

TCP and UDP Theory of Operation



Aaron Staines

NETWORK/SYSTEM ENGINEER | CCISO



Module Overview



TCP

- Datagram decomposition aka DNA
- How sessions are formed
- Data segmentation and reassembly
- Retransmitting lost data



Module Overview



UDP

- Datagram decomposition
- Wireshark view of datagram
- UDP data transmission



TCP Breakdown



TCP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)			



TCP Breakdown



Source port

- Connection tracking
- 16 bit



TCP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)		Destination Port (16 bit)	



TCP Breakdown



Destination port

- Destination service
- Most common web server
 - Port 80 and 443
- 16 bit



TCP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)		Destination Port (16 bit)	
Sequence Number (32 bit)			



TCP Breakdown



Sequence number

- Separates TCP from UDP
- Each piece gets a number
- 32 bit



TCP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)		Destination Port (16 bit)	
Sequence Number (32 bit)			
Acknowledgement Number (32 bit)			



TCP Breakdown



Acknowledgement number

- Works with Sequence number
 - Parity between both numbers
- 32 bit

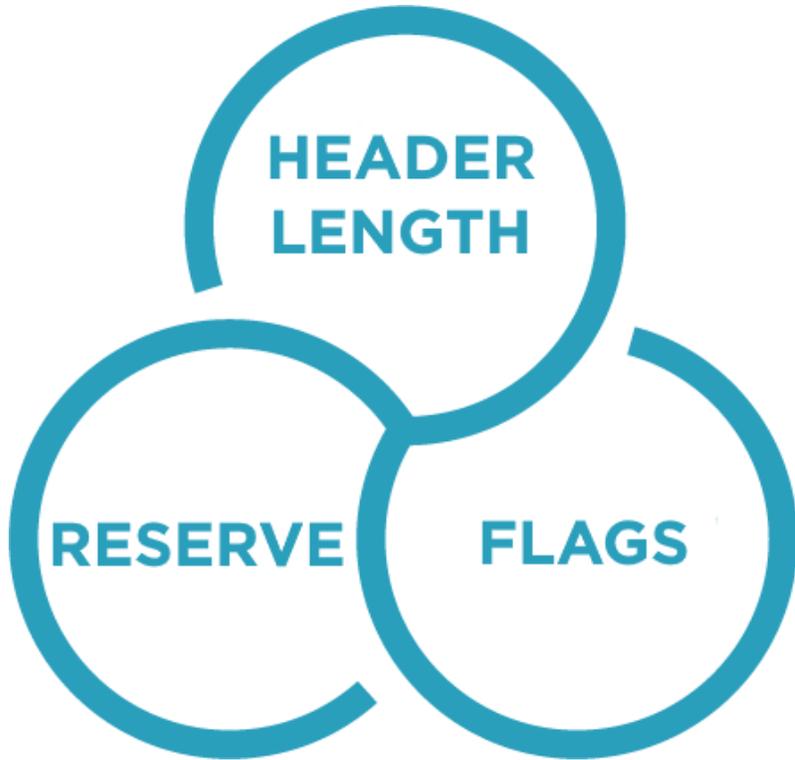


TCP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)		Destination Port (16 bit)	
Sequence Number (32 bit)			
Acknowledgement Number (32 bit)			
Header Length (4 bit)	Reserve (6 bit)	Flags (6 bit)	



