

Internet of Things - Laboratory exercise 01

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Overview

This laboratory exercise consists of two mandatory parts.

Administration

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Agreement

I/we have independently worked on the following assignment solution. In the case of two or more people, we have both taken part in creating the solution, according to the assignment specification.

Sign 1: Anderson

Sign 2:

Sign 3:

Part 1

Part 1.1: See the Packets Sent From and To Your Computer

Getting Started

In this part of the lab, you will become acquainted to the tool *Wireshark*, a popular packet analyzer, that lets you view the packets sent from and to your computer. In particular, you will see the packets that are sent and received to retrieve a site from a web server. The recorded packet trace will be used to review concepts you have learned in the course. You will also learn

about other protocols that are used when accessing a web page with a browser.

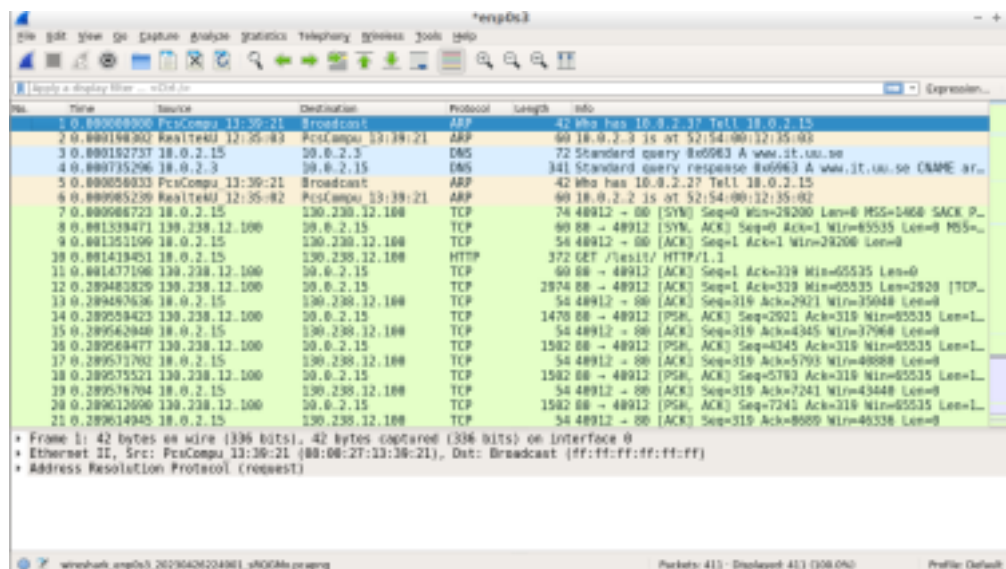


Fig. 1. A screenshot of Wireshark

Carefully read through the instructions before carrying them out. Otherwise, your packet traces may not have sufficient data to answer the questions. Some questions may require you to do some research. The course book is always a good place to start.

Start Wireshark by double clicking the icon on the desktop. You will be asked for a password, which is "user" (without the quotes). Select `enp0s3` from the list of network devices on the computer, and then click *Start* to start recording packets. With Wireshark still running, open the Firefox browser, and visit the website <http://www.it.uu.se/lesit/> by entering this URL in the address bar. Wait until the page has finished loading and then go back to the Wireshark window and stop capturing packets by clicking *Capture* → *Stop*.

You should see a number of lines in Wireshark now. Each line represents one packet that was either received or sent. Take some time to get familiar with Wireshark by looking at the packets. Click on a packet and have a look at the information in the lower half of the window. Click on the small arrows to expand the information.

Address and Domain Name Resolution

Now, consider the first two packets that you captured, which are used by the Address Resolution Protocol (ARP).

What is the purpose of this protocol? Describes why and how it is used here.

This protocol aims to help the senders to identify which device to send information to for an IP address. The sender first sends a request to establish a connection and requests to find out which MAC address it should be connecting with. It then receives a packet reply with providing the sender with the target MAC address given by the source MAC address in the ARP reply. This will be kept in a cache for faster routing purposes.

