



Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg  
*Hamburg University of Applied Sciences*

## P2P Audio Streaming for the iPod Touch

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Hamburg - 19.11.2009

# Overview

- Introduction
- Overlay P2P Network
- Application Layer Multicast (ALM)
- Audio Processing on the iPhone
- P2P Audio Streaming for the iPod Touch (PAS4i)
- Discussion

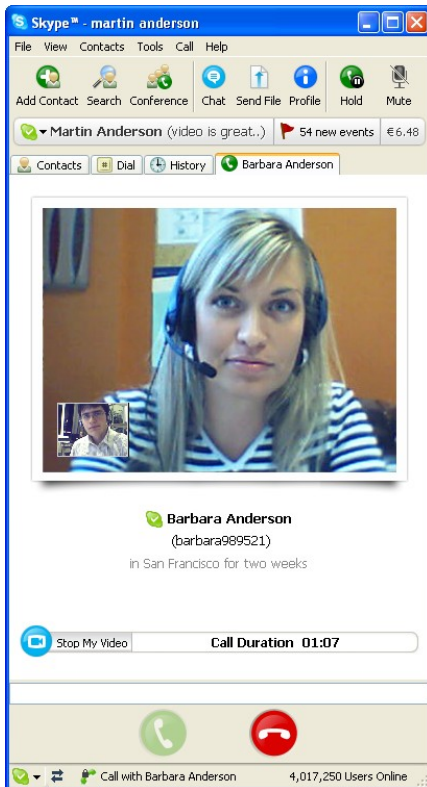
# Introduction

- The P2P file sharing systems
- The P2P media streaming systems
- Our story
- The PAS4i application

# The P2P file sharing systems

- Napster (1999)
- Gnutella
- BitTorrent

# The P2P media streaming systems



# The P2P media streaming systems



# Our story



## Student Project wins support by Ditze Stiftung

A group of international students from Internet Technologies was awarded by the Karl H. Ditze Stiftung. Their project "Mobiles Video-Netzwerk Hamburg" receives a fund of 4.800 €.

## We joined the iPhone Developer Program

Our group is an official member of the iPhone developer university program. If you are interested in doing your bachelor or master thesis on the iPhone/iPod touch platform, please, contact us or stop by our lab (room 5.80).



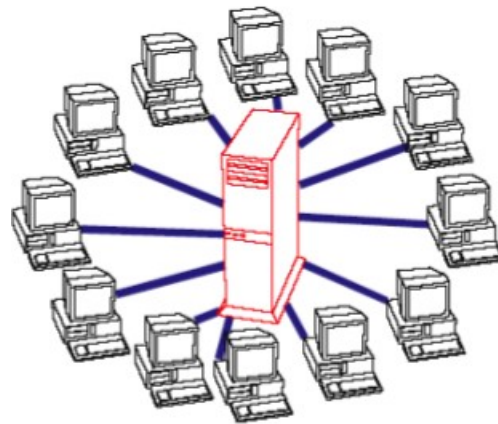
# The PAS4i application

- PAS4i: “P2P Audio Streaming for the iPod Touch”





# Client-Server model



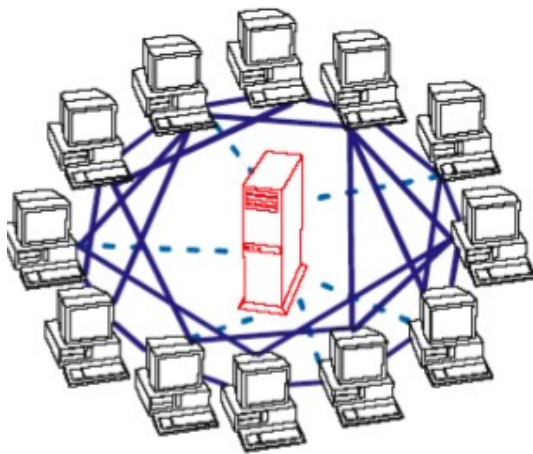
Client-Server

For large scale system:  
High deployment cost!!!

# Overlay P2P Network

- Unstructured P2P
  - Centralized P2P
  - Pure P2P
  - Hybrid P2P
- Structured P2P
  - DHT-based: Chord, **Pastry**, CAN etc.

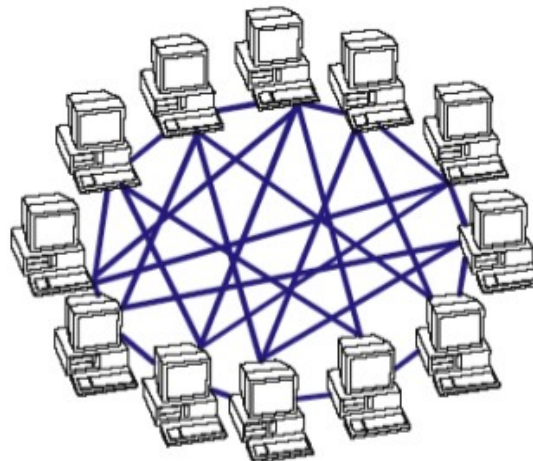
# Unstructured P2P



## Centralized P2P

Central entity (indexing)  
provides the service

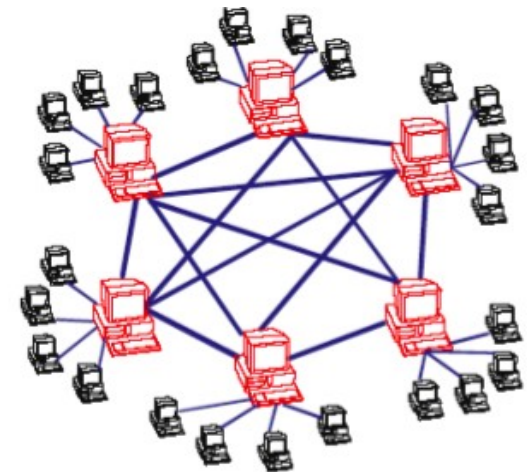
Central server:  
single point of failure



