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James R Hughes* (hughesjr@etown.edu), Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA 17022,
and **Brandon Metz**. *Modeling Voice-leading in Music: The Special Role of the Bass
Voice*. Preliminary report.

Recent work in mathematical music theory proposes various models for measuring efficiency of voice-leading in polyphonic music. In many tonal contexts, the bass (lowest) voice has a special role in shaping harmonic structure, which creates additional constraints in voice-leading problems. We report on an undergraduate senior thesis project that explores the effect of such constraints on measures of voice-leading efficiency. (Received September 16, 2008)