

# Session 6 Workshop

Universidad Icesi

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## 1 Taking Wireshark for a Test Run

Do the following:

1. Start up your favorite web browser, which will display your selected homepage.
2. Start up the Wireshark software. Wireshark has not yet begun capturing packets.
3. To begin packet capture, select the Capture pull down menu and select Interfaces. This will cause the "Wireshark: Capture Interfaces" window to be displayed (on a PC) or you can choose Options on a Mac. You should see a list of interfaces, as shown in figure 1 (Windows) and 2 (Mac).

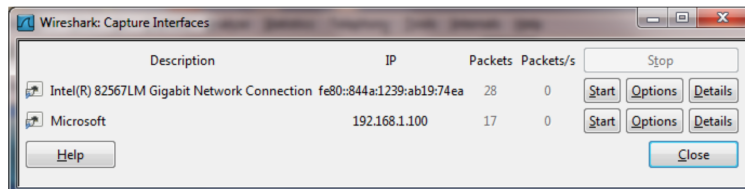


FIGURE 1: Windows

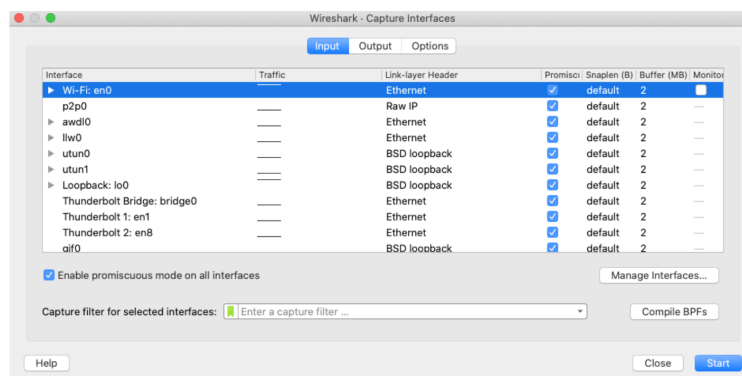


FIGURE 2: Mac

4. You'll see a list of the interfaces on your computer as well as a count of the packets that have been observed on that interface so far. On a Windows machine, click on Start for the interface on which you want to begin packet capture. On a Windows machine, select the interface and click Start on the bottom of the window). Packet capture will now begin - Wireshark is now capturing all packets being sent/received from/by your computer!
5. Once you begin packet capture, a window will appear. This window shows the packets being captured. By selecting Capture pulldown menu and selecting Stop, or by click on the red Stop square, you can stop packet capture. But don't stop packet capture yet. Let's capture some interesting packets first.

To do so, we'll need to generate some network traffic. Let's do so using a web browser, which will use the HTTP protocol to download content from a website.

6. While Wireshark is running, enter the URL: `http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/wireshark-labs/INTRO-wireshark-file1.html` and have that page displayed in your browser. In order to display this page, your browser will contact the HTTP server at `gaia.cs.umass.edu` and exchange HTTP messages with the server in order to download this page. The Ethernet or WiFi frames containing these HTTP messages (as well as all other frames passing through your Ethernet or WiFi adapter) will be captured by Wireshark.
7. After your browser has displayed the `INTRO-wireshark-file1.html` page (it is a simple one line of congratulations), stop Wireshark packet capture by selecting stop in the Wireshark capture window. You now have live packet data that contains all protocol messages exchanged between your computer and other network entities! The HTTP message exchanges with the `gaia.cs.umass.edu` web server should appear somewhere in the listing of packets captured. But there will be many other types of packets displayed as well. Even though the only action you took was to download a web page, there were evidently many other protocols running on your computer that are unseen by the user.
8. Type in "http" (without the quotes, and in lower case - all protocol names are in lower case in Wireshark) into the display filter specification window at the top of the main Wireshark window. Then select Apply (to the right of where you entered "http") or just hit return. This will cause only HTTP message to be displayed in the packet-listing window. The figure 3 below shows a screenshot after the `http` filter has been applied to the packet capture window. Note also that in the Selected packet details window, we've chosen to show detailed content for the Hypertext Transfer Protocol application message that was found within the TCP segment, that was inside the IPv4 datagram that was inside the Ethernet II (WiFi) frame. Focusing on content at a specific message, segment, datagram and frame level lets us focus on just what we want to look at (in this case HTTP messages).

