JsComp

Getting started

jsComp is a simple, free, peak-based compressor with an additional integrated brickwall limiter (zero-latency, therefore suitable for live use).

Both attack and release are adjustable down to 0ms (attack 0-300ms, release 0-1500ms), so even the compressor itself can act as a brickwall limiter (or clipper!). But the envelope filter also offers a "hold"-knob, adjustable from 0 to 30ms which can be used to reduce low-frequency distortion to an absolute minimum. Ratio is adjustable from 1:1 to infinity:1 (limiting).

To increase flexibility, the compressor offers three stereo link modes (min,max,off/dual mono) and sidechaining capability, as well as a mix knob for NY-Compression.

Download link: http://www.carolander.net/joe/jsComp.dll

Some tips:

- "I'm no regular user of "hold" in a compressor."
  No one is probably... I haven't seen this feature in any VST compressors (in one fixed function DSP chip though). In essence, you should adjust it a little to the point where you like the sound the most (obviously it will also affect the release, but if release time >> 10 ms this should be negligible).
  The hold function is really helpful in improving transparency (also decreases THD as measured by VstPluginAnalyzer a lot).
- The lowest attack setting (0 ms!) causes the input to instantly change the GR, this will always cause clicking. The best way to prevent this would be to actually use a medium-low attack setting (3-5 ms) and use a compressor with lookahead... which this is one is not.
- This compressor can now also be used as a brickwall limiter (should you use these things). Just set attack to 0, stereo link to maximum and ratio to infinity and you are ready to go!

LATEST UPDATE (2009-02-02):
-Improved metering

UPDATE (2009-01-20):
-CPU usage reduced (especially with no input signal)
-Crackling bug fixed

UPDATE (2009-01-18):
-GUI added! (metering not done yet, the meters need to be rescaled and smoothed a little)
-Dual mono mode added
-Switchable integrated brickwall limiter (fixed threshold: -0.1dB) with attenuation
-Now using 64-bit processing (with full VST 2.4 compatibility)

UPDATE (2008-11-21):
-Attack range increased (up to 256ms)
-Hold range increased (up to 30ms)
-Mix function is now applied before gain (ratio now independent of gain)

UPDATE (2008-11-17):
-Release range increased (1024ms max instead of 256ms max)
-Extra stereo input pair added with switchable sidechain functionality (for all the REAPER users, and for other DAWs with usable routing...)
-Stereo link mode now switchable (average/maximum)
-Ratio now adjustable up to infinity (is the mapping ok?)