

QBXFMI
AdLib(tm) and SoundBlaster(tm)
Resident FM Music Driver Interface Library
for
QuickBASIC 4.x and BASIC 7.x

by
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QBXFMI is an AdLib(tm)/SoundBlaster(tm) compatible resident FM music sound driver interface module for Microsoft QuickBASIC 4.x and BASIC 7.x compilers. Its purpose is to provide access to the resident sound driver for my QBXSBC SoundBlaster/AdLib music card software library but it can also be used separately.

Features of QBXFMI are:

- 1) Linkable module for stand-alone or environment (QLB) use.
- 2) Written in QuickBASIC.
- 3) Complete interface to all the resident driver functions.

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QBXSBC, the package \$19.95

- includes single-user licenses for:

- 1) QBXIOL, fast I/O DOS file module
- 2) QBXCTV, digitized voice I/O module for SoundBlaster
- 3) QBXFMI, interface module to the resident FM driver for the SoundBlaster and AdLib music cards. Includes QBXFMI.BAS and resident driver SB-SOUND.COM for the SoundBlaster.

- also includes:

- 4) Useful sample programs in QB demonstrating how to access AdLib instrument BNK files, voice files, and card detection.
- 5) Programmer documentation

QBXSBC, assembly source \$29.95

- includes:

- 1) QBXIOL.ASM, MASM 5.1 compatible source
- 2) QBXCTV.ASM, MASM 5.1 compatible source
- 3) Additional programmer documentation

To order see the ORDER.FRM file.

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SOUND DRIVER DESCRIPTION

The sound driver SB-SOUND.COM is a resident program (TSR) that uses about 6K of code space (13K for the SOUND.COM AdLib driver) and an event queue of from 1-64K. Its purpose is to provide a consistent interface to the music synth card across multiple computer languages. Communication to the driver is through a software interrupt call (INT 65h).

Features of the driver are:

- 1) Event-driven queue for each voice. Basically, what you do is develop a piece of music and write it to the event queue. Notes, volumes, timbre (ADSR) info, timings (when a particular part of your piece is to be played or altered), tempo, all sorts of information, can be put in the queue. When you're done, just tell it to start and away it goes. All processing is done in the background, meaning that you can have your program do something else while the driver PLAYS the piece.

- 2) Variable buffer space. When you load the driver you can specify the size of the event queue buffer with a /Bxx command line parameter.

```
C>SB-SOUND /B64
```

Will set aside 64K of RAM for the event queue. To uninstall the driver, use /U. To change the port assignment use /Pxxx. The default buffer space is 4K (valid range is 1-64K) and the default (base) port is 220h. The AdLib SOUND.COM driver is similar but cannot be uninstalled. Also, while you can use the SOUND.COM driver with the SoundBlaster, you cannot use the SB-SOUND.COM driver with an AdLib.

FUNCTION LIST

```
FUNCTION FMInit (Version)
SUB FMSetRelTimeStart (TimeNum, TimeDen)
SUB FMSetState (State)
SUB FMGetState (State)
SUB FMFlush ()
SUB FMSetMode (Mode)
SUB FMGetMode (Mode)
FUNCTION FMSetRelVolume (VolNum, VolDen, TimeNum, TimeDen)
FUNCTION FMSetTempo (Tempo, TimeNum, TimeDen)
SUB FMSetKBXpose (Transpose)
SUB FMGetKBXpose (Transpose)
SUB FMSetActVoice (Voice)
SUB FMGetActVoice (Voice)
FUNCTION FMPlayNoteDelay (Pitch, LenNum, LenDen, DelNum, DelDen)
FUNCTION FMPlayNote (Pitch, LenNum, LenDen)
FUNCTION FMSetVoiceTimbre (VTDseg, VTDooff, TimeNum, TimeDen)
FUNCTION FMSetPitchBend (DeltaNum, DeltaDen, TimeNum, TimeDen)
SUB FMSetTickBeat (TickBeat)
SUB FMNoteOn (Voice, Pitch)
SUB FMNoteOff (Voice)
SUB FMSetDirectTimbre (Voice, VTDseg, VTDooff)
SUB FMSetPitchBendRange (Range)
SUB FMSetWaveformParm (OnOff)
FUNCTION FMdriver (Func)
FUNCTION FMdetect (Port)
```

FMInit

Type FUNCTION - INTEGER

Arguments Version - INTEGER (returned)

Syntax stat=FMinit(Version)

Use Return the software version of the resident sound driver, if installed.

