

17) Tool Exploration - Wireshark (Documentation)

Wireshark Documentation

Wireshark is a widely used open-source network protocol or packet analyzer. It allows network troubleshooting, analysis etc.

It is used for software development, communication, protocol development, education filtering etc.

Wireshark is a network packet analyzer which presents captured packet data in as much detail as possible.

Some purposes of Wireshark:

- Network administrators use it to troubleshoot network problems
- Network security engineers use it to examine security problems
- Developers use it to debug protocol implementations
- People use it to learn network protocol internals

Features of Wireshark:

- Available for UNIX and Windows
- Capture live data from a network interface
- Display packets with very detailed protocol information.
- Save packet data captured
- Filter packets on criteria.
- Export some or all filter packets in a number of capture file formats.
- Colorize packet display based filters
- The information of the packets include IP number, time, source IP, address, destination IP address, protocol name, length

and other important information.

- The IP address of the device can be used in the filter to capture only packets sent out to that particular IP address.
- Various settings, timers and filters can be set that ensure only triggered traffic appears.

Functionality of Wireshark

- Wireshark is a remote machine that captures packets and sends captured packets to a machine running Wireshark. It directs the packets so it can analyze packets captured on a remote machine at the time they are captured.

- It is similar to TCP dump in networking. It has a graphic and filtering functions. It also monitors the unicast traffic.

- Port mirroring is a method to monitor network traffic. When it is enabled switch sends copies of all network packets present at one port to another port.

- It also supports capture formats from several other commercial and open source network sniffers.

- It lets user put network interface controllers that support promiscuous mode in that mode so that they can see all traffic in the interface.

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