Research: Help create a better first-time user experience in GRASS GIS

Hello GRASS GIS users

Thank you for participating in our survey. Your feedback will help developers in the decision on how to enhance the first-time user experience. 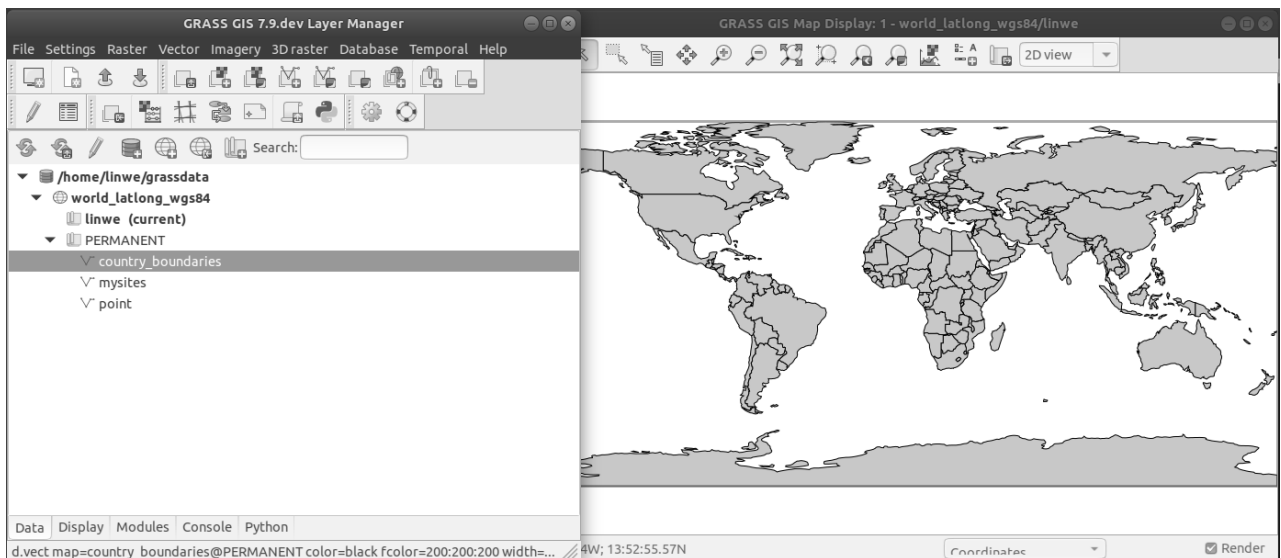The results will be published as a part of a master thesis (https://github.com/ctu-geoforall-lab-projects/dp-kladivova-2021/).

State of version 7.9 after GSoC

For a first-time user, the current development version launches directly in demolocation called world_latlong_wgs84.

This picture serves as an example of the correct data organization. Original data are stored in a permanent mapset whereas already analyzed data belongs to another mapset, for example to the one named after a user.

