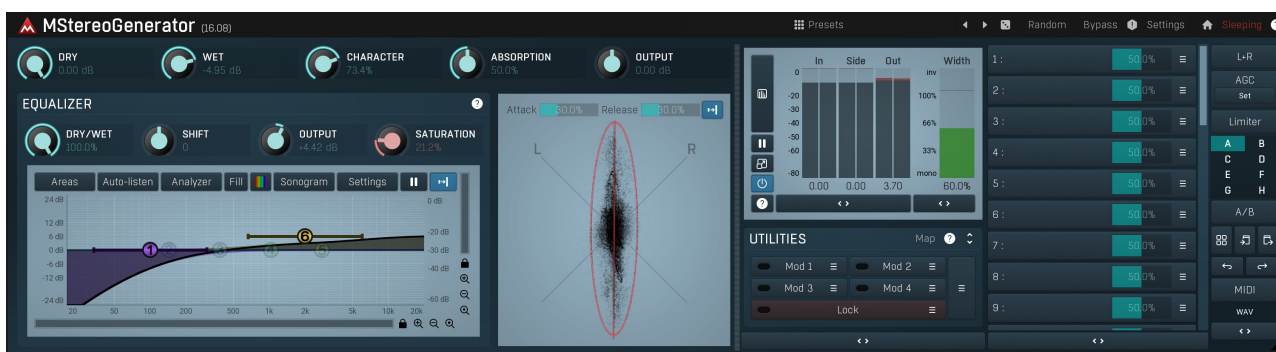


MStereoGenerator



MStereoGenerator is a natural-sounding stereo generator. Its purpose to widen and bring closer monophonic tracks or just improve the stereo image of stereophonic tracks. In principle MStereoGenerator creates a tiny artificial space, similarly to reverberators, but with extremely small dimensions, so that it shouldn't interfere with the existing spatial image. It is perfectly mono compatible, of course.

The plugin has been designed to sound as natural as possible and alter the spatial position as minimally as possible. It cannot therefore provide as much stereo expansion as MStereoSpread and it is especially suitable for acoustic recordings and tracks that fall slightly into the background.

When adjusting its parameters, focus mainly on the Wet parameter, which controls the amount of the generated stereophonic signal. Be careful not to overuse it as this processing may sound very good at first, but it can also fill space in the mix and when used on many tracks, it can easily crowd it.

Character and Absorption parameters control the artificial space properties and they can interact. Character controls the size of the space and absorption defines how quickly it space fades away. It is often desired to increase absorption after increasing character, and you may find yourself adjusting both a few times to achieve a good result.

The plugin also contains an equalizer which is applied to the generated signal, so you can control which expanded frequencies are output.

Presets

Presets

Presets button shows a window with all available presets. A preset can be loaded from the preset window by double-clicking on it, selecting via the buttons or by using your keyboard. You can also manage the directory structure, store new presets, replace existing ones etc. Presets are global, so a preset saved from one project, can easily be used in another. The arrow buttons next to the preset button can be used to switch between presets easily.

Holding **Ctrl** while pressing the button loads a random preset. There must be some presets for this feature to work of course.

Presets can be backed up by 3 different methods:

- A) Using "Backup" and "Restore" buttons in each preset window, which produces a single archive of all presets on the computer.
- B) Using "Export/Import" buttons, which export a single folder of presets for one plugin.
- C) By saving the actual preset files, which are found in the following directories (not recommended):

Windows: C:\Users\{username}\AppData\Roaming\MeldaProduction

Mac OS X: /Library/Application support/MeldaProduction

Files are named based on the name of the plugin like this: "{pluginname}.presets", so for example MAutopan.presets or MDynamics.presets. If the directory cannot be found on your computer for some reason, you can just search for the particular file.

Please note that prior to version 16 a different format was used and the naming was "{pluginname}presets.xml". *The plugin also supports an online preset exchange. If the computer is connected to the internet, the plugin connects to our server once a week, submits your presets and downloads new ones if available. This feature is manually maintained in order to remove generally unusable presets, so it may take some time before any submitted presets become available. This feature relies on each user so we strongly advise that any submitted presets be named and organised in the same way as the factory presets, otherwise they will be removed.*



Left arrow

Left arrow button loads the previous preset.



Right arrow

Right arrow button loads the next preset.



Randomize

Randomize button loads a random preset.

Random

Randomize

Randomize button (with the text 'Random') generates random settings. Generally, randomization in plug-ins works by selecting random values for all parameters, but rarely achieves satisfactory results, as the more parameters that change the more likely one will cause an unwanted effect. Our plugins employ a smart randomization engine that learns which settings are suitable for randomization (using the existing presets) and so is much more likely to create successful changes.

In addition, there are some mouse modifiers that assist this process. The smart randomization engine is used by default if no modifier keys are held.

