

1. Consider an HTTP client that wants to retrieve a Web document at a given URL. The IP address of the HTTP server is initially unknown. What transport and application-layer protocols besides HTTP are needed in this scenario?
2. Obtain the HTTP/1.1 specification (RFC 2616). Answer the following questions:
 - (a) What encryption services are provided by HTTP?
 - (b) Explain the mechanism used for signalling between the client and server to indicate that a persistent connection is being closed.
 - (c) Can the client, the server, or both signal the close of a connection?
 - (d) Can a client open three or more simultaneous connections with a given server?
3. Suppose within your Web browser you click on a link to obtain a Web page. The IP address for the associated URL is not cached in your local host, so a DNS lookup is necessary. Suppose that n DNS servers are visited before your host receives the IP address from DNS; the successive visits incur a RTT of RTT_1, \dots, RTT_n . Further suppose the web page contains exactly two objects. Let RTT_0 denote the RTT between the local host and the server containing the object. Assume transmission time for each object i is T_i .
 - (a) How much time elapses from when the client clicks on the link until the client receives the objects using persistent HTTP?
 - (b) How much time elapses from when the client clicks on the link until the client receives the objects using non-persistent HTTP?
 - (c) How much time elapses from when the client clicks on the link until the client receives the objects using non-persistent HTTP with parallel connections?
4. Consider a short 10 meter link, over which a sender can transmit at a rate of 128 bits/sec in both directions. Suppose that packets containing the data are 96,000 bits long, and packets containing only control (ACK, handshaking) are 240 bits long. Assume that N parallel connections get $1/N$ of the link bandwidth. Now consider HTTP where each object is 96,000 bits long, and the initial downloaded object references 10 additional objects from the same sender.
 - (a) Would parallel downloads via parallel instances of non-persistent HTTP make sense in this case?
 - (b) Now consider persistent HTTP. Are there significant gains over the non-persistent case?
5. What is the difference from MAIL FROM: in SMTP and From: in the mail message itself?
6.
 - (a) How does SMTP mark the end of a message body? Explain.
 - (b) How about HTTP? Explain.
 - (c) Can HTTP use the same method as SMTP to mark the end of a message body? Explain.
7. Describe at least 3 differences between the POP3 and IMAP protocols.
8. Suppose that your department has a local DNS server for all computers in the department. You are an ordinary user (i.e., not a network/system administrator). Can you come up with a way to determine if an external Web site was very likely accessed from a computer in your department a couple of seconds ago? Explain
9. Read RFC 959 for FTP. List all of the client commands that are supported by the RFC.