

How Ethernet Is Shaping the Future of Real-Time Applications

- and What We've Learned in Professional Audio

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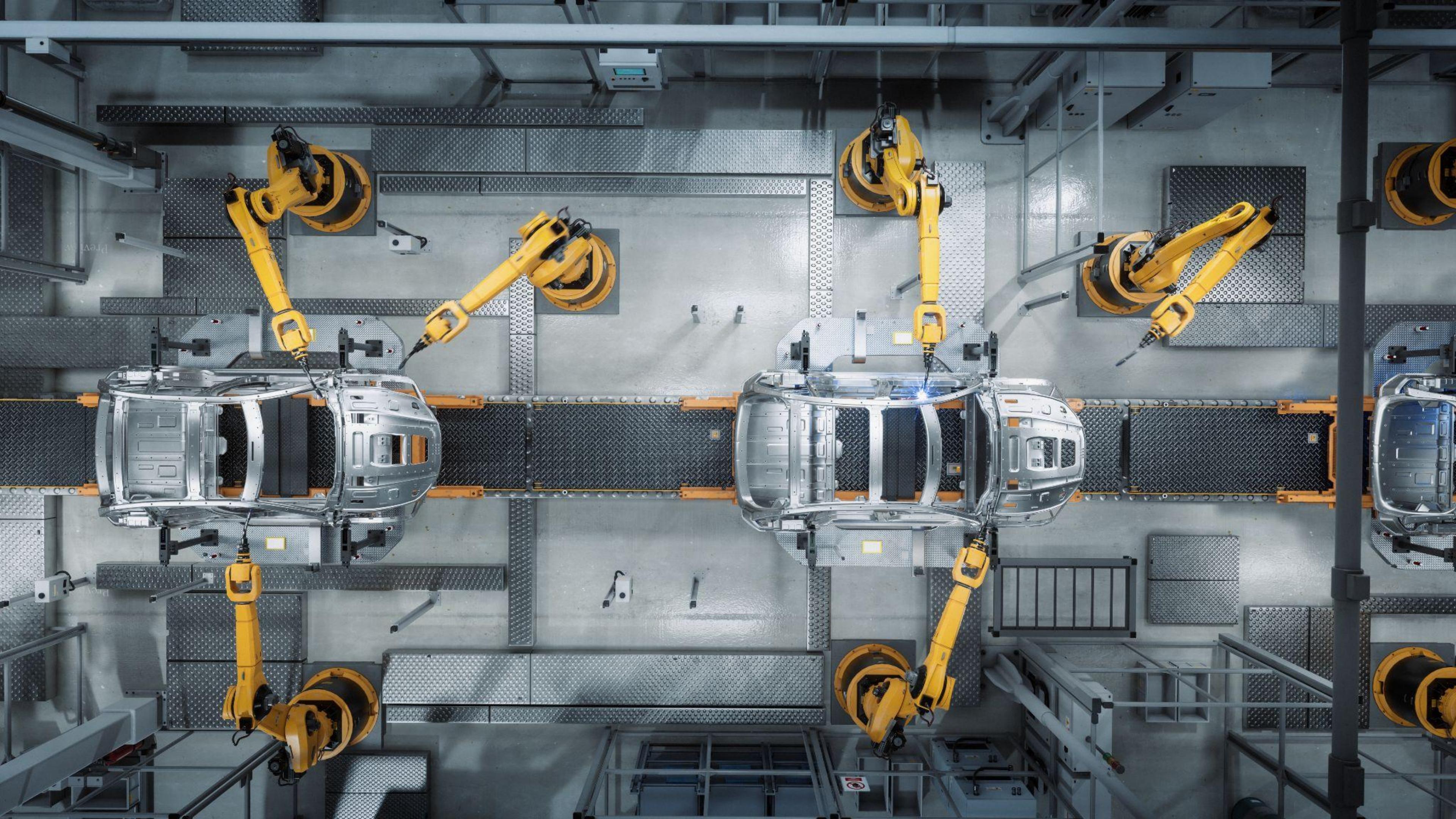
AUDIO.
NETWORK.
TECHNOLOGY.

Fabian Braun
CO-FOUNDER / CEO



What is “REALTIME”?









Credits: L-Acoustics, Milan Presentation - 2023-01-27 - ISE2023



ABBA Voyage



Commonalities and differences





IEEE STANDARDS ASSOCIATION



**IEEE Standard for
Local and metropolitan area networks—**

Audio Video Bridging (AVB) Systems

IEEE Computer Society

Sponsored by the
LAN/MAN Standards Committee

IEEE
3 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016-5997
USA

30 September 2011

IEEE Std 802.1BA™-2011

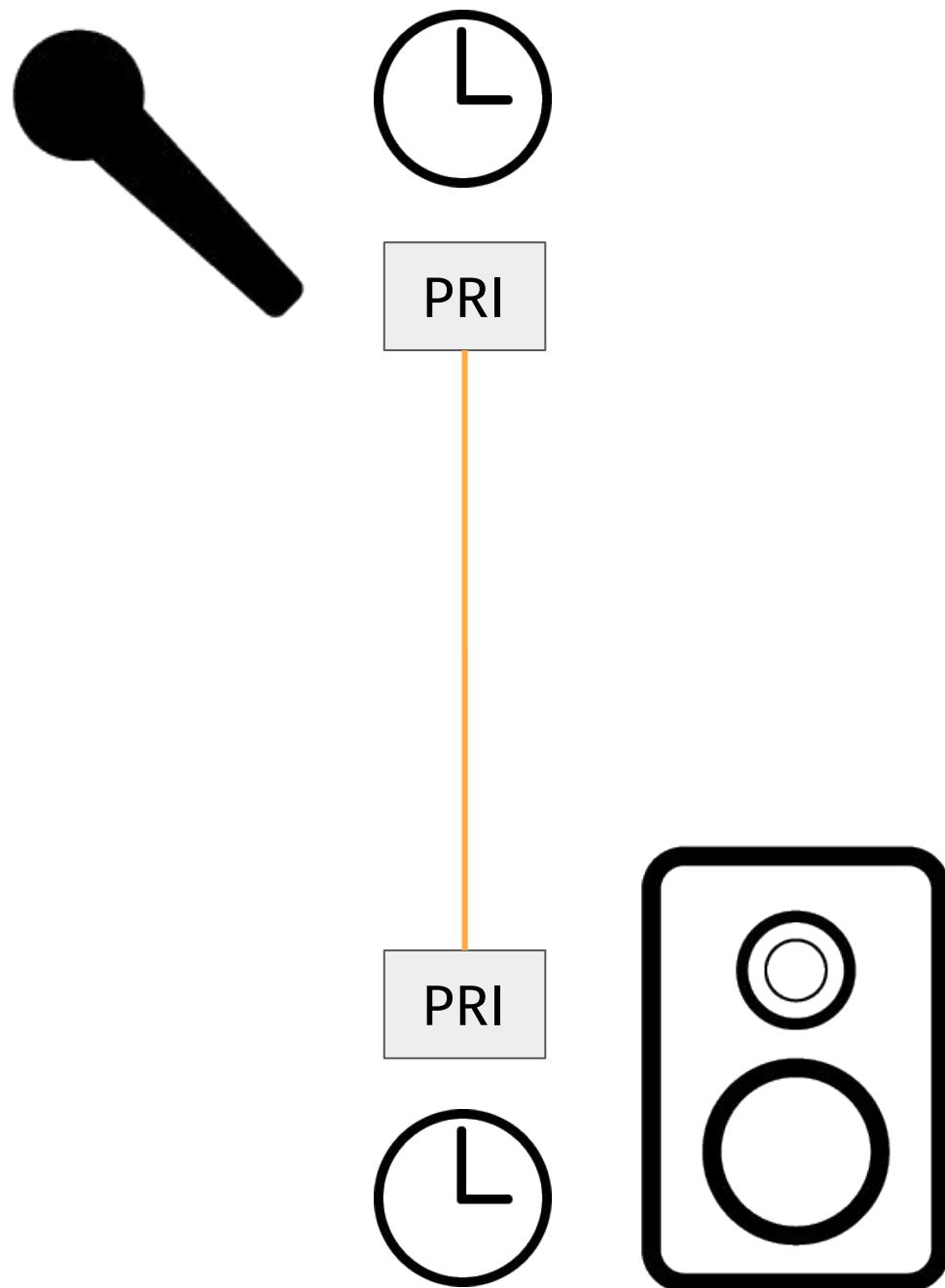
A list of standards with maaaaany options:

- **IEEE802.3**
- **IEEE802.1BA**
- **IEEE802.1AS**
- **IEEE802.1Q**
- **IEEE1722**
- **IEEE1722.1**

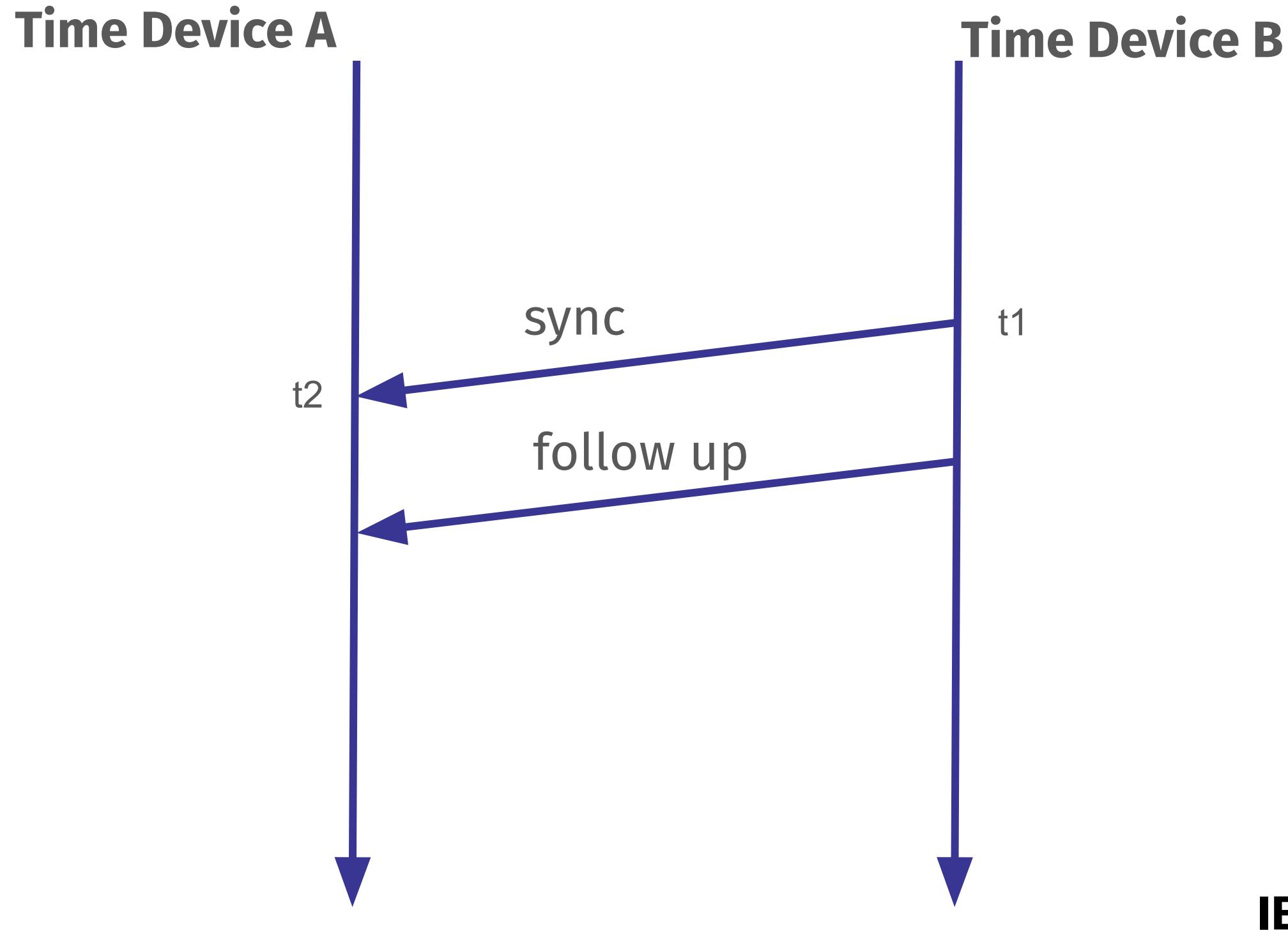
**“AVB” workgroup renamed to “TSN” - maintaining
and enhancing the same set of standards**

