Lab # 2

Understanding Persistent and Non-persistent HTTP Connections

To understand persistent and non-persistent HTTP connections and corresponding performance impact.

Create a web page with N (e.g. 10) embedded images. Each image should be of minimum 2 MB size. Configure your browser (Firefox) with following settings (each setting requires repeat of experiment)

- · Non persistent connection
- · 2 persistent connections
- · 4 persistent connections

Observation: Note down the time taken to display the entire page in each of the settings. Ensure that (cache is cleared before starting the web request). Explain the response time differences. What is the optimal number of persistent connections for best performance? Explain your answer.

Introduction

The Apache HTTP server is the most widely-used web server in the world. It provides many powerful features including dynamically loadable modules, robust media support, and extensive integration with other popular software.

Objective: Understand persistent and non-persistent HTTP connections and corresponding performance impact.

Experiment: Create a web page with N (e.g. 10) embedded images. Each image should be of minimum 2 MB size. Configure your browser (Firefox) with following settings (each setting requires repeat of experiment)

- a) Non-persistent connection
- b) 2 persistent connections
- c) 4 persistent connections

Note down the time taken to display the entire page in each of the settings. Ensure that cache is cleared before starting the web request. Explain the response time differences. What is the optimal number of persistent connections for best performance? Explain your answer.

Note: To install Apache server, use the following command,

sudo apt-get install apache2

If there is any error during installation, update the package manager by issuing the

command, sudo apt-get update

EXECUTION STEPS

Step 1: Create groups of 2 such that one student's desktop will be the server, the other will be client.

Step 2: Connect 2 desktops using switch and cables as shown below. (Use 2 VMs on Virtualbox or VMware instead of physical connections.)

Ensure that the VM is in bridged adapter network

Server Client



172.16.10.1/24 172.16.10.2/24

<u>Note:</u> For demonstration purposes, both the desktops can implement the steps for the server side but only the client can ping the server's IP address for the actual experiment.

Server Side:

Step 3: Check your Web Server

At the end of the installation process, Ubuntu 16.04 starts Apache. The web server should already be up and running. We can check with the systematic command to make sure the service is running by typing:

sudo systemctl status apache2

or

sudo service apache2 status

If the server is not running, use the following command:

Sudo systemctl start apache2

As you can see above, the service appears to have started successfully. However, the best way to test this is to actually request a page from Apache. You can access the default Apache landing page to confirm that the software is running properly. You can access this through your server's domain name or IP address.

Find out the others systems(your partner's) ip by using the command ifconfig (named enp0s3)

- **Step 4:** The **apache2.conf** file present in the **etc/apache2** directory is modified as: a) The **keep-alive** option was set (i.e. value was made **ON**)
 - b) The MaximumKeepAliveRequests were set to 2

\$sudo nano /etc/apache2/apache2.conf

Step 5: Store images in the server path. A html page consisting of 10 images having size

> 2MB were placed and accessed by the client. This html page is stored in the location - /var/www/html/file_name.html.

The file_name here refers to the html file you've downloaded and stored in your system.

Note: Use the images and html file provided by faculty incharges.



Step 6: Use the following command to change directory of your downloaded files:

sudo cp /path/to/your/images/* /var/www/html/

To find the path of your downloaded files, go to file explorer and right click on the folder to check for properties.

An example is given below:

Client side:

Find out clients ip by using the command ifconfig

There are broadly two parts of execution:

- 1. Dealing with non-persistent connections
- 2. Dealing with persistent connections

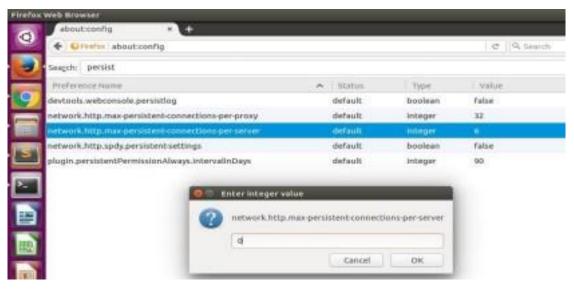
Open Firefox browser to configure for persistent option. Go to browser and type **about:config** and search for the term 'persistent'

· While using non-persistent connection experiment, the **max-persistent-connections per-server** has the value set to **0** and **persistent-settings** value set to false. · While using

persistent connection experiment, the **max-persistent-connections-per server** should have value greater than 0 (depending on the number of persistent connections needed) and **persistent-settings** value set to true.

