

User guide

R25 - 21/06/2021

Firmware: 19.24

Hw: LILLA PCB R5 (Teensy 4.1)

Overview

LILLA is a polyphonic (**16 voices**) multitimbral and multi-midi audio sampler, based on **Teensy 4.1**. LILLA stores audio files (**16 bit**, **44.1kHz**) in a flash memory (**32MB**), and plays them applying various playing mode, adding an ADSR envelope, changing length and pitch; LILLA allows the sound editing (e.g. slicing) during the performance without interruption, includes virtual multimode VCF, LFO, Delay/Reverb modules together with Resolution and Downsampling effects; LILLA supports midi Pitch-bend, Vibrato and After Touch, also can adopt any midi Control-Change to adjust inner parameters. Up to **8 parts** (Sounds)can be used in the performance, with multi-layered distribution and also multi-midi control; the internal memory can store 25 presets (Sessions) and 90 Sounds.

Sessions and Sounds

A **Session** includes up to **8 Sounds**; each Sound is associated to a single midi channel, and mapped on a portion of the keyboard.



LILLA allows to store up to **25 Sessions** and **90 Sounds**; export/import on micro SD card can be used to manage more Sessions/Sounds.

Audio files

LILLA plays **mono** audio files in **RAW** (header-less) **format**, **16bit** signed PCM, Little-endian, **44100Hz**, named with a number followed by the **RAW** extension: 0.RAW, 1.RAW, etc. The RAW files can be created using a common audio editor (example: Audacity). LILLA imports audio files using a micro SD card, and stores them in a **32MB** flash memory area.

Input/Output

- USB micro (power supply, programming)
- 3.5mm stereo jack MIDI IN
- 3.5mm stereo jack LINE OUT
- micro SD slot

On Teensy Audio Board there is another 3.5mm stereo jack output: it's a headphone output. <u>WARNING: when LILLA is powered by your computer, DO NOT connect this headphone output to the computer's audio-IN/audio-board, Audio Board may be damaged.</u>

Pages, commands and use

Performance page

This page shows the running Session, which is a set of 1 to 8 Sounds.

On top, the page shows:

Ses: Session's number;

Vol: master volume;

LpF: general Lowpass filter's cut-frequency;

Res: general Resolution affect value (bits);

DownS: general Downsampling effect value (Hz).

The table in the middle of the page shows the Sounds and some of their parameters:

- S: number of the Sound in the Session; it can be followed by:
 - Clocked): a *locked* Sound may not be affected/modified by Resolution, Downsampling effects, midi Pitch-bend;
 - **P** (protected) : a *protected* Sound cannot be stopped by other Sounds;
- RoK: Root Key, the key playing the audio file with original pitch;
- From- To: Sound's range on the keyboard;
- **G**: Sound's relative gain.

(Note: all other Sound's attributes are shown on **Sound wave** and **Sound filter** pages)

These are the active commands:

- VOLUME encoder adjusts master volume;
- encoder-integrated **PANIC** pushbutton immediately stops all sounds;
- SESSION encoder selects the Session;
- RESOLUTION encoder adjusts Resolution (from 16bits down to 1bit);
- **DOWNSAMPLING** encoder adjusts Downsampling (from 44.1KHz down to 344Hz);
- encoder-integrated reset pushbutton sets Resolution to 16bit and Downsampling to 44.1KHz;
- encoder-integrated **toggle** pushbutton toggles between:
 - o **LOWPASS filter**: 12dB/oct general Low-pass filter cut-frequency;
 - o **tuning TONE volume** encoder: Tuning-tone volume;
- encoder-integrated **DELAY** pushbutton switches to **Delay** page.

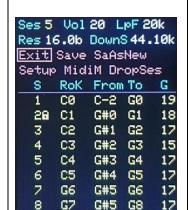
MENU item encoder with its integrated **select** pushbutton allows to select:

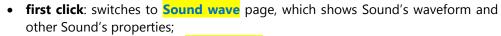
- SaAsNew: Save-as-New creates a new Session with running settings;
- Save: saves all changes made;
- Setup: switches to Setup page;
- MidiM: switches to Midi Monitor page;
- DropSes: drops this Session (Note: if this is the only Session, cannot be deleted);
- Exit: drops all changes made to the Session.

