

PREAMBULE

The purpose of this documentation is to describe the **Digital Cinema Package (DCP)** as comprehensively as possible.

Started naively in 2020, this documentation began as a collection of technical tips and information I have been using for years (probably since the early days of the DCI). This documentation aims to be, **at last**, a compilation of my own research on Digital Cinema, especially about DCP, all in one place.

Since the early release of the DCI specifications (2004-2005), getting information about DCP and its details is really complicated (above all because of standards not publicly available). Everyone who implements the standards has never explained to less knowledgeable people.

This documentation is intended for experts and beginners :

- **Beginners** : a quick and easy understanding of what a DCP is.
- **Experts** : avoid having to read thousands of pages of the SMPTE standards

This documentation doesn't claim to be perfect, it may have mistakes, omissions or lack of understanding :

- If you have technical or historical skills and you find mistakes or omissions, **do not hesitate to report them**.
- If you are a beginner and some paragraphs seem unclear, **do not hesitate to report them as well**
- If you have in mind a new potential subject or a missing one, do not hesitate to request it.

This documentation doesn't aim to be a translation of SMPTE standards or DCI specifications : They are too vast, it would be counterproductive to do that, especially because they often change.

This documentation aims to be evolving and updated over time : this is not a static documentation, it evolves to add new technological features and updates to the SMPTE standards. Keep an eye on [changelog](#).

The Source code through this documentation doesn't aim to be "best practices of coding", they are intentionally oversimplified, in order to understand each step. I don't like documentation with complicated source code that only experts can understand. In my point of view, it's a bad way for the original author to prove their own expertise. If you find any unclear source code, report it, I will try to simplify further. This source code aims to have a second purpose : to be used and integrated into any other source code or project. It's like a library of ready-to-use source code, or snippets.

TOOLS AND PROTOTYPES

During the writing of this documentation, I needed some tools, so I wrote them concurrently. You may see their outputs throughout some chapters. In addition, you may find some lighter versions of these tools to help with understanding. You can take a look in the [assets directory](#), you will find small software and source code.

Below, a brief description of these main tools.

To be clear, at this time, these tools are only proof-of-concept, they need a complete rewriting.
However, they are functional for the purpose of this documentation.

MXF ANALYZER

It's a MXF analyzer, it provides several options, such as analyzing and extracting data and metadata from MXF

files.

The project is now available in the github repository : <https://github.com/sherpadown/mxf-reader/>

```
$ mxf_analyzer.py --help
-h, --help            show this help message and exit
-f FILENAME, --filename FILENAME = mxf filename
-x EXTRACT, --extract EXTRACT = extract each KLV into files
-k KEY, --key KEY      AES Key, ex. --key 00000000000000000000000000000000
-v, --verbose          increase output verbosity
-n, --no-resolv        Do not resolv UL (speed)
--filter FILTER        filter by name
--fuzzy               Fuzzy mode only (very slow)
--limit LIMIT          stop after x klv parsed
--slow                Slowdown parse to avoid flood loadavg
```

```
# mxf_analyzer.py -f 2D.mxf
offset | uuid | ber | : data-size | data | name
0 | 060e2b34.02050101.0d010201.01020400 | 83.000078: | 120 | 00010002000000001000000000000000 | Partition
140 | 060e2b34.02050101.0d010201.01050100 | 83.000596: | 1430 | 0000004f0000000120201060e2b340101 | Primer Pac
1590 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01012f00 | 83.0000be: | 190 | 3c0a0010aaffbd07420e44a2b3f87d3c | Preface
1800 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01013000 | 83.0000d8: | 216 | 3c0a0010c00c5d91bcb4e58aefabf33 | Identifica
2036 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01011800 | 83.00005c: | 92 | 3c0a0010acc6d12cda0c465b861a1c33 | Content St
2148 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01012300 | 83.000048: | 72 | 3c0a0010bf8a6ebc3aca4164a47e45e0 | Essence Co
2240 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01013600 | 83.0000a0: | 160 | 3c0a001096b13153bd5d4cd29abcd608 | Material P
2420 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01013b00 | 83.000070: | 112 | 3c0a0010005ea82d6afb4a37aae4d74b | Timeline T
2552 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01010f00 | 83.000050: | 80 | 3c0a00108afb9187a608464f85713462 | Sequence
2652 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01011400 | 83.00004b: | 75 | 3c0a00108fe911af95d4464e9e794651 | Timecode C
2747 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01013b00 | 83.00006e: | 110 | 3c0a0010f8427198af884d4f8c9855f3 | Timeline T
2877 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01010f00 | 83.000050: | 80 | 3c0a0010e2bfd055e5d249a0bfc4da8 | Sequence
2977 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01011100 | 83.00006c: | 108 | 3c0a00106daf21bab69a41c99ec54f4f | Source Cli
3105 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01013700 | 83.000116: | 278 | 3c0a0010b87f0871f98446d39a842893 | Source Pac
3403 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01013b00 | 83.000070: | 112 | 3c0a00106378d2218be746d28508fedf | Timeline T
3535 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01010f00 | 83.000050: | 80 | 3c0a001075ef53606937484a9ee14472 | Sequence
3635 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01011400 | 83.00004b: | 75 | 3c0a001059cflad86f314b5db0164871 | Timecode C
3730 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01013b00 | 83.00006e: | 110 | 3c0a0010d4e733700afb45329cc796c6 | Timeline T
3860 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01010f00 | 83.000050: | 80 | 3c0a0010e2f035aa64684a7f98eddfa7 | Sequence
3960 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01011100 | 83.00006c: | 108 | 3c0a0010c93d2257b09a4d4bea24c782e | Source Cli
4088 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01012900 | 83.0000bd: | 189 | 3c0a00102cb46505be6b41c3abbe8848 | RGBA Essen
4297 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010101.01015a00 | 83.0000b5: | 181 | 3c0a00106054268f8fdf47ba98db7167 | JPEG2000 P
4498 | 060e2b34.01010102.03010210.01000000 | 83.002e5a: | 11866 | 00000000000000000000000000000000 | KLV Fill i
16384 | 060e2b34.02050101.0d010201.01030400 | 83.000078: | 120 | 00010002000000001000000000004000 | Partition
16524 | 060e2b34.01020101.0d010301.15010801 | 83.009cc8: | 40136 | ff4fff51002f000400001000000000870 | Picture Es
56680 | 060e2b34.02050101.0d010201.01040400 | 83.000078: | 120 | 0001000200000000100000000000dd68 | Partition
56820 | 060e2b34.02530101.0d010201.01100100 | 83.000083: | 131 | 3c0a00101c86aa0136fb414ebcd47120 | Index Tabl
```

