The Significant Properties of Moving Images

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Main sources of moving images

Film



Raster Scan Pattern of Interlaced Display

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Born digital

Video



Exciting times

- . Consumer video is increasingly digital
- Broadcasters are switching to digital transmissions
- Moving image production and postproduction moving from film to digital techniques
- Digital formats increasing used for theatrical distribution
- Increasing use of moving images in today's society
- All video tape is deteriorating rapidly

InSPECT: Performance Model, Taxonomy



Taxonomy of properties relevant to authenticity:

- . Content the "stuff"
- . Context the circumstances round the creation of the content
- Rendering the information that drives the process
- . Structure relationship between elements of the content
- . Behaviour interaction between the content and stimuli

Characterised as a sequence of images

Properties of moving images

- Rendered as a sequence of frames
- Properties of the individual frames
- Frame rate

Does anything else emerge in the performance?



Wellcome Library, London

Properties of the frame

A rectangular array of pixels

- Width
- Height
- Bit-depth
- Pixel aspect ratio

Gamut

- Colour model
- Colour space





Properties of the sequence

Images

- Frame rate eg
 - . speed
 - . look

- 23.97 fps 24 fps 25 fps 30 (29.97) fps
- Structure the relationship between
 - Images
 - Audio
 - . Metadata



The tyranny of data rates

What you need:

- Serial Digital Interface:
- Uncompressed SD TV:

What you've got:

- . LAN
- USB-2
- . DVD
- Digital Terrestrial
- ADSL
- MPEG-1 (VHS quality)

- 4000 Mbit/s 270 Mbit/s
 - ~600 Mbit/s
 - 480 Mbit/s
 - 11 Mbit/s
 - ~6 Mbit/s
 - ~1 Mbit/s
 - ~1 Mbit/s

Compression

Lossless:

- . Limited reduction in size
- No data loss
- . No reduction in clarity of the image

Lossy:

- . Significant reductions in size
- . Attendant reduction in clarity

Encoding

Codec

- Encodes video signal for transmission or storage
- Decodes bit-stream for display

Compression ratio

- Measures data discarded
- . Bit rate can be variable
- Quality metrics clarity
 - subjective
 - objective

Encoding "freezes" the rendering SPs

Interlaced and progressive scan

Interlaced scan

Progressive scan

- **De-interlacing**
- Merges fields
- Adjacent scan lines were recorded 50th second apart in time
- Annoying effects with rapidly moving subjects
- Future technologies may not support interlace
- Record scan type of source as metadata



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OAIS Reference Model

Framework for discussing archival concepts

Open Archival Information System

- SIP: Submission Information Package
- AIP: Archival Information Package
- **DIP:** Dissemination Information Package

Significant Properties inform the discussion

Significant properties

Size:

Height, Width, Bit-depth, Pixel aspect ratio
Colour:

. Colour space

Sequence:

• Frame rate

Clarity:

- . Compression ratio
- . Codec
- . Scan type of source

Formats

Encoding - encode the bit-stream for storage or transmission

• eg:DV, H.264 (MPEG-4 AVC), DPX, JPEG2000

Wrapper - encapsulate multiple bit-streams, different encodings, additional metadata

• eg: AVI, MXF, QuickTime

Bundling - containers for multiple files and metadata:

• eg: MXF, METS, MPEG-21

Submission Information Package

If you have a choice:

- . Larger image size
- . Higher bit-depth
- Larger gamut
- . Low compression ratio, if lossy
- . High frame rate (if video)
- Digitise film directly, not via video

Archival Information Package

Preservation strategies:

- Bitstream preservation
- Technology preservation (interlace)
- Migration
- . Emulation (interlace?)

Migration to new formats

- Transcoding
- Lossless compression
- . eg JPEG2000 encode frames in MXF wrapper

May not be usable for delivery

Dissemination Information Package

Dictated by:

- . Available data rates for delivery
- Available technology

Technology will change

Expectations may conflict:

. Ease of access v Clarity

Expectations will rise

SIP, AIP, DIP revisited

Take the hit once:

- Migrate SIP to AIP with lossless encoding once (possibly delayed)
- Thereafter lossless migration to future AIPs
- If you are not ready for this, make the best of what you've got:
 - The SIP may not be suitable for a AIP (lossy compression)
 - . The SIP may be suitable for a DIP
 - Preserve the SIP (Bit-stream preservation)
 - Deliver DIPs based on SIP
 - . Monitor the expected life of the SIP encoding

Significant properties

Size:

Height, Width, Bit-depth, Pixel aspect ratio
Colour:

- . Colour space
- Sequence:
 - . Frame rate

Clarity:

- . Compression ratio
- . Codec
- . Scan type of source





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