How To Automate FTP Download of AmericaView MODIS Subsets

To automate the ftp_MODIS script for downloading AmericaView MODIS subsets from WisconsinView/SSEC, in Windows XP, “Schedule a Task.” The “Scheduled Tasks” directory can be found in the “Control Panel” directory or by selecting it from Start/All Programs/Accessories/System Tools/Scheduled Tasks” Here’s how to set up automation:

1. Double-click **Add Scheduled Task** to start the Scheduled Task Wizard, and then click **Next** in the first dialog box.

2. The next dialog box displays a list of programs that are installed on your computer, either as part of the Windows XP operating system, or as a result of software installation.
3. To set-up the ftp_MODIS_v1.1.bat script, click Browse, navigate to the file, and then click Open.

4. Type a name for the task, and then choose one of the following options:
   - Daily
   - Weekly
   - Monthly
   - One time only
   - When my computer starts (before a user logs on)
   - When I log on (only after the current user logs on)
5. Click **Next**, specify the information about the day and time to run the task, and then click **Next**.

Note that the information about the day and time to run the task vary depending on the selection that you made in the previous wizard dialog box. For example, if you chose **Weekly**, you must indicate the day of the week, the time, and if the task should run every week, every 2 weeks, every 3 weeks, and so on.

6. Type the name and password of the user who is associated with this task. Make sure that you choose a user with sufficient permissions to run the program. By default, the wizard selects the name of the user who is currently logged on.

7. Click **Next**, and then click **Finish** after you verify the choices that you have made.
Select the “Open advanced properties…” if you want to refine the schedule or run the process multiple times a day. See “Using Advanced Options” below.
Using Advanced Options

If you want to change the configuration of the task, click **Open** in the advanced properties for the task before you click **Finish**. After you click **Finish**, the **Properties** dialog box opens for the task.

On the **Schedule** tab, you can change any of the scheduling options that you chose in the wizard, and you can also change the task configuration so that the task does not run too long, does not run if the computer is running on batteries (for laptops), and to specify whether or not the computer should be idle for the task to run.

**NOTE**: You can open the **Properties** dialog box for the task at any time if you open Scheduled Tasks, right-click the task, and then click **Properties**.

You cannot schedule a task so that it repeats in an interval less than one day; however, you can do this in the **Properties** dialog box:

1. Click the **Schedule** tab, and then click **Advanced**.
2. Click to select the **Repeat task** check box, and then specify the number of minutes or hours in which you want the task to be repeated.

![Advanced Schedule Options dialog box](image-url)