



THE OPPRESSOR USER'S MANUAL

Sorry, this is no manual for dictators to oppress people, but rather a user's manual on the oppressor compressor: being a compressor, this pedal can be complex. Please read carefully this manual as it tells you everything you need to know on the love philter.

Please feed the love philter with a 9v center negative power supply. Consumption is 25mA max.

ABOUT THE PEDAL SOUND.

One of my old friend working as a sound engineer once told me he was sick of pristine clean compressors. So I came with the idea of doing a compressor that can either be dirty or clean.

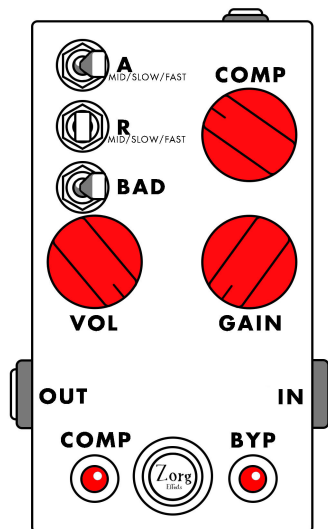
If you think of a compressor as an amp with automatic gain adjustment, it's audio qualities are defined by :

- The amp part : in this case it's a JFET amp with a fair amount of gain, which means that with high input values, you can get a bit of tube-like distortion. But with low values, the sound is clean and hot. I suggest you start by setting the Comp knob at zero and play with the gain/volume knobs and the bad switch, to really hear were the pedal can go with your instrument... I know that with a guitar you could get nice crunch tones. With a bass it's a bit different...
- The automatic gain adjustment part : it is an optical compressor, meaning I used a photoresistance named "vactrol" to control the gain automatically. The vactrol is known to be a bit slow, specially for the release. So I tried to compensate by designing the fastest automatic control I could, achieving around 1ms attack time on the "fast" setting...

Compressors users should know that this one has a fixed ratio of about 6.

If you feel the need to make a few changes in the parameters of the Oppressor pedal, please report to the "technical data" document, chapter "Hacks!!!". It gives all the simple changes possibilities that you can do.

WHAT ARE THESE KNOBS FOR?



GAIN: sets the input level of the compressor. Depending on the source and the compression level, distortion may occur.

VOL: Sets the output level of the compressor.

COMP: Sets the amount of compression. The compression rate is computed from the output signal. This means that raising the gain will automatically raise the compression without moving the compression knob. At the end of its course, or even at 2/3rd when the gain is high the feedback circuit generating the compression will clip. You might hear some small artifacts on loud attacks. You may want to lower the Comp a bit when this happens. Needless to say that at these compression rates you're already in a huge squashy compression.

A, like Attack: This switch toggle between Fast, Medium or slow attack. It setups the speed at which the signal will be compressed after an attack.

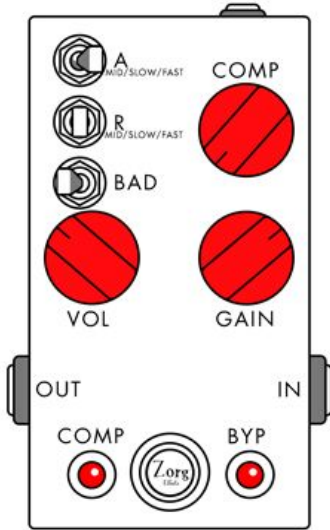
R, like Release: This switch toggle between Fast, Medium or slow release. It setups the time that the compressor takes to return to its initial state after an attack.

BAD: This switch sets toggle the pedal between high gain or low gain mode. The high gain mode can achieve dirty sounds with a bit of grit when the input gain is high. The low gain mode should be used for more transparent sounding and less noisy compression.

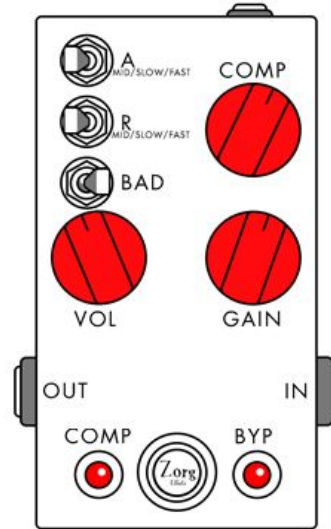
Finally the red « Comp » led indicates how much compression is applied to the signal. The brighter the light, the more the compression.

A FEW PRESETS :

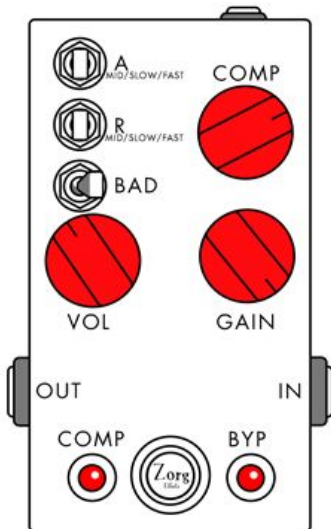
CRUNCH



SNAPPY



DIRTY SUSTAIN



CLEAN SUSTAIN

