# Task-2: Traceroute Protocol Behavior

Team member:

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## **Objective:**

The purpose of this experiment is to understand how the traceroute utility works in Windows and Linux while tracing the route to <a href="www.google.com">www.google.com</a>, capture the network traffic, and analyze how packets traverse intermediate routers to the destination.

## **Tools Used:**

- Operating Systems: Windows 10, Ubuntu Linux
- Network Capture Tools: Wireshark
- Commands: tracert (Windows), traceroute (Linux)

1. What protocol does Windows tracert use by default, and what protocol does Linux

traceroute use by default?

1. Protocols Used

#### Observation:

- Windows (tracert www.google.com): Uses ICMP Echo Request packets. Each hop corresponds to a router replying with an ICMP Echo Reply.
- Linux (traceroute www.google.com): Uses UDP packets to high-numbered ports by default. Intermediate routers respond with ICMP Time Exceeded messages.

#### **Explanation:**

- In Windows, tracert sends ICMP Echo Requests with increasing TTL. When TTL reaches 0 at a router, the router responds with ICMP Time Exceeded. The final destination (Google server) replies with ICMP Echo Reply.
- In Linux, traceroute sends UDP packets to an unused port at Google. Intermediate routers respond with ICMP Time Exceeded, and Google responds with ICMP Port Unreachable.

## Supporting Evidence:

Command Prompt Screenshot:

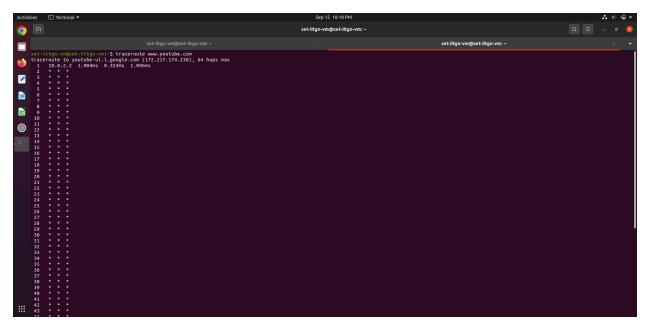
With wireshark running in background(window):

```
C:\Users\GUDA AVINASH REDDY>tracert www.google.com
Tracing route to www.google.com [142.251.222.100]
over a maximum of 30 hops:
                                 10.7.0.5
        2 ms
                 3 ms
                           2 ms
  2
                                 172.16.4.7
       14 ms
                 2 ms
                          2 ms
        7 ms
 3
                11 ms
                          12 ms
                                 14.139.98.1
 4
        3 ms
                 4 ms
                          3 ms
                                 10.117.81.253
  5
       11 ms
                 9 ms
                          12 ms
                                 10.154.8.137
  6
       15 ms
                10 ms
                         9 ms
                                 10.255.239.170
  7
       12 ms
                10 ms
                          11 ms
                                 10.152.7.214
 8
       13 ms
                11 ms
                         12 ms
                                 142.250.172.80
 9
       14 ms
                12 ms
                         14 ms
                                 142.251.76.23
 10
                                 142.251.77.97
       14 ms
                12 ms
                          14 ms
 11
       15 ms
                12 ms
                          12 ms
                                 pnbomb-az-in-f4.1e100.net [142.251.222.100]
Trace complete.
```

Without running WireShark in background(window):

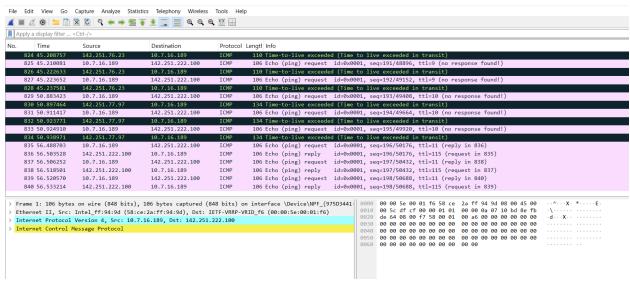
```
C:\Users\GUDA AVINASH REDDY>tracert www.google.com
Tracing route to www.google.com [142.251.220.68]
over a maximum of 30 hops:
  1
        4 ms
                  3 ms
                           2 ms
                                  10.7.0.5
  2
                                  172.16.4.7
        1 ms
                  1 ms
                           1 ms
  3
        4 ms
                  3 ms
                           4 ms
                                  14.139.98.1
  4
        3 ms
                           4 ms
                                  10.117.81.253
                  2 ms
  5
       10 ms
                 10 ms
                          10 ms
                                  10.154.8.137
  6
       10 ms
                 10 ms
                           9 ms
                                  10.255.239.170
  7
                           9 ms
                                  10.152.7.214
       14 ms
                 10 ms
  8
                                  72.14.204.62
       11 ms
                 10 ms
                          10 ms
  9
       19 ms
                 19 ms
                          20 ms
                                  142.251.76.33
                                  142.250.214.103
 10
       11 ms
                 11 ms
                          11 ms
 11
       19 ms
                                  pnbomb-bd-in-f4.1e100.net [142.251.220.68]
                 19 ms
                          20 ms
Trace complete.
```