Downward, **MENU item** encoder allows to select and edit Sound's parameters, using

- ROOT key encoder;
- FROM key encoder;
- **TO key** encoder;
- GAIN encoder;
- encoder-integrated **lock** pushbutton;
- encoder-integrated **protect** pushbutton.

The eight lower **Pushbuttons** allow to:





- **second click**: switches to **Sound Filter** page, which shows Sound's dedicated multimode VCFs and LFOs parameters;
- third click: returns to Performance page.

LED

Notice that each time a Sound is played, on the left end of the display an LED goes on; color is **GREEN** if **Tuning tone** is OFF, otherwise color is **RED**.

Sound wave page

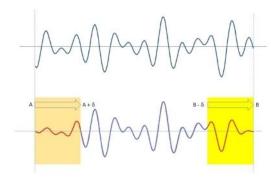
Each **Sound** is made with a slice of a RAW audio file, from **A** sample to **B** sample; **Sound wave** page shows the **A-B** waveform and other parameters described in this section.

These are the active commands:

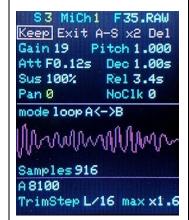
- FILE/MIDI CHANNEL encoder allows to select the RAW audio file (F) or MIDI channel (MiCh); the encoder-integrated toggle pushbutton toggles between one or the other functionality;
- GAIN encoder adjusts Sound relative Gain value;
- PITCH/PAN encoder adjusts Sound fine-Pitch or L/R Pan; the encoder-integrated toggle pushbutton toggles between one or the other functionality;
- encoder ATTACK, DECAY, SUSTAIN, RELEASE encoders adjust ADSR values (Att, Dec, Sus, Rel on display);
- encoder-integrated fast/slow pushbutton select the shape of Attack curve;
- play MODE encoder allows to select the play-mode (mode): once $A \rightarrow B$, once $B \rightarrow A$, loop $A \rightarrow B$, loop $B \rightarrow A$, loop $A \leftarrow \rightarrow B$, loop $B \leftarrow \rightarrow A$;

The following commands are related to file trimming/adjusting:

- **A sample**, **B sample** encoders adjust the **A-B** slice to be played, which is also graphically displayed; on display, **Samples** shows the total number of samples in the slice:
- encoder-integrated slower and faster pushbuttons are used to select the trimming speed/step (TrimStep on display); the displayed value can be:
 - o a simple number 1, 10, 100, 1K, 10K;
 - o 10s, 100s: A point gradually slides using A sample encoder;
 - L/16: trimming step is Samples/16;
- NOCLICK encoder adjusts a cross-fade mix window involving a certain number (NoClk) of samples, on both extremes of the slice; this feature is active with modes loop A→B, loop B→A and allows to cancel/reduce the loop "click";



encoder-integrated solo pushbutton applies "solo mode" for this Sound.



On the lower-right part of d display, **max** (which can be **x1.6**, **x3**, **x24**) shows the maximum pitch allowed for the Sound; this parameter is function of the slice length and the **optimization** (**Optimize**) mode selected in **Settings** page.

MENU item encoder with its integrated **select** pushbutton allows to select:

- Exit: back to Performance page discarding all changes made;
- Keep: back to Performance page keeping all changes made;
- **AB/AS**: selects the slicing mode:
 - AB: A sample encoder adjusts A sample, B sample encoder adjusts B sample;
 - AS: A sample encoder adjusts A sample, B sample encoder adjusts the number of samples S;
- Del: deletes delete the Sound;
- x2: duplicates the Sound; used to add a new Sound to the Session.

By clicking a second time on the same round pushbutton, the **Sound filter** is displayed.

By clicking on a different pushbutton, the corresponding **Sound Wave** page (if exists in the Session) will be displayed.

The following command, described in **Performance** page, can also be used:

- DELAY
- PANIC
- RESOLUTION
- DOWNSAMPLING
- LOW-PASS FILTER/TUNING TONE

Sound filter page

Each **Sound** has its **virtual multimode VCF**, whose cut-off frequency can be modulated (**Modulation**) around a central value (**F-pivot**); modulation can be chosen among:

- Rising curve;
- Falling curve;
- Sinus LFO;
- AT-Sinus: midi After Touch Channel message + sinus LFO.

