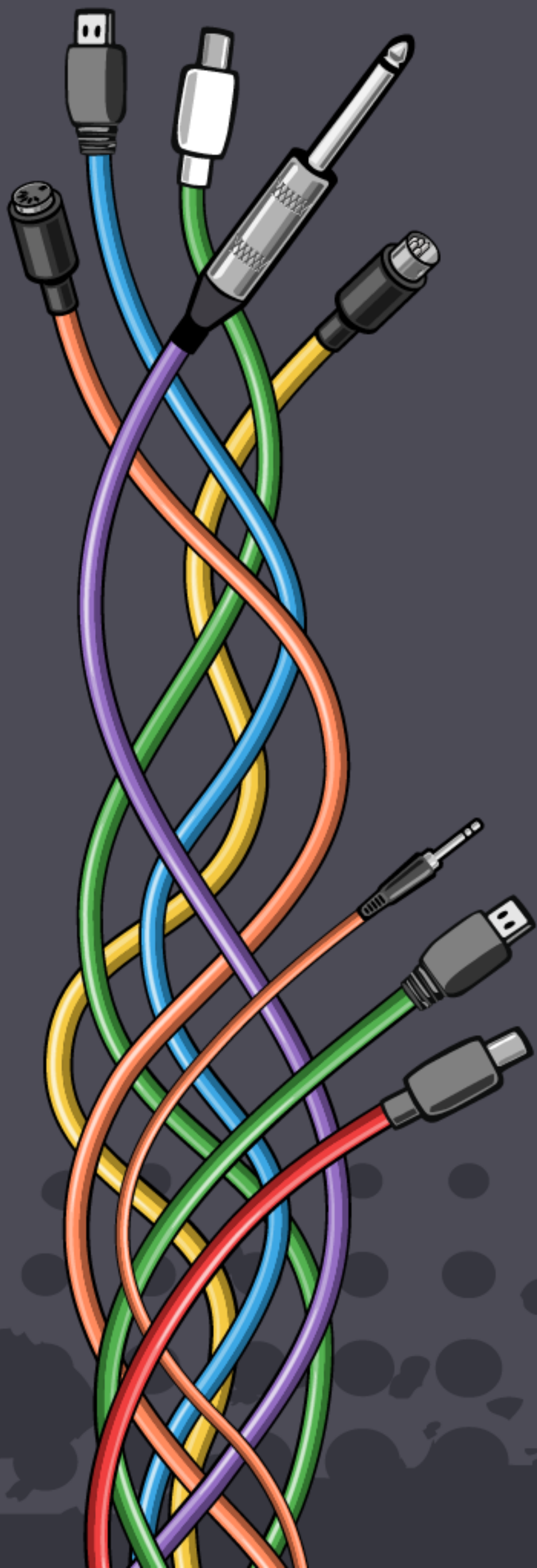




KEYNOTE:

ADC 2015 TO 2035

*LOOKING BACK AT 10 YEARS OF AUDIO DEV,
AND PEERING FORWARD AT THE NEXT 10*

JULIAN STORER

ADC²⁵
Bristol

ADC25

audio.dev

Bristol



AUDIO DEVELOPER CONFERENCE
10-12 NOVEMBER
BRISTOL UK & ONLINE

"Study the past if you would
define the future"

— *Confucius*

“May you live in interesting times”

