# Multithreaded News Client/Server Information System

# **Project Description**

The Multithreaded News Client/Server is a simple Information System that aims to enable a secure exchange of information about recent news between clients and the server. The server retrieves the news from https://newsapi.org/ depending on the client's request, where it can manage the connection with multiple clients in the same time. However, the system provides the user with a menu so it can choose between headlines and sources easily and provide a detailed response if required.

### Semester

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# Group

**Group name: B4 Course Code: ITNE352** 

Section: 02

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# Requirements

Follow these steps to set up the project locally:

Any disruption in the internet connection will prevent the system from functioning properly Ensure you are connected to the internet so API can work successfully

1. Clone the repository:

git clone https://github.com/Zainab-Alobed/ITNE352-Project-Group-B4

2. Install required libraries:

```
pip install -r required.txt
```

3. Run the server.py

```
python server.py
```

4. Run the client.py

```
python client.py
```

# How to run the system:

#### Run the server:

1. Navigate to the server directory:

```
cd server
```

2. Start the server:

```
python server.py
```

#### Run the client:

1. Navigate to the client directory:

```
cd client
```

2. Start the client:

```
python client.py
```

### Interacting with the server:

- 1. The user will be asked about his name, and send it to the server
- 2. The main menu will be displayed in client side that contains three options (the user must input a valid number 1-3):

- 1. Headlines
- 2. Sources
- 3. Quit
- 3. A submenu of either headlines or sources will be displayed depending on the user choice
- 4. Later on, a maximum of 15 article will be displayed to provide the user the ability to request detailed information or go back to the main menu (Each request will be directly send to the server and print the response back in the client side)
- 5. The user can select (3) Quit to terminate the program

# The scripts

### **Client script**

- Purpose: interaction with server (Sends the user requests to the server and displays response)
- Functions:
- 1. Create a TCP socket using IPv4 to connect to the server

```
# Create a TCP socket using IPv4
with socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_STREAM) as client_s:
    global cs
    with context.wrap_socket(client_s, server_hostname="myserver") as cs:
    try:
        cs.connect((get_local_ip(), 5353))

    if isinstance(cs, socket.socket):
        connection(cs)
```

2. Ask user about his name and send it to the server

```
def connection(cs):
    print("Hi!")
# Ask the user to enter its name, and send it to the server
while True:
    user_name = input("\nEnter your name (Only letters are allowed): ").strip()
# Check if the name matches the regex (at least one letter)
    if re.match('^[a-zA-Z]+(?: [a-zA-Z]+)*$', user_name):
        break
    else:
        print("Invalid name. Only letters are allowed. Please try again.")

cs.sendall(user_name.encode('utf-8'))
print(f"Welcome {user_name}!\n")
```

3. Display the main menu

```
main_menu = {
   '1': 'headlines',
   '2': 'sources',
'3': 'Quit'
Headlines = {
    '1': 'keywords',
'2': 'category',
    '3': 'country',
    '4': 'all',
    '5': 'main'
sources = {
   '1': 'category',
'2': 'country',
    '3': 'language',
'4': 'all',
'5': 'main'
main_selection = '1'
    while main_selection != '3': # Loop until the user chooses to quit
         print("\nMain menu:")
         for key, value in main_menu.items():
             print(f"{key}. {value}")
                                                                                                                    Activate '
         main_selection = input("Select an option: ").strip()
```

4. Display either (1) Headlines menu or (2) Sources menu depending on the user choice. Then, Send the request and recieve/display the response from the server (allow the request of detailed response)

```
if main_selection == '3':
                      cs.sendall(main_desc.encode('utf-8'))
                      print("Exiting... Goodbye")
                       print("\n---- Headlines menu ----")
for id, option in Headlines.items():
                           print(f"{id} - {option}")
                      Headlines_selection = input("\nSelect your option: ").strip()
                      if Headlines selection in Headlines
                           Headlines_desc = Headlines[Headlines_selection]
                          print("Invalid selected number! Try again please.")
                       if Headlines_selection == '5':
                      elif Headlines_selection == '4':
    request = f""
                           request = f"{main_desc},{Headlines_desc}"
                           if Headlines_selection == '2':
                           print(f"\here is suggestions that might help you with the valid {Headlines_desc}:\nbusiness, general, health, science, sports, technology") elif Headlines_selection == '3':
                               f Headlines_selection == '3':
print(f"\nHere is suggestions that might help you with the valid {Headlines_desc}:\nau, ca, jp, ae, sa, kr, us, ma")
Activate Windows
                           value = input(f"\nEnter the {Headlines_desc} to search for: ").strip()
request = f"{main_desc}, (Headlines_desc}, (value)"
                                                                                                                                                                      Go to Settings to activate V
                                                                                                                                            Go to Line/Column
def connection(cs):
```

```
elif main_selection == '2':
    print("\n---- Sources menu ----")
for id, option in sources.items():
        print(f"{id} - {option}")
    sources_selection = input("Select your option: ").strip()
    if sources selection in sources:
         source_desc = sources[sources_selection]
        print("Invalid selected number! Try again please.")
    # Construct request based on se
elif sources_selection == '4':
         request = f"{main_desc},{source_desc}"
              print(f"\nHere is suggestions that might help you with the valid {source_desc}:\nbusiness, general, health, science, sports, technology")
         elif sources selection == '2'
              print(f"\nHere is suggestions that might help you with the valid {source_desc}:\nau, ca, jp, ae, sa, kr, us, ma")
         elif sources_selection == '3':
    print(f"\nHere is suggestions that might help you with the valid {source_desc}:\nar, en")
        value = input(f"Enter the {source_desc} to search for: ").strip()
request = f"{main_desc},{source_desc},{value}"
                                                                                                                                                    Activate Windows
cs.sendall(request.encode('utf-8'))
```

#### Server script

Purpose:

The server receives requests from the client for headlines/sources from newsapi.

The server then will retrieve the requested data from an appropriate API endpoint. After getting the response, the server will save the response into a file named client name and the requested option then prepare a list containing brief information about a maximum of 15 headlines/sources and send it to the client.

The client can choose a specific headline/source from the list to get more information about it, which will also prepared by the server. The server will keep getting requests from a maximum of 3 clients.

packages: re, socket, json, threading, requests, ssl, os

- Functions:
- 1. get\_headlines + get\_all\_headlines

Those two functions are responsible for retrieving headlines from API endpoints /everything and //top-headlines

```
# headline search function with filltering
def get_headlines(option, value):
    # pass api key
    params = {"apiKey": API_KEY, "pageSize": 15}
   # check choosen option
    if option == "keywords":
        params["q"] = value
    elif option == "category":
        params["category"] = value
    elif option == "country":
        params["country"] = value
    # get response from endpoint and return it
        response = requests.get(f"{BASE_URL}/top-headlines", params=params)
       if response.status_code != 200:
            print(f"Error with API: {response.status_code}, {response.text}")
            return {"error": "API error"}
        return response.json()
    except Exception:
        return {"API_error": "API error, check the connection"}
# all headlines search function
def get_all_headlines():
    params = {"apiKey": API_KEY, "pageSize": 15, "language": "en", "q": "news"}
    try:
        response = requests.get(f"{BASE_URL}/everything", params=params)
        if response.status_code != 200:
            print(f"Error with API: {response.status_code}, {response.text}")
            return {"error": "API error"}
        return response.json()
    except Exception:
        return {"API_error": "API error, check the connection"}
```

