

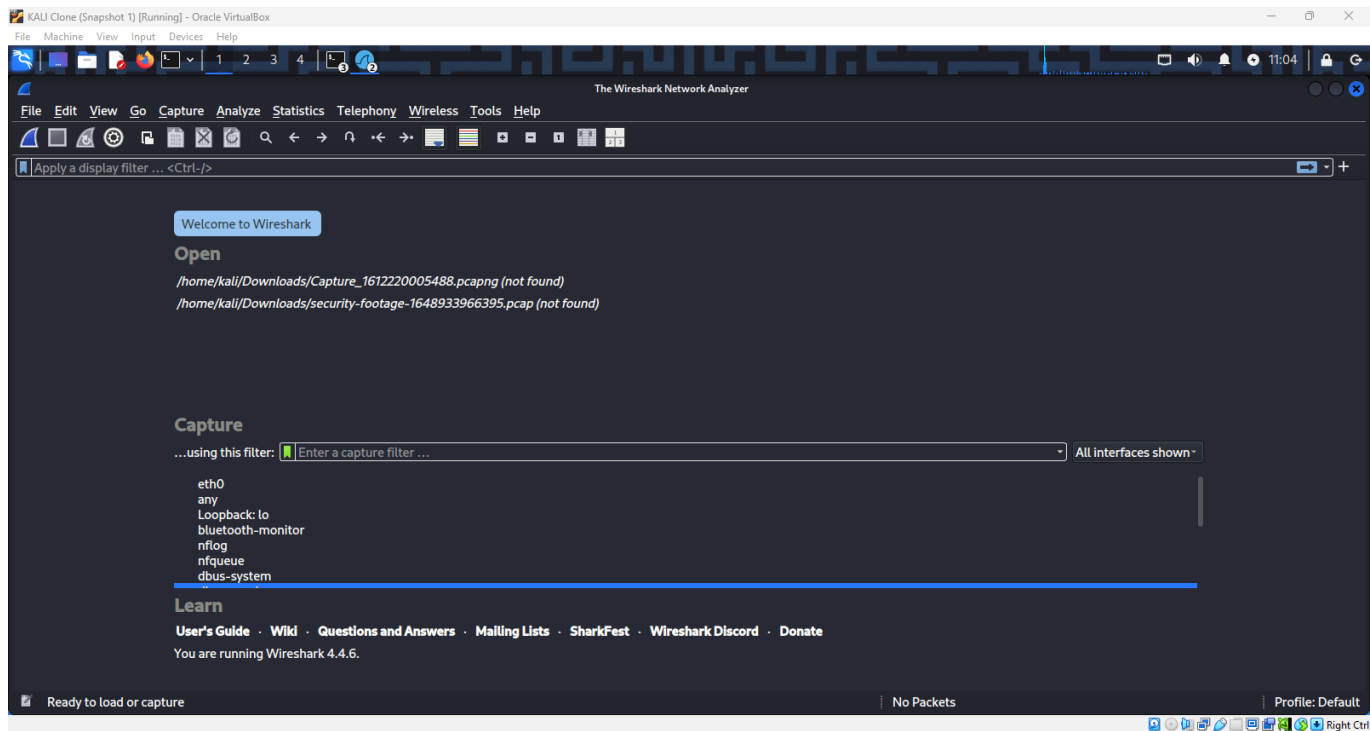
Wireshark Traffic Capture and Analysis

Cybersecurity Internship

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