Lab: Pfsense and Wireshark

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Aim:

The aim of this lab is to configure a perimeter network with a PfSense firewall, and explore the Wireshark network packet analyser for network traffic investigation.

Time to Complete:

2-4 hours

Activities:

• Complete Labs

Learning activities:

At the end of this lab, you should understand:

- How to configure a Pfsense firewall, and set up the firewalling to allow traffic needed for network analysis/investigation.
- How to use Wireshark to capture and interpret network packet traces, analysing
 protocols such as the HTTP, Telnet and SSH, by searching and filtering, and
 manipulate and save pcap traces.

Reflective statements (end-of-exercise):

- How can a monitoring and traffic analysis tool such as Wireshark be used in a network security context?
- How might Wireshark statistics, filtering and pcap manipulation be used in a network analysis/investigation context.

References:

- Previous lab notes as reference for configuration if needed
- Pfsense online documentation:
 - https://doc.pfsense.org/index.php/Main_Page
- The Wireshark User Guide can be found at: http://www.wireshark.org/docs/wsug_html_chunked

Setting up your VMs and Network

Figure 1 outlines the setup of the lab for each group/student. We will assign network address to the 3 interfaces of the firewall and associated interfaces of the hosts so we can route traffic between hosts. NAT is automatic in PFSense as previsouly explored, and will allow the DMZ and private networks to connect to the public network. A DNS nameserver will need to be configured on the Hosts.

Network Ranges:

Your networks will be: 10.10.x.0/24 and 10.10.x.0/24

First log into vCenter (vc2003.napier.ac.uk), and then select your network infrastructure. Use this to configure the network addresses for your firewall and hosts from the network ranges on Moodle.

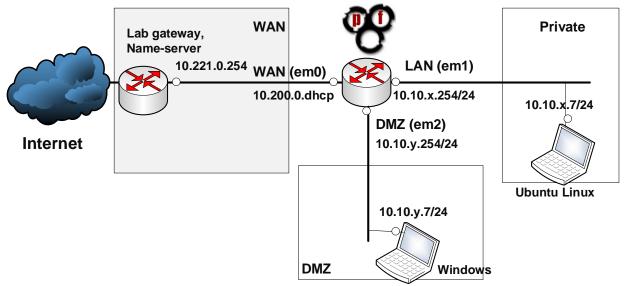


Figure 1: Individual Student Lab setup

User logins: Ubuntu (User: napier, Password: napier123),

Windows: (User: Administrator, Password: napier),

Pfsense (User: admin, Password: pfsense)

Kali (User: root, Password: toor)

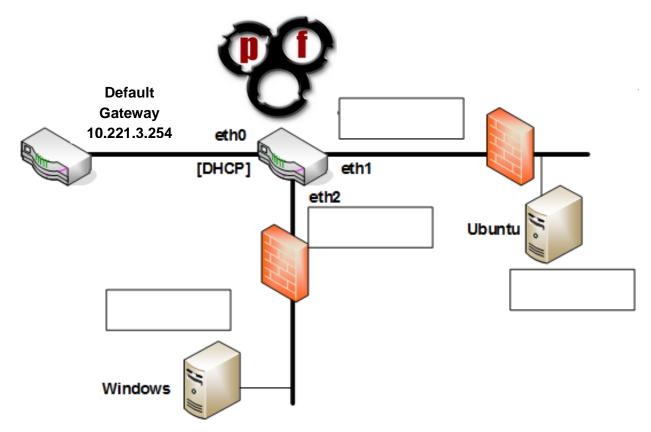


Figure 3: Each student or group's network – complete the diagram with your own IP Addressing from table and refer back to this while doing the lab!!

Initial Configuration of the PFSense Firewall



Ref for configuring the PFSense firewall:

https://doc.pfsense.org/index.php/Main_Page

Create Interface Names/Configure Addressing

Create the interface names for the outside, inside and DMZ network interfaces, and then assign IP Addresses. DHCP for the outside, and static IP Addresses for the the Inside and DMZ, as previously. Check the IP Addresses are correct and test connectivity.

Test Connectivity

- Q. Can you ping the WAN interface? Yes/No
- Q. Can you ping the main gateway (10.221.3.254)? Yes/No

Test Connectivity

Q. Can you ping the LAN interface? Yes/No

Configure Host Networking

Now we will configure the hosts to sit on the Private and DMZ zones.

