TCP

Yogesh P 201EE138 2. A first look at the captured trace

1.What is the IP address and TCP port number used by the client computer (source) that is transferring the alice.txt file to gaia.cs.umass.edu? To answer this question, it's probably easiest to select an HTTP message and explore the details of the TCP packet used to carry this HTTP message, using the "details of the selected packet header window" (refer to Figure 2 in the "Getting Started with Wireshark" Lab if you're uncertain about the Wireshark windows).

A:Clinet IP address=192.168.86.68, TCP port number=55639. (From Figure 1)

2.What is the IP address of gaia.cs.umass.edu? On what port number is it sending and receiving TCP segments for this connection?

A:IP address of gaia.cs.umass.edu=128.119.245.12, Sending port=80, Receiving port=55639. (From Figure 1)

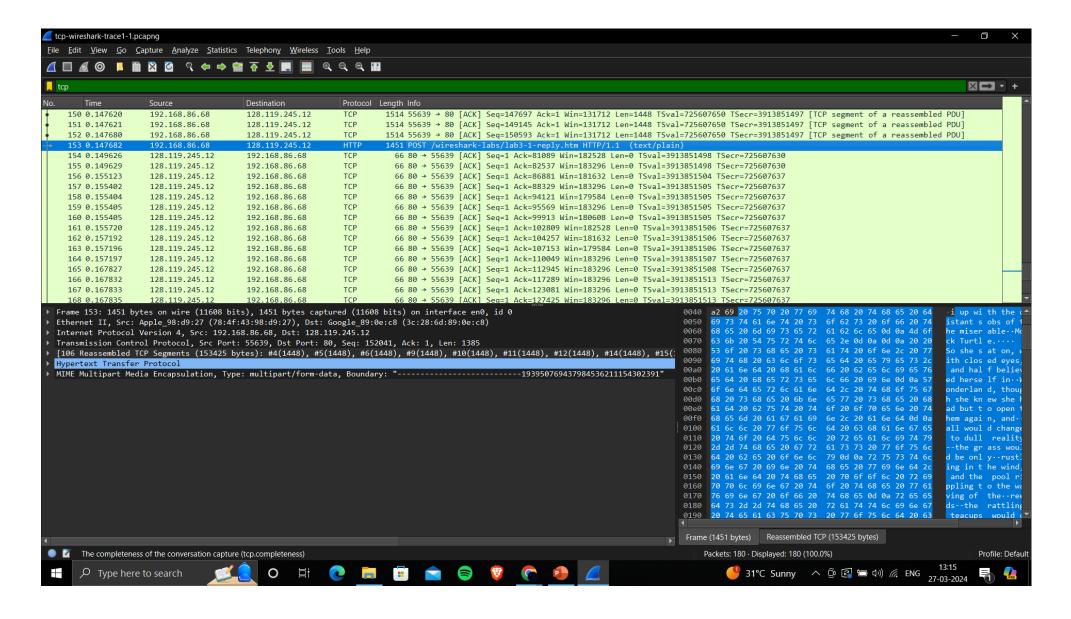


Figure 1 (TCP segments involved in sending the HTTP POST message)

3. TCP Basics

3. What is the sequence number of the TCP SYN segment that is used to initiate the TCP connection between the client computer and gaia.cs.umass.edu? (Note: this is the "raw" sequence number carried in the TCP segment itself; it is NOT the packet # in the "No." column in the Wireshark window. Remember there is no such thing as a "packet number" in TCP or UDP; as you know, there are sequence numbers in TCP and that's what we're after here. Also note that this is not the relative sequence number with respect to the starting sequence number of this TCP session.). What is it in this TCP segment that identifies the segment as a SYN segment? Will the TCP receiver in this session be able to use Selective Acknowledgments (allowing TCP to function a bit more like a "selective repeat" receiver, see section 3.4.5 in the text)?

A: Raw sequence number: 4236649187, Flags: 0x002 (SYN), Yes (From Figure 2)

4.What is the sequence number of the SYNACK segment sent by gaia.cs.umass.edu to the client computer in reply to the SYN? What is it in the segment that identifies the segment as a SYNACK segment? What is the value of the Acknowledgement field in the SYNACK segment? How did gaia.cs.umass.edu determine that value?