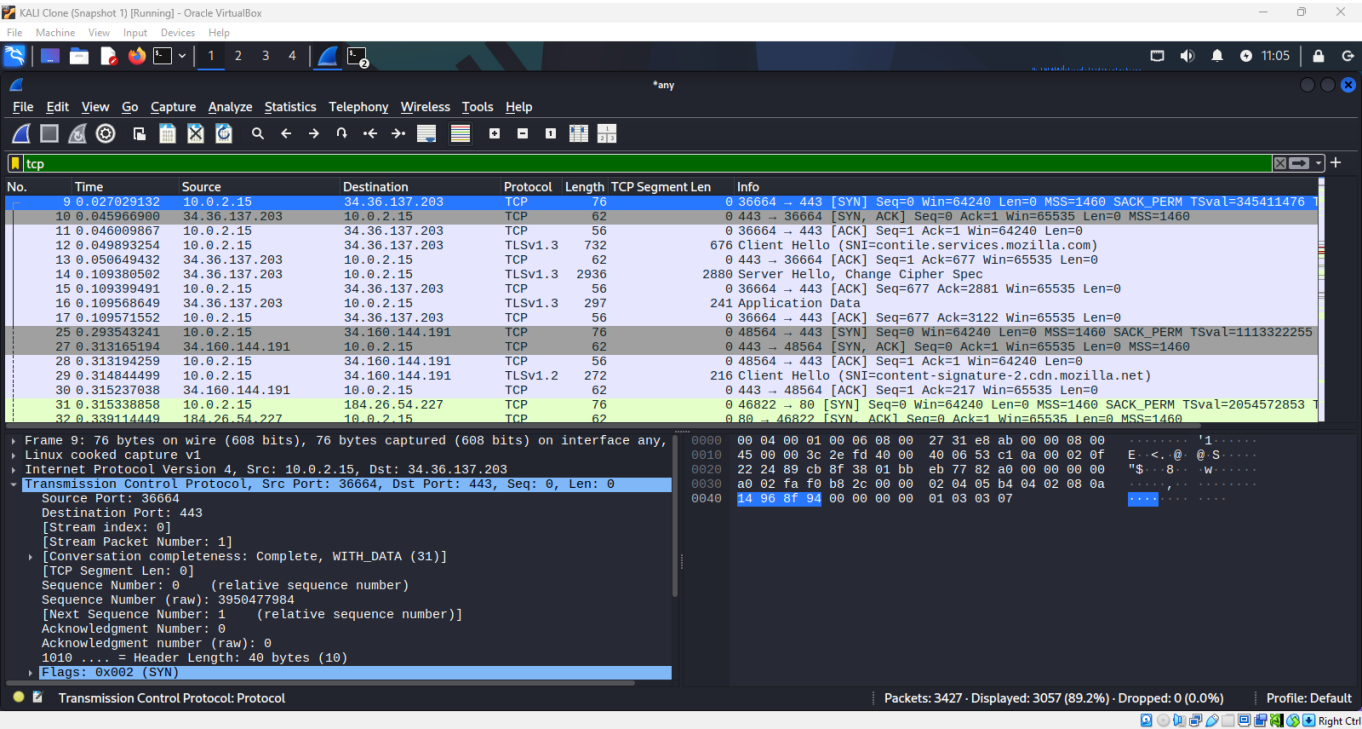
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Available Network Interfaces in Wireshark



