Specifications of the MIDI Librarian for the Schmidt Synthesizer

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1 Introduction

This document specifies a MIDI Librarian for the Schmidt Synthesizer.

1.1 Structure of this document

Paragraphs starting with "[Snnnn]" and ending with "¶" are tracable specification elements. They may be extracted automatically to feed a tracing database. They may be duplicated (same [Snnnn] number) for legibility of the text.

Note: within the brackets, there may be several S-numbers separated with dots, representing a hierachical dependency path. A S-number may have several dependents ("parents") in the graph: the same specification items is reused in the specification of the parent item.

Only the last S-number identifies the specification item (paragraph).

These [Snnnn] numbers have some structure:

S1...	visualization
S2...	editing
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1.2   Versions of this document

Version	Date	Modification	Author
0.0.1	2018/09/19	Création.	Pascal Bourguignon
0.0.2	2021/04/28	Added Specification Item Tags	Pascal Bourguignon

2   Specifications of the MIDI Librarian

The **MIDI Librarian** application lets the user edit sets and banks of programs, to save sysex files (`.syx`) containing programs, banks or sets, and when possible, to communicate with the MIDI synthesizer to transfer programs, banks or sets, either in batch or during interactive use.

Additionnal entities may be edited, to help organizing programs, banks and sets off-line.

```
entry ::= directory | program-file .
directory ::= name { entry } .
program-file ::= name { program } .
program ::= name category data .
bank ::= number 256* program .
set  :=  8* bank . -- unique bank numbers.

category ::= name color .
categories ::= 64* category . -- unique colors.
```

2.1   Functionalities

2.1.1   Introduction

The purpose of the **MIDI Librarian** is to help editing and managing presets and banks of presets for the **Schmidt Synthesizer**.

- [S1000] **visualization**: when a preset is selected on the synthesizer, it should be displayed on the tablet screen, showing notably the setting of the knobs, which is not reflected on the physical dead knobs. This display of the preset settings should be graphical (eg. envelops) and calibrated (for times and periods), to aid visualising the sound that would be generated. ¶

- [S2000] **editing**: some preset editing is provided, but we don't want to replace the physical button and knob editing that is the strong point of a control panel such as the one of the **Schmidt Synthesizer**. On the other hand, preset renaming, changing or copying parameters globally to a group of presets, applying editing macros to one or multiple presets, for sophisticated editing, are features that should be provided. ¶

- [S3000] **management**: presets are organized in banks on the synthesizer. We want to be able to easily save, copy and move presets among banks, and to save, copy and move banks. ¶

- [S4000] **sharing**: presets and banks of presets can be stored on the cloud, and can be shared amongst users of the **Schmidt Synthesizer**. (No sale/buying is envisionned since the number of **Schmidt Synthesizer** is limited, selling presets for them doesn't offer a big enough market). ¶

2.1.2   Categories

For the Schmidt Synthesizer, the **categories** are names given to the predefined set of colors $(0 \ldots 63)$. **Categories** are lists of 64 names. Each **BankSet** has it own list of **Categories**, initialized with the default list.

[S3600] **Categories** are lists of 64 names, corresponding to the predefined set of colors $(0 \ldots 63)$. ¶

[S3601] the predefined set of colors is specified in the `Schmidt.clr` color palette (approximatively: it's built manually with the color picker on a serie of photographs of the pitch wheel). ¶

[S3602] there is a default category-list that is used to initialize or reset the category-list of BankSet. ¶

[S3603] each BankSet has its own category-list. ¶

- [S3610] Edit the list of default categories: ¶
    - [S3610.S3604] select the default list of categories. ¶
    - [S3610.S3607] select a category in the selected list of categories. ¶
    - [S3610.S3608] edit the category name. ¶
- [S3620] Edit the list of categories of a BankSet: ¶
    - [S3620.S3200] select a BankSet. ¶
    - [S3620.S3606] select the list of categories of the BankSet. ¶
    - [S3620.S3607] select a category in the selected list of categories. ¶
    - [S3620.S3608] edit the category name. ¶

2.1.3 General

Currently, we can transfer single banks or multi banks only manually. Sending or receiving a whole set requires 16 manual operations (8 single banks, and 8 multi banks).

