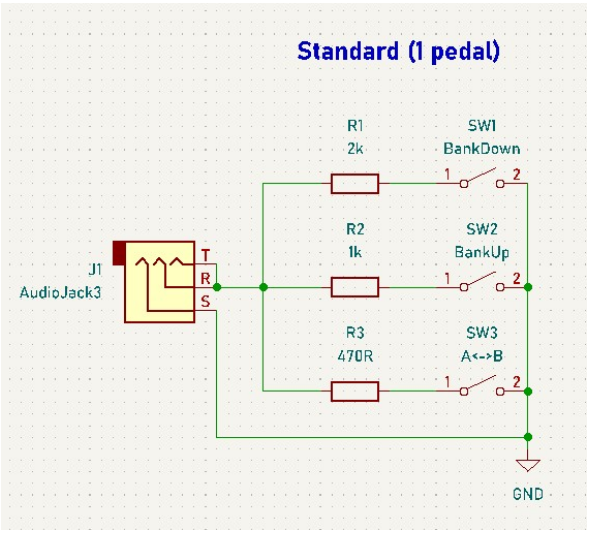
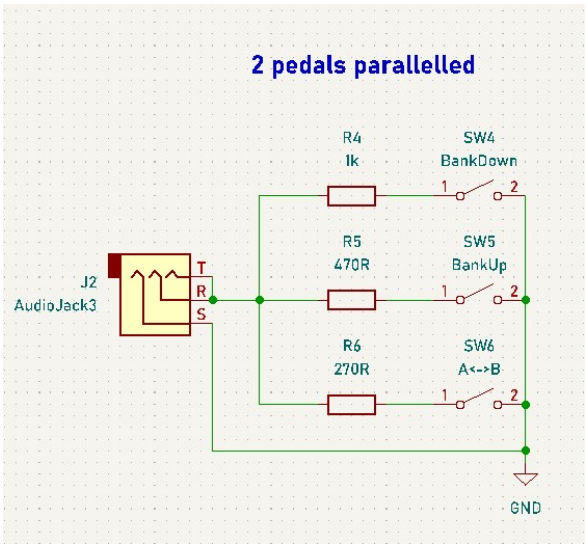
Strymon multiswitch

Switching two pedals simultaneously

I have a Strymon Timeline and a Mobius on the pedalboard. Often I have presets that need to be engaged simultaneously. For instance, for a certain song I would program a preset in Bank 47A for a vibrato effect in the Mobius, and a preset in Bank 47A for a specific delay in the Timeline. On stage it is annoying to have to switch both pedals separately between songs. Plus it is somewhat awkward to press two switches at once with your foot; it is a bit slower and sometimes you press only one by accident… It takes too long for comfort in a live on-stage situation. Strymon has a Multiswitch to make it easier to switch between banks and presets, but if you have to switch two pedals you still have the same problem.

There is some information available online about the Multiswitch (the simple, passive version). The circuit is very simple:





I don't know exactly how the control circuit inside the Mobius or Timeline works, but it seems like there is a current source in there that pushes a fixed amount of current through whichever resistor is switched in circuit and an ADC (microcontroller) then reads the voltage across it. Suppose it were 1mA, then the voltage drop across R1 would be 2V, R1 1V and R3 0.5V. Based on that voltage reading the pedal can identify which switch was pressed.

Now I reasoned that, when you connect two pedals to this switch, two current sources would try to push 1mA each through the resistance, hence the voltage drops would double. I then simply halved the resistor values. This seemed to work just fine. I connected the control outputs (TRS) from the Timeline and Mobius in parallel, fed them into the homemade multiswitch and now I can browse through the banks and presets of both pedals simultaneously. That is much faster and more comfortable.

Note: I only did this with my own pedals. There is some risk involved with an experimental set-up as this one, since I don't have a schematic of the actual circuitry in the Strymons. Connecting two outputs in parallel may

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result in damage to some pedals. Don't try if you are not sure. I can testify that this set-up has been working for me without any issues with these two pedals.

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