

# How Ethernet Is Shaping the Future of Real-Time Applications

- and What We've Learned in Professional Audio

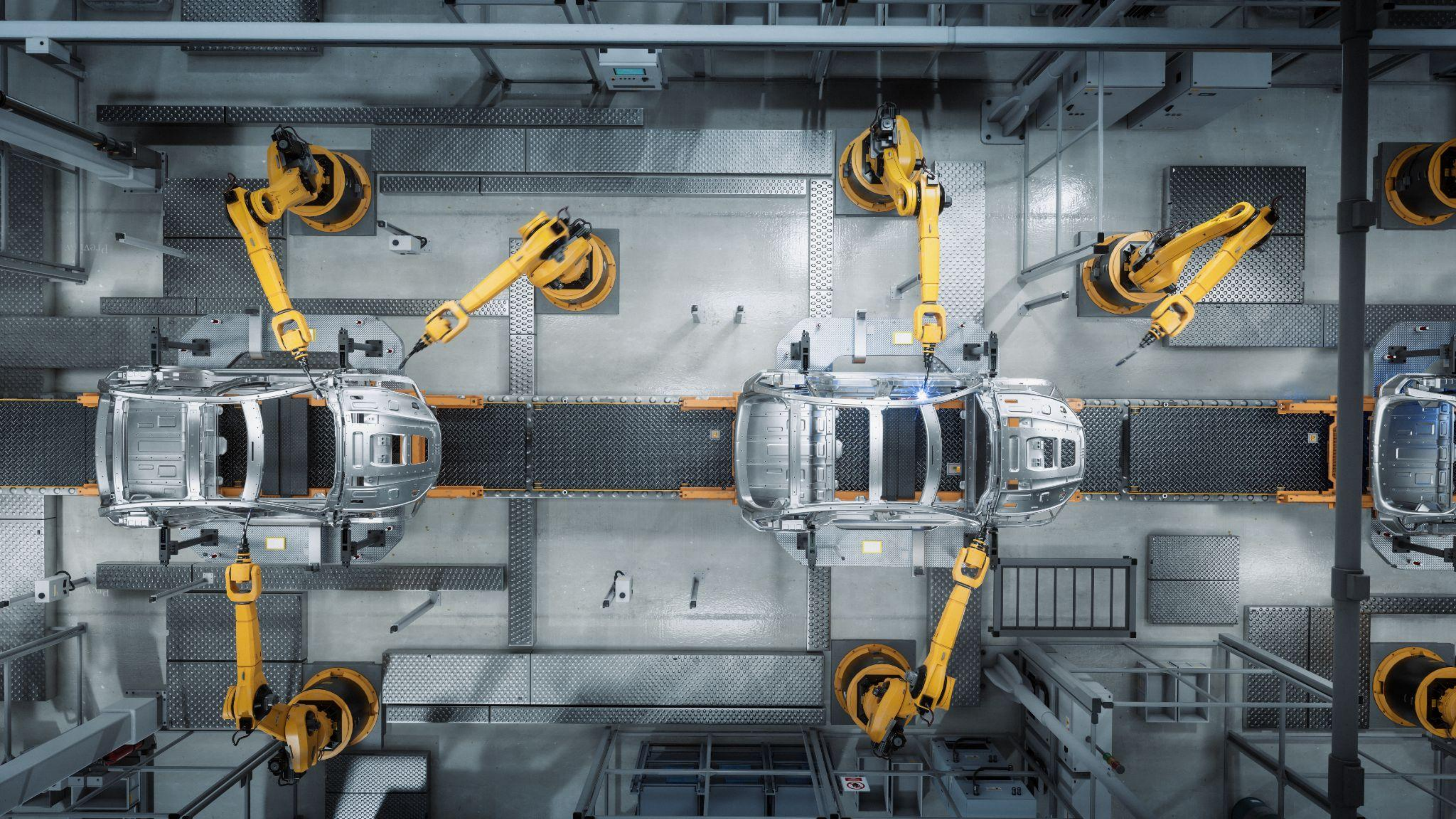
**JOYNED** | AUDIO.  
NETWORK.  
TECHNOLOGY.

**Fabian Braun**  
CO-FOUNDER / CEO



**What is “REALTIME”?**







CLOCK  
INFO

45801  
14:19:00  
67  
891  
42  
9872458

2013  
76  
12  
9872458



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



# ABBA Voyage



# Commonalities and differences



Youtube Tip:  
<https://youtu.be/JgGuRKgvWQ4?si=Cphx9q3B0xoC9Zsh>



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

**IEEE Std 802.1BA™-2011**

30 September 2011

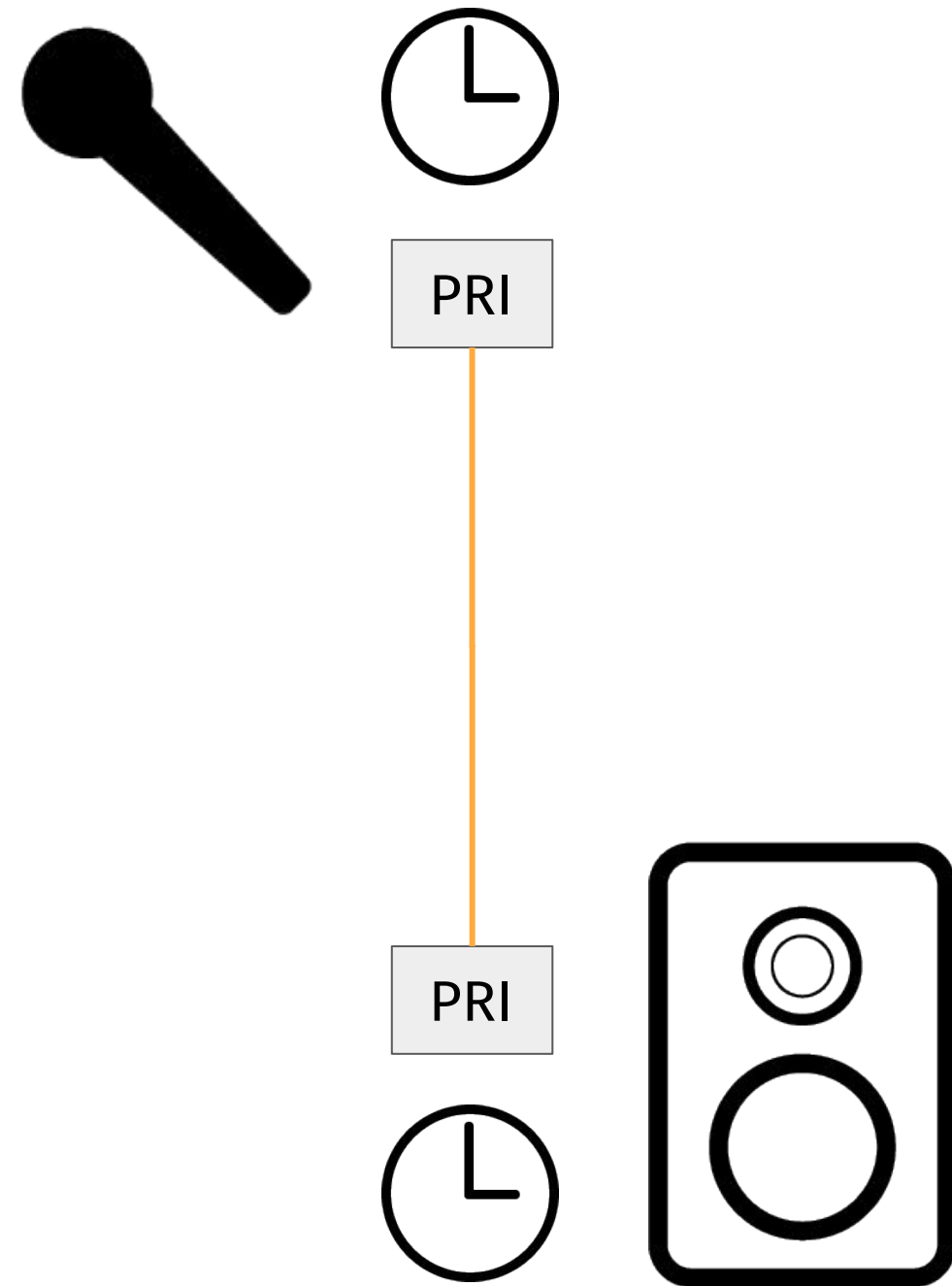
**A list of standards with maaaaany options:**

