# ECSE308 Lab 5

# DNS & HTTP

ECSE308

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# Lab 5: DNS & HTTP

# **Part 1: Domain Name System**

Q1: Use nslookup to determine the IP address of www.cbc.ca. What is the IP address of this web server?

**Answer:** IP address of the www.cbc.ca is 184.24.173.181.

IP address of the web server is 132.216.44.21.

Fig. 1. Run nslookup for www.cbc.ca

Q2: Use nslookup to determine the authoritative DNS servers for McGill University.

### **Answer:**

We can see that the authoritative DNS server is pirns2.mcgill.ca with address 132.216.44.21.

```
C:\Users\zzhang421>nslookup
Default Server: pirns2.mcgill.ca
Address: 132.216.44.21
```

Fig. 2. Run nslookup.

Q3: Run nslookup to obtain the IP address of www.wikipedia.org by sending a query to 8.8.4.4 which is the IP address of the google public DNS server.

### **Answer:**

We use another open DNS server 208.67.222.222 instead of 8.8.4.4.

We can see the IP address is 208.80.154.224

Fig. 2. Run nslookup to get the address of wikipedia.

Q4: What are the destination port number for the DNS query message and the source port number of the DNS response message?

**Answer:** Destination port number is 53 for the DNS query message. Source port number is 53 as well for the DNS response message.

Q5: What is the destination IP address of the DNS query? Is this the IP address of your default local DNS server?

**Answer:** Destination IP address of the DNS query is 132.216.44.21. Yes they are the same.

Q6: Examine the DNS query. What is the "Type" of the DNS query? What does this "Type" mean? What are the other values for this field?

**Answer:** Type is IPv4(0x0800). It indicates that you're requesting the IPv4 address associated with a domain name. Other values includes Mail eXchange(MX), TXT(Descriptive text) and so on.

Q7: Which bit in the "Flags" field indicates that the message is a query or a response?

**Answer:** 

The first bit of "Flags" indicates whether the message is a query and response or not If the first bit is 0 then it's a query. If the first bit is 1, then the message is a response.

# ✓ Flags: 0x0100 Standard query

```
0... = Response: Message is a query
.000 0... = Opcode: Standard query (0)
... .0. ... = Truncated: Message is not truncated
... = Recursion desired: Do query recursively
... = Z: reserved (0)
... = Non-authenticated data: Unacceptable
```

Fig. 4. Flags field for the query..

# Q8. Which field of the response message contains the IP address of <a href="www.ieee.org">www.ieee.org</a>?

**Answer:** We can find the IP address of <u>www.ieee.org</u> in the Address field in the answer section as shown in figure 5. The address is 184.28.130.104.

```
Class: IN (0x0001)
         Time to live: 4 (4 seconds)
         Data length: 26
         CNAME: www.ieee.org.edgekey.net
    www.ieee.org.edgekey.net: type CNAME, class IN, cname e1630.c.akamaiedge.net
         Name: www.ieee.org.edgekey.net
         Type: CNAME (Canonical NAME for an alias) (5)
         Class: IN (0x0001)
         Time to live: 18378 (5 hours, 6 minutes, 18 seconds)
         Data length: 24
         CNAME: e1630.c.akamaiedge.net
    v e1630.c.akamaiedge.net: type A, class IN, addr 184.28.130.104
         Name: e1630.c.akamaiedge.net
         Type: A (Host Address) (1)
         Class: IN (0x0001)
         Time to live: 6 (6 seconds)
         Data length: 4
        Address: 184.28.130.104
    [Request In: 746]
    [Time: 0.001588000 seconds]
0030 00 03 00 00 00 00 03 77 77 77 04 69 65 65 65 03
                                                        ····w ww·ieee·
0040 6f 72 67 00 00 01 00 01 c0 0c 00 05 00 01 00 00
                                                       org·····
0050 00 04 00 1a 03 77 77 77 04 69 65 65 65 03 6f 72
                                                       ····www ·ieee·or
0060 67 07 65 64 67 65 6b 65 79 03 6e 65 74 00 c0 2a
                                                       g∙edgeke y∙net∙∙*
0070 00 05 00 01 00 00 47 ca 00 18 05 65 31 36 33 30
                                                       · · · · · · G · · · · e1630
0080 01 63 0a 61 6b 61 6d 61 69 65 64 67 65 03 6e 65
                                                       ·c·akama iedge·ne
0090 74 00 c0 50 00 01 00 01 00 00 00 06 00 04 b8 1c
                                                        t..p..............
00a0 82 68
                                                        ٠h
```

Fig. 5. IP address of the www.ieee.org.

