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# Installation Manual for NS-3 on Ubuntu 20.04 LTS

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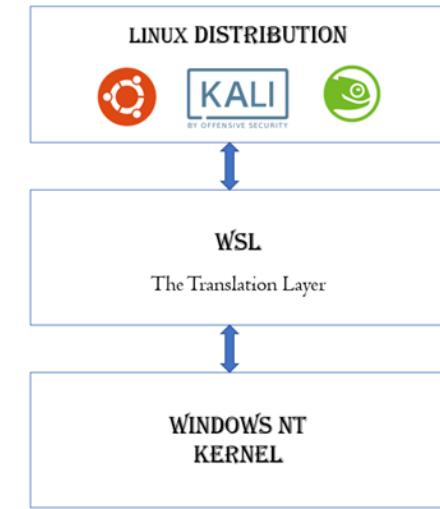
- Virtualized Instances of Ubuntu or Any Linux-based Distros
  - VMware [Player](#) or [Workstation](#) (16.0 or higher)
  - [VirtualBox](#) (6.1 or higher) and [Extension Pack](#)
  - [Docker Desktop for Windows](#)
  - [WSL or WSL-2](#) ([Overview](#))
  - Minimum Requirements
    - 20GB of Memory Allocation
    - 2-4 GB RAM allocation (less means slower)
    - Specific Windows Build 2004 or higher (for WSL-2)
- Basic Linux Commands (i.e., sudo, apt, ls, cat, nano, cp, mv )
- [Visual Studio Code](#) (Writing Codes)
- Terminal App (Compiling the Codes and Simulator Execution)
- [Wireshark](#) (Packet Sniffer and Analyzer)
- [Gnuplot](#) or Matplotlib (Plotting Graphs)

# A Short Overview on WSL

## Windows Subsystem for Linux

- Allows to install a Linux distribution as an app from the Windows store.
- Execute from a command prompt or PowerShell terminal
- Run Bash shell scripts and GNU/Linux command-line applications:
  - Languages: C, **C++**, Python, Java, GO, NodeJS, etc.
  - Services: Apache, MySQL, MongoDB, etc.

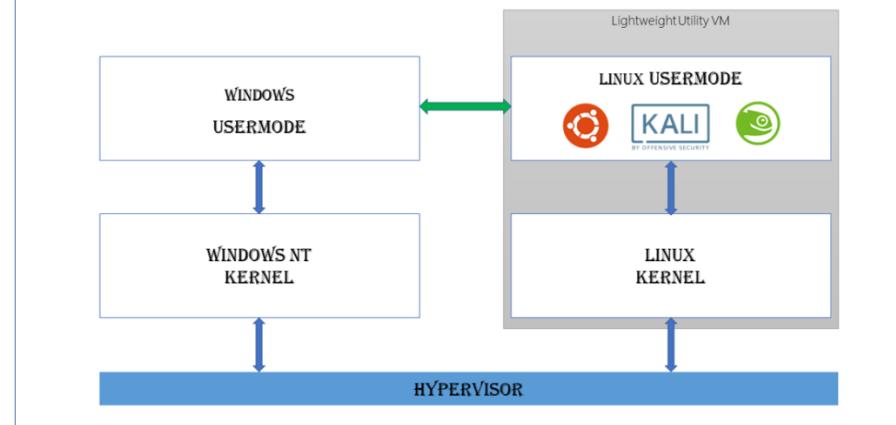
### WSL 1 Architecture



## What WSL-2 brings compared to WSL-1

- WSL2 runs on top of the Windows Hypervisor, which is a bare metal **hypervisor**
- Supports memory reclaim (uses only the right amount of **RAM** required for running the **Linux kernel**)
- Better integration with Windows OS

### WSL 2: Architecture



# Prerequisites and Installation Steps to WSL 2

## Windows 10 build 18917 or higher.

- To find your Windows version, open Settings>System>About and look for the "OS build" field. os\_build.
- **Step-1:** Enable the "Virtual Machine Platform" and "Windows Subsystem for Linux" feature; Alternatively: **Open PowerShell as Administrator and Run:**

```
dism.exe /online /enable-feature /featurename:Microsoft-Windows-Subsystem-Linux /all /norestart
```

- **Step-2:** Enable Virtual Machine feature before Ubuntu installation.
  - Require **virtualization** capabilities to use this feature
  - In some cases, you have to enable from **BIOS**.

```
dism.exe /online /enable-feature /featurename:VirtualMachinePlatform /all /norestart
```

- **Step-3:** Download the Linux kernel update package ([Link](#))

- **Step-4:** Set WSL 2 as your default version

```
wsl --set-default-version 2
```

- **Step-5:** Install your Linux distribution of choice ([Microsoft Store](#))

