

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GANDHINAGAR

Assignment Report Computer Networks

Submitted By

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Github Repository Link

Part 1: Metrics and Plots

Objectives

The main objectives of this assignment were:

- 1. Capture and analyze network traffic using packetSniffer.py.
- 2. Extract key metrics from captured traffic, including:
 - Total data transferred (bytes)
 - Total packets transferred
 - Min, Max, and Avg packet size
 - Packet size distribution
 - Unique <SourceIP:SrcPort , DestinationIP:DestPort> pairs
 - Dictionary of {SourceIP: Total Flows} and {DestinationIP: Total Flows}
 - <SourceIP:Port , DestinationIP:Port> pair transferring the most data
- 3. Determine the maximum speed (pps/mbps) at which the sniffer can capture data loss-free in two scenarios:
 - Running tcpreplay and packetSniffer.py on the same machine.
 - Running tcpreplay on one machine and packetSniffer.py on another.
- Verify results by implementing pcapAnalyzer.py to read .pcap files and extract the same metrics found by packetSniffer.py.

Implementation Details

Packet Sniffer (packetSniffer.py)

The packetSniffer.py program captures packets in real-time, records their attributes, and computes the required metrics. It was designed to handle high-speed packet capture efficiently while minimizing data loss.

PCAP Analyzer (pcapAnalyzer.py)

Since packetSniffer.py captures packets dynamically, we implemented pcapAnalyzer.py to analyze pre-captured .pcap files and extract the same metrics for validation. This helped us confirm the correctness of our sniffer's results.

Packet Replay using tcpreplay

To test the performance and accuracy of our sniffer, we replayed packets from a chosen 5.pcap file using tcpreplay. This allowed us to simulate real-world traffic and compare captured results with ground truth data from the .pcap file.

Packet Capture Speed speedTest.py

To evaluate the efficiency of our packet sniffer, we implemented speedTest.py, which measures the rate at which packets are captured during tcpreplay execution. By systematically adjusting replay speeds through a trial-and-error approach, we determine the maximum rate at which our sniffer can capture packets without loss. This analysis helps optimize performance and ensures reliable data collection under high-speed traffic conditions.

Running the Programs

Order of program execution:

1. pcapAnalyzer.py: Analyzes the **5.pcap** file to extract and validate key metrics.

2. speedTest.py: Determines the optimal **tcpreplay** speed for packet capture without loss, using a

trial-and-error approach.

3. packetSniffer.py: Once the optimal speed is identified, captures packets in real time and computes

metrics with zero packet loss.

Running pcapAnalyzer.py

Command: python .\pcapAnalyzer.py

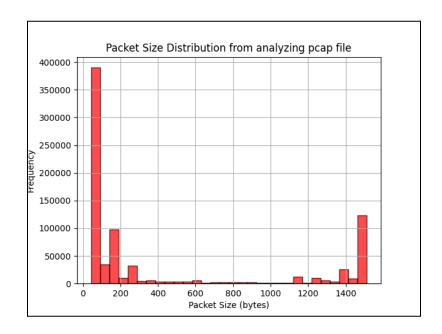
```
PS C:\Users\DELL\Downloads\Computer_Networks\CS331-Computer-Networks-Assignment1> python .\pcapAnalyser.py
Reading pcap file...
Analyzing results...

** Packet Sniffer Metrics **
Total Data Transferred: 364640811 bytes
Total Packets Transferred: 885996
Minimum Packet Size: 42 bytes
Maximum Packet Size: 452 bytes
Average Packet Size: 452.41 bytes

Total unique Source-Destination Pairs: 41860
172.16.133.59: 549358 -> 157.56.240.102:4443: 17342229 bytes
172.16.133.59: 53807 -> 68.64.241.62:1853: 17318420 bytes
172.16.133.59: 53807 -> 67.217.64.99:4443: 15842153 bytes
172.16.133.36: 64953 -> 67.217.64.99:4443: 15842153 bytes
172.16.128.201:1060 -> 172.16.133.6:1731: 5264163 bytes

Top 5 source IPs by flow count:
172.16.133.57: 38563 flows
67.217.64.99: 17993 flows
172.16.133.95: 17225 flows
172.16.133.95: 17225 flows
172.16.133.95: 17225 flows
172.16.133.16: 16228 flows

Top 5 destination IPs by flow count:
172.16.133.57: 19723 flows
172.16.133.57: 19723 f
```



