

CSP334: Computer Networks, Lab Assignment No 6, Application Layer: DNS Wireshark Assignment

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1: SET 1: The Basic DNS

(1) Determine which transport layer protocol was used for sending the DNS queries?

What are the benefits and drawbacks of using that protocol ?

UDP is used as an underlying transport layer protocol for sending the DNS queries.

Drawbacks :

It doesnot do initial handshake unlike what tcp does. That's why, it is not reliable. However, reliability can be added on application layer.

Benefits :

UDP is a faster transport layer protocol . This is because it doesnot do any sort of handshakes like tcp.

DNS requests are small requests and fits well within UDP segments.

DNS server is less loaded because of UDP since it doesnot have to maintain any connections.

(2) What port numbers are used for sending and receiving the packet in packet 2 ?

As we can see in the figure below that following ports numbers are used :

For sending : 36977

For receiving : 53

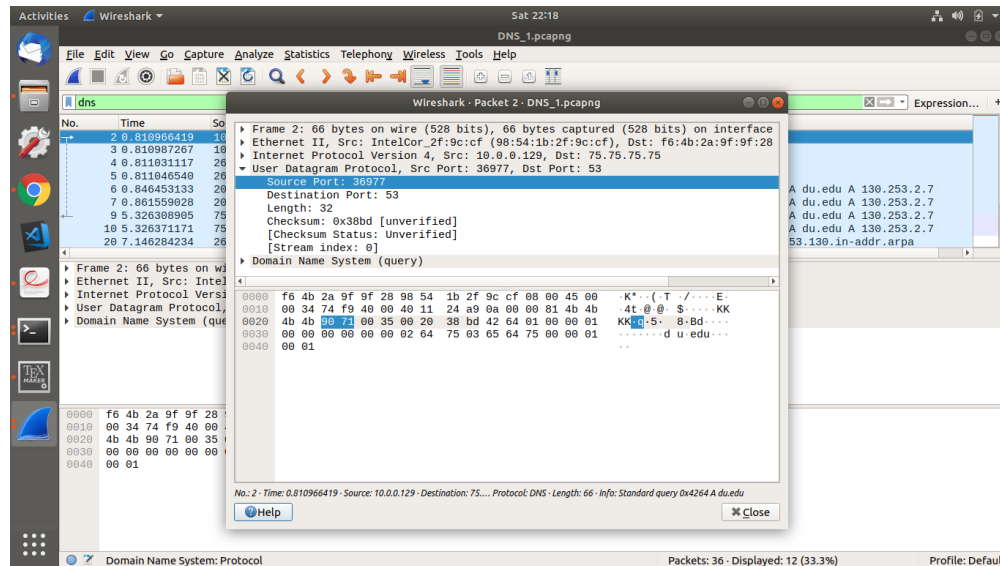


Figure 1: port numbers

(3) What is the destination address of packet 2? What type of DNS query it is?

What type of DNS server it is? What flags are set in the query?

Destination address : 75.75.75.75

DNS query type : A

DNS server : Non - authoritative server

Flags that are set in the query is: Recursion desired (as we can verify it from the figure below.)

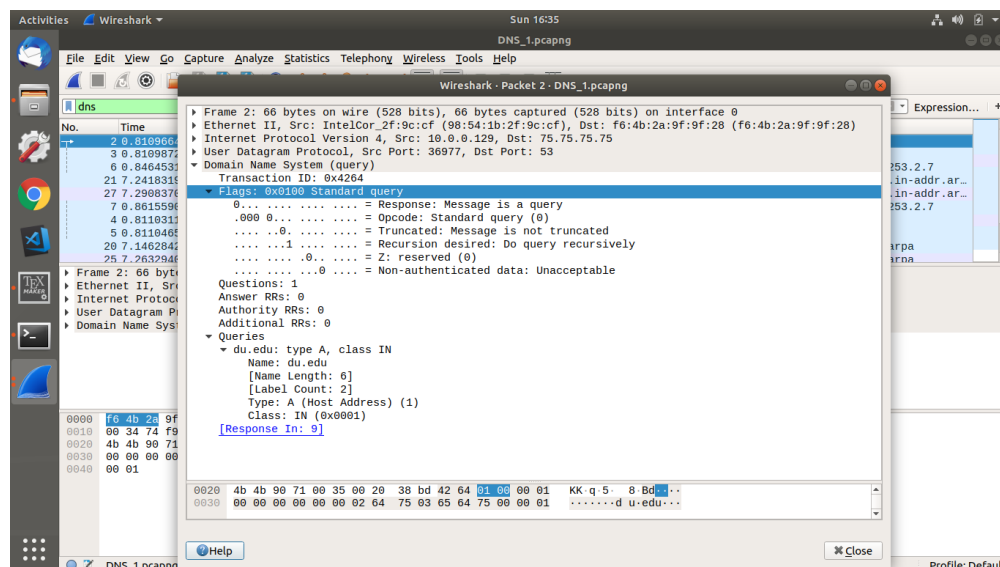
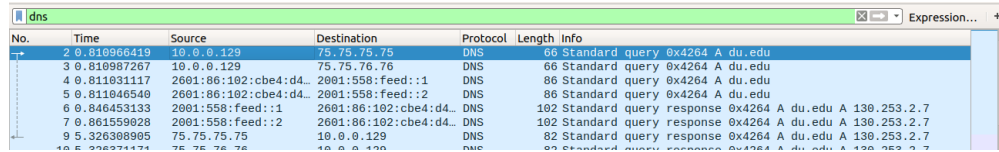


Figure 2: packet 2 query

(4) How many DNS servers are queried to for resolving the domain name du.edu.?

4 DNS servers are queried to for resolving the domain name du.edu.



| No. | Time | Source | Destination | Protocol | Length | Info |
|-----|-------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------|--------|---|
| 2 | 0.810966419 | 10.0.0.129 | 75.75.75.75 | DNS | 66 | Standard query 0x4264 A du.edu |
| 3 | 0.810987267 | 10.0.0.129 | 75.75.75.75 | DNS | 66 | Standard query 0x4264 A du.edu |
| 4 | 0.811031117 | 2081:86:102:cbe4:d4... | 2081:558:feed::1 | DNS | 86 | Standard query 0x4264 A du.edu |
| 5 | 0.811046509 | 2081:86:102:cbe4:d4... | 2081:558:feed::2 | DNS | 86 | Standard query 0x4264 A du.edu |
| 6 | 0.846453133 | 2081:558:feed::1 | 2081:86:102:cbe4:d4... | DNS | 102 | Standard query response 0x4264 A du.edu A 130.253.2.7 |
| 7 | 0.861559028 | 2081:558:feed::2 | 2081:86:102:cbe4:d4... | DNS | 102 | Standard query response 0x4264 A du.edu A 130.253.2.7 |
| 9 | 5.326308905 | 75.75.75.75 | 10.0.0.129 | DNS | 82 | Standard query response 0x4264 A du.edu A 130.253.2.7 |

Figure 3: DNS servers

(5) Which packet contains the response of the query sent in packet 2 ? Which flags are set in the response ?

