DHCP Experiment

In order to observe DHCP in action, we'll perform several DHCP-related commands and capture the DHCP messages exchanged as a result of executing these commands. Do the following 2:

- 1. Begin by opening the Windows Command Prompt application (which can be found in your Accessories folder). As shown in Figure 1, enter "ipconfig /release". The executable for ipconfig is in C:\windows\system32. This command releases your current IP address, so that your host's IP address becomes 0.0.0.0.
- 2. Start up the Wireshark packet sniffer, as described in the introductory Wireshark lab and begin Wireshark packet capture.
- 3. Now go back to the Windows Command Prompt and enter "ipconfig /renew". This instructs your host to obtain a network configuration, including a new IP address. In Figure 1, the host obtains the IP address 192.168.1.108
- 4. Wait until the "ipconfig /renew" has terminated. Then enter the same command "ipconfig /renew" again.
- 5. When the second "ipconfig /renew" terminates, enter the command "ipconfig/release" to release the previously-allocated IP address to your computer.
- 6. Finally, enter "ipconfig /renew" to again be allocated an IP address for your computer.

7.

8. Stop Wireshark packet capture.

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C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
  \Users\nanag\inconfig/release
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o operation can be performed on Local Area Connection* 2 while it has its media disconnected.
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 ireless LAN adapter Local Area Connection* 2:
   Connection-specific DNS Suffix .:
 ireless LAN adapter Wi-Fi:
   Connection-specific DNS Suffix .:
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . : fe80::84a:6792:a407:6fe2%3
Default Gateway . . . . . . :
   Default Gateway . .
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  reless LAN adapter Wi-Fi:
  Connection-specific DNS Suffix :
Link-local IPv6 Address : fe80::84a:6792:a407:6fe2%3
IPv4 Address : 192.168.1.18
Subnet Mask : 255.255.255.0
Default Gateway : 192.168.1.1
   \Users\nanag>ipconfig/renew
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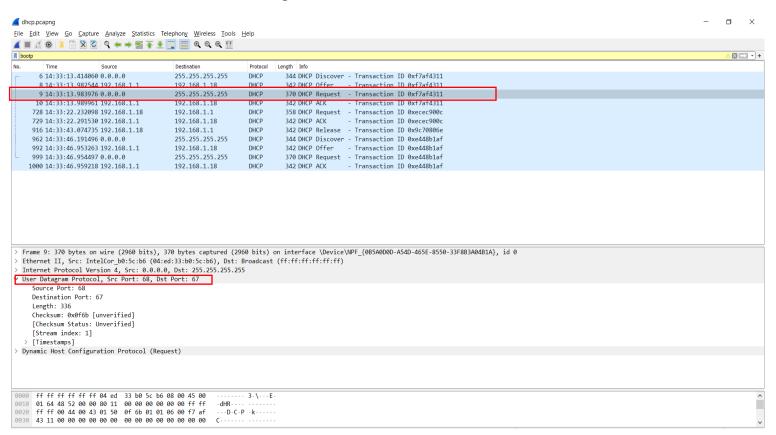
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   Media State . . . . . . . . : Media disconnected Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
   Connection-specific DNS Suffix .
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . .
Default Gateway . . . . . .
