

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Multimedia systems and equipment – Colour measurement and management –  
Part 12-2: Simple metadata format for identification of colour gamut

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**MULTIMEDIA SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT –  
COLOUR MEASUREMENT AND MANAGEMENT –**

**Part 12-2: Simple metadata format for identification of colour gamut**

**FOREWORD**

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International Standard IEC 61966-12-2 has been prepared by technical area 2: Colour measurement and management, of IEC technical committee 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

CDV	Report on voting
100/2129/CDV	100/2276/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

A list of all parts of the IEC 61966 series, published under the general title *Multimedia systems and equipment – Colour measurement and management*, can be found on the IEC website.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

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## INTRODUCTION

New technologies in capturing and displaying wide-gamut colour images enable a new market of wide-gamut video colour content creation. Recent video standards for wide gamut colour space encoding such as IEC 61966-2-4 (xvYCC) were developed in order to be able to distribute content with a colour gamut that is extended with respect to classical colour gamuts such as defined by standards ITU-R BT.601 (standard definition television) and ITU-R BT.709 (high definition television). With the increasing popularity of wide gamut and high dynamic range contents and displays, the variety of colour gamuts of displays is expected to increase. This issue can be an obstacle to adoption of wide-gamut video colour contents in professional content creation since the compatibility of the contents to the employed displays, as well as the compatibility among different displays, is not ensured. The term display includes here any video colour reproduction equipment, such as direct view displays and projectors. Thanks to improvements in technology, the variety of colour gamuts and colour reproduction capacities of displays increases while the colour gamut and the colour encoding rules of existing colour space encoding standards are fixed.

To address this issue, IEC 61966-12-1: “Metadata for identification of colour gamut (Gamut ID)” specifies a colour gamut metadata scheme for video systems including information for colour reproduction. This metadata can apply to video content or displays. More specifically, improvements can be achieved if the wide-gamut colour content is created with the knowledge of the display colour gamut as well as if the colour reproduction in the display is done with the knowledge of the colour gamut of the pictorial content.

IEC 61966-12-1 has the capability to describe arbitrary 3D colour gamuts in a given colour space and include the full/medium profile for professional use and the simple profile for consumer use with easier product implementation. This approach is effective, but some ambiguities can occur in practical use. For example, if typical CE devices are able to decode the simple profile only, due to CPU and software limitations.

In this case, even if a sender device and a receiver device are "based on IEC 61966-12-1 standard",

- a) the receiver device cannot handle the Gamut ID of incoming contents, if the sender device sends only full or medium profile.
- b) the sender device should convert a full profile to a simple one for CE-devices, if the receiver can receive the simple profile only. But the conversion is not possible for all the cases.

Therefore, a simple Gamut ID profile standard of this standard has been developed to address this problem.

For published parts of this series of standards refer to the IEC website.

# MULTIMEDIA SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT – COLOUR MEASUREMENT AND MANAGEMENT –

## Part 12-2: Simple metadata format for identification of colour gamut

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61966 specifies the colour gamut metadata format for video systems intended for use in CE (Consumer Electronics) devices. The metadata specified in this part of IEC 61966 is limited to the gamut description of additive three primary colours type displays whose white and black points have the same chromaticity. It is fundamentally based on the conventional VESA-EDID format.

When associated with content, the simple metadata format defines the gamut for which the content was created. It can be used by the display for controlled colour reproduction even if the display's colour gamut is different from that of the content.

When associated with a display, the simple metadata format defines the display colour gamut. It can be used during content creation to enable improved colour reproduction.

This standard provides the simplest, but unambiguous solution for typical CE devices that are based on colour gamut information communication.

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### 2 Normative references

[IEC 61966-12-2:2014](#)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/2a90ea35-794a-44e7-87d4->

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60050-845, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Part 845: Lighting*

IEC 61966-12-1:2011, *Multimedia systems and equipment – Colour measurement and management – Part 12-1: Metadata for identification of colour gamut (Gamut ID)*

IEC 61966-2-4, *Multimedia systems and equipment – Colour measurement and management – Part 2-4: Colour management – Extended-gamut YCC colour space for video applications – xvYCC*

ISO 15076-1:2005, *Image technology colour management – Architecture, profile format and data structure – Part 1: Based on ICC.2010*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60050-845, as well as the following apply.