Holding **Ctrl** while clicking the button constrains the randomization engine so that parameters are only modified slightly rather than completely randomized. This is suitable to create small variations of existing interesting settings.

Holding **Alt** while clicking the button will force the engine to use full randomization, which sets random values for all reasonable automatable parameters. This can often result in "extreme" settings. Please note that some parameters cannot be randomized this way.



Panic

Panic button resets the plugin state. You can use it to force the plugin to report latency to the host again and to avoid any audio problems. For example, some plugins, having a look-ahead feature, report the size of the look-ahead delay as latency, but it is inconvenient to do that every time the look-ahead changes as it usually causes the playback to stop. After you tweak the latency to the correct value, just click this button to sync the track in time with the others, minimizing phasing artifacts caused by the look-ahead delay mixing with undelayed audio signals in your host. It may also be necessary to restart playback in your host.

Another example is if some malfunctioning plugin generates extremely high values for the input of this plugin. A potential filter may start generating very high values as well and as a result the playback will stop. You can just click this button to reset the plugin and the playback will start again.

Settings

Settings

Settings button shows a menu with additional settings of the plugin. Here is a brief description of the separate items.

Licence manager lets you activate/deactivate the plugins and manage subscriptions. While you can simply drag & drop a licence file onto the plugin, in some cases there may be a faster way. For instance, you can enter your user account name and password and the plugin will do all the activating for you.

There are 4 groups of settings, each section has its own detailed help information: **GUI & Style** enables you to pick the GUI style for the plug-in and the main colours used for the background, the title bars of the windows and panels, the text and graphs area and the highlighting (used for enabled buttons, sliders, knobs etc).

Advanced settings configures several processing options for the plug-in.

Global system settings contains some settings for all MeldaProduction plugins. Once you change any of them, restart your DAW if needed, and it will affect all MeldaProduction plugins.

Dry/Wet affects determines, for Multiband plug-ins, which multiband parameters are affected by the Global dry/wet control.

Smart interpolation adjusts the interpolation algorithm used when changing parameter values; the higher the setting the higher the audio quality and the lower the chance of zippering noise, but more CPU will be used.



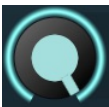
WWW

WWW button shows a menu with additional information about the plugin. You can check for updates, get easy access to support, MeldaProduction web page, video tutorials, Facebook/Twitter/YouTube channels and more.

Sleeping

Sleep indicator

Sleep indicator informs whether the plugin is currently active or in sleep mode. The plugin can automatically switch itself off to save CPU, when there is no input signal and the plugin knows it cannot produce any signal on its own and it generally makes sense. You can disable this in Settings / **Intelligent sleep on silence** both for individual instances and globally for all plugins on the system.




DRY
0.00 dB

Dry

Dry defines level of the dry signal.


Range: silence to 0.00 dB, default 0.00 dB



WET
-4.95 dB

Wet


Wet defines level of the generated signal.
Range: silence to 0.00 dB, default -12.0 dB



CHARACTER
73.4%

Character


Character controls the character of the generated signal. Different character may be suitable for different audio sources and purposes.
Range: 0.00% to 100.0%, default 25.0%



ABSORPTION
50.0%

Absorption

Absorption controls further aspects of the generated signal.
Range: 0.00% to 100.0%, default 50.0%

