

Multimedia Systems

Multimedia delivery

Dr. Yi-Zhe Song

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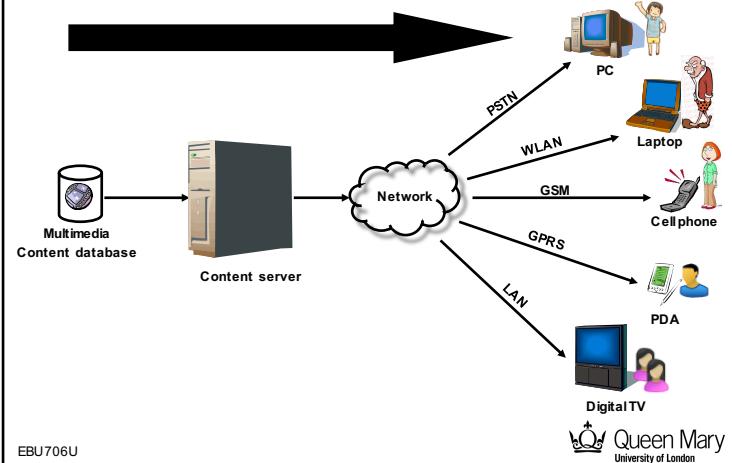
Today's agenda

- Motivation
- Adaptive content delivery: state of the art
 - Info pyramid
 - Scalable coding
 - Transcoding
- Video analysis for content adaptation
 - Semantic pre-filtering
 - Evaluation
- Image and video quality
 - Definition of the problem
 - Applications
 - Metrics

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Scenario



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Motivation 1: personalisation

- Diffusion of network appliances
 - cellular phones
 - PDAs
 - hand-held computers, ...
- Problem: how to adapt the media transmission to
 - **Device** capabilities
 - display
 - processing power
 - **Network** characteristics
 - bandwidth
 - **User** preferences
 - in accessing the same multimedia content

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Motivation 2: enhanced applications

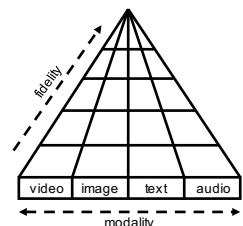
- Intelligent surveillance
 - Summarisation
 - Interpretation (event detection)
 - Indexing
 - Privacy preservation
 - Adaptation (mobile surveillance)
- Sport broadcasting
 - Instantaneous indexing
 - Avatars
 - Highlights detection

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Info Pyramid

- Content is processed many times
 - Generation of **variations**
 - Server selects most appropriate variation
- Variations: different versions of media objects with
 - Different **modalities**
 - Video
 - Image
 - Text
 - Audio
 - Different **fidelities**
 - Summarised
 - Compressed
 - Scaled variations



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Scalable coding

- Content is processed only once
 - **Truncation** of the bit-stream
- Scalability
 - **Quality**
 - Varying accuracies in the colour pattern (quantization)
 - **Spatial**
 - Varying spatial resolutions
 - **Temporal**
 - Varying temporal resolutions or frame rate
 - **Frequency**
 - Different frequency components in each layer (DCT or wavelets)

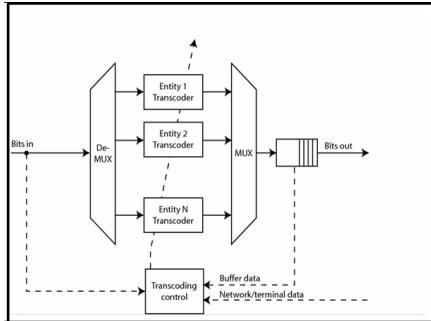
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don't want to code everything

Transcoding

- Compressed content is converted into another signal with **different properties**



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Transcoding

- Content-blind** transcoding
 - Independent of the semantics in the content
 - Reduction of
 - Spatial resolution
 - Temporal resolution
 - Bit-rate
- Content-aware** transcoding
 - Minimise the degradation of important image regions
 - bit-rate budget → controlled by *difficulty hint* of each object
 - frame skip → controlled by *shape hint*



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Transcoding

- Intra-media** transcoding
 - Do not change the media nature of the input signal
- Inter-media** transcoding (trans-moding)
 - Process of converting one media input into another media format
 - Speech to text
 - Video to text
 - ...

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Eye movements

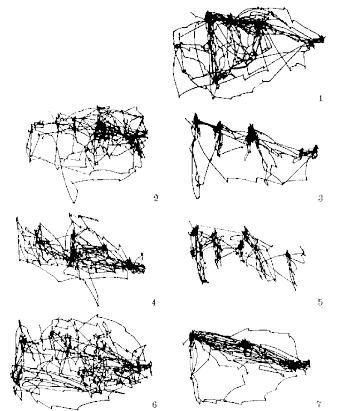


Yarbus (1967)

- saccadic pattern

Bajcsy (1988)

- we do not see, we look



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Video adaptation strategies

Content-blind



Coded original sequence

Spatial resolution reduction

Content-aware



Background simplification

Video enhancement

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Background simplification

- Simplification of image areas that do not attract observer's attention (background)
 - To improve **compression ratio**
 - To **enhance** objects



Lowpass
filtering



Macroblock
DC value



Edge image



Uniform
background

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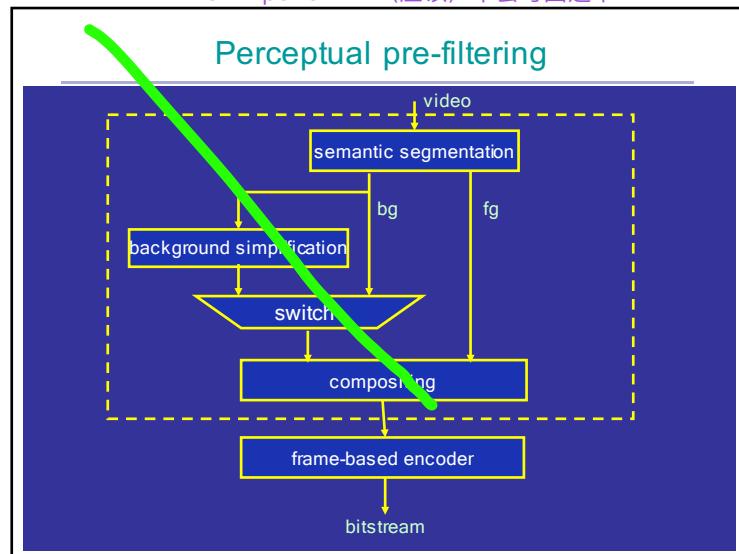
Perceptual pre-filtering

