Mark Eats Sequencer

Quick start

Getting set up

Open the app. If a document window doesn't appear then click *File – New* to create one.

Go to the *Sequencer* menu and choose *Preferences* to connect your monome. It should be visible in the list of grid controllers on the *Grid* tab. When you see the 'OK' message appear on the grid, you're all set.

Check the *Output* tab if you'd like to send MIDI to a specific destination. Make sure you set up an instrument or software to receive MIDI notes as Mark Eats Sequencer generates no sounds of its own.

Creating a pattern

Press anywhere on the monome to dismiss the 'OK' message. Then click the play icon to the right of the desktop interface and you will see the playhead move across the grid.

Press buttons to add or remove notes on the grid. When the playhead passes over them a MIDI note will be sent. Use the desktop interface to define the pitches that are associated with each row of the grid.

Hold down on a note to edit its length, velocity and associated modulation values – more details regarding this are on the following pages.

Play mode

Hold down in a space to enter Play mode. This mode is more complex in layout but gives you total control over multiple 'pages' of the Sequencer (each with its own MIDI channel and settings) as well as allowing you to switch patterns, play modes and scrub loops. A reference for the controls available in Play mode is provided later in this guide.
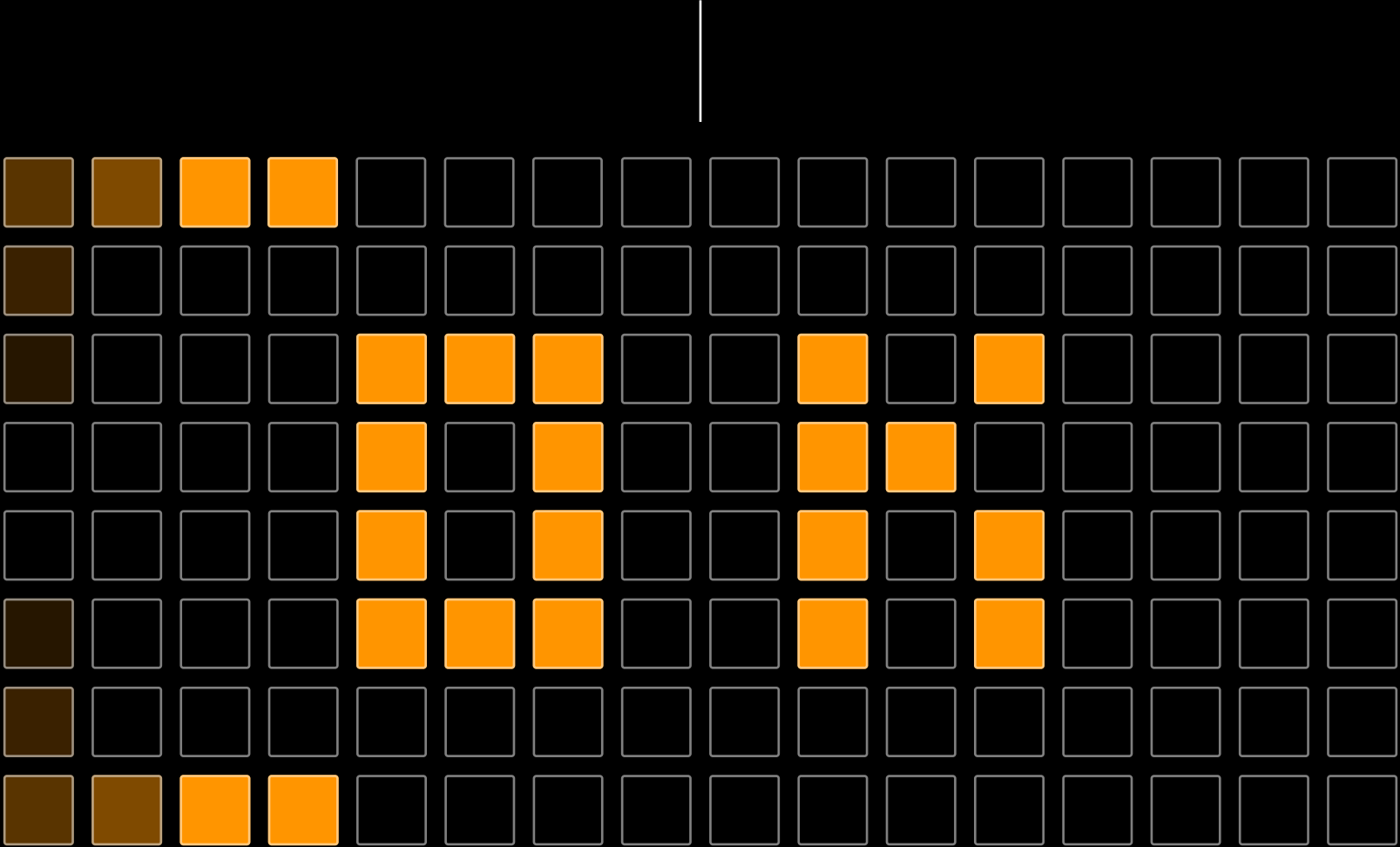
Saving and opening

