

**MINI PROJECT
(2020-2021)**

RT Messenger

MID-TERM REPORT



Institute of Engineering & Technology

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Abstract

Lately we see a constant switch towards real-time applications. With the wide support for WebSockets in recent browsers, more and more frameworks are giving us the ability to use them. Django, which was primarily a request/response-based framework, is doing the switch with Django Channels. Django channels is a lot more than just support for WebSockets, it's a complete architectural change for Django and - in my honest opinion - a great move towards the new era of frameworks.

The real-time chat application **does not** save your chat messages in the database before passing it to another client. That is because it uses sockets to send and receive messages between machines. The messages are exchanged through a network, either using a Transmission Control Protocol ("TCP") or a User Datagram Protocol ("UDP"). You could save the messages if you want, but it would be separated from the socket send-receive process.

Introduction

1.1 General Introduction to the topic

Nowadays, when all sorts of chat rooms have become extremely popular, when every second large company has launched or developed its own instant messenger, when an increase of smiles and change in the text size is considered as innovation, in the era of iMessages, Slack, Hipchat, Messenger, Google Allo, Zulip, etc. We will use Django-channels.

Python is fast becoming a popular coding language in the world, and there are many popular frameworks that build on Python. One of them is Django and it has many functionalities and supporting libraries. For this article, we like to explore one interesting method that builds on Django to handle not only HTTP but also long running connections such as WebSockets, MQTT, chatbots, etc.

1.2 Technical Details

Basic example of a multi-room chatroom, with messages from all rooms a user is in multiplexed over a single WebSocket connection. There is no chat persistence; you only see messages sent to a room while you are in that room.

Uses the Django auth system to provide user accounts; users are only able to use the chat once logged in, and this provides their username details for the chatroom.

This package allows our application to interact with a user not only using HTTP 1.1 (request-response), but also using HTTP/2 and WebSocket.

WebSocket is designed for exchanging messages between the client and the web server in real time. You should consider it as an open channel between the client and the server, with the ability to subscribe to the events sent to it.

1.3 Hardware and Software Requirements

Software Specification:

- Technology Implemented: JavaScript, Django, python, WebSocket
- User Interface Design : Web based Application
- Web Browser: Chrome

Hardware Requirement:

- Processor: Intel CORE i3
- Operating System: Windows 10
- RAM:4 GB
- Hardware System: Computer System
- Hard Disk: 64 GB

Objectives

The main objective of creating a real-time messenger is:

Firstly, it saves storage. Real-time messaging doesn't save your messages, as the latter are just passing through the network, making your whole chat architecture storage friendly.

