Techivation T-Compressor

User Manual

T-Compressor

X
1 2 3 +

copy to B

A / B

VU

-20 -10 -5 -2 -1 0 1 2 3

dB

GRPH

Clean · Crispy · Warm · Thick

fast attack · slow release

Threshold

0
-10
8.5
-20
-30
-40
-50
-60

COMPRESSION

76.7 %

20
15
10
5
0
-5
-10

Output ▾

50hz sc-hp

100% mix

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Practical Serial Compressor

Techivation T-Compressor

Overview

We designed T-Compressor to make the professional audio compression process as simple as possible. It is easy to set up and use, yet is powerful to get any complex audio processing tasks done. T-Compressor offers unique and quick audio compression solutions, such as the serial compression feature, automatic compression setting control, and the smart auto-gain.

T-Compressor is a super transparent compressor, but it also gives you the option to add distinctive color to your sound. The way we set the attack/release/ratio/knee controls in this compressor makes it easy to get a the properly compressed sound.

The serial compression feature allows you to use up to 3 instances of the plugin on the same window. This feature not only gives you more control over your serial compression processing, but also saves you time, plugin spot, and CPU usage. It also helps you create more unique sounds.

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Features

- Compression Knob
- Threshold Control
- Input/Output Control
- Smart Auto-Gain
- 4 Compression Color Modes
- VU Meter
- Digital Graph Meter
- Serial Compression Feature *(up to 3X)
- Oversampling up to 4X
- Peak Meter
- Zero Latency
- Global Serial Presets
- Individual Presets

- Smart Attack & Release Control
- Side-Chain High-Pass Filter (sc-hp)
- Dry & Wet Signal Mix
- On/Off Button
- A/B Switch
- Undo/Redo Options
- Scaleable Graphic User Interface (GUI)
- Internal Menu
- Stereo and Mono
- Supports VST, VST3, AU, AAX Formats

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Compression Knob

Compression knob determines how much compression to add to the signal. It is the central feature of the software. As you change the compression knob values from 0% to 100%, you automatically change the attack, release, and the ratio of the compressor.

Depending on choosing slow or fast "attack" or "release" settings, the values for those would vary at different percentage levels of compression you adjust.

The automatic connection of the compression knob with the attack, release and ratio controls lets you find the desired sound more quickly and accurately.

The knee value in T-Compressor is static.

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Threshold Control

To activate the compressor, a signal must rise above a predetermined threshold level. In this case, the compressor will simply allow the signal to pass through unaltered if it is too low or doesn't meet the threshold.

The variable red number next to the threshold fader in T-Compressor shows you how much reduction the compressor is applying to your sound.

It is set at 0 dB by default and can go down to -60 dB. You can scroll the fader or type in the values to make changes to its settings.

Threshold has direct connection with the VU and GRPH meters of the compressor, and the smart auto-gain.

Quick tip:

- Double clicking on the threshold name will take it back its default value. (0 dB)

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Input & Output

You can adjust the input and output levels using this one single fader. As you click on the "triangle" icon or the name, a menu shows up which lets you to choose between Input and Output. If Input is selected, the fader adjustments will be affecting the input amount and if output is selected, it will affect the output signal amount.

Smart Auto-gain

The smart auto-gain feature in T-Compressor lets you focus on hearing the exact compression effect that the plug-in adds, rather than the changes in the volume. Every sound that gets compressed loses amplitude level, but this option keeps the wet output sound at the same level as the dry input sound.

Note:

- The smart auto-gain is "Off" by default but you can turn that on from the Input/ Output menu".

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Compression Modes

The T-Compressor is a very transparent sound compressor by default when the "Clean" mode is selected. However, you can choose between 3 other modes including "Crispy", "Warm" and "Thick". It also allows you to mix these modes with each other in parallel to create very unique and special sounds using its serial compression chain.

For instance, you can have a "Clean" compressions as the first instance in the chain to trim the transient sounds and have a "Warm" one as the second to adjust more dynamic processing and mix it in parallel with a 3rd compressor with "Crispy' selected and go creative with no limits.

These modes can also be used in different presets of the plug-in.

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Compression Modes

1. Clean

The compressor sounds fully transparent when the "Clean" mode is selected. It works great on any kind of sound source, and is also very useful for audio mastering when you don't want any extra flavor or texture added to your sound.

