# Week: #4 Understand working of HTTP Headers

## **Understand working of HTTP headers:**

Conditional Get: If-Modified-Since

HTTP Cookies: Cookie and Set-Cookie

Authentication: Auth-Basic

Design a web page that has one embedded page (e.g. image) and sets a cookie and enables authentication. You are required to configure the web server (e.g. apache) with authentication mechanism.

Show the behavior of conditional get when embedded objects is modified and when it is not (you can just change the create date of the embedded object). Decode the Basic-Auth header using Base64 mechanism as per the password setup.

**Observation**: Show the behavior of browser when is cookie is set and when cookie is removed.

NAME :NAGAVENI L G

SEC:4F

SRN:PES2UG21CS315

## Week: 3, b

# **Understanding Working of HTTP Headers**

**Question:** Understand working of HTTP headers

Conditional Get: If-Modified-Since

HTTP Cookies: Cookie and Set-Cookie

Authentication: Auth-Basic

Design a web page that has one embedded page (e.g. image) and sets a cookie and enables authentication. You are required to configure the web server (e.g. apache) with authentication mechanism. Show the behavior of conditional get when embedded objects are modified and when it is not (you can just change the create date of the embedded object). Decode the Basic-Auth header using Base64 mechanism as per the password setup.

**Observation**: Show the behavior of browser when is cookie is set and when cookie is removed.

**Solution:** Analyzing Basic Authentication and Cookies

The three parts of experiment are:

- 1. Password Authentication
- 2. Cookie Setting
- 3. Conditional get

### **Steps of Execution (for Password Authentication)**

- 1. Executing the below commands on the terminal.
- --> To update and integrate the existing softwares **sudo apt-get update**

## sudo upt get upuate

```
root@Ubuntu:~# sudo apt-get update

Ign:1 https://dl.google.com/linux/chrome/deb stable InRelease

Ign:2 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/wireshark-dev/stable/ubuntu jammy InRelease

Ign:3 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease

Ign:4 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease

Ign:5 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease

Ign:6 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease

Ign:1 https://dl.google.com/linux/chrome/deb stable InRelease

Ign:2 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/wireshark-dev/stable/ubuntu jammy InRelease

Ign:6 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease

Ign:6 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease

Ign:7 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease

Ign:1 https://dl.google.com/linux/chrome/deb stable InRelease

Ign:1 https://dl.google.com/linux/chrome/deb stable InRelease

Ign:2 https://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease

Ign:3 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease

Ign:1 https://dl.google.com/linux/chrome/deb stable InRelease

Ign:2 https://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease

Ign:2 https://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease

Ign:2 https://ipa.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease

Ign:2 https://ipa.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease
```

## --> To install the apache utility

## sudo apt-get install apache2 apache2-utils

```
root@ubuntu-1:~# sudo apt-get install apache2-utils
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
apache2-utils is already the newest version (2.4.52-1ubuntu4.3).
apache2-utils set to manually installed.
The following package was automatically installed and is no longer required:
    systemd-hwe-hwdb
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove it.
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 272 not upgraded.
root@ubuntu-1:~#
```

--> Provide username and password to set authentication sudo htpasswd -c /etc/apache2/.htpasswd ANY\_USERNAME

```
nagavenigowda@ubuntu-1:~$ su -
Password:
root@ubuntu-1:~# sudo htpasswd -c /etc/apache2/.htpasswd netwo
New password:
Re-type new password:
Adding password for user netwo
root@ubuntu-1:~#
```

Here "netwo" is the username. Also, password is entered twice.

