Network Measurement and Monitoring Tools

Lecture 3-4
Network Monitoring and
Optimisation tools

Introduction: Why do we measure?

- Network measurements are essential to keep a network running efficiently
- For detecting bottlenecks/system faults and for forecasting future network requirements.
- Dealing with performance problems or faults (hardware and software) is relatively easy providing the network's usual performance is well documented.

How to monitor and measure

- You can monitor server and network performance with a variety of OS utility programmes or
- Use specialized test instruments such as field testers for diagnosing cabling problems and sophisticated monitoring and management tools for network performance analysis.

Network Measurement Tools

- Cable testers
- OS diagnostic tools
- TCP/IP utilities
- RMON (Remote Monitoring)
- SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol)
- Network Analysers
- Wireless Monitoring and Measurement
- Simulators/Emulators

Cable Testing Tools

- Multimeters
- Basic cable testers
- Verification cable testers
- Certification cable testers

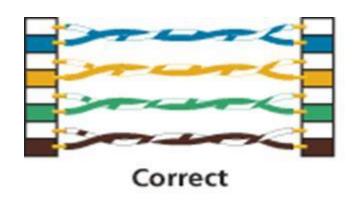
Cable Tester



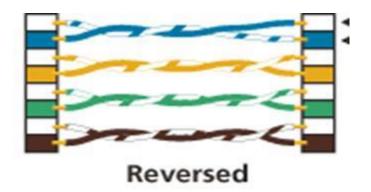
Verification Testing

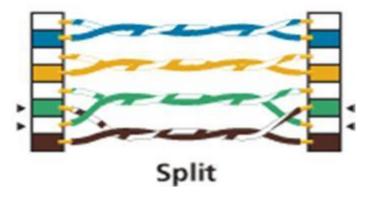
- Visual Inspection (for damage, bend radii)
- Continuity to remote end
- Shorts between conductors
- Crossed, reversed, split pairs etc.
- Other mis-wiring

Verification Testing









Certification Testing CAT 5e

- Wire map (inc. continuity)
- Length
- Insertion Loss (attenuation)
- NEXT loss (pair to pair) (Near End Croxx Talk)
- Propagation delay
- Delay skew
- Needs advanced field tester like Fluke Omniscanner

Time Domain Reflectometer

- Time Domain Reflectometer (TDR) is used to measure length of cables - Copper or Fibre
- Must be calibrated for NVP
- NVP = nominal velocity of propagation for the cable type quoted as fraction of speed of light
 - e.g. NVP for CAT5 UTP is approx. 2/3 x108 m/s
- Length = NVP x T_P
- T_P = propagation time
- e.g. 100m max for 100/1000BaseT channel or 90m max between fixed sockets to allow 10m for patch cables

TDR Example

 Determine the correct NVP setting as a % age of the speed of light (c) for a TDR cable tester if a calibration test on a 50m length of cable gave a round trip delay reading of 0.5 μs

```
• Length = NVP x T_P
```

```
• NVP = Length / T_P
= 50/0.25x10<sup>-6</sup> = 2x10<sup>8</sup> m/s
```

• therefore NVP is % of c

Windows OS Monitoring Tools

- Event Viewer
- Performance Console
- Task Manager
- Network Monitor

Event Viewer

- The Event Viewer allows you to view the events in the computer log to help locate problems.
- The event logs in Event Viewer allow you to gather information about hardware, software, and system problems.
- You can also monitor Windows security events such as logins.

Event Viewer Logs

Application log

The application log contains events logged by applications or programs. For example, a database program might record a file error in the application log. The program developer decides which events to record.

System log

The system log contains events logged by the Windows system components. For example, the failure of a driver or other system component to load during startup is recorded in the system log. The event types logged by system components are predetermined by Windows.

Security log

The security log can record security events such as valid and invalid logon attempts as well as events related to resource use such as creating, opening, or deleting files. An administrator can specify what events are recorded in the security log. For example, if you have enabled logon auditing, attempts to log on to the system are recorded in the security log.

Performance Console

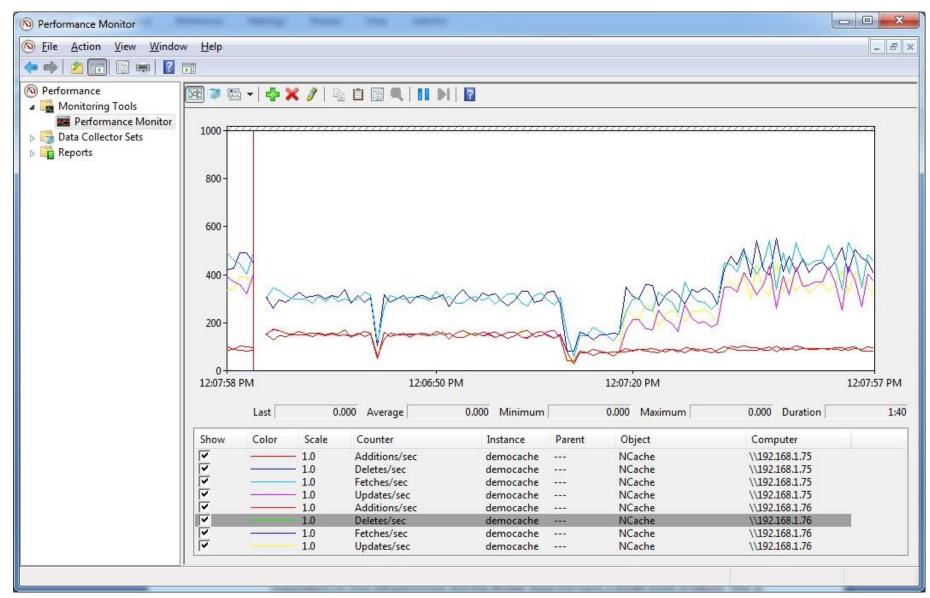
Performance Console:

System Monitor

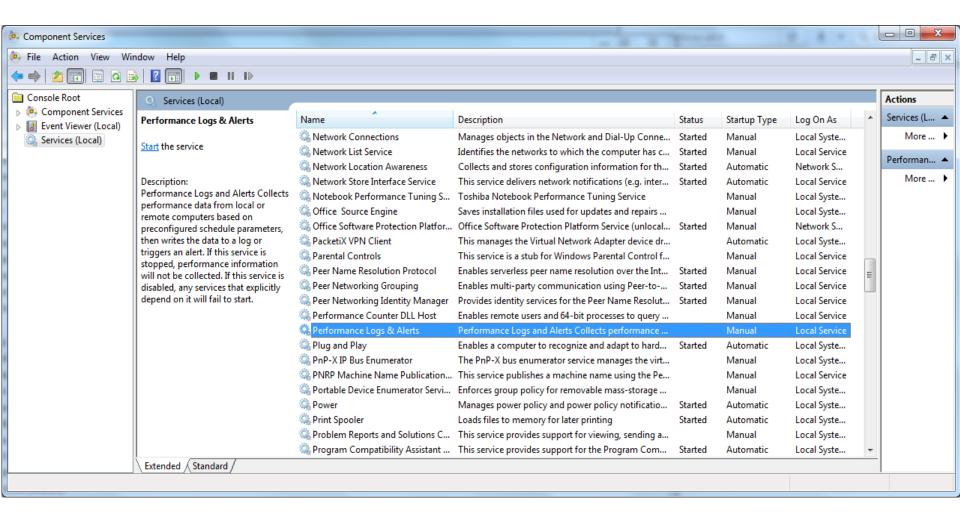
Logs and Alerts

The primary monitoring tools in Windows OS are in the Performance Console. These are System Monitor, and Performance Logs and Alerts. They can be configured to show a wide range of network related events in graphical form to help diagnose performance problems.

