



Computer Networks Advanced Course

TCP

Barak Gonen
Based on “Computer Networks”
Rosenboim, Gonen, Hod

Presentation Goals

- ▶ How reliable communication is ensured
 - TCP Seq numbers
 - TCP ACK
 - TCP 3 way handshake
- ▶ Hands on– Wireshark, SYN flood attack

Brief Recap

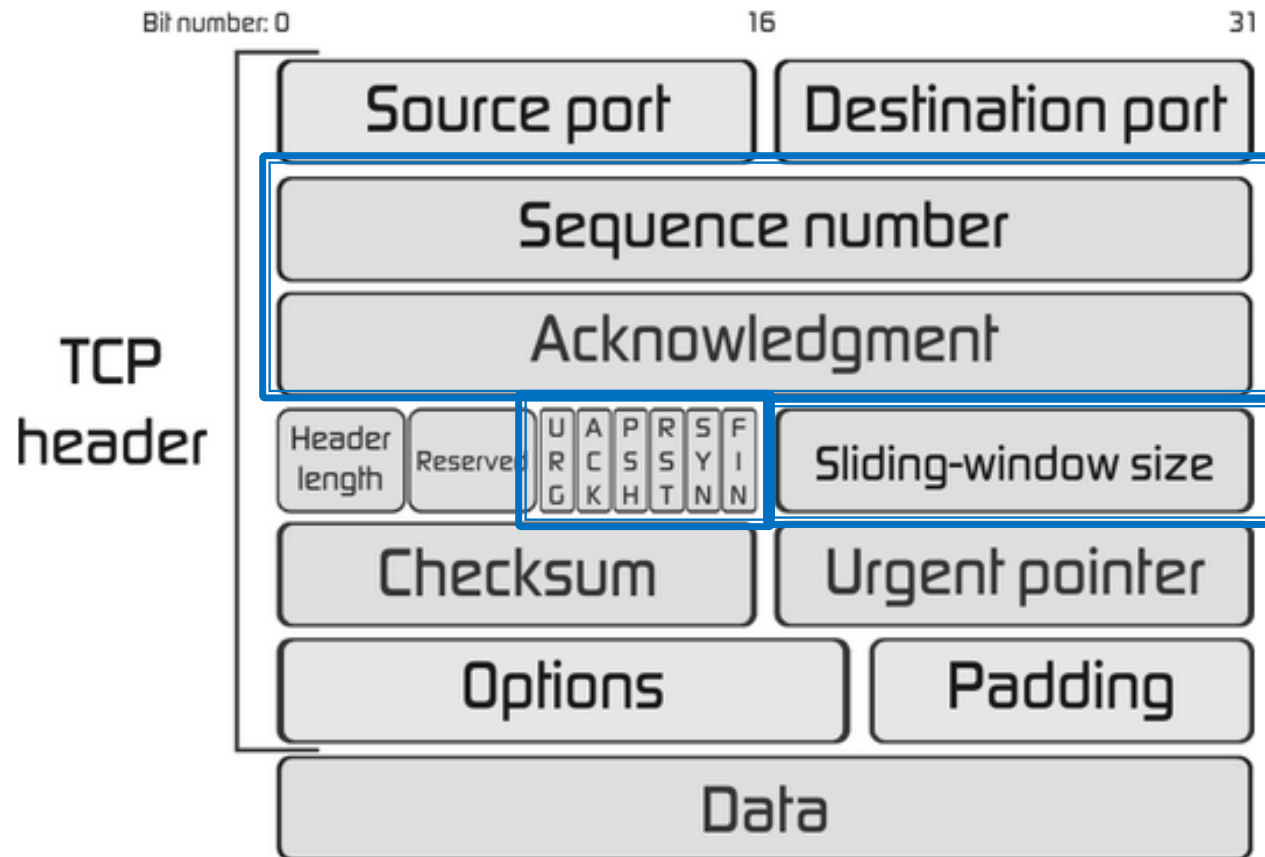
- ▶ Transport layer may, optionally, provide reliable service
 - TCP – Transmission Control Protocol – reliable
 - UDP – User Datagram Protocol – Best effort
- ▶ Reliable service:
 - All packets arrived
 - In order
 - No errors

UDP Header

- ▶ Ports – src, dst
- ▶ Length – header + application
- ▶ Checksum – not error correction
- ▶ Hands on Wireshark

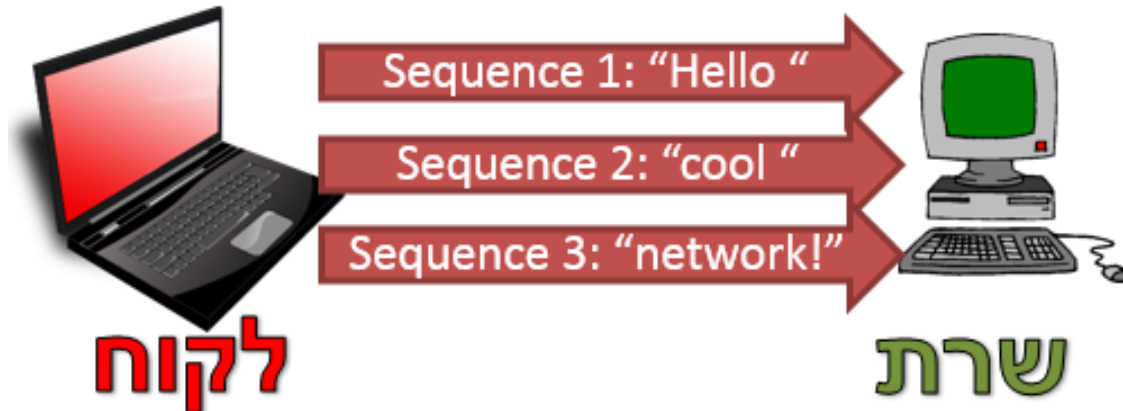


TCP Header



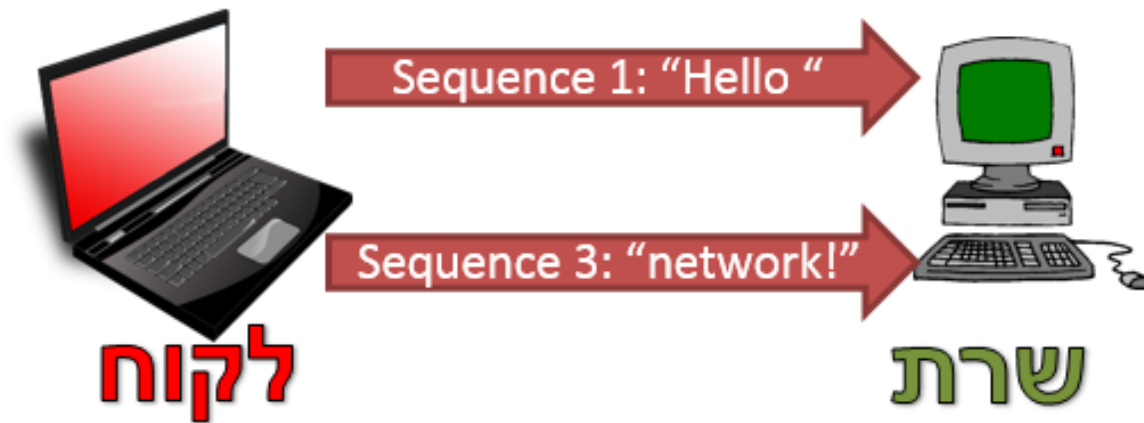
Sequence Numbers Idea

- ▶ This is not how it works, but demonstrates the basic idea



Sequence Numbers Idea

- ▶ The receiver may know if a sequence is missing
- ▶ What if sequence 2 was the last?