Synchronization with (g)PTP

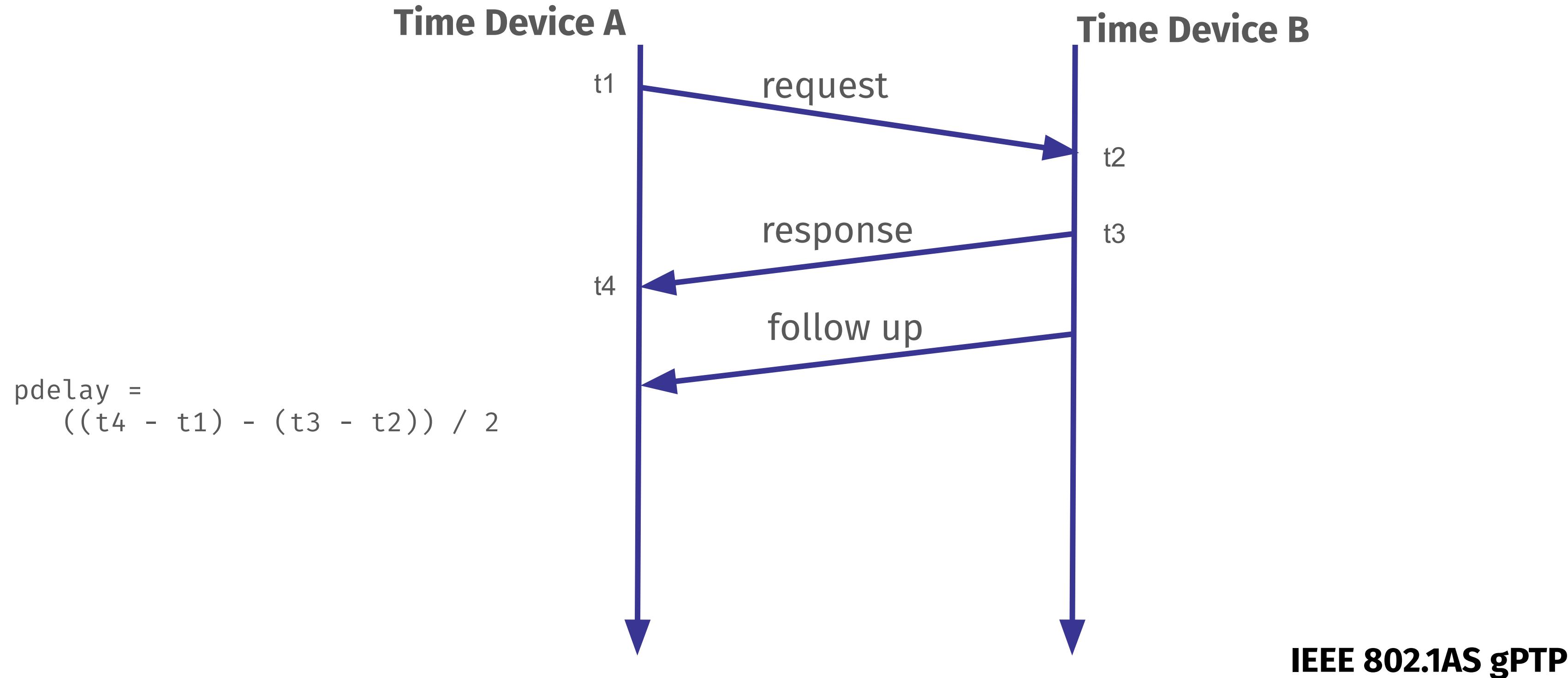
Live Experiment



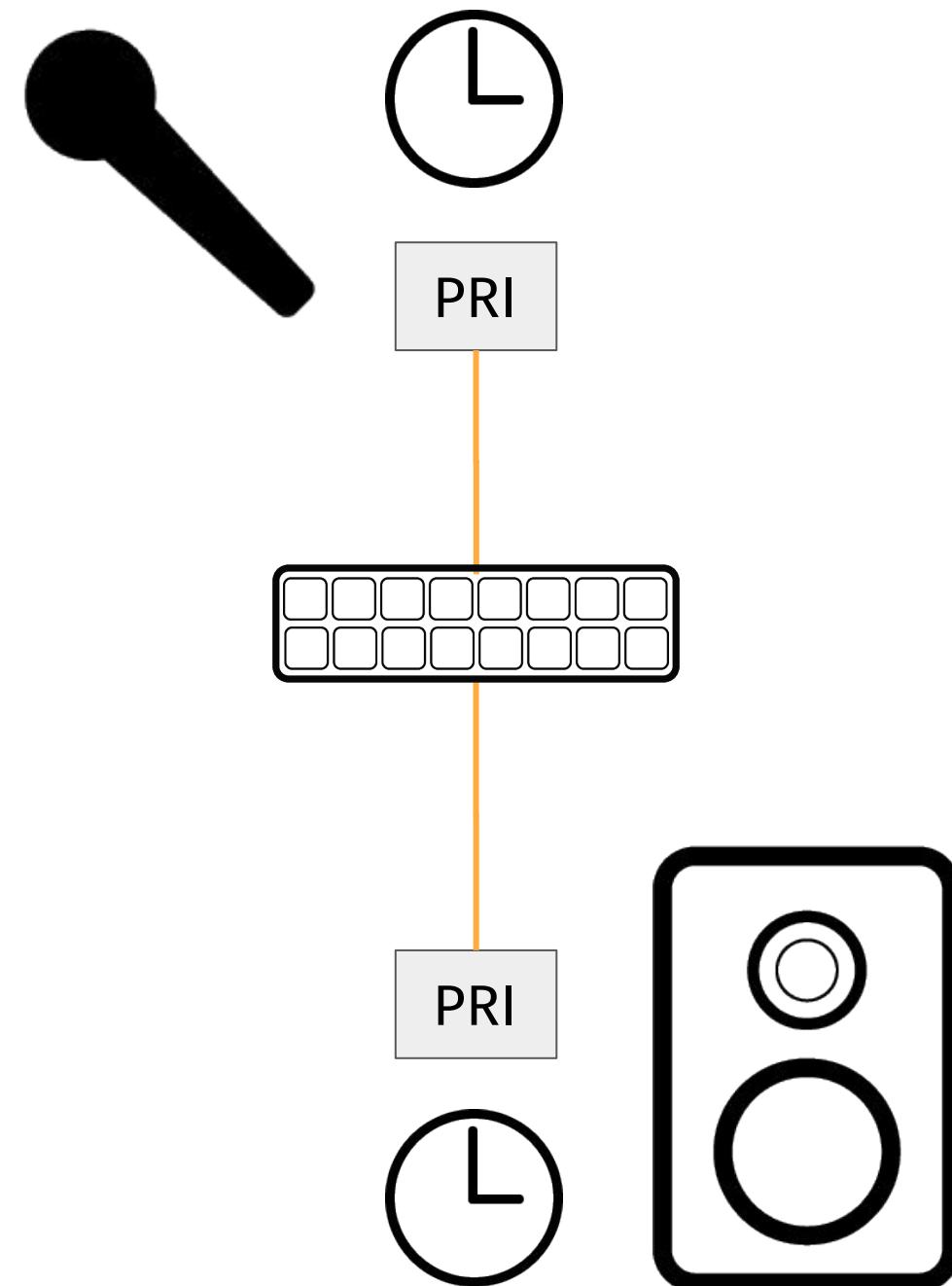
The gPTP Protocol



The gPTP Protocol

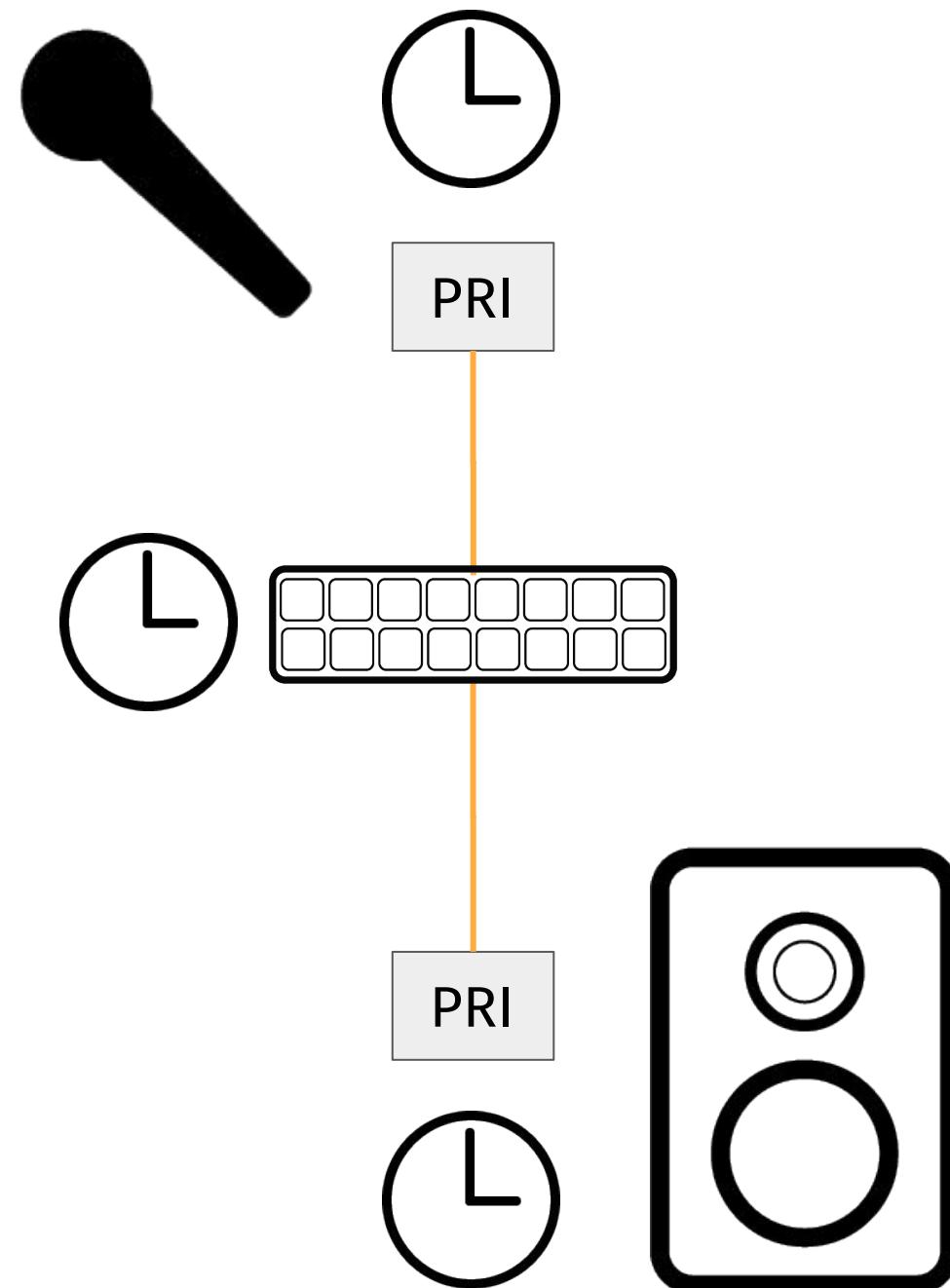


Precision Time Protocol - PTPv1



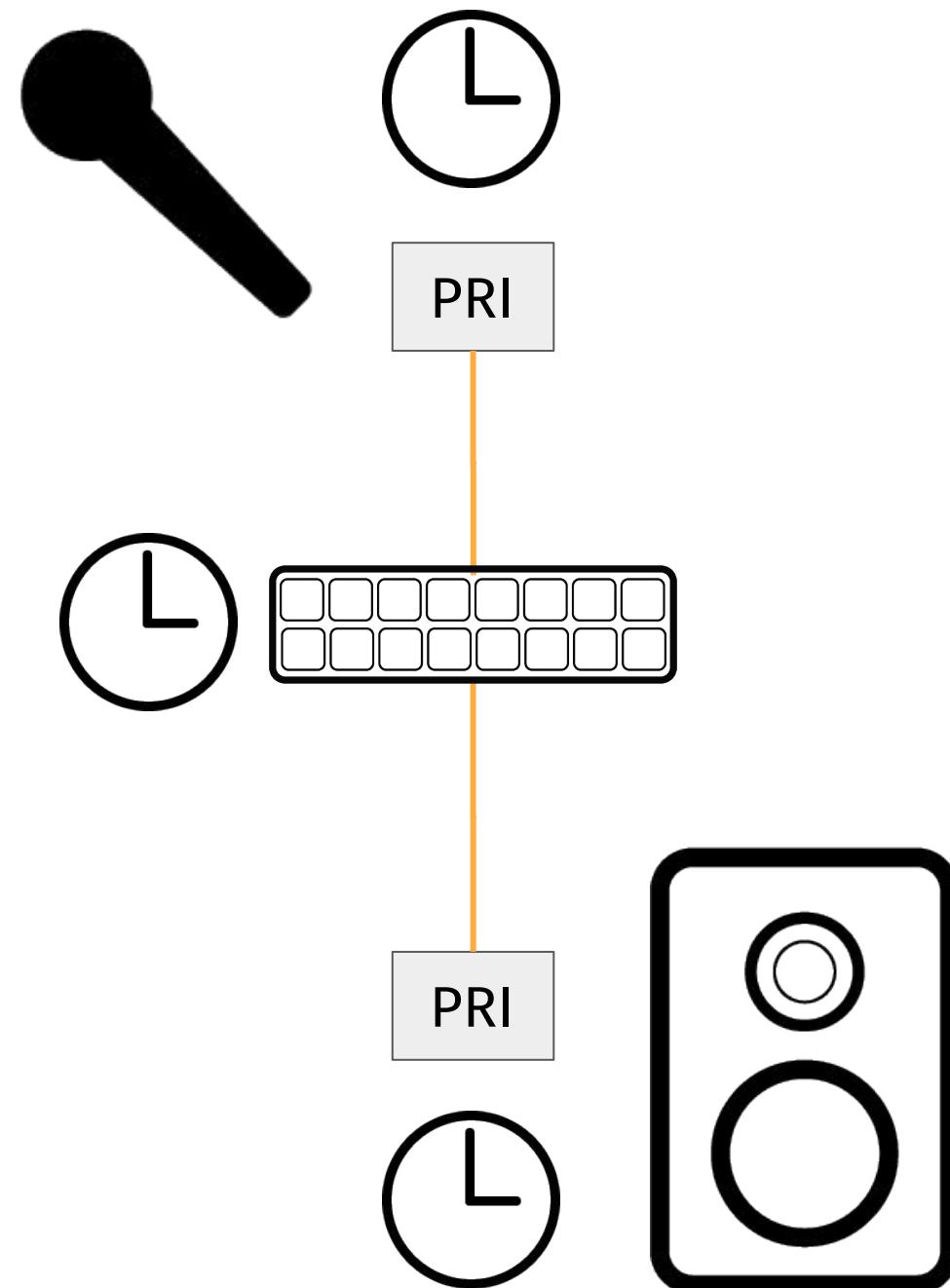
- Timestamping in Software
- Only endpoints - no switches - involved
- IP headers

Precision Time Protocol - PTPv2



- Timestamping in Hardware
- All endpoints and switches involved
- Various profiles
- IP headers

All network devices are getting synchronized per gPTP



- Timestamping in Hardware
- All endpoints and switches involved
- Harmonized profile across all devices
- Ethernet Layer 2 - no IP - headers

