## Network Statistics such as Throughput, Transmission Speed, Average RTT.

#### A MINI PROJECT REPORT

Submitted by

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In partial fulfilment for the award of the degree of

**Bachelor's in technology (B. Tech)** 

IN

**Computer Science & Engineering** 



Department of Computer Science & Engineering
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## **Department of Computer Science & Engineering**

### **BONAFIDE CERTIFICATE**

Certified that this project report "Network Statistics such as Throughpu	ıt,
Transmission Speed, Average RTT." is the bonafide work of:	

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Submitted to the Viva voce Examination held on

EXAMINER 1 EXAMINER 2

## Abstract for the project: "Network Statistics such as Throughput, Transmission Speed, Average RTT"

For our mini project, we are sniffing data packets passed to us in a .pcap file and calculating different types of statistics regarding each packet. At the end, we analyse the overall statistics of the network such as average speed, average packet size, average packet rate and average RTT. For each packet we try to print the host ip, destination ip, source port address, destination port address, packet capture length, packet total length, sequence number and acknowledgement number. For TCP oriented data packets, we have even printed the payload. The whole code is written in C in which we use the libcap library.

The libpcap library was written as part of a more extensive program called TCPDump. The libpcap library allowed developers to write code to receive link-layer packets (Layer 2 in the OSI model) on different flavours of UNIX operating systems without having to worry about the idiosyncrasy of different operating systems' network cards and drivers. Essentially, the libpcap library grabs packets directly from the network cards, which allowed developers to write programs to decode, display, or log the packets.

In our program, we allow the user to input any .pacp file for which we output its statistics. We also allow the user to put a limit to the number of packets to be sniffed.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We would like to thank our professor, Dr. Krishanamoorthi Makkithaya for providing us with the motivation and the knowledge required to implement this project. He was very helpful and got through to us very clearly regarding all topics on the subject. Once the basics were clear, it was an easy feat to have implemented the project.

We would also like to appreciate the infrastructure provided to us by our educational institute, Manipal Institute of Technology, without which we would have a lot of trouble getting familiar with the required software.

We would also like to acknowledge the help of all our peers and lab staff for helping us understand the problem statement, hence enabling us to be able to write code for the same.

We wish to thank our well-wishers and guardians for their undivided support and interests in out well-being and being a constant source of motivation and inspiration.

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## **Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION TO TCP**

## 1.1 Introduction to Computer Networks

A computer network is defined as an interconnection of multiple devices, known as hosts, connected using multiple paths to send/receive data or media. Computer networks can include numerous devices/ mediums that help communicate between two devices, and these devices/ mediums are known as Network Devices and include routers, switches, hubs, and bridges.

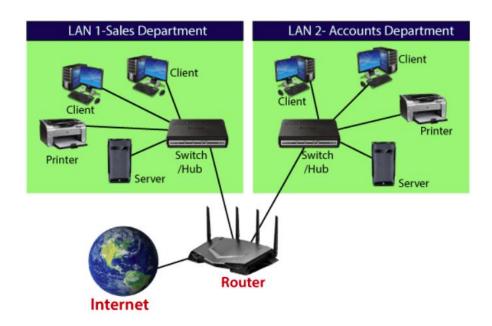


Fig 1.1 A computer network with hosts, switches/ hubs, servers, and routers

### 1.2 Transport Layer

The transport layer is a central piece of the layered network architecture between the application and network layers. It has the critical role of providing communication services directly to the application processes running on different hosts. The Internet has two protocols—TCP and UDP.

UDP (User Datagram Protocol) is a connectionless protocol, and TCP is a connection-oriented protocol. Usually, UDP (besteffort protocol) is chosen when the speed is more important than the reliability. It's primarily used in video conferencing, live streaming, gaming, etc. It doesn't have mechanisms to handle flow/ congestion/ loss in the network. Hence where reliability is of importance, TCP is preferred over UDP.

### 1.3 Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)

TCP is a connection-oriented protocol. It is called a connectionoriented protocol because before sending data between two hosts, a connection has to be set up between sender and receiver with three-way hand-shaking.

