XSONIC

ULooper User Manual (Firmware v1.2.5)

Introduction

ULooper is the world's first dedicated looper pedal for guitar amps like Positive Grid Spark, Boss Katana, Yamaha THR, etc., redefining the looping experience.

Most popular digital amps lack an FX loop interface, forcing traditional loopers to connect via the guitar input. This means if you record a clean loop and then switch to distortion for soloing, the clean loop also becomes distorted.

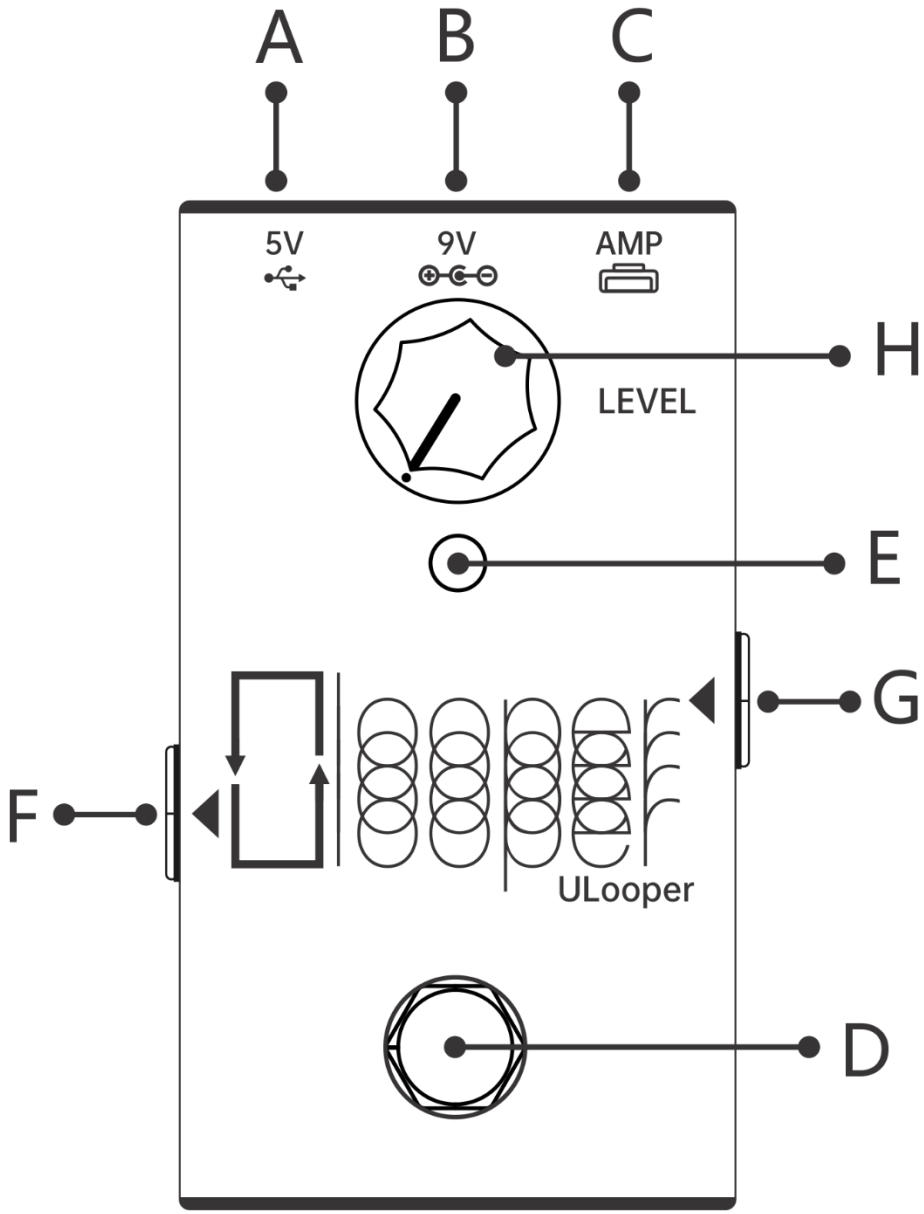
Unlike traditional Loopers, ULooper connects to amps via USB, ensuring your looped sound remains unchanged even when changing your amp's tones and presets.

