

CPSC 471-06 Assignment #3

Required Software

Wireshark version 3.4.8 or newer must be used for this project.

Project Submission

You are responsible for the content of your submitted file. Double-check your submission in Canvas to ensure that the submitted file is not corrupted, and it is readable, and it contains all required files, and their contents are what you intend to submit. Submitting a wrong file (from another class for example) is not a valid excuse.

Submit **one zip file** using naming convention: **firstnamelastname_p3.zip** in Canvas.

The zip file shall contain the following files:

- (1) PDF report file using naming convention **firstnamelastname_p3.pdf** (must be a pdf document, not Word).
- (2) Wireshark capture file from Part 1 **xx1.pcapng**
- (3) Wireshark capture file from Part 2 **xx2.pcapng**

where xx = initials (the two characters representing the first character of your first and last name).

Managing Submission File Size

Manage your submission File Size by controlling your Wireshark captures and check the zip file size before submitting. Do not exceed 10 Megabytes. A penalty of 10% will be deducted for each 10 MB violation in excess from the allowed 10 MB. For example, penalty for a 10.1 MB to 20 MB submission is 10%, and for a 20.1 MB to 30 MB submission the penalty is 20%. Limit your Wireshark capture file size by starting and stopping the capture process accordingly. Do not let your Wireshark run continuously without stopping. This will create a very large capture file and unnecessary penalty.

Part 1: UDP Transport Layer Protocol

In this project, we'll take a quick look at the UDP transport protocol. As we saw in Chapter 3 of the textbook, UDP is a streamlined, no-frills protocol. You may want to re-read section 3.3 in the textbook before doing this lab.

Start capturing packets in Wireshark and then do something that will cause your host to send and receive several UDP packets.

After stopping packet capture, set your packet filter so that Wireshark only displays the UDP packets sent and received at your host. Pick one of these UDP packets and expand the UDP fields in the details window.

What to Hand in

PDF file report

Create a section called **Part 1 – UDP Transport Layer Protocol**.

Note: You must include a screenshot from Wireshark capture with annotation and sufficient surrounding details when answering any question relating to the captured information. Annotate the screenshot to indicate which information you are referring to in the screenshot. The screenshots should be legible and include enough surrounding details clearly showing where it belonged to.

1. Select *one* UDP packet from your trace. From this packet, determine how many fields there are in the UDP header. Name these fields.
2. By consulting the displayed information in Wireshark's packet content field for this packet, determine the length (in bytes) of each of the UDP header fields.
3. The value in the Length field is the length of what? (Consult the textbook for this answer). Verify your claim with your captured UDP packet. Show your work details.
4. What is the maximum number of bytes that can be included in a UDP payload? (Hint: the answer to this question can be determined by your answer to 2. above)
5. What is the largest possible source port number?
6. What is the protocol number for UDP? Give your answer in both hexadecimal and decimal notation.
7. Examine a pair of UDP packets in which your host sends the first UDP packet and the second UDP packet is a reply to this first UDP packet. (Hint: for a second packet to be sent in response to a first packet, the sender of the first packet should be the destination of the second packet). Describe the relationship between the port numbers in the two packets.

Submission zip file

include your Wireshark capture file **xx1.pcapng** in the zip file.

where xx = initials (the two characters representing the first character of your first and last name).

Part 2: TCP Transport Layer Protocol

We'll investigate the behavior of the TCP protocol in detail. We'll do so by analyzing a trace of the TCP segments sent and received in transferring a 150KB file (containing the text of Lewis

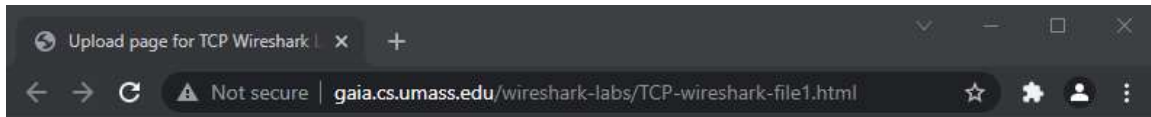
Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*) from your computer to a remote server. We'll study TCP's use of sequence and acknowledgement numbers for providing reliable data transfer; we'll see TCP's congestion control algorithm – slow start and congestion avoidance – in action; and we'll look at TCP's receiver-advertised flow control mechanism. We'll also briefly consider TCP connection setup, and we'll investigate the performance (throughput and round-trip time) of the TCP connection between your computer and the server.

Before beginning, you'll probably want to review sections 3.5 and 3.7 in the textbook.

