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Subject: Re: Open URL in external browser  
Posted by [Rob\[2\]](#) on Wed, 17 Feb 2010 18:37:41 GMT  
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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_ono.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

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Awesome, thanks! I'm going to use this next week at the IDL/LASP workshop.

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