# undici



A HTTP/1.1 client, written from scratch for Node.js.

Undici means eleven in Italian. 1.1 -> 11 -> Eleven -> Undici. It is also a Stranger Things reference.

Have a question about using Undici? Open a **Q&A Discussion** or join our official OpenJS **Slack** channel.

## Install

npm i undici

# **Benchmarks**

The benchmark is a simple hello world example using a number of unix sockets (connections) with a pipelining depth of 10 running on Node 16. The benchmarks below have the simd feature enabled.

## **Connections 1**

Tests	Samples	Result	Tolerance	Difference with slowest
http - no keepalive	15	4.63 req/sec	± 2.77 %	-
http - keepalive	10	4.81 req/sec	± 2.16 %	+ 3.94 %
undici - stream	25	62.22 req/sec	± 2.67 %	+ 1244.58 %
undici - dispatch	15	64.33 req/sec	± 2.47 %	+ 1290.24 %
undici - request	15	66.08 req/sec	± 2.48 %	+ 1327.88 %
undici - pipeline	10	66.13 req/sec	± 1.39 %	+ 1329.08 %

#### **Connections 50**

Tests	Samples	Result	Tolerance	Difference with slowest
http - no keepalive	50	3546.49 req/sec	± 2.90 %	-
http - keepalive	15	5692.67 req/sec	± 2.48 %	+ 60.52 %
undici - pipeline	25	8478.71 req/sec	± 2.62 %	+ 139.07 %
undici - request	20	9766.66 req/sec	± 2.79 %	+ 175.39 %
undici - stream	15	10109.74 req/sec	± 2.94 %	+ 185.06 %
undici - dispatch	25	10949.73 req/sec	± 2.54 %	+ 208.75 %

# **Quick Start**

```
import { request } from 'undici'

const {
    statusCode,
    headers,
    trailers,
    body
} = await request('http://localhost:3000/foo')

console.log('response received', statusCode)
console.log('headers', headers)

for await (const data of body) {
    console.log('data', data)
}

console.log('trailers', trailers)
```

Using the body mixin from the Fetch Standard.

```
import { request } from 'undici'

const {
    statusCode,
    headers,
    trailers,
    body
} = await request('http://localhost:3000/foo')

console.log('response received', statusCode)
console.log('headers', headers)
console.log('data', await body.json())
console.log('trailers', trailers)
```

## **Common API Methods**

This section documents our most commonly used API methods. Additional APIs are documented in their own files within the <u>docs</u> folder and are accessible via the navigation list on the left side of the docs site.

```
undici.request([url, options]): Promise

Arguments:

• url string | URL | UrlObject
• options RequestOptions

• dispatcher Dispatcher - Default: getGlobalDispatcher

• method String - Default: PUT if options.body, otherwise GET

• maxRedirections Integer - Default: 0
```

Returns a promise with the result of the Dispatcher.request method.

```
Calls options.dispatcher.request(options).
See <u>Dispatcher.request</u> for more details.
undici.stream([url, options, ]factory): Promise
Arguments:
  • url string | URL | UrlObject
  • options <u>StreamOptions</u>
      • dispatcher Dispatcher - Default: getGlobalDispatcher
      • method String - Default: PUT if options.body, otherwise GET
      • maxRedirections Integer - Default: 0
  • factory Dispatcher.stream.factory
Returns a promise with the result of the Dispatcher.stream method.
Calls options.dispatcher.stream(options, factory).
See Dispatcher.stream for more details.
undici.pipeline([url, options, ]handler): Duplex
Arguments:
  • url string | URL | UrlObject
  • options <a href="PipelineOptions">PipelineOptions</a>
      • dispatcher Dispatcher - Default: getGlobalDispatcher
      • method String - Default: PUT if options.body, otherwise GET
      • maxRedirections Integer - Default: 0
  • handler Dispatcher.pipeline.handler
Returns: stream.Duplex
Calls options.dispatch.pipeline(options, handler) .
See <u>Dispatcher.pipeline</u> for more details.
undici.connect([url, options]): Promise
Starts two-way communications with the requested resource using HTTP CONNECT.
Arguments:
  • url string | URL | UrlObject
  • options ConnectOptions
      • dispatcher Dispatcher - Default: getGlobalDispatcher
      • maxRedirections Integer - Default: 0
  • callback (err: Error | null, data: ConnectData | null) => void (optional)
Returns a promise with the result of the Dispatcher.connect method.
Calls options.dispatch.connect(options).
```

See <u>Dispatcher.connect</u> for more details.

```
undici.fetch(input[, init]): Promise
```

Implements fetch.

- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/WindowOrWorkerGlobalScope/fetch
- <a href="https://fetch.spec.whatwg.org/#fetch-method">https://fetch.spec.whatwg.org/#fetch-method</a>

Only supported on Node 16.5+.

