Ruby Monstas



Session 10

Agenda

- Recap: Methods
- Project: IRC Bot



Recap

Methods

puts "Tadaaa!"

You've used them before! "Hello Rubymonstas".length "Test string".include?("Something") 5.odd?

Method or Function

A piece of code which has a **name**, takes **input** and returns **output**.

Methods make your code reusable.

Related to the mathematical idea of a function.

Structure

- Method name
 - The name a method is known as in the rest of your code
- Input values (aka arguments, parameters)
 - The information the method needs given to do its job
- Body
 - The code that does something useful with the input
- Return value
 - The value that is return to the code that called the method

Structure

```
def my_first_method(first_argument, second_argument)
    # This is the method body,
    # Here comes some useful code
    return_value
end
```

Input values

- Optional, Comma-separated in parentheses
- Naming: Just like normal variables
- Only valid within the method, not before, not after

```
def calculate_age(year_of_birth)
    # code here
end

def save_user_data!(first_name, last_name, home_town)
    # code here
end
```

Method body

- Everything between the signature and the end
- Any Ruby code
- You can also call methods from within methods

```
def calculate_age(year_of_birth)
   age = 2015 - year_of_birth
end
```

Calling methods

How do I use ("call") my method?

```
calculated_value = my_first_method(42, "hello")
my_first_method calculated_value, 53.45
```

Project: IRC Bot

IRC Bot?!

What's IRC?

Internet Relay Chat

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"IRC" redirects here. For other uses, see IRC (disambiguation).



This article's **lead section may not adequately summarize key points of its contents**. Please consider expanding the lead to provide an accessible overview of all important aspects of the article. *(October 2012)*

Internet Relay Chat (IRC) is an application layer protocol that facilitates the transfer of messages in the form of text. The chat process works on a client/server networking model. IRC clients are computer programs that a user can install on their system. These clients communicate with chat servers to transfer messages to other clients. [1] IRC is mainly designed for group communication in discussion forums, called channels, [2] but also allows one-on-one communication via private messages [3] as well as chat and data transfer, [4] including file sharing. [5]

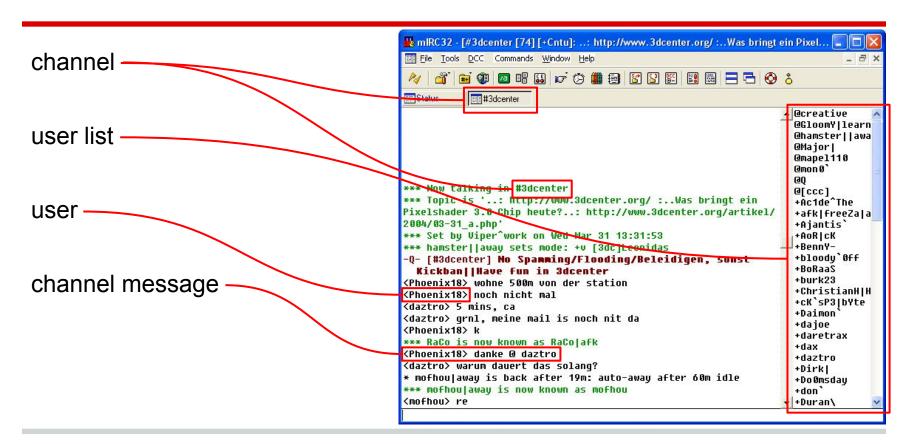
Demo

IRC

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protocol
messages
client / server networking
channels

IRC



What's on the client or server?



Server



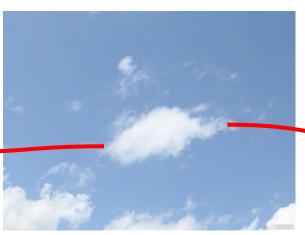
Sends messages to server Receives messages from server Receives messages from clients
Sends messages to clients
Holds a list of channels
Holds a list of users

Client

Internet (the "Cloud")

