What is dīvidere?

Dīvidere, latin for "to divide, to seperate" seemed an appropriate package name for a distributed system framework project.

The primary goal of dīvidere is to combine three complementary technologies (Python, ZeroMQ, Protobuf) into a distributed system messaging framework. ZeroMQ will provide a variety of transport mechanisms, Protobuf providing a language-independent, strongly-typed message encoding and Python the means to combine these components into a reusable framework.

ZeroMq

ZeroMq provides the core transport mechanisms used by this framework. We'd highhly recommend referencing the official ZeroMq documentation ¹ for more comprehensive material, but for the purposes of this package we will attempt to document sufficient information necessary to use this package.

The communication package provides primitive ZeroMq classes which support byte-stream messaging as the foundation of other more sophisticated packages.

2.1 Publish/Subscribe

The publish-subscribe, pub-sub, sometimes referred to as the observer pattern is a software design pattern where producers of messages provide info without knowledge of the recepients. An analogy would be a radio broadcasting station, sending information to an unknown number of recepients. The messaging is one-way, from provider (publisher) to consumer (subscriber). A publisher can choose to produce one specific message, or a series of messages. The subscriber 'subscribes' to a list of messages, afterwhich all produced messages of this 'topic' will be received by the subscriber.

2.2 Request/Response

The request-response, or request-reply, provides a sychronous form of message passing. The requester sends a message, then waits for the response. This form of communication enforces a send/receive protocol, failure to comply results in the socket throwing an exception. You may choose to connect multiple response objects to the same requester, if doing so sent messages will be routed one-by-one to each response objects in a round-robin fashion. This pattern allows a worker pool fashion architecture.

¹Offical ZeroMQ documentation: https://zeromq.org/

Protobuf

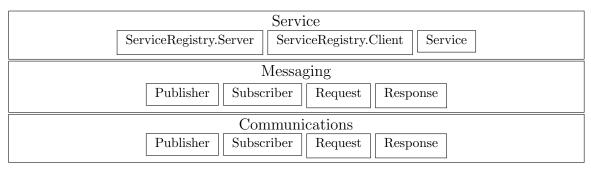
The ZeroMQ transport supports byte-stream and string payloads. Complex messages <u>could</u> be transmitted in JSON form using the communication package but instead we chose to utilize the protobuf encoding/decoding to allow type-safe, language specific messaging contents. Google Protobuf ¹ supports a platform-neutral extensible means to define serialing structured data. Messages are defined in a *.proto file, a message compiler converts the proto file into a language-specific (e.g. Python) message library used by the clients.

¹https://protobuf.dev/

Architecture

Dividere is implemented as a layered architeture, the primary communication layer provided at the *Communications* package, the *Messaging* package providing aggregator classes utilizing the communications classes exchanging Protobuf messages.

These two layers are expected to expand in the future, we also intend on adding higher-level layer(s) with higher-level distributed system abstractions.



Dividere implements a layered architecture approach, more primitive abstractions located at the lower layers, with specialized abstractions atop. Upper layers utilizing lower layer componenents.

4.1 Communications

The communications layer focuses on providing string-based messaging components with generalized debugging visibility. Each consumer component allows blocking and time-out blocking message retrieval interfaces. Most of these components provide a light-weight facade to ZeroMQ components.

4.2 Messaging

This layer mirrors many of the components from the communications layer with a subtle difference, components in this layer utilize protobul messaging protocol rather than string-based messages. This layer is intended to provide multilanguage integration support.

4.3 Service

The service layer provides service-based abstactions, including a 'Service' abstract class that registers with the centralized, server-based, name-service.

