

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 is already in execution.

The *process-id* is the process number of the process 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.

DIAGNOSTICS

If a named process does not exist, *flog* replies “flog you” on the standard output. If *flog kill*(II)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 the standard output.

BUGS

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