

SHARE EATS - A FOOD REDISTRIBUTION PLATFORM BASED ON AZONE ALGORITHM

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Abstract: One-third of the world's food production, 1.3 billion tons of food is wasted. The report states that as wealth increases, people are becoming less concerned about food. According to a report by the World Food Organization, 20,000 children are forced to go hungry every day worldwide, when in fact the figure is much higher. According to a survey done by the world bank, 48 countries show a significant number of people running out of food or reducing their consumption. Another survey by the UN shows that, nearly 2.37 billion people (or 30% of the global population) lacked access to adequate food in 2020—rise of 320 million in just one year. Unequal food distribution is seen as a problem resulting from wealth imbalance and rapid population increase. In order to balance this abnormal situation, we are trying to build a Food Redistribution Platform called S HAREEATS.

keywords: Food, Redistribution, Algorithm, zone.

1. Introduction:

According to a report by the World Food Organization, 20,000 children are forced to go hungry every day worldwide, when in fact the figure is much higher. Moreover, based on a survey done by the world bank, 48 countries show a significant number of people running out of food or reducing their consumption. To make the situation better, we tried to create a platform where excess food, excess fruits and vegetables, and spoiled food can be distributed to the needy. The needy can be an Orphan, Animal farm or compost system to effectively convert spoiled food into compost. To have an in-house delivery system (if possible) to quickly deliver the foods in time to ensure food quality. Collaborative consumption and peer-to-peer exchange of food are still not as developed and popular [1].

2. LITERATURE SURVEY:

2.1 In this article, the concepts like food reuse and shared food use are explained and also the features of food sharing and existing models are analyzed. Community-based guidelines for the development of this project were also added. The complete analysis is based on the open-source knowledge and the studies are published in both the business and the scientific journals and the ideas are gathered from various media and active food sharing websites and services. At last, the results were compared to the existing research publication.

2.2 Food-sharing in the distributed use economy:

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In order to reduce food waste and losses in the industry, several changes were made. Nowadays mobile applications and web-based food sharing systems are the currently used models in the food industry. It will reduce food waste and also help the users to share the food. The massive amount of food waste leads to major economical and environmental problems. The concept of food sharing has several processes such as storing and redistributing food. In common food, sharing includes peer-to-peer exchanges and also in the business charities, and entities.

2.3 Food sharing as a solution to a socially significant problem :

As the population increased, the food production and also the growth of consumption also increased. Most people and companies buy excess food that they cannot eat, so instead of disposing of it in the garage, they can send it to any charitable trust or to someone who is in a needy situation. Also, several restaurants and hotels should deliver the unused food to someone free of cost or with some discounts, and hence this is the purpose of food sharing and redistributing. It will also reduce the various pollution. Some people have the capacity to buy some nutrients food and others don't have the sufficient money to buy them, hence it leads to irrational use of waste.

2.4 Food-sharing models :

On sites of food sharing related platforms and services, there are three food exchange models revealed [12]:

1. Cash trading compensation.
2. Funds transferred for unnecessary reasons (charity).
3. Foods are shared in surrounded community

The initial model highlights that foods are used as a key for non-profits and types of trading. Here trade means that the transfer of food only satisfies the benefit of one another or covers the cost of food. In the B2C platforms, the companies produce food and they offer to sell the food products with so on expiration dates or at a good amount of discount. In order to sell the food, they are using websites and mobile applications. In these applications, they post the food items and they sell those. The application for this business is created by some sensible companies in order to make people more attractive and make their business profitable by providing offers.

2.5 Problems and directions of food sharing development :

Food distribution platforms based on P2P forums and applications are effectively increasing their popularity these days. This is only because food is interpersonally connected to every people [12]. Many analyses have proven that although people show a positive view of the distributed economic platform. But many people are not using those. This indicates that there is a big difference in the behavior of both attitudes and actual. Publications related to scientific studies point that response targets consumer perspectives based on beliefs and values. Environmental awareness, sustainability, and corporate social responsibility are the value of consumers [15]. In summation of distributing food and cooked food, a food sharing system can be implemented. This builds an opportunity to pick many fruits and vegetables, alert lands for growing nutritious vegetables, educate vegetable and fruit planting, and arrange trading [13].

