

MultimediaFAQ

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REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

1	MultimediaFAQ	1
1.1	main	1
1.2	mpega	1
1.3	mpegaplayer	2
1.4	songplayer	3
1.5	amp	4
1.6	musicin	5
1.7	mp3enc	6
1.8	mp3info	7
1.9	info	8
1.10	convert	8

Chapter 1

MultimediaFAQ

1.1 main

Info about MP (MPEG sound) programs for AMIGA

>>> What is MPEG audio <<<

MPEGA 3.3 MPEG player
MPEGAPlayer 2.50 MPEG player
SongPlayer 1.0 MPEG player
AMP 0.7.3 MPEG player
MusicIn MPEG encoder
mp3enc 0.3 MPEG encoder
mp3info 0.25 MPEG editor
Converting & Speed

1.2 mpega

MPEGA

Last version: 3.3

Last changes: since 3.2 (04.I.98)

Added full p96 support (but opens allways a modeid req due a p96 ↔
bug..)

Locations : Aminet aminet/mus/play/MPEGA.lha

Arch. size : 258 kb

Program type: MPEG audio player

Supported MPEG formats:

MPEG 1, MPEG 2, MPEG 2,5

```
Supported Layers      :
  Layer I, Layer II, Layer III
Requirements:
Hardware:
  - Kickstart 2.4+
  - mc68020 or Faster
Software:
  - asyncio.library
  - AHI 4+ (only for AHI output)
Recommended:
  - mc68060 for full quality (up to 48Khz with third(2)
    quality), stereo
  - fast mc68040 for really good and nice sound ;)
    (up to 24Khz with third(2) quality in stereo or
    like with 060 in mono)
Output type :
Audio:
  - audio.device (+cybersound) 14bit
  - ahi.device 4+
  - PCM and AIFF file
Author      :
Snail:
  Stéphane TAVENARD
  La Bezanière
  49070 Saint Jean de Linières
  FRANCE
Phone:
  ---
E-Mail:
  tavenard@xiii.univ-angers.fr (it's my brother Raphaël mail)
WWW:
  ---
Other:
  IRC - Tatav
Prog. status: Cardware
Future      :
  More speed !
Other infos :
  asyncio I/O, fastest MPEG audio player 4 amiga, read's TAG
  infos, play lists ...
```

1.3 mpegaplayer

```
MPEGAPlay

Last version: 2.50
Last changes: since 2.45 (16.Aug.97)
  new: use now MPEGALibrary, BOOST and RAM options, pattern
      MPEG loading
  opt: MPEG Audio file checking
Locations  : Aminet aminet/mus/play/MPEGAPlay.lha
Arch. size : 29 kb
Program type: MPEG audio player for Delitracker
Supported MPEG formats:
  MPEG 1, MPEG 2, MPEG 2,5
```

Supported Layers :
Layer I, Layer II, Layer III

Requirements:

Hardware:

- Kickstart 2.4+
- mc68020 or Faster

Software:

- Delitracker (as new as it's possible)
- MPEGA.library (like above)
- asyncio.library
- AHI 4+ (only for AHI output)

Recommended:

- mc68060 for full quality (up to 48Khz with third(2) quality), stereo
- fast mc68040 for really good and nice sound ;)
(up to 24Khz with third(2) quality in stereo or like with 060 in mono)

Output type :

Audio:

- audio.device (+cybersound) 14bit
- ahi.device 4+

Author :

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Phone:

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tavenard@xiii.univ-angers.fr (it's my brother Raphaël mail)

WWW:

Other:
IRC - Tatav

Prog. status: Cardware

Future :
More speed !

Other infos :
Can use scopes (special option to avoid slow down if you don't use them), can skip patterns (sound), everything configurable under DT, separate window to control MPEG.

1.4 songplayer

SongPlayer

Last version: 1.0

Last changes: since 0.63 (09.Feb.97)

new: design, playlists, MPEG 1,2,2.5 + Layer III, scopes, karakoe, AHI

Locations : Aminet aminet/mus/play/SongPlayer.lha

Arch. size : 138 kb

Program type: Sample & MPEG audio player

Supported MPEG formats:

MPEG 1, MPEG 2, MPEG 2,5
Supported Layers :
Layer I, Layer II, Layer III
Supported Sample :
WAV, AIFF

Requirements:

Hardware:

- Kickstart 3.0+
- mc68020 or Faster

Software:

- MUI 3.3+
- AHI 4+ (only for AHI output)

Recommended:

- mc68060 for full quality (up to 48Khz with third(2) quality), stereo
- fast mc68040 for really good and nice sound ;)
(up to 24Khz with third(2) quality in stereo or like with 060 in mono)

Output type :

Audio:

- audio.device (+cybersound) 14bit
- ahi.device 4+

Author :

Snail:

Stéphane TAVENARD
La Bezanière
49070 Saint Jean de Linières
FRANCE

Phone:

E-Mail:

tavenard@xiii.univ-angers.fr (it's my brother Raphaël mail)

WWW:

Other:

IRC - Tatav

Prog. status: Cardware

Future :

More speed !
Use of MPEG.A.library

Other infos :

It would be really great player but like for now no Random play and can't handle those STUPID M\$ mp3 headers

1.5 amp

AMP

Last version: 0.7.3

Last changes: since 0.7.2

Locations : Aminet aminet/mus/misc/amp.lha

Arch. size : 254 kb

Program type: Sample & MPEG audio player

Supported MPEG formats:

```
        MPEG 1, MPEG 2
Supported Layers      :
        Layer III

Requirements:
Hardware:
- ixemul.library v46.1+
- Kickstart 2.0+
- mc68020 or Faster
Software:
- AHI 4 (to play MPEG)
- X11 server (X-Window ADE) to use GUI
Recommended:
- an FPU is highly recommended (best from 060 CPU ;-)).

Output type :
Audio:
- ahi.device 4+
- file output

Author      :
Snail:
Christian Sauer
Phone:
---
E-Mail:
sauer@cip.informatik.uni-wuerzburg.de
WWW:
---
Other:
---

Prog. status: Freeware
Future      :
This program is predicted to be a PowerPC player as soon as
PPC will be available.

implement Michael's mono and frequency divide options
buffered output
optional direct 14 Bit output without using AHI
improve documentation
faster decoding
better configure.in
and more ...

Other infos :
Tomislav Uzelac (main author)
<tuzelac@rasip.fer.hr>
ftp://ftp.rasip.fer.hr/pub/mpeg/amp-0.7.1.tgz
```

1.6 musicin

```
MusicIn

Last version: --
Last changes: --
opt: more speed

Locations   : Aminet aminet/mus/misc/musicin.lha
Arch. size  : 164 kb
Program type: MPEG audio encode
```

```
Supported MPEG formats:
  MPEG 1, MPEG 2
Supported Layers      :
  Layer I, Layer II

Requirements:
  Hardware:
    - Kickstart 2.4+
    - mc68EC030+ and FPU
  Software:
    - ixemul.library
  Recommended:
    - accelerator and fastram

Input type  :
  File:
    - PCM file
    - AIFF file

Author      :
  Snail:
    ---
  Phone:
    ---
  E-Mail:
    ---
  WWW:
    ---
  Other:
    ---

Prog. status: GNU
Future      :
  probably Layer III
  more speed (like always)

Other infos :
  The MusicIn program was originally ported by Michael
  Rausch and optimized by Stephane Tavenard
  (tavenard@xiii.univ-angers.fr). Last optimization
  made by Henryk Richter
  (tfa652@cksl.rz.uni-rostock.de)
  There is also PPC version on Phase5 FTP site
```

1.7 mp3enc

```
mp3enc

Last version: 0.3
Last changes: since 0.2
              opt: more speed
Locations   : Aminet aminet/mus/misc/mp3enc.lha
Arch. size  : 247 kb
Program type: MPEG audio encode
Supported MPEG formats:
  MPEG 1, MPEG 2
Supported Layers      :
  Layer III

Requirements:
  Hardware:
```

```
- Kickstart 2.0+
- mc68EC020+
Software:
- ixemul.library v47+
Recommended:
- accelerator and fastram
Input type :
File:
- PCM file
- AIFF file
Author :
Snail:
Mike Cheng
Phone:
---
E-Mail:
mikecheng@cryogen.com
WWW:
http://www.netforward.com/cryogen/?mikecheng
http://mikecheng.dyn.ml.org/
Other:
Cstar on #amiga
Prog. status: GNU
Future :
Optimize code
Add in joint stereo encoding.
Keep up to date with the net effort
Keep practising my asm, and see if I can speed up some of the C
functions.
Other infos :
The MusicIn program was originally ported by Michael
Rausch and optimized by Stephane Tavenard
(tavenard@xiii.univ-angers.fr). Last optimization
made by Henryk Richter
(tfa652@cksl.rz.uni-rostock.de)
```

1.8 mp3info

```
mp3info

Last version: 0.2.13
Last changes: since 0.2.11 (04.I.98)
new: new song types
Locations : Aminet aminet/mus/misc/mp3info.lha
Arch. size : 120 kb
Program type: MPEG audio TAG editor
Supported MPEG formats:
MPEG 1, MPEG 2, MPEG 2,5
Supported Layers :
Layer I, Layer II, Layer III
Requirements:
Hardware:
- Kickstart 2.4+
- mc68020 or Faster
Software:
```

```
    - ixemul.library v47+
Recommended:
    ---
Output type :
    Audio:
    - external MP player
    Text :
    - CLI or FILE
Author      :
    Snail:
    ---
    Phone:
    ---
    E-Mail:
    ---
    WWW:
    ---
    Other:
    ---
Prog. status: GNU
Future      :
    New song types
    Perhaps SHITY M$ mp3 header recognitions
Other infos :
    program is oryginally made by xeno@mix.hive.no Thorvald Natvig
```

1.9 info

What is MPEG audio ?