Therefore we will provide the basic functionality of sending and receiving banks. Sending a BankSet will involve sending the 16 banks with manual synchronization.

- [S5700] Configure MIDI: select the MIDI bus and the Send and Receive MIDI Channels. ¶
- [S5720] Listen for Sysex messages to automatically initiate the reception of banks. ¶

  [S5720.S5201] When received a bank Sysex, store it in a new Bank, and store the bank in a new BankSet. ¶

  [S5720.S5202] The banks received in the Sysex are numbered, so we can fill the BankSet. ¶

  [S5720.S5203] A new BankSet is created if a bank of the same kind and number is received again. ¶

  [S5720.S5204] The bank and sets are automatically given a default name containing a time stamp. ¶

- search and select for programs upon various criteria:
    - [S3210] search and select for programs by name (regexp), ¶
    - [S3220] search and select for programs parameter values or ranges, (eg. all programs with: `Group1.VCF1 on and VCF1.InputA.Level>100`) ¶
- [S3300] batch set parameters to programs. ¶

  [S3301] These operations can be represented as icons on the desktop, and dragging programs from banks to that icon would modify the program. Eg. to set the performance parameters (after-touch, modulation wheel, X/Y joystick), or the category (colors). ¶

- [S3400] sort programs in banks according to criteria:
    - name
    - category
    - parameters (eg. sort upon `VCF1.Cutoff`, `VCF2.Cutoff`, `DF1.Cutoff`, `DF2.Cutoff`, or sort upon `VCA.Attack`, `VCA.Decay`, etc).

¶

- [S3390] generate random programs. ¶

- [S3500] convert programs from one synthesizer to the other (direct mapping of parameters). ¶

2.1.4   Synthesizer Program Visualization

[S1100] Listen for Bank Change/Program Change messages. ¶

- [S1100.S1110] Upon receiving a Bank Change/Program Change: if possible query the synthesizer for the current program parameters if not, assume the parameters from the corresponding program in the saved BankSet dump. ¶

- [S1100.S1120] Upon receiving a Bank Change/Program Change: change the program and display the parameters of the new current program. ¶

- [S1100.S1130] Listen for NPRN messages to automatically update the current program, and update its display. ¶

2.1.5   Bank

- [S2220] Send a Bank: ¶
    - [S2220.S3201] select a Bank, ¶
    - [S2220.S2221] activate the sending process (click on the send button). ¶

2.1.6   BankSet

- [S2110] Send a BankSet: ¶
    - [S3100] select a BankSet, ¶
    - [S2111] activate the sending process (click on the send button): this will send each bank in the set in turn, waiting for user confirmation between the sending of two banks (so the user may save the bank on the Schmidt synthesizer, in the right place). ¶

[S3901] BankSets and Banks are stored each in their own hierarchical directory tree. ¶

[S3902] Programs are usually stored in banks, but they can also be stored stand-alone in their own hierarchical directory tree. ¶

2.1.7   Manipulation of a Directory Tree

- [S3431] create directory ¶
- [S3432] rename directory ¶
- [S3433] move directories and items in the tree ¶
- [S3434] delete an empty directory ¶
- [S3435] delete recursively a filled directory (!) ¶
- [S3436] create an item in a directory ¶
- [S3437] delete an item from a directory ¶
- [S3438] rename an item from a directory ¶

- [S3439] select one or more items in the directory tree (for further manipulations, like opening, etc). ¶

2.1.8   Manipulation of Banks

- [S3231] open a bank : the list of programs in the bank is shown. ¶
- [S3232] close an opened bank. ¶

[S3233] Banks can be selected from the bank directory tree (from any "open" directory), from the desktop, or from open BankSets. ¶

