

HardingFPA-XL

User's Manual

Version 2.0.0

Cambridge Research Systems Ltd.
www.hardingfpa.tv

*Help ensure video is safe to watch
for both diagnosed and dormant photosensitive epileptics*

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Applicable Version:

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Table of Contents

Overview	5
System Requirements	6
Accepted Video Formats	7
Licensing	8
Prerequisites (Mac OS X)	10
Installation (Mac OS X)	11
Installation (Windows)	12
Main Screen	13
Version 3 Analysis Algorithms	14
Operation	20
Opening a Source	21
Analysing a Movie	23
Resuming Work	24
Replay Functions	25
Frame Masks	26
Analysis Information	29
SD Legacy Mode	32
Interpreting Results	33
Licensing Information	43

Overview

The *HardingFPA-XL* is a file-based version of the HardingFPA Broadcast Flash and Pattern Analyser. It operates in a similar way, but analyses High Definition (HD, up to 1080i60) files instead of tapes. It has the ability to open many file formats including MXF, mov and AVI.

It analyses using new [Version 3 analysis algorithms](#), which have been designed specifically for HD standards and file analyses. For compatibility the software can be switched to use [SD Legacy Mode](#), which allows SD material to be analysed using Version 2.5 analysis algorithms which are the same as in the previous 2.54/2.57 versions of the HardingFPA, and Version 1.x of the HardingFPA-X and HardingFPA-XL file-based systems.

It is a limited version of the full HardingFPA-X system that is designed to run on a single computer and allow analysis of a single movie file at any one time. The *HardingFPA-XL* has the ability to output PDF Certificates only (although no detailed reports are available - only single page pass/fail reports).

This manual covers both the Mac OS X and Windows versions of the *HardingFPA-XL*, which operate in an identical manner.

The *HardingFPA-XL* is cross platform, therefore it can run on both Windows and Mac computers.

The *HardingFPA-XL* supports Intel powered Mac computers only, and requires Mac OS X version 10.4 or higher. Optimum performance will be obtained with multi-core processors, and at least 1 GB of RAM. The provided HASP USB software protection key will need to be inserted into the computer for the application to run, and will not operate without one.

The *HardingFPA-XL* will analyse any movie file for which the computer it is installed on has the codec, and will attempt to open all files with the following file extensions:

****.avi;*.mov;*.mpg;*.mpeg;*.m2v;*.mp4;*.vob;*.wmv;*.mxv;*.flv***

QuickTime Codecs are not provided with the *HardingFPA-XL*; therefore any required codecs will need to be installed on the computers to be used.

In general, if the file can be viewed correctly using QuickTime (or QuickTime or Windows Media Player on Windows installations) on the computer that the application is running on, then it will be able to be analysed, although the video must fall within the whitelist for [Accepted Video Formats](#).

Accepted Video Formats

The *HardingFPA-XL* will analyse movie files with the following video formats:

1920x1080p23.98, 1920x1080p24, 1920x1080i24, 1920x1080p25, 1920x1080i25, 1920x1080p29.97, 1920x1080i29.97, 1920x1080p30, 1920x1080p50, 1920x1080i50, 1920x1080i59.94, 1920x1080p60, 1920x1080i60

1440x1080p23.98, 1440x1080p24, 1440x1080i24, 1440x1080p25, 1440x1080i25, 1440x1080p29.97, 1440x1080i29.97, 1440x1080p30, 1440x1080p50, 1440x1080i50, 1440x1080i59.94, 1440x1080p60, 1440x1080i60

1280x720p23.98, 1280x720p24, 1280x720p25, 1280x720p29.97, 1280x720p30, 1280x720p50, 1280x720p59.94, 1280x720p60
960x720p23.98, 960x720p24, 960x720p25, 960x720p29.97, 960x720p30, 960x720p50, 960x720p59.94, 960x720p60

768x576p25, 768x576i25, 768x576p27.97, 768x576i29.97

702 – 720 x 576p25, 702 – 720 x 576i25
702 – 720 x 486p29.97, 702 – 720 x 486i29.97
702 – 720 x 480p29.97, 702 – 720 x 480i29.97

640x480p29.97, 640x480i29.97
384x288p25, 384x288i25
352x288p25, 352x288i25
320x240p29.97, 320x240i29.97

In [*SD Legacy Mode*](#), the *HardingFPA-XL* will analyse movies with the following video formats:

702 – 720 x 576p25, 702 – 720 x 576i25
702 – 720 x 486p29.97, 702 – 720 x 486i29.97
702 – 720 x 480p29.97, 702 – 720 x 480i29.97

352x288p25, 352x288i25
384x288p25, 384x288i25
320x240p29.97, 320x240i29.97

Licensing

The *HardingFPA-XL* must be licenced with a USB hardware protection key in order to run (see below).



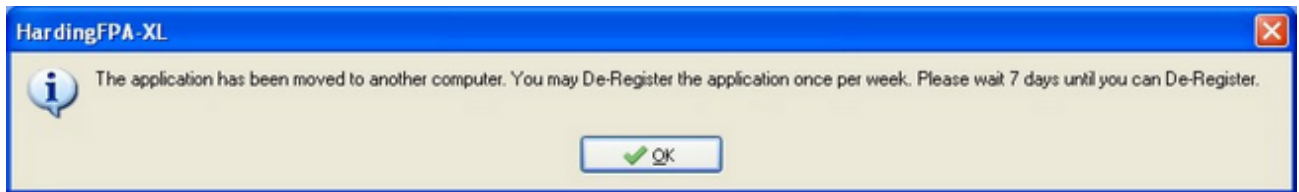
Once it has been run on a particular computer, it will ***only be allowed to run on that same computer***, although there is limited scope for de-registering the product to move it to another computer (once per week).

Reregistering

If you move the USB protection key to a new computer and run the *HardingFPA-XL*, you will be given the option to transfer the licence to the new computer, as long as one week has passed since the last re-registration / first registration. The re-registration screen is shown below:



Only one re-registration is possible in a week long period, so be certain that you wish to move the licence to the new computer, otherwise you will see the dialogue box below:



Prerequisites (Mac OS X)

In order for the *Analyser* and *Licence Server* parts of the server distribution to work correctly, a USB HASP key must be installed, and therefore the drivers for this must be installed. To install these, click on the ***HDD_Installer_MacOSX.dmg*** icon.



The disk image for the HASP key driver installer

This will then mount the disk image containing the driver installer. This screen can be seen below. Double-click on the ***Install HASP USB Driver*** icon within this image to install the driver.



The HASP Installer disk image contents

Installation (Mac OS X)

Before continuing, note that the HardingFPA-XL software locks itself to the current machine, but can be moved once per week.

Once the prerequisites are in place, simply open the HardingFPA-XL disk image and run the installer within. The application will be installed in ***Applications -> HardingFPA*** as *HardingFPA-XL*.

Installation (Windows)

Before continuing, note that the HardingFPA-XL software locks itself to the current machine, but can be moved once per week.

The *HardingFPA-XL* requires the QuickTime framework in order to operate, which can be obtained from:

<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>

The Windows installer is self-contained (it includes the HASP drivers and the *HardingFPA-XL* software). To install it, simply run the *HardingFPA-XL* installer. The application will be installed in the **HardingFPA** section of the Start Menu as *HardingFPA-XL*.

Main Screen

Upon running the *HardingFPA-XL*, the main screen will be displayed. This is the main and only screen for the *HardingFPA-XL* and is shown below.

It displays a graphical representation of the characteristics of the analysed clip, and some additional advanced diagnostic information, so that the user may quickly and efficiently view the locations of failures or cautions in the source material, and optionally play back the areas around these failures to aid in rectifying the offending material. Its appearance is similar to both the *HardingFPA HD* and *HardingFPA-X Viewer* applications.

All functionality of the *HardingFPA-XL* is performed from this screen.



The main HardingFPA-XL screen

All of the buttons and sections of the *HardingFPA-XL* screen have help text associated with them. To see what a particular part of the interface does, simply hover the mouse cursor over the button/section.

Version 3 Analysis Algorithms

The *HardingFPA-XL* now features new analysis algorithms, which are better tuned to High Definition and File-based work. They are better suited to subtle changes in the image data, and provide much closer results when testing the same material repurposed either into a different video format, or encoded with a different codec. The main differences between the legacy algorithms and the new ones are detailed below:

Differences Between v2.5 and v3.0

Different Graph Scaling

The *HardingFPA-XL* generates risk values using the same range as its predecessor (i.e. 0 to 3.4) but displays the graphical data using a revised vertical scale. This modified scale allocates much more vertical space for risk trace warnings and diagnostic trace steps but only displays risk traces up to the value of 3.0. Risk traces values from 3.1 to 3.4 are still logged as part of the results files but are graphically displayed capped at 3.0.

