

USING WIRESHARK TO OBSERVE THE TCP THREE-WAY HANDSHAKE

CSE1004(NETWORK AND COMMUNICATION)LAB:L53-L54



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Using Wireshark to Observe the TCP Three-way Handshake Objectives

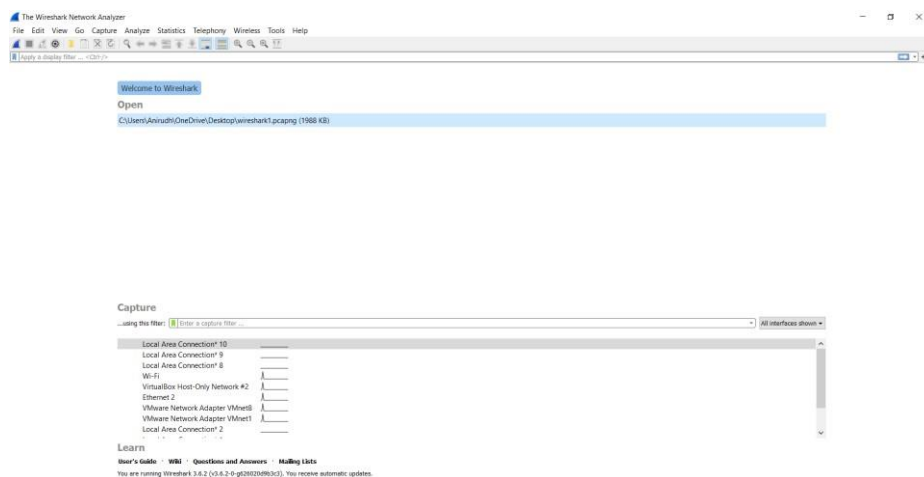
- Use Wireshark to monitor an Ethernet interface for recording packet flows
- Generate a TCP connection using a web browser
- Observe the initial TCP/IP three-way handshake

Task 1: Prepare Wireshark to Capture Packets

Step 1: Start Wireshark.

Double-click the Wireshark icon, which is located on the desktop.

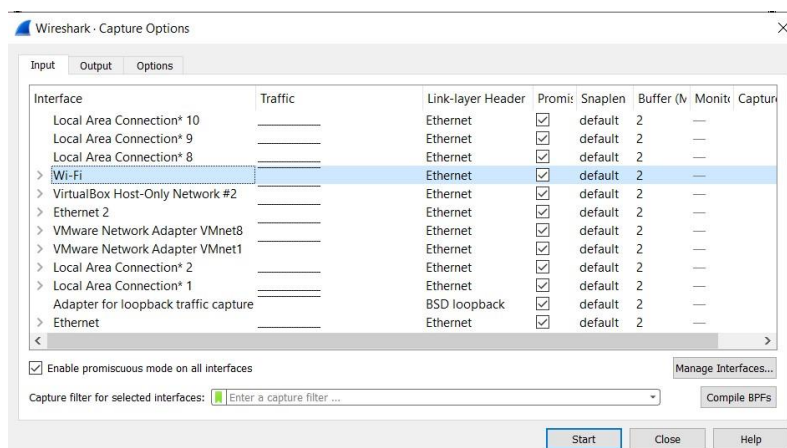
THE INTERFACE LOOKS LIKE THIS



Step 2: Select an interface to use for capturing packets.

- a. From the Capture menu, choose Options.