Preparation

Perform the following:

- Since this lab is about TCP rather than HTTP, let's change Wireshark's "listing of captured packets" window so that it shows information about the TCP segments containing the HTTP messages, rather than about the HTTP messages. To have Wireshark do this, select *Analyze->Enabled Protocols*. Then uncheck all the HTTP boxes (HTTP, HTTP2, HTTP3) and select *OK*.
- Filter the packets displayed in the Wireshark window by entering "tcp" (lowercase, no quotes, and don't forget to press return after entering!) into the display filter specification window towards the top of the Wireshark window.
- Start up your web browser. Go the <http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/alice.txt> and retrieve an ASCII copy of *Alice in Wonderland*. Save this file somewhere on your computer.
- Next go to <http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/TCP-wireshark-file1.html>.
- You should see a screen that looks like:



Upload page for TCP Wireshark Lab

Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach, 6th edition

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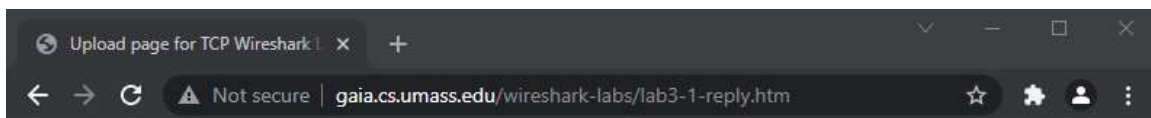
If you have followed the instructions for the TCP Wireshark Lab, you have *already* downloaded an ASCII copy of Alice and Wonderland from <http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/alice.txt> and you also *already* have the Wireshark packet sniffer running and capturing packets on your computer.

Click on the Browse button below to select the directory/file name for the copy of `alice.txt` that is stored on your computer.

No file chosen

Once you have selected the file, click on the "Upload `alice.txt` file" button below. This will cause your browser to send a copy of `alice.txt` over an HTTP connection (using TCP) to the web server at `gaia.cs.umass.edu`. After clicking on the button, wait until a short message is displayed indicating the the upload is complete. Then stop your Wireshark packet sniffer - you're ready to begin analyzing the TCP transfer of `alice.txt` from your computer to `gaia.cs.umass.edu`!!

- Click on the *Choose File* button in this form to browse and select the name of the text file (full path name) on your computer containing *Alice in Wonderland*. **Do not yet press the "Upload `alice.txt` file" button.**
- Now start up Wireshark and begin packet capture (*Capture->Start*) and then press *OK* on the Wireshark Packet Capture Options screen.
- Returning to your browser, press the "Upload `alice.txt` file" button to upload the file to the `gaia.cs.umass.edu` server. Once the file has been uploaded, a short congratulations message will be displayed in your browser window.



Congratulations!

You've now transferred a copy of `alice.txt` from your computer to `gaia.cs.umass.edu`. You should now stop Wireshark packet capture. It's time to start analyzing the captured Wireshark packets!

- Stop Wireshark packet capture.

You should see the initial three-way handshake containing a SYN message.

What to Hand in

PDF file report

Create a section called **Part 2 – TCP Transport Layer Protocol**.

Notes:

- **Note:** You must include a screenshot from Wireshark capture with annotation and sufficient surrounding details when answering any question relating to the captured information. Annotate the screenshot to indicate which information you are referring to in the screenshot. The screenshots should be legible and include enough surrounding details clearly showing where it belonged to.
1. From the packet that contains the initial three-way handshake SYN message, what is the IP address and TCP port number used by the client computer (source) that is transferring the file to gaia.cs.umass.edu? To answer this question, it's probably easiest to enable HTTP protocol analysis, filter for only http, and 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".
 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?
 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? What is it in the segment that identifies the segment as a SYN segment?
 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 the value of the Acknowledgement field in the SYNACK segment? How did gaia.cs.umass.edu determine that value? What is it in the segment that identifies the segment as a SYNACK segment?
 5. What is the sequence number of the TCP segment containing the HTTP POST command? Note that to find the POST command, you'll need to dig into the packet content field at the bottom of the Wireshark window, looking for a segment with a "POST" within its DATA field.
 6. Consider the TCP segment containing the HTTP POST as the first segment in the TCP connection.

Create a table to show the following data (from a to g below):

- a. What are the sequence numbers of the first six segments in the TCP connection (starting with the segment containing the HTTP POST)?
- b. At what time was each segment sent?
- c. When was the ACK for each segment received?

