Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Sonata in A Minor

"Per Arpeggione" (1824)

arranged for Viola and piano

Piano Part

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Rev. 2b, Jan. 2000. Obtained from the GMD Music Scores Archives

Franz Schubert

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Due to a number of technical problems, the Arpeggione never became popular, and suffered a rapid obsolescence. Its guitar-shaped body made it awkward to hold, and it was difficult to play loudly on a single string because of the low curvature imposed by its many strings. In fact, the sonata presented here is probably the only significant work written specifically for this unusual instrument.

Schubert wrote this piece in 1824, and the care taken to suit the music to the instrument is quite apparent. It can be noted that rarely are dynamics stronger than "p" indicated, especially in fast passages. He made good use of the instrument's arpeggiating abilities, and wrote the music to show off the arpegionne's extensive range.

The fact that the music has outlived the instrument by some two centuries is a tribute to Schubert's genius for memorable melodies. It is sometimes used as a showpiece by exceptional 'cello players, as only the most capable virtuosi can reach the impossibly high places. Even on viola the higher ranges are difficult, and the lower registers (below open C) are of course impossible.

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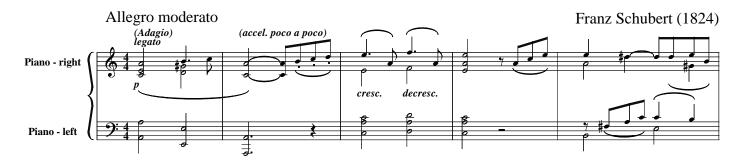
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A note on the passage starting at bar 330, and similar passages later in the piece. The recommended way to play this is to double-stop the C and G strings, playing the A on the G-string as a "drone." This gives an interesting "fiddle" effect and is easier than negotiating the shifts if the section is played on adjacent strings in 3rd position.

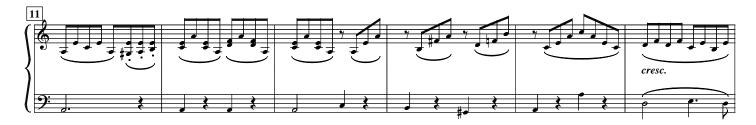
Special thanks to Werner Icking of GMD for his encouragement, and to Jean-Pierre Coulon for his welcome collaboration.

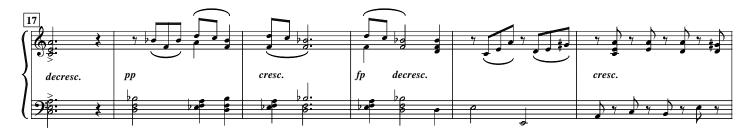
Fred Nachbaur, January 1999

Sonata "Per Arpeggione" in A Minor

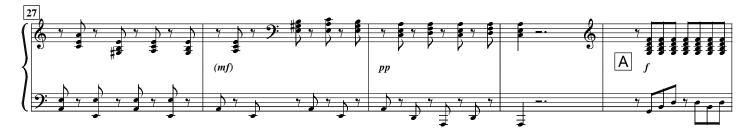






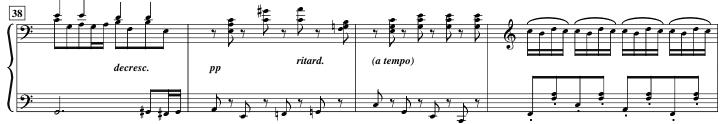


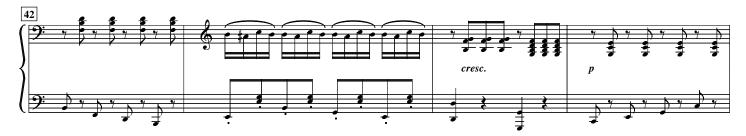


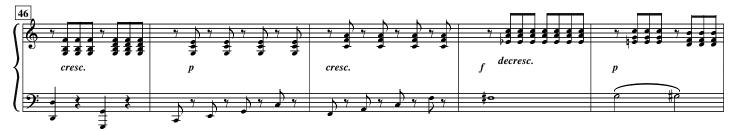


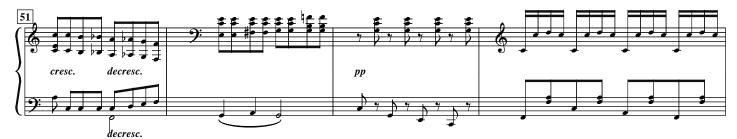
Arranged for Viola by Fred Nachbaur & Jean-Pierre Coulon, Rev. 2b, Jan. 2000 Free (non-commercial) distribution encouraged. No warranty provided.



