CSE 331 Software Design & Implementation

James Wilcox Autumn 2021 Servers

Event-driven programming

An *event-driven* program is designed to wait for events:

- program initializes then enters the event loop
- abstractly:

do {
 e = getNextEvent();
 process event e;
} while (e != quit);

Server Programming

- Servers sit around waiting for events like:
 - new client connections
 - new data from the client (high scale servers)
- Simple version (normal scale):

```
while (true) {
   wait for a client to connect
   process the request; send a response back
}
```

- probably want to use a new thread for processing
- high scale web servers might look quite different

Example: Chat Server

ChatServer.java

Server Sockets & Ports

- Server creates a "server socket" and waits for a connection
 - each connection comes with an individual socket
 - allows reading from / writing to that client
- Servers on the same machine distinguished by a port number
 numbers below 1024 require admin privileges

ServerSocket ssock = new ServerSocket(80);

• Clients indicate the port when trying to connect:

```
Socket sock = new Socket("attu", 80);
```

Ports & Protocols

- Sockets API allows reading & writing of byte data
 like the File API
- Each server can define its own protocol for communication
 the language it uses to speak to clients
- By convention, ports are associated with particular protocols
 - 80 = HTTP
 - 443 = HTTPS
 - 25 = SMTP relay
 - ...
- Client that wants to talk HTTP can try connecting to 80

Protocols

- HTTP (Hyper-Text Transfer Protocol) is the most important
 - initially created for retrieving HTML documents
 - simple, text-based protocol
- Trend moving away from new protocols toward re-use of HTTP
 Google (2010s) used HTTP for almost everything
- Allows for re-use of **libraries** for creating HTTP servers...
 - use of libraries reduces bugs, saves time, etc.
 - do not write your own HTTP server



HTTP Request 1

GET /index.html HTTP/1.1

- Request ends with a **blank line**
- Between GET and blank are optional headers of the form

Name: Value

- similar to Java properties files
- common example would be User-Agent to describe client

HTTP Response 1

HTTP/1.1 200 OK content-length: 124 content-type: text/html; charset=UTF-8 Date: Wed, 27 May 2020 18:30:00 GMT Connection: close

<html>

...

• 200 status code indicates successful

- 400s for error that is the client's fault
- 500s for errors on the server's end



(command-line HTTP request)

HTTP Request 2

POST /register HTTP/1.1
content-type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
content-length: 25

fname=Kevin&userid=kevinz

- **POST** request includes client content
- 25 bytes of content after the blank line
 - newlines are just another byte

HTTP

- GET & POST requests are by far the most common
 - other types like DELETE also exist
- See CSE 333 for a more complete discussion
 - (no need to memorize the details here)

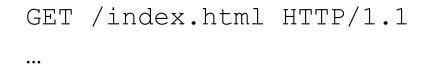
Uniform Resource Locators (URLs)

• Tells the browser what to get and how to get it

http://attu:8080/index.html

Connect to server attu on port 8080

Send GET request



Uniform Resource Locators (URLs)



- **Port** is optional (default is 80 for HTTP)
- Optional "?a=b&c=d" part of path is called query string
 - "&"-separated key=value pairs
 - useful for passing arguments to the server-side code...
- **Fragment** is only kept in the browser
 - client can use this to record its place in the document
 - allows back/forward buttons to work on a single page