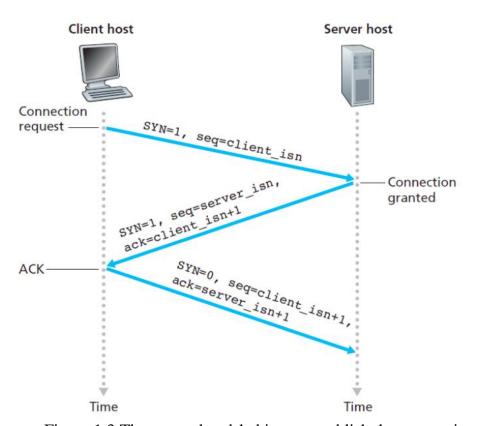


Figure 1.3 Three-way handshaking to establish the connection

Three-way handshaking is done by sending a connection request to the destination. At the destination side, if a connection request can be accepted, the connection is granted, and also a connection request is transmitted from destination to source. The source finally acknowledges the connection request from the destination and indicates that the connection is ready for data transfer. The connection termination also similarly ends with a three-way handshake. Due to this connection setup mechanism, TCP is called a connection oriented internet protocol.

TCP is also considered a reliable protocol for data transfer, contrary to UDP. This reliability is achieved by ensuring in-order transfer of data, acknowledgments, flow control, and congestion control mechanisms.

TCP is a very vast topic, but we'll not cover everything in this project. In the next chapter, we'll go through the structure of the TCP datagram and its flags, which is the main topic of our project.

## **Chapter 2: TCP Packets**

### 2.1 Introduction

In the previous chapter, we briefly introduced computer networks and TCP. This chapter will delve into more specific parts of our project, i.e., TCP packets and Flags. We'll go through various parts of the TCP packet and discuss what each flag is used for. From the next chapter onwards, we'll discuss how our project analyses TCP packets and their flags.

## 2.2 TCP Segment/Packets

The TCP segment consists of header fields and a data field. The data field contains a chunk of application data. The MSS limits the maximum size of a segment's data field. When TCP sends a large file, such as an image, as part of a Web page, it typically breaks the file into chunks of size MSS (except for the last chunk, which will often be less than the MSS). The MSS is typically set by first determining the length of the largest linklayer frame that the local sending host can send (the so-called maximum transmission unit, MTU), and then setting the MSS to ensure that a TCP segment (when encapsulated in an IP datagram) plus the TCP/IP header length (typically 40 bytes) will fit into a single link-layer frame.

TCP header size is typically 20 bytes and includes the following fields:

- Source and Destination Port Numbers: Used for multiplexing/demultiplexing data from/ to upper-layer applications.
- 32-bit Sequence Number and 32-bit Acknowledgement number: Used for inorder and reliable data transfer between source and destination.
- 16-bit Receive window: It is mainly used for the flow control mechanism. It is used to indicate the number of bytes the receiver is willing to accept.
- 4-bit Header Length: It is used to specify the length of the header in 32-bit words. TCP header can be of variable length due to the TCP options field.

(Typically, the Options field is empty, so that the length of the typical TCP header is 20)

- Variable-length Options field: The Options field is used when a sender and receiver negotiate the maximum segment size (MSS) or as a window scaling factor for use in high-speed networks. A time-stamping option is also defined.
- 6-bit Flags: (Will be discussed in next section.)

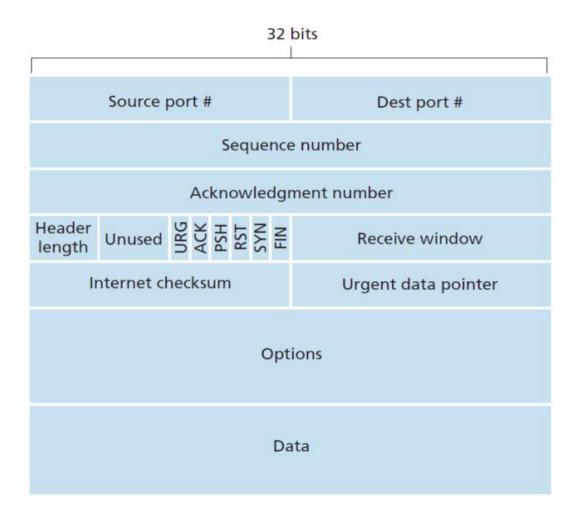


Fig 2.1: TCP Segment Structure

### **Chapter 3: Introduction to UDP**

## 3.1 Connectionless Transfer (User Datagram Protocol)

UDP takes messages from the application process, attaches source and destination port number fields, adds two other small fields, and passes the resulting segment to the network layer. The network layer encapsulates the transport-layer segment into an IP datagram and then makes a best-effort attempt to deliver the segment to the receiving host. If the segment arrives at the receiving host, UDP uses the destination port number to deliver the segment's data to the correct application process.

