

# HW5 DHCP

**HW rules:**

**(Please take a screenshot to show your moodle and wireshark then highlight the answer or you will get no score.)**

**Note: Handing late will lead to a perceptibly lower score.**

**\*Discussion is encouraged, but DO NOT share your homework to your classmate. If plagiarism is found, both students will get 0 score in this assignment.**

Example Question: Is your browser running HTTP version 1.0, 1.1, or 2? What version of HTTP is the server running?

Example ANS:

The screenshot displays two windows side-by-side. The left window shows the Moodle course page for '1102 電腦網路概論 (INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER NETWORKS)'. The right window shows the Wireshark network traffic capture. The Wireshark interface highlights an HTTP 1.1 GET request from the browser to the server. The packet list shows the request details, including the Host, User-Agent, and Accept headers. The packet details pane shows the HTTP request structure, including the method (GET), URI, and version (1.1). The packet bytes pane shows the raw data of the request.

## HW5 DHCP:

### Description:

#### Gathering a Packet Trace

The first two steps in the DHCP protocol in Figure 4.24 (using the Discover and Offer messages) are optional (in the sense that they need not always be used when, for example, a new IP address is needed, or an existing DHCP address is to be renewed); the Request and ACK messages are not. In order to collect a trace that will contain all four DHCP message types, we'll need to take a few command line actions on a Mac, Linux or PC.

On a Mac:

1. In a terminal window/shell enter the following command:

```
% sudo ipconfig set en0 none
```

Where en0 (in this example) is the interface on which you want to capture packets using Wireshark. You can easily find the list of interface names in Wireshark by choosing Capture->options. This command will de-configure network interface en0.

2. Start up Wireshark, capturing packets on the interface you de-configured in Step 1.
3. In the terminal window/shell enter the following command:

```
% sudo ipconfig set en0 dhcp
```

This will cause the DHCP protocol to request and receive an IP address and other information from the DHCP server.

4. After waiting for a few seconds, stop Wireshark capture.

On a Linux machine:

1. In a terminal window/shell, enter the following commands:

```
sudo ip addr flush en0
```

```
sudo dhclient -r
```

where en0 (in this example) is the interface on which you want to capture packets using Wireshark. You can easily find the list of interface names in Wireshark by choosing Capture -> Options. This command will remove the existing IP address of the interface, and release any existing DHCP address leases.

2. Start up Wireshark, capturing packets in the interface you de-configured in Step 1.

3. In the terminal window/shell, enter the following command:

```
sudo dhclient en0
```

where, as with above, en0 is the interface on which you are currently capturing packets. This will cause the DHCP protocol to request and receive an IP address and other information from the DHCP server.

4. After waiting for a few seconds, stop Wireshark capture.

On a PC:

1. In a command-line window enter the following command:

```
> ipconfig /release
```

This command will cause your PC to give up its IP address.

2. Start up Wireshark.

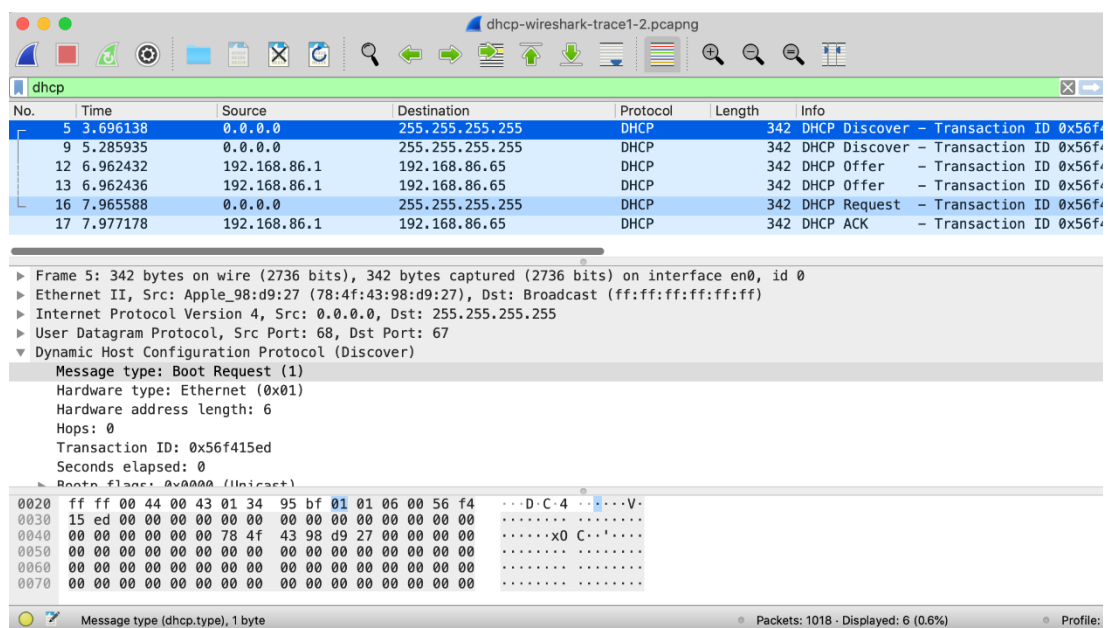
3. In the command-line window enter the following command:

```
> ipconfig /renew
```

This will cause the DHCP protocol to request and receive an IP address and other information from a DHCP server.

4. After waiting for a few seconds, stop Wireshark capture.

After stopping Wireshark capture in step 4, you should take a peek in your Wireshark window to make sure you've actually captured the packets that we're looking for. If you enter "dhcp" into the display filter field (as shown in the light green field in the top left of Figure 1), your screen (on a Mac) should look similar to Figure 1.



**Figure 1:** Wireshark display, showing the capture of DHCP Discover, Offer, Request and ACK messages

## **DHCP Questions:**

Let's start by looking at the DHCP Discover message. Locate the IP datagram containing the first Discover message in your trace.

Question 1: Is this DHCP Discover message sent out using UDP or TCP as the underlying transport protocol? **(10%)**

Question 2: What is the source IP address used in the IP datagram containing the Discover message? **(10%)**

Question 3: What is the destination IP address used in the datagram containing the Discover message? **(10%)**

Now let's look at the DHCP Offer message. Locate the IP datagram containing the DHCP Offer message in your trace that was sent by a DHCP server in the response to the DHCP Discover message that you studied in questions 1-3 above.

Question 4: How do you know that this Offer message is being sent in response to the DHCP Discover message you studied in questions 1-3 above? **(20%)**

It would appear that once the DHCP Offer message is received, that the client may have all of the information it needs to proceed. However, the client may have received OFFERS from multiple DHCP servers and so a second phase is needed, with two more mandatory messages – the client-to-server DHCP Request message, and the server-to-client DHCP ACK message is needed. But at least the client knows there is at least one DHCP server out there! Let's take a look at the DHCP Request message, remembering that although we've already seen a Discover message in our trace, that is not always the case when a DHCP request message is sent.

Locate the IP datagram containing the first DHCP Request message in your trace, and answer the following questions.

Question 5: What is the UDP source port number in the IP datagram containing the first DHCP Request message in your trace? What is the UDP destination port number being used? **(20%)**

Question 6: What is the value in the transaction ID field of this DHCP Request message? Does it match the transaction IDs of the earlier Discover and Offer messages? **(10%)**

Locate the IP datagram containing the first DHCP ACK message in your trace, and answer the following questions.

Question 7: What is the name of the field in the DHCP ACK message (as indicated in the Wireshark window) that contains the assigned client IP address? **(10%)**

Question 8: For how long a time (the so-called “lease time”) has the DHCP server assigned this IP address to the client? **(10%)**