### **NAME**

ffmpeg-codecs - FFmpeg codecs

#### DESCRIPTION

This document describes the codecs (decoders and encoders) provided by the libavcodec library.

### **CODEC OPTIONS**

libavcodec provides some generic global options, which can be set on all the encoders and decoders. In addition each codec may support so-called private options, which are specific for a given codec.

Sometimes, a global option may only affect a specific kind of codec, and may be nonsensical or ignored by another, so you need to be aware of the meaning of the specified options. Also some options are meant only for decoding or encoding.

Options may be set by specifying *-option value* in the FFmpeg tools, or by setting the value explicitly in the AVCodecContext options or using the *libavutil/opt.h* API for programmatic use.

The list of supported options follow:

**b** integer (encoding, audio, video)

Set bitrate in bits/s. Default value is 200K.

**ab** integer (encoding, audio)

Set audio bitrate (in bits/s). Default value is 128K.

**bt** integer (encoding, video)

Set video bitrate tolerance (in bits/s). In 1-pass mode, bitrate tolerance specifies how far ratecontrol is willing to deviate from the target average bitrate value. This is not related to min/max bitrate. Lowering tolerance too much has an adverse effect on quality.

flags flags (decoding/encoding, audio, video, subtitles)

Set generic flags.

Possible values:

#### mv4

Use four motion vector by macroblock (mpeg4).

### qpel

Use 1/4 pel motion compensation.

### loop

Use loop filter.

### qscale

Use fixed qscale.

## pass1

Use internal 2pass ratecontrol in first pass mode.

#### pass2

Use internal 2pass ratecontrol in second pass mode.

### gray

Only decode/encode grayscale.

#### psnr

Set error[?] variables during encoding.

# truncated

Input bitstream might be randomly truncated.

### drop changed

Don't output frames whose parameters differ from first decoded frame in stream. Error AVERROR\_INPUT\_CHANGED is returned when a frame is dropped.

#### ildct

Use interlaced DCT.

#### low delay

Force low delay.

## global header

Place global headers in extradata instead of every keyframe.

#### bitexact

Only write platform—, build— and time-independent data. (except (I)DCT). This ensures that file and data checksums are reproducible and match between platforms. Its primary use is for regression testing.

aic Apply H263 advanced intra coding / mpeg4 ac prediction.

#### ilme

Apply interlaced motion estimation.

#### cgop

Use closed gop.

### output\_corrupt

Output even potentially corrupted frames.

### time\_base rational number

Set codec time base.

It is the fundamental unit of time (in seconds) in terms of which frame timestamps are represented. For fixed-fps content, timebase should be 1 / frame\_rate and timestamp increments should be identically 1.

# **g** integer (encoding, video)

Set the group of picture (GOP) size. Default value is 12.

# ar integer (decoding/encoding, audio)

Set audio sampling rate (in Hz).

# ac integer (decoding/encoding, audio)

Set number of audio channels.

### **cutoff** integer (encoding, audio)

Set cutoff bandwidth. (Supported only by selected encoders, see their respective documentation sections.)

# frame\_size integer (encoding,audio)

Set audio frame size.

Each submitted frame except the last must contain exactly frame\_size samples per channel. May be 0 when the codec has CODEC\_CAP\_VARIABLE\_FRAME\_SIZE set, in that case the frame size is not restricted. It is set by some decoders to indicate constant frame size.

### frame\_number integer

Set the frame number.

# delay integer

# qcomp float (encoding,video)

Set video quantizer scale compression (VBR). It is used as a constant in the ratecontrol equation. Recommended range for default rc\_eq: 0.0–1.0.

# **qblur** float (encoding, video)

Set video quantizer scale blur (VBR).

# qmin integer (encoding, video)

Set min video quantizer scale (VBR). Must be included between -1 and 69, default value is 2.

```
qmax integer (encoding, video)
    Set max video quantizer scale (VBR). Must be included between -1 and 1024, default value is 31.
qdiff integer (encoding, video)
    Set max difference between the quantizer scale (VBR).
bf integer (encoding, video)
    Set max number of B frames between non-B-frames.
    Must be an integer between −1 and 16. 0 means that B-frames are disabled. If a value of −1 is used, it
    will choose an automatic value depending on the encoder.
    Default value is 0.
b_qfactor float (encoding, video)
    Set qp factor between P and B frames.
b_strategy integer (encoding, video)
    Set strategy to choose between I/P/B-frames.
ps integer (encoding, video)
    Set RTP payload size in bytes.
mv_bits integer
header_bits integer
i_tex_bits integer
p_tex_bits integer
i_count integer
p_count integer
skip_count integer
misc_bits integer
frame_bits integer
codec_tag integer
bug flags (decoding, video)
    Workaround not auto detected encoder bugs.
    Possible values:
    autodetect
    xvid ilace
         Xvid interlacing bug (autodetected if fourcc==XVIX)
    ump4
         (autodetected if fourcc==UMP4)
    no_padding
         padding bug (autodetected)
    amv
    qpel_chroma
    std_qpel
         old standard qpel (autodetected per fourcc/version)
    qpel chroma2
    direct blocksize
         direct-qpel-blocksize bug (autodetected per fourcc/version)
    edge
         edge padding bug (autodetected per fourcc/version)
    hpel_chroma
    dc_clip
    ms Workaround various bugs in microsoft broken decoders.
```

#### trunc

trancated frames

### **strict** *integer* (*decoding/encoding,audio,video*)

Specify how strictly to follow the standards.

Possible values:

#### verv

strictly conform to an older more strict version of the spec or reference software

#### strict

strictly conform to all the things in the spec no matter what consequences

#### normal

### unofficial

allow unofficial extensions

### experimental

allow non standardized experimental things, experimental (unfinished/work in progress/not well tested) decoders and encoders. Note: experimental decoders can pose a security risk, do not use this for decoding untrusted input.

## **b\_qoffset** *float* (*encoding*, *video*)

Set QP offset between P and B frames.

# err\_detect flags (decoding,audio,video)

Set error detection flags.

Possible values:

#### crccheck

verify embedded CRCs

#### bitstream

detect bitstream specification deviations

### buffer

detect improper bitstream length

## explode

abort decoding on minor error detection

# ignore err

ignore decoding errors, and continue decoding. This is useful if you want to analyze the content of a video and thus want everything to be decoded no matter what. This option will not result in a video that is pleasing to watch in case of errors.

#### careful

consider things that violate the spec and have not been seen in the wild as errors

### compliant

consider all spec non compliancies as errors

#### aggressive

consider things that a sane encoder should not do as an error

### has\_b\_frames integer

block\_align integer

mpeg\_quant integer (encoding,video)

Use MPEG quantizers instead of H.263.

## rc\_override\_count integer

maxrate integer (encoding, audio, video)

Set max bitrate tolerance (in bits/s). Requires bufsize to be set.

```
minrate integer (encoding, audio, video)
    Set min bitrate tolerance (in bits/s). Most useful in setting up a CBR encode. It is of little use elsewise.
bufsize integer (encoding, audio, video)
    Set ratecontrol buffer size (in bits).
i_qfactor float (encoding,video)
    Set QP factor between P and I frames.
i_qoffset float (encoding, video)
    Set QP offset between P and I frames.
dct integer (encoding, video)
    Set DCT algorithm.
    Possible values:
    auto
         autoselect a good one (default)
    fastint
         fast integer
    int accurate integer
    mmx
    altivec
    faan
         floating point AAN DCT
lumi_mask float (encoding,video)
    Compress bright areas stronger than medium ones.
tcplx_mask float (encoding, video)
    Set temporal complexity masking.
scplx_mask float (encoding,video)
    Set spatial complexity masking.
p_mask float (encoding, video)
    Set inter masking.
dark_mask float (encoding,video)
    Compress dark areas stronger than medium ones.
idct integer (decoding/encoding,video)
    Select IDCT implementation.
    Possible values:
    auto
    int
    simple
    simplemmx
    simpleauto
         Automatically pick a IDCT compatible with the simple one
    arm
    altivec
    sh4
    simplearm
    simplearmv5te
    simplearmv6
```

```
simpleneon
    xvid
    faani
          floating point AAN IDCT
slice_count integer
ec flags (decoding, video)
    Set error concealment strategy.
    Possible values:
    guess mvs
         iterative motion vector (MV) search (slow)
         use strong deblock filter for damaged MBs
    favor inter
         favor predicting from the previous frame instead of the current
{\bf bits\_per\_coded\_sample}\ integer
pred integer (encoding,video)
    Set prediction method.
    Possible values:
    left
    plane
    median
aspect rational number (encoding, video)
    Set sample aspect ratio.
sar rational number (encoding,video)
    Set sample aspect ratio. Alias to aspect.
debug flags (decoding/encoding,audio,video,subtitles)
    Print specific debug info.
    Possible values:
    pict
         picture info
        rate control
    \mathbf{rc}
    bitstream
    mb_type
         macroblock (MB) type
    qp per-block quantization parameter (QP)
    dct_coeff
    green_metadata
         display complexity metadata for the upcoming frame, GoP or for a given duration.
    skip
    startcode
    er error recognition
    mmco
         memory management control operations (H.264)
    bugs
    buffers
         picture buffer allocations
```

```
thread_ops
         threading operations
    nomc
         skip motion compensation
cmp integer (encoding,video)
    Set full pel me compare function.
    Possible values:
    sad sum of absolute differences, fast (default)
    sse sum of squared errors
         sum of absolute Hadamard transformed differences
    dct sum of absolute DCT transformed differences
    psnr
         sum of squared quantization errors (avoid, low quality)
    bit number of bits needed for the block
         rate distortion optimal, slow
    rd
    zero
         0
    vsad
         sum of absolute vertical differences
    vsse
         sum of squared vertical differences
    nsse
         noise preserving sum of squared differences
    w53
         5/3 wavelet, only used in snow
    w97
         9/7 wavelet, only used in snow
    dctmax
    chroma
subcmp integer (encoding,video)
    Set sub pel me compare function.
    Possible values:
    sad sum of absolute differences, fast (default)
    sse sum of squared errors
    satd
         sum of absolute Hadamard transformed differences
    dct sum of absolute DCT transformed differences
    psnr
         sum of squared quantization errors (avoid, low quality)
    bit number of bits needed for the block
```

rate distortion optimal, slow

```
zero
         0
    vsad
         sum of absolute vertical differences
    vsse
         sum of squared vertical differences
    nsse
         noise preserving sum of squared differences
    w53
         5/3 wavelet, only used in snow
    w97
         9/7 wavelet, only used in snow
    dctmax
    chroma
mbcmp integer (encoding, video)
    Set macroblock compare function.
    Possible values:
    sad sum of absolute differences, fast (default)
    sse sum of squared errors
    satd
         sum of absolute Hadamard transformed differences
    dct sum of absolute DCT transformed differences
    psnr
         sum of squared quantization errors (avoid, low quality)
    bit number of bits needed for the block
    rd
        rate distortion optimal, slow
    zero
         0
    vsad
         sum of absolute vertical differences
    vsse
         sum of squared vertical differences
    nsse
         noise preserving sum of squared differences
    w53
         5/3 wavelet, only used in snow
         9/7 wavelet, only used in snow
    dctmax
    chroma
ildctcmp integer (encoding,video)
    Set interlaced dct compare function.
    Possible values:
    sad sum of absolute differences, fast (default)
```

```
sse sum of squared errors
    satd
         sum of absolute Hadamard transformed differences
    dct sum of absolute DCT transformed differences
    psnr
         sum of squared quantization errors (avoid, low quality)
    bit number of bits needed for the block
    rd rate distortion optimal, slow
    zero
         0
    vsad
         sum of absolute vertical differences
         sum of squared vertical differences
    nsse
         noise preserving sum of squared differences
    w53
         5/3 wavelet, only used in snow
    w97
         9/7 wavelet, only used in snow
    dctmax
    chroma
dia_size integer (encoding, video)
    Set diamond type & size for motion estimation.
    (1024, INT_MAX)
         full motion estimation(slowest)
    (768, 1024]
         umh motion estimation
    (512, 768)
         hex motion estimation
    (256, 512]
         12s diamond motion estimation
    [2,256]
         var diamond motion estimation
         small diamond motion estimation
    −1 funny diamond motion estimation
    (INT_MIN, -1)
         sab diamond motion estimation
last_pred integer (encoding,video)
    Set amount of motion predictors from the previous frame.
preme integer (encoding, video)
    Set pre motion estimation.
```

```
precmp integer (encoding,video)
    Set pre motion estimation compare function.
    Possible values:
    sad sum of absolute differences, fast (default)
    sse sum of squared errors
    satd
         sum of absolute Hadamard transformed differences
    dct sum of absolute DCT transformed differences
    psnr
         sum of squared quantization errors (avoid, low quality)
    bit number of bits needed for the block
    rd rate distortion optimal, slow
    zero
    vsad
         sum of absolute vertical differences
    vsse
         sum of squared vertical differences
    nsse
         noise preserving sum of squared differences
    w53
         5/3 wavelet, only used in snow
    w97
         9/7 wavelet, only used in snow
    dctmax
    chroma
pre_dia_size integer (encoding,video)
    Set diamond type & size for motion estimation pre-pass.
subq integer (encoding,video)
    Set sub pel motion estimation quality.
me_range integer (encoding,video)
    Set limit motion vectors range (1023 for DivX player).
global_quality integer (encoding,audio,video)
coder integer (encoding,video)
    Possible values:
    vlc variable length coder / huffman coder
        arithmetic coder
    ac
    raw
         raw (no encoding)
    rle run-length coder
context integer (encoding,video)
    Set context model.
slice_flags integer
```

# **mbd** integer (encoding, video)

Set macroblock decision algorithm (high quality mode).

Possible values:

#### simple

use mbcmp (default)

#### bits

use fewest bits

rd use best rate distortion

# sc\_threshold integer (encoding,video)

Set scene change threshold.

### **nr** integer (encoding, video)

Set noise reduction.

# rc\_init\_occupancy integer (encoding,video)

Set number of bits which should be loaded into the rc buffer before decoding starts.

### **flags2** flags (decoding/encoding,audio,video,subtitles)

Possible values:

#### fast

Allow non spec compliant speedup tricks.

#### noout

Skip bitstream encoding.

# ignorecrop

Ignore cropping information from sps.

#### local header

Place global headers at every keyframe instead of in extradata.

#### chunks

Frame data might be split into multiple chunks.

#### showall

Show all frames before the first keyframe.

# export\_mvs

Export motion vectors into frame side-data (see AV\_FRAME\_DATA\_MOTION\_VECTORS) for codecs that support it. See also *doc/examples/export\_mvs.c*.

### skip manual

Do not skip samples and export skip information as frame side data.

## ass\_ro\_flush\_noop

Do not reset ASS ReadOrder field on flush.

