

REAL-TIME HIGH-QUALITY AUDIO STREAMING

Juan-Pablo Cáceres

Network Musical Performance Workshop

Technical and Artistic Strategies to Perform Around the Globe

Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA)
Stanford University



*Perform Music
On-Line
in Real-Time
with the Highest Audio Quality Possible*

Goals of High-Quality Audio over Networks

Maximize Audio Quality for available networks conditions

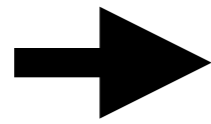
Minimize Latency

But more important, **Minimize Jitter**

Adjustable **Number of Channels**

Audio routing flexibility

Multiple peers



Keep Delay Constant
Maximize Audio Quality

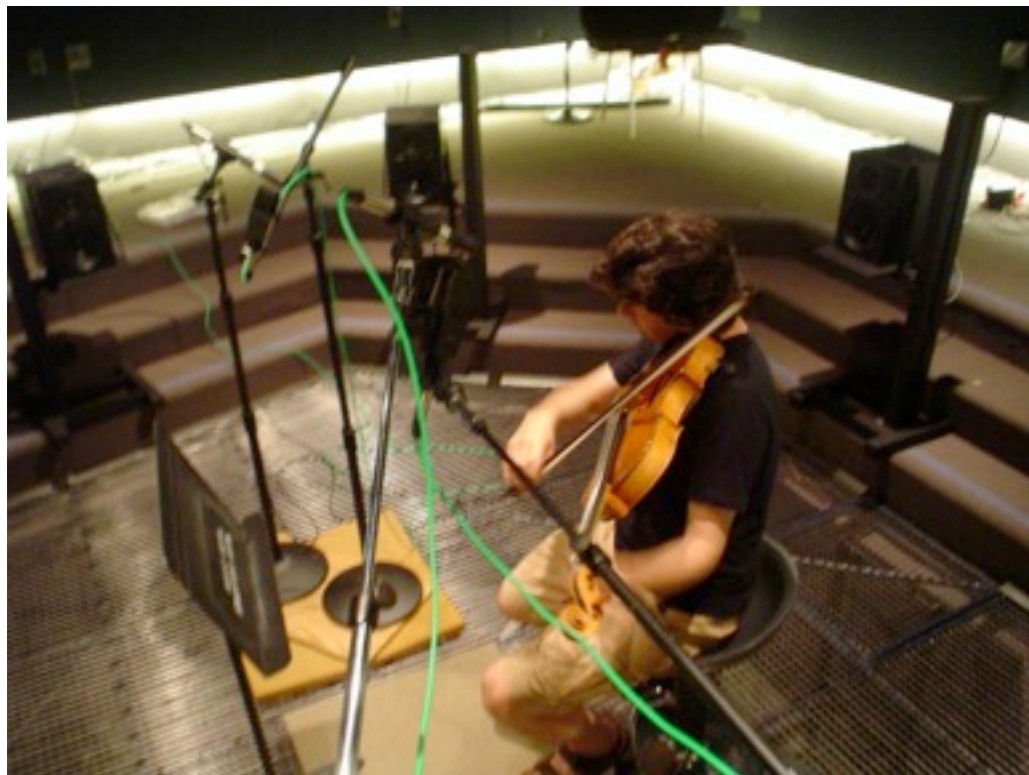
Why Latency Matters

Saint Lawrence String Quartet (Quintet)

25 ms One-way Delay



Banff Centre, Alberta, Canada
Quartet

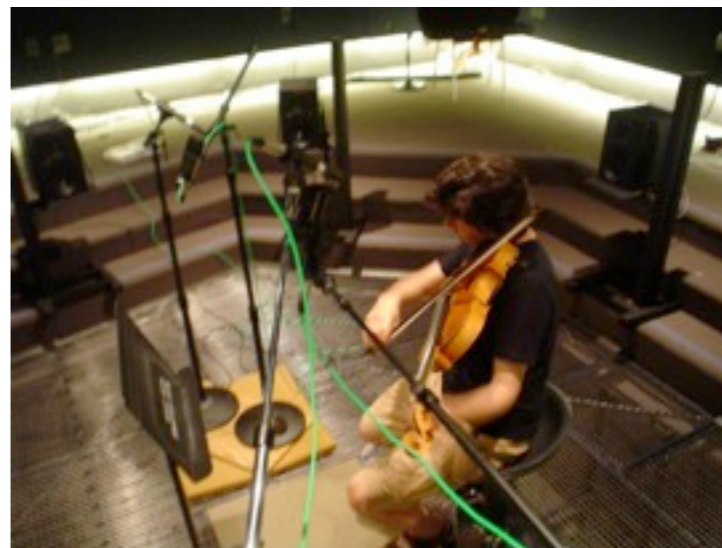


Stanford, Anechoic Room
Viola

Why Latency Matters

Saint Lawrence String Quartet (Quintet)

25 ms One-way Delay



- ▶ What Happens Naturally with Delay?
- ▶ Now, they are conscious...
- ▶ ...and they try to be stable
- ▶ The whole Quintet

