

# Lab 2: HTTP and Throughput

(100 points)

**Platform:** This entire lab is to be run on the Mininet VM. The lab computers are available for all of these problems.

**Submission:**

**Important Announcement about Gradescope submissions:**

- When submissions are made on Gradescope, **the page/region for each problem MUST be marked.**
- We will not grade submissions that are not marked. If you do not know how to do this, ask for help.
- If a submission does not have the region/page marked, you will be asked to resubmit.
- The recorded date for the assignment will be the resubmission date, and late days will be counted.

One PDF file for this assignment is to be submitted directly on Gradescope.

Naming convention of the file: [YourCruzID].pdf.

**For all questions that require a screenshot:**

- Make sure that a **date timestamp** is visible next to your results.
- No credit will be given for screenshots without a timestamp.

**References:** Chapters 1 and 2, Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach

- Section 1.4: Delay, Loss and Throughput in Packet-Switched Networks
- Section 2.2: The Web and HTTP
- [RFC 2616: Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1](#)

# Introduction to HTTP

Before beginning this lab, it is very helpful to read Section 2.2 of the text.<sup>[1]</sup>

The HTTP protocol is the *lingua franca* of the Web. HTTP specifies methods and headers so that web clients can issue requests for web objects and receive responses from web servers. HTTP methods provide a set of actions to be performed on web resources. You will observe several of these methods in this assignment. HTTP headers are extra helpful information included in an HTTP message sent by either the client or the server. Headers are specified as name:value pairs. You can search the vast number of HTTP headers online.

Having gotten our feet wet with the Wireshark packet sniffer in Lab1, we're now ready to use Wireshark to investigate protocols in operation. In this lab, we'll explore several aspects of the HTTP protocol: the basic request/response interaction between client and server, HTTP message formats, retrieving HTML files with multiple embedded objects, and Conditional HTTP requests. Additionally, in the last problem, we will take a look at link transmission rates and bottleneck links.

Please review class notes and the textbook to review the format of the messages exchanged. A sample client request and server response are shown below:

HTTP Request Message	HTTP Response Message
<pre>request line (GET, POST, HEAD commands) header lines carriage return, line feed at start of line indicates end of header lines carriage return character line-feed character  GET /index.html HTTP/1.1\r\n Host: www-net.cs.umass.edu\r\n User-Agent: Firefox/3.6.10\r\n Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml\r\n Accept-Language: en-us,en;q=0.5\r\n Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate\r\n Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7\r\n Keep-Alive: 115\r\n Connection: keep-alive\r\n \r\n</pre>	<pre>http message format: response status line (protocol status code status phrase) header lines data, e.g., requested html file  HTTP/1.0 200 OK Date: Thu, 06 Aug 1998 12:00:15 GMT Server: Apache/1.3.0 (Unix) Last-Modified: Mon, 22 Jun 1998 .... Content-Length: 6821 Content-Type: text/html data data data data data ...</pre>

## Part A - HTTP: Hypertext Transfer Protocol

### 1. [35 pts] The Basic HTTP request/response messages

- a. **[10 points]** In the following problem, match the HTTP headers to their respective definitions and usages. This exercise will help deepen your understanding of how each header contributes to the HTTP communication process, as detailed in [RFC 9110](#)

**Table 1:** Match the Header (on the left) with its Definition/Usage (on the right) by filling in the “Answer Here” column **(No Need To Memorize Header Definitions)**

	Header	Match ← →	Answer Here	Definition/Usage
A	“Accept-Encoding”		C	Carries credentials to authenticate the requestor.
B	“Accept”		O	Contains data from the server to be stored by the client.
C	“Authorization”		A	Describes the compression formats that can be decoded.
D	“Cache-Control”		B	Details preferred content types for the response.
E	“Connection”		I	Directive to the client to store the cookie.
F	“Content-Encoding”		D	Directs how responses are to be stored by caches.
G	“Content-Length”		P	Information about the client software making the request.
H	“Content-Type”		T	Numeric indication of the outcome of the server's attempt to fulfill the request.
I	“Cookie”		K	Only send the response if the content has been modified since this date/time.
J	“Host”		E	Options for managing the current connection state.
K	“If-Modified-Since”		L	Parameters for a persistent connection.
L	“Keep-Alive”		F	Specifies the encoding used on the data.
M	“Last-Modified”		R	Text description accompanying the status code, explaining the status.
N	“Server”		J	The domain name of the server and the TCP port number.
O	“Set-Cookie”		G	The exact byte length of the HTTP body.
P	“User-Agent”		H	The media type of the body of the request/response.
Q	“Request Version”		N	The name of the server software responding to the request.
R	“Response Phrase”		Q	The protocol version used by the client in making the request.
S	“Request Method”		M	The time at which the content was last changed.
T	“Status Code”		S	The type of action the client wants the server to take on a resource.

- b. **[10 points]** Now let's explore HTTP by downloading a very simple HTML file - one that is very short and contains no embedded objects.

Do the following:

- First, open up the web browser in the Mininet VM.
- Clear the cache in the browser<sup>[2]</sup> (go to the Chromium browser setting, search Clear browsing data, select everything for all time, and clear data).
- Start up Wireshark. Set the display filter so that only HTTP messages will be displayed. (We're only interested in the HTTP protocol here and don't want to see the clutter of all captured packets).

Then, start a packet capture using the interface **eth0**.

- Go back to the browser and enter:  
<http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file3.html>  
Are you familiar with the very important document displayed by your browser?!
- Stop the Wireshark packet capture, ignore the GET /favicon.ico packet.

