



Wireshark Lab 1.1. Recording Network Traffic and creating A PCAP file (V1.1)

OVERVIEW

What is a PCAP File?

PCAP files are data files created by using the Wireshark program, and they contain the packet data of a network. These files are mainly used in analyzing the network characteristics of certain data.

The files also contribute to successfully controlling the traffic of a certain network since they are being monitored by the program.

The data and the results of the network analysis are saved using the PCAP file extension, which is why they are called PCAP files.

These files are used to determine network status, allowing analyzers to attend to problems that may have occurred on the network and allow them to study data communications using Wireshark.

OBJECTIVE:

- 1- How to use the PCAP file.
- 2- How to examine a PCAP file.
- 3- How to find/extract information from a PCAP file.

REQUIREMENTS:

	OS (Windows	, macOS,	or Linux)	

STEPS:

Part 1 - Capture Traffic on Ethernet NIC /or WiFi Nic.

Part 2 - Add Coloring Rule for TCP packet.

Part 3 - adding Custom Columns (TCP Segment Len).

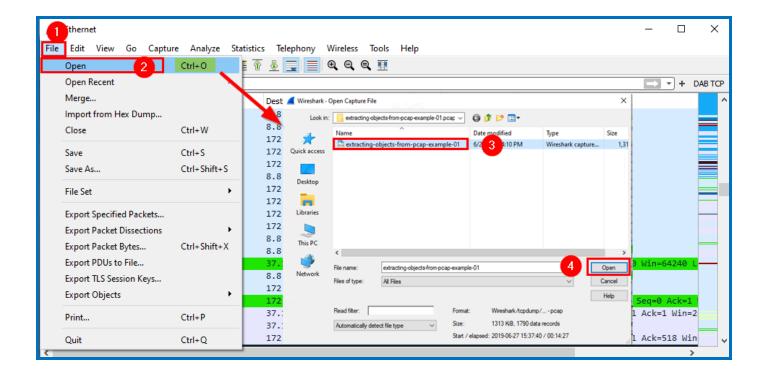
Part 4: Saving captured Traffic.

Part 1- HOW TO OPEN A PCAP FILE?

Launch a PCAP file by double-clicking it. If your file associations are set up correctly, the application that is meant to open yourPCAP file will open it, or use Wireshark software. Click on **file**, and then click **OPEN** or **(CTRL + O)**.







Part 2 - Examining PCAP File:

In this lab, we are going to examine (2022-03-21 - TRAFFIC ANALYSIS EXERCISE - BURNINCANDLE) PCAP file. To get started:

- - ☐ Extract the file after you download it, then open the PCAP file.
- ☑ Open the PCAP file in Wireshark.

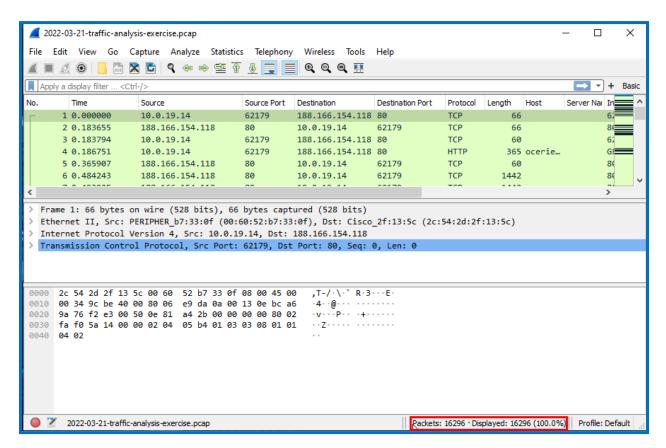
How many packets were captured in this trace file? 16296

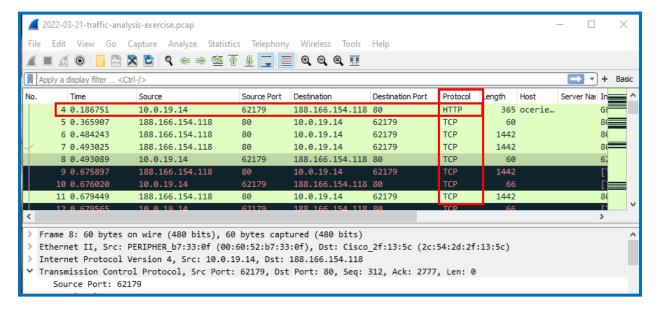




Check the bottom-right corner of the recorded packets to determine how many packets are there. The number of packets will appear as seen in the image below.