## Pure P2P

No central entity  
Any peer can be  
removed

Flooding:  
communication overhead

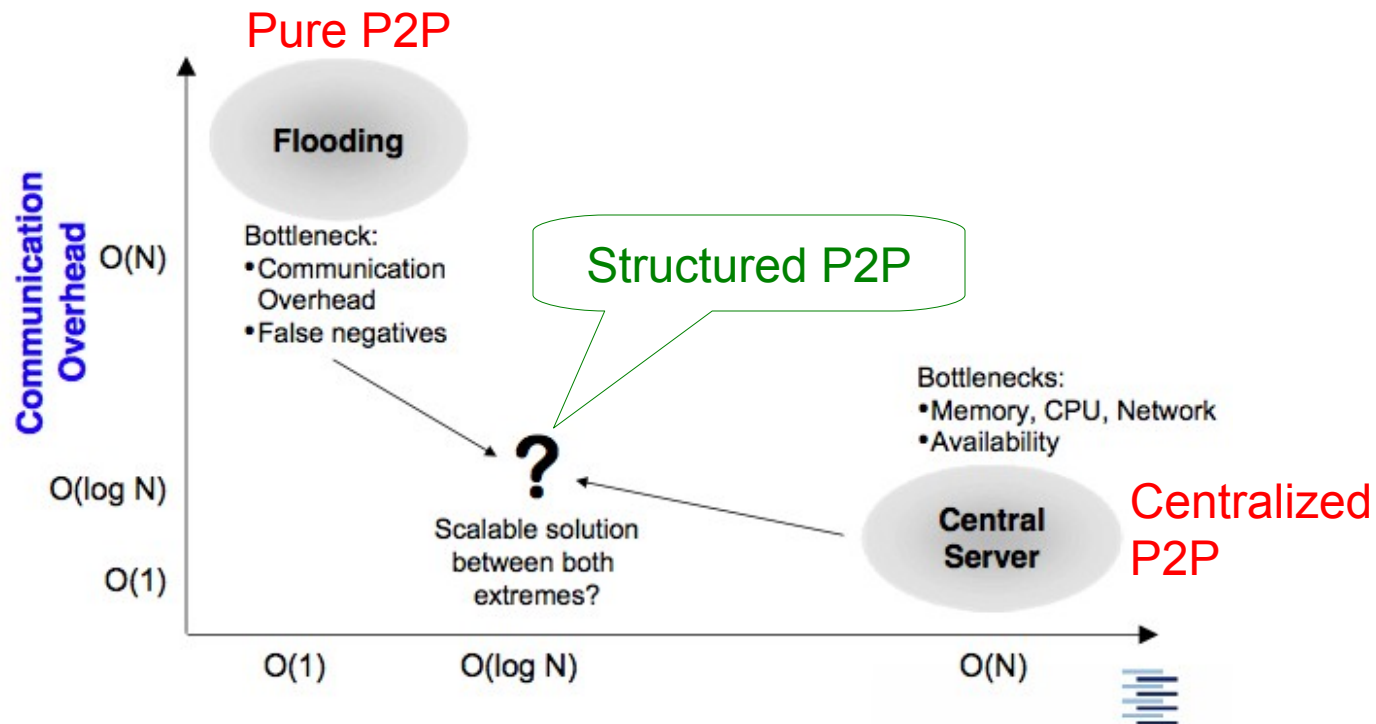


## Hybrid P2P

Dynamic central entities  
Any peer can be removed

Pros and Cons solution  
of both Centralized &  
Pure P2P

# Unstructured P2P

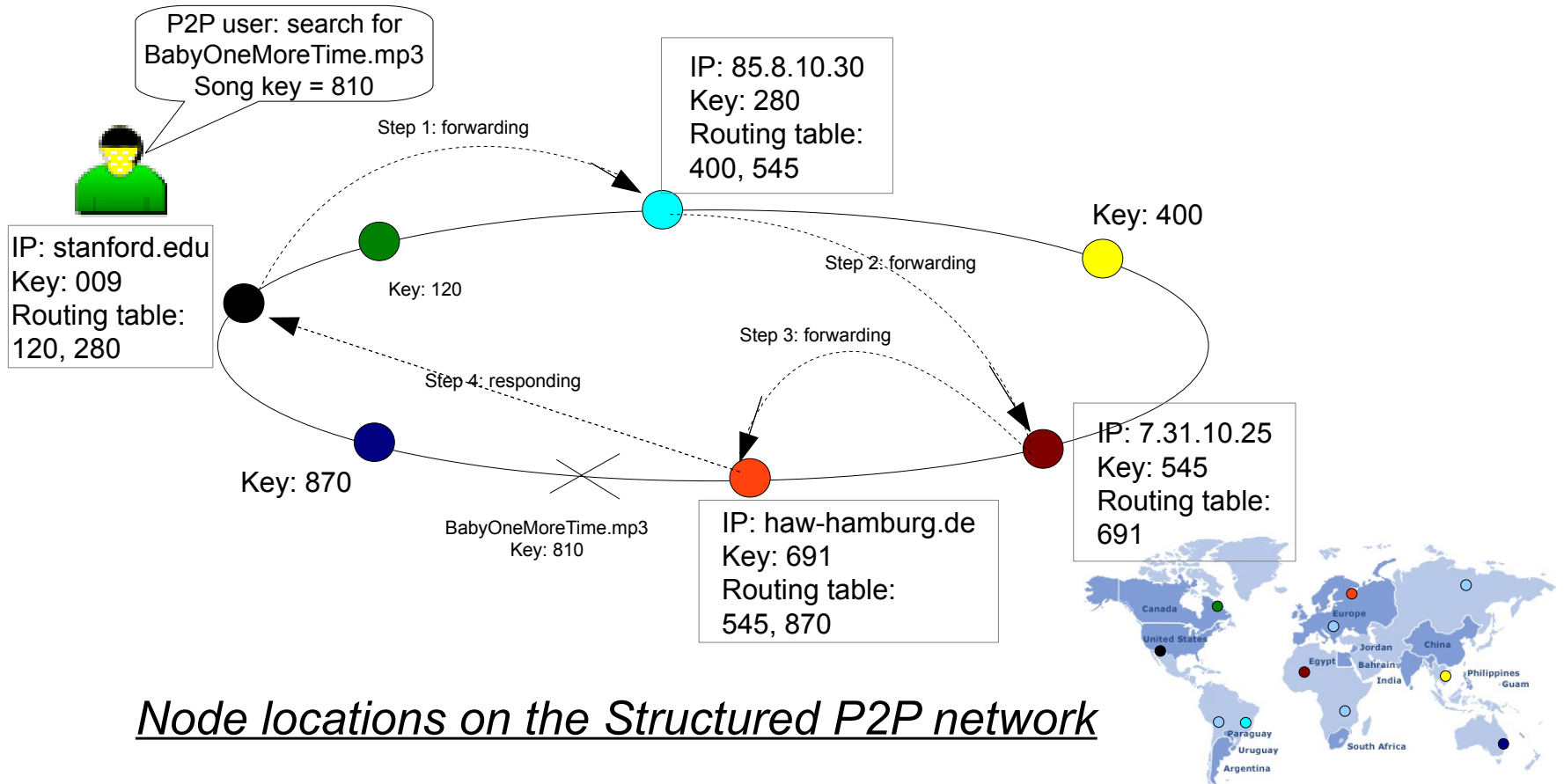


# Structured DHT-based P2P



Node locations on the underlay IP network

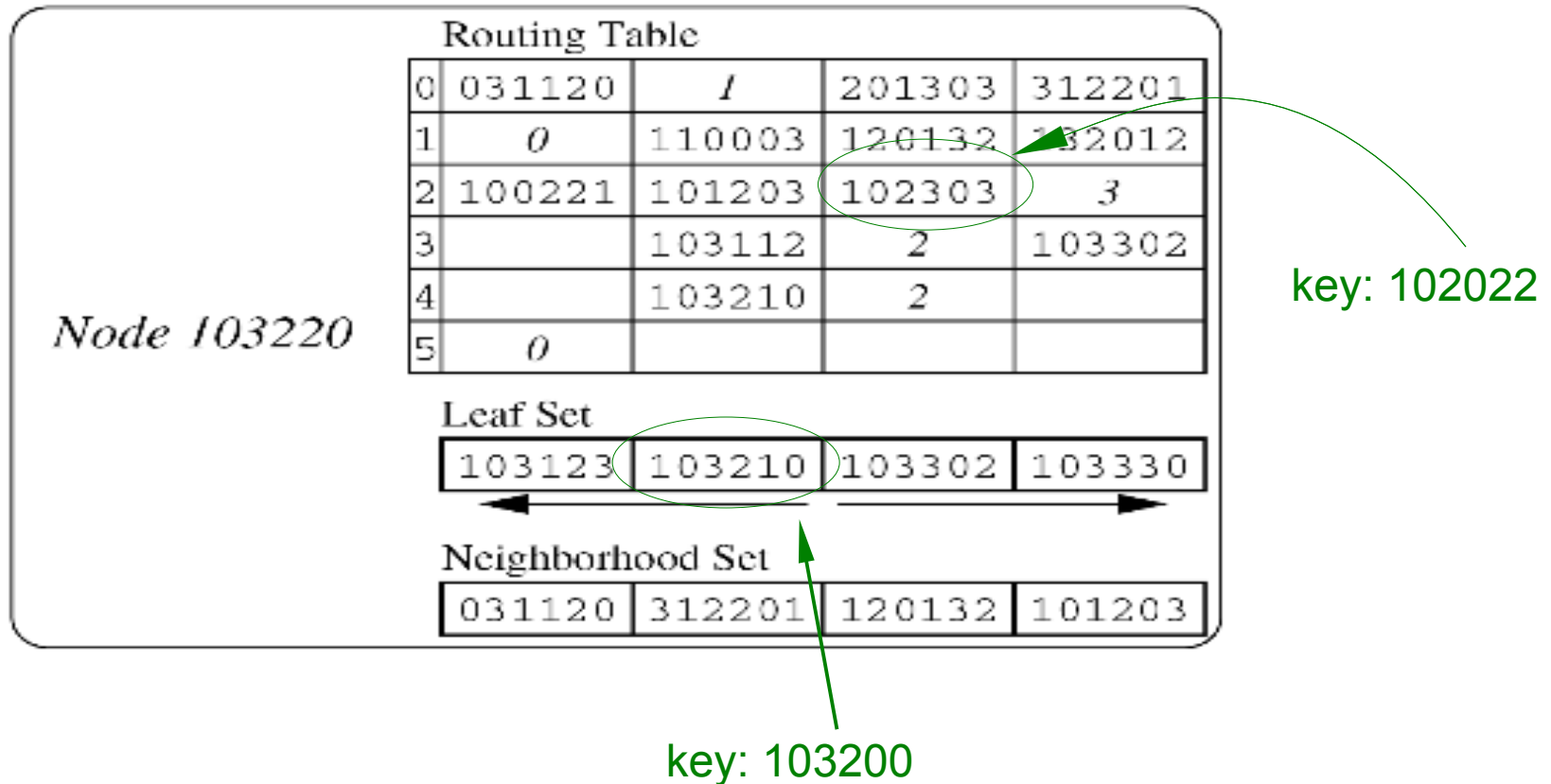
# Structured DHT-based P2P



Node locations on the Structured P2P network

## Structured DHT-based P2P – Pastry approach

- Routing information of a Pastry node



## Structured DHT-based P2P – Pastry approach

- Pastry API

- `pastryInit(Credentials, Application)`
- `route(msg, key)`
- `send(msg, IP-addr)`
- `deliver(msg, key)`
- `forward(msg, key, nextId)`
- `newLeafs(leafSet)`