A: Sequence number= 1068969752, Flags: 0x012 (SYN, ACK) - The SYN, ACK flag is set to 1 and it indicates that this segment is a SYN, ACK segment., Acknowledgment number (raw): 4236649188, The value of the ACKnowledgement field in the SYNACK segment is 1. The value of the ACKnowledgement field in the SYNACK segment is determined by gaia.cs.umass.edu by adding 1 to the initial sequence number of SYN segment from the client computer (i.e. the sequence number of the SYN segment initiated by the client computer is 0.). (From Figure 3)

5. What is the sequence number of the TCP segment containing the header of the HTTP POST command? Note that in order to find the POST message header, you'll need to dig into the packet content field at the bottom of the Wireshark window, looking for a segment with the ASCII text "POST" within its DATA field4,5. How many bytes of data are contained in the payload (data) field of this TCP segment? Did all of the data in the transferred file alice.txt fit into this single segment?

A: Sequence Number (raw): 4236649188, TCP payload (1448 bytes), No (From Figure 4)

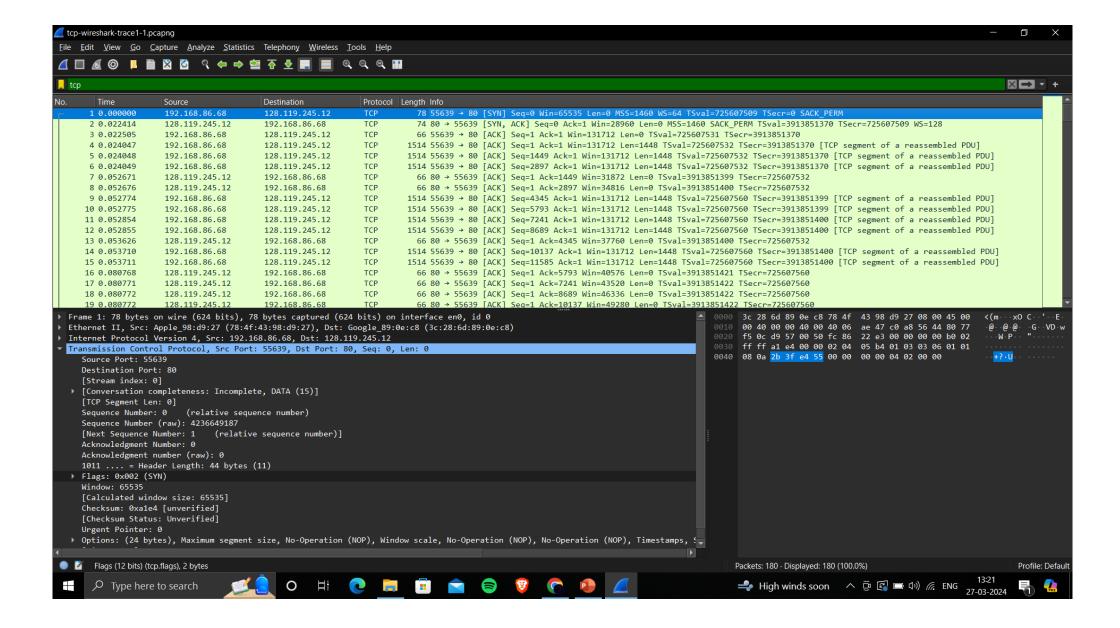


Figure 2 (TCP SYN)

