# WORKING WITH DNS

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# Question 1:

Favorite university in Asia: National University of Singapore

Webserver url: www.nus.edu.sg

Nslookup **IP returned**: 137.132.21.27\*

Favorite university in Europe: University of Cambridge

Webserver url: www.cam.ac.uk

Nslookup IP returned: 128.232.132.8\*

Favorite university in America: University of California, Los Angeles

Webserver url: www.ucla.edu

Canonical name: gateway.lb.it.ucla.edu

Nslookup **IP returned** :164.67.228.152(v4) & 2607:f010:2e8:228:0:ff:fe00:152(v6)

(\* : Non-authoritative answer)

```
sauron@sauron-HP-ENVY-TS-15-Notebook-PC:~$ nslookup www.nus.edu.sg
Server: 127.0.0.53
Address: 127.0.0.53#53

Non-authoritative answer:
Name: www.nus.edu.sg
Address: 137.132.21.27
Name: www.nus.edu.sg
Address: 2001:208:0:21706::13

sauron@sauron-HP-ENVY-TS-15-Notebook-PC:~$ nslookup www.cam.ac.uk
Server: 127.0.0.53
Address: 127.0.0.53#53

Non-authoritative answer:
Name: www.cam.ac.uk
Address: 128.232.132.8

sauron@sauron-HP-ENVY-TS-15-Notebook-PC:~$ nslookup www.ucla.edu
Server: 127.0.0.53
Address: 128.232.132.8

Non-authoritative answer:
www.ucla.edu canonical name = gateway.lb.it.ucla.edu.
Name: gateway.lb.it.ucla.edu
Address: 164.67.228.152
Name: gateway.lb.it.ucla.edu
Address: 2607:f010:2e8:228:0:ff:fe00:152
```

Note that we see as the corresponding server because, 127.0.0.53 # 53 because Ubuntu 18.04 uses "systemd-resolved" that caches DNS query responses at the local host.

# Question 2:

University Asia: NU-Singapore

URL: nus.edu.sg

#### Authoritative DNS servers:

- 1) ns1.nus.edu.sg
- 2) ns2.nus.edu.sg
- 3) alert.nus.edu.sg

University Europe: University of Cambridge

URL: cam.ac.uk

#### Authoritative DNS servers:

- 1) dns0.eng.cam.ac.uk
- 2) dns0.cl.cam.ac.uk
- 3) authdns0.csx.cam.ac.uk
- 4) ns2.ic.ac.uk
- 5) sns-pb.isc.org

University America: University of California, Los Angeles

URL: ucla.edu

#### Authoritative DNS servers:

- 1) ns1.dns.ucla.edu
- 2) ns2.dns.ucla.edu
- 3) ns3.dns.ucla.edu
- 4) ns4.dns.ucla.edu

### Question 3,4:

```
sauron@sauron-HP-ENVY-TS-15-Notebook-PC:~$ nslookup ns1.dns.ucla.edu
Server: 127.0.0.53
Address: 127.0.0.53#53
 Screenshot
Non-authoritative answer:
Name: ns1.dns.ucla.edu
Address: 192.35.225.7
Name: ns1.dns.ucla.edu
Address: 2607:f010:3fe:12:0:ff:fe01:35
sauron@sauron-HP-ENVY-TS-15-Notebook-PC:~$ nslookup www.cs.ucla.edu ns1.dns.ucla.edu
                ns1.dns.ucla.edu
Server:
Address:
                 192.35.225.7#53
Name: WWW.cs.ucla.edu
Address: 164.67.100.181
sauron@sauron-HP-ENVY-TS-15-Notebook-PC:~$ nslookup -type=MX cs.ucla.edu ns1.dns.ucla.edu
                ns1.dns.ucla.edu
Address:
                 192.35.225.7#53
                mail exchanger = 3 Pelican.CS.UCLA.EDU.
cs.ucla.edu
                mail exchanger = 13 Mailman.CS.UCLA.EDU.
cs.ucla.edu
sauron@sauron-HP-ENVY-TS-15-Notebook-PC:~$ nslookup Mailman.cs.ucla.edu ns1.dns.ucla.edu
                 ns1.dns.ucla.edu
Server:
Address:
                 192.35.225.7#53
Name: Mailman.cs.ucla.edu
Address: 131.179.128.30
```

Figure : Example - Finding the Web, Mail and authoritative DNS IP addresses for CS Dept., UCLA.

University Asia: NU-Singapore

Web server CS: www.comp.nus.edu.sg Mail server CS: 84-101.comp.nus.edu.sg

Webserver IP: 137.132.84.218 Mailserver IP: 137.132.84.101 Auth DNS IP: 137.132.123.4

University Europe: University of Cambridge

Web server CS: www.cl.cam.ac.uk

Mail server CS: mx.cam.ac.uk

Webserver IP: 128.232.0.20(v4) & 2a05:b400:110::80:14(v6)

Mailserver IP: 131.111.8.147(/8/9\*)

**Auth DNS IP**: 128.232.0.19(v4) & 2001:630:212:200::d:a0(v6)

(\* : Using multiple server machines, round-robin scheme has been imple-

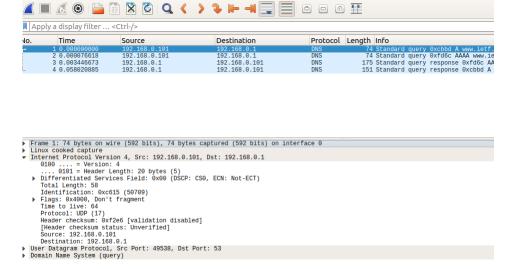
mented here)

University America: University of California, Los Angeles

Web server CS: www.cs.ucla.edu Mail server CS: Mailman.cs.ucla.edu **Webserver IP**: 164.67.100.181 **Mailserver IP**: 131.179.128.30

**Auth DNS IP**: 192.35.225.7(v4) & 2607:f010:3fe:12:0:ff:fe01:35 (v6)

### Question 5:



We can see the captured DNS packets in the figure above. The transport protocol can be seen in the IP-header as one of its fields. In this case, it corresponds to  $\mathbf{UDP}$  with field value #17.

#### Question 6:

Destination port for query message: 53 (standard port on DNS server) Source port for the query message: 54373 (an arbitrary port on our machine)

### Question 7:

We can see that the DNS query has been sent to 192.168.0.1, this corresponds our default local DNS server (refer to picture in Q12).

### Question 8:

There are two query messages that have been sent. Also we received two corresponding query responses. One of the queries is of 'type A' whereas the other message is of 'type AAAA' (also called : Quad A). On expanding the DNS query, we can see that there is no field or super-field named 'Answers'. Hence, as expected, the DNS query message has no answers present in it. Instead we find the super-field named 'Queries' here.

### Question 9:

We know that there are two queries (A: IPv4, AAAA: IPv6). Correspondingly there are two query responses obtained.

#### Type A Query reponse:

In this response there are 3 answers given.

Answer 1: This is a type CNAME record. This corresponds to the canonical name of the url used (www.ietf.org) which is: www.ietf.org.cdn.cloudfare.net. This is needed because the type A records in the following answers will use the canonical alias and thus our browser needs remember this cname.

**Answer 2:** This answer gives the type A record. This has the fields: cname of the url, IPv4 address 1 of the domain. Note that there are two IPv4 addresses for this host and one of them, given in this answer, is: 104.20.1.85

**Answer 3:** This is the second type A record and corresponds to the second IPv4 address of the host queried for. This IP address is: 104.20.0.85

#### Type AAAA (Quad A) Query reponse:

In this response there are 3 answers given.