#### 3.1 content

set of video signals in production, post-production or consumption



### 3.2 colour gamut

range of colours achievable on a given colour reproduction medium (or present in an image of that medium) under a given set of viewing conditions

Note 1 to entry: It is a volume in colour space.

### 3.3 gamut mapping

mapping of the colour-space coordinates of the elements of a source image to colour-space coordinates of the elements of a reproduction to compensate for differences in the source and output medium colour gamut capability

## 4 Simple description of gamut

Additive three primary colours gamut can be specified by four combinations of CIE-xy chromaticity values of red, green, blue and white. The gamut is assumed to have the characteristic that combining equal amounts of the three primaries (red, green, blue) produces the chromaticity of white. These values can be encoded according to the gamut CIE-xy chromaticity values used in VESA ENHANCED EXTENDED DISPLAY IDENTIFICATION DATA STANDARD (Defines EDID Structure Version 1, Revision 4). The description includes eight values (CIE-xy chromaticity values for each red, green, blue and white) with 10-bit fixed point form in the range of 0.0-1.0. These display primary and the white point CIE-xy chromaticity values should be measured in such a way as to minimize the contribution from the display black. In addition to VESA-EDID format, the information of White Absolute Luminance (WAL) and Black Level Ratio (BLR) are included. WAL value is defined in  $\text{cd/m}^2$  and denoted as  $Y_w$ , and encoded into 16-bit unsigned integer form. BLR is defined as Equation (1), and encoded into 16-bit fixed point form in the range of 0.0-1.0.

$$BLR = (Y_K / Y_w) \quad (1)$$

where

$Y_K$  is the luminance of black shown in Figure 1;

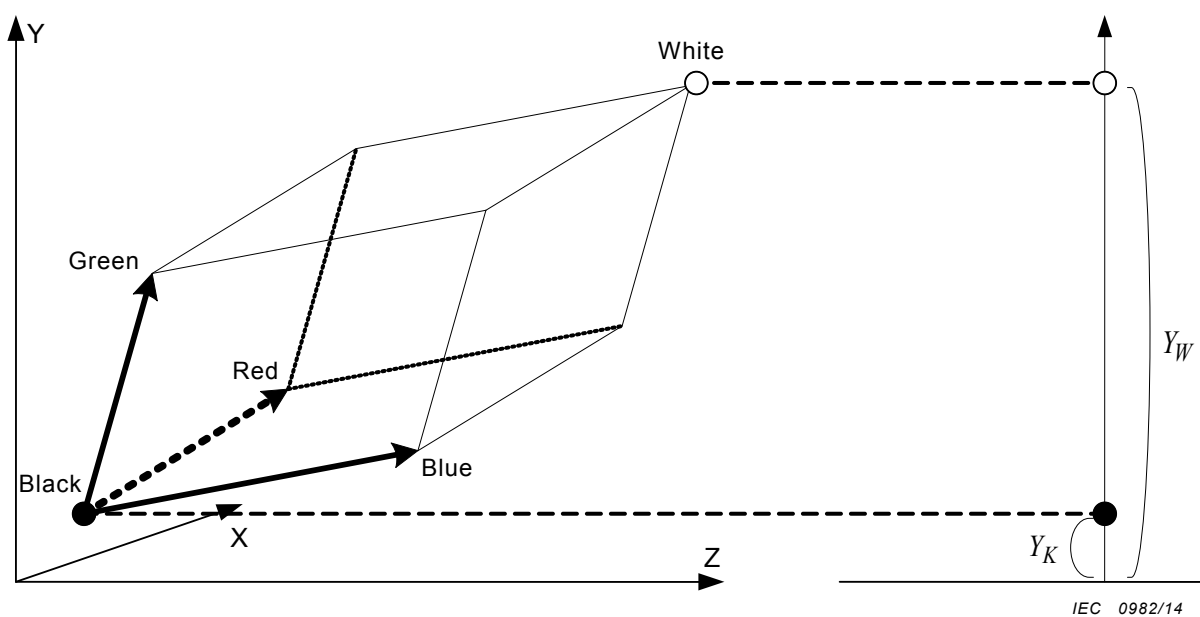
$Y_w$  is the luminance of white shown in Figure 1.

