LCEVC x264 Report: 1080p VMAF/Subjective Quality

Jan Ozer, July, 2020 APPENDIX

Table of Contents - Appendices

Appendices (this document)	
Appendix I: Detailed VMAF &	Page 3-8
MOS results ■ Appendix II: Test clip	9-46
description Appendix III: Frame grabs	47-128
 Appendix IV: GB Tech Report: MPEG-5 LCEVC subjective 	129-143
testing	
testing	

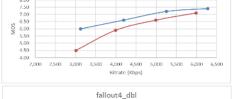
Core Report (separate document)	
Overview	Page 3
Executive Summary	4
Test Coordinator	5
Methodology	6
Command Strings	7
Significant findings	8-9
VMAF/MOS Rate Distortion Curves	10-16
■ Frame analysis	17-20
VMAF/MOS results	21-23
Encode/decode performance	24-25
Subjectify results	26-28
■ Work to come	29

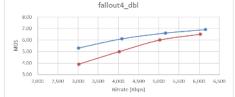
Appendix I: Detailed VMAF & MOS results

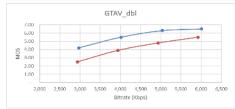
- Individual clips results eGames
- Individual clips results Animations
- Individual clips results Movies
- Individual clips results Sports
- Individual clips results Various

