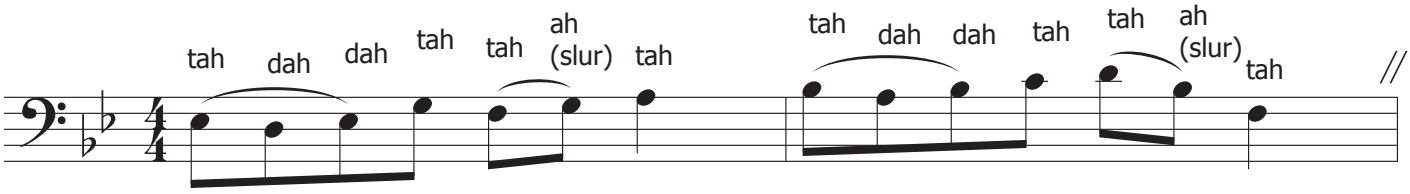
Exercises for the 2024 AMEA
All-State Band Audition Etude - Trombone

Brad Edwards - Arizona State University

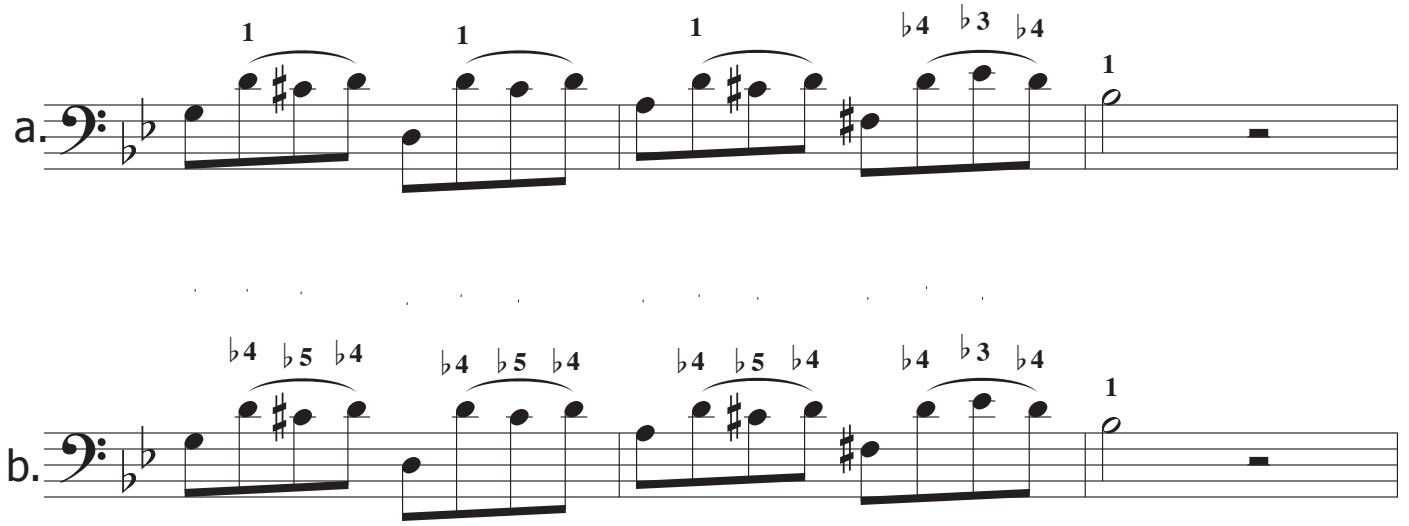
Etude #3: *Allegretto, ma non troppo*

The tempo marking is curious to me. *Allegretto* means "A little lively, moderately fast."
Ma non troppo means "But not too much." So, does that mean, "Be a little lively but not too much"?
Your guess is as good as mine. A metronome marking is given so it can't really be talking about tempo.
Anyway, now you know.

3a. Catching the articulation details.
Pay close attention to exactly where the slurs are placed. The legato notes will need to sound different from the articulated notes. Use either a "dah" articulation or a natural slur when possible. Start this one very slowly and listen carefully.

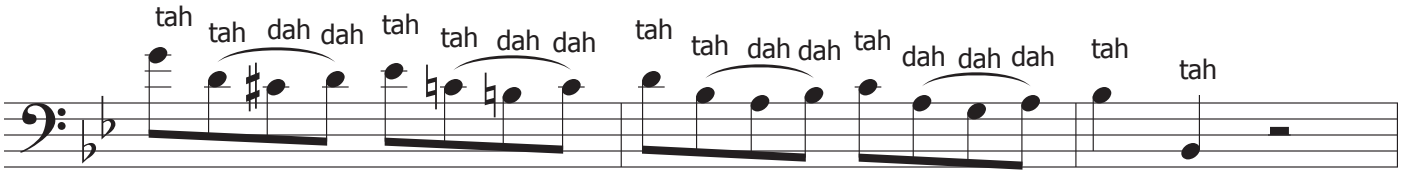


3b In addition to clarifying the articulations, this passage offers interesting choices with slide positions. Two different options are shown below. Remember that the C-sharp carries through the measure!