# Structured DHT-based P2P

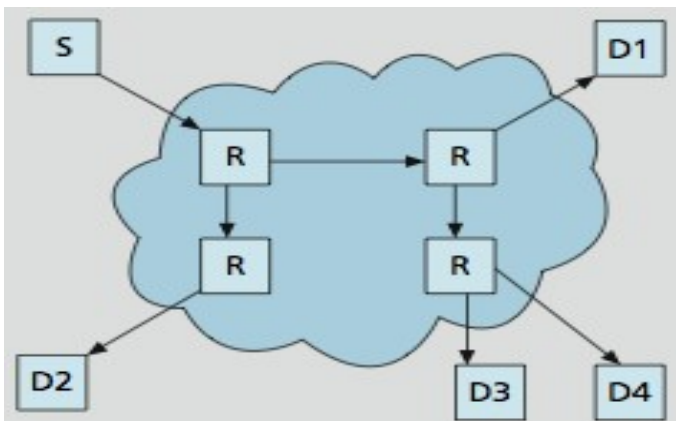
System	Per Node State	Communication Overhead	Fuzzy Queries	Robustness
Central Server	$O(N)$	$O(1)$	yes	no
Flooding Search	$O(1)$	$\geq O(N^2)$	yes	yes
Distributed Hash Table	$O(\log N)$	$O(\log N)$	no	yes

Table 1: Comparison of central server, flooding search and distributed indexing (source: [23])

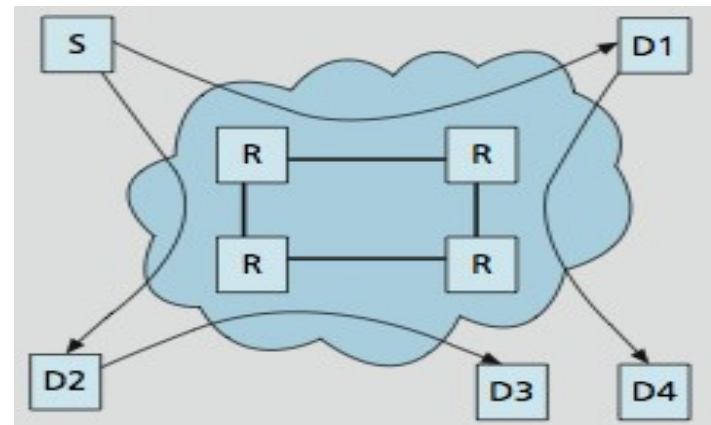
# Application Layer Multicast (ALM)

- IP Multicast vs. ALM
- ALM characteristics
- ALM media Live streaming topologies
  - Tree-first vs. Mesh-first
  - **Scribe** – a Tree-first approach

# IP Multicast vs. ALM



IP Multicast



ALM

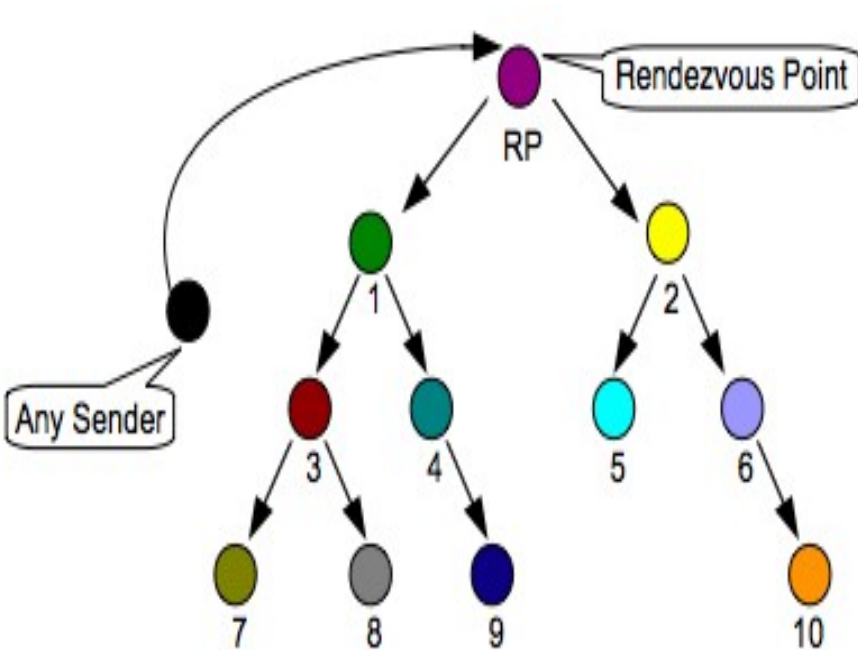
Issues	IP Multicast	ALM
Multicast efficiency (delay and bandwidth)	High	Low – Medium
Complexity or Overhead	Low	Medium – High
Ease of deployment	Low	Medium – High
Working layer	Network layer	Application layer

Table 3: Conceptual comparison of IP multicast and ALM (source [30])

# ALM characteristics

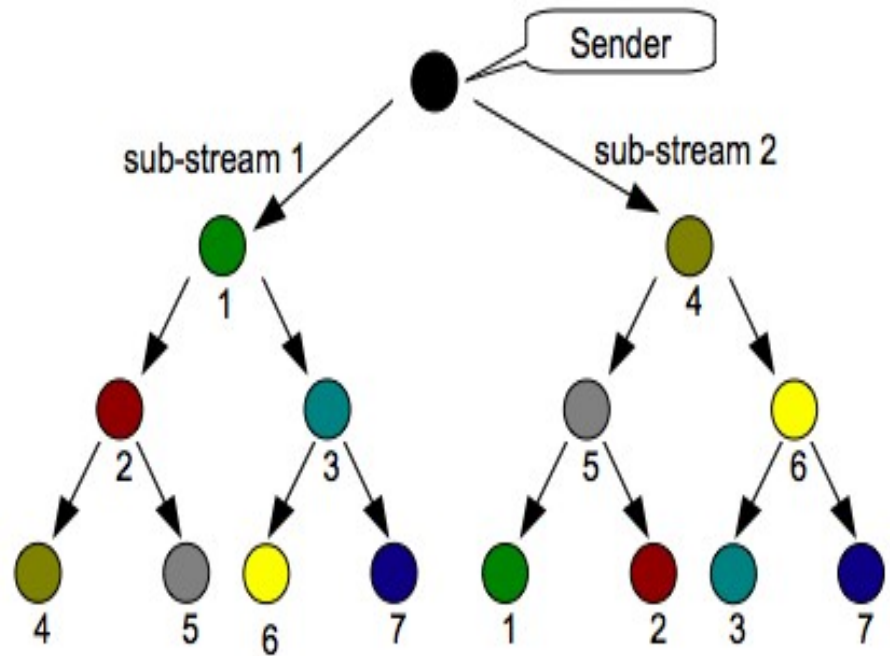
- Deployment level (i.e., Proxy-based or End-system ALM)
- Application domain (e.g., number of user, latency constraint, network resource etc.)
- Multicast management approach
- Routing mechanism

