# FEI Encoding Sample Design Notes

## Table of Contents

Ove	rview	2
Feat	ures	2
Soft	ware Requirements	2
How	to Build the Application	2
Desi	gn Notes	3
	Initialization of pipeline	3
	Pipeline execution	5
	DECODE	6
	VPP	6
	PREENC	6
	ENCODE	12
	ENCPAK	14
	Application-level reordering and iTask management	16
	Extension buffers management	17
	Frames allocation	18
	Reordering and references lists management	19
	Closing pipeline	21
Lega	al Information	22

#### Overview

# FEI Encoding Sample works with Intel® Media Server Studio 2018 R1 - SDK for Linux\* Server.

It demonstrates usage of **Media Server Studio – SDK** (hereinafter referred to as "**SDK**") API for creation of a simple console application that performs encoding of an uncompressed or compressed video streams according to a H.264 video compression standard. The sample uses SDK FEI API (Flexible Encoder Interface) and provides capability to stream internal encoder information during encoding process to specified output.

- ENCODE FEI H.264. This is extension of conventional encoding functionality described in SDK API Reference Manual. It covers all stages of encoding and produces encoded bitstream from original raw frames. It is performed by ENCODE class of functions.
- PREENC FEI H.264. PreENC pre encoding. As follow from the name it is preliminary step to gather MB level statistics, that later may be used for optimal encode configuration. This step may be used on its own for different kind of video processing, but usually it is followed by ENCODE step.
- ENC FEI H.264. This interface perform following encoding stages: Intra Prediction, Motion Estimation and Mode Decision. This step may be used on its own, but usually it is followed by PAK step.
- PAK FEI H.264. This interface perform following encoding stages: Transform; Quantization; Entropy Coding; generating Reconstruct Frames, which can be used by ENC; generating of output bitstream.

#### **Features**

#### **FEI Encoding Sample** supports the following video formats:

input (uncompressed/compressed)	YUV420, NV12, H.264 (AVC), MPEG2, VC1
output (compressed)	H.264 (AVC)

**Note**: For format YUV420, the **FEI Encoding Sample** assumes the order Y, U, V in the input file.

## Software Requirements

See <install-folder>/Media Samples Guide.pdf.

## How to Build the Application

See <install-folder>/Media\_Samples\_Guide.pdf.

### **Design Notes**

Sample FEI allows to build pipeline not only with FEI interfaces but with VPP and Decoder as well. Class CEncodingPipeline manages all pipelines.

From general perspective pipeline lifecycle looks as follows:

```
ParseInputString();
Pipeline -> Init();
Pipeline -> Run();
Pipeline -> Close();
```

## Initialization of pipeline

Initialization stage of the pipeline is performed by

CEncodingPipeline::Init(sInputParams \*pParams) and includes following:

• CEncodingPipeline::InitSessions Initializations of sessions with MFXVideoSession::Init.

Note: PREENC and ENC(+PAK) always executes in different sessions because they use same class of API functions (ENC). Normally all of the pipeline components are in  $m_mfxSession$ . But if PREENC and ENC(+PAK) or PREENC+DownSampling (via VPP) + VPP present in pipeline, PREENC (+VPP for DownSampling) executes in  $m_preenc_mfxSession$  (separate PreENC session).

Note:  $m_mfxSession$  also used to obtain unique id -  $m_BaseAllocID$  for allocator, it could be useful to distinguish several pools with equal frame sizes and types (no such pools in sample fei).

- CEncodingPipeline::CreateAllocator()
   Allocator creation. D3D9 memory supported (only FEI ENCODE supports system memory). Creation of HW device.
- Creation of all requested interfaces. Components passes back a
   m\_commonFrameInfo structure, which is mfxFrameInfo for ENCODE / ENCPAK
   interfaces, i.e. it contains settings of parameters, which will be used for actual
   encoding. It considers resizing and info from decoder if they are present. Also
   each of the interfaces initializes fields in AppConfig::PipelineCfg and uses
   some information from this section to get parameters from another
   interfaces.
- CEncodingPipeline::ResetMFXComponents
   Initialization of all interfaces present in pipeline: Decoder (here extension buffer for Decode StreamOut should be passed), VPP, (VPP for PREENC input frame downsampling), PREENC, ENCODE or ENC and PAK; and frame pools allocation.

Note: Currently sample fei works only with AsyncDepth = 1

• CEncodingPipeline::AllocFrames() (inside ResetMFXComponents) Frames allocation for all interfaces present in pipeline.