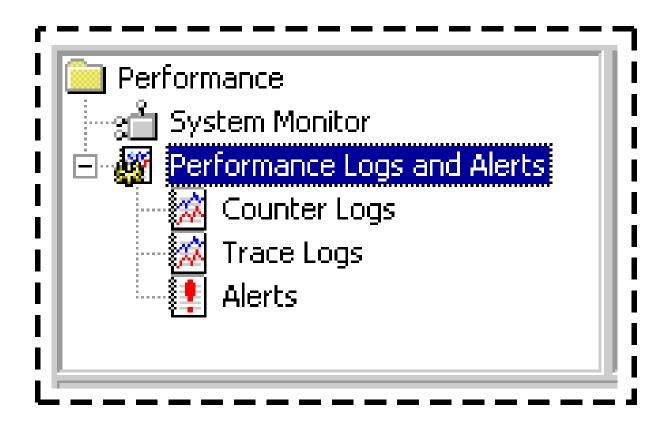
System Monitor



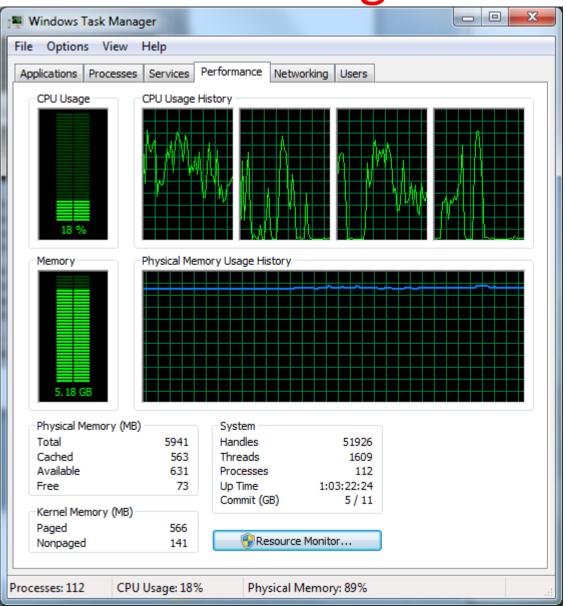
System Monitor



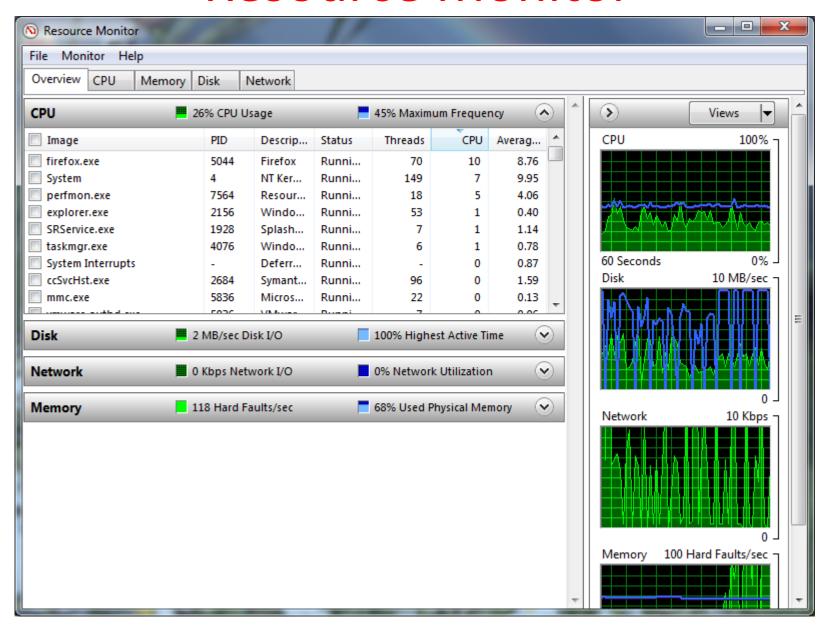
Logs and Alerts



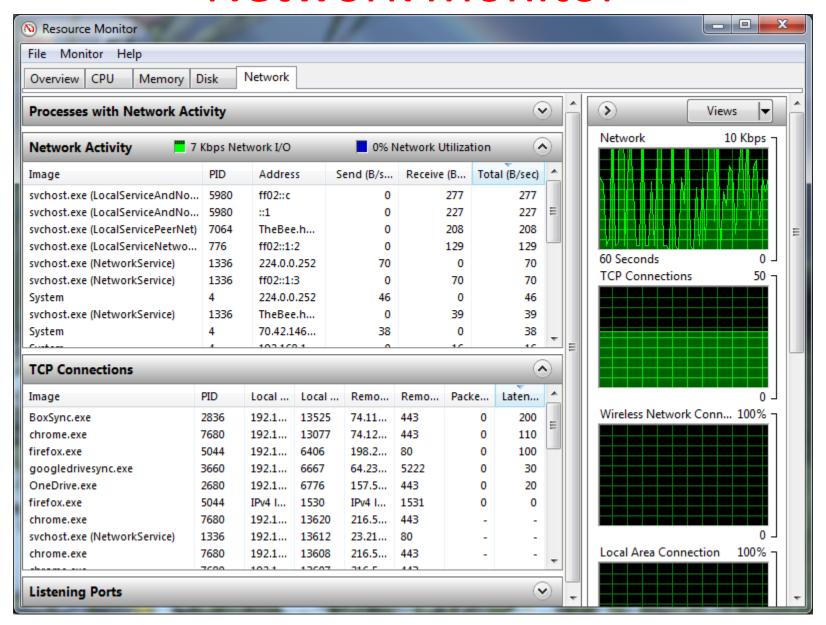
Task Manager



Resource Monitor



Network Monitor



TCP/IP & NetBIOS Utilities

- TCP/IP and NetBIOS diagnostic utilities included with Microsoft Windows 7.
- TCP/IP are useful to identify and resolve TCP/IP networking problems.
- When you troubleshoot a network begin by checking the TCP/IP configuration on the computer that is experiencing the problem.
- Then go on to test the connectivity with other network computers.

A more complete description of using these tools is in the laboratory reference guide: useutils_15.docx in Resources folder of BB site.

arp	View the ARP (Address Resolution Protocol) cache on the interface of the local computer to detect invalid entries.
hostname	Display the host name of the computer.
ipconfig	Display current TCP/IP network configuration values, and update or release Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) allocated leases, and display, register, or flush Domain Name System (DNS) names.
nbtstat	Check the state of current NetBIOS over TCP/IP connections, update the NetBIOS name cache, and determine the registered names and scope ID.
netstat	Display statistics for current TCP/IP connections.
netdiag	Check all aspects of the network connection.
nslookup	Check records, domain host aliases, domain host services, and operating system information by querying Internet domain name servers. Nslookup is discussed in detail in "Windows 2000 DNS" in this book.
pathping	Trace a path to a remote system and report packet losses at each router along the way.
ping	Send ICMP Echo Requests to verify that TCP/IP is configured correctly and that a remote TCP/IP system is available.
route	Display the IP routing table, and add or delete IP routes.
tracert	Trace a path to a remote system.

Tools for Performance Measurement

- There are many open source and third part testing tools available from network test specialists such as lxia
- Ixia's Ix Chariot is the market leader for network testing and Ixia Q-Check is a very useful free tool – used in labs
- iPerf is a very useful testing tool available for Linux and Windows OS – used in labs
- Many websites offer broadband testing tools

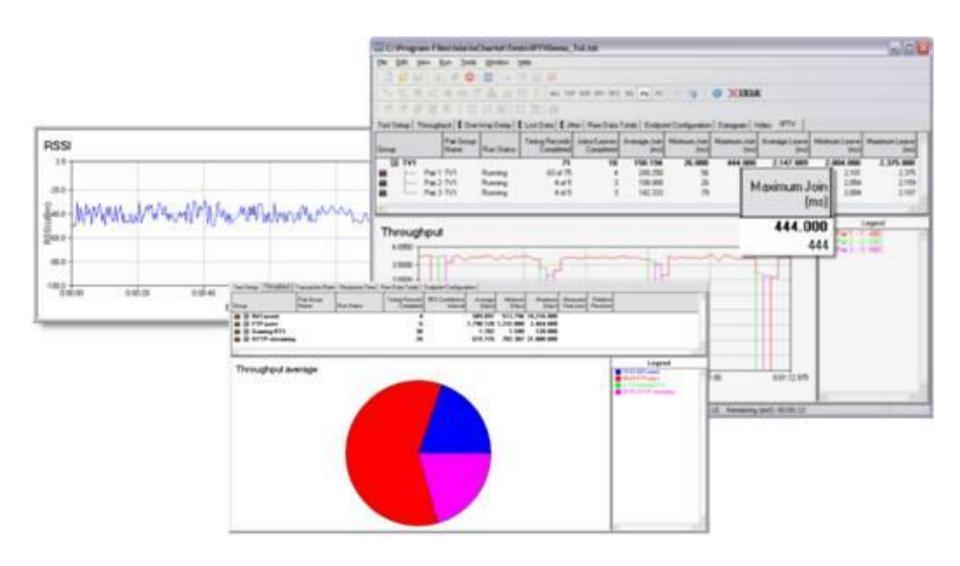
Ping for Performance Tests

- The best known, and most widely used active measurement tool is *ping*
- A sender generates an ICMP echo request packet, and directs it to a target system and starts a timer.
- The target system simply reverses the ICMP headers and sends the packet back to the sender as an ICMP echo reply.
- When the packet arrives at the original sender's system, the timer is halted and the elapsed time is reported along with TTL and packet loss