## **export\_side\_data** flags (decoding/encoding,audio,video,subtitles)

Possible values:

# mvs

Export motion vectors into frame side-data (see AV\_FRAME\_DATA\_MOTION\_VECTORS) for codecs that support it. See also *doc/examples/export\_mvs.c*.

### prft

Export encoder Producer Reference Time into packet side-data (see AV\_PKT\_DATA\_PRFT) for codecs that support it.

# venc\_params

Export video encoding parameters through frame side data (see AV\_FRAME\_DATA\_VIDEO\_ENC\_PARAMS) for codecs that support it. At present, those are

H.264 and VP9.

#### film\_grain

Export film grain parameters through frame side data (see AV\_FRAME\_DATA\_FILM\_GRAIN\_PARAMS). Supported at present by AV1 decoders.

# threads integer (decoding/encoding,video)

Set the number of threads to be used, in case the selected codec implementation supports multi-threading.

Possible values:

## auto, 0

automatically select the number of threads to set

Default value is auto.

#### dc integer (encoding, video)

Set intra\_dc\_precision.

# **nssew** integer (encoding, video)

Set nsse weight.

# skip\_top integer (decoding,video)

Set number of macroblock rows at the top which are skipped.

#### **skip\_bottom** *integer* (*decoding,video*)

Set number of macroblock rows at the bottom which are skipped.

### **profile** integer (encoding, audio, video)

Set encoder codec profile. Default value is **unknown**. Encoder specific profiles are documented in the relevant encoder documentation.

### level integer (encoding, audio, video)

Possible values:

### unknown

### **lowres** integer (decoding, audio, video)

Decode at 1 = 1/2, 2 = 1/4, 3 = 1/8 resolutions.

# skip\_threshold integer (encoding,video)

Set frame skip threshold.

# skip\_factor integer (encoding,video)

Set frame skip factor.

### skip\_exp integer (encoding,video)

Set frame skip exponent. Negative values behave identical to the corresponding positive ones, except that the score is normalized. Positive values exist primarily for compatibility reasons and are not so useful.

# **skipcmp** integer (encoding, video)

Set frame skip compare function.

Possible values:

sad sum of absolute differences, fast (default)

sse sum of squared errors

# satd

sum of absolute Hadamard transformed differences

dct sum of absolute DCT transformed differences

```
psnr
         sum of squared quantization errors (avoid, low quality)
    bit number of bits needed for the block
        rate distortion optimal, slow
    zero
         0
    vsad
         sum of absolute vertical differences
    vsse
         sum of squared vertical differences
         noise preserving sum of squared differences
    w53
         5/3 wavelet, only used in snow
    w97
         9/7 wavelet, only used in snow
    dctmax
    chroma
mblmin integer (encoding, video)
    Set min macroblock lagrange factor (VBR).
mblmax integer (encoding, video)
    Set max macroblock lagrange factor (VBR).
mepc integer (encoding, video)
    Set motion estimation bitrate penalty compensation (1.0 = 256).
skip_loop_filter integer (decoding,video)
skip_idct
              integer (decoding, video)
skip_frame
               integer (decoding, video)
    Make decoder discard processing depending on the frame type selected by the option value.
    skip_loop_filter skips frame loop filtering, skip_idct skips frame IDCT/dequantization, skip_frame
    skips decoding.
    Possible values:
    none
         Discard no frame.
    default
         Discard useless frames like 0-sized frames.
    noref
         Discard all non-reference frames.
    bidir
         Discard all bidirectional frames.
    nokey
         Discard all frames excepts keyframes.
    nointra
         Discard all frames except I frames.
    all Discard all frames.
    Default value is default.
```

```
bidir_refine integer (encoding,video)
    Refine the two motion vectors used in bidirectional macroblocks.
brd_scale integer (encoding,video)
    Downscale frames for dynamic B-frame decision.
keyint_min integer (encoding,video)
    Set minimum interval between IDR-frames.
refs integer (encoding, video)
    Set reference frames to consider for motion compensation.
chromaoffset integer (encoding, video)
    Set chroma qp offset from luma.
trellis integer (encoding, audio, video)
    Set rate-distortion optimal quantization.
mv0_threshold integer (encoding,video)
b_sensitivity integer (encoding, video)
    Adjust sensitivity of b_frame_strategy 1.
compression level integer (encoding, audio, video)
min_prediction_order integer (encoding,audio)
max_prediction_order integer (encoding,audio)
timecode_frame_start integer (encoding,video)
    Set GOP timecode frame start number, in non drop frame format.
bits_per_raw_sample integer
channel_layout integer (decoding/encoding,audio)
    Possible values:
request_channel_layout integer (decoding,audio)
    Possible values:
rc_max_vbv_use float (encoding,video)
rc_min_vbv_use float (encoding,video)
ticks_per_frame integer (decoding/encoding,audio,video)
{\bf color\_primaries}\ integer\ (decoding/encoding, video)
    Possible values:
    bt709
         BT.709
    bt470m
         BT.470 M
    bt470bg
         BT.470 BG
    smpte170m
         SMPTE 170 M
    smpte240m
         SMPTE 240 M
    film
         Film
    bt2020
         BT.2020
    smpte428
```

# **smpte428\_1** SMPTE ST 428-1 smpte431 SMPTE 431-2 smpte432 SMPTE 432-1 jedec-p22 JEDEC P22 color\_trc integer (decoding/encoding,video) Possible values: bt709 BT.709 gamma22 BT.470 M gamma28 BT.470 BG smpte170m SMPTE 170 M smpte240m SMPTE 240 M linear Linear log log100 Log log\_sqrt log316 Log square root iec61966\_2\_4 iec61966-2-4 IEC 61966-2-4 bt1361 bt1361e BT.1361 iec61966\_2\_1 iec61966-2-1 IEC 61966-2-1 bt2020\_10 bt2020\_10bit BT.2020 – 10 bit bt2020 12 bt2020\_12bit

BT.2020 - 12 bit

SMPTE ST 2084

smpte2084

```
smpte428
    smpte428\_1
        SMPTE ST 428-1
    arib-std-b67
         ARIB STD-B67
colorspace integer (decoding/encoding,video)
    Possible values:
    rgb RGB
    bt709
         BT.709
    fcc FCC
    bt470bg
        BT.470 BG
    smpte170m
        SMPTE 170 M
    smpte240m
        SMPTE 240 M
    ycocg
         YCOCG
    bt2020nc
    bt2020 ncl
         BT.2020 NCL
    bt2020c
    bt2020_cl
         BT.2020 CL
    smpte2085
        SMPTE 2085
    chroma-derived-nc
         Chroma-derived NCL
    chroma-derived-c
         Chroma-derived CL
    ictcp
         ICtCp
color_range integer (decoding/encoding,video)
    If used as input parameter, it serves as a hint to the decoder, which color_range the input has. Possible
    values:
    tv
    mpeg
         MPEG (219*2^(n-8))
    pc
    jpeg
         JPEG (2^n-1)
chroma_sample_location integer (decoding/encoding,video)
    Possible values:
    left
```

center

topleft

top

bottomleft

bottom

# log\_level\_offset integer

Set the log level offset.

# **slices** integer (encoding, video)

Number of slices, used in parallelized encoding.

### thread\_type flags (decoding/encoding,video)

Select which multithreading methods to use.

Use of **frame** will increase decoding delay by one frame per thread, so clients which cannot provide future frames should not use it.

Possible values:

### slice

Decode more than one part of a single frame at once.

Multithreading using slices works only when the video was encoded with slices.

### frame

Decode more than one frame at once.

Default value is **slice+frame**.

# audio\_service\_type integer (encoding,audio)

Set audio service type.

Possible values:

- ma Main Audio Service
- ef Effects
- vi Visually Impaired
- hi Hearing Impaired
- di Dialogue
- co Commentary
- em Emergency
- vo Voice Over
- ka Karaoke

## request\_sample\_fmt sample\_fmt (decoding,audio)

Set sample format audio decoders should prefer. Default value is none.

# pkt\_timebase rational number

# sub\_charenc encoding (decoding, subtitles)

Set the input subtitles character encoding.

# field\_order (video)

Set/override the field order of the video. Possible values:

#### progressive

Progressive video

- tt Interlaced video, top field coded and displayed first
- **bb** Interlaced video, bottom field coded and displayed first

- tb Interlaced video, top coded first, bottom displayed first
- bt Interlaced video, bottom coded first, top displayed first

# skip\_alpha bool (decoding,video)

Set to 1 to disable processing alpha (transparency). This works like the **gray** flag in the **flags** option which skips chroma information instead of alpha. Default is 0.

## codec\_whitelist list (input)

"," separated list of allowed decoders. By default all are allowed.

# dump\_separator string (input)

Separator used to separate the fields printed on the command line about the Stream parameters. For example, to separate the fields with newlines and indentation:

### max\_pixels integer (decoding/encoding,video)

Maximum number of pixels per image. This value can be used to avoid out of memory failures due to large images.

# apply\_cropping bool (decoding,video)

Enable cropping if cropping parameters are multiples of the required alignment for the left and top parameters. If the alignment is not met the cropping will be partially applied to maintain alignment. Default is 1 (enabled). Note: The required alignment depends on if AV\_CODEC\_FLAG\_UNALIGNED is set and the CPU. AV\_CODEC\_FLAG\_UNALIGNED cannot be changed from the command line. Also hardware decoders will not apply left/top Cropping.

### **DECODERS**

Decoders are configured elements in FFmpeg which allow the decoding of multimedia streams.

When you configure your FFmpeg build, all the supported native decoders are enabled by default. Decoders requiring an external library must be enabled manually via the corresponding --enable-lib option. You can list all available decoders using the configure option --list-decoders.

You can disable all the decoders with the configure option --disable-decoders and selectively enable / disable single decoders with the options --enable-decoder=DECODER / --disable-decoder=DECODER.

The option -decoders of the ff\* tools will display the list of enabled decoders.

# **VIDEO DECODERS**

A description of some of the currently available video decoders follows.

# av1

AOMedia Video 1 (AV1) decoder.

**Options** 

# operating\_point

Select an operating point of a scalable AV1 bitstream (0 - 31). Default is 0.

#### rawvideo

Raw video decoder.

This decoder decodes rawvideo streams.

**Options** 

#### top top field first

Specify the assumed field type of the input video.

- −1 the video is assumed to be progressive (default)
- 0 bottom-field-first is assumed

# 1 top-field-first is assumed

#### libdav1d

dav1d AV1 decoder.

libdav1d allows libavcodec to decode the AOMedia Video 1 (AV1) codec. Requires the presence of the libdav1d headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libdav1d.

**Options** 

The following options are supported by the libdav1d wrapper.

### framethreads

Set amount of frame threads to use during decoding. The default value is 0 (autodetect).

#### tilethreads

Set amount of tile threads to use during decoding. The default value is 0 (autodetect).

#### filmgrain

Apply film grain to the decoded video if present in the bitstream. Defaults to the internal default of the library.

# oppoint

Select an operating point of a scalable AV1 bitstream (0 - 31). Defaults to the internal default of the library.

### alllayers

Output all spatial layers of a scalable AV1 bitstream. The default value is false.

#### libdays2

AVS2-P2/IEEE1857.4 video decoder wrapper.

This decoder allows libavcodec to decode AVS2 streams with days2 library.

## libuavs3d

AVS3-P2/IEEE1857.10 video decoder.

libuavs3d allows libavcodec to decode AVS3 streams. Requires the presence of the libuavs3d headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libuavs3d.

**Options** 

The following option is supported by the libuavs3d wrapper.

# frame threads

Set amount of frame threads to use during decoding. The default value is 0 (autodetect).

#### **AUDIO DECODERS**

A description of some of the currently available audio decoders follows.

### ac3

AC-3 audio decoder.

This decoder implements part of ATSC A/52:2010 and ETSI TS 102 366, as well as the undocumented RealAudio 3 (a.k.a. dnet).

AC-3 Decoder Options

# -drc\_scale value

Dynamic Range Scale Factor. The factor to apply to dynamic range values from the AC-3 stream. This factor is applied exponentially. The default value is 1. There are 3 notable scale factor ranges:

#### drc scale == 0

DRC disabled. Produces full range audio.

#### 0 < drc scale <= 1

DRC enabled. Applies a fraction of the stream DRC value. Audio reproduction is between full range and full compression.

#### drc\_scale > 1

DRC enabled. Applies drc\_scale asymmetrically. Loud sounds are fully compressed. Soft sounds are enhanced

#### flac

FLAC audio decoder.

This decoder aims to implement the complete FLAC specification from Xiph.

FLAC Decoder options

## -use\_buggy\_lpc

The lavc FLAC encoder used to produce buggy streams with high lpc values (like the default value). This option makes it possible to decode such streams correctly by using lavc's old buggy lpc logic for decoding.

# ffwavesynth

Internal wave synthesizer.

This decoder generates wave patterns according to predefined sequences. Its use is purely internal and the format of the data it accepts is not publicly documented.

#### libcelt

libcelt decoder wrapper.

libcelt allows libavcodec to decode the Xiph CELT ultra-low delay audio codec. Requires the presence of the libcelt headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libcelt.

### libgsm

libgsm decoder wrapper.

libgsm allows libavcodec to decode the GSM full rate audio codec. Requires the presence of the libgsm headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libqsm.

This decoder supports both the ordinary GSM and the Microsoft variant.

#### libilbe

libilbc decoder wrapper.

libilbc allows libavcodec to decode the Internet Low Bitrate Codec (iLBC) audio codec. Requires the presence of the libilbc headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libilbc.

**Options** 

The following option is supported by the libilbc wrapper.

#### enhance

Enable the enhancement of the decoded audio when set to 1. The default value is 0 (disabled).

### libopencore-amrnb

libopencore-amrnb decoder wrapper.

libopencore-amrnb allows libavcodec to decode the Adaptive Multi-Rate Narrowband audio codec. Using it requires the presence of the libopencore-amrnb headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libopencore-amrnb.

An FFmpeg native decoder for AMR-NB exists, so users can decode AMR-NB without this library.

# libopencore-amrwb

libopencore-amrwb decoder wrapper.

libopencore-amrwb allows libavcodec to decode the Adaptive Multi-Rate Wideband audio codec. Using it requires the presence of the libopencore-amrwb headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libopencore-amrwb.

An FFmpeg native decoder for AMR-WB exists, so users can decode AMR-WB without this library.

### libopus

libopus decoder wrapper.

libopus allows libavcodec to decode the Opus Interactive Audio Codec. Requires the presence of the libopus headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libopus.

An FFmpeg native decoder for Opus exists, so users can decode Opus without this library.

# **SUBTITLES DECODERS**

# libaribb24

ARIB STD-B24 caption decoder.

