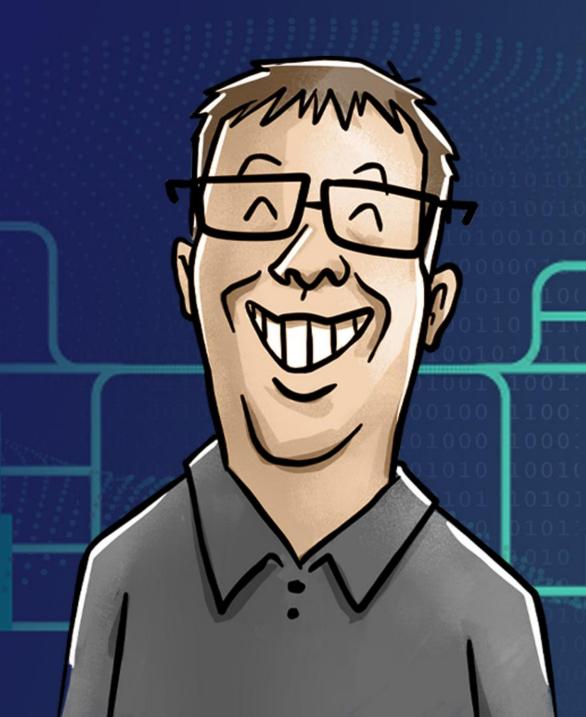


# Decrypting RDP traffic in Wireshark

Marc-André Moreau CTO, Devolutions



# TLS pre-master secret logging The technique we'll be using - the best by far

# TLS pre-master secrets are used to derive session keys

- The server private key is only used to authenticate the key exchange
  - With Perfect Forward Secrecy (PFS) cipher suites, which are now the norm
- SChannel in Windows isolates TLS pre-master secrets in LSA
  - LSA is a protected process, but all secrets are conveniently in one place
- Other TLS stacks don't isolate TLS pre-master secrets in LSA
  - Many applications support the "SSLKEYLOGFILE" environment variable



# LSA secret extraction method references

### **lsass API hooking blog post reference**

https://b.poc.fun/decrypting-schannel-tls-part-1/

### **PSDetour module (Detour in PowerShell)**

https://github.com/jborean93/PSDetour

## Original tls-keylogger.ps1 script from Jordan Borean

https://gist.github.com/jborean93/6c1f1b3130f2675f1618da56633eb1fa



# Application-level packet logging Your application sees the bytes, but can you read them?

# Why not simply dump the bytes from your application?

Manual inspection of hex dumps is a time-consuming task

# It's tricky to "cook" a Wireshark capture file properly

- You need to reconstruct TCP/IP headers with a fake client/server, etc.
- Wireshark dissectors get confused by missing TLS over TCP/3389, etc.



# Network MITM Proxy (22) Houston, we have a TLS token binding problem

## CredSSP has built-in MITM protection

- CredSSP server public key echo step
- NTLM/Kerberos channel binding token (CBT)
  - Also known as Extended Protection for Authentication (EPA)

# RDP has pre-TLS traffic (X.224 negotiation)

All the MITM and reverse proxying tools expect "clean" TLS



# Server RSA private key 😕

The best TLS 1.1 had to offer. Move on, forget about it.

It used to be a thing – please don't try to force TLS 1.1 or TLS 1.2 with Perfect Forward Secrecy (PFS) ciphers disabled, you'll only end up breaking Windows Update instead.



# **Summary of TLS decryption techniques**

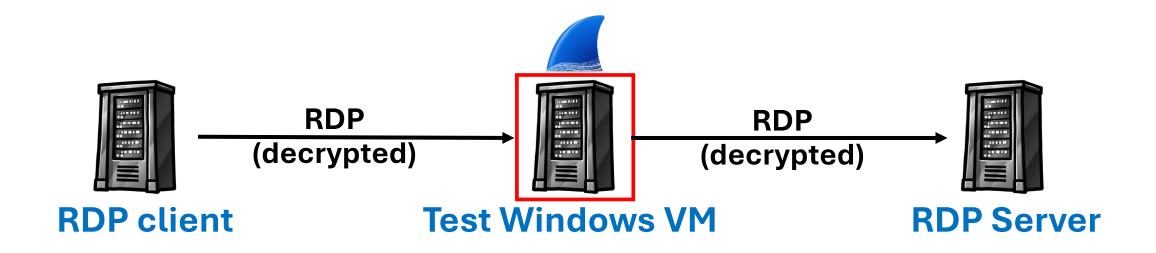
Technique	Description	Recommendation
TLS Pre-Master Secret Logging	Log TLS pre-master secrets into a text file (SSLKEYLOGFILE)	Yes!
Application-level packet logging	Log decrypted packet bytes from the TLS client application	Maybe, in some cases
Network MITM proxy	Intercept, decrypt and re-encrypt TLS traffic using a different certificate	Not really an option
Server RSA Private Key	Use server RSA private key to decrypt corresponding TLS traffic	No longer viable





# GETTING STARTED with Live RDP decryption in Wireshark

# Getting Started - Prerequisites



- LSA extended protection needs to be disabled
  - Don't use a production device!
- RDP connections to/from the test VM can be decrypted
- Install Wireshark in the test VM for now (not your host)



# Hyper-V Lab (Optional)

https://github.com/Devolutions/devolutions-labs



IT-HELP-RTR: Alpine Linux router with DHCP, NAT with host, etc.