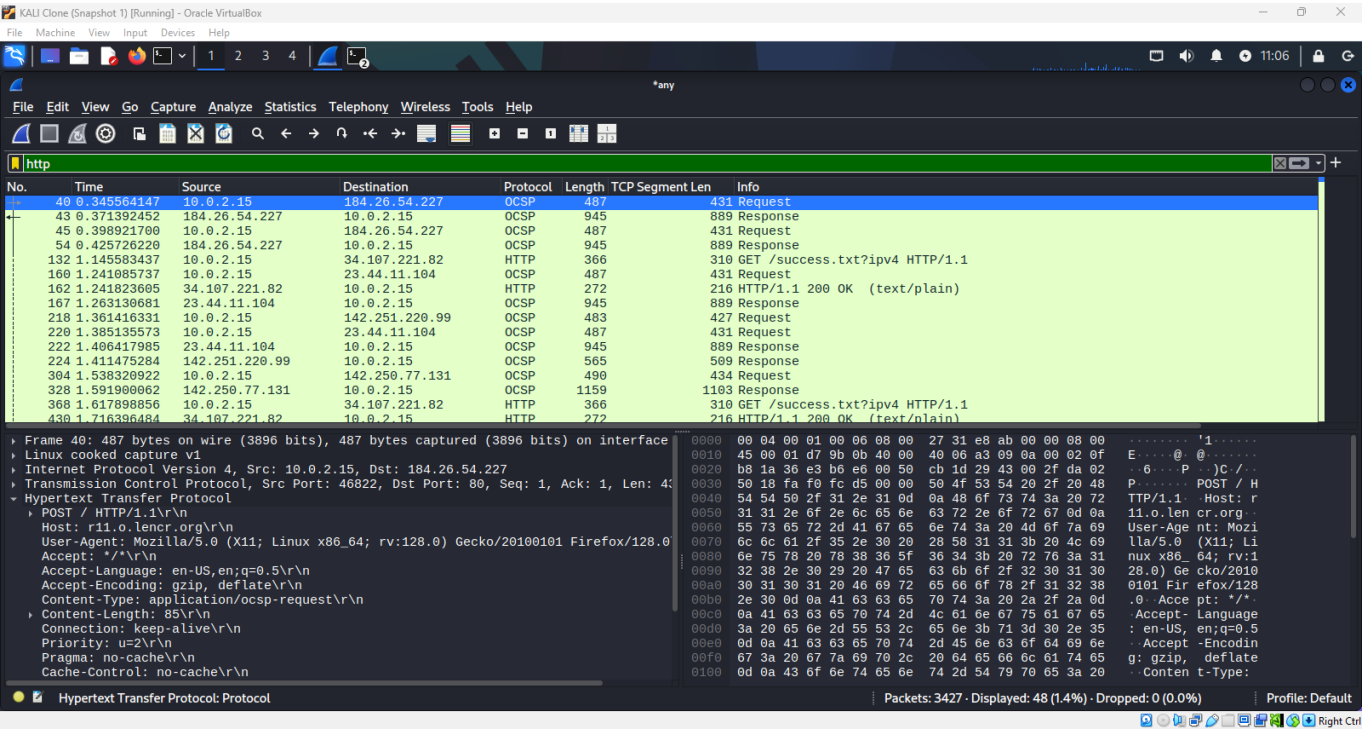
This view shows the initial interface of Wireshark on a Kali Linux virtual machine. It lists all available network interfaces, such as eth0, loopback, and others. Choosing the right interface is crucial for effective packet capture, as different interfaces monitor different types of traffic. For instance, eth0 is typically used for Ethernet LAN connections. The 'any' option allows capturing from all interfaces simultaneously. The window also includes previously opened capture files, but these files were not found, indicating either deletion or relocation. The capture filter option is also available here, allowing the user to filter packets during capture. This interface is user-friendly and customizable. The user can begin a new session by double-clicking an interface or pressing the start capture button. The interface also provides access to Wireshark's online documentation and help tools. This foundational screen is where all network traffic analysis begins.

