

# ws-dcode

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Decode websocket with protobuf in wireshark

## Prerequisites

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The below are the required in your system:

- [Firefox or Chrome](#)
- [Wireshark](#)
- [LuaRocks \(Lua package manager\)](#)
- [lua-cjson & lua-protobuf \(Lua modules\)](#)

## Install Dependencies

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Install all the required prerequisites

### step1: Install Wireshark (GUI + CLI)

- `sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade -y`
- `sudo apt install -y wireshark`
- `sudo usermod -aG wireshark $USER` (Optional)Allow non-root users to capture packets

### step2: Install Firefox

- `sudo apt install -y firefox`

### step3: Install Lua and LuaRocks (Lua package manager)

Install the dependency modules manually

#### step3.1: Install cJSON

```
sudo apt install -y build-essential lua5.2 liblua5.2-dev make gcc
mkdir ~/protolib
cd ~/protolib
wget https://github.com/mpx/lua-cjson/archive/refs/tags/2.1.0.tar.gz
tar -xvzf 2.1.0.tar.gz
cd lua-cjson-2.1.0
make LUA_INCLUDE_DIR=/usr/include/lua5.2 LUA_VERSION=5.2
sudo cp cjson.so /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/lua/5.2/
```

#### step3.2: Install pb ( lua-protobuf )

```
cd ~/protobuf
git clone https://github.com/starwing/lua-protobuf.git
cd lua-protobuf
cmake -DLUA_INCLUDE_DIR=/usr/include/lua5.2 -DCMAKE_C_FLAGS="-I/usr/include/lua5.2"
make
sudo cp ./pb.so /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/lua/5.2/
```

#### step4: Get Lua websocket decoder plugin

```
cd ~/protobuf
git clone https://github.com/Induzio/ws-dcode.git
```

## Wireshark setup

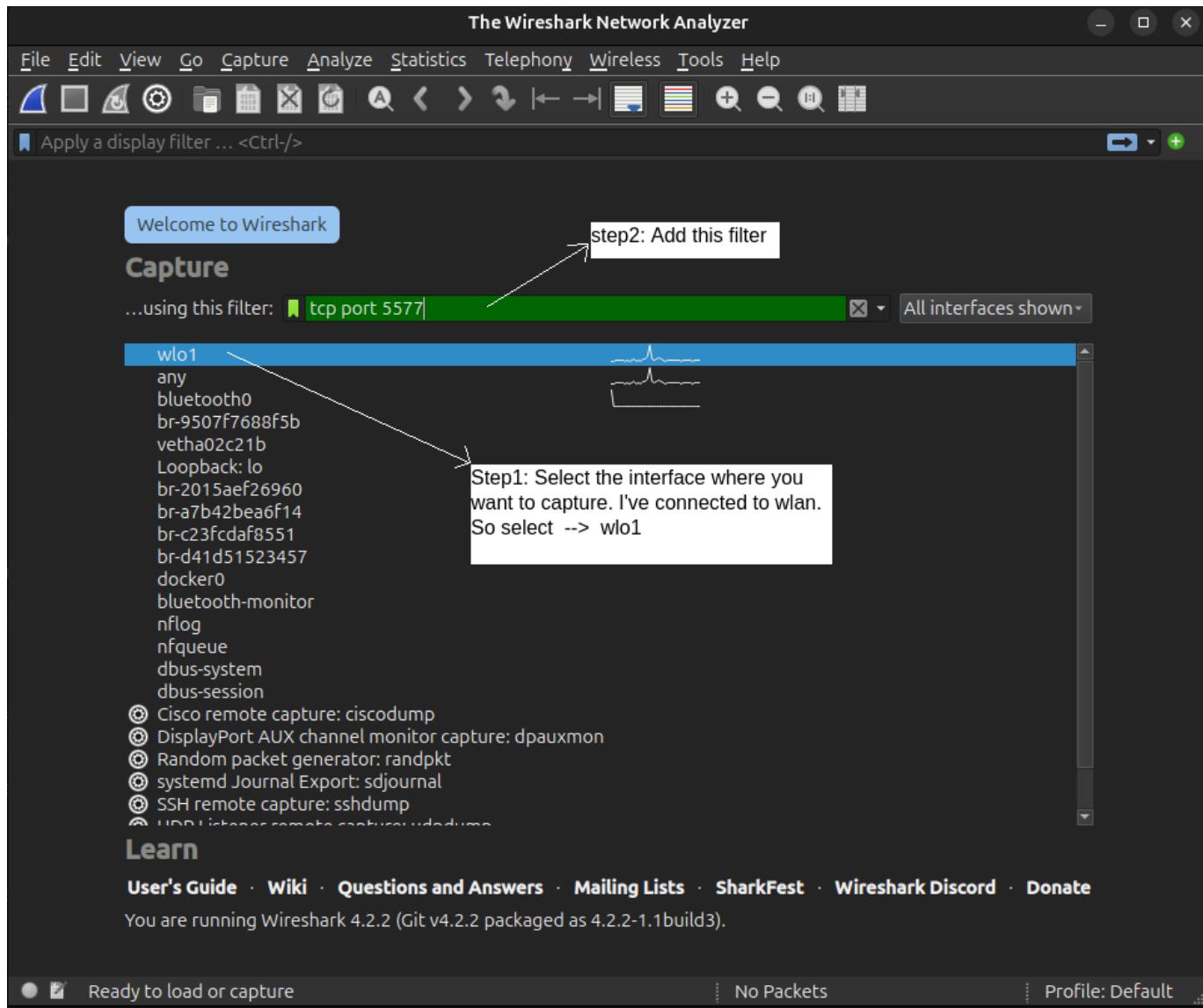
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step1: open a New terminal

