Enthought Canopy Student Access Setup

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The IT personnel will be able to configure an acceptable procedure based on a few key points:

1. When Canopy first starts, it prompts for the path to the environmental variables. By default, this is set to ~/$Library/Enthought/Canopy_64bit, but can be anywhere that the user will have read/execute rights to, and at least initially has write rights to.

2. It stores this path (appropriately suffixed, as you can see) in ~/.canopy/locations.cfg

3. It copies files into the System and User subdirectories of this path.

4. Setup is then completed; Canopy does not subsequently need write access to these directories except for updates, which of course are optional.

Based on these key points, one procedure would be for an administrator to ensure that students have executable rights to the default environment path. Next, running as the student:

1. Install Canopy
2. Start Canopy (which sets up the environments).
3. Install / update any additional packages which you determine are needed for the class.
4. Disable Preferences / General / "Check for updates automatically" (not necessary for security, but to prevent churn and futile bandwidth use).
5. Quit Canopy

Finally, as administrator, disable student write access to ~/Library/Enthought (recursively) and to ~/.canopy/locations.cfg

Alternatively, if IT wants to keep these executables out of the students' home directories, they can follow basically the same procedure but setting the environment path to a directory of choice.