TCP Breakdown

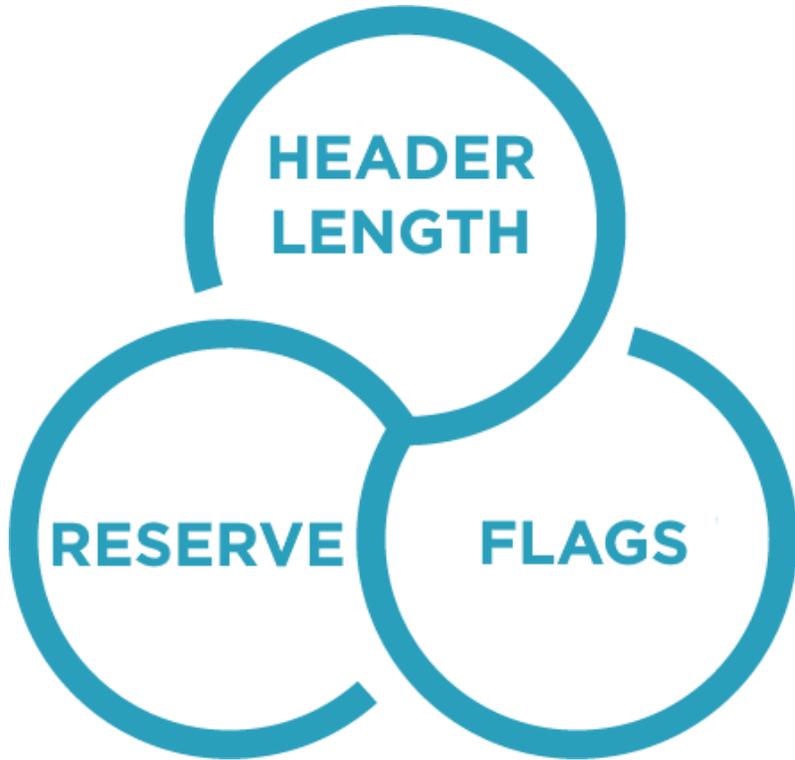


Reserved

- Nothing, held for future use
- 6 bit



TCP Breakdown

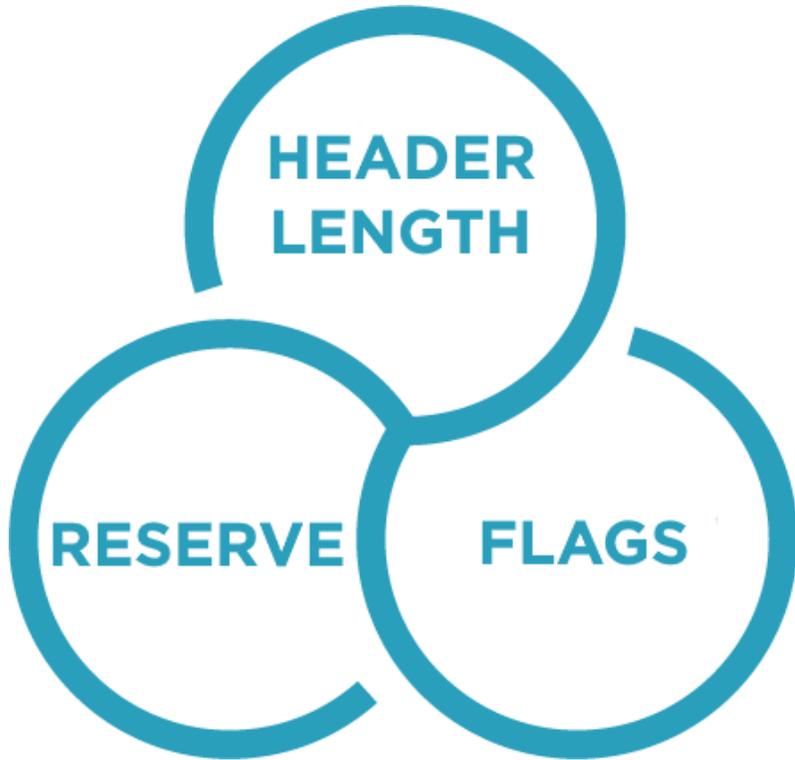


Header length

- Where data begins
- Composed of all header bits
- 4 bit by default



TCP Breakdown

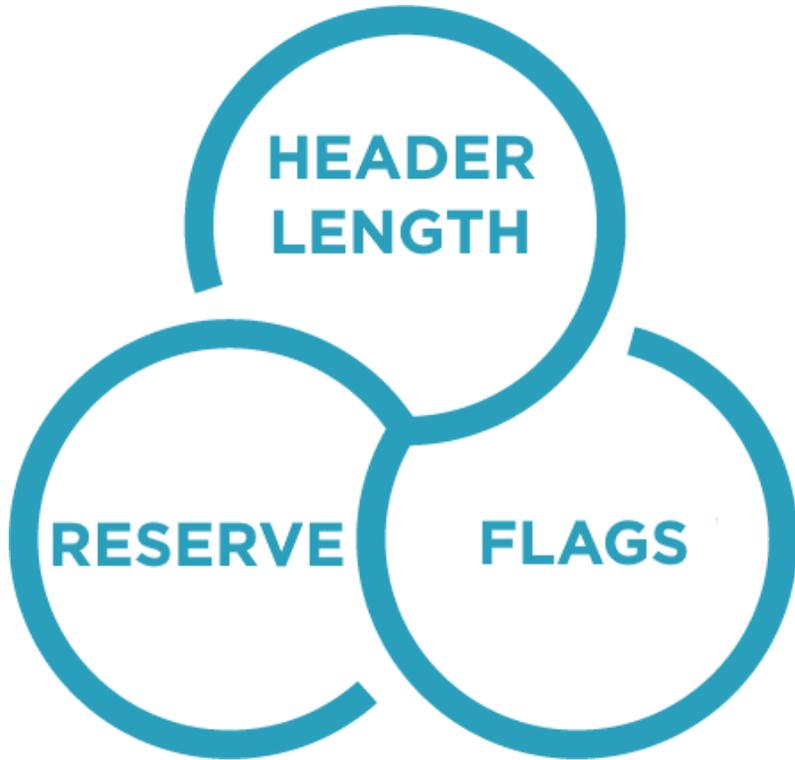