Select your connection type



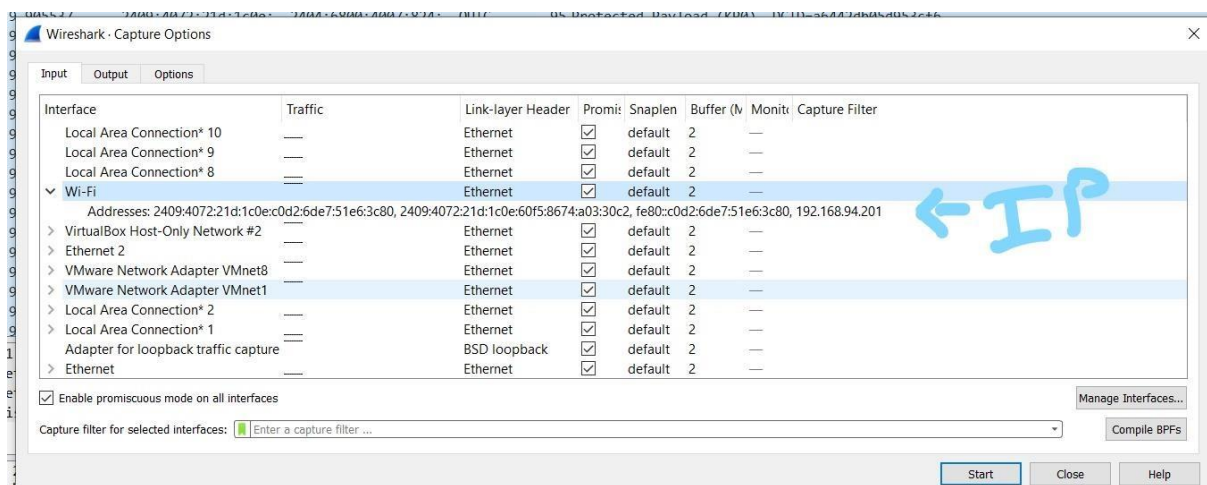
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Step 3: Start a network capture.

- Choose the WIFI for capturing network traffic. Click the Start button of the chosen interface.
- Write down the IP address associated with the selected Ethernet adapter, because that is the source IP address to look for when examining captured packets.

The host IP address: 192.168.94.201



Task 2: Generate and Analyse Captured Packets

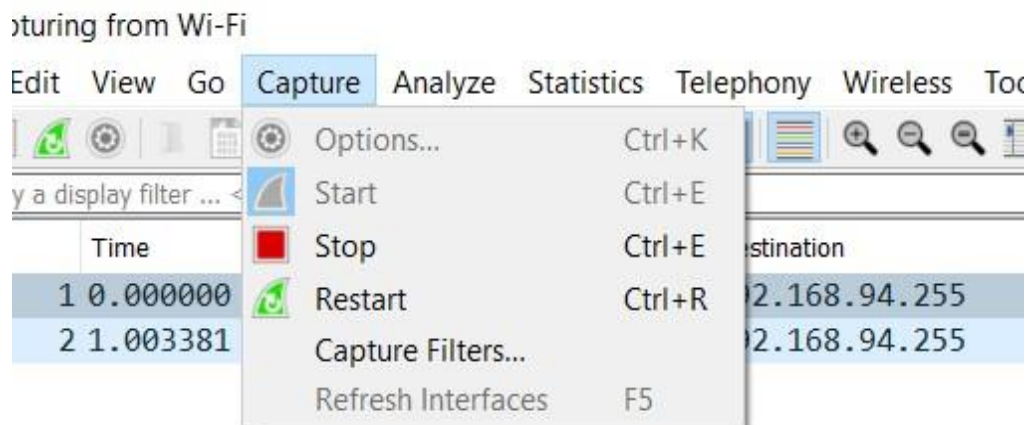
Step 1: Open a browser and access a website.

- a. Go to www.google.com. Minimize the Google window, and return to Wireshark. You should see captured traffic similar to shown below

WEBSITE NAME: google.com,youtube.com

- b. The capture Windows are now active. Locate the Source, Destination, and Protocol columns on the Wireshark display screen. The HTTP data that carries web page text and graphics uses TCP for reliability **Step 2: Stop the capture.**

From the Wireshark Capture menu, choose Stop.