## Q9. Provide a screenshot.

#### Answer:

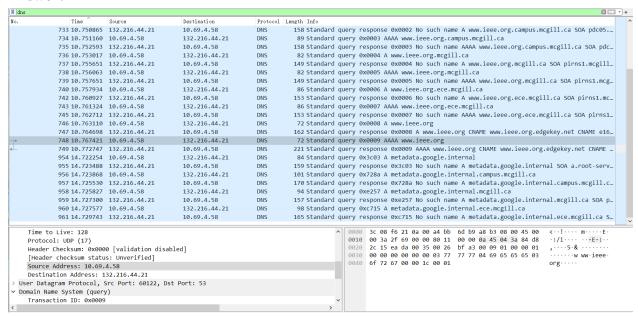


Fig. 6. Screenshot.

# Q10. What is the destination IP address of the DNS query? What does this address correspond to?

#### Answer:

Destination IP address is 132.216.44.21, which corresponds to the DNS server that we are using.

# Q11. Determine the "Type" of DNS query. What is the authoritative name server of www.wireshark.org. What is the role of an authoritative name server?

#### Answer:

Type of DNS query is NS, which means name server.

Authoritative name server is cody.ns.cloudflare.com.

The authoritative name server provides the authoritative answers to DNS queries for that domain.

```
C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio\2022\Community>nslookup -type=NS www.wireshark.org
Server: pirns2.mcgill.ca
Address: 132.216.44.21

wireshark.org
    primary name server = cody.ns.cloudflare.com
    responsible mail addr = dns.cloudflare.com
    serial = 2326359863
    refresh = 10000 (2 hours 46 mins 40 secs)
    retry = 2400 (40 mins)
    expire = 604800 (7 days)
    default TTL = 1800 (30 mins)
```

Fig. 7.

## Q12. Provide a screenshot.

### **Answer:**

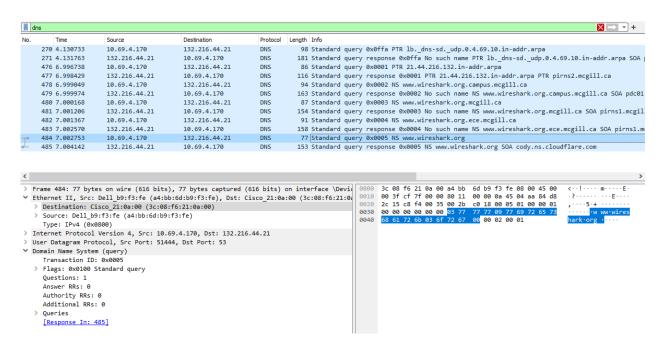


Fig. 8. Screen shot

# Q13. What are the destination IP addresses for the two DNS queries? What do these IP addresses correspond to?

**Answer:** Instead of using 8.8.8.8 as the DNS server, we use 208.67.222.222.

The destination IP address for the first DNS query is 132.216.44.21 which is the mcgill DNS server.

The destination IP address for the second DNS query is 208.67.222.222 which corresponds to the open DNS server that we use.

# Q14. What IP addresses are returned by these two queries? Do they return the same IP addresses for www.google.com? Explain your answer.

**Answer:** In the first query, the returned IP address is 172.217.13.164. In the second query, the returned IP address is 142.251.41.6. They are not the same. The first query uses the default DNS server while the second query uses the open DNS server. The IP address cache maybe different for them.

