

REAL-TIME AUDIO IN PYTHON

INTRODUCING THE ASMU PACKAGE

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Why another audio package?

Disclaimer

I am not a professional audio developer, and Python has limitations when it comes to real-time audio processing or applications.

There are several high level real-time audio Python packages e.g.

[popsicle](#) Python JUCE bindings (l.c. 2024)

[pyo](#) Audio backend in C (l.c. 2023)

...

and packages for interfacing hardware (audio drivers) e.g.

[soundcard](#) Interface to pulseaudio/coreaudio/WASAPI in pure Python

[sounddevice](#) Bindings for PortAudio

[pyaudio](#) Bindings for PortAudio (l.c. 2023)

...

Introducing asmu

- High level package with modular structure
- User does not touch the audio data itself
- Pure Python back- and frontend



pypi.org/project/asmu/

Features

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| + Many blocks implemented | + Compact codebase |
| + Calibration handling | + Easy to pick up |
| + Documentation available | + Platform independent |

Problems

- No real-time guarantee, OS interrupting interpreter
- Careful development required

Get Started

User

1 Installation

```
$ pip install asmu
```

2 Scan devices

```
>>> import asmu
```

```
>>> asmu.query_devices()
```

```
0 Microsoft Sound Mapper - Input, MME (2 in, 0 out)
```

```
> 1 Microphone Array Intel® Smart , MME (6 in, 0 out)
```

```
2 Microsoft Sound Mapper - Output, MME (0 in, 2 out)
```

```
< 3 Speakers (Realtek(R) Audio), MME (0 in, 2 out)
```

3 Study documentation at

```
https://felhub.gitlab.io/asmu/
```

Developer

1 Installation

```
$ git clone git@gitlab.com:felhub/asmu.git
```

```
$ cd asmu
```

```
$ pip install -e .
```

Hello World

The “Hello World” of audio software - play a sine wave.

```
1  """hello_world.py"""  
2  import asmu  
3  import time
```

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7  sine.output().connect(interface.ioutput(ch=2))
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8  with interface.start():
9      time.sleep(5)
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8  with interface.start():
9      time.sleep(5)
```

Run the python script with

```
$ python hello_world.py
```

Module Structure

Standard imports

<code>asmu</code>	Topmodule, holds ASetup, AFile, and Interface classes.
<code>asmu.generator</code>	Submodule with e.g. Player, Sine, Noise, Vector ...
<code>asmu.effect</code>	Submodule with e.g. Sum, GainRamp, Weight, ...
<code>asmu.analyzer</code>	Submodule with e.g. FFT, Recorder, RMS, Oscilloscope ...

Optional imports

<code>asmu.processor</code>	Holds the processor base classes.
<code>asmu.io</code>	Holds input and output classes.
<code>asmu.acore</code>	Holds the audio backend base classes.
<code>asmu.typing</code>	Holds custom internal types.
<code>asmu.exceptions</code>	Holds custom exceptions.

AP: Acoustic Measurement

Microphone frequency response calibration based on IEC 60268-4.
Simultaneous comparison to reference.

- Lab calibration of 50+ microphones
- Automated Python workflow
- Easy database integration

Used for open source microphone testing [1].



[1] F. Huber, F. Toth; MEMS measurement microphone compatible to P48 amplifiers; Hardware X; 2025; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ohx.2025.e00627>

Code Example

```
1  """simple_fr.py"""  
2  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt  
3  import asmu
```

Code Example

```
1  """simple_fr.py"""
2  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3  import asmu
4  interface = asmu.Interface(device="ASIO Fireface",
5                             samplerate=192000)
6  noise = asmu.generator.Noise(interface, weight="pink")
7  afft = asmu.analyzer.FFT(interface)
```

Code Example

```
1  """simple_fr.py"""
2  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3  import asmu
4  interface = asmu.Interface(device="ASIO Fireface",
5                             samplerate=192000)
6  noise = asmu.generator.Noise(interface, weight="pink")
7  afft = asmu.analyzer.FFT(interface)
8  noise.output().connect(interface.ioutput(ch=1))
9  interface.iinput(ch=1).connect(afft.input(0)) # ref
10 interface.iinput(ch=2).connect(afft.input(1)) # dut
```

Code Example

```
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3  import asmu
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10 interface.iinput(ch=2).connect(afft.input(1)) # dut
11 with interface.start() as stream:
12     rfft = afft.get_rfft()
```

Code Example

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1  """simple_fr.py"""
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11 with interface.start() as stream:
12     rfft = afft.get_rfft()
13 fig, ax = plt.subplots()
14 ax.plot(afft.frequencies, rfft[:, 1]/rfft[:, 0])
15 plt.show()
```

AP: Musicking Carpet

Sound sculpture and performance “The Musicking Carpet”.

