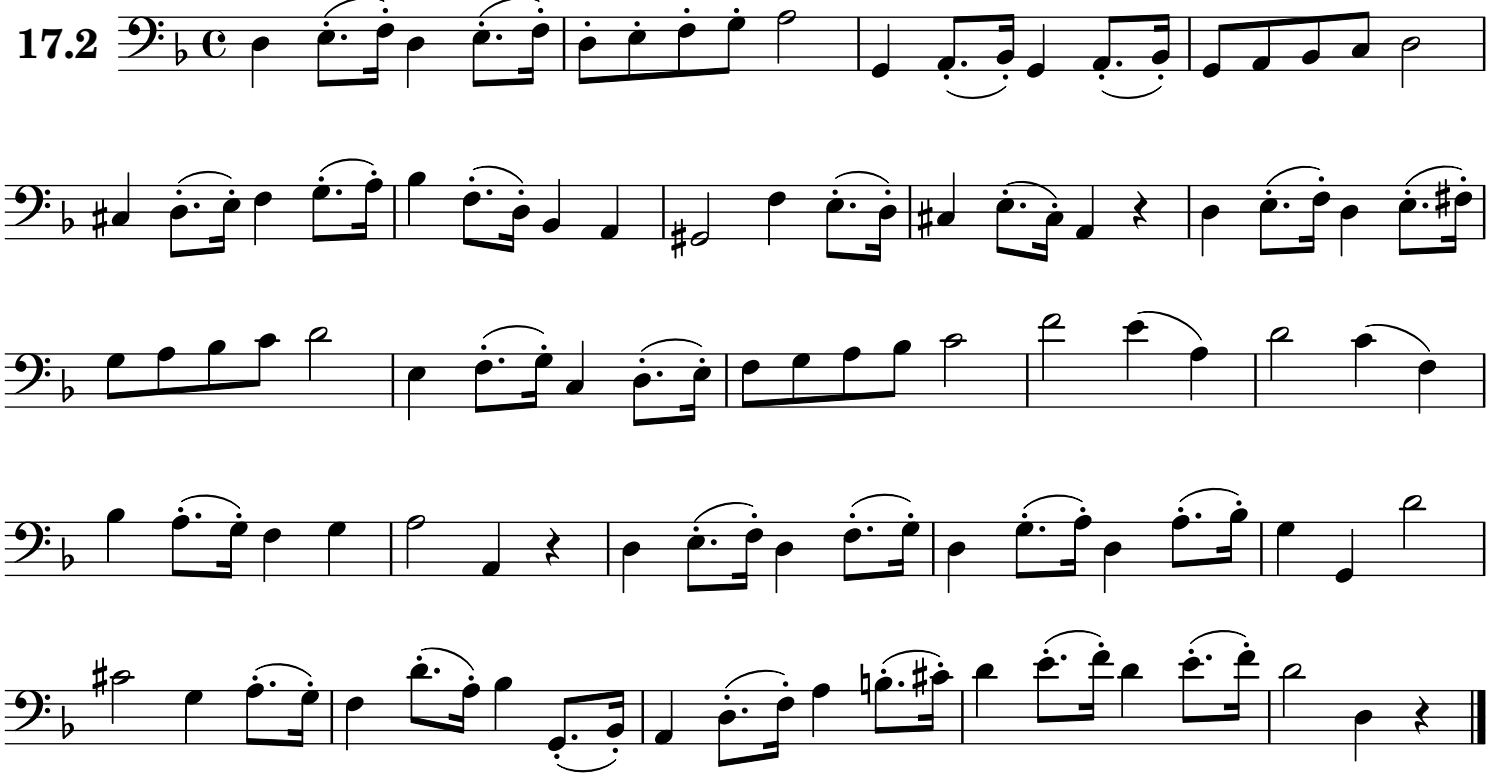
15.1

15.2 *Adagio*

15.3 *Lento*

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

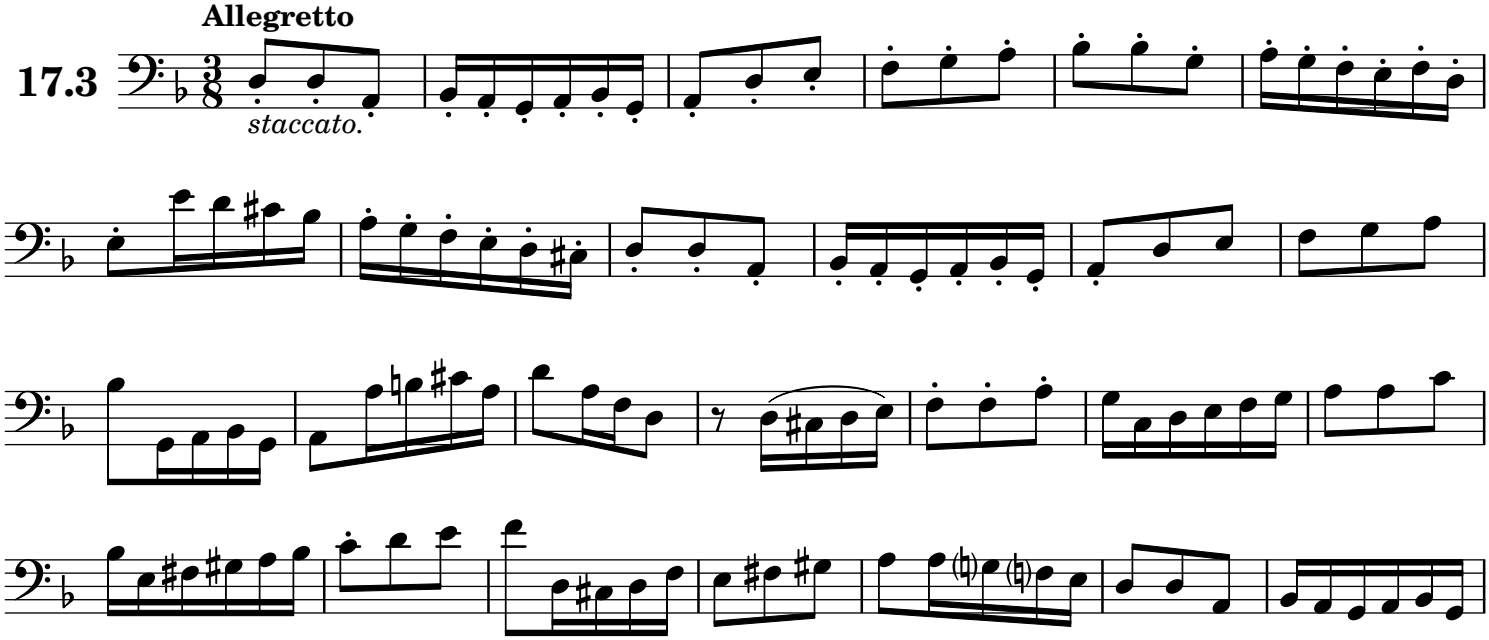
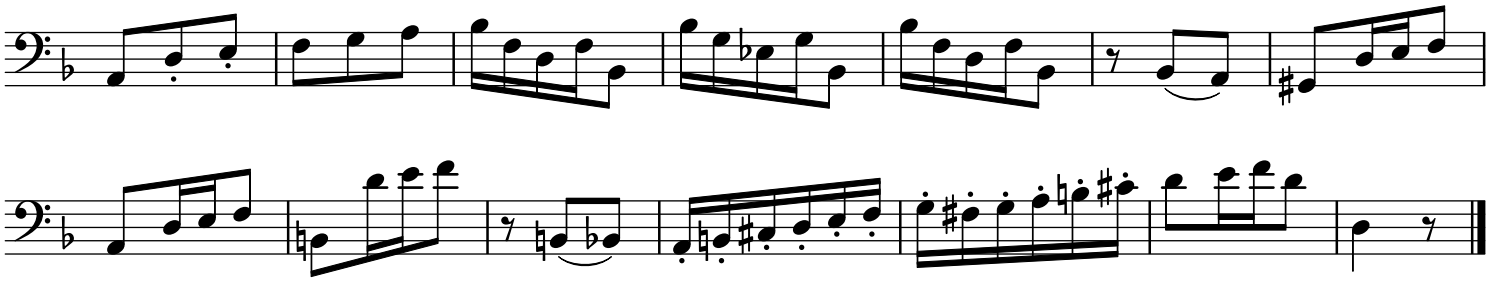
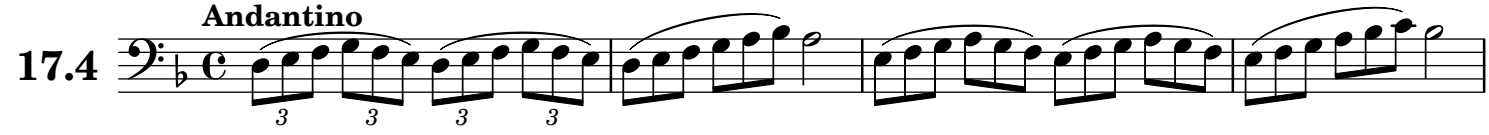
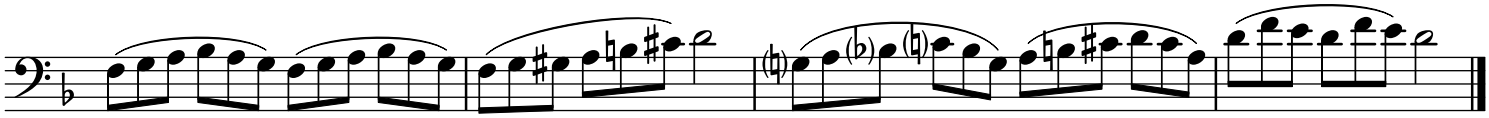
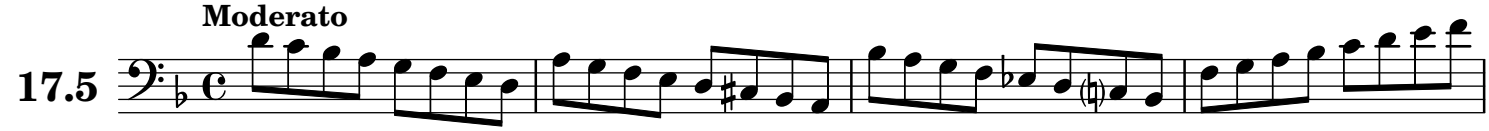
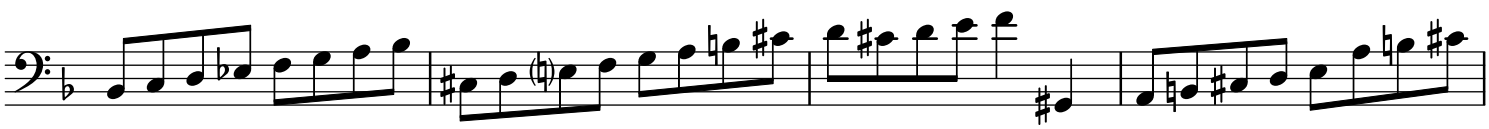
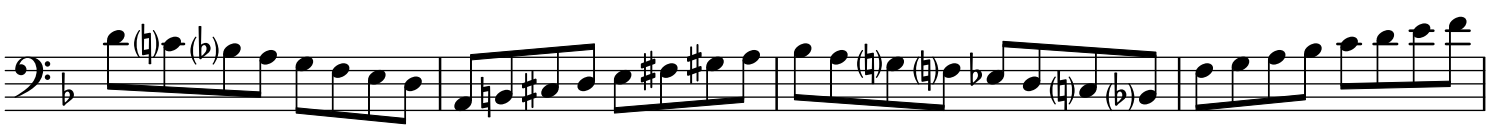
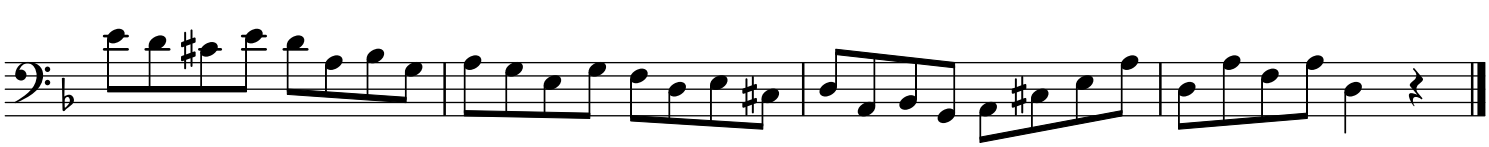
15.4 **Moderato**

15.5 **Allegretto**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

16. Exercises in F Major

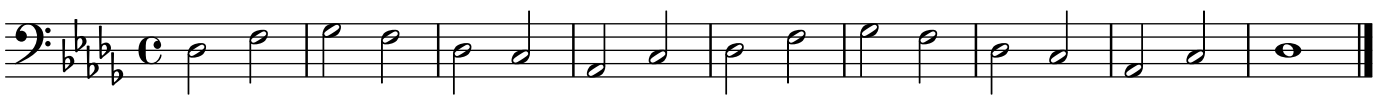
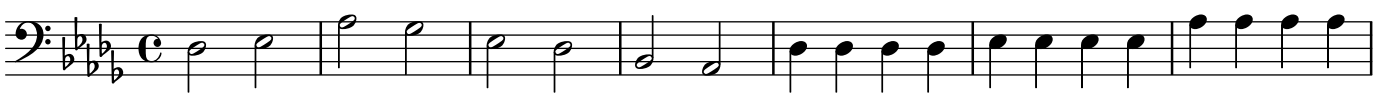
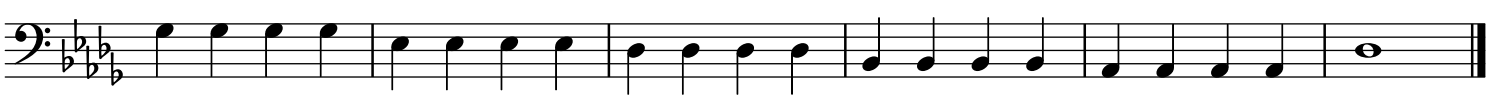
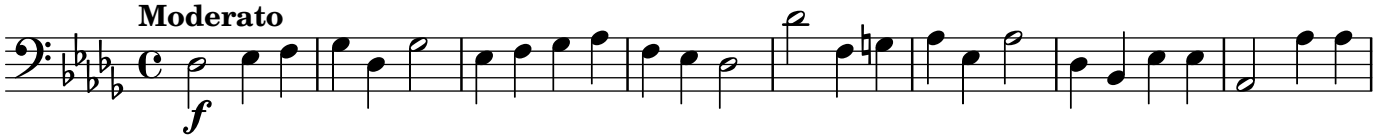
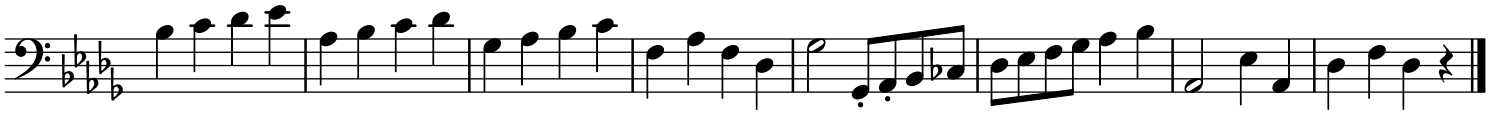
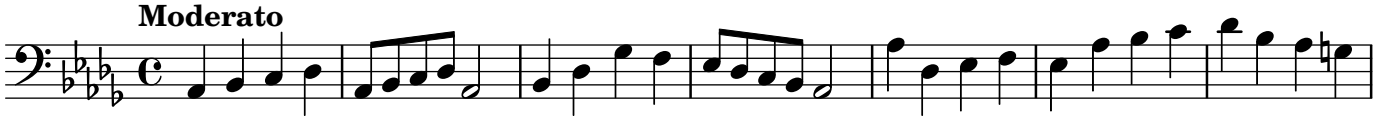
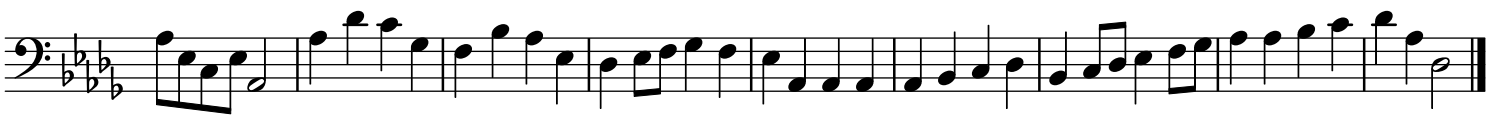
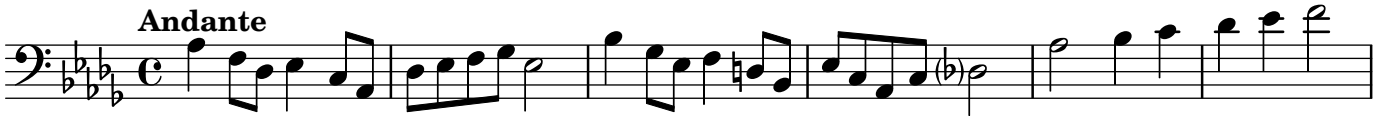
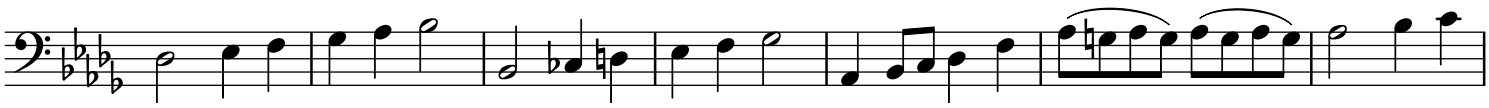
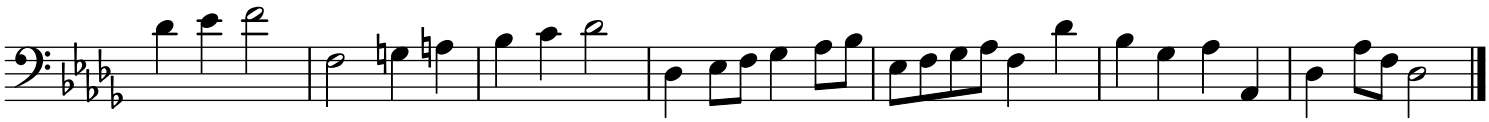
16.1