Additionally, it adds a Line Out feature to your amp, enabling easy connections to external speakers without muting the amp's own speaker, unlike the headphone output, which does.

Compatible Amps

- **Positive Grid Spark:** Spark 40, Spark MINI, Spark Go, Spark Live, Spark 2.
- **Boss KATANA:** KATANA 50 MkI & MkII & Gen3 and higher models, KATANA AIR & EX, KATANA GO.
- **Yamaha THR-II:** THR10II, THR10II-WL, THR30II, THR30IIA.
- **Fender Mustang LT:** LT25, LT40S, LT50
- **Marshall Code:** Code 25, Code 50, Code 100.

Interface



A. 5V USB: Connect to a power bank or phone charger. For firmware updates, connect to your computer via this port. This port requires a **minimum current of 1A**.

B. 9V In: Connect to a standard 9-volt pedal adapter, center negative. This port requires a minimum current of 1A.

C. Amp USB: Connect your amplifier to this port. Typically, the cable for this port is included with your amp and is used to connect your amp to a computer. Ensure your guitar is connected to your amp, not the ULooper.

D. Footswitch: Operates the looper for functions like recording, overdubbing, playback, stopping, and clearing.

E. LED Indicator: Indicates the looper's state, such as recording, overdubbing, and playback.

F. Line Out: Connects to an external speaker or recording device without muting the amp's own speaker. It offers a balanced mono output, compatible with both TS and TRS cables.

G. Reserved Port: Currently unavailable. Reserved for future uses, such as connecting an external footswitch.

H. LEVEL: Controls the playback volume of the loop.

Instructions

Before Using

Amp Firmware Update

Update your amp's firmware to the latest version to ensure compatibility with ULooper.

ULooper Firmware Update

Update your ULooper to the newest firmware for improved stability and the latest features.

ULooper Firmware Update

(Spark Only) Disconnect Bluetooth Audio & Aux In

Before using ULooper, disconnect Spark's Bluetooth audio and Aux In. Spark won't transmit data over USB if these connections are active.