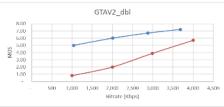
eGames



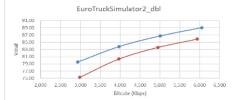


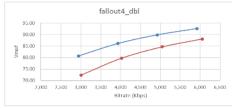


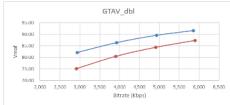


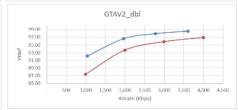


VMAF

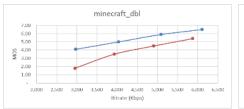


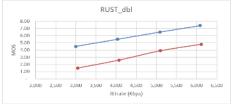


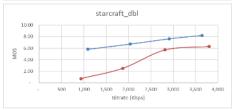




MOS

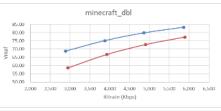


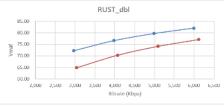


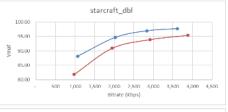




VMAF

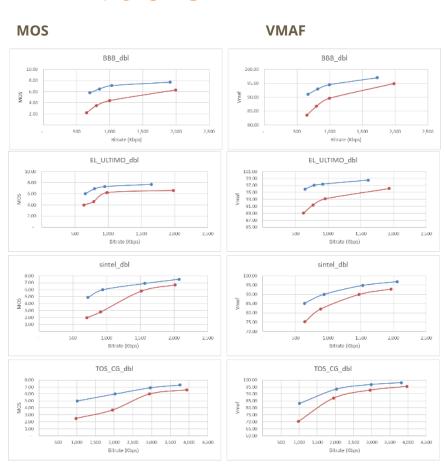






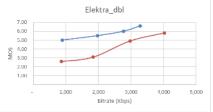


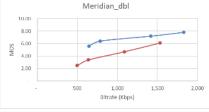
Animations

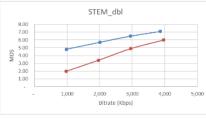


Movies

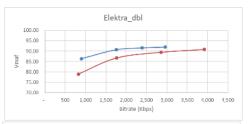


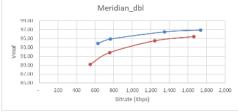


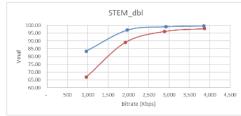




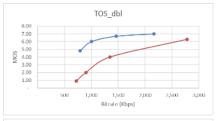
VMAF

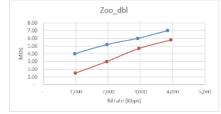




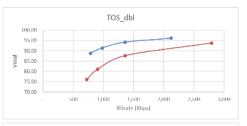


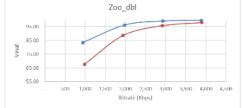
MOS



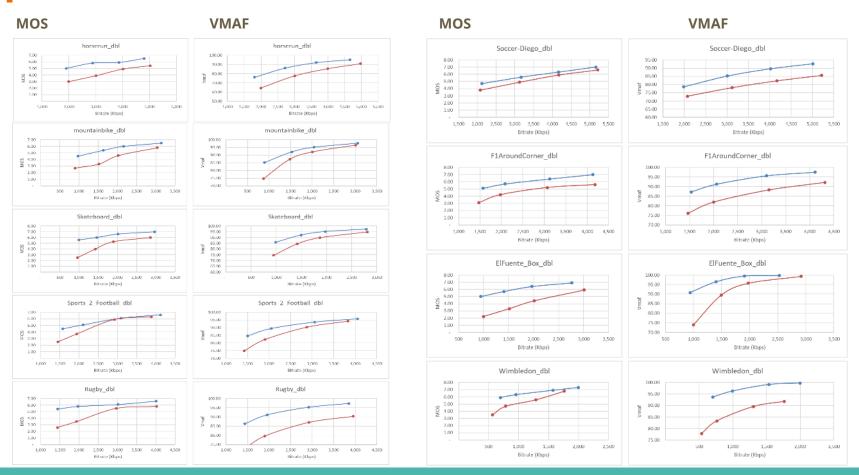


VMAF



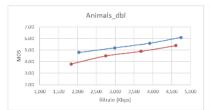


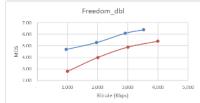
Sports

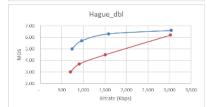


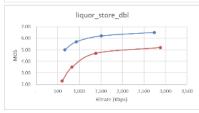
Various

MOS

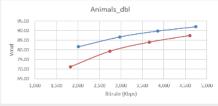


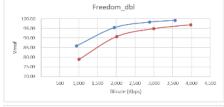


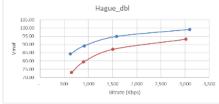


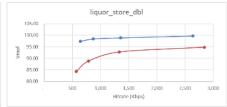


VMAF

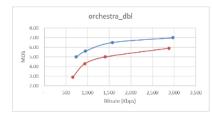


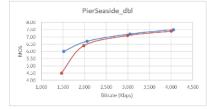


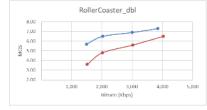




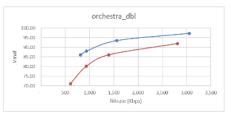
MOS

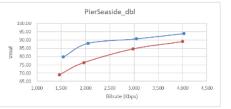


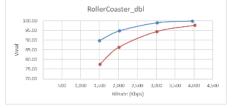




VMAF







Appendix II: Test Clips

- eGames
- Animations
- Movies
- Sports
- Various

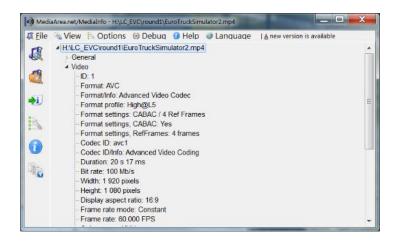
eGames

- EuroTruck Simulator 2
- Fallout4
- GTAV
- GTAV2
- Minecraft
- Rust
- Starcraft
- Witcher3

EuroTruck Simulator 2 Description



Highly realistic, finely detailed, and well lit

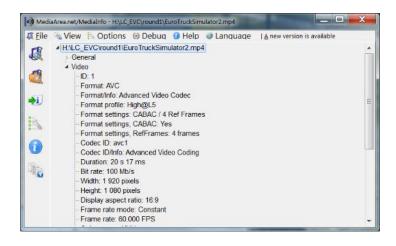


Converted from original source so high quality input

Fallout4 Description



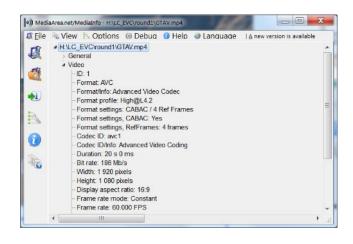
 First person shooter; busy screen but not a lot of fine detail



Converted from original source so high quality input

GTAV Description



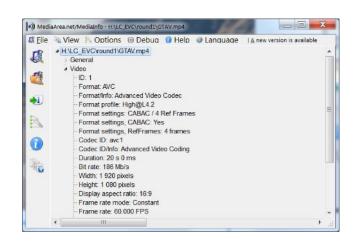


- Classic car chase game
- Very high quality source

GTAV2 - Description



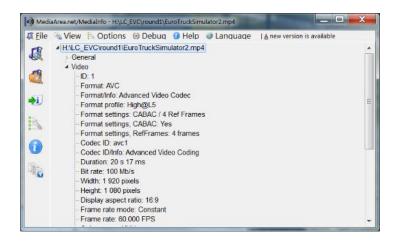
- Classic car chase game
- Primarily dark and low detail airplane sequence



Minecraft Description



Blocky and low detail but fast moving game

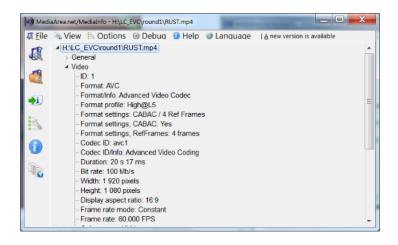


Converted from original source so high quality input

Rust Description



Dark, not too highly detailed first-person game

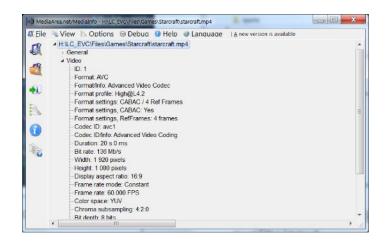


- Taken from original source so very high quality input
- Brightened input before output to improve visibility

StarCraft Description



Dark, 2D game with lots of tiny moving parts

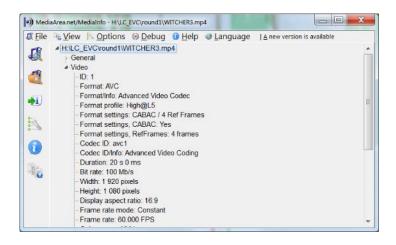


Converted from original source so high quality input

Witcher3 Description



Low detail, high action game



 Captured from YUV source so input quality was very high

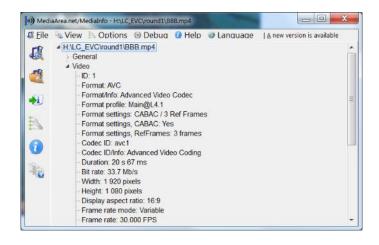
Animations

- Big Buck Bunny
- El Ultimo
- Sintel
- TOS CG

Big Buck Bunny Description



Simple animation



Converted from original source (won't encode at 100 mbps)

El Ultimo Description



- Relatively simple animation
- Some detail but few complicated textures (no fur)

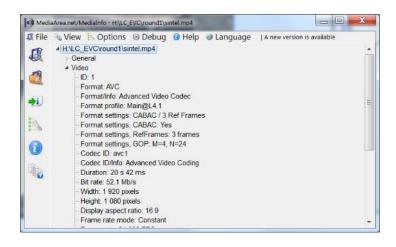


South American sourced program

Sintel Description



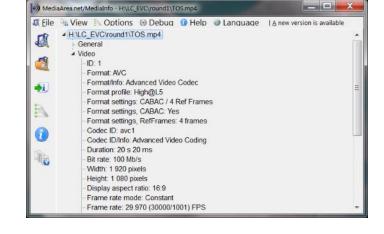
 Relatively low motion portion of animated film