- d. Given the difference between when each TCP segment was sent, and when its acknowledgement was received, what is the RTT value for each of the six segments?
 - e. What is the `EstimatedRTT` value (see Section 3.5.3, page 242 in textbook) after the receipt of each ACK? Assume that the value of the `EstimatedRTT` is equal to the measured RTT for the first segment, and then is computed using the `EstimatedRTT` equation on page 242 for all subsequent segments. Show your work details.
 - f. Wireshark has a nice feature that allows you to plot the RTT for each of the TCP segments sent. Select a TCP segment in the “listing of captured packets” window that is being sent from the client to the `gaia.cs.umass.edu` server. Then select: *Statistics->TCP Stream Graph->Round Trip Time Graph*. Include the round-trip Time Graph in your report.
 - g. What is the length of each of the first six TCP segments?
7. What is the minimum amount of available buffer space advertised at the receiver for the entire trace? Indicate which captured packet number in the trace. Does the lack of receiver buffer space ever throttle the sender? Explain.
 8. Are there any retransmitted segments in the trace file? What did you check for (in the trace) to answer this question? Explain based on and include the Statistics/TCP Stream Graphs/Time Sequence (Stevens) graph.
 9. How much data does the receiver typically acknowledge in an ACK? Can you identify cases where the receiver is ACKing every other received segment?
 10. What is the throughput (bytes transferred per unit time) for this TCP connection? Explain how you calculated this value.
 11. From the *Time Sequence Graph (Stevens)* plotting showing the sequence number versus time plot of segments being sent from the client to the `gaia.cs.umass.edu` server. Here, each dot represents a TCP segment sent, plotting the sequence number of the segment versus the time at which it was sent. Note that a set of dots stacked above each other represents a series of packets that were sent back-to-back by the sender.
 - a. Identify where TCP’s Slow-Start phase begins and ends?
 - b. Identify where Congestion Avoidance takes over?
 - c. Comment on ways in which the measured data differs from the idealized behavior of TCP that we’ve studied in the textbook.

Submission zip file

include your Wireshark capture file **xx2.pcapng** in the zip file.

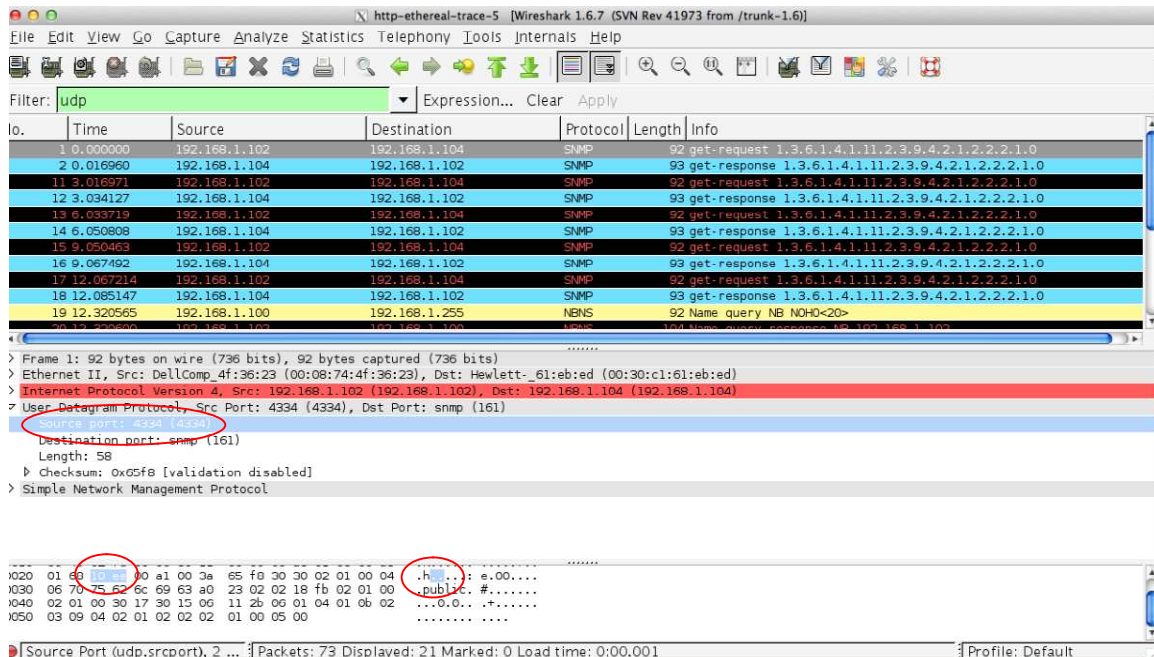
where xx = initials (the two characters representing the first character of your first and last name).

