DOTMATRIX / LIGHTWEIGHT AUDIO PLUGINS

VINTAGE JUNGLE STRETCHER

A cyclic sampler with the metallic warble of a mid-90s Akai time-stretching a jungle break.



Vintage Jungle Stretcher by Dotmatrix

USER GUIDE | VERSION 2.2.0 | AU | VST3 | CLAP | macOS 10.14+ | INTEL + APPLE SILICON

Cyclic time-stretch from 25 to 400 %. Classic and Revised algorithms. Metal, gate, vinyl, flanger, EQ.

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— ABOUT VINTAGE JUNGLE STRETCHER

Vintage Jungle Stretcher is a cyclic sampler from Dotmatrix that brings back the sound of mid-90s jungle and drum & bass: the metallic, slightly robotic warble of an Akai S-series sampler time-stretching a break. Load a WAV or AIFF and it chops the sound into fixed-length cycles, repeating or skipping them in real time, so you can stretch a loop from a quarter of its length to four times as long without changing its pitch, transpose it on its own, and choose between the raw Classic algorithm and the smoother Revised one. Play it from the transport or from a keyboard, with a key lock that keeps the sample at its natural length while the keys set the pitch. Around the stretch engine sit the tools that shape the era's sound: a Character section with ring-modulated metal, a rhythm gate free-running or locked to your tempo, aged vinyl dust and scratches that never repeat, a flanger, and a three-band EQ with a 30 Hz low cut, all watched by a live output scope and a STRETCH NOW display. Twenty factory presets get you started, and your own presets remember the sample they were made with. Vintage Jungle Stretcher runs as an AU, VST3 and CLAP instrument, universal for Apple Silicon and Intel Macs on macOS 10.14 or later.

— QUICK FACTS

Type	Sampler instrument with cyclic time-stretching. Load one WAV or AIFF and play it from its PLAY key or from MIDI.
Formats	Audio Unit, VST3 and CLAP instruments. Universal: Apple Silicon and Intel, macOS 10.14 Mojave or later on Intel, macOS 11 or later on Apple Silicon.
Stretch	Time Factor 25 to 400 % without changing pitch; Transpose +/-36 semitones without changing length; cycles of 50 to 5000 samples.
Character	Ring-modulated metal, a rhythm gate (free or tempo-synced), vinyl dust and scratches, a flanger, a three-band EQ and a 30 Hz low cut.
Presets	20 factory presets, and your own, which remember the sample they were made with.
Identity	Manufacturer Dotmatrix. AU code: Akc1.

SECTION 01

Getting started

Load a break, stretch it, play it.

— NEW IN VERSION 2.2

Light mode	The new LIGHT key switches to a light panel with light grey dials and keys, and back. Every window of the plug-in remembers your choice.
Darker panel	A deeper charcoal chassis with crisper outlines, and stronger, more saturated green on the LEDs, dials and scope.
Tidier path	The samples folder is shown as ~/Music/Vintage Jungle Stretcher Samples.
Same sound	Only the look has changed: the plug-in sounds exactly as before, and your sessions and presets load unchanged.
Since 2.1	The Dotmatrix hardware panel and CLAP.

— INSTALLING

Copy each plug-in from the download's **Plug-Ins** folder into its folder: **~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components** (Audio Unit), **~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3** and **~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/CLAP**. The release is not yet signed through Apple's developer program, so macOS needs one Terminal line before it will load it; **READ ME FIRST.txt** in the download has the exact steps. Logic Pro checks new Audio Units the first time it starts; Vintage Jungle Stretcher appears under **AU Instruments › Dotmatrix**.

— FIRST STEPS

1	**Insert it**	Create a software-instrument track with Vintage Jungle Stretcher (in Logic: AU Instruments › Dotmatrix).
2	**Load a sample**	Click OPEN SAMPLE and choose a WAV or AIFF: a drum break works best. A copy goes into your samples folder so the project always finds it.
3	**Play it**	Click PLAY, or press a key. The key set as ROOT NOTE (middle C by default) plays the sample at its own pitch.
4	**Stretch it**	Turn TIME FACTOR: 200 % plays it twice as long at the same pitch. Shorten CYCLE LENGTH for the metallic warble, lengthen it for a smoother stretch.
5	**Age it**	Try a preset such as **Classic Akai** or **Warble Dream**, then add METALLIC, the gate, dust and the flanger to taste.

