
Subject: Re: Platform recommendation/tradeoffs?

Posted by [Chris Jacobsen](#) on Fri, 14 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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The CPU in a pentium is within hailing distance of the CPU of new unix workstations. If that's the only issue, a PC is a good platform for IDL in terms of bang for the buck.

For me, a big issue is memory. For image processing, we will frequently end up with several 1024x1024 complex floating point arrays at 8 MB memory each. We can afford to have one \$10,000 unix workstation with 128 or even 256 MB of memory and a half-dozen X terminals so that one or two people can do image processing at any moment. We cannot afford to put 128 MB of memory in each of half a dozen PCs. Also, nobody ever screws up AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS on the unix workstation...