With wireshark running in background(linux):

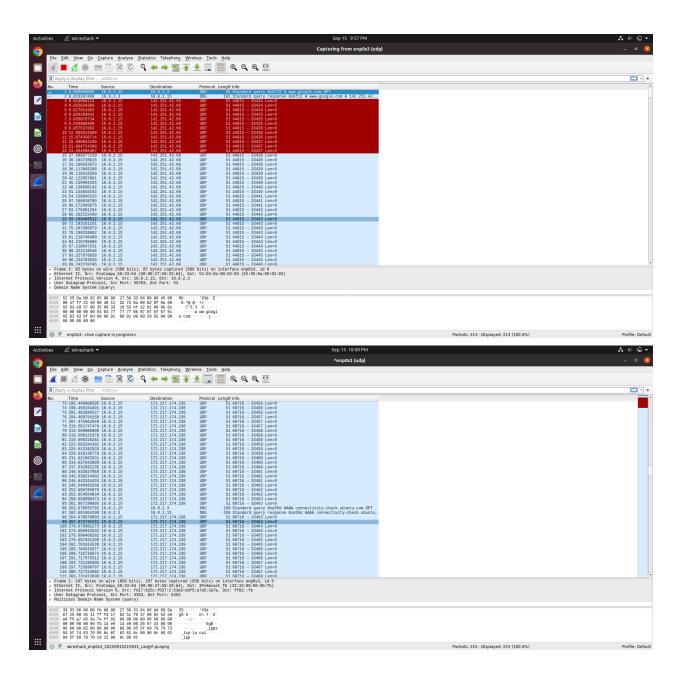


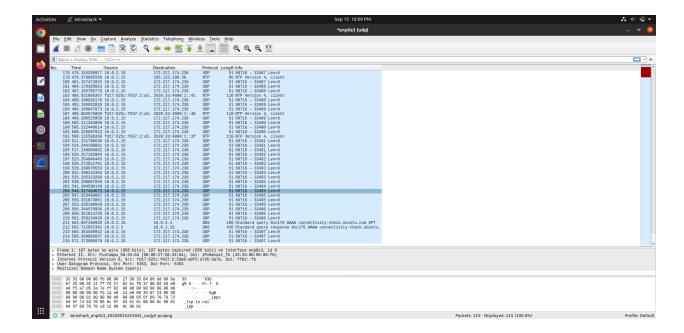
**Wireshark Screenshot:** Highlight ICMP Echo Requests/Replies (Windows) and UDP probes + ICMP Time Exceeded responses (Linux).

#### Windows:



Linux:





# 2. Reasons for \*\*\* in traceroute output

#### Observation:

Some hops may display \*\*\* in Linux outputs while tracing <u>Google.in</u> .windows i didn't get any \*\*\* sysmbols

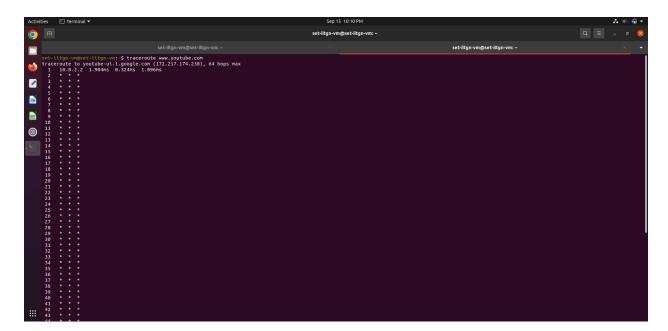
#### Possible Reasons:

- 1. **Router or Firewall Blocking:** Some routers or Google's intermediate network devices may block ICMP or UDP probe responses.
- 2. **Router Prioritization:** Routers focus on forwarding traffic instead of responding to traceroute probes.
- 3. **Packet Loss or Network Congestion:** Temporary delays or packet drops may prevent the probes from receiving replies.

## **Supporting Evidence:**

Command Prompt Screenshot: Highlight hops showing \*\*\*.

