
Subject: Re: Platform recommendation/tradeoffs?
Posted by [kennealy](#) on Fri, 14 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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daft@debussy.crd.ge.com (Chris Daft) writes:

> I second the request for some comparison of IDL's performance on
> various CPUs. I have been using IDL on Suns for a long time, but may
> be required to switch to a Pentium machine for some period, and I'd
> like to know what the performance differences would be.

> I wonder if some kind of standard IDL test suite could be developed,
> kinda like a SPECmark?

Every IDL distribution includes a copy of time_test.pro, which is exactly the standard test suite you refer to. I've run this on quite a few different machines, but I don't have the data here right now in my home office. However, I do recall that my 90MHz Pentium system fares somewhat better than a SUN SPARCstation-10 on this test. I was a little surprised by that result, so I used one of my own Fortran FFT routines to compare my Pentium with the SPARC-10 and got pretty much the same result. The Pentium is indeed impressive.

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