## Q15. Provide a screen shot.

### **Answer:**

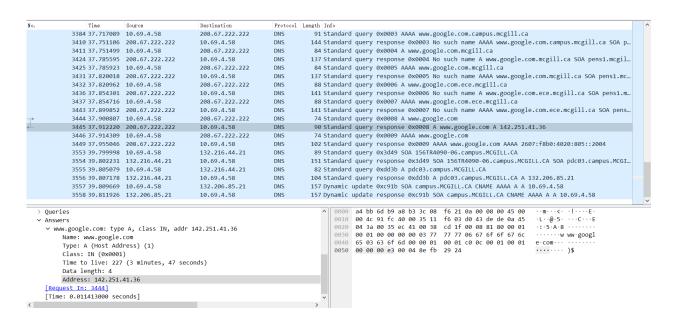


Fig. 7. Screenshot.

# Part 2: User Datagram Protocol (UDP)

Q16. What transport layer protocol is used to transfer the DNS query and the response message?

**Answer:** UDP protocol is used to transfer the DNS query and the response message.

Q17.To setup the connection, how many UDP datagrams are exchanged between your computer and the server? Explain your answer.

### **Answer:**

There are 4 datagrams exchanged. 1. My computer sends a query to the DNS Resolver. 2. DNS resolver sends a query to an authoritative name server. 3. Authoritative name server responds to DNS resolver. 4. DNS resolver responds to my computer.

18. Select the first DNS packet in your trace. From this packet, determine the header fields of UDP.

**Answer:** UDP has source port, destination port, length, and checksum.

19. By consulting the displayed information in Wireshark's packet content field for the first DNS message, determine the length (in bytes) of each of the UDP header fields.

### **Answer:**

There are 8 bytes in total for the DNS header. Each of 4 header fields have 2 bytes.

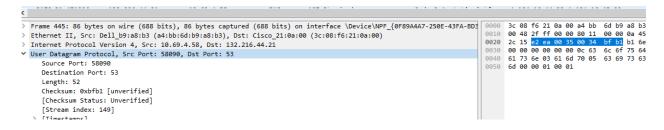


Fig. 8. Header for UDP

7

20. The value in the Length field indicates the length of what? Verify your claim with your captured UDP packet.

# Answer:

The length field specifies the number of bytes in the UDP segment(header and data).

We can verify that the length = UDP payload + 8 in the above screen shot.

21. What is the maximum number of bytes that can be included in a UDP payload? (Hint: the answer to this question can be determined by your previous answer)

**Answer:** Maximum number of bytes in a UDP payload is  $2^16-1-8 = 65527$  bytes.

22. What is the largest possible source port number?

**Answer:** The largest possible source port number is  $2^16-1 = 65535$ .

23. Determine whether a checksum is provided for the first DNS message or not. What is the usage of this field?

**Answer:** Yes, the checksum field is not empty. This checksum is calculated at the sender side and helps us in error detection at IP level.

24. Determine the destination port number for the DNS query message and the source port number of the DNS response. What is the relationship between the two? Which port number is a well-known port number?

#### Answer:

Destination port number for the DNS query: 53.

Source port number of the DNS response: 53.

They are the same port number.

Port 53 is a well-known port number.

# 25. List two other well-known port numbers used by UDP.

**Answer:** UDP ports 67 and 68.

Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol servers use UDP port 67 to listen for requests while DHCP clients communicate on UDP port 68.

# 26. Determine the IP address of your local DNS server (use ipconfig). Is it the same as destination IP address of the DNS query?

**Answer:** The IP address of my local DNS server is 132.206.44.21, which is the same as the destination IP address of the DNS query.

# 27. Examine the DNS response message. How many "answers" are provided in this message? What do each of these answers contain?

### **Answer:**

There are two answers.

Answer contains the name of the host name, type of the address, class, TTL, data length and IP address.

```
Answers

vwww.ietf.org: type A, class IN, addr 104.16.45.99
    Name: www.ietf.org
    Type: A (Host Address) (1)
    Class: IN (0x0001)
    Time to live: 300 (5 minutes)
    Data length: 4
    Address: 104.16.45.99

vwww.ietf.org: type A, class IN, addr 104.16.44.99
    Name: www.ietf.org
    Type: A (Host Address) (1)
    Class: IN (0x0001)
    Time to live: 300 (5 minutes)
    Data length: 4
    Address: 104.16.44.99
```

Fig. 9. Answers.