Example 1 stat = FMinit(Version)
 IF stat THEN PRINT "DRIVER NOT INSTALLED"

Rules none

Notes Version 1.51 will be returned as 151 in Version.

Return 0 okay
 1 resident sound driver not installed

FMSetRelTimeStart

Type SUB

Arguments TimeNum - INTEGER (0-65535)
 TimeDen - INTEGER (1-65535)

Syntax SetRelTimeStart TimeNum,TimeDen

Use Set the time origin for all future timing references.

Example 1 For example, TimeNum=0 and TimeDen=1 will set the time origin at the absolute beginning. Then, if you were to FMSetRelVolume(1,2,5,1), the relative volume of the then active voice would play at 100% volume for beats 1-4 and then decrease 50% for the 5th and following beats.

Example 2 Let's say that instead of TimeNum=0 and TimeDen=1 you used TimeNum=10 and TimeDen=1. Then, if you were to FMSetRelVolume(1,2,5,1), the relative volume of the then active voice would not be affected. This is because you set the time origin to a point in time after the 5,1 time of the volume change.

Rules TimeNum can be 0 to 65535, TimeDen 1 to 65535.

Notes This is a feature of the sound driver, not the music card itself. Try using different settings to get a feel in how to use the timing features. TimeNum/TimeDen are numerator/denominator.

Return none

FMSetState

Type SUB

Arguments State - INTEGER (0-1)

Syntax FMSetState State

Use Start, stop, or suspend sound driver output.

Example 1 FMSetState 0 'driver off
LoadMusicScore 'go get score, timings, etc

StuffQueue 'give it to the driver
FMSetState 1 'tell driver to play

Rules none

Notes You do not need to stop the driver to store data to it. However, when just starting, it is best to get the driver PRIMED a bit by having a few seconds or so of data in it so things flow smoothly.

Return none

FMGetState

Type SUB

Arguments State - INTEGER (returned)

Syntax	FMGetState State
Use	Determine if the driver is still playing.
Example 1	<pre>FMSetState 0 'driver off LoadMusicScore 'go get score, timings, etc StuffQueue 'give it to the driver FMSetState 1 'tell driver to play DO 'wait until it's done FMGetState State LOOP WHILE State</pre>
Rules	none
Notes	State is 1 while music is still playing, 0 if the music is finished or stopped with FMSetState 0.
Return	none

FMFlush	
Type	SUB
Arguments	none
Syntax	FMFlush
Use	Silence all voices and empty all event queues.
Example 1	<pre>PRINT "Press a key to end song and start next" DO:LOOP WHILE INKEY\$ = "" FMFlush StartNextSong</pre>
Rules	none
Notes	This function could be considered a warm-start while FMInit() could be considered a cold-start.
Return	none

FMSetMode

Type SUB

Arguments Mode - INTEGER (0-1)

Syntax FMSetMode Mode

Use Set the music card to Percussion or Melodic mode. Also sets all relative volumes to 100%, all voices to piano timbre, and pitch to normal (0 or middle C).

Example 1 FMSetMode 1 'set to percussion mode

Rules none

Notes In percussion mode (mode=1) voices 0 to 10 are available. In melodic (mode=0), 0 to 8.

Return none

FMGetMode

This function is not currently implemented by either SOUND.COM or SB-SOUND.COM.