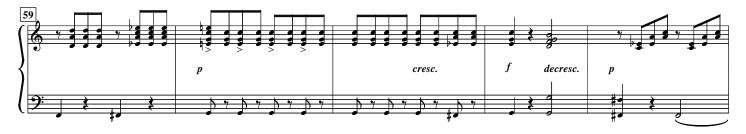














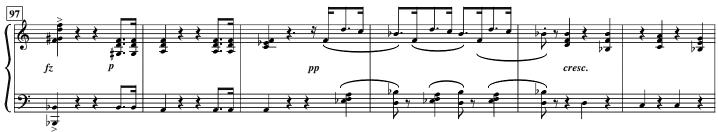


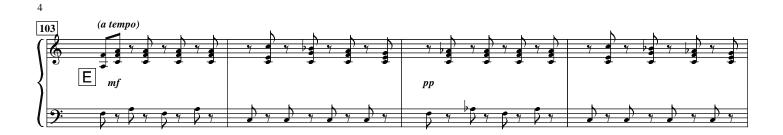








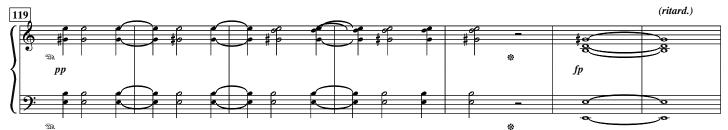










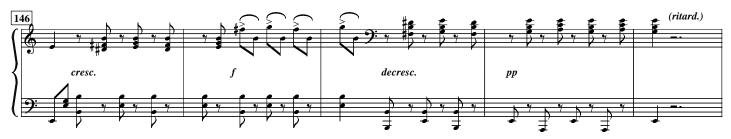




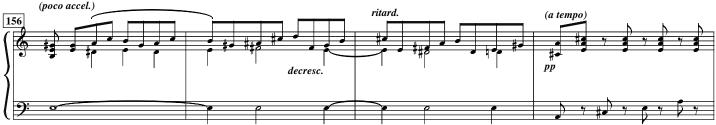
















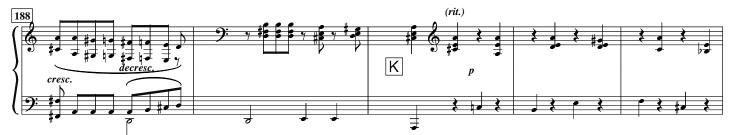






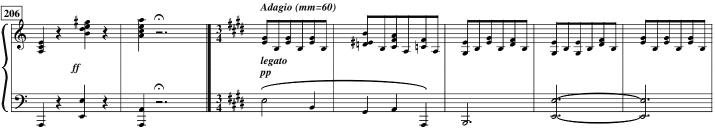










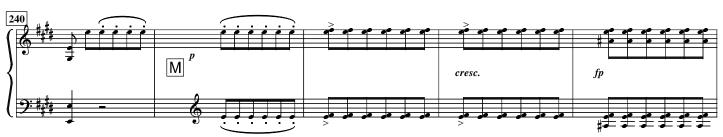








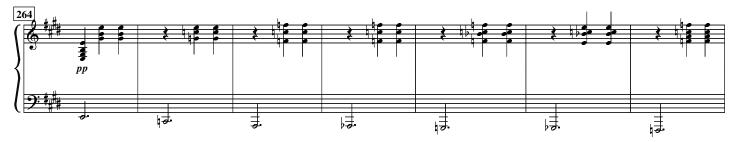




