

Interoperable Master Format: The Cinema and Multimedia bridge

Sean Dukin, Engineer Media Engineering, Netflix

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Interoperable Master Format

The Cinema and Multimedia bridge

Sean Durkin - Netflix
Engineer, Media Engineering & Partnerships



Contents

- What is IMF
- Structure Of A Package
- What problem are we trying to solve?
- Benefits
- Potential Real World Applications

What is IMF?

Open Standard:

- SMPTE
- Derived from Digital Cinema Initiatives (DCI) standards
- Supports JPEG2000
- Core Framework
 - Concept of “Essences” / “Compositions”
- Modular Applications
 - App #2 (Extended)

What is IMF?

Looking To The Future:

- Future proofing content
 - 4K DCI
 - High Dynamic Range
 - Wide Color Gamut
 - High Frame Rate
 - IMSC
- Format is in the wild right now
 - Netflix “format of choice”

Structure

Essences

- Video
 - Main Program + Differential Frames
- Audio
 - Original Audio + Additional Dubs
- Timed Text
 - Foreign Lang + Hard of Hearing

Track Files

- MXF Wrapped



Structure

Composition Playlist (CPL)

- Set of Instructions
 - Human Readable XML
 - References Track Files
 - UUIDs
- Flexible
- Non-destructive



Structure

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Structure

Output Profile List (OPL)

- Set of Instructions
 - Human Readable XML
 - References CPLs
 - UUIDs
- Automation
- Studios defined parameters
 - Reliable/Consistant Outputs