Precision Time Protocol - Performance comparison

Max Time Error	1 st hop	6 th hop
PTP V1, heavy traffic	N/A	$\pm 2500\mu s$
PTP V2, transparent clocks	$\pm 0.024\mu s$	$\pm 4.5\mu s$
PTP V2, boundary clocks	$\pm 1\mu s$	$\pm 4\mu s$
gPTP	$\pm 0.035\mu s$	$\pm 0.063\mu s$

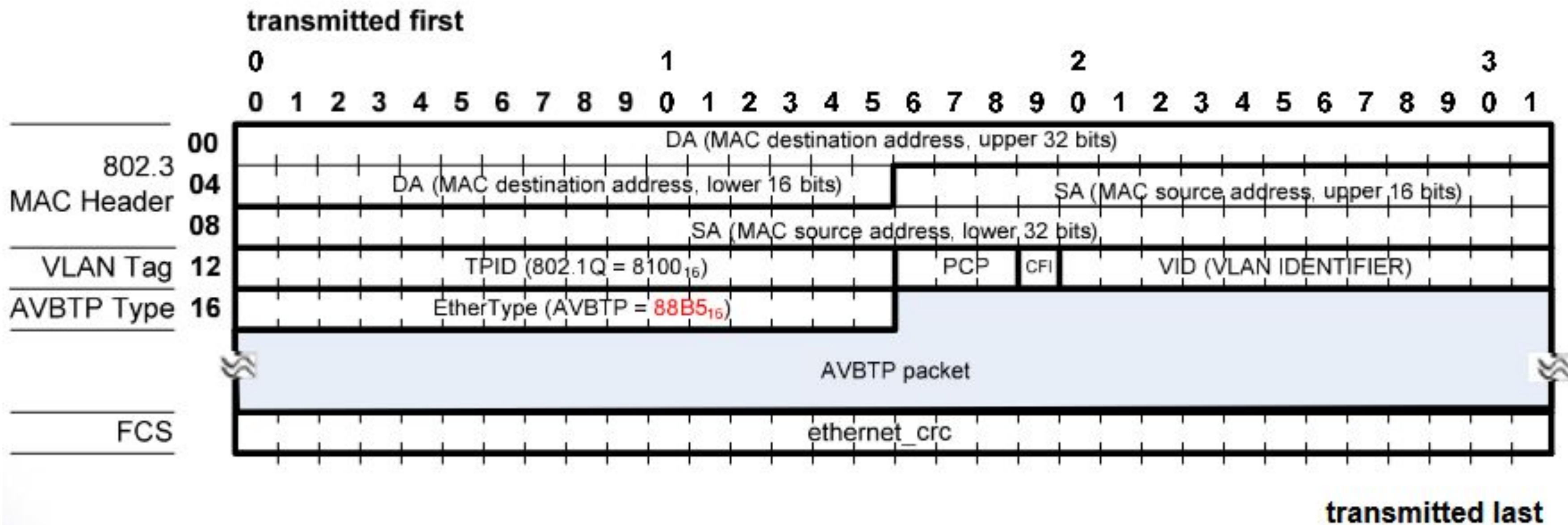
Kaltheuner, Henning / Kronauer, Genio / Lave, Morten / Corteel, Etienne: Requirements and Solutions for Audio Networking in Sound Reinforcement Systems. Conference Paper 18: AES 2024 International Conference on Acoustics & Sound Reinforcement (January 2024), 1-10.

<https://www.aes.org/tmpFiles/elib/20251007/22356.pdf>

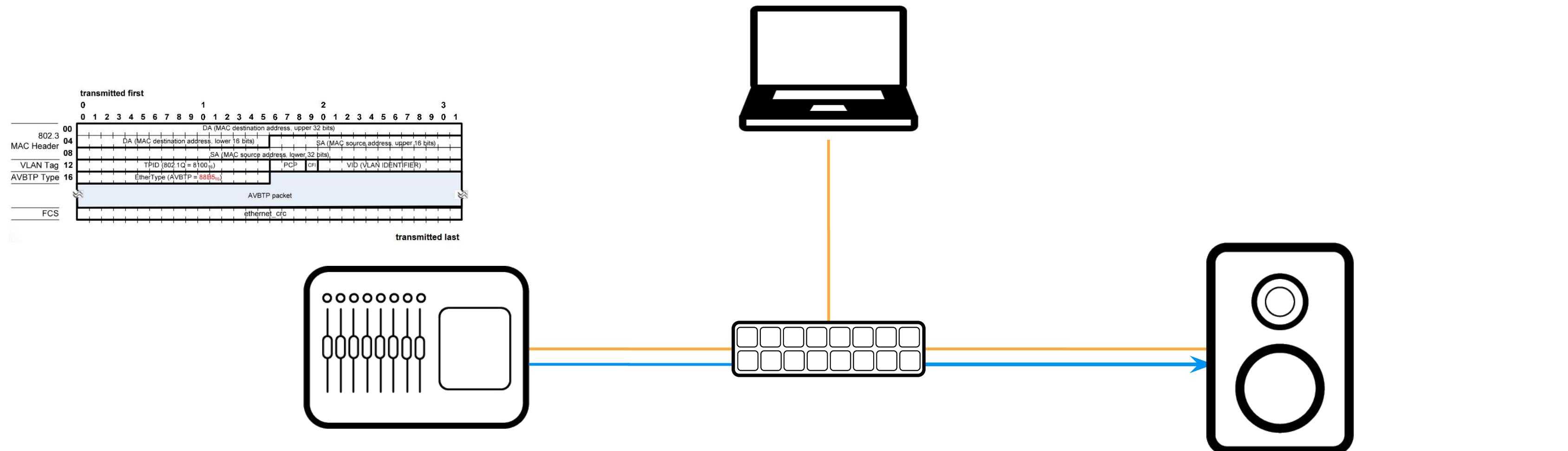


Stream Reservation

What is an ethernet packet?

