as users who do not want to grasp the text. Providing the text to such users only unnecessarily increases the data traffic.

[0005]

Embodiments of the present invention provide a voice chat apparatus, a voice chat method, and a program that achieve appropriate control on whether or not to provide text obtained as a result of voice recognition on voice in voice chat.

[Solution to Problem]

[0006]

According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a voice chat apparatus among a plurality of other voice chat apparatuses, each voice chat apparatus being included in a respective one of a plurality of voice chat systems configured to enable voice chat among the plurality of voice chat systems, the voice chat apparatus including: a voice receiving unit configured to receive voice in voice chat from one or more of the other voice apparatuses; a text acquiring unit configured to acquire text obtained as a result of voice recognition on the voice from one or more of the other voice apparatuses; and a transmission control unit configured to control, on a basis of whether or not a specific user of any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses has enabled display of a voice recognition result to be performed in the respective one of the plurality of voice chat systems that is a communication destination, whether or not to transmit text data including the text to the communication destination, wherein the transmission control unit permits the specific user of the any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses to prohibit the transmission of the text data from the voice chat apparatus, irrespective of whether any other respective users of one or more others among the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses have set their respective voice chat system to enable reception of such text data.

[0007]

In an embodiment of the present invention, the text acquiring unit starts acquiring the text when the display of the voice recognition result is performed in any of the voice chat system as the destination.

[0008]

In this embodiment, the text acquiring unit may stop acquiring the text when the display of the voice recognition result is not performed in any of the voice chat system as the destination.

[0009]

Further, in an embodiment of the present invention, the transmission control unit controls, on the basis of whether an auxiliary apparatus configured to display a voice recognition result is included in the voice chat system that is the communication destination, whether or not to transmit the text data to the communication destination.

[0010]

In this embodiment, the text acquiring unit may start acquiring the text when the auxiliary apparatus is included in any of the plurality of voice chat systems.

[0011]

Moreover, the text acquiring unit may stop acquiring the text when the auxiliary apparatus is included in none of the plurality of voice chat systems.

[0012]

Further, in an embodiment of the present invention, the voice chat apparatus further includes a text receiving unit configured to receive text, and a voice acquiring unit configured to acquire voice obtained as a result of voice synthesis on the text. The transmission control unit controls, on the basis of whether or not the display of the voice recognition result is performed in the voice chat system that is the communication destination, whether or not to transmit text data including the text received by the text receiving unit to the communication destination.

[0013]

In this embodiment, the text receiving unit may receive the text input to an auxiliary apparatus connected to the voice chat apparatus.

[0014]

Further, in an embodiment of the present invention, the text acquiring unit transmits voice data indicating the voice to a server capable of communicating with the voice chat apparatus, and the text acquiring unit receives, from the server, text obtained as a result of voice recognition on the voice indicated by the voice data.

[0015]

According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a voice chat method including: receiving voice in voice chat, the receiving occurring by a voice chat apparatus among a plurality of other voice chat apparatuses, each voice chat apparatus being included in a respective one of a plurality of voice chat systems configured to enable voice chat among the plurality of voice chat systems, the receiving being from one or more of the other voice apparatuses; acquiring text obtained as a result of voice recognition on the voice from one or more of the other voice apparatuses; and controlling, on a basis of whether or not a specific user of any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses has enabled display of a voice recognition result to be performed in the respective one of the plurality of voice chat systems that is a communication destination, whether or not to transmit text data including the text to the communication destination, wherein the controlling permits the specific user of the any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses to prohibit the transmission of the text data from the voice chat apparatus, irrespective of whether any other respective users of one or more others among the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses have set their respective voice chat system to enable reception of such text data.

[0016]

According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a non-transitory, computer readable storage medium containing a computer program, which when executed by a computer, causes the computer to perform a voice chat method by carrying out actions, including: receiving voice in voice chat, the receiving occurring by a voice chat apparatus among a plurality of other voice chat apparatuses, each voice chat apparatus being included in a respective one of a plurality of voice chat systems configured to enable voice chat among the plurality of voice chat systems, the receiving being from one or more of the other voice apparatuses; acquiring text obtained as a result of voice recognition on the voice from one or more of the other voice apparatuses; and controlling, on a basis of whether or not a specific user of any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses has enabled display of a voice recognition result to be performed in the respective one of the plurality of voice chat systems that is a communication destination, whether or not to transmit text data including the text to the communication destination, wherein the controlling permits the specific user of the any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses to prohibit the transmission of the text data from the voice chat apparatus, irrespective of whether any other respective users of one or more others among the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses have set their respective voice chat system to enable reception of such text data.

