



SMB History

Server Message Block (SMB) is Microsoft's client-server protocol and is most commonly used in networked environments where Windows® operating systems are in place.

Invented by IBM in 1983, SMB has become Microsoft's core protocol for shared services like files, printers etc.



Initially SMB was running on top of non routable NetBIOS/NetBEUI API and was designed to work in small to medium size workgroups.

1996 Microsoft renamed SMB to Common Internet File System (CIFS) and added more features like larger file sizes, Windows RPC, the NT domain service and many more.

Samba is the open source SMB/CIFS implementation for Unix and Linux systems

SMB over TCP/UDP/IP

SMB / NetBIOS was made routable by running over TCP/IP (NBT) using encapsulation over TCP/UDP-Ports 137–139

Port 137 = NetBIOS Name Service (NS)

Port 138 = NetBIOS Datagram Service (DGM)

Port 139 = NetBIOS Session Service (SS)

Since Windows 2000, SMB runs, by default, with a thin layer, the NBT's Session Service, on top of TCP-Port 445.

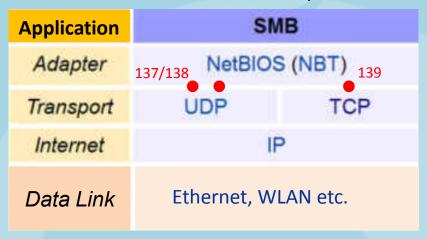
DNS and LLMNR (Link Local Multicast Name Resolution) is used for name resolution.

Port 445 = Microsoft Directory Services (DS)

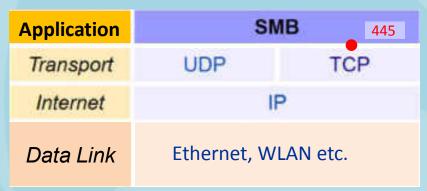
SMB File Sharing, Windows Shares,

Printer Sharing, Active Directory

SMB over NetBIOS over UDP/TCP



SMB "naked" over TCP



NetBIOS / SMB History

NetBIOS Name Service (UDP Port 137)

- Using NetBIOS names for clients and services.
- NetBIOS names where not routable
- Initially, name to IP resolution using broadcast (B-Node)
- Later, name directory WINS-Server was introduced
- Client was configured with WINS IP-Adresse (P-Node)
- With W2K, DNS name structure was introduced

Application	tion SMB		
Adapter	137/138 NetBIOS (NBT) 139		
Transport	UDP	TCP	
Internet	IP		
Data Link	Ethernet,	WLAN etc.	

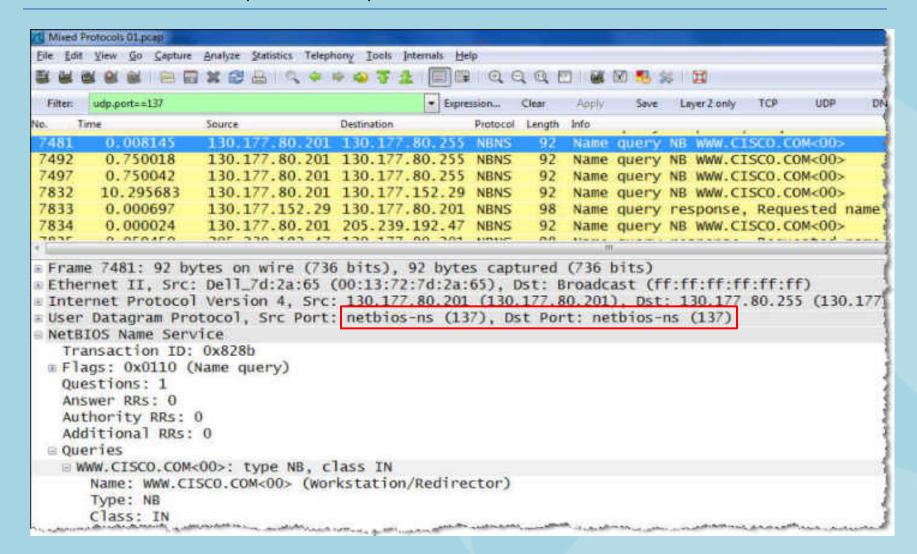
NetBIOS Datagram Service (UDP Port 138)

- Datagram mode is connectionless
- The application is responsible for error detection and recovery
- Receiver are single stations (Unicast), groups (Multicast) or all stations (Broadcast)
- Multicast und Broadcast Datagram beyond local subnet was not implemented
- Datagram for Browser Election and announcements in the local subnet

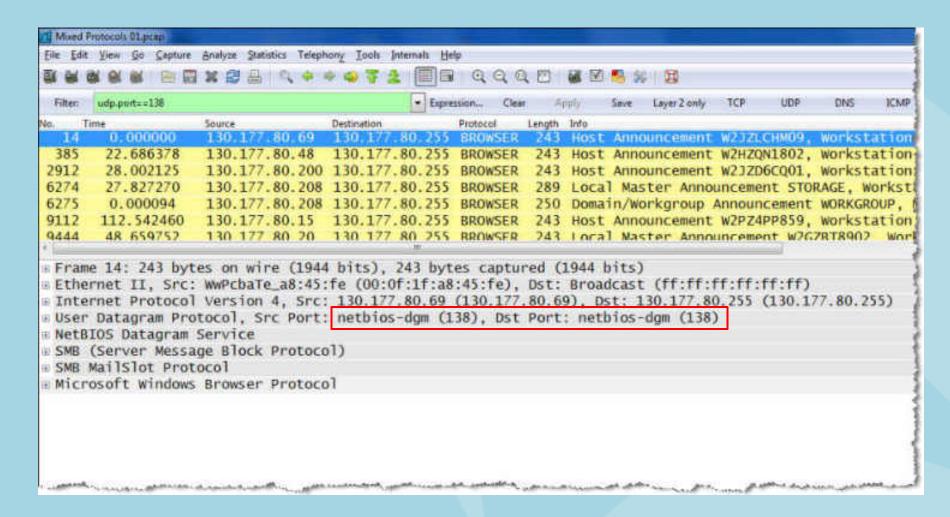
NetBIOS Session Service (TCP Port 139)