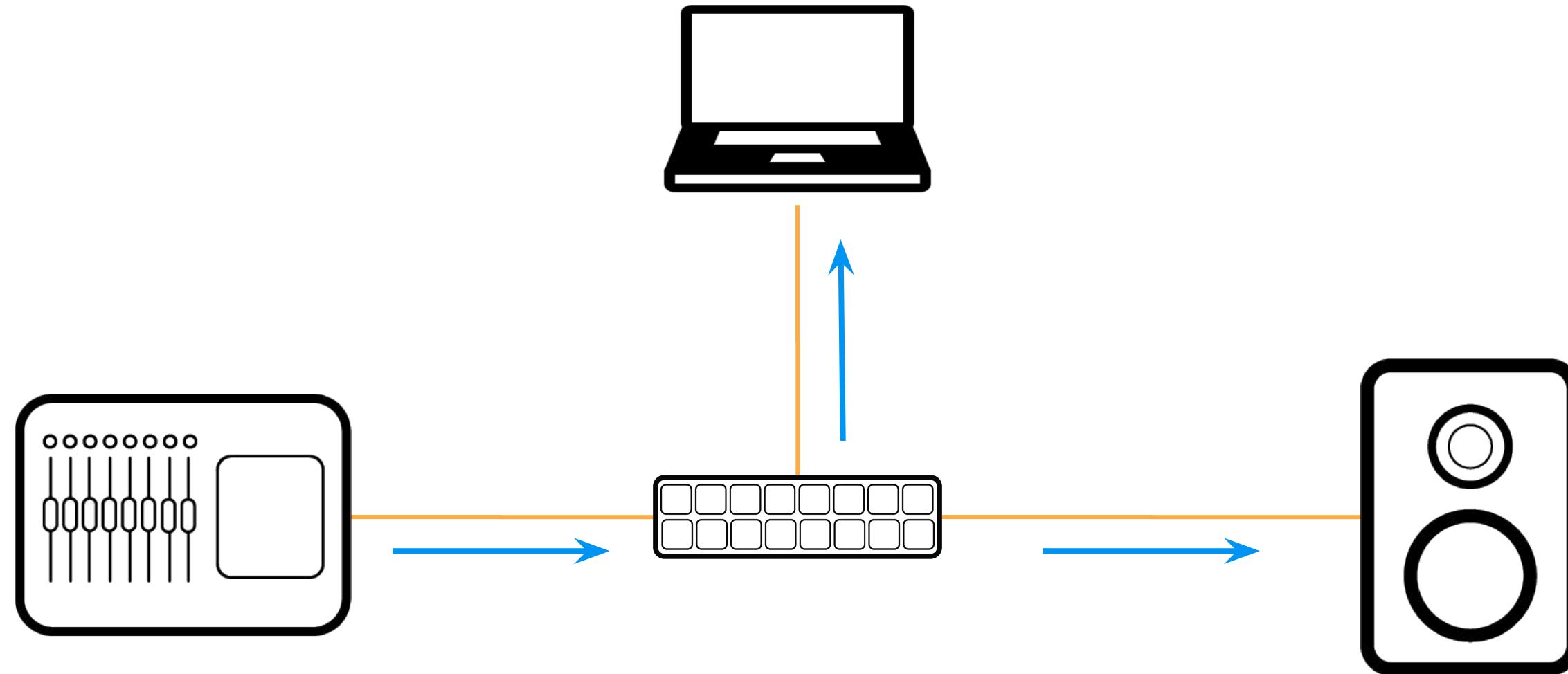


What is a stream?

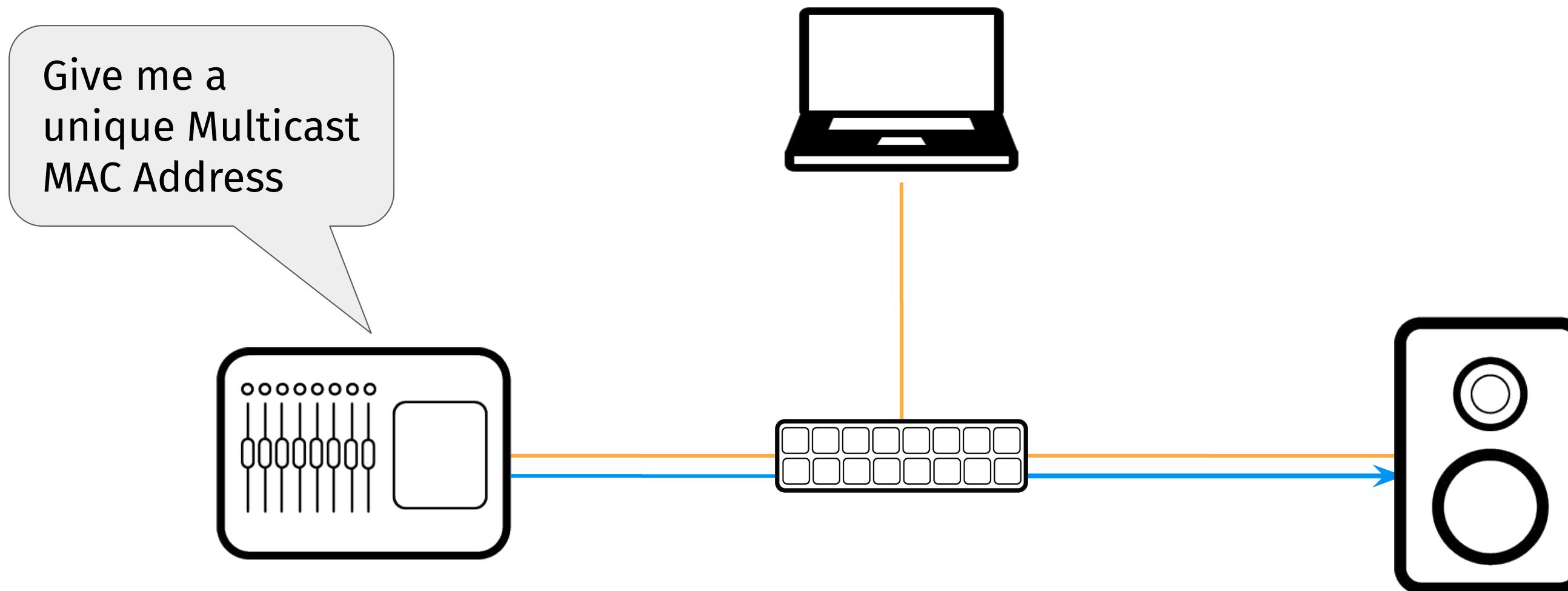


Continuous transmission of ethernet packets. 8000x per second!