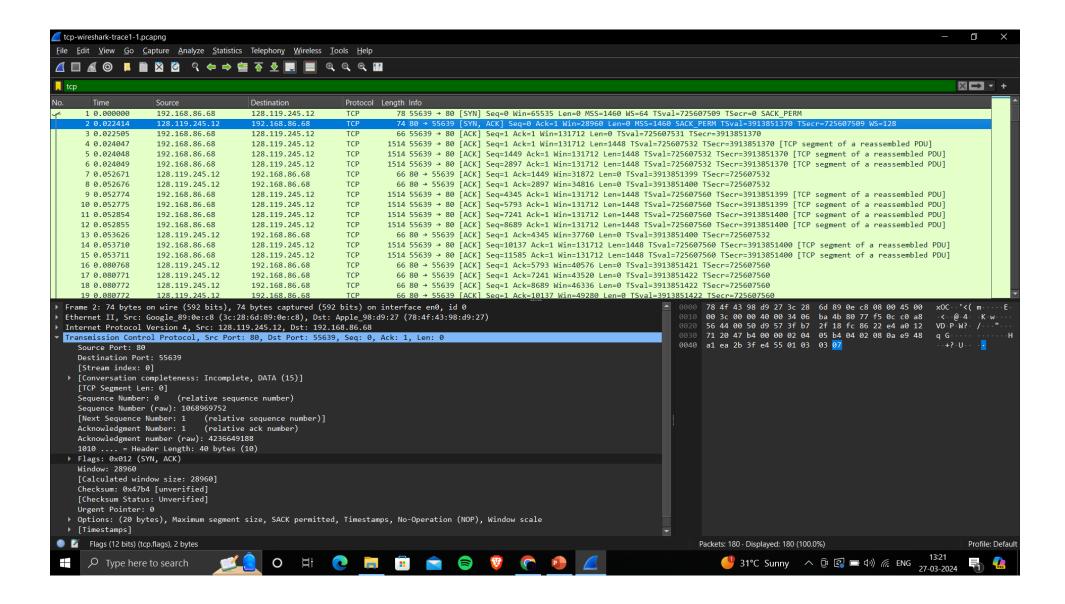


Figure 3 (SYN ACK)

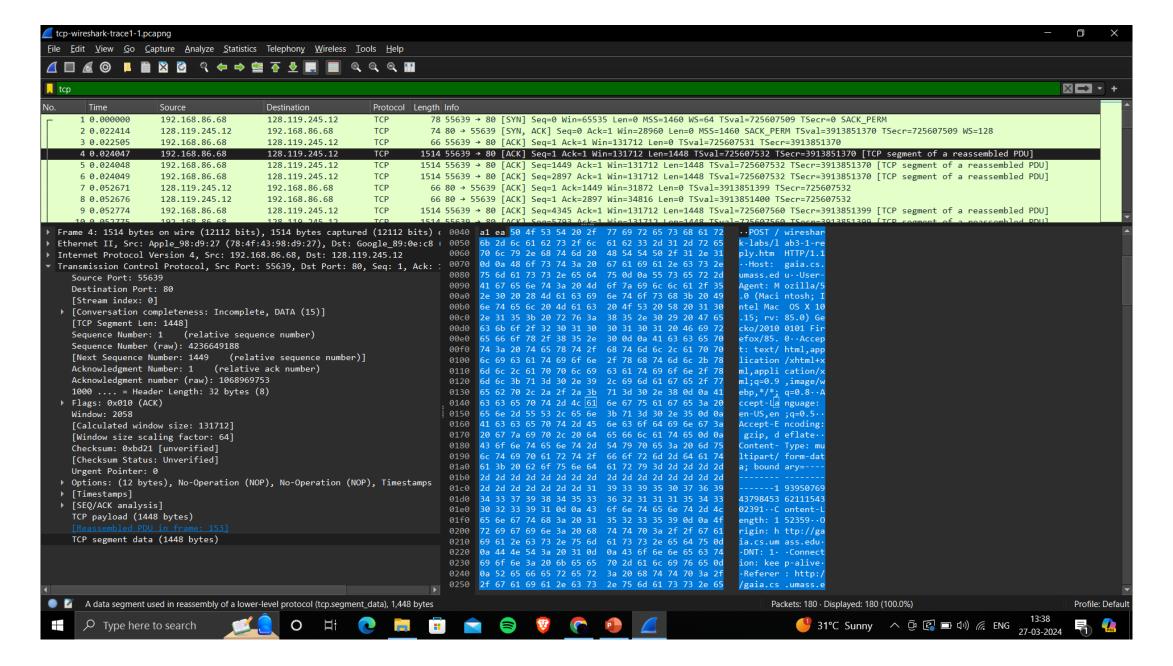


Figure 4 (TCP packet with HTTP POST Header

- 6. Consider the TCP segment containing the HTTP "POST" as the first segment in the data transfer part of the TCP connection.
- At what time was the first segment (the one containing the HTTP POST) in the data-transfer part of the TCP connection sent?