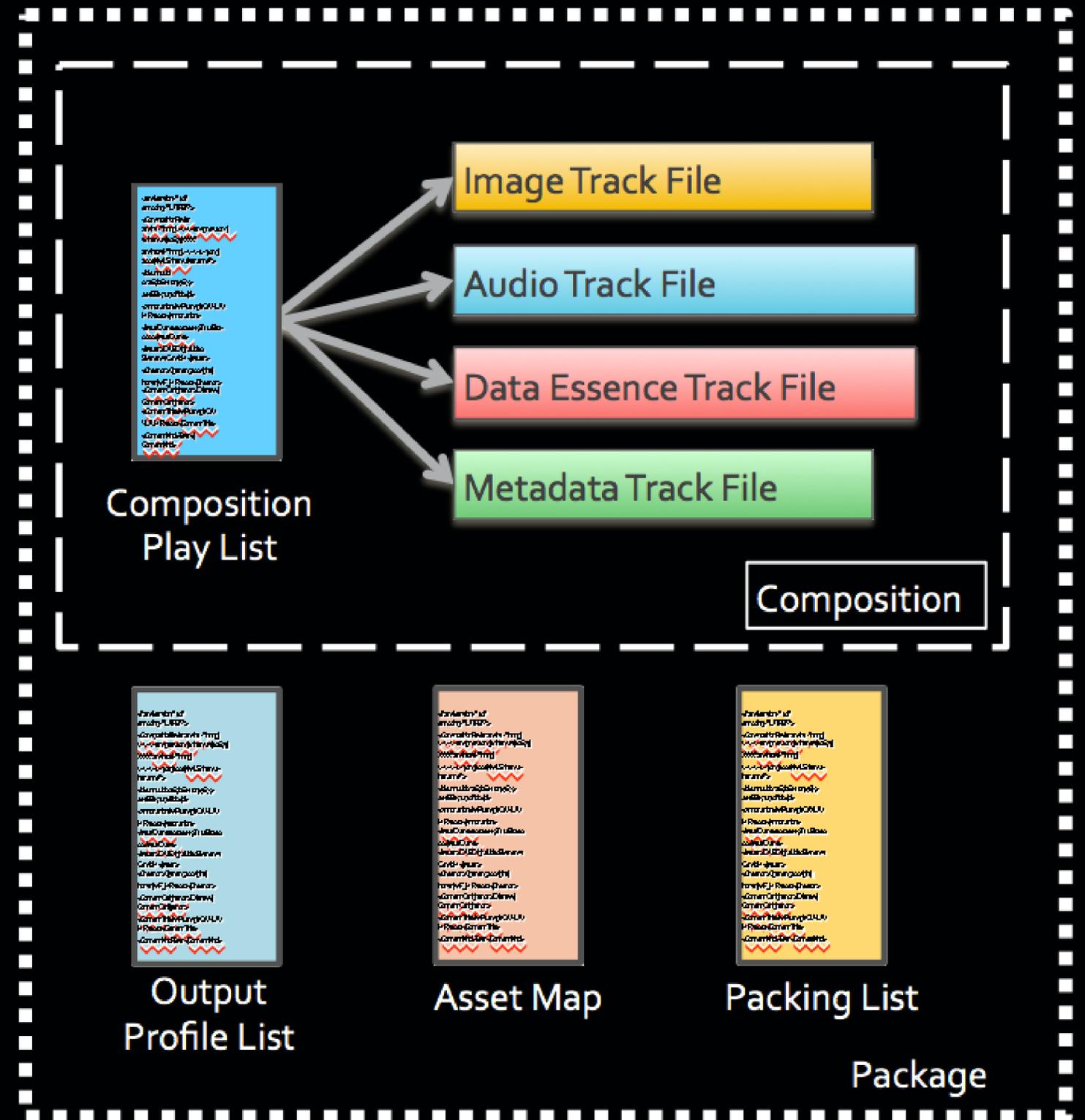
Structure

