
Subject: Re: mpeg quality

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Mon, 26 Apr 2004 17:47:11 GMT

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This may be obvious but remember that in order to play back an animation created with vp3 the user needs the vp3 codec installed. If your animations are intended for a limited audience which you have some control over you're usually fine. But if you are making these available to a wide audience then you're in for a bit of a headache.

Not that there is much you can do to limit the pain though. The only codecs that are shipped with most every OS are the Radius Cinepack codec and some version of the MPEG-1 codec. Both are poor codecs for scientific animation so there is no universal solution.

If you are going to be presenting your animations find out well ahead of time if you can use your own laptop. Most seminars/conferences I attend these days seem to strongly encourage all speakers to use a single laptop to cut down on laptop/projector "issues". I don't know if this is a trend... (Physicists insert joke about how biologists can't use computers here.) Using custom codecs in this scenario takes extra effort.

-Rick

"DPJ" <dpjackson@yahoo.com> wrote in message

news:mBCic.331\$g31.234@newsread2.news.atl.earthlink.net...

> Thanks Haje...it looks like this will work.

>

> David

>

> "Haje Korth" <haje.korth@jhuapl.edu> wrote in message

> news:c68b7q\$aus\$1@aplcore.jhuapl.edu...

>> Miguel,

>> idl2avi can be found at

> <http://www.kilvarock.com/freesoftware/dlms/avi.htm>.

>> As Mark points out v5.6 works for IDL 6.0, even though I compiled my own

>> version. idl2avi will pop up a window and you can select any Video for

>> Windows compatible codec. There are other ones, but vp3 gave me the best

>> quality/file size ratio. Unlike MPEG it is good for scientific

> presentation.

>>

>> Haje

>>

>>

>>

>>

>> "Miguel Angel Cordoba" <cordoba_nospam@grahi.upc.es> wrote in message

>> news:40878D50.4070901@grahi.upc.es...
>>> Hi Haje,
>>> can you explain where can we find the idl2avi.dlm module and how we
can
>>> use the vp3 code?
>>>
>>> Thanx
>>> --

>>>
>>> Haje Korth wrote:
>>>
>>>> David,
>>>> 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.
>>>>
>>>> Haje
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>> --
>>>
>>> Miguel Angel Cordoba <mailto:cordoba@grahi.upc.es>
>>> Tel. +34 934 017 371
>>> Fax. +34 934 054 194
>>> -----
>>> Grup de Recerca Aplicada en Hidrometeorologia (GRAHI-UPC)
>>> <http://www.grahi.upc.es>
>>> -----
>>> Centre membre de la Xarxa d'Innovacio Tecnologica XIT
>>> <http://www.cidem.com/xarxait>
>>> -----
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