Answer 1: This is a type CNAME record. This corresponds to the canonical name of the url used (www.ietf.org) which is: www.ietf.org.cdn.cloudfare.net. This is needed because the type AAAA records in the following answers will use the canonical alias and thus our browser needs remember this cname.

**Answer 2:** This answer gives the type AAAA record. This has the fields: cname of the url, IPv6 address 1 of the domain. Note that there are two IPv6 addresses for this host and one of them, given in this answer, is: 2606:4700:10::6814:155

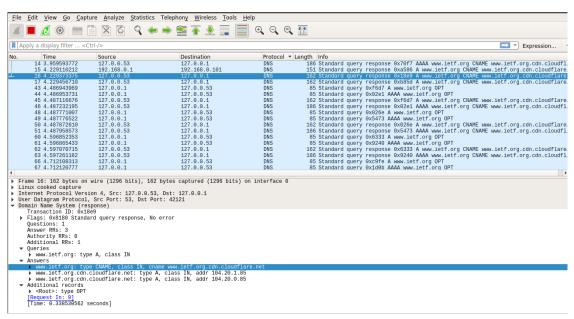
**Answer 3:** This is the second type AAAA record and corresponds to the second IPv6 address of the host queried for. This IP address is: 2606:4700:10::6814:55

### Question 10:

Apply a display filter < Ctrl-/>						
No	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length Info	
	1 0.000000000	10.22.13.250	224.0.0.251	MDNS	86 Standard query 0x3d55 PTR 141.0.168.192.in-addr.arpa,	
	2 0.003359139	10.22.13.250	224.0.0.251	MDNS	86 Standard query 0x3e55 PTR 141.0.168.192.in-addr.arpa,	
	3 1.112469945	192.168.0.101	192.168.0.1	DNS	72 Standard query 0x13ee A www.ietf.org	
	4 1.116192771	192.168.0.101	192.168.0.1	DNS	72 Standard query 0x3061 AAAA www.ietf.org	
	5 1.222028191	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.101	DNS	149 Standard query response 0x13ee A www.ietf.org CNAME ww	
Г	6 1.222586392	192.168.0.101	104.20.0.85	TCP	74 54468 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=29200 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_	
	7 1.224775458	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.101	DNS	173 Standard query response 0x3061 AAAA www.ietf.org CNAME	
	8 1.299638626	104.20.0.85	192.168.0.101	TCP	66 443 → 54468 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=29200 Len=0 MSS	
	9 1.299679566	192.168.0.101	104.20.0.85	TCP	54 54468 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=29312 Len=0	
	10 1.302567039	192.168.0.101	104.20.0.85	TLSv1.3	8 656 Client Hello	
•	Frame 6: 74 bytes on wire (592 bits), 74 bytes captured (592 bits) on interface 0					
•	▶ Ethernet II, Src: HonHaiPr_34:8c:bf (80:56:f2:34:8c:bf), Dst: Tp-LinkT_72:d9:ce (18:a6:f7:72:d9:ce)					
•	Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.0.101, Dst: 104.20.0.85					
•	Transmission Control	l Protocol, Src Port:	54468, Dst Port: 443	3, Seq: 0	, Len: 0	

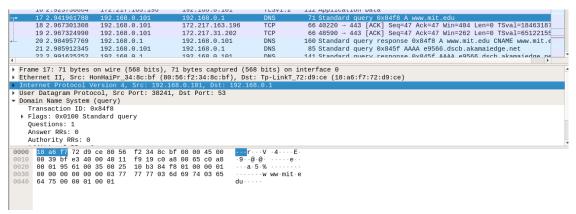
In the figure above, we can see the first SYN message (highlighted) sent by our machine to a host whose IP address is: 104.20.0.85. From the previously seen DNS response messages, we find that this IP address is one of the IPv4 addresses corresponding to the machine hosting the server of itef.org. Hence, as expected, we find a TCP connection SYN message (perhaps as a part of HTTPs protocol) sent from our machine to one of the 'ietf' servers.

