

Wireshark

- GUI
- User friendly
- Extensive filtering
- Detailed packet decoding
- Supports wide range of protocols
- Resource intensive due to GUI and advanced features
- Ideal for detailed analysis
- Troubleshooting network issues
- Visualizing traffic
- Used for security auditing
- Displays packets in a more detailed and organized manner
- Easy for beginners
- Available on Windows macOS, and Linux
- Supports multiple capture file formats (can open tcpdump files)

Similarities

- Captures packets
- Ability to filter
- Helps with security audits
- Open source & free

tcpdump

- CLI
- Not user friendly
- Displays packet info directly in terminal
- Used for capturing packets
- Less comprehensive
- Faster since no GUI needed
- Suited for quick captures
- Automation
- Or when using a remote server
- Displays packets in a raw text-based format
- Steep learning curve
- Primarily used on Unix-like systems
- Typically saves capture files in pcap format (to be open later by tool like wireshark)

Internal