SAMT'08

Semantic-driven multimedia retrieval with the MPEG Query Format

Ruben Tous and Jaime Delgado

Distributed Multimedia Applications Group (DMAG)
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)
Dept. Computer Architecture
Barcelona (Spain)

DMAG DISTRIBUTED MULTIMEDIA APPLICATIONS GROUP

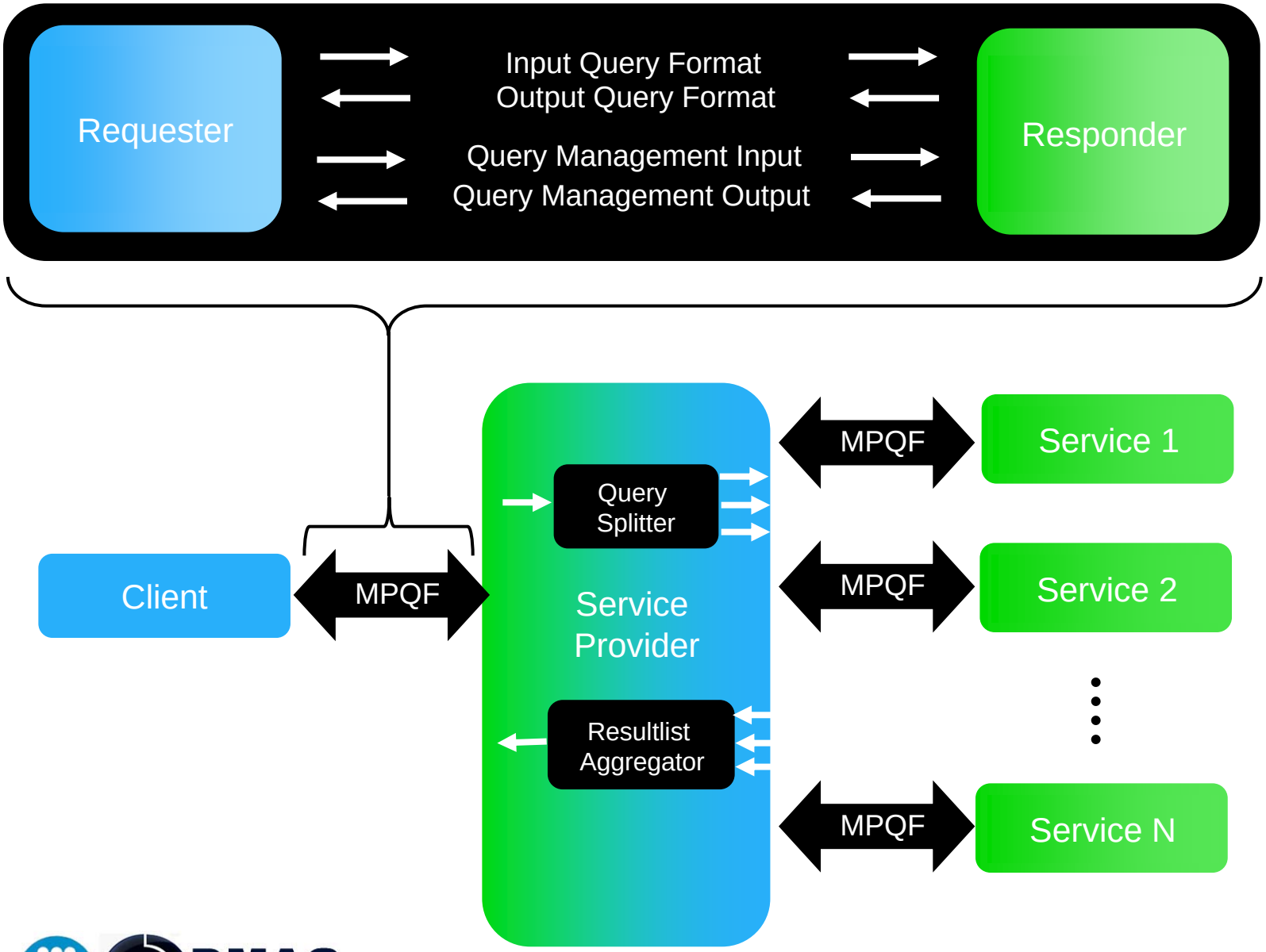
Presentation outline

- The MPEG Query Format (MPQF)
- MPQF evaluation model
- How to extend MPQF to allow SPARQL-like queries
- MPQF and metadata interoperability

MPEG Query Format (MPQF)

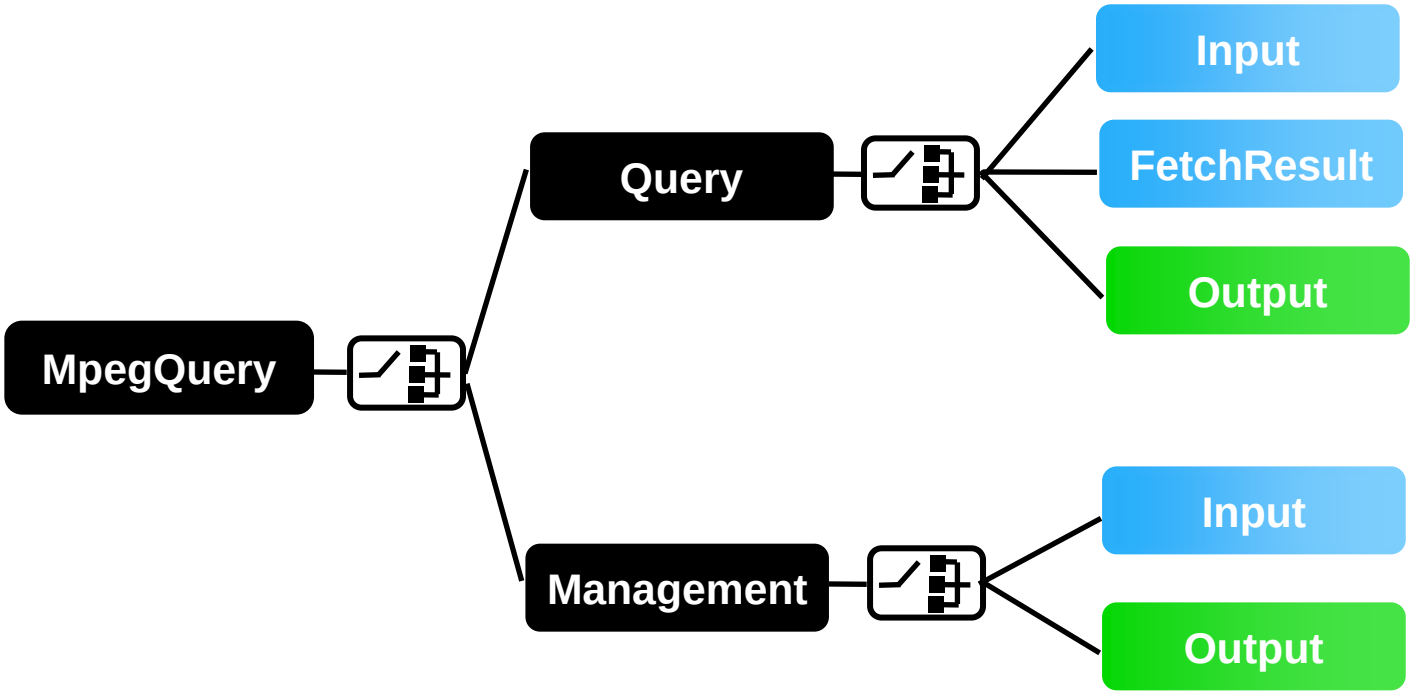
MPEG Query Format (MPQF): Introduction

- ISO/IEC 15938-12 Query Format (MPQF)
  - Recently reached the International Standard level
- MPQF: “Provides a standardized interface for multimedia content retrieval systems (e.g.: MPEG-7 databases)”
- Allows combining Data Retrieval like conditions (XPath, XQuery) with Information Retrieval like conditions (Query-by-Example, etc.)
- Is an XML application: One XML schema describing messages:
  - Requester -> responder = Input Query Format
  - Responder -> requester = Output Query Format
  - Management messages (service properties, etc.)
- Part 12 of ISO/IEC 15938 (MPEG-7), but **METADATA-NEUTRAL**


