Introduction to Wireshark

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Introduction

The basic tool for observing the messages exchanged between executing protocol entities is called a **packet sniffer**.

The packet sniffer consists of 2 parts:

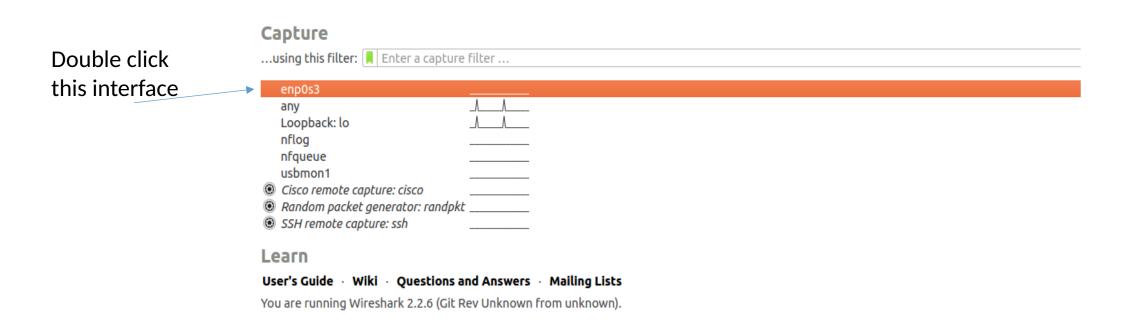
• The **packet capture** library receives a copy of every link layer frame that is sent from or received by your computer.

• The packet analyzer which displays the contents of all fields within a protocol

message. packet sniffer packet application (e.g., www application browser, ftp client) analyzer operating Transport (TCP/UDP) system Network (IP) packet copy of all Ethernet capture Link (Ethernet) frames sent/received (pcap) Physical to/from network to/from network

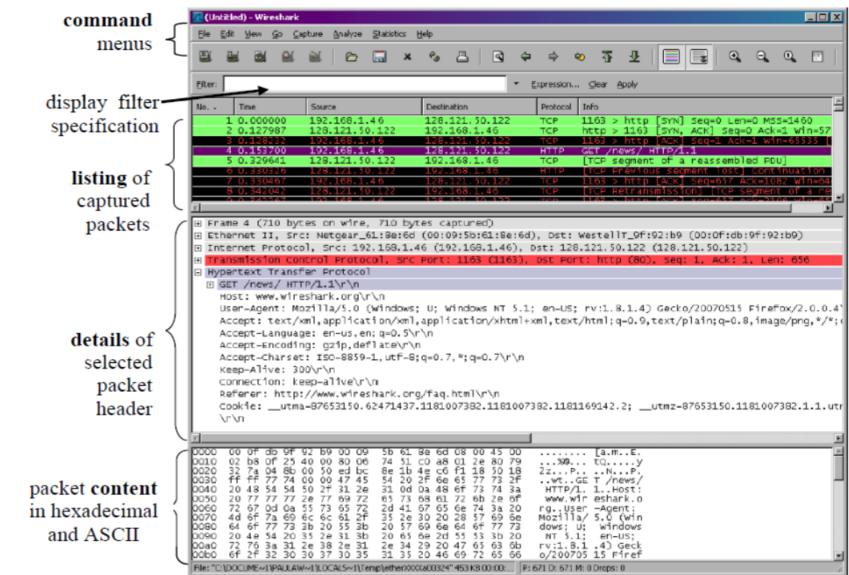
Start Wireshark

- After starting Wireshark, you will see the following figure.
- enp0s3 is the network interface of our VM connecting to the outside of VM. Double clicking on this interface will start the sniffer on traffic through this interface.



Wireshark Window

• Start firefox with a site (e.g., www.uwindsor.ca) and look wireshark window



Specific packet

• Detailed packet example: DNS query packet.

packet

details

• The structured as LinkLayerHeader | NetworkLayer Header | TransportLayer Header | DNS query

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length Info
	555 2020/251 00:0	0:43 172.217.1.4	10.0.2.4	TCP	60 443 → 59982 [ACK] Seq=35923 Ack=2244748677 Win=31636 Len=0
→	556 2020/251 00:0	0:44 10.0.2.4	24.226.1.93	DNS	75 Standard query 0x2036 A www.uwindsor.ca
	557 2020/251 00:0	0:44 10.0.2.4	24.226.1.93	DNS	75 Standard query 0x00b7 AAAA www.uwindsor.ca
┵	558 2020/251 00:0	0:44 24.226.1.93	10.0.2.4	DNS	161 Standard query response 0x2036 A www.uwindsor.ca A 137.207.71.19
	559 2020/251 00:0	0:44 24.226.1.93	10.0.2.4	DNS	128 Standard query response 0x00b7 AAAA www.uwindsor.ca SOA ipam1.uv
[Re: Tra: ▶ Fla: Que:	n Name System (query) sponse In: 558] nsaction ID: 0x2036 gs: 0x0100 Standard o stions: 1				
	wer RRs: 0 hority RRs: 0				
	itional RRs: 0				
▼ Que	ries				
b W	ww.uwindsor.ca: type	A class TM			

Packet Filter

• We can apply a display filter to show restricted packets.

Example: using http filter will only show the packets containing http protocol