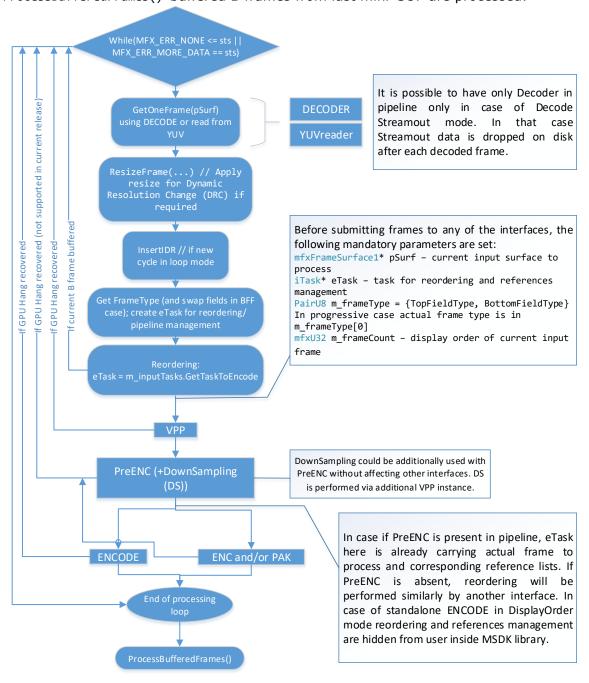
Note: ENCODE, ENC only, PREENC should have MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_ENC submemtype. PAK, ENC+PAK should have MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_ENC | MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_PAK submemtype.

Note: Entire pipeline shares same surface pool (but VPP requires additional pool for resized surfaces), if PAK is present in pipeline, it uses another pool for reconstruct surfaces.

- CEncodingPipeline::SetSequenceParameters
  Copy back adjusted parameters to pipeline if some of the interfaces did such adjustment. Fill encoding related parameters, i.e. number of macroblocks for ENCODE and PreENC, number of fields. Initialization of iTaskPool m\_inputTasks and iTaskParams m\_taskInitializationParams for task management (see Reordering and reference lists management sections for details).
- CEncodingPipeline::AllocExtBuffers
   Allocation of FEI Extension Buffers for interfaces.
   Sets of buffers are stored in bufList m\_preencBufs, m\_encodeBufs for PreENC and ENCODE respectively. For DECODE Streamout buffers are stored in std::vector<mfxExtFeiDecStreamOut\*> m StreamoutBufs.

## Pipeline execution

Function CEncodingPipeline::Run() is responsible for direct processing of input video sequence. It consists of one main loop where new income frame obtained and then passed towards entire pipeline of FEI and other MSDK interfaces. In function ProcessBufferedFrames() buffered B frames from last mini-GOP are processed.



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#### **DECODE**

Implemented by MFX DecodeInterface wrapper on MSDK decoder.

Provides decoder MFX interface functions proxy (Init, Close, Reset, QueryIOSurf, etc.).

```
mfxStatus MFX_DecodeInterface::FillParameters()
Fills internal mfxVideoParam and points PipelineCfg.pDecodeVideoParam to it.
```

mfxStatus MFX\_DecodeInterface::GetOneFrame(mfxFrameSurface1\* & pSurf)
Decodes one frame from input bitstream and points pSurf to it.

```
mfxStatus MFX DecodeInterface::ResetState()
```

Resets decoder to beginning of input stream. Used in loop mode processing.

Note: decode uses frames from ExtSurfPool\* m\_pSurfPool, which are owned by CEncodingPipeline. Also these frames have attached mfxExtFeiDecStreamOut in case of decode streamout.

Note: in case of DECODE + VPP in one session and not mixed-picstructs content, these two interfaces will use async mode, i.e. actual sync will be performed after VPP stage.

#### **VPP**

Implemented by MFX\_VppInterface wrapper on MSDK VPP.

Provides vpp MFX interface functions proxy (Init, Close, Reset, QueryIOSurf, etc.).

```
mfxStatus MFX VppInterface::FillParameters()
```

Fills internal mfxVideoParam and points m\_pAppConfig->PipelineCfg.pVppVideoParam to it.

```
mfxStatus MFX_VppInterface::VPPoneFrame(mfxFrameSurface1* pSurf_in,
mfxFrameSurface1* pSurf_out)
```

Perform VPP using pSurf in as input and pSurf out as output.

Note: in case of DECODE + VPP in one session and not mixed-picstructs content, these two interfaces will use async mode, i.e. actual sync will be performed after VPP stage.

#### **PREENC**

Sample\_fei uses FEI\_PreencInterface class as wrapper on FEI PreENC interface.

#### Class variables:

```
MFXVideoSession* m_pmfxSession - pointer to associated MFX session.
MFXVideoENC* m pmfxPREENC - PreENC FEI interface.
```