Requester
Input Query Format
Output Query Format
Query Management Input
Query Management Output
Responder
Client
MPQF
Query Splitter
Service Provider
Resultlist Aggregator
MPQF
Service 1
MPQF
Service 2
MPQF
Service N

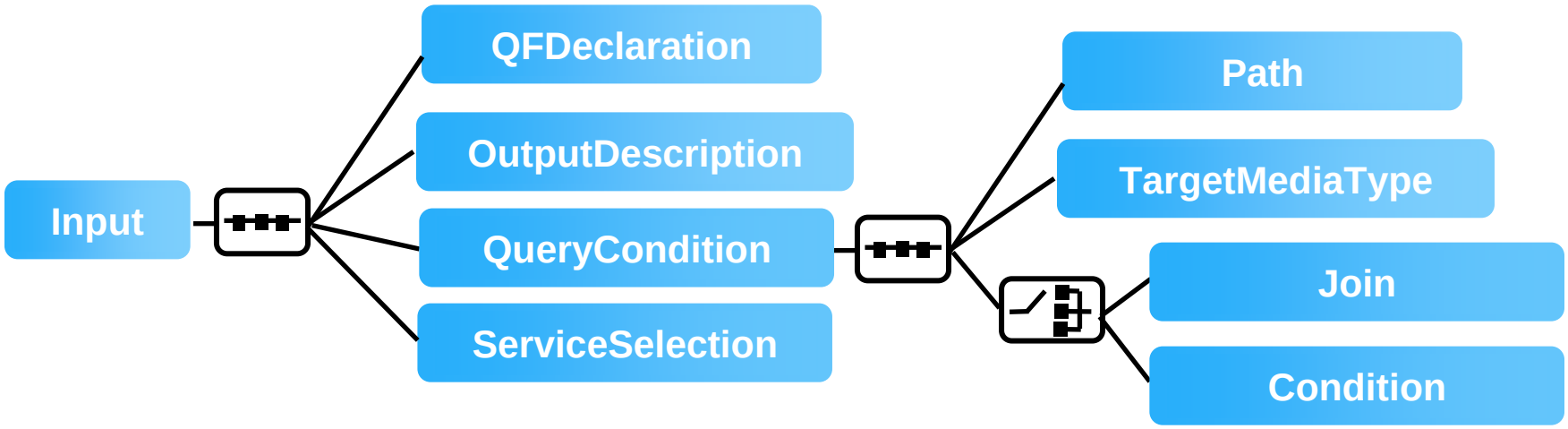
MPEG Query Format (MPQF)

- Schema overview of the uppermost elements of MPQF

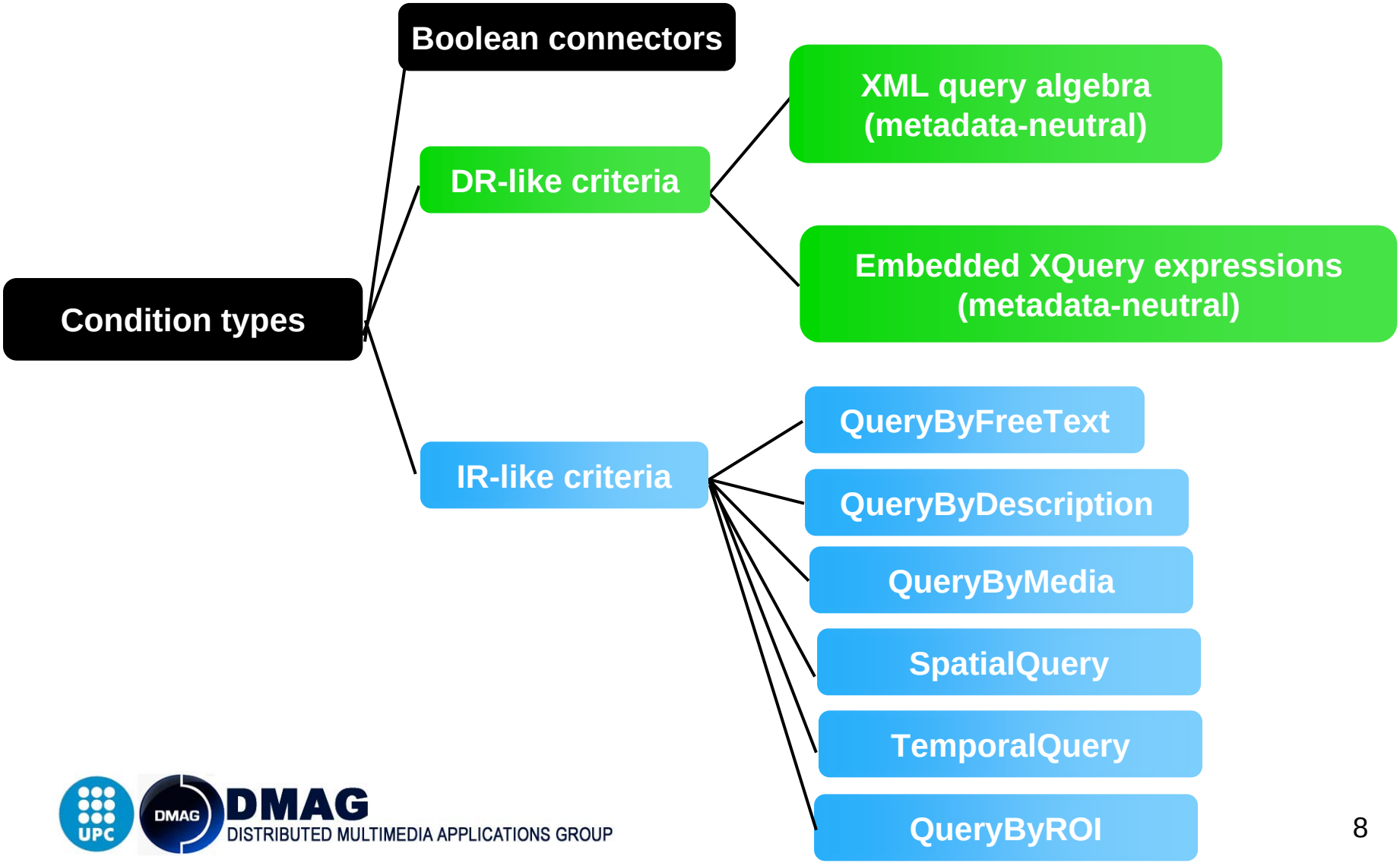


MPEG Query Format (MPQF)