Implements profiles A and C of the ARIB STD-B24 standard.

libaribb24 Decoder Options

### -aribb24-base-path path

Sets the base path for the libaribb24 library. This is utilized for reading of configuration files (for custom unicode conversions), and for dumping of non-text symbols as images under that location.

Unset by default.

### -aribb24-skip-ruby-text boolean

Tells the decoder wrapper to skip text blocks that contain half-height ruby text.

Enabled by default.

# dvbsub

**Options** 

# compute\_clut

- **−1** Compute clut if no matching CLUT is in the stream.
- 0 Never compute CLUT
- 1 Always compute CLUT and override the one provided in the stream.

# dvb substream

Selects the dvb substream, or all substreams if -1 which is default.

#### dvdsub

This codec decodes the bitmap subtitles used in DVDs; the same subtitles can also be found in VobSub file pairs and in some Matroska files.

**Options** 

### palette

Specify the global palette used by the bitmaps. When stored in VobSub, the palette is normally specified in the index file; in Matroska, the palette is stored in the codec extra-data in the same format as in VobSub. In DVDs, the palette is stored in the IFO file, and therefore not available when reading from dumped VOB files.

The format for this option is a string containing 16 24-bits hexadecimal numbers (without 0x prefix) separated by commas, for example 0d00ee, ee450d, 101010, eaeaea, 0ce60b, ec14ed, ebff0b, 0d617a, 7b7b7b, d1d1d1, 7b2a0e, 0d950c, 0f007b, cf0dec, cfa80c, 7c127b.

### ifo\_palette

Specify the IFO file from which the global palette is obtained. (experimental)

#### forced subs only

Only decode subtitle entries marked as forced. Some titles have forced and non-forced subtitles in the same track. Setting this flag to 1 will only keep the forced subtitles. Default value is 0.

#### libzvbi-teletext

Libzvbi allows libavcodec to decode DVB teletext pages and DVB teletext subtitles. Requires the presence of the libzvbi headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libzvbi.

**Options** 

### txt\_page

List of teletext page numbers to decode. Pages that do not match the specified list are dropped. You may use the special \* string to match all pages, or subtitle to match all subtitle pages. Default value is \*.

### txt\_default\_region

Set default character set used for decoding, a value between 0 and 87 (see ETS 300 706, Section 15, Table 32). Default value is -1, which does not override the libzvbi default. This option is needed for some legacy level 1.0 transmissions which cannot signal the proper charset.

#### txt chop top

Discards the top teletext line. Default value is 1.

#### txt format

Specifies the format of the decoded subtitles.

#### bitmap

The default format, you should use this for teletext pages, because certain graphics and colors cannot be expressed in simple text or even ASS.

### text

Simple text based output without formatting.

**ass** Formatted ASS output, subtitle pages and teletext pages are returned in different styles, subtitle pages are stripped down to text, but an effort is made to keep the text alignment and the formatting.

#### txt\_left

X offset of generated bitmaps, default is 0.

## txt\_top

Y offset of generated bitmaps, default is 0.

# txt\_chop\_spaces

Chops leading and trailing spaces and removes empty lines from the generated text. This option is useful for teletext based subtitles where empty spaces may be present at the start or at the end of the lines or empty lines may be present between the subtitle lines because of double-sized teletext characters. Default value is 1.

### txt duration

Sets the display duration of the decoded teletext pages or subtitles in milliseconds. Default value is -1 which means infinity or until the next subtitle event comes.

## txt\_transparent

Force transparent background of the generated teletext bitmaps. Default value is 0 which means an opaque background.

#### txt\_opacity

Sets the opacity (0-255) of the teletext background. If **txt\_transparent** is not set, it only affects characters between a start box and an end box, typically subtitles. Default value is 0 if

# txt\_transparent is set, 255 otherwise.

### **ENCODERS**

Encoders are configured elements in FFmpeg which allow the encoding of multimedia streams.

When you configure your FFmpeg build, all the supported native encoders are enabled by default. Encoders requiring an external library must be enabled manually via the corresponding --enable-lib option. You can list all available encoders using the configure option --list-encoders.

You can disable all the encoders with the configure option --disable-encoders and selectively enable / disable single encoders with the options --enable-encoder=ENCODER / --disable-encoder=ENCODER.

The option -encoders of the ff\* tools will display the list of enabled encoders.

### **AUDIO ENCODERS**

A description of some of the currently available audio encoders follows.

#### aac

Advanced Audio Coding (AAC) encoder.

This encoder is the default AAC encoder, natively implemented into FFmpeg.

**Options** 

- **b** Set bit rate in bits/s. Setting this automatically activates constant bit rate (CBR) mode. If this option is unspecified it is set to 128kbps.
- **q** Set quality for variable bit rate (VBR) mode. This option is valid only using the **ffmpeg** command-line tool. For library interface users, use **global quality**.

#### cutoff

Set cutoff frequency. If unspecified will allow the encoder to dynamically adjust the cutoff to improve clarity on low bitrates.

#### aac coder

Set AAC encoder coding method. Possible values:

#### twoloop

Two loop searching (TLS) method.

This method first sets quantizers depending on band thresholds and then tries to find an optimal combination by adding or subtracting a specific value from all quantizers and adjusting some individual quantizer a little. Will tune itself based on whether **aac\_is**, **aac\_ms** and **aac\_pns** are enabled.

#### anmr

Average noise to mask ratio (ANMR) trellis-based solution.

This is an experimental coder which currently produces a lower quality, is more unstable and is slower than the default twoloop coder but has potential. Currently has no support for the **aac\_is** or **aac\_pns** options. Not currently recommended.

#### fast

Constant quantizer method.

Uses a cheaper version of twoloop algorithm that doesn't try to do as many clever adjustments. Worse with low bitrates (less than 64kbps), but is better and much faster at higher bitrates. This is the default choice for a coder

#### aac\_ms

Sets mid/side coding mode. The default value of "auto" will automatically use M/S with bands which will benefit from such coding. Can be forced for all bands using the value "enable", which is mainly useful for debugging or disabled using "disable".

#### aac is

Sets intensity stereo coding tool usage. By default, it's enabled and will automatically toggle IS for similar pairs of stereo bands if it's beneficial. Can be disabled for debugging by setting the value to "disable".

#### aac\_pns

Uses perceptual noise substitution to replace low entropy high frequency bands with imperceptible white noise during the decoding process. By default, it's enabled, but can be disabled for debugging purposes by using "disable".

### aac\_tns

Enables the use of a multitap FIR filter which spans through the high frequency bands to hide quantization noise during the encoding process and is reverted by the decoder. As well as decreasing unpleasant artifacts in the high range this also reduces the entropy in the high bands and allows for more bits to be used by the mid-low bands. By default it's enabled but can be disabled for debugging by setting the option to "disable".

#### aac ltp

Enables the use of the long term prediction extension which increases coding efficiency in very low bandwidth situations such as encoding of voice or solo piano music by extending constant harmonic peaks in bands throughout frames. This option is implied by profile:a aac\_low and is incompatible with aac\_pred. Use in conjunction with -ar to decrease the samplerate.

#### aac pred

Enables the use of a more traditional style of prediction where the spectral coefficients transmitted are replaced by the difference of the current coefficients minus the previous "predicted" coefficients. In theory and sometimes in practice this can improve quality for low to mid bitrate audio. This option implies the aac\_main profile and is incompatible with aac\_ltp.

### profile

Sets the encoding profile, possible values:

### aac low

The default, AAC "Low-complexity" profile. Is the most compatible and produces decent quality.

#### mpeg2\_aac\_low

Equivalent to -profile:a aac\_low -aac\_pns 0. PNS was introduced with the MPEG4 specifications.

#### aac ltr

Long term prediction profile, is enabled by and will enable the **aac\_ltp** option. Introduced in MPEG4.

# aac main

Main-type prediction profile, is enabled by and will enable the **aac\_pred** option. Introduced in MPEG2.

If this option is unspecified it is set to aac\_low.

# ac3 and ac3 fixed

AC-3 audio encoders.

These encoders implement part of ATSC A/52:2010 and ETSI TS 102 366, as well as the undocumented RealAudio 3 (a.k.a. dnet).

The *ac3* encoder uses floating-point math, while the *ac3\_fixed* encoder only uses fixed-point integer math. This does not mean that one is always faster, just that one or the other may be better suited to a particular system. The *ac3\_fixed* encoder is not the default codec for any of the output formats, so it must be specified explicitly using the option -acodec ac3\_fixed in order to use it.

### AC-3 Metadata

The AC-3 metadata options are used to set parameters that describe the audio, but in most cases do not

affect the audio encoding itself. Some of the options do directly affect or influence the decoding and playback of the resulting bitstream, while others are just for informational purposes. A few of the options will add bits to the output stream that could otherwise be used for audio data, and will thus affect the quality of the output. Those will be indicated accordingly with a note in the option list below.

These parameters are described in detail in several publicly-available documents.

- \*<<http://www.atsc.org/cms/standards/a 52-2010.pdf>>
- \*<<http://www.atsc.org/cms/standards/a\_54a\_with\_corr\_1.pdf>>
- \*<<http://www.dolby.com/uploadedFiles/zz-\_Shared\_Assets/English\_PDFs/Professional/18\_Metadata.Guide.pdf>
- $*<< http://www.dolby.com/uploadedFiles/zz-\_Shared\_Assets/English\_PDFs/Professional/46\_DDEncodingGuidelines/files$

Metadata Control Options

### -per\_frame\_metadata boolean

Allow Per-Frame Metadata. Specifies if the encoder should check for changing metadata for each frame.

- **0** The metadata values set at initialization will be used for every frame in the stream. (default)
- 1 Metadata values can be changed before encoding each frame.

#### Downmix Levels

#### -center mixlev level

Center Mix Level. The amount of gain the decoder should apply to the center channel when downmixing to stereo. This field will only be written to the bitstream if a center channel is present. The value is specified as a scale factor. There are 3 valid values:

```
0.707
Apply -3dB gain
0.595
Apply -4.5dB gain (default)
0.500
Apply -6dB gain
```

### -surround\_mixlev level

Surround Mix Level. The amount of gain the decoder should apply to the surround channel(s) when downmixing to stereo. This field will only be written to the bitstream if one or more surround channels are present. The value is specified as a scale factor. There are 3 valid values:

```
0.707
    Apply -3dB gain
0.500
    Apply -6dB gain (default)
0.000
    Silence Surround Channel(s)
```

#### **Audio Production Information**

Audio Production Information is optional information describing the mixing environment. Either none or both of the fields are written to the bitstream.

# -mixing\_level number

Mixing Level. Specifies peak sound pressure level (SPL) in the production environment when the mix was mastered. Valid values are 80 to 111, or -1 for unknown or not indicated. The default value is -1, but that value cannot be used if the Audio Production Information is written to the bitstream. Therefore, if the room\_type option is not the default value, the mixing\_level option must not be -1.

# -room\_type type

Room Type. Describes the equalization used during the final mixing session at the studio or on the dubbing stage. A large room is a dubbing stage with the industry standard X-curve equalization; a small room has flat equalization. This field will not be written to the bitstream if both the mixing\_level option and the room\_type option have the default values.

```
0
notindicated
Not Indicated (default)

1
large
Large Room

2
small
```

Other Metadata Options

Small Room

## -copyright boolean

Copyright Indicator. Specifies whether a copyright exists for this audio.

```
0
off No Copyright Exists (default)
1
on Copyright Exists
```

# -dialnorm value

Dialogue Normalization. Indicates how far the average dialogue level of the program is below digital 100% full scale (0 dBFS). This parameter determines a level shift during audio reproduction that sets the average volume of the dialogue to a preset level. The goal is to match volume level between program sources. A value of -31dB will result in no volume level change, relative to the source volume, during audio reproduction. Valid values are whole numbers in the range -31 to -1, with -31 being the default.

### -dsur\_mode mode

Dolby Surround Mode. Specifies whether the stereo signal uses Dolby Surround (Pro Logic). This field will only be written to the bitstream if the audio stream is stereo. Using this option does **NOT** mean the encoder will actually apply Dolby Surround processing.

```
    notindicated
        Not Indicated (default)
    1
        off Not Dolby Surround Encoded
    2
        on Dolby Surround Encoded
```

# -original boolean

Original Bit Stream Indicator. Specifies whether this audio is from the original source and not a copy.

```
0off Not Original Source1on Original Source (default)
```

Extended Bitstream Information

The extended bitstream options are part of the Alternate Bit Stream Syntax as specified in Annex D of the A/52:2010 standard. It is grouped into 2 parts. If any one parameter in a group is specified, all values in

that group will be written to the bitstream. Default values are used for those that are written but have not been specified. If the mixing levels are written, the decoder will use these values instead of the ones specified in the center\_mixlev and surround\_mixlev options if it supports the Alternate Bit Stream Syntax.

Extended Bitstream Information - Part 1

# -dmix\_mode mode

Preferred Stereo Downmix Mode. Allows the user to select either Lt/Rt (Dolby Surround) or Lo/Ro (normal stereo) as the preferred stereo downmix mode.

#### 0

## notindicated

Not Indicated (default)

1

ltrt Lt/Rt Downmix Preferred

2

loro

Lo/Ro Downmix Preferred

# -ltrt\_cmixlev level

Lt/Rt Center Mix Level. The amount of gain the decoder should apply to the center channel when downmixing to stereo in Lt/Rt mode.

## 1.414

Apply +3dB gain

### 1.189

Apply +1.5dB gain

### 1.000

Apply 0dB gain

### 0.841

Apply -1.5dB gain

0.707

Apply -3.0dB gain

0.595

Apply -4.5dB gain (default)

0.500

Apply -6.0dB gain

0.000

Silence Center Channel

#### -ltrt surmixlev level

Lt/Rt Surround Mix Level. The amount of gain the decoder should apply to the surround channel(s) when downmixing to stereo in Lt/Rt mode.

### 0.841

Apply -1.5dB gain

0.707

Apply -3.0dB gain

0.595

Apply -4.5dB gain

0.500

Apply -6.0dB gain (default)

### 0.000

Silence Surround Channel(s)

#### -loro cmixlev level

Lo/Ro Center Mix Level. The amount of gain the decoder should apply to the center channel when downmixing to stereo in Lo/Ro mode.

#### 1.414

Apply +3dB gain

### 1.189

Apply +1.5dB gain

#### 1.000

Apply 0dB gain

#### 0.841

Apply -1.5dB gain

# 0.707

Apply -3.0dB gain

### 0.595

Apply -4.5dB gain (default)

## 0.500

Apply -6.0dB gain

### 0.000

Silence Center Channel

#### -loro surmixlev level

Lo/Ro Surround Mix Level. The amount of gain the decoder should apply to the surround channel(s) when downmixing to stereo in Lo/Ro mode.

