Week 13 - Platforms and GeoServer Introduction

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Introduction

Thus far we have concentrated on the client side of geospatial services oriented architectures in developing web interfaces based upon the Google Maps API, the OpenLayers javascript framework, and accessing data published using the OGC WMS, WFS, and WCS standards in desktop applications. Starting this week we begin our work on the server side - working with the GeoServer server platform to publish data through the OGC WMS, WFS, and WCS service standards. This work will demonstrate the ease with which you can share data using these standards, facilitating client use such as that that we have seen in our web site and desktop application work.

Expected Outcomes

By the end of this class, students should be able to:

- Place files within the server file system for integration into the GeoServer platform
- Create a GeoServer Workspace, Store, and Layer based upon those data
- Test those layers using the Layer Preview tools integrated into GeoServer

Key Concepts

By the end of this class, students should understand:

- The components of a map server platform and their relationship to each other
- The role of a geospatial server within a geospatial services oriented architecture
- The information required about data to successfully configure it for publication within GeoServer
- The stepwise process through which a dataset may be published using GeoServer

Reference Materials

- Safari Books Online Fundamentals of Linux: Learn important command-line tools and utilities with real-world examples. particularly:
 - Chapter 2: Getting to Know the Command Line
 - 1. Chapter 3: It's All About the Files
- GeoServer Online Documentation: sections Introduction, Getting Started, and Web Administration Interface

Weekly Milestone - Linux Basics and GeoServer Data Import

Working on the Class Server

For the GeoServer portion of our work, you will be working on a Linux server that has been created for the class. While we won't be doing a lot of Linux work, some basic familiarity with moving around, copying files, and working with files is needed. The class server is running Ubuntu Linux which is a broadly deployed, well supported operating system and computing platform that has excellent support for many Open Source geospatial applications, including those that we will be using in this class.

The first set of exercises relate to learning some basics about working with the Linux Operating system, applicable on just about any Linux server including the class server.

Review (but don't worry about memorizing) the following materials (in addition to watching the video tutorial sections listed above):

Webmonkey "Unix Guide"

Linux Command Line Cheatsheet

QUESTION 1 What command would you use to list the contents of a directory on a linux system? QUESTION 2 What command would you use to read the "manual page" for a specific command?

Log into the class Linux server - internetmapping.net:8080/geoserver/web. This is different from the address referenced in the below linked videos. The rest of the process is the same as demonstrated in the videos. Your username and password for both the class linux server and the GeoServer have been sent to you via email.

Windows: Open PuTTY on your computer and connect using the SSH protocol (see video demonstration)

Link to the YouTube video demonstration for Windows

Mac: Open the Terminal Application and connect using SSH (see video)

Link to the YouTube video demonstration for Mac OS X

Start a session on the class Linux server, which is located at at the hostname internetmapping.net (you will use your class server username and password you received through email to open the connection). NOTE: the class server is accessed through a non-standard network port. Enter the port number 23 in the connection dialog boxes where there is an option to specify the port. When using the SSH command [i.e. on the Mac] include the port number in the connection command.

For example:

ssh -p 23 user001@internetmapping.net

After logging in you are in your home directory - the directory that is linked to your account on the system, and the directory that you are taken to when you type the cd command without any additional arguments.

Adding data to GeoServer

To add data to GeoServer you must have a file location on the server where data files are stored and accessible by the GeoServer.

Task Change into your home directory using the cd command without any additional arguments.

Task Copy the folder of sample data files located at /opt/geoserver/data_dir/general/user000/GeoserverSampleData by executing the following command from *inside your home directory*.

cp -r ../user000/GeoserverSampleData . (make sure to include final '?)

This will place a copy of folder of data files in your home directory. Rename (using the linux mv command) each of the copied files and directories (and their contents) to prepend (and replace mine) your initials at the beginning of each file and directory name. For example, rename kb_m_3510659_ne_13_1_20110523.tif as xy_m_3510659_ne_13_1_20110523.tif. This will help avoid some issues with layers based on source files with the same name later in our work. You might find this a faster task using the WinSCP [Windows] or CyberDuck [Mac] utilities instead of the command line

Task Log into the Geoserver on the class server (http://internetmapping.net:8080/geoserver/web/) using the username and password provided by email.

Create a new workspace based on your net id. For example ws_<your netid>

Create a new *store* for each of the datasets added to your home directory above (4 .tif files and 3 shape files). Assign the new store to the workspace that you created above. When specifying the the Connection Parameters for pointing to the file you can browse to the location in the server's file system by using the browse... link next to the URL field under the Connection Parameters section of the store creation page. All of the home directories are in the general folder under the data_dir in the file browser.

for example

file:general/user000/GeoserverSampleData/kb_m_3510659_ne_13_1_20110523.tif

Shapefile location			×
Data directory _ data_dir/			
Name	Last modified	Size	
data/	Apr 17, 2016 7:17 PM		
gwc/	Apr 17, 2016 4:55 AM		
gwc-layers/	Apr 18, 2016 3:47 AM		
security/	Apr 17, 2016 6:40 PM		
styles/	Apr 17, 2016 4:55 AM		
workspaces/	Apr 17, 2016 7:12 PM		

Create a new layer for each of the stores added above. Here are some things to keep in mind:

You may need to designate the SRS for a layer if it can't be read directly from the dataset. Your specify the designated SRS using the standard EPSG:XXXX format.

The EPSG code for GCS_North_American_1983 is EPSG:4269

Question 3 Preview each of your added layers, using t	the Layer Preview tool and the Open Layers option
to display the data. Include screen grabs of the pr	reviews in your write-up.

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