

ROLAND AIRA TB-3 EFFECTS PARAMETER GUIDE

[all effects have two copies except where noted]

DISTORTION

PITCH SHIFTER / EQUALIZER

REVERB

COMPRESSOR

RING MODULATOR

BIT CRUSHER

TREMOLO

CHORUS

FLANGER

PHASER

DELAY

[dedicated FX section]			DISTORTION	
1.	DISTORTION SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches distortion on/off. This is a mono effect.</i>
2.	TYPE	(0 - 24)	Mid Boost	<i>This is a booster with unique characteristics in the midrange.</i>
			Clean Boost	<i>This not only functions as a booster, but also produces a clean tone that has punch even when used alone.</i>
			Treble Boost	<i>This is a booster that has bright characteristics.</i>
			Blues OD	<i>This is a crunch sound of the BOSS BD-2. This produces distortion that faithfully reproduces the nuances of picking.</i>
			Crunch	<i>A lustrous crunch sound with an added element of amp distortion.</i>
			Natural OD	<i>This is an overdrive sound that provides distortion with a natural feeling.</i>
			OD-1	<i>This models the sound of the BOSS OD-1. This produces sweet, mild distortion.</i>

			T-Scream	<i>This models an Ibanez TS-808.</i>
			Turbo OD	<i>This is the high-gain overdrive of the BOSS OD-2.</i>
			Warm OD	<i>This is a warm overdrive.</i>
			Distortion	<i>This gives a basic, traditional distortion sound.</i>
			Mild DS	
			Mid DS	
			RAT	<i>This models a Proco RAT.</i>
			GUV DS	<i>This models a Marshall GUV' NOR.</i>
			DST+	<i>This models a MXR DISTORTION+ .</i>
			Modern DST	
			Solid DST	
			Stack	<i>This models a Marshall stack.</i>
			Loud	
			Metal Zone	<i>This models the sound of the BOSS MT-2. It produces a wide range of metal sounds, from old style to slash metal.</i>
			Lead	<i>Produces a distortion sound with both the smoothness of an overdrive along with a deep distortion.</i>
			'60s Fuzz	<i>This models a FUZZFACE.</i>
			Oct Fuzz	<i>A fuzz sound with rich harmonic content.</i>
			Muff Fuzz	<i>This models an Electro-Harmonix Big Muff Pi.</i>
3.	DRIVE	(0 - 120)	<i>Adjusts the depth of distortion.</i>	
4.	BOTTOM	(0 - 100)	-50 – +50	<i>Adjusts the tone for the low frequency range. Turning this counterclockwise cuts the low end; turning it to the right boosts the low end.</i>
5.	TONE	(0 - 100)	-50 – +50	<i>Adjusts the tone.</i>
6.	COLOR	(0 - 1)	<i>When on, this seems to increase the harmonics a small amount at mainly 2x and 3x the current frequency of the fundamental.</i>	
7.	EFFECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the distortion effect.</i>	
8.	DRY LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the direct sound.</i>	

[FX1 only]			[PS] PITCH SHIFTER	
1.	PS SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches pitch shifter on/off. This is a mono/stereo effect.</i>
2.	PS VOICE	(0 - 2)	1MONO	<i>One-voice pitch-shifted sound output in mono. Pitch 2 is disabled in this mode.</i>
			2MONO	<i>Two-voice pitch-shifted sound (1:PITCH, 2:PITCH) output in mono.</i>
			2STEREO	<i>Two-voice pitch-shifted sound (1:PITCH, 2:PITCH) output through L channel and R channel. Direct level is centered in the stereo spectrum.</i>
3.	PS 1 PITCH	(0 - 48)	-2400 – 2400	<i>Adjusts the amount of pitch shift (the amount of interval) in semitone steps. 0 (24) is the midpoint.</i>
4.	PS 1 PRE DELAY	(0 - 100)	0 – 100ms	<i>Adjusts the time from when the direct sound is heard until the pitch shifted sounds of Pitch 1 are heard.</i>
5.	PS FEEDBACK	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the feedback amount of the pitch shift sound.</i>	
6.	PS 1 EFX LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the pitch shifter, voice 1.</i>	
7.	PS 2 PITCH	(0 - 48)	-2400 – 2400	<i>Adjusts the amount of pitch shift (the amount of interval) in semitone steps. 0 (24) is the midpoint.</i>
8.	PS 2 PRE DELAY	(0 - 100)	0 – 100ms	<i>Adjusts the time from when the direct sound is heard until the pitch shifted sounds of Pitch 2 are heard.</i>
9.	PS 2 EFX LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the pitch shifter, voice 2.</i>	
10.	PS DIRECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the direct sound.</i>	