# 0.841

Apply -1.5dB gain

# 0.707

Apply –3.0dB gain

# 0.595

Apply -4.5dB gain

## 0.500

Apply -6.0dB gain (default)

### 0.000

Silence Surround Channel(s)

Extended Bitstream Information - Part 2

### -dsurex\_mode mode

Dolby Surround EX Mode. Indicates whether the stream uses Dolby Surround EX (7.1 matrixed to 5.1). Using this option does **NOT** mean the encoder will actually apply Dolby Surround EX processing.

#### 0

# notindicated

Not Indicated (default)

1

on Dolby Surround EX Off

2

off Dolby Surround EX On

### -dheadphone mode mode

Dolby Headphone Mode. Indicates whether the stream uses Dolby Headphone encoding (multi-channel matrixed to 2.0 for use with headphones). Using this option does **NOT** mean the encoder will actually apply Dolby Headphone processing.

```
    notindicated

            Not Indicated (default)

    on Dolby Headphone Off
    off Dolby Headphone On
```

### -ad\_conv\_type type

A/D Converter Type. Indicates whether the audio has passed through HDCD A/D conversion.

o standard Standard A/D Converter (default)

1 hdcd

HDCD A/D Converter

Other AC-3 Encoding Options

#### -stereo rematrixing boolean

Stereo Rematrixing. Enables/Disables use of rematrixing for stereo input. This is an optional AC-3 feature that increases quality by selectively encoding the left/right channels as mid/side. This option is enabled by default, and it is highly recommended that it be left as enabled except for testing purposes.

### cutoff frequency

Set lowpass cutoff frequency. If unspecified, the encoder selects a default determined by various other encoding parameters.

Floating-Point-Only AC-3 Encoding Options

These options are only valid for the floating-point encoder and do not exist for the fixed-point encoder due to the corresponding features not being implemented in fixed-point.

# -channel coupling boolean

Enables/Disables use of channel coupling, which is an optional AC-3 feature that increases quality by combining high frequency information from multiple channels into a single channel. The per-channel high frequency information is sent with less accuracy in both the frequency and time domains. This allows more bits to be used for lower frequencies while preserving enough information to reconstruct the high frequencies. This option is enabled by default for the floating-point encoder and should generally be left as enabled except for testing purposes or to increase encoding speed.

```
    auto

            Selected by Encoder (default)

    off Disable Channel Coupling
    ton Enable Channel Coupling
```

# $-cpl\_start\_band\ number$

Coupling Start Band. Sets the channel coupling start band, from 1 to 15. If a value higher than the bandwidth is used, it will be reduced to 1 less than the coupling end band. If *auto* is used, the start band will be determined by the encoder based on the bit rate, sample rate, and channel layout. This

```
option has no effect if channel coupling is disabled.
          -1
          auto
              Selected by Encoder (default)
flac
     FLAC (Free Lossless Audio Codec) Encoder
     Options
     The following options are supported by FFmpeg's flac encoder.
     compression_level
          Sets the compression level, which chooses defaults for many other options if they are not set explicitly.
          Valid values are from 0 to 12, 5 is the default.
          Sets the size of the frames in samples per channel.
     lpc_coeff_precision
          Sets the LPC coefficient precision, valid values are from 1 to 15, 15 is the default.
     lpc_type
          Sets the first stage LPC algorithm
          none
              LPC is not used
          fixed
              fixed LPC coefficients
          levinson
          cholesky
     lpc_passes
          Number of passes to use for Cholesky factorization during LPC analysis
     min_partition_order
          The minimum partition order
     max_partition_order
          The maximum partition order
     prediction_order_method
          estimation
          2level
          4level
          8level
          search
              Bruteforce search
          log
     ch_mode
          Channel mode
          auto
              The mode is chosen automatically for each frame
          indep
              Channels are independently coded
          left_side
          right_side
```

### mid\_side

# exact\_rice\_parameters

Chooses if rice parameters are calculated exactly or approximately. if set to 1 then they are chosen exactly, which slows the code down slightly and improves compression slightly.

#### multi\_dim\_quant

Multi Dimensional Quantization. If set to 1 then a 2nd stage LPC algorithm is applied after the first stage to finetune the coefficients. This is quite slow and slightly improves compression.

#### opus

Opus encoder.

This is a native FFmpeg encoder for the Opus format. Currently its in development and only implements the CELT part of the codec. Its quality is usually worse and at best is equal to the libopus encoder.

**Options** 

**b** Set bit rate in bits/s. If unspecified it uses the number of channels and the layout to make a good guess.

#### opus\_delay

Sets the maximum delay in milliseconds. Lower delays than 20ms will very quickly decrease quality.

# libfdk\_aac

libfdk-aac AAC (Advanced Audio Coding) encoder wrapper.

The libfdk-aac library is based on the Fraunhofer FDK AAC code from the Android project.

Requires the presence of the libfdk-aac headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libfdk-aac. The library is also incompatible with GPL, so if you allow the use of GPL, you should configure with --enable-gpl --enable-nonfree --enable-libfdk-aac.

This encoder has support for the AAC-HE profiles.

VBR encoding, enabled through the **vbr** or **flags** +**qscale** options, is experimental and only works with some combinations of parameters.

Support for encoding 7.1 audio is only available with libfdk-aac 0.1.3 or higher.

For more information see the fdk-aac project at <a href="http://sourceforge.net/p/opencore-amr/fdk-aac/">http://sourceforge.net/p/opencore-amr/fdk-aac/</a>>.

Options

The following options are mapped on the shared FFmpeg codec options.

**b** Set bit rate in bits/s. If the bitrate is not explicitly specified, it is automatically set to a suitable value depending on the selected profile.

In case VBR mode is enabled the option is ignored.

**ar** Set audio sampling rate (in Hz).

#### channels

Set the number of audio channels.

## flags +qscale

Enable fixed quality, VBR (Variable Bit Rate) mode. Note that VBR is implicitly enabled when the **vbr** value is positive.

#### cutoff

Set cutoff frequency. If not specified (or explicitly set to 0) it will use a value automatically computed by the library. Default value is 0.

# profile

Set audio profile.

The following profiles are recognized:

### aac\_low

Low Complexity AAC (LC)

#### aac he

High Efficiency AAC (HE-AAC)

### aac he v2

High Efficiency AAC version 2 (HE-AACv2)

# aac\_ld

Low Delay AAC (LD)

#### aac eld

Enhanced Low Delay AAC (ELD)

If not specified it is set to aac\_low.

The following are private options of the libfdk\_aac encoder.

#### afterburner

Enable afterburner feature if set to 1, disabled if set to 0. This improves the quality but also the required processing power.

Default value is 1.

#### eld sbr

Enable SBR (Spectral Band Replication) for ELD if set to 1, disabled if set to 0.

Default value is 0.

#### eld v2

Enable ELDv2 (LD-MPS extension for ELD stereo signals) for ELDv2 if set to 1, disabled if set to 0.

Note that option is available when fdk-aac version (AACENCODER\_LIB\_VL0.AACENCODER\_LIB\_VL1.AACENCODER\_LIB\_VL2) > (4.0.0).

Default value is 0.

# signaling

Set SBR/PS signaling style.

It can assume one of the following values:

#### default

choose signaling implicitly (explicit hierarchical by default, implicit if global header is disabled)

## implicit

implicit backwards compatible signaling

#### explicit sbr

explicit SBR, implicit PS signaling

# explicit\_hierarchical

explicit hierarchical signaling

Default value is **default**.

#### latm

Output LATM/LOAS encapsulated data if set to 1, disabled if set to 0.

Default value is 0.

## header\_period

Set StreamMuxConfig and PCE repetition period (in frames) for sending in-band configuration buffers within LATM/LOAS transport layer.

Must be a 16-bits non-negative integer.

Default value is 0.

**vbr** Set VBR mode, from 1 to 5. 1 is lowest quality (though still pretty good) and 5 is highest quality. A value of 0 will disable VBR, and CBR (Constant Bit Rate) is enabled.

Currently only the aac\_low profile supports VBR encoding.

VBR modes 1–5 correspond to roughly the following average bit rates:

- 1 32 kbps/channel
- 2 40 kbps/channel
- 3 48–56 kbps/channel
- 4 64 kbps/channel
- 5 about 80–96 kbps/channel

Default value is 0.

### Examples

• Use **ffmpeg** to convert an audio file to VBR AAC in an M4A (MP4) container:

```
ffmpeg -i input.wav -codec:a libfdk_aac -vbr 3 output.m4a
```

• Use **ffmpeg** to convert an audio file to CBR 64k kbps AAC, using the High-Efficiency AAC profile:

```
ffmpeg -i input.wav -c:a libfdk_aac -profile:a aac_he -b:a 64k output.
```

#### libmp3lame

LAME (Lame Ain't an MP3 Encoder) MP3 encoder wrapper.

Requires the presence of the libmp3lame headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libmp3lame.

See libshine for a fixed-point MP3 encoder, although with a lower quality.

### **Options**

The following options are supported by the libmp3lame wrapper. The **lame**-equivalent of the options are listed in parentheses.

#### $\mathbf{b} (-b)$

Set bitrate expressed in bits/s for CBR or ABR. LAME bitrate is expressed in kilobits/s.

# q(-V)

Set constant quality setting for VBR. This option is valid only using the **ffmpeg** command-line tool. For library interface users, use **global\_quality**.

# **compression\_level** (-q)

Set algorithm quality. Valid arguments are integers in the 0–9 range, with 0 meaning highest quality but slowest, and 9 meaning fastest while producing the worst quality.

## **cutoff** (--lowpass)

Set lowpass cutoff frequency. If unspecified, the encoder dynamically adjusts the cutoff.

# reservoir

Enable use of bit reservoir when set to 1. Default value is 1. LAME has this enabled by default, but can be overridden by use **—nores** option.

# $joint\_stereo(-m j)$

Enable the encoder to use (on a frame by frame basis) either L/R stereo or mid/side stereo. Default value is 1.

#### abr(--abr)

Enable the encoder to use ABR when set to 1. The **lame** --**abr** sets the target bitrate, while this options only tells FFmpeg to use ABR still relies on **b** to set bitrate.

# libopencore-amrnb

OpenCORE Adaptive Multi-Rate Narrowband encoder.

Requires the presence of the libopencore-amrnb headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libopencore-amrnb --enable-version3.

This is a mono-only encoder. Officially it only supports 8000Hz sample rate, but you can override it by setting **strict** to **unofficial** or lower.

### **Options**

**b** Set bitrate in bits per second. Only the following bitrates are supported, otherwise libavcodec will round to the nearest valid bitrate.

4750

5150

5900

6700

7400

7950

10200

12200

**dtx** Allow discontinuous transmission (generate comfort noise) when set to 1. The default value is 0 (disabled).

### libopus

libopus Opus Interactive Audio Codec encoder wrapper.

Requires the presence of the libopus headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libopus.

Option Mapping

Most liborus options are modelled after the **opusenc** utility from opus-tools. The following is an option mapping chart describing options supported by the liborus wrapper, and their **opusenc**-equivalent in parentheses.

# **b** (bitrate)

Set the bit rate in bits/s. FFmpeg's **b** option is expressed in bits/s, while **opusenc**'s **bitrate** in kilobits/s.

#### **vbr** (*vbr*, *hard-cbr*, **and** *cvbr*)

Set VBR mode. The FFmpeg **vbr** option has the following valid arguments, with the **opusenc** equivalent options in parentheses:

## **off** (hard-cbr)

Use constant bit rate encoding.

### on (vbr)

Use variable bit rate encoding (the default).

### constrained (cvbr)

Use constrained variable bit rate encoding.

# compression\_level (comp)

Set encoding algorithm complexity. Valid options are integers in the 0–10 range. 0 gives the fastest encodes but lower quality, while 10 gives the highest quality but slowest encoding. The default is 10.

### frame\_duration (framesize)

Set maximum frame size, or duration of a frame in milliseconds. The argument must be exactly the following: 2.5, 5, 10, 20, 40, 60. Smaller frame sizes achieve lower latency but less quality at a given bitrate. Sizes greater than 20ms are only interesting at fairly low bitrates. The default is 20ms.

### packet\_loss (expect-loss)

Set expected packet loss percentage. The default is 0.

#### fec (n/a)

Enable inband forward error correction. **packet\_loss** must be non-zero to take advantage – frequency of FEC 'side-data' is proportional to expected packet loss. Default is disabled.

### application (N.A.)

Set intended application type. Valid options are listed below:

#### voip

Favor improved speech intelligibility.

#### audio

Favor faithfulness to the input (the default).

### lowdelay

Restrict to only the lowest delay modes.

#### cutoff (N.A.)

Set cutoff bandwidth in Hz. The argument must be exactly one of the following: 4000, 6000, 8000, 12000, or 20000, corresponding to narrowband, mediumband, wideband, super wideband, and fullband respectively. The default is 0 (cutoff disabled).

# mapping\_family (mapping\_family)

Set channel mapping family to be used by the encoder. The default value of -1 uses mapping family 0 for mono and stereo inputs, and mapping family 1 otherwise. The default also disables the surround masking and LFE bandwidth optimizations in libopus, and requires that the input contains 8 channels or fewer.

Other values include 0 for mono and stereo, 1 for surround sound with masking and LFE bandwidth optimizations, and 255 for independent streams with an unspecified channel layout.

### apply\_phase\_inv (N.A.) (requires libopus >= 1.2)

If set to 0, disables the use of phase inversion for intensity stereo, improving the quality of mono downmixes, but slightly reducing normal stereo quality. The default is 1 (phase inversion enabled).

#### libshine

Shine Fixed-Point MP3 encoder wrapper.

Shine is a fixed-point MP3 encoder. It has a far better performance on platforms without an FPU, e.g. armel CPUs, and some phones and tablets. However, as it is more targeted on performance than quality, it is not on par with LAME and other production-grade encoders quality-wise. Also, according to the project's homepage, this encoder may not be free of bugs as the code was written a long time ago and the project was dead for at least 5 years.

This encoder only supports stereo and mono input. This is also CBR-only.

The original project (last updated in early 2007) is at <a href="http://sourceforge.net/projects/libshine-fxp/">http://sourceforge.net/projects/libshine-fxp/</a>>. We only support the updated fork by the Savonet/Liquidsoap project at <a href="https://github.com/savonet/shine">https://github.com/savonet/shine</a>>.

Requires the presence of the libshine headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libshine.

#### See also **libmp3lame**.

### **Options**

The following options are supported by the libshine wrapper. The **shineenc**–equivalent of the options are listed in parentheses.

## $\mathbf{b}(-b)$

Set bitrate expressed in bits/s for CBR. **shineenc –b** option is expressed in kilobits/s.