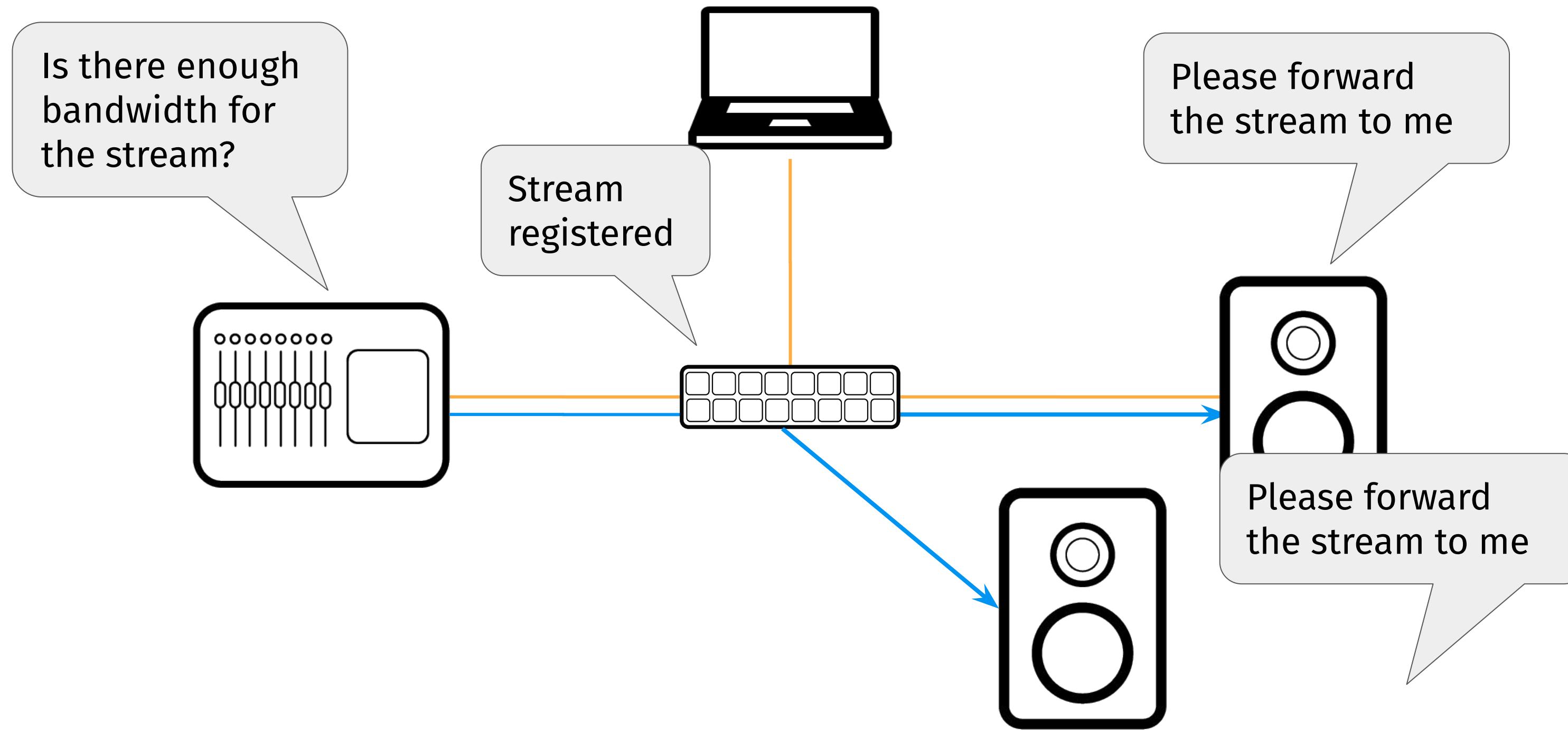
Recap: Regular Multicast



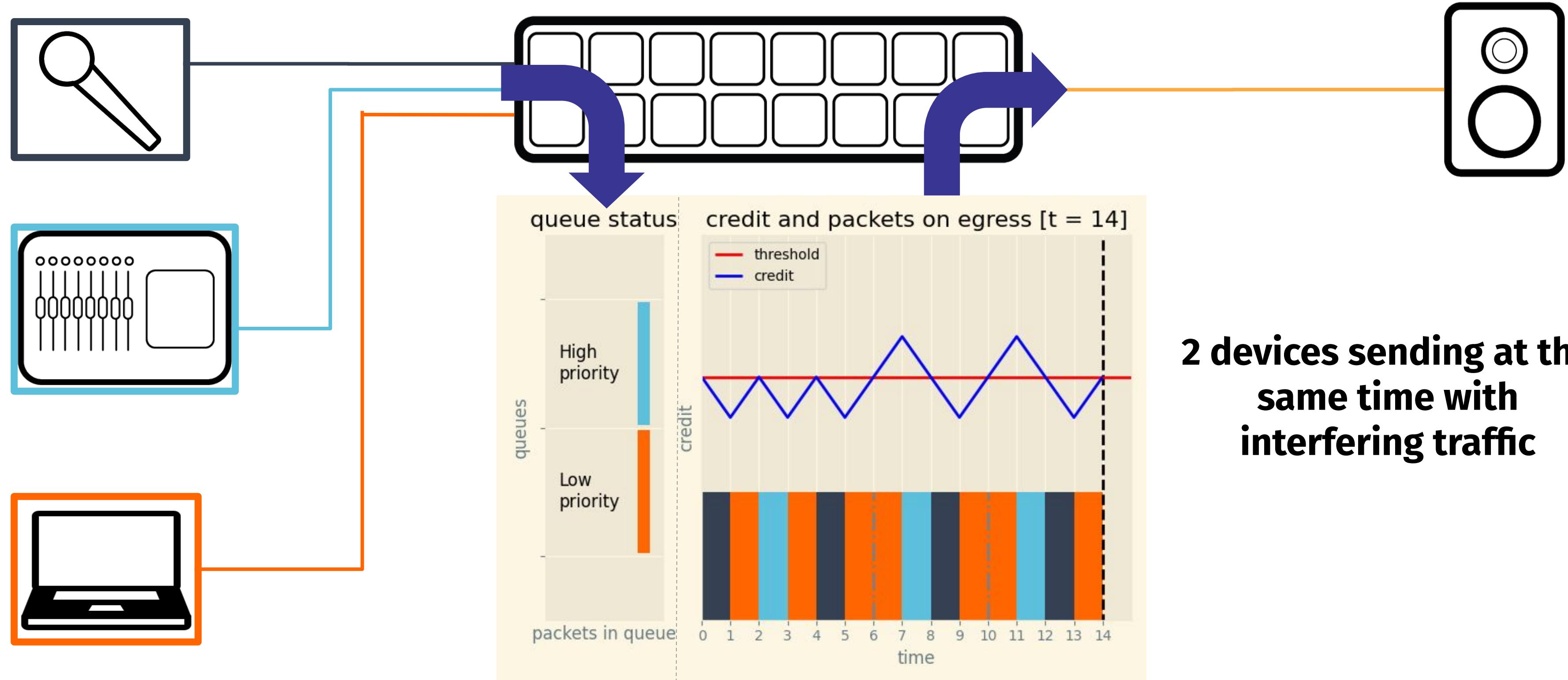
Multicast Address Allocation Protocol



Stream Reservation Protocol



Queueing and shaping - Qav - The credit based shaper



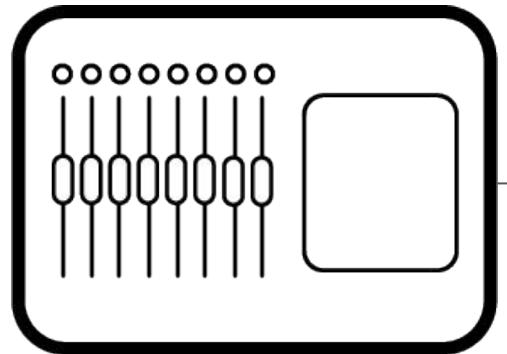
2 devices sending at the same time with interfering traffic



So what's special about Pro Audio Applications?

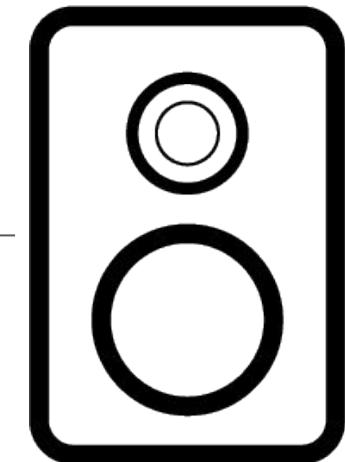
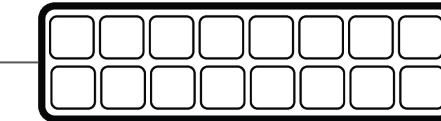
The audio market situation in 2016 and before - Example

Manufacturer A



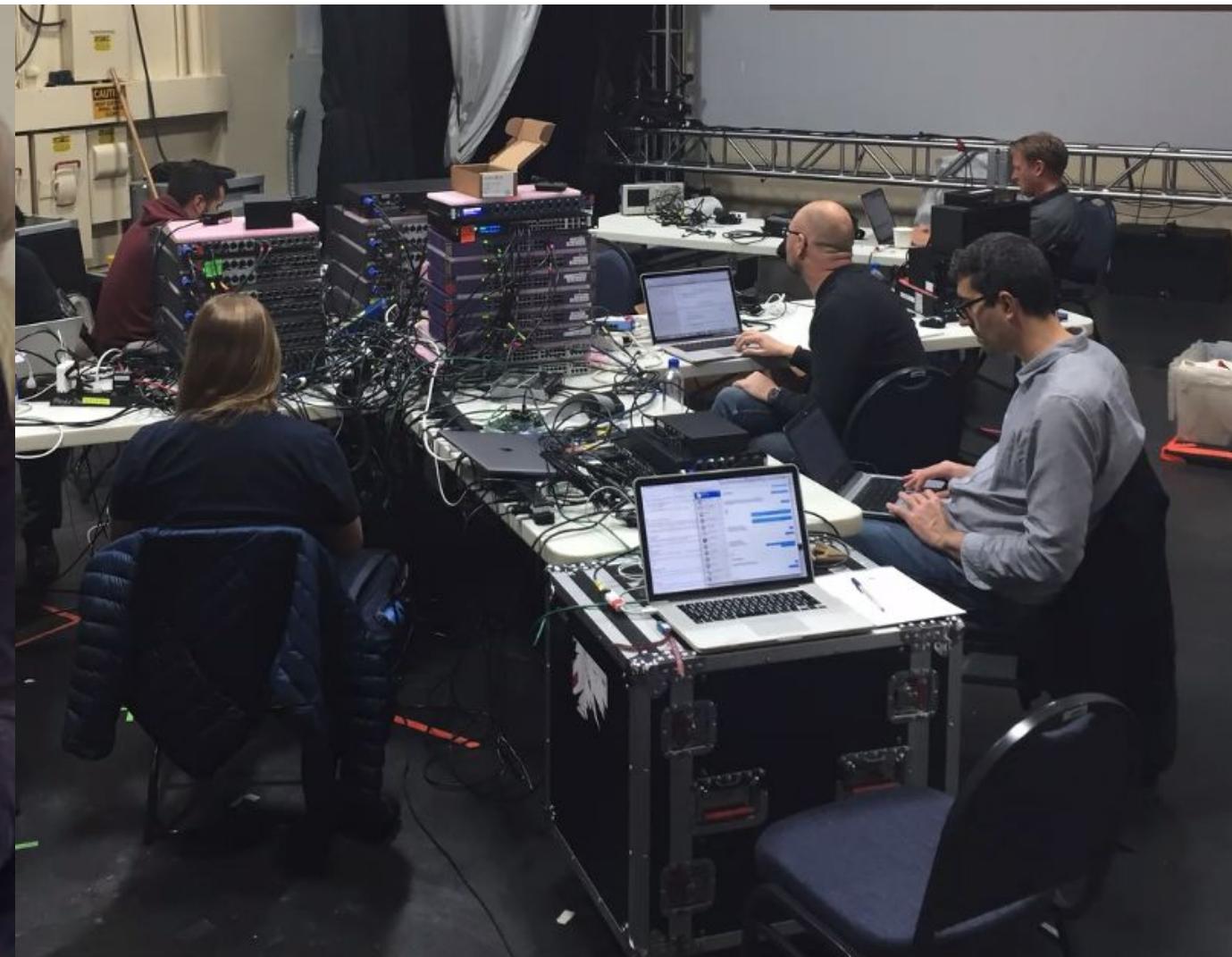
IEEE1722
AM824
48kHz
24Bit
8 channels

Manufacturer B

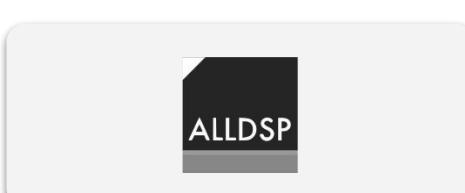
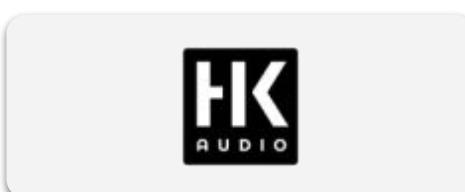
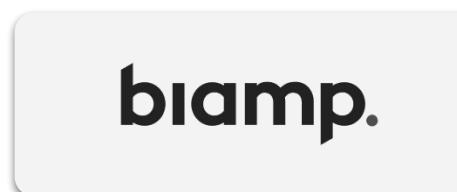


IEEE1722
AM824
48kHz
24Bit
1 channel

So we had to work this out...



Who supports Milan?



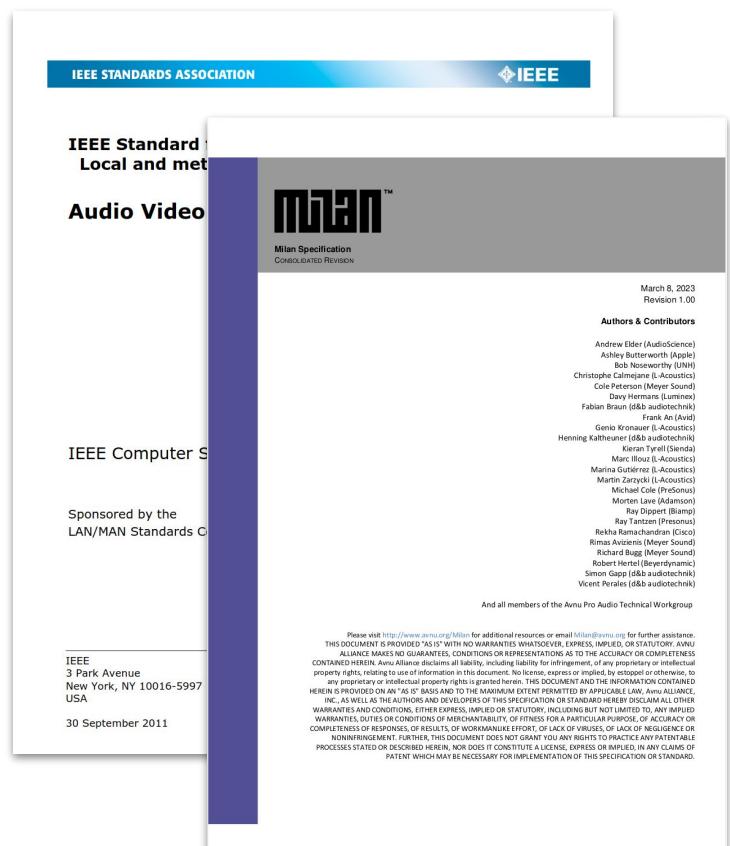
Milan Baseline

Milan defines interoperable subset of the standards:

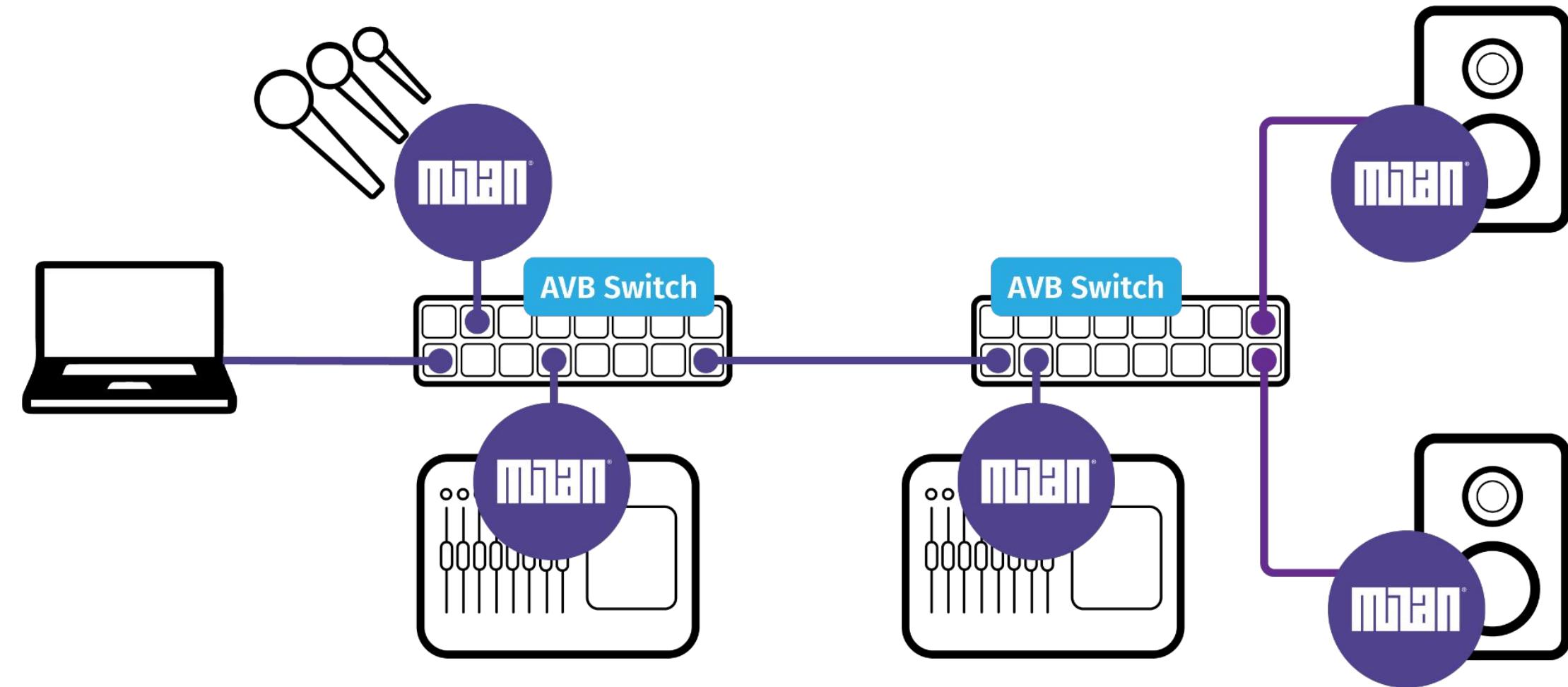
- Media clocking
- Common Stream Formats
- Enumeration, Connection Management, (basic) Control

Clarifies ambiguities

Adds redundancy scheme (optional)



What is AVB/TSN and Milan?



The background of the advertisement features a large, dark crowd of people at a concert. Stage lights in shades of purple, blue, and white create a vibrant atmosphere with numerous bright spots and rays of light. The overall mood is energetic and festive.

Enjoy your next
concert!

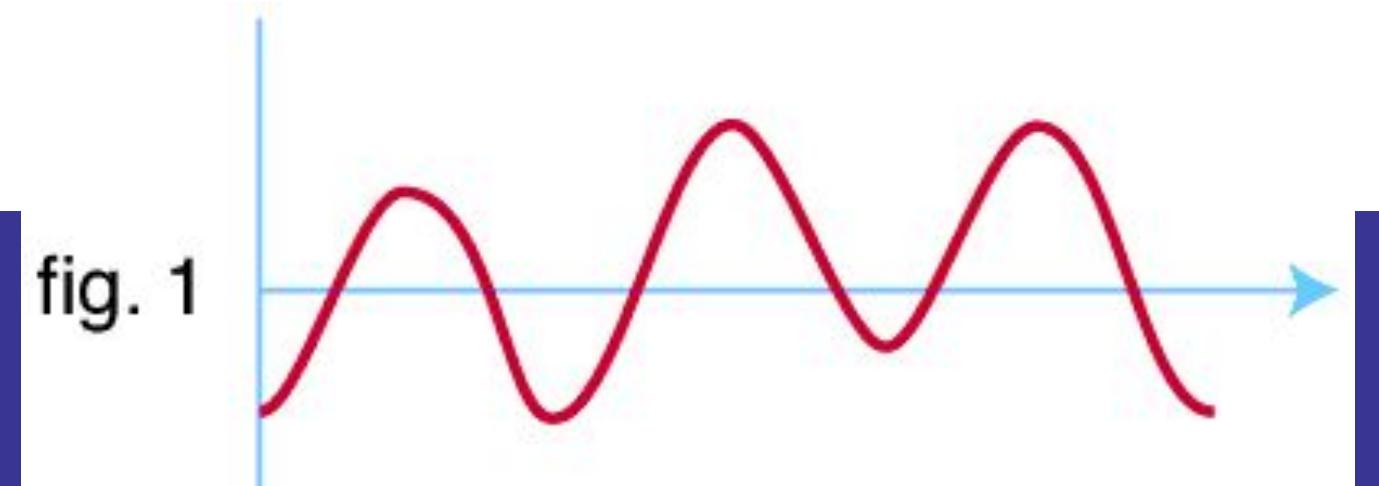
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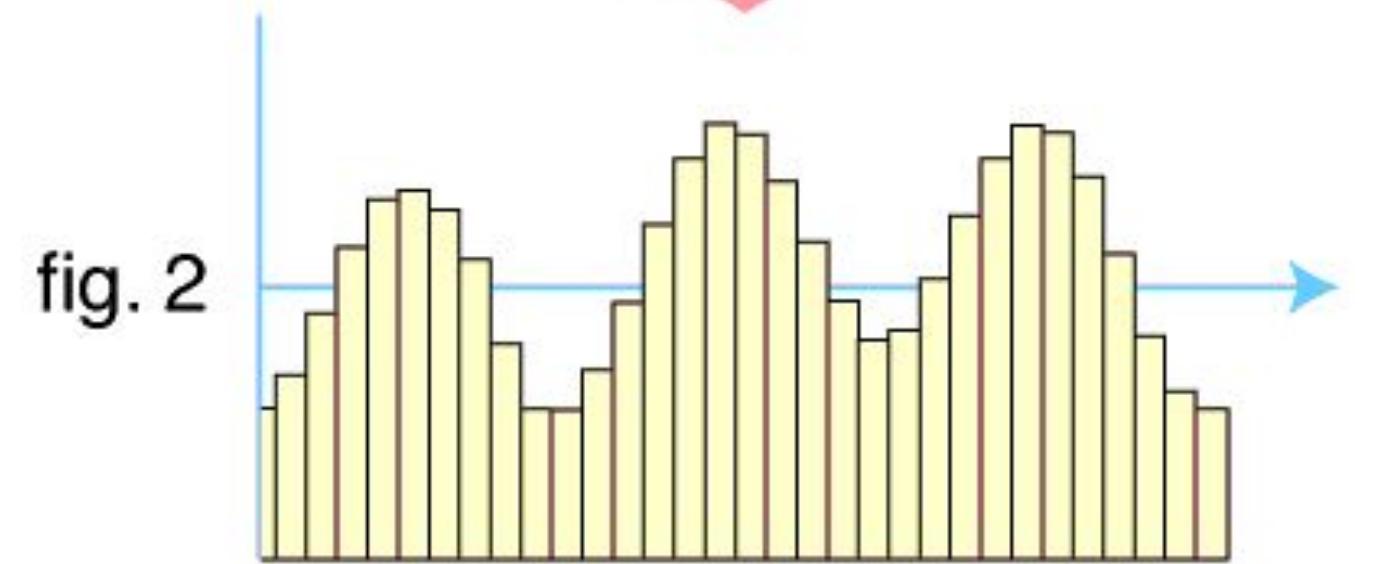


Can Milan really sound better?

