

## Analog-Precision Ultimate Preamp

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**M** By mattb,  
January 8, 2018 in Stereo Amplifiers & Pre-Amps

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**mattb** Posted January 8, 2018

10+ Post Club



Full Member  
5  
12 posts  
Location: Perth  
Country: Australia

Just wanted to report the very positive experience I have had with the Analog Precision unit I received late last year (<http://www.analog-precision.com>). My primary objective with this unit was to replace the miniDSP 10x10 in my system. My system consists of tri-amped all active full range electrostatic speakers - these are the ERAudio Acorns. I had been running these speakers fully active for some time - each of the panel sections for bass, mid and treble has it's own power amplifier (Class D on the bass and Class A's on the mid and treble), feeding a dedicated step up transformer, no passive components. Crossover functions were performed by the miniDSP and after running this system for a few years I wanted to replace the miniDSP with a higher spec unit - higher spec with regards to the DAC itself, processing capacity, ADC's, op-amps, power supply, etc. The Analog Precision unit ticked these boxes and once I received the unit I found the Audio weaver software easy to use - I simply loaded the crossover points I had established using the miniDSP. At this point I am using higher order filters than I used in the miniDSP, and the soundstage, imaging and detail are outstanding to my ears. With speakers as accurate and revealing as the Acorns, I feel that this DSP unit is a good match.

No affiliation with Analog Precision, just a satisfied customer. Great job David!

Upfront, Steam and Sinewave 3

**georgehifi** Posted January 9, 2018 (edited)

1000+ Post Club



Full Member  
1,531  
4,273 posts  
Location: Manly nsw  
Country: Australia

What did this cost? Looking at what's inside I could imagine not cheap.

Also here is where it all started, where I kicked off.  
<http://www.diyaudio.com/forums/digital-line-level/264743-hi-dsp-based-multi-channel-integrated-preamp-crossover-dac-project.html>

Cheers George



Edited January 9, 2018 by georgehifi

Georgehifi, originator/manufacturer of the "Lightspeed Attenuator"

To quote Ivor Tiefenbrun: It all starts with the source, get that right and your 1/3rd the way there, if not, it's a never ending battle to get the truth.

**mattb** Posted January 9, 2018

Author

10+ Post Club



Full Member  
5  
12 posts  
Location: Perth  
Country: Australia

Base unit is approx \$1500 USD and then modules are added to this according to the functionality you need from the Preamp Based on the functions and quality offered here I think the unit is very fairly priced cheers

**zydeco** Posted January 10, 2018

Member

Interesting alternative to mini-DSP and DEQX. Is it possible to configure with digital outputs (and analogue) outputs? And what is the maximum time delay that can be applied to a channel?

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By foryou  
Started January 26 5



Full Member  
 95  
 890 posts  
 Location: **Here**  
 Country: **Australia**



Joz

Posted January 10, 2018

Moderators

monsieur illuminati

●●●●●

Does the unit do phase ?  
 i wonder f i would like the onboard dac?  
 The unit does look quite attractive with features. Just wondering how complex the learning curve is to drive one?



Moderators  
 5,654  
 14,868 posts  
 Location: **PRoCoPP**  
 Country: **Australia**

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[The Illuminator 2017 HiFi Show GTG](#)

[A Couple of GTGs](#)



Guest Michael Hope

Posted January 10, 2018



Guests

On 10/01/2018 at 9:58 AM, joz said:

Does the unit do phase ?  
 i wonder f i would like the onboard dac?  
 The unit does look quite attractive with features. Just wondering how complex the learning curve is to drive one?

What DAC do you currently use?

Guest Michael Hope

Posted January 10, 2018



Guests

On 10/01/2018 at 9:17 AM, zydeco said:

Interesting alternative to mini-DSP and DEQX. Is it possible to configure with digital outputs (and analogue) outputs? And what is the maximum time delay that can be applied to a channel?