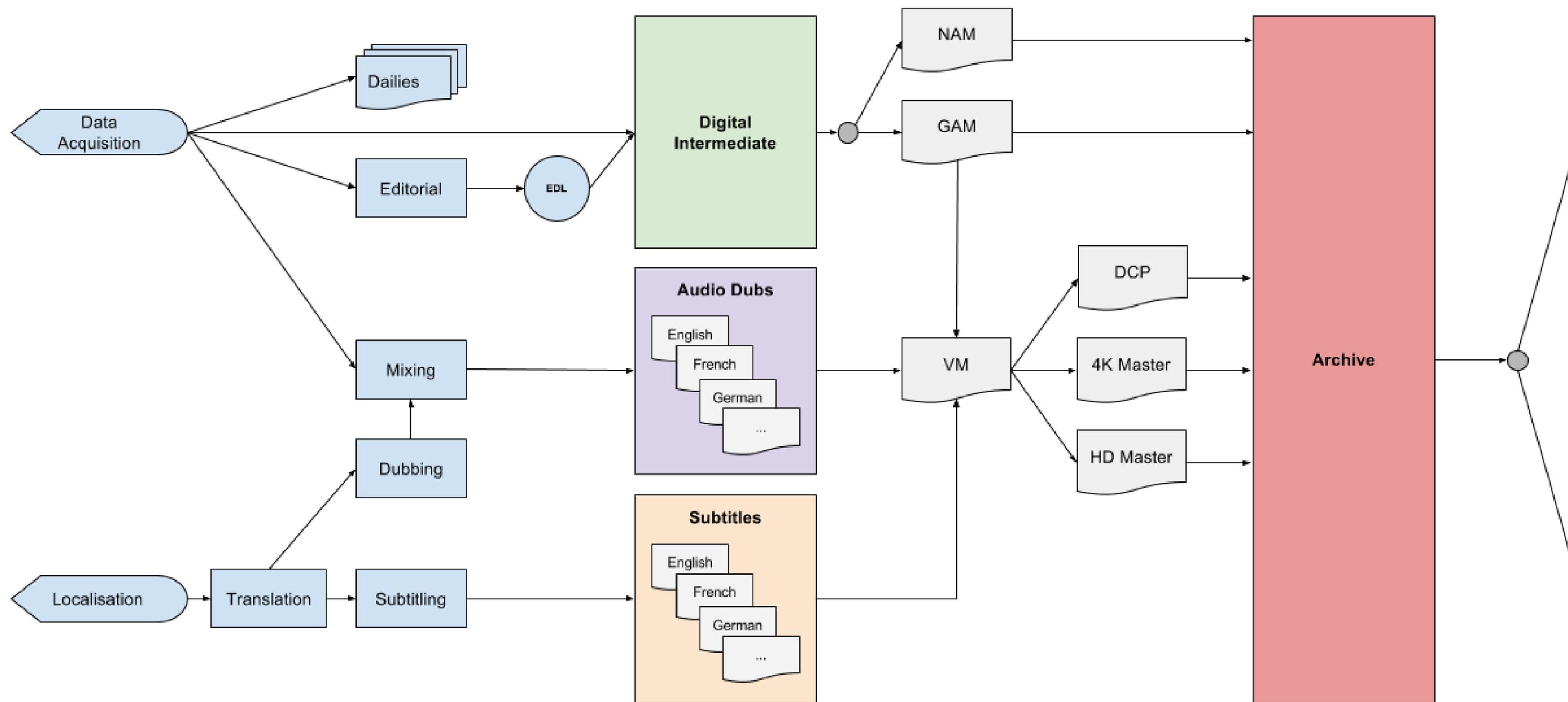
A Composition Includes:

- CPL
- Multiple Track Files

A Package Includes:

- Composition
- OPL
- Asset Map
- Package List

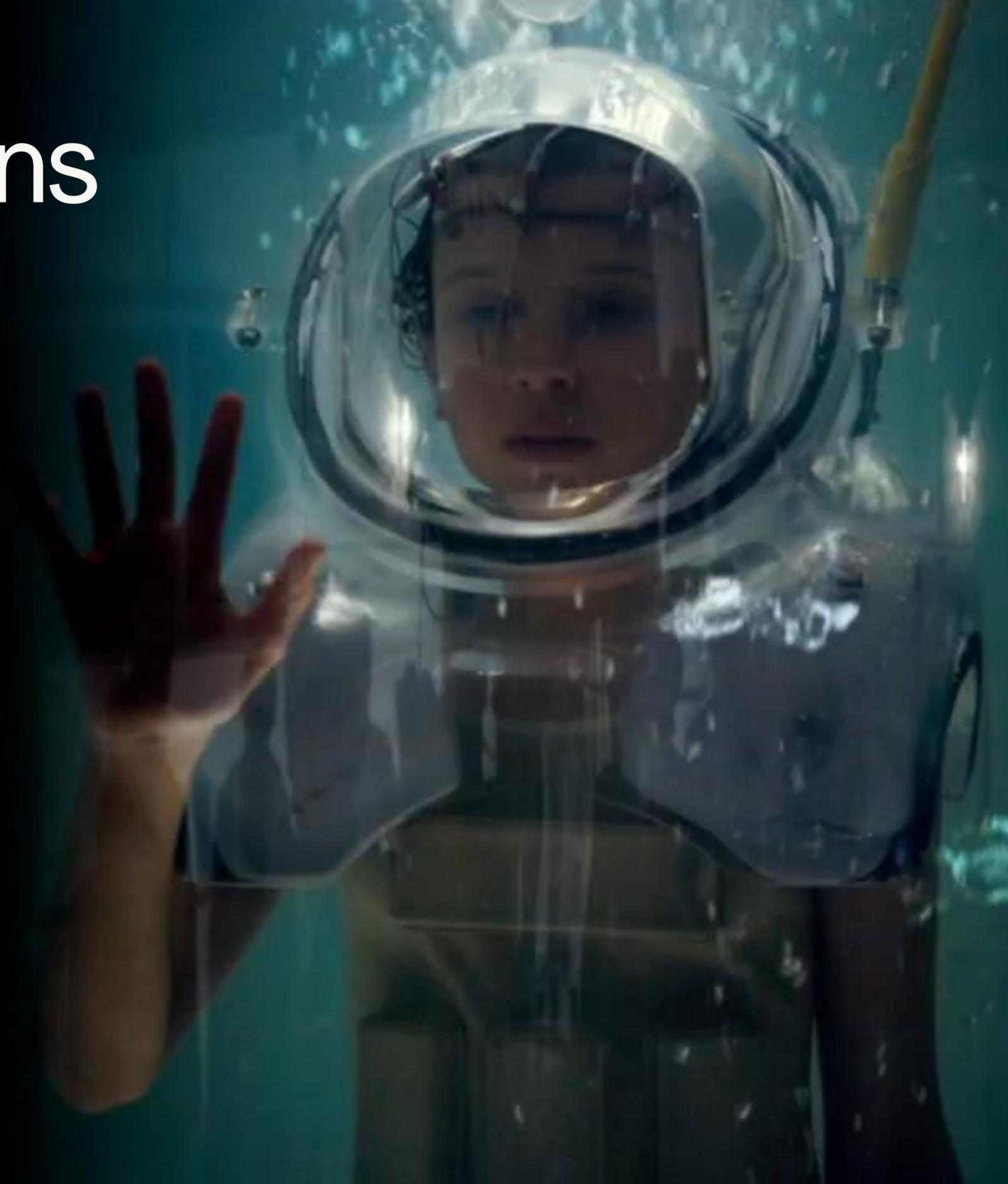




Drowning in Versions

The Challenge

