Free Modular

Boost

Boost is an all-analog module that amplifies your signal while adding some character. It uses a "hard" diode clipping circuit like would be found in a distortion guitar pedal, although the clipping is actually much more gentle than e.g. digital clopping. This can be used to add a distroted overdrive effect to Eurorack audio, but with 26dB of gain it can also amplify line-level or microphone signals to usable levels with minimal distortion, or to give a quiet voice a little more punch in the mix.

Boost does not have CV control, but it is sensitive to input level. If you want to automate the amount of distortion, just pass the audio through a VCA before boosting it and reduce the gain on the VCA to reduce the distortion. Similarly, if you want the distortion without a volume boost, just attenuate the output.

Input

An AC-coupled input with >1MΩ input impedance, for line-level or Eurorack audio.



Controls the amount of gain. All the way left is unity gain; the signal is passed through *mostly* unchanged. All the way right, the signal is boosted by 26dB before clipping back down to around 13VPP.

Tone

The distortion from the clipping can create add some harsh, high-frequency harmonics to the sound. The tone control knob lets you either tame those high frequency tones (by turning left of center) or amplify them (to the right).

Output

Outputs boosted audio. With neutral tone control, output will not exceed about 13VPP, but tone control is after clipping, so a high-frequency boost can push signals all the way to rail-to-rail, at wich point there will be severe distortion.



