

MPEG-7 Standard Overview

MPEG-7: Content and Objective

- Content, content, and more content ...
 - Increasing availability of multimedia content
 - More and more situation where it is necessary to have information about the content
 - Difficulty to manage information
 - Difficult to find, select, filter what is needed
- Objective
 - Standardize content-based descriptions for various types of audio-visual information, allowing quick and efficient content identification, and addressing a large range of applications
 - MPEG-1, -2, and -4 represent the content itself (" the bits")
 - MPEG-7 should represent information about the content ("the bits *about* the bits")

Data Targets & Types of Descriptions

- Most types of audio-visual info are considered (targets):
 - Audio and speech
 - Moving video, still pictures, graphics, 3D models
 - Object relations in a scene, etc.
 - Descriptions are independent of data format
- Descriptions can be classified into two broad categories:
 - Information that is present in the content
 - Low-level features that are automatically extracted e.g., (video) color, texture, motion (audio) pitch, tempo, volume
 - High-level (semantic) feature related to the human interpretation of the content, e.g., "car driving fast" or "tiger attacks deer"
 - Information that cannot be deduced from the content
 - E.g., data and time, author, copyright data, genre, parental rating, links to other related material

Why do we need a standard?





Interoperable Search & Retrieval:

•Search: color, texture, shape, motion, spatial

•**Browse**: video parsing, shot detection, key-frames

•Filter: object detection, classification



Scope of MPEG-7



- The description generation (feature extraction, indexing) is not a normative part of the standard
- The description consumption (search engine, retrieval process) is also not a normative part of the standard
- Just the description is normative
 - Standardizes the minimum needed to ensure interoperability
 - Specifies four types of normative elements
 - Descriptors

- Description schemes (DSs)
- Description Definition Language (DDL)
- Coding schemes

MPEG-7 Elements (I)

• MPEG-7 main elements



MPEG-7 Elements (II)

- Description Tools
 - Descriptors (Ds): representations of features
 - To describe various types of features of multimedia information
 - To define the syntax/semantics of each feature representation
 - Color example specify histogram in RGB color space
 - Description Schemes (DSs)
 - Specifies the structure and semantics of the relationships between its components, which may be either Ds or other DSs



MPEG-7 Elements (III)



- Description Definition Language (DDL)
 - The language to specify DSs and possibly Ds
 - Will allow the creation of new DSs (and possibly Ds) and the extension and modification of existing DSs
- System tools

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• To support multiplexing of description, synchronization issues, transmission mechanisms, file format, etc

MPEG-7 Workplan

• Start to work ... Oct. 1996

- Call for proposals ... Oct. 1998
- Submission deadline ... Feb. 1999
- Working draft ... Mar. 2000
- Committee draft ... Oct. 2000
- Final committee draft ... Jan. 2001
- Draft international standard ... July 2001
- International standard ... Oct. 2001
- Extensions ... Feb. 2002
- Amd ... Sept. 2002

Parts of the MPEG-7 Standard

- **ISO/IEC 15938-1: Systems** specifies the tools for preparing descriptions for efficient transport and storage (binary format), compressing descriptions, and allowing synchronization between content and descriptions
- ISO/IEC 15938-2: Description Definition Language specifies the language for defining the standard set (syntax) of description tools (DSs, Ds, and datatypes) and for defining new description tools

- **ISO/IEC 15938-3: Visual** specifies the description tools pertaining to visual content
- **ISO/IEC 15938-4: Audio** specifies the description tools pertaining to audio content
- **ISO/IEC 15938-5: Multimedia Description Schemes** specifies the generic description tools pertaining to multimedia including audio and visual content
- **ISO/IEC 15938-6: Reference software** provides a software implementation of the standard
- **ISO/IEC 15938-7: Conformance testing** specifies the guidelines and procedures for testing conformance of implementations of the standard
- **ISO/IEC 15938-8: Extraction and use of descriptions** provides guidelines and examples of the extraction and use of descriptions

