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**Abstract**

This document contains a draft of a technical report on Signalling, Backward Compatibility and Display Adaptation for HDR/WCG Video Coding.

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| **Keywords:** | HDR, WCG, HEVC, AVC, SHVC, video coding, SDR compatibility, Display adaptation |

Summary

This technical paper relates to high dynamic range (HDR) and wide colour gamut (WCG) video distribution, based on the High Efficiency Video Coding (HEVC) standard (Rec. ITU-T H.265 | ISO/IEC 23008-2), and when applicable on the Advanced Video Coding (AVC) standard (Rec. ITU-T H.264 | ISO/IEC 14496-10), using either single-layer or dual-layer coding. The document serves several purposes. It provides a survey of the signalling mechanisms (video usability information indicators and supplemental enhancement information messages) for handling HDR/WCG video with HEVC, and when applicable, with AVC. It includes guidance on the processing and coding of HDR/WCG video in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 representations, using the ICTCP colour representation with the perceptual quantizer (PQ) transfer function and using the non-constant luminance (NCL) Y′CbCr colour representation with the hybrid log-gamma (HLG) transfer function. It discusses approaches to enable compatibility with legacy decoding systems that do not have the ability to detect and properly display HDR/WCG video content. It describes methods for adapting HDR/WCG video content for use with display technology having different degrees and types of dynamic range and colour gamut capability. A dual-layer coding approach using the Scalable Main 10 profile of HEVC for backward compatibility with standard dynamic range (SDR) systems is also documented.

The paper complements the material provided in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14, entitled *Conversion and Coding Practices for HDR/WCG Y*′*CbCr 4:2:0 Video with PQ Transfer Characteristics*.

Signalling, Backward Compatibility and Display Adaptation   
for HDR/WCG Video Coding

# Introduction

High dynamic range (HDR) video is a type of video content in which the sample values represent a larger luminance range than conventional standard dynamic range (SDR) video. HDR video can provide an enhanced viewer experience and can more accurately reproduce scenes that include, within the same image, dark areas and bright highlights, such as emissive light sources and reflections. Wide colour gamut (WCG) video, on the other hand, is video characterized by a wider spectrum of colours compared to what has been commonly available in conventional video. Recent advances in capture and display technology have enabled consumer distribution of HDR and WCG content. However, given the characteristics of such content, special considerations may need to be made, in terms of both processing and compression, compared to conventional content.

This technical paper relates to HDR/WCG video coding and distribution, using single-layer or dual-layer coding, with the High Efficiency Video Coding (HEVC), and when applicable, the Advanced Video Coding (AVC) signalling. This document serves several purposes. It provides a survey of identified video usability information (VUI) syntax elements and supplemental enhancement information (SEI) messages specified in HEVC and AVC applicable for HDR/WCG video. Guidance for usage of the ICTCP colour representation and usage of the hybrid log-gamma (HLG) transfer functions is provided. Examples of using colour remapping information (CRI) and tone mapping information (TMI) SEI messages for the support of SDR backward compatibility and display adaptation functionalities are provided. A dual-layer coding approach using the Scalable Main 10 profile of HEVC for backward compatibility with SDR systems is also documented.

# Scope

This document provides information and guidance on approaches for the processing and coding of HDR/WCG video content. The purpose of this document is to provide a set of publicly referenceable information and suggested guidelines for the operation of AVC or HEVC video coding systems adapted for compressing HDR/WCG video for consumer distribution applications. This document first includes a review of the video usability information (VUI) indicators and supplemental enhancement information (SEI) messages applicable for HDR/WCG video. It provides a description of processing steps for converting from 4:4:4 RGB linear light representation video signals into video signals with ICTCP colour representation and perceptual quantizer (PQ) transfer function, or with non-constant luminance (NCL) Y′CbCr colour representation and HLG transfer function (ICTCP, PQ and HLG are defined in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100). Some high-level guidance for compressing these signals using either the AVC or HEVC video coding standards is provided. A description of post-decoding processing steps is also included for converting back to a linear light, 4:4:4 RGB representation. The document also addresses the standard dynamic range (SDR) backward compatibility, that is, the compatibility with legacy decoding systems that are not able to detect and properly display HDR/WCG video content. It provides example implementations of this feature using three different solutions: using HLG as a backward compatible transfer function, using CRI and TMI SEI messages, using dual-layer approach with the Scalable Main 10 profile of HEVC and an SDR compatible base layer. Finally, the document illustrates the usage of CRI SEI messages to convey metadata enabling the dynamic range and colour gamut adaptation at the display side of the decoded video to the display capabilities.

The paper complements the material provided in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14, which is focused on conversion and coding practices for NCL Y′CbCr video signals using the PQ transfer function.

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# Definitions

This document defines the following terms. The definitions used in the AVC (Rec. ITU-T H.264 | ISO/IEC 14496-10) and HEVC (Rec. ITU-T H.265 | ISO/IEC 23008-2) standards also apply.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * 1. **a** | **dynamic range adaptation (DRA)**: A mapping process to convert content from one colour volume to another colour volume. |
| * 1. **a** | **electro-optical transfer function (EOTF)**: The electro-optical transfer function, which converts the non-linear video signal into a quantity of output linear light (e.g., light emitted by a display). |
| * 1. **a** | **full range**: A range in a fixed-point (integer) representation that spans the full range of values that could be expressed with that bit depth, such that, for 10-bit signals, black corresponds to code value 0 and peak white corresponds to code value 1023 for Y′, as per the full range definition from Rec. ITU-R BT.2100. |
| * 1. **a** | **hybrid log-gamma (HLG)**: One of the two sets of transfer functions specified in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100; Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 specifies the reference HLG OETF and its inverse. |
| * 1. **a** | **narrow range:** A range in a fixed-point (integer) representation that does not span the full range of values that could be expressed with that bit depth such that, for 10 bit representations, the range from 64 (black) to 940 (peak white) is used for Y′ and the range from 64 to 960 is used for Cb and Cr, as per the narrow range definition from Rec. ITU-R BT.2100. |
| * 1. **a** | **opto-electronic transfer function (OETF)**: The opto-electronic transfer function, which converts source input linear optical intensity (e.g., light input to a camera) into the non-linear video signal. |
| * 1. **a** | **opto-optical transfer function (OOTF)**: The opto-optical transfer function, which has the role of applying the "rendering intent" on video signal; in general, an OOTF is a concatenation of an OETF, artistic adjustments and an EOTF. |
| * 1. **a** | **perceptual quantizer (PQ)**: One of the two sets of transfer functions specified in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100; Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 specifies the reference PQ EOTF and its inverse. |
| * 1. **a** | **random access point access unit (RAPAU)**: An access unit in the bitstream at which the initiation of the decoding process for some or all subsequent pictures in the bitstream is intended to be feasible. |
| * 1. **a** | **reference electro-optical transfer function (reference EOTF)**: A specified EOTF for use under specific viewing environment, named the reference viewing environment. |
| * 1. **a** | **reference opto-electronic transfer function (reference OETF)**: A specified OETF implemented within cameras, to ensure consistency of the image between cameras from different manufacturers. |
| * 1. **a** | **reference viewing environment**: parameters to establish a reproducible viewing environment for critical viewing of material that can provide repeatable results from one facility to another when viewing the same material; Table 3 of Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 provides reference viewing environment parameters for HDR programme material. |

# Abbreviations and acronyms

This document uses the following abbreviations and acronyms. The abbreviations and acronyms used in the AVC (Rec. ITU-T H.264 | ISO/IEC 14496-10) and HEVC (Rec. ITU-T H.265 | ISO/IEC 23008-2) standards also apply.

AVC Advanced Video Coding, specified in Rec. ITU-T H.264 | ISO/IEC 14496-10

CI Constant Intensity

CL Constant Luminance

CLVS Coded Layer-wise Video Sequence

CRI Colour Remapping Information SEI message

DRA Dynamic Range Adaptation

EOTF Electro-Optical Transfer Function

HDR High Dynamic Range

HEVC High Efficiency Video Coding, specified in Rec. ITU-T H.265 | ISO/IEC 23008-2

HLG Hybrid Log-Gamma, specified in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100

ICTCP Alternative colour space representation to Y′CbCr, specified in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100

LMS Long, Medium, and Short wavelength-based colour space, specified in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100

LUT Look-up Table

NCL Non-Constant Luminance

OETF Opto-Electronic Transfer Function

OOTF Opto-optical Transfer Function

PQ Perceptual Quantizer, specified in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100

PQ10 HDR content representation that utilizes the Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 colour primaries, the Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 reference PQ EOTF, and the Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 NCL Y′CbCr colour space representation with 10 bits per sample in the 4:2:0 chroma sampling format

QP Quantization Parameter

RAPAU Random Access Point Access Unit

RGB Colour System using Red, Green, and Blue components

SDR Standard Dynamic Range

SEI Supplemental Enhancement Information

SHVC Scalable high efficiency video coding

SMPTE Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers

TMI Tone Mapping Information SEI message

VUI Video Usability Information

WCG Wide Colour Gamut

XYZ The CIE 1931 colour space; Y corresponds to the luminance signal.

Y′CbCr Colour space representation commonly used for video/image distribution as a way of encoding RGB information, also commonly expressed as YCbCr, Y′CBCR, or Y′C′BC′R. The relationship between Y′CbCr and RGB is dictated by certain signal parameters, such as colour primaries, transfer characteristics, and matrix coefficients. Unlike the (constant luminance) Y component in the XYZ representation, Y′ in this representation might not be representing the same quantity. Y′ is commonly referred to as "luma". Cb and Cr are commonly referred to as "chroma".

# Conventions

## General

The mathematical operators used in this document are similar to those used in the C programming language. However, the results of integer division and arithmetic shift operations are defined more precisely, and additional operations are defined, such as exponentiation and real-valued division. Numbering and counting conventions generally begin from 0, e.g., "the first" is equivalent to the 0-th, "the second" is equivalent to the 1-th, etc.

