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Subject: Re: FTP downloading in IDL  
Posted by [nerdzoo](#) on Mon, 23 Jul 2012 14:58:16 GMT  
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On 7/21/12 3:50 PM, JBT wrote:

> Dear all,

>

> So, does anyone know a working solution to download a file from an FTP server, please? Your help is much appreciated!

>

Both socket and IDLnetUrl methods worked on my OS X Lion + IDL 8.2:

IDL> help,!version,/st

\*\* Structure !VERSION, 8 tags, length=104, data length=100:

```
ARCH      STRING  'x86_64'
OS        STRING  'darwin'
OS_FAMILY STRING  'unix'
OS_NAME    STRING  'Mac OS X'
RELEASE    STRING  '8.2'
BUILD_DATE STRING  'Apr 10 2012'
MEMORY_BITS INT    64
FILE_OFFSET_BITS
          INT      64
```

IDL>

IDL> url = 'ftp://ftp.ngdc.noaa.gov/STP/GEOMAGNETIC\_DATA/INDICES/KP\_AP/2 008'

IDL> read\_ftp, url, file = '2008'

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>USER anonymous

>PASS test@test.com

>TYPE I

```
>CWD /STP/GEOMAGNETIC_DATA/INDICES/KP_AP  
>SIZE 2008  
>PASV  
>RETR 2008  
>QUIT  
IDL>
```

And as David noted, the IDLnetUrl method was almost instantaneous. The socket method took 45 sec.

-Caesar

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