
Subject: Re: IDL 6.3 for Mac OS X on Intel Now Available
Posted by [Paolo Grigis](#) on Fri, 14 Jul 2006 08:00:15 GMT
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I think it would be very interesting to compare performance with a macbook with the same specification running windows via bootcamp... will this give a further increase in performance due to windows optimizations? Or at least somebody with a native windows core duo laptop could report.

Otherwise I cannot understand why a windows laptop with a pentium M clocked at 1.6 GHz performs 1.27 in TT3... or are core duo processors **expected** to be less efficient than similarly clocked pentium Ms for single processor task?

(For comparison, on that system JD_TEST returns 0.73, a bit more than a factor 2 worse than dual core, as expected).

Ciao,
Paolo

JD Smith wrote:

> On Thu, 13 Jul 2006 09:24:56 -0700, bokubo wrote:

>

>

>> I am pleased to announce the release of IDL 6.3 for Mac OS X on Intel.

>> This new IDL release runs as a native application on all Mac Intel

>> supported machines and offers significant performance benefits. We have

>> seen a growing popularity of Mac OS X for scientific and analysis

>> applications, and this release represents our ongoing commitment to

>> this growing base of IDL users.

>

>

> And....

>

> it's **FAST**. Here's the breakdown for some portable OSX systems,

> following along the tests at:

>

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

>

> System TT3 (AVG) TT3 (GEOM) JD_TEST

> =====

=====

> PB (G4 1.67GHz, 2GB, PPC IDL native) 3.20 .13 1.86

> MBP(CoreDuo 2GHz, 1GB, PPC IDL via Rosetta) 3.45 .13 3.02

> MBP(CoreDuo 2GHz, 1GB, i386 IDL native) 1.69 .06 0.32
>
> All times in seconds.
>
> PB == PowerBook
> MBP == MacBook Pro (thanks to Jason Harris for a temporary loan)
> TT3 == Time Test 3, run under IDL 6.3, demo mode.
> AVG == average
> GEOM == geometric mean
> JD_TEST ==
> IDL> a=randomu(sd,100L*!CPU.TPOOL_MIN_ELTS)
> IDL> t=systime(1) & a=sqrt(a)/(a>0.5) & print,systime(1)-t
>
> So, for things which are limited by a single processor (TIME_TEST3),
> we're roughly ~2x faster than a G4 PB (which was a slow IDL system, to
> be fair), with only 20% more clock speed.
>
> But, the real fun comes when running big array manipulations, like
> JD_TEST, where the dual Core Duo processors can flex their muscles.
> Here the speedup is closer to 6x, which is almost too good to believe.
> This will of course depend on which operations you use, but testing a
> variety of arithmetic ones, I found speedups of anywhere from 2-7 on
> arrays large enough to make multi-threading effective.
>
> The MBP (a portable system) is now comparable in speed to a quad-processor
> G5, and (I suspect) similar dual-processor Linux/Windows desktops. Very
> respectable. Woeful OSX/IDL performance, R.I.P.
>
> JD
>
