Geocoder API

Release Notes

Version 6.2.99

Contents

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Chapter 1

Overview

Topics:

The scope of this document is to provide the release notes for the Geocoder API for a particular release version. It also includes the issues resolved and issues remaining in this release.

D63 Highlights

- Added house number precision results to Reverse Geocoding `trackPosition` mode.
- Modified street name matching in Romania by recognizing additional abbreviations for street types.
- Modified street name matching in Romania and Hungary so that correct street names are recognized in queries even if the word order is different from what is in map data.
- Removed the `SpeedLimit` attribute from results for client applications that do not have authorization to receive this data.
- Updated Estonia and Latvia map data to Q3/2015. Both countries are now included in weekly map data update cycle.
- Other enhancements and bug fixes.

Chapter 2

Release Major Changes

Topics:

This section documents major changes to the release that may require users to change their applications and/or associated map data.

API Changes

There are one API enhancement in this release:

- The track position function now adds a house number precision to results.

Track position function now adds house number precision to results

The track position feature, which uses coordinates and a bearing to correctly identify the correct street being travelled upon, now adds a house number precision to results.

The house number returned is based upon the nearest address on the road being travelled along. Preference is for house numbers that are on the driving side, relative to the bearing, in that country.

For example, in Germany cars drive on the right-hand side, so travelling south on a road will choose a house number right of the bearing.

Usage

This feature can be activated by using either of the following parameters:

`locationattributes=`(one of `related.nearByAddress`, `rn`, `all`)

The result provides the house number precision in a complete address in a separate `related` block; the existing track position result remains the same street level result. Track position provides the nearest address but does not snap to this address like `retrieveAddresses` does.

The `related` block contains the following additional details:

- `type`: Always `nearByAddress`.
- `matchType`: One of `interpolated` or `pointAddress`.
- `routeDistance`: The distance in meters from the provided position (parameter `pos`) to the navigation position of the address. A user needs to travel this distance following the road to reach the entry of the house.
- `direction`: The bearing of the display position of the address relative to a 0 bearing point to true north. A user needs to turn her view clockwise into this direction to see the house.

Example

Retrieve the track position for a point and request that the nearest address is added to the result:

```
reversegeocode.json
?mode=trackPosition
&pos=52.4662230,13.3282346,180
&locationattributes=rn
```

The result contains the street that is closest to the provided position and fits to the travel direction. This is the same as before. In addition, the result now contains the nearest address information in the `related` block.

```
location: {
       locationId:  "NT_9rsoB5zwTm8gcUzZatY7mC_l_821537980_L",
       locationType:  "address",
       displayPosition: {
          latitude:  52.466223,
          longitude:  13.32824
      },
      navigationPosition: [
      {
             latitude:  52.466223,
             longitude:  13.32824
      }
      ],
      ...
      address: {
          label:  "Bundesallee, 12161 Berlin, Germany",
          country:  "DEU",
          state:  "Berlin",
          county:  "Berlin",
          city:  "Berlin",
          district:  "Friedenau",
          street:  "Bundesallee",
          postalCode:  "12161",
       ...
       },
       related: [
       {
             type:  "nearByAddress",
             matchType:  "pointAddress",
             routeDistance:  15,
             direction:  228,
             location: {
                locationId:  "NT_9rsoB5zwTm8gcUzZatY7mC_5YD",
                locationType:  "address",
                displayPosition: {
                   latitude:  52.46609,
                   longitude:  13.328
              },
              navigationPosition: [
              {
                  latitude:  52.46609,
                  longitude:  13.32824
              }
              ],
              address: {
                  label:  "Bundesallee 96, 12161 Berlin, Germany",
                  country:  "DEU",
                  state:  "Berlin",
                  county:  "Berlin",
```

```
                    city:  "Berlin",
                    district:  "Friedenau",
                    street:  "Bundesallee",
                    houseNumber:  "96",
                    postalCode:  "12161",
                    additionalData: [
                    {
                          value:  "Germany",
                          key:  "CountryName"
                    },
                    {
                          value:  "Berlin",
                          key:  "StateName"
                    },
                    {
                          value:  "Berlin",
                          key:  "CountyName"
                    }
                   ]
               },
          }
     }
   ]
}
```

Map Data Version

The Geocoder provides weekly map updates based on Stable Baseline. The baseline for the map schema is currently Q1/2015. Weekly map data updates are based on Q3/2015 data releases.

The exceptions are as follows:

- South Africa remains at Q2/2015. Currently not updated weekly.
- China and Macau remain at Q4/2014. Not updated weekly.
- Hong Kong remains at Q3/2015. Not updated weekly.