2. Crispy

This mode adds more brightness to the sound, by mixing its unique bright flavor and character with the audio. The more you push the compression amount, the more of the mode's effect will be applied. Crispy also works on any sound source, and sounds especially great on "bass", "vocals", "guitars", "synths", and "drums".

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Compression Modes

3. Warm

This mode adds warmth and a unique analog vibe to the sound when selected, by implementing a certain kind of tape saturation processing, and filters.

It works for any sounds, and is especially ideal for "Vocal", "Drums", "Buss Processing", "Synth", "Hi-hats", "Snare", etc.

This helps with making the sound smoother along with adding its own unique character to it. For example, if you have very bright sounding snare, try this mode while compressing it, and make it sound more pleasant by including its special tape saturation and filter effect to it.

4. Thick

This mode helps to make the sound more open and 3-dimensional, and brings sounds that lack excitement to life.

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Features

VU Meter

The T-Compressor has two different kinds of visual graphs that you can constantly choose between while using it. The "VU" and the "GRPH".

The VU is selected by default, however, you can always change your own custom default settings.

This shows how much audio is being compressed using its analog style meter. The VU works slightly slower than the GRPH, according to the natural of real outboard VU meters.

We recommend using VU because it lets you pay more attention to the actual sound rather than the visuals.
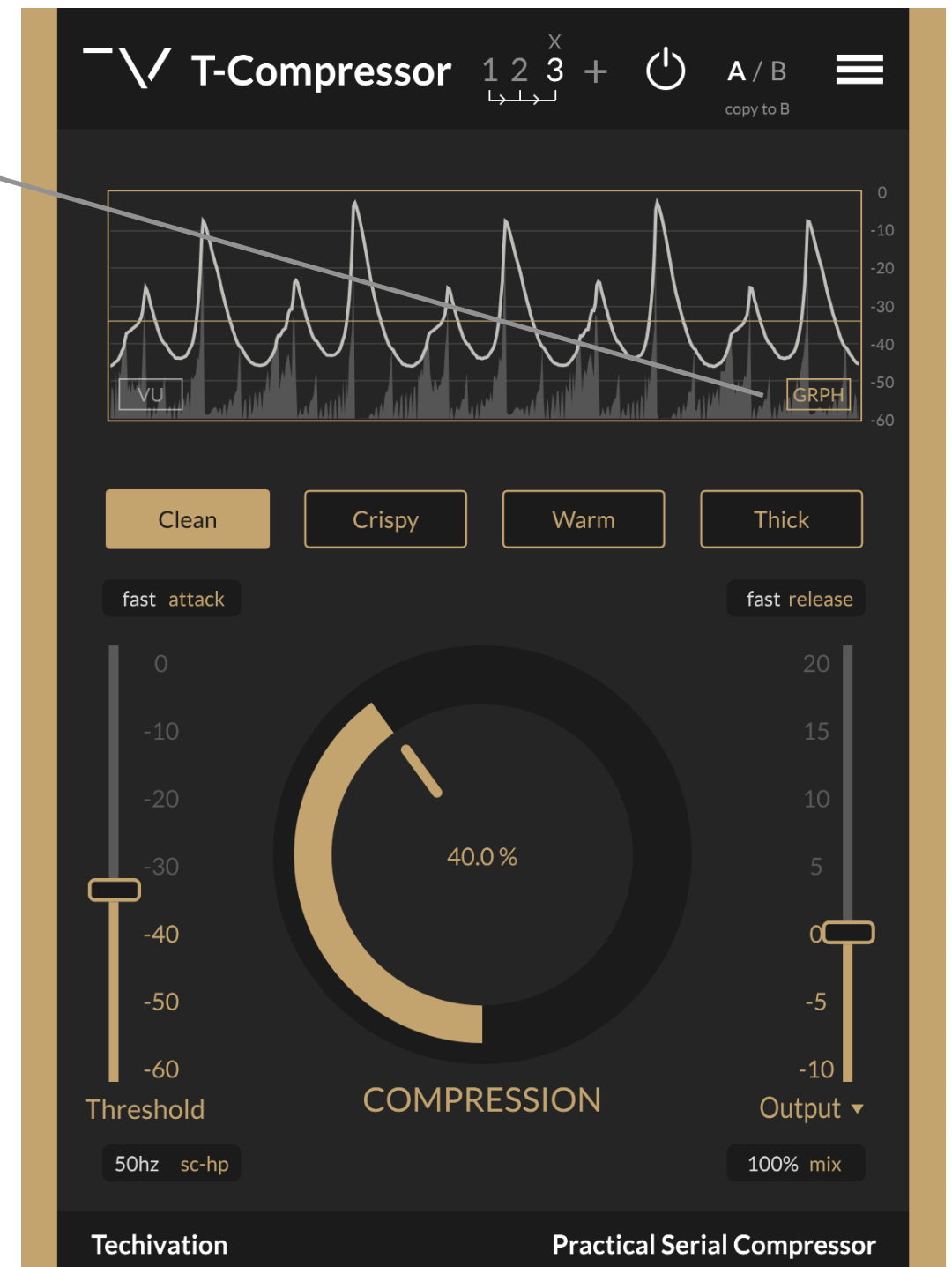
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GRPH Visualizer