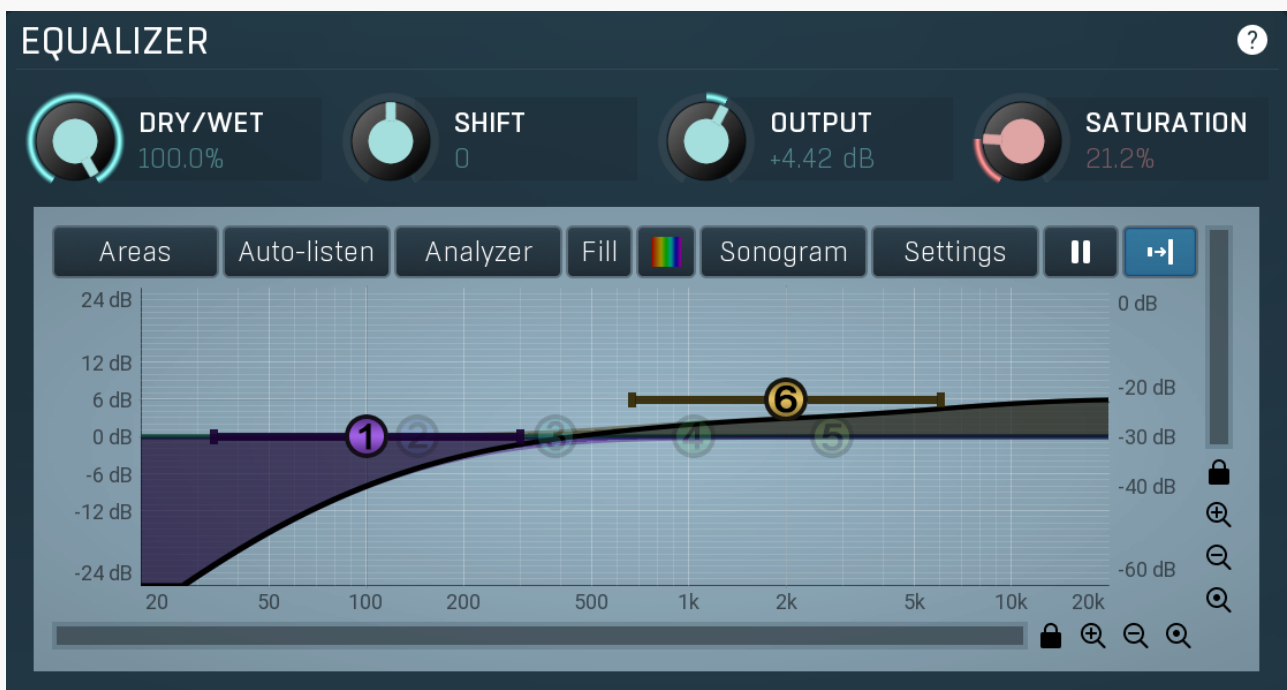


OUTPUT
0.00 dB

Output gain

Output gain defines gain applied on the output signal.
Range: -24.00 dB to +24.00 dB, default 0.00 dB

Equalizer panel



Equalizer panel contains parameters of the equalizer processing the generated stereo signal.



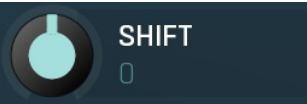
DRY/WET
100.0%

Dry/Wet

Dry/Wet defines the ratio between dry and wet signals. 100% means fully processed, 0% means no processing at all.

Note that in the case of minimum-phase (not linear-phase) equalizers this is actually not technically possible, without going back in time. So the plugin simulates it by modifying the actual filters where possible. However the low-pass, high-pass, band-pass and notch filters cannot be simulated. These filters are left with 100% dry/wet unless the ratio is set to 0%, in which case the whole processing is bypassed.

Range: 0.00% to 100.0%, default 100.0%



Shift

Shift lets you pitch shift all bands by specified number of semitones. It doesn't change the actual band points, but changes the resulting EQ shape appropriately.

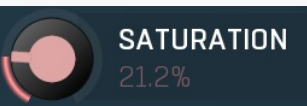
Range: -24.00 to +24.00, default 0



Output gain

Output gain defines output gain applied after the equalization.

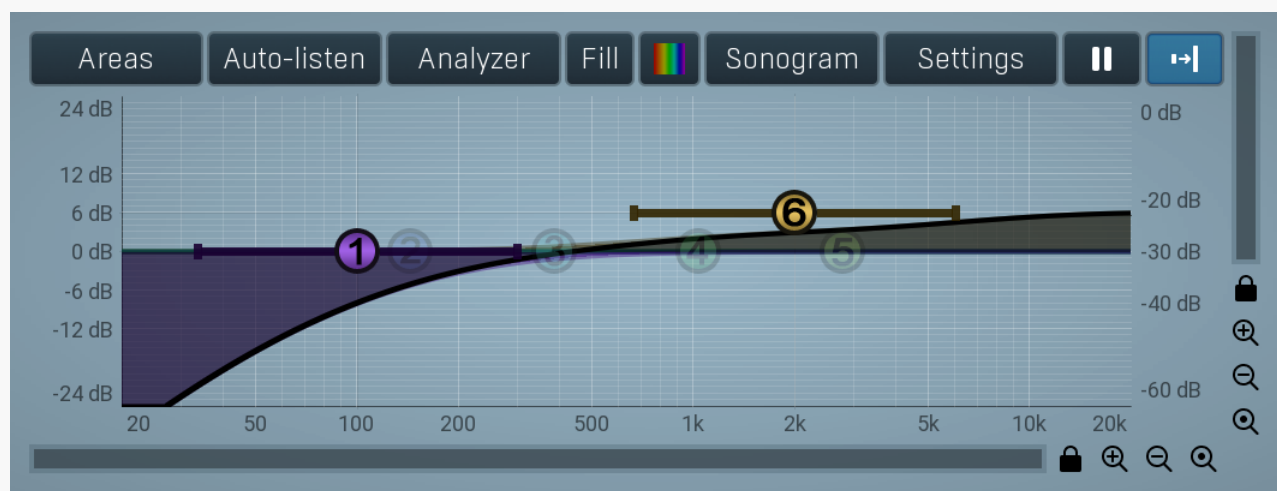
Range: -24.00 dB to +24.00 dB, default 0.00 dB



Soft saturation

Soft saturation defines amount of saturation simulating analog equalizers.