Source quality reasonably good

Tears of Steel CG Description





Region with almost all CG

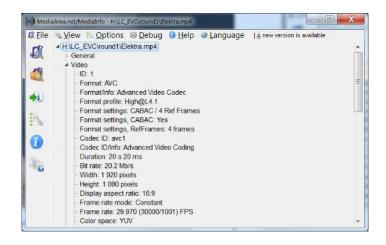
Movies

- Elektra
- Meridian
- STEM
- TOS Actor
- Zoolander

Elektra Description



- Low motion segment with dialog
- Clip has tons of film grain

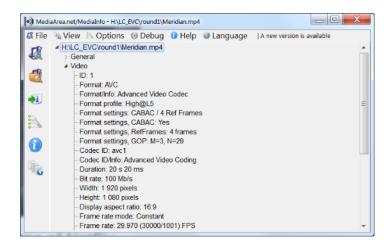


 Grabbed from movie version distributed to OTT house at around 20 mbps

Meridian Description



Low motion opening scene of Netflix test clip

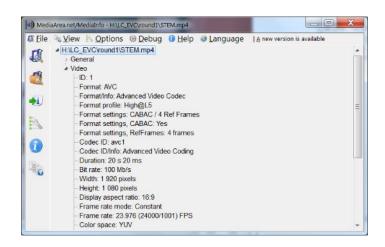


From original test clip so very good quality input

STEM Description



- Standard test footage, don't know from where (consulting project)
- Relatively easy encode; slow motion, not a lot of details

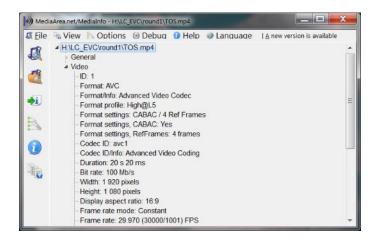


 Test file from original source so quality is very high

Tears of Steel Description



 Region with very little CG (above and girls "robot hand")

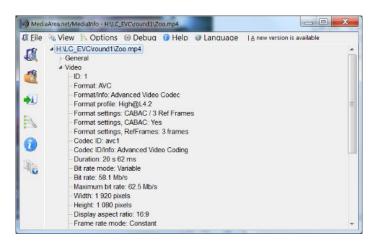


Produced from original source so high quality

Zoolander Description



- Opening sequence of Zoolander 1 movie
- Red carpet sequence, fast moving, flash bulbs, and lots of film grain



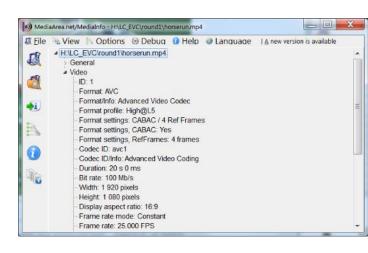
 Captured from ~20 mbps source provided by OTT consulting client

Sports

- Horserun
- Mountainbike
- Skateboard
- Football
- Soccer
- Formula 1
- Boxing
- Wimbledon

Horse Run Description





- 10 seconds horserace/ten seconds race close up
- Both from high quality source stock art clips

- Challenging footage
 - Horserace high motion and high detail
 - Run very high motion, much detail
 - Test clips from purchased stock video footage clips so very high

Mountain Bike Slow Mo Description

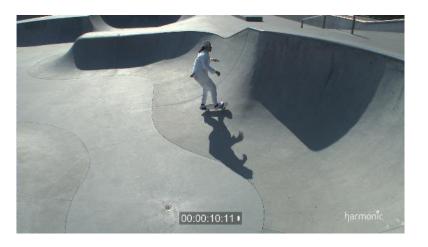




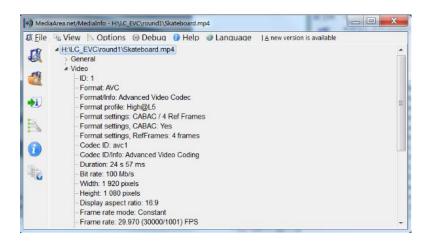
• 20 seconds of slow motion

Pretty simple footage because it's slow motion

Skateboard Description



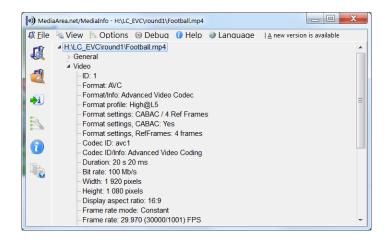
- 30 fps version of Harmonic test clip
- Low detail
- High motion



Football Description



- 30 fps version of Harmonic test clip
- Lots of detail (artificial turf, uniforms)
- Lots of motion
- Lots of issues first time around



Very relevant for US sporting channels

Soccer 2 Description



- Soccer clip high action, small bodies
- Input doesn't seem as high quality as other soccer clip (not so much detail)

Formula 1 Description



- Fast moving car turning corner
- Fairly high quality input

El Fuente Boxing Description



 Boxing practice with high motion but low detail

Wimbledon Description



- Wimbledon tennis match
- Relatively small figures and lots of hard straight lines

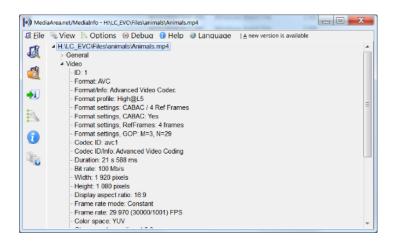
Other

- Animals
- Freedom
- Hague
- Liquor Store
- Orchestra
- Carlot
- Pier Seaside
- RollerCoaster

Animals Description



 A test clip from Harmonic featuring shots of animals in the wild, including several tough to encode shots