- Perceptual pre-filtering
 - **decomposition** of the scene into meaningful objects prior to encoding
 - foreground → regions of interest
 - background → eliminated (i.e., set to a constant value) or simplified
 - takes advantage of task-oriented behavior of **Human Visual System**
- Objective
 - to help support low-bandwidth transmission
 - to improve perceived quality or compression ratio by
 - enhancing relevant portions of a video
 - simplifying contextual information

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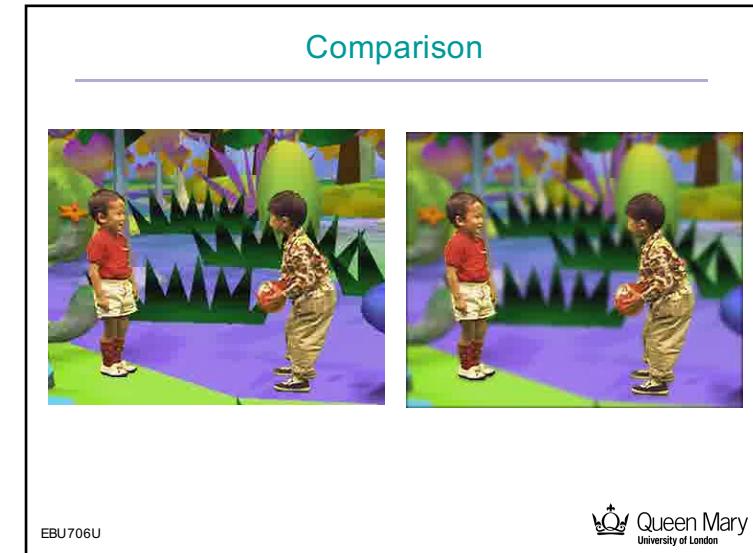
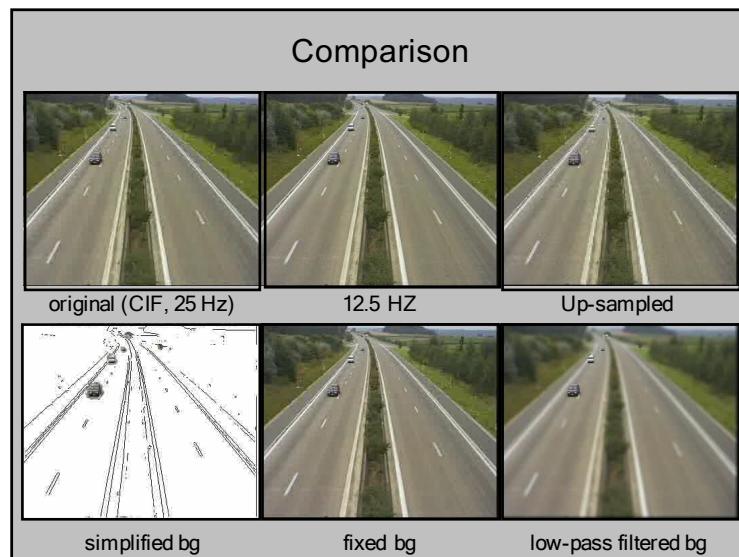
not important... (应该) 不会考画这个



Subjective evaluation - details



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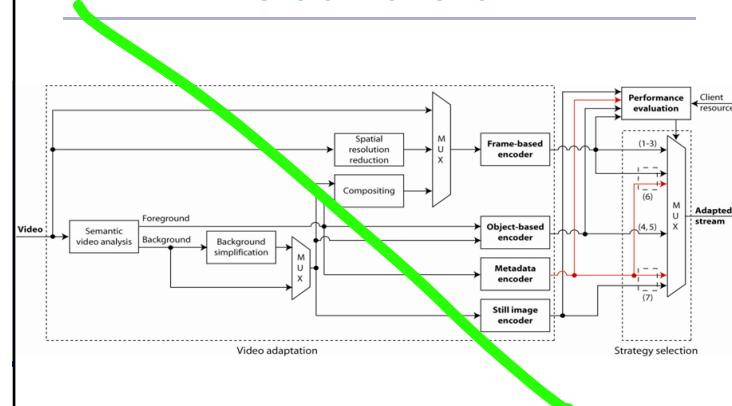
Comparison



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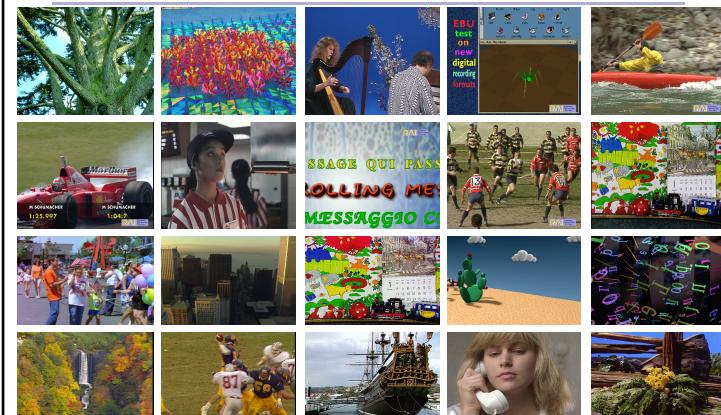
Overall framework



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- **Image and video quality**
 - Definition of the problem
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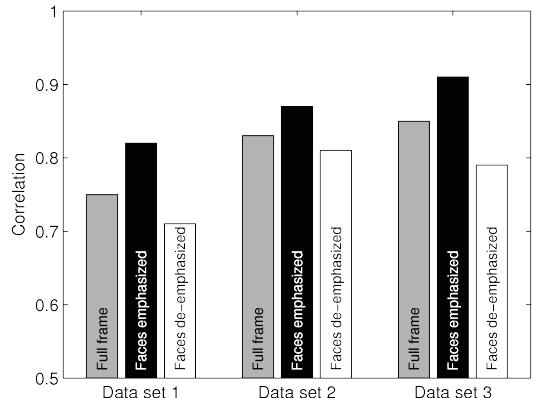
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Special case: faces



ELEM006

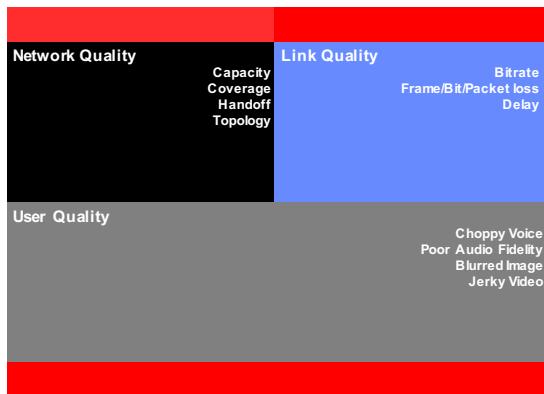


What is quality?

