

Adapted From: AHDS DIGITAL MOVING IMAGES AND SOUND ARCHIVING STUDY

Migration Paths for Video Media

Ingest Format	Migration format	Notes
Low quality media		
VHS tape	DVD	Access Perfectly adequate for VHS playback
VHS tape	MPEG-4 files	Access Adequate for quality. Minimum data rates (MPEG-4): 500k b/s. There are MANY potential access formats, and they come and go.
VHS tape	DV files	Archive (temporary) 25 M b/s, 12 GB/hr. Migrate to lossless for preservation.
'low end' digital files	Save as is, AND save as DV or lossless	Archive (temporary) Before format or DV format becomes obsolete, migrate to lossless for preservation.
DVD	DV files	Archive (temporary) 25 M b/s, 12 GB/hr. Migrate to lossless for preservation.
Medium quality		
U-Matic	DVD	Access Reduces quality; suitable only for viewing
U-Matic	DV files	Archive (temporary) 25 M b/s, 12 GB/hr. Migrate to lossless for preservation.
DV, DVCAM	DV files (meaning .avi files with DV coding)	Archive (temporary) transfers to computer at 25 M b/s, resulting in an .avi file 'clone' of the original DV tape. Migrate to lossless for preservation.
High Quality		
BetaSP, Digibeta, other pro formats	Uncompressed	Archive Uncompressed standard definition video: 200 Mb/s. About 100 GB for one hour, meaning 25 DVD-ROMs (or part of one data tape or hard drive).
BetaSP, Digibeta, other pro formats	Motion JPEG 2000 (lossless version)	Archive lossless compression, with a resultant data rate of around 90M b/s. About 40 GB for one hour.
DVCPRO50	.avi files, DV coding	Archive (temporary) As for DV, but at twice the data rate. Less susceptible to loss on future migrations. Migrate to lossless for preservation.
'High end' digital files	Save as is	Archive (temporary) Before format becomes obsolete, migrate to lossless for preservation.