Flags

- 6 primary Flags
- 6 bit
- 4 extra Flags



TCP Breakdown



Primary flags

Urgent - Seen as URG

- Flags data as urgent

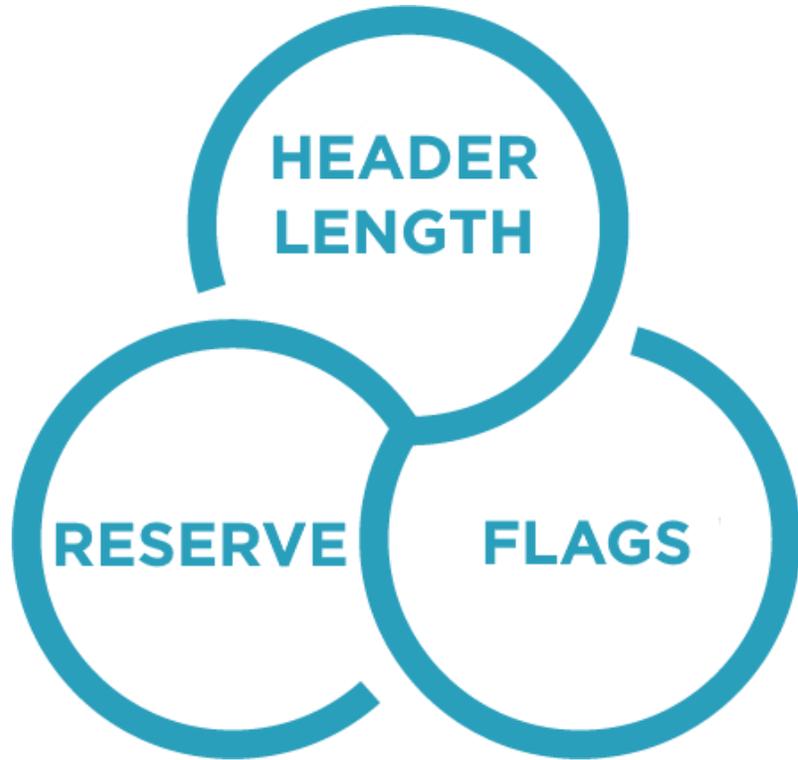
- IETF - Don't use

Acknowledgement - Seen as ACK

- Acknowledges receipt of data



TCP Breakdown



Primary flags

