

# GCC 4.0 A Review for AMD and Intel Processors

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If any one piece of software is the foundation of Free Software, it is the GNU Compiler Collection. The release of version 4.0 in mid-April brings many changes and new features. In this review, I compare the newly-released 4.0 with 3.4.3, using a few real world applications in C and C++.

I won't be discussing Objective-C, Java, or Ada, since I don't use those aspects of GCC. I will be talking a bit about the new Fortran 95 compiler, though.

Another item I won't be covering herein is Intel's (or anyone else's) commercial compiler. At this point in time, information from older articles holds true, in that Intel's compiler generally produces faster code than does any version of GCC. I've found that Intel's EM64T compiler works just fine on my Opteron systems, and its code is also excellent. But this article is about the evolution of GCC, leaving debates over commercial products for other times and places.

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