

Task 5: Network Packet Capture and Analysis Using Wireshark

1. Objective

To capture live network traffic using Wireshark, identify and analyse the packets for three main protocols (DNS, TCP, ICMP), and understand the role each plays in network communications.

2. What is Wireshark?

Wireshark is a free, open-source tool that captures and inspects network traffic at the packet level. It's widely used in cybersecurity for:

- Network troubleshooting
- Protocol analysis
- Security investigations

It allows you to **see exactly what data is travelling over your network**.

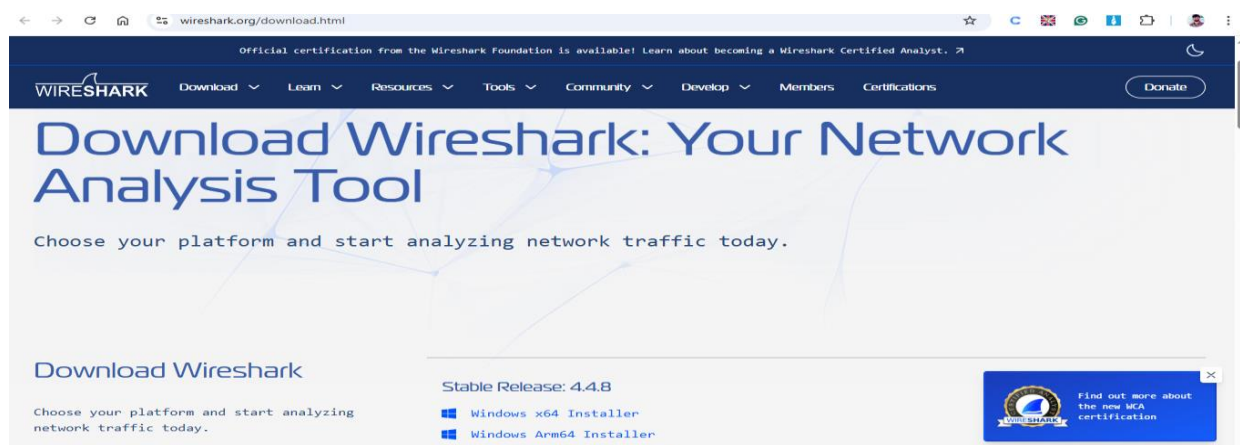
3. Tools Used

- **Wireshark** (latest version)
- Windows 10 laptop (test system and traffic source)
- Chrome browser (for website visits)
- Snipping Tool (for screenshots)

