



Trie implementation in C



Abstract Binary Search ...

FTP implementation in C

SSC Combined Gradua...

libconfig to read configu...

Articles needed !

Serialization using Goo...

Xdotool : Fake Keyboar...

Create your own packet...

Vector Write in C

IPC Memory Map imple...

How to create Static an...

IPC Semaphores imple...

TCP header format

SCTP Packet Format

Check the access of a file

How to create a Zombie...

Per thread logging in C ...

Getting CPU Parameter...

Create your own packet sniffer i



A simple implementation of a packet sniffer in C on linux platform using the libpcap library. This packet sniffer currently sniffs IP , TCP , ICMP and UDP packets. It can be modified to any protocol as needed just by introducing the header information in it.

Certain filters can be used too like port number and specific host etc.
e.g.

| Expression | Description |
|------------------|---|
| ip | Capture all IP packets. |
| tcp | Capture only TCP packets. |
| tcp port 80 | Capture only TCP packets with a port equal to 80. |
| ip host 10.1.2.3 | Capture all IP packets to or from host 10.1.2.3. |

It is a little modified version of sniffer from [tcpdump](http://www.tcpdump.org/) [http://www.tcpdump.org/] website.

Note : To run this code you require root permissions.

Here's the code:

? [#]

```
/*sniffer.c*/  
//To compile : gcc -o sniffer sniffer.c -lpcap  
//To run : ./sniffer [interface-name]
```

```
#include <pcap.h>  
#include <stdio.h>  
#include <string.h>  
#include <stdlib.h>  
#include <ctype.h>  
#include <errno.h>  
#include <sys/types.h>  
#include <sys/socket.h>  
#include <netinet/in.h>  
#include <arpa/inet.h>
```

```
1  
2 /* default snap length (maximum bytes per packet to capture)  
3 */  
4 #define SNAP_LEN 1518  
5
```

