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Subject: Be sure you're measuring your computer and not your network...

Posted by [deutsch](#) on Wed, 12 May 1993 23:50:12 GMT

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In article <1993May12.125311.1@univrs.decnet.lockheed.com>, sextonm@univrs.decnet.lockheed.com writes:

> I'm posting this for Mr Gurman

>

> MK Sexton

>

>     Multitasking OS's seem to give a spread of results; here are some of

> mine for a VAXstation 4000 Model 90, also running OpenVMS 5.5-2, with 64

> Mbyte of memory (although the user's working set extent is more

> relevant: mine is 60K pages):

>

>                   Comp.  Geo. Avg.     Graphics Geo.

>                   47.3   0.79       2.36  0.40

>                   34.1   0.70       2.75  0.53

>                   34.2   0.70       2.14  0.31

>

>     Guess it's the old process initialization lethargy of VMS showing.

>

Be careful! Especially when just posting your totals and not every individual test, the last test, which is the intensive disk test, can totally destroy your results if the current default (working) directory is not physically attached to the computer running IDL. A local disk will yield a time on the order of .5 - 3 seconds while a network disk can be on the order of 20 seconds, which will make any machine look like a sloth!

For example on a VAXstation 4000 M90 (maybe 60?) on local disk, I get Comp Total 17.9 seconds and on network disk, 26.9 seconds! This machine is also running OpenVMS 5.5-2.

I think, in general, it is true that disk access under VMS is slower than under e.g. Unix, which is important to know, but be sure to run all tests with a local disk, so at least the comparison is fair.

This note of caution repods Joe's message, but there are several postings in this rash of benchmark fever which are guilty of using net disks.

-Eric

>     For comparison, the DEC 3000 Model 400 AXP (Alpha workstation),

> OpenVMS AXP V1.0, 64 Mbyte numbers are:

>

>                   Comp.  Geo. Avg.     Graphics Geo.

>                   18.7   0.43       1.80  0.32

>

>     You might want to post these results, since my news reader is

> gagging on attempts to post today.

>  
> Joe Gurman  
>  
>  
> --  
> J.B. Gurman / Solar Physics Branch / NASA Goddard Space Flight Center /  
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> | Federal employees are prohibited from holding opinions under the Hatch Act.|  
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