

Task 3

Networking Basics for Cyber Security

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Networking basics in cyber security refer to the fundamental concepts that explain how data is transmitted, addressed, and protected over a network. These concepts include IP addresses and MAC addresses for identifying devices, DNS for translating domain names into IP addresses, TCP and UDP for data transmission, and packets as small units of data exchanged between systems. Understanding these basics helps cybersecurity professionals monitor network traffic, detect insecure communication, and identify potential threats using tools like packet sniffers.

IP Address

- IP (Internet Protocol) address uniquely identifies a device on a network.
- Example: 192.168.1.1
- Used to locate devices and route data.

MAC Address

- MAC (Media Access Control) address is a physical address of a network interface.
- Example: 00:1A:2B:3C:4D:5E
- Used within the local network.

DNS (Domain Name System)

- Converts domain names into IP addresses.
- Example: google.com → 142.250.195.78
- Acts like the phonebook of the internet.

TCP (Transmission Control Protocol)

- Connection-oriented and reliable.
- Ensures data delivery, order, and error correction.
- Used in: HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, Email.

UDP (User Datagram Protocol)

- Connectionless and faster.
- No guarantee of delivery.
- Used in: Video streaming, VoIP, Online games.

Wireshark

Wireshark is a free and open-source network protocol analyzer used to capture and inspect network traffic in real time. It helps engineers, analysts, and security professionals understand what is happening inside a network at the packet level.

- Captures live network traffic across multiple interfaces
- Provides deep visibility into protocols and packet structure
- Helps troubleshoot network issues and analyze performance
- Essential for security investigations and protocol debugging

Filter Packets by Protocol (HTTP, DNS, TCP)

Packet filtering is the process of displaying specific types of network packets from a captured data set. By filtering packets based on protocols such as HTTP, DNS, and TCP, network traffic can be analyzed more efficiently. This helps in understanding protocol behavior and identifying relevant communication in a network.

Wireshark interface showing a packet capture. The filter bar is empty. The packet list shows various protocols including TCP, UDP, and TLSv1.2. The packet details pane on the right shows the structure of a selected packet, including Ethernet II, Internet Protocol Version 4, and Transmission Control Protocol.

Wireshark interface showing a packet capture filtered by 'dns'. The filter bar is set to 'dns'. The packet list shows only DNS-related packets. The packet details pane on the right shows the structure of a selected DNS packet, including Ethernet II, Internet Protocol Version 4, and Domain Name System (query).

Capturing from Wi-Fi

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tcp

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
14	1.967369	184.84.232.88	10.110.195.53	TLSv1.2	93	Application Data
15	1.969396	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	66	53 → 64961 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM WS=256
16	1.969482	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	54	64961 → 53 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=0
17	1.969556	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	66	53 → 49331 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM WS=256
18	1.969556	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	66	53 → 58877 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM WS=256
19	1.969597	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	54	49331 → 53 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=0
20	1.969621	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	54	58877 → 53 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=0
21	1.969897	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	56	64961 → 53 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=2 [TCP PDU reassembled in 22]
22	1.970208	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	86	Standard query 0xe7b3 HTTPS www.google.com
23	1.970291	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	56	58877 → 53 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=2 [TCP PDU reassembled in 24]
24	1.970328	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	86	Standard query 0x25ac A www.google.com
25	1.970388	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	56	49331 → 53 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=2 [TCP PDU reassembled in 26]
26	1.970458	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	86	Standard query 0xc880 AAAA www.google.com
27	1.972376	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	54	53 → 64961 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=3 Win=65536 Len=0
28	1.972376	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	54	53 → 64961 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=35 Win=65536 Len=0
29	1.972376	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	54	53 → 58877 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=3 Win=65536 Len=0
30	1.972376	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	54	53 → 58877 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=35 Win=65536 Len=0

Frame 22: Packet, 86 bytes on wire (688 bits), 86 bytes captured (688 bits) on interface
 Ethernet II, Src: CloudNetwork_5a:89:f9 (a8:3b:76:5a:89:f9), Dst: ae:17:9c:65:6e:74 (a
 Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.110.195.53, Dst: 10.110.195.36
 Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 64961, Dst Port: 53, Seq: 3, Ack: 1, Len: 32
 [2 Reassembled TCP Segments (34 bytes): #21(2), #22(32)]
 Domain Name System (query)

Packet (86 bytes) Reassembled TCP (34 bytes)

Transmission Control Protocol: Protocol Packets: 1695 · Displayed: 1061 (62.6%) Profile: Default

Three-Way TCP Handshake

The TCP three-way handshake is a connection establishment mechanism used to initiate reliable communication between two devices. It consists of three stages that confirm both the sender and receiver are ready for data transmission before the connection is established.

