

Task 3 – Network Packet Sniffing and Analysis

Objective:

Capture and analyze network traffic to demonstrate broadcast and unicast behavior, HTTP/HTTPS communication, and associated network-level security risks.

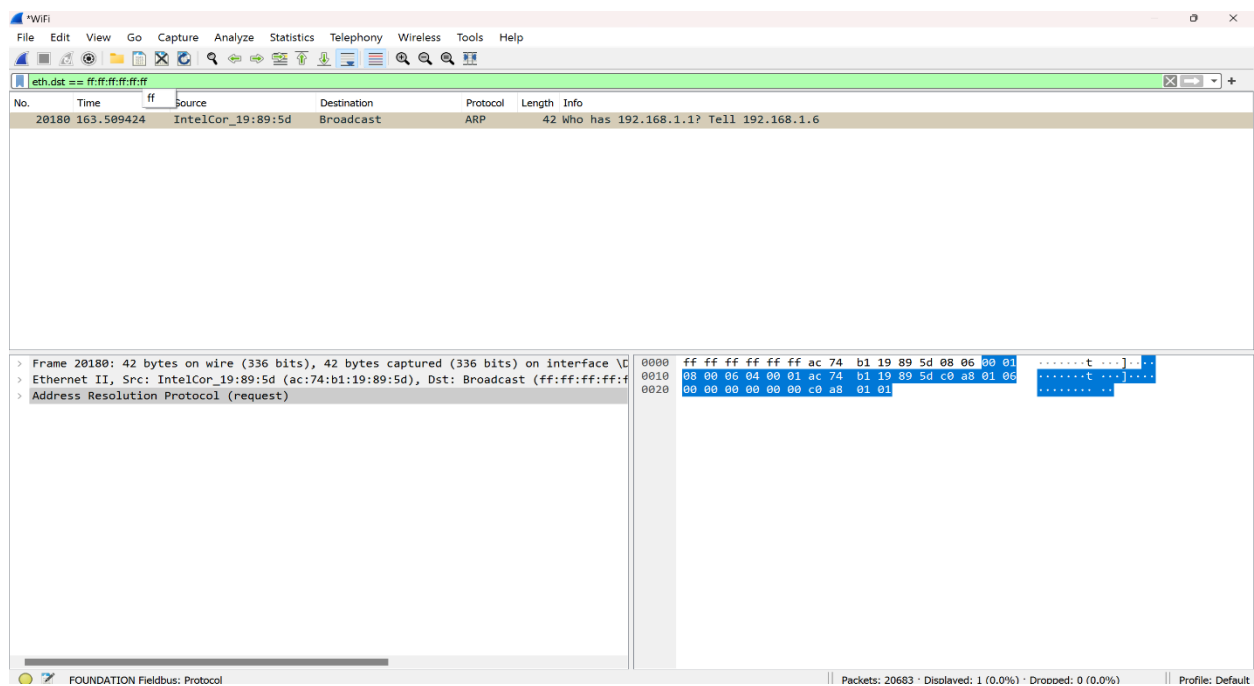
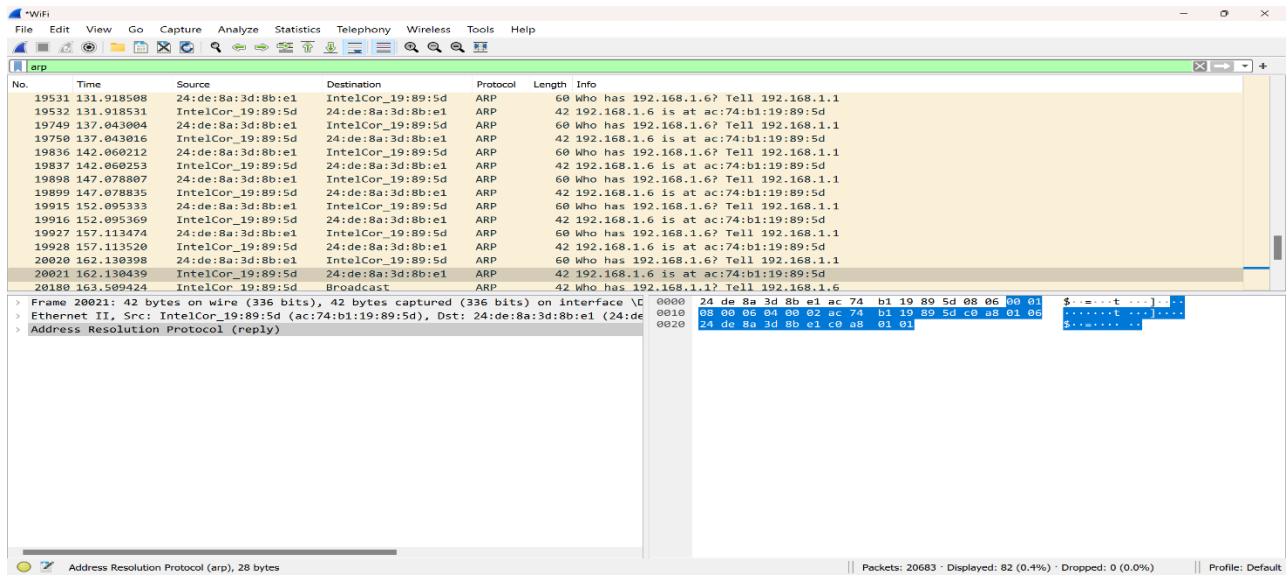
Tools & Setup:

- Wireshark (Windows)
- Interface: Active Ethernet/Wi-Fi interface
- Filters Applied:
 - arp → ARP broadcast requests
 - eth.dst == ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff → broadcast packets
 - !eth.dst == ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff → unicast packets
 - http.request → HTTP traffic
 - tls / tcp.port == 443 → HTTPS traffic
- Environment: Lab machine, connected to local network; VPN disabled to observe unencrypted traffic.

PoC Procedure & Observations:

1. Broadcast Traffic – ARP Request

- **Action:** Triggered ARP broadcast packets by running the arp command in Windows while capturing in Wireshark.
- **Captured Packet:**
Frame 20180: 42 bytes
Src MAC/IP: ac:74:b1:XX:XX:XX / 192.168.1.6
Dst MAC/IP: FF:FF:FF:FF:FF:FF / 192.168.1.255
Protocol: ARP Request
- **Analysis:**
 - Broadcast packet sent to all devices on LAN.
 - Demonstrates network discovery at Layer 2.
 - VAPT Relevance: Potential for reconnaissance and ARP spoofing attacks.

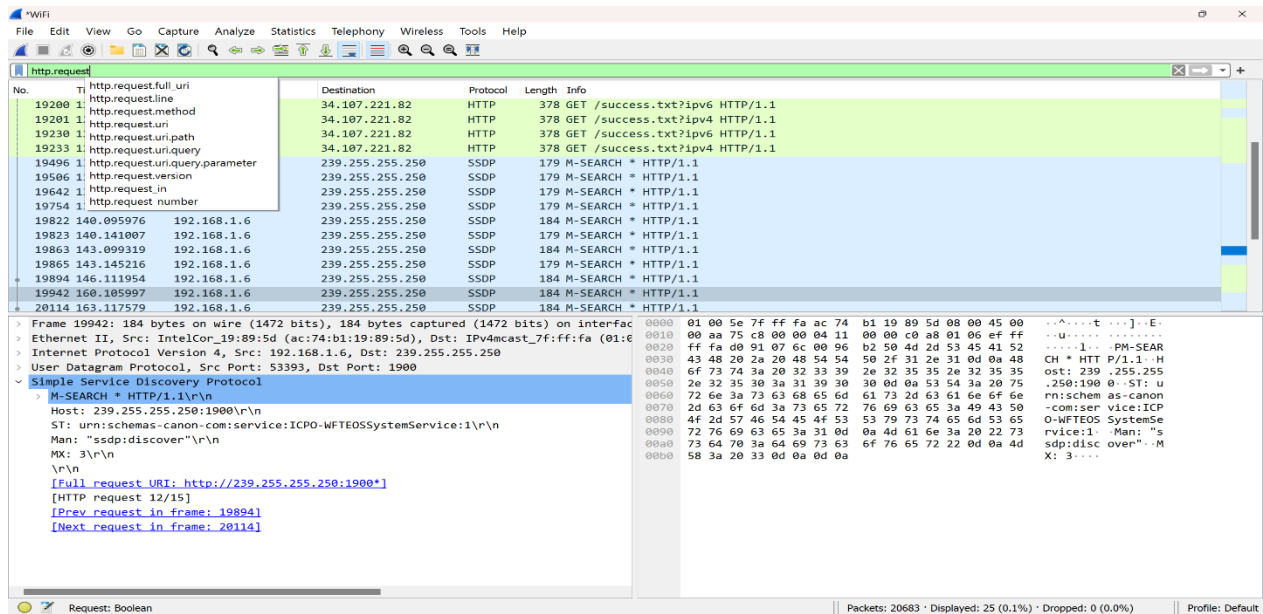


2. Unicast Traffic – HTTP Request

- **Captured Packet:**
 Frame 19193: 361 bytes
 Src MAC/IP: ac:74:b1:XX:XX:XX / 192.168.1.6
 Dst MAC/IP: 24:de:8a:3d:8b:e1 / 34.107.221.82
 Protocol: TCP / HTTP GET /canonical.html

- **Analysis:**

- Sent to a specific server (unicast).
- HTTP headers and URL are unencrypted.
- VAPT Relevance: Demonstrates data exposure risks on unencrypted channels.



3. Encrypted Traffic – HTTPS / TLS

- **Captured Packet:**
Protocol: TLS 1.3 handshake
Src/Dst IPs visible; payload encrypted
- **Analysis:**
- Content is encrypted; only metadata visible.
- VAPT Relevance: Shows protection against eavesdropping and MITM attacks.

The top screenshot displays a TLSv1.3 session. The packet list shows messages such as Client Hello, Server Hello, and Change Cipher Spec. The packet details pane for packet 19930 shows the structure of the TLS record, including the Client Hello message.

The bottom screenshot displays a TCP session. The packet list shows multiple ACK and data segments. The packet details pane for packet 20179 shows the structure of the TCP segment, including the data payload.

Key VAPT Insights:

1. Broadcast packets reveal active hosts and MAC addresses (network mapping).
2. HTTP unicast packets show plaintext data exposure.
3. TLS/HTTPS protects sensitive information.
4. Hands-on exercise reinforces Layer 2/3 traffic, network discovery, and capture techniques.

Conclusion:

This PoC demonstrates practical packet sniffing and analysis using Wireshark, highlighting broadcast vs unicast traffic, HTTP exposure, and TLS protection. Provides a clear understanding of network-level risks and the importance of securing communication channels for VAPT exercises.

tcpdump Observations (Linux, eth0)

