

Portable GIS: A Brief Introduction

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Follow along at <http://archaeogeek.github.io/agi-cymru-portablegis/>

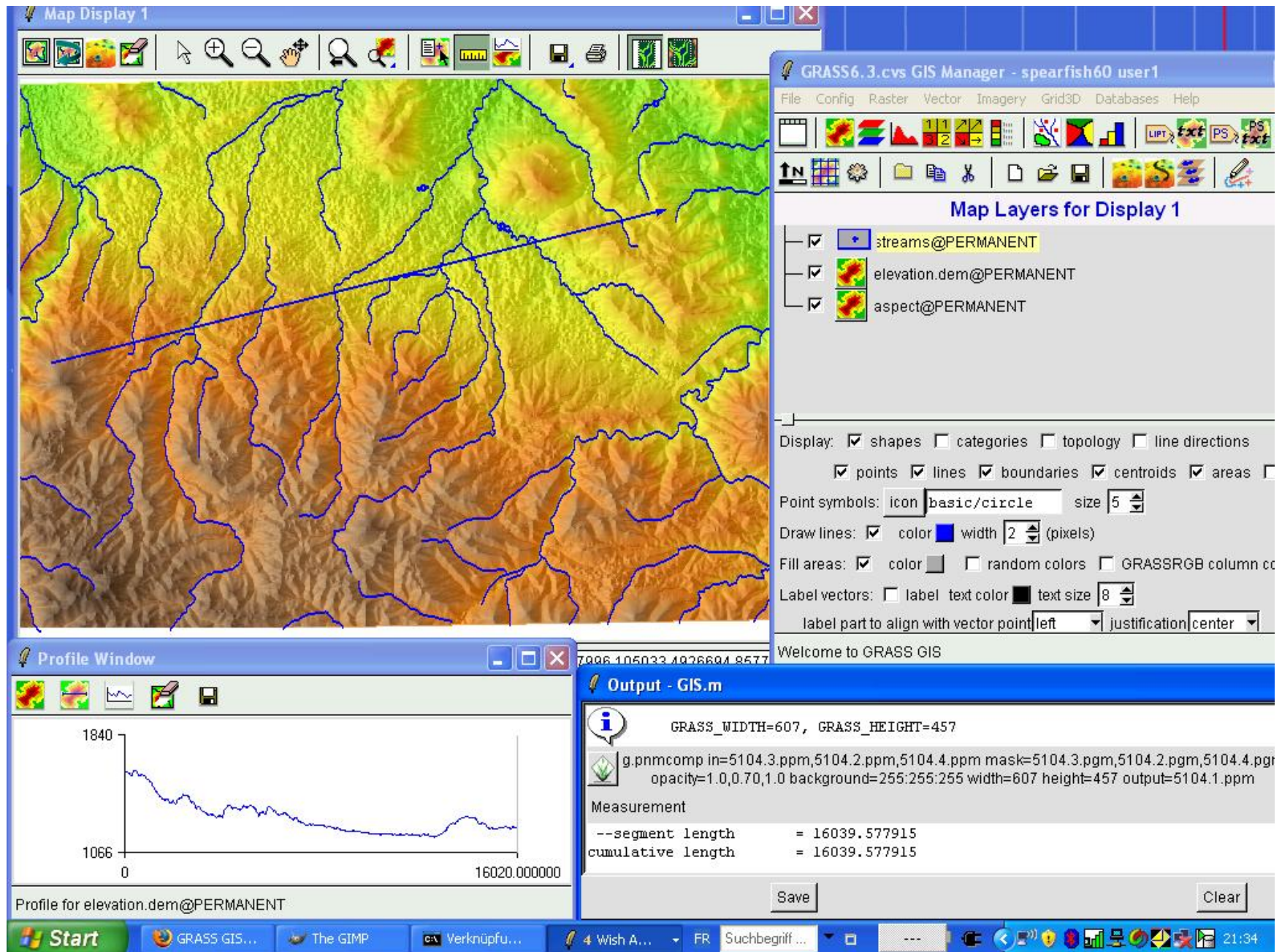
Once upon a time... (in 2006)