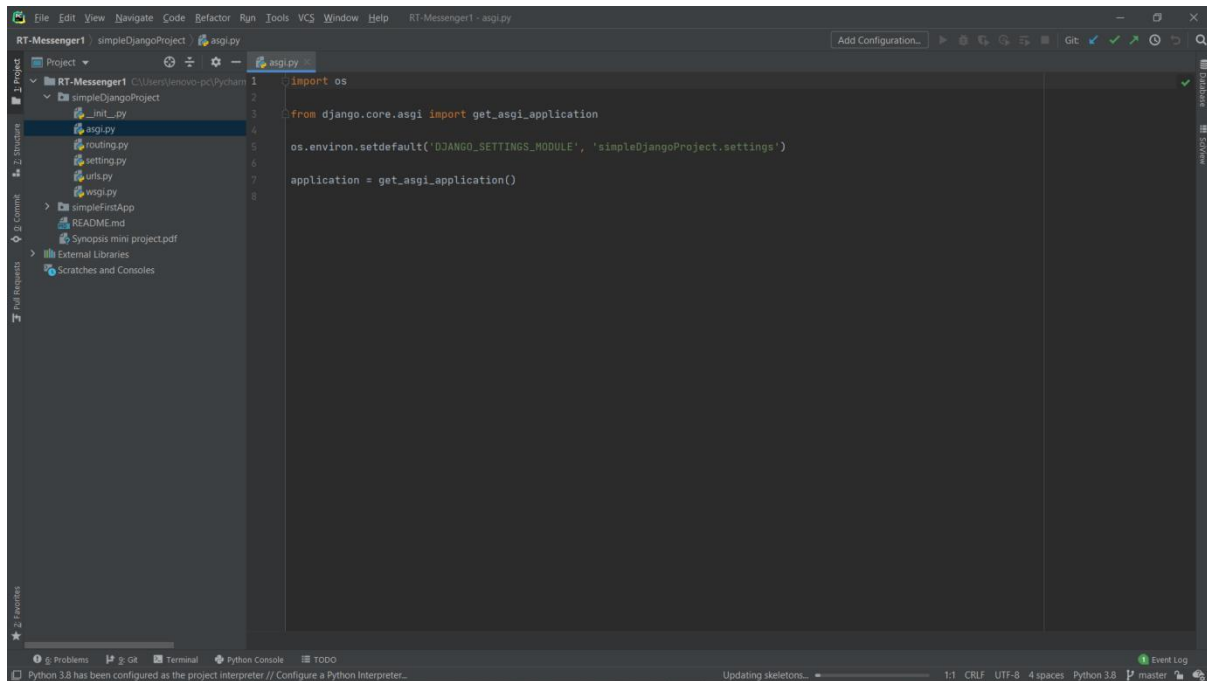
Secondly, as its name shows, it is "real-time" and we can see that this type of messaging is faster than the normal one. The traditional messaging system saves your messages in the database, so every time you need your messages, you have to query to the database to get them. The real-time messaging only passes messages every time we want to send and receive them when they arrive on the socket, so it should be faster and more efficient.

Django is a web building framework based on the Python programming language. It uses a Model-View-Template ("MVT") architecture. Django is being popular because it is fast, secure, and a scalable high-level Python programming for web building. Learning Django is not that easy, but when you get used to it, it has many great functionalities.

Implementation Details

1. Install and configure the environment. Create a virtual environment and Django project on Python as well as prepare them for work. It is important to add channels to the `INSTALLED_APPS` setting.
2. Install Redis or another channel layer. Configure Django-channels so that it will use the Redis as the channel storage by adding `asgi_redis.RedisChannelLayer` to the `CHANNEL_LAYERS` setting.
3. Add a basic message handler to `multi-chat/routing.py` in order to initialize the Django channels routing.
4. Check how everything works by installing any WebSocket client and running the Django web server together with the interactive session interpreter.
5. Connect to the web socket and try to send a chat message. If the message is duplicated in the server log, it means that the chat works correctly.
6. Create authorization page for the chat by creating a template and adding a stylesheet as well as redirection URLs for login and log out.
7. Create chat rooms by adding a 'Room' class to `chat/models.py`.
8. Add event handlers to manage events such as connecting to and disconnecting from the web socket, message processing, login/logout, and message sending.
9. Create a front-end part of your chat by writing Python code for connecting to the socket, connecting to and disconnecting from the rooms, and exchanging messages.

