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Subject: Re: mpeg quality

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Thu, 22 Apr 2004 21:49:16 GMT

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Yunxiang Zhang wrote:

> On Wed, 21 Apr 2004, Haje Korth wrote:

>> I quit using the mpeg routines because of the crummy quality. I am pretty  
>> happy with the idl2avi.dlm from Ronn Kling and the vp3 codec, which can be  
>> downloaded free of charge at <http://www.vp3.com>. I have been using this  
>> solution for a several months and it works great.  
> What's the best choice for Unix/Linux guys?

For many purposes, the FLIC format, which was designed some time ago by Autodesk as a format for CAD animations. The big limitation with FLIC is that it supports only 8-bit colour. If you can live with that, I think it's your best bet.

You can generate FLIC files with a command-line program, ppm2fli, and view them on Unix with Xanim.

I have an HTML page that talks about different animation formats & shows examples. It's normal home is hidden behind the NIWA firewall, but for a limited time only you can see it at

<ftp://ftp.niwa.co.nz/incoming/m.hadfield/animation/index.htm> I

The discussion is a bit disorganised and does not take full account of all the valuable info that Rick Towler has posted to the IDL newsgroup over the years (though I do mention this). Also, the page suffers a bit from being uprooted & transplanted in a new location, but it may give you some useful info. Please be sparing when viewing the animation files for the second example: they're big!

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Mark Hadfield "Ka puwaha te tai nei, Hoea tatou"

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