Send feedback

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Simple XML Generator i... | 6 /* ethernet headers are always exactly 14 bytes [1] */ |
| Traversing and Printing ... | 7 #define SIZE_ETHERNET 14 |
| Simple password base... | 8 |
| Simple XML Parser in C... | 9 /* Ethernet addresses are 6 bytes */ |
| Complete File Input Out... | 10 #define ETHER_ADDR_LEN 6 |
| Simple multithreading ... | 11 |
| DES Implementation in ... | 12 /* Ethernet header */ |
| 'ls' command impleme... | 13 struct sniff_ethernet { |
| Implementation of Map ... | 14 u_char ether_dhost[ETHER_ADDR_LEN]; /* destination |
| Hexadecimal to Integer ... | 15 host address */ |
| IPC Shared Memory Im... | 16 u_char ether_shost[ETHER_ADDR_LEN]; /* source host |
| IPC Message Queue I... | 17 address */ |
| SCTP Server Client Imp... | 18 u_short ether_type; /* IP? ARP? |
| Secure Server Client us... | 19 RARP? etc */ |
| Custom strncat function... | 20 }; |
| Custom strncpy functio... | 21 |
| Custom string compare... | 22 /* IP header */ |
| Adapter Design Pattern ... | 23 struct sniff_ip { |
| UDP Server Client Impl... | 24 u_char ip_vhl; /* version << 4 |
| Creating a Daemon Pro... | 25 header length >> 2 */ |
| Pipe from parent to child | 26 u_char ip_tos; /* type of service */ |
| | 27 u_short ip_len; /* total length */ |
| | 28 u_short ip_id; /* identification */ |
| | 29 u_short ip_off; /* fragment offset |
| | 30 field */ |
| | 31 #define IP_RF 0x8000 /* reserved fragment |
| | 32 flag */ |
| | 33 #define IP_DF 0x4000 /* dont fragment flag |
| | 34 */ |
| | 35 #define IP_MF 0x2000 /* more fragments flag |
| | 36 */ |
| | 37 #define IP_OFFMASK 0x1fff /* mask for |
| | 38 fragmenting bits */ |
| | 39 u_char ip_ttl; /* time to live */ |
| | 40 u_char ip_p; /* protocol */ |
| | 41 u_short ip_sum; /* checksum */ |
| | 42 struct in_addr ip_src,ip_dst; /* source and dest |
| | 43 address */ |
| | 44 }; |
| | 45 #define IP_HL(ip) (((ip)->ip_vhl) & 0x0f) |
| | 46 #define IP_V(ip) (((ip)->ip_vhl) >> 4) |
| | 47 |
| | 48 /* TCP header */ |
| | 49 typedef u_int tcp_seq; |
| | 50 |
| | 51 struct sniff_tcp { |
| | 52 u_short th_sport; /* source port */ |
| | 53 u_short th_dport; /* destination port */ |
| | 54 tcp_seq th_seq; /* sequence number */ |
| | 55 tcp_seq th_ack; /* acknowledgement |
| | 56 number */ |
| | 57 u_char th_offx2; /* data offset, rsvd |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Custom String Tokeniz... | 58 */ |
| Find if a substring exist... | 59 #define TH_OFF(th) (((th)->th_offx2 & 0xf0) >> 4) |
| Custom malloc function... | 60 u_char th_flags; |
| Basic File Operations i... | 61 #define TH_FIN 0x01 |
| Function Pointers in C | 62 #define TH_SYN 0x02 |
| Circular Queue using A... | 63 #define TH_RST 0x04 |
| Merge Sort Implementa... | 64 #define TH_PUSH 0x08 |
| Selection Sort Impleme... | 65 #define TH_ACK 0x10 |
| | 66 #define TH_URG 0x20 |
| | 67 #define TH_ECE 0x40 |
| | 68 #define TH_CWR 0x80 |
| | 69 #define TH_FLAGS |
| | 70 (TH_FIN TH_SYN TH_RST TH_ACK TH_URG TH_ECE TH_CWR) |
| | 71 u_short th_win; /* window */ |
| | 72 u_short th_sum; /* checksum */ |
| | 73 u_short th_urp; /* urgent pointer */ |
| | 74 }; |
| | 75 |
| | 76 void |
| | 77 got_packet(u_char *args, const struct pcap_pkthdr *header, |
| | 78 const u_char *packet); |
| | 79 |
| | 80 void |
| | 81 print_payload(const u_char *payload, int len); |
| | 82 |
| | 83 void |
| | 84 print_hex_ascii_line(const u_char *payload, int len, int |
| | 85 offset); |
| | 86 |
| | 87 |
| | 88 |
| | 89 /* |
| | 90 * print data in rows of 16 bytes: offset hex ascii |
| | 91 * |
| | 92 * 00000 47 45 54 20 2f 20 48 54 54 50 2f 31 2e 31 0d 0a |
| | 93 GET / HTTP/1.1.. |
| | 94 */ |
| | 95 void |
| | 96 print_hex_ascii_line(const u_char *payload, int len, int offset) |
| | 97 { |
| | 98 |
| | 99 int i; |
| | 100 int gap; |
| | 101 const u_char *ch; |
| | 102 |
| | 103 /* offset */ |
| | 104 printf("%05d ", offset); |
| | 105 |
| | 106 /* hex */ |
| | 107 ch = payload; |
| | 108 for(i = 0; i < len; i++) { |
| | 109 printf("%02x ", *ch); |

```

110  ch++;
111  /* print extra space after 8th byte for visual aid */
112  if (i == 7)
113      printf(" ");
114  }
115  /* print space to handle line less than 8 bytes */
116  if (len < 8)
117      printf(" ");
118
119  /* fill hex gap with spaces if not full line */
120  if (len < 16) {
121      gap = 16 - len;
122      for (i = 0; i < gap; i++) {
123          printf(" ");
124      }
125  }
126  printf(" ");
127
128  /* ascii (if printable) */
129  ch = payload;
130  for(i = 0; i < len; i++) {
131      if (isprint(*ch))
132          printf("%c", *ch);
133      else
134          printf(".");
135      ch++;
136  }
137
138  printf("\n");
139
140  return;
141 }
142
143 /*
144  * print packet payload data (avoid printing binary data)
145  */
146 void
147 print_payload(const u_char *payload, int len)
148 {
149
150     int len_rem = len;
151     int line_width = 16;    /* number of bytes per line */
152     int line_len;
153     int offset = 0;        /* zero-based offset counter */
154     const u_char *ch = payload;
155
156     if (len <= 0)
157         return;
158
159     /* data fits on one line */
160     if (len <= line_width) {
161         print_hex_ascii_line(ch, len, offset);