--> View the authentication

sudo cat /etc/apache2/.htpasswd

```
root@ubuntu-1:~# sudo cat /etc/apache2/.htpasswd
netwo:$apr1$L1LFr7HY$lmcb8KRQ4BxypbKP1T0hf1
root@ubuntu-1:~#
```

- 2. To setup the authentication phase, execute the following commands. Configuring Access control within the Virtual Host Definition.
- --> Opening the file for setting authentication

sudo nano /etc/apache2/sites-available/000-default.conf

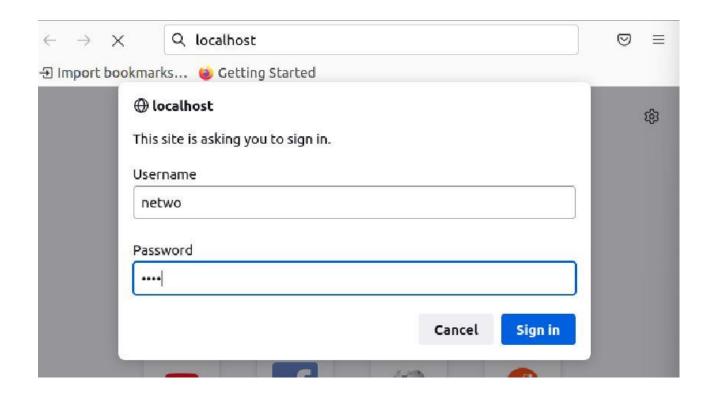
```
<VirtualHost*:80>
    ServerAdmin webmaster@localhost
    DocumentRoot /var/www/html
    ErrorLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/error.log
    CustomLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/access.log combined
    </Directory "/var/www/html">
         AuthType Basic
         AuthName "RESTRICTED"
         AuthUserFile /etc/apache2/.htpasswd
         Require valid-user
         </Directory>
    </VirtualHost>
```

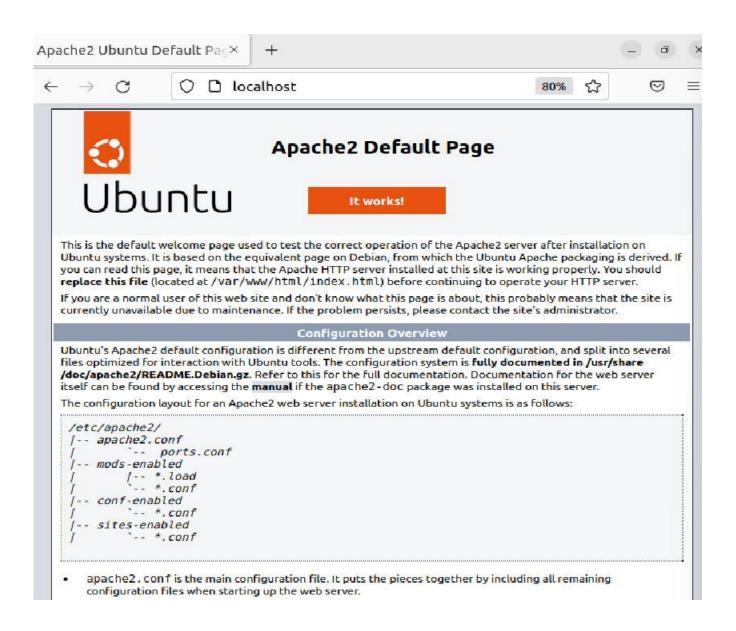
```
GNU nano 6.2 /etc/apache2/sites-available/000-default.conf *
<VirtualHost *:80>
        ServerAdmin webmaster@localhost
        DocumentRoot /var/www/html
        ErrorLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/error.log
        CustomLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/access.log combined
           <Directory "/var/www/html">
                 AuthType Basic
                 AuthName "RESTRICTED"
                 AuthUserFile /etc/apache2/.htpasswd
                 REquire valid-user >
       </Directory>
</VirtualHost>
# vim: syntax=apache ts=4 sw=4 sts=4 sr noet
  Help
               O Write Out
                              ^W Where Is
                                                Cut
                                                               Execute
                  Read File
                                 Replace
                                                Paste
```

3. Password policy implementation is done by restarting the server as: sudo service apache2 restart

```
nagavenigowda@ubuntu-1:~$ su -
Password:
root@ubuntu-1:~# sudo service apache2 restart
root@ubuntu-1:~#
```

4. The localhost is then accessed using the Firefox browser requiring a username and a password set during the authentication phase.