**Answer the questions in the following tables:**

**Table 2:** In Wireshark, use the Client Request Packet to answer the following. All answers are visible in the packet.

Network and Transport Layer (TCP/IP)	
Questions:	Answer (Field Detail from Wireshark)
<i>Example:</i> What is the destination port number?	<i>Example Solution (from Wireshark):</i> Destination port: http (80)
What is the Client IP Address?	10.0.2.15
What is the Client port number?	38456
Application Layer (HTTP)	
Request Line (Initial Line of HTTP Request) Questions:	Answer (Elements of the Request Line from Wireshark)
What is the Method used for the request?	get
What is the URI requested by the client?	/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file3.html
What HTTP version is used by the Client?	1.1
HTTP Headers (Following the Request Line) Questions:	Answer (Header Name:Value Pair from Wireshark)
What is the hostname?	Gaia.cs.umass.edu
What is the Client connection management preference?	keep-alive
What is the Client browser and OS information?	Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux i686) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like

	Gecko) Ubuntu Chromium/63.0.3239.84 Chrome/63.0.3239.84 Safari/537.36
What types of content are accepted by the Client?	text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q=0.8
What compressed data does the Client accept?	gzip, deflate

Include a **timestamped screenshot**, and circle the client IP Address and port number.

- c. **[10 points] Table 3:** In Wireshark, use the Server Response Packet to answer the following. All answers are visible in the packet.

Network and Transport Layer (TCP/IP)	
Questions:	Answer (Field Detail from Wireshark)
What is the Server IP address?	128.119.245.12
What port number is the Server listening on?	80
Application Layer (HTTP)	
Status Line (Initial Line of HTTP Response) Questions:	Answer (Elements of the Status Line from Wireshark)
What HTTP version is used by the Server?	1.1
What is the code that indicates the result of the Client's request?	200
What is the status phrase that accompanies the above code?	OK
HTTP Headers (Following the Status Line) Questions:	Answer (Header Name:Value pair from Wireshark)
What is the date and time of the server response?	Sat, 27 Jan 2024 20:58:36 GMT
What is the server software information?	Apache/2.4.6 (CentOS) OpenSSL/1.0.2k-fips PHP/7.4.33 mod_perl/2.0.11 Perl/v5.16.3
What is the length of the requested file?	Content length: 4500
What response does the Server provide regarding the management of the network connection?	Keep alive
What type of content is being sent by the Server?	text/html; charset=UTF-8

Include a **timestamped screenshot** and circle the date.

CE150L [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox

MachineViewInputDevicesHelp

\*eth0 [Wireshark 1.10.6 (v1.10.6 from master-1.10)]

EditViewGoCaptureAnalyzeStatisticsTelephonyToolsInternalsHelp

http

Expression...ClearApplySave

	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000000	10.0.2.15	239.255.255.250	SSDP	208	M-SEARCH * HTTP/1.1
32	5.595252000	10.0.2.15	128.119.245.12	HTTP	496	GET /wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file3.ht
40	5.682340000	128.119.245.12	10.0.2.15	HTTP	1165	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
43	5.747488000	10.0.2.15	128.119.245.12	HTTP	467	GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1
46	5.832338000	128.119.245.12	10.0.2.15	HTTP	538	HTTP/1.1 404 Not Found (text/html)

Calculated window size: 65535]

Window size scaling factor: -2 (no window scaling used)]

checksum: 0x182d [validation disabled]

SEQ/ACK analysis]

CP segment data (1111 bytes)

Reassembled TCP Segments (4861 bytes): #36(1250), #38(2500), #40(1111)]

ertext Transfer Protocol

HTTP/1.1 200 OK\r\n

[Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): HTTP/1.1 200 OK\r\n]

Request Version: HTTP/1.1

Status Code: 200

Response Phrase: OK

ate: Sat, 27 Jan 2024 20:58:36 GMT\r\n

erver: Apache/2.4.6 (CentOS) OpenSSL/1.0.2k-fips PHP/7.4.33 mod\_perl/2.0.11 Perl/v5.16.3\r\n

ast-Modified: Sat, 27 Jan 2024 06:59:02 GMT\r\n

Tag: "1194-60fe7f297b9ef"\r\n

ccept-Ranges: bytes\r\n

ontent-Length: 4500\r\n

20 34 35 30 30 0d 0a 4b 65 65 70 2d 41 6c 69 76 4500...K eep-Aliv

65 3a 20 74 69 6d 65 6f 75 74 3d 35 2c 20 6d 61 e: timeo ut=5, ma

78 3d 31 30 30 0d 0a 43 6f 6e 6e 65 63 74 69 6f x=100...C onnectio

6e 3a 20 4b 65 65 70 2d 41 6c 69 76 65 0d 0a 43 n: Keep- Alive..C

e (1165 bytes) Reassembled TCP (4861 bytes)

Text item (text), 32 bytes

Packets: 74 · Displayed: 5 (6.8%) · Dropped: 0 (0.0...

Profile: Default

Historical Docu... \*eth0 [Wiresha...

13:21

Right Ctrl

1:21 PM 1/27/24

d. **[5 points] Protocol Layers:**

For the following problem, here's a reference to HTTPS:

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/rfc2818>

Now do a new Wireshark packet capture for "<https://www.wellsfargo.com/>" without using the **http** filter.

In the Wireshark captures of both "<https://www.wellsfargo.com/>" and "<http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file3.html>", examine the different layers (e.g., application, transport) of network protocols.

- How do the **application and transport layers** interact **differently** in HTTP and HTTPS? **One big thing is that https communicates over port 443 while http operates at port 80, second is https uses http it does not operate it's own protocol rather it just secures http**
- If the bank transmitted a password over HTTP, would it be visible in a Wireshark capture? **If a password was shared through http you would be able to capture it.** How does this visibility differ if transmitted when using HTTPS?
- **Https scrambles everything sent through it which makes it very difficult to unscramble the password without knowing the pattern that the local browser and website made.**
- List all the protocols that make these two captures **different**. Focus on identifying protocols that contribute to security in the HTTPS capture.
- **Https uses tls to secure it, it has http/2**

Include a **timestamped screenshot** and circle at least one of the protocols listed.

