Discord : An all in one messaging application (Case Study)

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ABSTRACT
Discord was started to solve a big problem: how to communicate with friends around the world while playing games online. It’s a home for communities of any size, but it’s most widely used by small and active groups of people who talk regularly. Discord is used by everyone from local hiking clubs, to art communities, to study groups. Discord has millions of people creating places for their friends and communities, talking for upwards of 4 hours per day on the platform. Discord is now where the world talks, hangs out, and builds relationships. Discord lets anyone create a space to find belonging—just like it did for Jason and Stan. People love Discord because it’s a home for all their communities and groups of friends. It’s a place where they can be themselves and spend time with other people who share their interests and hobbies. In this Case study we are trying to resolve the following cases such as Why discord keeps on the widely acceptable chance of global and local communication and How discord manages the large crowd and their activities.

1. Introduction
In 2015, Discord was launched with the original intention of it being a platform for gamers to build communities with one another and chat. It has evolved to a platform that is much more than that, encircling audiences of different interests and not just for gamers anymore. Discord is a messaging app, similar to programs such as Teamspeak, Skype or professional communications platforms like slack. The platform’s original purpose was for game communications, helping gamers to strategize. This app makes chatting easy and quick communication. Discord offers lots of customer-based services, especially for gamers. It runs with several segments including nitro, server boosting etc. These segments carry so many verified features to boost its all-in-one video, voice, and texting. Some of the main features of discord include personal profile, bigger uploads, better emoji collection, support server etc.

2. Case Study
2.1 Global and Local communication
Discord is an industry standard for communication in eSports and LAN-based gaming tournaments. Even people who are not interested in gaming took notice of the app and started using it for their daily tasks such as calls, video conferences or meetings, and even file sharing. In fact, Slack is heavily inspired by discord.

Discord server is creating a private hub for online communication with others. Since discord includes text messaging, video calls and voice chat features. Discord allows users to create customizable text and voice channels where people can communicate in real-time and also it allows discord mobile app users to connect even when away from their workstations or while traveling. Remote learning and online training is the context of discord servers. It facilitates strong team communication and project collaboration. Through discord, you can chat with your own team, present slideshows and upload files with your own private video conference. We can see a graph that shows rapid growth in discord users in Fig.1.
Discord uses a private voice hosting system where we host voice calls for our users. Each voice channel in a server and calls that happened in private direct messages use what we call a voice region. This means you can have voice channels for multiple regions and give your server members a better voice quality experience. Discord has rapidly become one of the most popular apps used for communications. While reporting 90 million users with 14 million people logging on every day. While most servers on discord are used for gaming, others servers can be found that cater to other online cultures like cryptocurrency, e-trading, unreleased music etc.

![Fig.1 Users who are using Discord](image)

We just saw how communication acts as a feature for discord. It has some disadvantages too. Some of them are the absence of threads in communication, the message size is limited to 2000 characters and the attachment size to 8 MB, impossibility to create a group chat if the participants are not “friends”. But as we saw the disadvantages is not affecting discord as a serious case but discord is trying solve every problem they are facing in a faster manner.

2.2 User management and User activities

Discord want to update their technologies to prepare for rapid growth, they needed an affordable way to quickly scale their existing hardware infrastructure, while maintaining performance and security. Performance wise, discord would lead to transition from serving their content from a single home server to a high performing CDN (content delivery network) partner that would serve their static assets from all around the globe. Security wise, discord needed to protect their websockets-based traffic from the rampant DDoS attacks that they were experiencing. However, their initial hardware solution could cost discord up to six figures annually at scale and would still require work from discord engineers. Discord thus needed an affordable, easily scalable solution to stop these attacks.

As a result, discord has grown to the point where it has 350 million registered users, of whom 150 million monthly are active users. The most significant growth came in 2020, when it grew from 56 million monthly users to 100 million, before continuing with a further 50% increase in 2021. Clearly, Covid has
given people much more time at home to spend chatting on Discord servers. Discord has seen a solid increase in registered users over the last few years. In May 2017, it had 45 million users, 130 million in May 2018, 250 million in May 2019, 300 million in June 2020, and 350 million in June 2021. You can refer Fig. 2 for a clear picture.

![Estimated Discord Month Users 2017 - 2021](image)

**Fig. 2 Discord month user diagram**

### 3. Conclusion

Our studies about Discord give us the knowledge of how Discord is widely accepted in the case of global communication and local communication and how it provide us all the features which we do not get from other messaging application. Moreover Discord is doing a tremendous task managing all the people's data is a herculean task but now Discord successfully completed that task as a result millions of people are flowing to Discord as reward. One thing is sure discord is probably the best messaging system or we can say it us like Discord is an All in one messaging application.

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