Contents

Introduction

TorXDCC

TorXDCC is a utility to provide XDCC functions for mIRC, the Windows IRC client written by Khaled Mardam-Bey.

XDCC

The XDCC protocol on IRC is an extension of DCC functions already available in mIRC with which users can send files to other users. XDCC differs from DCC in the fact that XDCC file transfers are initiated by the receiver of the files, and not by the sender. The sender merely offers a list of files which can be retrieved from him.

Essentially the protocol consists of two commands, 'xdcc list' and 'xdcc send'. These commands are sent to the sender either with '/msg SenderNick xdcc list' or '/ctcp SenderNick xdcc list'. With 'xdcc list' a person can ask which files are available from the sender, and with 'xdcc send' the actual file transfer is requested. This file transfer is done with the standard DCC functions.

mIRC

XDCC can be implemented in mIRC by using the programmable parts of mIRC, but this is not easily done and changing the offered files costs quite some effort. For some time a utility, in the form of mIRC offer by st0rmcat, was available to automate the creation of suitable commands and events sections, but the author has decided to discontinue supporting it. Because of some changes in mIRC 3.8 it can no longer be used.

TorXDCC

TorXDCC uses the DDE capability introduced in version 3.9 and cannot be used with earlier versions of mIRC. Because it uses the DDE protocol, TorXDCC must be running simultaneously with mIRC, and essentially only 2 lines are needed in the events and command section of mIRC for the XDCC transfers to work. Another advantage of running simultaneously with mIRC is that DCC transfers can be checked and statistics about the transfers can be made.

Installation into mIRC

In order to perform a successful   installation mIRC must be running at the time of the installation and a DDE connection must be made. During the installation TorXDCC will terminate mIRC   because the main mirc.ini must be adapted. Following installation mIRC will be restarted again.

Unpack TorXDCC

Unzip the Torxdcc archive into a separate directory. Try to avoid directory names with spaces in them, like 'C:\Program Files\TorXDCC', as this can hamper the communication between TorXDCC and mIRC. Also the location of the mirc directory should ideally have no spaces in it.

Start communication

Start up mIRC and TorXDCC. mIRC doesn't start automatically in DDE-server mode, you must put this on yourself by performing '/DDESERVER ON torx'. This can be done in any open window in mIRC, or in the status window. When you have been using a version of   TorXDCC prior to version 0.9 beta 6, you will find that this version cannot contact with mIRC. The ddeserver name for mIRC is now set at 'torx' in stead of 'mirc' which it was before. You will have to perform '/ddeserver on torx' in mIRC before you can go further.

Installation

From TorXDCC perform 'Tools|Install mirc'. A check is performed to see whether mIRC is running, this is required to find the location of the mirc.ini file. A dialogbox appears where several options can be set.

Options

Depending on the existing installation into mIRC   you'll see 'Update from previous version' or   'change userlevels in Remote sections' as options to choose below 'Full install'.

Choosing 'Update from previous version' may be useful if you have changed the TorXDCC entries in mIRC and you don't want them changed in a new version. If you have installed TorXDCC in another directory as the previous version you will have to do a full install. At the moment TorXDCC cannot find that out easily.

With 'Minimum userlevel for XDCC requests' you can limit access to the offered packs. With userlevel 1 all users on IRC have access to your packs.

Closing of mIRC

After you have pressed 'OK' a messagebox appears, giving you a final possibility to cancel the installation. If you proceed mIRC will be closed and as a result you will quit from IRC. Now the mirc.ini and other .ini-files from mirc will be changed. When this process is ready mIRC will be restarted again.

Installation complete

If everything went well you are now ready to offer files on IRC. Make a list with 'Tools|Edit XDCC list' and offer it to your favorite channel by using the channel popup.

Installation changes made in mIRC

The following changes are made to the mirc .ini-files. You can use these steps if installation to mIRC fails, or as a reference when you want to edit the commands yourself. Exchange <userlevel> with your actual chosen userlevel and <torxdcc path> with the directory where torxdcc is. You will find the combination '/dde torxdcc command XDCC' often in here. If you are editing these lines yourself make sure that 'XDCC' is always in uppercase, else these commands will not reach TorXDCC.

