

SOFTWARE

# UNDOCUMENTED THUNDERBIRD FUNCTION – HELP NEEDED

27.02.2007

For documenting a [research project](#) I want to insert quick links to previous emails. Clicking a link should kickstart Thunderbird and go directly to a known message. [Mozilla.org](#) says

Although Google desktop is able to do it, there is no clear API to instruct Thunderbird to display a given email stored in its mail box (knowing the folder & message ID)

Here is how Google Desktop Search (GDS) links to an email

[http://127.0.0.1:4664/openemail&product=57?id=786218  
871+1271753682+254C7FFE1A7BC84C943E0A6973A70B4D4  
A687E%40sw%2Drz010%2Egsf%2Ede&action=d&s=Qjg3-  
9voXJXL6rJFnePX6Ght38w](http://127.0.0.1:4664/openemail&product=57?id=786218871+1271753682+254C7FFE1A7BC84C943E0A6973A70B4D4A687E%40sw%2Drz010%2Egsf%2Ede&action=d&s=Qjg3-9voXJXL6rJFnePX6Ght38w)

What I have found out so far by comparing different links

- (1) is the fixed parameter relating to my hard disk??
- (2) is a variable parameter relating to the physical location of my \daten\Mail\thunderbird\imap\INBOX file??
- (3) is the unique Message-ID that may be seen in Thunderbird with the [View Header](#) plugin
- (4) the variable salt/seed value that is stored in the registry at HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Google\CustomSearch\Google Desktop Search\Url which may be retrieved with a 2 line perl script.

So I am ready to construct URLs that link to an email by using GDS. This is, however, not very elegant. Isn't there any other way (maybe by a Thunderbird extension) to construct and follow links directly to emails? Can somebody trace with [Sysinternals](#) Process Explorer

what GDS spits out and follow it up at [XUL planet](#) ?

CC-BY-NC Science Surf , accessed 07.05.2026, [click to save as PDF](#)

---