5. Wireshark is used to capture the packets sent upon the network.

tc	p.stream eq 18					<b>⋈</b> → •
Vo.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length Info	
	224 32.534239398	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	76 53614 → 80 [SYN]	Seq=0 Win=0
	225 32.534260106	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	76 80 → 53614 [SYN,	ACK] Seq=0
	226 32.534273646	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	68 53614 → 80 [ACK]	Seq=1 Ack=:
	227 32.534373063	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	HTTP	630 GET / HTTP/1.1	- AF
	228 32.534536114	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	68 80 - 53614 [ACK]	Seq=1 Ack=
	229 32.536277299	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	HTTP	3528 HTTP/1.1 200 OK	(text/html
	230 32.536361898	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	68 53614 → 80 [ACK]	Seq=563 Acl
+	241 34.181565968	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	HTTP	630 GET / HTTP/1.1	
	242 34.182439352	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	HTTP	3527 HTTP/1.1 200 OK	(text/html
	243 34.182511438	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	68 53614 → 80 [ACK]	Seq=1125 A
	260 39.184543662	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	68 80 → 53614 [FIN,	ACK] Seq=69
	261 39.185168090	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	68 53614 → 80 [FIN,	ACK] Seq=1:
	262 39.185222364	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	68 80 - 53614 [ACK]	Seq=6921 A

Frame 227: 630 bytes on wire (5040 bits), 630 bytes captured (5040 bits) on interface any, id 0

Linux cooked capture v1

Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 127.0.0.1, Dst: 127.0.0.1

Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 53614, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 562

Hypertext Transfer Protocol

6. Using the "follow TCP stream" on the HTTP message segment the password was retrieved which was encrypted by the base64 algorithm and decryption could be done with same algorithm.

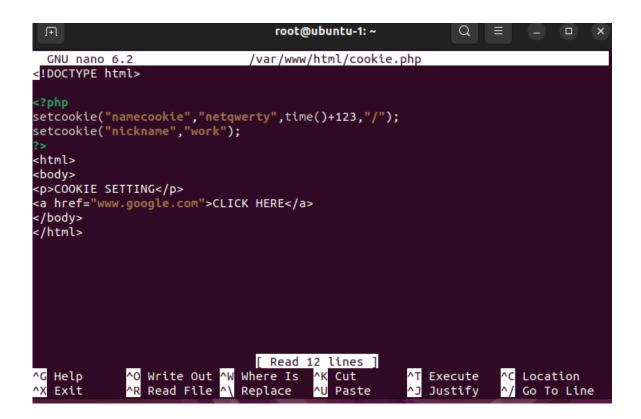
```
Wireshark · Follow TCP Stream (tcp.stream eq 18) · any
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: localhost
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:103.0) Gecko/
20100101 Firefox/103.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/
xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US, en; q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br
Authorization: Basic bmV0d286MTIzNA==
Connection: keep-alive
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Sec-Fetch-Dest: document
Sec-Fetch-Mode: navigate
Sec-Fetch-Site: none
Sec-Fetch-User: ?1
If-Modified-Since: Wed, 15 Feb 2023 16:52:51 GMT
If-None-Match: "29af-5f4bfe929b00f-gzip"
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 2023 14:24:41 GMT
Server: Apache/2.4.52 (Ubuntu)
Last-Modified: Wed, 15 Feb 2023 16:52:51 GMT
ETag: "29af-5f4bfe929b00f-gzip"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 3121
Keep-Alive: timeout=5, max=100
Connection: Keep-Alive
Content-Type: text/html
.....Z.s..........%.DJr....Y3....L...N...B$(.......
{w...K...i..".}a...y...0..?.\...
r...../.`...<.....+..w....I0&.....S*...o.2.....p.....@.ux.
1...&x..:2..Al...da.~..T_t......7.....A.<.,&..[b6.\...)...
9.'.T..*0Mn....<..a..L...h|:.N.....d...y.m2..)3.*_k...l<~
{G#+...xi....P{v.....L
K..v....a.M...&..*......F.....6l.e.....Cn..d....T.z.....
6{...~.M...lY...@G...Z......R.6..q.......10......+....0~..
8.....'vyE....y..")....\0.z...%t..~....0.....i.x..q....
1&.....
```

## **Steps of Execution (Cookie Setting)**

1. A PHP file to set the cookie is created which also contains an image in it (placed under the HTML directory) to be accessed once the cookie is set. The following code helped to set the cookie:

```
<html>
<?php

setcookie("namecookie","netqwerty",time()+123);
    setcookie("nickname","work");
?>
<img src= "highres.png" width= "300" height= "300" title= "password" />
</html>
```





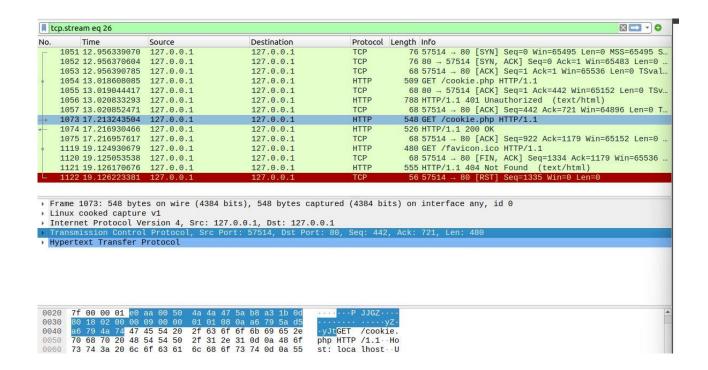
#### COOKIE SETTING

#### CLICK HERE

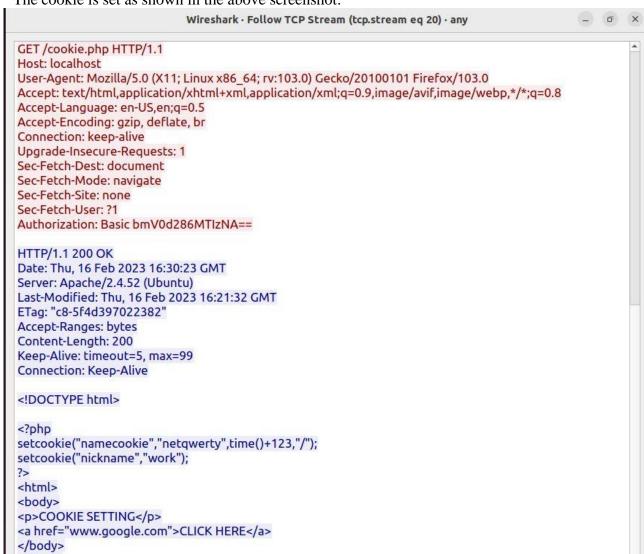
Note: Here you can add any image if required

Note: You can capture Cookies mostly during the first time of web access. Hence keep wireshark capture ready before executing the task for the first time.

- 2. The combined file saved with a .php extension is placed under /var/www/html for accessing.
- 3. The packets are captured using Wireshark and using the "follow TCP stream" which checks for the set-cookie field whether the cookie is set or not set.



The cookie is set as shown in the above screenshot.

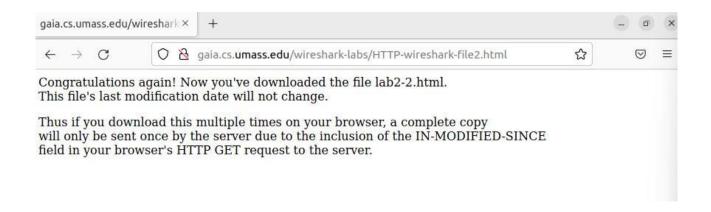


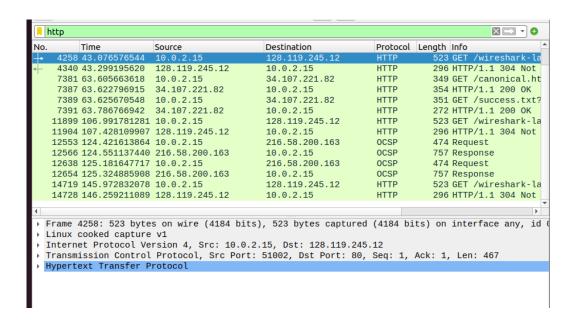
**Observation:** Understand and work out base 64 algorithm and write in your observation. Observe various parameters associated with Cookie in the wireshark capture.

