Subject: Re: Download files from the web
Posted by Helder Marchetto on Mon, 16 Dec 2013 12:47:14 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

On Monday, December 16, 2013 1:37:11 PM UTC+1, Mats Löfdahl wrote:
> I need to make an idl program download a couple of text files from the web. I found the
webget() function from astrolib, now also distributed with idl, see
http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/webget.html
>
>
>
> My problem with that is that I don't know if the download succeeded. If I give a non-existing
URL, I get the 404 error page downloaded and everything looks fine. If I set the COPYFILE
keyword to some local file name, the file gets stored there and instead of the file contents, the
return value is a scalar long. The web page does not say how this number should be interpreted
but it seems to be unity whether or not the URL was really valid.
>
>
>
> I guess I could search the downloaded file for some variation of "404 - Page not found" but I
don't know how much that string varies from web server to web server. And it seems a hassle
anyway.
>
>
>
> I had a look at http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/socket.html, too. Promisingly it has an ERROR
keyword but I don't understand how to tell it which file I want. Seems possible only to specify the
host but not which file on the host. Near the bottom of the socket.html page there are two links to
pages that promise to tell me how to read web pages and access ftp servers through socket, but
when I click on them I get "Article does not exist or Permission Denied" errors.
>
>
>
> So, how does one make idl download files from the web - and tell you if it worked?

Hi Mats,
if it helps, i used the IDLnetUrl object and then use the getProperty method to get the
Response_code value. Not sure if it helps, but I have been downloading files successfully with
https. I also use the callback_function to make a progress bar.
Not sure if it helps, but it might be a place to start...

Cheers,
H