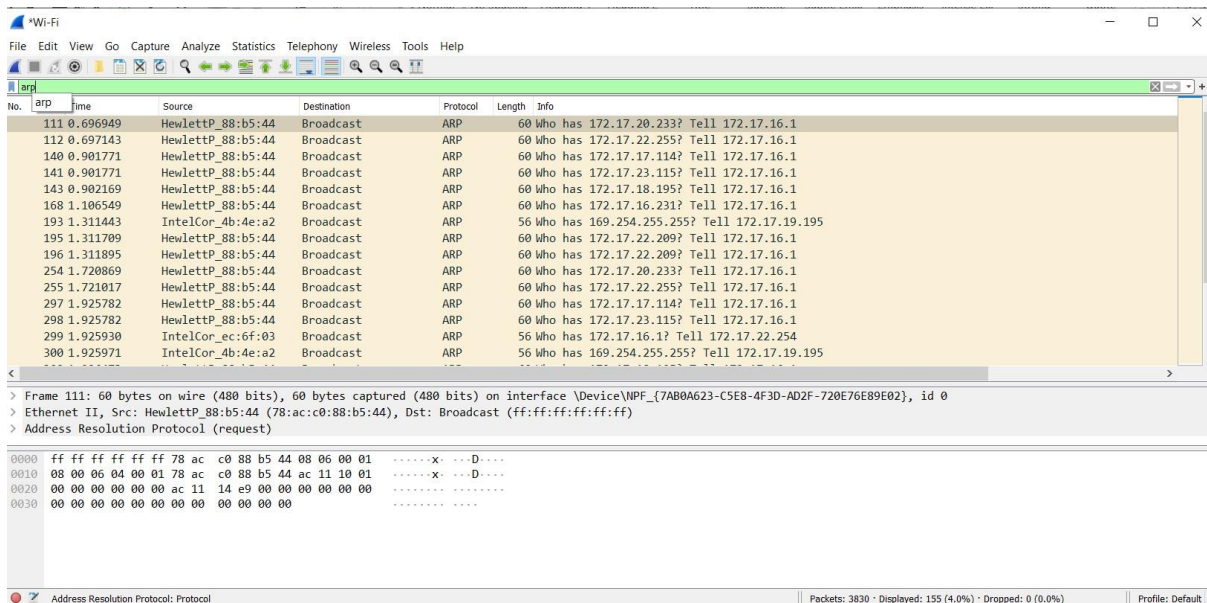
Step 3: Analyse the captured output.

If the computer was recently started and there has been no activity in accessing the Internet, you can see the entire process in the captured output, including ARP, DNS, and the TCP three-way handshake.

The capture screen in Task 2, Step 1 shows all the packets the computer needs to get to a website, starting with the initial ARP for the gateway router interface MAC address. (Your screen capture may vary.)

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- a. In the screen capture, the process starts with frame 1, which is an ARP broadcast from the source computer to determine the MAC address of the router default gateway. The gateway is the local LAN Fast Ethernet interface on the router. The computer needs to resolve the default gateway IP address to the interface MAC address before it can send the first frame or packet to the router.

```

Wireless LAN adapter Wi-Fi:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix . : 
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::c0d2:6de7:51e6:3c80%8
IPv4 Address. . . . . : 172.17.23.91
Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.248.0
Default Gateway . . . . . : 172.17.16.1

C:\Windows\system32>
  
```

What is the IP address of the router default gateway?

172.17.16.1

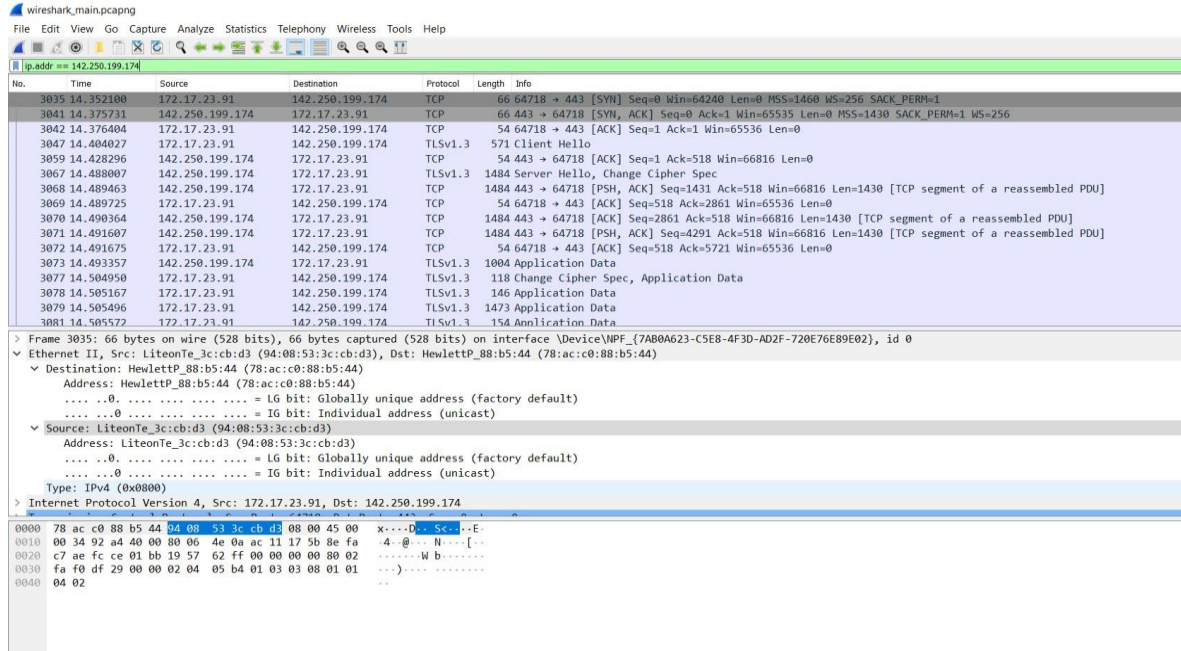
- b. The second frame is the reply from the router telling the computer the MAC address of its Fast Ethernet interface.

