NAME
     lua - Lua interpreter

SYNOPSIS
     lua [*options*] [*script* [*args*]]

DESCRIPTION
     lua is the standalone Lua interpreter. It loads and executes Lua programs, either in textual source form
     or in precompiled binary form. (Precompiled binaries are output by **luac**, the Lua compiler.) **lua** can
     be used as a batch interpreter and also interactively.

     The given *options* are handled in order and then the Lua program in file *script* is loaded and executed.
     The given *args* are available to *script* as strings in a global table named **arg**. If no options or arguments
     are given, then **-v -i** is assumed when the standard input is a terminal; otherwise, **-** is assumed.

     In interactive mode, **lua** prompts the user, reads lines from the standard input, and executes them as
     they are read. If the line contains an expression or list of expressions, then the line is evaluated and the
     results are printed. If a line does not contain a complete statement, then a secondary prompt is
     displayed and lines are read until a complete statement is formed or a syntax error is found.

     At the very start, before even handling the command line, **lua** checks the contents of the environment
     variables **LUA_INIT_5_3** or **LUA_INIT**, in that order. If the contents is of the form '@*filename*', then
     filename is executed. Otherwise, the string is assumed to be a Lua statement and is executed.

OPTIONS
     -e *stat*
          execute statement *stat*.

     -i   enter interactive mode after executing *script*.

     -l *name*
          execute the equivalent of *name*=**require('***name***')** before executing *script*.

     -v   show version information.

     -E   ignore environment variables.

     --   stop handling options.

     -   stop handling options and execute the standard input as a file.

SEE ALSO

luac(1)
The documentation at lua.org, especially section 7 of the reference manual.

DIAGNOSTICS

Error messages should be self explanatory.

AUTHORS

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