
Subject: Upload a file on a website

Posted by on Tue, 22 Apr 2014 23:07:15 GMT

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Hi all,

First, thanks a lot for the priceless help you provide with this group! It helped me many times.

Second - of course - I have a question about IDL:

Is it possible to upload a file on a website with IDL ?

Specifically, I work on asteroids, and I usually have to classify them using this website:

<http://smass.mit.edu/cgi-bin/busdemeoclass-cgi>

It's very simple: you upload a spectra, and the website returns the spectral types that better fit your data, and it can send you the results by mail.

Unfortunately it's pretty long to do it manually, especially when you have ~200 spectra to classify! Is there a way to make it quicker with IDL ? One problem is that the website does not changes its URL with keywords unlike, for example SIMBAD or VIZIER for those who know these tools...

Thanks a lot for your help!

Michaël Marsset

PhD Student

ESO/Chile

Subject: Re: Upload a file on a website

Posted by [Jim Pendleton](#) on Wed, 23 Apr 2014 03:15:44 GMT

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On Tuesday, April 22, 2014 5:07:15 PM UTC-6, Michaël Marsset wrote:

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>
> Michaël Marsset
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> PhD Student
>
> ESO/Chile

I don't have any spectral files handy to test it, but my guess is that you can create a simple URL to pass to the first page, at least.

Take a look at the source for the page you reference. Look for the "input" elements, such as "sms". It has the options "smoothed" and "unsmoothed", so it's very much akin to keyword arguments.

The URL constructed from this web page will be turned into a request something like this:

```
http://smass.mit.edu/cgi-bin/busdemeoclass-cgi?spa=input&
;sfn=c:\temp\b.pro&lun=um&sms=unsmoothed&smv=1.00&tax=ir&sls=sloped&slv=1&int=0
```

(You can see this if you visit the web page with HTML debugging turned on, and show the network traffic. I'm using IE 11, but I believe most modern browsers have this capability.)

This is a POST request that could be passed via an IDLnetURL object. It would be up to you to parse the result and possibly respond to any error messages or further prompts.

In the end, it's a simple matter of string parsing.

Subject: Re: Upload a file on a website
Posted by on Wed, 23 Apr 2014 17:38:29 GMT
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Many thanks for helping !

I am not sure if I understood correctly but from what I know there are two types of requests: forward and redirect.

In the case of this website, it uses forward requests so the URL never changes. You tell me there is a way to see the complete URL ? How do you do that with IE ?

Subject: Re: Upload a file on a website

Posted by [Jim Pendleton](#) on Thu, 24 Apr 2014 02:57:42 GMT

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On Wednesday, April 23, 2014 11:38:29 AM UTC-6, Michaël Marsset wrote:

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F12 will start up the debugger. Ctrl+4 will bring up the network monitor. F5 will enable network traffic. Fill in the web page you reference then when you submit the request, you can view the details, including the URL that's constructed from the web page contents.

POST and GET are common protocols for HTTP requests, with POST used by that web page.