IT-HELP-DC: domain controller with AD CS, root CA, HTTP CRL, etc.



IT-HELP-GW: RD Gateway, RDWeb, connection broker, licensing server



IT-HELP-WAC: Windows Admin Center

# Virtual machine bootstrapping

### Disable LSA extended protection, then reboot:

Set-ItemProperty -Path 'HKLM:\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Lsa' -Name 'RunAsPPL' -Value 0

# Install PowerShell 7 (yes, it's required):

iex "& { \$(irm https://aka.ms/install-powershell.ps1) } -UseMSI –Quiet"

## Set the PowerShell execution policy to Unrestricted:

Set-ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted -Scope LocalMachine



# Logging TLS secrets from LSA (SChannel)

### Launch PowerShell 7 elevated, then install PSDetour:

Install-Module -Name PSDetour -Scope AllUsers –Force

# Install the AwakeCoding.DebugTools PowerShell module:

Install-Module –Name AwakeCoding.DebugTools –Scope AllUsers –Force

Start logging TLS pre-master secrets, and leave terminal open:

Start-LsaTlsKeyLog



# **Installing Wireshark**

# Using the installer

https://www.wireshark.org/download.html

# **Using chocolatey**

choco install wireshark

## Using winget

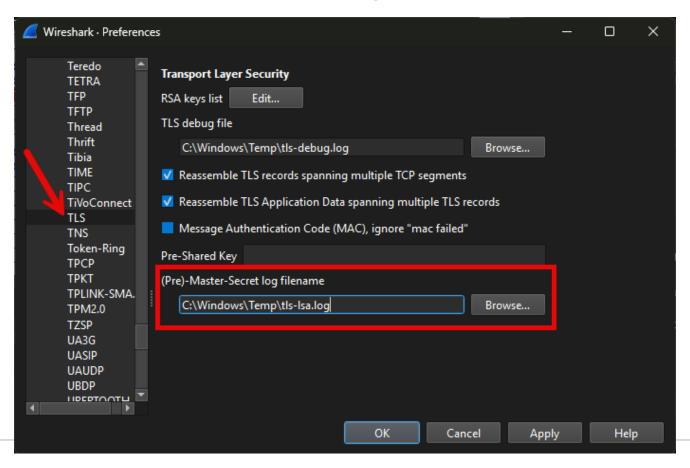
winget install WiresharkFoundation.Wireshark

Install Wireshark in the **test virtual machine** for now



# Configure Wireshark TLS Preferences

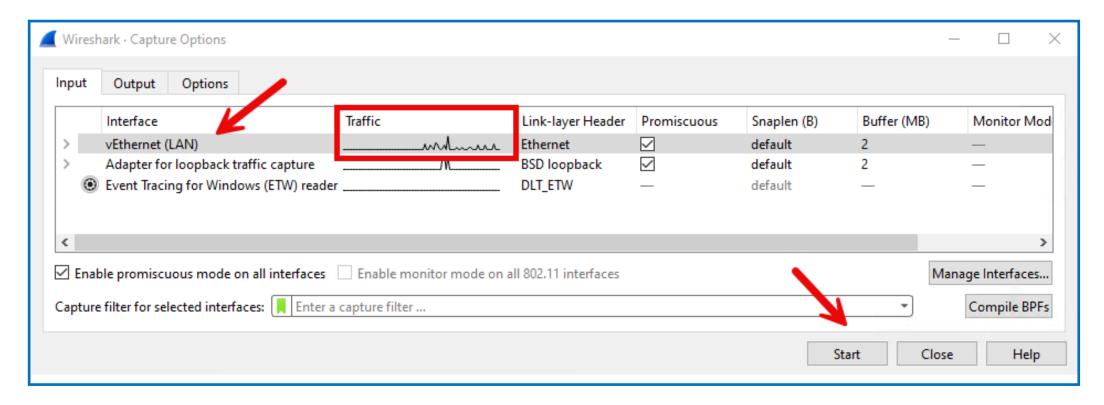
In Wireshark, open the **Preferences** dialog (Edit -> Preferences), navigate to the **TLS** section under **Protocols**, and then set the **(Pre)-Master-Secret log filename** to **"C:\Windows\Temp\tls-lsa.log"** 





# **Start Wireshark Packet Capture**

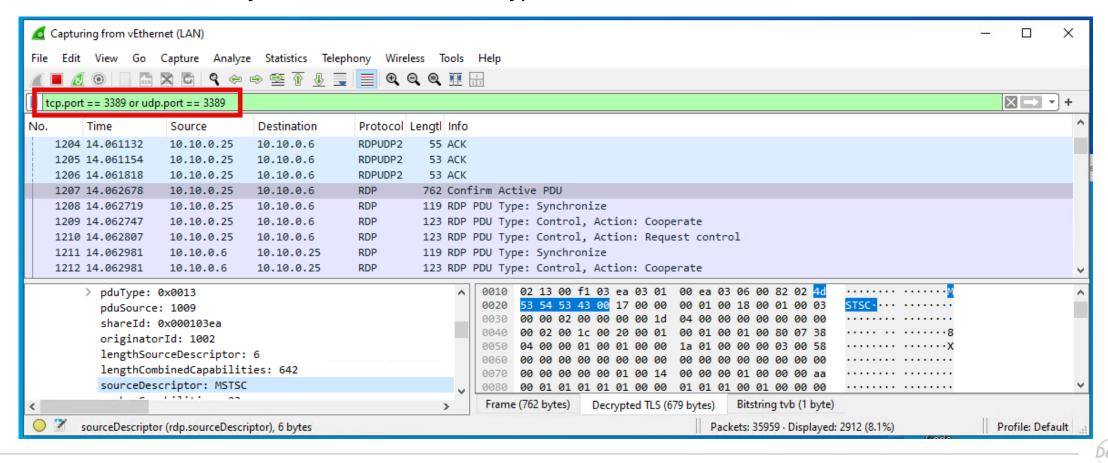
In Wireshark, open the **Capture Options** dialog (Capture -> Options), select the correct network interface for RDP traffic (usually the one with active traffic that isn't the loopback adapter) and then click **Start** 