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```
- VPP for DownSampling (if required).
MFXVideoVPP*
                m pmfxDS
                                  - TaskPool managed by pipeline, used to get
                m inputTasks
iTaskPool*
reference tasks during multicall.
                                  - allocId associated with current interface.
mfxU32
                m allocId
mfxVideoParam
                                  - video parameters for PreENC.
                m videoParams
                                  - video parameters for DS VPP.
mfxVideoParam
                m DSParams
mfxVideoParam
                m FullResParams - video parameters for full-res frame (i.e. same
video parameters will use ENCODE)
                                    - PreENC extension buffers
bufList*
                m pExtBuffers
                m pEncExtBuffers - ENCODE extension buffers (used for
bufList*
predictors repacking).
AppConfig*
                m_pAppConfig
                                    - pipeline config
                                    - MSDK sync point
mfxSyncPoint
                m SyncPoint
bool
                m bSingleFieldMode - single/double field mode flag
                                   - strength of DownSampling (0 if none)
mfxU8
                m DSstrength
                                    - true if Motion Vectors output present
bool
                m bMVout
bool
                m bMBStatout
                                   - true if MB statistics output enabled
mfxExtFeiPreEncMV::mfxExtFeiPreEncMVMB m_tmpMVMB - temporary memory for
predictors repacking
FILE* m_pMvPred_in - for MV predictors input
FILE* m pMbQP in - for per-MB QP input
FILE* m_pMBstat_out - for MB statistics output
FILE* m pMV out - for Motion Vectors output
std::vector<mfxExtBuffer*> m InitExtParams - extension buffers for PreENC
initialization
std::vector<mfxExtBuffer*> m_DSExtParams - extension buffers for VPP (for
DownSampling) initialization
std::vector<mfxI16> m_tmpForMedian - temporary memory for median computation
Class functions:
mfxStatus FEI_PreencInterface::FillParameters()
Fills internal mfxVideoParam and points m pAppConfig->PipelineCfg.pPreencVideoParam
to it. Also allocates all required buffers for PreENC initialization and store it in
m InitExtParams. Initializes all file pointers.
mfxStatus FEI_PreencInterface::FillDSVideoParams()
Fills internal mfxVideoParam for DS VPP and points m_pAppConfig->PipelineCfg.
pDownSampleVideoParam to it.
void FEI PreencInterface::GetRefInfo(...)
Copies back encoding parameters after MSDK adjustments.
mfxStatus CEncodingPipeline::PreencOneFrame(iTask* eTask)
Takes reordered iTask* eTask as input and performs PreENC multicall on related
frame (if m DSstrength != 0 VPP invoked for downsampling and then resized frame
passed for multi call processing). After that output MVs repacked to predictors (if
```

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ENCODE interface present in pipeline) and output is flushed on disk (if requested). If GPU hang detected, MFX ERR GPU HANG status returned.

mfxStatus FEI PreencInterface::DownSampleInput(iTask\* eTask)

Downsamples input frame stored in eTask with VPP (full resolution frame is stored in eTask->fullResSurface, downsampled in eTask->in.InSurface).

mfxStatus FEI PreencInterface::ProcessMultiPreenc(iTask\* eTask)

Performs PreENC multi call on available references of current iTask\* eTask. If GPU hang is detected, MFX\_ERR\_GPU\_HANG status returned. After each processing of the frame, output buffers are stored in eTask->preenc\_output, for further repacking. See diagram for detailed function workflow.

Note: GPU Hang Recovery is not supported by PREENC in current release.

mfxStatus FEI\_PreencInterface::GetRefTaskEx(iTask \*eTask, mfxU8 10\_idx, mfxU8 11\_idx, mfxU8 refIdx[2][2], mfxU8 ref\_fid[2][2], iTask \*outRefTask[2][2])

This function takes current iTask \*eTask as input and returns reference tasks iTask \*outRefTask[2][2] ([id of field: 0 - first, 1 - second][0 - L0, 1 - L1 reference]) and its reference indexes iTask \*outRefTask[2][2] and parity mfxU8 ref\_fid[2][2] (this information is required for motion vectors to predictors repacking), that corresponds to mfxU8 10\_idx and mfxU8 11\_idx reference indexes (if some of the references are unavailable, corresponding values are zeroed).

Fills all mandatory structures for ProcessFrameAsync call. Also attaches free set of extension buffers (bufSet).

Note: for interlaces content two instances of each buffers required. First buffer corresponds to the first field, second one to second.

```
mfxStatus FEI PreencInterface::FlushOutput(iTask* eTask)
```

Flushes output buffers on disk if requested and -perf option wasn't provided.

```
mfxStatus FEI_PreencInterface::RepackPredictors(iTask* eTask)
```

Repacks PreENC Motion Vectors output to ENCODE predictors input. It chooses up to 4 best in terms of distortion L0 and L1 (independently) predictors for each of the macroblocks (independently) with calculating median of 16 MVs to form one predictor vector (median is calculated independently for x and y coordinate).

```
mfxStatus FEI PreencInterface::RepackPredictorsPerf(iTask* eTask)
```

Performs fast simplified repacking if –perf option specified. This algorithm uses up to 4 first predictors (without sorting by distortion) and first of 16 MVs (without median calculation, just taking MV with index 0).

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Note: with current limitation of 4 (= max{n\_Pref, n\_Brefs}) maximal references and 4 predictors for ENC/ENCODE, there is no need to choose 4 best in sample\_fei. Also our experiments shows that avoiding computing median and picking always first MV as predictor with PassPreEncMVPred2EncExPerf gives minor quality reduction against fair calculating of best predictor from 16 available MVs, with significant computing savings. Recommend to use -perf option for PREENC + ENC (ENCODE) pipelines.

