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Downloading youtube playlist with youtube-dl, skipping existing files

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I was wondering if it was possible to download a youtube playlist as mp3 using `youtube-dl` , skipping already existing files. I am using this command:

```
youtube-dl --continue --ignore-errors --no-overwrites --extract-audio --audio-format mp3
--output "%(title)s.%(ext)s" [path here]
```

youtube-dl

edited Sep 13 '15 at 6:57

Ravan
6,008   15   46   76

asked Sep 12 '15 at 20:43

Warrior
193   1   1   10

even though it redownloads it usually skips writing the file by default even without that option set – mchid Sep 12 '15 at 21:24

Ok, if I keep the downloaded video along with the mp3 file, the skipping function works properly. Not exactly what I needed but it is ok. – Warrior Sep 16 '15 at 9:43

2 Answers

32

With the option `--download-archive FILE` *youtube-dl* both reads and adds to a list of files not to download again. Every time a file is successfully downloaded, that video id is added to `FILE` .

You can use it as follows:

```
youtube-dl --download-archive downloaded.txt --no-post-ove
mp3 -o "%(title)s.%(ext)s" [path here]
```

It will redownload any videos from before that you didn't keep for one last time as it creates the list. You can now delete them.

redownload by creating `downloaded.txt` from the youtube `%(id)s` in a bash terminal as follows:

```
for n in *.mp3
do if [[ "$n" =~ -[-_0-9a-zA-Z]{11}.mp3$ ]]
   then echo "youtube ${n: -15: 11}" >> downloaded.txt
   fi
done
```

edited Apr 11 '18 at 10:28

Eliah Kagan
84.1k   22   233   371

answered Dec 14 '15 at 1:22

Martin Thornton
2,573   6   18   30

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1   Valuable answer here. It solves my problem. thank you. —
Warrior   Jan 11 '16 at 10:56

What is `-cwix` here ? — bteo Jun 21 '17 at 18:16

`-cwix` is a shorter alternative to `--continue --no-overwrites --ignore-errors --extract-audio` —
Martin Thornton Jun 24 '17 at 9:05

It's worth mentioning that while this works perfectly for
YouTube, youtube-dl also works with other sites (e.g.
Soundcloud) where the `-x` option seems to break the
output. You can safely remove that flag if you're downloading
from an audio source. — christianbundy Aug 2 '17 at 18:55

▲

1

This is really helpful. If it's of any use to anybody, I
modified the code to create the existing downloads list to
include all files in the folder. Useful if downloading audio

```
for n in *.*
do if [[ "$n" =~ -[-_0-9a-zA-Z]{11}.*$ ]]
   then echo "youtube ${n: -15: 11}" >> downloaded.txt
   fi
done
```

I'm sure most people could have worked that out for themselves, but not everyone is clued-up with bash scripting.

answered Apr 11 '18 at 10:22

Jeremy Paul Carroll

11   1