

Task 5: Capture and Analyze Network Traffic Using Wireshark

Objective: Capture live network packets and identify basic protocols and traffic types.

Tools Used: Wireshark (Free, Open Source)

Method (Steps Taken):

1. Downloaded and installed Wireshark from the official website (<https://www.wireshark.org/download.html>).
2. Launched Wireshark and reviewed the available network interfaces (Wi-Fi, Ethernet, Loopback).
3. Selected the active network interface (Wi-Fi) to ensure that only live internet traffic was captured.
4. Clicked the blue shark fin icon to start the packet capture process.
5. Generated traffic for analysis by opening websites in a browser (HTTP/HTTPS traffic) and running ping tests (ping google.com) in the terminal.
6. Allowed the capture to run for approximately 1 minute to gather a variety of traffic types.
7. Stopped the capture by pressing the red stop button once sufficient packets had been recorded.
8. Applied protocol filters such as 'dns', 'tcp', 'icmp', and 'http' in the Wireshark display filter bar to isolate specific traffic types.
9. Observed and analyzed the packet flows, including DNS lookups, TCP handshakes, and ICMP ping requests/replies.
10. Noted key details of different protocols such as source/destination IP addresses, port numbers, and packet lengths.
11. Saved the entire capture in .pcap format using File → Save As, which is a standard format for packet captures.
12. Documented findings including identified protocols (DNS, TCP, ICMP, SMB, ARP, Routing) and their role in network communication.

Findings (Initial capture):

Protocol	Description
DNS	Resolves domain names into IP address
TCP	Provides reliable communication in 3-way handshake
ICMP	Used for network diagnostics like ping request (Echo) and response (Reply) recorded.

Protocols observed from. PCap :

Protocol	Description
System Event	Log from systemd/journald or syslog
TCP SYN/FIN	TCP handshake and connection termination flags
UDP	Connectionless communication protocol
SMB	Server Message Block, used for file/printer sharing in windows
DCE/RPC	Remote procedure call protocol over networks
ARP	Address resolution protocol, resolves IP to MAC addresses
ICMP errors	ICMP used for error reporting(eg., unreachable host)
SCTP ABORT/TCP RST	Abort/reset connection packets
Routing Protocols	OSPF, BGP, EIGRP, IGMP- routing and group communication

Outcome: Successfully captured and analyzed live traffic, identified common and advanced protocols (DNS, TCP, ICMP, SMB, ARP, Routing), and demonstrated filtering and analysis techniques in Wireshark.

Screenshot of identifying ports:

The image shows a Wireshark packet filter and its corresponding rule list. The packet filter is a complex logical expression used to filter network traffic. The rule list shows the rules that are applied to the filtered traffic, including their names and filters.

Packet Filter:

```
# This file was created by Wireshark. Edit with care.
@Bad TCP@tcp.analysis.flags && !tcp.analysis.window_update && !tcp.analysis.keep_alive && !tcp.analysis.keep_alive_ack@[4626,10023,11822][63479,34695,34695]
@HSRP State Change@hsrp.state != 8 && hsrp.state != 16@[4626,10023,11822][65535,64764,40092]
@Spanning Tree Topology Change@stp.type == 0x80@[4626,10023,11822][65535,64764,40092]
@OSPF State Change@ospf.msg != 1@[4626,10023,11822][65535,64764,40092]
@ICMP errors@icmp.type in { 3..5, 11 } || icmpv6.type in { 1..4 }@[4626,10023,11822][47031,63479,29812]
@ARP@arp@[64250,61680,55255][4626,10023,11822]
@ICMP@icmp || icmpv6@[64764,57568,65535][4626,10023,11822]
@TCP RST@tcp.flags.reset eq 1@[42148,0,0][65535,64764,40092]
@SCTP ABORT@sctp.chunk_type eq ABORT@[42148,0,0][65535,64764,40092]
@IPv4 TTL low or unexpected@(ip.dst != 224.0.0.0/4 && ip.ttl < 5 && !(pim || ospf || eigrp || bgp || tcp.port==179)) || (ip.dst == 224.0.0.0/24 && ip.dst != 224.0.0.251 && ip.ttl != 1 && !(vrrp || carp || eigrp || rip || glibp))@[42148,0,0][60652,61680,60395]
@IPv6 hop limit low or unexpected@(ipv6.dst != ff00::/8 && ipv6.hlim < 5 && !(ospf || bgp || tcp.port==179)) || (ipv6.dst==ff00::/8 && ipv6.hlim not in {1, 64, 255})@[42148,0,0][60652,61680,60395]
@Checksum Errors@eth.fcs.status=="Bad" || ip.checksum.status=="Bad" || tcp.checksum.status=="Bad" || udp.checksum.status=="Bad" || sctp.checksum.status=="Bad" || ms
@SMB@smb || nbss || nbns || netbios@[65278,65535,53456][4626,10023,11822]
@HTTP@http || http2@[59367,59110,65535][4626,10023,11822]
@DCERPC@dcerpc@[51143,38807,65535][4626,10023,11822]
@Routing@hsrp || eigrp || ospf || bgp || cdp || vrrp || carp || gvrp || igmp || ismp@[65535,62451,54998][4626,10023,11822]
@TCP SYN/FIN@tcp.flags & 0x02 || tcp.flags.fin == 1@[41120,41120,41120][4626,10023,11822]
@CFR@cf@[59367,59110,65535][4626,10023,11822]
@UDP@udp@[56026,61166,65535][4626,10023,11822]
@Broadcast@eth[0] & 1@[65535,65535,65535][47802,48573,46774]
@System Event@systemd_journal || sysdig@[59110,59110,59110][11565,28527,39578]
```

Wireshark - Coloring Rules Default

Name	Filter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bad TCP	tcp.analysis.flags && !tcp.analysis.window_update && !tcp.analysis.keep_alive && !tcp.analysis.keep_alive_ack
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HSRP State Change	hsrp.state != 8 && hsrp.state != 16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spanning Tree Topology Change	stp.type == 0x80
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OSPF State Change	ospf.msg != 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICMP errors	icmp.type in { 3..5, 11 } icmpv6.type in { 1..4 }
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARP	arp
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICMP	icmp icmpv6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TCP RST	tcp.flags.reset eq 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCTP ABORT	sctp.chunk_type eq ABORT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IPv4 TTL low or unexpected	(ip.dst != 224.0.0.0/4 && ip.ttl < 5 && !(pim ospf eigrp bgp tcp.port==179)) (ip.dst == 224.0.0.0/24 && ip.dst != 224.0.0.251 && ip.ttl != 1 && !(vrrp carp eigrp rip glibp))
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IPv6 hop limit low or unexpected	(ipv6.dst != ff00::/8 && ipv6.hlim < 5 && !(ospf bgp tcp.port==179)) (ipv6.dst==ff00::/8 && ipv6.hlim not in {1, 64, 255})
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Checksum Errors	eth.fcs.status=="Bad" ip.checksum.status=="Bad" tcp.checksum.status=="Bad" udp.checksum.status=="Bad" sctp.checksum.status=="Bad" ms
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SMB	smb nbss nbns netbios
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HTTP	http tcp.port == 80 http2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DCERPC	dcerpc
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Routing	hsrp eigrp ospf bgp cdp vrrp carp gvrp igmp ismp
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TCP SYN/FIN	tcp.flags & 0x02 tcp.flags.fin == 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TCP	tcp
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UDP	udp
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Broadcast	eth[0] & 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> System Event	systemd_journal sysdig