UDP chat with DNS lookup

Project Team

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Objective

The objective of this project is to develop a UDP-based client-server application that can handle domain-to-IP and IP-to-domain queries. The server reads a DNS file and responds to client requests accordingly, demonstrating the basics of socket programming, file handling, and interprocess communication.

Tools:

- Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL): To provide a Linux environment on Windows.
- Ubuntu: A Linux distribution used within WSL.
- GNU Compiler Collection (GCC): To compile C program.
- Nano: A text editor for creating and editing source code.

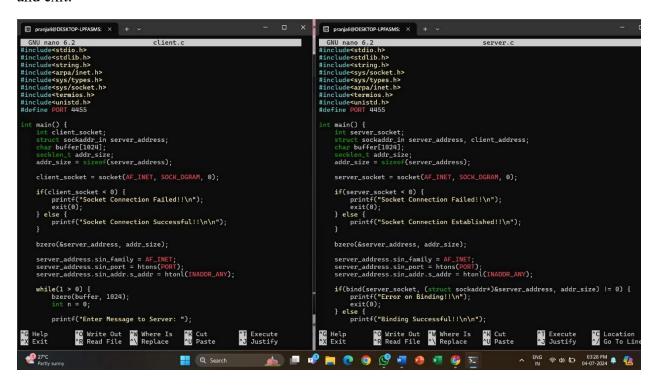
Work Flow/Execution:

1. Setup and Installation:

- **Enable WSL**: Open PowerShell as an administrator and execute `wsl –install`. Restart the computer if prompted.
 - Launch Ubuntu: Open Ubuntu from the Start menu and complete the setup.
- **Install Build Tools**: In the Ubuntu terminal, update the package list with 'sudo apt update' and install build-essential using 'sudo apt install build-essential'.

2. Create and Edit Source Files:

- Client Code: Create a file 'client.c' using 'nano client.c'. Type the client code, save, and exit.
- **Server Code**: Create a file 'server.c' using 'nano server.c'. Type the server code, save, and exit.
- **DNS File**: Create 'DNS.txt' using 'nano DNS.txt', add sample domain-to-IP mappings, save, and exit.



3. Compile the Source Files:

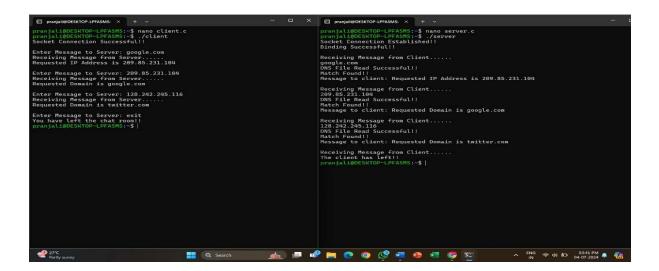
- Compile Client: Execute 'gcc -o client client.c' in the terminal.
- Compile Server: Execute 'gcc -o server server.c' in the terminal.

4. Run the Application:

- Start the Server: Open a new terminal window and run `./server`.
- **Start the Client**: In the original terminal window, run `./client` and interact by entering domain/IP queries.

Results

- Client-Side: The client successfully sends queries to the server and receives responses. Typing 'example.com' returns its corresponding IP, and vice versa.
- **Server-Side**: The server correctly processes the client's requests, searches the 'DNS.txt' file for matches, and sends the appropriate responses back to the client. Both client and server terminate upon receiving the 'exit' message.



Conclusion

The UDP Client-Server Application demonstrates basic UDP socket programming and file handling in a Linux environment. By following the outlined steps, we successfully created a functional application that handles domain and IP address queries. This project serves as an example to network programming concepts and practical implementation using the C programming language and Linux tools.