Ruby Monstas



Session 11

Agenda

- Instance Variables
- Project: IRC Bot



Instance Variables

Instance variables

- Just like normal (local) variables
- But: Valid outside and inside of methods
- Start with an @-sign

Example

puts @counter

```
@counter = 0
def increase_counter
  @counter = @counter + 1
end
increase_counter
increase_counter
increase_counter
```

Project: IRC Bot

First things first

You're not expected to understand all of this immediately.

This is meant to be a fun exercise to spice things up and for you to be able to experiment.

What we need to understand

IRC

Bot

Networking (Client / Server)

IRC Protocol

IRC Bot?!

What's IRC?

Internet Relay Chat

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"IRC" redirects here. For other uses, see IRC (disambiguation).



This article's **lead section may not adequately summarize key points of its contents**. Please consider expanding the lead to provide an accessible overview of all important aspects of the article. *(October 2012)*

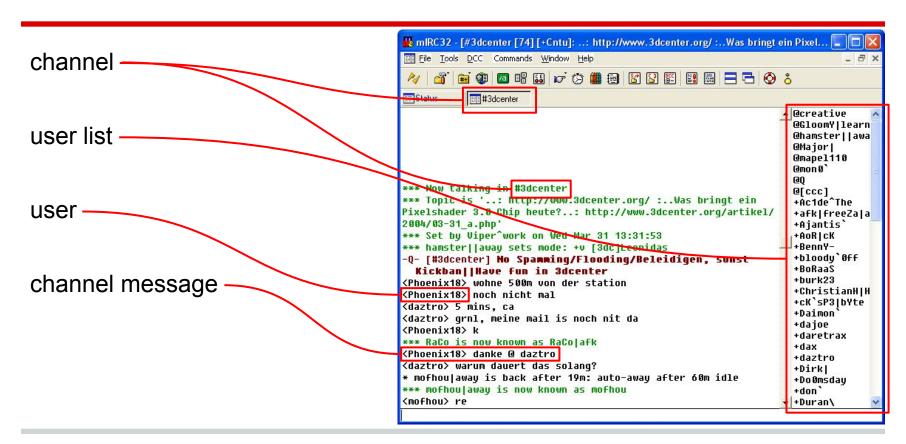
Internet Relay Chat (IRC) is an application layer protocol that facilitates the transfer of messages in the form of text. The chat process works on a client/server networking model. IRC clients are computer programs that a user can install on their system. These clients communicate with chat servers to transfer messages to other clients.^[1] IRC is mainly designed for group communication in discussion forums, called channels,^[2] but also allows one-on-one communication via private messages^[3] as well as chat and data transfer,^[4] including file sharing.^[5]

IRC

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protocol
messages
client / server networking
channels

IRC

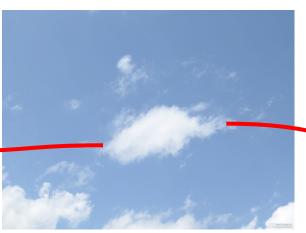


Client

Internet (the "Cloud")

