

How to improve the connection between your computer and the Combat Box servers

From the Speed Guide website: “The TCP Optimizer is a free, easy Windows program that provides an intuitive interface for tuning and optimizing your Internet connection. There is no installation required, just download and run as administrator.

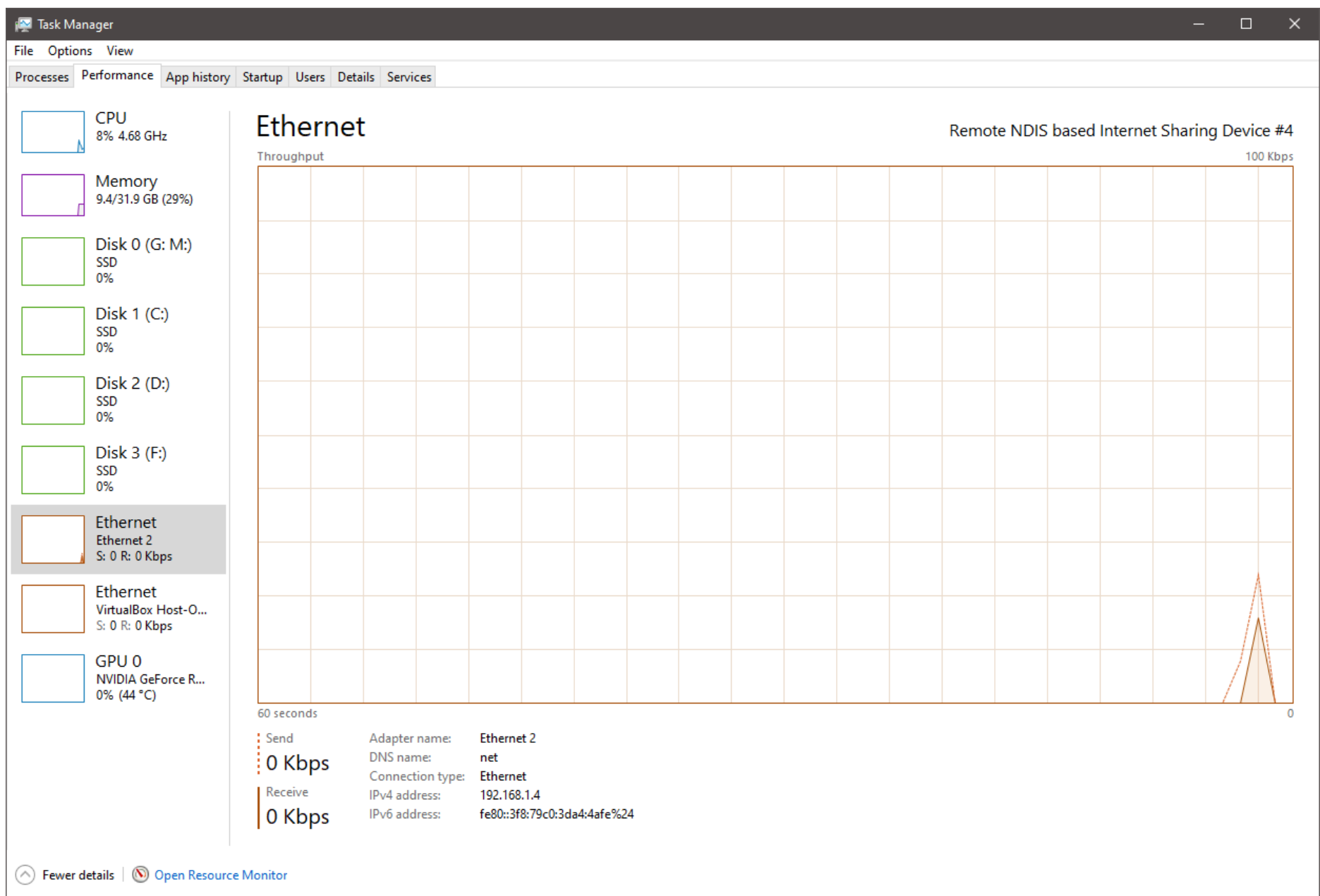
The program can aid both the novice and the advanced user in tweaking related TCP/IP parameters in Windows, making it easy to tune your system to the type of Internet connection used. The tool uses advanced algorithms, and the bandwidth*delay product to find the best TCP Window for your specific connection speed. It provides for easy tuning of all related TCP/IP parameters, such as MTU, RWIN, and even advanced ones like QoS and ToS/Diffserv prioritization. The program works with all current versions of Windows, and includes additional tools, such as testing average latency over multiple hosts, and finding the largest possible packet size (MTU).