```
void FEI_PreencInterface::UpsampleMVP(mfxExtFeiPreEncMV::mfxExtFeiPreEncMVMB *
preenc_MVMB, mfxU32 MBindex_DS, mfxExtFeiEncMVPredictors* mvp, mfxU32 predIdx,
mfxU8 refIdx, mfxU32 L0L1)
```

Upscales output PreENC motion vectors to corresponding full-resolution frame in case of processing on downsampled frames.

preenc\_MVMB - current MB on downsampled frame

MBindex DS - index of current MB

mvp - motion vectors predictors array for full-resolution frame predIdx - index of current predictor [0-3] (up to 4 is supported)

refIdx - index of current reference (for which predictor is applicable) in

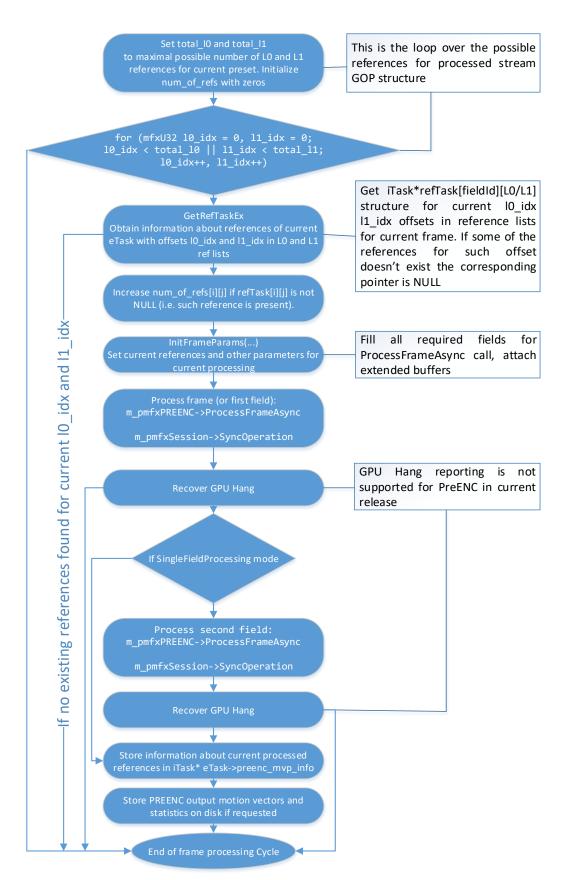
reference list

LOL1 - indicates list of references being processed [0-1] (0 - L0 list, 1- L1

list)

mfxStatus FEI PreencInterface::ResetState()

Reset state of PreENC to initial, i.e. before processing of first frame. Used in loop mode processing.



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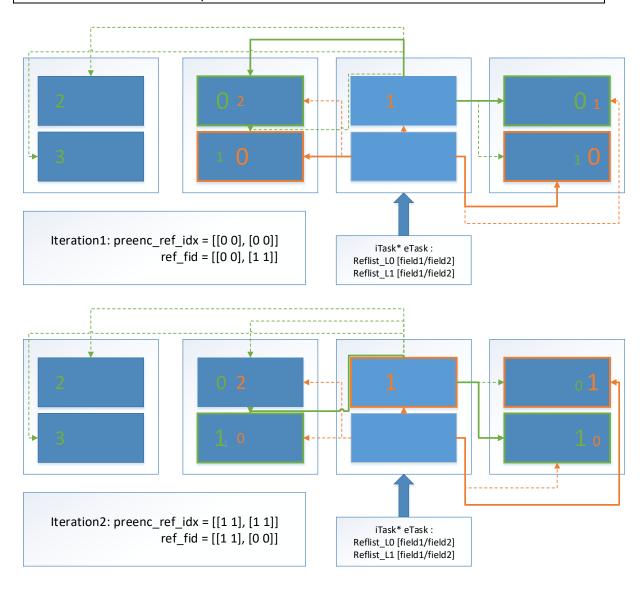
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The diagram below shows workflow of references estimation on interlaced stream with two backward reference frames and one forward (each frame-slot contains of two possible references).

For such preset the following steps will be taken:

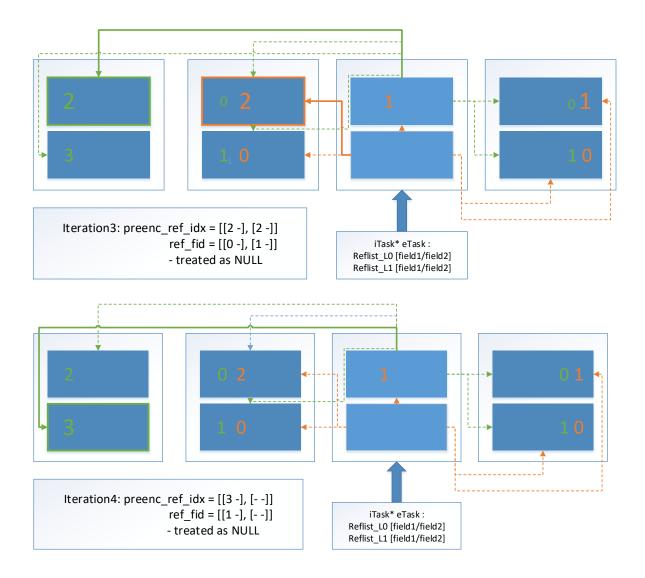
Note: dashed lines indicates inactive references in current PREENC call, solid – active. Green color is for top field references, orange – for bottom field references. Current frame is marked by arrow.



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At each iteration one L0 and/or one L1 reference processed.

Note: all L1 references processed at iterations 1 and 2, iterations 3 and 4 processing only L0 references.

## **ENCODE**

Sample\_fei uses FEI\_EncodeInterface class as wrapper on FEI ENCODE interface.

#### Class variables:

```
MFXVideoSession*m_pmfxSession- pointer to ENCODE's MFX session.MFXVideoENCODE*m_pmfxENCODE- FEI ENCODE.mfxEncodeCtrlm_encodeControl- ENCODE control structure.mfxVideoParamm_videoParams- ENCODE's video parameters.
```

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CSmplBitstreamWriter m\_FileWriter - bitstream writer.

```
FILE* m_pMvPred_in - MV predictors input file.

FILE* m_pENC_MBCtrl_in - per-MB control input file.

FILE* m_pMbQP_in - per-MB QP input file.

FILE* m_pRepackCtrl_in - repacking control input file.

FILE* m_pMBstat_out - macroblock statistics output file.

FILE* m_pMV_out - MV output file.

FILE* m_pMBcode out - MB code output file.
```

std::vector<mfxExtBuffer\*> m\_InitExtParams - vector of ENCODE's init extension
buffers.

std::vector<mfxI16> m\_tmpForMedian - temporary array for median calculation.
std::vector<mfxExtFeiPreEncMV::mfxExtFeiPreEncMVMB> m\_tmpForReading - temporary
array for PreENC MVs input, which will be repacked to predictors using fast repacking
algorithm.

mfxExtFeiEncMV::mfxExtFeiEncMVMB m\_tmpMBencMV - temporary memory initialized with 0x8000 to output as default value for I frames MVs.

#### Class functions:

```
mfxStatus FEI_EncodeInterface::FillParameters()
```

Fills internal mfxVideoParam and points m\_pAppConfig->PipelineCfg.pEncodeVideoParam to it. Also allocates all required buffers for ENCODE initialization and store it in m\_InitExtParams. Initializes all file pointers.

Note: If some custom deblocking parameters specified, they are passed with mfxExtFeiSliceHeader (one for each field) to Init() function.

```
void FEI_EncodeInterface::GetRefInfo(...)
```

Copies back encoding parameters after MSDK adjustments.

```
mfxStatus FEI_EncodeInterface::InitFrameParams(iTask* eTask)
```

Fills all mandatory structures for EncodeFrameAsync call. Also attaches free set of extension buffers (bufSet).

iTask\* eTask – current task to process. If ENCODE is in display order mode or if we drain buffered frames, this pointer is NULL.

Note: if ENCODE works in EncodedOrder mode, frame type for current input surface should be set in m\_encodeControl->FrameType.

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Note: output buffers in case of mixed picstructs streams can be used only without internal ENCODE reordering: i.e. in presets without B frames or with ENCODE in EncodedOrder mode, otherwise output buffers layout would be miss aligned with submitted frames.

Note: It is forbidden to use display-order mode with single-field option, because current MSDK architecture can't properly handle extension buffers for internally reordered frames.

```
mfxStatus FEI EncodeInterface::ResetState()
```

Reset state of ENCODE to initial, i.e. before encoding of first frame. Used in loop mode processing.

```
mfxStatus FEI_EncodeInterface::FlushOutput()
```

Flushes output buffers on disk if requested and -perf option wasn't provided.

```
mfxStatus FEI_EncodeInterface::EncodeOneFrame(iTask* eTask)
```

Encodes current frame. If current frame encoded successfully, writes new chunk of data to bitstream and flushes output buffers on disk.

iTask\* eTask – current task to process. During draining of internally reordered frames this pointer is NULL.

```
mfxStatus FEI_EncodeInterface::AllocateSufficientBuffer()
Allocates memory to extend bitstream, if required.
```

#### **ENCPAK**

sample\_fei uses FEI\_EncPakInterface class as wrapper on FEI ENC / FEI PAK interface. Implementation supports only ENC and only PAK cases, if some of the interfaces is not requested, corresponding pointer (m\_pmfxENC or m\_pmfxPAK) will be initialized as NULL.

#### Class variables:

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```
MFXVideoSession* m pmfxSession - pointer to ENC / PAK MFX session
                                - FEI ENC
MFXVideoENC*
                 m pmfxENC
                                - FEI PAK
MFXVideoPAK*
                 m pmfxPAK
                 m_inputTasks - list of tasks (for proper reference surfaces
iTaskPool*
detection)
mfxVideoParam m_videoParams_ENC - ENC's video parameters.
mfxVideoParam m_videoParams_PAK - PAK's video parameters.
                                  - allocId used to allocate surfaces.
              m allocId
mfxU32
bufList*
                                  - ENC / PAK extension buffers.
              m pExtBuffers
AppConfig*
              m_pAppConfig
                                  - pointer to CencodingPipeline's config.
mfxBitstream m mfxBS

    output bitstream.

                                  - ENC / PAK sync point.
mfxSyncPoint m_SyncPoint
              m bSingleFieldMode - true if ENC / PAK is in sigle-field processing
bool
mode.
RefInfo
              m RefInfo - structure that holds current DPB / Reflists configuration
(required for proper filling of PPS/SliceHeader extension buffers).
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                                                                          Page 14 of 23
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```

CSmplBitstreamWriter m FileWriter - bitstream writer

```
FILE* m_pMvPred_in - MV predictors input file.