# Streaming topologies – Tree-first



Single-tree approach

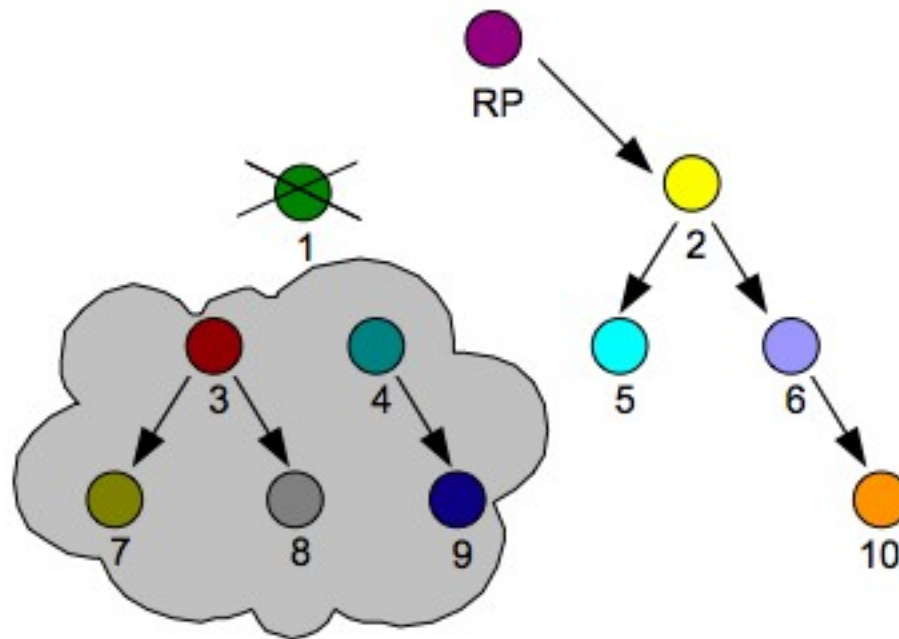
No upload bandwidth for leaf nodes



Multi-tree approach

All nodes contribute the upload bandwidth

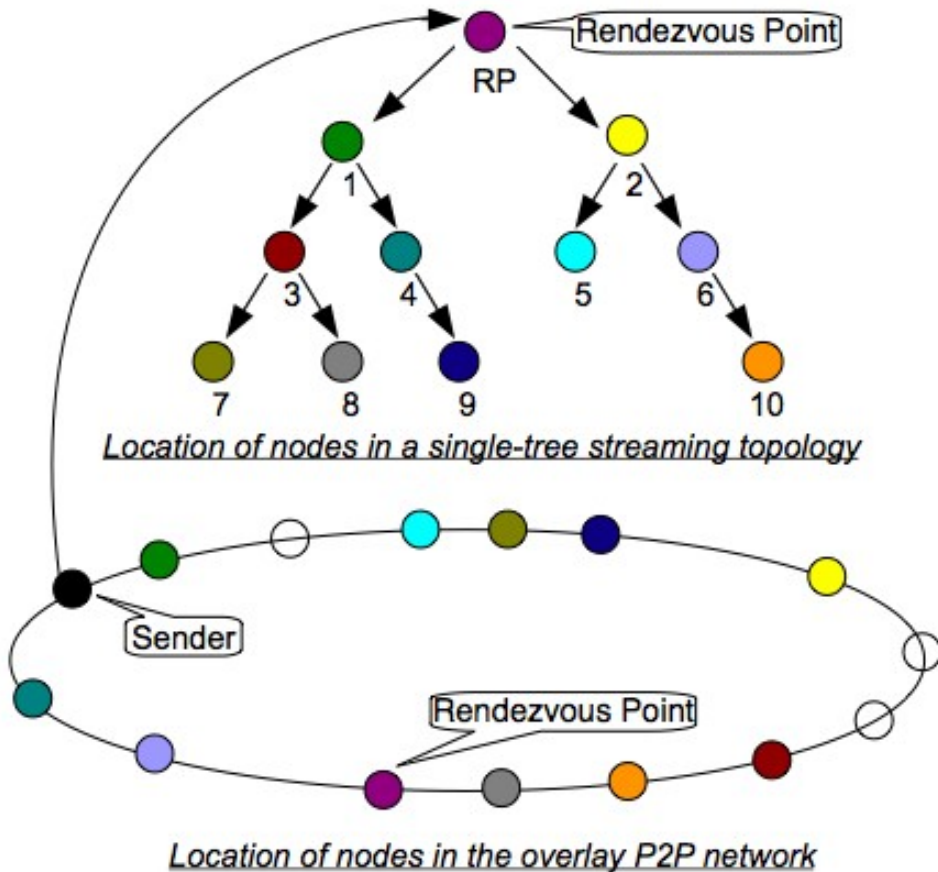
# Streaming topologies – Tree-first



Peer Churn

Robustness in Tree-based approach?

# Scribe – a Tree-based approach



Streaming tree: Scribe  
Built on the Pastry Overlay

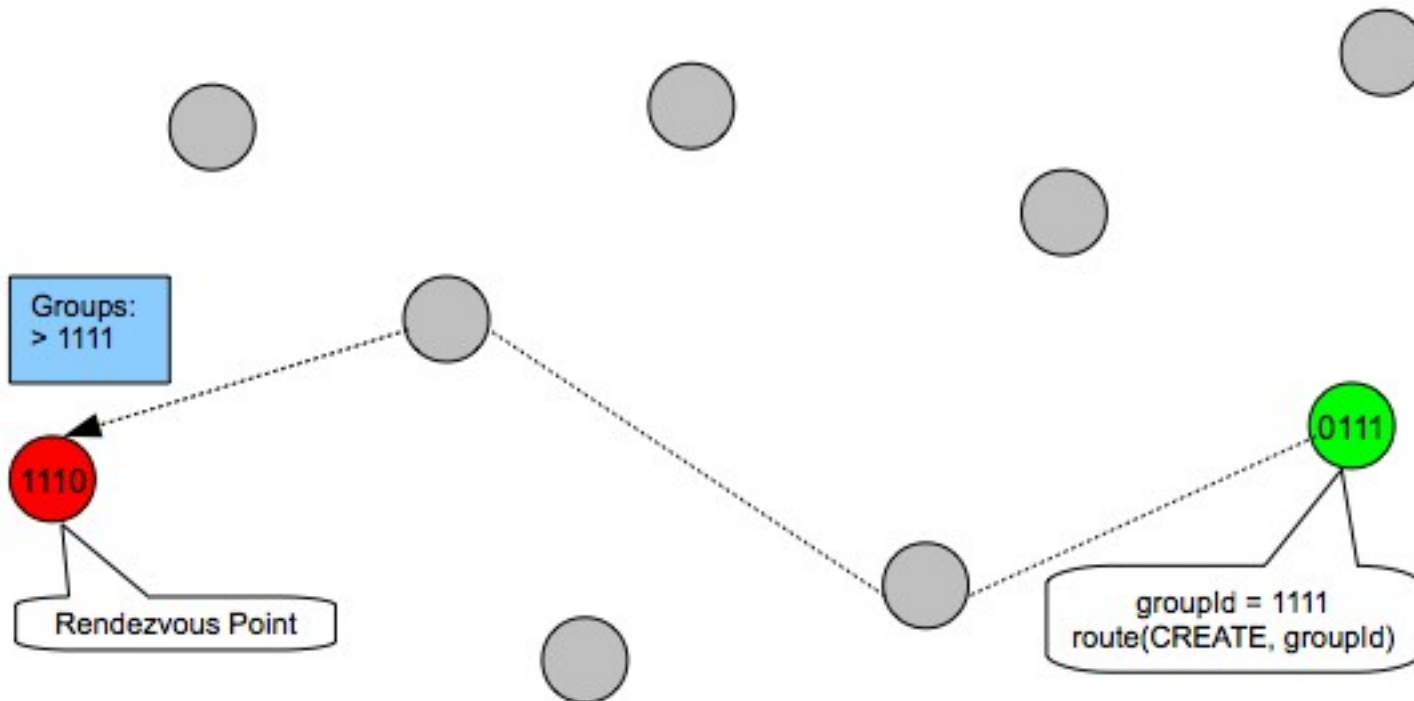
Pastry Overlay Network

# Scribe – a Tree-based approach

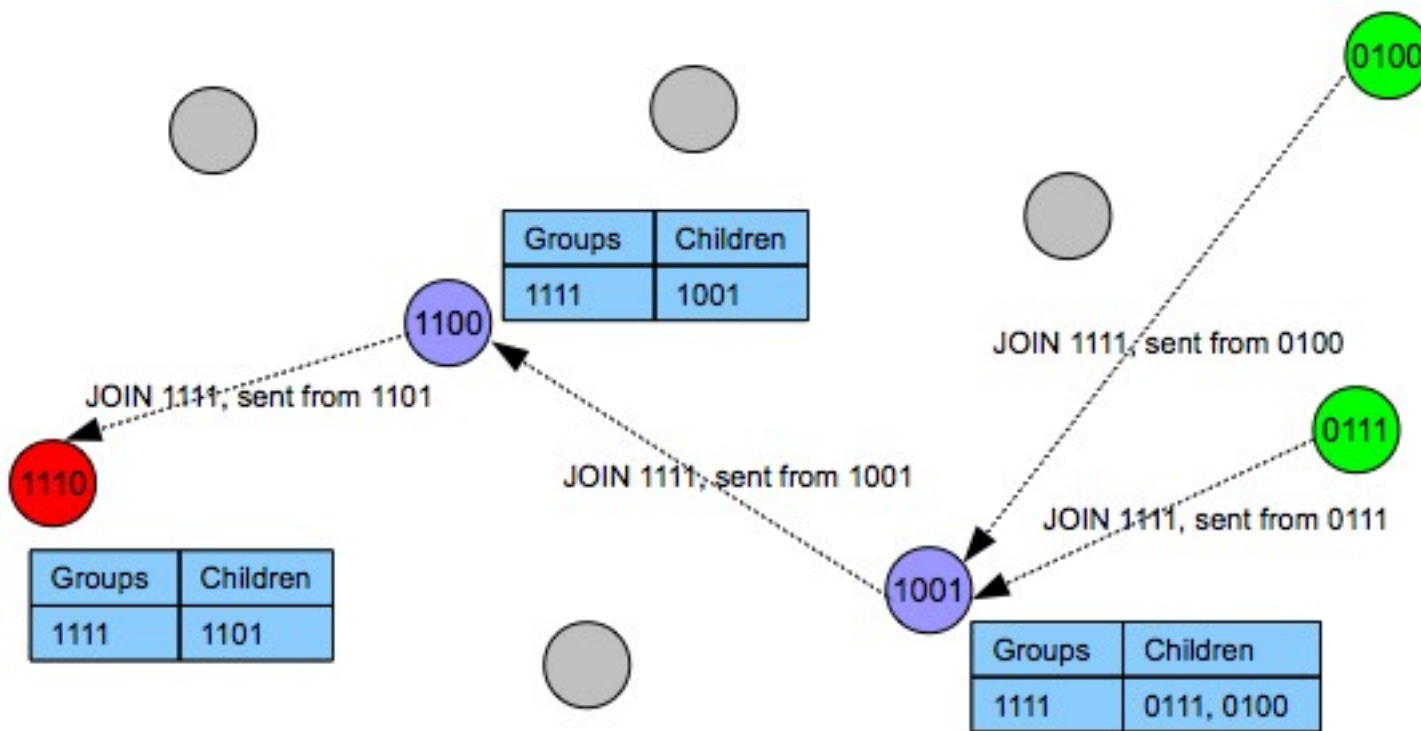
- Scribe API
  - `create(credentials, groupId)`
  - `join(credentials, groupId, msgHandler)`
  - `leave(credentials, groupId)`
  - `multicast(credentials, groupId, msg)`



