

# AV Technologies and Collaborative tools at Masaryk University



Vít Rusňák

rusnak@ics.muni.cz

Brno, April 15, 2015

# ■ Agenda

Introduction

Videoconferencing Infrastructure

Support for lecture and event recordings

Research and development activities

# ■ Agenda

Introduction

Videoconferencing Infrastructure

Support for lecture and event recordings

Research and development activities

## ■ AV use cases at university

- Regular lectures and seminars at university buildings
- On-line meetings and conferencing
- Ad-hoc events (e.g., guest presentations) at university buildings
- Ad-hoc events (e.g., conferences) outside the university
- Recording and streaming support for these events
- Research in (advanced) collaborative technologies and multimedia transmissions over high-speed networks

## ■ AV infrastructure at MU

- Seminar rooms
  - projector (+ optional audio)
  - no AVT
- Lecture halls
  - multiple projectors and audio, multiple inputs (NTB, PC, camera, VCF)
- Conference and meeting rooms
  - projector or LCD, audio, VCF or webcam (small rooms)
- Videoconferencing server infrastructure
  - included in national infrastructure for R&D
  - multiple technologies for different needs

## ■ Roles of ICS MU

- **Strategy of AV technologies at MU**
  - definition of AV standards
  - participation on design and installation of AV technologies
  - coordination of services and activities (2nd level support)
- **Videoconferencing infrastructure management**
  - one of the key AV services
  - H.323/SIP infrastructure
  - SW platforms for collaboration
- **User support and consulting**
- **Research in advanced collaborative environments**

## ■ Strategy of AV technologies at MU

- Common definition of standards for audio and video distributions
- Cooperation during design phase
  - CARLA (Faculty of Arts)
- Supervision of installation phase
  - University campus
- Complete analysis and design of AV related tenders
  - CESEB, CEITEC (University campus), KYPO
- 2nd level user support (AV specialists) for complex issues

# ■ Agenda

Introduction

**Videoconferencing Infrastructure**

Support for lecture and event recordings

Research and development activities



## ■ Videoconferencing universes

- Skype
- H.323/SIP videoconference
- Webconferences – Adobe Connect

## ■ Reservation system

- Online reservation system for
  - virtual meeting rooms for videoconferences
  - physical rooms at CEITEC and ICS
- Integrated with Czech academic identity federation eduID.cz
  - **Single login for all services**
- Supports for H.323/SIP and Adobe Connect
- Provided by CESNET
- `https://meetings.cesnet.cz`

## ■ H.323/SIP Videoconferencing

- Up to 1080p audio and video transmissions
- HW clients
  - endpoints of H.323 infrastructure
  - user interface
  - enable point-to-point connection
- SW clients
  - SW terminals for PC and mobile platforms (iOS, Android OS, Windows Phone)
- MCU (Multipoint Control Units)
  - provide multi-point tele/videoconferencing (3+ participants)
  - virtual meeting rooms

## ■ H.323 infrastructure at Masaryk University

### Terminals

- SW clients for individual users (LifeSize ClearSea)
- VCF terminals integrated in meeting rooms and lecture halls (e.g., FI, ICS, UCB)
- Mobile VCF units (CESEB, CARLA, CEITEC, CERIT)
  - single-display solution (CESEB, CARLA)
  - dual-displays (CEITEC)

### Infrastructure

- Multi-Point Control Unit for group collaboration
- Content-Server for video streaming and lecture recordings

