Kirsten Kurz

4/15/16

Lab 5: Instagram Map

**Link:** http://gus8068spr16.github.io/LAB\_5/Kurz%20Lab%205/index.html

**Introduction**

This web map makes use of Instagram and Openweathermap’s APIs to combine Instagram media with current weather information within 5km of Mt. Shasta’s peak. Mt. Shasta is a popular outdoor destination in California, and the intended audience is those interested in planning a hike or visit. Users will be able to see images uploaded by other hikers and also current weather information for planning purposes.

**Methods**

First, a base map of satellite imagery from MapBox was added so that the mountain’s contours would be discernible to the user. A Leaflet.Instagram plugin was used to translate the information from Instagram’s API. The class tutorial was the basis for the code. The access token was copied from the class exercise. The url was set to Mt. Shasta’s coordinates and the media search distance expanded from the default 1000m to 5000m.

An XMLHttpRequest was sent to Openweathermap’s API for Mt. Shasta’s coordinates and requested in JSON format. ‘&units=imperial’ was added to the API url to convert the output from degrees Kelvin to degrees Fahrenheit. The resulting string was parsed into a JSON dictionary and document.innerHTML commands used to display a png image of current weather conditions along with temperature, humidity, and wind speed.

**Results**

The map is relatively simple and focuses mainly on manipulating API information. The web map is displayed full screen with a small container in the corner for weather conditions. At the time of writing, only a few Instagram images were visible, but peak climbing season is still months away and viewable media should increase as spring transitions to summer.

**Conclusion**

The final product successfully accesses both APIs. Weather information could be further expanded as Openweathermap’s API returns even more detailed information than what is displayed on page. Openweathermap also has an option to return forecasts which could also be experimented with. The map does have a deficiency; the Instagram popup windows are smaller than the images. Several attempts were made to resize these according to the Instagram.Leaflet plugin documentation, but were obviously unsuccessful.

**Images**

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