A: 0.024047 sec

At what time was the ACK for this first data-containing segment received?

A: 0.052671

• What is the RTT for this first data-containing segment?

A: 0.052671- 0.024047 = 0.028624

What is the RTT value of the second data-carrying TCP segment and its ACK?

A: The second segment is packet number 5 and it's corresponding response is pocket number 8 so RTT value is 0.052676- 0.024048 = 0.028628

• What is the EstimatedRTT value (see Section 3.5.3, in the text) after the ACK for the second data-carrying segment is received? Assume that in making this calculation after the received of the ACK for the second segment, that the initial value of EstimatedRTT is equal to the measured RTT for the first segment, and then is computed using the EstimatedRTT equation on page 242, and a value of $\alpha = 0.125$.

A:The EstimatedRTT is 0.0286245 seconds.

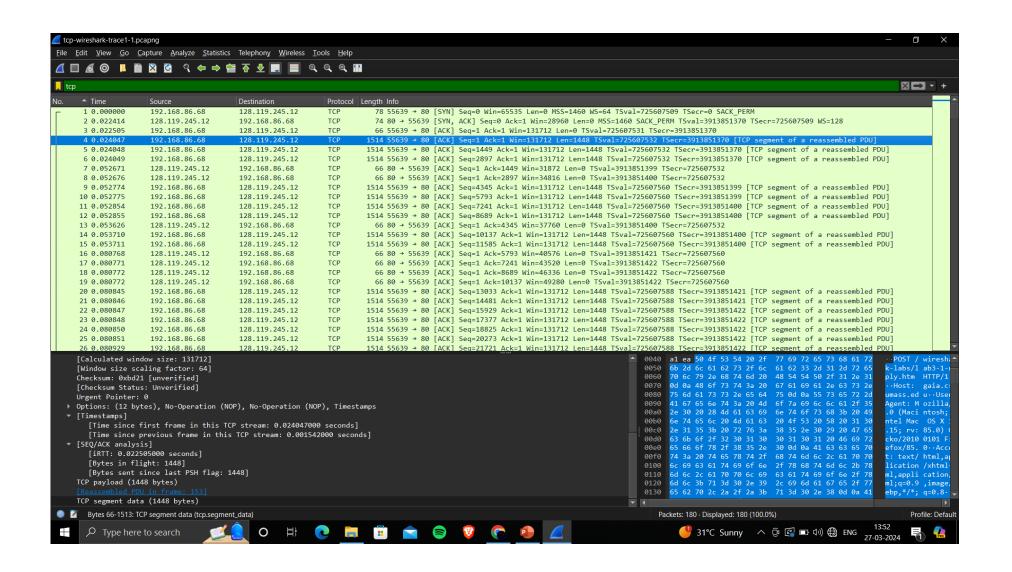


Figure 5

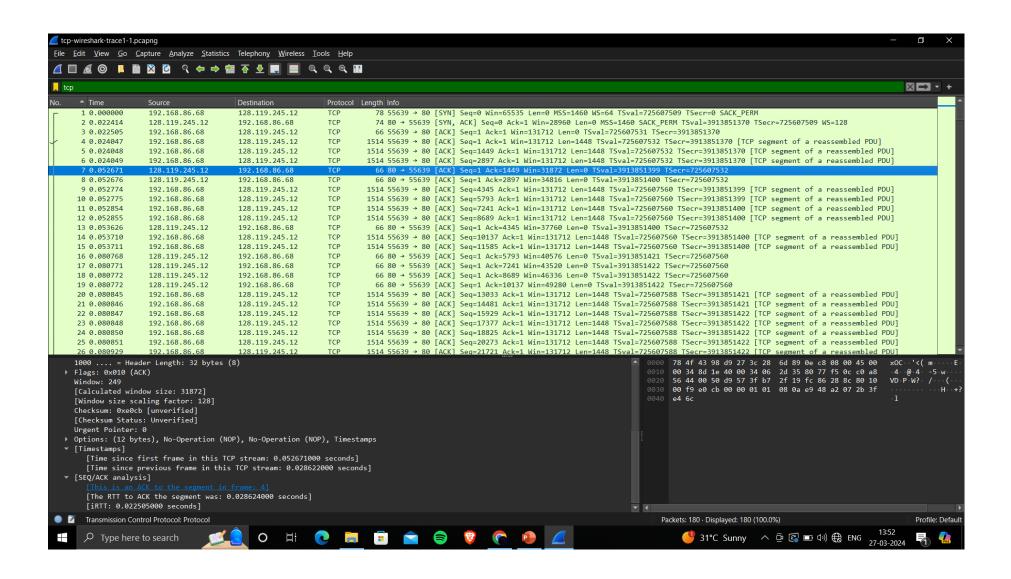


Figure 6