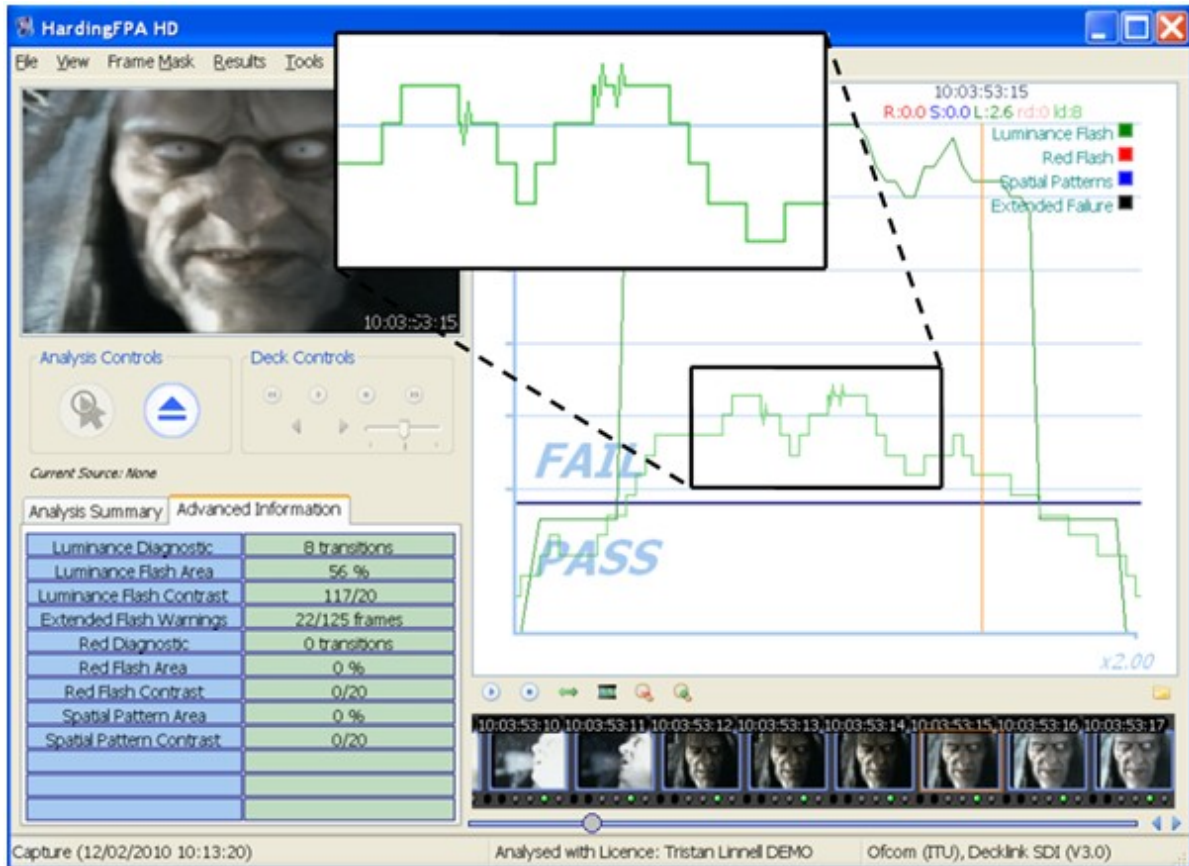


(left) Version 2 and (right) Version 3 Graphing

The Squiggle

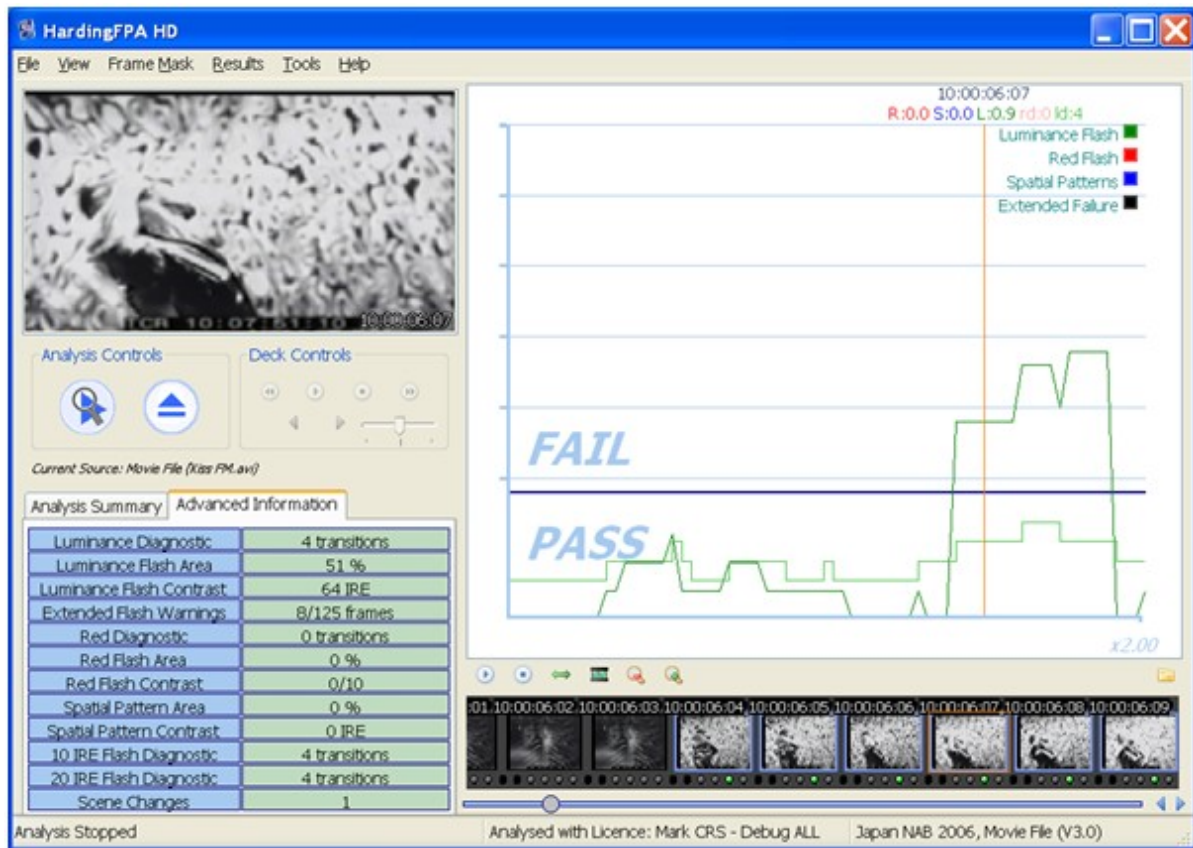
The *HardingFPA-XL* gives enhanced visual diagnostics when an incoming transition coincides with an

outgoing transition from one exactly second earlier. The new version 3 algorithms insert a *squiggle* (see below) to indicate when the diagnostic trace has simultaneously gained and lost a transition over the most recent second between video frames.



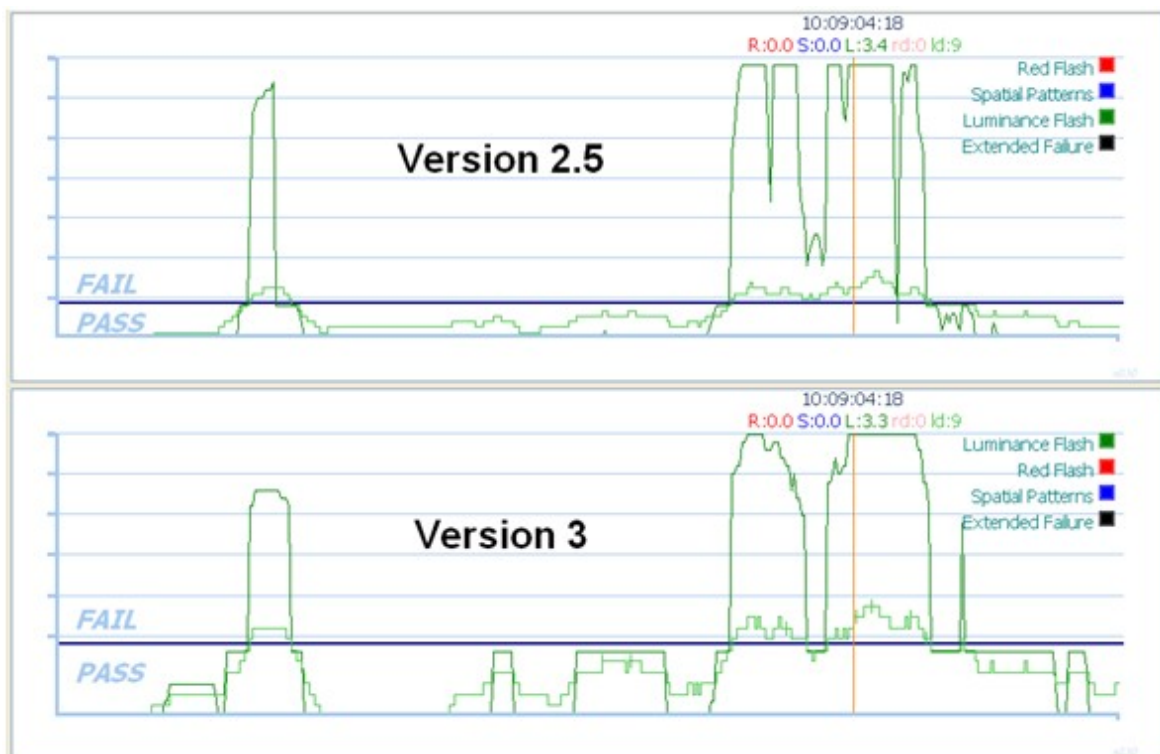
Scene Changes (*Japanese NAB Analysis only*)

When analysing under Japanese NAB guidelines, it is possible for the flash risk trace to go into failure while the diagnostic trace is still in the caution zone (see image). This can occur if one of the transitions in the most recent second is classified as a “scene change” (see bottom entry of the Advanced Information tab) where 80% of the image has seen a significant luminance transition of 20IRE units or more. When this occurs, the maximum allowable number of transitions is reduced from 6 down to 3 and, in this example, failure took place when the 4th transition was detected.