Run wireshark with below cmd:

```
sudo wireshark
```

Now, select wlo1 and in filter



step2: open another terminal

The below commands will capture the ssl keys for decryption

**warning: Before running the below cmds please close all the firefox windows opened**

```
export SSLKEYLOGFILE=$HOME/protolib/sslkeys.log
firefox &
```

Then visit: <https://ysafe.io>

once verify if the sslkeys.log is present after visiting by running below cmd in any terminal....

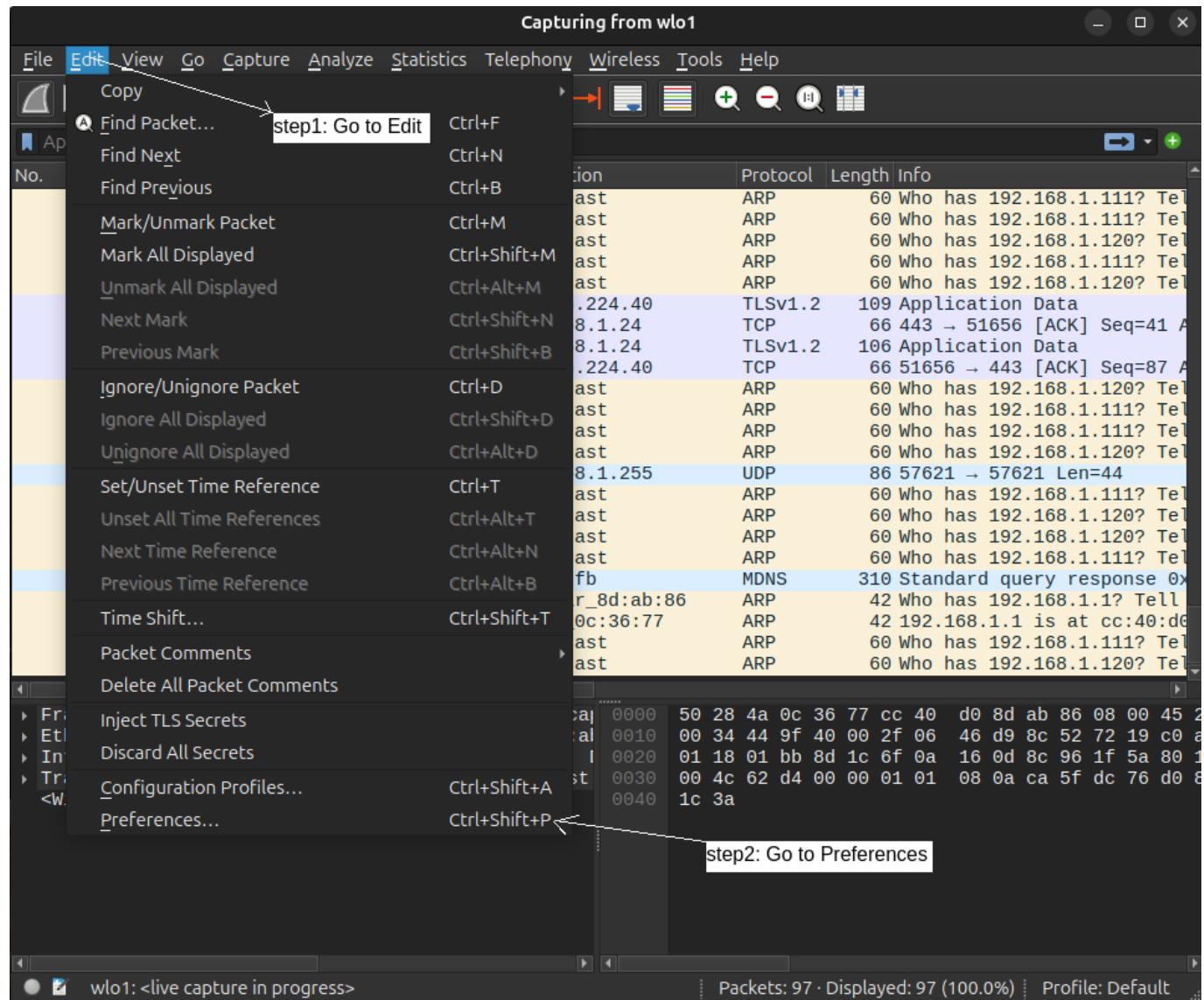
```
ls $HOME/protolib/sslkeys.log
```

step3: Add sslkeys.log in wireshark

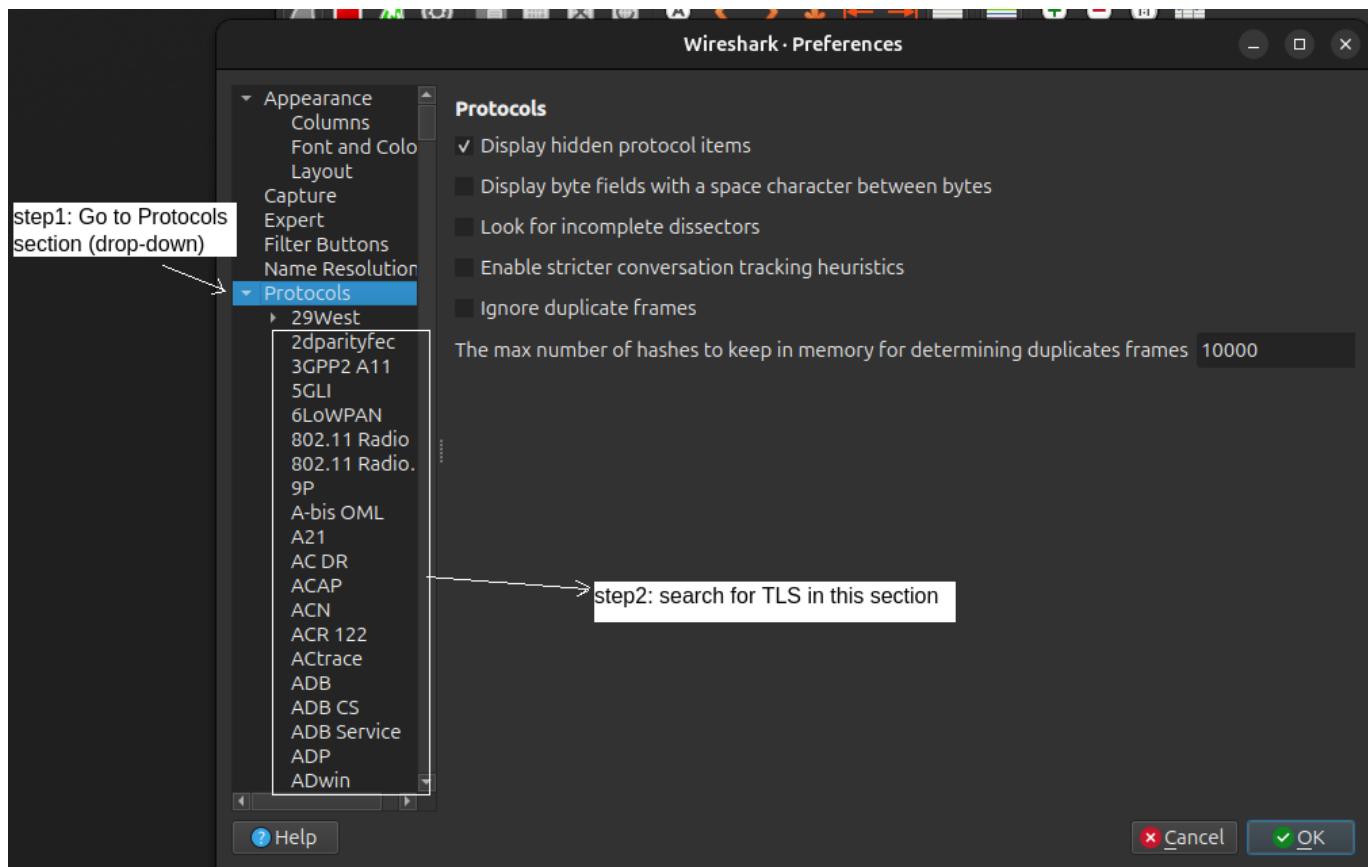
Now you have to add the `sslkeys.log` in `Edit > Preferences > Protocols > TLS`

