Cello Suite No1 - Prelude - Bwv 1007a

Johann Sebastian Bach

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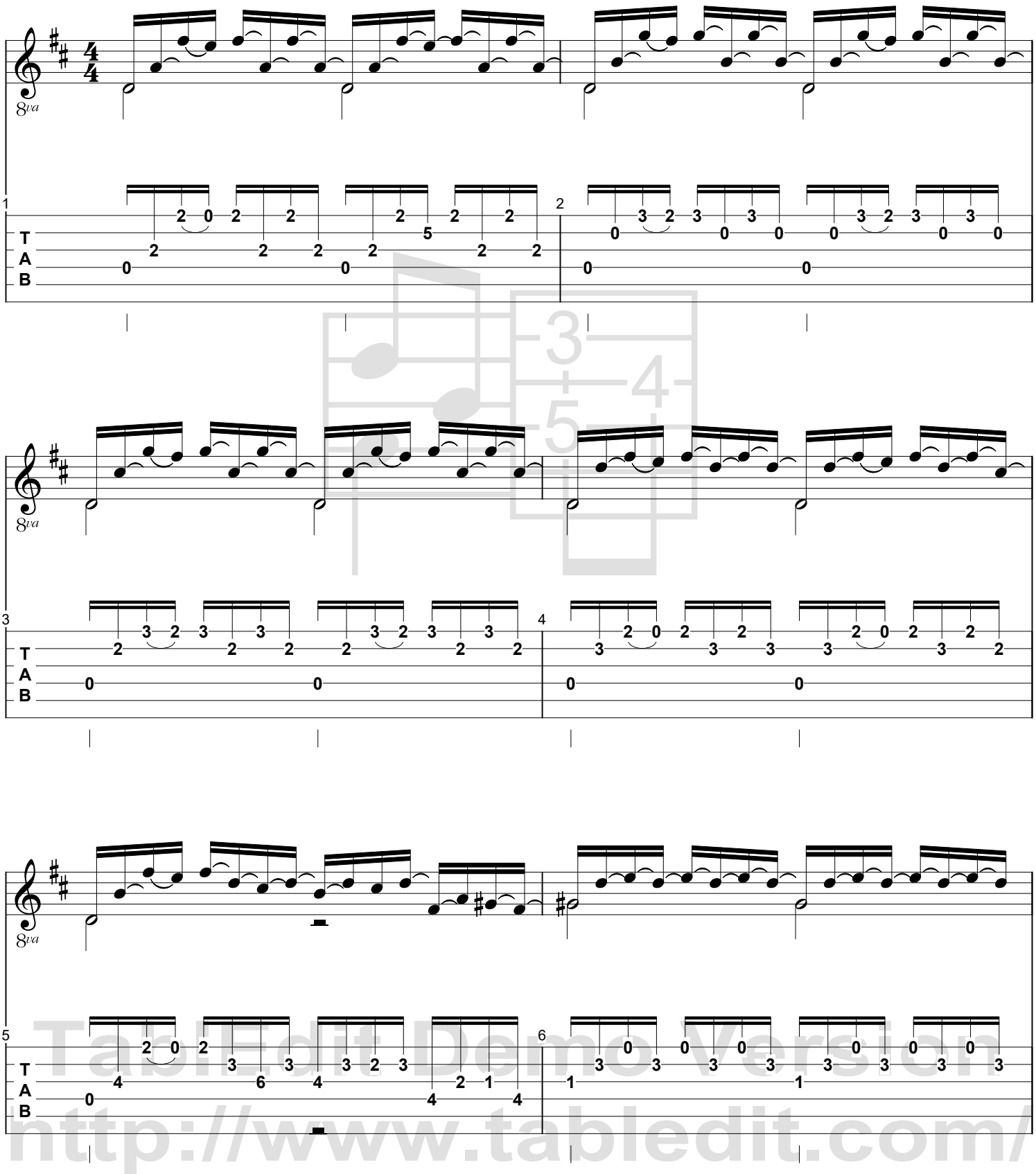
michaeljoyce@hotmail.com



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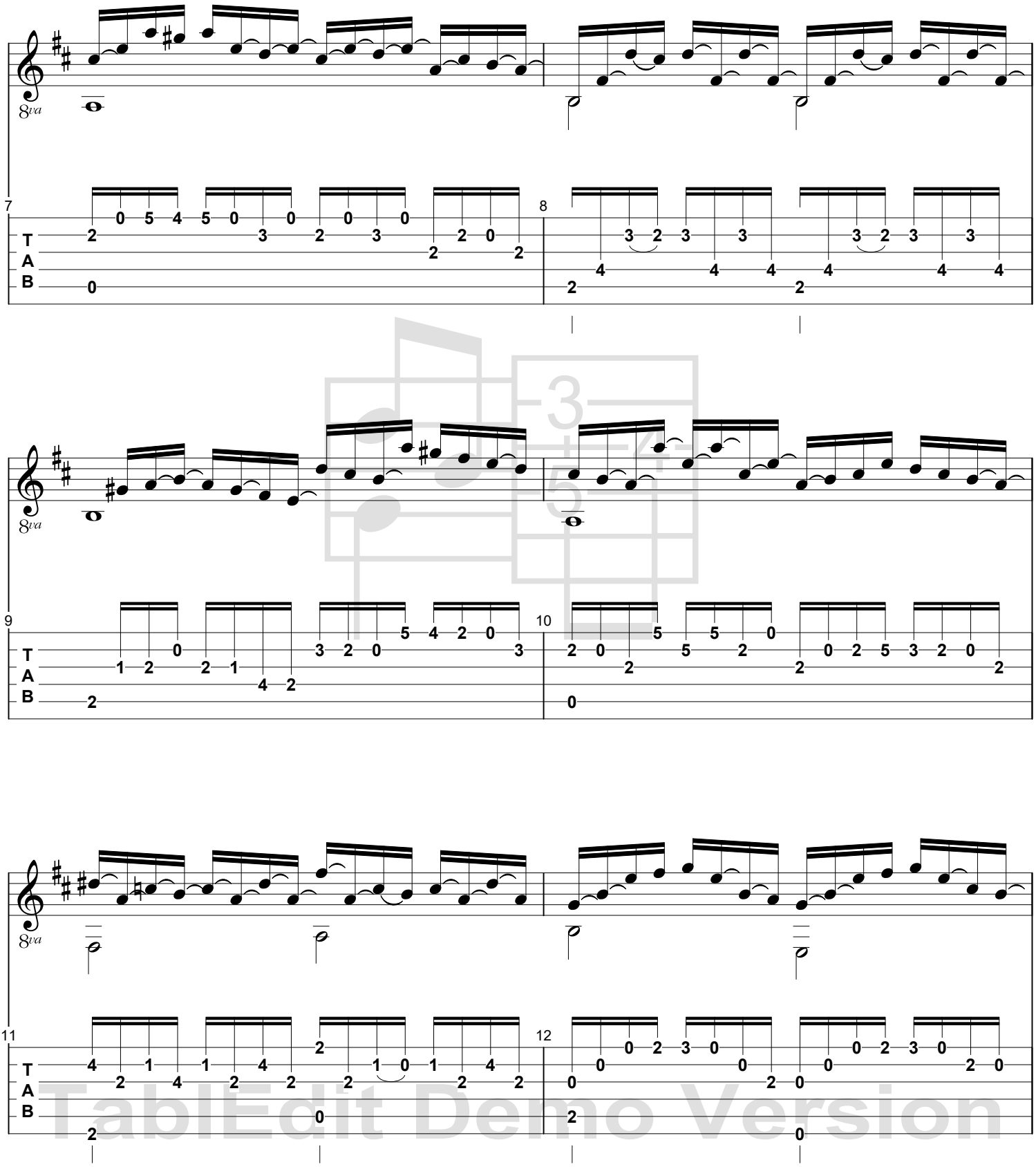