FILE* m_pENC_MBCtrl_in - per-MB control input file.

FILE* m_pMbQP_in - per-MB QP input file.

FILE* m_pRepackCtrl_in - repacking control input file.

FILE* m_pMBstat_out - macroblock statistics output file.

FILE* m_pMV_out - MV output file.

FILE* m_pMBcode_out - MB code output file.
```

std::vector<mfxExtBuffer\*> m\_InitExtParams\_ENC, m\_InitExtParams\_PAK - vectors of ENC and PAK extension buffers used on Init stage.

std::vector<mfxI16> m\_tmpForMedian - temporary array for median calculation.
std::vector<mfxExtFeiPreEncMV::mfxExtFeiPreEncMVMB> m\_tmpForReading - temporary
array for PreENC MVs input, which will be repacked to predictors using fast repacking
algorithm.

mfxExtFeiEncMV::mfxExtFeiEncMVMB m\_tmpMBencMV - temporary memory initialized with 0x8000 to output as default value for I frames MVs.

#### Class functions:

```
mfxStatus FEI_EncodeInterface::FillParameters()
Fills internal mfxVideoParam for ENC and PAK, points m_pAppConfig-
>PipelineCfg.pEncVideoParam and m_pAppConfig->PipelineCfg.pPakVideoParam to them.
Also allocates all required buffers for ENC and PAK initialization and store it in
m_InitExtParams_ENC and m_InitExtParams_PAK. Initializes all file pointers.
```

Note: if mfxExtFeiSPS and mfxExtFeiPPS FEI extension buffers passed to Init, they override default MSDK settings for SPS and PPS buffers. mfxExtFeiSPS is unsupported during runtime. mfxExtFeiPPS is supported during runtime. Init settings of mfxExtFeiSPS and mfxExtFeiPPS should be identical for ENC and PAK. Only one instance of each buffer should be passed during Init.

```
void FEI_EncodeInterface::GetRefInfo(...)
Copies back encoding parameters after MSDK adjustments.
```

