Networking with Linux Lab Module 2 & 3: Client Server Network topology using NS-3 and Animating the Network

Assignment 8: Program to simulate DHCP server and n clients

Aim: To simulate a DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) server and multiple clients to understand the process of dynamic IP address allocation in a network

Theory: DHCP Protocol

In a DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) simulation, the DHCP server dynamically assigns IP addresses and other network configuration parameters to multiple clients within a network. The server responds to clients' requests by leasing IP addresses for a limited period, ensuring efficient utilization of available addresses while preventing conflicts. The simulation involves the server listening for client requests, negotiating lease terms, and managing the address pool, mimicking real-world network dynamics.

Code:

> dhcp-example.cc

```
#include "ns3/core-module.h"
#include "ns3/internet-apps-module.h"
#include "ns3/csma-module.h"
#include "ns3/internet-module.h"
#include "ns3/point-to-point-module.h"
#include "ns3/applications-module.h"
#include "ns3/netanim-module.h"
#include "ns3/mobility-helper.h"
using namespace ns3:
NS LOG COMPONENT DEFINE ("DhcpExample");
int
main (int argc, char *argv[])
 CommandLine cmd (FILE);
 bool verbose = false;
 bool tracing = false;
 cmd.AddValue ("verbose", "turn on the logs", verbose);
```

```
Ipv4AddressHelper address;
 address.SetBase ("172.30.1.0", "255.255.255.0");
 Ipv4InterfaceContainer p2pInterfaces;
 p2pInterfaces = address.Assign (p2pDevices):
 // manually add a routing entry because we don't want to add a dynamic routing
 Ipv4StaticRoutingHelper ipv4RoutingHelper;
 Ptr < Ipv4 > ipv4Ptr = p2pNodes.Get (1) -> GetObject < Ipv4 > ();
 Ptr<Ipv4StaticRouting> staticRoutingA = ipv4RoutingHelper.GetStaticRouting (ipv4Ptr);
 staticRoutingA->AddNetworkRouteTo (Ipv4Address ("172.30.0.0"), Ipv4Mask ("/24"),
                     Ipv4Address ("172.30.1.1"), 1);
 NS LOG INFO ("Setup the IP addresses and create DHCP applications.");
 DhcpHelper dhcpHelper:
 // The router must have a fixed IP.
   Ipv4InterfaceContainer fixedNodes = dhcpHelper.InstallFixedAddress (devNet.Get (4),
Ipv4Address ("172.30.0.17"), Ipv4Mask ("/24"));
 // Not really necessary, IP forwarding is enabled by default in IPv4.
 fixedNodes.Get (0).first->SetAttribute ("IpForward", BooleanValue (true));
 // DHCP server
   ApplicationContainer dhcpServerApp = dhcpHelper.InstallDhcpServer (devNet.Get (3),
Ipv4Address ("172.30.0.12"),
                                        Ipv4Address ("172.30.0.0"), Ipv4Mask ("/24"),
                                                   Ipv4Address ("172.30.0.10"), Ipv4Address
("172.30.0.15"),
                                        Ipv4Address ("172.30.0.17"));
 // This is just to show how it can be done.
   DynamicCast<DhcpServer> (dhcpServerApp.Get (0))->AddStaticDhcpEntry (devNet.Get
(2)->GetAddress (), Ipv4Address ("172.30.0.14"));
 dhcpServerApp.Start (Seconds (0.0));
 dhcpServerApp.Stop (stopTime);
 // DHCP clients
 NetDeviceContainer dhcpClientNetDevs;
 dhcpClientNetDevs.Add (devNet.Get (0)):
 dhcpClientNetDevs.Add (devNet.Get (1));
 dhcpClientNetDevs.Add (devNet.Get (2));
 ApplicationContainer dhcpClients = dhcpHelper.InstallDhcpClient (dhcpClientNetDevs);
 dhcpClients.Start (Seconds (1.0));
 dhcpClients.Stop (stopTime);
```

Command & Screenshot:

> \$ sudo ./waf --run "scratch/dhcp-example.cc --verbose=true"

```
iakashchoudhary@itsak-VirtualBox: ~/Workspace/ns-allinone-3.32/ns-3.32
iakashchoudhary@itsak-VirtualBox:~/Workspace/ns-allinone-3.32/ns-3.32$ sudo ./waf --run "s
cratch/dhcp-example.cc --verbose=true'
Waf: Entering directory `/home/iakashchoudhary/Workspace/ns-allinone-3.32/ns-3.32/build'
Waf: Leaving directory `/home/iakashchoudhary/Workspace/ns-allinone-3.32/ns-3.32/build'
DhcpServer:DhcpServer(0x563b1fdb6890)
DhcpServer:AddStaticDhcpEntry(0x563b1fdb6890, 02-06-00:00:00:00:00:03, 172.30.0.14)
DhcpClient:DhcpClient(0x563b1fdf45d0)
DhcpClient:DhcpClient(0x563b1fe78eb0)
DhcpClient:DhcpClient(0x563b1fe7a330)
DhcpServer:StartApplication(0x563b1fdb6890)
Adding 172.30.0.10 to the pool
Adding 172.30.0.11 to the pool
Adding 172.30.0.13 to the pool
Adding 172.30.0.14 to the pool
Adding 172.30.0.15 to the pool
DhcpClient:StartApplication(0x563b1fdf45d0)
My address is 02-06-00:00:00:00:00:01
DhcpClient:Boot(0x563b1fdf45d0)
DHCP DISCOVER sent
DhcpClient:StartApplication(0x563b1fe78eb0)
My address is 02-06-00:00:00:00:00:02
```

```
iakashchoudhary@itsak-VirtualBox: ~/Workspace/ns-allinone-3.32/ns-3.32
DhcpClient:Boot(0x563b1fe78eb0)
DHCP DISCOVER sent
DhcpClient:StartApplication(0x563b1fe7a330)
My address is 02-06-00:00:00:00:00:03
DhcpClient:Boot(0x563b1fe7a330)
DHCP DISCOVER sent
DhcpServer:TimerHandler(0x563b1fdb6890)
DhcpServer:NetHandler(0x563b1fdb6890, 0x563b1fe7b8d0)
DhcpServer:SendOffer(0x563b1fdb6890, 0x563b1fe65520, (type=), 04-07-00:00:00:00:44:00:00)
DHCP DISCOVER from: 0.0.0.0 source port: 68
DHCP OFFER Offered Address: 172.30.0.10
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fdf45d0, 0x563b1fe7c7c0)
DhcpClient:OfferHandler(0x563b1fdf45d0, (type=))
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fe78eb0, 0x563b1fe7da10)
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fe7a330, 0x563b1fe7e780)
DhcpServer:NetHandler(0x563b1fdb6890, 0x563b1fe7b8d0)
DhcpServer:SendOffer(0x563b1fdb6890, 0x563b1fe65520, (type=), 04-07-00:00:00:00:44:00:00)
DHCP DISCOVER from: 0.0.0.0 source port: 68
DHCP OFFER Offered Address: 172.30.0.11
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fdf45d0, 0x563b1fe7c7c0)
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fe78eb0, 0x563b1fe7da10)
DhcpClient:OfferHandler(0x563b1fe78eb0, (type=))
```

DHCP ACK received

Current DHCP Server is 172.30.0.12

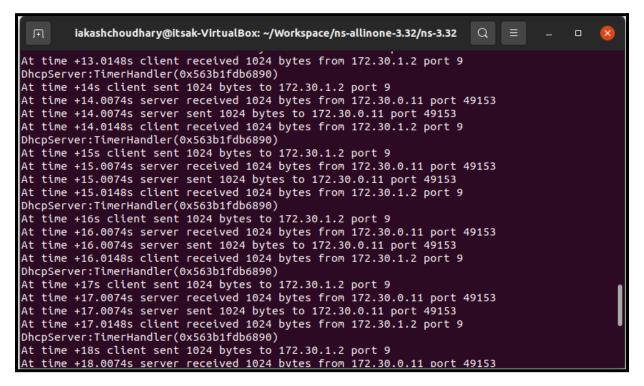
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fdf45d0, 0x563b1fe7c7c0)

Got a new address (172.30.0.10), removing old one: 0.0.0.0

DhcpClient:AcceptAck(0x563b1fdf45d0, (type=), 04-07-ac:1e:00:0c:43:00:00)

