
Subject: Re: MOVIES USING MPEG_PUT

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Fri, 04 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Mark C. wrote in message <3665ff6d.0@news.cadvision.com>...

> 2) Is there a better/easier method generating movie files in IDL or non-IDL
> packages.

Another possibility to consider is an animated GIF. You can create one directly from IDL using the MULTIPLE keyword to WRITE_GIF, or you can write a series of single-frame GIF files (or other graphics format) and join them later with a GIF animator package, of which there are many. If you create an animated GIF directly from IDL, you need to make sure that each frame has the same colour table.

I haven't really explored the pros and cons of animated GIF vs MPEG. Animated GIF creation may be faster than MPEG creation (which is very slow) and animated GIFs can be displayed by most Web browsers, whereas MPEGs need specialised players, none of which are very nice pieces of software in my experience.

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Mark Hadfield, m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz <http://www.niwa.cri.nz/~hadfield/>
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research
PO Box 14-901, Wellington, New Zealand