- Quality
 - One of the fundamental parameters in any system design
 - Related to the notion of **distortion** as a result of various signal processing
 - Key point in most optimization problems
 - If you cannot **measure** quality, how can you optimize it?



Quality framework



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Distortions

- Pre- or post-processing
 - De-interlacing
 - Frame rate conversion
 - Quantization
 - Sampling
 - Rendering, ...



Distortions

- Lossy compression
 - Blockiness
 - Bluriness
 - Noise
 - Jerkiness, ...
- Transmission (over lossy channels) and storage
 - Transmission errors (interference, ...)
 - Bit errors
 - Packet loss, ...
- ...

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Applications

- Codec evaluation and comparison
- End-to-end testing and tuning of transmission systems
- Compression system parameter tuning
- Encoder optimization
- Restoration
- Enhancement
- Noise removal
- ...

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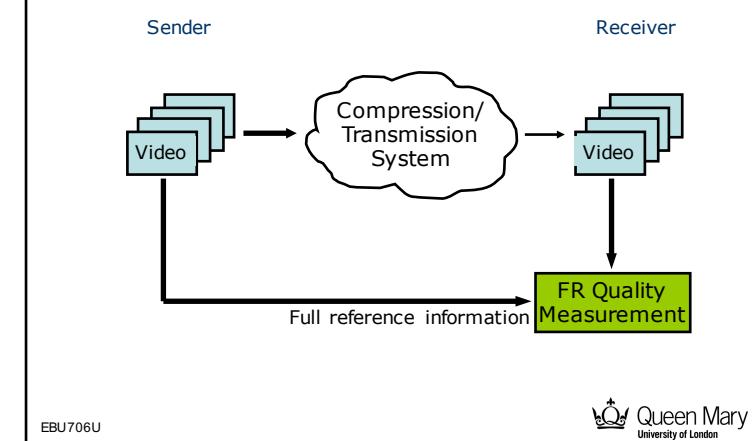
Bit-based metrics

- MSE/PSNR
 - Difference to reference video
 - Pixel-based
 - Mediocre quality predictors
- Network QoS
 - Bit error rate, packet loss ratio, etc.
 - Bit-/packet-based
- Limitations
 - Ignorant of **content**
 - Meaningless without **perception**

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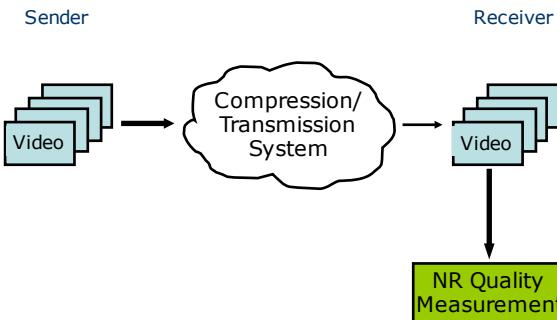
Full-reference metric



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No-reference metric



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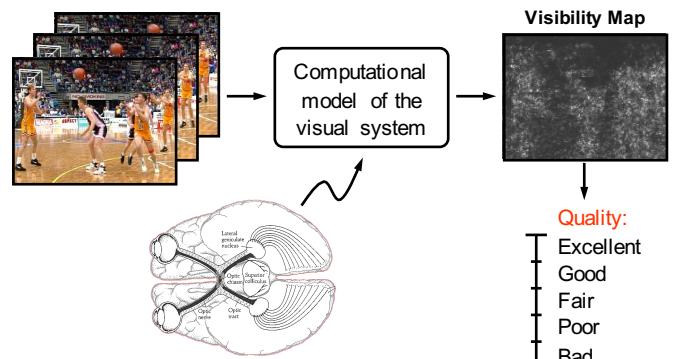
Limitations ...

- MSE/PSNR: believed to be a mediocre predictor
- Subjective quality assessment (Mean Opinion Score – MOS)
 - Many observers needed
 - Careful setup and control
 - Time-consuming, expensive
- Is there a way to design a more accurate objective quality metric?
 - Model of the human perception
 - Human Visual System
 - Human Auditory System
 - ...

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Visual quality assessment



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Human visual system

- Perceptual channels, tuned in
 - Temporal frequency
 - Spatial frequency
 - Orientation
 - Colour
- Phenomena:
 - Colour perception
 - Contrast sensitivity
 - Pattern masking
 - Integration

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Quality metric evaluation

- Reference: subjective data
- Mapping of metrics' predictions to average subjective ratings
- Statistical analysis
 - Non-linear correlation
 - Rank order
 - Outliers
- VQEG (Video Quality Experts Group)
 - Evaluation of objective video quality metrics
 - Production of test sequences
 - Subjective rating experiments
 - Participants: industry, universities

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VQEG Subjective tests

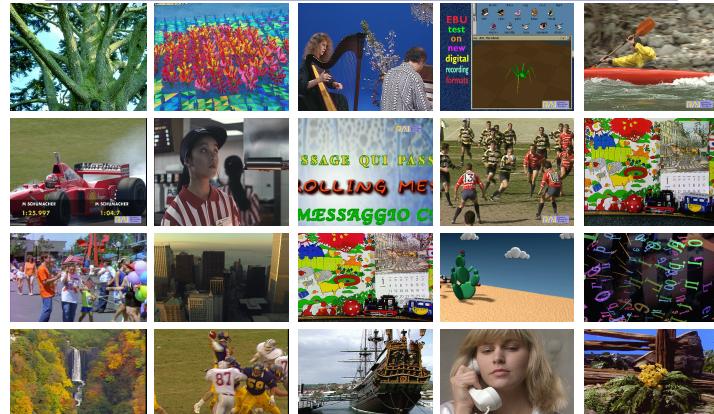
- Method
 - DSCQS (ITU-R Rec. 500)
 - Source, processed sequence are shown
 - Viewers rate both on a continuous scale from "bad" to "excellent" (0-100)
- Subjective testing
 - 8 labs in Europe, Japan, North America (26,000 scores recorded)
 - No universal metrics among proposals
 - YUV-PSNR performs well:
 - PSNR usually computed on uncalibrated RGB
 - Calibrated setting
 - One particular viewing setup
 - Sequence normalization
- Objective quality metrics is still an **open problem**

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VQEG scenes



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Quality assessment methods: summary

- Subjective quality assessment
 - Reference & benchmark
 - Standardized procedures (ITU)
 - Many observers, careful setup
 - Time-consuming, expensive
- Objective quality metrics
 - Bit-based
 - Models of the human visual system
 - Specialized artifact metrics

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What did we learn today?