MPEG-7 Multimedia Description Schemes – MDS

- DSs are metadata structures for describing and annotating audio-visual (AV) content
- DSs provide a standardized way of describing in XML the important concepts related to AV content description and content management in order to facilitate searching, indexing, filtering, and access
- DSs are defined using the MEPG-7 Description Definition Language (DDL), which is based on the XML Schema Language, and are instantiated as documents or streams

- DSs are designed primarily to describe higher-level AV features such as regions, segments, objects, events; and other immutable metadata related to creation and production, usage, and so forth
- DSs produce more complex descriptions by integrating together multiple Descriptors and DSs, and by declaring relationships among the description components
- Dss are categorized as pertaining to the multimedia, audio, or visual domain. Typically, the multimedia DSs describe content consisting of a combination of audio, visual data, and possibly textual data
- In some cases, automatic tools can be used for instantiating the DSs, but in many cases instantiating DSs requires human assisted extraction or authoring tool

MDS Categories (1)



MDS Categories (2)

• Content organization

- Collections: Collection Structure DS
 - Groups the audio-visual content, segments, events, or objects into collection clusters and specifies properties that are common to the elements
 - Describes collections of audio-visual content or pieces of audio-visual material, statistics and models of the attribute values of the elements and relationships among collection clusters
- Models: Model DSs provide tools for modeling the attributes and features of audio-visual content
 - Probability Model DS: provides fundamental DSs for specifying different statistical functions and probabilistic structures
 - Analytic Model DS: describe collections of examples of audio-visual data or clusters of descriptors that provide models for particular semantic classes and specifies semantic labels that indicate the classes being modeled
 - Classifier DSs describe different types of classifiers that are used to assign semantic labels to audio-visual data based

MDS Categories (3)

- Content management
 - Creation and production
 - Title, creator, creation locations, creation time, texture annotations
 - Subject, purpose, language, ...
 - Media coding, storage and file formats
 - Format, compression, ...
 - Content usage

- Usage right, usage records,
- Content description
 - Structural aspects: describes the audio-visual content from the view point of its structure, such as spatial, temporal or spatio-temporal structure of the audio-visual content, or a hierarchical structure
 - Conceptual aspects: describes the audio-visual content from the viewpoint of realworld semantics and conceptual notions such as objects, events, abstract concepts and relationships
 - Structure DSs and Semantic DSs are related by a set of links, which allows the audiovisual content to be described on the basis of both content structure and semantics together

MDS Categories (4)

- Navigation and Access
 - DSs for facilitating browsing and retrieval of audio-visual content by defining summaries, partitions and decompositions, and variations of the audio-visual material
 - Summaries

- Hierarchical summary organizes the information into successive levels, each describing the audio-visual content at a different level of detail. In general, the levels closer to the root of the hierarchy provide more coarse summaries, and levels further from the root provide more detailed summaries.
- Sequential summary provides a sequence of images or video frames, possibly synchronized with audio, which may compose a slide-show or audio-visual skim.
- Partitions and Decompositions
 - Describe different decompositions of the audio-visual signal in space, time and frequency
 - Describe different views of the audio-visual data, which is important for multi-resolution access and progressive retrieval
- Variations
 - Provide information about different variations of audio-visual programs, such as summaries and abstracts; scaled, compressed and low-resolution versions; and versions with different languages and modalities audio, video, image, text, and so forth
 - Allow the selection on the most suitable variation of an audio-visual program, which can replace the original, if necessary, to adapt to the different capabilities of terminal devices, network conditions or user preferences

MDS Categories (5)

- User interaction
 - User interaction DSs describe user preferences and usage history pertaining to the consumption of the multimedia material
 - This allows, for example, matching between user preferences and MPEG-7 content descriptions in order to facilitate personalization of audio-visual content access, presentation and consumption
- Basic elements
 - Schema tools: assist in the formation, packaging, and annotation of MPEG-7 descriptions
 - Basic datatypes: types provide a set of extended data types and mathematical structures such as vectors and matrices, which are needed by the DSs for describing AV content
 - Links & Media locations: localize pieces of content, and describe time, places, persons, individuals, groups, organizations, and other textual annotation
 - Basic tools