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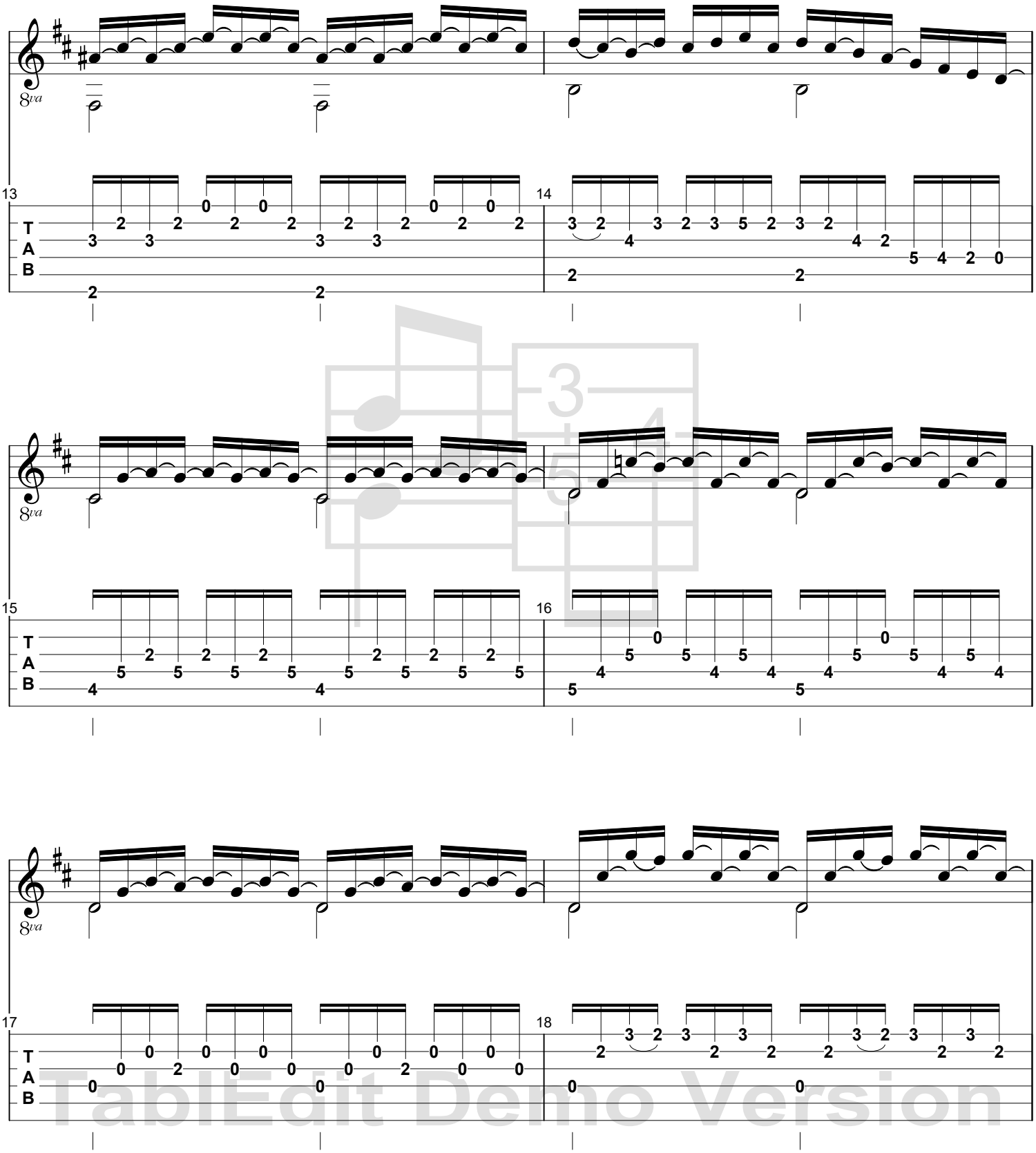

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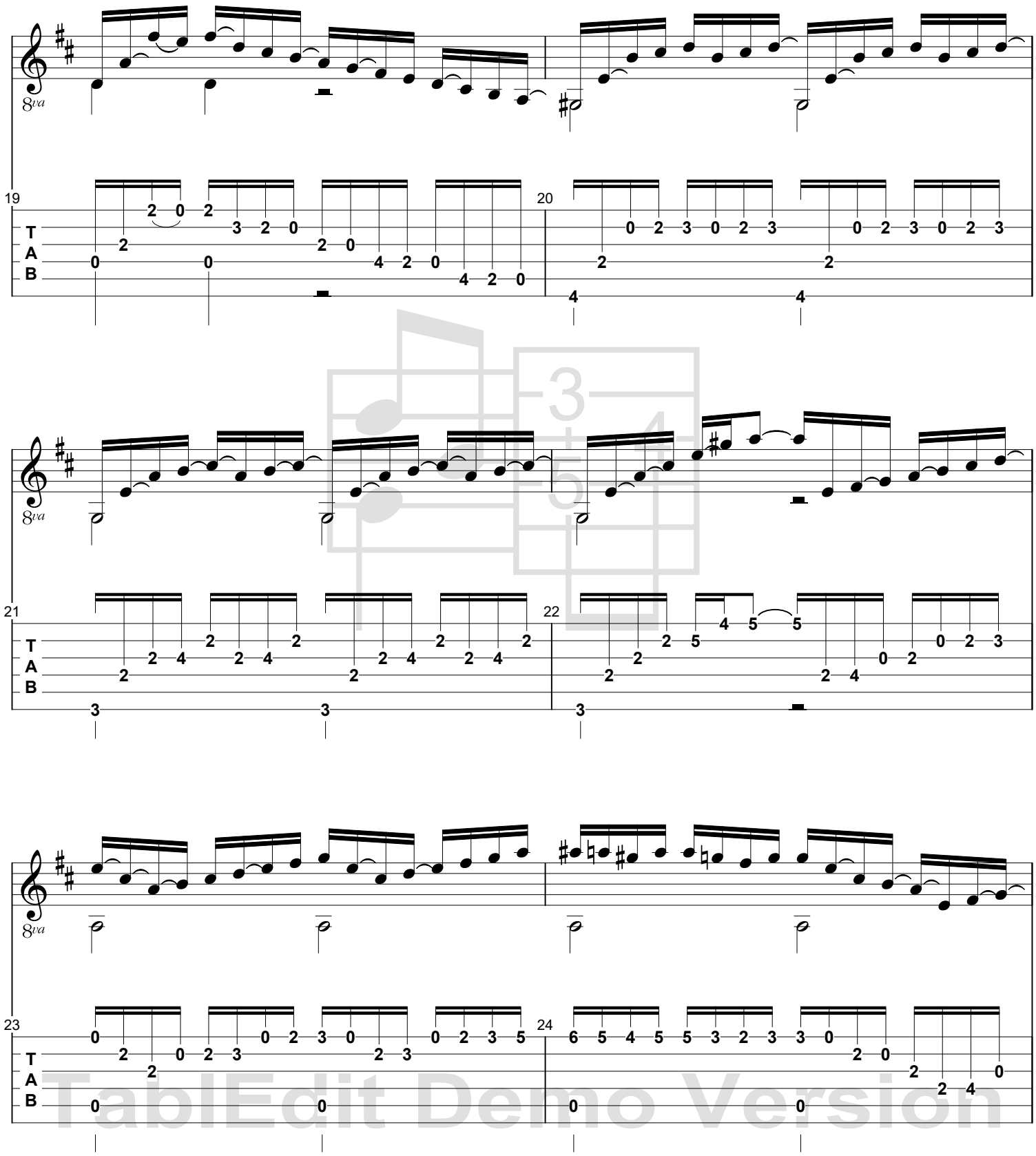