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Multimedia Systems

Multimedia content annotation

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YouTube

Broadcast Yourself™ Home Videos Channels

"three students bored while listening to lecture" results 1 - 6 of about 6

All Channels Playlists Sort by: Relevance ▾ Uploaded: Anytime ▾ Type: All ▾

-  Class Presentation - "the unit I hate most at University"
something it ain totally bad When the **lecture** got **bored** I would write some rap
Peace By Makio written - 3 march 2008 n how is it like in the ...
★★★★★ 1 year ago 1,089 views 13makio 2:41
-  The Boy Next Door~!-[Chapter 22 "I have much ..."
disturbing classes? You no better" I shrugged and didnt really **listen** to her whole
lecture about what I did. Tha was until she said something ...
★★★★★ 8 months ago 555 views JessLovesJB19 0:05
-  B-Rhymin - That Goose Shit
so i asked him, what happened then? he told me the story and it **bored** me so i feel
asleep next thing i know im counting sheep i mean ...
★★★★★ 8 months ago 273 views bgomz 3:40

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Outline

- MPEG-7: multimedia content description interface
 - Metadata
 - XML description
 - Examples of applications
- Multimedia analysis for content indexing
 - Framework for adaptive delivery based on objects
 - Universal Multimedia Access
 - Content summarisation
 - Content more searchable
 - Improved visualisation
 - Event detection
 - Privacy-preserving surveillance

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semantic data

Metadata

- Metadata  Data about data  raw data
- Metadata types
 - **Low-level** (content-based metadata)
 - low-level features extracted from the content (images, video, audio)
 - **High-level** (semantic metadata)
 - semantics or concepts linked to the content

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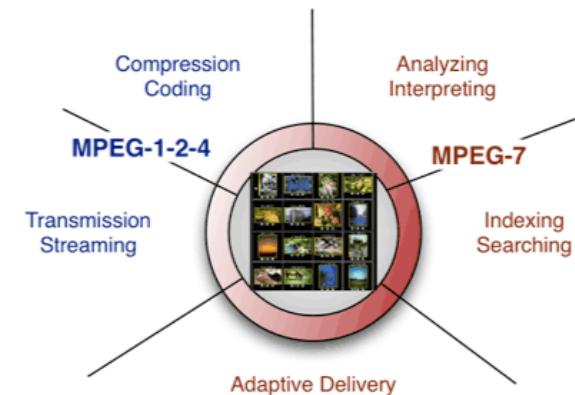
MPEG-7

- MPEG-7 is the international standard for "Multimedia Content Description" and it has been ratified by ISO in 2001. Unlike the more popular MPEG-2 and MPEG-4, MPEG-7 is not concerned with video compression and reproduction but with its content. MPEG-7 is not an alternative to any of the MPEG standards used for compression but complementing them and providing video with "meaning", in the form of standardized video annotations as metadata.

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MPEG standards



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MPEG-7: The Context

- Increasing availability of multimedia information
 - More and more people wanting to find **specific** multimedia information
- Difficult to get what you need:
 - searching on the **web**
 - selecting one of the many **TV** programs
 - browsing in your own **home database**
- Systems for searching exist on the web, but
 - mostly for textual information
 - difficult to use for 'non-engineers'
- MPEG7:**
 - Well organised XML structure that is instantiated by the values of the features extracted from the multimedia data.
 - XML structure is easy to search, especially if it has **been standardised**.

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MPEG-7: applications

- Browsing and retrieval of audiovisual databases
 - image, film, radio archives
- Surveillance
 - traffic control, production chains
- Intelligent multimedia presentations
- E-commerce and Tele-shopping
 - searching for clothes / patterns
- Journalism
 - searching for events, persons
- Education, telemedicine, bio-medical applications
- Personalized television services

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“where MPEG7 is best used for?”

XML is the father/instantiation of HTML and MPEG7

What is XML ??

- XML stands for EXtensible Markup Language
 - XML became a W3C Recommendation 10. February 1998.
 - XML is a markup language much like HTML
 - XML was designed to carry data, not to display data
 - XML tags are not predefined. You must define your own tags
 - XML is designed to be self-descriptive
- XML provides a way to structure data using a simple grammar.
- XML structures data based upon meaning, not appearance.
- XML has two components:
 - tags, used to mark the structure of the data
 - the data itself



XML & Format

- XML was created to structure, store, and transport information.
- It is just plain text. Software that can handle plain text can also handle XML.
- It is just pure information wrapped in tags. Someone must write a piece of software to send, receive or display it.
- XML-aware applications can handle the XML tags specially. The functional meaning of the tags depends on the nature of the application.

A first example (a letter):

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>

<greeting style="informal">
  <from>Chris Bates</from>
  <to>Mr. M. Mouse</to>
  <message>Hi, how are you doing?</message>
  <signature />
</greeting>
```

The same in HTML ...

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>The XML Sample Written in HTML</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h2>Chris Bates</h2>
    <h2>Mr. M. Mouse</h2>
    <p>Hi, how are you doing?</p>
  </body>
</html>
```

Audio Descriptor-Example

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
<!-- TU Berlin Audio Analyzer v1.0 http://www.nue.tu-berlin.de/forschung/projekte/mpeg7/ -->
<Mpeg7 xmlns="urn:mpeg:mpeg7:schema:2001"
    xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    xsi:schemaLocation="urn:mpeg:mpeg7:schema:2001 Mpeg7-2001.xsd">
  <Description xsi:type="ContentEntityType">
    <MultimediaContent xsi:type="AudioType">
      <Audio xsi:type="AudioSegmentType">
        <AudioDescriptor xsi:type="AudioSpectrumFlatnessType" loEdge="250.0" hiEdge="600.0">
          <SeriesOfVector hopSize="PT30N1000F" vectorSize="s" totalNumOfSamples="1" >
            <Raw mpeg7dim="1 5"> 0.964695 0.967765 0.730609 0.288267 0.132297
          </Raw>
        </SeriesOfVector>
      </AudioDescriptor>
      </Audio>
    </MultimediaContent>
  </Description>
</Mpeg7>
```

Own Tags

- The tags in the example above are not defined in any XML standard. These tags are "invented" by the author of the MPEG-7 Audio Description DDL.
- XML language has no predefined tags.
- XML allows the author to define his own tags and his own document structure.
- The tags used in HTML (and the structure of HTML) are predefined. HTML documents can only use tags defined in the HTML standard (like `<p>`, `<h1>`, etc.).

XML image description



Unstructured news image

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XML image description