The Application data occupies the data field of the UDP segment. The UDP header has four fields, each consisting of two bytes. The port numbers allow the destination host to pass the application data to the correct process running on the destination end system. The length field specifies the number of bytes in the UDP segment (header plus data). The checksum is used by the receiving host to check whether errors have been introduced into the segment.

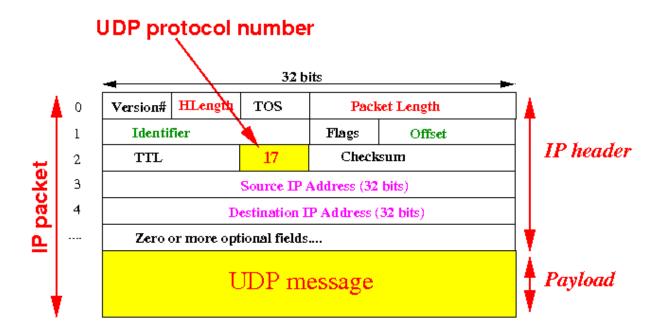


Fig 3.1: UDP Segment Structure

### **Chapter 4: Network Statistics**

### **4.1 Round Trip Time (RTT)**

The round-trip time for a segment is the amount of time between when the segment is sent and when an acknowledgement for the segment is received.

## 4.2 Throughput

The throughput is the amount of data per second that can be transferred between end systems.

## 4.3 Processing Delay

The processing delay is the time required to examine the packet's header and determine where to direct the packet.

## **4.4 Queueing Delay**

The queueing delay is the amount of time a packet has to wait before being transmitted onto the link.

## 4.5 Transmission Delay

The transmission delay is the amount of time required to transmit all of the packet's bits into the link.

## 4.6 Propagation Delay

The propagation delay is the time required to propagate from the beginning of the link to the end router.

### **Chapter 5: Implementation in Code**

#### 5.1 Introduction

We have developed a command line interface which analyses packets present in a pcap file and present the network statistics such as throughput, average round trip time and transmission speed, for those packets.

This peap file can downloaded or generated live via any packet sniffing tool such as Wireshark and then be fed as input to our interface.

We have also added a feature giving the user the liberty to decide how many packets the user wants to sniff from the file.

After displaying all packets, its protocols, payload, and respective details, we display the network statistics in the output.

### 5.2 GitHub Link for the Code

The code has been completed and tested with .pcap and .pcapng files the samples of which along with the source code file has been uploaded in a GitHub repository we have created, the link to which is:

https://github.com/aiqqia/Network-Statistics-Computer-Networks-MiniProject

### 5.3 Walking through the code

#### 5.3.1 Header Files and Libraries used:

The interface was made in the C language. The following header files were used for the implementation:

- stdio.h
- pcap.h

- stdlib.h
- netinet/in.h
- netinet/tcp.h
- netinet/udp.h
- netinet/ip.h
- unistd.h
- net/ethernet.h
- string.h

Using libpcap allows us to capture or send packets from a live network device or a file. These code examples will walk us through using libpcap to find network devices, get information about devices, process packets in real time or offline, send packets, and even listen to wireless traffic. This is aimed at Debian based Linux distributions but may also work on Mac OSX. Not intended for Windows, but WinPcap is a port that is available. Compiling a pcap program requires linking with the pcap lib. We can install it in Debian based distributions with:

```
sudo apt-get install libpcap-dev
```

Once the libpcap dependency is installed, we can compile pcap programs with the following command. We will need to run the program as root or with sudo to have permission to access the network card:

```
gcc <filename> -lpcap
```

The code we have written to include the respective header files and libraries used is shown in the screenshot of the snippet of the code below:

```
#include <pcap.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <ctype.h>
#include <errno.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/socket.h>
#include <netinet/in.h>
#include <arpa/inet.h>
#include <assert.h>
#define APP_NAME "sniffex"
#define APP DESC "Sniffer example using libpcap"
#define SNAP LEN 1518
#define SIZE ETHERNET 14
#define ETHER_ADDR_LEN 6
```

We are including all header files respective to the functions and header structures we have used in our program.