- **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

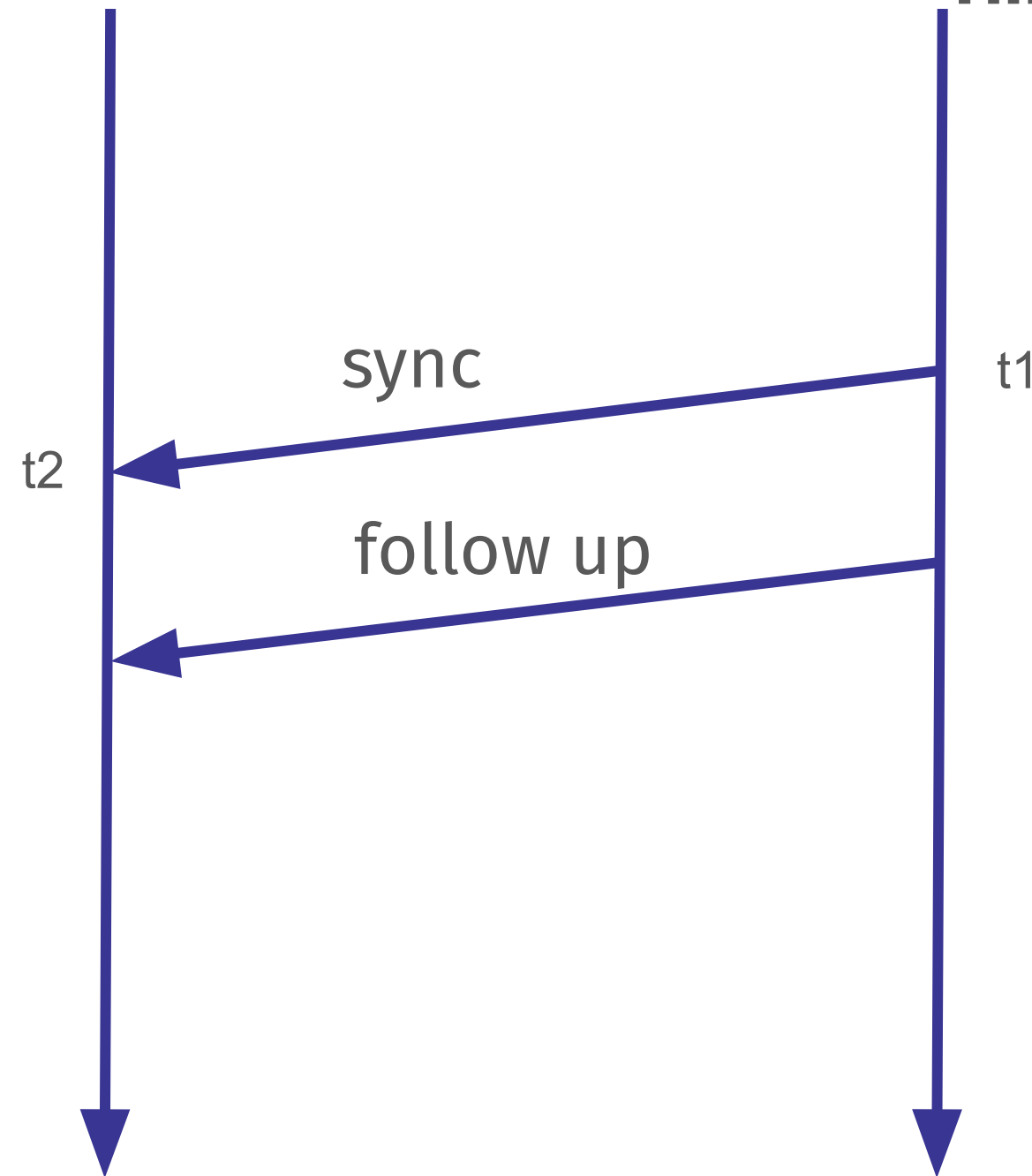
# Live Experiment



# The gPTP Protocol

Time Device A

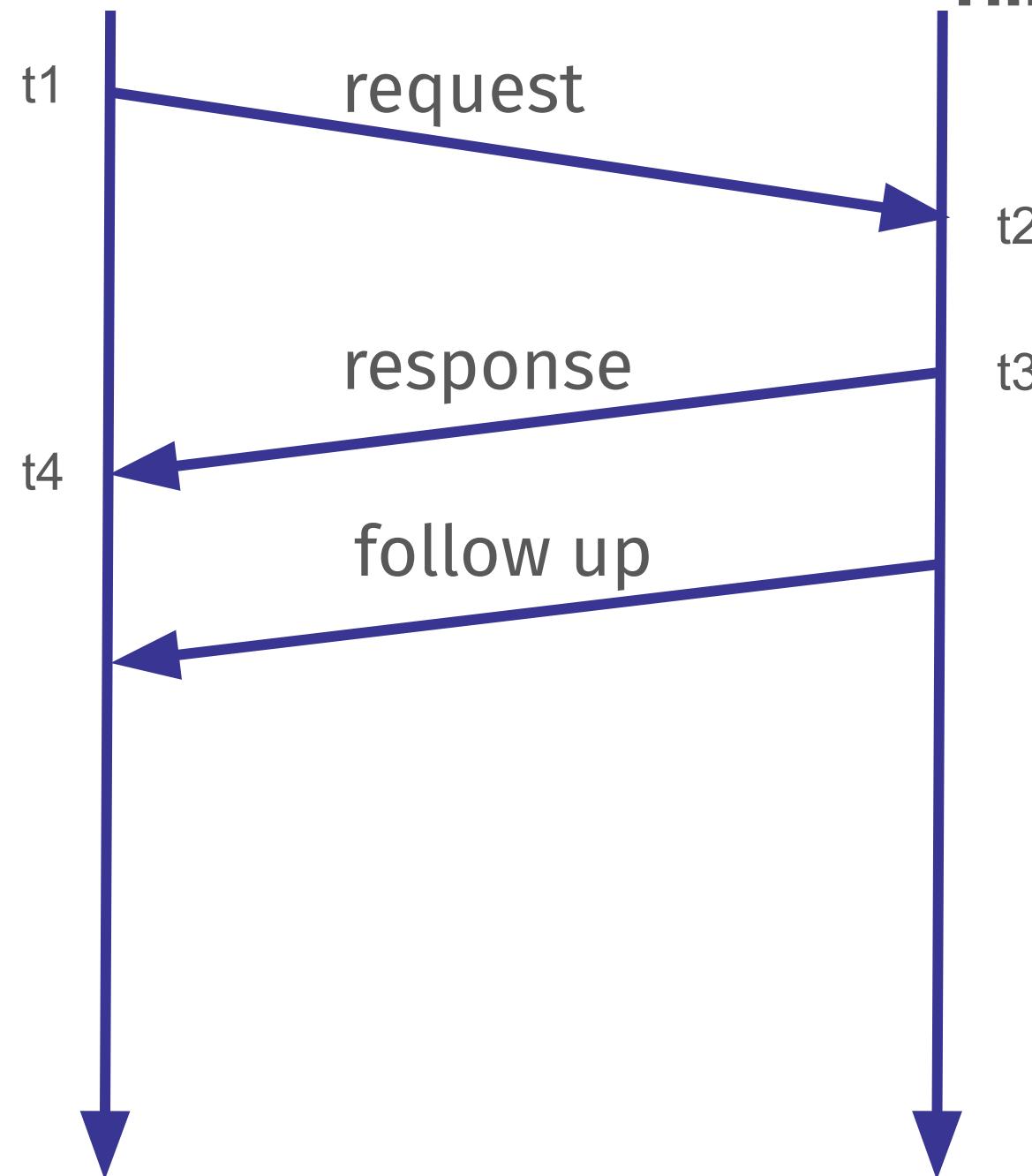
Time Device B



# The gPTP Protocol

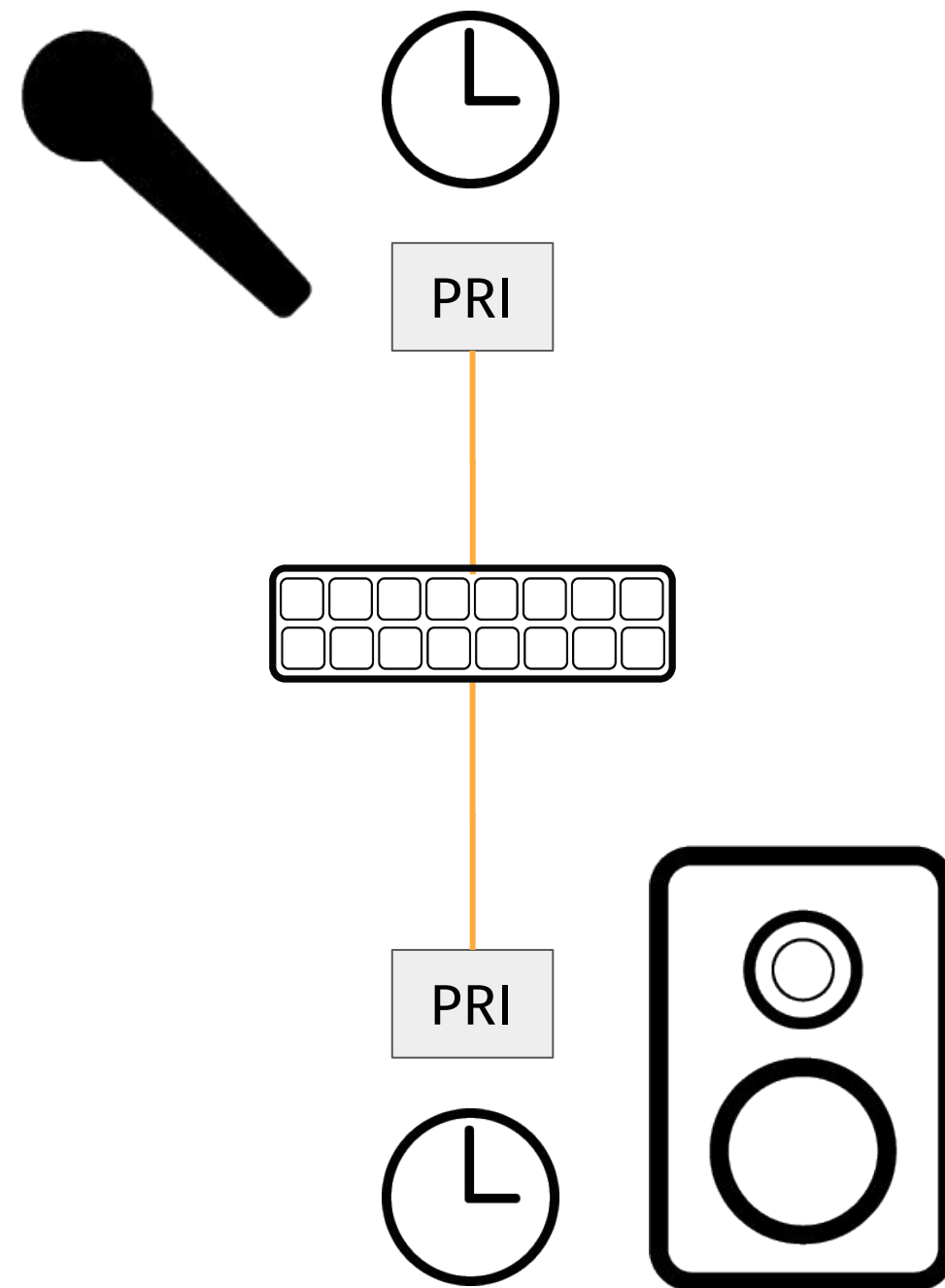
**Time Device A**

**Time Device B**



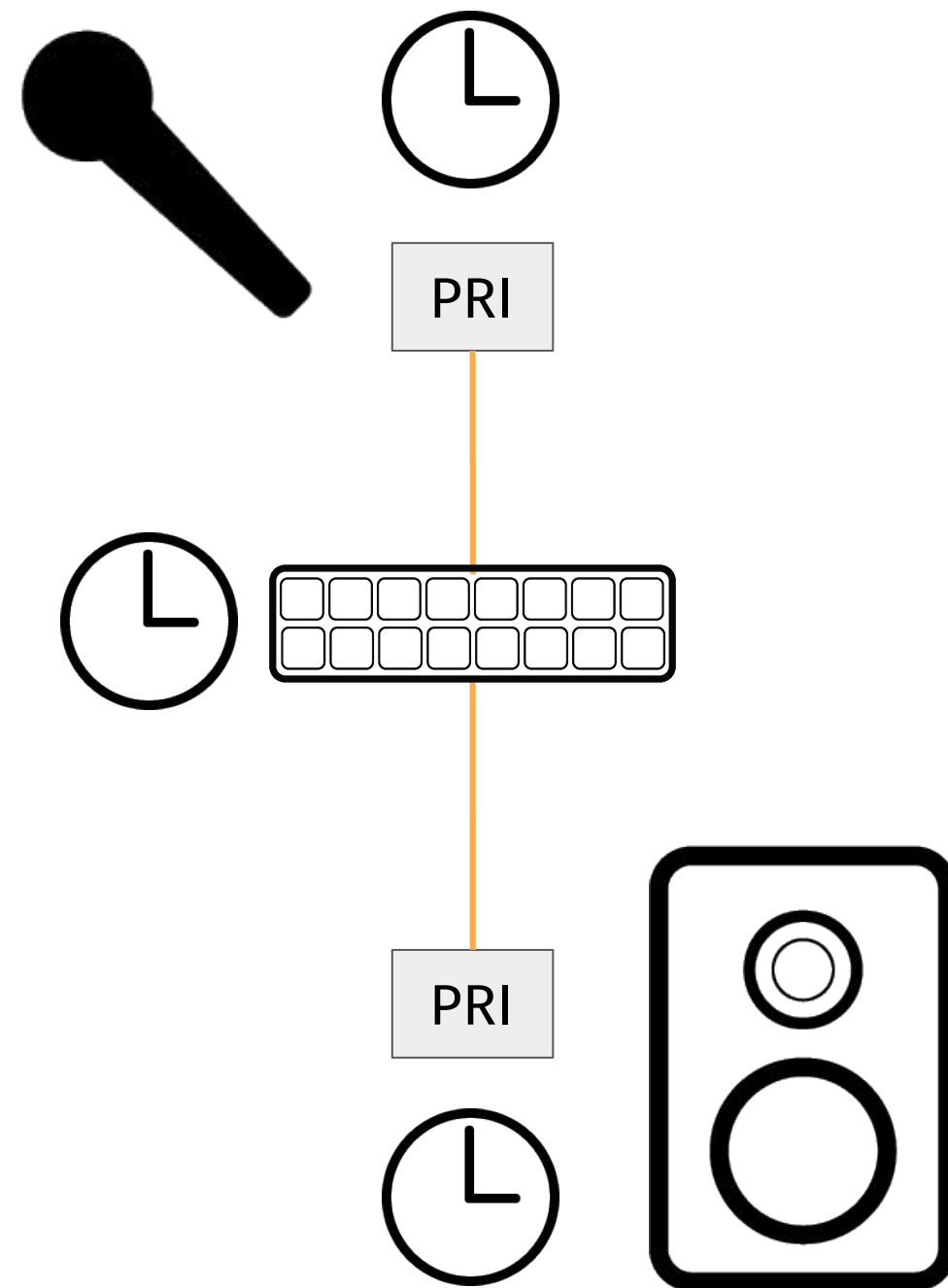
$$pdelay = ((t4 - t1) - (t3 - t2)) / 2$$

# Precision Time Protocol - PTPv1



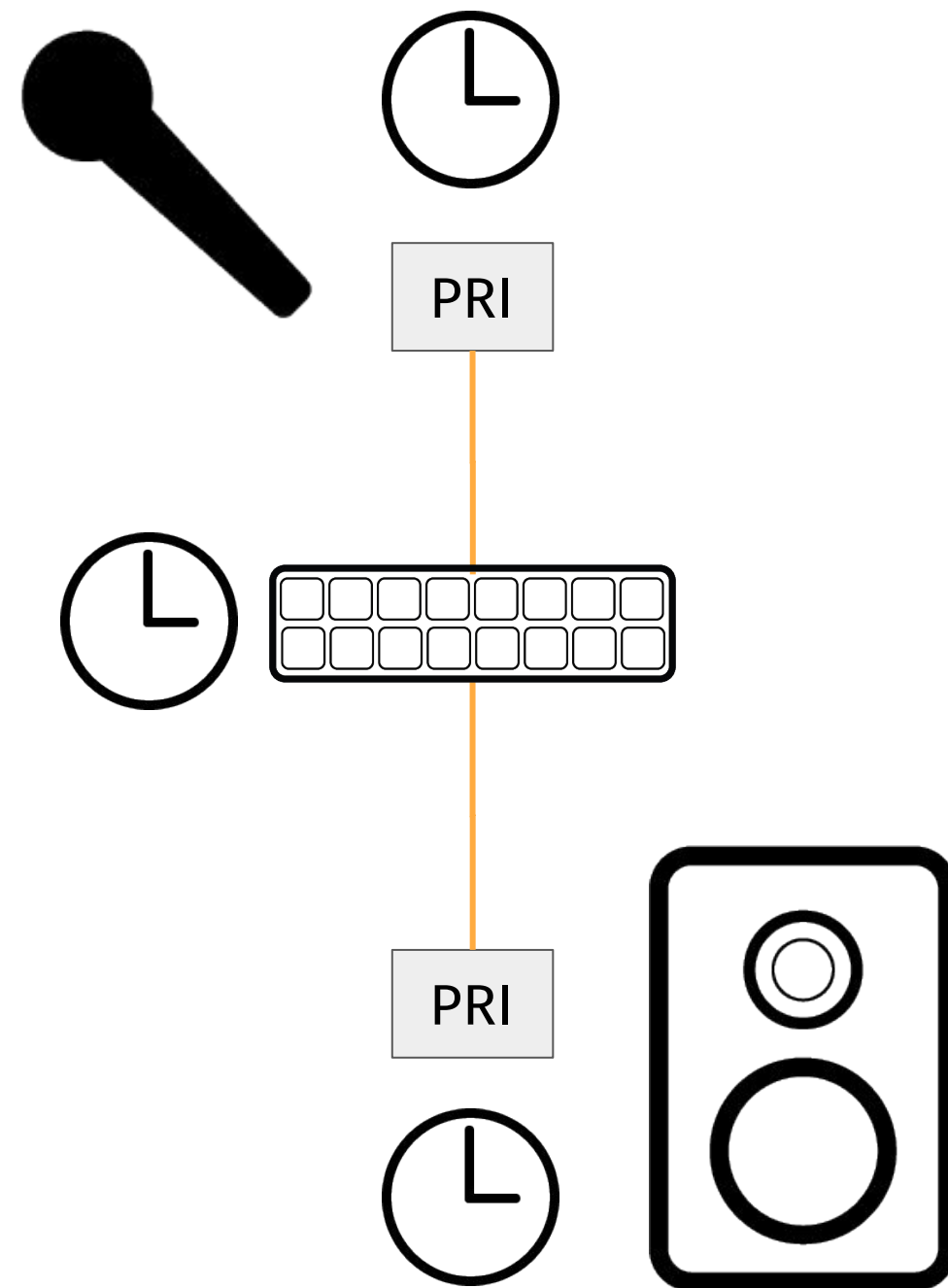
- Timestamping in Software