```
Title
<StillRegion id = "news">
</StillRegion>
```

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XML image description



Spatial decomposition

```
<StillRegion id = "news">
  <SegmentDecomposition
    decompositionType = "spatial">
    <StillRegion id = "background">
    <StillRegion id = "speaker">
    <StillRegion id = "topic">
  </SegmentDecomposition>
</StillRegion>
```



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XML image description



More features

```
<StillRegion id = "news">
  <SegmentDecomposition
    decompositionType = "spatial">
    <StillRegion id = "background">
    <StillRegion id = "speaker">
      <TextAnnotation>
        <FreeTextAnnotation> Journalist Judite Sousa
        </FreeTextAnnotation>
      </TextAnnotation>
      <SpatialMask> the red silhouette
        <Poly>
          <Coords> 80 288 100 200 ... 352 288 </Coords>
        </Poly>
      </SpatialMask>
    <StillRegion id = "topic">
  </SegmentDecomposition>
</StillRegion>
```

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high level

考试题型



Background feature

```
<StillRegion id = "news">
  <SegmentDecomposition
    decompositionType = "spatial">
    <StillRegion id = "background">
      <DominantColor> 10 10 250
      </DominantColor>
    <StillRegion id = "speaker">
    <StillRegion id = "topic">
  </SegmentDecomposition>
</StillRegion>
```

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XML image description