# Wireshark Live Decrypted RDP traffic

Use "tcp.port == 3389 or udp.port == 3389" as display filter, then launch mstsc and connect with RDP to the VM, you should see live decrypted RDP traffic in Wireshark:



# Related GitHub Repositories

### Wireshark RDP resources

https://github.com/awakecoding/wireshark-rdp

## **AwakeCoding Debug Tools**

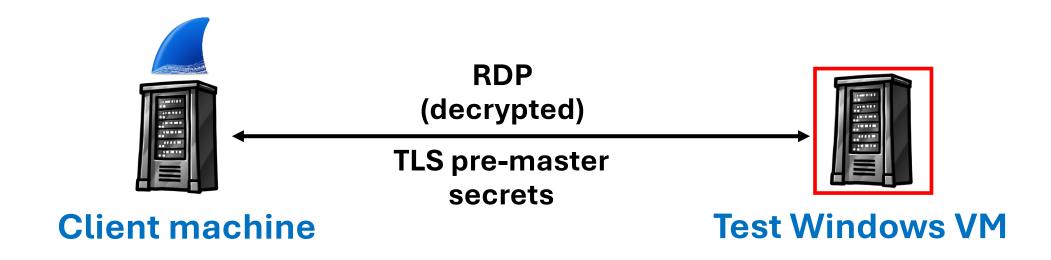
https://github.com/awakecoding/AwakeCoding.DebugTools





# GOING FURTHER with RDP traffic decryption in Wireshark

# Going Further - Prerequisites



- Install Wireshark on your client machine this time
- We're going to log TLS pre-master secrets remotely



# Logging TLS secrets remotely

## In your test VM, start **TLS key log server**:

Start-TlsKeyLogServer -LogFile 'C:\Windows\Temp\tls-lsa.log' -Port 12345 -AllowInFirewall

# On your host (or main device), start **TLS key log client**:

Install-Module AwakeCoding.DebugTools
Start-TlsKeyLogClient '10.10.0.25:12345' "\$Env:Temp\tls-all.log"

### In Wireshark, edit the TLS pre-master secrets file

You will now have TLS pre-master secrets extracted from the test VM streamed to your host, readily available for consumption in Wireshark



# Logging TLS secrets from multiple sources

### In each test VM (logging source):

Start-LsaTlsKeyLog

Start-TlsKeyLogServer -AllowInFirewall

## On your host (or main device):

Start-TlsKeyLogClient @('10.10.0.10', '10.10.0.25') "\$Env:Temp\tls-all.log"



# Logging TLS secrets when not using SChannel

### With **FreeRDP**:

Use the "/tls:secrets-file" command-line argument:

/tls:secrets-file:C:\Users\Public\tls-freerdp.log

### With **IronRDP**:

Use the "SSLKEYLOGFILE" environment variable:

SSLKEYLOGFILE="C:\Users\Public\tls-ironrdp.log"



# Cleaning up RDP traffic for Wireshark

## Disable RDP UDP transport

Set-ItemProperty -Path 'HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windows NT\Terminal Services\Client' -Name 'fClientDisableUDP' -Value 1

DisableUDPTransport:i:0 (MsRdpEx only)

### Disable bandwith auto-detection

connection type:i:6

networkautodetect:i:0

bandwidthautodetect:i:0

### Disable bulk data compression

compression:i:0



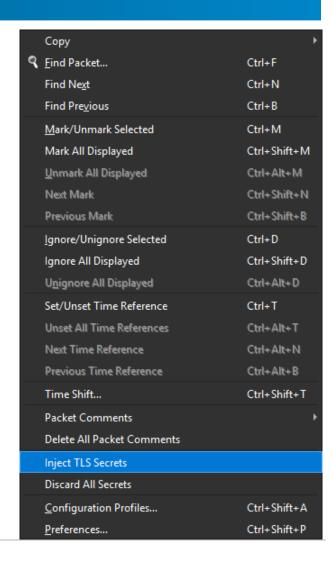
# Injecting TLS secrets in capture file

## In Wireshark: Edit -> Inject TLS Secrets

- This will embed TLS secrets inside the .pcapng file, so you no longer need the TLS key log file
- This is the best way to share decrypted packet captures – don't send TLS key log files!
- You need to do this every time before exporting a capture file, it is not automatic

# Alternatively, at the command-line:

editcap.exe --inject-secrets "tls,tls-key.log" "input.pcapng" "output.pcapng"

