
Subject: SPECIII?

Posted by [dj_connor](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2003 19:51:47 GMT

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I am in the market to buy a new computer to be used in part for ct 3D reconstruction and was wondering if there has been any progress made towards IDLSPECIII. Additionally, if there is anyone who is currently doing 3D reconstruction, could you advise as to which platform would be best?

Thanks,
DJ Connor
NCSU

Subject: Re: SPECIII?

Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 2003 23:42:17 GMT

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On Wed, 12 Mar 2003 12:51:47 -0700, DJ Connor wrote:

> I am in the market to buy a new computer to be used in part for ct 3D
> reconstruction and was wondering if there has been any progress made
> towards IDLSPECIII. Additionally, if there is anyone who is currently
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> best?

Sadly not. Despite the best intentions, the hurdle of creating a new benchmark from scratch was too much. IDL's default benchmark, `time_test`, is rather long in the tooth, and it shows. For instance, you can't get a meaningful I/O benchmark, since it writes at most 1 MB, which fits in all hard drive caches these days.

There has been some renewed interest in this lately, so it probably should be done. Unfortunately, IDLWAVE takes up enough of my time as it is ;). If anyone is interested in reviving IDLSpec, I'm happy to help them on their way. I did it as an ugly bunch of shell scripts, etc., but probably a bit of Perl would do the trick much more cleanly (and you could CGI it, no less). I even collected a list of names who'd be interested in helping design a new benchmark, potentially with OpenGL performance included.

As for 3D modeling, the real question is which graphics card and driver works best. I'm sure there are a few opinions on that here.

JD
