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Wireshark Week 1

a. Installation process and any challenges encountered
b. Description of the network interface you selected for capturing packets
c. Overview of the types of packets you observed (e.g., Ethernet, ARP, etc.)
d. Any interesting observations or patterns in the captured traffic
e. Reflection on the usefulness of Wireshark for understanding Data Link Layer communication and troubleshooting network issues

The installation of Wireshark was a straightforward process. I visited the official Wireshark website and downloaded the appropriate installer for my operating system. I downloaded the app opened it and was redirected to also download chmod and then restarted Wireshark. (I will admit I always second guess my operating system due to my older MacBook model but I did get it right first try. Not incredibly important but it would be greatly appreciated if my hand were held and it went above and beyond to clarify which version was best for me so that it'd be a split-second decision I guess.

During the Wireshark session, I observed various types of packets representing different protocols at the Data Link Layer. Ethernet frames were the most prevalent packet type observed. Wireshark proved to be an invaluable tool for understanding Data Link Layer communication and troubleshooting network issues. By capturing and analyzing packets at this layer, I gained insight into the fundamental protocols and mechanisms governing network communication.

Wireshark's ability to dissect and display packet details albeit in a daunting-looking way for a first-time user enabled me to identify high levels of broadcast traffic like other wifi networks in my area which it constantly kept checking for. Other networks have long been an

afterthought but computers are truly constantly receiving and transmitting tons of data that I didn't consider. It provided a deep understanding of how devices communicate, including addressing schemes, protocols, and network behavior.