## Arithmetic operators

The following arithmetic operators are defined as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Addition |
| − | Subtraction (as a two-argument operator) or negation (as a unary prefix operator) |
| \* | Multiplication, including matrix multiplication |
| xy | Exponentiation. Denotes x to the power of y. In other contexts, such notation is used for superscripting not intended for interpretation as exponentiation. |
| / | Integer division with truncation of the result toward zero. For example, 7 / 4 and (−7) / (−4) are truncated to 1 and (−7) / 4 and 7 / (−4) are truncated to −1. |
| ÷ | Used to denote division in mathematical formulae where no truncation or rounding is intended. |
|  | Used to denote division in mathematical formulae where no truncation or rounding is intended. |
|  | The summation of f( i ) with i taking all integer values from x up to and including y. |
| x % y | Modulus. Remainder of x divided by y, defined only for integers x and y with x >= 0 and y > 0. |

## Bit-wise operators

The following bit-wise operators are defined as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| & | Bit-wise "and". When operating on integer arguments, operates on a two's complement representation of the integer value. When operating on a binary argument that contains fewer bits than another argument, the shorter argument is extended by adding more significant bits equal to 0. |
| | | Bit-wise "or". When operating on integer arguments, operates on a two's complement representation of the integer value. When operating on a binary argument that contains fewer bits than another argument, the shorter argument is extended by adding more significant bits equal to 0. |
| ^ | Bit-wise "exclusive or". When operating on integer arguments, operates on a two's complement representation of the integer value. When operating on a binary argument that contains fewer bits than another argument, the shorter argument is extended by adding more significant bits equal to 0. |
| x  >>  y | Arithmetic right shift of a two's complement integer representation of x by y binary digits. This function is defined only for non-negative integer values of y. Bits shifted into the MSBs as a result of the right shift have a value equal to the MSB of x prior to the shift operation. |
| x  <<  y | Arithmetic left shift of a two's complement integer representation of x by y binary digits. This function is defined only for non-negative integer values of y. Bits shifted into the LSBs as a result of the left shift have a value equal to 0. |

## Assignment operators

The following assignment operators are defined as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| = | Assignment operator |
| ++ | Increment, i.e., x  is equivalent to x  x  1; when used in an array index, evaluates to the value of the variable prior to the increment operation. |
| − − | Decrement, i.e., x− − is equivalent to x  x − 1; when used in an array index, evaluates to the value of the variable prior to the decrement operation. |
| += | Increment by amount given, i.e., x += 3 is equivalent to x = x + 3, and x += (−3) is equivalent to x = x + (−3). |
| −= | Decrement by amount given, i.e., x −= 3 is equivalent to x = x − 3, and x −= (−3) is equivalent to x = x − (−3). |

## Relational, logical, and other operators

The following operators are defined as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| == | Equality operator |
| != | Not equal to operator |
| !x | Logical negation “not” |
| > | Larger than operator |
| < | Smaller than operator |
| ≥ | Larger than or equal to operator |
| ≤ | Smaller than or equal to operator |
| && | Conditional/logical “and” operator. Performs a logical “and” of its Boolean operators, but only evaluates the second operand if necessary. |
| | | | Conditional/logical “or” operator. Performs a logical “or” of its Boolean operators, but only evaluates the second operand if necessary. |
| a ? b : c | Ternary conditional. If condition a is true, then the result is equal to b; otherwise the result is equal to c. |

## Mathematical functions

The following mathematical functions are defined as follows:

the smallest integer greater than or equal to x.

the reference PQ EOTF used to convert a non-linear light PQ representation to a linear light representation.

where e is Euler’s base constant 2.718 281 828....

the largest integer less than or equal to x.

the inverse reference PQ EOTF used to convert a linear light representation to a non-linear light representation.

the inverse reference HLG OETF used to convert a non-linear light representation to a scene-referred linear light representation.

the natural logarithm of x (the base-e logarithm, where e is natural logarithm base constant 2.718 281 828...).

the base-10 logarithm of x.

the reference HLG OETF used to convert a scene-referred linear light representation to a non-linear light representation.

## Order of operations

When order of precedence in an expression is not indicated explicitly by use of parentheses, the following rules apply:

– Operations of a higher precedence are evaluated before any operation of a lower precedence.

– Operations of the same precedence are evaluated sequentially from left to right.

Table 1 specifies the precedence of operations from highest to lowest; a higher position in the table indicates a higher precedence.

NOTE – For those operators that are also used in the C programming language, the order of precedence used in this document is the same as used in the C programming language.

Table 1 – Operation precedence from highest (at top of table) to lowest (at bottom of table)

|  |
| --- |
| **Operations (with operands x, y, and z)** |
| "x++", "x− −" |
| "!x", "−x" (as a unary prefix operator) |
| "xy" |
| "x \* y", "x / y", "x  y""", "x % y" |
| "x + y", "x − y" (as a two-argument operator), "" |
| "x  <<  y", "x  >>  y" |
| "x < y", "x  <=  y", "x > y", "x  >=  y" |
| "x  = =  y", "x  !=  y" |
| "x & y" |
| "x | y" |
| "x  &&  y" |
| "x  | |  y" |
| "x ? y : z" |
| "x..y" |
| "x = y", "x  +=  y", "x  −=  y" |

# Overview

The document is structured as follows.

* Clause 7 reviews identified signalling mechanisms of HEVC, when applicable, of AVC, relevant for HDR/WCG video coding and distribution.
* Clause 8 describes usage of HLG transfer functions and CRI or TMI SEI messages for the support of SDR backward compatibility (defined below) with single-layer profile (e.g. HEVC Main 10).
* Clause 9 describes a dual-layer HDR/WCG video coding system with SDR backward compatibility implemented with the HEVC Scalable Main 10 profile.
* Clause 10 addresses the display adaptation functionality (defined below), with application examples based on the CRI SEI message.

"SDR backward compatibility" relates to the ability of HDR/WCG video coding and distribution systems to produce a video signal suitable for SDR-only capable rendering devices (e.g. UHD SDR display with Rec. ITU-R BT.2100/BT.2020 colour primaries). In the present document, it is defined in two modes:

* In HDR/WCG distribution systems that support "bitstream"SDR backward compatibility, the decoded video signal from a standard-compliant decoder (e.g. HEVC Main 10 decoder) can be directly displayed on an SDR-capable display without adaptation. Two categories of "bitstream"SDR backward compatibility are considered:
  + In "static" bitstreamSDR backward compatibility, the decoded video is an HDR signal, for instance, Y′CbCr 4:2:0 10-bits with the Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 reference HLG opto-electronic transfer function (OETF) and Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 colour primaries, that can be directly displayed on an HDR-capable display or an SDR-capable display, without adaptation. In this context, the HDR processing chain is a static function, not dependent on the input video data.
  + In "dynamic" bitstream SDR backward compatibility, the decoded video is an SDR signal. A post-processing step can be further used to reconstruct an HDR signal, using metadata conveyed for instance in CRI or TMI SEI messages. In this context, the HDR processing chain is dynamic, and adapts to the input video data.
* In HDR/WCG distribution systems that support display SDR backward compatibility, the decoded video signal from a standard-compliant decoder (e.g. HEVC Main 10 decoder) is an HDR signal (for instance, Y′CbCr 4:2:0 10-bits with Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 inverse reference PQ electro-optical transfer function (EOTF) and Rec. ITU-R BT.2100/Rec. ITU-R BT.2020 colour primaries). A post-decoding dynamic range adaptation (DRA) process is applied to the decoded video signal to produce an SDR video signal that can be displayed on an SDR-capable display. The adaptation process can use metadata, conveyed for example in CRI SEI messages, to perform this conversion.

"Display adaptation" is a generic term covering techniques of video signal processing which adapts the decoded video signal to a target display. Techniques providing display SDR backward compatibility are considered as a subset of display adaptation. Display adaptation techniques aim at converting an HDR/WCG video signal, originally produced for a reference display capable to display a certain colour volume (dynamic range and colour gamut), to a video signal suitable to a target rendering device of different (from reference display) colour volume capabilities. For instance, it can be used to convert a NCL Y′CbCr 4:2:0 10-bits Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 PQ signal (denoted PQ10 in the present document), originated from an HDR video master produced on a display with a given reference peak luminance, to a lower peak luminance capable display. Display adaptation could also increase the colour volume, if desired. Another term used in the industry for display adaptation is regrading. Display adaptation can be driven by metadata transmitted along with the video bitstream, typically using SEI messages.

Conversion and coding practices related to production and compression of HDR/WCG video signal represented with NCL Y′CbCr 4:2:0 video with Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 PQ transfer characteristics are outside of scope of this document. These aspects are specifically addressed in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14.

# HEVC signalling mechanisms applicable to HDR/WCG video

## General

This clause provides an overview of the VUI syntax elements and SEI messages specified in HEVC (Rec. ITU-T H.265 | ISO/IEC 23008-2), applicable to HDR/WCG video and relevant to the scope of this document. The PQ, HLG transfer functions, and the ICTCP colour representation are also described.

This clause is structured as follows.

* Clause 7.2 reviews VUI signalling applicable to HDR/WCG video.
* Clause 7.3 reviews SEI messages applicable to HDR/WCG video.
* Clause 7.4 provides an overview of PQ and HLG transfer functions.
* Clause 7.5 provides a description of ICTCP colour representation, including conversion and coding practices related to HDR/WCG video signals represented with ICTCP 4:2:0 video with Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 inverse reference PQ EOTF.

In addition, conversion and coding practices related to HDR/WCG video signals represented with NCL Y′CbCr 4:2:0 video with Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 HLG transfer characteristics are also discussed in clause 8.2.

## VUI syntax elements

By design, metadata signalled in syntax elements of VUI in HEVC is not mandatory for constructing the luma or chroma samples by the decoding process, and may be ignored by the decoder. However, such syntax elements provide useful parameters or attributes of an encoded signal and can be utilized in the video system design. Examples of VUI parameters relevant to HDR/WCG video system design include colour primaries, transfer characteristics and matrix coefficients specified in Tables E.3, E.4 and E.5 of the HEVC specification respectively. Table 7‑1 and Table 7‑2 below provide values of VUI syntax elements that indicate usage of Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 representation of the video signal, including matrix coefficients associated with Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 (same as those associated with Rec. ITU-R BT.2020).

Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 specifies HDR-TV image parameters for use in production and international programme exchange. It defines two sets of transfer functions: perceptual quantizer (PQ) and hybrid log-gamma (HLG). RGB colour primaries are defined identically as in Rec. ITU-R BT.2020. Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 describes two different luminance and colour difference signal representations: non-constant luminance (NCL) Y′CbCr and constant intensity (CI) ICTCP. Syntax elements of VUI in HEVC can be used to convey the metadata describing such attributes of the coded signal. The VUI transfer\_characteristics syntax element either indicates the reference OETF of the source picture as a function of a source input linear optical intensity or indicates the inverse of the reference EOTF as a function of an output linear optical intensity, as described in Table 7‑1 for HEVC. RGB colour primaries are indicated using colour\_primaries syntax element (set equal to 9 for Rec. ITU-R BT.2100/BT.2020 colour primaries). Colour representation is indicated using matrix\_coeffs syntax element, as described in Table 7‑2 for HEVC.

Table 7‑1 – Values of transfer\_characteristics indication in VUI in HEVC.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **PQ** | **HLG** |
| transfer\_characteristics | 16 | 18 |

Table 7‑2 – Values of matrix\_coeffs indication in VUI in HEVC.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **NCL Y′CbCr** | **CI ICTCP** |
| matrix\_coeffs | 9 | 14 |

NOTE 1 – PQ is also defined in SMPTE ST 2084 and HLG is also defined in ARIB STD-B67.

