Practical experiences with JP2 at the British Library: Assessments and results

Maureen Pennock
Head of Digital Preservation
Our digital collections

Dear Wendy,

thank you so much, you have made my day! as you are a hero of mine.
I will be very careful and will include everything you wanted. People will really enjoy these,

Best wishes

Paula
DP R&D Programme
Format assessments: Lessons Learned

1. Real world Evidence is better than Theory

2. Be clear on purpose and intended audience

3. Be aware of Misleading Measures!
Understanding (contextual) preservation risks allows you to understand your current capacity for managing and preserving instances of file formats in your collection.

And, if desired, to instigate mitigating actions for dealing with those risks.
But it’s not just about formats.

It’s also about characteristics.

That means getting the profile right.
# British Library JP2 profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter/Field</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compression:</td>
<td>Lossy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of components:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component Transform:</td>
<td>Yes (irreversible)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tile size:</td>
<td>One tile for entire image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wavelet Filter:</td>
<td>9-7 irreversible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of levels:</td>
<td>Variable; 6 used for test image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of layers:</td>
<td>Multiple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progression order:</td>
<td>RPCL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codestream markers:</td>
<td>Packet-length markers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precincts:</td>
<td>256x256, 256x256, 128x128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codeblock size:</td>
<td>64x64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coder Bypass:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Designed in 2011
- Designed for newspapers
- Designed by external consultant
Percentage of Pixels Different depending on Colour Depth (bits/pixel) across all tested files
Takeaways

• Contextualised format assessments are really useful!
• Understand your REQUIREMENTS
• TEST your processes
• Document EVERYTHING about your tests
• SPEAK to content owners about what you do
• Don’t do stuff just because other people are doing it
Thanks for listening.

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