16.2 Andante

16.3 Moderato

16.4 Allegretto

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

16.5 **Moderato**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

17. Exercises in D Minor

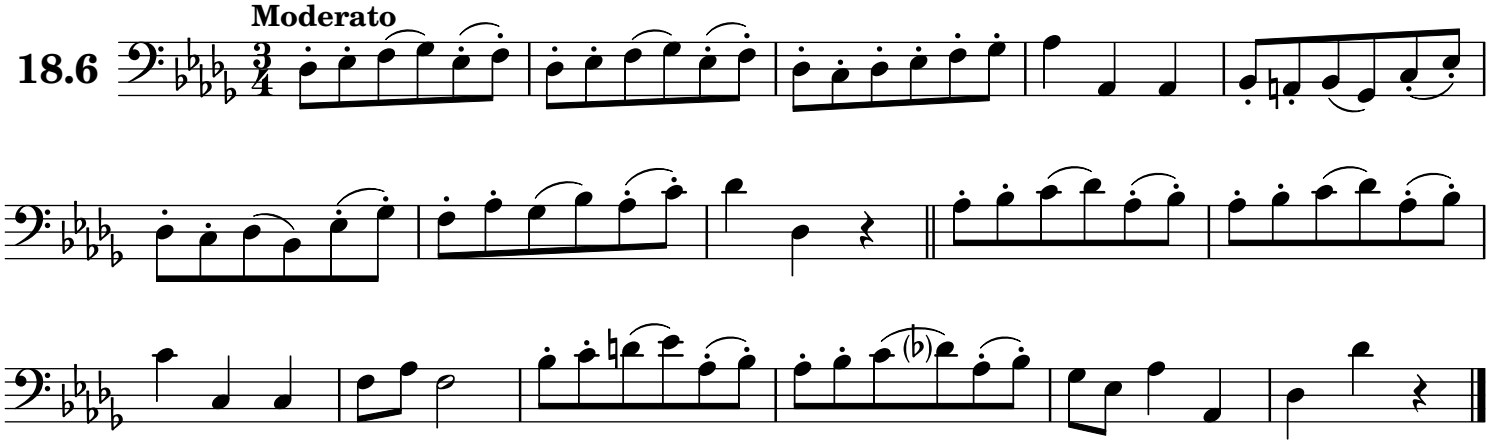
17.1

17.2 **Maestoso**

17.3 **Allegretto**

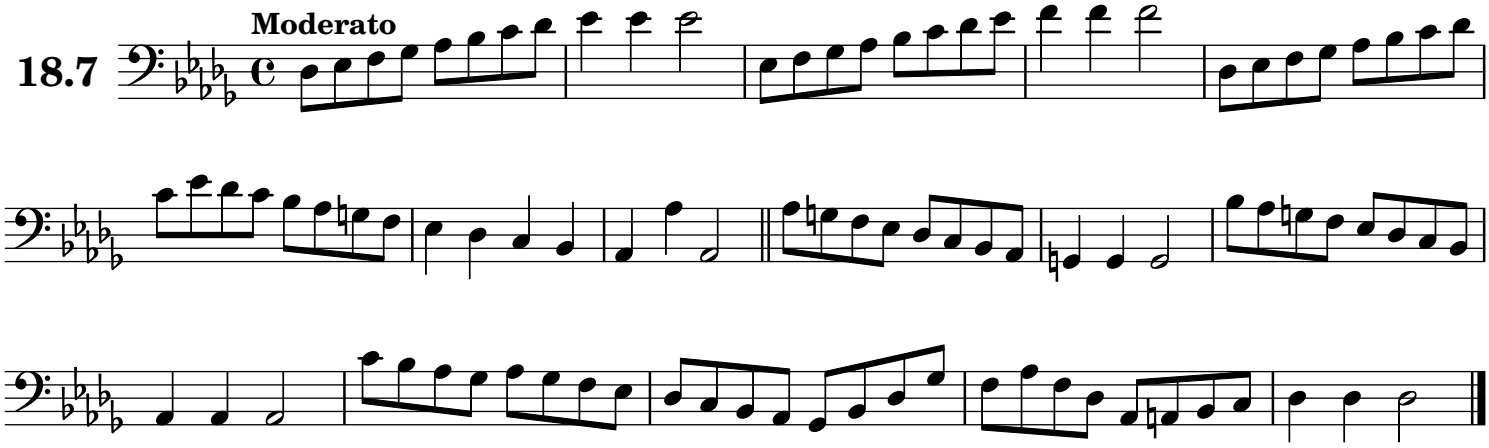
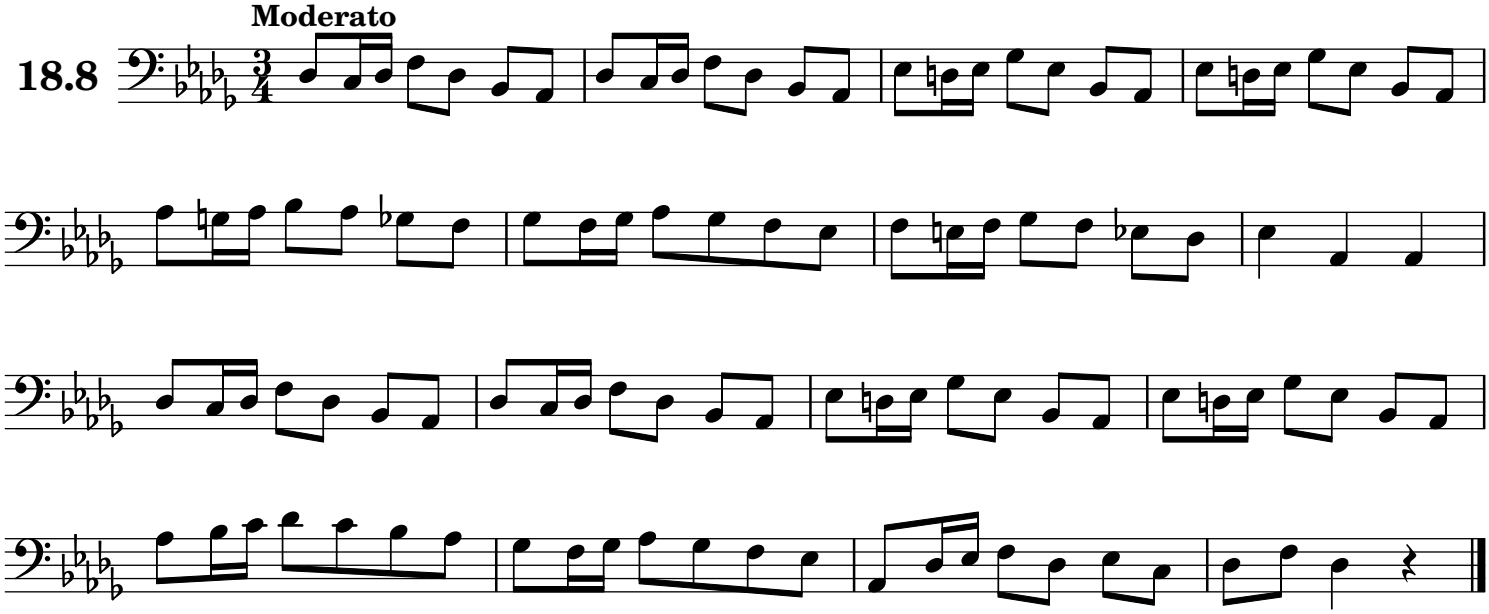
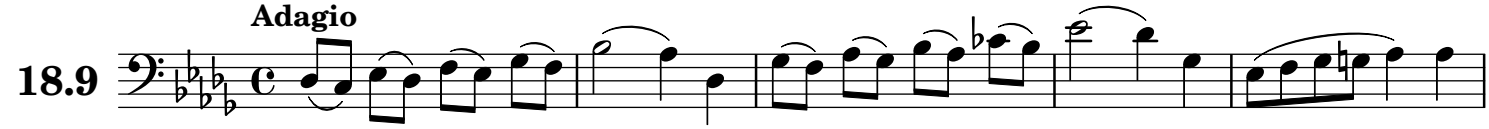
staccato.

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

17.4 **Andantino**

17.5 **Moderato**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

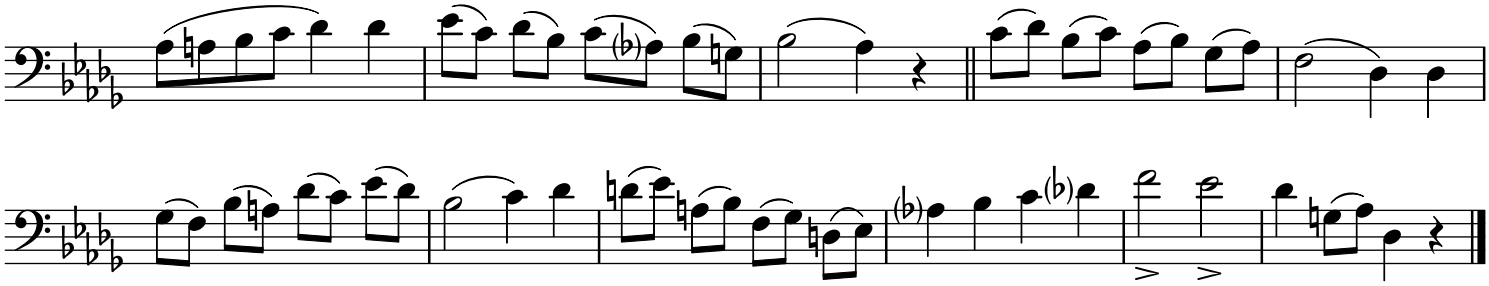
18. Exercises in D-Flat Major

18.1

18.2

18.3

18.4

18.5

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

18.6 Moderato

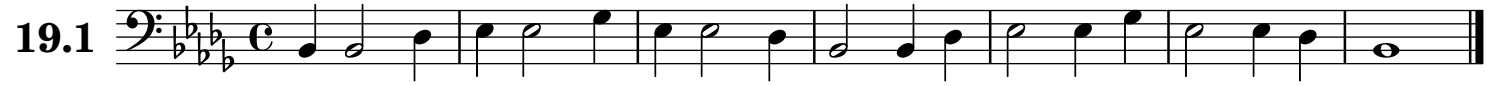
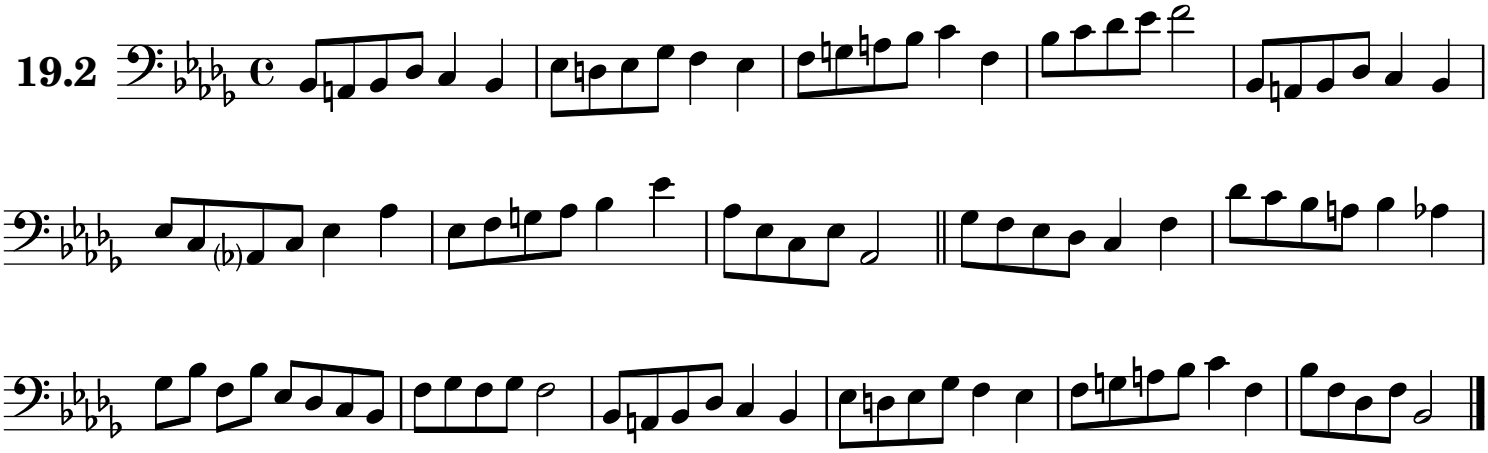
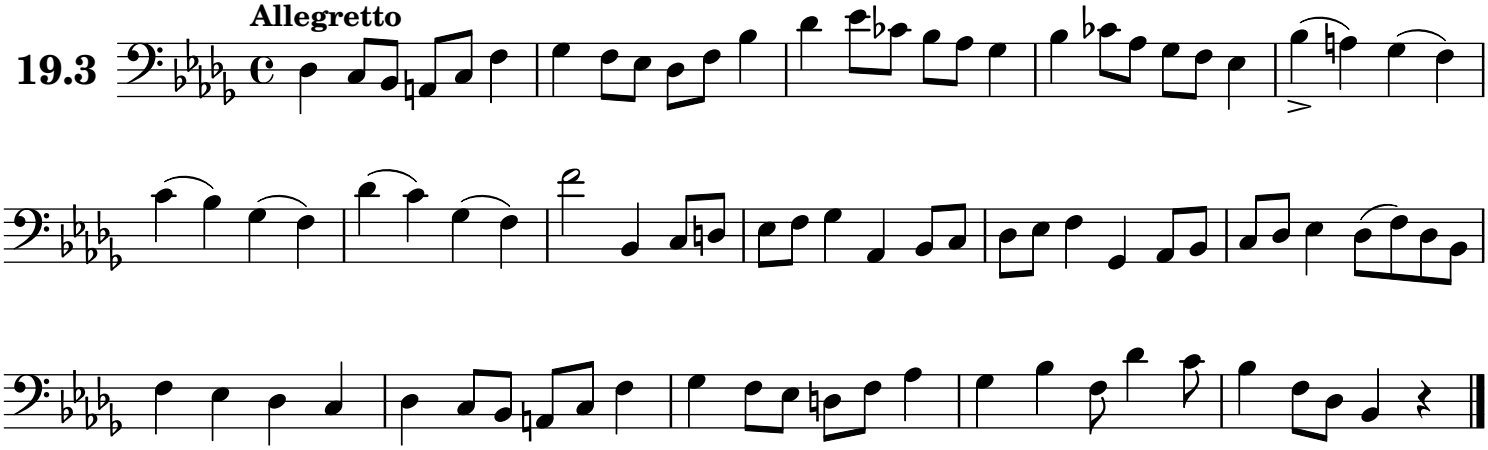


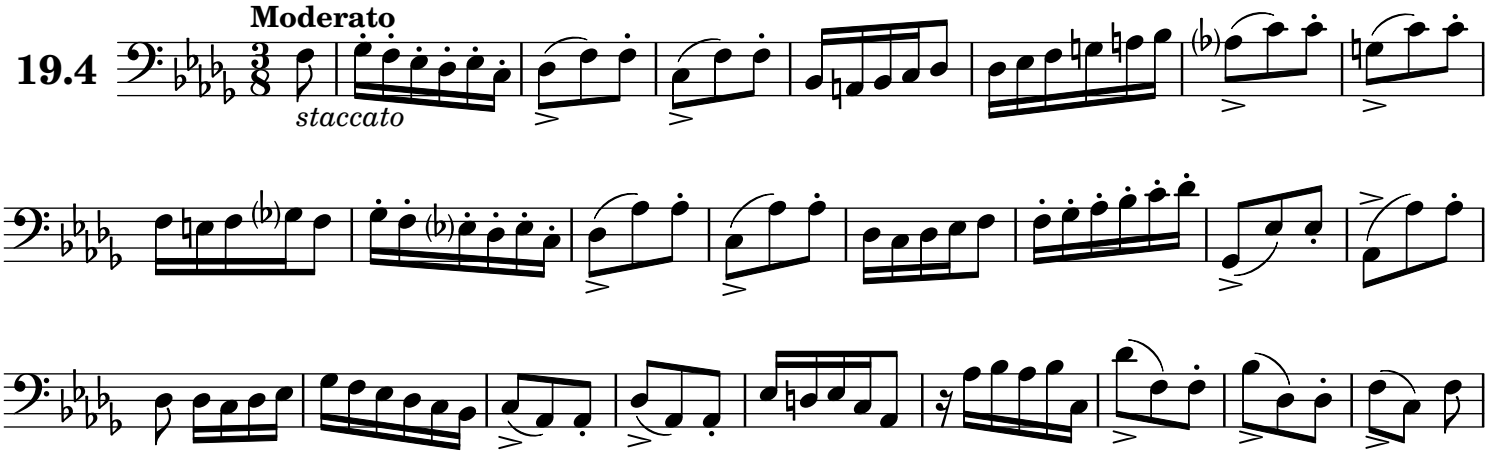
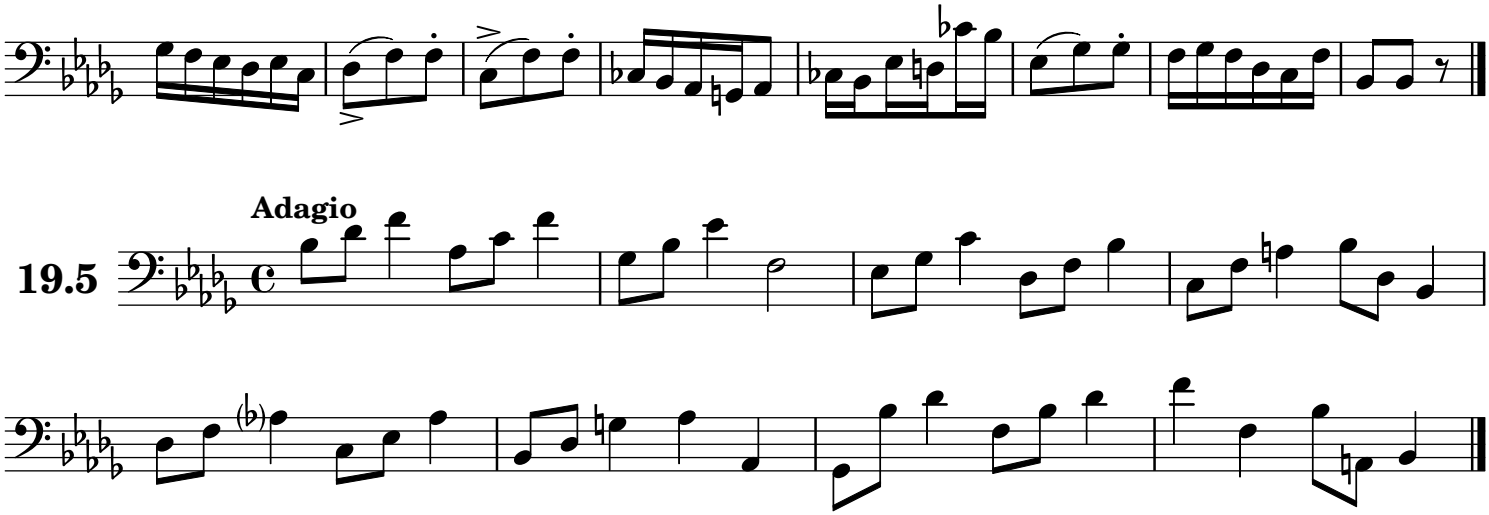
18.7 Moderato