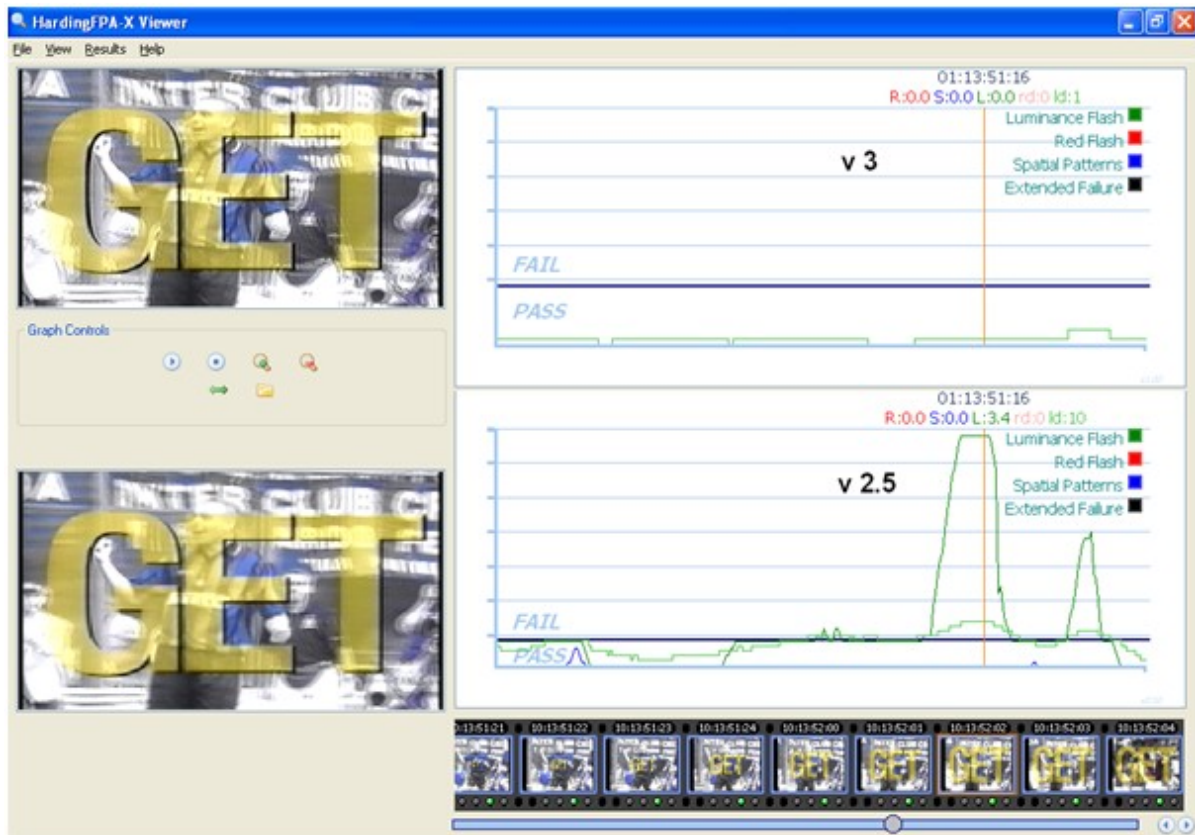


Analysis Results

The *HardingFPA-XL* gives results which are broadly similar to those generated by version 2.5. The figure below shows the results of both versions when analysing the same video input under the same guidelines:



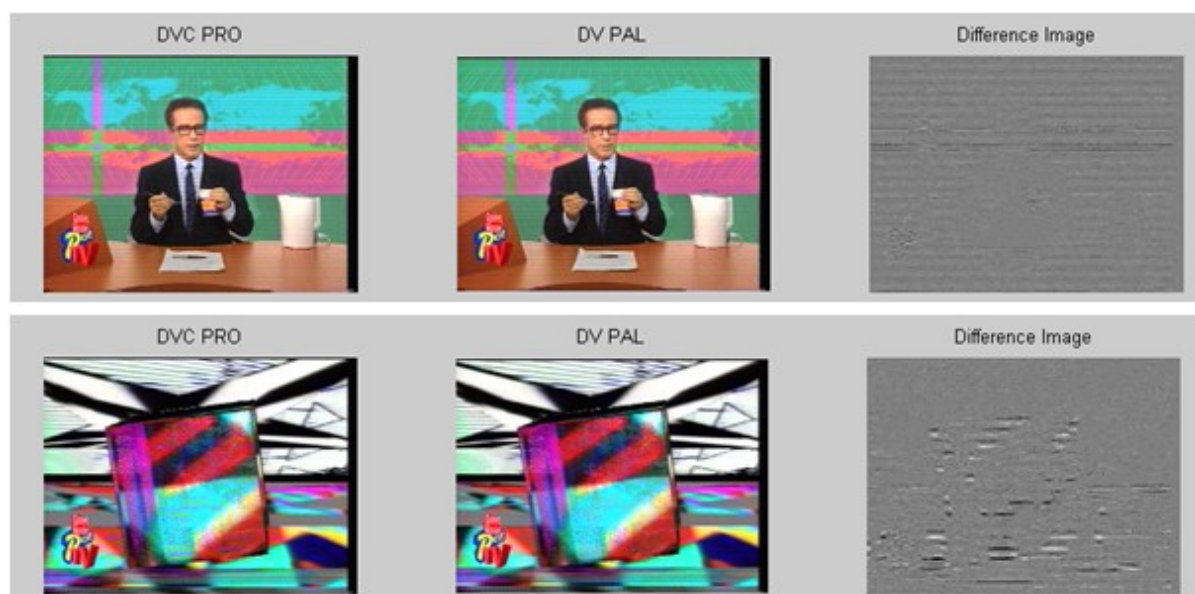
However, the results between the two versions will not be identical. The *HardingFPA-XL* will, in general, be more lenient to complex, rapid motion:



... but more strict to examples of powerful, localised flashing:

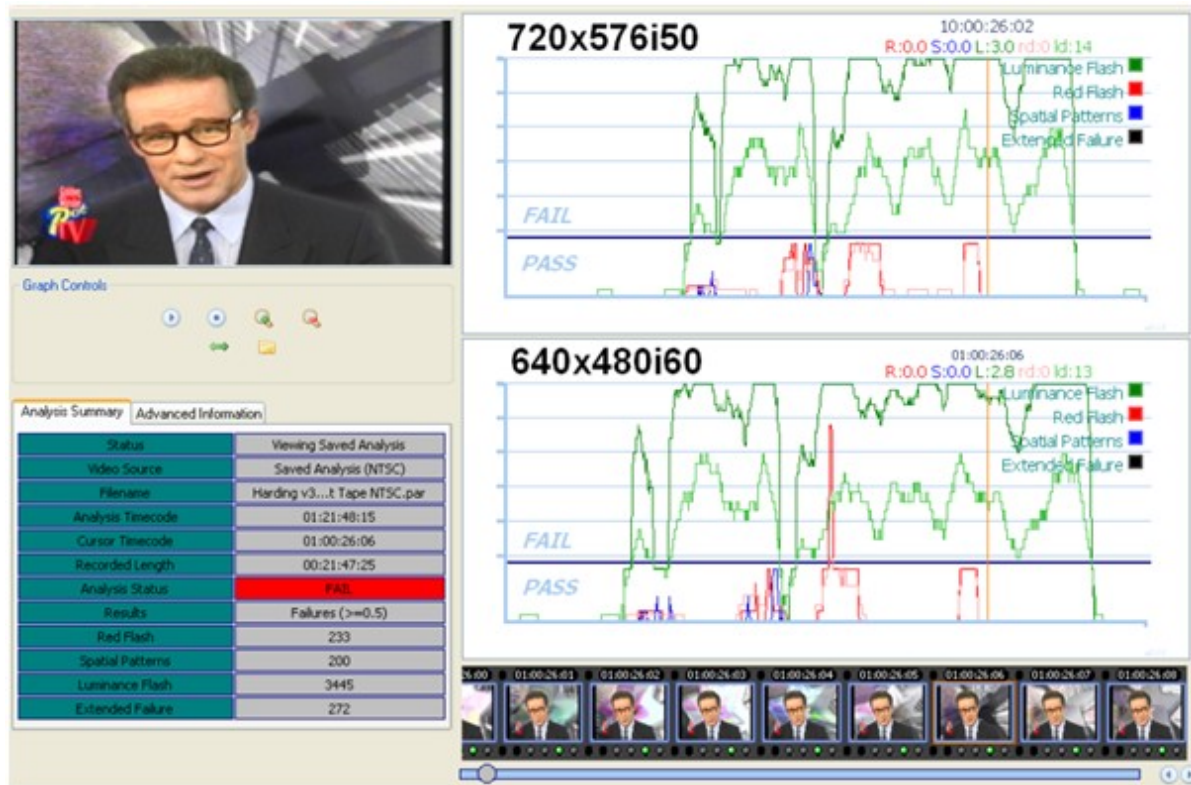


Most importantly of all, the *HardingFPA-XL* has been designed to be as format-agnostic as possible. Changes in file formats or codecs will alter the underlying video data even if these changes are not visually apparent. Here, the same video has been encoded at the same resolution using two different codecs. The absolute differences between the two images are shown in the third image as deviations from mid grey.

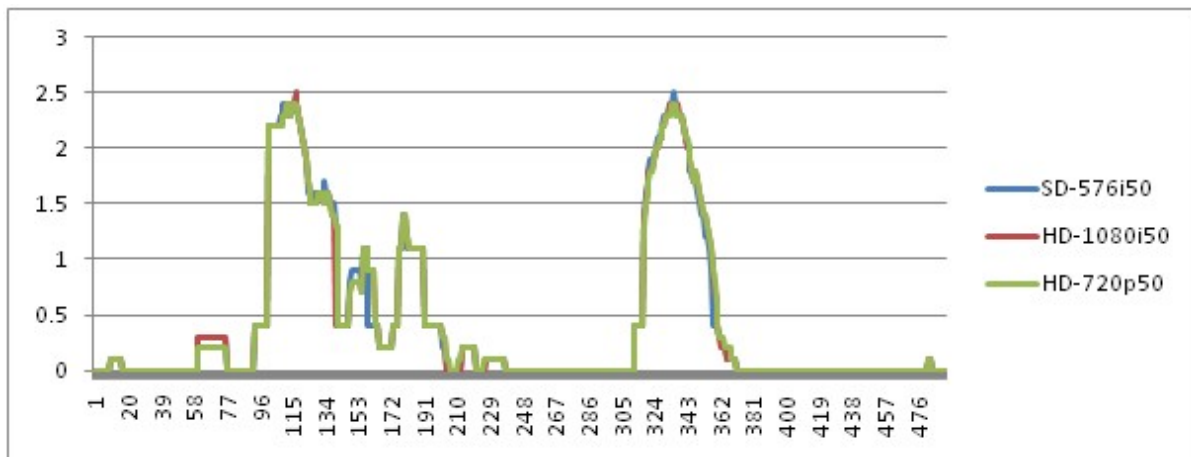


The new version 3 algorithms generate highly consistent results from different image resolutions and frame rates. Here, the same movie has been analysed in 720x576i50 and 640x480i60 formats with highly

consistent results. The only noticeable difference is the different horizontal graph scales as a result of the different frame rates.



