

written by Holger Wirtz and Thierry Pottier

Version 1.1 (July 2020)

What is MicroDexed?

MicroDexed is a FM-Software-Synthesizer with six operators and much additional features. It is written in C/C++ for the microcontroller Teensy-3.6/4.x. The sound generation (msfa) from the free VST-plugin Dexed was used and a user interface was created using two encoders and an LCD display.

For the original Dexed/msfa software take a look at Dexed on Github and Music Synthesizer for Android on Github.



Features

- Compatible to a legendary FM synth with six operators from a famous Japanese manufacturer
- MIDI interface:
 - DIN IN/OUT with software THRU (can be disabled, optional hardware THRU possible)
 - USB-Slave (for connecting to a PC)
 - USB-Master (for connecting keyboards)
- Audio interface:
 - RCA stereo IN/OUT with audio THRU (daisy-chain your sound generators)
- Onboard effects:

- Chorus (mono)
- Delay (mono, up to 500ms, with feedback)
- Low-pass filter with resonance
- Reverb (stereo)
- Resonant low-pass filter
- Mono sound engine with panorama controller before reverb
- Up to 20 voices of polyphony
- Up to 100 banks of 32 voices can be stored on an SD card
- MIDI SYSEX compatible
 - Sounds can be edited with external editors like...
 - EdiSyn
 - Dexed-VST
 - DX7 by Vstforx
 - Synthmata
 - KI generated DX banks
 - Sending of Voice/Bank MIDI-SYSEX dumps
 - Receiving of Voice/Bank MIDI-SYSEX dumps
 - Voice-Parameter change via MIDI-SYSEX
 - Flexible MIDI controller settings with additional features
 - o Modwheel, Pitchbend, Portamento, Breath-Controller, Aftertouch, Foot-Controller
 - Additional modes for most controllers (linear, inverse, direct)
 - Controller parameter change via MIDI-SYSEX
 - Additional MIDI-CCs
 - Bank select
 - Preset select
 - Volume
 - Panorama
 - Filter resonance
 - Filter cutoff
 - Delay time
 - Delay feedback
 - Delay volume
- Storage of voice presets, effect presets and combinations of both as "performance" on SD card
- Transpose, fine-tune, mono-mode
- Note refresh options: normal or retriggered
- Velocity level adaption
- Three sound engines:
 - Modern: this is the original 24-bit music-synthesizer-for-android implementation.
 - Mark I: Based on the OPL Series but at a higher resolution (LUT are 10-bits). The target of this engine is to be closest to the real DX7.
 - OPL Series: this is an experimental implementation of the reverse-engineered OPL family chips, 8-bit. Keep in mind that the envelopes still need tuning.
- Open-Source (https://codeberg.org/dcoredump/MicroDexed)

Manuals

A manual how you can build your own MicroDexed can be found here: https://codeberg.org/dcoredump/MicroDexed/src/branch/master/doc/manuals/Build-Manual.pdf

A user manual can be found at:

https://codeberg.org/dcoredump/MicroDexed/src/branch/master/doc/manuals/MicroDexed-User_Manual/MicroDexed-User_Manual.pdf

License

MicroDexed is licensed under the GPL v3. The msfa component (acronym for music synthesizer for android, see https://github.com/google/music-synthesizer-for-android) stays under the Apache 2.0 license to be able to collaborate between projects.

Credits & thanks

- Dexed engine by Pascal Gauthier (asb2m10)
- DX Synth engine (as part of Dexed): Raph Levien and the msfa team
- PPPlay: Great OPL3 implementation, with documented code 😂
- Thierry Pottier: for extreme testing, discussing about different options, images and many good suggestions for UI handling
- Lars Pelz: Testing and documentation