- Input Query Format (IQF)

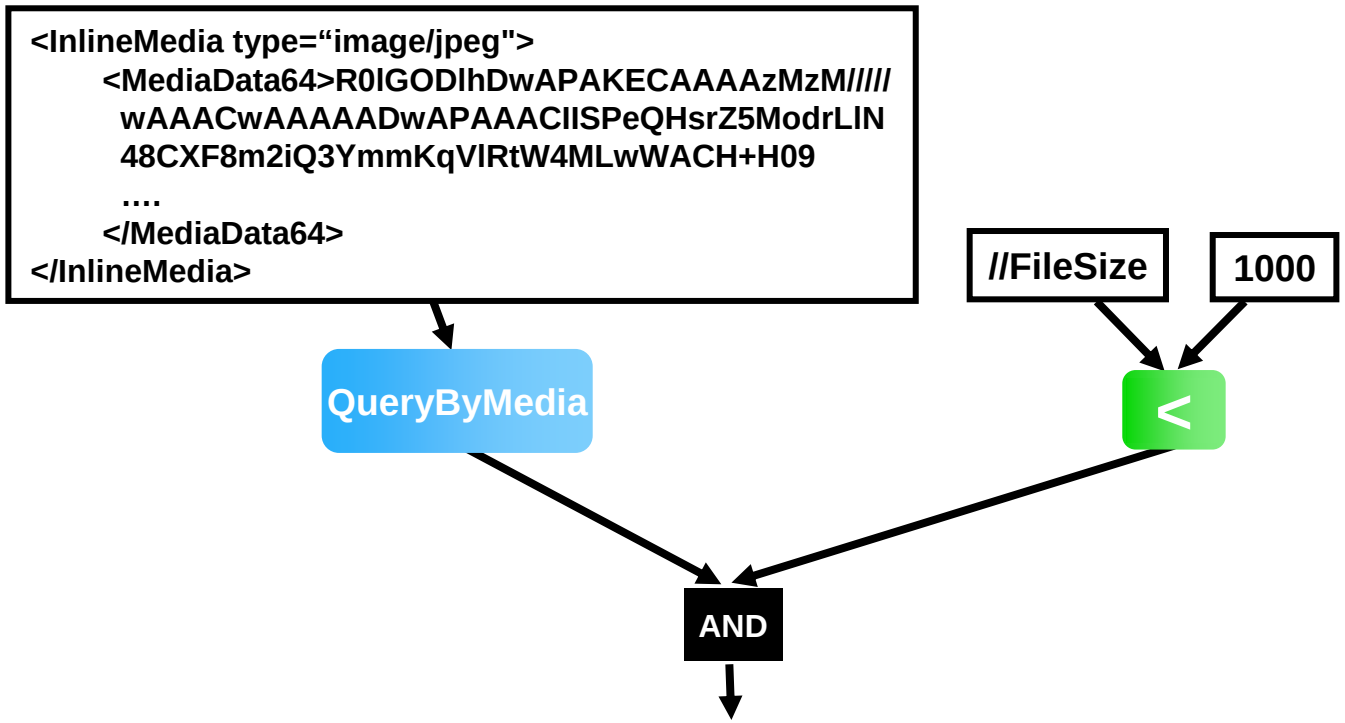


MPEG Query Format (MPQF)



MPEG Query Format (MPQF)

- Example input query condition tree (graphical view)

