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Week number: 3

Name of experiment: Understand working of HTTP Headers

Date: 19-09-2020

Objectives of the experiment: To understand working of HTTP headers, Conditional Get: If-Modified-Since, HTTP Cookies: Cookie and Set-Cookie, Authentication: Auth-Basic

Steps of Execution (for Password Authentication)

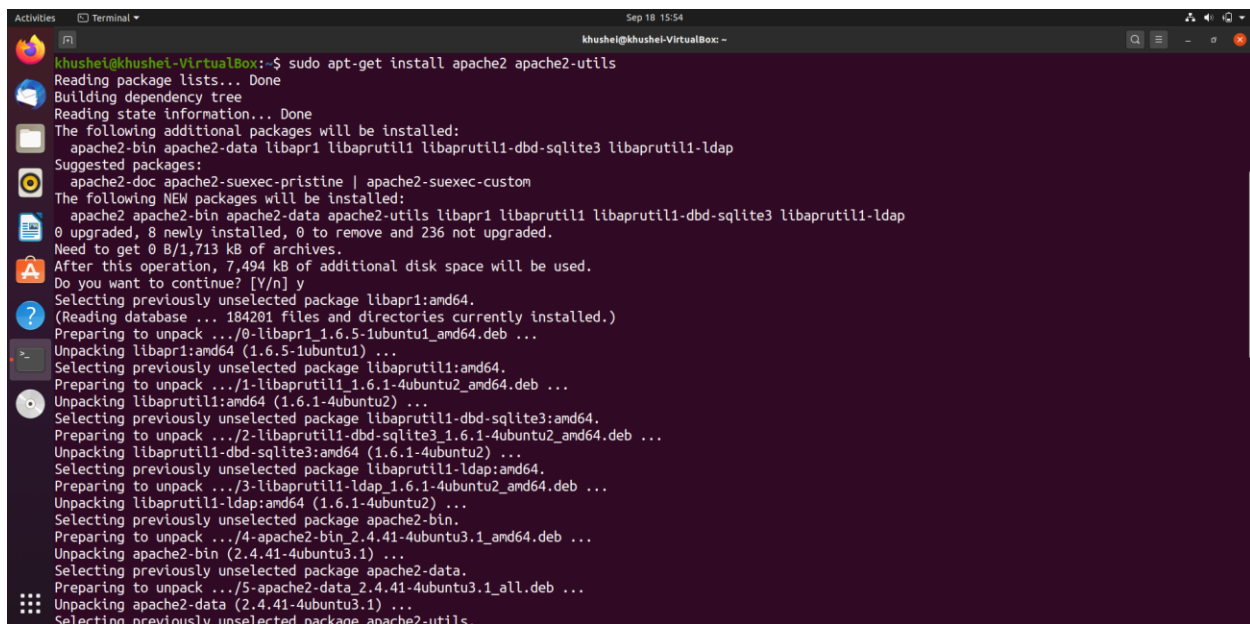
1. Executing the below commands on the terminal.

--> To update and integrate the existing softwares

sudo apt-get update

--> To install the apache utility

sudo apt-get install apache2 apache2-utils

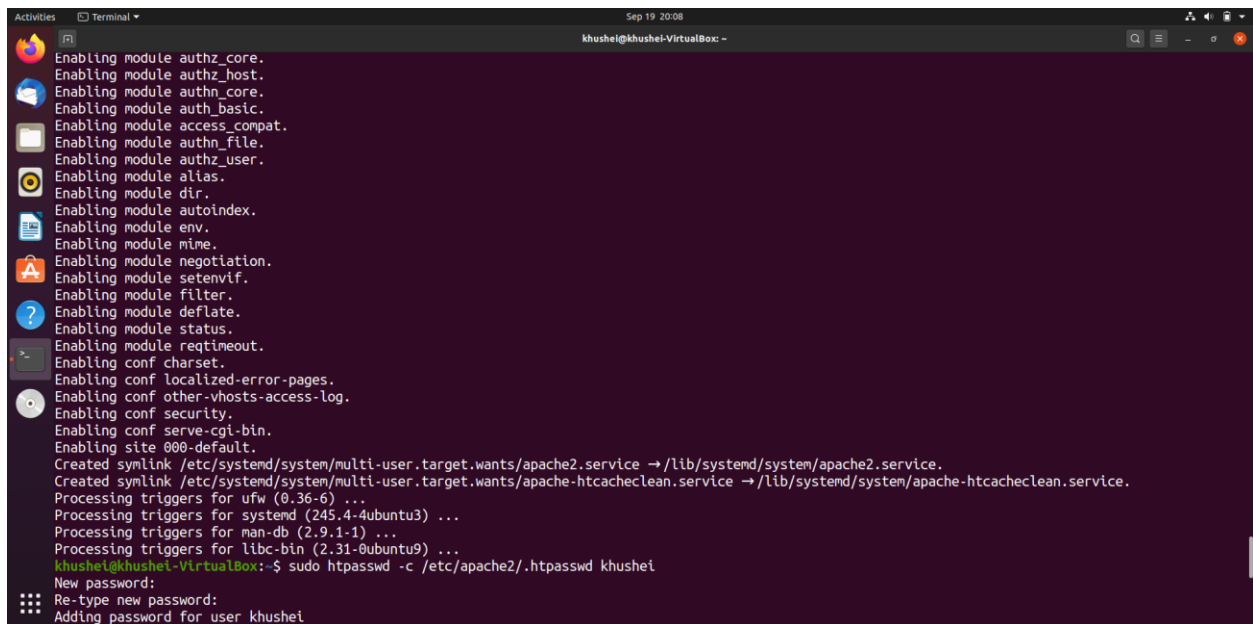
A screenshot of a terminal window titled 'Terminal' with a timestamp of 'Sep 18 15:54'. The user is logged in as 'khushei@khushei-VirtualBox'. The command 'sudo apt-get install apache2 apache2-utils' has been executed. The terminal output shows the process of reading package lists, building a dependency tree, and installing several packages including apache2-bin, apache2-data, libapr1, libaprutil1, libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3, libaprutil1-ldap, and apache2-doc. It also shows the installation of apache2-suexec-pristine and apache2-suexec-custom. The process is completed successfully, and the user is prompted to provide a username and password for authentication.

```
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~$ sudo apt-get install apache2 apache2-utils
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
  apache2-bin apache2-data libapr1 libaprutil1 libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3 libaprutil1-ldap
Suggested packages:
  apache2-doc apache2-suexec-pristine | apache2-suexec-custom
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  apache2 apache2-bin apache2-data apache2-utils libapr1 libaprutil1 libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3 libaprutil1-ldap
0 upgraded, 8 newly installed, 0 to remove and 236 not upgraded.
Need to get 0 B/1,713 kB of archives.
After this operation, 7,494 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] y
Selecting previously unselected package libapr1:amd64.
(Reading database ... 184201 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../0-libapr1_1.6.5-1ubuntu1_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking libapr1:amd64 (1.6.5-1ubuntu1) ...
Selecting previously unselected package libaprutil1:amd64.
Preparing to unpack .../1-libaprutil1_1.6.1-4ubuntu2_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking libaprutil1:amd64 (1.6.1-4ubuntu2) ...
Selecting previously unselected package libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3:amd64.
Preparing to unpack .../2-libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3_1.6.1-4ubuntu2_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3:amd64 (1.6.1-4ubuntu2) ...
Selecting previously unselected package libaprutil1-ldap:amd64.
Preparing to unpack .../3-libaprutil1-ldap_1.6.1-4ubuntu2_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking libaprutil1-ldap:amd64 (1.6.1-4ubuntu2) ...
Selecting previously unselected package apache2-bin.
Preparing to unpack .../4-apache2-bin_2.4.41-4ubuntu3.1_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking apache2-bin (2.4.41-4ubuntu3.1) ...
Selecting previously unselected package apache2-data.
Preparing to unpack .../5-apache2-data_2.4.41-4ubuntu3.1_all.deb ...
Unpacking apache2-data (2.4.41-4ubuntu3.1) ...
Selecting previously unselected package apache2-utils.
```

