

Basic Waveforms

sine	purest; single harmonic
saw	edgy; buzzy, thin low-end
pulse	artificial sounding; heavier low-end
triangle	quiet; bigger, rounder low-end

Doubling & Transposing

Mix determines balance between OSCs
usually 50/50

Semi one octave = 12 semitones
fifth = 7 semitones

Waveforms usually set the same

For better bass, favor lower-pitched OSC
(especially for triangle wave)

Sub Oscillator

Pulse edgy weight
Triangle big, round weight
quieter than pulse

often has attack transient; remove
with increased attack env.

Filters

Mode high pass, low pass, band pass
Cutoff frequency that sound is
attenuated
Resonance provides volume boost at cutoff
frequency

Filter Types

low-pass cutoff controls brightness
lower cutoff decreases volume

high-pass cutoff controls bottom-end
increase cutoff to make thinner,
lighter sound

band-pass cuts off highs and lows

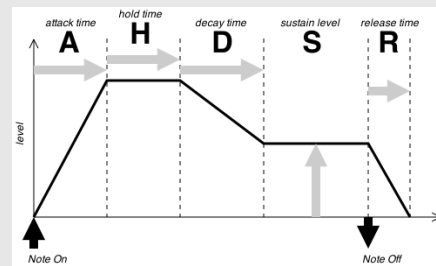
thinness of high-pass, roundness of
low-pass

at extreme settings, can sound like
low-pass/high-pass

LFO

TODO - outline section 11

Envelope



Envelope Stages

attack amount of time for control to change
from initial to maximum

hold amount of time control remains at
maximum setting
Not always present; ADSR, AHDSR

decay amount of time for control to change
from maximum to sustain
short values can create attack
transients

sustain level of control after decay when key
is held down

release amount of time for control to change
from sustain to initial

Common Envelope Targets

Amp modulates synth's volume over time
low/fast attack = string "swell"

LPF Brightens -> Darkens
fast value = "fat", "horn-like" attack

Env. Amount controls how bright sound
gets at end of attack

HPF Cutoff = fullest state
Env. Amount = thinnest state
Sounds with more low-end seem closer

BPF Cutoff = fullest/darkest
Env. Amount = brightest/thinnest

If decay and release are equal, sound will be
the same no matter how it is played



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Not published yet.
Last updated 7th May, 2015.
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Common Envelope Targets (cont)

Set amp release > filter release or filter release will be inaudible

Delay

Mix controls wetness of sound
usually not set above 50/50

at 50/50, volume reduction will be noticeable

Delay Time determines how far apart the echos are apart

typically expressed in rhythmic values

Delay Feedback determines how many echoes are created

min = 1 echo, max = infinite echos

Delay Spread spreads echos across stereo field

0 spread = delay down middle

medium spread = dry middle & wet stereo extremes, rhythmically tight

max spread = dry middle & wet, rhythmically-off stereo extremes

Typically set mix, then time, then feedback, then spread

Smearing and Pulsating

Two OSCs doubled & "fine" detuned in opposite directions

The farther they are detuned, the more pulsating there is

Fine control expressed in cents; 1 semitone = 100 cents

OSC Start: OSCs starts when key pressed ON

pulsating always the same

pointy attack transient

OSC Start: when off, OSCs are free-running OFF

softer, rounder attack transient

pulsating changes with every keypress

most obvious with 1-cent detune

When doubling, use same waveform and pulse width for both OSCs

For a slow flanging effect, detune 1 OSC only, by only 1 cent



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