FMSetRelVolume

Type FUNCTION - INTEGER

Arguments VolNum - INTEGER (0-255)
 VolDen - INTEGER (1-255)
 TimeNum - INTEGER (0-65535)
 TimeDen - INTEGER (1-65535)

Syntax stat=FMSetRelVolume (VolNum,VolDen,TimeNum,TimeDen)

Use Change the relative volume of the active voice at the given time. VolNum/VolDen must be less than or equal to 1 (where 1 is 100% volume).

Example 1 FMSetRelTimeStart 0,1
 FMSetActVoice 0
 'set relative volume of voice 0 to 50%
 stat = FMSetRelVolume(10,20,0,1)
 'rising 5% after every beat
 stat = FMSetRelVolume(11,20,1,1)
 stat = FMSetRelVolume(12,20,2,1)
 'and so on until beat 10, 100%
 stat = FMSetRelVolume(20,20,10,1)
 'do some other stuffing and then start
 FMSetState 1

Rules Affects relative volume of the active voice only.

Notes none

Return 0 okay
 2 queue buffer full

FMSetTempo

Type	FUNCTION - INTEGER
Arguments	Tempo - INTEGER (0-65535) TimeNum - INTEGER (0-65535) TimeDen - INTEGER (1-65535)
Syntax	stat=FMSetTempo(Tempo,TimeNum,TimeDen)
Use	Change the tempo to Tempo at the given time.
Example 1	FMSetRelTimeStart 0,1 'start tempo at 80 beats/min stat=FMSetTempo 80,0,1 'change to double-time at 10th beat stat=FMSetTempo 120,10,1
Rules	See FMSetTickBeat()
Notes	none
Return	0 okay 2 queue buffer full

FMSetKBXpose

Type SUB

Arguments Transpose - INTEGER (-96-96 max)

Syntax FMSetKNXpose Transpose

Use Slide, or transpose, all notes up or down the keyboard Transpose number of semitones. Since notes can range from -48 to +47, a max Transpose range of plus/minus 96 is in order.

Example 1 'play a middle-C whole note
 FMPlayNote 0,4,1
 'wait 'til it's done then
 'play C an octave down
 FMSetKBXpose -12
 'gin and tonic, thank you
 FMPlayNote 0,4,1

Rules See FMSetTickBeat()

Notes This function does not work in SB-SOUND.COM. It does with SOUND.COM.

Return 0 okay
 2 queue buffer full

FMGetKBXpose

Type SUB

Arguments Transpose - INTEGER (returned)

Syntax FMGetKBXpose Transpose

Use Get the current transpose value.

Example 1

```
'play a middle-C whole note
FMPlayNote 0,4,1
'wait 'til it's done then
'play C an octave down
FMSetKBXpose -12
'gin and tonic, thank you
FMPlayNote 0,4,1
CALL OtherModule
END
```

```
'where other module can determine transpose
'OTHER MODULE CODE:
FMGetKBXpose Transpose
```

Rules See FMSetTickBeat()
Notes This function is not documented by AdLib.
Return none

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FMSetActVoice

Type SUB
Arguments Voice - INTEGER (0-8 or 0-10)
Syntax FMSetActVoice Voice
Use Set the active voice for all future sound driver commands that act on a specific voice. In melodic mode, voices 0 to 8 are available. In percussion mode, voices 0 to 10.
Example 1 'tell driver we are sending commands for voice 0
FMSetActVoice 0
'send some stuff for voice 0
stat=FMSetVoiceTimbre(vseg,voff,1,0)
'and so on

Rules none

Notes The sound driver assembles everything in its buffer by voice and by time. Rather than send all voice 0 info and possibly overflowing the buffer (it defaults to 4K, max=64K), send enough of each voice to be used so that you can FMSetState 1 to a smooth start. Thereafter, you can periodically refresh the buffer. The driver dynamically allocates available buffer space. This means that each voice is not assigned a certain percentage of the buffer but rather that each voice uses as much as it requires. This is why you should avoid stuffing an entire voice at a time (unless you know that you'll have the buffer space).