### libtwolame

TwoLAME MP2 encoder wrapper.

Requires the presence of the libtwolame headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libtwolame.

**Options** 

The following options are supported by the libtwolame wrapper. The **twolame**—equivalent options follow the FFmpeg ones and are in parentheses.

```
b (-b)
```

Set bitrate expressed in bits/s for CBR. **twolame b** option is expressed in kilobits/s. Default value is 128k.

```
q(-V)
```

Set quality for experimental VBR support. Maximum value range is from -50 to 50, useful range is from -10 to 10. The higher the value, the better the quality. This option is valid only using the **ffmpeg** command-line tool. For library interface users, use **global quality**.

```
mode(--mode)
```

Set the mode of the resulting audio. Possible values:

### auto

Choose mode automatically based on the input. This is the default.

#### stereo

Stereo

#### joint\_stereo

Joint stereo

#### dual channel

Dual channel

### mono

Mono

```
psymodel (--psyc-mode)
```

Set psychoacoustic model to use in encoding. The argument must be an integer between -1 and 4, inclusive. The higher the value, the better the quality. The default value is 3.

```
energy levels (--energy)
```

Enable energy levels extensions when set to 1. The default value is 0 (disabled).

```
error_protection (--protect)
```

Enable CRC error protection when set to 1. The default value is 0 (disabled).

```
copyright (--copyright)
```

Set MPEG audio copyright flag when set to 1. The default value is 0 (disabled).

```
original (--original
```

Set MPEG audio original flag when set to 1. The default value is 0 (disabled).

### libvo-amrwbenc

VisualOn Adaptive Multi-Rate Wideband encoder.

Requires the presence of the libvo-amrwbenc headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libvo-amrwbenc --enable-version3.

This is a mono-only encoder. Officially it only supports 16000Hz sample rate, but you can override it by setting **strict** to **unofficial** or lower.

# Options

**b** Set bitrate in bits/s. Only the following bitrates are supported, otherwise libavcodec will round to the nearest valid bitrate.

6600

8850

12650

14250

15850

18250

19850 23050

23850

**dtx** Allow discontinuous transmission (generate comfort noise) when set to 1. The default value is 0 (disabled).

#### libvorbis

libvorbis encoder wrapper.

Requires the presence of the libvorbisenc headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libvorbis.

#### **Options**

The following options are supported by the libvorbis wrapper. The **oggenc**-equivalent of the options are listed in parentheses.

To get a more accurate and extensive documentation of the libvorbis options, consult the libvorbisenc's and **oggenc**'s documentations. See <a href="http://xiph.org/vorbis/">http://wiki.xiph.org/vorbis-tools</a>, and **oggenc**(1).

#### $\mathbf{b}(-b)$

Set bitrate expressed in bits/s for ABR. **oggenc –b** is expressed in kilobits/s.

#### $\mathbf{q}\left(-q\right)$

Set constant quality setting for VBR. The value should be a float number in the range of -1.0 to 10.0. The higher the value, the better the quality. The default value is 3.0.

This option is valid only using the **ffmpeg** command-line tool. For library interface users, use **global quality**.

```
cutoff (--advanced-encode-option lowpass_frequency=N)
```

Set cutoff bandwidth in Hz, a value of 0 disables cutoff. **oggenc**'s related option is expressed in kHz. The default value is **0** (cutoff disabled).

# minrate (-m)

Set minimum bitrate expressed in bits/s. **oggenc –m** is expressed in kilobits/s.

#### maxrate (-M)

Set maximum bitrate expressed in bits/s. **oggenc** –**M** is expressed in kilobits/s. This only has effect on ABR mode.

```
iblock (--advanced-encode-option impulse_noisetune=N)
```

Set noise floor bias for impulse blocks. The value is a float number from -15.0 to 0.0. A negative bias instructs the encoder to pay special attention to the crispness of transients in the encoded audio. The tradeoff for better transient response is a higher bitrate.

#### mjpeg

Motion JPEG encoder.

**Options** 

# huffman

Set the huffman encoding strategy. Possible values:

## default

Use the default huffman tables. This is the default strategy.

#### optimal

Compute and use optimal huffman tables.

#### wavpack

WavPack lossless audio encoder.

**Options** 

The equivalent options for wavpack command line utility are listed in parentheses.

Shared options

The following shared options are effective for this encoder. Only special notes about this particular encoder will be documented here. For the general meaning of the options, see **the Codec Options chapter**.

```
frame_size (--blocksize)
```

For this encoder, the range for this option is between 128 and 131072. Default is automatically decided based on sample rate and number of channel.

For the complete formula of calculating default, see *libavcodec/wavpackenc.c*.

```
compression_level (-f, -h, -hh, and -x)
```

Private options

# $joint\_stereo(-j)$

Set whether to enable joint stereo. Valid values are:

**on** (1)

Force mid/side audio encoding.

**off** (0)

Force left/right audio encoding.

auto

Let the encoder decide automatically.

# optimize\_mono

Set whether to enable optimization for mono. This option is only effective for non-mono streams. Available values:

on enabled

off disabled

# **VIDEO ENCODERS**

A description of some of the currently available video encoders follows.

# GIF

GIF image/animation encoder.

**Options** 

# ${\bf gifflags}\ integer$

Sets the flags used for GIF encoding.

#### offsetting

Enables picture offsetting.

Default is enabled.

### transdiff

Enables transparency detection between frames.

Default is enabled.

# gifimage integer

Enables encoding one full GIF image per frame, rather than an animated GIF.

Default value is 0.

# global\_palette integer

Writes a palette to the global GIF header where feasible.

If disabled, every frame will always have a palette written, even if there is a global palette supplied.

Default value is 1.

## Hap

Vidvox Hap video encoder.

**Options** 

# format integer

Specifies the Hap format to encode.

hap

hap\_alpha

hap\_q

Default value is hap.

# chunks integer

Specifies the number of chunks to split frames into, between 1 and 64. This permits multithreaded decoding of large frames, potentially at the cost of data-rate. The encoder may modify this value to divide frames evenly.

Default value is 1.

# compressor integer

Specifies the second-stage compressor to use. If set to **none**, **chunks** will be limited to 1, as chunked uncompressed frames offer no benefit.

none

snappy

Default value is **snappy**.

# jpeg2000

The native jpeg 2000 encoder is lossy by default, the -q:v option can be used to set the encoding quality. Lossless encoding can be selected with -pred 1.

**Options** 

# format integer

Can be set to either j2k or jp2 (the default) that makes it possible to store non-rgb pix\_fmts.

### tile\_width integer

Sets tile width. Range is 1 to 1073741824. Default is 256.

## tile\_height integer

Sets tile height. Range is 1 to 1073741824. Default is 256.

# pred integer

Allows setting the discrete wavelet transform (DWT) type

dwt97int (Lossy)

dwt53 (Lossless)

Default is dwt97int

# sop boolean

Enable this to add SOP marker at the start of each packet. Disabled by default.

### eph boolean

Enable this to add EPH marker at the end of each packet header. Disabled by default.

## prog integer

Sets the progression order to be used by the encoder. Possible values are:

lrcp

rlcp

rpcl

pcrl cprl

Set to 1rcp by default.

### layer\_rates string

By default, when this option is not used, compression is done using the quality metric. This option allows for compression using compression ratio. The compression ratio for each level could be specified. The compression ratio of a layer 1 species the what ratio of total file size is contained in the first 1 layers.

Example usage:

```
ffmpeg -i input.bmp -c:v jpeg2000 -layer_rates "100,10,1" output.j2k
```

This would compress the image to contain 3 layers, where the data contained in the first layer would be compressed by 1000 times, compressed by 100 in the first two layers, and shall contain all data while using all 3 layers.

#### librav1e

rav1e AV1 encoder wrapper.

Requires the presence of the ravle headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libravle.

**Options** 

## qmax

Sets the maximum quantizer to use when using bitrate mode.

#### amin

Sets the minimum quantizer to use when using bitrate mode.

**qp** Uses quantizer mode to encode at the given quantizer (0-255).

# speed

Selects the speed preset (0-10) to encode with.

#### tiles

Selects how many tiles to encode with.

#### tile-rows

Selects how many rows of tiles to encode with.

#### tile-columns

Selects how many columns of tiles to encode with.

### rav1e-params

Set ravle options using a list of *key=value* pairs separated by ":". See **ravle** —**help** for a list of options.

For example to specify libravle encoding options with **-ravle-params**:

```
ffmpeg -i input -c:v libravle -b:v 500K -ravle-params speed=5:low_late
```

### libaom-av1

libaom AV1 encoder wrapper.

Requires the presence of the libaom headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libaom.

# **Options**

The wrapper supports the following standard libavcodec options:

**b** Set bitrate target in bits/second. By default this will use variable-bitrate mode. If **maxrate** and **minrate** are also set to the same value then it will use constant-bitrate mode, otherwise if **crf** is set as well then it will use constrained-quality mode.

#### g keyint\_min

Set key frame placement. The GOP size sets the maximum distance between key frames; if zero the output stream will be intra-only. The minimum distance is ignored unless it is the same as the GOP size, in which case key frames will always appear at a fixed interval. Not set by default, so without this option the library has completely free choice about where to place key frames.

## qmin qmax

Set minimum/maximum quantisation values. Valid range is from 0 to 63 (warning: this does not match the quantiser values actually used by AV1 – divide by four to map real quantiser values to this range). Defaults to min/max (no constraint).

# minrate maxrate bufsize rc\_init\_occupancy

Set rate control buffering parameters. Not used if not set – defaults to unconstrained variable bitrate.

## threads

Set the number of threads to use while encoding. This may require the **tiles** or **row-mt** options to also be set to actually use the specified number of threads fully. Defaults to the number of hardware threads supported by the host machine.

## profile

Set the encoding profile. Defaults to using the profile which matches the bit depth and chroma subsampling of the input.

The wrapper also has some specific options:

## cpu-used

Set the quality/encoding speed tradeoff. Valid range is from 0 to 8, higher numbers indicating greater speed and lower quality. The default value is 1, which will be slow and high quality.

# auto-alt-ref

Enable use of alternate reference frames. Defaults to the internal default of the library.

# arnr-max-frames (frames)

Set altref noise reduction max frame count. Default is -1.

#### arnr-strength (strength)

Set altref noise reduction filter strength. Range is -1 to 6. Default is -1.

#### **aq-mode** (aq-mode)

Set adaptive quantization mode. Possible values:

```
none (0)
```

Disabled.

## variance (1)

Variance-based.

### complexity (2)

Complexity-based.

## cyclic (3)

Cyclic refresh.

# tune (tune)

Set the distortion metric the encoder is tuned with. Default is psnr.

**psnr** (0)

**ssim** (1)

# lag-in-frames

Set the maximum number of frames which the encoder may keep in flight at any one time for lookahead purposes. Defaults to the internal default of the library.

#### error-resilience

Enable error resilience features:

#### default

Improve resilience against losses of whole frames.

Not enabled by default.

**crf** Set the quality/size tradeoff for constant-quality (no bitrate target) and constrained-quality (with maximum bitrate target) modes. Valid range is 0 to 63, higher numbers indicating lower quality and smaller output size. Only used if set; by default only the bitrate target is used.

#### static-thresh

Set a change threshold on blocks below which they will be skipped by the encoder. Defined in arbitrary units as a nonnegative integer, defaulting to zero (no blocks are skipped).

### drop-threshold

Set a threshold for dropping frames when close to rate control bounds. Defined as a percentage of the target buffer – when the rate control buffer falls below this percentage, frames will be dropped until it has refilled above the threshold. Defaults to zero (no frames are dropped).

#### denoise-noise-level (level)

Amount of noise to be removed for grain synthesis. Grain synthesis is disabled if this option is not set or set to 0.

### denoise-block-size (pixels)

Block size used for denoising for grain synthesis. If not set, AV1 codec uses the default value of 32.

# undershoot-pct (pct)

Set datarate undershoot (min) percentage of the target bitrate. Range is -1 to 100. Default is -1.

## overshoot-pct (pct)

Set datarate overshoot (max) percentage of the target bitrate. Range is -1 to 1000. Default is -1.

# minsection-pct (pct)

Minimum percentage variation of the GOP bitrate from the target bitrate. If minsection-pct is not set, the libaomenc wrapper computes it as follows: (minrate \* 100 / bitrate). Range is -1 to 100. Default is -1 (unset).

# maxsection-pct (pct)

Maximum percentage variation of the GOP bitrate from the target bitrate. If maxsection-pct is not set, the libaomenc wrapper computes it as follows: (maxrate \* 100 / bitrate). Range is -1 to 5000. Default is -1 (unset).

# frame-parallel (boolean)

Enable frame parallel decodability features. Default is true.

# tiles

Set the number of tiles to encode the input video with, as columns x rows. Larger numbers allow greater parallelism in both encoding and decoding, but may decrease coding efficiency. Defaults to the minimum number of tiles required by the size of the input video (this is 1x1 (that is, a single tile) for sizes up to and including 4K).

## tile-columns tile-rows

Set the number of tiles as log2 of the number of tile rows and columns. Provided for compatibility with libvpx/VP9.

# row-mt (Requires libaom $\geq$ 1.0.0-759-g90a15f4f2)

Enable row based multi-threading. Disabled by default.

#### enable-cdef (boolean)

Enable Constrained Directional Enhancement Filter. The libaom-av1 encoder enables CDEF by default.

#### **enable-restoration** (boolean)

Enable Loop Restoration Filter. Default is true for libaom-av1.

## enable-global-motion (boolean)

Enable the use of global motion for block prediction. Default is true.

#### enable-intrabc (boolean)

Enable block copy mode for intra block prediction. This mode is useful for screen content. Default is true.

## enable-rect-partitions (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable rectangular partitions. Default is true.

# enable-1to4-partitions (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable 1:4/4:1 partitions. Default is true.

# enable-ab-partitions (boolean) (Requires libaom $\ge$ v2.0.0)

Enable AB shape partitions. Default is true.

# enable-angle-delta (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable angle delta intra prediction. Default is true.

# enable-cfl-intra (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable chroma predicted from luma intra prediction. Default is true.

# enable-filter-intra (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable filter intra predictor. Default is true.

## enable-intra-edge-filter (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable intra edge filter. Default is true.

## enable-smooth-intra (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq v2.0.0$ )

Enable smooth intra prediction mode. Default is true.

# enable-paeth-intra (boolean) (Requires libaom $\ge$ v2.0.0)

Enable paeth predictor in intra prediction. Default is true.

# enable-palette (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable palette prediction mode. Default is true.

#### enable-flip-idtx (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable extended transform type, including FLIPADST\_DCT, DCT\_FLIPADST, FLIPADST, FLIPADST, ADST\_FLIPADST, FLIPADST, IDTX, V\_DCT, H\_DCT, V\_ADST, H\_ADST, V\_FLIPADST, H\_FLIPADST. Default is true.