18.8 Moderato

18.9 Adagio

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond



© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

19. Exercises in B-Flat Minor

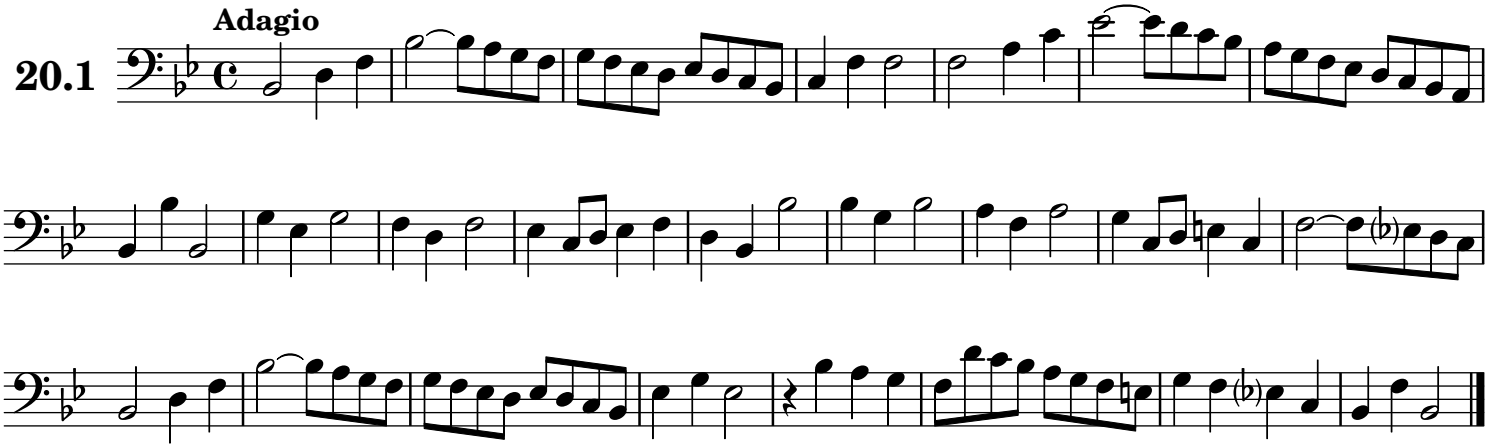
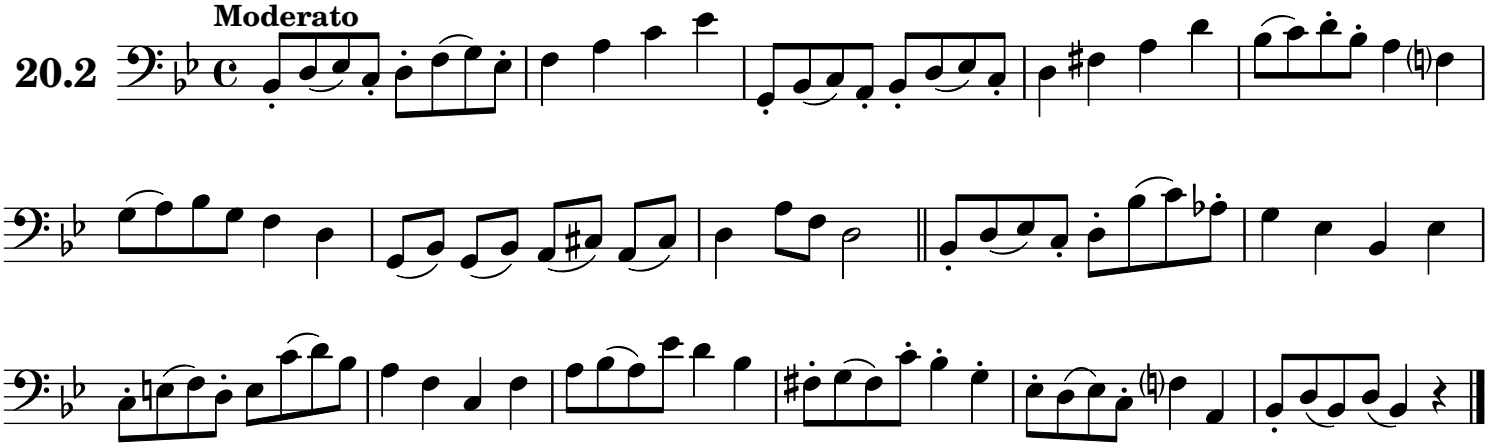
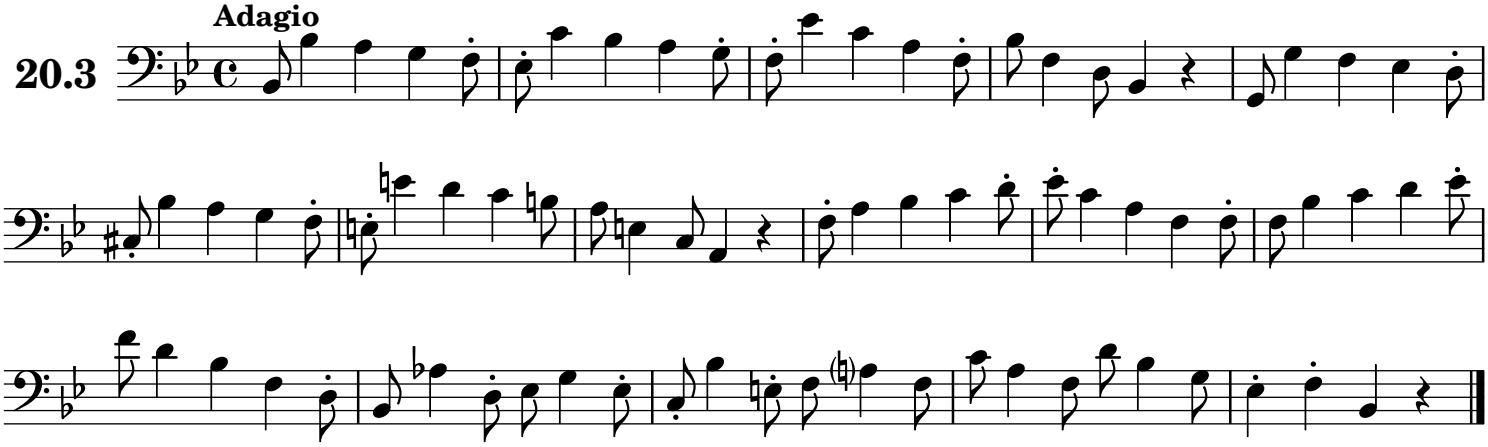
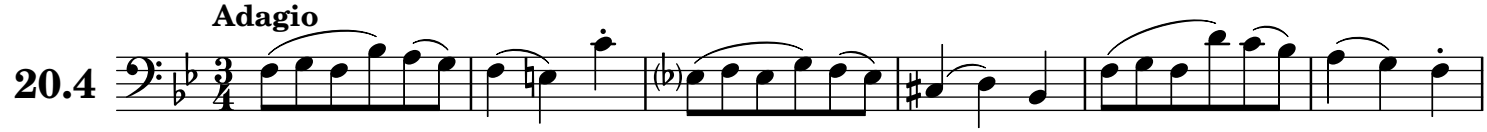
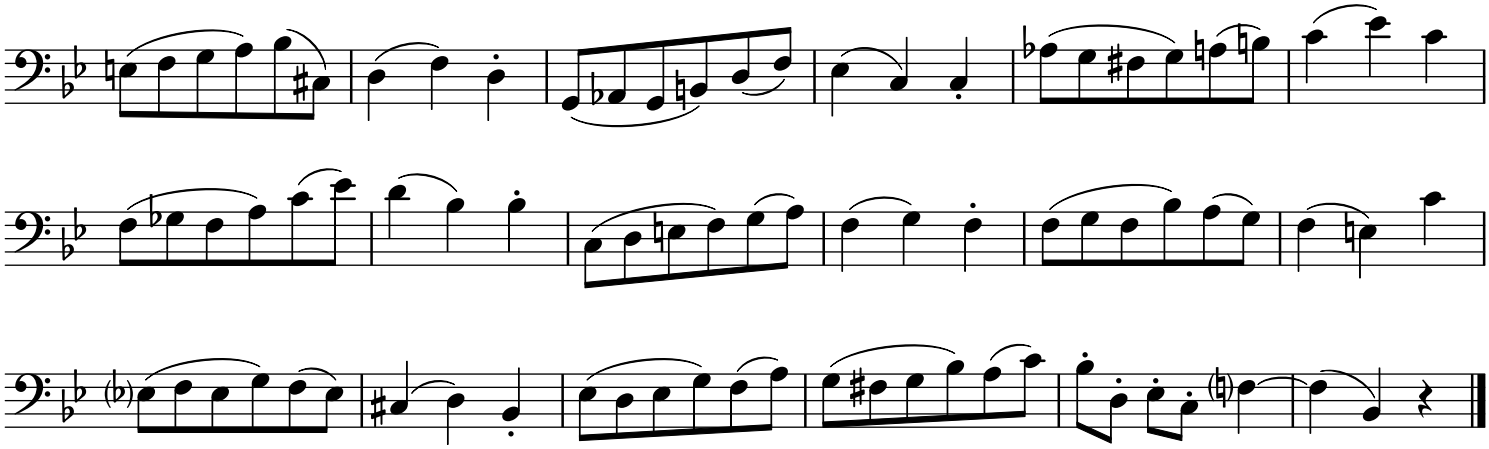
19.1

19.2

19.3 **Allegretto**

19.4 **Moderato**

staccato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

19.5

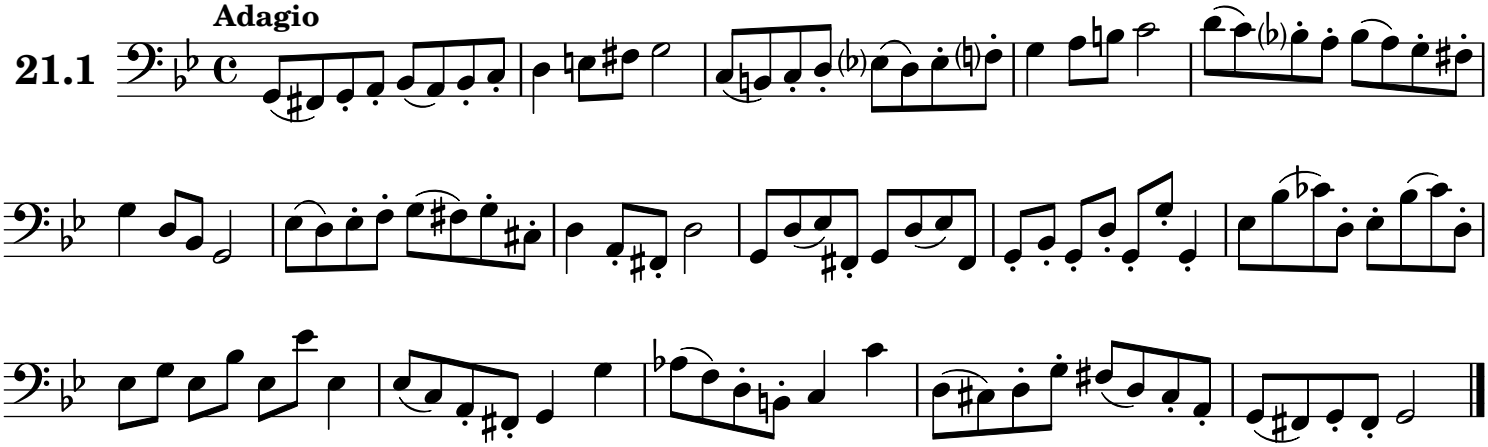
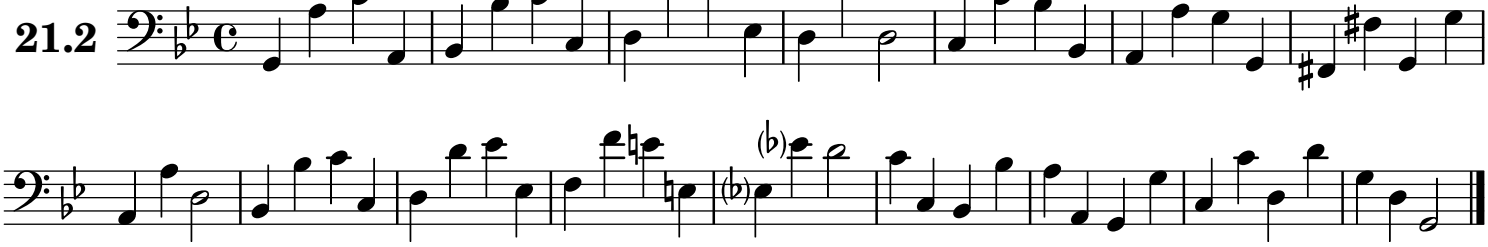
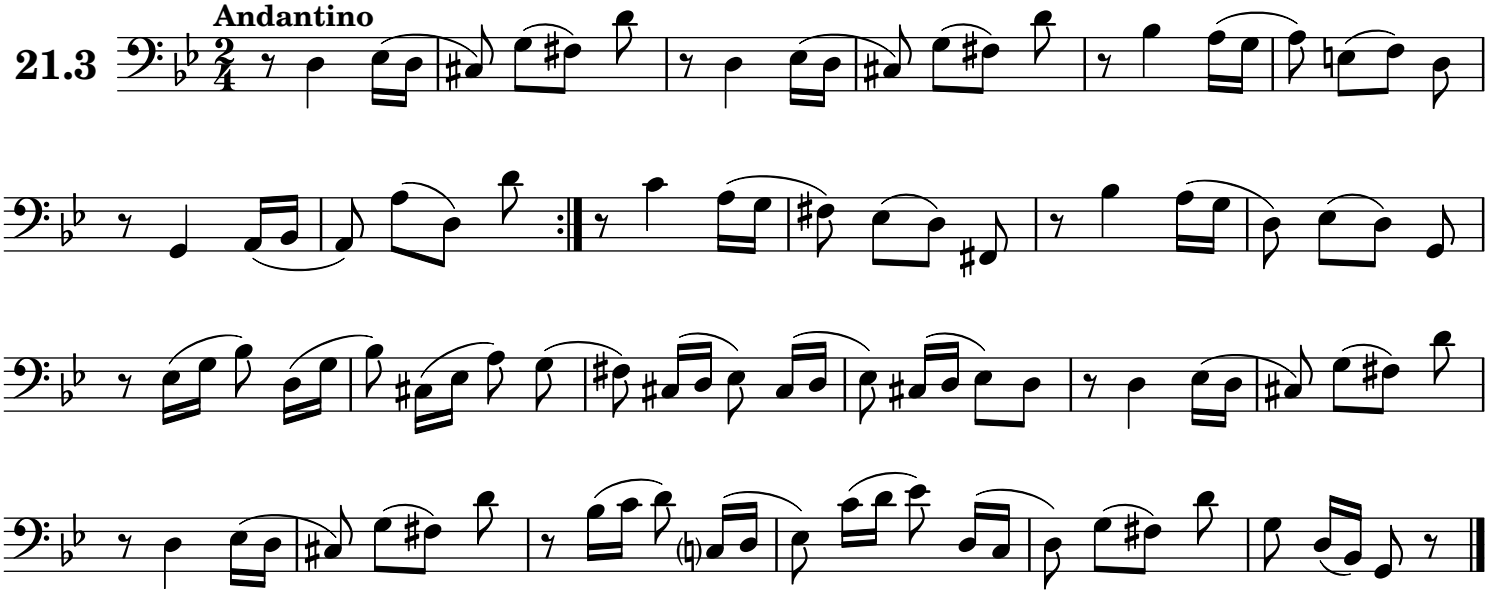
Adagio

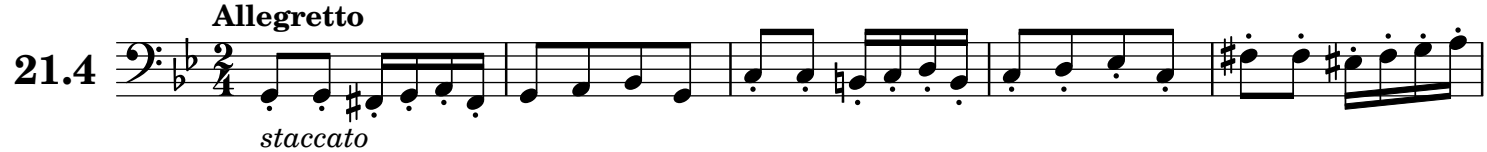
© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

