

EBU

OPERATING EUROVISION AND EURORADIO

TECH 3285-s5

SPECIFICATION OF THE BROADCAST WAVE FORMAT - A FORMAT FOR AUDIO DATA FILES IN BROADCASTING

Supplement 5: <axml> Chunk

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Specification of the Broadcast Wave Format - a format for audio data files

Supplement 5: <axml> Chunk

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1. Introduction

For the exchange of Broadcast Wave Format (BWF) [1] audio files, there is an increasing demand on the transfer of metadata, especially the transfer of core metadata according to either or both EBU documents EBU Tech 3293 [2] and EBU Tech 3295 [3]. This Supplement provides a standard definition of a type of data container for a BWF file: the <axml> chunk for storing and transferring metadata as XML.

2. Terminology

The <axml> chunk may contain any data compliant with the XML 1.0 format or later, a widespread format for data exchange [4]. Note that the <axml> chunk may contain XML fragments from more than one Schema.

The <axml> chunk may occur in any order with the other BWF chunks within the same file.

3. AXML chunk definition

The <axml> chunk consists of a header followed by data compliant with the XML format. The overall length of the chunk is not fixed.

```
typedef struct axml
{
    CHAR    ckID[4];        // {'a','x','m','l'}
    DWORD   ckSize;        // size of chunk
    CHAR    xmlData[ ];    // text data in XML
}
axml_chunk;
```

¹ This version has updated references and is aligned with the audio definition model (ADM) [4].

3.1 Elements of the 'axml' chunk

ckID	This is the 4 character array {'a', 'x', 'm', 'l'} ¹ for chunk identification.
ckSize	This is the size of the data section of the chunk. (It does not include the 8 bytes used by ckID and ckSize.)
xmlData	This field contains the text information in XML.

The XML data structure is hierarchical and data are stored in text strings according to XML 1.0 format [5] or later. For the exact syntax specification, a DTD (document type definition) [5], an XSD (XML Schema Definition) [6] or future schemas shall be given.

Note: If the receiving device cannot interpret the content of the <axml> chunk in accordance with the specification stated in the XML, the entire chunk shall be ignored.

4. Examples

4.1 ISRC Identification

The example illustrates how to provide an ISRC identifier in BWF.

As detailed below, the XML content of the <axml> chunk follows EBU Tech 3293 [2] and EBU Tech 3352 [3].

The following fragment shows how to convey the International Standard Recording Code (ISRC) of the audio in a BWF file.

```
<ebuCoreMain xmlns:dc=" http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns="urn:ebu:metadata-schema:ebucore">
  <coreMetadata>
    <identifier typeLabel="GUID" typeDefinition="Globally Unique Identifier"
      formatLabel="ISRC" formatDefinition="International Standard Recording Code"
      formatLink="http://www.ebu.ch/metadata/cs/ebu_IdentifierTypeCodeCS.xml#3.7">
      <dc:identifier>ISRC:NOX001212345</dc:identifier>
    </identifier>
    <!-- More optional EBUCore: titles, descriptions, contributors -->
  </coreMetadata>
</ebuCoreMain>
```

4.2 ADM Metadata

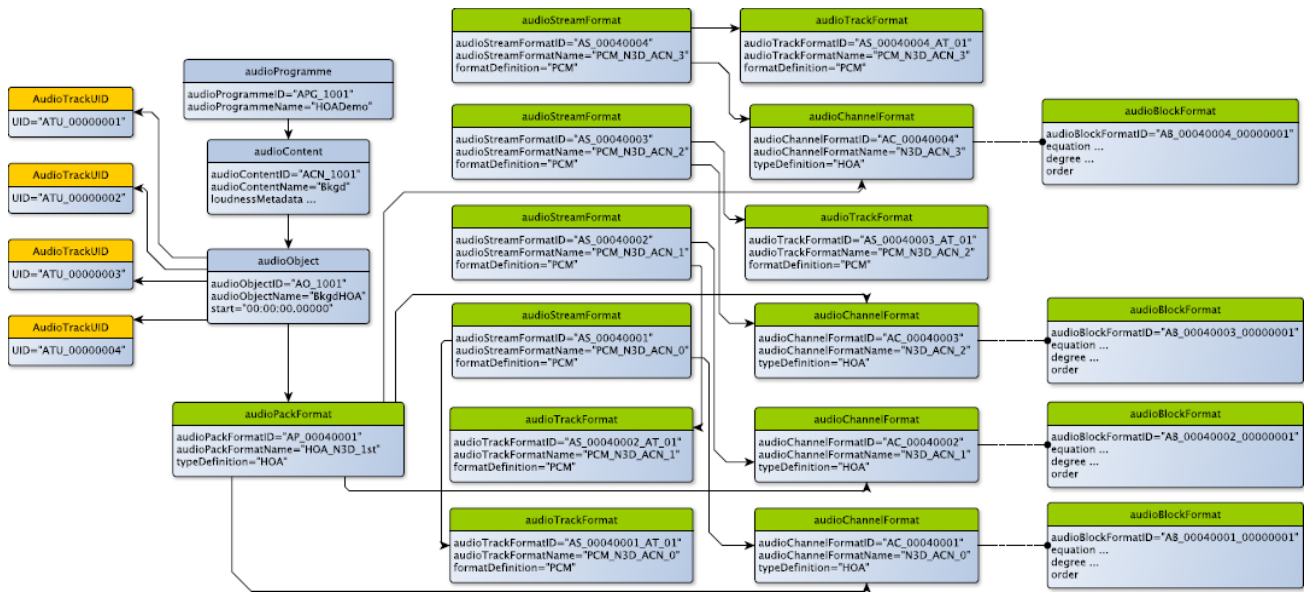
The example shows how to embed ADM [4] metadata in BWF using the ADM schema defined in EBUCore.