# 28. By checking the trace, determine whether UDP is a reliable protocol or not. Explain your answer.

## **Answer:**

UDP is a reliable protocol since we didn't see any missing or out-of-order packets in our trace.

# 29. Why does DNS use UDP services?

**Answer:** 1. UDP is efficient and lightweight, allowing DNS queries and responses to be transmitted faster.

2. UDP can handle high volume of queries.

# Part 3: Hyper-Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP)

# **Questions:**

# **HTTP GET request/response**

Q1: What HTTP request method is used to retrieve the HTML file?

**Answer:** Request Method: GET

Q2: What is the URI of the requested file?

# **Answer:**

Request URI: /online

[Full request URI: <a href="http://uniquebrightgrandsecret.neverssl.com/online">http://uniquebrightgrandsecret.neverssl.com/online</a>]

Q3: What HTTP version is your browser running? What are the other versions of HTTP?

## **Answer:**

Request Version: HTTP/1.1 Other versions of HTTP:

- HTTP/0.9
- HTTP/1.0
- HTTP/1.1
- HTTP/2
- HTTP/3

Q4: What languages does your browser accept for response?

Answer: Accept-Language: zh-CN,zh;q=0.9,en;q=0.8,en-GB;q=0.7,en-US;q=0.6

Q5: What is the IP address of your computer?

**Answer:** 10.121.66.97

Q6: What is the server's IP address?

**Answer:** 34.223.124.45

# Q7: What is the relationship between source and destination IP addresses of the first GET and the source and destination IP addresses of the first response?

### **Answer:**

First Get:

• Source Address: 10.121.66.97

• Destination Address: 34.223.124.45

First Response:

Source Address: 34.223.124.45Destination Address: 10.121.66.97

We noticed that the source IP address and destination IP address of the initial GET request are reversed in the first response

Q8: What is the status code of the first response message? What does this code indicate? What code is returned if the requested file cannot be found on the server?

### **Answer:**

Status Code: 200 [Status Code Description: OK]

It indicates that the request was successfully received, understood, and accepted.

If the server cannot find the requested file, it would return a response with the status code 404.

Q9: When was the last time that the received HTML file was modified at the server?

Answer: Last-Modified: Wed, 29 Jun 2022 00:23:22 GMT



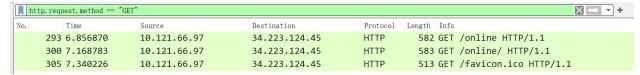
Q10: What is the size of the content that is returned to your browser?

Answer: 1173 byte

# Long HTTP response

# Q11: How many HTTP GET request messages are sent by your web browser

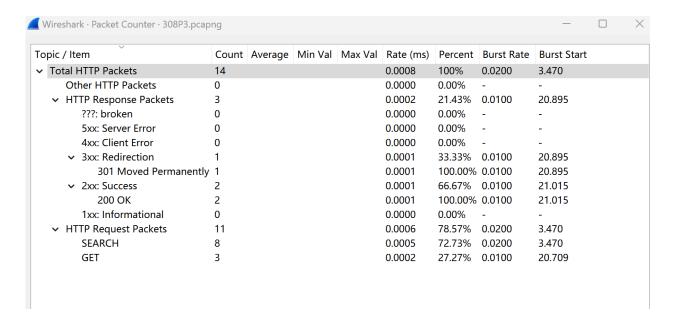
**Answer:** There are three request messages sent by my web browser



# Q12: By inspecting the entire trace, determine the number of packets that contain HTTP header. Explain your answer.

### **Answer:**

There are 14 packets that contain the HTTP header.



# Q13: How many TCP segments are transmitted to your computer? Why multiple segments are required to retrieve this single HTML file?

### **Answer:**

There are 2 TCP segments transmitted to my computer.

