Indexing and Searching A/V Documents in Multimedia Digital Libraries

Giuseppe Amato

Claudio Gennaro

Pasquale Savino

ISTI-CNR

Pisa, Italy

g.amato@isti.cnr.it

Tutorial program

- Introduction to A/V Digital Libraries
- Metadata models
- Automatic indexing of A/V documents
- Retrieving documents in the ECHO system
- Manual indexing of A/V documents
- Metadata editors (ECHO, IBM)

What is a Digital Library?

Definition

A Digital Library is an organized collection of digital objects, including text, images, audio, video and services for its access and retrieval, as well as for selection, organization and maintenance of the collection.

Key library services

- Access and retrieval
  - Catalogs
  - References
  - Indexes
- Preservation
- Management
  - Access control
  - Data sharing
  - Management of collaboration
    - E.g. collaborative filtering, cataloging, …..

The need of A/V DLs

- Nowadays, video is present in many situations
  - TV broadcasting
  - Professional applications, such as medicine, journalism, advertising, education, training, surveillance, etc.
  - Movies
  - Historical videos
  - Personal videos
- The combination of audio and video is a very powerful communication channel
  - approximately 50% of what is seen and heard simultaneously is retained

Video characteristics

- High video production vs print production
  - TV stations produce 50 Million hours of video per year (25,000 TB)
  - Newspapers and periodicals produce less than 200 TB of data per year
- Storage and transmission problems
  - Video is usually compressed
- Richness in content
  - Difficulties in automatic extraction of content description

Advantages of A/V DLs

- Most of the video material produced is used only once, due to the difficulty to archive it, to protect and to retrieve.
- A large video library of distributed and network searchable videos would enable
  - Preservation of precious and expensive material
  - Reduction of production costs for new videos, through the reuse of existing material
  - Diffusion of knowledge

Services of A/V Digital Libraries

- A/V Digital Libraries offer the same basic services of text digital libraries
- Specialized technologies are needed for indexing and retrieving A/V documents
  - Indexing based on the integration of different technologies for the automatic feature extraction
  - Integration of manual and automatic indexing
  - Retrieval based on different video features

A/V vs traditional DLs [1/2]

- Library creation
  - Traditional DLs, contain text documents
    - Library creation requires automatic acquisition of text, extraction of document content, and indexing
    - This process is well known and many different techniques have been developed
  - Video is extremely rich in “content” but ….
    - the indexing of video content is difficult, expensive, and subjective
    - A possible approach consists in an integration of automatic content extraction and manual indexing

A/V vs traditional DLs [2/2]

- Library exploration
  - Traditional DLs, contain text documents
    - Requires simple interfaces to formulate queries on free text and document metadata.
  - Video libraries should permit
    - To formulate queries on different “dimensions”
      - Text, as extracted from speech and captions
      - Images extracted as key frames
      - Motion information
      - Other features automatically extracted
      - Metadata provided manually

Indexing A/V documents

Overview

- Metadata
  - Dublin core
  - MPEG-7
  - IFLA-FRBR / ECHO
- Automatic indexing
  - Text, speech, images, moving pictures

Metadata

- Metadata: data about data
  - Structured information about data
- Types of metadata
  - Resource discovery
  - Right management
  - Content rating
  - Archival status
  - Etc…

Metadata

- Manual generation
  - Time consuming: high cost
  - Detailed metadata, if generated by experts
- Automatic generation
  - Fast: Reduced cost
  - Metadata contain noise
    - Imprecision, uncertainty

Metadata Models

- Dublin core
- MPEG – 7
- IFLA – FRBR / ECHO

Dublin core

- Flat model of 15 base elements:

```
Title
Creator
Contributor
Publisher
Subject
Description
Identifier
Date
Language
Type
Format
Coverage
Source
Relation
Rights
```

Dublin core

- Additional detail through qualifiers
  - Element refinements
    - Es.: date.created, relation.isPartOf
- Extensions
  - Es.: audience element (Education, libraries, government)

Dublin core

- Core vocabulary of terms useful for description
- Cross domain discovery
  - It is not designed for a specific domain
- Interoperability
  - Different digital libraries can talk each other
- Known implementations
  - Open archive initiative
  - Many digital libraries projects
  - Open source and commercial tools
- http://dublincore.org/

Dublin core RDF/XML

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<!DOCTYPE rdf:RDF PUBLIC "-//DUBLIN CORE//DCMES DTD
    2002/07/31//EN" "http://dublincore.org/documents/2002/07/31/dcmes-
    xml/dcmes-xml-dtd.dtd">

<rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
    xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">
     <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://pc-erato2.iei.pi.cnr.it/amato">
          <dc:title>Giuseppe Amato's Home Page</dc:title>
          <dc:creator>Giuseppe Amato</dc:creator>
          <dc:publisher>ISTI-CNR</dc:publisher>
          <dc:date>2002-11-18</dc:date>
     </rdf:Description>
</rdf:RDF>
```

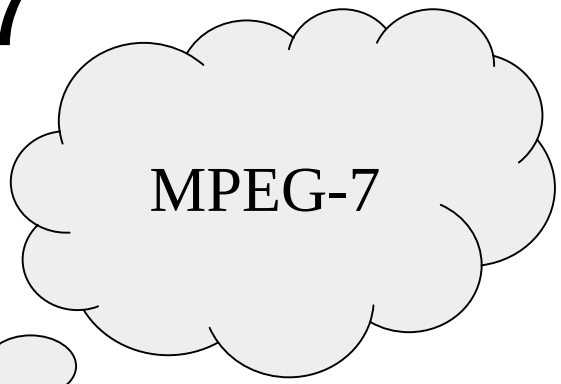
MPEG-7

- MPEG-7: standard developed by MPEG
- It is named “Multimedia content description interface”
- Describes multimedia content data
- A broad range of applications are supported
- It has been developed by experts representing
  - Broadcasters, electronic manufacturers, content creators, publishers, right managers, telecommunication service providers, and academia

MPEG-7

- Application scenarios:
  - Image understanding
  - Intelligent vision
  - Smart cameras/VCRs
  - Information retrieval
  - Information filtering
  - Digital libraries
  - Computer based training

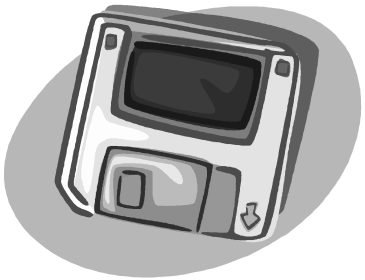
MPEG-7



Description generation

Description

Description consumption



MPEG-7

- MPEG-7 components:
  - Descriptors (Ds)
    - Semantics and syntax of feature representation
  - Description schemas (DSs)
    - Structure and semantics of relations between Ds and other DSs
  - Description Tools
    - Set of Ds and DSs
  - Description Definition Language (DDL)
    - Defines new Ds and DSs and extends exiting ones

MPEG-7

- Standard description tools
  - MPEG-7 Visual
  - MPEG-7 Audio
  - MPEG-7 Multimedia Description Schemes

MPEG-7

- MPEG-7 Visual:
  - Visual description tools covering the following visual features:
    - Colour, texture, shape, motion, localisation, faces
    - There are elementary and sophisticated Descriptors

MPEG-7

- MPEG-7 Audio:
  - Audio description tools covering the following:
    - Descriptors:
      - spectral, parametric, temporal features
    - Description Tools:
      - sound recognition, instrumental timber, spoken content, audio signature, melody