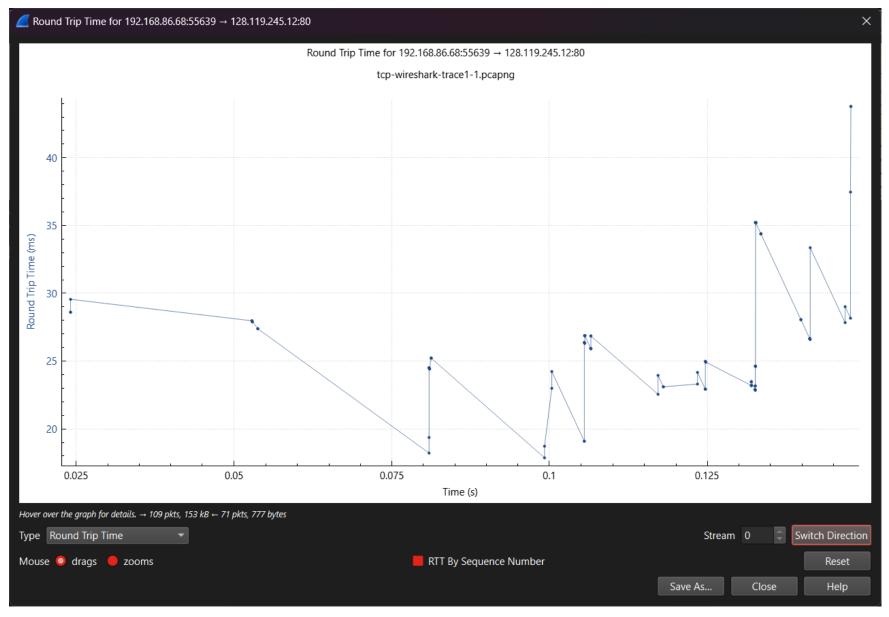


Figure 7

7. What is the length (header plus payload) of each of the first four data-carrying TCP segments?

A: 1448 bytes

8. What is the minimum amount of available buffer space advertised to the client by gaia.cs.umass.edu among these first four data-carrying TCP segments? Does the lack of receiver buffer space ever throttle the sender for these first four datacarrying segments?

A:28960 (window size) is the minimum buffer space, which grows gradually. The sender is never throttled due to lacking of receiver buffer space by inspecting this trace, which shows in the first acknowledgement from the server. This receiver window grows steadily until a maximum receiver buffer size of 62780 bytes. The sender is never throttled due to lacking of receiver buffer space by inspecting this trace.

9. Are there any retransmitted segments in the trace file? What did you check for (in the trace) in order to answer this question?