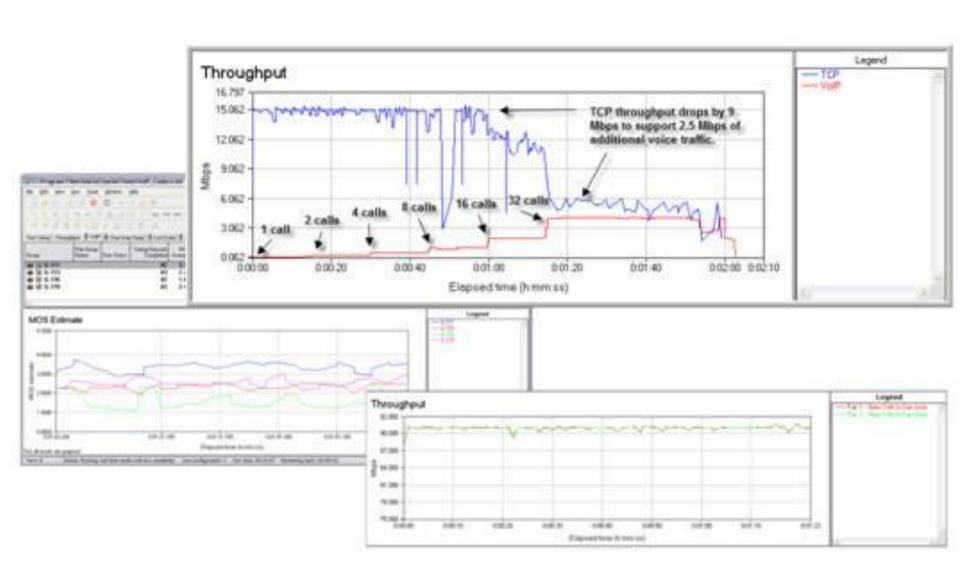
Ixia Endpoints

- IxChariot test agents, called Performance Endpoints, are installed on distributed systems to measure throughput, latency, loss and jitter using stateful TCP and UDP traffic.
- IxChariot assesses the performance of many popular enterprise applications running across local, global or virtualized infrastructures.

IxChariot GUI



IxChariot Statistics



QCheck

QCheck is a free software built using IxChariot technology. IxChariot is a powerful network assessment tool which is used to test networks and Wireless Devices.



QCheck Features

- For a response time test, QCheck returns the minimum, maximum and average number of seconds it took to complete a transaction
- For a throughput test, QCheck returns the amount of data per second that was successfully sent between the two endpoints
- For a streaming test, QCheck returns the rate at which the streaming data was received by the second endpoint and the amount of packet loss that occurred
- For a traceroute test, QCheck returns the number of hops, average hop latency, and the address and names of the host at each hop

Problem Solving with QCheck

Your Problem	The Qcheck Solution
Someone in accounting calls the Help	A Qcheck response time test determines if
Desk saying he can't access the	this is a network connectivity problem or
database server.	not. Qcheck can also determine if this is a
	problem being experienced by one user,
	one department, or many employees.
I've got a lot of remote employees	A Qcheck throughput test indicates how
connected to my network by 56 Kbps	quickly a computer can transmit data
dial-up modems. I wonder what kind of	across any network. And, from your desk,
throughput they see.	you can drive Qcheck tests between any
	two computers on your network.
The reception from the company's	A Qcheck streaming test evaluates the
videoconferencing system is lousy.	network's ability to support multimedia
	traffic, letting you know the rate at which
	traffic is received and how many packets
	get lost along the way.
You've detected a slow connection	A Qcheck on-demand traceroute initiates
between New York & San Francisco	a traceroute test between any two
but you're in Houston. How do you	workstations on your network, regardless
isolate the problem?	of their location.

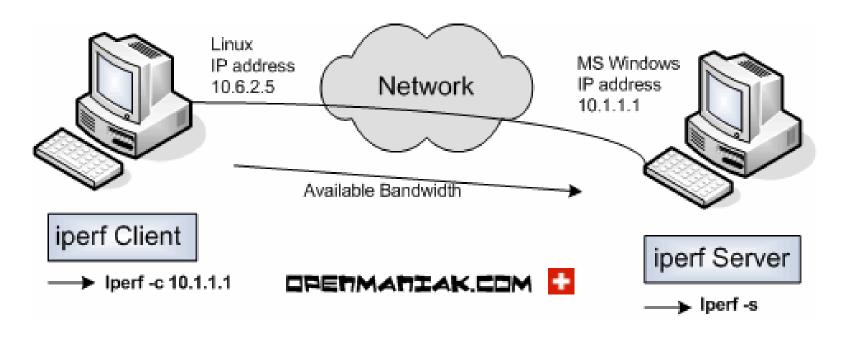
iPerf

- iPerf is a command line network testing tool
- It can create TCP and UDP data streams and measure the throughput of a network link.
- It employs a client and server functionality, to measure the throughput between the two ends, either unidirectonally or bidirectionally.
- When used for testing UDP capacity, iPerf allows the user to specify the datagram size.
- There is a GUI front end available called jPerf.

iPerf

- iPerf was developed to simplify TCP performance tuning by making it easy to measure maximum throughput and bandwidth.
- When used with UDP, iPerf can also measure datagram loss and jitter.
- iPerf can be run over any kind of IP network, including local Ethernet LANs, Internet access links, and Wi-Fi networks.

iPerf Use



By default, the iPerf client connects to the iPerf server on TCP port 5001 and the bandwidth displayed by iPerf is the bandwidth from the client to the server.

If you want to do UDP tests, use the –u argument. The –d and –r iPerf client arguments measure bi-directional bandwidths.

Running iPerf

- By default, iPerf runs a 10 second test, measuring total bytes transmitted and the resulting estimated bandwidth.
- Test length can be controlled by specifying time (-t seconds) or number of buffers (-n buffers).
- You can also view test results at regular intervals (-i seconds):

```
Usage: iperf [-s|-c host] [options]
       iperf [-h:--help] [-v:--version]
Client/Server:
  -f, --format
                           format to report: Kbits, Mbits, KBytes, MBytes
                  [kmKM]
                           seconds between periodic bandwidth reports
  -i, --interval
                  #[KM]
                           length of buffer to read or write (default 8 KB)
  -1. --len
                           print TCP maximum segment size (MTU - TCP/IP header)
  -m, --print_mss
  -o, --output
                  (filename) output the report or error message to this specifie
 file
  -p, --port
                           server port to listen on/connect to
  -u, --udp
                           use UDP rather than TCP
  -w, --window
                  #[KM]
                           TCP window size (socket buffer size)
                           bind to <host>, an interface or multicast address
  -B, --bind
                  <host>
 -C, --compatibility
                           for use with older versions does not sent extra msgs
  -M, --mss
                           set TCP maximum segment size (MTU - 40 bytes)
 -N. --nodelay
                           set TCP no delay, disabling Nagle's Algorithm
  -V, --IPv6Version
                           Set the domain to IPv6
Server specific:
  -s, --server
                           run in server mode
 -U, --single_udp
                           run in single threaded UDP mode
 −D, --daemon
                           run the server as a daemon
  -R, --remove
                           remove service in win32
Client specific:
  -b, --bandwidth #[KM]
                           for UDP, bandwidth to send at in bits/sec
                           (default 1 Mbit/sec, implies -u)
                  <host>
  -c, --client
                           run in client mode, connecting to <host>
  -d, --dualtest
                           Do a bidirectional test simultaneously
                  #[KM]
  -n, --num
                           number of bytes to transmit (instead of -t)
  -r, --tradeoff
                           Do a bidirectional test individually
  -t. --time
                           time in seconds to transmit for (default 10 secs)
  -F, --fileinput <name>
                           input the data to be transmitted from a file
 -I, --stdin
                           input the data to be transmitted from stdin
                           port to recieve bidirectional tests back on
  -L, --listenport #
  -P. --parallel #
                           number of parallel client threads to run
                           time-to-live, for multicast (default 1)
  -T, --tt1
  -Z, --linux-congestion <algo> set TCP congestion control algorithm <Linux onl
Miscellaneous:
  -x, --reportexclude [CDMSV]
                                exclude C(connection) D(data) M(multicast) S(set
tings) V(server) reports
  -y, --reportstyle C
                           report as a Comma-Separated Values
 -ĥ, --help
                           print this message and quit
  -v, --version
                          print version information and quit
[KM] Indicates options that support a K or M suffix for kilo- or mega-
The TCP window size option can be set by the environment variable
TCP_WINDOW_SIZE. Most other options can be set by an environment variable
|IPERF_<long option name>, such as IPERF_BANDWIDTH.
```