Reliable, connection oriented service to access Shared Resources

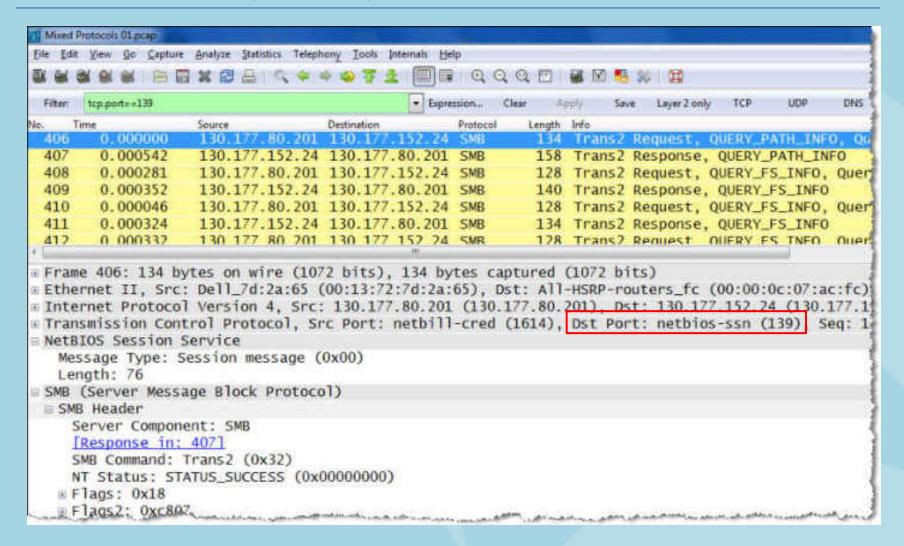
NetBIOS Name Service (UDP Port 137)



NetBIOS Datagram Service (UDP Port 138)



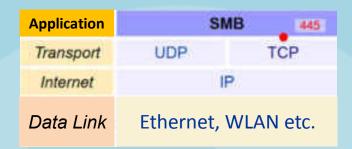
NetBIOS Session Service (TCP Port 139)



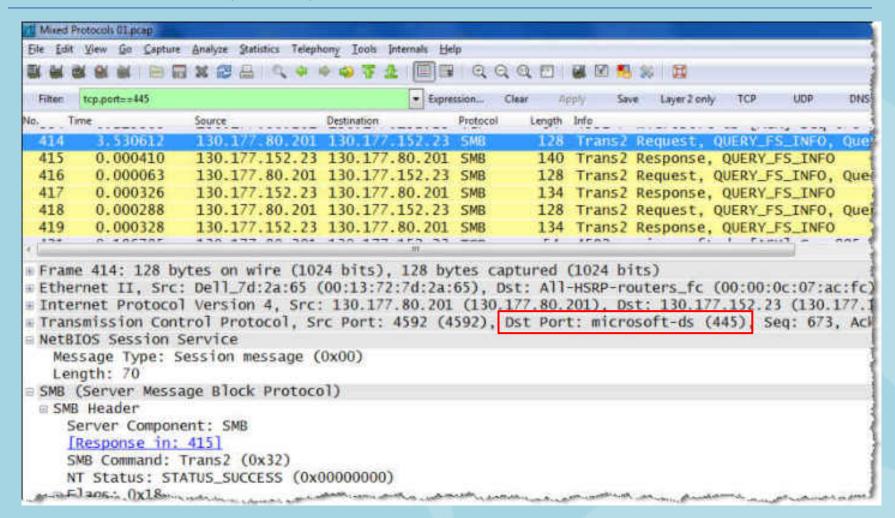
NetBIOS / SMB present implementation

SMB "naked" over TCP (Port 445)

- NetBIOS Names are replaced by DNS Names
- Name resolution by DNS Resolver
- Name registration by Dynamic DNS
- Thin NetBIOS layer leftover, Type Session Message
- Underlying TCP layer handles connection reliability
- Implemented since Microsoft Windows 2000 / XP and Samba (SMB for Unix and Linux)



SMB "naked" over TCP (Port 445)



SMB Versions and Dialects

Over the last 30 years, SMB has been consciously improved and extended. There are different Versions and Dialects.

- CIFS Old version implemented in Windows NT 4.0 in 1996
- SMB 1 More than 10 Dialects, latest Version is NT LM 0.12 http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc246231.aspx (782 pages)
- SMB 2 & 3 are completely new Versions including new Commands and Headers
- SMB 2 2.0 with Windows Vista / Windows Server 2008 (Performance improvements, Reconnection after network outages)
 - 2.1 with Windows 7 / Windows Server 2008 R2(Improved latency, Large MTU support)
- 3.0 with Windows 8 / Windows Server 2012 (renamed from version 2.2)
 (Support of parallel TCP Sessions, Server Cluster support)
 http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc246482.aspx (424 pages)

SMB Versions and Dialects

SMB2 reduces the 'chattiness' of the SMB 1.0 protocol by reducing the number of commands and subcommands from over a hundred to just nineteen.

