For each mechanism, what are possible causes, if any, of messages being lost?

UDP offers no guarantee of delivery, ordering, or duplicate protection. IP datagram packets may be dropped because of network congestion or error. Congestion can occur when too many messages are sent or when too many users are on the same network. Errors may occur when distances increase as there may be more servers in between, increasing the probability of hardware or software failure. If on a wireless networks, external interference can corrupt the data. Packets can also be dropped when their checksum fail (corrupted).

Our UDP implementation also has a fixed buffer and message size. When incoming transmissions exceed these allocations, the buffer overflows, and begins skipping packets (discussed further in the next section).

RMI is very reliable. However, the target server can still malfunction (terminating early/breaking the connection). Programming errors can occur during interface implementation or parameter handling. There can also also be protocol disagreements between client and server. (Though these errors are not exclusive to RMI).

Are there any patterns in the way messages are lost?

Our RMI server implementation did not lose any of the 1000 messages (RMI 1) or even the 10,000 messages we sent from the client (RMI 2). This indicates a high level of reliability. Nevertheless, we did notice a significant drop in performance (higher latency) which was not present in UDP after the total message count exceeded 2000.

Our UDP server seemed to handle requests below 200 messages well (UDP 1). However, when we tested with 500 messages, missing packets began to surface at 260~ at an interval between 1 and 4, but most frequently between 1 and 2. (UDP 2). Multiple tests indicate that the start of and the number of missing messages vary randomly. Curious, we decided to tweak with the pack and buffer sizes through (pacData=new byte[], recvSoc.setReceiveBufferSize()), and all messages between 5 and 99 went missing! (UDP 3) This indicates that small buffer or large message sizes can cause significant packet drops until the buffer is flushed, reset after some time, or when the server is rebooted.

What is the relative reliability of the different communication mechanisms?

RMI is significantly more reliable than UDP for many reasons. The request-reply system, duplicate filtering, retransmission of results, and interface abstraction/checking significantly improves the reliability of RMI. On the other hand, beyond the reasons discussed in question one, we were able to send UDP messages without the UDP server even being up. Would that then be considered a 100% drop rate?

Which was easier to program and why?

RMI was easier to program for us mainly due to its high-level abstraction and Java programming syntax. The remote interface abstracts away many tasks like marshalling, garbage collection, registry, and security. The allowance of object reflection and method invocation, makes it easy to manipulate! UDP was longer and required a new understanding of datagram and sockets, which was educational, but more complex.

Figure RMI 1

⊗⊜⊕ Terminal	⊗ ⊜ ⊕ Terminal
File Edit View Search Terminal Help	File Edit View Search Terminal Help
Received 1000;990	909 sent 910 sent 911 sent 912 sent 913 sent 914 sent 915 sent 916 sent
Received 1000;991	917 sent 918 sent 919 sent 920 sent 921 sent 922 sent 923 sent 924 sent 925 sent 926 sent 927 sent 928 sent
Received 1000;992	929 sent 930 sent 931 sent 932 sent 933 sent 934 sent 935 sent 936 sent
Received 1000;993	937 sent 938 sent 939 sent 940 sent 941 sent 942 sent 943 sent 944 sent
Received 1000;994	945 sent 946 sent 947 sent 948 sent 949 sent 950 sent 951 sent 952 sent
Received 1000;995	953 sent 954 sent 955 sent 956 sent 957 sent 958 sent 959 sent 960 sent
Received 1000;996	961 sent 962 sent 963 sent 964 sent 965 sent 966 sent 967 sent 968 sent
Received 1000;997	969 sent 970 sent 971 sent 972 sent 973 sent 974 sent 975 sent 976 sent
Received 1000;998	977 sent 978 sent 979 sent 980 sent 981 sent 982 sent 983 sent 984 sent
Received 1000;999	985 sent 986 sent 987 sent 988 sent 989 sent 990 sent 991 sent 992 sent
Received 1000;1000	993 sent 994 sent 995 sent 996 sent 997 sent 998 sent 999 sent 1000 sent
No message is missing	as5017@arc10:RMI_UDP\$