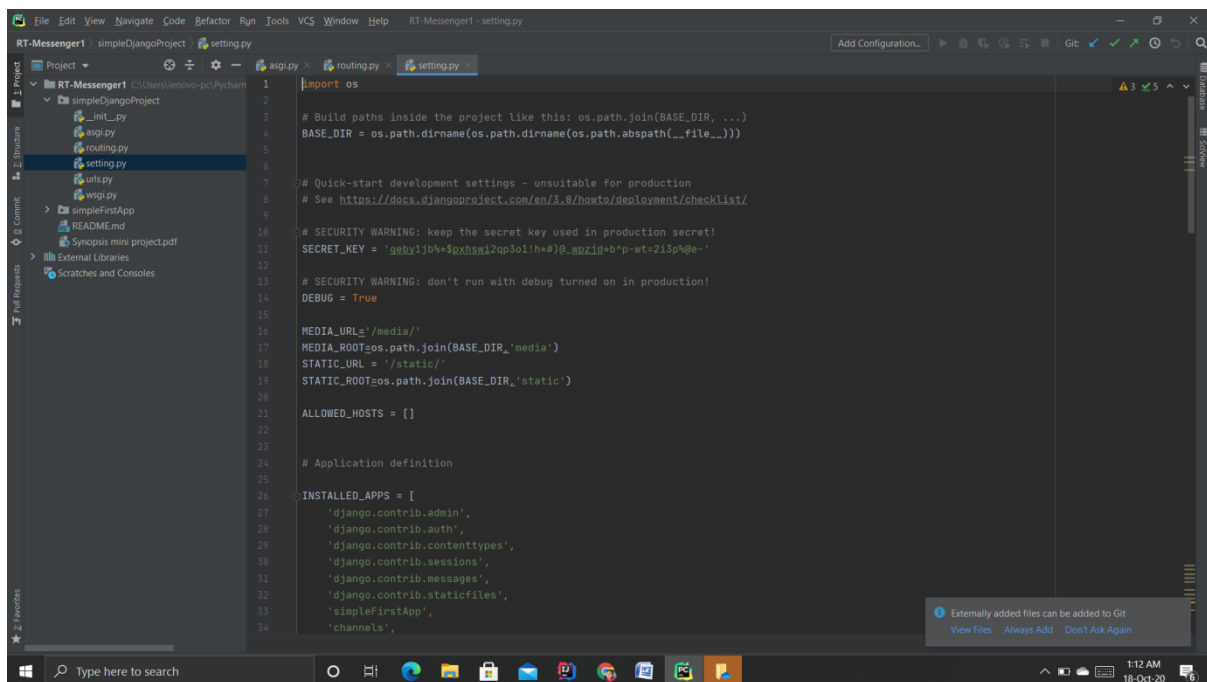
Some Screenshots



This screenshot shows an IDE window titled 'RT-Messenger1 - asgi.py'. The file explorer on the left shows the project structure: 'RT-Messenger1' contains 'simpleDjangoProject', which includes 'asgi.py', 'routing.py', 'setting.py', 'urls.py', and 'wsgi.py'. The main editor displays the content of 'asgi.py':

```
1 import os
2
3 from django.core.asgi import get_asgi_application
4
5 os.environ.setdefault('DJANGO_SETTINGS_MODULE', 'simpleDjangoProject.settings')
6
7 application = get_asgi_application()
8
```

The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Python 3.8 has been configured as the project interpreter // Configure a Python Interpreter...' and 'Updating skeletons... 1:1 CRLF UTF-8 4 spaces Python 3.8 master'.



This screenshot shows the same IDE window, now displaying the 'setting.py' file. The file explorer on the left shows the project structure, with 'setting.py' selected. The main editor displays the content of 'setting.py':

```
1 import os
2
3 # Build paths inside the project like this: os.path.join(BASE_DIR, ...)
4 BASE_DIR = os.path.dirname(os.path.dirname(os.path.abspath(__file__)))
5
6 # Quick-start development settings - unsuitable for production
7 # See https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/3.8/howto/deployment/checklist/
8
9 # SECURITY WARNING: keep the secret key used in production secret!
10 SECRET_KEY = 'q@hy1jb4*$pxhgw12qp3o1h=#)@_wxyzid+b*p-wt=213p4e-'
11
12 # SECURITY WARNING: don't run with debug turned on in production!
13 DEBUG = True
14
15 MEDIA_URL = '/media/'
16 MEDIA_ROOT = os.path.join(BASE_DIR, 'media')
17 STATIC_URL = '/static/'
18 STATIC_ROOT = os.path.join(BASE_DIR, 'static')
19
20 ALLOWED_HOSTS = []
21
22 # Application definition
23
24 INSTALLED_APPS = [
25     'django.contrib.admin',
26     'django.contrib.auth',
27     'django.contrib.contenttypes',
28     'django.contrib.sessions',
29     'django.contrib.messages',
30     'django.contrib.staticfiles',
31     'simpleFirstApp',
32     'channels',
33 ]
```

The status bar at the bottom shows the system clock as '1:12 AM 18-Oct-20'.