SMB2 introduces the notion of durable file handles: these allow a connection to an SMB server to survive brief network outages, as are typical in a wireless network, without having to incur the overhead of re-negotiating a new session.

SMB3 is not a new protocol, but a superset of SMB2 and contains performance improvements for Virtual Server environments.

SMB 3.0 Support is announced or available by the following vendors:

- Windows 8, Windows server 2012
- NetApp
- EMC Computer Systems AG
- Samba Team (open source SMB for Unix, Linux, Mac OS etc.)
- QNAP Systems, Inc. (NAS Storage systems)

SMB Versions and Dialects

From SMB 1.0 to SMB 2.0 - First major redesign of SMB

- Increased file sharing scalability
- Improved performance
 Request compounding
 Asynchronous operations
 Larger reads/writes
- More secure and robust
 Small command set
 Signing now uses HMAC SHA-256 instead of MD5
 Durable file handles

From SMB 2.0 to SMB 2.1

- File leasing improvements
- Large MTU support
- BranchCache

From SMB 2.1 to SMB 3.0

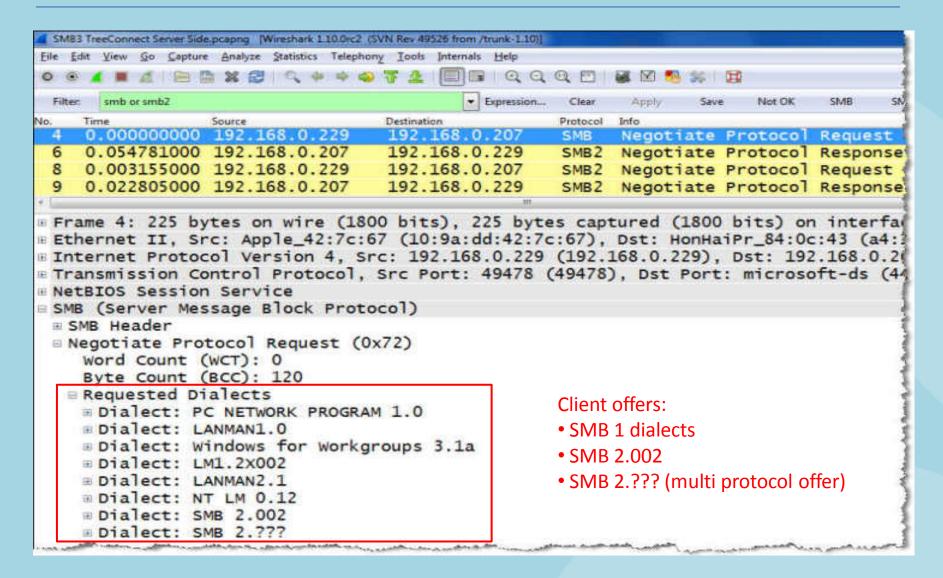
- Availability
 SMB Transparent Failover
 SMB Witness
 SMB Multichannel
- Performance
 SMB Scale-Out
 SMB Direct (SMB 3.0 over RDMA)
 SMB Multichannel
 Directory Leasing
 BrachCache V2
- Backup
 VSS for Remote File Shares
- Security
 SMB Encryption using AES-CCM
 Signing now uses AES-CMAC
- Management
 SMB PowerShell
 Improved Performance Counters
 Improved Eventing

