Bettermaker C502V

Plugin Manual

A.T.M

Plugin Alliance
by Native Instruments

Introduction

We are happy to introduce our C502V compressor.
Bettermaker C502V is a DSP emulation of the C502V analog compressor.
Designed for both professionals and enthusiasts,
the C502V offers a seamless blend of analog warmth and modern digital precision.
This plugin captures the essence of three legendary compressors in one powerful tool,
delivering exceptional versatility for mixing and mastering.

One of the most special things about C502V is the option to select three different compressor
modes. This means that by changing the mode you change the whole character of the compressor,
as If you would just change to another hardware. What's more is that you can choose a different
mode for every channel and even choose a different mode for M and S signal.

Whether you're looking for subtle glue for your mix bus,
aggressive control over your drums, or smooth dynamic shaping,
the Bettermaker C502V provides the flexibility and tonal options you need.

Front Panel - modes

BM

This is our original approach to compression. This mode is the smoothest one and has the widest parameter setting range of all. The attack time in this mode ranges from 5 to 250 miliseconds and the release time ranges from 0,01 to 0,8 seconds. This lets you use it as a fast, almost limiter type aggresive compressor or a slow, gentle leveler. The BM mode also has an Auto release mode for easy operation.

SG

This is a mode inspired by a famous buss compressor from a well known British console manufacturer. The character and all the settings are similar, but you get all additional options, such as Dry/Wet, sidechain or unlink.

DX

The DX mode is inspired by one of the most famous studio "workhorses". This mode has a fixed attack and release times and the compression is the most aggressive of them all. Although is agressive, people tend to use it on everything from Vocals to Bass, Drums and Guitars.

Front Panel - controls

Threshold

Controls the level above which compression occurs. Turning the knob to the left adds more compression.

Attack

Sets the amount of time that must elapse once the input signal reaches the Threshold level before compression is applied.

Ratio

Defines the amount of gain reduction to be applied by the compressor. The higher the ratio, the stronger the compression, and the more "squeezed" the sound.

Release

The amount of time the compressor will still be working after the signal has moved below the threshold. Auto release lets the Compressor set the release time, based on music content.
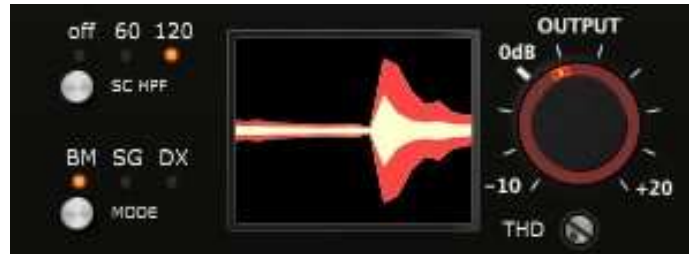
Mix

Let's you mix the uncompressed signal with VCA processed signal for parallel compression. This does not affect the VCA THD MIX setting, though.

Engage

Engages the C502V Compressor. To hear any changes the Compressor may be making, the ENGAGE button must be pressed (illuminated).

Additional controls and waveform display

SC HPF

Turns sidechain HPF filtering on or off.
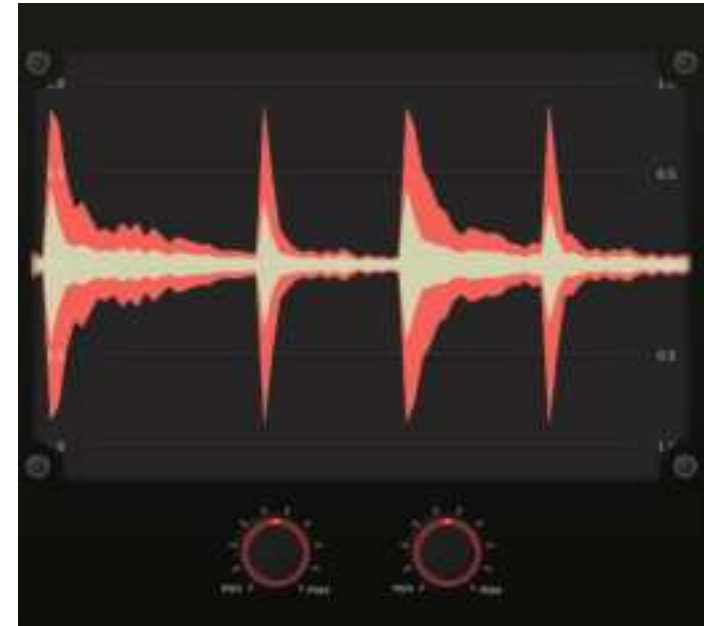
MODE