- **Step-6:** Create a user account and password for your new Linux distribution

- **Step-7:** Check the Distro and WSL version

```
wsl -l -v
```

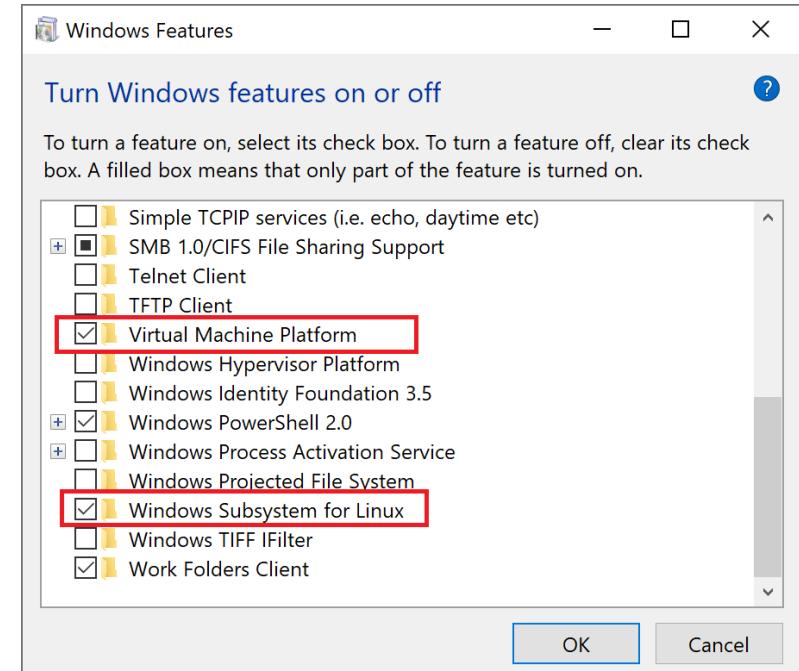
## Windows specifications

Edition Windows 10 Home Insider Preview  
Version 1903  
Installed on 7/13/2019  
**OS build 18936.1000**

Serial number  
[Change product key or upgrade your edition of Windows](#)

[Read the Microsoft Services Agreement that applies to our services](#)

[Read the Microsoft Software License Terms](#)



# Prerequisites and Installation Steps to NS-3 on Ubuntu 20.04

## Explain Each Steps and Commands

- **Step-1:** Change the Software Repository (Tsinghua, Aliyun, USTC)

```
sudo sed -i 's#archive.ubuntu.com#mirrors.tuna.tsinghua.edu.cn#g'  
/etc/apt/sources.list
```

- **Step-2:** Update the Repo and Upgrade the System

```
sudo apt update && sudo apt -y upgrade
```

- **Step-3:** Install Desktop Environment (KDE, XFCE,LXDE, GNOME 3)

```
sudo apt install xfce4 xfce4-goodies
```

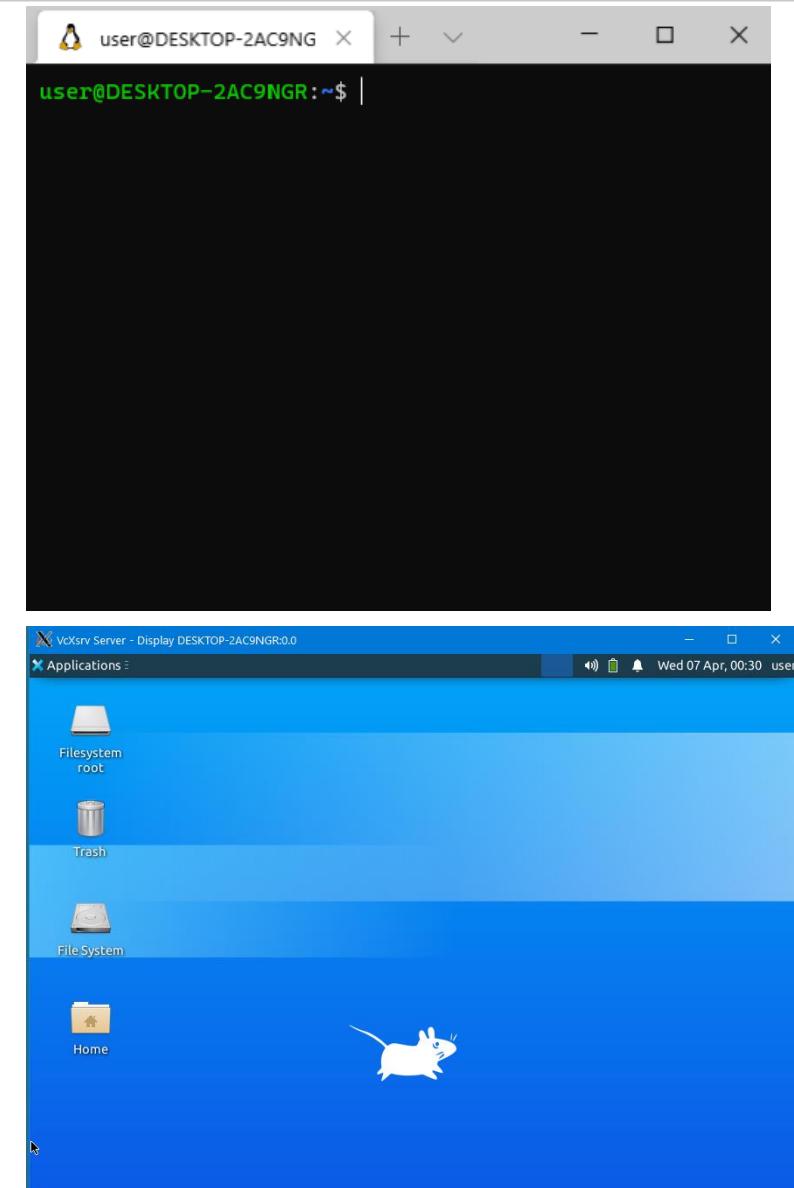
- **Step-4:** Install Core Dependencies

```
sudo apt install build-essential libsqlite3-dev libboost-all-dev  
libssl-dev git python3-setuptools castxml
```

