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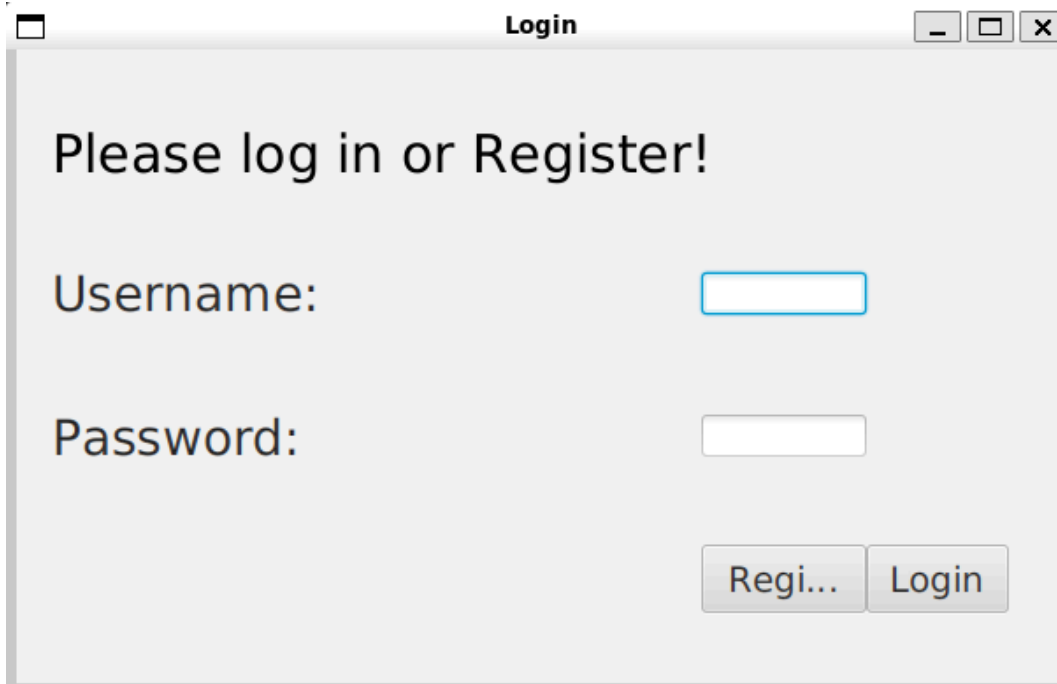
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About

This application is a messaging platform that communicates through a server. Users can create group chats or direct messages to message each other. Within a chat, users can send and receive messages to one another in real time and messages will be displayed on the chat. Users can switch between their chats and be notified when they receive a message in a chat that is not currently displayed.

