OGC GeoPackage Plugfest

Discussion Paper

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i. Abstract
This OGC discussion paper presents the results of the GeoPackage Plugfest. In this initiative, participants had the opportunity to evaluate the compliance and interoperability of software that produces and consumes GeoPackages containing tiled raster data.

ii. Keywords
The following are keywords to be used by search engines and document catalogues.

ogcdoc, OGC document, GeoPackage, GPKG, plugfest, interoperability, tiles

iii. Preface
The GeoPackage Encoding Standard defines an open, non-proprietary, platform-independent SQLite container for distribution and direct use of geospatial data, including vector features and tile matrix sets of earth images and raster maps at various scales. OGC members and other non-members are invited to participate in a Plugfest to test the use of the GeoPackage (GPKG) standard as a container for tiled imagery and to produce a shareable GPKG file with tiled imagery content.

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iv. Submitting organizations
The following organizations submitted this Document to the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC):

U.S. ARMY GEOSPATIAL CENTER

IMAGE MATTERS LLC

v. Submitters
All questions regarding this submission should be directed to the editor or the submitters:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Yutzler, Editor</td>
<td>Image Matters LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micah Brachman</td>
<td>RGi, for U.S. Army Geospatial Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Scope

This OGC Discussion Paper documents the OGC GeoPackage Plugfest for tiled raster data.

The goal of this Plugfest was to determine the following:

- Whether providers produce compliant GeoPackages containing tiled raster data
- Whether clients behave as expected after loading compliant GeoPackages
- What changes need to be made to the GeoPackage implementation standard to improve interoperability
- What testing methods are needed to ensure interoperability

2. References

2.1 Normative References

The following normative documents contain provisions that, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this document. For versioned references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. For unversioned references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies.


2.2 Informative References

The following informative documents are referenced by this document but do not constitute provisions of this document. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies.

*National System for Geospatial-Intelligence (NSG) GeoPackage Encoding Standard 1.0 Implementation Interoperability Standard (DRAFT), 2015.*

3. Terms and Definitions

This document uses the terms defined in Sub-clause 5.3 of [OGC 06-121r9], which is based on the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, Rules for the structure and drafting of
International Standards. In particular, the word “shall” (not “must”) is the verb form used to indicate a requirement to be strictly followed to conform to this standard.

For the purposes of this document, the following additional terms and definitions apply.

**DARPA**
Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

**ERDC**
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center

**ETS**
Executable Test Suite

**GPKG**
GeoPackage

**Plugfest**
A Plugfest is an event where vendors cooperatively test (and possibly refine) their OGC-based products in a hands-on engineering setting. Plugfests are used to (1) assess the degree to which different products in the marketplace interoperate together based on their implementation of OGC standards, and (2) advance the interoperability of geospatial products and services based on OGC standards in general or within specific communities.

**RGi**
Reinventing Geospatial Inc., a contractor to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**SQL**
Structured Query Language

**SQLite**
A software library that implements a self-contained, serverless, zero-configuration, transactional SQL database engine.

**XML**
Extensible Markup Language

### 4. Plugfest Results

The GeoPackage Plugfest participants performed a series of interoperability experiments. The goal of these sessions was to test OGC GeoPackages submitted to the Plugfest to determine if they comply with the OGC GeoPackage encoding standard and are interoperable across several software platforms. Compliance testing was performed using an executable test suite (ETS) built by RGi.

Following are the details of the four items identified in the scope.
Whether providers produce compliant GeoPackages containing tiled raster data

**Success.** Providers were generally able to produce GeoPackages that came close to standard compliance. The compliance issues that we observed were typically minor and did not appear to pose a threat to interoperability.

Whether clients behave as expected after loading compliant GeoPackages

**Issue.** Compliant GeoPackages were not necessarily interoperable. There were numerous instances of tiles not displaying as expected in integrated clients. We believe this may be due to confusion regarding how tiles are to be indexed. The GeoPackages assessed for the Plugfest were generally created in two steps: 1) native imagery is tiled as JPEG or PNG images and structured as tile pyramids such as those defined for Tile Map Service (TMS) or Web Map Tile Service (WMTS) and 2) these tile structures are then re-indexed to meet the requirements of the GeoPackage standard. GeoPackage producers must first establish the tile origin (i.e. upper left vs. lower left) of the initial tile structure and then may need to correctly translate from globally referenced, absolute tile index numbers (e.g. TMS) to the GeoPackage tile index numbers which are referenced relative to the data bounding box and which restart at zero for each zoom level.