- **Step-5:** Dependencies for NS-3 Python bindings

```
sudo apt install gir1.2-goocanvas-2.0 gir1.2-gtk-3.0  
libgirepository1.0-dev python3-dev python3-gi python3-gi-cairo  
python3-pip python3-pygraphviz python3-pygccxml
```

```
sudo pip3 install kiwi
```



# NS-3 Prerequisites and Installation (Cont.)



## Explanation to Each Steps to Installation Process

### ➤ Step-6: ns-3 Specific Dependencies Libraries

```
sudo apt install g++ pkg-config sqlite3 qt5-default mercurial
ipython3 openmpi-bin openmpi-common openmpi-doc libopenmpi-dev
autoconf cvs bzip2 unrar gdb valgrind uncrustify doxygen graphviz
imagemagick python3-sphinx dia tcpdump libxml2 libxml2-dev cmake
libc6-dev libc6-dev-i386 libclang-6.0-dev llvm-6.0-dev automake
```

### ➤ Step-6: Download and Extract ns-3 Install Pack

```
cd
wget -c https://www.nsnam.org/releases/ns-allinone-3.33.tar.bz2
tar -xvzf ns-allinone-3.33.tar.bz2
```

### ➤ Step-7: Install ns-3 Simulator with waf command

```
cd ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33/
./waf configure --enable-examples
./waf
cd
```

### ➤ Step-7.1: Alternatively we can use build.py to compile and build ns-3

```
cd ns-allinone-3.33/
./build.py --enable-examples --enable-tests
```

## ns-3 Package Overview

### What NS-3 Pack Includes:

- Directories
  - bake
  - netanim-3.108
  - ns-3.33
  - pybindgen-0.21.0...
- Files
  - build.py, constants.py, util.py

### Confirm the Procedure (Terminal):

- Most modules should be built except
  - brite
  - click
  - openflow
- Others should be built including
  - visualizer

# Validate NS-3 Installation and Build NetAnim



## Validate Ns-3 Installation

### ➤ Step-8: Check ns-3 installation

```
cd ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33/  
.waf --run hello-simulator
```

The terminal should output

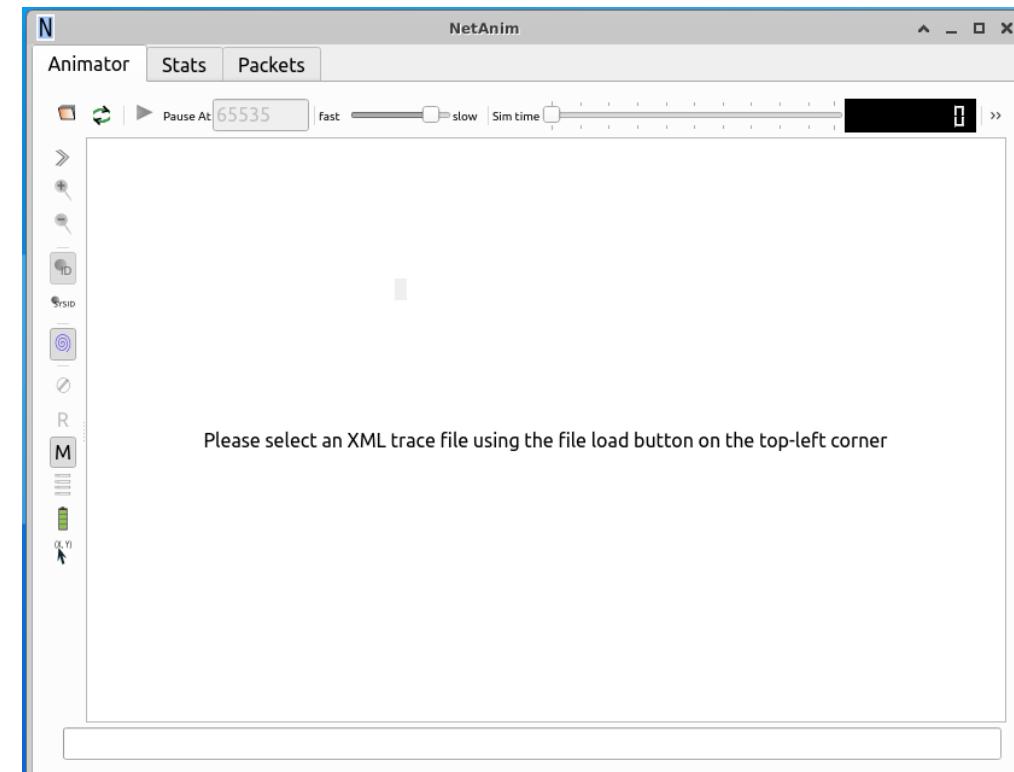
Hello Simulator

```
Modules built:  
antenna           aodv          applications  
bridge             buildings      config-store  
core               csma          csma-layout  
dsdv               dsr           energy  
fd-net-device     flow-monitor  internet  
internet-apps    lr-wpan       lte  
mesh               mobility      netanim  
network            nix-vector-routing olsr  
point-to-point    point-to-point-layout propagation  
sixlowpan          spectrum     stats  
tap-bridge         test (no Python) topology-read  
traffic-control   uan           virtual-net-device  
visualizer        wave          wifi  
  
Modules not built (see ns-3 tutorial for explanation):  
brite              click          dpdk-net-device  
mpi                openflow  
  
user@DESKTOP-2AC9NGR:~/ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33$ ./waf --run hello-simulator  
Waf: Entering directory '/home/user/ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33/build'  
Waf: Leaving directory '/home/user/ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33/build'  
Build commands will be stored in build/compile_commands.json  
'build' finished successfully (1.160s)  
Hello Simulator
```