As you click on the "GRPH" button on the T-Compressor's visual spectrum, the VU switches to a modern looking digital graph visualizer which allows you to see the real-time gain reduction processing on your audio.

This is helpful in a number of situations where you want to fully see what's actually happening to your audio besides hearing it, however, we always recommend you to first focus on your ears when it comes to deciding wether or not your settings are good.

The reason why we put the VU first as the default, even though the GRPH shows a lot more in-depth visuals, is because we don't want you to focus too much on seeing what's happening to your audio visually, but rather we want you to listen to what's happening to make the right decisions on choosing the right amount of settings.

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Attack Speed

You can choose between fast or slow attack by left-clicking on this window. The speed can change as you change the compression amount from 1% to 100%. Basically "fast" attack is better for reducing punchiness and smoothing transient sounds, while slow is better for keeping the sounds punchy and sharper, while controlling dynamics.

Release Speed

You can choose between fast or slow release by left-clicking on this window. The speed can change as you change the compression amount from 1% to 100%. Basically "fast" release is better for keeping the sounds more punchy and sharper while "slow" is good for making the sounds smoother.

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Mix

The "Mix" option regulates the mix of the two input and output signals, making it ideal for parallel processing. It goes from 0% (plug-in bypassed) to 100%, which is the default amount. Double clicking on the "mix" will take it back to default. With the serial compression processing, the "mix" can allow for more creativity in parallel processing.

SC-HP

The Side-chain High-pass filter (sc-hp) prevents the lower frequencies from being compressed. It's very useful for buss processing, and mastering, where you don't want your low-end to be affected by the compressor. You can go from 20hz to 350hz on each compressor in the serial chain separately.

