

Assignment 1: Group RPC Communication

Project Description: This project is based on a .NET Core gRPC client and an ASP.NET Core gRPC Server. Link → [Create a .NET Core gRPC client and server in ASP.NET Core | Microsoft Learn](#). Microsoft complemented the gRPC documentation well with their own C# tutorial. The project was extended to implement a group chat with n-clients and 1-server. This project is a simple console application. Clients are able to input a username and a chatroom name. The chatroom name controls what messages they (the client) receives. The program allows clients to send/receive messages from the server asynchronously. When a client joins a chatroom, they receive all of the unread messages that are stored in a concurrent dictionary, if there are any unread message.

Project Implementation:

(Top Left) Proto file layout and (Top Right) Client main method, a write thread is started and input s processed from the terminal while it is active. (Bottom Left) Server has the implementation of the protos that were defined. (Bottom Right) This service helps the server implement chatrooms and messaging.

```
1 syntax = "proto3";
2
3 option csharp_namespace = "Grpc.GroupChatServer";
4
5 package groupchat;
6
7 service GroupChat {
8     rpc EnterChat (Client) returns (stream GroupChatMessage);
9     rpc SendMessage (GroupChatMessage) returns (MessageResponse);
10 }
11
12 message Client {
13     string name = 1;
14     string group = 2;
15 }
16
17 message GroupChatMessage {
18     string message = 1;
19     string group = 2;
20 }
21
22 message MessageResponse {
23     bool ok = 1;
24 }
```

```
/// <summary>
/// Main entry point.
/// </summary>
/// <param name="args"></param>
0 references
public static void Main(string[] args)
{
    // The port number must match the port of the gRPC server.
    using var channel = GrpcChannel.ForAddress("https://localhost:7186");

    // Set a client on the specified channel.
    var client = new GroupChat.GroupChatClient(channel);

    // Prompt for a user name and a chat room to join.
    Console.WriteLine("Name: ");
    var userName = Console.ReadLine();

    Console.WriteLine("Chatroom: ");
    var chatroomName = Console.ReadLine();

    // Enter the chat room.
    var reply = client.EnterChat(new Client { Name = userName, Group = chatroomName });

    StartWriteThread(reply);

    ProcessInput(client, userName, chatroomName);
}
```

```
/// <summary>
/// Subscribe to a chatroom and notify relevant clients.
/// </summary>
/// <param name="request"></param>
/// <param name="responseStream"></param>
/// <param name="context"></param>
/// <returns></returns>
/// <remarks></remarks>
public override async Task EnterChat(Client request, IStreamWriter<GroupChatMessage> responseStream, ServerCallContext context)
{
    string name = request.Name;
    string group = request.Group;

    .logger.LogInformation($"(name) has entered the (group) chatroom.");

    .streamingService.Subscribe(group, responseStream);

    // Send unread messages to the new client
    var unreadMessages = .streamingService.GetUnreadMessages(group);
    foreach (var message in unreadMessages)
    {
        .logger.LogInformation($"(name) received unread message. {message}");
        await responseStream.WriteAsync(message);
    }

    await .streamingService.SendMessage(new GroupChatMessage { Message = $"User with name {name} entered the (group) chatroom.", Group = request.Group });
    await responseStream.Close();
}

/// <summary>
/// Send a message to the chatroom.
/// </summary>
/// <param name="request"></param>
/// <param name="context"></param>
/// <returns></returns>
/// <remarks></remarks>
public override async Task<MessageResponse> SendMessage(GroupChatMessage request, ServerCallContext context)
{
    .logger.LogInformation($"(request.Message) is received by (request.Group).");

    await .streamingService.SendMessage(request);
    return new MessageResponse { Ok = true };
}
```

```
/// <summary>
/// Send a message to the chatroom.
/// </summary>
/// <param name="group"></param>
/// <param name="stream"></param>
/// <remarks></remarks>
public void Subscribe(string group, IStreamWriter<GroupChatMessage> stream)
{
    // Create a new group stream if it doesn't exist.
    if (!_groupStreams.ContainsKey(group))
    {
        _groupStreams[group] = new List<IStreamWriter<GroupChatMessage>>();
        _groupStreams[group].Add(stream);
    }

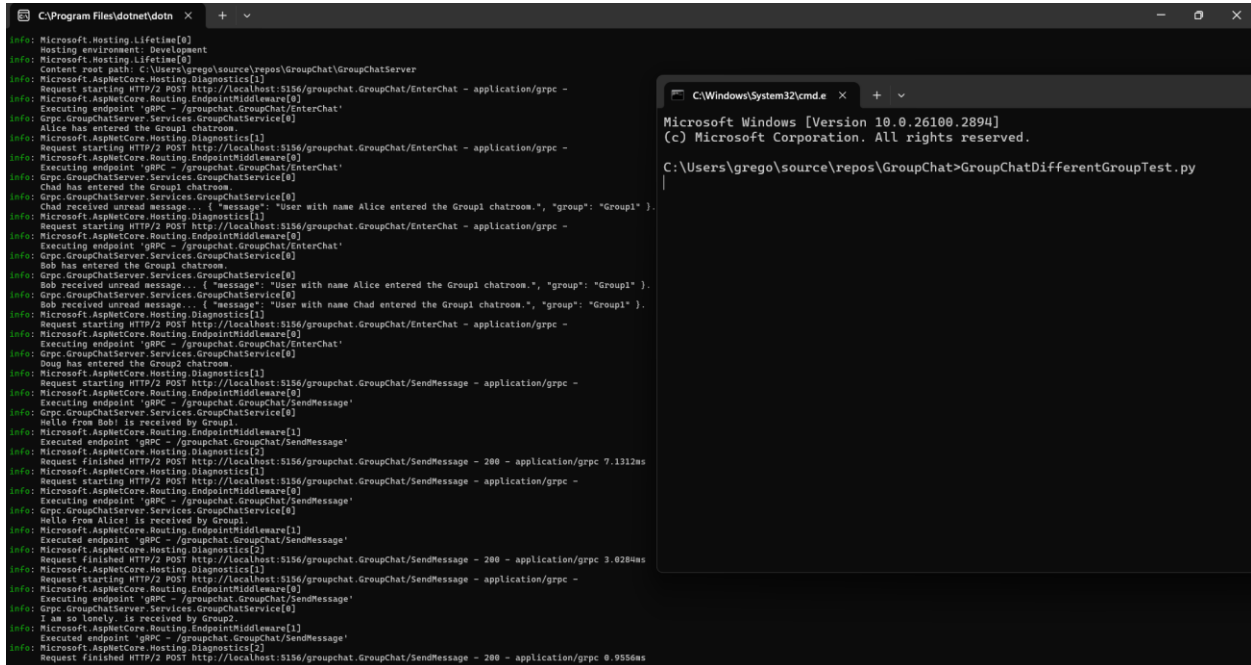
    /// <summary>
    /// Send a message to the chatroom.
    /// </summary>
    /// <param name="message"></param>
    /// <remarks></remarks>
    public async Task SendMessage(GroupChatMessage message)
    {
        // Store the message in the group's message list.
        if (!_groupMessages.ContainsKey(message.Group))
        {
            _groupMessages[message.Group] = new List<GroupChatMessage>();
            _groupMessages[message.Group].Add(message);
        }

        // Only send the message to the group if the client is a member of said group.
        if (_groupStreams.TryGetValue(message.Group, out var streams))
        {
            await Parallel.ForEachAsync(streams, async (stream, ctx) =>
            {
                await stream.WriteAsync(message);
            });
        }
    }
}
```

