



ISO Developer's Toolkit - mdTranslator in Rails

2015 CDI Workshop

May 11, 2015

Stan Smith, USGS

mdTranslator on Rails 1



1. From the command line, navigate to the directory to hold your new Rails application. This will become the parent directory of the new Rails application.
2. Generate the new rails application.
> rails new translator
3. A new directory named 'translator' will be created and filled with the new Rails application modules.
4. Test the new 'translator' rails application.
 - Change the directory to the Rails application just created
> cd translator
 - Start the Rails server.
> rails server
 - From a browser type <http://localhost:3000>
 - You should see the 'Welcome aboard' page.

mdTranslator on Rails 2



5. Generate a home page using a Rails helper.
> rails generate controller translate index
6. Test the new index page that Rails generated for you ...
<http://localhost:3000/translate/index>



or maybe not!



- Found trouble on some Windows installations – not sure of cause
- In file
.../app/views/layouts/application.html.erb
comment out the line calling the javascript_include_tag so it looks like this:

```
<head>
  <title>mdTranslator API</title>
  <%= stylesheet_link_tag 'application', media: 'all', 'data-turbolinks-track' => true %>
  <!-- javascript_include_tag 'application', 'data-turbolinks-track' => true -->
  <%= csrf_meta_tags %>
</head>
```

- This feature preserves head JavaScript from page to page as a means of saving load and compile time. Not need in this application anyway.



mdTranslator on Rails 3

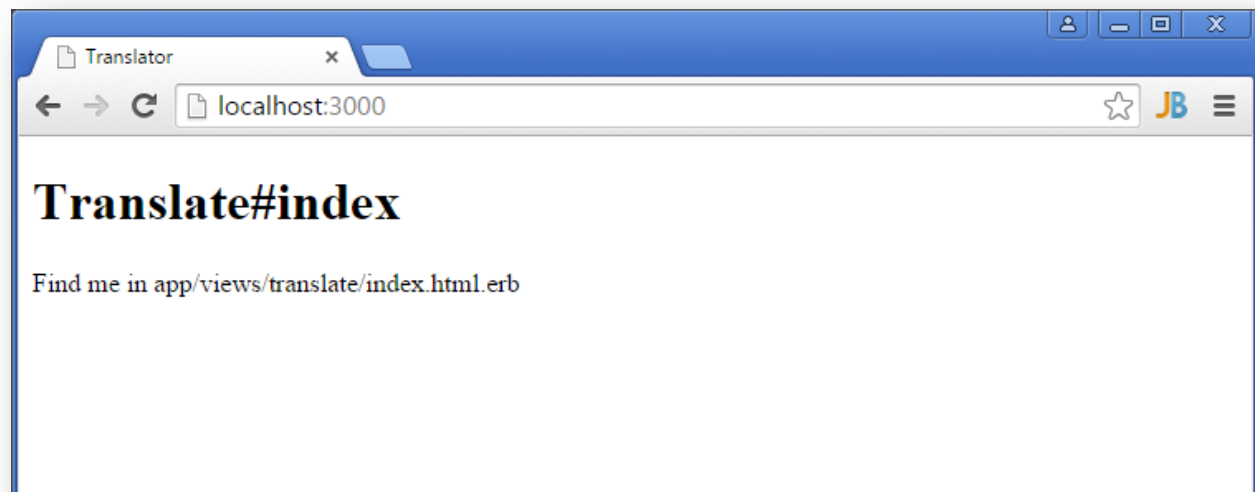
7. Next set the 'index' page as the default page for the website.
In the
.../config/routes.rb
file set the root to 'translate#index'.

```
Rails.application.routes.draw do  
  get 'translate/index'  
  root 'translate#index'
```

mdTranslator on Rails 4



8. Now the index page will display at root rather than 'Welcome aboard'.



mdTranslator on Rails 5



9. Code a simple HTML form in the file `.../app/views/translate/index.html.erb` replacing all the Rails generated code.



```
<!--  
# Alaska Data Integration working group - ADIwg  
  
# REST endpoint controller for demonstration of mdTranslator  
-->  
  
<h2> mdTranslator Rails example</h2>  
  
<div id="form_container">  
  <%= form_tag('/translate') do %>  
    <div>  
      <h3>Submit JSON</h3>  
      <p>  
        Paste or type JSON, choose options, and click Submit.  
        Valid ISO 19115-2 XML should be generated. <br>  
      </p>  
  
      <div>  
        <textarea name="file">Place mdJson here</textarea>  
      </div>  
    </div>  
  
    <div class="buttons">  
      <input type="hidden" name="form_id" value="759352" />  
      <input id="saveForm" class="button_text" type="submit"  
        name="submit" value="Submit" />  
    </div>  
  
    <div>  
      <p>  
        For more info visit the  
        <a href="http://www.adiwg.org/mdTranslator">mdTranslator  
        website</a>.  
      </p>  
    </div>  
  <% end %>  
</div>
```


