

EXP:14

## Write a code using RAW sockets to implement packet sniffing

### Aim

To write a program using **RAW sockets** to implement a basic **packet sniffer** and capture network traffic.

### Algorithm / Procedure

1. **Understand** the concept of raw sockets, which allow access to the data link layer or network layer headers.
2. **Create** a raw socket that can capture all incoming packets on a specified interface.
3. **Implement** a loop to continuously receive packets from the raw socket.
4. **Parse** the captured raw data to extract and display key information from the Ethernet, IP, and TCP/UDP headers (e.g., Source/Destination MAC, Source/Destination IP, Source/Destination Port).
5. **Test** the sniffer by generating traffic (e.g., browsing, pinging) and observing the captured packet details.

### Code

```
import socket
import struct
import textwrap
import time
import sys
import ctypes
```

```
# Windows-only constants
```

```
SIO_RCVALL = 0x98000001
```

```
RCVALL_ON = 1
```

```
RCVALL_OFF = 0
```

```
def mac_addr(bytes_addr):
    return ':'.join('{:02x}'.format(b) for b in bytes_addr)

def ipv4(addr_bytes):
    return '.'.join(map(str, addr_bytes))

def hexdump(src, length=16):
    results = []
    digits = 2
    for i in range(0, len(src), length):
        chunk = src[i:i+length]
        hexa = ' '.join('{b:02x}' for b in chunk)
        text = ''.join((chr(b) if 32 <= b < 127 else '.') for b in chunk)
        results.append(f'{i:04x}  {hexa:<{length*(digits+1)}}  {text}')
    return '\n'.join(results)

def parse_ip_header(data):
    # Unpack first 20 bytes of IP header
    iph = struct.unpack('!BBHHHBBH4s4s', data[:20])
    version_ihl = iph[0]
    version = version_ihl >> 4
    ihl = (version_ihl & 0xF) * 4
    tos = iph[1]
    total_length = iph[2]
    identification = iph[3]
    flags_offset = iph[4]
    ttl = iph[5]
    protocol = iph[6]
```

231501034  
DEVESH D

COMPUTER NETWORKS  
CS23532

```
checksum = iph[7]
src = ipv4(iph[8])
dst = ipv4(iph[9])
return {
    'version': version,
    'ihl': ihl,
    'tos': tos,
    'total_length': total_length,
    'id': identification,
    'flags_offset': flags_offset,
    'ttl': ttl,
    'protocol': protocol,
    'checksum': checksum,
    'src': src,
    'dst': dst,
    'payload': data[ihl:total_length]
}
```

```
def protocol_name(p):
    return {1: 'ICMP', 6: 'TCP', 17: 'UDP'}.get(p, str(p))
```

```
def main(listen_addr='0.0.0.0'):
    print(f'[*] Starting sniffer. Listening on {listen_addr}. Press Ctrl+C to stop.')
    try:
        # Create RAW socket
        s = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_RAW, socket.IPPROTO_IP)
    except PermissionError:
        print('ERROR: Must run as Administrator to create raw socket.')
```

```
sys.exit(1)

# Bind to interface
s.bind((listen_addr, 0))

# Include IP header in captured packets
s.setsockopt(socket.IPPROTO_IP, socket.IP_HDRINCL, 1)

# Enable promiscuous mode (Windows-specific)
# Use ioctl via socket.ioctl
try:
    s.ioctl(SIO_RCVALL, RCVALL_ON)
except Exception as e:
    print('WARNING: Could not enable RCVALL (promiscuous). Error:', e)
    print('You may still receive packets addressed to this host.')

try:
    while True:
        raw_data, addr = s.recvfrom(65535)
        ts = time.strftime('%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S', time.localtime())
        ip = parse_ip_header(raw_data)
        print('='*80)
        print(f'{ts} {ip["src"]} -> {ip["dst"]} Proto={protocol_name(ip["protocol"])}
TTL={ip["ttl"]} Len={ip["total_length"]}')
        # Show first 64 bytes of payload as hex dump
        header_len = ip['ihl']
        print(f'IP Header Len: {header_len} bytes')
        print('--- IP header (first 20 bytes) ---')
```

```
print(hexdump(raw_data[:header_len], length=16))

# Determine protocol and print simple port info for TCP/UDP
if ip['protocol'] == 6 and len(ip['payload']) >= 4: # TCP
    src_port, dst_port = struct.unpack('!HH', ip['payload'][:4])
    print(f'Protocol: TCP SrcPort: {src_port} DstPort: {dst_port}')
elif ip['protocol'] == 17 and len(ip['payload']) >= 4: # UDP
    src_port, dst_port = struct.unpack('!HH', ip['payload'][:4])
    print(f'Protocol: UDP SrcPort: {src_port} DstPort: {dst_port}')
else:
    print(f'Protocol: {protocol_name(ip["protocol"])}')

# Show payload (first 128 bytes)
payload = ip['payload'][:128]
if payload:
    print('--- Payload (first 128 bytes) ---')
    print(hexdump(payload, length=16))
else:
    print('No payload (or payload skipped).')
except KeyboardInterrupt:
    print('\n[*] Stopping sniffer.')
finally:
    # Turn off promiscuous
    try:
        s.ioctl(SIO_RCVALL, RCVALL_OFF)
    except Exception:
        pass
s.close()
```