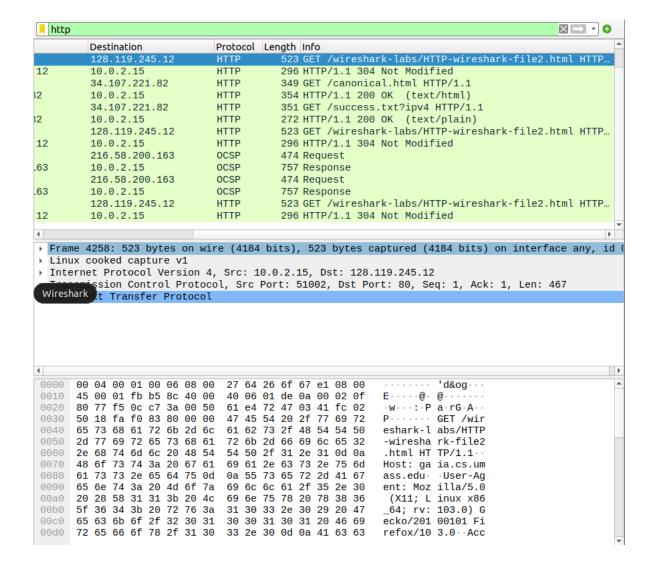
#### **Conditional Get: If-Modified-Since**

Before performing the steps below, make sure your browser's cache is empty. (To do this under Firefox, select Tools -> Clear Recent History and check the Cache box). Now do the following:

- Start up your web browser, and make sure your browser's cache is cleared, as discussed above.
- > Start up the Wireshark packet sniffer.
- ➤ Enter the following URL into your browser <a href="http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file2.html">http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file2.html</a>
- Your browser should display a very simple five-line HTML file.
- Quickly enter the same URL into your browser again (or simply select the refresh button on your browser)
- > Stop Wireshark packet capture, and enter "http" in the display-filter-specification window, so that only captured HTTP messages will be displayed later in the packet-listing window.







GET /wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file2.html HTTP/1.1 Host: gaia.cs.umass.edu User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86\_64; rv:103.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/103.0 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/ avif, image/webp, \*/\*; q=0.8 Accept-Language: en-US, en; q=0.5 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate Connection: keep-alive Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1 If-Modified-Since: Thu, 16 Feb 2023 06:59:02 GMT If-None-Match: "173-5f4cbbb5604df" HTTP/1.1 304 Not Modified Date: Thu, 16 Feb 2023 14:07:03 GMT Server: Apache/2.4.6 (CentOS) OpenSSL/1.0.2k-fips PHP/7.4.33 mod\_perl/2.0.11 Perl/v5.16.3 Connection: Keep-Alive

Keep-Alive: timeout=5, max=100

ETag: "173-5f4cbbb5604df"

#### **Observations:**

- ✓ Inspect the contents of the first HTTP GET request from your browser to the server. Do you see an "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE" line in the HTTP GET?
- ✓ Inspect the contents of the server response. Did the server explicitly return the contents of the file? How can you tell?
- ✓ Now inspect the contents of the second HTTP GET request from your browser to the server. Do you see an "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE:" line in the HTTP GET? If so, what information follows the "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE:" header?
- ✓ What is the HTTP status code and phrase returned from the server in response to this second HTTP GET? Did the server explicitly return the contents of the file? Explain.

Repeat the above task with some images on the server.

Attach screenshots wherever necessary.