                                                 : fe80::84a:6792:a407:6fe2%3
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  reless LAN adapter Local Area Connection* 2:
   Media State . . . . . . . . : Media disconnected Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
 ireless LAN adapter Wi-Fi:
  Connection-specific DNS Suffix .:
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . : fe80::84a:6792:a407:6fe2%3
Default Gateway . . . . . . :
  \Users\nanag>ipconfig/renew
 indows IP Configuration
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  Connection-specific DNS Suffix :
Link-local IPv6 Address : fe80::84a:6792:a407:6fe2%3
IPv4 Address : 192.168.1.18
Subnet Mask : 255.255.255.0
Default Gateway : 192.168.1.1
```

What to Hand In:

You should hand in a screen shot of the Command Prompt window similar to Figure 1 above. Whenever possible, when answering a question below, you should hand in a printout of the packet(s) within the trace that you used to answer the question asked. Annotate the printout3 to explain your answer. To print a packet, use File->Print, choose Selected packet only, choose Packet summary line, and select the minimum amount of packet detail that you need to answer the question. Answer the following questions:

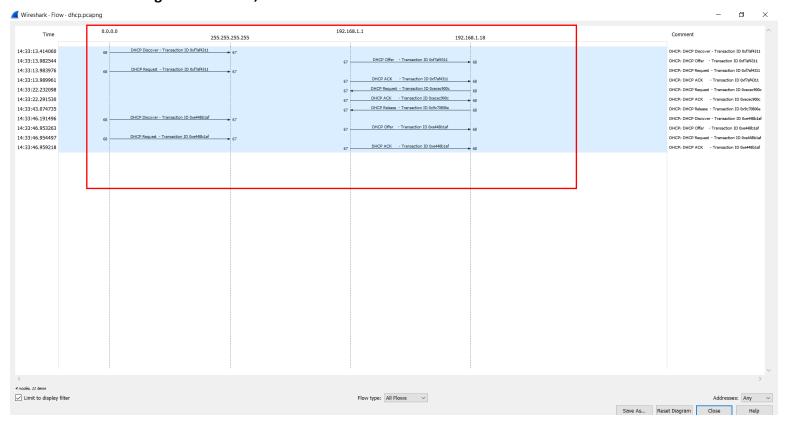
1. Are DHCP messages sent over UDP or TCP?

Solution 1: DHCP messages are sent over UDP.



2. Draw a timing datagram illustrating the sequence of the first four-packet Discover/Offer/Request/ACK DHCP exchange between the client and server. For each packet, indicated the source and destination port numbers. Are the port numbers the same as in the example given in this lab assignment?

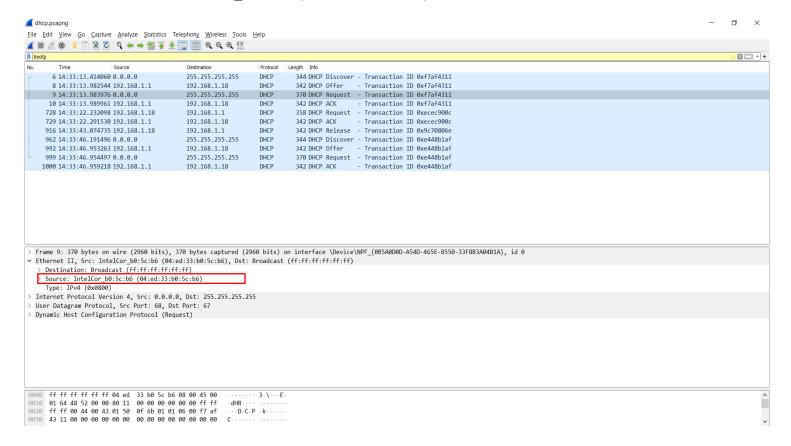
Solution 2: Yes, all the port numbers are same as in the example given in this lab assignment. i.e. 67,68.



	Source Port No.	Destination Port No.
Discover	68	67
Offer	67	68
Request	68	67
ACK	67	68