Each document represents a 'song' that can be saved as a *.seq* file. This format is unique to Mark Eats Sequencer and will contain all your patterns and settings shown in the document window.
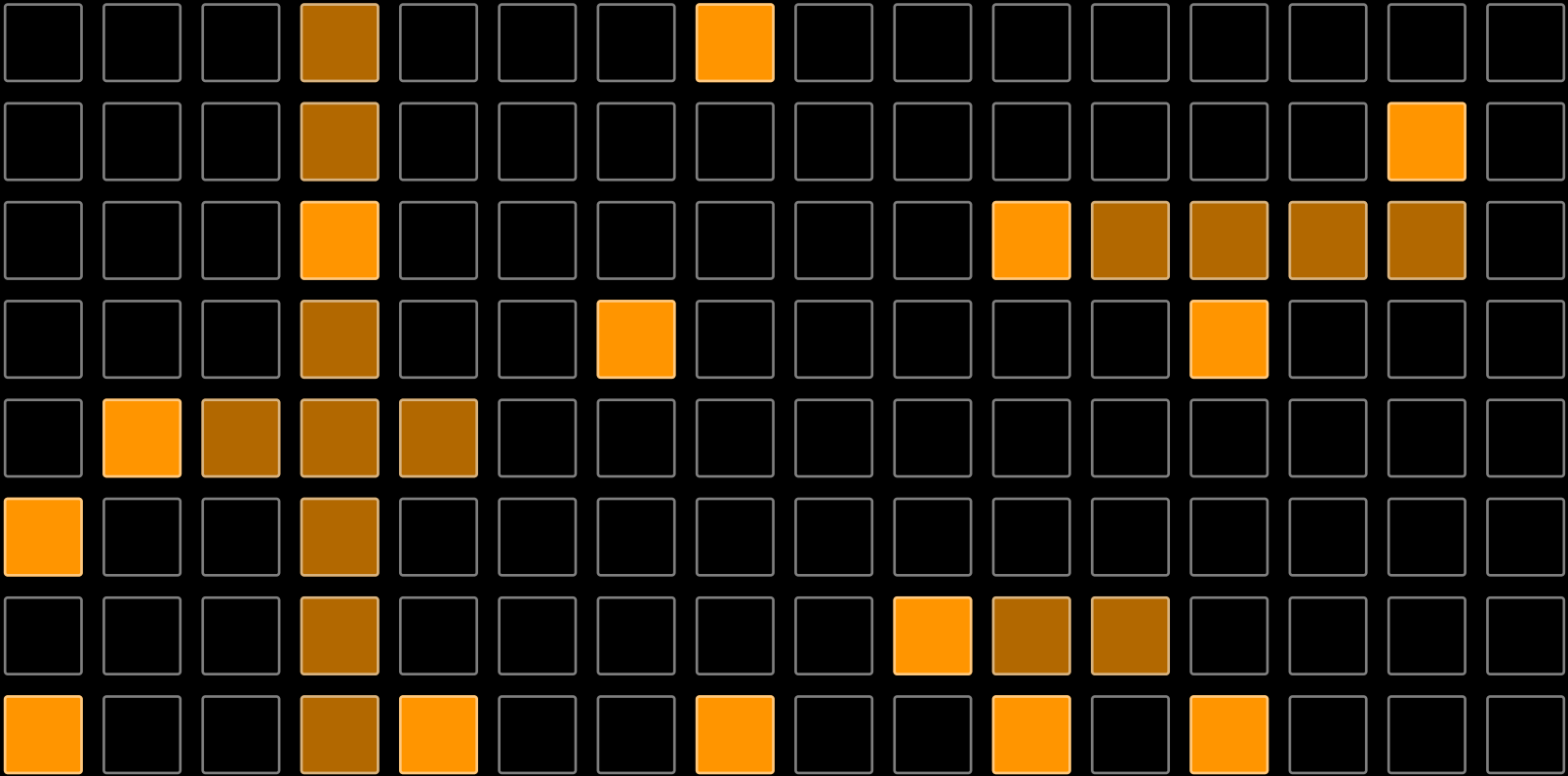
Connect