[Brief Description of Drawings]

[0017]

[FIG. 1]

FIG. 1 is a diagram illustrating an exemplary overall configuration of a computer network according to an embodiment of the present invention.

CLAIMS

1. A voice chat apparatus among a plurality of other voice chat apparatuses, each voice chat apparatus being included in a respective one of a plurality of voice chat systems configured to enable voice chat among the plurality of voice chat systems, the voice chat apparatus comprising:

a voice receiving unit configured to receive voice in voice chat from one or more of the other voice apparatuses;

a text acquiring unit configured to acquire text obtained as a result of voice recognition on the voice from one or more of the other voice apparatuses; and

a transmission control unit configured to control, on a basis of whether or not a specific user of any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses has enabled display of a voice recognition result to be performed in the respective one of the plurality of voice chat systems that is a communication destination, whether or not to transmit text data including the text to the communication destination, wherein the transmission control unit permits the specific user of the any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses to prohibit the transmission of the text data from the voice chat apparatus, irrespective of whether any other respective users of one or more others among the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses have set their respective voice chat system to enable reception of such text data.

2. The voice chat apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the text acquiring unit starts acquiring the text when the display of the voice recognition result is performed in any of the plurality

of voice chat systems.

3. The voice chat apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the text acquiring unit stops acquiring the text when the display of the voice recognition result is performed in none of the plurality of voice chat systems.

4. The voice chat apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the transmission control unit controls, on a basis of whether or not an auxiliary apparatus configured to display a voice recognition result is included in the voice chat system that is the communication destination, whether or not to transmit the text data to the communication destination.

5. The voice chat apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the text acquiring unit starts acquiring the text when the auxiliary apparatus is included in any of the plurality of voice chat systems.

6. The voice chat apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the text acquiring unit stops acquiring the text when the auxiliary apparatus is included in none of the plurality of voice chat systems.

7. The voice chat apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a text receiving unit configured to receive text; and

a voice acquiring unit configured to acquire voice obtained as a result of voice synthesis on the text,

wherein the transmission control unit controls, on the basis

of whether or not the display of the voice recognition result is performed in the voice chat system that is the communication destination, whether or not to transmit text data including the text received by the text receiving unit to the communication destination.

8. The voice chat apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the text receiving unit receives the text input to an auxiliary apparatus connected to the voice chat apparatus.

9. The voice chat apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the text acquiring unit transmits voice data indicating the voice to a server capable of communicating with the voice chat apparatus, and

wherein the text acquiring unit receives, from the server, text obtained as a result of voice recognition on the voice indicated by the voice data.

10. A voice chat method comprising:

receiving voice in voice chat, the receiving occurring by a voice chat apparatus among a plurality of other voice chat apparatuses, each voice chat apparatus being included in a respective one of a plurality of voice chat systems configured to enable voice chat among the plurality of voice chat systems, the receiving being from one or more of the other voice apparatuses;

acquiring text obtained as a result of voice recognition on the voice from one or more of the other voice apparatuses; and

controlling, on a basis of whether or not a specific user of any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses has enabled display of a voice recognition result to be performed in

the respective one of the plurality of voice chat systems that is a communication destination, whether or not to transmit text data including the text to the communication destination, wherein the controlling permits the specific user of the any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses to prohibit the transmission of the text data from the voice chat apparatus, irrespective of whether any other respective users of one or more others among the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses have set their respective voice chat system to enable reception of such text data.

11. A non-transitory, computer readable storage medium containing a computer program, which when executed by a computer, causes the computer to perform a voice chat method by carrying out actions, comprising:

receiving voice in voice chat, the receiving occurring by a voice chat apparatus among a plurality of other voice chat apparatuses, each voice chat apparatus being included in a respective one of a plurality of voice chat systems configured to enable voice chat among the plurality of voice chat systems, the receiving being from one or more of the other voice apparatuses;

acquiring text obtained as a result of voice recognition on the voice from one or more of the other voice apparatuses; and

controlling, on a basis of whether or not a specific user of any one of the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses has enabled display of a voice recognition result to be performed in the respective one of the plurality of voice chat systems that is a communication destination, whether or not to transmit text data including the text to the communication destination, wherein the controlling permits the specific user of the any one of the

plurality of other voice chat apparatuses to prohibit the transmission of the text data from the voice chat apparatus, irrespective of whether any other respective users of one or more others among the plurality of other voice chat apparatuses have set their respective voice chat system to enable reception of such text data.