
Subject: Re: Anyone using insight, or idlde?

Posted by [Jonathan Rogness](#) on Thu, 03 Jul 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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mirko.vukovic@grc.varian.com wrote:

>

> I was at a local idl presentation (in the bay area) and was pretty
> impressed with insight. It is indeed slow now, but wait 18 months,
> and I bet the cpu's will start catching up.

I'm not sure we should be congratulating RSI for writing some code that runs slowly on today's machines but, given future technology, might be usable. Anybody can write code that's slow and inefficient; the trick is to write programs that are quick and useful!

My only experience with Insight came last week, when we finally got the upgrade to v5.0. I was anxious to see if everybody's complaints had been accurate. I started IDL, started insight, and then tried to open one of the example projects. Almost two minutes later, nothing had happened and I killed the process off.

This is running on a SGI Power Challenge supercomputer with 9 processors, 640 MB of physical RAM and twice that in paging space. Now granted, there were (many) other users on the machine at the same time, but if it runs that slowly on this machine I have to believe that it's going to be more than 18 months before insight will run at a decent speed on, say, a Windows 95 machine.

Jon