3. What is the link-layer (e.g., Ethernet) address of your host?

Solution 3: Link-layer (e.g., Ethernet) address of your host – IntelCor_b0:5c:b6(04:ed:33:b0:5c:b6)

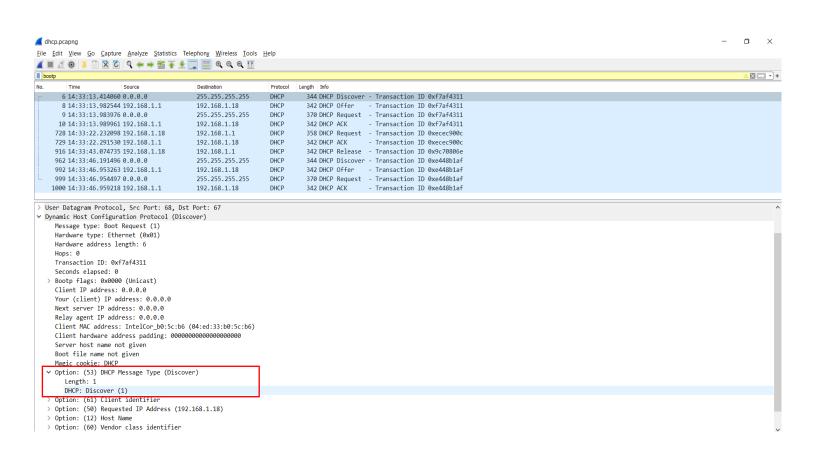


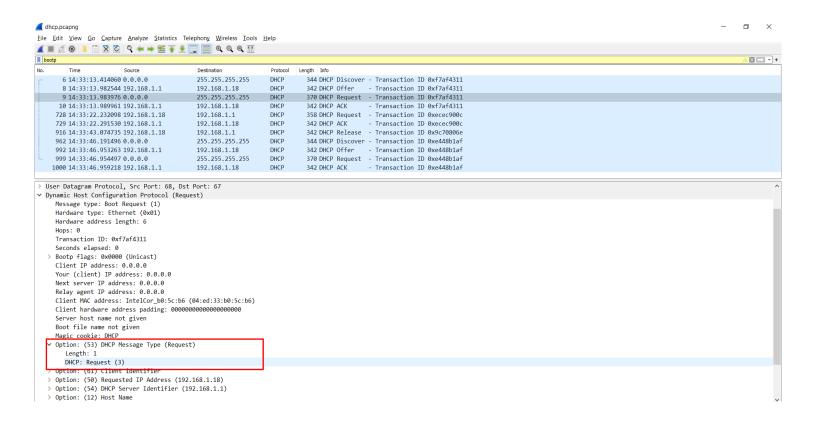
4. What values in the DHCP discover message differentiate this message from the DHCP request message?

Solution 4:

The Message type values differentiate DHCP discover & DHCP request message.

	Message Type Value
DHCP request	3
DHCP discover	1



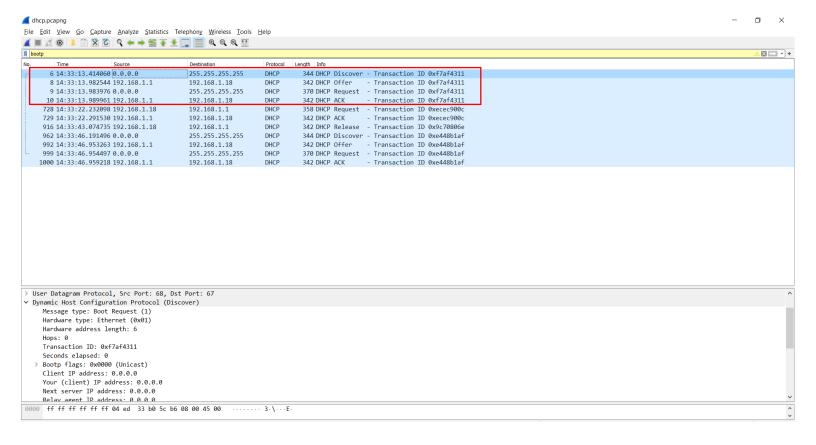


5. What is the value of the Transaction-ID in each of the first four (Discover/Offer/Request/ACK) DHCP messages? What are the values of the Transaction-ID in the second set (Request/ACK) set of DHCP messages? What is the purpose of the Transaction-ID field?

