
Subject: Re: IDL and 64bit Linux
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Thu, 19 Aug 2004 17:02:12 GMT
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On Thu, 19 Aug 2004 09:19:44 +0100, Nigel Wade wrote:

> We are in the process of finding a replacement for our ageing Origin 2000
> system. One absolute requirement is that it be able to run IDL.
>
> We are looking at SMP systems and 2 likely contenders are the Sun Fire
> V40z (hopefully an 8 processor version will be available sometime) and the
> sgi Altix 350. The Sun Fire uses Opteron and the Altix Itanium 2, neither
> of which is supported by IDL.
>
> I've mailed RSInc to ask them if they are likely to include support for
> either on Linux in the near future, but so far I've not received any reply
> at all.
>
> So, I'm hoping that someone here might have tried IDL on one of these
> platforms, to test the water, and can tell me whether it runs, and if so,
> how well it performs against a 32bit processor (I'm concerned that the
> Itanium has no native 32bit capability and may run IDL very slowly in
> 32bit emulation, the Opteron is very much an unknown quantity).

See:

<http://www.rsinc.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=3635#current>

Relevant quote: "An announcement as to availability (post-IDL 6.1) [of 64-bit IDL for Linux] will be forthcoming following further investigation."

I've heard lots of rumbling about getting a 64bit IDL for linux, which could address some rather large chunks of memory, and perform long64 integer arithmetic at healthy speeds. Anyone have use for fast 64bit integer arithmetic? Do 64-bit doubles ("double doubles") have any appeal to anyone?

JD