It has digital inputs and outputs.

mattb

Posted January 10, 2018

Author

10+ Post Club



Full Member  
 5  
 12 posts  
 Location: **Perth**  
 Country: **Australia**

Regards phase and time delays, I haven't used any of these functions as yet and I don't consider myself an expert on Audioweaver. That said, Audioweaver gives you a blank design sheet with a lot of prebuilt modules you can build your DSP software with, and time delay, phase, different crossover types, orders, etc are all in the library to be used. In addition to the above, David also provides standard crossover design files as downloads - I simply downloaded the 3 way design from his website, loaded it in and adjusted the crossover frequencies and slopes. Compared to miniDSP, Audioweaver is highly configurable tool without too many limitations, miniDSP has a ready built interface which was easy to use, but I wouldn't say that getting the Analogue Precision unit loaded up and on line was any more difficult.



Guest

Posted January 10, 2018



Guests

Yep, my hand is up for one of these !!! Keen as after reading about this it even has a digital phono pre amp. Very smart and a step ahead in Digital Audio Tech Advancement over all other current devices.

Priced to please and 8 outputs, to me 6 is almost useless

On 10/01/2018 at 9:58 AM, joz said:

Does the unit do phase ?  
 i wonder f i would like the onboard dac?  
 The unit does look quite attractive with features. Just wondering how complex the learning curve is to drive one?

(answer to your question is yes and you mean group delay) !!! grab one of these things - and you can try the 2 x 8 miniDSP that will become redundant Joe, if you like. Try before you buy ! miniDSP is a nice way to get in and learn to drive a DSP, these things are a little more Ferrari and would take a while to get through all the features.

Joz

Posted January 10, 2018

Moderators

monsieur illuminati

●●●●●

Yep group delay is what I was talkin about.  
 like you a 4way is what interests me.  
 Not sure if I have missed it i wonder if you can load more than one profile ?  
 And how difficult it is to alter FRs?



Moderators  
 5,654  
 14,868 posts  
 Location: **PRoCoPP**  
 Country: **Australia**

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[The Illuminator 2017 HiFi Show GTG](#)

[A Couple of GTGs](#)



andyr

Posted January 10, 2018



Member  
 ●●●●●

On 08/01/2018 at 11:19 PM, mattb said:

Just wanted to report the very positive experience I have had with the Analogue Precision unit I received late last year (<http://www.analog-precision.com>). My primary objective with this unit was to replace the miniDSP 10x10 in my system. My system consists of tri-amped all active full range electrostatic speakers - these are the ERAudio Acorns. I had been running these speakers fully active for some time - each of the panel sections for bass, mid and treble has it's own power amplifier (Class D on the bass and Class A's on the mid and treble), feeding a dedicated step up transformer, no passive components. Crossover functions were performed by the miniDSP and after running this system for a few years I wanted to replace the miniDSP with a higher spec unit - higher spec with regards to the DAC itself, processing capacity, ADC's, op-amps, power supply,

Full Member  
5,823  
15,143 posts  
Location: Melbourne  
Country: Australia

Donor

Re. power supply - I got a major improvement in SQ when I substituted a 12v Booster LPSU for the 12v Meanwell SMPS which came with my 10x10HD.

On 1/9/2018 at 11:19 PM, mattb said:

I simply loaded the crossover points I had established using the miniDSP. At this point I am using higher order filters than I used in the miniDSP, and the soundstage, imaging and detail are outstanding to my ears.

Why didn't you use these higher order filters with your miniDSP 10x10?

Andy

Manufacturer of audio products including:

- Muse jfet-based phono stage
- Paris head amp.



Keith\_W

Posted January 10, 2018 (edited)

10,000+ Post Club  
●●●●●●



Full Member  
1,140  
12,070 posts  
Location: Melbourne  
Country: Australia

Oops, just posted an extensive discussion of this preamp in my system thread and then I saw this thread. Post is linked here: [https://www.stereo.net.au/forums/topic/106551-keith\\_w-system/?do=findComment&comment=3828357](https://www.stereo.net.au/forums/topic/106551-keith_w-system/?do=findComment&comment=3828357)

Oh, to answer someone's earlier question - how much you can delay is a function of how many taps are available (a function of CPU power of the DSP chip), the resolution that you are convolving, and the amount you need to delay. If you have an anemic CPU and you wish to convolve 192kHz, then the amount of delay you are able to achieve would be considerably less.