20. Exercises in B-Flat Major

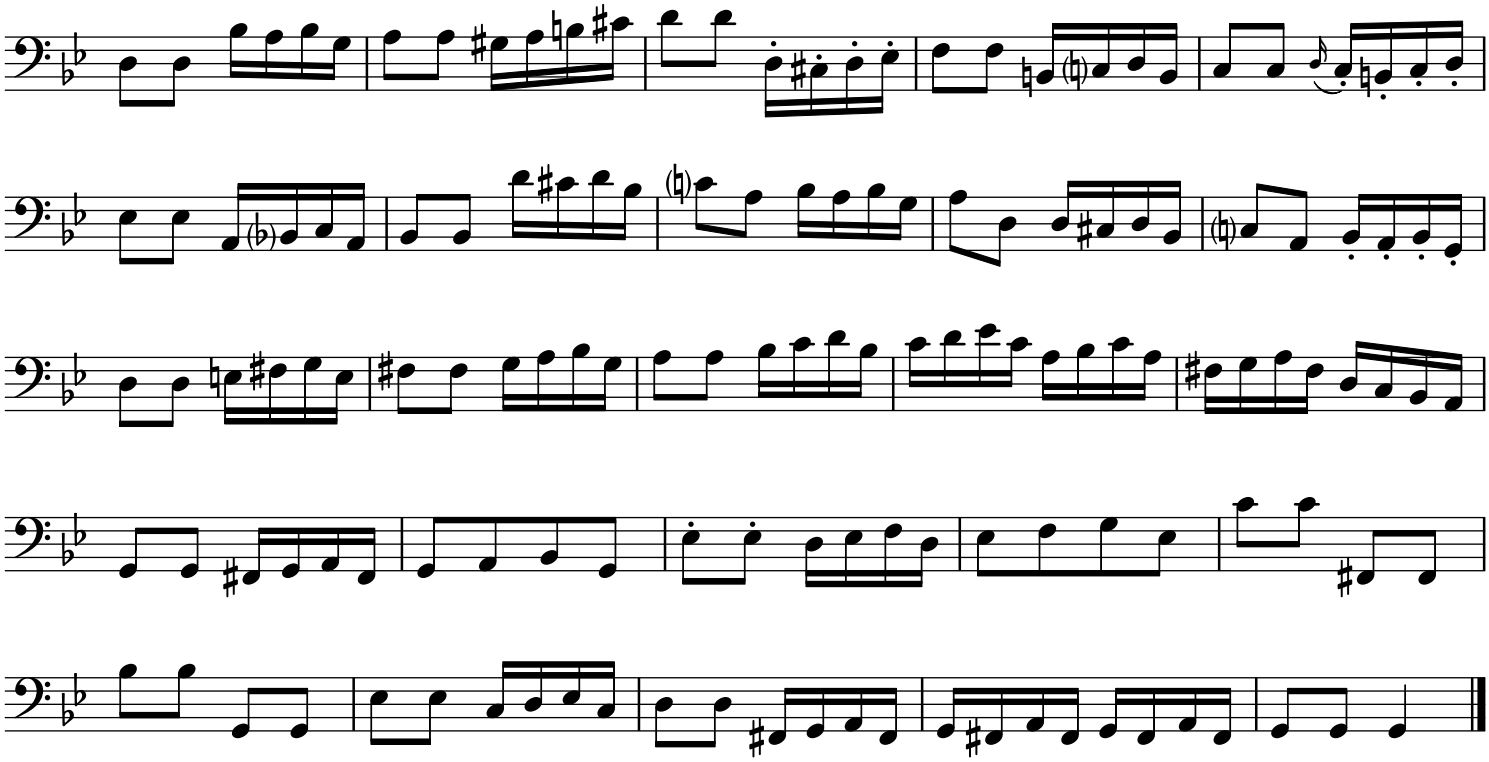
20.1 Adagio

20.2 Moderato

20.3 Adagio

20.4 Adagio

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

21. Exercises in G Minor

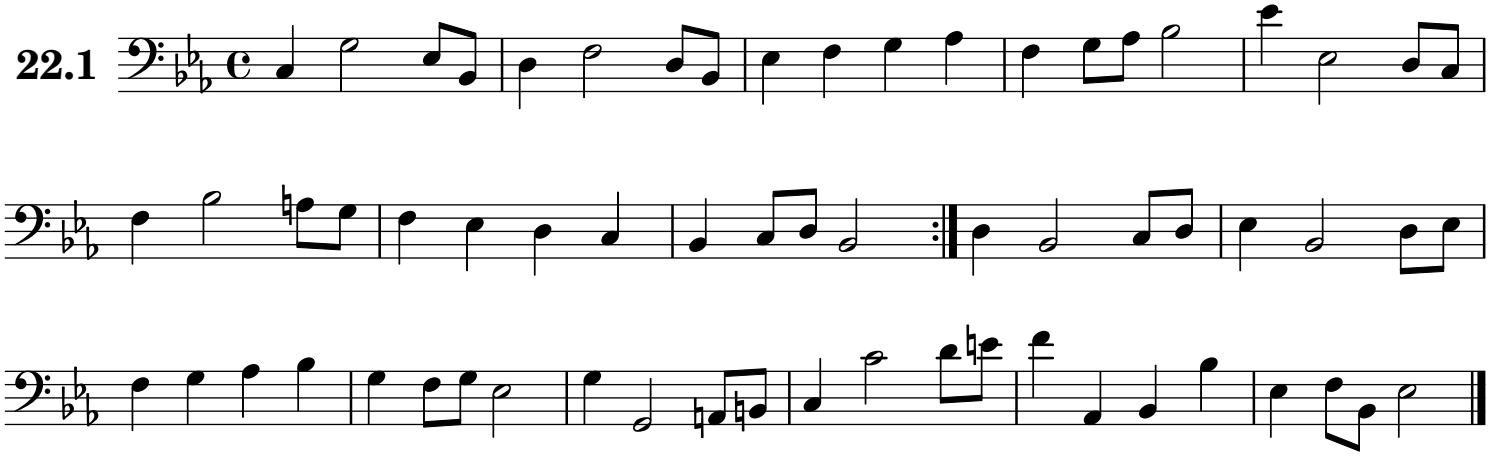
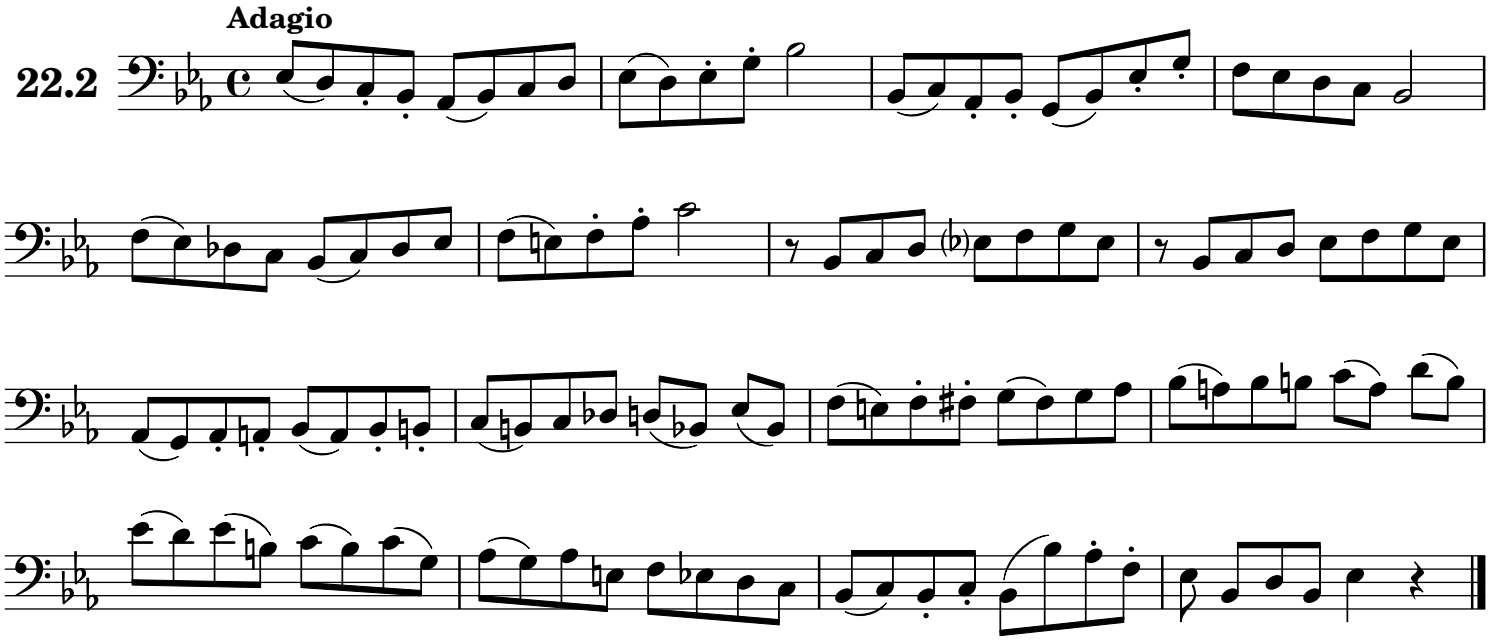
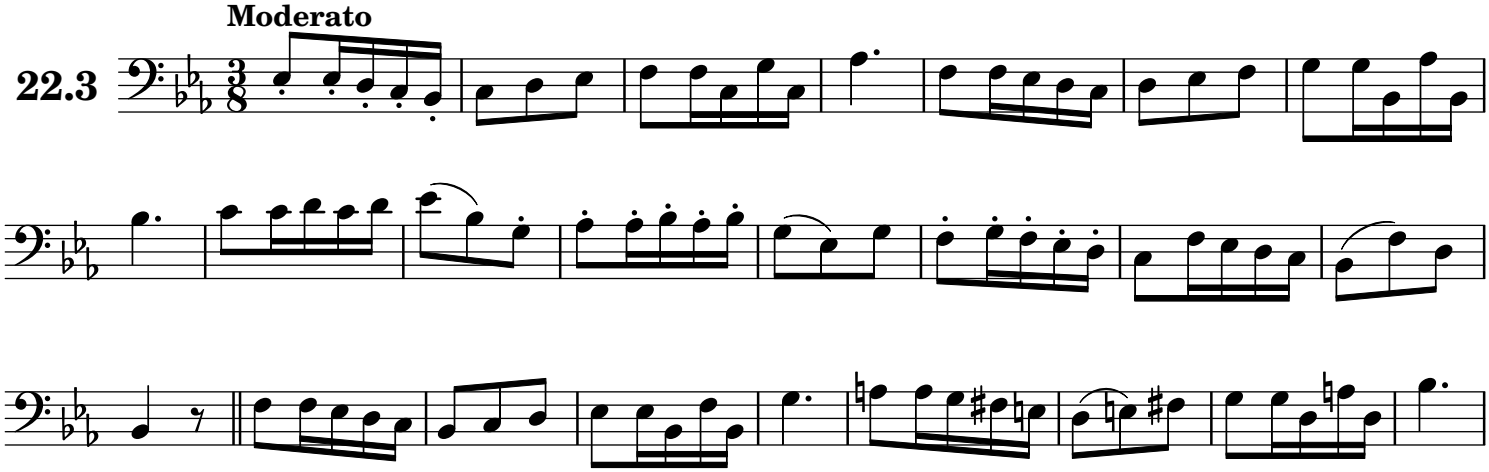
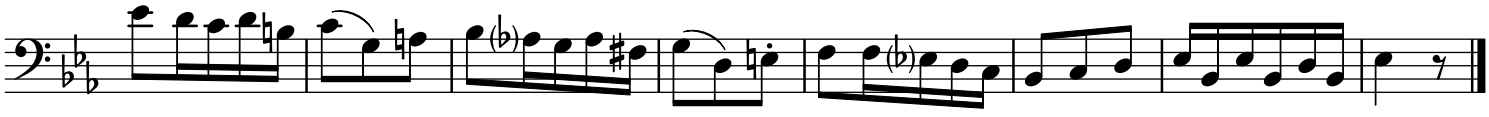
21.1 **Adagio**

21.2

21.3 **Andantino**

21.4 **Allegretto**



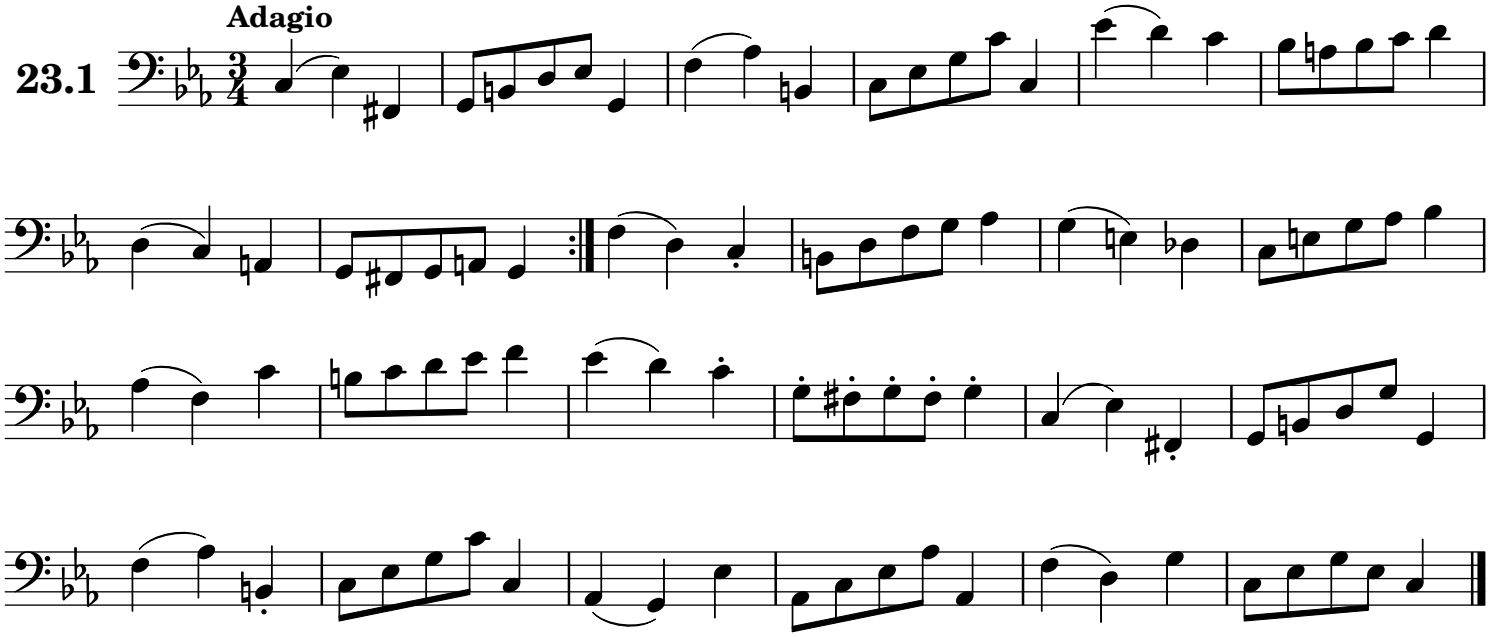
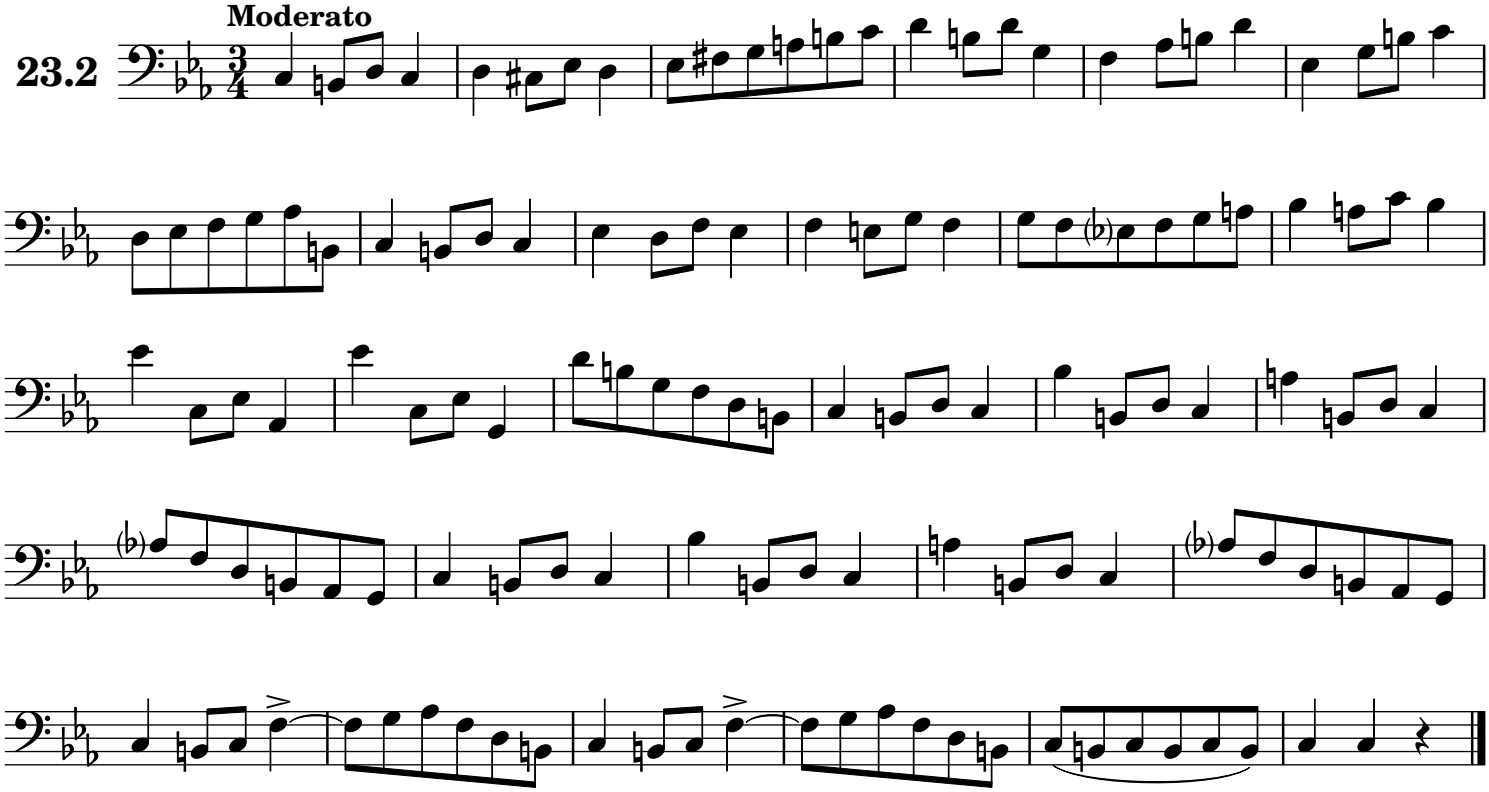
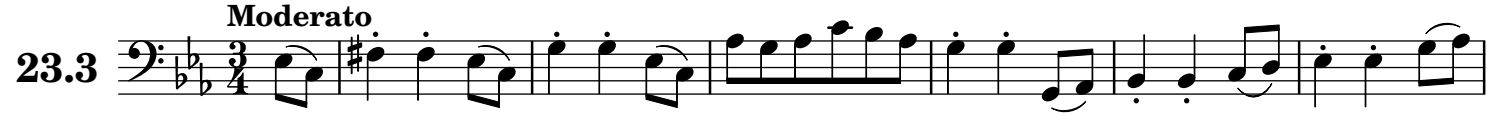
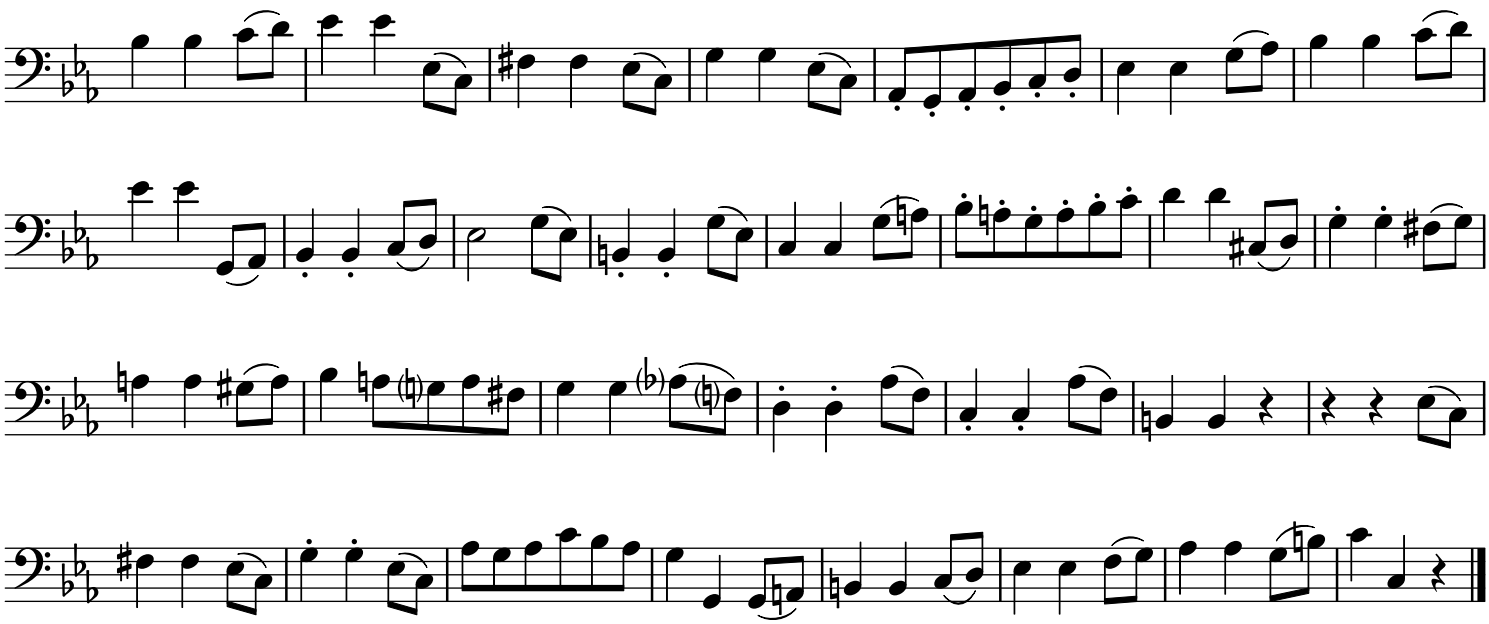
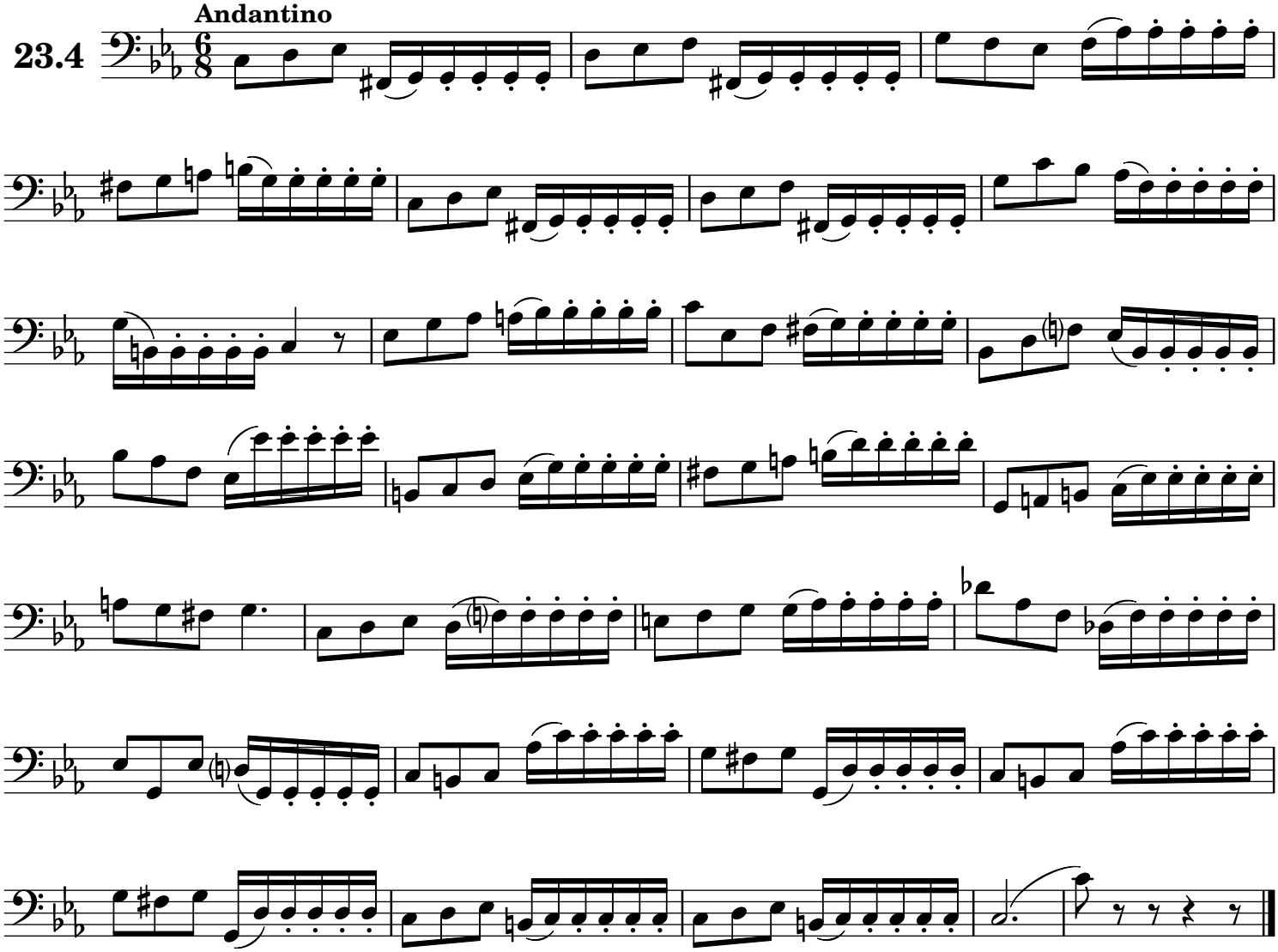
staccato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