Some Historical/Technical Foundations

Basic Principle: *Uncompressed Audio*

Year 2000

McGill Xu & Cooperstock

Stanford Chafe, Wilson, Leistikow, Chisholm, Scavone

UDP and TCP revisited

UDP

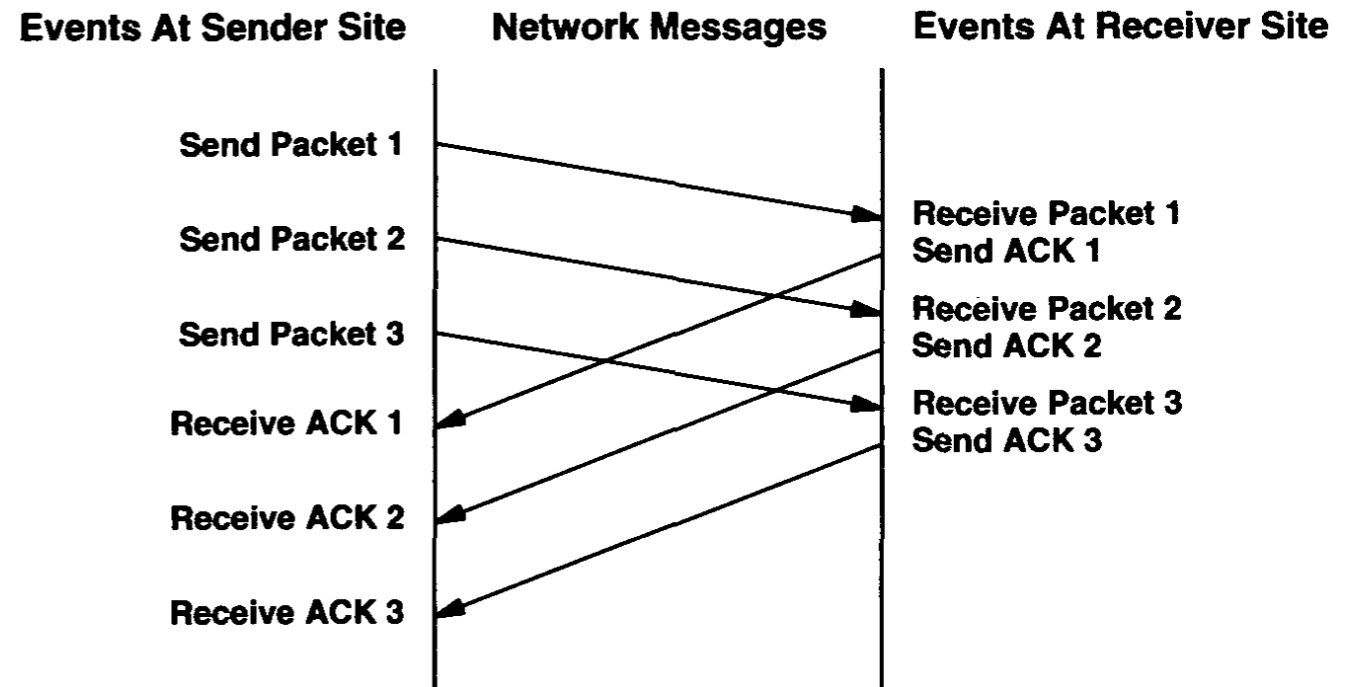
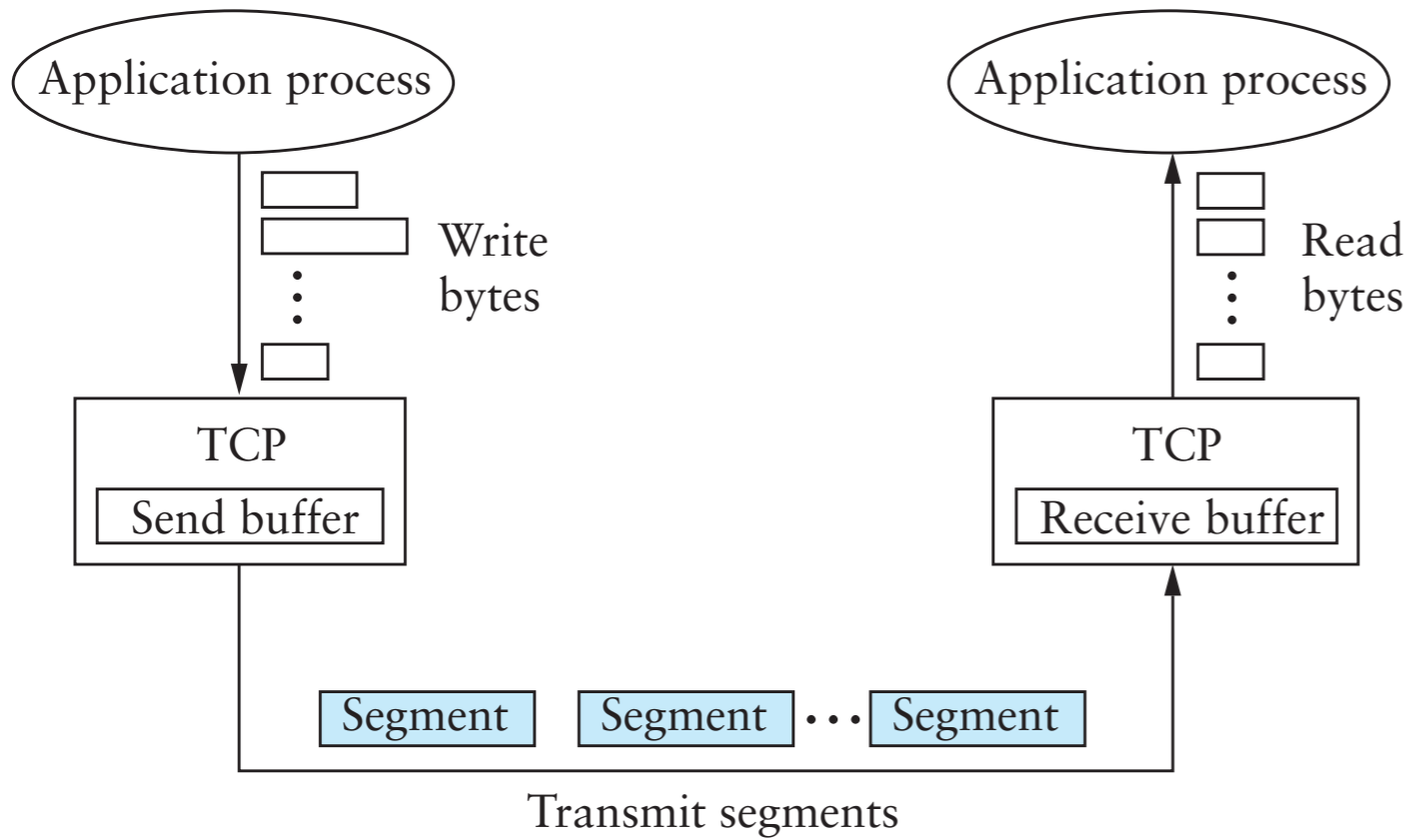
- Unreliable
- Connections-less
- Datagram Oriented

TCP

- Reliable
- Connected (virtual circuit)
- Byte-Stream Oriented

Delay Constant?

Why TCP is problematic



**TCP makes the underlying delay
elastic and ever-increasing**

→ Use UDP

A JackTrip Session

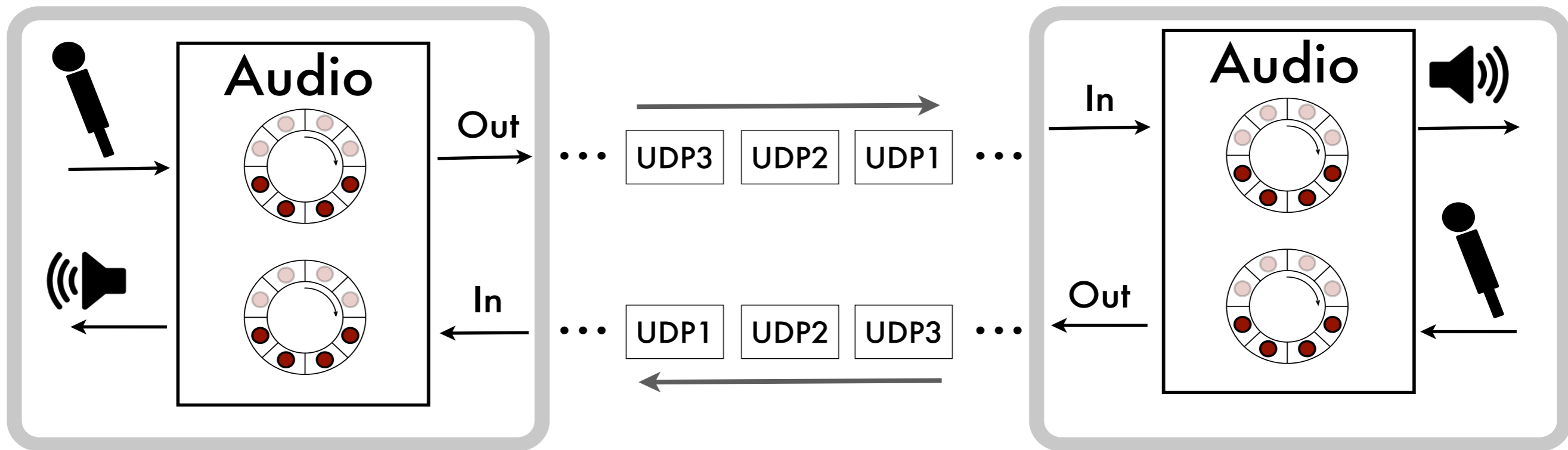
The screenshot displays the JACK Audio Connection Kit (JACK) interface on a Raspberry Pi. The main window shows a complex network of connections between various audio clients. The 'Readable Clients / Output Ports' list includes 'alsa_pcm' with capture ports 1-18 and 'go_1', 'go_2', and 'go_3' with output ports 0-3. The 'Writable Clients / Input Ports' list includes 'alsa_pcm' with playback ports 1-18 and 'go_1', 'go_2', and 'go_3' with input ports 0-3. A red arrow points from the 'output3' port of 'go_1' to the text 'Jmess'. A terminal window in the background shows 'udp in waited too long...' messages. A smaller terminal window in the foreground shows system logs for 'jack start' and 'UDP Output'. A JACK Audio Connection Kit status window is also visible, showing 'Started RT 23% 44100 Hz' and 'Stopped'.