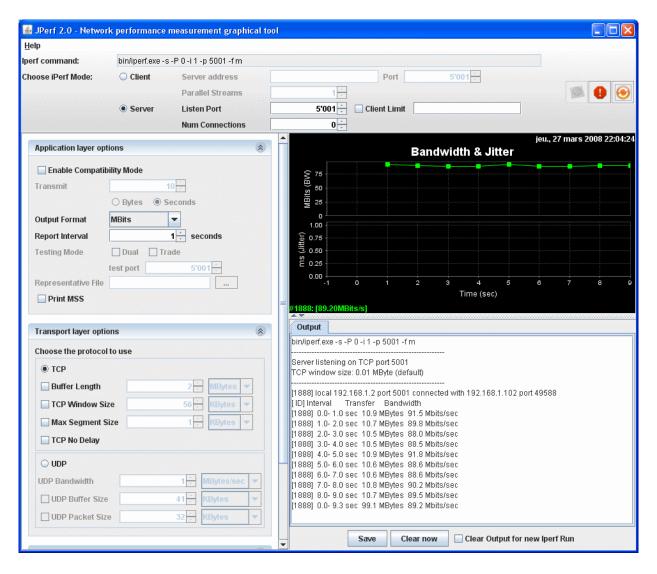
Measuring TCP Throughput

- To determine max TCP throughput, iPerf tries to send data as quickly as it can from client to server.
- Default data is sent from an 8 KB buffer, using the operating system's default TCP window size.
- To mimic a specific TCP application, you can tell your iPerf client to send data from a specified file (-F filename) or enter it interactively (-I).

UDP Loss and Delay

- iPerf can also be used to measure UDP datagram throughput, loss, and delay. Unlike TCP tests, UDP tests do not send traffic as quickly as possible.
- Instead, iPerf tries to send 1 Mbps of traffic, packaged in 1470 byte UDP datagrams (fits into one Ethernet frame).
- This rate can be increased by supplying a target bandwidth parameter, specified in Kbps or Mbps (-b #K or --b #M).

jPerf



Broadband Speedtest



http://www.speedtest.net/

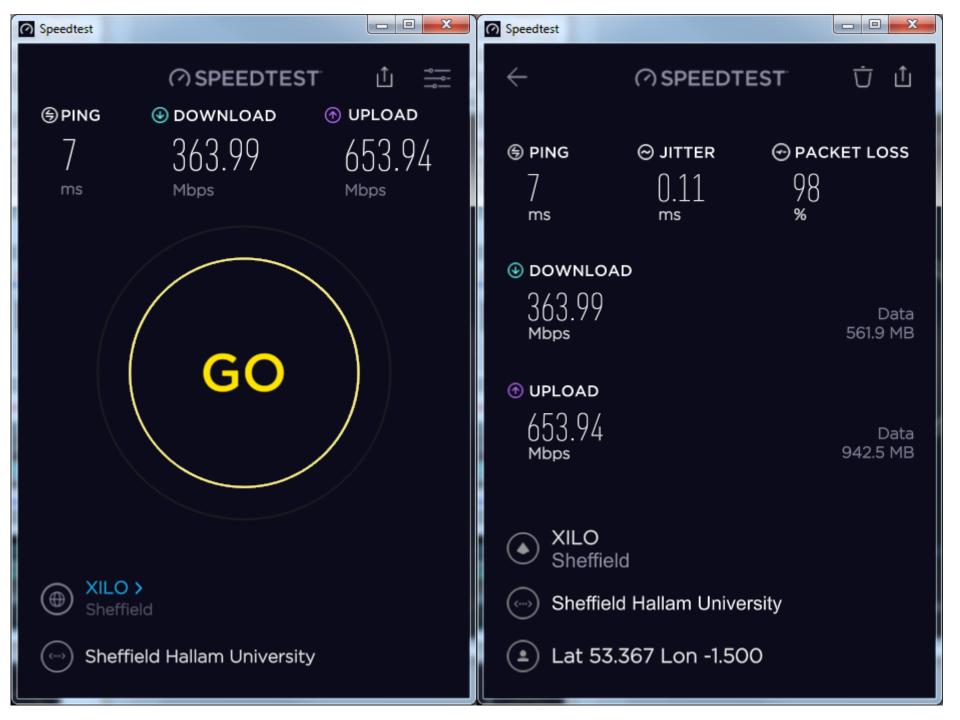




What is Pingtest.net?

Use Pingtest.net to determine the quality of your broadband Internet connection. Streaming media, voice, video communications, and online gaming require more than just raw speed. Test your connection now to get your Pingtest.net

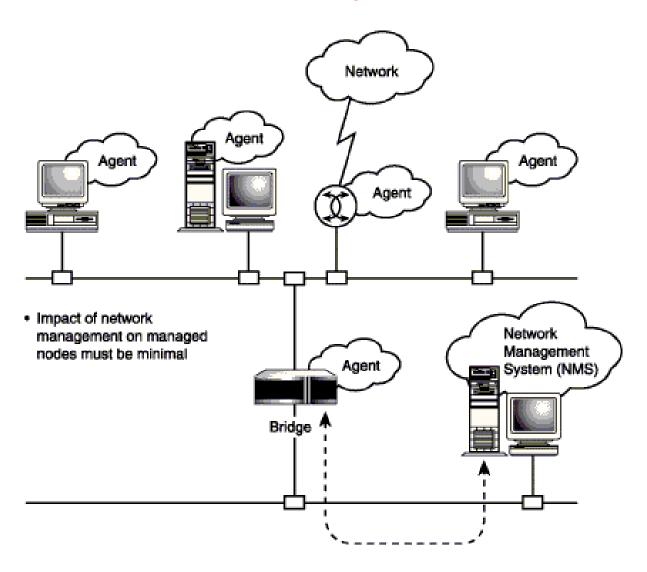




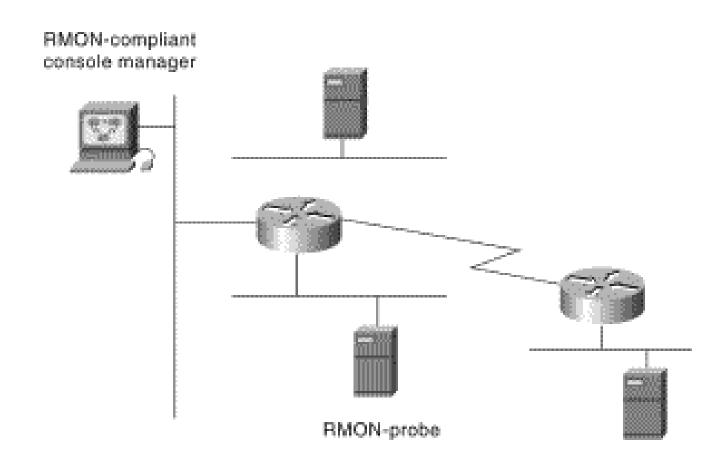
SNMP and RMON

- Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) was developed as a solution for network management on TCP/IP networks.
- Remote Monitoring (RMON) is used by remote monitoring agents to analyse network performance.
- RMON is a standard monitoring specification that enables various network monitors and console systems to exchange network-monitoring data.

SNMP Components



RMON Components



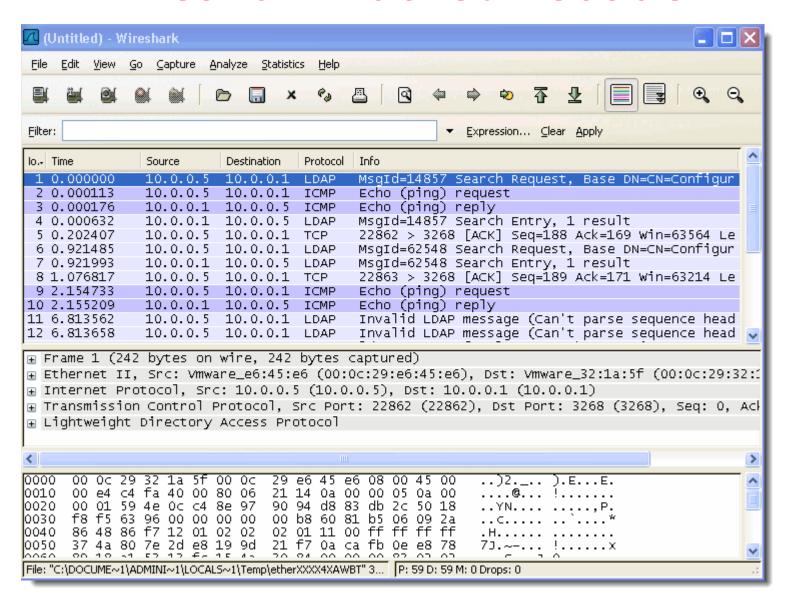
Network Monitors and Analysers

- Network Monitoring and Analysis tools are available from several vendors either as fully integrated hardware devices or software packages designed to run on notebook or desktop computers equipped with promiscuous mode LAN adapters.
- Open Source analysers such as Wireshark are also available.

