

Assignment #4 (carries double weight)

Objective: Learn *http* module (from Node.js) and use *createServer()* and *request()* methods.

[**Note:** You must use the core module “*http.request*” (part of “*http*”); use streams where possible and do not follow redirect].

Develop a proxy-like Node.js web server (*mySeerver.js*) to process the route */fetch/* followed by a URL (without “*http://*”). The reply will be **one of two formats** depending on the *content-type* in the reply that comes when you issue the HTTP request as follows:

[**Format 1**] If content-type is undefined or it starts with “*text*” then reply to user with **200, text/plain** and send (as a body of HTTP reply) the following as separate lines:

```
Status Code: <status code of reply from request>
Received headers
<Blank line>
Body <if present>
```

Otherwise [**Format 2 – used for fetching images**], reply to user with **200, content-type: <that of reply from request>** and send (as a body of your HTTP reply) the data (body) from reply. (Image should appear in browser – possibly you need to include *content-length* header.)

You will have to do something like this:

```
var contType = res_req.headers["content-type"]; // res_req is response from the http.request()
if ( (contType == undefined) || (contType.toLowerCase().indexOf("text")==0))
    { do Format 1 }
else { do Format 2 }
```

Important Notes:

1. If the HTTP status code is not 200 then reply with a 200-plain-text response (Format 1) containing status code and received headers; if the response is failing (timeout, invalid domain.. etc.) then pass the corresponding Node.js error message to the user (again as a plain-text reply).
2. **It is a must that you server cannot be easily crashed; catch errors and report them to the user.**

TEST CASES (various kinds of URL that can be fetched):

- < *site*>/fetch/www.kfupm.edu.sa/ -- Returns a text reply (Format 1)
- < *site*>/fetch/www.kfupm.edu.sa/main_web/images1/logo.png -- Returns an image (Format 2)
- < *site*>/fetch/www.dell.com/ -- It works when the path is a “/”
- < *site*>/fetch/www.dell.com -- It works without “/path” (treat it as a “/”)
- < *site*>/fetch/www.dell2.com/ -- User sees a node.js error message

As a help, the proper setting for opts for the *http.request*:

```
var opts = { method: 'GET' ,  
             host: <host>,  
             port: 80,  
             path: <path>,  
             followRedirect: false  
           };
```

Note that "followRedirect" is set to false; <host> and <path> are to be extracted from the user's URL.

Submission: Send your script file as a mail attachment by Sunday Nov. 6, 2016. In your mail state clearly any shortcomings in your solution.