The next packets in the trace are related to DNS request(s) sent by the browser in order to determine the IP address associated with the `www.it.uu.se` domain name. The browser, or more generally, the application performing name resolution, may send the same request to one or more DNS servers. The IP addresses of these servers, and that of the gateway router, are often discovered by your host automatically when you connect to the network (see DHCP).

What transport protocol does the DNS protocol use?

User Datagram Protocol is used in the DNS protocol

What is/are the IP address(-es) of the DNS server(s)?

130.238.4.133;

130.238.164.6;

130.238.20.50;

What is the IP address of `www.it.uu.se`?

130.238.4.133

What is the IP address of the first node/hop your DNS request(s) has/have traversed enroute to the DNS server(s)? (hint: this can be found in the ARP packets captured earlier)

10.0.2.2

The Transport Layer

After the first DNS response, and possibly ARP packets for resolving the MAC address of the gateway router, you should see three TCP packets.

What is the purpose of these three packets?

These packages come from the three way handshake used for establishing a connection for the first time

Which port did your browser use?

54602

Apply a filter in Wireshark to only view packets of this connection.

For this enter “ip.addr == ... and tcp.port == ...” with the IP address of it.uu.se and your own port out of the first three TCP packets after the DNS request and response into the “Filter” field and confirm the input by pressing enter.

Consider the last three packets in the trace. What is their purpose? Explain why all three packets are necessary.

To terminate the connection gracefully. Both parties send [FIN, ACK] to tell each other they have no packages to send over to the other side. Both know that the connection can be closed. The last packet acknowledges receiving their [FIN,ACK] packages as a failsafe in case the package is lost and the other party waits not knowing it has finished. This frees the connection for others to use.

Which new packets are acknowledged by the last TCP packet in the trace? Justify your answer.

(‘New packets’ means packets that were not acknowledged by previous packets.)

The [FIN, ACK] packet from host 130.238.12.100 to local at 10.0.2.15 as seen by the seq numbers and ack numbers shows that it was a reply acknowledging the FIN,ACK packet from the local host.

Retrieving a Web Page

We have so far looked at packets for address resolution and some TCP packets. Let's now inspect the packets necessary to retrieve the web page from the server.

What is the application-layer protocol used for web requests?

HTTP protocol is used for web requests

On what port does the web server listen for requests?

80

The protocol uses multiple TCP connections to deliver web resources (e.g., HTML pages, images). Identify one such connection by the tuple (server port, server address, client port, client address) plus the web resource delivered over it.

(src port: 36362, Src Addr: 10.0.2.15, Dest Port:80, Dest Addr:130.238.12.100) information delivered is a GET request from the source for an image.

Why are resources delivered over multiple TCP connections instead of a single one? Wouldn't that create unnecessary overhead?

It allows for more parallelism in sending the data over the connections as compared to congesting a single connection and leaving the other connections idle. It utilizes the bandwidth better and the overhead costs may be less than congesting the network.

Design a filter applying which reveals **only** packets showing the browser's requests for **PNG image** resources. Briefly explain how the filter works.

Http.request.method == "GET" and http.request.uri contains ".png"

This filter select only http requests that are trying to GET information from the server, and also specifically states for png format information in the request.

Adding it all up

Explain in a concise manner how the four protocols discussed are used when you use your browser to access a web page over a wired network.

The four protocols here are the ARP > DNS > TCP > HTTP.

ARP requests were made to establish a mapping of the IP address of the web server to its MAC address. This is done by the browser to the host. DNS is then used to resolve the IP address of the web page by making hops until it eventually arrives at the correct IP address of the Web Server. The TCP establishes a reliable connection between the browser and the web server, by undergoing a 3 way handshake started using a SYN packet to server, whereby a SYN-ACK is received from server, followed by browser acknowledging the SYN ACK after that. The HTTP communicates data between browser and server, where browser makes request to server in the http query and receives response from the server together with the requested data. The browser then unpacks the packet and render it accordingly for users.