*Wi-Fi

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tcp

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
21	13.405788	10.110.195.53	104.18.39.21	TCP	54	64440 → 443 [ACK] Seq=264 Ack=185 Win=254 Len=0
22	13.921719	98.95.160.231	10.110.195.53	TCP	54	443 → 51326 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=2 Win=121 Len=0
23	14.887638	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	66	61699 → 53 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
24	14.888543	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	66	64613 → 53 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
25	14.889633	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	66	51749 → 53 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
26	14.895745	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	66	53 → 61699 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM WS=256
27	14.895745	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	66	53 → 64613 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM WS=256
28	14.895745	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	TCP	66	53 → 51749 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM WS=256
29	14.895965	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	66	52315 → 53 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
30	14.896044	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	54	61699 → 53 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=0
31	14.896079	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	54	64613 → 53 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=0
32	14.896097	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	54	51749 → 53 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=0
33	14.896741	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	66	65172 → 53 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
34	14.897294	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	66	60372 → 53 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
35	14.897754	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	TCP	56	61699 → 53 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65280 Len=2 [TCP PDU reassembled in 36]
36	14.897901	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	86	Standard query 0xfa1b HTTPS www.google.com

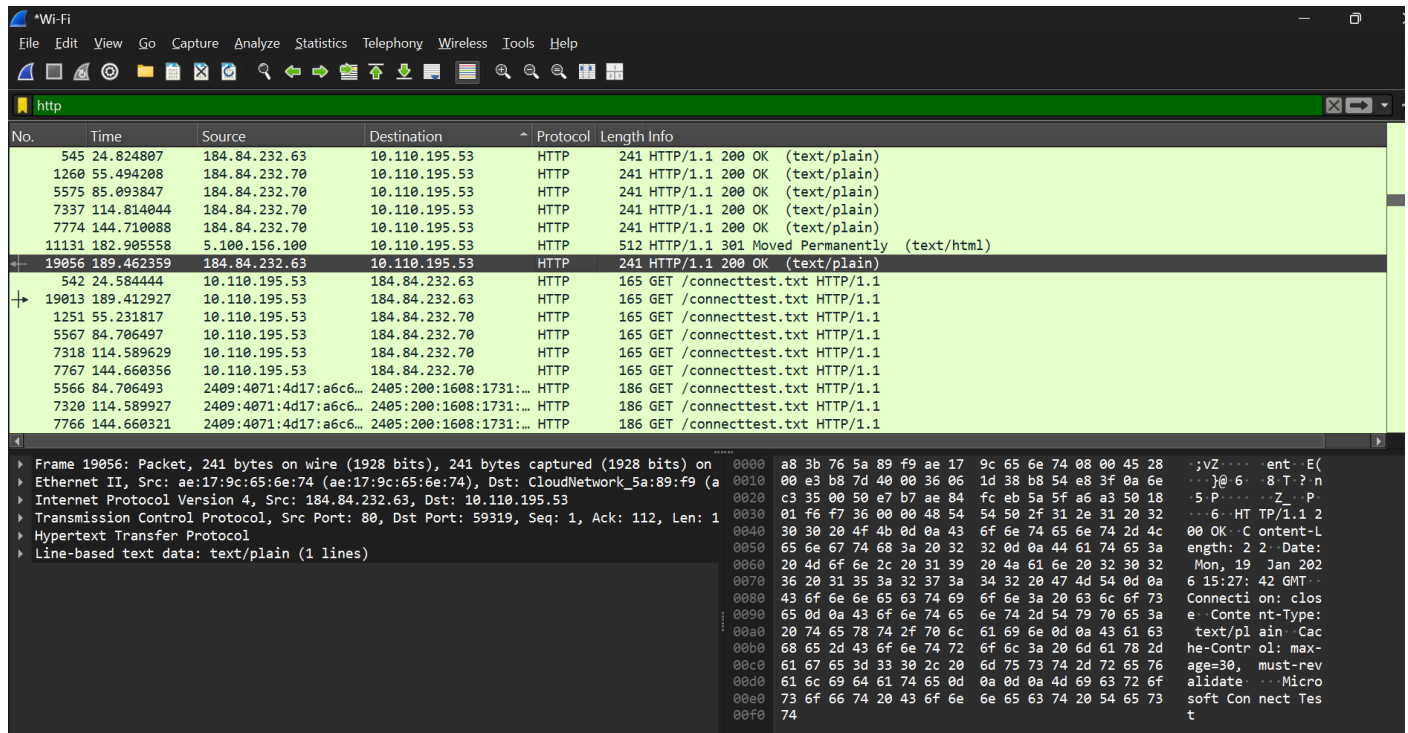
Frame 23: Packet, 66 bytes on wire (528 bits), 66 bytes captured (528 bits) on interface
 Ethernet II, Src: CloudNetwork_5a:89:f9 (a8:3b:76:5a:89:f9), Dst: ae:17:9c:65:6e:74 (a
 Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.110.195.53, Dst: 10.110.195.36
 Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 61699, Dst Port: 53, Seq: 0, Len: 0