— BASIC HANDLING

Dials	Drag up or down. Double-click to reset to the default.
Keys	Lit keys are on.
Dice	The dice key randomises the character settings for happy accidents. Your sample and ROOT NOTE are left alone.
Help line	Hover over any control and the strip at the bottom of the panel says what it does.

SECTION 02

The panel

The stretch engine in the middle, the tools that age the sound around it.



Header	The preset name with previous and next arrows, SAVE, the dice, and APPLY PRESETS TO CURRENT SAMPLE.
Sample	OPEN SAMPLE, SAMPLES FOLDER, PLAY, STOP and LOOP.
STRETCH NOW	The backlit display: the Time Factor in large numerals and the cycle length beneath.
Stretch	Algorithm, ANTI-ALIAS, TIME FACTOR, CYCLE LENGTH, TRANSPOSE, ROOT NOTE, KEY LOCK and EFFECT MIX.
Character	METALLIC and the rhythm gate.
Vinyl, Flanger, EQ	DUST and SCRATCHES with their ages; the flanger; the three-band EQ and 30HZ CUT.
Output scope	A live picture of what the instrument plays.

SECTION 03

The sample

One sample at a time, played from the panel or from a keyboard.

— LOADING AND PLAYING

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	WHAT IT DOES
Open Sample	key	-	Loads a WAV or AIFF. A copy is kept in your samples folder so your project always finds it.
Samples Folder	key	in ~/Music	Where loaded samples are copied to; at first ~/Music/Vintage Jungle Stretcher Samples. Remembered across all your projects.
Play	key	-	Plays the sample from the start. Pressing a key does the same, pitched from the key.
Stop	key	-	Stops playback with a short fade-out. Lifting a key does the same.
Loop	on / off	off	Loops the sample while it plays. From a keyboard it loops while the key is held and stops when you lift it.

— KEYBOARD

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	WHAT IT DOES
Root Note	MIDI 0 to 127	60 (middle C)	The key that plays the sample at its original pitch. Other keys transpose from here.
Key Lock	on / off	on	On: the key sets the pitch but the sample plays through at its normal length. Off: pitch and speed move together, like a normal sampler.

SECTION 04

Cyclic stretch

The heart of the instrument: the sound of a 90s sampler stretching a break.

— HOW IT WORKS

The sample is cut into short, fixed-length cycles. To make it longer, cycles are repeated; to make it shorter, some are skipped. Pitch and length are separate, and the joins between cycles are what give the stretch its metallic, robotic warble.

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	WHAT IT DOES
Algorithm	Classic, Revised	Revised	Classic joins the cycles abruptly for a rawer, more metallic sound. Revised crossfades them more smoothly.
Time Factor	25 to 400 %	100 %	Stretches or squashes the length without changing the pitch.
Cycle Length	50 to 5000 samples	1000	Size of the repeating chunks. Short is choppy and metallic, long is smoother.
Transpose	-36 to +36 st	0 st	Shifts the pitch in semitones, independent of Time Factor.
Anti-Alias	on / off	on	Softens pitch-shifted playback to tame harshness at extreme Transpose settings.
Effect Mix	0 to 100 %	100 %	Blend between the raw sample and the full cyclic-stretch character. Pitch tracking stays intact.

THE CLASSIC SOUND Classic algorithm, TIME FACTOR 150 to 200 %, CYCLE LENGTH 300 to 800 samples: the warble of a stretched Amen break.

SECTION 05

Character

The tools that shape the era's sound.

— METAL AND GATE

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	WHAT IT DOES
Metallic	0 to 100 %	0 %	Ring modulation for a robotic, Dalek-style metallic tone. 0 % is off.
Gate Amount	0 to 100 %	0 %	How deep the rhythmic gaps cut. 0 % is off, 100 % is full silence in the gaps.
Sync	on / off	on	Locks the gate to your DAW's tempo instead of a free-running rate.
Division	2 bars to 1/128	1/16	Gate speed as a note length when Sync is on, including triplets.
Rate	0.5 to 20 Hz	4 Hz	Gate speed when Sync is off.