It's a very efficient audio compression standard. Actually, there is 3 compression methods, named layer I, II & III. Layer III is more efficient than layer II, which is more efficient than layer I. But, more efficient means more complex.

MPEG audio allows to compress a 16-bit PCM sound file from 1.2 to 32 times.

Why is it so hard to make a real time MPEG audio decoder ?

MPEG audio decoding requires a lot of arithmetic calculation, so a lot of CPU power is required. Normally, MPEG audio decoding is made with help of a DSP.

Everything above about MPEG audio compression is a part of MPEG/MPEGAPlayer guide. Later I'll write more if there will be such a need.

1.10 convert

First of all, what you should have !

- any kind of MPEG decoder (best one is MPEG4)
- MPEG encoder (MusicIn or mp3enc)

- also SOX will be usefull (but not required)

1) How to do SAMPLE (WAV/AIFF) from MP I,II,III ?

All players/decoders from MPEG audio have PCM or AIFF output.

You can simply write:

```
mpega -dl -q2 -s -f0 -A <MPEG file> <AIFF file>
-dl and -q2 (are default but better be sure)
-s          no sound (only output to file)
-f0         do not use filter
-A         AIFF file output
```

REMEMBER !!! MPEG files have really good compression and for 4 min. sound in MP II or III with 128 bit you need > 40MB on HD !!! so better calculate needed space before decoding:

```
frequency * 2(if stereo) * bits / 8 * seconds
frequency - sample frequency (in hz not Khz)
2          - because stereo (if mono put 1)
bits       - how many bits is used to describe sound
8          - because 8 bits it's 1 byte
seconds    - length of audio
```

Example: 4 minutes song, 16 bits with 44100 Hz in stereo

```
44100 * 2 * 16 / 8 * (4 * 60) = 42 336 000 bytes = 40.37 MB !!!
```

2) How to do IFF (16SVX or 8SVX) or any other audio from MP I,II,III

If you have BIG HD you can first convert MPEG to AIFF and later convert AIFF=>IFF but you can also use SOX to do it directly.

Mount PIPE: device on the very beginning ("mount pipe:").

Ok now run MPEGA like in 1 paragraph but instead of <AIFF file> write PIPE:mp3.aiff and before MPEGA write "run".

```
run mpega -dl -q2 -s -f0 -n -A <MPEG file> PIPE:mp3.aiff
now we have to use SOX. Sox reconize type of sound by extension
so we need to write
```

```
sox PIPE:mp3.aiff <IFF output file>
```

where IFF file is something with extension IFF. (ex. SYS:Sample.iff)

3) How to create MP I,II files ?

This operation is a really big time eater.

Easiest way is to simply run musicin and answer for it questions giving the name of the files and compression method. Or you can do it in one line as arguments for musicin.

REMEMBER ! before you start set stack to at least 80000 ("stack 80000") and read MusicIn.doc (there is a lot of usefull advices)

You can also use mp3enc. Simply do the same what with MusicIn but on my 040 it's slower solution.

4) How to create MP III files ?

Only program that allows you to encode Layers III is mp3enc. You have to use it as MusicIn - awnsering for it questions and that's it. But before you will do MPEG Layers III think if you really need it. Layers II in > 112 kbs is almost equal in quality to Layers III and need much less time to decode and encode.

5) How to do MP II from MP III and what for ?

Now why you may need to do that:

Layer II is more CPU friendly ;) - so you don't need 060 to play it with FULL quality and !!! there is no big sound difference because Layer III was made to be much better then Layer II only with VERY HAVY compressions (less then 64 bits/s).

How to do it without loosing 60-70MB's on HD (for RAW sample).

Like before we will use PIPE (so you have to mount it - mount pipe:) and also like before we will start mpega in background:

```
run mpega -dl -q2 -s -n -f0 -A <MPEG file> PIPE:mp3.aiff
and now goes musicin:
```

```
musicin pipe:mp3.aiff <output mp2 file> -b128
```

Now you have to wait...

Only two more things -b128 means that MP2 will be compressed with 128bits/second - it's quite good ratio for stereo files and became some kind of standard (also 112b/s in MP3 files). All other musicin options will be default.

If you want to you can write small script:

```
-----
.key MPEG/A,OUT/A
.bra {
.ket }
```

```
echo Converting {MPEG} to {OUT}
stack 100000
mount pipe: >NIL:
run mpega -dl -q2 -s -n -f0 -A {MPEG} pipe:mp3.aiff
musicin pipe:mp3.aiff {OUT} -b128
-----
```

Name that script "convert" (it's only example of name ;))

and now you need only to write:

```
convert <input MPEG file> <output MPEG layer II file>
```

5) Speed

Tests made on HAVILY patched 040/40Mhz with AIFF 44100Hz,16bit, stereo, 61 seconds:

MusicIn Layers II 128 Join Error : 933 seconds (about 15*61s)

With OxyPacher : 784 seconds (about 13*61s)

Encode Layers III 128 Stereo Error : 1585 seconds (about 26*61s)

With OxyPacher : 1531 seconds (about 25*61s)
