

lkjb ReFine Manual



Introduction and Usage

ReFine is a plugin that isn't meant as much for sound shaping but rather for final polishing. You can use it as well on single or buss tracks as in your master chain. Think of it as a final layer of polish after removing any dents and the following paint.

Installation

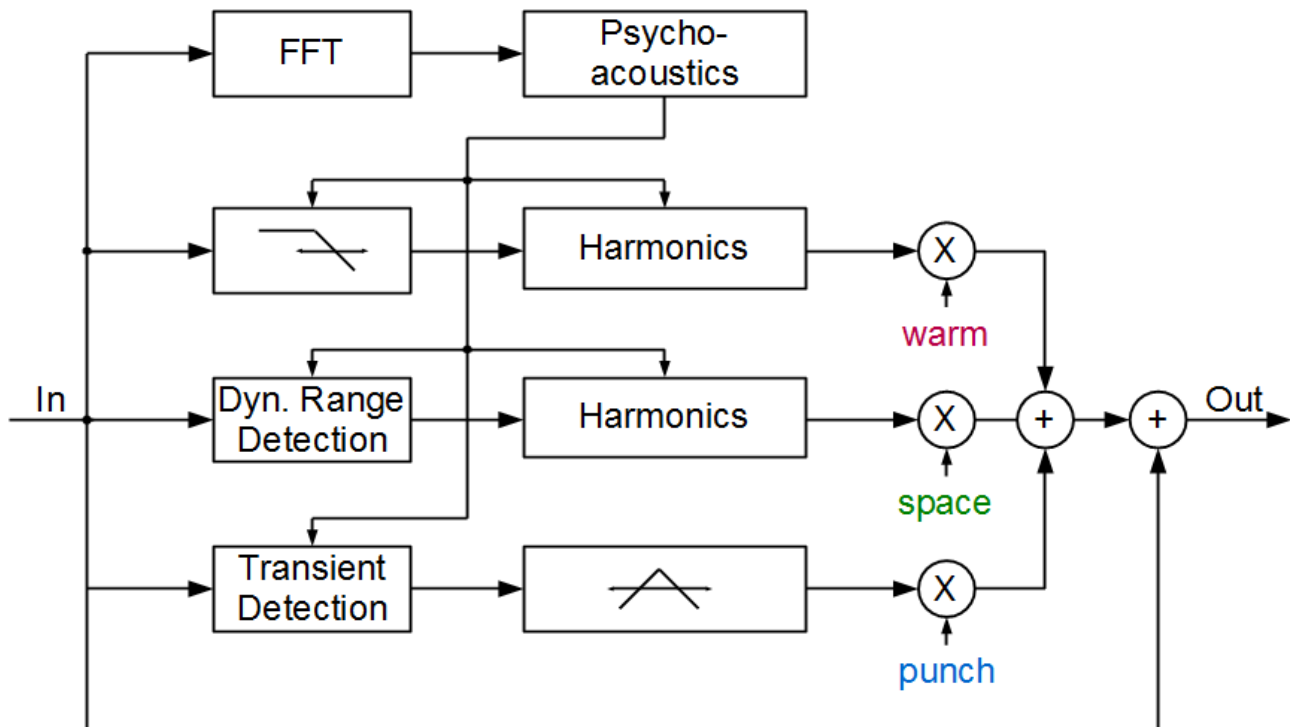
Windows: copy the .dll file into your vst2 folder (system depended), the vst3 file should be put into the vst3 folders ("C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3" or "C:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\VST3")

Mac: /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST and /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3 are the destinations you're looking for. Due to the time constraints of the Developer's Challenge I wasn't able to get the Audio Unit ready in time.

Controls & Display / Signal Flow Chart

ReFine is boiled down to three controls which allow influence certain aspects of your audio material. Warm is in charge of the bass and low-mids, space keeps an eye on the dynamic range and punch adds high frequencies if needed.

For a better understanding here is a rough flow chart:



The signal is analyzed by an FFT where some psycho-acoustic parameters are derived. These parameters will affect the other blocks regarding their filters and harmonics level.

For the "warm" path, a low pass is applied, followed by some harmonics generation. The "space" path reacts to the dynamic content and reduces or expands it (depending on the psycho acoustic parameters). It might also add harmonics. In the "punch" path, transients will be enhanced in a variable frequency range.

All paths are in parallel, so nothing is done if all controls are down.

The display shows a weighted loudness progression. The colors are according to the strongest psycho-acoustic parameters for "warm", "space" and "punch".

Presets

Following are a few presets to give you an impression how to use this plugin.



Drums



Bass



Guitar



Vocals

In general, a heavily compressed track might gain more with higher punch settings. Warm should mainly be applied to instruments that shall be present in the bass frequencies but it can also be useful for enhance lower vocal registers. "space" will fit in with most sources.