Task 5: Capture and Analyze Network Traffic Using Wireshark

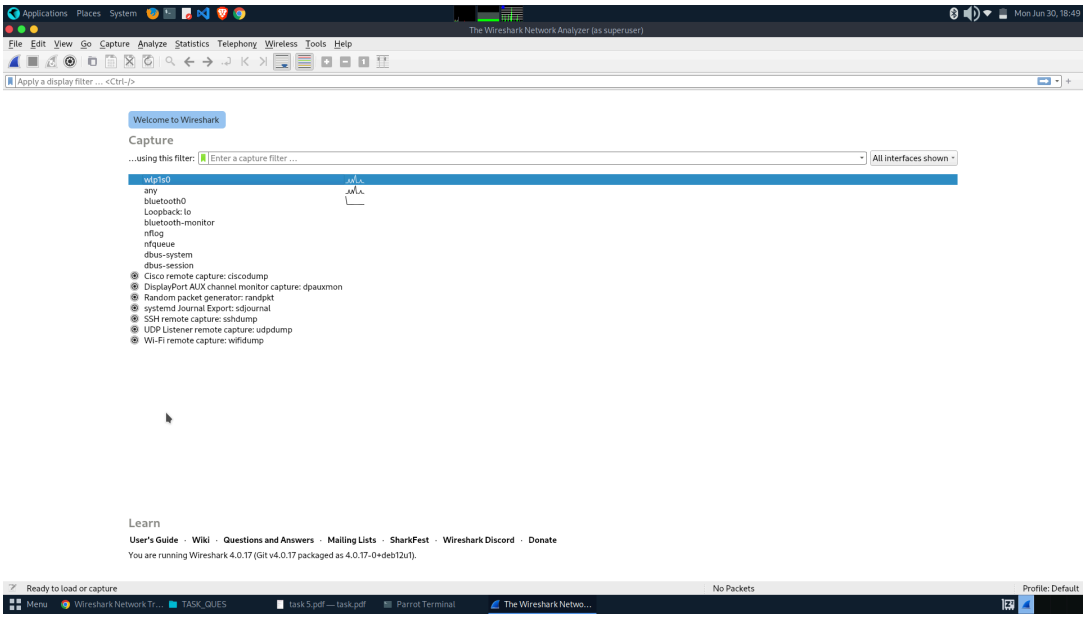
Task Objective : To capture live network packets on a Linux system using Wireshark and analyze the traffic to identify common protocols like HTTP, DNS, TCP, and ICMP.

1. Install Wireshark.

```
┌──[kishan@parrot]─[~]
└──╼ $sudo apt update
sudo apt install wireshark -y
[sudo] password for kishan:
Get:1 https://dl.google.com/linux/chrome/deb stable InRelease [1,825 B]
Hit:2 https://brave-browser-apt-release.s3.brave.com stable InRelease
Get:3 https://dl.google.com/linux/chrome/deb stable/main amd64 Packages [1,211 B]
Get:4 https://deb.parrot.sh/parrot lory InRelease [29.8 kB]
Get:5 https://deb.parrot.sh/direct/parrot lory-security InRelease [29.5 kB]
Get:6 https://deb.parrot.sh/parrot lory-backports InRelease [29.7 kB]
Get:7 https://deb.parrot.sh/parrot lory/main amd64 Packages [19.2 MB]
Get:8 https://deb.parrot.sh/direct/parrot lory-security/main amd64 Packages [539 kB]
Get:9 https://deb.parrot.sh/parrot lory-backports/main amd64 Packages [722 kB]
Fetched 20.6 MB in 14s (1,472 kB/s)
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
26 packages can be upgraded. Run 'apt list --upgradable' to see them.
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
wireshark is already the newest version (4.0.17-0+deb12u1).
wireshark set to manually installed.
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 26 not upgraded.
```

2. Start capturing on your active network interface.

The GUI of wireshark will be like this. Now I will select wlp1s0. This is a wireless (Wi-Fi) interface connected on PCI bus 1, slot 0.



3. Browse a website or ping a server to generate traffic.

After starting the capture, a new terminal window was opened and the following command was run to ping Google, which generates ICMP packets.

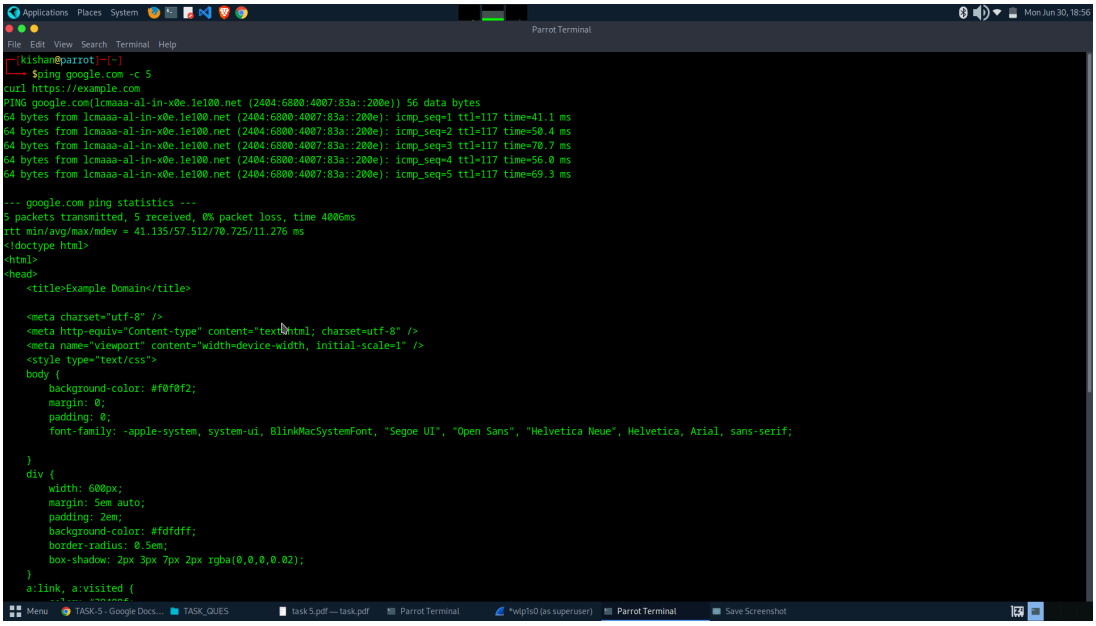
ping google.com -c 5

Then, to generate HTTP, HTTPS, and DNS traffic, a website was accessed using

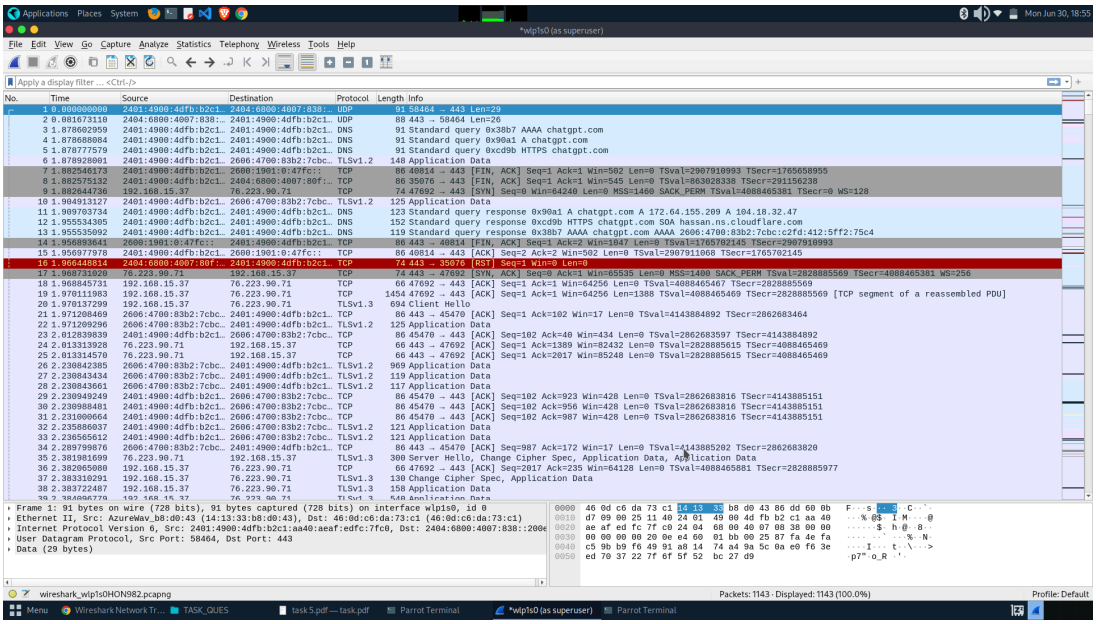
curl https://example.com

This simulates real-world browsing activity and helps capture various protocol packets like DNS (for name resolution), TCP (for reliable transport), and HTTP/HTTPS (for web content).