[FX1 only]			[EQ] EQUALIZER	
1.	EQ SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches equalizer on/off. This is a mono effect.</i>
2.	EQ LOW CUT	(0 - 17)	Flat – 800Hz	<i>This sets the frequency at which the low cut filter begins to take effect. When "FLAT" is selected, the low cut filter will have no effect. No effect: 0.</i>
3.	EQ LOW GAIN	(0 - 40)	-20dB – 20dB	<i>Adjusts the low frequency range tone ± 20dB.</i>
4.	EQ LOW MID FREQ	(0 - 27)	20Hz – 10.0KHz	<i>Specifies the center of the frequency range that will be adjusted by the LOW-MID GAIN.</i>
5.	EQ LOW MID Q	(0 - 5)	0.5 – 16	<i>Adjusts the width of the area affected by the EQ centered at the LOW-MID FREQ. Higher values will narrow the area.</i>
6.	EQ LOW MID GAIN	(0 - 40)	-20dB – 20dB	<i>Adjusts the low-middle frequency range tone ± 20dB.</i>
7.	EQ HIGH MID FREQ	(0 - 27)	20Hz – 10.0KHz	<i>Specifies the center of the frequency range that will be adjusted by the HIGH-MID GAIN.</i>
8.	EQ HIGH MID Q	(0 - 5)	0.5 – 16	<i>Adjusts the width of the area affected by the EQ centered at the HIGH-MID FREQ.</i>
9.	EQ HIGH MID GAIN	(0 - 40)	-20dB – 20dB	<i>Adjusts the high-middle frequency range tone ± 20dB.</i>
10.	EQ HIGH CUT	(0 - 14)	630Hz – Flat	<i>This sets the frequency at which the high cut filter begins to take effect. When "FLAT" is selected, the high cut filter will have no effect. No effect: 14.</i>
11.	EQ HIGH GAIN	(0 - 40)	-20dB – 20dB	<i>Adjusts the high frequency range tone ± 20dB.</i>
12.	EQ LEVEL	(0 - 40)	-20dB – 20dB	<i>Adjusts the volume level of the equalizer. However, this feature does not appear to be implemented.</i>

[FX2 only]			[RV] REVERB	
1.	RV SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches reverb on/off. This is a stereo effect.</i>
2.	RV TYPE	(0 - 6)	AMBIENCE	<i>If time and predelay are set to 0, gives a nice doubling effect with more bass at one end and phasing effect with less low end on the other. Metallic overtones at low reverb times.</i>
			ROOM	<i>Simulates the reverberation in a small room. Provides warm reverberations.</i>
			HALL1	<i>Simulates the reverberation in a concert hall. Provides clear and spacious reverberations.</i>
			HALL2	<i>Simulates the reverberation in a concert hall. Provides mild reverberations.</i>
			PLATE	<i>Simulates the reverberation of a metallic plate. It provides a slight "wavy" effect sound with a distinct upper range.</i>
			SPRING	<i>Simulates the sound of a guitar amp's built-in spring reverb. The RV SPRING SENS parameter becomes available when selected.</i>
			MODULATE	<i>This reverb adds the wavering sound found in hall reverb to provide an extremely pleasant reverb sound.</i>
3.	RV TIME	(0 - 99)	<i>Adjusts the reverb time in tenths of seconds (up to 9.9 sec). The time is fixed and not affected by the value set in TEMPO.</i>	
4.	RV PRE DELAY	(0 - 100)	0 - 100ms	<i>Adjusts the time from when the direct sound is heard until the reverb sound is heard.</i>
5.	RV HPF	(0 - 17)	Flat - 800Hz	<i>Cuts the frequency range below the cutoff frequency. No effect: 0</i>
6.	RV LPF	(0 - 14)	630Hz - Flat	<i>Cuts the frequency range above the cutoff frequency. No effect: 14</i>
7.	RV DENSITY	(0 - 10)	<i>Adjusts the density of the reverberations. If predelay is set to 0, greater values has the effect of smoothing the attack of the reverb.</i>	
8.	RV SPRING SENS	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the reverb spring sensitivity.</i>	
9.	RV EFFECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the reverb effect.</i>	
10.	RV DIRECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the direct sound.</i>	