Part 1.2: Looking Up Information About IP Addresses

The Internet is hierarchical, composed of a number of *autonomous systems* (AS). The

`whois` command lets you look up information about an IP address, including which AS it belongs to.

Now consider this scenario: You are the network administrator for a small company. While inspecting the logs of one of your servers, you see that a host with the IP address 91.55.12.46 is trying to login into one of your servers by repeatedly trying out different passwords. The attacker is generating so many login requests that your server is overwhelmed.

Whom do you contact about the misbehaving host?

[The police and your boss](#)

What's the probable physical location of the host?

[Germany](#)

Part 2

Description

In this part of the lab, you will be using an IoT network simulator/emulator to perform data collection from nodes of a network. Moreover, you will use Wireshark to investigate the underlying protocols used in the application. This part of the lab will teach you about: •

Simulating/emulating IoT multi-hop networks

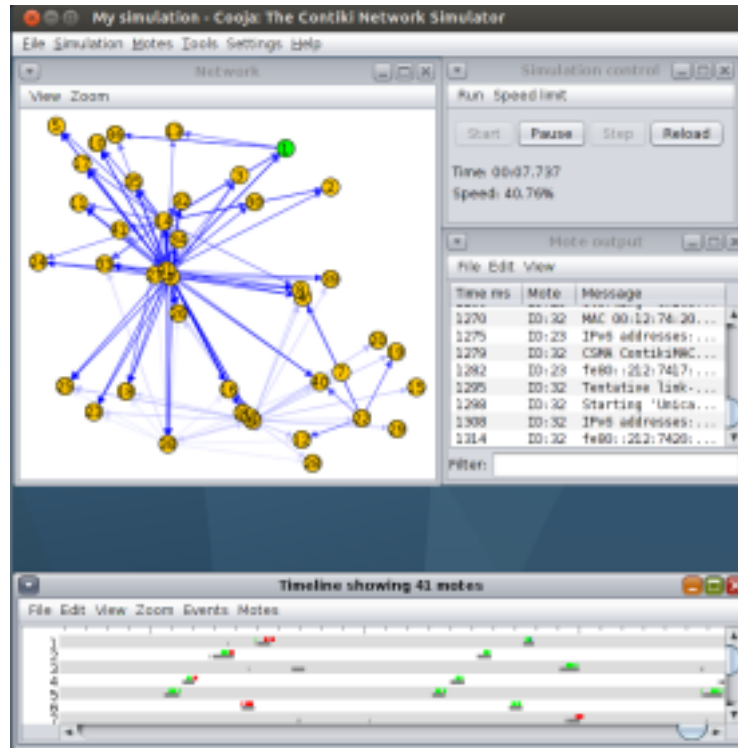
- Standard protocols used for networking IoT
- How IPv6 addressing is used in IoT

Background

In this section, you are given necessary background information related to the tools and protocols used in the task.

Cooja

Cooja is a wireless network simulator which is mainly used for developing protocols for the Internet of Things. In addition to simulation of network nodes, Cooja also supports emulation where actual hardware is emulated and deployment-level firmware images can be used. In this task, you will be using the emulation of the popular *Tmote Sky* node. A screenshot of Cooja's interface is shown below.



Though *Cooja* emulates almost the entire hardware including the radio, it does not simulate all the properties of a real wireless environment. In other words, applications that rely on properties of a real wireless environment might behave differently on Cooja and vice versa.

IPv6

As the number of devices connected to the Internet has started to increase rapidly, availability of usable IP addresses (IPv4) have started to deplete rapidly. As a solution, the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) formalized a successor protocol called Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6). IPv6 addresses use an 128-bit addressing scheme which allows 2^{128} , or approximately 3.4×10^{38} addresses, or more than 7.9×10^{28} times as many as what IPv4 addressing provides.

IPv6 addressing

IPv6 addresses are written in eight groups of four hexadecimal digits separated by colons (:) such as the following.