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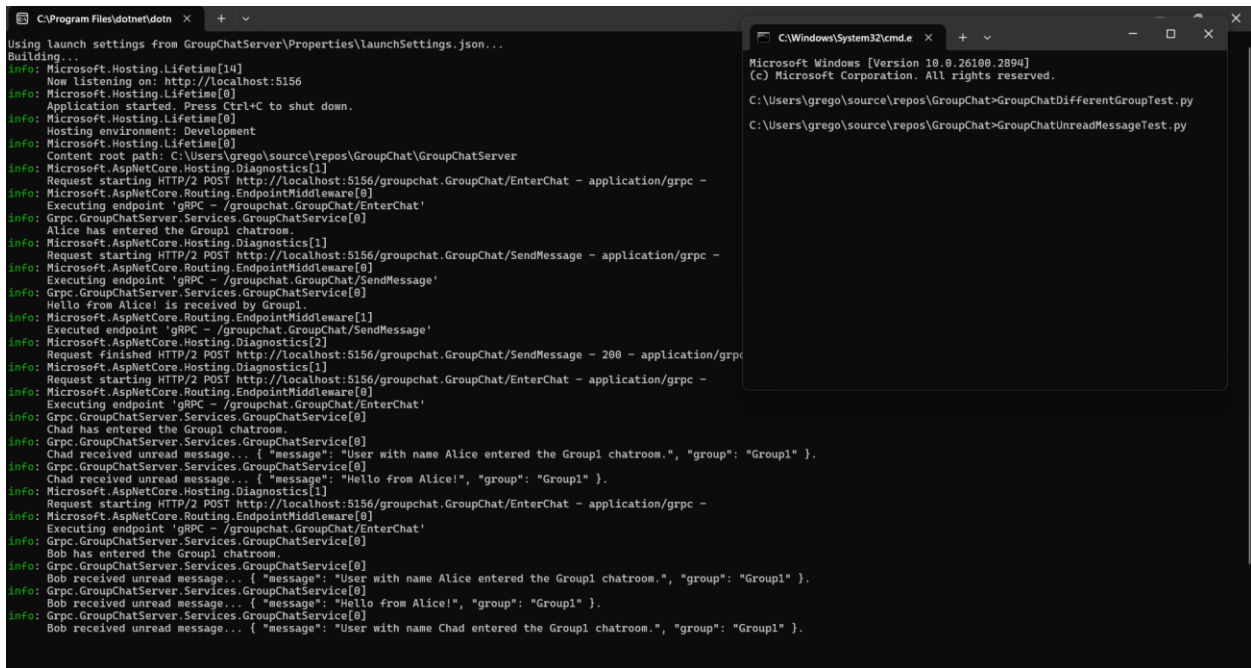
Project Testing:

Testing example running the GroupChatDifferentGroupTest.py python script. This shows a user not getting messages when in a separate chatroom. All logs are output to the server.



The screenshot shows a Visual Studio Code editor with two windows. The left window displays the server logs for the GroupChat application, showing the startup sequence and the handling of HTTP requests for entering chatrooms and sending messages. The right window is a terminal running the command `C:\Users\grego\source\repos\GroupChat>GroupChatDifferentGroupTest.py`. The logs indicate that Alice and Bob have entered the Group1 chatroom, and Chad has entered the Group2 chatroom. The terminal window shows the output of the GroupChatDifferentGroupTest.py script, which is currently empty.

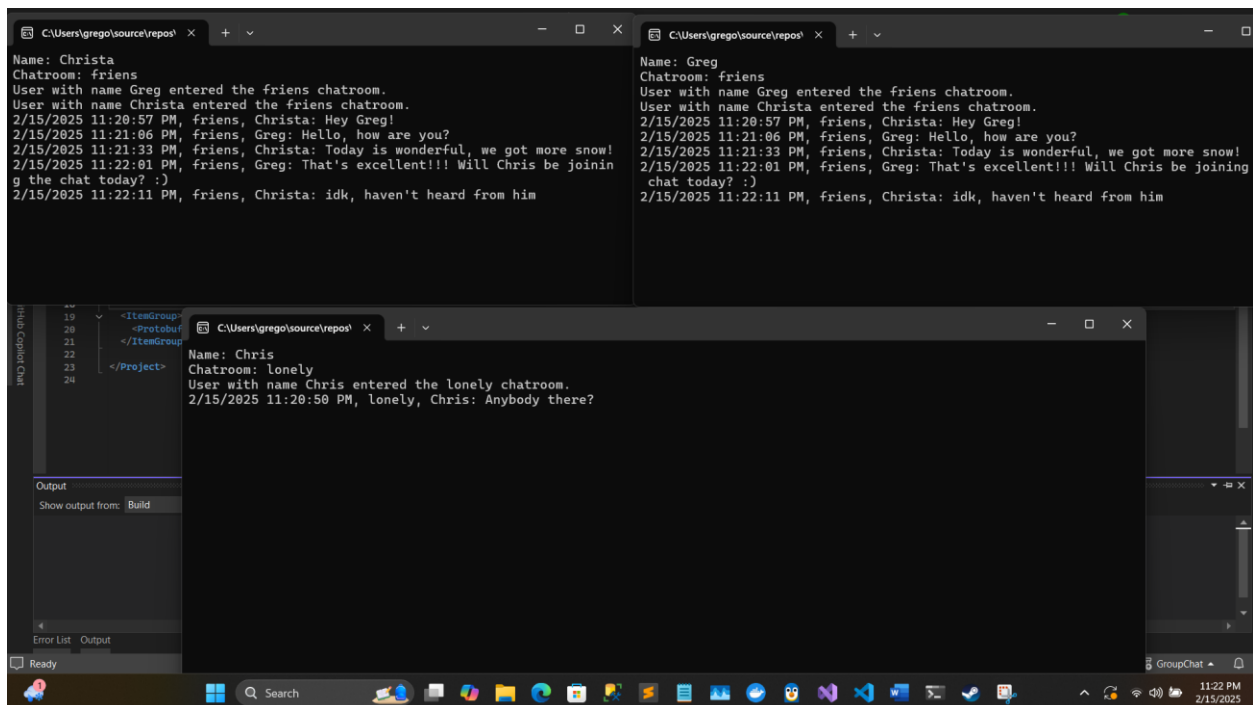
Testing example running the GroupChatUnreadMessageTest.py python script. This shows a user joining the chatroom and receiving unread messages. All logs are output to the server.