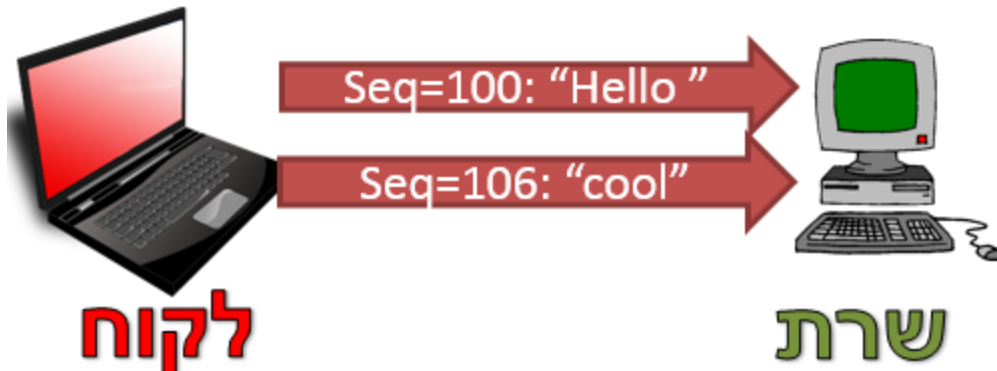
ACK

- ▶ ACK signals that no need to retransmit



TCP Sequential Numbers

- ▶ TCP, in practice
- ▶ Every byte has a sequence number
- ▶ SEQ field has the value of the first byte



Note – there is space after “Hello”

- ▶ What is the next SEQ?
 - $(106+4)$ 110

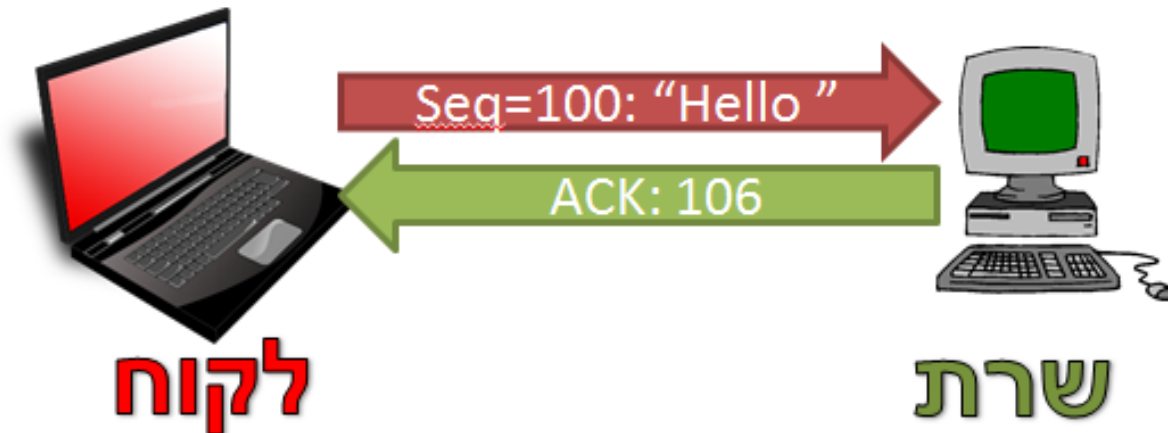
TCP Sequence Numbers

- ▶ Ex 6.14
- ▶ Use Wireshark to watch seq numbers
- ▶ Make sure: $\text{next SEQ} = \text{current SEQ} + \text{length}$



TCP ACK

- ▶ ACK relates to bytes
 - ACK 106 – “Got up to byte 105, including. Expecting 106 in the next packet”

