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Subject: Re: Open URL in external browser  
Posted by [Rob\[2\]](#) on Wed, 17 Feb 2010 23:13:52 GMT  
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On Feb 17, 1:38 pm, mgalloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> On 2/17/10 11:37 AM, Rob wrote:  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>> On Feb 17, 11:22 am, mgalloy<mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>>> On 2/17/10 11:13 AM, Rob wrote:  
>  
>>>> Is there a native IDL method for opening a URL (e.g.  
>>>> [http://spidr.ngdc.noaa.gov/spidr/servlet/GetMetadata?param=i ono.WI937](http://spidr.ngdc.noaa.gov/spidr/servlet/GetMetadata?param=i%20ono.WI937))  
>>>> in a browser? I'm not looking for a "spawn" like executive solution.  
>>>> I'm building a tool that must work on many OS's including OSx,  
>>>> Windows, possibly Linux.  
>  
>>>> I looked into the "online\_help" procedure which seems to work only for  
>>>> local (a la file://) content.  
>  
>>> Here's my solution:  
>  
>>> [http://michaelgalloy.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/mg\\_open\\_url.pro](http://michaelgalloy.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/mg_open_url.pro)  
>  
>>> It is a "spawn" solution, but has separate cases for the different  
>>> operating systems. Mac OS X and Windows have nice (though different)  
>>> ways to open the default web browser on the URL. On other Unix systems,  
>>> a file dialog will come up to select your web browser. It will remember  
>>> your choice, so you only have to choose once (I suppose I should add a  
>>> keyword to force the choice so that you can change your mind later).  
>  
>>> Mike  
>>> --www.michaelgalloy.com  
>>> Research Mathematician  
>>> Tech-X Corporation  
>  
>> Awesome, thanks! I'm going to use this next week at the IDL/LASP  
>> workshop.  
>  
> Cool, at the IDL User Group meeting at LASP? I will be there as well.  
>  
> Mike  
> --www.michaelgalloy.com  
> Research Mathematician  
> Tech-X Corporation

Yes, I'm giving:  
IDL driven Space Physics Modeling and Investigations  
See you there!

Another suggested solution from a friend to my "open url in browser query" is given as:

```
oJavaDesktop = OBJ_NEW('IDLJavaObject$Static$JAVA_AWT_DESKTOP',  
'java.awt.Desktop')  
oJavaURI = OBJ_NEW('IDLJavaObject$JAVA_NET_URI', 'java.net.URI',  
'http://www.cnn.com/')  

```

```
if (oJavaDesktop->isDesktopSupported()) then begin  
  oBrowser = oJavaDesktop->getDesktop();  
  oBrowser->browse,oJavaURI  
  OBJ_DESTROY, oBrowser  
endif
```

```
;Remove Objects  
OBJ_DESTROY, oJavaURI, oJavaDesktop
```

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