Examples

```
\#!/usr/bin/python3
import dividere
\mathbf{import} \hspace{0.2cm} \mathtt{clientMsgs\_pb2} \hspace{0.2cm} as \hspace{0.2cm} \mathtt{clientMsgs}
import time
Port = 5555
pub=dividere.messaging.Publisher('tcp://*:%d'%(Port))
sub=dividere.messaging.Subscriber('tcp://localhost:%d'%(Port))
time.sleep(2); #-delay to address 'late joiner'
msg=clientMsgs.Msg01()
msg.field1='abcd'
pub.send(msg)
reply=sub.recv()
print ("reply: _%s"%(reply))
assert (reply=msg)
\#-destroy\ pub/sub\ objects\ to\ free\ resources\ and\ terminate\ threads
pub=None
sub=None
```

```
#!/usr/bin/python3
import dividere
import clientMsgs_pb2 as clientMsgs
import time
class MyMsgReactor (dividere.messaging.MsgReactor):
  def handleMsg01 (self, obj, msg):
    print ("got_msg01_msg:_%s"%(str (msg)))
    msg. field 1=msg. field 1 [::-1]
    obj.send(msg)
  def handleMsg02(self, obj, msg):
    print ("got_msg02_msg:_%s"%(str (msg)))
     -main-
mh=MyMsgReactor([dividere.messaging.Response('tcp://*:5555'),
                  dividere.messaging.Subscriber('tcp://localhost:5655')])
req=dividere.messaging.Request('tcp://localhost:5555')
msg=clientMsgs.Msg01()
msg.field1='hello'
req.send(msg)
pub=dividere.messaging.Publisher('tcp://*:5655')
msg2=clientMsgs.Msg02()
msg2.field1='some_published_event'
time.sleep(1); #-accomodate late joiner
pub.send(msg2)
reply=req.recv()
assert (reply.field1=msg.field1[::-1])
print(reply)
mh.stop()
req=None
pub=None
mh=None
```