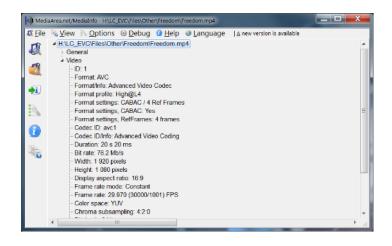


- Captured from very high quality source so quality is very good
- Clips at 4 Mbps

Freedom Description



 Live concert video of Josiah C Weaver; shot in AVCHD

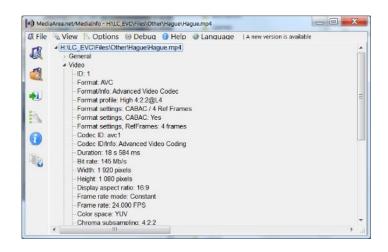


 Converted from edited source; decent quality source

Hague Description



 Busy, crowded, detailed shot of a street in the Hague

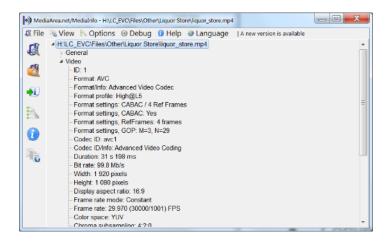


Stock art clip; pretty good quality

Liquor Store Description



 Sample footage from a security camera project performed a few years ago

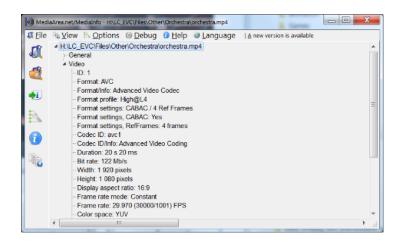


Converted from original Red camera 4K source.

Orchestra Description



- Test clip from the Minneapolis orchestra (a consulting client)
- Lots of motion and detail

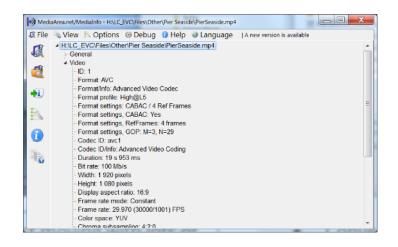


Originally supplied at 50 mbps so pretty good quality

Pier Seaside Description



- Netflix test clip; fast moving with lots of detail and water
- Sky and low motion at first; then gets very fast and high detailed



Converted from YUV source; very high quality

Roller Coaster - Description



 Netflix test clip - shot from a roller coaster



Very high quality source

Appendix III: Frame grabs

- Frame grabs eGames
- Frame grabs Animations
- Frame grabs Movies
- Frame grabs Sports
- Frame grabs Various

Frames Analysis: Overview

In this analysis we look beyond the scores and examine the lowest quality frames from two videos in each genre. We choose the two by selecting the videos where LCEVC exhibited the best and worst MOS advantage over x264.

Then we grabbed the lowest quality frame in each clip and the same frame from from the other clip. As you'll see, these are presented with the source clip first, then x264, then LCEVC.

Many of the lowest quality frames show only minor issues. However, in several instances (BBB, Zoolander), the blockiness and other artifacts in H.264 are much more noticeable than LCEVC.

The videos in this section are presented genre by genre

			BD-rate LCEVC vs x264			
			(negative = LCEV	tive = LCEVC better)		
#	Туре	video_name	Vmaf	MOS		
1	eGames	EuroTruckSimulator2	Worst	-17.9%		
2	eGames	fallout4	-25.7%	-23.7%		
3	eGames	GTAV	-29.4%	-31.4%		
4	eGames	GTAV2	Best	-65.0%		
5	eGames	minecraft	-26.7%	-28.1%		
6	eGames	RUST	-33.0%	-46.9%		
7	eGames	starcraft	-30.5%	-59.7%		
8	eGames	WITCHER3	-22.7%	-51.0%		
9	Animation	BBB	Best	-58.3%		
10	Animation	EL_ULTIMO	-65.9%	-42.2%		
11	Animation	sintel	-36.9%	-40.7%		
12	Animation	TOS_CG	Worst	-39.7%		
13	Movies	Elektra	-52.3%	-52.5%		
14	Movies	Meridian	-35.3%	-54.4%		
15	Movies	STEM	-40.1%	-52.7%		
16	Movies	TOS	Best	-57.9%		
17	Movies	Zoo	Worst	-47.3%		
18	Sports	horserun	Best	-57.0%		
19	Sports	mountainbike	-22.3%	-41.8%		
20	Sports	Skateboard	-34.0%	-50.1%		
21	Sports	Sports_2_Football	Worst	-11.5%		
22	Sports	Rugby	-51.4%	-49.5%		
23	Sports	Soccer-Diego	-36.2%	-17.8%		
24	Sports	F1AroundCorner	-45.8%	-48.7%		
25	Sports	ElFuente_Box	-37.8%	-54.2%		
26	Sports	Wimbledon	-100.0%	-37.8%		
27	Various	Animals	-34.0%	-33.1%		
28	Various	Freedom	-37.1%	-54.1%		
29	Various	Hague	-47.4%	-61.8%		
30	Various	liquor_store	Best	-71.8%		
31	Various	orchestra	-47.3%	-55.1%		
32	Various	PierSeaside	Worst	-9.8%		
33	Various	RollerCoaster	-35.5%	-53.4%		
	Total		-40.7%	_1/1 8%		

BBB - Full Resolution Frame Grabs





- Source
- o x264
- LCEVC







BBB - Full Resolution Frame Grabs



	Animation		Games		Sports		Movies		Other	
	BBB	TOS CG	EuroTruck	GTAV2	Football	HorseRun	TOS	Zoo	PierSS	Liquor S
x264	107									
LCEVC	111									