Packet number 9 contains the response of the query sent in packet number 2.

Flags which are set in the response packet are:

- 1) Response
- 2) Recursion desired
- 3) Recursion available

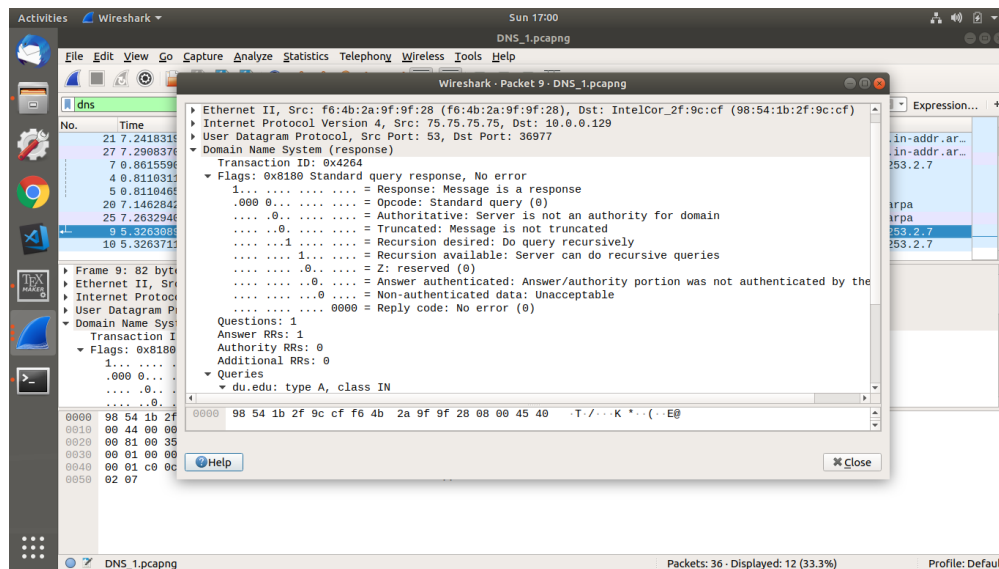


Figure 4: response packet of #2

(6) How many answers do you get in the response? Is the response from authoritative server ?

We get 1 answer in the response. It was not from the authoritative server as we can see the flag status.

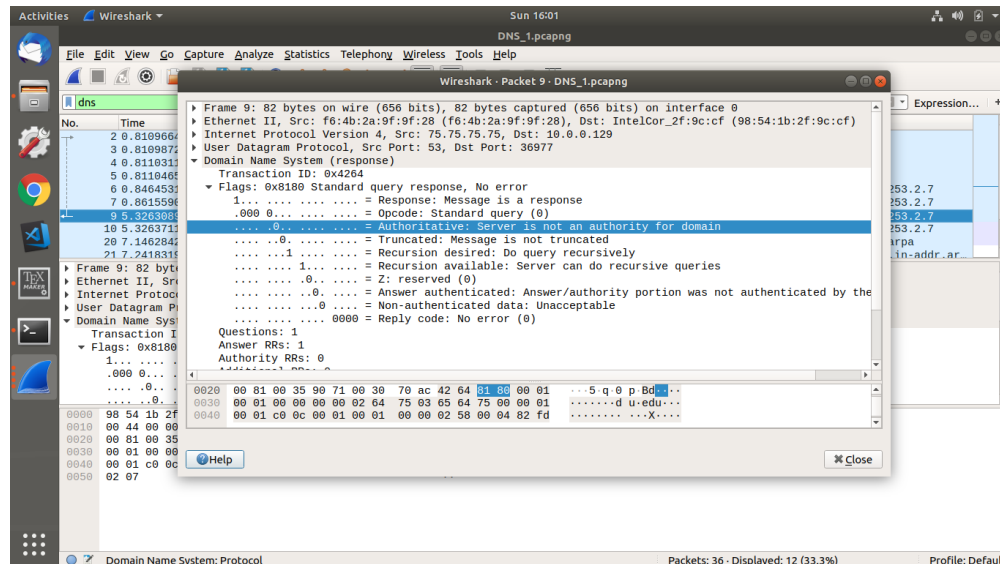


Figure 5: response answer of #2

(7) What does the query in the packet number 25 do ?

Packet Number 25 is a request query for an inverse domain lookings.

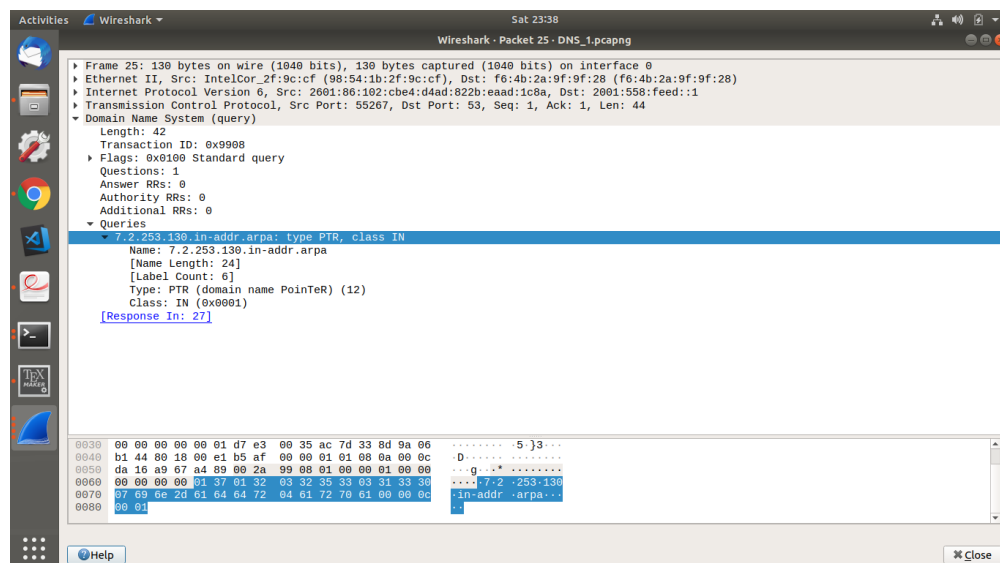


Figure 6: query of packet #25

(8) Which packet contains the response of the query sent ? What is the response ?

Packet number 27 contains the response of the query sent. The response message contains 42

answers which are 42 machine names.

