

A B S T R A C T

When the same object appearing in a moving picture is divided into a plurality of items of data (access units), search results using meta data is easily
5 displayed. A meta data stream includes two or more access units AUs having an object_id for specifying whether or not objects designated by object region data in two access units AUs are semantically identical, and an object_subid for specifying whether or not the
10 object region data in the two access units AUs are data on the same scene. From the meta data stream, one of a plurality of access units AUs is selected (S8200 or S8206), the access units being determined to be the same objects by the object_id and being determined
15 to be the same scene by the object_subid (S8203), and the selected access unit AU is used to search for an object (S8201).