Ethernet II, Src: HewlettP_88:b5:44 (78:ac:c0:88:b5:44), Dst: LiteonTe_3c:cb:d3

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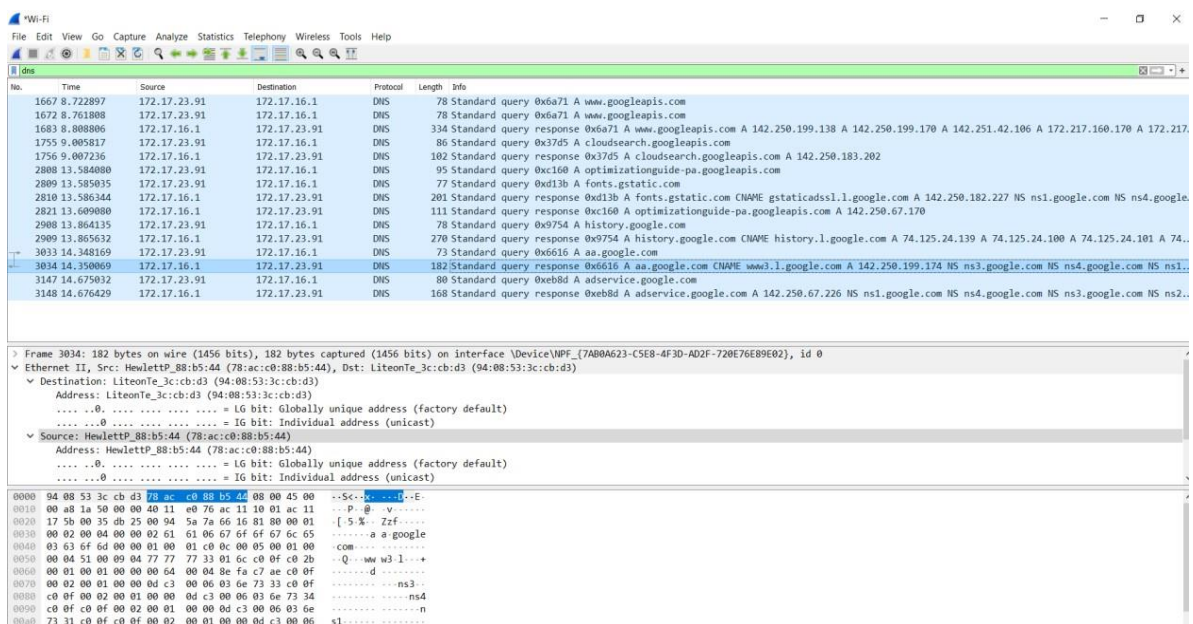
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What is the MAC address? 78:ac:c0:88:b5:44



- c. The frame is a DNS query from the computer to the configured DNS server, attempting to resolve the domain name `www.google.com` to the IP address of the web server. The computer must have the IP address before it can send the first frame to the web server.

What is the IP address of the DNS server that the computer queried? 172.17.23.91



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- d. The next frame is the response from the DNS server with the IP address of www.google.com. You need to scroll to the right to see the IP address of the Google server in the DNS response, but you can see it in the next frame.