# Question 10.1:



When we run the wireshark capture, we could see that there are multiple DNS requests that our host sends. However, except for the first request, all the others are handled by the cached entry within our system. This local DNS cache has the corresponding IP: 127.0.0.53. This can be seen from the wireshark capture named "Q10\_1" as well as the image above.

### Question 11:



From the above figure, we can find that, for DNS query:

**Destination port**: 53 (Standard DNS incoming UDP port)

Source port: 38241 (unassigned)

### Question 12:

In the figure attached in Question 11, we can see that the query message is sent from 192.168.0.101 to 192.168.0.1

IPv4 Address 192.168.0.101

IPv6 Address fe80::893d:a007:1eaf:93e0

Hardware Address 80:56:F2:34:8C:BF

Default Route 192.168.0.1

DNS 192.168.0.1

The source IP corresponds to our machine's private IP assigned. The destination IP **corresponds to the default DNS server** contacted by the system. This can be seen from the network specifications of our system seen in network tools.

# Question 13:

In the packet selected (Figure in Question 11), on observing the body of the message (not visible in the picture, refer: Q11miteduNSLOOKUP2.pcapng)that contains the DNS query message, we can find that the type of the record bein searched for is 'A'. Thus the query is of type 'A' - indicating that it is interested to find the IPv4 address of the domain (mit.edu). Also on further inspection, we find that this query has no super-field called answers. Therefore there are no answers in the query message, as it is expected.

#### Question 14:

- ▼ Queries
  - ▶ www.mit.edu: type A, class IN
- Answers
  - ▶ www.mit.edu: type CNAME, class IN, cname www.mit.edu.edgekey.net
  - www.mit.edu.edgekey.net: type CNAME, class IN, cname e9566.dscb.akan
  - ▶ e9566.dscb.akamaiedge.net: type A, class IN, addr 23.41.68.124

We can find the corresponding query response message by matching the transactionID in the DNS body of the message. Here the ID takes the value : 0x84f8. On inspecting the super-field 'answers' in the response packet, we find that there are three answers present.

#### The answers are:

Answer 1: type CNAME record <mit.edu, mit.edu.edgekey.net>

Answer 2: type CNAME record <mit.edu.edgekey.net, e9566.dscb.akamaiedge.net>
Note that the answers 1,2 are crucial in the process of IP retrieval because
the actual 'type A' record containing the IPv4 address of our interest has the
canonical name of the url and not the original name 'mit.edu'.