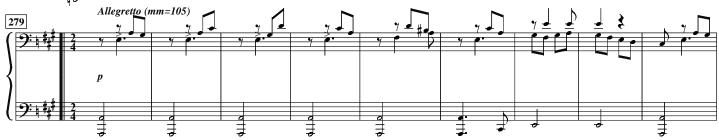






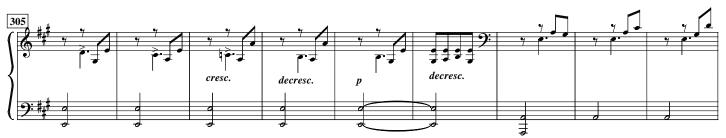




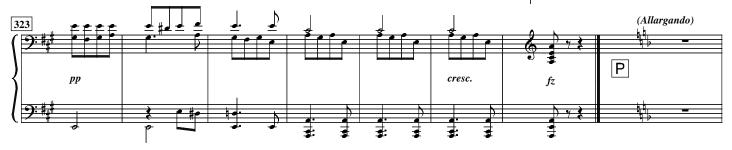




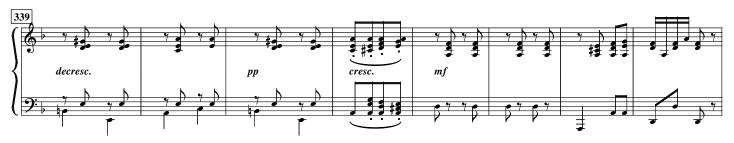






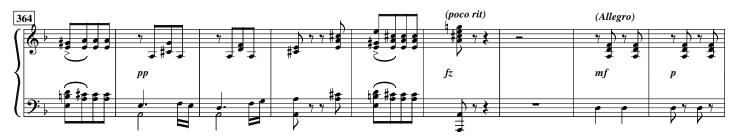








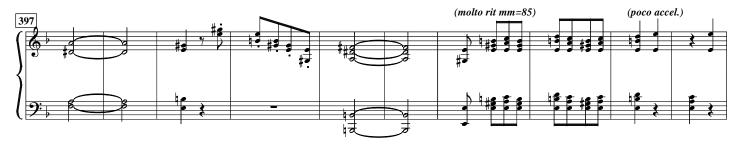




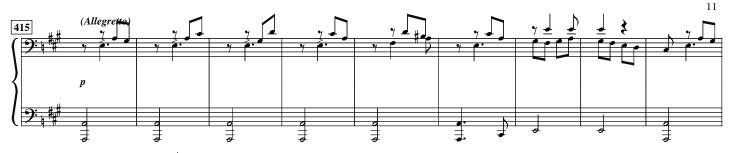




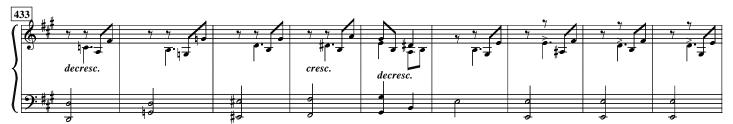






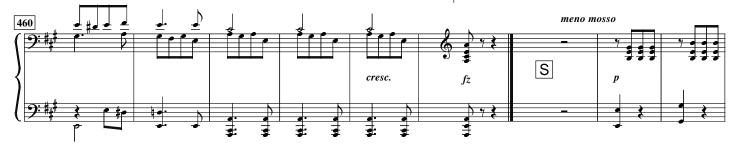








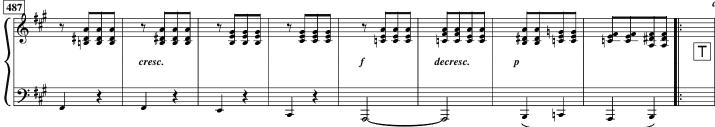








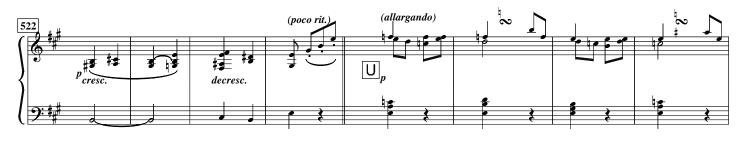