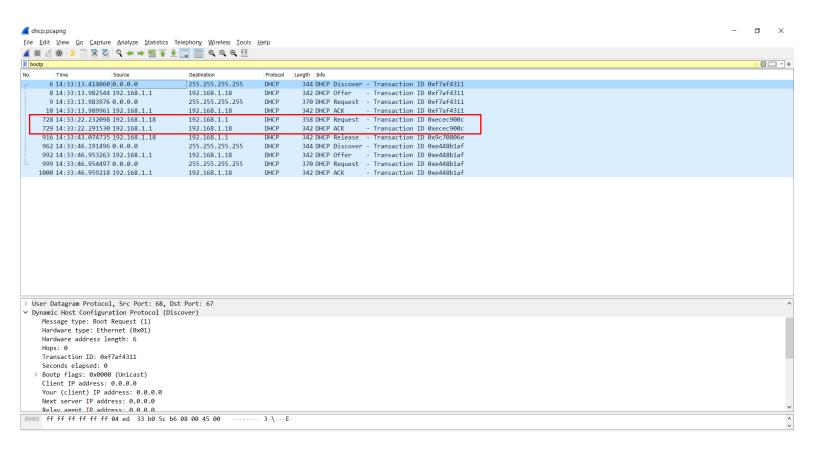
Solution 5:

The purpose of the Transaction-ID field is to differentiate between different requests made by the user or client. (i.e. to differentiate between multiple requests if any)

First DHCP messages	Transaction-ID
Discover	0xf7a4311
Offer	0xf7a4311
Request	0xf7a4311
ACK	0xf7a4311



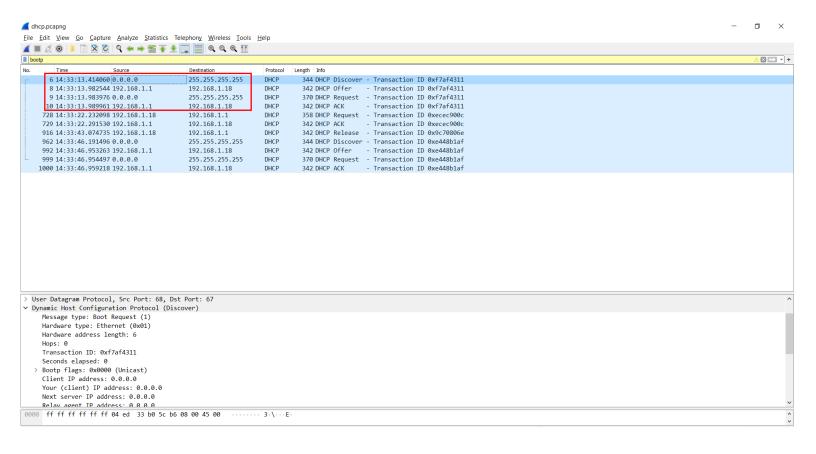
Second DHCP messages	Transaction-ID
Request	0xecec900c
ACK	0xecec900c



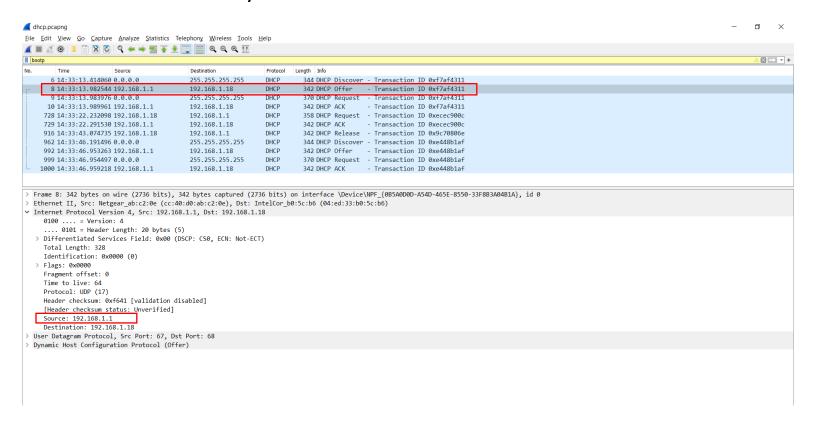
6. A host uses DHCP to obtain an IP address, among other things. But a host's IP address is not confirmed until the end of the four-message exchange! If the IP address is not set until the end of the four-message exchange, then what values are used in the IP datagrams in the four-message exchange? For each of the four DHCP messages (Discover/Offer/Request/ACK DHCP), indicate the source and destination IP addresses that are carried in the encapsulating IP datagram.