What changes need to be made to the GeoPackage implementation standard to improve interoperability

**Suggested Changes.** To mitigate future GeoPackage interoperability issues we believe that implementation profiles should be created to ensure that GeoPackages serve their purpose and are fit for intended use. Implementation profiles should align to specific tile scale sets. For example, a Web Mercator profile would be used with the GoogleMapsCompatible (urn:ogc:def:wkss:OGC:1.0:GoogleMapsCompatible) tile scale set (see Appendix E.4 of [OGC 07-057r7])¹.

An implementation profile should include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

1. Supported Spatial Reference System(s)
2. Tile sizes
3. Zoom levels (names and meters/pixel)
4. Tile pyramid design (including indexing scheme)
5. Tile alignment
6. Tile matrix extent

What testing methods are needed to ensure interoperability

**Not successful.** This item is unresolved as we were unable to attain substantial interoperability between implementations.

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¹ A National System for Geospatial-Intelligence (NSG) implementation profile is currently being developed under a separate initiative.
We believe that another interoperability experiment should be performed, ideally in conjunction with the development of one or more implementation profiles. Contributors to the U.S. National System for Geospatial-Intelligence (NSG) are currently developing a GPKG implementation profile. We encourage NSG developers (and any other communities of interest that develop an implementation profile) to conduct interoperability experiments as their profile is advanced.

Developers may refer to the GPKG produced by RGi, which passed all of the Plugfest testing. It is available on the OGC Portal\(^2\) along with available tests. Additionally, it has been linked on geopackage.org\(^3\).

\(^2\) https://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact_id=60628
\(^3\) http://www.geopackage.org/#sampledata
Annex A – Experiments

This section documents the details of the two interoperability experiments that were performed.

Note that since this plugfest did not attain the desired results, we will not publish the identities of the GeoPackage providers (other than RGi as mentioned above). We see no benefit to identifying these organizations when the lack of desired interoperability is directly attributable to the standard itself.

A.1 Experiment 1

The GeoPackage Plugfest Working Group performed interoperability testing on 14 and 17 November 2014. Eight GeoPackages containing raster tile data were provided to the working group for testing. As summarized in Table 1, the following tests were conducted:

1. Inspect the GPKG in a SQLite viewer
2. Load the GPKG in DARPA TransApp Panthr Tiles v4.8.2.5
3. Inspect the available zoom levels in Panthr Tiles
4. Perform GeoLocation in Panthr Tiles
5. Load the GPKG in Nett Warrior 2.0.6.x
6. Load the GPKG in ERDC GPKG Viewer vx.x.x
7. Perform GeoLocation in the ERDC GPKG Viewer
8. Test the GPKG using v1.0 of the ETS

Table 1 – Test Results in Experiment 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>T#\GPKG</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>1/0/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>3/2/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>2/0/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>3/2/2</td>
</tr>
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<td>PF</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>3/2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>4/1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>4/1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>PF</td>
<td>1/6/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>2/2/4</td>
<td>0/3/5</td>
<td>0/0/8</td>
<td>1/0/0</td>
<td>1/4/3</td>
<td>6/1/1</td>
<td>5/1/2</td>
<td>5/1/2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 Failures / Partial Failures / Passes

5 This GPKG did not have any tiled data and therefore was not tested further.

6 In some cases the Geolocation appears to be displaced 1km to the West. The reason for this was not clear.
As presented in Table 2, seven of the eight (87.5%) GeoPackages violated one or more of the requirements in the OGC GeoPackage specification. Only one provider passed all tests but four providers passed at least some of the tests. Most of the standard requirements that were violated were relatively minor and should not affect interoperability, but larger issues remain in determining how the bounding box is used and in standardizing the tile-indexing scheme.

Table 2 – Executable Test Suite Failures in Experiment 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th># of Failures</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Application ID not set</td>
<td>Minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Data type of TEXT(1) not allowed</td>
<td>Minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>No default SRS values of -1 and 0</td>
<td>Minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Last changed column type</td>
<td>Minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Column default of &quot; instead of &quot;/&quot;</td>
<td>Minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dates need three-digit milliseconds</td>
<td>Minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Must be powers-of-two zoom</td>
<td>Moderate -- may lead to misaligned tiles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, defects were discovered in the client applications. These were reported to the vendors.