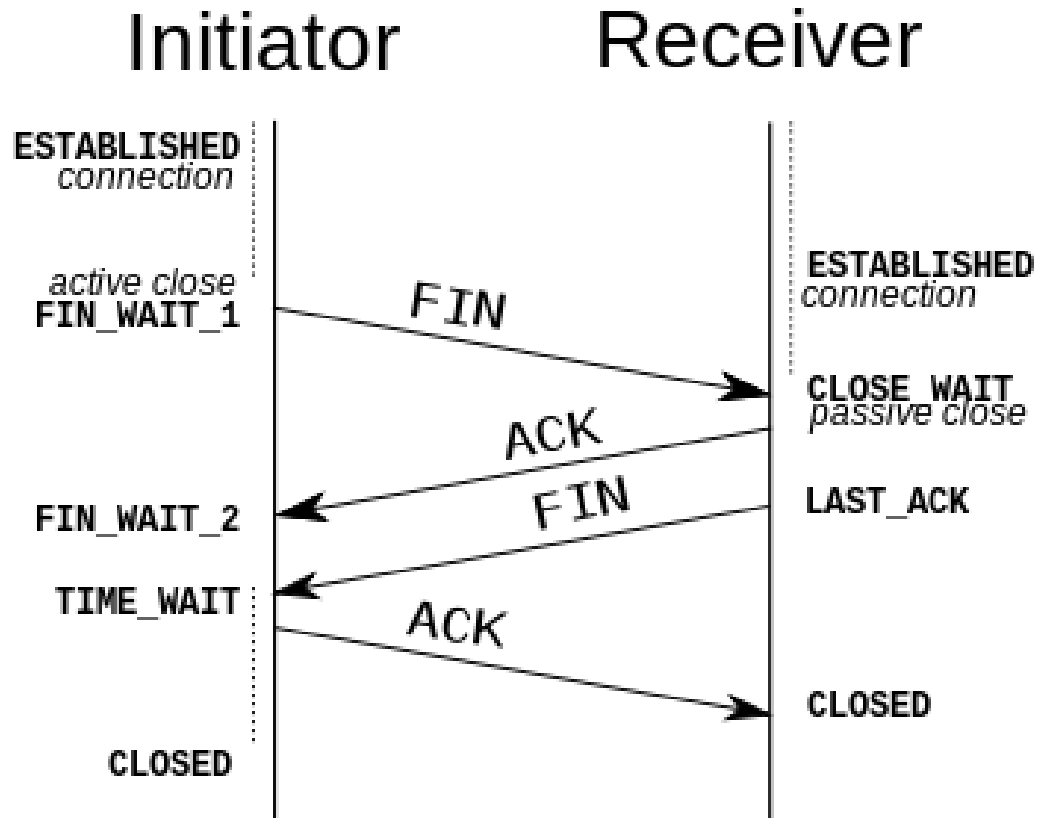


TCP ACK

- ▶ Ex 6.15
- ▶ Make sure: the ACKs match the SEQ + length

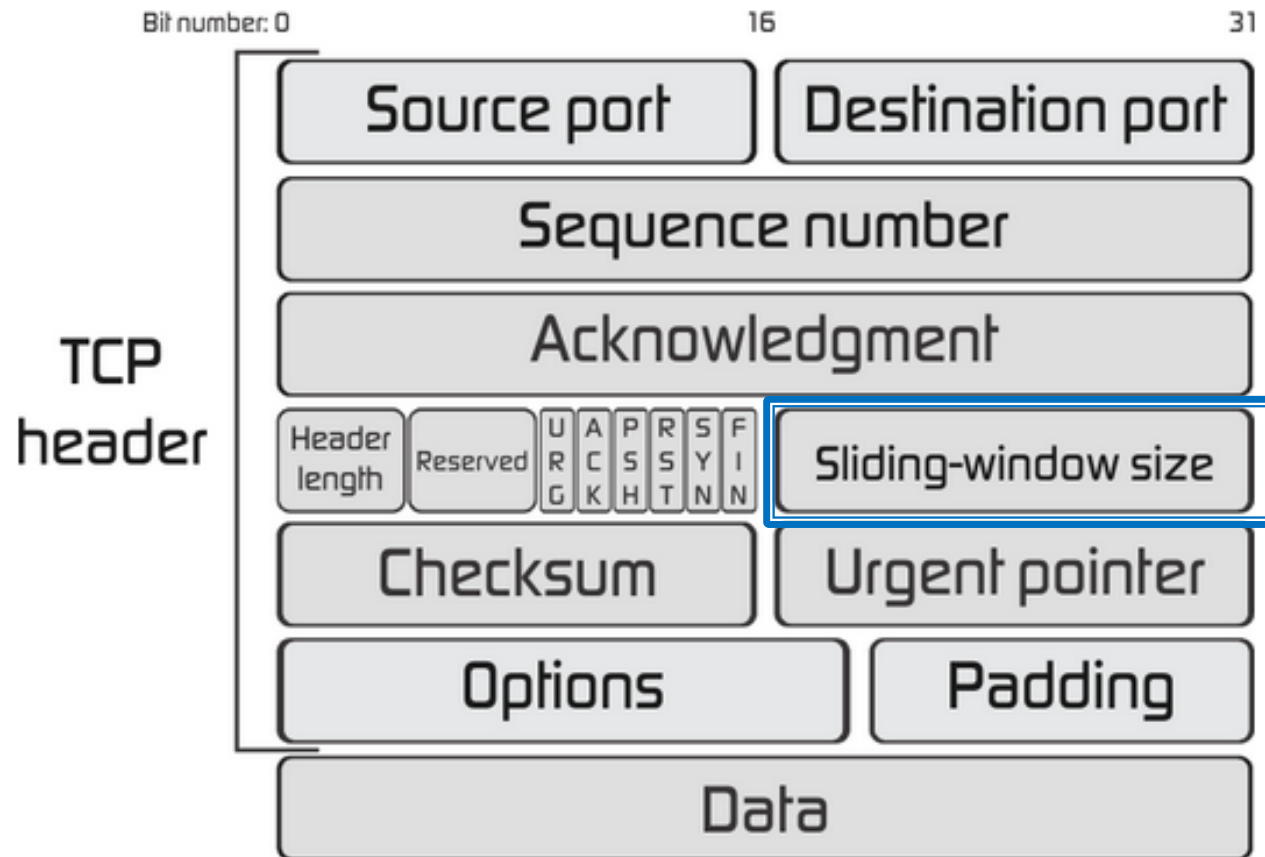


TCP Closing Connection



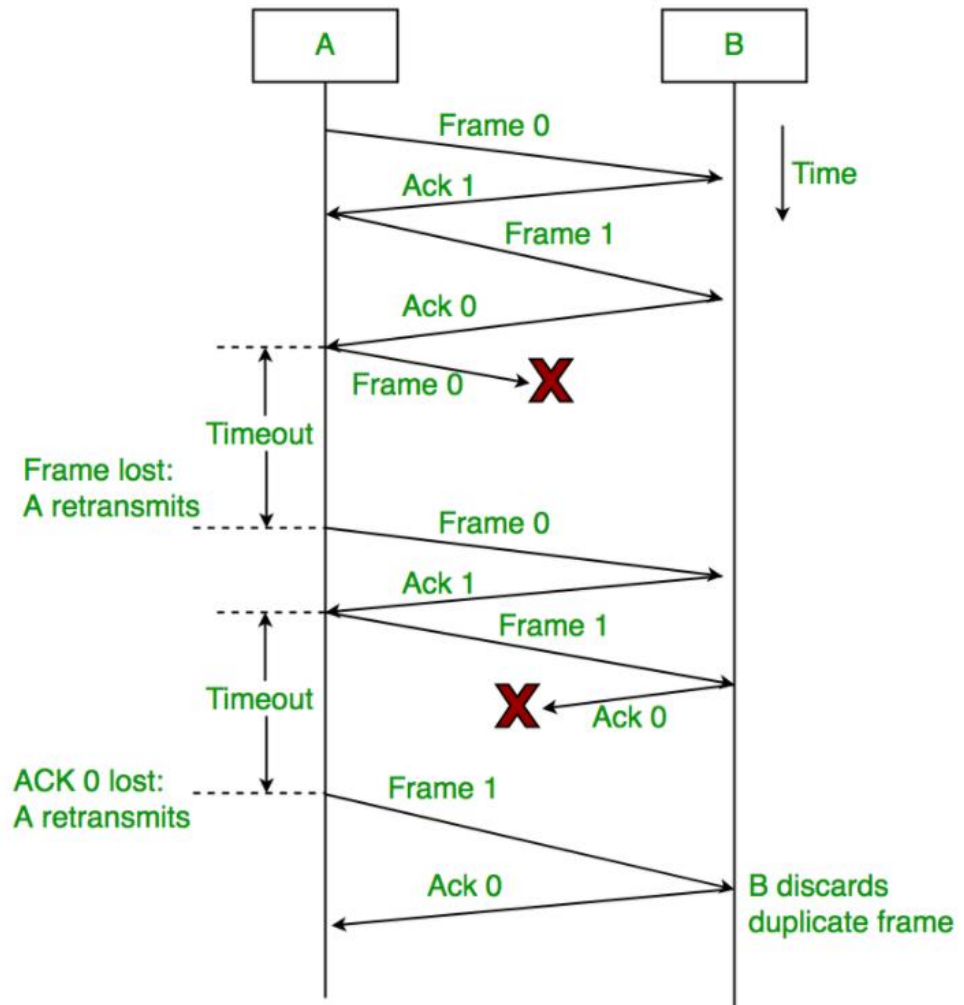
Long story short:
SYN **ACK** **FIN**

TCP Header



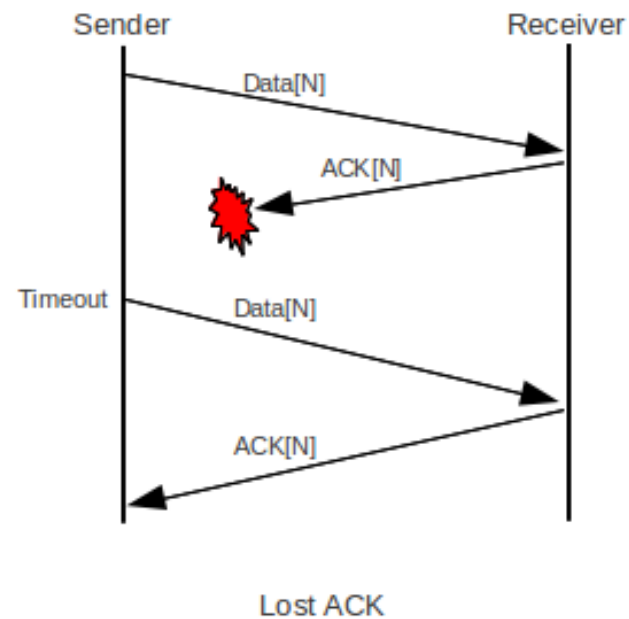
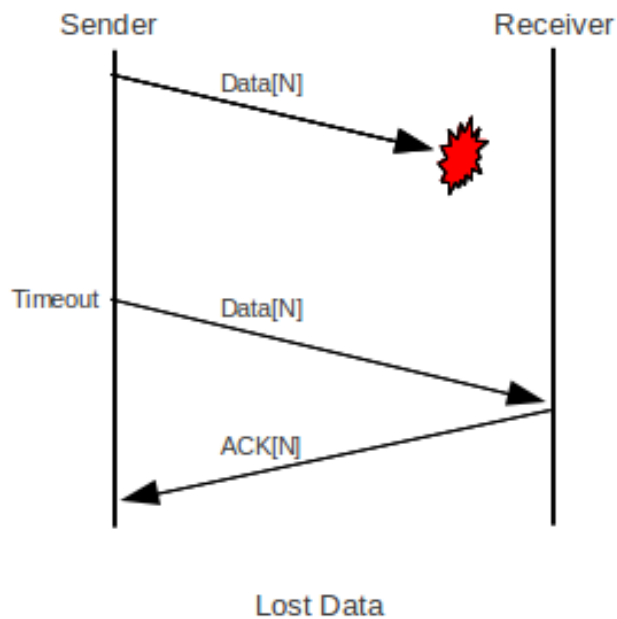
Stop and Wait

- ▶ What is the drawback of the algorithm?



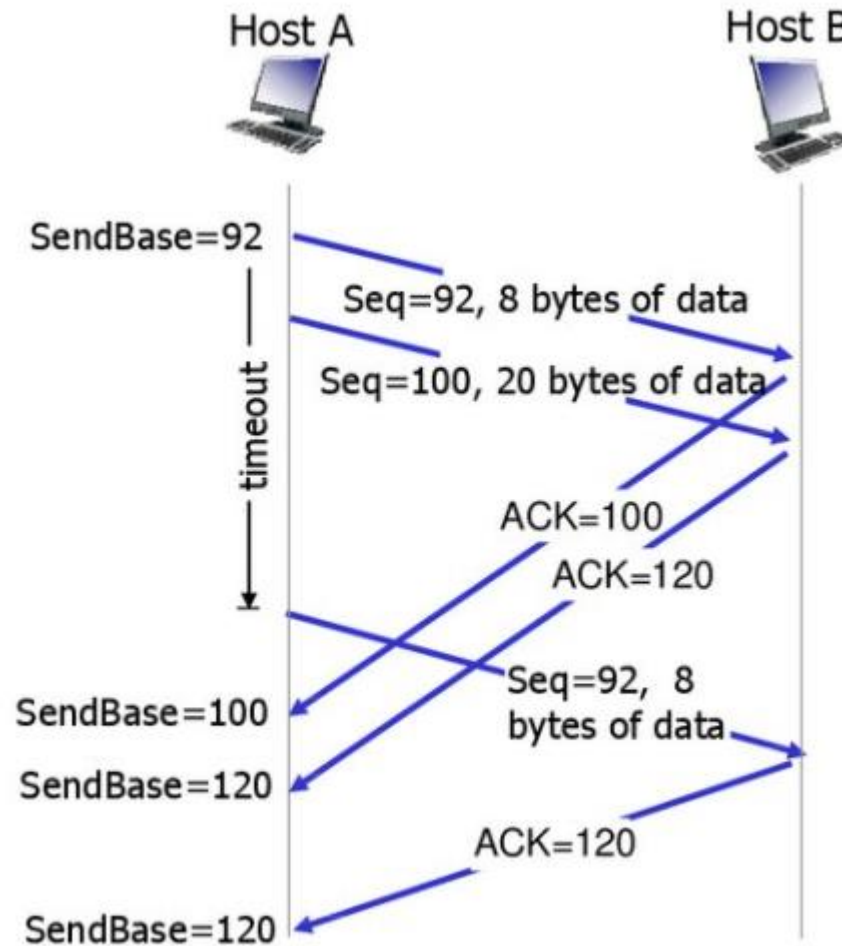
Retransmit

- ▶ Will occur if:



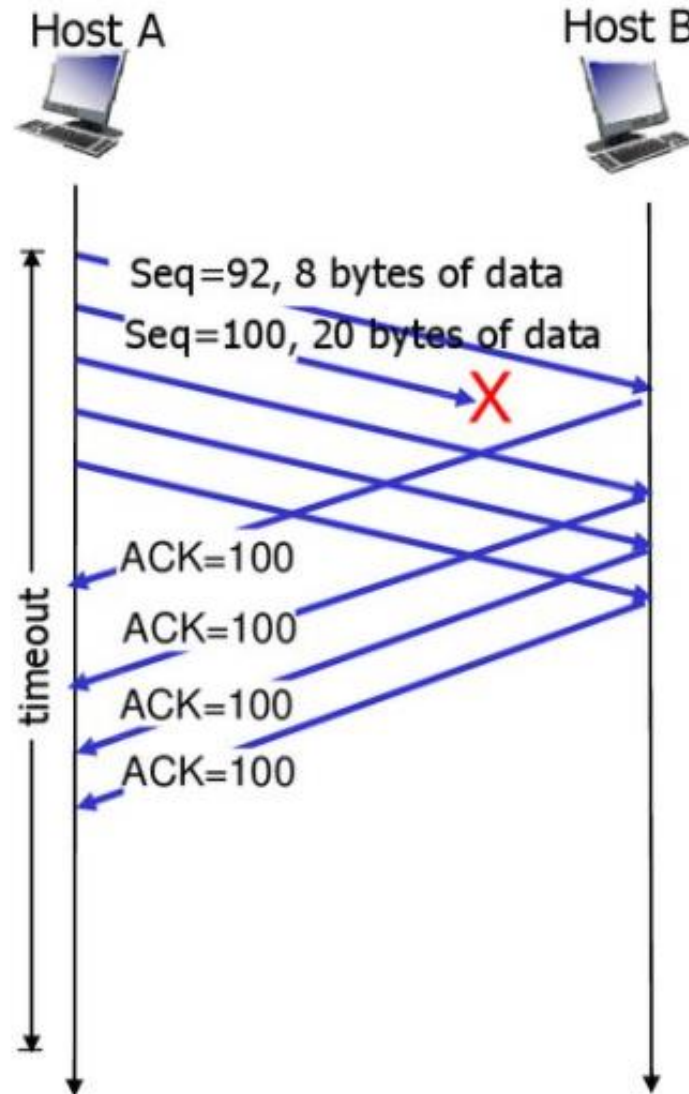
- ▶ Think of another scenario

Premature Timeout



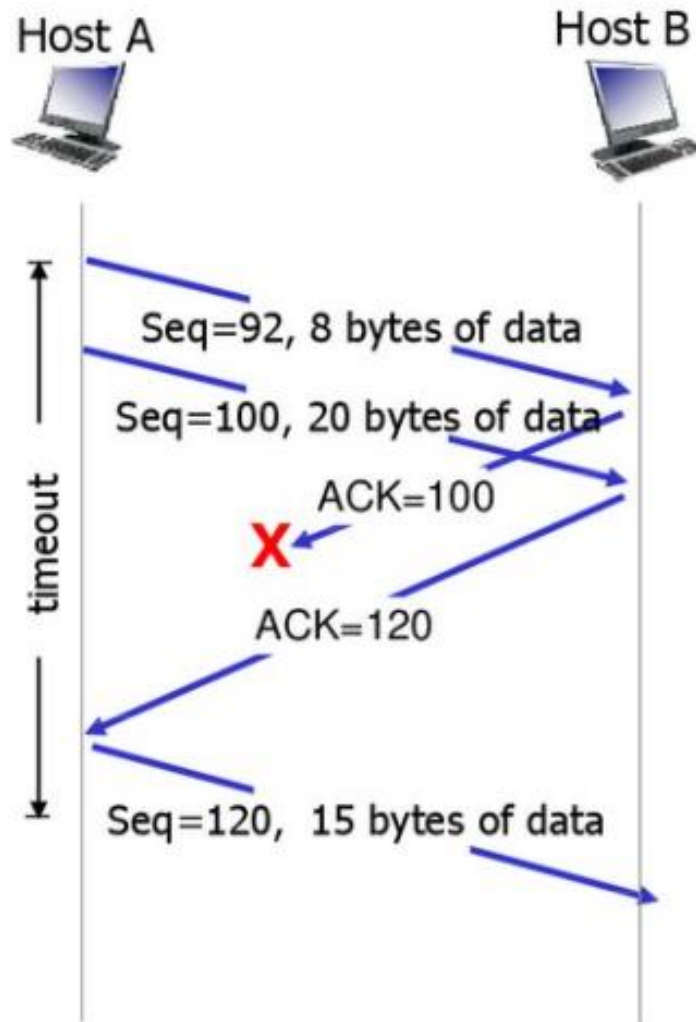
Fast retransmit

- ▶ Should A wait until timeout with the lost packet?



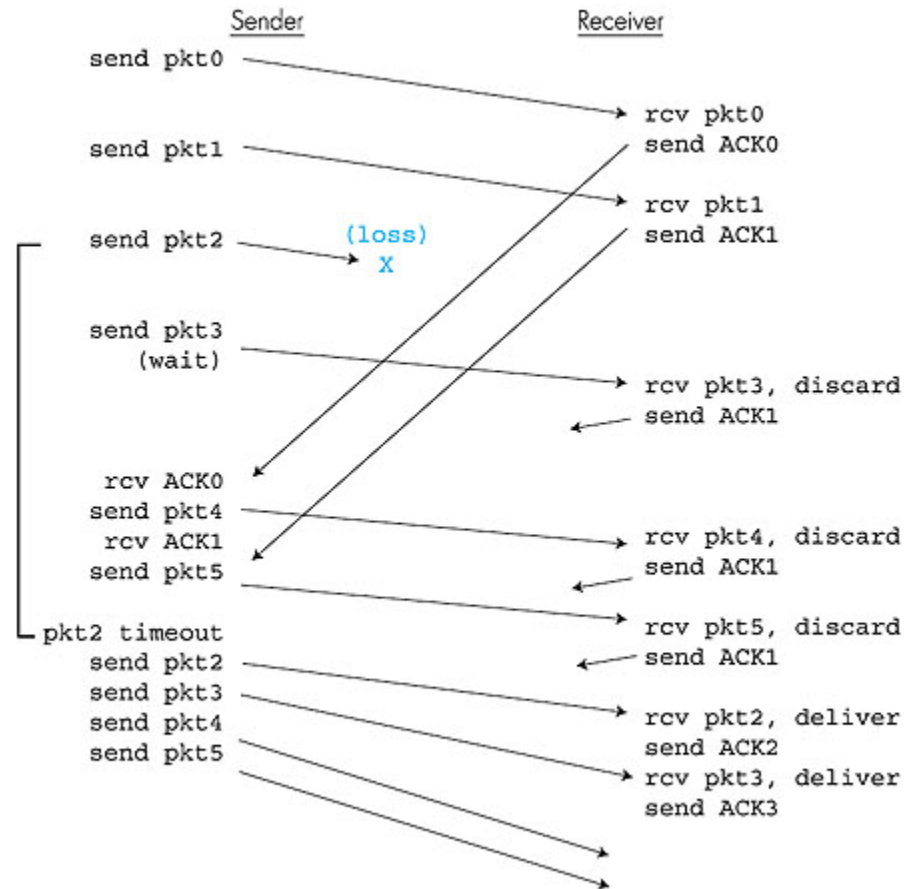
Cumulative ACK

- Why didn't A resend packet of SEQ 92?



