Some computing notes

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Computing environment

- Many core and contributed packages (including spBayes) call Basic Linear Algebra Subprograms (BLAS) and LAPACK (Linear Algebra PACKage) Fortran libraries.

- Substantial computing gains:
  - processor specific threaded BLAS/LAPACK implementation (e.g., Intel’s Math Kernel Library or AMD’s Core Math Library (ACML))
  - processor specific compilers (e.g., Intel’s icc/ifort)

Time needed to collect 100 MCMC samples using spLM and threaded vs. non-threaded BLAS/LAPACK on a Intel Core 2 Quad processor and Ubuntu 8.10 Linux OS. R compiled with GNU gcc and gfortran.