				[CS] COMPRESSOR
1.	CS SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches compressor on/off. This is a mono effect.</i>
2.	CS ATTACK	(0 - 124)	0 – 800ms	<i>Adjusts the compressor attack time.</i>
3.	CS RELEASE	(0 - 124)	0 – 8000ms	<i>Adjusts the compressor release time.</i>
4.	CS THRESHOLD	(0 - 40)	-40 – 0dB	<i>Adjusts the threshold at which the compressor is activated, increasing in 1dB increments.</i>
5.	CS RATIO	(0 - 13)	1:1.0, 1:1.1, 1:1.2, 1:1.4, 1:1.6, 1:1.8, 1:2.0, 1:2.5, 1:3.2, 1:4.0, 1:5.6, 1:8.0, 1:16, 1:INF	<i>Adjusts the compression ratio. As a compressor it functions more as an overdrive with artifacts and aliasing showing up when presented with richly harmonic waveform content. Attack, release, and threshold also need to be carefully set to avoid audio artifacts.</i>
6.	CS KNEE	(0 - 9)	Hard Soft1 – Soft9	<i>This is a function that gradually applies compression starting earlier than the threshold, smoothing the transition.</i>
7.	CS GAIN	(0 - 80)	-40 – 40dB	<i>Adjusts the output gain ± 40dB.</i>
8.	CS BALANCE	(0 - 100)	-50 – 50	<i>Volume balance between the direct sound and the effect sound. Full left adds no compressor.</i>

				[RM] RING MODULATOR
1.	RM SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches ring modulator on/off. This is an effect that applies amplitude modulation (AM) to the input signal. This is a mono effect.</i>
2.	RM FREQUENCY	(0 - 127)	<i>Adjusts the frequency at which amplitude modulation is applied.</i>	
3.	RM SENS	(0 - 127)	<i>Adjusts the amount of frequency modulation applied.</i>	
4.	RM POLARITY	(0 - 1)	UP, DOWN	<i>Determines whether the frequency modulation moves towards higher frequencies (UP) or lower frequencies (DOWN). The two effects are very different, with UP probably being the more useable of the two. Down is a buzzy effect.</i>
5.	RM EQ LOW	(0 - 30)	-15dB – 15dB	<i>Gain of the low frequency range ± 15dB.</i>
6.	RM EQ HIGH	(0 - 30)	-15dB – 15dB	<i>Gain of the high frequency range ± 15dB.</i>
7.	RM BALANCE	(0 - 100)	-50 – 50	<i>Volume balance between the direct sound and the effect sound.</i>
8.	RM LEVEL	(0 - 127)	<i>Adjusts the level of the ring modulator effect.</i>	

				[BC] BIT CRUSHER
1.	BC SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches bit crusher on/off. This is a mono effect.</i>
2.	BC FILTER	(0 - 127)	<i>Adjusts the bit crusher LPF cutoff frequency.</i>	
3.	BC SAMPLE RATE	(0 - 127)	<i>Adjusts the sample rate (higher values = lower sample rates).</i>	
4.	BC EQ LOW	(0 - 30)	-15dB – 15dB	<i>Gain of the low frequency range ± 15dB.</i>
5.	BC EQ HIGH	(0 - 30)	-15dB – 15dB	<i>Gain of the high frequency range ± 15dB.</i>
6.	BC LEVEL	(0 - 127)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the bit crusher effect.</i>	

