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Subject: Re: OT: recommendations for high preformance workstations

Posted by [Mirko](#) on Wed, 09 May 2007 15:00:57 GMT

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On May 8, 5:35 pm, JD Smith <jdsm...@as.arizona.edu> wrote:

> On Tue, 08 May 2007 06:47:50 -0700, Mirko wrote:

>> Good morning group,

>

>> I am buying my next linux workstation, and other than dollars, are there

>> other parameters that I should take into account? My main unknown is

>> vendor. Our company likes Dell very much, but I wonder whether HP or IBM

>> machines are better engineered or built for scientific computations.

>

>> I am looking for a 64-bit dual processor (dual or quad core) with about

>> 8GB. I will be running Fluent (and IDL) on it, and Fluent can take

>> advantage of parallelized architectures. So far I have never looked into

>> IDL's features for running on parallel machines.

>

> I'd skip the big names and try a linux-specific workstation provider

> like ASL labs. Tested and guaranteed linux hardware compatibility

> (especially important for video cards), and pre-installation of any of

> a dozen Linux distributions. And for the high end, pretty affordable

> too. For ~2k you can get a quad core Intel chip @2.4GHz, 4GB, 1.5GB

> HD, and a fast NVidia card.

>

> JD

Thank you to you all.

I don't think I can be an expert for chipsets.

I went to the Scientific Computing magazine, as they give annual awards, but that list was not very enlightening.

I will take a look at linux-specific vendors.

As for my data point, I have been using Dell's here at work (dual processor workstation and a beefy laptop). We do not seem to have much problems. Here and there, things go wrong, but our IT staff gets them fixed pretty quickly. Our company buys preferentially from Dell - they have some kind of a deal with them.

It is interesting that there were no mention of Sun or IBM machines so far.

Mirko

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