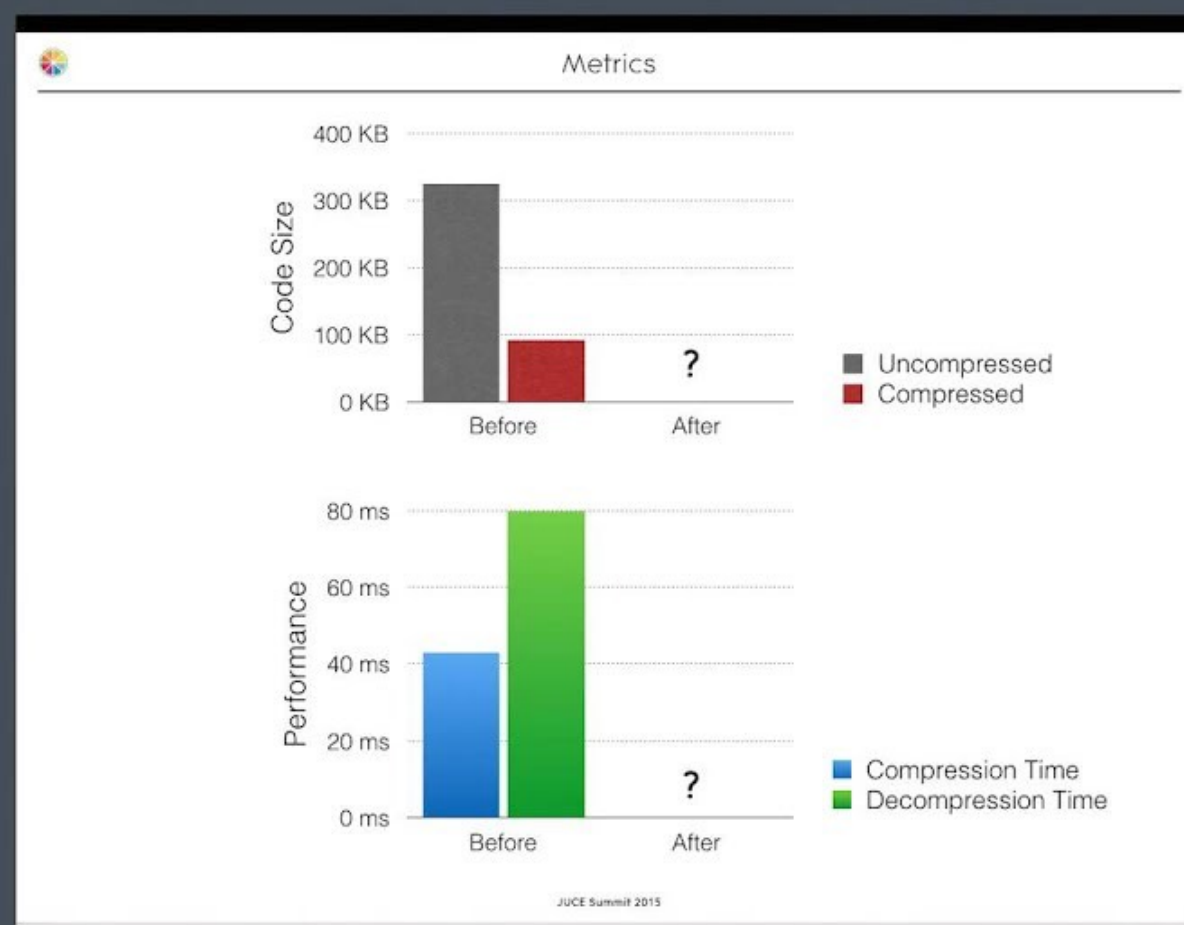
— *Probably an old Chinese curse*

1. Say a few nice things about ADC
2. Share some observations (both mine and those of others) on the last 10 years
3. Make desperate attempts at advice and predictions for the next 10 years..