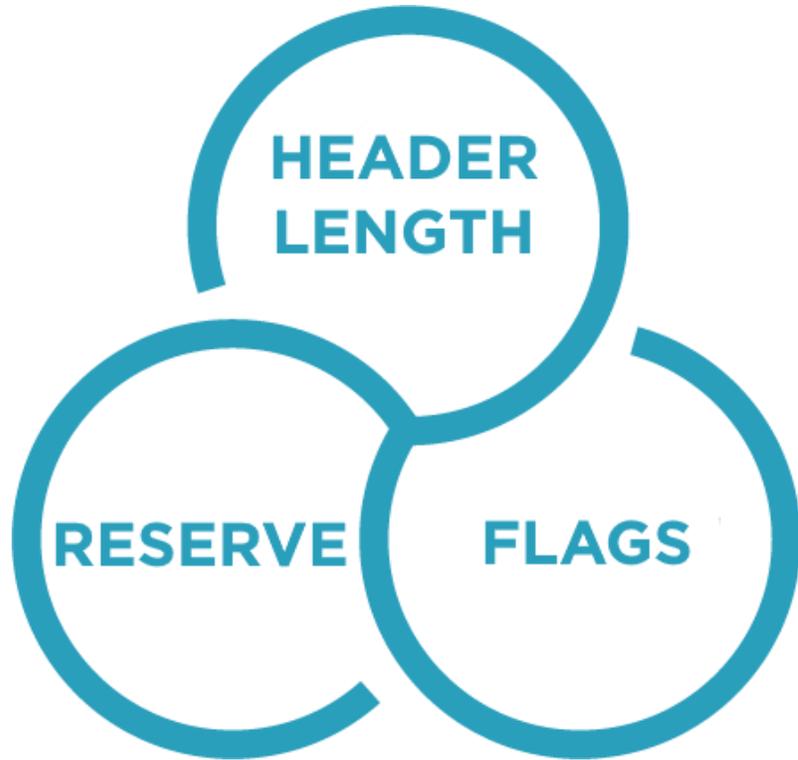
Push - Seen as PSH

- Get to the chopper
 - Do not buffer

Reset - Seen as RST

- Connection Reset
- Multiple causes
 - Firewall is primary

TCP Breakdown



Primary flags

Synchronize - Seen as SYN

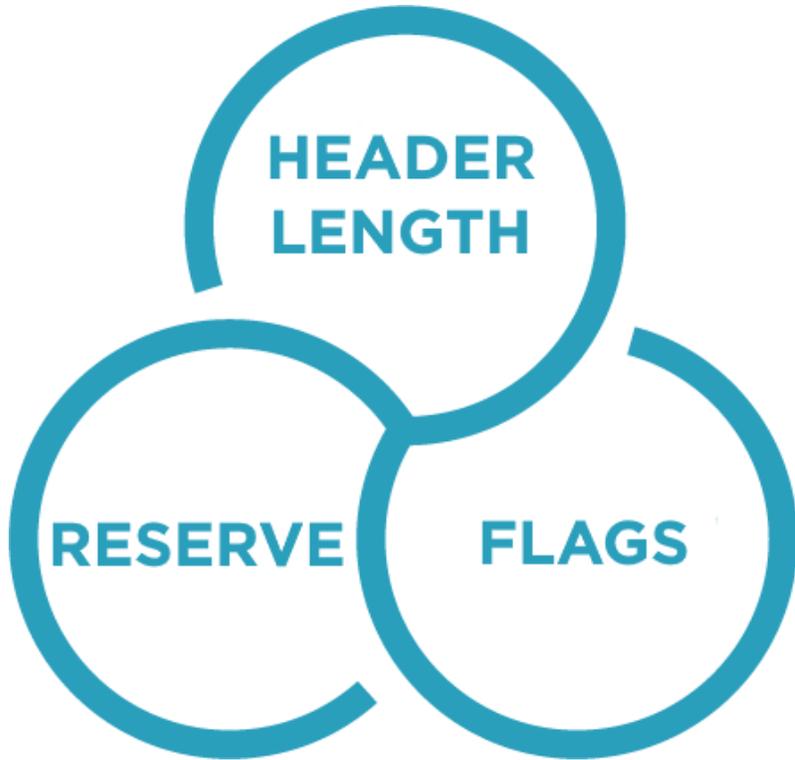
- Initiates a connection
- 3-way handshake

