# Song of the Weekend

By Lee Jackson

From the Lee Jackson Audio Community Discussion Group
([https://www.facebook.com/groups/ljackaudiodiscgroup](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ljackaudiodiscgroup))

Entry: 20191123 – Where Iz It

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This week's "Song of the Weekend" is Where Iz It, from the Apogee Software cult classic, "Rise of the Triad."

Where Iz It is one of the shortest level songs written for ROTT. (It's also one of the few that has no wordplay, unless you count the intentional misspelling of the word "is" in the title.) It was written for the next to last level, if memory serves, which is a "chase level." You're chasing El Oscuro to the final battlefield, which is why I needed a short, frantic, repetitive piece of music. Again, if memory serves.

The piece starts off with a bass guitar and a drum kit playing an allegro passage for 4 bars. They're joined by an electric piano in unison for another 4 bars. Right before the last beat of the last measure, a sawtooth wave and a square wave synth duo blast in with a unison riff. This leads to the next part of the introduction, where the bass/drums/piano continue, but with a distorted guitar scraping away in a sixteenth-note rhythm below the mix for 4 bars. A trumpet section joins in at this point, playing fanfare cues on the downbeat for 4 more bars, then repeating the fanfares for another 4 bars with a string section sweetening the sound. This leads into a single linking measure, starting with the mass fanfare statement on the downbeat, followed by sixteenth-note patterns in the snare and in the sawtooth synth.

Here is where what I'd begun calling the "Apogee Orchestra" takes over. The Orchestra, consisting of the sawtooth and square synths panned opposite of each other, a drumkit, bass guitar, rhythm/distorted guitar, and brass section of some sort (in this case, trumpets), launches into the real, yet short, melodic section. The synths lead, while the trumpets answer with fanfares and the rhythm section drives the piece along. The melodic section is only 26 measures in length, and this includes a two-bar transition which sets up the loop back to the beginning.

Such a long analysis for such a brief song. :)  Well, there you have it. Where Iz It in a nutshell. And with that, please allow me to present a link to a recording of the song itself. Thank you for reading, and thank you for voting for your "Song of the Weekend!"

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cG9JQjI0_tM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cG9JQjI0_tM)