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r/PleX



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r/PleX • 4 yr. ago

Biduleman



PGS subtitles too hard to transcode? Low GPU usage but lots of buffering.

Solved

I just installed a Quadro P620 in my Plex server and got transcoding to work with 4k HDR movies. The server is running Unraid, and my player is the Android app on a Hisense TV running Android TV natively. The account I'm using with both the server and the client has a Plex Pass.

Now I'm trying to watch a HEVC 4K HDR movie (Your Name) in Japanese with subtitles.

The subs are PGS, with a lot of effects (following the screen, replacing text on a phone/sheet of paper, etc) so converting them to SRT would lose a lot of charm. But when I'm transcoding, the movie buffers every 10-15 seconds.

I get that I need to transcode the movie/subtitles and transcoding is hard on the GPU, but what I don't understand is that GPU Statistics is giving me a pretty low usage from Plex when transcoding.

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Bgrngod • 4y ago



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What you are describing is in fact a CPU limited problem. During a transcode done through hardware acceleration, you get this:

- GPU decodes the frame
- Decoded "raw" uncompressed frame is sent over to the CPU
- CPU edits the uncompressed frame by editing the PGS subtitle image into the frame and saves it
- "Sub edited" uncompressed frame is sent back to GPU
- GPU encodes the frame to H264

The CPU bit is done in a single thread and crunching uncompressed 4k frames through that editing task and shipping them back and forth to the GPU can crush pretty powerful systems.



5



Reply

Biduleman **OP** • 4y ago • Edited 4y ago

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buy a Shield Pro".

After a while I just decided to start from scratch everywhere and was able to get the subs sent as sidecar on both my Firestick (for my 1080p TV) and my Android TV, so the transcoding can be done 100% on the GPU and my problem seems solved.

Thanks again for explaining how this works instead of just telling me I'm screwed.

↑ 4 ↓ ○ Reply ...

⊕ 1 more reply



LSL1337 • 3y ago

a while I just decided to start from scratch everywhere and was able to get the subs sent as sidecar on both my Firestick

Great information, Thanks!

I have never seen this written on the plex site/forum.

My own testing confirms the same behaviour btw. When I transcode 4k HDR to 1080p SDR, it works like a charm, even without iGPU hw accel, my 7700T manages it, with HW accel, it's flying with multiple streams even.

But when I enable PGS transcode for the same video settings, it's 0.3x speed, making it unwatchable. The funny thing is, I never see a 100% thread, so not sure where the bottleneck is, but this could be a monitoring issue.

(I have 2 shields, so I can make PGS work, but for example for web clients, it's never gonna work)

↑ 3 ↓ ○ Reply ...



Biduleman OP • 4y ago

New Information:

My phone is able to direct play PGS subtitles but not the TV while they're both running the same version of the app... Does anyone know why this could happen?

⊖ ↑ 1 ↓ ○ Reply ...



Kuvenant • 4y ago

The app doesn't determine what the device supports. Your phone and TV are different devices with different properties, but there is only one Plex app.

↑ 2 ↓ ○ Reply ...

⊕ 7 more replies

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GPU transcodes stream/video. CPU handles the rest. So your CPU is transcoding the subtitles. 4K with subtitles almost always transcodes. You will have to play around with the settings by disabling subtitles and see if that changes it.

Here's a good amount of [info](#)

⊖ ↑ 2 ↓ ○ Reply ...



Biduleman OP • 4y ago • Edited 4y ago

Without subtitles there isn't any problem since it's direct play.

With SRT subtitles it's also direct play so no problem here.

Even if I force transcoding, without the subtitles it goes without a hitch.

Only when I transcode PGS subs I get buffering every 15 seconds. Every cores on the CPU stay under 75% at all time and the overall load stays at 50%. I don't think it's a CPU bottleneck either. I'm even able to transcode the movie in software since the bitrate is relatively low (12.8 Mb/s)

The problem only happens when transcoding the PGS subs.

Also, according to that thread the Android app is able to direct play PGS subtitles, so I'm not sure why it's not working on my TV...

↑ 1 ↓ ○ Reply ...

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r/Plex • 2 yr. ago

Even with an Intel dGPU for HWA transcoding, PGS subtitles are still able to bring a 16-core server to a grind



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PGS Subtitles no longer driving me crazy on my LG TVs