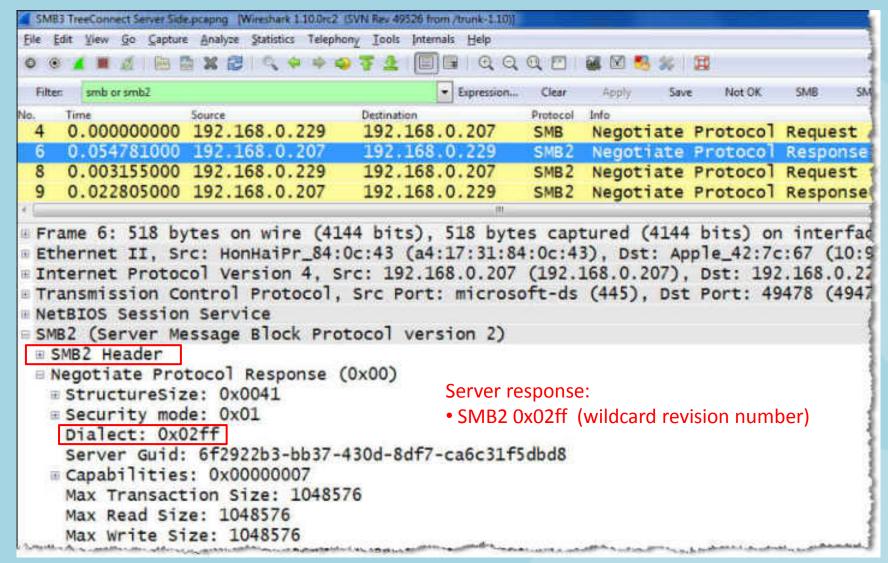
SMB Versions and Dialects

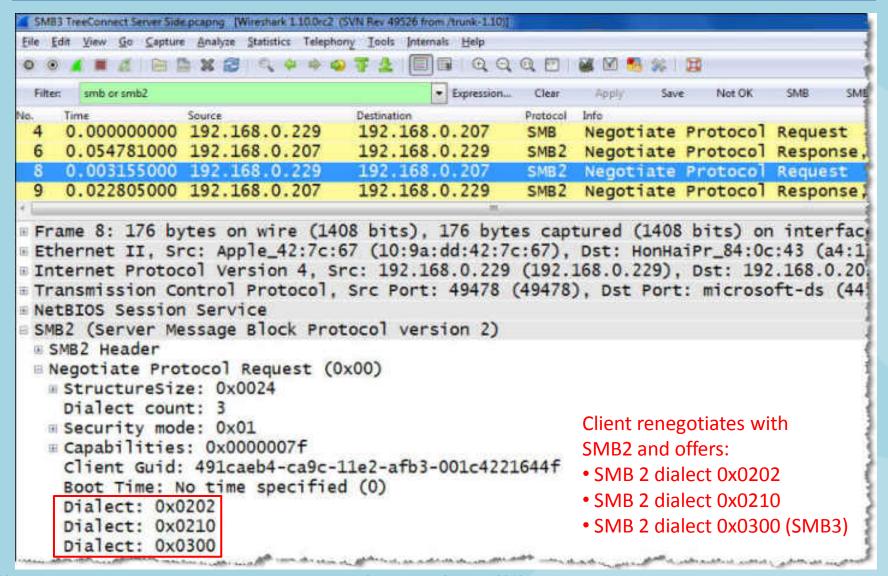
• At session setup the highest supported version / dialect is negotiated between client and server

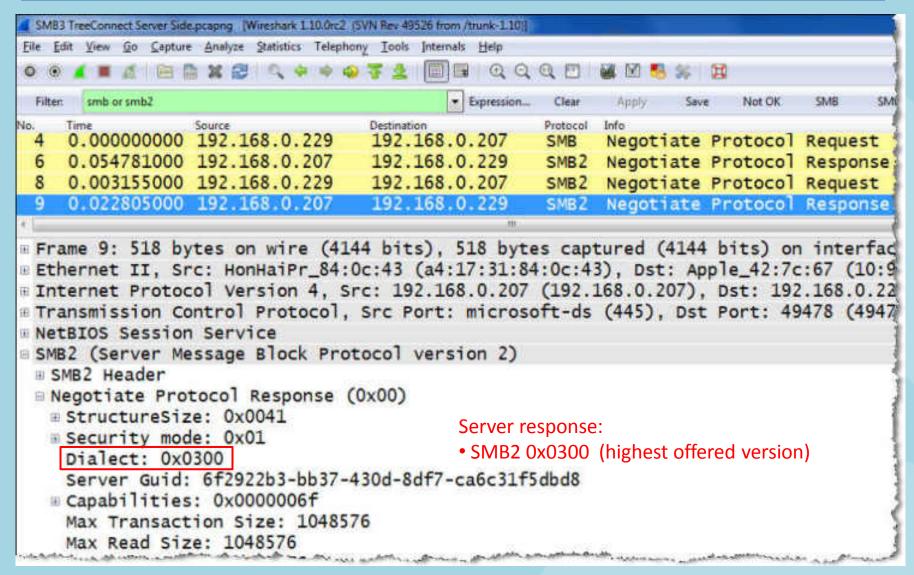
Client / Server OS	Windows 8 Windows Server 2012	Windows 7 Windows Server 2008 R2	Windows Vista Windows Server 2008	Previous versions of Windows
Windows 8 Windows Server 2012	SMB 3.0	SMB 2.1	SMB 2.0	SMB 1.0
Windows 7 Windows Server 2008 R2	SMB 2.1	SMB 2.1	SMB 2.0	SMB 1.0
Windows Vista Windows Server 2008	SMB 2.0	SMB 2.0	SMB 2.0	SMB 1.0
Previous versions of Windows	SMB 1.0	SMB 1.0	SMB 1.0	SMB 1.0

Source: http://blogs.technet.com/b/josebda/









SMB 1 Versions & Dialects

Source: http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc246231.aspx

Dialect name	Dialect Identifier String	Comments	
Manager 1.0		system functions and file system features. It is documented in [SMB- LM1X] and [XOPEN-SMB].	
DOS LAN Manager 1.0	MICROSOFT NETWORKS 3.0	This is the DOS LAN Manager 1.0 extended protocol. It is identical to "LANMAN1.0", except that OS/2 error codes are translated to DOS erro codes before being transmitted to the client.	
LAN Manager 1.2	LANMAN1.2	The LAN Manager 1.2 extended protocol adds support for additional OS/. commands and features to "LANMAN1.0". LAN Manager 1.2 is documented in ISMB-LM12 and <a h<="" td="">	
LAN Manager 2.0	LM1.2X002	This represents the LAN Manager 2.0 extended protocol for OS/2. It is documented in [SMB-LM201 and [XOPEN-SMB] . Also known as the LANMAN2.0 dialect.	
DOS LAN Manager 2.0	DOS LM1.2X002	This is the DOS version of LAN Manager 2.0. It is also documented in [SMB-LM20] and [XOPEN-SMB]. When this dialect is selected, OS/2 erro codes are translated to DOS error codes by the server before transmission to the client. Also known as the DOS LANMAN2.0 dialect.	
LAN Manager 2.1	LANMAN2.1	LAN Manager 2.1 extended protocol. The additions and changes with respect to LAN Manager 2.0 are documented in [SMB-LM21].	
DOS LAN Manager 2.1	DOS LANMAN2.1	DOS LAN Manager 2.1 extended protocol. This is, once again, identical to the OS/2 version of the dialect except that error codes are translated. See [SMB-LM21].	
NT LAN Manager	NT LM 0.12	NT LAN Manager extended protocol. This set of extensions was created support Windows NT. OS/2 LAN Manager 2.1 features are also support this dialect was originally documented in [CIFSI . Also known as the NT LANMAN dialect.	

