

Subject: Re: limiting the CPU time allowed  
Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Tue, 27 Feb 2001 10:09:48 GMT  
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On 26/02/01, 22:17:59, "A. Roubicek" <aro@cdc.noaa.gov> wrote regarding limiting the CPU time allowed:

> Hi all,

- > I'm trying to find a way to limit the CPU time an IDL process can
- > take (on unix, running from cron), to prevent clugging the system
- > with runaway processes. Any leads would be greatly appreciated!

> Thank you,  
> A.R.

As Craig mentioned you can set per-process CPU limits (for sh/ksh the command is `ulimit`, BTW).

Alternatively you might consider installing a batch system such as GNQS (which should be free, it's covered by the GNU GPL) and then set up batch queues with time limits to process your IDL (and anything else you want to have processed in the background).

Of course, a batch system may be total overkill for your requirements; I just thought I'd throw the suggestion into the discussion.

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