With more verbosity :

```
# mxf_analyzer.py -f 2D.mxf
offset | uuid | ber | : data-size | data | name
0 | 060e2b34.02050101.0d010201.01020400 | 83.000078 : | 120 | 00010002000000001000000000000000 | Par

Major Version | 1
Minor Version | 2
KAGSize | 1
ThisPartition | 0
PreviousPartition | 0
FooterPartition | 56680
HeaderByteCount | 16244
IndexByteCount | 0
IndexSID | 0
BodyOffset | 0
BodySID | 0
Operational Pattern | 060e2b34.04010102.0d010201.10000000 (Operational Patter
EssenceContainers | 2 item(s): 060e2b34.04010103.0d010301.027f0100, 060e2b3
Resource [1] | SMPTE.ST.0377-1-2011 - MXF - File Format Specification

140 | 060e2b34.02050101.0d010201.01050100 | 83.000596 : | 1430 | 0000004f0000000120201060e2b340101 | Pri

0201 | 060e2b34.01010102.04070100.00000000 - Statically Local
0202 | 060e2b34.01010102.07020201.01030000 - Statically Local
```

A (very-very) lighter version of MXF analyzer is available here : <https://github.com/sherpadown/js-mxf/> (demo)

UL ANALYZER

A (very) quick & dirty Universal Label parser.

\$ ul "060e2b34020401010d010301027e0100"	
SMPTE UL Format	060e2b34.02040101.0d010301.027e0100
Hex Format (lower)	06.0e.2b.34.02.04.01.01.0d.01.03.01.02.7e.01.00
Hex Format (upper)	06.0E.2B.34.02.04.01.01.0D.01.03.01.02.7E.01.00
Hex Format (small)	060e2b34020401010d010301027e0100
<hr/>	
name	Encrypted Essence Container (SMPTE)
parser	essence_encrypted
resource	SMPTE.ST.0429-6-2006 - DCP - MXF Track File Essence Encryption, Page 10
<hr/>	
UL Header (2 bytes)	060e
UL Designator (6 bytes)	2b3402040101
Item Designator (8 bytes)	0d010301027e0100
<hr/>	
1 - Object ID	06
2 - UL Size	0e (14 bytes)
3 - ISO/ORG Identifier / UL Code	2b
4 - SMPTE Designator	34
5 - Category Designator	02 (Groups - Sets & Packs)
6 - Registry Designator	04 (Variable-Length Pack) - [Length=BER short/long] (All Length)
7 - Structure Designator	01 (Set/Pack Registry)
8 - Version	01
<hr/>	
9 - Item Designator	0d
10 - Item Designator	01
11 - Item Designator	03
12 - Item Designator	01
13 - Item Designator	02
14 - Item Designator	7e
15 - Item Designator	01
16 - Item Designator	00

IAB ANALYZER

An Immersive Audio Bitstream analyzer for IAB assets, such as Dolby Atmos, DTS-X, Barco Auro assets.

