Subject: Re: What DAC are you using?
Posted by tom-m on Wed, 15 Dec 2021 04:39:09 GMT
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I have recently upgraded my DAC. I now have a Denafrips Pontus II. I also purchased a Denafrips Hermes DDC. The DDC does FIFO buffering and reclocking via the Precision Oven Controlled Crystal Oscillator OCXO. This eliminates the jitter to negligible level. Then the digital signal is sent to the Pontus. Both of these make a difference for the better in my system. My digital path looks like this:

Roon > over LAN > ultraRendu > USB to Hermes > I2S HDMI > Pontus.

I love how the digital sounds. I don't see how it could get much better. Different yes, but better would be hard. It is outstanding!

I think going to the Ares II would be a big jump up for you. I would recommend it.

Another DAC I have read good things about is the ifi NEO iDSD. It has balanced outputs as do the Denafrips. It is also a preamp. I have not heard the NEO iDSD, but has good reviews and not too pricey at about $800.

https://ifi-audio.com/products/neo-idsd/

tom