



Department of Information Engineering (DEI)

Master degree on ICT for Internet and Multimedia Engineering (MIME)

InternetIntroduction on LAB1

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About computer networks

Computer networks are quite complex

- several devices (computers, routers, etc.)
- several interfaces (Ethernet, Wi-Fi, etc.)
- several protocols running
- physical interconnections originate complex topologies

Performing experiments may be unfeasible

- network equipment is expensive
- sometimes, even for performing simple experiments, several equipment should be available in the same test bed

SOLUTION: NETWORK EMULATOR







About network emulators

Emulation systems aim at accurately **reproducing** the functionalities of a real-life system (configurations, architectures, protocols)

The network emulator we will use in our LAB experiences is Katharà (which implements the notorious Netkit using Python and Docker)

- each emulated network device (host, router, server, ...) is a container
- several containers are created inside a single host machine
- containers are connected to virtual collision domains (IP networks) and thus can communicate with each other



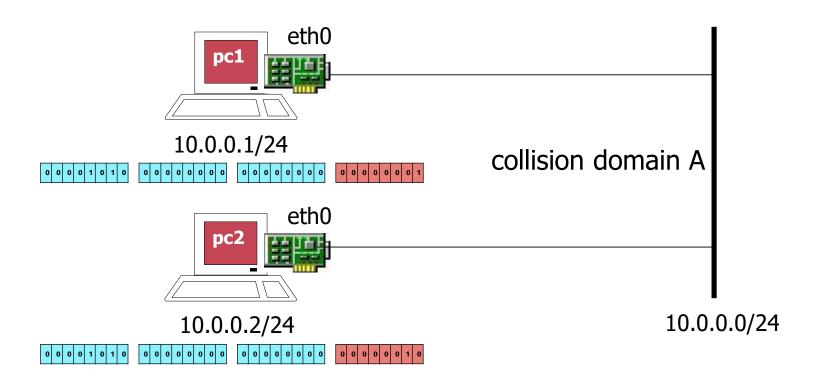






LAB1 Experience: Two Hosts

- · Create a network with two hosts connected to the same collision domain
- Ensure that the two hosts can communicate with each other → PING



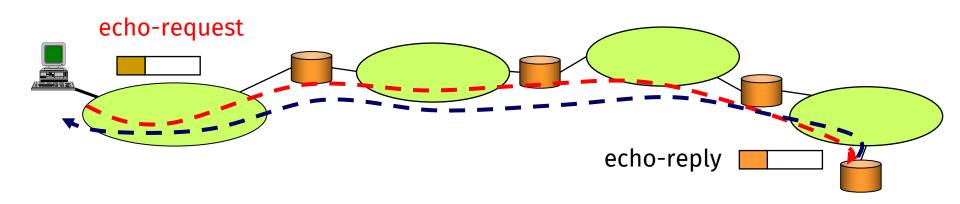






PING message

- The IPv4 has no error-reporting error-correcting mechanism. It also lacks a mechanism for host and management queries.
- The Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP) has been designed to compensate for the above two deficiencies.
- ICMP allows a host/router to sends echo request messages to another host or router; if the latter is alive, it responds with an echo reply message (ping)









tcpdump and Wireshark

- When one host is pinging another host, we can capture all packets exchanged on the collision domain
- We use tcpdump, a network sniffer that is widely available on Linux
- tcpdump results are saved in a .pcap file, that can be opened using a packet dissector → we will use Wireshark
- Using Wireshark, you can go into the packet (looking at each header field at every level of the ISO/OSI stack, and the payload)

