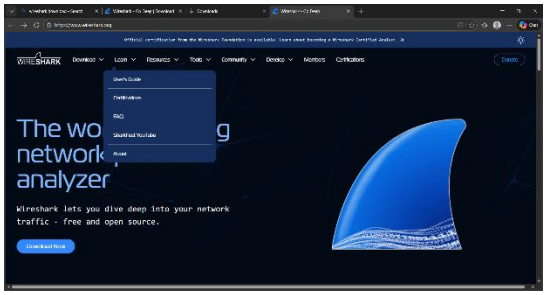
Task -03

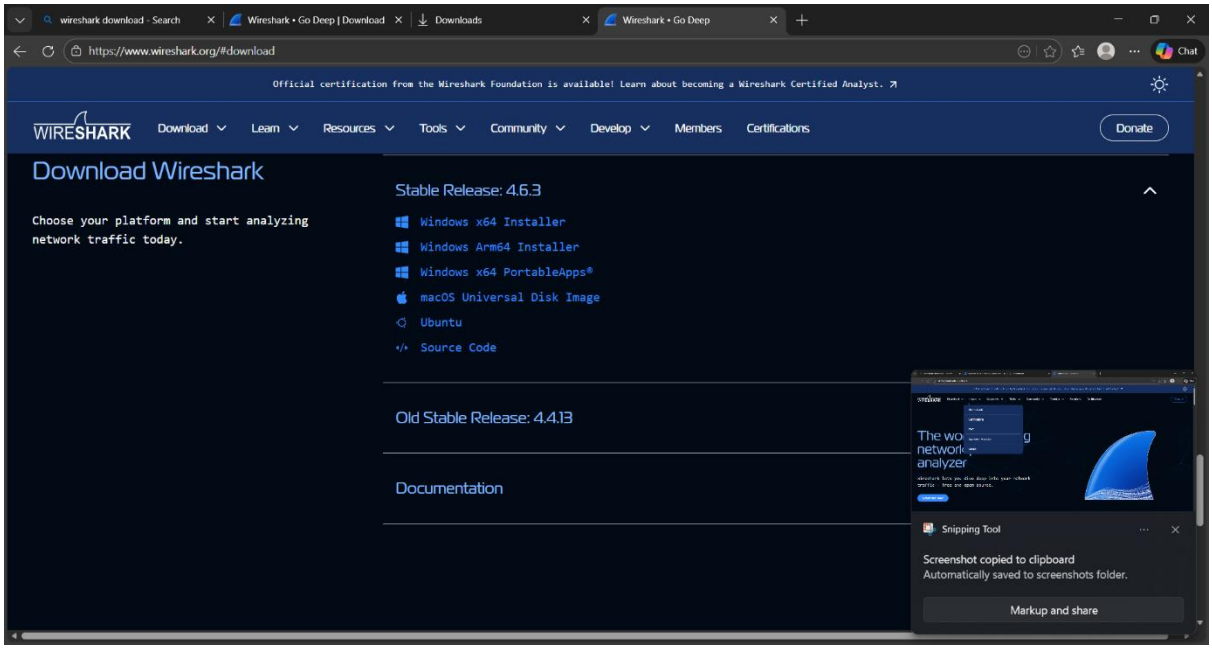
Networking Basics for Cyber Security

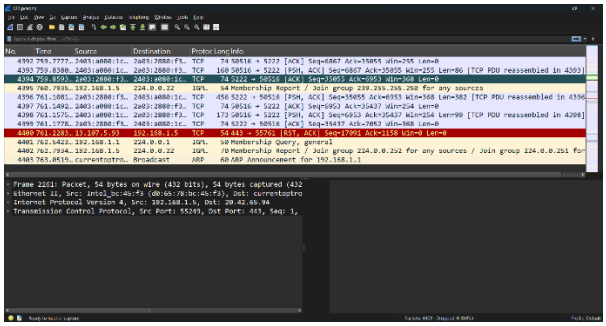
1. Learn basic networking concepts (IP, MAC, DNS, TCP/UDP).

