

1) Capture and analyze ARP packets using Wireshark. Inspect the ARP request and reply frames when your device attempts to find the router's MAC address.

Discuss the importance of ARP in packet forwarding.

1. Maps IP Addresses to MAC Addresses

- a. Since Ethernet uses **MAC addresses** but IP communication uses **IP addresses**, ARP is necessary for mapping them.

2. Enables Communication in LAN

- a. Before sending an IP packet, the sender must find the **receiver's MAC address** using ARP.

3. Supports Default Gateway (Router) Discovery

- a. When a device wants to communicate outside the LAN, it **first finds the router's MAC address** via ARP.

4. Impacts Network Performance

- a. Excessive ARP requests can cause **network congestion** (e.g., ARP storms).
- b. ARP spoofing can be exploited in **man-in-the-middle attacks**.

ARP Request for Router

The image shows a Wireshark packet capture of an ARP request. The packet list pane at the top shows several ARP packets. The selected packet (No. 4951) is an ARP request from the source IP 192.168.0.107 to the destination IP 192.168.0.1. The packet details pane shows the following information:

- Frame 4951: 60 bytes on wire (480 bits), 60 bytes captured (480 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{51AE2C...}
- Ethernet II, Src: TplinkTechno_d1:02:50 (b0:95:75:d1:02:50), Dst: Intel_d5:b2:db (e0:9d:31:d5:b2:db)
- Destination: Intel_d5:b2:db (e0:9d:31:d5:b2:db)
- Source: TplinkTechno_d1:02:50 (b0:95:75:d1:02:50)
- Type: ARP (0x0806)
- [Stream Index: 0]
- Padding: 00000000000000000000000000000000
- Address Resolution Protocol (request)
 - Hardware type: Ethernet (1)
 - Protocol type: IPv4 (0x0800)
 - Hardware size: 6
 - Protocol size: 4
 - Opcode: request (1)
 - Sender MAC address: TplinkTechno_d1:02:50 (b0:95:75:d1:02:50)
 - Sender IP address: 192.168.0.1
 - Target MAC address: Intel_d5:b2:db (e0:9d:31:d5:b2:db)
 - Target IP address: 192.168.0.107

The packet bytes pane shows the raw data of the ARP request, including the Ethernet II header, the ARP header, and the payload.

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arp

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
4868	176.330162	46:ae:30:77:8a:d5	Broadcast	ARP	42	Who has 192.168.0.103? Tell 192.168.0.105
4875	177.354735	46:ae:30:77:8a:d5	Broadcast	ARP	42	Who has 192.168.0.100? Tell 192.168.0.105
4892	178.276616	46:ae:30:77:8a:d5	Broadcast	ARP	42	Who has 192.168.0.100? Tell 192.168.0.105
4912	179.299759	46:ae:30:77:8a:d5	Broadcast	ARP	42	Who has 192.168.0.100? Tell 192.168.0.105
4945	180.806921	Intel_d5:b2:db	TpLinkTechno_d1:02:50	ARP	60	Who has 192.168.0.1? Tell 192.168.0.120
4946	180.808405	TpLinkTechno_d1:02:50	Intel_d5:b2:db	ARP	42	192.168.0.1 is at b0:95:75:d1:02:50
4947	180.881290	TpLinkTechno_d1:02:50	Intel_d5:b2:db	ARP	60	Who has 192.168.0.120? Tell 192.168.0.1
4948	180.882155	Intel_d5:b2:db	TpLinkTechno_d1:02:50	ARP	60	192.168.0.120 is at e0:9d:31:d5:b2:db
4951	181.021262	TpLinkTechno_d1:02:50	Intel_d5:b2:db	ARP	60	Who has 192.168.0.107? Tell 192.168.0.1
4952	181.021308	Intel_d5:b2:db	TpLinkTechno_d1:02:50	ARP	42	192.168.0.107 is at e0:9d:31:d5:b2:db

Frame 4952: 42 bytes on wire (336 bits), 42 bytes captured (336 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{51AE2CA5-0000-0000-0000-000000000000} on 0000 b0 95 75 d1 02 50 e0 9d 31 d5 b2 db 08 06 00 01 ...u..P...1.....

Ethernet II, Src: Intel_d5:b2:db (e0:9d:31:d5:b2:db), Dst: TpLinkTechno_d1:02:50 (b0:95:75:d1:02:50) 0010 08 00 06 04 00 02 e0 9d 31 d5 b2 db c0 a8 00 6b1.....k

Destination: TpLinkTechno_d1:02:50 (b0:95:75:d1:02:50) 0020 b0 95 75 d1 02 50 c0 a8 00 01 ...u..P... ..

Source: Intel_d5:b2:db (e0:9d:31:d5:b2:db)

Type: ARP (0x8806)

[Stream index: 0]

Address Resolution Protocol (reply)

Hardware type: Ethernet (1)

Protocol type: IPv4 (0x0800)

Hardware size: 6

Protocol size: 4

Opcode: reply (2)

Sender MAC address: Intel_d5:b2:db (e0:9d:31:d5:b2:db)

Sender IP address: 192.168.0.107

Target MAC address: TpLinkTechno_d1:02:50 (b0:95:75:d1:02:50)

Target IP address: 192.168.0.1