

FACULTY OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE (EEMCS)

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.



P7.2: NETWORKING AND MULTITHREADING

PROGRAMMING (202001066) | MODULE 2: SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT (202001064)

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PROGRAMMING LINE OVERVIEW



Week 1 Values and variables Control flow	Week 2 Classes and objects Testing	Week 3 Interfaces and Inheritance Subtyping Security 1
Week 4 Arrays and Lists List implementations Collections	Week 5 Exceptions Stream I/O and MVC Security 2	Week 6 Concurrency Project kick-off IDE Tips & Tricks
Week 7 Basic Networking Networking and Multithreading GUIs	Week 8/9 Advanced Java facilities Test	Week 10 Project Test resist



CLIENT/SERVER APPLICATIONS

MORE EXAMPLES

- Until now in our Webcat and DateClient/DateServer examples a client queries a server
- Alternative: CLChatClient and CLChatServer from Eck
 - After connection is established, client and server behave the same (are symmetric)
 - Server and client perform a handshake and send and receive messages
 - I modified the code to stress symmetry by defining a CLChatHandler class that is shared by Client and Server

CLCHATAPP



CLChatHandler

- Methods doHandshake, sendMessage and receiveMessage

Server

- Listens to a client connection request on port 1728 (default)
- After connection is established creates a CLChatHandler and performs handshake (call doHandshake)
- In a loop, receives and sends messages with the CLChatHandler



CLCHATSERVER

```
70  /*
71   * Wait for a connection request. When it arrives, close down the listener.
72   */
73  try {
74      listener = new ServerSocket(port);
75      System.out.println("Listening on port " + listener.getLocalPort());
76      connection = listener.accept();
77      listener.close();
78  } catch (IOException e) {
79      System.out.println("An error occurred while opening connection.");
80      System.out.println(e.toString());
81  }
82  /*
83   * Create a handler to do the handshake and exchange messages.
84   */
85  try {
86      CLChatHandler handler = new CLChatHandler(connection);
87      handler.doHandshake();
88      System.out.println("Connected. Waiting for the first message.");
89      while (true) {
90          handler.receiveMessage();
91          handler.sendMessage();
92      }
93  } catch (IOException e) {
94      System.out.println("Sorry, an error has occurred. Connection lost.");
95      System.out.println("Error: " + e);
96  }
97 }
```

CLCHATAPP



Client

- Starts connection on port 1728
- After connection is started, creates a CLChatHandler and performs handshake (call doHandshake)
- In a loop, sends and receives messages with the CLChatHandler

CLCHATCLIENT



```
88  /*
89   * Open a connection to the server.
90   */
91  try {
92      System.out.println("Connecting to " + computer + " on port " + port);
93      connection = new Socket(computer, port);
94  } catch (IOException e) {
95      System.out.println("An error occurred while opening connection.");
96      System.out.println(e.toString());
97  }
98  /*
99   * Create a handler to do the handshake and exchange messages.
100  */
101 try {
102     CLChatHandler handler = new CLChatHandler(connection);
103     handler.doHandshake();
104     System.out.println("Connected!!! Enter your first message.");
105
106     while (true) {
107         handler.sendMessage();
108         handler.receiveMessage();
109     }
110 } catch (Exception e) {
111     System.out.println("Sorry, an error has occurred. Connection lost.");
112     System.out.println("Error: " + e);
113 }
114 }
```



CLCHATAPP

END-TO-END COMMUNICATION

CLChatClient

*request connection
(port 1728);
when connection is
confirmed, create
CLChatHandler;*

DoHandshake;

*while (true) {
sendMessage;
receiveMessage;
}*

CLChatServer

*listen on port 1728;
when connection is
accepted, create
CLChatHandler;*

DoHandshake;

*while (true) {
receiveMessage;
sendMessage;
}*



PROBLEM WITH CLCHATAPP

- Client and Server must **wait for each other** to send and receive messages!
- Unrealistic since network communication is **inherently asynchronous**
 - No idea when messages are sent (and must be received)
- How to cope with asynchrony?
 - **Multithreading**: different threads for network and user inputs!



BLOCKING AND I/O

- Program that **reads** data from input stream, **waits (blocks)** until data are available, **or returns immediately** if data were sent before
- Example: Date client

```
35
36     try {
37         connection = new Socket(hostName, LISTENING_PORT);
38         incoming = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(connection.getInputStream()));
39         String lineFromServer = incoming.readLine();
40         if (lineFromServer == null) { // Null indicates end-of-stream
41             throw new IOException("No data was sent!");
        }
```

- Programs may also block **when performing output!** Why?