3. IMPLEMENTATION:

3.1 ZONE ALGORITHM:

We came across a problem while trying to implement our solution. It was the location-based filtering to reduce the data set the user has to work with. The basic idea is that a person who needs food will not care about food that is available 500 Kilometres away from him.

The most straightforward solution was to use Google Maps API to filter out posts using the location coordinates. But, this straightforward solution brings two problems along with it. One is, the fact that it involves a bunch of calculations which directly increases the time-complexity of the application and also the mere time is taken to load up the posts. The second problem is financial. Every API call to Google APIs costs money. So, the decision was made to come up with an in-house Zoning algorithm to make the job easier and cost-effective.

The idea is to divide the whole active space into multiple zones. In our case we decided to go with 2 different zonings. One with 5 km width and another with 25 km width. Calculating the distance is complex, so we decided to filter out all the posts from the 5 km zone and then we also go through the 25 km zone if there aren't enough posts in the 5 km zone.

To divide the zones into 5 kilometer zones, the exact latitude value is 0.04521858664 and for the longitude, the value is 0.04491515527. Now, we have the top-left point outside of India and we will subtract the current value with the top-left value to get relative latitude and longitude value. These relative values are just to make the longitude and latitude value smaller. Now, we divide the relative values with the corresponding 5 kilometers values and store the remainder values. This remainder values of longitude and longitude uniquely identify every zone. We use these remainder values also known as hash values to filter out the posts in that zone.

3.2 Formula

3.2.1 Reducing coordinate values

$$\text{latitude} = 37.893995 - \text{position.coords.latitude} \quad \text{longitude} = \text{longitude} - \text{coordinates} - 66.804471$$

3.2.2 Finding bucket coordinate

$$\text{latitudeBucket} = \text{latitude} / 0.04521858664 \quad \text{longitudeBucket} = \text{longitude} / 0.04491515527$$

Note:

- The values 37.893995 and 66.804471 are points outside the top-left Indian border and are used to reduce the coordinate values for easier computation.

- The values 0.04521858664 and 0.04491515527 are equivalent to 5 Kilometers in coordinate values.



4. Our Implementation:

4.1 Architecture Diagram:

Figure 1 Architecture diagram explains the Technological Architecture of the project. We used Firebase as our backend infrastructure and it takes care of Authentication and Database. The client side for the product is built on ReactJs.

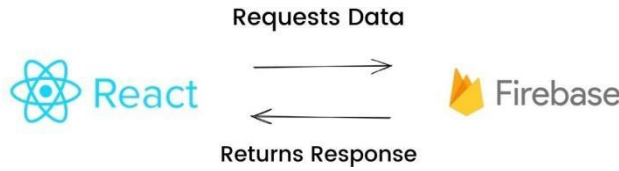


FIGURE 1: Architecture Diagram

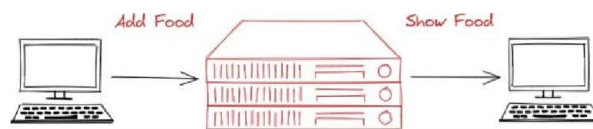


FIGURE 2: Data Flow Diagrams

Data Flow Diagram explains the flow of information starting from donors adding food data, those data listing to food needs. Once the receiver accepts the food, log is added. There are 2 types of log, small and large. Also the delivery status is obtained from the receiver and food is successfully delivered.