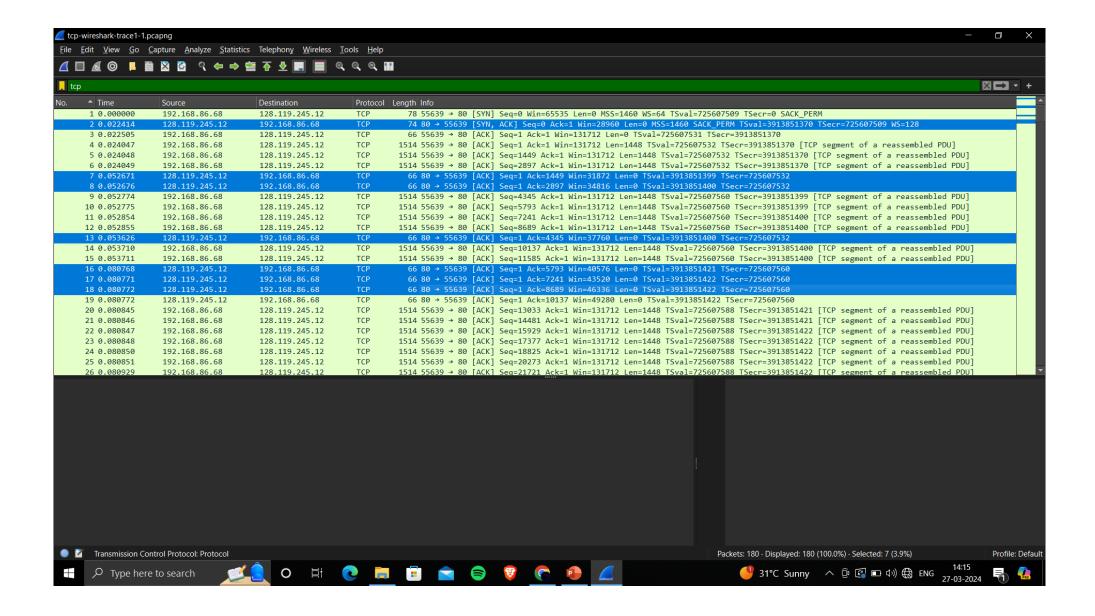
A: There are no retransmitted segments in the trace file. We can verify this by checking the sequence numbers of the TCP segments in the trace file. In the TimeSequence-Graph (Stevens) of this trace, all sequence numbers from the source (192.168.1.102) to the destination (128.119.245.12) are increasing monotonically with respect to time.

10. How much data does the receiver typically acknowledge in an ACK among the first ten data-carrying segments sent from the client to gaia.cs.umass.edu? Can you identify cases where the receiver is ACKing every other received segment (see Table 3.2 in the text) among these first ten data-carrying segments?

A.Typically it receives 1448 bytes but it also receives every other segment of 2896 bytes as seen in Figure 10.

11. What is the throughput (bytes transferred per unit time) for the TCP connection? Explain how you calculated this value.

A. The computation of TCP throughput largely depends on the selection of averaging time period. As a common throughput computation, in this question, we select the average time period as the whole connection time. Then, the average throughput for this TCP connection is computed as the ratio between the total amount data and the total transmission time. The total amount data transmitted can be computed by the difference between the sequence number of the first TCP segment (i.e. 1 byte for No. 4 segment) and the acknowledged sequence number of the last ACK (153426 bytes for No. 178 segment). Therefore, the total data are 153426 - 1 = 153425 bytes. The whole transmission time is the difference of the time instant of the first TCP segment (i.e., 0.022505000 seconds for No.4 segment) and the time instant of the last ACK (i.e., 5.455830 second for No. 202 segment). Therefore, the total transmission time is 5.455830 - 0.026477 = 5.4294 seconds. Hence, the throughput for the TCP connection is computed as 164090/5.4294 = 30.222 KByte/sec