There is an equation to actually calculate how much delay you can get depending on how many taps you have, but I am unable to perform the calculation. Never bothered to learn the equation - all I know is, on the machine I am using (a home PC), I have a huge amount of taps. The SHARC chip on this unit is considerably less powerful by at least an order of magnitude if not more.

Edited January 10, 2018 by Keith\_W

Source: Playback Designs MPS-5; Windows 10 PC (i7-6700K, 1TB SSD, 16GB RAM, Uptone JS-2) operating as digital active crossover and DSP

Software: Acourate, HQPlayer

DAC: Merging+ NADAC

Amps: Cary CAD-211AE, SGR EL30S

Speakers: Acapella High Violon, Rythmik subwoofers

System showcase [here](#).



Joz

Posted January 11, 2018

Moderators

monsieur illuminati  
●●●●●●



Moderators  
5,654  
14,868 posts  
Location: ProCoPP  
Country: Australia

So it's the taps.  
So the amount of taps equates to processing power?  
If so, it is what I was referring to in another thread.  
The one box solution to a 4way active crossover with dsp and pre would be an attractive solution particularly if I could get presets and adjust on the fly.

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[The Illuminator 2017 HiFi Show GTG](#)

[A Couple of GTGs](#)



mattb

Posted January 12, 2018

Author



Full Member  
5  
12 posts  
Location: Perth  
Country: Australia

On 10/01/2018 at 7:55 PM, andyr said:

Re. power supply - I got a major improvement in SQ when I substituted a 12v Booster LPSU for the 12v Meanwell SMPS which came with my 10x10HD.

Why didn't you use these higher order filters with your miniDSP 10x10?

Andy

Expand

Hi Andy

I put a linear power supply on my miniDSP also - about a week after I got it. I also saw a major improvement, particularly in noise at high frequencies.

Re the filters, I believe the highest on the miniDSP was 47dB/octave. I'm currently using much steeper slopes through Audioweaver - investigating the benefits of brickwall like crossovers with my triamped full range ESLs



andyr

Posted January 12, 2018

Member  
●●●●●●



Full Member  
5,823  
15,143 posts  
Location: Melbourne  
Country: Australia

Donor

On 12/01/2018 at 2:20 PM, mattb said:

Hi Andy

I put a linear power supply on my miniDSP also - about a week after I got it. I also saw a major improvement, particularly in noise at high frequencies.

Strange, dat!! 🤔

And yet so many people continue to use their Meanwell with their miniDSP units. 🤔

39 minutes ago, mattb said:

Re the filters, I believe the highest on the miniDSP was 47dB/octave. I'm currently using much steeper slopes through Audioweaver - investigating the benefits of brickwall like crossovers with my triamped full range ESLs

48dB. Actually, Maggies respond well to much lower-order filters ... their latest .7" models all use 6dB slopes. I'm currently using:

- sub LP - 24dB
- bass HP - 24dB
- bass LP - 18dB
- mid HP - 6dB
- mid LP - 12dB
- ribbon HP - 12dB

... but I am going to try ribbon HP @ 6dB, one of these days.

AIUI, the higher the LP slope ... the higher the resulting group delay. How do you cope with this, with Audioweaver?

Andy

Manufacturer of audio products including:

- Muse jfet-based phono stage
- Paris head amp.

1 year later...

Mullet

Posted April 20, 2019

50+ Post Club

This looks exiting.



Full Member

41

105 posts

Location: Melbourne

Country: Australia

Donor

1 year later...

sir sanders zingmore

Posted 9 hours ago

Hah! Missed both my legs!

