

Re: Patches to compile the kernel with Intel's C/C++ compiler

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/arch/2003-11/0040.html>

From: Alexander Leidinger (*Alexander_at_Leidinger.net*)

Date: 11/11/03

Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2003 18:08:39 +0100

To: freebsd-arch@freebsd.org

On Tue, 11 Nov 2003 16:43:02 +0100

Morten Rodal <morten@rodal.no> wrote:

- > *The Intel C compiler is known to generate far better code for the*
- > *Pentium 4 processor family (and more likely the Itanium processors), and*
- > *probably others as well. It certainly beats gcc in most benchmark tests*
- > *and other scientific applications.*

It depends on the benchmarks you do and if they are optimized for a specific compiler or not (I don't want to implicate, that those benchmarks which show a large benefit for icc to be optimized for icc, generally I think icc produces better code than gcc, but as usual, this depends on the used code and the used data which gets processed (you know: benchmarks data != real world data you are confronted with) and many more factors than only the compiler).

- > *I have found that icc generates far more, and more accurate, warnings*
- > *and errors for programs and this is probably what the FreeBSD kernel*
- > *could benefit most from. Having more than one compiler helps the*
- > *developers find bugs faster.*

Yes, it produces nice warnings. If some is interested (and isn't willing to download the >60 MB icc tarball) I can put up the log of a compiled GENERIC or LINT kernel (or a subsystem) for download. This isn't the same as seeing the warnings/errors at development time, but I think could be still usable.

Bye,
Alexander.

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The best things in life are free, but the
expensive ones are still worth a look.

<http://www.Leidinger.net>

Alexander @ Leidinger.net

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freebsd-arch@freebsd.org mailing list

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