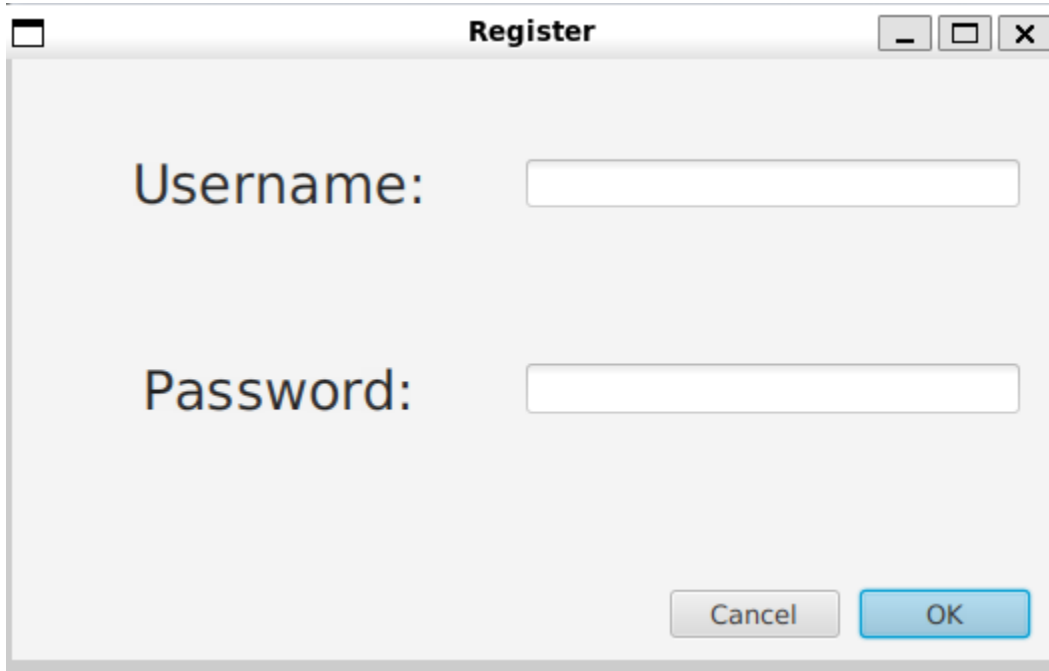
Using the Application

When the application/server starts, the login window is displayed and a user must create an account to sign in and log on.



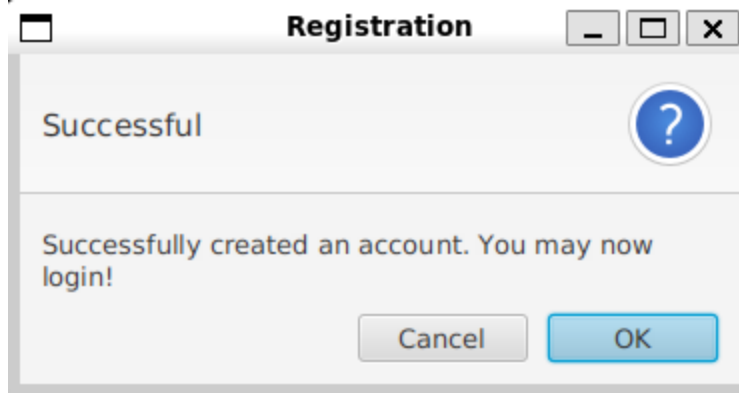
A login dialog box titled "Login" with standard window controls (minimize, maximize, close). The text "Please log in or Register!" is displayed at the top. Below it are two input fields: "Username:" and "Password:". At the bottom right are two buttons: "Regi..." and "Login".

To create an account, hit the register button and the following registration dialog will appear:



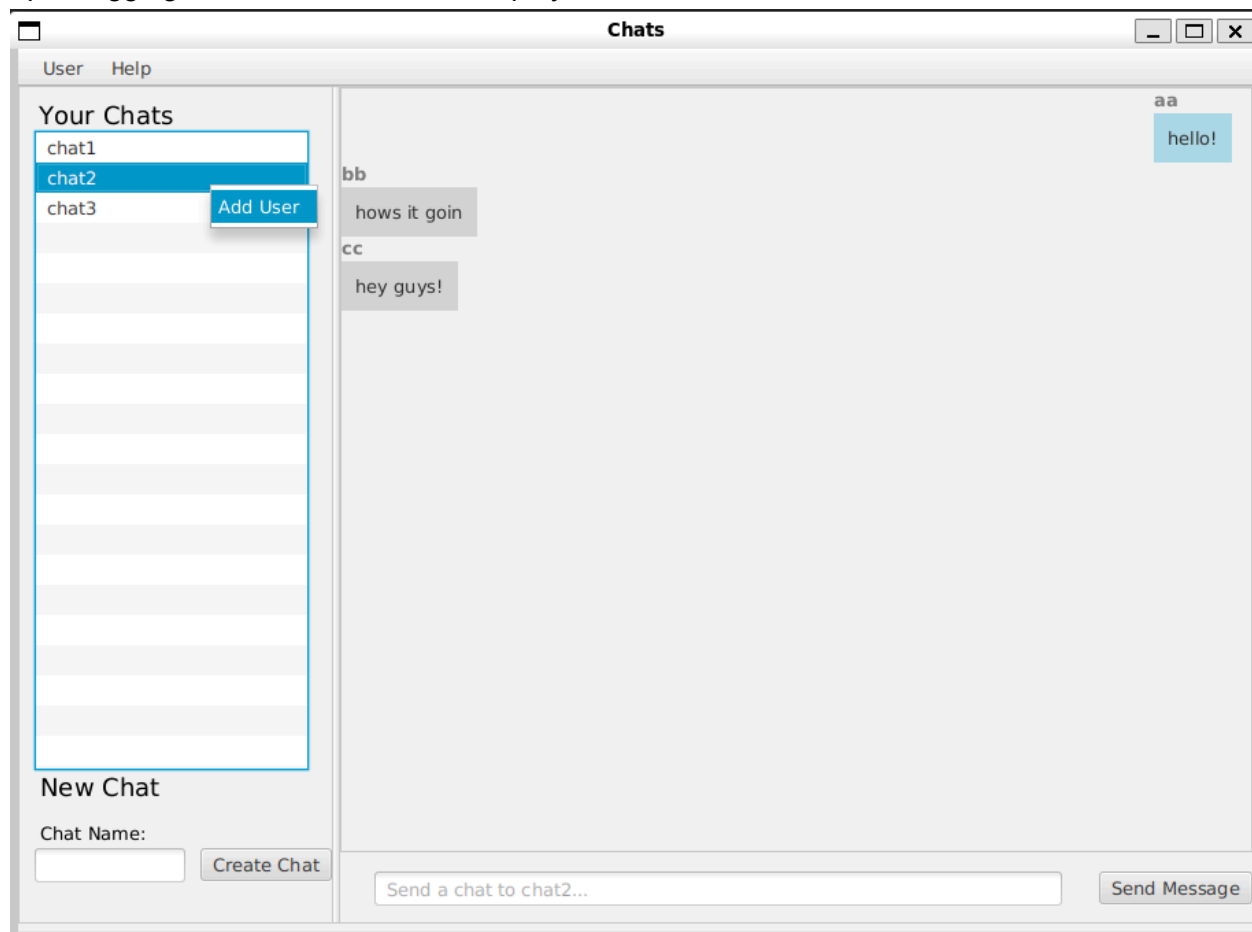
A registration dialog box titled "Register" with standard window controls (minimize, maximize, close). It contains two input fields: "Username:" and "Password:". At the bottom right are two buttons: "Cancel" and "OK".