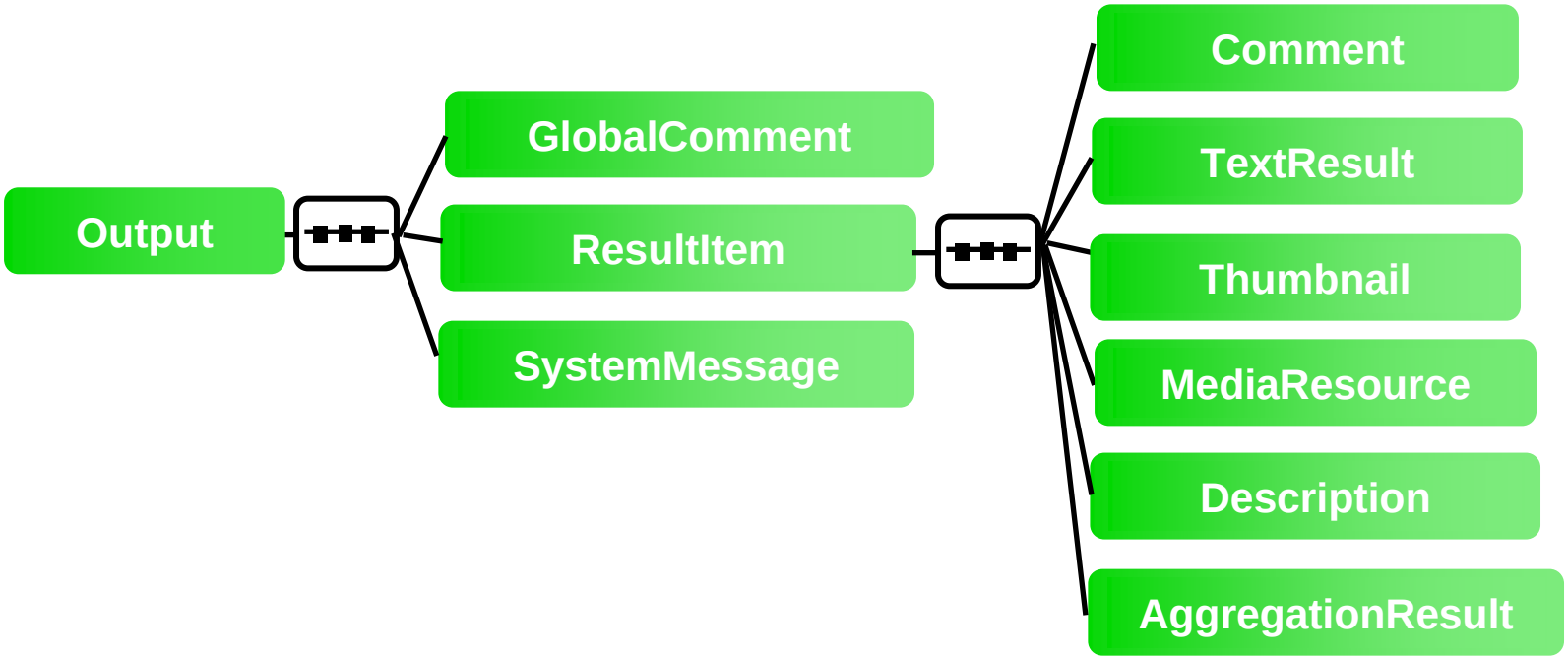


Input Query Format (Example)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<MpegQuery>
<Query>
      <Input>
        <QueryCondition>
          <Condition xsi:type="AND">
            <Condition xsi:type="Equal">
              <StringField>//Creation/Title</StringField>
              <StringValue>Blade Runner</StringValue>
            </Condition>
            <Condition xsi:type="QueryByMedia">
              <MediaResource xsi:type="MediaResourceType" resourceID="id1">
                <MediaResource>
                  <InlineMedia type="audio/x-wav">
                    <MediaData16>AB18BFE7E73892E3938291333B</MediaData16>
                  </InlineMedia>
                </MediaResource>
              </MediaResource>
            </Condition>
          </Condition>
        </QueryCondition>
      </Input>
    </Query>
</MpegQuery>
```

MPEG Query Format (MPQF)

- Output Query Format (OQF)

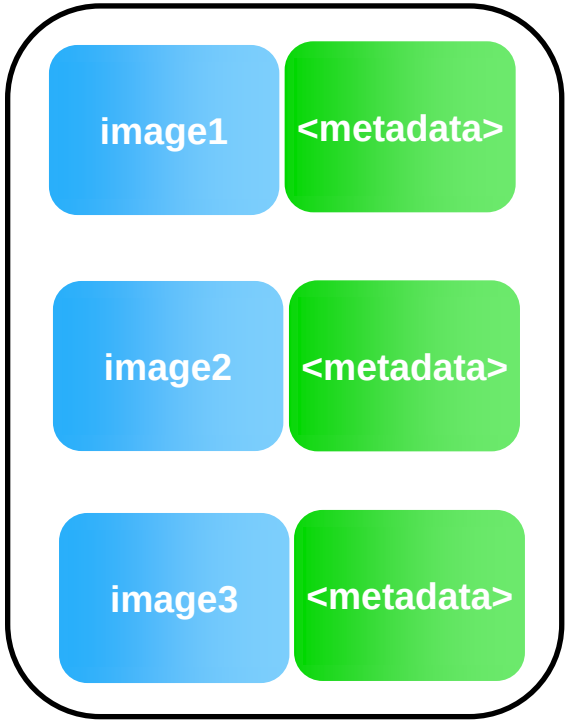


Output Query Format (Example)

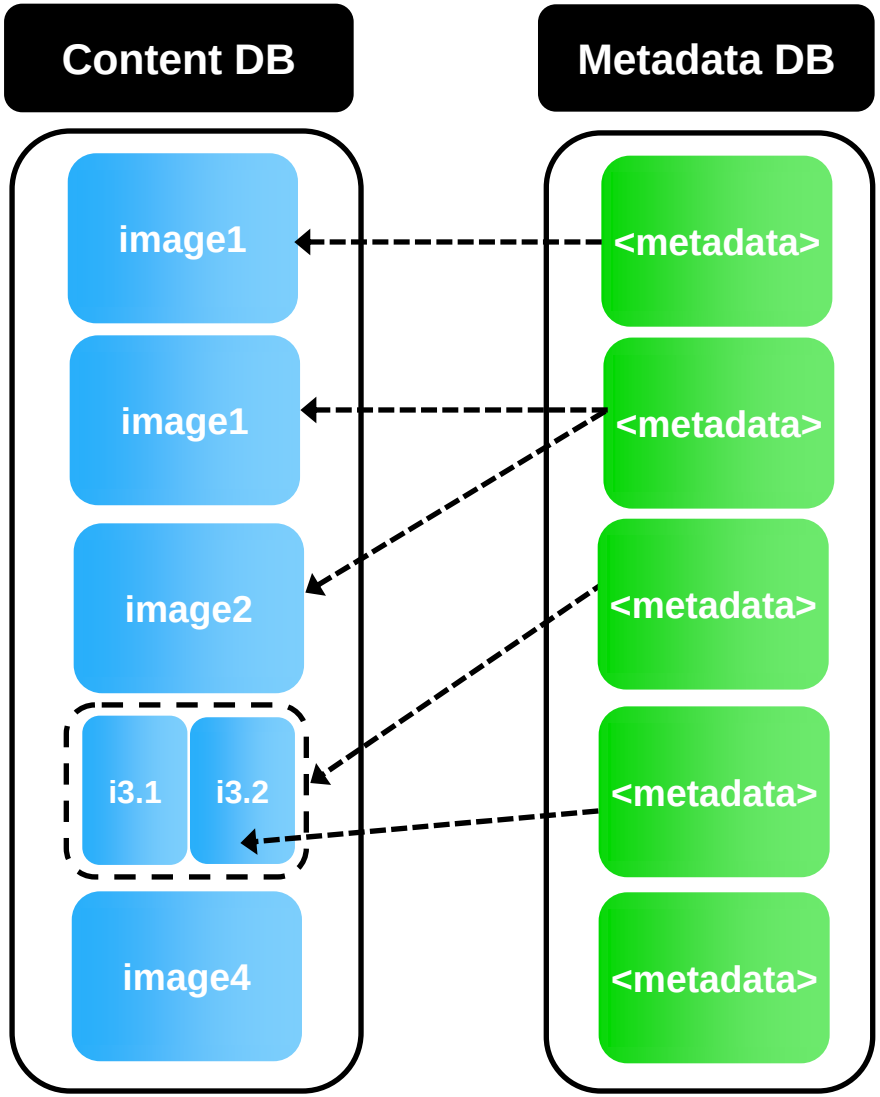
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<MpegQuery>
  <Query>
    <Output>
      <ResultItem xsi:type="ResultItemType" recordNumber="1">
        <TextResult>Item 01</TextResult>
        <MediaResource>http://www.mpqf.org/repository/item01.jpg</MediaResource>
      </ResultItem>
      <ResultItem xsi:type="ResultItemType" recordNumber="2">
        <TextResult>Item 02</TextResult>
        <MediaResource>http://www.mpqf.org/repository/item02.wav</MediaResource>
      </ResultItem>
      <ResultItem xsi:type="ResultItemType" recordNumber="3">
        <TextResult>Item 04</TextResult>
        <MediaResource>http://www.mpqf.org/repository/item04.wav</MediaResource>
      </ResultItem>
      <ResultItem xsi:type="ResultItemType" recordNumber="4">
        <TextResult>Item 07</TextResult>
        <MediaResource>http://www.mpqf.org/repository/item07.wav</MediaResource>
      </ResultItem>
    </Output>
  </Query>
</MpegQuery>
```

MPQF evaluation model

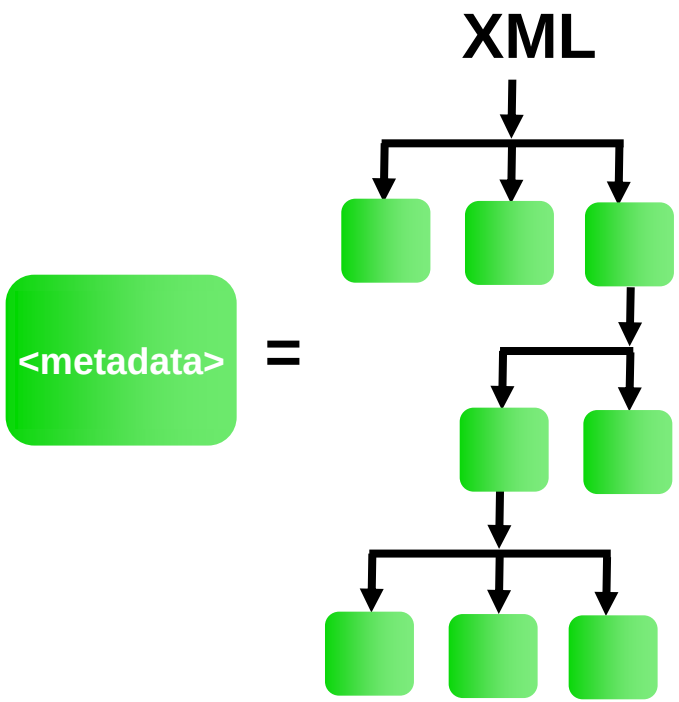
Multimedia Database: Simplistic view



Multimedia Database: Complex view (the one in the Query Format)