Example: MPEG-7 MDS Description

MPEG-7 Video description: Structured Annotation DS

<Mpeg7 type="complete">
 <ContentDescription xsi:type="ContentEntityType">
 <MultimediaContent xsi:type="VideoType">
 <TextAnnotation>
 <StructuredAnnotation>
 <Who><Name> Sammy Sosa </Name></Who>
 <WhatObject><Name> Baseball </Name></WhatObject>
 <WhatAction><Name> Homerun </Name></WhatAction>
 <Where><Name> Chicago </Name></Where>
 </StructuredAnnotation>
 </MultimediaContent>
 </ContentDescription>
</Mpeg7>

• Other DS's can be used to describe textual information such as title, author, producer, media format, data, address, etc.

MPEG-7 for Content Description



| Data | Structure | Features | Models | Semantics |
|------------|-------------------|----------|-----------------|---------------|
| Images | Regions | Color | Clusters | Objects |
| Video | Segments | Texture | Classes | Events |
| Audio | Grids | Shape | Analytic models | Actions |
| Multimedia | Mosaics | Motion | Probability | People |
| Formats | Relationships | Speech | Models | Labels |
| Layout | (Spatio-temporal) | Timbre | Classifiers | Relationships |
| | | Melody | | |
| | | | | |

Audio-Visual Segment Decomposition

Providing signal structure

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•Spatial (image decomposition into regions)

•Temporal (video decomposition into segments)

•Spatio-temporal (video decomposition into moving regions)

•Media (video decomposition into audio and video tracks)

Video Segment



Video Segment Relationships

- Segment decomposition (video contains segments and regions)
- Temporal relations (kick before goal)



MDS Segment Interface



MPEG-7 MDS: Collections and Clusters



- Collection types:
 - Content collection
 - Segment collection
 - Descriptor collection
 - Concept collection
 - Mixed collection
- Nesting of collections (sub-collections)
- Relationships among collections (collection structure)

MPEG-7 MDS: Semantic DS



MPEG-7 MDS: Hierarchical Summary DS



Example of a Hierarchical summary of a video of a soccer game



MPEG-7 MDS: Sequential Summary DS



• Sequential summary: contains highlight segments

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• Highlight segments: contains key audio & video clips, images, and sounds

MPEG-7 MDS: Variation DS



Example of Partitions and Decompositions DS



Basic Structure of Visual Descriptors

- Grid Layout
 - Grid layout is a splitting of the image into a set of equally sized rectangular regions so that each region can be described separately
 - Each region can be described in terms of other descriptors such as color or texture
 - Descriptor allows to assign the sub-descriptors to all rectangular areas
- Time Series:

- RegularTimeSeries: descriptors locate regularly within a given time span with constant intervals
- IrregularTimeSeries: descriptors locate irregularly within a given time span
- 2D-3D Multiple View
 - Specifies a structure which combines 2D Descriptors representing a visual feature of a 3D object seen from different view angles
 - Any 2D descriptors such as contour-shape, region-shape, color or texture can be used
- Spatial 2D Coordinates
 - Defines a 2D spatial coordinate system and a unit to be used by reference in other Ds/DSs
 - Supports two kinds of coordinate systems: "local" and "integrated"
- Temporal Interpolation
 - Describes a temporal interpolation using connected polynomials
 - Can be used to approximate multi-dimensional variable values such as position of a moving object

MPEG-7 Visual Descriptors

- Color
 - Color space, color quantization, dominant colors, scalable color
 - Color layout, color-structure, GoF/GoP color
- Texture
 - Homogeneous texture, edge histogram, texture browsing
- Shape
 - Region-based, contour-based, shape 3D
- Motion
 - Camera motion, motion activity, motion trajectory, parametric motion
- Localization
 - Region locator, spatio-temporal locator
- Face
 - Face recognition

MPEG-7 Color Descriptors (1)