Finish - Seen as FIN

- Graceful end
- Should be last thing seen



TCP Breakdown



Extra flags

Reserved - Future use

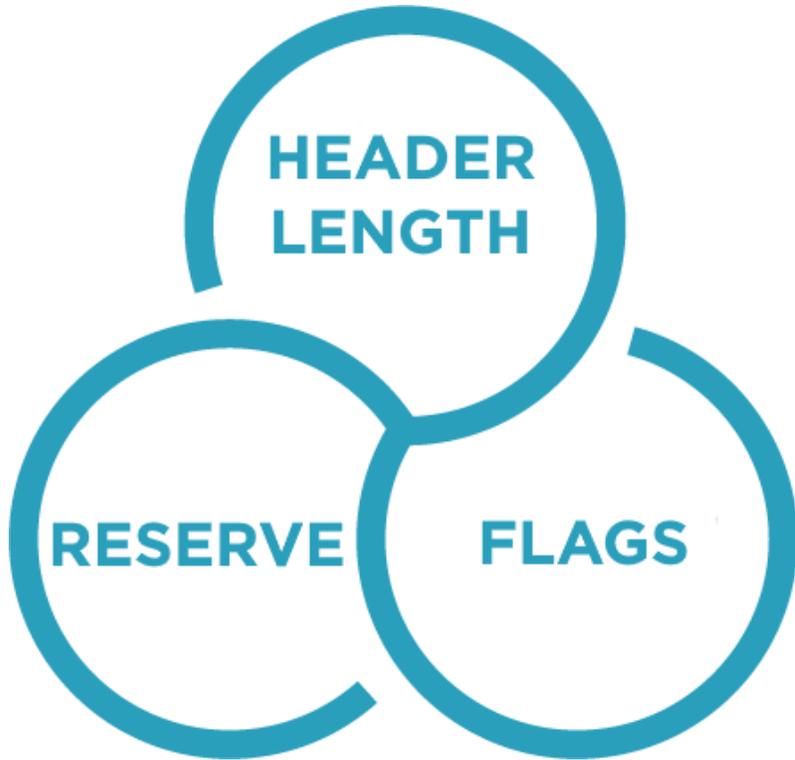
- Per IETF must remain 0

Nonce - Experimental

- Goal to protect against malicious traffic



TCP Breakdown



Extra flags

- Congestion Window Reduced - AKA CWR
- Notifies about traffic congestion
- ECN-Echo - Link to CWR
- Acknowledge traffic congestion

TCP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)		Destination Port (16 bit)	
Sequence Number (32 bit)			
Acknowledgement Number (32 bit)			
Header Length (4 bit)	Reserve (6 bit)	Flags (6 bit)	Window (16)



TCP Breakdown



Window – Flow control

- Can adjust rate
- Default bit size of 16



TCP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)		Destination Port (16 bit)	
Sequence Number (32 bit)			
Acknowledgement Number (32 bit)			
Header Length (4 bit)	Reserve (6 bit)	Flags (6 bit)	Window (16)
Checksum (16)			



TCP Breakdown



Checksum - Check integrity
- 16 bit



TCP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)		Destination Port (16 bit)	
Sequence Number (32 bit)			
Acknowledgement Number (32 bit)			
Header Length (4 bit)	Reserve (6 bit)	Flags (6 bit)	Window (16)
Checksum (16)			
Options (Variable)			



TCP Breakdown



Options - Multiple options

- NOP - No option
- MSS - Largest size of data allowed
- Window Scaling - Increase window size
- SACK - Acknowledge out of order data



TCP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)		Destination Port (16 bit)	
Sequence Number (32 bit)			
Acknowledgement Number (32 bit)			
Header Length (4 bit)	Reserve (6 bit)	Flags (6 bit)	Window (16)
Checksum (16)			
Options (Variable)			
Data (Variable)			



TCP Breakdown



Data - information being transported

- Pictures
- Videos
- Database queries





Apply a display filter ... <Ctrl-/>

Expression... +

No Time Source Destination Protocol Length Info

Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 28881, Dst Port: 23, Seq: 0, Len: 0

Source Port: 28881

Destination Port: 23

[Stream index: 0]

[TCP Segment Len: 0]

Sequence number: 0 (relative sequence number)

[Next sequence number: 0 (relative sequence number)]

Acknowledgment number: 0

1000 = Header Length: 32 bytes (8)

Flags: 0x002 (SYN)

000. = Reserved: Not set

...0 = Nonce: Not set

.... 0... = Congestion Window Reduced (CWR): Not set

.... .0.. = ECN-Echo: Not set

.... ..0. = Urgent: Not set

.... ...0 = Acknowledgment: Not set

.... 0... = Push: Not set

....0.. = Reset: Not set

>1. = Syn: Set

....0 = Fin: Not set

[TCP Flags:S.]