The Query Format assumes XML metadata



MPQF in depth

- The **EvaluationPath** element

```
<MpegQuery>
  <Query>
    <Input>
      <QueryCondition>
        <EvaluationPath>//VideoSegment</EvaluationPath>
        <Condition xsi:type="QueryByFreeText">
          <FreeText>Lausanne</FreeText>
        </Condition>
      </QueryCondition>
    </Input>
  </Query>
</MpegQuery>
```

Multimedia Database: Complex view (the one in the Query Format)

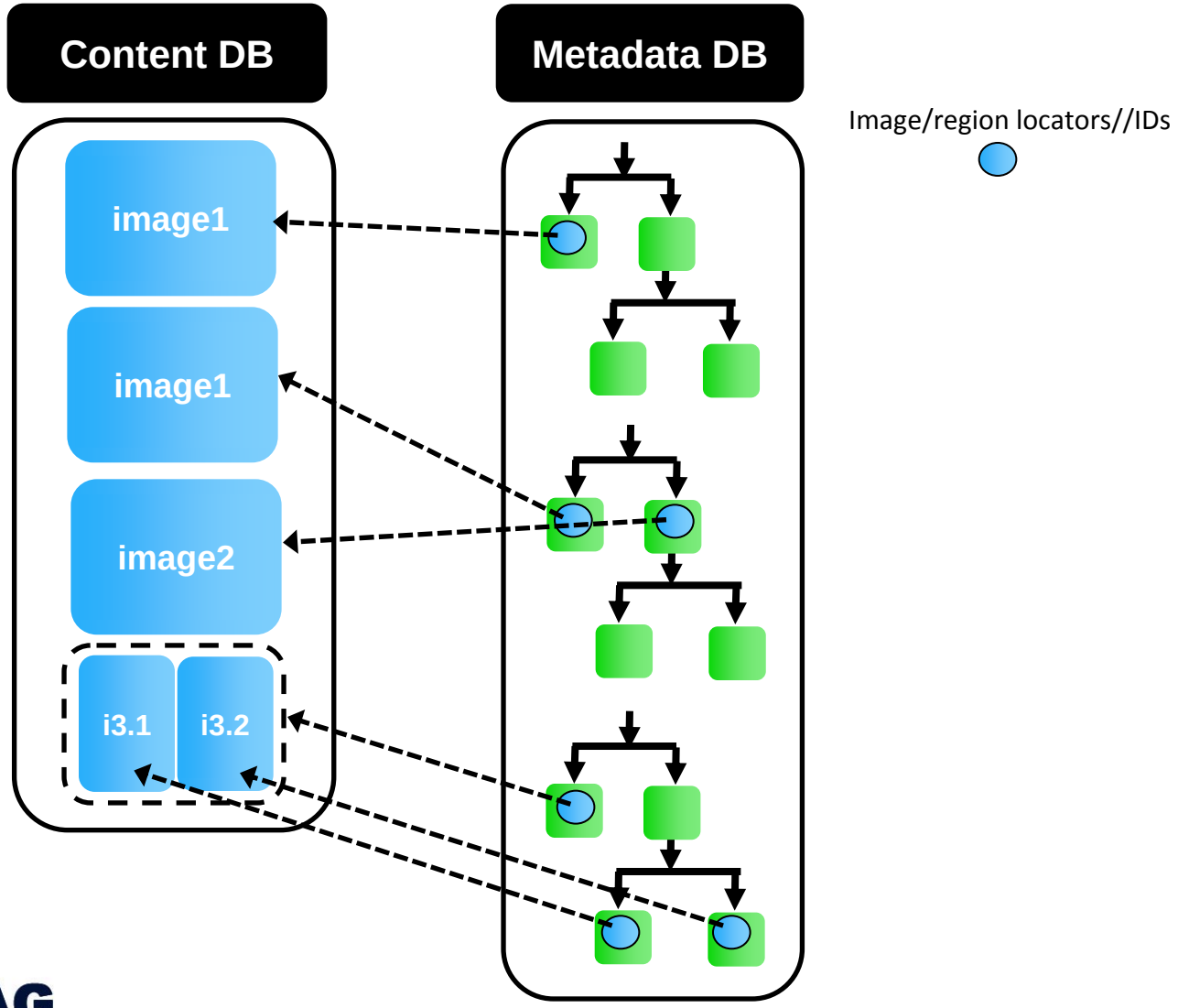
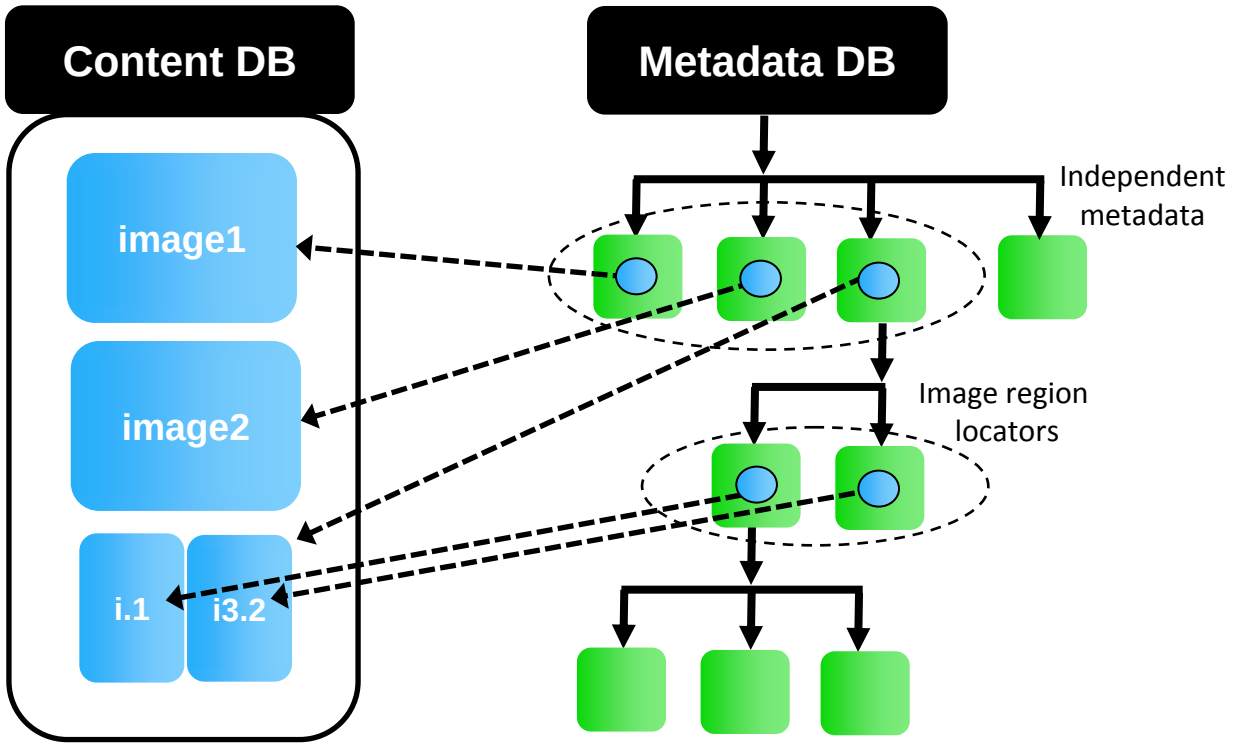
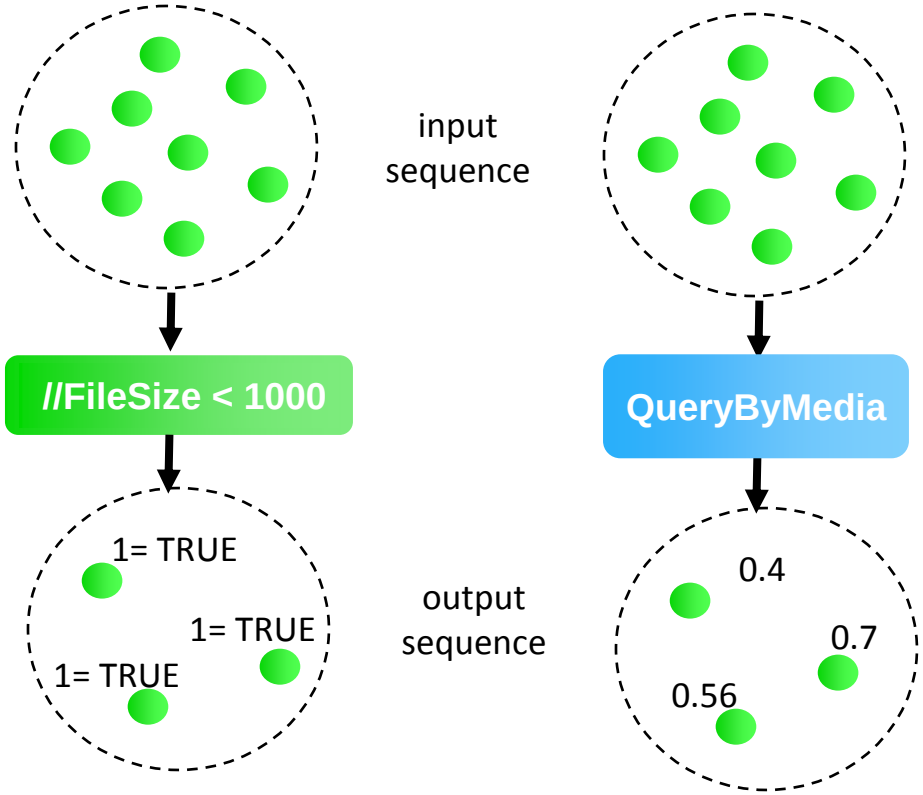


