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Implementation Summary

My implementation of the HTTP proxy server uses a sequential approach to handling the web requests between user and server. The proxy acts like a middleman, accepting connections from users and forwarding the request to the server.

Connection Handling

- The Proxy listens on port 48062 in my test
- Using a socket interface it accepts the users connections request
- All connections are handled sequentially in a loop

Request Processing

- Parses the inputted HTTP requests to extract the method
- Converts HTTP/1.1 to HTTP/1.0 for compatibility
- Implements proper Header handling

Server Communication

- Establishes a connection to the targeted web servers
- Forwards the modified requests to the servers
- Takes the servers responses and relays them to the user

Testing Results

- When using Curl, it successfully retrieved local content (HTML and the cougar image) which shows handling of basic HTTP requests
- When testing NetCat (nc -l 48064) its showed proper GET request syntax and correct header implementations.
- When using FireFox the localhost displayed the image and posted successfully
- Some websites like google loaded properly
- Some websites like wiki.com failed to load

Analysis

Most modern websites cannot be accessed using the proxy due to

- Proxy only implementing HTTP protocol
- Most modern websites redirect HTTPS
- Needing HTTP/1.1 instead of /1.0
- Complex features like multiple simultaneous connections
- Complex redirect chains

Conclusion

Due to the limitation of HTTP/1.0 most modern day websites are inaccessible because of the complex features HTTP/1.1 adds, Only simple HTTP requests work properly demonstrating core network concepts, while also showing the limitation and evolution of web development with HTTP/1.0 and /1.1