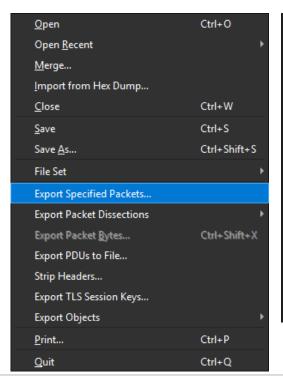


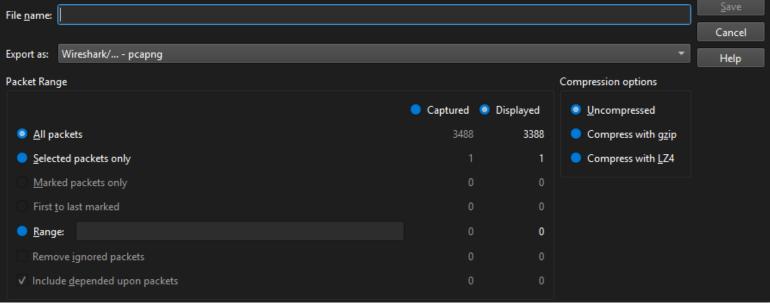


# **Exporting capture file**

### In Wireshark, File -> Export Specified Packets...

Select "Displayed" to export with current packet filter Optionally select "Compress with gzip" to reduce file size







# Windows packet capturing methods

### npcap

Default with Wireshark - supports live capturing, but silent installation (non-GUI) requires a special license

# winpcap

Deprecated and unmaintained, but still mostly works

# pktmon

built-in Windows command-line tool, it would be perfect if only it could do live capturing from Wireshark



