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Computer Networks ENCS3320

Socket Programming

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3 Introduction

This project explores multiple concepts in computer networks through three different tasks. Each task helps us understand and master different concepts. Task one focuses on some fundamental commands in computer networks; ping, nslookup, tracert, and telnet. This task helps us understand the use of each one in detail and gives a general idea about the Wireshark tool. Task two focuses on the two types of connections, TCP and UDP, providing solid knowledge about their main differences, in sockets and code. Finally, the third task, which implements a web server that responds according to the HTTP request sent to it. This task provides us with background knowledge about web servers, HTML, and HTTP requests and responses.

4 Theory

- **Wireshark:** Wireshark is a powerful tool that uses sniffing to track and analyze all network activities related to our device.
- **TCP/UDP:** TCP and UDP are two different protocols in the transport layer. Each with different approaches to establishing a connection. TCP connections begin with a request to connect, known as a three-way handshake. This request guarantees that the server is available and ready to receive from the client. In contrast, a UDP connection does not involve a connection request so no guarantee.
- **Socket programming:** sockets are communication endpoints in the application layer that allow processes to communicate with each other. Socket programming shows how to establish these connections over the network.
- **HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol):** is a fundamental protocol in the application layer that supports transferring data over the web, between the server and the web browser. HTTP supports various methods and versions.
- **Web servers:** web servers are specialized servers that provide web browsers (clients) with requested data such as text, images, and others.

5 Procedure

Task 1

In this task, we learned about the commands “ping”, “nslookup”, “tracert” and “telnet”. We executed them using terminal on both Windows and Linux, then we looked up some information about the website www.ox.ac.uk using the “bgpview” website and bgp tool. Finally, we used the tool Wireshark to capture some DNS messages.

Task 2

We created two applications one is a server-client TCP connection and the other uses a server-client approach where all peers can send and receive. The main difference between UDP and TCP is in the sockets and their communication (shown clearly in the code). We used PYcharm compiler. The flow chart below shows how TCP and UDP connections are [1]

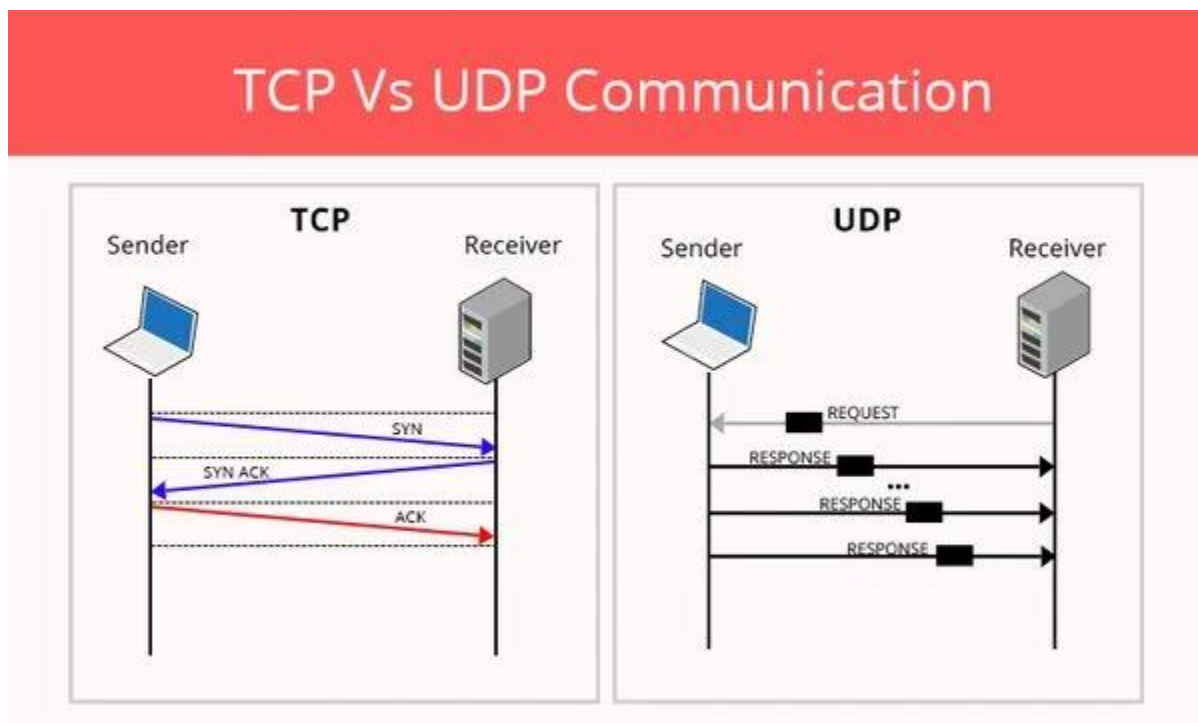


Figure 5.1: diagram showing TCP vs UDP

Task 3

In this task, we built a web server and a web page. for the front end, we used html and some JavaScript to control certain elements such as the fading-out buttons. For the backend, we used Python.

6 Results and Discussions

Task 1: commands & Wireshark

1. What are ping, tracert, nslookup, and telnet

ping: a command to find the time taken from the source (my device) to the destination (the web name or IP specified).

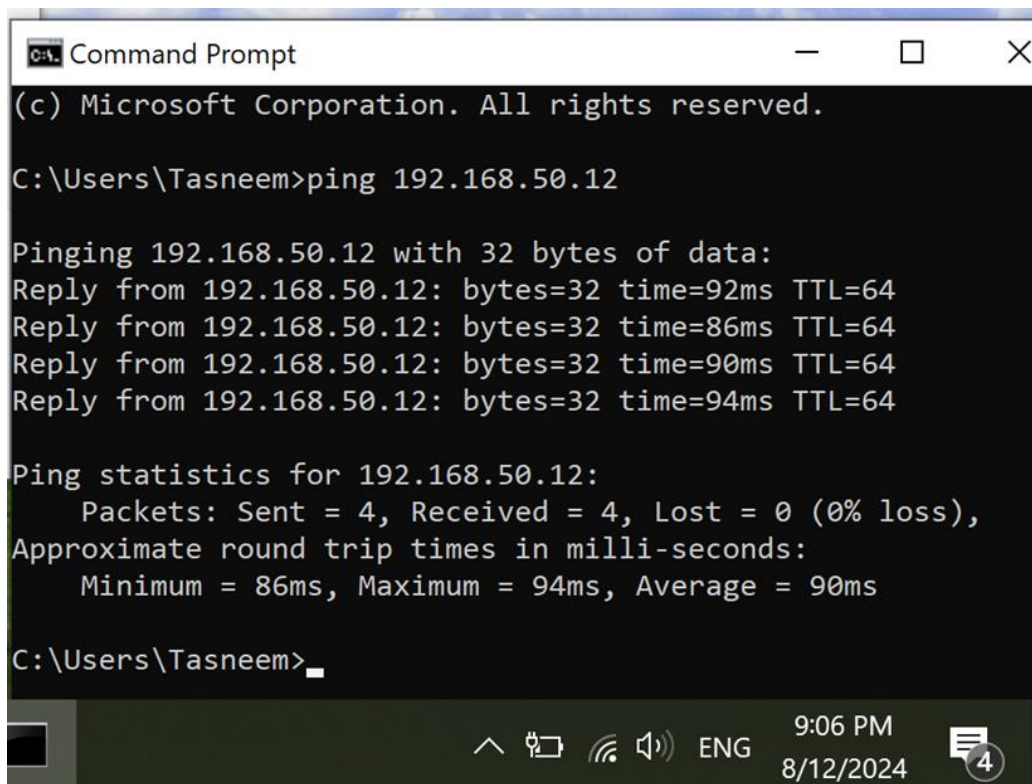
tracert: a command that tracks and lists the path of routers taken by the data to travel from the source to the destination.

lookup: a command that looks up the IP address for a web and vice versa, similar to what the DNS does.

telnet: a command that gives me the ability to send HTTP requests directly by writing them after establishing a telnet connection to the website

2. running some commands

a. ping from laptop to smartphone



```
Command Prompt
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Tasneem>ping 192.168.50.12

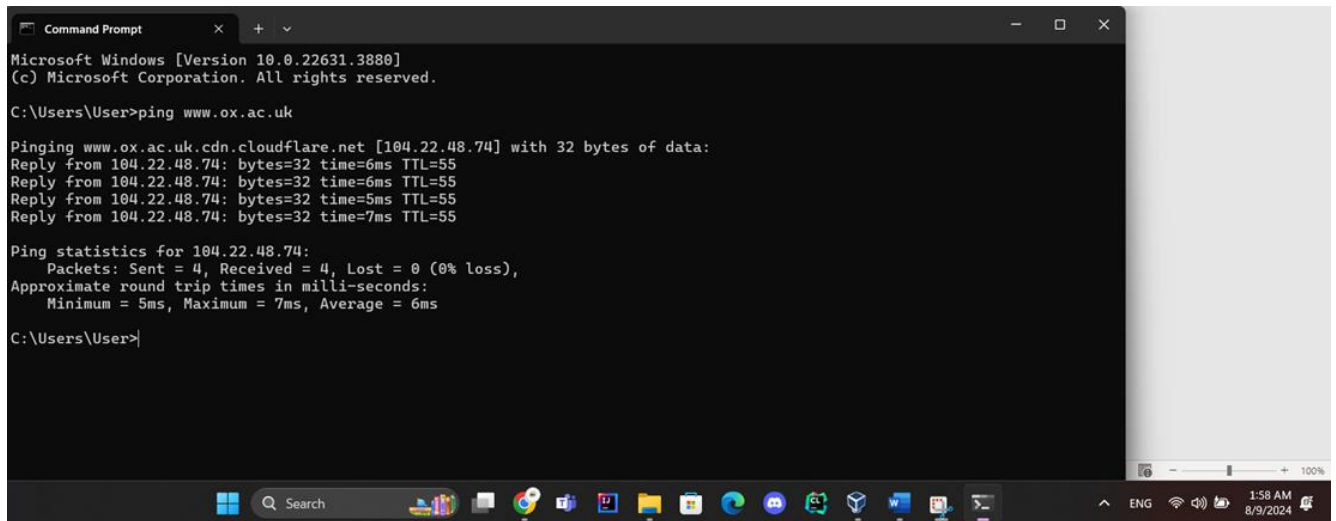
Pinging 192.168.50.12 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 192.168.50.12: bytes=32 time=92ms TTL=64
Reply from 192.168.50.12: bytes=32 time=86ms TTL=64
Reply from 192.168.50.12: bytes=32 time=90ms TTL=64
Reply from 192.168.50.12: bytes=32 time=94ms TTL=64

Ping statistics for 192.168.50.12:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
    Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
        Minimum = 86ms, Maximum = 94ms, Average = 90ms

C:\Users\Tasneem>
```

