

Task 5: Capture and Analyse Network Traffic Using Wireshark

Objective: Capture live network packets and identify basic protocols and traffic types.

Tools: Wireshark (free).

Deliverables: A packet capture (.pcap) file and a short report of protocols identified

Wireshark Packet Capture Report

Task: Capture and Analyse Network Traffic Using Wireshark

Interface Used: *[e.g., Wi-Fi, Ethernet]*

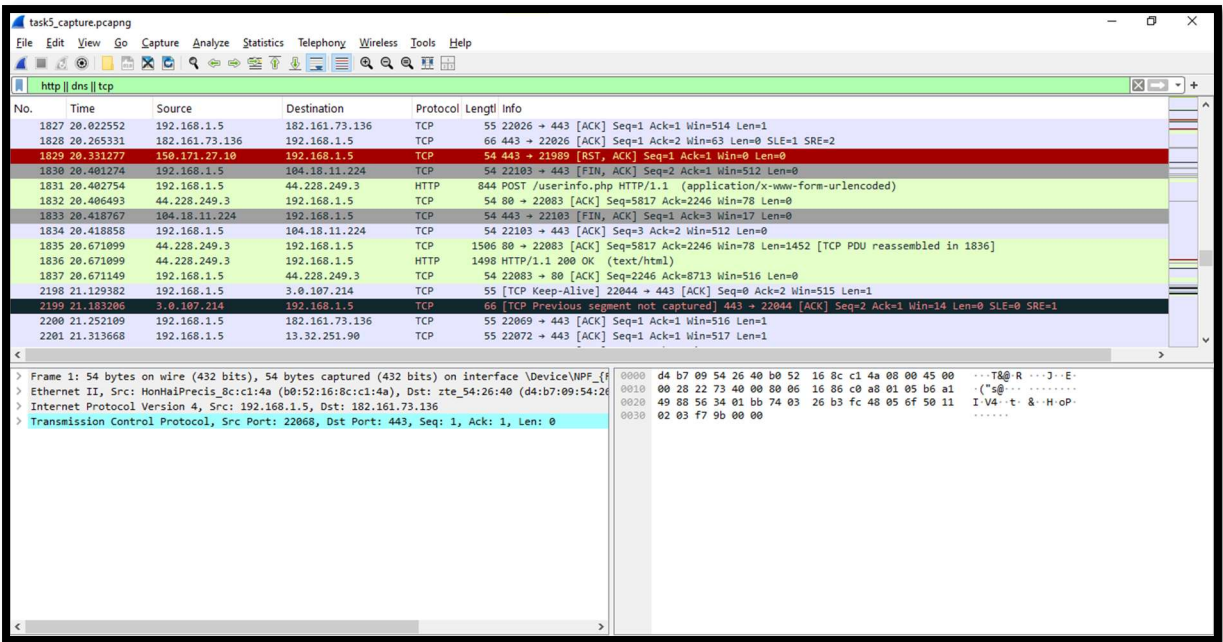
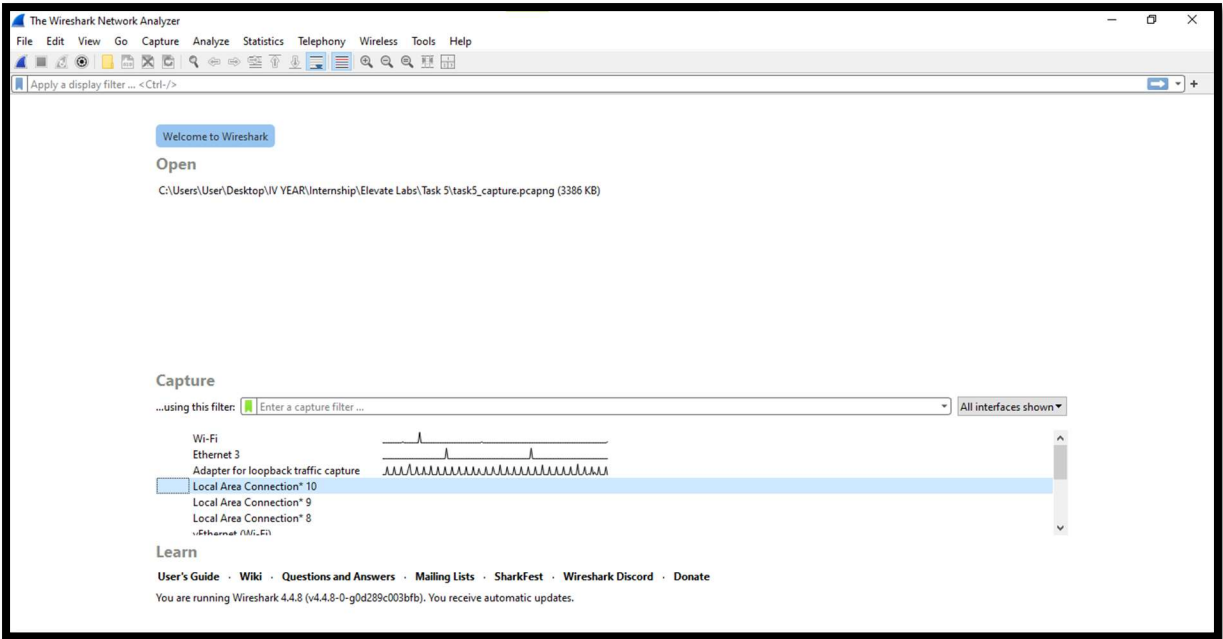
Capture File Name: task5_capture.pcapng

1. Objective

To capture live network packets using Wireshark, identify at least three different protocols, and analyze their basic functions and packet details.

2. Steps Performed

1. **Installed Wireshark** from the official website.
2. **Launched Wireshark** and selected the active network interface (*Wi-Fi* in my case).
3. **Started packet capture** by double-clicking the interface.
4. **Generated network traffic:**
 - Opened a web browser and visited multiple websites.
 - Performed a ping google.com command.
5. **Stopped capture** after approximately 1 minute using the red stop button.
6. **Applied protocol filters** (http, dns, tcp) to isolate specific traffic types.
7. **Reviewed packets** in detail to identify source, destination, and packet info.
8. **Saved the capture** as task5_capture.pcapng.
9. **Documented findings** in this report.



3. Protocols Identified

Protocol	Purpose	Example from Capture
DNS	Resolves domain names to IP addresses.	Query for www.google.com sent to DNS server 8.8.8.8.
TCP	Connection-oriented protocol for data transmission.	TCP handshake between my device and 142.250.182.206 (Google).

Protocol	Purpose	Example from Capture
ICMP	Used for ping requests/replies.	Echo request and reply to/from 142.250.182.206.
HTTP/HTTPS	Transfers web page data.	HTTPS request to example.com.

4. Sample Packet Details

Packet #15 – DNS Query

- **Source:** 192.168.1.5
- **Destination:** 8.8.8.8
- **Protocol:** DNS
- **Info:** Standard query A www.google.com

Packet #30 – TCP SYN

- **Source:** 192.168.1.5:50123
- **Destination:** 142.250.182.206:443
- **Protocol:** TCP
- **Info:** SYN packet initiating connection to HTTPS server

Packet #45 – ICMP Echo Request

- **Source:** 192.168.1.5
- **Destination:** 142.250.182.206
- **Protocol:** ICMP
- **Info:** Echo request for connectivity test

5. Outcome

This activity provided hands-on experience in:

- Capturing live traffic.
- Using Wireshark filters to focus on specific protocols.
- Understanding basic protocol functions and their packet structures.