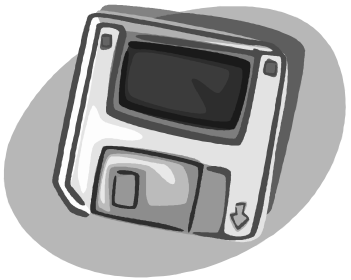
MPEG-7

- MPEG-7 Multimedia Description Schemes:
  - Metadata generic structures for annotating audio-visual content:
    - Vector, time, textual, controlled vocabularies
    - Content description: perceivable information
    - Content management: creation, coding, usage
    - Content organisation: collections
    - Navigation and access: summaries, partitions, etc.
    - User interaction: user preferences, usage history

MPEG-7

Feature extraction

AV Descriptions



Encode

Search/query

Pull

Browse

Decode

Transmission

Push

Filter

ECHO Metadata Model

- This model originated from our experience in the **ECHO** project (**E**uropean **CH**ronicle **O**n-line)
  - ECHO is an EC funded **IST** project
  - ECHO aims at providing
    - remote access to collection of **historical documentary** audio-video resources
    - a software infrastructure to support digital video archives
    - an extensible and interoperable architecture

Preliminary steps

- We have interviewed
  - Content providers
    - Audio/visual archives
  - Technology providers
    - feature extraction, speech recognition, indexing, ...
  - End-Users
    - teachers, researchers, cultural heritage institutions...
- demand for a more detailed content description and advanced search capabilities

Preliminary steps

- We have considered the efforts of other authoritative groups dealing with this issues
  - DC
  - MPEG-7
  - IFLA-FRBR
  - ….

Requirements

- Traditional audio-video archive access funct.
  - by the name of the producer
  - by the series title
  - by the “tape”identifier, ...
- Advanced audio-video access funct.
  - by key-frames
  - by features
  - by visual abstract
  - by words in the transcript, ...
- Multi-language support

Requirements

- Specific metadata “fields” for
  - speech recognition processing
  - image/video processing
  - digital video abstracting

to provide advanced search facilities

The approach

- Hierarchical and Multi-level design
  - Provides support for