As detailed below the XML content of the <axml> chunk follows EBU Tech 3293 [2].

This example shows a simple 1st order Ambisonic (using the N3D method) configuration using 4 channels mapped onto 4 tracks. Like the channel-based approach, the format elements would be

¹ **Remark:** The definition DWORD ckID = "axml" would not be unique. Different C-compilers produce different orders of the characters. Therefore we define char ckID [5] = {'a', 'x', 'm', 'l'} instead.

defined in a standard reference file so in practice would not need to be included in the BWF file itself.



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<ebuCoreMain xmlns="urn:ebu:metadata-schema:ebucore"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">
  <coreMetadata>
    <format>
      <audioFormatExtended>
        <!-- audio programme -->
        <audioProgramme audioProgrammeID="APG_1001"
          audioProgrammeName="HOADemo">
          <audioContentIDRef>ACN_1001</audioContentIDRef>
        </audioProgramme>

        <!-- audio content -->
        <audioContent audioContentID="ACN_1001"
          audioContentName="Background">
          <audioObjectIDRef>AO_1001</audioObjectIDRef>
        </audioContent>

        <!-- audio object -->
        <audioObject audioObjectID="AO_1001"
          audioObjectName="BackgroundHOA">
          <audioPackFormatIDRef>AP_00040001</audioPackFormatIDRef>
          <audioTrackUIDRef>ATU_00000001</audioTrackUIDRef>
          <audioTrackUIDRef>ATU_00000002</audioTrackUIDRef>
          <audioTrackUIDRef>ATU_00000003</audioTrackUIDRef>
          <audioTrackUIDRef>ATU_00000004</audioTrackUIDRef>
        </audioObject>
      </audioFormatExtended>
    </format>
  </coreMetadata>
</ebuCoreMain>
```

```

    <!-- audio pack -->
    <audioPackFormat audioPackFormatID="AP_00040001"
audioPackFormatName="HOA_N3D_1st" typeLabel="0004"
typeDefinition="HOA">
        <audioChannelFormatIDRef>AC_00040001</audioChannelFormatIDRef>
        <audioChannelFormatIDRef>AC_00040002</audioChannelFormatIDRef>
        <audioChannelFormatIDRef>AC_00040003</audioChannelFormatIDRef>
        <audioChannelFormatIDRef>AC_00040004</audioChannelFormatIDRef>
    </audioPackFormat>

    <!-- audio channel -->
    <audioChannelFormat audioChannelFormatID="AC_00040001"
audioChannelFormatName="N3D_ACN_0" typeDefinition="HOA">
        <audioBlockFormat audioBlockFormatID="AB_00040001_00000001">
            <degree>0</degree>
            <order>0</order>
            <equation>1</equation>
        </audioBlockFormat>
    </audioChannelFormat>
    <audioChannelFormat audioChannelFormatID="AC_00040002"
audioChannelFormatName="N3D_ACN_1" typeDefinition="HOA">
        <audioBlockFormat audioBlockFormatID="AB_00040002_00000001">
            <degree>1</degree>
            <order>-1</order>
            <equation>sqrt(3)*cos(E)</equation>
        </audioBlockFormat>
    </audioChannelFormat>
    <audioChannelFormat audioChannelFormatID="AC_00040003"
audioChannelFormatName="N3D_ACN_2" typeDefinition="HOA">
        <audioBlockFormat audioBlockFormatID="AB_00040003_00000001">
            <degree>1</degree>
            <order>0</order>
            <equation>sqrt(3)*sin(E)</equation>
        </audioBlockFormat>
    </audioChannelFormat>
    <audioChannelFormat audioChannelFormatID="AC_00040004"
audioChannelFormatName="N3D_ACN_3" typeDefinition="HOA">
        <audioBlockFormat audioBlockFormatID="AB_00040004_00000001">
            <degree>1</degree>
            <order>1</order>
            <equation>sqrt(3)*cos(E)*cos(A)</equation>
        </audioBlockFormat>
    </audioChannelFormat>