OptiView

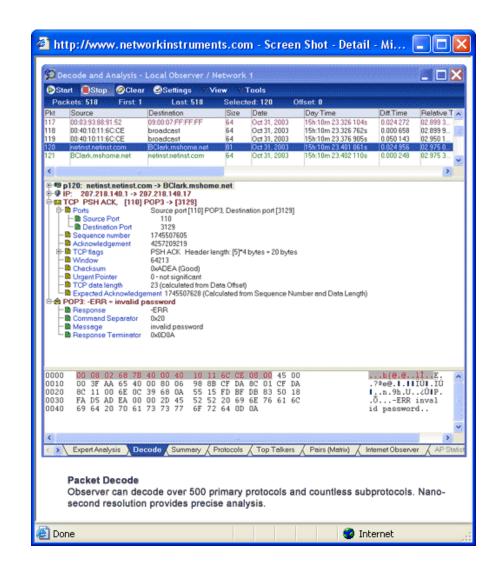


Wireshark Packet Decode

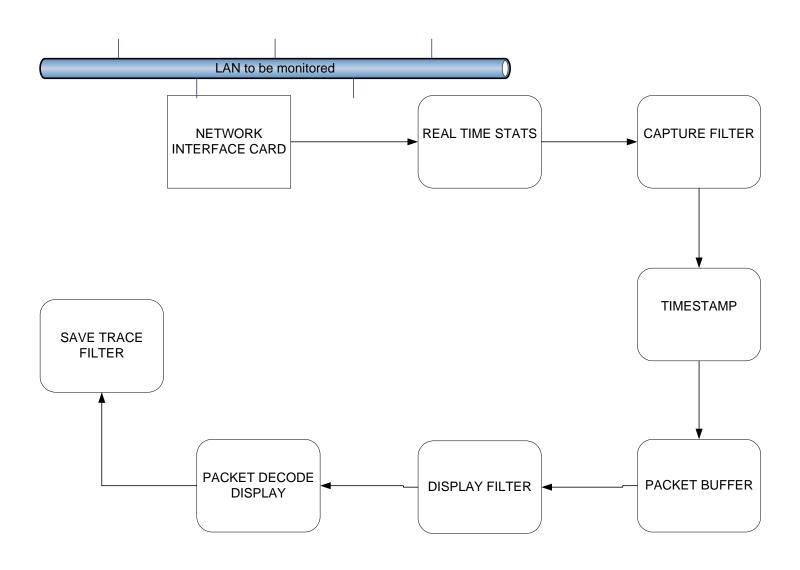


Observer and Sniffer

Popular commercial software to monitor and analyse LAN



Basic LAN Protocol Analyzer Operation



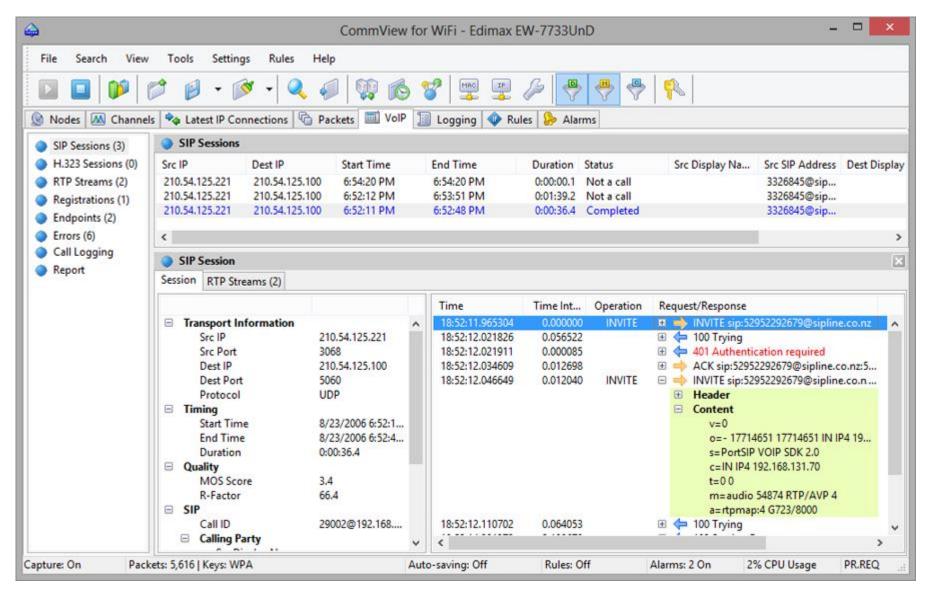
Wireless Monitoring and Measurement

- Wireshark and Observer can be used to capture and analyze IEEE 802.11 wireless network traffic when using a computer with suitable wireless LAN adapter that can operate in monitor mode.
- Several vendors also offer more specialist WLAN tools such as Airopeek (now called OmniPeek) and Airmagnet or the lower cost CommView for WiFi.
- Spectrum analysers are invaluable for detecting and dealing RF interference problems.

