

SEP # 88: New functions to get remote files

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Abstract

This document presents three new functions to retrieve remote files from a URL.

Rationale

Scilab is more and more used as part of workflows. In some cases, remote dataset or files need to be accessed during the Scilab process.

The goal of this SEP is to propose the introduction of three new functions:

- *getURLcontent* - Return the content of an URL (HTTP, HTTPS, FTP...)
Profiles:
filename = getURL(URL [, targetDir [, username [, password]]]);
filename = getURL(URL [, targetFile [, username [, password]]]);
- *getURL* - Download an URL (HTTP, HTTPS, FTP...)
Profile:
output = getURLcontent(URL [, username, [, password]]);
- *splitURL* - Split a URL (HTTP, HTTPS, FTP...)
Profile:
[proto, server, path, query, username, port, fragment] = splitURL(URL);

Technical aspects

The feature will be based on the CURL library (<http://curl.haxx.se/>), this library is widely used for such use cases and available on any operating system and already packaged in any distribution.

Node

ATOMS is currently using `unix_w` to curl or wget binaries to retrieve the original tarball. Thanks to the implementation of these functions, the Scilab code and packaging will be improved.

Changelog

1.0 – Initial Version

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