

Re: Problems with dvdauthor – please help.

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.linux.setup/2005-01/0313.html>

From: Bill Davidsen (*davidsen_at_tmr.com*)

Date: 01/07/05

Date: Fri, 07 Jan 2005 19:01:26 GMT

Peter Shaggy Haywood wrote:

> *Groovy hepcat George was jivin' on Tue, 28 Dec 2004 00:58:39 -0500 in*
> *comp.os.linux.setup.*

> *Re: Problems with dvdauthor – please help. 's a cool scene! Dig it!*

>

>

>>*Hi all,*

>

>

> *Howdy! And sorry for taking so long to get back to you!*

>

>

>> *It looks like the video I was trying to write to a DVD did not have*
>> *some information in it required by dvdauthor. I looked at the man page*
>> *for "mpeg2enc" and the "-f" option states the following:*

>>

>> *-f|--format 8*

>> *- DVD MPEG-2 for 'dvdauthor'*

>> *This version adds special dummy navigation packets into the output*
>> *stream that the dvdauthor tool fills in to make a proper .VOB for*
>> *authoring. Bit-rate defaults to 7500kbps, buffer sizes to the maximum*
>> *permitted by the DVD specification.*

>>

>> *This is what was missing in my mpeg file.*

>>

>> *I used the "tovid" tool to properly convert my mpeg and it worked! I was*
>> *able to successfully get qdvdauthor to make a dvd for me. (mind you,*
>> *there were some other big bugs in the qdvdauthor tool that I figured out*
>> *how to avoid. :))*

>>

>> *However, there was a big drop in quality from the original MPEG video*
>> *using "tovid". It reads the mpeg and modifies it. I'm sure I could*
>> *optimize all of the settings for mpeg2enc but there are so many and I*
>> *know very little about mpeg files.*

>

>

> *I've not used tovid, so i can't help you with it. But maybe there's*
> *a way of specifying the bit rate. I use transcode, and although it*

comp.os.linux.setup: Re: Problems with dvdauthor – please help.

- > *uses mpeg2enc to do the actual conversion, it has a different default*
- > *bit rate to that specified above. I have to specify the bit rate*
- > *explicitly to get any decent quality. Maybe you need to do the same*
- > *with tovid.*

I was asked to create a DVD with some various clips people has assembled on a particular topic. Unfortunately some are recorded, some are pulled from the net, and they are in various .avi, .wmv, .rm, .mpg etc formats, and some were taken with clip recordings on still cameras and are downsize 320x200 or something larger but not 640x480.

The desired result is a DVD with an intro (to be recorded with whatever a Sony DV camera generates) and then a menu of clips to view. The small format clips really should be upsized to some standard size for NTSC viewing, since they are clips of solving problems in the field. I have tools to resize still images without serious artifact, I assume there are similar video programs and/or methods.

Can someone point me to the the tools needed and a description of the steps to create such a menu and DVD? Preferably somewhere between a set of steps to follow blindly and hope (although I would try that) and a discussion of the meaning of individual bits in headers, which is only useful if you want to write your own application from scratch.

If this is simply more than can be reasonably done with Linux, tell me now before I say I can do it ;-)

--

-bill davidsen (davidsen@tmr.com)

"The secret to procrastination is to put things off until the last possible moment - but no longer" -me