Subject: Re: Intel iMac IDL performance
Posted by K. Bowman on Tue, 28 Feb 2006 20:28:26 GMT

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In article <pan.2006.02.27.22.35.29.385927@as.arizona.edu>,
 JD Smith <jdsmith@as.arizona.edu> wrote:

> Good news. Can you try running your benchmark a few time, Ken?
> Rosetta is not an emulator, but a caching code translator. When it
> encounters code it has already translated, it simply uses its cached
> version of that, which should run somewhat faster, so it's not unusual
> to have the second and later runs of a given benchmark speed up. Can
> you also run:
>
> IDL> time_test3
>
> a few times? On my PB G4, that takes 3.6s/0.13s total/geom. mean.
> Sadly, I expect the iBook Intel/MacBook Pro to beat these numbers even
> under Rosetta. One other good one to try:
>
> IDL> a=randomu(sd,100L*!CPU.TPOOL_MIN_ELTS)
> IDL> t=systime(1) & a=sqrt(a)/(a>0.5) & print,systime(1)-t
>
> which shows how well the threading is working on ~40MB of data. On my
> PBG4, this takes 1.8s.
>
> Thanks,
>
> JD

Hi, JD.

I ran JD's benchmark, along with time_test3 and my personal benchmark. The
results are summarized here:

   http://idl.tamu.edu/mac_bench.php

I ran all tests 3 times. Variations between individual runs was at the 10%
level. (Re-running did not produce significant changes in speed.)

The Intel iMac is faster than my (relatively new) PowerBook G4, but slower than
a high end G5 desktop.

Multi-threading on the quad-processor G5 seems to work quite well.

I ran a few other non-IDL tests. TeX, with the TeXshop front-end, is amazingly
fast.

Ken