Berkeley Lab

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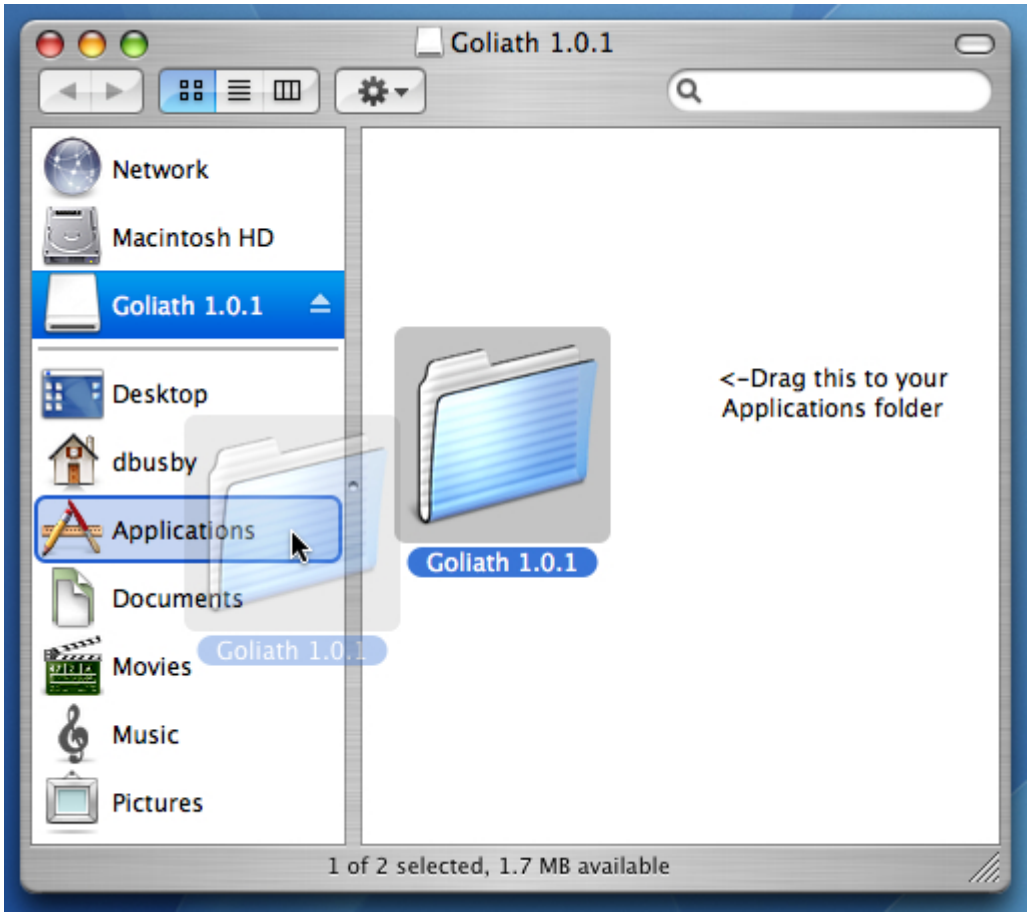
Connecting to a WebDAV Server Using Goliath

All versions of Mac OS X have support for WebDAV built right into the operating system. However, only Mac OS X Tiger (10.4) supports secure connections – addresses that begin with http**s** rather than just http. To connect to a secure server in any version of OS X prior to 10.4, such as https://webspace.lbl.gov, an application called Goliath must be used.

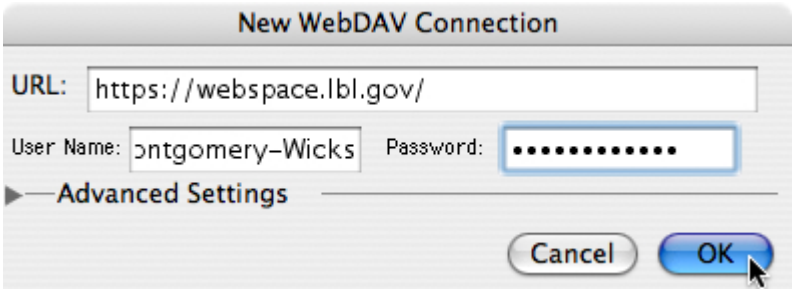
Installing Goliath is just like installing any other application – simply download and mount the disk image, and drag the file inside to the Applications folder. The Goliath download page can be found on the WebDAV Resources website. A direct link for the current version of Goliath (1.0.1) is available here.

