
Subject: Re: Anyone used FastDL?

Posted by [Richard French](#) on Tue, 19 Dec 2006 01:50:57 GMT

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I'm still a big fan of IDL, Rick, but \$3000 for an educational license for FastDL for an 8 CPU cluster + \$450/yr maintenance is not small change. I'll follow your suggestion and find out about a trial FastDL license. I don't have any experience in parallel processing programming, and I have no doubt that the devil is in the details in how much of an improvement one can really get. What's unclear to me at this point is how much harder it would be for me to develop my own communication links between separate IDL processes on different CPUS than to rewrite the code using FastDL to do more or less the same thing. Here is where having some substantial examples coded in different ways would really help. For example, if I have 100 images to process using identical code, it would not be that hard to start 8 IDL processes on different CPUS and have each one grab the next available image. I'm not sure how much more than this TaskDL does for this kind of operation. Of course, doing parallel processing a finer level of things (milIDL) is a different story, and here I know that I have a lot to learn.

Dick

On 12/18/06 8:06 PM, in article em7dqu\$bm6\$1@news.nems.noaa.gov, "Rick Towler" <rick.towler@nomail.noaa.gov> wrote:

> That's an unfair comparison. Have you done an IDL vs. MATLAB pricing
> comparison lately? Compared to MATLAB, IDL delivers some serious value.
> And while I haven't asked in a while, RS-err ITTVIS has always been
> very generous in providing trial licenses to their products. So I'm sure
> if you wanted to try IDL Analyst you could, free of charge.
>
> -Rick
>