Figure 6.1: ping another device on the same network (cmd)

b. ping www.ox.ac.uk



```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.22631.3880]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\User>ping www.ox.ac.uk

Pinging www.ox.ac.uk.cdn.cloudflare.net [104.22.48.74] with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 104.22.48.74: bytes=32 time=6ms TTL=55
Reply from 104.22.48.74: bytes=32 time=6ms TTL=55
Reply from 104.22.48.74: bytes=32 time=5ms TTL=55
Reply from 104.22.48.74: bytes=32 time=7ms TTL=55

Ping statistics for 104.22.48.74:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
    Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
        Minimum = 5ms, Maximum = 7ms, Average = 6ms

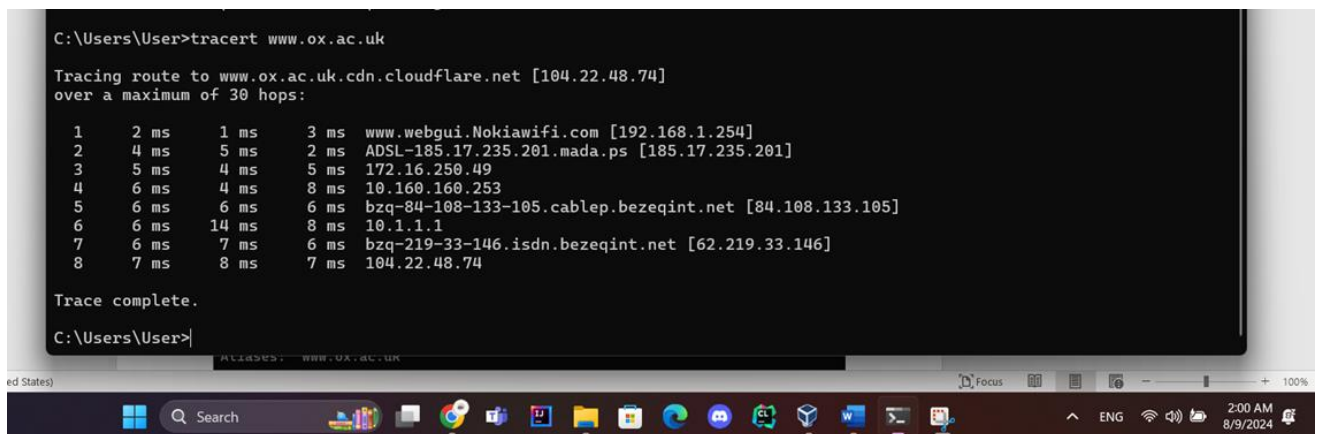
C:\Users\User>
```

Figure 6.2: ping website(cmd)

c. specifying the location of the server from where we got the response

in the first part we received the response from the same server. in the second part, the response was from a device with 104.22.49.74 IP address, looking up this IP, we found that the response was from United States San Jose Cloudflare Inc.

d. tracert www.ox.ac.uk



```
C:\Users\User>tracert www.ox.ac.uk

Tracing route to www.ox.ac.uk.cdn.cloudflare.net [104.22.48.74]
over a maximum of 30 hops:

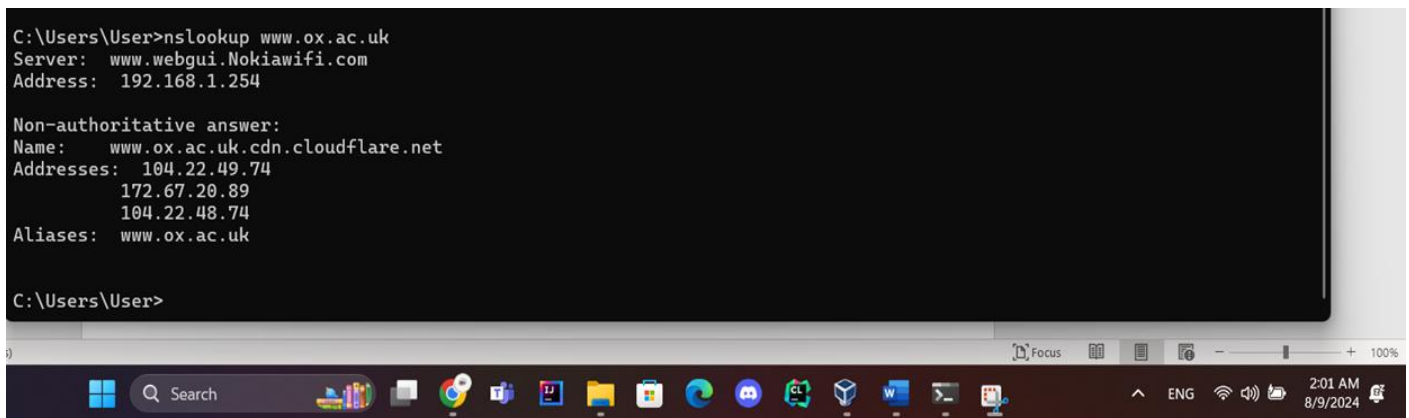
  1  2 ms   1 ms   3 ms  www.webgui.Nokiawifi.com [192.168.1.254]
  2  4 ms   5 ms   2 ms  ADSL-185.17.235.201.mada.ps [185.17.235.201]
  3  5 ms   4 ms   5 ms  172.16.250.49
  4  6 ms   4 ms   8 ms  10.160.160.253
  5  6 ms   6 ms   6 ms  bzq-84-108-133-105.cablep.bezeqint.net [84.108.133.105]
  6  6 ms  14 ms   8 ms  10.1.1.1
  7  6 ms   7 ms   6 ms  bzq-219-33-146.isdn.bezeqint.net [62.219.33.146]
  8  7 ms   8 ms   7 ms  104.22.48.74

Trace complete.

C:\Users\User>
```

Figure 6.3: tracert command (cmd)

e. nslookup www.ox.ac.uk



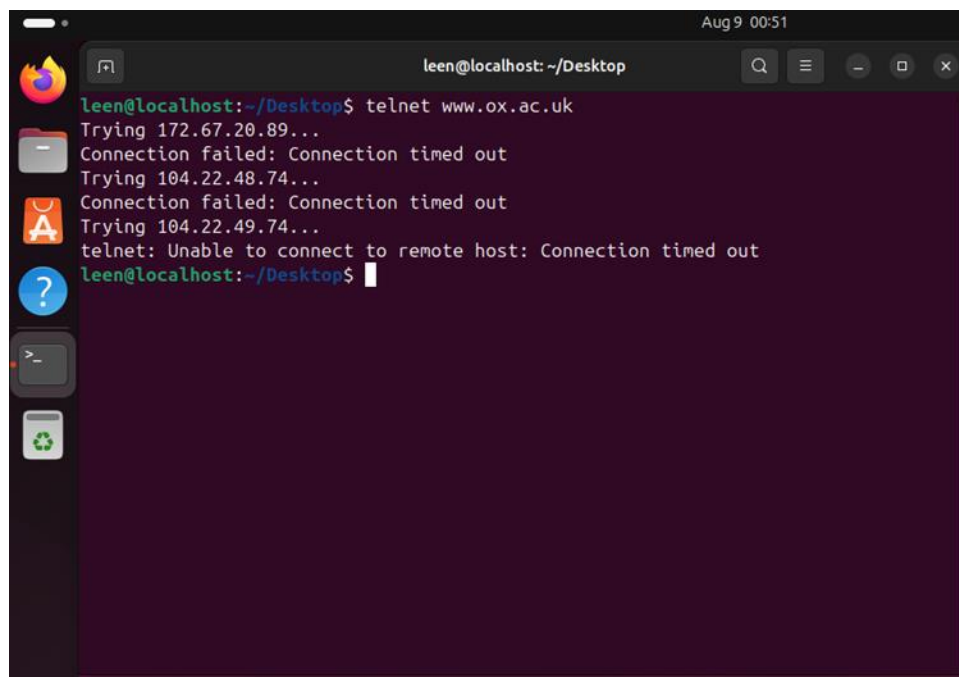
```
C:\Users\User>nslookup www.ox.ac.uk
Server: www.webgui.Nokiawifi.com
Address: 192.168.1.254

Non-authoritative answer:
Name: www.ox.ac.uk.cdn.cloudflare.net
Addresses: 104.22.49.74
           172.67.20.89
           104.22.48.74
Aliases: www.ox.ac.uk

C:\Users\User>
```

Figure 6.4: Figure 6.4: nslookup on cmd

f. telnet www.ox.ac.uk



```
leen@localhost: ~/Desktop
leen@localhost:~/Desktop$ telnet www.ox.ac.uk
Trying 172.67.20.89...
Connection failed: Connection timed out
Trying 104.22.48.74...
Connection failed: Connection timed out
Trying 104.22.49.74...
telnet: Unable to connect to remote host: Connection timed out
leen@localhost:~/Desktop$
```

Figure 6.5: telnet command (linux terminal)

- Most probably the router does not allow Telnet connections

3. some details about www.ox.ac.uk.

www.ox.ac.uk : 104.22.48.74

Autonomous system (AS) number: [AS13335](#) //it's like an ID for the network

Number of IP's = 4,096

parent Prefix: 104.22.48.0/20

prefix :104.16.0.0/12

number of prefixes: 3662

number of peers: 1296

Tier-1-ISP name

Any of the ISPs below can be considered Tier-1 ISP:

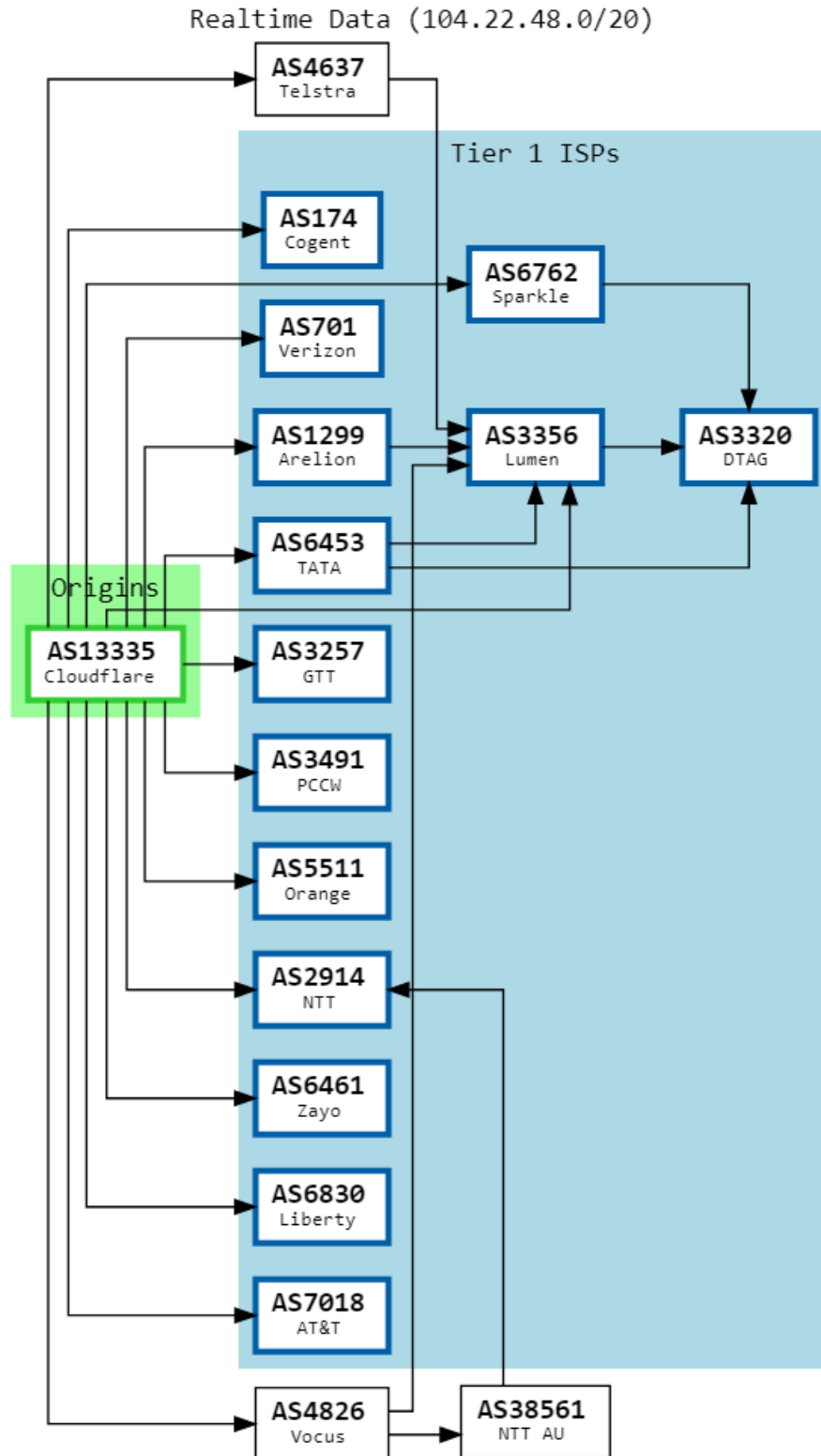


Figure 6.6: Website tier ISPs 1 [2].

4. Wireshark capturing some DNS messages

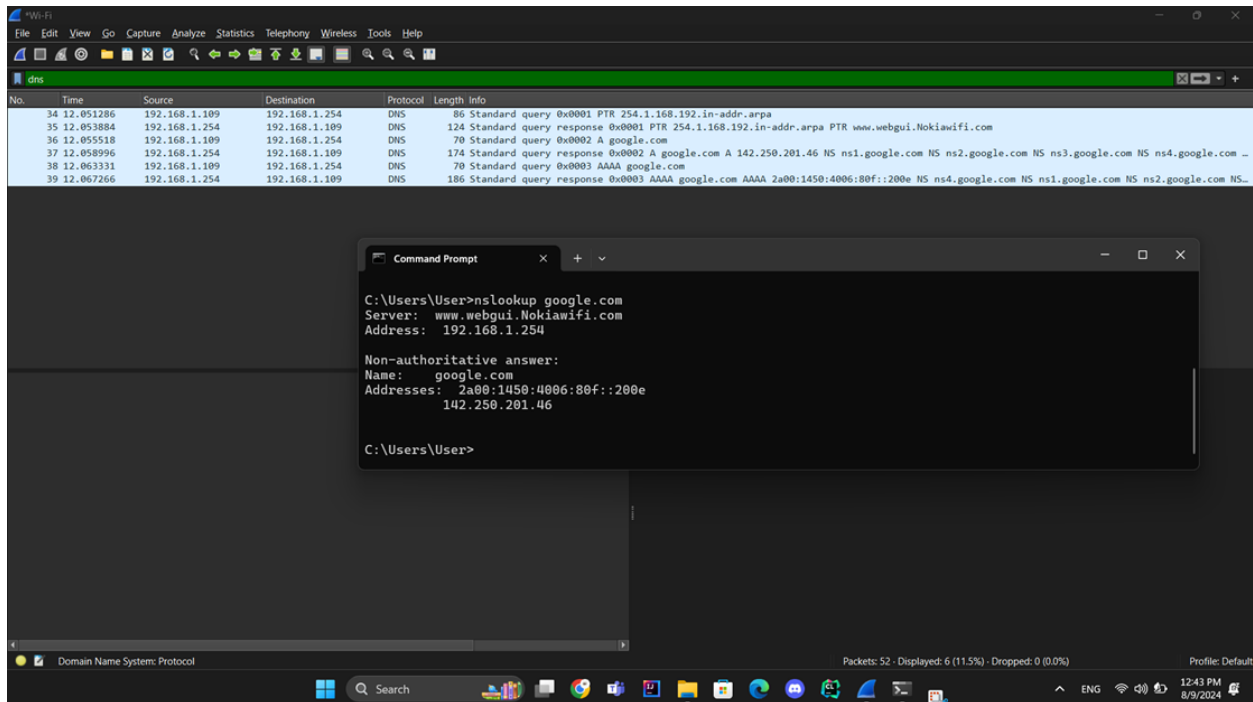


Figure 6.7: captured DNS messages

as shown above, Wireshark is a tool that tracks all the network activities related to my device, here we focused on capturing the DNS messages.

Task 2: socket programming (TCP&UDP)

1. In this task, the client sends words to the server through a TCP connection, and the server processes the data by replacing any vowel with a # symbol. The modified text is then sent back to the client

The snapshot below is for a server and a client, as observed, any vowel in the input (sent by the client) is replaced with the # symbol by the server and sent back to the client.

The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE with the file `Server2.py` open. The code defines a `response` function that takes a string and returns a modified string based on vowel presence. It then enters a `while True` loop that receives data from a client socket, prints it, and sends back a response.

```

10
11 def response(string):
12     vowels = 'aeiouAEUIO'
13     result = ''
14     for char in string:
15         if char in vowels:
16             result += '#'
17         else:
18             result += char
19     return result
20
21 while True:
22     data = connectionSocket.recv(1024).decode()
23     print("from client: " + str(data))
24     connectionSocket.send(response(data).encode())
25

```

The Run console shows the following output:

```

C:\Users\User\PycharmProjects\pythonProject\venv\Scripts\python.exe C:\Users\User\PycharmProjects\pythonProject\Server2.py
connectionSocket.recv from: ('172.16.1.63', 52496)
from client: leen
from client: tasneem
from client: muayyad
from client: IBRAHIM NEMER

```

Figure 6.8: server hosting device

The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE with the file `client.py` open. The code imports the `socket` module, sets the host and port, connects to the server, and enters a loop to send messages and receive responses.

```

1 from socket import *
2
3 host = "172.16.1.64"
4 port = 446
5 client_socket = socket()
6 client_socket.connect((host, port))
7 message = input(" -> ")
8 while message.lower().strip() != 'bye':
9     client_socket.send(message.encode())
10    data = client_socket.recv(1024).decode()
11    print("Received from server: " + data)
12    message = input(" -> ")
13 client_socket.close()
14

```

The Run console shows the following output:

```

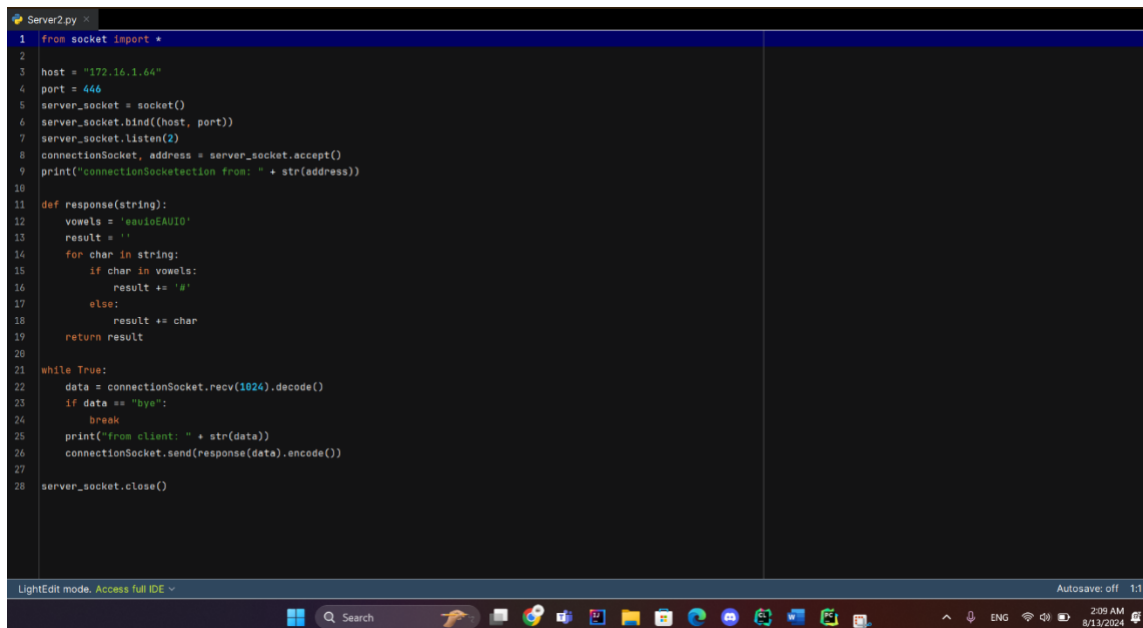
/Users/mac/PycharmProjects/task2/.venv/bin/python /Users/mac/PycharmProjects/task2/client.py
-> leen
Received from server: l#n
-> tasneem
Received from server: t#sn##n
-> muayyad
Received from server: m#yy#d
-> IBRAHIM NEMER
Received from server: #BR#H#M N#M#R
-> |

```

Figure 6.9: client device

Here is the code for the previous server-client approach

Server's code

A screenshot of a code editor window titled 'Server2.py'. The code is written in Python and implements a simple server. It imports the 'socket' module, sets a host to '172.16.1.64' and a port to 446. It creates a 'server_socket', binds it to the host and port, and starts listening. When a connection is accepted, it prints the connection details. A 'response' function is defined that takes a string and replaces vowels with '#'. A 'while True' loop receives data from the client, checks for 'bye', and sends back the response. The editor has a dark theme and a Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom.

