

Computer Networking



1. CAPTURING PACKETS FROM AN EXECUTION OF TRACEROUTE

- * first sending one or more datagrams with the TTL field in the IP header set to 1
- * then sends a series of one or more datagrams towards the same destination with a TTL value of 2
- * then sends a series of datagrams towards the same destination with a TTL value of 3
- * and so on.

TRACEROUTE

- Windows: pingplotter, available both in free version and shareware versions at http://www.pingplotter.com.
- Linux/Unix: traceroute command, the size of the UDP datagram sent towards the destination can be explicitly set:
 - +%traceroute gaia.cs.umass.edu 2000

STEPS

- Start up Wireshark and begin packet capture
- If you are using a Windows platform, start up pingplotter and enter the name of a target destination in the "Address to Trace Window."
- Enter 3 in the "# of times to Trace" field
- Select the menu item Edit->Advanced Options->Packet Options and enter a value of 56 in the Packet Size field
- Then press the Trace button
- Stop Wireshark tracing.

2. A LOOK AT THE CAPTURED TRACE

- Select the first ICMP Echo Request message sent by your computer:
- 1. What is the IP address of your computer?
- 2. Within the IP packet header, what is the value in the upper layer protocol field?
- 3. How many bytes are in the IP header? How many bytes are in the payload of the IP datagram?
- 4. Has this IP datagram been fragmented?

STEPS

- Sort the traced packets according to IP source address by clicking on the Source column header
- Select the first ICMP Echo Request message sent by your computer
- Expand the Internet Protocol portion in the "details of selected packet header" window
- Use the down arrow to move through the ICMP messages sent by your computer

- 5. Which fields in the IP datagram always change from one datagram to the next within this series of ICMP messages sent by your computer?
- 6. Which fields stay constant? Which of the fields *must* stay constant? Which fields must change? Why?
- 7. Describe the pattern you see in the values in the Identification field of the IP datagram

- Find the series of ICMP TTL-exceeded replies sent to your computer by the nearest (first hop) router:
- 8. What is the value in the Identification field and the TTL field?
- 9. Do these values remain unchanged for all of the ICMP TTL-exceeded replies sent to your computer by the nearest (first hop) router? Why?

FRAGMENTATION

- Sort the packet listing according to time again by clicking on the *Time* column
- 10. Find the first ICMP Echo Request message that was sent by your computer after you changed the *Packet Size* in *pingplotter* to be 2000. Has that message been fragmented across more than one IP datagram?

- 11. What information in the IP header indicates that the datagram been fragmented? What information in the IP header indicates whether this is the first fragment versus a latter fragment? How long is this IP datagram?
- 12. What information in the second IP header indicates that this is not the first datagram fragment? Are the more fragments? How can you tell?
- 13. What fields change in the IP header between the first and second fragment?

- Now find the first ICMP Echo Request message that was sent by your computer after you changed the *Packet Size* in pingplotter to be 3500
- 14. How many fragments were created from the original datagram?
- 15. What fields change in the IP header among the fragments?