Appendix

Sample of Wireshark Screen Captures

For any answer containing information that was derived from a Wireshark capture you must justify it by providing a screenshot from that specific Wireshark capture with sufficient surrounding information, and with annotation/markings to indicate which portion of the capture your answer was based on.

An example of Wireshark screen capture with marking and annotation is shown below.



In the above screenshot the port number is shown as a hexadecimal number (small lower left red circle) and in ASCII format (small lower right red circle) and is two bytes long.

TCP Round-Trip-Time Table

This table includes data to calculate TCP Estimated RTT.

Create and include this table in your report to show your Estimated RTT calculation work.

Example of the TCP RTT Table is shown below.

	Raw Seq#	Sent time (s)	ACK received time (s)	Sampled RTT (s)	Est. RTT (s)
Segment 1	3984255503	0.026477	0.053937	0.02746	0.02746
Segment 2	add raw seq#	0.041737	0.077294	0.035557	0.02847
Segment 3	add raw seq#	0.054026	0.124085	0.070059	
Segment 4	add raw seq#	0.05469	0.169118	0.11443	
Segment 5	add raw seq#	0.077405	0.217299	0.13989	
Segment 6	add raw seq#	0.078157	0.267802	0.18964	

For TCP we use the formula:

$$\text{Estimated RTT} = 0.875 * \text{Estimated RTT} + 0.125 * \text{Sampled RTT}$$

Described below is a calculation example for Estimated RTT values for the first two segments.

Segment 1:

- Sampled RTT = ACK received time – Sent time = 0.053937 sec – 0.026477 sec = 0.02746 sec
- Per instructions, for segment 1 we use Estimated RTT = sampled RTT = 0.02746 second.

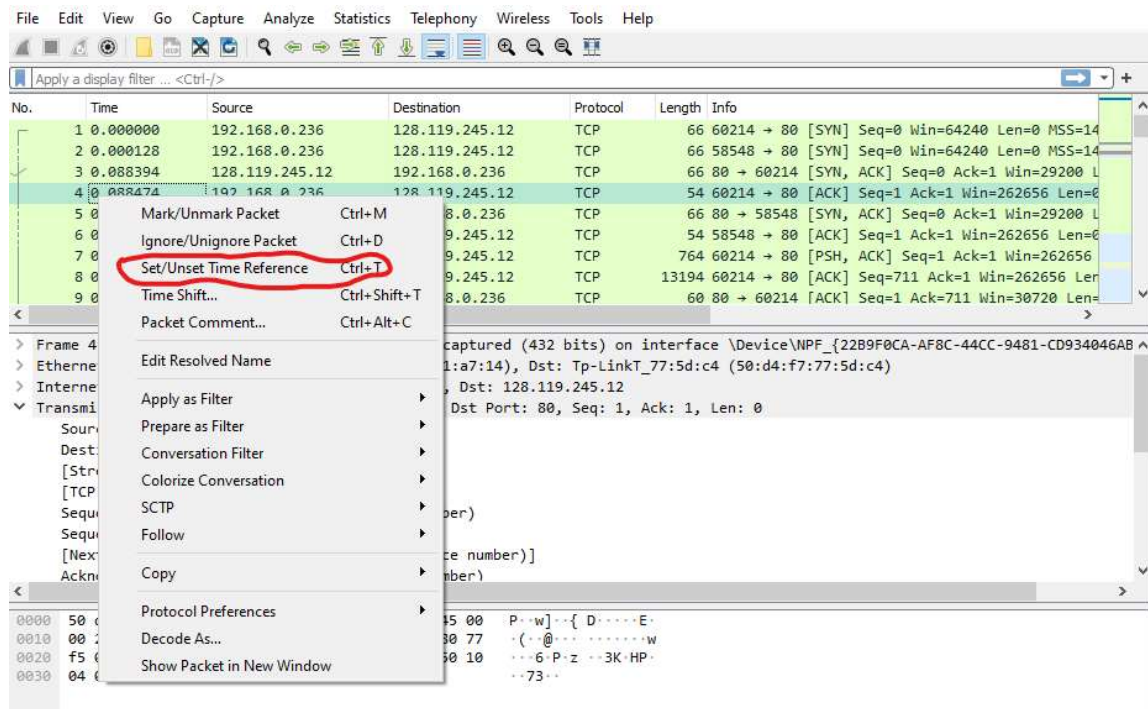
Segment 2:

- Sampled RTT = 0.077294 sec – 0.041737 sec = 0.035557 second
- Estimated RTT = $0.875 * 0.02746 + 0.125 * 0.035557 = 0.02847$ second

Set/Unset Time Reference

Use Set/Unset Time Reference to let Wireshark automatically calculate time offset from any reference point. This is useful for extracting RTT data for TCP segments.