The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE with the 'RT-Messenger1' project open. The 'routing.py' file is selected in the editor. The code defines a Django routing configuration for a WebSocket application. The file structure on the left includes 'simpleDjangoProject' with sub-files like 'init.py', 'asgi.py', 'routing.py', 'setting.py', 'urls.py', and 'wsgi.py'. The 'routing.py' file contains the following code:

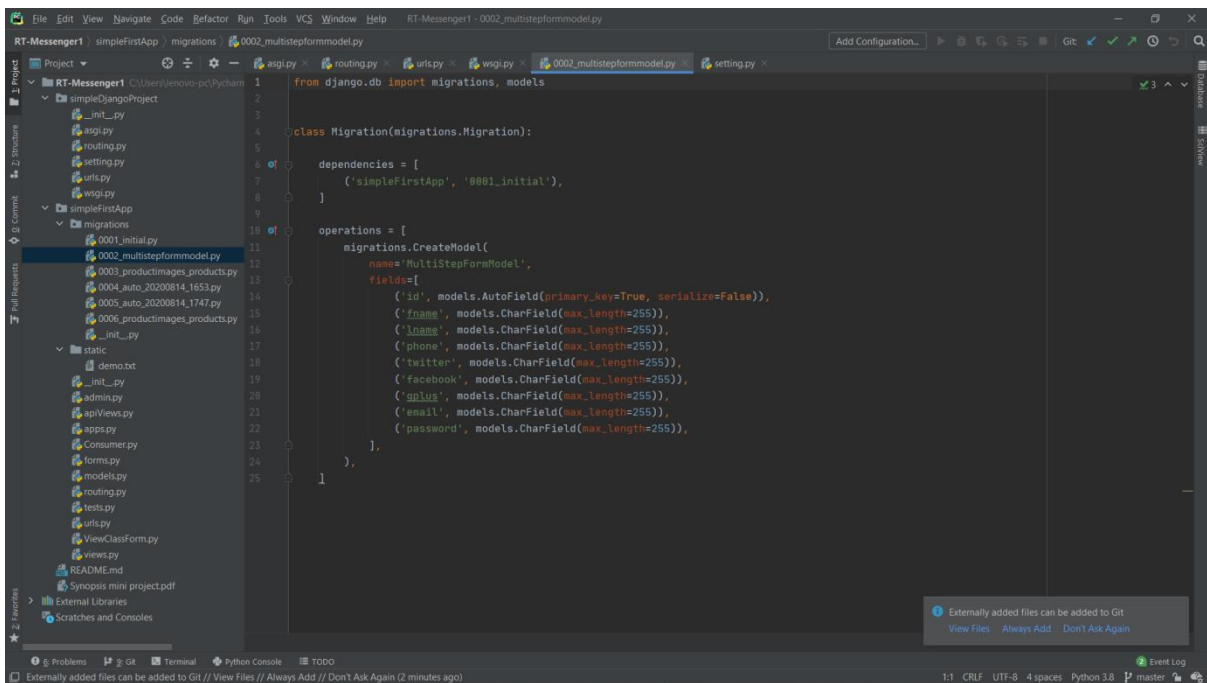
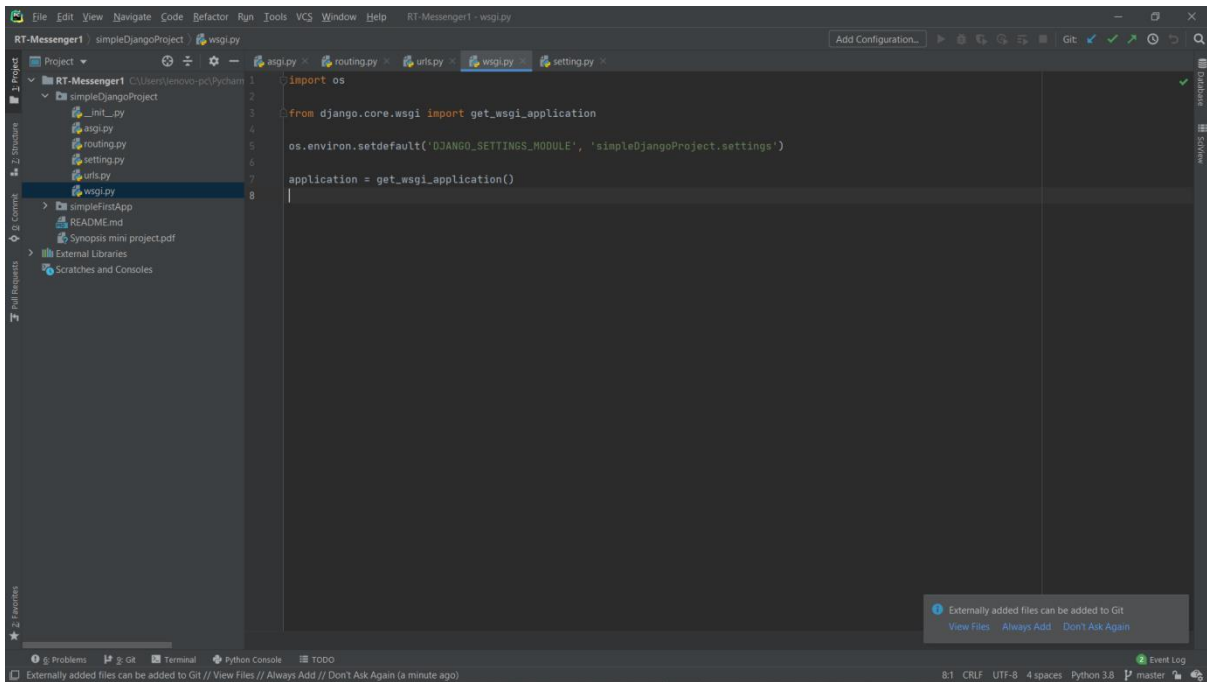
```
1 from channels.auth import AuthMiddlewareStack
2 from channels.routing import ProtocolTypeRouter, URLRouter
3 import simpleFirstApp.routing
4
5 application = ProtocolTypeRouter({
6     'websocket': AuthMiddlewareStack(
7         URLRouter(
8             simpleFirstApp.routing.websocket_urlpatterns
9         )
10     )
11 })
```