Solution 6:

	Source IP address	Destination IP address
Discover	0.0.0.0	255.255.255
Offer	192.168.1.1	192.168.1.18
Request	0.0.0.0	255.255.255
ACK	192.168.1.1	192.168.1.18



7. What is the IP address of your DHCP server?Solution 7:IP address of my DHCP Server – 192.168.1.1

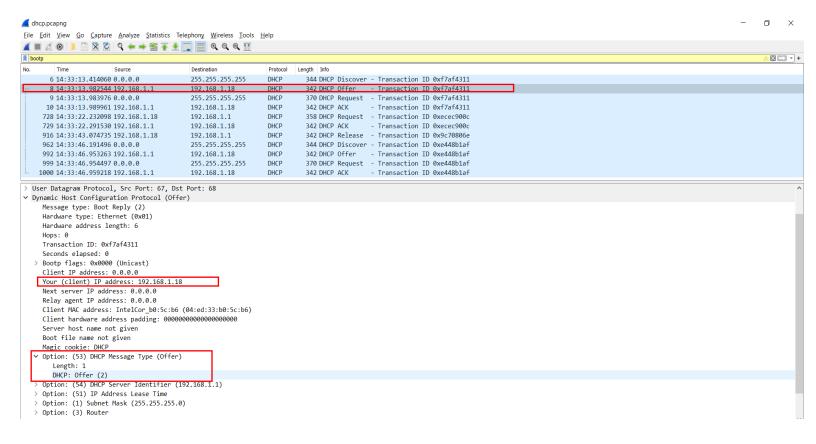


8. What IP address is the DHCP server offering to your host in the DHCP Offer message? Indicate which DHCP message contains the offered DHCP address.

Solution 8:

The IP address offered by DHCP server in DHCP offer Message - 192.168.1.18

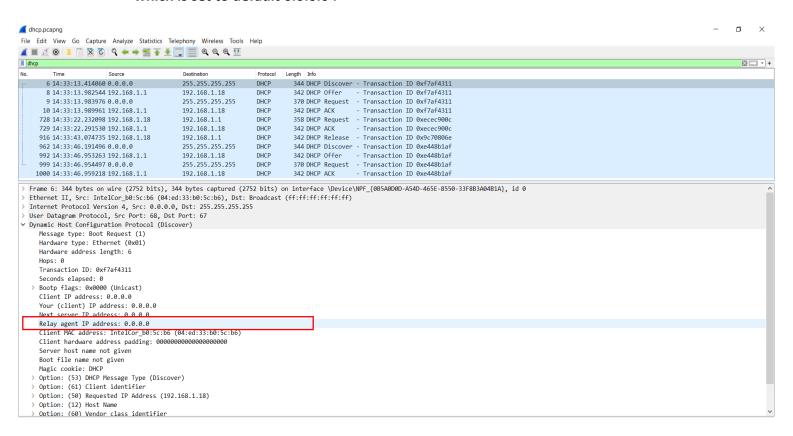
DHCP offer message contains the offered DHCP address.



9. In the example screenshot in this assignment, there is no relay agent between the host and the DHCP server. What values in the trace indicate the absence of a relay agent? Is there a relay agent in your experiment? If so what is the IP address of the agent?

Solution 9:

There is NO Relay Agent. This is indicated by the missing IP address for the Relay agent which is set to default 0.0.0.0.

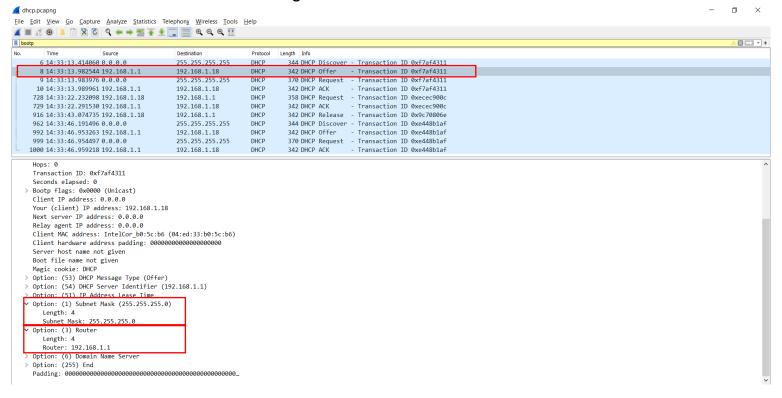


10. Explain the purpose of the router and subnet mask lines in the DHCP offer message

Solution 10:

The purpose of Subnet Mask is to indicate the subnet mask address – 255.255.255.0 and the broadcast domain to the client.