PART 1: NON-PERSISTENT CONNECTION

Step 1: This is done by setting the value of max-persistent-connection-per-server to 0 in the client computer.



Step 2: On the server's desktop,

The **apache2.conf** file present in the **etc/apache2** directory is modified as: a) The **keep-alive** option was set to False (i.e. value was made **OFF**)

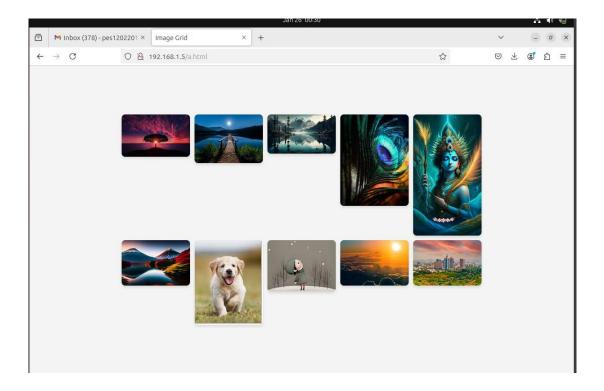
\$sudo nano /etc/apache2/apache2.conf

Step 3: Access web page on client-side browser (Firefox)

The client could access the file as:

serverip /file_name.html where--> server ip was found using ifconfig

Here the file name is **a.html** present in server. So, by tying **serverip/a.html** in client browser, we will be able to open the requested web page.



Note 1: The wireshark should capture the packets between the client and the server while the file is accessed.

Note 2: The images in the HTML page should have all the permissions specified through the server for the proper access.

Step 4: Use wireshark. Open wireshark in the server computer while client is trying to access the server's local host webpage. Apply 'http' filter and note the time to capture all the 10 images.

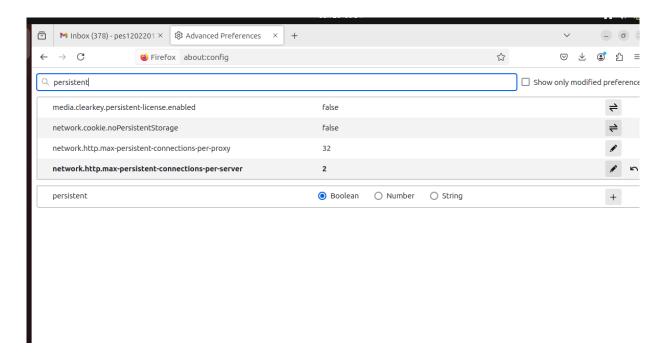
0.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length Info
	25 8.211538185	177.16.19.1	172.16.10.2	HITP	S68 HTTP/1.1 484 Not found (text/html)
	27 2.070381279	172.16.10.2	172.16.18.1	HITP	421 GET /a.html HTTP/1.1
	28 2.078866155	172.16.18.1	172.16.10.2	HTTP	641 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
	38 2.117168769	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HETP	347 GET /lmages%28(1).jpg HTTP/1,1
	35 2.117571913	172.16.10.1	172.16.18.2	HETP	1200 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (JPEG JFIF image)
	36 2.117753115	172.16.18.2	172.16.10.1	HITP	347 GET /images%28(2).jpg HTTP/1.1
	45 2.117944288	172.16.18.1	172.16.18.2	HTTP	463 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (JPEG JFIF image)
	51 2.118574057	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HTTP	349 GET /download%20(4).jpg HTTP/1.1
	63 2.119058498	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HTTP.	242 HTTP/1.1 288 OK (3PEG 3FIF 1mage)
	65 2.119487932	172.16.18.2	172.16.10.1	HITP	347 GET /images%20(3).jpg HTTP/1.1
	77 2.119784374	172.16.10.1	172,16,18.2	HITP	565 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (JPEG JFIF image)
	79 2.120323770	172,16,10.2	172.16.18.1	HITP	359 GET /lion-wild-africa-african.jpg HTTP/1.1
	94 2.121263792	172,16,10.2	172.16.10.1	HTTP	341 GET /images.jpg HTTP/1.1
	110 2.122045168	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HITP	1226 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	117 2.122719543	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HTTP	343 GET /download.jpg HTTP/1.1
	138 2.123847115	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HITP	349 GET /download%20(1).jpg HTTP/1.1
	160 2.124700199	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HTTP.	362 GET /scap-bubble-1958650_960_720.jpg HTTP/1.1
	164 2.124733885	172.16.18.1	172.16.10.2	HITP	1817 HTTP/1.1 288 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	171 2.125125151	172.16.18.1	172.16.10.2	HETP	711 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	184 2.126599573	172.16.18.2	172.16.10.1	HETP	349 GET /download%20(2).jpg HTTP/1.1
	252 2.131856667	172.16.18.1	172.16.18.2	HTTP	114 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	529 2.151487483	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HTTP	73 HTTP/1.1 200 DK (JPEG JFIF Image)
	3834 2.429637133	172.16.18.1	172.16.10.2	HITP	1124 HTTP/1.1 200 DK (3PEG 3FIF Image)