# pktmon command-line capturing

### Add capture filter

pktmon filter add RdpFilter -p 3389

## **Start capturing**

pktmon start --capture --pkt-size 0 -f capture.etl

# **Stop capturing**

pktmon stop

### **Export .pcapng**

pktmon etl2pcap .\capture.etl -o capture.pcapng

# Remove capture filter

pktmon filter remove RdpFilter



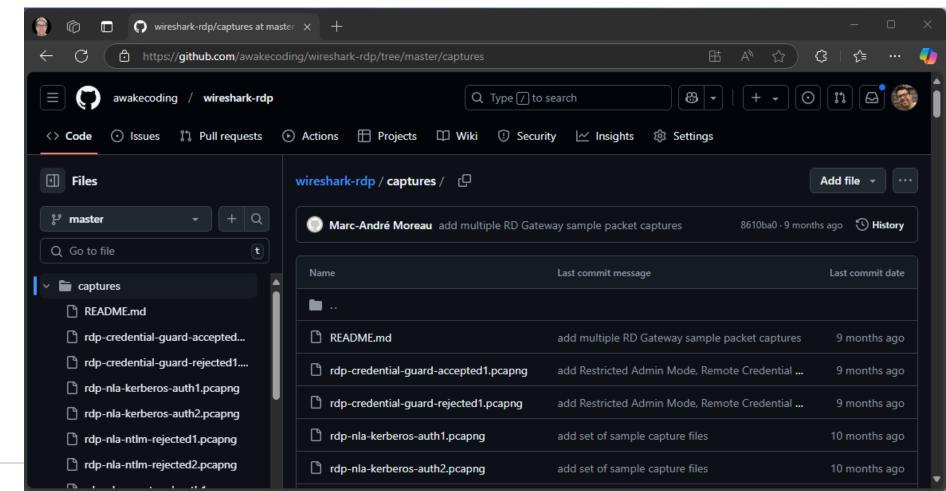


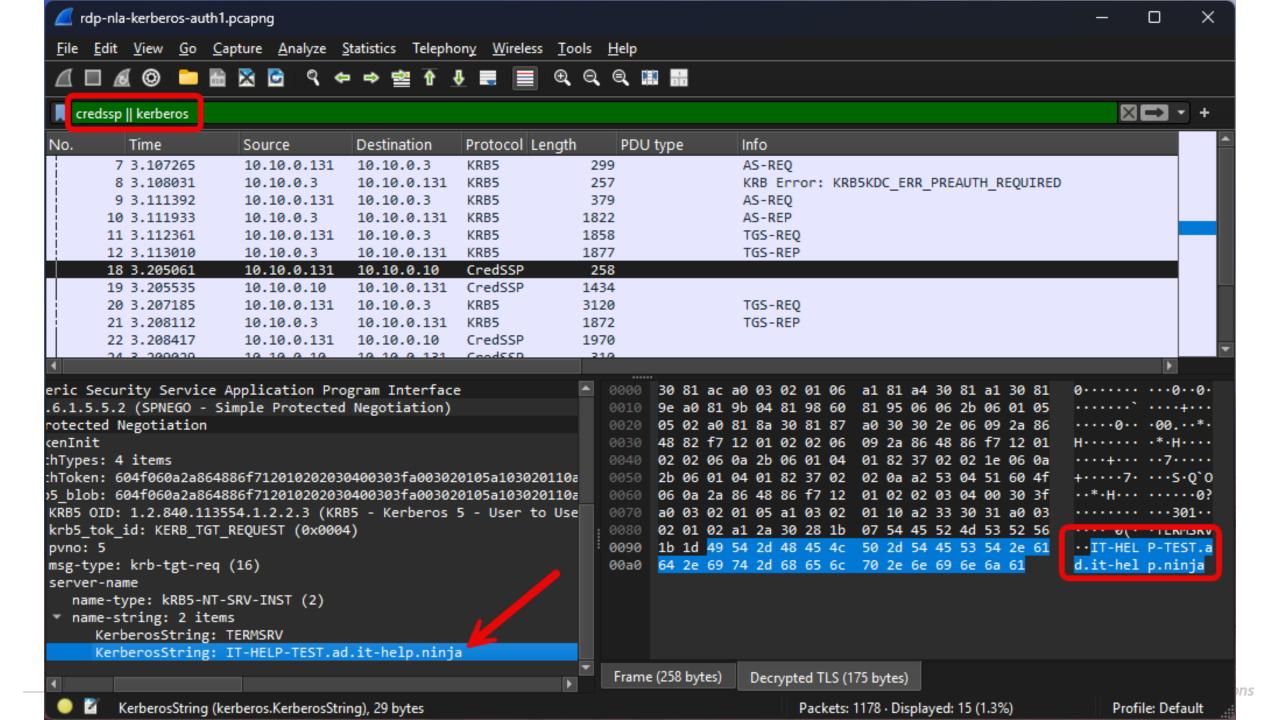
# **DEMO**

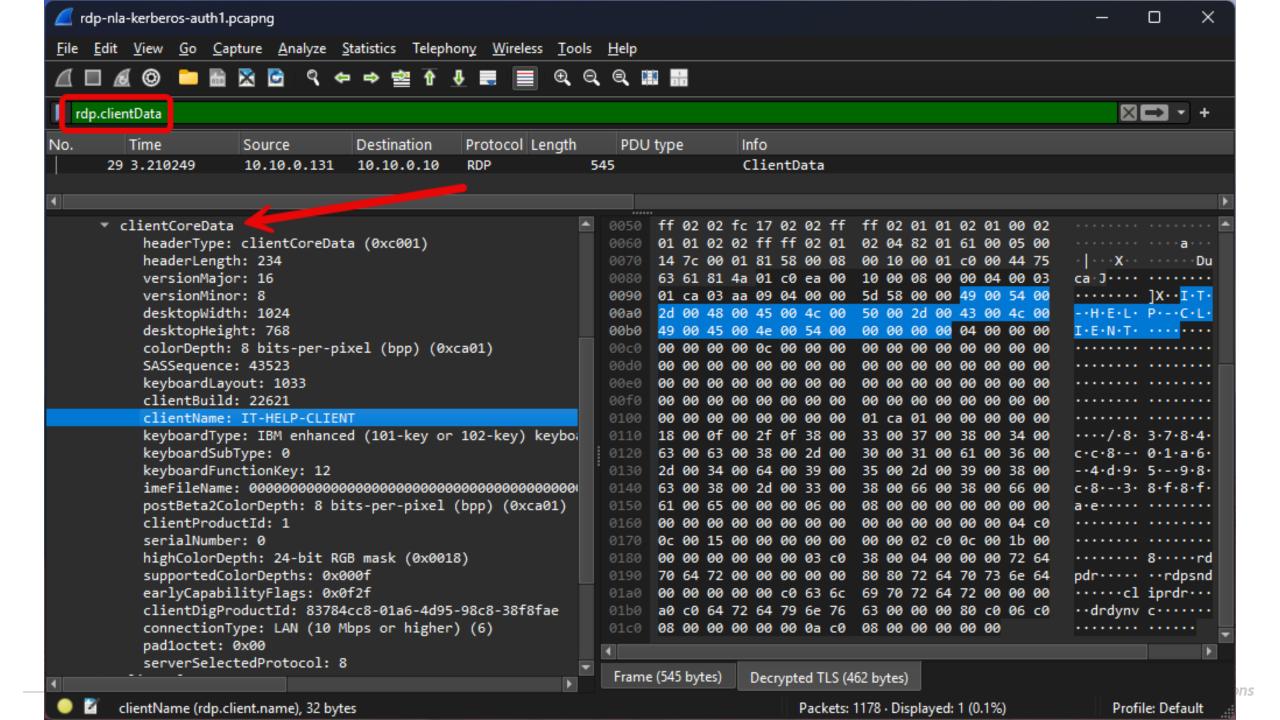


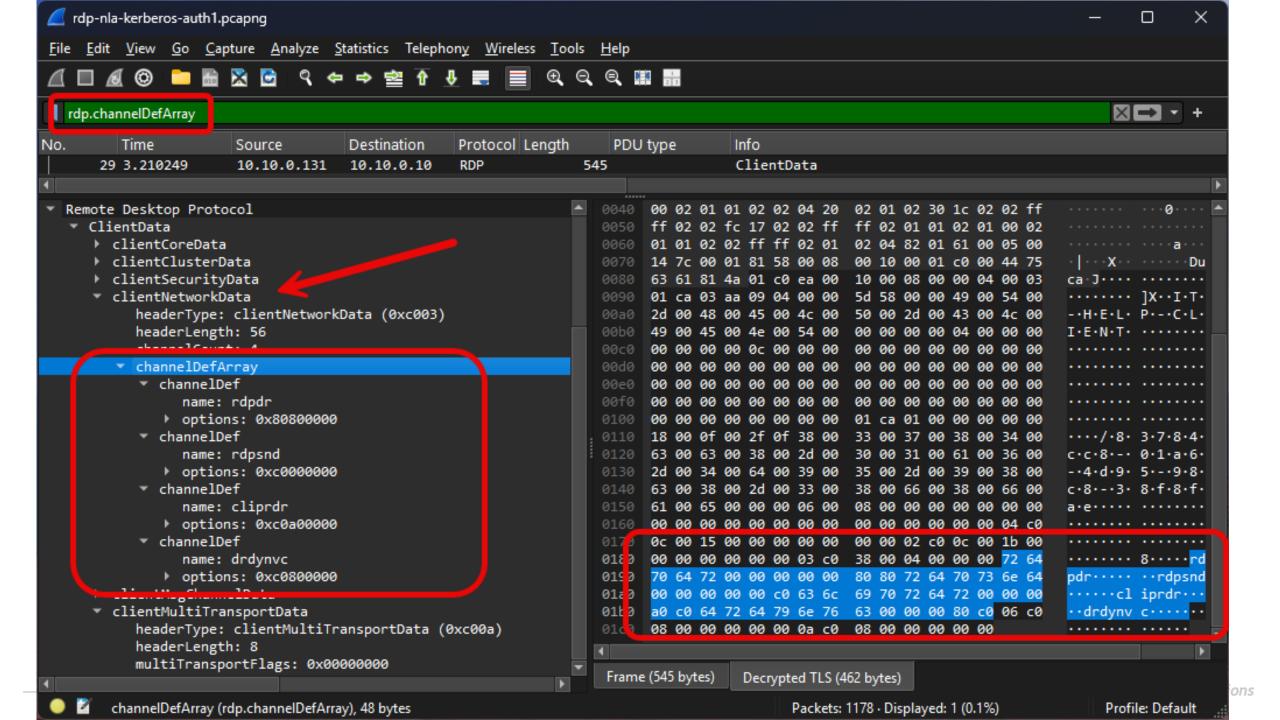
# Sample Wireshark RDP capture files

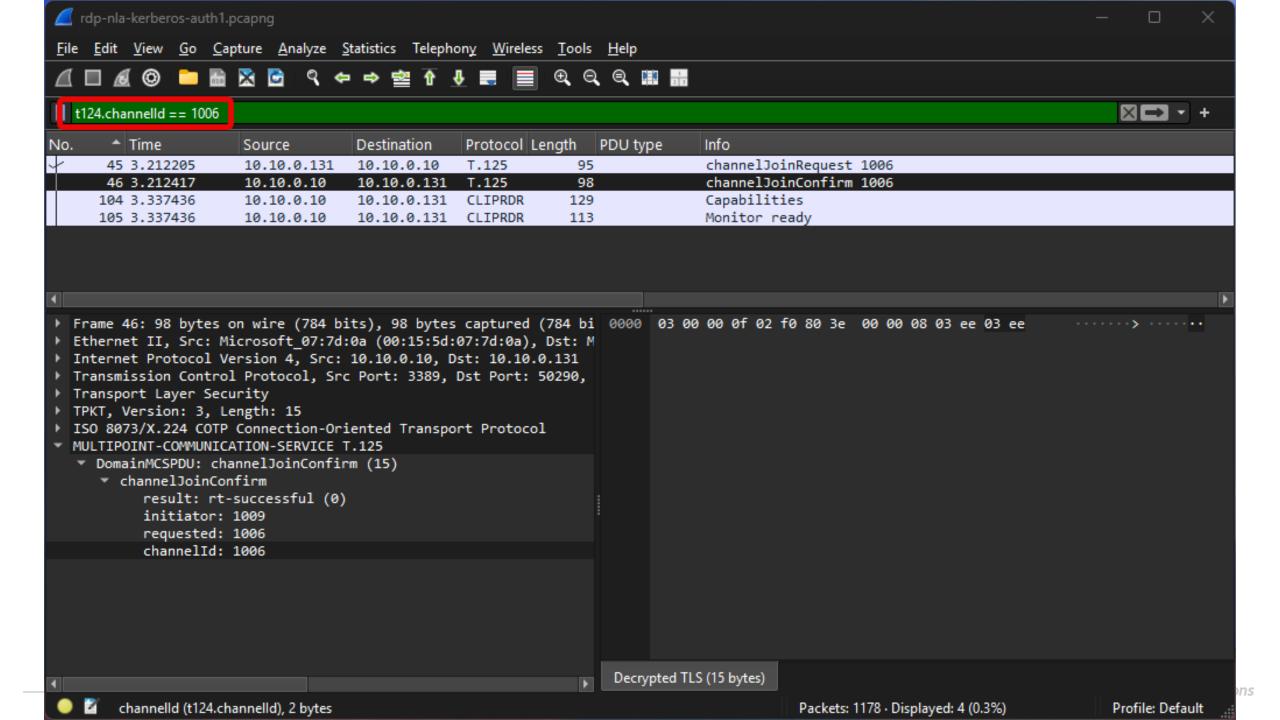
https://github.com/awakecoding/wireshark-rdp

