Adobe Audition CS5.5

Adobe Audition offers two ways of recording and editing:

- **Wave Form** editor: record or edit a single piece of audio (e.g. a voice or an interview).

  The Wave Form editor is <u>destructive</u> - if you cut a piece of audio on screen it removes it from the original audio track.

- **Multi-track** view: - a mix/edit environment that allows you to layer multiple sounds (music / voice / effects / atmosphere)

  Multi-track is <u>non-destructive</u>. You can shorten or lengthen pieces of audio without affecting the original audio track.

Wave Form Editor

- The line moving across the screen is the playback head. As the head moves across the waveform you will hear the sound.

- Editing is like a word processor - you can use the Windows commands: cut (Ctrl-X), copy (Ctrl-C) and paste (Ctrl-P) for editing your audio.

- <u>Save</u> your file as .wav (Windows PCM). Other formats like ADPCM or MP3 are lossy – i.e. they create smaller files by removing audio information.

Multi Track Editor

- The Multi Track editor allows you to place pieces of audio on top of each other, creating layers of sound.

- The editor is <u>non-destructive</u> allowing you to shorten/lengthen audio clips at any time. To do this, hover over the edge of a clip, left click and drag to reveal or hide the audio.

- Right-click and drag over a clip to move it.

- Double-click on a clip to edit it in the Wave Form editor. The changes you make will be reflected in the multi track.

- Control clip volume by clicking on automation points (white squares).

- When you save in multi-track it will save a <u>session</u> – which is not only the audio clips but the session data (placement and volume of clips etc).

- You will need to export/bounce your session to create a mixed stereo (or mono) audio file that can be played in other software.

Some useful hotkeys

File
- Ctrl+Shift+N – New audio file
- Ctrl+O – Open
- Ctrl+S – Save
- Ctrl+W – Close
- Ctrl+Q – Quit

Transport
- Home – go to the start
- End – go to the end
- Space bar - start and stop playback
- Shift+space – go into record
(make sure you're not re-recording over audio you've already captured)

Markers
- F8 – add marker
- Ctrl-Arrow - jump to previous/next marker
- Alt+8 – marker window (to preserve markers when you save a file, make sure that you select "Save Extra Non Audio Information")

Selection
- I and O (in/out) – select start and end of region **or**
- Left-click and drag to highlight region, Shift-left-click to alter selection **or**
- Shift+Home – select everything to the left of the cursor
- Shift+End – select everything to the right of the cursor
- Ctrl+T – crop (only keeps the highlighted selection)

Editing
- Ctrl+A – select all
- Ctrl+X – cut
- Ctrl+C – copy
- Ctrl+P - paste
- Del – delete
- Ctrl+Z - undo

Manipulation
- Fade in/Fade out: square icon at the top left and right of wave form – drag in/out for length of fade, drag up/down to change fade type

- Ctrl+Alt+A – analyse the selection and find the highest peak (dB)

- Changing volume: Select a region. At the top centre of the waveform a rotary volume knob will appear. Left-click and move your mouse to turn the volume up or down.

<u>Tips</u>

- If you would like to add another audio file onto the end of your current file use <u>open append</u> under the <u>file menu</u>.

- If you want to increase the overall level of your selection you can <u>normalize</u> the loudest sound to a particular point. All other parts of the audio are also increased by the same amount.

  Create an audio selection, go to the <u>favourites menu</u> and click on normalize.
  If you select normalize -3db, it will make the loudest sound -3db, giving you 3db headroom before distortion.

- If you are editing a stereo file you can edit the left and right channels together or independently.

  For example if you wanted to get rid of the left channel (because it may be very noisy) you could duplicate the right channel on to the left channel:

  - Ctrl+Shift+L, edit left channel, highlight and delete

  - Ctrl+Shift+R, edit right channel, highlight, Ctrl-C copy

  - Ctrl+Shift+B, edit both, Ctrl-P paste

Why do I sometimes hear clicks?

- The click is possibly because you're editing halfway through an audio wave.

- Zoom up on the waveform and see how the wave form flows,

  If you cut half way through the crest (peak) or trough (lowest point) you have more chance of getting a click, Edit on the middle part of the wave either side and you will limit the chance of a click.