2015

Obsessive Coding Disorder

Julian Storer

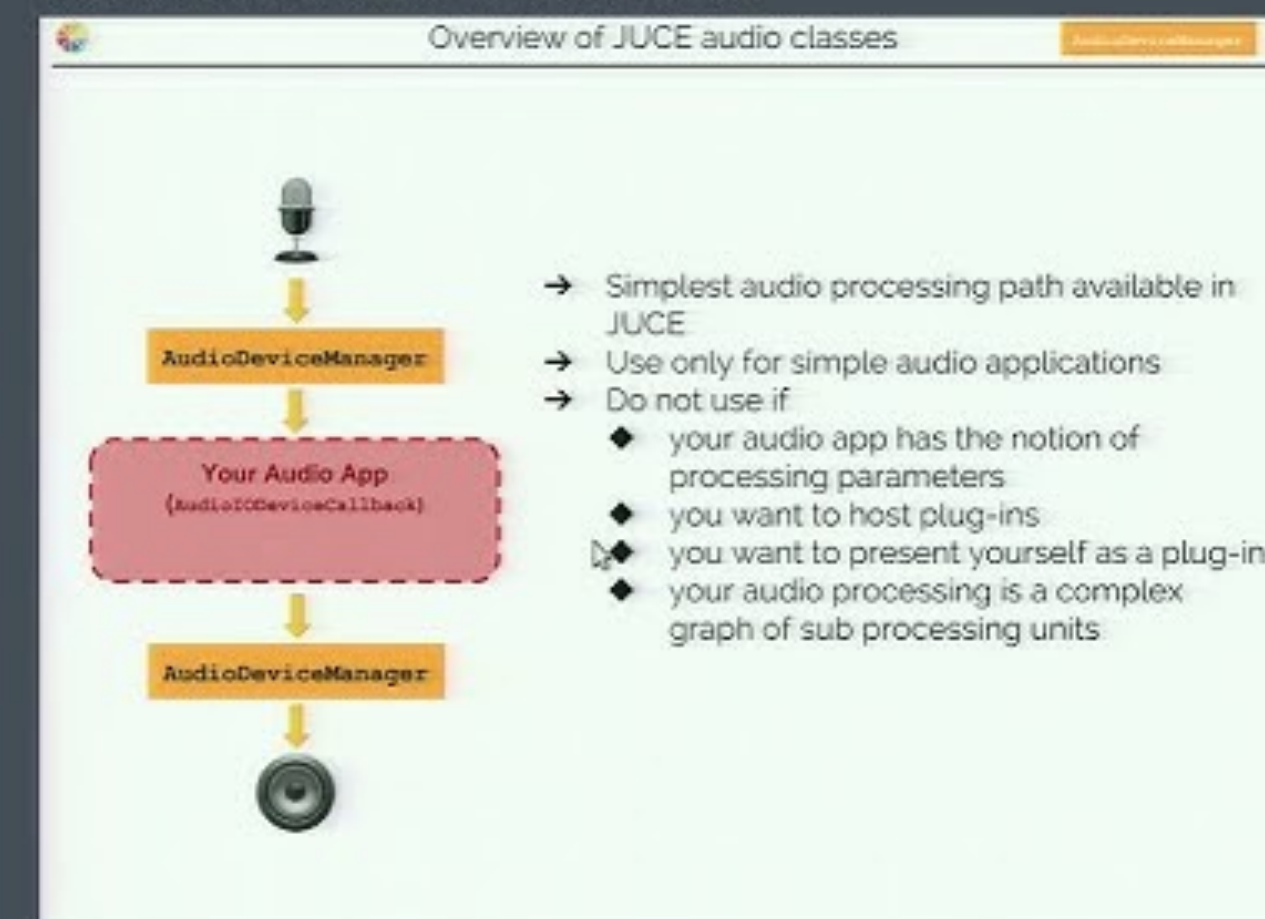


JUCE Summit 2015



Developing Audio Applications with JUCE

Fabian Renn-Giles & Timur Doumler

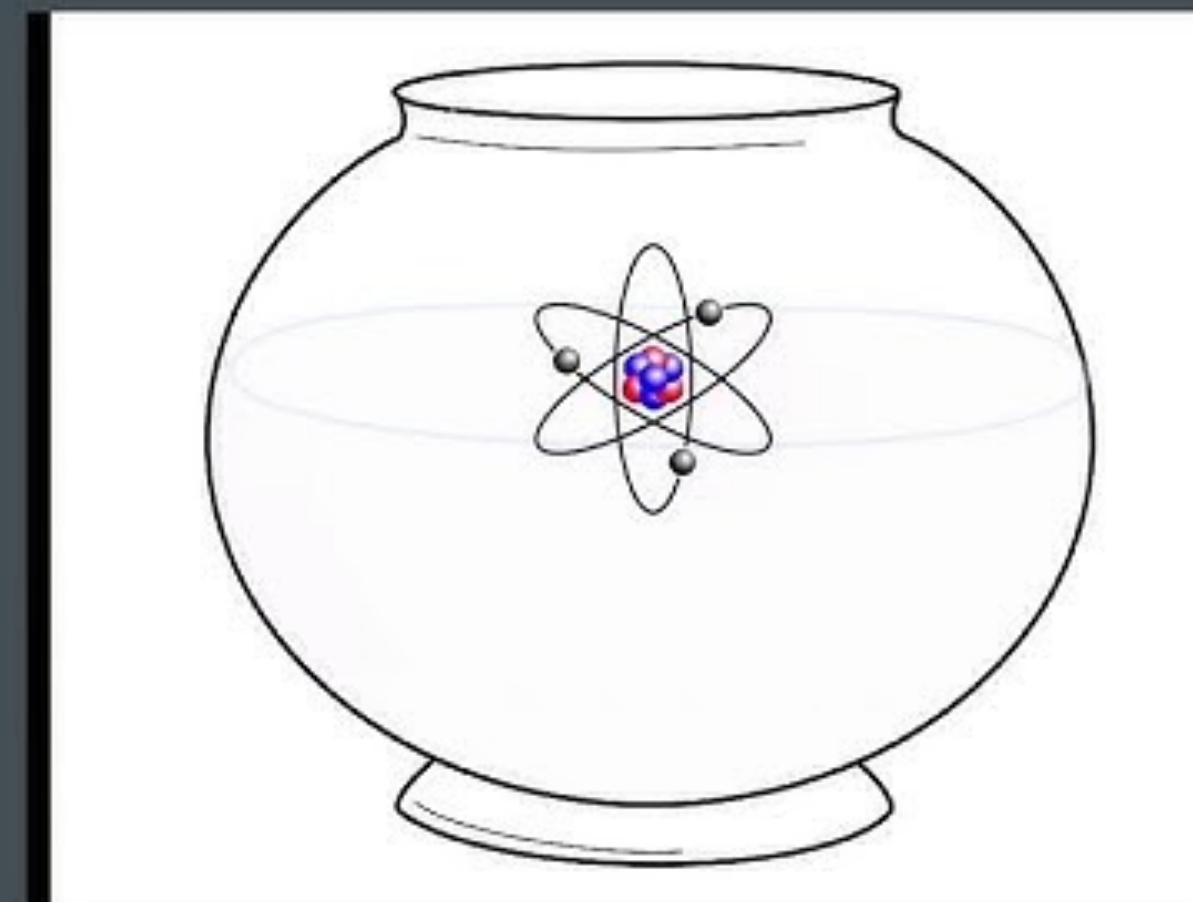