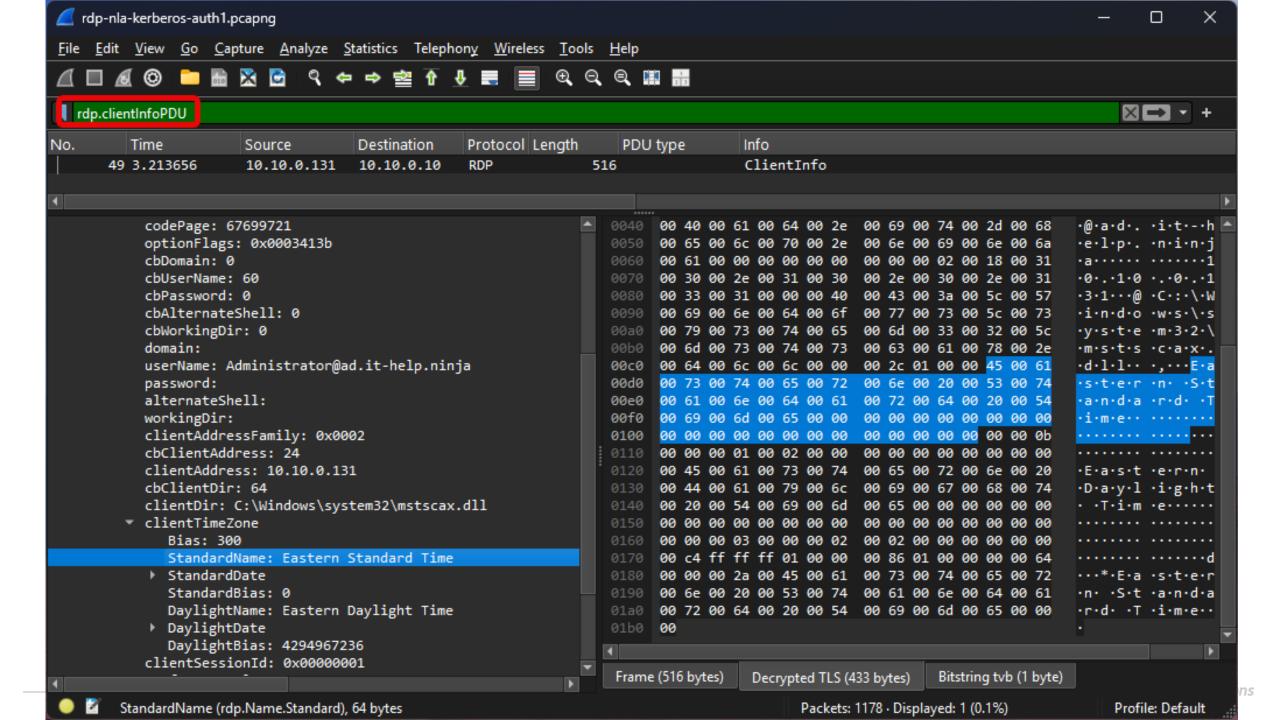


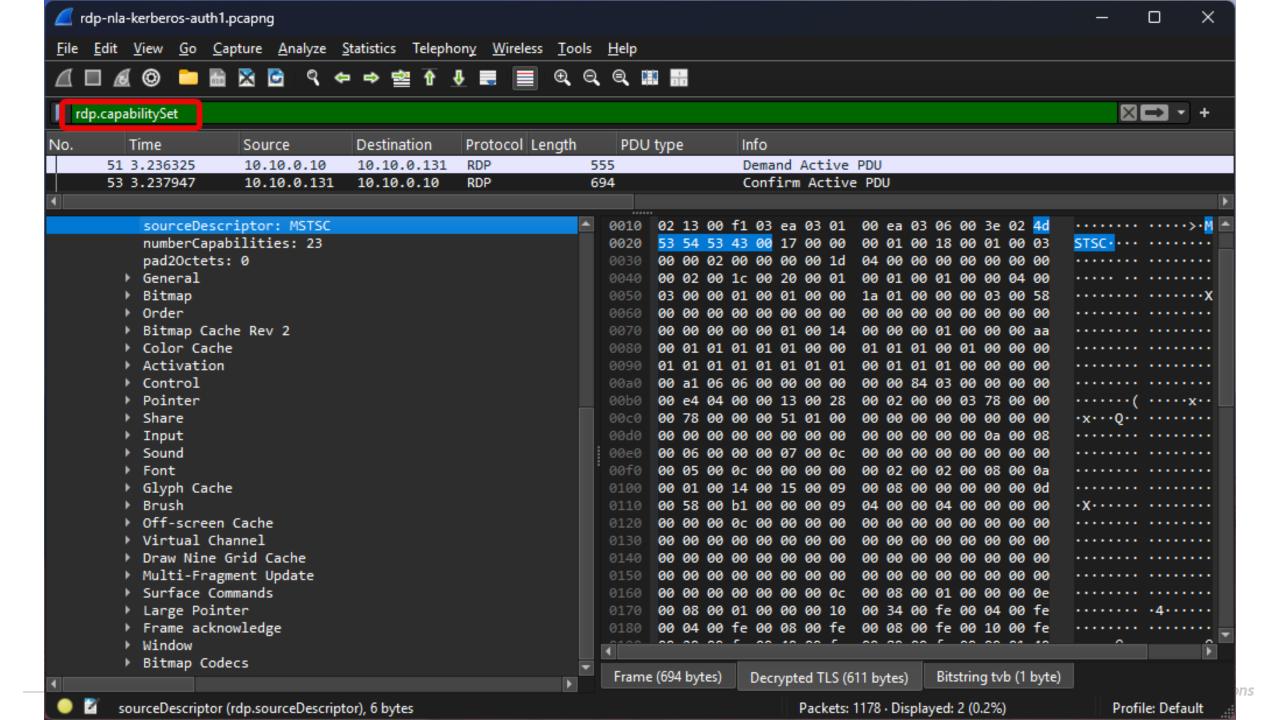


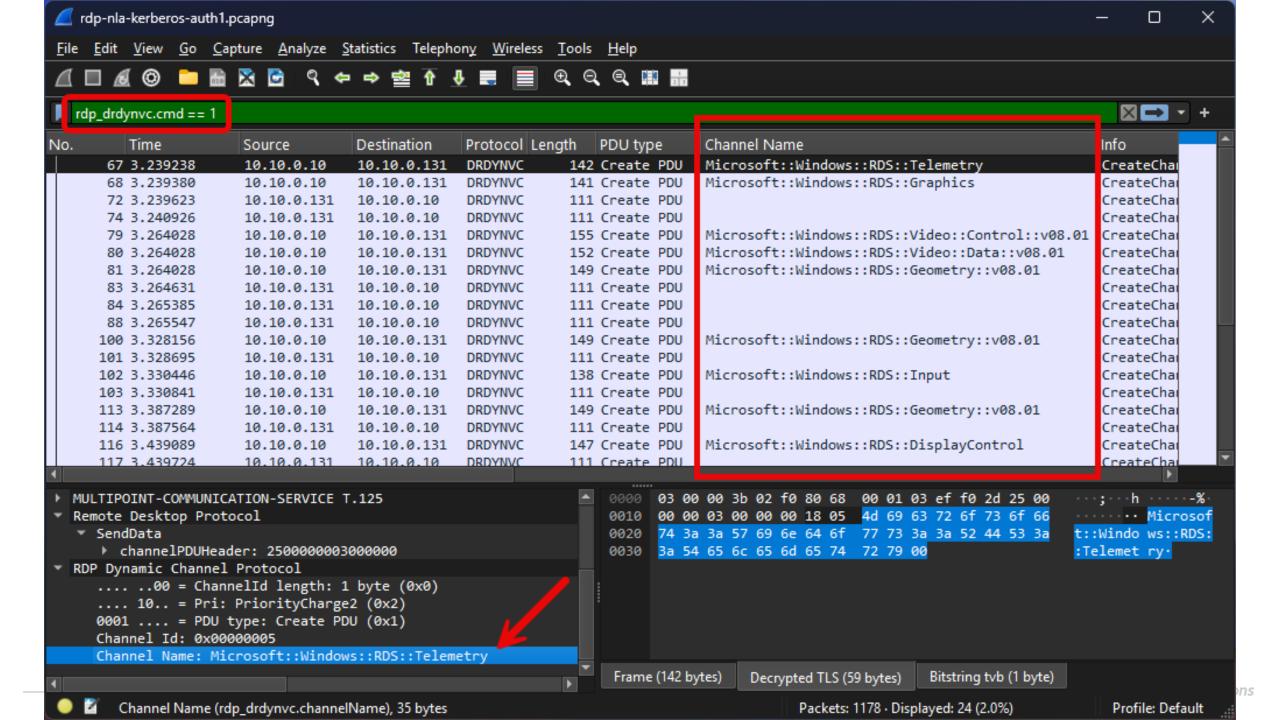