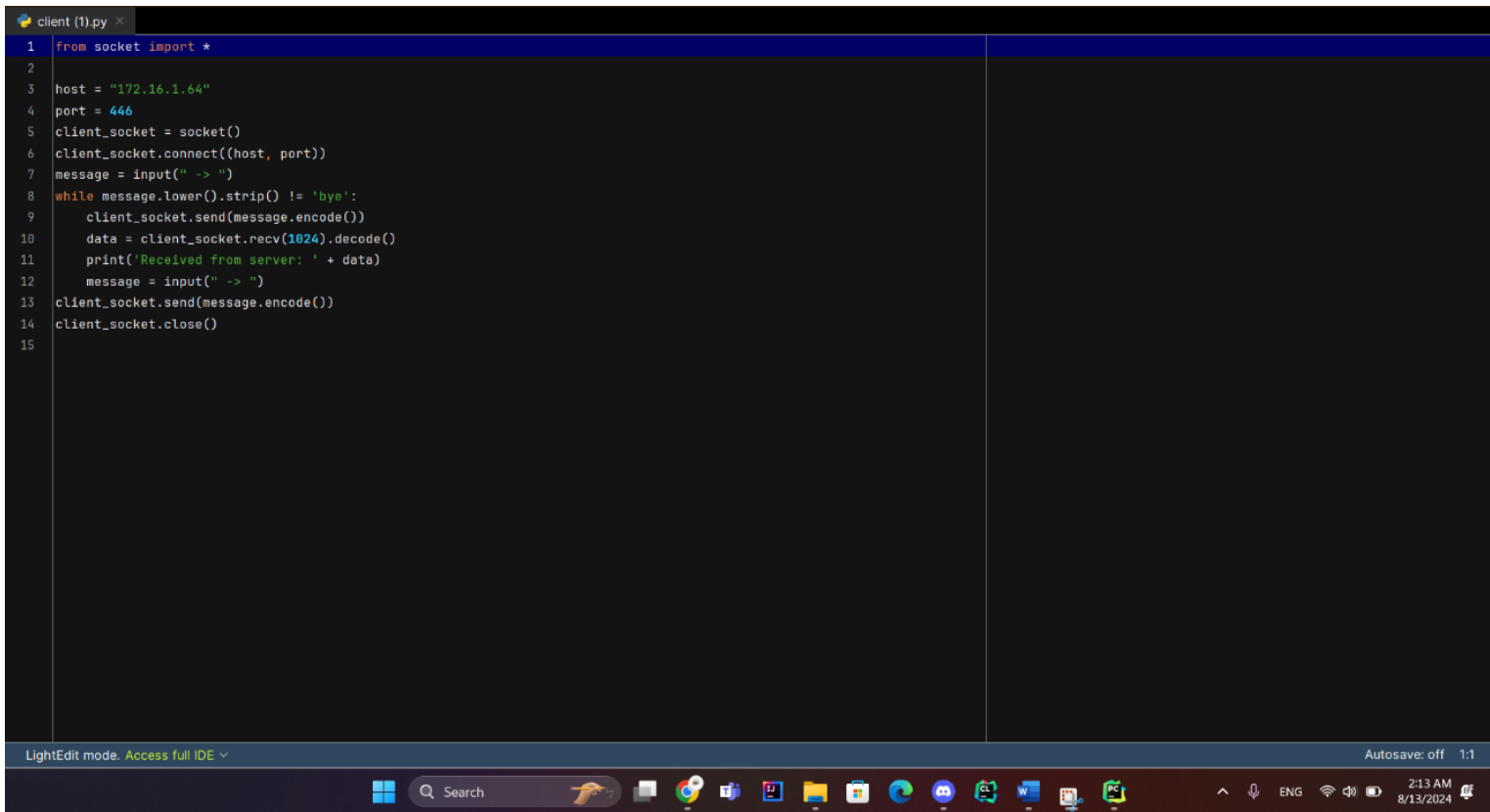
```
1 from socket import *
2
3 host = "172.16.1.64"
4 port = 446
5 server_socket = socket()
6 server_socket.bind((host, port))
7 server_socket.listen(2)
8 connectionSocket, address = server_socket.accept()
9 print("connectionSocket from: " + str(address))
10
11 def response(string):
12     vowels = 'aeiouAEUIO'
13     result = ''
14     for char in string:
15         if char in vowels:
16             result += '#'
17         else:
18             result += char
19     return result
20
21 while True:
22     data = connectionSocket.recv(1024).decode()
23     if data == "bye":
24         break
25     print("from client: " + str(data))
26     connectionSocket.send(response(data).encode())
27
28 server_socket.close()
```

Figure 6.10: Python code for server host

As shown, we connected to port 446 and used functions from the socket package as “listen”, “bind”, “recv”, and others. All of these functions are specifically designed for **TCP connection**.

The server receives from the client and replaces vowels with # before sending it back to it.

Client's code



```
client (1).py
1 from socket import *
2
3 host = "172.16.1.64"
4 port = 446
5 client_socket = socket()
6 client_socket.connect((host, port))
7 message = input("> ")
8 while message.lower().strip() != 'bye':
9     client_socket.send(message.encode())
10    data = client_socket.recv(1024).decode()
11    print('Received from server: ' + data)
12    message = input("> ")
13 client_socket.send(message.encode())
14 client_socket.close()
15
```

LightEdit mode. Access full IDE > Autosave: off 1:1

Windows taskbar: Search, File Explorer, Edge, Teams, Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, OneDrive, Settings, Task View, Start, 2:13 AM 8/13/2024

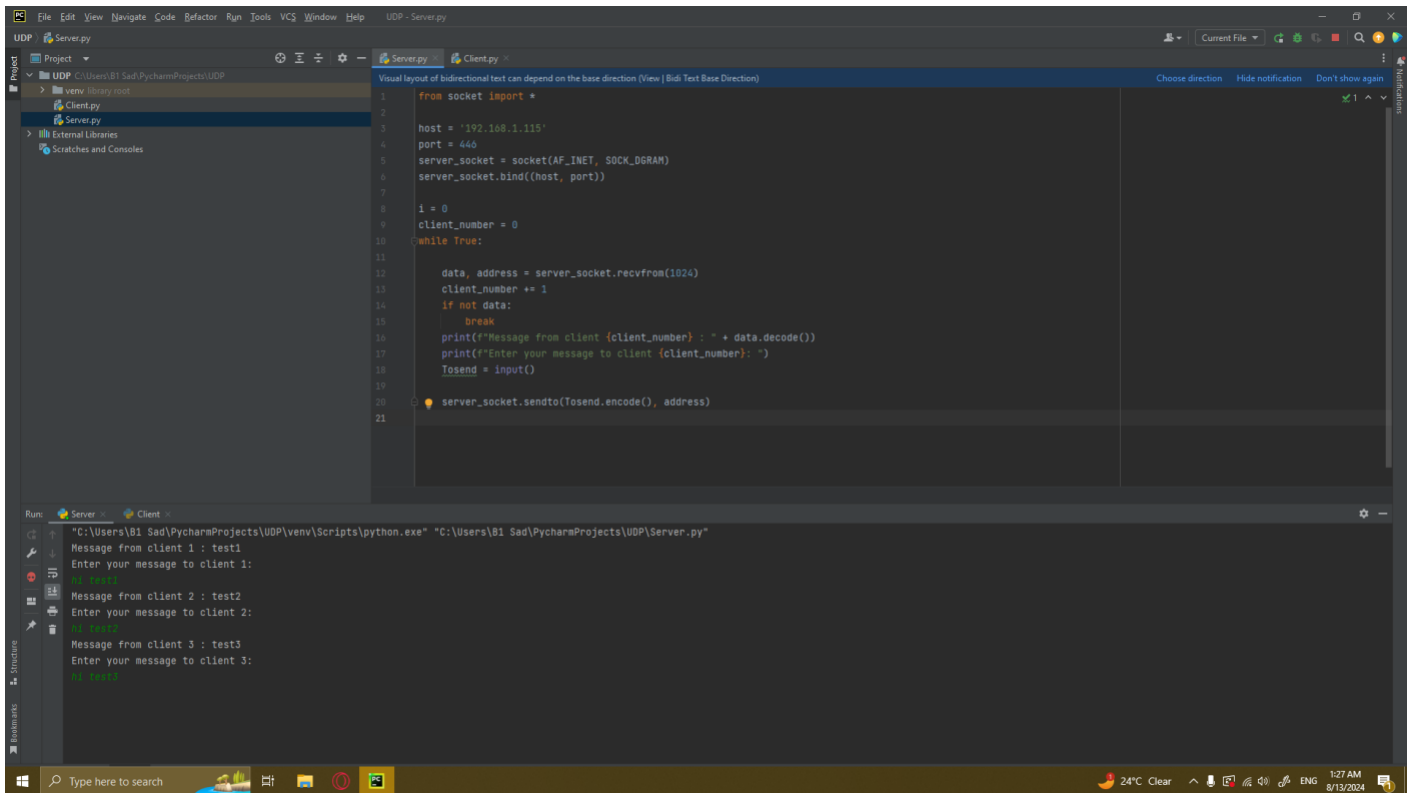
Figure 6.11: Python code for client side

The client also uses some functions that are for TCP as send. It sends a word and then waits for a response from the server. The connection is open until the client sends 'bye'. Meanwhile, the server is always on.

