

Wireshark

- Graphical user interface (GUI) based tool with powerful visualization tools such as color coding, flow graphs, and stream following.
- Ideal for deep packet inspection and protocol analysis with the ability to analyze packet details at multiple protocol layers.

Similarities

- Both tools are open-source and widely used for capturing and analyzing network traffic.
- Capable of capturing live network data and saving it to a file for later analysis (e.g., PCAP format).
- Support packet filtering using Berkeley Packet Filter (BPF) syntax for targeting specific traffic types.

tcpdump

- Command-line based packet analyzer; lighter and faster for quick traffic capture and filtering.
- Frequently used in remote server environments or when GUIs are not available; outputs packet information in text format.