SMB 2 / 3 Versions & Dialects

Value	Meaning	
0x0202	SMB 2.002 dialect revision number.	
0x0210	SMB 2.1 dialect revision number.	
0x0300	SMB 3.0 dialect revision number.	

Windows Vista / 7 / 8; Server 2008 / 2008-R2 / 2012 Windows 7 / 8; Server 2008-R2 / 2012 Windows 8; Server 2012

In order to provide backwards compatibility, during the negotiation process the latest SMB version and dialect supported by both, client and server is negotiated using the following commands:

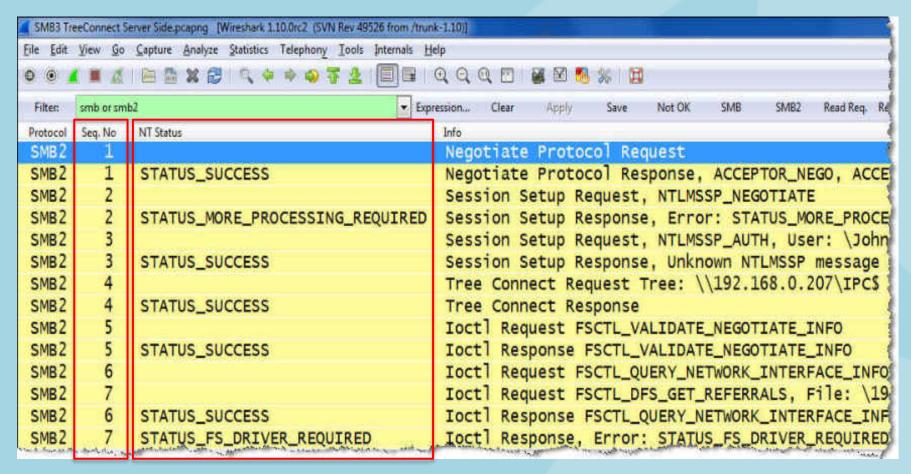
SMB Negotiate Protocol Request SMB Negotiate Protocol Response

SMB2 Negotiate Protocol Request SMB2 Negotiate Protocol Response

Remark: For the rest of this following presentation only SMB2 sessions are analyzed.

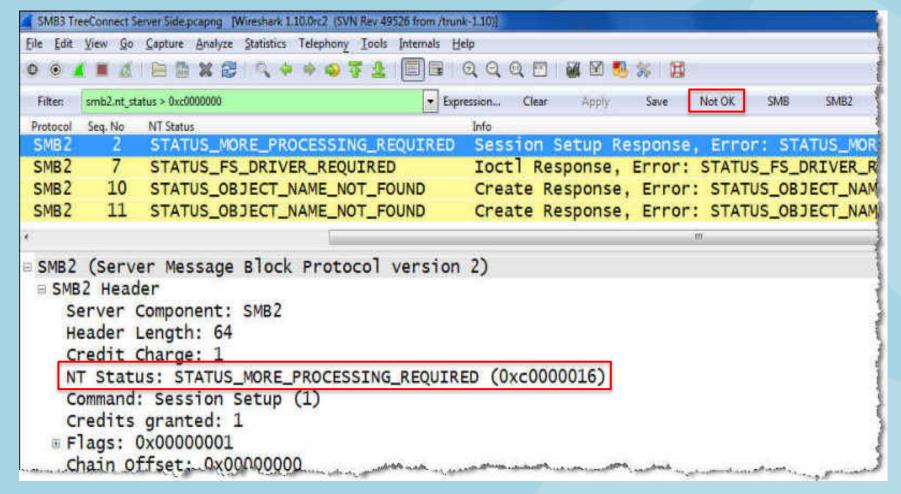
SMB Request / Response Dialog

- SMB is based on a Request /Response dialog using Sequence Numbers as reference
- SMB Responses contain a NT Status messages useful for troubleshooting
- Adding specific Wireshark columns facilitates the interpretation of the SMB dialog



SMB Request / Response Dialog

- You may create a Quick Filter Button on responses other than STATUS_SUCCESS
- Display Filter string: smb2.nt_status > 0xc0000000



SMB Request / Response messages

- SMB 2/3 comprises 19 different Requests/Responses for the Client-Server dialog
- Main purpose is File I/O but also Printing, Desktop.ini, Policies, Certificates etc.
- SMB also provides an authenticated inter-process communication mechanism.