2. In this task, using a UDP connection, multiple clients can connect to a single server, all peers can send and receive (server and clients). The communication begins with a client sending to the server then the server should reply.

The snapshots below show a connection between a server and several clients (3 clients). As shown, all connections are clear on the server side, while the client can only see its own connection with the server.

Server's side:



The screenshot displays the PyCharm IDE interface. The main editor window shows the code for `Server.py`. The code is as follows:

```
1 from socket import *
2
3 host = '192.168.1.115'
4 port = 446
5 server_socket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM)
6 server_socket.bind((host, port))
7
8 i = 0
9 client_number = 0
10 while True:
11     data, address = server_socket.recvfrom(1024)
12     client_number += 1
13     if not data:
14         break
15     print(f"Message from client {client_number} : " + data.decode())
16     print(f"Enter your message to client {client_number}: ")
17     Tosend = input()
18     server_socket.sendto(Tosend.encode(), address)
19
20
21
```

The bottom panel shows the Run console output, indicating that the server is running and receiving messages from three clients:

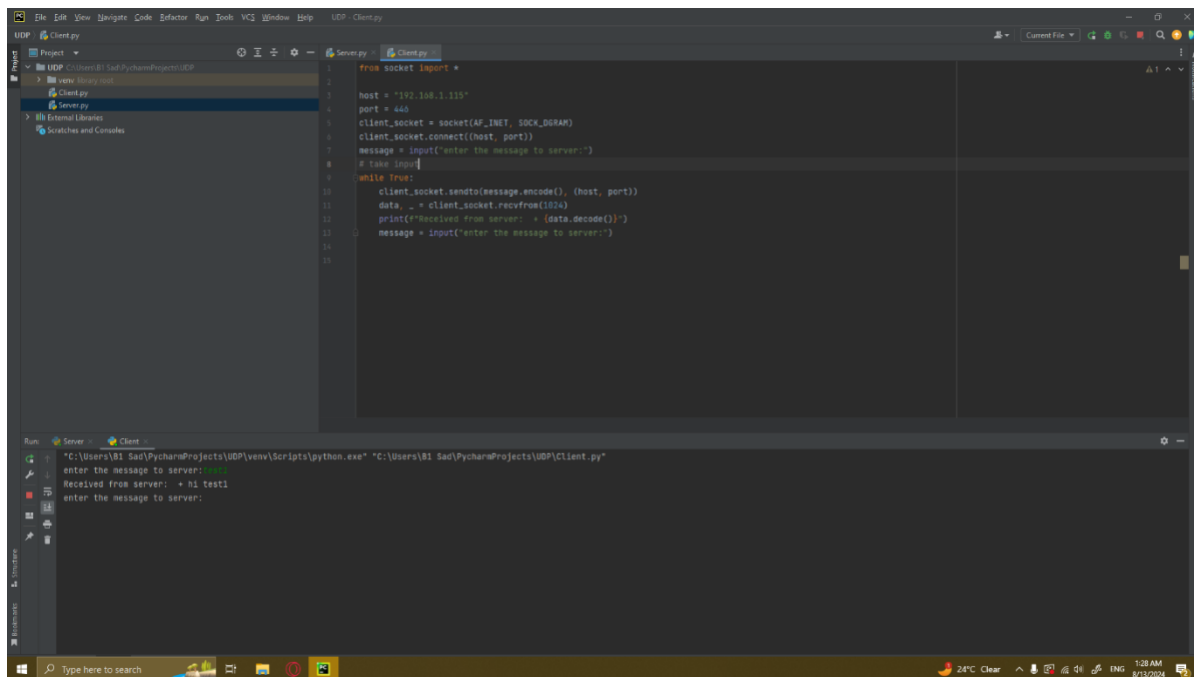
```
Run: Server Client
"C:\Users\B1 Sad\PycharmProjects\UDP\venv\Scripts\python.exe" "C:\Users\B1 Sad\PycharmProjects\UDP\Server.py"
Message from client 1 : test1
Enter your message to client 1:
test1
Message from client 2 : test2
Enter your message to client 2:
test2
Message from client 3 : test3
Enter your message to client 3:
test3
```

Figure 6.12: Python code for UDP server hosting

It connects to port 446, and uses some UDP functions such as “recvFrom”. The server receives messages from clients and responds freely (as a peer-to-peer approach). The server prints all incoming messages from the clients as well as its responses.

Two clients' sides

Client #1



The screenshot shows an IDE window titled 'UDP - Client.py'. The code in the editor is as follows:

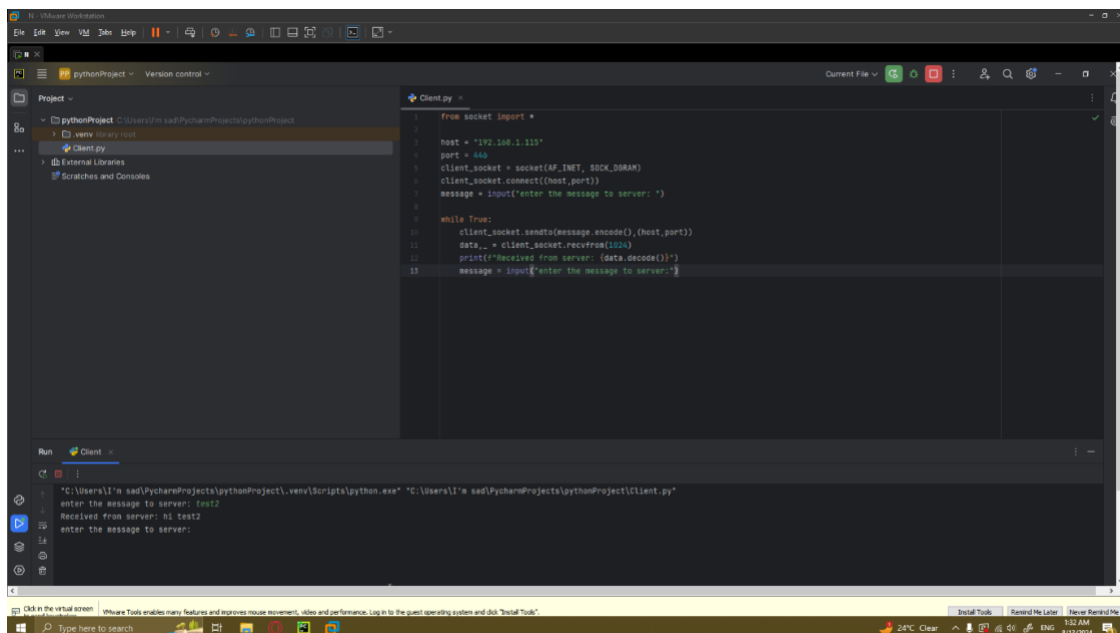
```
1 from socket import *
2
3 host = "192.168.1.135"
4
5 port = 444
6
7 client_socket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM)
8 client_socket.connect((host, port))
9
10 message = input("enter the message to server:")
11 # take input
12
13 while True:
14     client_socket.sendto(message.encode(), (host, port))
15     data, _ = client_socket.recvfrom(1024)
16     print("Received from server: " + data.decode())
17     message = input("enter the message to server:")
18
```

The console output at the bottom shows the following sequence of events:

```
*C:\Users\B1 Sad\PycharmProjects\UDP\venv\Scripts\python.exe" "C:\Users\B1 Sad\PycharmProjects\UDP\Client.py"
enter the message to server:
Received from server:  + hi test1
enter the message to server:
```

Figure 6.13: Client #1 console

Client #2



The screenshot shows an IDE window titled 'pythonProject'. The code in the editor is identical to the one in Figure 6.13:

```
1 from socket import *
2
3 host = "192.168.1.135"
4
5 port = 444
6
7 client_socket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM)
8 client_socket.connect((host, port))
9
10 message = input("enter the message to server:")
11 # take input
12
13 while True:
14     client_socket.sendto(message.encode(), (host, port))
15     data, _ = client_socket.recvfrom(1024)
16     print("Received from server: (data.decode())")
17     message = input("enter the message to server:")
18
```

The console output at the bottom shows the following sequence of events:

```
*C:\Users\I'm sad\PycharmProjects\pythonProject\venv\Scripts\python.exe" "C:\Users\I'm sad\PycharmProjects\pythonProject\Client.py"
enter the message to server: test2
Received from server: hi test2
enter the message to server:
```

Figure 6.14: Client #2 console

Codes are shown in the snapshots above. The connection is always on. Also, the client uses some specified functions for UDP, such as sendto().

Task 3: web server

In this task, we built a web server and a web page. The web page contains several objects each of which can be stored on different web servers (they are on the same server in our case though). The web browser makes a request using the URL for the wanted object, and the server responds with the requested file or data.

Here is a snapshot of the main page of the web page. The HTML web page (the base file) being in the main_en.html file is noteworthy. There is a link to a local html file in the main page (labeled as my site 1220887). A link to Ritaj is also provided at the bottom of the page. In addition to our names, numbers, and hobbies when clicking “More Info”.