TCP Protocol Packet Analysis



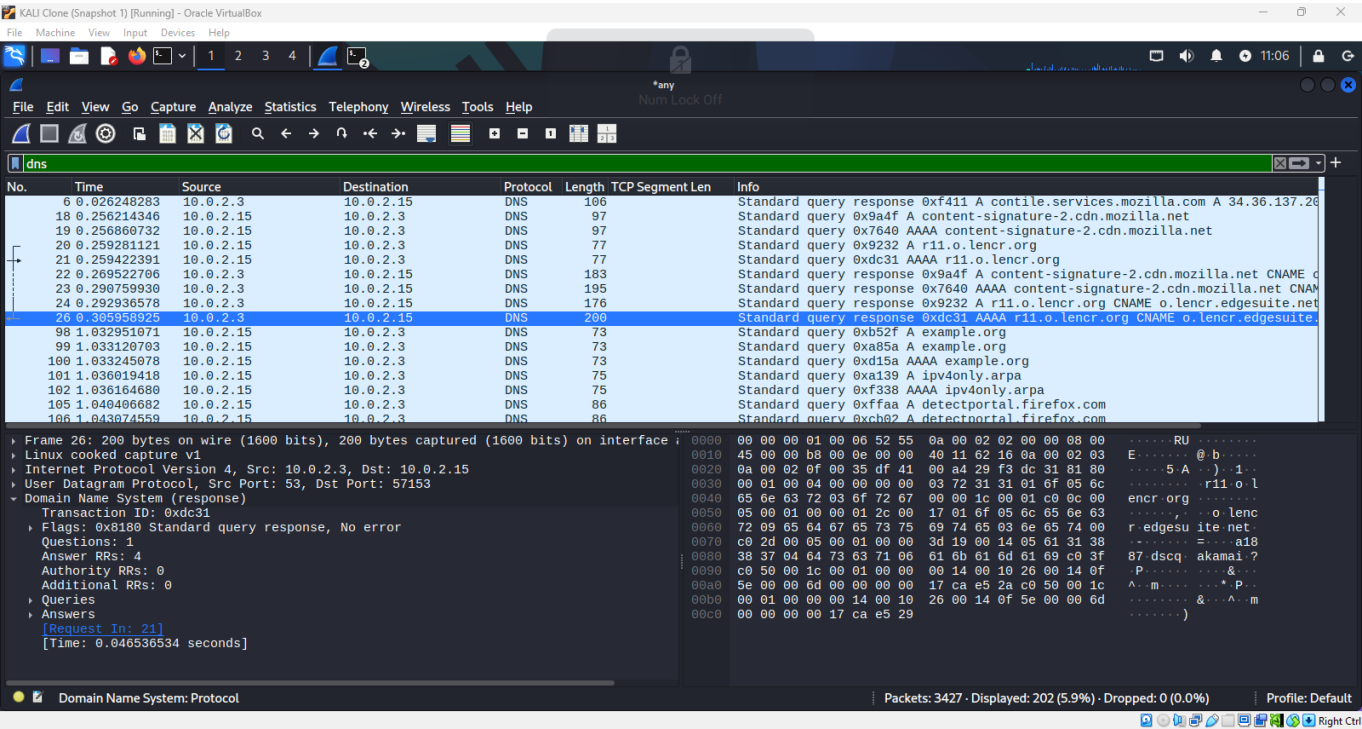
This filtered capture shows only TCP protocol packets, which are the backbone of most internet communication. The initial SYN, SYN-ACK, and ACK packets visible here represent the three-way handshake used to establish a TCP connection. Wireshark displays detailed information such as sequence numbers, acknowledgment numbers, and TCP flags (SYN, ACK). The hex dump at the bottom shows raw packet content. The packets come from different IP sources, including Mozilla servers, indicating likely web browser traffic. Some packets show TLS negotiation, as TLS rides over TCP. This helps identify encrypted HTTPS connections. TCP analysis is useful for diagnosing issues like retransmissions, out-of-order packets, or latency. TCP packet structure includes headers and options that are vital in deep traffic inspection. Overall, this view is essential for understanding stateful connections and network flow.

