

TASK 5: CAPTURE AND ANALYZE NETWORK TRAFFIC USING WIRESHARK

Cybersecurity Lab Report

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Task 5:

Capture and Analyze Network Traffic Using Wireshark

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- 1.Install Wireshark.
- 2.Start capturing on your active network interface.
- 3. Browse a website or ping a server to generate traffic.
- 4. Stop capture after a minute.
- 5. Filter captured packets by protocol (e.g., HTTP, DNS, TCP).
- 6.Identify at least 3 different protocols in the capture.
- 7.Export the capture as a .pcap file.
- 8. Summarize your findings and packet details.

Objective

Capture live network packets and identify basic protocols and traffic types

Tools Used

Wireshark

Steps Performed:

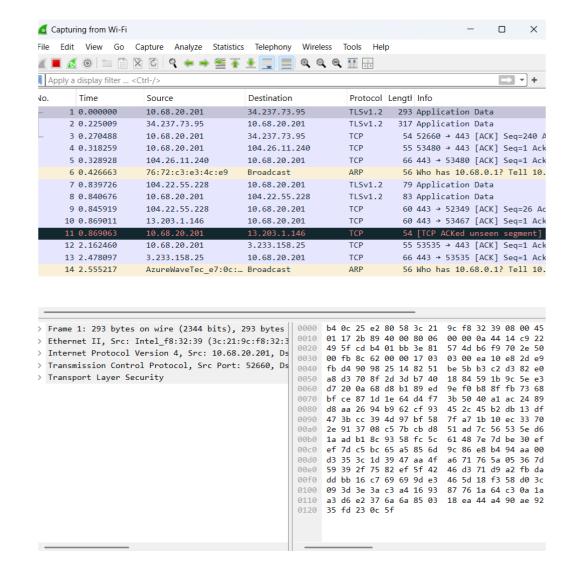
Install Wireshark

Download wireshark and install it.

During the installation accept the installation of Npcap(necessary for packet capturing). Launch wireshark after completion of installation.

Open Wireshark and select your active network interface from the list(usually **Wi-Fi or Ethernet**).

Click on the interface to begin capturing live packets.



While wireshark is running in background open a web browser and visit any website Ex: https://example.com. Open the command prompt and run command: pinggoogle.com.

This will create HTTP/HTTPS, DNS, and ICMP traffic.

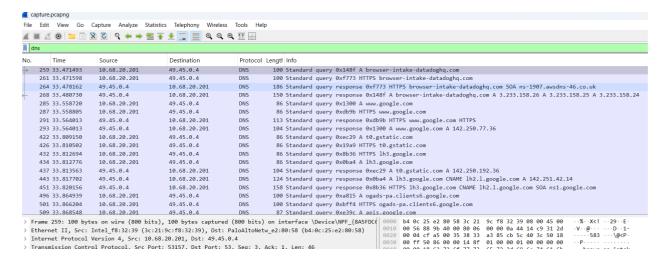
After a minute, click the red square (stop) button on the left of top toolbar.



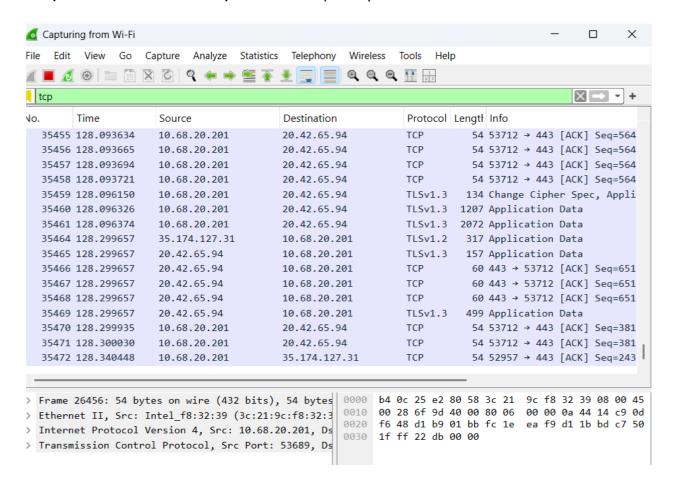
Use the **filter bar** to isolate specific protocols:

Protocol	Filter
DNS	dns
TCP	tcp
ICMP	icmp
ARP	arp

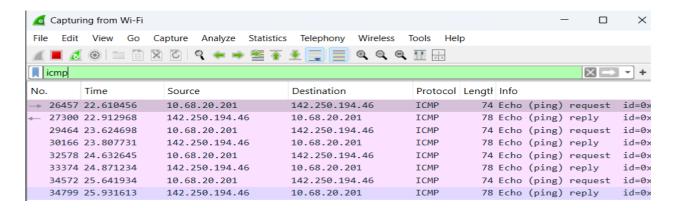
DNS(domain name system): name resolution (e.g., A or AAAA record queries).



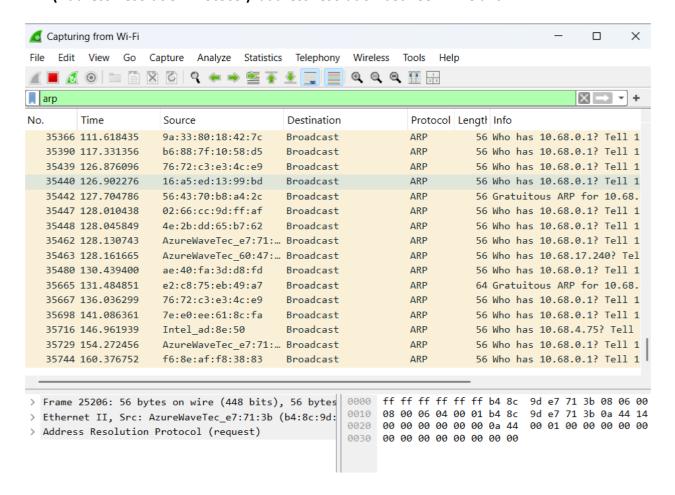
TCP(Transfer Control Protocol): used as transport layer for HTTP.



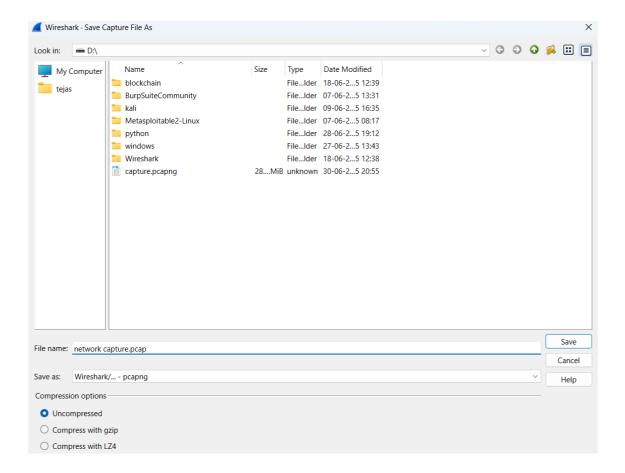
ICMP(Internet Control Message Protocol): ping request and reply.



ARP(Address Resolution Protocol): address resolution between MAC and IP.



Got to **File>Save as** and Name your file: **network capture.pcap** and click **save**(makesure the file type is **.pcap**).



Conclusion:

This task provide valuable hands-on experience in capturing and analyzing live network traffic using Wireshark. By monitoring real-time packet flow, I was able to identify and filter multiple network protocols such as DNS, TCP, ICMP, and ARP. The exercise enhanced my understanding of how data is transmitted over a network, how different protocols function, and how packet-level analysis can reveal important details about system communication.