Window size value: 64240

[Calculated window size: 64240]

Checksum: 0x546e [unverified]

[Checksum Status: Unverified]

Urgent pointer: 0

Options: (12 bytes), Maximum segment size, No-Operation (NOP), Window scale, No-Operation (NOP), No-Operation (NOP), SACK permitted

> TCP Option - Maximum segment size: 1460 bytes

> TCP Option - No-Operation (NOP)

> TCP Option - Window scale: 8 (multiply by 256)

> TCP Option - No-Operation (NOP)

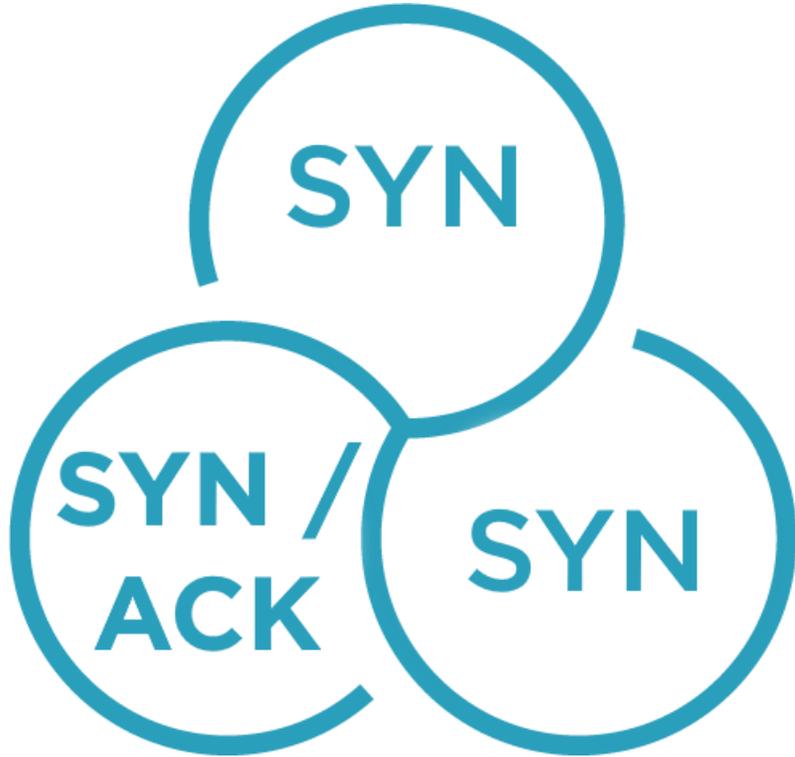
> TCP Option - No-Operation (NOP)

> TCP Option - SACK permitted

TCP Session Formation



TCP Session Formation



3-way handshake

- SYN - Start the conversation
- SYN/ACK - Acknowledges SYN
- 2nd SYN - Acknowledges the SYN/ACK

TCP Session Formation



192.168.1.1



192.168.1.100



TCP Data Segmentation



TCP Data Segmentation



Sequence - Numbers data + payload

Acknowledgement - Acks prior data



TCP Data Segmentation



192.168.1.1



192.168.1.100



TCP Data Reassembly



TCP Data Reassembly



Reassembly

- Order of operations
- Uses Sequence number



TCP Data Reassembly



192.168.1.1



192.168.1.100



TCP Data Retransmission



TCP Data Retransmission



Retransmission

- Relies on Sequence numbers
- Relies on Acknowledgement numbers



TCP Data Retransmission



192.168.1.1



192.168.1.100



TCP Session Termination



TCP Session Termination



Session termination

- Conservation
- Ungraceful termination happens
- Similar to 3-way handshake
 - Works through - ACK FIN flags



