A Natural Language URL-Shortener

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URL shorteners and their benefits are well known – create very short pointer to a long URL:

create very short pointer to a long URL:

http://bit.ly/TGlQtH

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http://bit.ly/TGlQtH

→ https://www.hackerschool.com/manual#sec-history

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less susceptible to corruption in transmission

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less susceptible to corruption in transmission concealment of final destination

- > http://7.ly/jMau
- > http://2.gp/zkSE
- > http://qr.net/Bozx
- http://bit.ly/TGlQtH
- > http://x.vu/KC4s4e
- > http://ow.ly/xQNbx
- > https://t.co/ZfUR4euiph

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ugglesome in the extreme compressed, hence rarely readable easy to remember?

http://bit.ly/HStory

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→ https://www.hackerschool.com/manual#sec-history

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easier to remember

http://bit.ly/HStory

https://www.hackerschool.com/manual#sec-history

easier to remember short only if you get there first (tend to be long)

(Talon-sharpening exercise at Hacker School recently.)

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The trick to picking always-readable short URL-paths:

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The trick to picking always-readable short URL-paths:

use the characters for the most common Chinese words

2635 in the current official HSK proficiency exam

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compare to paired Roman letters (of either case): $52 \times 52 = 2704$

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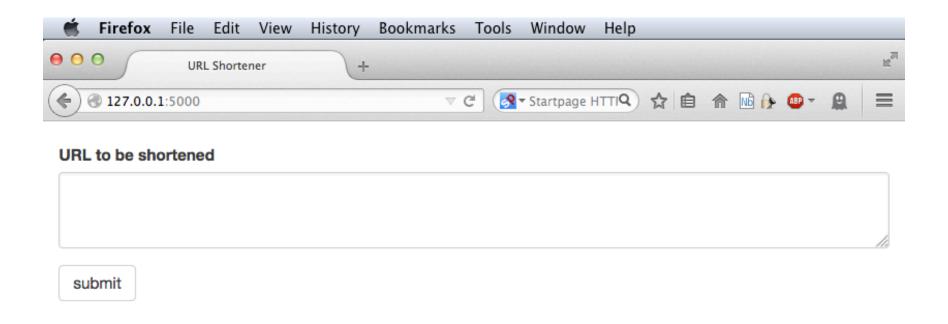
kind	random 字	random Roman digraph
#	2635	2704

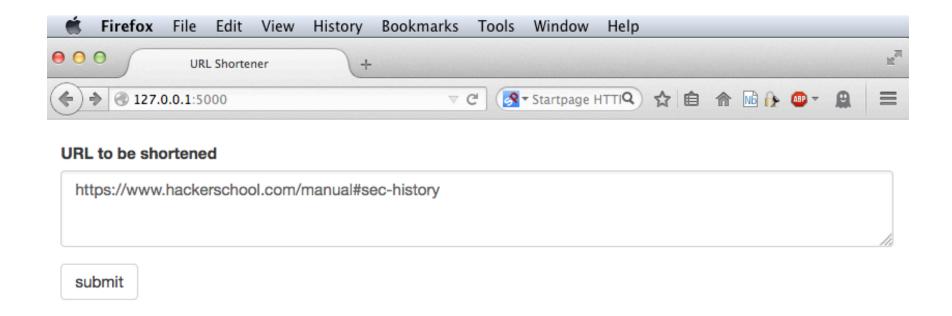
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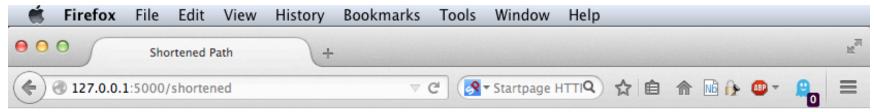
compare to paired Roman letters (of either case): $52 \times 52 = 2704$

kind	random 字	random Roman digraph
#	2635	2704
readable?	guaranteed	probably not

Code for proof-of-concept on my public Git repository.







The URL you submitted: https://www.hackerschool.com/manual#sec-history has been shortened to http://127.0.0.1:5000/fil

First c. 2650 URLs → one character

http://127.0.0.1:5000/印

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Next c. $2650 \times 2650 = 7022500$ URLs \rightarrow two characters

http://127.0.0.1:5000/厉吉

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Next c. $2650 \times 2650 = 7022500$ URLs \rightarrow two characters

http://127.0.0.1:5000/厉吉

Next 18,609,625,000 URLs \rightarrow three characters

http://127.0.0.1:5000/天鼻歪

Always readable

Note:

Note: many custom shorteners allow Chinese characters:

http://bit.ly/史

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Also note: the advantage of shortening to Chinese does not mean bandwidth savings:

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Also note: the advantage of shortening to Chinese does not mean bandwidth savings:

http://bit.ly/史 may be sent from your browser as

http://bit.ly/%E5%8F%B2

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