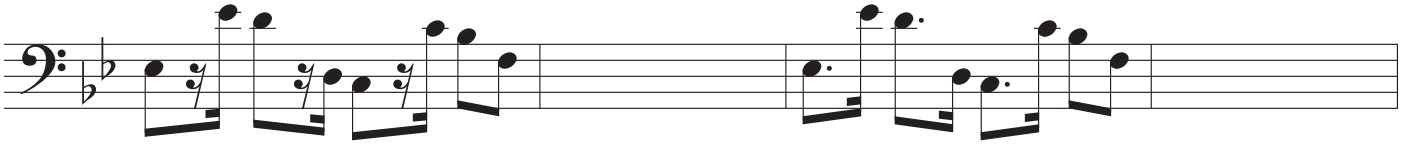


The second option has less awkward slide movement but can more easily be out of tune!

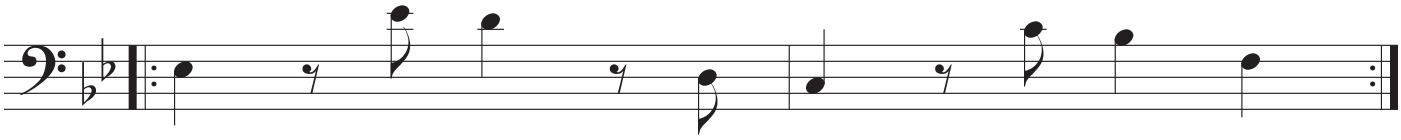
3c. More work clarifying articulations.
I suggest you spend some time just **saying** this articulation pattern away from the instrument until it become automatic: "tah-tah-dah-dah tah-tah-dah-dah"



3d. Rhythm and interval practice
Some of these rhythms look a bit unusual.
For example, this rhythm: Is pretty close to this rhythm:

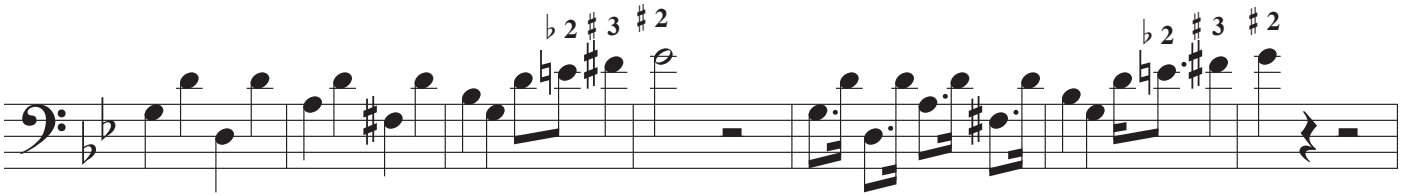


Since this jumps around a bit, I suggest you play the rhythm at half speed, like this:

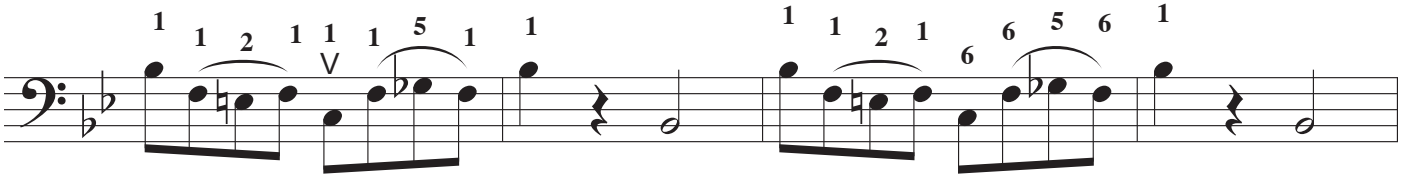


Repeat this until you can play it three times in a row without missing any notes.

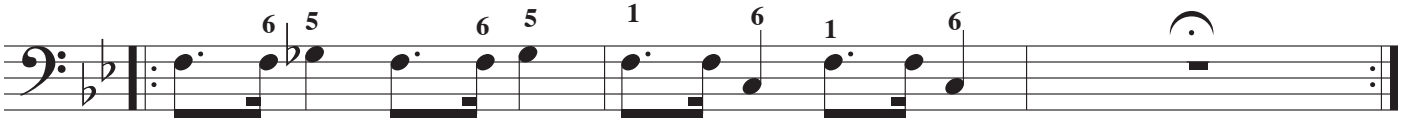
3e. Working with intervals and tuning
These two interval exercises are based on measure 6:



3f. Dealing with the awkward last measure.
I wonder if the composer realized how awkward this is on the trombone. **There are no great choices here!** Here are two sets of suggested slide positions, one with the F-attachment valve and one without.



Either way, you are faced with some fast long slide leaps. Here's an exercise for that:



Be careful: don't drop your slide!