Table 1 shows the total metadata which includes the VESA-EDID compatible CIE-xy chromaticity values of red, green, blue and white and BLR and WAL value. The total size of this format is 14 B.

**Table 1 – Simple metadata format for identification of colour gamut**

Byte# hex	Size B	Colour characteristic	Description							
			7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
00	1	Red_x, Red_y, Green_x, Green_y bits1 & bits0	Rx1	Rx0	Ry1	Ry0	Gx1	Gx0	Gy1	Gy0
01	1	Blue_x, Blue_y, White_x, White_y bits1 & bits0	Bx1	Bx0	By1	By0	Wx1	Wx0	Wy1	Wy0
02	1	Red_x bit9 – bit2	Rx9	Rx8	Rx7	Rx6	Rx5	Rx4	Rx3	Rx2
03	1	Red_y bit9 – bit2	Ry9	Ry8	Ry7	Ry6	Ry5	Ry4	Ry3	Ry2

Byte# hex	Size B	Colour characteristic	Description							
			7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
04	1	Green_x bit9 – bit2	Gx9	Gx8	Gx7	Gx6	Gx5	Gx4	Gx3	Gx2
05	1	Green_y bit9 – bit2	Gy9	Gy8	Gy7	Gy6	Gy5	Gy4	Gy3	Gy2
06	1	Blue_x bit9 – bit2	Bx9	Bx8	Bx7	Bx6	Bx5	Bx4	Bx3	Bx2
07	1	Blue_y bit9 – bit2	By9	By8	By7	By6	By5	By4	By3	By2
08	1	White_x bit9 – bit2	Wx9	Wx8	Wx7	Wx6	Wx5	Wx4	Wx3	Wx2
09	1	White_y bit9 – bit2	Wy9	Wy8	Wy7	Wy6	Wy5	Wy4	Wy3	Wy2
0A	1	White Absolute Luminance bit15 – bit8 (16 bit unsigned integer)	WAL15	WAL14	WAL13	WAL12	WAL11	WAL10	WAL9	WAL8
0B	1	White Absolute Luminance bit7 – bit0 (16 bit unsigned integer)	WAL7	WAL6	WAL5	WAL4	WAL3	WAL2	WAL1	WAL0
0C	1	Black Level Ratio bit15 - bit8 (16 bit fixed point)	BLR15	BLR14	BLR13	BLR12	BLR11	BLR10	BLR9	BLR8
0D	1	Black Level Ratio bit7 - bit0 (16 bit fixed point)	BLR7	BLR6	BLR5	BLR4	BLR3	BLR2	BLR1	BLR0



IEC 0982/14

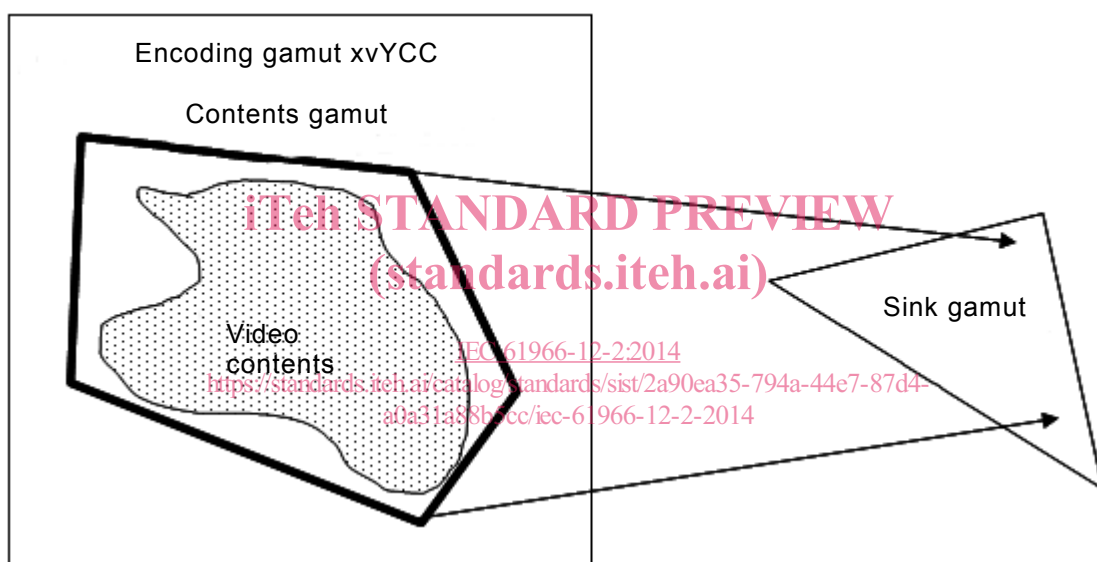
Figure 1 – The colour gamut of additive three primary colours type display