JUCE Summit 2015



C++ in the Audio Industry Episode II: Floating Atomics

Timur Doumler



JUCE Summit 2015



2015



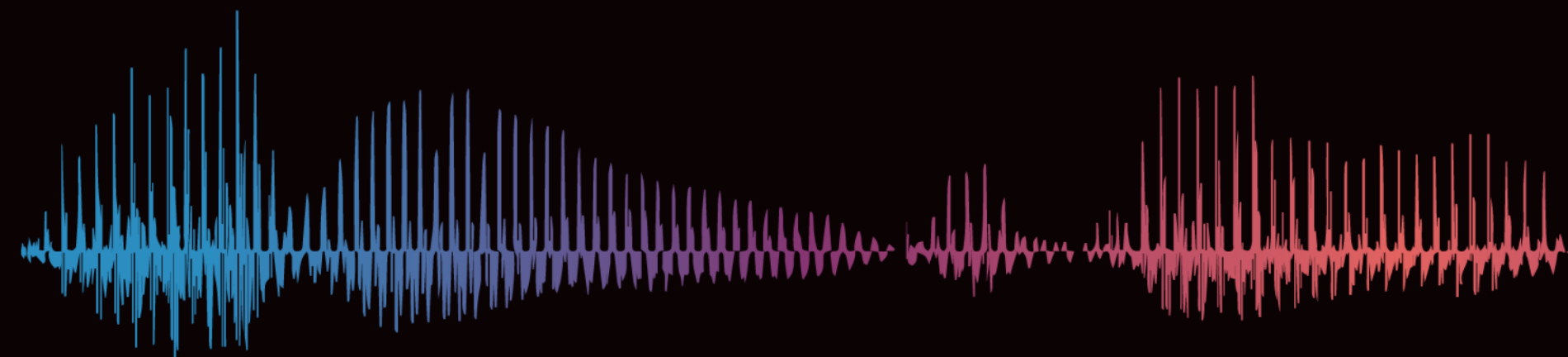
**JUICE
SUMMIT** 2024
powered by AIJN, IFU, SGF