## Validate NetAnim Installation

### ➤ Step-9: Build and Compile netanim-3

```
cd ns-allinone-3.33/netanim-3.108/  
make clean  
qmake NetAnim.pro  
make  
.NetAnim  
cd
```



# Using NS-3 Simulator to Build, Run Simulation Scenarios



## Compiling examples and custom-written scenarios

### ➤ Test Scenario

```
./waf --run first
```

```
Waf: Entering directory '/home/user/ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33+7/waf' ran by root
Waf: Leaving directory '/home/user/ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33/build'
Build commands will be stored in build/compile_commands.json
'build' finished successfully (2.088s)
ExampleFunction received event at 10s
RandomFunction received event at 18.1653s
Member method received event at 20s started at 10s
```

```
tree examples/tutorial/
```

```
examples-to-run.py
fifth.cc
first.cc
first.py
fourth.cc
hello-simulator.cc
second.cc
second.py
seventh.cc
sixth.cc
third.cc
third.py
wscript
```

```
ls -l examples/tutorial/
```

```
total 70
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 859 Jan 10 02:19 examples-to-run.py
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 6487 Jan 10 02:19 fifth.cc
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 2464 Jan 10 02:19 first.cc
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 2238 Jan 10 02:19 first.py
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 1791 Jan 10 02:19 fourth.cc
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 894 Jan 10 02:19 hello-simulator.cc
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 3592 Jan 10 02:19 second.cc
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 3431 Jan 10 02:19 second.py
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 10001 Jan 10 02:19 seventh.cc
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 7252 Apr  7 03:25 sixth.cc
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 6048 Jan 10 02:19 third.cc
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 5649 Jan 10 02:19 third.py
rw-r--r-- 1 user user 1417 Jan 10 02:19 wscript
```

## Custom Scenario

```
nano scratch/1.cc
./waf
./waf --run scratch/1
```

```
GNU nano 4.8
/*
TCPTTestRouteMod v0.1
Two nodes communicating over PPP with TCP protocol
There is a routing node in the middle.
*/

#include "ns3/netanim-module.h"
#include "ns3/core-module.h"
#include "ns3/network-module.h"
#include "ns3/internet-module.h"
#include "ns3/point-to-point-module.h"
#include "ns3/applications-module.h"

using namespace ns3;
Ptr<OutputStreamWrapper> cWndStream;

NS_LOG_COMPONENT_DEFINE ("TCPTTest");

class TestApp : public Application{
public:
    TestApp() : m_socket (0),
    m_peer (),
    m_packetSize (0),
    m_nPackets (0),
    m_dataRate (0),
    m_sendEvent (),
    m_running (false),
    m_packetsSent (0) {
}
~TestApp() {
    m_socket = 0;
}
```

# Visualize Simulation Scenario using PyViz



## PyViz Intro and Configuration in Custom Scenario

### ➤ Run Example Code

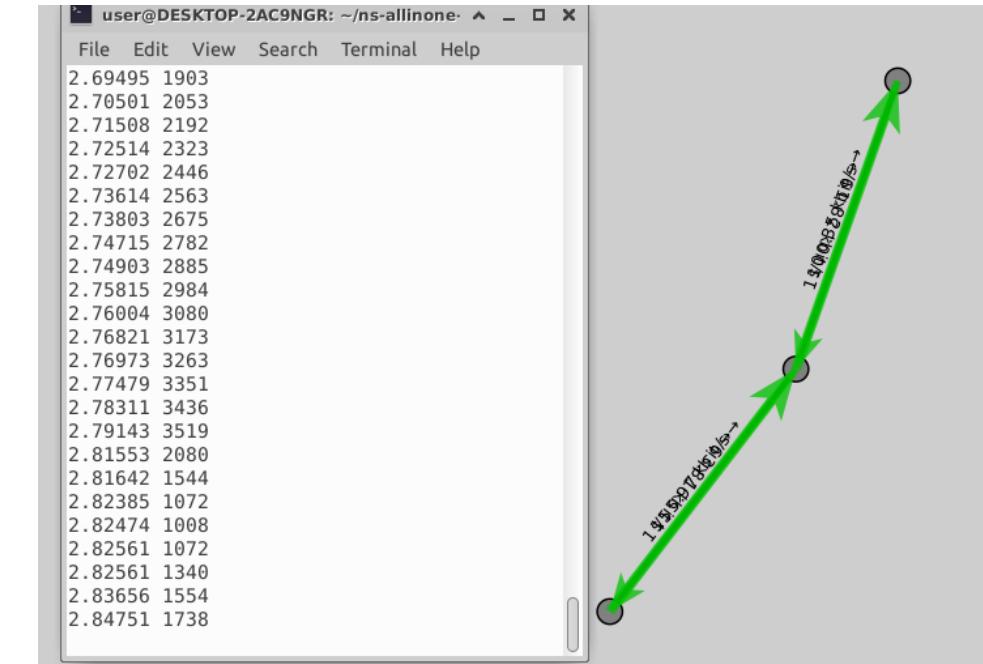
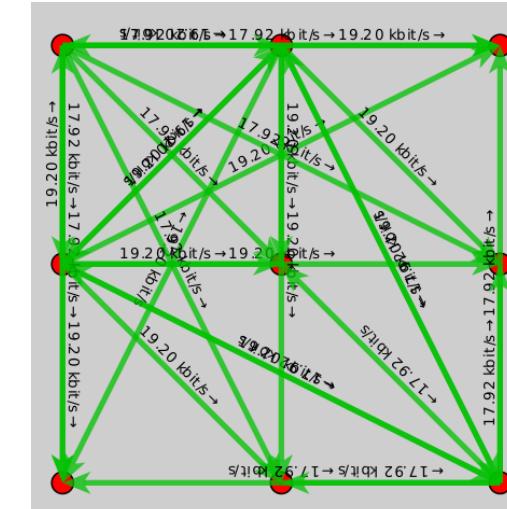
```
./waf --pyrun src/flow-monitor/examples/wifi-olsr-
flowmon.py --vis
```

