

Dimension Tip: Master of the Amplitude Envelopes

May 6, 2005

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Please note: This tip applies to Dimension LE, Dimension Pro, and Dimension in Project5 Version 2

I'm sure you've seen or created an amplitude envelope curve following the User Guide directions, and wondered "hmm... if my last node doesn't go down to zero... will I hear my sound day and night... forever?"

I have a very straight answer for that question: no idea.
Err... <cough> no idea why I didn't mention this before, I mean.

As having multi-segment, multi-point, multiple and adjustable shape, loopable envelope where each segment can be adjusted for velocity and keyboard tracking individually would have clearly insufficient you tweaker souls, we thought that we could give you some more by making the Amplitude envelope actually composed of two envelopes, interacting in an out-of-this-world fashion.

Correcto. There's two envelopes for each Amplitude envelope: a 'Master' envelope which does the hard and boring work, and a 'Creative' envelope, which is the one you can edit with the Flexible eg. Here's how the combo works:

When the Amplitude envelope is turned off, only the Master envelope is working. This takes care of moving the amplitude to zero when you release the keys you're playing, and nothing else. Once you turn the Amplitude envelope on, then the Flexible envelope generator works obeying your carefully sketched path, till the last node or till the Sustain Node reaches (the one you mark with S). Then it remains there for a while, till you release the key.

Once you release the key, then the Envelope passes thru all segments you have created *after* sustain point, till last node is reached. If the last node is zero, then we're all set and both envelopes stop working and go to bed.

However, if the last node is not set to zero, someone has to do the dirty work of moving the sound to zero. Then the Master Envelope takes over the situation and does the job, while the Flexible eg goes partying.

That's the most important job for the Master Envelope. The 'other most important job' it does, is offering a MIDI-controllable Amplitude Envelope, which is applied *on top* of the Flexible Eg. So yes, you can have both working all the time for all four elements.

Yes, we can control the Main Attack using CC73, and the Main Release time using CC72, as in the MIDI spec. Those might be handy and cool to write down somewhere.