

## Lab 1

# *Layer 2 Forwarding & MAC Learning*

Date: **2021/02/23**

Deadline: 2021/03/02 (Mon) 23:59  
(Extended 2021/03/09)



# Outline

- Objective
- Experiment Environment
- Mininet
- Packet analysis tools
- Lab requirements



# Objective

- Network Emulation Environment Setup
- Familiar with packet analysis tools
- Layer 2 Concept Recap
  - Packet Forwarding and MAC Learning



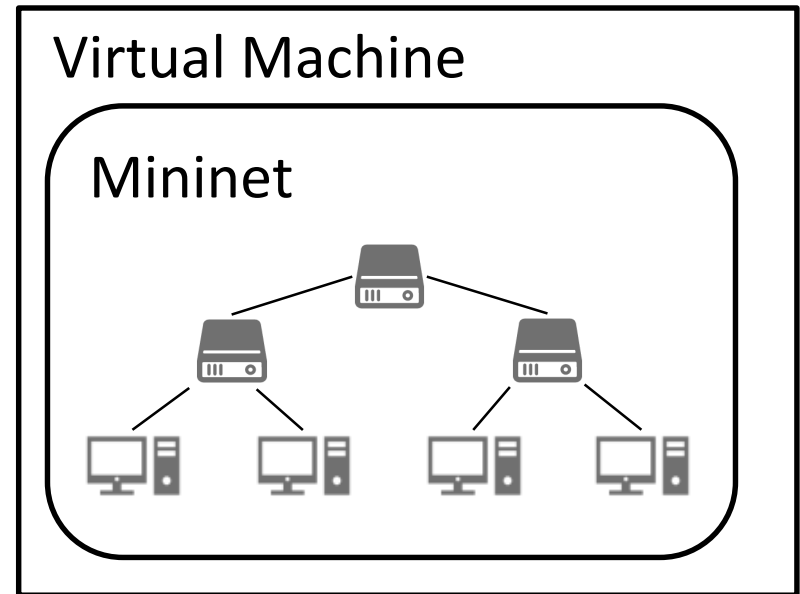
# Experiment Environment

- VirtualBox: Open source cross-platform virtualization application (by Oracle)
  - A general-purpose full virtualizer for x86 hardware
- Ubuntu 18.04: Open source operating system
- Mininet: a *network emulator*
  - A virtual test bed and development environment for SDN
  - Can easily creates a network of virtual hosts, switches, controllers, and links
- Packet Analysis Tools: Wireshark, tcpdump



# Experimental Environment

- A Virtual Machine with Ubuntu desktop 18.04 LTS
- Hardware requirements
  - 2 Cores (or 2 CPUs)
  - 4G RAM
  - 20G HDD
- Installation Guide:
  - **Environment\_Setup.pdf**





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- Objective
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- Mininet
  - Overview and installation
  - Basic Usage
- Network tools
- Lab requirements



# Mininet Overview and Installation

- Mininet: Emulate a network on your computer
  - Provide Python API for building custom network
    - Nodes: switch, host and router
    - Links: edge between two nodes
  - Provide simple built-in topology with CLI commands
- Installation:

```
bash$ sudo apt install mininet
```

- sudo: execute command as root permission
- apt: advanced package tool to manage applications



# Outline

- Objective
- Experiment Environment
- **Mininet**
  - Overview and installation
  - Basic Usage
    - Method 1: Built-in Topology
    - Method 2: Custom Topology
- Packet analysis tools
- Lab requirements

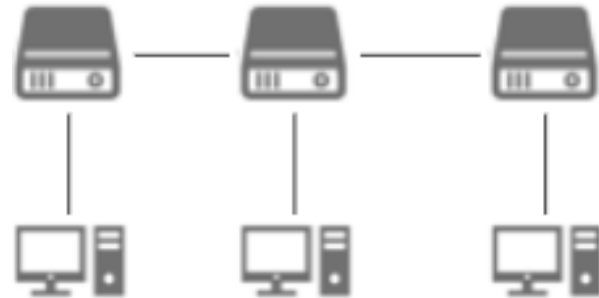




# Method 1: Built-in Topology (1/2)

- Five Built-in topologies:

- Minimal
- Single
- Linear
- Torus
- Tree



- Example: Create a linear topology with 3 switch

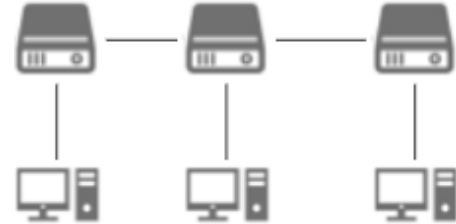
```
bash$ sudo mn --topo=linear,3
```

- “--topo” specifies the topology
- Each switch has a host



# Method 1: Built-in Topology (2/2)

```
*** Creating network
*** Adding controller
*** Adding hosts:
h1 h2 h3
*** Adding switches:
s1 s2 s3
*** Adding links:
(h1, s1) (h2, s2) (h3, s3) (s2, s1) (s3, s2)
*** Configuring hosts
h1 h2 h3
*** Starting controller
c0
*** Starting 3 switches
s1 s2 s3 ...
*** Starting CLI:
mininet> █
```



```
mininet> exit (exit mininet CLI)
```



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    - Method 2: Custom Topology
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# Method 2: Custom Topology

- Write a Python script
  - Example: Tree of Depth 1



- Execute your python script

```
bash$ sudo python <Python_Script>.py
```

```
#!/usr/bin/python
import time
from mininet.topo import Topo
from mininet.net import Mininet
from mininet.node import Node, Switch
from mininet.cli import CLI

def topology():
    net = Mininet()

    #add nodes and links
    h1 = net.addHost('h1')
    h2 = net.addHost('h2')
    s1 = net.addSwitch('s1', failMode = 'standalone')
    net.addLink('h1', 's1')
    net.addLink('h2', 's1')

    net.start()
    CLI(net) #enter mininet CLI
    net.stop()

if __name__ == '__main__':
    topology()
```



# Mininet Basic commands (1/2)

- Show all nodes (Hosts and Network Devices)

```
mininet> nodes
```

- Show all links between nodes

```
mininet> links
```

- Test the reachability of a pair of hosts (e.g. h1 and h2)

```
mininet> h1 ping h2
```

- Do an all-pairs “ping”

```
mininet> pingall
```



## Mininet Basic commands (2/2)

- Start an xterm CLI panel of a node (e.g., h1 panel)

```
mininet> h1 xterm &
```

- Run command on a node

```
mininet> <node name> [command]
```

- Exit mininet

```
mininet> exit
```

- Always clear network topology before you start

```
bash$ sudo mn -c
```



# Outline

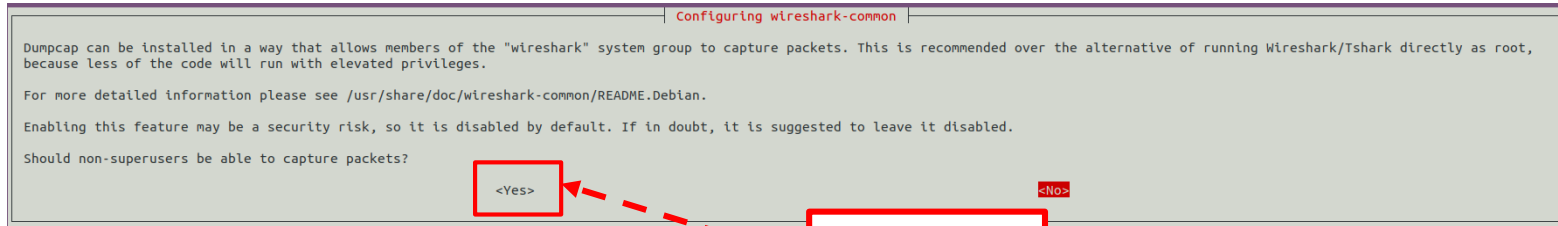
- Objective
- Experiment Environment
- Mininet
- Packet analysis tools
  - Wireshark
  - Tcpdump
- Lab requirements



# Wireshark (1/6)

- A free and open-source GUI packet analyzer
  - Installation:

```
bash$ sudo apt install wireshark
```



- Run:

```
bash$ sudo wireshark
```





# Wireshark (2/6)

## ■ Wireshark GUI

The screenshot shows the Wireshark Network Analyzer window. The title bar reads "The Wireshark Network Analyzer". The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Go, Capture, Analyze, Statistics, Telephony, Wireless, Tools, and Help. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations, capture, and analysis. Below the toolbar is a display filter bar with the text "Apply a display filter ... <Ctrl-/>" and a search icon. The main area displays a "Welcome to Wireshark" message and a "Capture" section. The "Capture" section has a text field "...using this filter:" followed by a dropdown menu showing "Enter a capture filter ...". To the right of this is a dropdown menu showing "All interfaces shown". Below these is a list of network interfaces and capture methods. The interface "ens33" is highlighted with a blue bar. A red box is drawn around the "Capture" section. A red arrow points from a text box to the "ens33" interface.

Welcome to Wireshark

**Capture**

...using this filter:

All interfaces shown

ens33	-
any	-
Loopback: lo	-
nflog	-
nfqueue	-
usbmon1	-
usbmon2	-
Cisco remote capture: ciscodump	-
Random packet generator: randpkt	-
SSH remote capture: sshdump	-
UDP Listener remote capture: udpdump	-

Double click network interface to start capture packets



# Wireshark (3/6)

## ■ GUI panels

The screenshot displays the Wireshark interface with the following components:

- Top Bar:** "Capturing from ens33"
- Menu Bar:** File, Edit, View, Go, Capture, Analyze, Statistics, Telephony, Wireless, Tools, Help
- Toolbar:** Standard icons for file operations, capture, analysis, and search.
- Filter Bar:** "Apply a display filter ... <Ctrl-/>"
- Packet List Panel:** A table of captured packets. The selected packet (No. 48) is highlighted in blue.
- Packet Details Panel:** Shows the hierarchical structure of the selected packet, including Ethernet II, Internet Protocol Version 4, and Transmission Control Protocol.
- Packet Bytes Panel:** Displays the raw hexadecimal and ASCII data of the selected packet.
- Status Bar:** "ens33: <live capture in progress>" and "Packets: 53 · Displayed: 53 (100.0%) Profile: Default"

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
42	57.519506747	192.168.80.129	192.168.80.2	DNS	100	Standard query 0xbb6e A connectivity-check.ubuntu.co
43	57.520083897	192.168.80.129	192.168.80.2	DNS	100	Standard query 0x5bef AAAA connectivity-check.ubuntu
44	57.524083177	192.168.80.2	192.168.80.129	DNS	132	Standard query response 0xbb6e A connectivity-check.
45	57.524468903	192.168.80.2	192.168.80.129	DNS	161	Standard query response 0x5bef AAAA connectivity-che
46	58.519159954	192.168.80.129	35.224.99.156	TCP	74	58636 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=42340 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK
47	58.676919671	35.224.99.156	192.168.80.129	TCP	60	80 → 58636 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=64240 Len=0 MS
48	58.677034067	192.168.80.129	35.224.99.156	TCP	54	58636 → 80 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=42340 Len=0
49	58.677302074	192.168.80.129	35.224.99.156	HTTP	141	GET /
50	58.677621722	35.224.99.156	192.168.80.129	TCP	60	80 → 58
51	58.836199930	35.224.99.156	192.168.80.129	HTTP	202	HTTP/1
52	58.836746383	192.168.80.129	35.224.99.156	TCP	54	58636 →
53	58.837325279	35.224.99.156	192.168.80.129	TCP	60	80 → 58

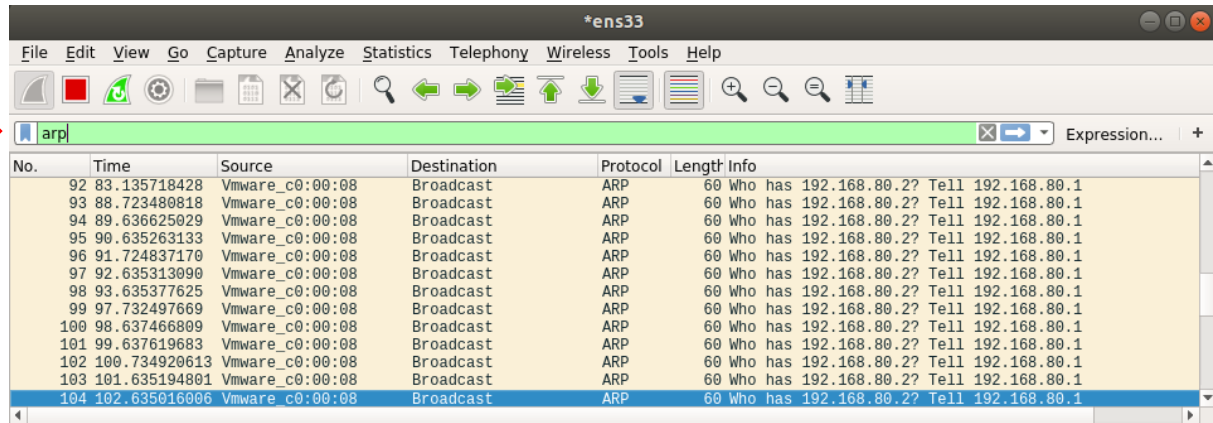
Frame 48: 54 bytes on wire (432 bits), 54 bytes captured (432 bits) on interface 0  
Ethernet II, Src: Vmware\_bd:98:c7 (00:0c:29:bd:98:c7), Dst: Vmware\_ec:d3:06 (00:50:56:ec:d3:06)  
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.80.129, Dst: 35.224.99.156  
Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 58636, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 0