- Color Descriptors
 - Color space
 - Default color spaces
 - RGB for computer
 - YCrCb for video
 - Color spaces better for search
 - HSV for scalable color
 - HMMD for color structure
 - Monochrome: allow universal use in the context with descriptors
 - Linear transformation: support for additional color spaces
 - Color quantization
 - Defines a uniform quantization of a color space
 - Combined with other descriptors (dominant color) to express the meaning of the values within a color histogram

MPEG-7 Color Descriptors (2)

- Dominant color(s)
 - Useful when a small number of colors are enough to characterize a local object or an image
 - Color quantization is used to extract a small number of representing colors each region or image
 - Percentage of each quantized color in the region is calculated accordingly
 - A spatial coherency on the entire descriptor is defined and is used in similarity retrieval





MPEG-7 Color Descriptors (3)

- Scalable color
 - A color histogram in HSV color space
 - Histogram values are encoded using Haar transform
 - Binary representation is scalable in terms of number of bins used and in the number of bits per bin over a wide range of data rates
 - Number of bins can range from 16 to 256
 - Matching may be performed in either Haar or histogram domain

| No. coeff | # bins: H | # bins: S | # bins: V |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 16 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 32 | 8 | 2 | 2 |
| 64 | 8 | 2 | 4 |
| 128 | 8 | 4 | 4 |
| 256 | 16 | 4 | 4 |

MPEG-7 Color Descriptors (4)

- Color layout
 - Effectively represents spatial distribution of colors in an image
 - Very compact representation (63 bits)
 - Uses YCbCr color space
 - Partition the image into (w/8) x (h/8) subimages
 - Calculate the "dominant color" of each sub-image
 - Compute the DCT of this 8x8 matrix of dominant colors
 - Quantize the DCT coefficients
 - Zig-zag scan of quantized DCT coefficients
 - Advantages

- No dependency on image/video format, resolutions and bit depths
- Small software and hardware requirement (8 bytes per image)
- Use of frequency domain features allows users to introduce perceptual sensitivity of human vision system for similarity calculation
- Support scalable application of the feature by controlling the number of coefficients enclosed in the descriptor

MPEG-7 Color Descriptors (5)

• Color structure

- Uses HMMD color space quantized to 32, 64, 128 and 180 bins
- Similar to scalable histogram, but a 8x8 structuring elements is used to compute the bin values (rather than characterizing relative frequency of single image samples, it characterized relative frequency of structuring elements of a particular color)



MPEG-7 Color Descriptors (6)

- GoF/GoP color
 - GoF/GoP: Group of Frame/Picture color descriptor extends the Scalable Color descriptor
 - Additional 2 bits allows to define how the color histogram was calculated before Haar transform is applied to it:: by average, median or intersection
 - Average histogram: averages the counter value of each bin across all frames or pictures, it is equivalent to computing the aggregate color histogram of all frames and pictures with proper normalization
 - Median histogram computes the median of the counter value of each bin across all frames or pictures, it is more robust to round-off errors and the presence of outliers in image intensity values compared to the average histogram
 - Intersection histogram to computes the minimum of the counter value of each bin across all frames or pictures to capture the "least common" color traits of a group of images

MPEG-7 Texture Descriptors (1)

- Texture Descriptors
 - Texture Browsing
 - Referred to as Perceptual Browsing Components (PBC)
 - Extracted using image convolutions with a set of masks
 - 2-D Gabor wavelet decomposition (24 filters, 6 orientations at 4 scales)
 - Convolutions can be efficiently implemented in hardware and software
 - Use filter output to characterize texture using 3 perceptual dimensions
 - Regularity, coarseness, directionality (12 bits total –compact)
 - Homogenous Texture

- Referred to as Similarity Retrieval Components (SRC)
- Extracted using image convolutions with a set of masks
 - Filters tuned to detect image features as different scales and orientations
 - 30 Gabor filters (6 orientations at 5 scales)
- Descriptor specifies the normalized mean and standard deviation of these filtered outputs (computed in the frequency domain)



MPEG-7 Texture Descriptors (3)

- Edge Histogram
 - Describes spatial distribution of four edges and one non-directional edge in the image
 - Comparison of above edge types in 3 levels of localization: global, semiglobal and local
 - Useful for indexing and retrieval of natural images with subjective objects due to information of edge distribution







b) horizontal edge



c) 45 degree edge







e)non-directional edge

MPEG-7 Shape Descriptors (1)