35 upvotes · 34 comments

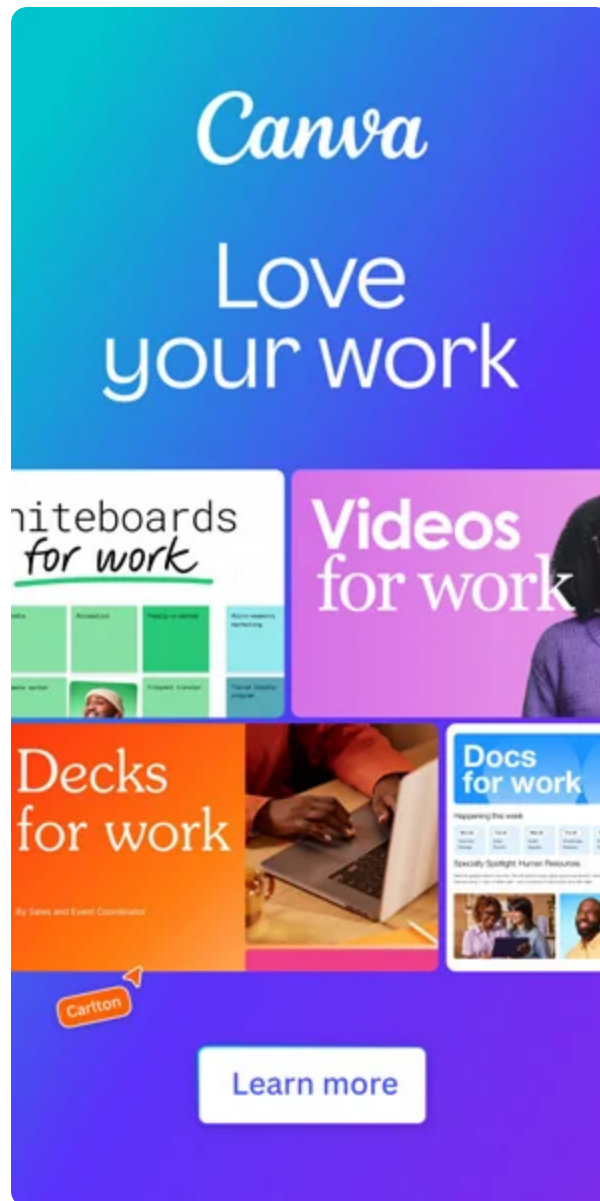
r/PleX • 3 mo. ago

Cheap GPU for transcoding?

4 upvotes · 38 comments

PROMOTED

...



r/PleX • 10 mo. ago

How do subtitles completely f up Plex?

65 upvotes · 52 comments

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3 upvotes · 21 comments



r/Plex • 3 mo. ago

Can someone explain to me like I am 5 years old why subtitles are so unreliable?

15 upvotes · 52 comments



r/Plex • 7 mo. ago

4k or 1080p Plex help

35 upvotes · 70 comments



r/Plex • 2 mo. ago

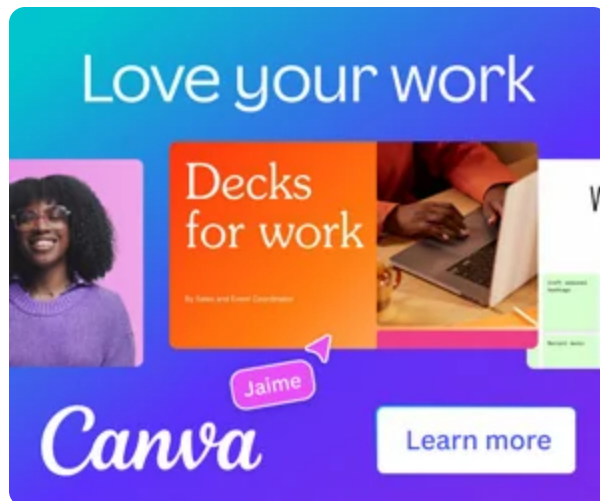
Failed to download subtitle - any known fixes?

13 upvotes · 11 comments



PROMOTED

...



r/Plex • 2 mo. ago

Is it normal for Plex to use full CPU power even when it's HW transcoding?

80 upvotes · 67 comments



r/Plex • 9 mo. ago

Why are my videos stuttering?



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Not enough bandwidth on local streaming, losing my mind.

8 upvotes · 59 comments

r/Plex · 2 mo. ago

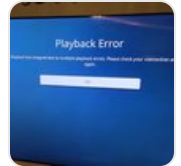
Those of you with larger plex servers (30+ TB) how are you handling CPU Usage / library scanning?

107 upvotes · 142 comments

r/Plex · 21 days ago

Plex playback issues?

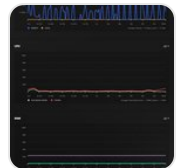
10 upvotes · 7 comments



r/Plex · 22 days ago

The Plex Dashboard is really useful but I wish it could also show the GPU usage in it

133 upvotes · 17 comments



r/Plex · 8 mo. ago

Please help me understand Bitrate vs bandwidth

98 upvotes · 67 comments



r/Plex · 4 yr. ago

Can you limit remote play resolution if and only if transcoding is required?

1 upvote · 6 comments

r/Plex · 4 yr. ago

4K HDR tone mapping transcode hardware help needed

1 upvote · 8 comments

r/Plex · 18 days ago

Again: Why doesn't Plex use hardware transcoding for generating video previews and chapter thumbnails?

61 upvotes · 34 comments

r/ffmpeg · 4 yr. ago

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r/VideoEditing • 4 yr. ago

What's the best way to use animation in Adobe Premiere Pro with MINIMAL impact on render speed??
Render speed is the priority here. I've tried MOV (uncompressed) and GIF and both file types...

7 upvotes · 10 comments



r/PleX • 21 days ago

Something with Plex is broken on my AppleTV 4K - Stops and gives a server speed too slow message

5 upvotes · 8 comments



r/PleX • 8 mo. ago

Text and tiles too small on my 85" tv.



253 upvotes · 106 comments



r/PleX • 26 days ago

Would this work for a Plex Server? I want to move it off my laptop.



243 upvotes · 206 comments



r/PleX • 26 days ago

Installed a Plex Server a few months ago and finally have it running smooth. Now I'm looking for recommendations.

68 upvotes · 81 comments



r/PleX • 2 mo. ago

Is there any way to automatically enable subtitles for only ten seconds when skipping back ten seconds on the Apple TV app?

23 upvotes · 10 comments

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