### ➤ Make Changes on the Scenario

```
//int main ()
int main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    Time::SetResolution(Time::NS);
    LogComponentEnable("TCPTTest", LOG_LEVEL_INFO);
```

```
// Read optional command-line parameters (e.g., en
CommandLine cmd;
cmd.Parse(argc, argv);

//Creating 3 nodes. 2 will be source dest pair, th
NS_LOG_INFO("Creating Nodes");
NodeContainer nodes;
nodes.Create(3);
```

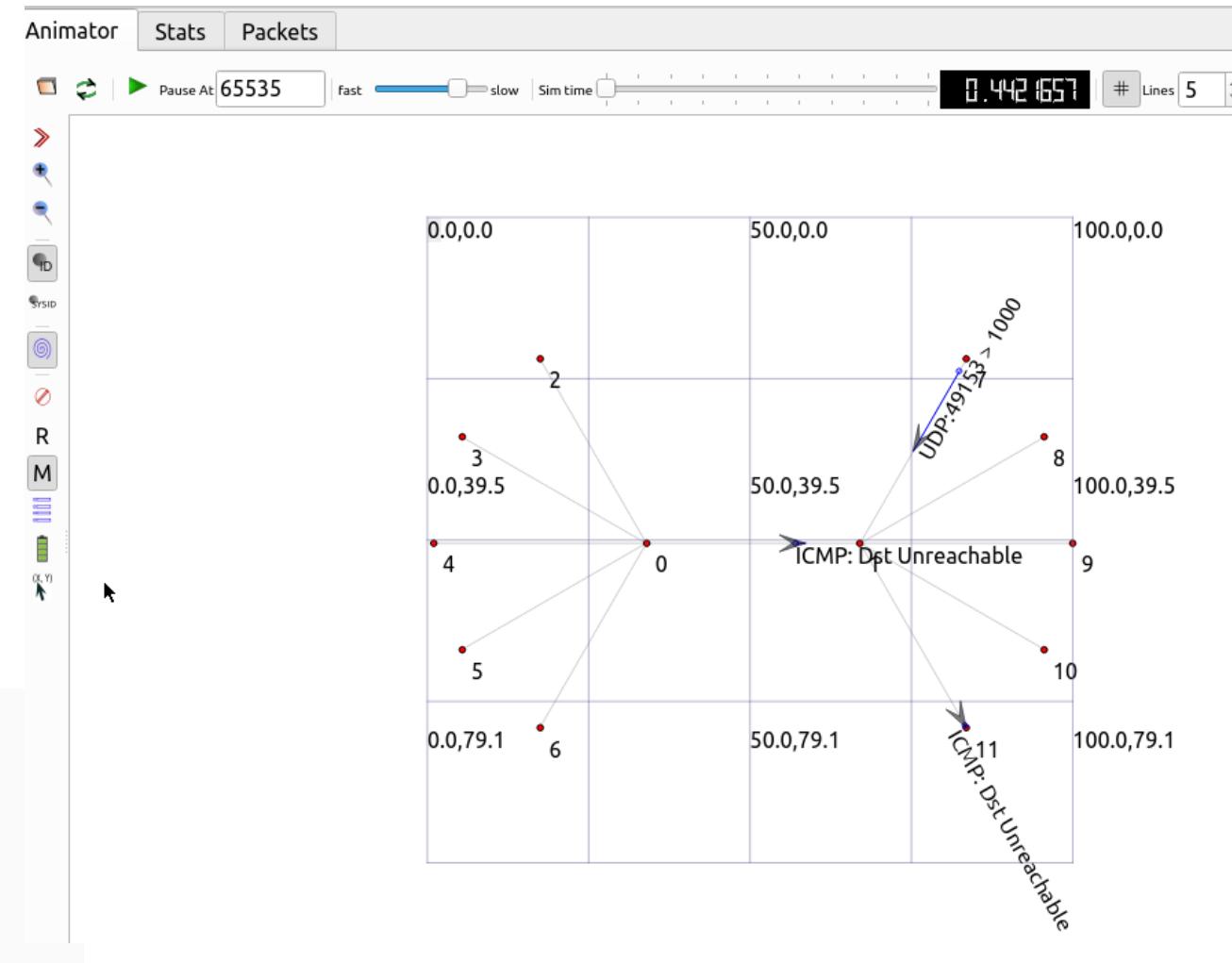


# Visualize Simulation Scenario using NetAnim

## Enabling NetAnim xml in Simulation

- Add the header file
- Add the .xml output file
- .xml file needs to be open in NetAnim

```
17 #include "ns3/netanim-module.h"
18 #include "ns3/core-module.h"
19 #include "ns3/network-module.h"
20 #include "ns3/internet-module.h"
21 #include "ns3/point-to-point-module.h"
22 #include "ns3/applications-module.h"
23
24 NS_LOG_COMPONENT_DEFINE ("FirstScriptExample");
25
26 using namespace ns3;
27 Ptr<OutputStreamWrapper> cWndStream;
28 Ptr<OutputStreamWrapper> ssThreshStream;
29
30 sourceApp->SetStartTime(Seconds(1.0));
31 sourceApp->SetStopTime(Seconds(20.0));
32
33 AnimationInterface anim("scratch/first.xml");
34 anim.SetConstantPosition(nodes.Get(0), 0.0, 0.0);
35 anim.SetConstantPosition(nodes.Get(1), 20.0, 20.0);
36
37 p2p.EnablePcapAll("scratch/TCPTest");
38
39 //Initializing the cwndStream
```



# Analyzing Packets in Wireshark



## Enable Pcap Tracing into the Scenario

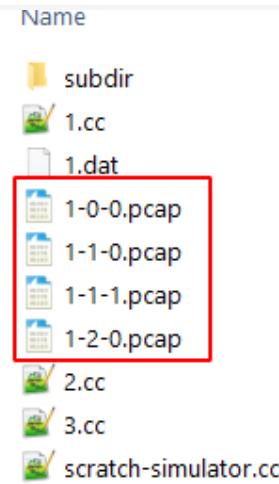
- Add EnablePcapAll function
- Run the simulation
- \*.pcap files will be generated
- Two choices to view the pcap files in WSL
  - Install Wireshark on Host Windows
  - Add Wireshark Program Folder to Environment variables -> Path

```
explorer.exe .
wireshark.exe scratch/1-0-0.pcap
```

```
//Enabling Pcap Tracing
p2p.EnablePcapAll("scratch/1");

//Initializing the cWndStream
AsciiTraceHelper asciiTraceHelper;
cWndStream = asciiTraceHelper.CreateFileStream();

Simulator::Stop(Seconds(20.0));
NS_LOG_INFO("Starting Simulator");
Simulator::Run ();
NS_LOG_INFO("Destroying Simulator");
Simulator::Destroy ();
```