Attempts to send faster than data can be transmitted!!!



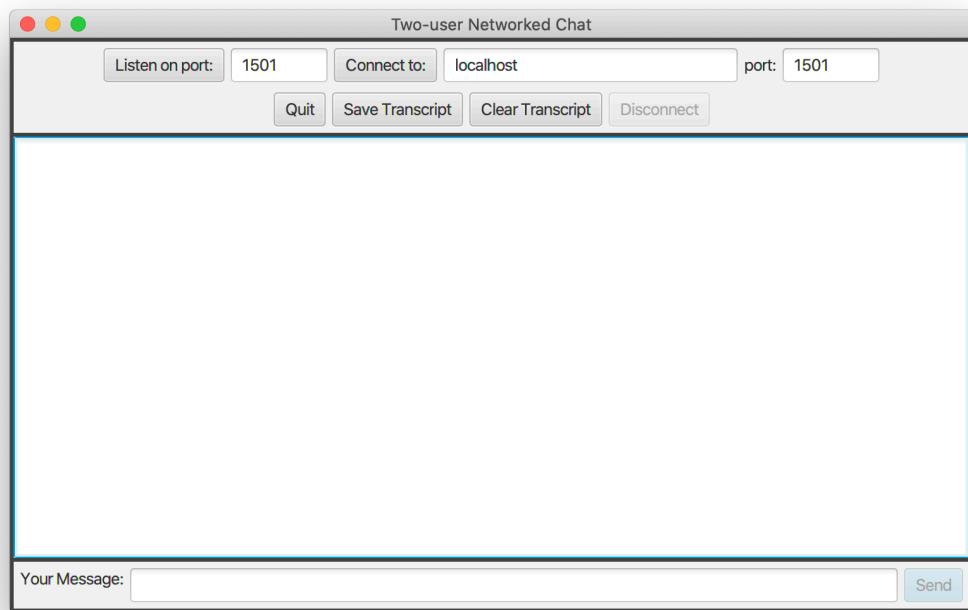
BLOCKING AND MULTITHREADING

- If a program (thread) blocks it can only be unblocked when the event it is waiting for happens (e.g., data arrival)
- If the program needs to be reactive, for example, to the user interface, we need multiple concurrent threads so that some threads can be blocked while others keep on working
- Situation even worse with servers that must handle multiple clients!
- Best practice: after a connection is established, create a thread only to handle this connection

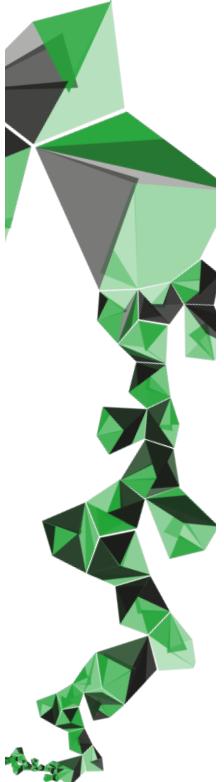


EXAMPLE: GUICHAT NETWORKING CODE

- Works as client or server
- Start one program ('server'), let it listen to a port and connect with another ('client')
- After connection is established, both GUIChat programs work in the same way