Range: 0.00% to 100.0%, default 0.00%



Equalizer shape graph

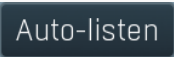
Equalizer shape graph controls and displays the frequency response. There are several bands available, each of them can be enabled/disabled, can be set to a different filter, can have different frequency, Q and other parameters.

Double-click on a band point to enable or disable a band. Drag it to change its frequency and gain. Drag the horizontal nodes to change its Q. Hold **ctrl** key for fine tuning. Click using the right mouse button on it to open a window with additional settings.



Areas

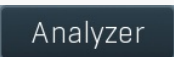
Areas button displays settings for the visual areas, which are useful for better visual orientation in the frequency spectrum. These areas are customisable guidelines displayed in the equalizer editor and may contain different octave bands or typical drum frequencies for example. Note that these areas are always only guides, so your particular snare drum may not fit exactly in the very well with the example. In that case it is highly advantageous to use the sonogram or analyzer. Or you can edit your own areas.



Auto-listen

Auto-listen button enables the auto-listen feature, which temporarily changes the equalizer shape when dragging a band to let you see and hear what that particular band is actually doing. For example, when dragging a peak filter, the equalizer disables the other bands and changes this one to a band pass filter, so that you can focus on the frequencies that the peak filter is modifying.

Also, when this is enabled, you can click anywhere in the band's area (shaded) and the equalizer will let you listen to the frequencies at that position using a band-pass filter. This is great for searching for problematic frequencies for example. Vertical position controls the band-width. You can also hold **shift** to get this feature if auto-listen is not enabled.



Analyzer

Analyzer button enables or disables the spectrum analyzer, which shows the levels of individual frequencies. In most practical cases it is more convenient to use the sonogram, which shows the frequencies in time, but provides a lower level resolution as the levels are differentiated by color. The spectrum analyzer also provides a micro-sonogram (shown in the bottom of the panel) which uses the same color-based view as the sonogram.



Fill

Fill button enables or disables the full-sized analyzer micro-sonogram. This means that the micro-sonogram at the bottom of the equalizer graph will fill the whole analyzer view. Color differentiation is often easier to understand than the classical spectrum analyzer, so this might help you better understand the spectrum of your audio material.

An alternative is to use the spectrum sonogram.



Analyzer Rainbow Colors

Analyzer Rainbow Colors lets you see the analyzed sound spectrum in beautiful colors, following the same style as visible light. It ranges from infra-red colors for the lowest frequencies to ultra-violet colors for the highest frequencies in the analyzed audio. If rainbow colors are disabled, the analyzer and graph will be single-colored, following the setup from Settings/Graphs.

Sonogram

Sonogram

Sonogram button enables or disables the spectrum sonogram, which shows levels of individual frequencies in time. Levels are differentiated by color, so the accuracy is not as good as when using the spectrum analyzer. However, the time axis improves the visual orientation in the spectrum for typical audio signals. In contrast, the spectrum analyzer is more of a scientific tool.

Settings

Settings

Settings button shows the settings of the spectrum analyzer and the spectrum sonogram.



Pause

Pause button stops the analyzer temporarily.

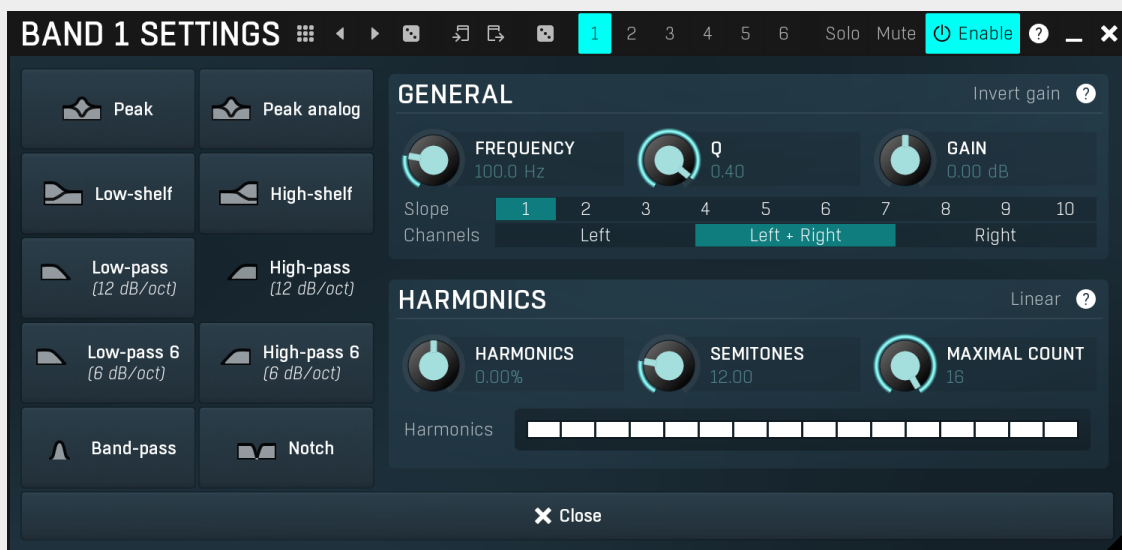


Normalize

Normalize button enables or disables the visual normalization, which makes the loudest frequency be displayed at the top of the analyzer area (0dB); it does not normalise the sound. This is very useful for comparing frequency levels, however it does hide the actual level.

