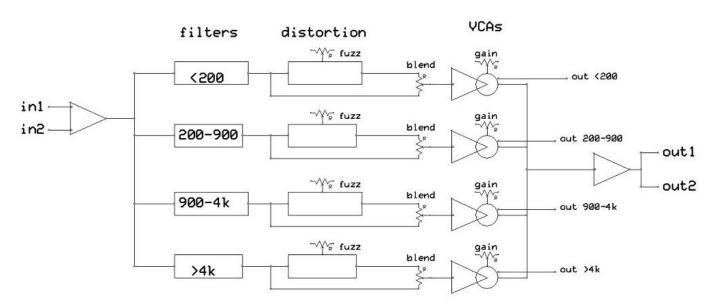
nonlinearcircuits

multiband distortion processor BOM & build guide



This module is made up of smaller circuits based on the following; Buchla 194 fixed bandpass filter, four Shin-ei SY2 Fuzz circuits, 4 Korg 3200 vactrol VCAs, an input buffer and an output summing sub-circuit. As the block diagram shows, the input signal(s) are split into frequency bands. Each band is then sent to the fuzz/distortion circuit and outputs to a VCA via a blend pot which mixes the distorted signal with the original clean signal. Each of the four vactrol based VCAs can be individually controlled by CV and the signal for each channel is available on the panel. The final stage sums the 4 signals and sends this to the two panel jacks.

Interesting results can be obtained by controlling the VCAs with different CVs, many new sounds and harmonics can be heard as the different frequency bands are brought in & out of the mix. It is also interesting to feed one of the channel outputs back into the spare input jack.

There are no problems with the PCB, although some components are marked with a *, this indicates the component can be varied to adjust the gain at that point in the circuit. For the component values indicated, the module works well, so I suggest building it as is and experimenting later if you feel the need. It is very simple to remove and replace 0805 components if you want to do this. Some suggestions are included on the schematic.

Tayda is a good source for the 0805 resistors, but I suspect their 0805 capacitors are very low spec. It is worth buying the capacitors from a trusted supplier and check the specs for tight tolerances (say +/-5%), they will still only be a few cents each. In Australia, I got mine from Element 14 (aka Farnell in the UK).

The blank side panels on the PCB can be easily snapped off, it is worth then rubbing the edges of the PCB against a brick or pavement to grind off any sharp edges/splinters.

If you bought the cheap 1st run panels, you will be aware the 3rd row of holes for the pots is approx. 2mm offset. These need to be drilled out (maybe 8mm bit?) and then run the drill bit along the lower edge to gain a few extra microns. Future runs of panels will not have this issue and will have ENIG gold lettering.

I'd suggest getting spares, especially of the 0805 components, they are easy to drop and disappear.....there is also the possibility I miscounted too. Please get in touch if you spot any errors in the BOM – thankyou!

NOTES
SOIC
marked 'n' or unmarked
marked 'p'
I used Silonex NSL32
like this one from Tayda
Kobiconn style
Eurorack 10 pin
thru hole diode
electro cap
electro cap
electro cap
0805
0805
0805
0805 (or 22nF for four of
them, see MODS below)
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
0805
thru-hole

Mod-some experimenting with the distortion circuit showed it is good to change the four 1nF caps (marked '102) to 22nF (223), indicated in the pic below