Return none

FMGetActVoice

Type SUB

Arguments Voice - INTEGER (returned)

Syntax FMSetGetVoice Voice

Use Get the active voice.

Example 1 FMGetActVoice Voice

Rules	none
Notes	This function is not documented by AdLib.
Return	none

FMPlayNoteDelay

Type	FUNCTION - INTEGER
Arguments	Pitch - INTEGER (-48-47) LengthNum - INTEGER (0-65535)

FMPlayNote

Type	FUNCTION - INTEGER
Arguments	Pitch - INTEGER (-48-47) LengthNum - INTEGER (0-65535) LengthDen - INTEGER (1-255)
Syntax	stat=FMPlayNote(Pitch,LengthNum,LengthDen)
Use	Play the note of Pitch of LengthNum/LengthDen and set the delay also to LengthNum/LengthDen.
Example 1	'play C whole note, rest whole FMPlayNote 0,4,1
Rules	none
Notes	none
Return	0 okay 2 queue buffer full

FMSetVoiceTimbre

Type FUNCTION - INTEGER

Arguments vseg - INTEGER (VARSEG)
 voff - INTEGER (VARPTR)
 TimeNum - INTEGER (0-65535)
 TimeDen - INTEGER (1-65535)

Syntax stat=FMSetVoiceTimbre (vseg,voff,TimeNum,TimeDen)

Use Change the timbre (qualities) of the active voice
 at time TimeNum/TimeDen.

Example 1 'set voice 0 to bongo at time 0
 FMSetActVoice 0
 vseg=VARSEG(bongo(0)):voff=VARPTR(bongo(0))
 stat=FMSetVoiceTimbre(vseg,voff,0,1)

Rules vseg:voff must point to an integer data array. In
 other words, each voice attribute is to be 2 bytes
 (eventhough in BNK files they are 1 byte). The
 vseg:voff data must remain valid until the data is
 actually sent to the hardware, which will be at
 TimeNum/TimeDen. Thereafter, you can dispose of
 it.

Notes See QBXFMI.BAS for an example of using this
 function. FM sound is created by the interaction
 of two operators on the hardware. The timbre data
 programs these operators. In all melodic voices
 and percussion voice 6, the sound generated is
 from the interaction of the modulator operator and
 the carrier operator. In the other percussion
 voices (7-10) only the modulator operator has an
 affect on the sound. See QBXFMI.BAS for the format
 of the timbre data.

Return 0 okay
 2 queue buffer full

FMSetPitchBend

Type	FUNCTION - INTEGER
Arguments	DeltaNum - INTEGER (-100-100) DeltaDen - INTEGER (1-100) TimeNum - INTEGER (0-65535) TimeDen - INTEGER (1-65535)
Syntax	stat=FMSetPitchBend(100,1,10,1)
Use	Change the pitch at TimeNum/TimeDen by DeltaNum/DeltaDen where DeltaNum/DeltaDen is from -1 to +1 semitones.
Example 1	'change the pitch just a bit (for perfect pitch) stat=FMSetPitchBend(1,100,0,1) 'this changes the pitch up 1/100th a semitone, a 'very small change indeed
Rules	none
Notes	See FMSetPitchBendRange()
Return	none

FMSetTickBeat

Type SUB

Arguments TickBeat - INTEGER (0-65535)

Syntax FMSetTickBeat

Use Sets the computer's timer interrupt to allow more or less interrupts per unit time.