Press any key to continue

Sequencer mode

Sequencer mode is where you edit loops by adding, removing and adjusting notes.

Playhead

Add/remove a note
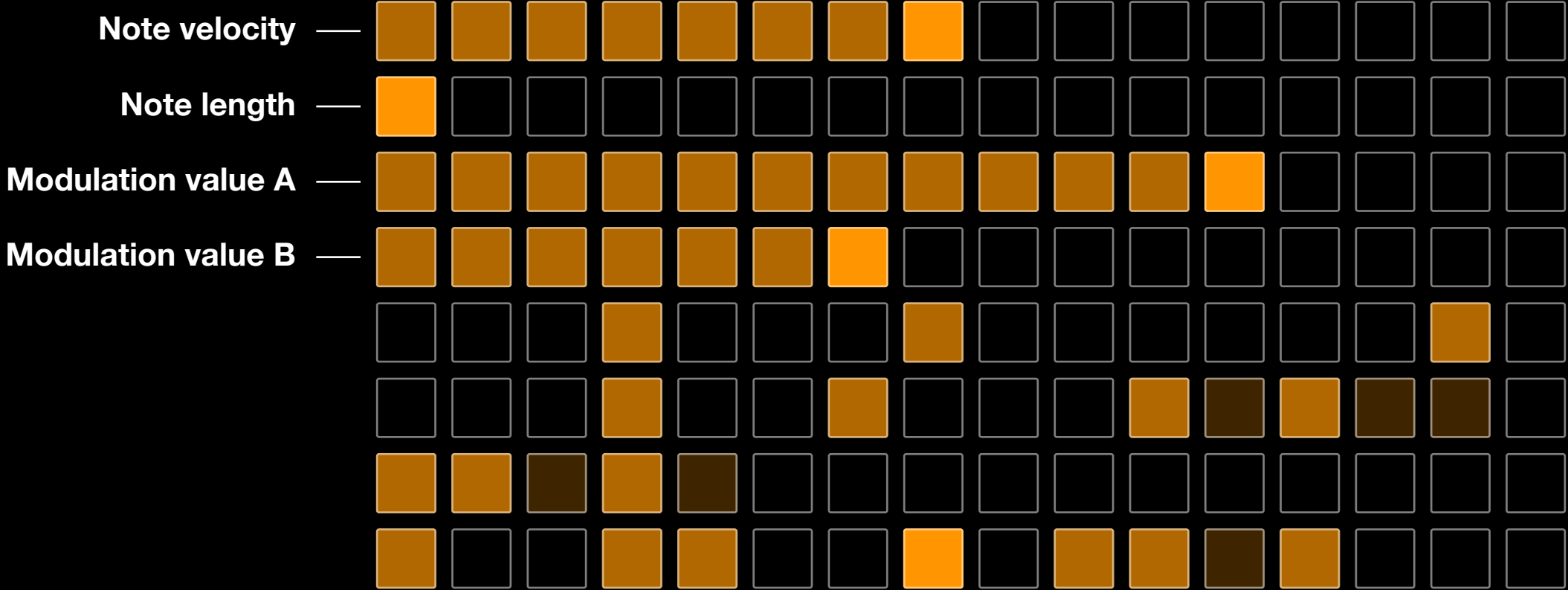
Single press to add or remove notes.

Edit a note

Hold down on any note to edit it.

Enter Play mode

Hold down in any empty space to switch to Play mode.