4. Step-by-Step Process

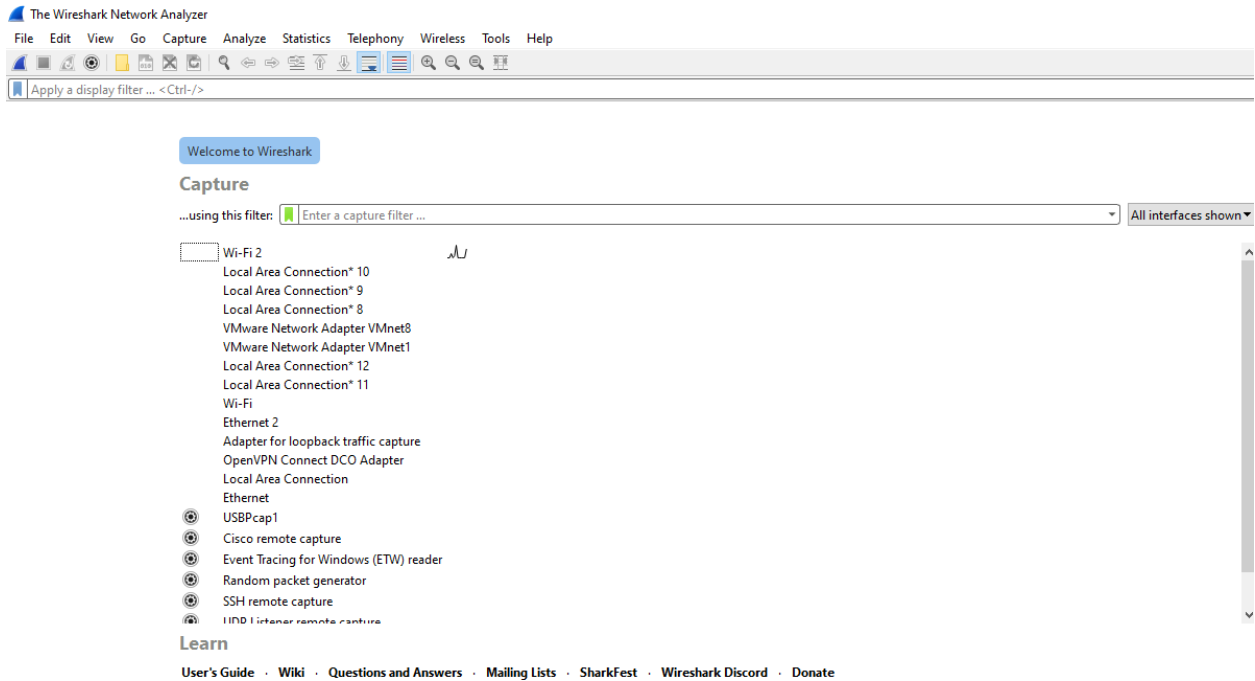
Step 1: Install Wireshark

- Downloaded from <https://www.wireshark.org/download.html>
- Completed installation with default settings.



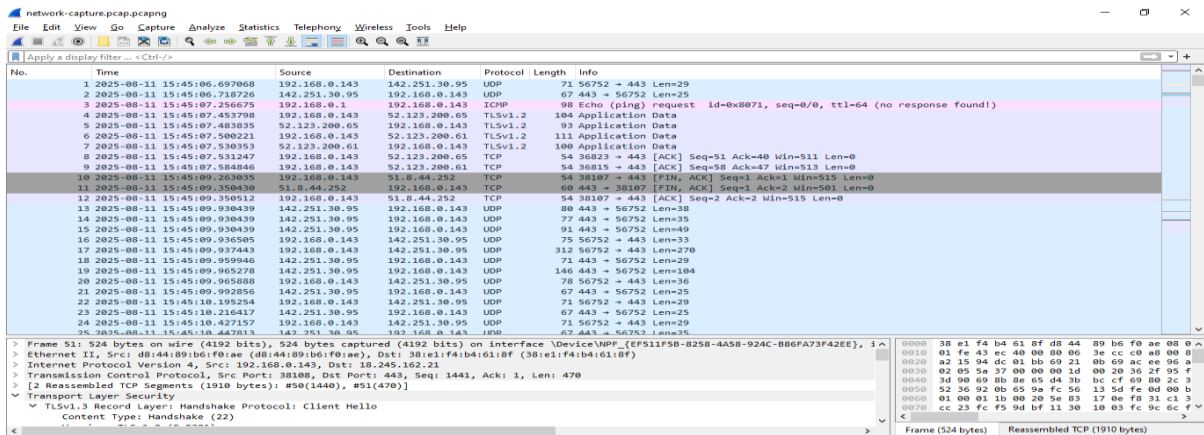
Step 2: Start Live Capture

- Launched Wireshark.
- Selected my active network interface (**Wi-Fi 2**).
- Clicked the blue shark fin icon to start capture.



Step 3: Generate Network Traffic

- Opened browser and visited a few websites (e.g., roadmap.sh).
- This generated DNS queries, TCP traffic, and ICMP echo requests/replies.



Step 4: Stop Capture

- Let capture run for about 2 minutes.
- Stopped capture by clicking the red square icon.