Setup the Linux host with an IP Address of 10.10.x.7/24 and a default gateway of your firewall LAN interface (10.10.x.254/24).

```
sudo ip addr add 10.10.x.7/24 dev ethx sudo ip route add default via 10.10.x.254
```

Setup the DNS name server on the Linux host by editing the /etc/resolv.config and adding a nameserver:

```
sudo nano /etc/resolv.conf
Add the nameserver 10.221.3.254
```

On the Windows server modify the static address on the interface with:

IP: 10.10.y.7

Subnet mask: 255.255.255.0 Gateway: 10.10.y.254

DNS: 10.221.3.254 – The lab default gateway should have a DNS server running

Test Connectivity

Using the **ping** command check the local interface are up and running and then connectivity from one system to another, by pinging each interface, starting with the local machine interface and working to the other hosts one hop at a time.

Firewall Remote Administration

Now we configure the firewall, via the webConfigurator web service running on the firewall. From Ubuntu, connect to the firewall using a web browser. Login with the pfsense credentials

Private LAN and DMZ Network Connectivity

Check your configuration against your network diagram, using **Status>Interfaces** Go back to the Dashboard **Status > Dashboard**

LAN and DMZ Network Connectivity

Send each of the 10.10.x.254 and 10.10.x.7 interfaces some ICMP packets.

Q. Can you ping them? Yes/No

Firewall Rules

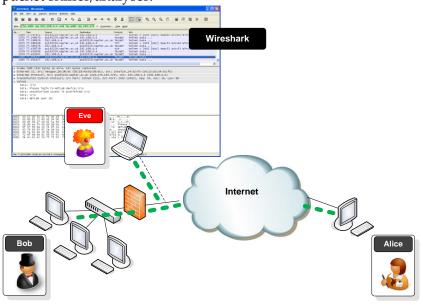
From the firewall web app, review the current rules applied to the 3 firewall interfaces using **Firewall>Rules** (and then the appropriate interface tabs)

Create rules to allow DMZ to the Inside Private network for ALL traffic Create rules to allow DMZ to the ANY network for ICMP, WEB, and DNS traffic Also check the private and bogon checkboxes are unchecked in Interfaces>WAN

Wireshark - Capturing and Analysing Traffic

Packet Capture (Packet Sniffing)

A packet sniffer is an application which can capture and analyse network traffic which is passing through a system's Network Interface Card (NIC). The sniffer sets the card to promiscuous mode which means all traffic is read, whether it is addressed to that machine or not. The figure below shows an attacker sniffing packets from the network, and the Wireshark packet sniffer/analyser.



Packet Analysis

Wireshark is an open source cross-platform packet capture and analysis tool, with versions for Windows and Linux. The GUI window gives a detailed breakdown of the network protocol stack for each packet, colorising packet details based on protocol, as well as having functionality to filter and search the traffic, and pick out TCP streams. Wireshark can also save packet data to files for offline analysis and export/import packet captures to/from other tools. Statistics can also be generated for packet capture files.

Wireshark can be used for **network troubleshooting**, to **investigate security issues**, and to **analyse and understand network protocols**. The packet sniffer can exploit information passed in plaintext, i.e. not encrypted. Examples of **protocols** which pass information in plaintext are **Telnet**, **FTP**, **SNMP**, **POP**, **and HTTP**.

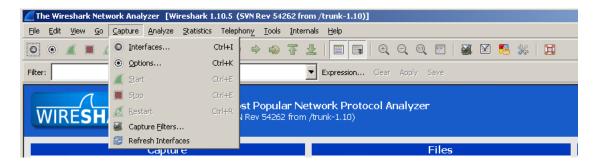
Wireshark is a GUI based network capture tool. There is a command line based version of the packet capture utility, called **TShark**. TShark provides many of the same features as its big brother, but is console-based. It can be a good alternative if only command line access is available, and also uses less resources as it has no GUI to generate.



