
MPEG-2 Systems

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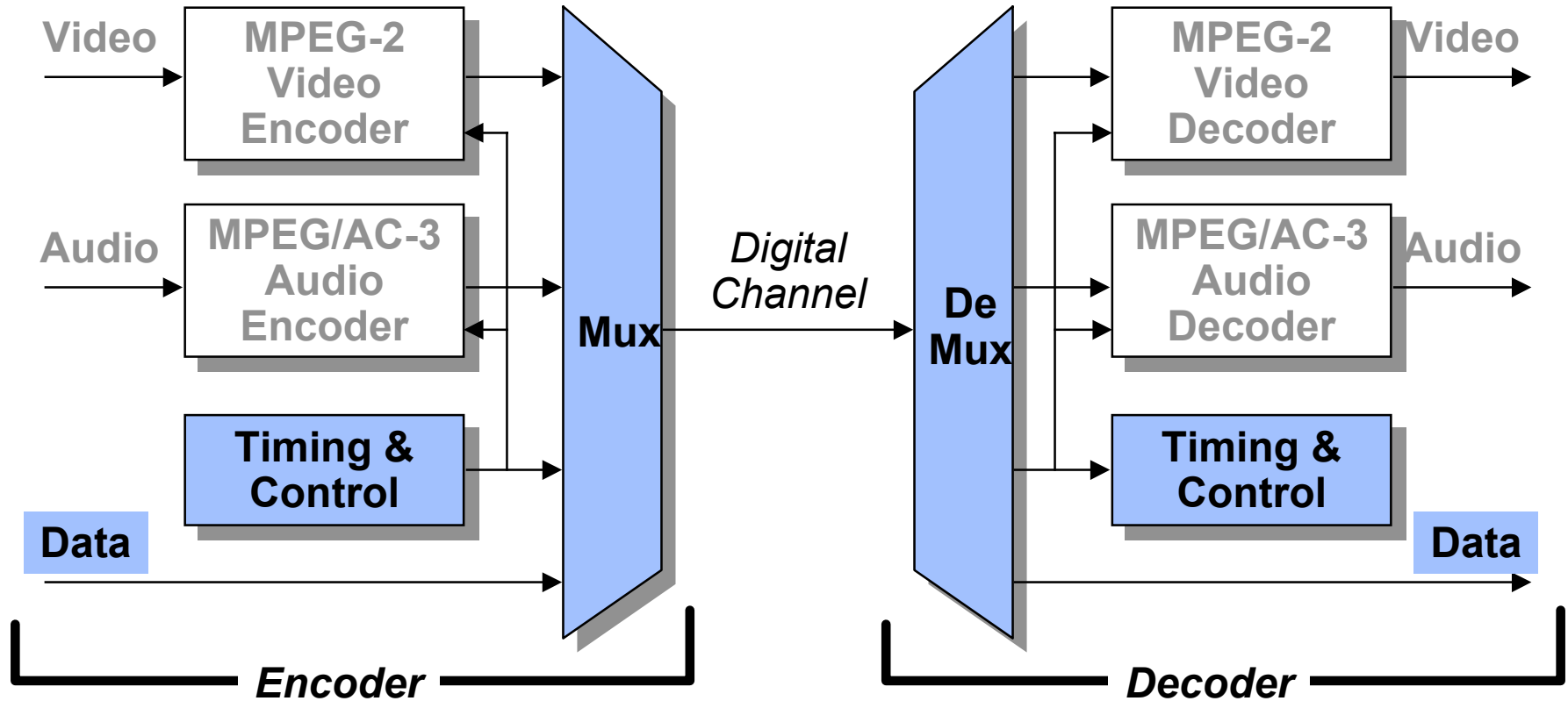
Outline

- MPEG-2 Systems Overview (13818-1)
- Packet Concepts
- MPEG-2 Program Streams
- MPEG-2 Transport Streams
- Timing Mechanisms
- A/V Synchronization
- Transport System Target Decoder (T-STD)
- MPEG Bitstream Syntax and Table Structure
- Program Specific Information
- DVB and ATSC Transport Formats

What is MPEG-2 Systems?

- It's a communications layer that encapsulates compressed video, audio and data streams in packets.
- Multiplexes elements of a single program: video, audio, program-related data, etc.
- Multiplexes multiple programs
- Synchronizes all elements of a program
- Provides flexibility by allowing dynamic mix of content
- Provides extensibility by allowing new services to be added without losing existing audience share.

MPEG-2 Systems

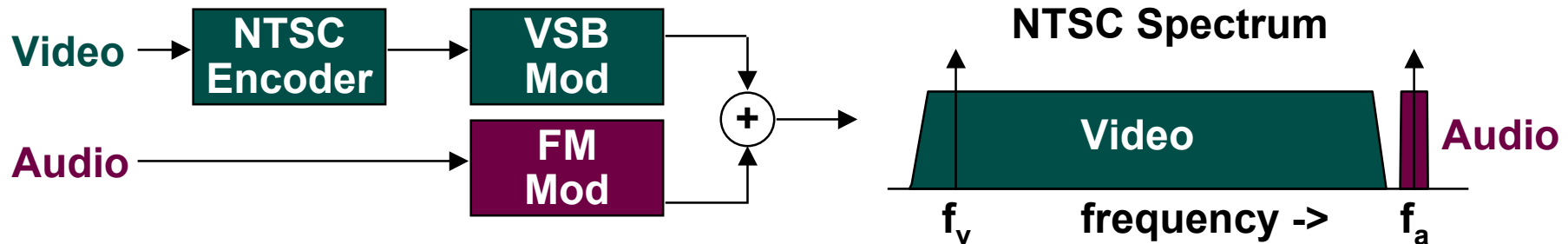


ATSC Transport is based on the MPEG-2 Systems Spec (ISO/IEC 13818-1), which covers Muxing, Timing and Control

ISO/IEC 13818-1 Highlights

- Supports two constructs
 - Transport Stream
 - For error-prone applications
 - Transport System Target Decoder (T-STD)
 - Program Specific Information (PSI)
 - Program Stream
 - For error-free applications
 - Program System Target Decoder (P-STD)
 - Program Stream Map and Directory
 - Supports conversion via Packetized Elementary Stream (PES)
- Defines Program and Program Element Descriptors

Programs: Analog and Digital

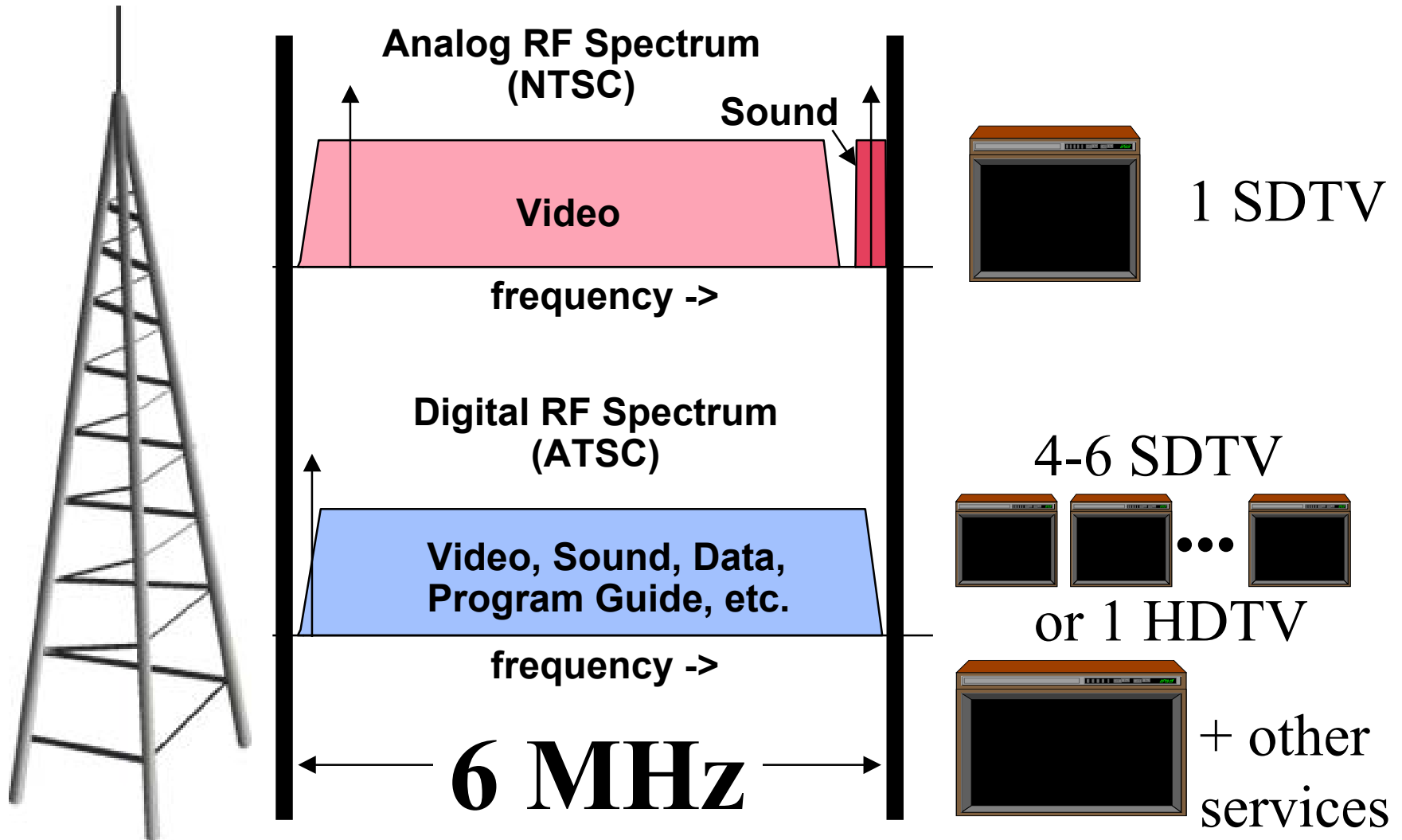


- Analog TV transmission (e.g., NTSC) uses *frequency division multiplexing* (FDM) to send program elements.

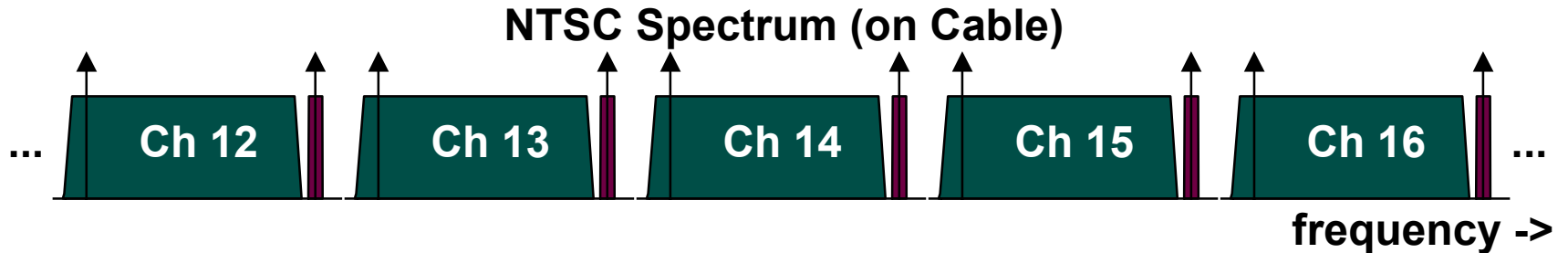


- Digital TV transmission (e.g., ATSC) uses *time division multiplexing* (TDM) to send program elements.

Spectrum: Analog vs. Digital



Multiple Programs: Analog and Digital



- Analog TV uses FDM for multiple programs.



Vn: Video for Program n

An: Audio for Program n

PG: Program Guide

- Digital TV uses TDM for multiple programs within a single channel, and FDM for multi-channel systems.

What are Packets?

- Packets are a collection of bits of the same program type: video, audio or data.



- Packets can be variable length...



- ... or fixed length.



Packet Lengths



Variable Length Packets

- use the natural grouping of coded data (e.g., pictures)
- tend to be relatively long
- generally used for error-free media (e.g., CD-ROM's)

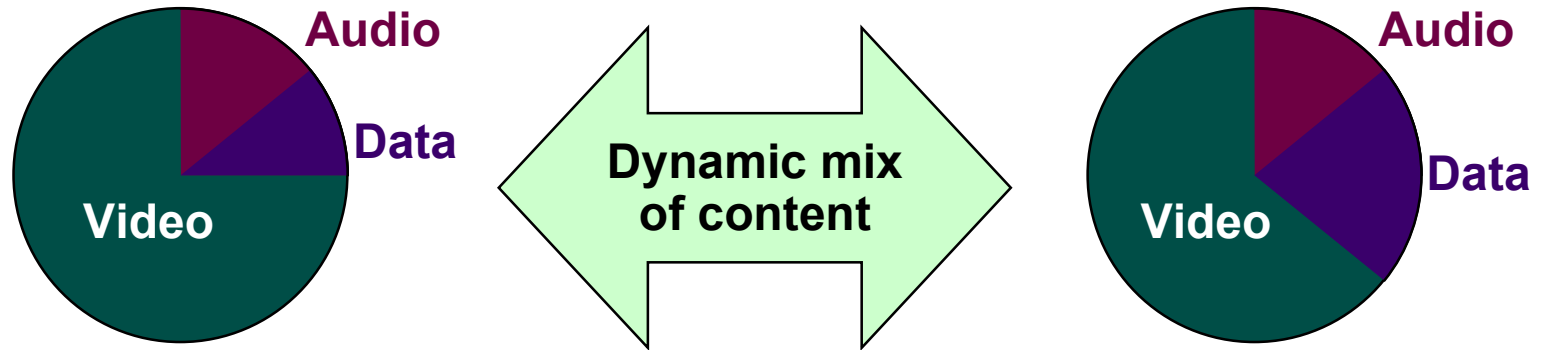


Fixed Length Packets

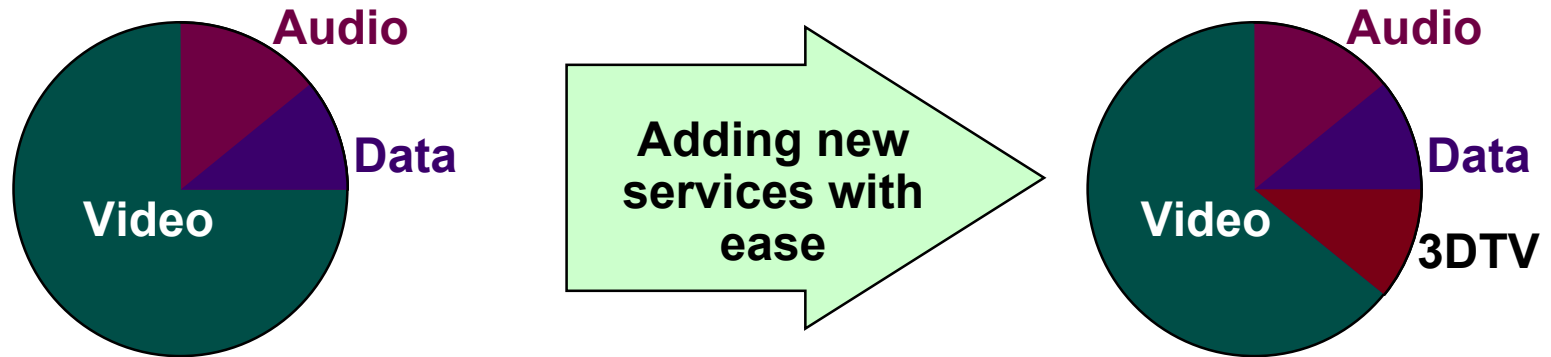
- tend to be relatively short
- amenable to error correction and fast switching
- generally used for error-prone media (e.g., broadcast)

Why use Packets?