0000 00 50 56 ec d3 06 00 0c 29 bd 98 c7 08 00 45 00 PV.....)....E  
0010 00 28 42 98 40 00 40 06 5f 92 c0 a8 50 81 23 e0 .(B@.@\_...P#  
0020 63 9c e5 0c 00 50 60 40 04 d8 13 a4 69 f1 50 10 c...P@....i.P  
0030 a5 64 98 c0 00 00

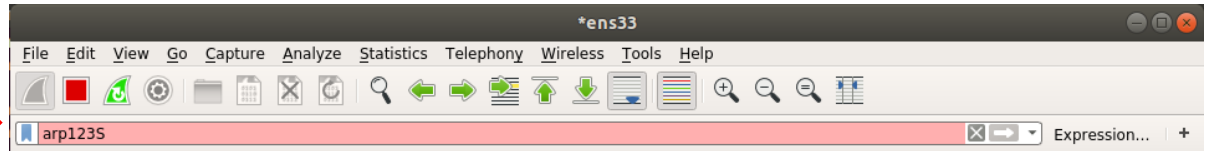


# Wireshark (4/6)

- Packet filter
- Valid Filter



- Invalid Filter



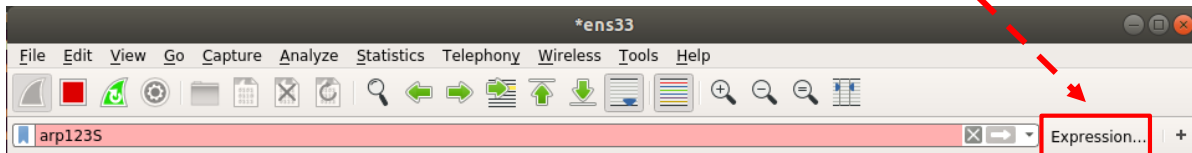


# Wireshark (5/6)

- How to obtain all valid filter expression

Expression

- Click expression

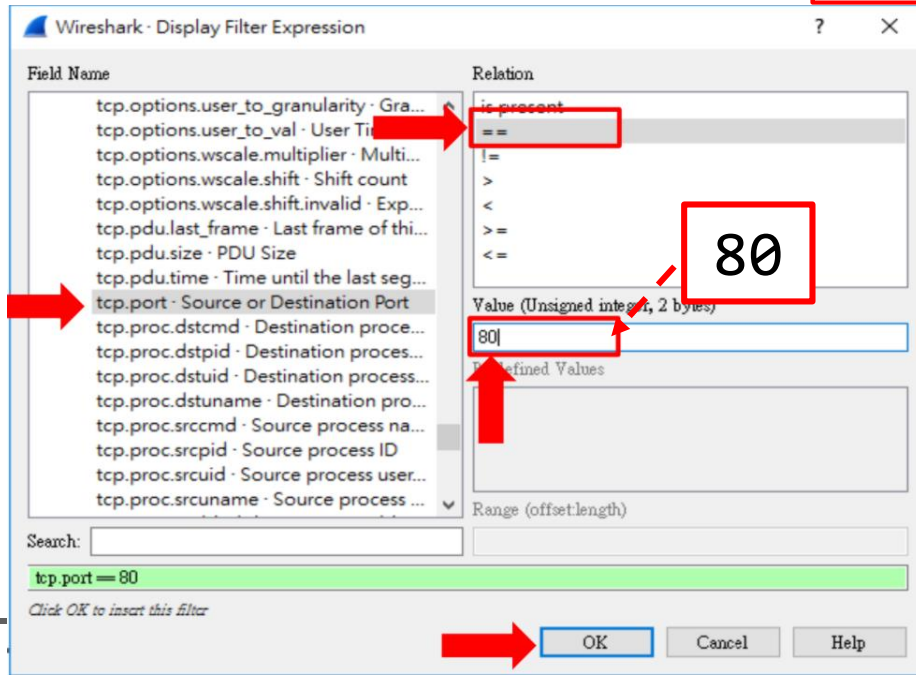


- Example:

- Filter all tcp port 80

- Alternatives

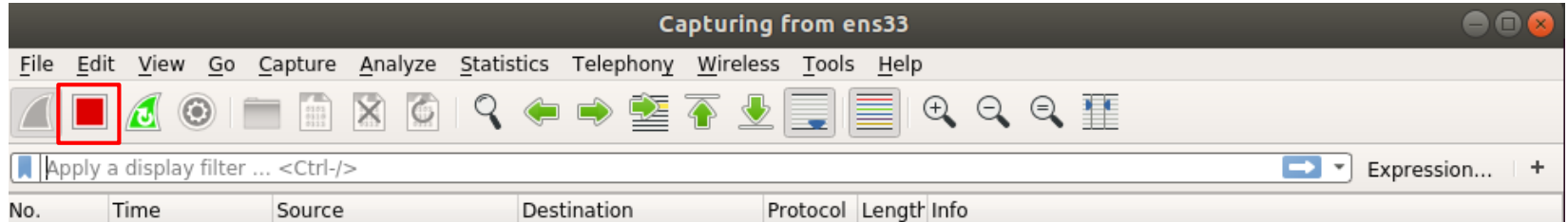
- Google for expressions



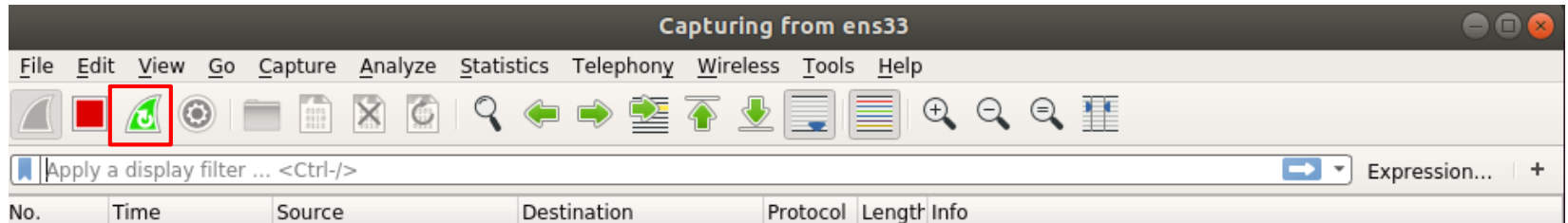


# Wireshark (6/6)

## ■ Stop capturing



## ■ Restart capturing





# Outline

- Objective
- Experiment Environment
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- Packet analysis tools
  - Wireshark
  - tcpdump
- Lab requirements



# Tcpdump (1/2)

- A packet analyzer runs under CLI
  - Works on most Unix-like operating systems
  - Use *libpcap.c* library to capture packets

- Installation

```
bash$ sudo apt install tcpdump -y
```

- Run

```
bash$ sudo tcpdump [option]
```



# Tcpdump (2/2)

## ■ Example

```
jin@ubuntu:~$ sudo tcpdump -i ens33 -eXX
tcpdump: verbose output suppressed, use -v or -vv for full protocol decode
listening on ens33, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet), capture size 262144 bytes
09:00:12.873030 00:0c:29:bd:98:c7 (oui Unknown) > 00:50:56:ec:d3:06 (oui Unknown), ether
type ARP (0x0806), length 42: Request who-has _gateway tell ubuntu, length 28
    0x0000:  0050 56ec d306 000c 29bd 98c7 0806 0001  .PV.....).....
    0x0010:  0800 0604 0001 000c 29bd 98c7 c0a8 5081  .......).....P.
    0x0020:  0000 0000 0000 c0a8 5002                ....P.
```

- -i: choose an interface
- -eXX: show packet byte value

## ■ Man page of tcpdump

- <https://www.tcpdump.org/manpages/tcpdump.1.html>





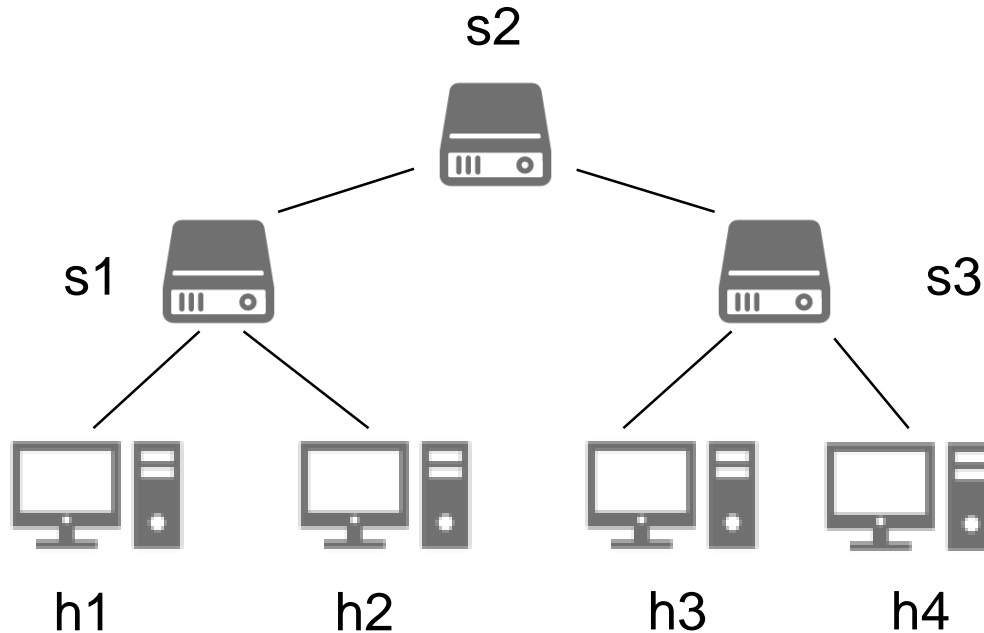
# Outline

- Objective
- Experiment Environment
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- Packet analysis tools
- Lab requirements
  - Part1: A Tree Topology
  - Part2: A Leaf-Spine Topology
  - About submit



# Part1: A Tree Topology (1/4)

- Edit a Python script to build the following topology





## Part1: A Tree Topology (2/4)

- Run part1 python script
- Run wireshark at node h1 and listen at h1-eth0

```
mininet> h1 wireshark &
```

h1-eth0	—
any	—
Loopback: lo	—

- Flush s1-s4 MAC learning table
  - Mininet switch may contain previous MAC information records
  - Invoke another terminal

```
bash$ sudo ovs-appctl fdb/flush s1
```



