Subject: Re: IDL and Dual Processor PC's
Posted by rivers on Fri, 04 Jun 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <7j8714$631$1@readme.uio.no>, steinhh@ulrik.uio.no
> (Stein Vidar Hagfors Haugan) writes:
>
>   read_image,name2,huge_image
>   fft_of_huge_image = fft(huge_image,-1)
>   ;; .... processing....
>   processed_image = fft(fft_of_huge_image,1)
>   save_huge_image,processed_image
>
> ..then you could be getting a lot more value for money if you
> buy two single-processor systems, running them in parallell
> "by hand"...

I might disagree with this. A dual-processor system, running 2 instances of
IDL simultaneously may be better value for money than a second complete
computer. The incremental cost of the second CPU is not that high. One
advantage is that you can put twice as much memory in this machine, and have
all of it available to a single IDL process when you need it. This is what we
are doing - 1 GB of memory on a dual-processor 450 MHz Pentium, Windows NT.
We are running up against the 32 bit memory limitations of Windows and IDL.
Even with 3 GB of swap space, IDL can only access arrays just over 1 GB. It
doesn't take a very big 3-D array to reach that limit!

Mark Rivers