Figure RMI 2

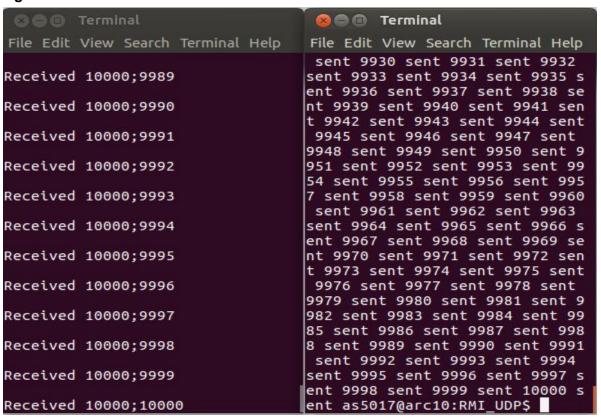


Figure UDP 1

⊗⊜	⊗ ⊜ ⊕ Terminal
File Edit View Search Terminal Help	File Edit View Search Terminal Help
Reveived 200;179 Reveived 200;180 Reveived 200;181 Reveived 200;182 Reveived 200;183 Reveived 200;184 Reveived 200;185 Reveived 200;186 Reveived 200;187 Reveived 200;188 Reveived 200;189 Reveived 200;190 Reveived 200;191	ent 111sent 112sent 113sent 114s ent 115sent 116sent 117sent 118s ent 119sent 120sent 121sent 122s ent 123sent 124sent 125sent 126s ent 127sent 128sent 129sent 130s ent 131sent 132sent 133sent 134s ent 135sent 136sent 137sent 138s ent 139sent 140sent 141sent 142s ent 143sent 144sent 145sent 146s ent 147sent 148sent 149sent 150s ent 151sent 152sent 153sent 154s ent 155sent 156sent 157sent 158s ent 159sent 160sent 161sent 162s
Reveived 200;192 Reveived 200;193 Reveived 200;194 Reveived 200;195 Reveived 200;196 Reveived 200;197 Reveived 200;198 Reveived 200;199 Reveived 200;200 No message is missing as5017@arc10:RMI_UDP\$	ent 163sent 164sent 165sent 166s ent 167sent 168sent 169sent 170s ent 171sent 172sent 173sent 174s ent 175sent 176sent 177sent 178s ent 179sent 180sent 181sent 182s ent 183sent 184sent 185sent 186s ent 187sent 188sent 189sent 190s ent 191sent 192sent 193sent 194s ent 195sent 196sent 197sent 198s ent 199sent 200sent as5017@arc10 :RMI_UDP\$

Figure UDP 2

```
⊗ □ Terminal
 File Edit View Search Terminal Help File Edit View Search Terminal Help
389missing 391missing 392missing ent 411sent 412sent 413sent 414s
394missing 396missing 398missing ent 415sent 416sent 417sent 418s
399missing 401missing 402missing ent 419sent 420sent 421sent 422s
404missing 406missing 407missing ent 423sent 424sent 425sent 426s
409missing 411missing 413missing ent 427sent 428sent 429sent 430s
414missing 416missing 418missing ent 431sent 432sent 433sent 434s
420missing 421missing 423missing ent 435sent 436sent 437sent 438s
425missing 427missing 429missing ent 439sent 440sent 441sent 442s
431missing 432missing 434missing ent 443sent 444sent 445sent 446s
436missing 438missing 439missing ent 447sent 448sent 449sent 450s
441missing 443missing 445missing ent 451sent 452sent 453sent 454s
447missing 448missing 450missing ent 455sent 456sent 457sent 458s
452missing 453missing 455missing ent 459sent 460sent 461sent 462s
457missing 458missing 460missing ent 463sent 464sent 465sent 466s
461missing 463missing 464missing ent 467sent 468sent 469sent 470s
466missing 468missing 470missing ent 471sent 472sent 473sent 474s
471missing 473missing 475missing ent 475sent 476sent 477sent 478s
476missing 478missing 480missing ent 479sent 480sent 481sent 482s
482missing 483missing 485missing ent 483sent 484sent 485sent 486s
487missing 489missing 490missing ent 487sent 488sent 489sent 490s
492missing 494missing 496missing ent 491sent 492sent 493sent 494s
498missing 499missing
                                     ent 495sent 496sent 497sent 498s
366/500 received
                                     ent 499sent 500sent as5017@line1
as5017@line14:RMI_UDP$
                                     4:RMI UDP$
```

Figure UDP 3

The second secon	The second secon
S ⊕ ■ Terminal	⊗ □ Terminal
File Edit View Search Terminal Help	File Edit View Search Terminal Help
as5017@arc10:~\$ cd Desktop/Git/j	ent 211sent 212sent 213sent 214s
ava/RMI_UDP	ent 215sent 216sent 217sent 218s
as5017@arc10:RMI_UDP\$ bash udpse	ent 219sent 220sent 221sent 222s
rver.sh 1099	ent 223sent 224sent 225sent 226s
UDPServer ready	ent 227sent 228sent 229sent 230s
Reveived 300;1	ent 231sent 232sent 233sent 234s
Reveived 300;2	ent 235sent 236sent 237sent 238s
Reveived 300;3	ent 239sent 240sent 241sent 242s
Reveived 300;4	ent 243sent 244sent 245sent 246s
Reveived 300;100	ent 247sent 248sent 249sent 250s
Reveived 300;102	ent 251sent 252sent 253sent 254s
Reveived 300;104	ent 255sent 256sent 257sent 258s
Reveived 300;106	ent 259sent 260sent 261sent 262s
Reveived 300;108	ent 263sent 264sent 265sent 266s
Reveived 300;110	ent 267sent 268sent 269sent 270s
Reveived 300;112	ent 271sent 272sent 273sent 274s
Reveived 300;113	ent 275sent 276sent 277sent 278s
Reveived 300;115	ent 279sent 280sent 281sent 282s
Reveived 300;117	ent 283sent 284sent 285sent 286s
Reveived 300;119	ent 287sent 288sent 289sent 290s
Reveived 300;121	ent 291sent 292sent 293sent 294s
Reveived 300;122	ent 295sent 296sent 297sent 298s
Reveived 300;124	ent 299sent 300sent as5017@arc10
Reveived 300;126	:RMI_UDP\$