- Only endpoints - no switches - involved
- IP headers

# 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

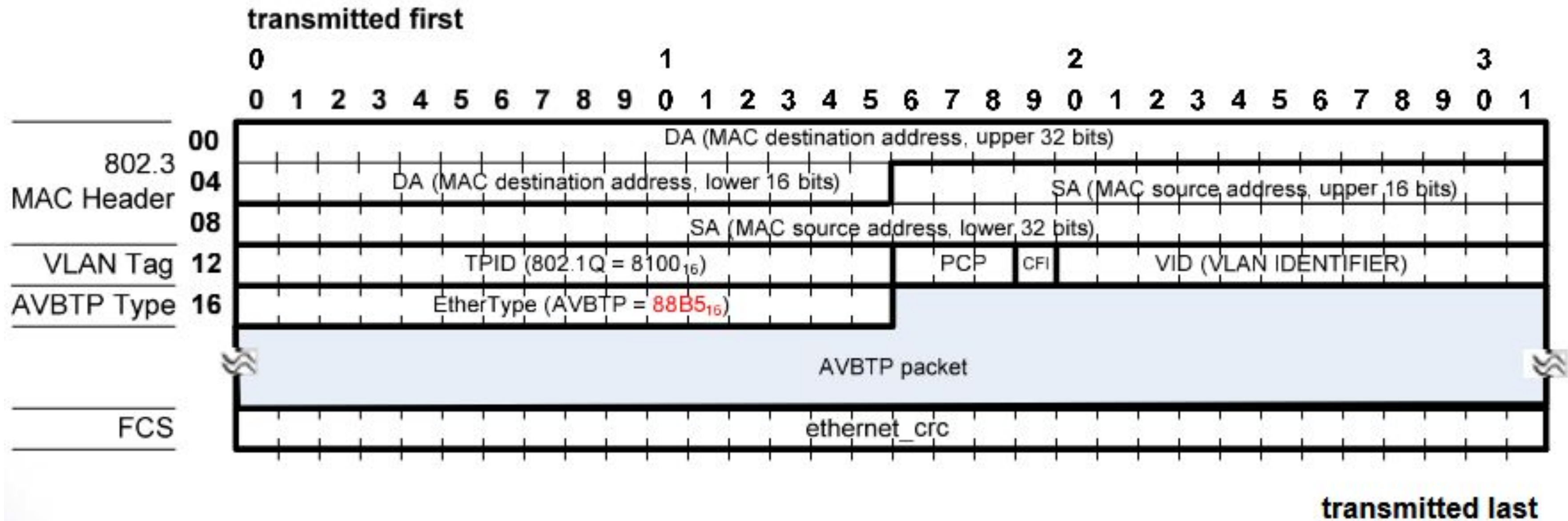
Max Time Error	1 <sup>st</sup> hop	6 <sup>th</sup> hop
PTP V1, heavy traffic	N/A	$\pm 2500\mu\text{s}$
PTP V2, transparent clocks	$\pm 0.024\mu\text{s}$	$\pm 4.5\mu\text{s}$
PTP V2, boundary clocks	$\pm 1\mu\text{s}$	$\pm 4\mu\text{s}$
gPTP	$\pm 0.035\mu\text{s}$	$\pm 0.063\mu\text{s}$

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.