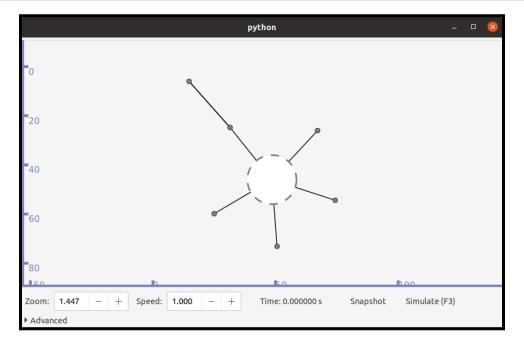
```
iakashchoudhary@itsak-VirtualBox: ~/Workspace/ns-allinone-3.32/ns-3.32
                                                                      a
                                                                                     DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fe78eb0, 0x563b1fe7da10)
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fe7a330, 0x563b1fe7e780)
DhcpClient:Select(0x563b1fe78eb0)
DhcpClient:Request(0x563b1fe78eb0)
DhcpServer:NetHandler(0x563b1fdb6890, 0x563b1fe7b8d0)
DhcpServer:SendAck(0x563b1fdb6890, 0x563b1fe65520, (type=), 04-07-00:00:00:00:44:00:00)
DHCP REQUEST from: 0.0.0.0 source port: 68 - refreshed addr: 172.30.0.11
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fdf45d0, 0x563b1fe7c7c0)
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fe78eb0, 0x563b1fe7da10)
DhcpClient:AcceptAck(0x563b1fe78eb0, (type=), 04-07-ac:1e:00:0c:43:00:00)
DHCP ACK received
Got a new address (172.30.0.11), removing old one: 0.0.0.0
Current DHCP Server is 172.30.0.12
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fe7a330, 0x563b1fe7e780)
DhcpClient:Select(0x563b1fe7a330)
DhcpClient:Request(0x563b1fe7a330)
DhcpServer:NetHandler(0x563b1fdb6890, 0x563b1fe7b8d0)
DhcpServer:SendAck(0x563b1fdb6890, 0x563b1fe65520, (type=), 04-07-00:00:00:00:44:00:00)
DHCP REQUEST from: 0.0.0.0 source port: 68 - refreshed addr: 172.30.0.14
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fdf45d0, 0x563b1fe7c7c0)
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fe78eb0, 0x563b1fe7da10)
DhcpClient:NetHandler(0x563b1fe7a330, 0x563b1fe7e780)
DhcpClient:AcceptAck(0x563b1fe7a330, (type=), 04-07-ac:1e:00:0c:43:00:00)
DHCP ACK received
```

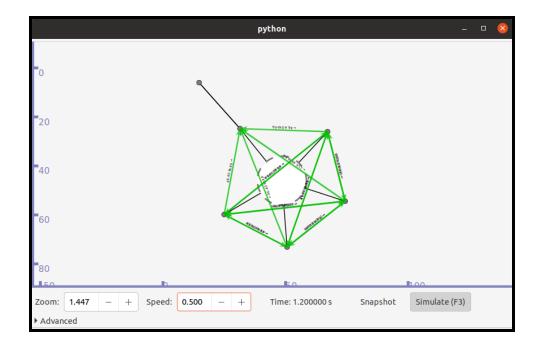
```
iakashchoudhary@itsak-VirtualBox: ~/Workspace/ns-allinone-3.32/ns-3.32
Got a new address (172.30.0.14), removing old one: 0.0.0.0
Current DHCP Server is 172.30.0.12
DhcpServer:TimerHandler(0x563b1fdb6890)
DhcpServer:TimerHandler(0x563b1fdb6890)
DhcpServer:TimerHandler(0x563b1fdb6890)
DhcpServer:TimerHandler(0x563b1fdb6890)
At time +10s client sent 1024 bytes to 172.30.1.2 port 9
At time +10.0196s server received 1024 bytes from 172.30.0.11 port 49153
At time +10.0196s server sent 1024 bytes to 172.30.0.11 port 49153
At time +10.0362s client received 1024 bytes from 172.30.1.2 port 9
DhcpServer:TimerHandler(0x563b1fdb6890)
At time +11s client sent 1024 bytes to 172.30.1.2 port 9
At time +11.0074s server received 1024 bytes from 172.30.0.11 port 49153
At time +11.0074s server sent 1024 bytes to 172.30.0.11 port 49153
At time +11.0148s client received 1024 bytes from 172.30.1.2 port 9
DhcpServer:TimerHandler(0x563b1fdb6890)
At time +12s client sent 1024 bytes to 172.30.1.2 port 9
At time +12.0074s server received 1024 bytes from 172.30.0.11 port 49153
At time +12.0074s server sent 1024 bytes to 172.30.0.11 port 49153
At time +12.0148s client received 1024 bytes from 172.30.1.2 port 9
DhcpServer:TimerHandler(0x563b1fdb6890)
At time +13s client sent 1024 bytes to 172.30.1.2 port 9
At time +13.0074s server received 1024 bytes from 172.30.0.11 port 49153
At time +13.0074s server sent 1024 bytes to 172.30.0.11 port 49153
```