				[TR] TREMOLO
1.	TR SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches tremolo on/off. This is a mono/stereo effect.</i>
2.	TR TYPE	(0 - 5)	triangle	<i>slight dip at middle and ends</i>
			up sawtooth	<i>right to left modulation</i>
			down sawtooth	<i>left to right modulation</i>
			sine	<i>smooth modulation</i>
			square	<i>on/off modulation</i>
			random	<i>random volume and stereo value added</i>
3.	TR PHASE	(0 - 100)	0 – 360°	<i>The phase of the wave on which to start.</i>
4.	TR RATE	(0 - 100)	8000 – 20ms	<i>Adjusts the rate of the tremolo effect. When BPM sync is turned on, this parameter is disabled.</i>
5.	TR BPM SYNC	(0 - 20)	OFF, 2, 3/2, 4/3, 1, 3/4, 2/3, 1/2, 3/8, 1/3, 1/4, 3/16, 1/6, 1/8, 3/32, 1/12, 1/16, 3/64, 1/24, 1/32, 3/128	
6.	TR SHAPE	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts changes in volume level. A higher value will steepen the waveform selected in TR TYPE.</i>	
7.	TR DEPTH	(0 - 100)	<i>Determines the depth of the tremolo effect.</i>	
8.	TR PAN SELECT	(0 - 1)	<i>Switches tremolo effect from mono (0/TRE) to stereo (1/PAN).</i>	
9.	TR EFFECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the tremolo effect.</i>	

				[CH] CHORUS
1.	CH SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	Switches chorus on/off. This is a mono/stereo effect.
2.	CH MODE	(0 - 2)	MONO	This chorus effect outputs the same sound from both L channel and R channel.
			STEREO1	This is a stereo chorus effect that adds different chorus sounds to L channel and R channel.
			STEREO2	This stereo chorus uses spatial synthesis, with the direct sound output in L channel and the effect sound output in R channel. Left-channel-only operation can be obtained by bringing chorus effect level to 0.
3.	CH RATE	(0 - 100)	8000 – 20ms	Adjust the speed of the chorus effect. When BPM sync is turned on, this parameter is disabled.
4.	CH BPM SYNC	(0 - 20)	OFF, 2, 3/2, 4/3, 1, 3/4, 2/3, 1/2, 3/8, 1/3, 1/4, 3/16, 1/6, 1/8, 3/32, 1/12, 1/16, 3/64, 1/24, 1/32, 3/128	
5.	CH DEPTH	(0 - 100)	Determines the depth of the chorusing effect.	
6.	CH PRE DELAY	(0 - 80)	0 – 80ms	Adjusts the time from when the direct sound is heard until the chorus sounds are heard.
7.	CH HPF	(0 - 17)	Flat – 800Hz	Cuts the frequency range below the cutoff frequency. No effect: 0.
8.	CH LPF	(0 - 14)	630Hz – Flat	Cuts the frequency range above the cutoff frequency. No effect: 14.
9.	CH EFFECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	Adjusts the volume of the chorus effect.	

				[FL] FLANGER
1.	FL SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	Switches flanger on/off. This is a stereo effect.
2.	FL RATE	(0 - 100)	8000 – 20ms	Adjusts the rate of the flanging effect. When BPM sync is turned on, this parameter is disabled.
3.	FL BPM SYNC	(0 - 20)	OFF, 2, 3/2, 4/3, 1, 3/4, 2/3, 1/2, 3/8, 1/3, 1/4, 3/16, 1/6, 1/8, 3/32, 1/12, 1/16, 3/64, 1/24, 1/32, 3/128	
4.	FL DEPTH	(0 - 100)	Determines the depth of the flanging effect.	
5.	FL MANUAL	(0 - 100)	-50 – 50	Adjusts the center frequency at which to apply the effect.
6.	FL RESONANCE	(0 - 100)	Determines the amount of resonance (feedback). Increasing the value will emphasize the effect, creating a more unusual sound.	
7.	FL SEPARATION	(0 - 100)	Adjusts the diffusion. The diffusion increases as the value increases.	
8.	FL HPF	(0 - 10)	Flat – 800Hz	Cuts the frequency range below the cutoff frequency. No effect: 0.
9.	FL EFFECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	Adjusts the volume of the flanger.	
10.	FL DIRECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	Adjusts the volume of the direct sound.	

