
Subject: IDL 5.4 and MacOS 9.1
Posted by [Dominik\[1\]](#) on Wed, 30 May 2001 07:38:47 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Does somebody has experience with IDL 5.4 on a G3 with MacOS 9.1?
On our system it is starting very slow, so we have to wait for more than one minute after loading.

Dom

--

=====
Dominik Paul
Uniklinik Freiburg
Abt. Nuklearmedizin/PET
=====

Subject: Re: IDL 5.4 and MacOS 9.1
Posted by [Dominik\[1\]](#) on Thu, 07 Jun 2001 08:13:50 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Maybe you are right. The SCSI drive is a external (5 or 10 MB per sec ?) in an older G3 (but not an upgraded) with an SCSI port still directly on the board. There is no network connection at all. Hope you know which one I mean, this beige G3 with 233MHz. There is no network connection at all. On the weekend I will format the external drive and/or reinstall my system.

On the blue/white G3 here in my Office, IDL is running very fast. Here the G3 has the same Operating system, (less memory), the same IDL version with the same Demo license.

So, another thing we observed is, that a big calculation a P3 with 900Mhz and 512MB took 42 secs, while on a Mac the same calculating only took 22 secs. Does somebody have experience in performance comparison Mac<->PC ???

Systems:
blue/white G3 with 400Mhz, 256 MB, MacOS 9.1, internal IBM SCSI drive with an Adaptec SCSI Controller
Siemens PC with P3 900Mhz, 512 MB, Windows 2000, normal internal Harddrive (IDE)

Dom

"Pavel A. Romashkin" <pavel.romashkin@noaa.gov> schrieb im Newsbeitrag news:3B1E65E6.A635183F@noaa.gov...
> Hi David,

>
>> Pavel seems to have given up on us, much to
>> my personal disappointment. He would know about this. :-(
>
> How could you even think so? I was away on a trip for a month! I am back
> with all silly advice I have to offer :-)
>
> I agree that this is this individual computer's fault. Either it is an
> upgraded Mac with a G3 chip that has an old SCSI drive that's slow, or
> the drive is badly fragmented. Even an Apple G3 that comes with an
> EIDE33 drive bus should do faster than this. A newer G4s come with at
> least an EIDE66, or maybe even ATA100 drives. It takes about a second
> to get 5.4 running on mine.
>
> Cheers,
> Pavel

Subject: Re: IDL 5.4 and MacOS 9.1
Posted by [Pavel A. Romashkin](#) on Thu, 07 Jun 2001 15:50:01 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi Dominik,

> Maybe you are right. The SCSI drive is a external (5 or 10 MB per sec ?) in
> an older G3 (but not an upgraded) with an SCSI port still directly on the
> board. There is no network connection at all. Hope you know which one I
> mean, this beige G3 with 233MHz. There is no network connection at all. On
> the weekend I will format the external drive and/or reinstall my system.

I know the machine you are talking about, we have one here. My colleague uses it as a shelf for a G4 Titanium laptop now, after the upgrades. Even the internal data bus on that one is slow compared to G4s. I would guess that revamping the external drive is not going to improve it a lot, and suggest that you use the internal drive. Although on my pre-G3 PowerComputing clone I have at home IDL started still faster than on yours, using a 20 Mb/s SCSI bus. So I'd blame a slow, fragmented drive.

> So, another thing we observed is, that a big calculation a P3 with 900Mhz
> and 512MB took 42 secs, while on a Mac the same calculating only took 22
> secs. Does somebody have experience in performance comparison Mac<->PC ???

RSI said that Macs are the fastest to run IDL. I assume that pertains to G4s, where IDL takes advantage of the Motorola's chip. My guess here would be that G3 chip is a little more efficient than a P3 (while more expensive), and the system bus is faster. Does P3 have a 33 MHz bus? You can get some idea if you run IDL's timetests on both and look at which tests are slower on a Pentium. I'd bet those would be disk access tests.

I want to try IDL on my home PC w/Duron 750, but need to get a CD from RSI.

Cheers,
Pavel

Subject: Re: IDL 5.4 and MacOS 9.1

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Thu, 07 Jun 2001 16:35:20 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Pavel A. Romashkin" wrote:

>
> RSI said that Macs are the fastest to run IDL. I assume that pertains to
> G4s, where IDL takes advantage of the Motorola's chip. My guess here
> would be that G3 chip is a little more efficient than a P3 (while more
> expensive), and the system bus is faster. Does P3 have a 33 MHz bus? You
> can get some idea if you run IDL's timetests on both and look at which
> tests are slower on a Pentium. I'd bet those would be disk access tests.
> I want to try IDL on my home PC w/Duron 750, but need to get a CD from RSI.

I think they were referring to the as-yet-unreleased Altivec-tuned version of IDL they demoed with Jobs at MacWorld last year. I guess we've yet to see how fast IDL can be on the G4.

JD

Subject: Re: IDL 5.4 and MacOS 9.1

Posted by [Pavel A. Romashkin](#) on Thu, 07 Jun 2001 16:40:44 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

> I think they were referring to the as-yet-unreleased Altivec-tuned
> version of IDL they demoed with Jobs at MacWorld last year. I guess
> we've yet to see how fast IDL can be on the G4.

Velocity Engine Support Enabled

IDL Version 5.4 (MacOS PowerMac). (c) 2000, Research Systems, Inc.

Welcome to IDL for Macintosh.

IDL technical support can be reached at:

Phone: (303) 786-9900

Fax: (303) 786-9909

E-mail: support@ResearchSystems.com

This is the first thing you see when you start up IDL on a G4.

Cheers,
Pavel