Here it is 2.429637133 - 2.070581279 = 0.359055854

PART 2: PERSISTENT CONNECTIONS

Step 1: For 2 persistent connections, set the value of

max-persistent-connection-per-server to 2 in the client computer.



Step 2: On the server's desktop,

The **apache2.conf** file present in the **etc/apache2** directory is modified as: a) The **keep-alive** option was set (i.e. value was made **ON**) (since we're now checking for persistent connections)

\$sudo nano /etc/apache2/apache2.conf

Step 3: Repeat the **steps 3-4** in the previous section.

ite io.	Time	Source	Destrution	Protocol	Length Info
	28 0.158495832	172.16.18.1	172,16,18,2	HTTP	SEE HTTP/1.1 484 Not Found (text/html)
	30 2.685888334	172.16.18.2	172.16.18.1	HITP	421 GET /a.html HTTP/1.1
	31-2,686488793	172.16.10.1	172.16.19.2	HTTP	641 WTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/htwl)
	33 2,734891858	172.16.10.2	171.16.10.1	HTTP	347 GET /images%28(1).jpg MTTP/1.1
	38 2.734592637	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HTTP	347 GET /Images%20(2).5pg wTTP/1.1
	39 2,734656958	172.16.18.1	172.16.18.2	HITTE	1200 HTTP/1,1 200 CK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	45 2.735825557	172.16.18.1	172.16.10.2	HTTP	463 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PSG 3F3F image)
	48 2.735188365	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HITP	349 SET /downloadN20(4), jpg HTTP/1.1
	66 2.736879156	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HITTP	243 MTTP/1.1 200 CK (3PSG 3F3F image)
	68 2.731374645	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HTTP	147 GET /images \$28(3).jpg HTTP/1.1
	82 2.736755733	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HTTP	565 HTTP/1.1 280 CK (3PES 1F1F image)
	85 2.737381832	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HETP	359 GET /lion-wild-africa-african.jng HTTP/1.1
	92 2.737848685	172.16.10.2	172.15.10.1	HTTP	341 GET /images.jpg HTTP/1.1
	101 2.738335480	172.16.18.2	172.16.18.1	HITP	343 GET /sloomload.jpg HTTP/I.1
	119 2.738889142	172.16.19.1	172.16.10.2	HTTP	1226 HTTP/1,1 200 CK (DPSG 3F3F 1mage)
	121 2.739075430	172.16.18.1	173.16.10.2	HITE	1916 HTTP/1,1 200 CK (3P8G 3F1F image)
	139 2.748968738	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HITE	349 GET /download%20(1).jpg HTTP/1.1
	143 2,741814891	172,16,18,2	172,16,18,1	HETP	362 GET /soap-bubble-1958658_968_728.jpg HTTP/1.
	148 2.741285777	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HTTP	34% GET /doorload\$20(2).jpg HTTP/1.1
	179 2.742887473	172,16,10,1	172,16,10,2	HTTP	113 HTTP/1.1 200 CK (3P5G 3F1F image)
	198 2.743723338	172.16.10.1	172.16.18.2	HITTP	712 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3F3F 1mage)
	402 2.764054977	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HTTP	72 HTTP/1.1 200 CK (3PEG 3F3F image)
	3774 3.942252827	172.16.10.1	172.16.18.2	HTTP	1124 HTTP/1.1 200 CK (2055 3F3F image)

Here it is 3.042252027 - 2.685888334 = 0.356363

Step 3: For 4 persistent connections, Set the value of **max-persistent-connection-per-server to 4** in the client computer.