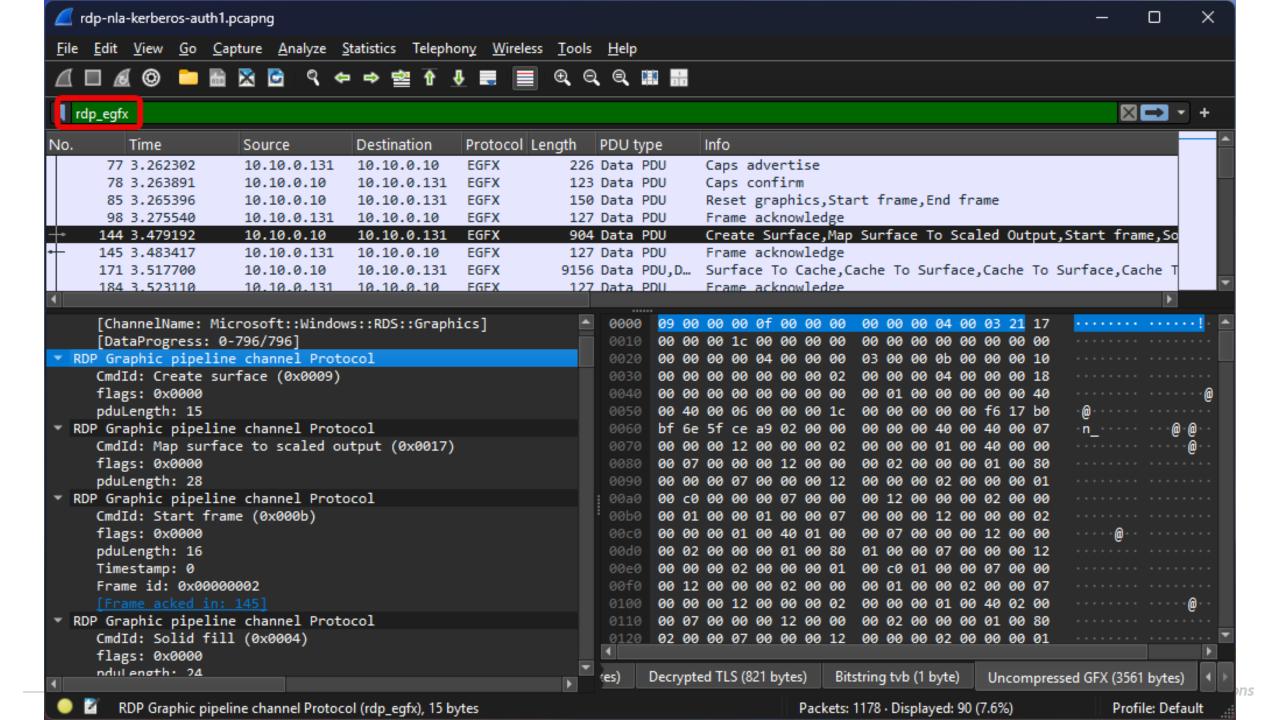
















# Thank you!

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