```

```

162     return;
163 }
164
165 /* data spans multiple lines */
166 for ( ;; ) {
167     /* compute current line length */
168     line_len = line_width % len_rem;
169     /* print line */
170     print_hex_ascii_line(ch, line_len, offset);
171     /* compute total remaining */
172     len_rem = len_rem - line_len;
173     /* shift pointer to remaining bytes to print */
174     ch = ch + line_len;
175     /* add offset */
176     offset = offset + line_width;
177     /* check if we have line width chars or less */
178     if (len_rem <= line_width) {
179         /* print last line and get out */
180         print_hex_ascii_line(ch, len_rem, offset);
181         break;
182     }
183 }
184
185 return;
186 }
187
188 /*
189  * dissect/print packet
190  */
191 void
192 got_packet(u_char *args, const struct pcap_pkthdr *header,
193 const u_char *packet)
194 {
195
196     static int count = 1;                /* packet counter */
197
198     /* declare pointers to packet headers */
199     const struct sniff_ethernet *ethernet; /* The ethernet header
200 [1] */
201     const struct sniff_ip *ip;            /* The IP header */
202     const struct sniff_tcp *tcp;          /* The TCP header */
203     const char *payload;                  /* Packet payload */
204
205     int size_ip;
206     int size_tcp;
207     int size_payload;
208
209     printf("\nPacket number %d:\n", count);
210     count++;
211
212     /* define ethernet header */
213     ethernet = (struct sniff_ethernet*)(packet);

```

```

214
215 /* define/compute ip header offset */
216 ip = (struct sniff_ip*)(packet + SIZE_ETHERNET);
217 size_ip = IP_HL(ip)*4;
218 if (size_ip < 20) {
219     printf("      * Invalid IP header length: %u bytes\n",
220size_ip);
221     return;
222 }
223
224 /* print source and destination IP addresses */
225 printf("      From: %s\n", inet_ntoa(ip->ip_src));
226 printf("      To: %s\n", inet_ntoa(ip->ip_dst));
227
228 /* determine protocol */
229 switch(ip->ip_p) {
230     case IPPROTO_TCP:
231         printf("      Protocol: TCP\n");
232         break;
233     case IPPROTO_UDP:
234         printf("      Protocol: UDP\n");
235         return;
236     case IPPROTO_ICMP:
237         printf("      Protocol: ICMP\n");
238         return;
239     case IPPROTO_IP:
240         printf("      Protocol: IP\n");
241         return;
242     default:
243         printf("      Protocol: unknown\n");
244         return;
245 }
246
247 /*
248  * OK, this packet is TCP.
249  */
250
251 /* define/compute tcp header offset */
252 tcp = (struct sniff_tcp*)(packet + SIZE_ETHERNET + size_ip);
253 size_tcp = TH_OFF(tcp)*4;
254 if (size_tcp < 20) {
255     printf("      * Invalid TCP header length: %u bytes\n",
256size_tcp);
257     return;
258 }
259
260 printf("      Src port: %d\n", ntohs(tcp->th_sport));
261 printf("      Dst port: %d\n", ntohs(tcp->th_dport));
262
263 /* define/compute tcp payload (segment) offset */
264 payload = (u_char *) (packet + SIZE_ETHERNET + size_ip +
265size_tcp);

