CSc 361: Computer Communications and Networks (Spring 2016)

Assignment 3: Analysis of IP Protocol

Spec Out: March 1, 2016
Due: 3:30 pm March 25, 2016

1 Goal

The purpose of this assignment is to learn about the IP protocol. You are required to write a C program with the pcap library to analyze a trace of IP datagrams.

2 Introduction

In this assignment, we will investigate the IP protocol, focusing on the IP datagram. Well do so by analyzing a trace of IP datagrams sent and received by an execution of the *traceroute* program. Well investigate the various fields in the IP datagram, and study IP fragmentation in detail.

A background of the *traceroute* program is summarized as follows. The *traceroute* program operates by first sending one or more datagrams with the time-to-live (TTL) field in the IP header set to 1; it then sends a series of one or more datagrams towards the same destination with a TTL value of 2; it then sends a series of datagrams towards the same destination with a TTL value of 3; and so on. Recall that a router must decrement the TTL in each received datagram by 1 (actually, RFC 791 says that the router must decrement the TTL by at least one). If the TTL reaches 0, the router returns an ICMP message (type 11 TTL-exceeded) to the sending host. As a result of this behavior, a datagram with a TTL of 1 (sent by the host executing traceroute) will cause the router one hop away from the sender to send an ICMP TTL-exceeded message back to the sender; the datagram sent with a TTL of 2 will cause the router two hops away to send an ICMP message back to the sender; the datagram sent with a TTL of 3 will cause the router three hops away to send an ICMP message back to the sender; and so on. In this manner, the host executing *traceroute* can learn the identities of the routers between itself and a chosen destination by looking at the source IP addresses in the datagrams containing the ICMP TTL-exceeded messages. You will be provided with a trace file created by *traceroute*.

Of course, you can create a trace file by yourself. Note that when you create the trace file, you need to use different datagram sizes (e.g., 2500 bytes) so that the captured trace file includes information on fragmentation.

3 Requirement

You are required to write a C program with the pcap library to analyze the trace of IP datagrams by an execution of *traceroute*. To make terminologies consistent, in this assignment we call the

source node as the computer that executes *traceroute*. The *ultimate destination node* refers to the host that is the ultimate destination defined when running *traceroute*. For example, the ultimate destination node is "mit.edu" when you run

```
%traceroute mit.edu 2000
```

In addition, an *intermediate destination node* refers to the router that is not the ultimate destination node but sends back a ICMP message to the source node.

Your program needs to output the following information:

- List the IP address of the source node, the IP address of ultimate destination node, the IP address(es) of the intermediate destination node(s). If multiple the intermediate destination nodes exist, they should be ordered by their hop count to the source node in the increasing order.
- Check the IP header of all datagrams in the trace file, and list the set of values in the *protocol* field of the IP headers. Note that only different values should be listed in a set.
- How many fragments were created from the original datagram? Note that 0 means no fragmentation. Print out the offset (in terms of bytes) of the last fragment of the fragmented IP datagram. Note that if the datagram is not fragmented, the offset is 0.
- Calculate the average and standard deviation of round trip time(s) between the source node and the intermediate destination node (s) and the average round trip time between the source node and the ultimate destination node. The average and the average and standard deviation are calculated over all fragments sent/received between the source nodes and the (intermediate/ ultimate) destination node. Note that if no fragmentation happened, the standard deviation is 0.

The output format is as follows: (Note that the values do not correspond to any trace file).

```
The IP address of the source node: 192.168.1.12
The IP address of ultimate destination node: 10.216.216.2
The IP addresses of the intermediate destination nodes:
      router 1: 24.218.01.102,
      router 2: 24.221.10.103,
      router 3: 10.215.118.1.

The values in the protocol field of IP headers:
      1: ICMP
      17: UDP


The number of fragments created from the original datagram is: 3
The offset of the last fragment is: 3680

The avg RRT between 192.168.1.12 and 24.218.01.102 is: 50 ms, the s.d. is: 5 ms
The avg RRT between 192.168.1.12 and 24.221.10.103 is: 100 ms, the s.d. is: 6 ms
The avg RRT between 192.168.1.12 and 10.215.118.1 is: 150 ms, the s.d. is: 5 ms
The avg RRT between 192.168.1.12 and 10.216.216.2 is: 200 ms, the s.d. is: 15 ms
```

4 Deliverables and Marking Scheme

For your final submission of your assignment, you are required to submit your source code to connex. You should include a readme file to tell TA how to compile and run your code. At the last lab session that you attend, you need to demo your assignment to TAs. Nevertheless, before the final due date, you can still make changes on your code and submit a change.txt file to connex to describe the changes after your demo.

The marking scheme is as follows:

Components	Weight
Make file	5
The IP address of the source node	5
The IP address of ultimate destination node	5
The IP addresses of the intermediate destination nodes	10
The correct order of the intermediate destination nodes	10
The values in the protocol field of IP headers	10
The number of fragments created from the original datagram	10
The offset of the last fragment	10
The avg RRTs	15
The standard deviations	10
Code style	5
Readme.txt and change.txt(if any)	5
Total Weight	100

5 Plagiarism

This assignment is to be done individually. You are encouraged to discuss the design of your solution with your classmates, but each person must implement their own assignment.

6 Extra Info: Code Quality

We cannot specify completely the coding style that we would like to see but it includes the following:

1. Proper decomposition of a program into subroutines (and multiple source code files when necessary)—A 500 line program as a single routine won't suffice.

2. Comment—judiciously, but not profusely. Comments also serve to help a marker, in addition to yourself. To further elaborate:

   (a) Your favorite quote from Star Wars or Douglas Adams' Hitch-hiker's Guide to the Galaxy does not count as comments. In fact, they simply count as anti-comments, and will result in a loss of marks.

   (b) Comment your code in English. It is the official language of this university.

3. Proper variable names—`leia` is not a good variable name, it never was and never will be.

4. Small number of global variables, if any. Most programs need a very small number of global variables, if any. (If you have a global variable named `temp`, think again.)

5. **The return values from all system calls and function calls listed in the assignment specification should be checked and all values should be dealt with appropriately.**

The End