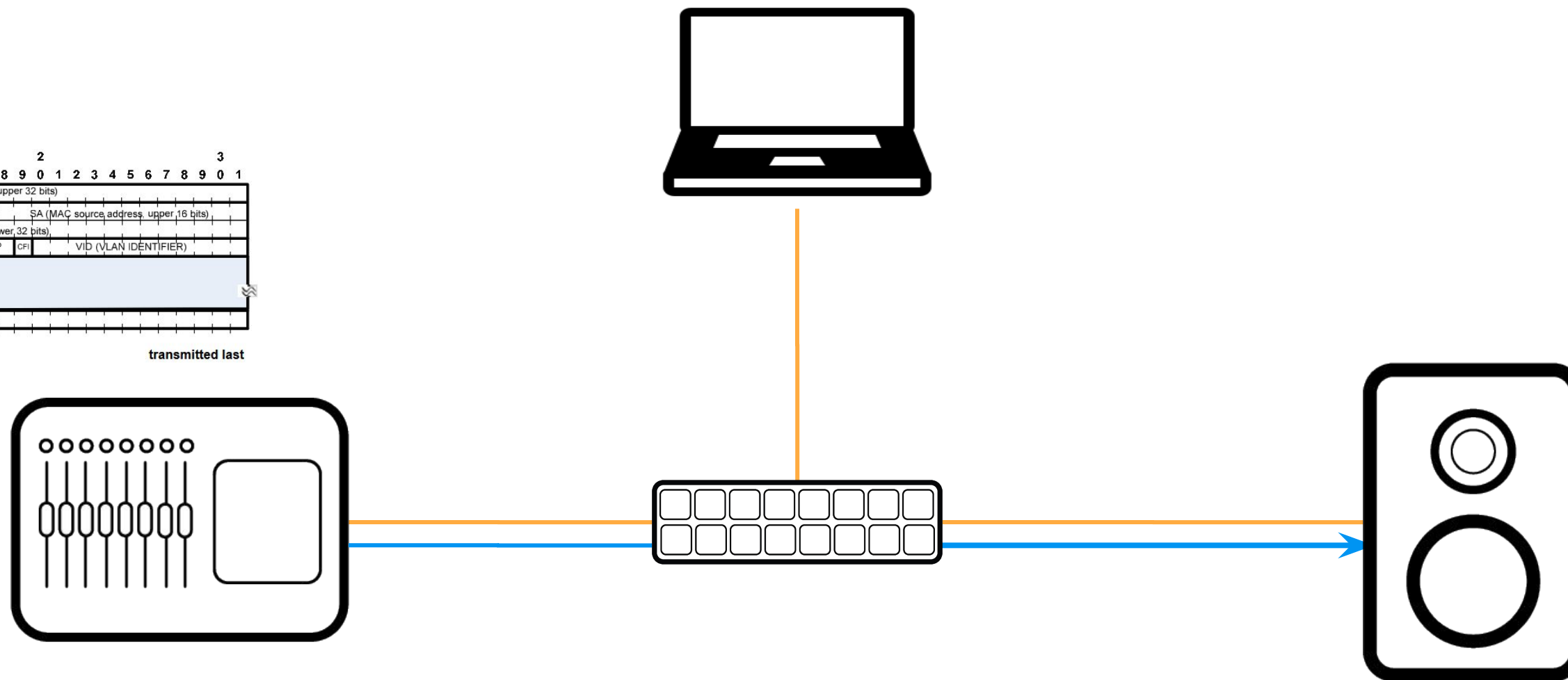
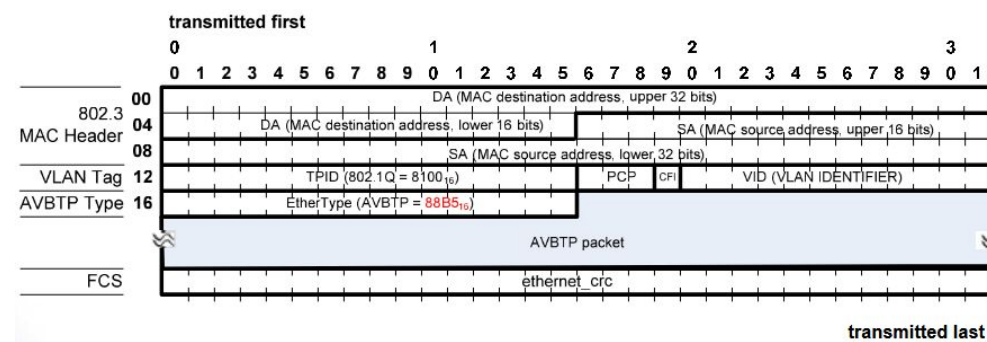
<https://www.aes.org/tmpFiles/elib/20251007/22356.pdf>