No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	58	49153 → 8080 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=
2	0.008371	10.1.2.2	10.1.1.1	TCP	58	8080 → 49153 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0
3	0.008371	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	54	49153 → 8080 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=
4	0.008457	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	590	49153 → 8080 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=
5	0.009401	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	590	49153 → 8080 [ACK] Seq=537 Ack=
6	0.010345	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	590	49153 → 8080 [ACK] Seq=1073 Ack=
7	0.011289	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	526	49153 → 8080 [ACK] Seq=1609 Ack=
8	0.016640	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	590	49153 → 8080 [ACK] Seq=2081 Ack=
9	0.017584	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	558	49153 → 8080 [ACK] Seq=2617 Ack=
10	0.018518	10.1.2.2	10.1.1.1	TCP	54	8080 → 49153 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=
11	0.020406	10.1.2.2	10.1.1.1	TCP	54	8080 → 49153 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=
12	0.024960	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	590	49153 → 8080 [ACK] Seq=3121 Ack=
13	0.025904	10.1.1.1	10.1.2.2	TCP	558	49153 → 8080 [ACK] Seq=3657 Ack=

Header Checksum: 0x0000 [validation disabled] [Header checksum status: Unverified] Source Address: 10.1.1.1 Destination Address: 10.1.2.2
▼ Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 49153, Dst Port: 8080, Seq: 0, Len: 0
Source Port: 49153 Destination Port: 8080 [Stream index: 0] [TCP Segment Len: 0] Sequence Number: 0 (relative sequence number) Sequence Number (raw): 0 [Next Sequence Number: 1 (relative sequence number)] Acknowledgment Number: 0 Acknowledgment number (raw): 0 1001 .... = Header Length: 36 bytes (9)
> Flags: 0x002 (SYN) Window: 65535 [Calculated window size: 65535] Checksum: 0x0000 [unverified] [Checksum Status: Unverified]
0000 00 21 45 00 00 38 00 00 00 00 40 06 00 00 0a 01 .!E..8...@.... 0010 01 01 0a 01 02 02 c0 01 1f 90 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....