The status bar at the bottom indicates the file encoding is UTF-8, 4 spaces indentation, Python 3.8, and the master branch.

The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE with the 'RT-Messenger1' project open. The 'urls.py' file is selected in the editor. The code defines the Django URL patterns for the application. The file structure on the left is the same as the previous screenshot. The 'urls.py' file contains the following code:

```
1 from django.contrib import admin
2 from django.contrib.staticfiles.urls import staticfiles_urlpatterns
3 from django.urls import path, include
4 from django.conf.urls.static import static
5 from simpleFirstApp import views, apiViews
6 from simpleDjangoProject import settings
7 from simpleFirstApp.ViewClassForm import ViewClassForm
8
9 urlpatterns = [
10
11     # Simple Text Page
12     path('', views.IndexPageController, name='index_page'),
13     path('firstPage', views.FirstPageController, name='first_page'),
14
15     #loading Html File Pages
16     path('htmlPages', views.HtmlPageController, name='html_page'),
17
18     #passing data to html templates
19     path('htmlPagesWithData', views.HtmlPageControllerWithData, name='html_page_data'),
20
21     #passing data from url to controller
22     path('htmlWithDataPass/<str:url_data>', views.PassingDataToController, name='html_data_pass'),
23
24     path('addData', views.addData, name='add_data'),
25
26     path('add_student', views.add_student, name='add_student'),
27
28     path('add_teacher', views.add_teacher, name='add_teacher'),
29
30     path('show_all_data', views.show_all_data, name='show_all_data'),
31
32     path('update_student/<str:student_id>', views.update_student, name='update_student'),
33 ]
```

The status bar at the bottom indicates the file encoding is UTF-8, 4 spaces indentation, Python 3.8, and the master branch.



```
1 from django.db import migrations, models
2 import django.db.models.deletion
3
4 class Migration(migrations.Migration):
5
6     dependencies = [
7         ('simpleFirstApp', '0002_multistepformmodel'),
8     ]
9
10     operations = [
11         migrations.CreateModel(
12             name='Products',
13             fields=[
14                 ('id', models.AutoField(primary_key=True, serialize=False)),
15                 ('name', models.CharField(max_length=255)),
16                 ('desc', models.TextField()),
17             ],
18         ),
19         migrations.CreateModel(
20             name='ProductImages',
21             fields=[
22                 ('id', models.AutoField(primary_key=True, serialize=False)),
23                 ('product_img', models.CharField(max_length=255)),
24                 ('product_id', models.ForeignKey(on_delete=django.db.models.deletion.CASCADE, to='simpleFirstApp.Products')),
25             ],
26         ),
27     ]
28
```

```
1 from django.db import migrations, models
2
3 class Migration(migrations.Migration):
4
5     dependencies = [
6         ('simpleFirstApp', '0003_productimages_products'),
7     ]
8
9     operations = [
10         migrations.AlterField(
11             model_name='productimages',
12             name='product_img',
13             field=models.FileField(max_length=255, upload_to=''),
14         ),
15     ]
16
```

The screenshot shows an IDE window with the file `0005_auto_20200814_1747.py` open. The code defines a `Migration` class with the following structure:

```
from django.db import migrations

class Migration(migrations.Migration):

    dependencies = [
        ('simpleFirstApp', '0004_auto_20200814_1653'),
    ]

    operations = [
        migrations.DeleteModel(
            name='ProductImages',
        ),
        migrations.DeleteModel(
            name='Products',
        ),
    ]
```

The left sidebar shows a project tree with the following structure:

- RT-Messenger1
 - simpleDjangoProject
 - __init__.py
 - asgi.py
 - routing.py
 - setting.py
 - urls.py
 - wsgi.py
 - simpleFirstApp
 - migrations
 - 0001_initial.py
 - 0002_multistepformmodel.py
 - 0003_productimages_products.py
 - 0004_auto_20200814_1653.py
 - 0005_auto_20200814_1747.py
 - 0006_productimages_products.py
 - __init__.py
 - static
 - demo.txt
 - __init__.py
 - admin.py
 - apiViews.py
 - apps.py
 - Consumer.py
 - forms.py
 - models.py
 - routing.py
 - tests.py
 - urls.py
 - viewClassForm.py
 - views.py
 - README.md
 - Synopsis mini project.pdf
 - External Libraries
 - Scratches and Consoles

The bottom status bar indicates the file encoding is UTF-8, 4 spaces, Python 3.8, and the master branch.