## enable-tx64 (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable 64-pt transform. Default is true.

# reduced-tx-type-set (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Use reduced set of transform types. Default is false.

# use-intra-dct-only (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Use DCT only for INTRA modes. Default is false.

# use-inter-dct-only (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Use DCT only for INTER modes. Default is false.

# use-intra-default-tx-only (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Use Default-transform only for INTRA modes. Default is false.

## enable-ref-frame-mvs (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable temporal my prediction. Default is true.

# enable-reduced-reference-set (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Use reduced set of single and compound references. Default is false.

# enable-obmc (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable obmc. Default is true.

# enable-dual-filter (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable dual filter. Default is true.

# enable-diff-wtd-comp (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable difference-weighted compound. Default is true.

# enable-dist-wtd-comp (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable distance-weighted compound. Default is true.

# enable-onesided-comp (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable one sided compound. Default is true.

## enable-interinter-wedge (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable interinter wedge compound. Default is true.

# enable-interintra-wedge (boolean) (Requires libaom >= v2.0.0)

Enable interintra wedge compound. Default is true.

## enable-masked-comp (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable masked compound. Default is true.

## enable-interintra-comp (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable interintra compound. Default is true.

# enable-smooth-interintra (boolean) (Requires libaom $\geq$ v2.0.0)

Enable smooth interintra mode. Default is true.

### aom-params

Set libaom options using a list of *key=value* pairs separated by ":". For a list of supported options, see **aomenc** —**help** under the section "AV1 Specific Options".

For example to specify libaom encoding options with -aom-params:

ffmpeg -i input -c:v libaom-av1 -b:v 500K -aom-params tune=psnr:enable

# libsvtav1

SVT-AV1 encoder wrapper.

Requires the presence of the SVT-AV1 headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libsvtav1.

**Options** 

## profile

Set the encoding profile.

### level

Set the operating point level.

tier Set the operating point tier.

**rc** Set the rate control mode to use.

Possible modes:

#### cqp

Constant quantizer: use fixed values of qindex (dependent on the frame type) throughout the stream. This mode is the default.

**vbr** Variable bitrate: use a target bitrate for the whole stream.

#### cvbr

Constrained variable bitrate: use a target bitrate for each GOP.

#### qmax

Set the maximum quantizer to use when using a bitrate mode.

#### gmin

Set the minimum quantizer to use when using a bitrate mode.

**qp** Set the quantizer used in cqp rate control mode (0–63).

#### sc detection

Enable scene change detection.

#### la depth

Set number of frames to look ahead (0–120).

#### preset

Set the quality-speed tradeoff, in the range 0 to 8. Higher values are faster but lower quality. Defaults to 8 (highest speed).

#### tile rows

Set  $\log 2$  of the number of rows of tiles to use (0-6).

#### tile columns

Set log 2 of the number of columns of tiles to use (0-4).

#### libkvazaar

Kvazaar H.265/HEVC encoder.

Requires the presence of the libkvazaar headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with **—enable-libkvazaar**.

**Options** 

**b** Set target video bitrate in bit/s and enable rate control.

# kvazaar-params

Set kvazaar parameters as a list of *name=value* pairs separated by commas (,). See kvazaar documentation for a list of options.

# libopenh264

Cisco libopenh264 H.264/MPEG-4 AVC encoder wrapper.

This encoder requires the presence of the libopenh264 headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libopenh264. The library is detected using **pkg-config**.

For more information about the library see <a href="http://www.openh264.org">http://www.openh264.org</a>>.

# Options

The following FFmpeg global options affect the configurations of the libopenh264 encoder.

- **b** Set the bitrate (as a number of bits per second).
- g Set the GOP size.

# maxrate

Set the max bitrate (as a number of bits per second).

# flags +global\_header

Set global header in the bitstream.

#### slices

Set the number of slices, used in parallelized encoding. Default value is 0. This is only used when **slice\_mode** is set to **fixed**.

#### slice mode

Set slice mode. Can assume one of the following possible values:

#### fixed

a fixed number of slices

#### rowmb

one slice per row of macroblocks

#### auto

automatic number of slices according to number of threads

#### dyn

dynamic slicing

Default value is auto.

# loopfilter

Enable loop filter, if set to 1 (automatically enabled). To disable set a value of 0.

# profile

Set profile restrictions. If set to the value of **main** enable CABAC (set the SEncParamExt.iEntropyCodingModeFlag flag to 1).

#### max nal size

Set maximum NAL size in bytes.

# allow\_skip\_frames

Allow skipping frames to hit the target bitrate if set to 1.

# libtheora

libtheora Theora encoder wrapper.

Requires the presence of the libtheora headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libtheora.

For more information about the libtheora project see <a href="http://www.theora.org/">http://www.theora.org/</a>>.

# **Options**

The following global options are mapped to internal libtheora options which affect the quality and the bitrate of the encoded stream.

**b** Set the video bitrate in bit/s for CBR (Constant Bit Rate) mode. In case VBR (Variable Bit Rate) mode is enabled this option is ignored.

# flags

Used to enable constant quality mode (VBR) encoding through the **qscale** flag, and to enable the pass1 and pass2 modes.

g Set the GOP size.

# global\_quality

Set the global quality as an integer in lambda units.

Only relevant when VBR mode is enabled with flags +qscale. The value is converted to QP units by dividing it by FF\_QP2LAMBDA, clipped in the [0-10] range, and then multiplied by 6.3 to get a value in the native libtheora range [0-63]. A higher value corresponds to a higher quality.

**q** Enable VBR mode when set to a non-negative value, and set constant quality value as a double floating point value in QP units.

The value is clipped in the [0-10] range, and then multiplied by 6.3 to get a value in the native libtheora range [0-63].

This option is valid only using the **ffmpeg** command-line tool. For library interface users, use **global\_quality**.

# Examples

• Set maximum constant quality (VBR) encoding with **ffmpeg**:

```
ffmpeg -i INPUT -codec:v libtheora -g:v 10 OUTPUT.ogg
```

• Use **ffmpeg** to convert a CBR 1000 kbps Theora video stream:

```
ffmpeg -i INPUT -codec:v libtheora -b:v 1000k OUTPUT.ogg
```

#### libvpx

VP8/VP9 format supported through libvpx.

Requires the presence of the libvpx headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libvpx.

### **Options**

The following options are supported by the libvpx wrapper. The **vpxenc**-equivalent options or values are listed in parentheses for easy migration.

To reduce the duplication of documentation, only the private options and some others requiring special attention are documented here. For the documentation of the undocumented generic options, see **the Codec Options chapter**.

To get more documentation of the libvpx options, invoke the command **ffmpeg** -h **encoder=libvpx**, **ffmpeg** -h **encoder=libvpx-vp9** or **vpxenc** --help. Further information is available in the libvpx API documentation.

# **b** (target-bitrate)

Set bitrate in bits/s. Note that FFmpeg's **b** option is expressed in bits/s, while **vpxenc**'s **target-bitrate** is in kilobits/s.

```
g (kf-max-dist)
```

keyint\_min (kf-min-dist)

qmin (min-q)

qmax (max-q)

**bufsize** (buf-sz, buf-optimal-sz)

Set ratecontrol buffer size (in bits). Note **vpxenc**'s options are specified in milliseconds, the libvpx wrapper converts this value as follows: buf-sz = bufsize \* 1000 / bitrate, buf-optimal-sz = bufsize \* 1000 / bitrate \* 5 / 6.

### rc\_init\_occupancy (buf-initial-sz)

Set number of bits which should be loaded into the rc buffer before decoding starts. Note **vpxenc**'s option is specified in milliseconds, the libvpx wrapper converts this value as follows:  $rc\_init\_occupancy * 1000 / bitrate$ .

#### undershoot-pct

Set datarate undershoot (min) percentage of the target bitrate.

#### overshoot-pct

Set datarate overshoot (max) percentage of the target bitrate.

# skip\_threshold (drop-frame)

## qcomp (bias-pct)

#### **maxrate** (maxsection-pct)

Set GOP max bitrate in bits/s. Note **vpxenc**'s option is specified as a percentage of the target bitrate, the libvpx wrapper converts this value as follows: (maxrate \* 100 / bitrate).

#### minrate (minsection-pct)

Set GOP min bitrate in bits/s. Note **vpxenc**'s option is specified as a percentage of the target bitrate, the libvpx wrapper converts this value as follows: (minrate \* 100 / bitrate).

#### minrate, maxrate, b end-usage=cbr

```
(minrate == maxrate == bitrate).
```

# **crf** (*end*–*usage*=*cq*, *cq*-*level*)

### tune (tune)

#### psnr (psnr)

ssim (ssim)

# quality, deadline (deadline)

#### best

Use best quality deadline. Poorly named and quite slow, this option should be avoided as it may give worse quality output than good.

# good

Use good quality deadline. This is a good trade-off between speed and quality when used with the **cpu-used** option.

# realtime

Use realtime quality deadline.

#### **speed, cpu-used** (*cpu-used*)

Set quality/speed ratio modifier. Higher values speed up the encode at the cost of quality.

### **nr** (noise-sensitivity)

# static-thresh

Set a change threshold on blocks below which they will be skipped by the encoder.

# slices (token-parts)

Note that FFmpeg's **slices** option gives the total number of partitions, while **vpxenc**'s **token-parts** is given as log2(partitions).

#### max-intra-rate

Set maximum I-frame bitrate as a percentage of the target bitrate. A value of 0 means unlimited.

#### force\_key\_frames

```
VPX_EFLAG_FORCE_KF
```

# Alternate reference frame related

#### auto-alt-ref

Enable use of alternate reference frames (2–pass only). Values greater than 1 enable multi-layer alternate reference frames (VP9 only).

# arnr-maxframes

Set altref noise reduction max frame count.

#### arnr-type

Set altref noise reduction filter type: backward, forward, centered.

# arnr-strength

Set altref noise reduction filter strength.

## rc-lookahead, lag-in-frames (lag-in-frames)

Set number of frames to look ahead for frametype and ratecontrol.

#### error-resilient

Enable error resiliency features.

#### sharpness integer

Increase sharpness at the expense of lower PSNR. The valid range is [0, 7].

#### ts-parameters

Sets the temporal scalability configuration using a :-separated list of key=value pairs. For example, to specify temporal scalability parameters with ffmpeq:

```
ffmpeg -i INPUT -c:v libvpx -ts-parameters ts_number_layers=3:\
ts_target_bitrate=250,500,1000:ts_rate_decimator=4,2,1:\
ts_periodicity=4:ts_layer_id=0,2,1,2:ts_layering_mode=3 OUTPUT
```

Below is a brief explanation of each of the parameters, please refer to struct vpx\_codec\_enc\_cfg in vpx/vpx\_encoder.h for more details.

### ts\_number\_layers

Number of temporal coding layers.

#### ts\_target\_bitrate

Target bitrate for each temporal layer (in kbps). (bitrate should be inclusive of the lower temporal layer).

## ts\_rate\_decimator

Frame rate decimation factor for each temporal layer.

# ts\_periodicity

Length of the sequence defining frame temporal layer membership.

# ts layer id

Template defining the membership of frames to temporal layers.

#### ts\_layering\_mode

(optional) Selecting the temporal structure from a set of pre-defined temporal layering modes. Currently supports the following options.

**0** No temporal layering flags are provided internally, relies on flags being passed in using metadata field in AVFrame with following keys.

# vp8-flags

Sets the flags passed into the encoder to indicate the referencing scheme for the current frame. Refer to function  $vpx\_codec\_encode$  in  $vpx\_vpx\_encoder.h$  for more details.

# temporal\_id

Explicitly sets the temporal id of the current frame to encode.

- 2 Two temporal layers. 0–1...
- 3 Three temporal layers. 0–2–1–2...; with single reference frame.
- 4 Same as option "3", except there is a dependency between the two temporal layer 2 frames within the temporal period.

# VP9-specific options

#### lossless

Enable lossless mode.

## tile-columns

Set number of tile columns to use. Note this is given as log2(tile\_columns). For example, 8 tile columns would be requested by setting the **tile-columns** option to 3.

### tile-rows

Set number of tile rows to use. Note this is given as log2(tile\_rows). For example, 4 tile rows would be requested by setting the **tile-rows** option to 2.

# frame-parallel

Enable frame parallel decodability features.

#### aq-mode

Set adaptive quantization mode (0: off (default), 1: variance 2: complexity, 3: cyclic refresh, 4: equator360).

## colorspace color-space

Set input color space. The VP9 bitstream supports signaling the following colorspaces:

rgb sRGB bt709 bt709 unspecified unknown bt470bg bt601 smpte170m smpte170 smpte240m smpte240 bt2020\_ncl bt2020

#### row-mt boolean

Enable row based multi-threading.

#### tune-content

Set content type: default (0), screen (1), film (2).

## corpus-complexity

Corpus VBR mode is a variant of standard VBR where the complexity distribution midpoint is passed in rather than calculated for a specific clip or chunk.

The valid range is [0, 10000]. 0 (default) uses standard VBR.

# enable-tpl boolean

Enable temporal dependency model.

## ref-frame-config

Using per-frame metadata, set members of the structure vpx\_svc\_ref\_frame\_config\_t in vpx/vp8cx.h to fine-control referencing schemes and frame buffer management. Use a :-separated list of key=value pairs. For example,

```
av_dict_set(&av_frame->metadata, "ref-frame-config", \
"rfc_update_buffer_slot=7:rfc_lst_fb_idx=0:rfc_gld_fb_idx=1:rfc_alt
```

#### rfc update buffer slot

Indicates the buffer slot number to update

## rfc\_update\_last

Indicates whether to update the LAST frame

# rfc\_update\_golden

Indicates whether to update GOLDEN frame

# rfc\_update\_alt\_ref

Indicates whether to update ALT\_REF frame

# $rfc\_lst\_fb\_idx$

LAST frame buffer index

## rfc\_gld\_fb\_idx

GOLDEN frame buffer index

# rfc\_alt\_fb\_idx

ALT\_REF frame buffer index

# rfc\_reference\_last

Indicates whether to reference LAST frame

# rfc\_reference\_golden

Indicates whether to reference GOLDEN frame

#### rfc reference alt ref

Indicates whether to reference ALT\_REF frame

#### rfc reference duration

Indicates frame duration

For more information about libvpx see: <a href="http://www.webmproject.org/">http://www.webmproject.org/</a>

# libwebp

libwebp WebP Image encoder wrapper

libwebp is Google's official encoder for WebP images. It can encode in either lossy or lossless mode. Lossy images are essentially a wrapper around a VP8 frame. Lossless images are a separate codec developed by Google.