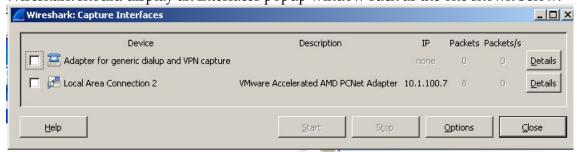
The Wireshark User Guide can be found at: http://www.wireshark.org/docs/wsug_html_chunked/

Capturing Network Traffic

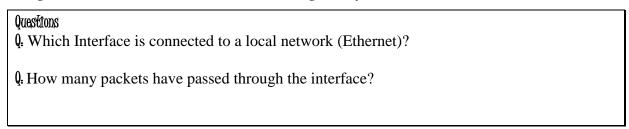
From your Windows Server VM, start the Wireshark application. When Wireshark is first run, a default, or blank window is shown. To list the available network interfaces, select the **Capture->Interfaces** menu option (CTRL+I).



Wireshark should display an Interfaces popup window such as the one shown below.



Ping the nearest Windows machine's default gateway, and watch the Packets column.



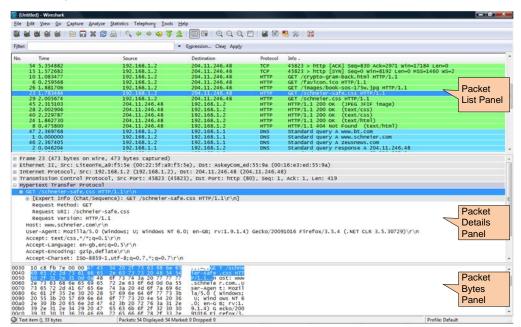
To capture network traffic click the **Start** button for the network interface you want to capture traffic on. Windows can have a long list of virtual interfaces, before the Ethernet Network Interface Card (NIC).

From the Windows VM, generate some network traffic with a Web Browser, such as Firefox, and access the web server running on your Ubuntu VM.



Wireshark Interface

Your Wireshark window should show the packets, and now look something like the following:



To stop the capture, select the **Capture->Stop** menu option, Ctrl+E, or the Stop toolbar button. What you have created is a Packet Capture or 'pcap', which you can now view and analyse using the Wireshark interface, or save to disk to analyse later.

The capture is split into 3 parts:

1. **Packet List Panel** – this is a list of packets in the current capture. It colours the packets based on the protocol type.

For each packet the columns include:

- No order the pkts were received by Wireshark
- **Time** UNIX Time this can be configured to a timezone and used to timeline incidents!
- Src and Dest IP Address
- Protocol DNS, ICMP, HTTP ARP etc
- **Information** about the specific pkt this is interpreted by Wireshark!

When a packet is selected, the details are shown in the two panels below:

- 2. **Packet Details Panel** this shows the details of the selected packet. It shows the different protocols making up the layers of data for this packet. Layers include Frame, Ethernet, IP, TCP/UDP/ICMP, and application protocols such as HTTP.
- 3. **Packet Bytes Panel** shows the packet bytes in Hex and ASCII encodings.

The status bar at the foot of the window shows total number of packets in the capture, and the displayed and marked packets!

Wireshark Traffic Filtering

The Wireshark window also has the 'traffic **Filter field'** which can be used to enter a 'display filter', which then changes the traffic displayed to only show packets which match the filter.





Some useful Wireshark **display filters** can be found at:

http://wiki.wireshark.org/DisplayFilters

https://www.wireshark.org/docs/dfref/

The simplest filtering would be at the lower layers of the TCP/IP model, such as filtering out based on IP Address.

Try filtering out only the traffic to/from your Windows VM, by entering a filter on the IP Address into the traffic Filter field:

Questions

Q. How many packets are in the capture, and how many are being displayed?

Try filtering out for only outgoing and then incoming traffic from the Windows VM using the following:

Questions

Q. Check how many packets are in the capture, and how many are being displayed?

Out:

In:

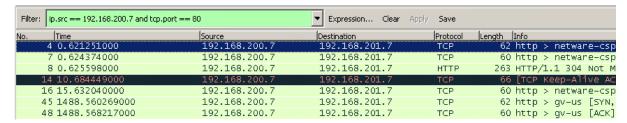
We can also build more complex filters which combine simpler filters. Try to create a filter to display **only packets coming back from a web server** on the private inside network. (tcp.port might be useful!)

Test by connecting to the Ubuntu web server a few times.

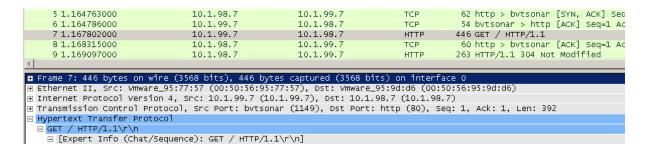
Questions

Q: What is the working filter?

