

Performance problems on Intel but not AMD... strange

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We have run into a problem with a few of our clients running Intel Pentium 4 (no hyperthreading) processors. Our web application under tomcat runs 20 – 30% slower on Intel (benchmarks scores are available) than a comparable AMD processor. Our shop uses AMD Athlon processors and we have no such performance problems at all.

We have had clients come to our shop to verify that the application is indeed faster here and they always say that it is significantly faster.

We have developed benchmarks for certain parts of our system (formula calculation, and page rendering) and run them on an AMD 2500+ and an Intel P4 2.4 Ghz . According to all industry standard (SiSoft Sandra, etc) benchmarks we have come across, these machines should perform roughly the same, with the AMD performing slightly (5–10%) above the Intel.

Has anyone come across this problem before?? Are there certain operations or combinations of operations in Java that are significantly slower on the Intel??

We are seeing this on both the Client and Server VMs. All machines are running JDK 1.4.2_04 on Windows XP SP 1.

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

– Chris