

# SINBAD - Quick Reference - Racket

<http://cs.berry.edu/sinbad>



## Basic Template

```
(require sinbad)

(define ds (sail-to "<URL>"
  (manifest) ; can be invoked separately
  (load) ; afterwards, eg. (load ds)
  ...<additional clauses>...))

(fetch ds "...")
```

## Examining Available Data

```
(manifest ds) ; can also be included in sail-to (above)
```

Test if field paths valid:

```
(has-fields? ds ".../..." ...)
```

List of available field names:

```
(field-list ds) ;; OR (field-list ds ".../..." )
```

Number of data records (in a list) available:

```
(data-length ds) ;; OR (data-length ds ".../..." )
```

## Other Connection Methods

Specify a data format ("CSV", "XML", "JSON"):

```
(sail-to "<URL>" (format "XML") ...)
```

Connect using a data specification file:

```
(sail-to (spec "<URL>") ...)
```

## Connection (URL) Parameters

Some data sources may require additional parameters to construct the final URL to load data from:

```
(sail-to "<URL>" ...
  (param "<name>" "<value>"))
```

## Data Format Options

Some data sources provide post-processing options to manipulate the data once it has been downloaded. The available options are format-specific and are listed in the *print\_description()* information.

```
(sail-to "<URL>" ... (option "<name>" "<value>"))
```

For example (with a CSV data source):

```
(sail-to "<URL>" ...
  (option "header"
    "ID,Name,Country,Active"))
```

## Selecting from .zip archive

```
(sail-to "<URL>" ...
  (format "...") ; often needed
  (option "file-entry" "FACTDATA.CSV"))
```

## Sampling Data

```
(sail-to "<URL>" ... (sample <amt>)) ; instead of (load)
```

Sampled data is cached and reloaded from cache if the same code is run again. To force a fresh sample to be generated, use:

```
(fresh-sample <amt>) ;; OR (fresh-sample <amt> <seed>)
```

## Cache Control

Control frequency of caching (or disable it):

```
(sail-to "<URL>" ... (cache-timeout 300)) ; 300 seconds
;; OR (cache-timeout NEVER-RELOAD) -- always use cache
;; OR (cache-timeout NEVER-CACHE)
```

Show where files are cached:

```
(cache-directory ds)
```

Clear all cache files (for *ds* and all data sources):

```
(clear-entire-cache ds)
```

## Fetching Data

### GENERAL PURPOSE -----

```
(fetch ds)
;; fetches ALL available data (lists + assoc lists)
```

```
(fetch ds "path/to/field1" ...)
;; fetches (lists of, if appropriate) data
(fetch ds "path/to/field1" ... (base-path "loans"))
;; using optional base-path clause
(fetch ds (<proc> "path/to/field1" ...) (base-path "loans"))
;; fetch and apply <proc> to each group of field values
;; base-path clause is optional
```

### RANDOM -----

```
(fetch-random ds ...)
;; same patterns as for (fetch ds ...) above
;; note: always returns the same result until (load ds)
;; invoked again, e.g. (fetch-random (load ds) ...)
```

### POSITIONAL -----

```
;; same patterns as for (fetch ds ...) above
(fetch-first ds ...)
(fetch-second ds ...)
(fetch-third ds ...)
(fetch-ith ds i ...) ;; 0 <= i < (data-length ds)
```

### TYPE CONVERTING ---

```
(fetch-number ds "path/to/field") ; fetch-first-number
(fetch-numbers ds "path/to/field")
(fetch-ith-number ds i "path/to/field")
(fetch-random-number ds "path/to/field")
;; all the same available for fetch-...-boolean as well
```

### FULL-API FETCH (undocumented, unsupported) ---

```
(fetch* ds <sig-exp> ...)
; e.g.
(fetch* Q `(path "features" "properties"
  (,make-quake "place"
    (,quake-ts->timestr "time")
    "mag")))
```