Something similar to the following should work: (using your IP addressing)



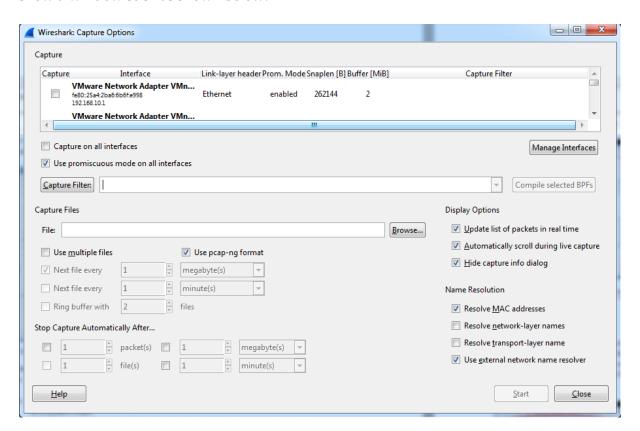
Search back through your capture, and find an **HTTP** packet containing an **HTTP GET** command. Click on the packet in the **Packet List Panel**. Then expand the HTTP layer in the **Packet Details Panel**, from the packet.



Questions

- **Q.** From the **Packet Details Panel**, within the GET command, what is the value of the **Host param**?
- Q. Can you see the **Hex** and **ASCII** representations of the packet in the **Packet Bytes Panel**?
- **Q**: From the **Packet Bytes Panel**, what are the first 4 bytes of the Hex value of the **Host** parameter?

To select more detailed options when starting a capture, select the **Capture->Options** menu option, or **Ctrl+K**, or the Capture Options button on the toolbar (the wrench). This should show a window such as shown below.



Some of the more interesting options are:

- *Capture Options > Interface -* Again the important thing is to select the correct Network Interface to capture traffic through.
- *Capture Options* > *Capture File* useful to save a file of the packet capture in real time, in case of a system crash.
- *Display Options* > *Update list of packets in real time* A display option, which should be checked if you want to view the capture as it happens (typically switched off to capture straight to a file, for later analysis).
- *Name Resolution > MAC name resolution –* resolves the first 3 bytes of the MAC Address, the Organisation Unique Identifier (OUI), which represents the Manufacturer of the Card.
- Name Resolution > Network name resolution does a DNS lookup for the IP Addresses captured, to display the network name. Set to off by default, so covert scans do not generate this DNS traffic, and tip off who's packets you are sniffing.

Ouestions

Q. Why might capture filters be useful/used as well as display filters?

Make sure the **MAC** name resolution is selected. Start the capture, and generate some Web traffic again, then stop the capture.

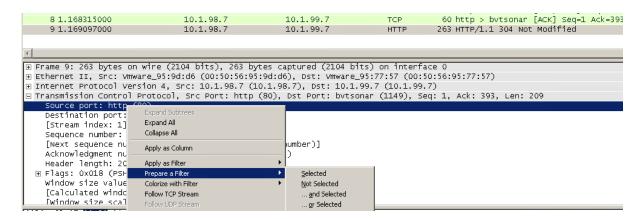
Questions

Search through your capture, and find an HTTP packet coming back from the server (TCP Source Port == 80). Expand the Ethernet layer in the **Packet Details Panel.**

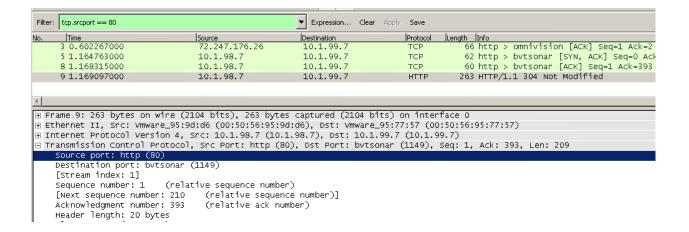
Q. What is the OUI of the Network Interface Card (NIC)?

Q. What are the Hex values (shown the raw bytes panel) of the NICS Manufacturers OUIs?

Expand the TCP layer details in the **Packet Details Panel**. Right click on the **Source Port** field in the **Packet Details Panel**. Select **Prepare a Filter->Selected**.