Total Packets Captured	805996
Total Data Transferred	364640811 bytes
Minimum Packet Size	42 byte
Maximum Packet Size	1514 byte
Average Packet Size	452.41 byte
Highest SrcIP-DstIP pair in terms of data	172.16.133.95:49358 → 157.56.240.102:432 (Data = 17342229 bytes)
Total Unique Scr - Dst IP	41860

After executing the pcapAnalyzer.py file all the output logs will be stored in a folder called **pcapAnalyzer_logs**. The dictionary of sourceIP:Port to total flow and destinationIP:Port to total flow are stored as a json file inside the logs folder.

Running speedTest.py and tcpreplay

- 1. Open two terminals side by side.
- 2. In one terminal, run tcpreplay; in another, run the speedTest.py file.

Command for speedTest: sudo python3 packetSniffer.py -i <interface> -[t <timeout>]
Command for tcpreplay: sudo tcpreplay -i <interface> --pps=<speed> <pcapFilePath>

First, we ran topreplay with speed pps(packet per second)=10000 but our program captured packets with speed pps=6982.63

```
bhavik@DESKTOP-H5M75KK:/mnt/c/Users/DELL/Downloads/Computer_Networks/CS33
1-Computer-Networks-Assignment1$ sudo python3 speedTest.py -i lo
Packet Sniffing Program started...
Starting packet sniffing on interface lo...
**Packet Sniffer Metrics **
Total Packets Rate (PPS): 6982.63 packets/sec
Data Rate (Mbps): 30.99 Mbps
Packet Sniffing Program completed.
bhavik@DESKTOP-H5M75KK:/mnt/c/Users/DELL/Downloads/Computer_Networks-Assignment1$ |

bhavik@DESKTOP-H5M75KK:/mnt/c/Users/DELL/Downloads/Computer_Networks/CS33
1-Computer-Networks-Assignment1$ |
```

Output with topreplay speed = 5000pps.

```
bhavik@DESKTOP-H5M75KK:/mnt/c/Users/DELL/Downloads/Computer_Networks/CS33
1-Computer-Networks-Assignment1$ sudo python3 speedTest.py -i lo -t 165
Packet Sniffing Program started...
Starting packet sniffing on interface lo...

** Packet Sniffer Metrics **
Total Packets Received: 1070531
Packet Rate (PPS): 6483.52 packets/sec
Data Rate (Mbps): 22.27 Mbps
Packet Sniffing Program completed.
bhavik@DESKTOP-H5M75KK:/mnt/c/Users/DELL/Downloads/Computer_Networks/CS33
1-Computer-Networks-Assignment1$ sudo tcpreplay -i lo --pps=5000 5.pcap
Warning in sendpacket.c:sendpacket_open_pf() line 953:
Unsupported physical layer type 0x0304 on lo. Maybe it works, maybe it works. Set ickets #123/318
Actual: 885996 packets (364640870 bytes) sent in 161.19 seconds
Rated: 2262041.1 Bps, 18.09 Mbps, 4999.97 pps
Flows: 41680 flows, 258.56 fps, 805297 unique flow packets, 454 unique no n-flow packets
Statistics for network device: lo
Successful packets: 805996
Failed packets: 0
Retried packets: (ENOBUFS): 0
Retried packets (ERGAIN): 0
bhavik@DESKTOP-H5M75KK:/mnt/c/Users/DELL/Downloads/Computer_Networks/CS33
1-Computer-Networks-Assignment1$ |
```

