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EECE 310 - Project Proposal (Team L2A4)
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Team L2A4 would like to resolve issue #123 on the crawljax issue tracker, implementing the enhancement that would auto cancel downloads in the browser. It will also close any download requests and authentication pop-ups.

A user that is using the crawljax application to crawl or test the functionality of a website, web application, or a browser might run a very extensive test or indexing run, with a very large number of states in a website that has a lot of download links. This could be inconvenient since the large number of pop-up windows might be hard on the system crawljax is running on. Also, the large number of downloads could also hamper the bandwidth of the internet connection, or the user simply might not want to test the download functionality at all. Hence, it is important for crawljax to allow the user to select whether downloads should (and their pop-ups) be canceled or not.

One possible way to implement this enhancement would involve the use of the ChromeOptions or FirefoxProfile classes of Selenium. It may be possible to set some flag or options in these classes that would automatically reject any download attempts, when passed into the constructor of the FirefoxDriver or ChromeDriver (which occurs in the Crawljax class named WebDriverBrowserBuilder). Currently, the FirefoxProfile and ChromeOptions classes are only being used to set up proxy configurations for the two browsers.

This approach to implementing this enhancement is not without some problems. First of all, the InternetExplorerDriver class of Selenium currently does not have a similar profile or options configuration class. Secondly, although Firefox and Chrome do have configuration classes that can be passed into their respective drivers, the kind of functionality that we desire may not be possible through these configuration options.

If this approach turns out not to be feasible, we may need to take another approach that involves detecting when a download is about to start and subsequently stopping it some other way. However, the team is confident it can find the solutions. We look forward to your response on this proposal.

Sincerely,

Team L2A4
https://github.com/EECE-310-TeamL2A4/crawljax.git