Design & Implemenation: Internet Voice & Text Chatting Program

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1 Project Overview

The Internet Text and Voice Messaging Program that I have implemented is a Multithreaded Chat Application that utilises the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and allows for mutiple clients to send/receive text and voice messages over a server, to one another, at the same time. We switched from using Java to Python as Python provides more API support for voice chat. The source code files are as follow:

- 1. Server Files
 - server.py
- 2. Client Files
 - client.java

2 Environment and Dependencies

My program is written in **Python 3.6.7** and is developed on **Windows running the Ubuntu 18.04.2 bit subsystem**, using **PyCharm** as the **Integrated Development Environment**. The program may not work as intended if it is ran on other environments. **Ensure**that these dependencies are being installed on your system.

1. PyAudio

```
#On Ubuntu Terminal
$ sudo apt-get install python-pyaudio python3-pyaudio
```

2. Threading

```
#On Ubuntu Terminal
$ sudo apt install python3-pip #Only if pip is not installed
$ pip install threaded
```

3. libasound

```
#On Ubuntu Terminal
$ sudo apt-get install libasound2-dev
```

3 Implementation - Text Chat

3.1 Client - Receving Text

Below is the handler for how a client receives text sent from other clients through the server. The Client is binded to the Server Text Port on 3001.

```
#Client.py
def receive_text():
    while True:
        try:
        msg = client_socket_text.recv(BUFSIZ).decode("utf8")
        print(msg)
    except OSError:
        break
```

3.2 Client - Sending Text

Below is the handler for how a client sent a text to the server and to other clients on the server. The Text and Video Port connection will be closed if the Client inputs "quit".

```
#Client.py
def send_text():
    while True:
    msg = input()
    print('\033[A\033[A'))
    client_socket_text.send(bytes(msg, "utf8"))
    if msg == "{quit}":
        client_socket_text.close()
        client_socket_voice.close()
        quit()
```

3.3 Server - Accept Connection to Text Port

Below is the handler for how the server accepts a connection from the client onto the Text Port. The Text Port that the client connect to is /textitP3001. Whenever a client is connected to the port, a thread if attached to the client to handle it.

```
#Server.py
#For handling client's connection to TEXT PORT, assign a thread for each
```

```
connection
def accept_text():
    while True:
        client, client_address = SERVER_TEXT.accept()
        print("%s:%s_has_connected_from_." % client_address)
        client.send(bytes("Enter_your_name:_", "utf8"))
        addresses_text[client] = client_address
        Thread(target=handle_client_text, args=(client,)).start()
```

3.4 Server - Handling Text

Below is the handler for how the Server recevies a message from a client and subsequently broadcasts the message to all the other clients on the server.

```
#Server.py
def handle_client_text(client):
 #Handles a message from the given socket.
 #Receive Message
 name = client.recv(BUFSIZ).decode("utf8")
 welcome = 'Welcome_\%s!_Type_\{quit}_\to_exit_\the_chat_room.' \% name
 client.send(bytes(welcome, "utf8"))
 msg = "%s_has_entered_the_chat_room!" % name
 broadcast(bytes(msg, "utf8"))
 clients_text[client] = name
 while True:
   msg = client.recv(BUFSIZ)
   if msg != bytes("{quit}", "utf8"):
     #Append name to front of message
     broadcast(msg, name + ">>□")
   else:
     client.send(bytes("{quit}", "utf8"))
     client.close()
     erase_client(client)
     broadcast(bytes("%s_has_left_the_chat_room." % name, "utf8"))
     break
```

4 Implementation - Voice Chat

We utilised the PyAudio library to implement the voice chat portion of our application.

4.1 Client - Declaring the Input/Output Streams

We have to declare the Input and Output Stream for sending and receiving audio on our client. stream send is for sending our voice input to the server, on onto the other clients on the server.

stream receive is for receving and playing the voice output from the server, which is sent from the other clients on the server.

```
#Client.py
#For sending stream over to the server
stream_send = p.open(
   format=pyaudio.paInt16,
   channels=CHANNELS,
   rate=RATE,
   input=True,
   frames_per_buffer=CHUNK)

#For receving stream from the server and playing the stream
stream_recv = p.open(
   format=p.get_format_from_width(WIDTH),
   channels=CHANNELS,
   rate=RATE,
   output=True,
   frames_per_buffer=CHUNK)
```

4.2 Client - Sending/Receiving Audio

The client have to handles both sending/receiving voice simulatanuously. The below two functions are for receiving and playing the voice sent from the server and for sending voice inputs from the client to the server.

```
#Client.py
# For Receiving Voice
def receive_voice():
 while True:
   try:
     data = client_socket_voice.recv(BUFSIZ)
     stream_recv.write(data)
   except OSError:
     break
# Send voice to the server
def send_voice():
 while True:
   try:
     data = stream_send.read(CHUNK)
     client_socket_voice.sendall(data)
   except OSError:
     break
clientSocket.close();
```

4.3 Server - Accept Connection to Voice Port

Below is the handler for how the server accepts a connection from the client onto the Voice Port. The Voice Port that the client connect to is /textit50007. Whenever a client is connected to the port, a thread if attached to the client to handle it.

4.4 Server - Handling Voice

Below is the handler for how the Server recevies a voice message from a client and subsequently broadcasts the message to all the other clients on the server.

```
#Server.py
def handle_client_voice(client):
    """

Handles Voice from the given socket.
    """

# Receive Voice
clients_voice[client] = 1

while client in clients_voice:
    try:
    data = client.recv(BUFSIZ)
    broadcast(data, dtype='voice')
    except Exception as _:
    client.close()
    del clients_voice[client]
```

5 Running the Program

On the client, the input for host should be 127.0.0.1 unless a specific host has been defined.

5.1 Terminal

1. In the terminal, run the command *python Server.py* to start the **server**.

```
Terminal: Local × +

(venv) jerms@jerms-VirtualBox:~/PycharmProjects/VoiceandChat$ python server.py
Waiting for connection...
```

2. In the terminal, run the command $python\ Client.py$ to start the client. (Run n times to start n clients)

```
(venv) jerms@jerms-VirtualBox:~/PycharmProjects/VoiceandChat$ python client.py
Enter the Host: 127.0.0.1
Enter your name:
Welcome Jerms! Type {quit} to exit the chat room.
Jerms>> Hi there
```

- 3. Voice is constantly is being sent & received, so you do not have to input any additional commands to enable voice chat.
- 4. In the terminal, type {quit} to exit the from the server.

```
(venv) jerms@jerms-VirtualBox:~/PycharmProjects/VoiceandChat$ python client.py
Enter the Host: 127.0.0.1
Enter your name:
Welcome Jerms! Type {quit} to exit the chat room.
Jerms>> Hi there
{quit}
(venv) jerms@jerms-VirtualBox:~/PycharmProjects/VoiceandChat$
```