Example 1 FMSetTickBeat 64

Rules All notes for all voices should be multiples of $1/\text{TickBeat}$. This formula should also remain valid:

$$18.2 \leq (\text{TickBeat} * \text{Tempo}/60)$$

Notes The $\text{interrupts/sec} = \max(60, \text{TickBeat}) * \text{Tempo}/60$

Return none

FMNoteOn

Type	SUB
Arguments	Voice - INTEGER (0-8 or 0-10) Pitch - INTEGER (-48-47)
Syntax	FMNoteOn(Voice,Pitch)
Use	Directly play the note Pitch using Voice. This bypasses the event queue, playing immediately and continuously until FMNoteOff().
Example 1	'play C voice 0 FMNoteOn 0,0
Rules	none
Notes	none
Return	none

FMNoteOff

Type	SUB
Arguments	Voice - INTEGER (0-8 or 0-10)
Syntax	FMNoteOff(Voice)
Use	Turn off the note that was played by FMNoteOn().
Example 1	'play C voice 0 and wait for a keypress FMNoteOn 0,0 SLEEP FMNoteOff 0
Rules	none
Notes	none
Return	none

FMSetDirectTimbre

Type SUB

Arguments Voice - INTEGER (0-8 or 0-10)
 vseg - INTEGER (VARSEG)
 voff - INTEGER (VARPTR)

Syntax stat=FMSetDirectTimbre(Voice,vseg,voff)

Use Directly set the timbre (qualities) of Voice. This bypasses the event queue, changing the timbre immediately.

Example 1 vseg=VARSEG(bongo(0)):voff=VARPTR(bongo(0))
 stat=FMSetDirectTimbre(0,vseg,voff)
 FMNoteOn 0,0
 SLEEP 1
 FMNoteOff 0

Rules vseg:voff must point to an integer data array. In other words, each voice attribute is to be 2 bytes (eventhough in BNK files they are 1 byte). The vseg:voff data need not remain valid after the

call.

Notes No timings are handled by this function. It plays when you call it unlike FMPlayNote which plays at the time you specify.

Return none

FMSetPitchBendRange

Type SUB

Arguments Range - INTEGER (1-12)

Syntax FMSetPitchBendRange(Range)

Use Alter the pitch-change step of FMSetPitchBend(). FMInit() sets the default pitch change of FMSetPitchBend() to 1 semitone. This function changes that default from 1 to 12 semitones.

Example 1 'change the pitch just a bit (for perfect pitch)
stat=FMSetPitchBend(1,100,0,1)
'this changes the pitch up 1/100th a semitone, a
'very small change indeed
FMSetPitchBendRange 12

```
stat = FMSetPitchBend(1,100,0,1)
'now this changes the pitch up 1/100th an octave
```

Rules	Driver versions 1.3+ only. Version 1.3 has been available since November 1988.
Notes	See FMSetPitchBend()
Return	none

FMSetWaveformParm

Type	SUB
Arguments	State - INTEGER (0-1)
Syntax	FMSetWaveformParm(State)
Use	Tells the driver that there are waveform parameters in the timbre data. When State=1 FMSetVoiceTimbre() and FMSetDirectTimbre() expect an array of 28 integers where the last two are the

waveform operators. State=0 tells it to expect only 26 (having 28 will not affect it, the waveform parms simply won't be used).

Example 1 'tell it we have WF parms
 FMSetWaveformParm 1
 vseg=VARSEG(bongo(0)):voff=VARPTR(bongo(0))
 stat=FMSetDirectTimbre(0,vseg,voff)
 FMNoteOn 0,0
 SLEEP 1
 FMNoteOff 0

Rules none

Notes FMInit() sets this to 0. To enable it, call this
 function after FMInit().

Return none

NOTE DATA

Notes are made up of 3 components: pitch, duration, and delay.

PITCH

 261.63Hz
C -48 -36 -24 -12 *0* 12 24 36

C#					1	-277.18				
D					2	-293.66				
D#					3	-311.13				
E					4	-329.63				
F					5	-349.23				
F#					6	-369.99				
G					7	-391.99				
G#					8	-415.31				
A					9	-440.00				
A#					10	-466.16				
B	-37	-25	-13	-1	11	23	35	47		
						493.88Hz				

The 0 represents the note of middle C on the piano keyboard and is equal to 261.63Hz. Columns to the right of 0 are an octave above middle C, to the left, an octave below. To calculate the frequency of a note, use the frequencies listed by each note and double it for each octave above or halve it for each below. The lowest frequency is 16.352Hz (pitch=-48), the highest is 3951.1 Hz (pitch=47), not including harmonics.