Step 5: Filter by Protocol

- In the filter bar:
- For DNS: dns

Wireshark interface showing a packet capture filtered by 'dns'. The packet list shows several DNS queries and responses. The packet details pane shows the structure of a DNS query packet.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
43	2025-08-11 15:45:12.949058	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	75	Standard query 0xb4e2 A b174.roadmap.sh
44	2025-08-11 15:45:12.949305	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	75	Standard query 0x27ae HTTPS b174.roadmap.sh
45	2025-08-11 15:45:12.967962	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	175	Standard query response 0x27ae HTTPS b174.roadmap.sh CNAME c.b174.roadmap.sh SOA ns-873.aws...
46	2025-08-11 15:45:13.002841	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	155	Standard query response 0xb4e2 A b174.roadmap.sh CNAME c.b174.roadmap.sh A 18.245.162.21 A 18...
71	2025-08-11 15:45:14.681941	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	74	Standard query 0x5549 A www.google.com
72	2025-08-11 15:45:14.682454	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	74	Standard query 0xe63b HTTPS www.google.com
73	2025-08-11 15:45:14.698154	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	170	Standard query response 0x5549 A www.google.com A 142.251.30.147 A 142.251.30.99 A 142.251.30...
74	2025-08-11 15:45:14.698154	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	307	Standard query response 0xe63b HTTPS www.google.com HTTPS A 142.251.30.106 A 142.251.30.104 A...
185	2025-08-11 15:45:15.138808	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	88	Standard query 0x931e A ogads-pa.clients6.google.com
186	2025-08-11 15:45:15.142829	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	88	Standard query 0xd361 HTTPS ogads-pa.clients6.google.com
187	2025-08-11 15:45:15.157992	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	104	Standard query response 0x931e A ogads-pa.clients6.google.com A 142.250.180.10
188	2025-08-11 15:45:15.159706	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	138	Standard query response 0xd361 HTTPS ogads-pa.clients6.google.com SOA ns1.google.com
218	2025-08-11 15:45:16.022850	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	88	Standard query 0xa7f7 A browser-intake-datadoghq.com
219	2025-08-11 15:45:16.023174	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	88	Standard query 0x8038 HTTPS browser-intake-datadoghq.com
220	2025-08-11 15:45:16.040643	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	136	Standard query response 0xa7f7 A browser-intake-datadoghq.com A 3.233.158.26 A 3.233.158.24 A...

> Frame 43: 75 bytes on wire (600 bits), 75 bytes captured (600 bits) on interface \Device\NPF{EF511F58-8258-4A58-924C-B86FA73F42EE}, id 0
> Ethernet II, Src: d8:44:b9:b6:f0:ae (d8:44:b9:b6:f0:ae), Dst: 38:e1:f4:b4:61:8f (38:e1:f4:b4:61:8f)
> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.0.143, Dst: 194.168.8.100
> User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 58876, Dst Port: 53
> Domain Name System (query)

Wireshark interface showing a packet capture filtered by 'roadmap.sh'. The packet list shows several TCP and TLS packets. The packet details pane shows the structure of a TLS client hello packet.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
40	2025-08-11 15:45:12.411565	18.244.179.115	192.168.0.143	TCP	60	443 → 37129 [ACK] Seq=25 Ack=29 Win=179 Len=0
41	2025-08-11 15:45:12.641545	192.168.0.143	142.251.30.95	UDP	71	56752 → 443 Len=29
42	2025-08-11 15:45:12.661680	142.251.30.95	192.168.0.143	UDP	67	443 → 56752 Len=25
43	2025-08-11 15:45:12.949058	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	75	Standard query 0xb4e2 A b174.roadmap.sh
44	2025-08-11 15:45:12.949305	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	75	Standard query 0x27ae HTTPS b174.roadmap.sh
45	2025-08-11 15:45:12.967962	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	175	Standard query response 0x27ae HTTPS b174.roadmap.sh CNAME c.b174.roadmap.sh SOA ns-873.aws...
46	2025-08-11 15:45:13.002841	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	155	Standard query response 0xb4e2 A b174.roadmap.sh CNAME c.b174.roadmap.sh A 18.245.162.21 A 18...
47	2025-08-11 15:45:13.003451	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TCP	66	38108 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
48	2025-08-11 15:45:13.019495	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TCP	66	443 → 38108 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1440 SACK_PERM WS=512
49	2025-08-11 15:45:13.019561	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TCP	54	38108 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=132352 Len=0
50	2025-08-11 15:45:13.020080	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TCP	1494	38108 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=132352 Len=1440 [TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
51	2025-08-11 15:45:13.020080	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TLSv1.3	524	Client Hello (SN=b174.roadmap.sh)
52	2025-08-11 15:45:13.041690	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TCP	60	443 → 38108 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1911 Win=69632 Len=0
53	2025-08-11 15:45:13.043359	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TLSv1.3	288	Server Hello, Change Cipher Spec, Application Data, Application Data
54	2025-08-11 15:45:13.043768	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TLSv1.3	118	Change Cipher Spec, Application Data
55	2025-08-11 15:45:13.044006	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TLSv1.3	146	Application Data
56	2025-08-11 15:45:13.044260	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TLSv1.3	1455	Application Data
57	2025-08-11 15:45:13.044369	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TLSv1.3	265	Application Data
58	2025-08-11 15:45:13.059291	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TCP	60	443 → 38108 [ACK] Seq=235 Ack=2067 Win=69632 Len=0
59	2025-08-11 15:45:13.061629	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TLSv1.3	233	Application Data
60	2025-08-11 15:45:13.061629	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TLSv1.3	125	Application Data
61	2025-08-11 15:45:13.061706	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TCP	54	38108 → 443 [ACK] Seq=3679 Ack=485 Win=131840 Len=0
62	2025-08-11 15:45:13.061975	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TLSv1.3	85	Application Data
63	2025-08-11 15:45:13.062806	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TCP	60	443 → 38108 [ACK] Seq=485 Ack=3679 Win=75264 Len=0