NOTE 2 – VUI syntax elements values for PQ are also defined in AVC.

## SEI messages applicable for HDR/WCG video

### General

As in the case of VUI, metadata signalled in SEI messages are not mandatory for constructing the luma or chroma samples by the decoding process, and may be ignored by the decoder. However, this signalling mechanism can be used in HDR/WCG video distribution systems to convey information providing additional description (to VUI) of the coded content, or it can be used to convey information enabling specific post-decoding processing. HEVC (and AVC) contains several SEI messages applicable to HDR/WCG video coding and distributing systems. A first set of SEI syntax elements convey descriptive information about the content, the way it was produced, the nominal conditions it is assumed to be rendered, how it should be interpreted by a display. These SEI messages are reviewed in clauses 7.3.2 to 7.3.5. A second set of SEI syntax elements is more specifically devoted for enabling specific post-processing of the decoded samples, e.g. signal adaptation processes. For example, some SEIs can be used for the conversion of decoded content from one colour volume to another colour volume. This approach can apply in bitstream SDR backward compatibility use cases for SDR-to-HDR conversion (the decoded signal is SDR, and the converted signal after post-processing using metadata conveyed in the SEI message is HDR). This approach can also apply in display adaptation use cases for converting a decoded HDR signal to an HDR version of lower colour volume. This comprises conversion to an SDR version for display SDR backward compatibility use case. These SEI messages are described in clauses 7.3.6 and 7.3.7.

### Mastering display colour volume SEI message

The mastering display colour volume (MDCV) SEI message specifies the colour gamut and dynamic range of a hypothetical monitor used for viewing while authoring the video content. It conveys the colour primaries and white point of the monitor, expressed in the CIE 1931 xyY colour space (ISO 11664-1), and provides the minimum and maximum linear light luminance of the monitor (expressed in candelas per square metre, denoted cd/m2). The indicative information provided by MDCV may assist the receiving system in adapting the received video content for local display with characteristics that may differ from the assumed mastering display characteristics. The MDCV SEI message persists until the end of the CLVS. The HEVC specification requires that all MDCV SEI messages that apply to the same CLVS have the same content.

NOTE 1 – The mastering display colour volume SEI message is also defined in AVC.

NOTE 2 – Mastering display colour volume metadata is also defined in SMPTE ST 2086.

### Content light level information SEI message

The content light level information (CLL) SEI message conveys the maximum light level and average light level, in the linear light domain (expressed in cd/m2), among the 4:4:4 R, G, B samples of the content pictures in the coded video sequence. As for the MDCV SEI message, the indicative information provided by CLL SEI message may assist the receiving system in adapting the received video content to local display capabilities. It can be used for instance to help better controlling the energy consumption for local display [Zink2015]. The CLL SEI message persists until the end of the CLVS. The HEVC specification requires that all CLL SEI messages that apply to the same CLVS have the same content.

NOTE 1 – The content light level information SEI message is also defined in AVC.

NOTE 2 – Corresponding metadata associated with the CLL SEI message and examples of derivation algorithms are defined in CEA-861.3.

### Ambient viewing environment SEI message

The ambient viewing environment (AVE) SEI message characterizes the ambient viewing environment assumed when mastering the associated video content. It conveys the environmental illuminance and chromaticity coordinates (in the CIE 1931 xyY colour space) of the mastering nominal ambient viewing environment. This indicative information may assist the receiving system in adapting the received video content for local display in viewing environments that may differ from those assumed when mastering the video content. The AVE SEI message persists until the end of the CLVS. The HEVC specification requires that all AVE SEI messages that apply to the same CLVS have the same content.

### Alternative transfer characteristics SEI message

The alternative transfer characteristics (ATC) SEI message provides a preferred alternative value for the transfer\_characteristics syntax element that is indicated by the colour description syntax of VUI parameters. This SEI message is especially applicable in bitstream SDR backward compatibility use cases, where the VUI transfer\_characteristics syntax element is supposed to signal an SDR OETF (transfer\_characteristics values 1, 6, 14 or 15). The ATC SEI message can be conveyed to indicate the actual OETF used to produce an SDR-compatible HDR video signal representation. This is applicable to the reference HLG OETF (transfer\_characteristics value 18), further discussed in clause 8.2. The ATC SEI message persists until the end of the CLVS. The HEVC specification requires that all ATC SEI messages that apply to the same CLVS have the same content.

### Tone mapping information SEI message

The tone mapping information (TMI) SEI message is designed to carry one or more tone mapping curves within a coded video sequence. The tone mapping curves are used to convert the decoded image to a mapped image, for instance to target a specific display. Four ways of implementing the tone mapping function are specified for the TMI SEI message, including a linear function with a clip, a sigmoidal function, a piece-wise linear function, or an explicit 1D look-up table (LUT). In practice, for each case, the mapping curve can be represented by a 1D-LUT LUTTM. The tone mapping function applies either to the luma component, or simultaneously to the three RGB components of the decoded signal, for instance as indicated below.

(7‑1)

The TMI SEI message includes a syntax element tone\_map\_id that may be used to identify the purpose of the TMI. The TMI SEI message also includes a syntax elementtone\_map\_model\_id that specifies the model type used for mapping the coded data.

More than one tone mapping can be associated with a coded video sequence through the tone mapping information SEI message identifier tags. This enables simultaneous support for multiple dynamic range targets, including targets that have greater or less dynamic range than the decoded video data.

NOTE – The tone mapping information SEI message is also specified in AVC.

### Colour remapping information SEI message

The colour remapping information (CRI) SEI message conveys information used to remap decoded pictures from one colour volume to another one. The syntax of the CRI remapping model includes three parts: a first piece-wise linear function applied to each colour component ("Pre-LUT"), followed by a three-by-three matrix applied to the three resulting colour components, and followed by a second piece-wise linear function applied to each resulting colour component ("Post-LUT"). Each one of these sets of data is optional (for instance, only the Pre-LUTs can apply, leading to the application of only one mapping function to each colour component of the input signal). A maximum of 33 pivot points per LUT may be coded to specify the piece-wise linear functions. When the three-by-three matrix is activated, the conversion process the CRI mapping must be applied in the 4:4:4 domain. When it is not activated, the mapping process can be applied in the 4:2:2 or 4:2:0 chroma sampling formats.

The following formulae illustrate the application of the complete CRI model to the R, G, B values of a colour sample (although the CRI mapping can also be applied to Y′CbCr samples):

(7‑2)

(7‑3)

(7‑4)

The CRI SEI message includes a syntax element colour\_remap\_id that may be used to identify the purpose of the colour remapping information. For instance, the colour\_remap\_id value may be used to indicate that the input of the remapping is the result of a first conversion process, such as conversion to Y′CbCr, RGB (or GBR) colour representation, to enable cascading of different remapping processes, or to support conversion for multiple dynamic range targets.

The CRI SEI message also includes syntax elements that convey information to describe of the resulting colour volume of post-processed signal, namely colour\_remap\_video\_signal\_info\_present\_flag, colour\_remap\_transfer\_function, colour\_remap\_full\_range\_flag, colour\_remap\_primaries, colour\_remap\_matrix\_coefficients, colour\_remap\_output\_bit\_depth. The purpose of these syntax elements is analogous to the purpose of the colour description syntax of the VUI.

More than one remapping can be associated with a coded video sequence through the CRI SEI message identifier tags. This can enable simultaneous support for multiple dynamic range targets, including targets that have greater or less dynamic range than the decoded video data.

NOTE – The colour remapping information SEI message is also specified in AVC.

## Overview of PQ and HLG transfer functions

### General

Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 specifies two sets of transfer functions, PQ and HLG. The specification of HLG is defined in terms of its reference OETF, while the specification of PQ is defined in terms of its reference EOTF. Thus, the HLG system is considered as a "scene-referred" system, whereas the PQ system is considered as a "display-referred" system. In the scene-referred approach the HDR signal represents the light in the scene (with or without artistic adjustment), for example detected by a camera, while a display-referred signal represents the light emitted by a reference or grading display (with or without artistic adjustment). Since the overall optical system is non-linear (typically characterized as a power or "gamma" law) scene and display-referred signals are not linearly related. This non-linearity is modelled by the opto-optic transfer function (OOTF, see Rec. ITU-R BT.2100) which compensates for the difference in tonal perception between the environment of the camera and that of the display as further explained in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 Annex 1. With scene-referred signals the primary transfer function is the OETF, which defines how the signal is related to linear scene light. For a display-referred signal the primary transfer function is the EOTF which defines how the signal should be converted to be displayed on a reference or grading monitor. Display-referred signals may not be used directly in scene-referred systems, even if both correspond to "linear light", without distorting the pictures. More detail about the differences between scene and display-referred signals can be found in Annex A of Rec. ITU-R BT.2100.

NOTE 1 – The OOTF defined for HLG is different from the OOTF defined for PQ.

In Rec. ITU-R BT.2100, PQ and HLG transfer functions are defined as follows:

* The PQ OETF, converting the signal from scene linear light to non-linear representation, is defined based on the reference PQ EOTF, converting the signal from non-linear to display linear light representation, as:

OETF = EOTF–1( OOTF )

* The HLG EOTF, converting the signal from non-linear to display linear light representation, is defined based on the reference HLG OETF, converting the signal from scene linear light to non-linear representation, as:

EOTF = OOTF( OETF−1 )

Functions "iEOTF" and "iOETF" are used in this document to represent EOTF−1 and OETF−1, respectively.

NOTE 2 – Informative methods for transcoding between PQ and HLG signals are described in Annex 2 of ITU-R BT.2100 and Section 7 of ITU-R report BT.2390.

### Reference PQ EOTF

The inverse reference PQ EOTF is described in Table E.4 of the HEVC specification for transfer\_characteristics equal to 16. The non-linear light representation V of a linear light intensity signal Lo, which takes values normalized to the range [0, 1], is computed as:

(7‑5)

where c1, c2, c3, m, and n are constants defined as follows:

c1 = c3 − c2 + 1 = 3424 ÷ 4096 = 0.835 937 5 (7‑6)

c2 = 2413 ÷ 128 = 18.851 562 5 (7‑7)

c3 = 299 ÷ 16 = 18.687 5 (7‑8)

m = 2523 ÷ 32 = 78.843 75 (7‑9)

n = 1305 ÷ 8192 = 0.159 301 757 812 5 (7‑10)

The peak value of 1 for Lo is ordinarily intended to correspond to an intensity level of 10 000 cd/m2, while the value of 0 for Lo is ordinarily intended to correspond to an intensity level of 0 cd/m2.

