

## Subtractive synthesis examples

### 1) Basic variable-frequency filter, with an option of three different inputs:

The first example is a very simple one. A reson filter with centre frequency varying (exponentially) from **p5** to **p6** Hertz. The filter has a constant **Q** (**p7**), which is used to calculate its bandwidth. The pfield 8 (**p8**) is used to select the source signal for the filter, 0 for external input, 1 for band-limited pulse, 2 for white noise input. The following lines

```
if isrc == 1 goto blp
if isrc == 2 goto noise
```

are used to select the source. For instance, if **1** is selected, the instrument jumps to the **blp** label:

```
blp:
ain buzz p4, 100, 40, 1 ; source = 1, 100Hz band-limited pulse
goto filter
```

and after the **ain** variable is set, jumps again to the **filter** label, which is the rest of the instrument. If 2 is selected a similar process will happen. If neither 1 or 2 are selected, the instrument carries on and finds the external audio input lines

```
ain in ; source = 0, sound input
goto filter
```

The filter itself has its frequency/BW controlled by **kcf**, which is an exponential line between 1 and the ratio between the two frequencies **ifr2:ifr1**. This signal when multiplied by **ifr1** will create a curve between **ifr1** and **ifr2**.

Here's the complete instrument. Can you supply a score for it ?

```
; variable frequency filter
; Victor Lazzarini, 1998

sr= 44100
kr = 4410
ksmps = 10
nchnls= 1

instr 1

ifr1 = p5 ; p5, p6 = filter freqs
ifr2 = p6
iq = p7 ; Q
isrc = p8 ; p8 = source
idur = p3 ; duration

if isrc == 1 goto blp
if isrc == 2 goto noise

ain in ; source = 0, sound input
goto filter

blp:
ain buzz p4, 100, 40, 1 ; source = 1, 100Hz band-limited pulse
goto filter

noise:
ain rand p4 ; source = 2, white noise
goto filter

filter:
kcf expon 1, idur, ifr2/ifr1 ; freq glissando
aflt reson ain, kcf*ifr1, (kcf*ifr1)/iq ; filter
```

```

aout balance aflt, ain          ; balance output

      out aout

endin

```

The next two instruments are adapted from Dodge & Jerse, but the page numbers refer to the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the book. Nevertheless, you will be able to find these examples in the chapter on Subtractive Systems. Please refer to that text for comments/explanations. Please write suitable scores for them.

## 2) Glissandoing noise bands

```

; Adapted from Dodge & Jerse, pp.171-2
; Victor Lazzarini, 1998

sr= 44100
kr = 4410
ksmps = 10
nchnls= 1

instr 1

iamp = p4          ; noise src amplitude
ifrl  = p5          ; filter frequencies
ifr2  = p6
iminbw = p7        ; minimum % BW
irange = p8        ; BW range

;freq gliss & BW enlargement
kcf1 line 1, p3, ifr2/ifrl      ; generates a line from 1 to ifr2:ifrl ratio
kcf pow kcf1, 2, ifr2/ifrl     ; power of 2 + normalization transforms
                                   ; the glissando into an exponential one

kbw line 0, p3, irange

; noise source, filtering and balance
aran rand iamp
aflt reson aran, kcf*ifrl, (kbw+iminbw)*(kcf*ifrl),2 ; filter and scale
                                                ; output to overall RMS input

      out aflt
endin

```

## 3) Timbre exchange instrument

```

; Timbre exchange instrument, adapted from Dodge & Jerse, p117-8
; Victor Lazzarini, 1998

sr = 44100
kr = 4410
ksmps = 10
nchnls= 1

instr 1

iamp = p4          ; source amplitude
ifund = cpspch(p5) ; fundamental
iq1  = p6          ; filter bank Q's
iq2  = p7

; band-limited pulse producing harmonics up to 6000 Hz
abuz buzz p4, ifund, 6000/(ifund), 1

; filterbank 1
af11 reson abuz, 200, 800/iq1
af12 reson af11, 800, 1300/iq1
af13 reson af12, 1300, 1700/iq1
af14 reson af13, 1800, 2000/iq1
af15 reson af14, 2500, 2500/iq1

```

```
; filterbank 2
af21  reson  abuz, 1700, 1700/iq2
af22  reson  af21, 2000, 2000/iq2
af23  reson  af22, 2800, 2800/iq2
af24  reson  af23, 4000, 4000/iq2
af25  reson  af24, 5900, 5000/iq2

; signal balance
aball  balance af15, abuz
abal2  balance af25, abuz

; timbral exchange
asig1  oscil  aball, 1/p3, 2
asig2  oscil  abal2, 1/p3, 3

;hi-pass for emphasis, envelope
ahp    reson  asig1+asig2, sr/2, 10000
aout   linen  ahp, .05, p3, .09

        out    aout

endin

;score function tables 2 & 3

f2 0 1025 5 1 256 1 512 0 256 0
f3 0 1025 5 0 256 0 512 1 256 1
```