A.2 Experiment 2

After reporting the results of Experiment 1, the GeoPackage Plugfest Working Group requested that the original eight data providers produce updated GeoPackages to address requirement failures. Three of the data providers responded to this data call, and the GeoPackage Plugfest participants performed a second round of interoperability testing on 23 January 2015. The following tests were conducted:

1. Inspect the GPKG in a SQLite viewer
2. Load the GPKG in DARPA TransApp Panthr Tiles v4.8.2.5
3. Inspect the available zoom levels in Panthr Tiles
4. Perform GeoLocation in Panthr Tiles
5. Load the GPKG in Nett Warrior 2.0.6.x
6. Load the GPKG in ERDC GPKG Viewer vx.x.x
7. Perform GeoLocation in the ERDC GPKG Viewer
8. Test the GPKG using v1.1 of the ETS

Three GeoPackages containing raster tile data were provided to the working group for testing. These were tested as summarized in Table 3 and Table 4. None of the updated GeoPackages passed all tests. All of these GeoPackages are very close to meeting the OGC GeoPackage Standard, thus the major interoperability problem continues to be inconsistencies in how the tile pyramids are indexed.
Table 3 – Test Failures in Experiment 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Failures / Partial Failures / Passes</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0/0/3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/2/0</td>
<td>One GPKG did not open, other two had tile offsets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2/0/1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3/0/0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1/2/0</td>
<td>One GPKG did not open, other two had tile offsets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1/2/0</td>
<td>One GPKG did not open, other two had tile offsets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>3/0/0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>See below</td>
<td>See below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 – Executable Test Suite Failures in Experiment 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th># of Failures</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 13          | 3             | "A GeoPackage file SHALL include a gpkg_contents table per clause 1.1.3.1.1, Table 4 and Table 21."

**Required column last_change is defined as:**

Type: DATETIME, not null: true, default value: `strptime('%Y-%m-%dT%H:%M:%fZ', CURRENT_TIMESTAMP)`, primary key: false, unique: false

**but should be:**

Type: DATETIME, not null: true, default value: `strftime('["%Y-%m-%dT%H:%M:%fZ"] -"now","%s")` , primary key: false, unique: false

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th># of Failures</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 14          | 1 (warning)   | "The table_name column value in a gpkg_contents table row SHALL contain the name of a SQLite table or view."

The table_name value in gpkg_contents table is invalid for the table: water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th># of Failures</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 60          | 1             | "A GeoPackage MAY contain a table or updateable view named gpkg_data_column_constraints. If present it SHALL be defined per clause 2.3.3.1.1 Table 12 and Table 32."

**Required column:**
gpkg_data_column_constraints.maxIsInclusive is missing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th># of Failures</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 82          | 1 (warning)   | "Each extension_name column value in a gpkg_extensions row SHALL be a unique case sensitive value of the form `<author> <extension_name>` where `<author>` indicates the person or organization that developed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th># of Failures</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 83   | (warning)   | "The definition column value in a gpkg_extensions row SHALL contain or reference the text that results from documenting an extension by filling out the GeoPackage Extension Template in GeoPackage Extension Template (Normative)."

The following table_name values in gpkg_extension table have invalid values for the definition column: Water, TractCentroids, Streets, Signposts, Shoreline, RestrictedTurns, Parks, MajorRoads, Hospitals, Highways, FireStations. | Minor |
### Annex B: Revision History

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<th>Version</th>
<th>Editor</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
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<td>0.0.1</td>
<td>Jeff Yutzler</td>
<td>First round of experiment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Feb 15</td>
<td>0.0.2</td>
<td>Micah Brachman</td>
<td>Second round of experiment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Feb 15</td>
<td>0.0.3</td>
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<td>Conclusions</td>
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<td>23 Feb 15</td>
<td>0.0.4</td>
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<td>Review</td>
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<td>5 Mar 15</td>
<td>0.0.7</td>
<td>Lew Leinenweber</td>
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<td>9 Mar 15</td>
<td>0.0.8</td>
<td>Jeff Yutzler</td>
<td>Resolving comments</td>
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<td>12 May 15</td>
<td>0.0.9</td>
<td>Jeff Yutzler</td>
<td>Resolving comments</td>
</tr>
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<td>08 June 15</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>Carl Reed</td>
<td>Edits for Publication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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