It was hard to work with open source geospatial tools, you had to use the command line to install and configure, let alone use them

OSGeo4W did not exist

QGIS was 4 years old, but not commonly used

GRASS GIS was the most common open source desktop GIS and it looked like this:



Some packages still had to be compiled from source- on Windows!

and so Portable GIS was born

out of a need to make things easier, for windows users in particular

Portable GIS (noun)

- Born 2006 (ish)
- "por.ta.ble": capable of being carried or moved about
- "g.i.s": geographical information systems
- aka: GIS on a stick

What it is:

- A self-contained set of the common open source GIS packages, designed to run in windows, from a USB stick
- Installed using a single exe or zip, requiring no additional configuration or setup
- Along with some Ordnance Survey Open Data
- And a control panel for easy access to all the components

What it is not:

- The same as OSGeo4W
- The same as OSGeo Live
- Compatible with "portableapps.com"

What it is also not:

- A Bootable Drive (like OSGeo Live)
- Cross-Platform
- Small- current installation is a 1.1GB download and 4.6GB installed

A pair of red sneakers with white laces and soles is partially hidden in tall green grass. The sneakers are positioned in the center of the frame, with the grass blades reaching up to cover them. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green field.

also not a stealth system

**OK, so what software does it
contain?**

Apache

Firefox

PostGIS

GDAL

Loader

OGR

Mapserver

Geany

PostgreSQL

Python

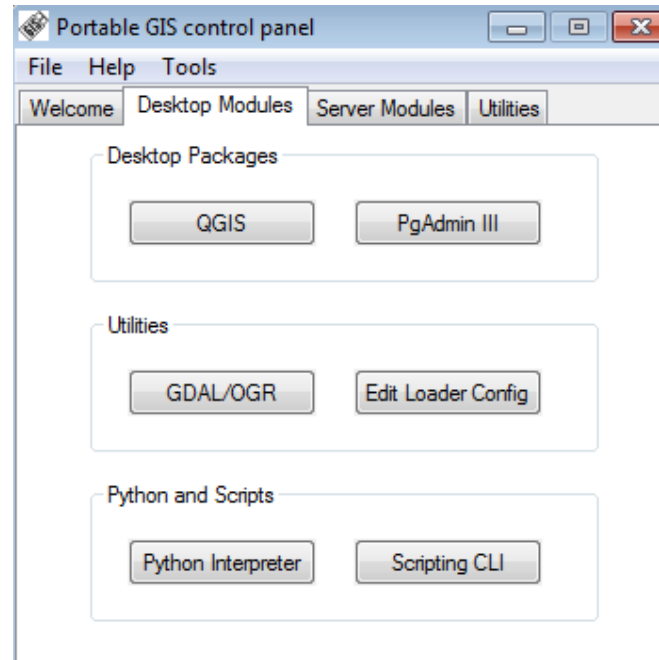
QGIS

PDFReader

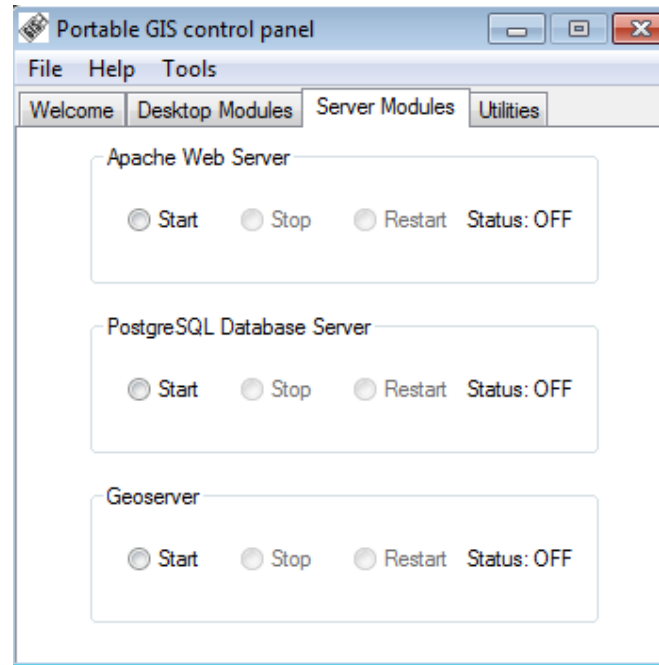
From the control panel you can...