    - interoperability
      - by using specialisation and generalisation
    - needs of special interest user communities
      - by using multiple view descriptions

The approach

Extends the IFLA-FRBR model

Four entities used to describe different aspect of a resource:

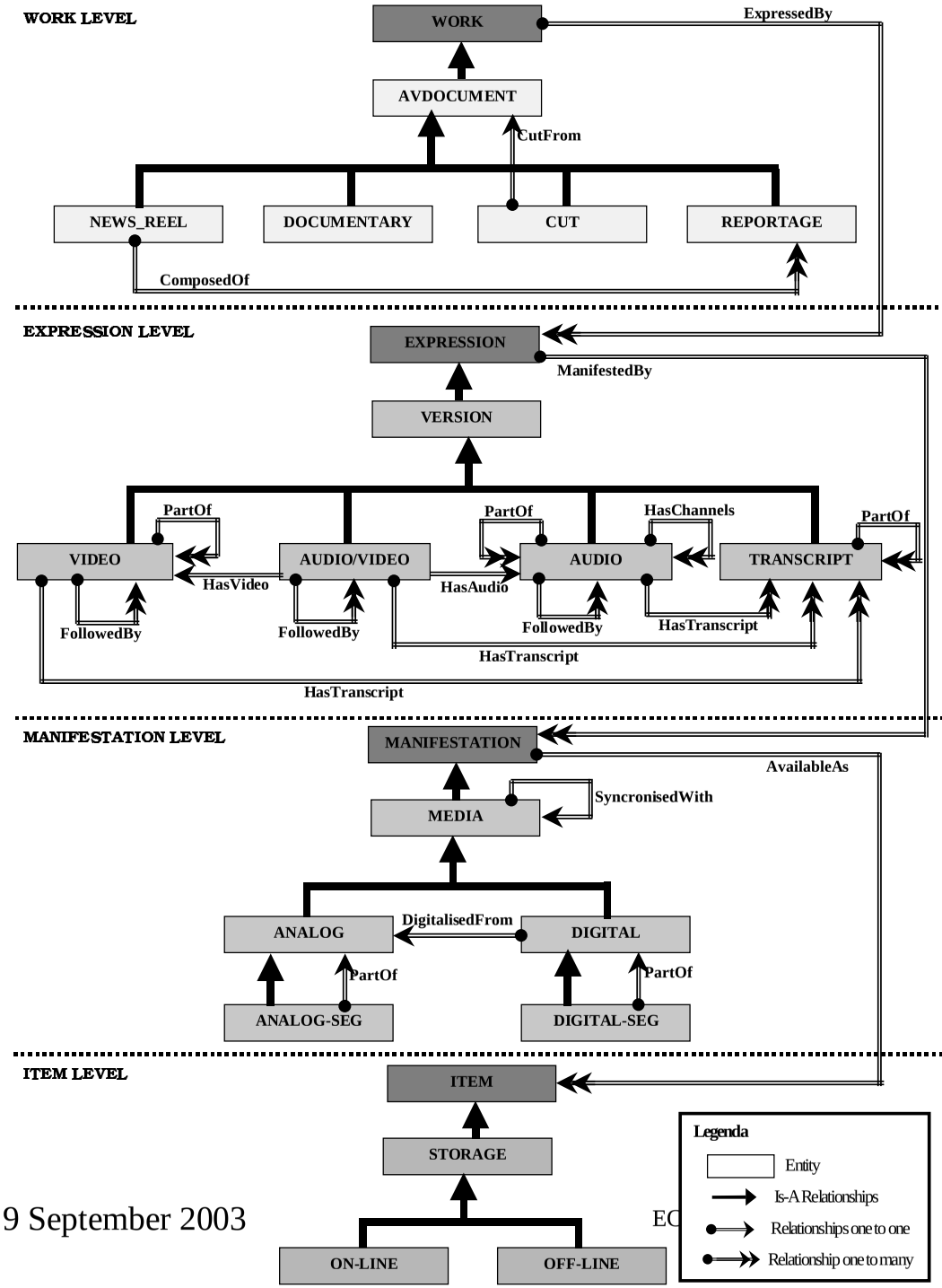
- WORK
  Describes a distinct intellectual or artistic creation
- EXPRESSION
  Intellectual or artistic realization of a work
- MANIFESTATION
  Physical embodiment of an expression
- ITEM
  A single exemplar of a manifestation

Describes a distinct intellectual or artistic creation
It is the abstract idea of a creation

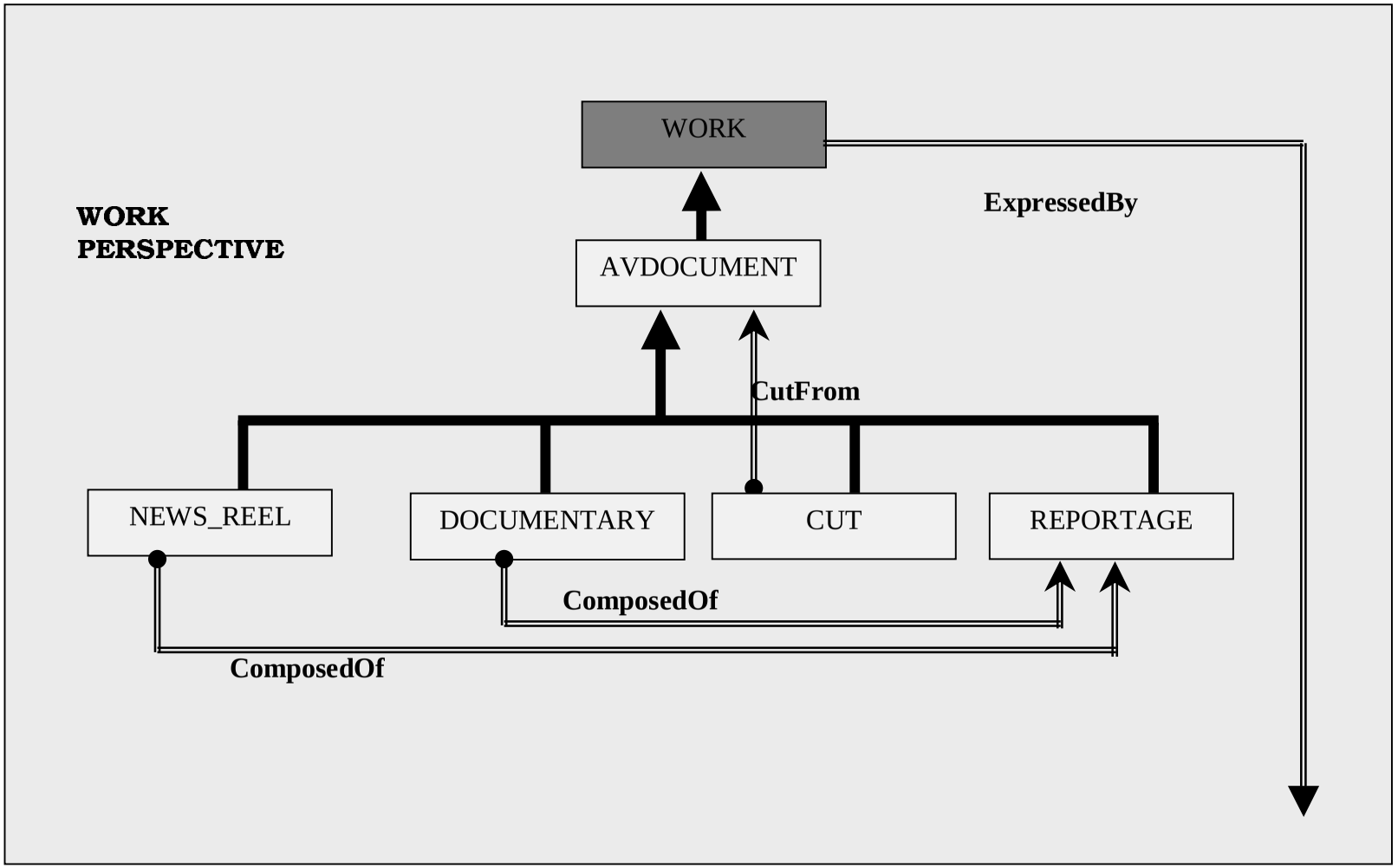
Intellectual or artistic realisation of a work in the form of alphanumeric, musical, or choreographic notation, sound, image, etc..

Physical embodiment of an expression
E.g. manuscripts, books, maps, sound, CD_ROM

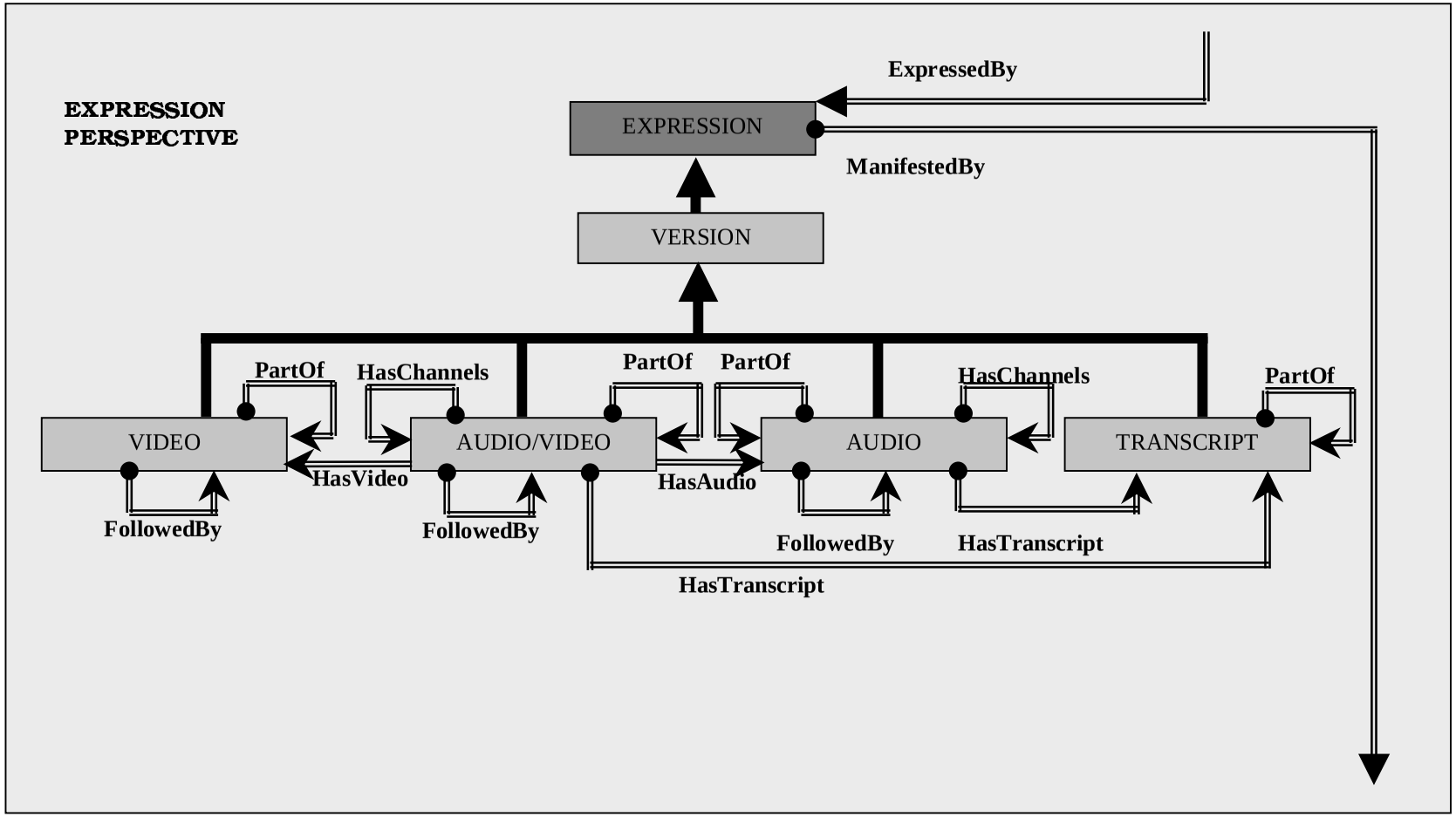
A single exemplar of a manifestation
Interviews on the terrorist attack
……


WORK LEVEL
WORK
ExpressedBy
AVDOCUMENT
CutFrom
NEWS_REEL
DOCUMENTARY
CUT
REPORTAGE
ComposedOf
EXPRESSION LEVEL
EXPRESSION
ManifestedBy
VERSION
PartOf
PartOf
HasChannels
PartOf
VIDEO
AUDIO/VIDEO
AUDIO
TRANSCRIPT
HasVideo
HasAudio
FollowedBy
FollowedBy
FollowedBy
HasTranscript
HasTranscript
HasTranscript
MANIFESTATION LEVEL
MANIFESTATION
AvailableAs
SyncronisedWith
MEDIA
DigitalisedFrom
ANALOG
DIGITAL
PartOf
PartOf
ANALOG-SEG
DIGITAL-SEG
ITEM LEVEL
ITEM
STORAGE
ON-LINE
OFF-LINE
Legenda
Entity
Is-A Relationships
Relationships one to one
Relationship one to many

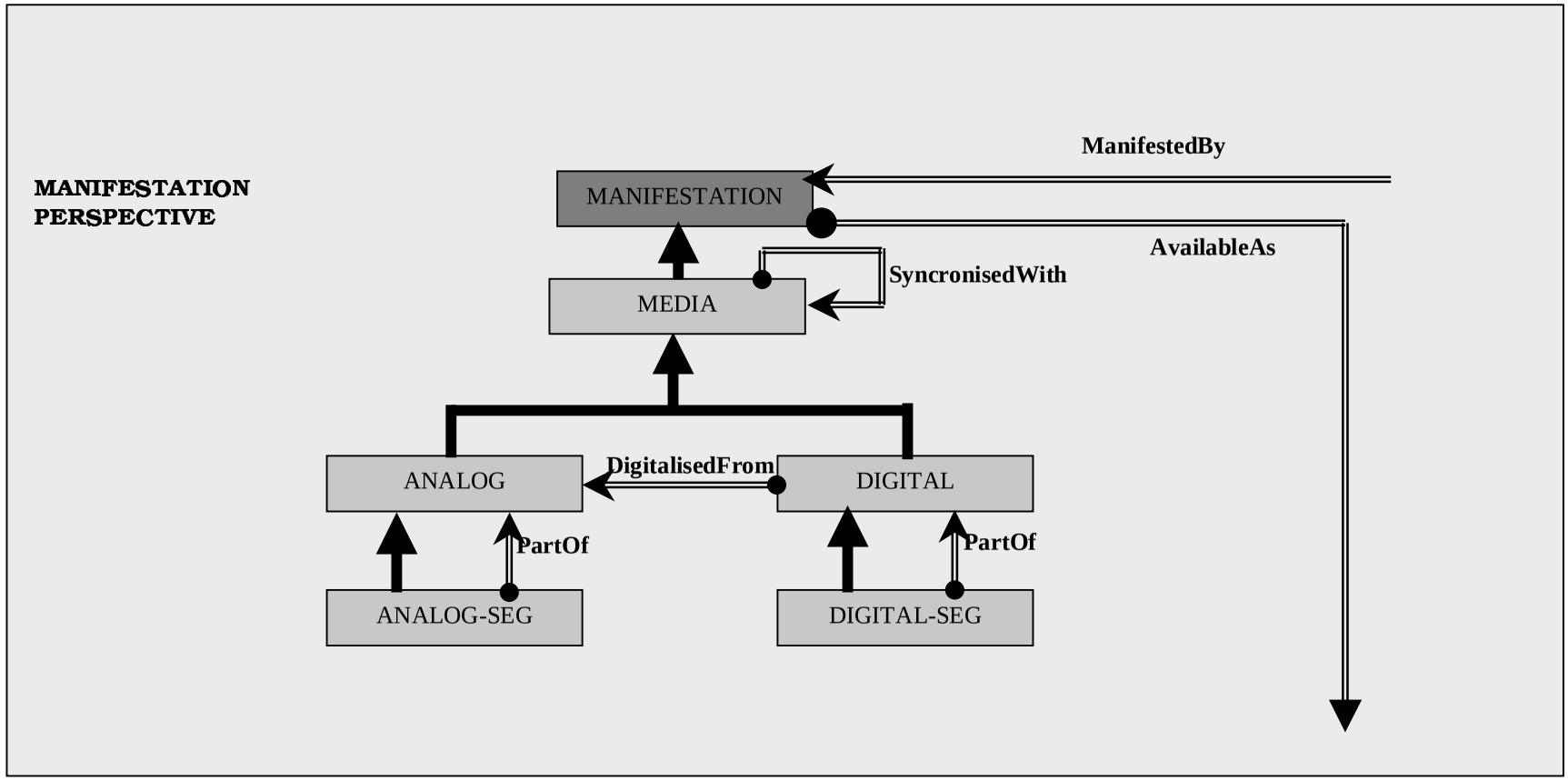
Model


WORK
WORK
PERSPECTIVE
ExpressedBy
AVDOCUMENT
CutFrom
NEWS_REEL
DOCUMENTARY
CUT
REPORTAGE
ComposedOf
ComposedOf

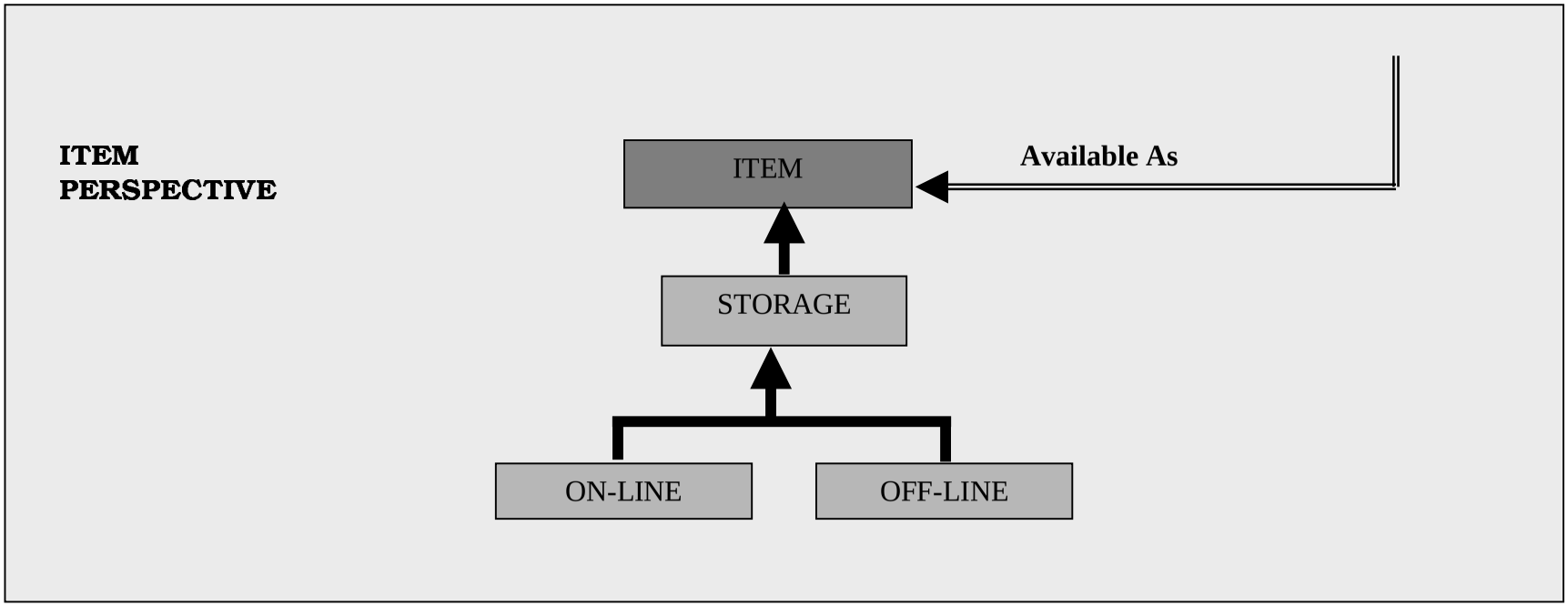
Proposed Model (cont.)



Proposed Model (cont.)



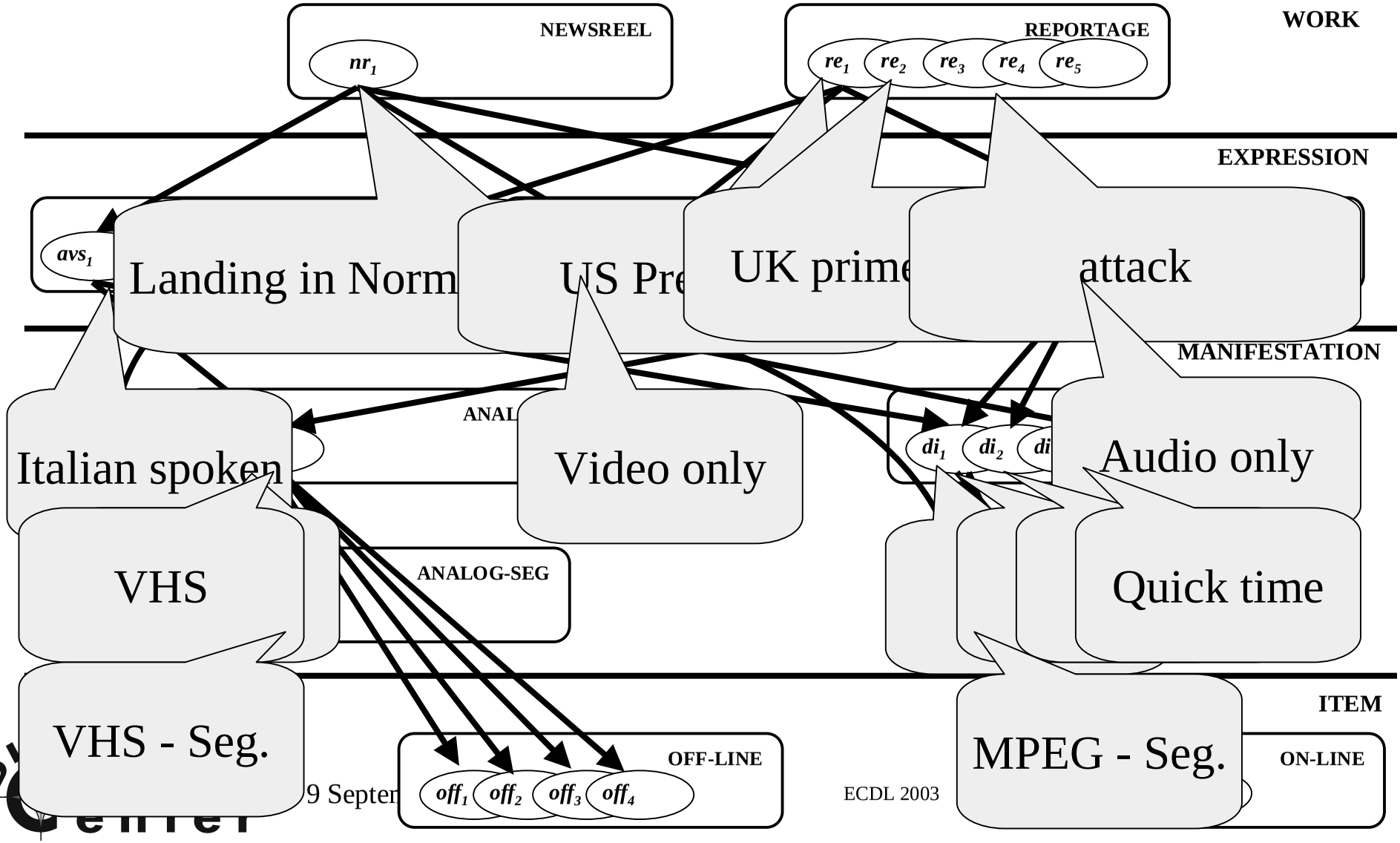
Proposed Model (cont.)



Running example

- Newsreel about the “Landing of the Allied Forces to Normandy”
  - It is composed of several reportages
  - There are several national versions
    - e.g. Italian and French
