

1. Introduction:

In the evolving landscape of network technologies, understanding and analysing network traffic have become pivotal for maintaining robust and secure communication infrastructures. This Wireshark analysis project delves into the intricate details of network communication to unravel patterns, troubleshoot issues, and gain valuable insights.

Network analysis serves as a crucial component in the toolkit of IT professionals, enabling them to optimize performance, troubleshoot problems, and bolster security measures. This project utilizes Wireshark, a powerful open-source packet analyser, to dissect and interpret captured network packets.

Purpose:

The primary purpose of this project is to showcase practical skills in network analysis using Wireshark. By capturing and dissecting packets in various scenarios, the project aims to provide a hands-on demonstration of troubleshooting, protocol analysis, and security assessment.

Significance:

Understanding network traffic goes beyond mere technical proficiency; it empowers professionals to proactively manage and secure network environments. The insights gained from this analysis project contribute not only to individual skill development but also to the broader domain of network management and cybersecurity.

Scope:

The scope of this project encompasses a range of activities, from basic packet capture and analysis to advanced protocol examination. Simulated troubleshooting scenarios and security analyses further highlight the practical applications of Wireshark in real-world scenarios.

Through this project, we aim to contribute to the knowledge base of network analysis while showcasing the capabilities of Wireshark in addressing challenges faced in modern network environments.

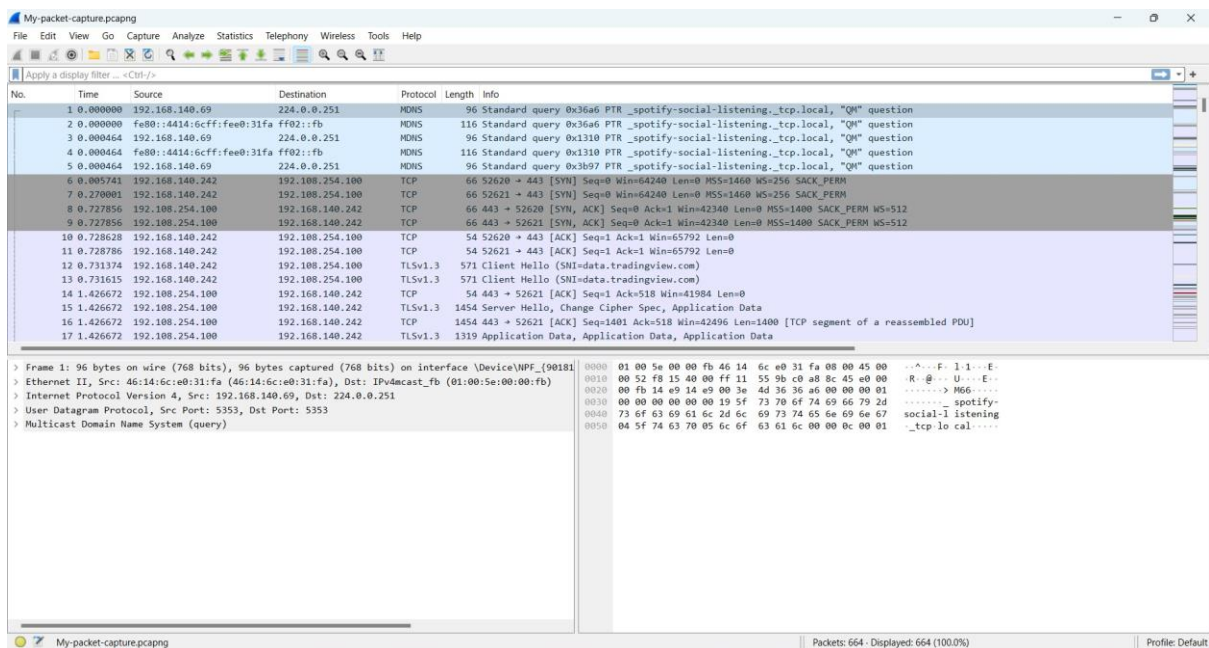
2. Objectives:

The objectives of this Wireshark analysis project were designed to achieve a comprehensive understanding of network traffic patterns, troubleshoot specific scenarios, and gain insights into protocol interactions. The primary goals included:

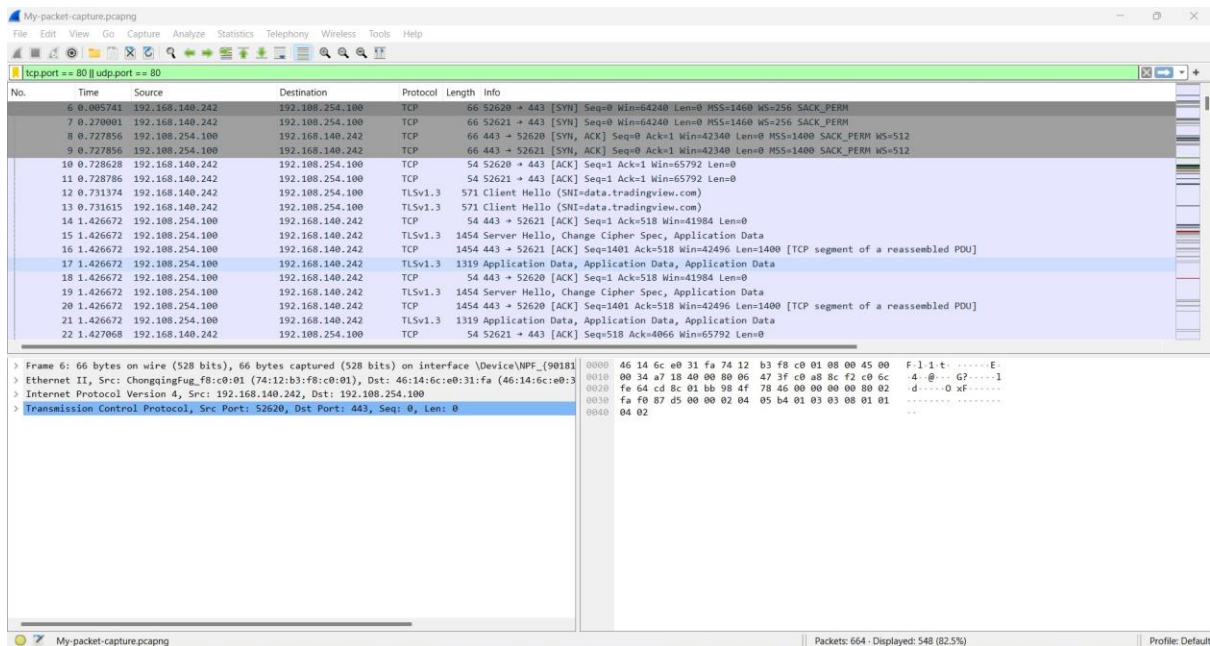
A. Packet Capture and Analysis:

Capture network traffic in various scenarios to understand the communication patterns between devices.

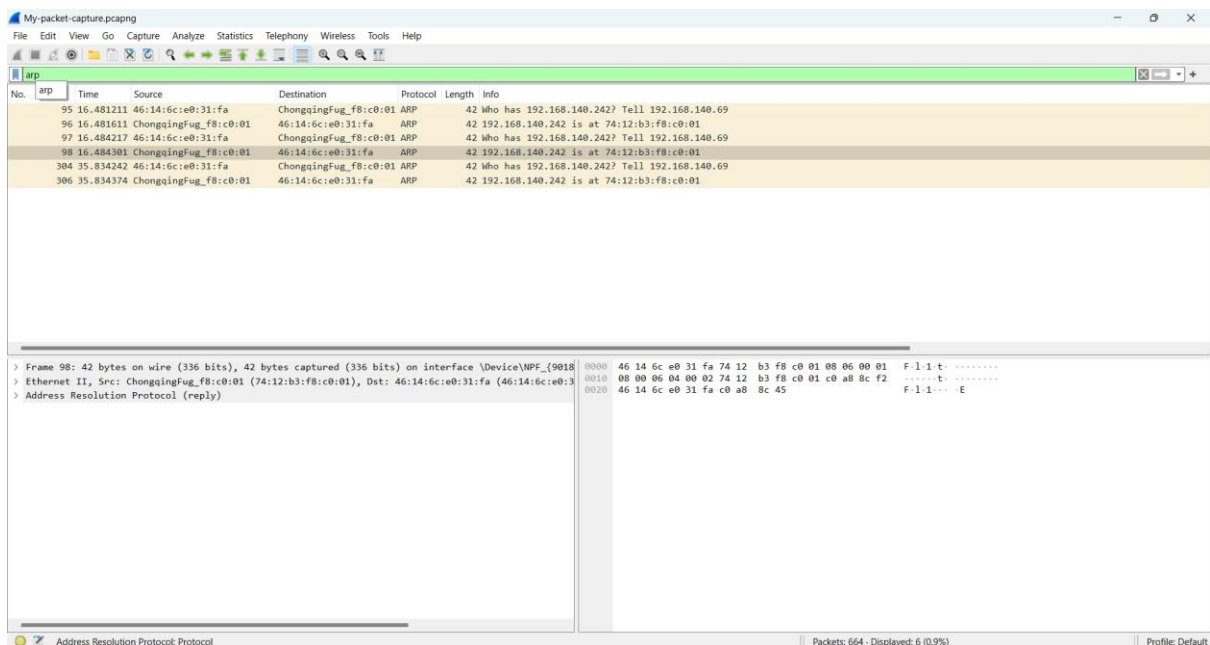
Analyze captured packets to identify common protocols, source/destination addresses, and data payloads.