This is <u>experimental</u> and is not yet fully compliant with the Fetch Standard. We plan to ship breaking changes to this feature until it is out of experimental. Help us improve the test coverage by following instructions at <u>nodejs/undici/#951</u>.

Basic usage example:

```
import {fetch} from 'undici';

async function fetchJson() {
    const res = await fetch('https://example.com')
    const json = await res.json()
    console.log(json);
}
```

#### request.body

A body can be of the following types:

- ArrayBuffer
- ArrayBufferView
- AsyncIterables
- Blob
- Iterables
- String
- URLSearchParams
- FormData

In this implementation of fetch, request.body now accepts Async Iterables . It is not present in the <u>Fetch Standard.</u>

```
import { fetch } from "undici";

const data = {
   async *[Symbol.asyncIterator]() {
     yield "hello";
     yield "world";
   },
};

(async () => {
   await fetch("https://example.com", { body: data, method: 'POST' });
})();
```

#### response.body

Nodejs has two kinds of streams: web streams which follow the API of the WHATWG web standard found in browsers, and an older Node-specific streams API. response.body returns a readable web stream. If you would prefer to work with a Node stream you can convert a web stream using .fromWeb().

```
import {fetch} from 'undici';
import {Readable} from 'node:stream';

async function fetchStream() {
    const response = await fetch('https://example.com')
    const readableWebStream = response.body;
    const readableNodeStream = Readable.fromWeb(readableWebStream);
}
```

#### **Specification Compliance**

This section documents parts of the Fetch Standard which Undici does not support or does not fully implement.

#### **Garbage Collection**

• <a href="https://fetch.spec.whatwg.org/#garbage-collection">https://fetch.spec.whatwg.org/#garbage-collection</a>

The <u>Fetch Standard</u> allows users to skip consuming the response body by relying on <u>garbage collection</u> to release connection resources. Undici does not do the same. Therefore, it is important to always either consume or cancel the response body.

Garbage collection in Node is less aggressive and deterministic (due to the lack of clear idle periods that browser have through the rendering refresh rate) which means that leaving the release of connection resources to the garbage collector can lead to excessive connection usage, reduced performance (due to less connection re-use), and even stalls or deadlocks when running out of connections.

```
// Do
const headers = await fetch(url)
  .then(async res => {
    for await (const chunk of res.body) {
        // force consumption of body
    }
    return res.headers
  })

// Do not
const headers = await fetch(url)
  .then(res => res.headers)
```

## undici.upgrade([url, options]): Promise

Upgrade to a different protocol. See MDN - HTTP - Protocol upgrade mechanism for more details.

Arguments:

- url string | URL | UrlObject
- options UpgradeOptions

```
• dispatcher Dispatcher - Default: getGlobalDispatcher
```

- maxRedirections Integer Default: 0
- callback (error: Error | null, data: UpgradeData) => void (optional)

Returns a promise with the result of the Dispatcher.upgrade method.

```
Calls options.dispatcher.upgrade(options).
```

See <u>Dispatcher.upgrade</u> for more details.

#### undici.setGlobalDispatcher(dispatcher)

• dispatcher Dispatcher

Sets the global dispatcher used by Common API Methods.

```
undici.getGlobalDispatcher()
```

Gets the global dispatcher used by Common API Methods.

Returns: Dispatcher

#### UrlObject

• port string | number (optional)

• path string (optional)

• pathname string (optional)

• hostname string (optional)

• origin string (optional)

• protocol string (optional)

• search string (optional)

# **Specification Compliance**

This section documents parts of the HTTP/1.1 specification which Undici does not support or does not fully implement.

## **Expect**

Undici does not support the Expect request header field. The request body is always immediately sent and the 100 Continue response will be ignored.

Refs: <a href="https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7231#section-5.1.1">https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7231#section-5.1.1</a>

## **Pipelining**

Undici will only use pipelining if configured with a pipelining factor greater than 1.

Undici always assumes that connections are persistent and will immediately pipeline requests, without checking whether the connection is persistent. Hence, automatic fallback to HTTP/1.0 or HTTP/1.1 without pipelining is not supported.

Undici will immediately pipeline when retrying requests after a failed connection. However, Undici will not retry the first remaining requests in the prior pipeline and instead error the corresponding callback/promise/stream.

Undici will abort all running requests in the pipeline when any of them are aborted.

- Refs: https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2616#section-8.1.2.2
- Refs: https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7230#section-6.3.2

## **Manual Redirect**

Since it is not possible to manually follow an HTTP redirect on server-side, Undici returns the actual response instead of an opaqueredirect filtered one when invoked with a manual redirect. This aligns fetch() with the other implementations in Deno and Cloudflare Workers.

Refs: https://fetch.spec.whatwg.org/#atomic-http-redirect-handling

## **Collaborators**

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