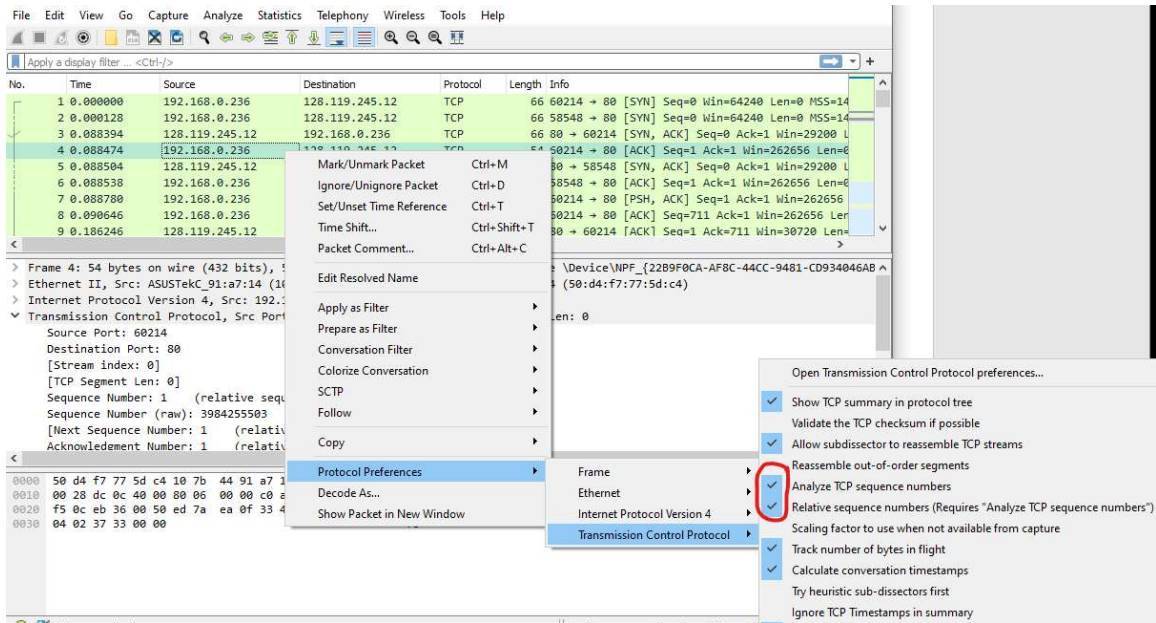
Select a frame of interest, then right click, and select Set/Unset Time Reference to mark that frame at time zero. Subsequent frame timing will be calculated using this zero-time referenced frame.



TCP Relative Sequence Numbers

Wireshark has a nice feature to facilitate tracking of TCP segments by using relative sequence numbers instead of raw sequence numbers.

Select a frame of interest, then right click, and follow the submenu selections as illustrated below to select both “Analyze TCP sequence numbers” and “Relative sequence numbers” options.



Wireshark TCP Relative and Raw Sequence numbers

File Edit View Go Capture Analyze Statistics Telephony Wireless Tools Help

Apply a display filter ... <Ctrl-/>

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000	192.168.0.236	128.119.245.12	TCP	66	60214 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=14
2	0.000128	192.168.0.236	128.119.245.12	TCP	66	58548 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=14
3	0.008394	128.119.245.12	192.168.0.236	TCP	66	80 → 60214 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=29200 L
4	0.008474	192.168.0.236	128.119.245.12	TCP	54	60214 → 80 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262656 Len=0
5	0.008504	128.119.245.12	192.168.0.236	TCP	66	80 → 58548 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=29200 L
6	0.008538	192.168.0.236	128.119.245.12	TCP	54	58548 → 80 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262656 Len=0
7	0.008780	192.168.0.236	128.119.245.12	TCP	764	60214 → 80 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262656
8	0.009646	192.168.0.236	128.119.245.12	TCP	13194	60214 → 80 [ACK] Seq=711 Ack=1 Win=262656 Len
9	0.186246	128.119.245.12	192.168.0.236	TCP	60	80 → 60214 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=711 Win=30720 Len=