Ip address of www.google.com: 142.250.199.174

Wireshark capture showing TCP three-way handshake for www.google.com. The capture shows a SYN packet from 192.168.94.201 to 142.250.199.174, followed by an ACK packet from 142.250.199.174 to 192.168.94.201. The packet list shows the SYN packet (Seq=0, Win=0, Len=0) and the ACK packet (Seq=1, Ack=1, Win=510, Len=1). The packet details show the SYN packet with Seq=0, Win=0, Len=0, and the ACK packet with Seq=1, Ack=1, Win=510, Len=1. The packet bytes show the SYN packet with Seq=0, Win=0, Len=0, and the ACK packet with Seq=1, Ack=1, Win=510, Len=1.

- e. The next frame is the start of the TCP three-way handshake [SYN].

What is the IP address of the Google web server? 142.250.199.174

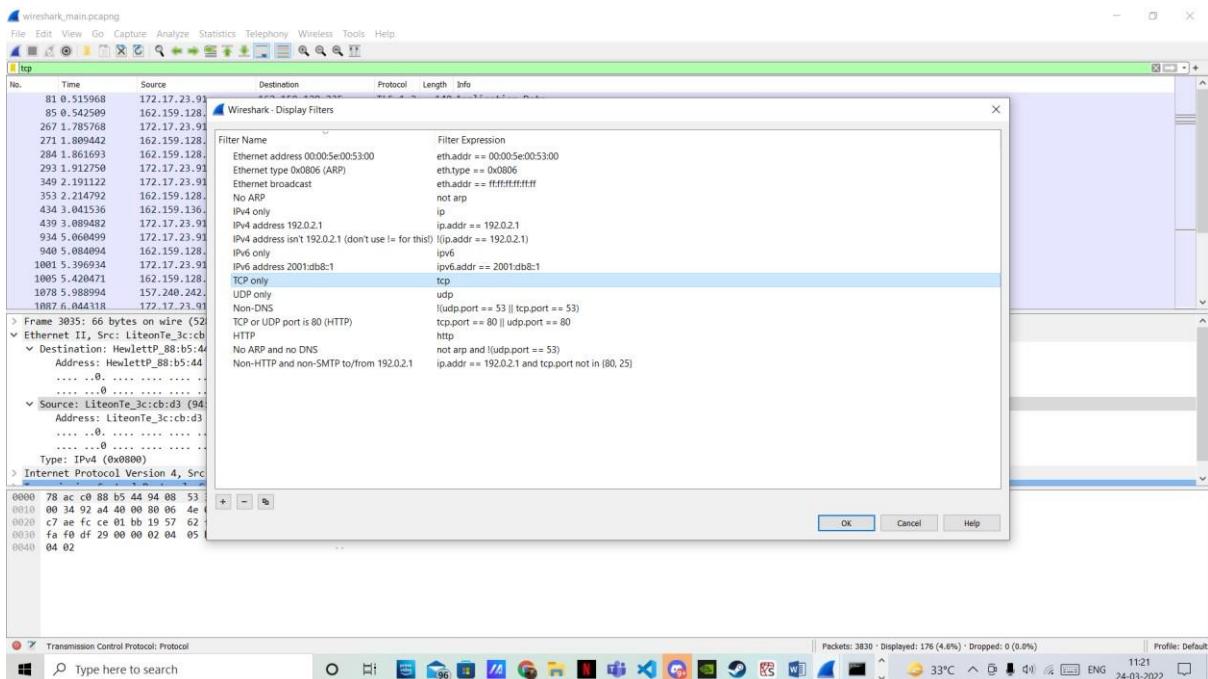
Step 4: Filter the capture to view only TCP packets

If you have many packets that are unrelated to the TCP connection, it may be necessary to use the Wireshark filter capability.