# Stream Reservation

# What is an ethernet packet?

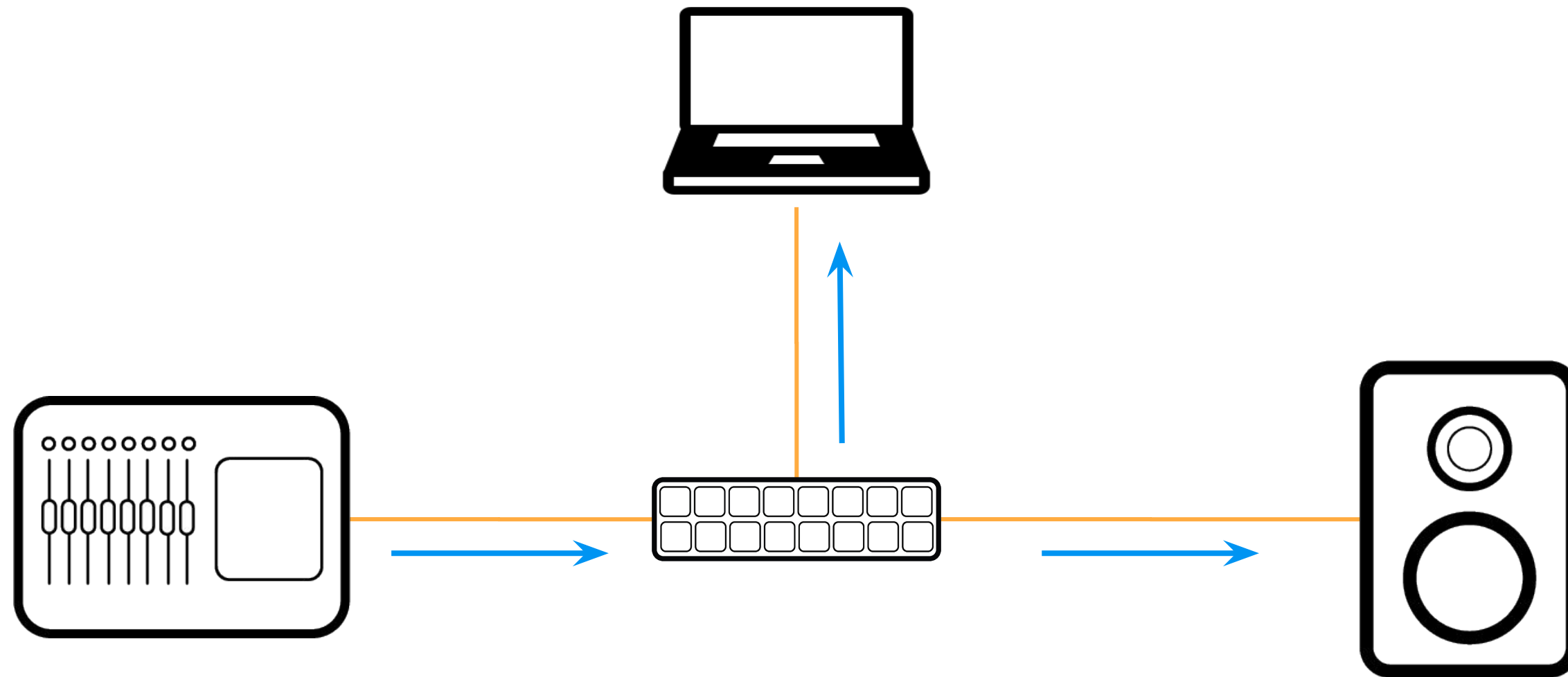


# What is a stream?

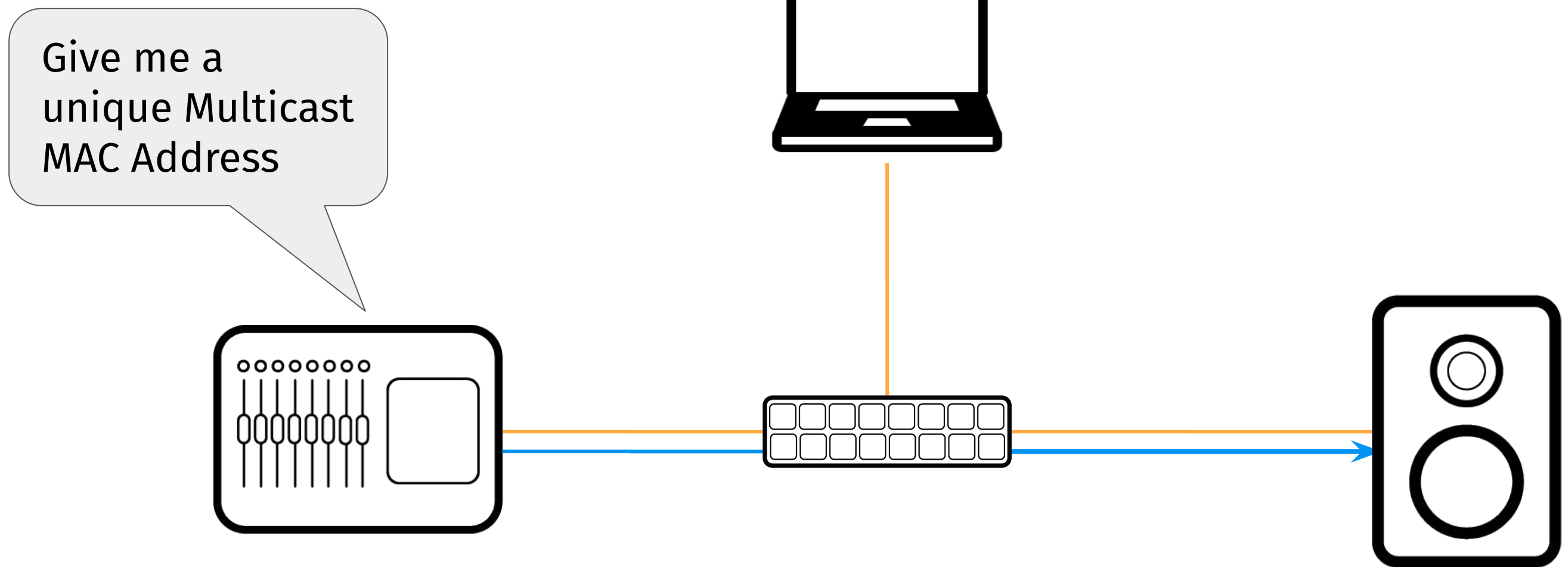


**Continuous transmission of ethernet packets. 8000x per second!**

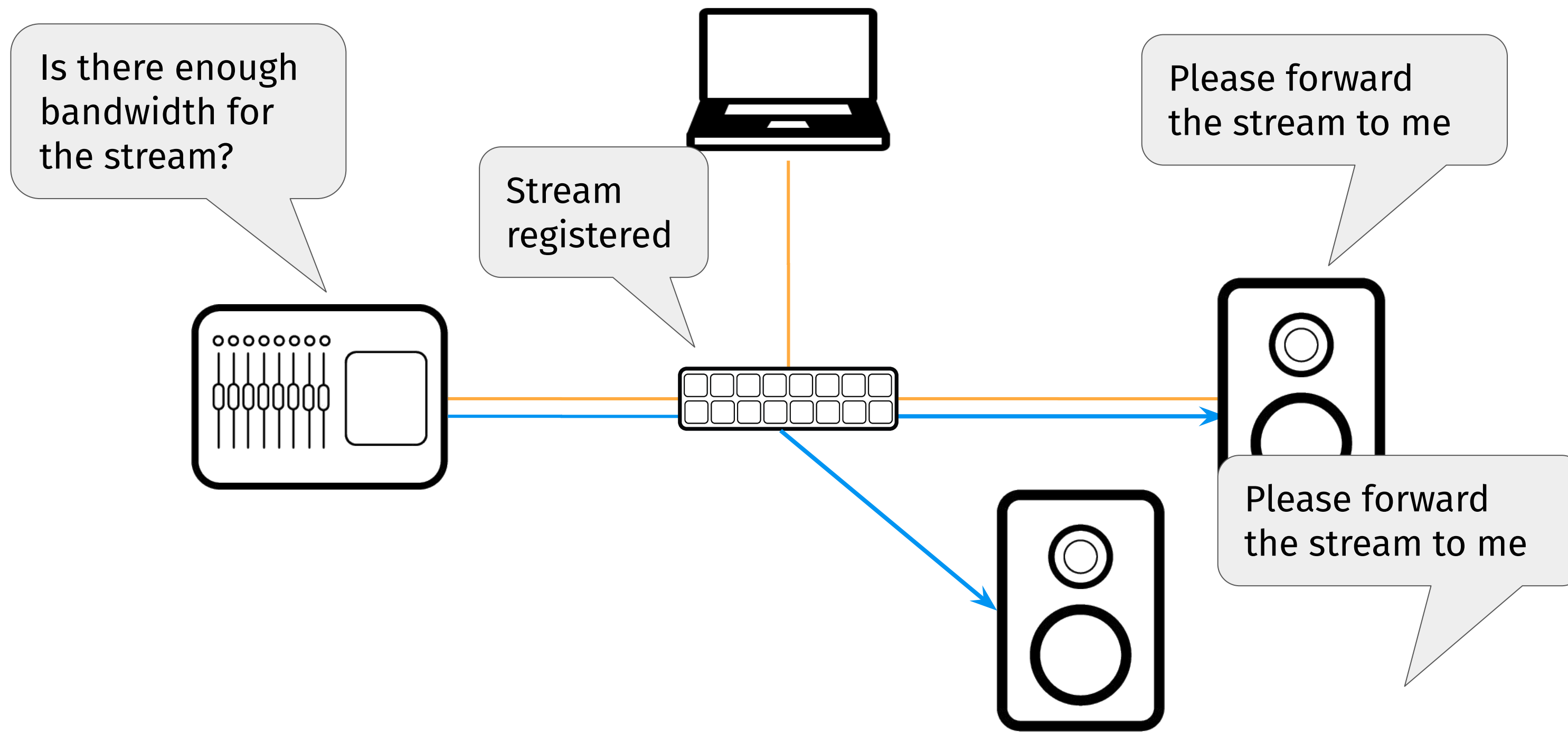
# Recap: Regular Multicast



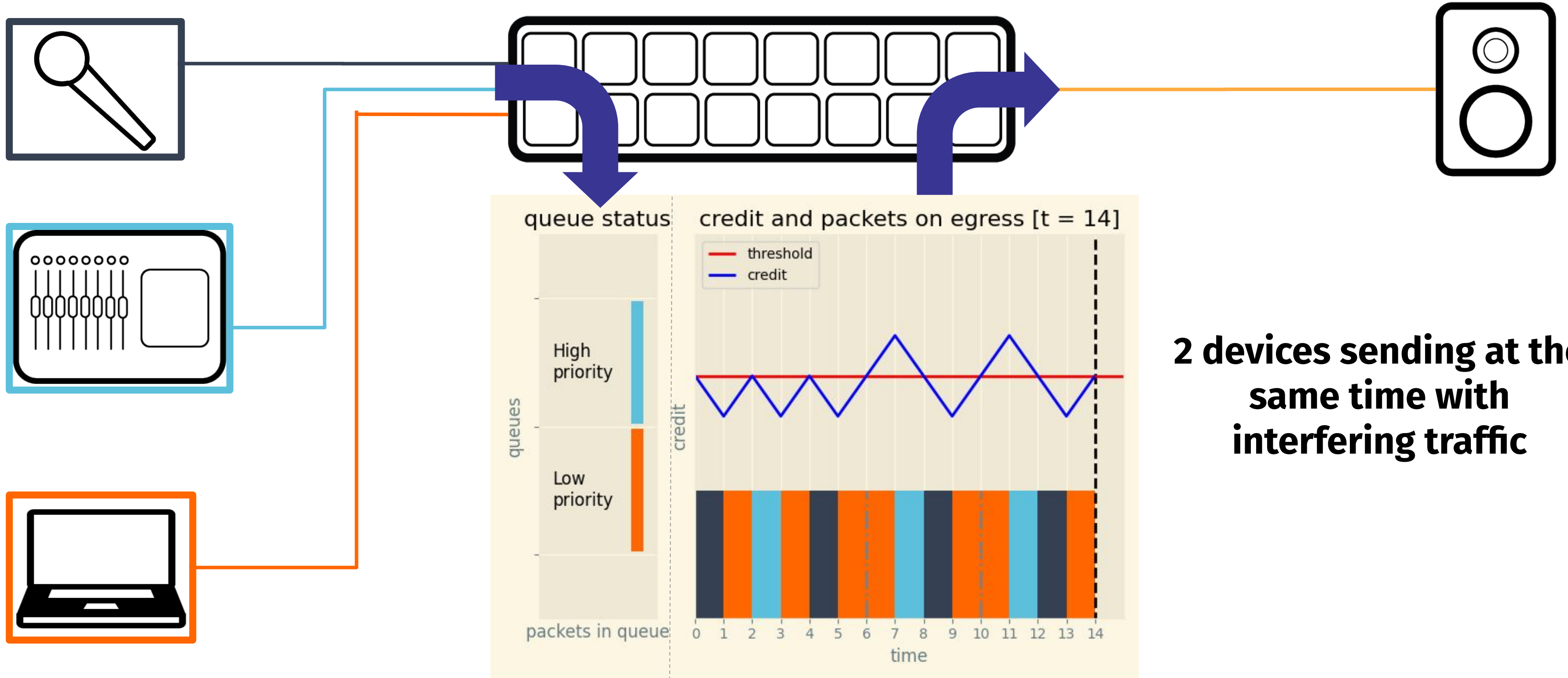
# Multicast Address Allocation Protocol



# Stream Reservation Protocol



# Queueing and shaping - Qav - The credit based shaper

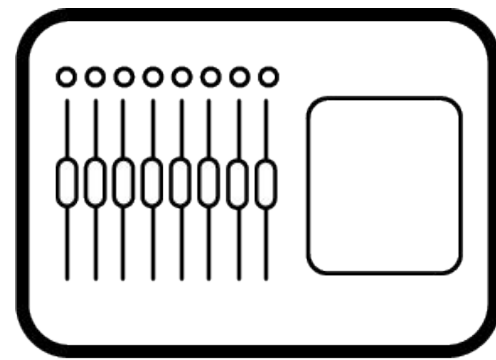




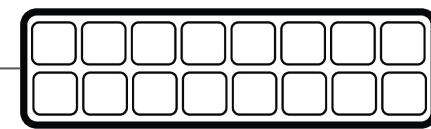
**So what's special about Pro Audio Applications?**

# The audio market situation in 2016 and before - Example

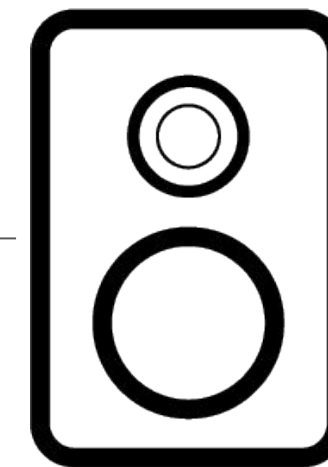
**Manufacturer A**



IEEE1722  
AM824  
48kHz  
24Bit  
8 channels



**Manufacturer B**



IEEE1722  
AM824  
48kHz  
24Bit  
1 channel

# So we had to work this out...



# Who supports Milan?



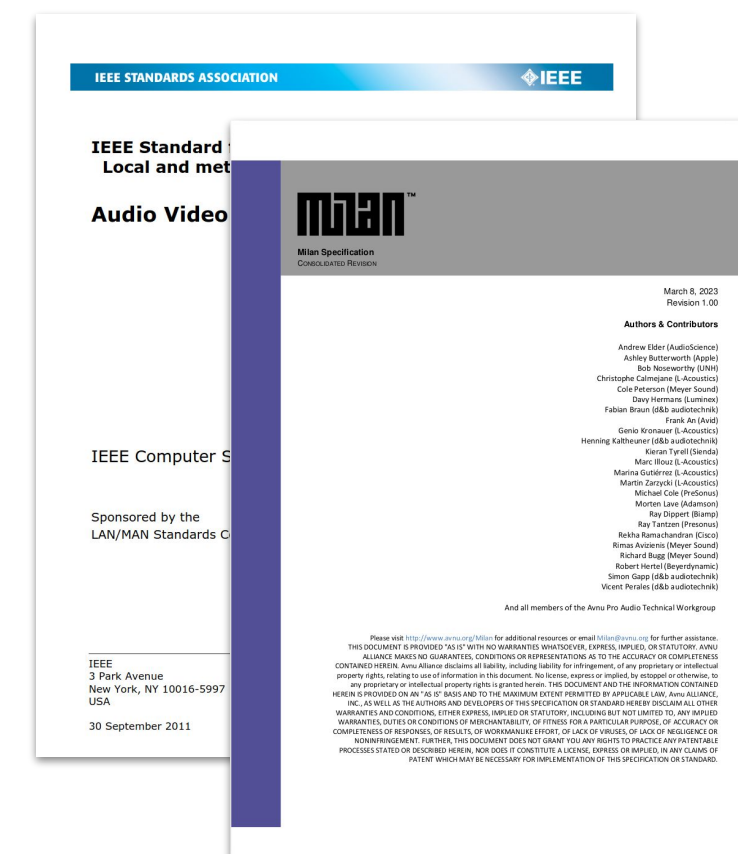
# Milan Baseline

Milan defines interoperable subset of the standards:

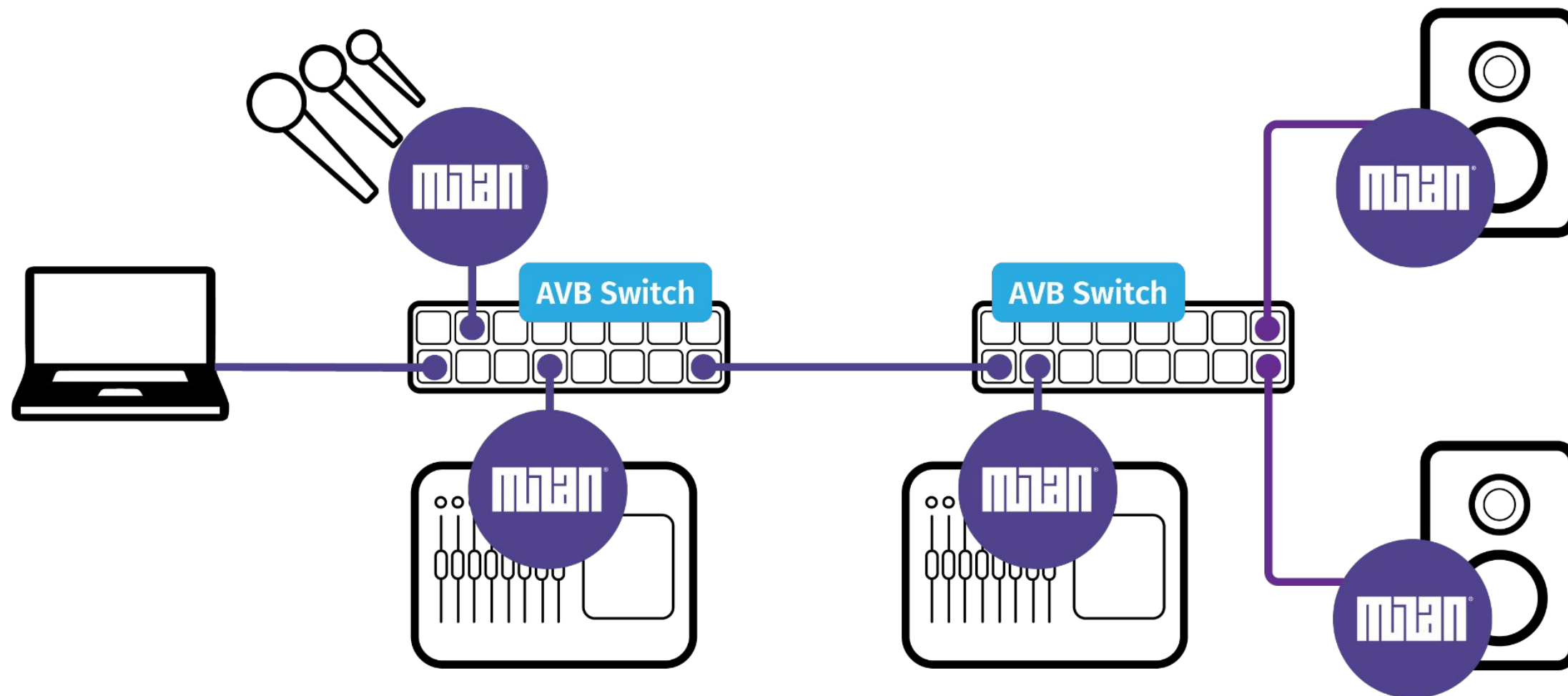
- Media clocking
- Common Stream Formats
- Enumeration, Connection Management, (basic) Control

Clarifies ambiguities

Adds redundancy scheme (optional)



# What is AVB/TSN and Milan?





**Enjoy your next  
concert!**

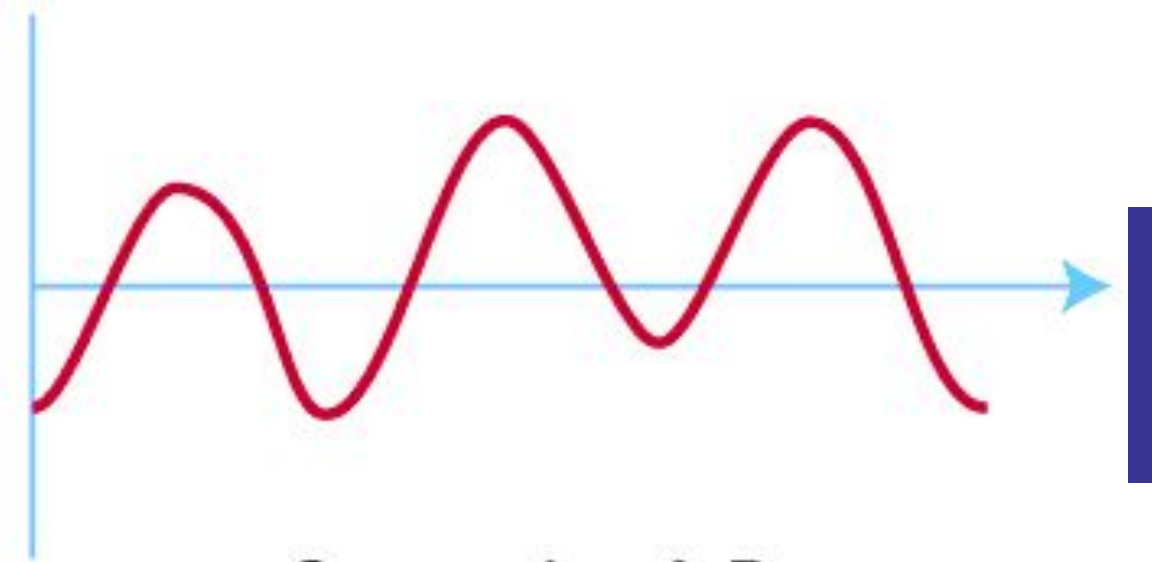
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**Can Milan really sound better?**