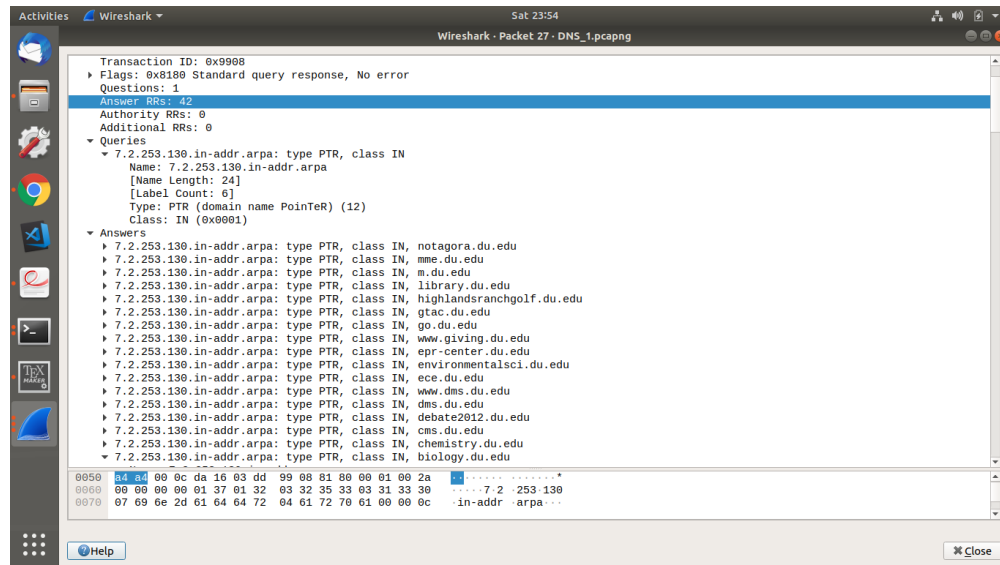


Figure 7: Response answer of packet #25

2: SET 2: Using the DNS 2.pcapng :

(1) In packet number 10, what is the destination IP address of the server? To which DNS server request is being sent to?

Destination IPA : 208.78.70.24

DNS server request to which it is being sent to : ns1.p24.dynect.net.

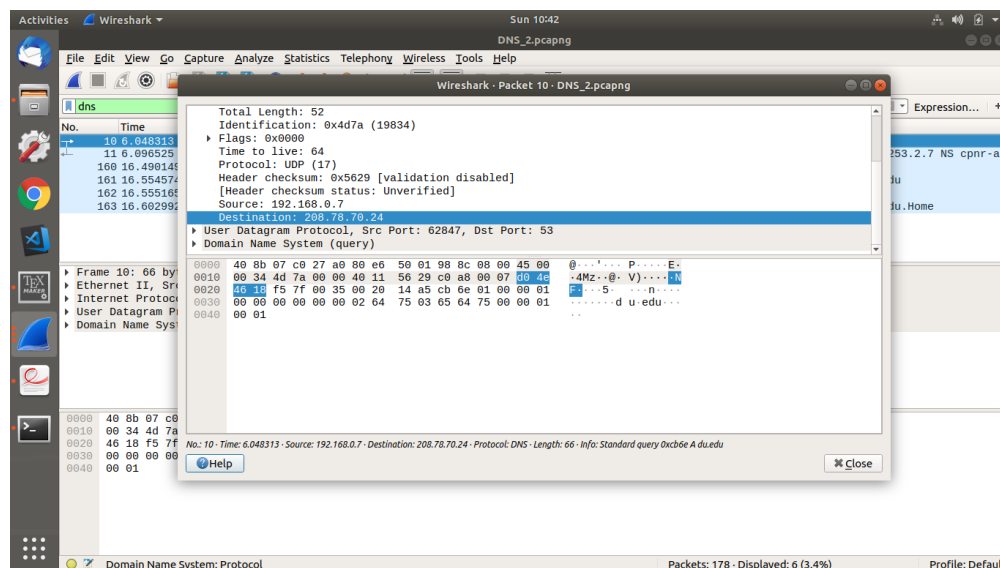


Figure 8: Destination IPA of the server

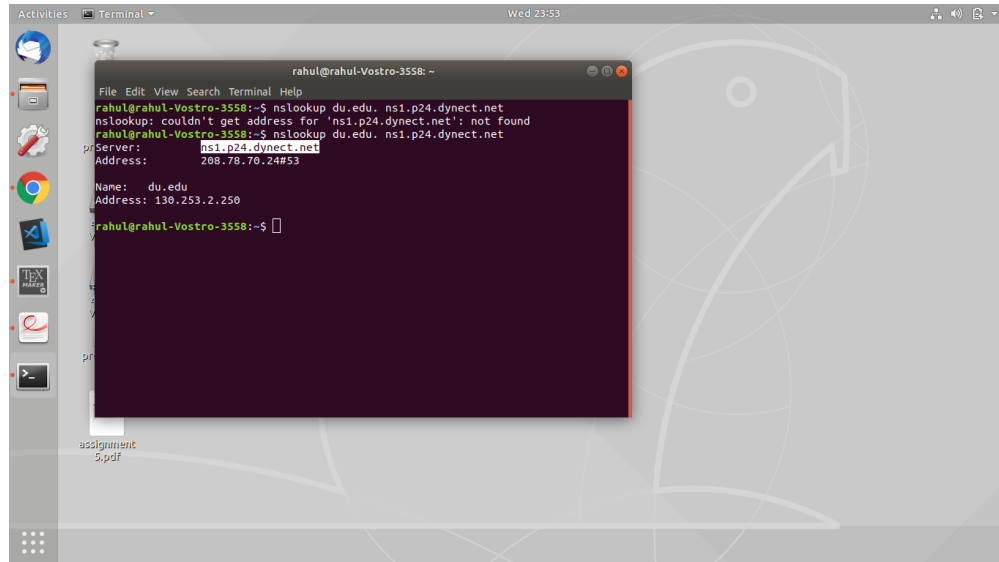


Figure 9: DNS server

(2) Which packet contains the reply of the query that is sent in packet #10? Did

DNS server reply ? Examine the flags of the response and what you infer from the flags? Packet number 11 contains the response of the query sent in packet number 10. Yes DNS server replied. Flag responses : Following labels are set in flag:

- 1) Response
- 2) Authoritative
- 3) Recursion desired

We can draw some useful conclusion by looking at the flag response which are as follows:

The nameserver which handled the query was an authoritative server for du.edu since the authoritative label is set in the flag.