The reference PQ EOTF, EOTFPQ( ), is described as the exact inverse of Formula 7-5. The linear light intensity signal Lo is computed from the non-linear representation V, which takes values in the range [0, 1], as follows:

(7‑11)

A plot of the inverse reference PQ EOTF is shown in Figure 7‑1.

Figure 7‑1 – Graph of the inverse reference PQ EOTF (iEOTFPPQ).

### Reference HLG OETF

The reference HLG OETF, OETFHLG( ), as described in Table E.4 of the HEVC specification for transfer\_characteristics equal to 18, applies as follows to linear light scene-referred R, G, B samples, normalized to the range [0, 1]. For Lc = R, G, or B, the following applies:

V = OETFHLG( Lc ) = a \* Ln( 12 \* Lc − b ) + c for 1 >= Lc > ( 1 ÷ 12 ) (7‑12)

= Sqrt( 3 ) \* Lc0.5 for( 1 ÷ 12 ) >= Lc >= 0

where a, b and c are constants defined as follows:

a = 0.178 832 77 (7‑13)

b = 1 – 4 \* a = 0.284 668 92 (7‑14)

c = 0.5 – a \* Ln(4 \* a) = 0.559 910 73 (7‑15)

A plot of the reference OETF for HLG is shown in Figure 7‑2.

Figure 7‑2 – Graph of the reference HLG OETF (OETFHLG).

The inverse of the reference HLG OETF is formulated as follows:

Lc = iOETFHLG( V ) = 1 ÷ 12 \* ( Exp( ( V − c ) ÷ a ) + b ) for 1 >= V > ( 1 ÷ 2 ) (7‑16)

= V2 ÷ 3 for( 1 ÷ 2 ) >= V >= 0

The inverse of the reference HLG OETF does not equate to the EOTF. For more information on the HLG EOTF, the reader can refer to Rec. ITU-R BT.2100, Report ITU-R BT.2390 and [Borer2015].

## ICTCP colour representation

### General

An overview of CI ICTCP colour representation is given in Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 and Report ITU-R BT.2390. This clause mainly provides a set of guidelines on processing HDR/WCG video for consumer distribution, including conversion steps for converting from a linear light RGB representation with Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 colour primaries to a 10-bits, narrow range, inverse reference PQ EOTF, 4:2:0, ICTCP representation.

The HDR/WCG system described in this clause follows the same workflow of 10-bits, narrow range, inverse reference PQ EOTF, 4:2:0, non-constant luminance Y′CbCr representation described in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14. It consists of four major stages:

* a pre-encoding stage consisting of several pre-processing processes (clause 7.5.2),
* an encoding stage (clause 7.5.3),
* a decoding stage (clause 7.5.4), and
* a post-decoding stage consisting of several post-processing processes (clause 7.5.5).

These four stages are applied sequentially, with the output of one stage being used as input to the next stage.

It is assumed that both the input to and the output of the HDR/WCG system are 4:4:4, linear light, floating-point signals, in an RGB colour representation using the same colour primaries. The output signal is targeted to resemble the input video signal as closely as possible. Other video formats can be used as input to the HDR/WCG system by first converting them to the above defined input signal representation.

NOTE 1 – The main goal of this clause is to highlight the conversion and coding differences between PQ ICTCP and PQ NCL Y′CbCr signal. More detail on common parts of these two systems are provided specifically in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14.

NOTE 2 – The same workflow can be used for HLG ICTCP by substituting PQ with HLG.

### Pre-encoding process

The pre-encoding process described in this document includes the following components, as presented in Figure 7‑3:

1. a conversion component from a linear RGB data representation to a linear LMS data representation, described in clause 7.5.2.1
2. a conversion component from a linear LMS data representation to a non-linear data representation using the inverse reference PQ EOTF, described in clause 7.5.2.2,
3. a colour format conversion component that converts data to the ICTCP colour representation, described in clause 7.5.2.3,
4. a conversion component that converts a floating-point to a fixed-point representation (e.g. 10 bits), following the same process described in clause 7.2.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14, and
5. a chroma down-conversion component that converts data from 4:4:4 to 4:2:0, following the same process described in clause 7.2.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14 and further clarified in clause 7.5.2.4.



Figure 7‑3 – Conventional PQ ICTCP pre-encoding process system diagram.

#### Conversion from a linear RGB representation to a linear LMS representation

Conversion from a linear RGB to a linear LMS representation is performed using a 3x3 matrix conversion process, where RGB colour primaries are in accordance with Rec. ITU-R BT.2020 and Rec. ITU-R BT.2100.

(7‑17)

#### Conversion from a linear to a non-linear representation: LMS to L'M'S'

The inverse reference PQ EOTF (Formula 7.5) is applied to all L, M, and S linear light samples, where each component is a number between 0 (representing 0 cd/m2) and 1 (representing 10 000 cd/m2). This results in their non-linear light counterparts L′, M′, and S′ as follows.

L′ = iEOTFPQ( L ) (7‑18)

M′ = iEOTFPQ( M ) (7‑19)

S′ = iEOTFPQ( S ) (7‑20)

#### Colour representation conversion: L′M′S′ to ICTCP

Conversion from L′M′S′ to ICTCP representation is performed using a 3x3 matrix conversion process.

(7‑21)

#### Chroma down-conversion

Converting the ICTCP video data from a 4:4:4 representation to a 4:2:0 representation follows the same process described in clause 7.2.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14.

It is observed in [Pu2016a] that the closed loop luma adjustment method in clause 7.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14, which aims at reducing NCL Y′CbCr chroma down-sampling artefacts, does not prove to be beneficial for ICTCP chroma down-conversion. This can be explained by the constant luminance property of ICTCP. As shown in Figure 7‑4, the achromatic axis of Y′ deviates substantially from luminance especially when colour goes more saturated. On the other hand, the achromatic axis of ICTCP (I) corresponds very closely with luminance (see also [Pytlarz2016]). The constant luminance property of ICTCP can reduce chroma leakage errors that can be introduced when spatially sub-sampling the chroma components (such as the 4:2:0 widely used for compression) compared with NCL Y′CbCr*.*

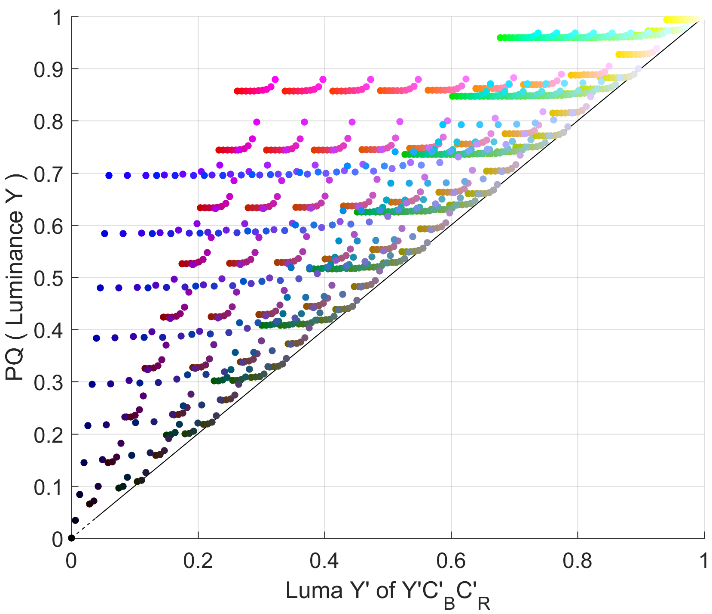
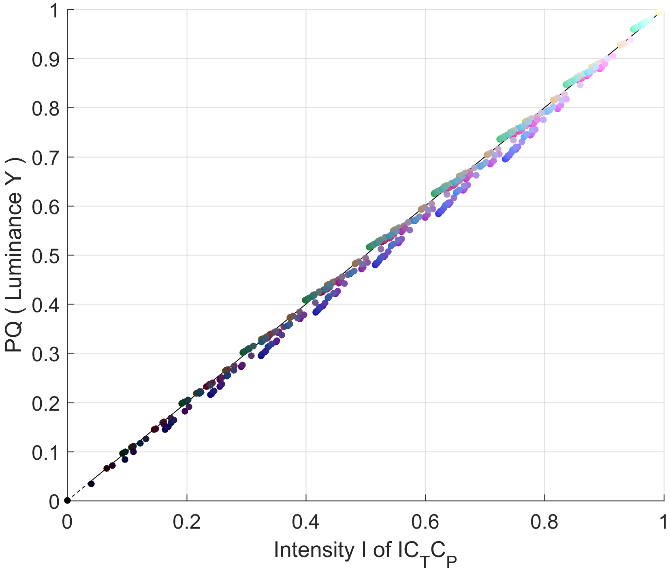


Figure 7‑4 – Luminance correlation with ICTCP and Y′CbCr colour representations.

### Encoding process

After pre-processing, the data is ready for compression. Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14 presents some guidance on how an encoder may be configured for HDR/WCG 10-bits, narrow range, PQ, 4:2:0, NCL Y′CbCr data. Two quantization methodologies, perceptual luma quantization, in clause 8.2, and chroma QP offset in clause 8.3, are described. For the HDR/WCG 10-bit, narrow range, PQ, 4:2:0, ICTCP data coming out from pre-processing step, those two methodologies are still valid. [Pu2016b] shows that ICTCP exhibits different characteristics than NCL Y′CbCr data for current test data, therefore the exact parameter settings for these two quantization methods might need to be reconfigured. One practice for ICTCP encoding is to configure the encoder settings to follow the bitrate allocation behavior of NCL Y′CbCr [Pu2016b]. An example of encoder setting is described in clause 7.5.3.1.

Apart from modifying the QP allocation in the encoder, it may also be desirable for an encoder manufacturer to adjust other non-normative encoding processes in their encoders, such as the motion estimation, intra and inter mode decision, trellis quantization, and rate control among others, as discussed in clause 8.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14.

#### Example of encoder setting

Two main observations are made in [Pu2016b]. Firstly, the Y′ component in Y′CbCr and I component in ICTCP have very similar compression characteristics in terms of variance. This results in similar coding bits given same luma quantizer. [Pu2016b] suggests that techniques designed to improve coding efficiency of Y′ component (e.g., perceptual luma quantization from Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14) can be used for the I component directly. Secondly, for colour components, CT and CP have a higher variance than Cb and Cr, thus modifications should be applied for technologies designed to improve chroma coding efficiency, such as the adaptive chroma QP offset model in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14.