- Flexibility

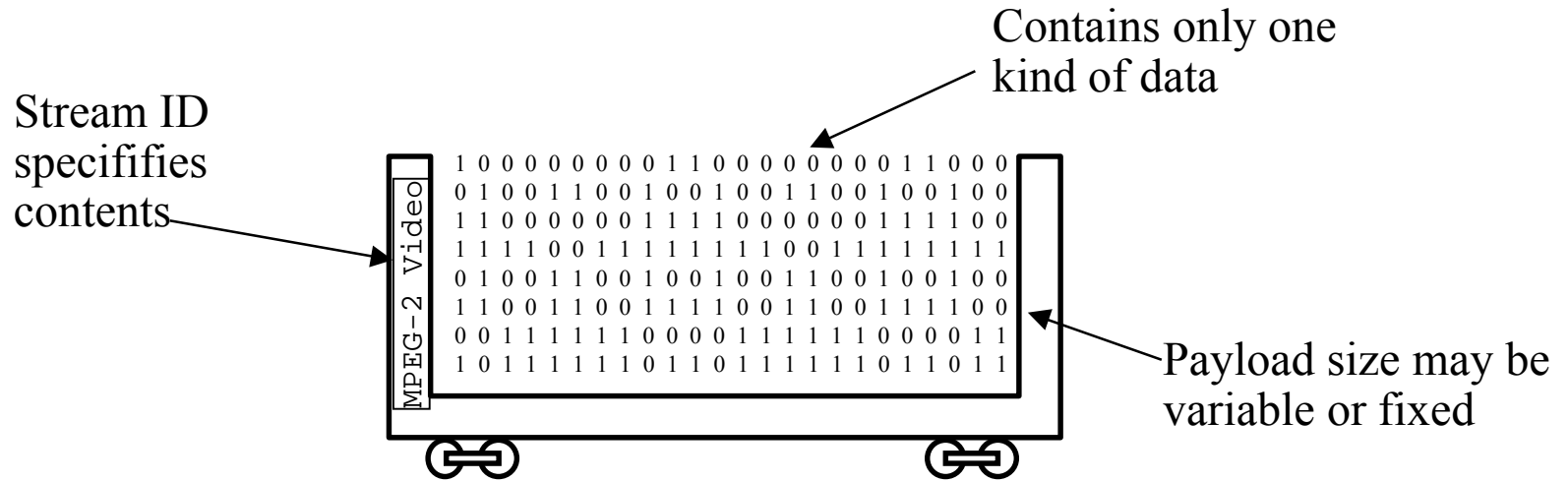


- Extensibility



Packets

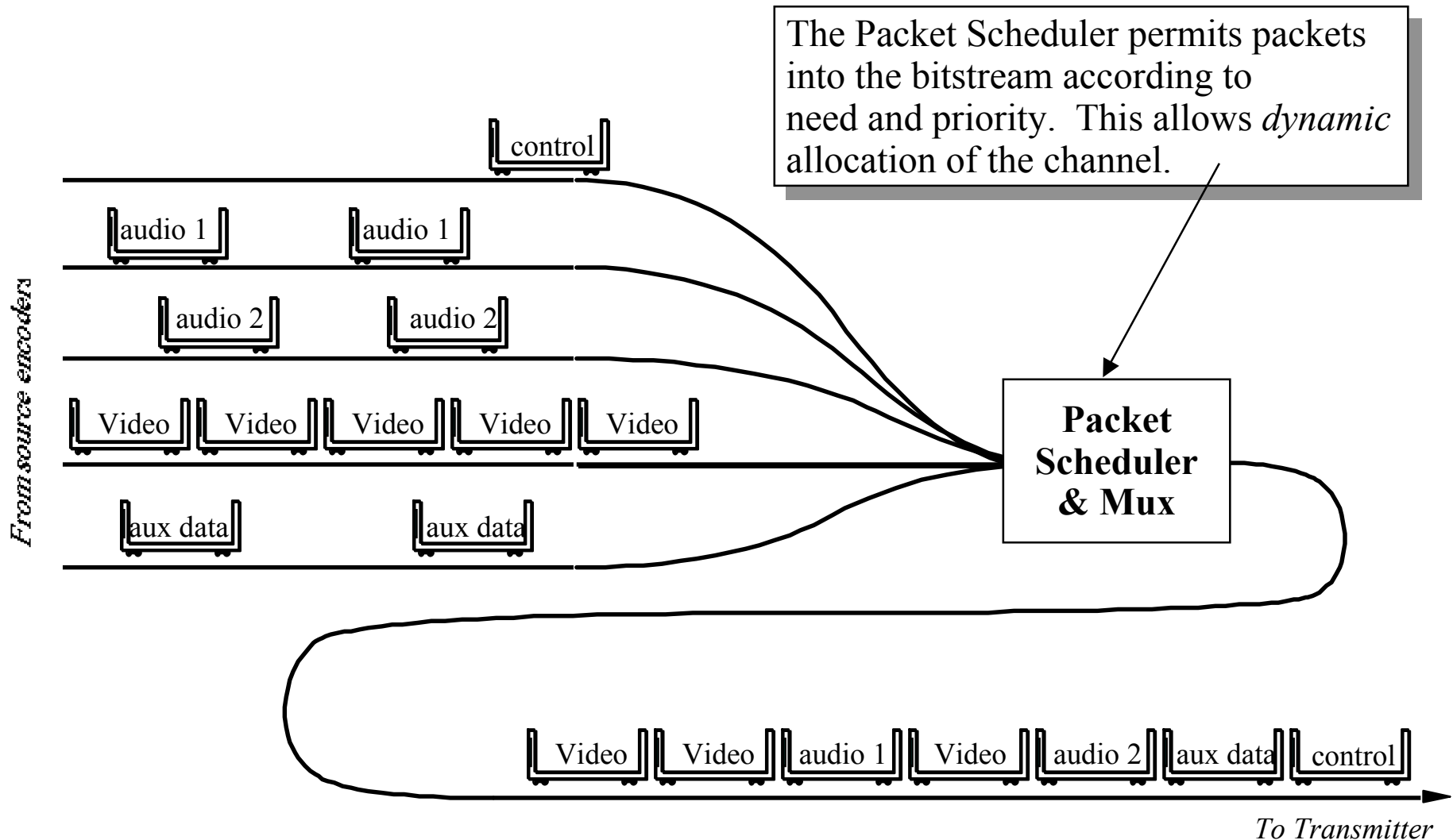
...the key to flexibility and extensibility...



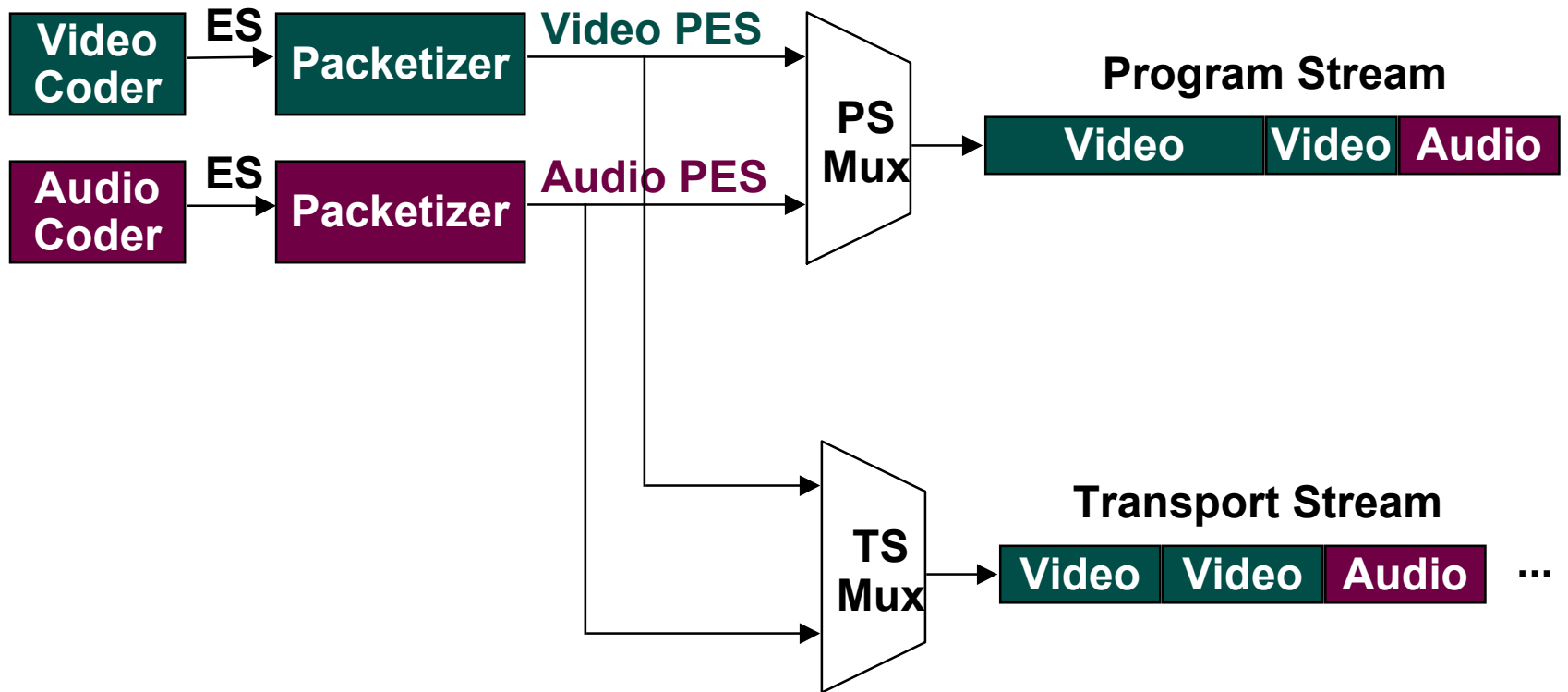
- A packet is like a freight car that carries just one type of data (audio, video, etc).
- Each packet has a "label" called a Packet ID (*PID*).

Packet Multiplexing

...like a freight car switch yard...

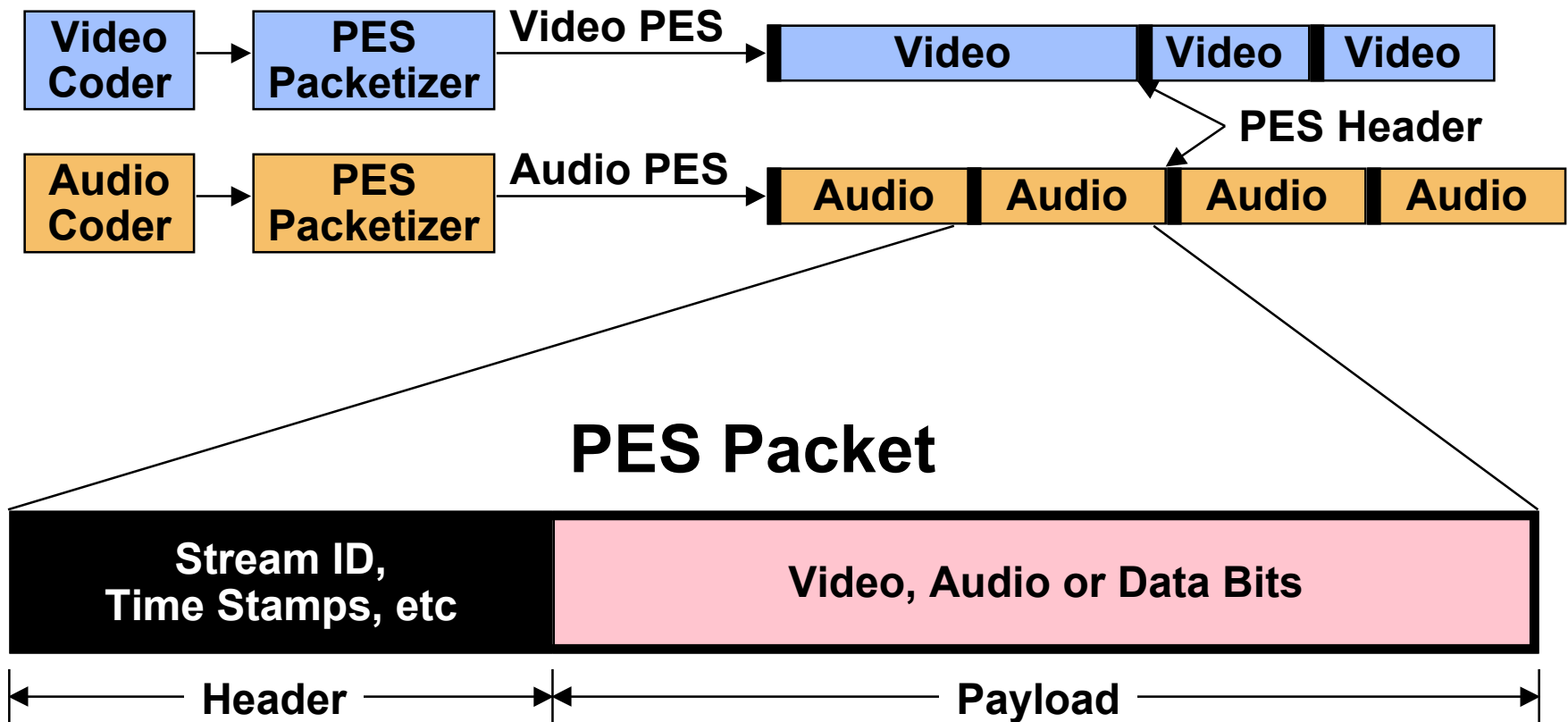


Program and Transport Streams



ES: Elementary Stream
PES: Packetized Elementary Stream
PS: Program Stream
TS: Transport Stream

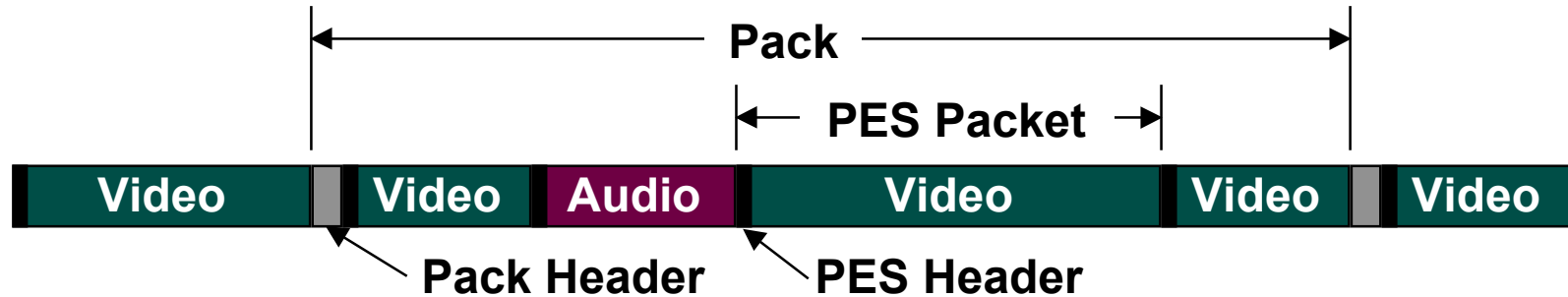
Packetized Elementary Streams (PES)