This screenshot marks the completion of the packet capture process in Wireshark. The packet list displays a summary of captured packets, including packet number, timestamp, source, destination addresses, and protocol types. The packet details pane provides additional information about the selected packet, while the packet bytes section offers a detailed view of the raw data.

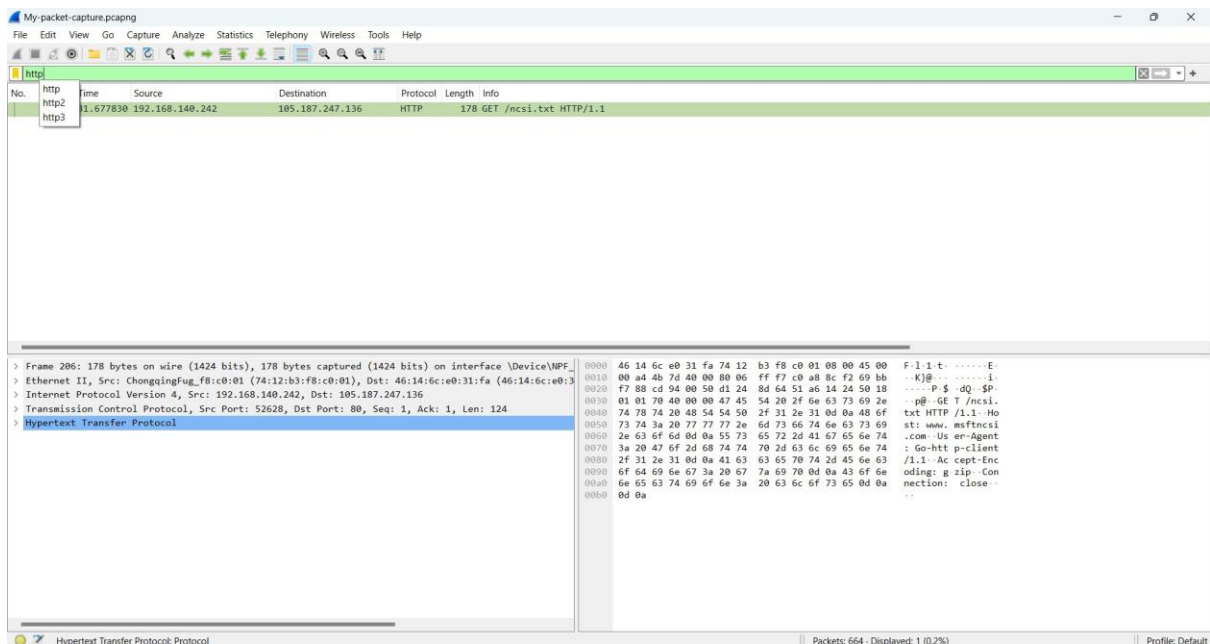


In this screenshot, a filter has been applied to display only TCP and UDP traffic on port 80. This targeted filter allows for a focused analysis on network activity related to common web traffic. The packet list is refined to show packets matching the specified criteria, aiding in a more detailed examination of relevant communication.