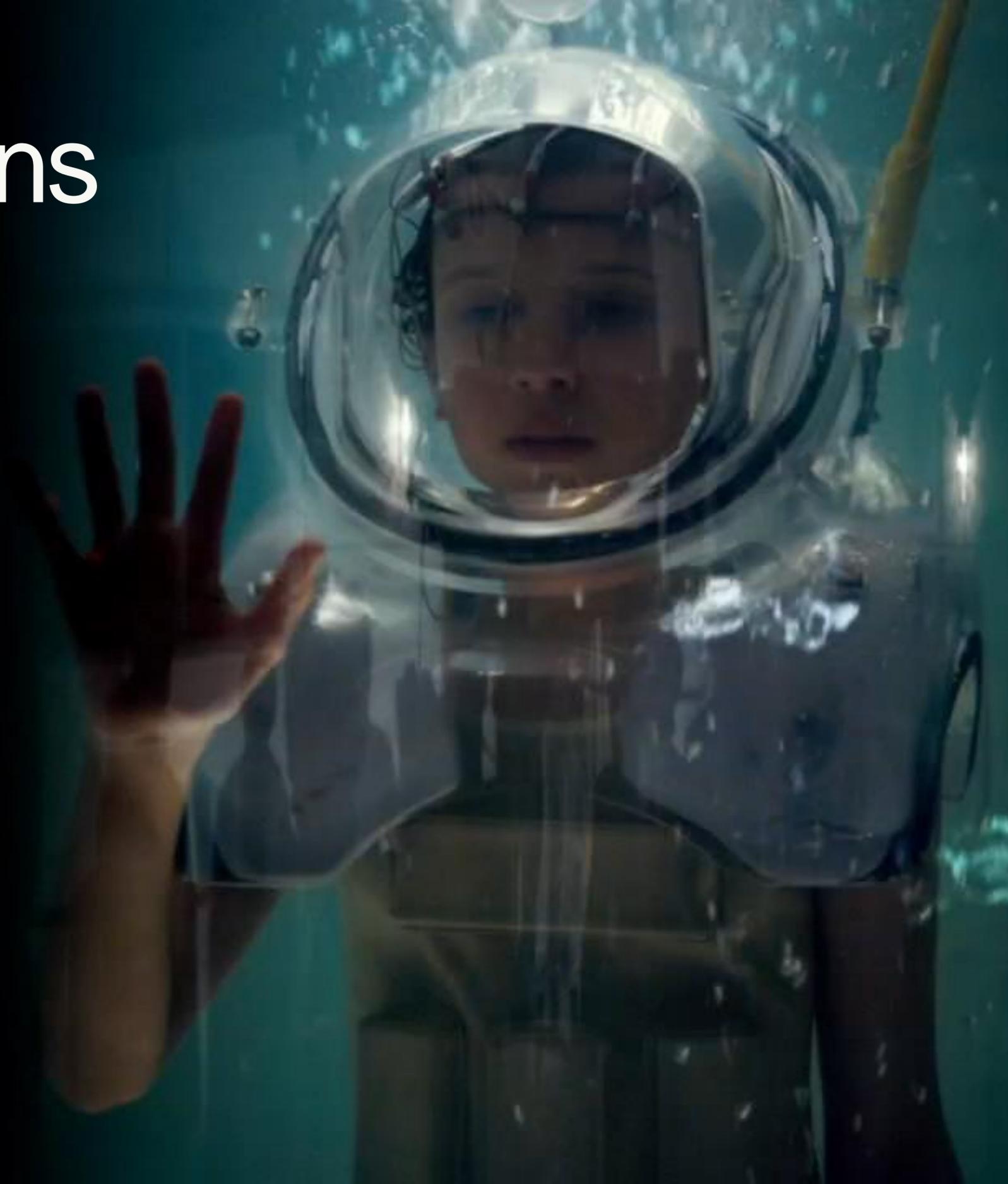
- Creatively Localised Versions
 - Graphics / Audio / Subtitles
- Censored Versions
 - Blurring Elements
 - Scene Removal
- Compliance Requirements
 - PSE Correction



