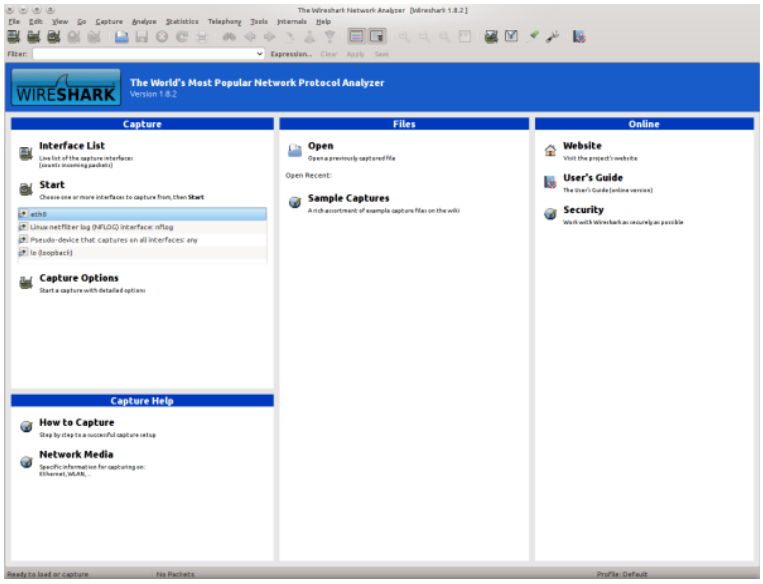
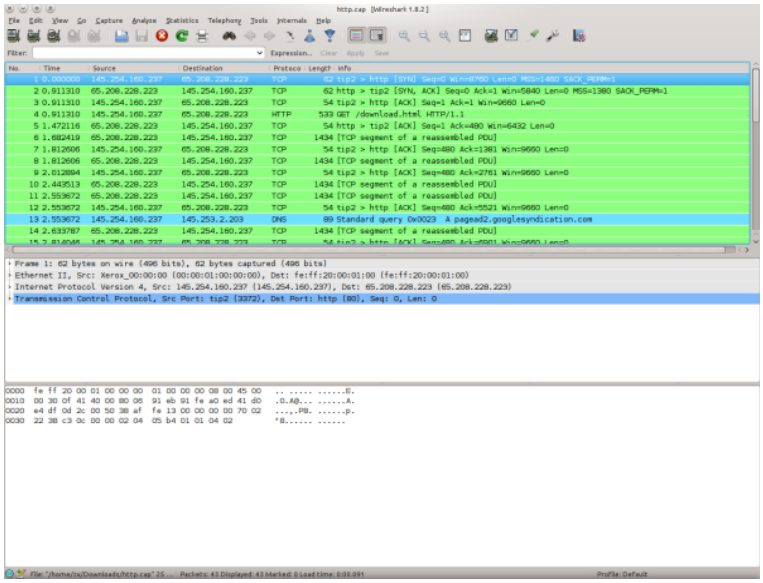
CENG334
COMPUTER NETWORKS
LABORATORY MANUAL VI

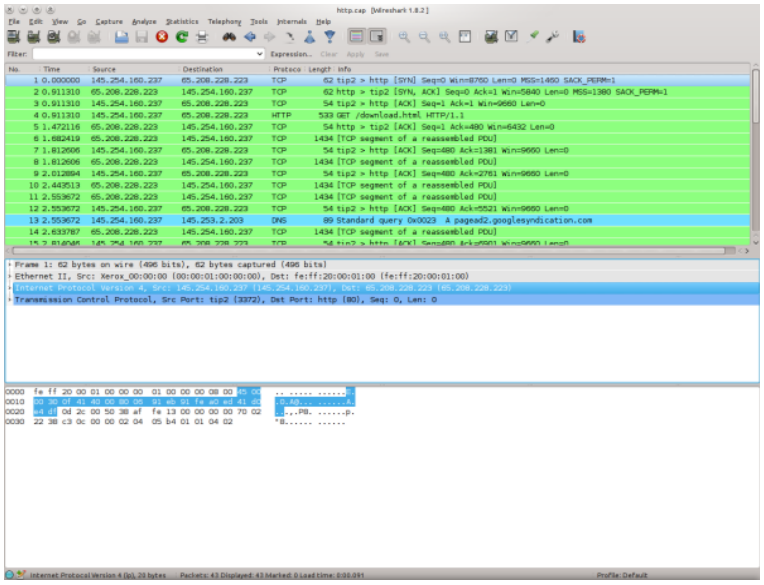
In this weeks laboratory manual, we will use Wireshark to study IPv4 headers. Wireshark is a powerful network analysis software. It can capture incoming/outgoing network packages to/from your computer and display the structure of these packets. It can also save captured packets to a file and load captured packets from it later.