#### 2. get\_sources

To retrieve sources from the API endpoint /sources

```
# resource search function
def get sources(option, value):
   # pass api key
   params = {"apiKey": API_KEY, "pageSize": 15}
   # check chosen option
   if option == "category":
       params["category"] = value
   elif option == "country":
       params["country"] = value
   elif option == "language":
       params["language"] = value
   # get response from endpoint and return it
   try:
       response = requests.get(f"{BASE_URL}/sources", params=params)
        if response.status_code != 200:
            print(f"Error with API: {response.status_code}, {response.text}")
           return {"error": "API error"}
        return response.json()
   except Exception:
        return {"API_error": "API error, check the connection"}
def create_file(client_name, response, list, option):
    # ensre there is no space or special character in client name and file name
   safe_client_name = re.sub(r"[^\w]", "_", client_name)
   file name = (
        f"{safe_client_name}_{list.replace(' ', '_')}-{option.replace(' ','_')}_B4.json"
   with open(file_name, "w", encoding="utf-8") as file:
        json.dump(response, file, ensure_ascii=False, indent=4)
```

#### 3. create file

This function will save the API responses into a file named with "<client\_name>

<group\_ID>.json"

```
def create_file(client_name,response,list,option):
    #ensre there is no space or special character in client name and file name
    safe_client_name = re.sub(r'[^\w]', '_', client_name)
    file_name = f"{safe_client_name}_{list.replace(' ', '_')}-{option.replace(' ','_')}_B4.json"
    with open(file_name, 'w', encoding='utf-8') as file:
        json.dump(response, file, ensure_ascii=False, indent=4)
```

#### 4. prepare\_list

It will create a list containing only the information that the client will display to the user from the API response.

```
#prepare the list of headlines/sources
def prepare_list(res,list):
    res = res[:15] #only 15 results
    prepared list = []
    for x in res:
        if list == 'headlines':
            prepared list.append({
                "name":x['source'].get('name','unknown'),
                "author":x.get('author','unknown'),
                "title":x.get('title', 'unkown')
                })
        else: #sources
            prepared_list.append({
                "name":x.get('name','unknown')
                })
    return prepared_list
```

5. search This function is responsible for receiving clients' requests and responding to them.

#### Additional functions that used in both client and server side

get\_local\_ip():

A function for retrieving the local IP of the device.

The IP address retrieved by this function is assigned for internal use(not public). It works by contacting 8.8.8.8 which is Google's public DNS server with a UDP socket where there is no need for sending data, this step is just to determine which network interface is being used.

After creating the socket it connects it to the DNS server. We can get the IP address using s.getsockname() which returns a tuple of the IP address and port number. s.getsockname()[0] will be the local IP address we need.

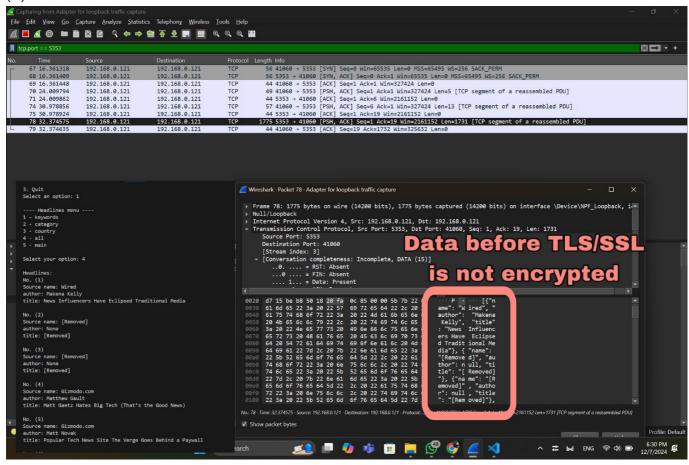
Finally, the method returns the IP address.