HTTP Traffic Analysis



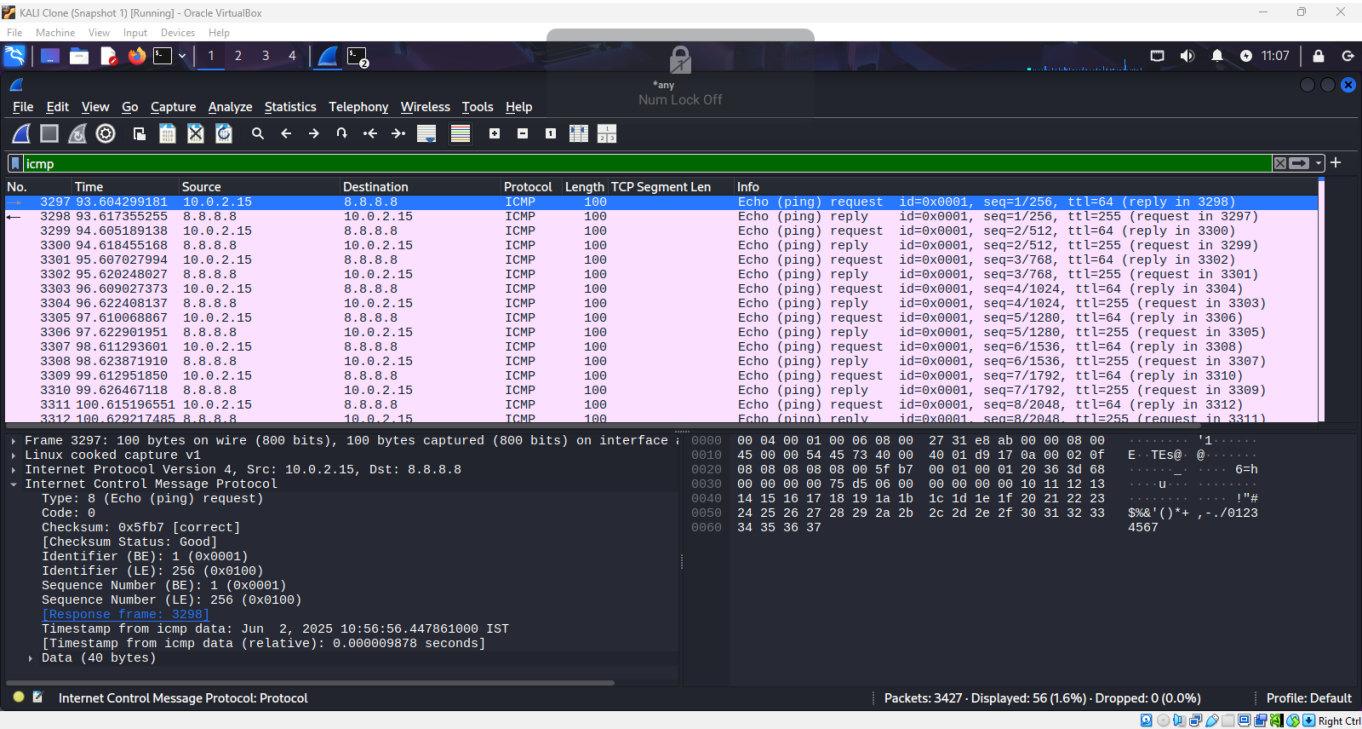
This filtered view shows HTTP traffic, one of the most common and readable protocols captured by Wireshark. HTTP GET and POST methods are visible, indicating standard web browsing activity. The details pane displays headers like User-Agent, Host, Accept-Language, and Content-Length. This level of detail allows analysts to inspect what information a browser sends to a server. The source and destination IPs and ports are shown, allowing traceability. HTTP is a stateless protocol, so every request is independent. This helps in recognizing site visits, file downloads, or API communications. Here, the user is accessing URLs such as /success.txt and contacting Mozilla-related endpoints. HTTP captures can be used to extract requested URLs, detect potential attacks like SQL injection, or debug API issues. In real-world applications, security teams monitor HTTP traffic for anomalies and potential data leaks.