Answer 3: type A record <e9566.dscb.akamaiedge.net, 23.41.68.124>

#### Question 15:

Showing the extended screenshot for the same. The highlighted packet is the DNS query response and the packed marked in black corresponds to our DNS query.

```
📕 🗏 🔞 🎯 🗀 🖺 🛣 🚳 | 🤇 🤛 🛸 🖺 🕌 📜 | @, @, @, 🎹
| ip.addr == 192.168.0.101
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  Expression...
            Time
16 2.923730864
                                              Source
172,217,163,196
                                                                                           Destination
192,168,0,101
                                                                                                                                       Protocol Length Info
TLSv1.2 112 Application Data
                                                                                                                                                                niz Application Data
71 Standard query 0x84f8 A www.mit.edu
66 40220 - 443 [ACK] Seq-47 Ack-47 Win-404 Len=0 TSval=18463187
66 48590 - 443 [ACK] Seq-47 Ack-47 Win-262 Len=0 TSval=65122155
           17 2.941961788
                                                                                            192.168.0.1
                                                                                           172.217.163.196
172.217.31.202
            18 2.967301308
19 2.967324990
                                              192.168.0.101
192.168.0.101
                                                                                                                                        TCP
TCP
                                                                                                                                                             160 Standard query response 0x84f8 A www.mit.edu CNAME www.mit.e
85 Standard query 0x845f AAAA e9566.dscb.akamaiedge.net
141 Standard query response 0x845f AAAA e9566.dscb.akamaiedge.ne
74 43130 - 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=29200 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1
            21 2.985912345
22 2.991625252
                                              192.168.0.101
192.168.0.1
192.168.0.101
                                                                                           192.168.0.1
192.168.0.101
            23 3.675255112
                                                                                            35.222.85.5
                                                                                                                                        TCP
                                                                                           216.58.196.163
172 217 31 193
            24 3.868132117
                                              192.168.0.101
                                                                                                                                       TLSv1.2
                                                                                                                                                             112 Application Data
Frame 20: 160 bytes on wire (1280 bits), 160 bytes captured (1280 bits) on interface 0

Ethernet II, Src: Tp-LinkT_72:d9:ce (18:a6:f7:72:d9:ce), Dst: HonHaiPr_34:8c:bf (80:56:f2:34:8c:bf)

Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.0.1, Dst: 192.168.0.101

User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 53, Dst Port: 38241
  User Datagram Protocol, SPC Port: 53, DST Port: 38
Domain Name System (response)

Transaction ID: 0x84f8

F Flags: 0x8180 Standard query response, No error
Questions: 1

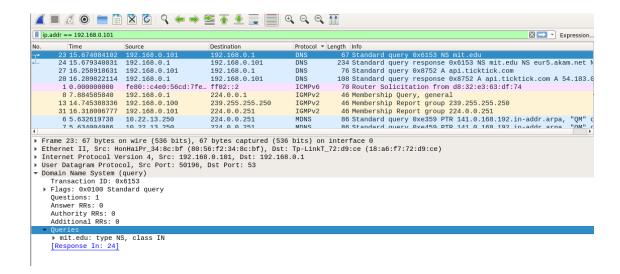
Answer RRs: 3
        Authority RRs: 0
Additional RRs: 0
       Queries
            www.mit.edu: type A, class IN
           nswers www.mit.edu: type CNAME, class IN, cname www.mit.edu.edgekey.net
www.mit.edu.edgekey.net: type CNAME, class IN, cname e9566.dscb.akamaiedge.net
e9566.dscb.akamaiedge.net: type A, class IN, addr 23.41.68.124
         [Request In: 17]
[Time: 0.042995981 seconds]
```

### Question 16:

```
sauron@sauron-HP-ENVY-TS-15-Notebook-PC:~$ nslookup -type=NS mit.edu
Server: 127.0.0.53
Address: 127.0.0.53#53

Non-authoritative answer:
mit.edu nameserver = eur5.akam.net.
mit.edu nameserver = asia1.akam.net.
mit.edu nameserver = usw2.akam.net.
mit.edu nameserver = use5.akam.net.
mit.edu nameserver = ns1-37.akam.net.
mit.edu nameserver = use2.akam.net.
mit.edu nameserver = asia2.akam.net.
mit.edu nameserver = ns1-173.akam.net.
Authoritative answers can be found from:
```

Wireshark capture for the same:

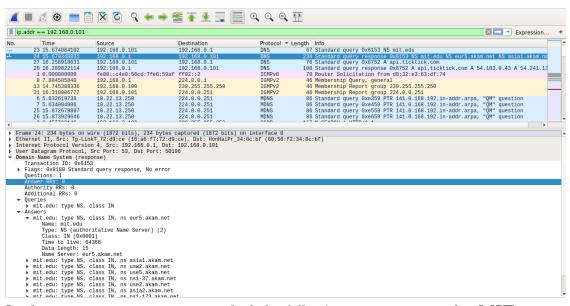


We can see, from the figure above, corresponding to the query packet sent from our machine: 192.168.0.101 to the destination host whose IP is: 192.168.0.1. From the figure in Q12, we can see that this corresponds to the default local DNS server.