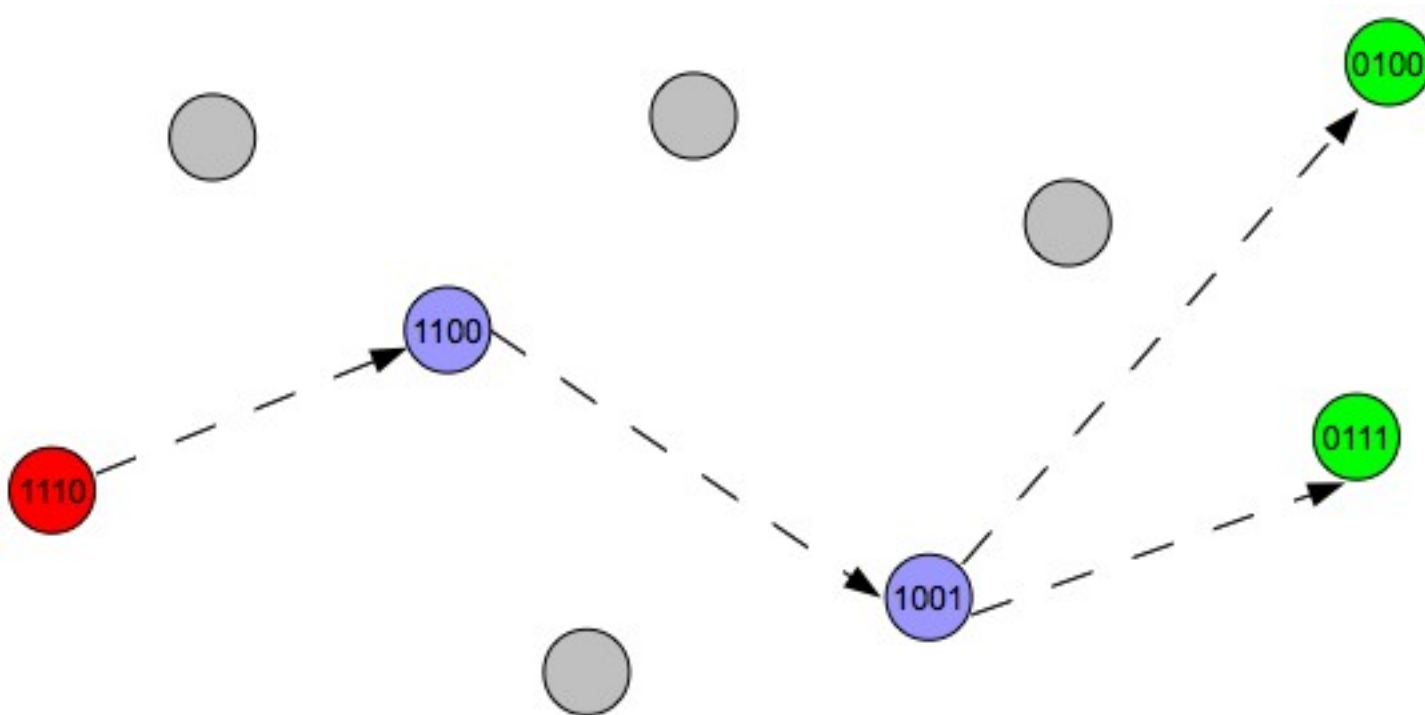
# Scribe – group creation



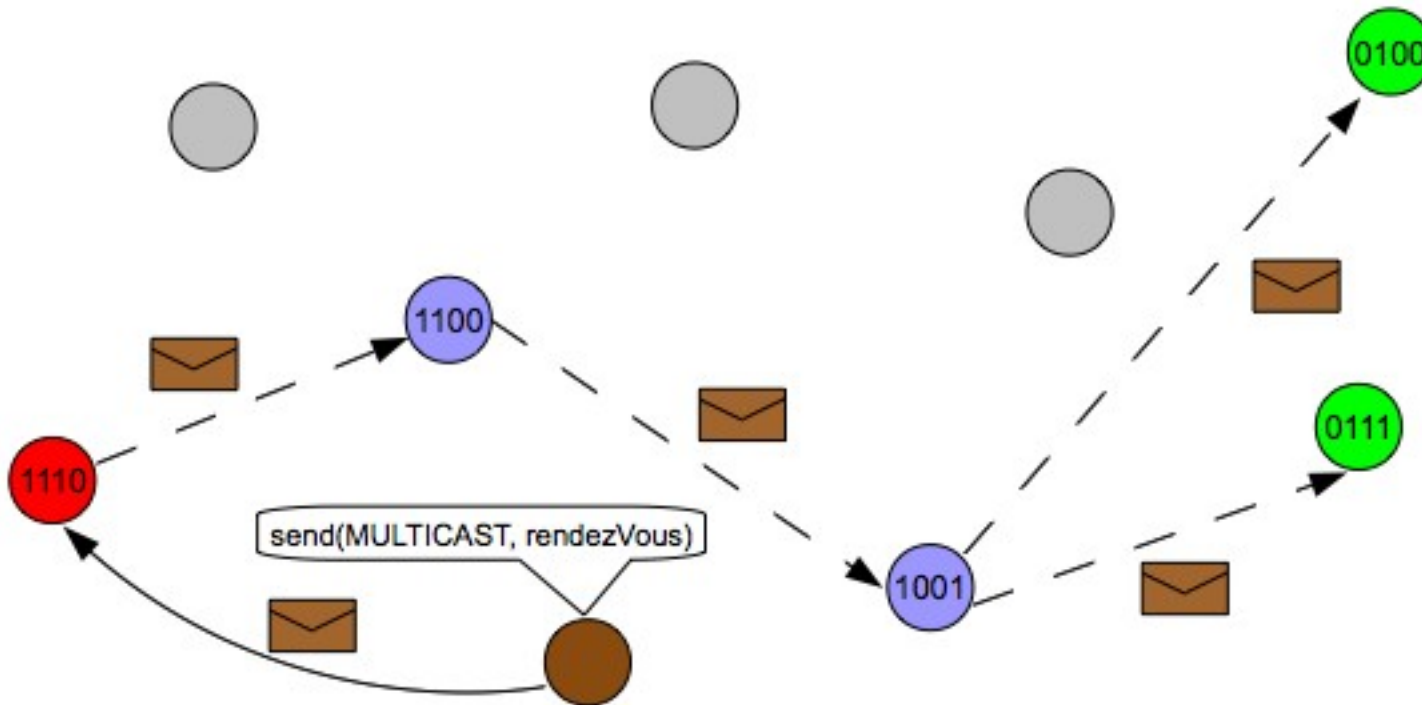
# Scribe – group joining



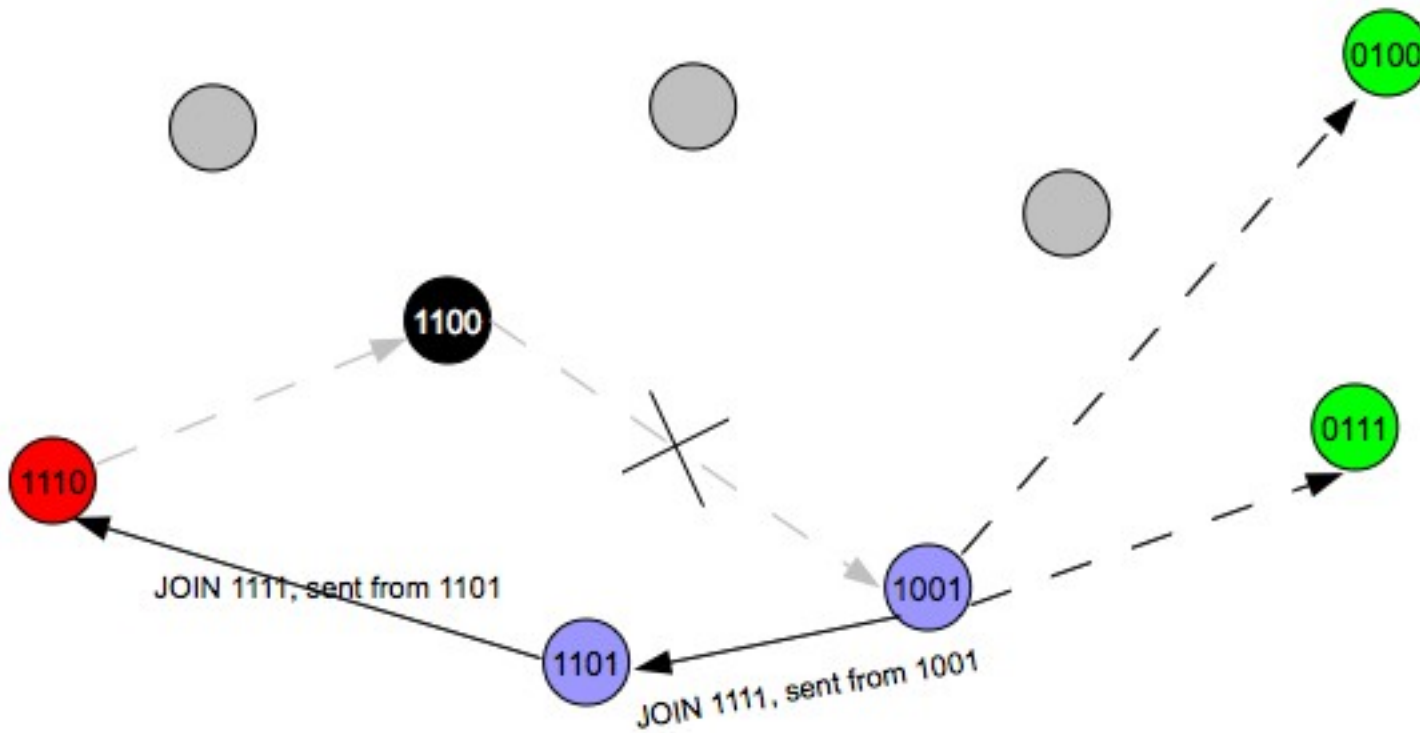
# Scribe – multicast tree



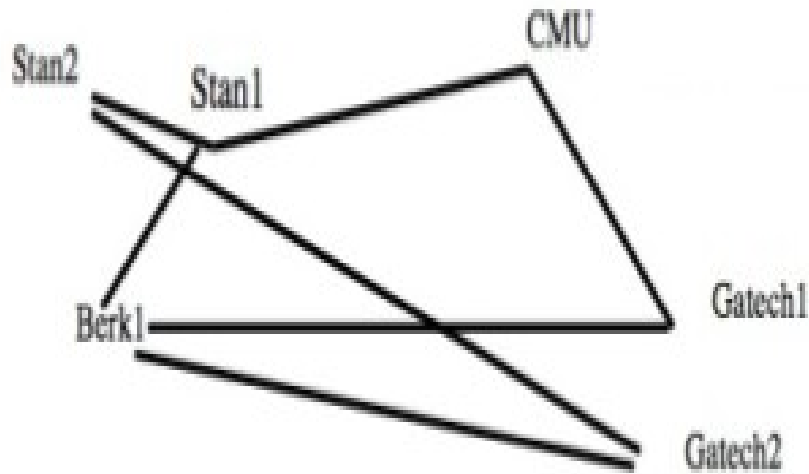
# Scribe – group multicasting



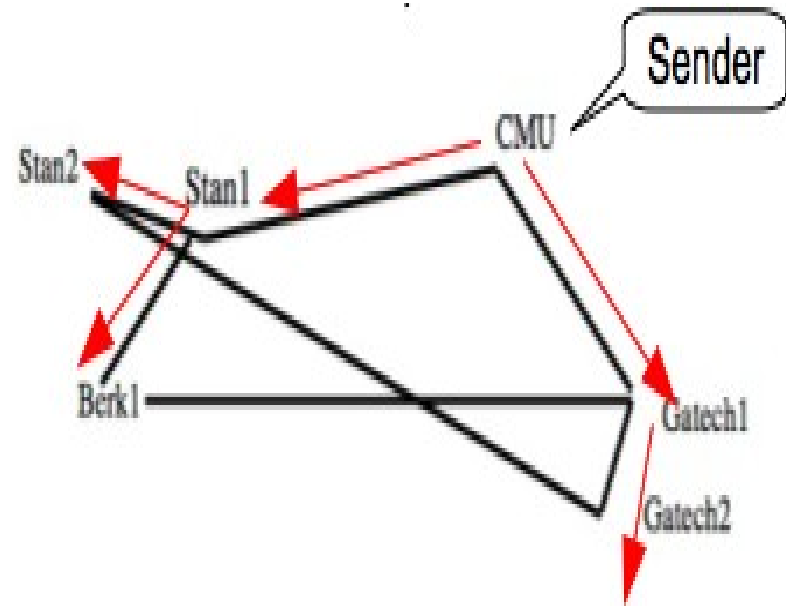
# Scribe – multicast tree repairing



# Streaming topologies – Mesh-first



Poor mesh topology



