IUB Libraries Video Streaming Service: A Technical Overview

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Presentation Outline

- Background and goals
- o Demonstration
- Video ingestion and processing
- Video management and delivery
- Future directions

Project Background

- 2004: Video e-reserves pilot involving 9 class sections
 - Supported by DLP and Media/Reserves
- o 2005-2008: Further pilot testing and development
 - Supported by LIT and Media/Reserves
- Fall 2008: Production "soft launch" of Video Streaming Service
 - DLP and Media/Reserves

Project Goals

- Ability for Media/Reserves to easily deliver access to streaming video
- Support both locally-digitized content and digital video files acquired from vendors
 - Must be able to accept a wide variety of formats
- Support both licensed content and unlicensed ereserves content
 - Requires access control

Project Goals (continued)

- Easy to use for both collection manager and faculty/student users
- Integrated with existing discovery platforms
 - IUCAT
 - E-Reserves
 - Oncourse

Project Goals (continued)

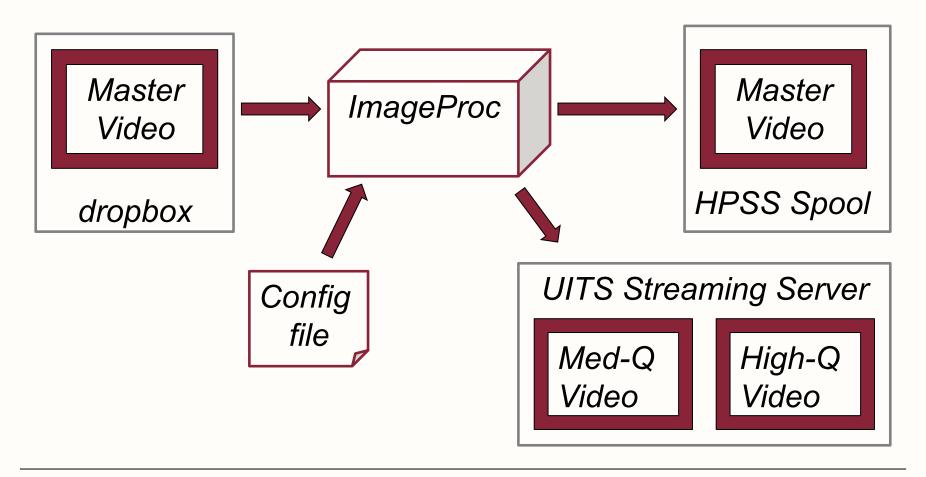
- Supportable and sustainable
- Leverage existing technology platforms
 - UITS streaming servers
 - DLP web application servers and repository system (Fedora)
- o Aggressive timeline required deferring some goals:
 - Oncourse and Fedora integration

Demonstration

Technical Overview: Video Processing

- Master files not suitable for delivery
 - Large files, high quality and resolution
 - Bitrates too high for delivery (>5Mb/s)
 - File format not supported for streaming
- Deliverable files
 - Quality reduced and resolution fixed at 640x480
 - Bitrates set to 1Mb/s and 400Kb/s
 - MPEG-4 format using the h.264 codec

Video Processing Workflow



Processing Masters with ImageProc

- o ImageProc tool features:
 - Handles images and video
 - Dropbox-based processing
 - Performs quality control and processing
 - Transaction-based: only complete objects are committed
 - Multi-threaded: multiple objects processed simultaneously
 - C-like language for configuration and processing

ImageProc Configuration

• Video conversion configuration file:

```
collection {
           info {
                    NAME := "VSS - KCR Collection":
                     DROPBOX := "/digitize/dropbox/vss";
                     PATTERN := "*.avi";
                     SCAN := "find";
                     DERIVATIVES := "/N/evs01/dig-lib/dl/media";
           qc {
                     id_format="avi";
                     id_vcodec="mpeg4";
                     id_acodec="pcm_s167e";
                     id_samplerate=44100;
           process {
                     genvideo(filename:=BASENAME+"-med.mp4", format:="h264", quality:="medium");
                     genvideo(filename:=BASENAME+"-high.mp4", format:="h264", quality:="high");
                    movemaster("/digitize/hpss/vss");
           }
}
```

Dropbox processing

- Configuration file specifies
 - The name of the collection
 - The dropbox directory
 - The filename pattern to use to match files
 - How to find files: flat directory or recursively
 - Where derivatives are sent
 - Where to send status emails
 - A URL to use for status messages

Quality Control

- o File attributes are tested:
 - Age
 - Permissions
 - Ownership
- o Content attributes are tested:

```
qc {
    id_format="avi";
    id_vcodec="mpeg4";
    id_colorspace="yuv420p";
    id_acodec="pcm_s161e";
    id_samplerate=44100;
}
```

Quality Control (continued)

- o Multiple values can be selected using any():
 - any(id_samplerate, 44100, 48000);
- Standard tools used for media identification:
 - Videos: ffmpeg
 - Images: ImageMagick, tiffinfo
- O Unique filenames can be tested:
 - unique("basename", BASENAME);

Derivative Creation

- Configuration file defines derivative creation
- o Functions for:
 - Image conversion
 - Video conversion
 - File copy and rename
- o Sample video processing configuration:

Derivative Creation (continued)

- Newly created files end with .new extension
- o genvideo() function builds ffmpeg command line:
 - genvideo(filename:=BASENAME+"-med.mp4", format:="h264", quality:="medium");
 - ffmpeg -y -i 0057.avi -vcodec libx264 -f mp4 -acodec libfaac -ac 2 -ab 32000 -ar 44100 -b 368000 -flags +loop -cmp +chroma -b_strategy 1 -coder 1 -me_range 16 -g 250 -keyint_min 25 -sc_threshold 40 -i_qfactor 0.71 -bt 368000 -qcomp 0.6 -qmin 10 -qmax 51 -qdiff 4 -s 640x480 -r 29.997 -deinterlace -rc_eq blurCplx^(1-qcomp) -bf 16 -me umh -partitions +parti8x8+parti4x4+partp8x8+partp4x4+partb8x8 -subq 7 trellis 1 -refs 6 -directpred 3 -bidir_refine 1 0057-med.mp4.new

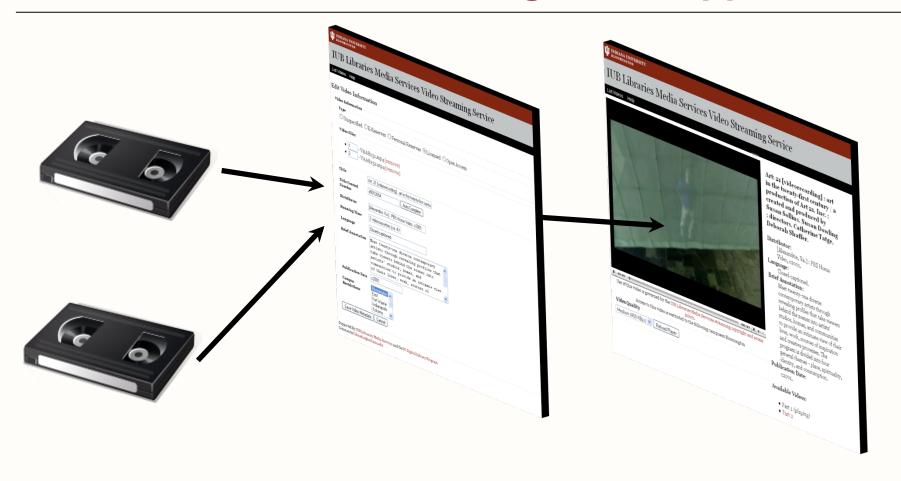
Transaction Processing

- Object processing is all or nothing
 - Any failure will abort processing
 - New derivatives created will be erased
 - Existing files remain untouched
 - On successful processing of all parts
 - Derivatives copied to UITS server for streaming
 - Master files copied to HPSS spool for storage

Final Processing

- Processing results are sent to
 - The management application
 - Administrators via email
- Cleanup
 - Persistent data is written to disk
 - Temporary files are removed
- ImageProc goes back to sleep

Technical Overview: Management Application



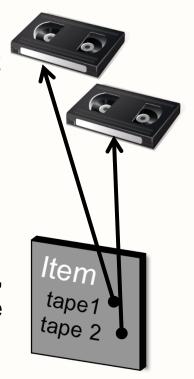
Technical Overview: Data Model

o Video

- Represents a single captured video or video segment
- Contains only enough metadata to identify and locate the streaming video files

o Item

- Represents a logical item which may contain a sequence of one or more videos
- Contains descriptive metadata to describe the videos, comparable to (and automatically populated from) the library catalog entry
- Contains administrative metadata for those videos to determine access conditions.



Technical Overview: Video Metadata Workflow

- ID Generation and file naming
 - Done by the Drop Box application (automatic)
- Video to item assignment
 - Done using the management application
- Item descriptive metadata entry
 - Done using the management application
- Item administrative metadata entry
 - Done using the management application
- Catalog update (for Licensed content)

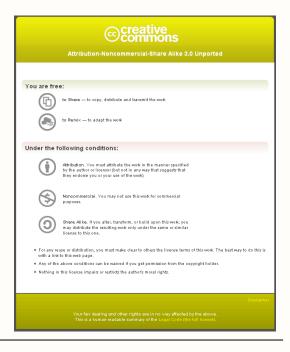
Technical Overview: Playback application

- O Access Points
 - Persistent URL
 - In IUCAT records
 - In the E-Reserves Systems

http://purl.dlib.indiana.edu/iudl/general/video/VAA8259

Technical Overview: Video Playback

- UITS Flash Streaming Server
- Playback Web application
 - Java Struts web page
 - JW FLV Media Player
 - CC non-commercial license
 - http://www.longtailvideo.com/players/jw-flv-player/
 - CAS authentication
 - Metadata-based authorization



Next Steps

- Extend to other libraries/departments
 - e.g. Cook Music Library
 - Multiple management views, branding
- Support access control for e-reserves based on actual course enrollment data
 - Eliminate requirement to link from E-Reserves
- Support access control for videos and management system using ADS groups
- Support access via IUScholarWorks Repository

Possible Future Directions

- Integrate Fedora repository as content management system
- Integrate with video preservation workflows
- O Video in Variations

Questions?