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Assignment #2

## FILE FORMATS

File Format Name: Audio Video Interleaved, AVI

File Extension(s): .avi

Date Introduced: (year) 1992

Dates in Use: (years): 1992-the present

Variations:

Multimedia container or wrapper for audio and video. Codecs include: MJPEG, Indeo\_3, Indeo\_5, Cinepak, and Divx\_5

Developers: Microsoft

Open Source/Proprietary: Proprietary, developed by Microsoft and IBM as a part of RIFF, the Resource Interchange File Format for Windows 3.1.

Associated Operating System: DOS, Windows, Macintosh, Unix, VAX/VMS, Amiga, OS/2, Atari

Associated Application(s):

AVI files may contain WAVE, WAVE Audio File Format and MP3\_CBR, MP3 Audio Encoding, Constant Bit Rate.

Associated Media: (storage) Hard drives.

Compression: Depending on the codec, AVI compression varies. For higher quality images, a larger file and less compression is used, such as an MPEG-4.

Risks: An AVI file may carry any number of "chunks" in a compression scheme. The question would be how to keep track of those chunks, and know the provenance of the audio and video works being combined in the AVI container.

Condition Assessment: Lossy or lossless compression opportunities.

Conservation Issues: Possible to include metadata in the wrapper.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.avi>

<http://www.jmcgowan.com/avi.html>

<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/formats/fdd/fdd000059.shtml>