- **IP Address** – Identifies a device on a network
- **MAC Address** – Physical address of network device
- **DNS** – Converts domain names into IP addresses
- **TCP** – Reliable, connection-based protocol
- **UDP** – Fast, connectionless protocol

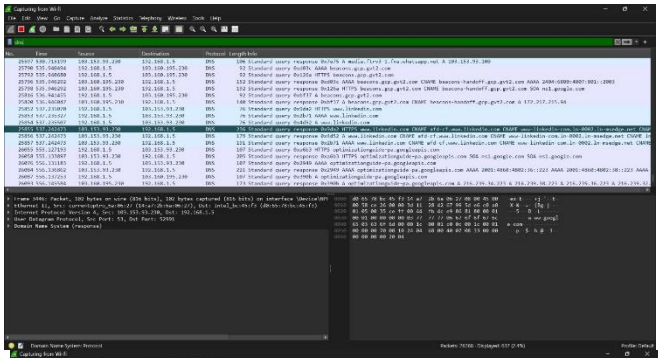
2. Install Wireshark and capture live network traffic







3. Filter packets by protocol (HTTP, DNS, TCP).



*DNS

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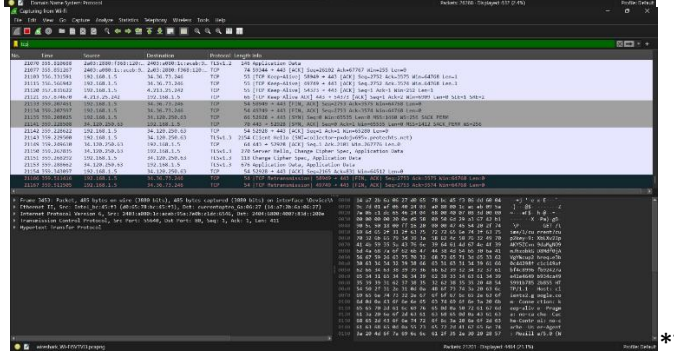
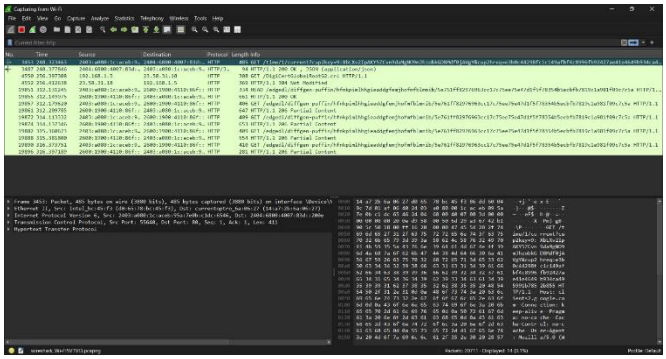
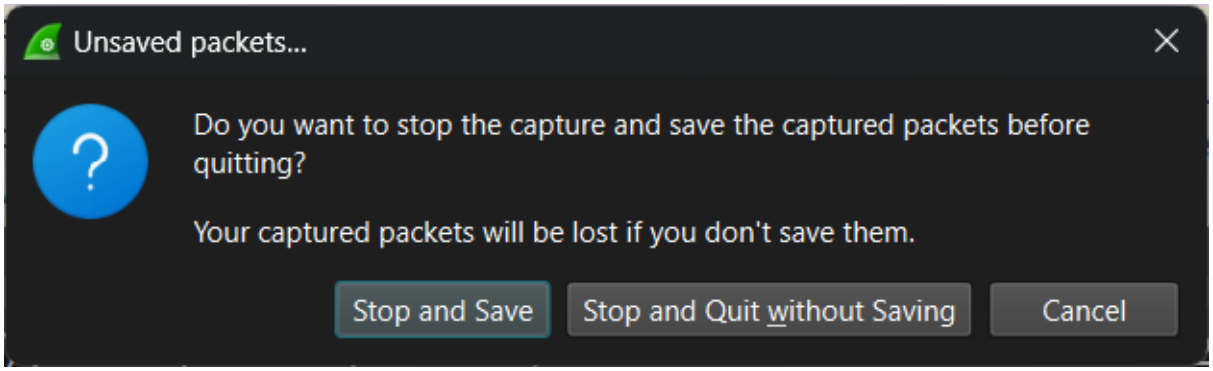


*TCP



*HTTP



4. Observe three-way TCP handshake.

TCP 3-WAY HANDSHAKE

The TCP 3-Way Handshake is a three-step process (SYN, SYN-ACK, ACK) used by the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) to reliably establish a connection between a client and server, ensuring both are ready to communicate and agree on initial sequence numbers before data transfer begins, forming a full-duplex connection for secure and synchronized data exchange.