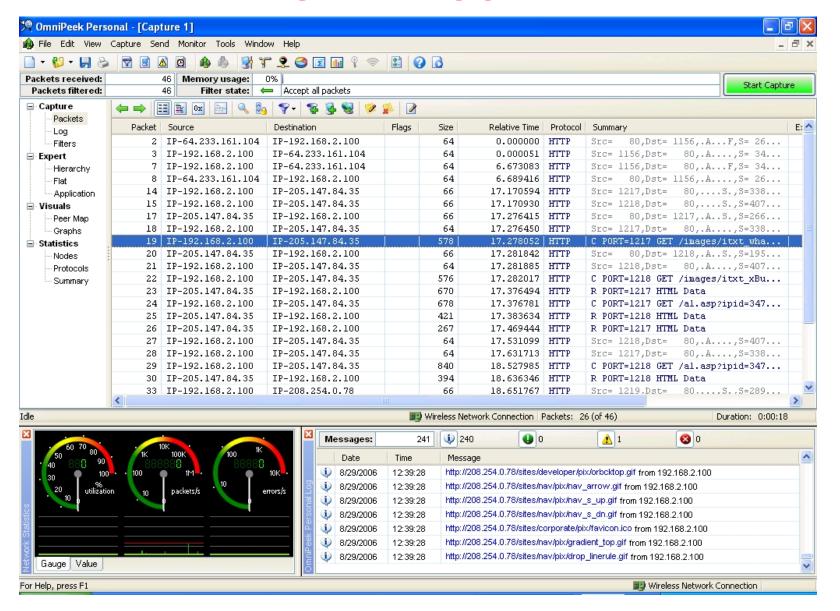
AirMagnet



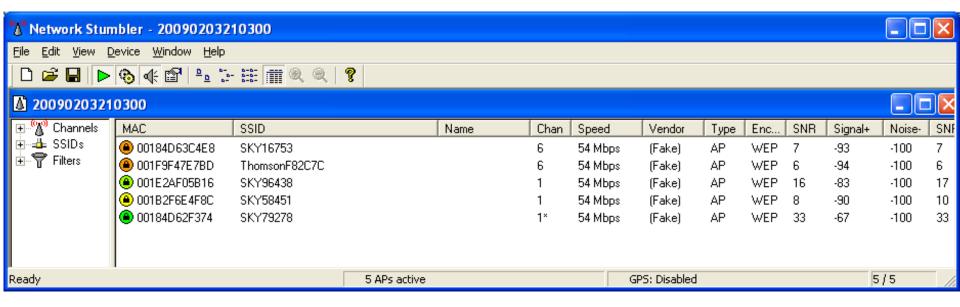
CommView for WiFi



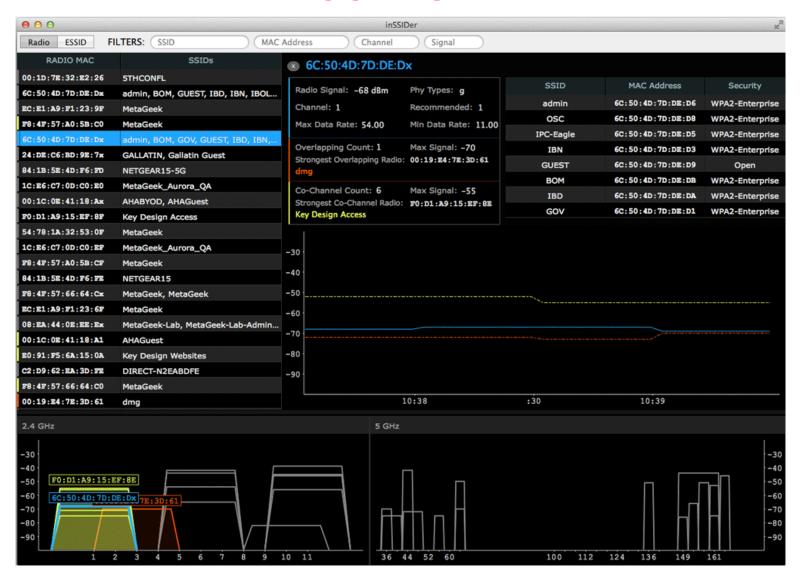
OmniPeek



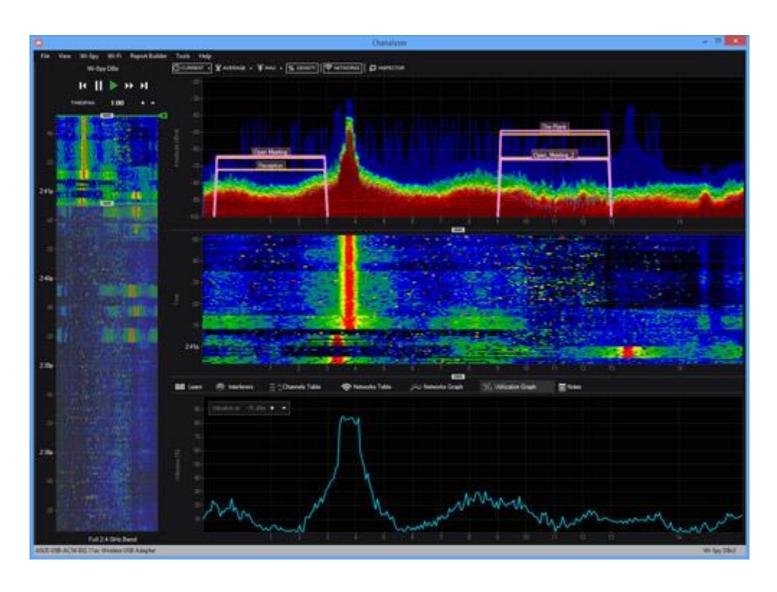
NetStumbler



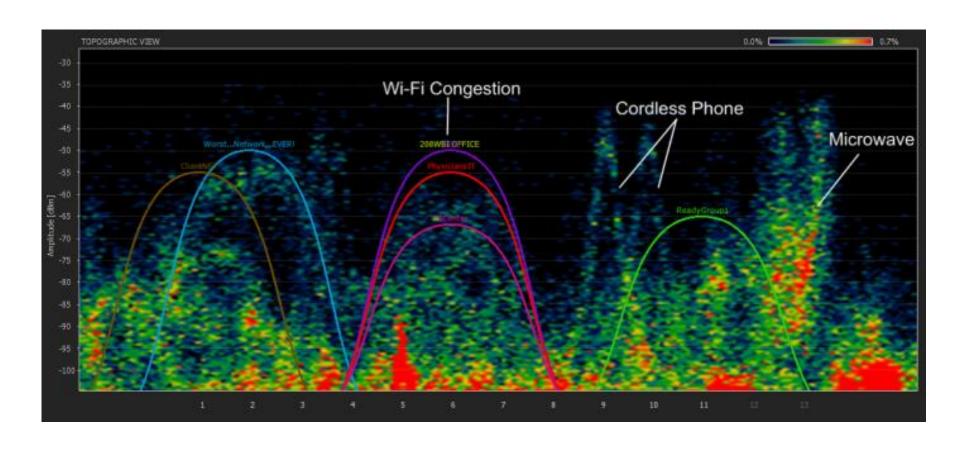
inSSIDer



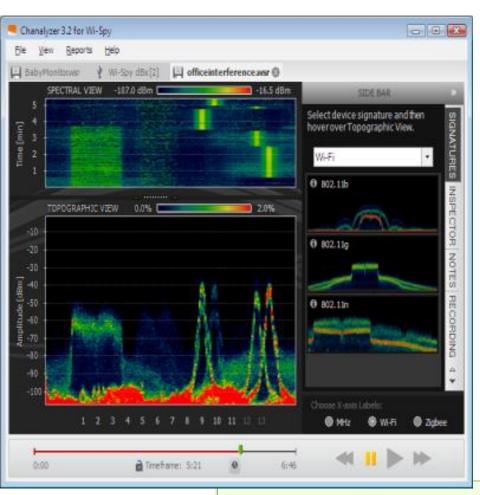
WiSpy Spectrum Analyser



WiSpy Interference Detection



WiSpy and Chanelyzer



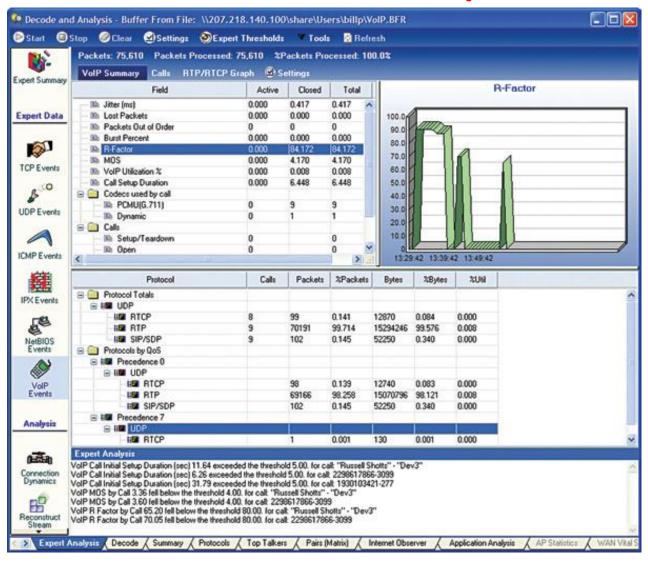
Chanalyzer turns data collected from a Wi-Spy into highly interactive charts and graphs, allowing users to "visualize" their wireless landscape. Together, Wi-Spy and Chanalyzer enable both enterprise and small business users to visualize, troubleshoot, and optimize their wireless networks.

See video at http://www.metageek.net/products/wi-spy-24x

Real Time Quality Measurements

- Quality of Service (QoS) measurements are essential in measuring the real time performance of networks.
- Observer, Wireshark and some of the other network analyzers now have expert analysis features that can measure the metrics from which QoS assessments can be made.
- Observer VoIP Expert for instance will decode RTP traffic and format the results for latency, jitter and packet loss to provide graphical information and overall MOS scores or R-Factor.