Transmission Control Protocol: Protocol Packets: 4077 · Displayed: 1367 (33.5%) · Dropped: 0 (0.0%) Profile: Default

Plain-Text Traffic vs Encrypted Traffic

Plain-text traffic transmits data in a readable format without encryption, making it vulnerable to interception. Encrypted traffic protects data by encoding it into an unreadable form, ensuring secure communication. Identifying these traffic types is essential for assessing network security.

Plain-text traffic

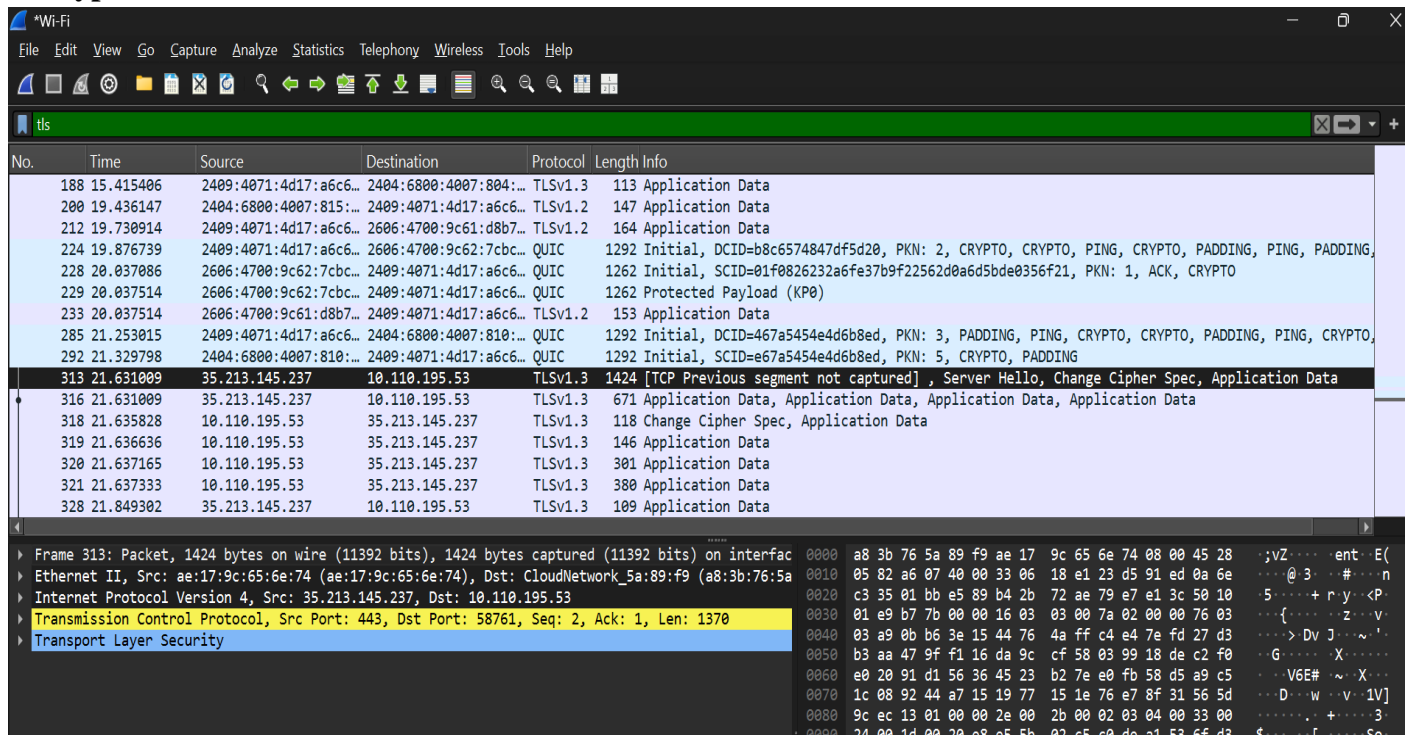


The image shows a Wireshark capture of plain-text HTTP traffic. The packet list on the left shows several HTTP GET requests to 10.110.195.53. The selected packet (No. 19056) is expanded, showing the raw data in hexadecimal and ASCII. The ASCII data is clearly readable, showing a 200 OK response with a Content-Type of text/html.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
545	24.824807	184.84.232.63	10.110.195.53	HTTP	241	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/plain)
1260	55.494208	184.84.232.70	10.110.195.53	HTTP	241	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/plain)
5575	85.093847	184.84.232.70	10.110.195.53	HTTP	241	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/plain)
7337	114.814044	184.84.232.70	10.110.195.53	HTTP	241	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/plain)
7774	144.710088	184.84.232.70	10.110.195.53	HTTP	241	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/plain)