Jmess

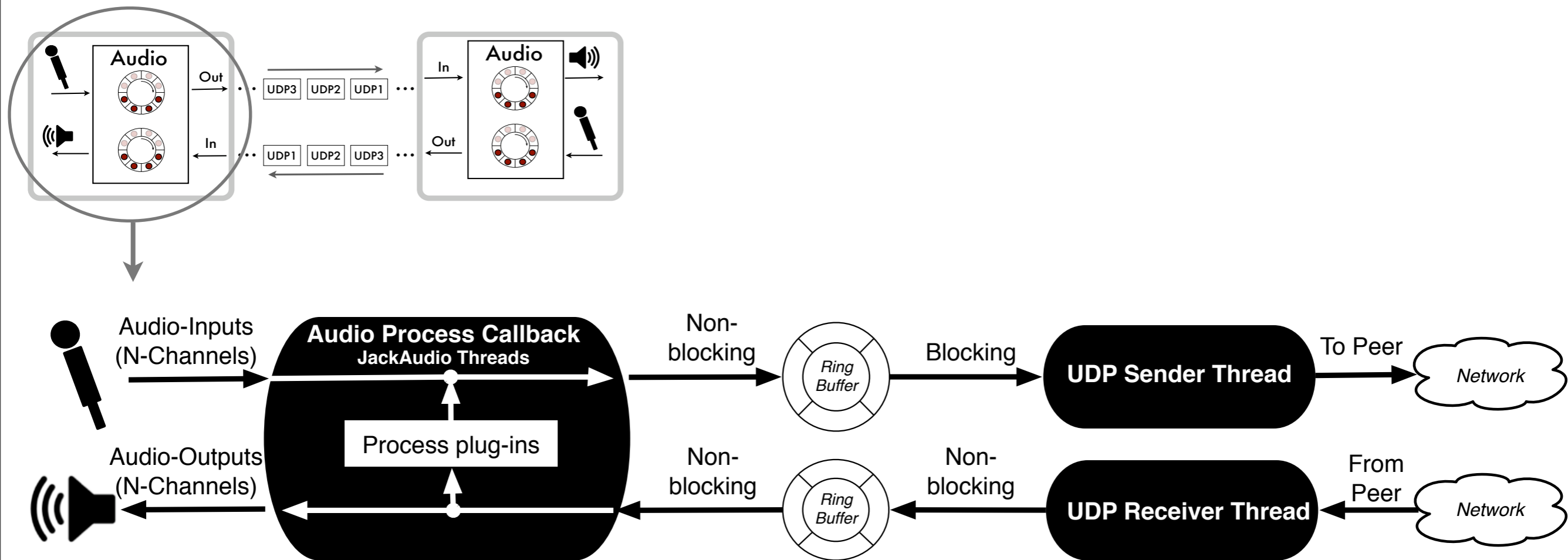
What is Jack?