The graph below shows three sets of luminance flash risk results of the same movie analysed in **SD-576i50**, **HD-720p50** and **HD-1080i50** formats. The results are sufficiently similar it is difficult to see that the graph contains three separate traces:



Operation

The *HardingFPA-XL* has three tabs available for analysing movie clips, in order to allow you to work on reviewing one piece of material whilst another is still analysing, or to work on reviewing multiple parts of an edit at the same time (if you were to analyse reference clips for example). Each tab has its own results set, and therefore its own graph etc, and operates independantly of the other tabs.

Only one of these tabs may actually be in the process of analysing a clip at any one time, although after the analysis is complete, you may switch tabs and analyse another clip whilst keeping the results visible in the first tab. This is especially useful if you have a major project open and analysed in the first tab and you need to analyse clips from it in the other two tabs whilst keeping the original results visible.

Opening a Source

The HardingFPA-XL operates on a system of *Sources*, whereby a source (a movie file) can be open, and is only analysed when the analyse button on the main window is clicked. The currently opened source is always displayed below the controls on the main window, and on startup displays *Current Source: None* to depict the fact that no movie file has yet been opened. To open a new source, click the *Open New Source* button, shown below.



Clicking on the *Open New Source* button brings up the dialogue box shown below, where you may enter additional information in the form of the *Material Description*, that you require to appear on the PDF certificate. To browse for a new movie file, click on the small button labelled "...", or choose a recently selected movie file from the drop-down menu box. If you would like to clear this list at any time, click the *Clear List* button underneath.

The 'Select Source' dialog box has a blue title bar with standard window controls. It contains three main sections: 'Analysis Standard' with a dropdown menu set to 'OfCOM (ITC)'; 'Material Description' with four text input fields for 'Title:', 'Subtitle:', 'Extra:', and 'Asset Number:'. Below this is a 'Movie File' section containing a 'Movie Filename' dropdown menu, a browse button ('..'), and a 'Clear List' button with a red 'X' icon. At the bottom is a 'Movie Details' section with labels for 'Frame Rate:', 'Frame Height:', 'Frame Width:', and 'Frame Total:', next to a large black rectangular area displaying the text 'No Results Loaded'. At the very bottom are 'Cancel' and 'OK' buttons.

When ready to analyse the movie file, click OK and the *Current Source* notification on the main window will change to reflect the chosen movie file name.

To start analysing the current source movie clip, click the Analysis button in the *Analysis Controls* section, on the left, shown below...




Once the movie clip is analysing the *Open new Source* button will change to a *Stop Analysis* button.

Whilst the analysis is being performed, you may still change tabs to view any results that are still open in those tabs. The small red LED light in the Analysis Controls will flash to let you know that a movie file is still being analysed.

To stop the analysis, click the *Stop Analysis* button (the big blue square in the *Analysis Controls* panel).

Once the analysis is complete, a basic PDF Certificate can be saved by clicking File -> Save HardingFPA Certificate.



When you are finished with the clip, and wish to free up the tab for analysing other movies, click the *Close Current Tab* button (the cross under the graph on the right ).

Resuming Work

It is possible to resume working on a particular job between sessions using the *HardingFPA-XL*. When the application is closed and re-opened, the open tabs are remembered by the application so that you may continue working. The settings for this are user specific, so that different user accounts may use the software and each user has their own saved tabs and results.

If the application is closed during an analysis, the clip will still be re-opened, but only up to the point where the analysis was stopped. You will need to re-run the analysis if you would like to continue where this left off.

Note that once the close tab button (the cross underneath the graph on the right) is clicked, there is no way to get the results back without re-analysing the movie.

Replay Functions

Once results are loaded into the graph window following an analysis, the clip and graph can be played back to aid the rectification of problem areas in the clip. The *Graph Controls* panel underneath the graph contains buttons to facilitate this replay functionality.



From left to right, the buttons perform the following function...

Start Replay: Starts playback in real-time from the current position.


Stop Replay: Stops all playback.

Replay one second before and after current cursor position: Animate the images for one second before and one second after the current cursor position whilst leaving the graph positioned at the current cursor position. This is especially useful when you are looking for the causes of a particular failure and need to look at the graph in detail and yet still see the offending section being played back.

Replay marked region: Replays from the *Start* marker to the *End* Marker. Set marker positions by either right-clicking on the graph or pressing the *Page Up* and *Page Down* keys.

Zoom Out: Zoom the graph out.

Zoom In: Zoom the graph in to see the results more clearly.

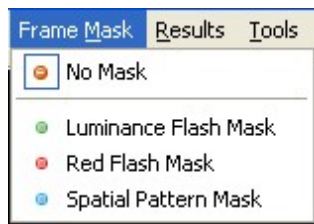
Close Current Tab (): Closes the results down so that the tab can then be used to analyse another clip.

In all playback modes, the playback will loop when reaching the end (after a small pause). The playback can be stopped at any time with the *Stop Playback* menu item or button, by clicking anywhere on the graph, by dragging the seek slider or by opening a new file.

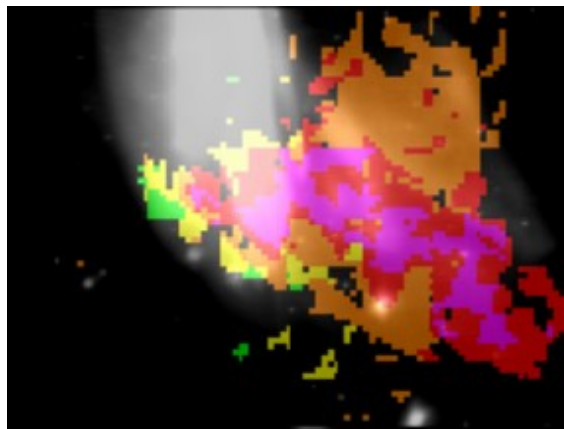
Frame Masks

The *HardingFPA-XL* includes new visual information in addition to the results images in the form of *Frame Masks*. These mask images are overlaid on top of the frame images on the large image in the top-left of the main screen and depict the locations of problem areas in the sequence, to aid in the repair of failing sequences. This mask information will only be available once the analysis is either complete or stopped, and not whilst the analysis is still taking place.

When the results first appear on the graph, the large image in the top left hand side will appear as usual. In order to utilise the frame mask images, Click on the *Frame Mask* menu, and select the type of failure that you want to see the mask overlaid for:



When any of the frame masks are chosen from this box, the images will change and the mask will be overlaid onto a darkened, black-and-white (monochrome) version of the original frame image. An example is shown below:

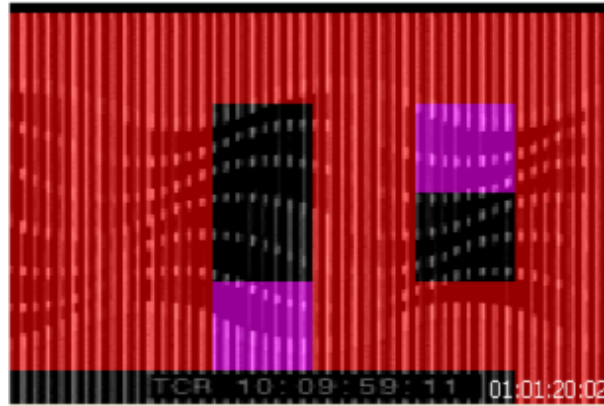


The colours represent the number of transitions which each pixel has experienced in the most recent second after allowing for motion. The analyser will issue a failure when more than one quarter of the image contains red or purple pixels. The same colour coding (shown below) is used for both *luminance* and *red flash* analysis.

Pixel Colour	Number of Transitions
none	0
green	1 or 2
yellow	3 or 4
orange	5 or 6

red	7 or 8
purple	9 or more

The spatial pattern mask data logs the activity which exceeds the spatial guideline limits as shown below.



The mask data appears as a set of uniformly coloured tiles in the image which represent how long they have persisted in the image sequence. Spatial mask data only appears for stationary, regular patterns which lead to failure. Any spatial patterns which drift, or are not regular, or do not persist in the video long enough to trigger a failure are excluded.

Pixel Colour	Persistence
none	no regular stationary pattern present
green	0 to 1/6 second
yellow	1/6 to 1/3 second
orange	1/3 to 1/2 second
red	more than 1/2 second = FAILURE
purple	outside of pattern regularity limit

The actual colours used represent how close the spatial pattern is to causing a failure rated in terms of how long the pattern has persisted in the image sequence. When running under Ofcom guidelines, the *HardingFPA-XL* analyser will only tolerate illegal spatial patterns to persist for up to half a second -- any longer than this will lead to a failure. Therefore the green, yellow and orange colours denote the build up to failure while red represents the actual failure itself. Purple is reserved for tiles which are part of the detected spatial pattern but whose pattern characteristics lie outside of the allowable range when compared with the rest of the spatial region. These purple tiles do not represent persistence and can accompany spatial masks of any colour.

It is important to note that the *HardingFPA-XL* **only** presents mask colours for pixels which **will** go into failure within the next second. This allows the editor to focus on the region(s) of the image which lead to the failure rather than flooding the user with unnecessary information. As a result, many images will contain no masked / coloured pixels even though there may be some flash or pattern activity occurring.

In addition, pixel mask activity may suddenly disappear after an isolated failure sequence if the remaining pixel transition activity does not lead to a subsequent failure.