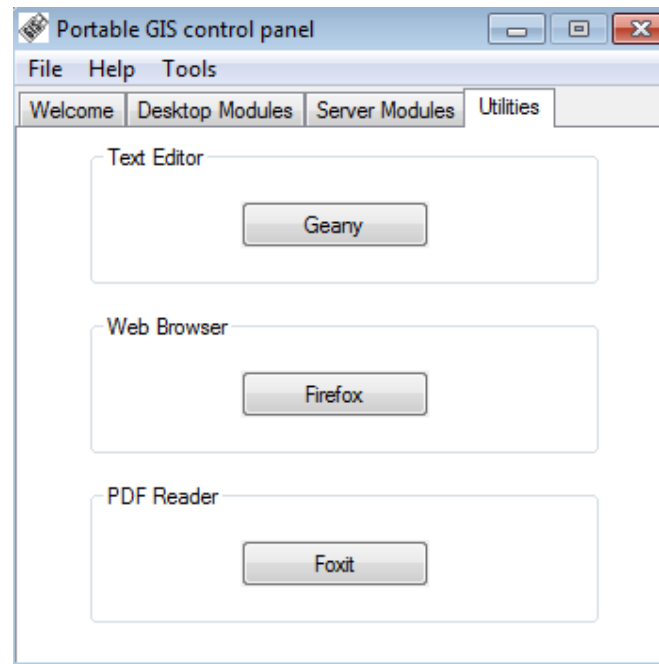
Access all the desktop packages...



Control the server-based packages...



and access the utility software



Great, so what is it for?

anything you like!

it has been used for rapid-deployment scenarios, education, training
workshops

or simply any time you want to take your work home with you!



Ant Scott
@antscott



Following

@archaeogeek #portablegis the only way
to get #qgis running on this machine
thanks from drc > attempt at postcard

Reply Retweet ★ Favorited ... More





Matt Travis

@Yakus



Following

@archaeogeek forgot to say #portablegis saved my bacon on Thursday, so thanks for all your hard work!

↩ Reply ↻ Retweet ★ Favorite ... More

8:51 PM - 14 Sep 2014

Where can I get it?

Download the exe file or zip file (~1.1GB) for version 5.8 from:

portablegis.xyz

Is it Open Source?

Yes!

It has a GPLv3 license, and the source code is hosted at
<https://gitlab.com/archaeogeek/portable-gis>

Contributions are welcome!

Certification as an OSGeo Community Project is in progress



Is there documentation?

Yes!

Documentation is available at <http://portable-gis-docs.readthedocs.io/>

Contributions are welcome to that too

Future Development Plans

- PostgreSQL 9.x with PostGIS 2.4+
- Keep pace with QGIS LTR
- Updates to Apache, Geoserver, Mapserver
- Re-design control panel (the only part which is freeware)
- Possible alignment with OSGeo Live

If you find it useful, or would like to help with
development then...

Great!

\0/

:-)

Let me know, I love to hear about real world uses for it- it makes the effort worthwhile



Thanks!

portablegis.xyz

@portablegis

Grab this talk at <http://archaeogeek.github.io/agi-cymru-portablegis/>