Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) is a protocol used to map IP addresses to MAC addresses in a network. It helps when one device wants to communicate with another device in the network.

Working of ARP:

- 1) In a situation where device 1 wants to communicate to device 2, it first checks whether the MAC address of device 2 is present in the ARP cache of device 1.
- 2) If it is present then it directly communicates with device 2 using the MAC address of that device.
- 3) If it is not present then device 1 will broadcast an ARP request message to all the devices in the network. The message will contain device 1's ip address, MAC address and ip address of device 2.
- 4) All devices will check whether their ip address matches with destination address in the broadcast message. If it does not match they will drop it.
- 5) When the packet reaches device 2 it will draft an ARP reply message add its ip and MAC address to the message and send it only to device 1.
- 6) Device 1 will receive the ARP reply message and update its ARP cache accordingly and start communication with device 2.

Experiment Configurations:

- 1) Open GNS3, design and make the connections according to the network in the image.
- 2) Configue the ip addresses of the router, end devices in the network.
- 3) Choose a connection between a switch and an end device.
- 4) Right click the connection and select capture option to open wireshark and capture the traffic flowing through the connection.
- 5) Ping another device in the network from that device.
- 6) Apply ARP filter to see and anlayze ARP messages.

