'File|Options|Action Lists|Perform'

Add   these 2 commands

/ddeserver on torx | /timer 1 15 /run <torxdcc path>TORXDCC.EXE'

Make sure 'Active' is checked. These commands are performed every time you connect to a IRC-server. The first command puts mIRC in DDE-server mode, so it can receive messages from TorXDCC. The second command starts TorXDCC with a delay of 15 seconds, this is to minimize the strain on the system which can occur when these two applications perform their initialization at the same time.

'Tools|Aliases'

Add these 2 lines

/tordde /dde torxdcc command "" XDCC *1

/toffer /dde torxdcc command "" XDCC # list

These 2 aliases can help the keyboard minded users in offering their lists to channels and users. /tordde is typically used to send lists or packs to users, with '/tordde <nick> <List | send #n>'. /toffer can be used to send a list to the channel you are currently on.

'Tools|Popups'

Add 4 lines to **'Main window'**

TorXDCC

.Offer to current channel:/dde torxdcc command "" XDCC # list

.Show summary to current channel:/dde torxdcc command "" XDCC # summary

.Run TorXDCC:/run <torxdcc path>TORXDCC.EXE

Add these lines to both **'Query/Chat window'** and **'Channel names list'**

TorXDCC

.Offer list:/dde torxdcc command "" XDCC $1 list

.Send pack #?:/dde torxdcc command "" XDCC $1 send #$?

If userlevel > 1 some lines are added to add and remove users from the userlist for access to the files

.Enable XDCC transfer:/auser -a <userlevel> $1

.Disable XDCC transfer:/ruser <userlevel> $1

Set all Popup windows to 'Active'

'Tools|Remote

Add 2 lines to **'Commands'**

1:Version:/notice $nick $dde torxdcc info VERSION

<userlevel>:XDCC:/dde torxdcc command "" XDCC $nick $parms

The first line returns version information from TorXDCC when asked for it. During the installation routine this command is added to an already existing version command. The second line reacts to people who ask for XDCC information by /ctcp commands.

Add these lines to **'Events'**

<userlevel>:ON TEXT:XDCC*:?:/Closemsg $nick | /dde torxdcc command "" XDCC $nick $parm2*

987!:ON NICK:/dde torxdcc command "" NICK $newnick

The first line will react to people who ask for XDCC information with /msg <yournick> xdcc [list | send #n]. The Query window that is made in mIRC closes automatically and the command is sent to TorXDCC. The second line will notify TorXDCC when you change your nickname. This will ensure that any messages sent by TorXDCC with your nickname in it will be sent with the correct nick. To be able to use this line, TorXDCC   automatically creates a user with level 987 in the remote userlist.

Set **both** the 'Commands' and the 'Events' panel to 'Listening'

'DCC|Options'

Disable the   'Auto-close send window on completion'. TorXDCC uses the DCC window to check progress and completion of file transfers. If auto-close is on, TorXDCC can not detect if the window has closed because of an error or because the transfer was completed.

The installation disables 'Show transfer progress as percent', this makes checking the progress and speed of file transfers easier, however TorXDCC can also work when the progress is shown as percent.

During the installation TorXDCC takes the 'Max number of DCC sends' as default for the number of XDCC slots, and the time-out value for transfers as the 'Time out for transfers' in 'Options|XDCC options'

Starting up

First start up mIRC. The installation routine has put commands in the perform actionlist which will activate DDE-server mode and start up TorXDCC. TorXDCC will try to contact mIRC, and if it is succesfull, it will show some statistics from mIRC (version, connection, server,nickname and the number of channels). If it could not connect a messagebox is displayed which tells you to start up mIRC or put it in DDE-server mode.

Making a packlist

In TorXDCC an offering list consists of packs and comments. This list can be made with 'Tools|Edit XDCC list'. The dialog box consists of three parts, a list of packs, an edit line and a list of files.