After entering a valid username containing only alphanumeric characters and a password, a dialog appears informing the user that they registered successfully:



The user is then sent back to the login page where they can log into their account after clicking any of the buttons.

Upon logging in, the chat window is displayed:



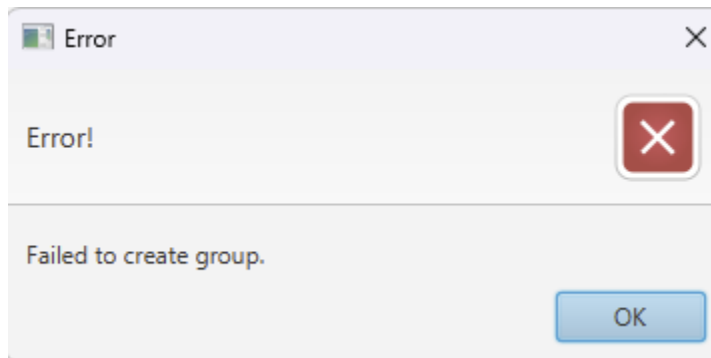
The user can create a new chat by entering a chat name consisting of alphanumeric characters only and pressing the create chat button, then can right click on the new chat displayed on the 'your chats' listview for the option to add a user to the chat. Upon clicking this option, a new window is displayed where the user can enter the username of another user to add to the selected chat.

The user can then click on one of their chats and begin sending messages by typing in the textfield on the bottom of the app and hitting enter or pressing the send button. Messages are sent and received in real time via websocket connection, which can be observed if an instance of the chat app is opened for each user in a chat and they send chats to each other. If a user receives a message from one chat but has another chat displayed, they will receive a notification.

The application has a menu bar with options to sign out or exit out of the application. When signing out, the user is brought back to the login page. The user can do the same functionalities as when opening up the application such as registering or logging in. The help option will have a popup dialog telling the user to refer to the user manual for more information or help with the application.

Errors

Failed to create group



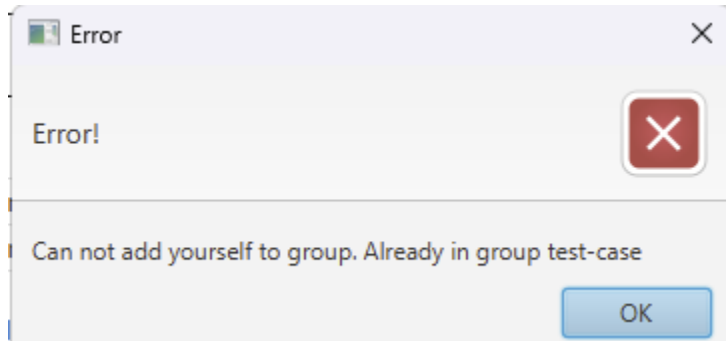
This occurs when the user tries to create a group with spaces in between 2 or more words. Currently, spaces and non-alphanumeric characters are not supported. Also, this can occur when the server is shutdown or closed.

