Subject: Shared memory between several IDL processes
Posted by Richard French on Sat, 23 Dec 2006 18:39:14 GMT

I'm searching for a way to take advantage of the multiple processors on my
new OSX Xserve box (4 processors) and MacPro workstation (another
4-processor box) to speed up some lengthy calculations. I've started looking
into using PVM (http://www.epm.ornl.gov/pvm/pvm_home.html) using Ronn
Kling's nifty IDLtoPVM interface
(http://www.kilvarock.com/software/idltopvm.htm) that I now have working
under OSX (both the old chips and intel), but I'm trying to find a way to
avoid having to pass lots lot data across the connections.

Has anyone set up a system with, say, four separate IDL processes on a
single machine with 4 processors, and found a convenient way to share memory
and tasks between them? What I'd like to to is to find an easy way to
communicate between the 4 IDL processes (perhaps using PVM) without having
to send lots of data across the pipes. Suggestions, anyone?

I'm also looking into FastDL, but I want a bit more experience with the less
expensive alternatives first.

Thanks,

Dick French