- Source
- o x264
- o LCEVC







TOS CG - Full Resolution Frame Grabs





- Source
- o x264
- o LCEVC







TOS CG - Full Resolution Frame Grabs





- Source
- o x264
- o LCEVC

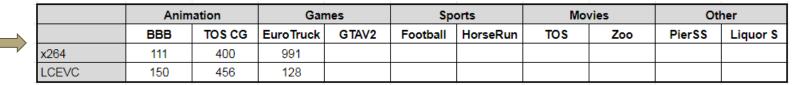






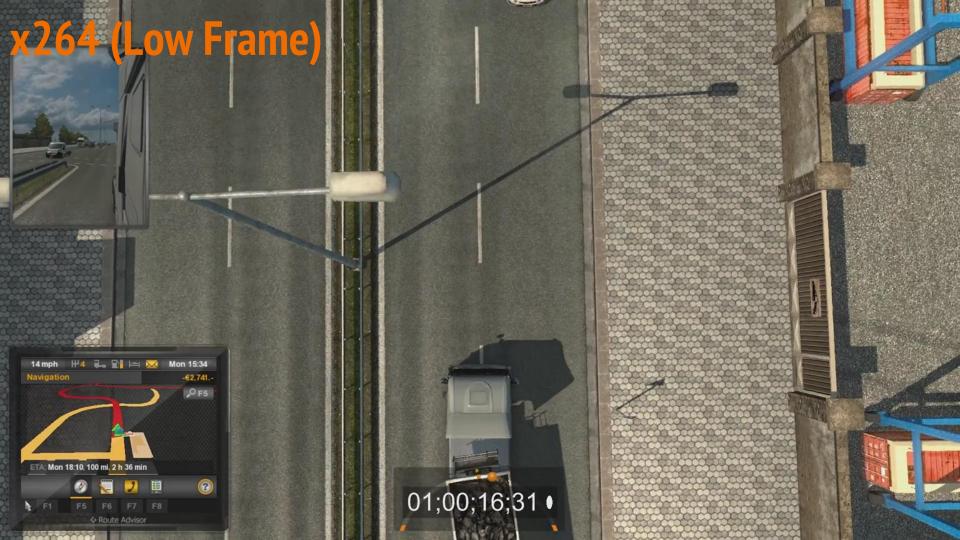
EuroTruck Simulator 2 - Full Resolution Frame Grabs





- Order
 - Source
 - o x264
 - LCEVC







EuroTruck Simulator 2 - Full Resolution Frame Grabs





- Source
- o x264
- LCEVC







GTAV2 - Full Resolution Frame Grabs



		Animation		Games		Sports		Movies		Other	
		BBB	TOS CG	EuroTruck	GTAV2	Football	HorseRun	TOS	Zoo	PierSS	Liquor S
>	x264	111	400	991	57						
	LCEVC	150	456	128	106						

- Source
- o x264
- o LCEVC







GTAV2 - Full Resolution Frame Grabs



	Animation		Gar	Games Sports Movie		ies Other		ner		
	BBB	TOS CG	EuroTruck	GTAV2	Football	HorseRun	TOS	Zoo	PierSS	Liquor S
x264	111	400	991	57						
LCEVC	150	456	128	106						

- Source
- o x264
- LCEVC

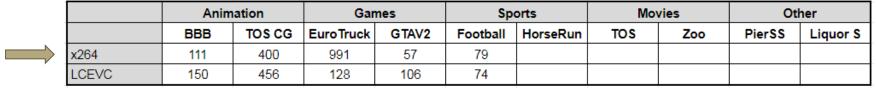






Football - Full Resolution Frame Grabs





- Source
- o x264
- o LCEVC







Football - Full Resolution Frame Grabs

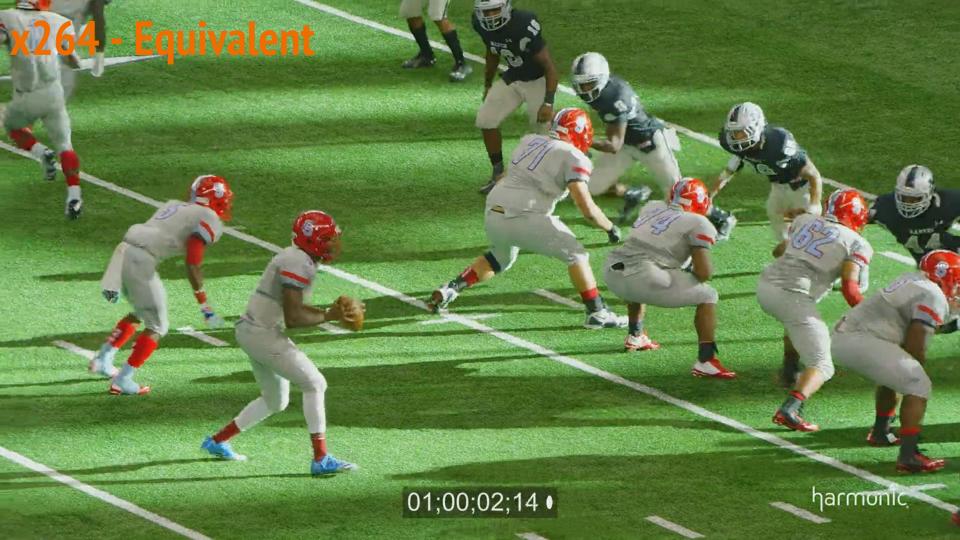






- Order
 - Source
 - o x264
 - o LCEVC

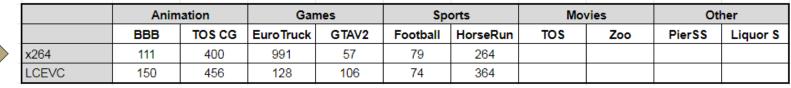






HorseRun - Full Resolution Frame Grabs





- Source
- o x264
- o LCEVC







HorseRun - Full Resolution Frame Grabs







- Order
 - Source
 - o x264
 - o LCEVC







TOS - Full Resolution Frame Grabs





- Source
- o x264
- o LCEVC







TOS - Full Resolution Frame Grabs



		Animation		Games		Sports		Movies		Other	
		BBB	TOS CG	EuroTruck	GTAV2	Football	HorseRun	TOS	Zoo	PierSS	Liquor S
	x264	107									
.	LCEVC	111									