Reference

```
Help on module connection:
NAME
   connection
CLASSES
   builtins.object
        Connector
           Proxy
           Publisher
           Request
           Response
            Subscriber
    class Connector(builtins.object)
     | This abstract class defines the interfaces and structures
     for ZMQ socket-based derived classes. This class provides
     | the ZMQ context and socket event monitoring useful for
       debugging socket state changes.
       The socket monitoring is conducted by an independent thread,
       which is terminated/joined at object termination.
     | Methods defined here:
       __del__(self)
            Performs cleanup for all allocated resources;
            disable monitoring, wait for monitoring thread completes,
            close the socket and close the context
       __init__(self)
           Creates resources used in base classes and defines expected
```

```
structure to be used in derived classes.
   Static methods defined here:
  registerSocketMonitoring(sock)
       Creates a monitoring thread for the specified socket,
       starts the thread and returns the thread id to the caller
       which allows joining on the thread post stopping monitoring
       Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
   socketEventMonitor(monitorSock)
       Background threading callback, supports monitoring the
       specified socket via a background thread and logs state
       changes of the socket for debugging purposes.
       Monitors the socket until monitoring is terminated
       via object destructor (e.g. obj = None)
       Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
   Data descriptors defined here:
   __dict__
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
   __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class Proxy(Connector)
 | Proxy(fePort, bePort)
 | Proxy abstraction defines a router/dealer pairing to allow
   async req/rep client connections.
  Method resolution order:
       Proxy
       Connector
       builtins.object
  Methods defined here:
   __init__(self, fePort, bePort)
       Front-end utilizes the base class socket_ attribute, adds a backend
       socket. Binds to two known ports
  run(self)
```

```
Loop until signaled to stop, wait for an event
        for a specified time-out, to prevent blocking calls,
        then route inbound messages from one to the other socket
   stop(self)
        Signal the active thread it should terminate, wait for
        the thread to halt and close out derived class resources
   Methods inherited from Connector:
   __del__(self)
       Performs cleanup for all allocated resources;
       disable monitoring, wait for monitoring thread completes,
        close the socket and close the context
   Static methods inherited from Connector:
   registerSocketMonitoring(sock)
        Creates a monitoring thread for the specified socket,
        starts the thread and returns the thread id to the caller
       which allows joining on the thread post stopping monitoring
       Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
   socketEventMonitor(monitorSock)
       Background threading callback, supports monitoring the
        specified socket via a background thread and logs state
        changes of the socket for debugging purposes.
        Monitors the socket until monitoring is terminated
        via object destructor (e.g. obj = None)
       Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
   Data descriptors inherited from Connector:
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
   __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class Publisher(Connector)
 | Publisher(endPoint)
 | This class creates a publisher socket at the specified endpoint.
```

```
This is the pub in the Pub/Sub pattern.
Method resolution order:
    Publisher
    Connector
    builtins.object
Methods defined here:
__init__(self, endPoint)
    Allocate base class resources, create PUB socket, start
    socket debug monitoring and connect the socket to the
    specified endpoint (e.g. 'tcp://*:5555')
    Refer to ZMQ documentation for details on available transport
    and syntax of endpoint.
send(self, msg)
    Publish the specified message (expected sequence of bytes)
Methods inherited from Connector:
__del__(self)
    Performs cleanup for all allocated resources;
    disable monitoring, wait for monitoring thread completes,
    close the socket and close the context
 ______
Static methods inherited from Connector:
registerSocketMonitoring(sock)
    Creates a monitoring thread for the specified socket,
    starts the thread and returns the thread id to the caller
    which allows joining on the thread post stopping monitoring
    Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
socketEventMonitor(monitorSock)
    Background threading callback, supports monitoring the
    specified socket via a background thread and logs state
    changes of the socket for debugging purposes.
    Monitors the socket until monitoring is terminated
    via object destructor (e.g. obj = None)
    Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
______
Data descriptors inherited from Connector:
```

```
__dict__
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
   __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class Request(Connector)
| Request(endPointList)
| First part of a Request/Response connection pair. Request object
initiates all messages, response object sends message response.
| Failure to adhere to this sender protocol will result in exception
| being thrown.
   Note: this pairing allows for 1-N cardinality, one request connection
         object sending to N-response objects. When configured like this
         the recipient of any message is routed in a round-robin fashion
         to one response object
   Method resolution order:
       Request
       Connector
       builtins.object
   Methods defined here:
   __init__(self, endPointList)
       Allocate all resources to support the object;
       create a socket, register it for monitoring, and connect
       it to the specified endpoint
   recv(self)
       Wait for and return the incoming message.
   send(self, msg)
       Send the specified message out the socket channel.
       Message consists of a stream of bytes.
   wait(self, timeOutMs)
       Wait for a message to arrive within the specified timeout, return
       true/false representing whether a message is available
| Methods inherited from Connector:
| __del__(self)
```

```
Performs cleanup for all allocated resources;
       disable monitoring, wait for monitoring thread completes,
       close the socket and close the context
     ______
   Static methods inherited from Connector:
   registerSocketMonitoring(sock)
       Creates a monitoring thread for the specified socket,
       starts the thread and returns the thread id to the caller
       which allows joining on the thread post stopping monitoring
       Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
   socketEventMonitor(monitorSock)
       Background threading callback, supports monitoring the
       specified socket via a background thread and logs state
       changes of the socket for debugging purposes.
       Monitors the socket until monitoring is terminated
       via object destructor (e.g. obj = None)
       Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
      ______
   Data descriptors inherited from Connector:
   __dict__
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
