Network Traffic Capture and Analysis Report

Task Title: Capture and Analyze Network Traffic

Using Wireshark

Tool Used: Wireshark v4.4.6 **Report Prepared By:** Kshitij

Date: 4th June 2025

Capture File: wireshark_Wi-FiLBT072.pcapng

Capture Duration: 3 minutes 14 seconds

Network Interface: Wi-Fi

Packet Count: 2536 packets captured

1. Objective

The purpose of this exercise was to:

- Capture live network packets using Wireshark.
- Identify and analyze at least three different network protocols.
- Understand protocol behavior and packet flow.
- Export the data in .pcapng format and summarize key insights.

2. Setup and Methodology

Environment:

- Device: Windows 11 (64-bit), Intel i5-1235U
- Wireshark Version: 4.4.6 (Dumpcap)
- Interface: Wireless (Wi-Fi)
- No Capture Filters Used

Steps Taken:

- 1. Wireshark installed and launched.
- 2. Packet capture started on the active Wi-Fi interface.
- 3. To generate traffic:
 - Accessed a secure website (HTTPS).
 - Performed a ping to a known server.
- 4. Capture stopped after ~3 minutes.
- 5. Used filters to isolate and study specific protocols.

3. Capture Summary

Metric	Value
Packets Captured	2536
Duration	194.066 seconds
Avg. Packets/sec	13.1
Avg. Packet Size	484 bytes
Dropped Packets	0
Total Bytes	1.2 MB (1226920 bytes)
Displayed Packets	580 (22.9%)
Encapsulation	Ethernet

4. Protocols Identified

At least three major protocols were identified and analyzed in this capture:

a. TCP (Transmission Control Protocol)

- TCP is the most prevalent protocol in the capture.
- Port 443 was seen frequently, indicating secure HTTPS communication.
- Observed TCP flags: ACK, PSH, FIN, RST.
- Notable issues:
 - Duplicate ACKs
 - Retransmissions
 - Out-of-order segments
 - D-SACK Sequences
- These indicate typical internet latency or packet loss and recovery processes.

TCP retransmissions and duplicate ACKs help ensure reliability in data delivery. They are normal in internet communication and handled gracefully by the TCP stack.

b. TLSv1.2 (Transport Layer Security)

- TLS packets were captured showing encrypted communication, primarily between clients and web servers.
- No certificate-level details were available as the capture did not include the TLS handshake start.
- TLS used TCP as the transport layer and ran over port 443.
- Shows that secure HTTPS browsing occurred during the capture.

TLS ensures data confidentiality and integrity over insecure networks, commonly used in secure websites.

c. DNS (Domain Name System)

- DNS protocol was observed resolving domain names.
- Worked over UDP port 53 (not shown in screenshots but typically expected during browsing).
- It translates human-readable domain names to IP addresses, crucial before any web connection can occur.

DNS is a foundational protocol that initiates most user activities by resolving hostnames to IPs.

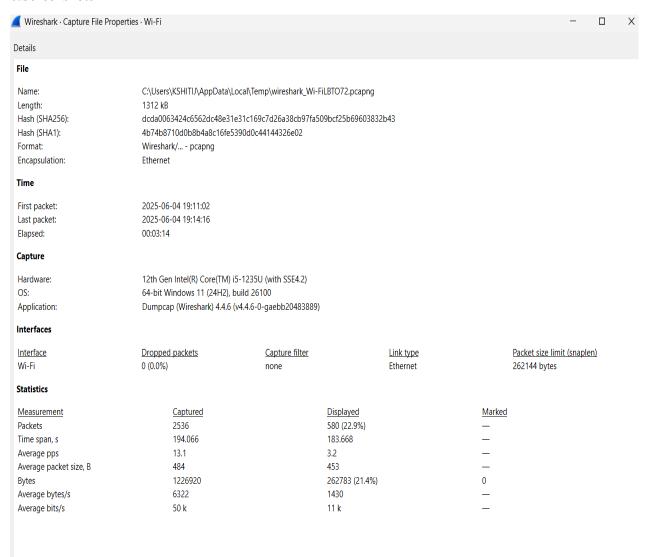
5. Expert Information & Observations

Based on Wireshark's Expert Info, several TCP-related anomalies were detected:

Туре	Summary	Count		
Warning	D-SACK Sequence	2		
Warning	Out-of-order Segment	2		
Warning	Previous segments not captured	2		
Note	Suspected retransmission	2		
Note	Note Duplicate ACK			

These are common in wireless networks and indicate reordering, lost packets, and TCP recovery mechanisms.

6.Screenshots



Packet	Summary	Group	Protocol	Count		
→ Warning	D-SACK Sequence	Sequence	TCP			
1717	[TCP Dup ACK 1716#1] 443 → 53969 [ACK] Seq=7228 Ack=42838 Win=1	Sequence	TCP			
2453	53969 → 443 [ACK] Seq=150691 Ack=46195 Win=1019 Len=0 SLE=4595	Sequence	TCP			
Warning	This frame is a (suspected) out-of-order segment	Sequence	TCP			
291	[TCP Out-Of-Order] 443 → 53969 [PSH, ACK] Seq=2660 Ack=14287 Win	Sequence	TCP			
2221	[TCP Out-Of-Order] 443 → 53969 [PSH, ACK] Seq=30074 Ack=101541 W	Sequence	TCP			
> Warning	Previous segment(s) not captured (common at capture start)	Sequence	TCP			
∨ Note	This frame is a (suspected) retransmission	Sequence	TCP			
1701	[TCP Retransmission] 53969 → 443 [PSH, ACK] Seq=41538 Ack=7228 Wi	Sequence	TCP			
2452	[TCP Retransmission] 443 → 53969 [PSH, ACK] Seq=45953 Ack=150691	Sequence	TCP			
Note	Duplicate ACK	Sequence	TCP			
292	[TCP Dup ACK 114#1] 53969 → 443 [ACK] Seq=14287 Ack=2660 Win=10	Sequence	TCP			
1244	[TCP Dup ACK 1243#1] 443 → 53969 [ACK] Seq=3762 Ack=19188 Win=1	Sequence	TCP			
1358	[TCP Dup ACK 1351#1] 443 → 53969 [ACK] Seq=6511 Ack=32242 Win=1	Sequence	TCP			
1717	[TCP Dup ACK 1716#1] 443 → 53969 [ACK] Seq=7228 Ack=42838 Win=1	Sequence	TCP			
2184	[TCP Dup ACK 2183#1] 443 → 53969 [ACK] Seq=24244 Ack=90651 Win=	Sequence	TCP			
2222	[TCP Dup ACK 2205#1] 53969 → 443 [ACK] Seq=104432 Ack=30074 Win	Sequence	TCP			
2501	[TCP Dup ACK 2496#1] 443 → 53969 [ACK] Seq=46622 Ack=162004 Win	Sequence	TCP			