CE150L [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox

MachineViewInputDevicesHelp

\*eth0 [Wireshark 1.10.6 (v1.10.6 from master-1.10)]

EditViewGoCaptureAnalyzeStatisticsTelephonyToolsInternalsHelp

Expression...ClearApplySave

	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
185	12.817318000	69.192.139.240	10.0.2.15	TLSv1.2	10639	Application Data
186	12.817337000	69.192.139.240	10.0.2.15	TLSv1.2	7482	Application Data, Application Data
187	12.817592000	69.192.139.240	10.0.2.15	TLSv1.2	16148	Application Data
188	12.827995000	10.0.2.15	69.192.139.240	TCP	54	50741 > https [ACK] Seq=2966 Ack=251787 W
189	12.828689000	69.192.139.240	10.0.2.15	TLSv1.2	13194	Application Data
190	12.828883000	69.192.139.240	10.0.2.15	TLSv1.2	19844	Application Data
191	12.834613000	10.0.2.15	69.192.139.240	TCP	54	50741 > https [ACK] Seq=2966 Ack=284717 W
192	12.852786000	69.192.139.240	10.0.2.15	TLSv1.2	185	Application Data
193	12.854698000	69.192.139.240	10.0.2.15	TCP	13194	[TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
194	12.854850000	69.192.139.240	10.0.2.15	TLSv1.2	15607	Application Data

Frame 187: 16148 bytes on wire (129184 bits), 16148 bytes captured (129184 bits) on interface 0

Interface id: 0

Encapsulation type: Ethernet (1)

Arrival Time: Jan 27, 2024 13:26:40.853860000 PST

Time shift for this packet: 0.000000000 seconds]

Capture Time: 1706390800.853860000 seconds

Time delta from previous captured frame: 0.000255000 seconds]

Time delta from previous displayed frame: 0.000255000 seconds]

Time since reference or first frame: 12.817592000 seconds]

Frame Number: 187

Frame Length: 16148 bytes (129184 bits)

Capture Length: 16148 bytes (129184 bits)

Frame is marked: False]

Frame is ignored: False]

Protocols in frame: eth:ip:tcp:ssl:ssl]

Coloring Rule Name: TCP]

Coloring Rule String: tcp]

08 00 27 27 c6 3a 52 54 00 12 35 02 08 00 45 00 ..'':RT ..5...E.

3f 06 38 41 00 00 40 06 25 f2 45 c0 8b f0 0a 00 ?.8A..@. %.E....

02 0f 01 bb c6 35 0d a5 c5 3e af 75 73 7c 50 18 .....5.. >.us|P.

ff ff 1c b8 00 00 51 c7 e8 e5 07 87 21 fa 98 2d .....Q. ....!..-

Frame 187 (16148 bytes) | Reassembled TCP (4047 bytes)

Encapsulation type (frame.enc... | Packets: 241 · Displayed: 241 (100.0%) · D

Power Management

Battery Low (8% Remaining)

Battery running low - to continue using your computer, plug it in or shut it down



## 2. [12 pts] Experiment with the wget command

Start by reading up on the wget command. Determine which command option to use with wget so that the **server returns only the HTTP headers and not the actual requested file**. Use the option to load this URL: [www.httpforever.com](http://www.httpforever.com)

Run Wireshark to capture the packets exchanged during the wget execution.

- What is the full command you used?
- wget --server-response www.httpforever.com

Use the wget terminal output to answer the following questions:

- Server Response
  - Does the server have the requested file? **yes** How do you know? **Next to OK it says text**
  - When was the web page last modified? **Last-Modified: Wed, 22 Mar 2023 14:54:48 GMT** How is this information used? **Most likely if you cached parts of the website it can check if it was edited and if you need to pull all the info again**
  - What type of *HTTP connection* is used? **Keep ALive** Explain what it means. It uses one tcp connection to send and receive info
  - What is the size (in bytes) of the base HTML page? **56**

Include a **single timestamped screenshot** and circle each question above (there should be 4 items circled).

The screenshot displays a Wireshark capture on the interface \*eth0 [Wireshark 1.10.6 (v1.10.6 from master-1.10)]. The packet list shows an HTTP GET request from 10.0.2.15 to 146.190.62.39. The packet details pane shows the HTTP 200 OK response with 'text/html' content type. The packet bytes pane shows the raw data. In the bottom right, a terminal window shows the command 'wget --server-response www.httpforever.com' and its output, which includes the 'Last-Modified' date and the 'Keep-Alive' status.

Now look at your Wireshark capture:

Apply a filter in Wireshark and find the HTTP packet from your client to the web server.

Right-click on that packet and select **“Follow TCP Stream”**. You should be able to see all the packets transferred on that TCP connection.

d. Client Request:

- According to Wireshark, which HTTP method is used for the client request? **GET** Is this what you expected? **Yes because I'm only requesting headers** Why or why not?
- Explain the HTTP method you observe.
- **Get, It request the info from the server**

e. Server:

- What is the status code of the response message from the server? What does it mean? **200 it means OK**
- On what port number is the server listening for HTTP requests? Explain why this port is being used. **80 because it is an http request**
- Which Transport layer protocol is used for these requests?
- **tcp**

f. Explain the concept of a TCP stream in the context of loading a webpage.

g. **The TCP stream allows a two way communication between client and server that can allow data and images to travel safely between the two**

Include a **timestamped screenshot** of the Follow TCP Stream with circles around fields that were used in the above questions/answers.

