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Subject: Re: 6.3 reactions?

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Wed, 10 May 2006 16:33:35 GMT

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Craig,

we had a similar discussion with RSI here at APL when the VM first came out. While I understand that you could theoretically have a free fully licensed IDL version, in practice the person trying to rewrite the IDLDE as a widget in IDL must be a complete nut. And I still claim that, if one wanted to, and I most certainly do NOT encourage anyone to do so, there are far easier methods to get around licensing mechanisms. FLEXLM is useful for license management to ensure that an appropriate number of licenses is available in an organization, but its use as copy protection to prevent illegal use is in my opinion nothing but smoke and mirrors.

It is rather worth investigating how execute could be allowed in VM. Illegal use would be to read a text file line for line and execute each statement. But what if one would limit the number of execute statements per second or add a small delay after each execute. This would allow occasional use of execute, but using it for whole programs would make it painfully slow. Not sure whether this would be worth the effort, but there must be some way.

Haje

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