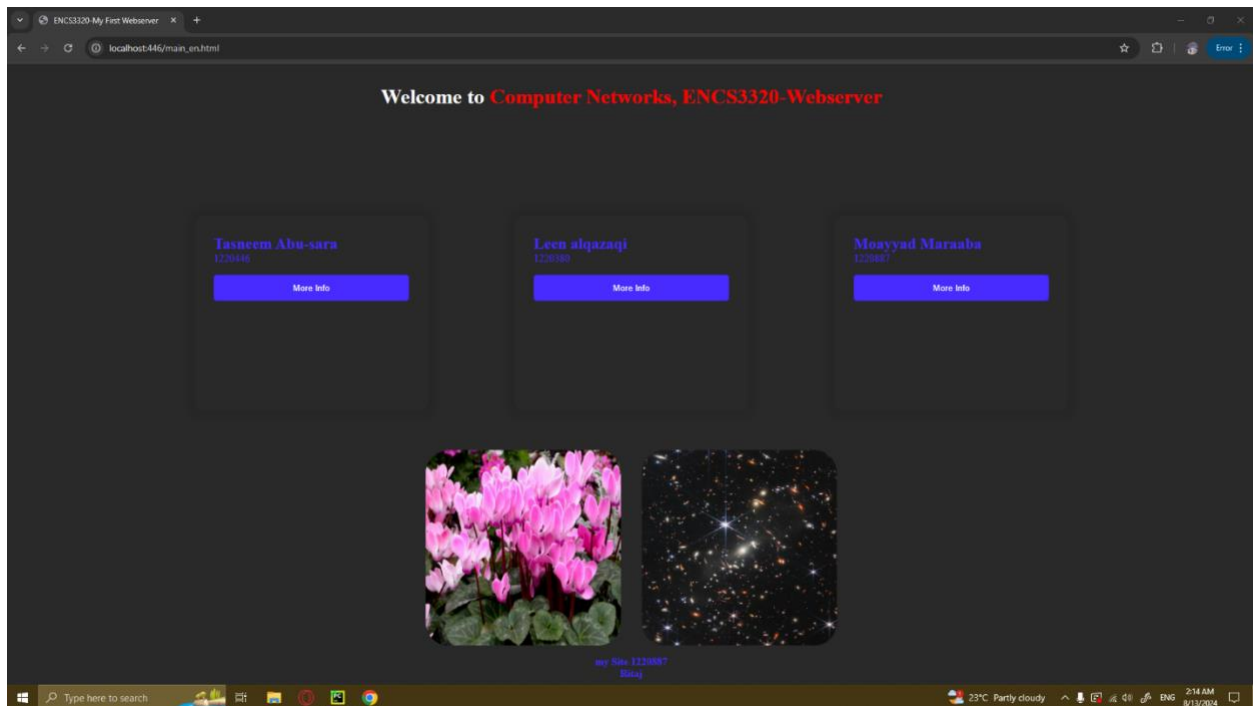


Figure 6.15: webpage design

As requested, using main_en.html or index.html will open the file in main_en.html

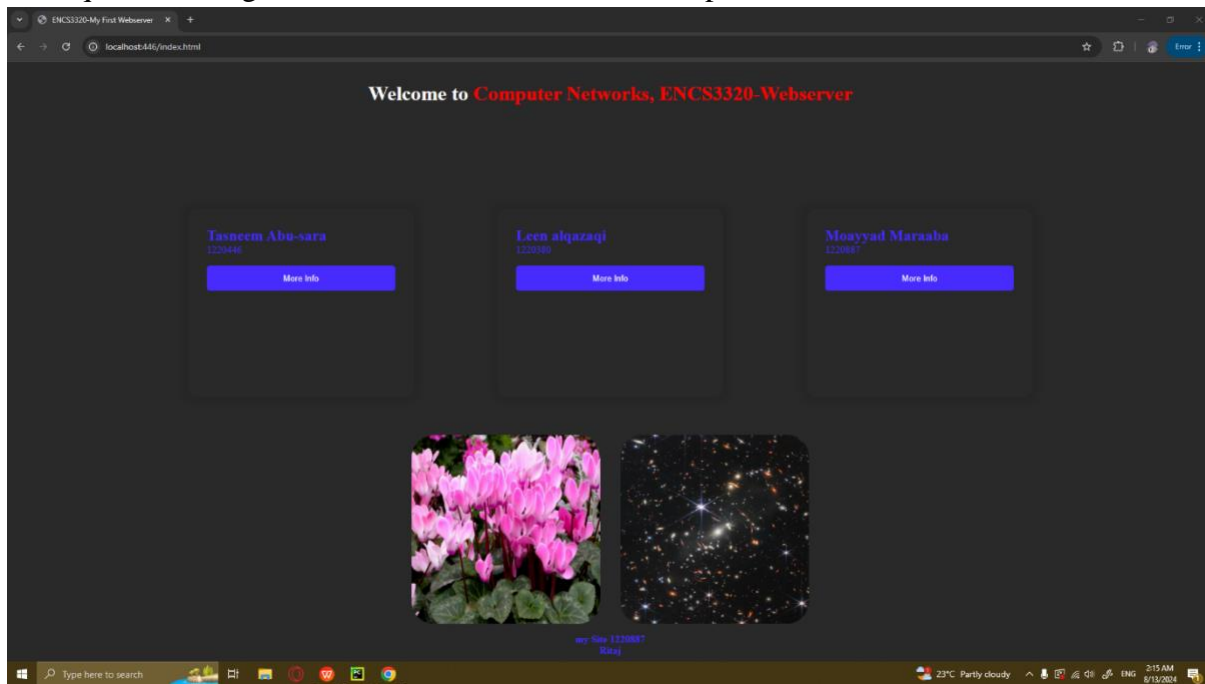


Figure 6.16: /main_en.html request

When the request is /ar then the server will respond with main_ar.html as shown below which is the Arabic version of main_en.html.

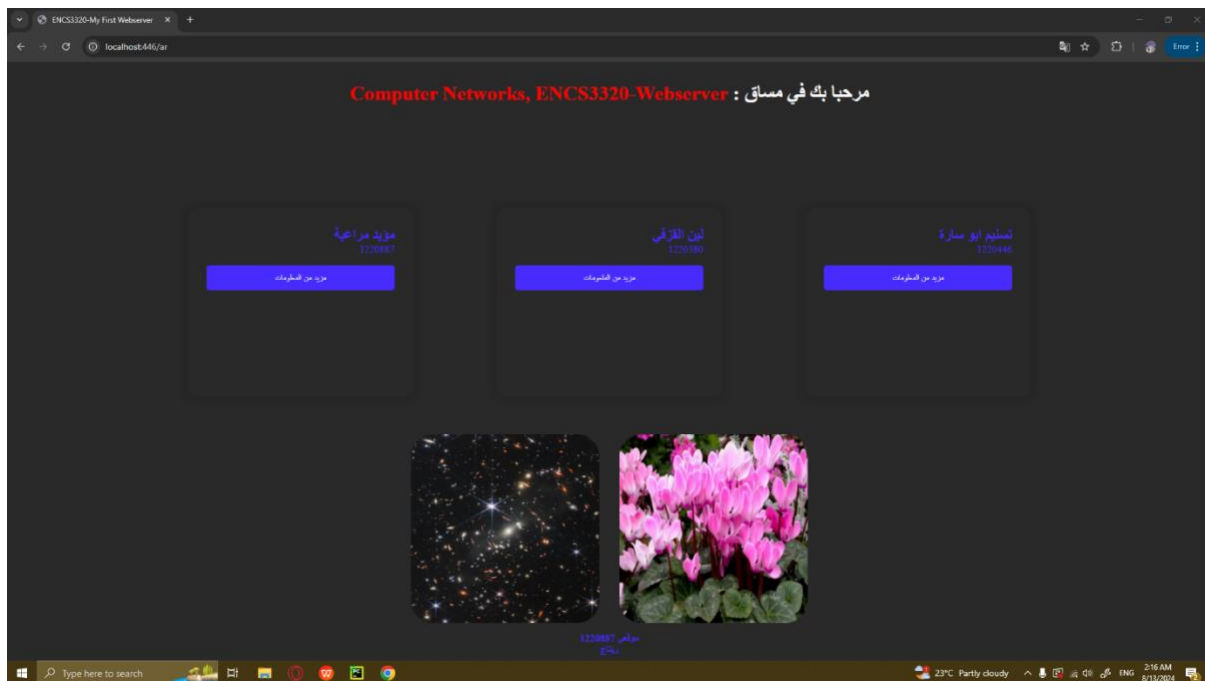


Figure 6.17: /ar request

If the request is .jpg the server sends the jpg image with content type “image /jpg”.

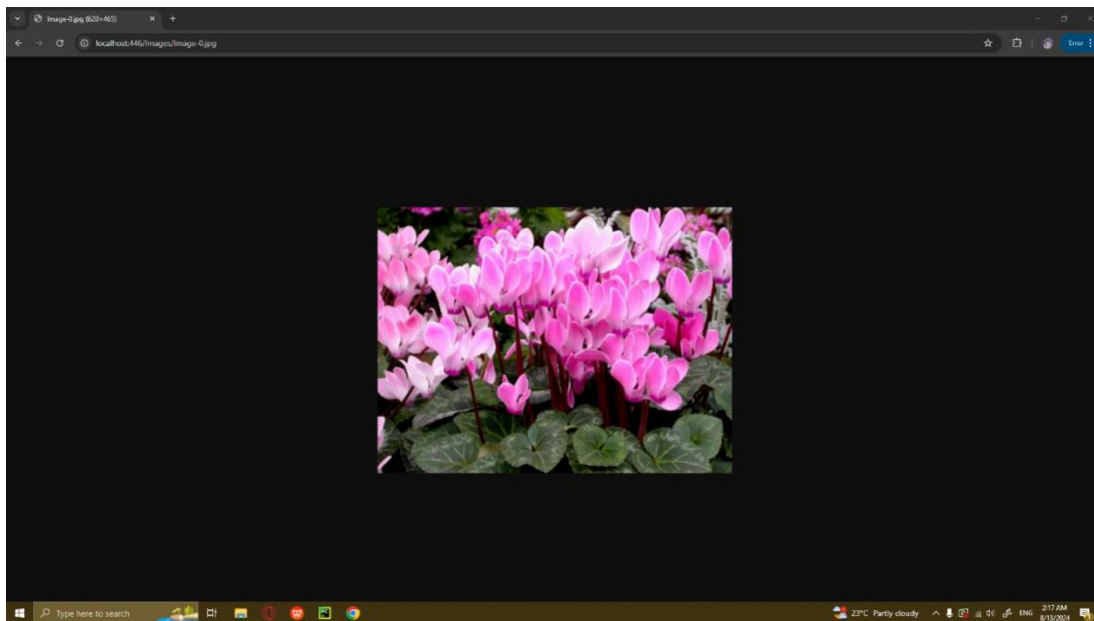


Figure 6.18: /image.jpg request

If the request is .png the server sends the png image with the content type “image /png”.

