

## Metacat - Bug #5772

### Initial install broken if default data/backup directory unavailable

01/07/2013 03:13 PM - Brendan Hahn

<b>Status:</b>	Resolved	<b>Start date:</b>	01/07/2013
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>	Brendan Hahn	<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category:</b>	metacat	<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>	Unspecified	<b>Spent time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Bugzilla-Id:</b>	5772		

#### Description

Initialization of a fresh install requires establishing data and backup directories for metacat. The system searches for a number of default directory options (SystemUtil.discoverExternalDir()). If no default can be found or created, the system generates and stores an invalid value ('null/.knb') that prevents further initialization and can be fixed only by manual editing or reinstallation.

This is caused by a number of separate, interacting bugs. ConfigurableProperties.initialize() converts and propagates the null value due to an improper test. Arguably SystemUtil.discoverExternalDir() should not generate null at all. PropertyService does not update its ConfigurableProperties object as it should. ConfigurableProperties should not maintain two separate instances of the same datum (the backup file path; it may do this for other properties as well).

#### History

##### #1 - 01/07/2013 04:52 PM - Brendan Hahn

Currently fixed by correcting the initial-value test in ConfigurableProperties.initialize and re-initializing at the proper time. This latter change means a small amount of redundant/wasted initialization work, but the operations are idempotent. It is not clear why re-initialization was disabled.

A more thorough fix would undertake some restructuring of ConfigurableProperties and related clients/dependencies.

##### #2 - 03/27/2013 02:31 PM - Redmine Admin

Original Bugzilla ID was 5772