At topreplay speed = 2000 pps, we are able to capture almost all the packets, and if the speed is further decreased, the number of packets captured decreases. So the optimal speed for capturing packets within the same machine using loopback is **2000 pps**.

```
bhavik@DESKTOP-H5M75KK:/mnt/c/Users/DELL/Downloads/Computer_Networks/CS33
1-Computer-Networks-Assignment1$ sudo python3 speedTest.py -i lo
Packet Sniffing Program started...

** Packet Sniffing on interface lo...

** Packet Sniffire Metrics **
Total Packets Received: 803866
Packet Rate (PPS): 1960.65 packets/sec
Data Rate (Mbps): 0.38 Mbps
Packet Sniffing Program completed.
bhavik@DESKTOP-H5M75KK:/mnt/c/Users/DELL/Downloads/Computer_Networks/CS33
1-Computer-Networks-Assignment1$ |

** Packet Sniffing Program started...

** Set Lickets #123/318

** Actual: 805996 packets (364640870 bytes) set in 402.99 seconds

** Rated: 904821.6 Bps, 7.23 Mbps, 2000.00 pps

** Flows: 41680 flows, 103.42 fps, 805297 unique flow packets

** Statistical Sniffing Program started...

** Substan
```

Now we calculate metrics by sniffing packets at 2000 pps within the same machine.

Running packetSniffer.py

Command: sudo python3 packetSniffer.py -i <interface>

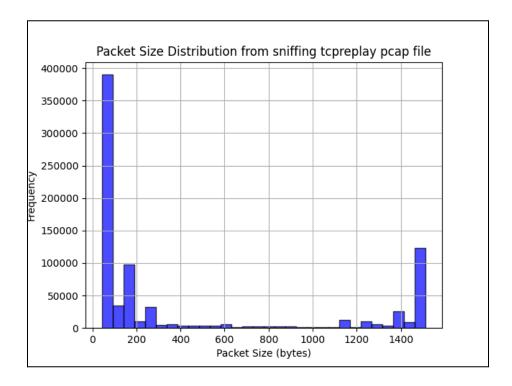
Where <interface> is the network interface on which packets are captured.

```
bhavik@DESKTOP-HSW75KR:/mnt/c/Users/DELL/Downloads/Computer_Networks/CS33
1-Computer-Networks-Assignment1$ sudo python3 packetSniffer.py -i lo
[sudo] password for bhavik:
Packet Sniffing Program started...

**Packet Sniffing Program completed.

Analyzing results...

**Packet Sniffing Program com
```



Metric Calculated sniffing topreplay

Total Packets Captured	803866
Total Data Transferred	358447685 bytes
Minimum Packet Size	42 byte
Maximum Packet Size	1514 byte
Average Packet Size	451.86 byte
Highest SrcIP-DstIP pair in terms of data	172.16.133.95:49358 → 157.56.240.102:432 (Data = 17049303 bytes)
Total Unique Scr - Dst IP	41746

The dictionary of sourceIP:Port to total flow and destinationIP:Port to total flow are stored as a json file inside the logs folder.

NOTE: After running pcapAnalyzer.py or packetSniffer.py, a log folder will be created which stores all the metrics that we got through the program.

Packet transfer from one machine to other machine using Ethernet Cable:

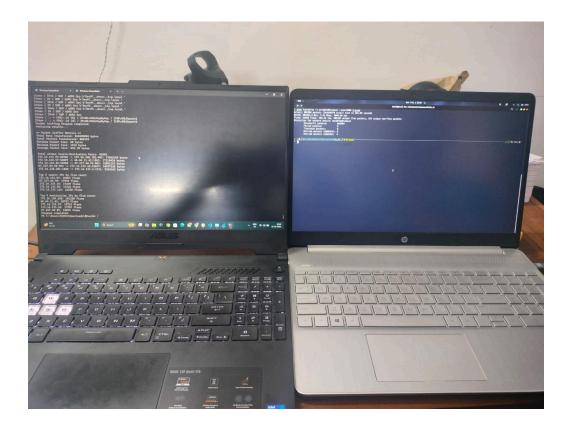
To ensure accurate packet capture, we used an **Ethernet cable** to create a direct communication channel between two machines:

Disabled Wi-Fi on both machines to avoid interference.

- 1. Connected both machines via an Ethernet cable, forming a dedicated data transfer channel.
- 2. Ran tcpreplay on one machine to send packets at a controlled rate.
- 3. Executed packetSniffer.py on the other machine to capture and analyze packets.

Video showing the packet transfer via ethernet cable→ <u>Link</u>

The speed at which we were able to send the data was **2000 pps** with minimal packet loss.



Part 2: Catch Me If You Can

For this part add we need to run packetSnifferPart2.py python script to get the below results Command: **python packetSnifferPart2.py**

Q1: Finding TCP Packet Containing a Filename

- Filename Extraction:

Searched for <The name of file is = > in packet payloads.

Extracted filename: networking_Questions.pdf

TCP Checksum of the Packet: 35409Source IP Address: 10.20.30.200

Q2: Counting Packets from the Source IP=10.20.30.200

Total packets from source IP: 30

Q3: Finding the Phone's Company Name from Localhost Request

Company Name Extraction:

- Searched for <Company of phone is = > in packet payloads.

- Extracted company name: Samsung

Port Used by Localhost: 1001Total packets from localhost: 30

Program Output: packetSnifferPart2.py

Part 3: Capture the packets

Q1)

QUIC (Quick UDP Internet Connections)

- **Operation/Usage**: QUIC is a transport layer protocol designed to improve performance by reducing latency and supporting multiplexed connections over UDP. It is primarily used for HTTP/3.
- Layer: Transport Layer

RFC: RFC 9000

ARP (Address Resolution Protocol)

- **Operation/Usage**: ARP is used to map a 32-bit IP address to a MAC address in a local network, enabling communication at the data link layer.
- Layer: Data Link Layer

RFC: RFC 826

TLSv1.2 (Transport Layer Security version 1.2)

- **Operation/Usage**: TLSv1.2 provides security for communications over a computer network, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, and authentication at the transport layer.
- Layer: Transport Layer

• **RFC**: RFC 5246

DNS (Domain Name System)

- **Operation/Usage**: DNS resolves domain names (e.g., example.com) to IP addresses, enabling human-readable addresses to be translated into machine-readable addresses.
- Layer: Application Layer

• **RFC**: RFC 1035

TLSv1.3 (Transport Layer Security version 1.3)

- **Operation/Usage**: TLSv1.3 is the latest version of TLS, providing faster and more secure communication by reducing handshake latency and removing obsolete features.
- Layer: Transport Layer

RFC: RFC 8446

IGMPv3 (Internet Group Management Protocol version 3)

- **Operation/Usage**: IGMPv3 manages membership of IP multicast groups, allowing hosts to join or leave multicast groups, primarily used in IP multicast communication.
- Layer: Network Layer

RFC: RFC 3376

ICMPv6 (Internet Control Message Protocol version 6)

 Operation/Usage: ICMPv6 is used for error reporting and diagnostics in IPv6 networks, supporting functionalities like neighbor discovery and path MTU discovery.

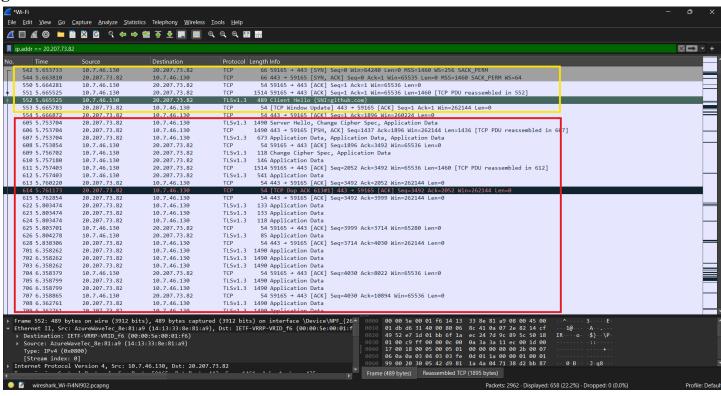
• Layer: Network Layer

• **RFC**: RFC 4443

Q2) Analyze the following details by visiting the following websites in your favourite browser.

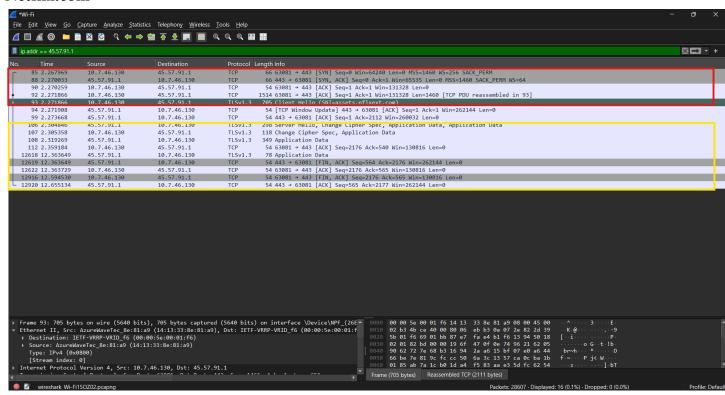
- 1. canarabank.in
- 2. github.com
- 3. netflix.com
- a. Identify 'request line' with the version of the application layer protocol and the IP address. Also, identify whether the connection(s) is/are persistent or not.

1. github.com



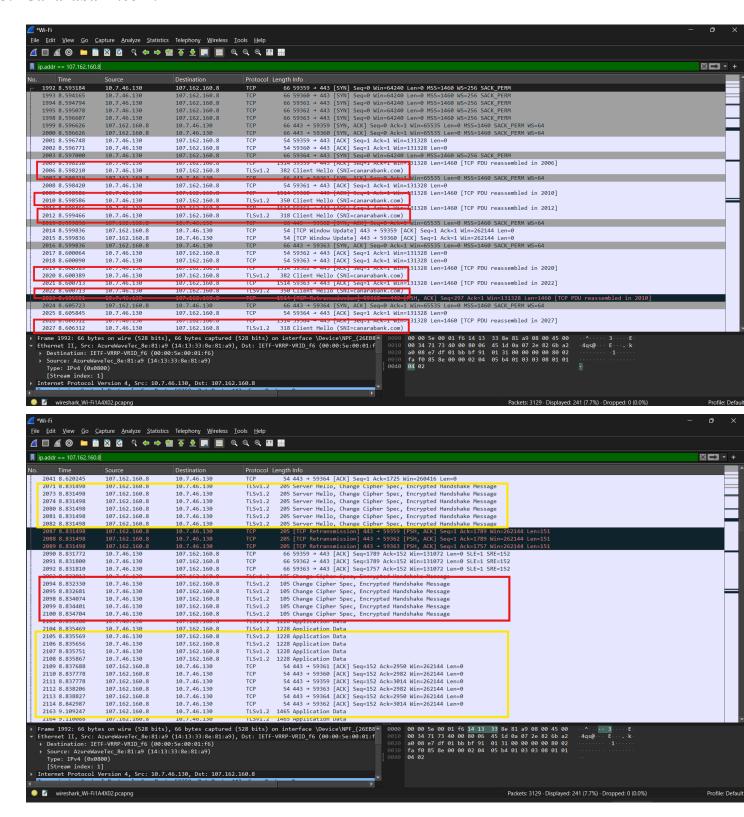
• **Persistent Connection:-** The connection is persistent. This is determined from the observed packet exchanges in the TCP and TLS layers. After the initial connection is established using the SYN, ACK packets,in a round-robin fashion, and the ClientHello and ServerHello messages for TLSv1.3, the connection remains open for further communication. There is no indication of the connection being closed after the initial handshake; instead, data continues to be exchanged using the established connection, confirming that it is persistent.