• Shape Descriptors



Contour-based shape descriptor



Region-based shape descriptor

MPEG-7 Shape Descriptors (2)

• Region-based shape

- An object may consist of either a single region or a set of regions with some holes, region-based shape is used to describe these kind of shapes
- Robust to minor deformation along the boundary (g, h same, but l different)
- Small size, fast extraction time and matching



MPEG-7 Shape Descriptors (3)

Contour-based shape

- Captures contour characteristics of an object boundary
- It is based on the curvature scale space representation of contour
- Performs very well when shat is subject to deformation



MPEG-7 Shape Descriptors (4)

• Example Application: Trademark Registration



MPEG-7 Shape Descriptors (5)

• 3D shape

- Descriptor of 3D mesh models that exploits local attributes of the 3D surface (principal curvature) at each point or shape index
- A shape spectrum is produced, which is a histogram for shape indices calculated over the entire mesh
- 2D-3D Multiple View
 - Specifies the syntax to which combines 2D descriptors representing a visual feature of a 3D object seen from different view angles
 - The descriptor forms a complete 3D view-based representation of the object



MPEG-7 Motion Descriptor (1)

• Motion descriptors

- Camera motion
 - Describes the global motion induced by the camera for given video
 - It supports the following basic camera operations: fixed, panning (horizontal rotation), tracking (horizontal transverse movement), zooming, dollying (translation along the optical axis), and rolling



MPEG-7 Motion Descriptor (2)

- Motion Trajectory
 - Used to define the localization, time, and space of an object
 - Consists of a set of key points along with a set of optional interpolating functions used to describe the path of the object between two key points



- Parametric motion
 - Describes the motion of objects with 2-D parametric models such as for global motion and spite
 - Can be used to efficiently describe the simple translation, rotation, zooming and more complex motions such as combinations of above types of motion

MPEG-7 Motion Descriptor (3)

• Motion Activity

- Able to express the activity of a given video/shot as a slow sequence, fast paced sequence, action sequence, etc...
- Can be applied to fast-browsing, dynamic video summarization, content-based querying etc
- Very simple and only contains four attributes:
 - Intensity high value indicates high activity, while low value of indicates low activity
 - Direction expresses dominant direction of the activity, if any
 - Spatial Distribution indicates whether the activity is spread across many regions or restricted to one large region. It is an indication of the number and size of "active" regions in a frame
 - Temporal Distribution expresses the variation of activity over the duration of the video segment/shot

MPEG-7 Localization Descriptors

• Region locator

- Enables localization of regions within images or frames by specifying them with a brief and scalable representation of a Box or a Polygon
- Spatio-temporal locator
 - Describes spatio-temporal regions in a video, such as moving object regions
 - Provides localization functionality for such regions



MPEG-7 Face Descriptor

• Face Descriptor

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- Represents the projection of a face vector onto a set of 49 eigenvectors, commonly referred to as eigenfaces
 - Obtain normalized face image (46x56, luma only = 2576 elements)
 - Arange pixels into 1D face vector (Λ) via column-wise raster scan
 - Project 1D face vector onto space defined by normative basis function (U), where Ψ is the mean face vector; normatively specified

$$W = U^T \left(\Lambda - \Psi \right)$$

• 49 features are the normalized, clipped and linearly quantized

MPEG-7 Visual Extensions (1)

- Color Temperature
 - This descriptor specifies the perceptual temperature feeling of illumination color in an image for browsing and display preference control purposes
 - Four perceptual temperature browsing categories are provided
 - Hot: 1667K ~ 2250K
 - Warm: 2251K ~ 4170K
 - Moderate: 4171K ~ 8060K
 - Cool: 8061K ~ 25000K
 - The range of color temperature values for each category is the uniformly divided into 64 sub-ranges for finer classification

MPEG-7 Visual Extensions (2)