— VINYL

Dust and scratches are generated as you play, so they never repeat.

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	WHAT IT DOES
Dust	0 to 100 %	20 %	How loud the dust ticks are.
Dust Age	0 to 100 %	30 %	How much dust there is. Turn it up for an older, dustier record.
Scratches	0 to 100 %	15 %	How loud the small scratches are.
Scratch Age	0 to 100 %	20 %	How many scratches there are. Turn it up for a more worn record.

SECTION 06

Flanger and EQ

A jet sweep and a final tone control.

— FLANGER

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	WHAT IT DOES
On	on / off	off	Switches the flanger.
Rate	0.05 to 5 Hz	0.4 Hz	Speed of the sweep.
Depth	0 to 100 %	60 %	How far the sweep travels. More depth gives a bigger whoosh.
Feedback	-90 to +90 %	40 %	Feeds the flanger back into itself for a more resonant, metallic sweep. Negative values change its tone.
Mix	0 to 100 %	50 %	Blend of the flanged signal with the dry sound.

— EQ

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	WHAT IT DOES
EQ	on / off	on	Switches the three-band EQ. Your settings are kept either way.
Low	-12 to +12 dB	0 dB	Low shelf at 120 Hz.
Mid	-12 to +12 dB	0 dB	Bell centred on 1 kHz.
High	-12 to +12 dB	0 dB	High shelf at 6.5 kHz.
30Hz Cut	on / off	off	A steep 30 Hz low cut that clears sub-bass rumble. Works with the EQ on or off.

SECTION 07

Presets

Twenty factory presets set the character and never change the sample. SAVE stores your own in ~/Music/Vintage Jungle Stretcher Presets, together with the sample you have loaded. With APPLY PRESETS TO CURRENT SAMPLE on, loading one of your presets keeps the sample you have now and only applies its settings.

CATEGORY	21 PRESETS
Factory	Init, Classic Akai, Half-Time Roller, Double-Time Skip, Metal Mangle, Dalek Break, Warble Dream, Dusty Sampler, Old Vinyl Pad, Gated Trance Chop, Stutter Machine, Triplet Bounce, Octave Down Weight, Octave Up Shimmer, Fifth Stack, Tape Wobble, Jet Flange Break, Crunch Lo-Fi, Sub Rumble, Slow Motion Drone
Yours	Every preset you save, with its sample

— RECIPES

01	**Half-time roller**	**Half-Time Roller** on a 170 BPM break, then play it from the keyboard with KEY LOCK on.
02	**Robot vocal**	A vocal phrase, **Dalek Break**, METALLIC 40 %, CYCLE LENGTH short.
03	**Old record pad**	**Old Vinyl Pad** on a held chord sample, LOOP on, DUST AGE up.
04	**Tempo chop**	**Gated Trance Chop** with SYNC on and DIVISION at 1/16T for a triplet stutter.

SECTION 08

Reference and troubleshooting

— TECHNICAL NOTES

Engine	Cyclic (granular) time-stretch modelled on the Akai S-series samplers, with Classic and Revised joins between cycles.
Playing	Monophonic: a new key restarts the sample from the start at the new pitch.
Sessions	A project stores every parameter and where the sample is; the sample itself stays in your samples folder.
Compatibility	Universal (Apple Silicon and Intel). VST2 is not available: Steinberg no longer licenses it. CLAP is built with the open-source clap-juce-extensions.

— TROUBLESHOOTING

No sound	Load a sample first, then click PLAY or press a key. On a MIDI track, make sure the region's notes are near ROOT NOTE.
The sample is missing in an old project	The project remembers where the sample was. Check your samples folder (SAMPLES FOLDER shows it) and load it again.
Harsh when transposed far	Switch on ANTI-ALIAS.
Too clean	Use the Classic algorithm and a shorter CYCLE LENGTH.
It does not appear in Logic	Run the Terminal lines in READ ME FIRST.txt, then restart Logic. In Logic > Settings > Plug-in Manager, select it and click Reset & Rescan Selection.



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Lightweight audio plugins. Documentation for version 2.2.0.