Network Programming: Servers

Topics in This Section

Steps for creating a server

- 1. Create a ServerSocket object
- 2. Create a Socket object from ServerSocket
- 3. Create an input stream
- 4. Create an output stream
- 5. Do I/O with input and output streams
- 6. Close the socket

A generic network server

- Single threaded
- Multithreaded
- Accepting connections from browsers
- A simple HTTP server

Basics

Steps for Implementing a Server

1. Create a ServerSocket object

```
ServerSocket listenSocket = new ServerSocket(portNumber);
```

2. Create a Socket object from ServerSocket

```
while(someCondition) {
   Socket server = listenSocket.accept();
   doSomethingWith(server);
}
```

It is common to have doSomethingWith spin off a separate thread

3. Create an input stream to read client input

```
BufferedReader in =
new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(server.getInputStream()));
```

Steps for Implementing a Server

4. Create an output stream that can be used to send info back to the client

```
// Last arg of true means autoflush stream
// when println is called
PrintWriter out = new PrintWriter(server.getOutputStream(), true);
```

5. Do I/O with input and output streams

- You usually read inside a loop
- You usually respond in a separate thread
- Most common way to read input: lines or readLine
- Most common way to send output: printf

6. Close the socket when done

```
server.close();  // Or use try-with-resources
```

This closes the associated input and output streams

Reminder of Helper Class: SocketUtils

Idea

 It is common to make BufferedReader and PrintWriter from a Socket, so simplify the syntax slightly

Without SocketUtils (for Socket s)

- PrintWriter out =
 new PrintWriter(s.getOutputStream(), true);
- BufferedReader in =
 new BufferedReader
 (new InputStreamReader(s.getInputStream()));

With SocketUtils (for Socket s)

- PrintWriter out = SocketUtils.getWriter(s);
- BufferedReader in = SocketUtils.getReader(s);

Exceptions

IOException

- Interruption or other unexpected problem
 - Client closing connection causes error for writing, but does not cause an error when reading: the Stream<String> from lines just finishes, and null is returned from readLine

Note

- ServerSocket implements AutoCloseable, so you can use the try-with-resources idea we first covered in file IO section
 - try(ServerSocket listener = new ServerSocket(...)) { ... }

Simple Warmup: A Single-Threaded Server

Base Class for Single-Threaded Network Server

```
import java.net.*;
import java.io.*;
/** A starting point for network servers. */
public abstract class NetworkServer {
  private int port;
  /** Build a server on specified port. It will continue to
  * accept connections, passing each to handleConnection until
  * the server is killed (e.g., Control-C in the startup window)
     or System.exit() from handleConnection or elsewhere
     in the Java code).
  */
  public NetworkServer(int port) {
    this.port = port;
```

A Generic Network Server (Continued)

```
/** Monitor a port for connections. Each time one is established,
    pass resulting Socket to handleConnection.
 */
public void listen() {
  try(ServerSocket listener = new ServerSocket(port)) {
    Socket socket;
    while(true) { // Run until killed
      socket = listener.accept();
      handleConnection(socket);
  } catch (IOException ioe) {
    System.out.println("IOException: " + ioe);
    ioe.printStackTrace();
```

A Generic Network Server (Continued)

```
/** This is the method that provides the behavior to the
    server, since it determines what is done with the
 *
 *
    resulting socket. <b>Override this method in servers
    you write.</b>
 */
protected abstract void handleConnection (Socket socket) throws IOException;
/** Gets port on which server is listening. */
public int getPort() {
  return (port) ;
```

Using Network Server

```
public class NetworkServerTest extends NetworkServer {
  public NetworkServerTest(int port) {
    super(port);
  @Override
 protected void handleConnection(Socket socket) throws IOException{
    PrintWriter out = SocketUtils.getWriter(socket);
    BufferedReader in = SocketUtils.getReader(socket);
    System.out.printf("Generic Server: got connection from %s%n" +
                      "with first line '%s'.%n",
                      socket.getInetAddress().getHostName(),
                      in.readLine());
    out.println("Generic Server");
    socket.close();
```

Using Network Server (Continued)

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
  int port = 8080;
  try {
    port = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);
  } catch(NumberFormatException|ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException e) {}
  NetworkServerTest tester = new NetworkServerTest(port);
  tester.listen();
}
```

Network Server: Results

Accepting a Connection from a browser

- Suppose the above test program is started up on port 80 of server.com:
 - > java coreservlets.NetworkServerTest 80
- Then, a standard Web browser on client.com
 requests http://server.com/foo/bar, resulting in the following printed at server.com:

```
Generic Network Server:

got connection from client.com

with first line 'GET /foo/bar HTTP/1.1'
```

A Base Class for a Multithreaded Server

Base Class for Multithreaded Server

```
import java.net.*;
import java.util.concurrent.*;
import java.io.*;
public class MultithreadedServer {
  private int port;
  public MultithreadedServer(int port) {
    this.port = port;
  public int getPort() {
    return(port);
```

MultithreadedServer.java (Continued)

