ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Distributed Computing

Prof. R. Wattenhofer

Weather Forecasts for the Lazy

Outdoor sports in general require certain weather conditions. For example, people generally want to avoid thunderstorms when hiking in the mountains. Depending on your activity of choice, the weather requirements can be very different. If the weather is nice for ice climbing, then you should probably not go surfing (unless of course you have the means to quickly leave the country).

Whether you are starting out with a new outdoor activity or you are a seasoned expert at what you are doing, you will have to continuously check the weather forecasts. If you don't, you might miss a day with good weather for flying, or you will get struck by lightning during your bike tour. And even if you looked at the weather report, you still have to decide what "good weather" actually is with respect to your destination and the specific activity you are planning. Especially for beginners, or if you go to a new place, it might be hard to know whether, e.g., the winds will be right for kite surfing, or whether the currents will be too strong for kayaking.

The goal of this thesis is to develop an application that tackles these problems. More specifically, we want to figure out how the weather influences different activities (e.g. cycling, swimming, flying, etc.), and how we can help people plan their activities and trips according to weather forecasts. The tool could also give users spontaneous suggestions for activities they like, therefore eliminating the need to constantly look up weather forecasts. Another part of this thesis could be to visualize the results to create an *Activity Forecast*. We already have some ideas on how to approach this topic. However, the specifics of this thesis will depend on the interests of the student(s). Do not hesitate to contact us so that we can have a chat and discuss our ideas.

Requirements: Creativity is advantageous. The student(s) should be able to work independently on this topic!

Interested? Please contact us for more details!

Contacts

- Pascal Bissig: pascal.bissig@tik.ee.ethz.ch, ETZ G95

- Gino Brunner: brunnegi@student.ethz.ch, ETZ G63