Server







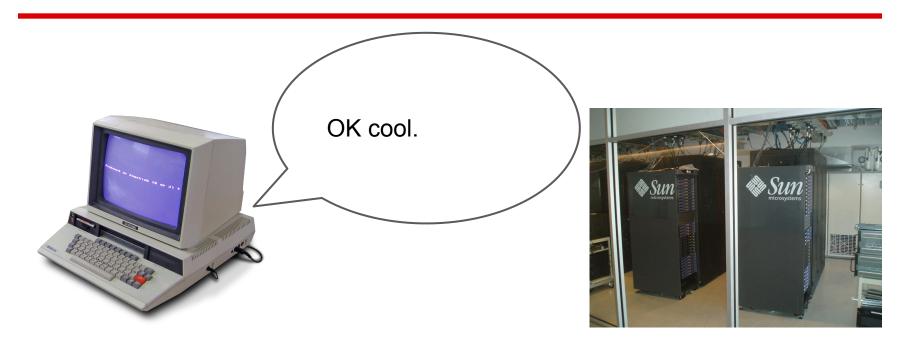


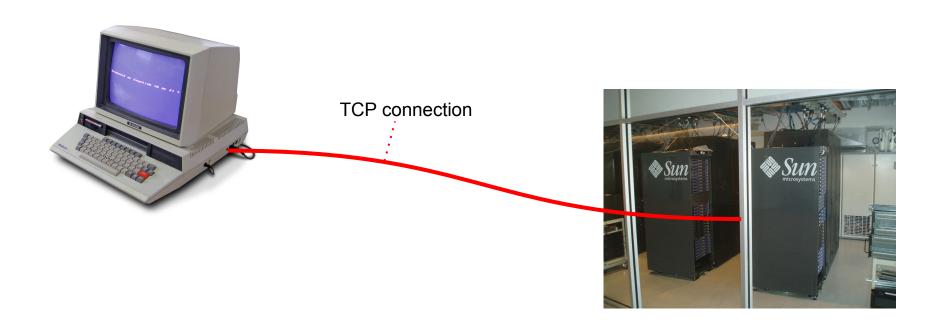


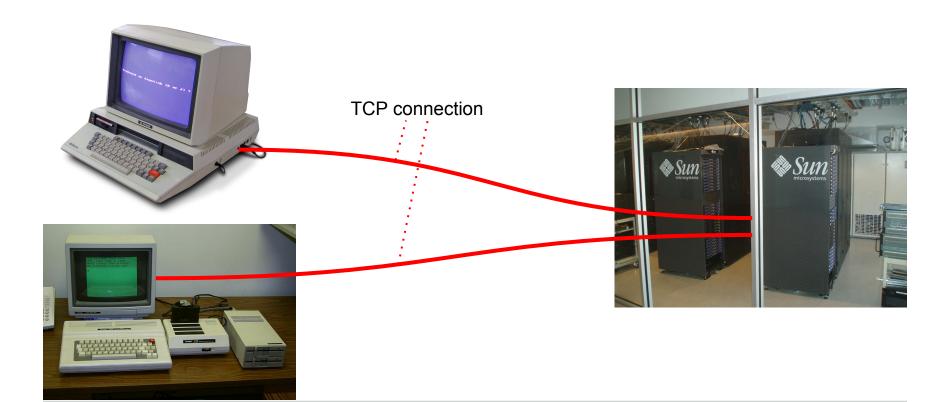


Sure thing, let's do it!









IRC clients IRC server







IRC Protocol

How do client and server talk to each other?

There's a lot to clarify.

IRC Protocol

What could a **client** want to say?

"I want to choose a username, it should be cool_guy123"

"I want to join channel #coolcrowd"

"I want to write a message to the channel, it should be 'Hi there!'

What could a **server** want to say?

"There's a new message on the channel #rubymonstas by cool_guy123, he says 'Hi there!'

"ruby_programmer85 just joined #rubymonstas!"

"nerdinand just left #rubymonstas!"

IRC Protocol: Client

NICK nethad-bot

USER nethad-bot 0 * :nethad-bot

JOIN #rubymonstas

PRIVMSG #rubymonstas :hi all, how are you doing?

IRC Protocol: Server

:nethad!83.78.226.54 JOIN #rubymonstas

:nethad!83.78.226.54 PART #rubymonstas

:nethad!83.78.226.54 PRIVMSG #rubymonstas :hey, what's up?

Bot

So what's a (IRC) bot, then?

From Wikipedia:

"An **IRC bot** is a set of scripts or an independent program that connects to Internet Relay Chat as a client, and so <u>appears to other IRC users as another user</u>. An IRC bot differs from a regular client in that instead of providing interactive access to IRC for a human user, it performs <u>automated functions</u>."

Things a bot could do

- Let the user play a game
- Google something and return results
- Return information about the weather
- Return random quotes from users
- ... ? You name it!

Time to build a bot!



Let's get to it!