The TCP Optimizer is targeted towards broadband internet connections, however it can be helpful with tuning any internet connection type, from dialup to Gigabit+ :) It is completely free, works with most Windows versions from XP to Windows 11, requires no installation, and has been downloaded over 10 Million times over the years.”

Step 1: Download the free software here : [TCP Optimizer 4](#) (save in your download folder)

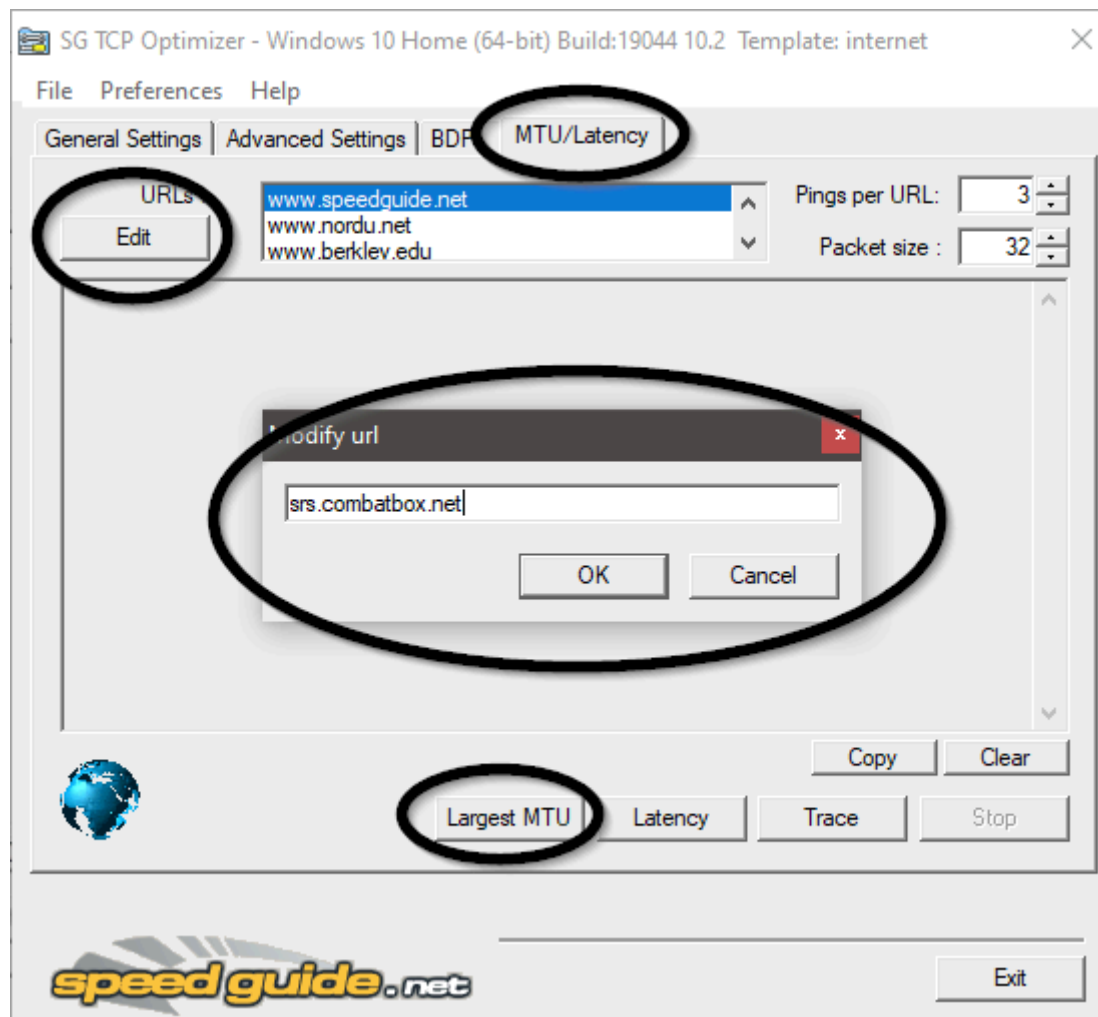
Step 2 : Identify your internet device (Task Manager -> Performance tab).

