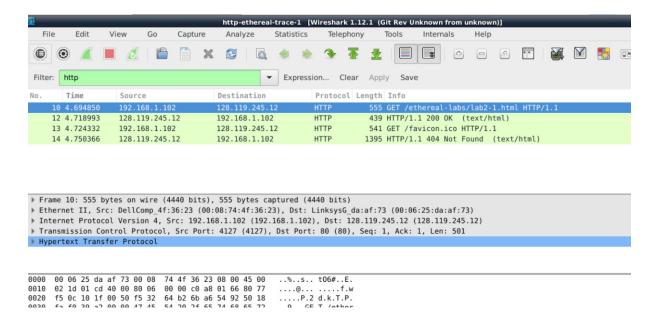
Exercise 3

By looking at the information in the HTTP GET and response messages (the first two messages), answer the following questions:

Question 1: What is the status code and phrase returned from the server to the client browser?

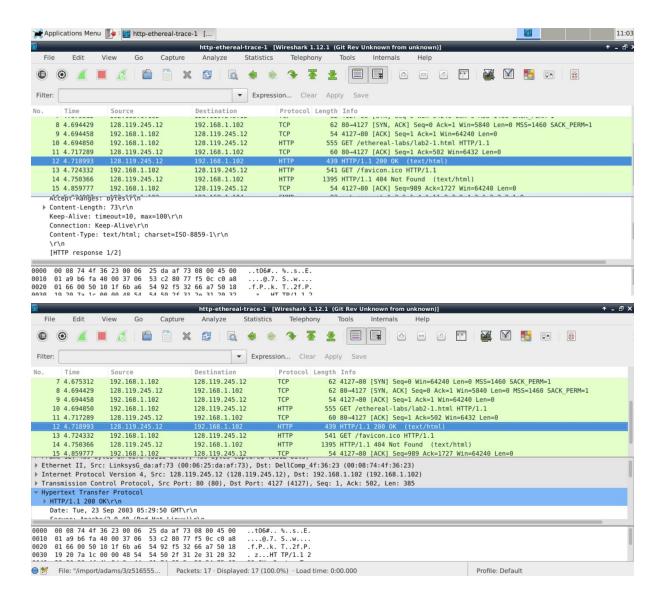
Status code and phrase returned from server to browser in response message: 200 OK



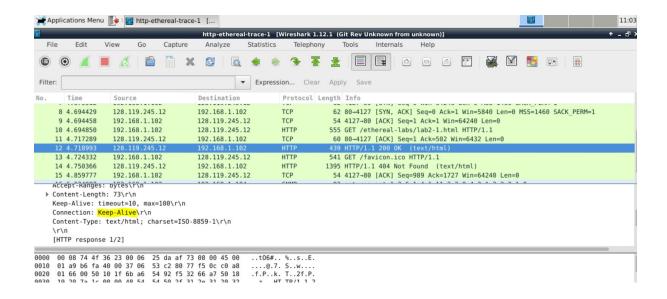
Question 2: When was the HTML file that the browser is retrieving last modified at the server? Does the response also contain a DATE header? How are these two fields different?

Last modified Tuesday 23 Sep 2003, 05:29:00 GMT. The response also contains a DATE header which is 23 Sep 2003, 05:29:50 GMT. These two fields refer to different things - the last modified field refers to the date and time which the object being sent from the server to the browser was last modified, whereas the date refers to the date the message was sent. In this case the object was sent from the server to the browser 50 seconds after it was updated.

Question 3: Is the connection established between the browser and the server persistent or nonpersistent? How can you infer this?

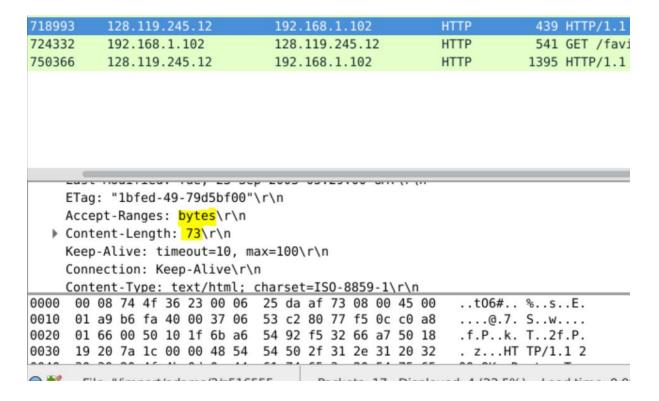


The connection is persistent (i.e. only one TCP connection is required for multiple HTTP messages to be sent between a client/server pair). This can be inferred as the "Connection" type is specified as "Keep-Alive" in the GET/POST requests, which keeps the TCP connection open.