In the following example of chromaQP offset settings for ICTCP, it is assumed that the colour primaries of the mastering display/capture device are known. Based on this knowledge, the following model is used to assign QP offsets for Cb, corresponding to CT, and Cr, corresponding to CP, based on the luma QP and a factor dependent on the capture and representation colour primaries. The model is expressed as:

(7‑22)

(7‑23)

where ccb = 1 and CbOffset = 6 if the capture colour primaries are the same as the representation colour primaries, ccb= 0.5 and CbOffset = 8 if the capture colour primaries are equal to the P3D65 primaries and the representation colour primaries are equal to the Rec. ITU-R BT.2100/BT.2020 primaries, and ccb=0.9 and CbOffset = 6 if the capture colour primaries are equal to the Rec. ITU-R BT.709 primaries and the representation primaries are equal to the Rec. ITU-R BT.2100/BT.2020 primaries.

Similarly, ccr = 1 and CrOffset = 6 if the capture colour primaries are the same as the representation colour primaries, ccr=0.9 and CrOffset = 7 if the capture colour primaries are equal to the P3D65 primaries and the representation colour primaries are equal to the Rec. ITU-R BT.2100/BT.2020 primaries, and ccr= 1.6 and CrOffset = 6 if the capture colour primaries are equal to the Rec. ITU-R BT.709 primaries and the representation primaries are equal to the Rec. ITU-R BT.2100/BT.2020 primaries.

Finally, and .

#### HEVC encoding

When creating the HEVC bitstream it is suggested to set syntax elements to the values listed in Table 7‑3 in the sequence parameter set (SPS) of the bitstream. The syntax elements in Table 7‑3 are conveyed in the video usability information syntax branch of the SPS defined in Annex E of the HEVC specification. They may also be duplicated and carried in various application-layer headers.

Table 7‑3 – Suggested settings for HEVC encoding of ICTCP 4:2:0 PQ 10-bit signal.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested value** |
| general\_profile\_space | profile\_tier\_level() | 0 |
| general\_profile\_idc | profile\_tier\_level() | 2 (Main 10) |
| vui\_parameters\_present\_flag | seq\_parameter\_set\_rbsp( ) | 1 |
| video\_signal\_type\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| video\_full\_range\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 0 |
| colour\_description\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| colour\_primaries | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 |
| transfer\_characteristics | vui\_parameters( ) | 16 |
| matrix\_coeffs | vui\_parameters( ) | 14 |
| chroma\_loc\_info\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_top\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_bottom\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |

For HDR/WCG content represented with the colour primaries of Rec. ITU-R BT.2100/BT.2020, Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 inverse reference PQ EOTF and ICTCP colour representation, the video characteristics is typically different compared to the video characteristics of SDR content represented with Rec. ITU-R BT.709 colour primaries and Rec. ITU-R BT.709/BT.2020 OETF. Chroma QP adjustment, as described in clause 7.5.3.1 can be performed by adjusting and controlling the HEVC syntax elements pps\_cb\_qp\_offset, slice\_cb\_qp\_offset, pps\_cr\_qp\_offset and slice\_cr\_qp\_offset. Similarly, perceptual luma quantization as discussed in clause 7.5.3.1 could be achieved by adjusting the syntax elements cu\_qp\_delta\_abs and cu\_qp\_delta\_sign\_flag.

#### AVC encoding

When creating the AVC bitstream it is suggested to set syntax elements to the values listed in Table 7‑4 in the SPS of the bitstream. The syntax elements in Table 7‑4 are conveyed in the video usability information syntax branch of the SPS defined in Annex E of the AVC specification. They may also be duplicated and carried in various application-layer headers.

Table 7‑4 – Suggested settings for AVC encoding of ICTCP 4:2:0 PQ 10-bit signal.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested value** |
| profile\_idc | seq\_parameter\_set\_data( ) | 110 |
| vui\_parameters\_present\_flag | seq\_parameter\_set\_data( ) | 1 |
| video\_signal\_type\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| video\_full\_range\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 0 |
| colour\_description\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| colour\_primaries | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 |
| transfer\_characteristics | vui\_parameters( ) | 16 |
| matrix\_coefficients | vui\_parameters( ) | 14 |
| chroma\_loc\_info\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_top\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_bottom\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |

For HDR/WCG content represented with the colour primaries of Rec. ITU-R BT.2100/BT.2020, Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 inverse reference PQ EOTF and ICTCP colour representation, the video characteristics is typically different compared to the video characteristics of SDR content represented with Rec. ITU-R BT.709 colour primaries and Rec. ITU-R BT.709/BT.2020 OETF. Chroma QP adjustment, as described in clause 7.5.3.1 can be performed by adjusting and controlling AVC syntax elements chroma\_qp\_index\_offset and second\_chroma\_qp\_index\_offset. Similarly, perceptual luma quantization as discussed in clause 7.5.3.1 could be achieved by adjusting the syntax element mb\_qp\_delta.

### Decoding process

When the bitstream is an HEVC bitstream, the decoding process as in the HEVC specification is performed.

When the bitstream is an AVC bitstream, the decoding process in the AVC specification is performed.

NOTE – The decoding process for HDR/WCG video is not different from the decoding process of SDR video.

### Post-decoding process

#### General

The post-decoding stage includes the following components:

1. a chroma up-conversion component that converts data from 4:2:0 to 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
2. a conversion component that converts a fixed-point representation, i.e. 10 bits, to a floating-point representation, following the same process described in clause 10.2 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
3. a colour format conversion component that converts data from the ICTCP representation back to the non-linear L′M′S′ representation, described in clause 7.5.5.2,
4. a conversion component from the non-linear L′M′S′ data representation back to a linear LMS data representation, described in clause 7.5.5.3,
5. a conversion component from a linear LMS data representation to a linear RGB data representation, described in clause 7.5.5.4.



Figure 7‑5 – Conventional PQ ICTCP post-decoding process system diagram.

#### Colour representation conversion: ICTCP to L′M′S′

Conversion from the ICTCP representation back to the L′M′S′ representation can be performed using a 3x3 matrix conversion process.

(7‑24)

#### Conversion from a non-linear to a linear light representation: L′M′S′ to LMS

The reference PQ EOTF (Formula 7-11) is applied to all L′, M′, and S′ non-linear representations, resulting in their linear light counterparts L, M, and S as follows:

L = EOTFPQ( L′ ) (7‑25)

M = EOTFPQ( M′ ) (7‑26)

S = EOTFPQ( S′ ) (7‑27)

#### Colour representation conversion: LMS to RGB

Conversion from the LMS representation back to the RGB representation can be performed using a 3x3 matrix conversion process, where RGB colour primaries are in accordance with Rec. ITU-R BT.2020 and Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 and each component, L, M, S, R, G, and B, is a number between 0.0 (representing no light) and 1.0 (representing 10 000 cd/m2).

(7‑28)

# Bitstream SDR backward compatibility with single-layer coding

## General

This clause addresses the use cases of bitstream SDR compatibility. Two approaches are described: Approach 1 which uses a static HDR opto-electrical transfer function (OETF) to deliver "native" bitstream SDR backward compatibility; Approach 2 which applies an "adaptive" HDR-to-SDR conversion process prior to the encoding, with dynamic metadata used to perform the inverse conversion after decoding. Approach 1 can be addressed with HEVC or AVC using the Rec. BT.2100 HLG transfer functions. Approach 2 can be addressed with HEVC or AVC using the CRI or TMI SEI messages to convey the dynamic metadata.

## Approach 1: usage of HLG for "static" bitstream SDR backward compatibility

### General

The HLG transfer function (Rec. ITU-R BT.2100) has been designed to provide some level of backward compatibility with the legacy SDR systems. The legacy system is taken to be the SDR systems not needing colour gamut conversion (for example, not needing conversion from BT.2100/BT.2020 to BT.709 colour primaries) but needing only dynamic range conversion. HLG is suggested to be used with BT.2100/BT.2020 colour primaries.

This clause provides a set of guidelines on processing HDR/WCG video for consumer distribution with SDR compatibility, including conversion steps for converting from a linear light RGB representation with Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 colour primaries to a 10-bits, narrow range, reference HLG OETF, 4:2:0, Y′CbCr representation.

The HLG-based HDR/WCG workflow consists of four major stages:

* a pre-encoding stage described in clause 8.2.2,
* an encoding stage described in clause 8.2.3, including suggested signalling using VUI and ATF SEI message to enable the SDR compatibility feature,
* a decoding stage described in clause 8.2.4, and
* a post-decoding stage described in clause 8.2.5.

These four stages are applied sequentially, with the output of one stage being used as input to the next stage.

### HLG pre-encoding conversion process

#### General

HLG pre-encoding conversion process is illustrated in Figure 8‑1. The conversion chain converts an input linear RGB 4:4:4 signal to HLG 10-bits Y′CbCr 4:2:0 signal. It consists of the following successive steps:

1. a pre-conversion step, denoted "inverse system gamma" in Figure 8‑1 and described in clause 8.2.2.3, when the input HDR signal is display-light referred (see explanations in clause 7.4); when the input HDR signal is scene-light referred (e.g. from camera, see explanations in clause 7.4), this pre-conversion step is not expected to be applied,
2. a conversion from an input scene-referred linear RGB 4:4:4 data representation to a non-linear data representation R′G′B′ using the reference HLG OETF as described in clause 8.2.2.2,
3. a colour format conversion from non-linear HLG R′G′B′ 4:4:4 signal to Y′CbCr 4:4:4 following the same process described in clause 7.2.2 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
4. a conversion step that converts a floating-point to a fixed-point representation (e.g. 10 bits), narrow range, following the same process described in clause 7.2.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
5. a chroma down-conversion that converts data from 4:4:4 to 4:2:0, following the same process described in clause 7.2.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14.



Figure 8‑1 – Conventional HLG Y′CbCr pre-encoding process system diagram.

#### HLG conversion from a linear RGB to a non-linear representation R′G′B′

For a scene-referred linear light input, the reference HLG OETF as defined in Formulae 7-12 from clause 7.4.3 is applied on the R, G and B components separately. When the input HDR video is display-referred linear light, a preliminary conversion process ("inverse system gamma") is expected to be applied to convert the display-referred video to a scene-referred signal. This step removes the inherent OOTF within the display-referred signal. Clause 8.2.2.3 describes this preliminary conversion process.

#### Conversion from linear light display-referred to linear light scene-referred (inverse system gamma)

This step aims to remove the OOTF inherent in display-referred signals [Pindoria2016]. The process input is an RGB 4:4:4 display-referred linear light signal considered to have been produced on a mastering display having a peak luminance equal to P cd/m2. The output is a scene-referred linear light signal. The process applies the following steps to each R, G, B sample:

* Let Rdisplay, Gdisplay, Bdisplay be the display-referred R, G, B values. Rn, Gn, Bn are derived as follows:

(8‑1)

* The luminance Ydisplay is derived from Rn, Gn, Bn values:

Ydisplay = a0 \* Rn + a1 \* Gn + a2 \* Bn (8‑2)

where a0 = 0.262 7, b0 = 0.678 0 and c0 = 0.059 3 are the conventional RGB-to-Y derivation coefficients for BT.2100 colour gamut primaries.