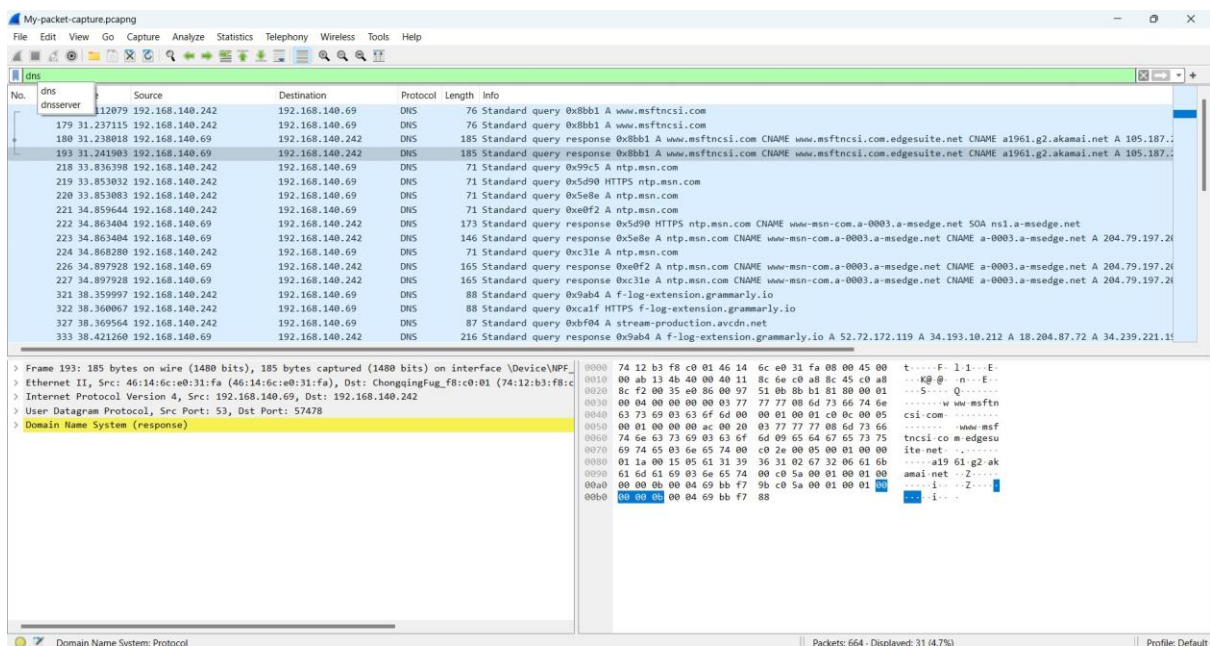


This screenshot illustrates the application of a filter to display only ARP (Address Resolution Protocol) traffic. By focusing on ARP packets, essential for mapping IP addresses to MAC addresses, this filter allows for a targeted analysis of network address resolution. The packet list reflects exclusively

ARP packets, providing insights into device connectivity and network mapping.

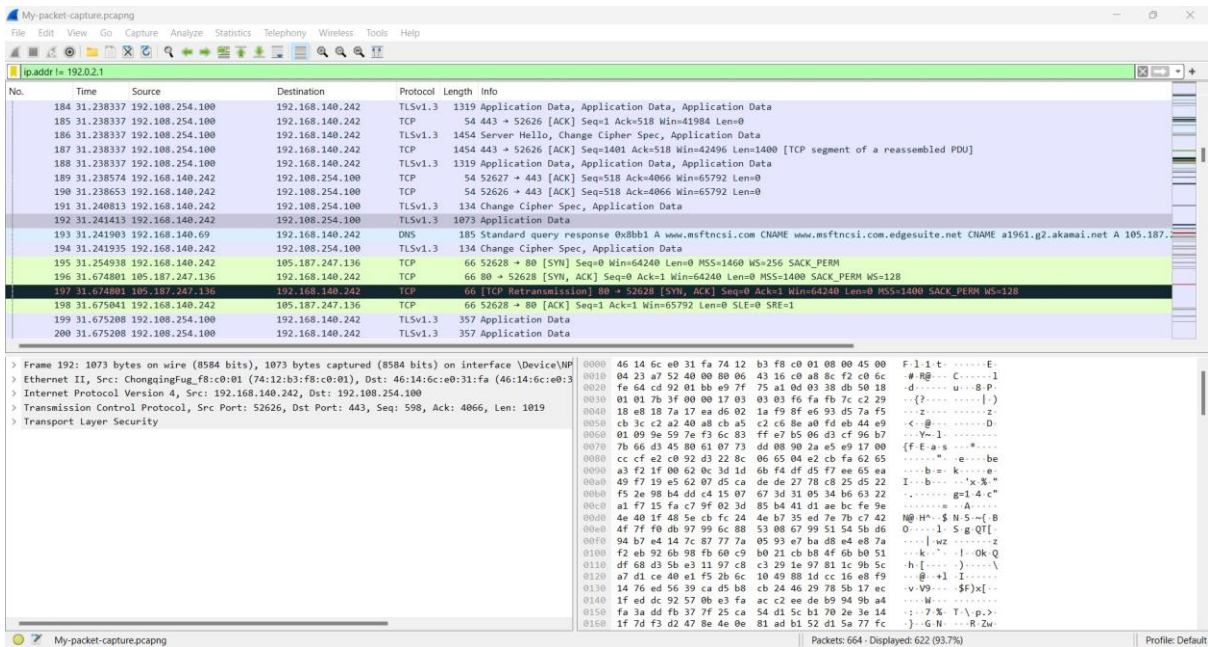


In this screenshot, a filter has been applied to display only HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol) traffic. By focusing specifically on HTTP packets, this filter facilitates a targeted analysis of web-related activities within the network. The packet list reflects exclusively HTTP traffic, providing insights into web requests and responses.