Linux:



Wireshark Screenshot: Show missing UDP responses at those hops.

```
### According ##
```

# 3. Field Changing Between Successive Probes (Linux)

#### Observation:

The TTL (Time To Live) in the IP header changes in successive probes while tracing Google.

## **Explanation:**

- Linux traceroute starts with TTL = 1, increasing by 1 for each set of probes.
- Each router decrements TTL; when TTL = 0, the router replies with ICMP Time Exceeded, revealing its IP and latency.

## **Supporting Evidence:**

• Command Prompt Screenshot: Show hop numbers increasing (1, 2, 3 ... up to Google).

• Wireshark Screenshot: Highlight TTL values in successive UDP packets.

# 4. Difference Between Final Hop and Intermediate Hop

#### Observation:

- Intermediate hops: Respond with ICMP Time Exceeded (Type 11).
- **Final hop (Google):** Responds with ICMP Port Unreachable (Linux) or ICMP Echo Reply (Windows).

#### **Explanation:**

- Intermediate routers are not the destination, so they only indicate TTL expiration.
- The final Google server replies differently depending on protocol: ICMP Echo Reply for Windows and ICMP Port Unreachable for Linux UDP probes.

#### Supporting Evidence:

- Command Prompt Screenshot: Highlight last hop showing Google's IP.
- **Wireshark Screenshot**: Highlight ICMP type/code difference between intermediate and final responses.

# 5. Effect of Firewall Blocking UDP but Allowing ICMP

#### Scenario:

Firewall blocks UDP traffic but allows ICMP.

#### Observation:

- Linux traceroute (UDP): Mostly fails to reach Google; many hops show \*\*\*.
- Windows tracert (ICMP): Works normally; ICMP Echo Requests and Replies are allowed.

## **Explanation:**

- Linux traceroute relies on UDP packets to high-numbered ports. Blocking these prevents reaching Google's final hop.
- Windows tracert uses ICMP, which the firewall allows, so it completes successfully.

## **Supporting Evidence:**

- Command Prompt Screenshot: Compare Linux showing \*\*\* vs. Windows reaching Google.
- Wireshark Screenshot: Show blocked UDP packets vs. successful ICMP packets.

## Conclusion

- Traceroute behavior depends on both OS and protocol: ICMP for Windows, UDP for Linux.
- Firewalls and router configurations can prevent responses, resulting in \*\*\* hops.
- TTL is the key mechanism enabling sequential hop discovery.
- Using both Command Prompt outputs and Wireshark captures provides a clear visualization of how packets reach Google servers.

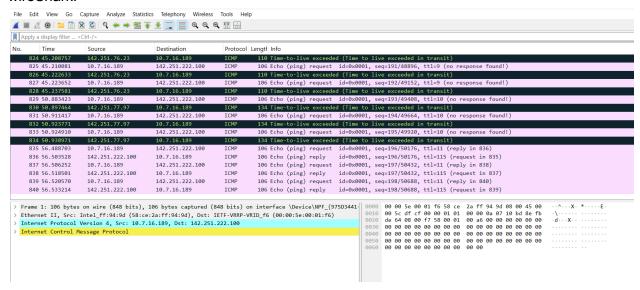
## SCREENSHOTS:

## Windows:

CommandPrompt:

```
C:\Users\GUDA AVINASH REDDY>tracert www.google.com
Tracing route to www.google.com [142.251.222.100]
over a maximum of 30 hops:
  1
        2 ms
                  3 ms
                           2 ms
                                  10.7.0.5
  2
       14 ms
                  2 ms
                           2 ms
                                  172.16.4.7
  3
        7 ms
                          12 ms
                                  14.139.98.1
                 11 ms
  4
        3 ms
                 4 ms
                           3 ms
                                  10.117.81.253
  5
       11 ms
                 9 ms
                          12 ms
                                 10.154.8.137
  6
                           9 ms
       15 ms
                                 10.255.239.170
                 10 ms
  7
       12 ms
                 10 ms
                          11 ms
                                 10.152.7.214
  8
       13 ms
                 11 ms
                          12 ms
                                  142.250.172.80
       14 ms
                                  142.251.76.23
  9
                 12 ms
                          14 ms
       14 ms
                 12 ms
                          14 ms
 10
                                 142.251.77.97
 11
       15 ms
                12 ms
                                  pnbomb-az-in-f4.1e100.net [142.251.222.100]
                          12 ms
Trace complete.
```

#### wireShark:



# **Ubuntu LINUX:** Comandpromt

## Wireshark:

