CLAIMS

1. A method for decoding a coded video bitstream, comprising:

obtaining a reference layer syntax element by parsing the coded video bitstream, wherein the value of the reference layer syntax element specifying whether a layer with index k is a direct reference layer for a layer with index i, wherein both i and k are integers and are larger than or equal to 0;

determining whether the layer with index j is a reference layer for the layer with index i based on the value of the reference layer syntax element, wherein the layer with index j is determined to be a reference layer for the layer with index i if the layer with index j is a reference layer for the layer with index k and the value of the reference layer syntax element specifies that the layer with index k is a direct reference layer for the layer with index i, wherein j is an integer and is larger than or equal to 0;

obtaining a chroma format related syntax element and a bit depth related syntax element that are applied to the layer with index i and a chroma format related syntax element and a bit depth related syntax element that are applied to the layer with index j by parsing the coded video bitstream; and

in case that a condition is satisfied, predicting a picture of the layer with index i based on the layer with index j, wherein the condition comprises that the layer with index j is a reference layer for the layer with index i, wherein the condition further comprises that the value of the chroma format related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of a chroma format related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j and that the value of a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j.

2. A method for decoding a coded video bitstream, comprising:

obtaining a reference layer syntax element by parsing the coded video bitstream, wherein the value of the reference layer syntax element specifying whether a layer with index j is a direct reference layer for a layer with index i, wherein both i and j are integers and are larger than or equal to 0;

obtaining a chroma format related syntax element and a bit depth related syntax element that are applied to the layer with index i and a chroma format related syntax element and a bit depth related syntax element that are applied to the layer with index j by parsing the coded video bitstream; and

in case that a condition is satisfied, predicting a picture of the layer with index i based on the layer with index j, wherein the condition comprises the value of the reference layer syntax element specifies the layer with index j is a direct reference layer for the layer with index i, wherein the condition further comprises that the value of the chroma format related syntax element that is

applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of the chroma format related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j and that the value of a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j.

3. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the reference layer syntax element is a video parameter set (VPS) level syntax element, wherein the VPS is applied to the layer with index j and the layer with index i.

4. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the chroma format related syntax element is a sequence parameter set (SPS) level syntax element, wherein the SPS is applied to the layer with index j or the layer with index i.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

in case that the layer with index j is not a reference layer for the layer with index i, predicting the picture of the layer with index i without using the layer with index j.

6. A method for encoding a video, comprising:

determining whether a layer with index j is a direct reference layer for a layer with index i, both i and j are integers and are larger than or equal to 0; and

in case that the layer with index j is a direct reference layer for the layer with index i, encoding a reference layer syntax element with a value specifying the layer with index j is a direct reference layer for the layer with index i into a video bitstream, encoding a chroma format related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i and a chroma format related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j into the video bitstream, wherein the value of the chroma format related syntax element applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of the chroma format related syntax element applied to the layer with index j, and encoding a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i and a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j into the video bitstream, wherein the value of the bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of the bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:

in case that the layer with index j is the direct reference layer for the layer with index i, predicting a picture of the layer with index i based on the layer with index j.

8. The method of claim 6, further comprising:

in case that the layer with index j is not a reference layer for the layer with index i, predicting a picture of the layer with index i without using the layer with index j.

9. An apparatus for decoding a coded video bitstream, comprising:

an obtaining unit, configured to obtain a reference layer syntax element by parsing the coded video bitstream, wherein the value of the reference layer syntax element specifying whether a layer with index k is a direct reference layer for a layer with index i, wherein both i and k are integers and are larger than or equal to 0;

a determining unit, configured to determine whether the layer with index j is a reference layer for the layer with index i based on the value of the reference layer syntax element, wherein the layer with index j is determined to be a reference layer for the layer with index i if the layer with index j is a reference layer for the layer with index k and the value of the reference layer syntax element specifies that the layer with index k is a direct reference layer for the layer with index i, wherein j is an integer and is larger than or equal to 0;