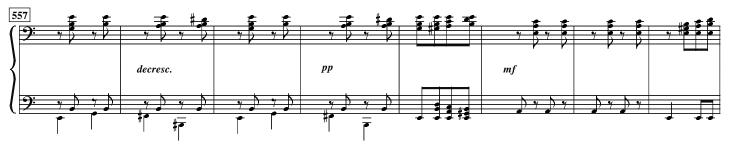


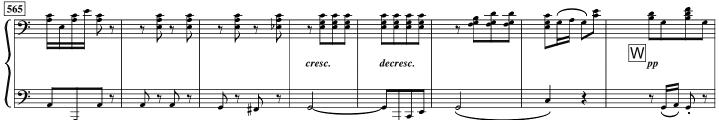




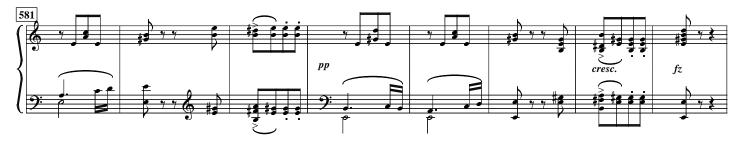




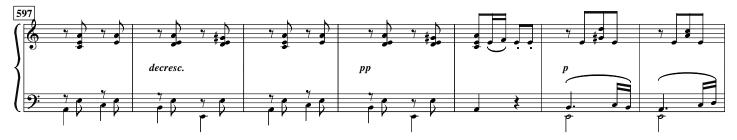






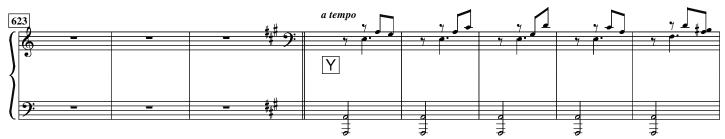






















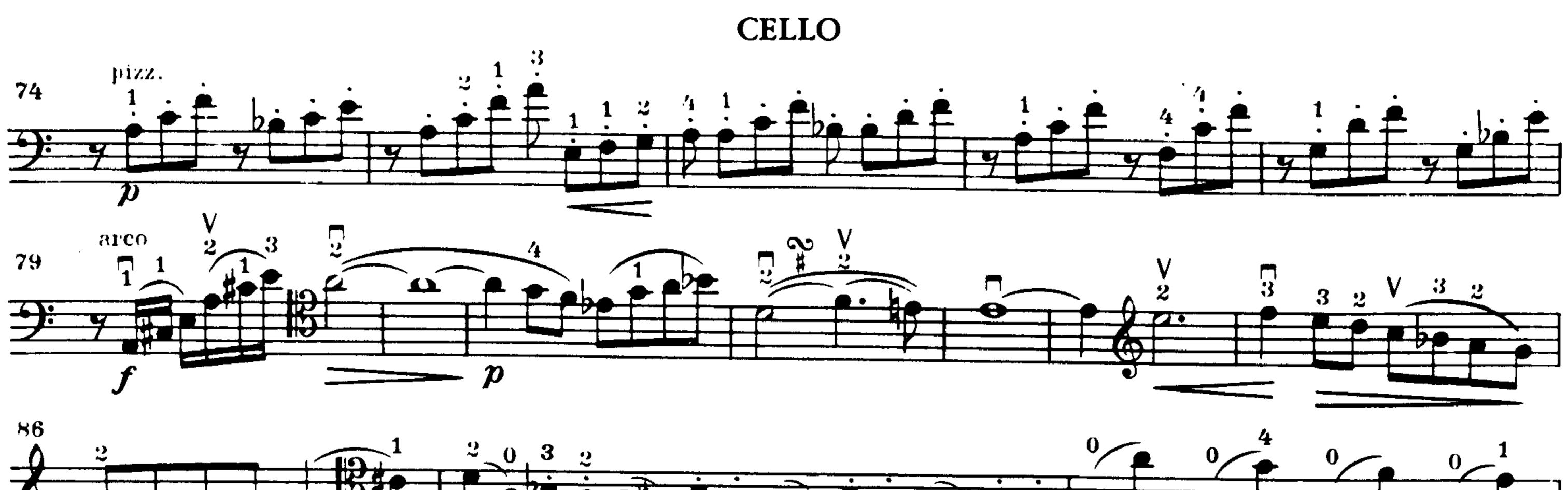


SONATA

in A minor for Cello and Piano, D. 821*



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CELLO



* The Arpeggione's lowest string was E. The editor feels that the ossia would be more suitable for cello, as in the exposition.