Changes mode to one of three available modes.

Output

Compensates for gain reduction or the THD related level increase, by raising or lowering overall output gain.

VCA THD

Enables the VCA THD saturation. The THD knob adjusts the amount of harmonic content generated.

Zoom

Adjusts the waveform display gain range.

Speed

Adjusts the speed of the waveform movement. With slower speeds you can see more content whereas with faster speeds you can see more details.

Bottom toolbar

⊗ Mid/Side

By default, the stereo plugin operates on the Left/Right channels. For better stereo image control you can set it to operate on Mid/Side.

L ⊷ R   M ⊷ S Channel mode

When channel link is active, the same settings are aplied to both channels. If channels are linked pressing L, R, M or S buttons automatically unlinks them.

M S L R mono Monitoring

Mid, side, left or right monitoring switch.

Audition (AUDIT)

Sidechain listening.

⊡ External sidechain

This button switches between using an external sidechain signal and the internal sidechain (i.e. the input signal itself).
If turned off, it will use the internal sidechain.
If turned on (with MS mode on) 1st sidechain channel will affect Mid signal and 2nd channel will affect Side signal.

⊓ Double Panel

Opens the double panel to see the settings for both channels. If the button is inactive, this means that the plugin is running in mono mode.

⊪⊪ Waveform

Opens/closes the waveform display.

Top toolbar

B

Opens the settings menu. You can show or hide hints, change plugin size and check plugin version.

Preset name (and arrows)

Clicking on the preset name opens the preset menu. You can save and load presets to/from a file and select the preset to be used.

Undo / Redo (Arrows)

Offers 32 steps of parameter history.

Settings (A / B / C / D)

These functions allow you to switch between totally different settings instantly. This feature allows you to make quick mixing or mastering decisions, by hearing the difference between four full settings without taking the time to manually change all the knobs needed and potentially losing perspective.

Copy / Paste / Reset

This functions allows you to copy and paste between settings banks or reset parameters to default values.

Menu mode

In single panel mode there is no room for all functionalities, but we know that you may want to use them all. Menu mode button allows you to switch between two different sets of functionalities.

Bottom toolbar

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PA Logo

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The toolbar displays information about the type of license you're running: Trial licenses will be displayed along with the number of days until expiration; there is no note for full licenses as these are unlimited.

$ (Icon)

If you are using a demo / trial version of our products, you can always click this icon to open a browser that redirects you to the respective product page in the Plugin Alliance store. This is where you can easily purchase a product without having to look it up on our website.

Key (Icon)

Clicking on the key icon brings up the activation dialog, allowing you to manually reauthorize a device in the event of a license upgrade or addition. You can also use this feature to activate additional computers or USB flash drives.

? (Icon)

Clicking the ? icon opens up a context menu that links to the product manual PDF, as well as other helpful links, e.g. to check for product updates online. You must have a PDF reader installed on your computer to be able to read the manual.

System Requirements & FAQ (Links)

For latest System Requirements & Supported Platforms

https://www.plugin-alliance.com/en/system-requirements.html

Particular details for your product

https://www.plugin-alliance.com/en/products.html

Installation, Activation, Authorisation and FAQ´s

https://www.plugin-alliance.com/en/support.html