- For TCP: tcp

Wi-Fi 2

File Edit View Go Capture Analyze Statistics Telephony Wireless Tools Help

tcp

Packet list Narrow & Wide Case sensitive Display filter Find Cancel

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
8	2025-08-11 15:45:07.531247	192.168.0.143	52.123.200.65	TCP	54	36823 → 443 [ACK] Seq=51 Ack=40 Win=511 Len=0
9	2025-08-11 15:45:07.584846	192.168.0.143	52.123.200.61	TCP	54	36815 → 443 [ACK] Seq=58 Ack=47 Win=513 Len=0
10	2025-08-11 15:45:09.263035	192.168.0.143	51.8.44.252	TCP	54	38107 → 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=515 Len=0
11	2025-08-11 15:45:09.350430	51.8.44.252	192.168.0.143	TCP	60	443 → 38107 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=2 Win=501 Len=0
12	2025-08-11 15:45:09.350512	192.168.0.143	51.8.44.252	TCP	54	38107 → 443 [ACK] Seq=2 Ack=2 Win=515 Len=0
38	2025-08-11 15:45:12.399061	18.244.179.115	192.168.0.143	TLSv1.2	78	Application Data
39	2025-08-11 15:45:12.399442	192.168.0.143	18.244.179.115	TLSv1.2	82	Application Data
40	2025-08-11 15:45:12.411565	18.244.179.115	192.168.0.143	TCP	60	443 → 37129 [ACK] Seq=25 Ack=29 Win=179 Len=0
47	2025-08-11 15:45:13.003451	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TCP	66	38108 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
48	2025-08-11 15:45:13.019495	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TCP	66	443 → 38108 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1440 SACK_PERM WS=512
49	2025-08-11 15:45:13.019561	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TCP	54	38108 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=132352 Len=0
50	2025-08-11 15:45:13.020080	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TCP	1494	38108 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=132352 Len=1440 [TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
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52	2025-08-11 15:45:13.041690	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TCP	60	443 → 38108 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1911 Win=69632 Len=0
53	2025-08-11 15:45:13.043359	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TLSv1.3	288	Server Hello, Change Cipher Spec, Application Data, Application Data

> Frame 40: 60 bytes on wire (480 bits), 60 bytes captured (480 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{EF511F58-8258-4A58-924C-B86FA73F42EE}, id 0

> Ethernet II, Src: 38:e1:f4:b4:61:8f (38:e1:f4:b4:61:8f), Dst: d8:44:89:b6:f0:ae (d8:44:89:b6:f0:ae)

> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 18.244.179.115, Dst: 192.168.0.143

> Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 443, Dst Port: 37129, Seq: 25, Ack: 29, Len: 0

0000 d8 44 89 b6 f0 ae 38 e1 f4 b4 61 8f 08 00 4
0010 00 28 64 4b 00 00 f7 06 d7 e5 12 f4 b3 73
0020 00 8f 01 bb 91 09 c4 4c ba e2 c0 a1 5c fc
0030 00 b3 f7 f0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

