Toy7

About:

Toy7 is a text-based music generator that is integrated with a multi-threaded chatroom. It has been formally structured into a musical work that combines elements of 'scored' and improvised sections. The 'scored' sections are merely proscribed texts that develop a humorous narrative predicated on late-nineties cyberculture. Indeed, on the internet, and in the cultural closure of space and time therewith, everything there is here; everything is mediated; everything is now; and everything is a throwback.

Setup:

List of required materials and staging:

- Six laptops that are WIFI-enabled and have python 3.7 installed on them, one laptop acts as the chat-server, and music generator, and the five others act as chat-clients.
- Appropriate audio output cables to connect the server laptop to the performance space's sound system.
- A sound system with at least two speakers arranged in stereo at the front of the hall. Performers can choose to set up a larger array of speakers in front, just know that the program as it stands currently is not designed to do anything further with surround sound or ambisonics.
- A projector and a projector screen to display the chat from the server laptop.
- Highly recommended: your own WIFI router so that TCP/IP routing 'locally' is very simple.

Setting Up:

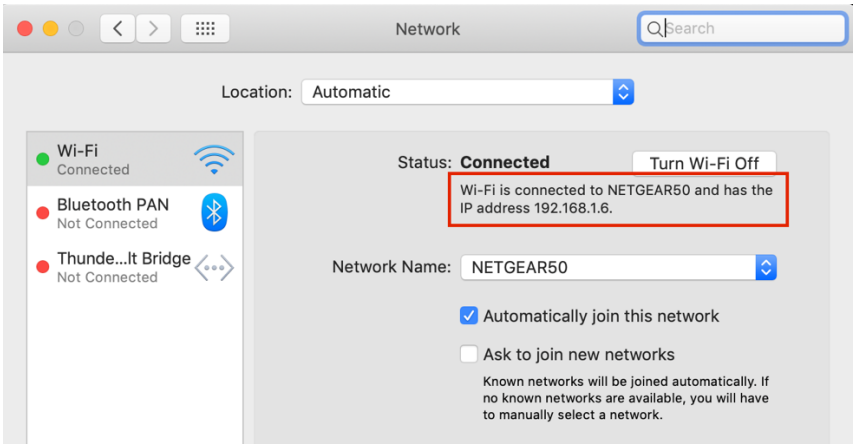
- The server laptop must install pyo (http://ajaxsoundstudio.com/software/pyo/) on their laptop. There are multiple ways to install pyo, either through compiling from the source code, using their installer, git, or brew. It is highly recommended that the server client laptop installs their Python 3.7 and pyo packages to operate in a virtual environment, especially on Mac, otherwise pyo will compile to the native installation of python that comes with OSX (Python 2.7). This will break the main chat_serv.py and Music_Handler.py scripts. Further, altering the native installation of Python on your Mac will break some of your programs, or break installations and updates of programs! Email the composer with any questions or concerns (ec.lemmon@gmail.com).
- The server laptop will also need to download both the chat_serv.py and Music_Handler.py scripts from https://github.com/eclemmon/Toy7. If they would also like to chat, the server laptop may also do so from a separate shell window. In this case, also download chat_clnt.py.

- The chat client laptops must install Python 3.7 and download the chat_clnt.py script from https://github.com/eclemmon/Toy7.

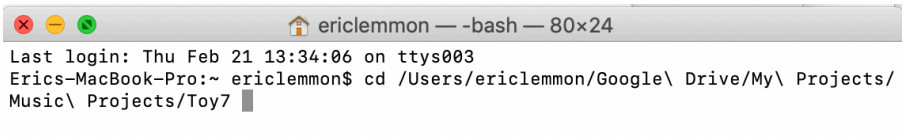
Once python and pyo have been downloaded and installed, booting the software should be fairly simple. To start:

1. Open the chat_serv.py file in your favorite IDE, and find the HOST variable. In between the quotation marks, change the string to the IP address that your computer has been assigned. On Mac you can find this information in the System Preferences app under 'Network'. Future versions (after 3/1/19) will not require you to edit the code in line, but will request it from the console.

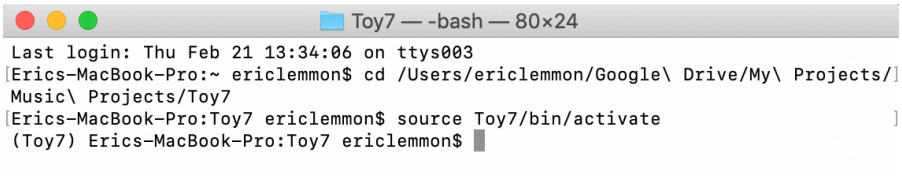
```
""" Set only HOST and PORT according to your wifi/lan + Client settings"""

HOST = '127.0.0.1'
PORT = 33000
BUFSIZ = 1024
ADDR = (HOST, PORT)

SERVER = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM)
SERVER.bind(ADDR)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    SERVER.listen(5)
    print("Waiting for connection...")
    #Start formal structure here
    TOY7_STRUCTURE = structure_handler(BOUNDARY1, BOUNDARY2)
    ACCEPT_THREAD = Thread(target=accept_incoming_connections)
    ACCEPT_THREAD.start()
    ACCEPT_THREAD.join()
    SERVER.close()
```