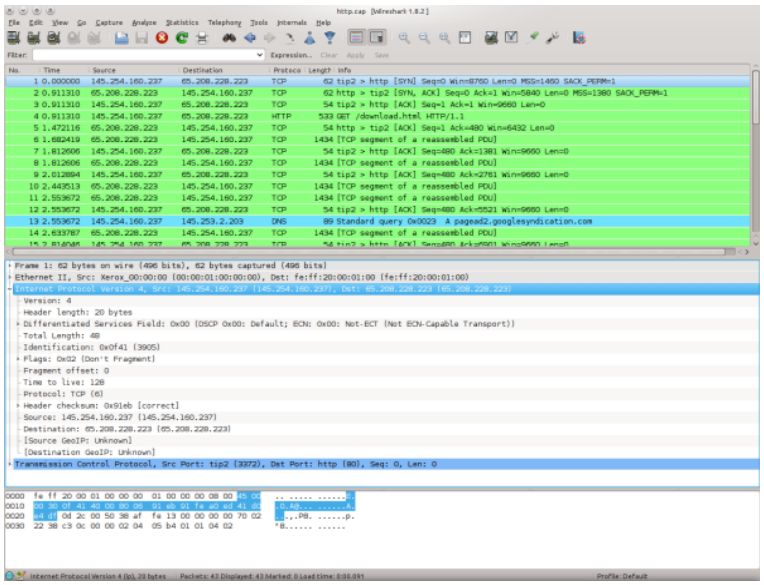
Wireshark main window. Download sample capture file from course web page and load it via File -> Open.



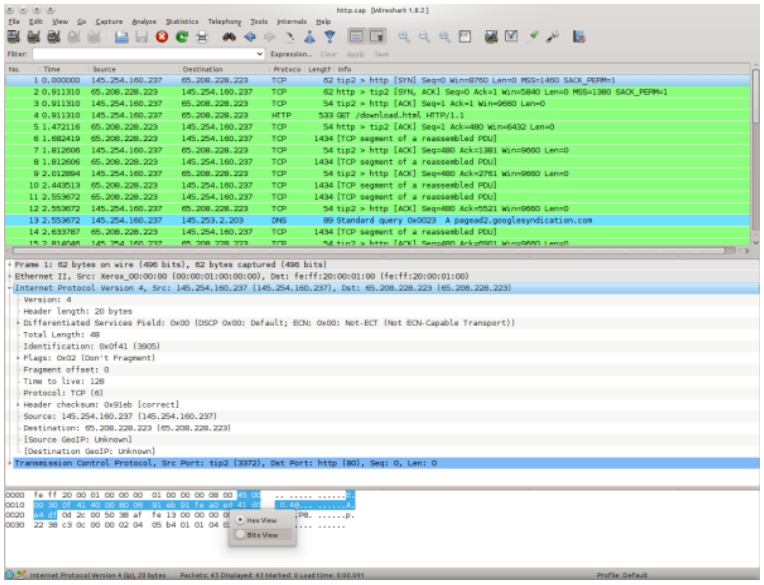
You can browse captured packages from the upper list.