Wireshark automatically generates a **Display Filter**. Click Apply and it is applied it to the capture. The filter is shown in the **Filter Bar**, below the button toolbar. Only packets captured with a Source Port of the value selected should be displayed. The window should be similar to that shown below. This same process can be performed on most fields within Wireshark, and can be used to include or exclude traffic.

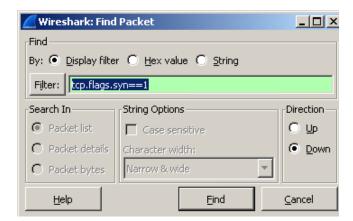


Analysing a TCP Session using Wireshark.

Start another traffic capture. Generate some Web traffic by going to **www.napier.ac.uk or another static page using HTTP rather than the encrypted HTTPS**, then stop the capture.

Scroll back to the top of the capture trace. Try to find the first SYN packet, sent from your PC to the Web Server. This signifies the start of a TCP 3-way handshake.

If you're having trouble finding the first SYN packet, select the **Edit->Find Packet** menu option. Select the **Display Filter** radio button and enter a filter of **tcp.flags.** (at this point you should get a list of the flags to choose from). Choose the correct flag, **tcp.flags.syn** and add == 1.



Hit the **Find** button, and the first SYN packet in the trace should be highlighted.

Note: Find Packet can also be used to search for a Hex signature, such as a malware signature, or to search for a string – such as a protocol command, or payload text - in the Packet Capture (pcap).

Questions

Q. Can you identify the rest of the TCP 3-way handshake easily? (if not read on)

A quick way to create a **Wireshark Display Filter** to isolate a TCP stream is to **right click** on a packet in the **Packet List Panel** and select **Follow TCP Stream.** This creates an automatic Display Filter which displays packets from that TCP session only.

It also pops up a session display window, containing by default, an ASCII representation of the TCP session with the client packets in red and the server packets in blue.

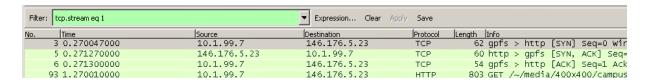
The window should look something like shown below. This is very useful for viewing human readable protocol payloads, such as HTTP, SMTP, and FTP, or to check if the payloas is encrypted!

