Practical 7: Understand basic networking concept using Wireshark.

Software & Hardwere Requirements:

Wireshark

Knowledge requirements: basic knowledge of wireshark softwere...

Question:

Q-1. What are the features in Wireshark?

Answer:

The following are some of the many features Wireshark provides:

- Available for UNIX and Windows.
- Capture live packet data from a network interface.
- ➤ Open files containing packet data captured with tcpdump/WinDump, Wireshark, and many other packet capture programs.
- > Import packets from text files containing hex dumps of packet data.
- Display packets with very detailed protocol information.
- Save packet data captured.
- Export some or all packets in a number of capture file formats.
- > Filter packets on many criteria.
- > Search for packets on many criteria.
- > Colorize packet display based on filters.
- > Create various statistics.

Theory:

Wireshark is a free application that allows you to capture and view the data traveling back and forth on your network, providing the ability to drill down and read the contents of each packet – filtered to meet your specific needs. It is commonly utilized to troubleshoot network problems as well as to develop and test software. This open-source protocol analyzer is widely accepted as the industry standard, winning its fair share of awards over the years.

Originally known as Ethereal, Wireshark features a user-friendly interface that can display data from hundreds of different protocols on all major network types. These data packets can be viewed in real-time or analyzed offline, with dozens of capture/trace file formats supported including CAP and ERF. Integrated decryption tools allow you to view encrypted packets for several popular protocols such as WEP and WPA/WPA2.

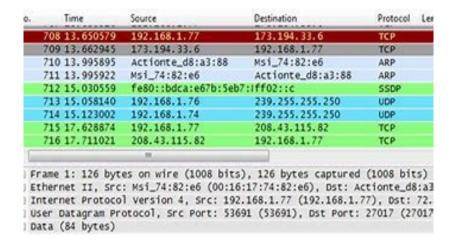
To begin capturing packets, first select one or more of these networks by clicking on your choice(s) and using the Shift or Ctrl keys if you'd like to record data from multiple networks simultaneously. Once a connection type is selected for capturing purposes, its background will be shaded in either blue or gray. Click on Capture from the main menu, located towards the top of the Wireshark interface. When the drop-down menu appears, select the Start option.

You can also initiate packet capturing via one of the following shortcuts.

Keyboard: Press Ctrl + E

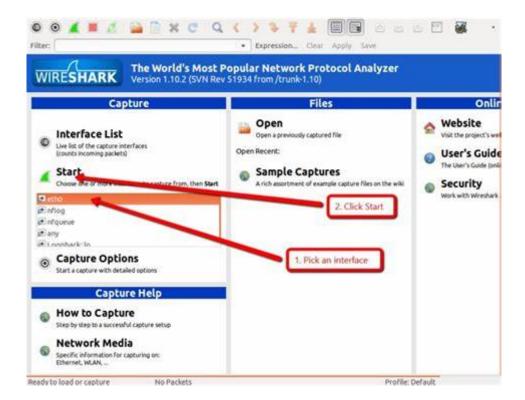
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Mouse: To begin capturing packets from one particular network, simply double-click on its name Toolbar: Click on the blue shark fin button, located on the far left-hand side of the Wireshark toolbar



The live capture process will now begin, with packet details displayed in the Wireshark window as they are recorded. Perform one of the actions below to stop capturing.

- 1) Keyboard: Press Ctrl + E
- 2) Toolbar: Click on the red stop button, located next to the shark fin on the Wireshark toolbar

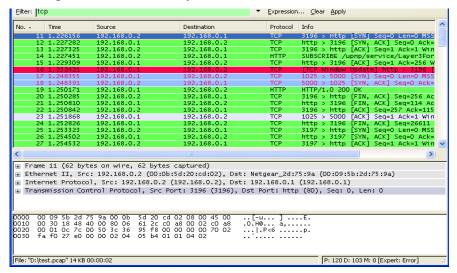


Color Coding:

You'll probably see packets highlighted in a variety of different colors. Wireshark uses colors to help you identify the types of traffic at a glance. By default, light purple is TCP traffic, light blue is UDP traffic, and black identifies packets with errors—for example, they could have been delivered out of order.

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To view exactly what the color codes mean, click View > Coloring Rules. You can also customize and modify the coloring rules from here, if you like.

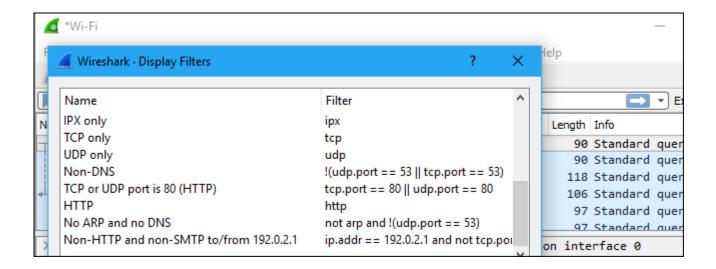


Filtering Packets:

If you're trying to inspect something specific, such as the traffic a program sends when phoning home, it helps to close down all other applications using the network so you can narrow down the traffic. Still, you'll likely have a large number of packets to sift through. That's where Wireshark's filters come in.

The most basic way to apply a filter is by typing it into the filter box at the top of the window and clicking Apply (or pressing Enter). For example, type "dns" and you'll see only DNS packets. When you start typing, Wireshark will help you autocomplete your filter.

You can also click Analyze > Display Filters to choose a filter from among the default filters included in Wireshark. From here, you can add your own custom filters and save them to easily access them in the future.



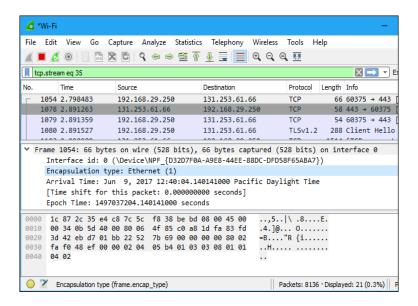
Another interesting thing you can do is right-click a packet and select Follow > TCP Stream.

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You'll see the full TCP conversation between the client and the server. You can also click other protocols in the Follow menu to see the full conversations for other protocols, if applicable.

Inspecting Packets:

Click a packet to select it and you can dig down to view its details.



CONCLUSION:

We study and Understand basic networking concept using Wireshark. And we perform this practical practically also...