2. Netflix.com



• **Persistent Connection:-** The connection is persistent. This is evident from the observed packet exchanges in both the TCP and TLS layers. After the initial connection setup using the SYN, ACK packets in a round-robin fashion, and the ClientHello and ServerHello messages for TLSv1.3, the connection remains open for subsequent communication. There is no indication that the connection is closed after the handshake. Instead, data is continuously exchanged via the established connection, confirming that the connection is persistent throughout the session.

3. Canarabank.com:-



Potentially Non-Persistent at First:- In the typical TLS handshake process, after the initial SYN and ACK packets for TCP connection setup, the ClientHello and ServerHello messages exchange keys to establish the secure connection. However, in this case, Canara Bank's server seems to respond with multiple ServerHello packets, likely indicating some negotiation or retries. Additionally, the presence of several encrypted handshake messages suggests that the initial connection setup is a bit more complicated, possibly due to the system trying to establish a secure TLS connection with multiple attempts.

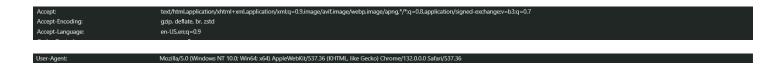
Becomes Persistent:- While the initial connection might not be persistent due to the retries in the handshake process, once the TLS handshake and encryption setup are successful, the connection likely becomes persistent, with continuous data exchange occurring without further handshakes. This behavior aligns with how many modern web services establish connections that may have some overhead during the handshake but maintain a persistent connection afterward.

b. For any one of the websites, list any three header field names and corresponding values in the request and response message. Any three HTTP error codes obtained while loading one of the pages with a brief description.

For https://github.com/ website:-

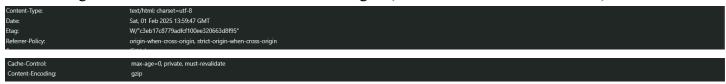
Request Headers:-

- 1. **Accept:-** This header tells the server what kind of media types (content types) the client is willing to accept in the response.
- 2. **Accept-Encoding:-** This header specifies the types of content encodings (compression algorithms) that the client can understand. It helps the server decide how to encode the response body.
- **3. Accept-Language:-** This header indicates the preferred languages for the response. The server can use this to provide the content in the language preferred by the client (if available).
- **4. User-Agent:-** The user-agent header in an HTTP request is used to identify the client software making the request to the server. It typically contains information about the browser or application, the operating system, and sometimes additional details like the version number of the software.



Response Header:-

- 1. **Content-Type:-** Indicates the media type (MIME type) of the response body. It tells the client what kind of data is being sent, such as HTML, JSON, or an image.
- **2. Content-Encoding:-** Specifies the encoding (compression) applied to the response body. This allows the server to compress the content to save bandwidth, and the client knows how to decompress it.
- **3. Referrer-Policy:-** Controls how much information is sent in the referrer header when making requests from the current site. It defines the level of privacy for the referrer information.
- **4. ETag:-** Provides a unique identifier (usually a hash) for the resource version. It helps with caching and conditional requests. When a client makes a subsequent request, it can send the ETag value to check if the resource has changed (via the If-None-Match header).



Error code 401:-

• Unauthorized indicates that the request made to the server requires authentication, but the client has either not provided valid credentials or failed to authenticate properly. It typically occurs when the server expects login details (like a username and password or an API key), but they are missing, incorrect, or insufficient to gain access to the requested resource.



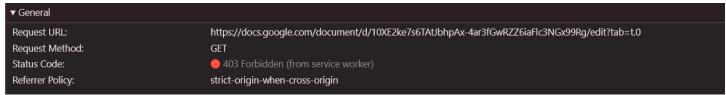
Error code 404:-

• Not Found occurs when the server cannot find the requested resource. This could be due to a wrong URL, a deleted or moved webpage, or an incorrect path to the resource. It indicates that the server is reachable, but it doesn't have the specific resource the client is asking for.