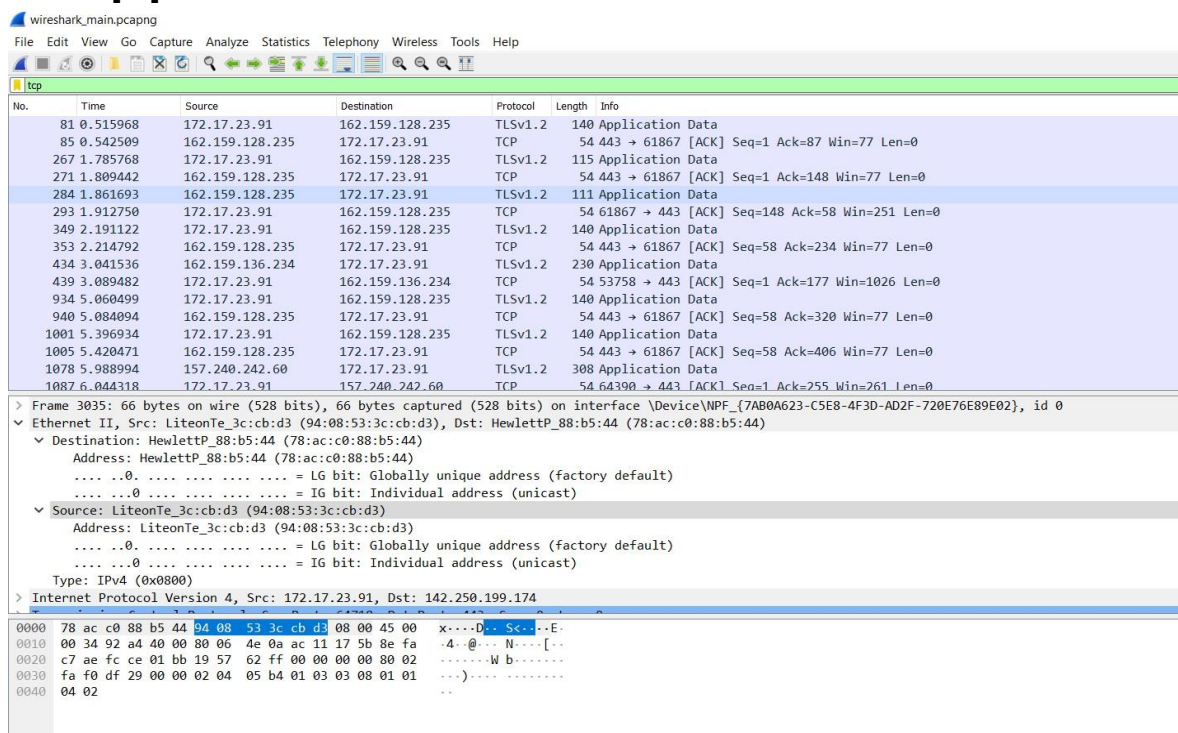
- To use a preconfigured filter, click the Analyze menu option, and then click Display Filters.
- In the Display Filter window, click TCP only, and then click OK.

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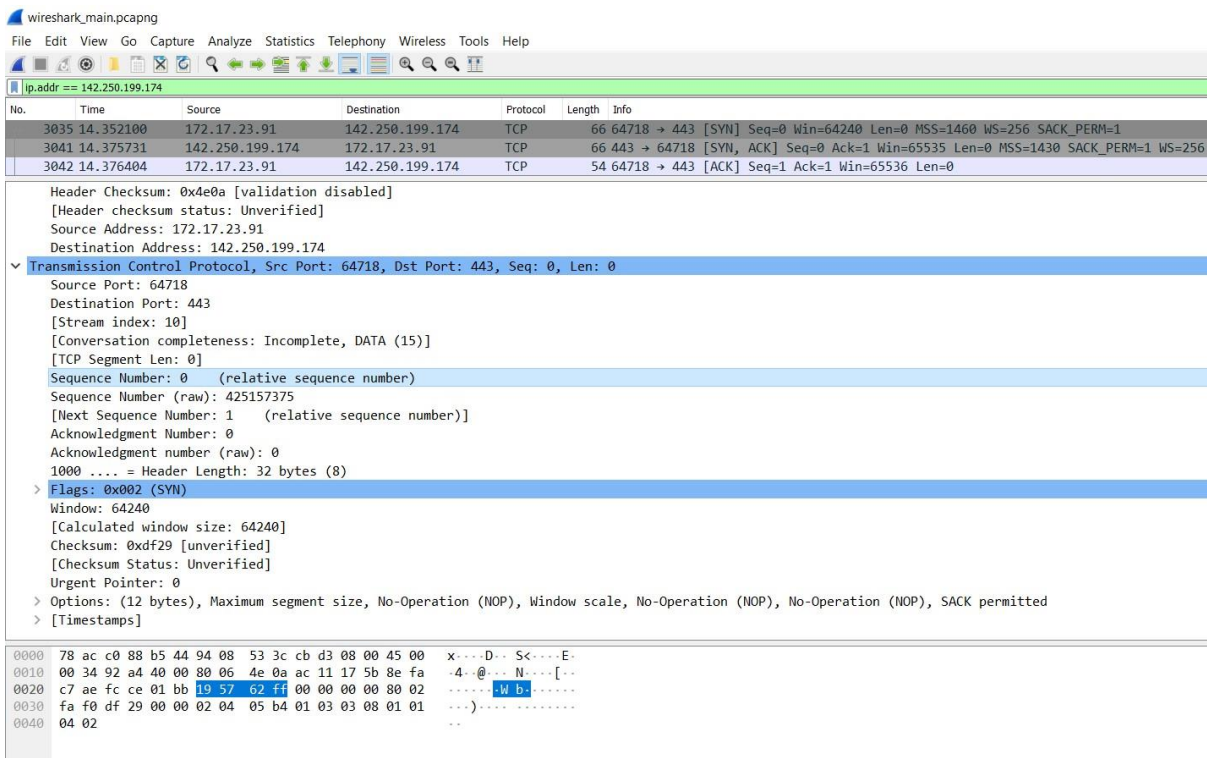
The tcp packets are:



- e. In the Info column, look for three packets similar to the first three shown in the window above. The first TCP packet is the [SYN] packet from the initiating computer. The second is the [SYN, ACK] Page 4 of 7 responses from the web server. The third packet is the [ACK] from the source computer, which completes the handshake.

Step 5: Inspect the TCP initialization Sequence

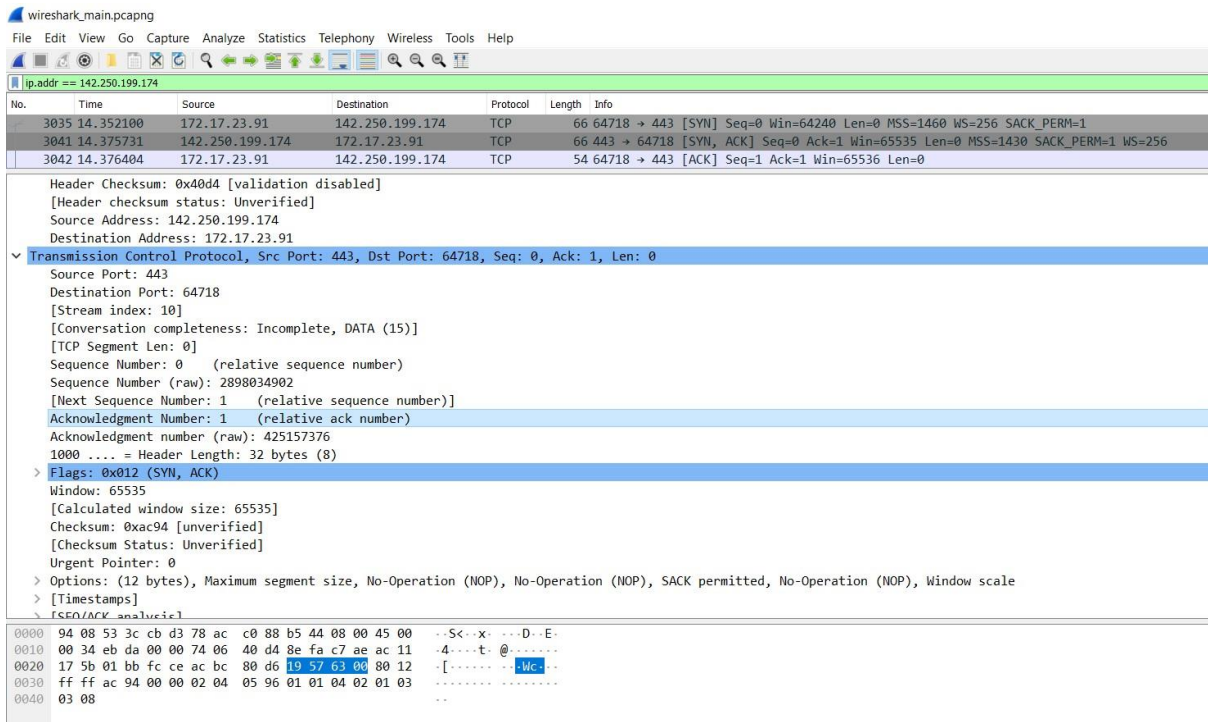
- a. In the top Wireshark window, click on the line containing the first packet identified in Step 4. This highlights the line and displays the decoded information from that packet in the two lower windows fill. Note: The Wireshark windows below were adjusted to allow the information to be viewed in a compact size. The middle window contains the detailed decoding of the packet.
- b. Click the + icon to expand the view of the TCP information. To contract the view, click the – icon. c. Notice in the first TCP packet that the relative sequence number is set to 0, and the SYN bit is set to 1 in the Flags field.