- Source
- o x264
- LCEVC







Zoolander - Full Resolution Frame Grabs





- Source
- o x264
- o LCEVC







Zoolander - Full Resolution Frame Grabs



	Animation		Games		Sports		Movies		Other	
	BBB	TOS CG	EuroTruck	GTAV2	Football	HorseRun	TOS	Zoo	PierSS	Liquor S
x264	111	400	991	57	79	264	189	357		
LCEVC	150	456	128	106	74	364	29	365		



- Source
- o x264
- LCEVC







Pier Seaside - Full Resolution Frame Grabs



		Animation		Games		Sports		Movies		Other	
		BBB	TOS CG	EuroTruck	GTAV2	Football	HorseRun	TOS	Zoo	PierSS	Liquor S
	x264	111	400	991	57	79	264	189	357	515	
-	LCEVC	150	456	128	106	74	364	29	365	539	

- Source
- o x264
- LCEVC







Pier Seaside - Full Resolution Frame Grabs



	Animation		Games		Sports		Movies		Other	
	BBB	TOS CG	EuroTruck	GTAV2	Football	HorseRun	TOS	Zoo	PierSS	Liquor S
x264	111	400	991	57	79	264	189	357	515	
LCEVC	150	456	128	106	74	364	29	365	539	

- Source
- o x264
- LCEVC







Liquor Store - Full Resolution Frame Grabs



	Animation		Games		Sports		Movies		Other	
	BBB	TOS CG	EuroTruck	GTAV2	Football	HorseRun	TOS	Zoo	PierSS	Liquor S
x264	111	400	991	57	79	264	189	357	515	558
LCEVC	150	456	128	106	74	364	29	365	539	65

- Source
- o x264
- LCEVC







Liquor Store - Full Resolution Frame Grabs



	Animation		Games		Sports		Movies		Other	
	BBB	TOS CG	EuroTruck	GTAV2	Football	HorseRun	TOS	Zoo	PierSS	Liquor S
x264	111	400	991	57	79	264	189	357	515	558
LCEVC	150	456	128	106	74	364	29	365	539	65

- Source
- o x264
- LCEVC







Appendix IV: GB Tech Report

- Methodology overview
- Profiles of test coordinators
- DSIS methodology
- Lab set-up
- Scope of analysis
- MOS results summary
- Observations



MPEG-5 LCEVC subjective testing

Overview of DSIS MOS results

Vittorio Baroncini, Giacomo Baroncini Rome, May 2020

Methodology overview

- Production of DSIS MOS (Mean Opinion Score) according to the ITU-R Recommendation
 BT 500 (https://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.500-14-201910-I/en)
- Experiment designed and overseen by the MPEG Test Chair Vittorio Baroncini and performed by the independent laboratory GBtech under the supervision of the Test Administrator Giacomo Baroncini
- DSIS or **Double Stimulus Impairment Scale** protocol is known to be an efficient (in term of cost and human resources) and but effective and reliable methodology. The double-stimulus method is cyclic in that the assessor is first presented with an unimpaired reference, then with the same image impaired (in this case, either compressed with x264 or LCEVC). Following this, he is asked to vote on the second, keeping in mind the first. In sessions, which last up to half an hour, the assessor is presented with a series of sequences in random order and with random impairments covering all required combinations. At the end of the series of sessions, the mean score for each test condition and test image is calculated.



Profiles of test coordinators

Vittorio Baroncini (VABTECH Itd)

Working in the area of video since late 80s, member of ISO and ITU since mid 90s, expert in subjective and objective video quality assessment; co-founder of the VQEG (1998) and Chair of ITU-R WP6Q (2000-2009) releasing the first standard on objective TV quality metric. Chair (from 2002) of the SC29 WG11 (MPEG) test sub-group, designed and conducted all the Call for Evidence, Competition and Verification tests made in MPEG for Digital Cinema, AVC, HEVC and VVC standards. Designed several new objective and subjective test methods. Run over hundreds subjective test experiments serving many industries all over the world. At the moment member of BSI (British Standard Insitute)

Giacomo Baroncini (GBTech)

Active in the area of subjective video quality assessment since 2006; Contributing to the visual testing activities of SC29 WG11 (MPEG) test sub-group since 2013, acting as Test Administrator in all the Call for Evidence, Competition and Verification tests made in MPEG for HEVC and VVC standards. Run more than a hundreds subjective test experiments serving many industries all over the world. Member of UNINFO (the Italian Informatic Technologies normative group)



DSIS methodology

BTC example

А	Reference	В	Compressed	Vote
0 <u>,5</u>		0,5 s.		⁵ s

- DSIS test method is based on a Basic Test Cells (BTC) for each test point. Each BTC foresees the sequential presentation of:
 - Announcement of Reference video clip (letter A, 0.5 s.)
 - Reference uncompressed video clip (i.e., source)
 - Announcement of Compressed video clip (letter B, 0.5 s.)
 - Compressed video clip (either x264 or LCEVC in this experiment)
 - Voting time (announced by a message on screen 5 s.)