• Shape sequence

- The descriptor can describe shape variations in terms of Shape Variation Map and the statistics of the region shape description of each binary shape image in the collection
- Shape Variation Map consists of Static Shape Variation and Dynamic Shape Variation
 - Static Shape Variation corresponds to 35 quantized ART coefficients on a 2dimentional histogram of group of shape images whereas
 - Dynamic Shape Variation does to the inverse of the histogram except the background
- For the statistics, a set of standard deviations of 35 coefficients of the Region Shape descriptor, which is defined in ISO/IEC 15938-3 are used
- Its main functionality is to retrieve similar collection of shape images regardless of their sequence or the number of frames in each collection
- When they are in sequences, it can be used for retrieval of shape sequence represented by a set of frames in video segments – in terms of the similar shape variation due to the object movement

MPEG-7 Visual Extensions (3)

Process of generation Shape Variation Map



MPEG-7 Description Definition Language

• Summary

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- DDL is a language that allows the creation of new Description Schemes (DSs) and Descriptors (Ds)
- DDL is a XML schema language based on the XML by W3C (May 2001)
- DDL provides the solid descriptive foundation to create DSs and Ds
- DDL defines the syntactic rules to express and combine DSs and Ds

XML Schema Overview

- XML Schema Structures
 - Primary components: schema- wrapper round the definitions and declarations, simple type definitions, complex definitions, attribute definitions, element declarations
 - Secondary components: attribute group definitions, identity definitions, named group definition and notation declaration
 - Third components: substitution groups, annotations, wildcards
- XML Schema Datatype
 - A set of built-in primitive and derived datatypes and mechanism to define own datatypes
- MPEG-7 Extensions to XML Schema
 - Array and matrix dattypes both fixed size and parametrerized size
 - Built-in primitive time datatypes; basic TimePoint and basic Duration

Binary Format for MPEG-7 (BiM)

- BiM is designed for transmission and storage
- BiM encoders and decoders can deal with any XML language
- BiM is a schema oriented encoding scheme
 - The binary format is deduced from the schema definition
 - There is no need to define coding tables or a specific encoding mechanism
- BiM is a pre-parsed format, very few extra processing is needed on the decoder to validate the received documents
- BiM is a typed binary format

- At the encoder side, every components of XML document (attribute, elements, leaf notes) is mapped to a type information
- The typed binary format can directly be processed by the decoder without string conversion
- BiM is backward and forward compatible binary format

Binary Format for MPEG-7 (BiM)

• BiM allow a parameterized transmission of XML document



• BiM decoder can be efficiently processed at binary level



eXperimentation Model: XM (1)

- XM is the reference model for the MPEG-7 standard
 - Same purpose as the Test Model (TM) in MPEG-2
 - Confirm the stability of the standard; basis to conduct core experiments
 - Technology first goes into XM, then as it matures into the Working Draft (WD) and ultimately into the final standard

• Normative Components:

- Descriptors, description schemes, coding schemes, description definition language, system tools, etc.
- In MPEG-2, normative components include DCT, 2D translational motion vectors, 16x16 macroblock, VLC tables
- Non-Normative Components:
 - Feature extraction, search engine, segmentation, etc.
 - In MPEG-2, non-normative tools include motion estimation, rate control, MD mode decision.

eXperimentation Model: XM (2)

Extraction vs. Client applications

- Applications are related to one particular descriptor or description scheme
- Extraction applications: creating descriptors or description schemes
- Client applications: using descriptors or description schemes under test
- Modularity of the XM software
 - Compiling the complete framework (all Ds and DSs) into one program results in an executable of more than 100 Mbytes of size – too big
 - All applications are built from modules to support
 - Partial compilation to allow to use only one signal D or DS
 - Combination of a subset of Ds or DSs
 - Reuse of code, for example, a DS is built in an hierarchical way from other Ds and DSs
 - Modules include:
 - Media decoder class
 - Multimedia data class
 - Extraction tool class (only for extraction applications)
 - Descriptor class
 - Coding Scheme class, and
 - The search tool class (only for client applications)

eXperimentation Model: XM (3)