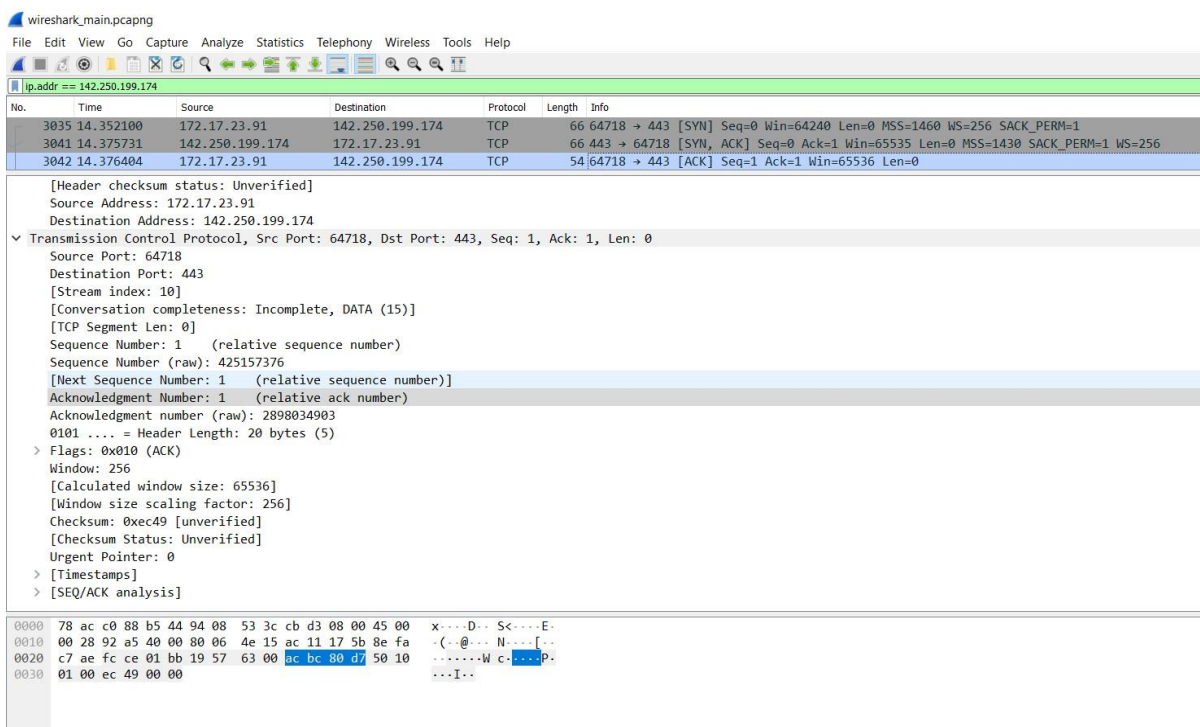
Notice in the second TCP packet of the handshake that the relative sequence number is set to 0, and the SYN bit and the ACK bit are set to 1 in the Flags field.

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In the third and final frame of the handshake, only the ACK bit is set, and the sequence number is set to the starting point of 1. The acknowledgement number is also set to 1 as a starting point. The TCP connection is now established, and communication between the source computer and the web server can begin.



f. Close Wireshark.

Task 3: Reflection

a. There are hundreds of filters available in Wireshark. A large network could have numerous filters and many different types of traffic. Which three filters in the list might be the most useful to a network administrator?

IP.addr == <"Ip Address">

Protocols such as HTTP,TCP,Arp,DNS

What other ways could Wireshark be used in a production network?

Wireshark is often used for security purposes for after-the-fact analysis of normal traffic or after a network attack. New protocols or services may need to be captured to determine what port or ports are used.