MENU item encoder and VALUE encoder allow to select and adjust:

- Filter: used (Y), not used (N);
- Type: type of filter (Lowpass, Highpass, Bandpass, Notch);
- **F-pivot**: central cut-off frequency of the filter;
- Resonance: filter's Q-factor;
- Modulation: none, Rising, Falling, Sinus, AT-Sinus;
- **Index**: modulation index;
- **F/T**: shows a **frequency** if modulation is Sinus, AT-Sinus; shows **time** in other cases.

By clicking a second time on the same round pushbutton, the **Performance** is displayed.

By clicking on a different pushbutton, the **Sound wave** of the corresponding Sound (if exists in the Session) will be displayed.

The following commands, described in **Sound wave** page, can also be used:

- FILE
- GAIN
- PITCH



- play MODE
- A sample
- B sample

The following commands, described in **Performance** page, can also be used:

- DELAY
- PANIC
- RESOLUTION
- DOWNSAMPLING
- LOW-PASS FILTER/TUNING TONE

Delay page

LILLA has a couple of **delay/reverb** blocks, one per output channel; each Sound can separately be routed to the couple of delay/reverb; the delay value (expressed in samples) can be modulated by a couple (one per delay) of sinus LFOs, or by the same incoming audio signal.

The 1 to 8 lower **Pushbuttons** allow to route (Y) or not (N) a Sound to the delay effect.

On this page, the display shows the following parameters which can be modified using **MENU item** encoder (item selection) and **VALUE** encoder (value adjusting):

- Wet: amount of delayed signal sent to a feedback mixer;
- Delay: delay value in samples; from 0 up to 5800 sample (131ms);
- D(L-R): delay values delta, between left delay-block and right delay-block;
- Mod: delay modulation signal: none, sinus (LFO), (incoming) signal;
- Index: modulation depth;
- Freq: rate of the sinus LFO modulation;
- F(L-R): delta rate between left LFO and right LFO.

By clicking either the encoder-integrated pushbutton **DELAY** or the encoder-integrated **select** pushbutton, the **Performance** page will be displayed.

Setup page

This page allows to set parameters and do some actions by using the **MENU item** encoder, the encoder-integrated **select** pushbutton, and **VALUE** encoder:

- **First octave is**: this number is the octave corresponding to note-numbers 0-11; value can be chosen among **-2**, **-1**, **0**;
- **Optimize**: describes LILLA's behave for Sounds with a sound-slice longer than 675 samples (15ms):
 - 1. **polyphony**: LILLA will allow up to **16 voices** for these Sounds, and will allow a maximum pitch **1.6** (8 semitones beyond the Root Key);
 - 2. **extension**: LILLA will allow up to **12 voices** to these Sounds, with a maximum pitch **3.0** (19 semitones beyond the Root Key);

when Sounds use a sound-slice shorter than 675 samples, LILLA allows **16 voices** and a maximum pitch **24.0**;

- Control Change: clicking on select the Control Change page is shown;
- Velocity Response: clicking on select the Velocity Response page is shown;
 - **Save setup to SD**: clicking on **select**, all settings (Sessions, Sounds, Control Change configs, etc.) will be saved in **/LILLASET/LILLAOLD.TXT** file in micro SD card;



Setup Return

First octave is -2 Optimize polyphony Control Change Velocity response Save setup to SD Load setup from SD Load setup from SD: clicking on select, all settings (Sessions, Sounds, Control Change configs, etc.) will be deleted and replaced with /LILLASET/LILLA.TXT settings file;

By choosing **Return** and clicking on **select** the **Performance** page will be shown.

Control Change Return 9ain S1 71 9ain S2 72 9ain S3 73 9ain S4 73 9ain S5 75 9ain S6 76 9ain S7 77 9ain S8 78 low_pass filter 70

Control Change page

This page allows to define (in **autolearning** also) a set of Control Change commands (CC) used to change Sound's gain and the general Lowpass cut-frequency.

All CC values can be set by using the **MENU item** encoder and **VALUE** encoder.

By choosing **Return** and clicking on **select** all settings on this page will be saved and the **Setup** page will be displayed.



Velocity response page

LILLA stores n.2 **Velocity in/ Velocity out** response curves. This page allows to edit these curves:

- set the response curve to be used by using the VALUE encoder;
- Adjust the curve by using **velocity IN** and **velocity OUT** encoders.

By using the **MENU item** encoder and its integrated **select** pushbutton:

- Use: use this curve;
- Save&use: saves modifies and use this curve;
- NoSave&use: deletes all modifies and use this curve;

then the **Setup** page will be shown.