  - Each version is available on different supports
    - e.g. VHS tapes, MPEG files
  - There are several copies of the VHS tape with different preservation quality
  - There are several copies of the MPEG file with different access speed

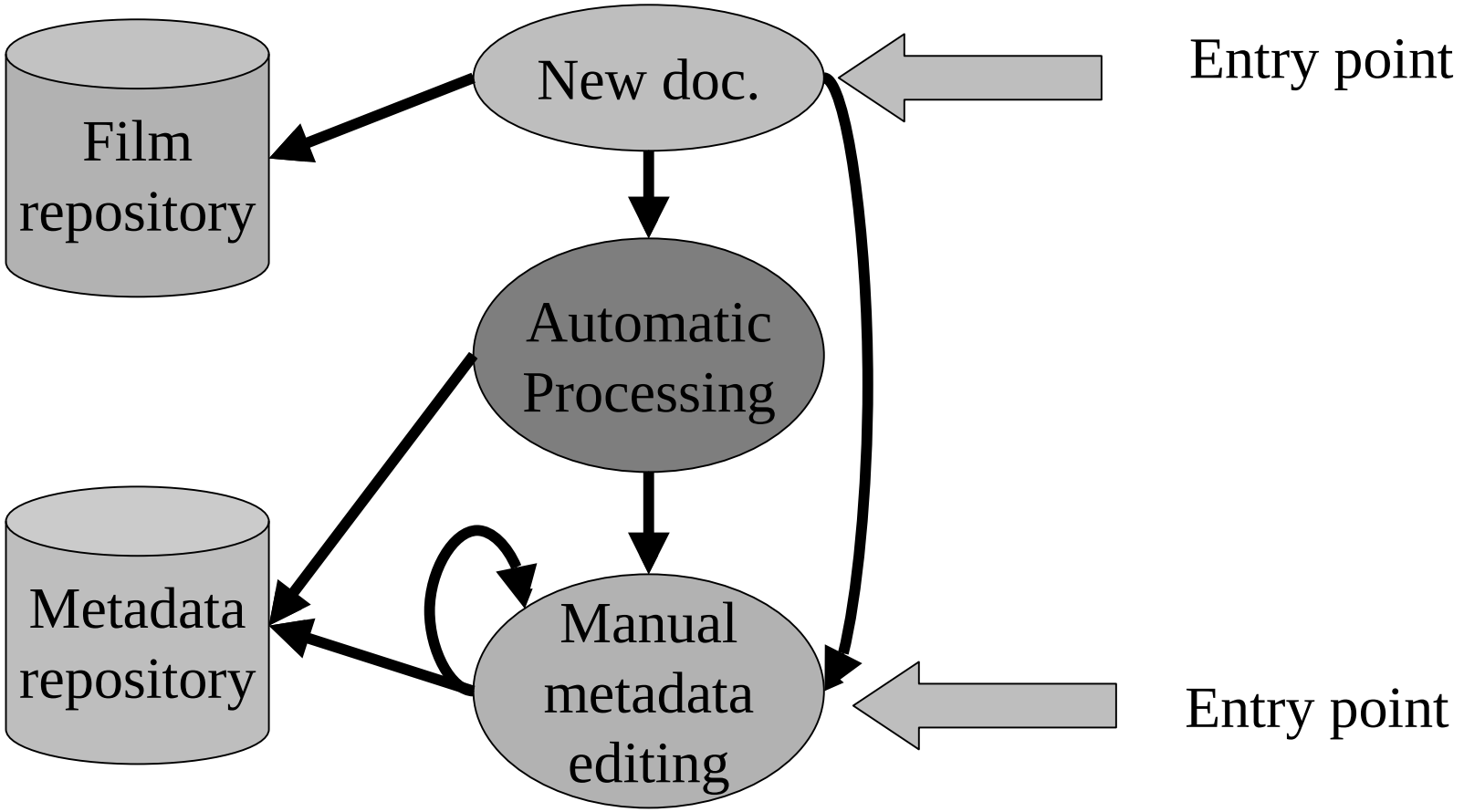
Running example



Generating metadata: indexing

- Fully Manual indexing:
  - Time consuming and tedious, especially with complex metadata models
- Fully Automatic Indexing:
  - Noise may affect effectiveness
- Manual indexing with automatic support:
  - Could be a good compromise

Work flow


New doc.
Film repository
Automatic Processing
Metadata repository
Manual metadata editing
Entry point
Entry point

Automatic processing tasks

- Cut detection
- Visual features extraction
- Transcript generation
- Object recognition
- Face recognition
- Geospatial information
- Video abstract generation

Automatic Indexing

- Overview
  - Text
  - Speech
  - Images
  - Moving pictures (videos)

Indexing text

- The indexing process associates (weighted) index terms to documents
- Index terms can be
  - Words chosen from a controlled vocabulary
  - Words automatically extracted
  - Steams (e.g. print-)
  - Noun phrases automatically extracted
  - Other metadata

Indexing text

- Experience has shown that using weighted single terms offers the best performance
  - Of course that depends crucially on the choice of the term-weighting system
- Document search is performed by searching for index terms
  - Documents associated with qualifying index terms are retrieved
  - Documents are ranked according to weights of index terms

Indexing text

- The indexing process produces an incidence matrix:

	d_1	…	d_i	…	d_m
t_1	w_{11}	…	w_{1i}	…	w_{1m}
…	…	…	…	…	…
t_k	…	…	w_{ki}	…	…
…	…	…	…	…	…
t_n	w_{n1}	…	w_{ni}	…	w_{nm}

Indexing text

- Models to assess document relevance:
  - Boolean model
  - Fuzzy logic model
  - Vector space model
  - …

Boolean model

- A query may contain logical operator and/or
  - The query “digital and library” retrieves documents associated with both terms