Again, you can take advantage of this feature along with serial compression to make some very unique sounds.
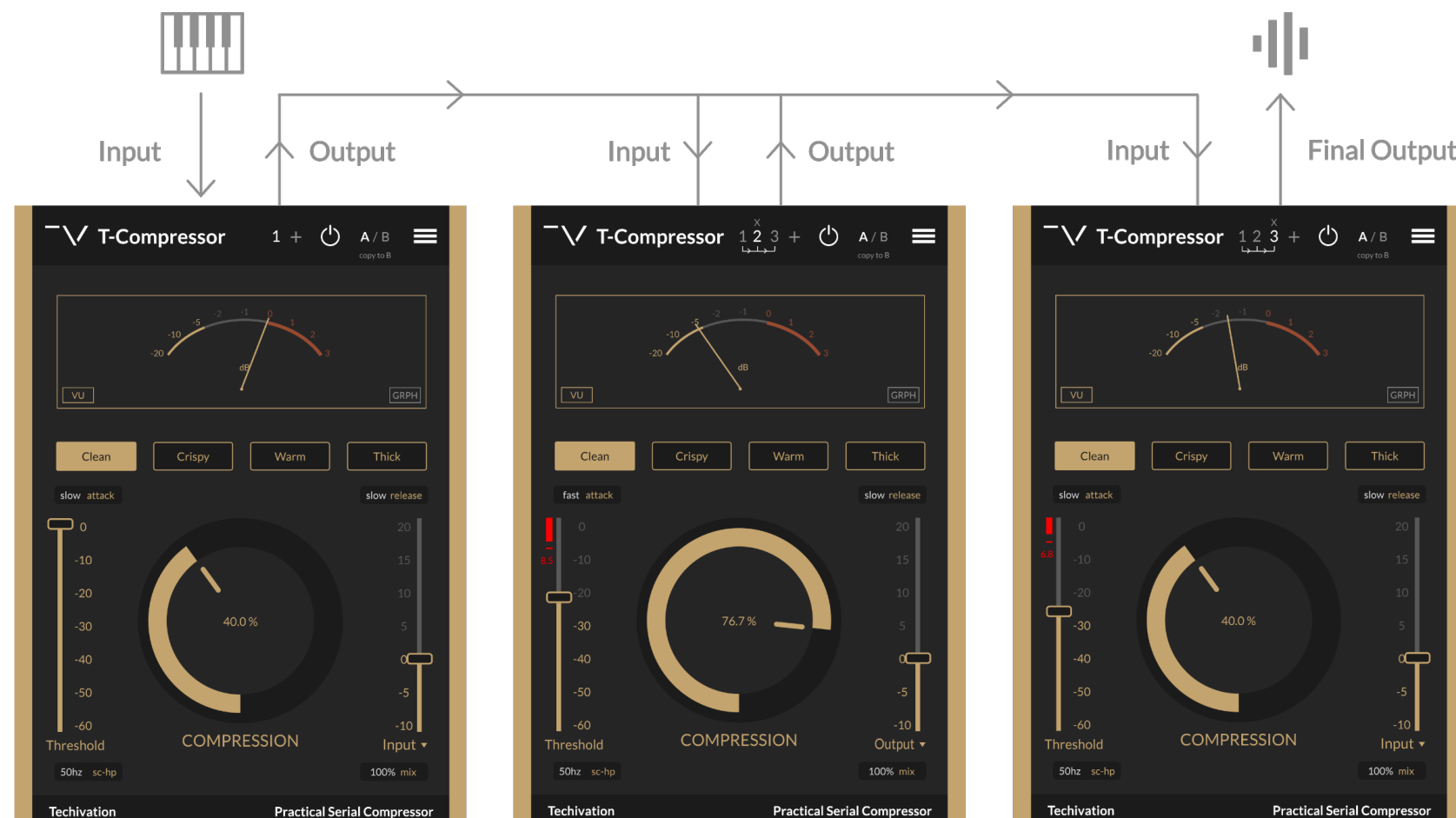
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Serial Compression

Serial compression is when you use several compressors in a row (one after the other), and it's a great method to combine the best features of two or more plugins. You may also share the effect by connecting compressors in a series. T-Compressor allows you to add up to 3 compressor instances in the same plug-in unit and have full control over 3 of them on a single plug-in window! You can choose through them like a web browser and quickly make adjustments.

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Serial Compression Controls

Numbers (1 - 2- 3)

By default you will see the number 1 in the serial compression control area, which means you have a 1 compressor in the chain. Each number represents a different compressor in the chain which you can switch between to change each of their settings.

+ and x icons

When you press the + button you can add more compressors, up to 3 instances in the chain. In the photo on the right you'll see the numbers 1, 2, 3 at the top of the interface. This means that there are currently 3 compressors in the chain, and as the #2 is highlighted, it means it is selected.