--> Provide username and password to set authentication

sudo htpasswd -c /etc/apache2/.htpasswd ANY_USERNAME

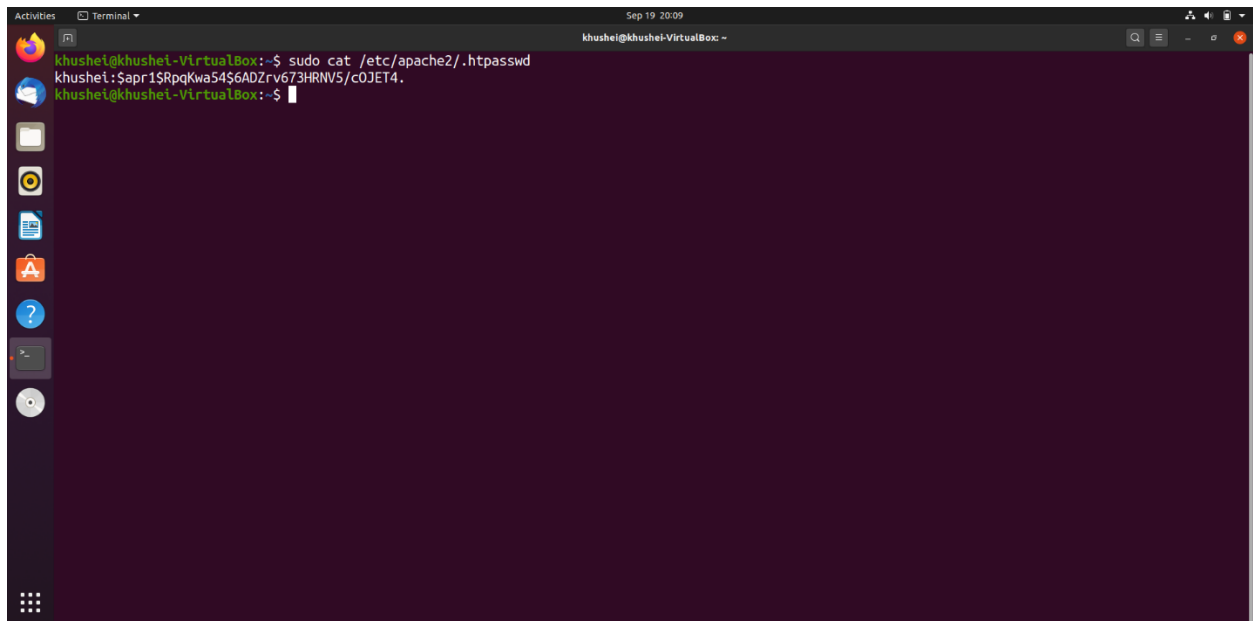
I have given the username as khushei



```
Enabling module authz_core.
Enabling module authz_host.
Enabling module authn_core.
Enabling module auth_basic.
Enabling module access_compat.
Enabling module authn_file.
Enabling module authz_user.
Enabling module alias.
Enabling module dir.
Enabling module autoindex.
Enabling module env.
Enabling module mime.
Enabling module negotiation.
Enabling module setenvif.
Enabling module filter.
Enabling module deflate.
Enabling module status.
Enabling module reqtimeout.
Enabling conf charset.
Enabling conf localized-error-pages.
Enabling conf other-vhosts-access-log.
Enabling conf security.
Enabling conf serve-cgi-bin.
Enabling site 000-default.
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/apache2.service → /lib/systemd/system/apache2.service.
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/apache-htcacheclean.service → /lib/systemd/system/apache-htcacheclean.service.
Processing triggers for ufw (0.36-6) ...
Processing triggers for systemd (245.4-4ubuntu3) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.9.1-1) ...
Processing triggers for libc-bin (2.31-0ubuntu9) ...
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~$ sudo htpasswd -c /etc/apache2/.htpasswd khushei
New password:
Re-type new password:
Adding password for user khushei
```

--> View the authentication

sudo cat /etc/apache2/.htpasswd

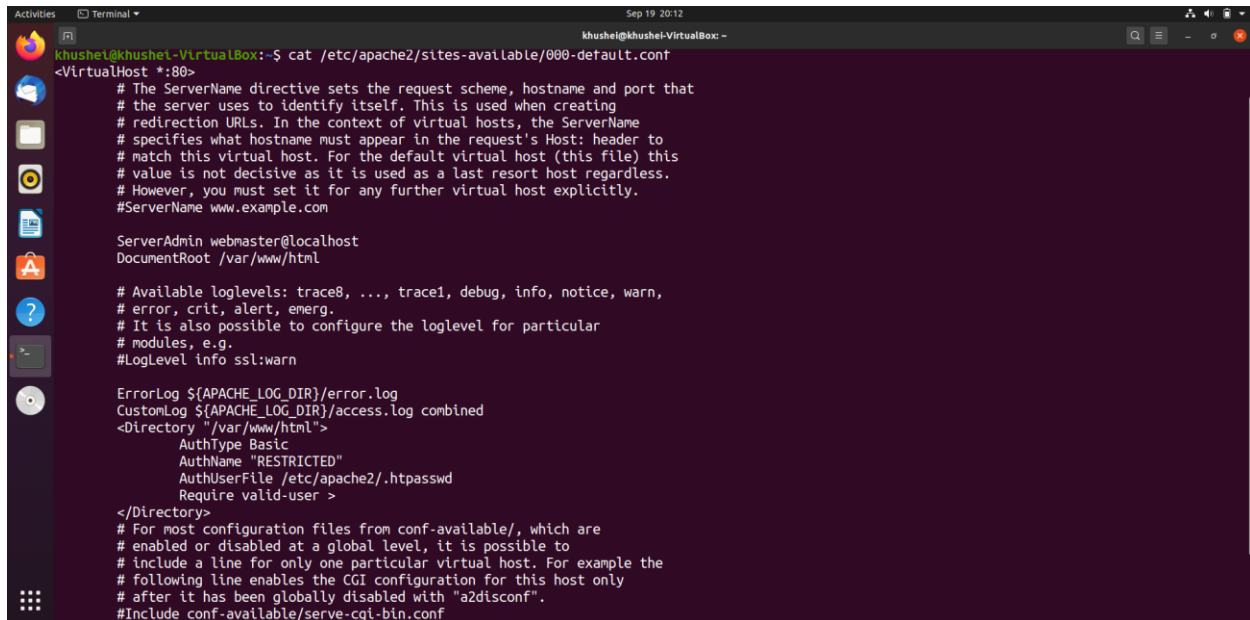


```
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~$ sudo cat /etc/apache2/.htpasswd
khushei:$apr1$RpqKwa54$6ADZrv673HRNV5/c0JET4.
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~$
```

2. To setup the authentication phase, execute the following commands. Configuring Access control within the Virtual Host Definition.

--> Opening the file for setting authentication

sudo nano /etc/apache2/sites-available/000-default.conf

A terminal window titled 'khushel@khushel-VirtualBox' showing the command 'cat /etc/apache2/sites-available/000-default.conf'. The output displays the default Apache configuration for the 000-default site, including directives for ServerName, ServerAdmin, DocumentRoot, LogLevel, ErrorLog, CustomLog, and a BasicAuth configuration for the /var/www/html directory.

```
khushel@khushel-VirtualBox:~$ cat /etc/apache2/sites-available/000-default.conf
<VirtualHost *:80>
    # The ServerName directive sets the request scheme, hostname and port that
    # the server uses to identify itself. This is used when creating
    # redirection URLs. In the context of virtual hosts, the ServerName
    # specifies what hostname must appear in the request's Host: header to
    # match this virtual host. For the default virtual host (this file) this
    # value is not decisive as it is used as a last resort host regardless.
    # However, you must set it for any further virtual host explicitly.
    #ServerName www.example.com

    ServerAdmin webmaster@localhost
    DocumentRoot /var/www/html

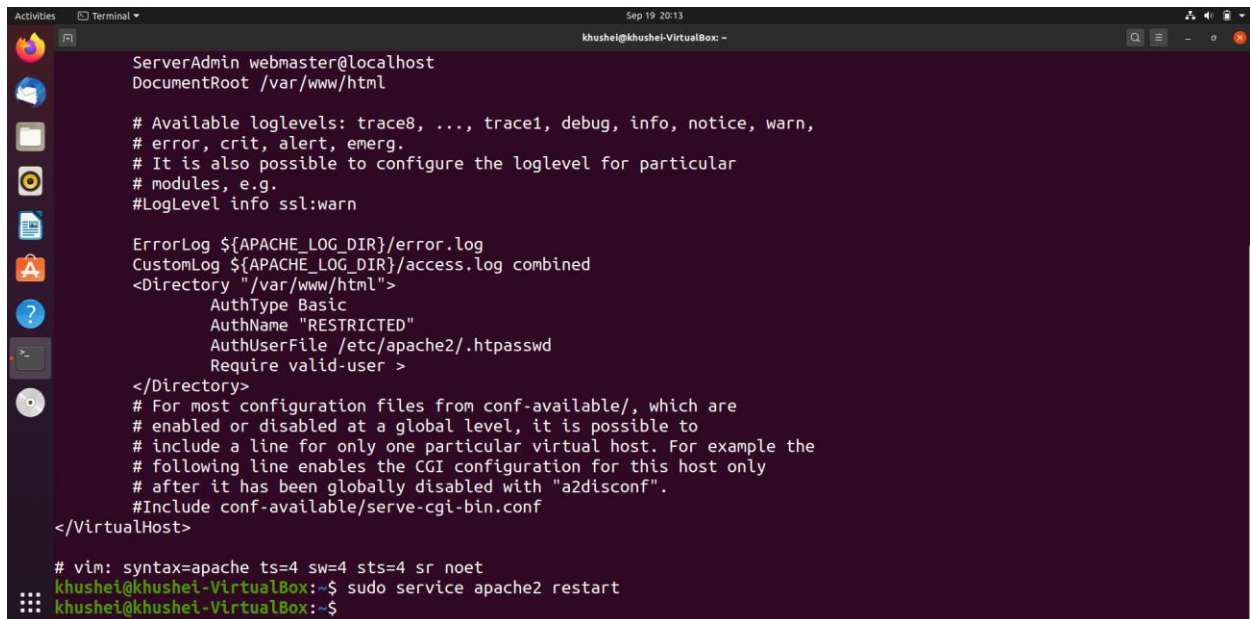
    # Available loglevels: trace8, ..., trace1, debug, info, notice, warn,
    # error, crit, alert, emerg.
    # It is also possible to configure the loglevel for particular
    # modules, e.g.
    #LogLevel info ssl:warn

    ErrorLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/error.log
    CustomLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/access.log combined
    <Directory "/var/www/html">
        AuthType Basic
        AuthName "RESTRICTED"
        AuthUserFile /etc/apache2/.htpasswd
        Require valid-user >
    </Directory>

    # For most configuration files from conf-available/, which are
    # enabled or disabled at a global level, it is possible to
    # include a line for only one particular virtual host. For example the
    # following line enables the CGI configuration for this host only
    # after it has been globally disabled with "a2disconf".
    #Include conf-available/serve-cgi-bin.conf
</VirtualHost>
```

3. Password policy implementation is done by restarting the server as:

sudo service apache2 restart

A terminal window titled 'khushel@khushel-VirtualBox' showing the command 'sudo service apache2 restart'. The output shows the Apache configuration file being reloaded and the service being restarted successfully. The prompt then changes to root, and the user exits the terminal.

```
khushel@khushel-VirtualBox:~$ sudo service apache2 restart
ServerAdmin webmaster@localhost
DocumentRoot /var/www/html

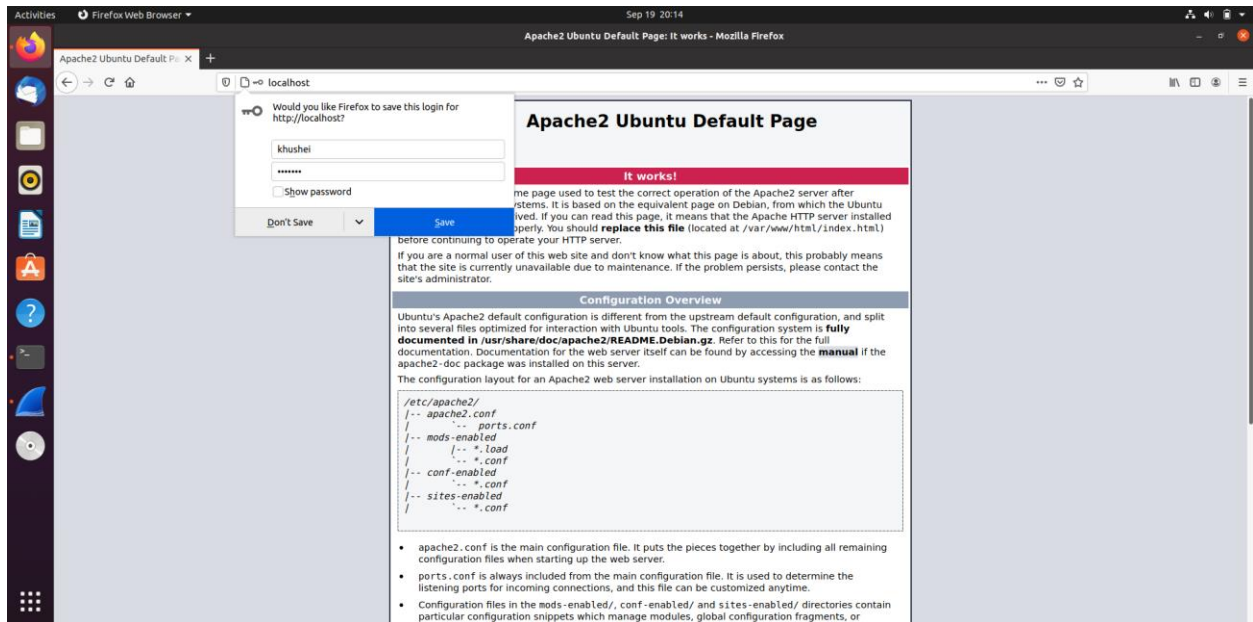
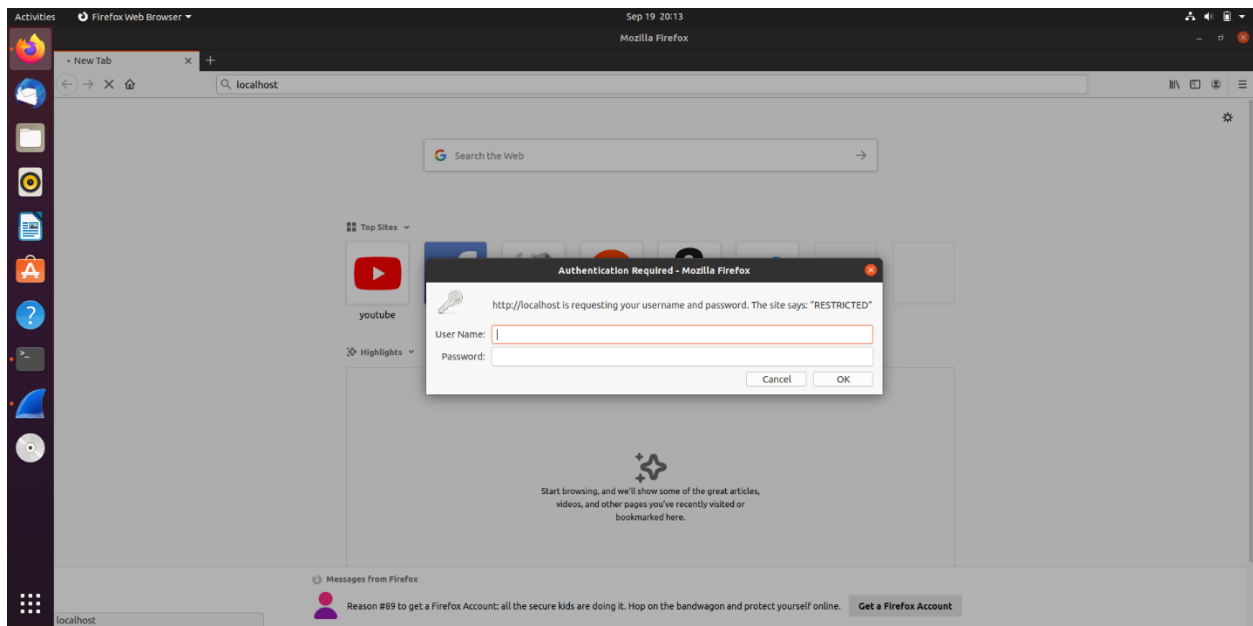
# Available loglevels: trace8, ..., trace1, debug, info, notice, warn,
# error, crit, alert, emerg.
# It is also possible to configure the loglevel for particular
# modules, e.g.
#LogLevel info ssl:warn

ErrorLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/error.log
CustomLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/access.log combined
<Directory "/var/www/html">
    AuthType Basic
    AuthName "RESTRICTED"
    AuthUserFile /etc/apache2/.htpasswd
    Require valid-user >
</Directory>

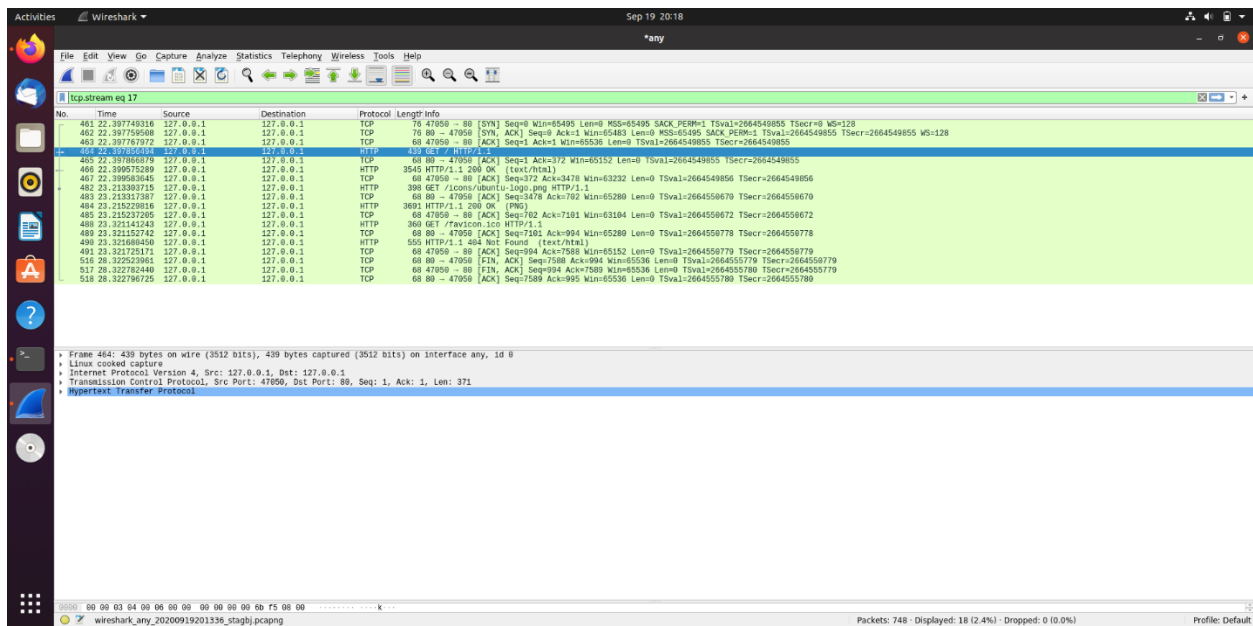
# For most configuration files from conf-available/, which are
# enabled or disabled at a global level, it is possible to
# include a line for only one particular virtual host. For example the
# following line enables the CGI configuration for this host only
# after it has been globally disabled with "a2disconf".
#Include conf-available/serve-cgi-bin.conf
</VirtualHost>

# vim: syntax=apache ts=4 sw=4 sts=4 sr noet
khushel@khushel-VirtualBox:~$ sudo service apache2 restart
khushel@khushel-VirtualBox:~$
```

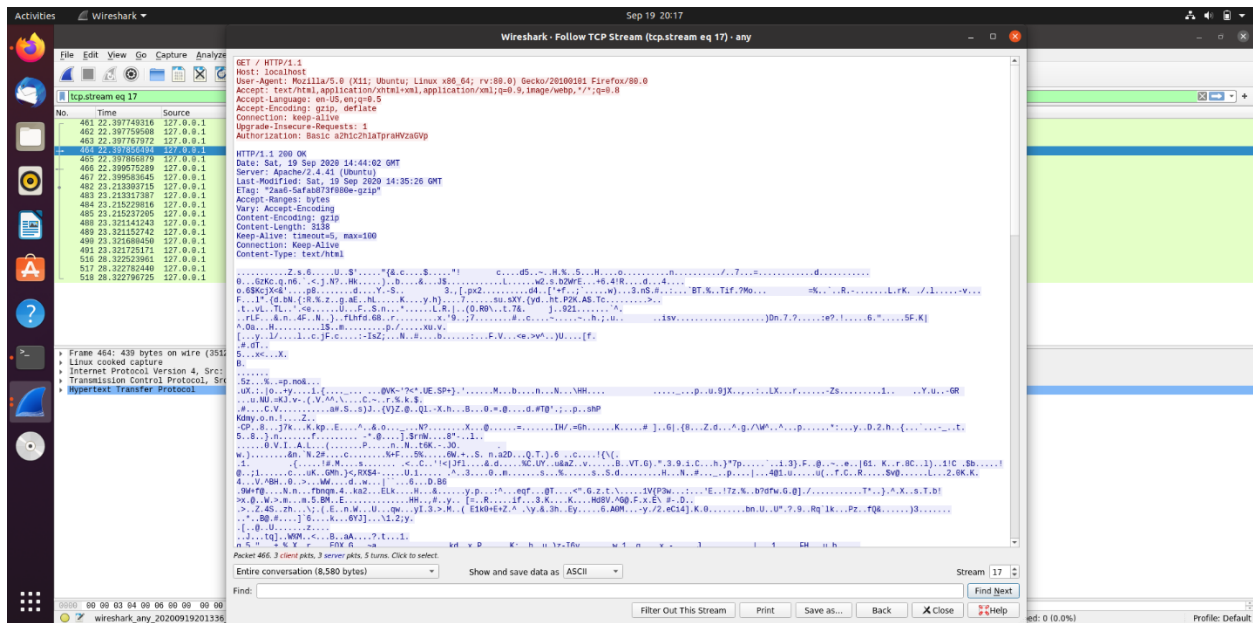
4. The localhost is then accessed using the Firefox browser requiring a username and a password set during the authentication phase.



5. Wireshark is used to capture the packets sent upon the network.



6. Using the “follow TCP stream” on the HTTP message segment the password was retrieved which was encrypted by the base64 algorithm and decryption could be done with same algorithm.



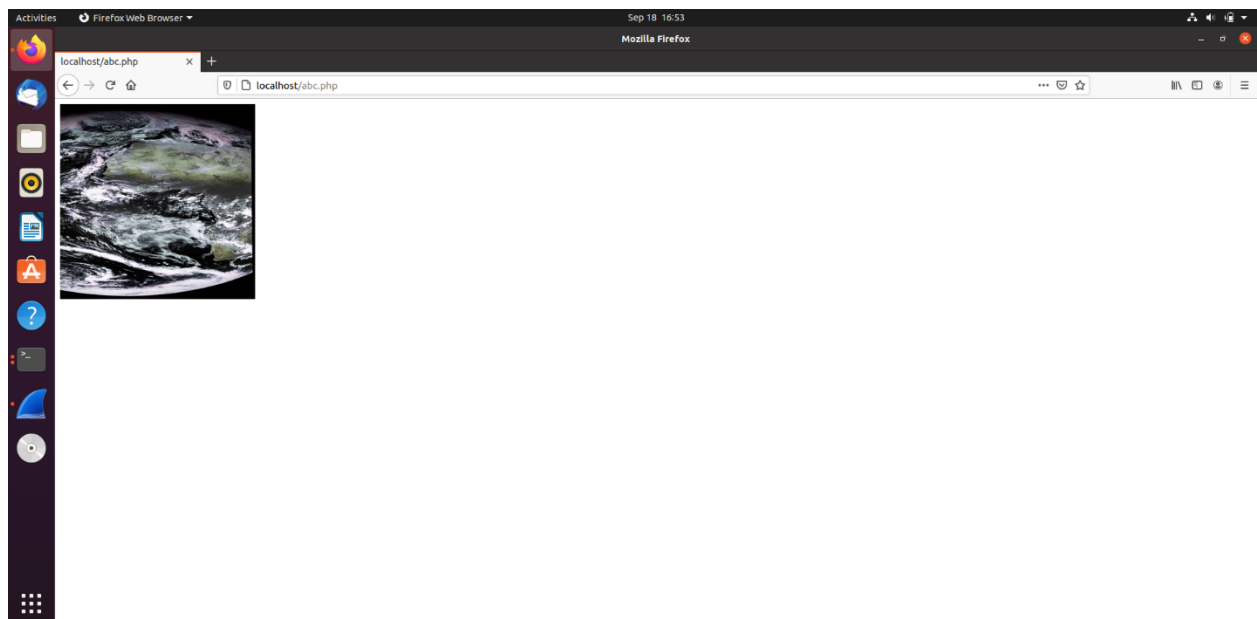
Steps of Execution (Cookie Setting)

1. A PHP file to set the cookie is created which also contains an image in it (placed under the HTML directory) to be accessed once the cookie is set. The following code helped to set the cookie:

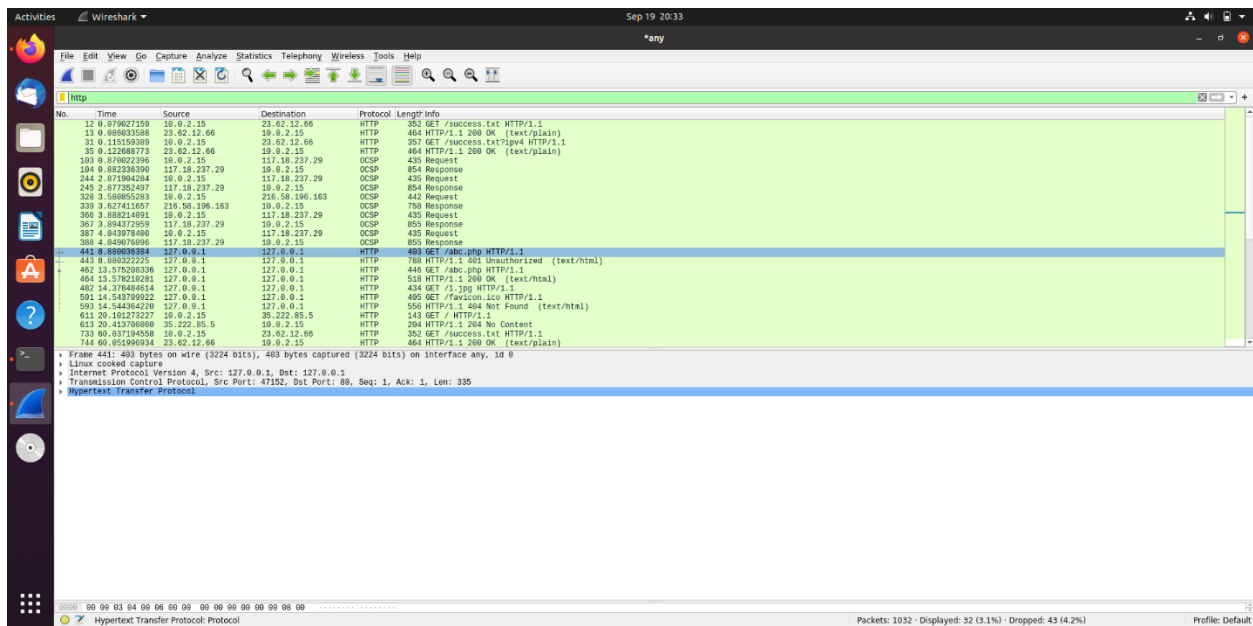
```
Activities Terminal Sep 19 20:30 khushei@khushei-VirtualBox: ~/Desktop
Creating config file /etc/php/7.4/apache2/php.ini with new version
Module mpm_event disabled.
Enabling module mpm_prefork.
apache2_switch_mpm Switch to prefork
apache2_invoke: Enable module php7.4
Setting up php7.4 (7.4.3-4ubuntu2.2) ...
Setting up libapache2-mod-php (2:7.4+75) ...
Setting up php (2:7.4+75) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.9.1-1) ...
Processing triggers for php7.4-cli (7.4.3-4ubuntu2.2) ...
Processing triggers for libapache2-mod-php7.4 (7.4.3-4ubuntu2.2) ...
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~$ cd Desktop
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~/Desktop$ cat abc.php
<html>
<?php
setcookie("namecookie","netqwertry",time()+123);
setcookie("nickname","work");
?>

</html>
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~/Desktop$ sudo mv abc.php /var/www/html
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~/Desktop$ ls /var/www/html
abc.php index.html
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~/Desktop$ sudo mv 1.jpg 2.jpg /var/www/html
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~/Desktop$ ls /var/www/html
1.jpg 2.jpg abc.php index.html
khushei@khushei-VirtualBox:~/Desktop$
```

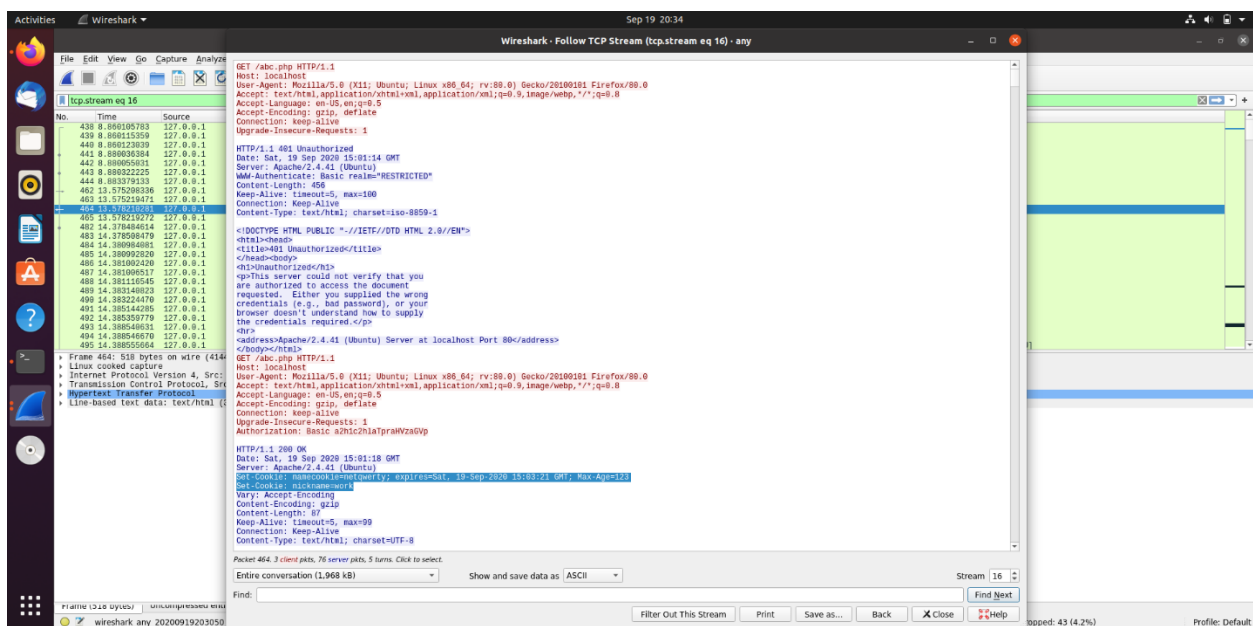
2. The combined file saved with a .php extension is placed under **/var/www/html** for accessing.



3. The packets are captured using Wireshark and using the “follow TCP stream” which checks for the set-cookie field whether the cookie is set or not set.



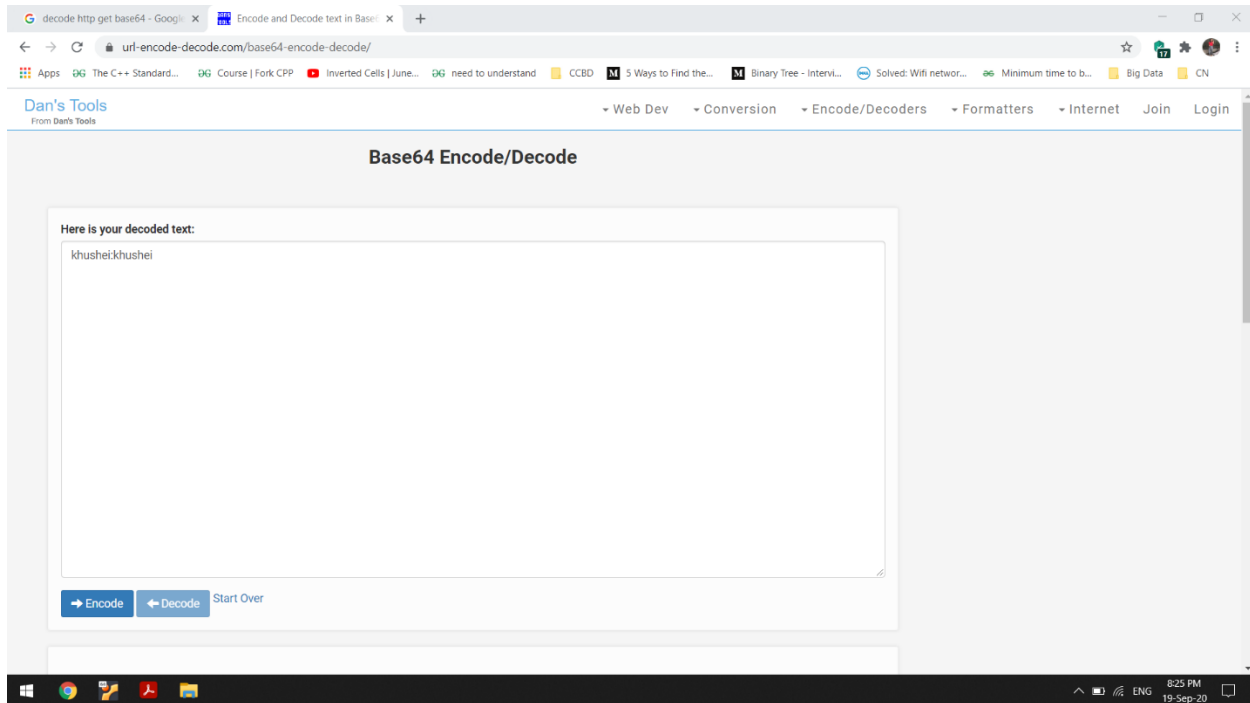
The cookie is set as shown in the below screenshot.



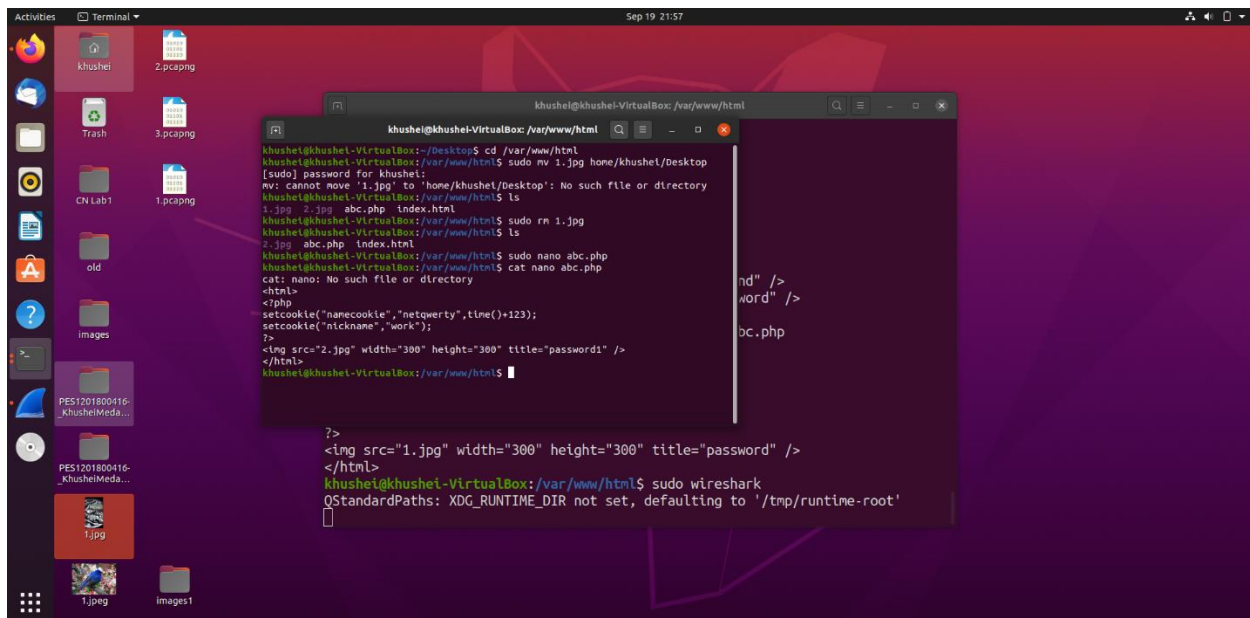
Observation: Understand and work out base 64 algorithm and write in your observation. Observe various parameters associated with Cookie in the wireshark capture.

In the above screenshot notice Authorization: Basic a2h1c2hlaTpraHVzaGVp

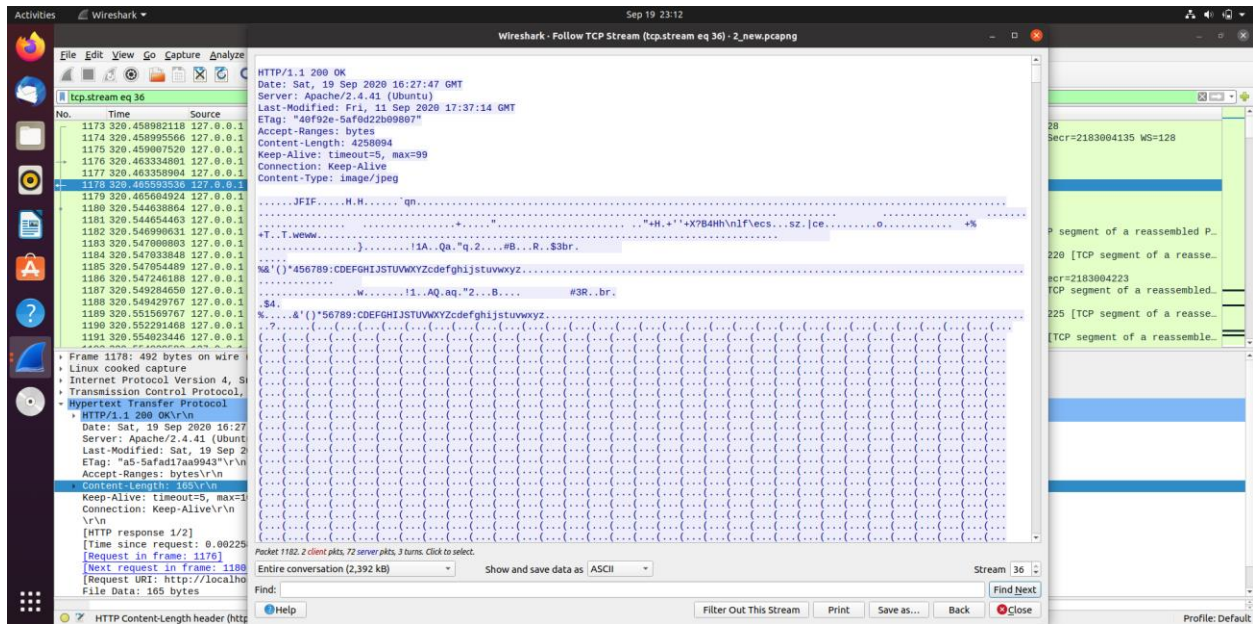
We decode this encoded text using an online decoder. We get the correct authentication id and password that we had set earlier, i.e, khushei:khushei



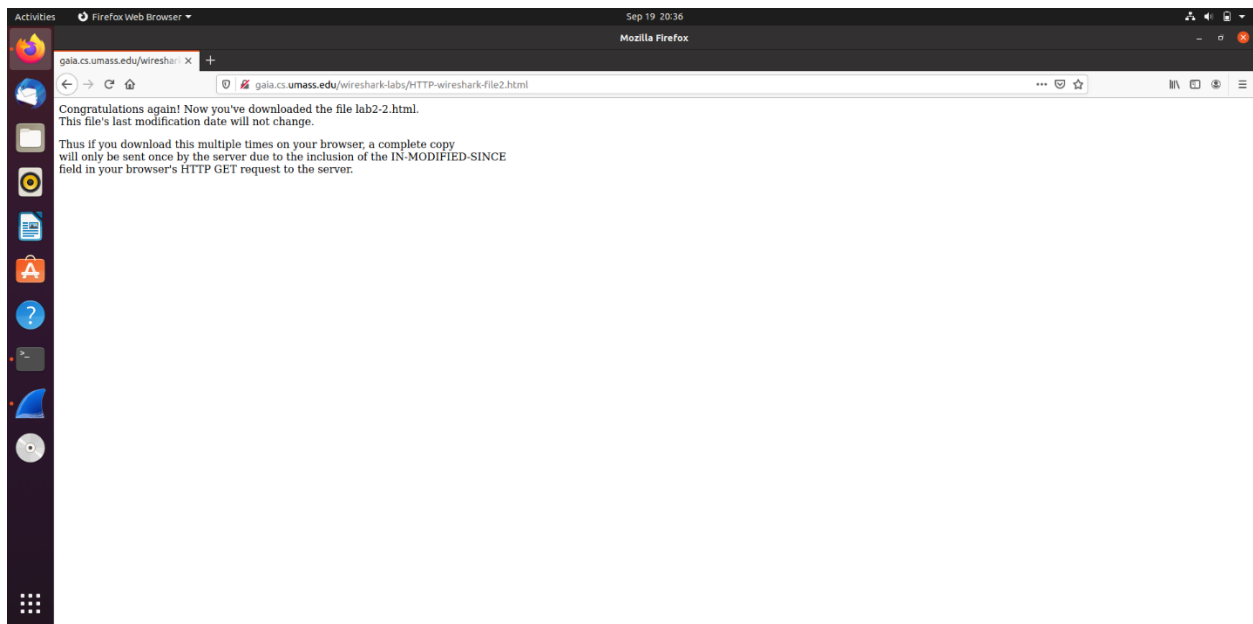
We now try to modify `abc.php` by adding another image to see if the Modified since parameter in the HTTP GET request changes. While Wireshark is capturing the packets, we open a new terminal and rename the image to `2.jpg`. Note that we haven't stopped Wireshark when we do this, so it continues to capture the packets.



Notice that on refreshing the page and then following TCP stream of the HTTP 200 OK message after this change, we see an `if-modified-since` parameter and notice that since there has been a change, the image is sent by the server.