  - The query “digital or library” retrieves documents associated with at least one of the two terms
- Boolean logic is used to process more complex queries

Fuzzy logic model

- Extends the Boolean model in such a way that also weights are considered to assign a score to retrieved documents
- Suppose that term t_1 and t_2 have weight w_1 and w_2 in document d
- d has score:
  - $min\{w_1,w_2\}$ for query t_1 and t_2
  - $max\{w_1,w_2\}$ for query t_1 or t_2

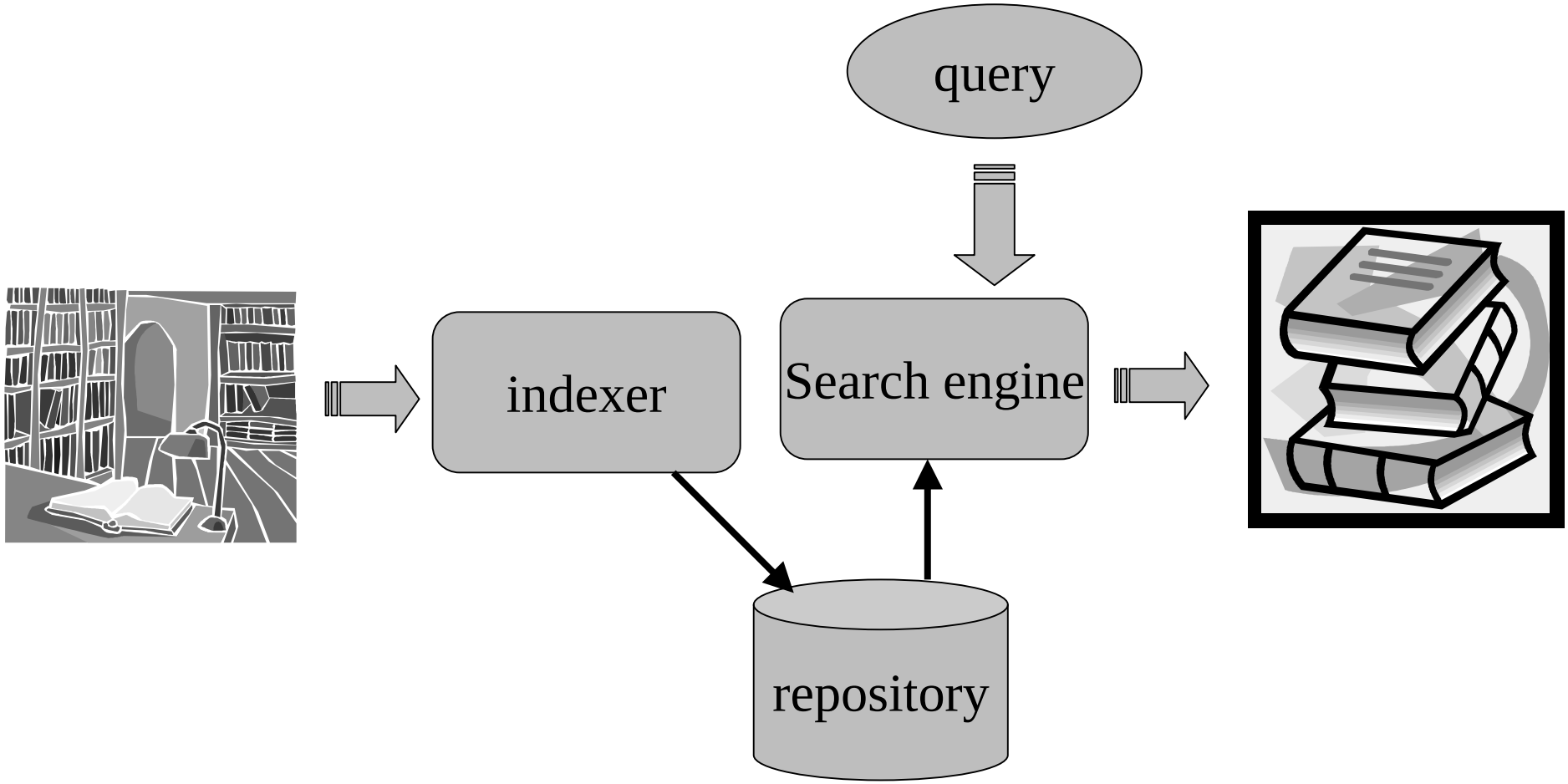
Vector space model

- Documents and queries can be viewed as vectors of of weights (each term is a dimension)
- The score is the distance between a query (vector) and the documents (vectors)

Automatic extraction of weighted index terms

- A widely used technique is the *tfidf* weighting function (term frequency inverse document frequency):
  - The more frequently a term appear in a document the more significant it is for that document: term frequency (*tf*)
  - The more frequently a term occur in the entire collection the less selective it is: document frequency (*df*)
- The weight is directly proportional to the *tf* and inversely proportional to the *df* (*idf*)

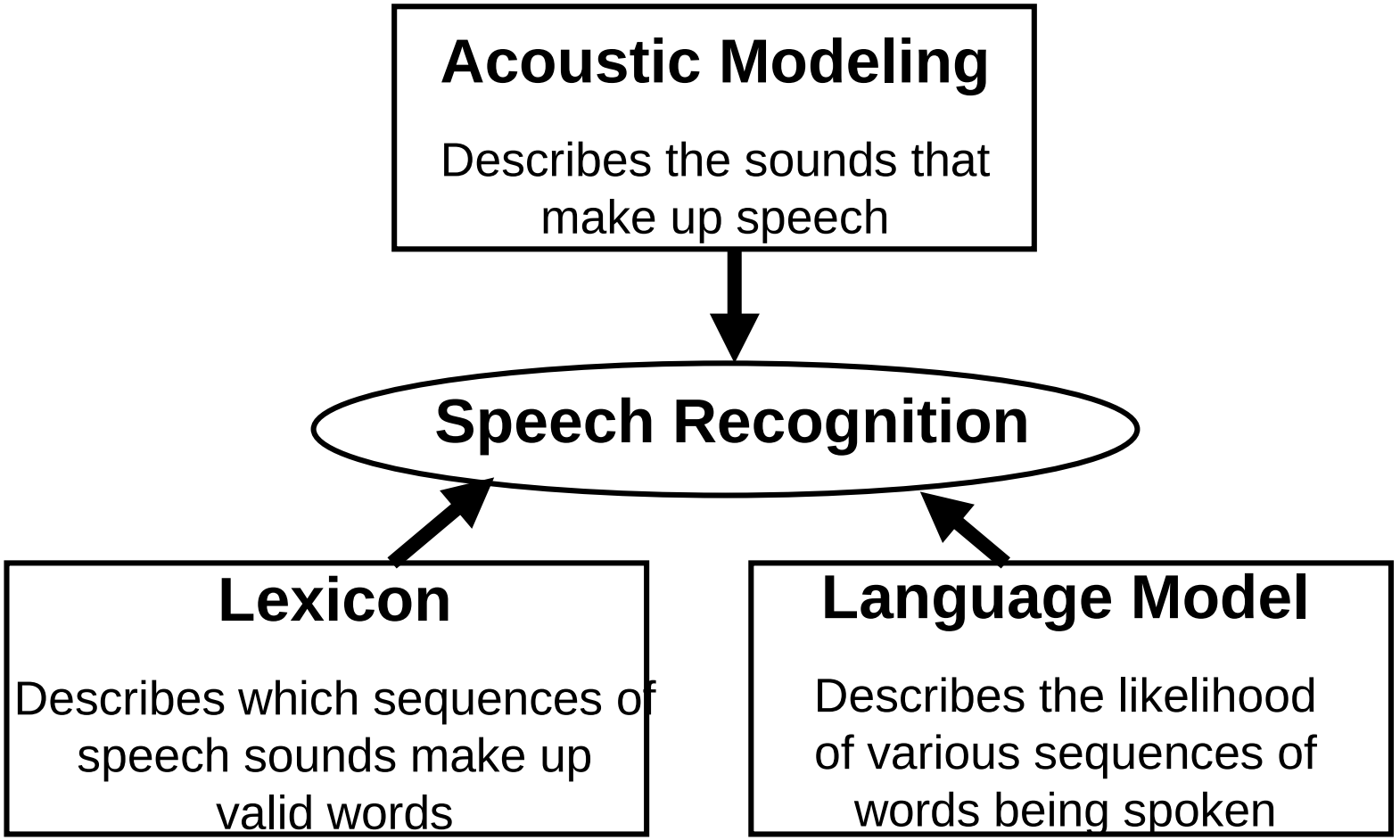
Text documents:Overall view



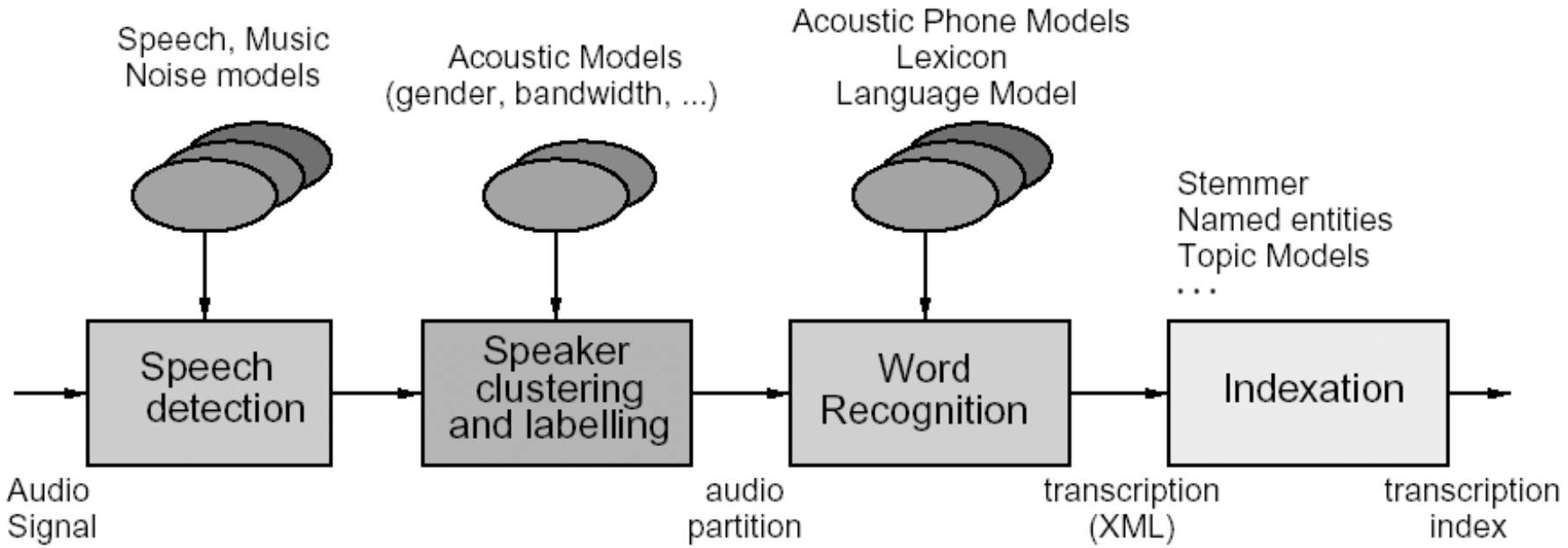
Indexing speech

- Generates transcript to enable text-based retrieval from spoken language documents
- Improves text synchronization to audio/video in presence of scripts
- Supplies information necessary for library segmentation and multimedia abstractions
- Provides speech interface to digital library

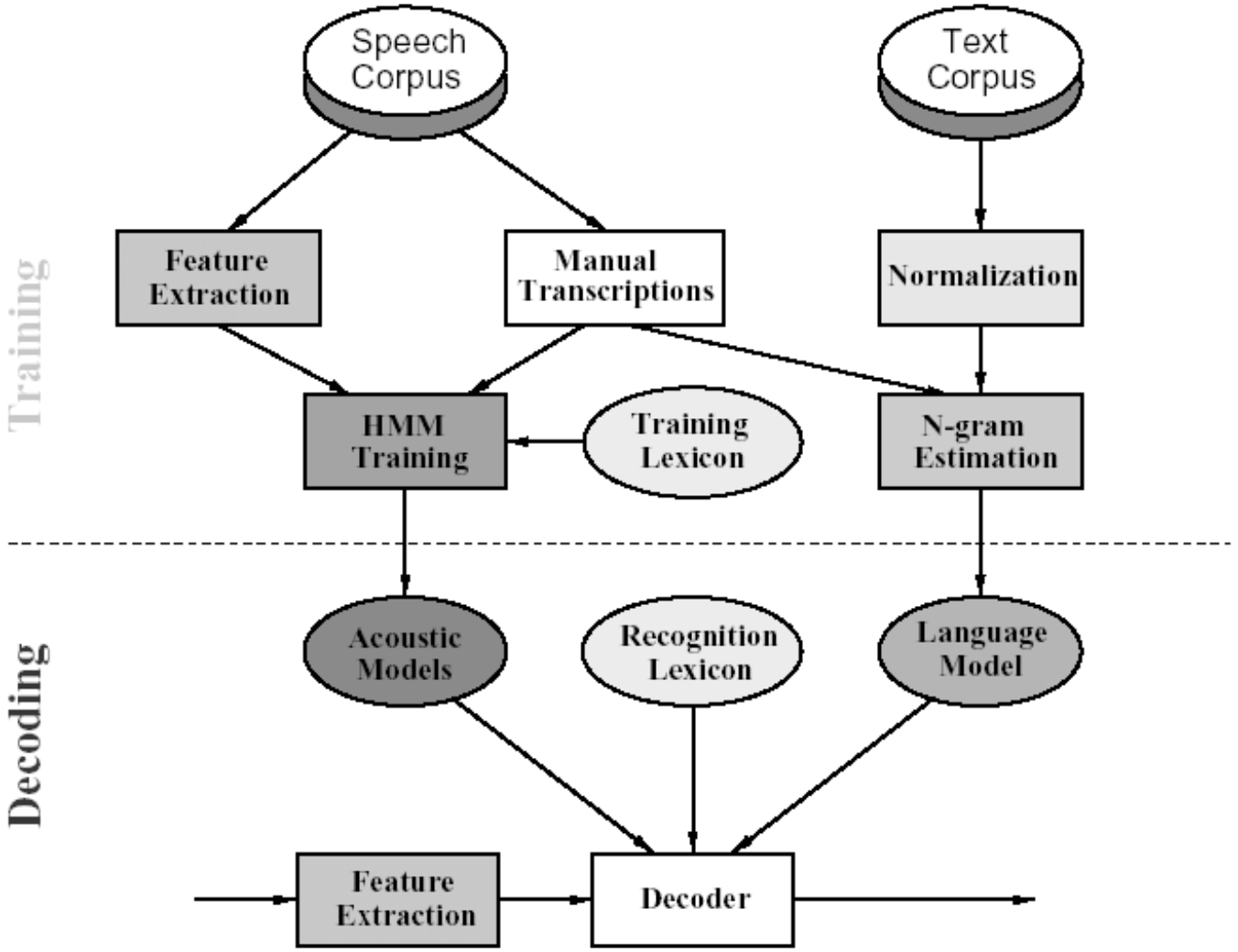
Indexing speech



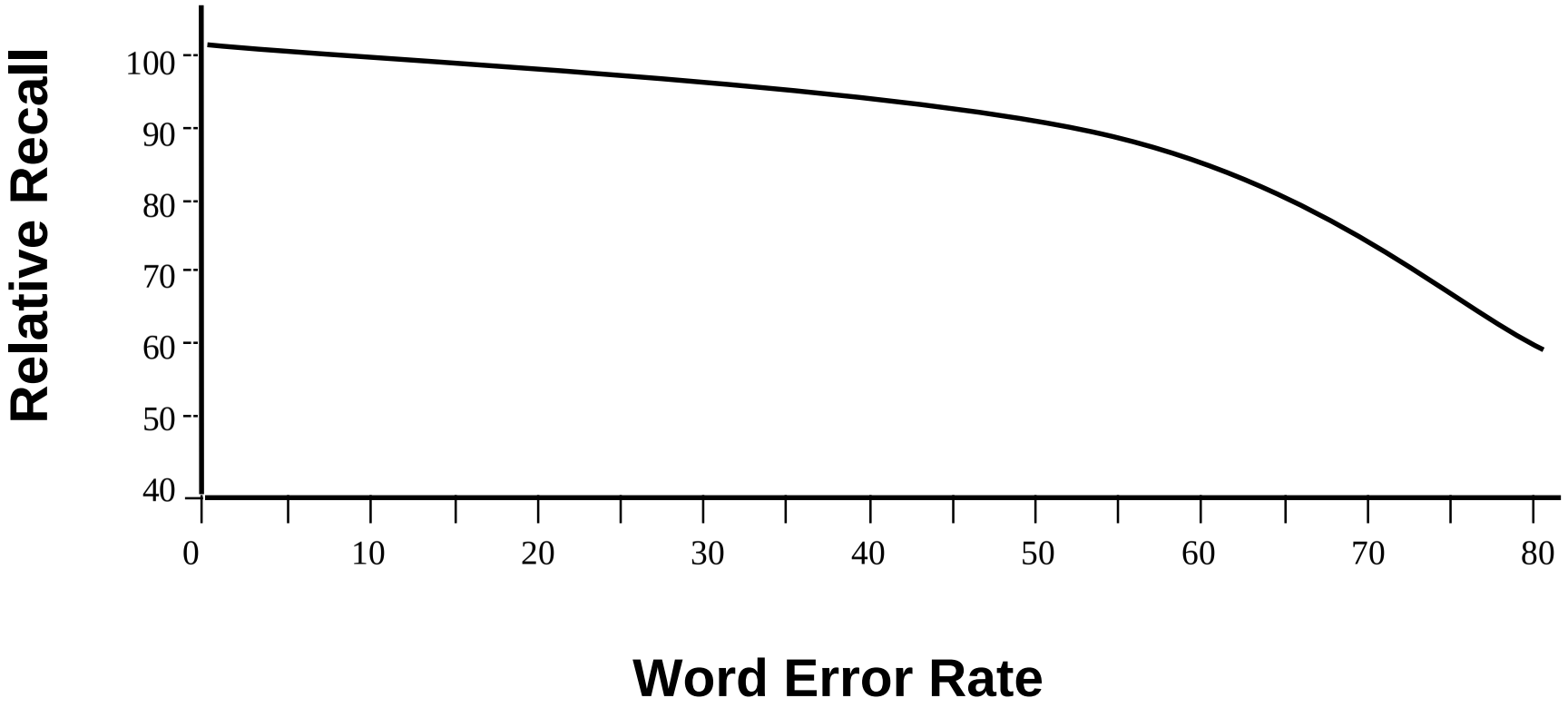
Indexing speech



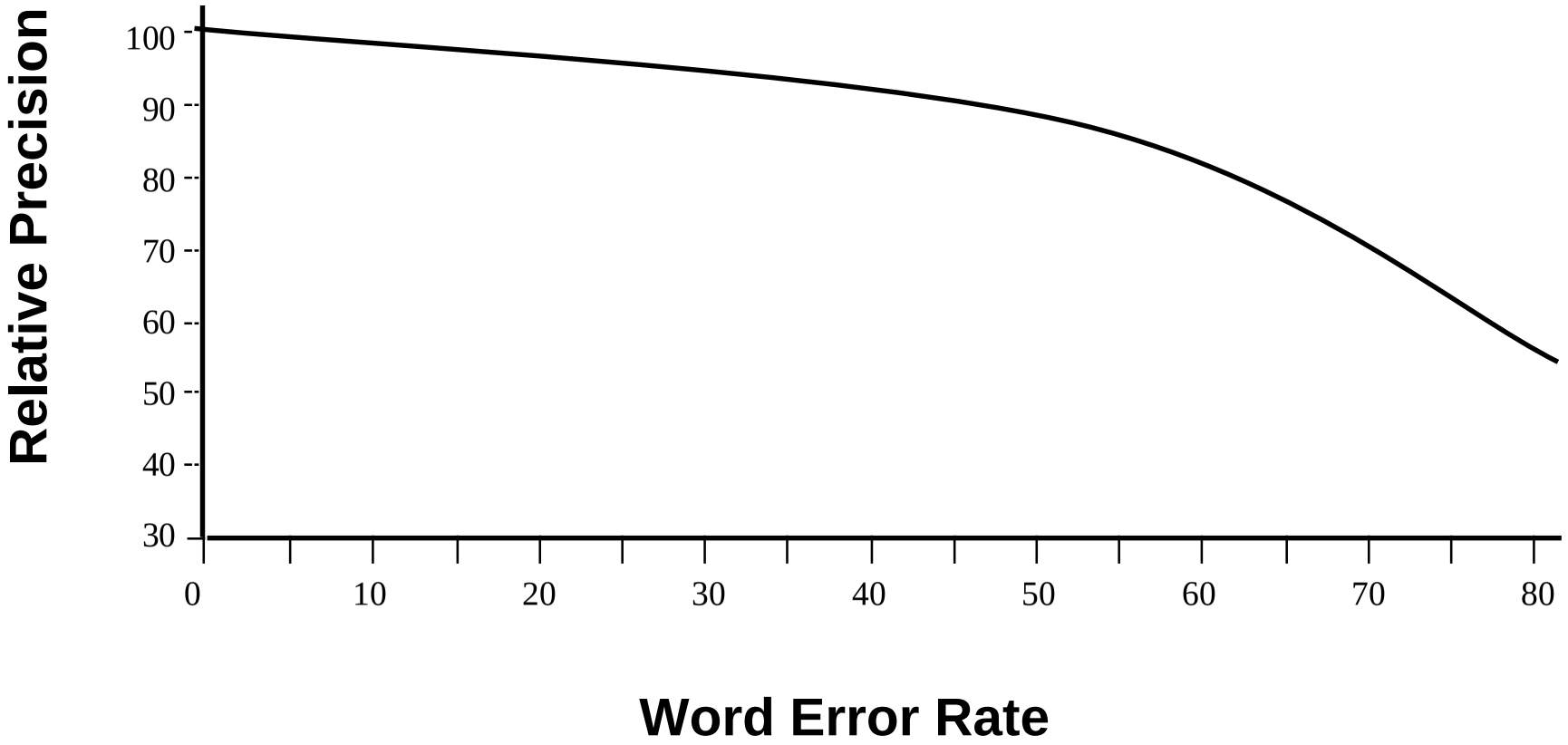
Indexing speech



Text retrieval precision vs. Speech accuracy



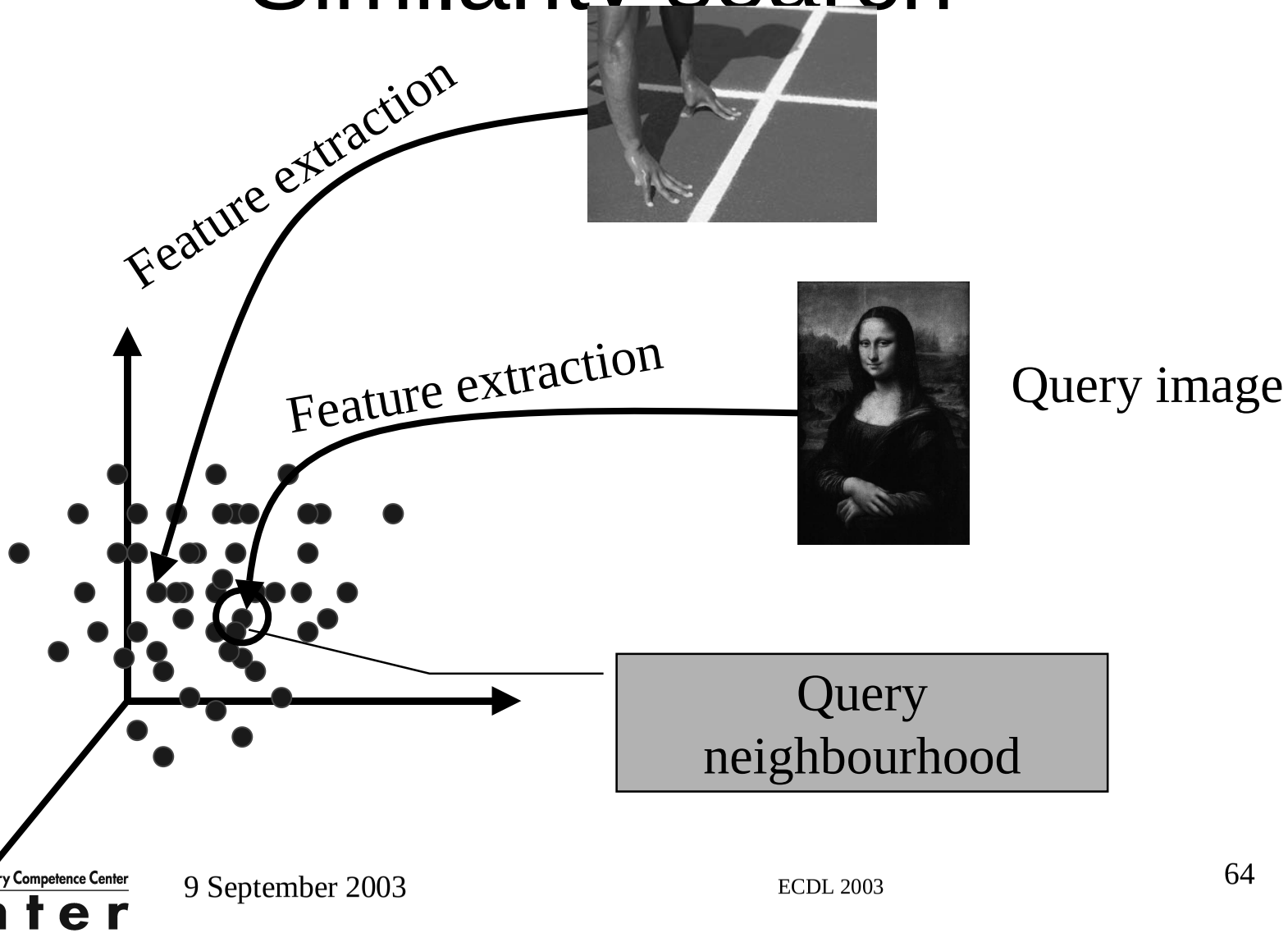
Text retrieval precision vs. Speech accuracy



Indexing images

- The automatic indexing process associates images with features describing their physical content
  - Colour
  - Textures
  - Shapes