When comparing 2 spectrums you are usually interested mainly in the frequency level differences. In most cases both audio materials will have different overall levels, which would mean that one of the graphs would be "lower" than the other, making the comparison quite difficult. Normalize fixes this and makes the most prominent frequencies of the spectrum reach the top of the analyzer area (or have the most highlighted color in case of sonogram).

Band settings window



Band settings window contains settings for the particular band and can be displayed by right-clicking on a band or from a band list (if provided). On the left side you can see list of available filters, click on one to select it. On the right side, additional options and features are available.



Presets

Presets button displays a window where you can load and manage available presets. Hold **Ctrl** when clicking to load a random preset instead.



Left arrow

Left arrow button loads the previous preset.



Right arrow

Right arrow button loads the next preset.



Randomize

Randomize button loads a random preset.



Copy

Copy button copies the settings onto the system clipboard.



Paste

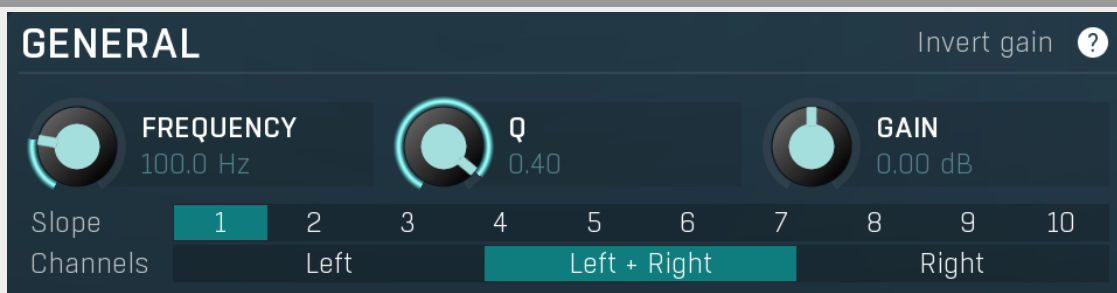
Paste button loads the settings from the system clipboard.



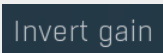
Random

Random button generates random settings using the existing presets.

General panel



General panel contains standard filter settings such as frequency or Q. Most of these values are available directly from the band graph, but it may be necessary to use these controls for more accurate or textual access.



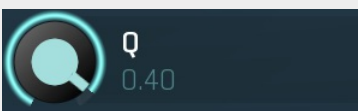
Invert gain

Invert gain inverts the gain of the band, e.g. makes -6dB from +6dB.



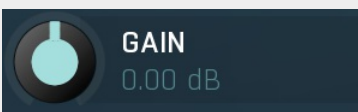
Frequency

Frequency defines the band's central frequency, which has different meaning depending of filter type.



Q

Q defines bandwidth. Please note that Q is an engineering term and the higher it is, the lower the bandwidth. Our implementation is trying to be more user-friendly, and by increasing the value (thus to the right), the bandwidth is increased as well. The editor still displays the Q value correctly.



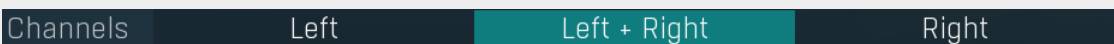
Gain

Gain defines how the particular frequencies are amplified or attenuated. This parameter is used only by peak and shelf filters.



Slope

Slope can potentially duplicate some of the filters creating steeper ones. By default, the slope is 1 and this usually means 2-pole 12 dB/octave filters. By specifying 2 you can make the plugin uses 4-pole 24 dB/octave filters instead etc. To see the actual slope of each filter look into the filter type list on the left.



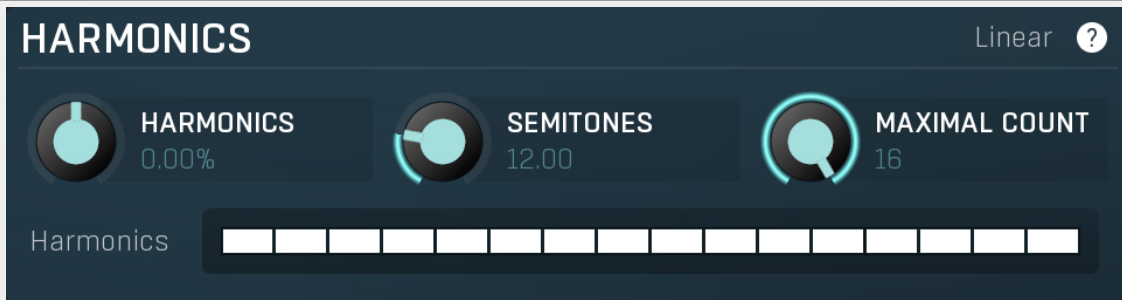
Channels

Channels controls which channels the band processes. If the input is stereo (left and right channels, L+R, selected on the toolbar **Channel mode** button), then you can make a band process only the left, only the right, or both channels. Similarly when the plugin is set to M/S channel mode, you can choose between mid, side or both channels.