The most frequently used Request/ Response messages are:

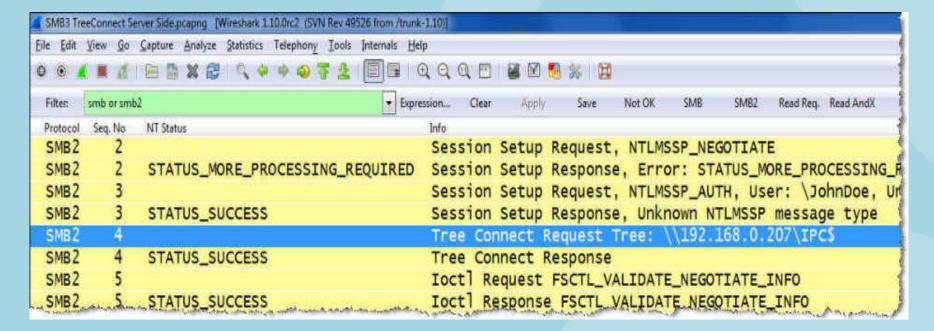
- Negotiate Protocol
- Setup Account
- Tree Connect
- Create
- loctl

- Read
- Write
- Close
- Tree Disconnect
- Logoff

SMB Request / Response messages

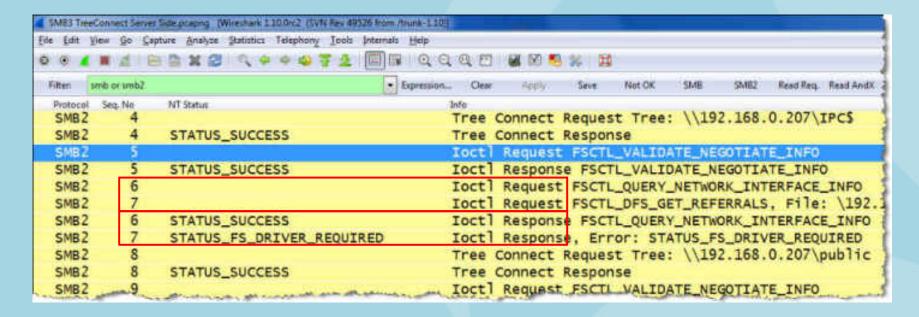
- CIFS Server resources are called **Shares**, shares may be files, directories, printers etc.
- First connection is made to the Inter-Process Communication share IPC\$
- IPC\$ is a virtual share used to facilitate communication between processes, authentication, fetch a list of shared resources from a server etc.
- The Tree Connect Request message is used to connect a share

C:\> net use X: \\192.168.0.207\public /USER:JohnDoe Wireshark.ch



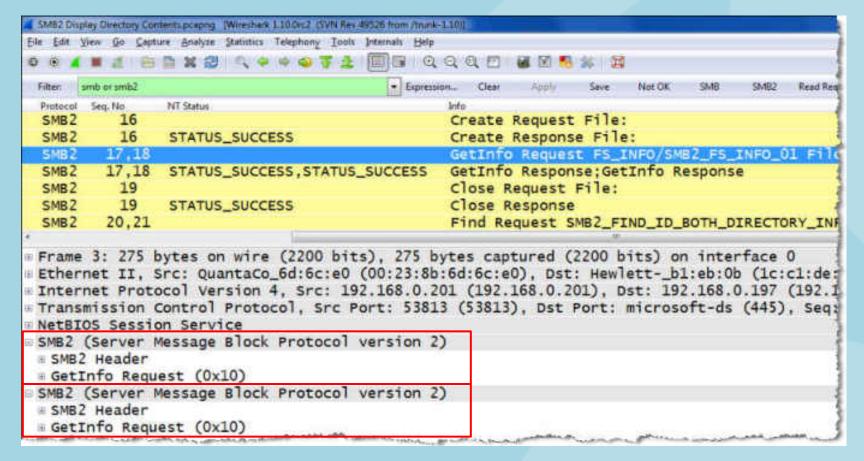
SMB Request / Response messages

- The IOCTL/FSCTL (I/O control & File System control) messages are very versatile in use
- This IOCTL/FSCTL delivers a device- or file-specific request to a server
- There are dozens of options for these commands, refer to the Internet for more information
- Note: Multiple Requests can be sent out as a burst, use the Sequence No to find the Responses



SMB Request / Response messages

- Multiple SMB2 Requests/Response can be chained in Compounded Requests/Responses
- The SMB2 Chain Offset field contains the Byte offset value of the next Request
- If the SMB2 Chain Offset field contains the value 0x00000000 no more requests will follow