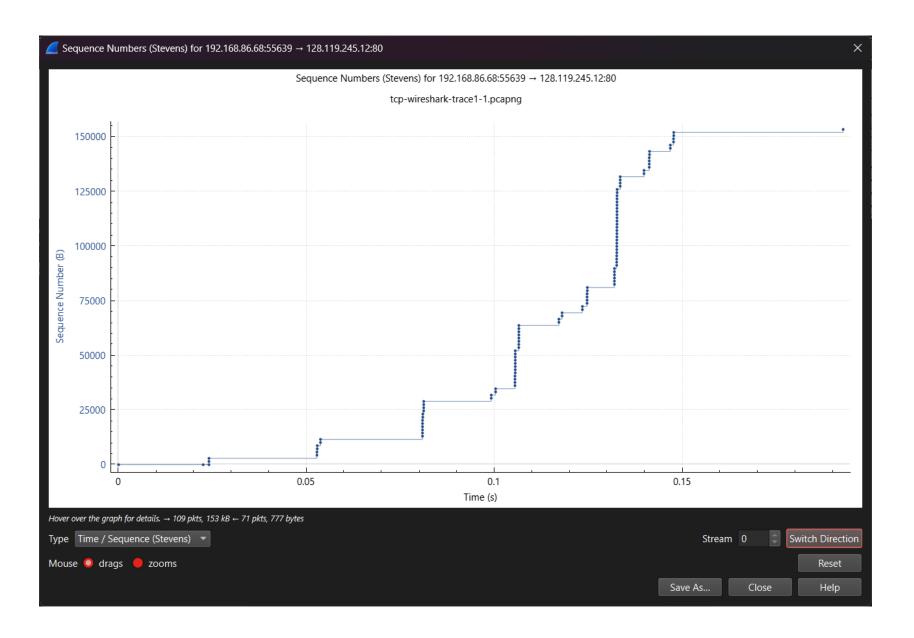


Figure 9 (Time-Sequence Graph)

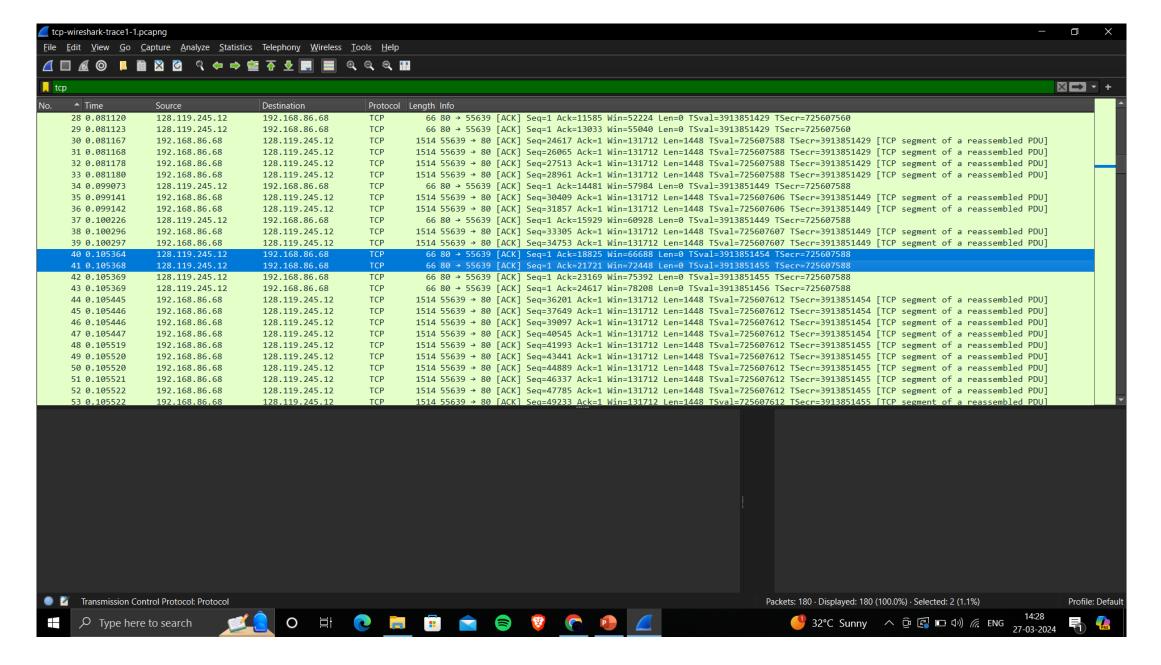


Figure 10

4. TCP congestion control in action

12. Use the Time-Sequence-Graph(Stevens) plotting tool to view the sequence number versus time plot of segments being sent from the client to the gaia.cs.umass.edu server. Consider the "fleets" of packets sent around t = 0.025, t = 0.053, t = 0.082 and t = 0.1. Comment on whether this looks as if TCP is in its slow start phase, congestion avoidance phase or some other phase. Figure 6 shows a slightly different view of this data.

A: TCP is in it's slow start phase. There's a fleet of 3 packets, then 6 packets, then 12 packets and then of 24 packets.

13. These "fleets" of segments appear to have some periodicity. What can you say about the period?

A: The period roughly corresponds to the RTT between the sender and receiver which we calculated earlier to be 0.028.