PES Stream ID

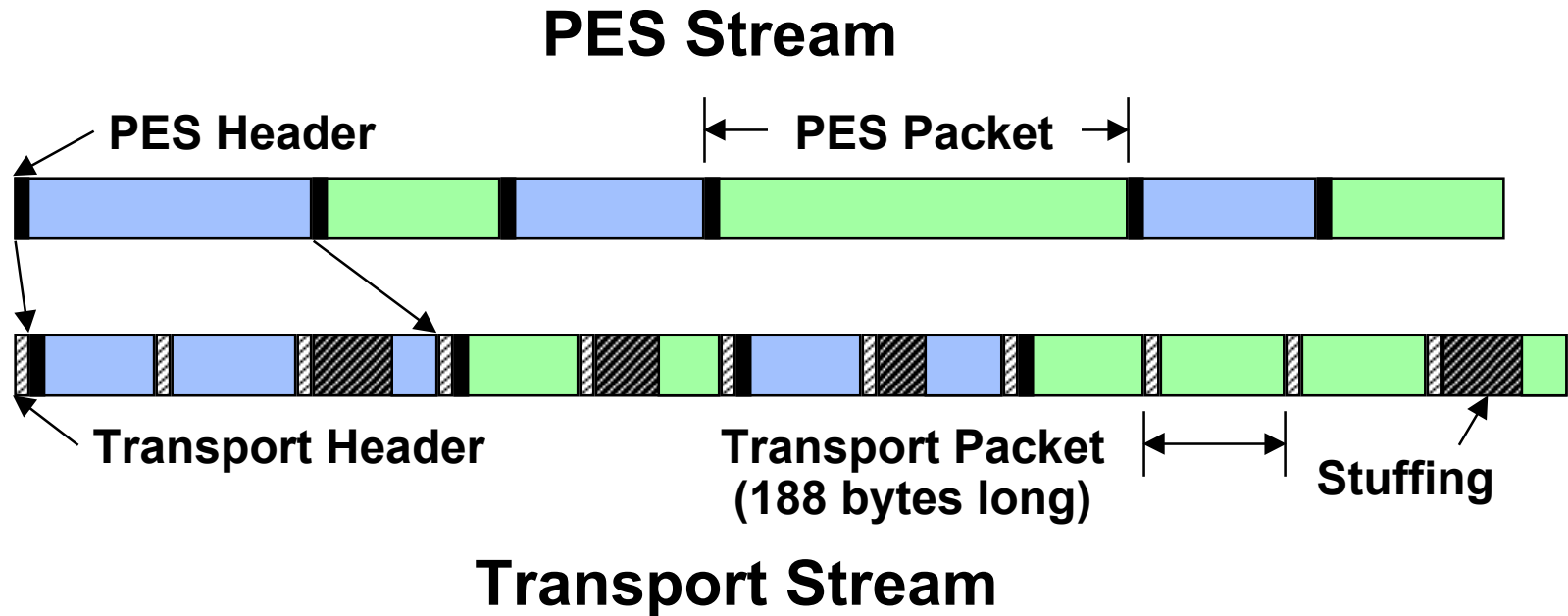
- Stream ID describes the elementary stream
- Example Stream ID's
 - Program Stream Map
 - Program Stream Directory
 - Private Stream
 - Padding Stream
 - MPEG Audio Stream
 - MPEG Video Stream
 - ECM Stream (used for Conditional Access)
 - EMM Stream (used for Conditional Access)
 - DSM-CC (Digital Storage Media Command & Control) Stream
 - Ancillary Stream

MPEG-2 Program Streams



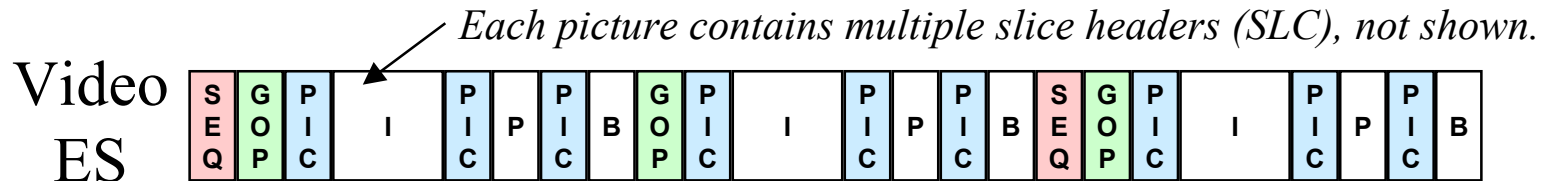
- A Program Stream consist of Packs, which in turn consist of PES packets.
- The Pack Header contains info about synchronization and time base recovery.
- Can carry up to 16 video and 32 audio streams, all with same timebase.

MPEG-2 Transport Streams

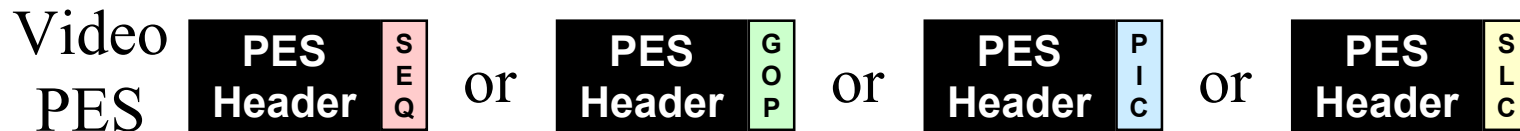


- A Transport Stream consists of fixed-length Transport Packets, which are re-packaged PES packets.
- A PES packet header is always preceded by a transport header.

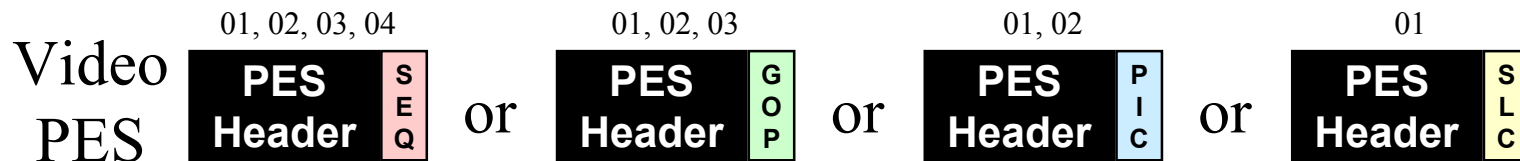
MPEG-2 Video Data Alignment



If `data_alignment_indicator` = 1 in PES Header, and the `data_stream_alignment_descriptor` is not present, then one of the following data alignments is required:

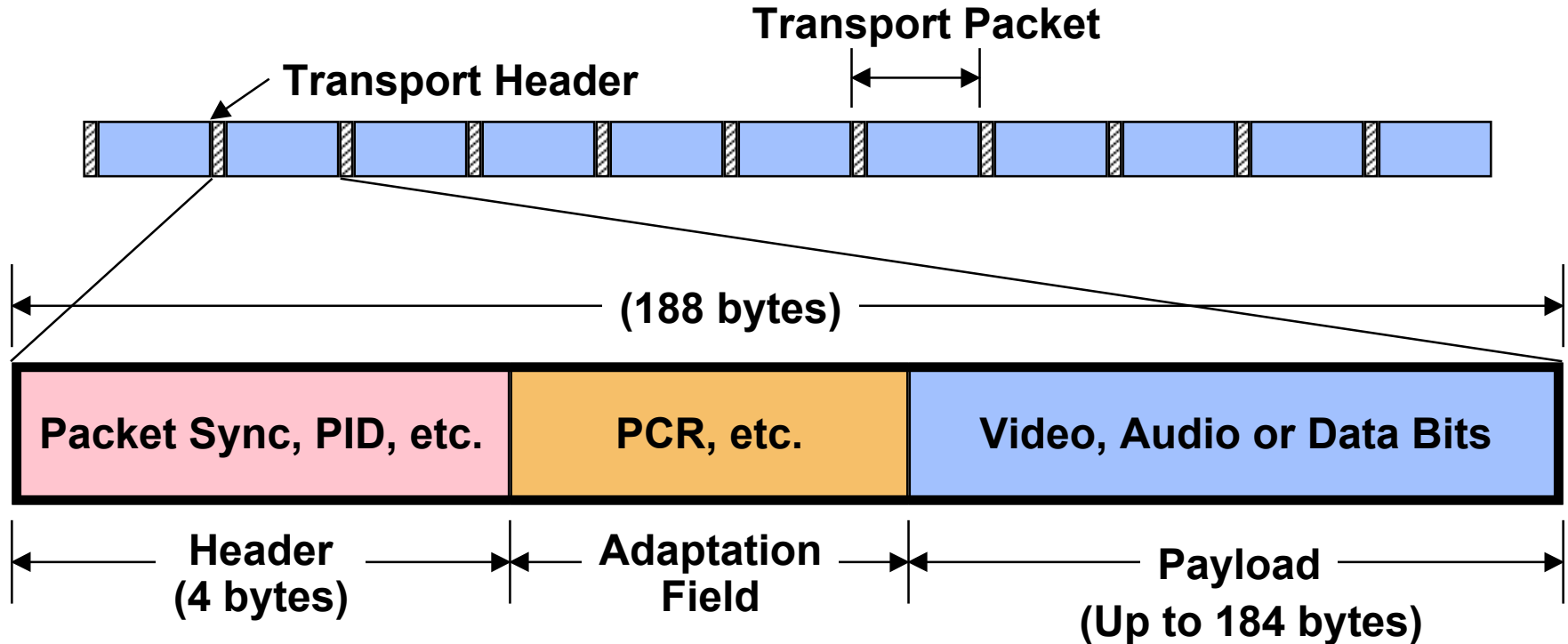


If `data_alignment_indicator` = 1 in PES Header, and the `data_stream_alignment_descriptor` is as indicated, then one of the specified data alignments is required:



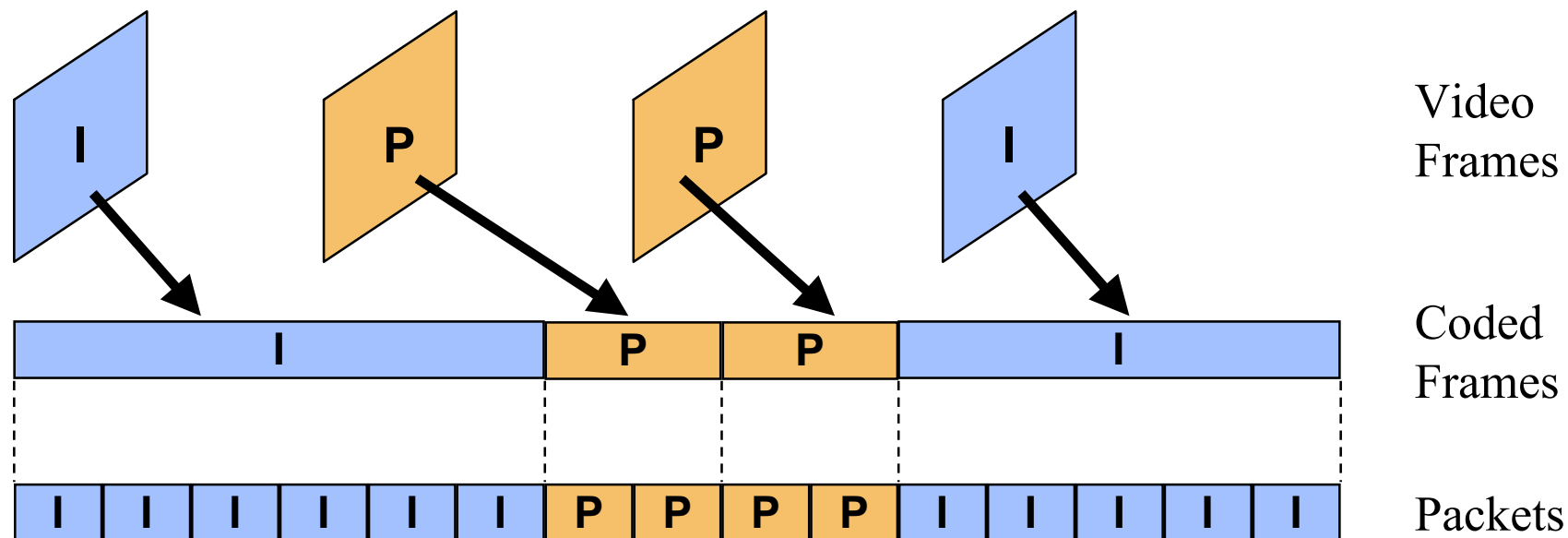
If `data_alignment_indicator` = 0 in PES Header, then no data alignment is required:

MPEG-2 Transport Packet



- **PID = Packet ID**
- **PCR = Program Clock Reference (Master Clock)**

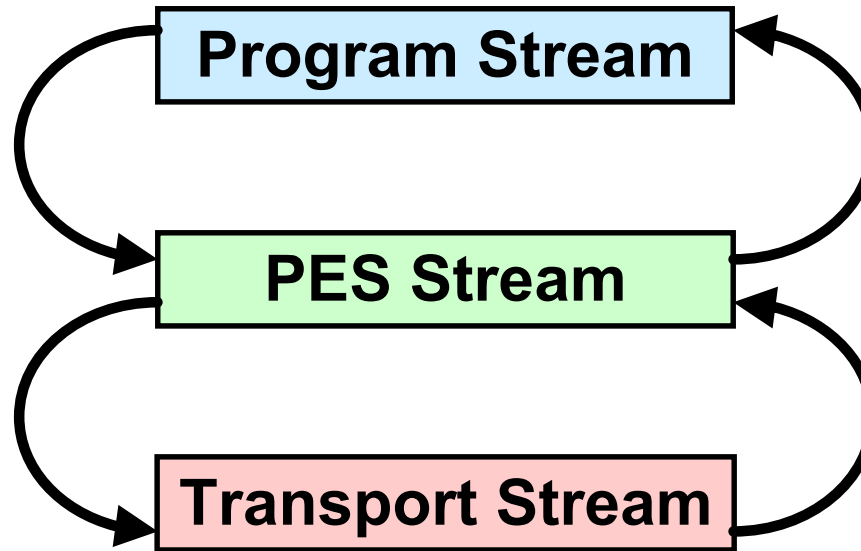
Packets - Key to Flexibility and Extensibility



Fixed Length Packets

- relatively short
- amenable to error correction and fast switching
- best for error-prone media (e.g., broadcast)
- MPEG-2 calls them *Transport Packets*

