

Extracting for URL from string using regex

Asked 3 years, 11 months ago Active 3 years, 11 months ago Viewed 3k times



I want to extract the first valid URL in a string, which can be anywhere between characters and whitespace

2

I have tried with the following



```
...  
urlRegex: /^(http[s]?:\|\/.*?\/[a-zA-Z-_.]*)$/;
```



```
...  
var input = event.target.value // <--- some string;  
var url   = input.match(this.urlRegex);
```

Problem is `url` returns the whole string when it finds a url, instead of returning just the part of the string matching the regex

Example The string

```
https://medium.com/aspen-ideas/there-s-no-blueprint-26f6a2fbb99c random stuff sd
```

returns

```
["https://medium.com/aspen-ideas/there-s-no-blueprint-26f6a2fbb99c random stuff sd",  
 "https://medium.com/aspen-ideas/there-s-no-blueprint-26f6a2fbb99c random stuff sd",  
 index: 0, input: "https://medium.com/aspen-ideas/there-s-no-blueprint-26f6a2fbb99c  
 random stuff sd"]
```

How can this be achieved?

javascript

regex

edited Aug 1 '15 at 9:08

asked Aug 1 '15 at 8:48



Tarlen

1,515

3

18

40

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can URL contains all type of characters along with special characters? – Braj Aug 1 '15 at 13:56

3 Answers



Your regex is incorrect.

4

Correct regex for extracting URI : `/(\https?:\\\/[^\]*)/`



Check out this [fiddle](#).



Here is the snippet.

```
var urlRegex = /(\https?:\\\/[^\ ]*)/;  
  
var input = "https://medium.com/aspen-ideas/there-s-no-blueprint-26f6a2fbb99c random  
stuff sd";  
var url = input.match(urlRegex)[1];  
alert(url);
```

Run code snippet

[Expand snippet](#)

edited Aug 1 '15 at 9:21

answered Aug 1 '15 at 8:57



Shrinivas Shukla
3,297 2 13 26

no that only returns the part of the url after the / , and only the first segment. I want the whole URL – Tarlen Aug 1 '15 at 8:58

That's because you made wrong. Make group like this... `/^(http[s]?:\\\/.*?\\\/[a-zA-Z-_.]+.*)$/` – Shrinivas Shukla Aug 1 '15 at 9:01

Updated the post, still doesnt work – Tarlen Aug 1 '15 at 9:06

Updated my answer. Try it. – Shrinivas Shukla Aug 1 '15 at 9:22

Happy to help :) – Shrinivas Shukla Aug 1 '15 at 13:52

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2

- You haven't included digits in your regex as part of URL.
- Assuming URL starts from the beginning of the string

[Live Demo](#) with regex explanation on left side.

[Regex explanation](#)

```
var regex = /^(https?:\/\/[^\/]+\([\/\w-]+\))/;  
var str = 'https://medium.com/aspen-ideas/there-s-no-blueprint-26f6a2fbb99c random stuff sd';  
  
var url = str.match(regex)[0];  
document.write(url);
```

Run code snippet

[Expand snippet](#)

edited Aug 1 '15 at 9:32

answered Aug 1 '15 at 9:26



[Braj](#)

41.3k 5 42 63



0

That's because the match result holds the whole string first that matches, then the groups. I guess you want the group, so you can do this:

```
url[1]
```

Here's a fiddle: <http://jsfiddle.net/jgt8u6pc/1/>

answered Aug 1 '15 at 8:55



[Adriano Nico Verona](#)

16 4

updated post, still doesnt work – [Tarlen](#) Aug 1 '15 at 9:13

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