

SSL 4000 G master bus compressor

emulation presets for Logic Pro 8 Compressor

Legal

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Installation

Install the folder entitled SSL 4000 G master compressor here:

Mac HD>Users>YourUserName>Library>Application Support>Logic>Plug-In Setting>Compressor

These presets will not work or sound correct in Logic 7.

How To Use

The SSL comp is intended as a master mix compressor on the main bus or on sub mixes, i.e. a sub mix of drums.

The SSL comp is NOT a real mastering compressor. It is often used during mixing for subtle (or not so subtle) glue effect.

You can use it as part of a mastering chain but rarely as the only master compressor, and usually then as the first compressor in the chain.

Gentle compression

For gentle glue type compression, choose a Ratio 2 or 4 preset, and set threshold for a maximum of 1-2 dB of gain reduction on the meter.

Pumping and punch

For less pumping or more punch select a slower Attack of 3, 10 or 30 ms, and a release between .3 s and 1.2 seconds.

The Good

All possible ratio, attack and release/auto combinations are included, apart from the exceptions below.

Preset default settings closely emulate the default settings of the Waves SLL G-master compressor, which means you can do quick A/B comparisons.

The Bad

- Auto release. There's no way to get the true sound of the SSL auto release in the Logic Compressor.
- 0.1 ms attack setting is not possible in the Logic Pro compressor. Closest setting is 0 ms which pumps excessively. Not a big loss though.

Geek Stuff

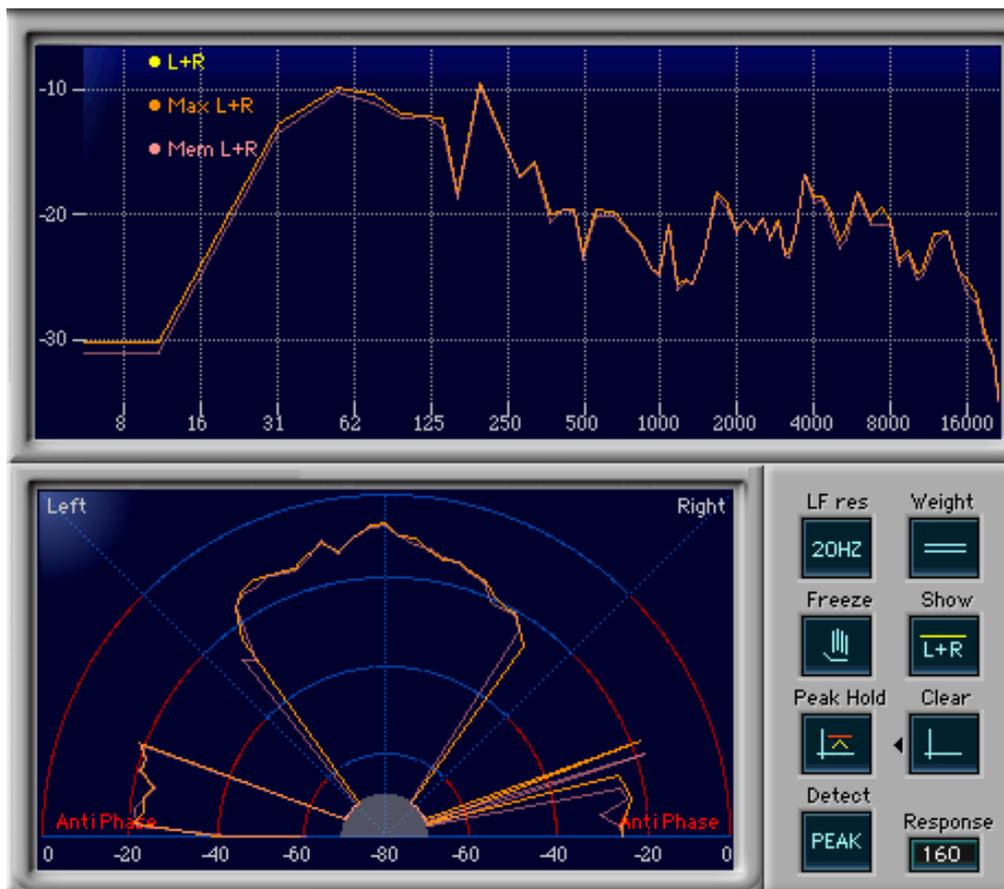
The presets have been made using real life material and test tones. Levels generally match Waves SSL default settings within 0.2 dB.

In some cases the numerical values are not the same as they appear on the Waves SSL, such as ratio 4:1 being 3.7:1 in Logic. This is not an error.

Please notice that knee and threshold default settings vary depending on ratio, just like the Waves SSL does (behind the scenes).

The extended parameters of the Logic Compressor enables the internal EQ sidechain for a gentle 60 Hz hi pass filter for closer low end emulation.

A frequency analyzer will show very little difference between the plug-ins:



Purple color: Waves SSL · Orange color: Logic Compressor

Looking at the waveforms for transient changes, there is generally speaking a strong similarity between the two waveforms, and transients are quite similar too:



Upper waveform: Waves SSL · Lower waveform: Logic Compressor

This doesn't necessarily mean your ears will agree but the presets are fairly close despite using a bundled sequencer compressor.

Happy compressing.

/Holger Lagerfeldt

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