In my case it's “Ethernet 2” as seen below.

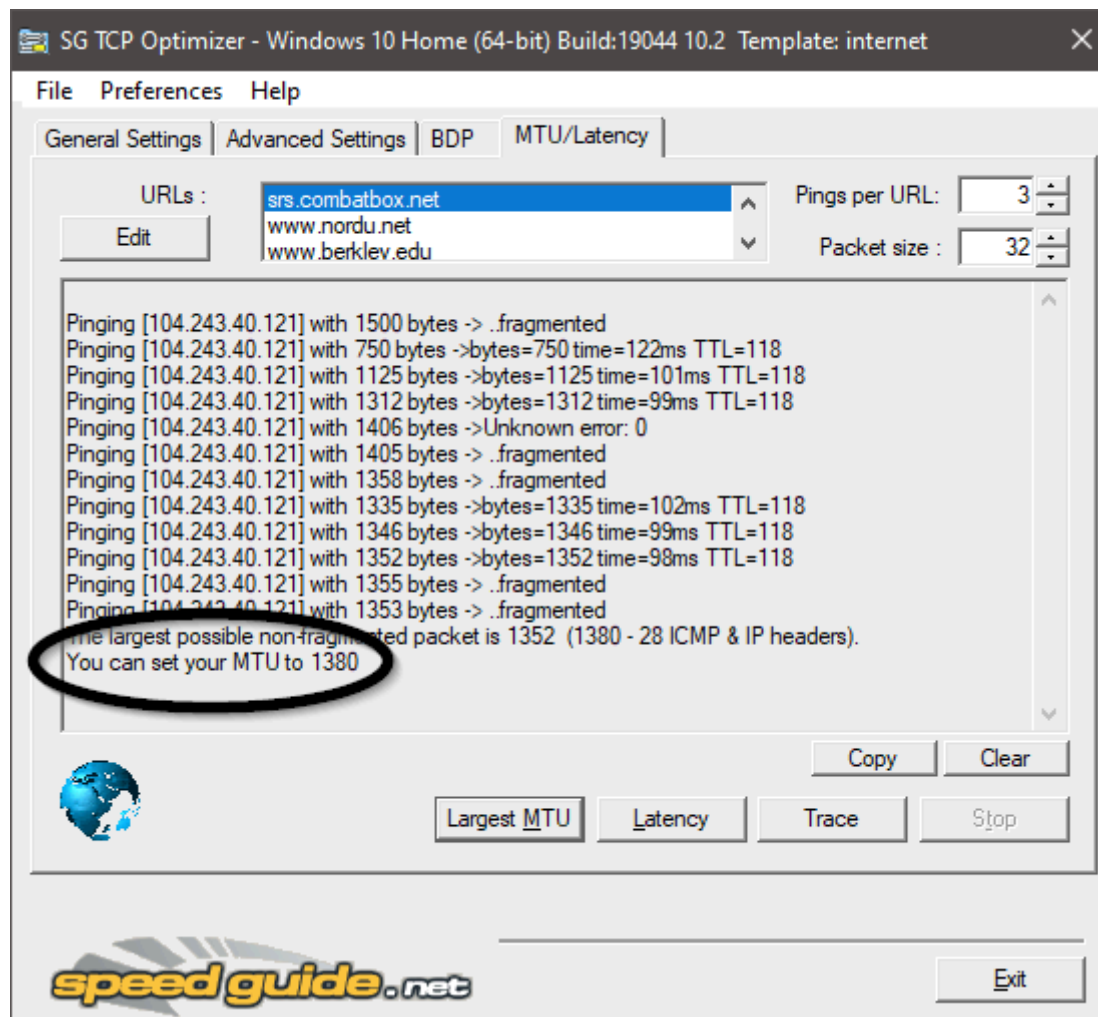


Step 3 : Right-click “TCPOptimizer.exe” that you downloaded in step 1 and select “Run as administrator”. On Windows 11 this may be located under “Compatibility” settings.

