
Subject: Re: IDL time test with a PowerMac G4

Posted by [Pavel Romashkin](#) on Thu, 07 Oct 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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>> 4.73333=Total Time, 0.096772401=Geometric mean, 23 tests.
>
> Running time_test2 on my P-II 400 laptop produces the same total time
> (4.7300 seconds, see below). I though the new G4 was a > 1 Gflops machine
> excellent for numerical stuff but, this small comparison indicates that my standard
> PC is equally fast.... Is there something I am missing here

Take a look at the disk access times, test # 10,11,23. It is evident that Joseph's G4 (1.72 s) was a slower writer than your laptop (0.16 s). That's in fact the largest contribution to the total test time for all platforms tested here. Its not the clock speed after all that limits the overall performance, its the memory and hard drive bus bottlenecks. The speed of flops by G4 is impressive, but you still need to write the results. This I think was recognized and is the tendency on all platforms now - to get the bus speed up from the ancient 33 / 66 mHz and widen the bus, too.

Cheers,
Pavel