231501034  
DEVESH D

COMPUTER NETWORKS  
CS23532

```
if __name__ == '__main__':
```

# If you want to listen on a specific local IP, pass it here; default is 0.0.0.0

main0

### Output:

```

PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS
C:\Users\Afrah M\AppData\Local\Programs\Microsoft VS Code\C:\Python313\python.exe "c:/Users/Afrah M/Desktop/cn/sniff-1.py"
[*] Starting sniffer. Listening on 0.0.0.0. Press Ctrl+C to stop.
WARNING: Could not enable RCVALL (packetcapture): Error: [WinError 10022] An invalid argument was supplied
You may still receive packets addressed to this host.
=====
2025-10-21 10:19:15 172.64.155.209 -> 192.168.0.122 Protocol:TCP TTL=57 Len=79
IP Header Len: 20 bytes
--- IP header (first 20 bytes) ---
0000 45 00 00 4f ed 5d 40 00 39 06 4a d7 ac 40 9b d1 E..(..@.9..@..
0010 c0 a8 00 7a ...Z
Protocol: TCP SrcPort: 443 DstPort: 53928
--- Payload (first 128 bytes) ---
0000 01 bb d2 a0 c2 52 20 82 8a c8 0b 5c 50 11 00 13 .....R...kP...
0010 ac 78 90 00 17 03 03 00 22 2f cc 5c 4d 5d 00 f5 ..x...../..V..
0020 7a d7 cd 3e 5e 5f e4 1a d3 ff c3 35 4b 1a e6 dc z..^.....5K...
0030 bb a9 8d af 74 7b 4f 10 1b 0b 9a ....t[O....
=====
2025-10-21 10:19:15 172.64.155.209 -> 192.168.0.122 Protocol:TCP TTL=57 Len=40
IP Header Len: 20 bytes
--- IP header (first 20 bytes) ---
0000 45 00 00 28 ed 9e 40 00 39 06 4a fd ac 40 9b d1 E..(..@.9..@..
0010 c0 a8 00 7a ...Z
Protocol: TCP SrcPort: 443 DstPort: 53928
--- Payload (first 128 bytes) ---
0000 01 bb d2 a0 c2 52 20 a9 8a c8 0b 5c 50 11 00 13 .....R...kP...
0010 f9 0f 00 00 ....
=====
2025-10-21 10:19:15 172.64.155.209 -> 192.168.0.122 Protocol:TCP TTL=57 Len=40
IP Header Len: 20 bytes
--- IP header (first 20 bytes) ---
0000 45 00 00 28 ed 9f 40 00 39 06 4a fc ac 40 9b d1 E..(..@.9..@..
0010 c0 a8 00 7a ...Z
Protocol: TCP SrcPort: 443 DstPort: 53928
--- Payload (first 128 bytes) ---
0000 01 bb d2 a0 c2 52 20 a9 8a c8 0b 5c 50 11 00 13 .....R...kP...
0010 f9 0f 00 00 ....
=====
2025-10-21 10:19:15 172.64.155.209 -> 192.168.0.122 Protocol:TCP TTL=57 Len=79
IP Header Len: 20 bytes
--- IP header (first 20 bytes) ---
0000 45 00 00 4f ed 5d 40 00 39 06 4a d7 ac 40 9b d1 E..(..@.9..@..
0010 c0 a8 00 7a ...Z
Protocol: TCP SrcPort: 443 DstPort: 53928
--- Payload (first 128 bytes) ---
0000 01 bb d2 a0 c2 52 20 82 8a c8 0b 5c 50 11 00 13 .....R...kP...
0010 ac 78 90 00 17 03 03 00 22 2f cc 5c 4d 5d 00 f5 ..x...../..V..
0020 7a d7 cd 3e 5e 5f e4 1a d3 ff c3 35 4b 1a e6 dc z..^.....5K...
0030 bb a9 8d af 74 7b 4f 10 1b 0b 9a ....t[O....
=====

```

## Result

A basic packet sniffer was successfully implemented using raw sockets. The program demonstrated the ability to capture and parse raw network packets, extracting header information from different protocol layers.