#### **5.3.2 Structures defined for sniffing:**

```
/* Ethernet header */
You,8 hours ago | 1 author (You)
struct sniff_ethernet {
    u_char ether_dhost[ETHER_ADDR_LEN]; /* destination host address */
    u_char ether_shost[ETHER_ADDR_LEN]; /* source host address */
    u_short ether_type; /* IP? ARP? RARP? etc */
};

/* IP header */
You,8 hours ago | 1 author (You)
struct sniff_ip {
    u_char ip_whl; /* version << 4 | header length >> 2 */
    u_char ip_tos; /* type of service */
    u_short ip_len; /* total length */
    u_short ip_id; /* identification */
    u_short ip_off; /* fragment offset field */
    #define IP_RF 0x88000 /* more fragment flag */
    #define IP_DF 0x42000 /* don't fragment flag */
    #define IP_OFPOx4000 /* don't fragment flag */
```

```
typedef u_int tcp_seq;
struct sniff_tcp {
 u_short th_sport; /* source port */
 u_short th_dport; /* destination port */
 tcp_seq th_seq; /* sequence number */
tcp_seq th_ack; /* acknowledgement number
u_char th_offx2; /* data offset, rsvd */
  #define TH_OFF(th)(((th) \rightarrow th_offx2 \& 0xf0) >> 4)
  u char th flags;
  #define TH_FIN 0x01
  #define TH_SYN 0x02
  #define TH_RST 0x04
  #define TH_PUSH 0x08
  #define TH_ACK 0x10
  #define TH_URG 0x20
  #define TH ECE 0x40
  #define TH_CWR 0x80
  #define TH_FLAGS (TH_FIN|TH_SYN|TH_RST|TH_ACK|TH_URG|TH_ECE|TH_CWR)
  u_short th_win; /* winde
  u_short th_sum; /* checksum
  u_short th_urp; /* urgent pointer */
struct sniff_udp {
 u_short sport; //source port
u_short dport; //destination port
u_short len; //datagram length
u_short crc; //checksum
```

The defined structures and the purpose they serve are mentioned in the comments of the code as shown in the code screenshot above.

The data in structures are relevant to what we read for TCP and UDP headers and packets. Thus, the structures are well defined and explained through the variables used and the comments given int the code.

### **5.3.3** Prototyping functions required for the code:

```
void got_packet(u_char * args,
    const struct pcap_pkthdr * header,
    | const u_char * packet);

void print_payload(const u_char * payload, int len);

void print_hex_ascii_line(const u_char * payload, int len, int offset);

void print_app_usage(void);
```

### 5.3.4 Functions for printing payload of the packets sniffed:

The functions "print\_payload()" and "print\_hex\_asci\_line()" are both functions which are used to help print the payload of the packets which we are sniffing from the pcap file fed as input to the program. These files use the header information and other formatting details to produce the payload which we then print individually for each packet sniffed.

### 5.3.5 Function for sniffing and displaying each packet individually:

got\_packet is a function used as the call-back for our pcap\_loop function. It takes in three arguments, a u\_char pointer which is passed in the user argument to pcap\_loop(), a const struct pcap\_pkthdr pointer pointing to the packet timestamp and lengths, and a const u\_char pointer to the first caplen (as given in the struct pcap\_pkthdr a pointer to which is passed to the callback routine) bytes of data from the packet. The struct pcap\_pkthdr and the packet data are not to be freed by the callback routine, and are not guaranteed to be valid after the callback routine returns; if the code needs them to be valid after the callback, it must make a copy of them. Count is used for keeping a count of packets.

ethernet is a pointer to sniff\_ethernet struct, which points to the starting of the packet. ip is a pointer to sniff\_ip struct, which points to the start of the packet with an offset equal to the size of the ethernet header. tcp is a pointer to sniff\_tcp which points to the start of the packet with an offset of ethernet size, ip size combined. We then get to know which type of protocol is being used with the help of the switch case. Our program will continue only if the packet follows TCP or UDP protocol. For UDP, we print the source port number, destination port number and datagram length. For TCP, we print the source port number, destination port number, packet capture length, packet total length, sequence number, acknowledgement number and payload, if any.