Observer VoIP Expert

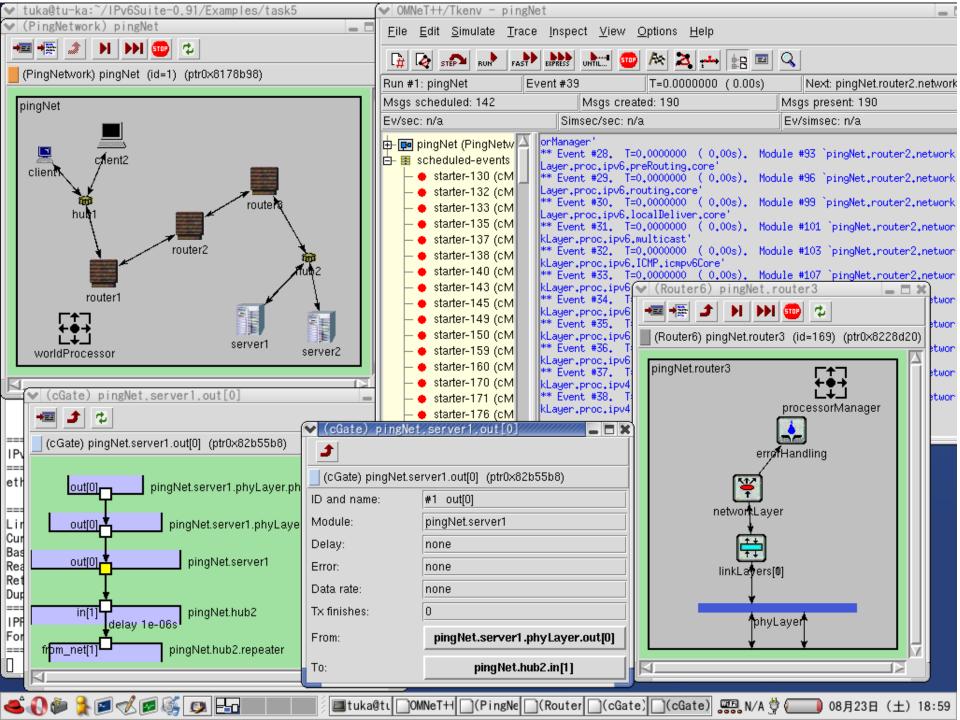


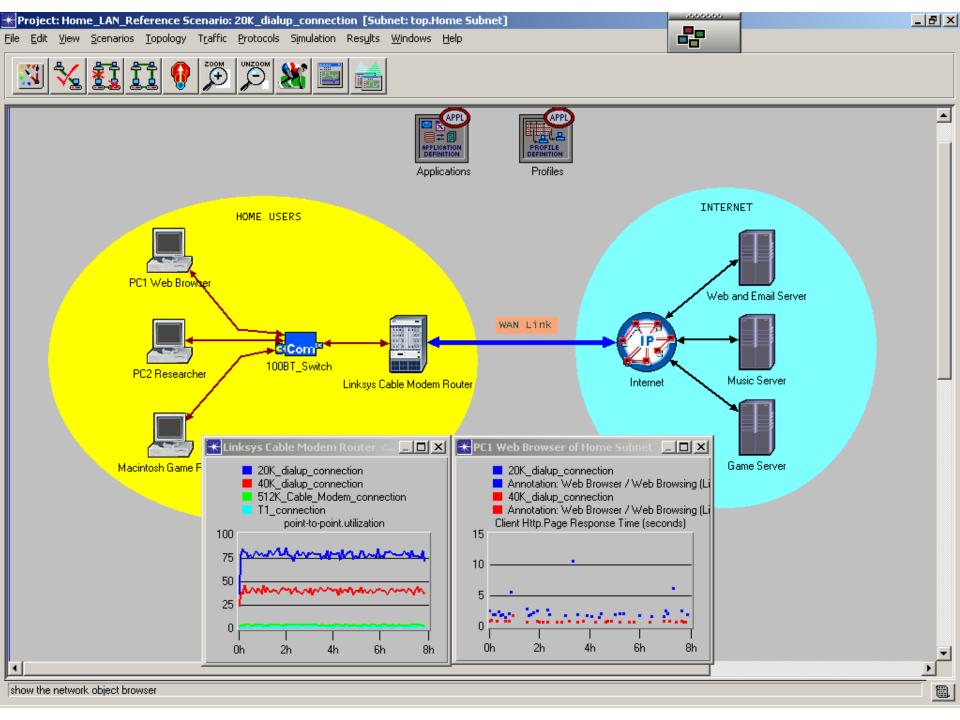
Simulation

- To diagnose problems or test new applications on a complex network, you may need to simulate the network.
- Use a simulation program to build a software model of key network elements and test how well the model functions with various traffic loads or network designs.

Simulators

- Riverbed Modeler (OPNET) is a commercial packages, which allow networks to be simulated either to assist with the research and design of new networks or to model an existing network and help predict the effect of changes on network performance (change simulation or What-if Analysis).
- Open source simulator software such as NS-2, NS-3 and OMNeT++ are also available.





Emulators

- A network emulator is a device that sits on a network and mimics the behavior of network devices such as routers or parts of the system such as subnets. Actual traffic measurements are made under the control of the emulator.
- Emulators lie between simulators and live systems.
 They allow experiments with a high degree of reproducibility. For example, an emulator might duplicate or approximate the behaviour of an attached network device.

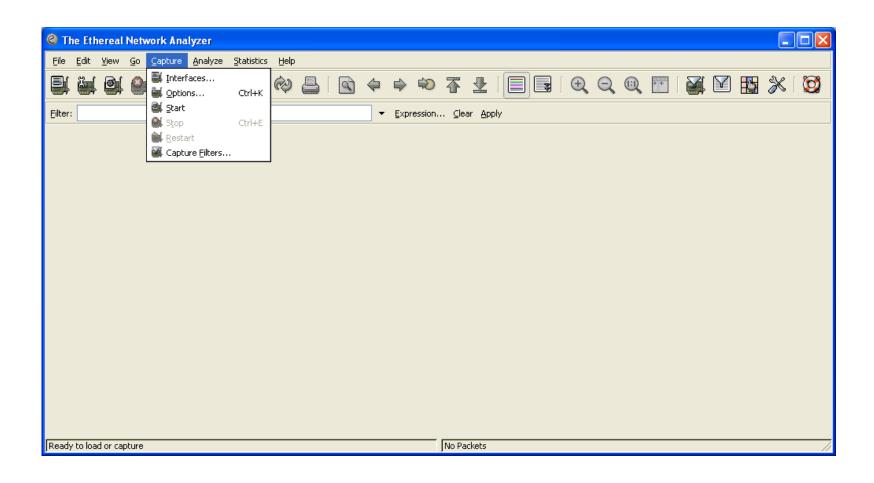
NISTNET

- NISTNET is an emulator software that is useful for internetwork testing.
- It turns a Linux computer into a router with variable performance metrics.
- Jitter, latency, bandwidth and packet loss can be altered to test the effects on network performance.

Using Wireshark

- Wireshark (formerly called Ethereal) is a GUI network protocol analyzer.
- It can examine data from a live network or from a capture file on disk.
- You can interactively browse the capture data, viewing summary and detail information for each packet.
- Wireshark can assemble all the packets in a TCP conversation and show you the ASCII (or EBCDIC, or hex) data in that conversation.
- Display filters in Wireshark are very powerful; more fields are filterable than in other protocol analyzers.
 Features: (see http://www.wireshark.org for a complete list of features and video tutorial)
- For other video guides and examples see BB resources folder

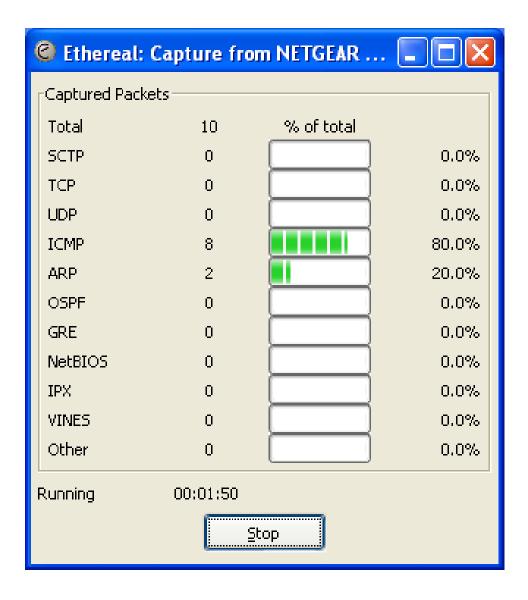
Capture Screen



Capture Filter

Capture		
Interface: NETGEAR WG511 54 Mbps Wireless PC Card (Microsoft's Packet Scheduler) : \De\		
IP address: 192.168.0.4		
Link-layer header type; Ethernet V Buffer size: 1 megabyte(s)		
✓ Capture packets in promiscuous mode		
Limit each packet to 68 \$\times\$ bytes		
Capture Filter: host 192.168.0.4		
Capture File(s)		Display Options
File:	Browse	Update list of packets in real time
Use multiple files		
Next file every	1 megabyte(s) v	<u>Automatic scrolling in live capture</u>
Next file every	1 minute(s)	Hide capture info dialog
Ring buffer with	2 \$\circ\$ files	-Name Resolution
Stop capture after	1 \$\circ\$ file(s)	
Stop Capture Enable MAC name resolution		
after 1	packet(s)	Enable network name resolution
after 1	c megabyte(s)	
after 1	minute(s)	✓ Enable transport name resolution
Help Start Cancel		