Image Database: Practical view (ONE BIG XML TREE)



MPQF in depth

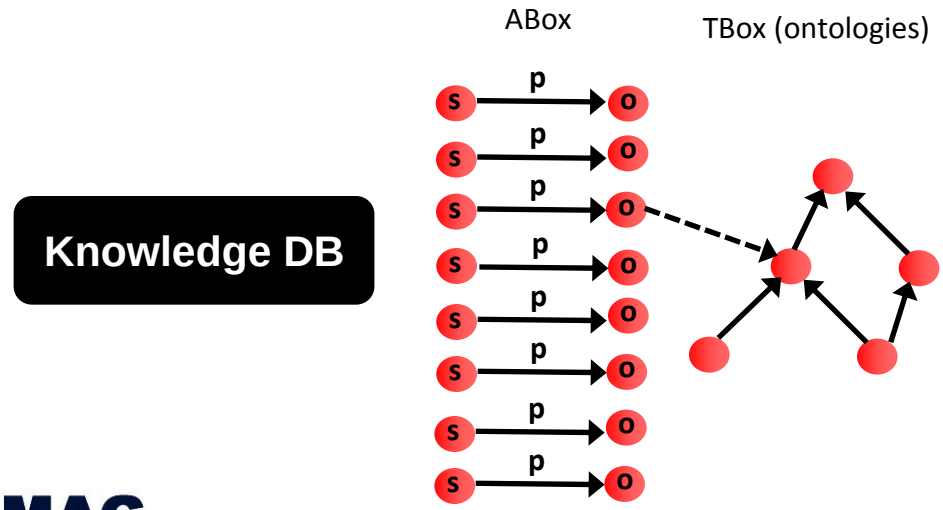
- Two evaluation styles in MPQF: Boolean and fuzzy-logic



How to extend MPQF to allow SPARQL-like queries

How to extend MPQF to allow SPARQL-like queries

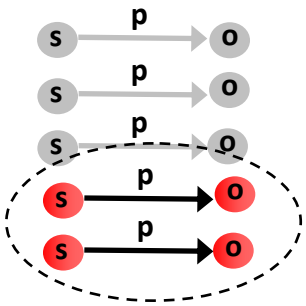
- Knowledge base (KB) = Tbox (terminological component) +Abox (assertion component)
- Some relevant initiatives are choosing the RDF language for modeling metadata metadata
- Typical Semantic Web based multimedia KB (e.g. PhotoRDF):
  - Tbox = RDFS/OWL ontologies
  - Abox = RDF statements about the media objects