Change to Hex Dump Mode and view the payloads in raw Hex, as shown below.

```
Follow TCP Stream
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       Stream Content
                                                                                                                                     3b 20 41 53 50 rue; _ga t=1; ASP 6e 49 64 3d 6c .NET_Ses sionId=1 6f 64 31 72 71 wllo4y2s rypodlrq 5f 65 78 70 76 b44yhzy; sc_expv 65 63 74 69 6f iew=0..c onnectio 76 65 0d 0a 49 n: keep- alive. T 65 62 20 22 65 f-Modifi
    00000220
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31 6f
34 79
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20 6b
4d 6f
54 68
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79
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32
79
                                                                                               73
73
                                2e
77
   00000250
                                                           79 68 7a 79
3d 30 0d 0a
6b 65 65 70
6f 64 69 66
68 75 2c 20
   00000260
                                                                                                                    73 63 5f 65 7
6e 6e 65 63 7
6c 69 76 65 0
20 46 65 62 2
31 38 20 47 4
6e 74 72 6f 6
0d 0a 0d 0a
20 33 30 34
64 0d 0a 43
3a 20 70 72
67 65 3d 36
65 73 3a 20
32 30 31 37
54 0d 0a 4c
3a 20 54 68
31 36 20 30
0a 53 65 72
66 74 2d 49
43 6f 6f 6b
                                62 34
69 65
    00000270
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2d
69
  00000280
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65
34
    00000290
                                6e 3a
66 2d
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30 38 3a 30
63 68 65 2d
2d 61 67 65
                                3a 20
31 36
  000002В0
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31
65
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                                                              33 68 65 2d 43
2d 61 67 65 3d
54 50 2f 31 2e
6f 64 69 66 69
6f 6e 74 72 6f
20 6d 61 78 2d
0a 45 78 70 69
                                                                                                                                                         max-age= 0....

4 20 4e 6f 74 HTTP/1.1 304 Not
3 61 63 68 65 Modifie d. Cache
2 69 76 61 74 -Control : privat
3 30 34 38 30 e, max-a ge=60480
57 65 64 2c 0..Expir es: wed,
20 31 38 3a 25 Jan 2017 18:
61 73 74 2d 01:34 GM T..Last-
75 2c 20 30 Modified : Thu,
75 2c 20 30 Modified : Thu,
76 65 72 3a :18 GMT. Server:
49 53 2f 38 Microso ft-IIS/8
69 65 3a 20 .5..Set- Cooking
   000002D0
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6d
                                        43 61
61 78
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              00000000
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4a 61 6e 20
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                                                                                                                                                    6b 69 65 3a
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```

Close the popup window. Wireshark now only shows the packets from the selected TCP Stream. You should be able to identify the 3-way handshake easily now.



Note: Wireshark has automatically created a **display filter** to filter out this TCP conversation.

In this case: tcp/stream eq 1

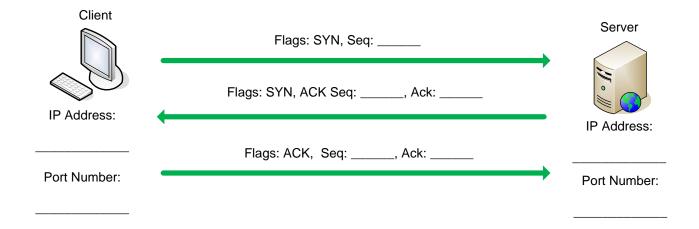
With is the equivalent of something similar to:

(ip.addr eq 10.10.x.7 and ip.addr eq 146.176.5.23) and (tcp.port eq 80 and tcp.port eq 1191)

Questions

Q. From your Wireshark Capture, fill in the diagram below with the IP Addresses and Port Numbers for the Client and the Server

Q. For each packet in the TCP 3-way handshake, fill in the Sequence and Acknowledgement numbers, on the diagram below.



Saving Packet Captures

Often captures need to be saved to disc, for later analysis using Wireshark or as input to other analysis tools.

Check how many packets are in your current capture. The details of total packets, packets displayed are shown in the status bar.

Ovestions

• How many total packets are in your capture?

To save the capture, select **File->Save As** and save the trace. By default this creates a Wireshark **pcapng** file, or if you select **pcap** it produces a file many tools can read and write.