Packs List

On the left side the 2 listboxes, 'Packs' and 'Gets' can be seen with the descriptions and the number of gets for each pack in it. When no number is shown in the gets-list there are no files attached to the description, and the description is a comment. Below these listboxes a number of buttons can be chosen. 'Add' adds a new pack with description '<new>' to the list at the currently selected position. 'Remove' deletes the currently selected pack or comment after confirmation. With 'Move Up' and 'Move Down' the order of the packs is changed by moving the currently selected pack in the selected direction. 'Clear Gets' finally sets the number of gets for the current pack to 0.

Edit line

The editline in 'Pack description' always shows the currently selected pack in the 'Packs' listbox. Editing this line directly changes the pack description in the 'Packs' list. Also the position below the last pack can be chosen. When you start editing in this position a new pack is automatically added. In the description line <u>variables</u> can be added

Files List

The 'Files' listbox shows the files for the currently selected pack in the 'Packs' list. If this list is empty, the pack description is considered to be a comment. There are 3 buttons to control this listbox. 'Add' will show a fileselector in which files can be selected which are added to the pack, multiple files from the same directory can be selected at the same time. A pack can consist of files from multiple directories. If a file is selected twice, it will only be once in the list. The 'Remove' button removes a file from the pack without confirmation and 'Remove All' will remove all files from the pack.

Offering a pack list

Lists and packs can be offered in three ways, by using popups, by using aliases, or by using the timed offering capabilities of TorXDCC.

Popups

To simplify offering of lists several popups have been added to mIRC during installation. In all popup menus a 'TorXDCC' section has been created. In the channel popup you can choose 'Offer to current channel' to show your list to the current channel. In some channels it is thought inappropriate to offer complete lists. In these channels you can offer a short description of your list with 'Show summary to current channel'. In the channel names popup, or the query window popup you can offer a list to an individual user by choosing 'Offer list'. You can send a pack to a user by choosing 'Send pack #?' An edit box appears in which you have to enter the pack number, without '#'

Aliases

Two TorXDCC related aliases have been defined in the alsiases section.

'/TorDDE <Nick|Channel> <List|Summary|Send #n>' is used to abbreviate the normal dde command.

'/Toffer' can be used to offer a list to the current channel or user.

Timed Offering

'Tools|Timed offer to channels' enables you to perform a list to a channel every few minutes. If you are not on a channel at the moment a messagebox is shown to that extent. Otherwise a dialog box appears with a listbox containing the channels you are currently on, the interval of lists and either a 'S' to indicate that a summary should be sent or a 'L' to indicate that a full list should be sent to the channel. If the interval for a channel is between 1 and 60 the timed offering is enabled. A zero value means that timed offering is disabled.

Options

Notices

'Options|Appearance in mIRC' controls the notification sent to mIRC on the different requests to TorXDCC.

The Top panel controls the form in which they are sent to mIRC. With 'None' TorXDCC operates completely in the background, and you'll not see in mIRC if other users have requested lists or packs. 'As /msg in a query window' sends a normal message to your current nickname., normally all these status messages will now appear in a separate query window in mIRC. 'As /Notice to current window in mIRC' will send a notice to your current nickname. These notices normally appear in the currently active window in mIRC.

In the lower part of the dialog box you can enable or diable the different kinds of messages sent to mIRC, and the line which is sent on such an event. These lines can contain <u>variables</u>. The first message is sent whenever you offer a list or a <u>summary</u> to a channel. The second line is sent whenever a user asks for a list of packs, and the last line is sent when a user asks for a pack.

The 'Show messages to users' check box controls if the messages sent to other users are visible in mIRC also. This is mainly a debugging feature, to check on the amount of traffic generated by TorXDCC

The default interval between commands sent to mIRC is 1000 ms (1 second). If you want another frequency of commands sent to mIRC you can change this value in mIRC command interval. Values between 100 and 30000 are accepted. With this value at 1000 you will generally have no problems of getting flooded of IRC by XDCC.