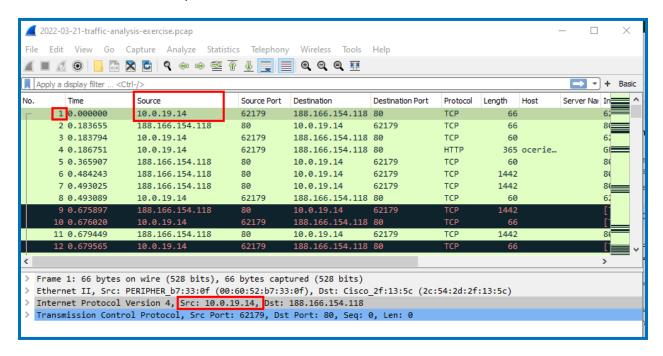
Number of packets: 16296







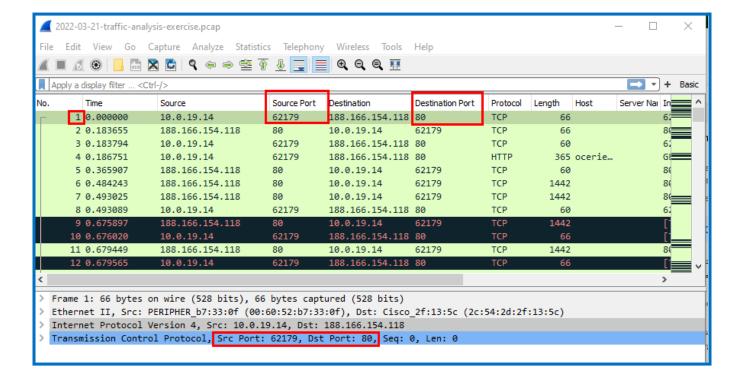




☐ What is the source and destination TCP port in this same packet?

From the PCAP file:

The source TCP port is: 62179.
The destination TCP port is: 80.



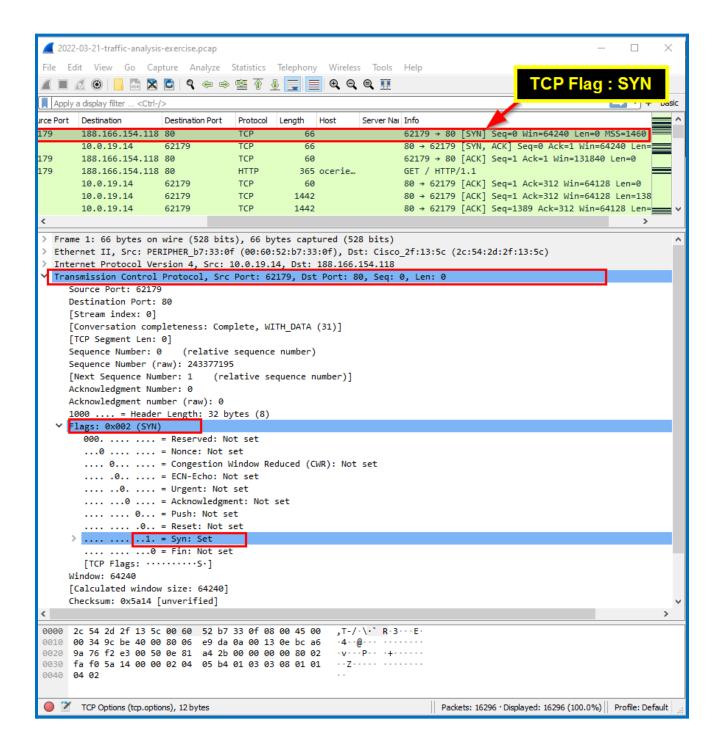




What TCP flag is set in packet number 1?

From the PCAP, there are two ways to identify the TCP flag:

- The TCP flag is SYN, as shown in the first packet's information column.
- We can find the TCP Flag by expanding the TCP section, and then in the flags section as shown in the picture below.