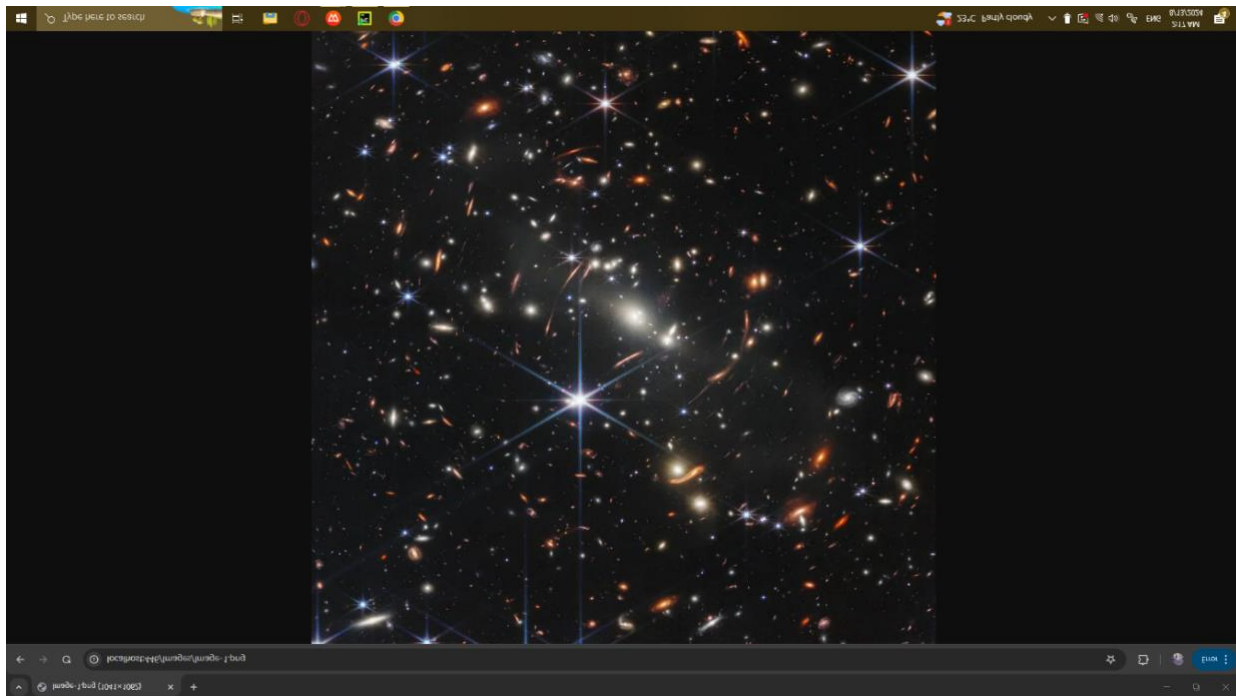


Figure 6.19: /image.png request

Additionally, we can use mySite1220887.html, to search for an image by typing its name in the box and the server will look for it in the images folder on the server.

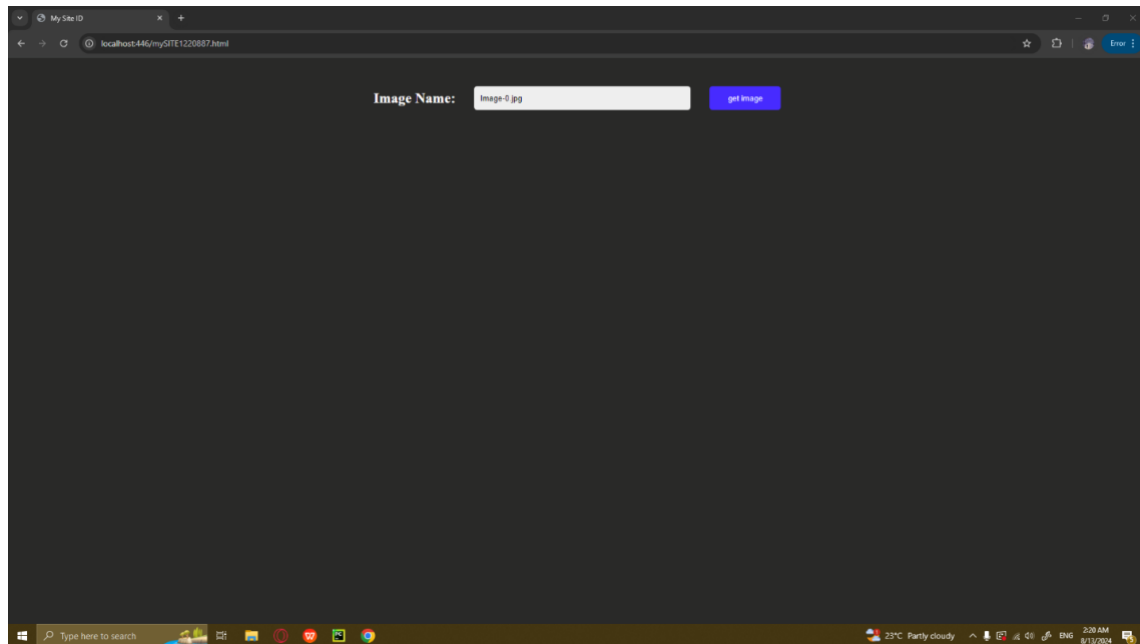


Figure 6.20: mySite1220887.html

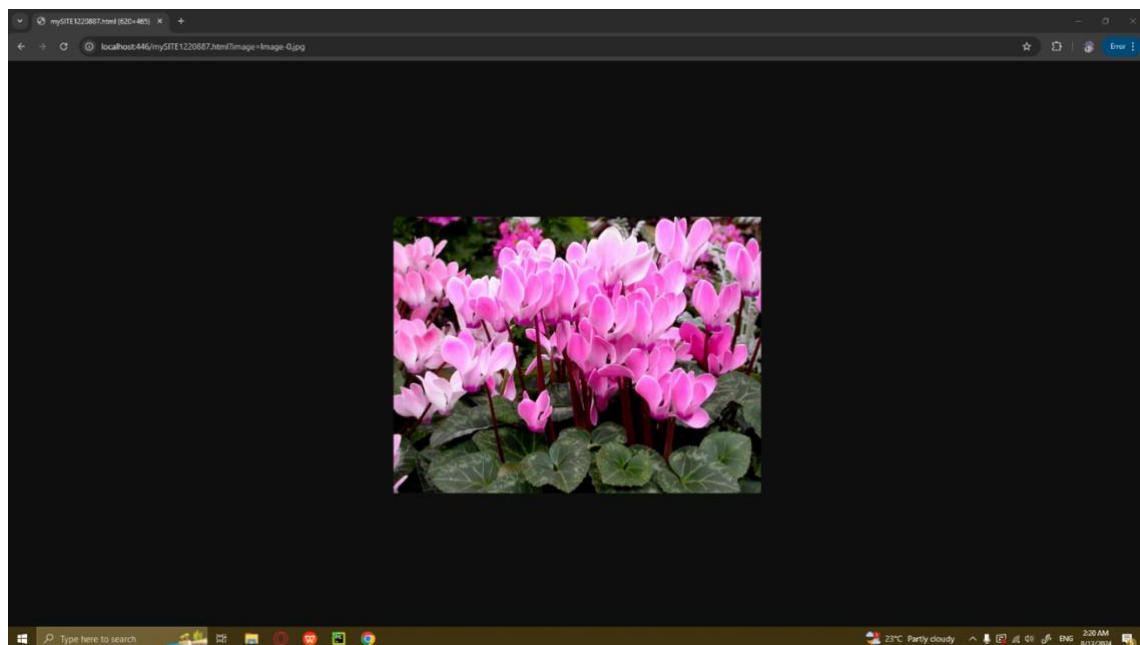


Figure 6.21: display the requested image

When the request is wrong or the file does not exist, the webpage will appear as in the snapshot below.