11131	182.905558	5.100.156.100	10.110.195.53	HTTP	512	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
19056	189.462359	184.84.232.63	10.110.195.53	HTTP	241	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/plain)
542	24.584444	10.110.195.53	184.84.232.63	HTTP	165	GET /connecttest.txt HTTP/1.1
19013	189.412927	10.110.195.53	184.84.232.63	HTTP	165	GET /connecttest.txt HTTP/1.1
1251	55.231817	10.110.195.53	184.84.232.70	HTTP	165	GET /connecttest.txt HTTP/1.1
5567	84.706497	10.110.195.53	184.84.232.70	HTTP	165	GET /connecttest.txt HTTP/1.1
7318	114.589629	10.110.195.53	184.84.232.70	HTTP	165	GET /connecttest.txt HTTP/1.1
7767	144.660356	10.110.195.53	184.84.232.70	HTTP	165	GET /connecttest.txt HTTP/1.1
5566	84.706493	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	2405:200:1608:1731:...	HTTP	186	GET /connecttest.txt HTTP/1.1
7320	114.589927	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	2405:200:1608:1731:...	HTTP	186	GET /connecttest.txt HTTP/1.1
7766	144.660321	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	2405:200:1608:1731:...	HTTP	186	GET /connecttest.txt HTTP/1.1

Frame 19056: Packet, 241 bytes on wire (1928 bits), 241 bytes captured (1928 bits) on Ethernet II, Src: ae:17:9c:65:6e:74 (ae:17:9c:65:6e:74), Dst: CloudNetwork_5a:89:f9 (a:00:00:00:00:00:00), Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 184.84.232.63, Dst: 10.110.195.53, Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 80, Dst Port: 59319, Seq: 1, Ack: 112, Len: 1, Hypertext Transfer Protocol, Line-based text data: text/plain (1 lines)