Demo: *Jack*

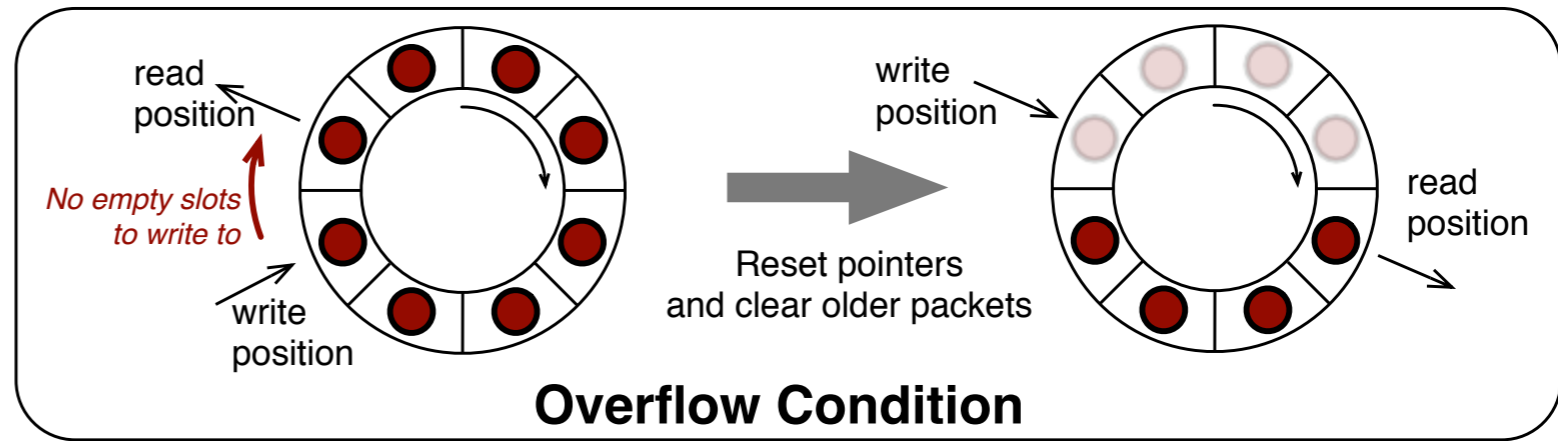
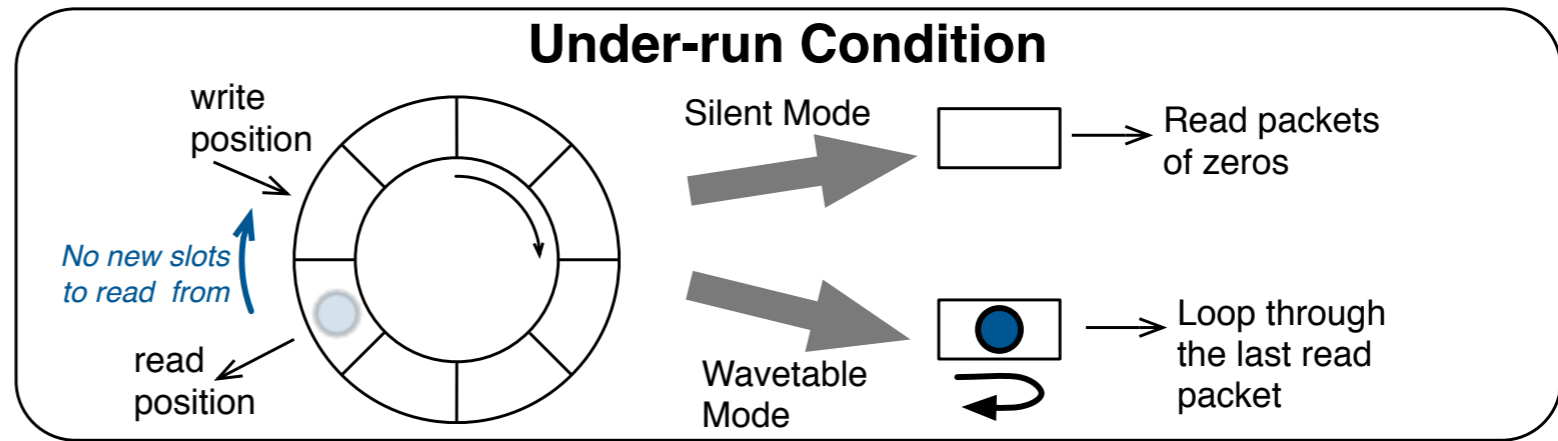
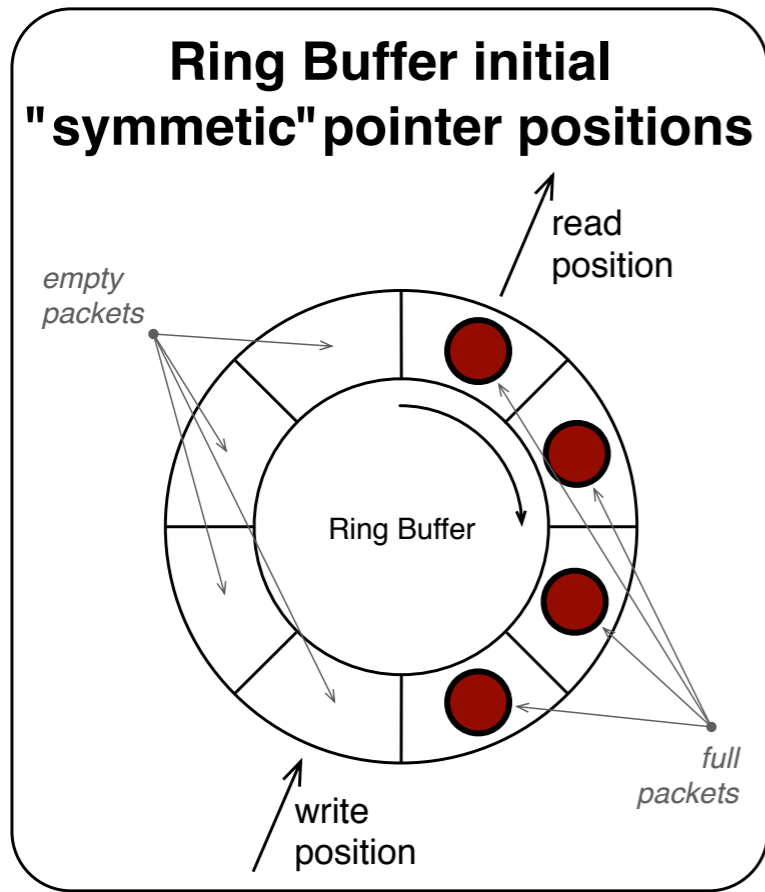
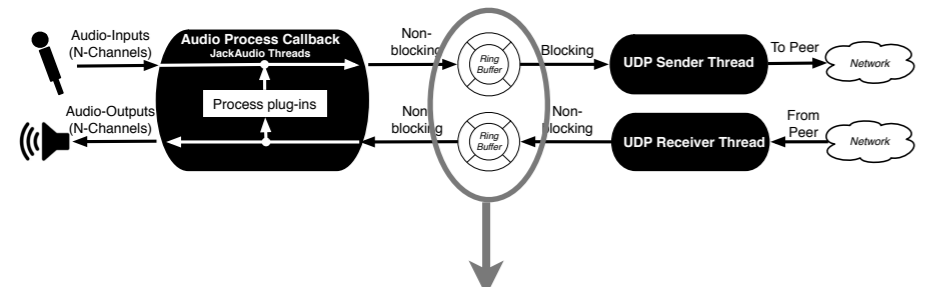
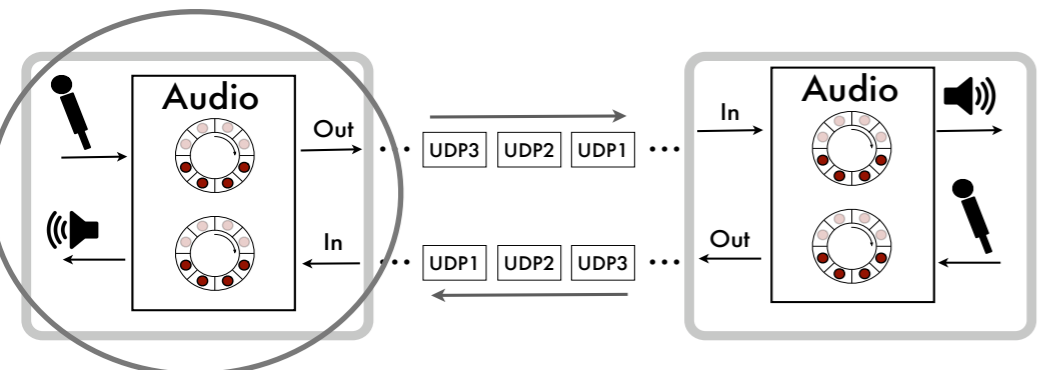
Real-Time Audio: Under the Hood



