Subject: Re: Animations to Tape
Posted by sbarrkum on Thu, 09 Feb 1995 03:32:19 GMT
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I did get a coouple of responses about the scheme to make movie loops. Hence the postiong. The method does not use IDL. In my case I used IDL to generate the Images.

I have given below the appendix of an extended abstract we presented. The beauty of the scheme is you the number of frames you want to transfer onto video is not limited by your memory, and you can work around the disk space limitation.
Equipment Needed: A Macintosh AV (Mac AV's give video output)
- If not a Mac AV a Mac and a scan convertor (You get reasonably cheap one ($300-500) with decent output.
PC Adressable VCR- Typically Biologists and medical personell have one.
NIH Image: A public Domain Image processing software for the Mac. There isnt anything near anywhere near this for PC's. Lots thanks to Wayne Rasband for this wonderful package. It available for FTP at zippy.nimh.nih.gov
The scheme is essentialy.
Generate the images needed. Name the images in sequence.
Connect the Mac Video Output - (Scan Convertor) - TV- VCR
Connect the Mac Serial Port to VCR serial port.
Open each image into NIH image using the macro given below.
Send message to VCR to start recording.
Send Message to VCR to stop recording
Reload another image
Repeat above until all images transferred.

If more more images needed than you have disk space, delete image. Generate the next set of images. Do not advance or turn of VCR during this time.
Repeat process given above.

Hope this scheme helps

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Subramaniam, A. & Barr-Kumarakulasinghe, S. A. (1994) Video Depicting Temperature Profiles in the Long Island Sound. Long Island Sound Conference, Stony Brook, NY

Appendix 1

Images were transferred onto videotape using a Macintosh840 AV and a NEC820 PC controllable VCR. Images were saved in (Tagged image

file format) TIFF format and named in sequential order. The screen output of the Macintosh was sent into the VCR and a TV monitor using the TV output capabilities of the Macintosh AV. The VCR was controlled through the serial port. A macro (given below) was written in NIH image to open each file, place the image in photo mode (sans menu bars etc.), instruct the VCR to start recording and stop recording after one second; then close image and load the next image.

```
macro 'FileToVCR';
var
linefeed,return,r,c,p,s,t,crlf,rc, ps,st,file:string;
i:integer;
begin
  r:=chr(82);
  c:=chr(67);
  p:=chr(80);
  s:=chr(83);
   t:=chr(84);
  linefeed:=chr(10); {signal for linefeed}
  return:=chr(13); {signal for carraige return}
  crlf:=concat(return,linefeed);  {signal for carraige return/linefeed}
  rc:=concat(r,c,crlf);  {signal for start recording}
  ps:=concat(p,s,crlf);  {signal for pause}
  st:=concat(s,t,crlf);  {signal for pause}
  RequiresVersion(1.48);
  OpenSerial('1200 baud,no parity,eight data,one stop');
    for i:=0 to 29 do begin
    SetImport('TIFF');
    Import('image.', i:3); {import images named 'image001' }
   Photomode(true);
   PutSerial(rc); {record}
    Wait(4);
   PutSerial(st); {stop recording}
  Wait(3);
  Photomode(false);
  close;
  Beep;
  end;
end;
```

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