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Time
                                        Destination
                                                             Protocol Lengtl Info
  36 23.199830
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 2404:6800:4002:817:... TCP
                                                                         74 55207 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=113 Win=255 Len=0
  37 23.199935
                   2603:1040:a03:9::1b6 2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TLSv1.2 113 Application Data
                                       2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TCP
                                                                        74 443 → 53969 [ACK] Seq=118 Ack=141 Win=16385 Len=0
  38 23.232537
                   2620:1ec:50::12
  39 23 241596
                   2620-1ec-50--12
                                        2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TCP
                                                                        74 443 → 53969 [ACK] Seq=118 Ack=176 Win=16385 Len=0
  40 23,247783
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 2603:1040:a03:9::1b6 TCP
                                                                        74 55204 → 443 [ACK] Seq=51 Ack=40 Win=255 Len=0
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 2404:6800:4002:816:... TLSv1.2 98 Application Data
  41 23.289487
  42 23.291225
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 2404:6800:4002:816:... TCP
                                                                         74 55186 → 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=25 Ack=1 Win=253 Len
                   2404:6800:4002:816:... 2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TCP 74 443 → 55186 [RST] Seq=1 Win=0 Len=0
   45 23.354733
                                        2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TLSv1.2 113 Application Data
  46 23.360041
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 2620:1ec:50::12
                                                             TLSv1.2 109 Application Data
  47 23,412424
                   2620:1ec:50::12
                                       2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TCP
                                                                         74 443 → 53969 [ACK] Sea=157 Ack=211 Win=16385 Len=0
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 64:ff9b::34bb:4f6d TCP
  48 23,566763
                                                                         75 53932 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=251 Len=1 [TCP PDU reassembled in 374]
  49 23.680630
                   64:ff9b::34bb:4f6d 2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TCP
                                                                         86 443 → 53932 [ACK] Seg=1 Ack=2 Win=251 Len=0 SLE=1 SRE=2
  50 23.780380
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 2001:4860:4802:38::... TLSv1.2
                                                                         98 Application Data
   51 23.781401
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 2001:4860:4802:38::... TCP
                                                                         74 55195 → 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=25 Ack=1 Win=251 Len=0
                   2001:4860:4802:38::... 2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TCP
   54 23.991016
                   64:ff9b::23ae:7f1f 2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TLSv1.2
                                                                         98 Application Data
  55 23.991291
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 64:ff9b::23ae:7f1f TLSv1.2
                                                                        102 Application Data
                                                                        102 [TCP Retransmission] 55214 → 443 [PSH, ACK] Seq=478 Ack=551 W
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 64:ff9b::23ae:7f1f
   57 24.464401
                   64:ff9b::23ae:7f1f 2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... TCP
                                                                         74 443 → 55214 [ACK] Seq=551 Ack=506 Win=337 Len=0
                    64:ff9b::23ae:7f1f
   58 24.716129
  60 27.390803
                   2409:40d7:a0:aaf7:4... 2404:6800:4002:803:... TCP
                                                                         74 54013 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=165 Win=255 Len=0
     [TCP Flags: ·····R··]
                                                                                                               44 2e 00 14 06 77 24 04 68 00 40 02 08 16 00 00
                                                                                                                                                                 D. · · · w$ · h ·@ · ·
  Window: 0
                                                                                                                                                                       0020 00 00 00 00 20 0a 24 09 40 d7 00 a0 aa f7 4d d9
  [Calculated window size: 0]
                                                                                                               1d 22 03 4c 2c f5 01 bb d7 92 33 7c 10 cc 00 00
  [Window size scaling factor: -1 (unknown)]
                                                                                                         0040 00 00 50 04 00 00 f2 6f 00 00
  Checksum: 0xf26f [unverified]
  [Checksum Status: Unverified]
  Urgent Pointer: 0
∨ [Timestamps]
     [Time since first frame in this TCP stream: 0.065246000 seconds]
     [Time since previous frame in this TCP stream: 0.000000000 seconds]
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7. Notable Packet Details (from capture)

- Packet #43 & #44: TCP RST packets indicating abrupt termination of connections.
- Packet #56: TCP Retransmission observed with Seq=478 Ack=551.
- Packet #57: Followed by TCP Duplicate ACK, confirming the retransmission requirement.
- TLSv1.2 Packets: Many encrypted data packets observed with consistent lengths (e.g., 102, 109, 156 bytes).

8. Conclusion

This hands-on exercise with Wireshark helped develop core packet analysis skills and improved understanding of how protocols function and interact in real-time. The most active protocol was TCP, facilitating reliable communication. TLSv1.2 confirmed the usage of encrypted web connections, while DNS played its role in initial name resolution.

Skills Gained:

- Live packet capture using Wireshark
- Protocol filtering and analysis
- Understanding retransmissions and TCP flow issues
- Exporting .pcapng files and generating reports