2001:0db8:85a3:0000:0000:8a2e:0370:7334

For convenience, an IPv6 address may be written in shorthand notation by following rules listed below.

- Leading zeros of any group are omitted.
- Consecutive sections of zeroes are replaced with a double colon (::). (This is known as zero compression). In order to avoid ambiguities, the double colon replacement may only be applied once in an address.

Using these rules, we can write the IPv6 address above as:

2001:db8:85a3::8a2e:370:7334

IPv6 prefixes

IPv6 uses prefixes for subnetting and routing. The high-order bits of an IPv6 address (on the left as the address is written on paper) specify the network, and the remaining bits specify the particular addresses in that network.

For example, the address `2001:db8:85a3::8a2e:370:7334` belongs to the prefix `2001:db8::/32`. Here, the high-order 32 bits represents the network. When it comes to complete IPv6 addresses, the prefix specifier (`/32` in this case) is often omitted to avoid confusion.

Special IPv6 prefixes

Some IPv6 prefixes have special use cases. The prefixes that are important to carry out this part of the lab are listed below. The addresses having these prefixes are not globally routable over the Internet.

- `fe80::/10` - This address prefix indicates that the address is valid only for communicating between two nodes. Addresses with this prefix cannot be used to communicate over multiple hops.
- `ff00::/8` - Any address with this prefix is automatically understood to be a multicast address. A multicast address is used to represent a group of destination nodes simultaneously.

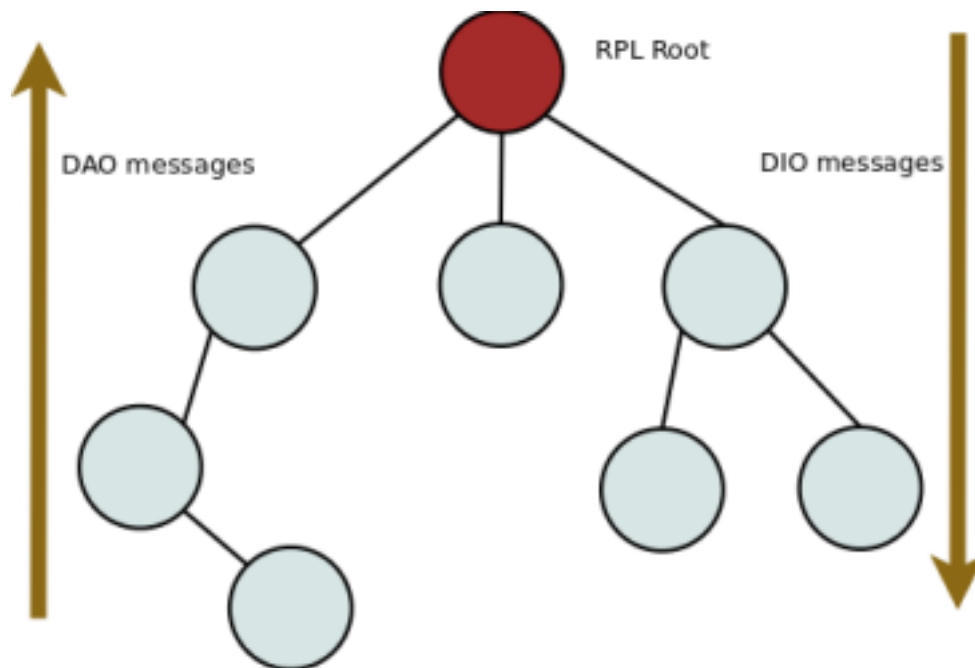
RPL

RPL is the standard routing protocol for IPv6-based low-power and lossy IoT networks. RPL constructs tree-like structures where nodes of the network maintain parent/child relationships. A network running RPL can have multiple tree-like structures, and roots of the structures typically act as data sinks. These tree-like structures are called Destination Oriented Directed Acyclic Graphs (DODAGs). However, in your task, you will be using a network that has only one *DODAG*, i.e., one root node.

