



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S  
**CYBERFORCE<sup>®</sup>**  
**PROGRAM**

# CyberForce<sup>®</sup> 101

# Wireshark

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# Wireshark 101

## Introduction

Wireshark is an opensource application with a GUI that is used to capture and analyze network traffic. It can be used to fix network problems, identify security issues, debug applications and more. Wireshark does this by allowing users to open captured packets, capture packets in real time, filter and save packets, create detailed reports and much more. It is important understand that Wireshark only observes network traffic, it cannot change anything on the network.

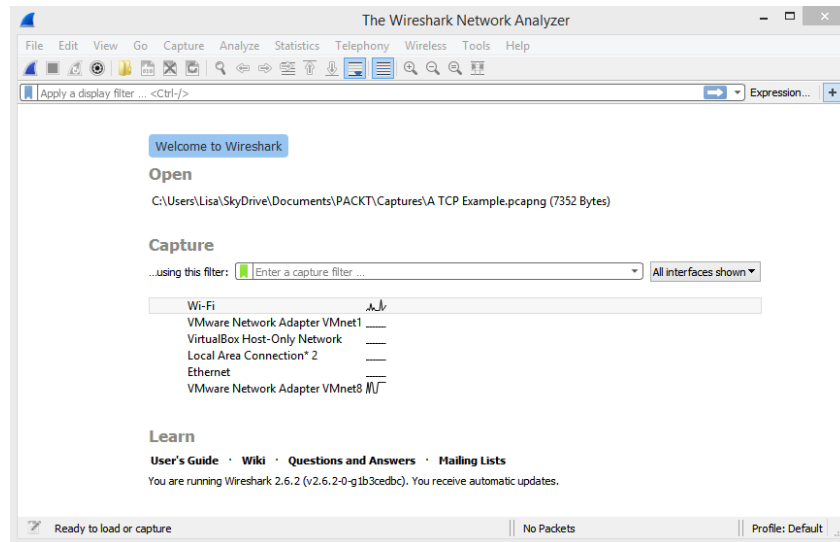
## Wireshark Use

Before Wireshark can be used, users should go to the Wireshark website and download the application onto their system. Users can download different versions to match their systems.

To run Wireshark on a system, enter the command:

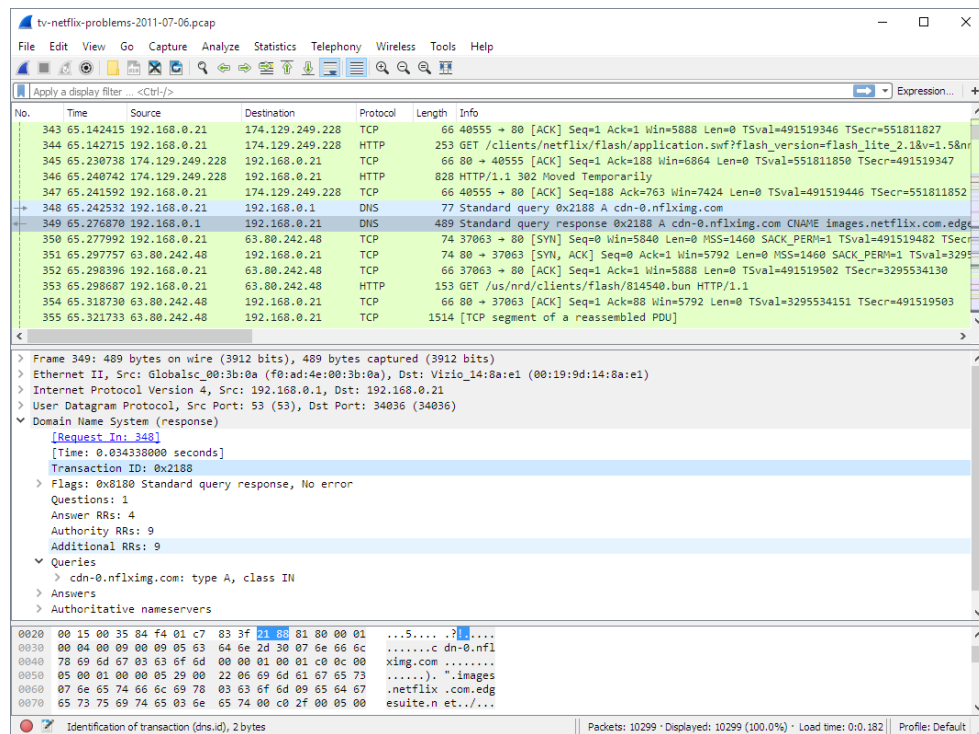
```
sudo wireshark
```

The Wireshark GUI will then open to its home screen. There will be a text box reading “Welcome to Wireshark” and below it will be a bar for users to type in. That bar is used for entering restrictions on the type of packets Wireshark should capture. If the command entered is valid, the bar will turn green. If it is left empty, the application will capture and record any packets it finds.



The list below the input bar contains all the interfaces Wireshark can listen to. Users can select multiple at a time. The green (or blue depending on the version) shark fin at the top of the screen is the starting button and the red square next to it is the stop button.

In the menu bar at the top of the Wireshark GUI, the “view” option can also be used to filter the packets captured. To get information about a specific packet, clicking on it will show some of its contents. It is possible to see ports being used, MAC addresses, encrypted data and more.



The filter bar at the top of the screen will take a valid protocol name and filter out all other packets. Users know a name is valid when the bar turns green. It can also filter by IP addresses, times and more.

To export Wireshark data, go to the “file” tab and there are multiple options for what to export and how to do it. It is also possible to save the packets captured during a session.

## Sources

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkCSr30UojM>
- [https://www.wireshark.org/docs/wsug\\_html\\_chunked/ChBuildInstallWinInstall.html](https://www.wireshark.org/docs/wsug_html_chunked/ChBuildInstallWinInstall.html)