Sequencer mode Edit note

Note velocity ———

Note length ———

Modulation value A ———

Modulation value B ———

Done editing note

Press anywhere outside of the sliders to return from editing a note.

Play mode is the performance-focused side of the app. Here you can switch pages, patterns, playback modes etc. It also allows you to scrub loops.

Playback mode

Switch between, *forward*, *reverse, random* and *slice*. Press an active play button to *pause*.

Automation

Details on following page.

BPM - / +

Exit
Return to Sequencer mode.

Pattern

Change the currently playing pattern for the active page. When playing, it will switch on pattern quantization. Hold one button and press another to copy a pattern.

Sequencer page

Change the active sequencer page.

Loop bracket

Hold at the start and press at the end to create a loop. Press anywhere to reset it.

Scrub area

Shows notes and allows you to jump within the loop.

Play mode 128H

Play mode is the performance-focused side of the app. Here you can switch pages, patterns, playback modes etc. It also allows you to scrub loops.

Playback mode

Switch between, *forward, reverse, random* and *slice*. Press an active play button to *pause*.

Automation

Details on following page.

Sequencer page

Change the active sequencer page.

BPM - / +

Exit

Return to Sequencer mode.

Pattern

Change the currently playing pattern for the active page. When playing, it will switch on pattern quantization. Hold one button and press another to copy a pattern.

Scrub area

Shows notes and allows you to jump within the loop.
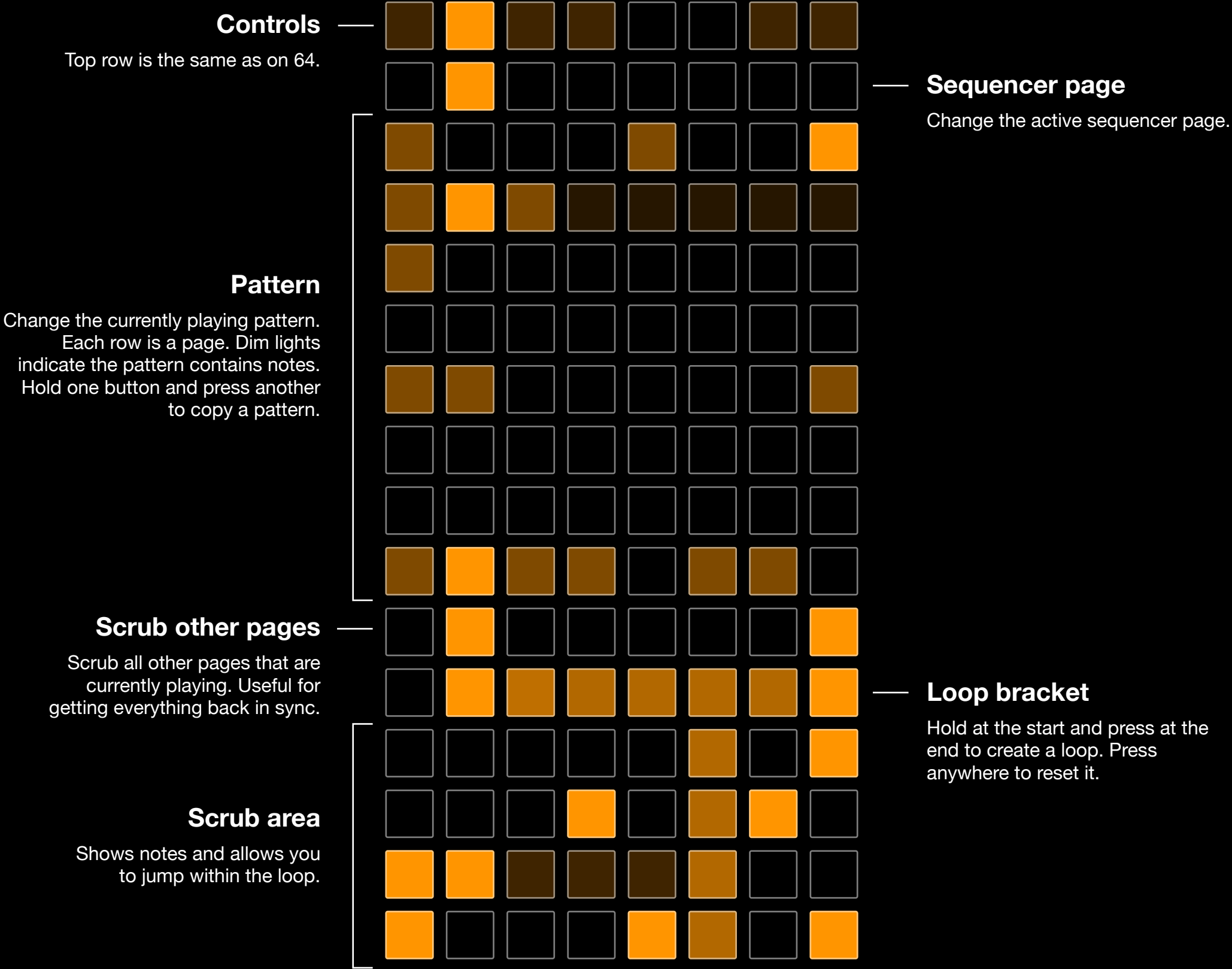
Patterns on other pages