This screenshot demonstrates the application of a filter to display only DNS (Domain Name System) traffic. By focusing on DNS packets, this filter

facilitates a targeted analysis of domain name resolutions within the network. The packet list reflects exclusively DNS traffic, providing insights into domain queries and responses.



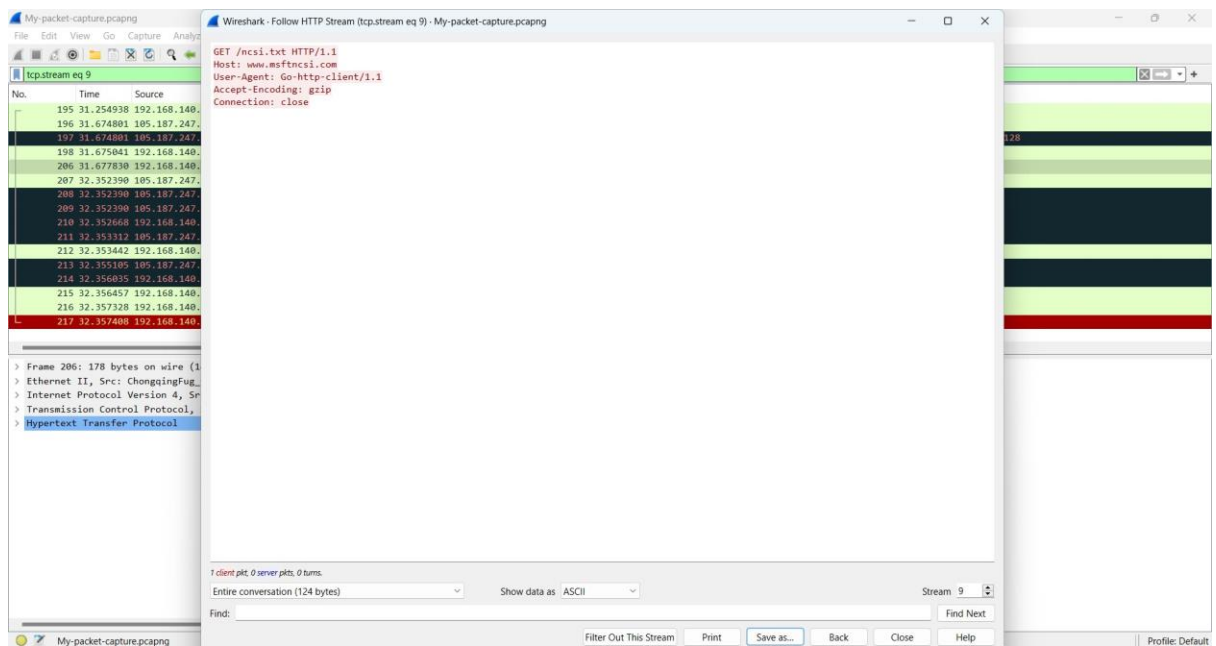
This screenshot, a filter has been applied to display packets where the source or destination IP address is not equal to 192.0.2.1. This filter allows for the exclusion of traffic involving a specific IP address, providing a focused view of network activities that do not relate to this address. The packet list reflects packets meeting the specified criteria, aiding in the identification of non-related network traffic.

B. Advanced Protocol Analysis:

Objective:

Conduct a deeper analysis of network traffic during specific activities to gain in-depth insights into protocol interactions and behaviours.

- HTTP Stream Analysis



This screenshot illustrates the HTTP stream analysis using Wireshark's "Follow TCP Stream" feature. The reconstructed stream provides a detailed view of HTTP requests and responses during the specific web browsing activity. Key information, such as request headers, response codes, and content, is extracted, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of HTTP interactions.