Encrypted traffic



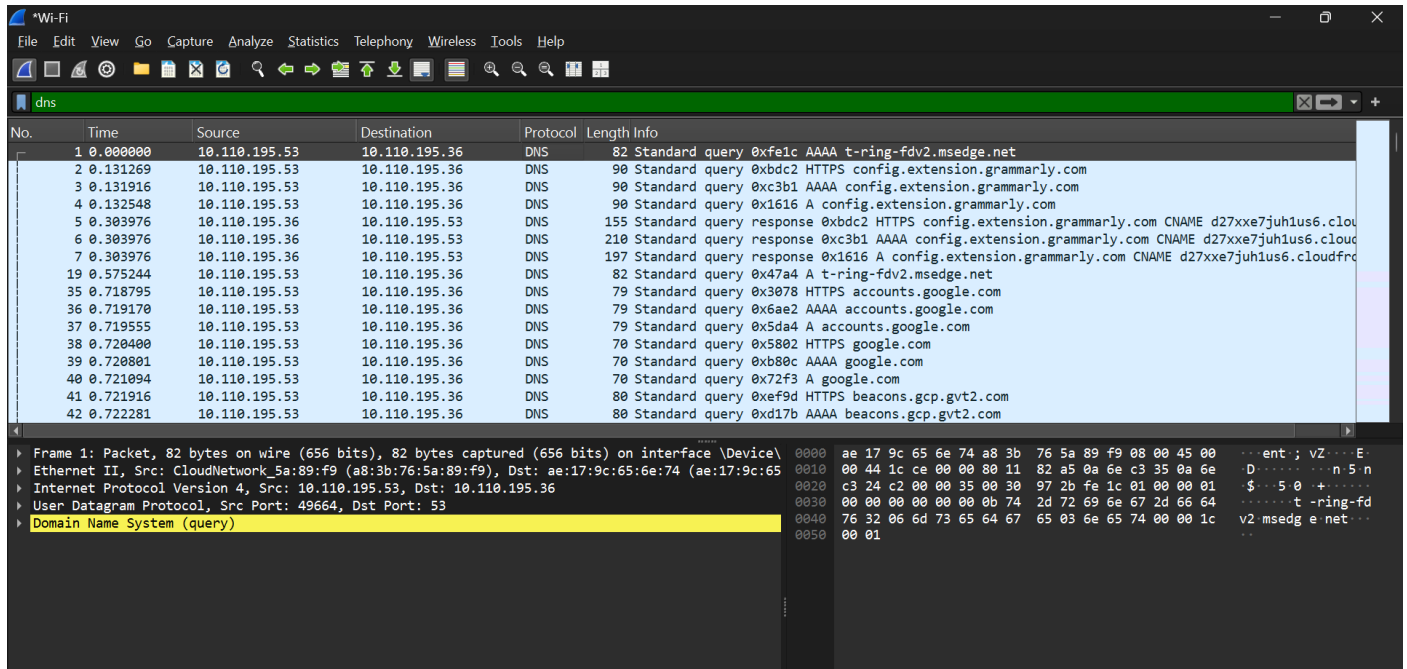
The image shows a Wireshark capture of encrypted TLS traffic. The packet list on the left shows several TLSv1.3 packets. The selected packet (No. 313) is expanded, showing the raw data in hexadecimal and ASCII. The ASCII data is unreadable, indicating encryption.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
188	15.415406	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	2404:6800:4007:804:...	TLSv1.3	113	Application Data
200	19.436147	2404:6800:4007:815:...	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	TLSv1.2	147	Application Data
212	19.730914	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	2606:4700:9c61:d8b7...	TLSv1.2	164	Application Data
224	19.876739	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	2606:4700:9c62:7cbc...	QUIC	1292	Initial, DCID=b8c6574847df5d20, PKN: 2, CRYPTO, CRYPTO, PING, CRYPTO, PADDING, PING, PADDING,
228	20.037086	2606:4700:9c62:7cbc...	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	QUIC	1262	Initial, SCID=01f0826232a6fe37b9f22562d0a6d5bde0356f21, PKN: 1, ACK, CRYPTO
229	20.037514	2606:4700:9c62:7cbc...	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	QUIC	1262	Protected Payload (KP0)
233	20.037514	2606:4700:9c61:d8b7...	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	TLSv1.2	153	Application Data
285	21.253015	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	2404:6800:4007:810:...	QUIC	1292	Initial, DCID=467a5454e4d6b8ed, PKN: 3, PADDING, PING, CRYPTO, CRYPTO, PADDING, PING, CRYPTO,
292	21.329798	2404:6800:4007:810:...	2409:4071:4d17:a6c6...	QUIC	1292	Initial, SCID=e67a5454e4d6b8ed, PKN: 5, CRYPTO, PADDING
313	21.631009	35.213.145.237	10.110.195.53	TLSv1.3	1424	[TCP Previous segment not captured], Server Hello, Change Cipher Spec, Application Data
316	21.631009	35.213.145.237	10.110.195.53	TLSv1.3	671	Application Data, Application Data, Application Data, Application Data
318	21.635828	10.110.195.53	35.213.145.237	TLSv1.3	118	Change Cipher Spec, Application Data
319	21.636636	10.110.195.53	35.213.145.237	TLSv1.3	146	Application Data
320	21.637165	10.110.195.53	35.213.145.237	TLSv1.3	301	Application Data
321	21.637333	10.110.195.53	35.213.145.237	TLSv1.3	380	Application Data
328	21.849302	35.213.145.237	10.110.195.53	TLSv1.3	109	Application Data