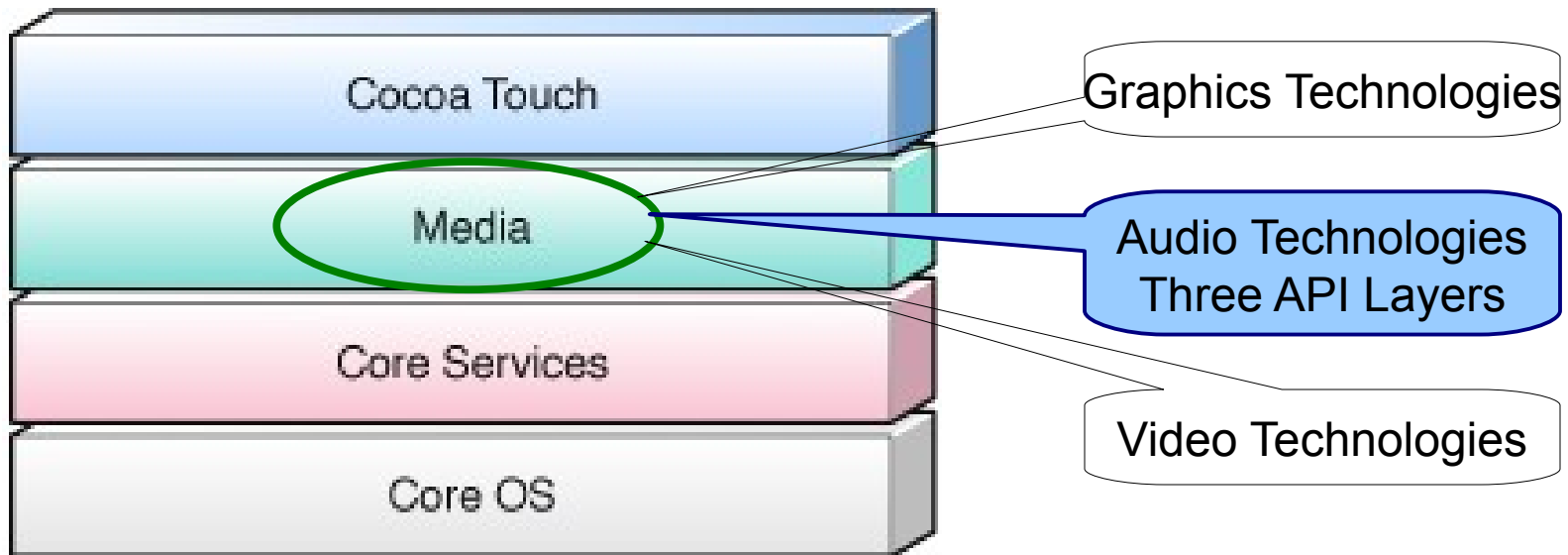
Streaming tree is built  
On improved mesh

Communication overhead?

# Audio Processing on the iPhone

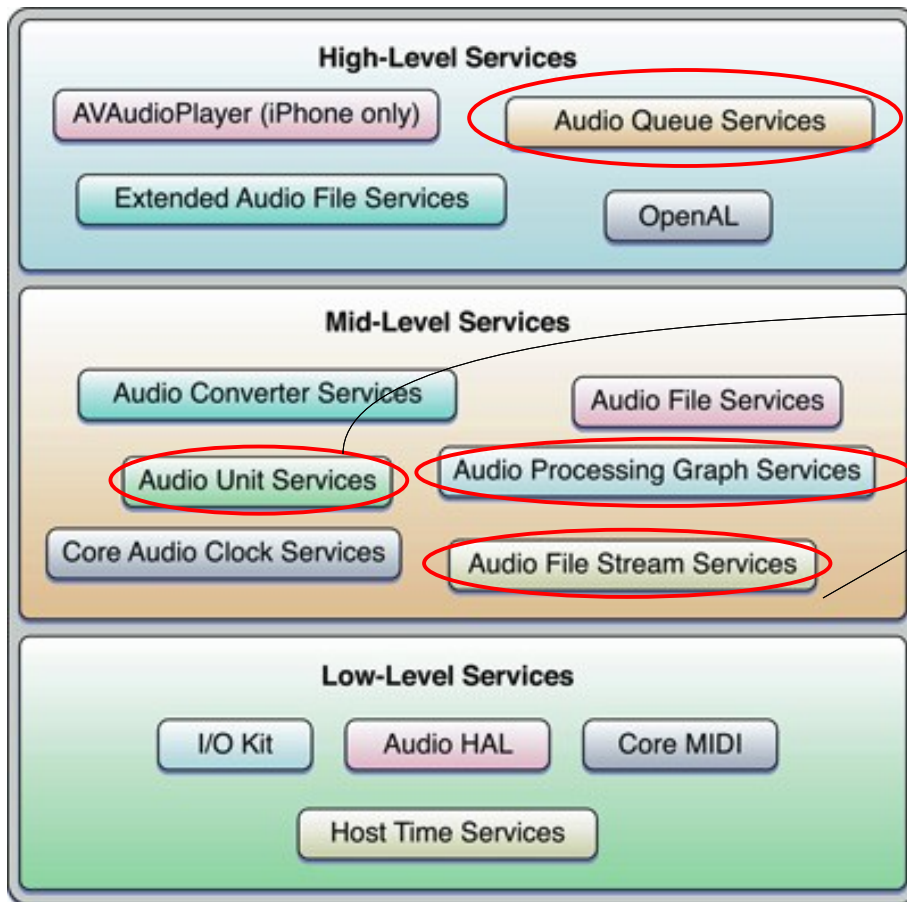
- Layers of iPhone OS
- The three API layers of Core Audio
  - Audio Queue Services
  - Audio File Stream Services
  - Audio Unit Services (Converter unit, Multichannel Mixer unit, remoteIO unit)
  - Audio Processing Graph Services
  - etc. (not used in Pas4i)
- Audio Codec

