
Task – 5 :

Network Traffic Capture and Analysis Using Wireshark

Objective

The objective of this lab is to capture live network traffic using Wireshark on Kali Linux, filter and identify various network protocols, and analyze the traffic to understand communication between network devices.

Tools and Environment

- **Wireshark** – GUI-based network protocol analyzer
 - **Kali Linux** – Security-focused Linux distribution
 - **Firefox** – Used to generate HTTP traffic
 - **Terminal (Bash)** – Used to generate ICMP traffic (ping)
-

Procedure

1. Install and Launch Wireshark

Wireshark was installed (if not already) and launched using the following command: `sudo wireshark`
Wireshark was granted permission to capture traffic on the active interface.

2. Identify and Select Network Interface

Used:

`ip a`

to identify the active interface (eth0 in this case). Selected this interface in Wireshark for live packet capture.

3. Start Packet Capture

Live capture was started by clicking the capture icon in Wireshark on the selected interface.

4. Generate Network Traffic Traffic was manually generated using:

- **Ping (ICMP):**

`ping google.com`

- **Web browsing (HTTP/DNS):**
 - o Visited https://example.com via Firefox to generate DNS and HTTP traffic.
-

5. Stop Capture

After ~60 seconds, packet capture was stopped.

6. Apply Protocol Filters

Applied filters to identify and analyze:

- DNS traffic: dns
 - HTTP traffic: http
 - ICMP traffic: icmp
 - TCP handshakes and sessions: tcp
-

Analysis and Findings

1. DNS (Domain Name System)

- **Port:** UDP 53
- **Observation:** DNS query for example.com and google.com.
- **Packet Example:**

less

Standard query 0x37d1 A google.com

Response: A record for google.com -> 142.250.190.78

2. HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol)

- **Port:** TCP 80
- **Observation:** HTTP GET request when accessing example.com.
- **Packet Example:**

makefile

GET / HTTP/1.1

Host: example.com

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Linux x86_64; rv:89.0)

3. ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol)

- **No Port** (network layer protocol)
- **Observation:** Echo requests and replies using the ping command.
- **Packet Example:**

Echo (ping) request id=0x01 seq=1

Echo (ping) reply id=0x01 seq=1

4. TCP (Transmission Control Protocol)

- **Observation:** TCP 3-way handshake observed prior to HTTP data exchange.
 - **Packet Sequence:** arduino
 1. SYN (Client -> Server)
 2. SYN-ACK (Server -> Client)
 3. ACK (Client -> Server)
-

Capture File

- File Name: network_traffic.pcap
 - Size: ~500 KB (varies based on traffic)
 - Protocols Included: DNS, HTTP, TCP, ICMP
-

Key Takeaways

- Wireshark effectively captures and dissects network communication.
 - DNS requests precede HTTP traffic as domain names are resolved.
 - HTTP GET requests clearly show human-readable URLs and headers.
 - ICMP packets are useful for diagnostic purposes (reachability and latency).
 - TCP ensures reliable communication through handshakes and ACKs.
-

Conclusion

This activity demonstrated how to:

- Use Wireshark to capture real-time network traffic
- Apply filters to isolate protocol-specific packets
- Interpret packet contents and understand network behavior

- Identify and analyze at least 3 core Internet protocols

References

- Wireshark Official Documentation: <https://www.wireshark.org/docs/>
- Protocol Port Numbers: IANA Service Name and Port Number Registry