Step 4: Repeat the **steps 1-3** in the previous section.

D.	Tire	Source	Destrution	Protocal	Length Info
	28 0.152642908	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HITP	SEE HTTP/1.1 484 Not Found (text/html)
	30 1.667969551	172,16,10,2	172.16.10.1	HTTP	421 SET /a.html HTTP/1.1
	31 1.668313781	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HTTP	641 HTTP/3.1 200 OK (text/html)
	33 1.699473631	172.16.10.2	172,16,10.1	HTTP.	347 GET /SmagesK20(1).jpg HTTP/1.1
	35 1.699692999	172,16,10.2	172,16,19,1	HTTP	347 GET /SmagesN20(2).jpg HTTP/1.1
	45 1.699988842	172, 16, 19, 1	172.16.19.2	HTTP	463 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	46 1.699913003	172.16.10.1	172,16,10,2	HTTP	1300 WTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	47 1.700012712	172.16.10.2	172.16.10.1	HTTP	349 GET /download%29(4).jpg HTTP/1.1
	63 1.700901747	172.16.10.1	172,16,10,2	HTTP	242 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (IPEG JFIF 1mage)
	69 1.701341018	172.16.18.2	172,16,10,1	HETP	347 GET /images%20(3).jpg HTTP/1.1
	70 1.701432635	172,16,18.2	172.16.10.1	HTTP	359 GET /lion-wild-africa-african.jpg HTTP/1.1
	86 1,701888988	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HTTP	565 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (IPEG 3FIF Emage)
	93 1.702192885	172.16.10.2	172,16,10,1	HTTP.	341 051 /images.jpg HTTP/1.1
	95 1.702219175	172.10.10.2	172,16,10,1	HTTP	343 GET /download.jpg HTTP/1.1
	97 1.702228220	172.10.10.2	172,10,10.1	HTTP	349 GET /download%20(1).jpg HTTP/1.1
	88 1.782233138	172.10.10.2	172.10.10.1	HITTE	362 057 /scep-bubble-1958658 968 728.5pg HTTP/1.1
	122 1.703328158	172.10.10.1	172.10.10.2	HITP	711 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	126 1.703773424	172.10.10.2	172.10.10.1	HITP	349 GET /download%20(2).jpg HTTP/1.1
	157 1.705490971	172.10.10.1	172.10.10.2	HTTP	1227 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (1PEG 1F1F image)
	159 1.705614894	172.10.10.1	172.10.10.2	HTTP	113 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	167 1.706637782	172.16.10.1	172.10.10.2	HTTP	1817 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3F3F image)
	414 1.724541388	172.16.10.1	172.16.10.2	HITP	73 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)
	3825 2.885934395	172.16.10.1	172,16,19.2	HETP:	1124 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (3PEG 3FIF image)

Here is it 2.005934395 - 1.667969557 = 0.337964838

OBSERVATIONS REQUIRED:

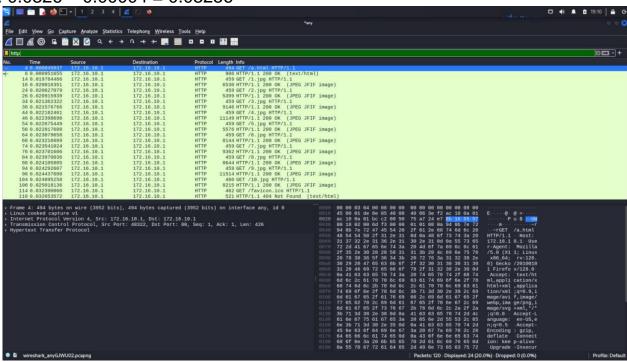
Calculate the time taken to load objects from the server for non-persistent and persistent connections (2, 4,). Find out the optimal number of HTTP persistent connections based on your observations.