As you choose each compressor number, a cross icon appears on top of it which gives you the ability to remove that instance if you want to.
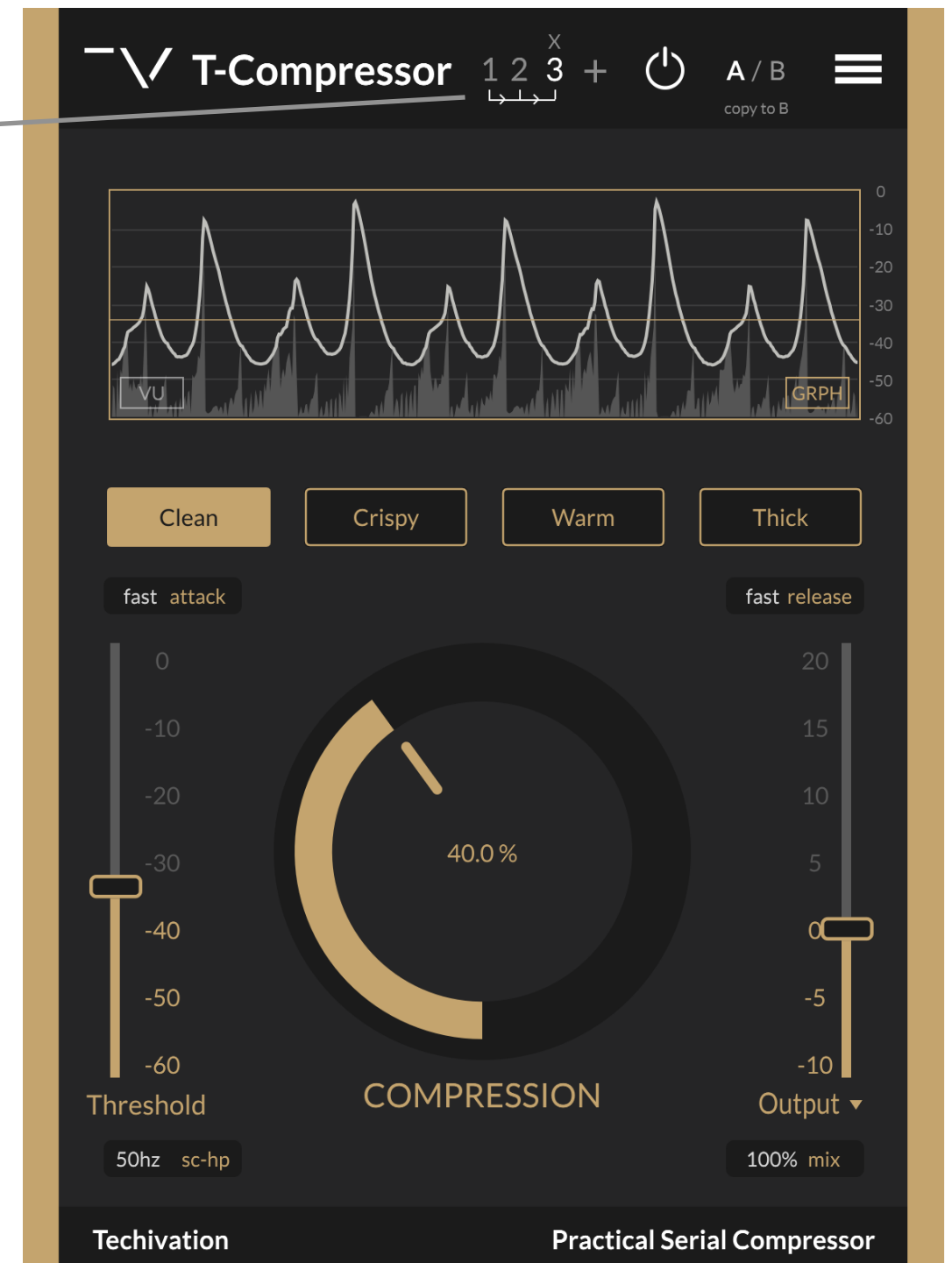
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Serial Compression Controls

The pointers

The pointers below the numbers represents the signal flow between the compressor instances. As shown in the picture, the output of the compressor #1 goes into the compressor #2.

It means if you change the output in compressor #1, it is the same as if you were changing the input in compressor #2.

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Quick notes:

- If you delete the compressor #2, the compressor #3 becomes the new #2 so that you can add a new instance in the chain.
- Each compressor in the chain behaves like a unique compressor plug-in, except certain global settings:
- Oversampling
- GUI Scale
- Auto-Gain

- There are so many creative ways for the serial compression processing. For example, you can first apply a gentle amount of clean compression, then add some of the "Warm" flavor, and finally add a dash of "Crispy" at the end. There is a lot of potential in this tool, so be sure to take advantage of it to make your audio stand out!
- You can save your compression chains and they will appear in the "global presets" list, so you can load them up later.
- If you remove an instance, and add another one, the same settings on the previous instance will appear on the new one, but you can click on "default preset" to take it back to default.

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On/Off (Bypass) Button

Bypass button, enables or disables the plugin's effect on the output sound. This only bypasses the selected compressor in the serial compression chain.

For example, if you have 3 compressors in a chain, and you bypass the compressor #2, it means that only the compressor #2 will be bypassed in the chain and the output signal from the compressor #1 will enter the compressor #3 put in brackets — (as long as compressor #2 is bypassed).

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A / B Comparison

A / B buttons allow you to compare different options fast and easy to see which might work best. They work separately on each compressor in the serial chain.