CE150L [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox

File Machine View Input Devices Help

\*eth0 [Wireshark 1.10.6 (v1.10.6 from master-1.10)]

File Edit View Go Capture Analyze Statistics Telephony Tools Internals Help

Filter: Expression... Clear Apply Save

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
12	0.056740000	10.0.2.15	146.190.62.39	TCP	54	49541 > http [ACK] Seq=118 Ack=2921 Wi
13	0.056988000	146.190.62.39	10.0.2.15	TCP	2086	[TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
14	0.057002000	10.0.2.15	146.190.62.39	TCP	54	49541 > http [ACK] Seq=118 Ack=4953 Wi
15	0.068980000	146.190.62.39	10.0.2.15	HTTP	1034	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
16	0.069011000	10.0.2.15	146.190.62.39	TCP	54	49541 > http [ACK] Seq=118 Ack=5933 Wi
17	0.069920000	10.0.2.15	146.190.62.39	TCP	54	49541 > http [FIN, ACK] Seq=118 Ack=59
18	0.070241000	146.190.62.39	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	http > 49541 [ACK] Seq=5933 Ack=119 Wi
19	0.078638000	146.190.62.39	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	http > 49541 [FIN, ACK] Seq=5933 Ack=1
20	0.078696000	10.0.2.15	146.190.62.39	TCP	54	49541 > http [ACK] Seq=119 Ack=5934 Wi
21	0.218867000	185.125.190.57	10.0.2.15	NTP	90	NTP Version 4, server

Frame 17: 54 bytes on wire (432 bits), 54 bytes captured (432 bits) on interface 0

Ethernet II, Src: CadmusCo\_27:c6:3a (08:00:27:27:c6:3a), Dst: RealtekU\_12:35:02 (52:54:00:12:35:02)

Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.0.2.15 (10.0.2.15)

Version: 4

Header length: 20 bytes

Differentiated Services Field: 0x00 (DSCP 0x00: Default)

Total Length: 40

Identification: 0x76df (30431)

Flags: 0x02 (Don't Fragment)

Fragment offset: 0

Time to live: 64

Protocol: TCP (6)

Header checksum: 0xe6fc [validation disabled]

Source: 10.0.2.15 (10.0.2.15)

Destination: 146.190.62.39 (146.190.62.39)

[Source GeoIP: Unknown]

[Destination GeoIP: Unknown]

0000 52 54 00 12 35 02 08 00 27 27 c6 3a 08 00 45

0010 00 28 76 df 40 00 40 06 e6 fc 0a 00 02 0f 92

0020 3e 27 c1 85 00 50 df fa 39 43 00 04 f9 2e 50

0030 9f b0 dd 0e 00 00

mininet@mininet-vm: ~

File Edit Tabs Help

mininet@mininet-vm:~\$ date

Sat Jan 27 16:41:27 PST 2024

mininet@mininet-vm:~\$

Identification (ip.id), 2 bytes

Packets: 21 · Displayed: 21 (100.0%) · Dropp...

Profile: Default

### 3. [16 pts] Looking at Embedded Objects

Let's look at what happens when your browser downloads a file with references to several embedded objects, i.e., a file that includes references to other objects, accessible by hyperlink, that are stored on a server(s).

Do the following:

- Enter <http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file4.html> in your browser to display a short HTML file with two embedded images.
- Start a Wireshark capture.
- These two images are referenced in the base HTML file. The images themselves are not contained in the HTML file; instead, the URLs for the images are referenced using HTML. As discussed in the textbook (and class), your browser retrieves these objects from the indicated websites.
- Stop the Wireshark packet capture and filter for **http** packets.
- ***Ignore the /favicon.ico request/response in Wireshark.***

#### a. [10 points] Table 4:

Find the response packet associated with the <b>first</b> GET request in Wireshark.	
Questions:	Answers:
Describe the purpose of the very first GET request and the corresponding response message.	The Purpose of the first get and response was to get the html text to load the page, that being said images do not get sent in this
Was it successful? Explain how you know.	Yes, because if you go to the html data in the captured package you can see the entire web page data
If successful, how many bytes of the requested file does the Server send?	942
Copy the lines from the base <b>HTML</b> page that reference the two images (Locate the raw data in this packet and look for the <code>&lt;img&gt;</code> tags).	Reference 1:<p align="left">Reference 2: </p>\n
Enter each URL separately into your browser, what do you see?	URL 1: image of the book URL 2: the pearson logo
From the Wireshark trace, how many HTTP GET request messages did your browser send in <u>total</u> ? <b><i>(Ignore /favicon.ico in Wireshark)</i></b>	3 in totoal

<b>Embedded images:</b> Using Wireshark, identify the two HTTP client requests for the embedded images and their corresponding server responses.	
One image is hosted on the same server as the main HTML file. How can you prove which image is hosted on a <b>different</b> server?	The 8e cover small jpg is hosted on a different site as you can see that the destination address is different
Which image is hosted on a <b>different</b> server?	The 8e cover small jpg is hosted on a different site

- b. **[6 points]** Draw a timing diagram to show the sequence of interactions between the client and server when loading

["http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file4.html"](http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file4.html).

Your diagram should include:

- The client (your web browser), one server hosting the HTML file, and the other server that hosts one of the embedded images.
- The initial GET request for the HTML file and the server's response.
- Subsequent GET requests for each embedded image and the server response.
- Use arrows to indicate the direction of each request and response.
- There should be a clear order of interactions, labeling each step to show the progression from the initial request to the complete rendering of the web page with all embedded images.

#### 4. [7 pts] HTTP Conditional GET

Recall from Section 2.2.5 that most web browsers perform object caching and thus often perform a conditional GET when retrieving an HTTP object. Before performing the steps below, make sure your browser's cache is empty<sup>[2]</sup>.

Now do the following (follow instructions closely):

- Start up your web browser, and make sure your browser's cache is cleared.
- Start up Wireshark and listen on the **eth0** interface.

##### **1st HTTP GET:**

Enter this URL into your browser:

<http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/HTTP-wireshark-file2.html>

Your browser should display a very simple five-line HTML file.