* The value of the system gamma g is estimated from the peak luminance P as follows:

g = 1.2 + 0.42 \* Log10( P ÷ 1000 ) (8‑3)

* The value gscale is derived as follows:

(8‑4)

* The output mapped samples Rscene, Gscene, Bscene are finally obtained by scaling Rn, Gn, Bn by gscale as follows:

(8‑5)

### Encoding process

After pre-processing, the data is ready for compression. The quantization methodologies, perceptual luma quantization, in clause 8.2, and chroma QP offset in clause 8.3, presented in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14, can be used in case of HLG signal. The exact parameter settings for these two quantization methods might need to be reconfigured.

To allow the HEVC or AVC encoded bitstream to be viewed on an SDR display, the resulting Y′CbCr 4:2:0 10-bits signal is expected to be signalled in the VUI as being an SDR signal. This is done by indicating a transfer\_characteristics value corresponding to an SDR OETF, e.g. BT.2100/BT.2020 with code value 14. For HDR HLG compliant displays, an ATC SEI message can be used, with the alternative\_transfer\_characteristics syntax element indicating the usage of HLG, as described in clause 7.3.5 and illustrated in Table 8‑3. One ATC SEI message is expected to be conveyed with each RAPAU.

**Table 8‑1 – Suggested settings for HEVC encoding of Y′CbCr 4:2:0 HLG 10-bits signal with SDR compatibility.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested  value in HEVC** |
| general\_profile\_space | profile\_tier\_level() | 0 |
| general\_profile\_idc | profile\_tier\_level() | 2 (Main 10) |
| vui\_parameters\_present\_flag | seq\_parameter\_set\_rbsp( ) | 1 |
| video\_signal\_type\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| video\_full\_range\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 0 |
| colour\_description\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| colour\_primaries | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 |
| transfer\_characteristics | vui\_parameters( ) | 14 |
| matrix\_coeffs | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 |
| chroma\_loc\_info\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_top\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_bottom\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |

**Table 8‑2 – Suggested settings for AVC encoding of Y′CbCr 4:2:0 HLG 10-bits signal with SDR compatibility.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested**  **value** |
| profile\_idc | seq\_parameter\_set\_data( ) | 110 |
| vui\_parameters\_present\_flag | seq\_parameter\_set\_data( ) | 1 |
| video\_signal\_type\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| video\_full\_range\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 0 |
| colour\_description\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| colour\_primaries | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 |
| transfer\_characteristics | vui\_parameters( ) | 14 |
| matrix\_coefficients | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 |
| chroma\_loc\_info\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_top\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_bottom\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |

NOTE – For HDR-only systems, with no SDR backward compatibility, the VUI transfer\_characteristics element is expected to be set equal to 18 in both HEVC and AVC cases, which corresponds to HLG.

**Table 8‑3 – Suggested usage of ATC SEI message for Y′CbCr 4:2:0 HLG 10-bits signal with SDR compatibility.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested**  **value** |
| preferred\_transfer\_characteristics | alternative\_transfer\_characteristics( ) | 18 |

### Decoding process

When the bitstream is an HEVC bitstream the decoding process as in the HEVC specification is performed.

When the bitstream is an AVC bitstream the decoding process in the AVC specification is performed.

NOTE – The decoding process for HDR/WCG video is not different from the decoding process of SDR video.

### HLG post-decoding conversion

HLG post-decoding inverse conversion process is illustrated in Figure 8‑2. The inverse conversion chain consists of the following successive steps:

1. a chroma up-conversion that converts data from Y′CbCr 4:2:0 to Y′CbCr 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
2. a conversion step that converts a fixed-point representation, i.e. 10 bits, to a floating-point representation, following the same process described in clause 10.2 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
3. a colour representation conversion from Y′CbCr 4:4:4 to R′G′B′ 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
4. a conversion using the actual HLG EOTF of the input R′G′B′ 4:4:4; the actual HLG EOTF is the concatenation of the inverse reference HLG OETF and of the HLG OOTF; this last step aims at adapting the content to the rendering display, by applying a suitable end-to-end transfer function of the whole system (OOTF); this transfer function is dependent on the viewing environment (peak brightness of the display, brightness of the surround).



Figure 8‑2 – Conventional HLG Y′CbCr post-decoding process system diagram.

## Approach 2: usage of SEI messages for "dynamic" bitstream SDR backward compatibility

### General

This clause is focused on dynamic bitstream SDR backward compatibility support using a single-layer coding framework. Figure 8‑3 provides an overview of a single-layer distribution system enabling bitstream SDR backward compatibility with means of dynamic metadata. The system typically uses HEVC Main 10 profile for the bitstream generation and decoding. It includes a pre-processing block, prior to encoding, that converts an input HDR signal into an SDR version. Metadata are generated in this step. After encoding and decoding the SDR signal, such metadata can be used in a post-processing step to reconstruct an HDR version of the signal, intended to be as close as possible to the original HDR signal. The decoded SDR video can be directly rendered on an SDR display without adaptation.



Figure 8‑3 – Bitstream SDR backward compatibility using single layer coding system.

Various approaches using HEVC SEI messages for this task are possible; three are illustrated. Two of them use the CRI SEI message, and operates in the Y′CbCr 4:2:0 and 4:4:4 domains, respectively. The third one uses the TMI SEI message, and operates in the R′G′B′ 4:4:4 domain. Other configurations are also possible.

Examples of HDR/WCG distribution systems that support bitstream SDR compatibility are illustrated in Figure 8‑4 (using CRI SEI message and applying in Y′CbCr 4:2:0 domain), Figure 8‑5 (using CRI SEI message and applying in Y′CbCr 4:4:4 domain), and Figure 8‑6 (using TMI SEI message and applying in R′G′B′ 4:4:4 domain).

The bitstream SDR backward compatibility functionality is also addressed in Rec. ETSI TS 103 433. ETSI TS 103 433 specifies dynamic metadata and related processes to perform SDR-to-HDR conversion as a post-processing in a bitstream SDR backward compatible HDR video distribution system [Francois2016]. In brief, the SDR-to-HDR conversion process, applied to an input Y′CbCr SDR signal, is based on an inverse luma mapping function applied to the SDR luma component, and on a scaling of the SDR chroma components using a luma-dependent scaling function. The luma mapping and luma-dependent chroma scaling functions are modelled and conveyed as dynamic metadata. Two metadata formats are defined, either using a compact parametric modeling defined in a user-data registered SEI message, or using piece-wise linear representations. Only the first format is expected to be used.

### CRI applied in Y′CbCr 4:2:0 domain

In the first design, the pre-encoding conversion process (top of Figure 8‑4) converts an input linear RGB 4:4:4 signal to SDR 10-bits Y′CbCr 4:2:0 signal by applying the following successive steps [Rusanovskyy2016]:

1. a conversion from an input linear RGB 4:4:4 representation to a non-linear representation using the inverse reference PQ EOTF, following the same process described in clause 7.2.1 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
2. a colour format conversion from non-linear PQ R′G′B′ 4:4:4 signal to Y′CbCr 4:4:4 following the same process described in clause 7.2.2 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
3. a conversion step that converts a floating-point to a fixed-point representation (i.e. 10 bits), narrow range, following the same process described in clause 7.2.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
4. a chroma down-conversion component that converts data from 4:4:4 to 4:2:0, following the same process described in clause 7.2.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14, resulting in a PQ 10-bits 4:2:0 Y′CbCr signal (PQ10),
5. a DRA step that applies three different mapping functions to the 4:2:0 Y′, Cb, and Cr components of the PQ10 signal to generate a 10-bits SDR 4:2:0 Y′CbCr signal.

The resulting Y′CbCr signal, having BT.709/BT.2020 transfer characteristics and BT.2020 colour primaries, is then encoded, using an HEVC Main 10 compliant encoder. The DRA mapping functions ca n be implemented in the shape of 1D-LUTs that directly apply to the PQ10 Y′, Cb and Cr components, in 4:2:0 format. The inverse DRA functions can be conveyed using the three Pre-LUTs of the CRI SEI message.

After HEVC Main 10 compliant decoding, the decoded 4:2:0 Y′CbCr signal has BT.709/BT.2020 transfer characteristics and BT.2020 colour primaries. The post-decoding inverse conversion processing (bottom of Figure 8‑4) is the inverse of the pre-encoding processing. It is made of the following steps:

1. an inverse DRA process, converting the SDR 10-bits Y′CbCr 4:2:0 signal into a PQ10 compatible signal using the inverse DRA mapping functions,
2. a chroma up-conversion that converts data from Y′CbCr 4:2:0 to Y′CbCr 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
3. a conversion step that converts a fixed-point representation, i.e. 10 bits, to a floating-point representation, following the same process described in clause 10.2 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
4. a colour representation conversion from Y′CbCr 4:4:4 to R′G′B′ 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
5. a conversion using the reference PQ EOTF from the input R′G′B′ 4:4:4 to linear RGB 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.5 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14.



Figure 8‑4 – Pre-processing (top) and post-processing (down) for conversion from SDR/BT.2020 to HDR/BT.2020 with CRI applied in Y′CbCr 4:2:0 domain.

### CRI applied in Y′CbCr 4:4:4 domain

The second design (Figure 8‑5), similarly to the first one, makes use of the CRI SEI message to perform the inverse DRA process. However, DRA and inverse DRA apply in Y′CbCr 4:4:4 domain, instead of Y′CbCr 4:2:0 domain.

Pre-encoding processing (top block-diagram) applies the following successive steps:

1. a conversion step from an input linear RGB 4:4:4 representation to a non-linear representation using the inverse reference PQ EOTF, following the same process described in clause 7.2.1 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
2. a colour format conversion from non-linear PQ R′G′B′ 4:4:4 signal to Y′CbCr 4:4:4 following the same process described in clause 7.2.2 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
3. a conversion step that converts a floating-point to a fixed-point representation (i.e. 10 bits), narrow range, following the same process described in clause 7.2.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
4. a dynamic range adaptation (DRA) step that applies to the 4:4:4 Y′, Cb, and Cr components of the PQ10 signal to generate a 10-bits SDR Y′CbCr 4:4:4 signal,
5. a chroma down-conversion component that converts data from 4:4:4 to 4:2:0, following the same process described in clause 7.2.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14, resulting in a 10-bits SDR 4:2:0 Y′CbCr signal.