When Goliath finishes downloading, a warning dialog will appear. When this happens, click **Continue** and the disk image should mount itself. In the Finder, select the Goliath volume that has appeared in the sidebar and drag the folder inside to the Applications folder, as shown below.

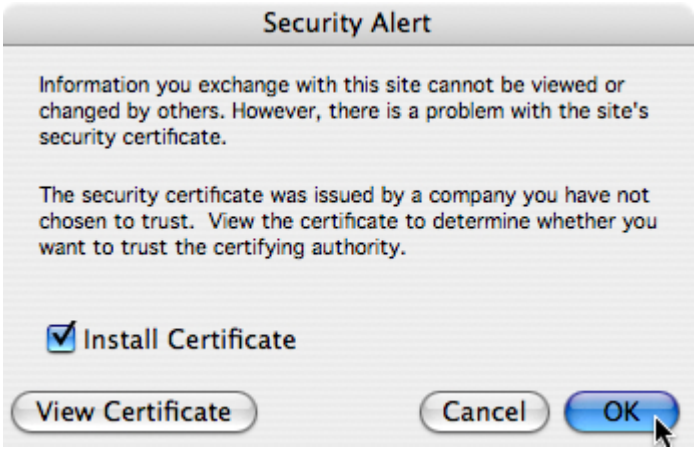


To run Goliath, simply double-click the icon found within the folder that was just dragged to the Applications folder. Those who will be using Goliath frequently may also want to drag this icon to the Dock for easy access.

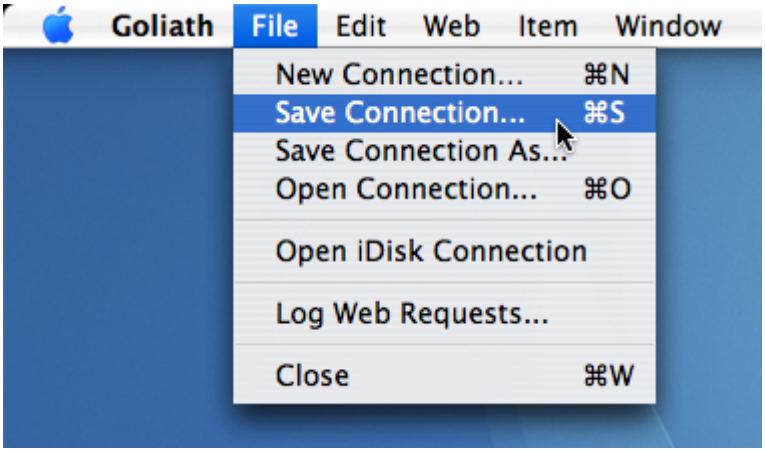
After launching Goliath a prompt for a new connection will appear. Enter the URL to the server as well as a valid user name and password. When finished click **OK** to connect.



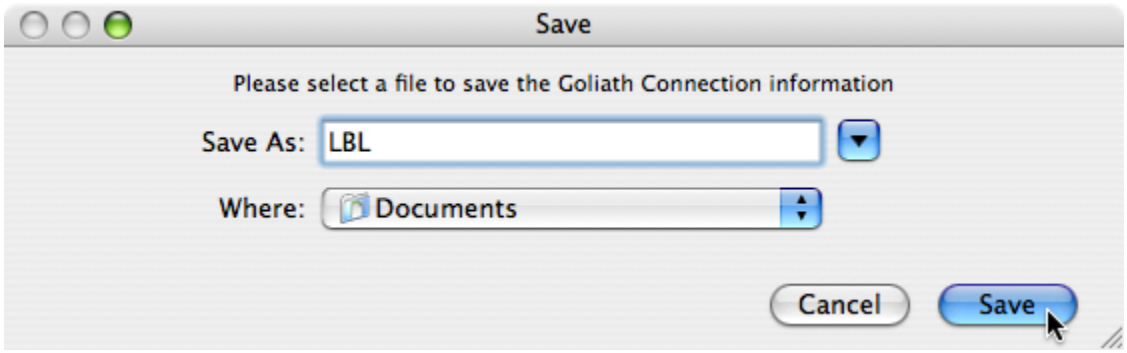
A security alert may be presented. If this happens check the **Install Certificate** checkbox and then click **OK**.