			[PH] PHASER	
1.	PH SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches phaser on/off. This is a mono effect.</i>
2.	PH TYPE	(0 - 3)	4Stage	<i>This is a four-phase effect. A light phaser effect is obtained.</i>
			8Stage	<i>This is a eight-phase effect. It is a popular phaser effect.</i>
			12Stage	<i>This is a twelve-phase effect. A deep phase effect is obtained.</i>
			Bi-Phase	<i>This is the phaser with two phase shift circuits connected in series.</i>
3.	PH RATE	(0 - 100)	8000 – 20ms	<i>Adjusts the rate of the phaser effect. When BPM sync or STEP RATE is turned on, this parameter is disabled.</i>
4.	PH BPM SYNC	(0 - 20)	OFF, 2, 3/2, 4/3, 1, 3/4, 2/3, 1/2, 3/8, 1/3, 1/4, 3/16, 1/6, 1/8, 3/32, 1/12, 1/16, 3/64, 1/24, 1/32, 3/128	
5.	PH DEPTH	(0 - 100)	<i>Determines the depth of the phasing effect.</i>	
6.	PH MANUAL	(0 - 100)	-50 – 50	<i>Adjusts the center frequency at which to apply the effect. High values create lots of low end.</i>
7.	PH RESONANCE	(0 - 127)	<i>Determines the amount of resonance (feedback).</i>	
8.	PH STEP RATE	(0 - 20)	OFF, 2, 3/2, 4/3, 1, 3/4, 2/3, 1/2, 3/8, 1/3, 1/4, 3/16, 1/6, 1/8, 3/32, 1/12, 1/16, 3/64, 1/24, 1/32, 3/128	<i>Similar to BPM sync except the values are stepped. Sounds like "aliasing" at high depths/note divisions. Nice effect at lower depths.</i>
9.	PH EFFECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the phaser.</i>	
10.	PH DIRECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the direct sound.</i>	

				[DD] DELAY
1.	DD SW	(0 - 1)	OFF, ON	<i>Switches delay on/off. This is a mono/stereo effect.</i>
2.	DD TYPE	(0 - 2)	SINGLE	<i>simple monoaural delay</i>
			PAN	<i>This delay is specifically for stereo output and allows you to obtain the tap delay effect that divides the delay time, then deliver them to L channel and R channel.</i>
			STEREO	<i>The direct sound is output from L channel, and the effect sound is output from R channel.</i>
3.	DD TIME	(0 - 100)	0 – 100ms	<i>Adjusts the delay time. When BPM sync is turned on, this parameter is disabled.</i>
4.	DD TAP TIME	(0 - 100)	0 – 100%	<i>Adjusts the delay time of L channel . This setting adjusts L channel delay time relative to R channel delay time (considered as 100%). If BPM sync mode is off, the effect is not as dramatic. Unless DD TYPE is set to PAN, this parameter is disabled.</i>
5.	DD BPM SYNC	(0 - 13)	OFF, 3/8, 1/3, 1/4, 3/16, 1/6, 1/8, 3/32, 1/12, 1/16, 3/64, 1/24, 1/32, 3/128	<i>The number of BPM sync options for delay does not have the slower divisions found in the other BPM sync parameter lists, having only 14 while the others have 21.</i>
6.	DD FEEDBACK	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the proportion of the delay sound that is fed back into the effect.</i>	
7.	DD LPF	(0 - 14)	630Hz – Flat	<i>Cuts the frequency range above the cutoff frequency. No effect: 14.</i>
8.	DD EFFECT LEVEL	(0 - 100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the delay effect.</i>	
9.	DD DIRECT LEVEL	(0 -100)	<i>Adjusts the volume of the direct sound.</i>	

Resources Used:

- parameter guides for Roland
 - [RD-2000]
 - [MS-3]
 - [GT-01]
 - [GT-100]
 - [Fantom]
 - and others
- Unofficial TB-3 MIDI Implementation v1.3
- Roland-Aira-TB-3_MI_1.pdf sysex document

by: Dope Robot

corrections/updates/comments: doperobot@yahoo.com