CELLO



CLLLO

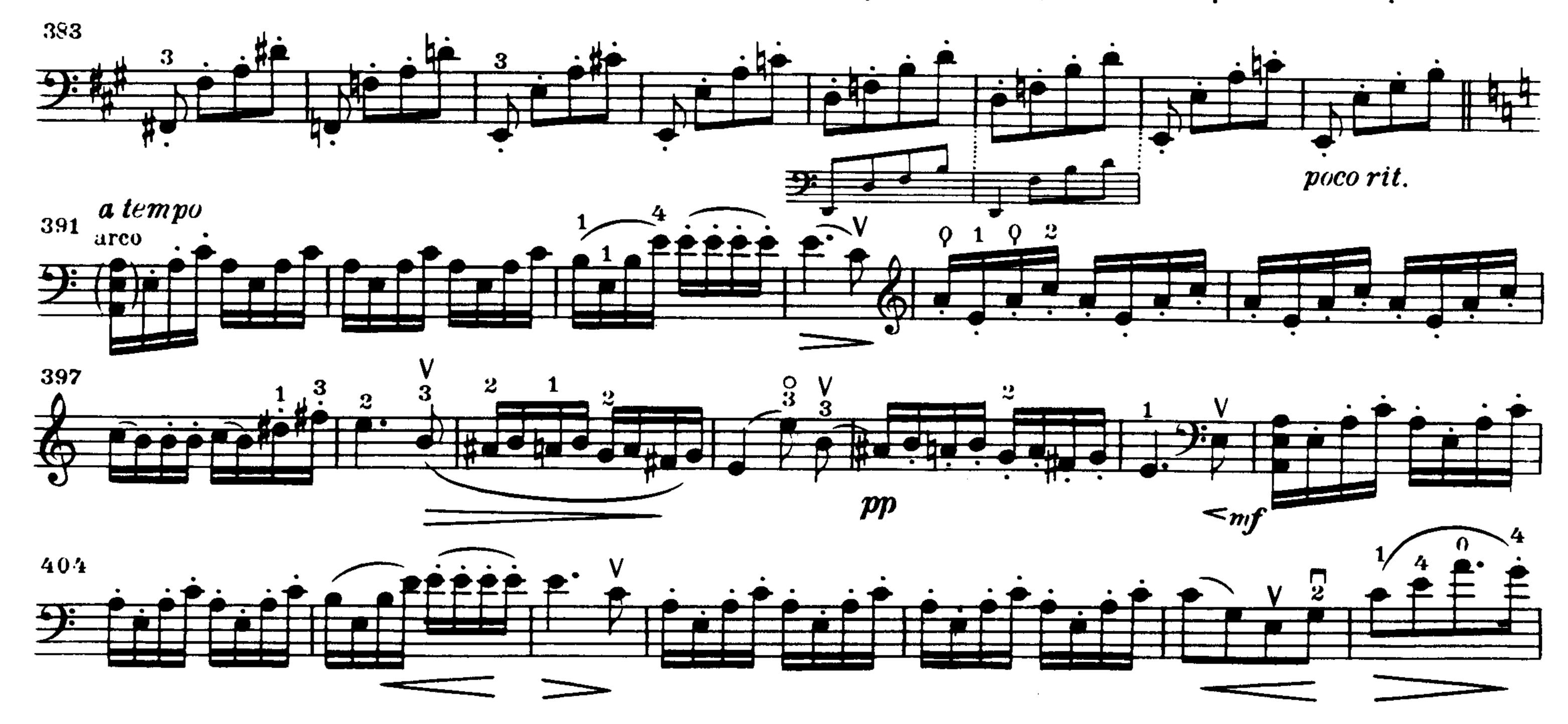


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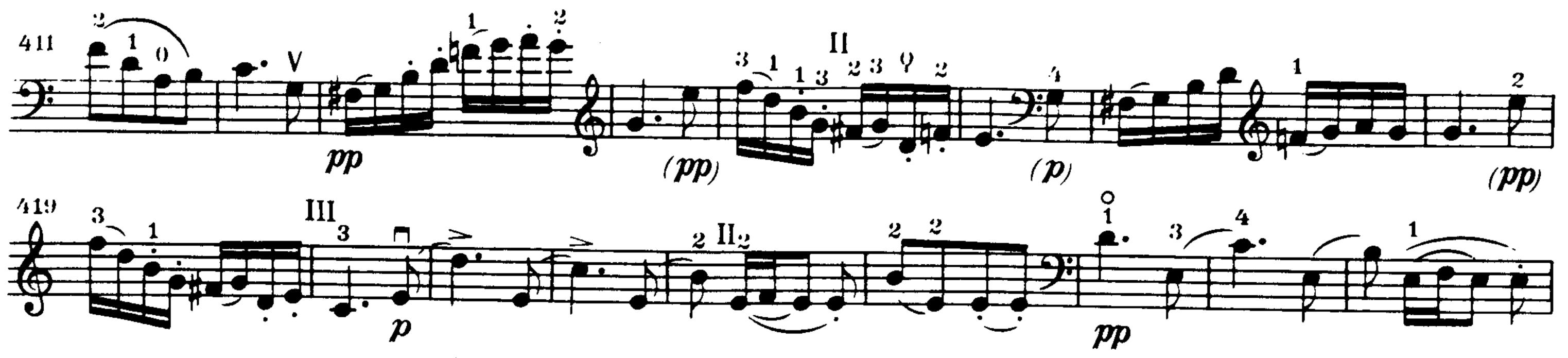
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Viola Part

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decresc.