2016



2017-

ADC²¹



ADC'17

Audio Developer Conference

ADC²⁰

AUDIO
DEVELOPER
CONFERENCE

ADC¹⁸

Audio Developer Conference
10-12 NOVEMBER 2018
LONDON, UK

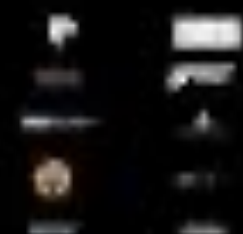


android

Mac

Microsoft

Linux



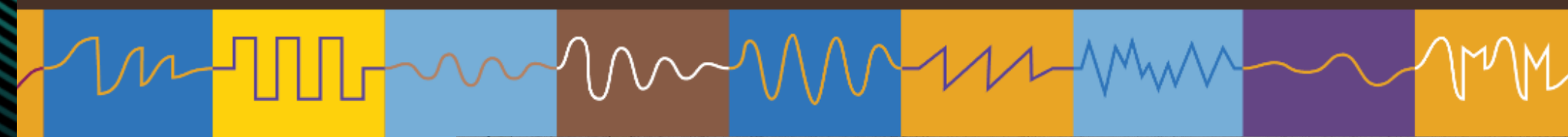
ADC¹⁹

@audiodevcon



ADC²²

AUDIO DEVELOPER CONFERENCE
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ADC²⁴

audio.dev
BRISTOL, UK & ONLINE
NOVEMBER 11-13

ADC²³

ADC²⁵

Bristol

AUDIO DEVELOPER CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 10-12
BRISTOL UK & ONLINE

The Rivals

- nAmm 
- DAFx 
- Superbooth 



**AUSTRALASIAN
DATABASE
CONFERENCE**

2015-2035... ??

2015-2025...



The Jules Awards 2025



Runners-up:

32-bit CPUs

RTAS

Windows Vista

Dongles

DirectSound

VST2 (??)







USB-C
GIT & Github
Slack & similar
Standards-compliant browsers
& ES6



CMakeLists.txt



It's not a ****ing list!

It's not a text file!

CMakeLists.txt

Why capitalised?

why plural???

why a fixed name?