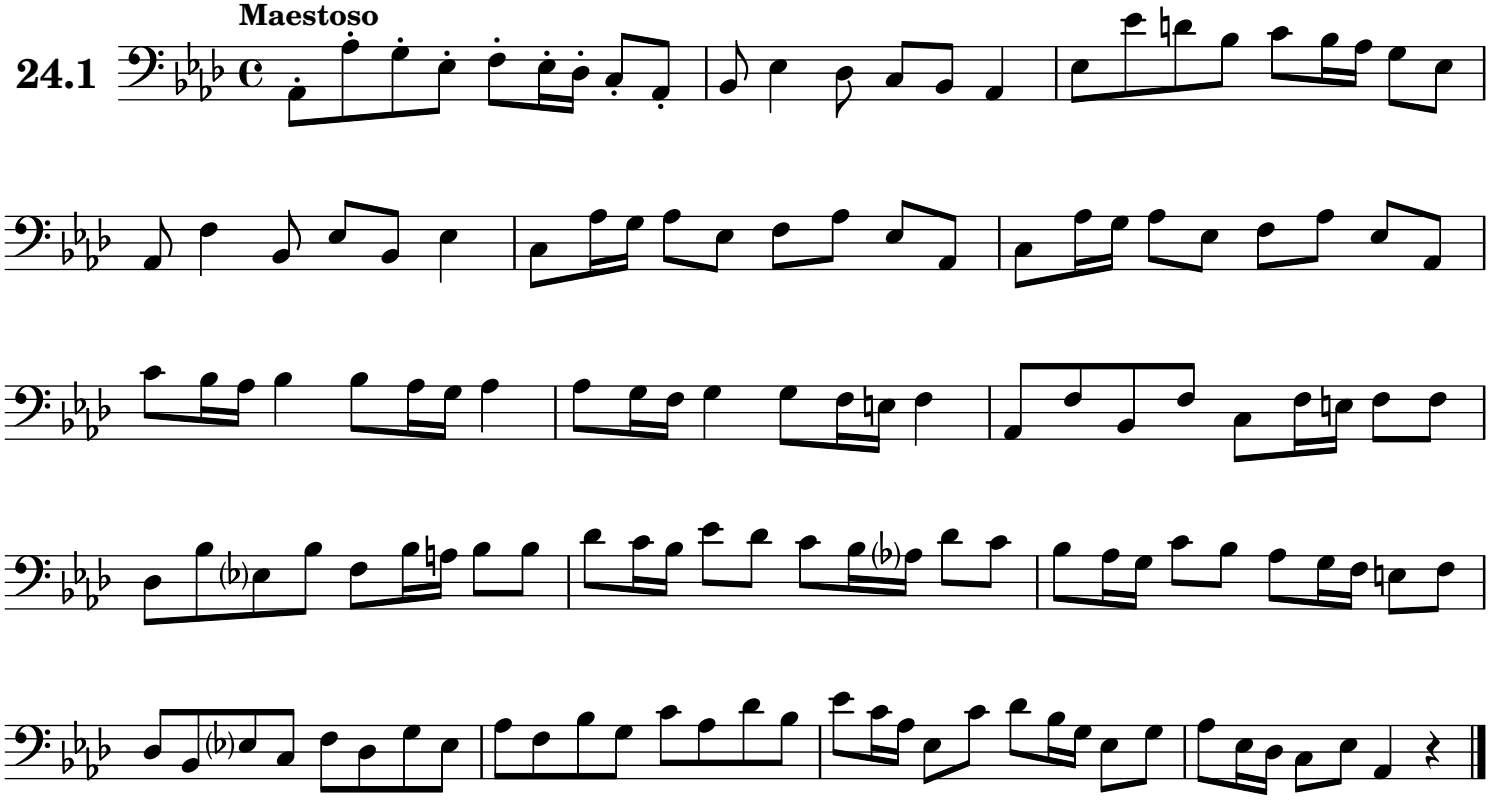
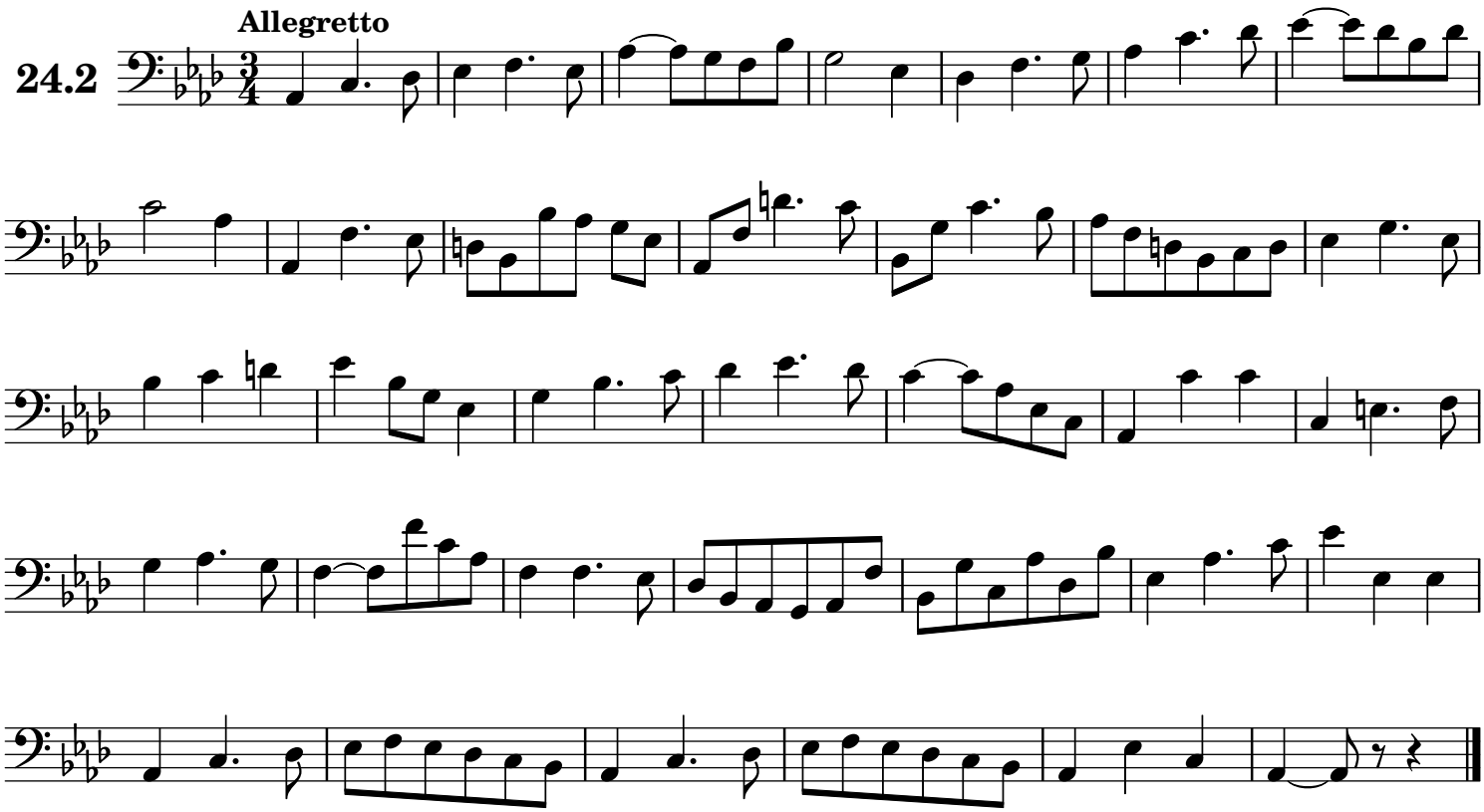
22. Exercises in E-Flat Major

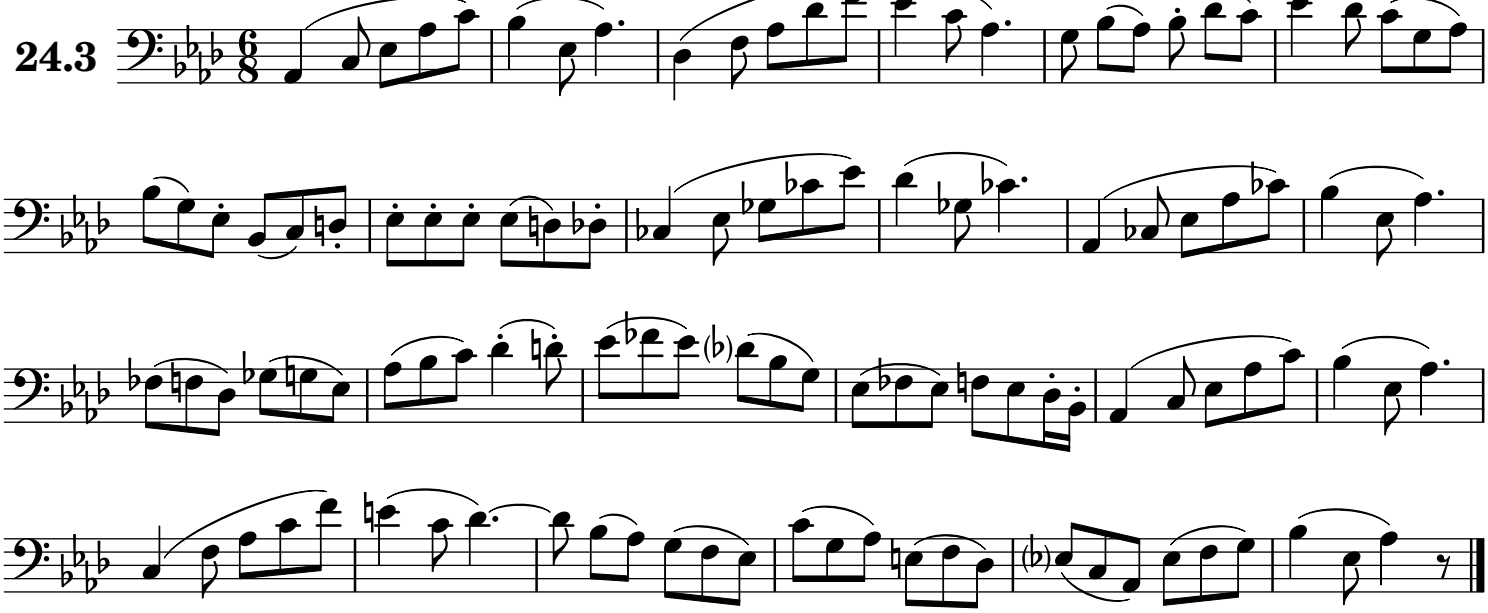
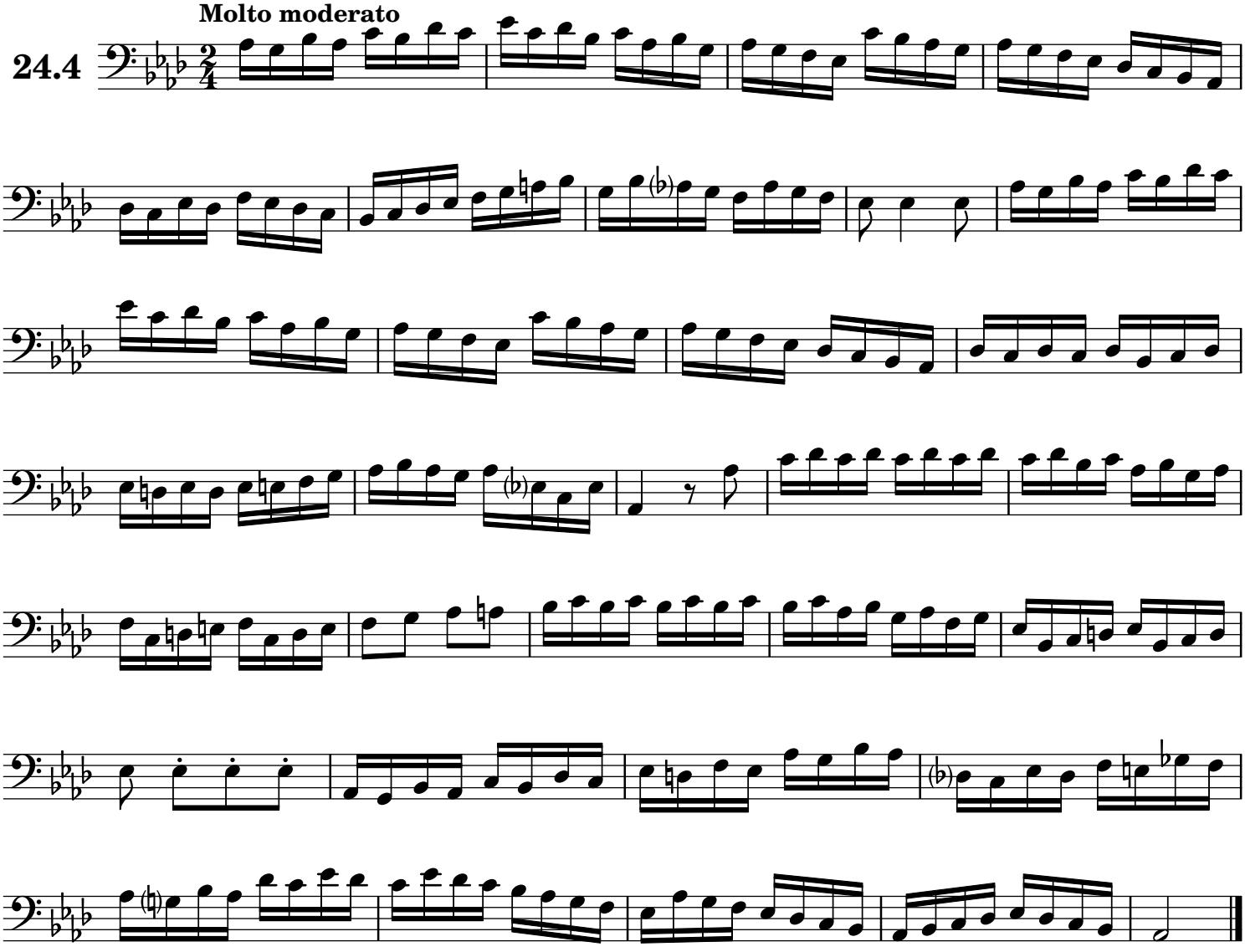
22.1