Question 4: How many bytes of content are being returned to the browser?

73 bytes of content are being returned to the browser in the first HTTP response packet (size of lab2-1.html along with the text belong in Q5).



Question 5: What is the data contained inside the HTTP response packet?

The data contained inside the HTTP response packet is lab2-1.html along with the html text "Congratulations. You've downloaded the file lab2-1.html!"

Exercise 4

Question 1: Inspect the contents of the first HTTP GET request from the browser to the server. Do you see an "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE" line in the HTTP GET?

There is not an "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE" line in the first HTTP GET request but there is one in the second GET request from the browser.

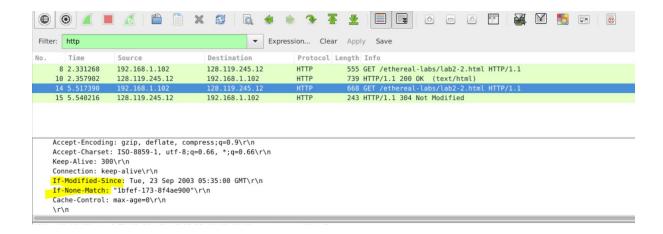
Question 2: Does the response indicate the last time that the requested file was modified?

Yes, the response indicates the requested file was last modified Tues 23 Sep 2003 05:35:00 GMT.

8 2.331268	192.168.1.102	128.119.245.12	HTTP	555 GET /ethereal-labs/lab2-2.html HTTP/1.1
			100000000	THE PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF TH
10 2.357902	128.119.245.12	192.168.1.102	HTTP	739 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
14 5.517390	192.168.1.102	128.119.245.12	HTTP	668 GET /ethereal-labs/lab2-2.html HTTP/1.1
15 5.540216	128.119.245.12	192.168.1.102	HTTP	243 HTTP/1.1 304 Not Modified
Internet Frotoco	. version +, src. 120	J.11J.27J.12 (120.11J.2	.TJ.16/, DJC.	132.100.1.102 \132.100.1.102;
Transmission Con	trol Protocol, Src Po			, Seq: 1, Ack: 502, Len: 685
	trol Protocol, Src Po			
Transmission Con	trol Protocol, Src Po er Protocol			
Transmission Con Hypertext Transfo HTTP/1.1 200 0	trol Protocol, Src Po er Protocol	ort: 80 (80), Dst Port:		
Transmission Con Hypertext Transfo ▶ HTTP/1.1 200 0 Date: Tue, 23	trol Protocol, Src Po er Protocol K\r\n	ort: 80 (80), Dst Port:		
Transmission Con Hypertext Transfo ▶ HTTP/1.1 200 0 Date: Tue, 23 Server: Apache	trol Protocol, Src Po er Protocol K\r\n Sep 2003 05:35:50 GM /2.0.40 (Red Hat Lin	ort: 80 (80), Dst Port: T\r\n ux)\r\n		
Transmission Con Hypertext Transf HTTP/1.1 200 0 Date: Tue, 23 Server: Apache Last-Modified:	trol Protocol, Src Poer Protocol K\r\n Sep 2003 05:35:50 GM /2.0.40 (Red Hat Lin Tue, 23 Sep 2003 05	ort: 80 (80), Dst Port: T\r\n ux)\r\n		
Transmission Con Hypertext Transf HTTP/1.1 200 0 Date: Tue, 23 Server: Apache Last-Modified:	trol Protocol, Src Poer Protocol KYr\n Sep 2003 05:35:50 GM /2.0.40 (Red Hat Lin Tue, 23 Sep 2003 05 73-8f4ae900"\r\n	ort: 80 (80), Dst Port: T\r\n ux)\r\n		