mdTranslator on Rails 6



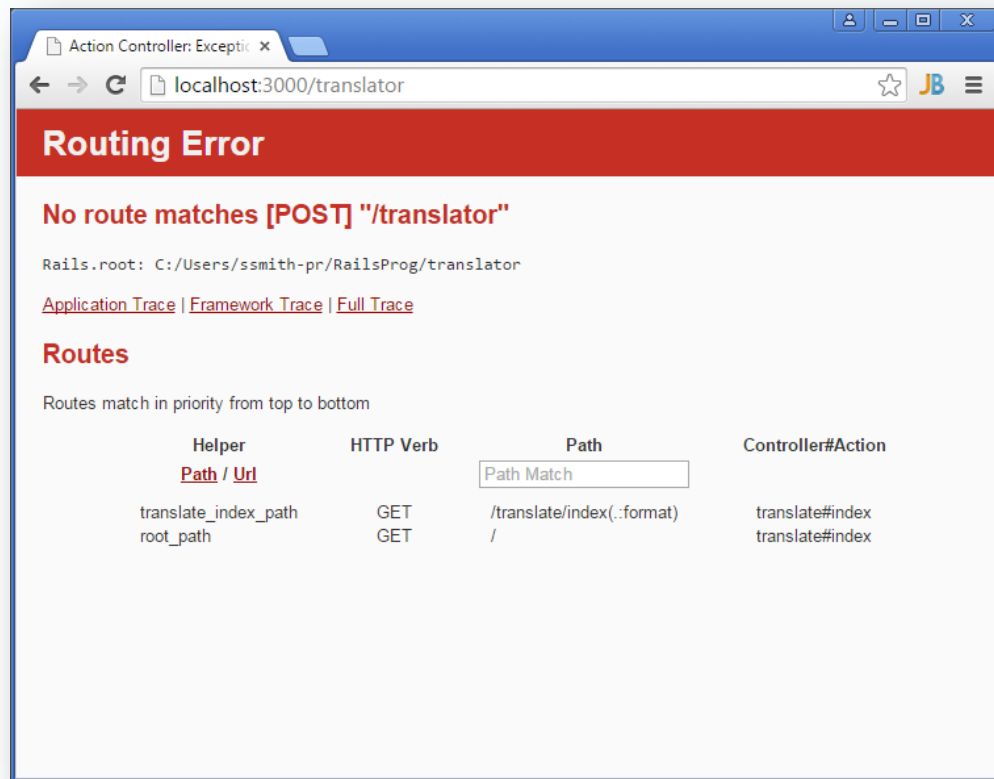
10. The updated index page now looks like this ...

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title "Translator" and the address bar displaying "localhost:3000". The page content includes the heading "mdTranslator Rails example", a subheading "Submit JSON", and a paragraph: "Paste or type JSON, choose options, and click Submit. Valid ISO 19115-2 XML should be generated." Below this is a text input field with the placeholder text "Place mdJson here" and a "Submit" button. At the bottom, there is a link: "For more info visit the [mdTranslator website](#)."

mdTranslator on Rails 7



11. Click 'Submit' and Rails shows a 'Routing Error'. We have not handled the HTTP POST in our routing or controller.



mdTranslator on Rails 8



12. Rails only generated code in the router and controller to process the HTTP GET verb. Add a 'resources' statement to *.../config/routes.rb* to have Rails automatically handle all HTTP verbs, including POST.

```
Rails.application.routes.draw do
  get 'translate/index'
  root 'translate#index'
  resources :translate
```