The project is now available in the github repository: <https://github.com/sherpadown/iab-reader/>

```
Usage: iab-analyzer.py <IAB data> or <IAB directory>
```

```
| IABitstream Frame [1]
| Preamble [1]
|   PreambleTag : 0x01
|   PreambleLength : 1603 bytes
|   PreambleValue : 11010effffffffffffffffffffff(...1571 bytes...)ffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffff
| IAFrame [1]
|   IAFrameTag : 0x02
|   IAFrameLength : 44501 bytes
|   IAFrameValue : 08ffadd10110529bff0200ff020e6402(...44469 bytes...)0173ffc1bffc0300000200000000500
| IAElement [1]
|   ElementID : 0x08 (IAFrame: Frame Header)
|   ElementSize : 0xadd1 (44497 bytes)
|   SubElementValue : 0110529bff0200ff020e64020b12d0202aad16adb68b4ab6daa55b4ab4aa0a2a(..) (44497 bytes)
```

```
| IAFrame [2]
|   IAVersion : 1
|   SampleRate : 0b00 (48000 Hz)
|   BitDepth : 0b01 (24 bits)
|   FrameRate : 0x0 (24 fps)
```

```
| | MaxRendered : 0x52 (82 bytes)
| | AlignBits(0)
| | SubElementCount : 0x9b (155 elements)
| |
| | ─── SubElement 0 ─── [3]
| | SubElementID : 0x0200 (Audio Data DLC Encoded)
| | SubElementSize : 0x020e (526 bytes)
| | SubElementValue : 64020b12d0202aad16adb68b4ab6daa55b4ab4aa0a2a96d5156d55aab6db6d5b(..) (526 byt
| |
| | ─── Audio Data DLC ─── [4]
| | AudioDataID : 100
| | DLCSize : 523 bytes
| | DLCSampleRate : 48000 Hz
| | ShiftBits : 9
| | ─── Predictor Informations ───
| | NumPredRegions : 0b01 (1 regions)
|
| ( . . . . )
```

JPEG2000 DCI ANALYSER

A JPEG2000 DCI 2K/4K images analyzer.

The project is now available in the github repository: <https://github.com/sherpadown/jpeg2000-reader/>

```
# jpeg2000-parser.py <file.j2c> <fileN.j2c> ...
read file.j2c
[SOC] Start of codestream (FF4F)
[SIZ] Image and tile size (FF51)
SIZ - rsiz : Profile 4
SIZ - Xsiz : 4096 px
SIZ - Ysiz : 1716 px
( . . . . )
[COD] Coding style default (FF52)
COD - Scod : 01 Binary Parameters: 00000001
COD - Progression order : 04 Binary Parameters: 00000100
COD - Number of Layers : 1
COD - Multiple Component Transform : 01 00000001
COD - Decomposition levels : 6
COD - CodeBlockSize : 32 x 32
( . . . . )
[QCD] Quantization default (FF5C)
QCD - Sqcd (Scalar coefficient dequantization), Quantization style for all components: 00100010
QCD - Sqcd binary parameters (bit1-3): Number of guard bits 0-7: 0b001 → 1 bits
QCD - Sqcd: 0b00010 → Scalar explicit
QCD - SPqcd (Exponent+Mantissa), Quantization step size value sub-band 0:
→ SPqcd : 0111111100010110 (0x7f16)
→ Mantissa : 0111 : 15
→ Exponent : 11100010110 : 1814
( . . . . )
[CME] Comment and extension (FF64)
CME - Registration values 1: Text ISO 8859-1
CME - Text: Created with Doremi Labs DMS2000 SN70062 server v1.8.0. Src0.
( . . . . )
[POC] Progression Order Change (FF5F)
POC - [2K] RSpoc (Resolution Start) : 0 (0x00)
POC - [2K] CSpoc (Component Start) : 0 (0x00)
POC - [2K] LYEpoc (Layer) : 1 (0x0001)
POC - [2K] REpoc (Resolution End) : 6 (0x06)
POC - [2K] CEpoc (Component End) : 3 (0x03)
POC - [2K] Ppoc (Progression Order) : 4 (0x04)
POC - [4K] RSpoc (Resolution Start) : 6 (0x06)
( . . . . )
[TLM] Tile-part lengths, main header (FF55)
TLM - Ztlm: Index of this marker segment: 0
TLM - Stlm: Size of the Ttlm and Ptlm parameters: 01010000
TLM - Stlm Bit-Parameters: SP = 1; Ptlm parameter 32 bits
TLM - Stlm Bit-Parameters: ST = 1; Ttlm parameter 8 bits
TLM - Ttlm - Tile number of tile-part 1: 0
TLM - Ptlm - Length SOT+SOD of tile-part 1: 190 bytes
( . . . . )
[SOT] Start of tile-part (FF90)
```

```
SOT - Isot, Tile number      : 0
SOT - Psot, Length of SOT+SOD : 190
SOT - TPot, Tile-part number : 0
SOT - TNsot, Number of tile-parts : 6
  ( . . . )
[SOD] Start of data          (FF93)
data: 176 bytes : eff07ffe0fc0115054afff5574bcab4000000000000c2425ff69dc40000000000309097fe4a5400000000061212ffc94a
  ( . . . )
```

CONCLUSION

Go back to [table of contents](#) of this documentation.

=====