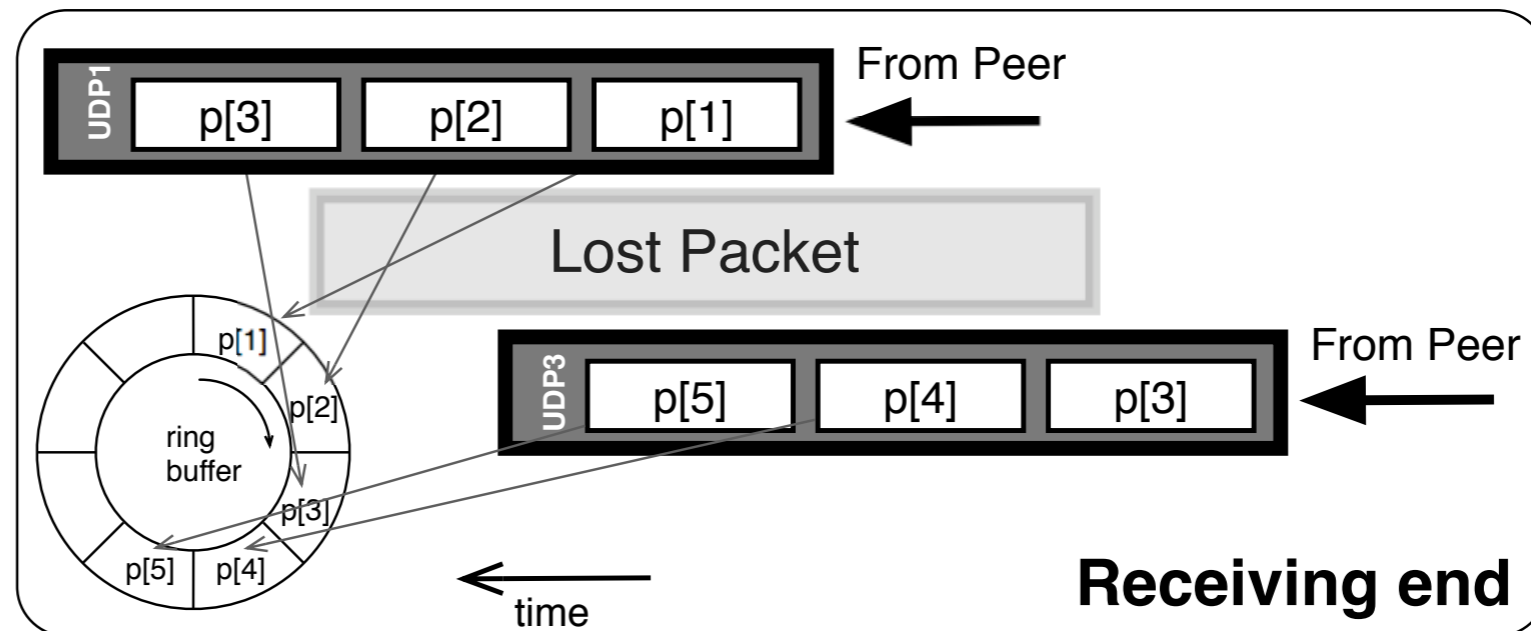
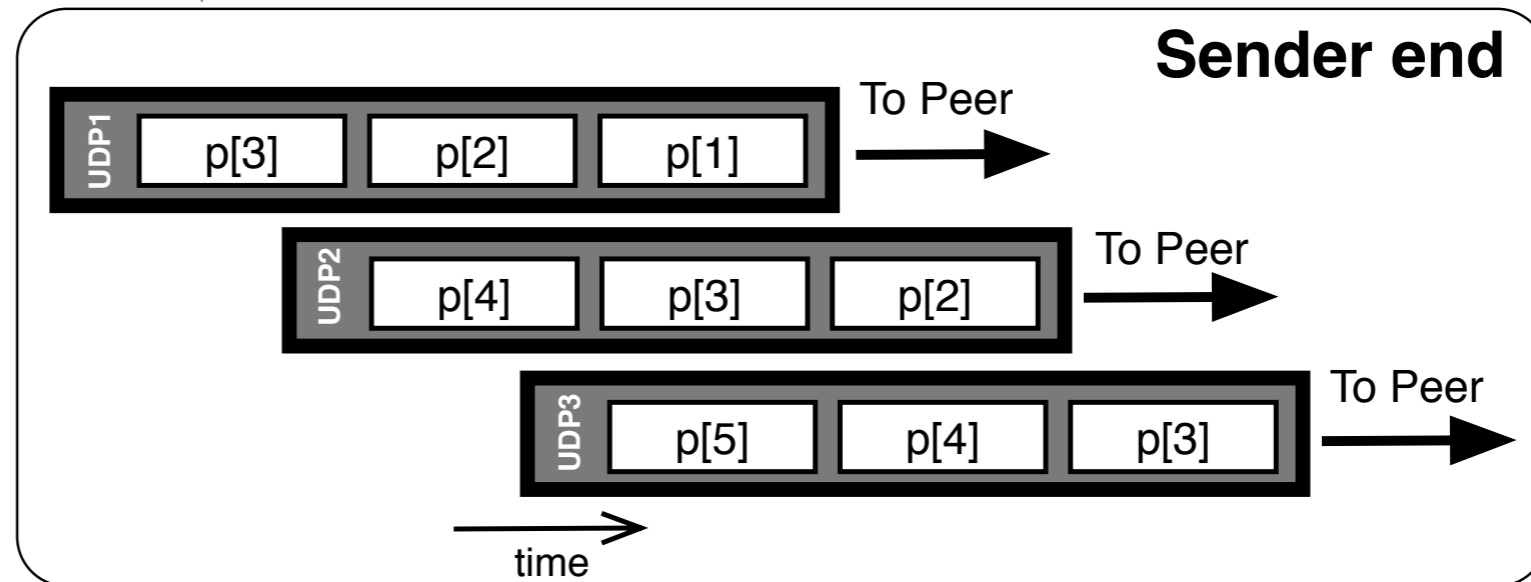
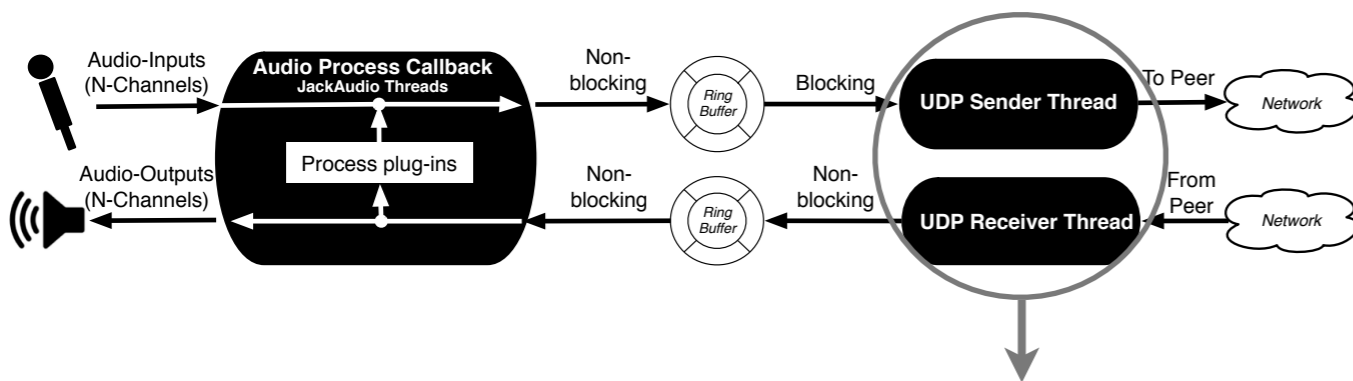
Real-Time Audio: Under the Hood



Real-Time Audio: Under the Hood

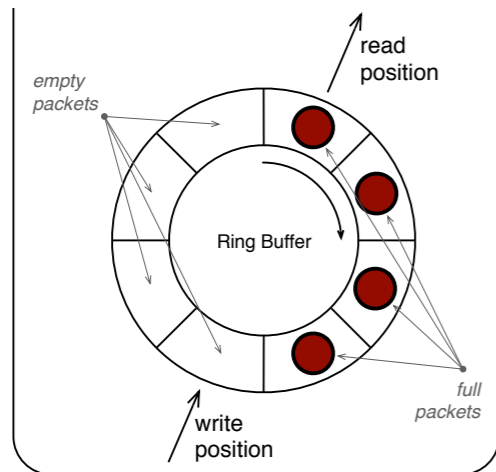


Real-Time Audio: Under the Hood

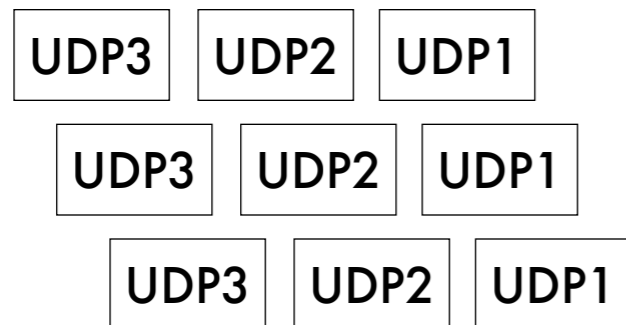


Redundancy

Parameters that matter



→ Queue Length (latency/jitter tradeoff)