lakashchoudhary@itsak-VirtualBox:~/Workspace/ns-allinone-3.32/ns-3.32\$

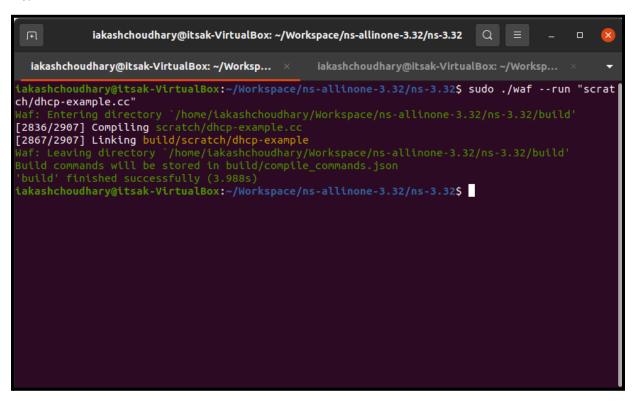
> Perform animation using pygraphviz: \$ sudo ./waf --run "scratch/dhcp-example.cc" --vis



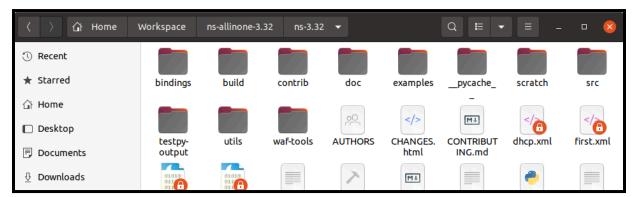


> Perform animation using NetAnim:

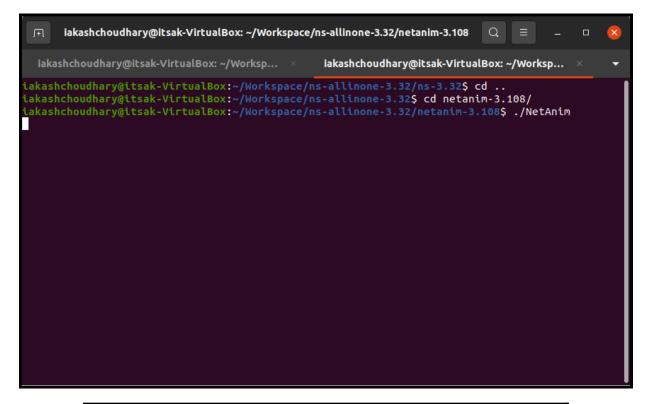
Step 1: Use the command \$ sudo ./waf --run "scratch/dhcp-example.cc" to create a dhcp.xml file.

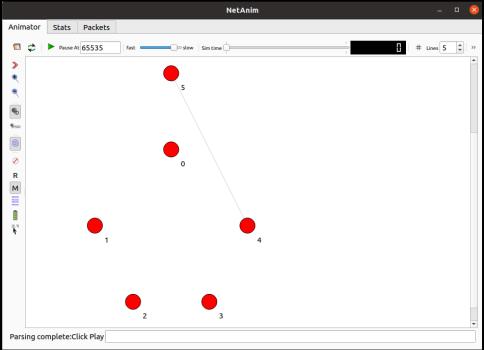


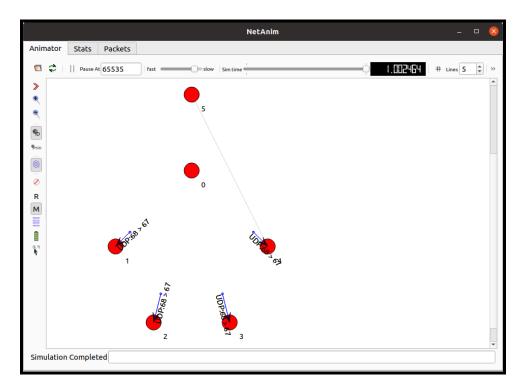
As you can see, the **dhcp.xml** file is created in the **ns-3.32** directory.



Step 2: Open the Terminal from ns-3.32; go back to the previous directory by entering \$ cd ..; then change the directory to netanim-3.108 by typing \$ cd netanim-3.108/; lastly, open NetAnim by using the command \$./NetAnim | Open dhcp.xml.







Conclusion: DHCP server efficiently assigns dynamic IP addresses to multiple clients in a network.