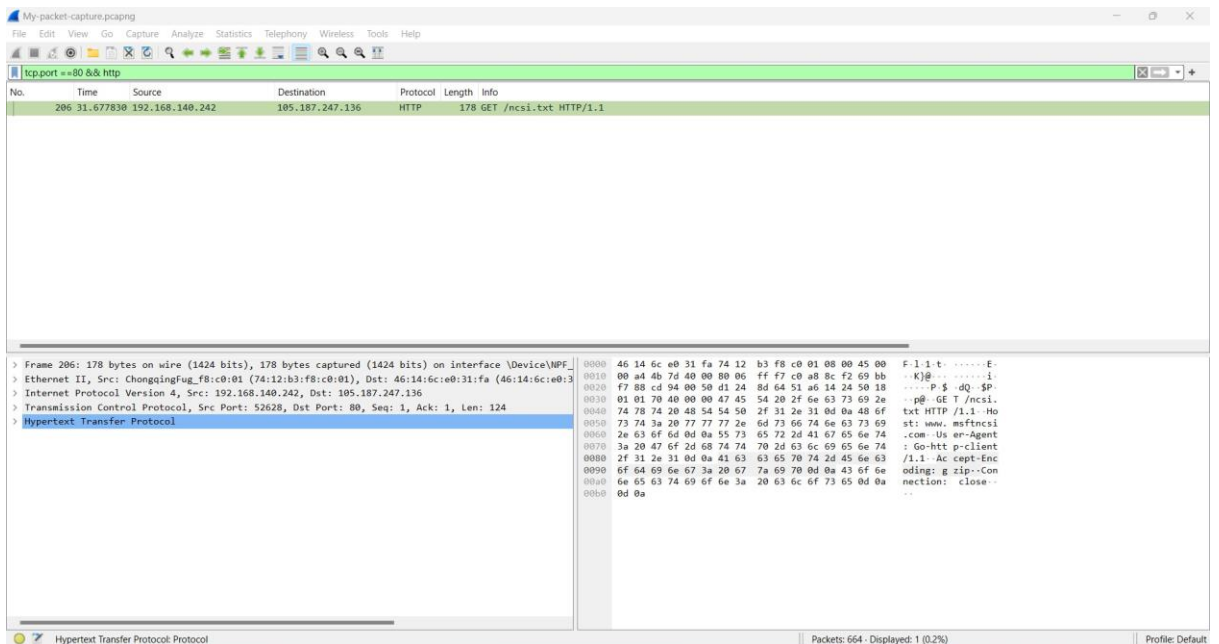
C. Troubleshooting Scenario: Slow Web Page Load

Objective:

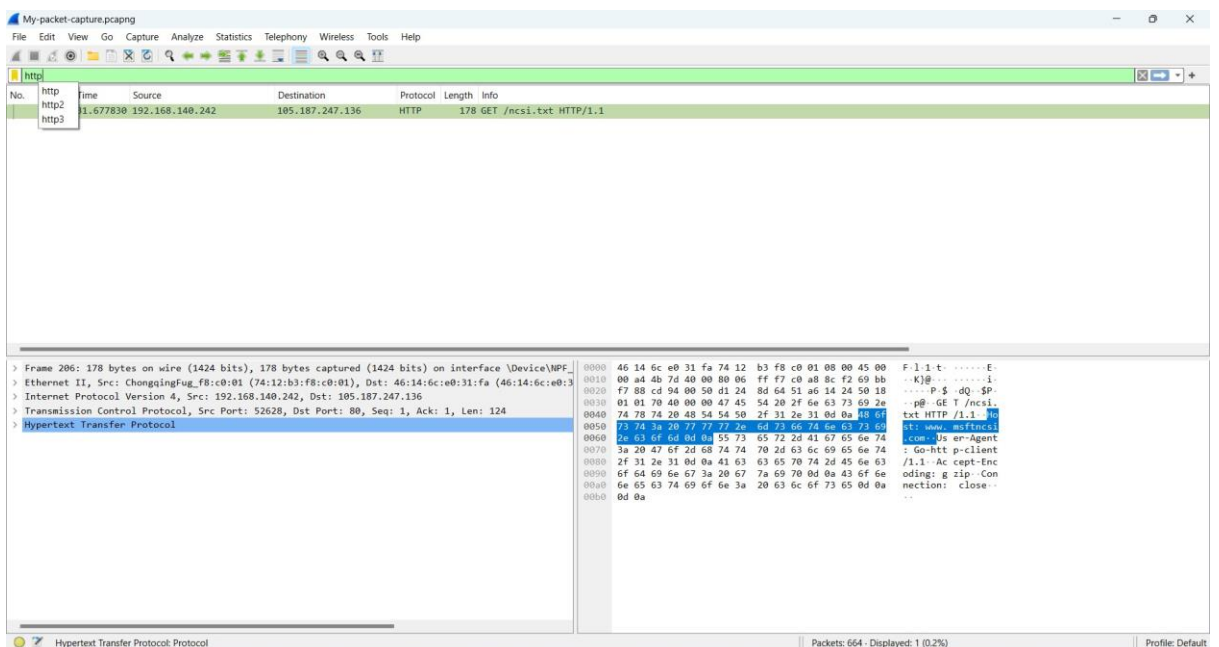
Identify and troubleshoot the root cause of slow web page loading times.