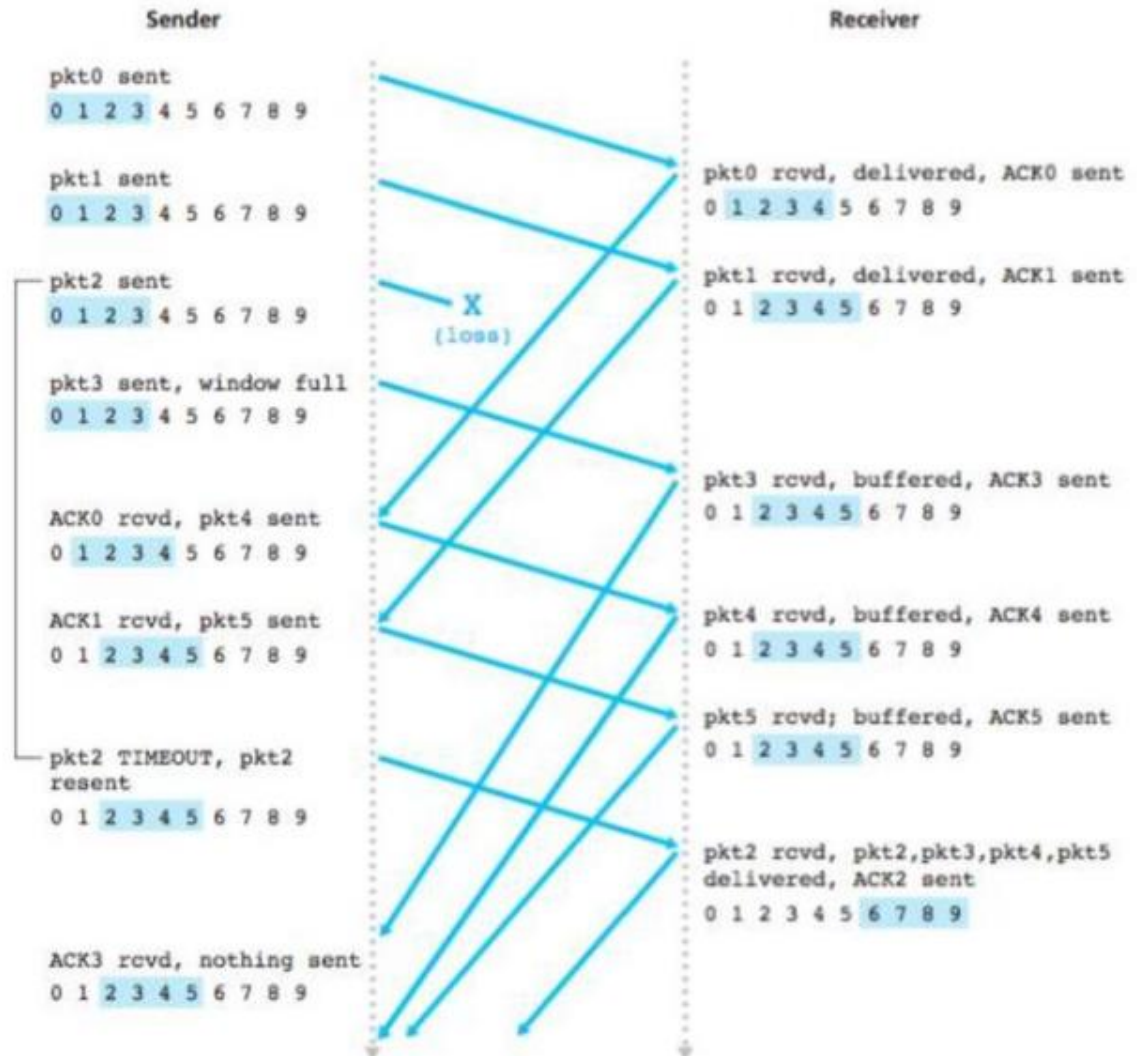
Go-Back-N

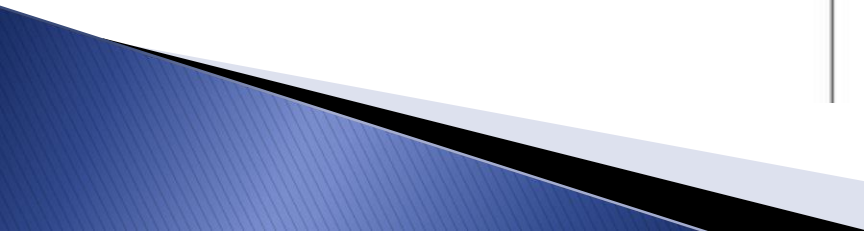
► Watch [Go-Back-N](#)



