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Subject: Re: MP4/Animated GIF/JPEG woes....(Windows, IDL 8.1)

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Mon, 11 Jul 2011 17:16:14 GMT

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I second, IDLffVideoWrite is the way to go. I recently used it to create Quicktime-compatible MP4 files from a NASA Press Conference. The example code (with some customization of course) worked flawlessly. Haje

On Jul 11, 12:29 pm, Michael Galloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On 7/11/11 9:59 AM, Daft Pict wrote:

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>> I've just started collaborating with some planetary astronomers who  
>> tend to use very different tools compared to us traditional  
>> observational astronomers :-). It's fun but I'm trying to generate  
>> products that they use (and I typically don't) and having some teeth-  
>> gnashing moments and screaming at the IDL help pages....

>

>> 1). Creating an MP4 file from a stream of images - seems easy  
>> according to the help pages and I duplicated the example code. The  
>> resulting file is playable on my windows box using media player, but  
>> not when using QuickTime on either windows or their Mac systems.

>

>> 2) Animated GIFs again seem straightforward, except that write\_gif  
>> appears to reset my color table so I lose the color in overlays over  
>> images. I pass in the current RGB values from the common block after  
>> setting my tables but the gif file is B&W and the RGB arrays are all  
>> reset!

>

>> 3) Even tried animated JPEG since the help pages describes how to do  
>> it, but the sample code doesn't work as I get an error when trying to  
>> use the unit option even though it is described in the help....

>

>> Venting over - if anyone has some suggestions as to what causes any of  
>> these problems or have solved these issues, are please let me know  
>> cheers - Brian

>

> Have you checked out the IDLffVideoWrite class in IDL 8.1? I  
> occasionally do animations, but haven't had to since IDL 8.1 was  
> released. The What's New says:

>  
> "High-quality Video Animations  
>  
> The IDLffVideoWrite class allows you to write images to a video file,  
> with an optional soundtrack. You can create .avi or .mp4 video files  
> with the IDLffVideoWrite class. By default, video streams in .mp4 files  
> use the MPEG-4 codec, and audio streams in .mp4 files use the AAC codec."  
>  
> It uses FFmpeg which I have used in the past with great results.  
>  
> Mike  
> --  
> Michael Galloy [www.michaelgalloy.com](http://www.michaelgalloy.com)  
> Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL: <http://modernidl.idldev.com>  
> Research Mathematician  
> Tech-X Corporation

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