# Layers of iPhone OS





# The three API layers of Core Audio



Used by PAS4i

Only available for Mac OS X  
(not in iPhone OS)

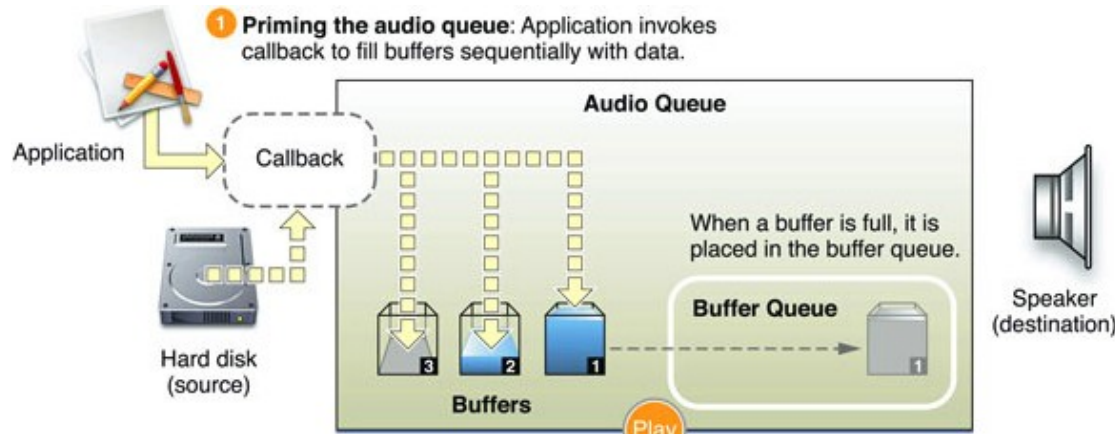
# Audio File Stream Services (1<sup>st</sup>)

- To play streamed audio content (i.e., from network connection)
- Used with Audio Queue Services
- Parse audio packets and metadata in a network bitstream or on-disk files (two callback functions for audio packet and metadata)
- Supported formats: MP3, AAC, WAVE, MPEG-4 etc.

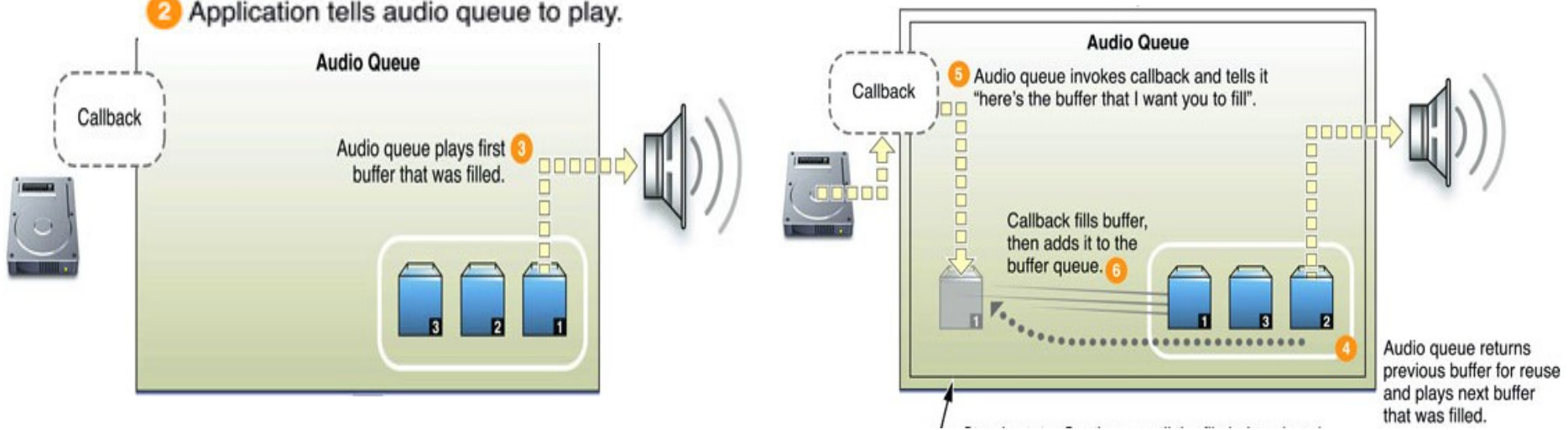
# Audio Queue Services (AQS) (2<sup>nd</sup>)

- Provides low overhead way to record and play audio
- AQS and `AVAudioPlayer` class: the only ways to play compressed audio (e.g., MP3)
- Uses with Audio File Services or Audio File Stream Services
- Audio Queue Callback Functions for Recording and Playback

# Playback with AQS (2<sup>nd</sup>)



**2 Application tells audio queue to play.**



## Recording with AQS (2<sup>nd</sup>)

- For recording, the audio callback has a converse role
- Not used in the PAS4i: WHY?
  - recording callback occurred only every 16384 samples (latency of 0.37s for 44.1 kHz)
  - unacceptable for real-time audio processing
  - => have to use Audio Unit remotelO (callback occurred for every 1024 samples)

# Audio Unit Services (AU) (3<sup>rd</sup>)

- Provides lowest latency audio, especially when doing simultaneous input and output e.g., VoIP
  - Converter unit
  - Multichannel mixer unit
  - RemoteIO unit
  - etc. (not used in PAS4i)

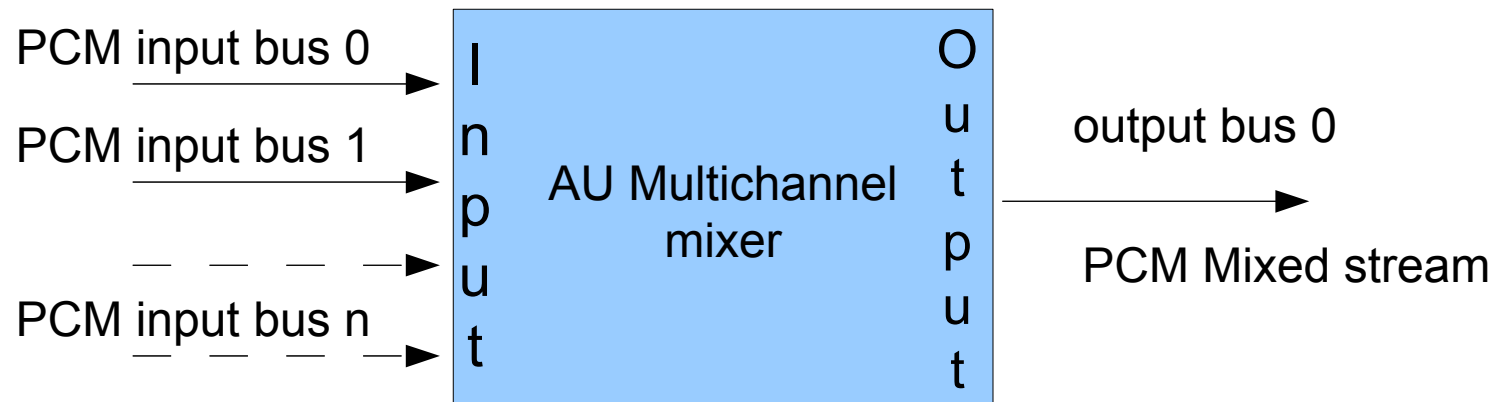
# AU Converter (3<sup>rd</sup>)

- Provides sample rate, bit depth, and bit format (linear to fixed-point) conversions
- Conversion is done only between PCM (Audio Converter Services for conversion with other compressed formats)



# AU Multichannel mixer (3<sup>rd</sup>)

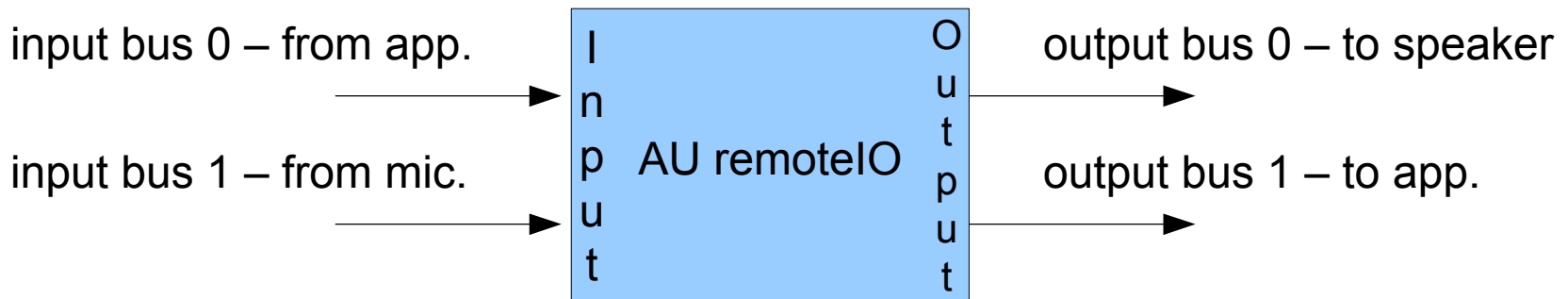
- Used to mix multiple audio streams to a single stream
- Only works with PCM