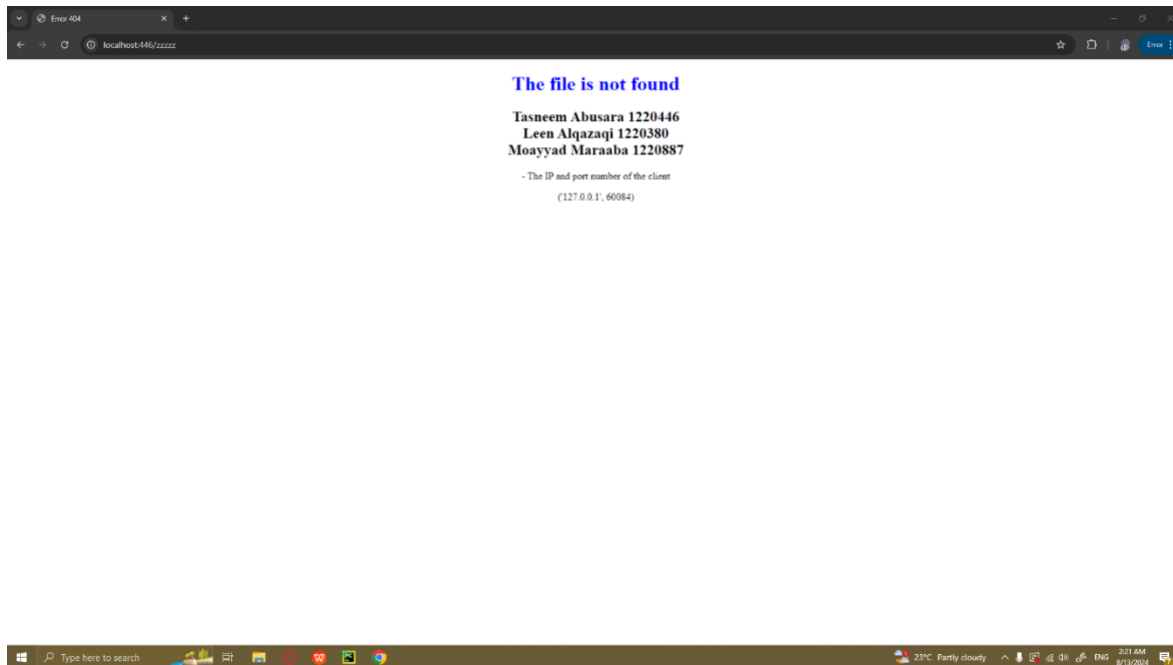


Figure 6.22: notfound.html

The snapshot below shows the HTTP requests on the terminal window

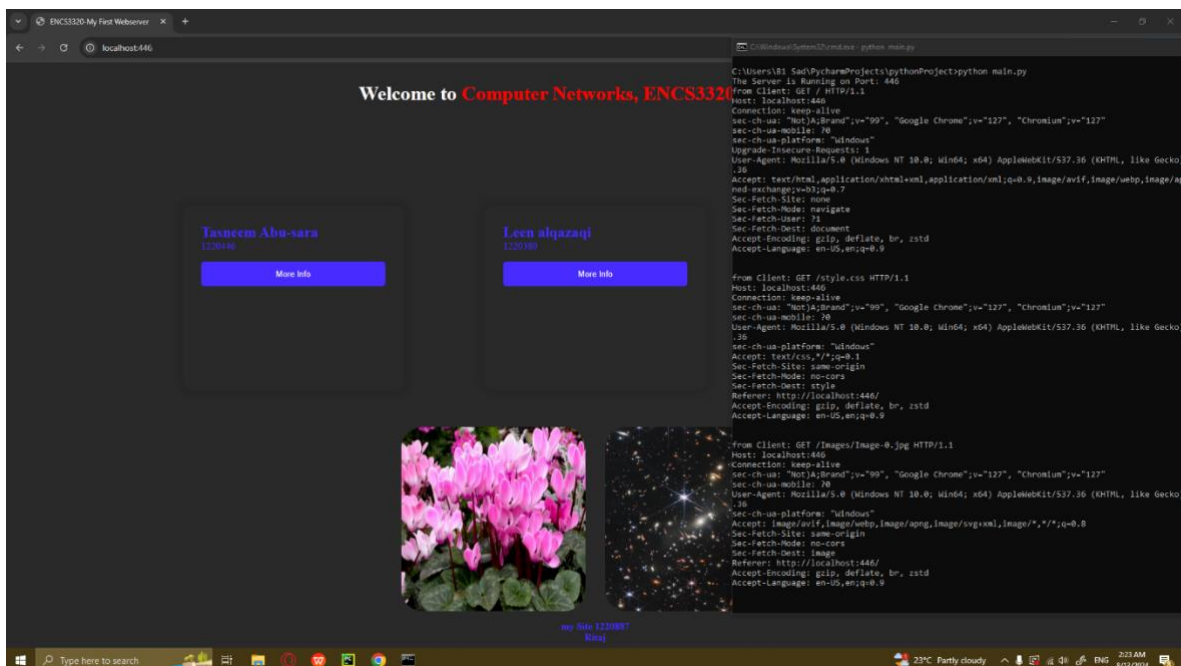


Figure 6.23: HTTP requests on the terminal window

If the request is /so then it redirects to stackoverflow.com website. Similarly, when the request is /itc, the localhost will redirect to itc.birzeit.edu.

After creating a firewall rule to allow connection through the port '446' and changing the IP of the hosting server to 0.0.0.0, we can connect from other devices on the same network as below

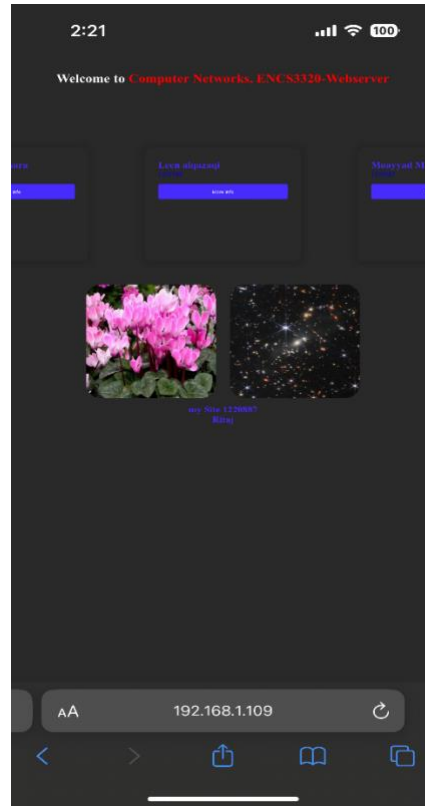


Figure 6.24: server accessed from a device on the same network

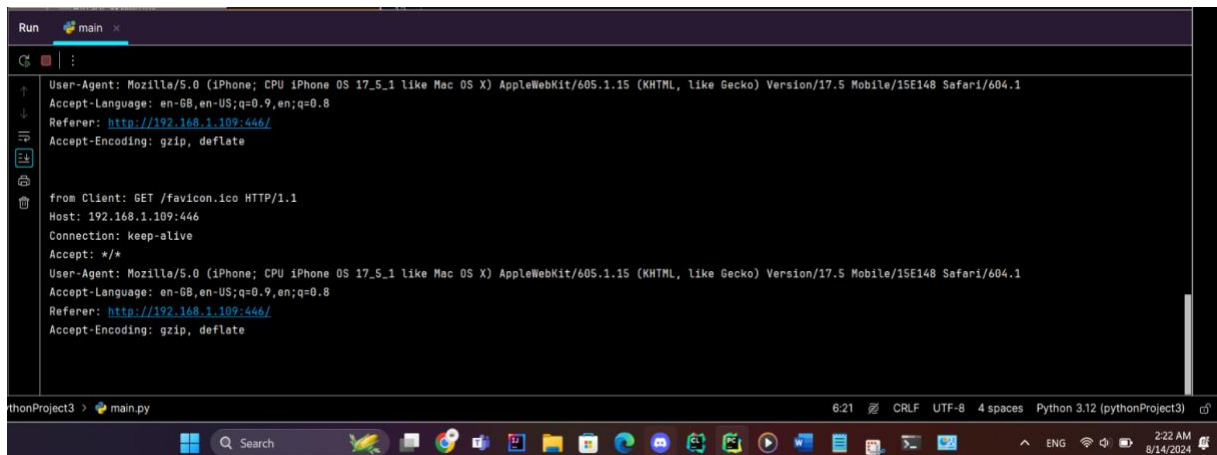


Figure 6.25: Request from mentioned device

7 Alternatives Solutions, Issues and Limitations

Task1:

Issues:

- Telnet is not allowed on all servers or routers, and in our case, it did not connect. If it had connected as expected, we would have had the ability to send HTTP requests directly.
- In general, some security protocols limit our freedom on the internet and limit the use of some commands.

Task2:

Alternative solutions:

- We can write the code in multiple ways using different functions.

Issues:

- No fixed IP for the server so the code is not general.

Task3:

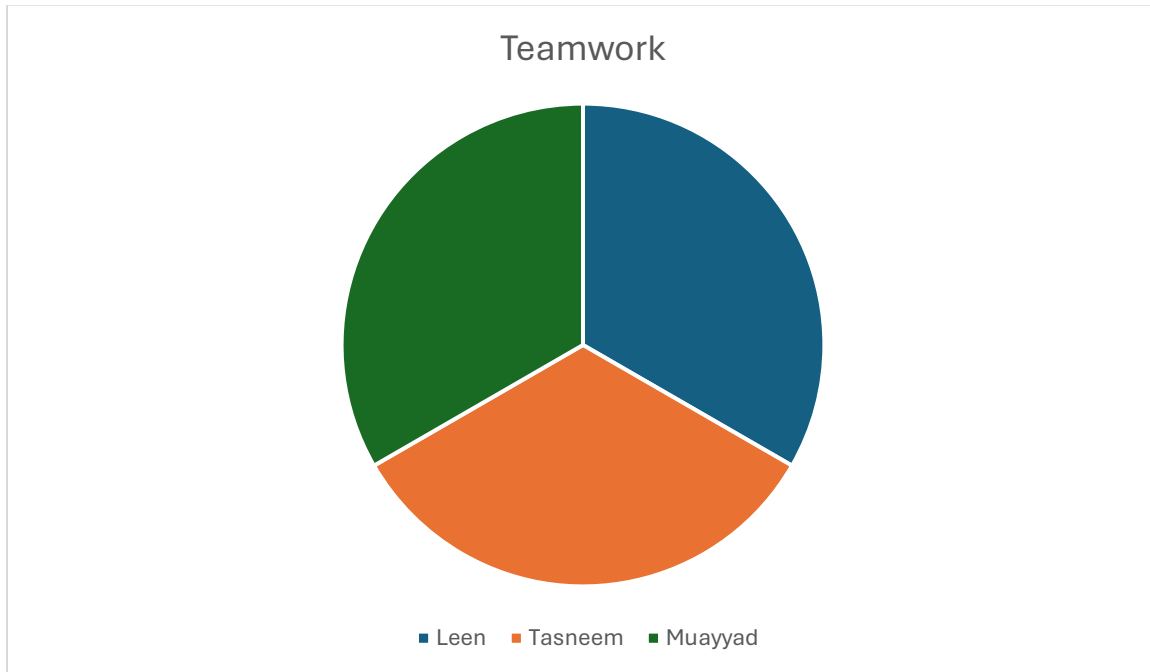
Alternative solutions:

- We could have placed the objects on different web servers; however, it would have resulted in extra RTTs

Issues:

- Servers usually have fixed IPs, but in our case, it is dynamic since the server is on an ordinary laptop. As a result, the code is not general and should be updated whenever the IP or device changes. This problem can be fixed by requesting a fixed IP.
- While making the server we experienced an issue with using the same port multiple times while hosting the server. The solution to this issue was to make sure to close the connection when the process was done.

8 Teamwork



Leen:

- Task 1.
- Parts of task 2 A.
- Task 2 B.
- Major parts of the report.

Muayyad:

- Parts of Task 2 A.
- Parts of task 2 B.
- Frontend of task 3.
- Parts of the report.

Tasneem:

- Parts of Task 2 A.
- Majority of the Python programming for task 3.
- Parts of the report.

9 References

- [1] colocation America: <https://www.colocationamerica.com/blog/tcp-ip-vs-udp>
- [2] bgp tool: <https://bgp.tools/>