Enter the following URL into your browser <http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file2.html>

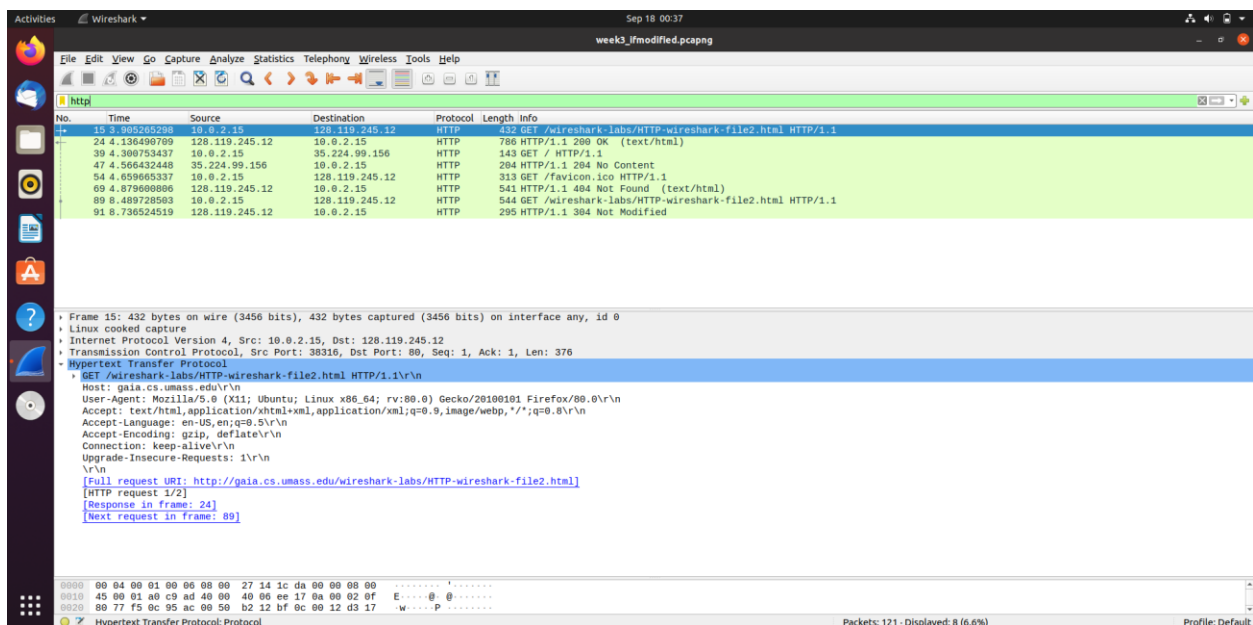


Observations:

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

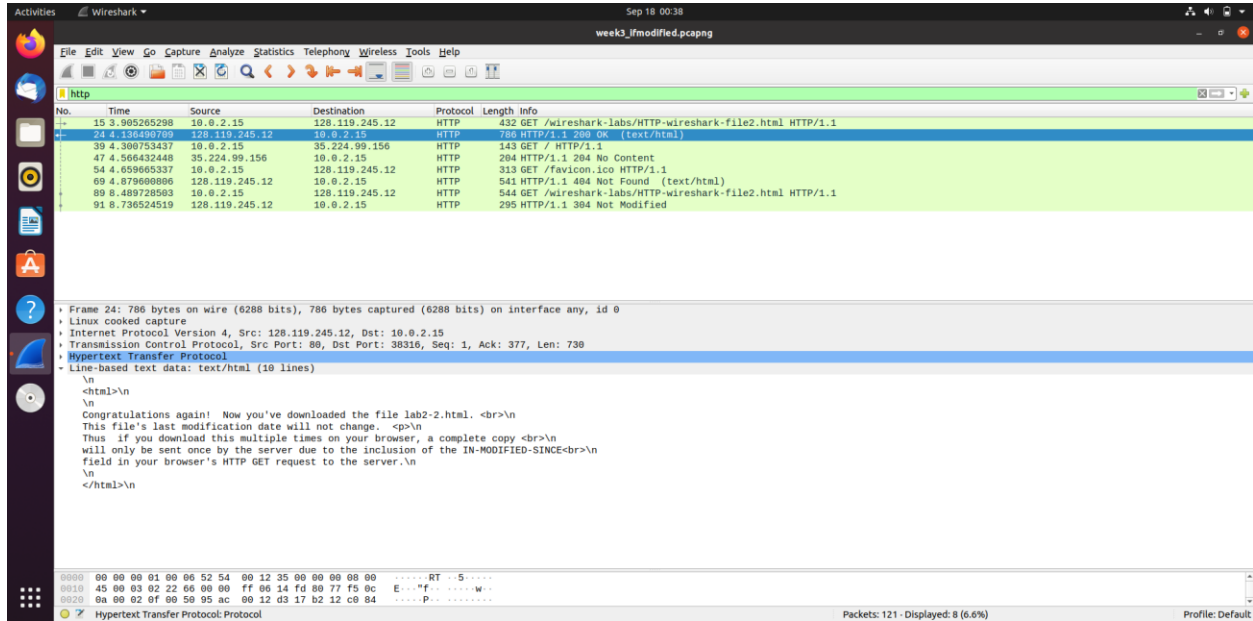
No, there is no “IF-MODIFIED-SINCE” line in the HTTP GET in the first GET request. Obviously, this is understandable because this is the first time that we are accessing this page of the website.

Notice that under the HTTP GET details, there is no line about last modification.



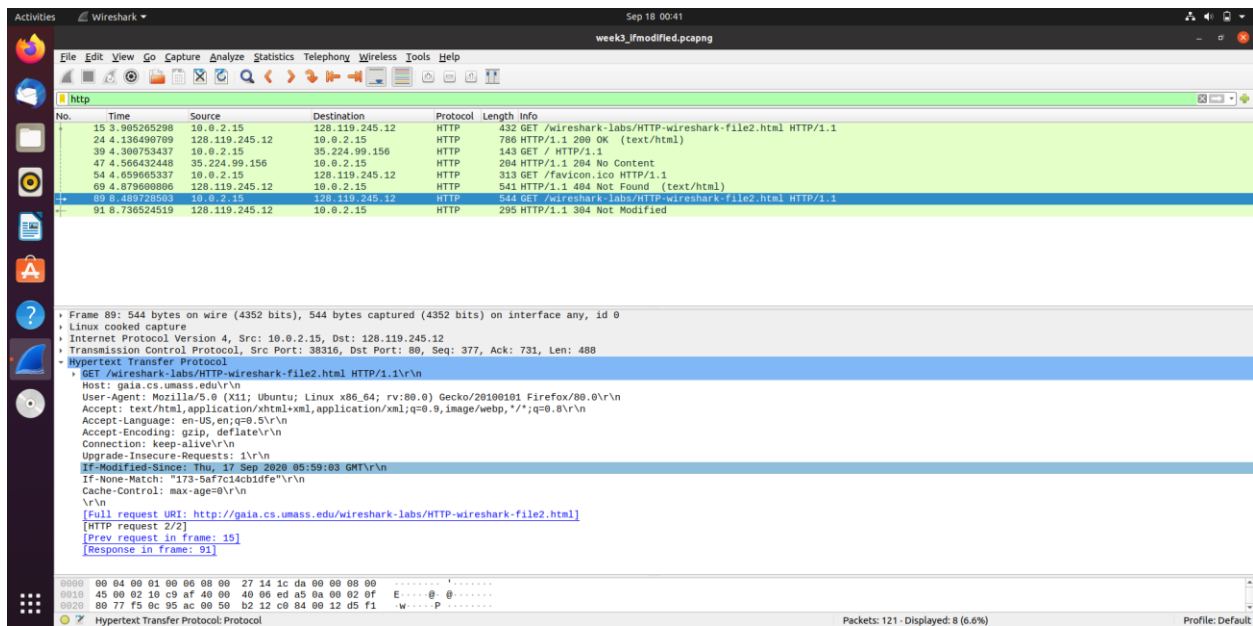
2. Inspect the contents of the server response. Did the server explicitly return the contents of the file? How can you tell?

Yes, the server did explicitly return the contents of the file. We can see under Line-Based Text Data the text that the server sent back to the client browser.



3. Now inspect the contents of the second HTTP GET request from your browser to the server. Do you see an "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE:" line in the HTTP GET? If so, what information follows the "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE:" header?

In the second HTTP request, we do see the "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE:" line. The information that follows it is the date and timestamp of when my browser last accessed the webpage.



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.

Status code: 304.

Response Phrase: Not Modified

The server didn't return the contents of the file since the browser loaded it from its cache.