> Frame 4: 54 bytes on wire (432 bits), 54 bytes captured (432 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{22B9F0CA-AF8C-44CC-9481-CD934046AB}

> Ethernet II, Src: ASUSTekC_91:a7:14 (10:7b:44:91:a7:14), Dst: Tp-LinkT_77:5d:c4 (50:d4:f7:77:5d:c4)

> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.0.236, Dst: 128.119.245.12

▼ Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 60214, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 0

Source Port: 60214

Destination Port: 80

[Stream index: 0]

[TCP Segment Len: 0]

Sequence Number: 1 (relative sequence number)

Sequence Number (raw): 3984255503

[Next Sequence Number: 1 (relative sequence number)]

Acknowledgment Number: 1 (relative ack number)

0000 50 d4 f7 77 5d c4 10 7b 44 91 a7 14 08 00 45 00 P...w]...{ D....E.

0010 00 28 dc 0c 40 00 80 06 00 00 c0 a8 00 ec 80 77 .(.@.....w

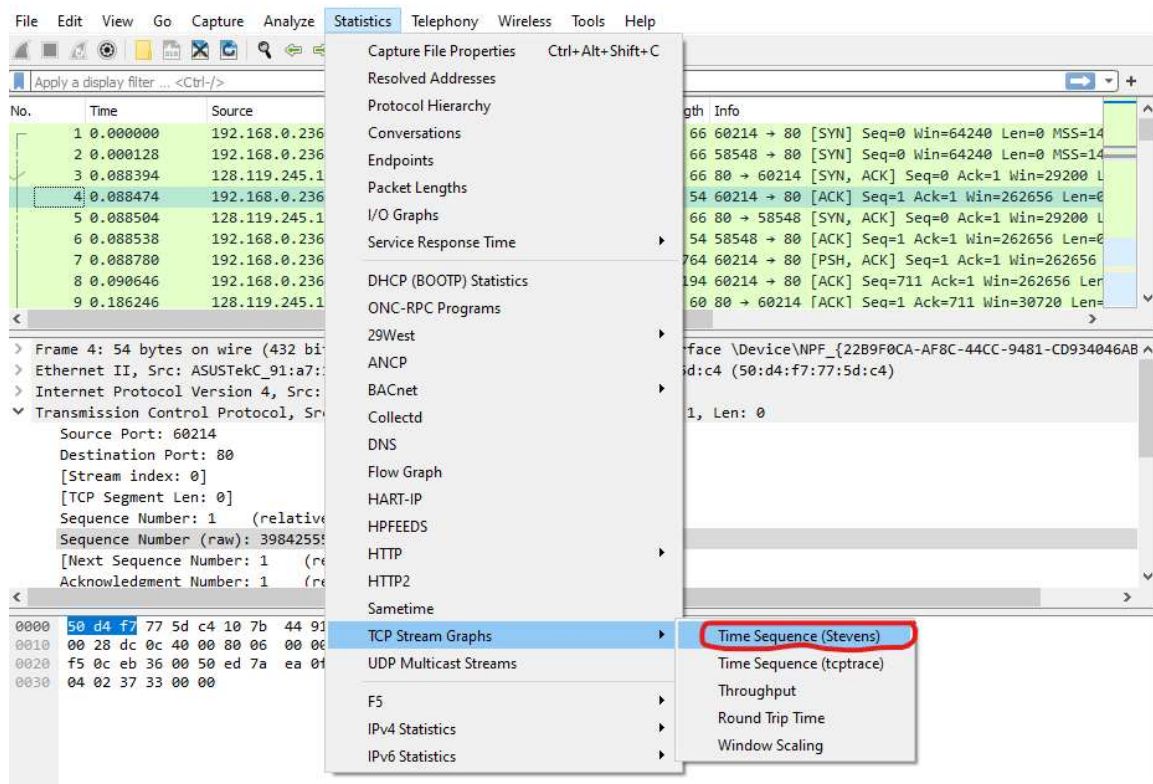
0020 f5 0c eb 36 00 50 ed 7a ea 0f 33 4b a7 48 50 10 ...6.P.z.z.K.HP.

0030 04 02 37 33 00 00 ..73..

Time Sequence Graph (Stevens)

Wireshark provides a TCP graphing utility called Time-Sequence-Graph(Stevens) which can be used to plot out data sent per unit time.

Refer to the illustration below to generate the TCP Time-Sequence plot.



Example of Time Sequence Graph (Stevens)

