WMKO Instrument Firefox Configuration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gregory D. Wirth</td>
<td>2011-May-11</td>
<td>Original</td>
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<td>Gregory D. Wirth</td>
<td>2012-Nov-19</td>
<td>Added info on kics</td>
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**Synopsis**

This document describes the procedure for setting up a new instrument account for use with the Firefox web browser.

**Initial Configuration of Accounts**

The setup procedure involves three steps. In the first step we set up the kics account as the master account with the desired Firefox configuration; this is typically done by hand. Next, we propagate the configuration of the kics account to the various instrument master accounts (deimos, esi, etc.) and modify them as needed for the given instrument. In the third step, a script generates a new configuration for the instrument numbered account; this is typically performed on demand when the user first launches Firefox from the numbered observing account.

**Configuration of kics Account**

Follow these steps to configure the kics account for Firefox.

1. Log into kics account.
2. Reset `DISPLAY` as needed (since this method employs `xrsh`, it will not work if `DISPLAY` is set to `localhost:NN` as is common with `ssh`; you must reset it to your actual `DISPLAY`).
3. If required, modify `.cshrc` file to add `/kroot/instr/bin` to `PATH`.
4. Execute command `run_firefox –n –P default` to launch the browser window.
5. Set the home page:
   a. Navigate to desired home page (use *Instruments* droplist on Toolbar)
   b. Click *Edit > Preferences* to get preferences popup
   c. Under *Startup: Home Page* click on *Use Current Page*
   d. Click *Close* button to dismiss popup
6. Change fonts:
   a. Click *Edit > Preferences* to get preferences popup
   b. Click *Content* icon
   c. Under *Fonts & Colors*, click on *Advanced*
   d. On *Fonts* popup, set fonts as follows:
      i. Proportional: *Sans Serif* and Size: 16
      ii. Serif: *Times*
iii. Sans-serif: Lucida Sans
iv. Monospace: monospace and Size: 12
e. Click OK to exit Fonts popup
f. Click Close to exit Preferences popup

7. Disable password storage:
a. Click Edit > Preferences to get preferences popup
b. Click Security icon
c. De-select checkbox for Remember passwords for sites
d. Click Close to exit Preferences popup

8. Change miscellaneous options:
a. Click Edit > Preferences to get preferences popup
b. Click Advanced icon
c. Click General tab
d. Under System Defaults, de-select the checkbox for Always check to see if Firefox is the default browser on startup
e. Click Update tab
f. Under Automatically check for updates to, de-select the following checkboxes:
   i. Firefox
   ii. Add-ons
   iii. Search Engines
g. Click Close to exit Preferences popup

9. Clear all info as follows:
a. Click Tools on top menu and select Clear Recent History
b. On the Clear Recent History popup, set Time range to clear to Everything
c. Click Clear Now to wipe out old data

10. Quit the browser.
11. Execute the command firefox_update_master to copy Firefox files into the ~kics/config/.mozilla directory.

Configuration of Instrument Master Account
Follow these steps to copy the Firefox configuration from the kics account to the instrument master account for a given instrument.

1. Log into instrument master account.
2. Reset DISPLAY as needed (since this method employs xrsh, it will not work if DISPLAY is set to localhost:NN as is common with ssh; you must reset it to your actual DISPLAY).
3. If required, modify .cshrc file to add /kroot/instr/bin to PATH
4. Execute command firefox_update_master -renew to generate a new default profile based on the one in the kics account. This will copy over files and launch the browser window.
5. Set the home page:
   a. Navigate to desired home page (use Instruments droplist on Toolbar)
b. Click Edit > Preferences to get preferences popup  
c. Under Startup: Home Page click on Use Current Page  
d. Click Close button to dismiss popup  

6. Quit the browser. The script will now copy Firefox files into the ~/.mozilla directory.

7. Verify that ~/.mozilla includes code to nuke ~/.mozilla

8. Conk a numbered account via autoconk -m 20 -M 20 -H -f

9. Log into HQ machine as numbered account and verify proper operation of Firefox by issuing the start_firefox_instr command.

Configuration of Numbered Account

The browser settings in the numbered accounts are inherited from the instrument master account. This is handled automatically via the script that launches Firefox as follows:

1. The autoconk procedure will copy over all files from the ~/.config area in the master account, deleting the ~/.mozilla directory.

2. When the observer requests a Firefox session from the background menu, the command /kroot/instr/bin/start_firefox_instr is executed.

3. The script will remotely re-launch itself on a host which is listed as being able to run Firefox.

4. If the Firefox directory (~/.mozilla) does not yet exist, the script will create it by executing the command /home/kics/instr/bin/firefox_init. This script creates a profile called default, populates it with the default files, and then repopulates it with the files from the instrument master account.

Toolbar Maintenance

From time to time the items in the Bookmarks Toolbar will need updating. The preferred way to do so is to update the master bookmarks which live in the kics account and to propagate the revised bookmarks to the instrument master accounts, and then on to the numbered accounts. Follow these steps to do so.

1. Log in to an HQ machine as user kics

2. Execute the script firefox_edit_bookmarks. If you get this error: ERROR: please run on hosts honomanu kaaawa wwwbackup -- abort! then re-run the command on one of the suggested hosts.

3. The script will launch Firefox. You can:
   a. Add bookmarks to an existing toolbar folder by
      i. going to a site
      ii. clicking Bookmarks > Bookmark this Page
      iii. In the Page Bookmarked popup, under Folder selecting Choose…
      iv. setting Folder to Bookmarks Toolbar
      v. selecting desired folder from list
      vi. clicking Done
   b. Add a bookmarks to a new folder as follows:
i. Go to desired site
ii. Click Bookmarks > Bookmark This Page to get the bookmarks popup

iii. In the Page Bookmarked popup, under Folder select Choose…
iv. Set Folder to Bookmarks Toolbar
v. Click the New Folder button
vi. Enter name of new folder
vii. Click on Done button
viii. Verify that the new folder now appears on the toolbar

c. Modify existing bookmarks by Clicking Bookmarks > Show All Bookmarks to get the Library popup
   i. In the popup, click on the Bookmarks Toolbar
   ii. Double-click on a subfolder to list contents
   iii. Click a bookmark to view entry
   iv. Edit the Name field to change the label
   v. Edit the Location field to update the URL

d. Re-organize folders by
   i. Clicking Bookmarks > Organize Bookmarks to get the Library popup
   ii. In the popup, click on the Bookmarks Toolbar
   iii. Modify folder contents as desired

4. When done editing bookmarks, close the Library popup using the window manager’s close/kill/delete function (e.g., “X” at top right of window).

5. Clear history entries:
   a. Click Tools > Clear Recent History
   b. Select all checkboxes
   c. Click on Clear Now

6. Quit browser via File > Quit

7. The script will print the prompt Should I distribute the updated bookmarks to the master accounts? (y/n) [y]:. Press Enter key to proceed or enter “n” to quit.

8. The script will copy the relevant bookmarks file to the various instrument master accounts.

9. Bookmarks will be copied to the numbered instrument accounts when they bring up the browser for the first time after being conked.