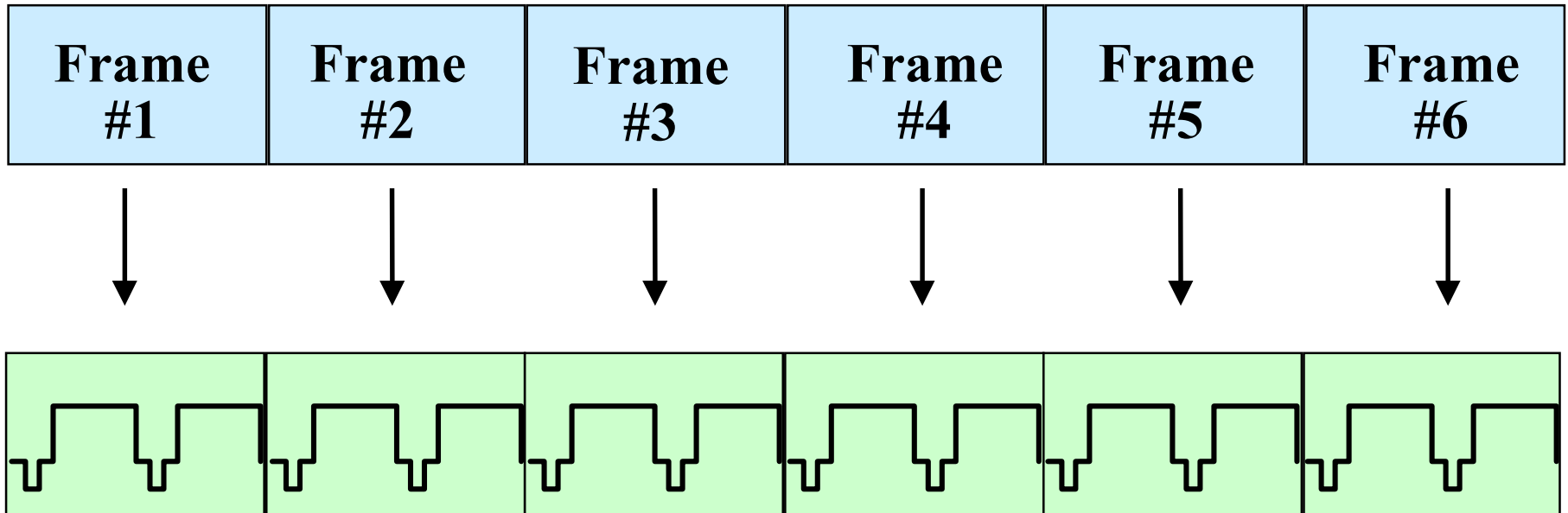
Conversion Between Stream Types



- **Conversion can be performed via intermediate PES format.**

Display Synchronization - Uncompressed

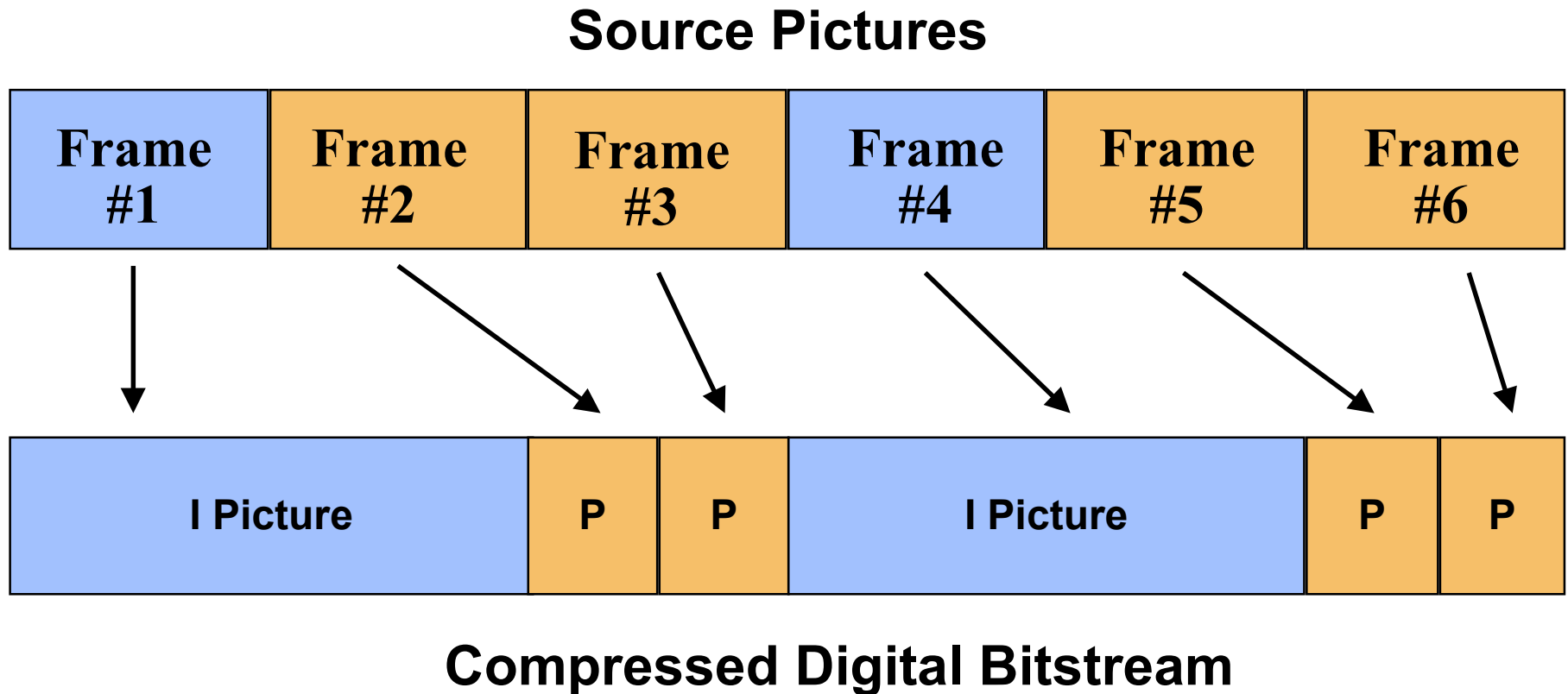
Source Pictures



Video Waveform

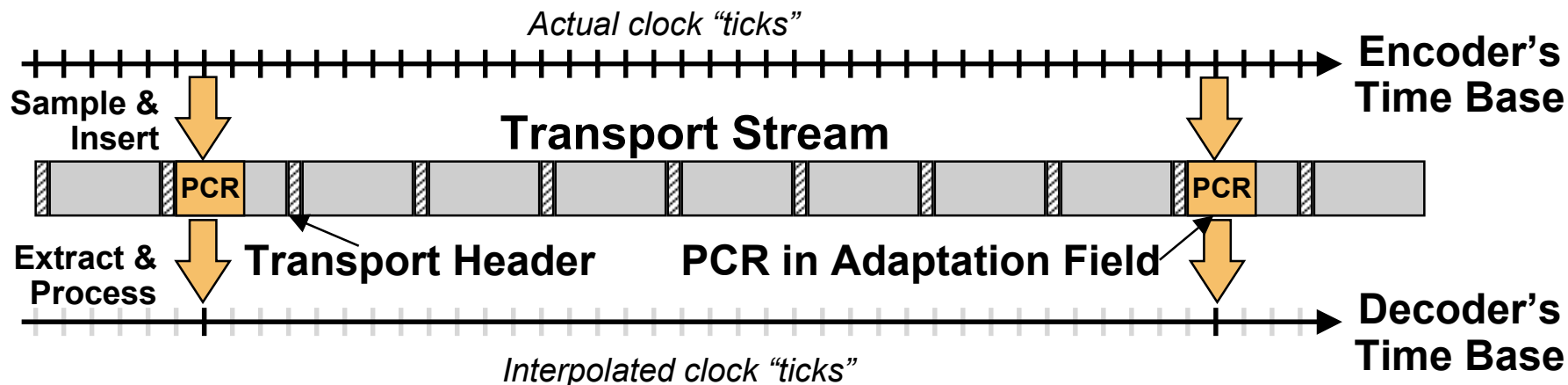
- Display and Clock Synchronization Info is Carried Directly by the Video Signal

Display Synchronization - Compressed



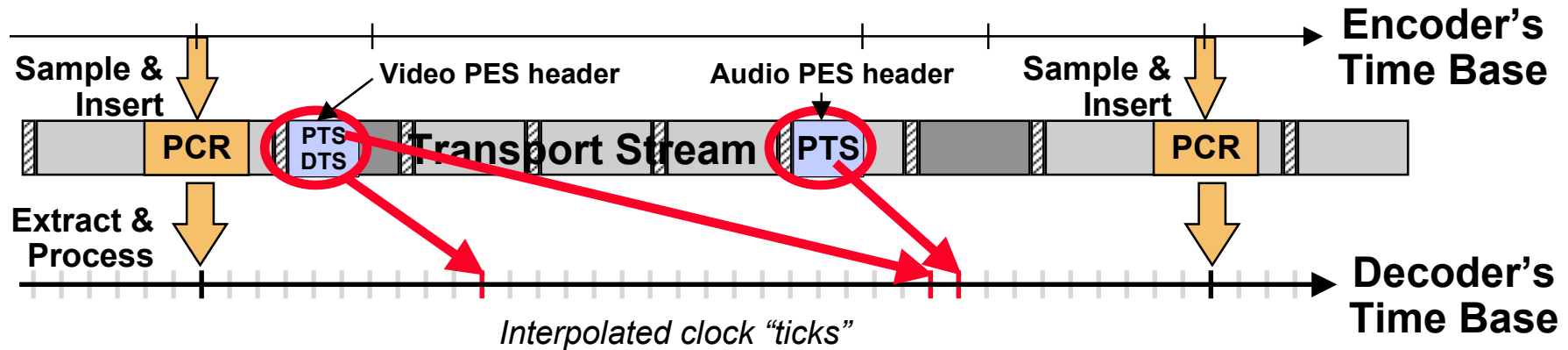
- Compressed Bitstream Must Carry Display Synchronization Info and Clock Information

Program Clock Recovery



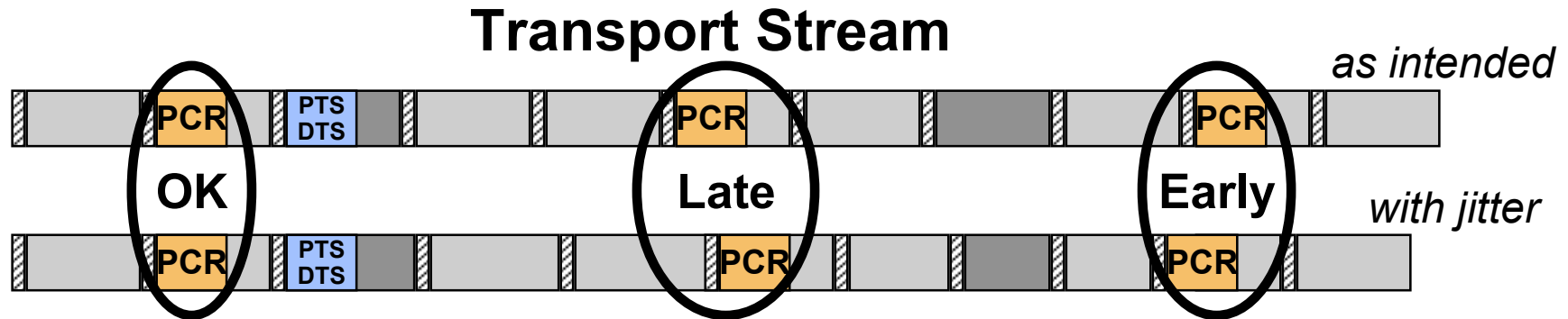
- Program Clock References (PCR's) are 42-bit sample values of the Encoder's 27-MHz Time Base (System Clock).
- At the encoder, PCR's are inserted in selected Transport Packets, at least 10 times/sec.
- The decoder extracts PCR's and uses them to recreate the Program Clock.

Synchronizing Audio and Video



- Presentation Time Stamps (PTS) indicate when video or audio frames should be presented.
- Decode Time Stamps (DTS) indicate when video anchor frames should be decoded.
- PTS and DTS are samples of a 90 kHz clock locked to the PCR Time Base. They are sent in PES headers.
- Lip Sync is achieved by presenting video and audio frames at the proper value of the Program Clock (PCR timebase).

Effect of PCR Jitter



- PCR jitter can be introduced by variable delays in networks or by Mux/Remux operations.
- PCR jitter causes decoder's Program Clock to erroneously speed up or slow down.
- Depending on decoder implementation, this can lead to frozen or skipped pictures, unstable color or "wow and flutter".
- Additional buffers can be used to reduce effect of PCR jitter.

Video vs. AC-3 Frames

Uncoded Video Frames (29.97 frames/sec)



← 33.37 ms →

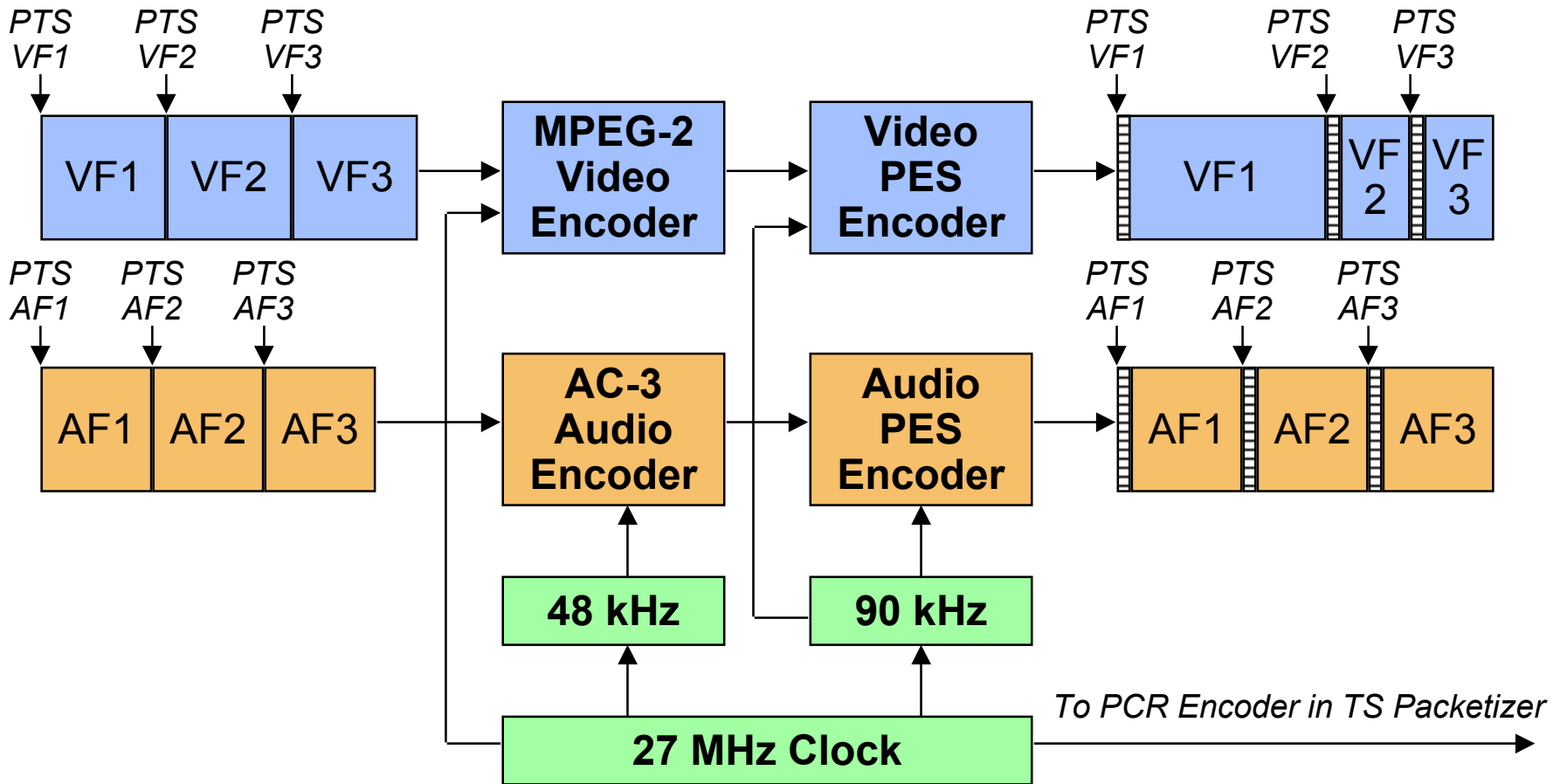


← 32 ms
(1536 samples) →

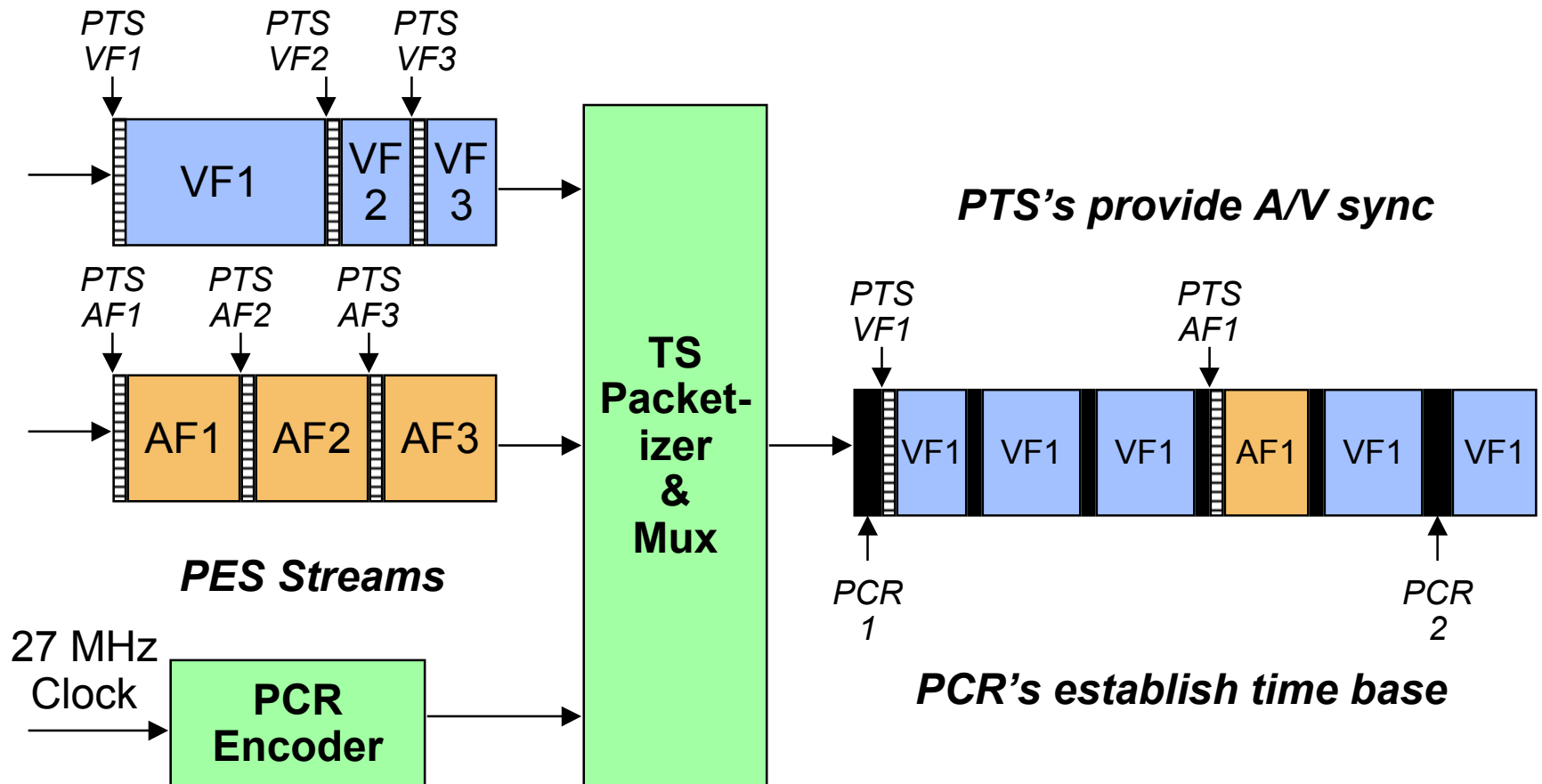
Uncoded Audio (showing AC-3 frame boundaries)

Note: Video and audio frames boundaries are rarely (if ever) aligned.

Synchronizing MPEG-2 Video and AC-3 Audio



A/V Synchronization (cont'd)

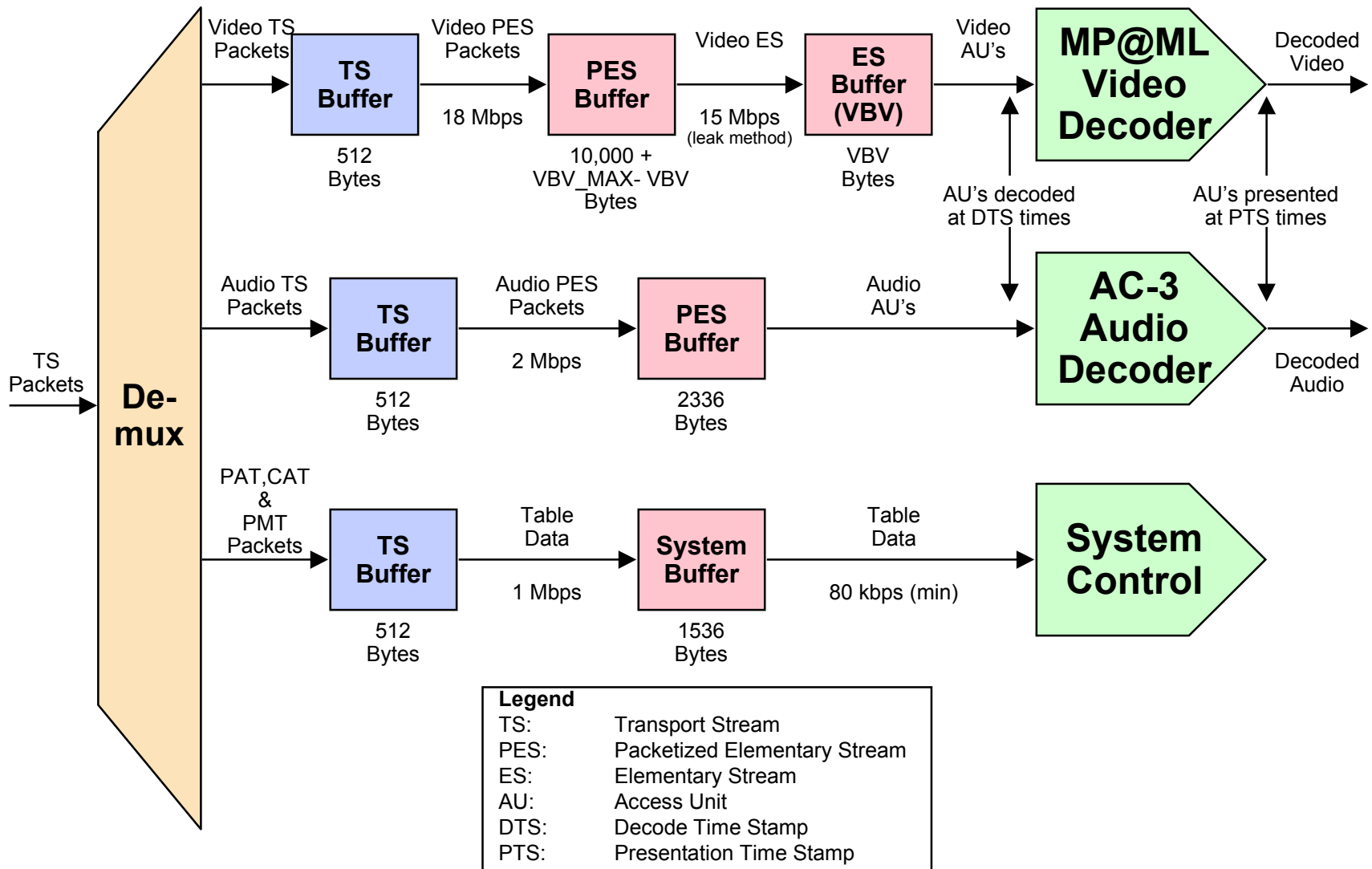


Transport System Target Decoder (T-STD)

- The T-STD is a conceptual decoder used to model the decoding process during the construction or verification of Transport Streams.
- It is described in detail in Annex D of the MPEG-2 Systems Spec (ISO/IEC 13818-1)
- The T-STD consists of three decoder types:
 - video
 - audio
 - systems
- A demux, buffers and decoders comprise the T-STD.

T-STD Block Diagram

...for MP@ML Video and AC-3 Audio...



Program Specific Information (PSI)

Table Name	PID #	Description
Program Association Table (PAT)	0	Associates Program No. with PMT
Program Map Table (PMT)	Assigned	Associates PID's with Program(s)
Network Information Table (NIT)	Assigned	Contains physical network params
Conditional Access Table (CAT)	1	Associates PID's with private streams

- In addition to PSIP, PAT and PMT are required in every ATSC MPEG-2 Transport Stream.
- PAT/PMT form a “mini Program Guide”, and certain information in those tables and in PSIP must be consistent.
- NIT not used in ATSC. System information contained in PSIP.
- CAT must be present if any stream is scrambled.

Program Association Table (PAT)

Program #	PMT PID #	Meaning
2	32	PID 32 contains map for Program 2
3	48	PID 48 contains map for Program 3
4	64	PID 64 contains map for Program 4

Example PAT for 3-program multiplex

- PAT provides correspondence between a Program Number and the PMT PID that carries program definition.
- Program # is similar to Channel # in broadcast TV.
- PAT always assigned to PID 0

Program Map Table (PMT)

PID #	Stream Type
32	PMT
33	Video & PCR
36	Audio
42	Data

Example Map for Program 2

- PMT provides correspondence between a Program Number and the elementary streams that comprise it.
- Descriptors may be sent to provide more information about the program and/or program elements.

PMT Stream Type

- Stream Type describes the elementary stream
- Example Stream Types
 - MPEG-1 Video
 - MPEG-2 Video
 - MPEG-1 Audio
 - MPEG-2 Audio
 - Private Sections
 - PES Private Data
 - MHEG
 - DSM-CC
 - User Private (e.g., AC-3 Audio)

Conditional Access Table (CAT)

CA System	CA PID
1	201
2	202
3	203

**Example CAT for Transport Stream
Containing 3 CA Systems**

- CAT provides correspondence between CA systems and their Entitlement Management Message (EMM) streams.
- EMM's are system-wide private streams that specify authorization levels of specific decoders.

Other Tables

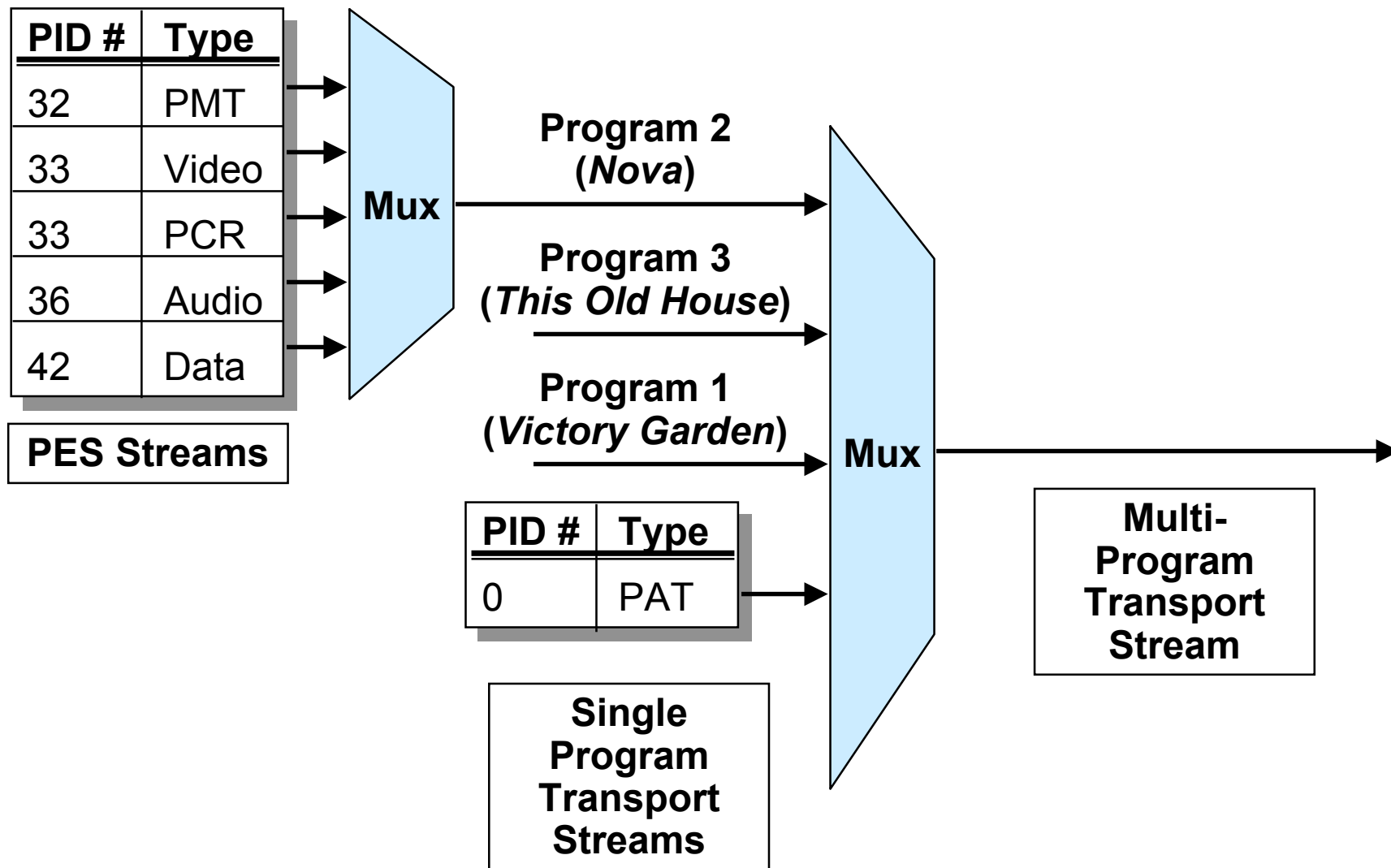
Network Information Table

- NIT provides information about physical network parameters, such as FDM frequencies, satellite transponder numbers, etc.
- NIT is optional and its contents are private.
- If present, NIT is Program 0 in PAT.

Private Tables

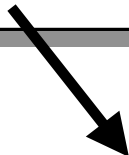
- Structure provided for transmission of private data.
- Can be used for sending non-MPEG data, such as stock quotes, downloadable software modules, etc.

Multi-Program Multiplex



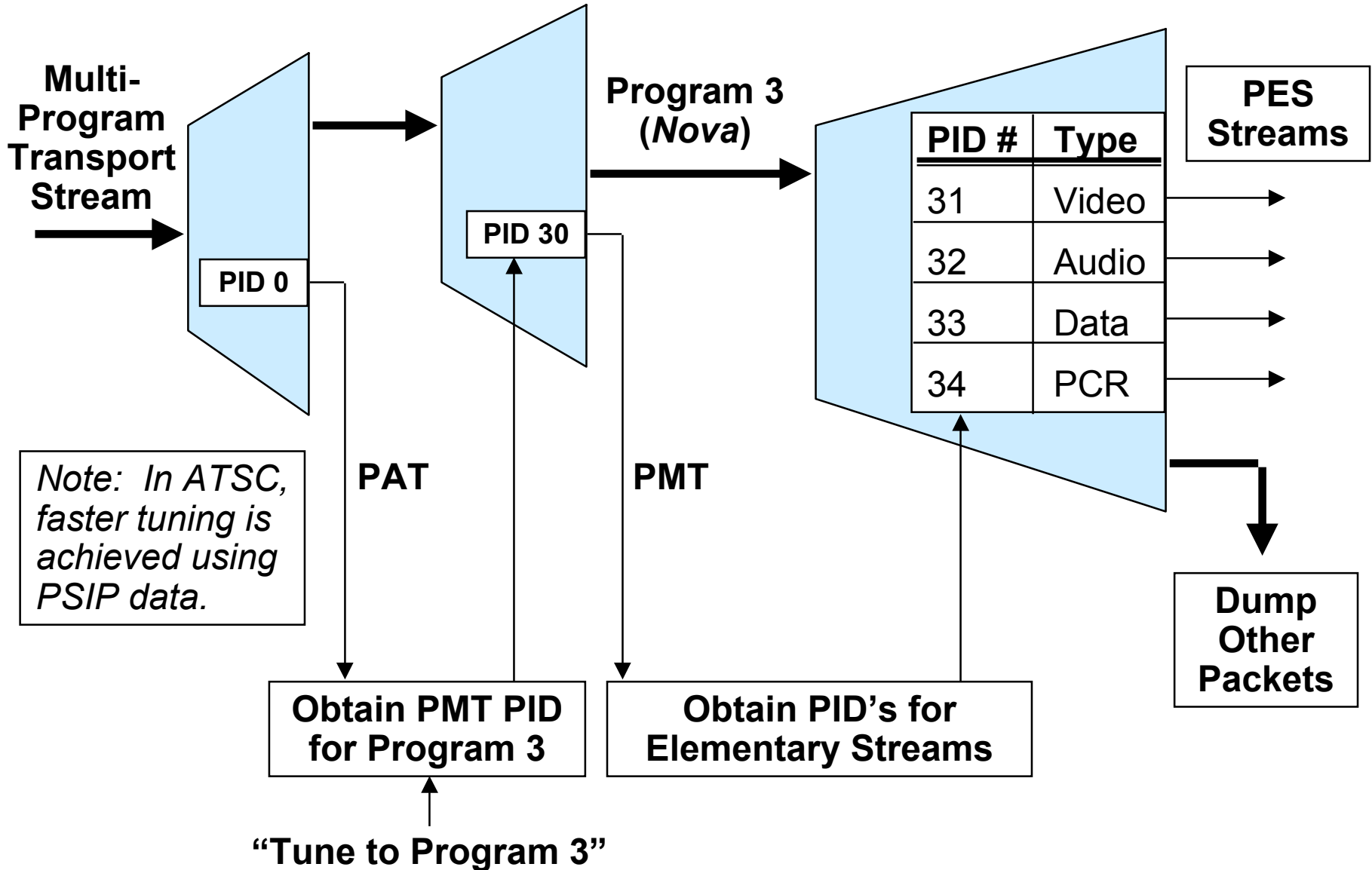
Review of Program Mapping

PID 0 Program Association Table		
Program #	PMT PID #	Meaning
1	10	Program 1 (<i>Victory Garden</i>) info at PID 10
2	20	Program 2 (<i>This Old House</i>) info at PID 20
3	30	Program 3 (<i>Nova</i>) info at PID 30



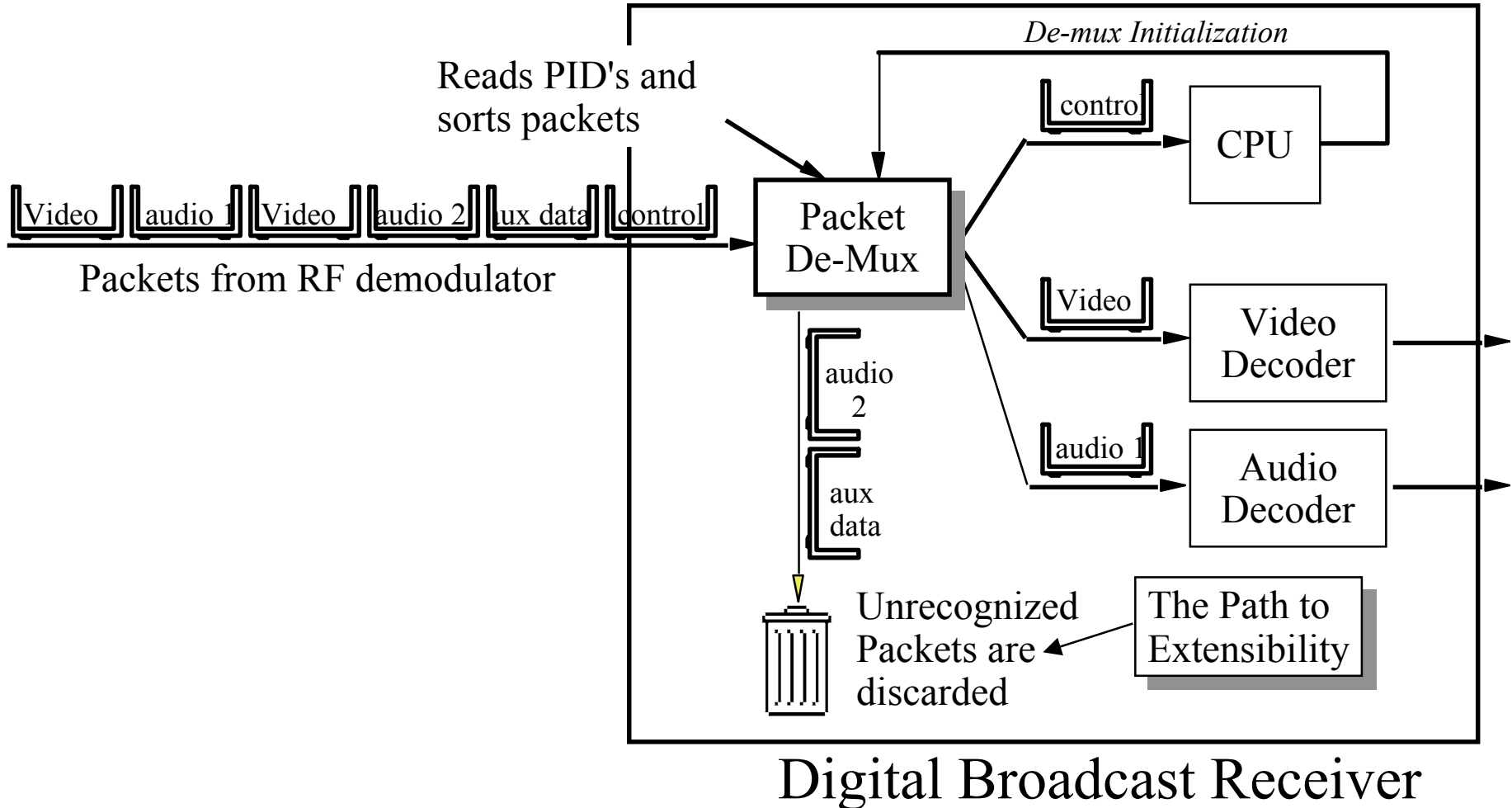
PID 30 Program Map Table for Program 3	
PID #	Stream Type
31	Video
32	Audio
33	Data
34	PCR

Tuning Example Using PAT and PMT



Packet Demultiplexing

...unrecognized packets are discarded...



MPEG-2 Systems Descriptors

- Descriptors can be used to extend the definition of programs and program elements
- Currently Defined Descriptors
 - Video Stream
 - Audio Stream
 - Hierarchy
 - Registration
 - Data Stream Alignment
 - Target Background Grid
 - Video Window
 - Conditional Access
 - ISO 639 Language
 - System Clock
 - Multiplex Buffer Utilization
 - Copyright
 - Maximum Bitrate
 - Private Data Indicator
 - Smoothing Buffer
 - STD
 - IBP

MPEG Bitstream Syntax

MPEG uses C code conventions:

- `while (condition) { data_element ... }`
 - If condition is true, then the group of data elements occurs next in the data stream. This repeats until condition is not true.
- `do { data_element ... } while (condition)`
 - Data element occurs at least once and is repeated until condition is not true.
- `if (condition) { data_element ... } else { data_element ... }`
 - If condition is true, then the first group of data elements occurs next. Otherwise, the second group occurs next.
- `for (i=0; i<n; i++) { data_element ... }`
 - The group of data elements occurs n times. The loop control variable, i, is set to zero for the first occurrence and increments each time.

Example for Transport Packet

Table 2-3 -- ITU-T Rec. H.222.0 | ISO/IEC 13818 transport packet

Syntax	No. of bits	Mnemonic
transport_packet(){		
sync_byte	8	bslbf
transport_error_indicator	1	bslbf
payload_unit_start_indicator	1	bslbf
transport_priority	1	bslbf
PID	13	uimsbf
transport_scrambling_control	2	bslbf
adaptation_field_control	2	bslbf
continuity_counter	4	uimsbf
if(adaptation_field_control=='10' adaptation_field_control=='11'){		
adaptation_field()	← af appears only if afc = 10 or 11	
}		
if(adaptation_field_control=='01' adaptation_field_control=='11') {		
for (i=0;i<N;i++){		
data_byte	← data_bytes appear N times (N = 184 - af length)	
}	8	bslbf
}		
}		

These
must
appear

bslbf

Bit string, left bit first, where "left" is the order in which bit strings are written in the Recommendation | International Standard. Bit strings are written as a string of 1s and 0s within single quote marks, e.g. '1000 0001'. Blanks within a bit string are for ease of reading and have no significance.

uimsbf Unsigned integer, most significant bit first

AFC Values

Table 2-6 -- Adaptation field control values

value	description
00	reserved for future use by ISO/IEC
01	no adaptation_field, payload only
10	adaptation_field only, no payload
11	adaptation_field followed by payload

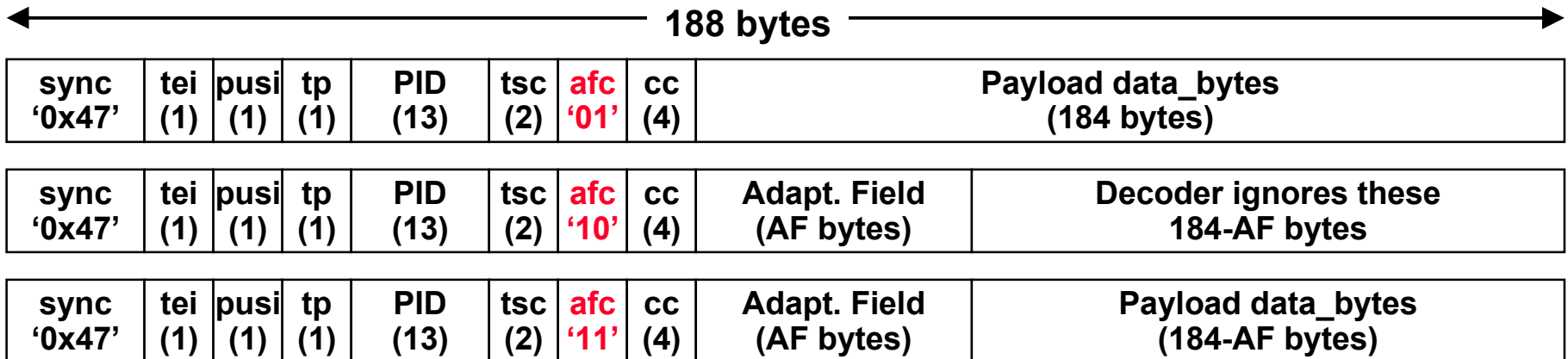
Three Basic Transport Packet Types

Table 2-3 -- ITU-T Rec. H.222.0 | ISO/IEC 13818 transport packet

Syntax	No. of bits	Mnemonic
transport_packet(){		
sync_byte	8	bslbf
transport_error_indicator	1	bslbf
payload_unit_start_indicator	1	bslbf
transport_priority	1	bslbf
PID	13	uimsbf
transport_scrambling_control	2	bslbf
adaptation_field_control	2	bslbf
continuity_counter	4	uimsbf
if(adaptation_field_control=='10' adaptation_field_control=='11'){		
adaptation_field()		
}		
if(adaptation_field_control=='01' adaptation_field_control=='11'){		
for (i=0;i<N;i++){		
data_byte	8	bslbf
}		
}		
}		

Table 2-6 -- Adaptation field control values

value	description
00	reserved for future use by ISO/IEC
01	no adaptation field, payload only
10	adaptation field only, no payload
11	adaptation field followed by payload



MPEG Tables

- Tables are structures that are segmented into one or more sections.
- A section is used to map a table into Transport Packets.
- A special private section is defined to carry private data.
- Sections may be variable in length.
- The beginning of a section is indicated by a `pointer_field` syntax element.
- MPEG sets byte limits:
 - max length of PSI table = 1024 bytes
 - max length of private_section = 4096 bytes

Tables and Sections

Examples: Program Association Table with 3 sections

table_id = 0x00	identifies this section as belong to PAT
section_syntax_indicator=1	identifies short form of table
section_length = 0x55	number of bytes in this section
...	
version_number = 1	first version
current_next_indicator = 1	this table is applicable now
section_number = 0x00	this is the first section
last_section_number = 0x02	number of last section
...	

table_id = 0x00	identifies this section as belong to PAT
...	
section_number = 0x01	this is the second section
last_section_number = 0x02	number of last section
...	

table_id = 0x00	identifies this section as belong to PAT
...	
section_number = 0x02	this is the third (last) section
last_section_number = 0x02	number of last section
...	

Section Mapping Semantics

Transport Packet Format

sync '0x47'	tei (1)	pusi (1)	tp (1)	PID (13)	tsc (2)	afc '11'	cc (4)	Adapt. Field (AF bytes)	pf (8)	PSI sections (184-AF bytes)
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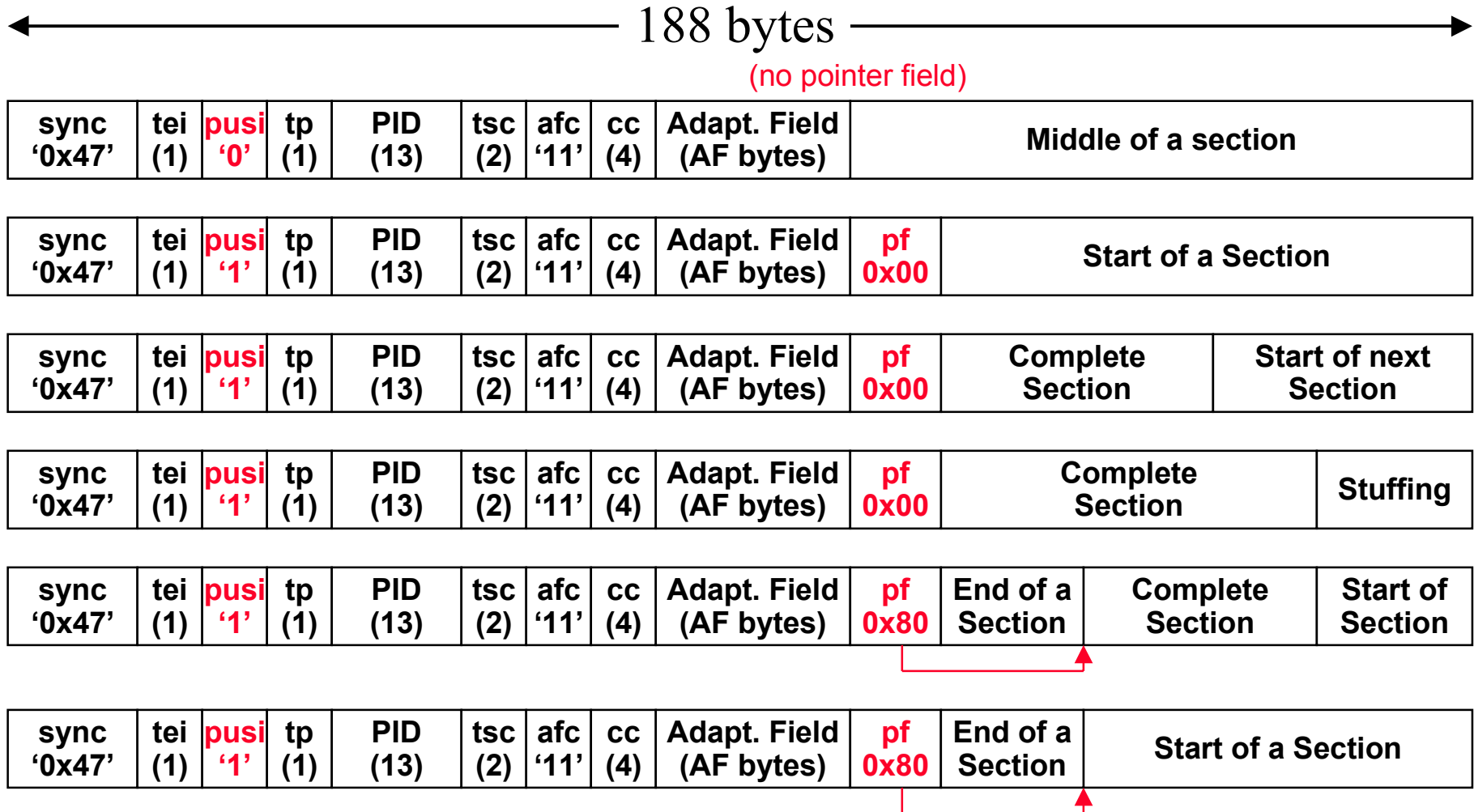


- pusi = payload_unit_start_indicator
- if pusi = 0, then no section starts in the payload, and no pointer field is present
- if pusi = 1, then at least one section starts in the payload. A pointer field is the first byte of the payload and indicates the byte offset to the first byte of the first section.



- pf = pointer_field
- if pf = 0x00, then a section starts immediately after this field
- if pf = 0x09, then a section starts 9 bytes after this field

Example Section Mappings



Program Association Section

Syntax	No. of bits	Mnemonic
program_association_section() {		
table_id	8	uimsbf
section_syntax_indicator	1	bslbf
'b'	1	bslbf
reserved	2	bslbf
section_length	12	uimsbf
transport_stream_id	16	uimsbf
reserved	2	bslbf
version_number	5	uimsbf
current_next_indicator	1	bslbf
section_number	8	uimsbf
last_section_number	8	uimsbf
for (i=0; i<N;i++) {		
program_number	16	uimsbf
reserved	3	bslbf
if(program_number == '0') {		
network_PID	13	uimsbf
}		
else {		
program_map_PID	13	uimsbf
}		
}		
CRC_32	32	rpchbf
}		

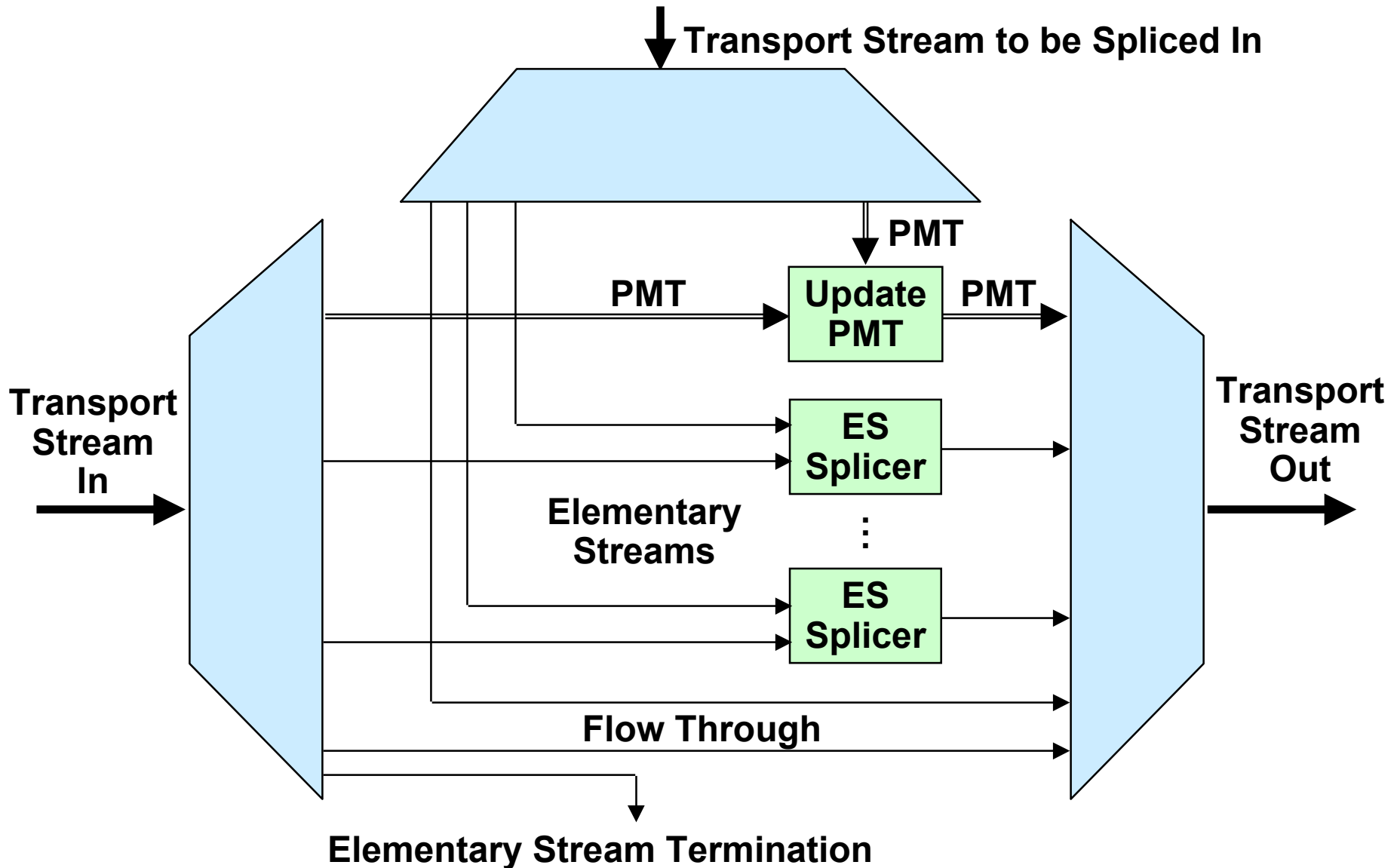
Program Map Section

Syntax	No. of bits	Mnemonic
TS_program_map_section() {		
table_id	8	uimsbf
section_syntax_indicator	1	bslbf
'0'	1	bslbf
reserved	2	bslbf
section_length	12	uimsbf
program_number	16	uimsbf
reserved	2	bslbf
version_number	5	uimsbf
current_next_indicator	1	bslbf
section_number	8	uimsbf
last_section_number	8	uimsbf
reserved	3	bslbf
PCR_PID	13	uimsbf
reserved	4	bslbf
program_info_length	12	uimsbf
for (i=0; i<N; i++) {		
descriptor()		
}		
for (i=0; i<N1; i++) {		
stream_type	8	uimsbf
reserved	3	bslbf
elementary_PID	13	uimsnf
reserved	4	bslbf
ES_info_length	12	uimsbf
for (i=0; i<N2; i++) {		
descriptor()		
}		
}		
CRC_32	32	rpchof
}		

Private Section

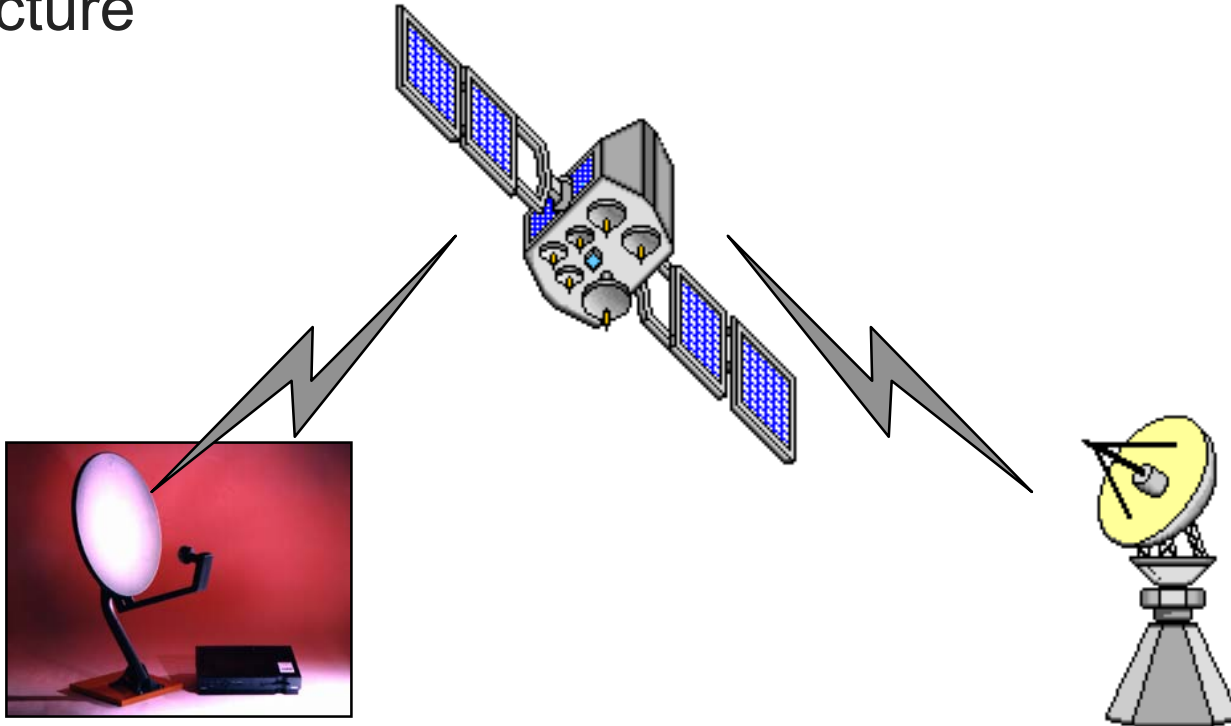
Syntax	No. of bits	Mnemonic
private_section() {		
table_id	8	uimbsf
section_syntax_indicator	1	bslbf
private_indicator	1	bslbf
reserved	2	bslbf
private_section_length	12	uimbsf
if (section_syntax_indicator == '0') {		
for (i=0;i<N;i++) {		
private_data_byte	8	bslbf
}		
}		
else {		
table_id_extension	16	uimbsf
reserved	2	bslbf
version_number	5	uimbsf
current_next_indicator	1	bslbf
section_number	8	uimbsf
last_section_number	8	uimbsf
for (i=0;i<private_section_length-9;i++) {		
private_data_byte	8	bslbf
}		
CRC_32	32	rpchof
}		
}		

Transport Stream Splicing



Specialized Transport Formats

- Digital Satellite
 - DIRECTV uses proprietary transport packet structure
 - Echostar and DVB-S systems use MPEG-2/DVB packet structure



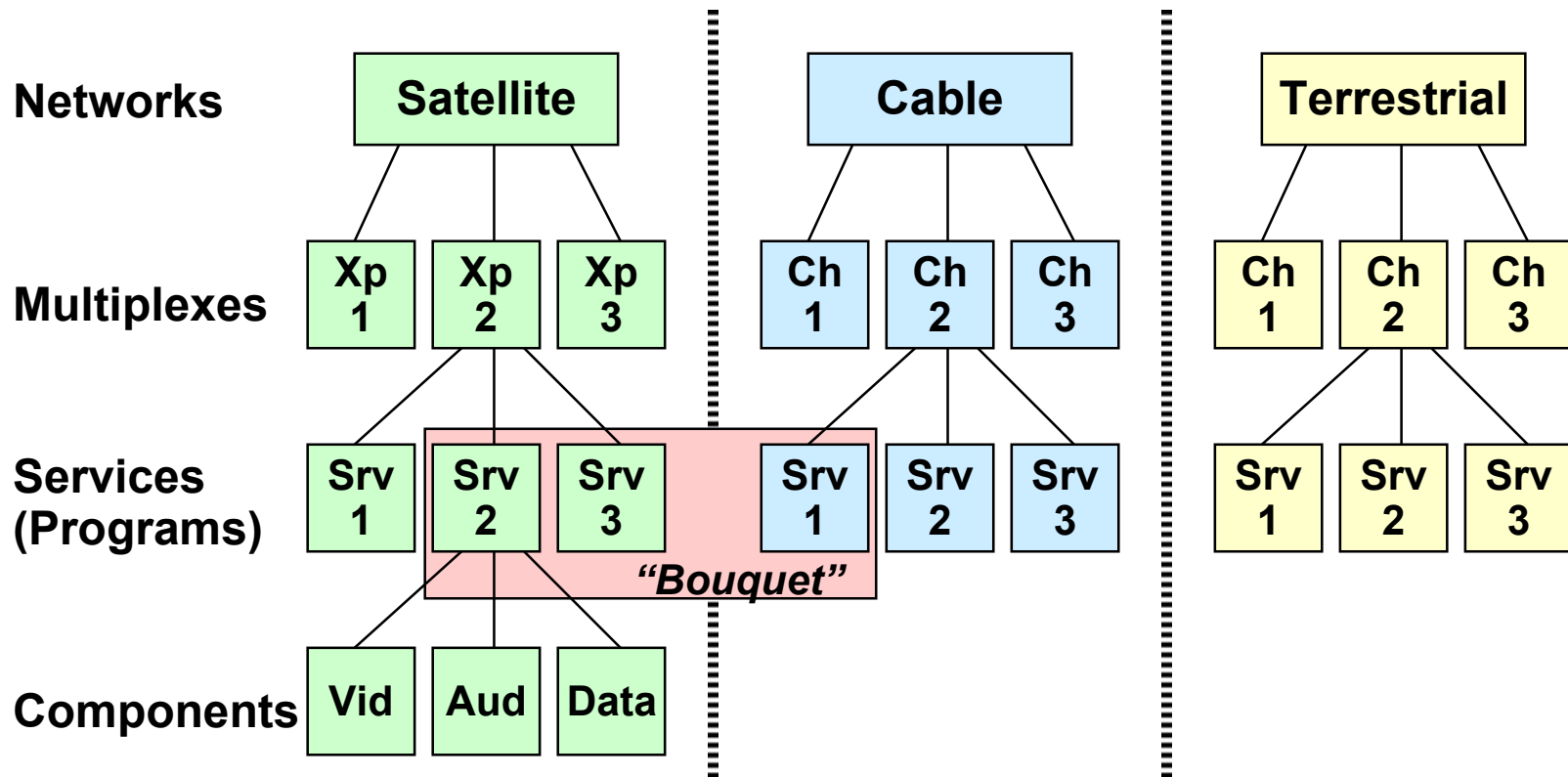
Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB)

- DVB, started in September 1993, is a European project that aims at near-term implementation of digital TV and data broadcasting.
- Consists of 200+ organizations from 25+ countries.
- Includes broadcasters, content providers, network operators, manufacturers and regulatory bodies.
- Is creating a family of standards for:
 - Cable (DVB-C)
 - Satellite (DVB-S)
 - Terrestrial (DVB-T)
- For more information, see *www.dvb.org*

DVB Core System

- Based on MPEG-2 Video, Audio and Transport
- Extends MPEG-2 Service Information with additional tables:
 - NIT: Network Information Table
 - SDT: Service Description Table
 - EIT: Event Information Table
 - TDT: Time and Date Table
 - BAT: Bouquet Association Table
 - RST: Running Status Table
 - ST: Stuffing Tables
- Uses Reed-Solomon and FEC
- Uses common Scrambling system and Conditional Access Interface
- Uses channel-dependent modulation and channel coding schemes

DVB Service Paradigm



A “bouquet” is a collection of services that can cross network boundaries.

DVB Measurement Guidelines

- At the Transport level, DVB has defined more stringent guidelines than MPEG-2.
- Some examples:
 - PCR's should be spaced no more than 40 ms apart (MPEG-2 Transport spec says 100 ms max).
 - PCR accuracy should be within ± 500 ns. (MPEG-2 Transport spec recommends < 4 ms jitter)
 - PTS's should occur at least every 0.7 sec (same as MPEG-2 Transport spec)
 - PAT's and PMT's should occur at least every 0.5 sec (no recommendation given in MPEG-2 Transport spec)
- For more information, see the report:
“Measurement Guidelines for DVB Systems”

ATSC Transport Format

- ATSC Digital Television Standard
 - MPEG-2 Transport Stream with constraints and extensions
 - Supports the following:
 - A/V Synchronization
 - Electronic Program Guide (PSIP)
 - Conditional Access Hooks
 - Private Data Services

ATSC PSI Constraints

- One program per PMT
- Max 400 ms between PMT's
- Max 100 ms between PAT's
- Alignment of Video Access Units in PES Packets
- No Adaptation Headers allowed in PAT and PMT Packets unless version number is discontinuous

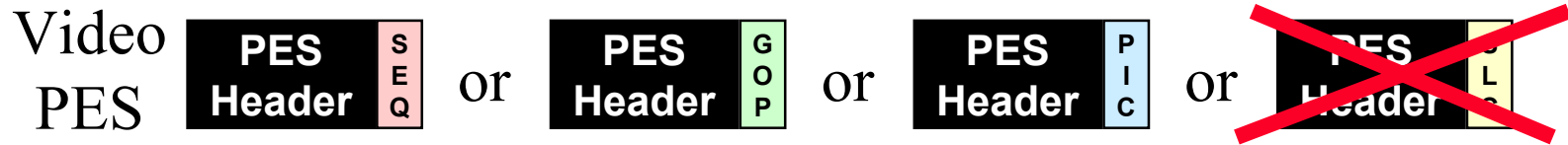
ATSC PES Constraints

- PES Payload must not be scrambled
- PES Header must not contain:
 - Clock or Rate Info for Elementary Stream
 - CRC or Private Data
 - MPEG-1 System Fields
 - Program System Target Decoder Fields
- Video PES Packets
 - must start with a SEQ, GOP or PICTURE header
 - must contain only one coded picture
 - must carry PTS and DTS (if applicable)

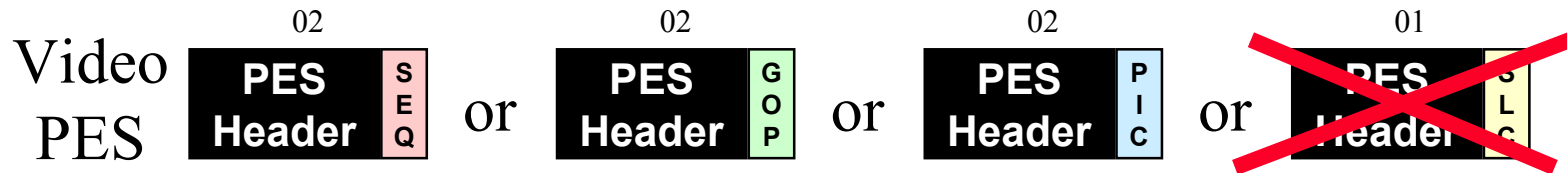
ATSC Video Data Alignment

ATSC Constraint #1: Each PES packet payload shall start with a video access unit (e.g., SEQ, GOP or PIC header).

`data_alignment_indicator = 1` in PES Header. If `data_stream_alignment_descriptor` is not present, then one of the following data alignments is required:

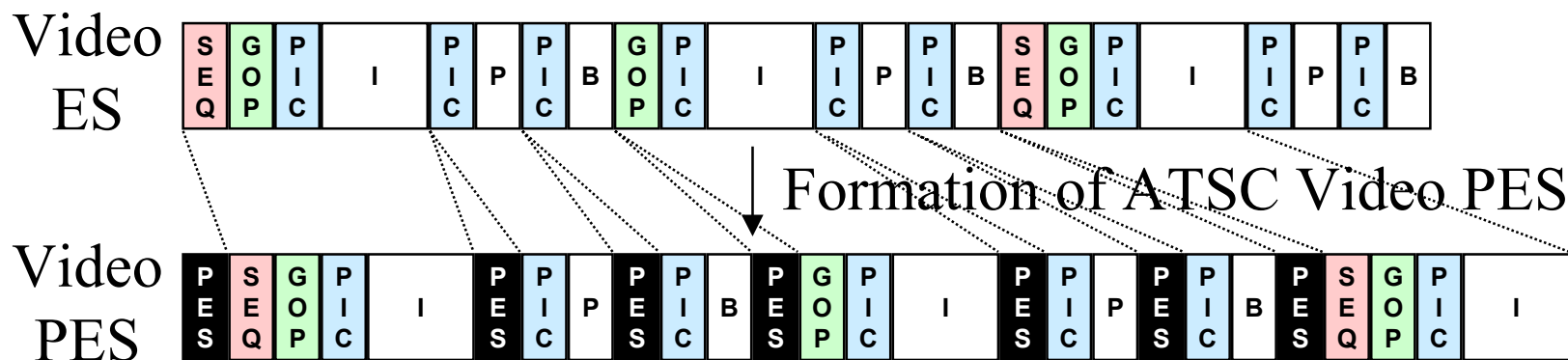


`data_alignment_indicator = 1` in PES Header. If `data_stream_alignment_descriptor` is present, it should equal 02, and one of the specified data alignments is required:



ATSC Video PES Payload

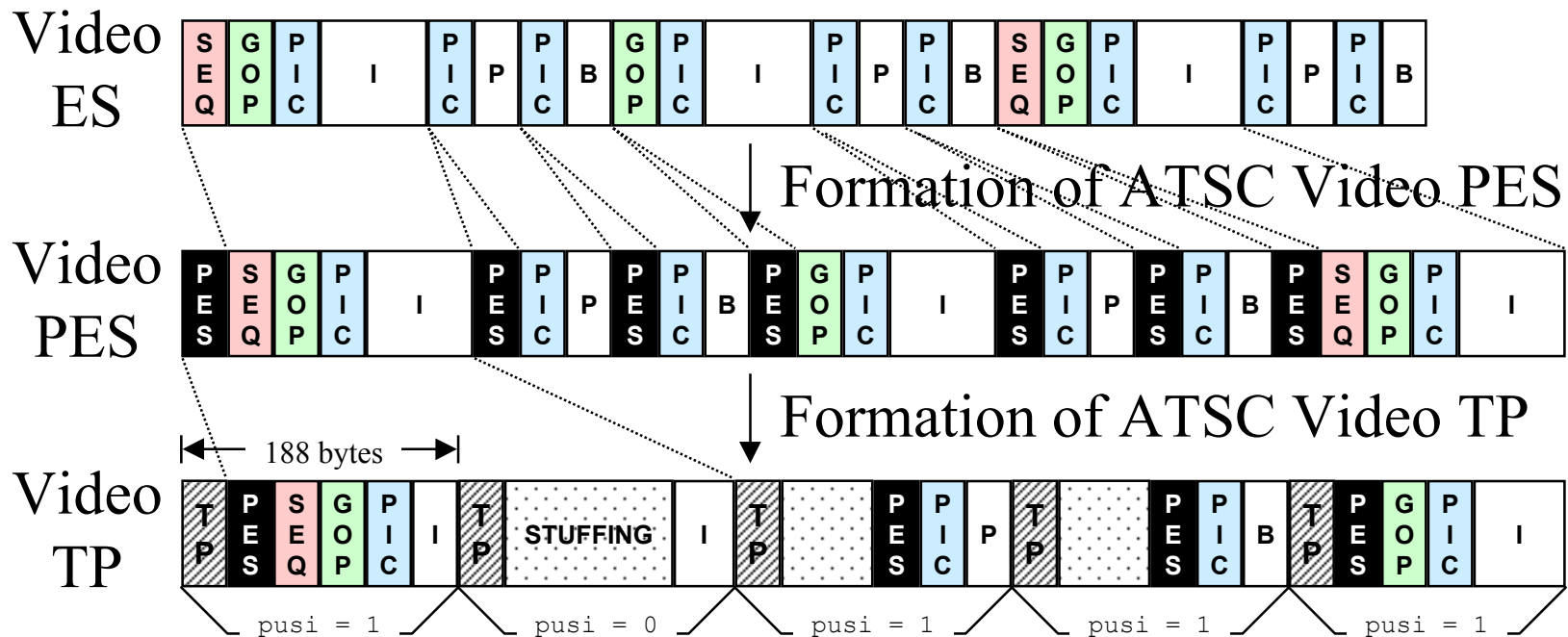
ATSC Constraint #2: Each PES packet payload shall not contain more than one coded frame.



ATSC Video Transport Packets

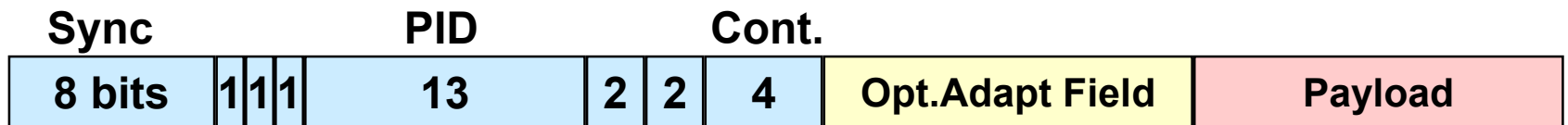
MPEG-2 Rules:

- 1) If `payload_unit_start_indicator` = 1 in Transport Header, then payload starts with the first byte of a PES header, and one and only one PES packet starts in this Transport Packet.
- 2) If `payload_unit_start_indicator` = 0 in Transport Header, then no PES packet shall start in this Transport Packet.



ATSC Transport Extensions

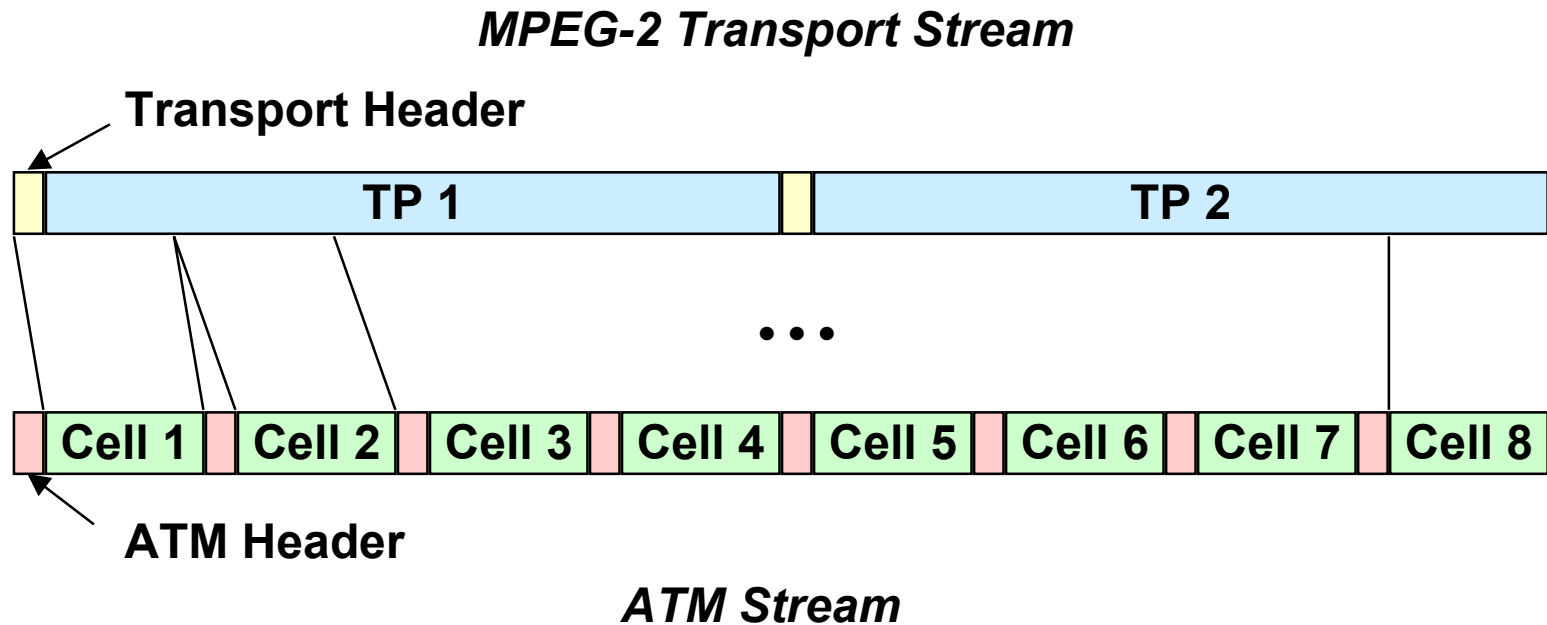
- The 2-bit Scrambling Control Field of the Transport Header is defined as follows:



*Transport Header
(shown shaded)*

transport_scrambling_control	Function
00	Packet Payload not scrambled
01	Not scrambled (flag for private use)
10	Scrambled with “even” key
11	Scrambled with “odd” key

Interoperability with ATM



- ATM = *Asynchronous Transfer Mode*, a telecommunications protocol using short, fixed-length packets.
- There are several possible mappings between MPEG-2 Transport and ATM. One example is shown above.

So what does this all mean?

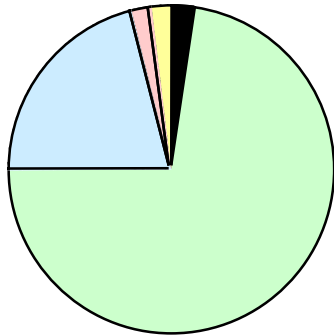
With packetized transmission, broadcasters will be able to:

- Alter service mix dynamically throughout programming day.
- Trade off quality among programs, or between program components (e.g., audio vs. video).
- Authorize pay-per-view and subscription services remotely.
- Add new services without losing existing subscriber base
- Possible new services:
 - 3-D TV
 - Video games
 - Alternate views in picture-in-picture
 - Stock quotes
 - Advertising brochures and catalogs

A Possible Broadcast Day

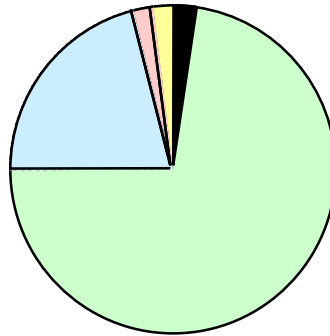
...matching the service profile to the viewer's needs...

6:00 am to 9:00 am



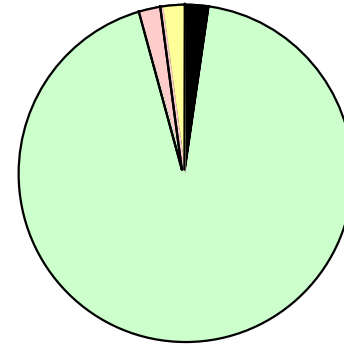
HDTV Morning news
with Business news in
standard resolution

9:00 am to 3:00 pm



Daytime HDTV with
specialized programming
to Schools and Business

3:00 pm to 1:00 am



Prime Time
HDTV Lineup

References

- *Digital Television Standard for HDTV Transmission*, U.S. Advanced Television Systems Committee, Doc. A/53, April 12, 1995.
- *Switching Facilities in MPEG-2: Necessary But Not Sufficient*, S. Merrill Weiss, SMPTE Conference Proceedings, San Francisco, CA, Feb. 1995.
- “Specifications for Service Information in Digital Video Broadcasting Systems”, ETSI Draft prETS 300 468, November 1994.
- *ISO/IEC 13818 Parts 1,2, and 3 – “Information Technology: Generic Coding of Moving Pictures and Associated Audio”*
- *ISO/IEC 11172 Parts 1,2, and 3 – “Coding of Moving Pictures and Associated Audio for Digital Storage Media at up to About 1.5 Mbit/s”*