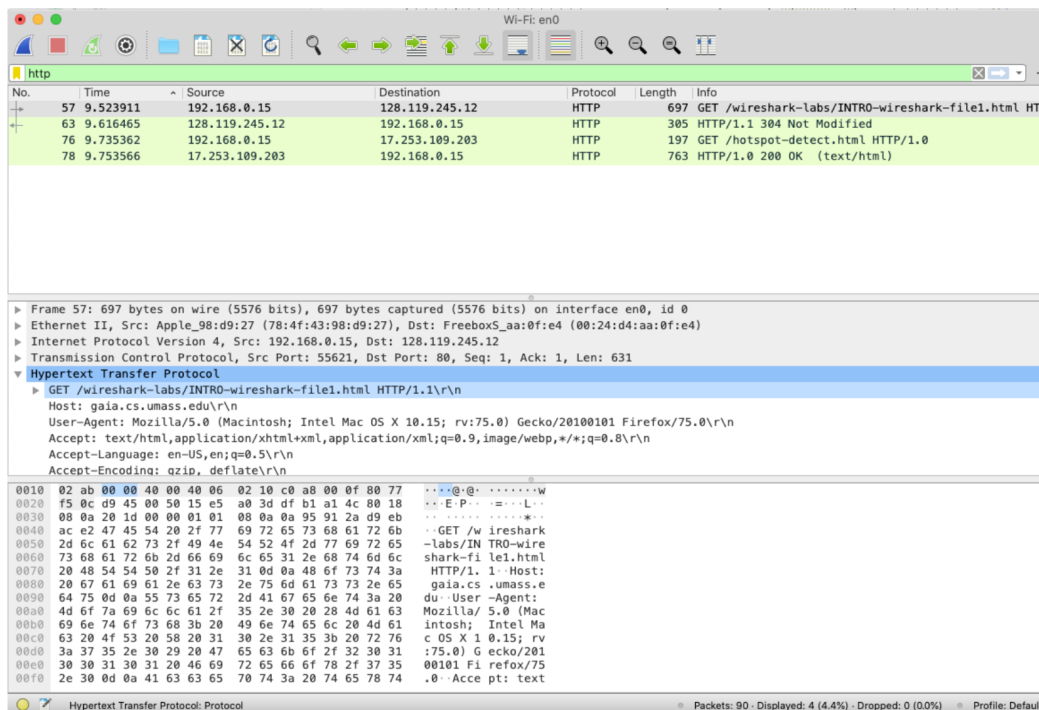


FIGURE 3: Details

9. Find the HTTP GET message that was sent from your computer to the `gaia.cs.umass.edu` HTTP server. (Look for an HTTP GET message in the "listing of captured packets" portion of the Wireshark window that shows "GET" followed by the `gaia.cs.umass.edu` URL that you entered. When you select the HTTP GET message, the Ethernet frame, IP datagram, TCP segment, and HTTP message

header information will be displayed in the packet-header window . By clicking on '+' and '-' and right-pointing and down-pointing arrowheads to the left side of the packet details window, minimize the amount of Frame, Ethernet, Internet Protocol, and Transmission Control Protocol information displayed. Maximize the amount information displayed about the HTTP protocol. Your Wireshark display should now look roughly as shown in figure 3. (Note, in particular, the minimized amount of protocol information for all protocols except HTTP, and the maximized amount of protocol information for HTTP in the packet-header window).

10. Exit Wireshark.

## 2 Questions

The goal of this workshop was primarily to introduce you to Wireshark. The following questions will demonstrate that you've been able to get Wireshark up and running, and have explored some of its capabilities. Answer the following questions, based on your Wireshark experimentation:

1. List 3 different protocols that appear in the protocol column in the unfiltered packet-listing window in step 7 above.
2. How long did it take from when the HTTP GET message was sent until the HTTP OK reply was received? (By default, the value of the Time column in the packet-listing window is the amount of time, in seconds, since Wireshark tracing began. To display the Time field in time-of-day format, select the Wireshark View pull down menu, then select Time Display Format, then select Time-of-day.)
3. What is the Internet address of the gaia.cs.umass.edu (also known as www-net.cs.umass.edu)? What is the Internet address of your computer?
4. Print the two HTTP messages (GET and OK) referred to in question 2 above. To do so, select Print from the Wireshark File command menu, and select the "Selected Packet Only" and "Print as displayed" radial buttons, and then click OK.