mdTranslator on Rails 9



13. Add code in the
.../app/controllers/translate_controller.rb
file intercept and process the HTTP POST request.

```
class TranslateController < ApplicationController

  # process GETs
  def index
  end

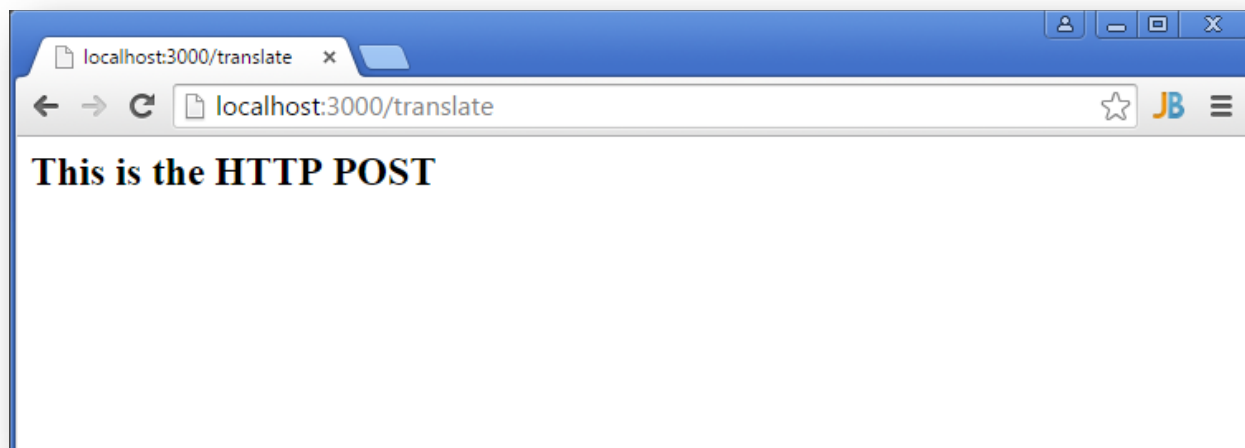
  # process POSTs
  def create
    render inline: '<h2>This is the HTTP POST</h2>'
  end

end
```

mdTranslator on Rails 10



14. Now the HTTP POST is properly intercepted. When the ‘Submit’ button is pressed we see...



mdTranslator on Rails 11



15. With the basic structure of the website complete connect the mdTranslator gem to the website. Add the adiwg-mdtranslator gem request to the .../Gemfile.

```
# Alaska Data Integration working group metadata translator  
gem 'adiwg-mdtranslator', '~> 1.0'
```

16. Update the website's gems. From the command line type:
> bundle update.
The adiwg-mdtranslator gem and all its dependencies will be loaded to your Rails website.
17. Remember to restart the Rails server after adding new gems.

mdTranslator on Rails 12



18. Now we need to write a simple script to process the HTTP POST. In the `../app/controllers/translate_controller.rb` file replace the 'render inline:' statement we entered to test the connection and routing with something like this...

```
# process POSTs
def create

  # load file and parameter from POST
  fileObj = params[:file]

  # call the ADIwg metadata translator
  @mdReturn = ADIWG::Mdtranslator.translate(
    file: fileObj, reader: 'mdJson', validate: 'normal',
    writer: 'iso19115_2', showAllTags: false)

  render xml: @mdReturn[:writerOutput]

end
```