The screenshot shows an IDE window with the file `0006_productimages_products.py` open. The code defines a `Migration` class with the following structure:

```
from django.db import migrations, models
import django.db.models.deletion

class Migration(migrations.Migration):

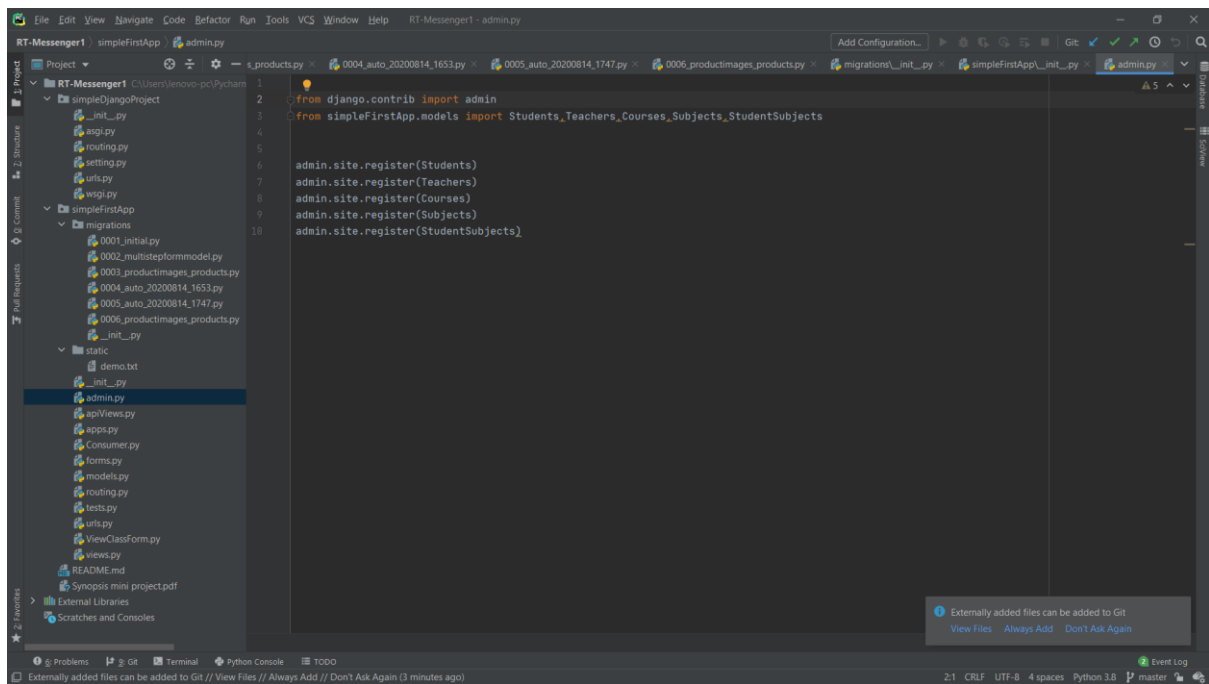
    dependencies = [
        ('simpleFirstApp', '0005_auto_20200814_1747'),
    ]

    operations = [
        migrations.CreateModel(
            name='Products',
            fields=[
                ('id', models.AutoField(primary_key=True, serialize=False)),
                ('name', models.CharField(max_length=255)),
                ('desc', models.TextField()),
            ],
        ),
        migrations.CreateModel(
            name='ProductImages',
            fields=[
                ('id', models.AutoField(primary_key=True, serialize=False)),
                ('image', models.ImageField(max_length=255, upload_to='')),
                ('product_id', models.ForeignKey(on_delete=django.db.models.deletion.CASCADE, to='simpleFirstApp.Products')),
            ],
        ),
    ]
```

