GeoJSON file was saved as a text file vs shapefile was saved as a .zip folder. The shapefile is 5 times larger than GeoJSON: 40 KB vs 8 KB. GeoJSON file is one text file and shapefile is a folder consisting of 4 files with .dbf, .prj, .shp, and .shx extensions. I was able to open GeoJSON file in a browser but not the shapefile.

Just like any GeoJSON my GeoJSON file contains two main elements: features and feature collection. Feature collection is a collection of features, which is why the file starts as “type”: “FeatureCollection”, followed by “features”: and an array of features. In the example below, I have provided the code for only the first feature, but there are 24 more feature just like this one listed below it. Each feature in my GeoJSON has the same geometry type: “point”. Each feature has both spatial and non-spatial attributes. Spatial attributes such as coordinates are listed under “geometry”, and non-spatial attributes/properties (e.g., “date”, “trails’, “hikes”, etc.) are stored under “properties”.

More technically, each feature object has three members: “geometry”, “properties” and “type”. The latter is always with the value “Feature”. The value of the “geometry” member is an object with two members: “type”, which here has a value “Point”, and “coordinates” which here stores the geographical position of the point as [lon, lat]. The value of the “properties” member is an object with multiple members: “hikes”, which here stores the name of the point, if it was a hike,”date”, “trails” names, as well as information about the point size and color.

The advantages of using GeoJSON is that it can be accessed by many different software, whereas shapefile can only be opened with a specialized software. Another advantage, is that it can be easily parsed and processed with JavaScript, which makes it a preferred method if one were to incorporate a vector geometry into a web application. Since GeoJSON is a text file it is relatively simple and can be read by humans. The most frequently mentioned disadvantage of GeoJSON is that it tends to be larger than shapefiles. Files like shapefile compress the data while GeoJSON does not. However, perhaps there is a minimum threshold size at which this is true because in my case GeoJSON file was considerably smaller than the folder contains all 4 files that make up the ‘shapefile’.

{

"type": "FeatureCollection",

"features": [

{

"type": "Feature",

**"**properties**":** {

"hikes": "Killarney PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 24, 2021",

"trails": "Chikanishing"

},

**"**geometry**":** {

"coordinates": [

-81.40178335169001,

46.0123296909581

],

"type": "Point"

}

},

{

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{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Killarney PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 24, 2021",

"trails": "Chikanishing"

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"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-81.40178335169001,

46.0123296909581

],

"type": "Point"

}

},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "White Fish Island Reserve",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 25, 2021"

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"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-84.35103015921645,

46.51150261955178

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"type": "Point"

}

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{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"marker-color": "#0c7ed4",

"marker-size": "medium",

"visited": "Pancake Bay PP",

"date": "August 25, 2021"

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"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-84.68156206739495,

46.96823511652116

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"type": "Point"

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{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Lake Superior PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 26, 2021",

"trails": "Nokomis"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-84.89713521251305,

47.79067145182299

],

"type": "Point"

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"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Lake Superior PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 27, 2021",

"trails": "Orphan Lake"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-84.81093445170968,

47.490156542394544

],

"type": "Point"

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{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Scenic High Falls to Silver Falls",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 28, 2021",

"trails": "Scenic High Falls to Silent Falls"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-84.82788169481806,

47.95908934608826

],

"type": "Point"

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},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Pukaskwa NP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 29, 2021",

"trails": "Southern Headland, Manito Miikana, Beach"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-86.29033414976034,

48.59124639625338

],

"type": "Point"

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},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Pukaskwa NP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 30, 2021",

"trails": "Bimose Kinoomagewnan"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-86.29038212592488,

48.591250929496596

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"type": "Point"

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{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Neys PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 30, 2021",

"trails": "Lookout"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-86.62401320973797,

48.793652605544224

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"type": "Point"

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"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Neys PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 30, 2021",

"trails": "Point"

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"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

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48.77984125442126

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"type": "Point"

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{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Rainbow Falls PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "August 31, 2021",

"trails": "Rainbow Falls"

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"geometry": {

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-87.39790479324486,

48.845659798755634

],

"type": "Point"

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"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"marker-color": "#0c7ed3",

"marker-size": "medium",

"visited": "Aguasabon River Gorge",

"date": "August 31, 2021"

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"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

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48.78175153489158

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"type": "Point"

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},

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"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Ouimet Canyon PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 1, 2021",

"trails": "Ouimet Canyon"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-88.67230423529242,

48.78904612533785

],

"type": "Point"

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{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"marker-color": "#0c7ed4",

"marker-size": "medium",

"visited": "Amethyst Mine Panorama",

"date": "September 1, 2021"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

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48.68947598430876

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"type": "Point"

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},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Sleeping Giant PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 1, 2021",

"trails": "See Lion "

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

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48.34064157673163

],

"type": "Point"

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},

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"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"marker-color": "#0c7ed4",

"marker-size": "medium",

"visited": "Thunder Bay Lookout",

"date": "September 1, 2021"

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"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-88.82316436035467,

48.475657221572845

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"type": "Point"

}

},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Sleeping Giant PP",

"marker-color": "#0c943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 1, 2021",

"trails": "Bay's End Lookout"

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"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

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48.56454334862559

],

"type": "Point"

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{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Kakabeka Falls PP",

"marker-color": "#0c943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 2, 2021",

"trails": "Mountain Portage, Little Falls"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-89.6253193072639,

48.40134252828403

],

"type": "Point"

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},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"marker-color": "#0c7ed4",

"marker-size": "medium",

"visited": "Pebble beach",

"date": "September 3, 2021"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-86.38754822061355,

48.70727087478707

],

"type": "Point"

}

},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Fort St. Joseph National Historic Site",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 4, 2021",

"trails": "Cemetery, Rains Point, Lapointe Point "

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-83.94556896762734,

46.0638948970618

],

"type": "Point"

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},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Manitoulin island",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 5, 2021",

"trails": "Cup and Saucer"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-82.11410587870284,

45.8532261422186

],

"type": "Point"

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},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Misery Bay PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 5, 2021",

"trails": "Coastal Alvar"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-82.72605824503364,

45.80054486637789

],

"type": "Point"

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},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Fielding Bird Sanctuary",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 6, 2021",

"trails": "Kelly Lake "

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-81.09718568921397,

46.42722902893786

],

"type": "Point"

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},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Grundy Lake PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 6, 2021",

"trails": "Swan Lake"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-80.56490761183852,

45.929955493829056

],

"type": "Point"

}

},

{

"type": "Feature",

"properties": {

"hikes": "Six Mile Lake PP",

"marker-color": "#0a943f",

"marker-size": "medium",

"date": "September 6, 2021",

"trails": "David Milne, The Living Edge"

},

"geometry": {

"coordinates": [

-79.75376186482276,

44.90085355127363

],

"type": "Point"

}

}

]

}