How to extend MPQF to allow SPARQL-like queries

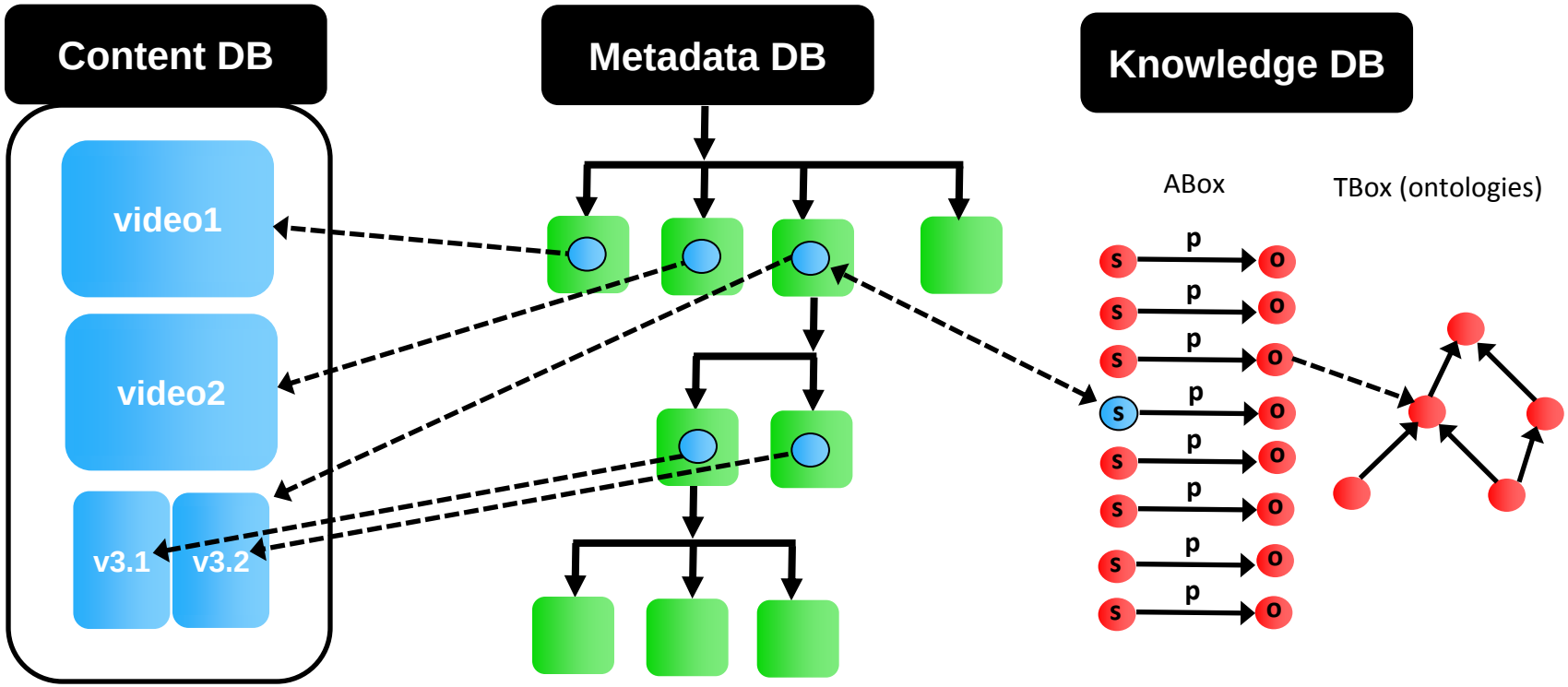
- SPARQL. W3C Recommendation on 15th January 2008
- An SPARQL query consists of a basic graph pattern, expressed as a list of triple patterns

```
PREFIX dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
PREFIX ns: <http://example.org/ns#>
SELECT ?title ?price
WHERE { ?x ns:price ?price .
FILTER (?price < 30.5)
?x dc:title ?title . }
```



How to extend MPQF to allow SPARQL-like queries

- Proposal 1/3: Extend the MPQF data model



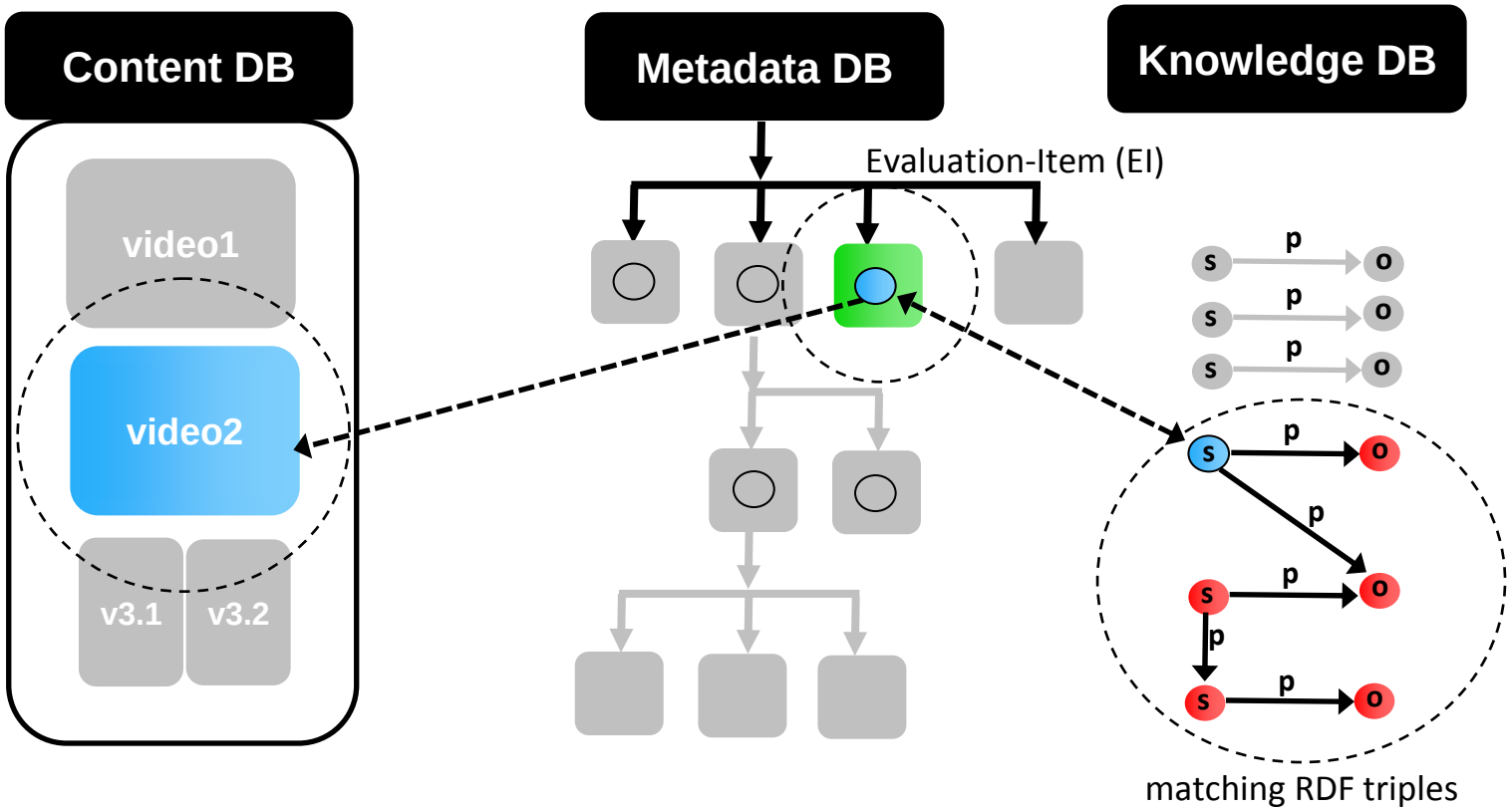
How to extend MPQF to allow SPARQL-like queries