an obtaining unit, configured to obtain a chroma format related syntax element and a bit depth related syntax element that are applied to the layer with index i and a chroma format related syntax element and a bit depth related syntax element that are applied to the layer with index j by parsing the coded video bitstream; and

a predicting unit, configured to predict a picture of the layer with index i based on the layer with index j in case that a condition is satisfied, wherein the condition comprises that the layer with index j is a reference layer for the layer with index i, wherein the condition further comprises that the value of the chroma format related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of a chroma format related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j, and that the value of a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the obtaining unit is further configured to predict the picture of the layer with index i without using the layer with index j in case that the layer with index j is not a reference layer for the layer with index i.

11. An apparatus for decoding a coded video bitstream, comprising:

an obtaining unit, configured to:

obtain a reference layer syntax element by parsing the coded video bitstream, wherein the value of the reference layer syntax element specifying whether a layer with index j is a direct reference layer for a layer with index i, wherein both i and j are integers and are larger than or equal to 0; and

obtain a chroma format related syntax element and a bit depth related syntax element that are applied to the layer with index i and a chroma format related syntax element and a bit depth related syntax element that are applied to the layer with index j by parsing the coded video bitstream

a predicting unit, configured to predict a picture of the layer with index i based on the layer with index j in case that a condition is satisfied, wherein the condition comprises the value of the reference layer syntax element specifies the layer with index j is a direct reference layer for the layer with index i, wherein the condition further comprises that the value of the chroma format related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of the chroma format related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j, and that the value of a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of a bit

depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the reference layer syntax element is a video parameter set (VPS) level syntax element, wherein the VPS is applied to the layer with index j and the layer with index i.

13. The apparatus of claim 11 to 12, wherein the chroma format related syntax element is a sequence parameter set (SPS) level syntax element, wherein the SPS is applied to the layer with index j or the layer with index i.

14. An apparatus for encoding a video, comprising:

a determining unit, configured to determine whether a layer with index j is a direct reference layer for a layer with index i, both i and j are integers and are larger than or equal to 0; and

an encoding unit, configured to encode a reference layer syntax element with a value specifying the layer with index j is a direct reference layer for the layer with index i into a video bitstream, and encode a chroma format related syntax element applied to the layer with index i and a chroma format related syntax element applied to the layer with index j into the video bitstream in case that the layer with index j is a direct reference layer for the layer with index i, wherein the value of the chroma format related syntax element applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of the chroma format related syntax element applied to the layer with index j, and encode a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i and a bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j into the video bitstream, wherein the value of the bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index i is the same as the value of the bit depth related syntax element that is applied to the layer with index j.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising a first predicting unit;

the first predicting unit is configured to predict a picture of the layer with index i based on the layer with index j in case that the layer with index j is the direct reference layer for the layer with index i.

16. The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising a second predicting unit;

the first predicting unit is configured to predict a picture of the layer with index i without using the layer with index j in case that the layer with index j is not a reference layer for the layer with index i.

17. An encoder comprising processing circuitry for carrying out the method according to any one of claims 6 to 8.

18. A decoder comprising processing circuitry for carrying out the method according to any one of claims 1 to 5.

19. A computer program product comprising program code for performing the method according to any one of claims 1 to 8 when executed on a computer or a processor.

20. A decoder, comprising:

one or more processors; and

a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium coupled to the one or more processors and storing programming for execution by the processors, wherein the programming, when executed by the processors, configures the decoder to carry out the method according to any one of claims 1 to 5.

21. An encoder, comprising:

one or more processors; and

a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium coupled to the processors and storing programming for execution by the processors, wherein the programming, when executed by the processors, configures the encoder to carry out the method according to any one of claims 6 to 8.

22. A non-transitory computer-readable medium carrying a program code which, when executed by a computer device, causes the computer device to perform the method of any one of claims 1 to 8.