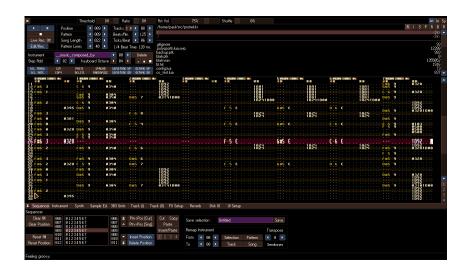# Hacking Protrekkr

Paul Batchelor

October 15, 2016
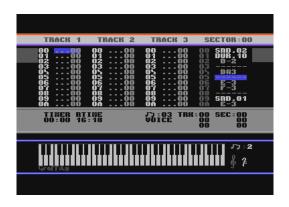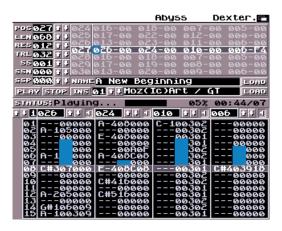
What is Protrekkr?

Protrekkr is a music tracker

- Popular interface for music production in the 80s and 90s
- Kind of looks like a spreadsheet?
- Time moves top/bottom instead of left/right
- Rows denote equal divisions of time
- Columns denote instruments/notes/tracks
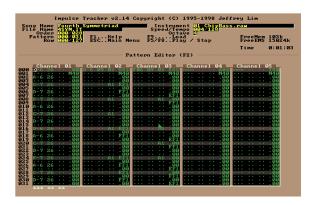- Typically sample-based
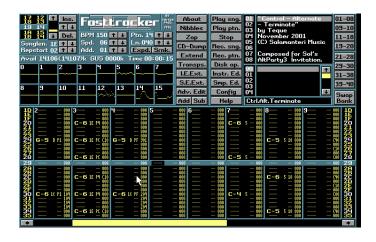- There are a *lot* of music trackers...
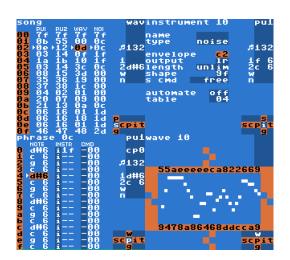
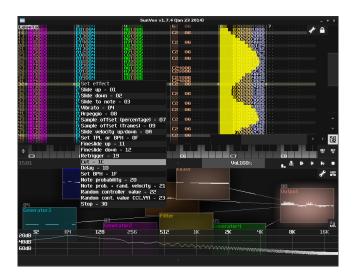# DMC (Commodore 64)

AHX (Amiga)

Impulse Tracker (DOS)

Fasttracker (DOS)

LSDJ (Gameboy)

Sunvox (Linux/Mac/Windows/Android/iOS)
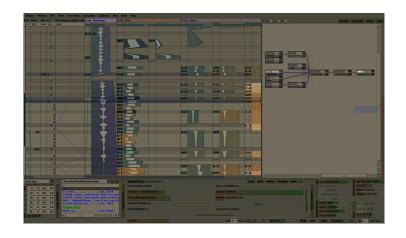
Renoise (Linux/Mac/Windows)

Milkytracker (Linux/Mac/Windows/Android/iOS)

Goattracker (Linux/Mac/Windows)

Radium (Linux/Mac/Windows)

Famitracker (Windows)

and several others...

- Jeskola Buzz
- Modplug
- Schism
- Psycle
- Klystrack
- Adlib Tracker 2
- Soundtracker
- Cheesetracker
- OpenMPT

Why Protrekkr?

- ▶ It's a good start...
- ▶ Made for more modern computers (DAW/Tracker hybrid)
- ▶ Out-of-the-box JACK support (Linux)
- ▶ Built in subtractive synthesizer
- ▶ Signal processing: compressors, EQ + filters, Reverb
- ▶ Two programmable TB303 units!

What has been done thus far

PaulBatchelor #1
173 commits / 43,618 ++ / 44,742 --

- ▶ Refactoring
- ▶ Sporth + live coding server
- ▶ Lua Scripting
- ▶ Some vi-ish keybindings (hjkl ftw!)
- ▶ Better CLI

Future Goals

- More extensive Lua API
- Ability to build custom synths in Sporth
- OSC support for remote control
- A more git-friendly file format

More info

- Project Page: pbat.ch/proj/protrekkr
- Github: www.github.com/paulbatchelor/protrekkr.git