##### **2nd HTTP GET:**

Quickly enter the same URL into your browser again (or simply select the refresh button on your browser)

- Stop the Wireshark packet capture and filter to display **HTTP** packets.  
(Ignore the */favicon.ico* request/response in Wireshark. )

#### Questions:

- a. Why might your browser issue a Conditional GET?
- b. If it is not sure if it has updated since it cached the data,

##### **1st HTTP GET and server response:**

- c. Is the first HTTP GET request from your browser to the server a Conditional GET? Explain your answer referencing Wireshark. No because its the first time it is caching the data as we cleared it earlier (there is no previous get request). However the second should be.

##### **2nd HTTP GET and server response:**

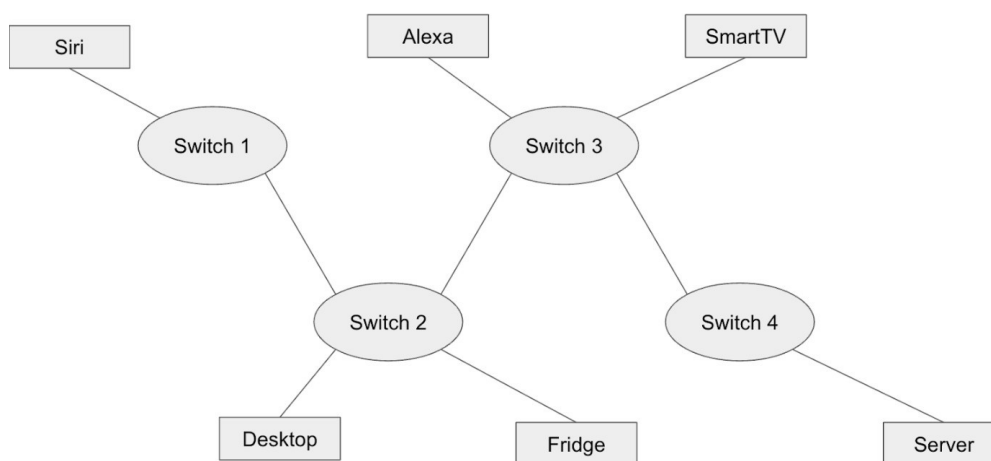
- d. Now inspect the contents of the second HTTP GET request from your browser to the server.
  - Describe how the second HTTP GET message is different from the first one.
  - It responds with a 304 message meaning nothin has been modified
  - What is the "IF-MODIFIED-SINCE:" header and its value, and why is it used?
  - It compares your cached data with its the If-modified-since data and makes the decision on whether to use cached or get new data
  - What is the date and its value, what does it mean? It means the date of the get request

# Part B - Measuring Performance in Mininet

In this section, we continue our study of network performance and focus on throughput. We make a distinction between transmission rate (often observed at the sender) and throughput. Throughput is the rate data is delivered to the receiver and is specifically observed at the Application Layer.

Note: Remember that rates are measured in bits per second and when the numbers are too large we use notation such as Gbps (gigabits per second) and Mbps (megabits per second). Typically these rates are stated in bits (not bytes).  $G = 10^9$  and  $M = 10^6$

**Figure1:**



## 5. [30 pts] Exploring Transmission Rate

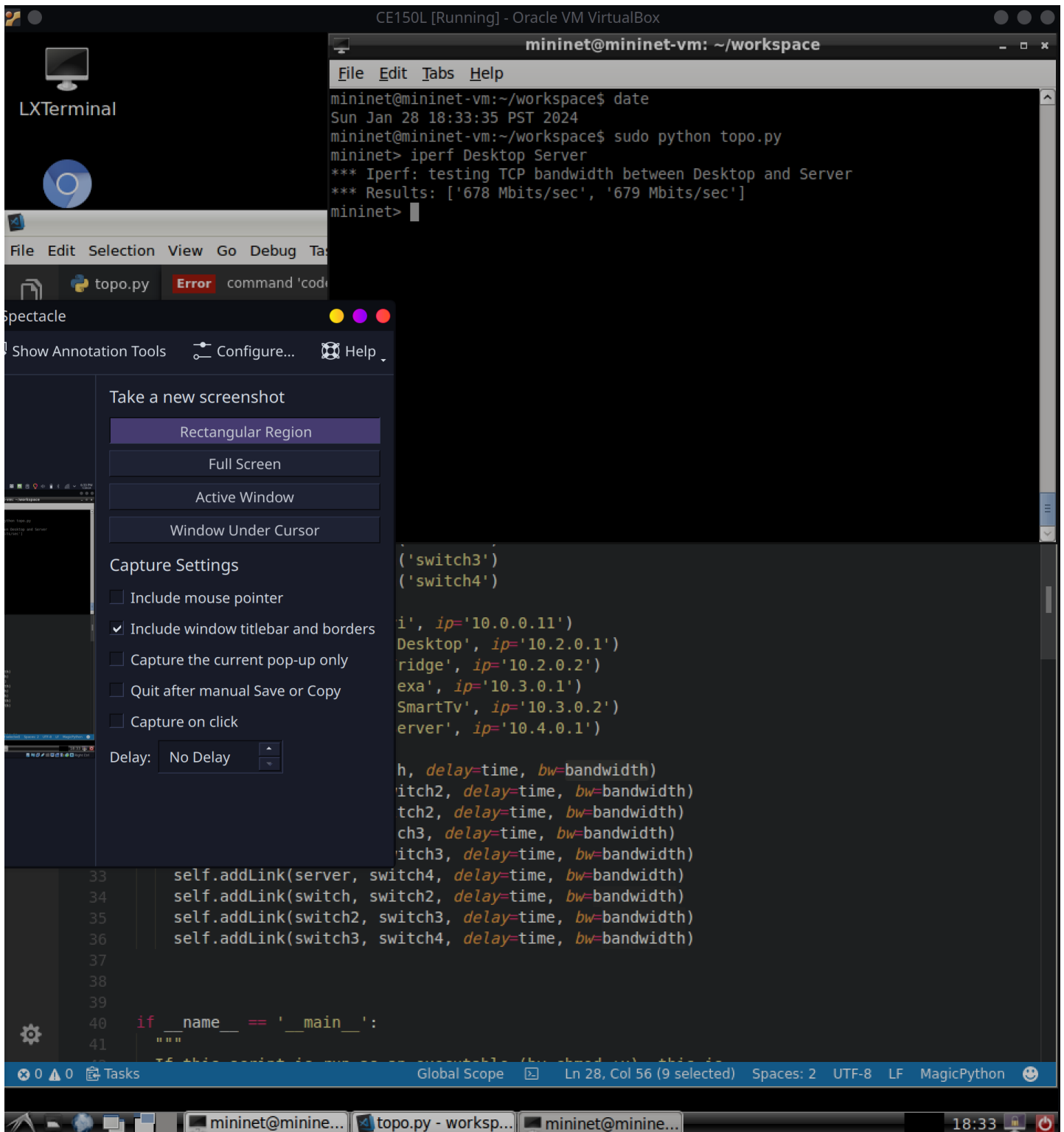
- Research the **iperf** tool and describe it in your own words.