Analysis Information

The table on the left hand side of the screen contains two tabs which display diagnostic information about the clip. The *Analysis Summary* tab shows the following pieces of information, which are applicable to the entire clip:

Analysis Summary Advanced Information	
Status	Viewing Saved Analysis
Video Source	Saved Analysis (576i50)
Filename	Capture (2...03-05 09-50-55)
Analysis Timecode	10:03:18:03 (00:00:00:00)
Marked Length	00:03:18:04
Recorded Length	00:03:18:04
Analysis Status	FAIL
Results	Failures (≥ 0.5)
Red Flash	36
Spatial Patterns	31
Luminance Flash	65
Extended Failure	0

The Analysis Summary tab

Status: Shows whether the *HardingFPA-XL* is reviewing results or in another state such as loading/results/analysing/not loaded etc.

Video Source: The video standard of the analysis being viewed.

Filename: The filename or title of the source that was analysed to obtain the results currently being displayed.

Analysis Timecode: The timecode of the final frame in the clip. This is expressed in hours : minutes : seconds : frames. The timecode in brackets is the amount of video stored in the disk buffer spoolfile waiting to be analysed.

Marked Length: The length of material currently marked off with *Begin* and *End* markers. This is expressed in hours : minutes : seconds : frames.

Recorded Length: The total length of the clip expressed in hours : minutes : seconds : frames.

Analysis Status: The Pass / Fail status of the clip with respect to the currently selected Flash and Pattern guidelines.

Red Flash: The number of frames that exceed the test guidelines for red flash.

Spatial Patterns: The number of frames that have exceeded the test guidelines for spatial patterns.

Luminance Flash: The number of frames that have exceeded the test guidelines for luminance flash.

Extended Failure: The number of frames that exceed the test guidelines for extended failure. This represents the number of frames for which the *black trace* has appeared or equivalently, the number of times that the maximum allowed number of flash warnings (levels 0.3 or 0.4) in the most recent 5 seconds has been exceeded.

In addition to this information, there is a second tab featuring *Advanced Information*. This tab contains detailed information corresponding to the individual frame at the current cursor position, and may be of use in determining the build up to a failure. The items described are as follows:

Analysis Summary	Advanced Information
Luminance Diagnostic	0 transitions
Luminance Flash Area	0 %
Luminance Flash Contrast	0/20
Extended Flash Warnings	0/125 frames
Red Diagnostic	0 transitions
Red Flash Area	0 %
Red Flash Contrast	0/20
Spatial Pattern Area	4 %
Spatial Pattern Contrast	108/20

The Advanced Information tab

Luminance Diagnostic: This is the numerical value of the diagnostic plot shown on the graph. It represents the minimum number of transitions which the most active 25% of the image frame has seen in the most recent second.

Luminance Flash Area: The percentage area of the image frame which has exceeded the Flash Guidelines.

Luminance Flash Contrast: The average contrast of the area of the image frame which has exceeded the Flash Guidelines.

Extended Flash Warnings: The number of image frames which have generated flash warnings (levels 0.3 or 0.4) in the most recent 5 seconds.

Red Diagnostic: The number of red transitions which the most active 25% of the image frame has seen in the most recent second.

Red Flash Area: The percentage area of the image frame which has exceeded the Red Flash Guidelines.

Red Flash Contrast: The average amplitude of flash to and from saturated red of the area of the image frame which has exceeded the Red Flash Guidelines.

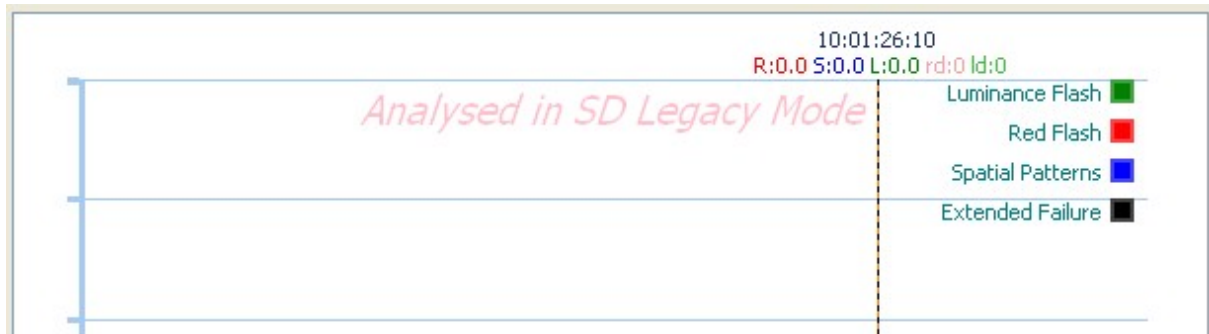
Spatial Pattern Area: The percentage area of the image frame which has exceeded the Spatial Pattern Guidelines.

Spatial Pattern Contrast: The average contrast of the area of the image frame which has exceeded the

Spatial Pattern Guidelines.

SD Legacy Mode

The *HardingFPA-XL* has a version 2.5 legacy option for when comparisons with earlier *HardingFPA* analyses are necessary. To select legacy mode, select the *Settings* option on the *Tools* menu (as a Windows administrator user, so that the *Administrator* settings tab is visible), check the box to enable *SD Legacy Mode*, and then close and restart the *HardingFPA-XL* application. Please note, Legacy Mode is only available for Standard Definition (SD) video analysis. All HD formats will be analysed with [Version 3 analysis algorithms](#). Once the application is restarted, the *HardingFPA-XL* will only analyse in legacy mode unless the above change is reversed. The *HardingFPA-XL* will indicate legacy mode analysis both in the graph and on any PDF results certificate (see below).



HardingFPA
broadcast flash & pattern analyser



TEST CERTIFICATE

Analysed in SD Legacy Mode

Results of Analysis by HardingFPA Flash and Pattern Analyser for Compliance with Ofcom Guidance Note for Licensees on Flashing Images and Regular Patterns in Television (Ofcom Code May 2008). Analysis results also comply with ITU-R BT.1702.

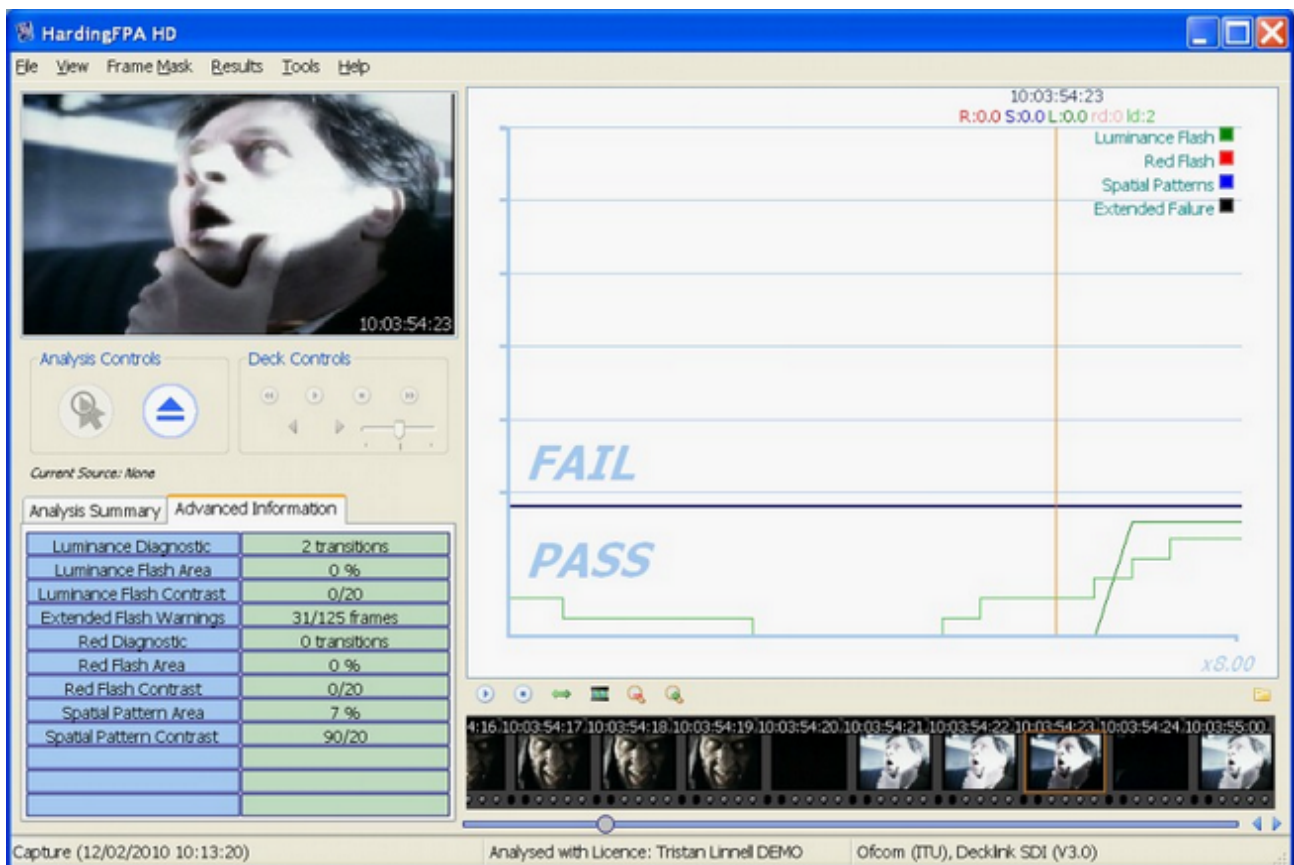
LICENCE NUMBER: 2-045-715-700

Interpreting Results

The following items are phenomena commonly seen in the results along with explanations for the behaviour.