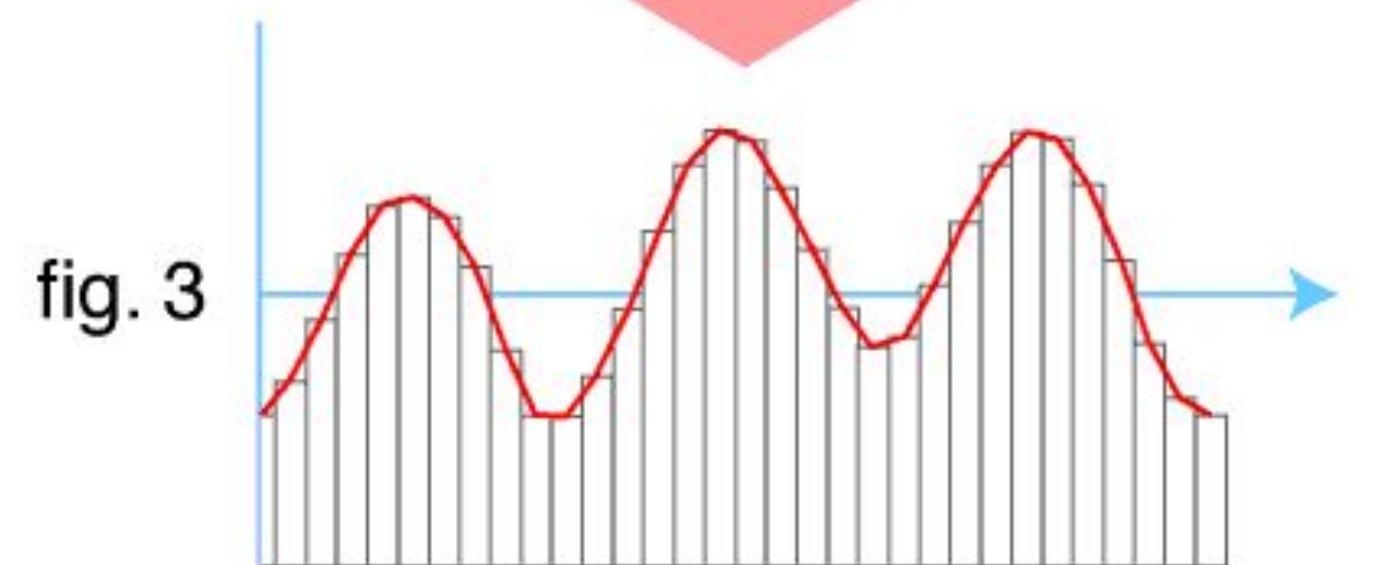
Basics: Analog-Digital-Conversion



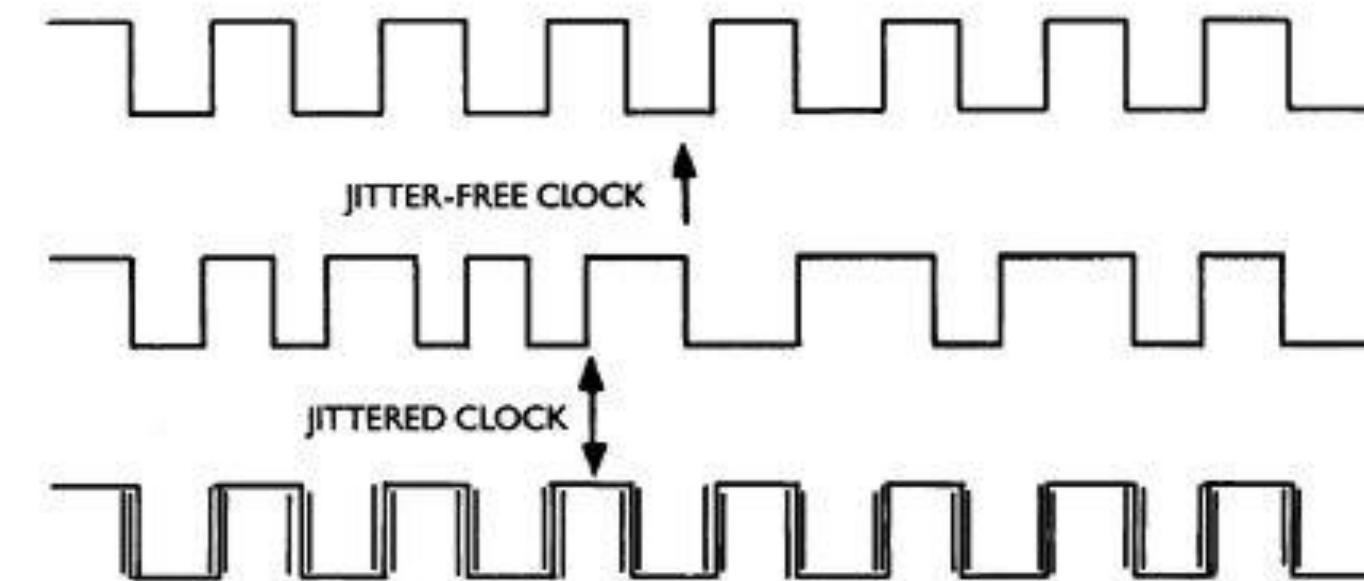
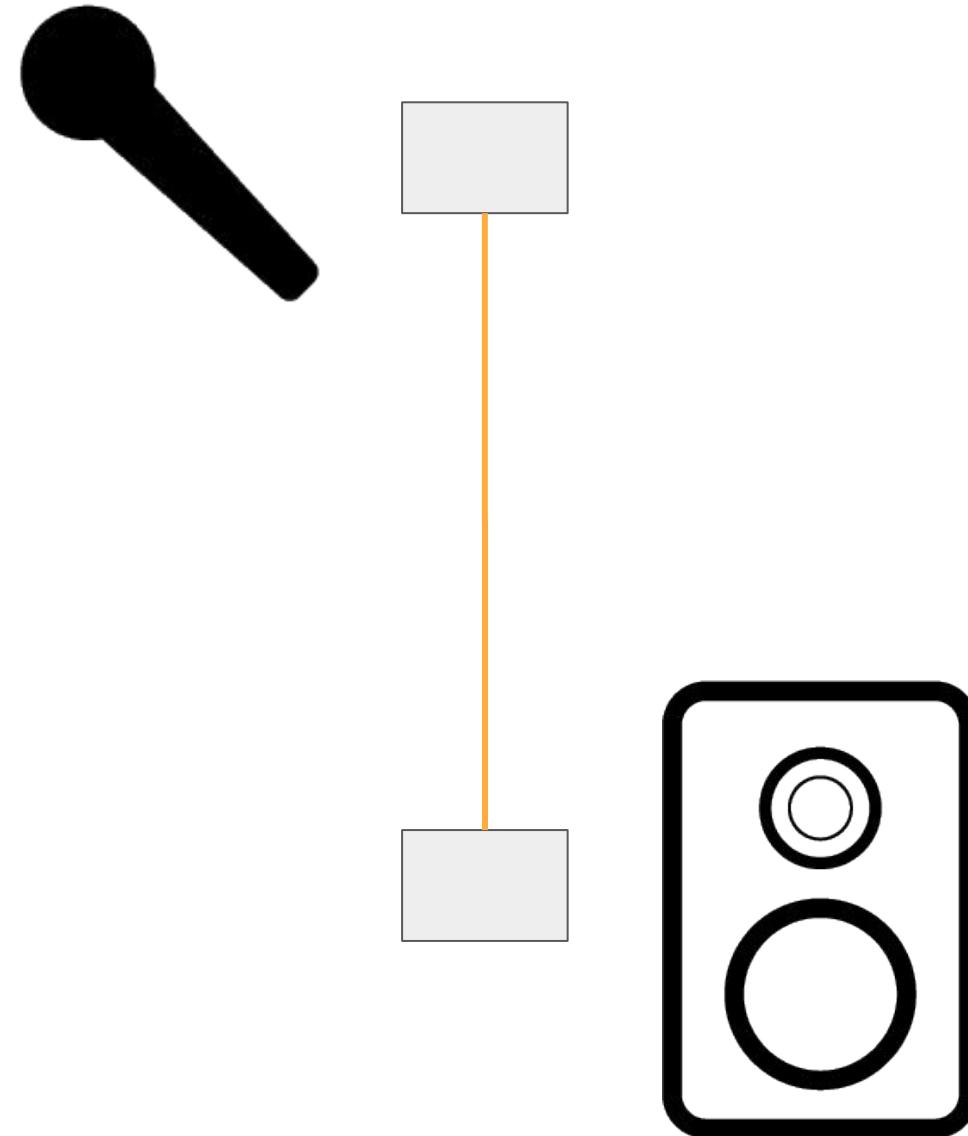
Conversion A-D



Conversion D-A



Basics: Jitter in a Digital system



Basics: The effect of Jitter in Digital-Analog-Conversion

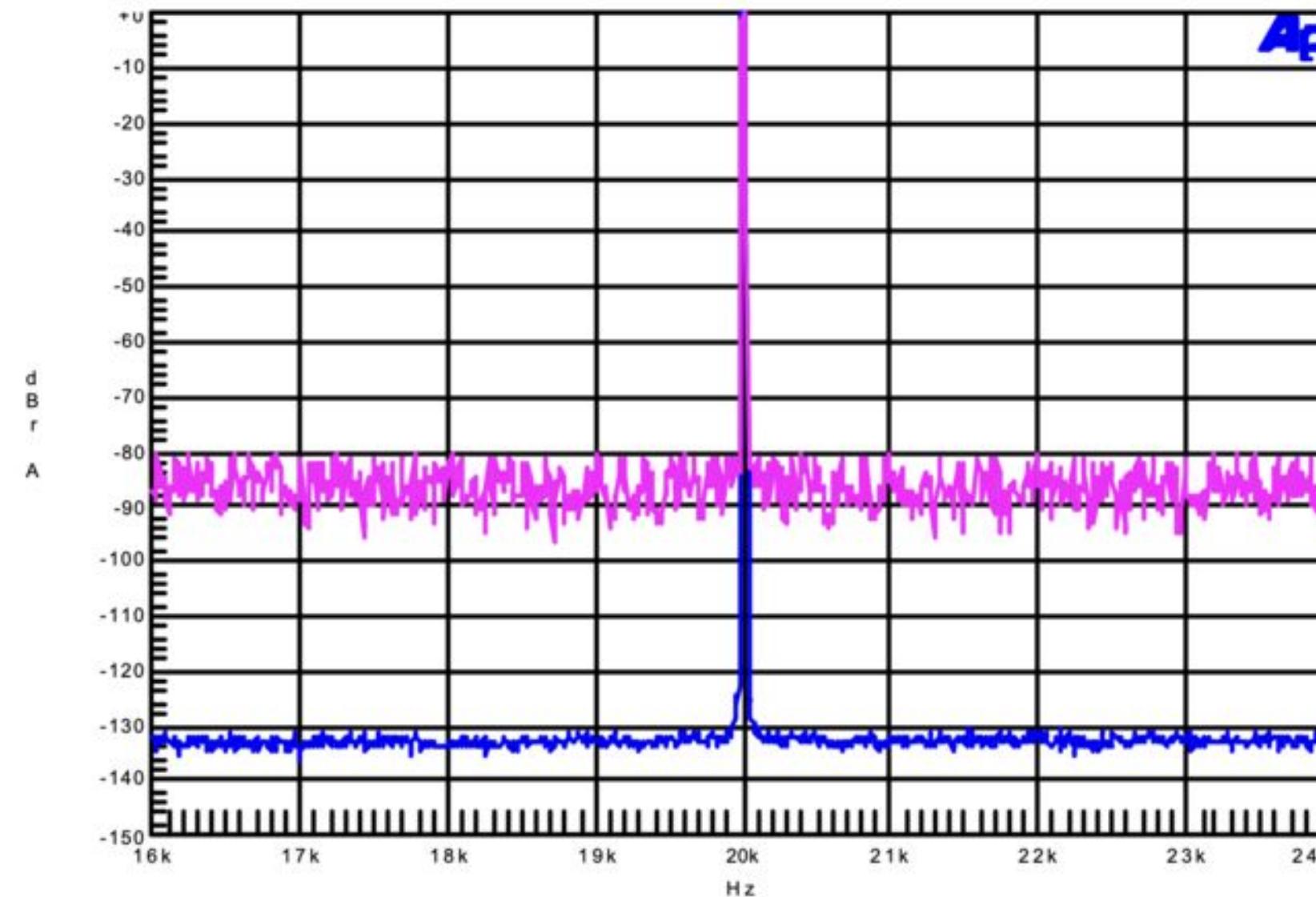


Figure 1 DAC in clock master mode (lower trace) and in clock slave mode with 25 ns peak wide band jitter applied (upper trace).