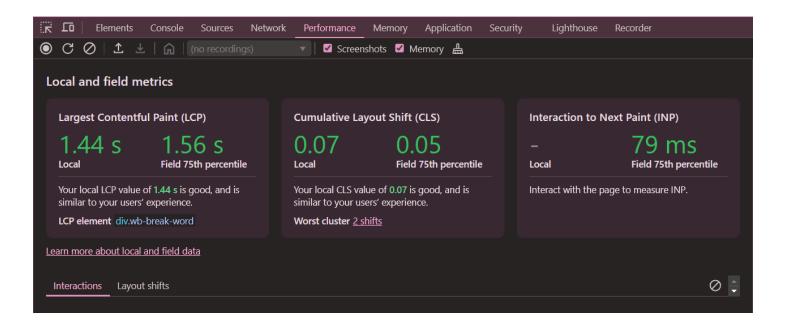
Error code 403:-

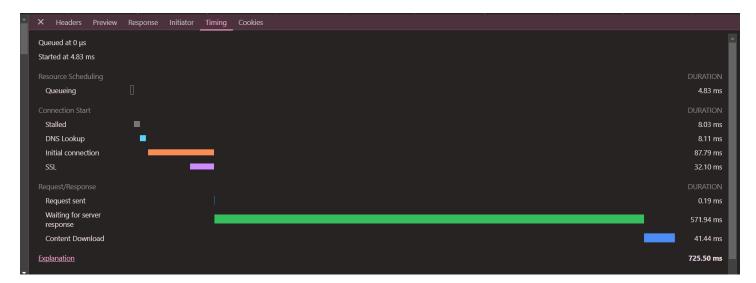
• Forbidden indicates that the server understands the request but refuses to authorize it. This typically happens when the client does not have permission to access the requested resource, even if they are authenticated. It could be due to restricted access, lack of proper privileges, or server settings preventing certain actions, such as accessing certain files or directories.



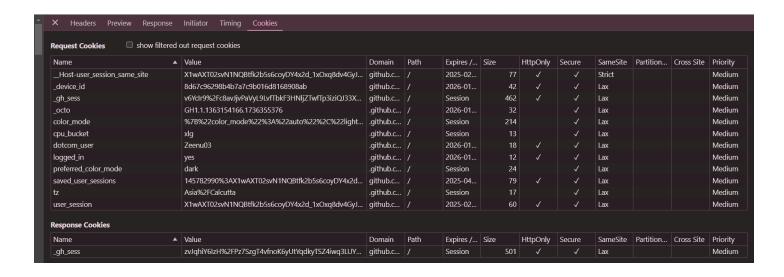
C. Capture the Performance metrics that your browser records when a page is loaded and also report the list the cookies used and the associated flags in the request and response headers. Please report the browser name and screenshot of the performance metrics reported for any one of the page loads.

Performance metrics:-





Cookies used and associated flags:-



Browser Name: Google Chrome

Performance Metrics:

- Largest Contentful Paint (LCP):- LCP measures how quickly the largest content element (like an image or text) becomes visible on the page. The 75th percentile in field data represents the value at which 75% of users experienced this performance or better.
- Cumulative Layout Shift (CLS):- CLS measures the visual stability of the page. It tracks unexpected shifts in the layout, which can disrupt the user's experience. A value below 0.1 is considered good, with lower values being better.
- Interaction to Next Paint (INP):- INP measures the time it takes for the page to respond to user interactions. A lower value (like 79 ms) indicates a fast interaction response time, which is a good sign for user experience.

Timing Metrics:-

- Queuing:- The time the request spends in the browser's queue before it is sent.
- **Stalled:-** Time spent waiting for the request to start due to network conditions or resource contention.
- **DNS lookup:-** Time taken to resolve the domain name to an IP address.
- **Initial Connection:** Time taken to establish the connection with the server (including the TCP handshake).
- SSL:- Time spent in setting up a secure SSL/TLS connection.
- **Request Sent:-** Time it takes for the browser to send the HTTP request to the server.
- Waiting for server response:- Time spent waiting for the server to respond after the request was sent.
- Content Download:- Time taken to download the content from the server.