# Generating Data and Plotting the Data into Graph

## Working with Gnuplot

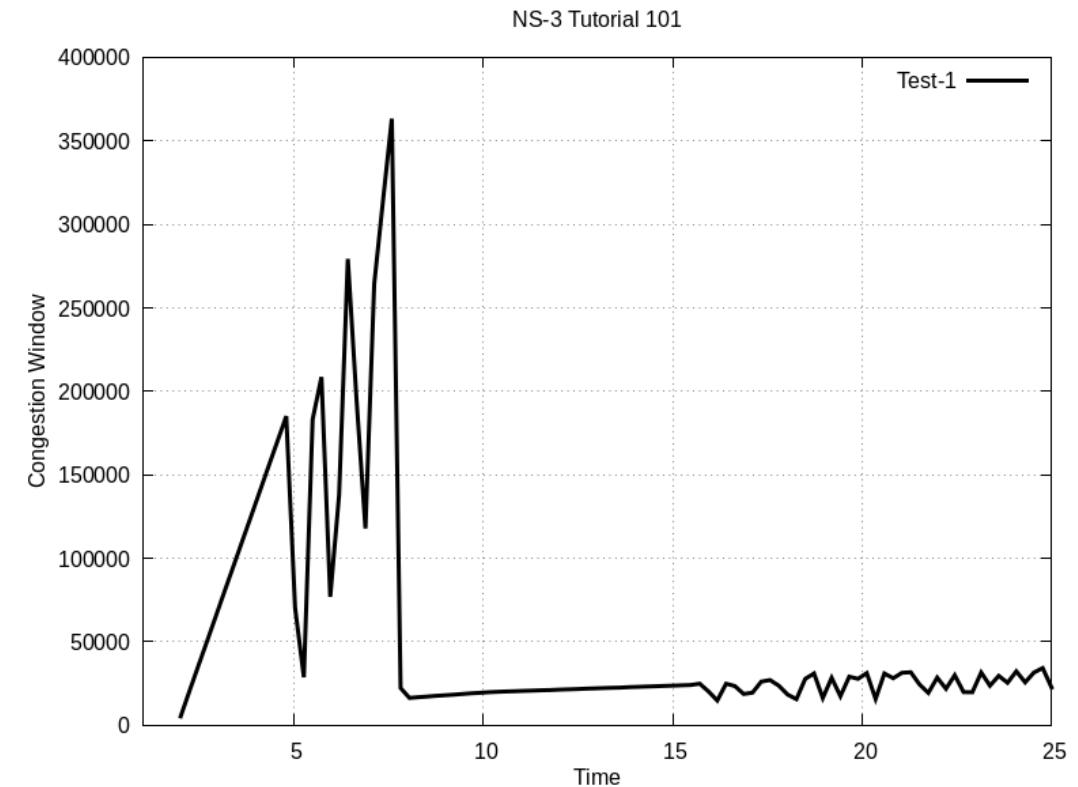
- Generate result.dat file

```
./waf --run scratch/2 >& result.dat
```

- Simple script to Generate Plot

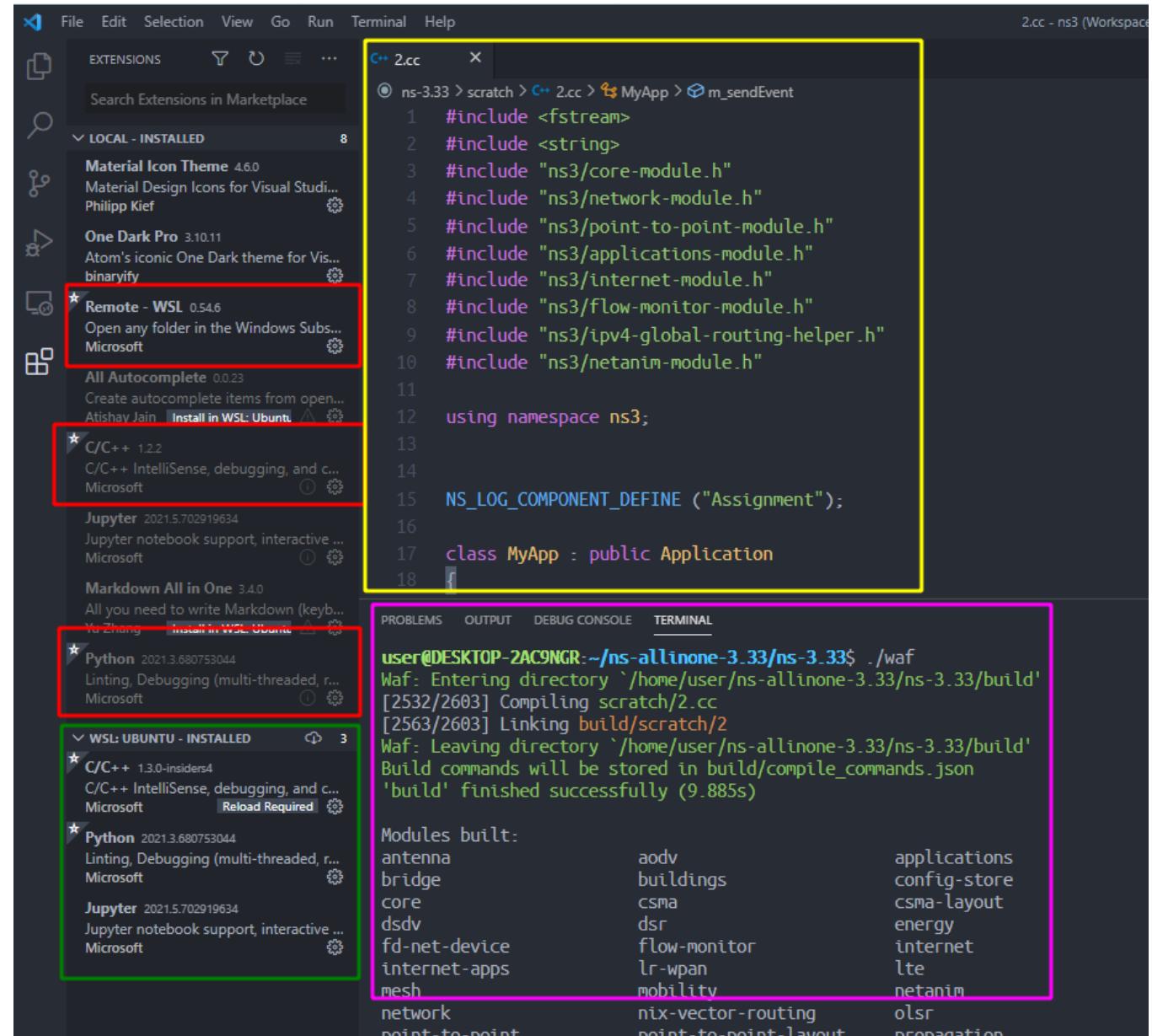
```
gnuplot plot.gnu
```

```
1  reset
2  set terminal wxt size 800,600 font 'Liberation Sans,12'
3  set autoscale
4  set key width -2
5  set grid
6  set key opaque right top horizontal
7
8  set xrange [1:25]
9  set title "NS-3 Tutorial 101"
10 set xlabel "Time" offset 0,0.5
11 set ylabel "Congestion Window" offset 1,0
12
13 plot "result.dat" using 1:2 title "Test-1" lc rgb '#4B96D1' lw 3 smooth cspline
14
15 pause -1
```