Post-decoding processing (bottom block-diagram) applies the following steps:

1. a chroma up-conversion component that converts data from Y′CbCr 4:2:0 to Y′CbCr 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
2. an inverse DRA process, converting the SDR Y′CbCr 4:4:4 signal into a PQ 10-bits Y′CbCr 4:4:4 compatible signal using the metadata conveyed in a CRI SEI message,
3. a conversion step that converts a fixed-point representation, i.e. 10 bits, to a floating-point representation, following the same process described in clause 10.2 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
4. a colour representation conversion from Y′CbCr 4:4:4 to R′G′B′ 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
5. a conversion using the reference PQ EOTF from the input R′G′B′ 4:4:4 to linear RGB 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.5 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14.

Working in Y′CbCr 4:4:4 domain enables using the complete CRI model to convey the inverse DRA metadata, that is, three Pre-LUTs, followed by a three-by-three matrix, followed by three Post-LUTs. This complete CRI model may be also preferably used for enabling an SDR backward compatibility to SDR BT.709 colour primaries while the input HDR colour primaries are BT.2020. In this case the three-by-three matrix can be of use for converting from BT.2020 colour gamut to BT.709 colour gamut.

NOTE – In case on non-backward compatible applications, the CRI SEI message can also be used to work in a colour space other than Y′CbCr decoding process for HDR/WCG video.



Figure 8‑5 – Pre-processing (top) and post-processing (down) for conversion from SDR/BT.2020 to HDR/BT.2020 with CRI applied in Y′CbCr 4:4:4 domain.

### TMI applied in R′G′B′ 4:4:4 domain

In the third design (Figure 8‑6), the TMI SEI message is used to perform the inverse DRA and it applies to a R′G′B′ 4:4:4 signal.

Pre-encoding processing (top block-diagram) applies the following successive steps:

1. a conversion step from an input linear RGB 4:4:4 representation to a non-linear representation using the inverse reference PQ EOTF, following the same process described in clause 7.2.1 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
2. a conversion step that converts a floating-point to a fixed-point M-bits representation (typically M being set to 14 or 16 bits), following a similar process as described in clause 7.2.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
3. a dynamic range adaptation (DRA) step applying to the M-bits PQ R′G′B′ 4:4:4 signal to produce an SDR R′G′B′ 4:4:4 signal (having BT.709/BT.2020 transfer characteristics and BT.2020 colour primaries),
4. a colour format conversion from non-linear R′G′B′ 4:4:4 signal to Y′CbCr 4:4:4 following the same process described in clause 7.2.2 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
5. a chroma down-conversion that converts data from 4:4:4 to 4:2:0, following a similar process as described in clause 7.2.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14, resulting in an SDR 4:2:0 Y′CbCr signal.
6. a re-quantization to 10 bits.

Post-decoding processing (bottom block-diagram) applies the following steps:

1. a re-quantization to M-bits of the input decoded signal having BT.709/BT.2020 transfer characteristics and BT.2020 colour primaries,
2. a chroma up-conversion that converts data from Y′CbCr 4:2:0 to Y′CbCr 4:4:4, following a similar process as described in clause 10.3 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
3. a colour representation conversion from Y′CbCr 4:4:4 to R′G′B′ 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.4 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
4. an inverse DRA process, converting the SDR R′G′B′ 4:4:4 signal into a PQ M-bits R′G′B′ 4:4:4 compatible signal,
5. a conversion component that converts a M-bits fixed-point representation, to a floating-point representation, following the same process described in clause 10.2 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14,
6. a conversion using the reference PQ EOTF from the input R′G′B′ 4:4:4 to linear RGB 4:4:4, following the same process described in clause 10.5 in Supplement ITU-T H.Sup15 | Technical Report ISO/IEC 23008-14.

The inverse DRA mapping function is signalled in a TMI SEI message. The function is modelled using one of the four model types available for the TMI SEI message, for example the piece-wise linear function. One of the pre- or post-LUTs of the CRI SEI message can also be used to model this function.



Figure 8‑6 – Pre-processing (top) and post-processing (down) for conversion from SDR/BT.2020 to HDR/BT.2020 with TMI applied in RGB 4:4:4 domain.

### Derivation of DRA functions

In the three examples presented in clauses 8.3.2, 8.3.3 and 8.3.4, the DRA functions can be derived from the analysis of input HDR signal properties, with the aim of producing an SDR approximation. Parameters of DRA can be generally derived from the HDR graded signal by using an HDR-to-SDR conversion algorithm, or directly from a graded SDR signal in case an SDR master is provided as input to the encoding system. Examples of automatic derivation algorithms can be found in [Minoo2016].

It is expected to generate at least one CRI or TMI SEI message per scene. In scenes with large temporal changes, it can be preferable to guarantee smooth SDR rendering to generate several CRI or TMI SEI messages per scene (up to one per picture). At least, one CRI or TMI SEI message is expected to be conveyed with each RAPAU.

### Settings with colour remapping information SEI message

For the adaptive bitstream SDR backward compatibility use case described in clause 8.3, with the implementation shown in Figure 8‑4, the inverse DRA functions are coded using the three Pre-LUTs of a CRI SEI message. The conversion process directly applies to the decoded Y′CbCr 4:2:0 signal (Figure 8‑4), and the three-by-three matrix and the Post-LUTs are not activated. The SDR-to-HDR conversion achieved at post-processing stage applies to each luma sample Y′SDR and each chroma samples USDR and VSDR as follows:

(8‑6)

(8‑7)

(8‑8)

When the conversion process applies to the decoded Y′CbCr 4:2:0 signal upsampled to 4:4:4 (implementation shown in Figure 8‑5), the full CRI model, made of the three Pre-LUTs, the intermediate three-by-three matrix, and the three Post-LUTs, can be activated. The SDR-to-HDR conversion achieved at post-processing stage applies to each luma and chroma samples Y′SDR, USDR and VSDR as follows:

(8‑9)

(8‑10)

(8‑11)

Table 8‑4 indicates suggested parameters settings of HEVC Main 10 bitstreams to properly render the decoded video on displays compatible with SDR/BT.2020 representation (using VUI information) and to conduct the HDR reconstruction to PQ10 compatible representation (using CRI information).

**Table 8‑4 – Suggested settings for HEVC encoding of Y′CbCr 4:2:0 10-bits signal with bitstream SDR compatibility using CRI.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested value in HEVC** |
| general\_profile\_space | profile\_tier\_level() | 0 |
| general\_profile\_idc | profile\_tier\_level() | 2 (Main 10) |
| vui\_parameters\_present\_flag | seq\_parameter\_set\_rbsp( ) | 1 |
| video\_signal\_type\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| video\_full\_range\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 0 (narrow range) |
| colour\_description\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| colour\_primaries | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 (BT.709) or 9 (BT.2020) depending on SDR target |
| transfer\_characteristics | vui\_parameters( ) | 14 (SDR OETF) |
| matrix\_coeffs | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 (BT.709 NCL) or 9 (BT.2020 NCL) depending on SDR target |
| chroma\_loc\_info\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_top\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_bottom\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| colour\_remap\_video\_signal\_info\_present\_flag | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 1 |
| colour\_remap\_transfer\_function | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 16 (BT.2100 PQ) |
| colour\_remap\_full\_range\_flag | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 0 |
| colour\_remap\_primaries | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 9 (BT.2100/BT.2020) |
| colour\_remap\_matrix\_coefficients | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 9 (BT.2100/BT.2020 NCL) |
| colour\_remap\_output\_bit\_depth | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 10 |

### Settings with tone mapping information SEI message

For the use case described in clause 8.3, with the implementation example shown in Figure 8‑6, the inverse DRA function is coded using one 1D-LUT of a TMI SEI message. Two implementation examples of the inverse DRA processes are provided below.

In a first implementation example, the SDR-to-HDR conversion achieved at post-processing stage applies to the SDR 4:4:4 R′G′B′ M-bits samples as follows:

(8‑12)

In a second implementation example, the tone mapping function is applied to the SDR luma component Y′, to derive a scaling ratio to be applied to the SDR 4:4:4 R′G′B′ M-bits samples as follows:

(8‑13)

For each sample value X = R, G or B:

(8‑14)

where M is the bit-depth of the output samples resulting from the inverse DRA application (corresponding to the TMI SEI message syntax element target\_bit\_depth). This second implementation can be beneficial to limit the colour hue shift resulting from the SDR-to-HDR conversion (see [Topiwala2016] for a fuller exposition).

Table 8‑5 indicates suggested parameters settings of HEVC Main 10 bitstreams to properly render the decoded video on displays compatible with SDR/BT.2020 representation (using VUI information) and to conduct the HDR reconstruction to PQ10 compatible representation (using TMI information).

**Table 8‑5 – Suggested settings for HEVC encoding of Y′CbCr 4:2:0 10-bits signal with bitstream SDR compatibility using TMI.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested value in HEVC** |
| general\_profile\_space | profile\_tier\_level() | 0 |
| general\_profile\_idc | profile\_tier\_level() | 2 (Main 10) |
| vui\_parameters\_present\_flag | seq\_parameter\_set\_rbsp( ) | 1 |
| video\_signal\_type\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| video\_full\_range\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 0 (narrow range) |
| colour\_description\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| colour\_primaries | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 |
| transfer\_characteristics | vui\_parameters( ) | 14 (SDR OETF) |
| matrix\_coeffs | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 (BT.2020 NCL) |
| chroma\_loc\_info\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_top\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_bottom\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| coded\_data\_bit\_depth | tone\_mapping\_info ( ) | M (typically 14 bits) |
| target\_bit\_depth | tone\_mapping\_info ( ) | M (typically 14 bits) |
| tone\_map\_model\_id | tone\_mapping\_info ( ) | 3 (piece-wise linear model) |
| num\_pivots | tone\_mapping\_info ( ) | 32 |

# Bitstream SDR backward compatibility with dual-layer SHVC coding

## General

SHVC, the scalable form of HEVC (Rec. ITU-T H.265 | ISO/IEC 23008-2, [Boyce2015]), is based on a multi-layer framework. In dual-layer case, one base layer and one enhancement layer are coded. The enhancement layer coding uses inter-layer prediction mechanisms that produce an inter-layer picture used as reference picture for temporal prediction. The HEVC Scalable Main 10 profile includes colour mapping prediction specifically designed for inter-layer prediction from a given colour volume (relating to the base layer video) to another one (relating to the enhancement layer video). In an SDR-backward compatible system, this profile can be used to convey in a dual layer-bitstream an SDR video and an HDR video. The input of the coding system is an SDR content as base layer, and its HDR version as enhancement layer. The SDR version can result from an HDR-to-SDR conversion such as the one mentioned in clause 8.3, or can be provided as an input SDR master (see Figure 9‑1).



Figure 9‑1 – Example of SDR backward compatible solution implemented with SHVC.