## Part1: A Tree Topology (3/4)

- Check s1 MAC address table

```
bash$ sudo ovs-appctl fdb/show s1
```

- Do ping action

```
mininet> h1 ping h4 -c 5
```

- -c: send given number ICMP packets
- Check s1 MAC address table again



# Part1: A Tree Topology (4/4)

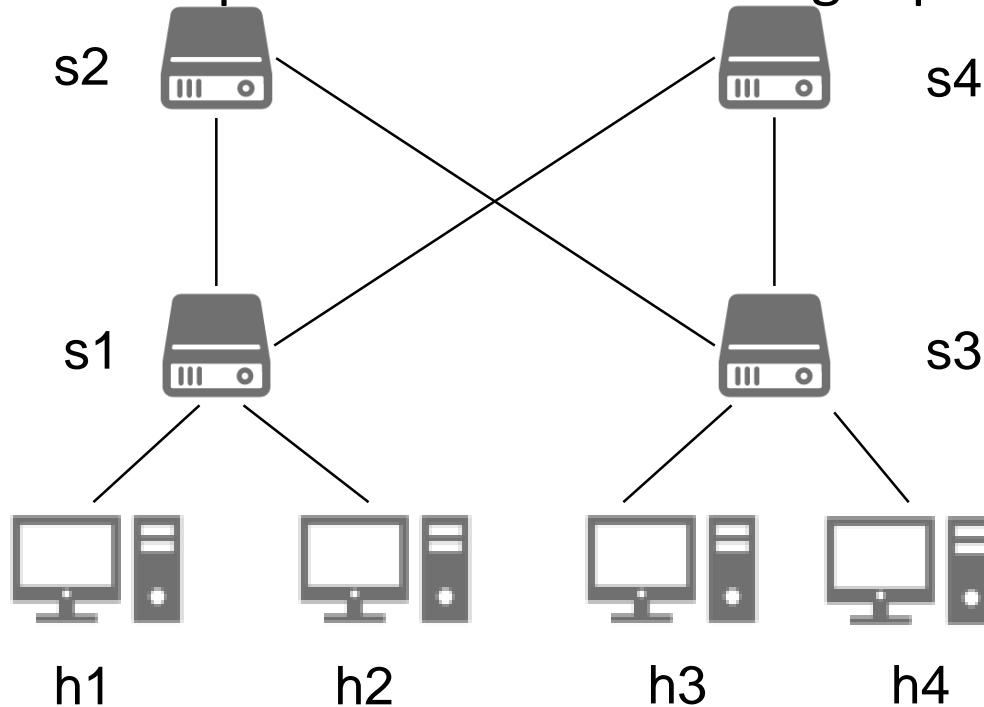
## ■ Answer questions

1. Flush all switch tables and take screenshots to show the switch tables of all switches.
- After h1 ping h4
  2. How does h4 knows h1's MAC address? Take screenshot on Wireshark to verify your answers.
  3. How does h1 knows h4's MAC address? Take screenshot on Wireshark to verify your answers.
4. Why does the first ping have a longer delay?
5. Show the switch tables and identify the entries that constitute the path of Ping.



## Part2: A Leaf-Spine Topology (1/4)

- Edit a Python script to build the following topology





## Part2: A Leaf-Spine Topology (2/4)

- Run part2 python script
- Run wireshark at node h1 and listen at h1-eth0

```
mininet> h1 wireshark &
```

h1-eth0	—
any	—
Loopback: lo	—

- Flush s1-s4 MAC learning table
  - Mininet switch may contain previous MAC information records
  - Invoke another terminal

```
bash$ ovs-appctl fdb/flush s1
```



## Part2: A Leaf-Spine Topology (2/4)

- Run ping on h1

```
mininet> h1 ping h4 -c 5
```

- -c: send given number ICMP packets





## Part2: A Leaf-spine Topology (3/4)

- Invoke another terminal
- Enable STP on all switches

```
bash$ sudo ovs-vsctl set bridge s1 stp-enable=true  
bash$ sudo ...
```

■ Commands may take few minutes.

- Run ping on h1

```
mininet> h1 ping h4 -c 5
```



## Part2: A Leaf-spine Topology (4/4)

- Answer questions
  1. Can h1 ping h4 successfully before enabling STP?
  2. Can h1 ping h4 successfully after STP enabled?
  3. Show s1 MAC tables before and after enables STP and explain the differences.
  4. What have you observed and learned from this lab?



# Report Submission

## ■ Files

### ■ Python scripts:

- lab1\_part1\_<stdudentID>.py (10%)
- lab1\_part2\_<stdudentID>.py (10%)

### ■ A report: lab1\_<studentID>.pdf (80%)

- Part1, 2 Question Answers

## ■ Submit

### ■ Zip Python scripts and the report into a zip file

- Named: lab1\_<studentID>.zip



# References

## 1. Introduction to Mininet

■ <https://github.com/mininet/mininet/wiki/Introduction-to-Mininet>

## 2. Mininet Python API

■ <http://mininet.org/api/annotated.html>

## 3. Manpage for Linux command

■ netstat

● <http://manpages.ubuntu.com/manpages/trusty/man8/netstat.8.html>

■ mn

● <http://manpages.ubuntu.com/manpages/bionic/man1/mn.1.html>



Q & A

**Thank you**



## Appendix: Network Topology for Mininet Emulation

- ❑ Mininet employs lightweight virtualization features in the Linux kernel, including process groups, CPU bandwidth isolation, and network namespaces
- ❑ An emulated host in Mininet is a group of user-level processes moved into a network namespace