- A DSIS test sessions includes:
 - One BTC for each test point (coding condition)
 - A stabilization phase; three BTC showing high, mid and low quality
 - One or two check BTC in which Reference is compared to Reference
- A test sessions stands for around 15 20 minutes
- When more time is required more test sessions are designed
- Each test session has "stabilization phase" and check BTCs



DSIS protocol – Impairment scale

- The DSIS test is based on the 11 grades impairment scale reported on the right
- The scale is a unilateral Likkert scale, measuring the difference between the "reference" (source) and the "coded" video clips
- The 11 grades impairment scale adopted is taken from Rec. BT-2095 (EVP)

DSIS impairment scale

Score	Impairmer	nt item
10	Imperceptible	
9	Cli alatlar mana antilala	somewhere
8	Slightly perceptible	everywhere
7 6	Daycantible	somewhere
	Perceptible	everywhere
5	Classic managerible	somewhere
4	Clearly perceptible	everywhere
3	Amarina	somewhere
2	Annoying	everywhere
0	Carranalis amagring	somewhere
	Severely annoying	everywhere



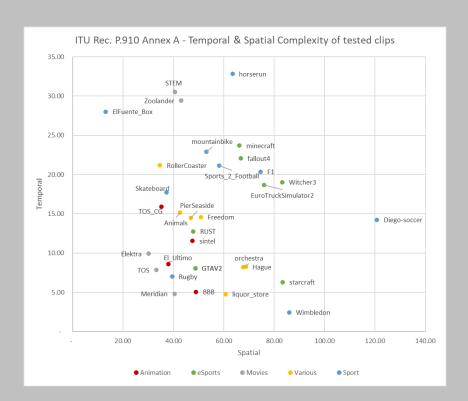
Lab set-up

- Custom SW player designed for formal subjective assessment (MUP)
- 32" Professional computer monitor (ASUS ProArt PA329Q)
- Calibration made by Xrite i1 Display Pro
- Viewing distance 3H
- Viewing angle < 30° (two viewers)
- Low ambient light (< 30 nits) behind the monitor
- Non reflecting dark gray floor, walls and ceiling



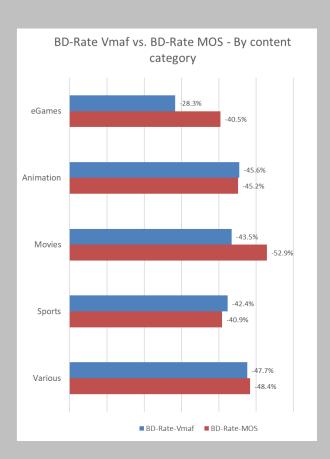
Scope of analysis

- 33 test sequences across 5 content types (sports, eGames, movies, animations, various)
- Test sequences widely spread across the ITU P.910 temporal and spatial complexity (see chart on the right)
- Full HD 1080p CBR encodings at different frame rates (24, 25, 30, 60 fps)
- Two tested codecs: x264 (very slow), MPEG-5 LCEVC x264 (base layer: x264 very slow)
- A total of 264 observations: 4 bitrates for each sequence to cover a broad quality range (70-95 Vmaf range)
- MOS scores for each sequence used to calculate BD-Rate-MOS, computed using an excel implementation of Bjontegaard function and compared to BD-Rate-Vmaf provided by V-Nova





MOS results - summary

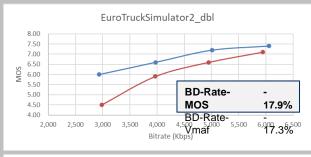


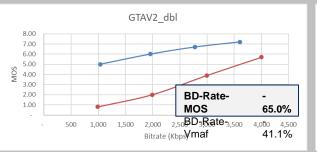
			BD-rate LCEVC v	
#	Туре	video_name	Vmaf	MOS
1	eGames	EuroTruckSimulator2	-17.3%	-17.9%
2	eGames	fallout4	-25.7%	-23.7%
3	eGames	GTAV	-29.4%	-31.4%
4	eGames	GTAV2	-41.1%	-65.0%
5	eGames	minecraft	-26.7%	-28.1%
6	eGames	RUST	-33.0%	-46.9%
7	eGames	starcraft	-30.5%	-59.7%
8	eGames	WITCHER3	-22.7%	-51.0%
9	Animation	BBB	-42.8%	-58.3%
10	Animation	EL_ULTIMO	-65.9%	-42.2%
11	Animation	sintel	-36.9%	-40.7%
12	Animation	TOS_CG	-36.7%	-39.7%
13	Movies	Elektra	-52.3%	-52.5%
14	Movies	Meridian	-35.3%	-54.4%
15	Movies	STEM	-40.1%	-52.7%
16	Movies	TOS	-49.5%	-57.9%
17	Movies	Zoo	-40.1%	-47.3%
18	Sports	horserun	-31.3%	-57.0%
19	Sports	mountainbike	-22.3%	-41.8%
20	Sports	Skateboard	-34.0%	-50.1%
21	Sports	Sports_2_Football	-23.0%	-11.5%
22	Sports	Rugby	-51.4%	-49.5%
23	Sports	Soccer-Diego	-36.2%	-17.8%
24	Sports	F1AroundCorner	-45.8%	-48.7%
25	Sports	ElFuente_Box	-37.8%	-54.2%
26	Sports	Wimbledon	-100.0%	-37.8%
27	Various	Animals	-34.0%	-33.1%
28	Various	Freedom	-37.1%	-54.1%
29	Various	Hague	-47.4%	-61.8%
30	Various	liquor_store	-100.0%	-71.8%
31	Various	orchestra	-47.3%	-55.1%
32	Various	PierSeaside	-32.5%	-9.8%
33	Various	RollerCoaster	-35.5%	-53.4%
	Total		-40.7%	-44.8%

