
Subject: Speed Survey Needs You!

Posted by [J.D. Smith](#) on Thu, 26 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Users of IDL:

I am still conducting a speed survey for IDL using `time_test2` and `graphics_times2` (available after `.run time_test`). I have received results for a few workstations, and lots of PC's. A curious result which needs more data to confirm is a difference in speed between IDL for Linux vs. WIN 95 for similar hardware. If you have a Pentium 133-166 class machine with either of these OS's, your times could help resolve this issue. If you had a dual boot machine with both Linux and Windows versions of IDL, your times would be even more useful. Painfully lacking are results from Macintoshes (I'd like to see results for fast 604e's or G3's), very high-end workstations and PC's (newest PII's), multiple processor machines, and a few workstation types, including SGI. If you are using a machine in this category for IDL, take a moment to run the test, and see how you stack up!

The form for entry is repeated here:

Make : (Make of your computer)
Processor/Speed : (Processor and speed + number of processors if >1)
Memory : (Amount of RAM in Mb)
OS : (Operating System, including version)
IDL Version : (Version of IDL used)
Video Hardware : (Video Hardware, if Known)
tt2 -- mean/geom : (Mean (= total/23) and geometric mean of `time_test2`)
gt2 : (Mean (= total/4) and geometric mean of `graphics_times2`)
tt2 -- test 23 : (Result of tt2 test 23 (Disk I/O -- see below))

A few notes: Use `time_test2` (`.run time_test`) on the latest version of IDL you have. Make sure to `cd` to a local partition (i.e. not a network partition, `/tmp` usually is safe on unix-like systems) before running the test, or your disk i/o results will be very skewed. Email to jdsmith@astrosun.tn.cornell.edu for compilation.

Feel free to pass this on to anyone who might not read the newsgroup.

Thanks,

JD

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