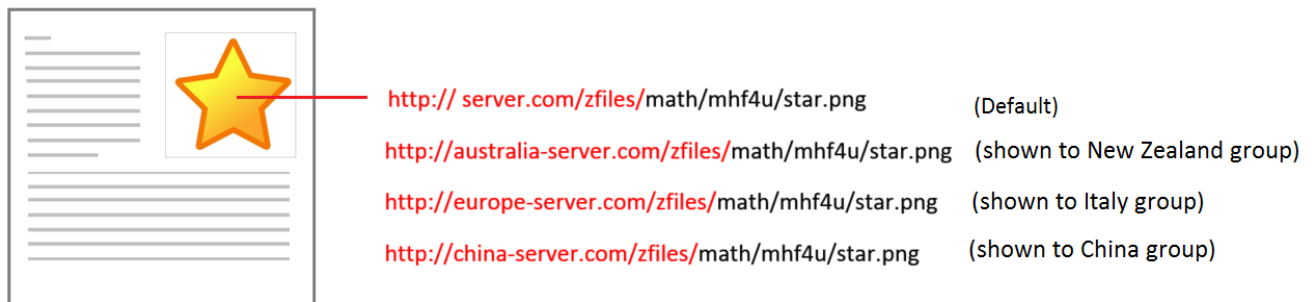Plugin: Group URL Swap (GURLS) – Mock-up 1
Type: Moodle Filter
Moodle versions: 2.7, 2.8, 2.9
Contact: fernando.oliveira@rosedaleacademy.com

Summary:

The Moodle plugin repository contains a number of filter-plugins that can dynamically swap hyperlinks/URLs. The filter that is proposed here will expand on this functionality by associating specific site groups (i.e. groups defined at the front page) with specific URLs. Rather than swap the URL for a universal value (*www.1.com/video.avi* becomes *www.2.com/video.avi*), this plugin will adjust the new URL according the value associate with the user's group (*www.1.com/video.avi* becomes *www.2.com/video.avi* or *www.3.com/video.av*i, depending on the group member that is accessing the course).
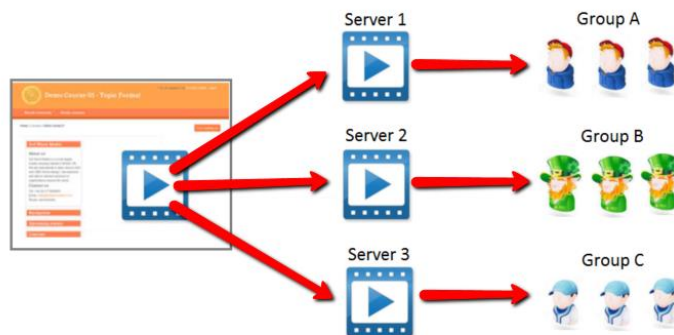
Consider this example: An international eLearning organization has 4 identical servers in 4 different countries. These servers are used to store large multimedia files, which are used in their online courses. On their Moodle site, users are grouped according to their location (at the site level) and the GURLS plugin is used to associate each group with a server location. When viewing course content that is located on the multimedia server, the plugin would swap the URL like this:

http:// server.com/zfiles/math/mhf4u/star.png   (Default)

http://australia-server.com/zfiles/math/mhf4u/star.png   (shown to New Zealand group)

http://europe-server.com/zfiles/math/mhf4u/star.png   (shown to Italy group)

http://china-server.com/zfiles/math/mhf4u/star.png   (shown to China group)

In this scenario, the GURLS plugin is used to connect users with multimedia content from the server that is closest to their location. This plugin could also be used to deliver content that has been created for different audiences (languages, skill-level, etc.).

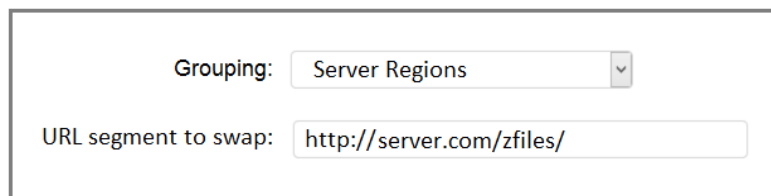Step 1: Admin creates groups at the site level and places them into a grouping.

| Groups | Groupings | Overview |

Groupings

Grouping	Groups	Activities	Edit
Server Regions	Canada, China, Italy, New Zealand	0	⚙ ✕ 👥

Step 2: Admin selects *grouping* in plugin settings (admin > plugins > filters > gurl) and defines default URL

Grouping:	Server Regions ⌄
URL segment to swap:	http://server.com/zfiles/

Step 3: Define URLs – Admin creates the URL values that can be associated with groups

| Define URLs | Assocoate Groups |

Save

Default: http:// server.com/zfiles/

Name	URL base
Australia	http://australia-server.com/zfiles/
Europe	http://europe-server.com/zfiles/
China	http://china-server.com/zfiles/

Step 4: Associate Groups – Admin links each group to the approrite URL
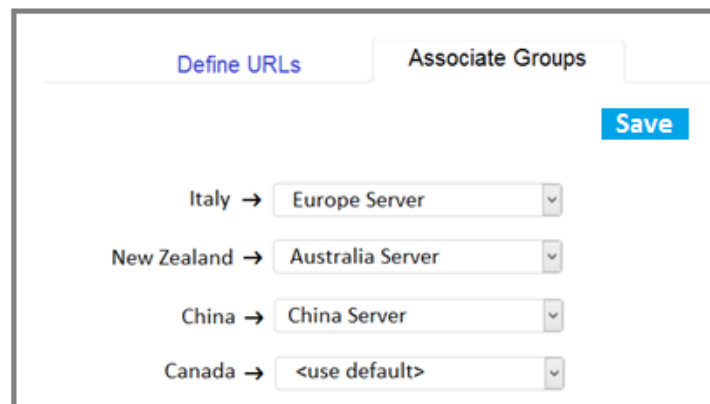
| Define URLs | Associate Groups |

Save

Italy →	Europe Server ⌄
New Zealand →	Australia Server ⌄
China →	China Server ⌄
Canada →	<use default> ⌄