- [S3234] move (or make copies) from one to eight selected banks, to the directory tree, the desktop or to an existing open set. ¶
- [S3135] create a new set and fill it with (copies of) the selected banks. ¶
- [S3721] send from one to eight selected banks to a Schmidt synthesizer (represented as an icon on the desktop). ¶

2.1.9   Manipulation of BankSets

- [S3131] open a set : the list of banks in the set is shown. ¶
- [S3132] close an opened set. ¶

[S3133] BankSets can be selected from the set directory tree (from any "open" directory), or from the desktop. ¶

- [S3134] move (or make copies) of the selected sets to the directory tree or the desktop. ¶
- [S3711] send one selected set to a Schmidt synthesizer (represented as an icon on the desktop). ¶

2.1.10   Manipulation of Programs

- [S3331] open a program : shows the parameters of the program. ¶
- [S3332] close an opened program. ¶
- [S3338] rename a program ¶
- [S3339] set the category/color of selected programs. ¶

[S3334] Programs can be selected from the program directory tree (from any "open" directory), from the desktop, or from an open bank. ¶

- [S3333] move (or make copies) of the selected programs to the directory tree, the desktop, or an open bank. ¶
- [S3731] send one selected program to a Schmidt synthesizer (currently, this only configures the current program of the synthesizer sending NPRN messages). ¶

2.1.11   Manipulation of the Synthesizer

- [S3730] opening the Synthesizer icon will show the current program parameters, updated as PC, BC and NPRN messages are received. ¶

2.2   User Interface

[S6001] We show a Desktop with "icons", "strips" and "windows". ¶

- icon:

  pair of image and name representing some object.

- strip:

  text in a box representing some object. (the box may also contain some (small) images).

- window:

  rectangular area containing further user interface elements.

[S6002] We use icons to represent connected synthesizers. ¶

[S6003] We use strips to represent categories, directories, programs, banks and banksets. ¶

[S6004] Some desktop elements are "hard wired" representing static (root) elements:

- the default categories list.

- the saved program directory.

- the saved bank directory.

- the saved bankset directory.

- the connected synthesizer.

Those "hard wired" elements cannot be removed from the desktop by the user. ¶

[S6004.S5710] When the synthesizer is disconneted, its icon disappear (automatically; it's not done directly by the user). When the synthesizer is connected, its icon appears on the desktop. ¶

[S6004.S6005] The desktop elements can be moved and arranged by the user as she wishes. The positions are persistent. ¶

[S6004.S6006] The saved programs, banks, and banksets can be moved on the desktop. In that case, the strip on the desktop is but an alias of the element; the element is still visible in its original place. ¶

[S6007] Semantics of dragging desktop elements over other desktop elements.

drag \ over	categories	program	bank	bankset	synthesizer
category	No	Set cat/col	Set cat/col(1)	Set cat/col(1)	No
categories	No	No	No	No	No
program	No	No	Store	No	Send(NPRN)
bank	No	No	No	Store	Send(SysEx)
bankset	No	No	No	No	Send(SysEx)(2)
synthesizer	No	No	No	No	No

¶

2.3   Cloud

2.3.1   User Account Creation

[S7001] The user can create a user account (nickname, email, password) on the **Cloud**, and connect to it. ¶

[S7002] When connected to the **Cloud**, in addition to loading and saving to local directories, it will be possible to save and load to cloud directories. ¶

[S7003] One directory on the cloud is a public directory that is readable by any other user. ¶

[S7004] The root cloud directory will show a list of public directories, one for each users. It is not expected to be too many users (on the order of 1000 maximum), so browsing users can be simple (eg. alphabetical list, like a phone directory). ¶

```
-- read-only part:
/cloud/emc/factory-v1
/cloud/informatimago/nice-sounds
/cloud/informatimago/jmj-sounds

-- read-write part on the cloud:
/mycloud/public
/mycloud/public/nice-sounds
/mycloud/public/jmj-sounds
/mycloud/tests
/mycloud/my-concert/part1
/mycloud/my-concert/part2

-- read-write part stored locally:
/local/my-concert/part1
/local/my-concert/part2
```