**Requirements**

This script requires Python 3 to be installed to run.

It also requires the python libraries telnetlib, time, sys, math and getpass to be installed. These are part of the Python standard library so should come with any Python distribution, unless they have been manually excluded. A safe bet for a Python distribution to install is Anaconda (Individual edition) which is the one that was used when writing the script, although there will be more lightweight ones that work

**Running**

In command prompt or shell, navigate to the directory containing the file kill.py. If running on gold server through putty connection, type:

python3 kill.py –x:”adele|counte|DP –|%“ –auto:1 -max:124

If running on windows, type into command line

Python kill.py -host:140.1.1.6 –x:”adele|counte|DP –|%“ –auto:1 -max:124

You will then be prompted for a username (root) and a password for root login to GOLD server. For script to work it must be an account that connects to telnet console and has permissions to kill user sessions.

The above command will connect to host ‘140.1.1.6’, (with default port 23) and will run the script every minute (auto:1) with a dynamic threshold based on the desired maximum number of sessions (max:124), and exclude sessions where strings ‘adele’, ‘counte’ or ‘DP –‘ can be found.

By default, just typing ‘python3 kill.py –host:140.1.1.6’ without any arguments will kill all user sessions idle for 60 minutes or more, and not repeat.

Note the script cannot and will not kill windows gold sessions, only gold classic.

**Arguments:**

-host:’localhost’

This argument specifies the host which the script will connect to. If this argument is not included, the script will try to connect to localhost with port 23. E.g –host:140.1.1.6 will connect to 140.1.1.6 port 23. You can also specify the port if telnet is not on port 23, e.g –host:140.1.1.6:50 will attempt to connect to 140.1.1.6 port 50.

-x:””

If you want to exclude certain things or people from being killed,

Type –x: followed by the strings you want to exclude from being killed, separated by | and enclosed in “”. Note it’s very important to use the quotes here, as otherwise windows command line will try to interpret the | and the command will break. E.g –x:”adele” would exclude adele from being killed, -x:”adele|counte” would exclude adele and counters from being killed. Note that in what is returned from the show command, the users are truncated to a certain length, so some counters don’t have the full word ‘counter’ in their user name, hence use of ‘counte’.

What’s currently in use is –x:”adele|counte|DP – |%“ which excludes adele, counters and DPs, as well as anything with the ‘%’ character in. The % character can therefore be used to quickly temporarily exclude users from being killed by adding it to the start of their username. Note that it’s a good idea to include the full ‘DP –‘ that appears in DPs user names. Just putting DP will mean the script excludes every user that has the letters dp next to each other anywhere in their line of the show command. So, likely a lot of unintended users.

The string in quotes is actually interpreted as a regular expression (in particular by grep –E –i) and is not case-sensitive due to –i flag in grep. If you know how to use regular expressions you can get more versatility if you really need it. Certainly reading about regular expressions will give you more of an understanding of how to use it.

-auto:n

Typing -auto: followed by a number n will instruct the script to repeat itself every n minutes. E.g

-auto:1 will mean the script runs every minute.

-max:n

Typing max:n will instruct the script to dynamically adjust the idle time threshold at which it kills sessions, according to the given maximum number of sessions n. E.g if the number of GOLD licences is 124 (including windows gold licenses), then –max:124 should mean the script prevents GOLD from ever being full with users. i.e it adjusts the killing threshold based on how close the current number of users is to the specified maximum. The range of thresholds this will set is between 40 and 60 minutes, moving from 60 to 40 as the number of active sessions approaches the specified maximum.

-th:n

Typing –th:n will instruct the script to kill all sessions that have been idle for more than n minutes provided n<=60, otherwise it will just kill all sessions idle for more than 60 minutes. So regardless of threshold specified, the script will kill sessions above 60 minutes idle time. To be more accurate, if m is the minimum of n and 60, then the script will kill all sessions idle for more than m minutes.

Also if the –max argument is included, then –th will be overridden by dynamic thresholds and is redundant.