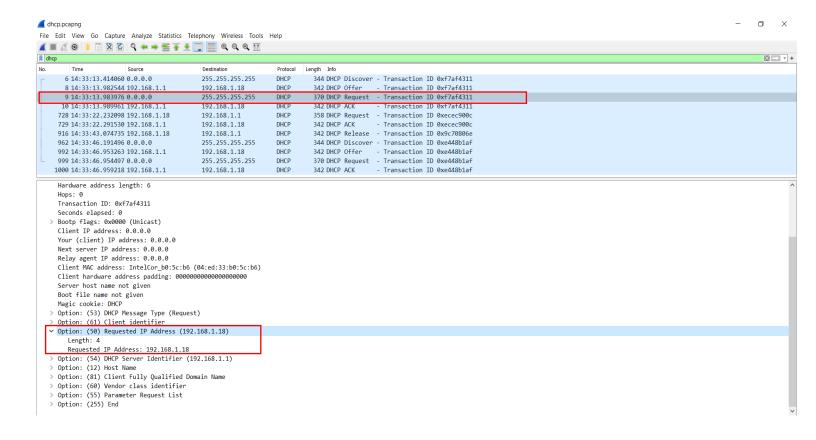
The purpose of the Router in the DHCP message is to indicate the Default Gateway address – 192.168.1.1 to get off the Subnet.



11. In the DHCP trace file noted in footnote 2, the DHCP server offers a specific IP address to the client (see also question 8. above). In the client's response to the first server OFFER message, does the client accept this IP address? Where in the client's RESPONSE is the client's requested address?

Solution 11:

Yes, Client accepts the IP Address – 192.168.1.18 & Request the same IP address in the DHCP Request message in the Option(50) in the Request IP Address field which has the Request IP Address that is 192.168.1.18 which is same as the offered IP Address by the DHCP server.

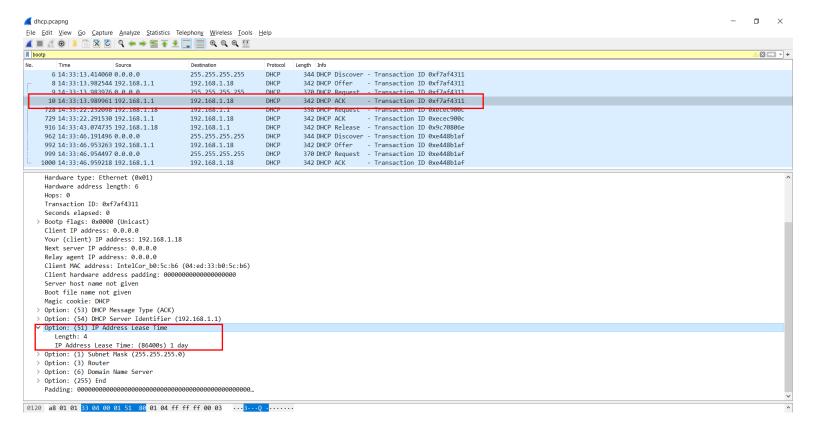


12. Explain the purpose of the lease time. How long is the lease time in your experiment?

Solution 12:

The purpose of the lease time is to assign & block the particular IP address for a particular client for a certain duration of time. This IP Address assigned for the client will be used by the DHCP server for any other client until the lease time expires. After the lease time expires the DHCP server can reuse the IP address for different clients.

The Lease Time in this Experiment is 86400 s which can also be written as 1 day.



13. What is the purpose of the DHCP release message? Does the DHCP server issue an acknowledgment of receipt of the client's DHCP request? What would happen if the client's DHCP release message is lost?

Solution 13:

The purpose of the DHCP release message is to terminate the lease time or period assigned for that particular IP Address (for a particular client) so that the DHCP Server can reuse the same IP Address.

No, DHCP server does not issue an acknowledgement of receipt of the client's DHCP request.

If DHCP client's release message is lost, then DHCP server has to sit back and wait for the lease period to end or another release message. 14. Clear the bootp filter from your Wireshark window. Were any ARP packets sent or received during the DHCP packet-exchange period? If so, explain the purpose of those ARP packets.

Solution 14:

Yes, there were ARP Packets sent during the DHCP packet-exchange period.

The purpose of ARP packets is to cumulate the IP addresses in use in the network and to cross verify that the IP address being offered is not being used by any other system in the network.