#### Pixel Format

Currently, libwebp only supports YUV420 for lossy and RGB for lossless due to limitations of the format and libwebp. Alpha is supported for either mode. Because of API limitations, if RGB is passed in when encoding lossy or YUV is passed in for encoding lossless, the pixel format will automatically be converted using functions from libwebp. This is not ideal and is done only for convenience.

# **Options**

#### -lossless boolean

Enables/Disables use of lossless mode. Default is 0.

## -compression\_level integer

For lossy, this is a quality/speed tradeoff. Higher values give better quality for a given size at the cost of increased encoding time. For lossless, this is a size/speed tradeoff. Higher values give smaller size at the cost of increased encoding time. More specifically, it controls the number of extra algorithms and compression tools used, and varies the combination of these tools. This maps to the *method* option in libwebp. The valid range is 0 to 6. Default is 4.

# -qscale float

For lossy encoding, this controls image quality, 0 to 100. For lossless encoding, this controls the effort and time spent at compressing more. The default value is 75. Note that for usage via libavcodec, this option is called *global\_quality* and must be multiplied by *FF\_QP2LAMBDA*.

# **–preset** *type*

Configuration preset. This does some automatic settings based on the general type of the image.

#### none

Do not use a preset.

# default

Use the encoder default.

# picture

Digital picture, like portrait, inner shot

# photo

Outdoor photograph, with natural lighting

#### drawing

Hand or line drawing, with high-contrast details

## icon

Small-sized colorful images

#### text

Text-like

# libx264, libx264rgb

x264 H.264/MPEG-4 AVC encoder wrapper.

This encoder requires the presence of the libx264 headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libx264.

libx264 supports an impressive number of features, including 8x8 and 4x4 adaptive spatial transform, adaptive B-frame placement, CAVLC/CABAC entropy coding, interlacing (MBAFF), lossless mode, psy optimizations for detail retention (adaptive quantization, psy-RD, psy-trellis).

Many libx264 encoder options are mapped to FFmpeg global codec options, while unique encoder options are provided through private options. Additionally the **x264opts** and **x264-params** private options allows one to pass a list of key=value tuples as accepted by the libx264 x264\_param\_parse function.

The x264 project website is at <a href="http://www.videolan.org/developers/x264.html">http://www.videolan.org/developers/x264.html</a>.

The libx264rgb encoder is the same as libx264, except it accepts packed RGB pixel formats as input instead of YUV.

Supported Pixel Formats

x264 supports 8– to 10–bit color spaces. The exact bit depth is controlled at x264's configure time.

**Options** 

The following options are supported by the libx264 wrapper. The **x264**-equivalent options or values are listed in parentheses for easy migration.

To reduce the duplication of documentation, only the private options and some others requiring special attention are documented here. For the documentation of the undocumented generic options, see **the Codec Options chapter**.

To get a more accurate and extensive documentation of the libx264 options, invoke the command **x264** — **fullhelp** or consult the libx264 documentation.

### **b** (bitrate)

Set bitrate in bits/s. Note that FFmpeg's **b** option is expressed in bits/s, while **x264**'s **bitrate** is in kilobits/s.

**bf** (bframes)

g (keyint)

# qmin (qpmin)

Minimum quantizer scale.

# qmax (qpmax)

Maximum quantizer scale.

## qdiff (qpstep)

Maximum difference between quantizer scales.

### **qblur** (*qblur*)

Quantizer curve blur

# qcomp (qcomp)

Quantizer curve compression factor

#### refs (ref)

Number of reference frames each P-frame can use. The range is from 0-16.

## sc threshold (scenecut)

Sets the threshold for the scene change detection.

# trellis (trellis)

Performs Trellis quantization to increase efficiency. Enabled by default.

```
nr (nr)
```

## me\_range (merange)

Maximum range of the motion search in pixels.

#### me\_method (me)

Set motion estimation method. Possible values in the decreasing order of speed:

#### dia (dia)

### epzs (dia)

Diamond search with radius 1 (fastest). epzs is an alias for dia.

#### hex (hex)

Hexagonal search with radius 2.

### umh (umh)

Uneven multi-hexagon search.

#### esa (esa)

Exhaustive search.

## tesa (tesa)

Hadamard exhaustive search (slowest).

#### forced-idr

Normally, when forcing a I-frame type, the encoder can select any type of I-frame. This option forces it to choose an IDR-frame.

#### **subq** (subme)

Sub-pixel motion estimation method.

# **b\_strategy** (b-adapt)

Adaptive B-frame placement decision algorithm. Use only on first-pass.

## **keyint min** (*min-keyint*)

Minimum GOP size.

# coder

Set entropy encoder. Possible values:

**ac** Enable CABAC.

vlc Enable CAVLC and disable CABAC. It generates the same effect as x264's --no-cabac option.

# cmp

Set full pixel motion estimation comparison algorithm. Possible values:

### chroma

Enable chroma in motion estimation.

sad Ignore chroma in motion estimation. It generates the same effect as x264's --no-chroma-me option.

## threads (threads)

Number of encoding threads.

## thread\_type

Set multithreading technique. Possible values:

#### slice

Slice-based multithreading. It generates the same effect as **x264**'s **--sliced-threads** option.

#### frame

Frame-based multithreading.

## flags

Set encoding flags. It can be used to disable closed GOP and enable open GOP by setting it to -cgop. The result is similar to the behavior of x264's --open-gop option.

```
rc_init_occupancy (vbv-init)
preset (preset)
    Set the encoding preset.
tune (tune)
    Set tuning of the encoding params.
profile (profile)
    Set profile restrictions.
fastfirstpass
    Enable fast settings when encoding first pass, when set to 1. When set to 0, it has the same effect of
    x264's --slow-firstpass option.
crf (crf)
    Set the quality for constant quality mode.
crf_max (crf-max)
    In CRF mode, prevents VBV from lowering quality beyond this point.
qp (qp)
    Set constant quantization rate control method parameter.
aq-mode (aq-mode)
    Set AQ method. Possible values:
    none (0)
         Disabled.
    variance (1)
         Variance AQ (complexity mask).
    autovariance (2)
         Auto-variance AQ (experimental).
aq-strength (aq-strength)
    Set AQ strength, reduce blocking and blurring in flat and textured areas.
psy Use psychovisual optimizations when set to 1. When set to 0, it has the same effect as x264's
     --no-psy option.
psy-rd (psy-rd)
    Set strength of psychovisual optimization, in psy-rd:psy-trellis format.
rc-lookahead (rc-lookahead)
    Set number of frames to look ahead for frametype and ratecontrol.
    Enable weighted prediction for B-frames when set to 1. When set to 0, it has the same effect as x264's
     --no-weightb option.
weightp (weightp)
    Set weighted prediction method for P-frames. Possible values:
    none (0)
         Disabled
    simple (1)
         Enable only weighted refs
    smart (2)
         Enable both weighted refs and duplicates
ssim (ssim)
    Enable calculation and printing SSIM stats after the encoding.
```

## intra-refresh (intra-refresh)

Enable the use of Periodic Intra Refresh instead of IDR frames when set to 1.

#### avcintra-class (class)

Configure the encoder to generate AVC-Intra. Valid values are 50,100 and 200

# bluray-compat (bluray-compat)

Configure the encoder to be compatible with the bluray standard. It is a shorthand for setting "bluray-compat=1 force-cfr=1".

## **b-bias** (b-bias)

Set the influence on how often B-frames are used.

### **b-pyramid** (*b-pyramid*)

Set method for keeping of some B-frames as references. Possible values:

#### none (none)

Disabled.

# strict (strict)

Strictly hierarchical pyramid.

#### normal (normal)

Non-strict (not Blu-ray compatible).

#### mixed-refs

Enable the use of one reference per partition, as opposed to one reference per macroblock when set to 1. When set to 0, it has the same effect as  $\mathbf{x264}$ 's  $-\mathbf{no-mixed-refs}$  option.

#### 8x8dct

Enable adaptive spatial transform (high profile 8x8 transform) when set to 1. When set to 0, it has the same effect as  $\mathbf{x264}$ 's  $-\mathbf{no-8x8dct}$  option.

#### fast-pskip

Enable early SKIP detection on P-frames when set to 1. When set to 0, it has the same effect as **x264**'s **--no-fast-pskip** option.

### aud (aud)

Enable use of access unit delimiters when set to 1.

#### mbtree

Enable use macroblock tree ratecontrol when set to 1. When set to 0, it has the same effect as **x264**'s **—no–mbtree** option.

# deblock (deblock)

Set loop filter parameters, in alpha:beta form.

# cplxblur (cplxblur)

Set fluctuations reduction in QP (before curve compression).

#### partitions (partitions)

Set partitions to consider as a comma-separated list of. Possible values in the list:

# p8x8

8x8 P-frame partition.

# p4x4

4x4 P-frame partition.

### b8x8

4x4 B-frame partition.

#### i8x8

8x8 I-frame partition.

#### i4x4

4x4 I-frame partition. (Enabling **p4x4** requires **p8x8** to be enabled. Enabling **i8x8** requires adaptive spatial transform (**8x8dct** option) to be enabled.)

## **none** (none)

Do not consider any partitions.

#### all (all)

Consider every partition.

## direct-pred (direct)

Set direct MV prediction mode. Possible values:

#### none (none)

Disable MV prediction.

# spatial (spatial)

Enable spatial predicting.

# temporal (temporal)

Enable temporal predicting.

#### auto (auto)

Automatically decided.

# slice-max-size (slice-max-size)

Set the limit of the size of each slice in bytes. If not specified but RTP payload size (ps) is specified, that is used.

#### stats (stats)

Set the file name for multi-pass stats.

#### nal-hrd (nal-hrd)

Set signal HRD information (requires vbv-bufsize to be set). Possible values:

## none (none)

Disable HRD information signaling.

#### **vbr** (*vbr*)

Variable bit rate.

# **cbr** (*cbr*)

Constant bit rate (not allowed in MP4 container).

# x264opts (N.A.)

Set any x264 option, see **x264** — **fullhelp** for a list.

Argument is a list of *key=value* couples separated by ":". In *filter* and *psy-rd* options that use ":" as a separator themselves, use "," instead. They accept it as well since long ago but this is kept undocumented for some reason.

For example to specify libx264 encoding options with **ffmpeg**:

```
ffmpeg -i foo.mpg -c:v libx264 -x264opts keyint=123:min-keyint=20 -an
```

# a53cc boolean

Import closed captions (which must be ATSC compatible format) into output. Only the mpeg2 and h264 decoders provide these. Default is 1 (on).

# x264-params (N.A.)

Override the x264 configuration using a :-separated list of key=value parameters.

This option is functionally the same as the  $\mathbf{x264opts}$ , but is duplicated for compatibility with the Libav fork.

For example to specify libx264 encoding options with **ffmpeg**:

```
ffmpeg -i INPUT -c:v libx264 -x264-params level=30:bframes=0:weightp=0cabac=0:ref=1:vbv-maxrate=768:vbv-bufsize=2000:analyse=all:me=umh:\no-fast-pskip=1:subg=6:8x8dct=0:trellis=0 OUTPUT
```

Encoding ffpresets for common usages are provided so they can be used with the general presets system (e.g. passing the **pre** option).

#### libx265

x265 H.265/HEVC encoder wrapper.

This encoder requires the presence of the libx265 headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with —enable-libx265.

# **Options**

**b** Sets target video bitrate.

bf

g Set the GOP size.

#### keyint min

Minimum GOP size.

#### refs

Number of reference frames each P-frame can use. The range is from 1-16.

#### preset

Set the x265 preset.

#### tune

Set the x265 tune parameter.

## profile

Set profile restrictions.

**crf** Set the quality for constant quality mode.

**qp** Set constant quantization rate control method parameter.

#### qmin

Minimum quantizer scale.

#### qmax

Maximum quantizer scale.

# qdiff

Maximum difference between quantizer scales.

# gblur

Quantizer curve blur

# qcomp

Quantizer curve compression factor

### i\_qfactor

# b\_qfactor

# forced-idr

Normally, when forcing a I-frame type, the encoder can select any type of I-frame. This option forces it to choose an IDR-frame.

# x265-params

Set x265 options using a list of *key=value* couples separated by ":". See **x265** —**help** for a list of options.

For example to specify libx265 encoding options with -x265-params:

```
ffmpeg -i input -c:v libx265 -x265-params crf=26:psy-rd=1 output.mp4
```

#### libxavs2

xavs2 AVS2-P2/IEEE1857.4 encoder wrapper.

This encoder requires the presence of the libxavs2 headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with —enable—libxavs2.

The following standard libavcodec options are used:

- b / bit\_rate
- g / gop\_size
- bf / max\_b\_frames

The encoder also has its own specific options:

**Options** 

## lcu\_row\_threads

Set the number of parallel threads for rows from 1 to 8 (default 5).

## initial\_qp

Set the xavs2 quantization parameter from 1 to 63 (default 34). This is used to set the initial qp for the first frame.

**qp** Set the xavs2 quantization parameter from 1 to 63 (default 34). This is used to set the qp value under constant-QP mode.

# max\_qp

Set the max qp for rate control from 1 to 63 (default 55).

#### min\_qp

Set the min qp for rate control from 1 to 63 (default 20).

#### speed level

Set the Speed level from 0 to 9 (default 0). Higher is better but slower.

#### log\_level

Set the log level from -1 to 3 (default 0). -1: none, 0: error, 1: warning, 2: info, 3: debug.

# xavs2-params

Set xavs2 options using a list of key=value couples separated by ":".

For example to specify libxavs2 encoding options with **-xavs2-params**:

```
ffmpeg -i input -c:v libxavs2 -xavs2-params RdoqLevel=0 output.avs2
```

#### libxvid

Xvid MPEG-4 Part 2 encoder wrapper.

This encoder requires the presence of the libxvidcore headers and library during configuration. You need to explicitly configure the build with --enable-libxvid --enable-gpl.

The native mpeg4 encoder supports the MPEG-4 Part 2 format, so users can encode to this format without this library.

# **Options**

The following options are supported by the libxvid wrapper. Some of the following options are listed but are not documented, and correspond to shared codec options. See **the Codec Options chapter** for their documentation. The other shared options which are not listed have no effect for the libxvid encoder.

b g qmin

qmax

# mpeg\_quant threads bf b\_qfactor b\_qoffset flags

Set specific encoding flags. Possible values:

#### mv4

Use four motion vector by macroblock.

aic Enable high quality AC prediction.

#### gray

Only encode grayscale.

#### gmc

Enable the use of global motion compensation (GMC).

#### qpel

Enable quarter-pixel motion compensation.

#### cgop

Enable closed GOP.

## global\_header

Place global headers in extradata instead of every keyframe.

#### trellis

# $me\_method$

Set motion estimation method. Possible values in decreasing order of speed and increasing order of quality:

#### zero

Use no motion estimation (default).

