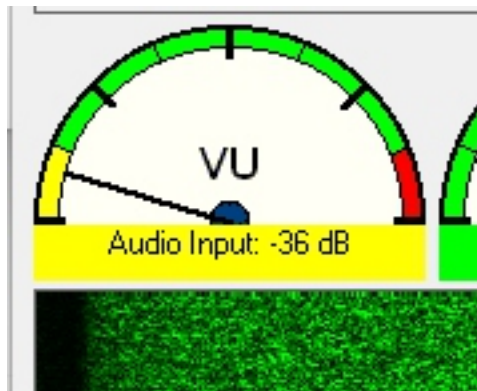


Setting the VARA HF VU Meter

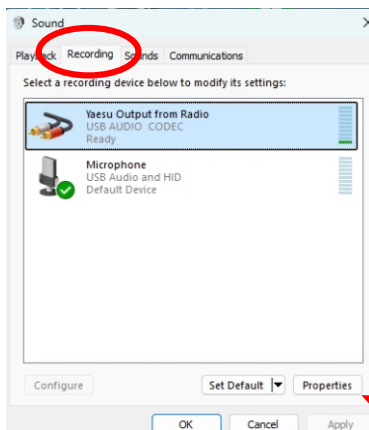
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Rev 1
3/27/25

The intent of this paper is to address a common configuration issue experienced by VarAC users running modern Windows computers. It is not a comprehensive guide to setting up VarAC. Users are referred to the manual which can be found under the Resources menu in VarAC.

1. With VARA HF running and your radio tuned to a frequency with typical noise (no active signal), observe the VU meter in the main VARA HF window. We want the needle to be approximately vertical. If it is not, continue to the next step.



2. Type Windows-R on your computer and then type mmsys.cpl in the Open: prompt and click OK. This will launch the legacy Windows sound control panel.
3. Under the Recording tab, make sure your Microphone is set as the Default Device. If it doesn't have green check, right click and select Set as Default Device.

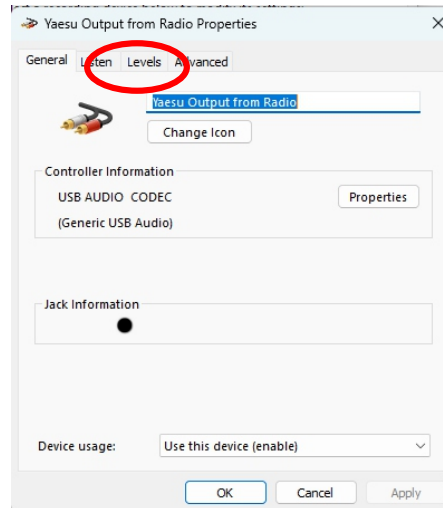


Now select your USB AUDIO CODEC or whatever device is providing audio from your rig to the computer.

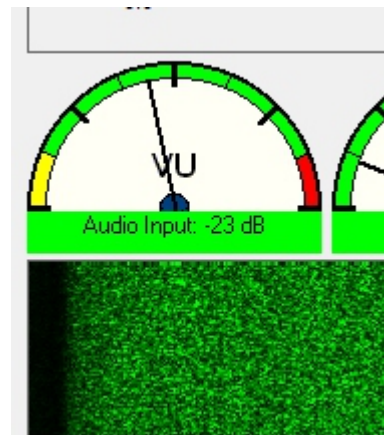
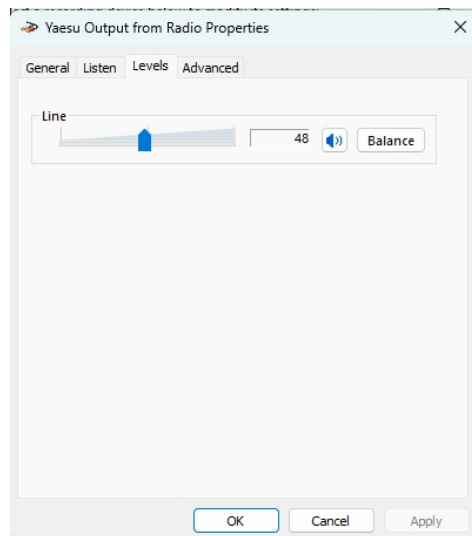
(Note that you can change the name of the device to something more descriptive by double clicking)

3. With your rig's audio codec selected, click the Properties button.

Now click the Levels tab.



Adjust the Levels slider until the VU meter sits in the green zone, ideally around the 12 o'clock position or slightly below when receiving noise. Press OK.



If your sound card interface has a physical RX gain knob (e.g., Signalink), you can also tweak that to fine-tune the level.