The current implementation does not show a world map immediately at startup, it is necessary to display the map using Data Catalog.
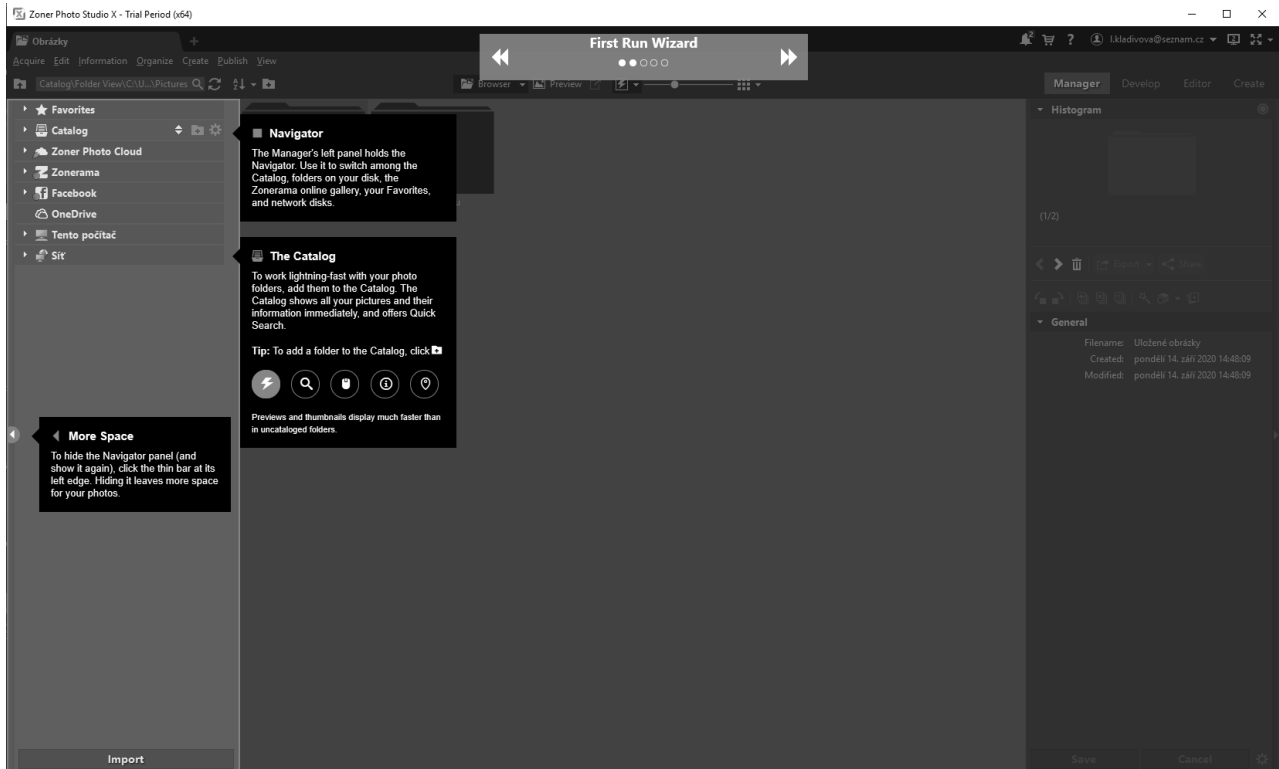

Developers are considering to improve the current solution by implementing a special mode for first-time users.

There are basically two options for what it might look like:

a) A first-time user would see info bars giving them advice. Those info bars are for example in QGIS and inform a user about projection transformation.

b) A first-time user would see the First Run Wizard which describes different parts of the software (we can see it e.g. in Zoner Photo Studio)

* 1. Do you like the idea of First Run Wizard (inspired by Zoner implementation)?

◯ Yes

◯ No, I think it's an unnecessarily complicated option

◯ No, I think people will skip it anyway

◯ Yes, but... (please specify)

```
┌─────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│                                             │
│                                             │
│                                             │
│                                             │
│                                             │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

* 2. Do you like the idea of first-time mode info bars (visually similar to info bars in QGIS implementation)?

◯ Yes

◯ No

◯ No, I think people will ignore it

◯ Yes, but... (please specify)

```
┌─────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│                                             │
│                                             │
│                                             │
│                                             │
│                                             │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

* 3. Do you have other ideas that would lead you to a more straightforward navigation in the software?

```
┌─────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│                                             │
│                                             │
│                                             │
│                                             │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

4. What software do you think does a good job of providing a good first-time user experience? *(optional)*

* 5. Let's imagine you are a first-time user. What would help you significantly in your initial orientation in the software? Please, rank those features according to the importance (1 = the most important).

☰

⬍

Description of main tabs (Data, Display, Modules, Console, Python) and Map Display

☰

⬍

Description of what GRASS database, location and mapset means

☰

⬍

Brief advice on how to start (e.g. how to create a new location and import data)

Research: Help create a better first-time user experience in GRASS GIS

Thank you for your responses!