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
12969	11.202386311	104.17.253.239	10.0.2.15	TCP	1094	88 → 59040 [PSH, ACK] Seq=5095201 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=1440
12970	11.202386312	219.216.128.25	10.0.2.15	TCP	8694	88 → 43800 [PSH, ACK] Seq=303392 Ack=144 Win=65535 Len=8640
12971	11.202386422	104.17.253.239	10.0.2.15	TCP	11574	88 → 59040 [PSH, ACK] Seq=5096641 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=11520
12972	11.202454084	10.0.2.15	219.216.128.25	TCP	54	43800 → 80 [ACK] Seq=144 Ack=312032 Win=65535 Len=0
12973	11.203728360	10.0.2.15	104.17.253.239	TCP	54	59040 → 80 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=5708101 Win=65535 Len=0
12974	11.205773884	104.17.253.239	10.0.2.15	HTTP	7254	Continuation
12975	11.205813180	10.0.2.15	104.17.253.239	TCP	54	39532 → 80 [ACK] Seq=5176 Ack=20469601 Win=65535 Len=0
12976	11.206973653	104.17.253.239	10.0.2.15	HTTP	14454	Continuation
12977	11.207590873	118.189.290.147	10.0.2.15	TCP	4374	88 → 37926 [PSH, ACK] Seq=4914721 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=4320
12978	11.208354956	10.0.2.15	118.189.290.147	TCP	54	37926 → 80 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=4919041 Win=65535 Len=0
12979	11.208840390	104.17.253.239	10.0.2.15	HTTP	18774	Continuation
12980	11.210204491	10.0.2.15	104.17.253.239	TCP	54	39532 → 80 [ACK] Seq=5176 Ack=20502721 Win=65535 Len=0
12981	11.216275149	104.17.253.239	10.0.2.15	TCP	8694	88 → 59040 [PSH, ACK] Seq=5708101 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=8640
12982	11.217981216	10.0.2.15	104.17.253.239	TCP	54	59040 → 80 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=5716801 Win=65535 Len=0
12983	11.218348507	219.216.128.25	10.0.2.15	TCP	5814	88 → 43800 [ACK] Seq=312032 Ack=144 Win=65535 Len=5760
12984	11.218388914	10.0.2.15	219.216.128.25	TCP	54	43800 → 80 [ACK] Seq=144 Ack=317792 Win=65535 Len=0
12985	11.219626512	219.216.128.25	10.0.2.15	TCP	4374	88 → 43800 [PSH, ACK] Seq=317792 Ack=144 Win=65535 Len=4320
12986	11.219627803	104.17.253.239	10.0.2.15	HTTP	2934	Continuation
12987	11.219656815	10.0.2.15	219.216.128.25	TCP	54	43800 → 80 [ACK] Seq=144 Ack=322112 Win=65535 Len=0
12988	11.220461083	219.216.128.25	10.0.2.15	TCP	11574	88 → 43800 [PSH, ACK] Seq=322112 Ack=144 Win=65535 Len=11520

Frame 1: 5814 bytes on wire (46512 bits), 5814 bytes captured (46512 bits) on interface eth0, id 0	0000 08 00 27 be ee 04 52 55 0a 00 82 02 08 00 45 08	RU
Ethernet II, Src: 52:55:0a:00:02:02 (52:55:0a:00:02:02), Dst: PCSSystemtec_be:ee:04 (08:00:27:be:ee:04)	0010 16 a8 82 21 00 00 40 06 70 17 68 11 fd ef 0a 00	..I.@.p.h...
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 104.17.253.239, Dst: 10.0.2.15	0020 02 0f 00 59 9a 5c 10 05 a9 11 ed e8 85 73 50 10	..P.L.....sP
Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 88, Dst Port: 39532, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 5760	0030 ff ff 80 aa 00 00 63 44 89 cd 8d bd ea b5 7b 27cD.....('
	0040 0d d5 61 65 fb 97 f0 00 b8 99 a3 68 06 7b f9 83	ae.....h('
	0050 d1 e3 00 67 4d 55 57 53 44 22 ed 08 e1 19 fe 98	MUMG D'.....
	0060 25 04 70 96 ba 7d 5e bf 28 02 24 89 20 a6 a9 19	%v.)A.(S+...
	0070 87 21 4d fa c8 73 11 96 7e 74 a3 b6 42 b7 93 db	IM.s...t.B...
	0080 b6 e3 89 80 a4 ef 33 19 99 7f aa fe e7 f1 c4 7f3.....
	0090 0f 15 7b 43 fd 12 c5 15 19 78 2a 14 55 ab 08 4a	{C.....x*U.J
	00a0 84 db 5d 90 e9 6a b4 e1 54 7a cb 02 df 5c 8e 89]..J..Tz..V...
	00b0 b1 49 35 e4 dc 4a 1d 9e ab ea 86 3a 59 a8 03 09	Iud J.....Y...
	00c0 e9 7b 01 4b c0 a7 a3 07 33 6b dc 48 c9 9f a8 00	(aK.....3k.H...
	00d0 45 42 a4 6e 2d aa cf 54 f9 d2 31 85 3c f0 10 6f	EB n...T...i.<.o
	00e0 ca ef 59 08 78 c9 fa 71 50 6d 0c f3 ef aa a7	Y.x...Vm.o...
	00f0 7b 2e 2d 45 6a bf f9 05 87 fe 26 c7 91 4d 71 73	(..E].....s.Mqs
	0100 61 01 93 a6 ea 27 39 0c 5a 07 c6 f7 51 76 d5 1f	a...9.Zg.Qv...
	0110 ac 1a fd f2 62 ec ed 04 08 cd 7e 70 4d e4 99 03	...b.....pM...
	0120 af 24 c4 9c 97 1f dd e0 74 fc 68 02 8c 58 ec f3	\$.....t.N.X...
	0130 b7 e7 42 1b 49 4c 9e e4 5d 2d 2c b5 52 2c bc 99	B.LL...].R...
	0140 a9 a8 07 07 d4 a8 f1 fa fa 77 54 52 c6 a7 3d 43	...g....wTR...C