When one of more bands are set to process a single channel, then 2 EQ curves are displayed, in red for the Left or Mid and in green for the Right or Side. If these are not distinct, then we recommend using a style with a light background for these graphs.

You cannot process left with one band and side with the other, because these are working in different encoding modes. In this case you can easily use 2 instances of the plugin in series, one in L/R mode and the other in M/S.

Harmonics panel



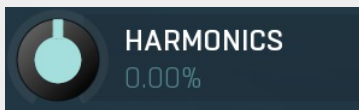
Harmonics panel contains parameters of the harmonics - clones of the main band created at higher frequencies derived from the frequency of the main band. This is often useful for removing natural noises, which usually bring some harmonics with them etc.

Linear

Linear

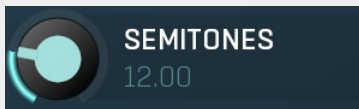
Linear button enables the linear harmonics spacing. When the main band frequency is say 100Hz and the **Semitones** value is 12, then in the default logarithmic mode the harmonics are 200Hz, 400Hz, 800Hz etc., increasing by 12 semitones (1 octave) each time. This is suitable because the filters themselves are logarithmic.

However harmonics generated by physical instruments are not spaced in this way. Rather, for a **Semitones** value of 12, they increase by a multiple of 12/12 of the main frequency each time. For example, for a base frequency of 100Hz, they will be at 200Hz, 300Hz, 400Hz, 500Hz etc. In linear mode the harmonics work in this way, but please note that then there is only a limited set of harmonics and Q is modified to approximate a reasonable behaviour, which is not always possible.



Harmonics

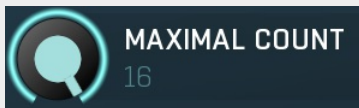
Harmonics defines the gain of the created harmonics. With maximum value (+/- 100%), all harmonics will have the same gain as the main band. A lower value makes the higher harmonics have lower gain. A negative depth will make alternate harmonics have positive and negative gains and is particularly useful for creative effects.



Semitones

Semitones defines the frequency interval of the harmonics. For example, if the band is at 100Hz and the number of semitones is 12 (default), then the first harmonic will be at 200Hz (12 semitones higher), second at 400Hz etc., increasing by 12 semitones (1 octave) each time. Thus they are logarithmically-spaced harmonics. When linearly-spaced harmonics are enabled, this merely changes the ratio between them. In this mode, 100Hz is followed by 200Hz, 300Hz, 400Hz, 500Hz etc, that is, increasing by a multiple of 12/12 of the main frequency each time.

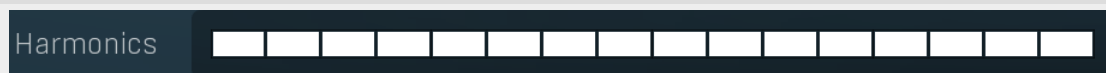
For a value of 7 (a perfect fifth), the logarithmic harmonics would be at 150Hz, 225Hz, 337.5Hz, 506.25Hz etc, increasing by 7 semitones (= 50%, as $1.05946^7 = 1.498$) each time and the linear harmonics would be at 158Hz, 251Hz, 397Hz, 628Hz etc, increasing by 7/12 each time.



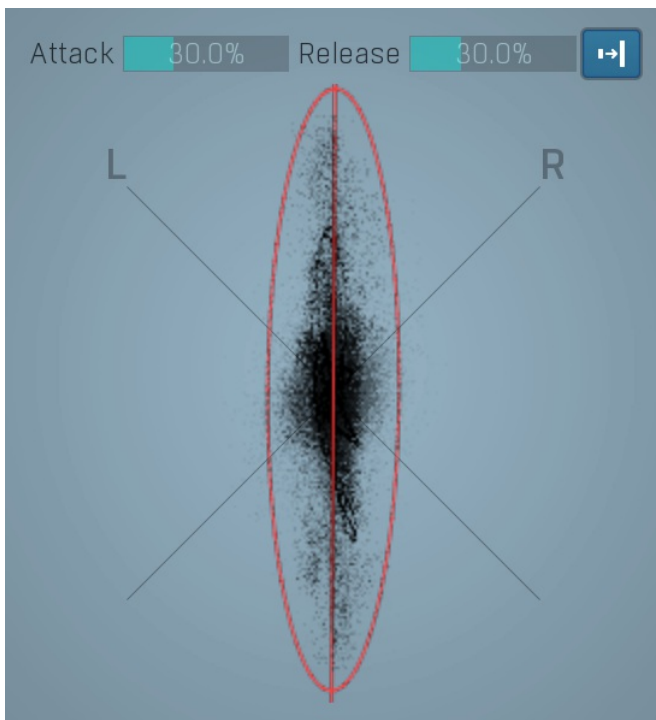
Maximal count

Maximal count defines the maximum number of harmonics that could be created. The harmonics that are created depends on them being activated in the **Harmonics grid**.

