

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

---

**Digital audio – Interface for non-linear pcm encoded audio bitstreams applying  
IEC 60958 –  
Part 13: MPEG-H 3D Audio**





## THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED

Copyright © 2018 IEC, Geneva, Switzerland

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either IEC or IEC's member National Committee in the country of the requester. If you have any questions about IEC copyright or have an enquiry about obtaining additional rights to this publication, please contact the address below or your local IEC member National Committee for further information.

IEC Central Office  
3, rue de Varembe  
CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11  
[info@iec.ch](mailto:info@iec.ch)  
[www.iec.ch](http://www.iec.ch)

### About the IEC

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

### About IEC publications

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC. Please make sure that you have the latest edition, a corrigenda or an amendment might have been published.

#### IEC Catalogue - [webstore.iec.ch/catalogue](http://webstore.iec.ch/catalogue)

The stand-alone application for consulting the entire bibliographical information on IEC International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports and other documents. Available for PC, Mac OS, Android Tablets and iPad.

#### IEC publications search - [webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform](http://webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform)

The advanced search enables to find IEC publications by a variety of criteria (reference number, text, technical committee,...). It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.

#### IEC Just Published - [webstore.iec.ch/justpublished](http://webstore.iec.ch/justpublished)

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details all new publications released. Available online and also once a month by email.

#### Electropedia - [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)

The world's leading online dictionary of electronic and electrical terms containing 21 000 terms and definitions in English and French, with equivalent terms in 16 additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) online.

#### IEC Glossary - [std.iec.ch/glossary](http://std.iec.ch/glossary)

67 000 electrotechnical terminology entries in English and French extracted from the Terms and Definitions clause of IEC publications issued since 2002. Some entries have been collected from earlier publications of IEC TC 37, 77, 86 and CISPR.

#### IEC Customer Service Centre - [webstore.iec.ch/csc](http://webstore.iec.ch/csc)

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please contact the Customer Service Centre: [sales@iec.ch](mailto:sales@iec.ch).



IEC 61937-13

Edition 1.0 2018-04

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

---

**Digital audio – Interface for non-linear pcm encoded audio bitstreams applying  
IEC 60958 –  
Part 13: MPEG-H 3D Audio**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

---

ICS 35.040.40

ISBN 978-2-8322-5534-6

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.**

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	5
1 Scope.....	6
2 Normative references .....	6
3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms .....	6
3.1 Terms and definitions.....	6
3.2 Abbreviated terms.....	8
4 Mapping of the audio bit stream on to IEC 61937-1 .....	8
4.1 General.....	8
4.2 Burst-info for MPEG-H 3D Audio .....	8
5 Format of data-burst for MPEG-H 3D Audio .....	9
5.1 General.....	9
5.2 Pause data-bursts for MPEG-H 3D Audio.....	9
5.3 Audio data-bursts.....	9
5.3.1 MPEG-H 3D Audio .....	9
5.3.2 MPEG-H 3D Audio HBR.....	11
5.3.3 Burst payload use cases.....	14
5.3.4 Latency.....	16
Figure 1 – MPEG-H 3D Audio data-burst structure .....	9
Figure 2 – MPEG-H 3D Audio HBR data-burst structure .....	11
Figure 3 – MPEG-H 3D Audio burst payload .....	14
Figure 4 – MPEG-H 3D Audio burst payload for overlapping data frame.....	15
Figure 5 – MPEG-H 3D Audio burst payload for truncated data frame .....	16
Table 1 – Values of data-type for MPEG-H 3D Audio .....	8
Table 2 – Repetition period of pause data-bursts for MPEG-H 3D Audio .....	9
Table 3 – MPEG-H 3D Audio burst payload header structure entry .....	10
Table 4 – Data-type-dependent information for data-type MPEG-H 3D Audio .....	10
Table 5 – Repetition period and maximum data-burst payload size for data type MPEG-H 3D Audio.....	11
Table 6 – MPEG-H 3D Audio HBR burst payload header structure entry .....	12
Table 7 – Data-type-dependent information for data-type MPEG-H 3D Audio HBR.....	12
Table 8 – Repetition period and maximum data-burst payload size for value 0 of Pc bits 11 and 12 (2 x audio sample rate).....	13
Table 9 – Repetition period and maximum data-burst payload size for value 1 of Pc bits 11 and 12 (4 x audio sample rate).....	13
Table 10 – Repetition period and maximum data-burst payload size for value 2 of Pc bits 11 and 12 (8 x audio sample rate).....	13
Table 11 – Repetition period and maximum data-burst payload size for value 3 of Pc bits 11 and 12 (16 x audio sample rate).....	14
Table 12 – MPEG-H 3D Audio burst payload header structure entries.....	15
Table 13 – MPEG-H 3D Audio burst payload header structure entries for overlapping data frame .....	15
Table 14 – MPEG-H 3D Audio burst payload header structure entries for truncated data frame.....	16