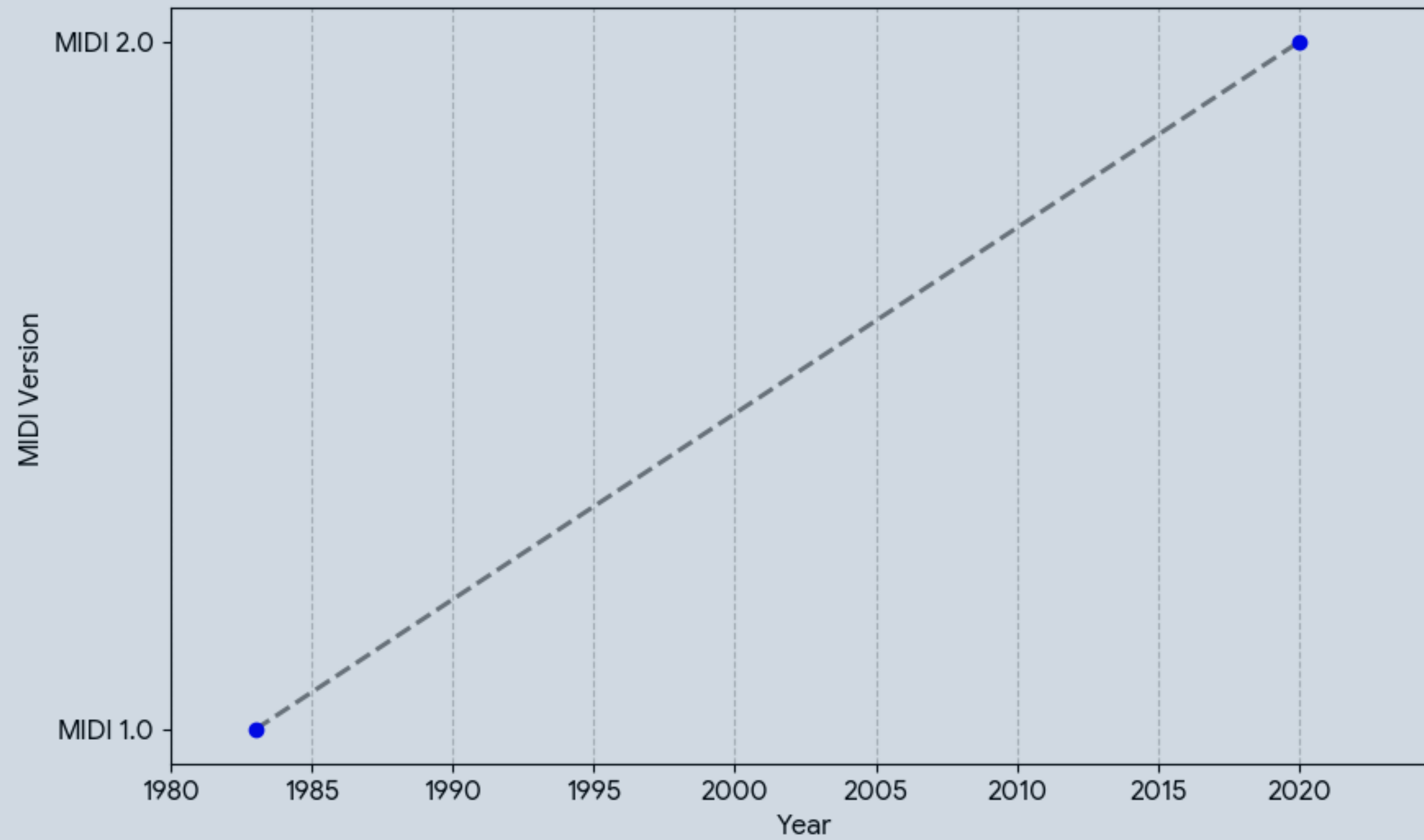
“Democratising Music”

What have been the most important changes?

(Ordered from the most to least boring)