### phods

x1

**log** Enable advanced diamond zonal search for 16x16 blocks and half-pixel refinement for 16x16 blocks. **x1** and **log** are aliases for **phods**.

#### epzs

Enable all of the things described above, plus advanced diamond zonal search for 8x8 blocks, half-pixel refinement for 8x8 blocks, and motion estimation on chroma planes.

**full** Enable all of the things described above, plus extended 16x16 and 8x8 blocks search.

# mbd

Set macroblock decision algorithm. Possible values in the increasing order of quality:

#### simple

Use macroblock comparing function algorithm (default).

### bits

Enable rate distortion-based half pixel and quarter pixel refinement for 16x16 blocks.

Enable all of the things described above, plus rate distortion-based half pixel and quarter pixel refinement for 8x8 blocks, and rate distortion-based search using square pattern.

# lumi\_aq

Enable lumi masking adaptive quantization when set to 1. Default is 0 (disabled).

# variance\_aq

Enable variance adaptive quantization when set to 1. Default is 0 (disabled).

When combined with lumi\_aq, the resulting quality will not be better than any of the two specified

individually. In other words, the resulting quality will be the worse one of the two effects.

#### ssim

Set structural similarity (SSIM) displaying method. Possible values:

off Disable displaying of SSIM information.

avg Output average SSIM at the end of encoding to stdout. The format of showing the average SSIM is:

```
Average SSIM: %f
```

For users who are not familiar with C, %f means a float number, or a decimal (e.g. 0.939232).

#### frame

Output both per-frame SSIM data during encoding and average SSIM at the end of encoding to stdout. The format of per-frame information is:

```
SSIM: avg: %1.3f min: %1.3f max: %1.3f
```

For users who are not familiar with C, \$1.3f means a float number rounded to 3 digits after the dot (e.g. 0.932).

#### ssim acc

Set SSIM accuracy. Valid options are integers within the range of 0–4, while 0 gives the most accurate result and 4 computes the fastest.

#### MediaFoundation

This provides wrappers to encoders (both audio and video) in the MediaFoundation framework. It can access both SW and HW encoders. Video encoders can take input in either of nv12 or yuv420p form (some encoders support both, some support only either – in practice, nv12 is the safer choice, especially among HW encoders).

# mpeg2

MPEG-2 video encoder.

**Options** 

#### profile

Select the mpeg2 profile to encode:

422

high

ss Spatially Scalable

snr SNR Scalable

main

simple

# level

Select the mpeg2 level to encode:

high

high1440

main

low

#### seq\_disp\_ext integer

Specifies if the encoder should write a sequence\_display\_extension to the output.

-1

# auto

Decide automatically to write it or not (this is the default) by checking if the data to be written is different from the default or unspecified values.

```
0
never
Never write it.
1
always
Always write it.
```

#### video format integer

Specifies the video\_format written into the sequence display extension indicating the source of the video pictures. The default is **unspecified**, can be **component**, **pal**, **ntsc**, **secam** or **mac**. For maximum compatibility, use **component**.

#### a53cc boolean

Import closed captions (which must be ATSC compatible format) into output. Default is 1 (on).

## png

PNG image encoder.

Private options

dpi integer

Set physical density of pixels, in dots per inch, unset by default

dpm integer

Set physical density of pixels, in dots per meter, unset by default

#### **ProRes**

Apple ProRes encoder.

FFmpeg contains 2 ProRes encoders, the prores-aw and prores-ks encoder. The used encoder can be chosen with the -vcodec option.

Private Options for prores-ks

## profile integer

Select the ProRes profile to encode

proxy lt

standard

hq

4444

4444xq

# quant\_mat integer

Select quantization matrix.

auto

default

proxy

lt

standard

hq

If set to *auto*, the matrix matching the profile will be picked. If not set, the matrix providing the highest quality, *default*, will be picked.

## bits\_per\_mb integer

How many bits to allot for coding one macroblock. Different profiles use between 200 and 2400 bits per macroblock, the maximum is 8000.

# mbs\_per\_slice integer

Number of macroblocks in each slice (1–8); the default value (8) should be good in almost all situations.

## vendor string

Override the 4-byte vendor ID. A custom vendor ID like *apl0* would claim the stream was produced by the Apple encoder.

# alpha\_bits integer

Specify number of bits for alpha component. Possible values are 0, 8 and 16. Use0 to disable alpha plane coding.

# Speed considerations

In the default mode of operation the encoder has to honor frame constraints (i.e. not produce frames with size bigger than requested) while still making output picture as good as possible. A frame containing a lot of small details is harder to compress and the encoder would spend more time searching for appropriate quantizers for each slice.

Setting a higher **bits\_per\_mb** limit will improve the speed.

For the fastest encoding speed set the **qscale** parameter (4 is the recommended value) and do not set a size constraint.

# **QSV** encoders

The family of Intel QuickSync Video encoders (MPEG-2, H.264, HEVC, JPEG/MJPEG and VP9)

The ratecontrol method is selected as follows:

- When **global\_quality** is specified, a quality-based mode is used. Specifically this means either
  - *CQP* constant quantizer scale, when the **qscale** codec flag is also set (the **-qscale** ffmpeg option).
  - LA\_ICQ intelligent constant quality with lookahead, when the look\_ahead option is also set.
  - ICQ intelligent constant quality otherwise.
- Otherwise, a bitrate-based mode is used. For all of those, you should specify at least the desired average bitrate with the **b** option.
  - LA VBR with lookahead, when the **look\_ahead** option is specified.
  - *VCM* video conferencing mode, when the **vcm** option is set.
  - *CBR* constant bitrate, when **maxrate** is specified and equal to the average bitrate.
  - *VBR* variable bitrate, when **maxrate** is specified, but is higher than the average bitrate.
  - AVBR average VBR mode, when maxrate is not specified. This mode is further configured by the avbr accuracy and avbr convergence options.

Note that depending on your system, a different mode than the one you specified may be selected by the encoder. Set the verbosity level to *verbose* or higher to see the actual settings used by the QSV runtime.

Additional libavcodec global options are mapped to MSDK options as follows:

- g/gop\_size -> GopPicSize
- bf/max b frames+1 -> GopRefDist
- rc\_init\_occupancy/rc\_initial\_buffer\_occupancy -> InitialDelayInKB
- slices -> NumSlice
- refs -> NumRefFrame
- b\_strategy/b\_frame\_strategy -> BRefType
- cgop/CLOSED\_GOP codec flag -> GopOptFlag
- For the *CQP* mode, the **i\_qfactor/i\_qoffset** and **b\_qfactor/b\_qoffset** set the difference between *QPP* and *QPI*, and *QPP* and *QPB* respectively.

Setting the **coder** option to the value *vlc* will make the H.264 encoder use CAVLC instead of CABAC.

#### snow

**Options** 

## iterative dia size

dia size for the iterative motion estimation

#### **VAAPI encoders**

Wrappers for hardware encoders accessible via VAAPI.

These encoders only accept input in VAAPI hardware surfaces. If you have input in software frames, use the **hwupload** filter to upload them to the GPU.

The following standard libavcodec options are used:

- g / gop\_size
- bf / max\_b\_frames
- profile

If not set, this will be determined automatically from the format of the input frames and the profiles supported by the driver.

- level
- b/bit rate
- maxrate / rc\_max\_rate
- bufsize / rc\_buffer\_size
- rc\_init\_occupancy / rc\_initial\_buffer\_occupancy
- compression\_level

Speed / quality tradeoff: higher values are faster / worse quality.

q / global\_quality

Size / quality tradeoff: higher values are smaller / worse quality.

- qmin
- qmax
- i\_qfactor / i\_quant\_factor
- i\_qoffset / i\_quant\_offset
- b\_qfactor / b\_quant\_factor
- b\_qoffset / b\_quant\_offset
- slices

All encoders support the following options:

#### low\_power

Some drivers/platforms offer a second encoder for some codecs intended to use less power than the default encoder; setting this option will attempt to use that encoder. Note that it may support a reduced feature set, so some other options may not be available in this mode.

# idr\_interval

Set the number of normal intra frames between full-refresh (IDR) frames in open-GOP mode. The intra frames are still IRAPs, but will not include global headers and may have non-decodable leading pictures.

# b\_depth

Set the B-frame reference depth. When set to one (the default), all B-frames will refer only to P- or I-frames. When set to greater values multiple layers of B-frames will be present, frames in each layer

only referring to frames in higher layers.

#### rc\_mode

Set the rate control mode to use. A given driver may only support a subset of modes.

Possible modes:

#### auto

Choose the mode automatically based on driver support and the other options. This is the default.

COP

Constant-quality.

**CBR** 

Constant-bitrate.

**VBR** 

Variable-bitrate.

**ICO** 

Intelligent constant-quality.

**QVBR** 

Quality-defined variable-bitrate.

**AVBR** 

Average variable bitrate.

Each encoder also has its own specific options:

#### h264 vaapi

**profile** sets the value of *profile\_idc* and the *constraint\_set\*\_flags*. **level** sets the value of *level\_idc*.

coder

Set entropy encoder (default is *cabac*). Possible values:

ac

cabac

Use CABAC.

vlc

cavlc

Use CAVLC.

aud

Include access unit delimiters in the stream (not included by default).

sei Set SEI message types to include. Some combination of the following values:

### identifier

Include a *user\_data\_unregistered* message containing information about the encoder.

timing

Include picture timing parameters (buffering\_period and pic\_timing messages).

## recovery\_point

Include recovery points where appropriate (recovery\_point messages).

# hevc\_vaapi

**profile** and **level** set the values of *general\_profile\_idc* and *general\_level\_idc* respectively.

aud

Include access unit delimiters in the stream (not included by default).

**tier** Set *general\_tier\_flag*. This may affect the level chosen for the stream if it is not explicitly specified.

sei Set SEI message types to include. Some combination of the following values:

#### hdr

Include HDR metadata if the input frames have it (mastering\_display\_colour\_volume and content\_light\_level messages).

#### tiles

Set the number of tiles to encode the input video with, as columns x rows. Larger numbers allow greater parallelism in both encoding and decoding, but may decrease coding efficiency.

# mjpeg\_vaapi

Only baseline DCT encoding is supported. The encoder always uses the standard quantisation and huffman tables - **global\_quality** scales the standard quantisation table (range 1-100).

For YUV, 4:2:0, 4:2:2 and 4:4:4 subsampling modes are supported. RGB is also supported, and will create an RGB JPEG.

**jfif** Include JFIF header in each frame (not included by default).

#### huffman

Include standard huffman tables (on by default). Turning this off will save a few hundred bytes in each output frame, but may lose compatibility with some JPEG decoders which don't fully handle MIPEG

#### mpeg2\_vaapi

**profile** and **level** set the value of *profile\_and\_level\_indication*.

## vp8\_vaapi

B-frames are not supported.

**global\_quality** sets the  $q_i dx$  used for non-key frames (range 0–127).

#### loop\_filter\_level

# loop\_filter\_sharpness

Manually set the loop filter parameters.

# vp9\_vaapi

**global\_quality** sets the  $q_i dx$  used for P-frames (range 0-255).

# loop\_filter\_level

# loop\_filter\_sharpness

Manually set the loop filter parameters.

B-frames are supported, but the output stream is always in encode order rather than display order. If B-frames are enabled, it may be necessary to use the **vp9\_raw\_reorder** bitstream filter to modify the output stream to display frames in the correct order.

Only normal frames are produced – the **vp9\_superframe** bitstream filter may be required to produce a stream usable with all decoders.

# vc2

SMPTE VC-2 (previously BBC Dirac Pro). This codec was primarily aimed at professional broadcasting but since it supports yuv420, yuv422 and yuv444 at 8 (limited range or full range), 10 or 12 bits, this makes it suitable for other tasks which require low overhead and low compression (like screen recording).

# **Options**

**b** Sets target video bitrate. Usually that's around 1:6 of the uncompressed video bitrate (e.g. for 1920x1080 50fps yuv422p10 that's around 400Mbps). Higher values (close to the uncompressed bitrate) turn on lossless compression mode.

# field order

Enables field coding when set (e.g. to tt – top field first) for interlaced inputs. Should increase compression with interlaced content as it splits the fields and encodes each separately.

# $wavelet\_depth$

Sets the total amount of wavelet transforms to apply, between 1 and 5 (default). Lower values reduce compression and quality. Less capable decoders may not be able to handle values of **wavelet\_depth** over 3.

#### wavelet\_type

Sets the transform type. Currently only 5\_3 (LeGall) and 9\_7 (Deslauriers-Dubuc) are implemented, with 9\_7 being the one with better compression and thus is the default.

#### slice width

# slice\_height

Sets the slice size for each slice. Larger values result in better compression. For compatibility with other more limited decoders use **slice width** of 32 and **slice height** of 8.

#### tolerance

Sets the undershoot tolerance of the rate control system in percent. This is to prevent an expensive search from being run.

qm Sets the quantization matrix preset to use by default or when wavelet\_depth is set to 5

- default Uses the default quantization matrix from the specifications, extended with values for the fifth level. This provides a good balance between keeping detail and omitting artifacts.
- flat Use a completely zeroed out quantization matrix. This increases PSNR but might reduce perception. Use in bogus benchmarks.
- color Reduces detail but attempts to preserve color at extremely low bitrates.

## SUBTITLES ENCODERS

#### dvdsub

This codec encodes the bitmap subtitle format that is used in DVDs. Typically they are stored in VOBSUB file pairs (\*.idx + \*.sub), and they can also be used in Matroska files.

**Options** 

### palette

Specify the global palette used by the bitmaps.

The format for this option is a string containing  $16\ 24$ -bits hexadecimal numbers (without 0x prefix) separated by commas, for example 0d00ee, ee450d, 101010, eaeaea, 0ce60b, ec14ed, ebff0b, 0d617a, 7b7b7b, d1d1d1, 7b2a0e, 0d950c, 0f007b, cf0dec, cfa80c, 7c127b.

# even rows fix

When set to 1, enable a work-around that makes the number of pixel rows even in all subtitles. This fixes a problem with some players that cut off the bottom row if the number is odd. The work-around just adds a fully transparent row if needed. The overhead is low, typically one byte per subtitle on average.

By default, this work-around is disabled.

# **SEE ALSO**

ffmpeg (1), ffplay (1), ffprobe (1), libavcodec (3)

## **AUTHORS**

The FFmpeg developers.

For details about the authorship, see the Git history of the project (git://source.ffmpeg.org/ffmpeg), e.g. by typing the command **git log** in the FFmpeg source directory, or browsing the online repository at <a href="http://source.ffmpeg.org">http://source.ffmpeg.org</a>>.

Maintainers for the specific components are listed in the file MAINTAINERS in the source code tree.