Change the pattern for all currently playing pages except this one. Useful for advancing through a song.

Loop bracket

Hold at the start and press at the end to create a loop. Press anywhere to reset it.

Play mode 128V

Play mode is the performance-focused side of the app. Here you can switch pages, patterns, playback modes etc. It also allows you to scrub loops.

Controls ——

Top row is the same as on 64.

—— **Sequencer page**

Change the active sequencer page.

Pattern

Change the currently playing pattern. Each row is a page. Dim lights indicate the pattern contains notes. Hold one button and press another to copy a pattern.

Scrub other pages ——

Scrub all other pages that are currently playing. Useful for getting everything back in sync.

—— **Loop bracket**

Hold at the start and press at the end to create a loop. Press anywhere to reset it.

Scrub area

Shows notes and allows you to jump within the loop.

Play mode 256

Play mode is the performance-focused side of the app. Here you can switch pages, patterns, playback modes etc. It also allows you to scrub loops.

Pages and controls

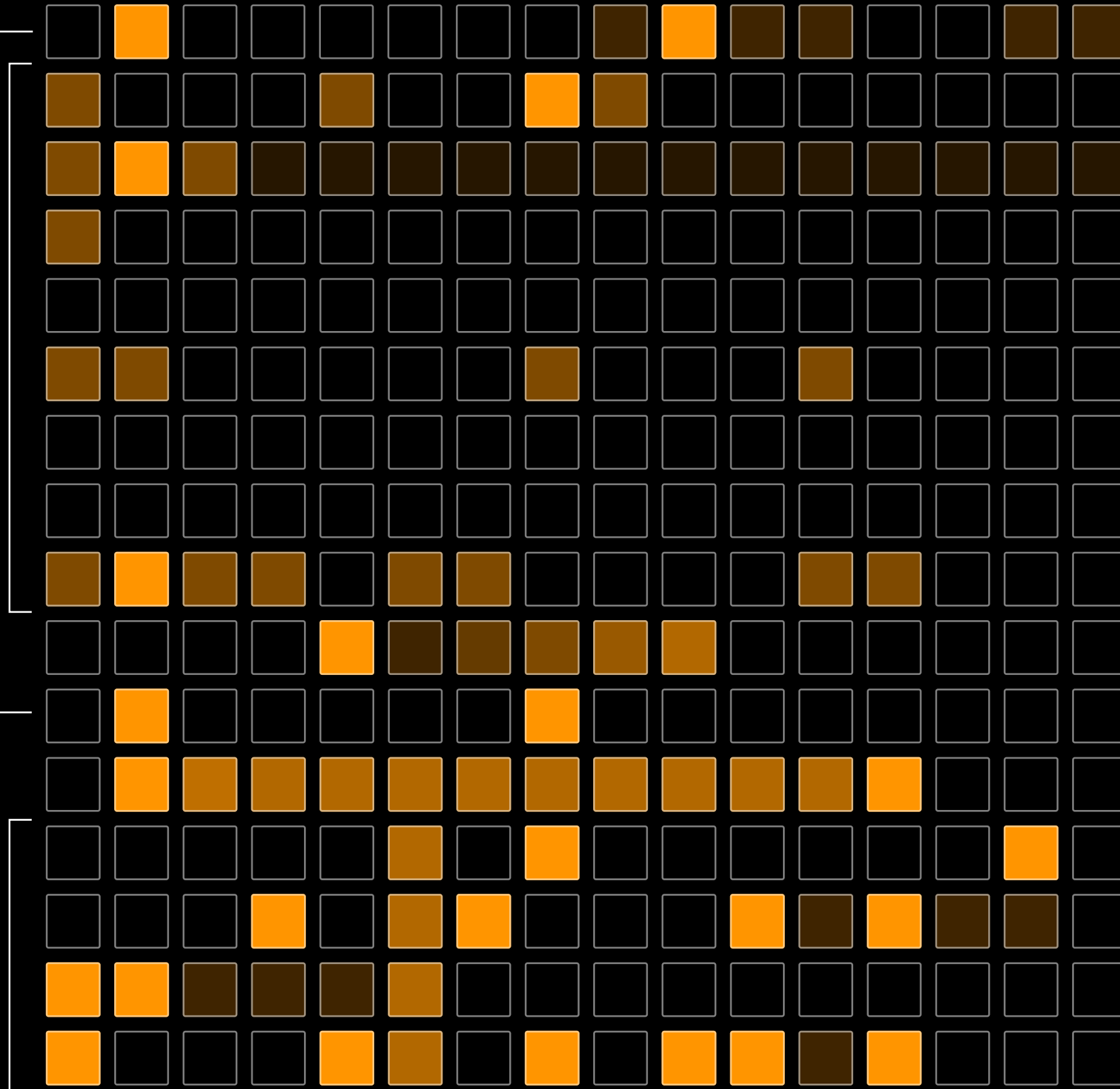Top row is the same as on 128H.