#### 5.3.6 Function for parsing the file to give final network statistics output:

We use this function to Parse our data.txt file and get all the valuable information from it. FILE\* f points to the file which we want to open (data.txt). buf array is used to store the whole line of our input, whereas temp array is used to store the value of our data, such as average speed, average packet size, average packet rate, etc. If we open the data.txt file, we will soon come to know that the eleventh and twelfth lines of the file hold the average speed of our network, the thirteenth line holds the average packet size, and the fourteenth line holds the average packet rate. The count variable is used to calculate the line number we have parsed so far. Unit conversions are done accordingly to have a standardized way of presenting our data. In the end, we calculate the average RTT of our network and output it accordingly.

Function: parse()

```
void parse() {
 f = fopen("data.txt", "r");
 char buf[256];
 char temp[256];
 int count = 0;
 float size, speed, Mbps, prate;
 for (int count = 0; fgets(buf, sizeof(buf), f) != NULL && count < 15; count++) {</pre>
  if (count < 11) {
   i = 0, j = 0;
while (!isdigit(buf[i])) i++;
while (buf[i] != ' ') {
   if (buf[i] != ',') {
        temp[j++] = buf[i];
}
    temp[j++] = 0;
    if (count == 11) {
       speed = atof(temp);
       while(buf[i++] != ' ');
       char type[10];
       while(isalpha(buf[i]) || buf[i] == '/'){
         type[k++] = buf[i++];
       type[k++] = 0;
       if(strcmp(type, "kBps") == 0) speed /= 1024.0f;
```

```
else if(strcmp(type, "bytes/s") == 0) speed /= 1024.0f * 1024.0f; else if(strcmp(type, "MBps") != 0) puts(type), assert(0);
    printf("**\t\tAVERAGE SPEED(MBps) : %4.2f MBps\n", speed);
   } else if (count == 12) {
    Mbps = atof(temp);
    while(buf[i++] != ' ');
    char type[10];
     int k = 0;
    while(isalpha(buf[i])){
     type[k++] = buf[i++];
   type[k++] = 0;
    if(strcmp(type, "kbps") == 0) Mbps /= 1024.0f;
else if(strcmp(type, "Mbps") != 0) assert(0);
    printf("**\t\tAVERAGE SPEED(Mbps) : %4.2f Mbps\n", Mbps);
  } else if (count == 13) {
    size = atof(temp);
    printf("**\t\tAVERAGE PACKET SIZE : %4.2f bytes\n", size);
  } else if (count == 14) {
  prate = atof(temp);
     printf("**\t\tAVERAGE PACKET RATE/s : %4.2f kpackets/s\n", prate);
printf("**\t\tAVERAGE RTT
                                        : %f seconds\n", size * 2 / (speed * (1 << 20)));
```

#### 5.3.7 Function for displaying simple terminal-based GUI:

We have made a small terminal-based interface and to beautify, we have used this function and given proper spacing.

### **5.3.8** The main function that ties all the program together:

To obtain the bare-bones statistics of the network, we used the capinfos software, and stored the fetched data into a text file called "data.txt". We have then sent this file to be parsed and statistics to be retrieved through the parse() function call mentioned in the code.

We also obtained the IP header information and the TCP/UDP header information.

```
int main(int argc, char ** argv) {
  char errbuf[PCAP_ERRBUF_SIZE]; /* error Temporary */
  pcap t * handle; /* packet capture handle */
 char filter_exp[] = "ip"; /* filter expression [3] */
struct bpf_program fp; /* compiled filter program (expression) */
bpf_u_int32 mask = 0; /* subnet mask */
  bpf_u_int32 net = 0; /* ip */
int num_packets = 0; /* number of packets to capture */
  char fileName[100];
  scanf("%s", fileName);
  handle = pcap_open_offline(fileName, errbuf);
  if (handle == NULL) {
  fprintf(stderr, "Couldn't open device\n");
  printf("\n\n** Enter number of packets to be sniffed (Enter 0 for all):
printf("\n\n** => ");
                                                                                         **");
  if (num_packets == 0)
   printf("\n\n** Number of packets : All\n");
   printf("\n\n** Number of packets : %d\n", num_packets);
  if (pcap_datalink(handle) != DLT_EN10MB) {
  fprintf(stderr, "Not an Ethernet\n");
```

