

Time intervals in URIs

<draft-pfeiffer-temporal-fragments-02>

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안녕하세요

Linking to time points and regions

- This draft has come from the Annodex.net project, and has had discussion and input from MPEG-4/MPEG-7 people, SMPTE and the W3C uri-review. It currently focusses on implementation for HTTP.
- More discussion needed on RTSP mechanisms:

```
rtsp://seang.sun/nemo#t=100
```

```
rtsp://seang.sun/nemo?t=npt:10:13-30:28
```

```
rtsp://seang.sun/nemo?t=0-10,0:30-1:08
```

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안녕하세요

Motivation

- Other sites and users can link directly to a point of interest in a media resource.
- A common format for this allows tools to generate the correct URI to retrieve the given playback time, without the author of the referenced content explicitly naming it.
- The point of interest can be linked to from web pages, email and other media resources.

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안녕하세요

?query and #fragment in rfc2396bis (URI)

- “query component ... serves to identify a resource within the scope of the URI's scheme and naming authority”
- “interpretation of the fragment identifier during a retrieval action is performed solely by the user agent; the fragment identifier is not passed to other systems during the process of retrieval”

Handling time intervals over HTTP

- simple: rfc2396 maps well to download protocols.
- queries are interpreted by the HTTP server, which serves only the requested interval of content. It may need to regenerate codec headers to provide a valid media file.
- fragments are handled by the HTTP client, which buffers the entire resource and presents only the requested portion.

?query and #fragment interpretation over RTSP

- RFC2326: “Note that fragment and query identifiers do not have a well-defined meaning at this time, with the interpretation left to the RTSP server.”
- This may conflict with rfc2396bis, which requires that the fragment is interpreted “solely by the user agent”. (This language is more restrictive than RFC2396).
- RTSP is more flexible than HTTP: the client has session-based control of the server and is capable of solely interpreting the fragment without buffering the entire resource.

Handling time intervals over RTSP with URI `?query`

- Queries must be interpreted by the RTSP server. The server thus presents a view of the original content. How should an RTSP client navigate relative times in such a resource?

```
rtsp://seang.sun/nemo?t=0-10,0:30-1:08
```

- Can the server always provide an SDP description of the required ranges on the canonical (query-less) content-base? Translating to a canonical content-base has caching advantages.

Handling time intervals over RTSP with URI #fragment

- Client issues direct PLAY requests:

```
rtsp://seang.sun/nemo#t=10
```

is interpreted by the client as:

```
PLAY rtsp://seang.sun/nemo RTSP/1.0  
CSeq: 2  
Session: 12345678  
Range: smpte=0:10:00-
```

- Multiple time ranges in the URI are easily queued by separate PLAY requests.

Open issues

- Responsibility for URI fragment interpretation needs clarification in RTSP.
- Relative time issues: what happens when both client and server provide views on the original data? What play time should the client show?
- Are the methods outlined for handling time intervals given in URIs viable for RTSP? How can these be improved?
- Can these mechanisms be extended to support named anchors and chapter URIs over RTSP? Can these names be allowed in RTSP PLAY requests? ...