The reason multiple TCP segments are required to retrieve a single HTML file is due to the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) breaks down data into smaller units called segments for more efficient and reliable transmission.

```
ICP Segment data (139 bytes)
v [2 Reassembled TCP Segments (1519 bytes): #827(1380), #828(139)]
[Frame: 827 payload: 0-1379 (1380 bytes)]
```

# Q14: Determine the length of these TCP segments. Do they have the same size? Explain your answer.

#### Answer:

The length of TCP segments of HTTP responses are 1380 bytes and 139 bytes. Their sizes are different due to the different sizes of data.

# Q15: Which message and what field in that message indicate that the server was able to process the request successfully?

### **Answer:**

The 200 OK status code means that the request was successful when the request method is GET. It is in the "Hypertext Transfer Protocol" field.

```
> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 34.223.124.45, Dst: 10.121.66.97

> Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 80, Dst Port: 58965, Seq: 1842, Ack: 1058, Len: 219

> [2 Reassembled TCP Segments (1519 bytes): #302(1300), #303(219)]

+ Hypertext Transfer Protocol

- HTTP/1.1 200 OK\r\n

> [Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): HTTP/1.1 200 OK\r\n]

Response Version: HTTP/1.1

Status Code: 200

[Status Code Description: OK]

Response Phrase: OK

Date: Thu, 30 Nov 2023 15:06:00 GMT\r\n

Server: Apache/2.4.57 ()\r\n
```

# HTTP caching mechanism

Q16: What is the status code of the first response message?

**Answer:** 

Status Code: 200 [Status Code Description: OK]

Q17: What is the value of the content size of the first response message?

**Answer:** [Content length: 1900]

Q18: What is the etag (identity tag) of the first response message

**Answer:** ETag: "8be-5e28b29291e10-gzip"

Q19: What is the application of etag in conditional HTTP request? Which line in the second response contains the etag value of the first response?

### **Answer:**

The ETag HTTP response header serves as an identifier for a particular version of a resource, enabling the web server to avoid sending data if the content remains unchanged.

The line with the ETag in the "Not Modified" responses includes the ETag from the first response.

# Q20: Which HTTP GET contains the "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE" line? What is the usage of this field

## **Answer:**

The second HTTP GET contains the "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE" line.

If-Modified-Since: Tue, 28 Nov 2023 22:13:24 GMT

It indicates the time when a browser initially fetched a resource from the server, and this information is retained in the cache.

Q21: What is the status code of the second response message? What does this code mean?

Answer: Status code: 304 Not modified.

Q22: What is the content length of the second response? Explain

**Answer:** For a not modified HTTP response, there's no content length.

# Retrieving a web page with embedded objects

Q23: How many HTTP GET requests are sent by your web browser?

**Answer:** Three

Q24: What is the content type of each response message?

Answer: text/html, PNG,

Q25: Did your browser download the two images serially or in parallel? Explain. What are the pros and cons of each approach?

## **Answer:**

My browser downloaded the two images in parallel. It started the second download task without waiting for the first one to finish

The serial method involves fewer traces and pins, but the transfer rates are lower than parallel method. However, the parallel method needs more pins.

Q26: Has the HTTP used persistent or non-persistent connection? Explain your answer.

### **Answer:**

The HTTP used a persistent connection. The "Connection" header is set to "keep-alive," it indicates a persistent connection

> Content-Length: 1173\r\n

Keep-Alive: timeout=5, max=99\r\n

Connection: Keep-Alive\r\n

# **HTTP Request Methods:**

Q27: What is the requested URL in the frame#101? What HTTP field contains the username and password information? What are the submitted values for the username and the password?

#### **Answer:**

Request URI: /lab1Ex5a.html?username=wireshark&password=lab1

Request URI Query parameter fields contain username and password information.

Request URI Query Parameter: username=wireshark

Request URI Query Parameter: password=lab1

Q28: What HTTP request method is used in the frame#172? What HTTP field contains the username and password information? Explain the difference between this request method and the GET method.

#### **Answer:**

Request Method: POST

HTML form URL encoded fields contains the username and password information

The POST method is more secure than the GET method, since the username and password are included in the URL string of the GET request, while in the POST request, this sensitive information is in the message.

Q29: What is the status code of the frame#174? What is the description of this code?

# **Answer:**

Status Code: 501

[Status Code Description: Not Implemented]