   __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class Response(Connector)
  Response(endPoint)
 | Second part of a Request/Response connection pair. Request object
  initiates all messages, response object sends message response.
  Failure to adhere to this sender protocol will result in exception
   being thrown.
  Method resolution order:
       Response
       Connector
       builtins.object
 | Methods defined here:
  __init__(self, endPoint)
```

```
Allocate all resources to support the object;
      create a socket, register it for monitoring, and connect
      it to the specified endpoint
| recv(self)
      Wait for and return the incoming message.
  send(self, msg)
      Send the specified message out the socket channel
      Message consists of a stream of bytes.
  wait(self, timeOutMs)
      Wait for a message to arrive within the specified timeout, return
      true/false representing whether a message is available
  Methods inherited from Connector:
  __del__(self)
      Performs cleanup for all allocated resources;
      disable monitoring, wait for monitoring thread completes,
      close the socket and close the context
  ______
  Static methods inherited from Connector:
  registerSocketMonitoring(sock)
      Creates a monitoring thread for the specified socket,
      starts the thread and returns the thread id to the caller
      which allows joining on the thread post stopping monitoring
      Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
  socketEventMonitor(monitorSock)
      Background threading callback, supports monitoring the
      specified socket via a background thread and logs state
      changes of the socket for debugging purposes.
      Monitors the socket until monitoring is terminated
      via object destructor (e.g. obj = None)
      Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
  Data descriptors inherited from Connector:
  __dict__
      dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
```

```
__weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class Subscriber(Connector)
 | Subscriber(endPoint, topic='')
 | This class creates a subscriber socket at the specified endpoint.
 | This is the sub in the Pub/Sub pattern. By default, a subscriber
 | object will listen for all messages, but can be filtered by specifying
 | a topic(s); either by specifying a topic during the initializer or
   calling subscribe() after object creation
   Method resolution order:
       Subscriber
       Connector
       builtins.object
   Methods defined here:
   __init__(self, endPoint, topic='')
       Allocate base class resources, create SUB socket, start
       socket debug monitoring and connect the socket to the
       specified endpoint (e.g. 'tcp://localhost:5555')
       Subscribes to the specified topic, by default the object
       will receive all messages.
       Refer to ZMQ documentation for details on available transport
       and syntax of endpoint.
   recv(self)
       Wait for next message to arrive and return it to the
       caller.
   subscribe(self, topic)
       Allows subscribing to additional topics (beyond the one
       specified in the constructor)
   wait(self, timeOutMs)
       Wait for a message to arrive within the specified timeout, return
       true/false representing whether a message is available
   Methods inherited from Connector:
   __del__(self)
       Performs cleanup for all allocated resources;
       disable monitoring, wait for monitoring thread completes,
```

```
close the socket and close the context
       Static methods inherited from Connector:
     | registerSocketMonitoring(sock)
            Creates a monitoring thread for the specified socket,
            starts the thread and returns the thread id to the caller
            which allows joining on the thread post stopping monitoring
            Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
       socketEventMonitor(monitorSock)
            Background threading callback, supports monitoring the
            specified socket via a background thread and logs state
            changes of the socket for debugging purposes.
            Monitors the socket until monitoring is terminated
            via object destructor (e.g. obj = None)
            Note: Used internally to class(es), not intended for external usage
       Data descriptors inherited from Connector:
       __dict__
            dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
       __weakref__
            list of weak references to the object (if defined)
FILE
Help on module messaging:
NAME
   messaging
CLASSES
   builtins.object
       MsgReactor
       ProtoBuffDecoder
       ProtoBuffEncoder
       Publisher
       Request
       Response
        Subscriber
    class MsgReactor(builtins.object)
     | MsgReactor(obj)
```

```
| Abstraction to support active-thread which listens to a vector of a
 | varying consumer messaging objects (e.g. Sub, Response, ...), decoding
   the incoming message and calling a specialized hander method (provided mostly
   by derived classes).
   Methods defined here:
   __del__(self)
       Deallocate all messaging objects, which in-turn terminates the zmq context
    __init__(self, obj)
       Spawn an independent thread which monitors the specified consumer message
       objects, also append an additional object to support multi-threaded signal
       to support halting the thread when no longer needed.
        (ipc pub/sub is used to signal thread termination)
   handleShutdownEvent(self, obj, msg)
       Set the done flag, this is done from the thread to avoid need for necessary
   msgHandler(self)
       This method encapsulates the 'active object' logic, while 'not done'
       poll/wait for an inbound message from any messaging object in the list
       if a message exists, grab it and call a specialized message handler function
        (based on message name), provide the messaging object it arrived on
       to allow handler to choose to send reply (for compliant messaging objects
   stop(self)
       Signal thread to complete, wait for it to complete
   Data descriptors defined here:
    __dict__
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
    __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class ProtoBuffDecoder(builtins.object)
 | This class suports taking in a user protobuf message and encode/pack
 | into a container message for transport. This is one end of a encode/decode
 | sequence used when sending a user message through a socket while allowing
 a variety of messages to be sent thru a shared socket channel.
 | This is one end of the encode/decode sequence; encoding done at the sending
   end, decoding at the receiving end.
```

```
Methods defined here:
   __init__(self)
       Initialize self. See help(type(self)) for accurate signature.
| decode(self, msgEnv)
       Extract the user message from the specified container message
       and return it to the caller.
   ______
   Data descriptors defined here:
   __dict__
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
   __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class ProtoBuffEncoder(builtins.object)
| This class suports taking in a user protobuf message and encode/pack
| into a container message for transport. This is one end of a encode/decode
   sequence used when sending a user message through a socket while allowing
| a variety of messages to be sent thru a shared socket channel.
| This is one end of the encode/decode sequence; encoding done at the sending
   end, decoding at the receiving end.
