
Subject: Current Idl spec results: for Alpha-NT4
Posted by [Martin Downing](#) on Thu, 10 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Hi,
I am in the process of choosing a new workstation for idl image processing.
Does anyone have any figures on idlspec results for alpha based machines running NT4.0?
Either idlspec (<http://astrosun.tn.cornell.edu/staff/jdsmith/IDLSPEC.html>)
or just the output of time_test would be useful.
Please use this thread also to report any other current OS + workstation recommendations with idlspecs

thanks

Martin

Subject: Re: Current Idl spec results: for Alpha-NT4
Posted by [muswick](#) on Fri, 11 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Dear Martin,

Here are times of some various systems we have here. Two are alphas, one running VMS at 300MHz, The other NT 4.0 SP3.

These times are from a format posted by Smith? earlier this year. I don't think I got around to sending the times into him.

Alpha is a 500 Mhz Personal wokstation	Intel Pentium II, 266 Dual Processor NT 4.0
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tt2 -- mean/geom	: 0.22234782 / 0.15231147	0.58083 / 0.29021505
gt2	: 0.79075 / 0.58003083	0.9020 / 0.52017659
tt2 -- test 23	: 0.117000	0.516000
tt3 -- mean/geom	: 0.405782 / 0.34502469	1.07070 / 0.64344983
gt3	: 0.714125 / 0.58395156	0.99413 / 0.72329116
tt3 -- test 23	: 0.23500	0.969000

As you can see the Alpha is very fast, especially being that we've had for almost a year now. We are getting a 667Mhz system from Microway in a few weeks. (I couldn't wait any longer for a 21264 system come out.) I'll see how that compares. PS, The graphics seem slow, partly because the card only supports 24bit/full color, plus I do not have the most optimized

drivers.

I'll try to run the test you list in your post.

BTW, there are a few Macs listed too.

Gary Muswick
University Hospitals of Cleveland.

In article <6t8n6p\$jrk\$1@info.abdn.ac.uk>,
"Martin Downing" <m.downing@abdn.ac.uk> wrote:

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- > anyone have any figures on idlspec results for alpha based machines running
- > NT4.0?
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- > recommendations with idlspecs
- >
- > thanks
- >
- > Martin
- >

```
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 -- some systems like VMS
                  are slow.))
tt3 -- mean/geom : (Mean (= total/23) and geometric mean of time_test3)
gt3           : (Mean (= total/4) and geometric mean of graphics_times3)
tt3 -- test 23  : (Result of tt3 test 23 (Disk I/O -- some systems like VMS
                  are slow.))
```

```
IDL Version 5.0 (Win32 alpha). Research Systems, Inc.
Make           : DEC - Personal Workstation 500a
Processor/Speed : Alpha 21164a - 500MHz - 1 Processor
Memory         : 256Mb (SDRam)
OS             : Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 / service pack 3
IDL Version    : IDL 5.0
Video Hardware  : DEC Powerstorm 4D50 (24 bit 1280x1024 mode)
tt2 -- mean/geom : 0.22234782 / 0.15231147
gt2           : 0.79075 / 0.58003083
tt2 -- test 23  : 0.117000
tt3 -- mean/geom : 0.405782 / 0.34502469
```

gt3 : 0.714125 / 0.58395156
tt3 -- test 23 : 0.23500

|TIME_TEST performance for IDL 5.0.2:

Make : Microway - Screamer Alpha EB164 Workstation
Processor/Speed : Alpha 21164a - 300MHz - 1 Processor
Memory : 128Mb (ECC-SIMM)
OS : OpenVMS 6.2-1H3
IDL Version : IDL 5.0.2
Video Hardware : DEC ZLX-P1 - 1280x1024 - 8 bit, X-window Motif
tt2 -- mean/geom : 0.592391 / 0.32921918
gt2 : 0.2570 / 0.19856346
tt2 -- test 23 : 3.70100
tt3 -- mean/geom : 1.085652 / 0.6855245
gt3 : 0.30675 / 0.26226104
tt3 -- test 23 : 7.29200

|TIME_TEST performance for IDL 5.0.2:

Make : Intel - Pentium - II
Processor/Speed : Pentium-II 266MHz - 2 Processor
Memory : 128Mb
OS : Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 / service pack 3
IDL Version : IDL 5.0.2
Video Hardware : Matrox Impression Pluss
tt2 -- mean/geom : 0.58083 / 0.29021505
gt2 : 0.9020 / 0.52017659
tt2 -- test 23 : 0.516000
tt3 -- mean/geom : 1.07070 / 0.64344983
gt3 : 0.99413 / 0.72329116
tt3 -- test 23 : 0.969000

|TIME_TEST performance for IDL 5.0.3:

Make : Apple - PowerMac
Processor/Speed : 1 Processor
Memory :
OS : MacOS
IDL Version : IDL 5.0.3
Video Hardware :
tt2 -- mean/geom : 0.679709 / 0.26558448
gt2 : 2.841675 / 1.5047633
tt2 -- test 23 : 5.41667
tt3 -- mean/geom : 1.29058 / 0.58224078
gt3 : 18.4875 / 2.7679920 ***
tt3 -- test 23 : 7.29200

*** Note - test #8, Hershey Strings took 129.150 seconds without this test,
the total mean time is $(147.900-129.150)/7 = 2.67857$

|TIME_TEST performance for IDL 5.0.3:
Make : Apple - PowerMac
Processor/Speed : 1 Processor
Memory :
OS : MacOS
IDL Version : IDL 5.0.3
Video Hardware :
tt2 -- mean/geom : 1.800726 / 0.83144606
gt2 : 4.058325 / 2.1559954
tt2 -- test 23 : 17.9500
tt3 -- mean/geom : 1.29058 / 0.58224078
gt3 : 80.3729 / 6.1081631 ***
tt3 -- test 23 : 7.29200

*** Note - test #8, Hershey Strings took 612.933 seconds without this test,
the total mean time is $(642.983-612.933)/7 = 4.29286$

>

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