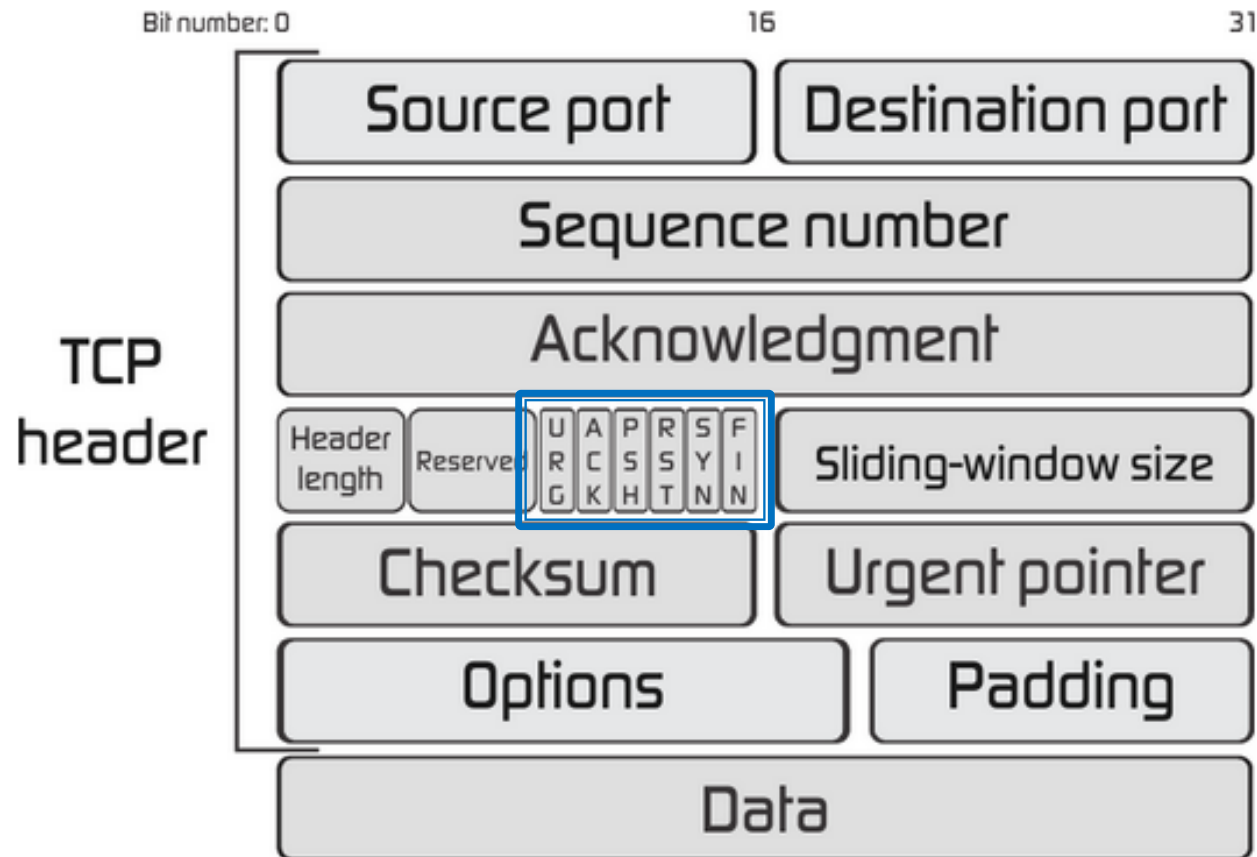
Selective Repeat

- ▶ Isn't selective repeat always better than cumulative ACK?



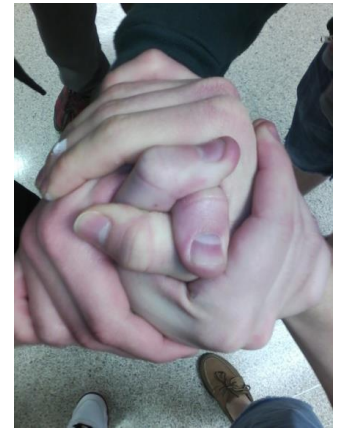
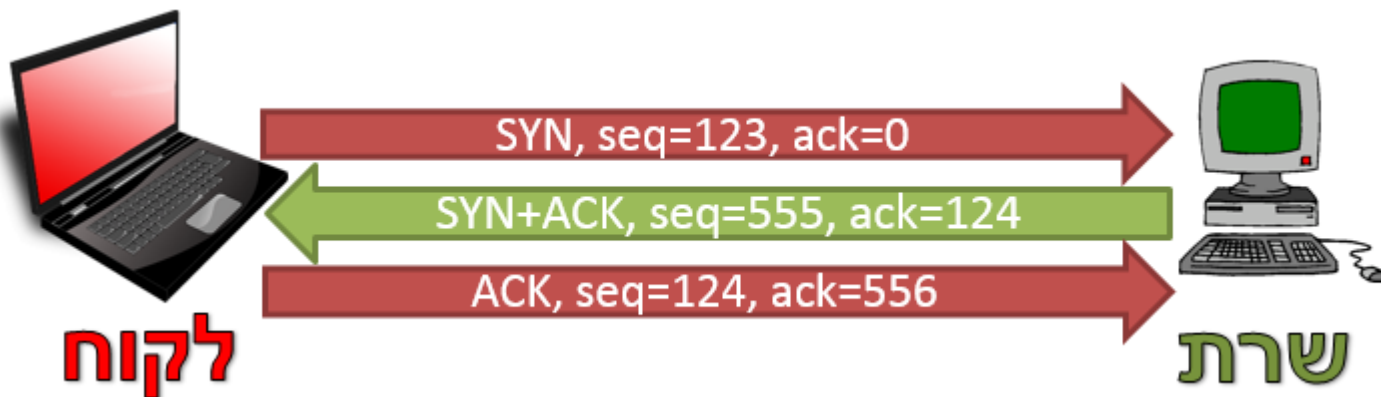


TCP Header



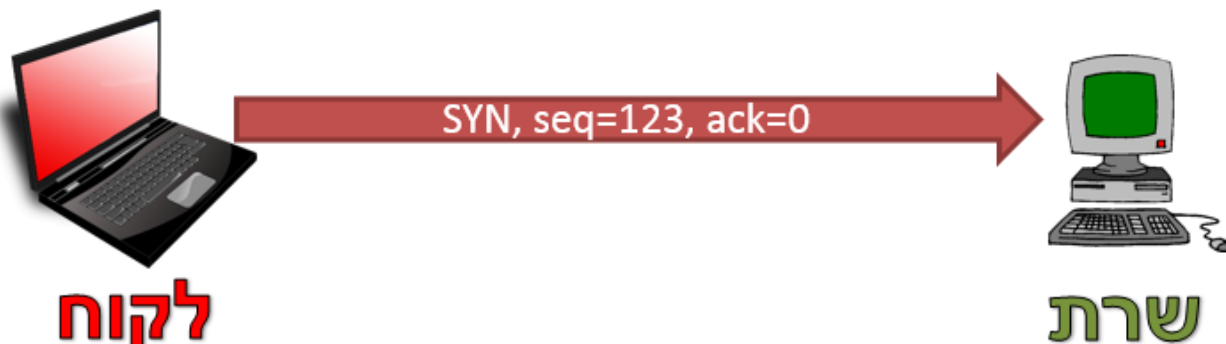
TCP: Three Way Handshake

- ▶ Establishing a connection



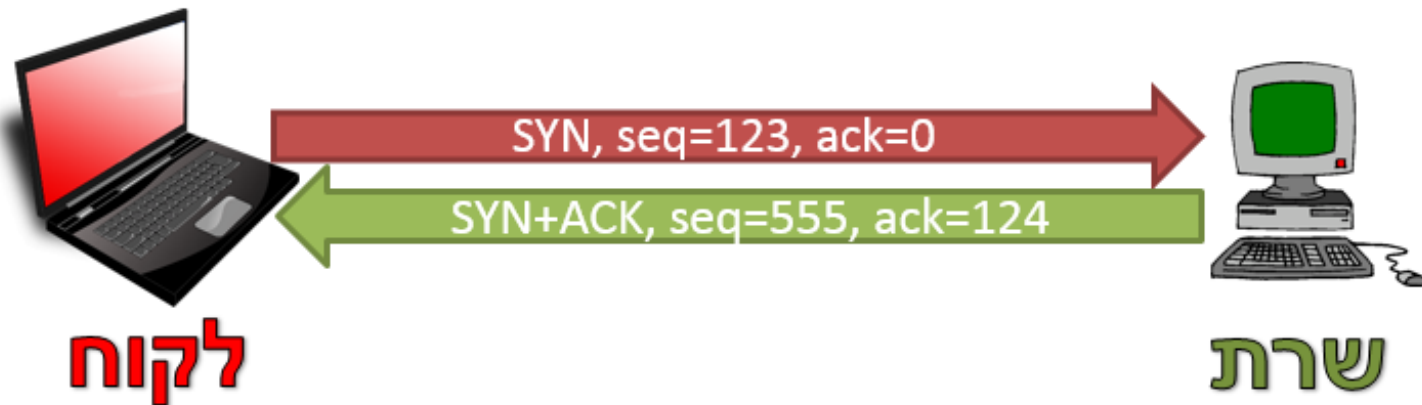
SYN Packet

- ▶ “I want to connect”
- ▶ SYN flag == 1
- ▶ No data in packet, but still considered as having length of 1
- ▶ Random initial SEQ
- ▶ ACK is always 0