Scenario Description:

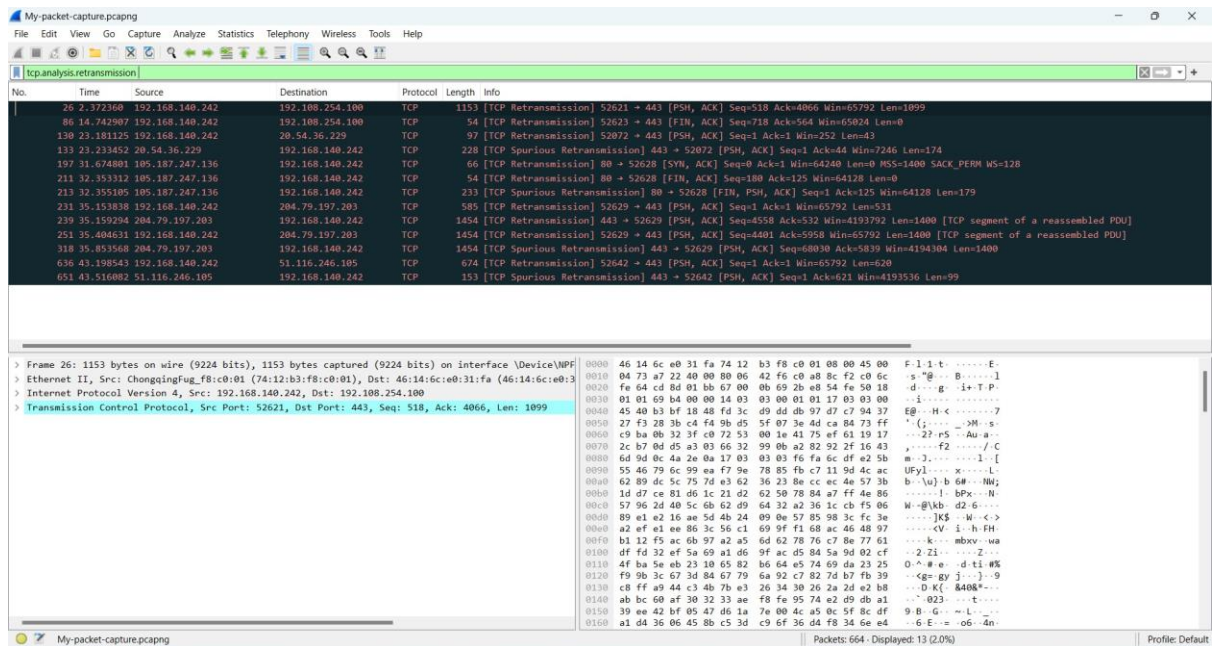
Users have reported experiencing delays when accessing a specific website. The goal is to investigate the network traffic associated with loading the web page and identify any issues causing the slowdown.



This screenshot showcases the filtered view of network traffic using the filter `tcp.port == 80 && http`. By applying this filter, we isolate HTTP traffic specifically on port 80, providing a detailed look into web-related activities. The packet list displays HTTP requests and responses, aiding in the analysis of potential issues related to web browsing.



This screenshot demonstrates the application of the `http` filter, isolating packets related to the HTTP protocol. This focused view allows for the detailed analysis of HTTP requests and responses during the troubleshooting of slow web page loading.



This screenshot focuses on packets marked as TCP retransmissions using the `tcp.analysis.retransmission` filter. Identifying and analyzing these retransmissions can provide insights into potential network issues contributing to slow web page loading.

