

Practical – 3

<u>Aim</u>: To study behavior of generic devices used for networking: (CISCO PACKET TRACER)

PC (Personal Computer):

Description:

- End-user devices used to send and receive data in a network.
- Operates at the Application Layer of the OSI model.
- Requires IP address configuration for communication.
- Can simulate tasks like ping and data exchange.

Practical Task:

- 1. Drag and drop two PCs into the Cisco Packet Tracer workspace.
- 2. Assign IP addresses:
 - o **PC1:** IP 192.168.1.2, Subnet Mask 255.255.255.0.
 - o **PC2:** IP 192.168.1.3, Subnet Mask 255.255.255.0.
- 3. Test communication between PCs by using the **ping** command.
 - o On PC1, open Command Prompt and type:
- O ping 192.168.1.3

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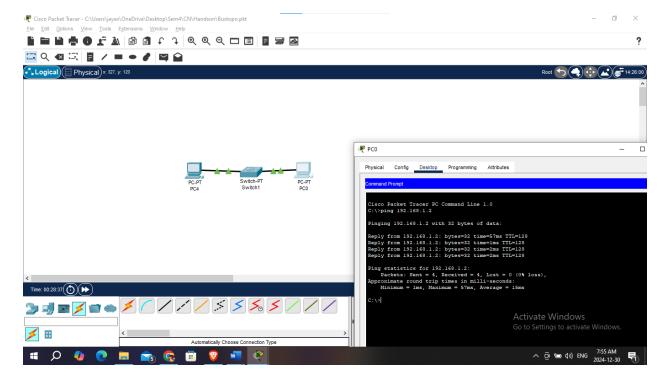
Switch:

Description:

- Layer 2 device in the OSI model for connecting devices within a LAN.
- Forwards data based on MAC addresses, reducing network collisions.
- Supports VLANs and other configurations in managed switches.
- Used for efficient communication within the same subnet.

Practical Task:

- 1. Drag and drop a Switch into the workspace.
- 2. Connect the PCs to the Switch using straight-through cables:
 - o PC1 \rightarrow Switch (FastEthernet0/1).
 - o PC2 \rightarrow Switch (FastEthernet0/2).
- 3. Verify connectivity between the PCs by testing with the **ping** command as above.



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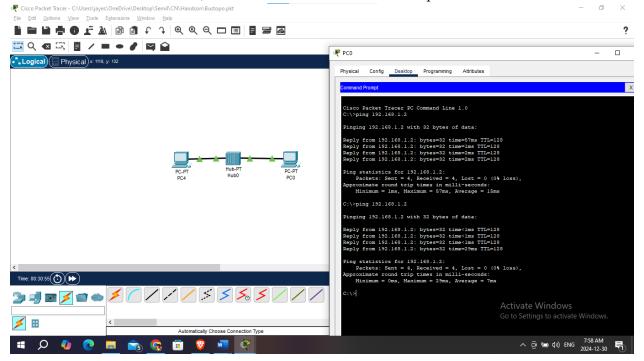
Hub:

Description:

- Layer 1 device that broadcasts data to all connected devices.
- Creates a single collision domain, leading to less efficient performance compared to switches.
- Best suited for small and simple networks.
- Does not require configuration.

Practical Task:

- 1. Drag and drop a Hub into the workspace.
- 2. Connect the PCs to the Hub using straight-through cables:
 - \circ PC1 \rightarrow Hub (Port 1).
 - \circ PC2 \rightarrow Hub (Port 2).
- **3.** Test communication between the PCs using the **ping** command. Observe that communication works, but the Hub broadcasts data to all ports.



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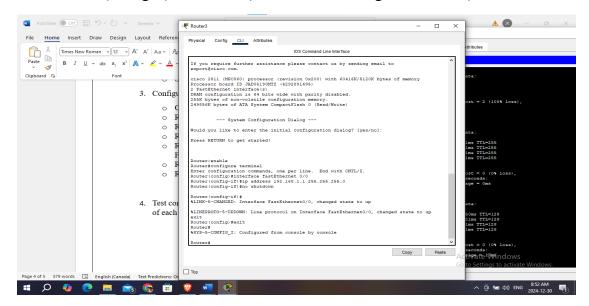
Router:

Description:

- Layer 3 device that connects multiple networks and routes packets based on IP addresses.
- Determines the best path for data transmission.
- Requires configuration of interfaces and routing protocols.
- Essential for inter-network communication.

Practical Task:

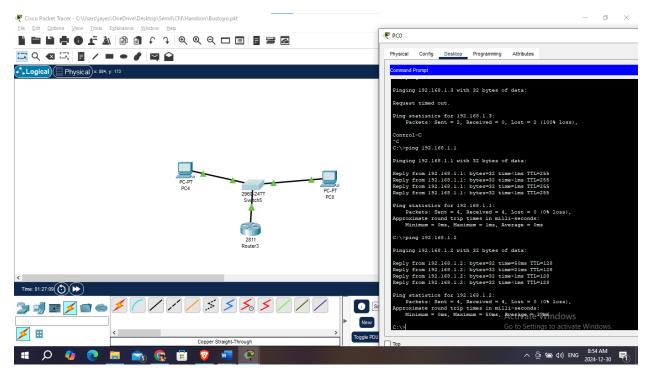
- 1. Drag and drop a Router into the workspace.
- 2. Connect the Switch to the Router using a **straight-through cable**:
 - Switch (FastEthernet0/0) → Router.
- 3. Configure the Router:
 - Open the CLI tab on the Router and execute the following commands:
 - o Router> enable (Enter privileged exec mode)
 - o Router# configure terminal (Enter global configuration mode)
 - o Router(config)# interface fastEthernet 0/0 (Select interface connected to PC1)
 - o Router(config-if)# ip address 192.168.1.1 255.255.255.0 (Assign IP address to FastEthernet0/0)
 - o Router(config-if)# no shutdown (Enable the interface)
 - Router(config-if)# exit (Exit interface configuration mode)



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4. Test communication between the PCs through the Router by setting the default gateway of each PC to 192.168.1.1.



Conclusion:

In this practical, we successfully studied and configured the behavior of various networking devices using Cisco Packet Tracer. By simulating the operation of **PCs**, **Switches**, **Hubs**, and **Routers**, we gained a better understanding of their roles in a network.

- **PCs** allowed us to simulate end-user communication by assigning IP addresses and testing connectivity using the ping command.
- **Switches** facilitated efficient data transfer between connected devices, showcasing their role in reducing network collisions.
- **Hubs**, while still functional, demonstrated less efficient data handling by broadcasting data to all devices in the network.
- **Routers** provided the crucial role of inter-network communication, routing data between different networks and managing traffic with IP addressing.

Overall, this practical exercise reinforced key networking concepts and provided hands-on experience in configuring and understanding the behavior of networking devices in a simulated environment. This knowledge is fundamental for building and troubleshooting real-world networks.

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