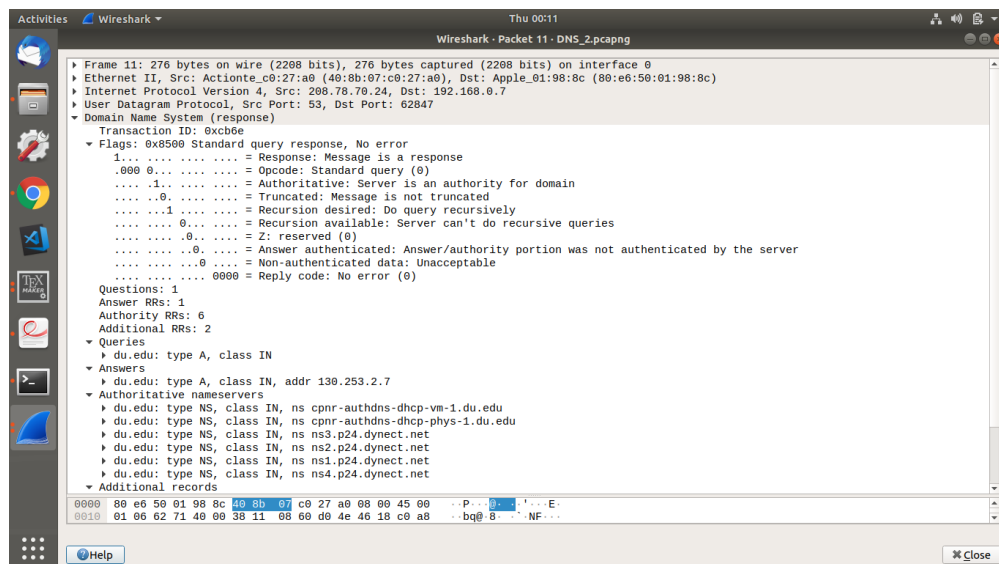


Figure 10: packet number 11

(3) To which DNS server, is the DNS request in #160 sent to? What does the DNS request ask from the DNS server?

The DNS request in #160 is being sent to ns1.p24.dynect.net .

It asked about the IPA of mit.edu domain.

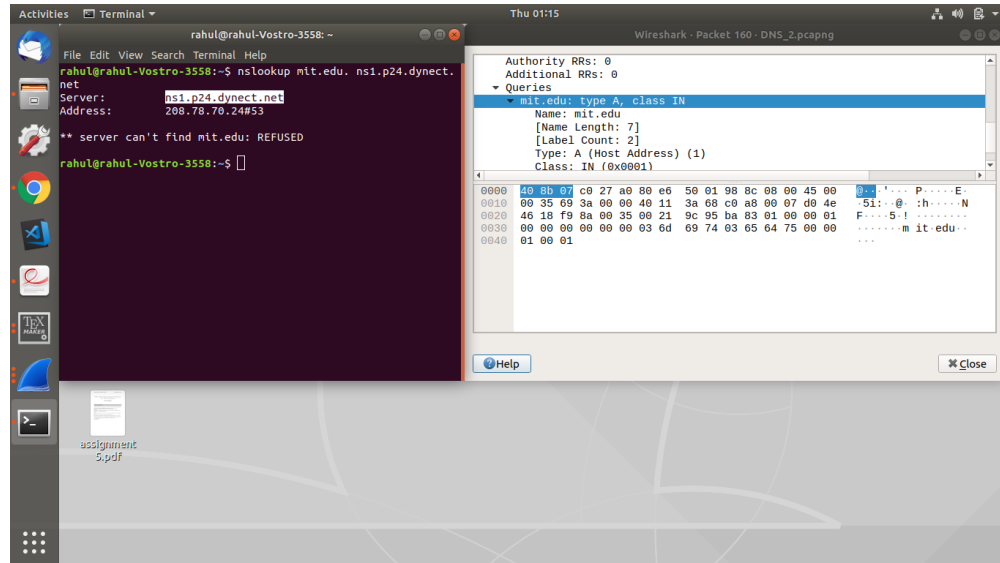


Figure 11: packet number 160 query and nslookup

(4) What is the response from the DNS server in packet #160 ? Did the server resolve the DNS request? Explain in brief?

The DNS server refused the query asked in packet #160. No, the server didn't resolved the DNS request.

Over here the nameserver might not be able to find the information related to mit.edu which results in rejecting the query.

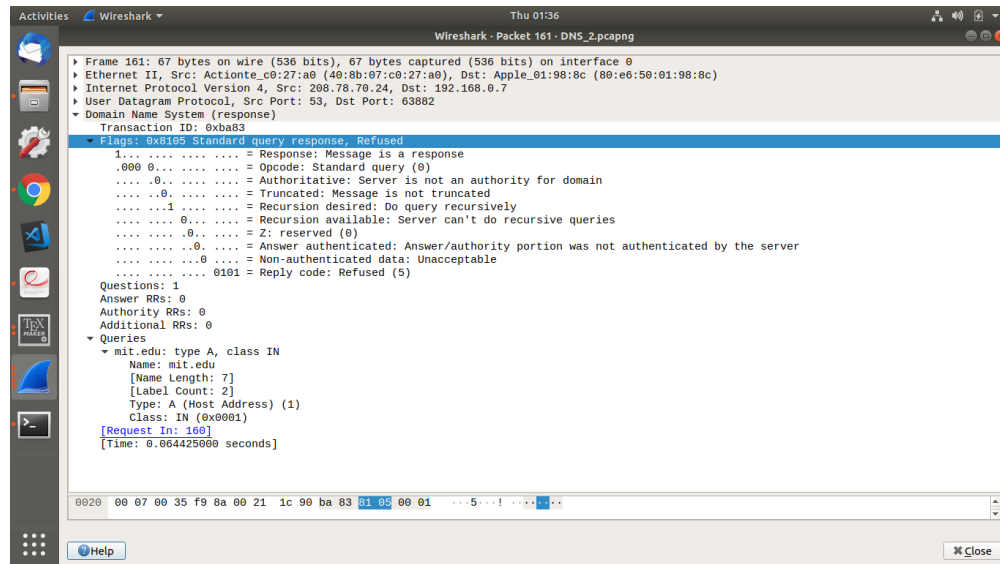


Figure 12: response packet of #160

3: SET 3: Working with the DNS 3.pcapng :

(1) 1. To what IP address, is the DNS query sent in packet #1? What type of DNS server is that?

The DNS query is sent to a server with IP address : 192.168.0.1 (shown in the screen dump below)

It is a non-authoritative server (local DNS server).

We can verify it by looking at the response packet which in our case is packet #4 where the flag label of authority part is not set.

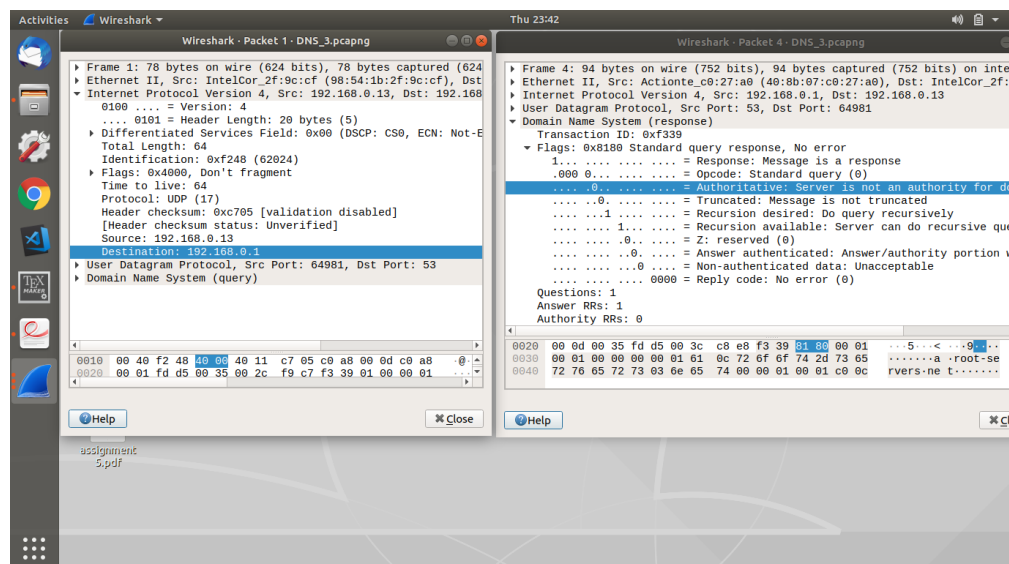


Figure 13: screenshot of IP address and DNS server flag for the query

(2) To what IP address is the DNS query sent in packet #2? What type of DNS server is that?