RPL uses ICMPv6 (Internet Control Message Protocol version 6) to exchange *DODAG* information among nodes. There are three main control messages used:

- *DODAG* Information Object (DIO)
The root of the graph initiates the construction of the *DODAG* by sending this message. This message carries information that allow nodes to discover a RPL instance and learn its configuration parameters.
- *DODAG* Information Solicitation (DIS)
Nodes may use this message to actively probe existing *DODAG* Information Object from a RPL node. Otherwise, nodes have to wait until they receive DIO messages.
- Destination Advertisement Object (DAO)

This message is used by children nodes to propagate destination information towards root of the *DODAG*. Typically, DAO messages are sent by children to their parents. The following figure shows how DIO and DAO messages propagate in the tree-like structure.



As with any other routing protocol, the purpose of RPL is to populate the forwarding table of the nodes. The TCP/IP stack of the nodes uses the forwarding table to decide which node should be selected as the next hop when forwarding a packet. Note that you are not required to learn about RPL in detail in order to carry out this task.

Data collection application

In this task, you will be running a data collection application in Cooja with 25 emulated *Tmote Sky* nodes. Node 1 acts as the data sink as well as the RPL root node. All nodes send several statistics, such as sensor values and information parent node, to the sink node (node 1) every 60~62 seconds.

Getting started

- Start a terminal window by double clicking the icon “Terminal” on the Desktop. • Use the following command to change the directory to RPL data collection example application directory

```
# cd contiki-github/examples/ipv6/rpl-collect
```

- Start Cooja with a pre-saved simulation file for RPL based data collection.

```
# make TARGET=cooja collect-tree-dense-noloss.csc
```

- Cooja will start and take a short time to load firmware images to all nodes.

- Two windows will pop up:

- Cooja simulator (with several sub windows)

- Sensor Data Collect with Contiki (Data collection control)

- Here, you can see all 25 nodes in the “Network” subwindow of Cooja. • In Cooja, click “Tools → Radio messages” to open radio messages window. ◦ In order to log all radio messages into a .pcap file, click “Analyzer → 6LowPAN Analyzer with PCAP”. The .pcap file can be opened from *Wireshark* later for analyzing packets.

- This will create a file similar to the pattern radiolog-

*****.pcap (e.g., radiolog-1424111165911.pcap) in the current directory .

- In order to see the radio communication visually, click on the “View” menu item of the “Network” window of Cooja and select “Radio traffic” option.
- Now, start the simulation by clicking the “Start” button in the “Simulation control” window of Cooja. Let the simulation run for about **120 (simulated) seconds** in order to have enough packets saved in the .pcap file.
- Verify that a file similar to the pattern radiolog-*****.pcap is in the directory /home/user/contiki-github/examples/ipv6/rpl-collect by opening another terminal.
- Open “Wireshark” by clicking the icon on the Desktop.
 - Then, open the file radiolog-*****.pcap by “File → Open” menu.
 - A file chooser dialog will appear and you need to select radiolog-*****.pcap file located in /home/user/contiki-github/examples/ipv6/rpl-collect directory.

Protocols

- As you can notice, IPv6 is used as the network layer protocol. Give **two** reasons for using IPv6 as the network protocol in IoT, providing also the implications for IoT.

IPv6 allows for much more connections as it provides 1028 times more addresses than IPv4 given how it uses 128-bit addresses compared to the 32-bit addresses, more than 7.9×10^{28} times of IPv4, providing more than enough unique addresses for the large amounts of sensors IoT systems may need without ever running out in the foreseeable future.

IPv6 also allows for some special prefixes that are not globally routable, meaning there is an added security to it since it would mean the devices are not directly linked to the internet, making it less susceptible to be compromised. These prefixes also allow better communication between the IoT devices such as multicasting prefixes to broadcast data to a group of devices more efficiently.

- IEEE 802.15.4 standard specifies 4 MAC layer frame types. The values for these frame types are shown below.