# AU remotelO (3<sup>rd</sup>)

- Allows to connect to inputs (from microphone or from application data) and outputs (to speaker or to application)
- Only works with PCM

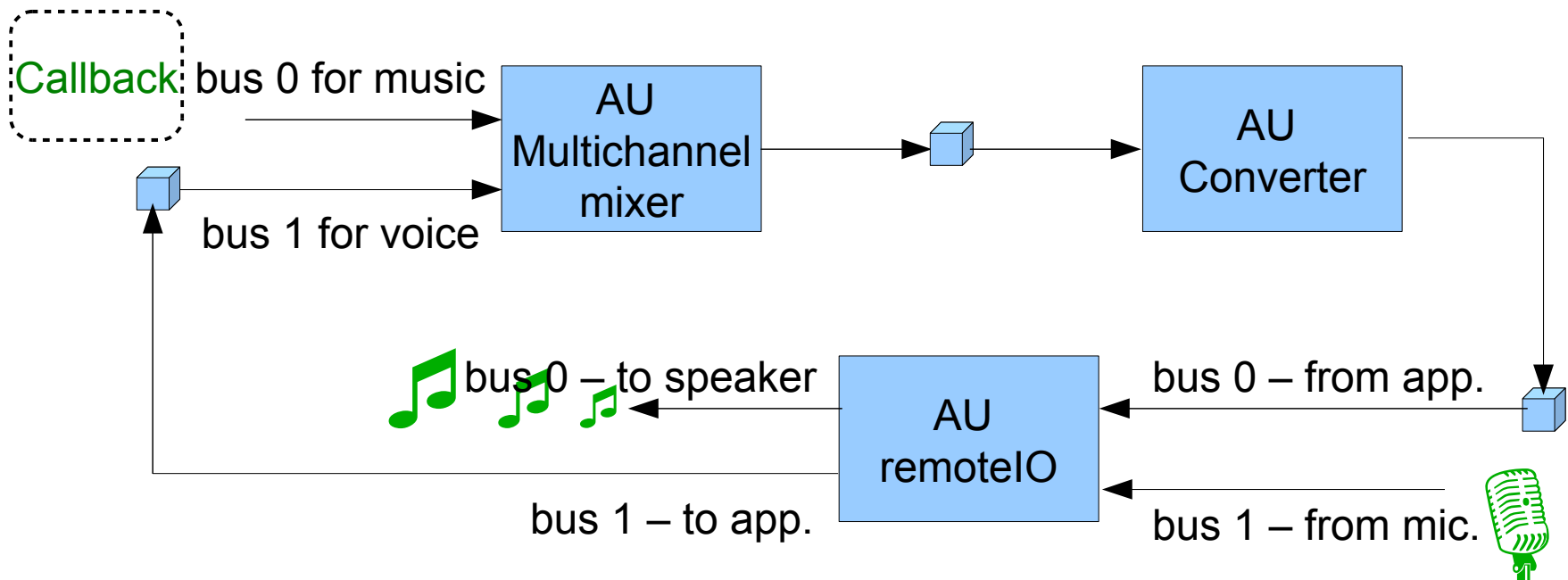


# Audio Processing Graph Services (4<sup>th</sup>)

- Provides interfaces for representing a set of audio units, connections between their inputs and outputs, and callbacks used to provide inputs

# Audio Processing Graph Services (4<sup>th</sup>)

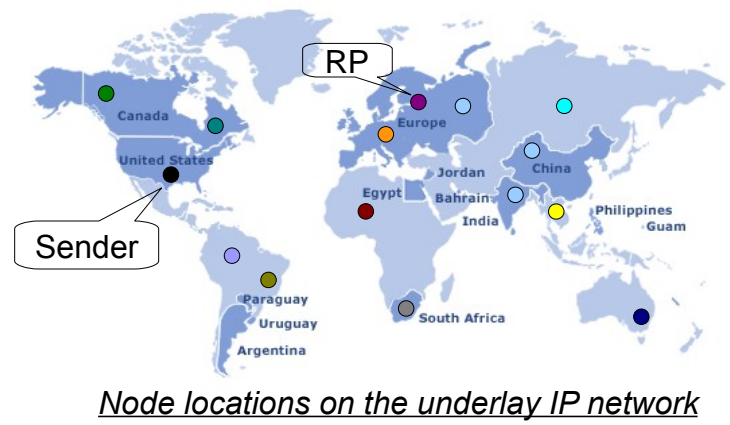
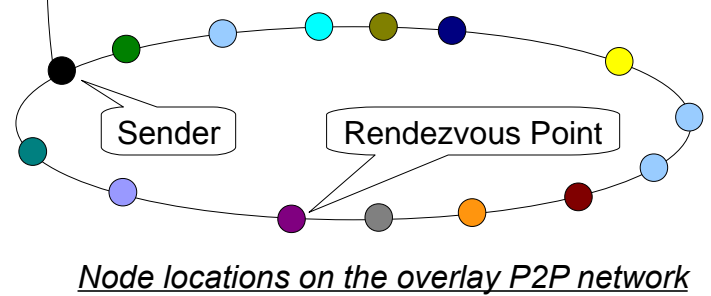
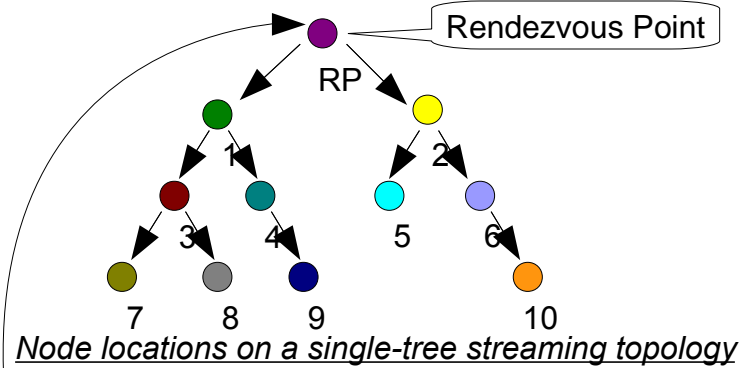
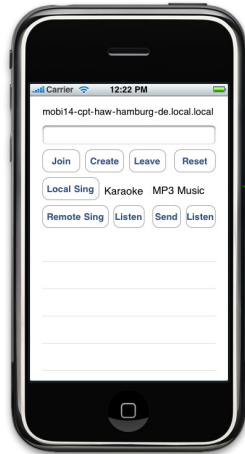
- Graph connection for audio processing



# iPhone audio Codec

- Hardware-assisted codec
  - For decoding MP3, ACC, ALAC
  - Offline rendering: `AudioQueueOfflineRender`
  - High performance: fast and save battery
  - Only play a single format
- Software codec (Audio Converter Services)
  - Support a wide range of audio data format
  - Support simultaneous playback of multiple sounds

# PAS4i - Layers



- GUI & App. Logic & Audio Processing
- Scribe: multicast tree
- Pastry: overlay network

# PAS4i - Components

- oRTP library for RTP and RTCP
- Chimera – KBR service (similar to Pastry)
- Scribe – Multicast service
- PAS4i – GUI, audio processing (using iPhone Core Audio Unit)



# PAS4i - Functionalities

- Routing service (Pastry)
- Join the Pastry overlay (Pastry)
- Create a streaming group (Scribe)
- Join a group (Scribe)
- Leave a group (Scribe)
- Send multicast karaoke/music stream to a group (Scribe)
- Tree maintenance (Scribe – not yet)



# PAS4i - Usage

- Send multicast or receive MP3 music stream (Audio File Stream Services + Audio Queue Services)
- Send multicast or receive karaoke background music stream for low PCM (Audio Unit Services: remoteIO, converter)
- Sing karaoke with local or with received background music stream and multicast to another group (Audio Processing Graph Services + Audio Unit Services: remoteIO, converter, multichannel mixer)





# PAS4i – Future Implementation

- Tree maintenance function
- Using hardware-assisted and software audio codecs for streaming efficiency
- Voice chat for group communication
- Adding karaoke lyric and meta data (song name, singer, location etc.) together with the music stream
- Feedback from listeners (grading, etc.)



# Discussion

- Live streaming vs. Video-on-demand streaming
- Scribe ALM via KBR conflicts heterogeneity issue for streaming systems
  - Non-DHT, key generation takes heterogeneity and locality of nodes in consideration
- Considerations: peer churn, communication overhead, NATs and Firewalls, network coding
- ISP friendly systems
  - IP Multicast in combination with ALM?
- ALM needs more study as well as ...
- PAS4i needs improvement



Introduction

Overlay P2P

ALM

iPhone

PAS4i

Discussion

# Questions

