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Subject: Setting gain levels for recording and mixing

Posted by [lance](#) on Sun, 19 Jul 2009 13:03:25 GMT

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Hi All,

Like many of us using PARIS, I started recording with tape etc.

I've been recording with the "bigger looking wav forms is better" approach for as long as I've been recording. Apparently there is another way to look at the gain of the track when recording digitally. I'm wondering after reading all the great feedback about PARIS gain structure - BT DVD etc, just how this following article applies when recording with PARIS. I'll add my own feedback after some folks chime in.

Best - Lance Reichert

<http://karma-lab.wikidot.com/misc:setting-gain-levels-for-recording-and-mixing>

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Subject: Re: Setting gain levels for recording and mixing

Posted by [JeffH](#) on Sun, 19 Jul 2009 22:09:21 GMT

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Lance,

Paris functions a little different. According to the Paris reference manual:

When recording, the Fader has no effect on the volume of the signal being recorded--input volume levels

must be set at the external device sending signal into PARIS (pg. 106).

Also:

The best fidelity will be achieved when your loudest volume peaks are well into the amber range, without crossing over into the red

So:

Paris doesn't work quite the same. You have one way to control the inputs to Paris, setting those inputs to -10 or +4. Other control is all on the outboard equipment.

Hope this helps,

Jeff

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Subject: Re: Setting gain levels for recording and mixing

Posted by [kerryg](#) on Mon, 20 Jul 2009 06:30:23 GMT

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I've gathered the impression that some of the PARIS mojo is \*directly\* related to the concepts detailed here, and that this is a case of conventional DAW wisdom catching up to what the designers of PARIS already had figured out over a decade ago:

Quote:- The digital signal from your audio interface into your sequencer's individual recording tracks should be set at -12 to -18dB on the input meters for each track being recorded. Don't go near -6dB and certainly don't get anywhere near 0dB when tracking.

- The digital signal in your sequencer's Master meter should peak at -6dB when creating your mixdown. If you go over -6dB peak on the Master, lower the volume of all your tracks slightly, and equally, to reduce the summed volume of all tracks as needed to keep the Master peaking at -6dB
- Render your mixdown to a WAV or AIFF file still at -6dB because normalization and limiting from within all major sequencers is pretty weak.

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