Hardware Requirements:

- Desktop/Laptop with a browser that supports Javascript

Software Requirements:

- VSCode
- FireBase
- NodeJS
- React.JS

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

FIGURE 3: Food Receiver Dashboard

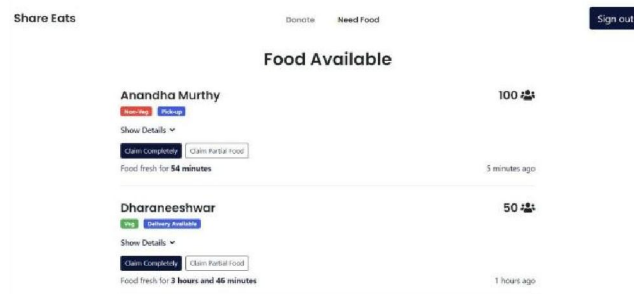


Figure 3 Food Receiver Dashboard is the dashboard of Food Receivers. The Food items added by donors within 5 to 10 kms are listed to them based on the **zone algorithm**. Accordingly they select the food and get delivered.

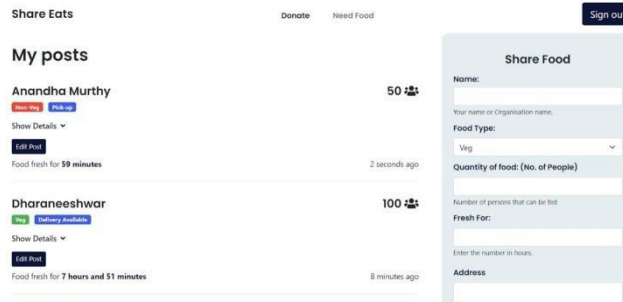
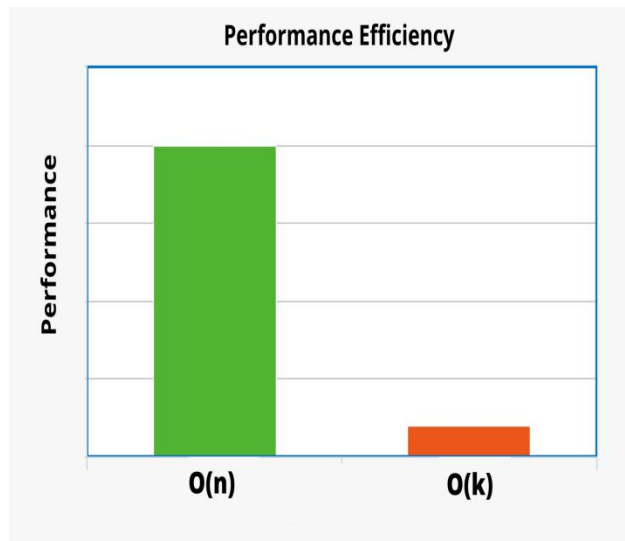


FIGURE 4: Food Donor Dashboard

Figure 3 Food Donor Dashboard is the dashboard of Food Donor. The Food items which are excess is added by donors using the form on right hand side. The form contains basic information like Food Name, Food Type (Veg | Non Veg), Food Quantity, Fresh for (in Hrs) and Address for delivery purpose. Once the form is submitted, the food item will be listed for receivers within 5 to 10 kms based on the **zone algorithm**.



The typical algorithm to filter the availability of food can be done by calculating the distance between user's location and post location.

Our zone algorithm increases the efficiency of the algorithm by reducing the number of posts we work on.

6. Conclusion:

The idea is to balance society with equal and timely food distribution to everyone who is starving without food. There are many food distribution platforms like Swiggy/ Zomato/Uber to deliver the food based on purchases. But there is no one active food redistribution platform to effectively utilize food waste considering the number of people who are suffering from hunger. In a country like India where poverty and food starvation peaks, there is not even a single Food Redistribution Platform.

So, we want this application to be a one-stop solution for complete food management and tracking once it is not consumed by its primary consumer. Future expansions of the project can include a separate dashboard for the delivery and pickup system.

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