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Subject: Re: Gryphon 68030

Posted by [plasmo](#) on Mon, 10 Apr 2017 03:22:20 GMT

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rhkoolstar wrote on Sat, 08 April 2017 11:30Hi

I'm using the following:

```
$ md5sum freeroute.jar
212b8886718d0a7b62b57c51362cdcf7 freeroute.jar
```

```
$ java -version
openjdk version "1.8.0_121"
OpenJDK Runtime Environment (build 1.8.0_121-b13)
OpenJDK 64-Bit Server VM (build 25.121-b13, mixed mode)
```

and I never had any crashes.

I'm running on a somewhat beefy headless server (i5-4690 CPU @ 3.50GHz, 8GB RAM) with ssh -X, which incidentally also runs a minecraft server at the same time

I always let Freeroute run until completion in one go (no saves or interrupts) which generally takes 40-50 optimize passes.

I'm not building really big (max euro card 100x160mm) but the boards are complicated enough (My project under development is currently 384 nodes, 86 nets on 100x80 with a mix of through-hole and SMD. routing takes about 2.5 hours.

Rienk

I'm surprised to learn how long it takes the freeRouter to route. I'm using a 20-year old pc board tool, WinDraft from IVEX which is out of business for at least a dozen year. It is a low-budget, mediocre tool that can only run on Windows ME, but it was bundled with a permanent license and interface to the Specctra router (originally Cooper & Chyan router), which is also a 20-year old version (version 8). My pcb tool is a Dell laptop with Pentium III and 512MB of memory. I just run a test of the router using Tiny302 which is 100mm x 100mm pcb, 8 mil traces, 8 mil clearance, 25 mil power/ground traces, 132 nets and 406 nodes. The board is packed with components, it has components at backside and a 20-pin 300-mil component under a 600-mil component. It completes the routes 100% in 6 minutes and 11 seconds. All the routes have right angle corners and I don't know what route optimizer does, but the board works fine.

Because of the Windows ME limitation, I'm looking for a better pcb package, but I'm reluctant to use KiCad, at least not with the freeRouter interface. I wonder if KiCad works with Specctra router?

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