Pattern

Change the currently playing pattern. Each row is a page. Dim lights indicate the pattern contains notes. Hold one button and press another to copy a pattern.

Transpose

Single press to the left or right of the 'zero point' (the single bright button) to shift the pitch of the current pattern down or up. You can move the 'zero point' by holding on it and pressing elsewhere along the row to allow space for a diferent range of adjustment.

Scrub other pages

Scrub all other pages that are currently playing. Useful for getting everything back in sync.

Loop bracket

Hold at the start and press at the end to create a loop. Press anywhere to reset it.

Scrub area

Shows notes and allows you to jump within the loop.

Desktop interface

BPM
Red dot indicator means that timing is getting behind – probably due to high CPU load.

Global stop / play
Stops and starts the song document.

Automation
Details on following page.

Step quantization
Quantizes scrubbing in Play mode.

Pattern quantization
Defines when a pattern will move on to another when switching patterns.

Select page
Switches the current page. Everything below this reflects the selected page. Click again to rename a page.

Pattern
Changes the pattern for the current page. When playing, the change will be delayed according to pattern quantization.

Notes
Non-interactive preview of the current pattern's notes and playhead. Clicking this area will highlight the pattern and allow you to cut, copy & paste it to other pattern slots.

MIDI channel
Destination channel for the page. Multiple pages can send to the same MIDI channel.

Playback mode
Switch the page between *pause*, *forward*, *reverse*, *random* and *slice*.