22.2 *Adagio*

22.3 *Moderato*

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

23. Exercises in C Minor

23.1 Adagio

23.2 Moderato

23.3 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

23.4 **Andantino**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

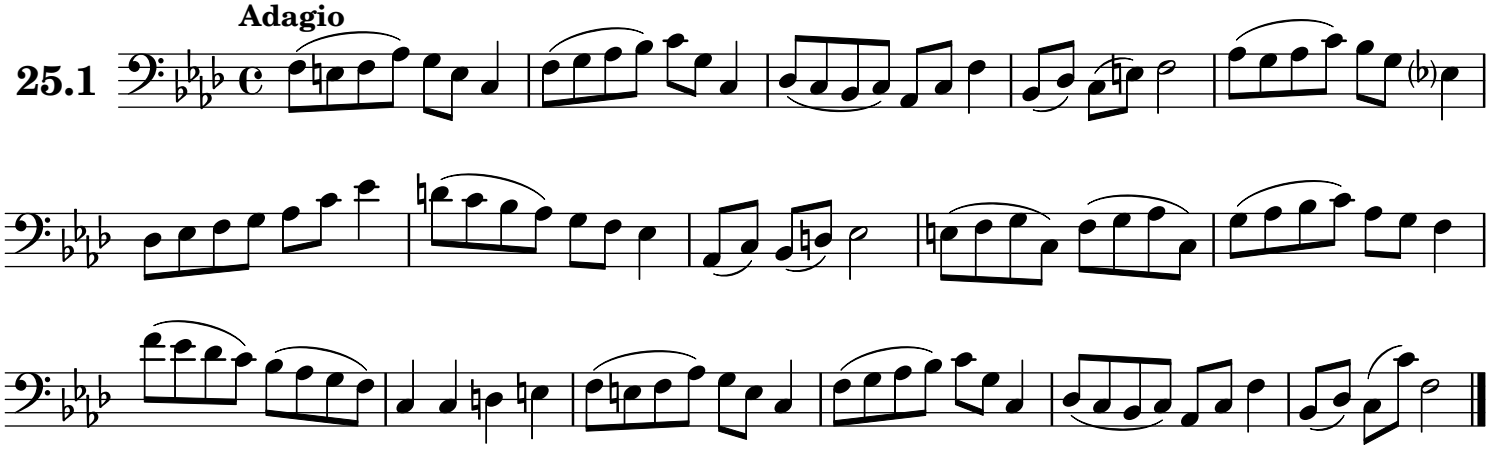
24. Exercises in A-Flat Major

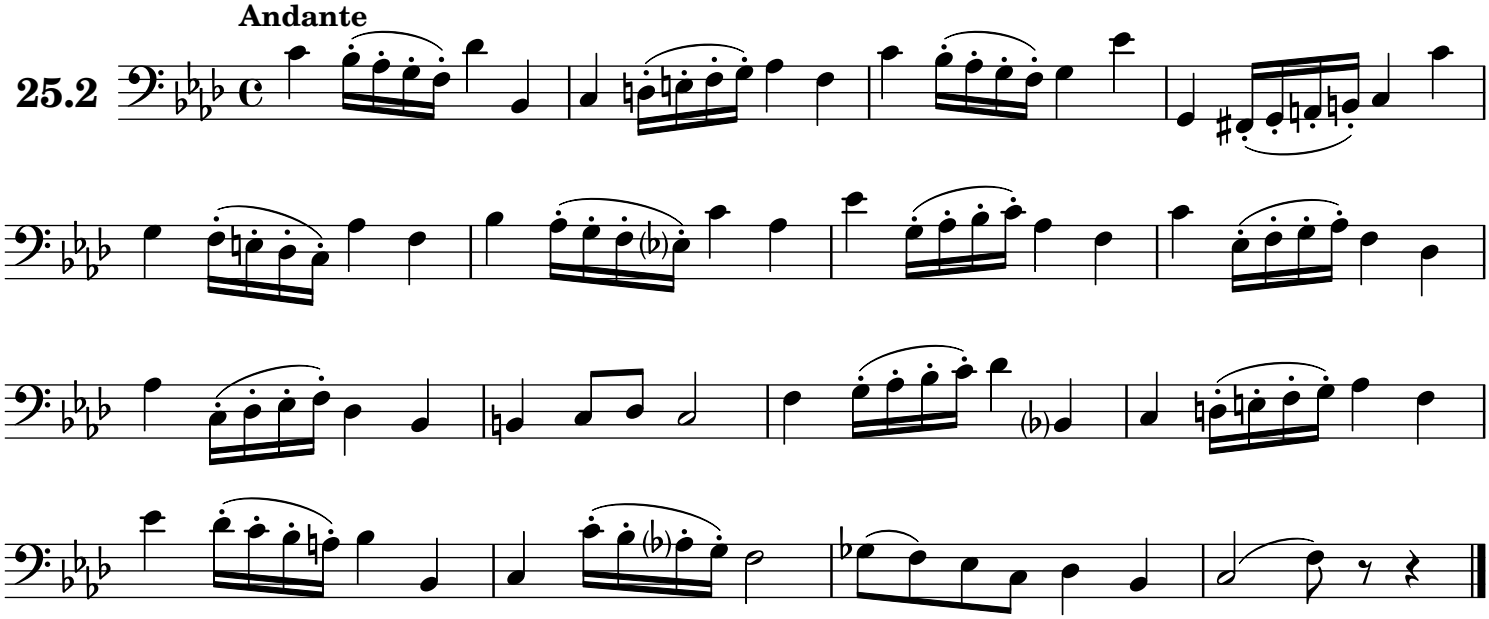
24.1 **Maestoso**

24.2 **Allegretto**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

24.3 Andantino

24.4 Molto moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

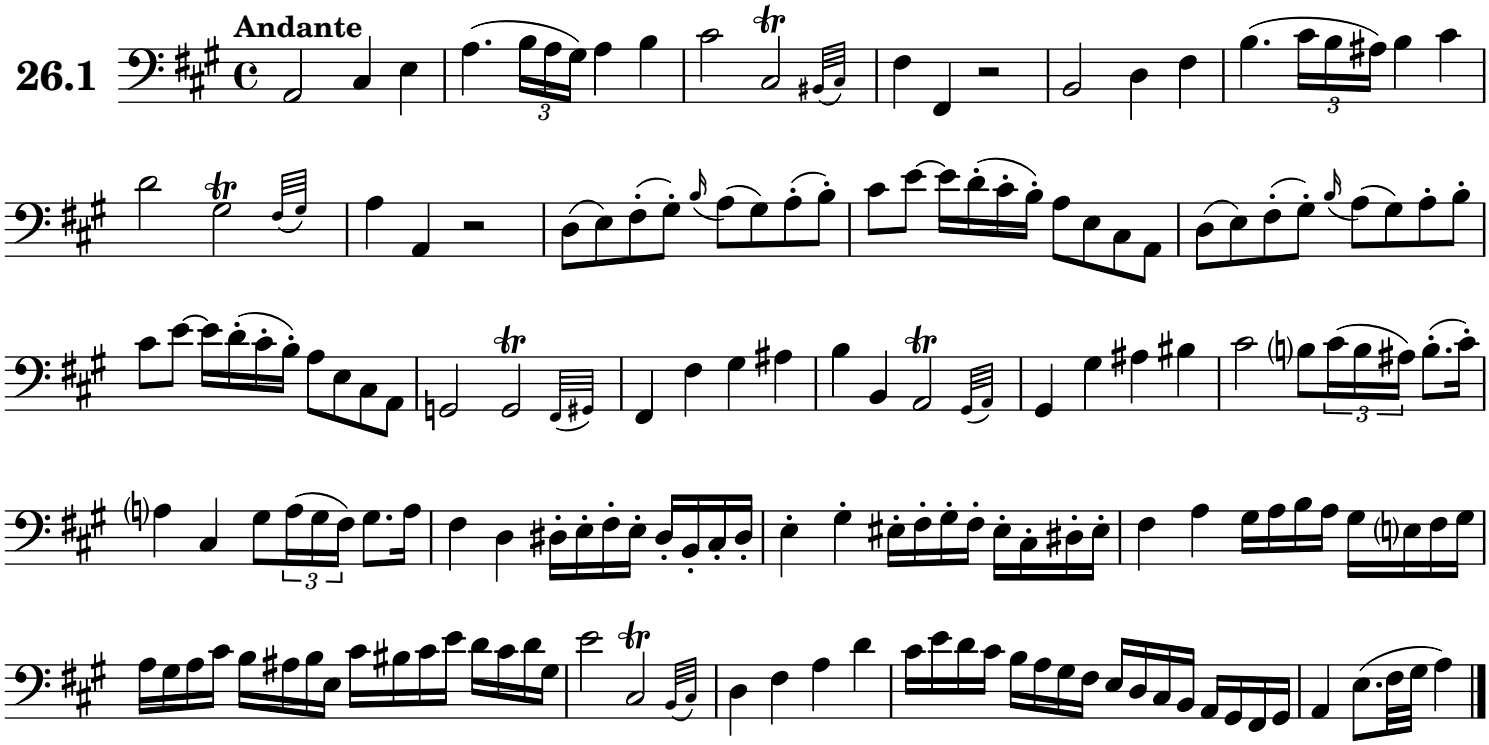
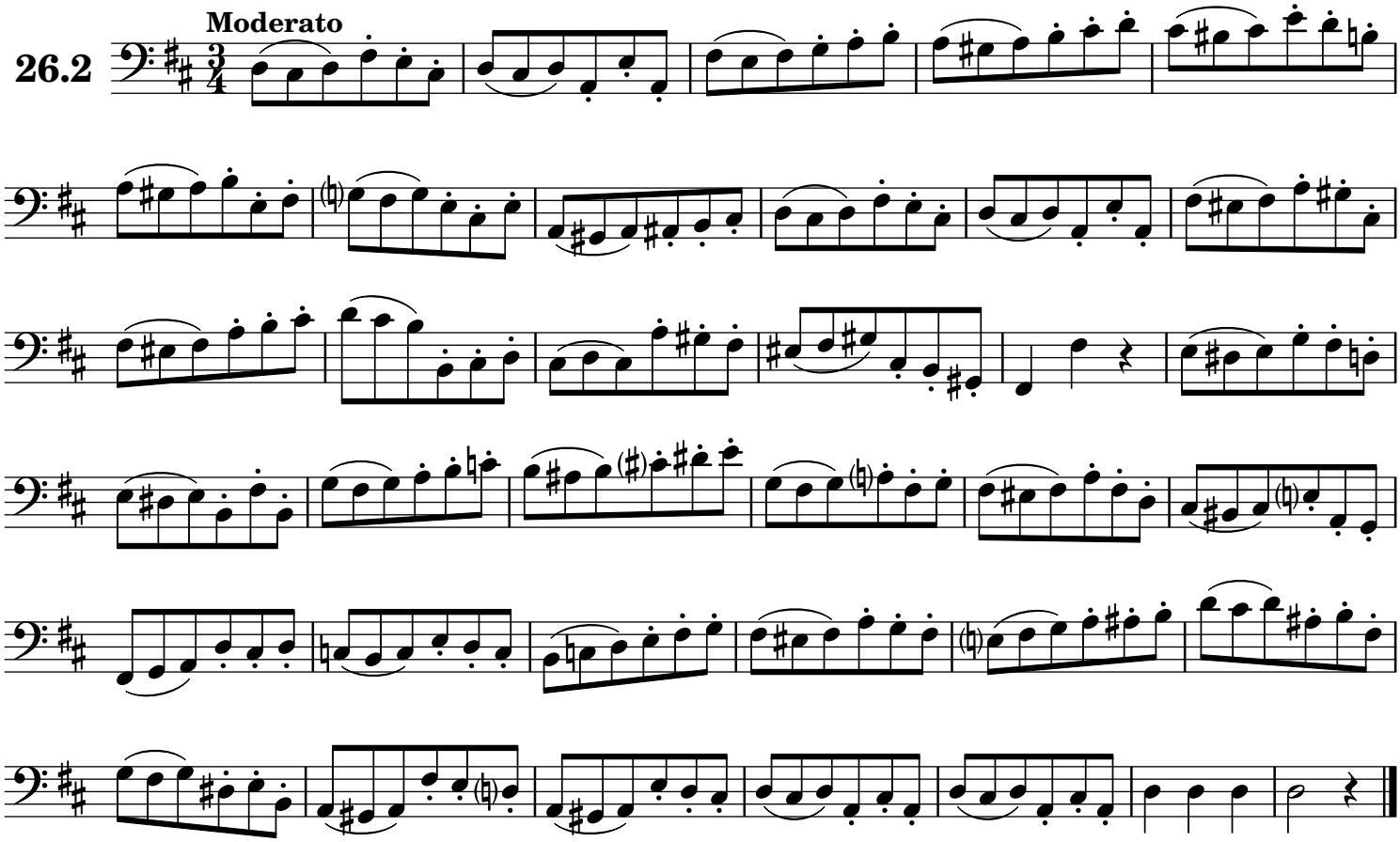
25. Exercises in F Minor

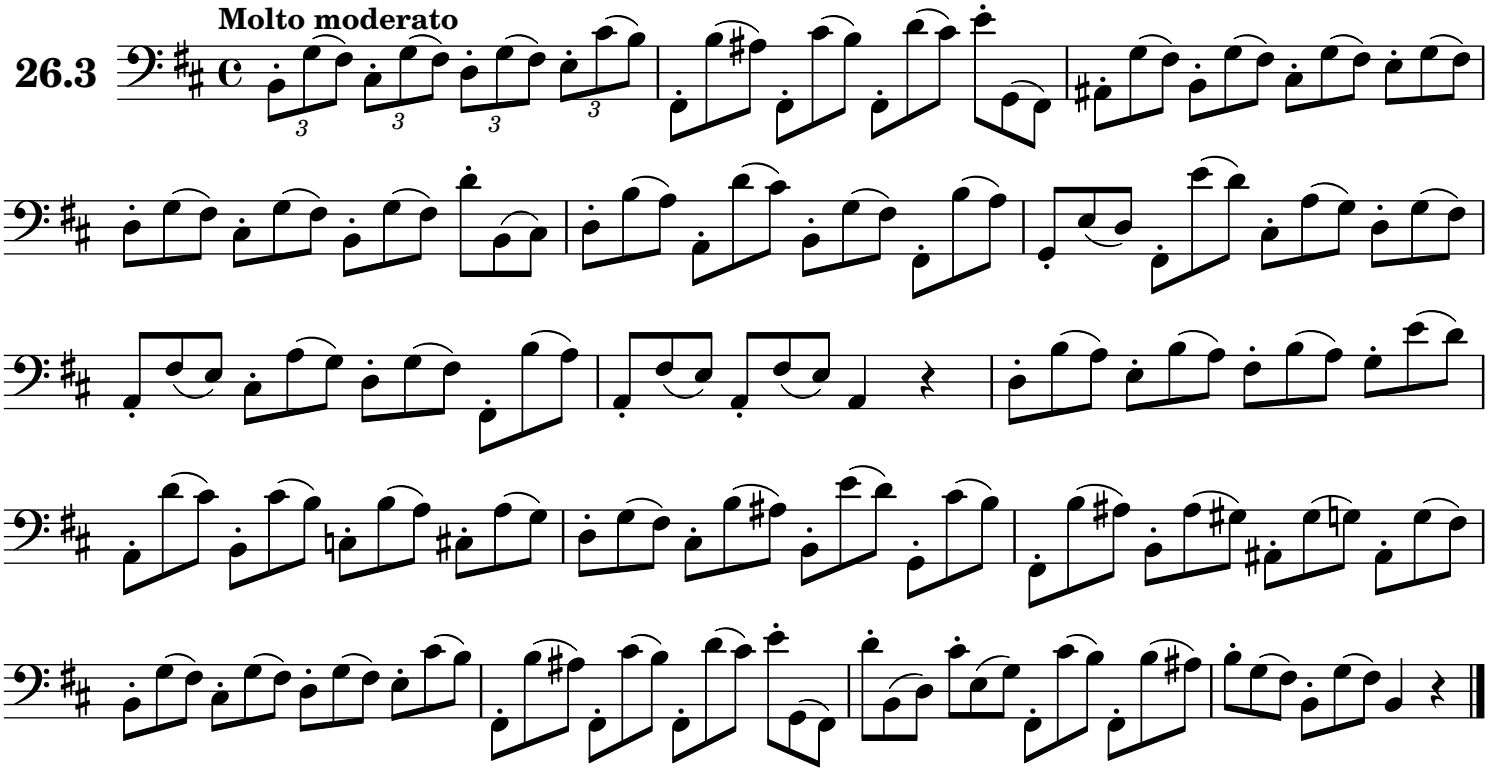
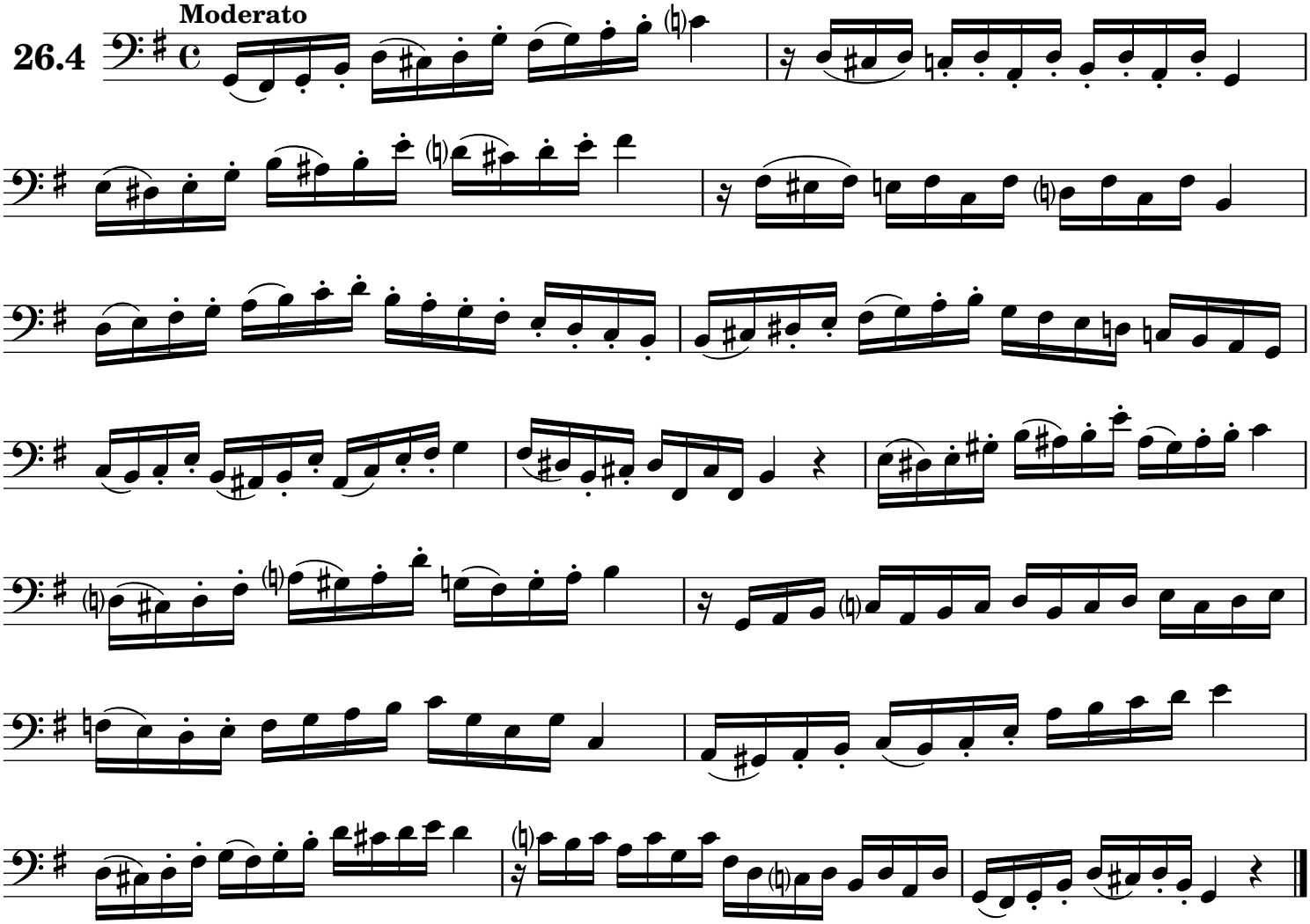
Adagio