## Encoding and decoding stages

When creating the dual-layer SHVC bitstream it is suggested to set syntax elements in the base layer and enhancement layer sequence parameter sets (SPS) of the bitstream to the values listed in Table 9‑1 (SDR base layer) and Table 9‑2 (HDR enhancement layer). The syntax elements in Table 9‑1 and Table 9‑2 are conveyed in the Video Usability Information syntax branch of the SPS defined in Annex E of the HEVC specification. They may also be duplicated and carried in various application-layer headers.

**Table 9‑1 – Suggested settings for base layer (Y′CbCr 4:2:0 SDR 10-bits) in a dual-layer SHVC bitstream.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested value in HEVC** |
| general\_profile\_space | profile\_tier\_level() | 0 |
| general\_profile\_idc | profile\_tier\_level() | 2 (Main 10) |
| vui\_parameters\_present\_flag | seq\_parameter\_set\_rbsp( ) | 1 |
| video\_signal\_type\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| video\_full\_range\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 0 (narrow range) |
| colour\_description\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| colour\_primaries | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 (BT.709) or 9 (BT.2020) depending on SDR input |
| transfer\_characteristics | vui\_parameters( ) | 14 (SDR OETF) |
| matrix\_coeffs | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 (BT.709 NCL) or 9 (BT.2020 NCL) depending on SDR input |
| chroma\_loc\_info\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_top\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_bottom\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |

**Table 9‑2 – Suggested settings for enhancement layer (Y′CbCr 4:2:0 PQ 10-bits) in a dual-layer SHVC bitstream.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested value in HEVC** |
| general\_profile\_space | profile\_tier\_level() | 0 |
| general\_profile\_idc | profile\_tier\_level() | 7 (Scalable Main 10) |
| vui\_parameters\_present\_flag | seq\_parameter\_set\_rbsp( ) | 1 |
| video\_signal\_type\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| video\_full\_range\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 0 (narrow range) |
| colour\_description\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| colour\_primaries | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 (BT.2100/BT.2020) |
| transfer\_characteristics | vui\_parameters( ) | 16 (BT.2100 PQ) |
| matrix\_coeffs | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 (BT.2100/BT.2020 NCL) |
| chroma\_loc\_info\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_top\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_bottom\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |

The SDR video is coded as the base layer of SHVC encoding conforming to the Main 10 profile, and the HDR video is coded as the enhancement layer conforming to the Scalable Main 10 profile. When the colour containers in which the SDR and HDR are represented are different, SHVC colour gamut scalability (CGS) tool [Bordes2016] can apply to encode the content with high coding efficiency [Ye2016, Baroncini2016]. Even if the colour containers in which the SDR and HDR are coded are the same, the colour volume occupied by the SDR and HDR pictures is typically different. Even in such cases, the CGS tool can encode the video with good coding efficiency.

The bitstream can be decoded by an HEVC Main 10 profile compliant decoder to generate the reconstructed SDR video directly compatible with SDR-only capable rendering devices. The dual-layer bitstream is can be decoded by an SHVC Scalable Main 10 profile compliant decoder, with the output from the base layer resulting in an SDR video representation and the enhancement layer resulting in a HDR video representation.

# Display adaptation

## General

Display adaptation aims at converting a decoded HDR video (for instance a decoded PQ10 signal) to a version adapted to a target rendering device. For instance, it may be used to convert a PQ10 video mastered for a display with a given peak luminance, to a display capable of displaying a lower peak luminance. The concept is illustrated in Figure 10‑1. The conversion process can be driven by metadata produced during the mastering stage, and conveyed with the main bitstream. CRI or TMI SEI messages can be used for this purpose.

Display SDR backward compatibility, using CRI or TMI SEI messages, is a specific example of display adaptation, when the rendering device has only SDR display capabilities. This specific case is further described in clause 10.2. More generally, the adaptation of an HDR content with a given colour volume, to a version with a different target colour volume, can be achieved using CRI or TMI SEI messages. If multiple target colour volumes are considered, multiple instances of CRI or TMI SEI messages are coded. Identifier tags signalled in these SEI messages can be used to identify the different target colour volumes.



Figure 10‑1 – Illustration of the concept of display adaptation.

The display adaptation functionality is also addressed by SMPTE ST 2094. SMPTE ST 2094 defines metadata for use in colour volume transforms of content. The metadata are content-dependent and possibly vary scene-by-scene or frame-by-frame. The metadata are intended to transform HDR/WCG source content for presentation on a display having a smaller colour volume than the source content’s mastering display. Multiple applications provide particular colour volume transforms. Currently there are four applications supported in ST 2094.

A metadata set in ST 2094 incorporates a time interval, a window, metadata describing the targeted system display and parameters controlling the colour volume transform. A receiver of the metadata can use the targeted system display metadata to select the metadata sets that are most applicable to the actual output device. A receiver of the metadata can use the targeted system display metadata to adjust the output of the colour volume transform from the output device to the actual output device. Two different approaches have been identified as transform methods in ST 2094 applications: parametric mapping and reference based numerical derivation. Application #1, #2 and #4 belong to the parametric model, and #3 belongs to the numerical data-fitting model. Part of the syntax in Application #3 is supported in colour remapping information SEI message.

For HLG systems, Rec. ITU-R BT.2100 describes display adaptation as part of the display EOTF.

## Case of display SDR backward compatibility

### Conversion and coding process example

Dynamic mapping from HDR to SDR at rendering side is the reverse problem of bitstream SDR backward compatibility studied in clause 8.3. In the present document, this use case is named display SDR backward compatibility.

The system design is deduced from Figure 8‑4 and Figure 8‑5, by placing a forward DRA process after the decoder and by signalling DRA parameters using SEI messages such as CRI [Rusanovskyy2016]:.

Two examples of pre-conversion and encoding process producing HDR/BT.2100 compatible HEVC bitstream, which include DRA control parameters for decoder side guided conversion from HDR to SDR, are illustrated in top block-diagrams of Figure 10‑2 and Figure 10‑3. These parameters are for example conveyed to the decoder in CRI SEI messages, and used for performing the HDR-to-SDR conversion at decoder side. A corresponding decoding process, which enables to conduct an optional mapping from HDR to SDR through forward DRA process, is illustrated in bottom block-diagrams of Figure 10‑2 and Figure 10‑3. After HEVC Main 10 compliant decoding, the decoded signal has BT.2100 PQ transfer characteristics and BT.2020 colour primaries. The DRA can be used as a post-decoding processing to convert the decoded HDR/BT.2020 video signal to an SDR representation. The resulting Y′CbCr 10-bits signal has BT.709/BT.2020 transfer characteristics and BT.2020 or BT.709 colour primaries (depending on the application use case).

In the first example (Figure 10‑2), DRA operates in Y′CbCr 4:2:0 domain. It applies three mapping functions to the Y′, Cb, and Cr components of the decoded PQ10 signal, for instance using the three Pre-LUTs of a CRI SEI message. The functions may be implemented in the shape of 1D-LUTs that directly apply to the PQ10 Y′, Cb and Cr components. The 3x3 matrix and Post-LUTs are not activated.



Figure 10‑2 – Example of pre-processing (top) and post-processing (down) for display SDR backward compatibility with CRI applied in Y′CbCr 4:2:0 domain.

In the second example (Figure 10‑3), DRA operates after the conversion of the decoded Y′CbCr 4:2:0 10-bits PQ BT.2020 video to 4:4:4. The complete CRI model may be used, which may be relevant when the target SDR colour primaries are BT.709 while the HDR content primaries are BT.2100/BT.2020. In that case, the three-by-three matrix can be beneficial to perform the conversion from BT.2100/BT.2020 to BT.709 primaries.



Figure 10‑3 – Example of pre-processing (top) and post-processing (down) for display SDR backward compatibility with CRI applied in Y′CbCr 4:4:4 domain.

### Using colour remapping information SEI message

In the implementation illustrated in Figure 10‑2, the DRA operates in Y′CbCr 4:2:0 domain. The three DRA functions can be implemented in 4:2:0 using the three Pre-LUTs of a CRI SEI message. The three-by-three matrix and the Post-LUTs are not activated. The conversion process can directly apply to the decoded 4:2:0 signal. The SDR-to-HDR conversion achieved at post-processing stage applies to each luma sample Y′HDR and each chroma sample UHDR and VHDR as follows:

(10‑1)

(10‑2)

(10‑3)

In the implementation illustrated in Figure 10‑3, the DRA operates in Y′CbCr 4:4:4 domain. The full CRI model can be used, involving three Pre-LUTs, three-by-three matrix, and three Post-LUTs. This may be applicable, when the use case requires an SDR backward compatibility to SDR BT.709 colour primaries while the input HDR colour primaries are BT.2100/BT.2020. Activation of the matrix can help converting from one colour representation to the other one. The SDR-to-HDR conversion achieved at post-processing stage applies to each luma and chroma samples Y′HDR, UHDR and VHDR as follows:

(10‑4)

(10‑5)

(10‑6)

Table 10‑1 indicates suggested parameters settings of HEVC Main 10 bitstreams to correctly display video on PQ10 compatible devices and to conduct a guided mapping from SDR to HDR with CRI post-processing.

**Table 10‑1 – Suggested settings for HEVC encoding of Y′CbCr 4:2:0 PQ 10-bits signal with display SDR compatibility using CRI.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Syntax element** | **Location** | **Suggested value in HEVC** |
| general\_profile\_space | profile\_tier\_level() | 0 |
| general\_profile\_idc | profile\_tier\_level() | 2 (Main 10) |
| vui\_parameters\_present\_flag | seq\_parameter\_set\_rbsp( ) | 1 |
| video\_signal\_type\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| video\_full\_range\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 0 (narrow range) |
| colour\_description\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| colour\_primaries | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 (BT.2100/BT.2020) |
| transfer\_characteristics | vui\_parameters( ) | 16 (BT.2100 PQ) |
| matrix\_coeffs | vui\_parameters( ) | 9 (BT.2100/BT.2020 NCL) |
| chroma\_loc\_info\_present\_flag | vui\_parameters( ) | 1 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_top\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| chroma\_sample\_loc\_type\_bottom\_field | vui\_parameters( ) | 2 |
| colour\_remap\_video\_signal\_info\_present\_flag | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 1 |
| colour\_remap\_transfer\_function | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 14 (SDR OETF) |
| colour\_remap\_full\_range\_flag | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 0 |
| colour\_remap\_primaries | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 1 (BT.709) or 9 (BT.2020) depending on target SDR |
| colour\_remap\_matrix\_coefficients | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 1 (BT.709 NCL) or 9 (BT.2020 NCL) depending on target SDR |
| colour\_remap\_output\_bit\_depth | colour\_remapping\_info( ) | 10 |

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