```
mfxStatus FEI_EncodeInterface::InitFrameParams(iTask* eTask)
Fills all mandatory structures for ProcessFrameAsync call. Also attaches free set of extension buffers (bufSet) to eTask.
```

Note: mfxExtFeiPPS and mfxExtFeiSliceHeader extension buffers are mandatory for encoding. mfxExtFeiPPS holds DPB state (state for the moment before current frame encoding and after it), and mfxExtFeiSliceHeader holds current LO and L1 references lists (different reference lists per-slice within frame is unsupported). One buffer per-field should be passed in double-field mode and one buffer set for only current field in single-field mode.

Note: DPB state in mfxU16 mfxExtFeiPPS::DpbBefore[16], DpbAfter[16] .Index are simply indexes in mfxFrameSurface1\* mfxPAKInput::L0Surface array, 0xffff value of .Index indicates end of DPB.

Note: LongTerm references are not supported now, so all of the LongTermFrameIdx should be set to 0xffff.

Note: Reference lists are stored in mfxExtFeiSliceHeader::Slice::RefL0 (RefL1) in terms of indexes in mfxFrameSurface1\* mfxPAKInput::L0Surface array.

Note: MSDK will construct MMCO to translate DpbBefore to DpbAfter (if default sliding window algorithm is applicable to translate DpbBefore to DpbAfter no MMCO will be inserted).

Note: If DpbAfter is empty and DpbBefore – not, MSDK will insert multiple MMCO ST TO UNUSED (1), but not MMCO ALL TO UNUSED (6).

mfxStatus FEI EncodeInterface::ResetState()

Reset state of ENC and/or PAK to initial, i.e. before encoding of first frame. Used in loop mode processing.

mfxStatus FEI EncodeInterface::FlushOutput()

Flushes output buffers on disk if requested and -perf option wasn't provided.

mfxStatus FEI EncPakInterface::EncPakOneFrame(iTask\* eTask)

Encodes current frame from eTask. If encoding succeed, writes new chunk of data to bitstream (if PAK is present) and flushes output buffers on disk.

mfxStatus FEI\_EncodeInterface::AllocateSufficientBuffer()

Allocates memory to extend bitstream, if required.

mfxStatus FEI EncPakInterface::FillRefInfo(iTask\* eTask)

Extracts DPB state and references lists configuration from eTask and stores it in RefInfo m RefInfo for further filling mfxExtFeiSliceHeader and mfxExtFeiPPS.

Note: ENC + PAK in double-field mode may produce heavy second field in case of inter-field references within frame, because reconstruct for first field is not generated yet. To avoid such issue please use single-field mode. In general it is strictly recommended to use single-field mode for interlaced encoding.

## Application-level reordering and iTask management

Sample\_fei uses iTaskPool m\_inputTasks for general pipeline encoding management: reordering and references lists construction. It consists of both: already processed tasks, which could be used as references (DPB), and reordered tasks awaiting encoding. iTasks are created for each incoming frame. They store all information required for encoding, reordering and reference lists management.

The lifecycle of iTask\* eTask is the following:

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Page 16 of 23

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- If manual reordering required, new iTask\* is created and stored into m\_inputTasks.
- To get reordered task to encode iTask\* GetTaskToEncode(bool buffered\_frames\_processing) is called. If such task is found, its DPB and reflists are configured and task is returned to main encoding loop. If task is not found (B frames are buffering at the moment) NULL pointer is returned and new income frame requested. buffered\_frames\_processing indicates processing of previously buffered task: last B frame could be converted to P. For FEI ENCODE in display-order mode reordering is skipped and last added frame returned.

Note: at this moment iTask\* eTask holds some of the previously submitted frames and may not correspond to current income frame for presets with B frames because of reordering.

- Then obtained task is passed towards the pipeline to all of the created interfaces.
- After successful processing by all of the interfaces, iTaskPool::UpdatePool() is invoked to remove already processed tasks that is not in DPB of last processed task.

Note: VPP stage is performed before new task creation.

Note: last frame could be a B frame, so it won't have forward reference. The default behavior is to convert such frame to P frame. If MFX\_GOP\_STRICT flag set, conversion won't be applied and such frame will be encoded as B frame with equal L0 and L1 references.

## Extension buffers management

sample\_fei uses extension buffers management for flexible control of input and output for FEI interfaces.

Buffers for current frames are held in iTask's fields: bufSet\* bufs for ENCPAK and bufSet\* preenc bufs for PREENC.

All sets are allocated in CEncodingPipeline::AllocExtBuffers() according to user's request and stored in CencodingPipeline:: bufList m\_preencBufs (for PREENC), m\_encodeBufs (for ENCODE/ENCPAK). Pointers to these buffers passed to FEI PreencInterface and FEI EncodeInterface / FEI EncPakInterface constructors.

bufSet uses boolean field vacant for indication whether current buffer set is in use.

Buffers obtained by components with bufSet\* bufList::GetFreeSet() inside InitFrameParams. Such set will be marked as occupied and added to current iTask.

Inside iTask destructor (which will be invoked during iTaskPool::UpdatePool()) all associated bufSets will be marked as vacant and will be reused in next encodings.

Note: for FEI ENCODE in display order mode buffers set will be released when corresponding input surface is free (i.e. mfxFrameSurface1::Data.Locked == NInputLockers, i.e. locker is restored to default value assigned to frame in iTask constructor).

iTask uses class bufSetController for unified extension buffers management in double/single field mode.

```
std::vector<mfxExtBuffer *> * GetBuffers(mfxU16 interf, mfxU32 field, bool
input)
```

Returns set of buffers to use in current encoding call.

```
mfxU16 interf - FEI interface (PREENC, ENC, PAK, ENCODE are mapped to
corresponding enum)

mfxU32 field - field to encode (0 - first / progressive, 1 - second)

bool input - true if input buffers requested, otherwise output buffers set is
returned
```

Note: PreENC always require 2 sets of buffers for interlaced content. Other FEI interfaces use one set in single-field mode.