More:

<u>List appearance</u>

<u>XDCC</u>

<u>XDCC Status lines</u>

<u>Logging Options</u>

<u>Clear Transfer Statistics</u>

List appearance

The appearance of lists to channels or to other users can be changed in 'Options|Offer Line Masks'. A list is consists of   3 elements, the first line is always an overall description of the pack, this line can be edited in 'Offer description', after this a number of lines can follow which are either packs or comments. Comments are sent with the list as they were made during the <u>creation</u> of a list.   The form of the line with a pack in them is edited in 'Pack description' . Don't forget to put the <u>variable</u> **%pn%** in this line, else other users won't be able to know which pack they should choose.

If you have disabled the 'Enable XDCC offer' in the main window of TorXDCC all requests for lists or packs will be countered with the line from 'No files Available'.

Whenever a pack is sent to another user the line in 'Sending Pack' is sent as a notice accompanying   the files sent to that user.

The summary line(s) sent to channels can be edited in 'Summary'

The number of decimals used for kbyte and mbyte sizes can be set in the bottom editbox.

There are a number of buttons available for inserting variables into these edit lines.

XDCC

With 'Options|XDCC Options' You control the way the DCC windows act in mIRC. If the first checkbox is checked, all DCC send windows initiated by TorXDCC will be minimized when they are created by mIRC. The installation procedure has disabled the 'Auto-close send window on completion' checkbox in mIRC DCC options. This way TorXDCC is able to see if DCC transfers are completed. With the following two checkboxes TorXDCC can close the windows for the two types of completed DCC transfers in mIRC again. Furthermore the number of XDCC slots, the minimum transfer speed, the time when the speed will be checked and a timeout period can be set here. This timeout period is the time at which TorXDCC will close the window following a stopped transfer. mIRC may have closed the transfer earlier, but it doesn't close the window anymore.

XDCC Status lines

To let the users know what happens to the transfers they requested you can let them know several pieces of information.

If transfer speed is below the setting in XDCC options after the time set there. The connection is closed and this message is sent to the user. If the transfer speed was higher the second message is sent.

The following 3 lines are used when files are put in the send queue. The user receives notification of being put in a queue, and receives an update on his position in the queue periodically.

The last line is for users that do not acknowledge the DCC send request.

Finally the interval between updates on the position in the file queue can be set. This value is in minutes.

Logging Options

The amount of logging, and whether a logfile is made can be changed in this dialog.

Clear Transfer Statistics

The transfer statistics of completed bytes and files, the user with the fastest transfer and his speed and the average speed of completed transfers is recored in the torxdcc.ini. Use 'Clear transfer stats' to reset these values to 0.

Background tasks

Whenever mIRC sends a '/dde' command to TorXDCC it is processed, and if something should be sent back, like the commands to send files to another user, it is put in a message queue.

This message queue is processed with an interval of 1 second. This interval can be <u>changed</u> in the torxdcc.ini

Another loop with an interval of 1 second checks the progress of DCC transfers, and the number of slots used for XDCC windows in mIRC.

The mIRC statistics in the main screen are updated every 2 minutes. You can manually update this data earlier by performing 'File|Get mIRC data'. The up-to-date data will then be shown within a few seconds.

Variables

Variables enable you to put current information in the lines sent to mIRC. Almost every information sent to mIRC is customizable and can contain variables. The general form of a variable is %xx%, a percentage sign followed by 2 alpha-numeric characters and a closing percentage sign.

The automatic size conversions return a string dependent on the size of the actual variable and the number of decimals chosen in the 'Offer line masks' dialog. To show if the size is in bytes, kilobytes or megabytes the resulting string has the form 'xx b', 'xx kb' or 'xx mb'. A possible offering line could be: '** TorXDCC ** %sa%ytes offered in %np% packs' . The b is omitted from bytes since it is always returned with the variable.

Variables supported in TorXDCC

For packs and general description.