# **Additional Concepts**

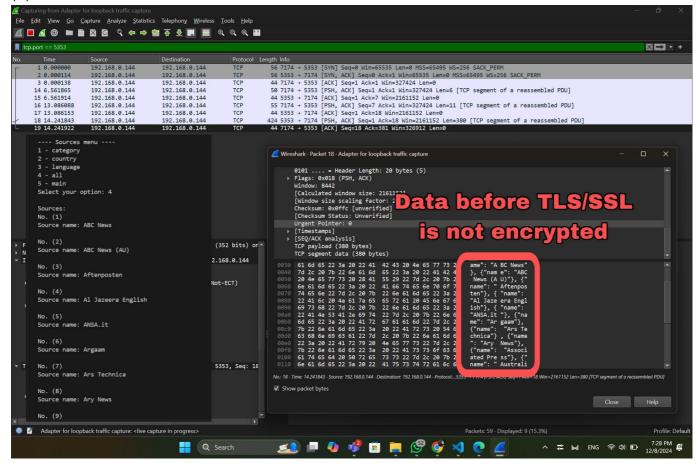
**TLS\SSL** (security) TLS/SSL is a transport security protocol that provides a secure way for communication by providing some services. One of those services is confedintiality which depends on the encryption. On the screenshots below you can notice the data before applying TLS/SSL and after.

Before TLS/SSL:

(1.)

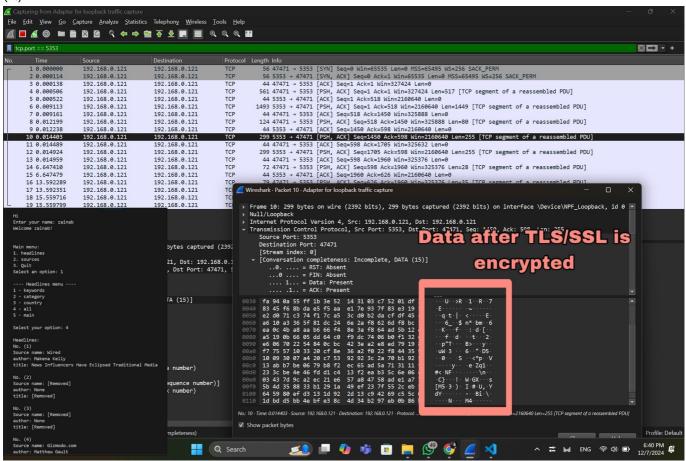


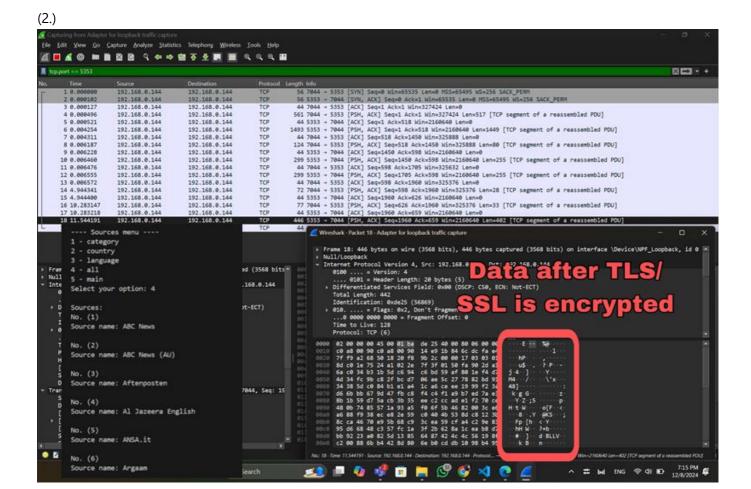
(2.)



After TLS/SSL:

(1.)





We would like to thank our instructor for providing this project so we can learn how to implement a python network system. Moreover, a big thanks to NewsAPI for providing the news.

# Conclusion

This project demonstrates how secure connections, API integration, Sockects, and client-server communication can be practically implemented using a Python network application.

The development of the Multithreaded News Client/Server Information System helped us learn concepts of:

- Network programming (Python)
- API integration
- Multi-threaded
- client\server framework

## Resources

- API: https://newsapi.org/
- TLS/SSL: https://docs.python.org/3/library/ssl.html