- Multichannel audio installation
- Sensor based live dynamic volume
- Custom pressure sensor

Part of conceptual art diploma thesis [2].



[2] N. A. Köbli; The Musicking Carpet; Academy of Fine Arts Vienna; 2025;
https://abschlussarbeiten.akbild.ac.at/search_view

Code Example

```
1  """simple_carpet.py"""
2  import asmu
3  audio_files = ["apple.wav", "bear.wav", "sea.wav"]
```

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2  import asmu
3  audio_files = ["apple.wav", "bear.wav", "sea.wav"]
4  interface = asmu.Interface()
5  sum = asmu.effect.Sum(interface)
6  sum.output().connect(interface.ioutput(ch=1))
```

Code Example

```
1  """simple_carpet.py"""
2  import asmu
3  audio_files = ["apple.wav", "bear.wav", "sea.wav"]
4  interface = asmu.Interface()
5  sum = asmu.effect.Sum(interface)
6  sum.output().connect(interface.ioutput(ch=1))
7  afiles: List[asmu.AFile] = []
8  ramps: List[asmu.effect.GainRamp] = []
9  for i, file in enumerate(audio_files):
```

Code Example

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1  """simple_carpet.py"""
2  import asmu
3  audio_files = ["apple.wav", "bear.wav", "sea.wav"]
4  interface = asmu.Interface()
5  sum = asmu.effect.Sum(interface)
6  sum.output().connect(interface.ioutput(ch=1))
7  afiles: List[asmu.AFile] = []
8  ramps: List[asmu.effect.GainRamp] = []
9  for i, file in enumerate(audio_files):
10     afile = asmu.AFile(interface, mode="r", path=file)
11     afiles.append(afile.open())
12     player = asmu.generator.Player(interface, afile, loop=True)
13     ramp = asmu.effect.GainRamp(interface, 0, 0.03, scale="log")
14     ramps.append(ramp)
15     player.output().connect(ramp.input())
16     ramp.output().connect(sum.input(i))
```

Code Example cont.

```
17 stream = interface.start()
18 try:
19     while True:
20         for ch, ramp in enumerate(ramps):
21             value = get_sensor(ch)
22             ramp.set_gain(value)
23 except KeyboardInterrupt:
24     pass
```

Code Example cont.

```
17 stream = interface.start()
18 try:
19     while True:
20         for ch, ramp in enumerate(ramps):
21             value = get_sensor(ch)
22             ramp.set_gain(value)
23 except KeyboardInterrupt:
24     pass
25 finally:
26     stream.stop()
27     stream.close()
28     for afile in afiles:
29         afile.close()
```

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Standard imports

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Optional imports

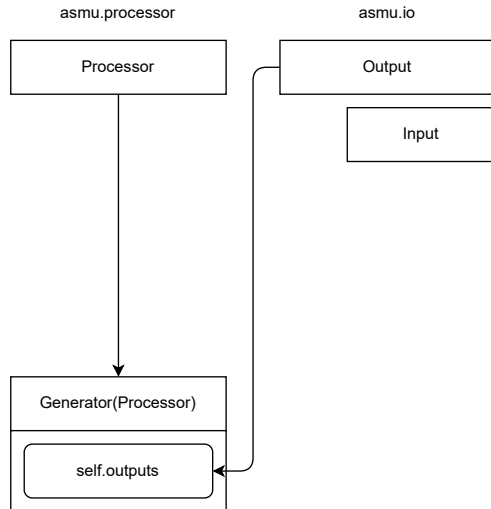
<code>asmu.processor</code>	Holds the processor base classes.
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<code>asmu.acore</code>	Holds the audio backend base classes.
<code>asmu.typing</code>	Holds custom internal types.
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Class Structure Example

