



Department of Information and Communication Technology
Network Programming

C Program to resolve domain names

Prepared by: NGUYEN Viet Hung - BI11-103

Instructor: TRAN Giang Son

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Abstract

This document specifies a method and procedures to implement a DNS resolver program in C language. Specifically, two functions C functions `gethostbyname()` and `inet_ntop()` are used to resolve domain name to IP addresses and present the result.

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1 Deploy practical work to VPS:

1.1 Access to server through sftp using ssh-key:

- Domain name comes from user input:

```
viethung@viethung-thinkpad:~$ sftp -i .ssh/keyggcloud  
hungnv_bi11_103_st_usth_edu_vn@35.222.105.161
```

- Output:

```
viethung@viethung-thinkpad:~$ sftp -i .ssh/keyggcloud  
hungnv_bi11_103_st_usth_edu_vn@35.222.105.161  
Connected to 35.222.105.161.  
sftp>
```

- Put practical work to server:

```
viethung@viethung-thinkpad:~$ sftp -i .ssh/keyggcloud  
hungnv_bi11_103_st_usth_edu_vn@35.222.105.161  
Connected to 35.222.105.161.  
sftp> lcd ~/Desktop/B2NetwokPro/netprog2022  
sftp> put prac2.c  
Uploading prac2.c to /home/hungnv_bi11_103_st_usth_edu_vn/prac2.c  
prac2.c                                100% 601      2.7KB/s   00:00  
sftp>
```

- Output:

```
hungnv_bi11_103_st_usth_edu_vn@instance-1:~$ ls  
prac2.c
```

2 Run practical work on server and own PC:

2.1 Run practical work on server:

```
hungnv_bi11_103_st_usth_edu_vn@instance-1:~$ ls  
a.out  prac2.c  
hungnv_bi11_103_st_usth_edu_vn@instance-1:~$ ./a.out usth.edu.vn  
usth.edu.vn IPv4: 119.17.215.232
```

2.2 Run practical work on own computer:

```
viethung@viethung-thinkpad:~/Desktop/B2NetwokPro/netprog2022$ ./a.out usth.edu.vn
usth.edu.vn IPv4: 119.17.215.232
```

3 Comapre result:

The output result is the same on both cases:119.17.215.232 for domain usth.edu.vn

4 Explain:

4.1 Structure:

Structure ****struct in_addr****: Converts from struct form to string of dots-and-numbers form and vice-versa such as IP addr in cmd

4.2 Function gethostbyname():

Function ****gethostbyname()****: This ****DNS**** function belongs to ****hostent**** structure and that retrieves host information corresponding to a host name from database such as DNS. If the host name is invalid or not found, exit with error message:

```
if (host_info == NULL) {
    perror("gethostbyname");
    exit(1);
}
```

To use `gethostbyname()`, we must include these library:

```
#include <netdb.h>
#include <sys/socket.h>
```

4.3 Function inet_ntoa():

Function ****inet_ntoa()****: This function belongs to ****in_addr**** structure. ****"inet_ntoa()**** converts a network address in ****in_addr**** to dots-and-numbers string such as: IPv4: 10.20.10.255. It returns non-zero if the address or domain is valid and returns zero if invalid one.

To use ****inet_ntoa()****, we must include these library:

```
#include <sys/socket.h>
#include <netinet/in.h>
#include <arpa/inet.h>
```

4.4 Trace all IP for a domain:

To list all the IP addr of a domain, we have to use loop to examine all the address v

```
for (int i = 0; host_info->h_addr_list[i] != NULL; i++) {  
    address = (struct in_addr *)(host_info->h_addr_list[i]);  
    printf("%s IPv4: %s\n", input, inet_ntoa(*address));  
}
```