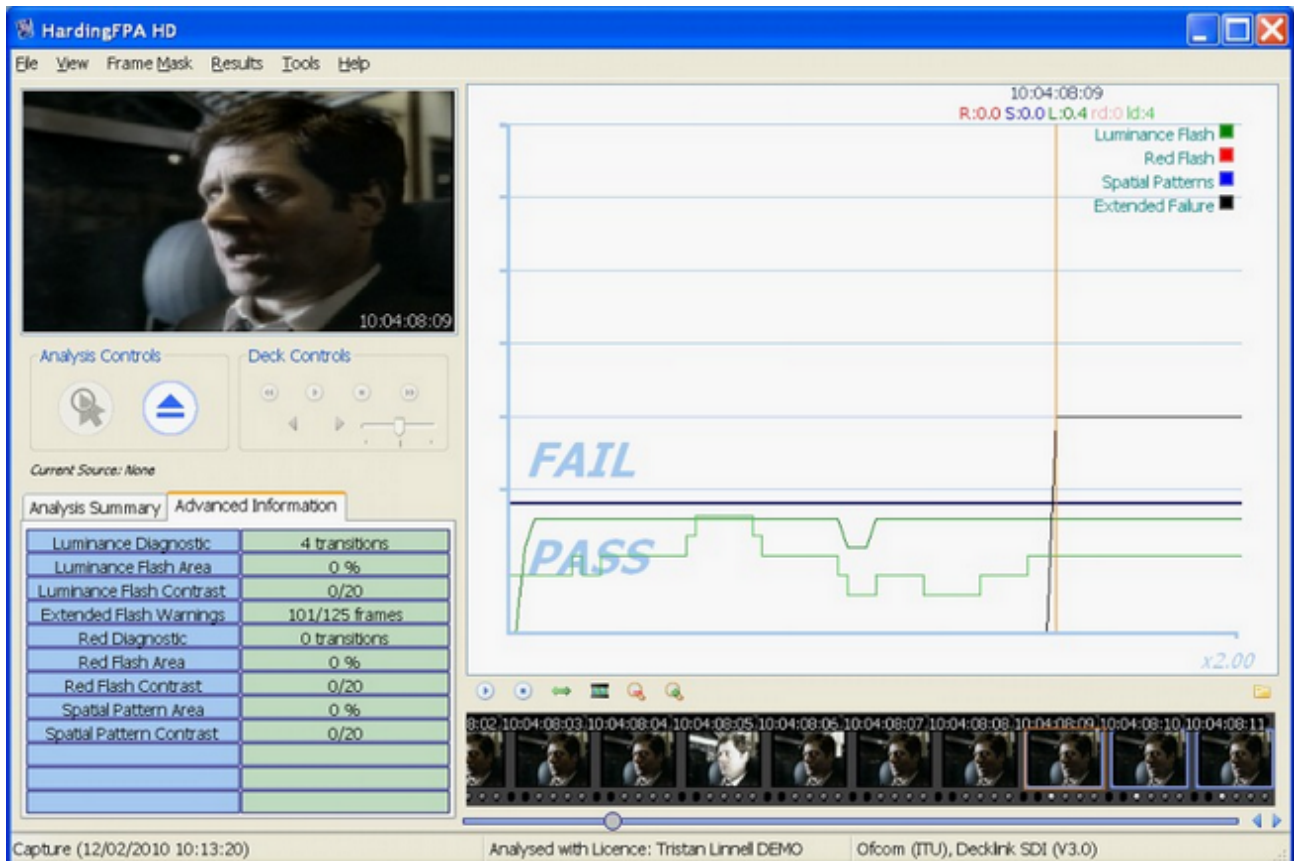
1) A flash occurred but the normal flash risk trace didn't appear – The main flash risk trace (dark green line) may not appear if flashing is less than 20cd/m² in contrast or if the flash frequency is significantly within guideline limits. Remember that 2 opposing transitions make up a single flash.

The example below shows that two transitions have been detected by the diagnostic trace (light green line) but that the main risk trace has not yet appeared because the flash frequency up to this point is not considered to be significant.



(1) Showing a flash but no flash risk trace

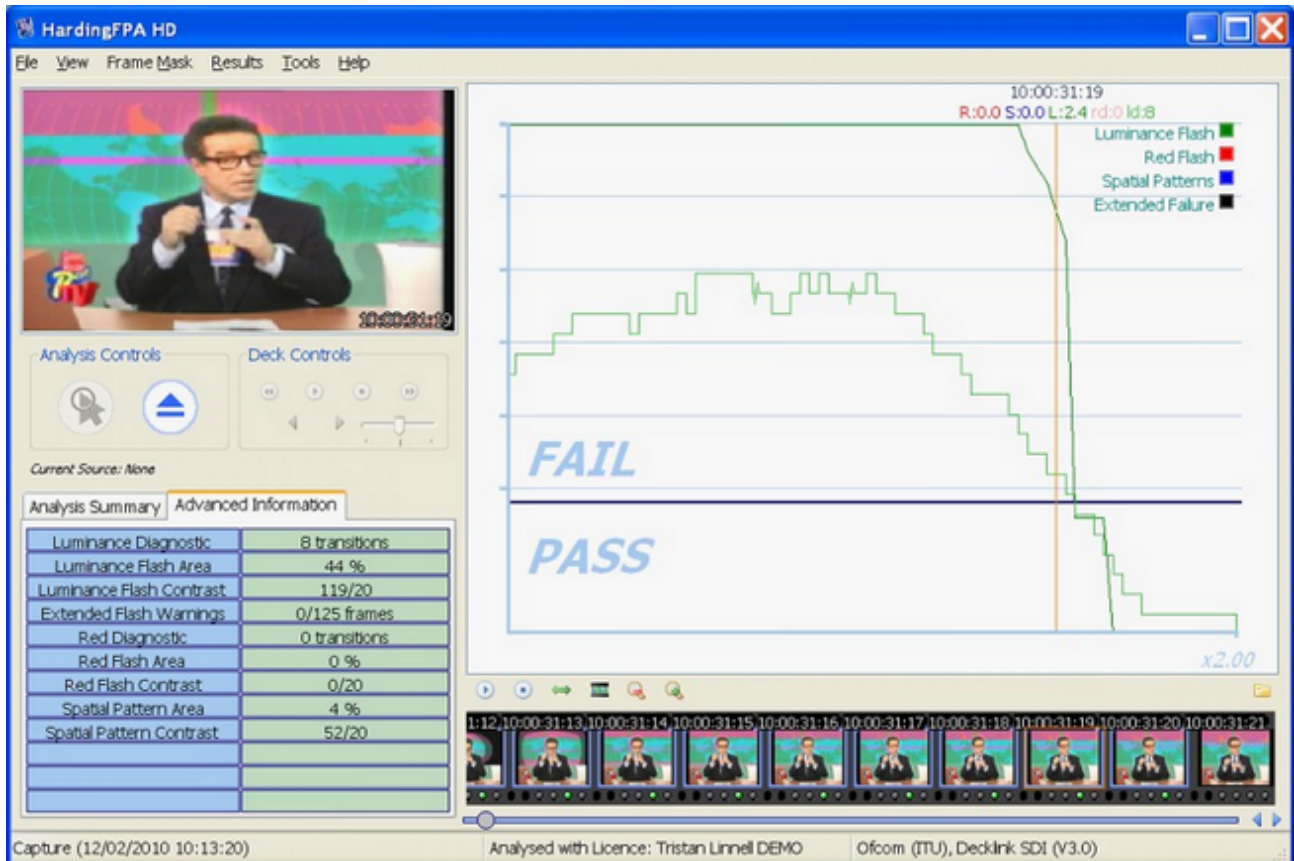
2) The flash risk trace (dark green line) appeared close to the pass-fail limit for a long sequence of images but didn't enter the fail zone – The system has detected flashing of above 3Hz and 20cd/m² in amplitude; but the flash area is less than 25% of the screen area. If the criteria for failure are not all met then the system will generate a line based on how close the material is to failure. If the line is hovering just below the failure line then it might only need a tiny change in size of the flashing area to push it into failure. Such a tiny change could be introduced when converting between formats, frame rates or codecs if this is not done carefully using professional grade codecs.



The example below shows that the flash risk has remained close to the failure line for long enough to generate an extended flash failure. This occurs whenever more than 80% of the frames in the last five seconds generated flash risk warnings of 0.3 or 0.4 (i.e. close to failure).

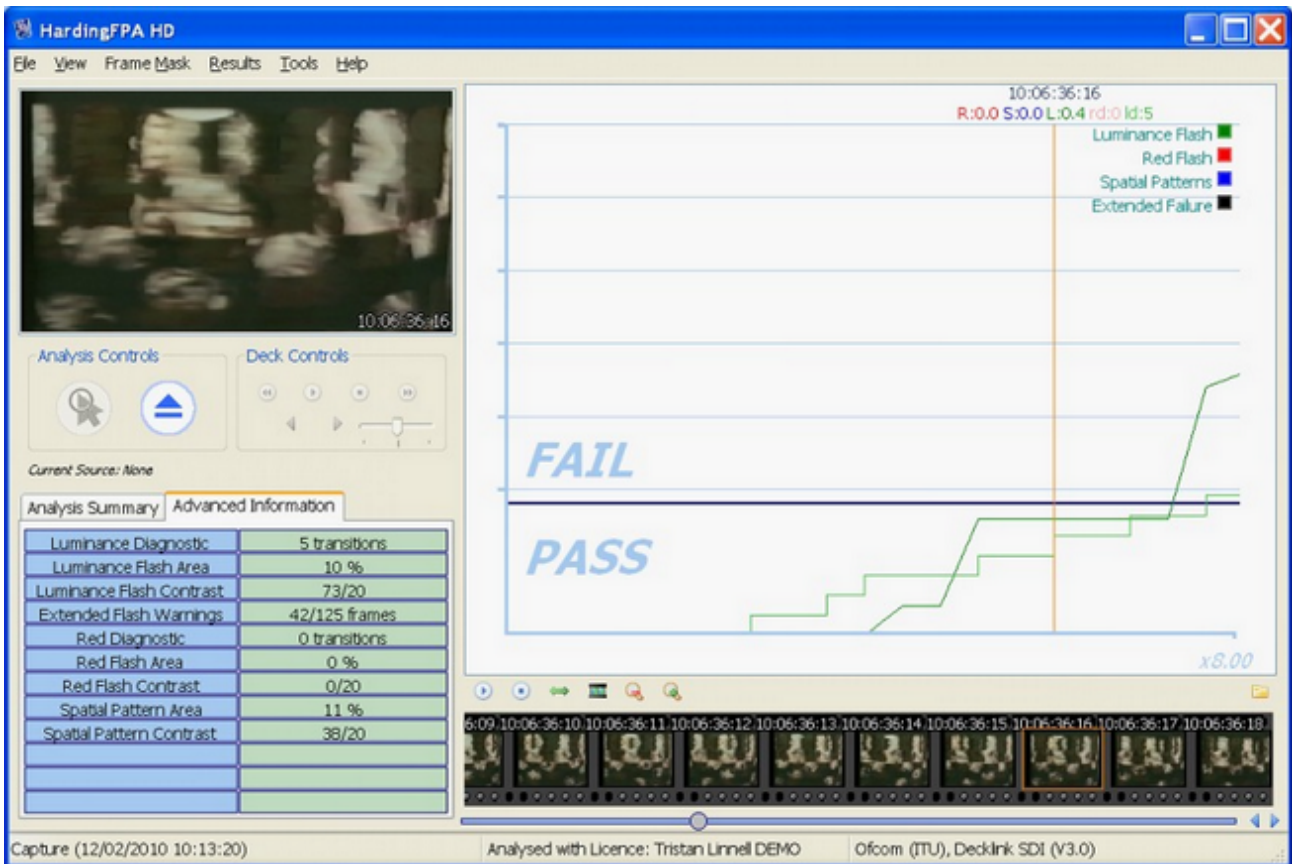
(2) Long sequence of flashing that eventually led to an Extended Flash Failure