# Basics: Analog-Digital-Conversion

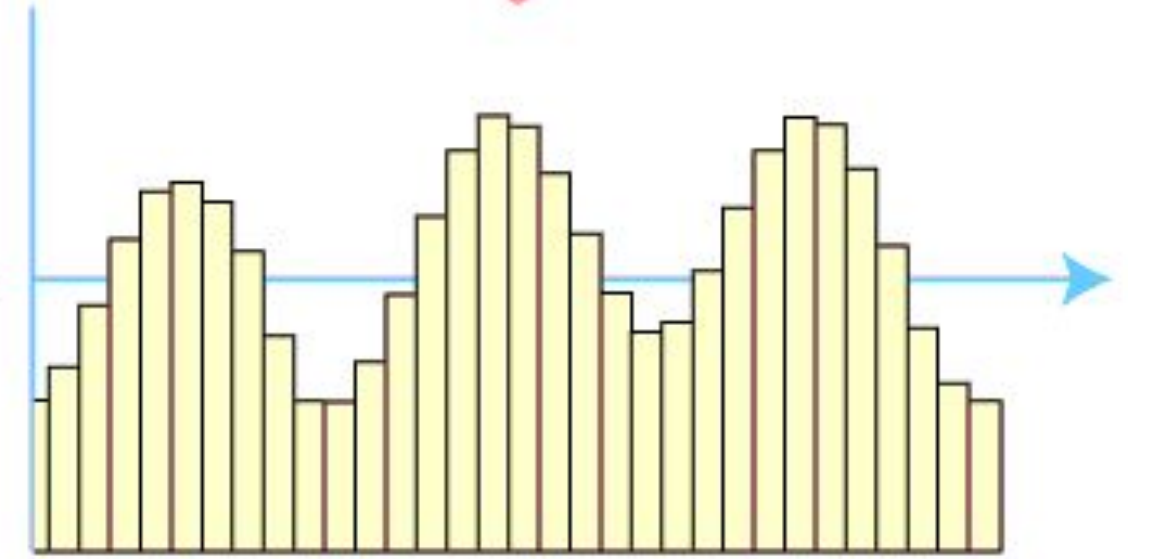
fig. 1



Conversion A-D



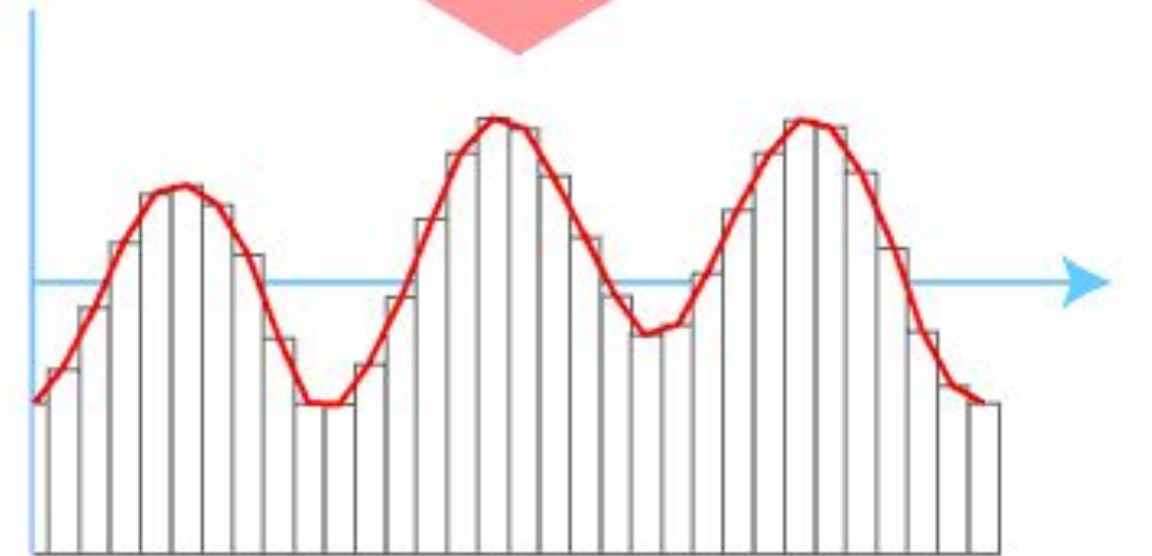
fig. 2



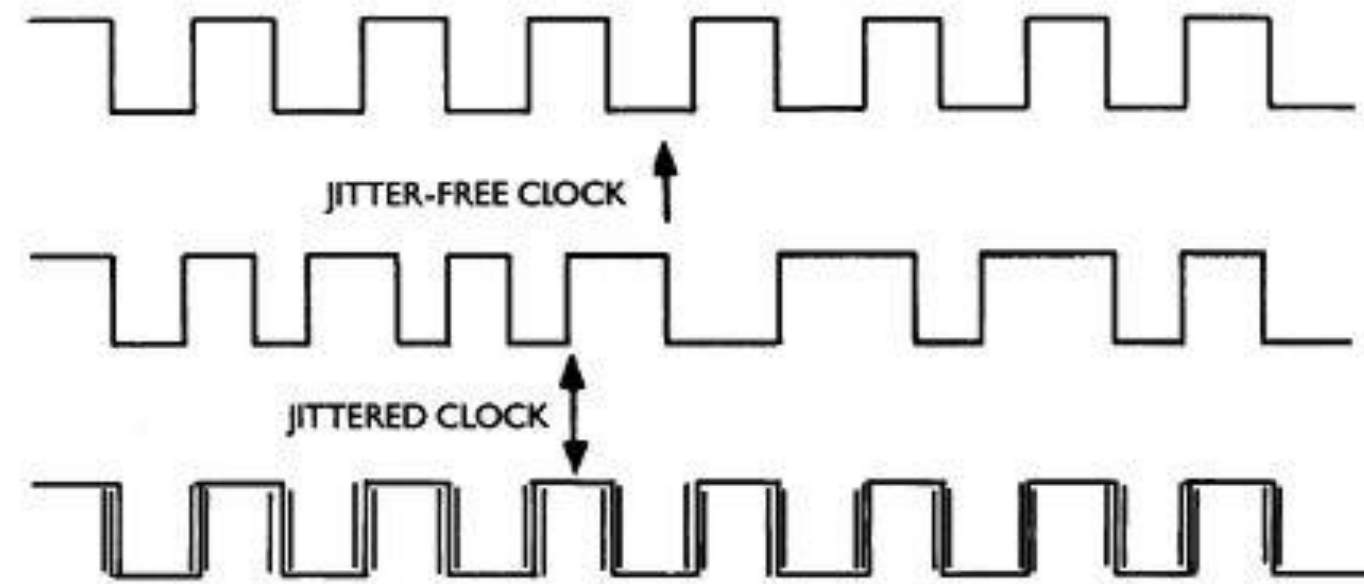
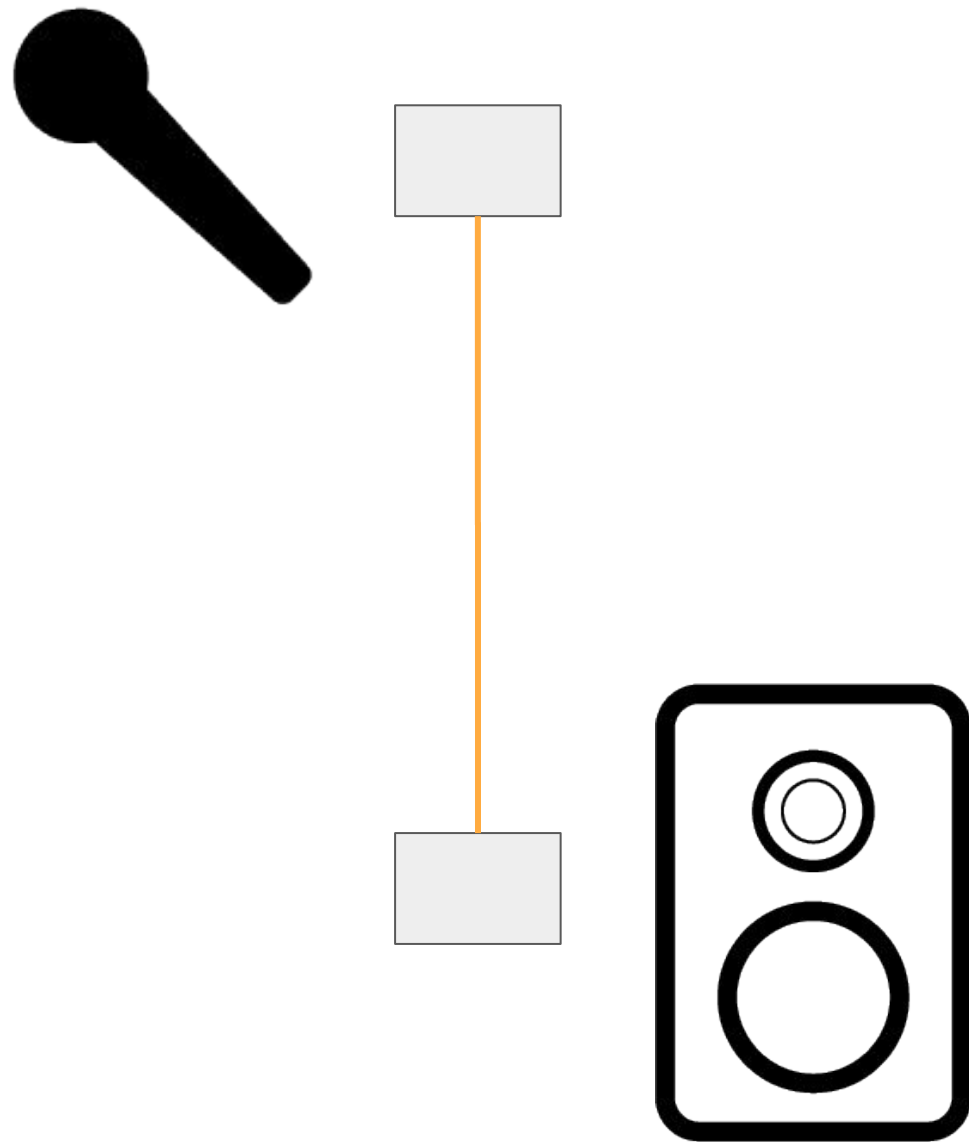
Conversion D-A



fig. 3



# Basics: Jitter in a Digital system



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

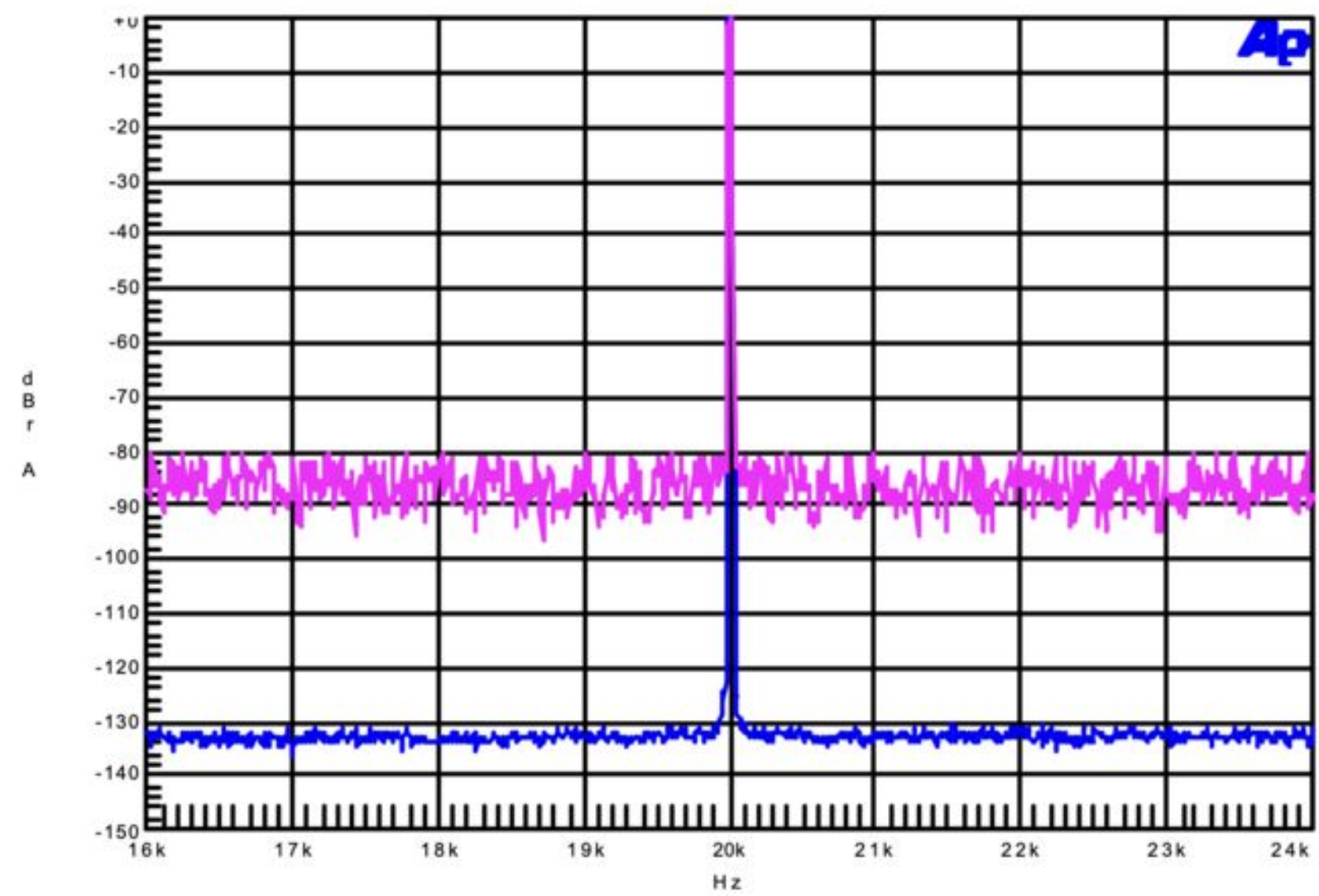


Figure 1 DAC in clock master mode (lower trace) and in clock slave mode with 25 ns peak wide band jitter applied (upper trace).

# Audio Networking in Sound Reinforcement Systems

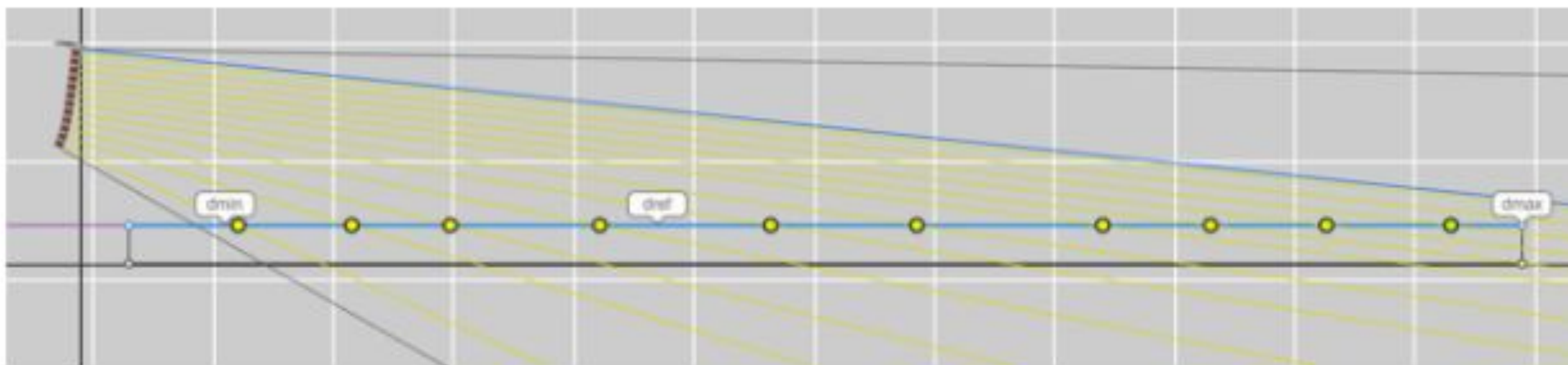


Figure 2: loudspeaker system and audience area used for synchronization evaluation tests