| Methods defined here:
   __init__(self)
       Initialize object resources
   encode(self, msg)
       Encapsulate the specified message into a container message for
       transport and return it to the caller
   Data descriptors defined here:
   __dict__
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
   __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class Publisher(builtins.object)
```

```
| Publisher(endPoint)
  Similar functionality to the Publish/Subscriber pairing in the connection
   module, differing in the expected user message being sent. The messaging
   module specializes in sending/receiving protobuf-based messages.
   Methods defined here:
   __del__(self)
       Free allocated object resources
   __init__(self, endPoint)
       Create a publisher connection and encoder
   send(self, msg)
       Encode message into envelope container, convert it to
       a byte stream and send out wire via the connector
   Data descriptors defined here:
   __dict__
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
    __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class Request(builtins.object)
 | Request(endPoint)
 | Similar functionality to the Request/Response pairing in the connection
   module, differing in the expected user message being sent. The messaging
   module specializes in sending/receiving protobuf-based messages.
   Methods defined here:
   __del__(self)
       Free allocated object resources
   __init__(self, endPoint)
       Create a request connection and encoder
   recv(self)
       Retrieve byte stream from response, parse byte stream into envelope
        message, then decode and return the contained user message
```

```
send(self, msg)
       Encode message into envelope container, convert it to
       a byte stream and send out wire via the connector
   wait(self, timeOutMs)
1
       Wait for a message to arrive within the specified timeout, return
       true/false representing whether a message is available
                                _____
   Data descriptors defined here:
   __dict__
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
   __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class Response(builtins.object)
   Response(endPoint)
   Similar functionality to the Request/Response pairing in the connection
   module, differing in the expected user message being sent. The messaging
   module specializes in sending/receiving protobuf-based messages.
   Methods defined here:
   __del__(self)
       Free all allocated object resources
   __init__(self, endPoint)
       Allocate all necessary resources, repscribe to messages.
       If message repscription list is empty, repscribe to all messages
       otherwise repscribe to the specified messages exclusively
       create repscriber object and decoder components
   recv(self)
       Retrieve byte stream from requester, parse byte stream into envelope
        message, then decode and return the contained user message
   send(self, msg)
       Encode message into envelope container, convert it to
       a byte stream and send out wire via the connector
   wait(self, timeOutMs)
1
       Wait for a message to arrive within the specified timeout, return
       true/false representing whether a message is available
```

```
Data descriptors defined here:
   __dict__
       dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
   __weakref__
       list of weak references to the object (if defined)
class Subscriber(builtins.object)
   Subscriber(endPoint, msgSubList=[])
  Similar functionality to the Publish/Subscriber pairing in the connection
 | module, differing in the expected user message being sent. The messaging
   module specializes in sending/receiving protobuf-based messages.
   Methods defined here:
   __del__(self)
       Free all allocated object resources
   __init__(self, endPoint, msgSubList=[])
       Allocate all necessary resources, subscribe to messages.
       If message subscription list is empty, subscribe to all messages
       otherwise subscribe to the specified messages exclusively
       create subscriber object and decoder components
   recv(self)
       Retrieve byte stream from subscriber, parse byte stream into envelope
        message, then decode and return the contained user message
   wait(self, timeOutMs)
       Wait for a message to arrive within the specified timeout, return
       true/false representing whether a message is available
   Static methods defined here:
  topicId(msg)
       Translate a protobuf message into a topic name
       (the beginning of the string coming across the 'wire')
       used to subscribe to specific message(s)
       Note: expected usage is internal to the module, not
       intended for external use
```

```
_____
      Data descriptors defined here:
       __dict__
           dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
       __weakref__
           list of weak references to the object (if defined)
FILE
Help on module registry:
NAME
   registry
CLASSES
   builtins.object
       ServiceRegistry
   class ServiceRegistry(builtins.object)
    | Primarily namespace, server-side class used for instantiating a
    | nameservice, client-side for performing registration and service
    | lookup.
    | Data descriptors defined here:
       __dict__
           dictionary for instance variables (if defined)
       __weakref__
           list of weak references to the object (if defined)
       Data and other attributes defined here:
       Client = <class 'registry.ServiceRegistry.Client'>
           Instantiate new object, open port to name service
       Server = <class 'registry.ServiceRegistry.Server'>
           Server-side implementation; establish a well-defined port for
           incoming registration and lookup requests. Open the incoming port
           and wait for incoming messages in an independent thread.
FILE
```

Help on module service:

```
NAME
    service
CLASSES
    builtins.object
       Service
    class Service(builtins.object)
     | Abstract base class for services, registers service name with name
     | registry and establishes a req/rep socket for incoming messaging.
     | Derived classes are intended to provide 'def handleXXX(self, msg)'
     | methods for expected incoming requests.
       Methods defined here:
       __del__(self)
            Force stopping threads if the object is terminated
       __init__(self)
            Find an available port within port range [5100,6000], create
            incoming socket with the port, register the service (e.g. derived class na
            and port with the name service, then begin waiting for an processing inbour
            messages in an active thread.
       recv(self)
            Get the next message from the socket, blocks indefnitely, use wait()
            to avoid blocking.
       reregisterThread(self)
            This thread supports reregistration in the case that
            a name service abruptly terminates, is restarted, and
            notifies services to re-register
       run(self)
            Loop waiting for message, call associated message handler (which is respon-
            for sending response message). Periodically check for signal to terminate
            the thread.
       send(self, msg)
            Send message through socket
       setupSocket(self)
            Loop thru the port range looking for an available port, once
            finding one register the service and port. Throw exception
            if you fail to find an available port
```

FILE