Using **iperf** on your topology from Lab1 (Figure 1):

- Restricted bandwidth: The bandwidth of the links can be altered by adding a `bw=` parameter to `addLink` (which takes its argument as a number representing the bandwidth in Mbps). Set the bandwidth of all links to **1 Gbps**.

Run the `iperf` command between the Desktop and Server in the Mininet command line and screenshot the output. Explain the results. What is the meaning of the rates displayed and are they what you expected?

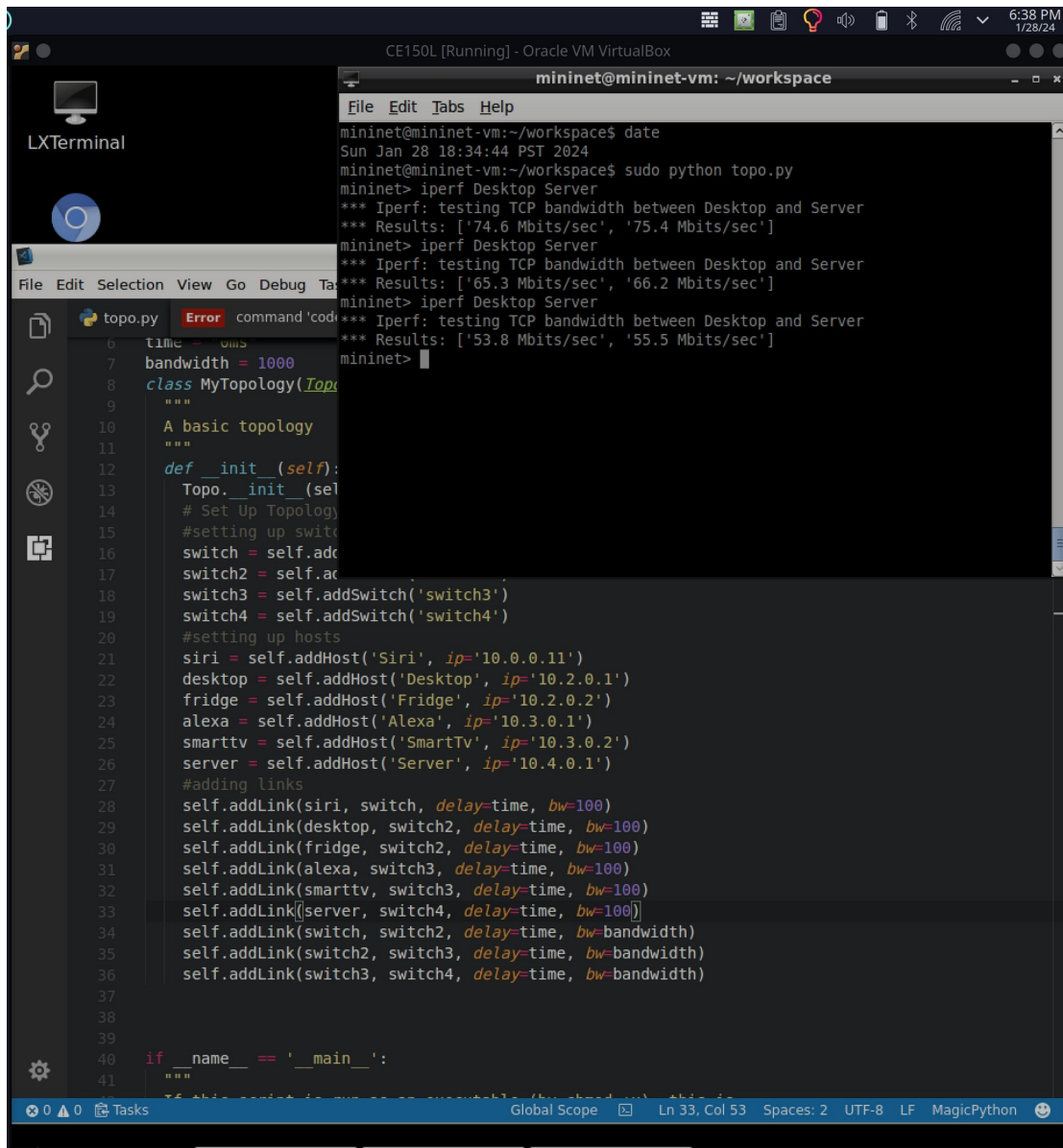
Include a timestamped screenshot of the results.



- c. Changing link bandwidth: Change the bandwidth of edge (host-to-switch) links to **100 Mbps**. Run **iperf** 3 times between the Server and Desktop and find the average throughput seen by the Desktop. Are your results what you expected? Explain.



Average is 65.6, yes I expected this, we limited bandwidth between all devices to routers as 100 mbps so there is no way for it to exceed said bandwidth.