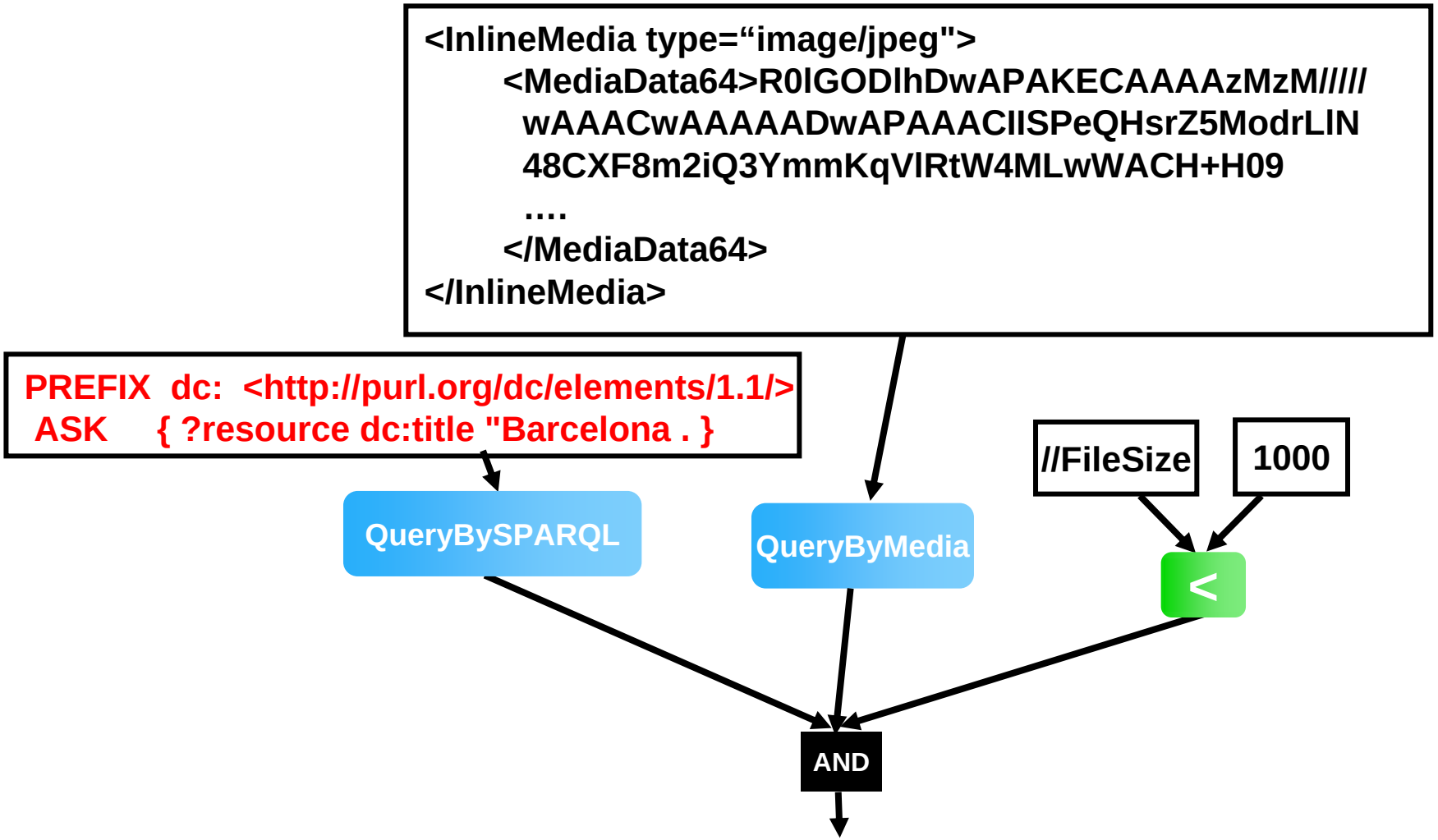
- Proposal 2/3: Include a new query type: **QueryBySPARQL**

```
<MpegQuery mpqfID="someID">
 <Query>
  <Input>
   <QueryCondition>
    <Condition xsi:type="QueryBySPARQL">
     <SPARQL>
      <![CDATA[
       PREFIX dc: <http:///>
       ASK { ?resource dc:title "Barcelona . }
      ]]>
     </SPARQL>
    </Condition>
 </QueryCondition>
 </Input>
 </Query>
</MpegQuery>
```

How to extend MPQF to allow SPARQL-like queries

- Visual representation of the execution of the new *QueryBySPARQL* query type





DMAG
DISTRIBUTED MULTIMEDIA APPLICATIONS GROUP

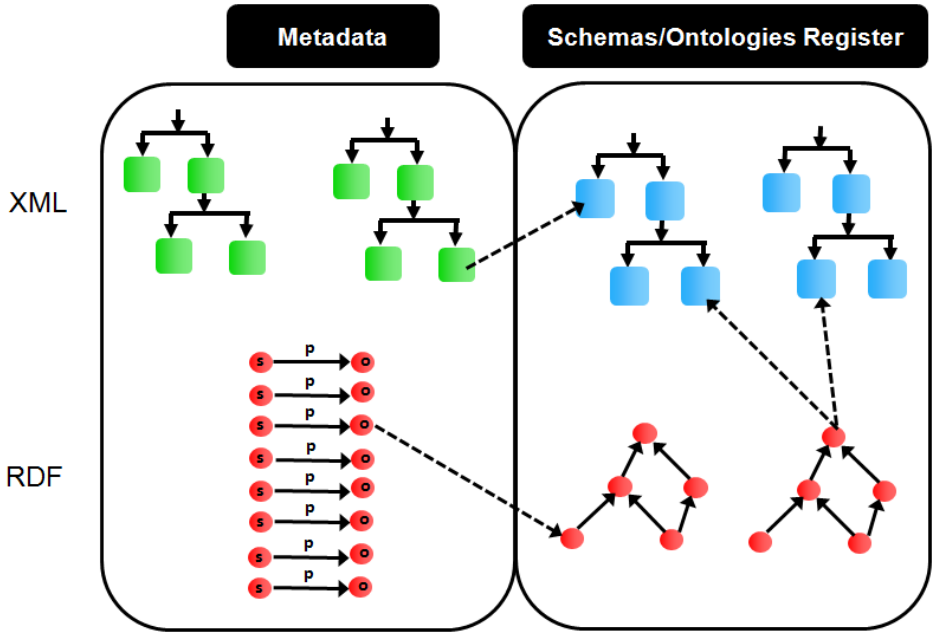
But, what about metadata interoperability with MPQF?

MPQF and metadata interoperability

- Currently MPQF is **metadata-neutral**
  - Queries refer to paths related to different metadata formats
- Several metadata formats exist: Dublin Core, EXIF, ID3, MPEG-7, etc.
- Semantic mappings can help circumventing the problem
- The mappings are (supposed to be) easiest to specify with ontologies
- (with our proposal) we can use RDF and SPARQL in MPQF but…
- Can I use “ontologies” with MPQF?
  - (currently) no, at least not in a “standard” way

MPQF and metadata interoperability

- Proposal 3/3: Extend MPQF:
  - Allow registering RDFS/OWL ontologies
  - Be aware of the registered ontologies when querying XML
  - Be aware of the registered ontologies when querying RDF
  - Be aware of the registered ontologies when querying free text?



MPQF and metadata interoperability

- Two choices to achieve interoperability with N formats:
  - Specify NxN mappings
  - Specify one reference metadata format and N mappings (better!)
- Which kind of reference metadata format?
  - An XML Schema (e.g. XMP)
  - But mappings are simpler if the reference metadata model is also an ontology
  - This issue is now being discussed at JPEG (JPSearch initiative)
  - OPEN ISSUE

Conclusions

- The MPEG Query Format is finished!
  - But now is time for amendments and corrigenda
- The implementation race has begun
- MPQF lacks the ability of handling RDF and SPARQL
  - Proposal 1/3: Extend the logical model
  - Proposal 2/3: New query type: *QueryBySPARQL*
  - Proposal 3/3: Allow registering ontologies

- A relevant piece is still missing: **A pivot metadata format**

Acknowledgments

Thank you