The DNS query is sent to a server with IP :205.171.2.25 (shown in the screen dump below) It is a non-authoritative server (and is a TLD server).

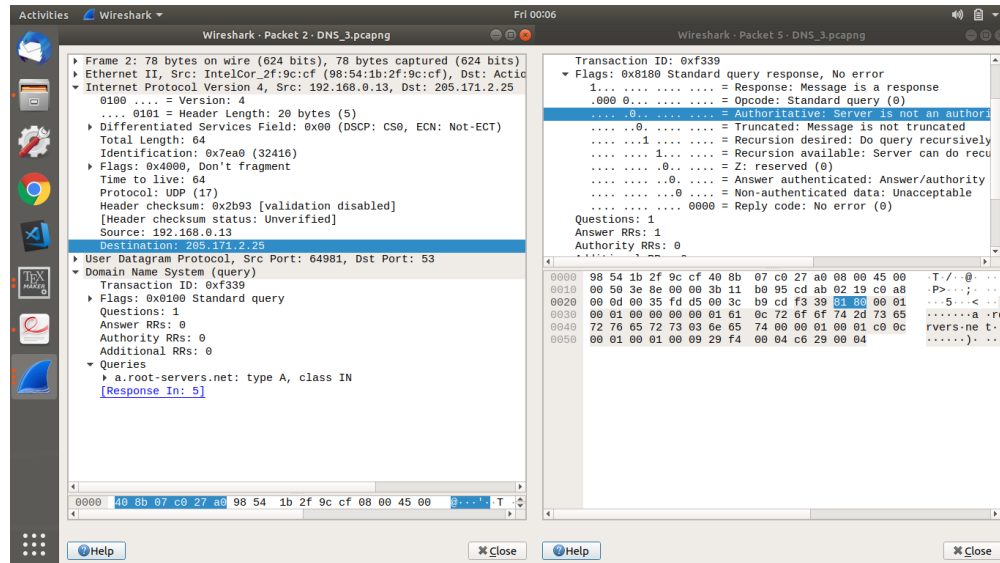


Figure 14: IPA and type of DNS server

(3) Which packet contains the response of the query that is sent in packet #2?

What is your interpretation of the response?

Packet number 5 contains the response of the query that is sent in packet number 2.

We know that 13 root servers are there in the world and in this packet response its IP address is being returned. Now, since the TLD server (from the IP address of the server) is doing a recursive call as we can see from the flag status that recursion desired is set. We can infer that at max 1 recursive call will be there since it is a query regarding root server's IP address.

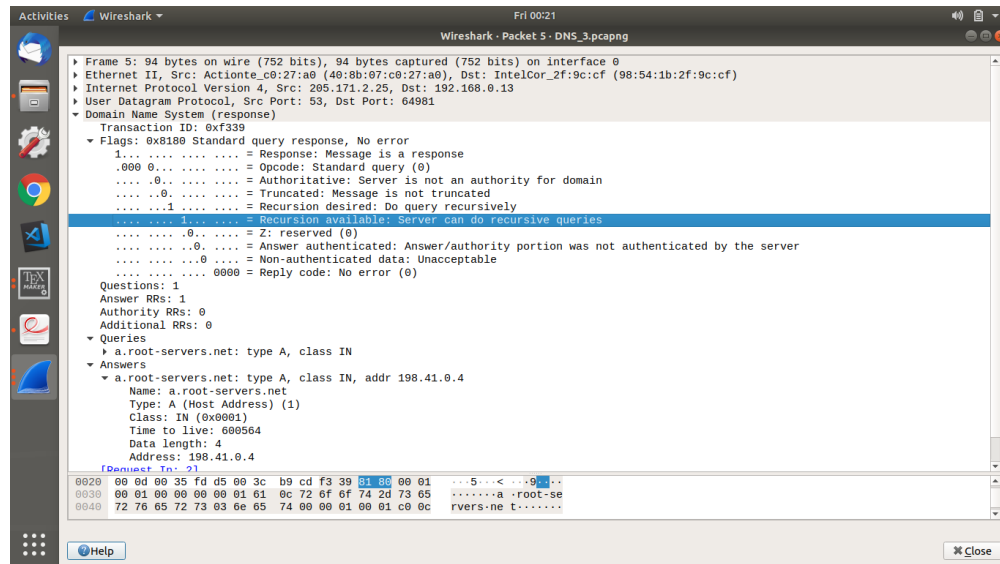


Figure 15: Packet number 5

(4) What is the difference between query in packet #2 and that in #3 ?

Packet number 2 is asking for A type DNS query which returns an IPv4 address where as packet number 3 is asking for AAAA type query which basically returns an IPv6 address.

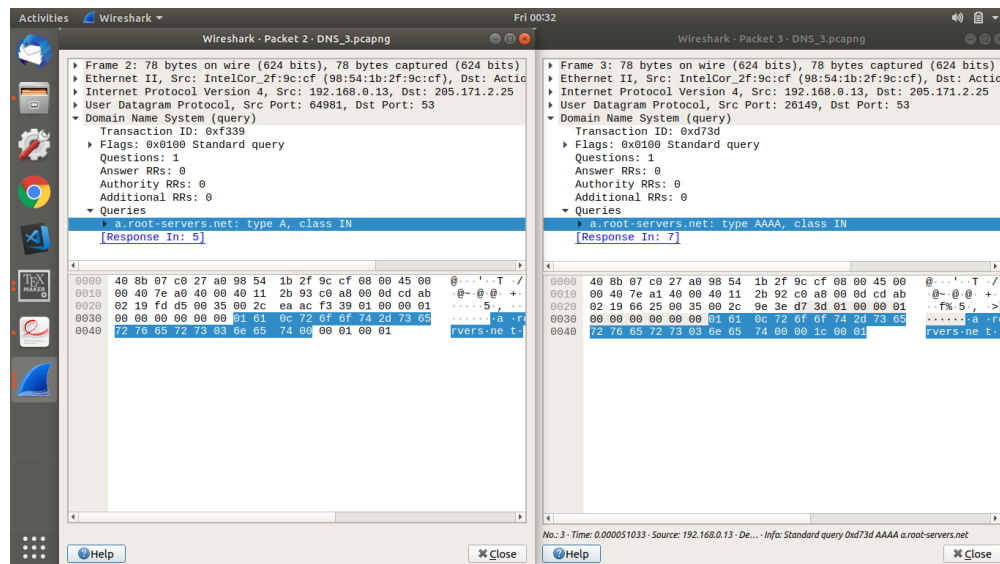


Figure 16: Packet number 5

(5) What does the query in packet #8 do? Which DNS server is being queried?