Frame type	Value
Beacon	0x0000
Data	0x0001
Acknowledgment	0x0002
MAC command	0x0003

Use *Wireshark* to find out which MAC layer frames are recorded in the `radiolog-*****.pcap` file. (Hint: You can use the filter `wpan.frame_type == <value>` to filter the particular frame type from others.)

The layer frames found are Data and Acknowledgment packets are found.

- As you can see from the Wireshark traces, ICMPv6 is used to carry RPL-related information. Why do you think ICMPv6 has been chosen over popular transport layer protocols such as TCP and UDP? Note that the operational purpose of ICMPv6 is similar to ICMPv4.

ICMPv6 allows for other features such as multicast, providing better efficiency and simplicity.

- Which transport layer protocol is used in the data collection application?

UDP (search “data” wireshark)

IPv6 addressing and RPL

Source	Destination
fe80::212:7401...	ff02::1a

- What is the destination IP address of ICMPv6 packets that carry RPL DIO messages? (Hint: ICMPv6 packets that carry DIO messages have `type` and `code` fields set to 155 and 1 respectively)

ff02::1a

- Why do you think that the destination address of ICMPv6 packets that carry RPL DIO messages is always same? (Hint: Nodes broadcast DIO messages)

Because the nodes are broadcasting DIO messages, and the multicast address has the prefix `ff00::` and thus this prefix is used for multicasting (broadcast) to all nodes in the group thus always the same. Also, since this group needs to be identified, they have the same address as a whole after the prefix. The prefix allows for identification that it is a multicast and the address after that determines which group, in this case there is only 1 group thus all of them are the same.

- Write the 16-bit prefix of the destination address of UDP packets in shorthand notation of IPv6 addresses.

::16

- Write the 16-bit prefix of the destination address of ICMPv6 packets that carry DAO messages in shorthand notation of IPv6 addresses. (Hint: ICMPv6 packets that carry DAO messages have `type` and `code` fields set to 155 and 2 respectively)

fe80::

- Why do you think that the prefixes you have written for the two previous questions are different? (Hint: DAO messages are sent by children to their parents while UDP packets are sent by all nodes to the sink node which is the RPL root of the tree.)

The UDP packets are all sent to a common destination, the sink node RPL root of the tree, which is identified as ::1. However, DAO messages are sent by children to their immediate parents and hence have the prefix fe80 since fe80 prefix only does a single hop while the other prefix would allow more hops to arrive at the root if the source was further down the tree and fe80 prefix would not be able to hop multiple times to reach the root.

Appendix

The screenshot shows a Wireshark interface with a packet capture filter set to `ip.addr == 10.0.2.15 and tcp.port == 54602`. The capture is on the `*enp0s3` interface. The packet list shows a series of packets, with packet 325 selected. The packet details pane shows the following information:

- Frame 325: 60 bytes on wire (480 bits), 60 bytes captured (480 bits) on interface 0
- Ethernet II, Src: RealtekU 12:35:02 (52:54:00:12:35:02), Dst: PcsCompu 58:3e:f0 (08:00:27:58:3e:f0)
- Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 130.238.12.100, Dst: 10.0.2.15
- Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 443, Dst Port: 54602, Seq: 166823, Ack: 3138, Len: 0

The packet bytes pane shows the raw data of the selected packet.

The screenshot shows a Wireshark interface with a packet capture filter set to `<Ctrl>/>`. The capture is on the `loTLL.pcapng` interface. The packet list shows a series of packets, with packet 291 selected. The packet details pane shows the following information:

- Frame 28: 54 bytes on wire (432 bits), 54 bytes captured (432 bits) on interface 0
- Ethernet II, Src: PcsCompu 58:3e:f0 (08:00:27:58:3e:f0), Dst: RealtekU 12:35:02 (52:54:00:12:35:02)
- Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.0.2.15, Dst: 34.160.46.54
- Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 34082, Dst Port: 443, Seq: 721, Ack: 4845, Len: 0

The packet bytes pane shows the raw data of the selected packet.