Applications types in XM software

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• Extraction from Media: description is extracted from the media input data



Search & Retrieval application: a sorted database is created from Ds and query



eXperimentation Model: XM (4)

 Media Transcoding Application: a transcoded media database is created from the original media database, corresponding descriptions and query



• Description filtering Applications: a description is created, filtering the input description with respect to a query



MPEG-7 Conformation Testing (1)

Normative interface: two normative interfaces

- Texture format interface: describes the format for the textual access units
- Binary format interface: describes the format of the binary access units



MPEG-7 Conformation Testing (2)

Validation of the standard

- Describes how to prove the equivalence of two representations, texture and binary
- Two canonical descriptions are generated from the reconstructed content descriptions, they should be equivalent



MPEG-7 Profiles and Levels (1)

• Profile

- It is a set of tools providing a set of functionalities for a certain class of applications
- A new profile should be defined if it provides a significantly different set of functionalities
- It is no yet clear how many and which dimensions of profiling will be used for MPEG-7
- Profiles under consideration
 - Simple profile
 - Application areas include limited textual metadata (e.g., Title, Author, Copyright, Abstract, Keywords, URL or Asset Identifier, etc.) used to locate and subsequently access an entire multimedia asset or temporal segments
 - User description profile
 - To describe the personal preferences and usage patterns of users of multimedia content
 - Summary profile
 - Audiovisual Logging Profile

MPEG-7 Profiles and Levels (2)

• Levels

- Levels limit the complexity associated to a certain profile @ level
- A new level should be defined if it is associated to a significantly different implementation complexity
- Levels may reflect tradeoffs in complexity. Possible dimensions of complexity are:
 - Access unit us none
 - BiM encoding vs none
 - Linking (e.g. id/idref, headers) vs none
 - Hierarchy vs graph relations
 - Size of schema
 - Size of descriptions
 - Controlled vocabulary vs unconstrained
 - Template descriptions vs unconstrained

MEPG-7 Application Areas

- Architecture, real estate, and interior design (e.g., searching for ideas)
- Broadcast media selection (e.g., radio channel, TV channel)
- Cultural services (history museums, art galleries, etc.)
- Digital libraries (e.g., image catalogue, musical dictionary, bio-medical imaging catalogues, film, video and archives)
- E-Commerce (e.g., personalized advertising, on-line catalogues, directories of e-shops)
- Education (e.g., repositories of multimedia courses, multimedia search for support material)
- Home Entertainment (e.g., systems for the management of personal multimedia collections, including manipulation of content, e.g. home video editing, searching a game karaoke)
- Investigation services (e.g., human characteristics recognition, forensics)
- Journalism (e.g. searching speeches of a certain politician using his name, his voice or his face)
- Multimedia directory services (e.g. yellow pages, Tourist information, Geographical information systems)
- Multimedia editing (e.g., personalized electronic news service, media authoring)
- Remote sensing (e.g., cartography, ecology, natural resources management)
- Shopping (e.g., searching for clothes that you like)
- Social (e.g. dating services)

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• Surveillance (e.g., traffic control, surface transportation, non-destructive testing in hostile environments)

Application Scenario

• Audio-visual descriptors obtained from multimedia contents manually or semiautomatically extraction, the descriptors may be stored or streamed

- Pull scenario: client applications will submit queries to the descriptions repository and will receive a set of descriptions matching the query for browsing
- Push scenario: a filter will select descriptions from the available ones and perform the programmed actions afterward (e.g., switching a broadcast channel or recording the described stream)



Application: Universal Multimedia Access



Application: Universal Multimedia Access



Additional Applications

• Mobile phone

- Information retrieval, e.g., news, from mobile terminal
- Push new information, e.g., pictures, to personal database
- M-commerce, tele-shopping
- Personal video recording (PVR) systems
 - Smart access techniques that would enable consumer video devices like DVD to go beyond simple playback
 - Filter and summarize favorite programs according to user prefers
- Content delivery
 - Collect information about the content to improve transcoding quality and reduce complexity (in server or terminal)
- Surveillance, remote sensing, visual control equipment
- Database, server