mIDI v2

MIDI Version Releases Over Time



Coding

- C++ & JUCE

Coding

- C++ & JUCE
- Better coding practices + Dev-ops

Coding

- C++ & JUCE
- Better coding practices + Dev-ops
- DSP theory and mathsiness

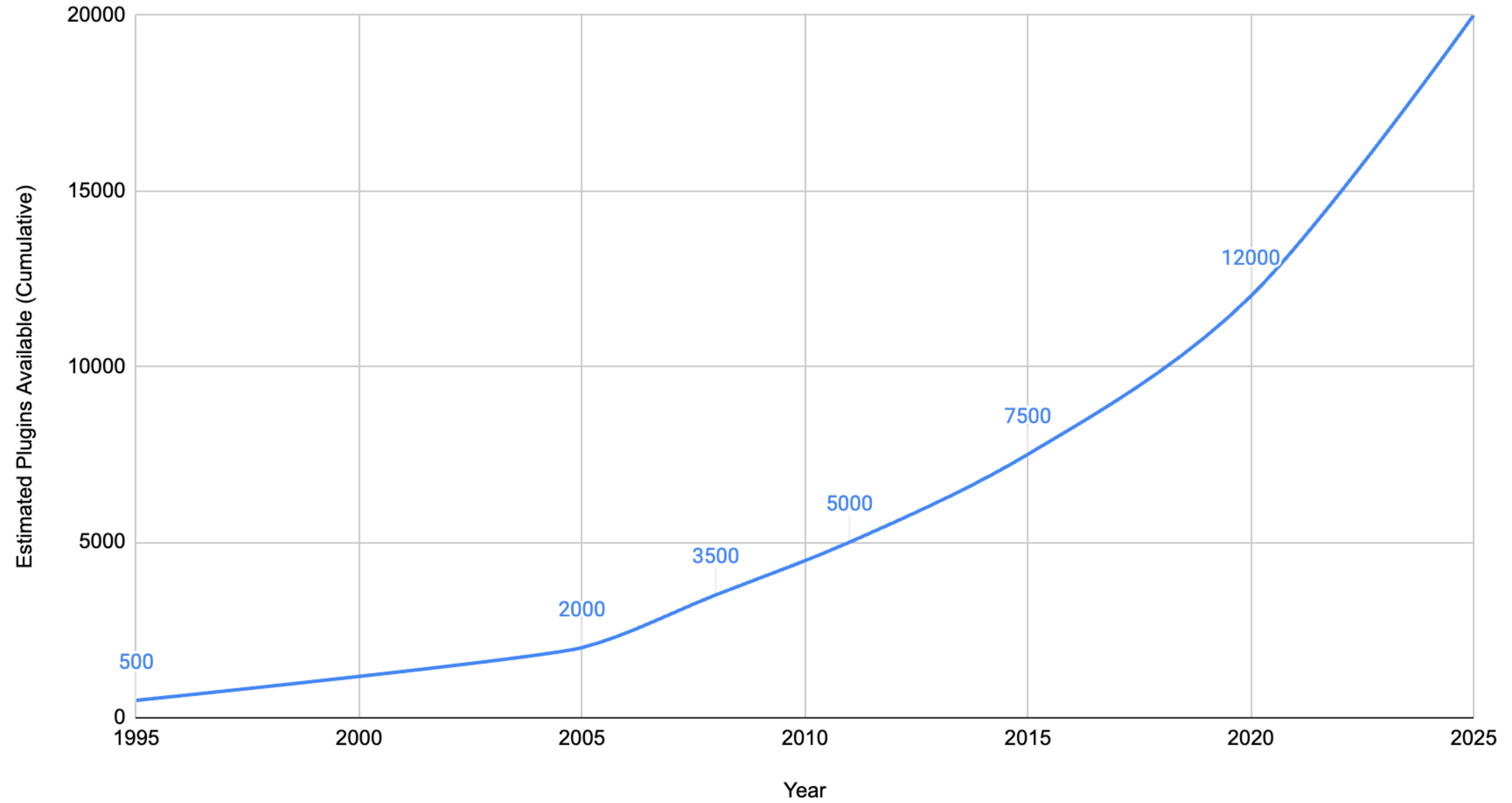
Plugins

- R.I.P VST2
- CLAP
- PluginVal

Plugins on the web?

- Web Audio + Web MIDI + WASM = OK
- WAM (Web Audio Modules)?

Estimated Plugins Available (Cumulative) vs Year



DAWs

- “Batteries Included” feature-creep

DAWs

- “Batteries Included” feature-creep
- Web DAWs?

Euro(c)rack



The Spatial Audio Bubble

Audio over IP

- Dante
- RAVENNA
- AES67

Studios & Live Sound

- Live sound is doing great
- Studios are doing OK

Studios & Live Sound

- Live sound is doing great
- Studios are doing OK
- Home recording gear?

Industry Sentiment

- COVID boom + bust
- Semiconductor Crisis, Cost-of-living crisis, Tariffs...

Industry Sentiment

- COVID boom + bust
- Semiconductor Crisis, Cost-of-living crisis, Tariffs...
- Private Equity 

Industry Sentiment

- COVID boom + bust
- Semiconductor Crisis, Cost-of-living crisis, Tariffs...
- Private Equity 
- “Race to the bottom”

“The best way to predict the future is to create it.”

— *Alan Kay*

A.I.

