

# Exercise 3: Using Wireshark to understand basic HTTP request/response messages (marked, include in your report)

The image shows a Wireshark packet capture window titled 'http-ethereal-trace-1'. The display filter is set to 'http'. The packet list shows 17 packets. Packet 10 is selected, showing an HTTP GET request for '/ethereal-labs/lab2-1.html' from 192.168.1.102 to 128.119.245.12. The packet details pane shows the following information:

- Frame 10: 555 bytes on wire (4440 bits), 555 bytes captured (4440 bits)
- Ethernet II, Src: Dell\_4f:36:23 (00:08:74:4f:36:23), Dst: LinksysG\_da:af:73 (00:06:25:da:af:73)
- Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.1.102, Dst: 128.119.245.12
- Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 4127, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 501
- Hypertext Transfer Protocol

The packet bytes pane shows the raw data in hexadecimal and ASCII:

```
0000 00 06 25 da af 73 00 08 74 4f 36 23 08 00 45 00  ..%..s..t06#..E..
0010 02 1d 01 cd 40 00 80 06 00 00 c0 a8 01 66 80 77  ....@...f.w
0020 f5 0c 10 1f 00 50 f5 32 64 b2 6b a6 54 92 50 18  ....P.2 d.k.T.P.
0030 fa f0 39 a2 00 00 47 45 54 20 2f 65 74 68 65 72  ..9...GE T /ether
0040 65 61 6c 2d 6c 61 62 73 2f 6c 61 62 32 2d 31 2e  eal-labs /lab2-1.
0050 68 74 6d 6c 20 48 54 54 50 2f 31 2e 31 0d 0a 48  html HT P/1.1..H
0060 6f 73 74 3a 20 67 61 69 61 2e 63 73 2e 75 6d 61  ost: gai a.cs.uma
```

Question 1:

Status Code: 200

Response Phrase: OK

Question 2:

Last-Modified: Tue, 23 Sep 2003 05:29:00 GMT\r\n

It contains a Date header, another date is server's time.

Question 3:

The connection is persistent, because the connection is keep-alive.

Connection: Keep-Alive\r\n

Keep-Alive: timeout=10, max=100\r\n

Question 4:

Content-Length: 73\r\n

73 bytes

Question 5:

The resources code is:

```
<html>\n
```

Congratulations. You've downloaded the file lab2.1.html\n

```
</html>\n
```

So it will response " Congratulations. You've downloaded the file lab2.1.html" in HTTP response.

## Exercise 4: Using Wireshark to understand the HTTP CONDITIONAL GET/response interaction (marked, include in your report)

Question 1:

No, both of them do not appear in first request.

Question 2:

Yes, it does, because text returned in response to first GET

```
\n
```

```
<html>\n
```

```
\n
```

Congratulations again! Now you've downloaded the file lab2-2.html. <br>\n

This file's last modification date will not change. <p>\n

Thus if you download this multiple times on your browser, a complete copy <br>\n will only be sent once by the server due to the inclusion of the IN-MODIFIED-SINCE<br>\n field in your browser's HTTP GET request to the server.\n

```
\n
```

```
</html>\n
```

Question 3:

If-Modified-Since: Tue, 23 Sep 2003 05:35:00 GMT\r\n

If-None-Match: "1bfef-173-8f4ae900"\r\n

Question 4:

Status Code:304

Response Phrase: Not Modified

It doesn't return the contents, because the status code is 304 which represents the web is not modified last time and it returns empty.

Question 5: What is the value of the Etag field in the 2nd response message and how it is used? Has this value changed since the 1<sup>st</sup> response message was received?

The value is: ETag: "1bfef-173-8f4ae900"\r\n

ETag can distinguish the resource representation at that URL ever changes, if changed a new and different ETag is assigned.

ETag allows a client to make conditional requests. This allows caches to be more efficient, and saves bandwidth, as a web server does not need to send a full response if the content has not changed.

It doesn't change since the 1<sup>st</sup> response message received.