

**COMPTRONIC**  
EKSSPERIMENTAL SOUNDS STUDIO



**AUTOMATIC OPTIC  
LEVELING AMPLIFIER**

*“Smooth program-dependent compression,  
from transparent leveling to saturated drive”*

**COMPTRONIC** is an optical leveling amplifier built around an optical cell. Its program-dependent attack and release produce gradual gain changes that work naturally across vocals, bass, synths, guitars and full mixes.

**Peak Reduction** controls how hard the sidechain drives the optical cell, while **Compress** and **Limit** provide two different compression curves. The response remains smooth even at substantial gain reduction, making it useful for everything from gentle leveling to more pronounced dynamic control.

The **R37 Frequency Response** control shapes what the compressor listens to: keep it frequency-flat for classic full-range leveling, or focus it increasingly on high-frequency content, so bass stops driving the compression and bright peaks get tamed instead.

The **Analog** trim adds tube and transformer coloration. Keep it clean at 0%, use the classic setting around 50%, or push it further for pronounced harmonic distortion and saturated low end.

A straightforward compressor with enough range to cover both transparent control and deliberate coloration.

## FRONT PANEL



- **Gain** — output level from 0–100%. 37% is unity gain, with a range from -25 dB to +28 dB.
- **Peak Reduction** — controls how hard the optical cell is driven.
- **Compress / Limit** — Compress provides a gentle ratio of approximately 3:1. Limit uses a steeper, flatter response.
- **R37 Frequency Response** — 100% gives a flat sidechain response. Lower settings increase high-frequency sensitivity by up to 10 dB of additional gain reduction.
- **VU Meter** — switch between Output, Gain Reduction and Sidechain level.
- **Sidechain** — switch between internal and external sidechain.

## BACK PANEL



- **Analog trim** — adds tube and transformer coloration from 0% (clean) through 50% (classic tone) to 100% (stronger saturation).
- **VU Scale** — dBFS / +10 / +18. Sets meter sensitivity so 0 VU corresponds to 0 / -10 / -18 dBFS.
- **Connections** — stereo audio input and output, plus stereo external sidechain input.

## Dynamics

- Up to 40 dB gain reduction.
- Program-dependent attack, typically around 10 ms.
- Release: approximately 60 ms to 50% recovery, followed by a gradual 0.5–15 s tail depending on the preceding gain reduction.
- Fully linked stereo operation through a single optical cell.
- External sidechain drives the same feedback circuit as the internal path, preserving the same compression ratio and release behaviour.

## Metering

- VU-style needle ballistics.
- Gain-reduction metering uses a separately modelled meter cell.

## General

- 6 factory patches: Default, Vocal, Bass, Synth, Guitar and Mix.
- Native operation from 22.05 to 192 kHz.

## Thank you!

**Ekssperimental Sounds Studio** is a one man project driven by the passion for experimental electronic sounds, new and old synthesizers and music gear. As a Reason user since 2001 it truly is a dream come true to finally be able to create my own synthesizers and effects for the Reason rack.

Thanks to all of you who buy my products I can continue to learn and develop more fun and inspiring devices for our beloved rack.

I hope you will enjoy **COMPTRONIC**!

Cheers,

Erik Söderberg 2026