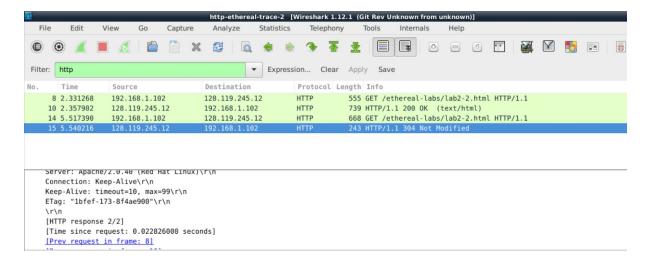
Question 3: Now inspect the contents of the second HTTP GET request from the browser to the server. Do you see an "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE:" and "IF-NONE-MATCH" lines in the HTTP GET? If so, what information is contained in these header lines?

Yes, both lines are visible in the HTTP get. The field for the "If-Modified-Since" contains the date and time the requested file was last modified. The field for the "If-None-Match" line contains an entity tag supplied by the client to the server. The server compares the tag with tags it has for the requested file, returning the requested file to the client only if none of the tags match. This means that the file requested by the client has been modified since the client last requested the file.



Question 4: What is the HTTP status code and phrase returned from the server in response to this second HTTP GET? Did the server explicitly return the contents of the file? Explain.

The HTTP status code and phrase returned from the server in response is 304 Not Modified. This code is returned as the cached copy of the requested file is up-to-date with the server. The requested file is not explicitly returned by the server to the browser. The local copy on the cache is instead returned.



Question 5: What is the value of the Etag field in the 2nd response message and how it is used? Has this value changed since the 1st response message was received?

1st response message has Etag 1bfef-173-8f4ae900. This is identical to the value of the Etag field in the 2nd response message, so the value has not changed since the 1st response message was received. Etags are identifiers used to identify a specific version of a resource. If the resource changes, a new ETag is generated. In this way, the client is able to request resources only on the condition that they have been updated since the user's last visit to the site. As the Etag in the 1st response message and 2nd response message are the same, the server does not return the requested resource as there have been no new modifications to the file and instead, the client can obtain a copy from its local cache.

10 2.357902	128.119.245.12	192.168.1.102	HTTP	739 HTTP,
14 5.517390	192.168.1.102	128.119.245.12	HTTP	668 GET ,
15 5.540216	128.119.245.12	192.168.1.102	HTTP	243 HTTP,

Date: Tue, 23 Sep 2003 05:35:50 GMT\r\n Server: Apache/2.0.40 (Red Hat Linux)\r\n

Last-Modified: Tue, 23 Sep 2003 05:35:00 GMT\r\n

ETag: "1bfef-173-8f4ae900"\r\n

Accept-Ranges: bytes\r\n ▼ Content-Length: 371\r\n [Content length: 371]

Keep-Alive: timeout=10, max=100\r\n

0000 00 08 74 4f 36 23 00 06 25 da af 73 08 00 45 00 ..t06#.. %..s..E. 0010 02 d5 dc 87 40 00 37 06 2d 09 80 77 f5 0c c0 a8@.7. -..w....

243 HTTP/1.1 304 Not Modified

Connection: Keep-Alive\r\n Keep-Alive: timeout=10, $max=99\rn$ ETag: "1bfef-173-8f4ae900"\r\n \r\n

[HTTP response 2/2]

[Time since request: 0.022826000 seconds]

[Prev request in frame: 8] [Prev response in frame: 10]

0000 00 08 74 4f 36 23 00 06 25 da af 73 08 00 45 00 0010 00 e5 dc 88 40 00 37 06 2e f8 80 77 f5 0c c0 a8 0020 01 66 00 50 10 97 81 6a b6 2e fa 88 05 8c 50 18 0030 1f 2e 89 37 00 00 48 54 54 50 2f 31 2e 31 20 33 ..t06#.. %..s..E.@.7. ...w.... .f.P...jP. ...7..HT TP/1.1 3

● 🗹 File: "/import/adams/3/z516555... Packets: 20 · Displayed: 4 (20.0%) · Load time: 0:00.000