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Subject: Re: Viewing MPEGs created by ENVI/IDL  
Posted by [Steve\[2\]](#) on Fri, 28 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT  
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Chris Jengo wrote:

> Hi all,  
> Has anyone had any luck viewing mpegs generated in ENVI? Starting with  
> version 3.2, 3-D flythroughs can be output to mpg, which seems to work  
> fine (I imagine using mpeg\_open, mpeg\_put, and all that, or directly  
> using the object graphics routines). However, all my mpeg players say  
> they can't play the movie because "it falls outside the constrained  
> standard." These are standard mpeg players on a NT, like QuickTime,  
> Windows Media Player, and some others. Does anybody know what decoder  
> the developers expected the user to use? Thanks for any insights...  
>  
> Chris  
>  
> Sent via Deja.com <http://www.deja.com/>  
> Before you buy.

Yes, I have to confer, this is most likely a problem with the MPEG frame size.

Windows-XX doesn't really support MPEG, they support a subset of MPEG, restricting the frames size to what I consider to be fairly small (can't remember the exact sizes, but something like 240 pixels?). Anyways, you can try Vmpeg, it is a freely distributable MPEG player that has nice controls not found on the Windoze players (like adjusting the frame rate, play all frames, etc.), you can download it at:

<http://www.udel.edu/ps/sw/vmpeg.exe>

Which will give you an executable that will install Vmpeg on your Windows system.

It will play MPEG-1 and MPEG-2. The MPEG players that come with Windows-XX

vary a lot, some will play some MPEGs. I have a short spiel about MPEG players at the bottom of my web page: <http://www.nrel.gov/sss/spectrum.html>, which some links to different players (including Vmpeg).

I don't know about ENVI, but IDL generates MPEG-2, and some players won't play these right. Also, as of IDL 5.2, the mpeg routines do not give you full

control over  
the compression. I use the Stanford MPEG-1 encoder and export the frames  
from  
IDL. Oh, by the way. The Quicktime for windows also sucks: although  
Quicktime  
for the Macintosh will play MPEG's without a hitch, Quicktime for Windows  
doesn't  
support MPEG at all (last I checked it didn't anyways). I guess this is  
just Micro\$oft's  
way of telling you to use AVI (and Apples way of getting you to use a  
Mac!).

Steve

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Subject: Re: Viewing MPEGs created by ENVI/IDL  
Posted by [thompson](#) on Fri, 28 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT  
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Chris Jengo <[cjengo@my-deja.com](mailto:cjengo@my-deja.com)> writes:

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> Windows Media Player, and some others. Does anybody know what decoder  
> the developers expected the user to use? Thanks for any insights...

I'm not sure, but I believe that this error message refers to the size of the  
MPEG movie frames. We've also run into problems with MPEGs running fine on  
Unix machines but having problems on Windows machines. What I've been given to  
understand is that some of the Windows players, particularly those from  
Microsoft, assumed that the MPEGs would be restricted to the standard TV  
resolution. You might try making smaller movies, and see if those play okay.

William Thompson

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Subject: Re: Viewing MPEGs created by ENVI/IDL  
Posted by [cjengo](#) on Sat, 29 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT  
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Thanks, Steve, Vmpeg did the trick!

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