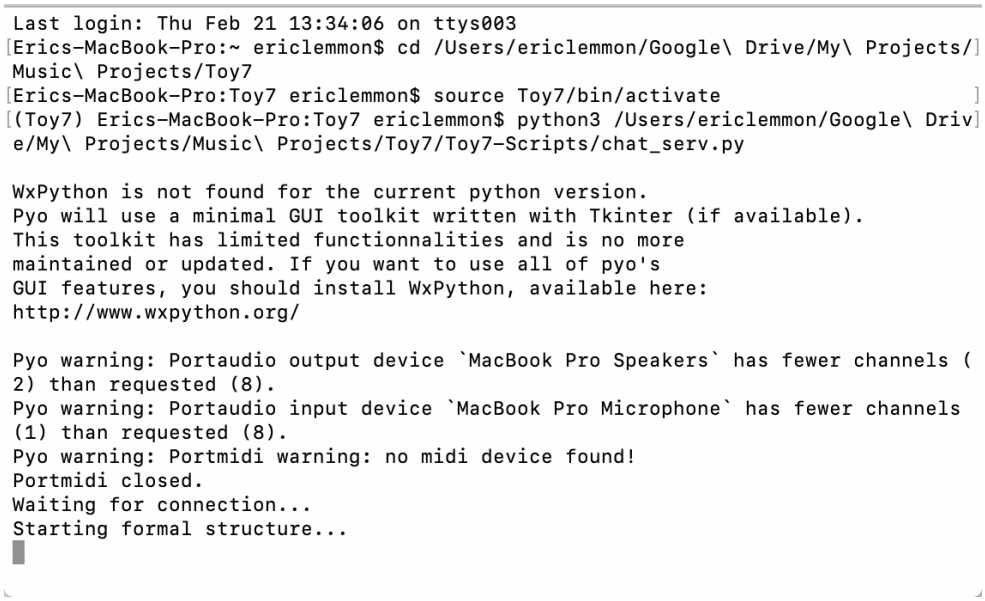
2. Open terminal and change your directory to the location of your virtual environment and the scripts.



3. Type in `source virtualenv_directory/bin/activate` to activate your virtual environment.



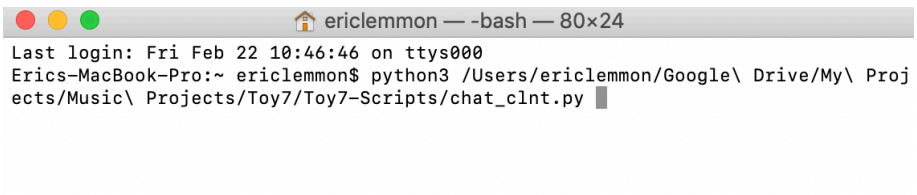
4. Type in `python3 user/path/chat_serv.py`. This can be achieved by following the call to book python with dragging the file into your terminal window on Mac.



5. The server is now booted and ready to accept chat clients.

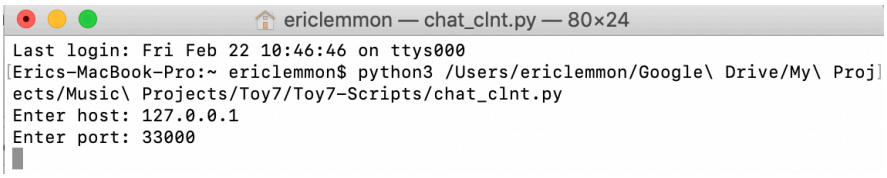
Instructions for chat clients:

1. Chatters have it easy. Simply open your terminal or UNIX shell and type in: `python3 user/path/chat_clnt.py`.

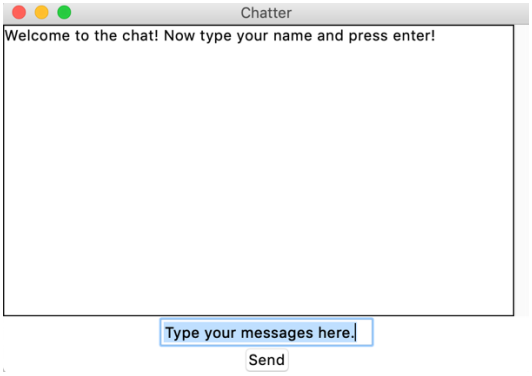


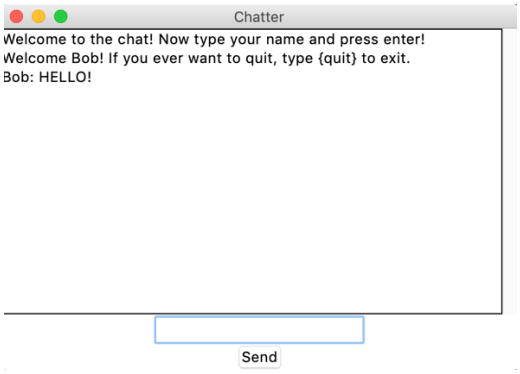
2. Once you run it (by hitting enter) a chat window will pop up, but it does not work yet. Staying in your terminal you must enter the host's IP Address, which the server laptop

operator will read off to you from their computer's system preferences. They will also tell you the port number to enter, which is set to 33000 by default.



3. Your chat window is now operational, but you must enter a user name before you can begin chatting. If all goes according to plan, once you enter a user name, you will hear the old AIM 'door open' sound.





4. You may now chat away and it will create sounds!