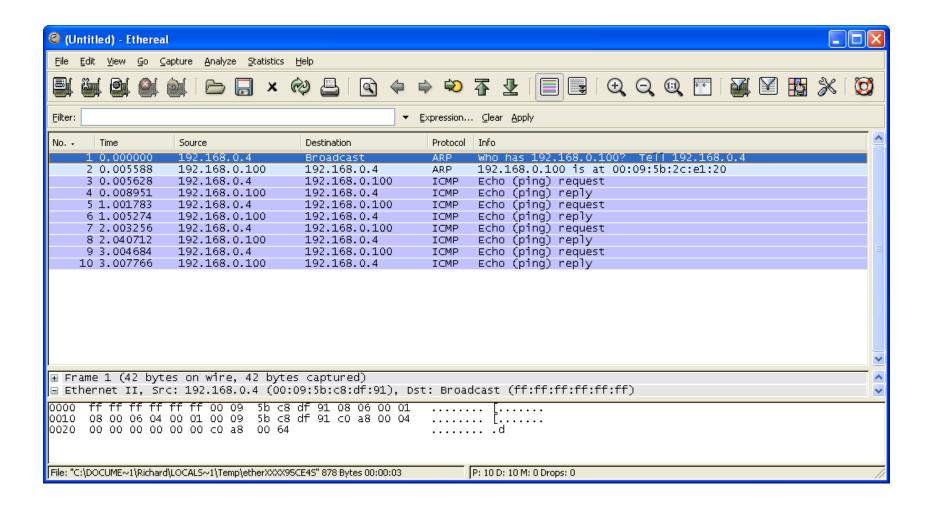
Protocols Screen



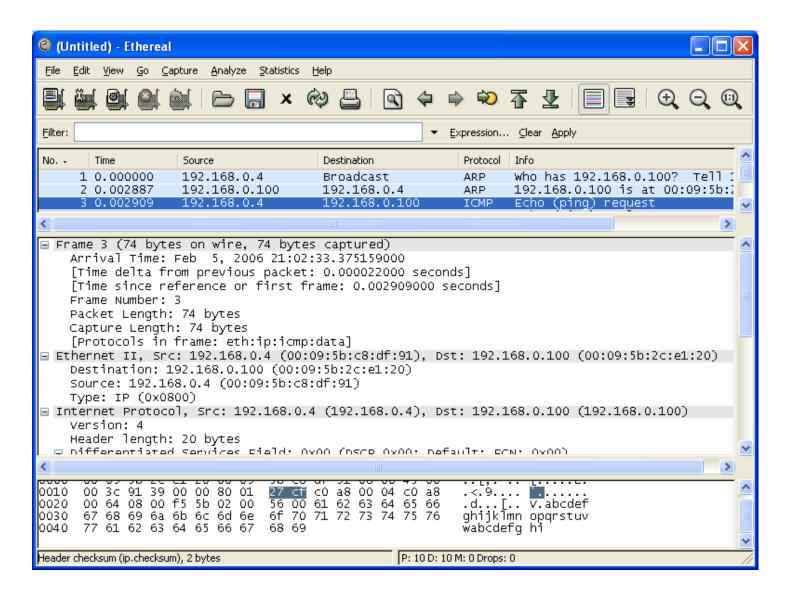
Command Prompt

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
Pinging 192.168.0.100 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 192.168.0.100: bytes=32 time=6ms TTL=64
Reply from 192.168.0.100: bytes=32 time=3ms TTL=64
Reply from 192.168.0.100: bytes=32 time=3ms TTL=64
Reply from 192.168.0.100: bytes=32 time=14ms TTL=64
Ping statistics for 192.168.0.100:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
   Minimum = 3ms, Maximum = 14ms, Average = 6ms
C:\Documents and Settings\Richard>_
```

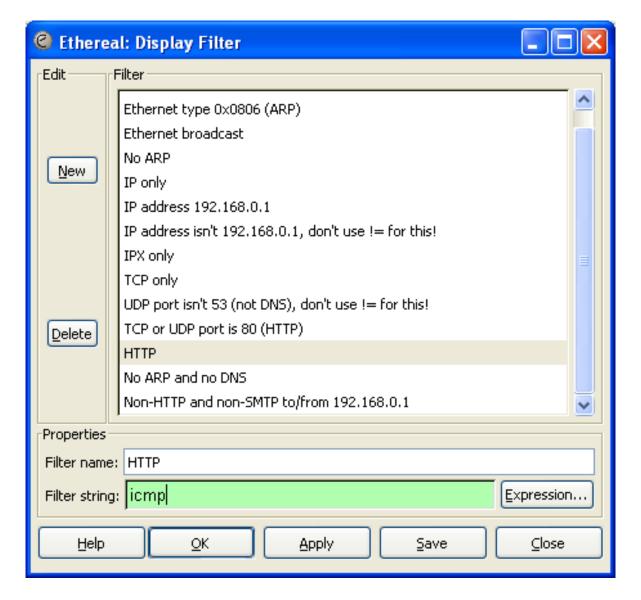
Capturing a Ping Trace



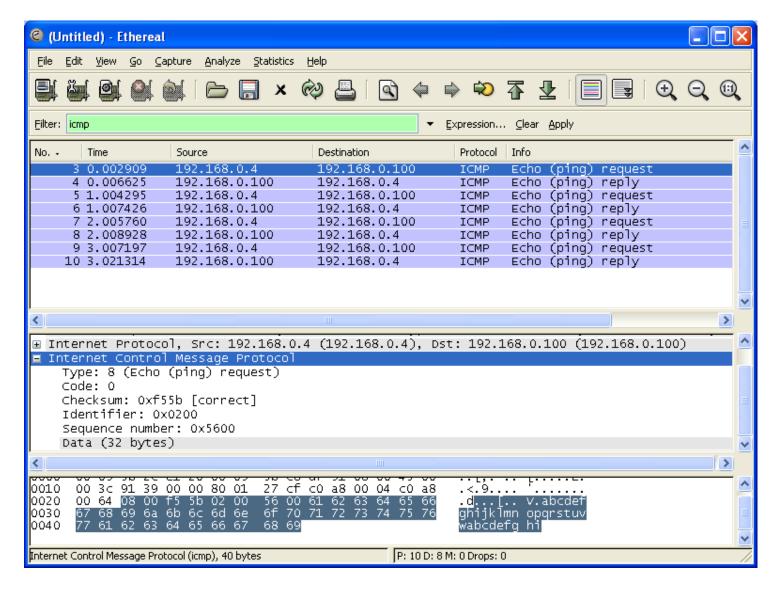
Expand Details



Apply ICMP Display Filter



Display Filter Result



Download Wireshark

- Download the latest version of Wireshark for free from http://www.wireshark.org. and install it on your home PC if you have one and read the documentation
- Then you can have a go at the following Exercises.
- Documentation is available 'on line' or for download as a PDF file
- Also read Ch4 and Ch5 of the 'Wireshark and Ethereal Network Analyser Toolkit' book.

Wireshark Filters

- You can learn a lot about network protocols by decoding and analysing packet captures. You must first, however, learn to filter out the traffic that you are not interested in.
- Create filters that will only show the packets indicated in both capture and display formats:
 - 1. Ethernet broadcasts destination
 - 2. Source MAC address 00-40-96-AD-28-6E
 - 3. IP address 192.168.1.1
 - 4. IP source address 192.168.1.1 and IP destination address 192.168.2.2
 - 5. Web traffic using TCP port 80
 - 6. Ping echo response packets

- A simple Wireshark Flowgraph
- Download the ICMPtest.cap file from your Blackboard site (Support Resources - Wireshark capfiles) and open it in Wireshark.
- Filter for ICMP packets then format the results to show the packet interchange using the Flowgraph feature found under the Statistics tab of Wireshark.

- Analyse TCP flow to determine Telnet password
- Download the telnet.cap file from your Blackboard site and open it in Wireshark.
- Filter for Telnet packets then format the results to show the packet interchange using the Follow TCP feature found under the Analyze tab of Wireshark.
- Notice the echoplexing used by the Telnet protocol and locate the password

- Analyse a VoIP voice conversation with Wireshark
- Download the VoIPtest.cap file from your Blackboard site and open it in Wireshark.
- Filter for SIP and display the Flowgraph under statics tab.
- Use the VoIP Calls analysis tool found under the statistics tab or telephony tab on later releases to:
 - I. display the Flowgraph of the overall voice call
 - replay the conversation in each direction using the player facility.

Observer Download

- Download the latest version (17) and use it in demo mode to investigate the operation and features it offers.
- Compare the protocol analyser features of Observer with Wireshark

Study Resources

- Network Monitoring Tools
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bUGuwir
 OCC0
- Using Protocol Analyzers
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQ1NKip

 5tcc
- Interface Monitoring <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2aJ9Wg</u>
 <u>ZRvU</u>