SMB Request / Response messages

There seems to be two kinds of Compounded Requests/Responses implementation?

```
72376
         0.000496000 192,168,50,231 192,168,51,250
                                                      - SM82
                                                                 10880
                                                                           Getinto Request FILE_INFO/SM82_FIL
                                                                           GetInfo Request F5_INFO/SM82_F5_1
         0.000719000 192.168.50.25
                                       192,168,51,250
                                                               10881.10882
                                                       SMBZ
 72330
         0.000788000 192.168.50.251
                                                                           GetInfo Request FS_INFO/SMB2_FS_IN
                                      192,168,51,250
                                                       SMB 2
                                                                 10883

    Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.50.251 (192.168.50.251), Dst: 192.168.51.250 (192.168.51.250)

Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 49176 (49176), Dst Port: microsoft-ds (445), Seq: 3734317142, Ack:
NetBIOS Session Service
SMB2 (Server Message Block Protocol version 2)
 SMB2 Header
                                                     Compounded Request with ONE NetBIOS header

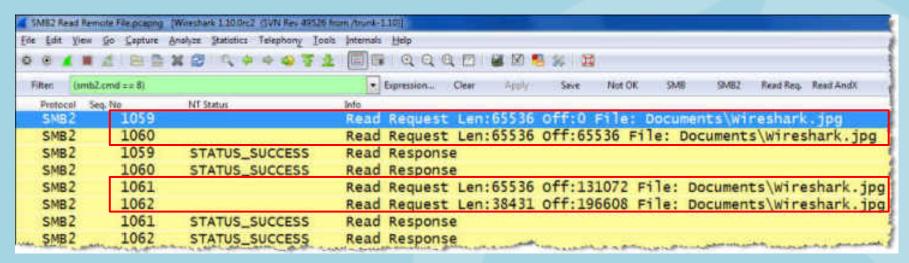
    GetInfo Request (0x10)

                                                       (works as defined in Microsoft specifications)
SMB2 (Server Message Block Protocol version 2)
 SMB2 Header
 GetInfo Request (0x10)
```

```
72356 0.000001000 197.168.00:131
                                                                          mead mequest Len:6,35 Off:26214-
                                      19c Tog 51.250
                                                      SMB2
                                                              Scant.
                                                             10889.10890 Read Request Len:65536 of
 72421
                                                                10891
         0.383451000 192.168.50.251
                                                       SMB2
         0 000000000 102 160 50 251
                                                                10000
                                                       CHIP?
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.50.251 (192.168.50.251), Dst: 192.168.51.250 (192.168.51.250)
Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 49176 (49176), Dst Port: microsoft-ds (445), Seq: 3734318056, Ack:
NetBIOS Session Service
SMB2 (Server Message Block Protocol version 2)
 SMB2 Header
                                                    Compounded Request with TWO NetBIOS header
 Read Request (0x08)
                                                             (recognized in retransmissions)
NetBIOS Session Service
SMB2 (Server Message Block Protocol version 2)
 ■ SMB2 Header
  Read Request (0x08)
```

SMB Request / Response messages

- The Read Request specifies read block length and file offset in bytes
- Multiple Read Requests can be issued by client and may not be delivered in order by the server

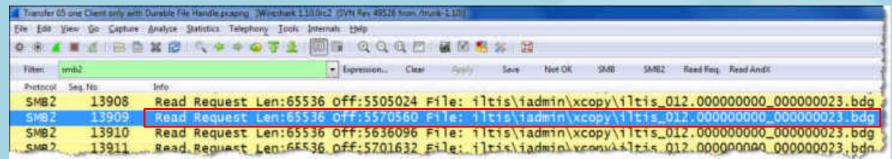


SMB2	1059	STATUS_SUCC	ESS Read	Response
SMB2	1060	STATUS_SUCC	ESS Read	Response
				# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #
Transmis [45 Reas [Frame	ssion Cont sembled T : 45, pay	rol Protocol CP Segments load: 0-1459	, Src Port: m (65620 bytes) (1460 bytes)	
T Property	: 46. pav	pad: 1460-29	19 (1460 byte	Wireshark will reassemble TCP segments
[Frame	: 47. pay	load: 2920-43	379 (1460 byte 339 (1460 byte	of Pond Ponnences (if configured to do so)

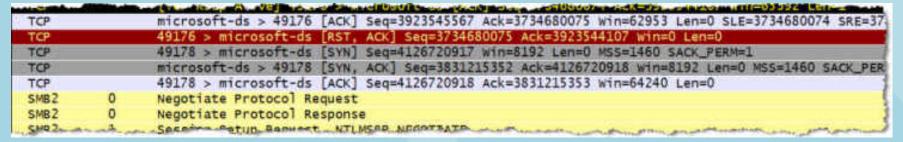
SMB2 Durable File Handle feature

• The Durable File Handles allow a connection to an SMB server to survive brief network outages

The initial Read request at Offset 5570560



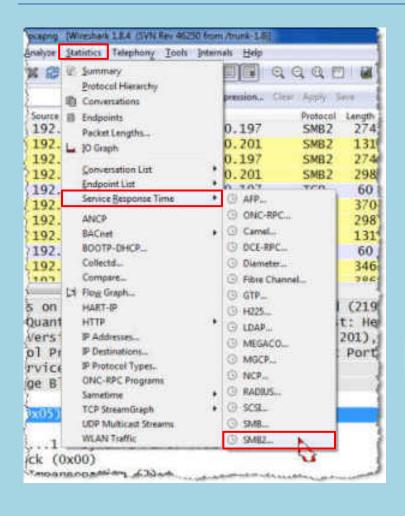
The TCP session is broken by a network outage