```
<StillRegion id = "news">
  <SegmentDecomposition decompositionType = "spatial">
    <StillRegion id = "background">
      <DominantColor> 10 10 250 </DominantColor>
    <StillRegion id = "speaker">
      <TextAnnotation>
        <FreeTextAnnotation> Journalist Judite Sousa
        </FreeTextAnnotation>
      </TextAnnotation>
      <SpatialMask>
        <Poly>
          <Coords> 5 25 10 20 15 15 10 10 5 15 </Coords>
        </Poly>
      </SpatialMask>
    <StillRegion id = "topic">
  </SegmentDecomposition>
</StillRegion>
```

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12

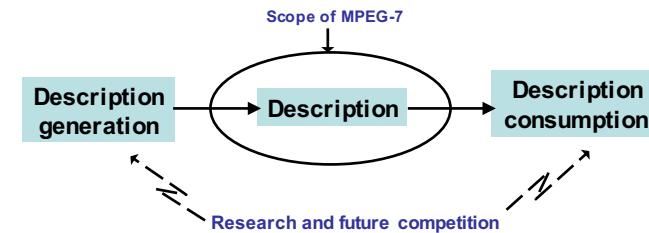
MPEG-7: the objective

- Standardize a **content-based description** of various types of multimedia information
 - allowing **quick and efficient search**
 - addressing a large range of multimedia applications
- MPEG-1, -2, -4:** represent the content itself → 'the bits'
- MPEG-7:** represent information about the content → 'the bits about the bits'

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MPEG-7: the scope



- The **description generation** (feature extraction, indexing process, annotation & authoring tools,...) and **consumption** (search engine, filtering tool, retrieval process, browsing device, ...) are **non normative parts of MPEG-7**.
- The goal is to define the **minimum that enables interoperability**

don't care if the content is correct or not



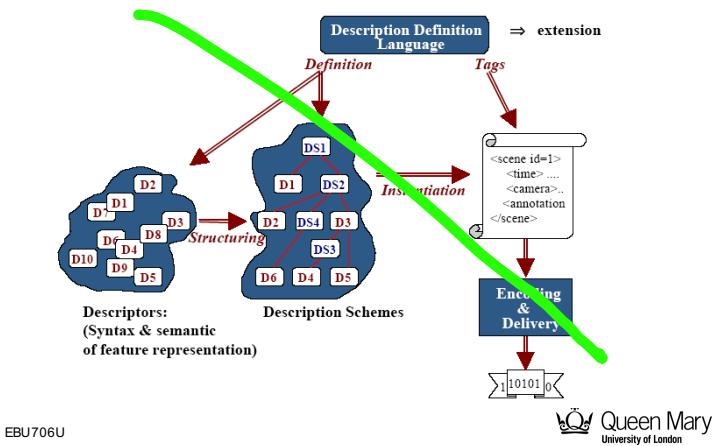
MPEG-7: elements

- Descriptors (D)** to represent Features. Descriptors define the syntax and the semantics of each feature representation
- Description Schemes (DS):** to specify the structure and semantics of the relationships between their components, which may be both Ds and DSs.
- Description Definition Language (DDL)** to allow the creation of new DSs and, possibly, Ds and to allows the extension and modification of existing DSs.
- System tools:** to support multiplexing of descriptions, synchronization of descriptions with content, transmission mechanisms, file format, etc.

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MPEG-7: elements



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The metadata standard: MPEG-7

- Multimedia Content Description Interface
- Part 1: Binary Format for MPEG-7 (BiM) & Terminal Architecture
- Part 2: Description Definition Language (DDL)
- Part 3: Visual Descriptors
- Part 4: Audio Descriptors
- Part 5: Multimedia Descriptors
- Part 6: Reference Software
- Part 7: Conformance
- Part 8: Extraction and use of descriptions (informative)

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Information levels

- Low-level information
 - that is applicable to **various media formats**
 - for browsing of content
- Low-level descriptors for visual features
 - **automatic extraction** of descriptions
 - quality of descriptor (how good does the descriptor represent the feature?) can be measured by the retrieval rate
 - **application independent** descriptor database but
 - no idea which Ds to use to get specific semantic information
 - no idea on how to combine distance functions of descriptors (value range or function characteristic)

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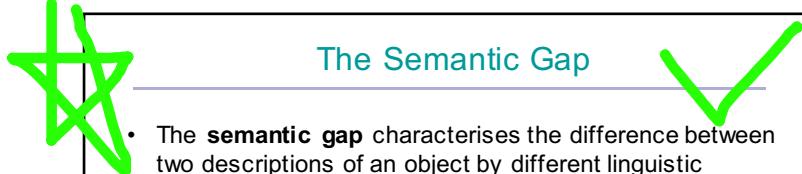
What is normative in MPEG-7

- Descriptors (Ds) & Description Schemes (DSs)
 - **data structures**
 - the feature which is represented by the data structure
 - Description Definition Language (DDL)
 - **XML Schema**: syntax to be used for describing the data structures
 - XML: syntax to be used for the descriptions (instantiation of Ds & DSs)
 - Binary Coding formats
 - Profiles
- Non-normative:
 - extraction of descriptions
 - usage of descriptions

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The Semantic Gap

- 
- The **semantic gap** characterises the difference between two descriptions of an object by different linguistic representations, for instance languages or symbols.
 - In computer science, the concept is relevant whenever ordinary human activities, observations, and tasks are transferred into a computational representation.
 - More precisely the gap means the difference between ambiguous formulation of contextual knowledge in a powerful language (e.g. natural language) and its sound, reproducible and computational representation in a formal language (e.g. programming language).

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The Semantic Gap

Example queries:

- 1) Locate any file in the known directory "/usr/local/funny".
- 2) Locate any file where the word "funny" appears in the filename.
- 3) Locate any text file where the word "funny" or the substring "humour" appears in the text.
- 4) Locate any mp3 file where either "funny", "comic" or "humour" appears in the metadata.
- 5) Locate any file of any type related to humour.
- 6) Locate any image that is likely to make my grandmother laugh.

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Information levels

- High-level information (semantics)
 - manual annotation of descriptions
 - very powerful description for search & retrieval (if annotation fits to application)
 - fails when annotation does not match application (does an image show a "city" ("town") or a "traffic jam"?)
 - ❑ application and semantics are defined at annotation time
 - combination of visual Ds gives semantics at search time
 - e.g. a tree has green & brown color and no edge direction at the leaves

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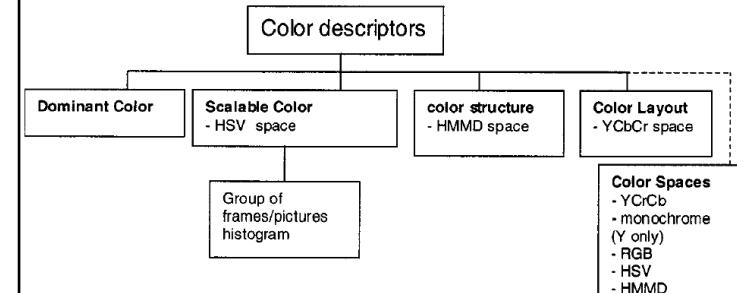