●●●●●●

9 hours ago, Snoopy8 said:

Analog Precision <https://analog-precision.com/> preamps

They look *really* interesting - but no actual products yet (all preorder)



Full Member

12,080

17,772 posts

Location: Here

Country: Australia

First Name: Sad Bastard 3

Donor

3 Sad Bastards Podcast

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/3-sad-bastards/id1507530486>

Donor

Jventer

Posted 5 hours ago

Member

●●●●



Full Member

1,679

4,634 posts

Location: Grafton NSW

Country: Australia

Donor

9 hours ago, sir sanders zingmore said:

They look *really* interesting - but no actual products yet (all preorder)

Check out their Facebook page, more info there.

sir sanders zingmore

Posted 3 hours ago

Hah! Missed both my legs!

●●●●●●

5 hours ago, Jventer said:

Check out their Facebook page, more info there.

no facebook for me here,  
looks like their preamp ticks a lot of boxes for me but it's pretty exxy (very exxy)



Full Member

12,080

17,772 posts

Location: Here

Country: Australia

First Name: Sad Bastard 3

Donor

3 Sad Bastards Podcast

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/3-sad-bastards/id1507530486>

Donor

thehifinutter

Posted 2 hours ago

10+ Post Club

3 hours ago, sir sanders zingmore said:

no facebook for me here,  
looks like their preamp ticks a lot of boxes for me but it's pretty exxy (very exxy)



Full Member

By exxy I presume you mean pricey? (MSB IS EXXY) Not compared to DEQX it isn't. And it's list of features, bang for the buck it's actually quite cheap. I'm into vinyl and the MM preamp in the Analoo Precision is of huge interest to me, every separate MM box I have listened to all fall short to me. No it's not minidso opricina (either is DEOX) but then minidso is not audiohile

4  
12 posts  
Location: **Newcastle**  
Country: **Australia**  
First Name: **Terry**

quality, far from it! I have been looking at both DEQX and the Analog Precision for over a year now and still haven't pulled the pin. Yes its a big purchase but I don't want to buy something that I'm going to have to resell on here. I'm going to Sydney to listen a Ultimate Preamp next week and then I will make up my mind. But at this stage its almost a done deal for me it will be the Analog Precision. And its a 4 way should my wife let me build me ultimate loudspeaker I want which kind of eliminates the DEQX right there.



**thehifinutter**

Posted 2 hours ago



10+ Post Club

I did look at the SHD but no matter how cheap it is it still wont allow me to build my 4 way active. The Analog Precision lets me get rid of my preamp, MM amplifier, DAC and all the cables that go between them. I will actually end up with money in my pocket after selling all that gear. Its not for everyone but everyone here has there own needs. For me it fits the bill. All I need to do is hear one and talk to the owner.



Full Member

4  
12 posts

Location: **Newcastle**  
Country: **Australia**  
First Name: **Terry**



**Jventer**

Posted 1 hour ago



Member

4



Full Member

1,679  
4,634 posts

Location: **Grafton NSW**  
Country: **Australia**

Donor



3 hours ago, sir sanders zingmore said:

no facebook for me here,  
looks like their preamp ticks a lot of boxes for me but it's pretty exxy (very exxy)

It may be pricey, but look on the website, there are some price comparisons with other products. There is also a forum: [https://analog-precision.com/forum/your-active-speaker-designs/3-way-with-hypex-sb-acoustics-and-peerless/?fbclid=IwAR35SIUogAYcZX\\_bMvD5OaNouGmNOv1Cj5\\_26otnd1ION5\\_skt2R1b41s](https://analog-precision.com/forum/your-active-speaker-designs/3-way-with-hypex-sb-acoustics-and-peerless/?fbclid=IwAR35SIUogAYcZX_bMvD5OaNouGmNOv1Cj5_26otnd1ION5_skt2R1b41s). The link above is a post of speakers built for their pre.

I am not going to be a buyer, just very interested in what they are doing. Per Facebook also now into amps, Hypex and Purify.