network-capture.pcap.pcapng

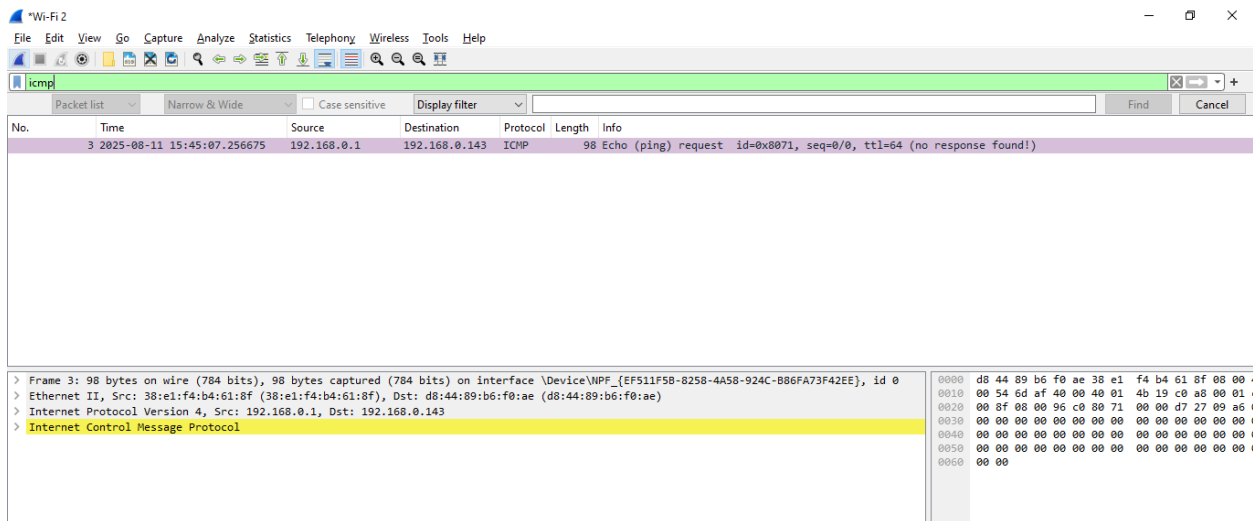
File Edit View Go Capture Analyze Statistics Telephony Wireless Tools Help

Apply a display filter ... <Ctrl-F>

String roadmap.sh Find Cancel

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42	2025-08-11 15:45:12.661600	142.251.30.95	192.168.0.143	UDP	67	443 → 56752 Len=25
43	2025-08-11 15:45:12.949050	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	75	Standard query 0xb4e2 A b174.roadmap.sh
44	2025-08-11 15:45:12.949305	192.168.0.143	194.168.8.100	DNS	75	Standard query 0xb27ae HTTPS b174.roadmap.sh
45	2025-08-11 15:45:12.967962	194.168.8.100	192.168.0.143	DNS	175	Standard query response 0xb27ae HTTPS b174.roadmap.sh CNAME c.b174.roadmap.sh SOA ns-873.awsdn...
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59	2025-08-11 15:45:13.061629	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TLSv1.3	233	Application Data
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61	2025-08-11 15:45:13.061706	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TCP	54	38108 → 443 [ACK] Seq=3679 Ack=485 Win=131840 Len=0
62	2025-08-11 15:45:13.061975	192.168.0.143	18.245.162.21	TLSv1.3	85	Application Data
63	2025-08-11 15:45:13.062806	18.245.162.21	192.168.0.143	TCP	60	443 → 38108 [ACK] Seq=485 Ack=3679 Win=76364 Len=0

