

NAME

flog — speed up a process

SYNOPSIS

flog [-ln] [-am] [-u] process-id

DESCRIPTION

Flog is used to stimulate an improvement in the performance of a process that has already been scheduled for execution by *spool(1)* or *wp(1)* commands. The *process-id* is the process number that is to be disciplined. The value *n* of the *l* keyletter argument is the flagellation constant, i.e. the number of *lashes* to be administered per minute. If this argument is omitted, the default is 17, which is the most random random number. The value *m* of the *a* keyletter argument is the number of times the inducement to speed up is to be *administered*. If this argument is omitted, the default is one, which is based on the possibility that after *that* the process will rectify its behavior of its own volition. The presence of the *u* keyletter argument indicates that *flog* is to be *unmerciful* in its actions. This nullifies the effects of the other keyletter arguments. It is recommended that this option be used only on extremely stubborn processes, as its over-use may have detrimental effects.

FILES

Flog will read the file */have/mercy* for any entry containing the process-id of the process being speeded-up. The file can contain whatever supplications are deemed necessary, but, of course, these will be totally ignored if the *u* keyletter argument is supplied.

SEE ALSO

On Improving Process Performance by the Administration of Corrective Stimulation, *CACM*, vol. 4, 1657, pp. 356-654.
can(1), *last(1)*, *wp(1)*, *spool(1)*, *ops(1)*, *backlog(1)*

DIAGNOSTICS

If a named process does not exist, *flog* replies “flog you” on standard output. If *flog kill(2)*s the process, which usually happens when the *u* keyletter argument is supplied, it writes “rip,” followed by the process-id of the deceased, on standard output.

BUGS

Spurious supplications for mercy by the process being flogged sometimes wind up on the standard output, rather than in */shut/up*.

WARNING — using *flog* more than once on any given job may cause the job to never be processed at all. The use of *flog* should be kept to a minimum!

If a job is *flogged* there is no way to “un-flog” it. Perhaps there is a need for an “apologize” command?

NOTE:

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