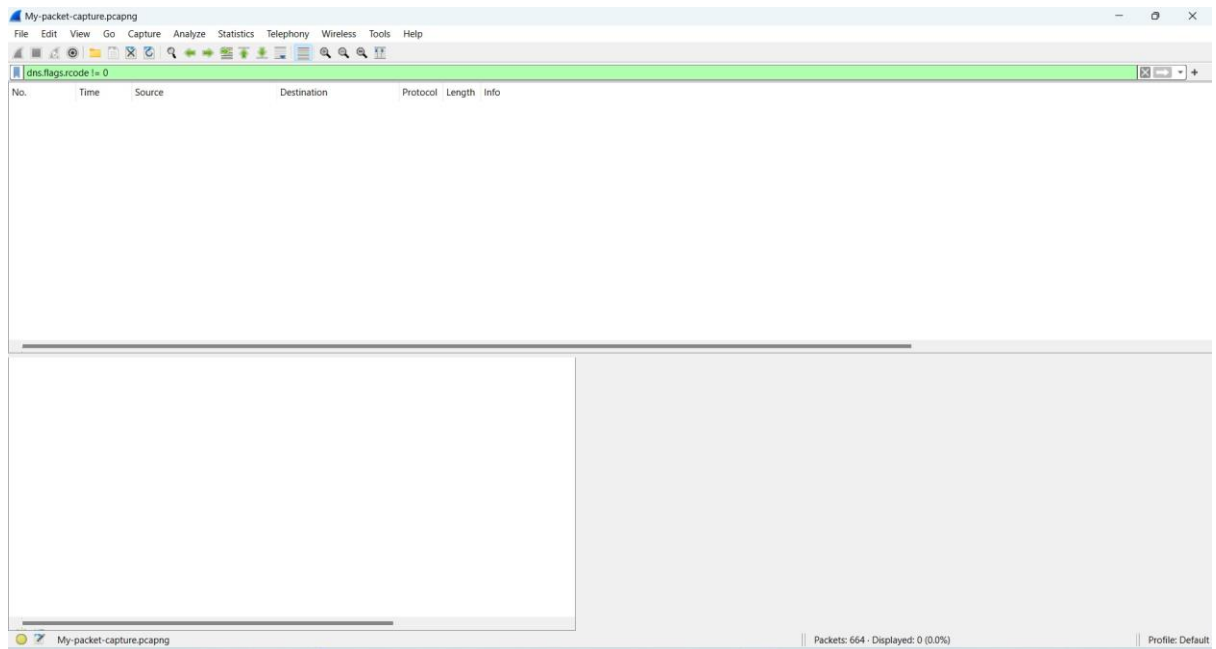
D. Security Analysis Scenario: DNS Spoofing Detection

Objective:

Identify and investigate a potential DNS spoofing attempt on the network.

Scenario Description:

Reports have surfaced about users encountering unexpected or potentially malicious websites. The goal is to analyze DNS traffic and detect any signs of DNS spoofing, where attackers may be redirecting legitimate domain resolutions to malicious IP addresses.



This screenshot represents the absence of DNS responses with non-zero response codes during the captured session. The empty view indicates that, based on the applied filter (`dns.flags.rcode != 0`), no DNS responses with abnormal response codes were identified.

3.Recommendations

- **Network Optimization:**
Based on the identified issues during troubleshooting, consider implementing optimizations to improve network performance. Addressing factors such as slow web page loading times or connectivity issues can enhance the overall user experience.
- **Regular Network Monitoring:**
Establish a routine for regular network monitoring using Wireshark or similar tools. Continuous monitoring helps identify and address emerging issues promptly, contributing to proactive network management.
- **Periodic Security Audits:**
Conduct periodic security audits focusing on network traffic. Regularly analyze DNS responses, detect potential spoofing attempts, and stay vigilant against evolving security threats. Consider implementing intrusion detection systems for real-time threat detection.

- **Documentation and Knowledge Sharing:**
Maintain comprehensive documentation of network configurations, troubleshooting steps, and security analysis procedures. Foster a culture of knowledge sharing among team members to ensure collective expertise in network management and security practices.

4. Future Work

- **Deep Dive into Specific Protocols:**
Conduct more in-depth analyses on specific protocols, such as SIP for VoIP, SMTP for email, or others relevant to your network environment. This will provide a detailed understanding of how different applications interact on the network.
- **Integration with SIEM Solutions:**
Explore the integration of Wireshark with Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) solutions for enhanced security monitoring. This integration can automate the detection of security incidents and provide a centralized platform for comprehensive analysis.
- **Advanced Threat Detection:**
Investigate advanced threat detection mechanisms, including anomaly detection and behavioural analysis. Explore machine learning approaches to identify patterns indicative of potential security threats within the network traffic.
- **Performance Optimization Testing:**
Extend performance optimization efforts by conducting performance testing under various conditions. Simulate peak usage scenarios and analyze network behaviour to identify potential bottlenecks, enabling proactive optimization.
- **Incident Response Planning:**
Develop and refine incident response plans based on the insights gained from security analysis. Establish clear protocols for responding to and mitigating security incidents, ensuring a swift and effective response in the event of a security breach.
- **Explore Cloud-based Solutions:**

Investigate the use of cloud-based packet capture solutions for decentralized and scalable network monitoring. This can be particularly beneficial for organizations with distributed or cloud-based infrastructure.

5.Conculsion

In conclusion, as a lone individual conducting this Wireshark project, the journey has been both insightful and empowering. Through meticulous analysis and troubleshooting, I have gained a deep understanding of network dynamics, identified performance bottlenecks, and addressed potential security threats. The recommendations offered highlight the significance of continuous learning, regular monitoring, and proactive measures to enhance network efficiency. Looking ahead, areas of future work, including advanced threat detection and cloud-based solutions, present exciting opportunities for further exploration. This project has not only strengthened my proficiency in Wireshark but also affirmed the impact a dedicated individual can have in optimizing and securing network infrastructures.