Drowning in Versions

Feature Film Example:

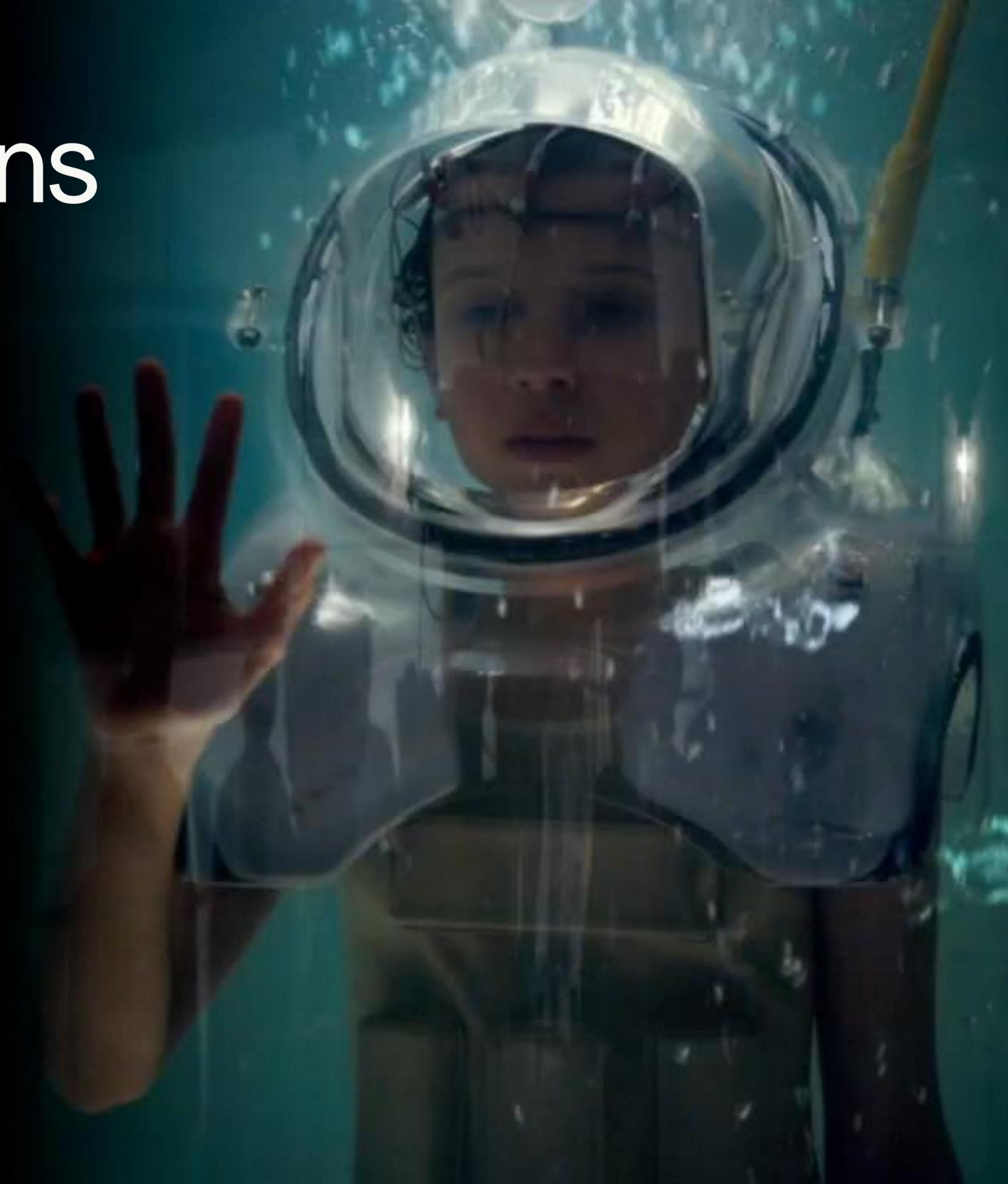
- **Duration:** 90 Minutes
- **No. Localised Versions:** 12
- **Deliverable:** HD ProRes 422 HQ
- **Total Video (ProRes):**
 - ~1.4 TB of data
 - ~27 hours of QC
- **Total Video (IMF):**
 - ~200 GB