Audio Networking in Sound Reinforcement Systems

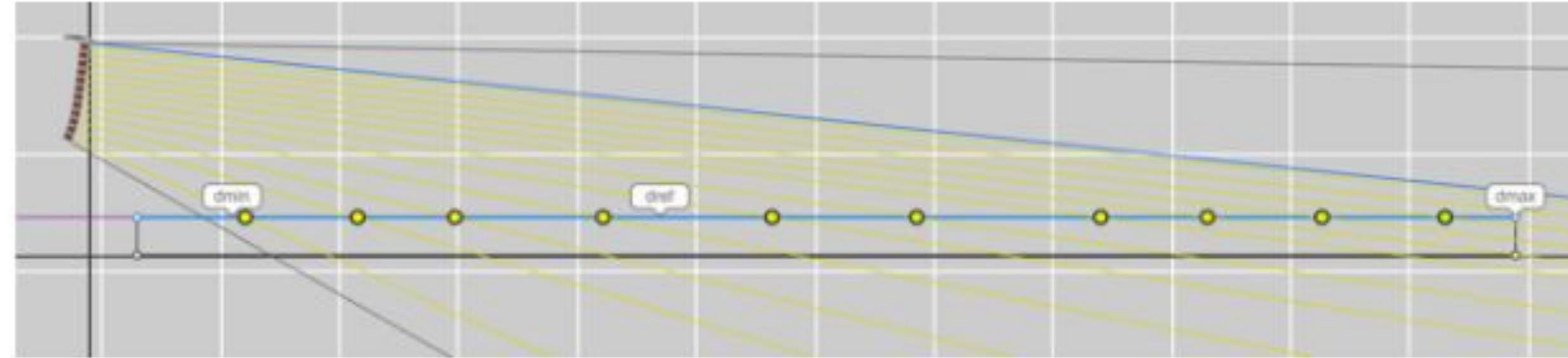


Figure 2: loudspeaker system and audience area used for synchronization evaluation tests

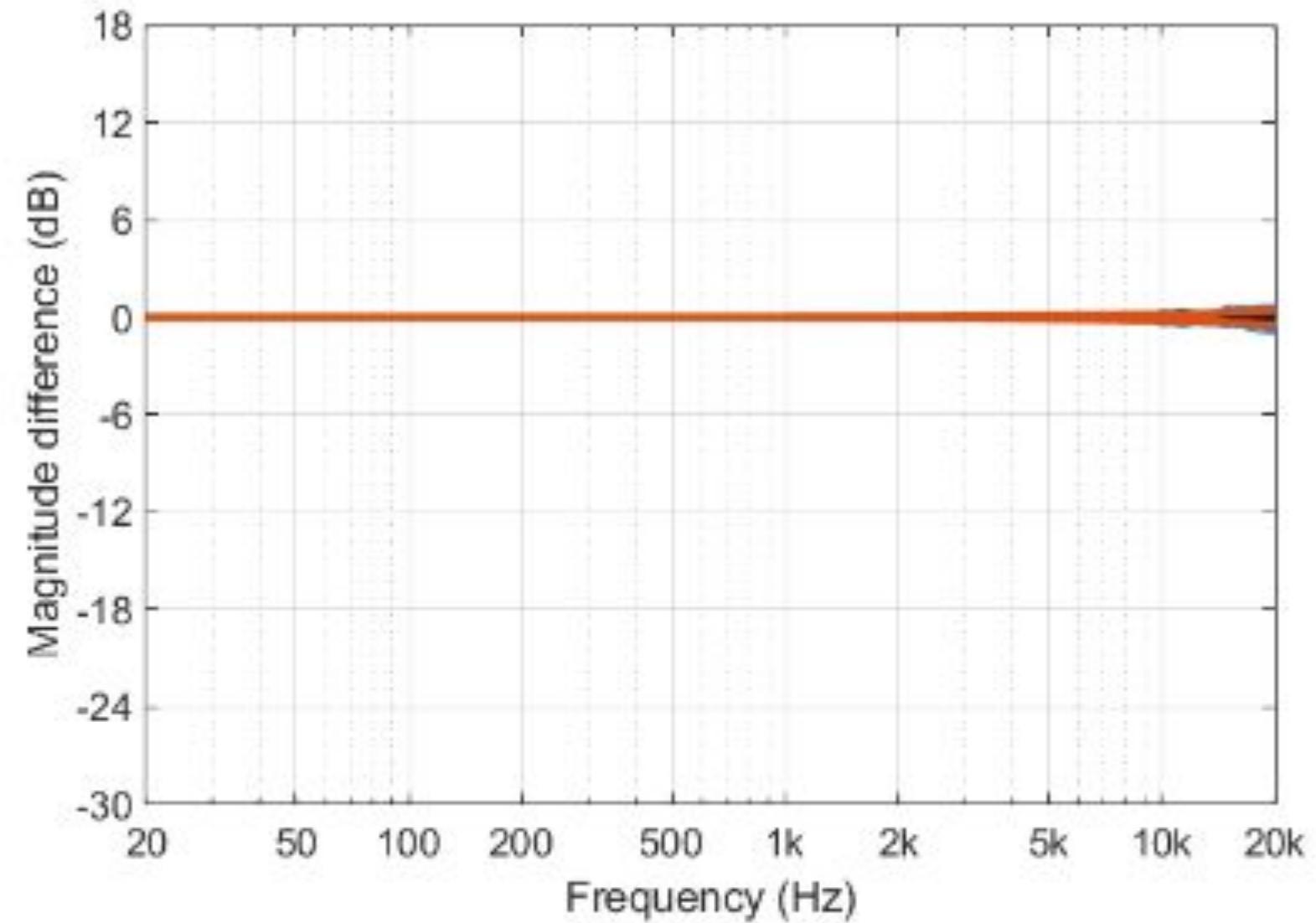


Figure 3: frequency response variations between unsynchronized and synchronized according to Figure 2 (blue: individual curves, black, median, red: 2.5 and 97.5 percentile), third octave smoothing, $\pm 0.5\mu\text{s}$ timing offset (uniform random distribution)

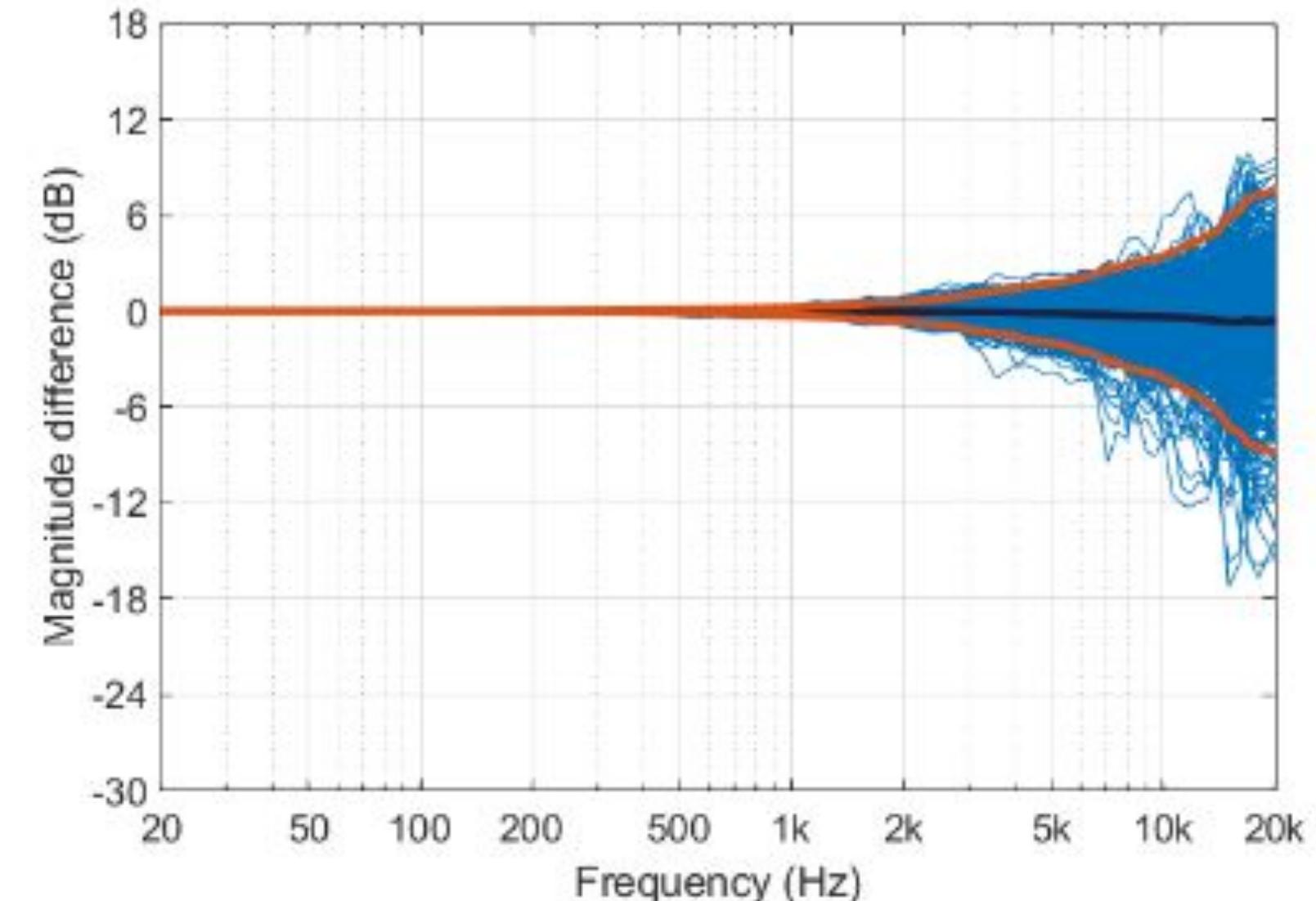
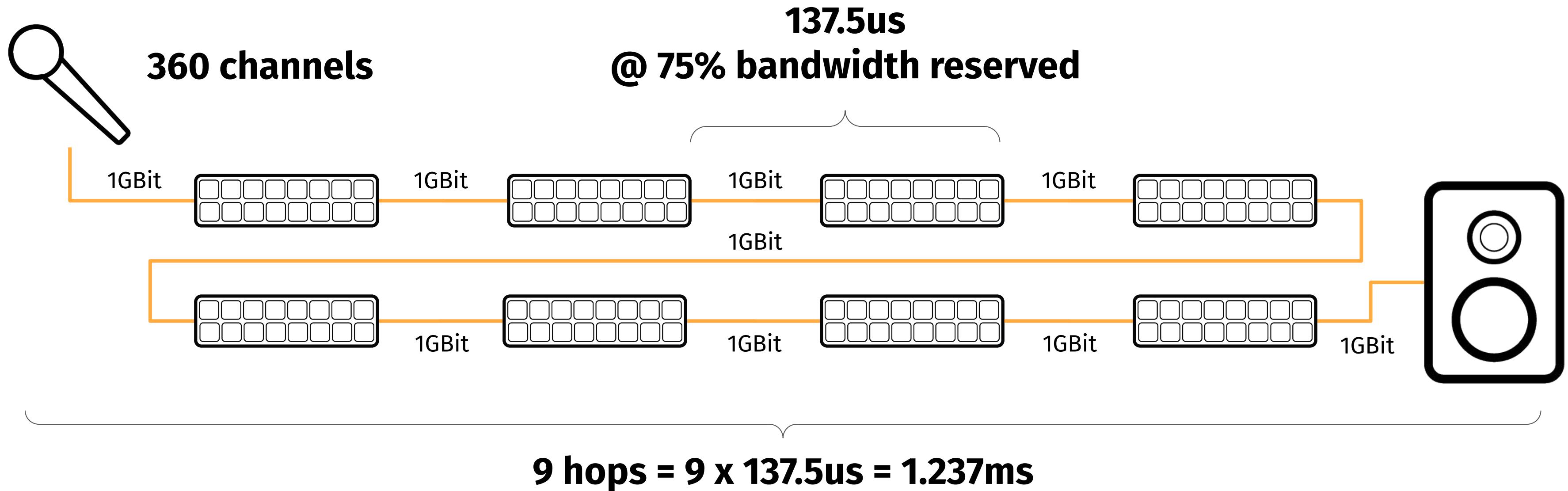


Figure 4: frequency response variations between unsynchronized and synchronized according to Figure 2 (blue: individual curves, black, median, red: 2.5 and 97.5 percentile), third octave smoothing, $\pm 10\mu\text{s}$ timing offset (uniform random distribution)

BACKUP SLIDES

Latencies in Milan networks

Latency in AVB networks



Latency in AVB networks

Hops	Worst Case Latency	Link Speed
2	0.5ms	100 MBit
7	2ms	100 MBit
2	0.275ms	GBit
14	2ms	GBit

75% bandwidth for AVB reserved