Use nginx to serve static files from subdirectories of a given directory

Asked 12 years, 6 months ago   Modified 9 months ago   Viewed 280k times

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I have several sets of static `.html` files on my server, and I would like use nginx to serve them directly. For example, nginx should serve an URI of the following pattern:

```
www.mysite.com/public/doc/foo/bar.html
```

with the `.html` file that is located at `/home/www-data/mysite/public/doc/foo/bar.html`. You can think of `foo` as the set name, and `bar` as the file name here.

I wonder whether the following piece of nginx config would do the job:

```
server {
    listen        8080;
    server_name   www.mysite.com mysite.com;
    error_log     /home/www-data/logs/nginx_www.error.log;
    error_page    404    /404.html;

    location /public/doc/ {
        autoindex          on;
        alias              /home/www-data/mysite/public/doc/;
    }

    location = /404.html {
        alias              /home/www-data/mysite/static/html/404.html;
    }
}
```

`.../....html` are going to be handled by

`mysite.com/404.html` is returned.

asked Oct 9, 2012 at 19:17

🔲 **MLister**
10.3k ● 18 ● 67 ● 93

It should work, however http://nginx.org/en/docs/http/ngx_http_core_module.html#alias says:

▲

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When location matches the last part of the directive's value: it is better to use the root directive instead:

▼

which would yield:

```
server {
  listen        8080;
  server_name   www.mysite.com mysite.com;
  error_log     /home/www-data/logs/nginx_www.error.log;
  error_page    404    /404.html;

  location /public/doc/ {
    autoindex on;
    root  /home/www-data/mysite;
  }

  location = /404.html {
    root /home/www-data/mysite/static/html;
  }
}
```

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edited Feb 21, 2016 at 19:15

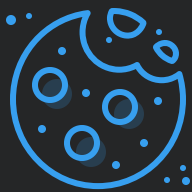dipole_moment
5,884 ● 4 ● 42 ● 56

answered Oct 9, 2012 at 19:43

cobaco
10.6k ● 6 ● 39 ● 33

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1   Using 2 roots gave me problems in the past, what I usually do is use one root and alias for other locations as @AlessioCampanelli suggests – camposer Apr 11, 2020 at 11:42 ✎

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1   Using root is the right answer. However it does not serve the static pages for me. – bsesic Oct 12, 2022 at 6:10

You can use the following code. You can also use this code to serve vuejs or reactjs static files, Just modifile the `alias` to point to the root of your file directory;

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```
location /files {
    #autoindex on;
    alias  /files;
    try_files $uri /index.html =404;
  }
```

Make sure the access permissions are right too. `sudo chown -R 1000 /files`

Example on how to access the files `http://example.com/files/text-file.txt`

Share   Improve this answer   Follow   edited Apr 1, 2023 at 11:05   answered Mar 17, 2023 at 8:18

                                                                                          Jay
                                                                                          1,062 ● 3 ● 21 ● 35

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if you are using static middleware for example `app.use(express.static('assets'));`

0

suppose you have an image in yourprojectAddress/assets/media/cat1.jpg and you are using port 3000 for your application

so to serve that image this is nginx config
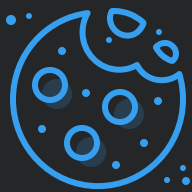
location /media/ {

```
proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:3000;
        proxy_set_header Host $host;
        proxy_set_header X-Real-IP $remote_addr;
                              dd_x_forwarded_for;
                          e;
```

                                                    answered Jun 24, 2024 at 11:03

                                                    mr   mohammad reza
                                                         shabani
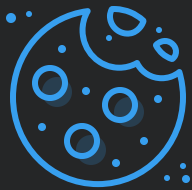   **79** ● 7

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