airspace-v.com international hangar flying!



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What's up?

- Site information
- POIs around / distances on earth
- KWIC index
- Suffix array

Maps with Airport Tiles



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Airports and Navaids Markers



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Map Data

- Maps can be configured interactively
- Predefined e.g.:
 - OSM Mapnik
 - ESRI image
 - HERE hybrid
 - FAA sectionals via vfrmap.com
 - Topo / hillshading
- Mercator projection is precomputed for markers

Tooltip Links to Airport Information

✓ Like Share

😏 Tweet

Location:

You like

G+1

in Share

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Brussels Airport • EBBR • BRU

Earth • Europe • Belgium • Brussels-Capital Region

Map General Weather Runways NOTAM Frequencies Navaids Airports around Web links Comments	Misc
General Information	
Airport codes: EBBR • BRU	
Type: large airport	
Scheduled service: yes	
Location: 50.90140 N, 4.48444 E / 50° 54.0' N, 4° 29.0' E	
Elevation: 184 ft / 56 m AMSL	
Sun times: BCT: 06:37, sunrise:07:12, sunset: 16:39, ECT:17:14	
Magnetic variation: 1° E	

Aviation Data

- Airport and navaid data from ourairports.com
- Magnetic variation is computed by getWMA
- Sunrise, sunset, twilights are computed by PHP
- Weather is taken from official site
- NOTAMs are taken from official site
- Weather and NOTAMs are cached

Future Aviation Data

- Check and complete current data with official data from AIP, AFD
- More data
 - Obstacles
 - Navigation lights
 - Airspace
 - These data are in PDF to be converted and parsed
- Web links (airports, flight schools, flying clubs...)

Software used

- PHP
- SQLite
- MySQL
- jQuery UI
- Leaflet
- StaticMapLite
- getWMA
- Commentics

Airports / Navaids Around

- Find nearest airports / navaids
- Compute distances
- We assume spherical earth (error < 2%)
- Haversine formula:
 - d = acos(sin(lat1) * sin(lat2) + cos(lat1) * cos(lat2) * cos(lon2 – lon1)) * 6371km

Trigonometric Functions

- Haversine requires *sin* and *cos*
- Database might not provide these (e.g. sqlite)
- We can precompute *sin(lat)* and *cos(lat)*
- precomuting cos(lon2 lon1)?
- Quadratic complexity
- Too much, cannot be done
- Really?

Yes, we can!

- Trigonometric identity for angle differences
- cos(lon2 lon1) = sin(lon2) * sin(lon1) + cos(lon2) * cos(lon1)
- Apply this identity to haversine formula
- Reduce complexity to linear
- We can precalculate all *sin* and *cos* values and by this also precalculate *cos(lon2 lon1)*
- No sin / cos computation in query
- Wider choice of databses / performance increase

Name Search

- GNIS data from BGA and NGA
- Simple Approach: use database
- Database index designed for read and write
- This gives suboptimal algorithms
- Performance sufficient for small datasets
- There are several 10 Mios items
- Optimizing for read might give higher performance

KWIC – Key Word In Context

- Search all words in all items
- Has been used at times of low computing power
- For instance in libraries
- Binary search allows fast finding of words
- Can be used to find word prefixes
- Autocomplete

Suffix Array

- Suffix array is a data structure
- Introduced in 1990 and still not very popular
- A suffix array is generated from a string
- Can be considered as KWIC extension
- Allows fast finding of substrings
- Autocomplete

Suffix Array Example (1)

- String: bananas
- Each suffix gets index
- 0 bananas
 - 1 ananas
 - 2 nanas
 - 3 anas
 - 4 nas
 - 5 as
 - 6 s

Suffix Array Example (2)

- Sort according to suffixes
- 3 anas
 - 1 ananas
 - 5 as
 - 0 bananas
 - 2 nanas
 - 4 nas
 - 6 s

Suffix Array

- Binary search finds item extremely fast
- Binary search is not trivial (see wikipedia.org)
- Searching a valid prefix will get an interval
- Generating suffix arrays is relatavely fast
- Suffix arrays are not easily updatable
- Other sortings possible than alphabetical

Conclusion

- airspace-v.com provides aviation data
- Data is partially stored, partially retrieved
- Can be used for simulation or choosing routes
- No endorsment for navigation
- Edison: "Genius is one percent inspiration, ninety nine percent perspiration."

Outlook

- Website is WIP (work in progress)
- Lots of extensions and improvements to come
- Validate data
- Introduce gamification "been there, done that"
- Rework layout
- Can be used for other software e.g. maps.me