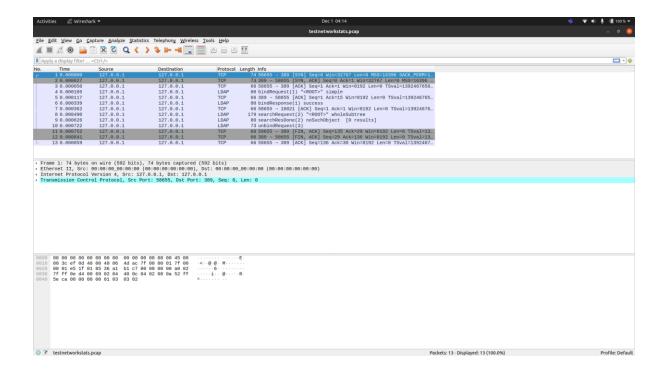
We have used some print statements to beautify the code in the end to compensate for a functioning frontend.

The overall code works and has been tested with multiple pcap and pcapng files and the order of working is that initially on running the code, we are asked to input the name of the pcap file to be fed as input. On inputting a valid file name, we can enter how many packets we want the program to sniff, and we get the appropriate display as chosen. In the end, after all the individual packets have been displayed, we can see that the network statistics are displayed.

We have verified the correctness of the statistics by checking network statistics in the Wireshark tool as well.

### 5.3.9 Outputs of the Program:

The first sample .pcap file is called "testnetworkstats.pcap" and the Wireshark screenshot is attached below:



We can see the packets available to be sniffed in the screenshot above and now we will run the code in the gcc compiler.

The menu driven GUI looks as follows:

We are required to input the Filename and the number of packets we want to be sniffed.

```
Enter the file name with the .pcap extension for analysis
           testnetworkstats.pcap
**********************************
     Enter number of packets to be sniffed (Enter 0 for all):
     Number of packets : All
**********************************
            ----- PACKET [Number : 1] ------
            From IP : 127.0.0.1
            To IP: 127.0.0.1
            Protocol : TCP
            Source port : 58655
            Destination port: 389
            Packet capture length: 74
            Packet total length: 74
            Sequence number : 3350307126
            Acknowledgement number(Ack) : 0
             ----- PACKET [Number : 2] ------
            From IP: 127.0.0.1
            To IP: 127.0.0.1
            Protocol: TCP
            Source port: 389
            Destination port : 58655
            Packet capture length: 74
            Packet total length: 74
            Sequence number: 750250550
            Acknowledgement number(Ack) : 3367084342
```

```
From IP: 127.0.0.1
To IP: 127.0.0.1
Protocol: TCP
Source port: 389
Destination port: 58655
Packet capture length: 80
Packet total length: 80
Sequence number: 767027766
Acknowledgement number(Ack): 3601965366
Payload (14 bytes):

00000 30 0c 02 01 01 61 07 0a 01 00 04 00 04 00 0 ...a.....

PACKET [Number: 7]

From IP: 127.0.0.1
Protocol: TCP
Source port: 58655
Destination port: 18821
Packet capture length: 66
Packet total length: 66
Sequence number: 3601965366
Acknowledgement number(Ack): 1001908790

PACKET [Number: 8]

From IP: 127.0.0.1
Protocol: TCP
Source port: 58655
Destination port: 3899
Packet capture length: 179
Packet capture length: 179
Packet capture length: 179
Packet total length: 179
Sequence number: 3601965366
Acknowledgement number(Ack): 1001908790
Payload (113 bytes):
```

```
## From IP : 127.0.0.1
To IP : 127.0.0.1
From IP : 127.0.0.1
From
```

```
From IP: 127.0.0.1

From IP: 127.0.0.1

Protocol: TCP

Source port: 58655

Packet capture length: 73

Packet total length: 73

Sequence number: 1202889014

Acknowledgement number(Ack): 1236789814

Payload (7 bytes):

00000 30 05 02 01 03 42 00

0...B.

From IP: 127.0.0.1

To IP: 127.0.0.1

Protocol: TCP

Source port: 58655

Destination port: 389

Packet capture length: 66

Sequence number: 1320329526

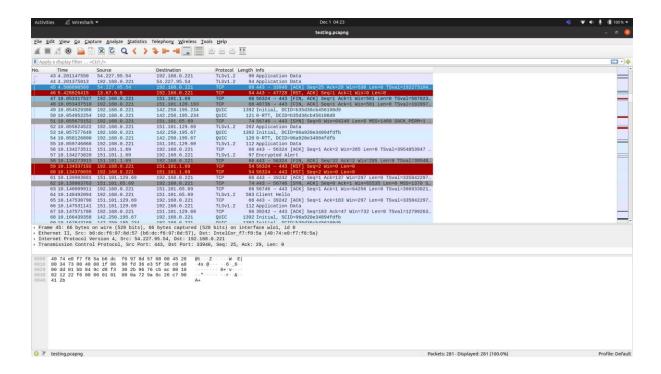
Acknowledgement number(Ack): 1236789814
```

```
----- PACKET [Number : 13] ------
               From IP : 127.0.0.1
              To IP: 127.0.0.1
              Protocol : TCP
              Source port : 58655
              Destination port : 389
              Packet capture length: 66
              Packet total length: 66
              Sequence number: 1337106742
              Acknowledgement number(Ack): 1253567030
******************* FINAL NETWORK STATISTICS ***************
              AVERAGE SPEED(MBps) : 1.18 MBps
              AVERAGE SPEED(Mbps) : 9.42 Mbps
AVERAGE PACKET SIZE : 79.69 bytes
              AVERAGE PACKET RATE/s : 15.00 kpackets/s
              AVERAGE RTT
                                   : 0.000129 seconds
  ************************
Capture complete.
manan@manan-Inspiron-7591:~/Documents/C Programs$
```