TCP Session Termination



192.168.1.1



192.168.1.100



UDP Breakdown

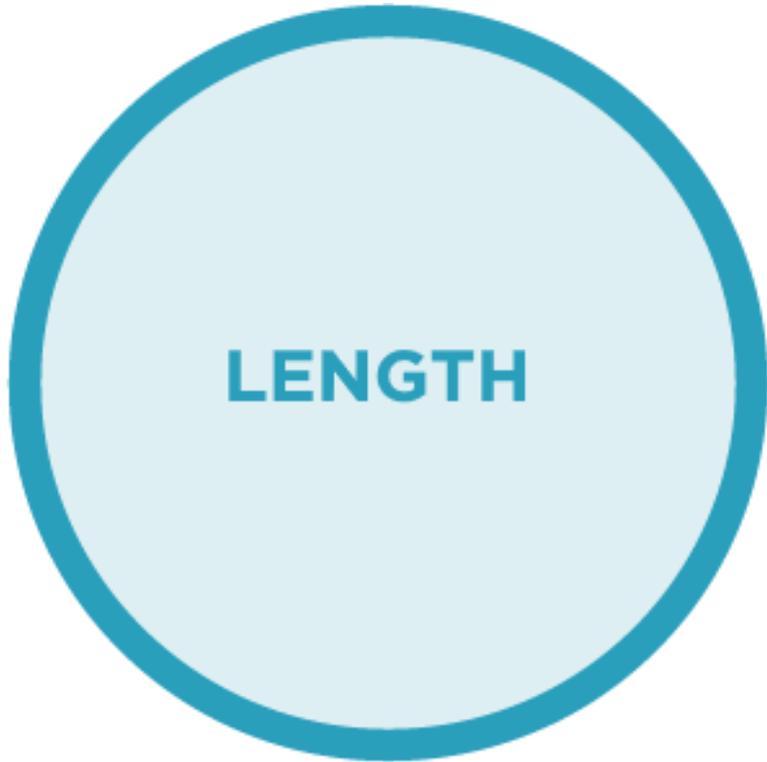


UDP Breakdown

Source Port (16 bit)	Destination Port (16 bit)
Length (16)	Checksum (16 bit)
Data (Size Varies)	



TCP Session Termination



Length

- 16 bit default
- Header + data = Value





dhcp Expression... +

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
17	5.023144	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x67f4cbc7
69	9.964811	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x67f4cbc7
93	13.925548	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x67f4cbc7
108	21.857314	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x67f4cbc7
112	37.363735	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x67f4cbc7
113	57.269083	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0xc4f347a9
184	62.102177	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0xc4f347a9
205	65.850463	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0xc4f347a9
222	74.845706	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0xc4f347a9
224	90.743174	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0xc4f347a9
226	122.029000	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x7f03733a
228	123.030777	192.168.1.254	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP Offer - Transaction ID 0x7f03733a
229	123.031315	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.255	DHCP	336	DHCP Request - Transaction ID 0x7f03733a
230	123.032770	192.168.1.254	255.255.255.255	DHCP	308	DHCP ACK - Transaction ID 0x7f03733a

> Frame 17: 342 bytes on wire (2736 bits), 342 bytes captured (2736 bits) on interface 0
> Ethernet II, Src: WistronI_6a:c6:75 (98:ee:cb:6a:c6:75), Dst: Broadcast (ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff)
> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 0.0.0.0, Dst: 255.255.255.255
v User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 68, Dst Port: 67
 Source Port: 68
 Destination Port: 67
 Length: 308
 Checksum: 0xfb60 [unverified]
 [Checksum Status: Unverified]
 [Stream index: 5]
 > [Timestamps]
> Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (Discover)

Module Review



TCP

- Datagram breakdown
- Wireshark analysis
- Session establishment
- Data segmentation



Module Review



TCP

- Data reassembly
- Loss recovery
- Graceful termination



Module Review



UDP datagram breakdown

- Datagram breakdown
- Wireshark analysis
- How UDP sessions are formed