Harmonics grid

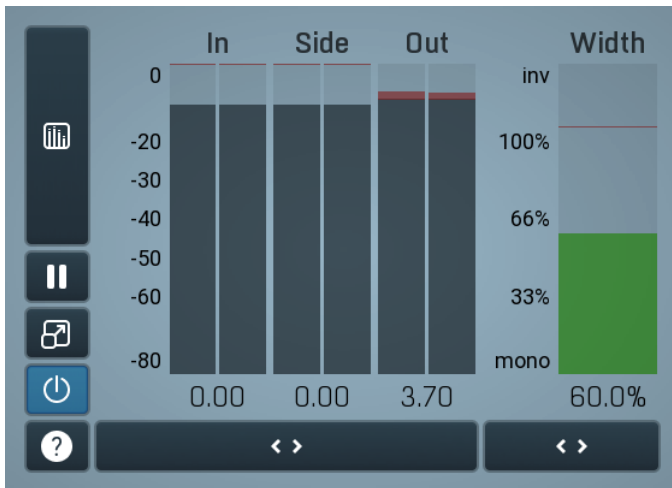


Harmonics grid is useful to turn on/off particular harmonics manually. Click any one to enable / disable it.



Phase scope

Phase scope shows the current phase distribution. An ideal recording is represented by a "not too thick but not too thin" vertical ellipse. But, trust your ears.



Global meter view

Global meter view provides a powerful metering system. If you do not see it in the plug-in, click the **Meters** or **Meters & Utilities** button to the right of the main controls. The display can work as either a classical level indicator or, in time graph mode, show one or more values in time. Use the first button to the left of the display to switch between the 2 modes and to control additional settings, including pause, disable and pop up the display into a floating window. The meter always shows the actual channels being processed, thus in M/S mode, it shows mid and side channels.

In the classical level indicators mode each of the meters also shows the recent maximum value. Click on any one of these values boxes to reset them all.

In meter indicates the total input level. The input meter shows the audio level before any specific processing (except potential oversampling and other pre-processing). It is always recommended to keep the input level under 0dB. You may need to adjust the previous processing plugins, track levels or gain stages to ensure that it is achieved.

As the levels approach 0dB, that part of the meters is displayed with **red** bars. And recent peak levels are indicated by single bars.

Out meter indicates the total output level. The output meter is the last item in the processing chain (except potential downsampling and other post-processing). It is always recommended to keep the output under 0dB.

As the levels approach 0dB, that part of the meters is displayed with **red** bars. And recent peak levels are indicated by single bars.

Width meter shows the stereo width at the output stage. This meter requires at least 2 channels and therefore does not work in mono mode. Stereo width meter basically shows the difference between the mid and side channels.

When the value is **0%**, the output is monophonic. From 0% to 66% there is a green range, where most audio materials should remain.

From 66% to 100% the audio is very stereophonic and the phase coherence may start causing problems. This range is colored blue. You may still want to use this range for wide materials, such as background pads. It is pretty common for mastered tracks to lie on the edge of green and blue zones.

Above 100% the side signal exceeds the mid signal, therefore it is too monophonic or the signal is out of phase. This is marked using red color. In this case you should consider rotating the phase of the left or right channels or lowering the side signal, otherwise the audio will be highly mono-incompatible and can cause fatigue even when played back in stereo.

For most audio sources the width is fluctuating quickly, so the meter shows a 400ms average. It also shows the temporary maximum above

it as a single coloured bar.

If you right click on the meter, you can enable/disable loudness pre-filtering, which uses EBU standard filters to simulate human perception. This may be useful to get a more realistic idea about stereo width. However, since humans perceive the bass spectrum as lower than the treble, this may hide phase problems in that bass spectrum.



Time graph

Time graph button switches between the metering view and the time-graphs. The metering view provides an immediate view of the current values including a text representation. The time-graphs provide the same information over a period of time. Since different time-graphs often need different units, only the most important units are provided.



Pause

Pause button pauses the processing.



Popup

Popup button shows a pop-up window and moves the whole metering / time-graph system into it. This is especially useful in cases where you cannot enlarge the meters within the main window or such a task is too complicated. The pop-up window can be arbitrarily resized. In metering mode it is useful for easier reading from a distance for example. In time-graph mode it is useful for getting higher accuracy and a longer time perspective.