Geocoder results contain map version information in the `MapReference` section if requested via `locationattributes=mapReference`.

`MapVersion`: Version of the map schema. Format: `QQ/YYYY`, e.g. `Q1/2015`

`MapId`: Map version details containing the baseline for the map schema and an identifier for the weekly update. Format: <4-letter region>YYQ<weekly update>. Example: `NAAM15135` (region: North America (NAAM), map schema: Q1/2015 (151), weekly update 35)

Chapter 3

D63 Issues

Topics:

This section lists resolved issues and enhancements in the current release. It also lists known issues in the current release.

Resolved Issues

The following table contains resolved issues. The list summarizes major resolved issues relevant for a broad audience.

#	Description

1	Removed the `SpeedLimit` attribute from results for client applications that do not have authorization to receive this data.
	
	All link info attributes are subject to additional licensing. We reserve the right to require authorization on API level for all or individual attributes with future releases. Starting with this release, the `SpeedLimit` attribute requires authorization and the attribute is not included in `LinkInfo` anymore if the client application is not authorized to receive this information.
	
	Example:
	
	Query requesting `linkInfo`:
	
	`&locationattributes=linkInfo, or`
	`&locationattributes=li or,`
	`&locationattributes=all`
	
	Previous result:
	
	`LinkInfo": {`
	`"FunctionalClass": 5,`
	`"TravelDirection": [`
	`"SE"`
	`],`
	`"SpeedCategory": "SC7",`
	`"LinkFlags": [`
	`"Paved"`
	`],`
	`"SpeedLimit": [`
	`{`
	`"Value": 30,`
	`"Unit": "kph"`
	`}`
	`],`
	`"AccessFlags": [`
	`"Automobiles",`
	`"Motorcycles",`
	`"Buses",`
	`"Taxis",`
	`"Carpools",`
	`"Pedestrians",`
	`"Trucks",`
	`"Deliveries",`
	`"EmergencyVehicle",`
	`"ThroughTraffic"`
	`]`
	`}`
	
	Current result:
	
	`"LinkInfo": {`
	`"FunctionalClass": 5,`
	`"TravelDirection": [`

#	Description
	"SE"], "SpeedCategory": "SC7", "LinkFlags": ["Paved"], "AccessFlags": ["Automobiles", "Motorcycles", "Buses", "Taxis", "Carpools", "Pedestrians", "Trucks", "Deliveries", "EmergencyVehicle", "ThroughTraffic"] }
2	Mexico: Recognize house numbers in address search in cases where the number is placed between street base name and directional. The query "PADRE MIER **194** PTE, Monterrey 64018" now matches as expected to "Calle Padre Mier Poniente 194, Monterrey Centro, 64018 Monterrey, NL, México". Before, the result was a street level match.

3	Street intersection not found when `prox` parameter is set.
	The Geocoder returns an empty response for an intersection search when `prox` parameter is set. This happens in rare cases on long streets.
	Example:
	Query:
	`searchtext=Granville+and+Robson&prox=49.287183,-123.128533,10000`
	Previous result:
	empty response
	Current result:
	relevance: 1,
	distance: 905,
	matchLevel: "intersection",
	matchQuality: {
	street: [
	0.85,
	0.85
	]
	},
	location: {
	locationId: "NT_l3jj9OobxgA7Aa7mBDJuUC_x_UmDTBU6heGwpFgHgJHvQzA",
	locationType: "address",
	displayPosition: {
	latitude: 49.28137,
	longitude: -123.1198
	},
	navigationPosition: [

#	Description

	<pre>{
	latitude: 49.28137,
	longitude: -123.1198
	}
	],
	...
	address: {
	label: "Granville St & Robson St, Vancouver, BC V6Z, Canada",
	country: "CAN",
	state: "BC",
	county: "Greater Vancouver",
	city: "Vancouver",
	district: "Downtown",
	street: "Granville St & Robson St",
	postalCode: "V6Z",
	...</pre>

Enhancements

The following table contains enhancements.

#	Description
1	Added house number precision results to Reverse Geocoding `trackPosition` mode. See chapter API changes for details.