Command Used:

```
sudo tcpdump -i eth0 -vv -n -c 20
```

```
ni@mrunalini:~$ sudo tcpdump -i eth0 -vv -n -c 20
tcpdump -i eth0 -vv -n -c 20
storing on eth0, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet), snapshot length 262144 bytes
6423 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 4, id 14609, offset 0, flags [none], proto UDP (17), length 170)
184.1.53392 > 239.255.255.250:1900: [udp sum ok] UDP, length 142
8876 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 64, id 51668, offset 0, flags [DF], proto TCP (6), length 40)
184.135.33656 > 74.125.200.188:5228: Flags [.], cksum 0x8c84 (incorrect -> 0x84ee), seq 3555843814, ack 343424839, win 65535, length 0
1342 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 128, id 56119, offset 0, flags [none], proto TCP (6), length 40)
200.188.5228 > 192.168.184.135:33656: Flags [.], cksum 0x89fc (correct), seq 1, ack 1, win 64240, length 0
8647 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 4, id 14610, offset 0, flags [none], proto UDP (17), length 170)
184.1.53392 > 239.255.255.250:1900: [udp sum ok] UDP, length 142
8796 ARP, Ethernet (len 6), IPv4 (len 4), Request who-has 192.168.184.2 tell 192.168.184.135, length 28
1041 ARP, Ethernet (len 6), IPv4 (len 4), Reply 192.168.184.2 is-at 00:50:56:ec:a6:7e, length 46
5769 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 4, id 14611, offset 0, flags [none], proto UDP (17), length 170)
184.1.53392 > 239.255.255.250:1900: [udp sum ok] UDP, length 142
6374 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 4, id 14612, offset 0, flags [none], proto UDP (17), length 170)
184.1.53392 > 239.255.255.250:1900: [udp sum ok] UDP, length 142
8841 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 64, id 62070, offset 0, flags [DF], proto TCP (6), length 40)
184.135.46934 > 34.104.35.123:80: Flags [.], cksum 0xb72d (incorrect -> 0x447c), seq 4114451164, ack 6124583, win 65535, length 0
9364 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 128, id 56120, offset 0, flags [none], proto TCP (6), length 40)
35.123.80 > 192.168.184.135:46934: Flags [.], cksum 0x498a (correct), seq 1, ack 1, win 64240, length 0
7368 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 64, id 60623, offset 0, flags [DF], proto UDP (17), length 73)
184.135.37769 > 192.168.184.2:53: [bad udp cksum 0xf221 -> 0x1ae0] 19041+ A? safebrowsing.googleapis.com. (45)
7775 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 64, id 35014, offset 0, flags [DF], proto UDP (17), length 73)
184.135.25982 > 192.168.184.2:53: [bad udp cksum 0xf221 -> 0x2d47] 10533+ HTTPS? safebrowsing.googleapis.com. (45)
