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Frank da Cruz
Jeffrey E. Altman
Columbia University
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THE KERMIT URL SCHEME

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ABSTRACT

This document defines the Kermit URL according to the rules of [RFC 2717](#).

1. URL SCHEME NAME

The scheme name is "kermit".

2. URL SCHEME SYNTAX

The Kermit URL scheme is used to fetch files from Internet hosts using the Kermit protocol [[1](#)].

Kermit URLs follow the common Internet scheme syntax described in [Section 3.1 of RFC 1738](#) [[2](#)]. If ":<port>" is omitted, the port defaults to 1649 (as registered by IANA). A username and password may be included. If none is included, anonymous access as is used, exactly as in FTP. Examples:

Anonymous retrieval of a file:

```
kermit://kermit.columbia.edu/READ.ME
```

Authenticated retrieval of a file:

```
kermit://olga:secret@xyzcorp.com/somepath/oofa.txt
```

Authenticated retrieval of multiple files:

```
kermit://olga:secret@xyzcorp.com/somepath/*.ch
```

Secure authenticated retrieval of a file:

```
kermit://olga@xyzcorp.com/somepath/oofa.txt
```

In the latter case, authentication is performed by whatever security scheme the server and client negotiate [1].

[3.](#) CHARACTER ENCODING CONSIDERATIONS

File and pathnames may be US ASCII (ISO 646 International Reference Version) or UTF-8. UTF-8 names are converted into the native character set of the server. For text-mode transfers, file record format and character set are converted according to normal Kermit rules and procedures.

[4.](#) INTENDED USAGE

The specified file or files are retrieved from the host using Kermit protocol. Text files are sent in text mode, binary files in binary mode, as determined automatically by the server.

[5.](#) INTEROPERABILITY

Any Telnet client that supports Kermit protocol and the Telnet KERMIT Option [3] may use the Internet Kermit Service. Any such Telnet client that can accept URLs on the command line (such as C-Kermit and Kermit 95) can serve as users of or helper applications for kermit URLs.

[6.](#) SECURITY

Refer to [1]. No new security issues are raised by the use of this URL.

[7.](#) AUTHORS' ADDRESS

Frank da Cruz
fdc@columbia.edu

Jeffrey E. Altman
jaltman@columbia.edu

The Kermit Project
Columbia University
612 West 115th Street

New York NY 10025-7799
USA
<http://www.columbia.edu/kermit/>

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

[1] da Cruz, F, and J. Altman, "Internet Kermit Service", Request for Comments 2839, Internet Engineering Task Force, May 2000.

[2] T. Berners-Lee, L. Masinter, and M. McCahill, "Uniform resource locators (URL)," Request for Comments 1738, Internet Engineering Task Force, Dec. 1994.

[3] Altman, J., and F. da Cruz, "Telnet Kermit Option", Request for Comments 2840, Internet Engineering Task Force, May 2000.

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