### Question 17:

On expanding the packet details in wireshark, we see that the query message is of the 'type NS'. This is the type of query sent when the interest is to know the authoritative DNS servers of the given domain name. On further inspection, we see that there is no super-field named 'answers' in the query message. Hence the query message has no answers, as is expected.

#### Question 18:

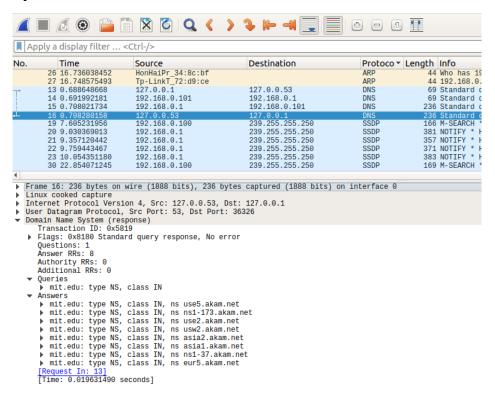


In the response message, we can find the following nameservers for MIT:

- 1) eur5.akam.net
- 2) asia1.akam.net.
- 3) usw2.akam.net.
- 4) use5.akam.net.
- 5) ns1-37.akam.net.
- 6) use2.akam.net.
- 7) asia2.akam.net.
- 8) ns1-173.akam.net.

Also in each answer, we do not find a field corresponding to the IP address of the related nameserver. Therefore, **nslookup with the option**: 'type=NS' does not return any IP addresses. This is because, the NS type records that are being queried for, do not contain the field IP address in them. They only have <domain name, auth-dns server name, ttl> fields.

#### Question 19:



The figure above shows the wireshark capture details for Questions 16 to 18.

# Question 20:

Command used: nslookup eecs.mit.edu use5.akam.net (EEnCS dept. of MIT)

On expanding the packet corresponding to the primary query of our nslookup, we can see that the source address is: 192.168.0.101 whereas the destination address is: 2.16.40.64. From our previous inspection of system network specifications, we can tell that this is not our default DNS server but is infact the **DNS server mentioned in the command**. Infact this is the meaning

of nslookup where we specify the DNS server to be contacted (if this is not mentioned, the query goes to our default server).

It is interesting to see that this IP address is obtained by DNS queries preceding the main query. Thus the **nslookup to a specific server is a two step iterative process** of finding the IP address of DNS server (here : 2.16.40.64) and then querying into that DNS server.

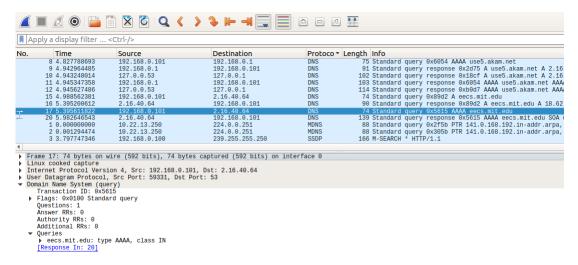
#### Question 21:

After expanding the query packet on wireshark, observing the body of the message that contains the DNS query message, we can find that the type of the record bein searched for is 'A'. Thus the query is of **type 'A'** - indicating that it is interested to find the IPv4 address of the domain (eecs.mit.edu). Also on further inspection, we find that this query has no super-field called answers. Therefore there are no answers in the query message, as it is expected.

#### Question 22:

Expanding the response message shows us that there is only one answer. This is a type A record, matching with our type A query sent previously. On insepection we find that the response IPaddress is: **18.62.1.6.** There is **only one answer** here (this means that the domain name has no aliases).

# Question 23:



This figure corresponds to the wireshark capture for questions 20 to 23.

# Wireshark Capture filenames:

Q5-11 : ietfDNS.pcapng, Q10\_1.pcapng Q11-15 : Q11miteduNSLOOKUP2.pcapng

Q16-19 : Q16\_19.pcapng Q20-23 : Q20\_23.pcapng