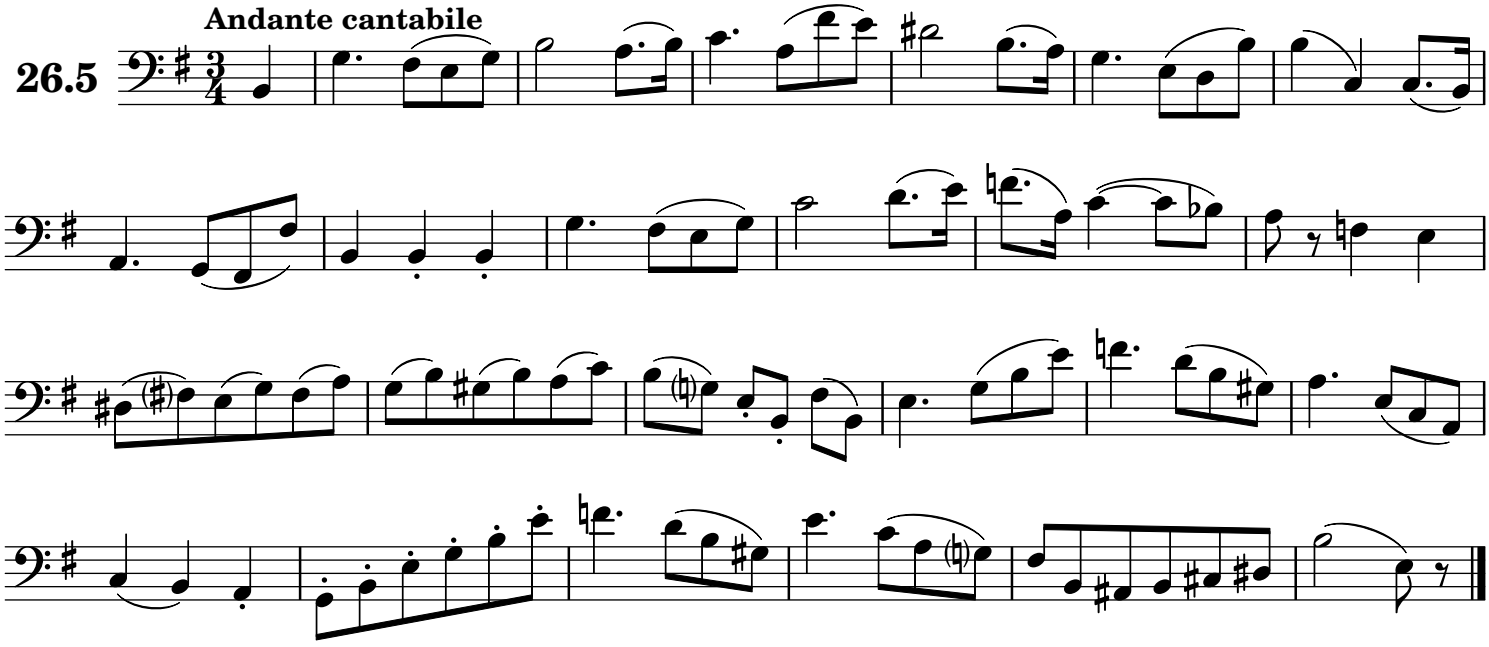
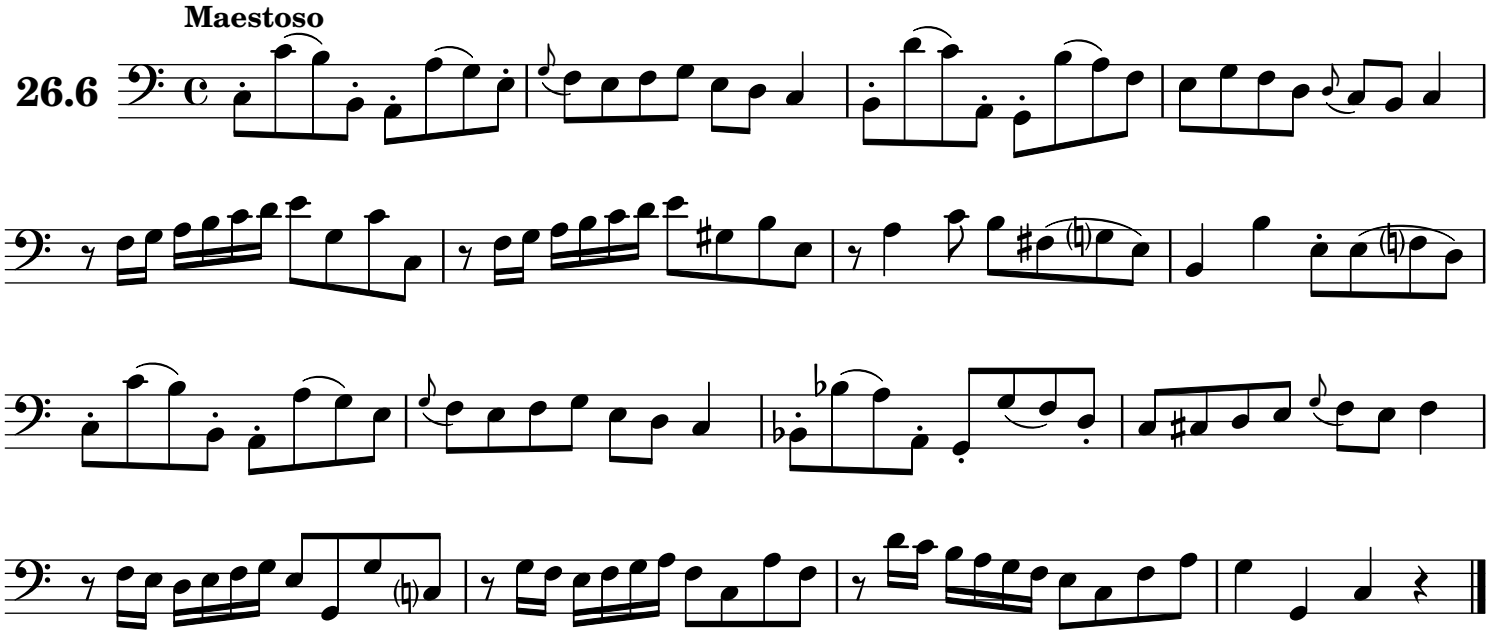
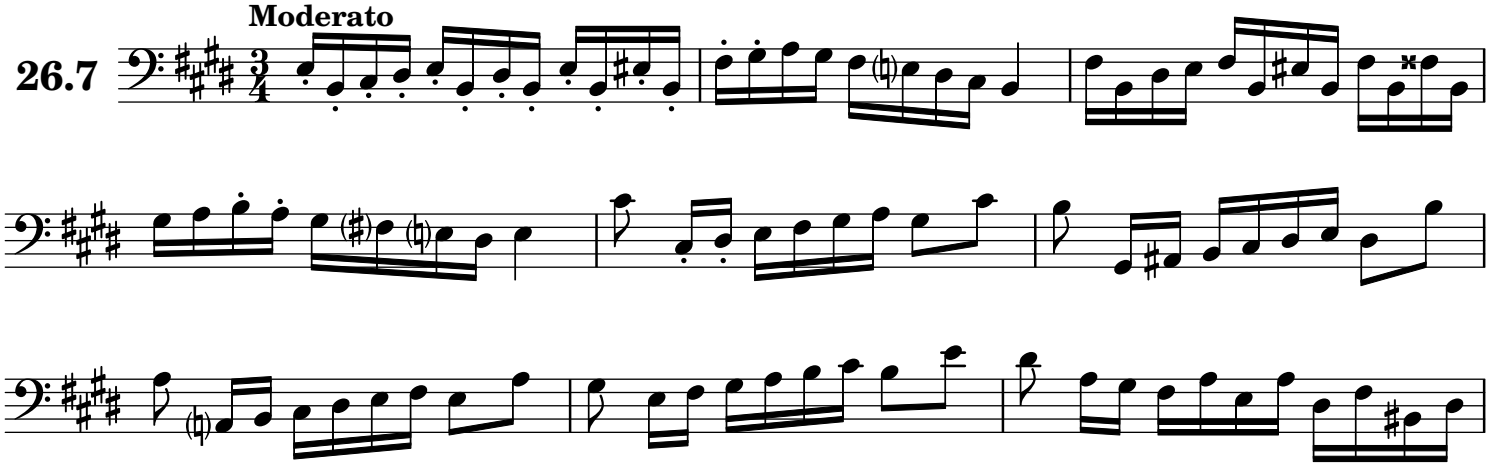
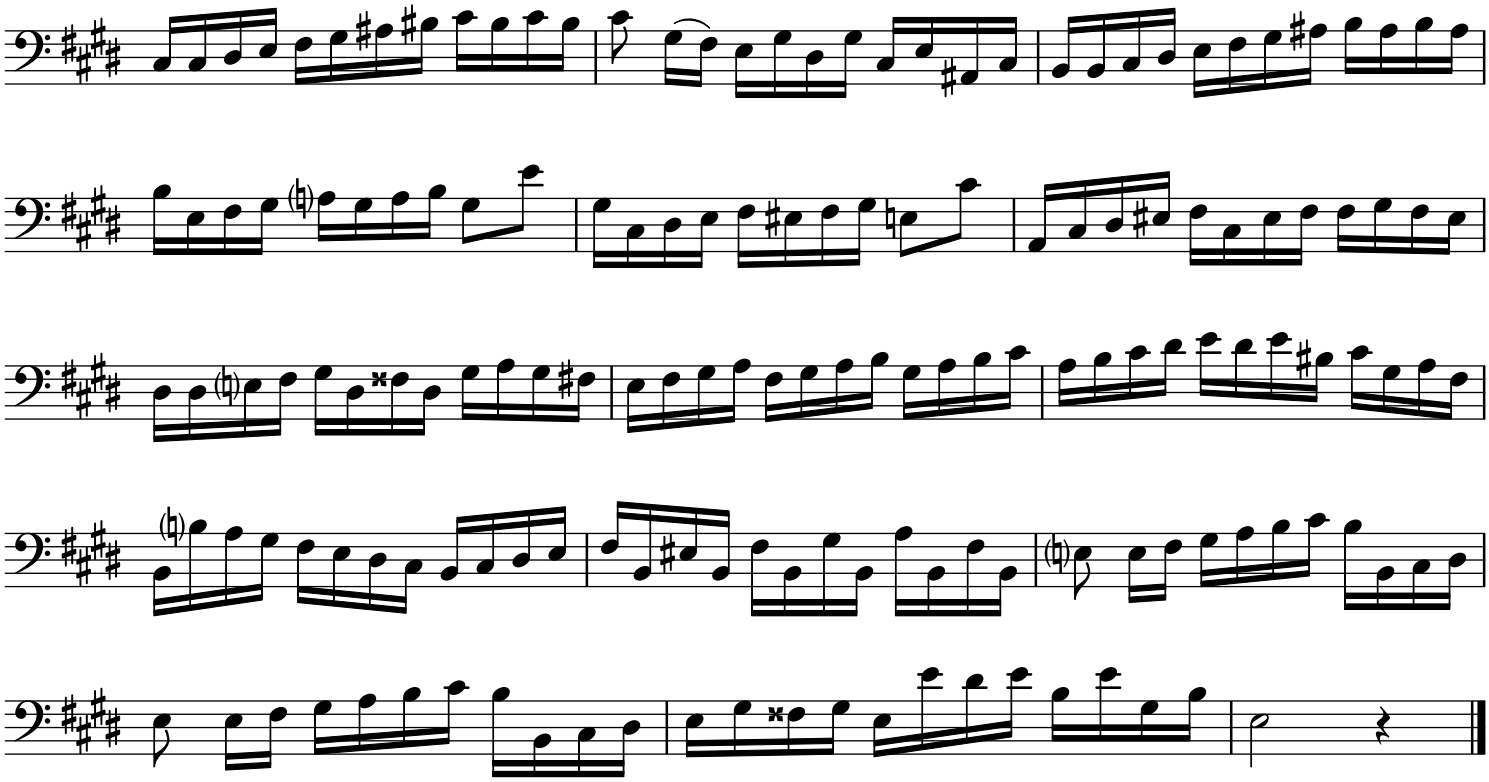
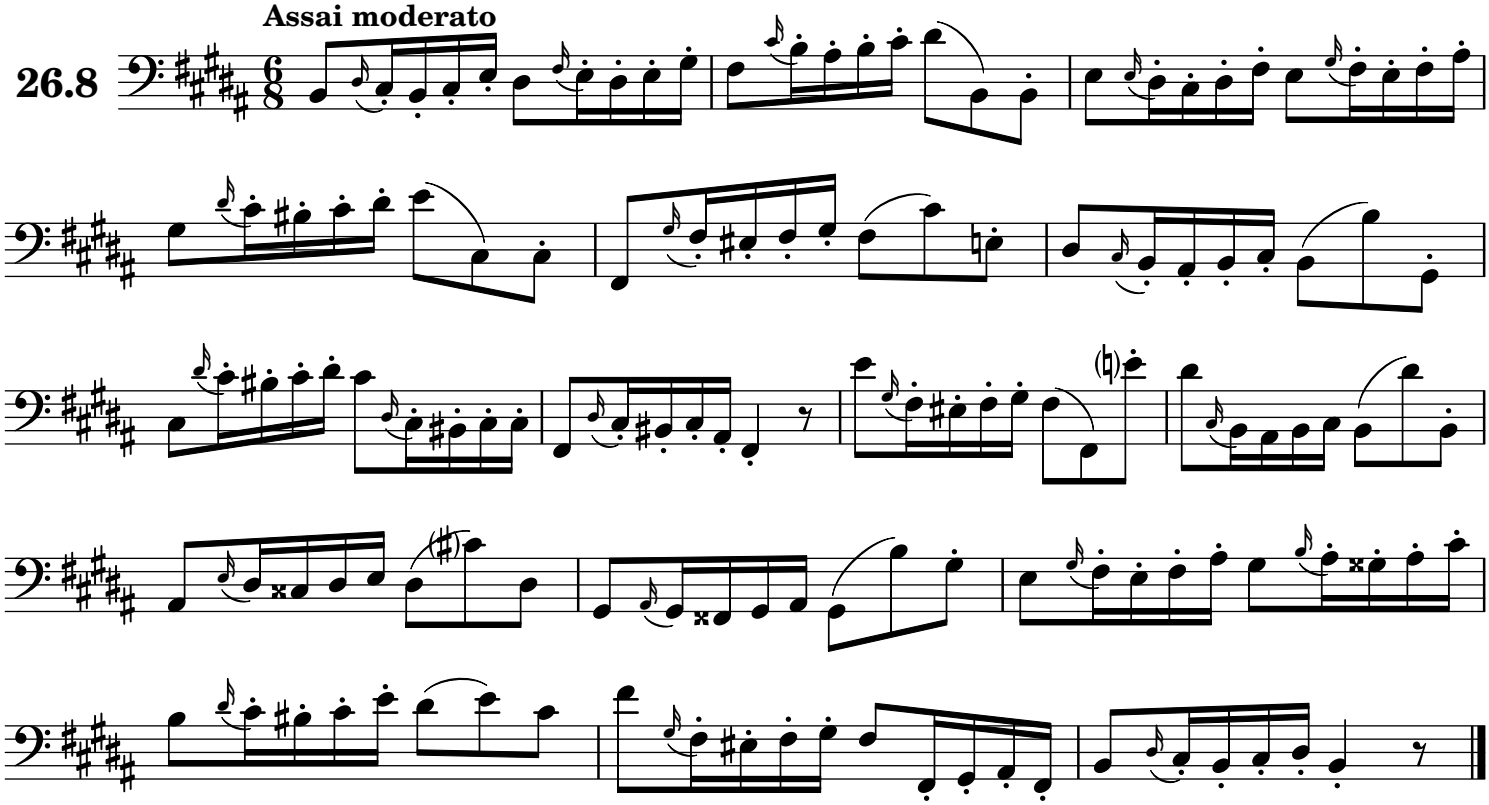
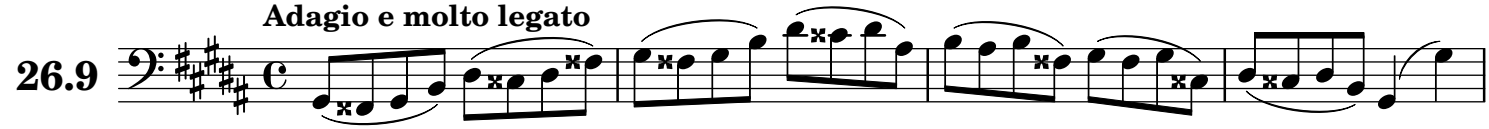
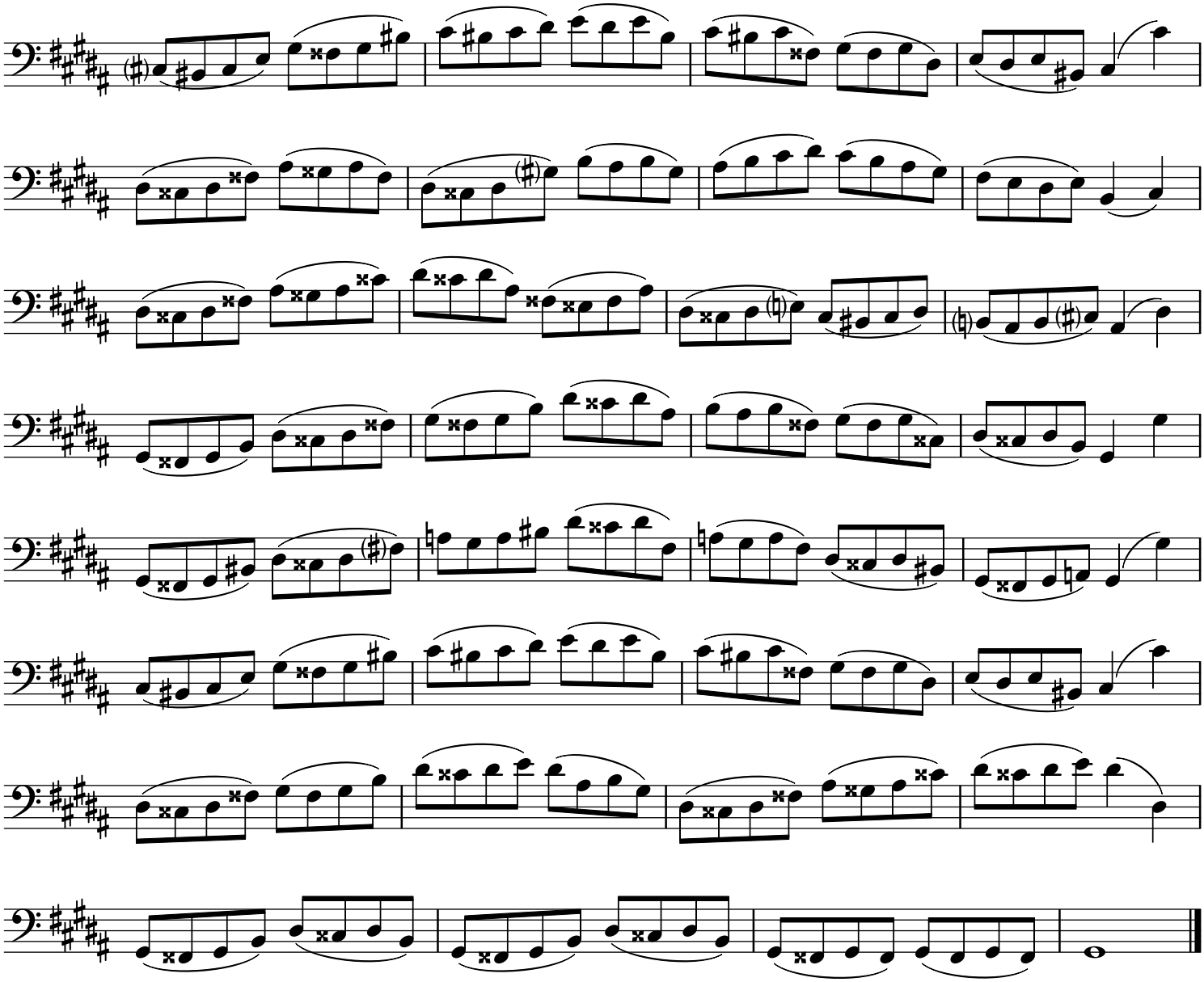
25.1