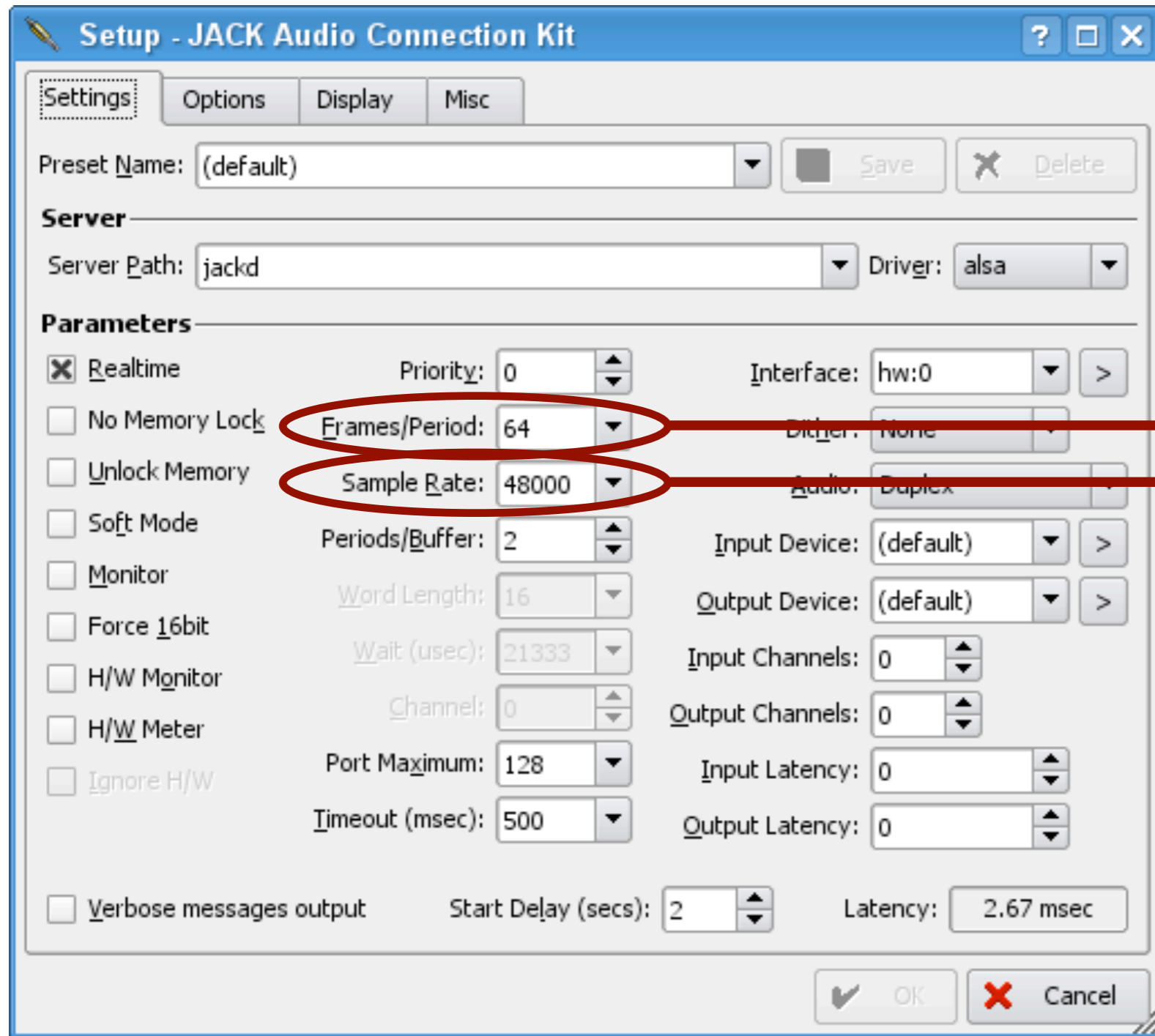


→ Redundancy (bandwidth)

8 / 16 / 24 / 32

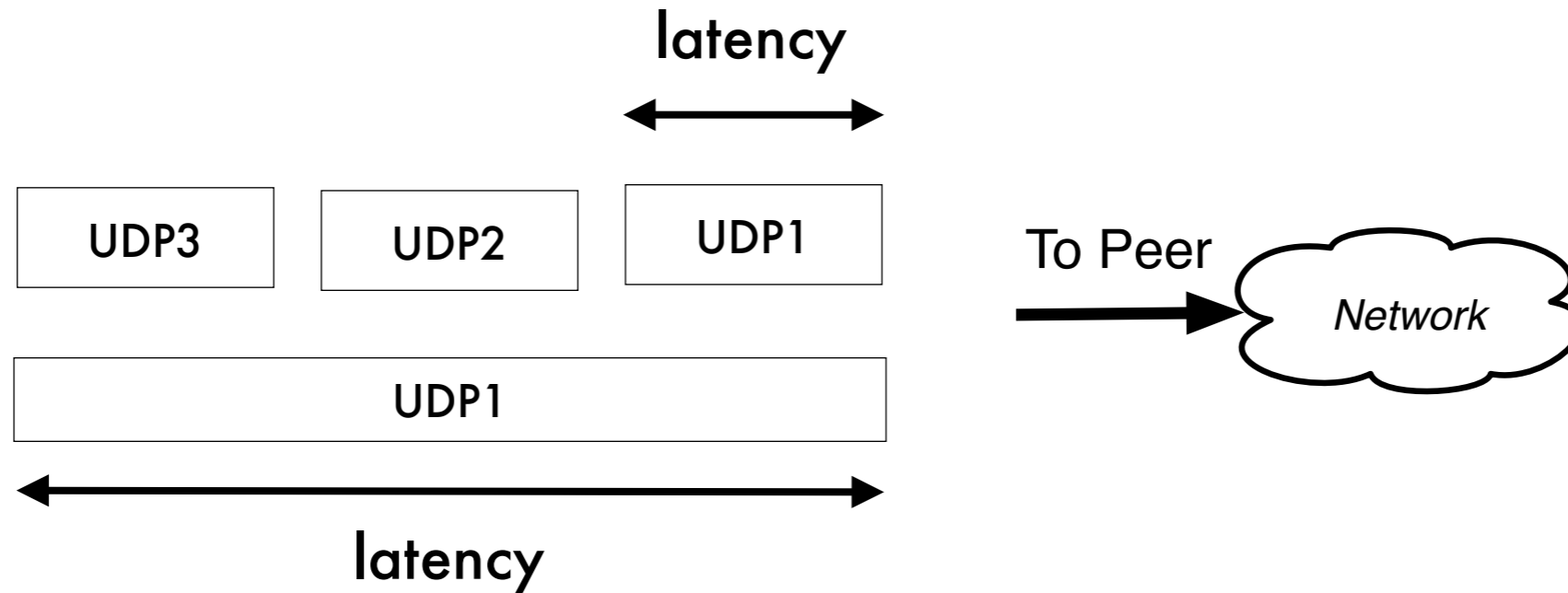
→ Audio Bit Resolution (bandwidth)

Parameters that matter



Packet size (latency)
Sampling Rate (bandwidth)