## ■ H.323 infrastructure at Masaryk University

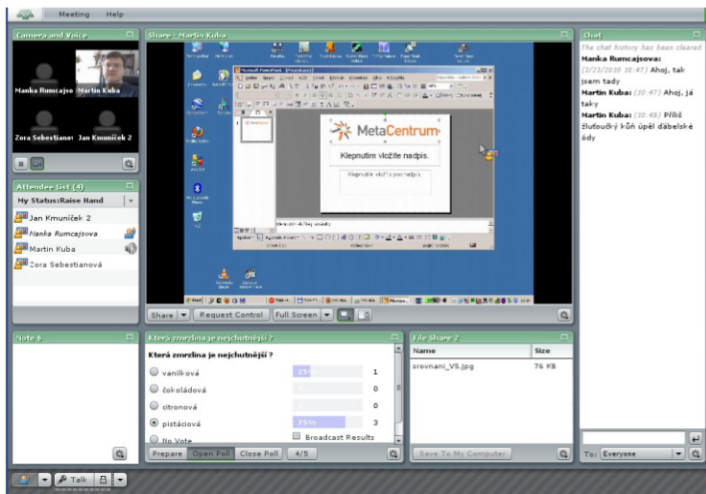


## ■ H.323/SIP Use-cases at MU

- Lecture recordings at UCB
- Remote lectures and consultations at Language Centre MU
- Conferences and ad-hoc events streaming
  - Acute medicine issues portal – Akutně.cz
  - Invited speakers (Madeleine Albright, Andrej Borisovič Zubov, Mendel Lectures series ...)
  - Surgery operations (gynecology, ophthalmology)

## ■ Adobe Connect

- Flash-based system for team collaboration and e-learning activities
- Server is managed by CESNET
- Key features:
  - chat, tele and videoconferencing
  - desktop, document and application sharing
  - virtual whiteboard
  - session recordings
  - user roles
  - questionnaires and short surveys
- Requires Adobe Flash Plugin
- iOS and Android clients



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface with several panels:

- Camera and Video:** Shows thumbnails for Hanka Rumcajsova and Martin Kuba. Below them are names Zora Sebastianová and Jan Krumičák 2.
- Attendee List (4):** Lists participants: My Status: Raise Hand, Jan Krumičák 2, Hanka Rumcajsova, Martin Kuba, and Zora Sebastianová.
- Share - Martin Kuba:** Displays a shared desktop with a browser window showing a poll titled "Která zmrzlina je nejoblíbenější?". The poll options and their counts are:
 

Option	Count
vanilková	25
čokoládová	0
citronová	0
pistáciová	3
- Chat:** Contains a message from Hanka Rumcajsova: "Ahoj, tak jsem tady" and a response from Martin Kuba: "Ahoj, já taky". Below is a message from Martin Kuba: "Příběh Blatoučků kůň ůpěl dábelské řidy".
- Note #:** A blank note-taking area.
- File Share:** Shows a table of files:
 

Name	Size
srovnani_VS.jpg	76 KB
- Bottom Panel:** Includes a "Která zmrzlina je nejoblíbenější?" poll control with buttons for "Prepare", "Open Poll", "Close Poll", and "4/5". There is also a "Save To My Computer" button and a "To: Everyone" dropdown.



# ■ Agenda

Introduction

Videoconferencing Infrastructure

**Support for lecture and event recordings**

Research and development activities

## ■ Lecture and event recordings

- Regular lectures
  - distributed encoding environment
  - two use cases – FI and UCB
  - Linux-based vs. H.323/SIP
- Ad-hoc events
  - off-line recording AV teams at faculties (FSS, FF, FI)
  - recording and streaming – provided by ICS with H.323/SIP or UltraGrid

## ■ Regular lectures

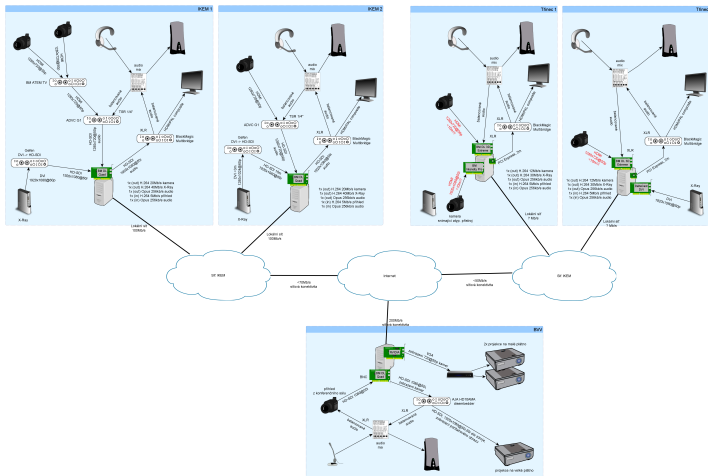
- Distributed encoding environment
- Used mainly for regular lectures
  - since 2001 at Faculty of Informatics
  - from student activity to production service
  - last couple of years also from the University Campus (using videoconferencing infrastructure)
  - infrastructure for video encoding.
  - available via university IS and  
<http://www.video.muni.cz> (with secured access and user roles)