```

```

266
267 /* compute tcp payload (segment) size */
268 size_payload = ntohs(ip->ip_len) - (size_ip + size_tcp);
269
270 /*
271  * Print payload data; it might be binary, so don't just
272  * treat it as a string.
273  */
274 if (size_payload > 0) {
275     printf("    Payload (%d bytes):\n", size_payload);
276     print_payload(payload, size_payload);
277 }
278
279 return;
280}
281
282 int main(int argc, char **argv)
283 {
284
285     char *dev = NULL;    /* capture device name */
286     char errbuf[PCAP_ERRBUF_SIZE]; /* error buffer */
287     pcap_t *handle;      /* packet capture handle */
288
289     char filter_exp[] = "ip"; /* filter expression */
290     struct bpf_program fp;     /* compiled filter program
291 (expression) */
292     bpf_u_int32 mask; /* subnet mask */
293     bpf_u_int32 net;  /* ip */
294     int num_packets ; /* number of packets to capture */
295
296     /* check for capture device name on command-line */
297     if (argc == 2) {
298         dev = argv[1];
299     }
300     else if (argc > 3) {
301         fprintf(stderr, "error: unrecognized command-line
302 options\n\n");
303         printf("Usage: %s [interface]\n", argv[0]);
304         printf("\n");
305         printf("Options:\n");
306         printf("    interface        Listen on <interface> for
307 packets.\n");
308         printf("\n");
309         exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
310     }
311     else {
312         /* find a capture device if not specified on command-line */
313         dev = pcap_lookupdev(errbuf);
314         if (dev == NULL) {
315             fprintf(stderr, "Couldn't find default device: %s\n",
316                 errbuf);
317             exit(EXIT_FAILURE);

```

```

318 }
319 }
320 printf("\nEnter no. of packets you want to capture: ");
321     scanf("%d",&num_packets);
322     printf("\nWhich kind of packets you want to capture :
323");
324     scanf("%s",filter_exp);
325 /* get network number and mask associated with capture device
326*/
327 if (pcap_lookupnet(dev, &net, &mask, errbuf) == -1) {
328     fprintf(stderr, "Couldn't get netmask for device %s: %s\n",
329         dev, errbuf);
330     net = 0;
331     mask = 0;
332 }
333
334 /* print capture info */
335 printf("Device: %s\n", dev);
336 printf("Number of packets: %d\n", num_packets);
337 printf("Filter expression: %s\n", filter_exp);
338
339 /* open capture device */
340 handle = pcap_open_live(dev, SNAP_LEN, 1, 1000, errbuf);
341 if (handle == NULL) {
342     fprintf(stderr, "Couldn't open device %s: %s\n", dev,
343errbuf);
344     exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
345 }
346
347 /* make sure we're capturing on an Ethernet device [2] */
348 if (pcap_datalink(handle) != DLT_EN10MB) {
349     fprintf(stderr, "%s is not an Ethernet\n", dev);
350     exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
351 }
352
353 /* compile the filter expression */
354 if (pcap_compile(handle, &fp, filter_exp, 0, net) == -1) {
355     fprintf(stderr, "Couldn't parse filter %s: %s\n",
356         filter_exp, pcap_geterr(handle));
357     exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
358 }
359
360 /* apply the compiled filter */
361 if (pcap_setfilter(handle, &fp) == -1) {
362     fprintf(stderr, "Couldn't install filter %s: %s\n",
363         filter_exp, pcap_geterr(handle));
364     exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
365 }
366
367 /* now we can set our callback function */
368 pcap_loop(handle, num_packets, got_packet, NULL);

```



```
/* cleanup */  
pcap_freecode(&fp);  
pcap_close(handle);  
  
printf("\nCapture complete.\n");  
  
return 0;  
}
```

Posted 23rd October 2010 by [Varun Gupta](#)

Labels: [Networking](#)