3) The flash risk trace (dark green line) persists for several frames *after* a flash occurred – This is perfectly normal, and arises because of the way the system has to detect flashing frequencies over the most recent second. You do not need to worry about the persistence of the flash risk traces, you need to principally examine the second before the line moves into failure, or where the diagnostics trace shows that the transition count is still rising. Once you have corrected all the causes of the line first moving into failure then the material at that point will pass the test. Note, however that lots of flashing close together will generate a much longer compound failure: the best thing to do is deal with the flashes one at a time until the material passes the test.



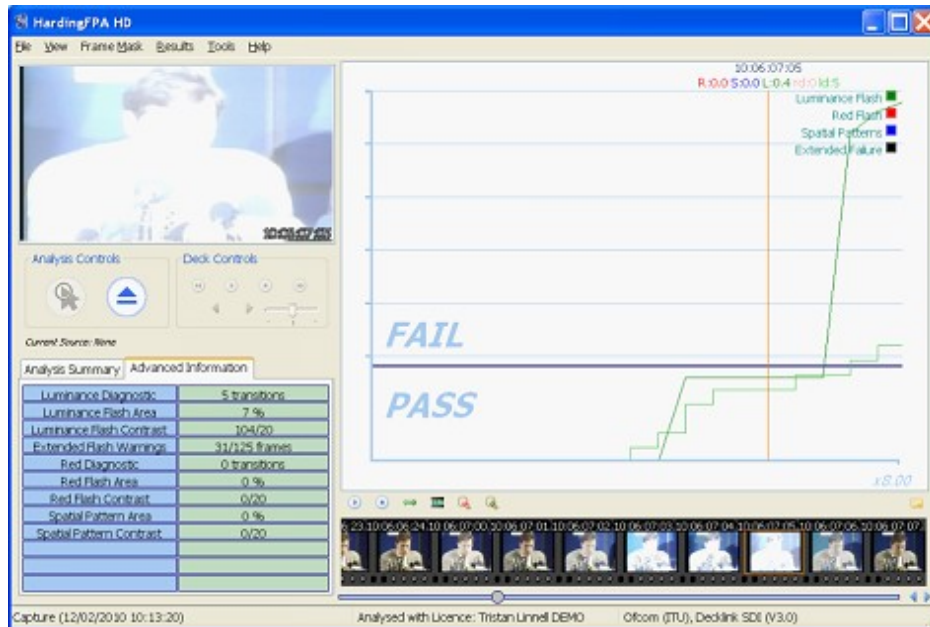
(3) Flash graph persisting after the flash.

4) The diagnostic transition count increased where no obvious flash had occurred – The diagnostic trace represents the number of transitions seen by the most active 25% of the screen over the most recent second. Therefore continuous image activity (e.g. localised flashing and rapid movement within the scene caused by camera pan or zoom etc) can steadily increase the number of transitions that individual pixels have seen, and when at least 25% of those have seen an extra transition will the diagnostic count increase. This can be quite tricky material to fix, and may only be possible by reducing the brightness of the image or cut down on the whole area.



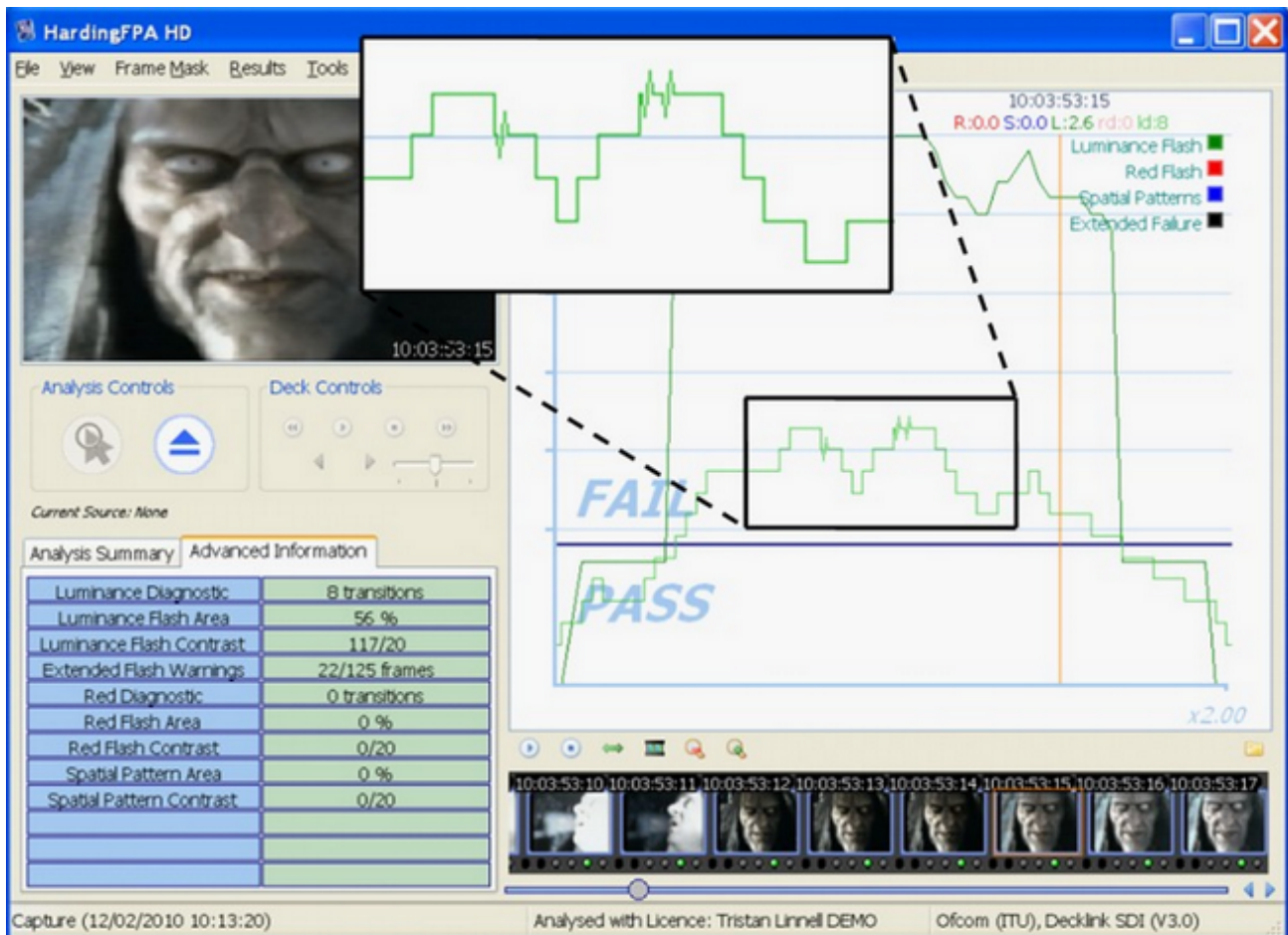
(4) Transition count (light green trace) increased without an obvious transition

5) A flash clearly occurred but the diagnostic trace didn't increase – The diagnostic trace shows the number of transitions seen in the last second of material, and transitions older than that will be discarded. This means that the diagnostic count may not always coincide with an obvious flash. For example, a visible transition in an image may not lead to a higher transition count if the pixels that see the transition are not part of the most active 25%.