## ■ Ad-Hoc events

- Off-line recordings
  - manual post-processing
  - small autonomous teams
  - *e.g., Theater Play at FI, habilitation talks, Science week events*
- On-line recording with streaming
  - using H.323/SIP infrastructure
  - automated processing with minor post-processing by user (video segmentation)
  - **E.g., Conference on Acute Medicine, Mendel Lectures series**
- **Published at <http://www.video.muni.cz> or other portals (free access)**

## ■ Events with special demands

- When H.323/SIP solution is not enough...
- UltraGrid – software for low latency and high-quality video network transmissions
  - FullHD, 4K, 8K (both compressed and uncompressed)
  - support for H.264, JPEG, JPEG2000, DXT
- Use cases:
  - regular cooperation with cardiology department
  - ad-hoc transmissions (e.g., gynecology)
  - pilot adaptation for teaching (general surgery, cardiology)







# ■ Agenda

Introduction

Videoconferencing Infrastructure

Support for lecture and event recordings

Research and development activities



## ■ Topics

- High-quality multimedia transmissions
- Self-organizing collaborative environments
- Advanced group collaborative platforms

## ■ Research and development partners

- Laboratory of Advanced Network Technologies (SITOLA)
- CESNET z.s.p.o.
- Various research partners worldwide
  - EVL, University of Chicago, IL
  - i2cat, Barcelona
  - ICT companies settled in CERIT-SP (DAITE, Comprimato Systems)
  - Movie post production studios

## ■ High-quality multimedia transmissions

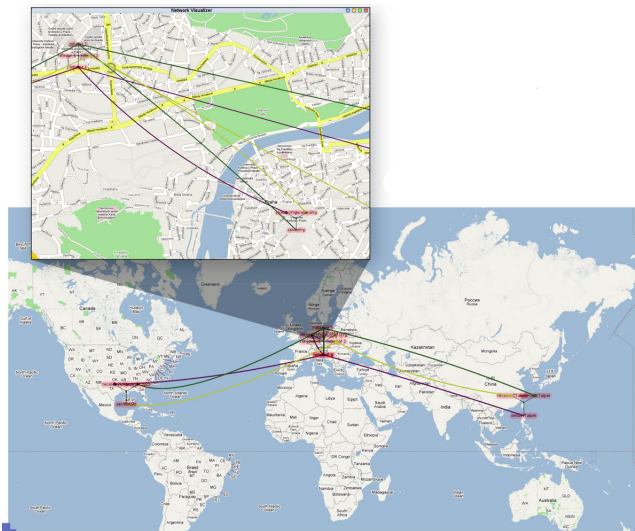
### UltraGrid

- Up to 8K ( $16 \times$  HD resolution)
- Focus on low-latency and high quality multimedia transmission
- Research in parallel encoding and decoding of video formats
  - JPEG, JPEG2000, DXT
- Joint project of CESNET and MU (Laboratory of Advanced Network Technologies)
- <http://ultragrid.cz>

## ■ Self-organizing collaborative environments

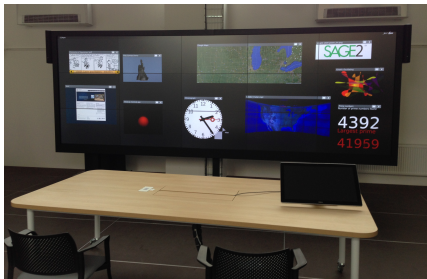
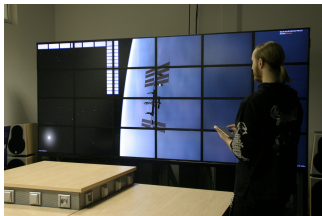
### CoUniverse

- Framework for self-organizing collaborative environments
- Research in scheduling strategies for multiple data stream transmissions
- Use case: Infrastructure for remote sign-language translation in seminars and lectures



## ■ Advanced group collaborative platforms

- Visualization cluster-based display walls and large tabletops
- Scalable Amplified Graphics Environment (SAGE2)
  - **MUSE Framework**
- Research in multi-user interaction methods and visualization
- Development of applications for specific purposes
  - **Visualization of network flows, cyber-crime training platforms etc.**



**Thank you for your attention!**

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the slide consists of several wavy lines. A prominent thick red wave is at the bottom, with a grey wave above it. Above these are several thin, light blue wavy lines. Three light blue dots are connected by thin lines to the wavy lines above them.

**Vít Rusňák**  
**rusnak@ics.muni.cz**