  - Spatial organisation
- Image search is performed by using feature similarity

Similarity search

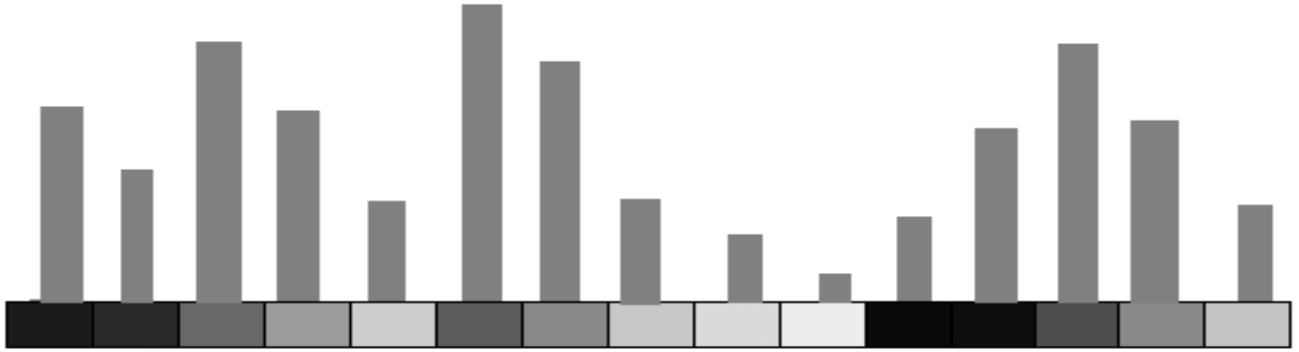


Indexing images

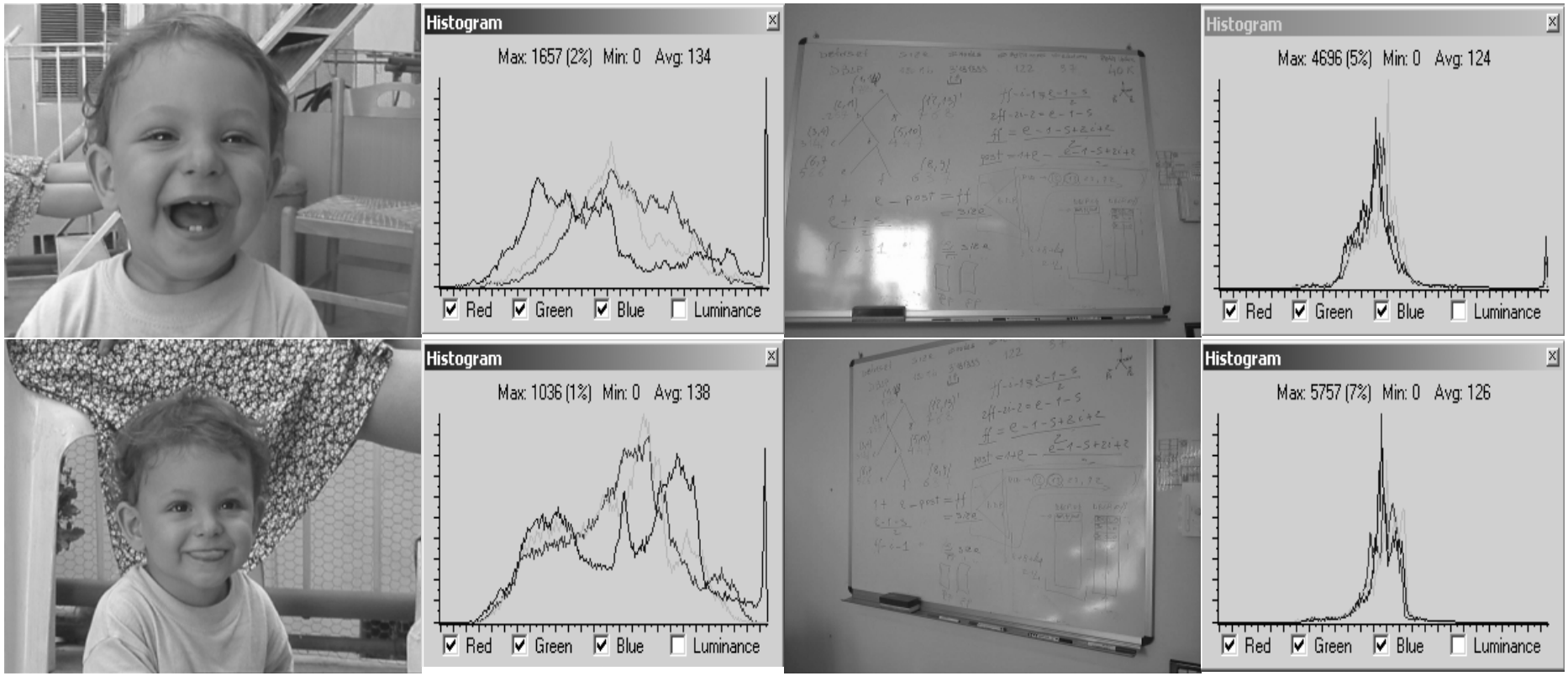
- Colour spaces
  - The most common and intuitive colour space is the RGB (Red Green Blue) colour space
    - Every perceivable colour can be obtained as the sum of three degree of RGB

Image indexing

- Colour histograms
  - The colour spectrum is divided into *n* bins
  - The value contained in each bean is proportional to the amount of pixel having colour of that bean



Indexing images



Indexing images

- Problems with RGB:
  - Colours that are close in the RGB colour space can be distant for the human perception

Indexing images

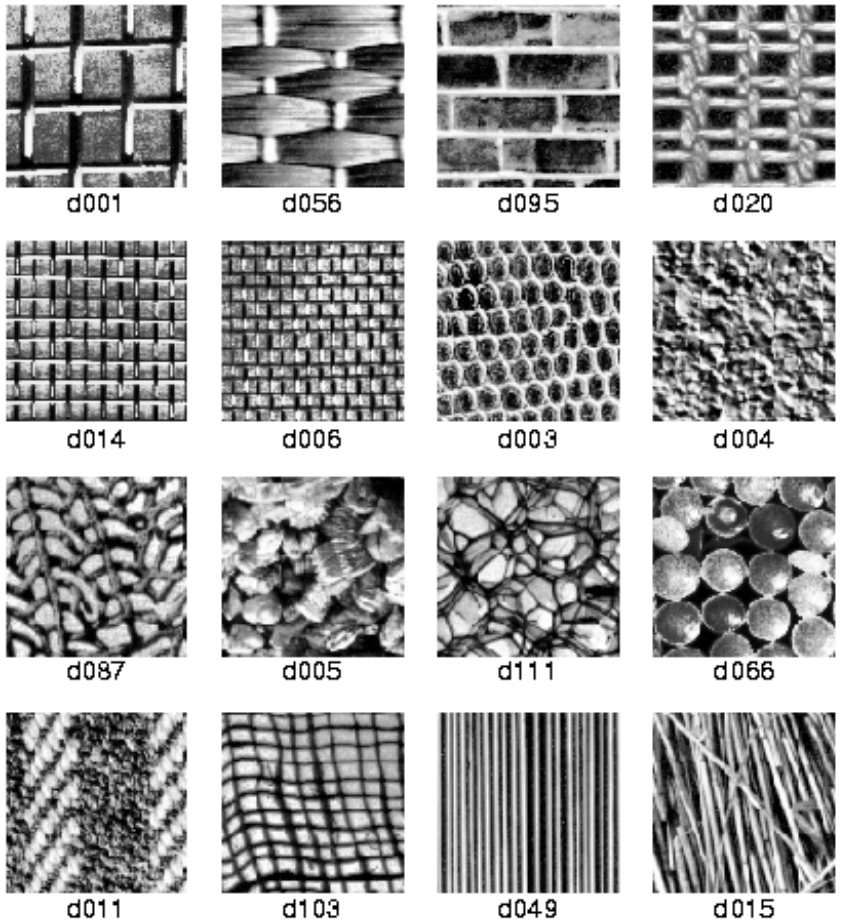
- Wanted properties of colour spaces:
  - Uniformity
    - Close colours are also perceived as similar
  - Completeness
    - All perceivable colours are representable
  - Compactness
    - No redundancy

Indexing images

- Other colour spaces:
  - HSV
    - Hue:Tint of the colour
    - Saturation:Quantity of colour
    - Value (Brightness):Quantity of light
  - YIQ, YUV, YCrCb, etc.

Indexing images

- Textures:



Indexing images

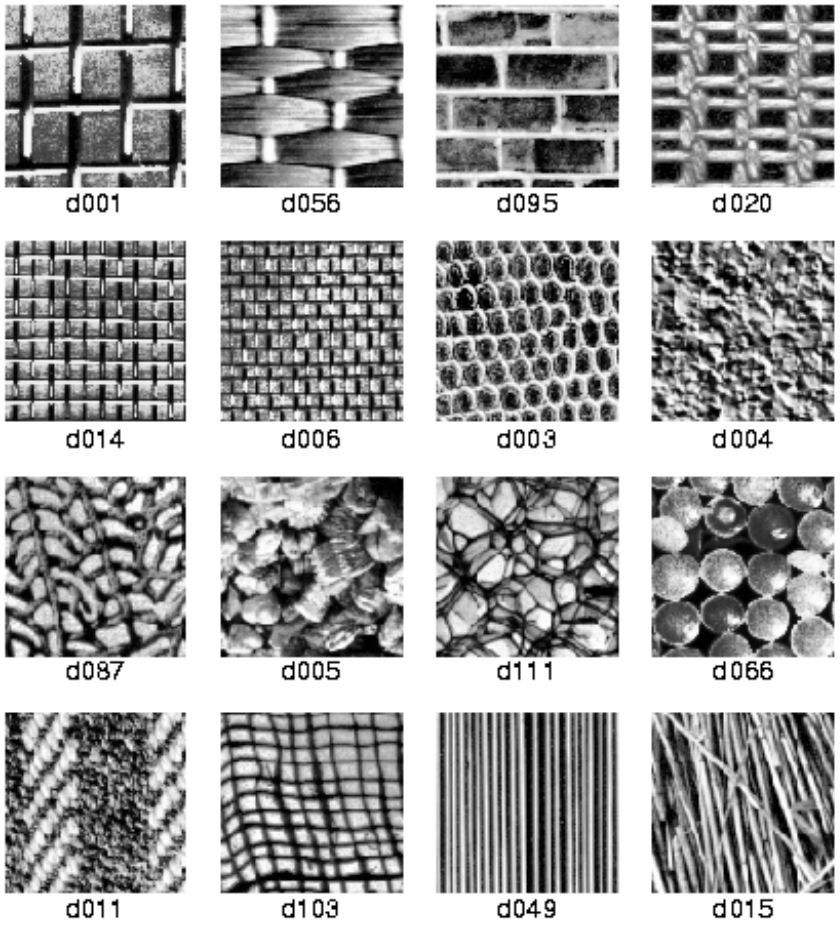
- Textures:
  - Homogeneous patterns
  - Spatial arrangement of pixels
    - Colour is not enough to describe

Indexing images

- Textures descriptions are obtained by using statistical methods
  - Spatial distribution of image intensity
  - Several methods exists
  - Texture descriptions can also be represented as histograms (vectors)

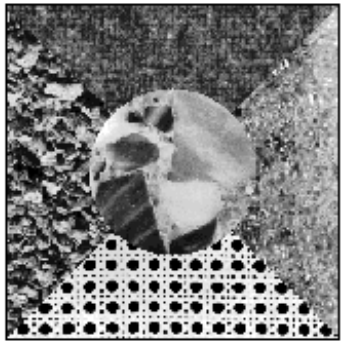
Indexing images

- Widely used features for textures are the Tamura features:
  - Contrast
    - Distribution of
  - Coarseness
    - Granularity of
  - Directionality
    - Dominant dire

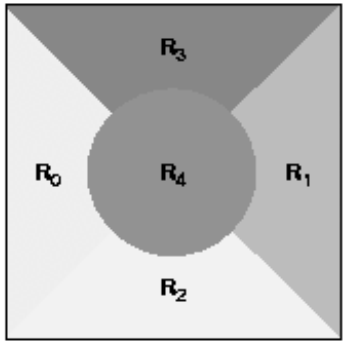


Indexing images

- Shapes:
  - Region extraction
  - Segmentation



(a)



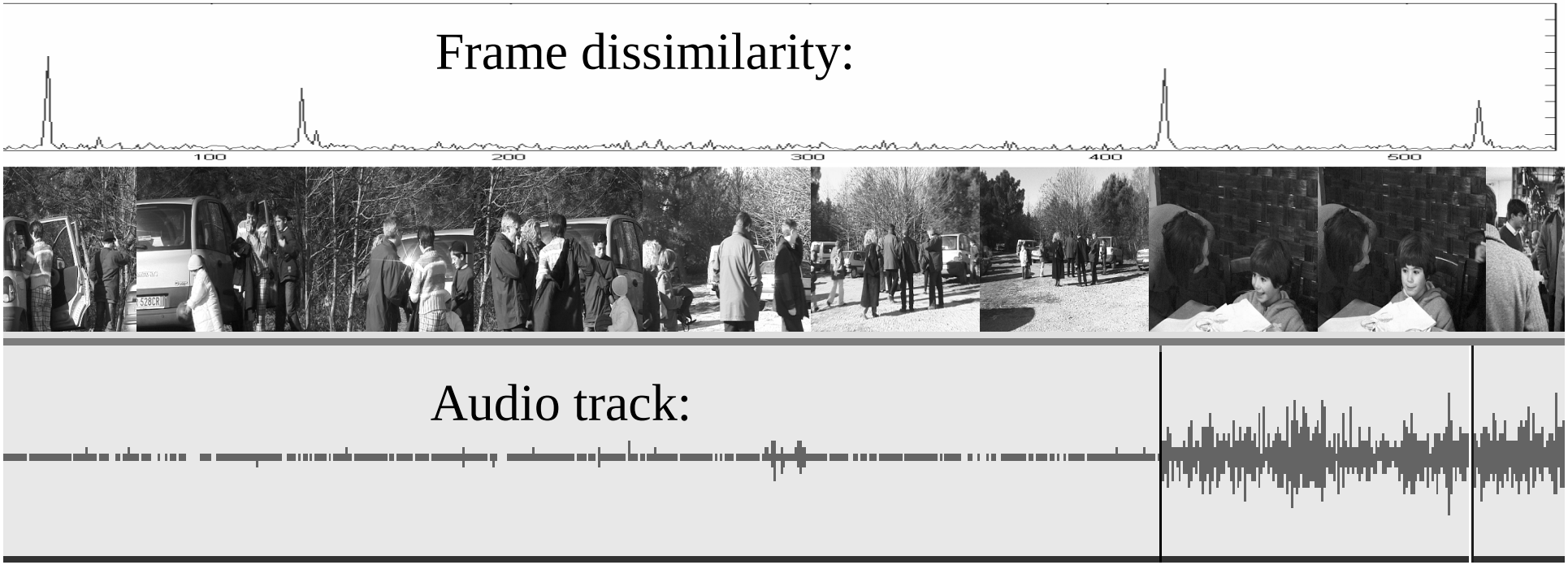
(b)

Indexing images

- Colour histograms and textures can be computed for individual regions in addition to entire images
