

about 30%). Presumably, the latter tilt towards integer operands for "/" is the natural consequence of generalizing compression to replication in APL2, a generalization which allows an integer operand having no Boolean counterpart.

|             | A1000          | A3000         |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| INT ADD     | 381.0          | 67.5          |
| FP ADD      | 8717.0         | 187.3         |
| INT MULT    | 7134.3         | 238.0         |
| FP MULT     | 13829.1        | 199.4         |
| INDEX       | 126.4, 180.8   | 28.4, 42.4    |
| CHAR COMPR  | 125.1, 178.0   | 29.5, 43.3    |
| INT COMPR   | 119.0, 173.2   | 42.0, 27.9    |
| INT +RED    | 25.0           | 4.0           |
| INT [RED    | 24.1           | 4.0           |
| BOOL SCAN   | 67794.3, 100.0 | 17358.4, 18.0 |
| MAT ROTAT   | 576.2          | 144.1         |
| CHAR TRANS  | 753.8          | 171.5         |
| INT TRANS   | 804.1          | 178.0         |
| VEC OF VECs | 1019.3         | 224.2         |
| PARTITION   | 456.9          | 105.6         |
| RHO EACH    | 630.1          | 157.8         |
| VEC COMPAR  | 21.1           | 3.0           |
| INT SRT     | 710.2          | 151.4         |
| BOOL COMPAR | 437.0, 185.1   | 108.6, 38.0   |
| IOTA        | 1552.3         | 76.2          |

Although the numbers for A3000 are generally in the same ball park as those in the tabulation found in the Dyalog APL review, substantially better than the PS/2 Mod 70 in a few instances (the *BOOL SCAN* test with Boolean *BM*, and the dyadic *IOTA* test), but substantially poorer in many instances (e.g., *MAT ROTAT*, *CHAR* and *INT TRANS*, *INT SRT*, and *BOOL COMPAR*), its relative performance seems a bit weak to me, considering the potential strength of a 25 Mhz 68030/68882 combination. I can only speculate about the reasons—one contributing source possibly being the multitasking operating system of the Amiga, which makes it impossible for the system to devote its exclusive attention to an APL computing task.

Overall, I'm not really unhappy with these numbers. In a practical sense more power would simply be a luxury. I did find some evidence that the algorithm employed by APL68000 for the interpretation of  $\boxed{\text{A}}$  may need some fine-tuning. The following comparison between A3000 with APL68000 Level II and a PS/2 (20 Mhz 80386/80387) with APL2/PC uses two test expressions:

$Q \times 0.5$  ←where  $Q \leftarrow ?40000p999999$   
 $\boxed{\text{A}}$  ←where  $A \leftarrow ( ?50000 + ?40\ 40p99999 ) \div 25000$

the first to test the performance of the 25 Mhz 68882 relative to the 20 Mhz 80387 (since both have a single instruction for square root), the second to compare execution times in inverting a large matrix. In all cases, in order to remove any dependence upon data,  $\boxed{\text{A}}$  is initialized to 16807 before the use of "?".

```

      V ID TEST X;C;Z
[1]   C←(Z+TEST',*ID),':AT;AS'
[2]   C←C,'AT+AI[2]' ('AS+',X) 'AI[2]-AT'
[3]   M←(EX C),': '
[4]   MZ
[5]   C←EX Z
      V

```

| Expression     | 25 Mhz A3000<br>Level II | 20 Mhz PS/2<br>APL2/PC |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 TEST 'Q*0.5' | 680                      | 4510                   |
| 2 TEST 'A'     | 13720                    | 5220                   |

## Conclusions

Notwithstanding the few complaints(?) I've made in this review, APL68000 Level II for the Amiga is an excellent product worth every penny of its very reasonable price. It provides a surprisingly large portion of APL2/370 features for an initial release. MicroAPL's proven track record lends credence to my belief that it won't be long before as much of APL2/370 as is appropriate to a personal desktop computing system will be fully incorporated into Level II. ■

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