# ICMP

### **ICMP** Messages

Messaging protocol for IPv4 (ICMPv4) and IPv6 (ICMPv6, includes additional functionality).

#### Host reachability:

ICMP Echo Message can be used to test the reachability of a host on an IP network.

#### Destination or Service Unreachable:

ICMP Destination Unreachable message can be used to notify the source that a destination or service is unreachable.

#### Time exceeded:

When the Time to Live field (IPv4 TTL field, IPv6 Hop Limit field) in a packet is decremented to 0, an ICMP Time Exceeded message will be sent to the source host.

### **ICMPv6** Messages

Neighbor Discovery Protocol (NDP) messages:

- Router Solicitation (RS) and Router Advertisement (RA):
  - Messaging between an IPv6 router and an IPv6 device
  - Dynamic address allocation.
- Neighbor Solicitation (NS) and Neighbor Advertisement (NA):
  - Messaging between IPv6 devices
  - Duplicate address detection (DAD)
  - Address resolution

### ICMPv6 RS Messages

- Sent by hosts
- To determine how to receive its IPv6 address information dynamically.

#### ICMPv6 RA Messages

- Sent by routers:
  - Every 200 seconds
  - In response to an RS message.
- Provide addressing information to IPv6-enabled hosts:
  - Prefix, prefix length, DNS address, and domain name.
  - Default gateway = link-local address of the router that sent the RA.

### ICMPv6 NS Messages

- Sent by hosts
- To perfom DAD (Duplicate Address Detection):
  - Check the uniqueness of an address
  - Host sends its own GUA/LLA IPv6 address as the targeted IPv6 address.
  - If another device has this address Sends NA message.
- To determine the MAC address of the destination:
  - Device sends NS message to solicited node address.
  - Targeted device Responds NA message with MAC address.

## **Test connectivity - Ping**

- Uses ICMP Echo and Reply messages
- Common for the 1st ping to timeout if address resolution (ARP or ND) needs to be performed before sending the ICMP Echo Request.
- X Steps to network troubleshooting:
  - Ping the Loopback (127.0.0.1 or ::1/64)
  - Ping the Default Gateway
  - Ping the Remote Host

#### Test the path - Traceroute

- Test the path between two hosts. Command: traceroute or tracert
- Provide a list of hops that were successfully reached along that path.
  - Round-trip time for each hop
  - \* (lost or unreplied packet)
- Inner working:
  - 1st message: TTL=1 1st router responds with Time Exceeded message
  - 2nd message: TTL=2 ▶ 2nd router responds with Time Exceeded message

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