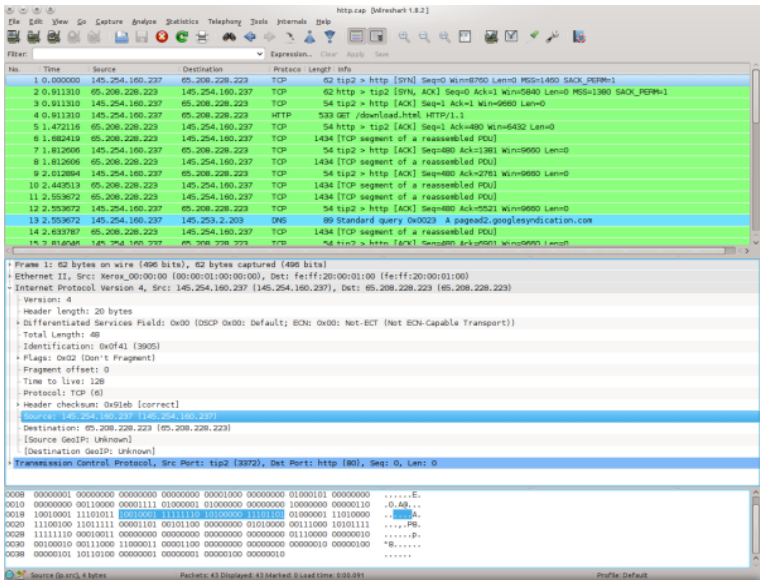
To select IPv4 headers of captured packages, select "Internet Protocol Version 4" part from the middle list. You can see the header at the lower part.



Selecting different parts of the packet will highlight the associated bits in the lower section. Here we have selected and extended the header to show detailed information about the fields.



You can switch between hexadecimal and binary views by right clicking on the lower part...



... and see how the fields are represented in binary or hexadecimal.

Study the rest of the packets in the sample file and observe how each field is organized in each packet.

Calculating Checksum

You should follow three steps to calculate the checksum of an IPv4 header. As an example, the first packet in the sample capture file will be used. This header can be displayed as `45 00 00 30 0f 41 40 00 80 06 00 00 91 fe a0 ed 41 d0 e4 df` in hexadecimal form. Note that the checksum field is currently empty.

1. Calculate the sum of every 2 bytes.
   ```
   = 4500 + 0030 + 0f41 + 4000 + 8006 + 0000 + 91fe + a0ed + 41d0
     + e4df
   = 00036e11
   ```

2. The first 2 bytes are the carry, add them to the rest.
   ```
   = 0003 + 6e11
   = 6e14
   ```

3. Obtain 1's complement of this value.
   ```
   = ~6e14
   = 91eb
   ```

4. Write the result obtained in Step 3 to checksum field of header.
   ```
   45 00 00 30 0f 41 40 00 80 06 91 eb 91 fe a0 ed 41 d0 e4 df
   ```

Verifying Checksum

Verifying a checksum is almost similar to calculation, but now you must also add checksum to the sum operation in Step 1.

```
= 4500 + 0030 + 0f41 + 4000 + 8006 + 91eb + 91fe + a0ed + 41d0 + e4df
= 0003 fffc

= 0003 + fffc
= ffff

= ~ffff
= 0000
```

If you obtain 0000 in the final step, then that means the contents of the header has been correctly received. If not, it means there had been error(s) while receiving the package and it should either be repaired or received again.

Exercise

The C program below displays an IPv4 header which is defined in an array. Run it, then modify it to calculate the checksum of the header.

A reminder;

- char = 1 byte
- short int = 2 bytes
- int = 4 bytes
- long int = 8 bytes

```c
#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
	int i;
	unsigned short int byte_grp;
	unsigned char header[20] = { 0x45, 0x00, 0x00, 0x30, 0x0f, 0x41, 0x40, 0x00, 0x80, 0x06, 0x00,
0x00, 0x91, 0xfe, 0xa0, 0xed, 0x41, 0xd0, 0xe4, 0xdf };

	for (i = 0; i < 10; i++)
	{
		byte_grp = (header[2 * i] << 8) + header[2 * i + 1];
		printf("%04x ", byte_grp);
	}

	return 0;
}
```