

Semester 5th | Practical Assignment | Computer Networks (2301CS501)

Date: 22/08/2024

Lab Practical #08:

Study Packet capture and header analysis by Wireshark (HTTP, TCP, UDP, IP, etc.)

Practical Assignment #08:

1. Explain usage of Wireshark tool.

Wireshark is a network protocol analyzer that captures and inspects data traveling across a network in real-time. It's an essential tool for network administrators, cybersecurity professionals, and developers for troubleshooting, analysis, and monitoring of network traffic

How to Use:

- 1. Install Wireshark: First, download and install Wireshark from the official website.
- 2. **Select a Network Interface:** When you open Wireshark, you'll see a list of network interfaces (like Wi-Fi, Ethernet). These represent the different connections your computer is using. Choose the one you want to monitor (e.g., your Wi-Fi connection).
- 3. **Start Capturing Packets:** Click the "Start Capturing Packets" button (the blue shark fin icon). Wireshark will begin recording all the network traffic passing through the selected interface.
- 4. **Analyze the Data:** As Wireshark captures packets, you'll see them listed in real-time with details like the source and destination IP addresses, protocols used, and data. You can stop the capture at any time to analyze the data more closely.
- 5. **Use Filters:** Wireshark lets you apply filters to narrow down the data. For example, you can filter by IP address, protocol, or even specific data within the packets.
- 6. **Save and Export:** Once you've captured the data you need, you can save it for future analysis or export it in various formats

Usage:

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- **Packet Capture:** Wireshark listens to a network connection in real time and then grabs entire streams of traffic quite possibly tens of thousands of packets at a time.
- **Filtering:** Wireshark is capable of slicing and dicing all of this random live data using filters. By applying a filter, you can obtain just the information you need to see.
- **Visualization:** Wireshark, like any good packet sniffer, allows you to dive right into the very middle of a network packet. It also allows you to visualize entire conversations and network streams.
- Network Troubleshooting: Identify and diagnose issues like slow network performance, packet loss, or connectivity problems by analyzing packet data.
- **Protocol Analysis:** Examine how specific protocols (e.g., HTTP, DNS, TCP) operate on the network, helping in debugging and understanding network communication.

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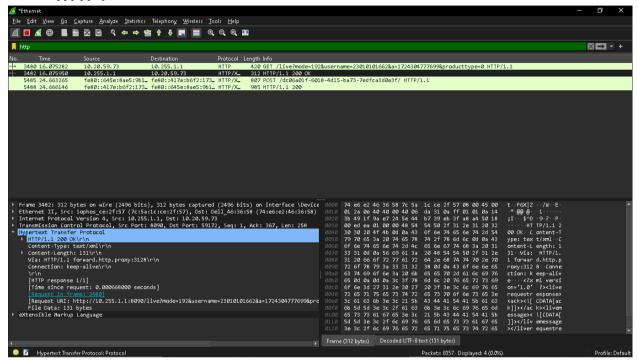
- **Security Monitoring:** Detect unauthorized access, malware activity, or unusual traffic patterns that could indicate a security breach.
- **Application Performance Tuning:** Monitor and optimize the performance of networked applications by analyzing the communication between client and server.
- **VoIP Analysis:** Capture and analyze Voice over IP (VoIP) traffic to troubleshoot call quality issues and inspect SIP and RTP protocols.
- **Network Forensics:** Investigate network incidents, such as data breaches or cyberattacks, by reviewing captured packet data for evidence.
- **Learning and Education:** Study network protocols, packet structures, and traffic patterns to enhance your understanding of networking concepts.
- **Bandwidth Usage Analysis:** Monitor and analyze network bandwidth consumption to identify heavy bandwidth users or applications.
- **Network Mapping:** Visualize the flow of data across the network, helping in understanding network topology and device communication.
- **Compliance Auditing:** Ensure that network communications adhere to organizational policies and regulatory requirements by capturing and inspecting relevant traffic.



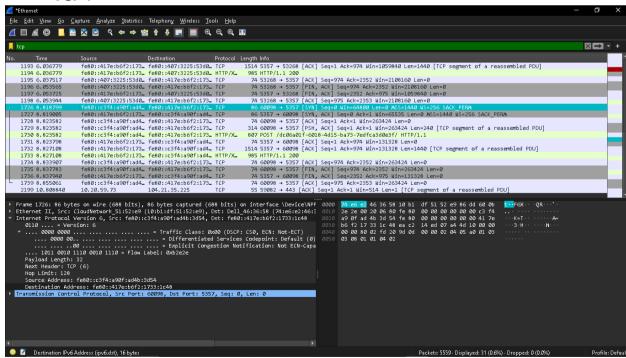
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- 2. Packet capture and header analysis by Wireshark (HTTP, TCP, UDP, IP, etc.)
 - HTTP:



• TCP:

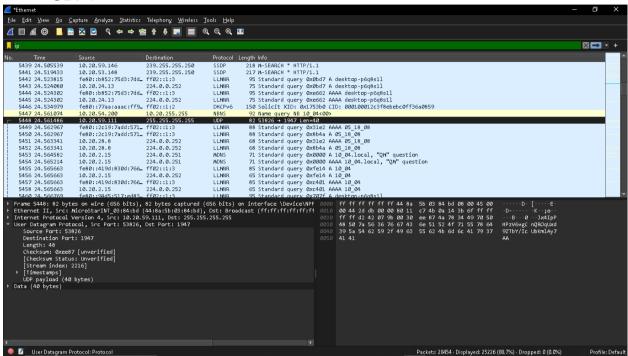




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• UDP:



• IP:

