

[Video Toolbox](#) / `VTDecompressionSession`

API Collection

# VTDecompressionSession

An object that decompresses video data.

## Overview

A decompression session supports the decompression of a sequence of video frames. Here's the basic workflow:

1. Create a decompression session by calling `VTDecompressionSessionCreate(allocator:formatDescription:decoderSpecification:imageBufferAttributes:outputCallback:decompressionSessionOut:)`.
2. Optionally, configure the session with your desired `Decompression Properties` by calling `VTSessionSetProperty( :key:value:)` or `VTSessionSetProperties( :propertyDictionary:)`.
3. Decode video frames using `VTDecompressionSessionDecodeFrame( :sampleBuffer:flags:frameRefcon:infoFlagsOut:)`.
4. When you finish with the decompression session, call `VTDecompressionSessionInvalidate( :)` to tear it down, and call `CFRelease` to free its memory.

## Topics

### Creating a Session

```
func VTDecompressionSessionCreate(allocator: CFAllocator?, format
Description: CMVideoFormatDescription, decoderSpecification:
```

```
CFDictionary?, imageBufferAttributes: CFDictionary?, decompression
SessionOut: UnsafeMutablePointer<VTDecompressionSession?>) -> OSStatus
```

```
func VTDecompressionSessionCreate(allocator: CFAllocator?, format
Description: CMVideoFormatDescription, decoderSpecification:
CFDictionary?, imageBufferAttributes: CFDictionary?, outputCallback:
UnsafePointer<VTDecompressionOutputCallbackRecord?>, decompression
SessionOut: UnsafeMutablePointer<VTDecompressionSession?>) -> OSStatus
```

Creates a session for decompressing video frames.

## Configuring a Session

### ⌵ Decompression Properties

Properties used to configure a VideoToolbox decompression session.

```
func VTVideoDecoderExtensionProperties(CMFormatDescription) throws -> [
VTEExtensionPropertiesKey : Any]
```

## Decoding Frames

```
func VTDecompressionSessionCanAcceptFormatDescription(VTDecompression
Session, formatDescription: CMFormatDescription) -> Bool
```

Indicates whether the session can decode frames with the given format description.

```
func VTDecompressionSessionDecodeFrame(VTDecompressionSession, sample
Buffer: CMSampleBuffer, flags: VTDecodeFrameFlags, frameRefcon: Unsafe
MutableRawPointer?, infoFlagsOut: UnsafeMutablePointer<VTDecodeInfo
Flags?>) -> OSStatus
```

Decompresses a video frame.

```
func VTDecompressionSessionDecodeFrame(VTDecompressionSession, sample
Buffer: CMSampleBuffer, flags: VTDecodeFrameFlags, infoFlagsOut: Unsafe
MutablePointer<VTDecodeInfoFlags?>, outputHandler: VTDecompression
OutputHandler) -> OSStatus
```

Decompresses a video frame and invokes the output callback when the decompression completes.

```
func VTDecompressionSessionDecodeFrame(VTDecompressionSession, sample
Buffer: CMSampleBuffer, flags: VTDecodeFrameFlags, infoFlagsOut: Unsafe
MutablePointer<VTDecodeInfoFlags?>, completionHandler: (OSStatus,
VTDecodeInfoFlags, CVImageBuffer?, [CMTaggedBuffer]?, CMTime, CMTime) -
> Void) -> OSStatus
```

Decompresses a video frame and calls the provided output closure when decompression completes.

```
func VTDecompressionSessionFinishDelayedFrames(VTDecompressionSession)
-> OSStatus
```

Directs the decompression session to emit all delayed frames.

```
func VTDecompressionSessionWaitForAsynchronousFrames(VTDecompression
Session) -> OSStatus
```

Waits for any and all outstanding asynchronous and delayed frames to complete, then returns.

```
func VTDecompressionSessionCopyBlackPixelBuffer(VTDecompressionSession,
pixelBufferOut: UnsafeMutablePointer<CVPixelBuffer?>) -> OSStatus
```

Copies a black pixel buffer from the decompression session.

## Decoding Multi-Image Frames

```
func VTIsStereoMVHEVCDecodeSupported() -> Bool
```

Returns a Boolean value that indicates whether the system supports MV-HEVC decoding.

```
typealias VTDecompressionMultiImageCapableOutputHandler
```

A type alias for callback that the system invokes when it finishes decompressing a frame.

## Invalidating a Session

```
func VTDecompressionSessionInvalidate(VTDecompressionSession)
```

Tears down a decompression session.

## Accessing the Type Identifier

```
func VTDecompressionSessionGetTypeID() -> CTypeID
```

Returns the Core Foundation type identifier for the decompression session.

## Data Types

```
class VTDecompressionSession
```

A reference to a decompression session.

```
struct VTDecodeFrameFlags
```

Flags to pass to a decompression session and the video decoder.

```
struct VTDecodeInfoFlags
```

Flags that provide information about the status of a decode operation.

```
typedef VTDecompressionOutputCallback
```

The prototype for the callback invoked when frame decompression is complete.

```
struct VTDecompressionOutputCallbackRecord
```

```
typedef VTDecompressionOutputHandler
```

The prototype for the block invoked when frame decompression is complete.

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## See Also

### Compression

`{}` Encoding video for low-latency conferencing

Configure a compression session to optimize encoding for video-conferencing apps.

`{}` Encoding video for live streaming

Configure a compression session to encode video for live streaming.

`{}` Encoding video for offline transcoding

Configure a compression session to transcode video in offline workflows.

`::VTCompressionSession`

An object that compresses video data.

`::VTFrameSilo`

An object that stores sample buffers from a multipass encoding session.

`::VTMultiPassStorage`

An object that stores video encoding metadata from a multipass encoding session.