## 5 Relationship with IEC 61966-12-1

A content gamut is usually smaller than a colour encoding gamut of today's extended-gamut colour space such as IEC 61966-2-4 xvYCC. If there is no description of an actual colour gamut for some content, it is possible that gamut mapping will use the colour encoding gamut as the content gamut, which can cause some problems. IEC 61966-12-1: "The Gamut ID metadata" solves this problem by associating an explicit description of an actual content gamut to contents. IEC 61966-12-1 has a full, medium and simple profile.

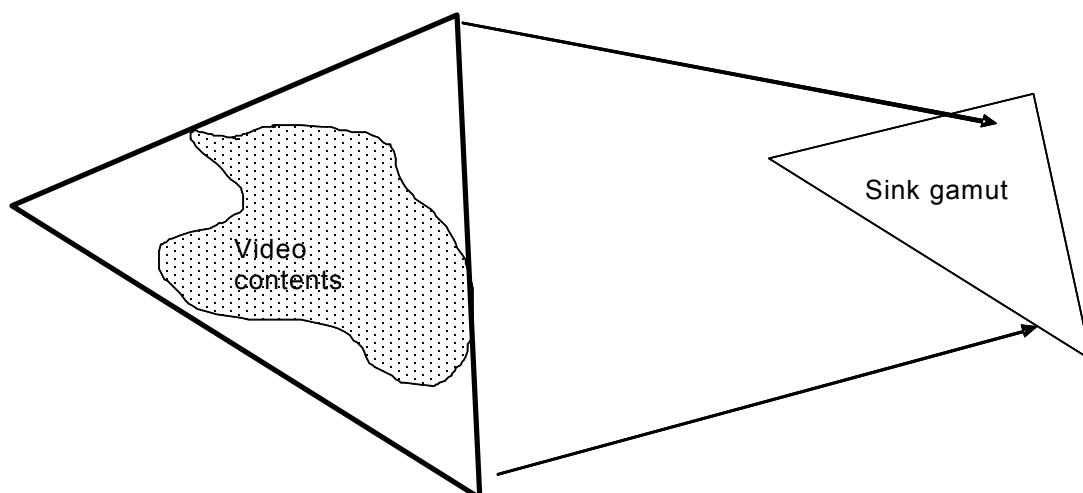
The full profile and the medium profile have high flexibility for describing 3D-shapes of complicated content gamuts in a colour space as shown in Figure 2. As a consequence IEC 61966-12-1 full / medium profiles are well suited for some professional use. In addition, the IEC 61966-12-1 provides simple profile formats that are limited to three primary type colour gamuts, as shown in Figure 3.

However, the IEC 61966-12-1 simple profile is 77 B and still large for the CE devices. This standard is therefore limited to the CIE-xy chromaticity values of additive three primary colour gamuts and has a reduced size of 14 B.



IEC 0983/14

Figure 2 – IEC 61966-12-1 full/medium profile



IEC 0984/14

Figure 3 – IEC 61966-12-1 simple profile and IEC 61966-12-2