Follow below steps to add:

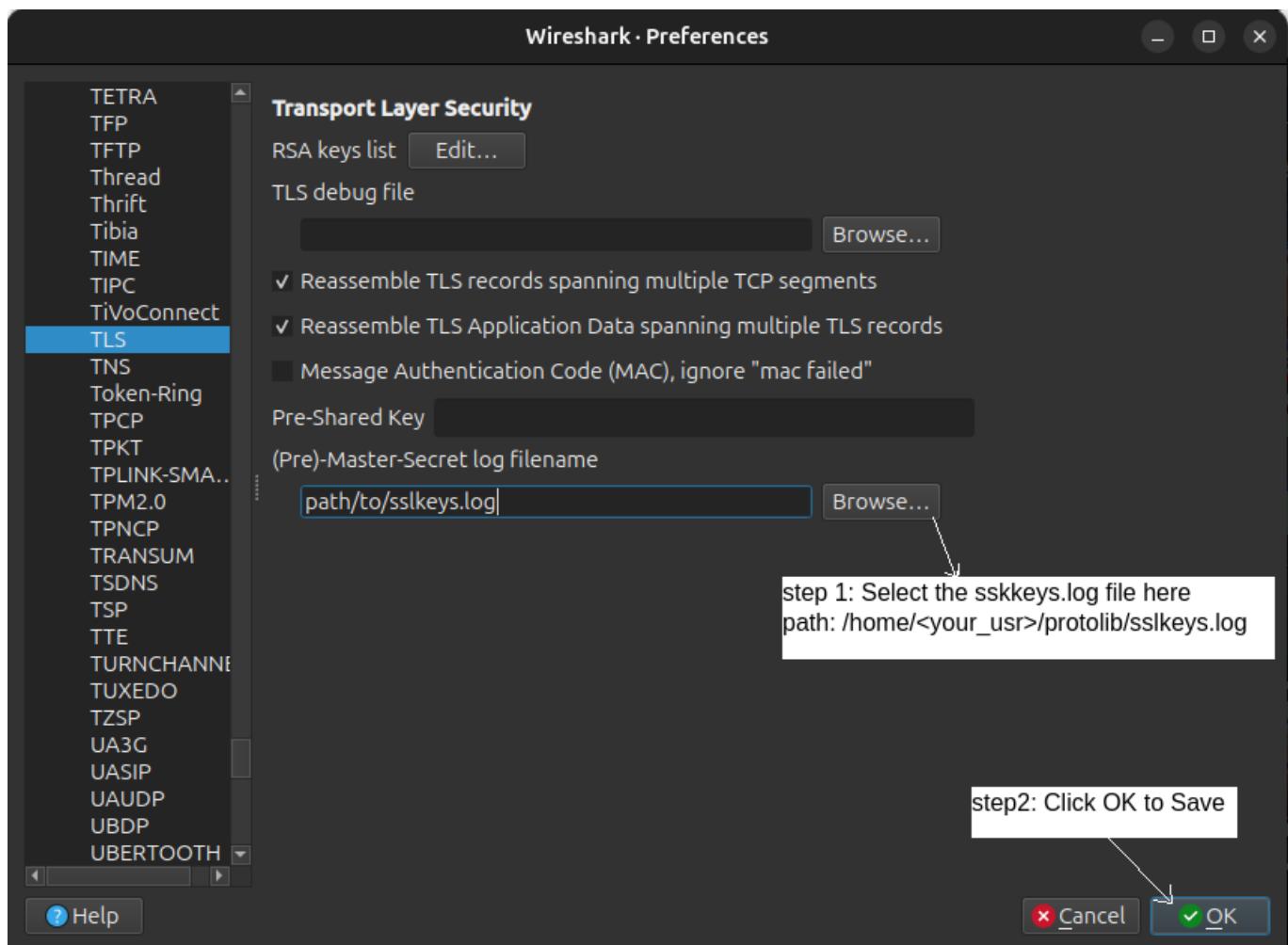
### step3.1: Go to Preferences



### step3.2: Go to protocols



then set (Pre)-Master-Secret log filename:

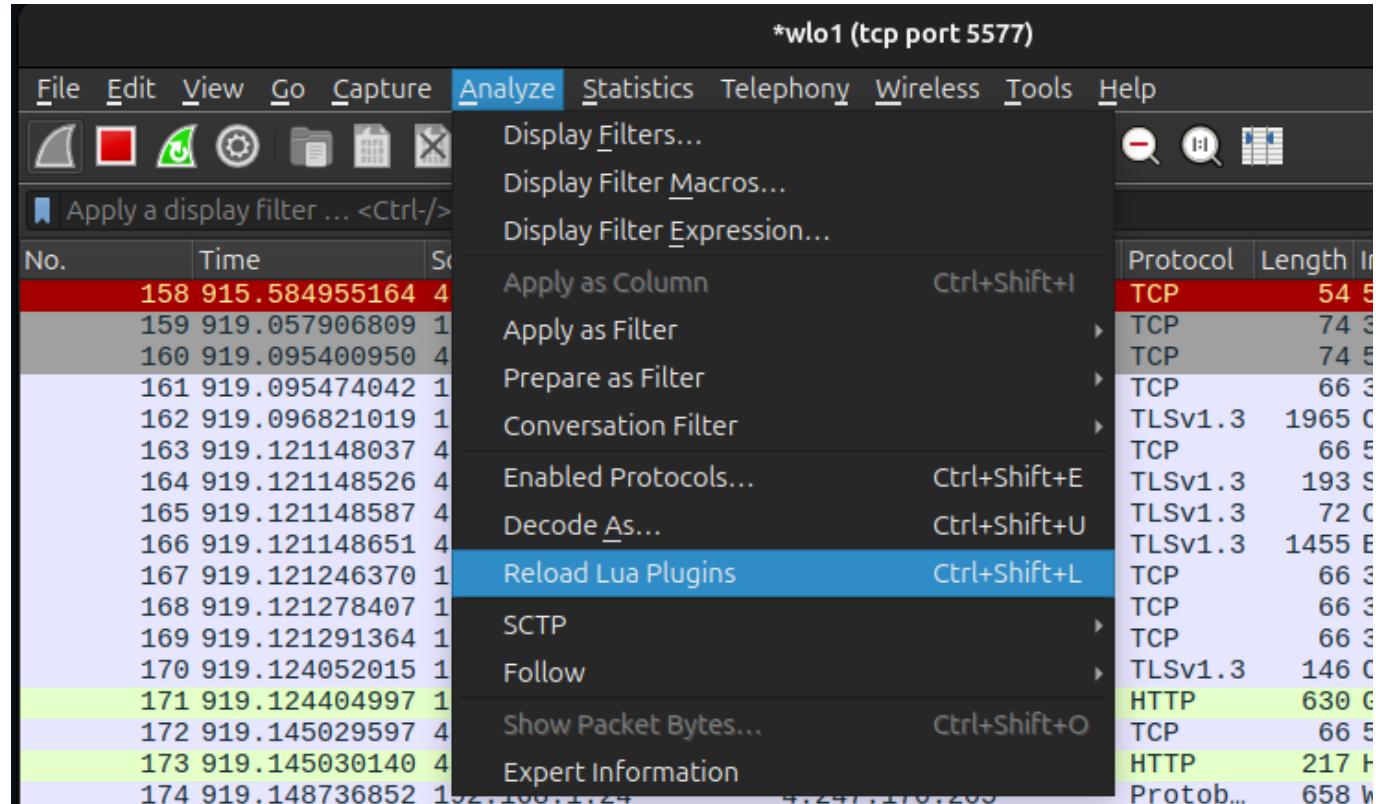


## step4: Add Protobuf decoding plugin in wireshark

Now run below cmd in any terminal to add the plugin....

```
sudo cp ~/protobuf/ws-dcode/proto_dissector.lua /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/wireshark/plugins
sudo cp ~/protobuf/ws-dcode/proto_bundle.desc /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/wireshark/plugins
```

Now, reload the lua plugin in wireshark:



😊 Now your wireshark is setup completely....

## step5: Refresh the firefox to see the decoded protobuf packets

When you refresh again then you'll see the decoded packets in the wireshark as protobuf like below:

The screenshot shows the Wireshark interface with several network packets listed in the packet list pane. A specific packet is selected, highlighted with a yellow background. An annotation points to this packet with the text "step1: You need to see this". In the details pane, the selected packet is identified as a "Protobuf message". Another annotation points to the details pane with the text "step2: This is the decoded". Below the details pane, the hex and ASCII decoders show the raw bytes and the decoded Protobuf message structure. The message is identified as "Decoded Protobuf over WebSocket" with "Message Type: response.Response". It contains fields for "Operation: signIn", "id: 1753424707353", and "signIn" which includes "message: Authenticated successfully", "status: SUCCESS", and "email: pilebot818@luxpolar.com".

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
97	500.614089719	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	TLSv1.3	146	Change Cipher Spec, Fini
98	500.614503478	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	HTTP	630	GET / HTTP/1.1
99	500.638041882	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	TCP	66	5577 → 59692 [ACK] Seq=1
100	500.638510402	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	HTTP	217	HTTP/1.1 101 Switching
101	500.642089188	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	Protob...	658	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
102	500.676267302	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	Protob...	153	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
103	500.717256345	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	TCP	66	59692 → 5577 [ACK] Seq=3