User does not exist



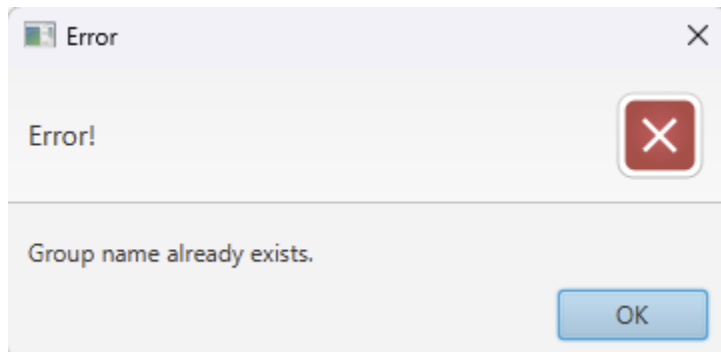
This occurs when trying to add a non-existent user to the group chat. Only users in the database can be added.

Cannot add self to group



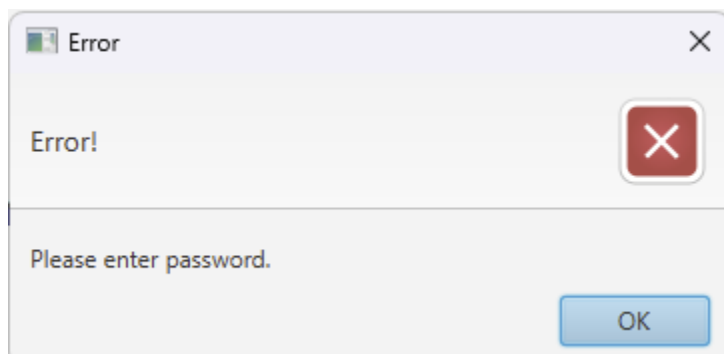
This occurs when the owner of the group tries to attempt to add themselves to the group.

Group name exists



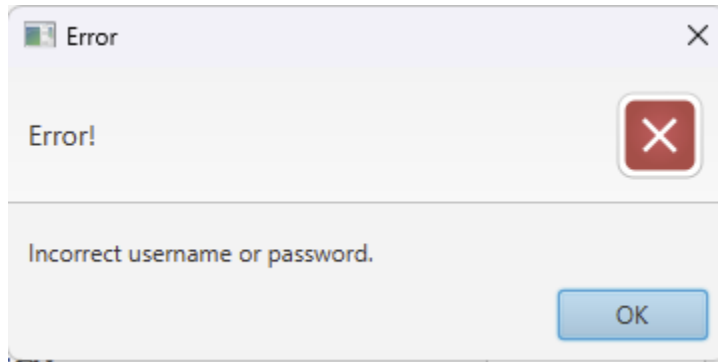
This occurs when there exists a group that has the same name as the group that is trying to be created.

Please enter password



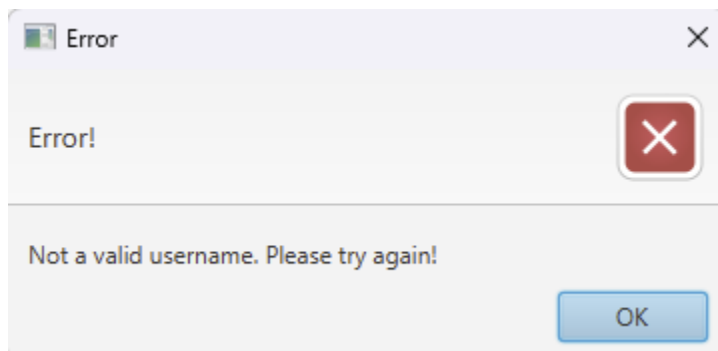
This occurs when the user tries to login without a password. A user cannot have an empty password nor can they create an account without a password.