Step length
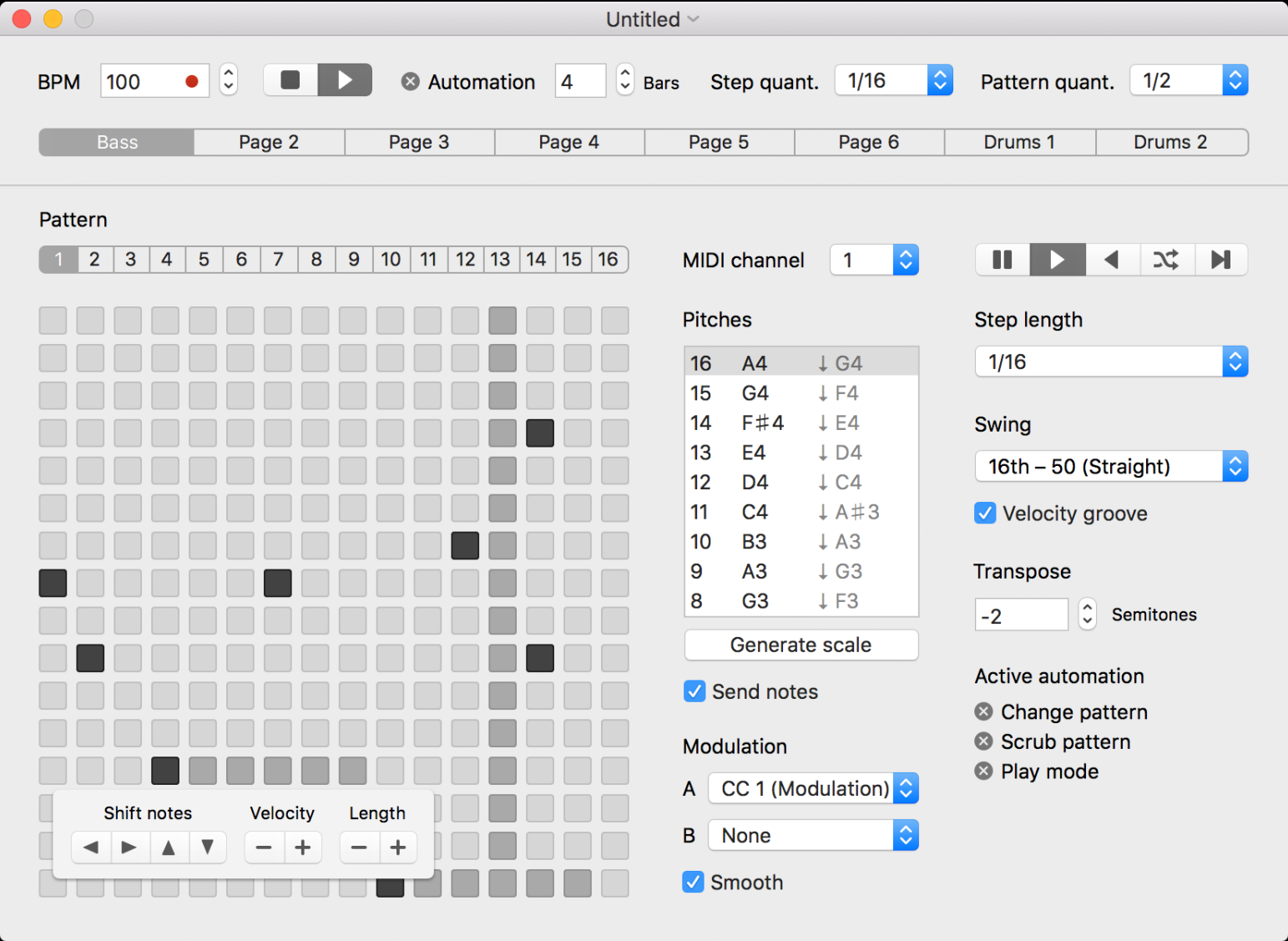Set the length of each step.

Swing & velocity groove
Set swing. Enabling *Velocity groove* emulates the velocity curve that an E-mu SP-1200 applies across the loop. This varies depending on if the swing is set to 8ths or 16ths.

Transpose
Shift the current pattern's output pitch up or down. This will be reflected in the *Pitches* column.

Active automation
Details on following page.

Adjust all notes in pattern
Placing the cursor over the notes area will show this toolbar. It allows you to shift all the notes on the grid, adjust their velocity or adjust their length.

Pitches & scales
Edit the pitch that each row of the grid triggers. Click *Generate scale* to replace all the pitches with a scale based on the given mode and tonic note. Disable *Send notes* to only send modulation.

Modulation
Choose where to send modulation values assigned to each note. Enabling *Smooth* will send values between those set.

