ISU.Stat500: An R Package for the Course Stat500 "Statistical Methods"

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We have also collected some functions which are of no direct interest to statistical methods, but they might be helpful for us to save time.

4.1   Dynamic access to course materials

The function *listLinks()* can list all the hyper-links under a web directory with the help of the **XML** package (Temple Lang, 2009). For example, we obtain the names of SAS programs and output files:

```
R> listLinks("http://pdixon.public.iastate.edu/stat500/sas/", "\\.lst$|\\.sas$")
R> ## will get:
R> #  [1] 'http://pdixon.public.iastate.edu/stat500/sas/ancova.sas'
R> #  [2] 'http://pdixon.public.iastate.edu/stat500/sas/bacillus.lst'
R> #  [3] 'http://pdixon.public.iastate.edu/stat500/sas/bacillus.sas'
R> #  ....
R> ## data files are under 'http://www.public.iastate.edu/~pdixon/stat500/data/'
```

We can further download these files automatically using R. There are several examples in the help page; see ?listLinks.

Bibliography

Temple Lang D (2009). *XML: Tools for parsing and generating XML within R and S-Plus.* R package version 2.6-0, URL <http://CRAN.R-project.org/package=XML>.