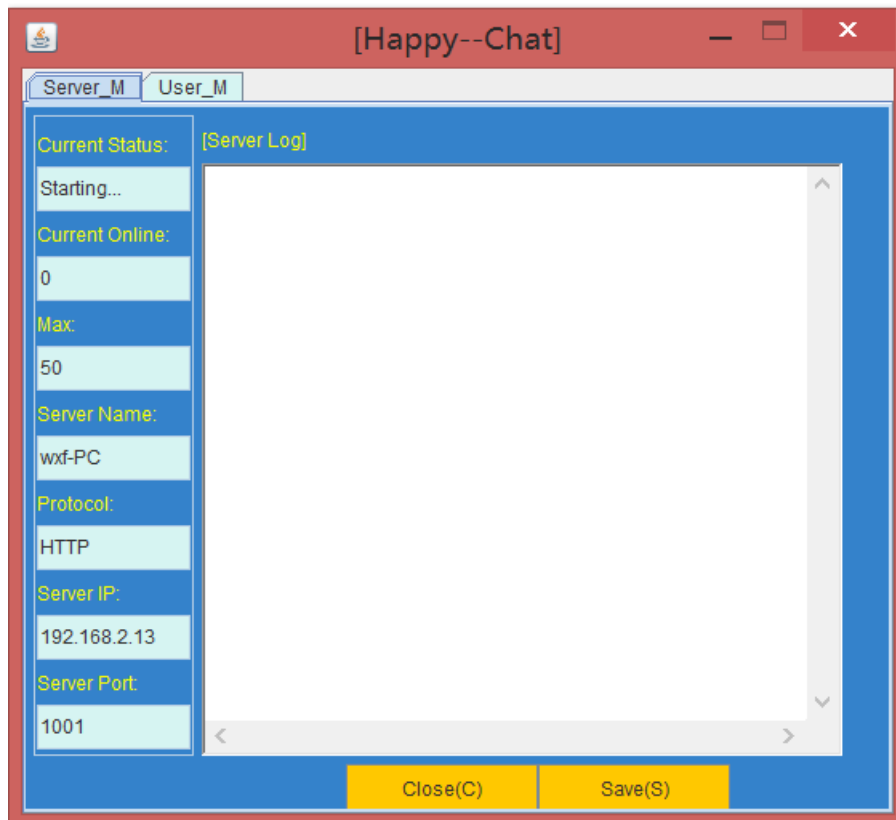**9869 Course Project—Chatting Application User Guide**
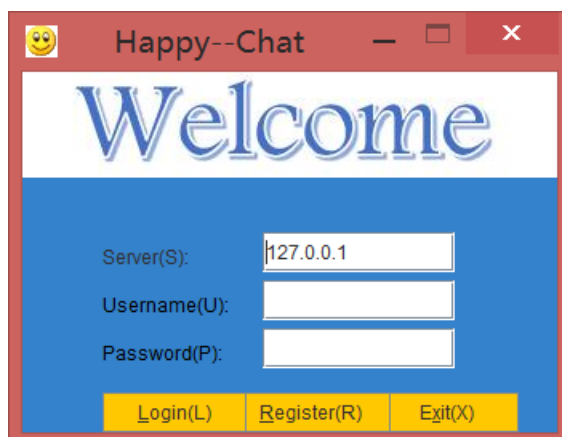
In the following parts, I will show you how to run this application step by step.

Step_1: copy the "Chat_room" folder into the java workplace.

Step_2: click the "AppServer.java" file to start the server, the following picture shows this step in details.

Step_3: click "ChatClient.java" file to start a client, the following picture shows this step in details.

As shown in above picture, user have three choices at this time, login to the chat room, register a new user and exit system.

Step_4: for the first time to run this application, please click the "Register" button and then go to the register window.
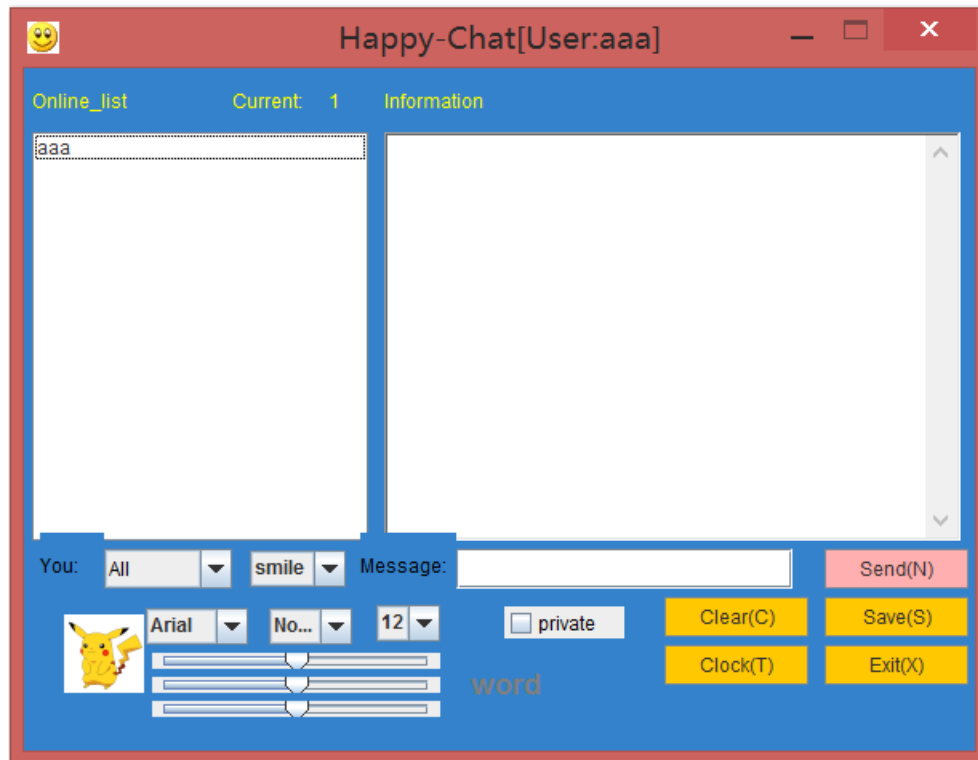
Step_5: after click the "Register" button, a new form pop-up and you can input your personal details in this form and each item have related content checking mechanism like the email format must have '@' or the number of age must larger than 0. The following picture will show the details.

After complete this form, click "OK" button, a system message will pop-up and confirm that your account has been registered successfully. Close this message form and click "Back" button, back to the login form.
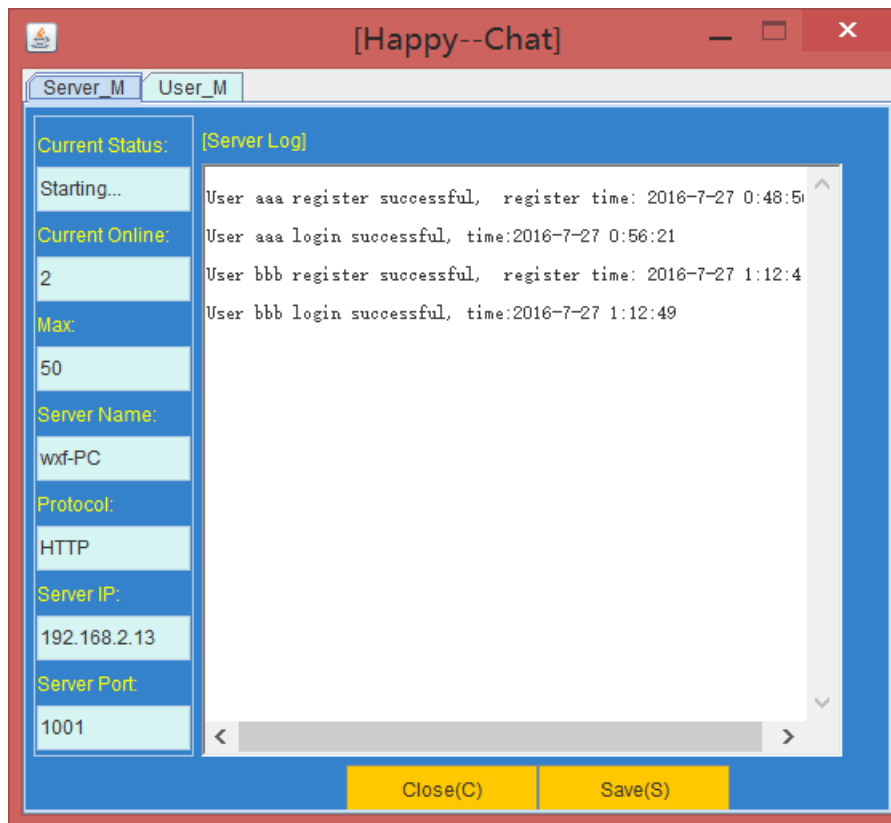
Step_6: use the "aaa" as the user name and "111" as the password, click "Login" button, login to this chat room, a new window will appear like the following picture shown. As shown in this picture, you can find that username "aaa" appears in the Online_list and the number of current online user is change to 1. In this window, there exist five buttons and each button related to a special function. Moreover, you can use the combo box and scroll bars to change the font format, size and color. For example, change the font size from 12 to 16 or change the font color from black to blue.