DNS Query and Response Analysis



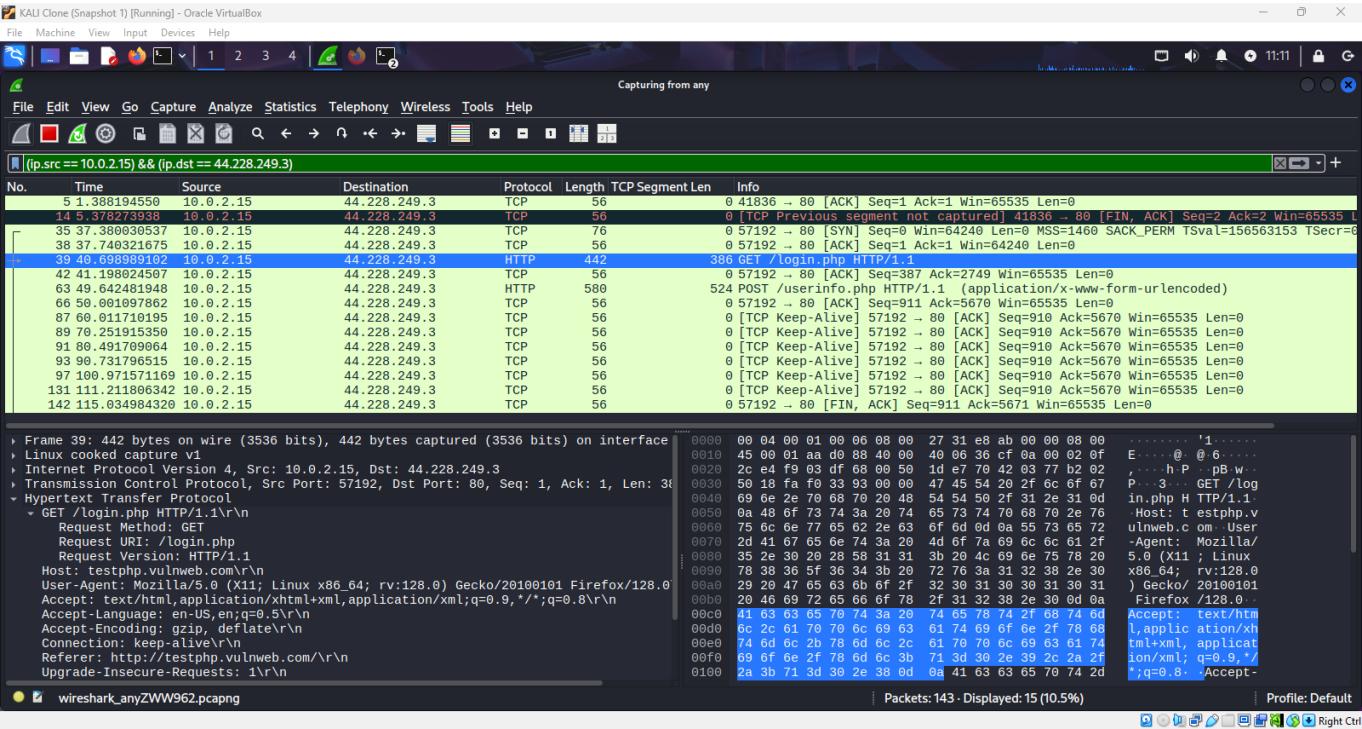
This capture highlights DNS traffic, a protocol used to resolve domain names into IP addresses. The filter displays standard DNS queries and responses, including AAAA and A records. The source IP (10.0.2.3) queries a DNS server at 10.0.2.15. The domain names resolved include mozilla.net and lencr.org. DNS is crucial for initiating any internet connection, as it is usually the first step a device takes before connecting to a website. In the details pane, transaction IDs, query types, and answer sections are visible. This lets analysts detect DNS poisoning, identify malware callbacks, or confirm if a domain is resolving correctly. Standard query responses indicate successful name resolution. DNS can use UDP or TCP, and in this case, it's shown over UDP. Monitoring DNS is essential for both security and troubleshooting internet access issues.