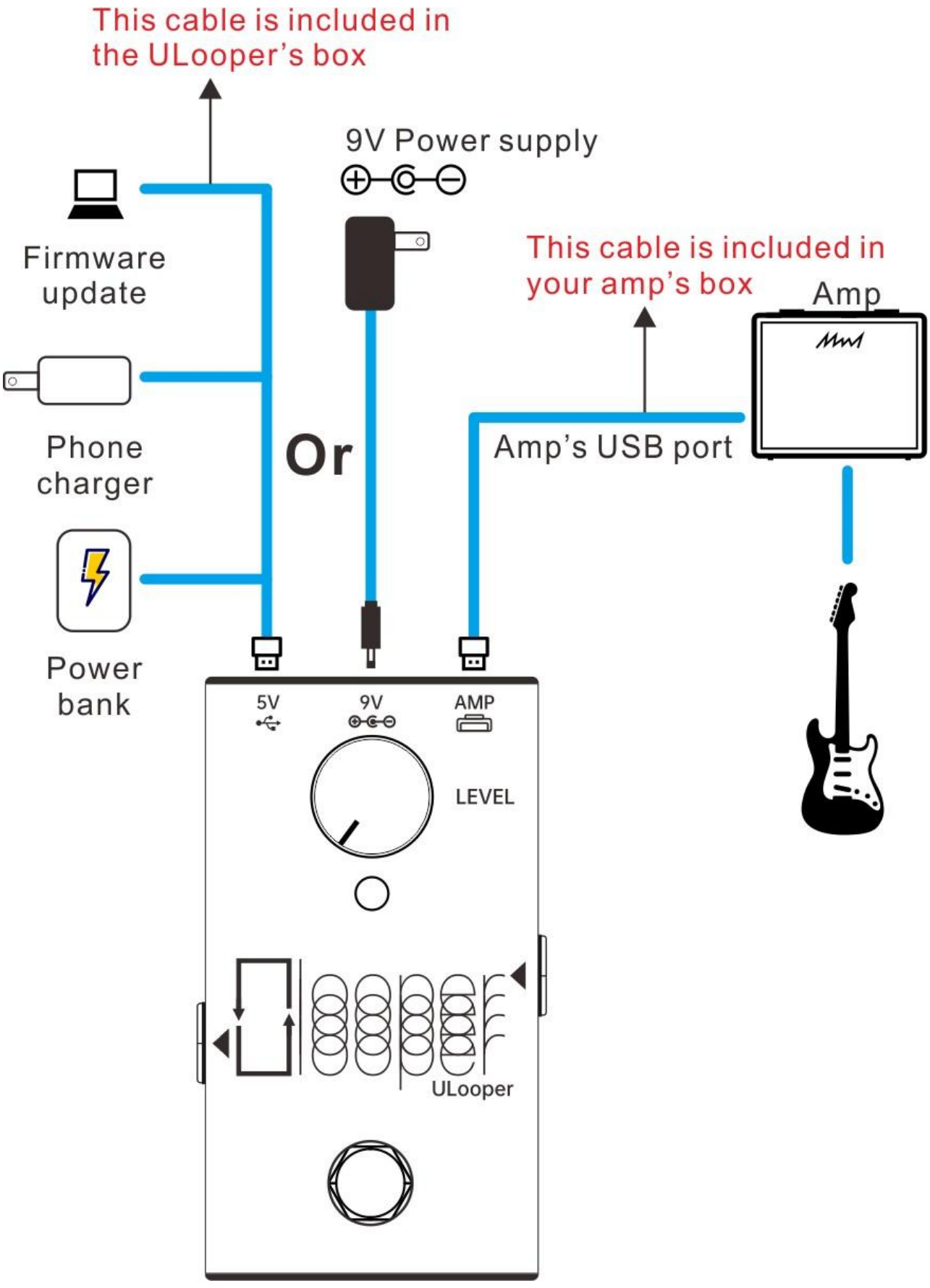
Only the Bluetooth audio connection needs to be disconnected, the Spark App and Airstep usage won't impact USB functionality.