  - Global features
    - Search for images
  - Local features
    - Search for regions in images
- Spatial relationships between region give also additional information
  - Search for images having specific characteristics

Indexing moving pictures

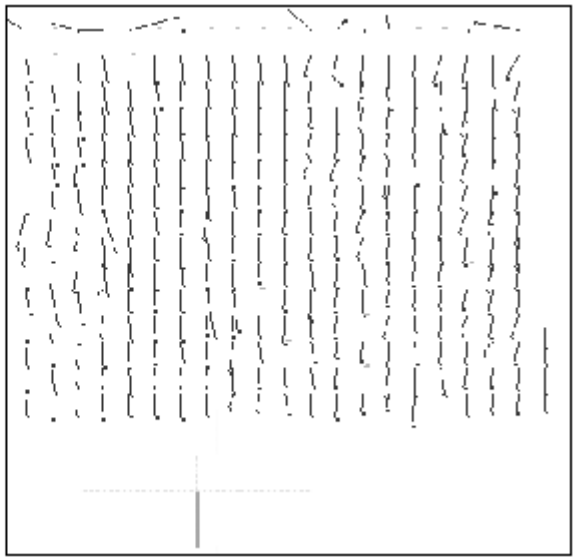
- Cut/scene detection:



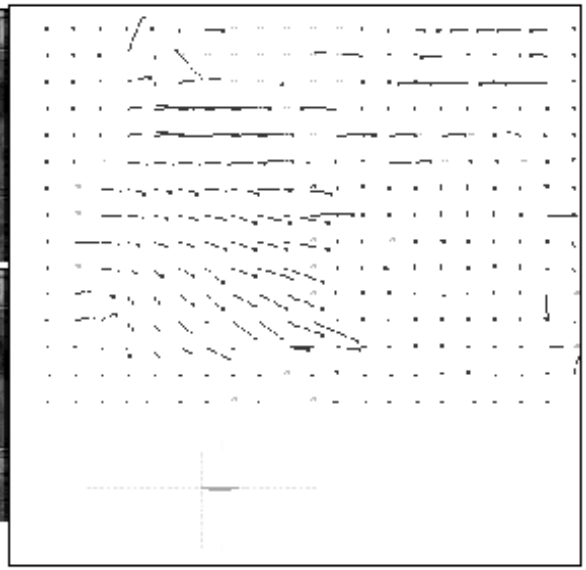
Motion Picture indexing

- Camera and Motion Detection

Pan



Right object motion (not pan left)



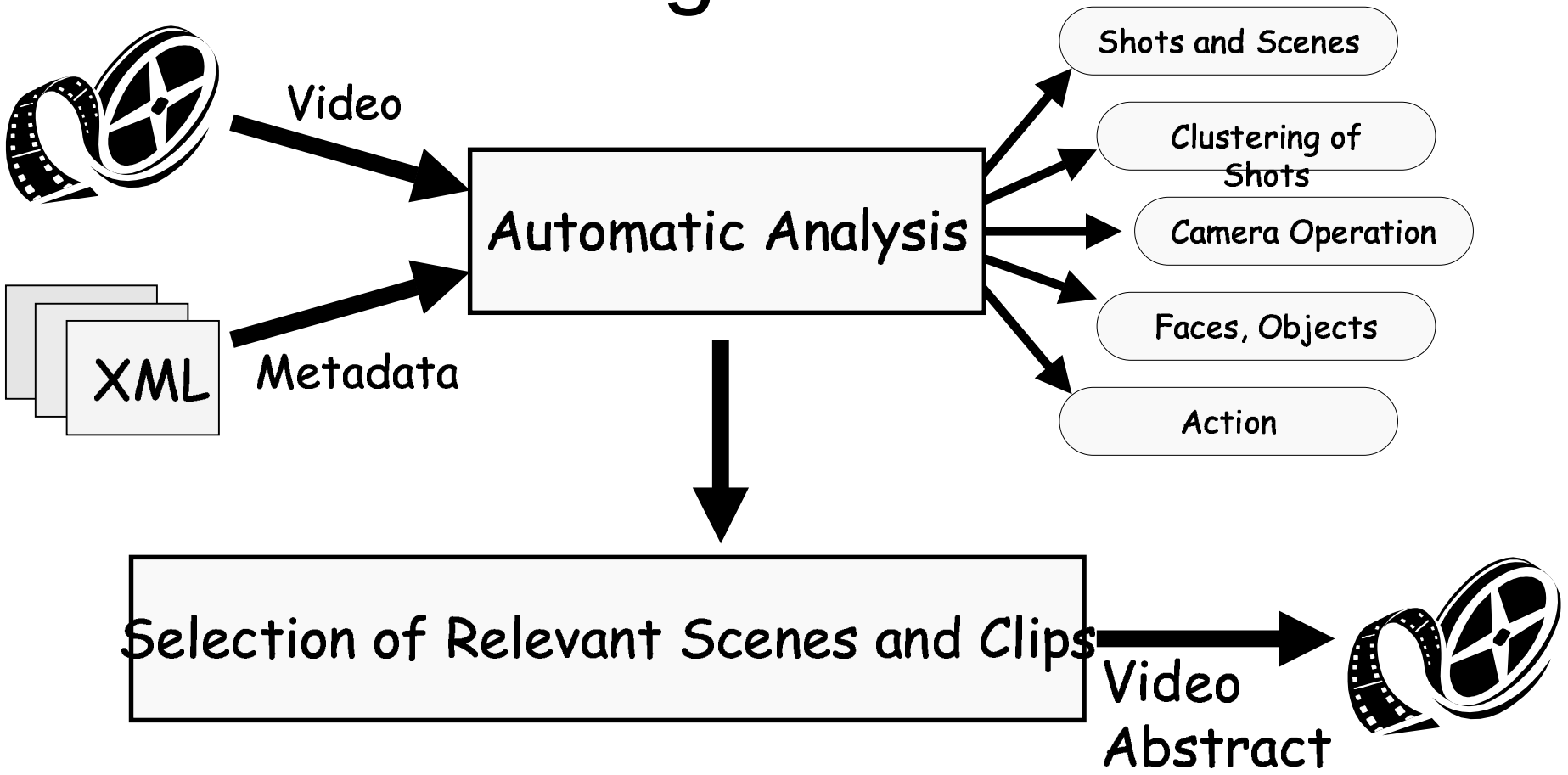
Video Abstract

- A video abstract is a part of a much longer video, which preserves the essential message of the original video.

- A video abstract does not change the presentation medium.

- The user can see the video abstract without any technical knowledge of the application.

Overview of the Abstracting Algorithm



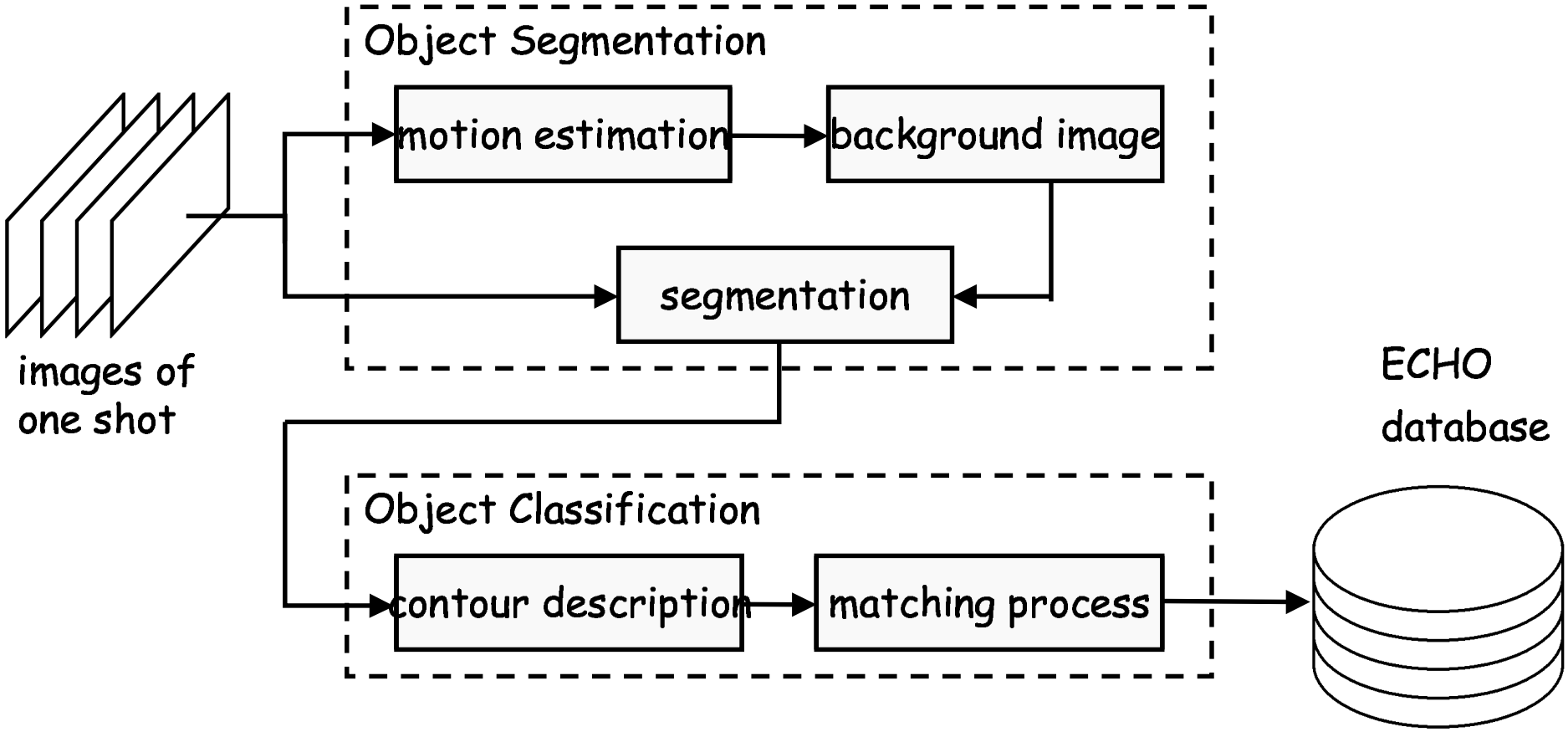
Moving-Object Recognition

- The system for moving-object recognition consists of two components, a *segmentation* module and a *classification* module.

- For each shot in the video, a background panorama image is constructed. The foreground objects in this background image are removed by means of temporal filtering (median).

- The object is segmented by comparing each frame of the video to the background image.

Moving-Object Recognition



Object Segmentation

- The camera model is calculated and all frames are transformed with this camera model.
- The background panorama image is the median of all pixels at the same position.
- A large differences of the frame and the background indicates an object.

calculated background image

sample video of segmented and recognized objects (cars)

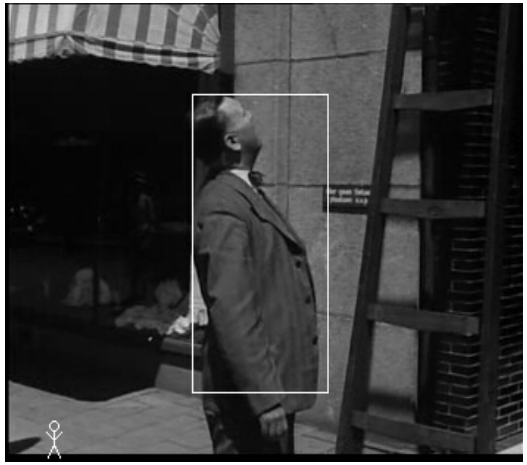
Object Classification

- The classification of the segmented object is based on feature points of the contour.

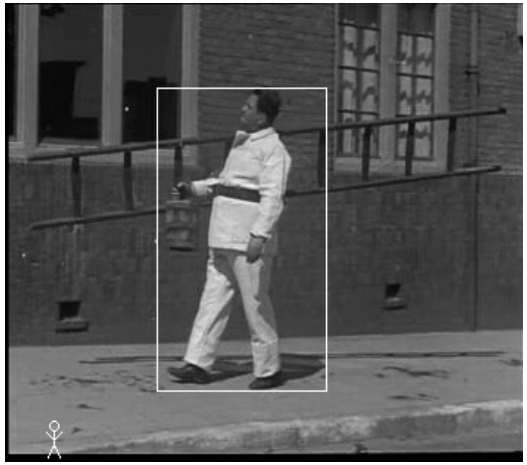
Example: Cars

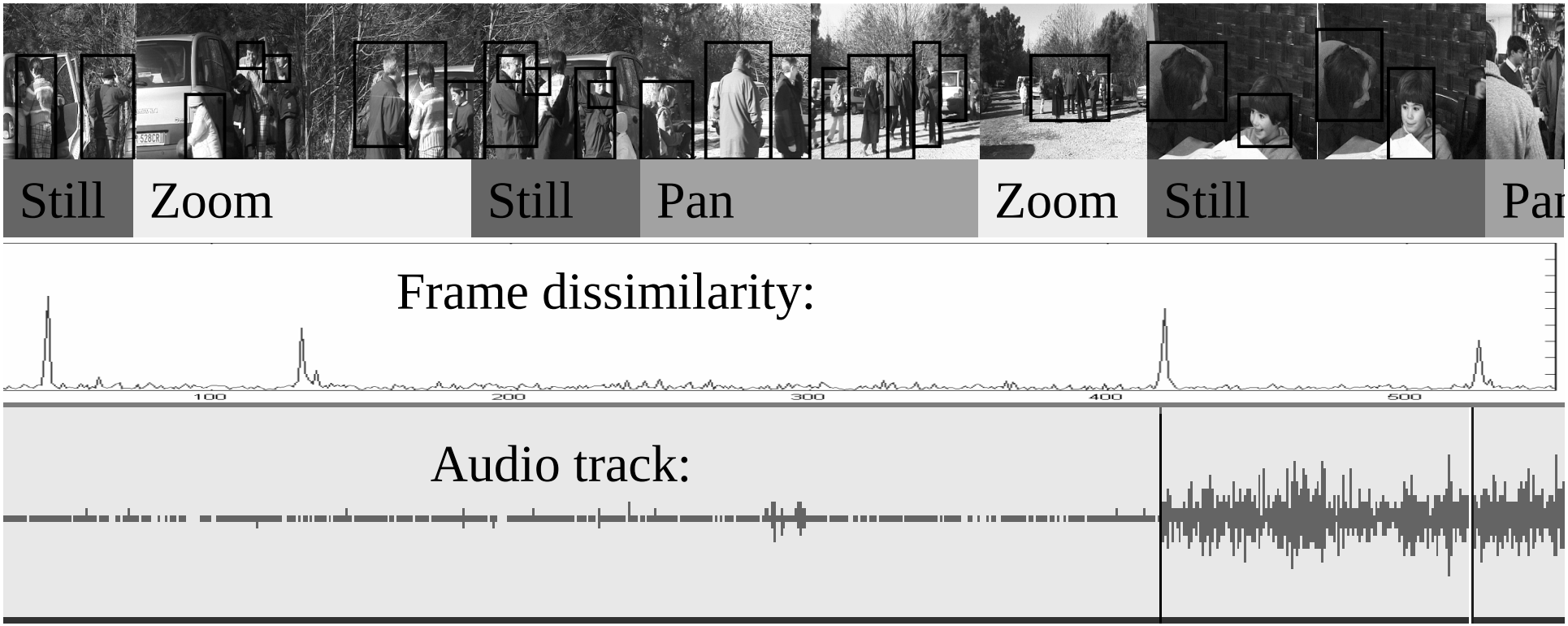


Example: People




Example: People



Face detection

Object detection

Text detection

Speech recognition

Questions??