

Chat

A basic web chat web application written in Python 3

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Version 1.2.1

License

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History

1/25/2014

Version 1.0

- Initial release.

1/25/2014

Version 1.1

- Added logic to not re-post duplicate messages.

1/27/2014

Version 1.2

- Wrote new module “verifymessage.py” that handles duplicate requests more comprehensively.
- Completely re-wrote page builder (“chat.py” – Version 2.0)

1/30/2014

Version 1.2.1

- Fixed issue with verifymessage.py
- Added new option to show user that message was not saved to database.

Overview

Chat is a basic web application for Python. Currently, it uses the Python-included *http.server* to handle serve requests. Chat messages, which consist of a *username* and a *message* are stored in a SQLite 3 database and is used to store all chat messages as well as timestamps for those messages.

Configuration

Configuration is very simple.

startserver.py

Variable Name	Description	Default Value
port	This defines the listening port of the http server.	9999

dbio.py

Variable Name	Description	Default Value
databasePath	This is the location of the SQLite database used to store chat messages.	..\db\chat.db

pylogger.py

Variable Name	Description	Default Value
loggingLevel	This value defines how high or verbose the logging of Chat is. See the dictLogLevel inside of pylogger.py for more information.	information
logFileName	This is the location of the log file used to store Chat application logs.	..\logs\chatapp.log

chat.py

Variable Name	Description	Default Value
showDebugPageOnFailure	Determines if error page is user-friendly or administrator friendly.	False
numberOfPastMessages	Determines how many messages to retrieve from database. See dbio.py for more options.	topFifty
showValidationErrors	Flag which controls whether or not user gets feedback when their message is not saved in the database.	True

Deployment

Once you've made the appropriate changes to the configuration of Chat (if needed), you should be able to simply run *startserver.py* to begin using Chat. You can browse to *http://localhost:9999/chat.py* and begin using the Chat application. Once you've decided to deploy it, you'll need to configure the application with the appropriate port and restart the server. Optionally, you can migrate to Apache or some other CGI-enabled webserver, however deployment on a production webserver is not covered within this document.

Issues/Bugs/Questions/Etc.

Feel free to email me at y80nomo@gmail.com.