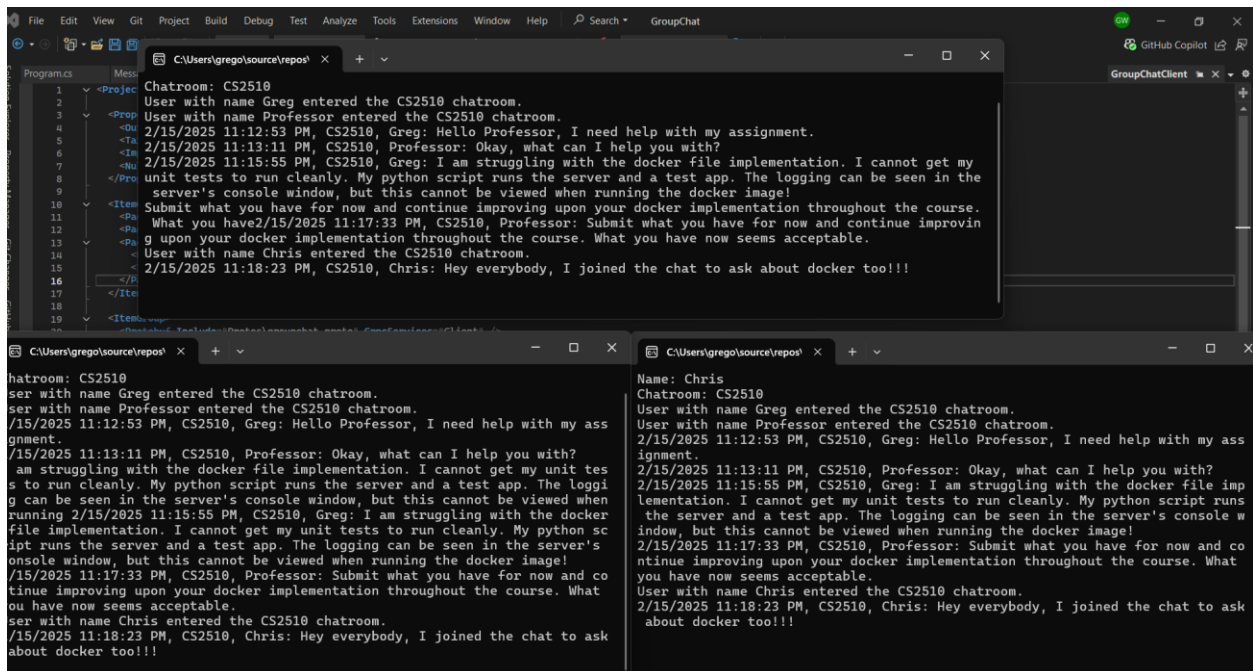
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Testing example running 3 clients. This shows how the chatrooms control what messages can be seen.



Testing example running 3 clients. This shows how a user receives unread messages when joining a chatroom.



Example of server running in Docker container.

```
Administrator Command Prompt - docker run -p 5000:5000 groupchat-app
C:\Windows\System32>cd C:\Users\grego\source\repos\GroupChat

C:\Users\grego\source\repos\GroupChat>docker build -t groupchat-app .
[+] Building 7.1s (20/20) FINISHED
=> [internal] load build definition from Dockerfile                                0.0s
=> => transferring dockerfile: 2.42kB                                              0.0s
=> [internal] load metadata for mcr.microsoft.com/dotnet/sdk:9.0                 0.2s
=> [internal] load .dockerignore                                                  0.0s
=> => transferring context: 2B                                                    0.0s
=> [build-env 1/13] FROM mcr.microsoft.com/dotnet/sdk:9.0@sha256:7f8e8b1514a2eccc025f1e9dd554e191b21afa7f43f83 0.0s
=> => resolve mcr.microsoft.com/dotnet/sdk:9.0@sha256:7f8e8b1514a2eccc025f1e9dd554e191b21afa7f43f8321b7bd2009cd 0.0s
=> [internal] load build context                                                0.5s
=> => transferring context: 2.61MB                                                0.4s
=> CACHED [build-env 2/13] WORKDIR /app                                          0.0s
=> CACHED [build-env 3/13] COPY *.sln ./                                         0.0s
=> CACHED [build-env 4/13] COPY GroupChatServer/*.csproj ./GroupChatServer/     0.0s
=> CACHED [build-env 5/13] COPY GroupChatClient/*.csproj ./GroupChatClient/     0.0s
=> CACHED [build-env 6/13] COPY GroupChatUnreadMessageTest/*.csproj ./GroupChatUnreadMessageTest/ 0.0s
=> CACHED [build-env 7/13] COPY GroupChatDifferentGroupTest/*.csproj ./GroupChatDifferentGroupTest/ 0.0s
=> CACHED [build-env 8/13] RUN dotnet restore                                    0.0s
=> [build-env 9/13] COPY GroupChatServer/. ./GroupChatServer/                  0.1s
=> [build-env 10/13] COPY GroupChatClient/. ./GroupChatClient/                  0.1s
=> [build-env 11/13] COPY GroupChatUnreadMessageTest/. ./GroupChatUnreadMessageTest/ 0.1s
=> [build-env 12/13] COPY GroupChatDifferentGroupTest/. ./GroupChatDifferentGroupTest/ 0.1s
=> [build-env 13/13] RUN dotnet build                                           5.6s
=> [stage-1 3/4] COPY --from=build-env /app/GroupChatServer/bin/Debug/net9.0/ ./ 0.0s
=> [stage-1 4/4] COPY --from=build-env /app/GroupChatClient/bin/Debug/net9.0/ ./ 0.0s
=> exporting to image                                                            0.3s
=> => exporting layers                                                            0.1s
=> => exporting manifest sha256:5b6211ce10a0f1742cd3450689effaee2b1d956fd22118c5800429b64445b544 0.0s
=> => exporting config sha256:f1bce336523ffbfade854c4a857a3b9e8eed5851b07a2eb5a9c3804a711ee0f4 0.0s
=> => exporting attestation manifest sha256:4a197b2069110279a84a8e6b2c97d79379841b85a25d32ebaac62bbd36362ab8 0.0s
=> => exporting manifest list sha256:4d717b88888ff58dd78761721548385c5e7623c45c869529a42c929135498bd 0.0s
=> => naming to docker.io/library/groupchat-app:latest                          0.0s
=> => unpacking to docker.io/library/groupchat-app:latest                       0.1s

View build details: docker-desktop://dashboard/build/desktop-linux/desktop-linux/g1v056oj0e6851lf5u9fhc496

C:\Users\grego\source\repos\GroupChat>docker run -p 5000:5000 groupchat-app
info: Microsoft.Hosting.Lifetime[14]
      Now listening on: http://[::]:8080
info: Microsoft.Hosting.Lifetime[0]
      Application started. Press Ctrl+C to shut down.
info: Microsoft.Hosting.Lifetime[0]
      Hosting environment: Production
info: Microsoft.Hosting.Lifetime[0]
      Content root path: /app
```