Packet Size / Latency



***The smaller the packet size,
the lower the latency (sampling rate constant)***

Sampling Rate / Latency

For the same
packet size

64 samples → 48kHz: $64/48000 = 1.3$ ms


64 samples → 96kHz: $64/96000 = 0.7$ ms

*The higher the Sampling Rate,
the lower the delay (packet size constant)*

A Simple (default) JackTrip Session


at CCRMA (Server)

```
jacktrip -s
```


server
mode

at UK (Client)

```
jacktrip -c [ccrma-IP-number]
```


client
mode

More Control over a JackTrip Session

at CCRMA (Server)

```
jacktrip -s -n 8 -q 4 -r 2
```

↓
server
mode

↓
num chans

↓
Queue

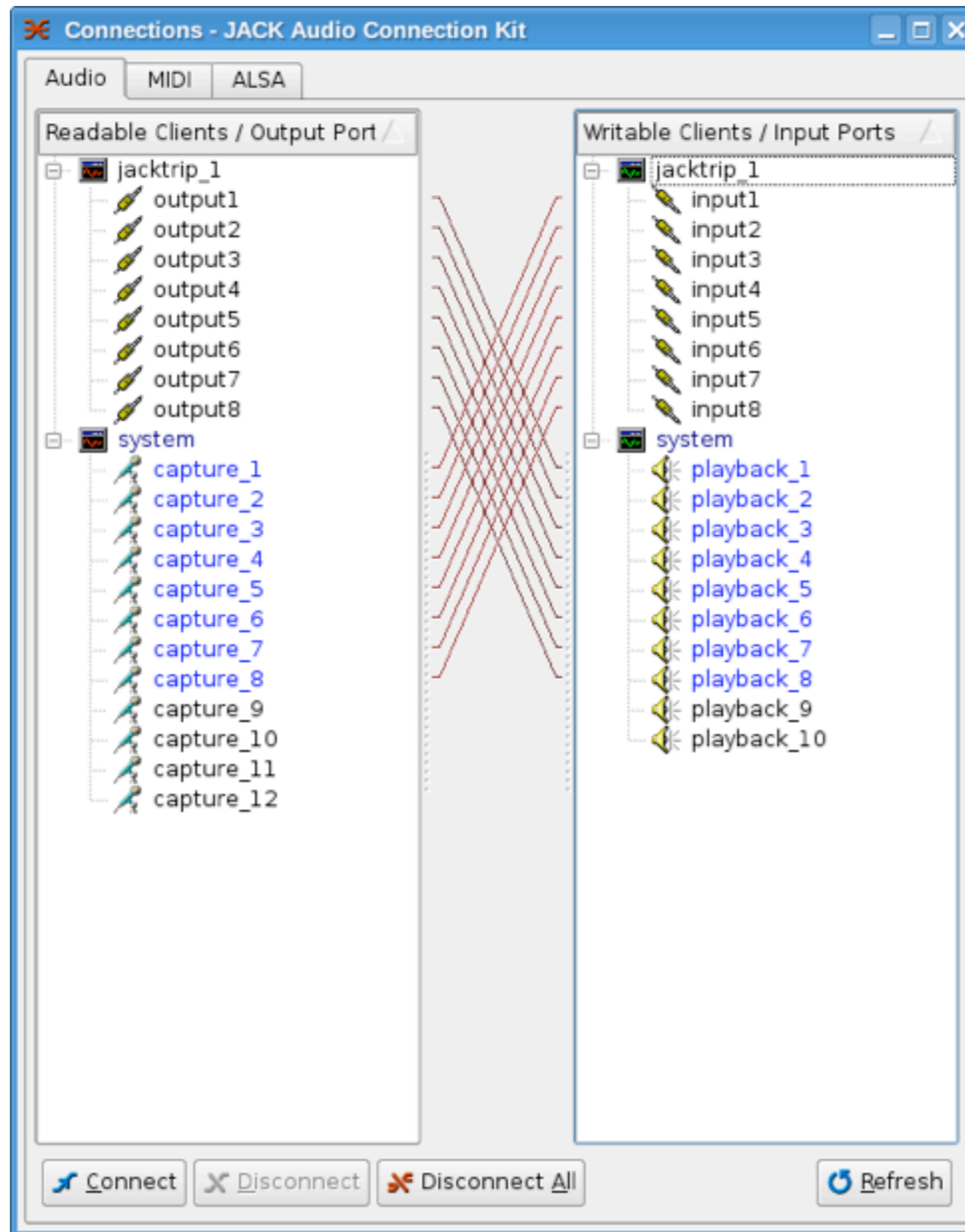
↓
redundancy

at UK (Client)

```
jacktrip -c [ccrma-IP-number] -n 8 -q 4 -r 2
```

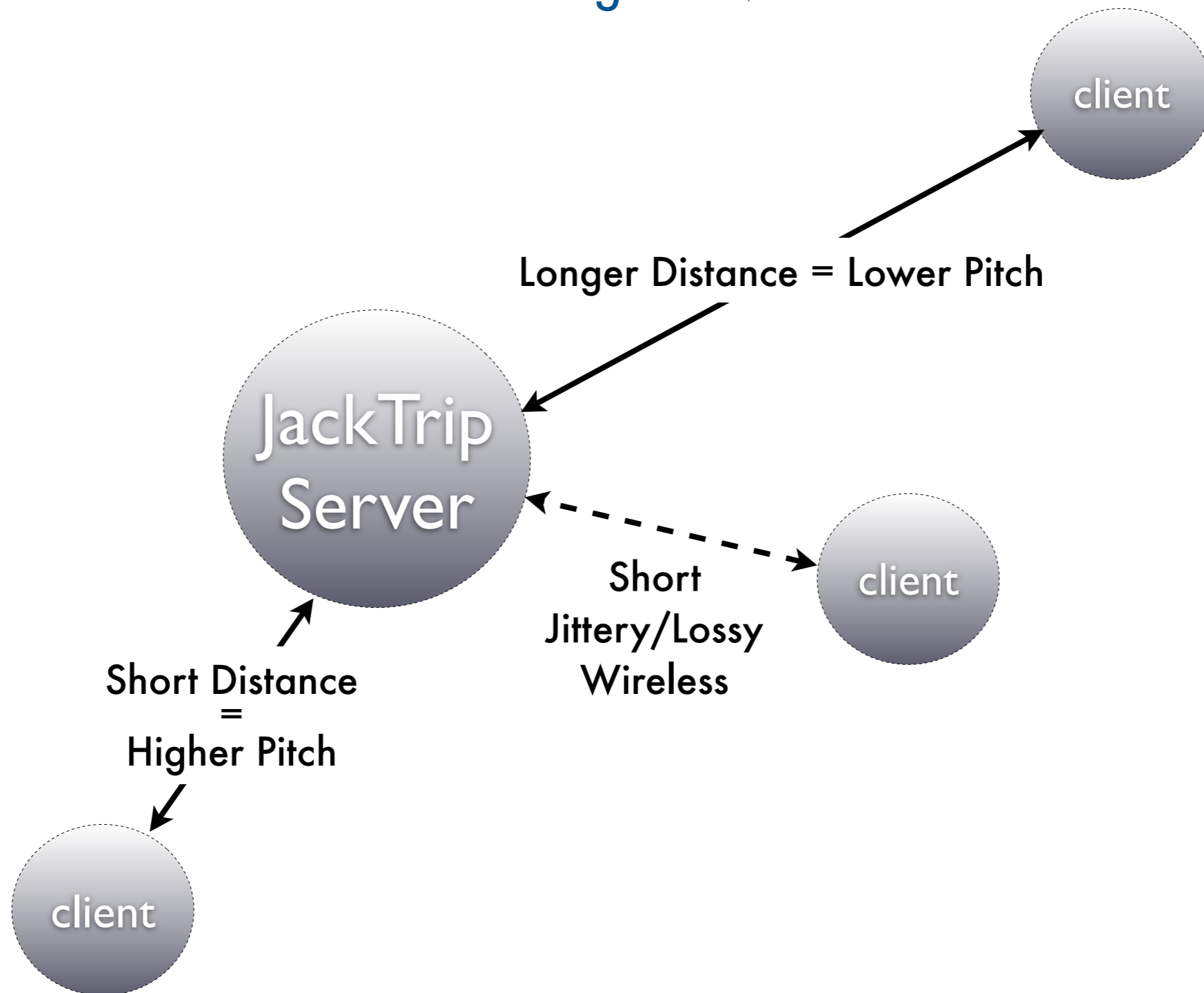
↓
client
mode

A JackTrip Session (demo)