Server







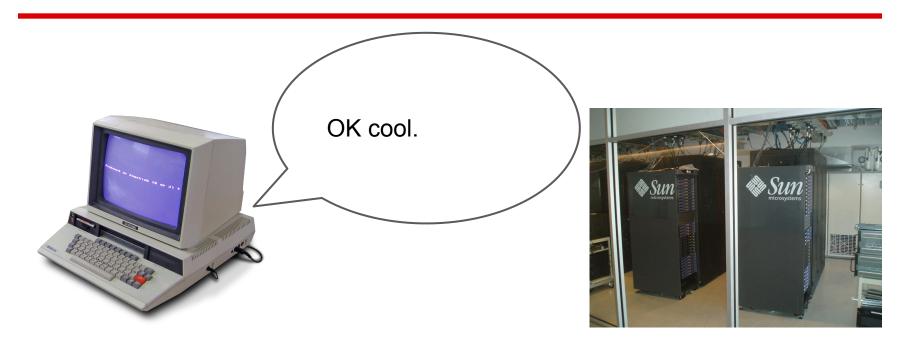


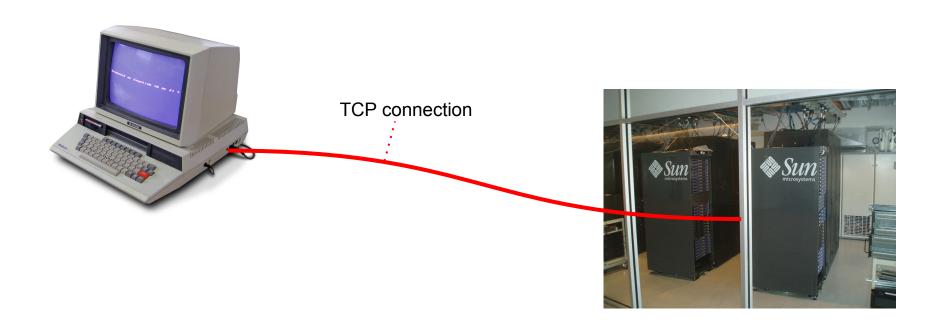


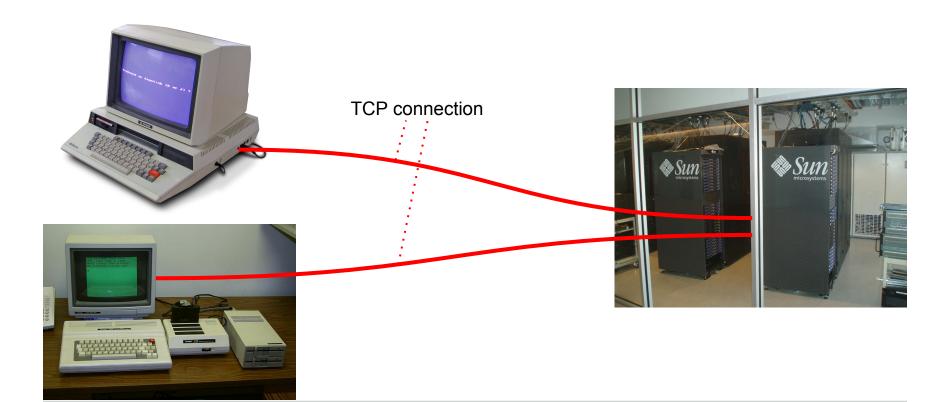


Sure thing, let's do it!









IRC clients IRC server







IRC Protocol

How do client and server talk to each other?

There's a lot to clarify.

IRC Protocol

What could a **client** want to say?

"I want to choose a username, it should be cool_guy123"

"I want to join channel #coolcrowd"

"I want to write a message to the channel, it should be 'Hi there!'

What could a **server** want to say?

"There's a new message on the channel #rubymonstas by cool_guy123, he says 'Hi there!'

"ruby_programmer85 just joined #rubymonstas!"

"nerdinand just left #rubymonstas!"

IRC Protocol: Client

NICK nethad-bot

USER nethad-bot 0 * :nethad-bot

JOIN #rubymonstas

PRIVMSG #rubymonstas :hi all, how are you doing?

IRC Protocol: Server

:nethad!83.78.226.54 JOIN #rubymonstas

:nethad!83.78.226.54 PART #rubymonstas

:nethad!83.78.226.54 PRIVMSG #rubymonstas :hey, what's up?

Bot

So what's a (IRC) bot, then?

From Wikipedia:

"An **IRC bot** is a set of scripts or an independent program that connects to Internet Relay Chat as a client, and so <u>appears to other IRC users as another user</u>. An IRC bot differs from a regular client in that instead of providing interactive access to IRC for a human user, it performs <u>automated functions</u>."

Things a bot could do

- Let the user play a game
- Google something and return results
- Return information about the weather
- Return random quotes from users
- ... ? You name it!

Time to build a bot!



Let's get to it!