
Subject: Re: READING MPEG FILES

Posted by [Karri Kaksonen](#) on Sat, 05 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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On Fri, 4 Feb 2000, Bruce Barrow wrote:

> I've found the various routines for animating an array of images and placing
> them into an MPEG file. How do I read an MPEG file into an array of images?
> How about the same with an AVI file?

IDL does not really do those video-conversions too well.

I have been using a package called MainActor on Linux and Windows.
It does the conversions between MPEG, AVI, DV, whatever.

The subprogram called VideoEditor will automatically create
names for all the frames like clip00010.jpg clip00011.jpg ...
So it is easy to read in them into IDL after the conversion.

This program can also handle non-standard image sizes, it emulates
hw-codecs in software (miro-cards, DV-format etc.).

The Linux version even has a shell tool mode that will do the
conversions from scripts.

The package is commercial but cheap. When you get a \$85 license you
can run it on any OS that it supports.

It is also a full-fledged video editor with a lot of bells and
whistles. This package has become one of my favourite tools
for doing web-animations.

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Regards,

Karri