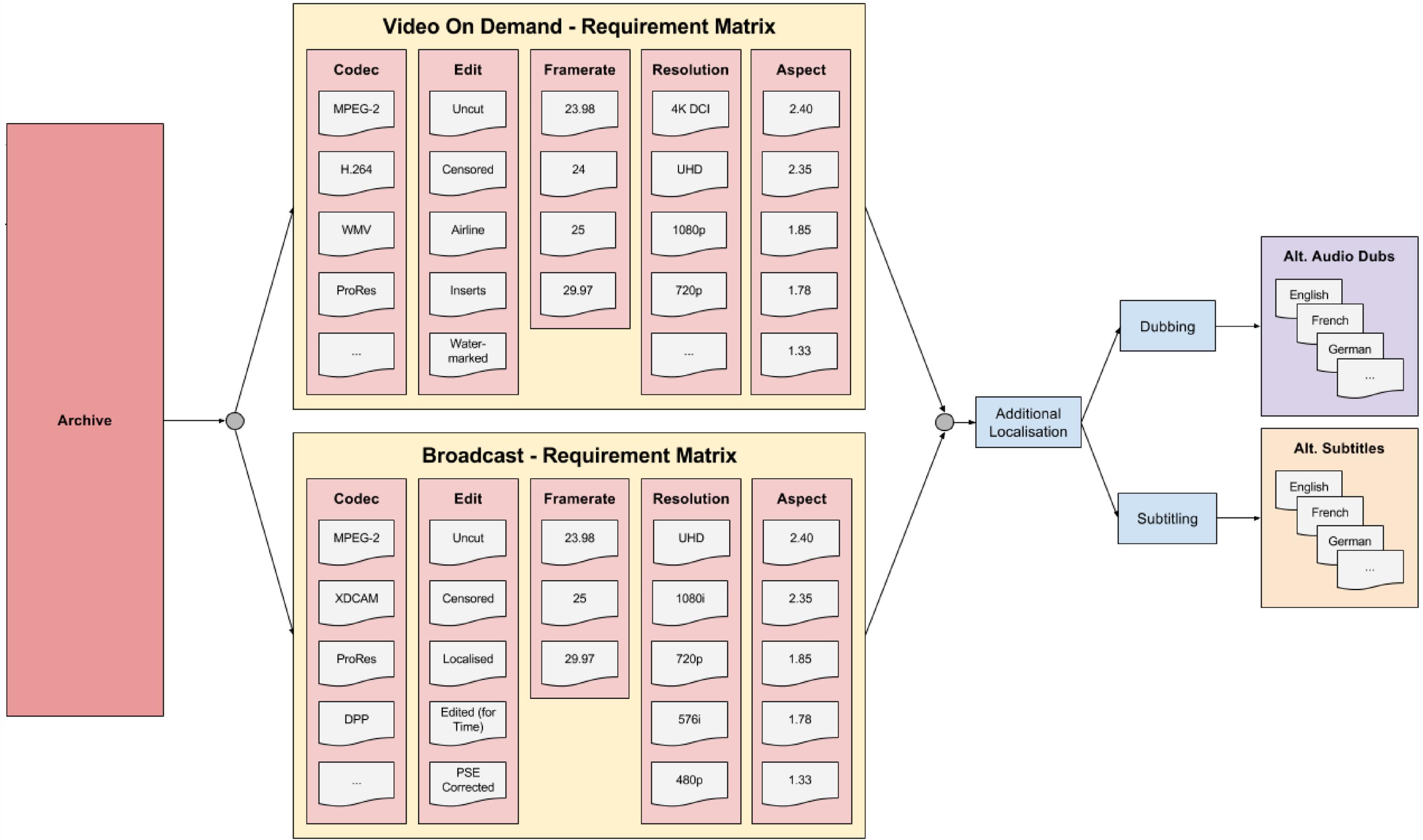


Drowning in Versions

TV Show Example:

- **Duration:** 50 Minutes
- **No. Episodes:** 13
- **No. Localised Versions:** 12
- **Deliverable:** HD ProRes 422 HQ
- **Total Video (ProRes):**
 - ~10 TB / 156 Videos
 - ~194 hours of QC
- **Total Video (IMF):**
 - ~3 TB





Archive

Video On Demand - Requirement Matrix

Codec	Edit	Framerate	Resolution	Aspect
MPEG-2	Uncut	23.98	4K DCI	2.40
H.264	Censored	24	UHD	2.35
WMV	Airline	25	1080p	1.85
ProRes	Inserts	29.97	720p	1.78
...	Water-marked		...	1.33

Broadcast - Requirement Matrix

Codec	Edit	Framerate	Resolution	Aspect
MPEG-2	Uncut	23.98	UHD	2.40
XDCAM	Censored	25	1080i	2.35
ProRes	Localised	29.97	720p	1.85
DPP	Edited (for Time)		576i	1.78
...	PSE Corrected		480p	1.33