%np%   number of packs in your list

%nn%   your nickname

%sb%   total size of packs (bytes)

%sk%   total size of packs (kilobytes)

%sm%   total size of packs (megabytes)

%sa%   total size of packs (automatic)

%rn%   Name of Requester/channel

%rf%   number of requested files in this TorXDCC session

%rb%   size of requested bytes in this session

%rk%   requested kilobytes in this session

%rm%   requested megabytes in this session

%ra%   requested size (automatic) in this session

%cf%   number of completed files in this TorXDCC session

%cb%   size of completed bytes in this session

%ck%   completed kilobytes in this session

%cm%   completed megabytes in this session

%ca%   completed size (automatic) in this session

%st%   Number of slots available for XDCC transfers

%su%   Slots used for XDCC transfers

%sf%   Slots free

%tr%   Minimum transfer speed (bytes/s)

%tm%   Highest transfer speed (bytes/s)

%ta%   Highest transfer speed (automatic)

%tn%   nick of fastest downloader

%ft%   Time of speed check in seconds

%qs%   Maximum queue size

%ub% Toggle for Unix **Bold** character

%uu% Toggle for Unix <u>underline</u>

%ui%   Toggle for Unix inverse

%us%   Unix beep

For Queue status messages

%ql%   Current queue length

%qp%   Current queue position

For Speed check message

%fs%   Transfer speed at time of speed check

%fn%   Filename

For the pack description and the line for sending a pack or file

%pn%   number of pack

%pd%   description of pack

%pf%   number of files in pack

%pg%   number of gets for pack

%pb%   pack size (bytes)

%pk%   pack size (kilobytes)

%pm%   pack size (megabytes)

%pa%   pack size (automatic)

%px% Number of file (Used only when file has been in the file queue for more than   minute)

DDE Peculiarities

DDE is a protocol for communication between applications. One of the properties of this protocol is that the a message sent to a DDE server must be acknowledged within 1 second. If the server has not responded within that second, possibly because of starting applications or other increased loads on the system, Windows thinks that the server application is not running at that moment and it starts the application with the DDE service name, if it can find one in the system   Usually the name of a DDE service has the same name as the program itself, and so it could happen that some people had 10 or more instances of mIRC running at the same time. This is why I have changed the dde-service name of mIRC to 'torx'. Now multiple instances of mIRC should not happen anymore.

The DDE-service name of TorXDCC is TorXDCC, but TorXDCC itself will not run if there is already another instance running.

Advanced features

Timing of commands sent to mIRC

The default interval between commands sent to mIRC is 1000 ms (1 second). This value can not be changed from within TorXDCC, but if you want another frequency of commands sent to mIRC you can change this value in torxdcc.ini in section [General]-CommandInterval. Values between 100 and 30000 are accepted. With this value at 1000   I have not been flooded of IRC by XDCC requests yet.

Version History

05-01-96, version 0.9 b1

First public release

07-01-96, version 0.9 b2

Features

Automatic installation

Bugfixes

SendingLine missed a space

Timed updating gave GPFs in mIRC -> disabled

12-01-96, version 0.9 b3

Features

Several popups added to installation

Saving of Logwindow to File and Clipboard

Added timed updating of statistics again

Added %pg% variable in offer lines for number of gets

Added XDCC statistics to main window for number of lists and   pack requests in current session.

When a user /msg'es a XDCC list or send, the message window gets automatically closed

Notices of Lists and sends to other users do not appear anymore in the windows of mIRC

Bugfixes

'List index out of bounds' should not appear anymore

Changed wrong popups definitions

Known bugs

Very long lines in the .inis (remote/alias/popups) are truncated at 256 chars

22-01-96, version 0.9 b4

Features

Added notification of filetransfers to mIRC

Improved installation

Saving and loading of packs

TorXDCC now can check if mIRC is running.

