Identifying the TCP Behavior of Web Servers

Jitendra Padhye and Sally Floyd
ACIRI (AT&T Center for Internet Research at ICSI)
July 2000
http://www.aciri.org/tbit/

IETF, Transport Area Working Group
August 1, 2000

The TBIT Web Page contains the following:

- A paper, “Identifying the TCP Behavior of Web Servers”, reporting on experiments answering the following question:
  - How many web servers use NewReno instead of Reno or Tahoe TCP congestion control (in the absence of SACK)?

- The results of the experiments:
  - 84 of 136 web servers tested use NewReno TCP for non-SACK connections.
  - 56 of 136 web servers tested advertise “SACK-permitted”.

- Publicly available code for running experiments.

Future Work:

- Adding new tests, to test SACK congestion control, exponential backoff of the retransmit timer, and other elements of TCP congestion control.

- Adding tests contributed from others.

A Question:

- Is it socially-acceptable to put our NMAP results on-line, suggesting OSes for each web server?