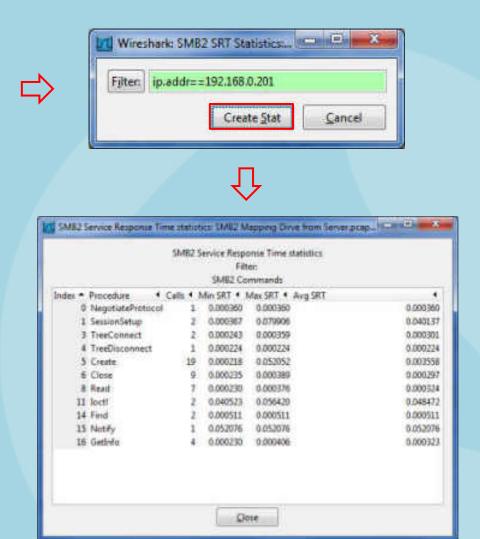


The TCP/SMB session is recovered and the Read Request reissued

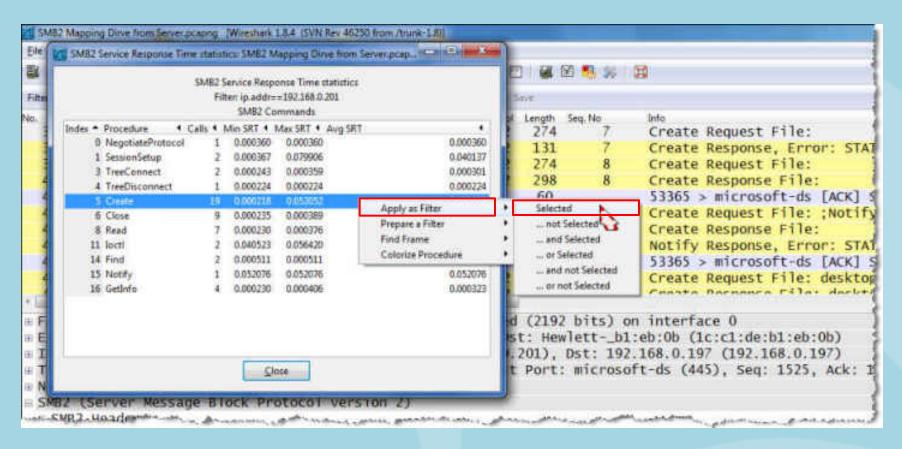
SMB2	15	Read Response
SMB2	21	Read Request Len:65536 Off:5570560 File: iltis\iadmin\xcopy\iltis_012.000000000_000000023.bdg
SMB2	22	Read Request Len:65536 Off:5636096 File: iltis\iadmin\xcopy\iltis_012.00000000_000000023.bdg
SMB2	16	Read Response
SMB2	23	Read Request Len:65536 Off:5701632 File: iltis\iadmin\xcopy\iltis_012.000000000_000000023.bdg

SMB2 Service Response Time statistics with Wireshark





SMB2 Service Response Time statistics with Wireshark



- Right mouse click on specific command opens filter selections
- Wireshark filters on Requests AND Responses of the selected command

SMB2 Request / Response messages

• SMB2 OPLOCK_BREAK

Negotiation of SMR2 dialects between client and server
Negotiation of SMB2 dialects between client and server
Sent by a client to request a new authenticated session
Sent by a client to request termination of a particular session
Sent by a client to request access to a particular share on the server
Sent by a client to request that the specified tree is disconnected
Sent by a client to request either creation of or access to a file
Sent by a client to close an instance of a file previously opened
Sent by a client to request that a server flush cached file information
Sent by a client to request a read operation on a specified file
Sent by a client to write data to the file or named pipe
Sent by a client to either lock or unlock portions of a file
Sent by a client to issue an implementation-specific I/O Control
Sent by a client to cancel a previously sent message
Sent by a client to determine whether a server is processing requests
Sent by a client to obtain a directory enumeration on a directory
Sent by a client to request change notifications on a directory
Sent by a client to request information on a file, named pipe, volume
Sent by a client to set information on a file or underlying object store

Sent by a server to indicate that an opportunistic lock is being broken

SMB2 Response NT Status messages

- NT Status: STATUS_SUCCESS (0x00000000)
- NT Status: STATUS_NO_MORE_FILES
- NT Status: STATUS_INVALID_HANDLE
- NT Status: STATUS INVALID PARAMETER
- NT Status: STATUS_NO_SUCH_FILE
- NT Status: STATUS_MORE_PROCESSING_REQUIRED
- NT Status: STATUS_INVALID_SYSTEM_SERVICE
- NT Status: STATUS ACCESS DENIED
- NT Status: STATUS_OBJECT_NAME_INVALID
- NT Status: STATUS OBJECT NAME NOT FOUND
- NT Status: STATUS_OBJECT_NAME_COLLISION
- NT Status: STATUS_OBJECT_PATH_NOT_FOUND
- NT Status: STATUS_OBJECT_PATH_SYNTAX_BAD

- NT Status: STATUS SHARING VIOLATION
- NT Status: STATUS_EA_TOO_LARGE
- NT Status: STATUS FILE LOCK CONFLICT
- NT Status: STATUS_LOCK_NOT_GRANTED
- NT Status: STATUS LOGON FAILURE
- NT Status: STATUS RANGE NOT LOCKED
- NT Status: STATUS_FILE_IS_A_DIRECTORY
- NT Status: STATUS NOT SUPPORTED
- NT Status: STATUS_BAD_DEVICE_TYPE
- NT Status: STATUS_REQUEST_NOT_ACCEPTED
- NT Status: STATUS DIRECTORY NOT EMPTY
- NT Status: STATUS NOT A DIRECTORY
- NT Status: STATUS CANCELLED

SMB useful links and references

Despite the widespread and successful use of the SMB protocol, there are almost no books available, covering the topic in a easy readable but still detailed manner.



Microsoft [MS-SMB2]: Server Message Block Protocol Versions 2 and 3 http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc246482.aspx

Blog by Jose Barreto, a member of the File Server team at Microsoft. http://blogs.technet.com/b/josebda/

Ronnie Sahlberg: Using Wireshark for Analyzing CIFS Traffic http://www.snia.org/sites/default/files2/sdc_archives/2008_presentations/monday/RonnieSahlberg_UsingWireshark.pdf

Book: Implementing CIFS: The Common Internet File System, Christopher Hertel Publication Date: August 21, 2003 (very detailed, but not covering SMB 2/3)

http://www.amazon.com/Implementing-CIFS-Common-Internet-System/dp/013047116X

Thank you for your attention



Rolf Leutert, Leutert NetServices, leutert@wireshark.ch / www.wireshark.ch