    <!-- audio stream -->
    <audioStreamFormat audioStreamFormatID="AS_00040001"
audioStreamFormatName="PCM_N3D_ACN_0" formatLabel="0001"

```



```

        formatDefinition="PCM">
            <audioChannelFormatIDRef>AC_00040001</audioChannelFormatIDRef>
<audioTrackFormatIDRef>AS_00040001_AT_01
</audioTrackFormatIDRef>
    </audioStreamFormat>
    <audioStreamFormat audioStreamFormatID="AS_00040002"
audioStreamFormatName="PCM_N3D_ACN_1" formatLabel="0001"
        formatDefinition="PCM">
            <audioChannelFormatIDRef>AC_00040002</audioChannelFormatIDRef>
            <audioTrackFormatIDRef>AS_00040002_AT_01
</audioTrackFormatIDRef>
    </audioStreamFormat>
    <audioStreamFormat audioStreamFormatID="AS_00040003"
audioStreamFormatName="PCM_N3D_ACN_2" formatLabel="0001"
        formatDefinition="PCM">
            <audioChannelFormatIDRef>AC_00040003</audioChannelFormatIDRef>
<audioTrackFormatIDRef>AS_00040003_AT_01
</audioTrackFormatIDRef>
    </audioStreamFormat>
    <audioStreamFormat audioStreamFormatID="AS_00040004"
audioStreamFormatName="PCM_N3D_ACN_3" formatLabel="0001"
        formatDefinition="PCM">
            <audioChannelFormatIDRef>AC_00040004</audioChannelFormatIDRef>
<audioTrackFormatIDRef>AS_00040004_AT_01
</audioTrackFormatIDRef>
    </audioStreamFormat>

<!-- audio track format-->
    <audioTrackFormat audioTrackFormatID="AS_00040001_AT_01"
audioTrackFormatName="PCM_N3D_ACN_0" formatLabel="0001"
        formatDefinition="PCM">
            <audioStreamFormatIDRef>AS_00040001</audioStreamFormatIDRef>
    </audioTrackFormat>
    <audioTrackFormat audioTrackFormatID="AS_00040002_AT_01"
audioTrackFormatName="PCM_N3D_ACN_1" formatLabel="0001"
        formatDefinition="PCM">
            <audioStreamFormatIDRef>AS_00040002</audioStreamFormatIDRef>
    </audioTrackFormat>
    <audioTrackFormat audioTrackFormatID="AS_00040003_AT_01"
audioTrackFormatName="PCM_N3D_ACN_2" formatLabel="0001"
        formatDefinition="PCM">
            <audioStreamFormatIDRef>AS_00040003</audioStreamFormatIDRef>
    </audioTrackFormat>
    <audioTrackFormat audioTrackFormatID="AS_00040004_AT_01"
audioTrackFormatName="PCM_N3D_ACN_3" formatLabel="0001"
        formatDefinition="PCM">
            <audioStreamFormatIDRef>AS_00040004</audioStreamFormatIDRef>

```

```
</audioTrackFormat>

<!-- audio track -->
<audioTrackUID UID="ATU_00000001"/>
<audioTrackUID UID="ATU_00000002"/>
<audioTrackUID UID="ATU_00000003"/>
<audioTrackUID UID="ATU_00000004"/>
</audioFormatExtended>
</format>
</coreMetadata>
</ebuCoreMain>
```

5. References

- [1] EBU Tech 3285: Specification of the Broadcast Wave Format - A format for audio files in broadcasting. http://www.ebu.ch/departments/technical/pmc/pmc_bwf.html
- [2] EBU Tech 3293: EBUCore. <https://tech.ebu.ch/docs/tech/tech3293.pdf>
- [3] EBU Tech 3352: - The Carriage of Identifiers in the Broadcast Wave Format P_META Metadata Exchange Scheme. <https://tech.ebu.ch/docs/tech/tech3352.pdf>
- [4] Recommendation ITU-R BS.2076-1 - Audio Definition Model (ADM). https://www.itu.int/dms_pubrec/itu-r/rec/bs/R-REC-BS.2076-1-201706-!!PDF-E.pdf
- [5] Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0 W3C Recommendation 6-October-2000 <http://www.w3.org/TR/2000/REC-xml-20001006>
- [6] Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0 W3C, XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes W3C Recommendation 02 May 2001. <http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xmlschema-2-20010502>