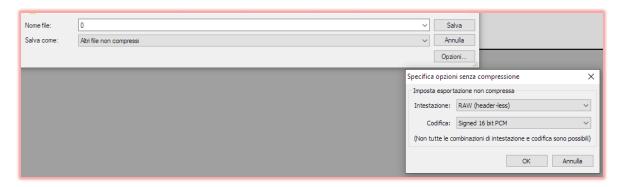


MIDI monitor page

This tool displays the last incoming midi message.

Making RAW audio files using Audacity

LILLA requires headerless, mono, 16bit, 44100Hz RAW files, named from **0.RAW** up to **255.RAW**. Using Audacity, a mono 44100Hz file can be exported into RAW: from menu "File", choose "Audio Export..." then "Other uncompressed files" and in "Options" choose Header: "RAW (header-less)" e Coding: "Signed 16 bit PCM".



How to import RAW files

- 1. Format FAT-32 a micro SD card;
- 2. in the root directory, create the folder **\LILLARAW**;
- 3. copy and paste the RAW files in this folder; the sum of RAW files must not exceed **32MB**; it's recommended to provide a file **0.RAW** lasting at least 1 sec, it will be useful if/when a **settings reset** will be done;
- 4. power-on LILLA while keeping the (files import) pushbutton down, until the cover page is displayed.

Notice: by copying RAW files from micro SD card, all RAW files stored in LILLA will be DELETED and replaced with the files copied.

Setups/settings save and import

All setups and settings (excluded the RAW files) can be saved/imported by using the micro SD card, from Setup page. This functionality can also be useful in order to create an archive of setups.

Settings reset

LILLA can be reset, deleting all Sessions/Sounds; to do this power-on LILLA while keeping the **(settings reset)** pushbutton down <u>until the **Performance** page is displayed</u>; all existing Sessions and Sounds will be deleted, **Session 0** will be created with a single Sound using file 0.RAW.

How to update the firmware

The updated user guide and firmware can be downloaded from:

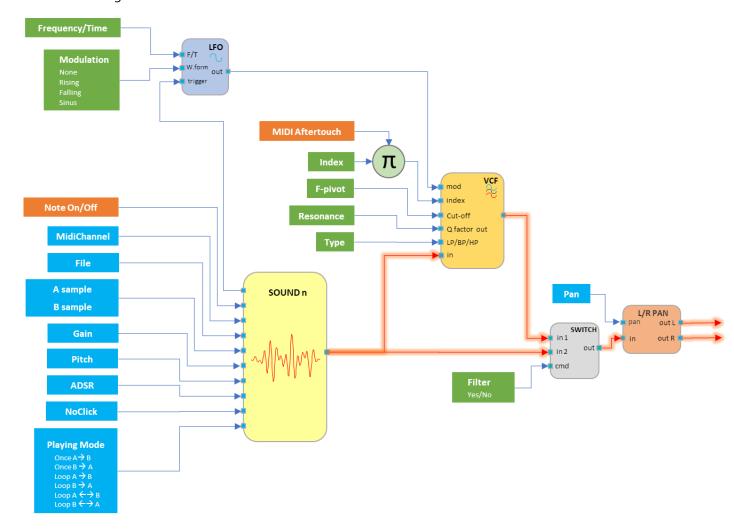
github.com/SandroGrassia/LILLA_audio_sampler.

Updating firmware requires a computer with the recommended versions of **Arduino IDE** and **Teensyduino** installed:

- 1) download and install Arduino IDE (https://www.arduino.cc/en/software);
- 2) download and install Teensyduino (https://www.pjrc.com/teensy/td_download.html);
- 3) download the last firmware file **Lilla_Arduino_T41_xxxxxxx.hex** (github.com/SandroGrassia/LILLA_audio_sampler)
- 4) connect LILLA to the computer, using a <u>data-transfer capable</u> USB cable;
- 5) run Teensyduino (file name is **teensy.exe** and path is: \Arduino\hardware\tools\teensy.exe), select **File** → **Open Hex File** and choose the firmware file;
- 6) on Teensyduino, click the round icon "Auto" which becomes bright green;
- 7) on LILLA, click on the encoder-integrated **program** pushbutton: Teensyduino will upload the new firmware.

Sound filter wiring

The following schematic shows the Sound-associated multimodal filter interconnections



The following schematic shows the couple of general Delays and general Low-pass filters

