Vocal Range: an Overview

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Abstract

Vocal ranges, as specified in literature, may vary considerably. This document gives an overview of various sources; vocal range will be presented for choir and solo voices.

Overview of vocal range

Figure 1 gives an overview of vocal ranges from a number of sources. These include classical orchestra-
textbooks, [1, 3, 5, 6] and jazz arranging books [4, 7]. The last line (Habermann and Garcia-Duprez) were taken from [2]. Open notes indicate the typical range for an average skilled singer (trained ama-
teer), black notes indicate the extended range for an advanced, highly trained singer (professional). Also the difference between a solo and a chorus voice is indicated.

Legend:

Female voices: Col: Coloratura Voice, S: Soprano, M-S: Mezzo-Soprano, A: Alto,
Male voices: T: Tenor, Bar: Baritone, B: Bass, B-Prof: Basso Profundo.

References

Figure 1: Overview of vocal ranges from various sources