The query in packet #8 asks the DNS server about the IPA of the host name mit.edu. The request is not from a local server as we can see that initial netID component of the IPA is not same.

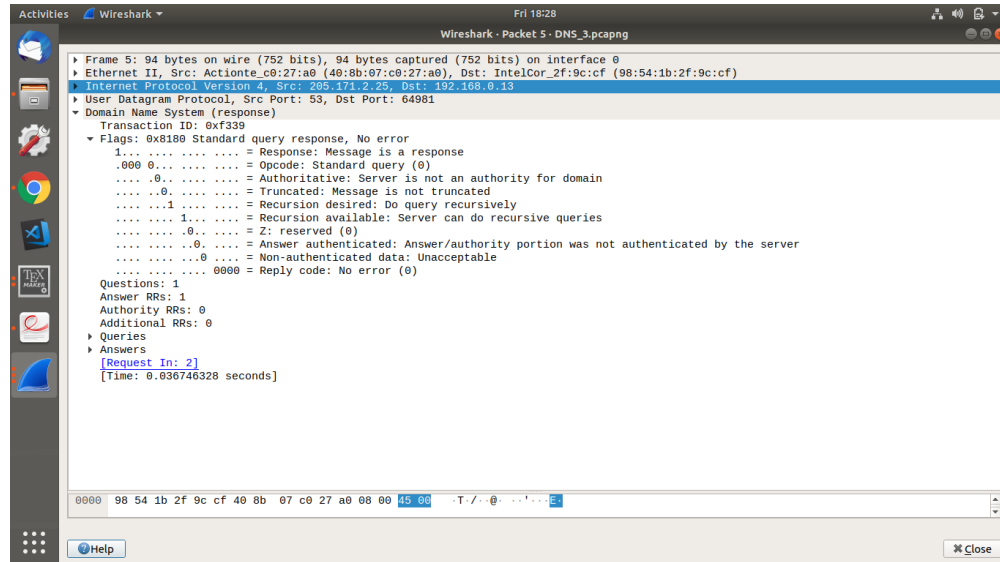


Figure 17: Packet number 8

(6) Which packet contains the response of the query sent in packet #8? What flags are set in this response? Does it have the answer user wants? What information does it provide?

Packet #9.

Flags :response and recursion are set.

No, it does not have the answer that user wants.

The dns server responded with a additional records and authoritative name servers list but didn't replied anything about the desired query.

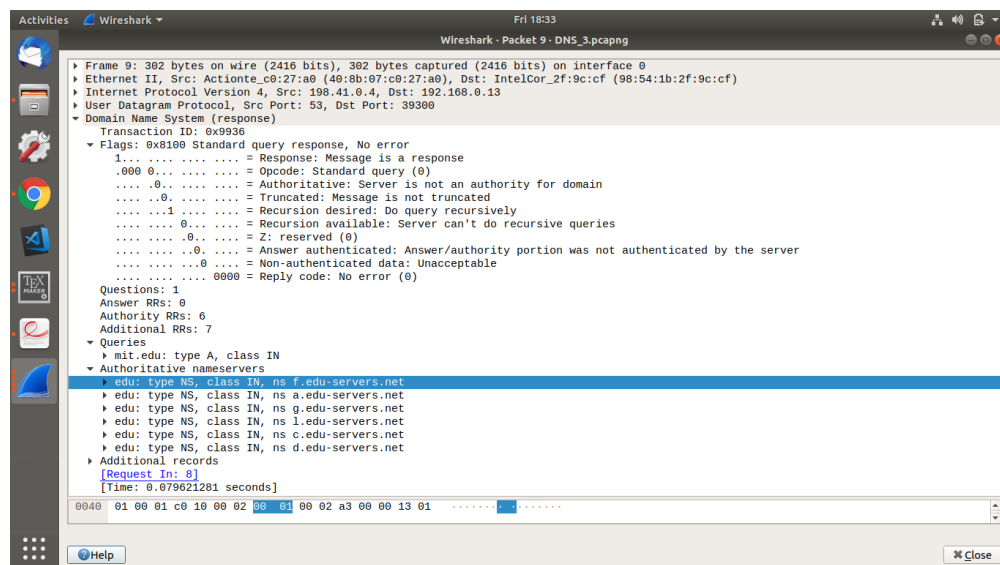


Figure 18: Packet number 9

(7) Which DNS server is being queried in the query of packet #16 ? Is it a local DNS server ?

TLD DNS server is being queried in the query of packet #16.

No, It is not a local server since .edu type request is from TLD DNS server.

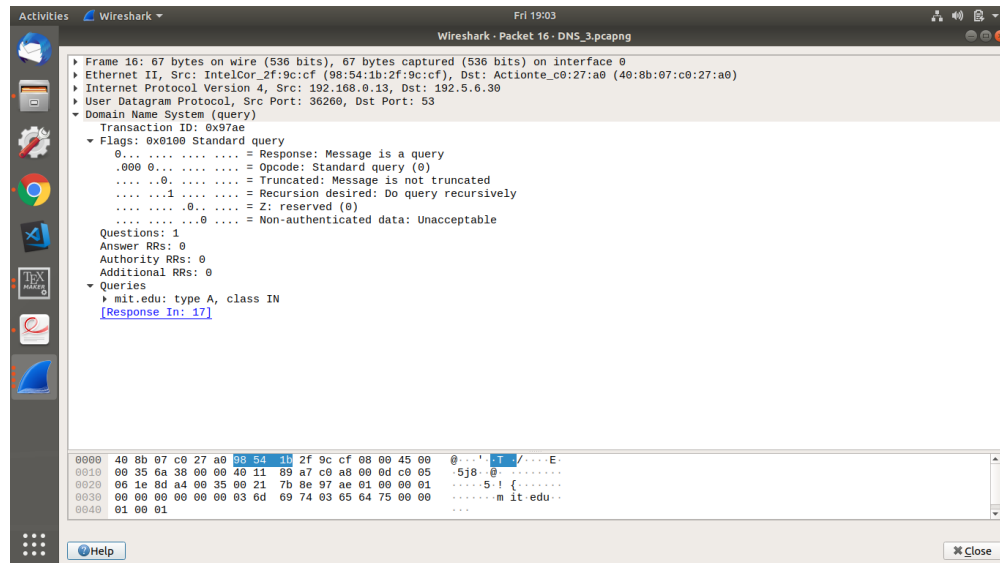


Figure 19: Packet number 16

(8) Which packet contains the response of the query sent in packet #16? What flags are set in this response? Does it have the answer user wants? What information does it provide?

Packet #17 .

