

CS 164 - Project

The goal of this project is to implement your own DHCP [1] server. There are no language constraints; you may use any programming language of your choice. However, this guide assumes the use of Python 3.

Preliminary Task

Use the provided `mytopo0.py` to setup a simple point-to-point client-server topology. Run the following command:

```
$ sudo mn --custom=mytopo0.py --topo=mytopo
```

Check the IP addresses of the interfaces on the client. Run the following command in the mininet console:

```
mininet> client ip address  
mininet> server ip address
```

You should observe that there are no IPv4 addresses on the `client-eth0` and `server-eth0` interfaces. However, make a note of the MAC address associated with `client-eth0`.

Assign a static IPv4 address to `server-eth0`. Run the following commands in the mininet console:

```
mininet> server ip address add 192.168.0.1/24 dev server-eth0  
mininet> server ip route add default dev server-eth0
```

Open a new terminal that runs within the server's network namespace. Run the following command on the mininet console:

```
mininet> xterm server
```

Run the given `dhserver.py` script on this terminal. Use the following command:

```
# python3 dhserver.py
```

Use the `dhclient` [2] command to get an IPv4 address on the `client-eth0` interface (This will not run successfully). Run the following command in the mininet console:

```
mininet> client dhclient -4 -v client-eth0
```

You will observe that this process tries to obtain an IPv4 address for the client-eth0 interface. You should also observe that the `dhserver.py` script finishes execution and prints out the MAC address of client-eth0. Use the starter code in `dhserver.py` to help you complete the rest of the project (if you choose to use Python 3 for your implementation).

The rest of your preliminary task is as follows. Modify the `dhserver.py` file to implement a rudimentary DHCP server. This will include:

- Maintaining a pool of IPv4 addresses. These should belong to the same subnet as the IPv4 address of server-eth0. You may change this IPv4 address (statically) to use a different subnet.
- Parsing the DHCP header and constructing an appropriate response.
- Multiple requests from the same client should result in the DHCP server checking the existing records and returning the same IP (as long as the request is before the lease expires)
- DHCP lease time: DHCP server should maintain a lease time for each IP that it has assigned to a client. Furthermore, DHCP server should reset the lease expiration time for each client when it receives a request to obtain an IP using the *dhclient* command. (You can set the lease time to 60 seconds)

Final Task

Use the provided `mytopo1.py` to set up a simple topology containing a single server and multiple clients. Run the following command:

```
$ sudo mn --custom=mytopo1.py --topo=mytopo
```

Run your implementation of a DHCP server on the server and use the `dhclient` command to get an IPv4 address on the `eth0` interface of all clients.

References

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dynamic_Host_Configuration_Protocol
- <https://linux.die.net/man/8/dhclient>