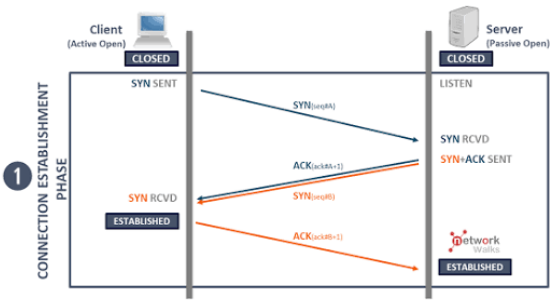
The Three Steps:

1. **SYN**

(Synchronize):

- The client sends a TCP segment with the **SYN flag** set to 1, indicating a request to start a connection.
- It includes an initial sequence number (ISN) to track data flow.

2. **SYN-ACK (Synchronize-Acknowledge):**
    - The server receives the SYN, sets both the **SYN and ACK flags**, and sends it back.
    - The ACK number confirms receipt of the client's SYN (incremented by 1), and the server sends its own ISN.
3. **ACK (Acknowledge):**
    - The client receives the SYN-ACK and sends a final segment with the **ACK flag** set.
    - This acknowledges the server's ISN, completing the handshake.



5. Identify plain-text traffic vs encrypted traffic

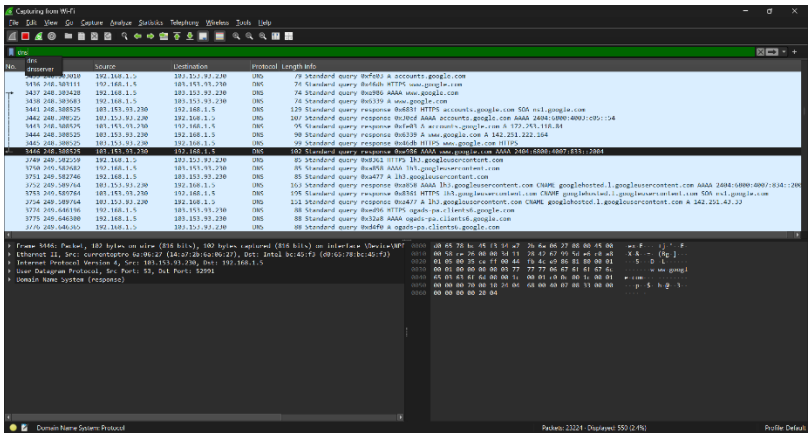
Plain-text traffic

- **Definition**: Original, readable data (cleartext) that hasn't been altered or hidden.
- **Appearance**: You can see the actual content (e.g., HTTP requests/responses, emails, clear FTP) in network traffic analysis tools.
- **Examples**: Basic HTTP, Telnet, unencrypted email (SMTP/POP3 without TLS).
- **Identification**: Direct inspection of packet payloads.

Encrypted Traffic

- **Definition**: Plaintext data transformed into ciphertext (scrambled data) by encryption algorithms.
- **Appearance**: Appears as random-looking binary data (ciphertext) in packet captures, making content inspection impossible.
- **Examples**: HTTPS (web), FTPS, SSH, VPNs, encrypted DNS (DoH).
- **Identification (Metadata & Behavior)**:
  - **Protocols**: Look for TLS/SSL handshake packets (e.g., ServerHello, ClientHello).
  - **Metadata**: Source/destination IPs, ports (443 for HTTPS), flow duration, packet sizes, inter-arrival times.
  - **Statistical Analysis**: High entropy (randomness) in payloads, indicating encryption.
  - **Patterns**: Specific patterns in handshake data or flow sequences can reveal application types (e.g., browser, malware).

6.Capture DNS queries and analyze them.



7.Save packet captures for analysis.

NETWORK ANALYZER.pcapng

8.Write observations in simple language.

1. The client sent a **SYN** packet to initiate the connection.
2. The server responded with a **SYN-ACK** packet to acknowledge the request.
3. The client replied with an **ACK** packet, completing the handshake.
   This establishes a reliable TCP connection between client and server.