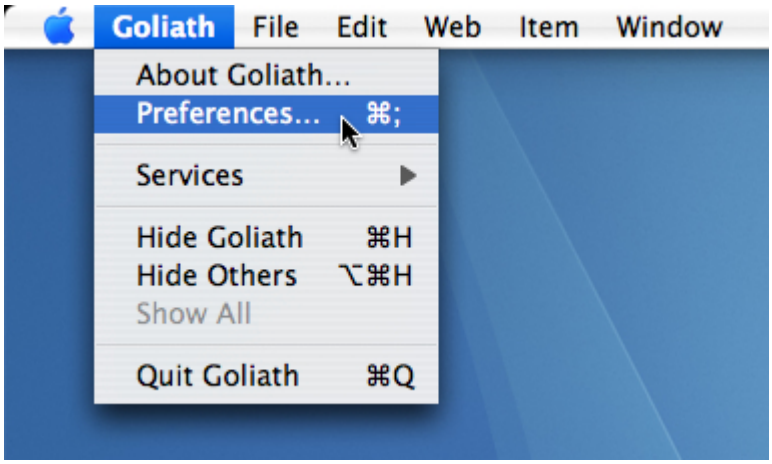
To prevent being required to type a server URL, user name, and password every time Goliath is launched, the information about the current connection can be saved. In the Goliath menu bar select **File ► Save Connection…** or use the keyboard shortcut **Cmd-S**.



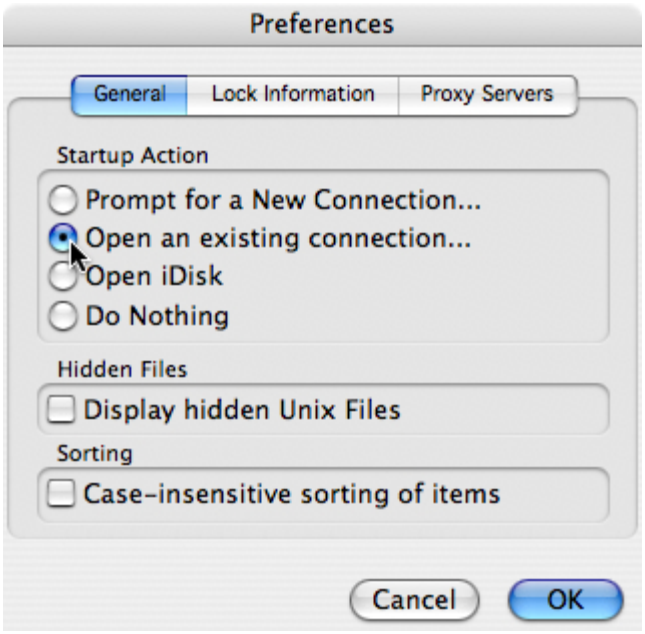
Choose a meaningful name to give the current connection so that it is easily recognizable, and then select a location to save it in.