Untitled

BPM 100 ● ■ ▶ ✕ Automation 4 Bars Step quant. 1/16 Pattern quant. 1/2

| Bass | Page 2 | Page 3 | Page 4 | Page 5 | Page 6 | Drums 1 | Drums 2 |

Pattern
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

MIDI channel 1 ⏸ ▶ ◀ ⤨ ⏭

Pitches

16	A4	↓ G4
15	G4	↓ F4
14	F♯4	↓ E4
13	E4	↓ D4
12	D4	↓ C4
11	C4	↓ A♯3
10	B3	↓ A3
9	A3	↓ G3
8	G3	↓ F3

Generate scale

☑ Send notes

Modulation
A CC 1 (Modulation)
B None
☑ Smooth

Step length
1/16

Swing
16th – 50 (Straight)

☑ Velocity groove

Transpose
-2 Semitones

Active automation
✕ Change pattern
✕ Scrub pattern
✕ Play mode

Shift notes | Velocity | Length
◀ ▶ ▲ ▼ | − + | − +

Automation

Automation allows you to record actions performed from the grid or desktop interface and then play them back later. Actions that can be recorded are:
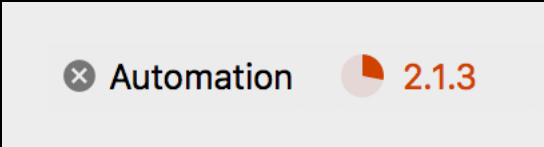• Pattern changes
• Scrubbing patterns
• Setting loops
• Transposing
• Changing play mode

Arm for recording

| Automation | 4 | ↕ | Bars |

| Automation | ● 1.1.1 |

Begin by setting the automation loop length at the top of the desktop interface. Briefly holding down the automation button on the grid will then arm automation recording. The button will start to flash quickly and a red number will appear at the top of the desktop interface.
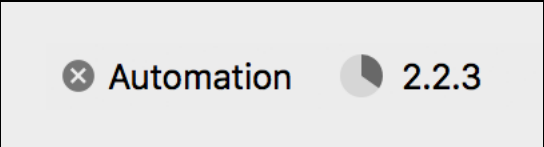
Start recording

| ⊗ Automation | ◗ 2.1.3 |

Pressing any of the automatable buttons will start recording. Alternatively, recording can be started by briefly holding the automation button again. The automation button on the grid will flash with the beat and the automation loop counter in the desktop interface will start.
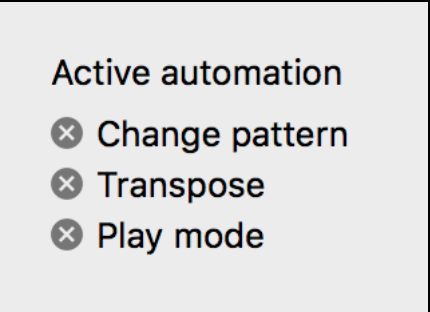
All actions will be recorded and play back as soon as the loop restarts. You can see the automation that is recorded for each page in the bottom right of the desktop interface.

Playback & overdubbing

| ⊗ Automation | ◖ 2.2.3 |

Pressing the automation button quickly will switch from recording mode to playback mode. Pressing it again will stop playback. You can then start automation playback again by tapping the button. Hold it down to return to recording mode and overdub more automation.

Removing automation

Active automation
⊗ Change pattern
⊗ Transpose
⊗ Play mode

Automation can be removed via the desktop interface using the button at the top (to remove everything) or the buttons in the bottom right of each page (to remove specific automation from specific pages).

When you arm or start recording from the grid, continue holding the button to clear all automation – a flash of the grid will indicate this.

Shortcuts

To use most keyboard shortcuts the focus must be on the background window –
if you see a blue highlight around something then click off it.

Action	Shortcut
With focus on the window	
Sequencer play / stop	Space
Adjust BPM	*+ or -*
Automation play / stop	a
Automation arm / record	+a
Change page	F1–F8 ← *or* → *to cycle* Two finger swipe with trackpad *to cycle*
Change pattern	1–0 *for patterns 1–10 on current page* +1–6 *for patterns 11–16 on current page* ⌥+1–0 *for patterns 1–10 on all pages* ⌥+ +1–6 *for patterns 11–16 on all pages*
Current page pause	p
Current page play forward	>
Current page play reverse	<
Current page play random	?
Current page play slice	s
Transpose current page	[*or*] *to shift down or up*
Rename current page	⌘+r
With focus on the notes	
Shift notes	← *or* → *or* ↑ *or* ↓
Adjust velocity of notes	+↓ *or* +↑
Adjust length of notes	+← *or* +→
Delete notes	⌫