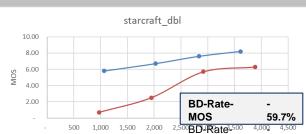


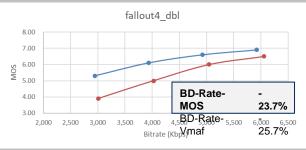
MOS results - eGames

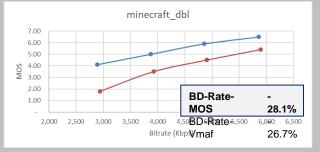


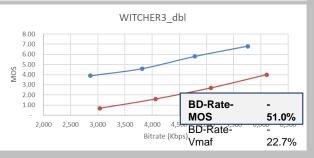




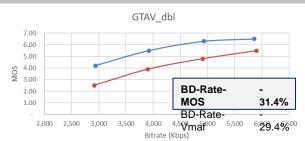


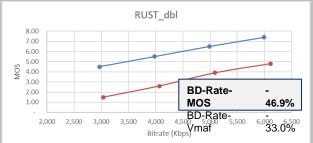






Bitrate (Kbps Vmaf



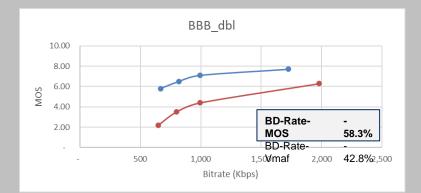


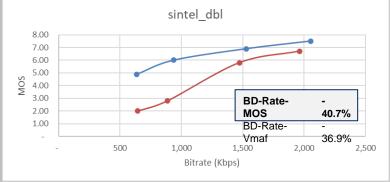


30.5%

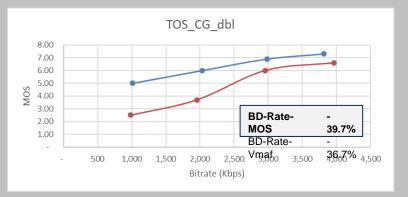
MOS results – Animations









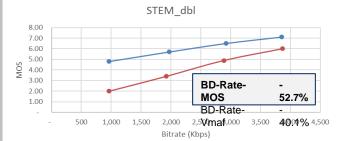


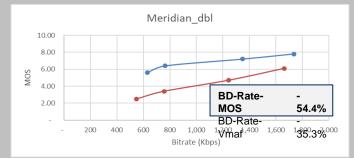


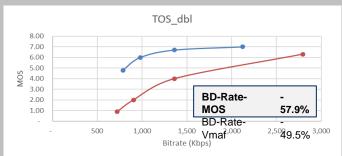
MOS results - Movies

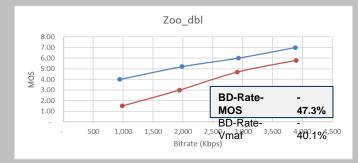








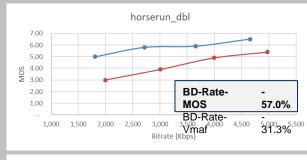


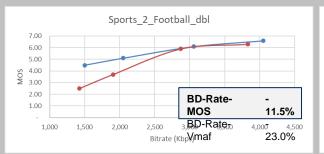


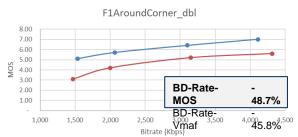


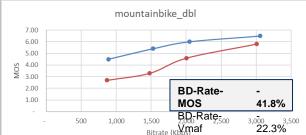
MOS results - Sports

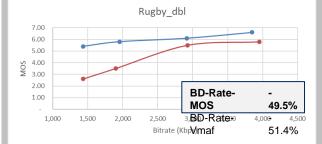


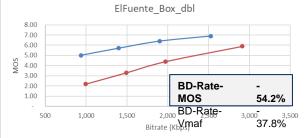




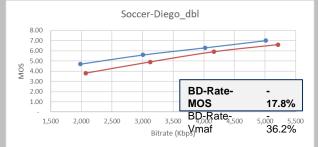


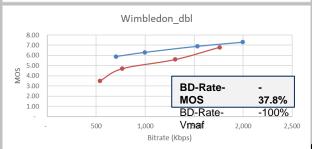






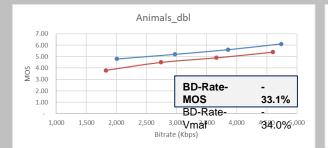


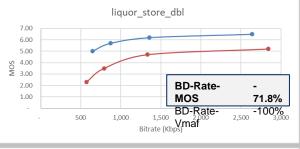


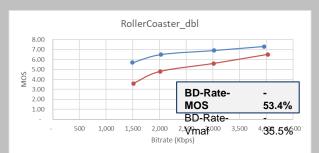


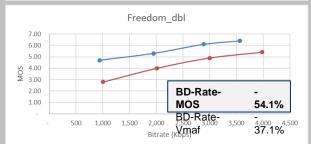
MOS results - Various

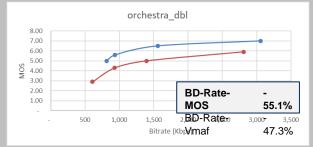


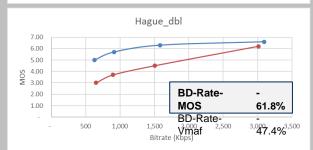


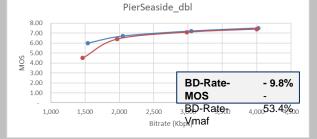






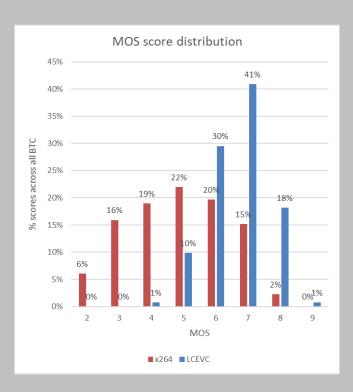








Observations



- LCEVC consistently outperformed x264 on subjective observations
- x264 at lower data rates often scored <4 in the MOS scale (41% of the total votes were ≤4) due to visible impairments in some scenes, such as blocking artifacts, and a general instability in the images, such as flickering at low rates that often persist higher rates. A viewer commented "there where clearly visible blocks which created a moving mesh impossible to ignore"</p>
- LCEVC showed more robustness, scoring 5 and above in 99% of the cases. When bandwidth constrained, LCEVC tends to introduce a general image softening which is typically not perceived by the naïve viewers as an annoying impairment, and is often discarded. At close viewing inspection on still frames and magnification (which was not the focus of this test), x264 is sometime sharper in selected parts, however at higher rates LCEVC preserves the details and doesn't show the perceptible impairments that are often still visible with x264 even at higher rates.