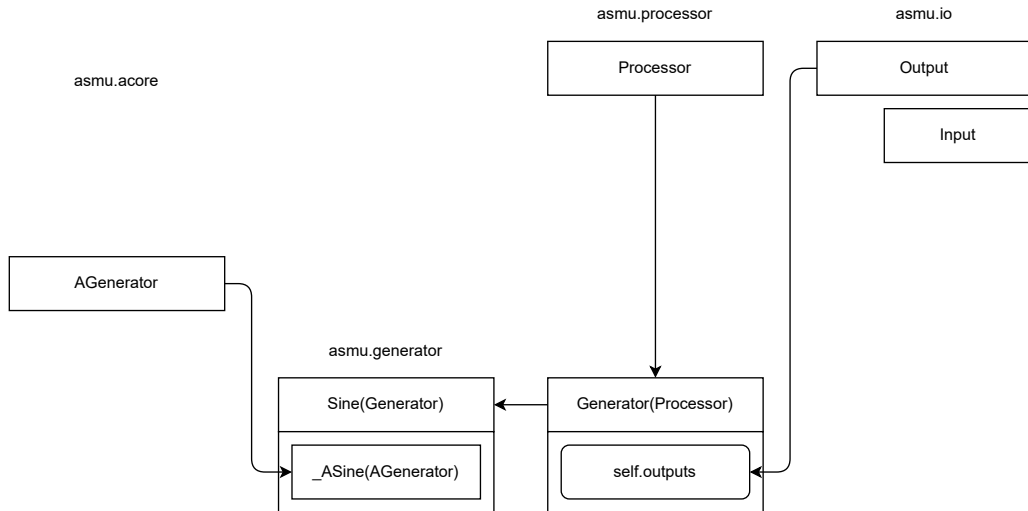
asmu.processor

Processor

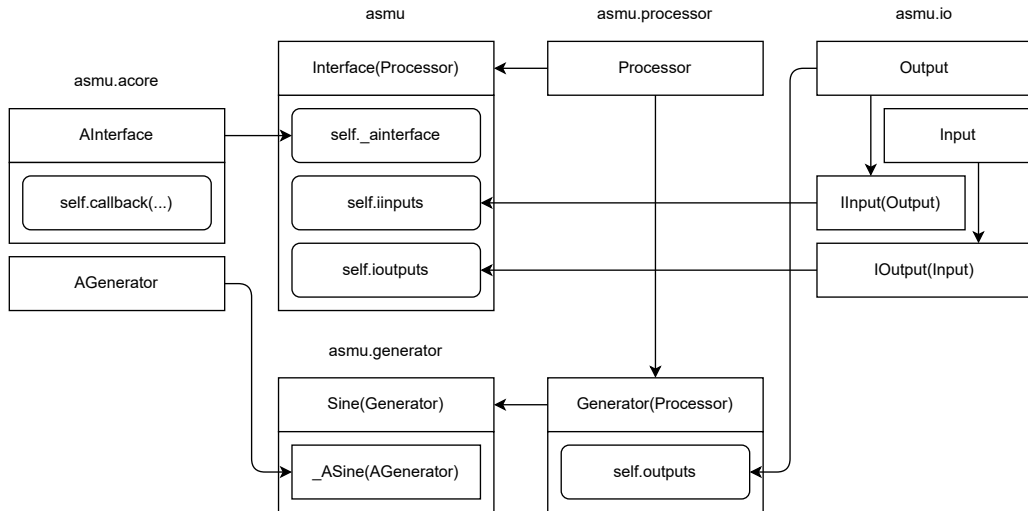
Class Structure Example



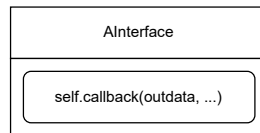
Class Structure Example



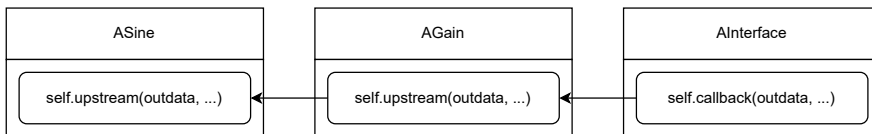
Class Structure Example



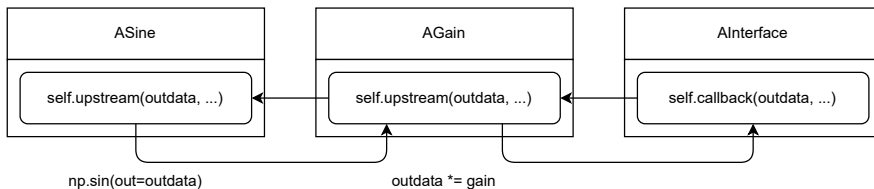
Audio Backend Principles



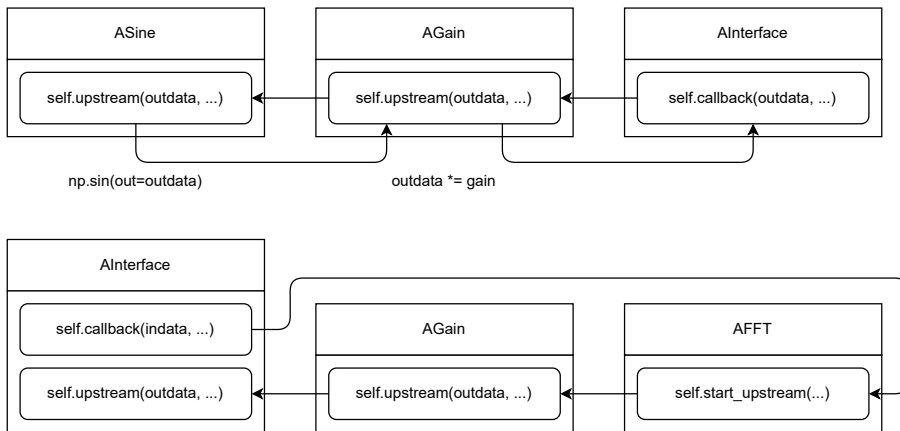
Audio Backend Principles



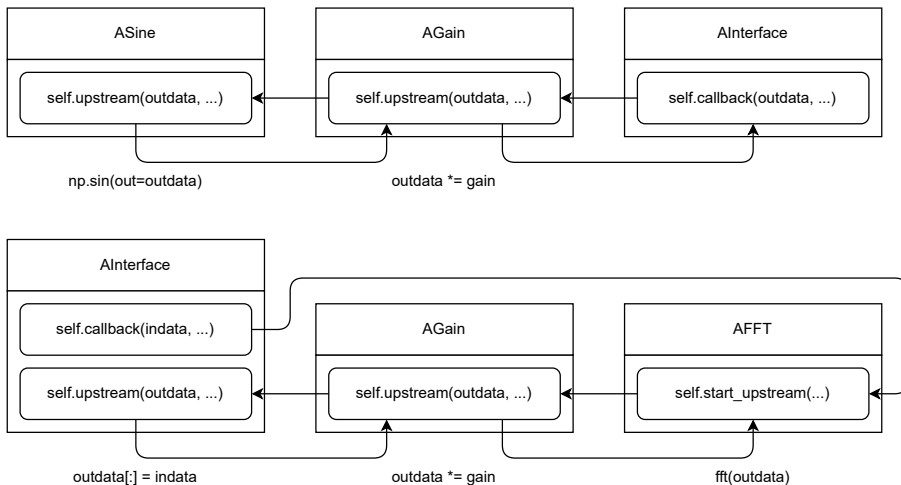
Audio Backend Principles



Audio Backend Principles



Audio Backend Principles



Profiling

We can mark functions for profiling using the `@profile` decorator.

line_profiler

```
$ kernprof -l -v ./test_generator_sineburst.py
```

```
Line    Time    Line Contents
```

```
=====
```

280		@profile
281		def _mod(self, outdata: "ABlock", ch: int) -> None:
282	1.4	if self._phase < self._maxang:
283	20.9	np.sin(self._omegas+self._phase, out=outdata)
284	14.2	outdata[self._omegas+self._phase >= self._maxang] = 0

Profiling

We can mark functions for profiling using the `@profile` decorator.

memory_profiler

```
$ python -m memory_profiler ./test_generator_sineburst.py
```

```
Line Mem increment Line Contents
```

```
=====
280 101.957 MiB @profile
281          def _mod(self, outdata: "ABlock", ch: int) -> None:
282          if self._phase < self._maxang:
283              np.sin(self._omegas+self._phase, out=outdata)
284          outdata[self._omegas+self._phase >= self._maxang] = 0
```

Automated Testing

We use `pytest` and GitLab CI for automated integration and unit testing.

- Integration tests of small subgroups e.g. test FFT with Sine
- Benchmarking of callback function via `pytest-benchmarking`
- Coverage tests via `pytest-cov`

NEW Unit tests with mocking via `pytest-mock`

SOON Hardware testing via local GitLab runner


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pypi.org/project/asmu/

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pypi.org/project/asmu/

Thanks to all asmu dependencies <3

numpy, sounddevice (PortAudio), soundfile (libsndfile), pyFFTW (FFTW)

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E325-03 Sensor and Actuator Technology