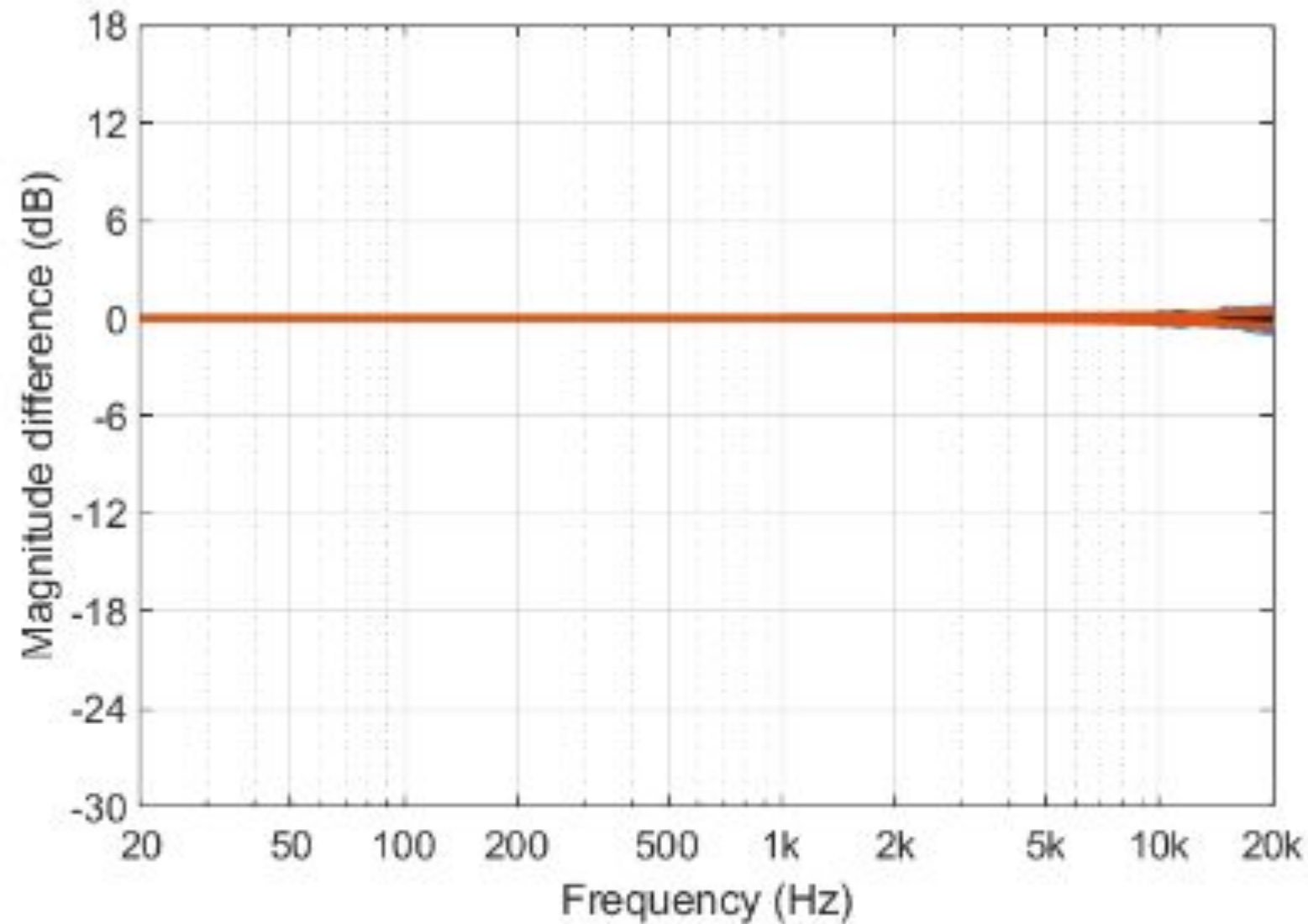


Figure 3: frequency response variations between unsynchronized and synchronized according to Figure 2 (blue: individual curves, black, median, red: 2.5 and 97.5 percentile), third octave smoothing,  $\pm 0.5 \mu\text{s}$  timing offset (uniform random distribution)

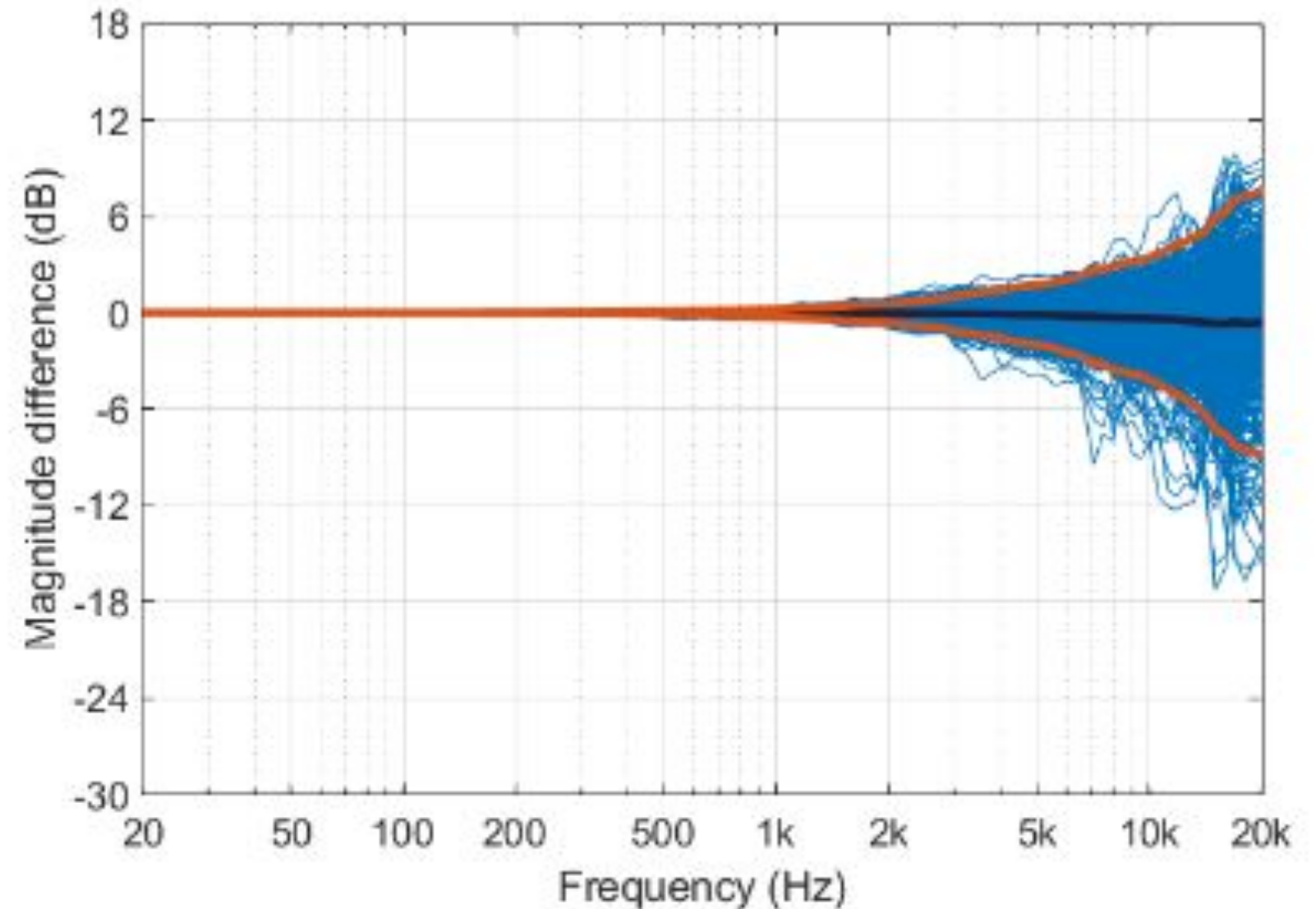
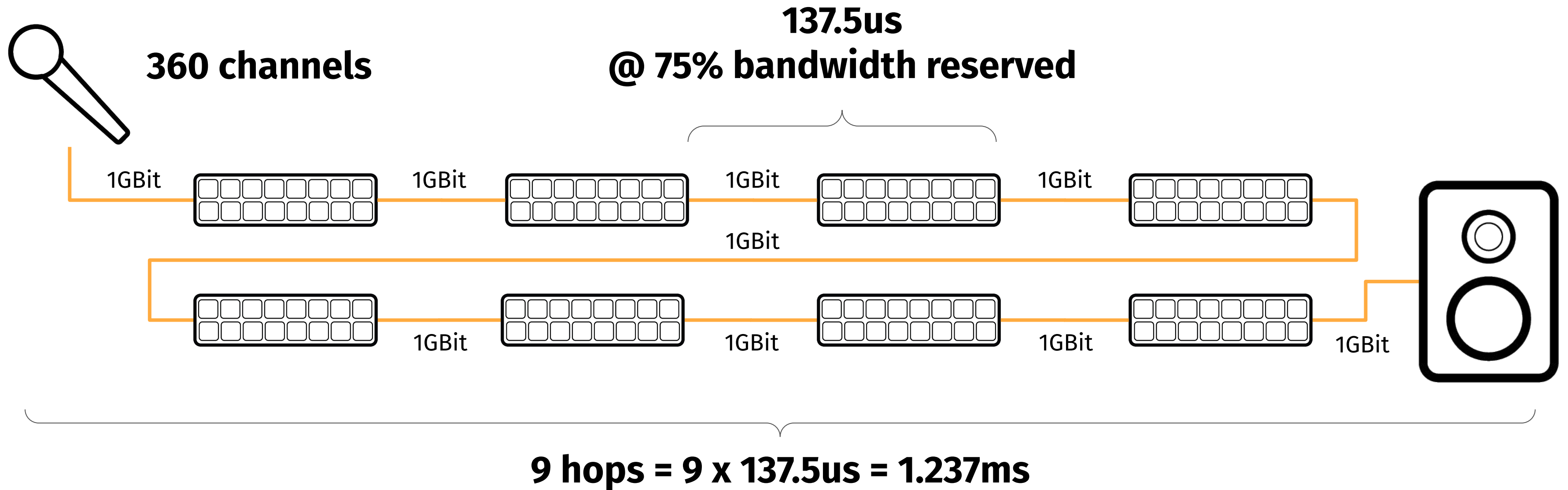


Figure 4: frequency response variations between unsynchronized and synchronized according to Figure 2 (blue: individual curves, black, median, red: 2.5 and 97.5 percentile), third octave smoothing,  $\pm 10 \mu\text{s}$  timing offset (uniform random distribution)

# 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