Enable

Enable button enables or disables the metering system. You can disable it to save system resources.



Collapse

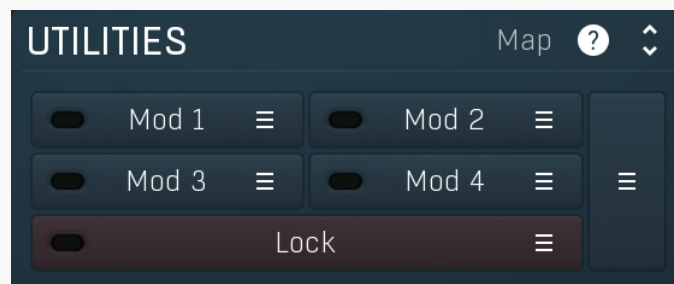
Collapse button minimizes or enlarges the panel to release space for other editors.



Collapse

Collapse button minimizes or enlarges the panel to release space for other editors.

Utilities



Map

Map button displays all current mappings of modulators, multiparameters and MIDI (whichever subsystems the plugin provides).



Modulator

Modulator button displays settings of the modulator. It also contains a checkbox, to the left, which you can use to enable or disable the modulator. Click on it using your right mouse button or use the **menu button** to display an additional menu with learning capabilities - as described below.



Menu

Menu button shows the **smart learn** menu. You can also use the right mouse button anywhere on the modulator button.

Learn activates the learning mode and displays "REC" on the button as a reminder, **Clear & Learn** deletes all parameters currently associated with the modulator, then activates the learning mode as above. After that every parameter you touch will be associated to the modulator along with the range that the parameter was changed. Learning mode is ended by clicking the button again.

In smart learn mode the modulator does not operate but rather records your actions. You can still adjust every automatable parameter

and use it normally. When you change a parameter, the plugin associates that parameter with the modulator and also records the range of values that you set.

For example, to associate a frequency slider and make a modulator control it from 100Hz to 1KHz, just enable the smart learn mode, click the slider then move it from 100Hz to 1KHz (you can also edit the range later in the modulator window too). Then disable the learning mode by clicking on the button.



Menu

Menu button displays additional menu containing features for modulator presets and randomization.



Lock

Lock button displays the settings of the global parameter lock. Click on it using your left mouse button to open the Global Parameter Lock window, listing all those parameters that are currently able to be locked.

Click on it using your right mouse button or use the **menu button** to display the menu with learning capabilities - **Learn** activates the learning mode, **Clear & Learn** deletes all currently-lockable parameters and then activates the learning mode. After that, every parameter you touch will be added to the lock. Learning mode is ended by clicking the button again.

The On/Off button built into the Lock button enables or disables the active locks.



Collapse

Collapse button minimizes or enlarges the panel to release space for other editors.



Multiparameter

Multiparameter button displays settings of the multiparameter. The multiparameter value can be adjusted by dragging it or by pressing Shift and clicking it to enter a new value from the virtual keyboard or from your computer keyboard.

Click on the button using your left mouse button to open the **Multiparameter** window where all the details of the multiparameter can be set. Click on it using your right mouse button or click on the **menu button** to the right to display an additional menu with learning capabilities - as described below.



Menu

Menu button shows the **smart learn** menu. You can also use the right mouse button anywhere on the multiparameter button.

Learn attaches any parameters, including ranges. Click this, then move any parameters through the ranges that you want and click the multiparameter button again to finish. While learning is active, "REC" is displayed on the multiparameter button and learning mode is ended by clicking the button again.

Clear & Learn clears any parameters currently in the list then attaches any parameters, including ranges. Click this, then move any parameters through the ranges that you want and click the multiparameter button again to finish. While learning is active, "REC" is displayed on the multiparameter button and learning mode is ended by clicking the button again.

Reset resets all multiparameter settings to defaults.

Quick Learn clears any parameters currently in the list, attaches one parameter, including its range and assigns its name to the multiparameter. Click this, then move one parameter through the range that you want.

Attach MIDI Controller opens the MIDI Settings window, selects a unused parameter and activates MIDI learn. Click this then move the MIDI controller that you want to assign.

Reorder to ... lets you change the order of the multiparameters. This can be useful when creating active-presets. Please note that this feature can cause problems when one multiparameter controls other multiparameters, as these associations will not be preserved and they will need to be rebuilt.

In learning mode the multiparameter does not operate but rather records your actions. You can still adjust every automatable parameter and use it normally. When you change a parameter, the plugin associates that parameter with the multiparameter and also records the range of values that you set.

For example, to associate a frequency slider and make a multiparameter control it from 100Hz to 1KHz, just enable the smart learn mode, click the slider then move it from 100Hz to 1KHz (you can also edit the range later in the Multiparameter window too). Then disable the learning mode by clicking on the button.



Collapse

Collapse button minimizes or enlarges the panel to release space for other editors.

