DX7 Voice Data Sheet Generator - User Manual

1. Introduction

Welcome to the DX7 Voice Data Sheet Generator! This script, `dx7sheet.py`, is a tool designed to read a standard 32-voice Yamaha DX7 SysEx file (`.syx`). It allows you to select any of the 32 voices within the file and generates a detailed, human-readable data sheet in a text file (`.txt`).

This data sheet lists all parameters for the selected voice, formatted to resemble the original DX7's display and layout. It is perfect for archiving your favorite sounds, sharing patches, or manually re-entering a sound into a DX7 synthesizer or a software editor like Dexed.

2. Requirements

- **Python 3**: You must have Python 3 installed on your system to run the script.
- **SysEx File**: A valid 32-voice Yamaha DX7 SysEx bank file (e.g., `Soundplantage.syx`).

3. How to Use

The script is a command-line tool. You need to open a command prompt (like Command Prompt, PowerShell, or Terminal) and run it from there.

Step-by-step instructions:

1. **Open Command Prompt**: Open your preferred command-line interface.
2. **Navigate to the Directory (Optional)**: For ease of use, you can navigate to the directory where your SysEx files are stored.
3. **Run the Script**: Type `python` followed by the full path to the script, and then the name of your SysEx file.

The required command format is: `python [path_to_script] [sysex_file]`

Example Command:

Assuming your SysEx file `Soundplantage.syx` is in the same folder you are running the command from, you would type:

Bash

```
python F:/dxtools/dx7sheet/dx7sheet.py Soundplantage.syx
```

4. The Process

After you execute the command, the script will:

1. **Load the SysEx File**: It will read and validate the `.syx` file.
2. **Display Voices**: It will list all 32 voice names found in the bank, numbered from 1 to 32.

```
--- DX7 Voice Data Sheet Generator ---
Bank 'Soundplantage.syx' loaded. 32 Voices found.
-----------------------------------
  01: Security
  02: INIT mDX
  03: Rhodes
  ...
-----------------------------------
```

3. **Prompt for Selection**: It will ask you to choose which voice you want to convert into a data sheet.

```
Which patch do you want to convert to a data sheet? (1-32):
```

4. **Enter a Number**: Type the number of the desired patch (e.g., `1` for "Security") and press **Enter**.

5. The Output

The script will instantly generate the data sheet.

1. **Console Display**: The complete data sheet will be printed directly in your command prompt window.
2. **Text File**: A new text file will be saved in the same directory. The filename will be the name of the patch (e.g., `Security.txt`).

The data sheet is formatted to be compact and should fit neatly on a single A4 page when printed.