The screenshot shows a Mininet VM environment. The terminal window displays the output of a Python script and three iperf tests. The Python script defines a topology with four switches and five hosts, connecting them with links limited to 100 Mbps. The iperf tests show results for Desktop to Server, Desktop to Server, and Desktop to Server, all with average bandwidths around 65-75 Mbps.

```
mininet@mininet-vm: ~/workspace
File Edit Tabs Help
mininet@mininet-vm:~/workspace$ date
Sun Jan 28 18:34:44 PST 2024
mininet@mininet-vm:~/workspace$ sudo python topo.py
mininet> iperf Desktop Server
*** Iperf: testing TCP bandwidth between Desktop and Server
*** Results: ['74.6 Mbits/sec', '75.4 Mbits/sec']
mininet> iperf Desktop Server
*** Iperf: testing TCP bandwidth between Desktop and Server
*** Results: ['65.3 Mbits/sec', '66.2 Mbits/sec']
mininet> iperf Desktop Server
*** Iperf: testing TCP bandwidth between Desktop and Server
*** Results: ['53.8 Mbits/sec', '55.5 Mbits/sec']
mininet>
```

```
topo.py
6 time = 0.001
7 bandwidth = 1000
8 class MyTopology(Topo):
9     """
10     A basic topology
11     """
12     def __init__(self):
13         Topo.__init__(self)
14         # Set Up Topology
15         #setting up switches
16         switch = self.addSwitch('switch1')
17         switch2 = self.addSwitch('switch2')
18         switch3 = self.addSwitch('switch3')
19         switch4 = self.addSwitch('switch4')
20         #setting up hosts
21         siri = self.addHost('Siri', ip='10.0.0.11')
22         desktop = self.addHost('Desktop', ip='10.2.0.1')
23         fridge = self.addHost('Fridge', ip='10.2.0.2')
24         alexa = self.addHost('Alexa', ip='10.3.0.1')
25         smarttv = self.addHost('SmartTV', ip='10.3.0.2')
26         server = self.addHost('Server', ip='10.4.0.1')
27         #adding links
28         self.addLink(siri, switch, delay=time, bw=100)
29         self.addLink(desktop, switch2, delay=time, bw=100)
30         self.addLink(fridge, switch2, delay=time, bw=100)
31         self.addLink(alexa, switch3, delay=time, bw=100)
32         self.addLink(smarttv, switch3, delay=time, bw=100)
33         self.addLink(server, switch4, delay=time, bw=100)
34         self.addLink(switch, switch2, delay=time, bw=bandwidth)
35         self.addLink(switch2, switch3, delay=time, bw=bandwidth)
36         self.addLink(switch3, switch4, delay=time, bw=bandwidth)
37
38
39
40 if __name__ == '__main__':
41     """
42     This script is for generating a topology (bw=bandwidth)
43     """
```

Include a timestamped screenshot of the results.

- d. Cross-traffic: We will now generate simultaneous traffic between Desktop-Server and SmartTV-Server. Configure "Server" as an iperf server using `iperf -s`. Then generate iperf traffic from Desktop and SmartTV for 5 seconds as clients using:

```
iperf -c <server IP> -p <server port> -t <seconds>
```

Be sure to run both `iperf -c` commands simultaneously. Repeat 3 times and

average the results.

Which links were shared by the two traffic flows? Explain what you expected to happen. Discuss your observations after running iperf and if they differ from your initial expectation.

