

Technically Interesting Movies

The movies contained in this folder illustrate a variety of different movie characteristics. They are useful as a test tool to see how well your QuickTime application can deal with different kinds of movies. What follows is a brief description of each movie and why it qualifies as technically interesting.

You can examine these movies in great detail using the Dumpster utility on this disc.

Empty Edits

There are two areas in the middle of this movie that contain no movie data. The sound goes silent and the video goes blank. If your application uses movie cover procedures, this movie is a good test. If your application parses movies, this movie is a good way to see if it can deal with empty edits. Empty edits are often created when editing multiple movies together, because the Movie Toolbox may have to create new tracks to perform a paste operation.

Movie Clip

This movie has a clip region on the movie. The region will scale if the movie is scaled. This movie is interesting because the shape of the movie is (a) non-rectangular and (b) the movie is made up of several separate areas. This movie is a good test of applications which import or recompress movies.

Movie Matrix

There is no requirement that a movie be saved at its “natural” size. This movie is saved at double its natural size - its movie matrix specifies a horizontal and vertical scaling of 2.0. This movie is an interesting test of applications which allow you to restore a movie to its “natural” or “original” size.

Multiple Sound Tracks

This movie contains one video track and two sound tracks. The two sound tracks are identical, but offset slightly in time. This movie is a good test to see if an application which imports or parses movies can deal with more than one sound track playing at a time.

Multiple Video Tracks

This movie contains two video tracks positioned one above the other. This is a pretty basic test of whether or not an application can work with multiple video tracks, and maintain their spatial relationship.

Not saved at time 0

There is no guarantee that when you open up a movie, that its current time will be set to 0. The current time is saved with a movie, and restored when the movie is reopened. Some applications assume that the movie is always saved at time 0. The results can be annoying.

Overlapping Video

This movie is a more complex test of multiple video tracks. The two tracks are overlapping, with the “1” track in front of the “2” track. This is a good test of whether or not an application can work with multiple video tracks, and maintain their spatial relationship.

Preferred Rate

This is a movie of a person talking rather slowly. The movie's preferred rate is set to 2.0 to cause the movie to playback at double speed, by default. Some applications assume that a movie should always be played at rate 1.0.

Scaled Edits

Certain portions of this movie have been scaled to play back slower and faster than normal. This movie tests whether an application that parses movies works with temporally scaled tracks. It may also confuse some applications which display frame rates.

Sound Only

This movie has no visual tracks at all. It contains only sound. Some applications may assume that a movie always has some area.

Text Only

This movie contains only a text track. Applications which assume that a movie contains only sound and video tracks may have a difficult time with this movie.

Track Clip

The video track of this movie contains a clip. As with the movie clip example, this movie is a good test of applications which import or recompress movies.

Track Matrix

The video track of this movie has a strangely scaled track matrix. Some applications which import or parse movies may assume that the track matrix is identity (because it usually is).

Track Matte

Track mattes allow you to put soft edged mattes on your tracks. The video track of this movie contains a track matte. This movie is a good test of applications which import or recompress movies.

Video Graphics Mode

This movie contains two overlapping video tracks which are blended together using a video graphics mode. This movie is a good test of applications which import or recompress movies.