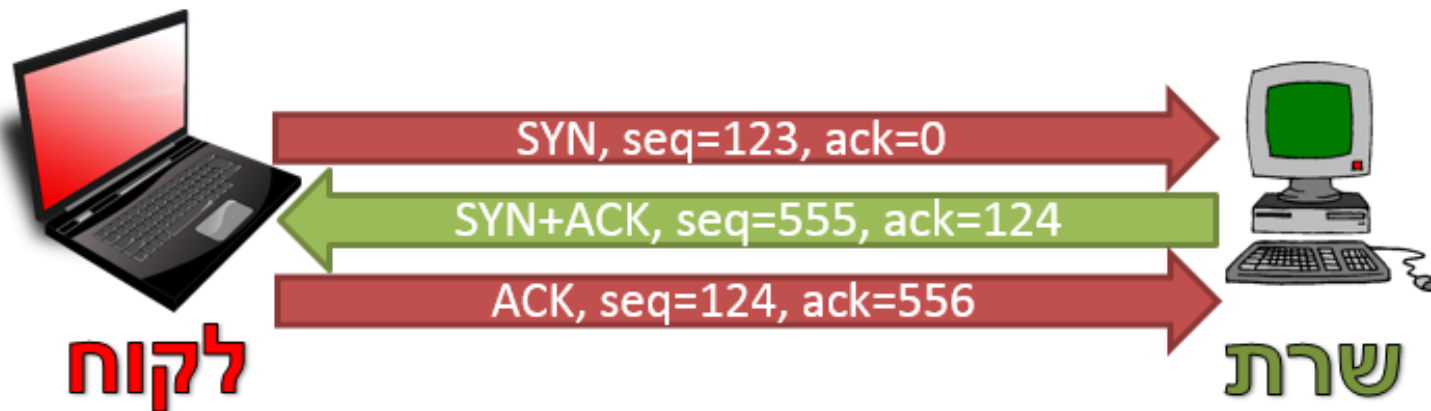
SYN ACK

- ▶ “I agree to connect”
- ▶ SYN flag, ACK flag
- ▶ Packet length == 1
- ▶ Random SEQ (not related to SYN packet's SEQ)
- ▶ ACK value is the SEQ of the SYN packet + 1
 - Recall SYN length is considered 1



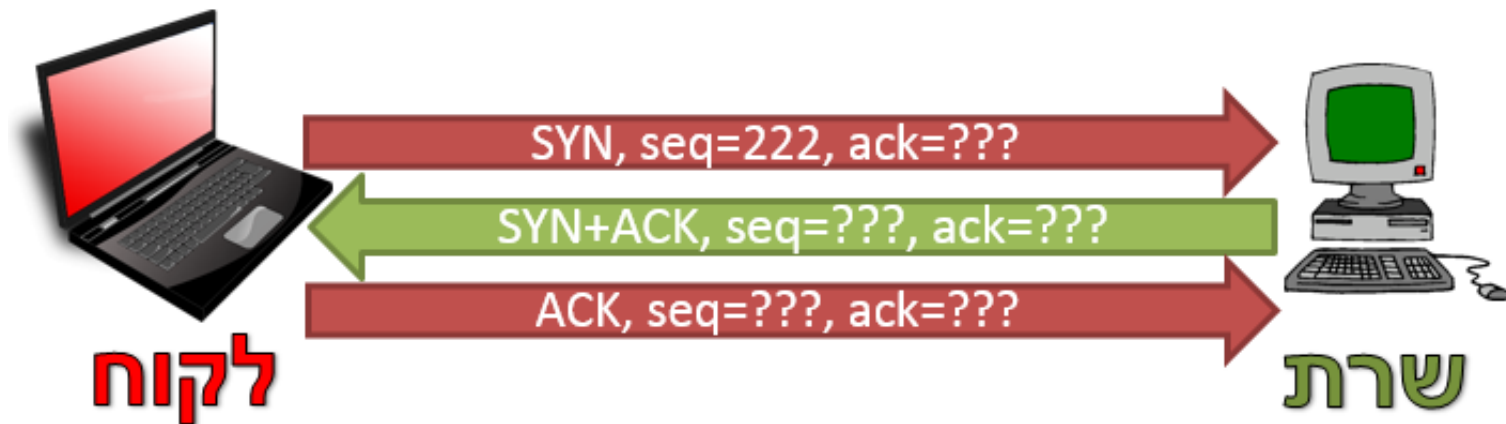
ACK

- ▶ “Got your SYN-ACK, let’s initiate communication”
- ▶ ACK flag = 1, SYN = 0
- ▶ SEQ is the last byte that was sent
- ▶ ACK is the SEQ of the SYN-ACK plus 1



Summary – ACK, SEQ Calculation

- ▶ Figure the ACK and SEQ values of the following
 - Use random values where proper



Three Way Handshake

- ▶ Ex. 6.16
- ▶ Watch SEQ, ACK values and verify your expectations



Three Way Handshake

- ▶ Ex. 6.18
- ▶ Perform 3 way handshake using Scapy
 - You may encounter a “Reset” from the OS

	Info	Length	Protocol	Destination	Source	Time
	Seq=0 Win=8192 Len=0 [SYN] 80 → 55555	54	TCP	142.250.186.132	192.168.1.221	2.189167 489
	Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1430 [SYN, ACK] 55555 → 80	60	TCP	192.168.1.221	142.250.186.132	2.258783 503
	Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=8192 Len=0 [ACK] 80 → 55555	54	TCP	142.250.186.132	192.168.1.221	2.313947 511

SYN – Flood

- ▶ SYN packets cause the server to allocate resources for a new socket
- ▶ Attacker might exploit that for a DoS attack
 - Flood with SYN packets, no ACK
- ▶ <https://data.cyber.org.il/networks/SYN-Flood.pdf>