```
public void listen() {
  int poolSize = 50 * Runtime.getRuntime().availableProcessors();
  ExecutorService tasks = Executors.newFixedThreadPool(poolSize);
  try(ServerSocket listener = new ServerSocket(port)) {
    Socket socket;
    while(true) { // Run until killed
      socket = listener.accept();
      tasks.execute(new ConnectionHandler(socket));
                                             Inner class whose run method calls back to handleConnection of this class.
  } catch (IOException ioe) {
    System.err.println("IOException: " + ioe);
    ioe.printStackTrace();
```

MultithreadedServer.java (Continued – Inner Class)

```
private class ConnectionHandler implements Runnable {
  private Socket connection;
  public ConnectionHandler(Socket socket) {
    this.connection = socket;
  public void run() {
    try {
      handleConnection(connection);
    } catch(IOException ioe) {
      System.err.println("IOException: " + ioe);
```

MultithreadedServer.java (Continued)

```
/** This is the method that provides the behavior to the
    * server, since it determines what is done with the
    * resulting socket. <b>Override this method in servers
    * you write.</b>
    */

protected abstract void handleConnection(Socket connection)
    throws IOException;
```

A Simple Multithreaded HTTP Server

HTTP Requests and Responses

Request

```
GET /~gates/ HTTP/1.1

Host: www.mainhost.com

Connection: close

Header3: ...

HeaderN: ...

Blank Line
```

- All request headers are optional except for Host (required for HTTP/1.1)
- If you send HEAD instead of GET, the server returns the same HTTP headers, but no document

Response

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: text/html
Header2: ...
HeaderN: ...
Blank Line
<!DOCTYPE ...>
<html>
</html>
```

 All response headers are optional except for Content-Type

A Simple HTTP Server

Idea

- 1. Read lines sent by the browser, storing them in a List
 - Use readLine a line at a time until an empty line
 - Exception: with POST requests you have to read extra line
- 2. Send an HTTP response line (e.g. "HTTP/1.1 200 OK")
- 3. Send a Content-Type line then a blank line
 - This indicates the file type being returned (HTML in this case)
- 4. Send an HTML file showing the lines that were sent
 - Put the input in a section inside the body
- 5. Close the connection

EchoServer.java

```
/** A simple HTTP server that generates a Web page
    showing all of the data that it received from
  * the Web client (usually a browser). */
public class EchoServer extends MultithreadedServer {
 public EchoServer(int port) {
    super(port);
 public static void main(String[] args) {
    int port = 8080;
    try {
      port = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);
    } catch (NumberFormatException |
            ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException e) {}
    EchoServer server = new EchoServer(port);
    server.listen();
```

EchoServer.java: Reading the Request

```
@Override
public void handleConnection(Socket socket) throws IOException{
  String serverName = "Multithreaded EchoServer";
  PrintWriter out = SocketUtils.getWriter(socket);
  BufferedReader in = SocketUtils.getReader(socket);
  List<String> inputLines = new ArrayList<>();
  String line;
  while((line = in.readLine()) != null) {
    inputLines.add(line);
    if (line.isEmpty()) { // Blank line.
      if (WebUtils.isUsingPost(inputLines)) {
        inputLines.add(WebUtils.postData(in));
      break;
```

EchoServer.java: Sending the Response

```
WebUtils.printHeader(out, serverName);
for (String inputLine: inputLines) {
   out.println(inputLine);
}
WebUtils.printTrailer(out);
socket.close();
```

WebUtils.java

```
public static void printHeader(PrintWriter out, String serverName) {
  out.println
    ("HTTP/1.1 200 OK\r\n" +
    "Server: " + serverName + "\r\n" +
    "Content-Type: text/html\r\n" +
    "\r\n" +
    "<!DOCTYPE html>\n" +
     <head>\n'' +
    " <meta charset=\"utf-8\"/>\n" +
    " <title>" + serverName + " Results</title>\n" +
    </head>\n'' +
    "\n" +
     "\body bgcolor=\"fdf5e6\">\n" +
     "<h1 align=\"center\">" + serverName + " Results</h1>\n" +
     "Here are the request line and request headers\n" +
    "sent by your browser:\n" +
    "");
```

WebUtils.java (Continued)

```
public static void printTrailer(PrintWriter out) {
  out.println
     ("</body></html>\n");
public static boolean isUsingPost(List<String> inputs) {
  return(inputs.get(0).toUpperCase().startsWith("POST"));
/** POST submissions have one extra line at the end, after the blank line,
    and NOT terminated by CR. Ignore multi-line posts, such as file uploads. */
public static String postData(BufferedReader in) throws IOException {
  char[] data = new char[1000]; // Assume 1000 chars max
  int chars = in.read(data);
  return(new String(data, 0, chars));
```

EchoServer in Action



Wrap-Up

Summary

Create a ServerSocket; specify port number

- Call accept to wait for a client connection
- accept returns a Socket object (same class we saw in last lecture)

Browser requests:

- GET, POST, or HEAD line
- 0 or more request headers
- Blank line
- One additional line (query data) for POST requests only

HTTP server response:

- Status line (HTTP/1.1 200 OK),
- Content-Type (and, optionally, other response headers)
- Blank line
- Document

Always make servers multi-threaded

Use MultithreadedServer as starting point