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Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico

Department of Electrical Engineering

Hato Rey

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Computer Networks Laboratory

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Schmidt Montilla, Coral S., Student ID: 148830

Professor: Juan Tovar

Table of Contents

[Introduction 3](#_Toc184288727)

[Method 4](#_Toc184288728)

[Final look: 4](#_Toc184288729)

[Lab Results 5](#_Toc184288730)

[Conclusion 6](#_Toc184288731)

[References 7](#_Toc184288732)

# Introduction

In this report, I will showcase the process and results of configuring a simple Ethernet network using Cisco Packet Tracer. The goal was to create a network with three PCs and a switch, configure their IP settings, and observe the behavior of ARP and ICMP traffic. Although some challenges arose during the setup, with the help of external resources, including a YouTube tutorial, I successfully completed the activity. This exercise provided valuable hands-on experience with network simulation tools and protocols.

# Method

To complete the activity, I followed a step-by-step approach in Cisco Packet Tracer to set up the network. First, three PCs and a 2960 switch were added to the workspace, and straight-through cables were used to connect the devices. The correct ports on the switch were assigned to ensure proper connectivity. Each PC was configured with a static IP address and subnet mask to establish a functional network.

Next, I used the simulation mode to generate and observe network traffic. An ICMP ping was initiated from PC-A to PC-C to monitor the flow of data. By analyzing the ARP and ICMP packets, I was able to understand how devices communicate at the network and data link layers. Throughout the process, I utilized the command-line interface and desktop tools on the PCs to verify configurations and inspect ARP tables. External tutorials played a crucial role in clarifying steps and addressing technical challenges.

## Final look:

A computer network diagram with a couple of computers

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# Lab Results

A screenshot of a computer

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A screenshot of a computer screen

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# Conclusion

This activity demonstrated the foundational concepts of setting up and troubleshooting a simple Ethernet network. The process highlighted the importance of accurate configuration and validation in networking. Despite initial challenges, the task reinforced the value of persistence and using available resources to overcome obstacles. Successfully completing the activity provided a better understanding of network protocols, device communication, and the functionality of Cisco Packet Tracer as a learning tool.

# References

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