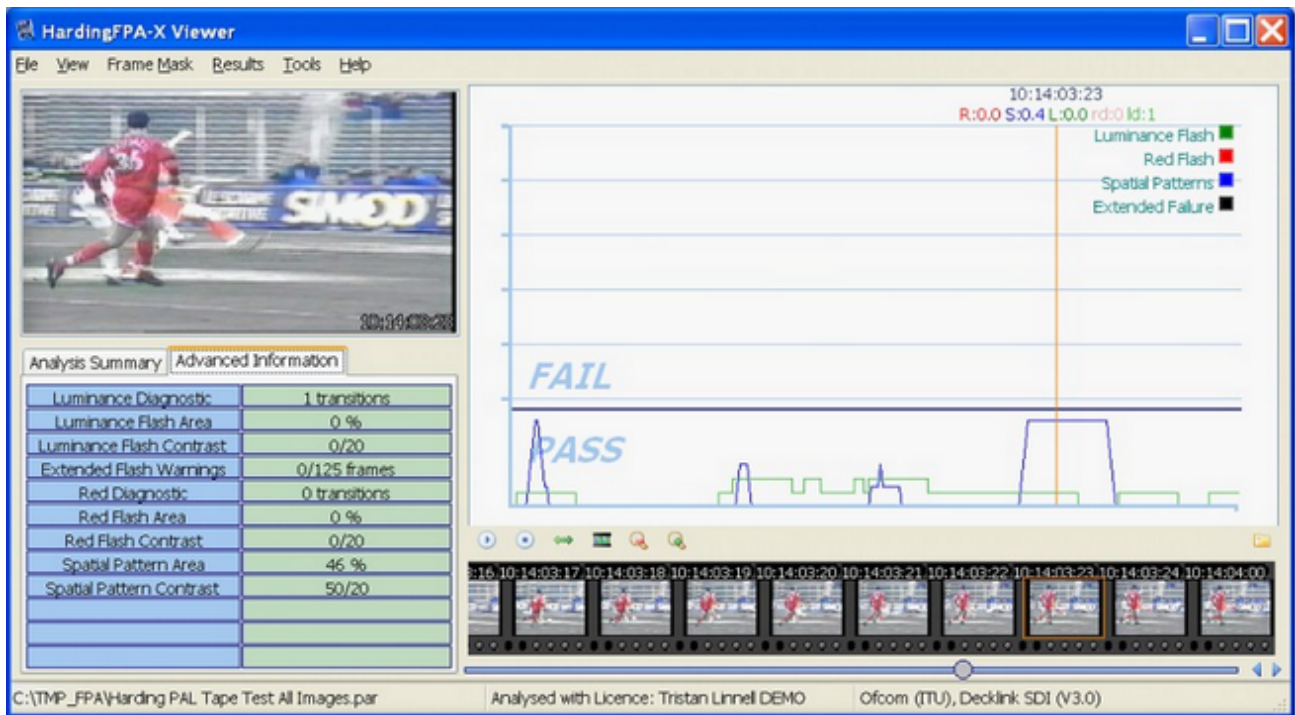


(5) A flash clearly occurred but the diagnostic trace hasn't increased.

Alternatively, an incoming transition may coincide with an outgoing transition from one exactly second earlier. When this occurs, the new version 3 analyser inserts a *squiggle* (see picture with inset) to indicate that the diagnostic trace has simultaneously gained and lost a transition over the most recent second between video frames.



6) The spatial pattern trace remains in the pass zone even though the detected spatial pattern exceeds contrast and screen area limits – A number of limits have to be exceeded before a detected spatial pattern can generate a failure. The Advanced Information tab in the example below shows that a spatial pattern has been detected with 50 cd/m² contrast (limit 20 cd/m²) and covers 46% screen area (limit 40%). However, in this example, the system has not generated a failure because motion, caused by the camera pan and zoom, makes the detected spatial pattern exempt from failure under Ofcom rules.



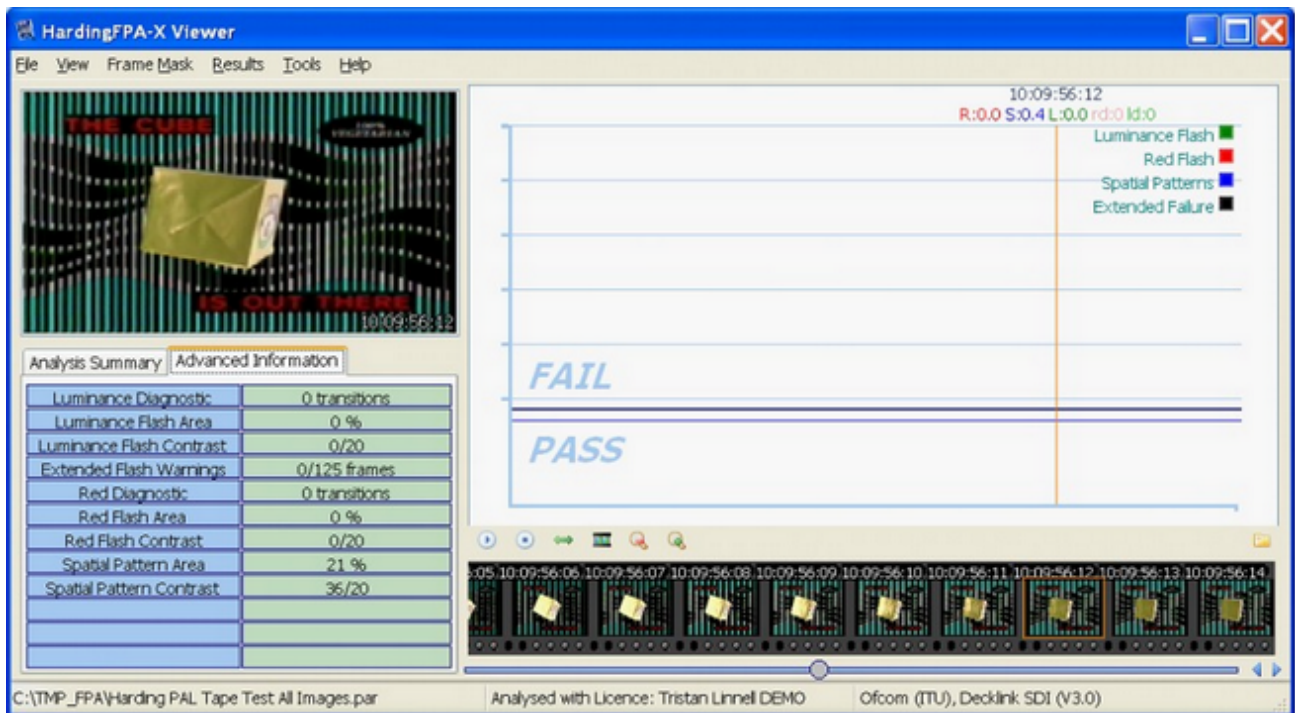
7) The diagnostic trace decreased within a few frames after it had increased. Shouldn't it have taken one second for the transition to flush out? -- Not necessarily. It is true that the diagnostic trace monitors transitions over the most recent second but the most active pixels that determine this diagnostic count are, in most cases, constantly changing. The diagnostic trace will only follow this one-second pattern if the most active pixels are changing together in phase.

The example below shows the diagnostic trace (light green) increasing from zero to one for a period of only two frames (around the vertical amber current frame line) before returning to zero.

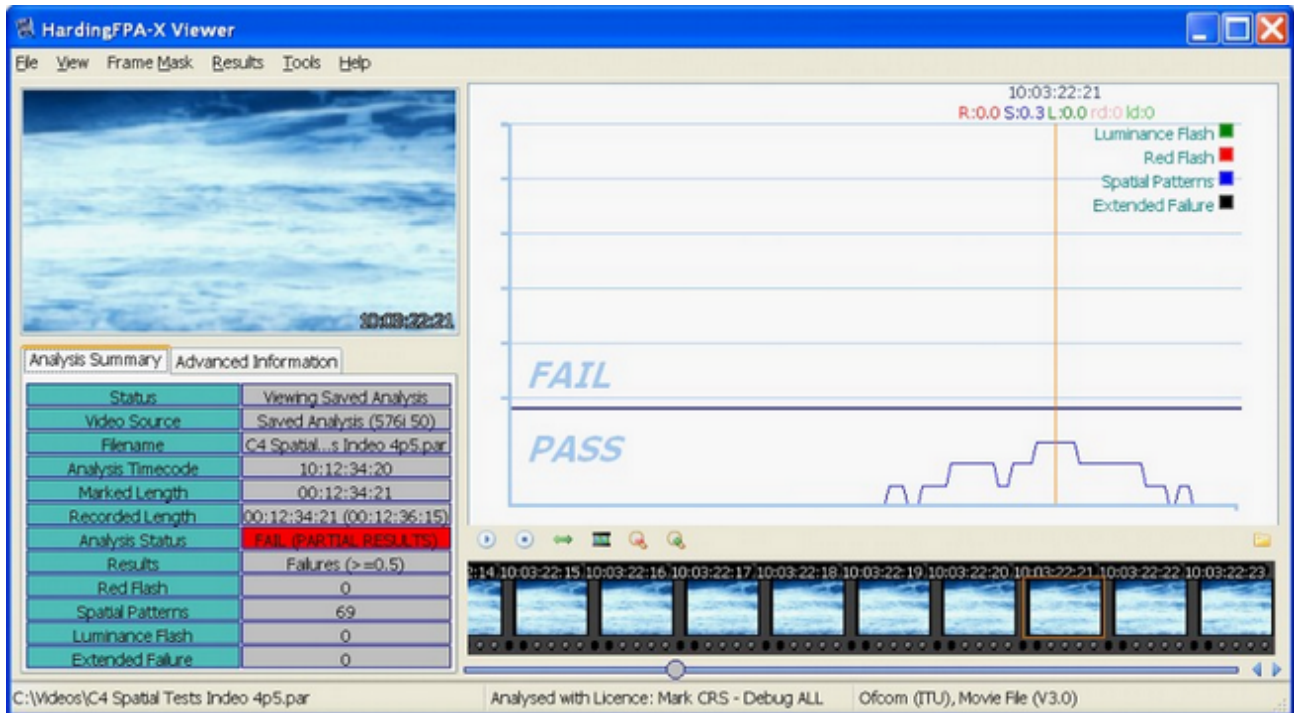


8) The system passes a stationary pattern that looks as though it should have failed – Some patterns that are clearly bar-like in one direction may also possess some local structure in the orthogonal direction. Alternatively, a pattern may not be sufficiently regular or may not have sufficient contrast throughout. Any such structure may cause the system to see fewer than 6 light-dark bars or may separate a provocative pattern into two or more regions. Either of these mechanisms can save a provocative pattern that would otherwise have failed.

The spatial pattern in the example below passes because of text and foreground objects which break up the bar-like pattern into smaller irregular regions.



9) The analyser generates spatial warnings but it's not obvious where the pattern is! – Occasionally the spatial trace may appear when there is no obvious spatial pattern present in the video stream. The example below shows a picture of the sea generating spatial warnings caused by waves in perspective creating faint, repeating structure. Other candidates for generating unexpected spatial responses are: landscape in perspective, net curtains and reams of paper. However, it is highly unlikely that any of these scenes would actually lead to a spatial pattern failure.



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