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Subject: MacOSX: Xgrid+IDL Anyone?

Posted by [Steven V. Penton](#) on Thu, 08 Jan 2004 21:08:19 GMT

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Ok, so Xgrid on MacOSX is cool, but it doesn't seem to work with IDL. I've tried all the thread tweaks but I couldn't get a serious Poly\_2d call to work. I can get Xgrid to pass around the IDL process to the fastest machine, but no luck otherwise. Has anyone else tried ?? Am I being naive to think that the threaded pieces of IDL should work?

Steve P.

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Subject: Re: MacOSX: Xgrid+IDL Anyone?

Posted by [Paul Woodford](#) on Mon, 12 Jan 2004 03:47:07 GMT

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In article <20040111192128928-0700@news.colorado.edu>, Steven V. Penton <spenton@colorado.edu> wrote:

> I've been sending idl tasks that benefit from parallel processing to  
> multiple machines with tcsh+ssh for years, I was just hoping Xgrid  
> could steroid my wimpy processor, I guess not.

It sounds like Xgrid will replace the tcsh+ssh routine (I've done it too) with a bit more automated process. Unfortunately there are not enough Macs at my company to make it worthwhile for me.

Paul

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Subject: Re: MacOSX: Xgrid+IDL Anyone?

Posted by [Jonathan Greenberg](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2004 05:04:58 GMT

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Can you explain the tcsh and ssh processing a bit more?

--j

On 1/11/04 7:47 PM, in article cpwoodford-5D1D0B.22470711012004@corp.supernews.com, "Paul Woodford" <cpwoodford@spamcop.net> wrote:

> In article <20040111192128928-0700@news.colorado.edu>,  
> Steven V. Penton <spenton@colorado.edu> wrote:

>  
>> I've been sending idl tasks that benefit from parallel processing to  
>> multiple machines with tcsh+ssh for years, I was just hoping Xgrid  
>> could steroid my wimpy processor, I guess not.  
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> It sounds like Xgrid will replace the tcsh+ssh routine (I've done it  
> too) with a bit more automated process. Unfortunately there are not  
> enough Macs at my company to make it worthwhile for me.  
>  
> Paul

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Subject: Re: MacOSX: Xgrid+IDL Anyone?  
Posted by [Paul Woodford](#) on Sun, 25 Jan 2004 04:20:45 GMT  
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In article <BC2A0DFA.1884E%greenberg@ucdavis.edu>,  
Jonathan Greenberg <greenberg@ucdavis.edu> wrote:

> Can you explain the tcsh and ssh processing a bit more?

Not much to explain, at least in the way I use it; ssh to a different machine and use a shell script or IDL batch file to run what you want. Perhaps Steve does something more intelligent. I wonder if you could use the -f flag with ssh to make things a bit easier...

Paul

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Subject: Re: MacOSX: Xgrid+IDL Anyone?  
Posted by [Wolf Schweitzer](#) on Thu, 29 Jan 2004 15:34:07 GMT  
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I tried running stuff on multiple machines under Pooch (<http://www.daugerresearch.com>) a while back. That would be an easy drag and drop way to link up several machines.

Using Pooch on, say, a double processor Mac and another single processor Mac, (together 3 processors), it is easily possible to start (launch) software, like calling Terminal or X11. Yet this does not seem to cause those programs to display any more than the 'number of local processors' using the command 'hostinfo' in a terminal window.

So, I still don't know where the problem lies, but I suspect that those applications are maybe not written in a way that allows them to take advantage of such an environment - either at the level of the command 'hostinfo', or the application X11 or Terminal, or IDL. I assume that

IDL would be easily taking advantage of all processors if the environment would do, too.

Dauger Research (correctly, imo) said it was a problem of the client applications, not of Pooch per se, since specifically written multiprocessor applications run nicely on multiple machines. Contacting Apple about the possibility of getting more info on why X11 may not run under Pooch did not result in relevant information so far. Maybe at this time, it is too early?

Going to look at xgrid now.

Wolf.

Steven V. Penton wrote:

- > Ok, so Xgrid on MacOSX is cool, but it doesn't seem to
  - > work with IDL. I've tried all the thread tweaks but I
  - > couldn't get a serious Poly\_2d call to work. I can get
  - > Xgrid to pass around the IDL process to the fastest machine,
  - > but no luck otherwise. Has anyone else tried ?? Am I
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