ICMP (Ping) Packet Analysis



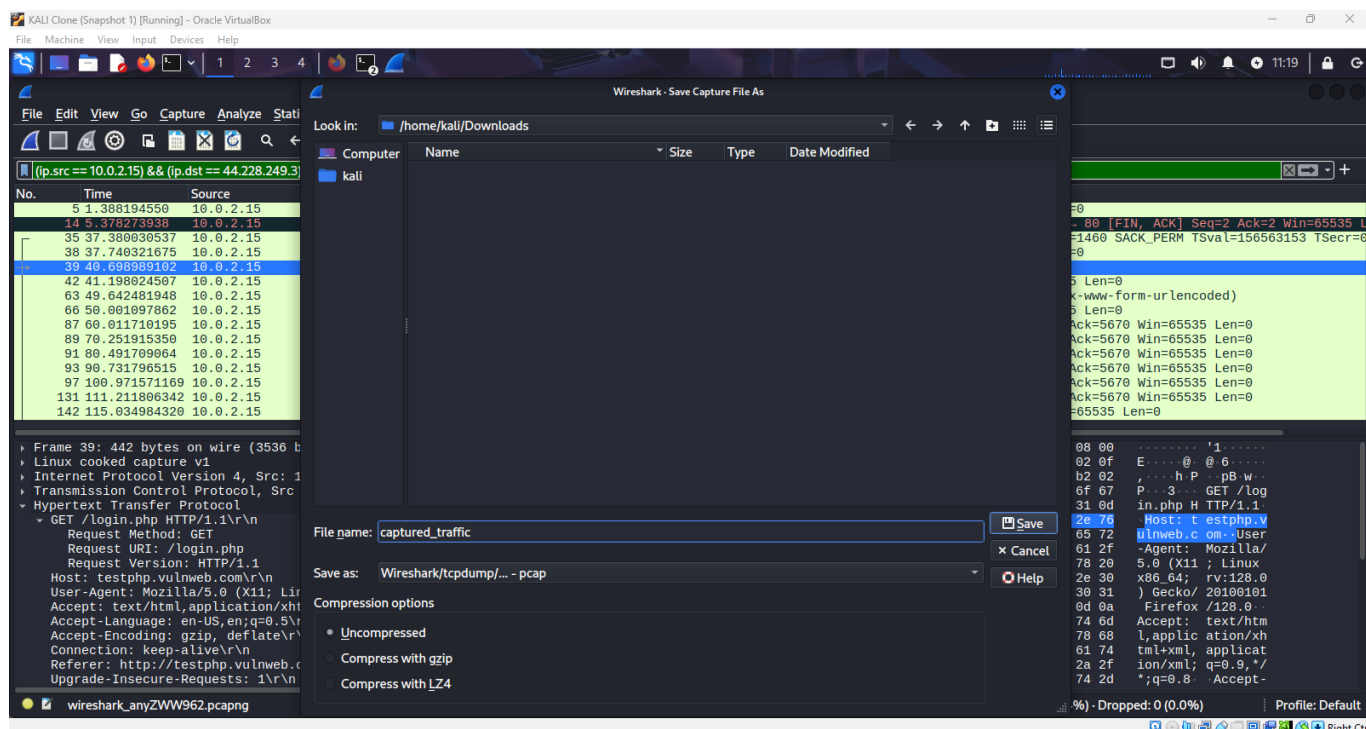
This section captures ICMP packets, which are used primarily for diagnostic purposes like 'ping'. The packet information shows Echo (ping) requests sent to 8.8.8.8, Google's public DNS, and replies received. Each entry includes identifiers, sequence numbers, and TTL values. This type of traffic helps verify network connectivity and latency. If a host is unreachable, ICMP replies can provide clues about the cause. The frame and IP layer details show the type and code of the ICMP message, checksum values, and other metadata. Analyzing ICMP packets can help determine if packets are being dropped or delayed along the route. In cybersecurity, monitoring unexpected ICMP traffic is important, as it could indicate reconnaissance activity or covert data exfiltration. The consistent pattern shown here implies a healthy ping operation between the host and target.

