

Project 2: Chat Application Development

Abstract

This project involves the creation of a simple chat application using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery, and Bootstrap. The application provides a user-friendly interface where users can send and receive messages. The chat system is implemented to simulate interaction with a bot that responds with predefined messages. This report outlines the objectives, introduction, methodology, code, and conclusion of the project.

Objective

The primary objective of this project is to develop a basic, interactive chat application using front-end technologies. The focus is on creating a responsive and visually appealing user interface that allows users to input messages and receive automated responses from a bot.

Introduction

Chat applications are essential tools in modern communication, enabling real-time text interaction between users. This project aims to provide a foundational understanding of developing such applications by leveraging common web development technologies. The application will simulate a chat with a bot to demonstrate the interaction mechanism.

Methodology

Design: The application layout was designed using Bootstrap to ensure responsiveness and an intuitive interface. The chat box and input area were organized within a card component to maintain a clean look.

Implementation:

HTML: Used to structure the web page, defining the chat box, message input area, and send button.

CSS: Custom styles were added to differentiate user and bot messages and to manage the chat box's appearance.

JavaScript/jQuery: Used to handle user interactions, such as sending messages and simulating bot responses.

Testing: The application was tested for user interaction to ensure the send button and Enter key trigger message sending. Simulated bot responses were checked for timing and display.

Index.html

The screenshot shows the VS Code interface with the file 'index.html' open in the center editor tab. The code is an HTML template for a chat application. It includes meta tags, Bootstrap imports, and a main container structure with a card for messages and a footer input group.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
    <meta charset="UTF-8">
    <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
    <title>Chat Application</title>
    <!-- Bootstrap CSS -->
    <link href="https://stackpath.bootstrapcdn.com/bootstrap/4.5.2/css/bootstrap.min.css" rel="stylesheet">
    <!-- Custom CSS -->
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
  </head>
  <body>

    <div class="container mt-5">
      <div class="row">
        <div class="col-md-6 offset-md-3">
          <div class="card">
            <div class="card-header bg-primary text-white">
              Chatting with chatapp.two@yopmail.com
            </div>
            <div class="card-body chat-box" id="chatBox">
              <!-- Messages will be displayed here -->
            </div>
            <div class="card-footer">
              <div class="input-group">
                <input type="text" id="messageInput" class="form-control" placeholder="Write your message...">
                <div class="input-group-append">
                  <button id="sendButton" class="btn btn-primary">Send</button>
                </div>
              </div>
            </div>
          </div>
        </div>
      </div>
    </div>

  </body>
</html>
```

Script.js

The screenshot shows the VS Code interface with the file 'script.js' open in the center editor tab. The code contains jQuery logic for handling message input and sending. It uses event listeners for the send button and enter key, and a sendMessage function that appends messages to the chat box and simulates a bot response.

```
$(<document>).ready(function() {
  $('#sendButton').click(function() {
    sendMessage();
  });

  $('#messageInput').keypress(function(e) {
    if (e.which == 13) { // Enter key pressed
      sendMessage();
    }
  });
});

function sendMessage() {
  var message = $('#messageInput').val().trim();
  if (message != '') {
    appendMessage('user', message);
    $('#messageInput').val('');
    setTimeout(function() {
      appendMessage('bot', 'Hello.');
    }, 1000);
  }
}

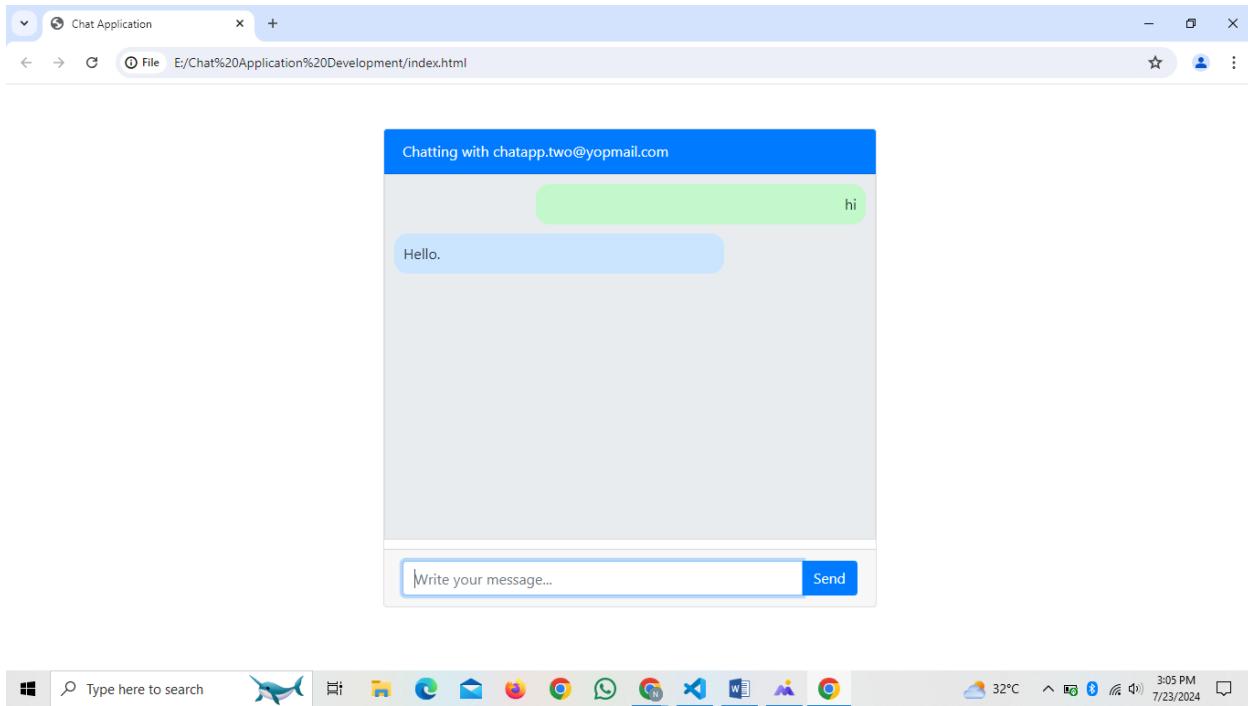
function appendMessage(sender, message) {
  var messageElement = $(<div>).addClass('message').addClass(sender).text(message);
  $('#chatBox').append(messageElement);
  $('#chatBox').scrollTop($('#chatBox')[0].scrollHeight);
}
```

Style.css

The screenshot shows a code editor interface with the following details:

- File Explorer:** On the left, there's a sidebar with icons for file operations like Open, Save, Find, and Replace. Below it, the "OPEN EDITORS" section lists "# style.css" (selected), "index.html", and "script.js". The "CHAT APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT" section also lists "index.html", "script.js", and "# style.css".
- Code Editor:** The main area displays the content of the "# style.css" file. The code defines styles for a ".chat-box" and ".message" class, including properties like height, border, padding, background-color, and margin. It also includes styles for ".message.user" and ".message.bot" specifically.
- Status Bar:** At the bottom, the status bar shows "Ln 10, Col 20", "Spaces: 4", "UTF-8", "CRLF", "Go Live", "Spell", and "Prettier".
- Bottom Icons:** A row of small icons for various tools and services, including Launchpad, tests, and a search bar.

Output:



Conclusion

This project successfully demonstrates the development of a basic chat application using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery, and Bootstrap. It provides a foundational understanding of building user interfaces and handling user interactions. The simulated bot interaction shows how automated responses can be integrated into chat applications. This project can be further developed by adding real-time messaging capabilities, user authentication, and message storage for a more robust solution.