Running it all on Tomcat: Geonetwork & Geoserver

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June 8, 2024

Introduction

This article is written with the intention of it acting as a way to reproduce the results I achieved in getting Geonetwork and Geoserver running on my PC (A Windows device) using their web archive (WAR) files on a tomcat server. I will provide a brief on the steps involved and the versions of the involved software, and the hardware I have used to get it all up and running.

Hardware

The hardware specifications of my PC:

- AMD Ryzen 7 5800H with Radeon Graphics 3.20 GHz
- A dedicated RTX 3060 GPU
- 16 GB RAM
- 1 TB SSD (with roughly 260 GB Free space)
- Windows 11 v23H2

Versions of softwares used

- Java 8
- Tomcat 9.0.89 (Supports running GeoNetwork 4.2.6)
- GeoNetwork 4.2.6 (Stable version)
- Geoserver 2.22.5 (Supports Java 8 SDK)
- Elasticsearch 7.17.15 (Supported by GeoNetwork 4.2.6)

The above versions were chosen after consulting the documentation of GeoNetwork.

Steps

Downloading the files and their placements

- 1. Download Java 8 and install it. Make sure that JAVA_HOME has been added to the Environment as a variable pointing to the installed JDK.
- 2. Download the zip file for Tomcat 9.0.89. Extract it to some location in your PC.
- 3. Download the GeoNetwork.war file for version 4.2.6. Add this file to the webapps folder in the extracted Apache folder.
- 4. Download the ElasticSearch zip file. Extract it somewhere in your PC, preferrably somewhere near your previously extracted Apache folder to make navigation easier.
- 5. Download GeoServer 2.22.5 WAR file. It will be a zip file, extract and add the WAR file to webapps folder in the Apache directory.

Running the server

- 1. Open a CMD or Terminal window in the *bin* directory of Apache directory.
- 2. Run the command startup.bat
- 3. Open another CMD or Terminal window in the *bin* directory of the ElasticSearch directory.
- 4. Run the command elasticsearch.bat

Troubleshooting

- If after doing the above steps, nothing happens, please ensure that the versions are the same as that which I have used.
- If the search bar does not work in GeoNetwork, Edit the *elasticsearch.yml* file the config directory of ElasticSearch, disable the security. (Usually the first uncommented line, make it false instead of true).
- If there are too many errors, just use WSL or spin up an Ubuntu virtual machine in Oracle VirtualBox.