Frame 313: Packet, 1424 bytes on wire (11392 bits), 1424 bytes captured (11392 bits) on interface Ethernet II, Src: ae:17:9c:65:6e:74 (ae:17:9c:65:6e:74), Dst: CloudNetwork_5a:89:f9 (a8:3b:76:5a:00:00:00:00), Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 35.213.145.237, Dst: 10.110.195.53, Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 443, Dst Port: 58761, Seq: 2, Ack: 1, Len: 1370, Transport Layer Security

DNS Queries

DNS queries are requests used to resolve domain names into IP addresses. Analyzing DNS traffic helps in understanding domain access patterns and identifying suspicious or malicious domain requests.



The image shows a Wireshark packet capture of DNS traffic. The top pane displays a list of 42 packets, all of which are DNS queries or responses between 10.110.195.53 and 10.110.195.36. The selected packet (No. 1) is a DNS Standard query for 't-ring-fdv2.msedge.net'. The bottom pane shows the detailed structure of this packet, including the Ethernet II header, Internet Protocol Version 4 header, and the User Datagram Protocol header, all of which are highlighted in yellow.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	82	Standard query 0xfe1c AAAA t-ring-fdv2.msedge.net
2	0.131269	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	90	Standard query 0xbdc2 HTTPS config.extension.grammarly.com
3	0.131916	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	90	Standard query 0xc3b1 AAAA config.extension.grammarly.com
4	0.132548	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	90	Standard query 0x1616 A config.extension.grammarly.com
5	0.303976	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	DNS	155	Standard query response 0xbdc2 HTTPS config.extension.grammarly.com CNAME d27xxe7juh1us6.cloud
6	0.303976	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	DNS	218	Standard query response 0xc3b1 AAAA config.extension.grammarly.com CNAME d27xxe7juh1us6.cloud
7	0.303976	10.110.195.36	10.110.195.53	DNS	197	Standard query response 0x1616 A config.extension.grammarly.com CNAME d27xxe7juh1us6.cloud
19	0.575244	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	82	Standard query 0x47a4 A t-ring-fdv2.msedge.net
35	0.718795	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	79	Standard query 0x3078 HTTPS accounts.google.com
36	0.719170	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	79	Standard query 0x6ae2 AAAA accounts.google.com
37	0.719555	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	79	Standard query 0x5da4 A accounts.google.com
38	0.720400	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	70	Standard query 0x5802 HTTPS google.com
39	0.720801	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	70	Standard query 0xb80c AAAA google.com
40	0.721094	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	70	Standard query 0x72f3 A google.com
41	0.721916	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	80	Standard query 0xef9d HTTPS beacons.gcp.gvt2.com
42	0.722281	10.110.195.53	10.110.195.36	DNS	80	Standard query 0xd17b AAAA beacons.gcp.gvt2.com

Frame 1: Packet, 82 bytes on wire (656 bits), 82 bytes captured (656 bits) on interface \Device\NPF{...} Ethernet II, Src: CloudNetwork_5a:89:f9 (a8:3b:76:5a:89:f9), Dst: ae:17:9c:65:6e:74 (ae:17:9c:65:6e:74) Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.110.195.53, Dst: 10.110.195.36 User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 49664, Dst Port: 53 Domain Name System (query)

Packet Captures for Analysis

Saving packet captures allows network traffic data to be preserved for future analysis and reporting. These files are useful for reviewing network behavior and conducting forensic investigations.

I have learned the basics of networking in cybersecurity, including IP and MAC addresses, DNS, and TCP/UDP protocols. I also learned how to use Wireshark to capture and analyze network traffic, filter packets, understand the difference between plain-text and encrypted traffic, and save packet captures for future analysis.