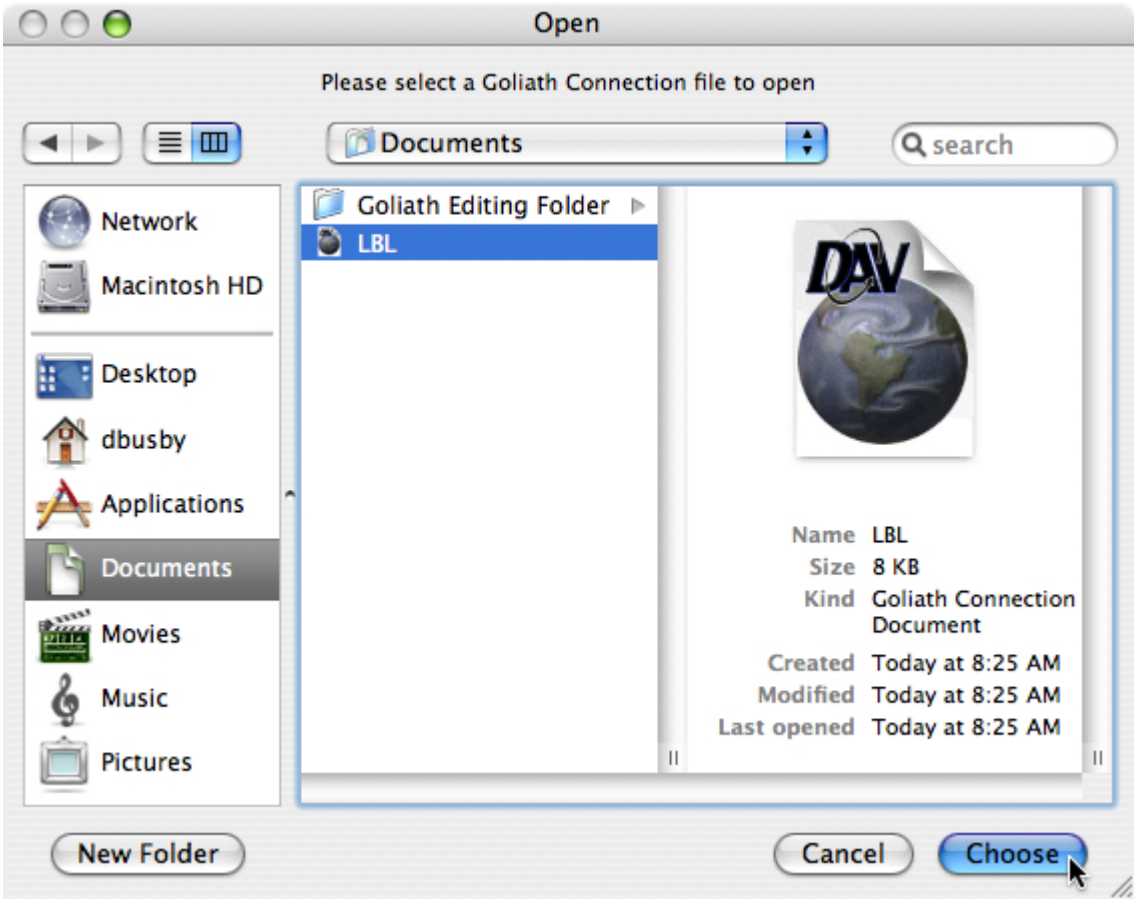
Now Goliath must be configured to prompt for a saved connection at startup. To do this, access the preferences by selecting **Goliath ► Preferences…** or use the keyboard shortcut **Cmd-;**.



Under **Startup Action** select the **Open an existing connection…** radio button.



Click **OK** to confirm. After doing this, Goliath will ask for a saved connection whenever it is launched. If the correct folder is not automatically shown, navigate to the location where Goliath connections are saved, select the desired file, and click **Choose**.



Notes

Goliath was originally developed for the Classic Mac OS. Because of this Goliath not only looks like the Classic Mac OS Finder, but behaves like it as well. It uses a spatial interface, meaning every folder will be opened in a new window. There are no back and forward buttons, and thus no browsing. In addition, closing a window containing a folder that no other currently open window can access will render that folder inaccessible. To reach that folder, the connection must be opened again. For this reason, it is advisable to keep the original window that was created upon connecting open at all times.

Mac OS X utilizes a different newline convention than Microsoft Windows. Most, but not all, text editing applications support newline conversion between different operating systems. When editing text documents that will be opened in Windows at a later time, please note that text may appear on a single line if an application that does not support newline conversion, such as Notepad, is used.

Mac OS X will create a hidden system file called **.DS_Store** (Desktop Services Store) in every folder that it accesses, including folders on servers. These files are quite visible on Windows, however, and may be a source of annoyance to a Windows user accessing a folder a Mac user had previously opened. To avoid creating **.DS_Store** files on a server, follow these simple steps:

1. Open the Terminal. The Terminal is found in **Applications ► Utilities**.
2. Within the Terminal type:

```
defaults write com.apple.desktopservices DSDontWriteNetworkStores true
```

3. Press Enter.
4. Restart the Computer.