

Introduction to IRC and PL used to build MediaWiki

Gentle introduction to IRC and PL on MediaWiki

By Alangi Derick Ndimnain (Wikimedia Volunteer Developer)

What is IRC and what it constitutes?

- ❑ IRC stands for Internet Relay Chat.
- ❑ The IRC system block comprises of 2 components
 - ❑ Server (which is a long running program) on a computer whose address is well known
 - ❑ Client (which is a short running program) that can be started (on a PC) connects to a server and join one or more channels.

Getting Started

- ❑ Users or IRC need the following;
 - ❑ An IRC client
 - ❑ Server connection information
 - ❑ Basic understanding of IRC commands.
- ❑ IRC clients are freely available online on all the 3 main OS platforms that exist.

Connecting to an IRC network

- ❑ To successfully connect to a channel on an IRC network using an IRC client, there is usually some pieces of information asked such as;
 - ❑ Server Address
 - ❑ Server Port
 - ❑ Channel ID

Basic IRC commands

- ❑ The basic structure of a command consist of;
 - ❑ A slash (/)
 - ❑ Command name
 - ❑ List of arguments separated by spaces
- ❑ Example of a command can be;
 - ❑ `/j #wikimedia-dev`

Example of IRC commands (FUCs)

- ❑ Frequently Used Commands (FUCs) below are;
 - ❑ `/join #channel` or `/j #channel` (to join a channel)
 - ❑ `/query nickname msg` or `/q nickname msg` (to send a private message to a particular nickname on the channel).
 - ❑ `/connect chat.freenode.net` (join an IRC network via the chat.freenode.net server)

Registering nicknames on IRC

- ❑ To register a nickname on IRC, use this command;
 - ❑ `/msg nickserv register PASSWORD EMAIL`
- ❑ After registering your IRC nick, you can identify yourself in future logins using;
 - ❑ `/msg nickserv identify PASSWORD`
- ❑ **NOTE:** Your password must match that on registration when identifying.

Creating your own channel

- ❑ To create your own channel, it's pretty easy. Just type;
 - ❑ `/j #foo` (if the channel exist, you will just join the existing channel else, it will be automatically created).
- ❑ After creating the channel, its temporal meaning if you quit it (`/wc`) it will be deleted.
- ❑ You can register a channel to make it permanent using;
 - ❑ `/msg chanserv register #CHANNEL PASSWORD`

More on IRC...

- ❏ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_Relay_Chat
- ❏ <http://www.irchelp.org/>

Programming Languages used to build MediaWiki

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What is MediaWiki?

- ❑ It's a free software open source wiki package written in PHP.
- ❑ It was officially for use on Wikipedia (largest project in Wikimedia Foundation).
- ❑ Currently it's also used by many other wikis and non-profit WMF projects.

PL used to build MediaWiki

- ❑ PHP (Hypertext Preprocessor)
- ❑ JS (Java Script) and related technologies
 - ❑ JSON (Java Script Object Notation).
 - ❑ jQuery library
- ❑ HTML5 (Hypter-Text Markup Language 5)
- ❑ CSS3 (Cascading Style Sheet 3)
- ❑ SQL (Structured Query Language)

Conclusion

- ❑ Feel free to ask me questions.
- ❑ IRC is: **d3r1ck** on #wikimedia-dev and #wikidata
- ❑ Email: alangiderick@gmail.com
- ❑ MediaWiki handle: **Alangi_derick**

Happy Introduction to Hacking MediaWiki