For example a topdump output file is in this peap format and can be read into Wireshark or Snort for analysis. This saves all the captured packets to the file.

Questions

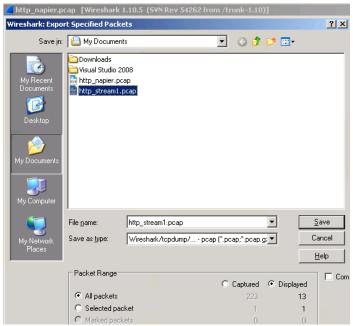
Q. Did you successfully save your capture to a .pcap file? (check folder)

Yes/No

Q. Copy the **Display Filter** into the clipboard, and close and start Wireshark again, then reload the file. Was the whole capture saved or just the displayed packets?

Paste the display filter back into the Filter Bar, and Apply it.

To save *only the displayed packets*, select **File-> Export Specified Packets**, and make sure the **Displayed** radio button is selected rather than the **Captured** option. This creates a **pcap** file, with only the packets filtered by the current display filter.



This can be very useful if analysing particular sessions, protocols, or user related sets of traffic – e.g. an insider attack based on 1 user. Also is dealing with large pcap files filtering can take long times to process!

Questions

Q. Close and start Wireshark again, then reload the file. Was the whole capture saved or just the displayed packets?

Wireshark Statistics

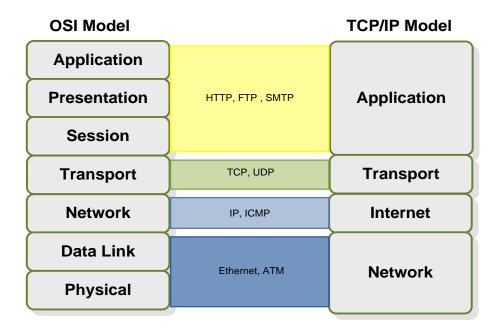
Start a new capture, and generate some Web traffic by navigating to websites such as **www.schneier.com** and **www.napier.co.uk**, then stop the capture.

Select the **Statistics->Protocol Hierarchy** menu option. A window similar to the below should now display statistics about the **pcap**. Note that all the packets are Ethernet (Local Area Network) packets, but at the network layer most of the packets are TCP, but some are UDP.

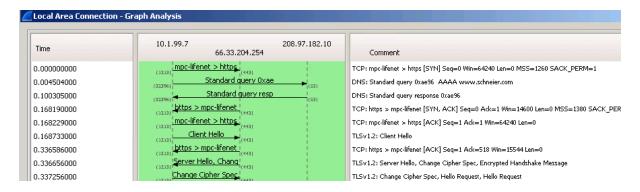
Wireshark: Protocol Hierarchy Statistics						
Display filter: none						
Protocol (% Packets	Packets % Byt	es	Bytes	Mbit/s	End Packets
■ Frame	100.00 %	6608	100.00 %	4562947	0.505	0
⊡ Ethernet	100.00 %	6608	100.00 %	4562947	0.505	0
☐ Internet Protocol Version 4	99.94 %	6604	100.00 %	4562743	0.505	0
☐ Transmission Control Protocol	94.36 %	6235	98.82 %	4508914	0.499	5245
☐ Secure Sockets Layer	13.32 %	880	13.73 %	626423	0.069	830
Secure Sockets Layer	0.76 %	50	1.03 %	46956	0.005	50
☐ Hypertext Transfer Protocol	1.51 %	100	1.24 %	56433	0.006	35
Line-based text data	0.36 %	24	0.32 %	14670	0.002	24
Online Certificate Status Protocol	0.61 %	40	0.58 %	26261	0.003	40
Media Type	0.02 %	1	0.02 %	767	0.000	1
Data	0.15 %	10	0.01 %	550	0.000	10
☐ User Datagram Protocol	5.58 %	369	1.18 %	53829	0.006	0
Domain Name Service	5.52 %	365	1.15 %	52669	0.006	365
Bootstrap Protocol	0.06 %	4	0.03 %	1160	0.000	4

Questions

- **Q**: What percentage of packets in your capture are TCP, and give an example of the higher level protocol which uses TCP?
- **Q**: What percentage of packets in your capture are UDP, and give an example of the higher level protocol which uses UDP? (use the figure below)



Select the **Statistics->Flow Graph** menu option. Choose **General Flow** and **Network Source** options, and click the **OK** button. A window similar to the below should be displayed, showing a visual representation of the flow of traffic, including the timeline in the first column and a description of each packet in the last.



Filtering out Interesting Traffic using Wireshark.

Start a new Wireshark capture. Generate some web traffic using your browser again. Open a Windows console window, and generate some ICMP traffic by using the **ping** command line tool to check the connectivity of the current network's default gateway. Generate some more web traffic.

Stop the capture and Wireshark.

The Address Resoloution Protocol (ARP) and ICMP packets generated by the ping command can be difficult to pick out manually especially on a busy network

We can create a **display filter** to only show ARP and ICMP packets and analyse those separately.



Some useful Wireshark **display filters** can be found at:

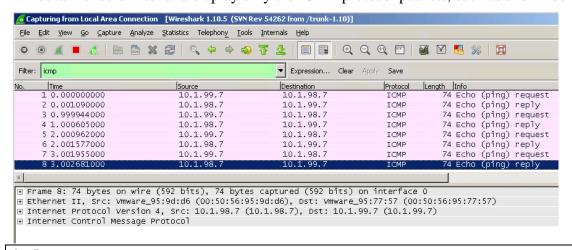
http://wiki.wireshark.org/DisplayFilters

https://www.wireshark.org/docs/dfref/

To filter by protocol we can simply enter the protocol into the **display Filter** box as we did with the IP Address earlier (or add to the IP Address filter with an **and** if you are on a shared/busy network).

Try entering ICMP into the **Filter** box, and press RETURN.

Wireshark should filter and display only the ICMP protocol packets, such as shown below:

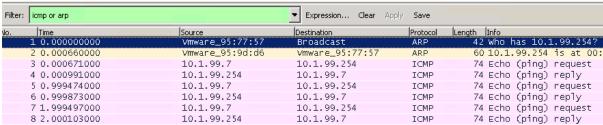


Questions

! How many ICMP packets are being displayed?

Try filtering out TCP, then UDP, then HTTP.

We can also build more complex filters which combine simpler filters. Try **ICMP or ARP** to shown packets of either protocol. i.e. all the packets generated by out ping tool.



Note the results in Wireshark. The initial ARP request broadcast from your system determining the physical MAC address of the network IP Address of the gateway, via the ARP reply from the system. After the ARP request, the pings (ICMP echo request and replies) can be seen.

Questions

Q. After the first ping, are the ARP and ICMP packets captured by Wireshark?
Yes/No

Q. Try more pings while viewing the filtered traffic in Wireshark. After a second or third ping, is the ARP and ICMP packets captured by Wireshark?

ARP: Yes/No ICMP: Yes/No

Q. Why is this?

If pinging the same system more than once, to force ARP apckets to be generated, delete the ARP cache on your system, using the Windows arp command, as shown below, so an new ARP request will be generated.

Then check with:

Q: What are the MAC addresses associated with the firewall?

Check on the firewall via the web app.

Now delete the IP address on the DMZ gateway interface on the firewall, and reassess:

Q. Can you ping the 10.10.x.7 port from the host on the 10.10.y.7? Yes/No

Q. Can you ping the 10.10.x.7 port from the host on the 10.10.y.7? Yes/No

Now run Wireshark on both your hosts, and repeat. Examine you network trace, and determine the unsuccessful ping request, and ping reply.

Q. Which ICMP type codes are used for the request and the unsuccessful reply?

Now, reapply the IP address, and determine the MAC addresses of the gateway adapter from Wireshark, and check this against the configuration of the firewall.

Q. What are the MAC addresses associated with the firewall?

address 10.1.99.254/24 hw-id 00:50:56:95:9d:d6

[edit]

Outputs similar to: Destination Protocol Length Info Broadcast ARP 42 Who has 10.1.99.254? Tell 10.1.99.7 42 Who has 10.1.99.254? Tell 10.1.99.7 Broadcast ARP Vmware_95:77:57 ARP 60 10.1.99.254 is at 00:50:56:95:9d:d6 74 Echo (ping) request id=0x0200, seq=201 10.1.99.254 ICMP 10.1.99.7 ICMP 74 Echo (ping) reply id=0x0200, seq=20 10.1.99.254 74 Echo (ping) request id=0x0200, seq=204 ICMP vyatta@Rich# set interfaces ethernet eth2 address 10.1.99.254/24 [edit] /yatta@Rich# commit [edit] yatta@Rich# show interfaces ethernet eth2

Now with a browser on each host, access the Web server on the other network.

- Q. Can you access the Web server on the 10.10.x.7 from 10.10.x.7? Yes/No
- Q: Can you access the Web server on the 10.10.x.7 from 10.10.x.7? Yes/No

As before, disable the IP address on the eth1 port, and reapply (make sure you refresh the cache on the browser):

- Q. Can you access the Web server on the 10.10.x.7 from 10.10.x.7? Yes/No
- Q. Can you access the Web server on the 10.10.x.7 from 10.10.x.7? Yes/No

Reapply IPs as before, and test that all systems have connectivity.

Network Scanning for Hosts & Services

Check the help for the nmap network scanning tool again — use man nmap and nmap —h | more

- Q. Which flag specifies a host discovery scan only?
- **Q**: What does the −n flag do?

Startup Wireshark on each of your hosts and capture traffic. From Linux you can use:

```
sudo wireshark&
```

From the Windows host, in a command window, run an **nmap host discovery scan** on the entire subnet the Linux box is on:

nmap
$$-sP - n 10.10.x.0/24$$

- Q. How many hosts did nmap scan for? How many did it report finding?
- Q. What type of packets were sent to discover hosts? (run for your single host if confusing)

From the Windows host , run an **nmap port scan** on the subnet the Linux box is on: nmap -ss -n 10.10.x.0/24

Q. List some well known ports are open/services are running on the Linux host?

Ports: Protocol: Services:

Run a similar nmap **host discovery scan** and **port scan** from the Linux host to the Windows network/ systems found.

Q. List some of the common ports are open/services are running on the Windows host?

Ports: Protocol: Services:

Q. Review the scan packets with Wireshark. What type of packets were sent to individual ports by nmap during the scans?

Check the results with the Ubuntu/Windows commands which list a hosts running network services. ss -1 and netstat -ap TCP respectively.