Flags : response and recursion are set.

No, it does not have the answer that user wants.

The dns server responded with a list of authoritative servers along with the IPA without any answer.

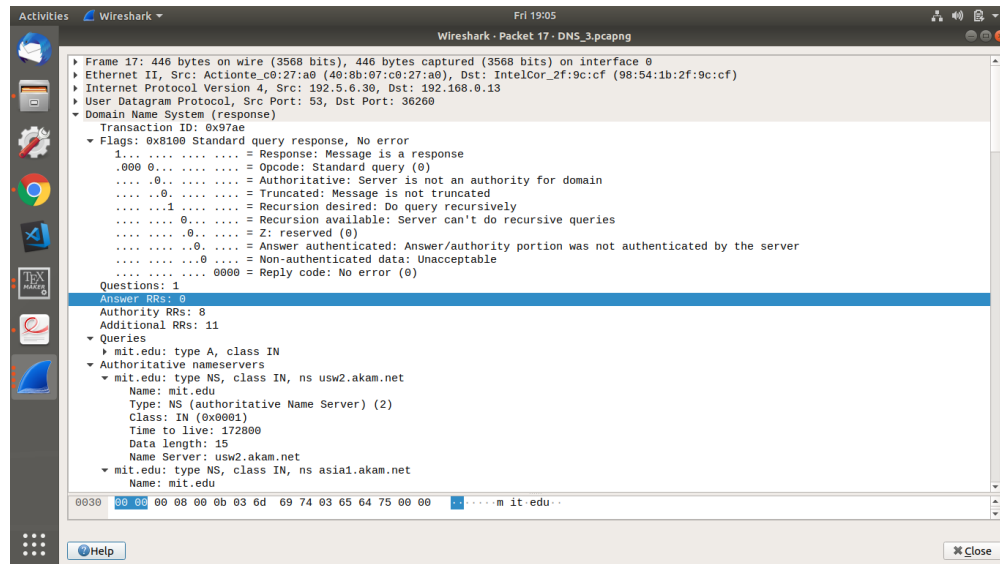


Figure 20: Packet number 17

(9) What does the query in packet #22 actually do? Which DNS server is being queried?

Asks the DNS server the IPA of the mit.edu.
Authoritative DNS server is being queried .

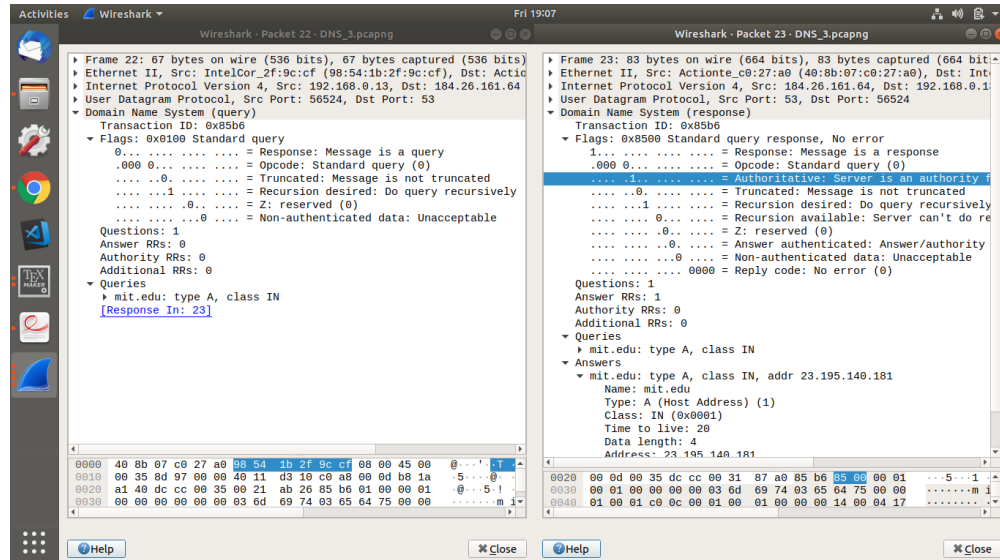


Figure 21: Packet number 22 and 23

(10) Which packet contains the response to the query sent in packet #22? What flags are set in this response? Does it have the answer user wants? What information does it provide?

Packet #23

Flags: response, authoritative and recursion are set.

Yes, it have the answer that the user wants.

The DNS server responded with the IPA of mit.edu .

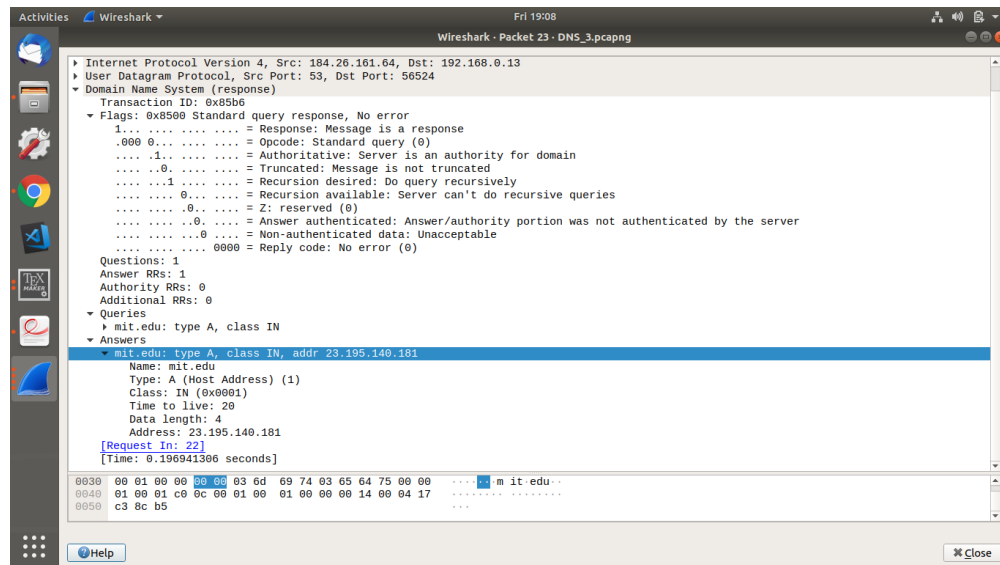


Figure 22: Packet number 23

4: SET 4 - Using dig command :

(1) What is the dig command used to determine the authoritative DNS servers for **www.mit.edu**?