Dialogbox for editing packs improved on several points, packs can now also be added to the last position of the list

BugFixes

 Disabled running of TorXDCC twice

Fixed a small memory leak on deletion of files from packs

It was possible for a file to be twice in the same pack

28-01-96, version 0.9 b5

Features

Offering of a 'summary' now possible

Timed offering to channels

Comments can include variables now

Improved dialogbox for line masks

Automatic activation of Popups and Perform list during installation

Bugfixes

Better removal of previous XDCC commands

Long lines in .ini's are not truncated anymore

Improved versionreply :)

04-03-96, version 0.9 b6 (Final beta)

Features

Discontinued possibility of using previous XDCC commands

Torxdcc can now be terminated with '/dde torxdcc command DIE' from mirc

Maximum number of simultaneous transfers now available

Total bytes transfered and completed now logged

More stats (look at the variables section)

DCC send windows initiated by TorXDCC can be minimized now

TorXDCC is aware of nickchanges faster

Bugfixes

The DDE server name of mIRC changed to 'torx' to avoid spawning extra instances of mIRC when DDE connections are not flawless

Installation replaces lines from a previous install now in stead of deleting them first and adding them to the end of the several lists

TorXDCC is now started up with a delay of 15 seconds after connecting to a IRC-server, because sometimes the DDE connection wasn't made properly directly after startup

24-03-'96, version 0.9 b8 (Another final beta)

This is a workaround for using TorXDCC with the new mIRC 4.0. Communcation between mIRC and

TorXDCC was impossible in this version.

Features

Packs can be moved up and down the list when creating or editing a pack list

The readme.txt is replaced by the helpfile

File requests which can not be performed because all slots are filled are put in a queue, and are sent when a slot is freed.

Bugfixes

UNIX control codes for <u>underline</u> and **bold** can now be saved to and retrieved from the torxdcc.ini

21-04-'96, version 1.0

Features

With the event of becoming non-beta TorXDCC is <u>'cardware'</u> now

The variables in editlines can now be selected from a popup-window

Queue system and messaging enhanced further

Added more statistics

Bugfixes

Speedcheck messaging was implemented less than optimal :)

Several performance optimizations

Known bugs

TorXDCC seems to have problems when working in Windows NT. Since I'm not working with NT, I can't do much about it at the moment.

Availability

The newest version of TorXDCC can be obtained in a number of ways

FTP

login with anonymous FTP to 137.120.41.7 , this is my own personal ftp-server and it is generally available on weekdays.

WWW

The TorXDCC pages can be found at 'http://farmaco0066.rulimburg.nl/Torx/', this site is mirrored at 'http://home.ipr.nl/~Torkie/index.htm'

IRC

Whenever I am on IRC you can obtain it directly from me, usually my nickname is Torkie, I try to be on the channel #mirc a lot.

Copyright and Liscense

TorXDCC 1.0

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TorXDCC is a "cardware program" and is provided at no charge to the user for evaluation.   Feel free to share it with your friends, but please do not give it away altered . The essence of cardware software is to provide personal computer users with quality software with a friendly attitude

If you find this program useful and find that you are using TorXDCC and continue to use it after a reasonable trial period, you must send the author a postcard, preferably with some characteristic view from the place you live. All postcards will be scanned and made available for viewing on the TorXDCC homepages.

TorXDCC may not be sold or resold, distributed as a part of any commercial package, used in support of a commercial service, or used in any kind of profit-generating activity even if it is being distributed freely. TorXDCC may however be distributed as part of   a mIRC script or .INI, provided this script is not essentially hostile in nature. If TorXDCC is used as part of a distributed package, an evaluation copy of that package should be sent to the TorXDCC ftp-site.

You may use TorXDCC if:

 1. You are a member of a non-commercial educational institution.

 2. You are a home user.

 3. You are a member of a non-profit organisation, excluding government agencies.

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TorXDCC Homepages:

http://farmaco0066.rulimburg.nl/Torx/

http://home.ipr.nl/~Torkie/index.htm

TorXDCC ftp-site

ftp://farmaco0007.rulimburg.nl/

Clicking the right mouse button in a channel window, a channel names list or a query window pops up a context sensitive sub menu

A summary is a description of your list which consists of 1 or a few lines.