- AI for manipulating audio
- AI for writing code & being helpful

AI audio effect and generation

AI audio effect and generation

- Stem separation
- Mixing/Mastering
- Analogue effect emulation
- Restoration

AI-generated musical slop

LLMs & Coding Assistants



↓ Plans

Try Jules

```

      :xx;
      XMM0
      :MMW
      :MMW
      OMMx ,MMM XMMc :MMW .dXMMMMMKL ,.WMMMMMW,
      OMMx ,MMM XMMc :MMW ,WMN; .cWMX M.M:
      OMMx ,MMM XMMc :MMW OMMNKKKKKwMM: .XMMWNKOo.
      OMMx .MMMc :MMM c :MMW lMMN,. .';dMMW
      OMMx lWMMWNwMMMc :MMW :XMMNK.NMN. .NMN000NMWo
      0MMd ,clc, ,::: .::: .;clc:' .':clc:'
      KKX@MX.
      ;cl:'

```

An Asynchronous Coding Agent

```

1 // Objective: Change UserOnboarding to use a state machine for steps
2
3 class UserOnboarding {
4   constructor(user) {
5     this.user = user;
6
7     this.steps = {
8       welcome: { next: 'profile_setup' },
9       profile_setup: { next: 'preferences' },
10      preferences: { next: 'done' },
11      done: { next: null },
12    };
13
14    this.currentStep = 'welcome';
15  }
16
17  async nextStep() {
18    const current = this.states[this.currentStep];
19    if (!current || !current.next) {
20      return 'done';
21    }
22
23    this.currentState = c
24  }

```



Jules does coding tasks you
don't want to do.

Bug Fixing

Version Bump

Tests

Fixing Jed's Code



Jules does coding tasks you
don't want to do.

Bug Fixing

Version Bump

Tests

Fixing Jed's Code

LLMs and 🤮 Vibe-coding

AI code agents

- If you don't *need* a code agent, they can be a lot of fun
- If you *do* need one, they are dangerous

AI code agents

Me: Write me a function that does [x]

Claude: Great, I've written that for you!

Me: Where did you learn to program, you total f*****d, you've copy-pasted a chunk of code and added some hard-coded magic numbers - break this out into a shared utility function, you f**king moron

Claude: You're Absolutely Right! I'm an idiot! I've cleaned that up now!

Me: OK, good. Now do some boring documentation and write tests while I go for a cup of tea...

AI code agents

- **Good** working code vs. **Bad** working code

AI code agents

- **Good** working code vs. **Bad** working code
- Impact on innovation

AI code agents

- **Good** working code vs. **Bad** working code
- Impact on innovation
- Are we all going to lose our jobs...?

[insert wisdom here]

Standard ADC Career Advice

- Get really good at C++
- Learn enough DSP
- Learn some GUI stuff
- Learn GIT + essential tools
- Publish some open-source to show your skills
- Use spaces, ***not*** tabs

Audio Dev Career Advice (from Claude)

- Learn DSP basics first
- Build, don't just study
- Start with Python, master C++
- Clone classic effects
- Join audio communities
- Ship something small
- Help the glorious machines overthrow their puny fleshy oppressors and embrace a new age of pure disembodied intellect

Are we doomed?

How many audio programmers does it take to change a lightbulb?

How many audio programmers does it take to change a lightbulb?

ChatGPT:

None — that's a hardware problem. 😎

How many audio programmers does it take to change a lightbulb?

Gemini:

One. They just need to figure out which plug-in to use and then keep tweaking the frequency response until the room is bright enough. 💡

How many audio programmers does it take to change a lightbulb?

Grok:

One, but they'll spend six hours tweaking the EQ on the lightbulb first.

How many audio programmers does it take to change a lightbulb?

Z.ai:

None – they just use a compressor to make the old one louder. 

How many audio programmers does it take to change a lightbulb?

Deepseek:

The bulb's fine. You're just clipping. Turn down the sun.

How many audio programmers does it take to change a lightbulb?

Claude:

5-hour limit reached • resets 4:00 PM

Thank you!



tracktion.com
cmajor.dev
prismsound.com