command : `dig +short NS mit.edu`

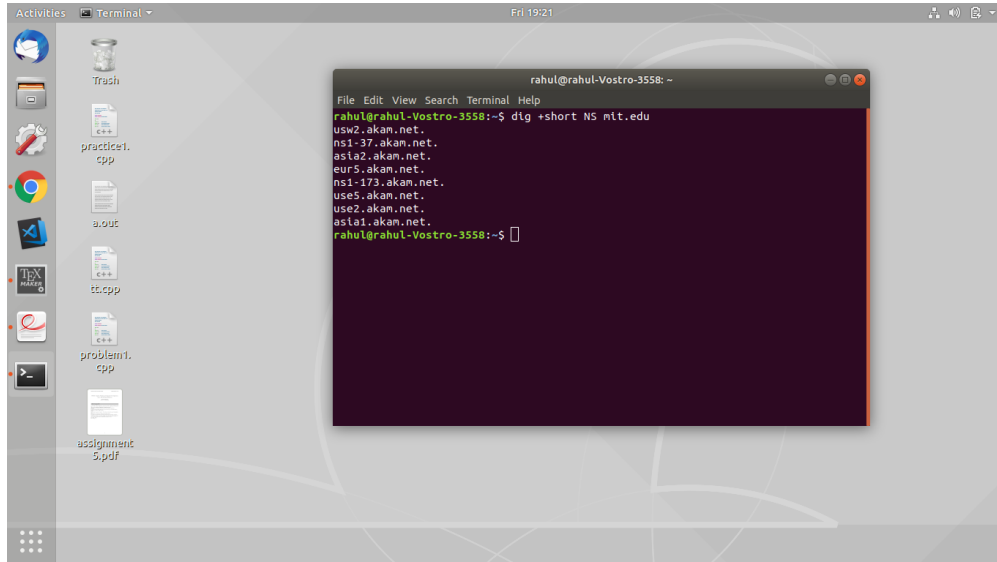


Figure 23: dig command

(2) Using dig command determine the authoritative DNS servers for **www.du.edu** and **www.ritchieschool.du.edu** in a single dig command? Are DNS servers for both different?

Yes, DNS server for both are different. One can verify it from the screenshot given below.

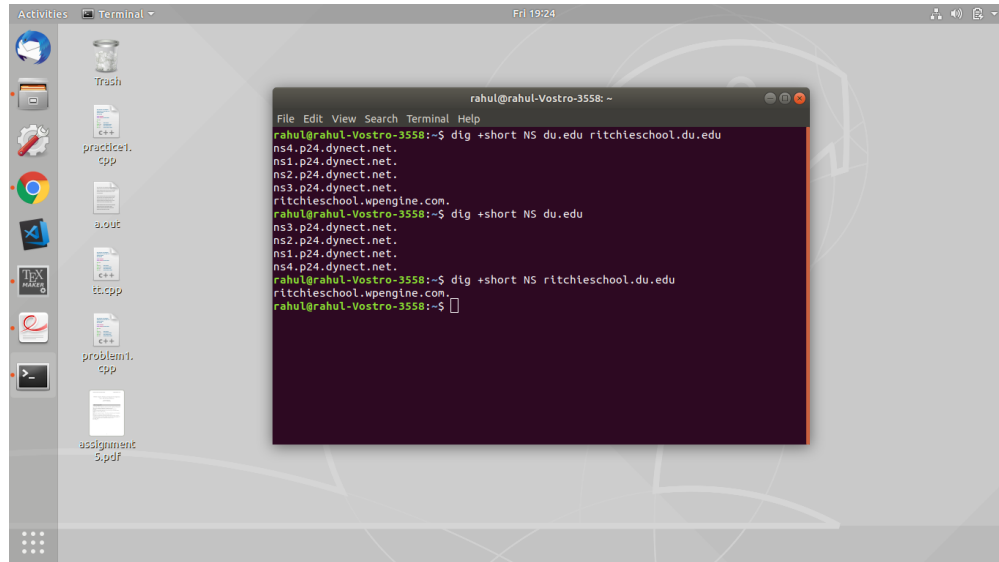
A screenshot of a Linux desktop environment with a terminal window open. The terminal shows the output of the 'dig' command for 'du.edu'. The output lists several nameservers: ns4.p24.dynect.net, ns1.p24.dynect.net, ns2.p24.dynect.net, ns3.p24.dynect.net, ritchieschool.wpengline.com, ns3.p24.dynect.net, ns2.p24.dynect.net, ns1.p24.dynect.net, ns4.p24.dynect.net, ritchieschool.wpengline.com, and ritchieschool.du.edu. The desktop background is a light gray with a faint geometric pattern. The terminal window has a dark background and a light-colored border. The desktop has a sidebar with icons for various applications and files, including 'Trash', 'practicer1.cpp', 'about', 'tccpp', 'problem1.cpp', and 'assignment 5.pdf'.

Figure 24: dig command

(3) Use dig command with trace option to www.mit.edu (i.e. dig +trace

www.mit.edu). What you can infer from the output?

As the link was present in the already in the application cache, the output showed us that the DNS query is answered by the local DNS server .

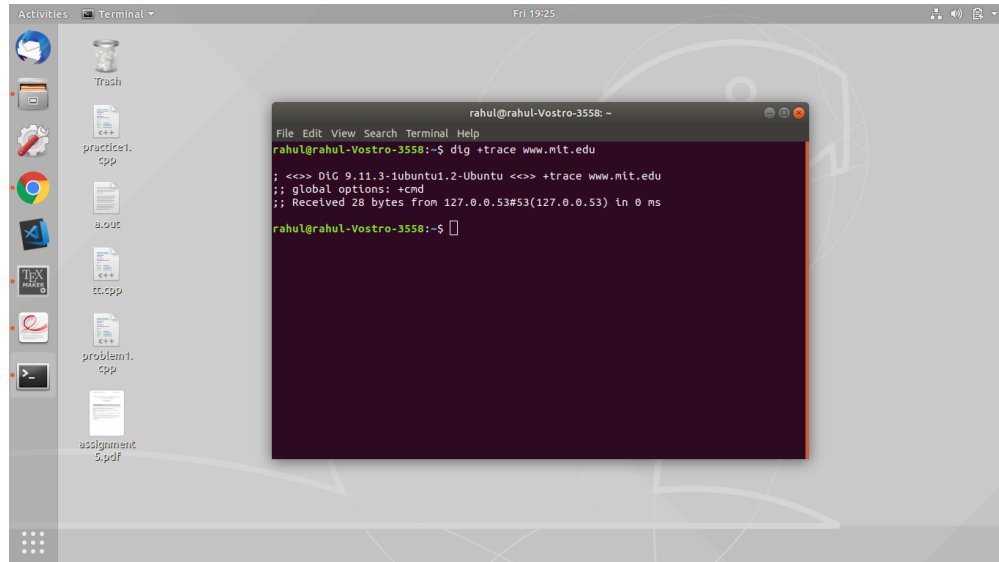
A screenshot of a Linux desktop environment with a terminal window open. The terminal shows the output of the 'dig +trace www.mit.edu' command. The output indicates that the query was answered by the local DNS server (127.0.0.53) and that the response was received from 127.0.0.53#53(127.0.0.53) in 0 ns. The desktop background is a light gray with a faint geometric pattern. The terminal window has a dark background and a light-colored border. The desktop has a sidebar with icons for various applications and files, including 'Trash', 'practicer1.cpp', 'about', 'tccpp', 'problem1.cpp', and 'assignment 5.pdf'.

Figure 25: dig trace