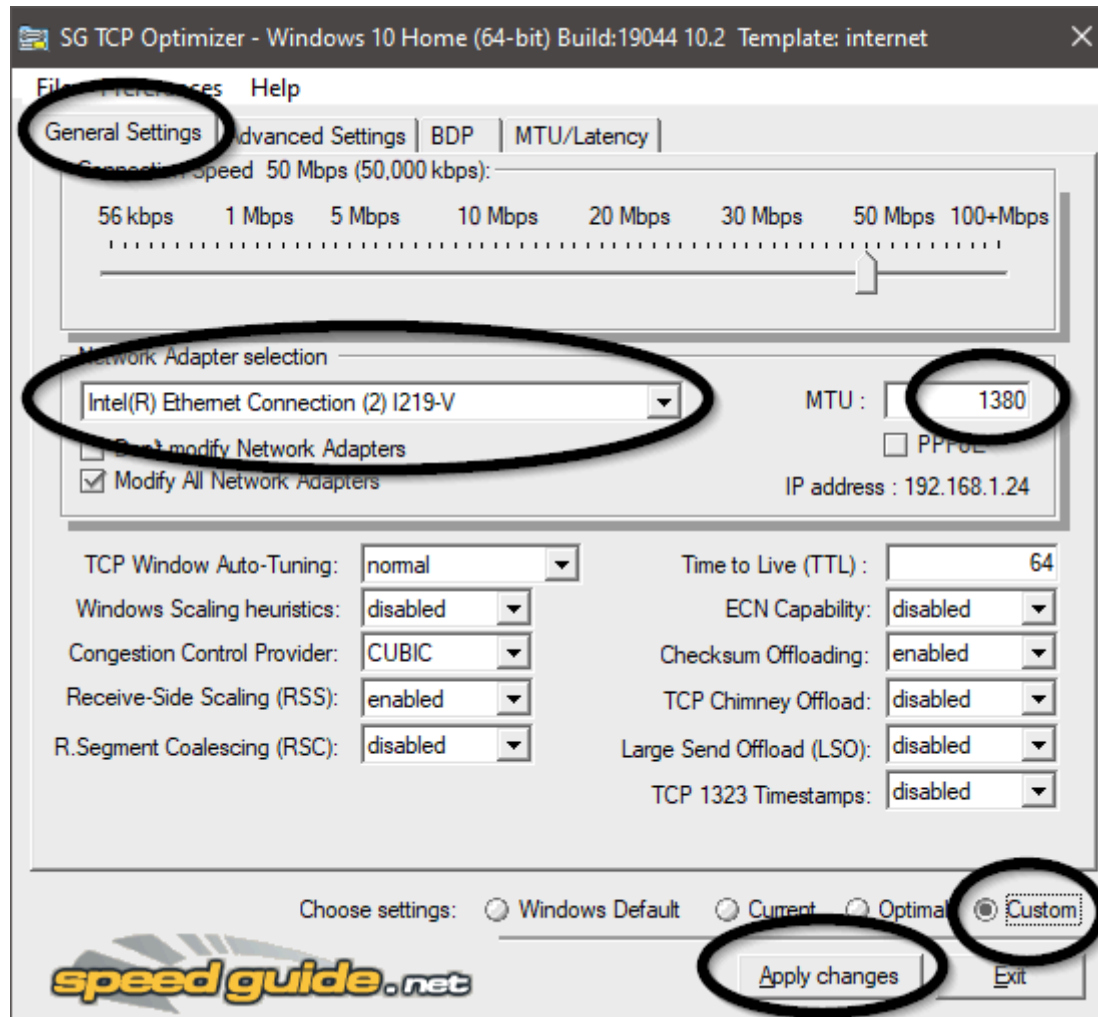
Click on the “MTU/Latency” tab, then click on the “Edit” button, and add “srs.combatbox.net”, and click the “OK” button”:



Now click the “Largest MTU” button, and the application will test various packet sizes to determine the optimal packet size between your computer and the Combat Box servers in the New York data centre. In my case it’s **1380** bytes :



Step 4 : Return to the “General settings” tab, select your network adapter, select the “Custom” radio button (located just above the Exit button), and enter the MTU/packet size that you obtained in the previous step, in my case 1380. Click on the “Apply changes” button, and let the application reboot your system. If the optimal value is 1500 (the default in Windows) I would recommend lowering it to 1200 and testing it for a few IL-2 sessions just to check if it improves your connection stability to Combat Box.



Your internet connection should now be optimized between your computer and the Combat Box servers, and hopefully will avoid most disconnection issues while playing IL-2.