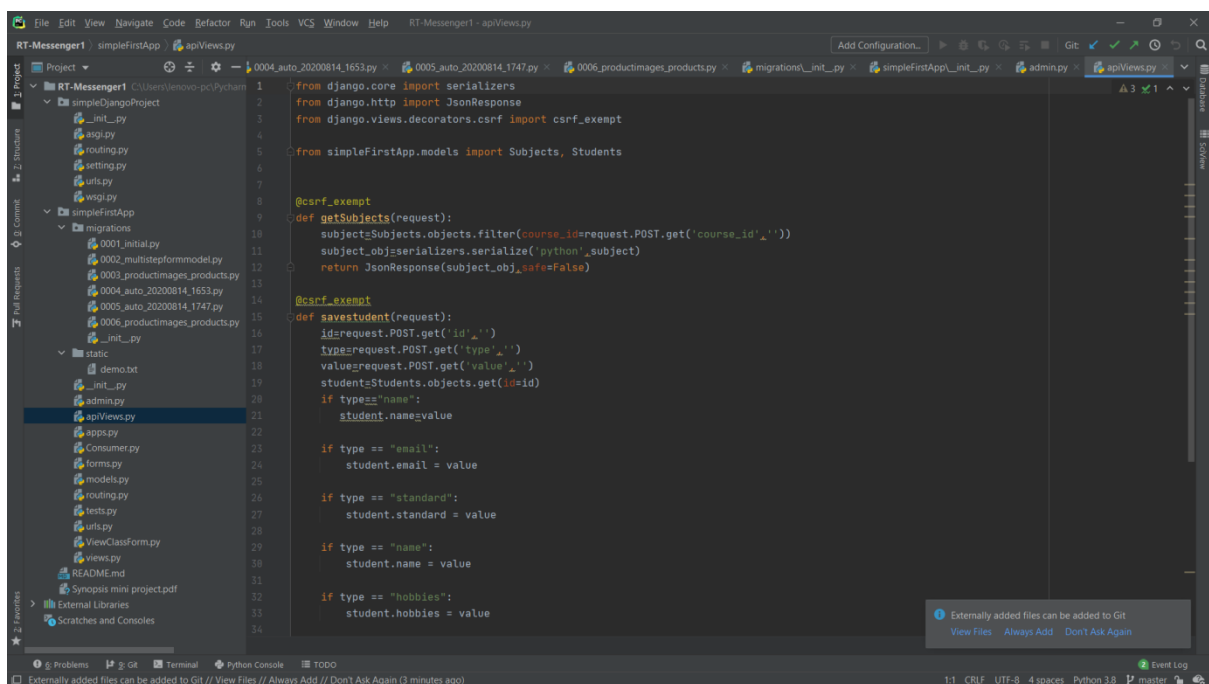
The left sidebar shows a project tree with the following structure:

- RT-Messenger1
 - simpleDjangoProject
 - __init__.py
 - asgi.py
 - routing.py
 - setting.py
 - urls.py
 - wsgi.py
 - simpleFirstApp
 - migrations
 - 0001_initial.py
 - 0002_multistepformmodel.py
 - 0003_productimages_products.py
 - 0004_auto_20200814_1653.py
 - 0005_auto_20200814_1747.py
 - 0006_productimages_products.py
 - __init__.py
 - static
 - demo.txt
 - __init__.py
 - admin.py
 - apiViews.py
 - apps.py
 - Consumer.py
 - forms.py
 - models.py
 - routing.py
 - tests.py
 - urls.py
 - viewClassForm.py
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The bottom status bar indicates the file encoding is UTF-8, 4 spaces, Python 3.8, and the master branch.



```
1 from django.contrib import admin
2 from simpleFirstApp.models import Students, Teachers, Courses, Subjects, StudentSubjects
3
4
5
6 admin.site.register(Students)
7 admin.site.register(Teachers)
8 admin.site.register(Courses)
9 admin.site.register(Subjects)
10 admin.site.register(StudentSubjects)
```



```
1 from django.core import serializers
2 from django.http import JsonResponse
3 from django.views.decorators.csrf import csrf_exempt
4
5 from simpleFirstApp.models import Subjects, Students
6
7
8 @csrf_exempt
9 def getSubjects(request):
10     subjects=Subjects.objects.filter(course_id=request.POST.get('course_id',''))
11     subject_obj=serializers.serialize('python', subject)
12     return JsonResponse(subject_obj,safe=False)
13
14
15 @csrf_exempt
16 def savestudent(request):
17     id=request.POST.get('id','')
18     type=request.POST.get('type','')
19     value=request.POST.get('value','')
20     student=Students.objects.get(id=id)
21     if type=="name":
22         student.name=value
23
24     if type == "email":
25         student.email = value
26
27     if type == "standard":
28         student.standard = value
29
30     if type == "name":
31         student.name = value
32
33     if type == "hobbies":
34         student.hobbies = value
```

