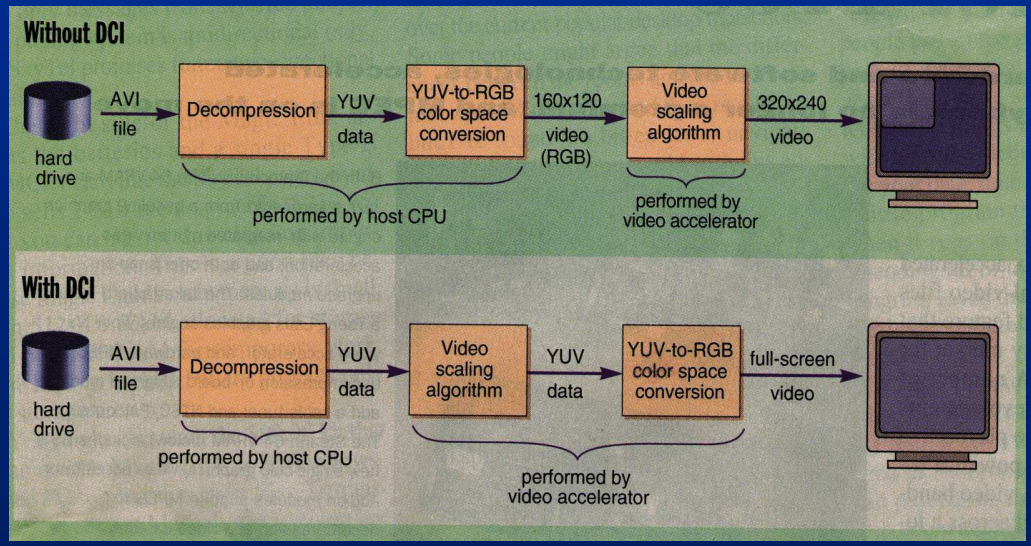
Decoders: Current Technology

- **Software decoders available for all codecs; performance ranging from adequate (VfW, QT) over moderate (M-JPEG) to very poor (MPEG).**
  - Only fastest RISC CPUs can decode MPEG in real time.
  - For VfW and QT, full screen 30 fpu video requires HW support as well.
- **Hardware playback options:**
  - MPEG: (1) decoder cards for external monitors only; (2) MPEG decoder cards using VGA feature connector to integrate MPEG & VGA; (3) proprietary integration of MPEG and VGA (VESA Media Channel)

- VfW: Display Control Interface architecture; DCI API allows for off-loading color space conversion to HW accelerator. Resulting performance improvement allows for larger final picture and less demanding network protocol handling.