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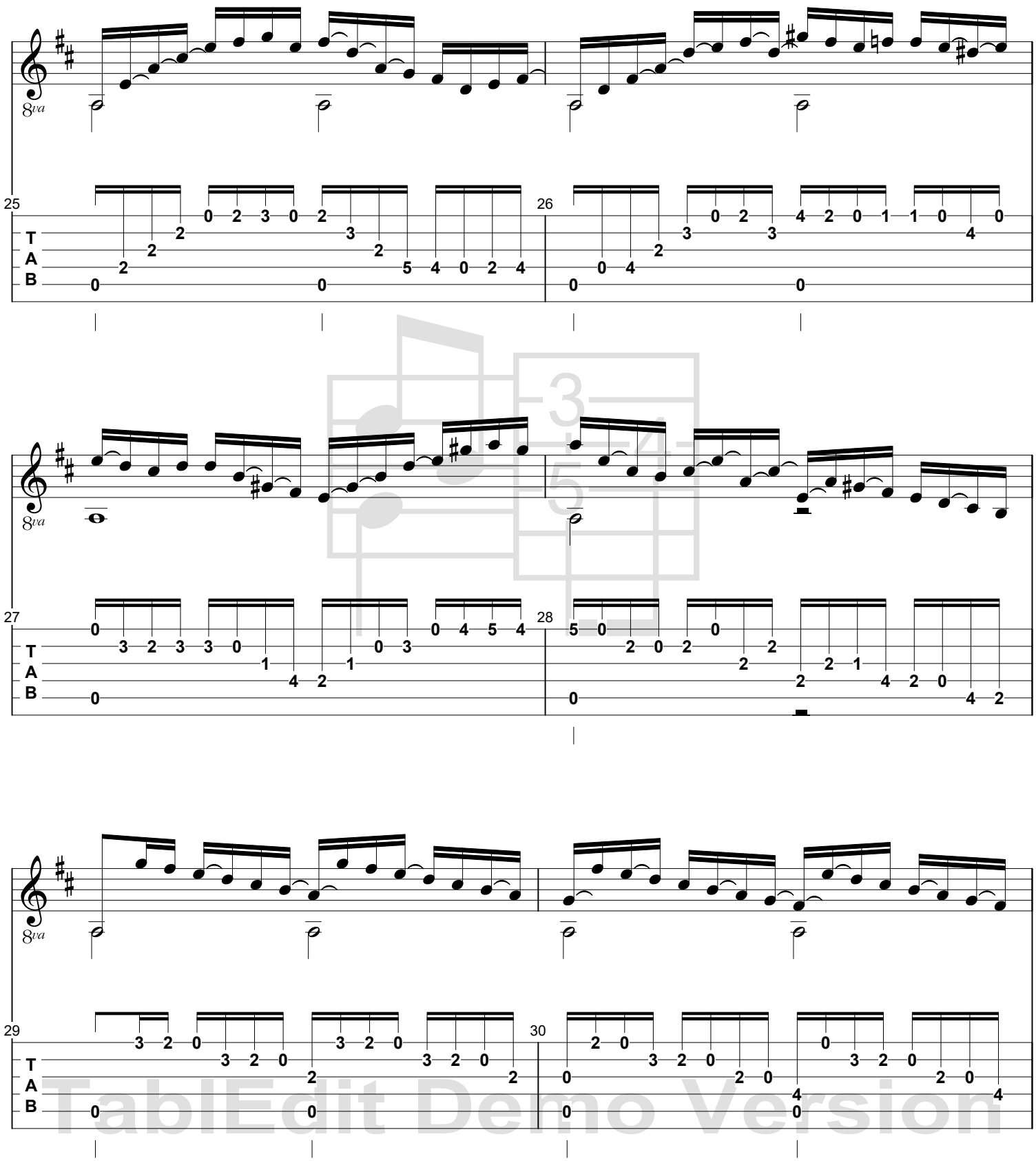

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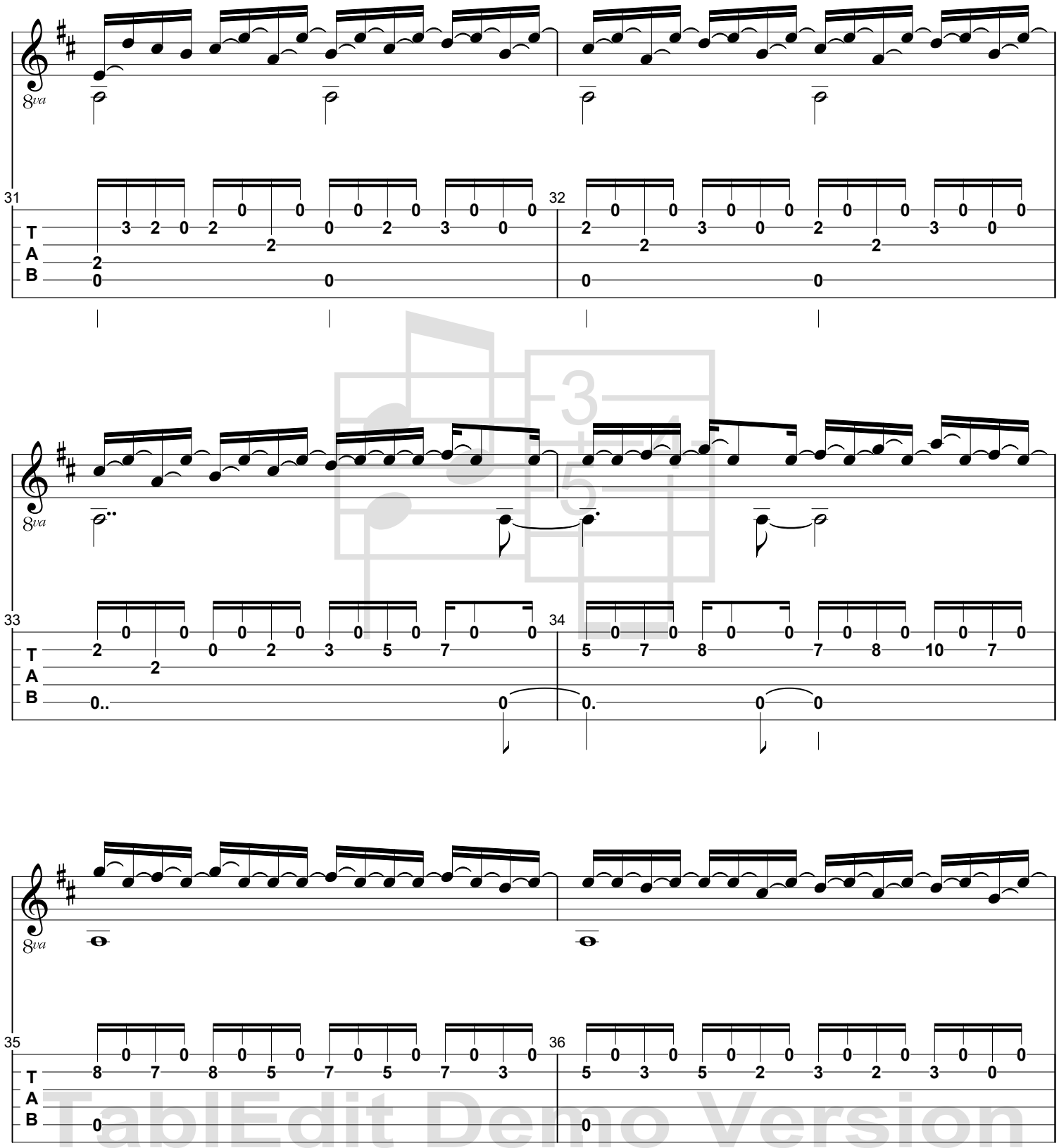

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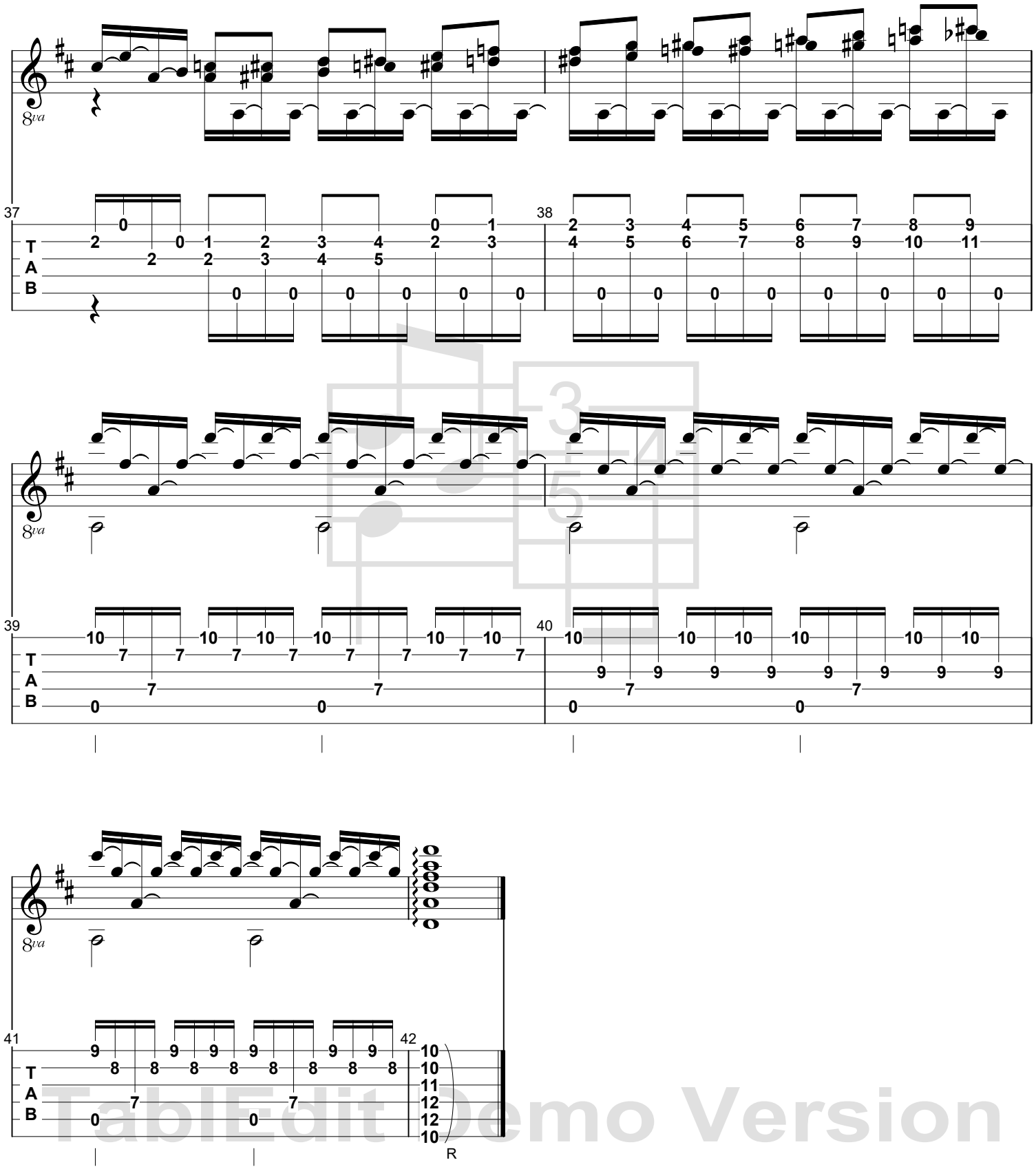

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the Prelude from J. S. Bach's First Cello Suite in G Major. This composition, from 1717, has also been popular with classical guitarists. Since Bach himself rearranged the Fifth Cello Suite for Lute, guitarists have considered this license to freely interpret the Bach cello works.
  One of the most popular, if not the most popular since the mid-1960's has been John W. Duarte's arrangement in D of the suite, with a dropped D tuning. Segovia's first recording of this prelude was a transcription by Manuel M. Ponce.

When the baroque violoncello was in use, the bow used was convexed, as an archer's bow. This allowed the player to play 2, 3, or 4 notes simultaneously, unlike the modern bow which only allows for a double stop on 2 adjacent strings.

This arrangement differs from Bach's cello version in that bass notes are added and notes are allowed to ring beyond their written duration, where possible.

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