**AudioGeek**

Posted 1 hour ago



Member

4



Full Member

866  
1,684 posts

Location: **Sydney**  
Country: **Australia**

Donor



Didnt some other forum members have lots of issues with this pre?

**sir sanders zingmore**

Posted 24 minutes ago



Hah! Missed both my legs!

4



Full Member

12,080  
17,772 posts

Location: **Here**  
Country: **Australia**  
First Name: **Sad Bastard 3**

Donor



1 hour ago, AudioGeek said:

Didnt some other forum members have lots of issues with this pre?

Any more detail on this?

3 Sad Bastards Podcast  
<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/3-sad-bastards/id11507530485>

**AudioGeek**

Posted 18 minutes ago



Member

4



Full Member

866  
1,684 posts

Location: **Sydney**  
Country: **Australia**

Donor



24 minutes ago, sir sanders zingmore said:

Any more detail on this?

I cant remember who it was, but when I looked at this pre a few years ago the only feedback was with issues pairing it with a horn system. I was considering it for my pse-144 setup at the time.

**thehifinutter**

Posted 11 minutes ago



10+ Post Club

24 minutes ago, sir sanders zingmore said:

Any more detail on this?



Full Member

4  
12 posts

Location: **Newcastle**  
Country: **Australia**  
First Name: **Terry**

Yes, its on another forum, which I am not sure about linking other websites on this forum. I went through the whole thread and found the details. Basically one person had a problem with noise on a particular brand of amplifier and made a lot of his own noise about it. Other owners of the preamp did not have any trouble with it which they all stated on the thread. The person who complained about it returned the preamp after using it for 6 months and bought minidsp and still had the same problem. He tried to cure the noise problem by switching opamps in the minidsp but this failed also. The offending member was subsequently banned from that forum. Also there are measurements on the analog precision forum to show there are no issues with the preamp. This is one of the reasons I am seriously considering this preamp. No other manufacturer has listed the tested performance parameters as detailed as this. <https://analog-precision.com/forum/performance-and-measurements/noise-performance-no-signal/>. This measures up there with the best of them. People should support Australian products when they are this good.

18 minutes ago, AudioGeek said:

I cant remember who it was, but when I looked at this pre a few years ago the only feedback was with issues pairing it with a horn system. I was considering it for my pse-144 setup at the time.

It wasn't the horn setup it was the amplifier causing the problem. He switched to minidsp and it made it even worse.

**sir sanders zingmore**

Posted 11 minutes ago

Hah! Missed both my legs!



Full Member

12,080

17,773 posts

Location: **Here**

Country: **Australia**

First Name **Sad Bastard 3**

3 hours ago, thehifinutter said:

By exxy I presume you mean pricey? (MSB IS EXXY) Not compared to DEQX it isn't. And it's list of features, bang for the buck it's actually quite cheap. I'm into vinyl and the MM preamp in the Analog Precision is of huge interest to me, every separate MM box I have listened to all fall short to me. No it's not minidsp pricing (either is DEQX) but then minidsp is not audiophile quality, far from it! I have been looking at both DEQX and the Analog Precision for over a year now and still haven't pulled the pin. Yes its a big purchase but I don't want to buy something that I'm going to have to resell on here. I'm going to Sydney to listen a Ultimate Preamp next week and then I will make up my mind. But at this stage its almost a done deal for me it will be the Analog Precision. And its a 4-way should my wife let me build me ultimate loudspeaker I want which kind of eliminates the DEQX right there.

Does their facebook page give any indication of when you could actually buy one of they products?

3 Sad Bastards Podcast

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/3-sad-bastards/id1507530488>

Donor

**Marc**

Posted 2 minutes ago

Administrators

10,000+ Post Club



Until the owner of that brand removes his slanderous comments made on his website about me personally, StereoNET, and our moderators, and apologises, we will not allow discussion of this brand on these forums. Sorry but you have the link, you can ask him anything you want to know directly.



Administrators

12,557

22,800 posts

Location: **Victoria**

Country: **Australia**

Donor

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