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Subject: Re: G4-related problem  
Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Wed, 03 Sep 2003 16:45:14 GMT  
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In article <vlc5b17e31l6f8@corp.supernews.com>,  
"Karl Schultz" <kschultz\_no\_spam@rsinc.com> wrote:

Karl,

Thanks for persisting with this and helping track down the problem. If you get any more info from Apple about whether the fix will be included in 10.2.? (if there is one), could you please post it? The info Apple releases about updates is scanty and unlikely to include this level of technical detail.

Thanks, Ken Bowman

> Update:  
>  
> We heard back from Apple and they were able to find the problem via a bug  
> report I filed.  
>  
> They said that the problem does exist on 10.2 and also in 10.3. In the 10.3  
> case, another issue hid the actual bug, which led us to believe that the  
> problem didn't exist in 10.3. In any case, the problem will not appear in  
> future OS X releases. The fix has been rolled into the current OS X 10.3  
> builds. It is unclear if there is going to be another 10.2.x release and if  
> this fix will be in it. (If there is another 10.2.x (10.2.7 ?), look for a  
> mention of this in the "fixed issues" list when you install the update).  
>  
> Adding together what I observed and what they told us, I believe that the  
> cause of the problem was Altivec state not being handled correctly when the  
> OS X kernel interrupts the main thread to run the timer signal handler  
> thread. OS X uses the Altivec to implement the bcopy function, and so any  
> changes to Altivec state that may occur in the signal handler would cause an  
> interrupted bcopy call to malfunction.  
>  
> Anyway, the problem is understood and the workarounds I suggested below are  
> still valid.  
>  
> Karl

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