CONNECTIONHANDLER CLASS



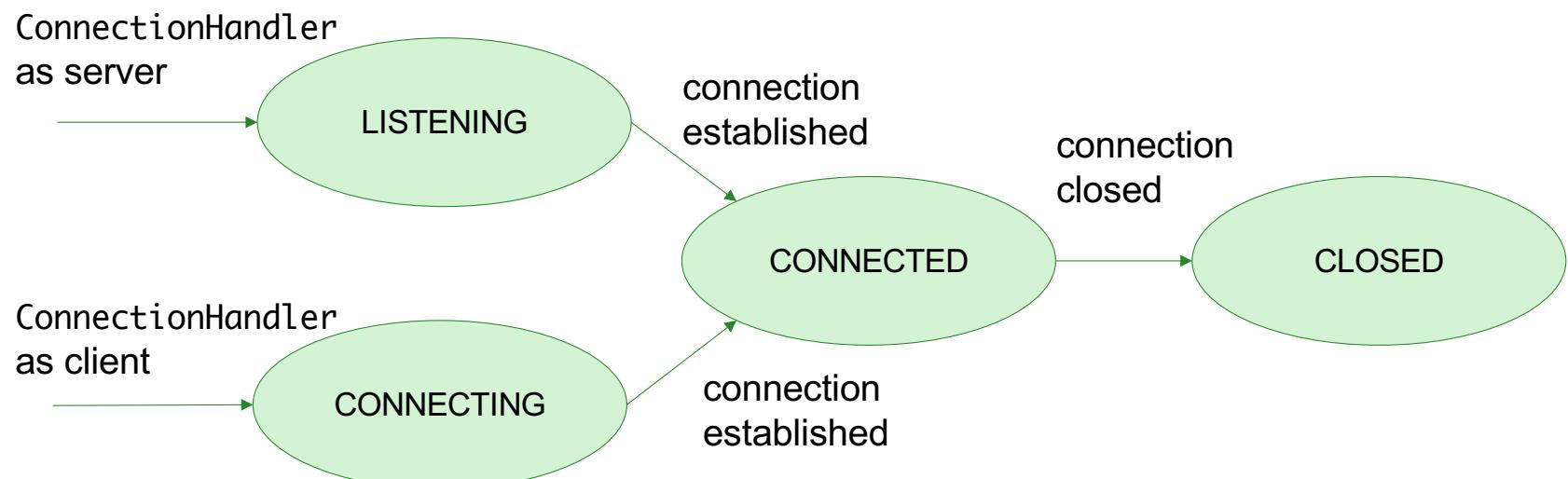
- A ConnectionHandler inner class extends Thread and has been defined to handle the chat protocol
- ConnectionHandler object is created and started when a GUIChat listens to a port (acts as server) or attempts to establish a connection (acts as client)

```
/*
 * Defines the thread that handles the connection.  It
 * for opening the connection and for receiving messages.
 * several methods that are called by the main class,
 * executed in a different thread. Note that by using
 * connection, any blocking of the graphical user interface
 * using a thread for reading messages sent from the
 * can be received and posted to the transcript asynchronously
 * time as the user is typing and sending messages.
 * that are made by this class are done using Platform
 */
private class ConnectionHandler extends Thread {

    private volatile ConnectionState state;
    private String remoteHost;
    private int port;
    private ServerSocket listener;
    private Socket socket;
    private PrintWriter out;
    private BufferedReader in;

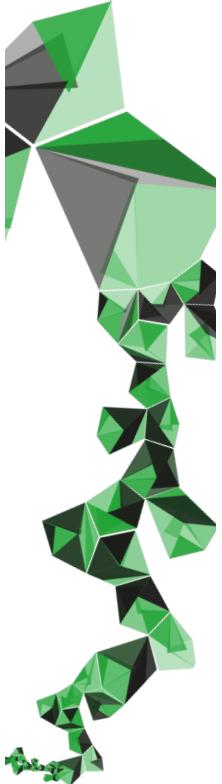
    /**
     * Listen for a connection on a specified port.
     * does not perform any network operations; it just
     * instance variables and starts the thread. Note
     * thread will only listen for one connection, and
     * close its server socket.
     */
    ConnectionHandler(int port) {
        state = ConnectionState.LISTENING;
        this.port = port;
    }
}
```

CONNECTION STATES

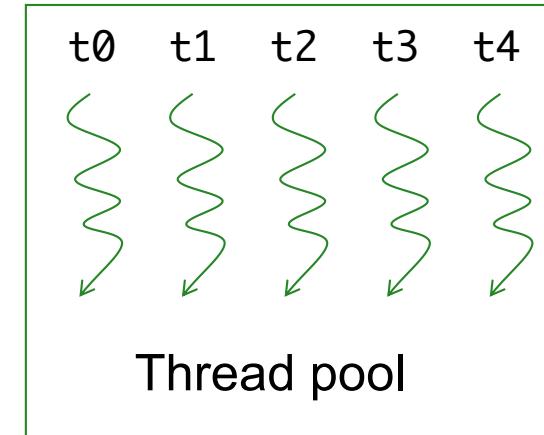


```
/**  
 * Possible states of the thread that handles the network connection.  
 */  
private enum ConnectionState { LISTENING, CONNECTING, CONNECTED, CLOSED }
```

THREAD POOL



- Instead of creating threads on demand, we can create a pool of threads beforehand and allocate an available thread to a connection when necessary
- This can be used to avoid the thread creation overhead and limit the number of threads being created (avoid depleting resources)
- May be too sophisticated for this module...



See `DateServerWithThreadPool` example from Eck!



TAKE HOME MESSAGES



- Protocols define the rules for interoperability of system parts
- The client/server architecture is a quite popular for implementing distributed software systems
- Java offers support to build (client/server) applications on top of transport protocols like TCP
- For less than trivial applications, it is necessary to use multithreading, so that different connections can be supported while keeping the user interface responsive