Incorrect username or password



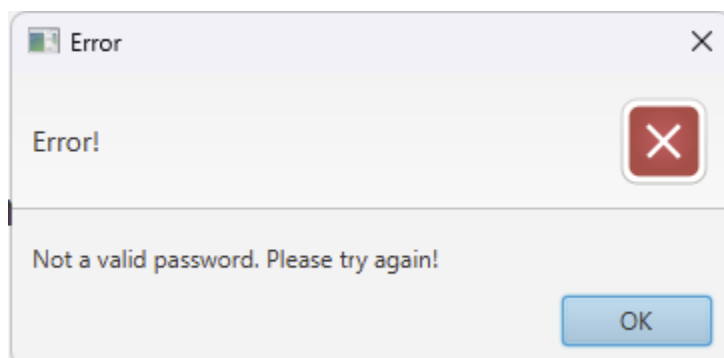
This occurs when the user has entered a username or password and does not fully match with any accounts in the database.

Not a valid username.



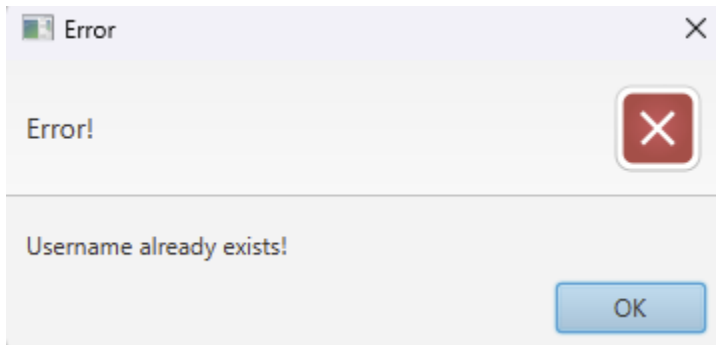
This occurs when trying to register or log into an account with no username. This also occurs when the username contains non-alphanumeric characters such as semicolons and brackets.

Not a valid password.



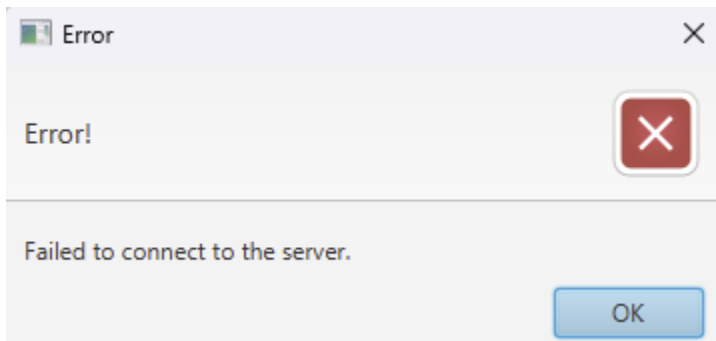
This occurs when the user has entered a username or password and does not fully match with any accounts in the database.

Username already exists



This occurs when trying to register for an account using a username that is already taken. Currently, there is no way to change/reset password. So every username has only one password.

Failed to connect to server



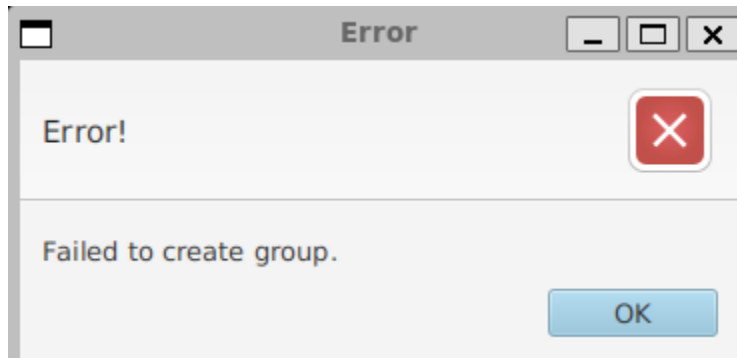
This occurs when trying to login/register but the server was closed or disconnected.

Message too long



This occurs when sending a message that is over the capacity that the server can handle. This is usually the case when spamming a lot of emojis.

Failed to create group



Displayed when a user attempts to create a group with a name that contains non-alphanumeric characters (excluding leading and trailing whitespace)