Connection

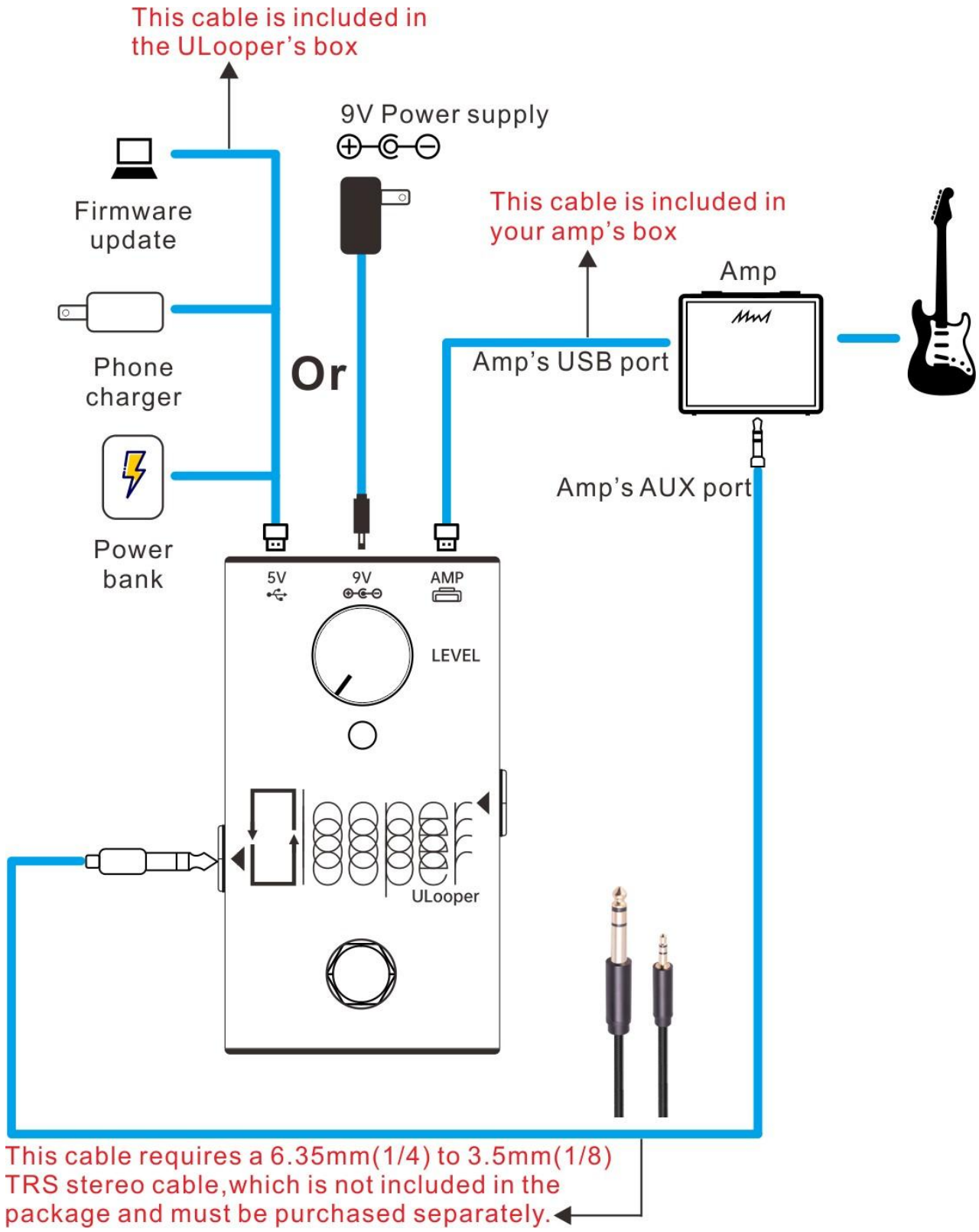
Connect your amplifier using the ULooper's Amp port. Power the device through the 5V or 9V port. A successful connection is indicated by a solid blue.

Note: If you're using a **KATANA 50** and higher models, or a **Fender LT**, you'll need an additional 6.35mm (1/4") to 3.5mm (1/8") TRS stereo cable for connection. This cable is not included in the ULooper's box and must be purchased separately. The reason for this additional connection is that these amps' USB ports only support recording, not playback. Therefore, you need to use ULooper's Line Out port to connect to the amp's AUX port for playback using this cable.

Connection for Spark, THR, KATANA AIR & EX & GO, and Code



Connection for KATANA 50 & higher, Fender LT



Loop & LineOut Mode Setting (KATANA 50 and Fender LT Only)

When using ULooper's Line Out port with KATANA 50 and higher or Fender LT, you can connect either to the amp's AUX input or to external speakers/PA systems. If connected to the amp's AUX, Loop Mode functions as usual, as shown in the image above. However, to connect to external speakers or a PA system and have both the KATANA 50 and external speaker produce sound simultaneously, you will need to switch to Line Out Mode.

To switch between Loop Mode (amp's AUX) and Line Out Mode with ULooper's Line Out port, follow these steps. By default, ULooper is set to Loop Mode:

1. Connect ULooper to power, ensuring it is **not connected** to the amp's USB. The purple LED will light up.
2. **Insert a 6.35mm (1/4") cable** into ULooper's Line Out port.
3. Press and hold the Footswitch until the white LED flashes briefly, then release it.
4. Turn the LEVEL knob counterclockwise until the LED shows either red or green.
5. Rotate the knob: when the LED is red, **press the Footswitch** to set it to Loop Mode; when the LED is green, **press the Footswitch** to set it to Line Out Mode.
6. Once the setting is complete, disconnect the power.