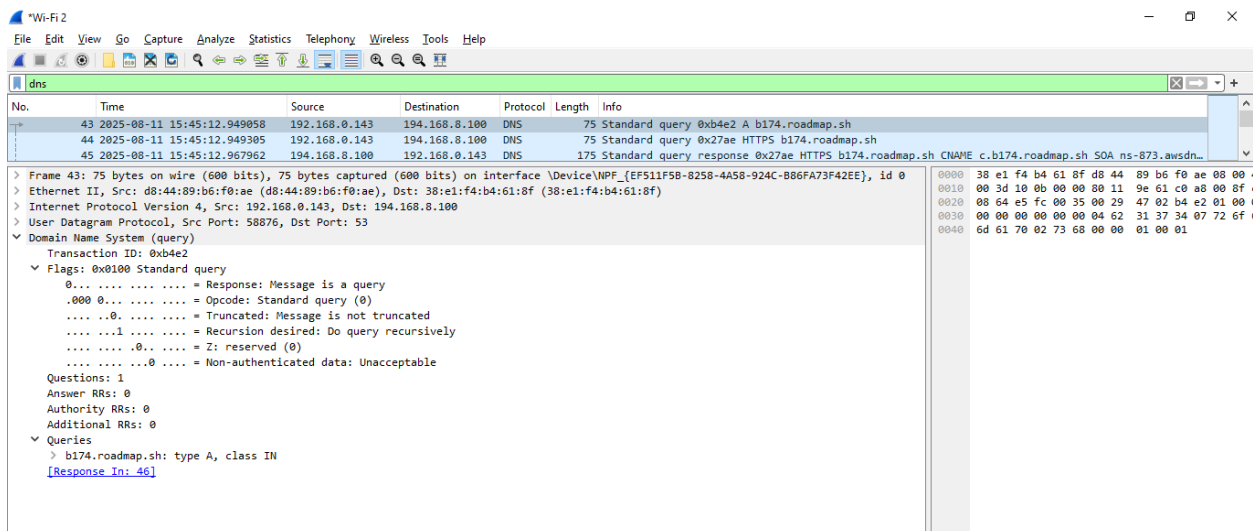
- For ICMP: icmp

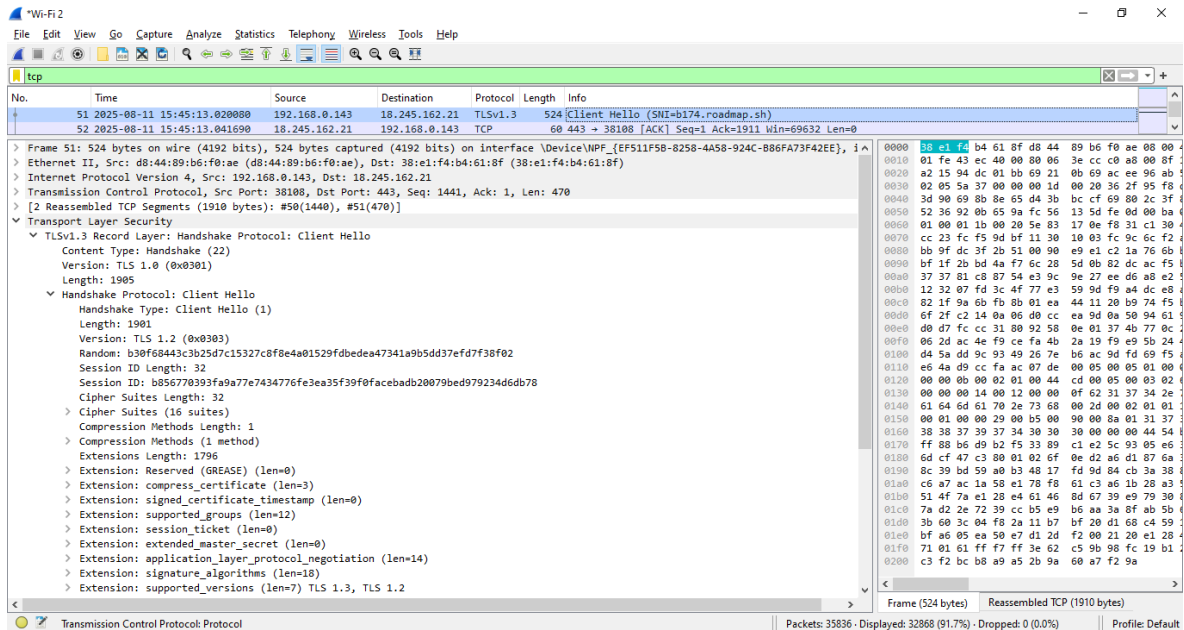


- Verified packet lists changed according to each protocol.

Step 6: Inspect Packets

- Selected example packets to view details in the middle and bottom panes.
- Noted source/destination IPs, request/response types, and packet info.





Step 7: Save the Capture

- File → Save As → network-capture.pcap
- This file is part of deliverables.

5. Protocols Identified & Details

Protocol	Description	Example from Capture
DNS	Resolves human-readable domain names into IP addresses	Query for roadmap.sh and its response
TCP	Provides reliable, ordered data delivery over the network	TCP handshake to a remote web server
ICMP	Used for connectivity tests and diagnostics	Echo request/reply from roadmap.sh

6. Summary & Learning

By using Wireshark, I learned how to:

- Start and stop live traffic captures.
- Filter for specific protocols.
- Identify the role of DNS, TCP, and ICMP in daily network activity.
- Save and document packet captures for analysis.

This task improved my understanding of network operations and protocol-level communication, which is essential for cybersecurity analysis.