

# Open tools and methodology for the development of a web-based transportation platform

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# Introduction

*Transportation platform:* Supports all activities relating to transport, logistics and the distribution of goods.

Usually transportation platforms offer functionality based on:

- Proprietary GIS systems.
- Proprietary updates on network and data.
- External, proprietary web applications.

# Introduction

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Usually transportation platforms offer functionality based on:

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- Proprietary updates on network and data.
- External, proprietary web applications.

✓ As a result, such platforms heavily depend on their proprietary software.

# Open Data and Tools Platform

## Alternative Approach

Platform based exclusively on free/open source data and tools.

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- Open Data
- Open source tools for building the platform
- Open Maps

Why a platform based on open tools?

- **Sustainability** of the system.
- **Maintainability** - no dependencies on proprietary tools.
- **Integrity** - Data checked and maintained by the community.

# Basic Platform Components

Basic blocks for building a web transportation platform:

- 1 Maps and geospatial data visualization tools.
- 2 Data and tools for data selection and process.
- 3 Set of functionalities offered through a web interface.

# Abstract Methodology

For the alternative platform to be developed the following steps applied:

- Maps collected and integrated to the platform.
- Data collected from various sources.
- Data organized and integrated to the platform.
- Data visualizations computed and offered (through charts/pies and maps).
- Extra functionalities developed combining the data collected with geospatial information.



# Conceptual Architecture of the Platform

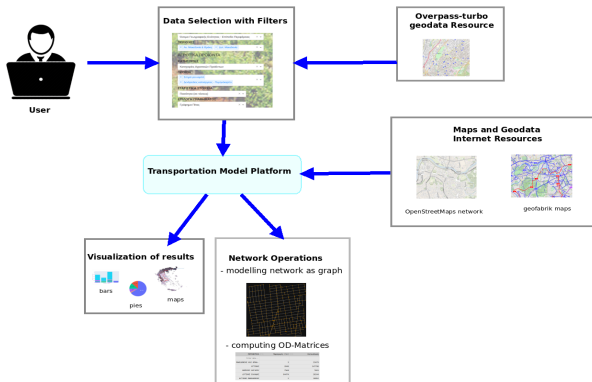


Figure 1: Conceptual Architecture of the Platform.

# Maps

The maps selected for the platform are the OpenStreetMaps (OSM). OSM is a collaborative project that creates a free, editable map of the world.

## OpenStreetMaps

- It covers the world.
- It is supported by OpenStreetMap Foundation (non-profit organization).
- Open Database License (ODbL)

# Platform Data

- Data has been collected from many, different sources (elstat, eurostat, et al)
- Data has been normalized and filters may be applied to create a custom configuration.

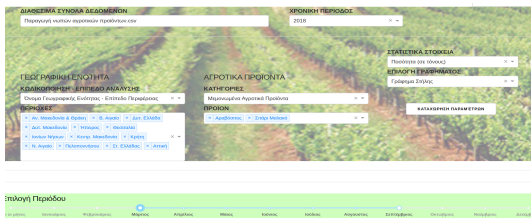


Figure 2: Filters applied to data available.



# Overview of platform basics

- ✓ A platform for data manipulation.
- ✓ Integration of data of interest with geodata.
- ✓ Visualization of data to maps.

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## Added value?

By selecting a custom data sub-set the user may further take advantage of the platform for valuable insights via a set of web-apps.

# Applications on selected data: Four Step Model Example

With the selection of the dataset of interest the user may proceed to run a four step model on it.

- The user may select the dataset of her choice for the four step model execution.
- The user may customize the four step model by selecting a friction function.



**Figure 4:** Selection of custom dataset and friction function for the Four Step Model Execution.





# Conclusions - Added value

Platform created as Proof of Concept.

- A web-based transportation platform can be built solely on open tools and data.
- Such a platform offers functionality and apps restricted only by its community.
- A platform based on open data and tools is able to offer high-level solutions and customization.
- No proprietary software ensures sustainability of such a project.

# Restrictions - Future Work

- Such a platform is heavily-bound to its users and the community.
- It can be developed so much as its users are interested to.
- Challenge: Platform integration to open geodata ecosystem.

# Thank you!

Thank you for your attention