LED Color Explanation

LED Color	Explanation
Solid Purple	Connecting.
Solid Blue	Connection successful, no loops currently stored.
Solid Red	Currently recording.
Solid Green	Playback in progress.
Solid Yellow	Overdubbing.
Blinking Green	Playback stopped.

Record a Loop

With the LED solid blue, press the footswitch to start recording your loop. Press again to stop recording and start playback immediately.

Overdub

During playback (when the LED is solid green), pressing the footswitch initiates an immediate overdub. Press again to stop overdubbing.

Undo Overdub

This function will be available in the future firmware update.

Stop Playback

To stop playback, double-press the footswitch within one second. Pressing again will immediately restart the playback.

Clear All Loops

To clear all loops for a new recording, double press and hold for two seconds during playback or overdubbing, or press and hold for two seconds if stopped.

Note: Holding down the button when stopped will cause the loop to play momentarily. Erasing the loop without playback will be possible with an external footswitch in future updates.

Control Loop Volume

To adjust the volume of your loop, simply use the LEVEL knob on the ULooper and the Music/Audio/Master knob on your amp.

Note: It's important to note that the Music button on Spark Go does not control the loop's volume but is solely for adjusting the volume of Bluetooth audio.

Specifications

Included: ULooper, USB A-C Cable, User Manual

Power Supply: 5V/1A or 9V/1A

Current Draw: 200mA

Ports: AMP (USB A), 5V (USB C), 9V (DC IN, Center Negative), Line Out (1/4-inch TRS), Input (1/4-inch TRS, reserved for future use)

Max Recording Time: 180 Minutes

Line Out: Balanced MONO TRS

Controls: Footswitch, LEVEL Knob

Indicator: Loop Status LED

Dimensions and Weight: 97 x 56 x 39 mm (3.82 x 2.20 x 1.54 inches), 160 g

FAQ

(Spark Only) LED Stuck on Purple

If you see a solid purple LED followed by a blinking, repeating continuously, it indicates that the ULooper is unable to successfully connect to your Spark. Restarting your Spark should resolve this issue.

(Spark Only) Loop Sound Cracking or Breaking Up

If you experience cracking in the loop sound, try **reducing the master volume of the amp in the Spark App.** Cracking occurs when the amp's output exceeds the maximum range of the USB signal. Typically, setting the ULooper's volume knob and Spark's music knob to the 9-12 o'clock position should result in a normal sound level.

(Spark Only) No Loop Sound from Amp

If the ULooper's LED appears normal yet there's no loop sound from the amp, verify the settings of ULooper's Level knob and Spark's Music knob. Should it remain silent, consider powering off and

restarting the Spark. If silence persists, resetting your amp to factory settings is necessary. For guidance, consult Positive Grid's website.

(Spark 40 Only) A Slight Detune or Chorus-like Sound

Some Spark 40 users may notice a slight detune or chorus-like sound when playing loops via ULooper. This is due to a recognized bug in the Spark 40, causing all USB input sounds to undergo this unintended modification, it will act the same when using computer and phone. However, this issue does not occur when using Spark MINI and Spark Go models.

(Spark Only) Noticed Latency between First Loop and Overdub

When using Spark 40, MINI and GO, latency between the USB input and its output through the speaker may occur. In some instances, this latency could lead to minor timing inconsistencies between the first loop and subsequent overdubs.

The magnitude of this latency depends on the load from Spark's effect chain, reducing or turning off effects and amp modeling can eliminate it. When live performance, although the latency usually remains within acceptable bounds, should it become overly pronounced, using the Line Out for monitoring during overdubbing is recommended, as it bypasses this latency problem.

Although this latency originates from Spark, we can optimize it on the ULooper side. We may release a firmware update in the future to address this.

However, **Spark Live**, with its enhanced processing capabilities, **does not encounter this issue**, showcasing superior performance in real-time applications.

(THR-II Only) Loop Volume Too Low

If all the volume knobs are set correctly but the loop volume is still too low, please connect the THR Remote app to your amp, navigate to the device settings, and ensure the **USB OUT** parameter is set to 100.