104	500.780013201	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	Protob...	176	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
105	500.813038945	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	Protob...	428	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
106	500.813129314	192.168.1.24	step1: You need to see this	TCP	66	44038 → 5577 [ACK] Seq=3
107	652.775146442	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	Protob...	147	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
108	652.808857038	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	Protob...	98	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
109	652.808911781	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	TCP	66	59692 → 5577 [ACK] Seq=3
110	652.811461475	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	Protob...	150	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
111	652.861487541	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	Protob...	122	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
112	652.866230433	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	Protob...	164	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
113	652.866334074	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	TLSv1.3	7206	[TLS segment of a reasse
114	652.866360189	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	TCP	5778	59692 → 5577 [PSH, ACK]
115	652.884012253	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	TCP	66	5577 → 59692 [ACK] Seq=1
116	652.884072596	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	Protob...	5778	[TLS segment of a reasse
117	652.889554420	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	Protob...	96	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
118	652.889615275	192.168.1.24	4.247.170.205	Protob...	10406	WebSocket Binary [FIN]
119	652.901910438	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	TCP	66	5577 → 59692 [ACK] Seq=1
120	652.918825021	4.247.170.205	192.168.1.24	Protob...	100	192.168.1.24 → 4.247.170.205 [FIN]

step2: This is the decoded  
<Wireshark Lua fake item>  
Protobuf message

Message Type: response.Response  
Decoded Protobuf:  
Operation: signIn  
id: 1753424707353  
signIn:  
message: Authenticated successfully  
status: SUCCESS  
email: pilebot818@luxpolar.com

Frame (153 bytes) Decrypted TLS (65 bytes)

Hurray 🌟!!! Now your wireshark is setup to decode the packets to protobuf....