MUS 6: Electronic Music

Section Lecture 6

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Lecture Outline

- 1. Announcements
- 2. Homework 3 (Part 1: Arpeggiators and Synthesizers)

Announcements

Homework Assignment #3 is DUE by Wednesday, Nov 25 at 11:59 pm

General Information: Dry/wet vs. on/off

- At a dry/wet setting of 100%, we only get the filtered sounds. In other words, the original (dry) sound is completely eliminated.
- We should think of dry/wet and on/off automation as distinct kinds of automation.

Homework 3

(Part 1: Arpeggiators and Synthesizers)

Homework 3: Lecture schedule

Today:

- Arpeggiators
- Synthesizers (envelopes and LFOs)

Next week:

- Compression
- Drum Racks
- Side-chain compression

Homework 3: Class demonstrations

• If you've made music using any of the techniques outlined for Homework 3, would you like to take a couple minutes to share your work with the class?

Homework 3: Arpeggiators

- In Ableton Live, go to MIDI Effects -> Arpeggiator
- You'll need to add an instrument in order to hear anything. We'll use the Analog instrument in today's discussion.
- When you hold down several keys at once, the Arpeggiator will play the keys in some pattern. To adjust the pattern, use the "Style" drop down menu.

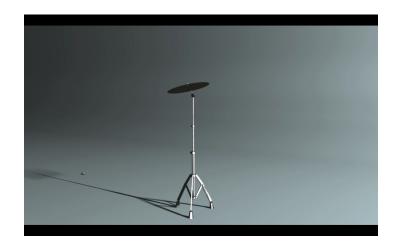
Homework 3: Synthesizers

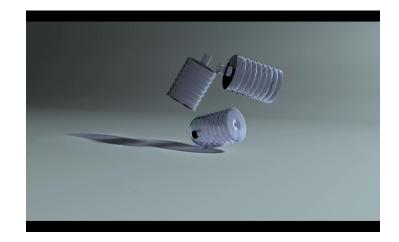
- In Ableton Live, go to Instruments -> Analog
- Analog is a digital synthesizer that emulates the classic analog synthesizers of the 1960s and 70s.
- Just like those vintage synthesizers, Analog has oscillators, amplitude and filter envelopes, and low-frequency oscillators (LFOs). To earn full credit, you'll need to implement each of these features (if you prefer, you may use a pitch envelope instead of a filter envelope).

Homework 3: Synthesizers (listening examples)

The video below shows examples of computer animations that use physics-based sound synthesis instead of recorded audio. This is a cutting-edge research area.

Harmonic Shells: A Practical Nonlinear Sound Model for Near-Rigid Thin Shells





Homework 3: Ableton Live implementation

- We'll now use the Arpeggiator and Analog plugins to recreate the theme song from Stranger Things. For an example of what this should sound like, see the audio clip provided on the section website.
- Please stop me if you have questions or you would like me to go slower.

Questions