## Use Code Editor based on Your Choice

- There is no specific Code Editor for NS-3.
  - Visual Studio code
  - PyCharm
  - Atom
  - Eclipse
- VSCode has better integration with WSL.



The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface. On the left, the Extensions sidebar is open, displaying a list of installed extensions. Two extensions are highlighted with red boxes: "Remote - WSL 0.54.6" and "Python 2021.3.680753044". Both have "Install in WSL: Ubuntu" buttons next to them. A green box highlights the "WSL: UBUNTU - INSTALLED" section at the bottom of the list, which contains the same two extensions again, along with "C/C++ 1.3.0-insiders4" and "Jupyter 2021.5.702919634". On the right, the main code editor window shows a C++ file named "2.cc" with the following code:

```
ns-3.33 > scratch > C++ 2.cc > MyApp > m_sendEvent
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <string>
3 #include "ns3/core-module.h"
4 #include "ns3/network-module.h"
5 #include "ns3/point-to-point-module.h"
6 #include "ns3/applications-module.h"
7 #include "ns3/internet-module.h"
8 #include "ns3/flow-monitor-module.h"
9 #include "ns3/ipv4-global-routing-helper.h"
10 #include "ns3/netanim-module.h"

using namespace ns3;

NS_LOG_COMPONENT_DEFINE ("Assignment");

class MyApp : public Application
{
```

Below the code editor, a terminal window shows the command-line output of a build process:

```
user@DESKTOP-2AC9NGR:~/ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33$ ./waf
Waf: Entering directory `/home/user/ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33/build'
[2532/2603] Compiling scratch/2.cc
[2563/2603] Linking build/scratch/2
Waf: Leaving directory `/home/user/ns-allinone-3.33/ns-3.33/build'
Build commands will be stored in build/compile_commands.json
'build' finished successfully (9.885s)

Modules built:
antenna           aodv          applications
bridge            buildings       config-store
core              csma          csma-layout
dsdv              dsr           energy
fd-net-device     flow-monitor   internet
internet-apps    lr-wpan       lte
mesh               mobility      netanim
network           nix-vector-routing olsr
point-to-point    point-to-point-layout propagation
```

# Additional Links and References

1. WSL2 GUI X-Server Using VcXsrv <https://www.shogan.co.uk/how-tos/wsl2-gui-x-server-using-vcxsrv/>
2. Windows Subsystem for Linux Installation Guide for Windows 10 <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/wsl/install-win10>
3. WSL-1 and WSL-2 Tutorial <https://github.com/QMonkey/wsl-tutorial>
4. ns3 Shared Resource by Adil Alsuhaim <https://github.com/addola/NS3-HelperScripts/>
5. Dev on Windows with WSL <https://dowww.spencerwoo.com/>
6. WSL 2 Networking <https://davidbombal.com/wsl-2-networking/>
7. NS3在WSL上的安装 <https://zhuanlan.zhihu.com/p/265510752>
8. NS3 installation [https://shihchun.github.io/ns3\\_installation/](https://shihchun.github.io/ns3_installation/)
9. NS3 User Groups <https://groups.google.com/g/ns-3-users/>
10. Comparing TCP algorithms <https://haltaro.github.io/comparing-tcp-algorithms/>
11. ns-3 Network Simulator <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2W5mdzQrwXI>



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# Thank you for listening!

Contact: [mkarim@bit.edu.cn](mailto:mkarim@bit.edu.cn)

Feel free to direct your questions  
about installation of ns-3 to me