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**DIGITAL AUDIO –  
INTERFACE FOR NON-LINEAR PCM ENCODED  
AUDIO BITSTREAMS APPLYING IEC 60958 –**

**Part 13: MPEG-H 3D Audio**

**FOREWORD**

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 61937-13 has been prepared by technical area 4: Digital system interfaces and protocols, of IEC technical committee 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

CDV	Report on voting
100/2943/CDV	100/3068/RVC

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

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

A list of all parts in the IEC 61937 series, published under the general title *Digital audio – Interface for non-linear PCM encoded audio bitstreams applying IEC 60958*, can be found on the IEC website.

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

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

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

## INTRODUCTION

Modern digital video standards, such as ATSC and DVB, are preparing for next-generation TV broadcast systems. The latest evolutions in audio introduce fundamental changes to the way audio is produced, and may well revolutionize the user experience. The new MPEG-H audio standard offers not only immersive 3D Audio, but it also introduces the concept of audio objects that can be used to personalize the user experience.

The MPEG-H 3D Audio standard is the next generation MPEG audio codec, and it requires a framing format that supports more flexible signalling and delivery mechanisms than were needed for earlier systems. Therefore, the MPEG-H 3D Audio Transport Stream (MHAS) framing format was specified for use with the MPEG-H 3D Audio codec.

In order to be able to pass the MPEG-H 3D Audio bit stream from a set-top box to an A/V receiver connected via the IEC 60958 interface, this part of IEC 61937 employs the MHAS framing format.

# DIGITAL AUDIO – INTERFACE FOR NON-LINEAR PCM ENCODED AUDIO BITSTREAMS APPLYING IEC 60958 –

## Part 13: MPEG-H 3D Audio

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61937 specifies the method to convey non-linear PCM bitstreams encoded according to the MPEG-H 3D Audio format.

### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60958 (all parts), *Digital audio interface*

IEC 61937-1, *Digital audio – Interface for non-linear PCM encoded audio bitstreams applying IEC 60958 – Part 1: General*

IEC 61937-2, *Digital audio – Interface for non-linear PCM encoded audio bitstreams applying IEC 60958 – Part 2: Burst-info*

ISO/IEC 23008-3:2015, *Information technology – High efficiency coding and media delivery in heterogeneous environments – Part 3: 3D audio*

### 3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 61937-1, IEC 61937-2 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

#### 3.1 Terms and definitions

##### 3.1.1

##### **audio sample rate**

sampling frequency of the linear PCM audio samples before encoding and after decoding

##### 3.1.2

##### **frame length**

number of linear PCM audio samples per MPEG-H 3D Audio data frame

Note 1 to entry: MPEG-H 3D Audio can operate in several modes using any of 1 024, 2 048, 4 096, 768, 1 536 or 3 072 linear PCM audio samples per MPEG-H 3D Audio data frame.