Traffic Between Two Specific IPs



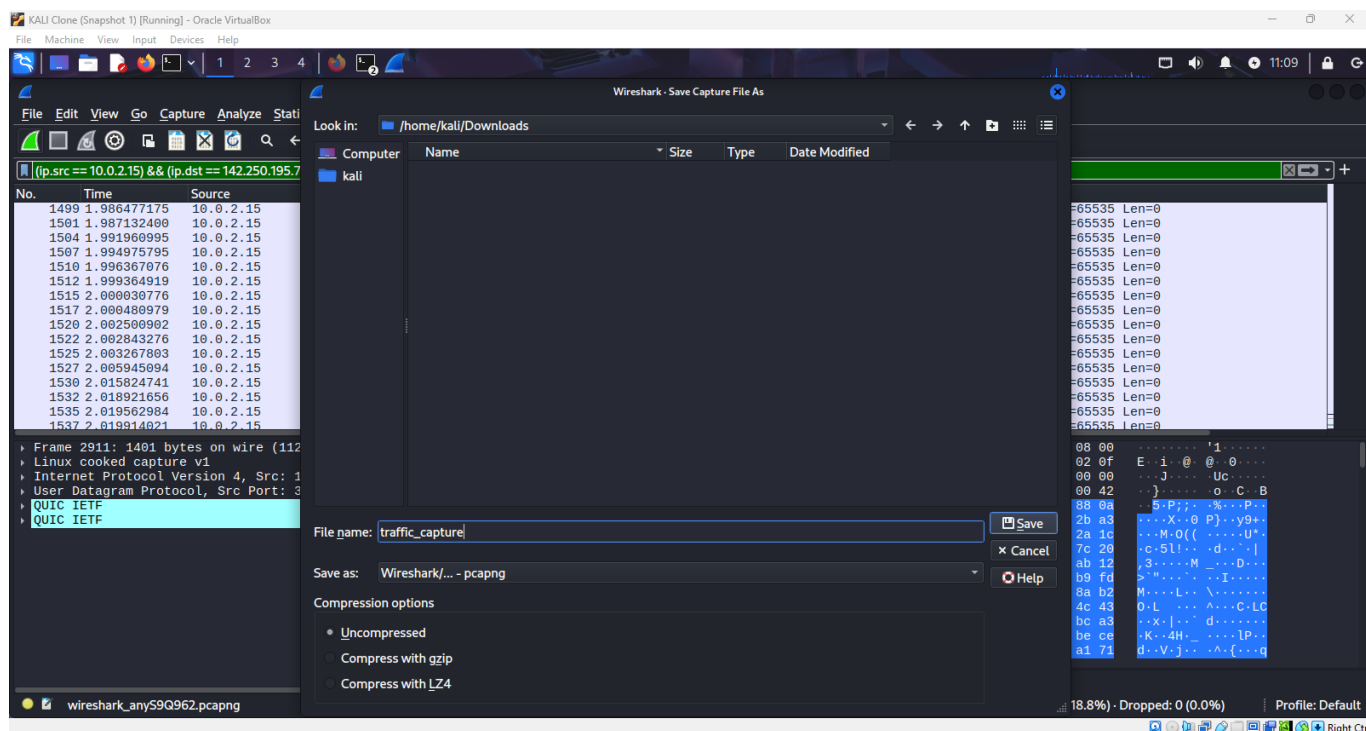
This capture filters traffic between two specific IP addresses: the Kali VM and an external web server. The filtered display isolates only relevant communication, eliminating background noise. It reveals HTTP GET requests such as `/login.php` and POST requests like `/userinfo.php`. This kind of targeted filtering is useful for analyzing user sessions or investigating malicious activity. By inspecting packet contents, we can see what kind of data is being transmitted, such as credentials or form inputs. HTTP headers show browser and request details, while the TCP stream maintains context. Security analysts often use such filtering to correlate actions with user behavior. This approach is also used in forensic investigations to identify how a system was accessed or what data was exchanged.

Saving Capture in .pcap Format



Here, Wireshark is used to save a capture session in .pcap format. The file is named 'captured_traffic' and saved in the /home/kali/Downloads directory. The .pcap format is a standard across tools like tcpdump, Wireshark, and Snort. Saving captures allows offline analysis, which is important for large datasets or forensic archiving. Uncompressed saving ensures maximum compatibility with other tools. The interface allows selecting other formats too, but .pcap remains the most used due to its widespread support. Proper file naming and organization help during multi-session investigations. Saving the file ensures that the evidence or captured data is preserved for reports, compliance, or further inspection.

Saving Capture in .pcapng Format



In this case, the capture is being saved as a .pcapng file, an enhanced version of .pcap. This format supports extended metadata like interface stats, annotations, and custom blocks. It is recommended for modern analysis as it allows multi-interface capture in a single file. The capture is named 'traffic_capture' and stored in the default Downloads folder. Compression options like gzip and LZ4 are also available, useful for reducing file size during long sessions. The .pcapng format is supported by most modern network tools. Saving in this format allows interoperability and richer session context. This screen shows best practices for export settings in Wireshark.