You can copy the same settings from A to B or vice versa to test what small tweaks, and adjustments might sound like.

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Plug-in Menu

A quick menu of useful features:

- Undo
- Redo
- Oversampling
- Presets
- Save Preset As...
- Load Preset...
- Default Preset
- Global Presets
- Save Global Preset As...
- Load Global Preset...
- Default Global Preset
- GUI Scale
- Show/hide tooltips
- [Your email]/Sign in
- Abou T-Compressor
- Support

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Plug-in Menu

Undo/Redo

Undo and redo options are built inside the plugin. You no longer need to worry about losing setting values.

Oversampling up to 4X

Oversampling in T-Compressor helps you decrease aliasing by executing the internal process at a higher sample rate than the host, up to 4X times higher. (In other words, it will improve the quality of your audio.)

Presets

Allows you to load presets from the T-Compressor built-in preset menu. These are the presets that apply to individual compressors in the serial chain.

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Plug-in Menu

Save Preset As...

Allows you to save your own custom presets in your computer's presets folder, which would apply to each single compressor in the serial chain.

Load Preset...

Allows you to load presets from your computer's presets folder.

Default Preset

This makes all the settings back to the default on each compressor individually.

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Plug-in Menu

Global Presets

Allows you to load global serial compression presets from the T-Compressor built-in global preset menu. These are the presets that can add up to 3 compressors with different settings to the plug-in.

Save Global Preset As...

Allows you to save your own custom global serial compression chain presets in your computer's global presets folder. These can add up to 3 compressor in a serial chain.

Load Global Preset...

Allows you to load global presets from your computer's global presets folder.

Default Global Preset

It removes the serial compression chain and resets the whole plug-in into the default setting.

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Plug-in Menu

GUI Scale

This allows you to choose the scale of the plug-in interface from 80% to 150%.

Sign-in

In order to use the T-Compressor, you're required to sign in to have it activated. After being signed-in you will see your email below the GUI scale option in the menu.

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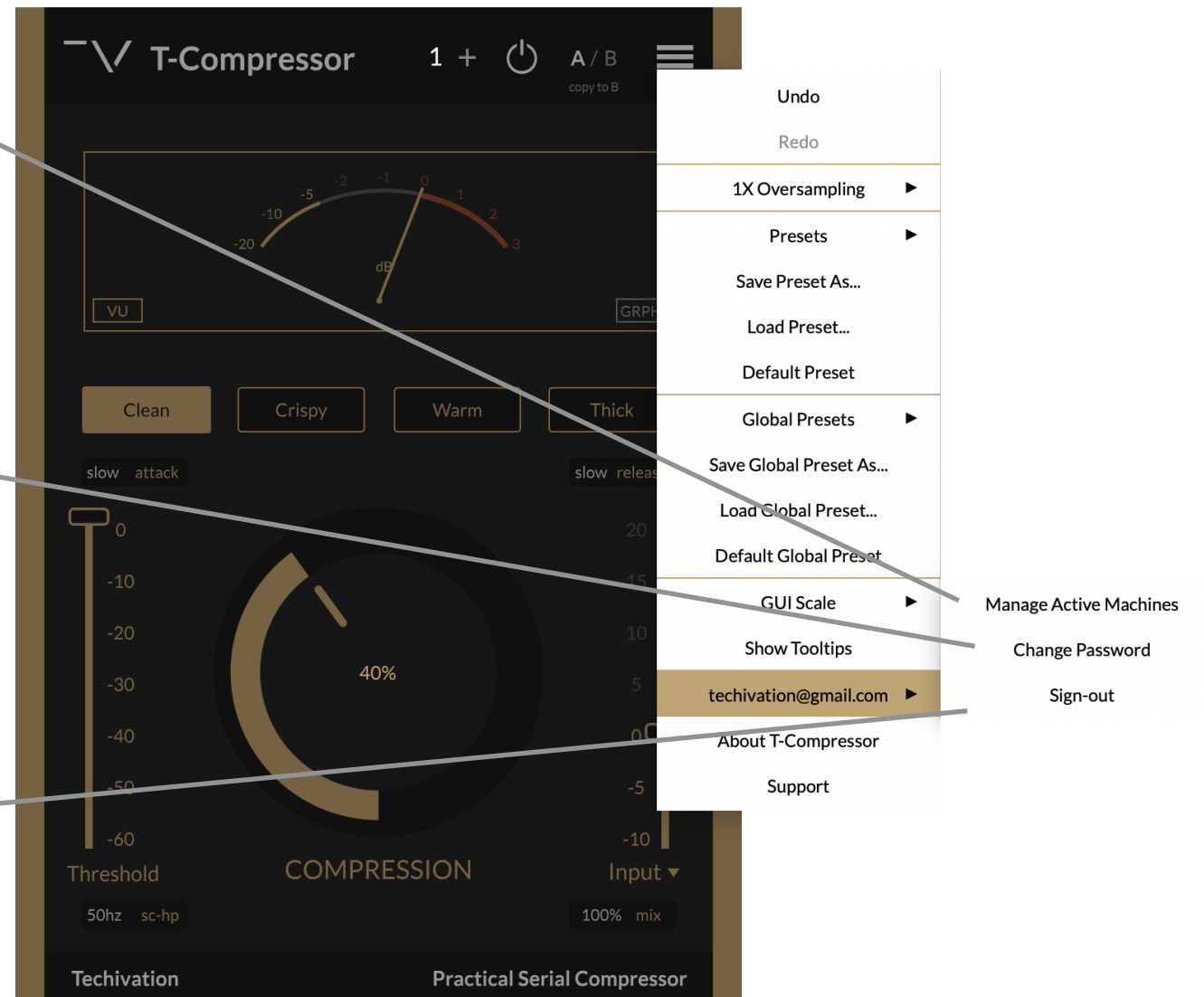## Plug-in Menu

Manage Active Machines

T-Compressor plug-in can be active on a maximum of two computer systems at a time. You have the option to activate or deactivate your plug-ins on different computer systems here.

Change Password

This allows you to change your Techivation account password right inside the plug-in. This password also can be used to log in to your Techivation account on our website.

Sign-out

Signing out of the plug-in will deactivate all the functions until you sign back in.

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Plug-in Menu

About T-Compressor

This window will show you what version of the plug-in you have installed.

Support

If you click on "Support" in the plug-in menu, you will be directed to our support webpage on your computer's default browser. You can find information about common issues, or use our contact form to reach out to us via email, or WhatsApp messenger.

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Compatibility

Plugin formats: VST, VST3, AU, AAX.
Platforms supported: Mac OS X 10.11 (OS X El Capitan) – macOS 11.6 (Big Sur) - Native M1

Windows 7 and up.

DAWs supported: Ableton Live, Logic Pro, Avid Protools, FL Studio, Cubase, Nuendo, Reaper,   and other major DAW softwares on the market.

Activation

T-Compressor requires a purchased license from <u>our website</u>, to get activated according to our <u>terms and conditions</u>. As soon as you purchase a license from us, you'll automatically have your Techivation account activate the plug-in for you, after you sign- in. Everyone with one purchased license, can use the plug-in on a maximum of two machines at the same time. You can purchase a license from our website <u>techivation.com/t-compressor</u>

Support

For any support inquiries check out <u>techivation.com/support</u>

Check out <u>techivation.com/terms-conditions</u> to learn more about the rights.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us via email. <u>info@techivation.com</u> or <u>techivation@gmail.com</u>

Installation

If you purchase a T-Compressor license, you can sign in to the plug-in to activate, and use it for a lifetime . Or if you activate a 14-day free trial, you can sign in to the plug-in and continue using it for free for 14 days.

A software download is supplied with your sign-up/purchase, however you can always go to Techivation.com for the latest software updates.

After downloading, unzip the file and select either Mac or PC installer depending on your system. (Warning: don't run the PC file on a Mac and vice-versa).

- Mac: Double click on the PKG installer and follow the instructions

- PC/Windows: Extract the file content. Double click on the setup file and follow the instructions

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Uninstall Locations

MAC OS
AU: /Library/Audio/Plug-ins/Components/
VST: /Library/Audio/Plug-ins/VST/
VST3: /Library/Audio/Plug-ins/VST3/
AAX: /Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins/
Other data: ~/Library/Application Support/Techivation

WINDOWS
VST: Custom path from installer
VST3: \Program Files\Common Files\VST3\
or \Program files(x86)\Common Files\VST3
AAX: \Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins\
Other data: C:\ProgramData\Techivation "Note: this folder is
hidden so you need to change your settings to see the hidden
files first."