Subject: Re: how to calculate distance from pairs of latitude/longitude measurements?
Posted by Greg Hennessy on Thu, 12 Mar 2009 01:23:50 GMT

On 2009-03-11, llo <bernat.puigdomenech@gmail.com> wrote:
> d=acos(sin(lat1)*sin(lat2)+cos(lat1)*cos(lat2)*cos(lon1-lon2))
>
> A mathematically equivalent formula, which is less subject to rounding
> error for short distances is:
>
> d=2*asin(sqrt((sin((lat1-lat2)/2))^2 + cos(lat1)*cos(lat2)*(sin((lon1-
> lon2)/2))^2))
>
> the result is 0.8777. 0.8777 distance from montreal to albany ????

Strange, the answer to your calculation is in radians, so needs to be
multiplied by the radius of the earth, but that number doesn't seem
correct either.