Above steps shows how to register and login to this chat room, you can repeat step_3 to step_6 to add different users and these usernames will also appear in the Onlin_list once these users login successfully.
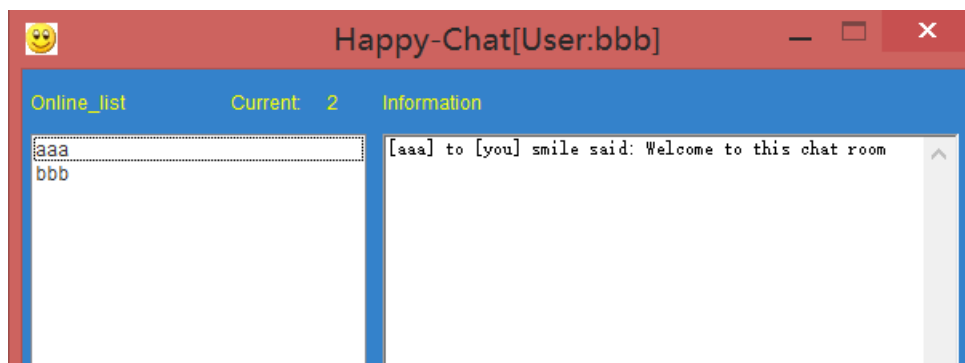
Step_7: after login to this chat room, the follow steps will show you how to chat with other users who also login to this chat room, in this example, I add two users which are "aaa" and "bbb", also, the server window will record the related information in the server log like the following picture shown. If you click the "Save" button, all this record will be saved in a txt file. Moreover, the left part of this window shows the basic information for this server such as number of current online users, name and IP address for this server and port number of this server. The most important point is not to click the "Close" button until you want to exit the whole system, if you click this button during the application runnning, a exception will occur.
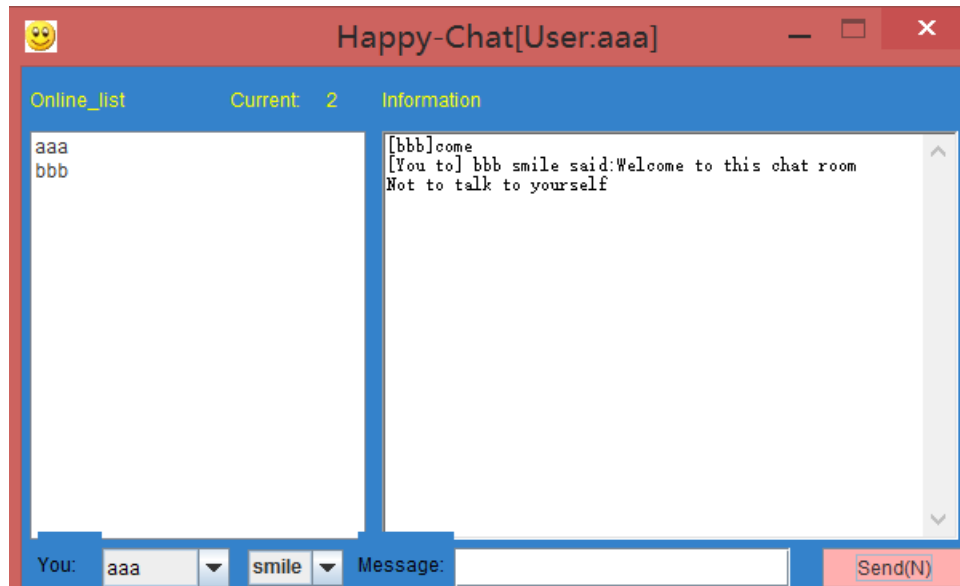
In the above part of this window, you can find two menu items which are Server_M and User_M, the function of the Server_M has been introduced and if you click the User_M item, you can send message to all online users and manage the number of online users. For example, you can kick off someone who may use some bad words many times during the chatting. The operation for this is very simple, choose that username and click "Kick" button.

Step_8: if the user "aaa" want to send a message to user "bbb", he need to input the message in the textbox and choose the username "bbb" and then click "Send" button. For example, he input 'welcome to this chat room', and choose the user "bbb" with double click and then click the "Send" button. This message will send to the user "bbb" as the following picture shown. Also, this message will record in the server log as well.
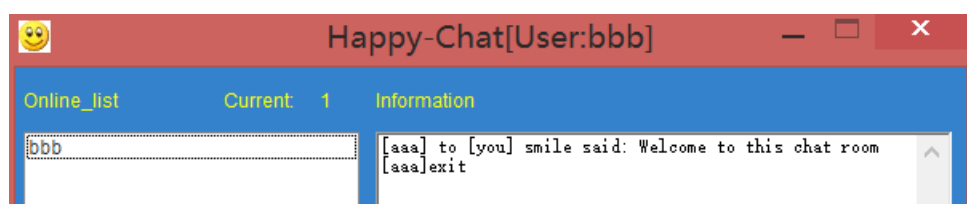
If you choose yourself as the message receive like the user "aaa" want to send a message to himself, a system message will appears in your information textbox. The following picture shows the details for this mistake.

As shown in this picture, the system find the message sender and receiver are both user "aaa". Therefore, the system message "Not to talk to yourself" send to "aaa" and appear in the information section.

Step_9: if you choose the check box which means you want to send a message to other users privately, the message will send to the receiver normaly, however, this message will not be recored by server. This is the difference between the private chat and normal chat.

Step_10: if you want to clear the chat content in the information area, just click the "Clear" button and all the information in this area will be deleted. Also, if you want to exit the chat room, just click the "Exit" button, you will logout and the other users will be noticed you have logout.

Step_11: if all users have been logout, you can close the server window and the whole chat room application will stop. You can save all records into a txt file.