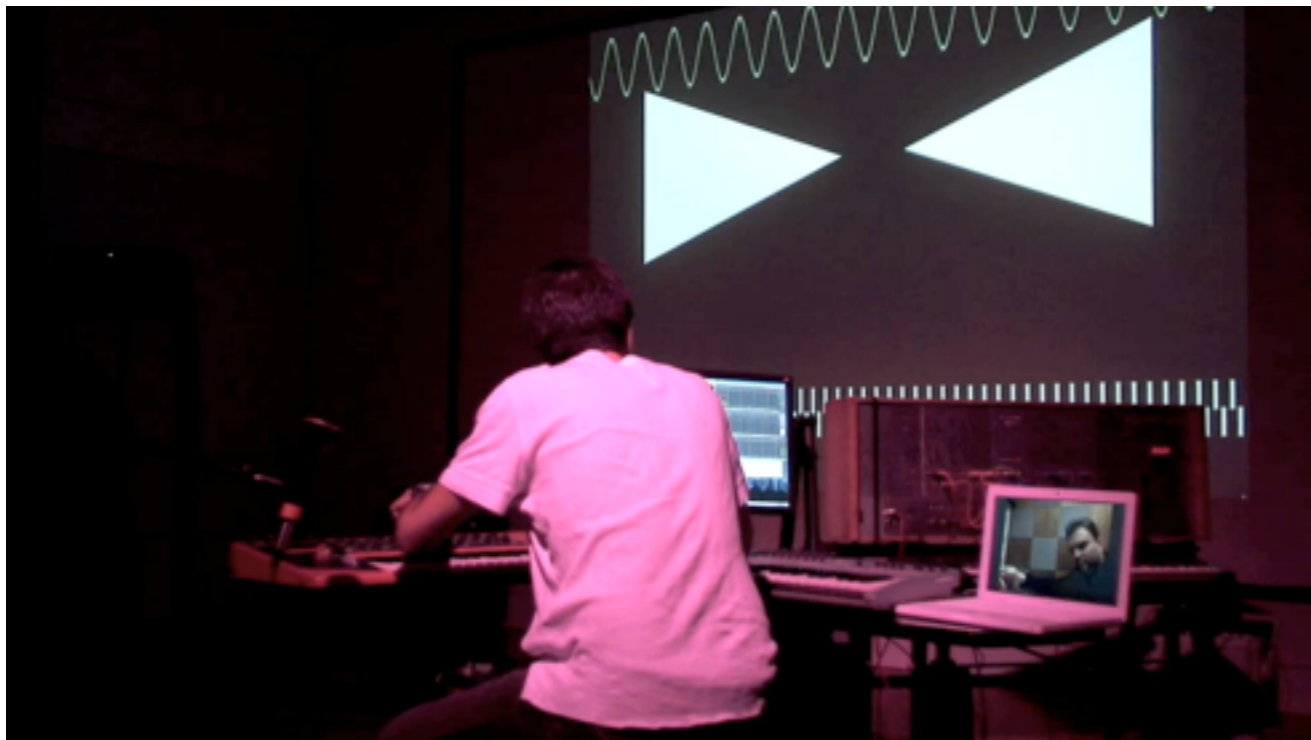


QoS Network "Audible Distances"

Plucking the Net

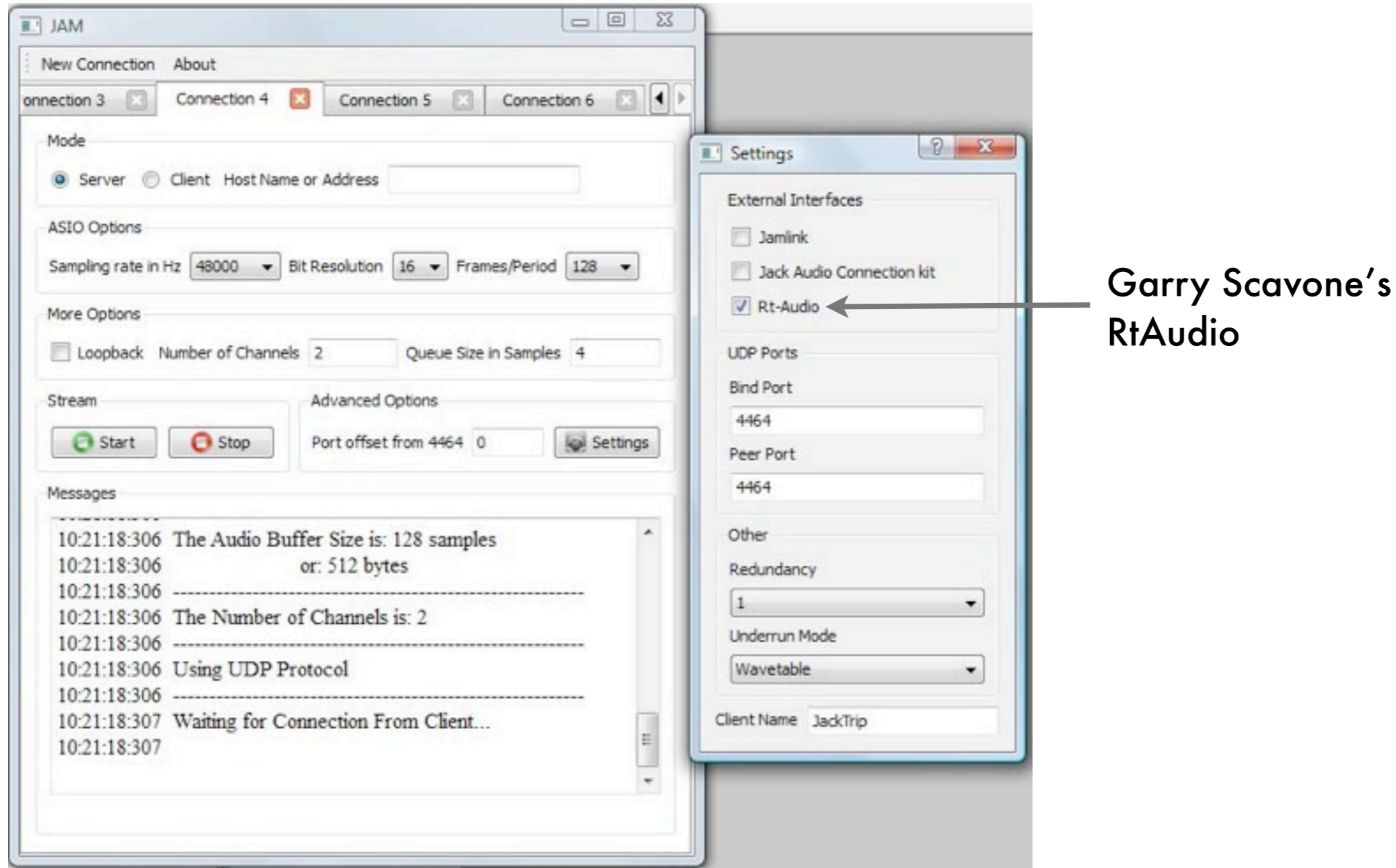


Net vs. Net Collective



Chris Chafe | Chopper

What's next for JackTrip



Windows XP, Vista Port | *Elie Nouné*

JamLink



<http://www.musicianlink.com/>

More Information



<http://ccrma.stanford.edu/groups/soundwire/>

JackTrip at Google Code:

<http://code.google.com/p/jacktrip/>

JackTrip Mailing List:

<http://groups.google.com/group/jacktrip-users>