This is the interface where i have pressed the commands



This is the traffic captured

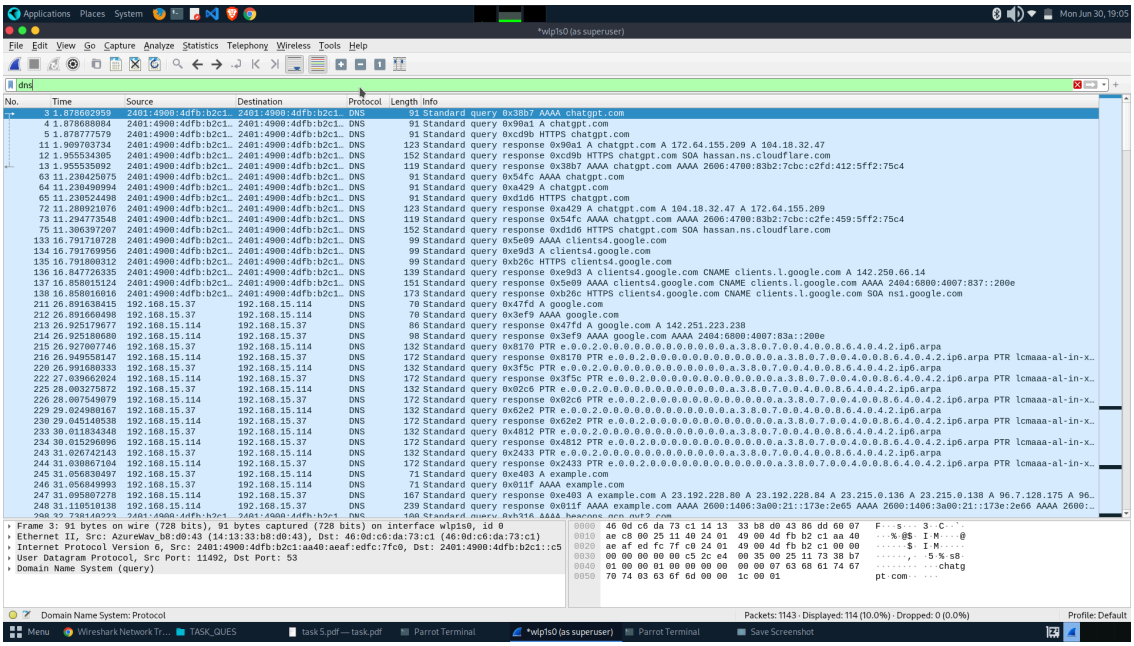


4. Stop capture after a minute.

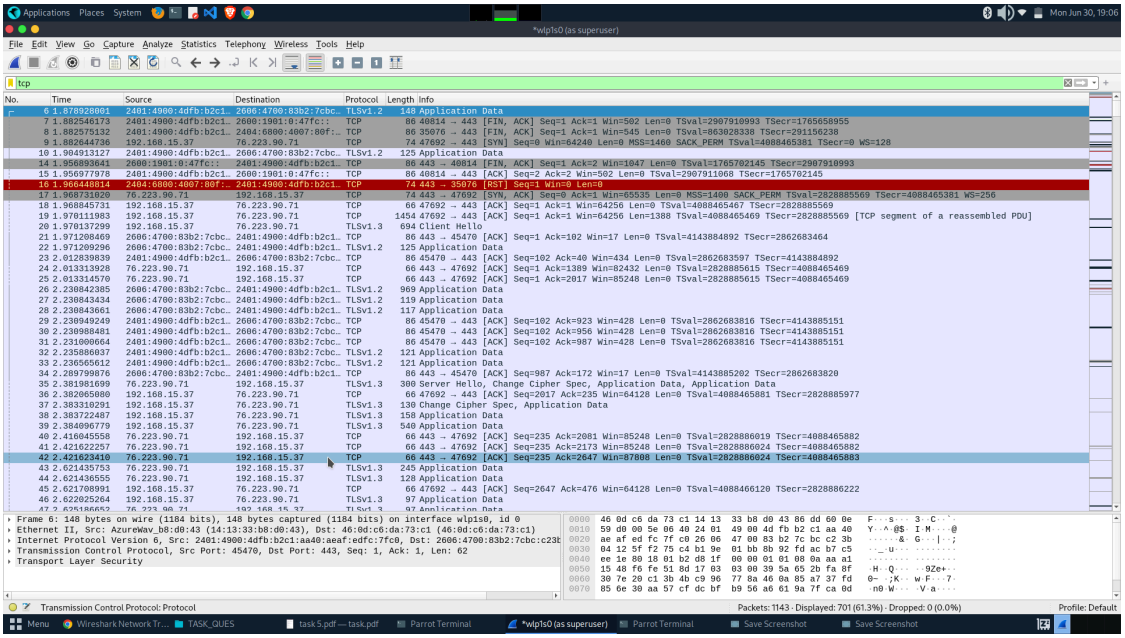
I have stopped it after a min

5. Filter captured packets by protocol (e.g., HTTP, DNS, TCP).

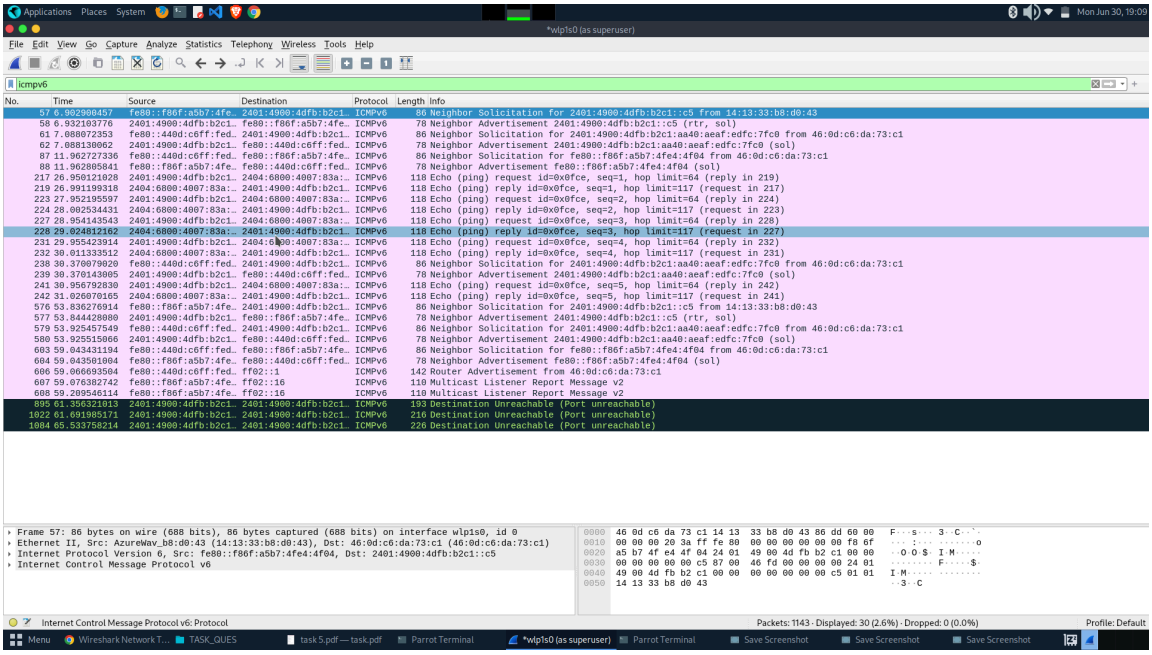
Used the Display Filter bar at the top of Wireshark to isolate specific types of packets.



dns → filters DNS queries and responses



tcp → shows only TCP traffic



icmp → shows ping request/reply

No Http traffic was captured

6. Identify at least 3 different protocols in the capture.

I have ICMP , TCP and DNS packets that were captured on my wire shark i will say what are those and what will they do shortly

1. ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol)

- **Purpose:** Used for network diagnostics.
- **Example:** ping google.com sends ICMP Echo Requests and receives Echo Replies.
- **Use Case:** Helps check if a host is reachable and measures round-trip time.

2. TCP (Transmission Control Protocol)

- **Purpose:** Ensures reliable and ordered data delivery between devices.
- **Example:** Used in protocols like HTTP, HTTPS, FTP.

- **Use Case:** Establishes a connection (3-way handshake), ensures all data reaches correctly.

3. DNS (Domain Name System)

- **Purpose:** Resolves human-readable domain names into IP addresses.
- **Example:** When accessing example.com, your system sends a DNS query to find its IP.
- **Use Case:** First step in web browsing — without DNS, the browser can't find the server.

7. Export the capture as a .pcap file.

I have exported the capture

8. Summarize your findings and packet details.

During the network capture, three main types of packets were identified: ICMP, TCP, and DNS. Each of these serves a distinct role in network communication:

ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol)

- Used for diagnostic and error-reporting functions.
- Commonly seen in tools like ping.
- Helps determine if a host is reachable and measures latency.

TCP (Transmission Control Protocol)

- A connection-oriented protocol that ensures reliable data transfer.
- Used in web browsing (HTTP/HTTPS), file transfers (FTP), emails, etc.
- Establishes a connection using a 3-way handshake before transmitting data.

DNS (Domain Name System)

- Resolves domain names (like google.com) to their respective IP addresses.

- Works before any website or online service can be accessed.
- Uses UDP or TCP on port 53, depending on the query type.