In this final screenshot, we can notice that after all thirteen packets are displayed, we are able to see the network statistics displayed which is the outcome required for our project.

To test our final project, we have used another sample input file called "testing.pcapng" which is very huge in comparison, and we can see the packets and network statistics for that too as shown below:

Initially, we show the Wireshark screenshot for the given pcap file:



#### The menu driven inputs:

```
Enter the file name with the .pcap extension for analysis
       ==> testing.pcapng
     Enter number of packets to be sniffed (Enter 0 for all):
     Number of packets : All
----- PACKET [Number : 1] -----
             From IP : 157.240.192.52
             To IP: 192.168.0.221
             Protocol : TCP
             Source port : 443
             Destination port : 36576
             Packet capture length: 99
             Packet total length: 99
             Sequence number: 1953468210
Acknowledgement number(Ack): 2926838274
             Payload (33 bytes) :
                   17 03 03 00 1c 4c ae 01 dd 40 98 bd dc 32 83 d4
42 f6 ba 43 e6 al 16 c3 c2 08 9e 9d 01 ea 9c fa
                                                                  .....L...@...2..
B..C....
             00016
             00032
```

The last packet along with the network statistics as shown below:

```
----- PACKET [Number : 279] ------
                From IP: 54.227.95.54
                To IP: 192.168.0.221
                Protocol : TCP
                Source port: 443
                Destination port: 33948
                Packet capture length: 66
                Packet total length: 66
                Sequence number: 1127281625
                Acknowledgement number(Ack): 3368777366
******************* FINAL NETWORK STATISTICS ***************
                AVERAGE SPEED(MBps) : 0.01 MBps
                AVERAGE SPEED(Mbps) : 0.06 Mbps
AVERAGE PACKET SIZE : 465.27 bytes
                AVERAGE PACKET RATE/s : 17.00 kpackets/s
                AVERAGE RTT
                                     : 0.112262 seconds
Capture complete.
```

## [END OF CHAPTER]

### **APPENDICES**

GitHub li	nk to	our	code	and	input	test	files:
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https://github.com/aiqqia/Network-Statistics-Computer-Networks-MiniProject

Link for downloading sample pcap and pcapng files of all sizes and formats along with protocol filters required:

https://www.wireshark.org/download/automated/captures/

#### REFERENCES

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- 3. <a href="https://www.devdungeon.com/content/using-libpcap-c">https://www.devdungeon.com/content/using-libpcap-c</a>
- 4. <a href="http://yuba.stanford.edu/~casado/pcap/section4.html">http://yuba.stanford.edu/~casado/pcap/section4.html</a>
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