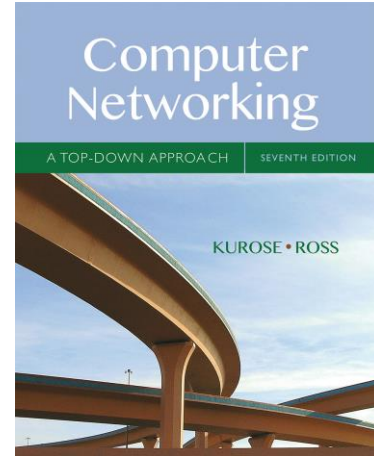


Wireshark Lab: UDP v7.0

Supplement to *Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach*, 7th ed., J.F. Kurose and K.W. Ross

“Tell me and I forget. Show me and I remember. Involve me and I understand.” Chinese proverb

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In this lab, we'll take a quick look at the UDP transport protocol. As we saw in Chapter 3 of the text¹, UDP is a streamlined, no-frills protocol. You may want to re-read section 3.3 in the text before doing this lab. Because UDP is simple and sweet, we'll be able to cover it pretty quickly in this lab. So if you've another appointment to run off to in 30 minutes, no need to worry, as you should be able to finish this lab with ample time to spare.

At this stage, you should be a Wireshark expert. Thus, we are not going to spell out the steps as explicitly as in earlier labs. In particular, we are not going to provide example screenshots for all the steps.

The Assignment

Start capturing packets in Wireshark and then do something that will cause your host to send and receive several UDP packets. It's also likely that just by doing nothing (except capturing packets via Wireshark) that some UDP packets sent by others will appear in your trace. In particular, the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP – see section 5.7 in the text) sends SNMP messages inside of UDP, so it's likely that you'll find some SNMP messages (and therefore UDP packets) in your trace.

After stopping packet capture, set your packet filter so that Wireshark only displays the UDP packets sent and received at your host. Pick one of these UDP packets and expand the UDP fields in the details window. If you are unable to find UDP packets or are unable to run Wireshark on a live network connection, you can download a packet trace containing some UDP packets.²

¹ References to figures and sections are for the 7th edition of our text, *Computer Networks, A Top-down Approach*, 7th ed., J.F. Kurose and K.W. Ross, Addison-Wesley/Pearson, 2016.

² Download the zip file <http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/wireshark-traces.zip> and extract the file http-ethereal-trace-5, which contains some UDP packets carrying SNMP messages. The traces in this zip file were collected by Wireshark running on one of the author's computers. Once you have downloaded the

Include a screen shot with each question were ever possible.

1. Select *one* UDP packet from your trace. From this packet, determine how many fields there are in the UDP header. (You shouldn't look in the textbook! Answer these questions directly from what you observe in the packet trace.) Name these fields. (Don't include the fields in brackets)

The screenshot shows the Wireshark interface. The top pane displays a list of captured packets. The bottom pane shows the details of the selected packet (No. 55), which is a User Datagram Protocol (UDP) packet. The packet details are as follows:

Field	Value
Source Port	63418
Destination Port	53
Length	53
Checksum	0xdfd5 [unverified]
[Checksum Status]	Unverified
[Stream index]	8

The packet content field shows the raw data in hexadecimal and ASCII format:

```

0000 00 08 e3 ff fc 28 60 67 20 77 ac 64 08 00 45 00 .....('g w.d..E.
0010 00 49 54 d5 00 00 80 11 70 b9 93 8a 43 d9 93 8a .IT.... p...C...
0020 0a 28 f7 ba 00 35 00 35 df d5 fe b9 01 00 00 01 .(...5.5 .....
0030 00 00 00 00 00 00 0b 65 6b 73 77 68 68 6e 75 64 .....e kswhhnud
0040 6e 6e 0b 62 72 69 64 67 65 77 61 74 65 72 03 65 nn.bridg ewater.e
0050 64 75 00 00 01 00 01 du.....
  
```

Source Port, Destination Port, Length, CheckSum

2. By consulting the displayed information in Wireshark's packet content field for this packet, determine the length (in bytes) of each of the UDP header fields.

trace, you can load it into Wireshark and view the trace using the *File* pull down menu, choosing *Open*, and then selecting the *http-ethereal-trace-5* trace file.

User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 63418, Dst Port: 53

Source Port: 63418

Destination Port: 53

Length: 53

Checksum: 0xdfd5 [unverified]

[Checksum Status: Unverified]

[Stream index: 8]

> Domain Name System (query)

0000	00 08 e3 ff fc 28 60 67 20 77 ac 64 08 00 45 00(`g w.d..E.
0010	00 49 54 d5 00 00 80 11 70 b9 93 8a 43 d9 93 8a	.IT..... p...C...
0020	0a 28 f7 ba 00 35 00 35 df d5 fe b9 01 00 00 01	.(...5.5
0030	00 00 00 00 00 00 0b 65 6b 73 77 68 68 6e 75 64e kswhhnud
0040	6e 6e 0b 62 72 69 64 67 65 77 61 74 65 72 03 65	nn.bridg ewater.e
0050	64 75 00 00 01 00 01	du.....

Highlighting the field will highlight the corresponding hex value. Each hex value corresponds to 1 byte.

3. The value in the Length field is the length of what? (You can consult the text for this answer). Verify your claim with your captured UDP packet.
4. What is the maximum number of bytes that can be included in a UDP payload (The payload does not include the header) ? (Hint: the answer to this question can be determined by your answer to 2. above)
5. What is the largest possible source port number? (Hint: see the hint in 4.)
6. What is the protocol number for UDP? Give your answer in both hexadecimal and decimal notation. To answer this question, you'll need to look into the Protocol field of the IP datagram containing this UDP segment (see Figure 4.13 in the text, and the discussion of IP header fields).
7. Examine a pair of UDP packets in which your host sends the first UDP packet and the second UDP packet is a reply to this first UDP packet. (Hint: for a second packet to be sent in response to a first packet, the sender of the first packet should be the destination of the second packet). Describe the relationship between the port numbers in the two packets.