mdTranslator on Rails 13



18. After the server restarts, navigate to the website root and enter some valid mdjson.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title "Translator" and the address bar displaying "localhost:3000". The page content includes the heading "mdTranslator Rails example", a subheading "Submit JSON", and a descriptive text: "Paste or type JSON, choose options, and click Submit. Valid ISO 19115-2 XML should be generated." Below this is a large text area containing a JSON object. The JSON object has the following structure: a "version" object with "name": "mdjson" and "version": "1.0.0"; a "contact" array with one object containing "contactId": "1" and "organizationName": "US Geological Survey - Alaska Science Center"; and a "metadata" object with "resourceInfo" containing "resourceType": "project" and "citation" containing "title": "Real-Time Permafrost and Climate Monitoring Network - Arctic Alaska" and "date": an array with one object containing "date": "2012-12-21". Below the text area is a "Submit" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a link: "For more info visit the [mdTranslator website](#)."

```
{
  "version": {
    "name": "mdjson",
    "version": "1.0.0"
  },
  "contact": [
    {
      "contactId": "1",
      "organizationName": "US Geological Survey - Alaska Science Center"
    }
  ],
  "metadata": {
    "resourceInfo": {
      "resourceType": "project",
      "citation": {
        "title": "Real-Time Permafrost and Climate Monitoring Network - Arctic Alaska",
        "date": [
          {
            "date": "2012-12-21",

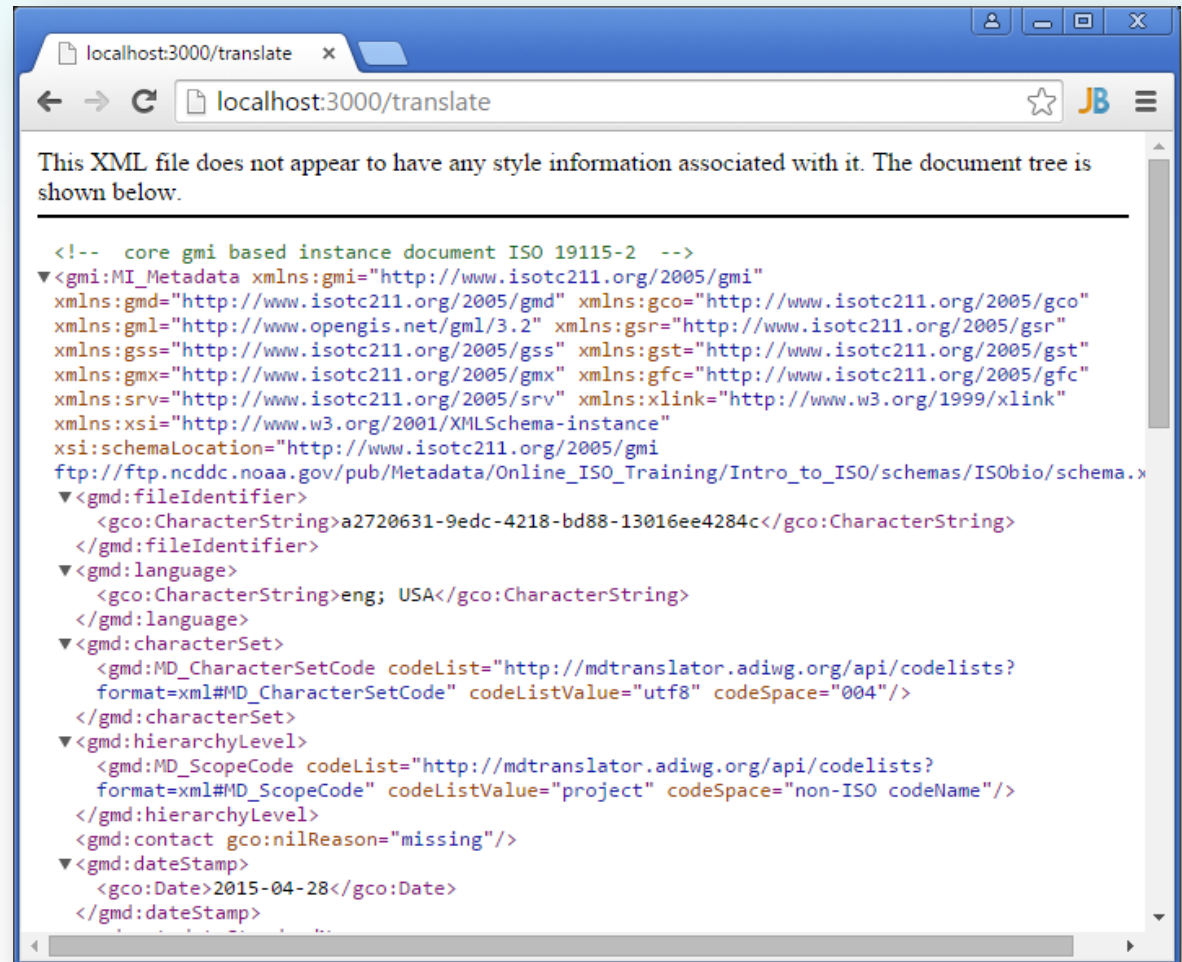
```

Submit

For more info visit the [mdTranslator website](#).

mdTranslator on Rails 14

19. Click submit and you should see ISO 19115_2 returned from you locally hosted web service.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar set to `localhost:3000/translate`. The page content displays a message: "This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below." Below this message is an expanded XML document tree. The root element is `<!-- core gmi based instance document ISO 19115-2 -->`. The first child is `<gmi:MI_Metadata xmlns:gmi="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/gmi" xmlns:gmd="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/gmd" xmlns:gco="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/gco" xmlns:gml="http://www.opengis.net/gml/3.2" xmlns:gsr="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/gsr" xmlns:gss="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/gss" xmlns:gst="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/gst" xmlns:gmw="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/gmw" xmlns:gfc="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/gfc" xmlns:srv="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/srv" xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink" xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.isotc211.org/2005/gmi ftp://ftp.ncddc.noaa.gov/pub/Metadata/Online_ISO_Training/Intro_to_ISO/schemas/ISObio/schema.x" />`. The tree is expanded to show the following elements: `<gmd:fileIdentifier>` with value `a2720631-9edc-4218-bd88-13016ee4284c`, `<gmd:language>` with value `eng; USA`, `<gmd:characterSet>` with value `utf8`, `<gmd:hierarchyLevel>` with value `project`, `<gmd:contact>` with value `nilReason="missing"`, and `<gmd:dateStamp>` with value `2015-04-28`.

mdTranslator on Rails 15



- This ‘non-award winning’ website only demonstrates the simplicity of building a website that can interface with the ADIWG ISO Metadata Toolkit. A real website would need to be more robust checking for errors, handling all mdTranslator options, and handling all response types returned from the mdTranslator (XML, JSON, JSONp, text, plain). But it’s a start.

Questions?