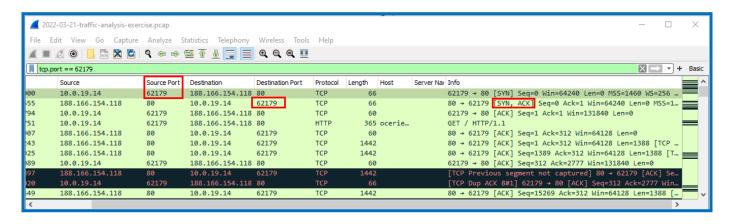


☑ What is the frame number of the next packet in this TCP conversation?

The TCP 3-Way Handshake (SYN, SYN-ACK, ACK) - because the first packet is a SYN packet, the second packet will be a SYN-ACK packet.

There are many methods for locating all of the packets that are related to the first packet:

- ☑ Use a filter (TCP.port == the first packet's port number).
- Use scrolling, through the packets seeking a packet with the same port number.



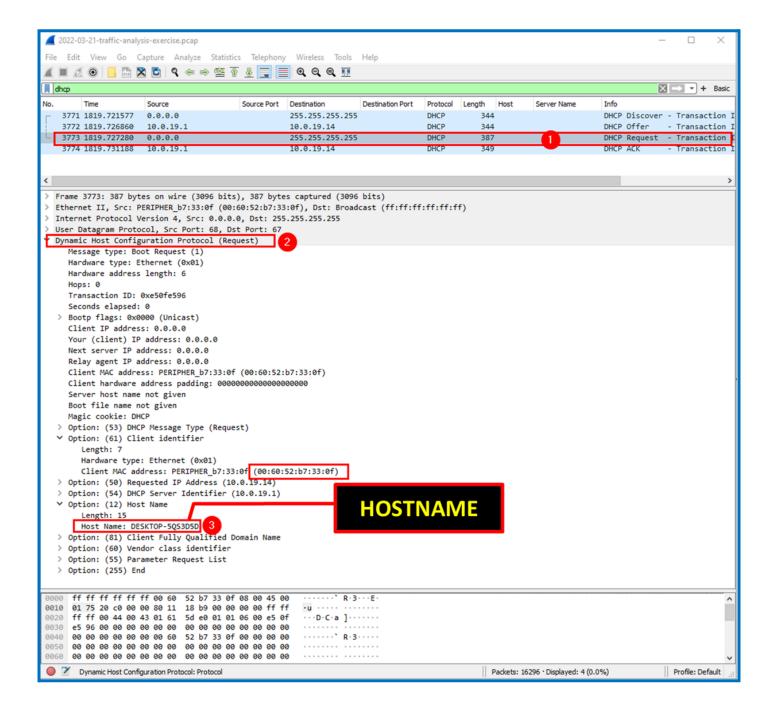




Part 3 - Host Information from DHCP Traffic

To locate the host name in the PCAP file. Search for the DHCP DORA packets.

- ☑ On the Filter tab, type DHCP.
- ☑ Click the DHCP Request Packet.







This concludes this lab.

Please discuss the following questions with your instructor.

LAB SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please submit a pdf with the following:

- 1. A screenshot of the snapshot taken once the lab is completed.
- 2. One to three screenshots demonstrating the configurations that you made during this lab.
- 3. Discussion questions with your answers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Can Wireshark modify packets?

While Wireshark is an excellent tool for capturing and analyzing network traffic, it does not have the functionality to modify packets.

2. What can you determine from the PCAP File?

By analyzing a PCAP file, you can determine a wide range of information about the network traffic and activities that took place during the capture. Here are some key insights you can gain from a PCAP file:

Network Traffic Analysis

Communication Patterns

Performance Metrics

Security Analysis

Application-Level Data

Network Troubleshooting

3. How do I get information from a PCAP File?





Analyzing a PCAP file with Wireshark involves opening the file, applying filters to narrow down the data, examining specific packets and conversations, and using statistical tools to extract meaningful insights. With practice, you can efficiently diagnose network issues, monitor performance, and enhance security by leveraging the detailed information available in PCAP files.

4. How do I edit a PCAP File?

Editing a PCAP file involves altering the captured packet data. Wireshark itself does not support editing packets directly, but you can use other tools for this purpose.

5. What files can Wireshark read?

Wireshark can read an extensive range of capture file formats, which enables it to be used in a variety of environments and for multiple purposes. The most common formats include PCAP and PCAPNG, but Wireshark's versatility extends to numerous other formats as well.