Andante

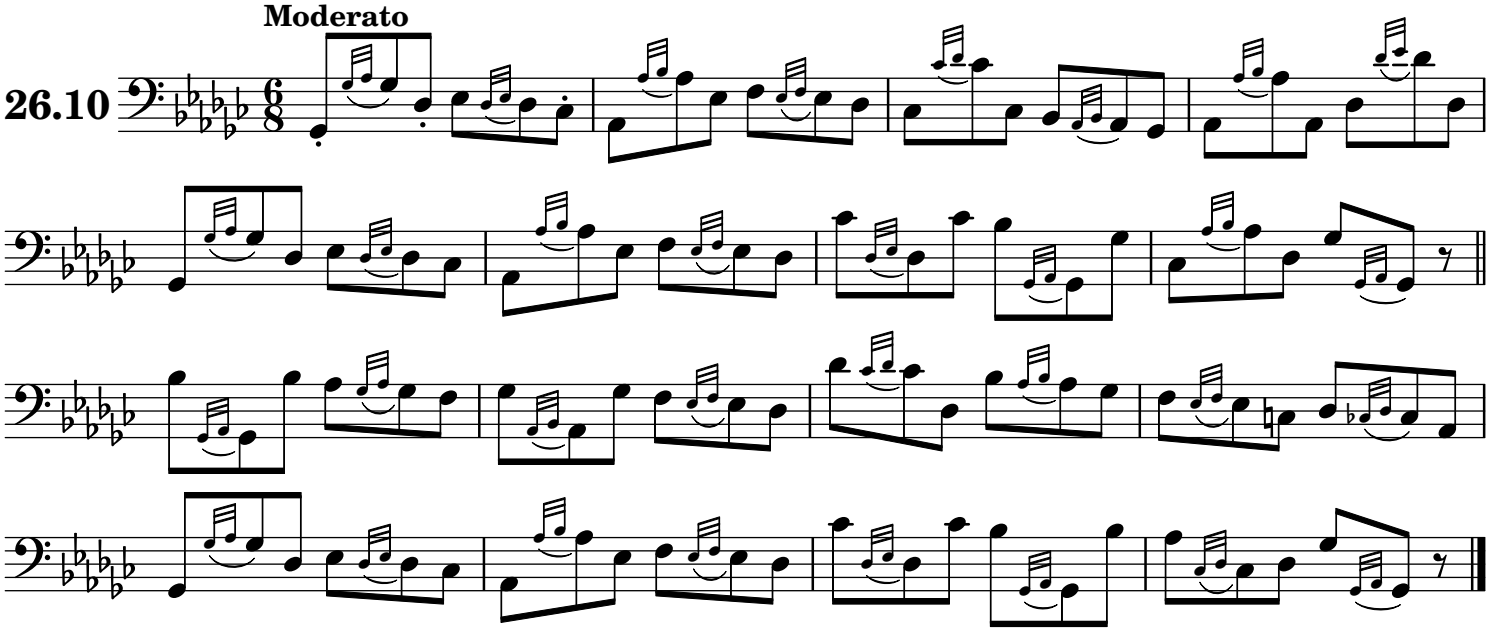
25.2

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond

26. Additional Exercises

26.1 Andante

26.2 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

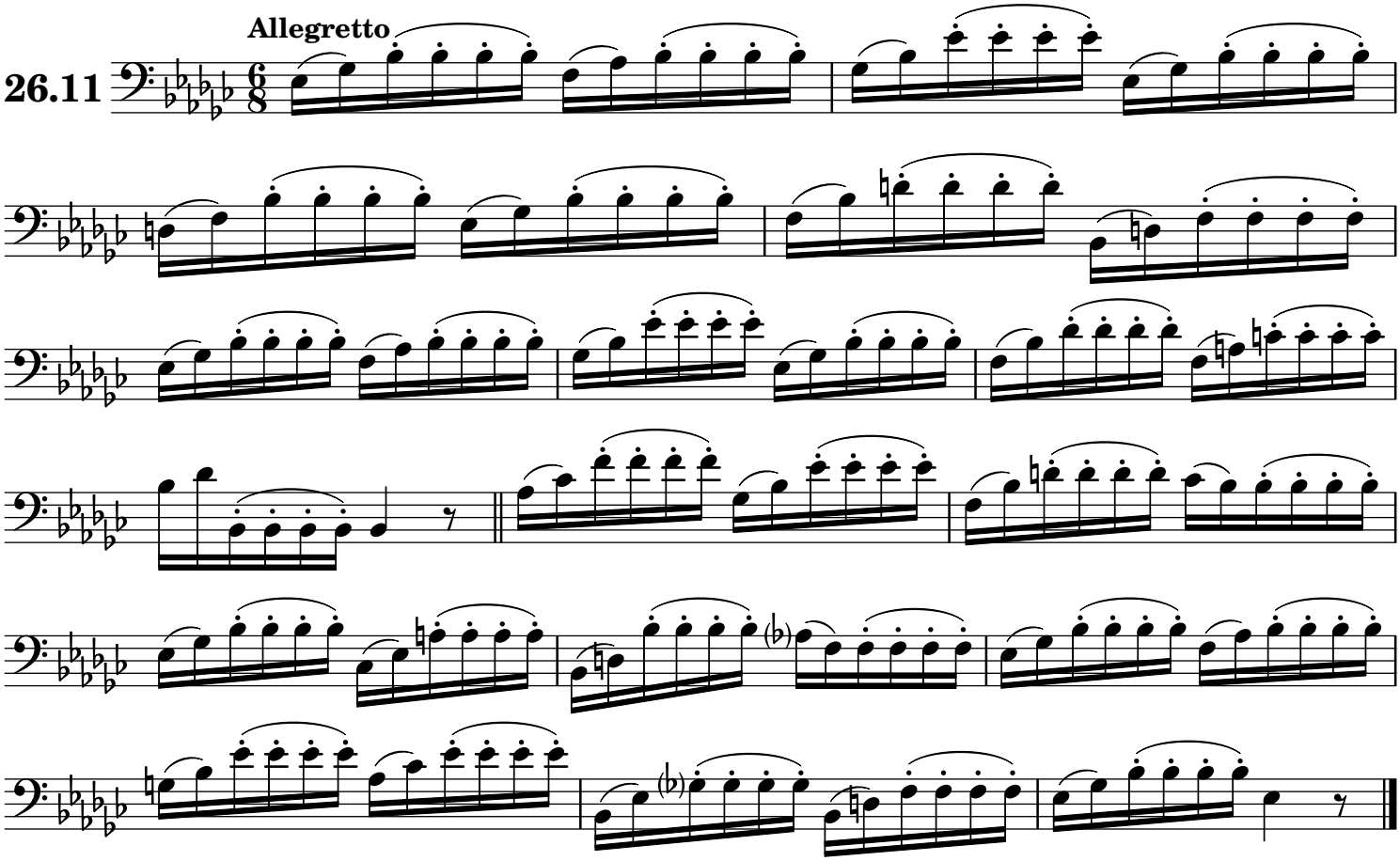
26.3 **Molto moderato**

26.4 **Moderato**

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

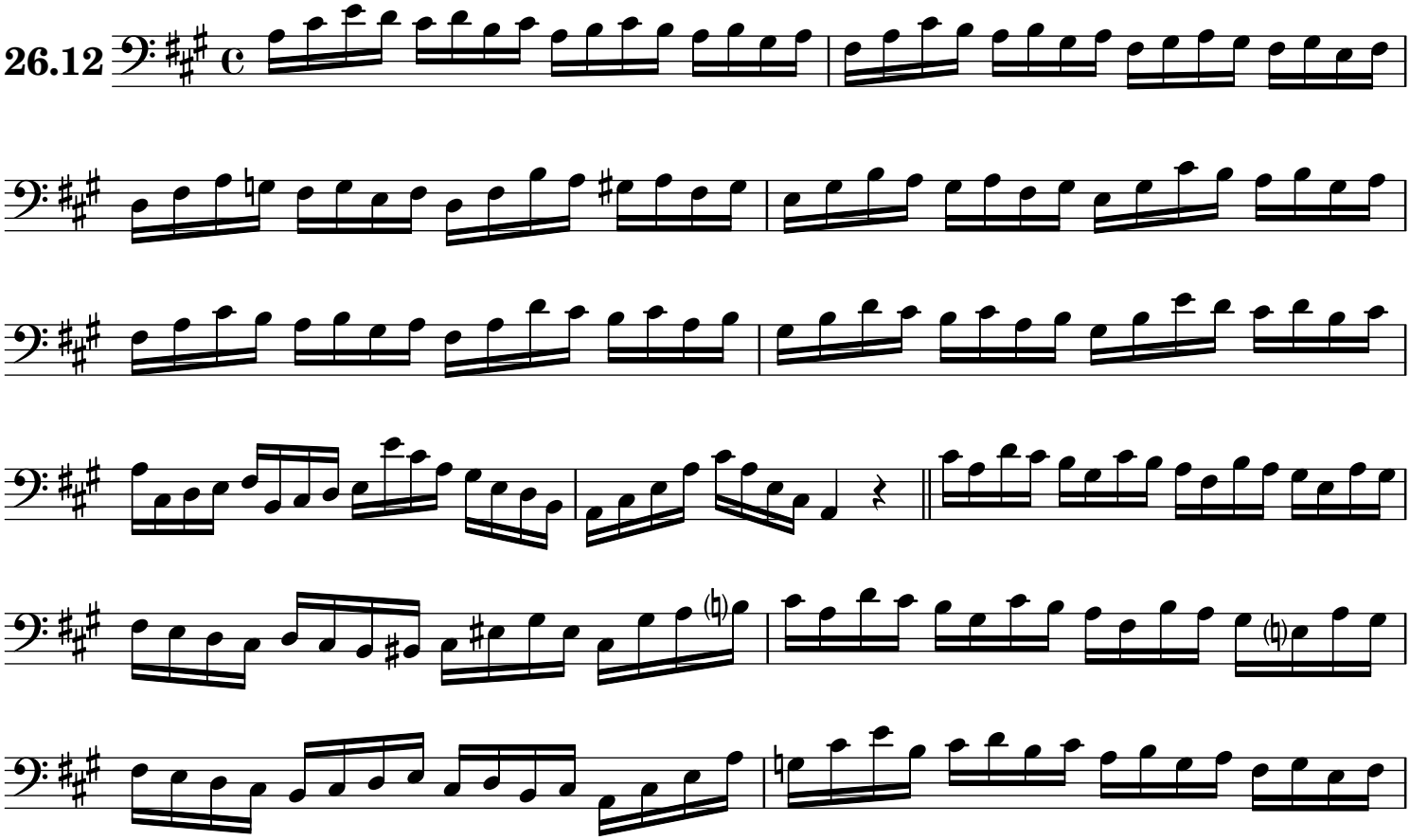
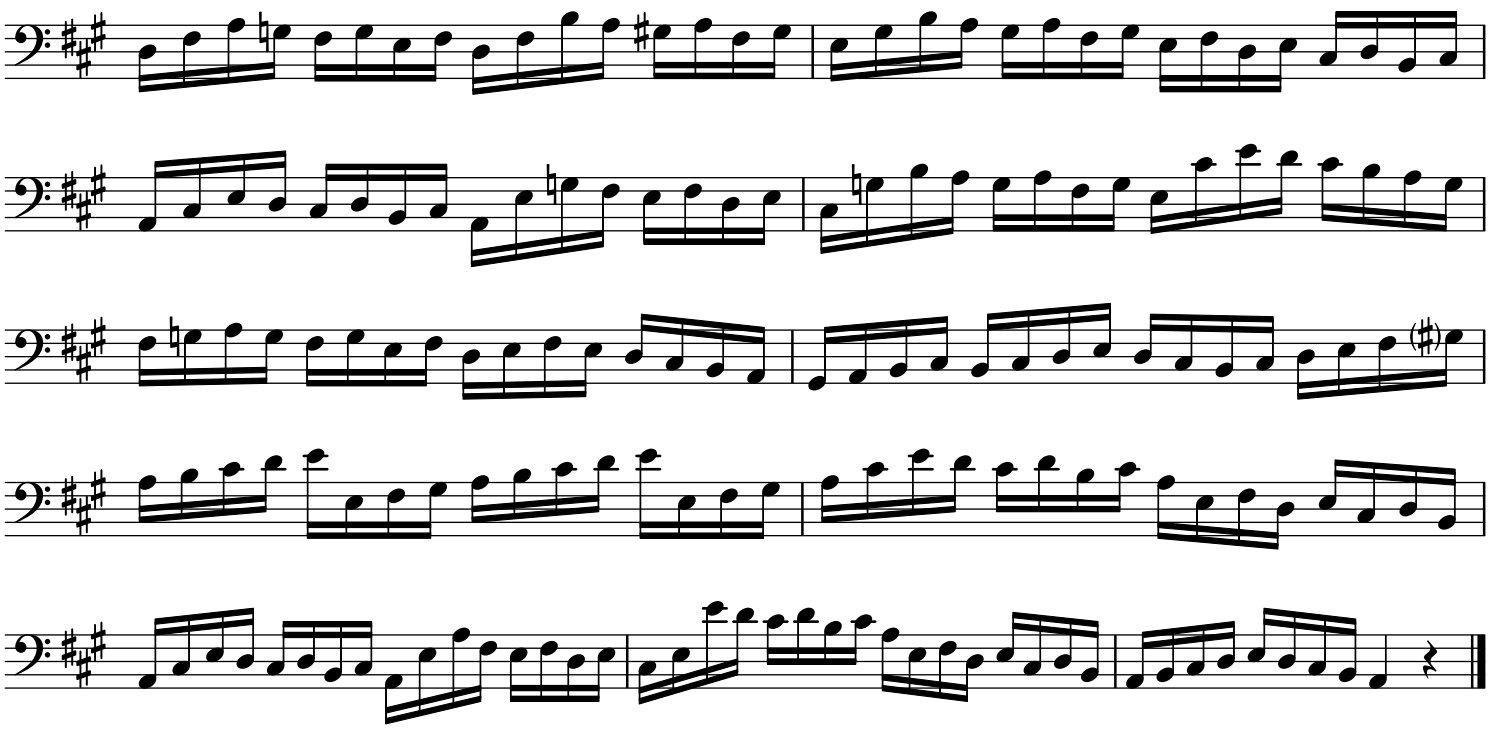
26.5 Andante cantabile

26.6 Maestoso

26.7 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

26.8 Assai moderato

26.9 Adagio e molto legato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

26.10 **Moderato**



© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

26.11 Allegretto



26.12 Moderato

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 • yuvalnov.org/bottesini • Engraved in LilyPond

© CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 ● yuvalnov.org/bottesini ● Engraved in LilyPond