3521 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 128, id 56121, offset 0, flags [none], proto UDP (17), length 89)
184.2.53 > 192.168.184.135:37769: [udp sum ok] 19841 q: A? safebrowsing.googleapis.com. 1/0/0 safebrowsing.googleapis.com. A 142.250.182.74 (61)
3522 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 128, id 56122, offset 0, flags [none], proto UDP (17), length 130)
184.2.53 > 192.168.184.135:25982: [udp sum ok] 10533 q: HTTPS? safebrowsing.googleapis.com. 0/1/0 ns: googleapis.com. SOA ns1.google.com. dns-admin.google.com. 806216748 900 900 1800 60 (182)
5018 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 64, id 38460, offset 0, flags [DF], proto TCP (6), length 60)
184.135.39914 > 142.250.182.74:443: Flags [S], cksum 0xb8a3 (incorrect -> 0x6639), seq 809606482, win 64240, options [mss 1460,sackOK,TS val 1416718518 ecr 0,nop,wscale 7], length 0
5409 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 128, id 56123, offset 0, flags [none], proto TCP (6), length 44)
182.74.443 > 192.168.184.135:39914: Flags [S.], cksum 0xcfd1 (correct), seq 1818703857, ack 809606483, win 64240, options [mss 1460], length 0
5478 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 64, id 38461, offset 0, flags [DF], proto TCP (6), length 40)
184.135.39914 > 142.250.182.74:443: Flags [.], cksum 0xbe8f (incorrect -> 0xe6da), seq 1, ack 1, win 64240, length 0
6054 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 64, id 38462, offset 0, flags [DF], proto TCP (6), length 1809)
184.135.39914 > 142.250.182.74:443: Flags [P.], cksum 0xc578 (incorrect -> 0xc8d1), seq 1:1770, ack 1, win 64240, length 1769
6716 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 128, id 56124, offset 0, flags [none], proto TCP (6), length 40)
182.74.443 > 192.168.184.135:39914: Flags [.], cksum 0xe126 (correct), seq 1, ack 1461, win 64240, length 0
6717 IP (tos 0x0, ttl 128, id 56125, offset 0, flags [none], proto TCP (6), length 40)
182.74.443 > 192.168.184.135:39914: Flags [.], cksum 0xdff1 (correct), seq 1, ack 1770, win 64240, length 0
captured
received by filter
dropped by kernel
ni@mrunalini:~$
```

Analysis:

- **UDP traffic:** Multicast traffic on the network.
- **TCP traffic:** Unicast communication with external servers.
- **ARP traffic:** Broadcast request and reply showing LAN discovery.

Practical Takeaways

1. **Wireshark** is excellent for **learning, visualizing, and documenting PoC** traffic.
2. **tcpdump** is excellent for **real-time CLI captures, automation, and remote network analysis**.
3. Both tools are complementary: you can **capture with tcpdump** and **analyze with Wireshark**, which is a common VAPT workflow.