Additional Localisation

Dubbing

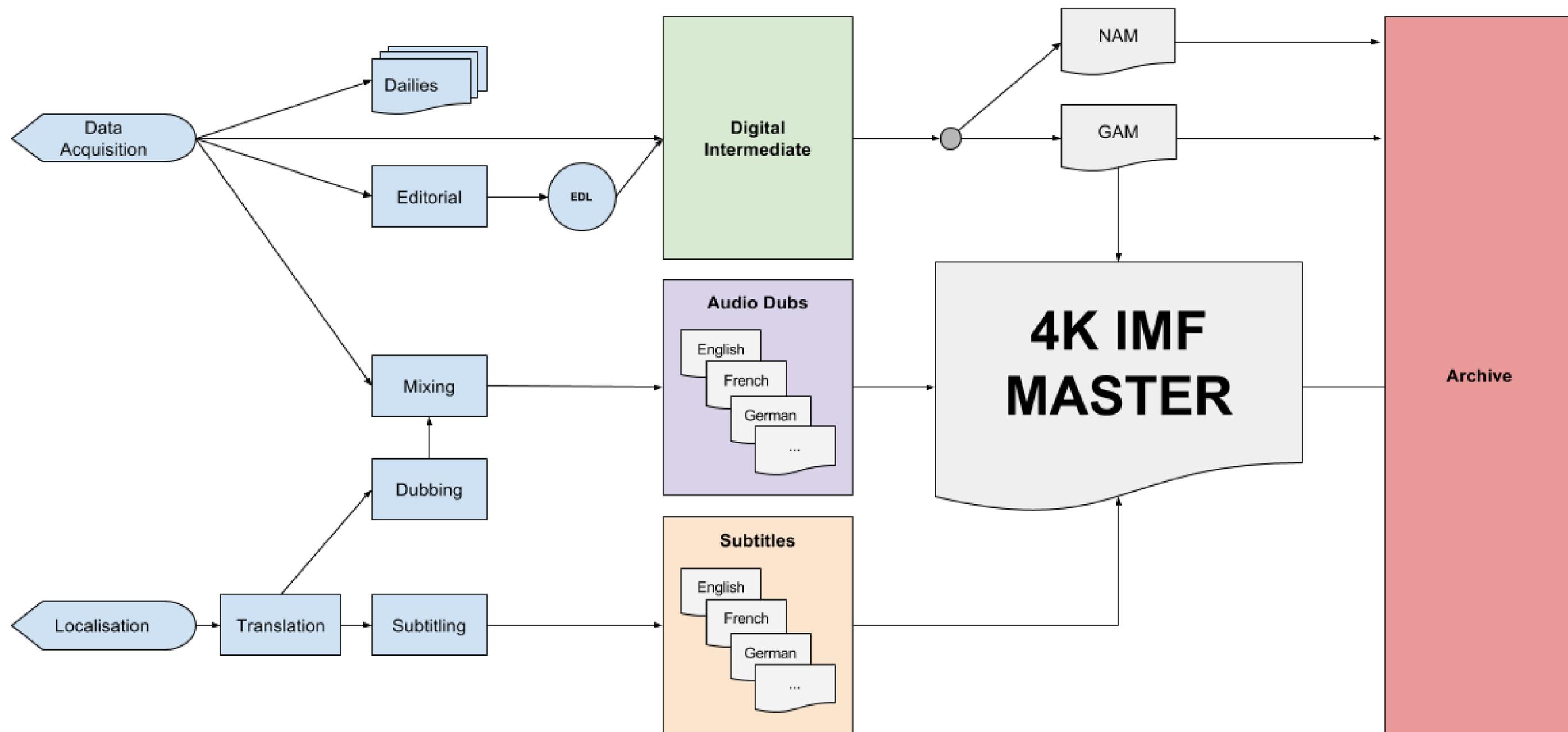
Alt. Audio Dubs

English
French
German
...

Subtitling

Alt. Subtitles

English
French
German
...



IMF Versioning

Antidote to “Versionitis”

- Multiple essences in a package
- Multiple compositions in a package
- Differential Frames
- Master Once -> Deliver to Many

NETFLIX

A NETFLIX ORIGINAL SERIES

STRANGER
THINGS

CPL: OV

Video: OV

Audio: OV

Subtitle: OV

IMF Versioning

Antidote to “Versionitis”

- Multiple essences in a package
- Multiple compositions in a package
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V: JPN
Open

V: JPN
Diff1

V: JPN
Diff2

V: JPN
Diff3

V: JPN
Credits

Audio Dub: JPN

Subtitle: JPN

NETFLIX

NETFLIX オリジナル シリーズ

STRANGER THINGS
ストレンジャー・シングス
未知の世界

CPL: JPN

IMF Versioning

Antidote to “Versionitis”

- Multiple essences in a package
- Multiple compositions in a package
- Differential Frames
- Master Once -> Deliver to Many

NETFLIX

NETFLIX 原创剧集

怪奇
物语

CPL: CHN

V:
CHN
Open

V:
CHN
Diff1

V:
CHN
Diff2

V: CHN
Credits

AudioDub: CHN

Subtitle: CHN

Real World Applications

Use Case:

- High Dynamic Range
 - Increased contrast and brightness
- Increased color gamut
 - P3, Rec.2020
- Gap between “Theatrical” and “Home Entertainment” narrows.



Real World Applications

Use Case:

- Localising the experience
 - Repurposed Video Master
 - Supplemental IMPs
 - Blurred Content
 - Minimal overhead



| ORANGE |
is
the
new BLACK |

Real World Applications

Use Case:

- Localising the experience
 - Repurposed Video Master
 - Supplemental IMPs
 - Blurred Content
 - Minimal overhead



Real World Applications

Use Case:

- Supplement Corrections
 - Issues can still occur
 - Focused corrections
 - Efficiency is optimised
 - Reduced redundancy

Opening Statements

TECHNOLOGY
IS 3D PRINTING THE
NEXT INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION?



Real World Applications

Use Case:

- House of Cards: Season 3
 - All assets mastered and ingested
 - Netflix Ident Update
 - 1 x A / V MUX Asset per episode
 - 15 x Audio Dubs per episode
 - 19 x Timed Text Assets per episode
 - Total Assets: 455

Thank you