```
Buffers sets itself are stored in two-dimensional arrays: preenc_in[2], preenc_out[2] - for PreENC input/output. enc_in[2], enc_out[2] - for ENC (or ENCODE) input/output. pak in[2], pak out[2] - for PreENC input/output.
```

For progressive content and in double-field mode all buffers are stored under 0 index. In single-field mode under index 0 buffers for first field are tored, under index 1 – for second.

Note: PreENC is an exception, it always store all the buffers under index 0. PreENC performs downsampling of entire input surface (same for reference surfaces, if they are not found in cache) during which, part of statistics is calculated for both fields.

#### Frames allocation

Allocation of frames performed in CEncodingPipeline::AllocFrames()

The logic of surface pools allocation takes into account following rules:

- PREENC input surfaces requires memory type MFX MEMTYPE FROM ENC
- VPP requires two pools: input and output
- DECODE surfaces requires memory type MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_DECODE
- Input surfaces for FEI interfaces requires memory type

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- Without VPP (and DownSampling) whole pipeline shares same surfaces pool
- ENC and PAK require separate pool for reconstruct surfaces
- Input surfaces require the following types:

PAK: MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_PAK | MFX\_MEMTYPE\_EXTERNAL\_FRAME
ENC: MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_ENC | MFX\_MEMTYPE\_EXTERNAL\_FRAME
ENC + PAK: MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_ENC | MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_PAK |
MFX\_MEMTYPE\_EXTERNAL\_FRAME - to share pool between ENC and PAK

Reconstruct surfaces require following types:

PAK: MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_PAK | MFX\_MEMTYPE\_INTERNAL\_FRAME ENC: MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_ENC | MFX\_MEMTYPE\_INTERNAL\_FRAME ENC + PAK: MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_ENC | MFX\_MEMTYPE\_FROM\_PAK | MFX\_MEMTYPE\_INTERNAL\_FRAME - to share pool between ENC and PAK

#### Examples:

- Pipeline YUVreader/DECODE + PREENC + ENCODE will have one shared pool
- Pipeline YUVreader/DECODE + VPP + PREENC + ENCODE will have two surface pools: one for part before VPP and second one for part after VPP
- Pipeline YUVreader/DECODE + VPP1 + VPP2(DS)+PREENC + ENCODE will
  have three surface pools: one for the part before VPP1; second one for VPP1
  output, VPP2 and ENCODE input; the third one is for VPP2 output and PreENC
- Pipeline YUVreader/DECODE + VPP + DS+PREENC + ENCPAK will have three surface pools: one for the part before VPP1; second one for VPP1 output, VPP2 and ENCODE input; the third one is for VPP2 output and PreENC; forth pool to store PAK reconstruct surfaces

## Reordering and references lists management

#### Reordering

Reordering of frames performed inside iTaskPool::GetReorderedTask(bool buffered frames processing) in accordance with H.264 coding standard.

bool buffered\_frames - indicates processing of last GOP, last B frame without L1 reference will be converted to P, if GOP optimization option MFX\_GOP\_STRICT not provided.

Returned iTask\* holds current task to process. During buffering of B frames from first mini-GOP NULL returned and new income frame requested.

#### Reference lists management

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iTask holds information about DPB state before and after encoding of current frame, this information used to construct L0 and L1 reference lists according to H.264 standard, with respect to limitations of reference frames counts and DPB-size, provided by user.

The reflists construction itself is performed by four functions: UpdateDpbFrames, InitRefPicList, ModifyRefPicLists, MarkDecodedRefPictures.

Whole configuration of iTask for encoding is performed in iTask\*
iTaskPool::GetTaskToEncode(bool buffered\_frames\_processing) with following steps:

- iTask\* iTaskPool::GetReorderedTask(bool buffered\_frames\_processing) Where performed reordering and obtained iTask to encode.
- Filled required for reordering information:

```
m dpb[2]; // DPB state before encoding first and second
   ArrayDpbFrame
   fields
                  m dpbPostEncoding; // DPB after encoding a frame (or 2
   ArrayDpbFrame
   fields)
                  m_list0[2]; // L0 list for first and second field
   ArrayU8x33
   ArrayU8x33
                  m_list1[2]; // L1 list for first and second field
   PairU8
                            // type of first and second field
                  m type;
   mfxU8
                  m fid[2]; // progressive fid=[0,0]; tff fid=[0,1]; bff
   fid=[1,0]
   mfxU8
                  m_fieldPicFlag; // is interlaced frame
   PairI32
                  m_poc;
                                 // POC of first and second field
   mfxU32 m_frameOrderIdr; // most recent IDR frame in display order
   mfxU32 m_frameOrderI;
                             // most recent I frame in display order
   mfxU32 m_frameOrder;
                             // current frame order in display order
   mfxU16 NumRefActiveP; // limits of active
   mfxU16 NumRefActiveBL0; // references for
   mfxU16 NumRefActiveBL1; // reflists management

    void UpdateDpbFrames(iTask& task, mfxU32 field, mfxU32 frameNumMax)

   Update m picNum for each frame in DPB.
```

- void InitRefPicList(iTask& task, mfxU32 field)
   Initialize reference lists form current DPB state according to H.264 standard.
- void ModifyRefPicLists(mfxVideoParam& video, iTask& task, mfxU32 fieldId)
   Adjust lists to current limitations: remove references to previous POC
   (i.e. each I frame is entry point; that's not true for interlaced content
   due to issue in MSDK relists management logic, fix is upcoming); adjust
   size of each list to user limitation of active references.

Note: for interlaced case field of same parity should be the first entry in reference list. Swap of first two entries performed if required. This is hardware limitation for HSW.

void MarkDecodedRefPictures(mfxVideoParam& video, iTask& task, mfxU32 fid)
 Update DPB if processing frame is reference frame.

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• Repeat call of UpdateDpbFrames, InitRefPicList, ModifyRefPicLists for second field in case of interlaced content encoding.

Note: no need for another call of MarkDecodedRefPictures as second field processing doesn't change DPB.

## Closing pipeline

Inside of CEncodingPipeline::Close():

- Delete all created interfaces.
- Close MFX sessions.
- Delete allocated frames.
- Close and delete allocator.
- Release all allocated resources: Clear iTaskPool, delete all allocated extension buffers (inside CEncodingPipeline::ReleaseResources()).
- Delete HW device.

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Page 22 of 23

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