Include a **timestamped screenshot** of the results (this should have 4 terminal windows, 1 mininet, and 3 Xterm - Server, Desktop, SmartTv).

```
CE150L [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox

"Node: Desktop"
Client connecting to 10.4.0.1, TCP port 5001
TCP window size: 85.3 KByte (default)
[ 27] local 10.2.0.1 port 44202 connected with 10.4.0.1 port 5001
[ ID] Interval      Transfer    Bandwidth
[ 27] 0.0- 5.2 sec   16.2 MBytes 26.4 Mbits/sec
root@mininet-vm:~/workspace# iperf -c 10.4.0.1 -p 5001 -t 5

Client connecting to 10.4.0.1, TCP port 5001
TCP window size: 85.3 KByte (default)
[ 27] local 10.2.0.1 port 44204 connected with 10.4.0.1 port 5001
[ ID] Interval      Transfer    Bandwidth
[ 27] 0.0- 5.2 sec   18.5 MBytes 29.9 Mbits/sec
root@mininet-vm:~/workspace# iperf -c 10.4.0.1 -p 5001 -t 5

Client connecting to 10.4.0.1, TCP port 5001
TCP window size: 85.3 KByte (default)
[ 27] local 10.2.0.1 port 44206 connected with 10.4.0.1 port 5001
[ ID] Interval      Transfer    Bandwidth
[ 27] 0.0- 5.4 sec   26.2 MBytes 41.1 Mbits/sec
root@mininet-vm:~/workspace#

"Node: Server"
root@mininet-vm:~/workspace# iperf -s

Server listening on TCP port 5001
TCP window size: 85.3 KByte (default)
[ 28] local 10.4.0.1 port 5001 connected with 10.2.0.1 port 44202
[ 29] local 10.4.0.1 port 5001 connected with 10.3.0.2 port 33945
[ ID] Interval      Transfer    Bandwidth
[ 28] 0.0- 5.7 sec   16.2 MBytes 23.8 Mbits/sec
[ 29] 0.0- 6.1 sec   21.4 MBytes 29.5 Mbits/sec
[ 30] local 10.4.0.1 port 5001 connected with 10.2.0.1 port 44204
[ 28] local 10.4.0.1 port 5001 connected with 10.3.0.2 port 33947
[ 30] 0.0- 5.4 sec   18.5 MBytes 28.6 Mbits/sec
[ 28] 0.0- 5.3 sec   32.8 MBytes 51.9 Mbits/sec
[ 29] local 10.4.0.1 port 5001 connected with 10.2.0.1 port 44206
[ 28] local 10.4.0.1 port 5001 connected with 10.3.0.2 port 33949
[ 29] 0.0- 5.6 sec   26.2 MBytes 39.0 Mbits/sec
[ 28] 0.0- 5.1 sec   17.0 MBytes 27.7 Mbits/sec

"Node: SmartTv"
Client connecting to 10.4.0.1, TCP port 5001
TCP window size: 85.3 KByte (default)
[ 27] local 10.3.0.2 port 33945 connected with 10.4.0.1 port 5001
[ ID] Interval      Transfer    Bandwidth
[ 27] 0.0- 5.2 sec   21.4 MBytes 34.3 Mbits/sec
root@mininet-vm:~/workspace# iperf -c 10.4.0.1 -p 5001 -t 5

Client connecting to 10.4.0.1, TCP port 5001
TCP window size: 85.3 KByte (default)
[ 27] local 10.3.0.2 port 33947 connected with 10.4.0.1 port 5001
[ ID] Interval      Transfer    Bandwidth
[ 27] 0.0- 5.1 sec   32.8 MBytes 54.2 Mbits/sec
root@mininet-vm:~/workspace# iperf -c 10.4.0.1 -p 5001 -t 5

Client connecting to 10.4.0.1, TCP port 5001
TCP window size: 85.3 KByte (default)
[ 27] local 10.3.0.2 port 33949 connected with 10.4.0.1 port 5001
[ ID] Interval      Transfer    Bandwidth
[ 27] 0.0- 5.0 sec   17.0 MBytes 28.5 Mbits/sec
root@mininet-vm:~/workspace#

mininet@mininet-vm: ~/workspace
File Edit Tabs Help
kill -9 -f "sudo mnexec"
*** Removing junk from /tmp
rm -f /tmp/vconn* /tmp/vlogs* /tmp/*.out /tmp/*.log
*** Removing old X11 tunnels
*** Removing excess kernel datapaths
ps ax | egrep -o 'dp[0-9]+' | sed 's/dp/nl:/'
*** Removing OVS datapaths
ovs-vsctl --timeout=1 list-br
ovs-vsctl --timeout=1 list-br
*** Removing all links of the pattern foo-ethX
ip link show | egrep -o '([_.:alnum:]+-eth[:digit:]))'
ip link show
*** Killing stale mininet node processes
kill -9 -f mininet:
*** Shutting down stale tunnels
kill -9 -f Tunnel=Ethernet
kill -9 -f .ssh/mn
rm -f ~/.ssh/mn/*
*** Cleanup complete.
mininet@mininet-vm:~/workspace$ sudo python topo.py
mininet> xterm Desktop
mininet> xterm SmartTv
mininet> xterm Server
mininet>

mininet@mininet-vm: ~
File Edit Tabs Help
mininet@mininet-vm:~$ date
Sun Jan 28 19:09:53 PST 2024
mininet@mininet-vm:~$
```

- e. The bottleneck link: In this problem, we will observe the network with a bottleneck link. Change the bandwidth between Switch2-Switch3 to **5 Mbps**. Now run **iperf** between Server and Desktop 3 times and take the average of the results.

Discuss your results and how they have changed. Are your results what you expected? Why or why not? Explain.

```

def __init__(self):
    Topo.__init__(self)
    # Set Up Topology Here
    #setting up switches
    switch = self.addSwitch('switch1') ## Ac
    switch2 = self.addSwitch('switch2')
    switch3 = self.addSwitch('switch3')
    switch4 = self.addSwitch('switch4')
    #setting up hosts
    siri = self.addHost('Siri', ip='10.0.0.1')
    desktop = self.addHost('Desktop', ip='10.0.0.2')
    fridge = self.addHost('Fridge', ip='10.0.0.3')
    alexa = self.addHost('Alexa', ip='10.0.0.4')
    smarttv = self.addHost('SmartTv', ip='10.0.0.5')
    server = self.addHost('Server', ip='10.0.0.6')
  
```

Average is 4.5mbps and yes this is expected as even though the bandwidth between the switch and devices are 100 mbps limiting the switches still slows it down.

Take a **timestamped screenshot** and circle the lowest value for the bandwidth observed.

- f. Make a table comparing the output in 5(b), 5(c), 5(d), and 5(e). Discuss your results.

Problem	Bandwidth (s2-s3)	Bandwidth (host-switch)	Source of Data (Desktop/SmartTv)	Destination (Server)	Throughput	Rate at Sender
5(b)	1 Gbps	1 Gbps	Desktop	Server	678	679

5(c)	1 Gbps	100 Mbps	Desktop	Server	64.57	65.7
5(d)	1 Gbps	100 Mbps	Desktop	Server	32.47	30.47
5(d)	1 Gbps	100 Mbps	SmartTv	Server	39	36.37
5(e)	5 Mbps	100 Mbps	Desktop	Server	4.54	3.82

## Screenshots Table:

Timestamped Screenshot Check-off: (just for you to keep track of your progress)

Problem #	Screenshot
1b, c, d	
2b, e	
5b, c, d, e	

## Footnotes:

<sup>[1]</sup> References to figures and sections are for the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of our text, *Computer Networks, A Top-down Approach, 8<sup>th</sup> ed.*, J.F. Kurose and K.W. Ross, Addison-Wesley/Pearson, 2020.

<sup>[2]</sup> See <https://www.howtogeek.com/304218/how-to-clear-your-history-in-any-browser/> for instructions on clearing your browser cache.

<sup>[3]</sup> *Hint:* ideally, you should see an If-Modified-Since header since you've just downloaded this page a few seconds ago. However, depending on the browser you're using, and the format of the server's earlier response to your initial GET, your browser may not include an If-Modified-Since even if the document has been downloaded and cached. The Chrome browser is pretty good at regularly using If-Modified-Since. But Safari and Firefox are much more finicky about when to use If-Modified-Since. Life isn't always as easy in practice as it is in theory!