SCREENSHOTS REQUIRED FOR SUBMISSION:

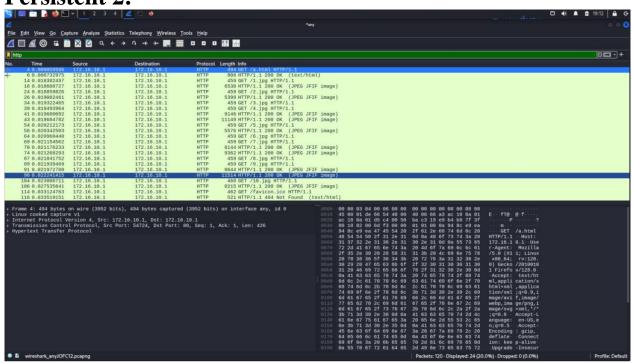
1) Non-persistent connection wireshark capture (should include all 10 images) 2) Persistent connections wireshark capture – 2, 4, 6, 8 & 10 respectively (should include all 10 images).

Non-Persistent:

TIME: 0.0326 - 0.00004 = 0.03256

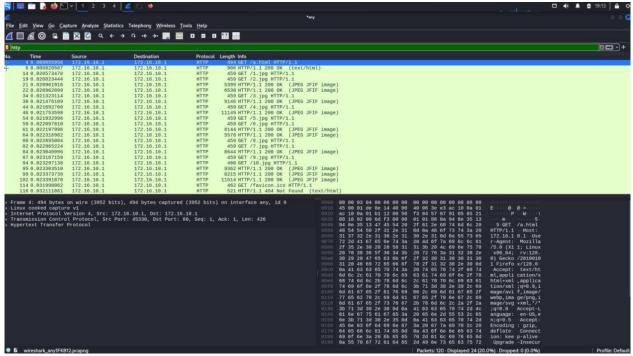


Persistent 2:



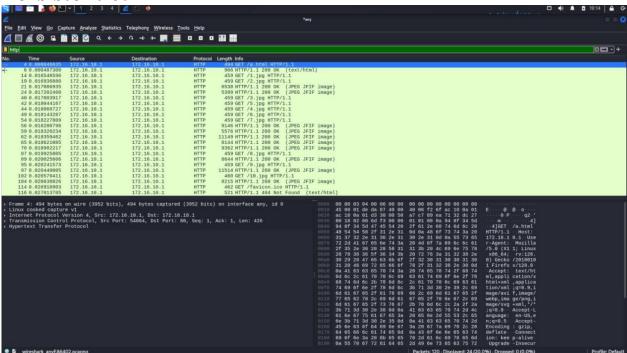
TIME: 0.0335 - 0.00005 = 0.03345

Persistent 4:



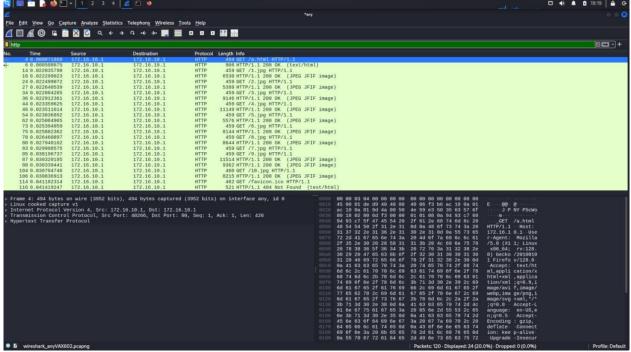
TIME: 0.0321 - 0.00005 = 0.03205

Persistent 6:



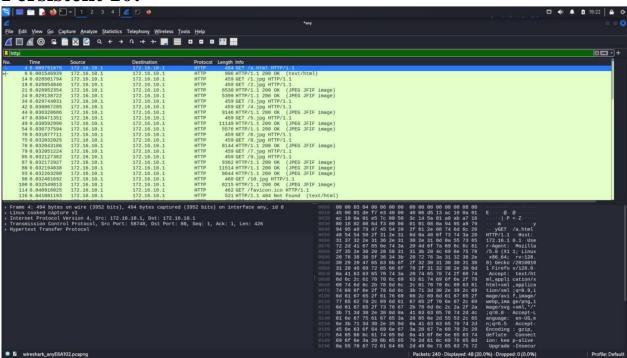
TIME: 0.0270 - 0.00004 = 0.02696

Persistent 8:



TIME: 0.0414 - 0.00007 = 0.04133

Persistent 10:



TIME: 0.0410 - 0.00078 = 0.04022