Visual descriptors

- Basic
 - colour space
 - colour quantization
 - grid layout
- Colour
 - dominant colour
 - colour structure
 - scalable colour
 - group of frames histogram
- Texture
 - texture browsing
 - edge histogram
 - homogeneous texture
- Motion
 - motion activity
 - camera motion
 - motion trajectory
 - parametric motion
- Shape
 - contour shape
 - region shape
 - shape spectrum
 - 3D shape
 - region locator
- Faces

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Colour descriptors

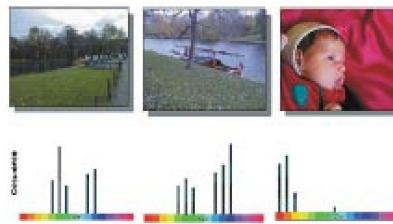


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Scalable Color Descriptor

- A color histogram in HSV color space
- Encoded by Haar Transform



Dominant Color Descriptor

- Clustering colors into a small number of representative colors
- It can be defined for each object, regions, or the whole image
- $F = \{ \{c_i, p_i, v_i\}, s \}$
 - c_i : Representative colors
 - p_i : Their percentages in the region
 - v_i : Color variances
 - s : Spatial coherence



Color Layout Descriptor

- Clustering the image into (8x8) blocks
- Deriving the average color of each block
- Applying DCT and encoding
- Efficient for
 - Sketch-based image retrieval
 - Content Filtering using image indexing



Color Structure Descriptor

- Scanning the image by an 8x8 pixel block
- Counting the number of blocks containing each color
- Generating a color histogram (HMMD)
- Main usages:
 - Still image retrieval
 - Natural images retrieval



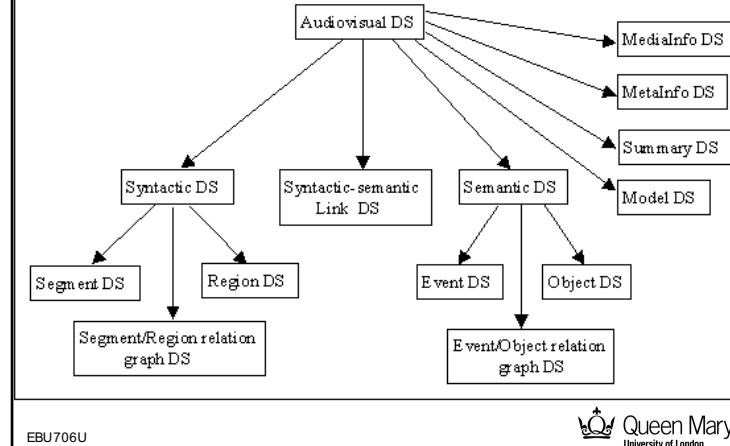
GoF/GoP Color Descriptor

- Extends Scalable Color Descriptor
- Generates the color histogram for a video segment or a group of pictures
- Calculation methods:
 - Average
 - Median
 - Intersection



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Generic AudioVisual DS



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Outline

- MPEG-7: multimedia content description interface
 - Metadata
 - XML description
 - Examples of applications
- Multimedia analysis for content indexing
 - Framework for adaptive delivery based on objects
 - Universal Multimedia Access
 - Content summarisation
 - Content more searchable
 - Improved visualisation
 - Event detection
 - Privacy-preserving surveillance



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Automatic content annotation: why?

- Delivery to mobile devices
 - Monitoring of critical situation while shifting to intervention place
 - Remote surveillance of private grounds / vacant homes
 - Small display size
 - Restricted processing capabilities
 - Limited bandwidth
 - Time-varying conditions
- Automatic surveillance video indexing
 - Traditional video surveillance
 - Event monitoring by human observers
 - Operators located in fixed room
 - error-prone
 - tedious



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Universal Multimedia Access

- Universal Multimedia Access
 - creation of **different presentations of the same information**, from a single content-base
 - adaptation of the audio-visual data to:
 - the **client devices capabilities** in terms of
 - computational power
 - bandwidth
 - **user preferences**
 - Example: **UserPreferenceDS**:
 - the user is expressing preference for a summary which contains N key frames.

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Example: Universal Multimedia Access



What is advanced visual surveillance?

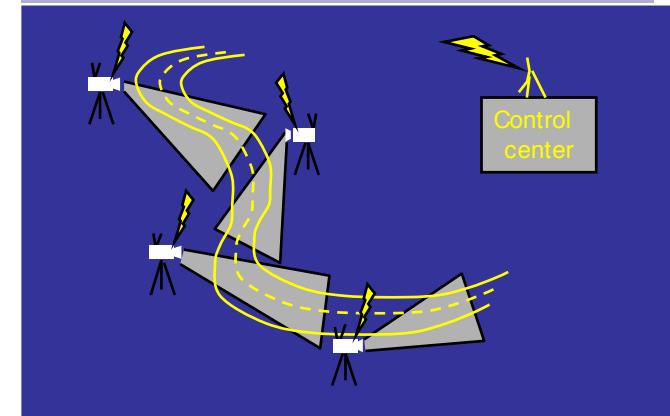
- Advanced video surveillance
 - use of automatic **image and audio analysis technologies**
 - motion detection
 - event detection
 - target tracking
 - face detection
 - speaker identification
 - **automation of tasks** that otherwise would require a human operator
- Technological factors
 - increasing processing power of low-cost **microprocessors**
 - decreasing cost of **storage** devices
 - shift from analogue to **digital** video cameras

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open ended 案例分析题

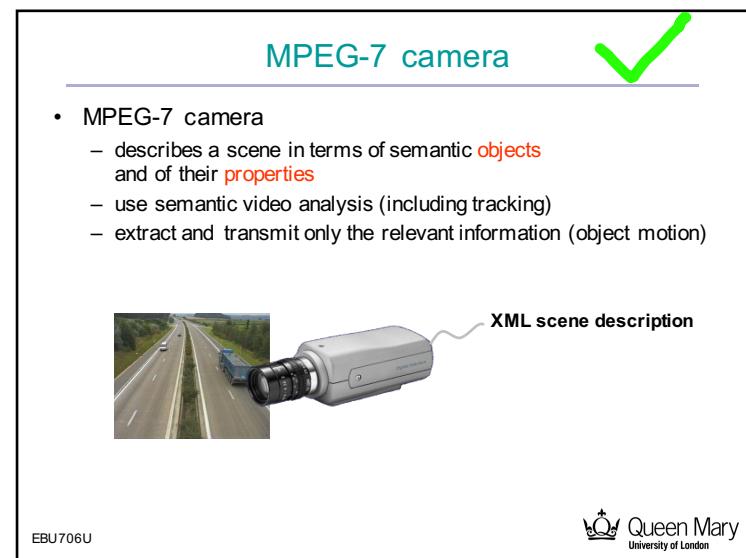
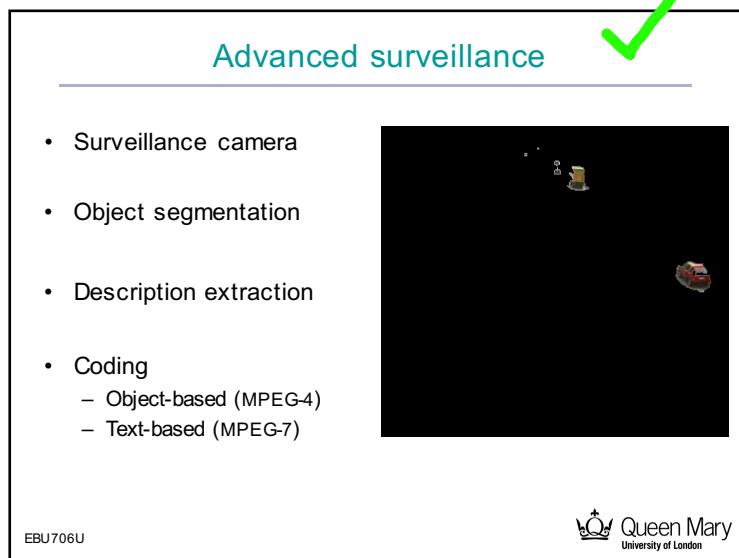
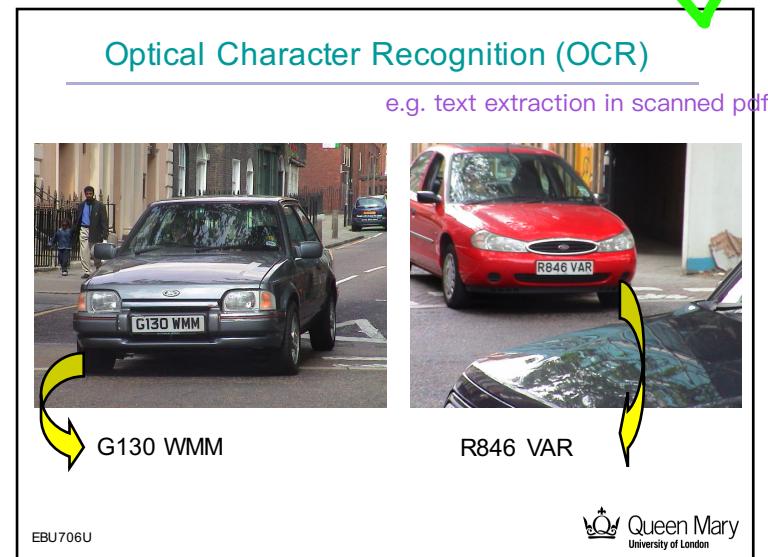
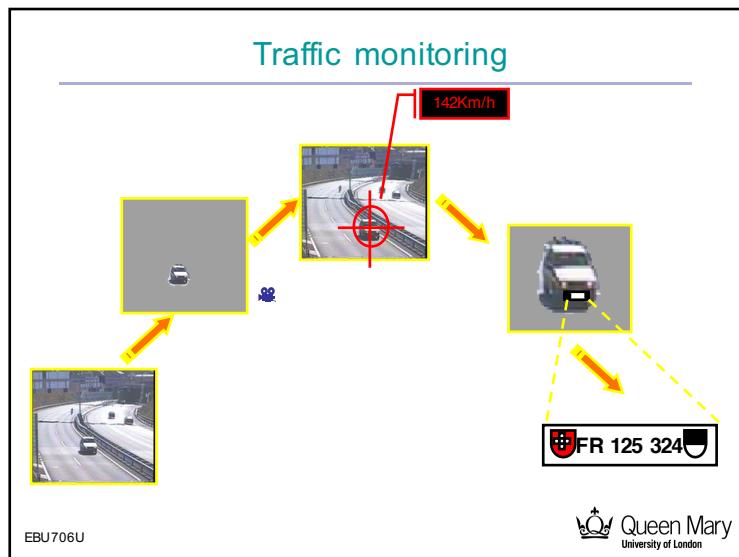
Road monitoring framework



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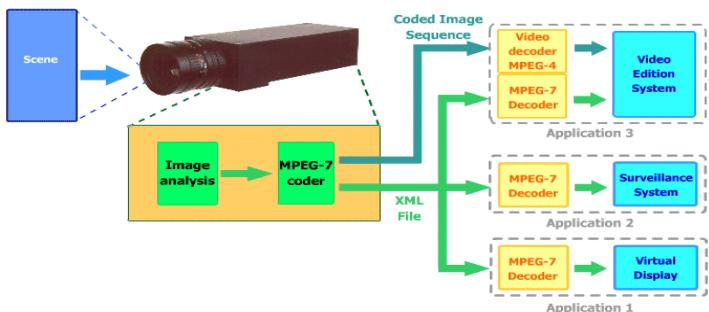
1. each camera covers only a part of view
2. 'hand-off'



Intelligent camera

- MPEG-7 Camera

- **Image analysis block:** includes image analysis algorithms (implemented on the camera DSP) such as segmentation, change detection, and tracking.
- **MPEG-7 coder:** scene description represented using MPEG-7 (XML).
- **MPEG-7 decoder:** MPEG-7 description is parsed. Extraction of the information related to the specific applications.



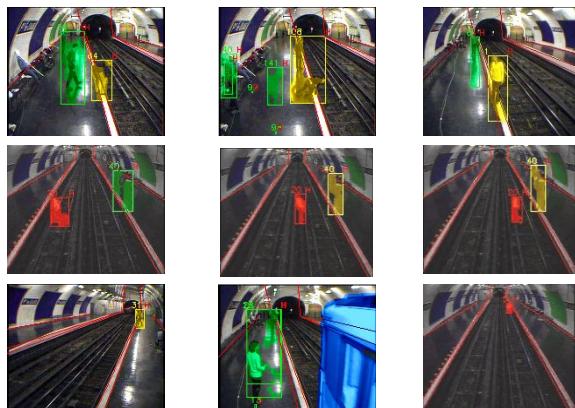
X

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    <Coords2> 230 252 </Coords2>
    <Coords3> 240 286 </Coords3>
    <Coords4> 308 287 </Coords4>
    <Coords5> 312 284 </Coords5>
  </RegionLocator>
  <DominantColor>
    <ColorSpace> YUV </ColorSpace>
    <ColorValue1> 143.4 </ColorValue1>
    <ColorValue2> 123.3 </ColorValue2>
    <ColorValue3> 128.2 </ColorValue3>
  </DominantColor>
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  </HomogeneousTexture>
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      <KeyFrame> 101 </KeyFrame>
      <KeyPos> 262.8 241.0 </KeyPos>
      ...
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      <KeyPos> 192.9 79.0 </KeyPos>
    </TemporalInterpolation>
  </MotionTrajectory>
</Object>
  
```

badly-lit

Event detection in multi-camera networks



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CCTV

- How many times a day are you caught on CCTV cameras?
- The average citizen is caught on CCTV cameras **300 times** a day
- There are more than **30 million CCTV cameras** in operation worldwide
- Video surveillance market is large and growing!

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Privacy: current status

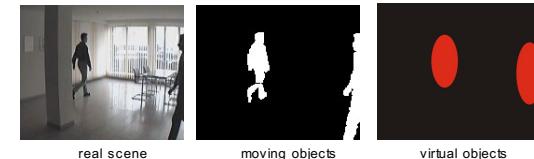
- 'Old' CCTV: **analogue video**
 - videotape systems
 - forensic: slow search
- Current and future CCTV: **digital video**
 - images stored on DVDs or CDs
 - can be **indexed** and **searched** easily
 - can be quickly transmitted over networks
- Issue
 - with the development of automation and technology, advanced video surveillance may generate an **undesired effect**: people might not perceive it as a security tool but as a **threat to their private sphere**

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MPEG-7 camera applications

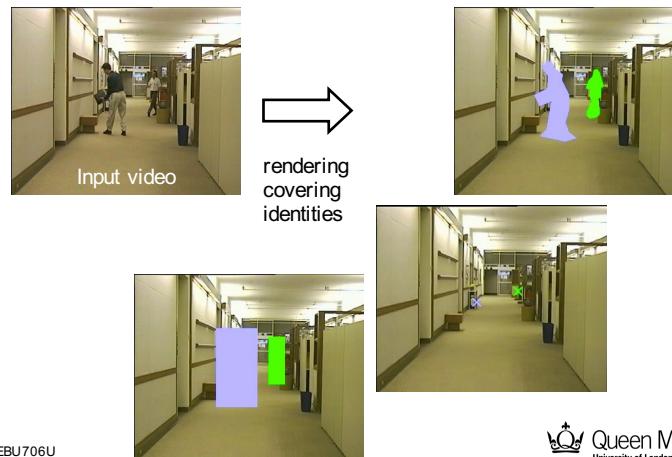
- Virtual display
 - The virtual objects (e.g., blobs) follow the movement of the persons
 - Applications
 - Privacy: only the behavior of the persons are transmitted
 - Checking intentions in surveillance
 - Extract various statistics without revealing identity of people



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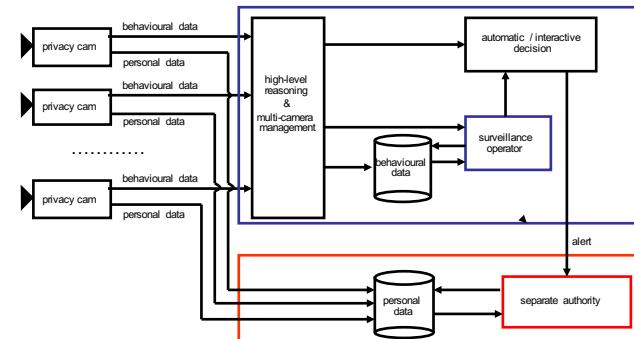


Privacy-preserving surveillance



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Privacy-preserving surveillance system



What did we learn today?

- MPEG-7: multimedia content description interface
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Past exam questions

1. What is MPEG7? Explain the difference between MPEG4 and MPEG7 and give five relevant applications of MPEG7
2. MPEG7 standardizes several low-level descriptors for image and video. Give at least three different MPEG7 visual descriptors related to each one of the following primitives: colour, texture, shape and motion.
3. The semantic gap is a current limitation for content-based multimedia retrieval applications. Explain the difference between low-level multimedia metadata and semantic metadata.
4. The MPEG-7 Framework (standard) consists of normative and non-normative parts. Outline the four normative and the two non-normative structures in this framework.
5. Describe the privacy issue in audio-visual surveillance and explain how technology can be used to mitigate this problem.

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