

HoRNet VCA

VCA offer a toolkit for controlling the track level, it can work as a simple Voltage Controlled Amplifier using a control signal in it's sidechain input.

Starting from there you can add functionality like an envelope follower on the control signal, with attack and release ranging from 1ms to 3000ms or an RMS module.

The VCA acts only if the control signal is above the set threshold that goes from -80dB to 0dB, above this threshold positive or negative gain, which can be scaled by a specific control, is applied.

You can also transform VCA in a complete compressor or expander using its input or its output as control signal for feedback or feedforward compression/expansion.

Summing it up VCA is:

- A volume control tool with optional RMS detection and attack and release settings.
- A feed forward compressor with optional RMS detection and external sidechain.
- A feedback compressor with optional RMS detection and external sidechain.
- An expander with optional RMS detection.

The screenshot shows the HoRNet VCA plugin interface. It features several control knobs and buttons arranged in two columns. The left column includes: THRESHOLD (-80.0 dB), SCALE FACTOR (9.1), ATTACK (1 ms), RELEASE (1 ms), and GAIN OFFSET (0.0 dB). The right column includes: RMS (checkbox), REVERSE GAIN (checkbox), INTERNAL REFERENCE (checkbox), IGNORE ENVELOPE (checkbox), FEEDBACK (checkbox), RELATIVE GAIN (checkbox), and RETURN TO THRESHOLD (checkbox). Below these controls is a 'GAIN VIEW' section with a graph showing a signal waveform and its corresponding gain over time. The graph has a vertical axis from -40 to +40 dB. At the bottom, it says 'Version v1.1.0' and 'Made in Italy'.

Sets the threshold level for the VCA activation

Scales the computed gain by this factor, works as ratio control when VCA behaves like a compressor

Sets the attack time of the envelope detector

Sets the release time of the envelope detector

Offsets the computed gain by the specified factor

The applied gain over time is displayed here

Activates the RMS detection

If set the VCA works like a compressor, decreasing the gain for signals above threshold

If set the input signal is used to control the VCA, the plugin works as a standard compressor

If set the envelope detector is ignored and the control signal directly changes the gain

If set the output signal is used to control the VCA transforming the plugin in a feedback compressor

If set the gain is computed relative to the control signal otherwise is relative to the set threshold

If set the gain is set to the threshold level if no control signal is present