2	Modified street name matching in Romania and Hungary.
	The Geocoder now tolerates a flexible word order for street names:
	The street type may be before or after the street base name.
	If the street base name consists of several words, then the order may also be different from what is in the map data.
	Examples:
	Query:
	`searchtext=Lajos Kossuth utca 76, 2244, Uri, HU`
	Previous result:
	empty response
	Current result:
	Note that the words of the street base name, in reverse order, are compared to the query to give a `relevance` of 1.0 and a `matchQuality.street.` of 1.0.
	<pre>{
	relevance: 1,
	matchLevel: "houseNumber",
	matchQuality: {
	country: 1,
	city: 1,
	street: [
	1</pre>

#	Description


```
        ],
        houseNumber:  1,
        postalCode:  1
    },
    matchType:  "pointAddress",
    location: {
        locationId:  "NT_biUxRfJduI3lKWrkPVu52C_3YD",
        locationType:  "address",
        displayPosition: {
            latitude:  47.4143199,
            longitude:  19.52563
        },
        ...
        address: {
            label:  "Kossuth Lajos utca 76, Úri 2244, Hungary",
            country:  "HUN",
            state:  "Pest",
            county:  "Nagykátai Járás",
            city:  "Úri",
            street:  "Kossuth Lajos utca",
            houseNumber:  "76",
            postalCode:  "2244",
        ...
```


Query:

```
searchtext=BULEVARD G-RAL. MILEA VASILE 4F, BUCURESTI, ROMANIA
```

Previous result:

City level match.

Current result:

Note that the words of the street base name, in reverse order, are compared to the query.

The example also shows the improved support for commonly used street type abbreviations and name variants in Romania. In the example, “Bulevard” instead of “Bulevardul”.


```
{
    relevance:  1,
    matchLevel:  "houseNumber",
    matchQuality: {
        country:  1,
        city:  1,
        street: [
            1
        ],
        houseNumber:  1
    },
    matchType:  "interpolated",
    location: {
        locationId:  "NT_ccJL2LiwJCJNwM7jNRhtuC_0YE",
        locationType:  "address",
        displayPosition: {
            latitude:  44.430501,
            longitude:  26.0541762
        },
        ...
        address: {
            label:  "Bulevardul General Vasile Milea 4F, 060941 Bucharest,
 Romania",
            country:  "ROU",
            county:  "Bucharest",
            city:  "Bucharest",
```

#	Description

	<pre>district: "Sectorul 6",
	street: "Bulevardul General Vasile Milea",
	houseNumber: "4F",
	postalCode: "060941",
	...</pre>

Known Issues

The following table lists issues known to be present in the current release of the Geocoder API.

#	Description
1	Taiwan Geocoding - Island Names are not able to be geocoded - Q2 2013 TWN Map improvements Islands to be considered as part of Taiwan.
2	Taiwan - Street Fallback - Returning the Best Candidate If an address is not in the map, either a house number fallback or up-hierarchy street level match is expected. But in some cases, the Geocoder returns an address in the wrong street or lane. **Example**: 彰化縣彰化市介壽北路1號 House number 1 is not in the map data. The result is therefore a fallback to house number 19: No. 19, Jie Shou N. Rd., Changhua City, Changhua County 500, Taiwan But if a house number fallback is not accepted (parameter: additionaldata=HouseNumberMode,Streetlevel), then the result is expected to be a street level match: Jie Shou N. Rd., Changhua City, Changhua County 500, Taiwan The current response is an address match in a different – though close - street (South instead of North) and in a lane while the request did not specify a lane: No. 1, Lane 36, Jie Shou S. Rd., Changhua City, Changhua County 500, Taiwan
3	China: Reverse Geocoder `retrieveAreas` response not aligned with `mode=retrieveAddresses` The Reverse Geocoder `retrieveAreas` response is not aligned with the response from `retrieveAddresses` and Forward Geocoder. City and district names are only available in Chinese, the county information is incorrect and state is empty (should be Chinese provinces).
4	Labels for highway exits do not include the exit number. The label only contains the highway name. Workaround: Use highway name and exit number from the `name` field.
5	The navigation coordinate in the response for Hong Kong building name matches is not always correct. It is the same as the display coordinate. The navigation coordinate is correct only when the query matches a house number in addition to the building name (`MatchQuality` element `houseNumber` exists in the result).

#	Description
	Example: The queries Shek Wu Shui Baptist Chapel, Hong Kong and Shek Wu Shui Baptist Chapel, 33 Fu Hing St, Hong Kong both match to the same address. But the navigation coordinate is correct for the latter query only.
6	Disputed areas: The Geocoder returns landmarks (for example, lakes) in Crimea as part of Ukraine despite the explicit request to respond for the political view in Russia.
7	The location Ids from locations in Dubai that contain a MAKANI number are incorrect and cannot be used to look up the location. The house number encoding in these location Ids is wrong. For example, instead of "NT_4KfFx2Rhef4Et0dqRayEOA_yID_yID" it should be "NT_4KfFx2Rhef4Et0dqRayEOA_yID". The additional "_yID" is wrong. MAKANI numbers were introduced in Dubai in early 2015 to uniquely locate buildings in Dubai. The Geocoder supports these numbers since D62.