DURATION

The length of a note is given as a numerator over denominator. The effective duration of a note is a function of the tempo.

Name	Num	Den
Whole note	4	1
Dotted half	3	1
Half note	2	1
Dotted quarter	3	2
Quarter note	1	1
Dotted eighth	3	4
Eighth note	1	2
Dotted sixteenth	3	8
Sixteenth	1	4

DELAY

Delay is the time after the current note starts playing that the next should be started. Usually, delay equals note duration so that the next note plays immediately after the current note ends. If there is a further delay, that delay is called at rest. Rests can also be 'played' alone by specifying a note of duration 0 with the required delay.

TIMBRE DATA

The timbre data is used to program each of the two operators (18 total) that are used to create FM sound. In melodic voices 0 to 8, there are two operators used together to create a sound. In percussion voices 7-10, 1 operator is used to create the sound. You can select from two modes: melodic only or melodic-percussive. In melodic only you have voices 0-8 available. In melodic-percussive, voice 0-5 are melodic, percussion voice 6 (Bass Drum using 2 operators), percussion 7,8,9,10 are the Snare, TomTom, Cymbal, and Hi-Hat, respectively (each using 1 operator).

The timbre data parameters are made up of components: envelope parms, oscillator parms, and level controller parms. Each of the two operators have 13 parms (0-12) plus each has an additional waveform parameter.

ENVELOPE

ADSR - Attack Rate, Decay Rate, Sustain Level, Release Rate. These parms tell how quickly a sound starts (attack rate), how quickly it falls (decay rate) to the sustain level (sustain level) and, once the note has been released, how quickly it decays to zero-level (release rate).

AR 0-15 (0=slow attack) (Timbre parm 3)
DR 0-15 (0=slow decay) (6)
SL 0-15 (0=maximum sustain level) (4)
RR 0-15 (0=slow release) (7)

Other envelope parms are Sustaining Sound and Envelope Scaling. Sustaining sound directs whether the sustain level will be held or if the release should begin immediately after reaching the sustain level. Envelope Scaling tries to adjust the envelope parameters to more accurately mimic musical instruments.

SS 0-1 (1=on,0=off) (5)
ES 0-1 (1=on,0=off) (11)

OSCILLATOR

Frequency Multiplier, Frequency Vibrato, Modulation Feedback. The frequency multiplier lets you modify the oscillator frequency so that a sound becomes a multiple of the original note, or harmonic.

MULTI (1)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
factor	.5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	10	12	12	15

Frequency vibrato creates an automatic variation to the oscillator's frequency (very slight). Also called Pitch Vibrato.

VIB 0-1 (1=7 cents frequency fluctuation depth,0=none) (10)
(there are 1200 cents in an octave)

Modulation feedback sets the modulator's oscillator to feedback its output back to its input. (Not used by the carrier op.)

FB (2)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
modulation	0	p/16	p/8	p/4	p/2	p	2p	4p
(p=PIE)								

LEVEL

Output Level, Level Scaling, Amplitude Vibrato. These adjust the overall output of each operator.

Output level adjusts the operator's maximum output. The modulator output level determines the intensity of the modulation if the carrier and the carrier output level determines the overall volume of the sound.

OL 0-63 (0=max,63=min) (8)
(to convert to dB: dB=OL*.75)

Level scaling, or Key Scale Level, adjusts the output level of higher notes so that they play less loud than lower notes.

KSL (0)	0	1	2	3
dB/octave	0	3	1.5	6
drop				

Amplitude vibrato creates an automatic variation to the operators output level. Also called tremolo.

AM 0-1 (1=1dB depth of fluctuation,0=none) (9)

Another parameter is the Frequency Modulation/Additive flag. Valid only for the modulator operator, is changes the way the sound is created.

FM 0-1 (0=use FM,1=use additive synthesis) (12)