

EXP NO: 14

Capture, save, and analyse traffic (TCP/UDP/IP/HTTP/ARP/DHCP/ICMP/DNS) using Wireshark

Aim

Capture live network traffic, apply protocol-specific filters, save PCAPs, and analyze sessions (HTTP requests, DNS queries, DHCP leases, ICMP pings) to investigate events and network behavior.

Procedure / Algorithm

1. Start capture on the correct interface in Wireshark (select physical or virtual interface).
2. Use **capture filter** (optional) to limit volume (e.g., `port 53` or `host 10.10.10.5`).
3. Use **display filters** for focused analysis:
 - o `http` — HTTP traffic
 - o `dns` — DNS queries/responses
 - o `bootp || dhcp` — DHCP messages
 - o `arp` — ARP traffic
 - o `icmp` — ICMP messages
 - o `tcp.port==80` — traffic on port 80
4. Use **Follow** → **TCP Stream** to view a full session (HTTP request/response).
5. Use **Statistics** → **Protocol Hierarchy** / **Conversations** / **Endpoints** to summarize traffic.
6. Export objects: File → Export Objects → HTTP to recover downloaded files.
7. Save capture: File → Save As → `analysis_capture.pcap`.

Sample steps & expected findings

- Follow TCP Stream of an HTTP GET to see the full request and response (useful to detect exfiltration or malicious downloads).
- In Statistics → Conversations, identify top talkers (most bytes sent) — these may be exfiltration suspects.
- Use Export Objects → HTTP to extract files for malware inspection.

Results

Wireshark provides the definitive packet-level view; pair with `pcapxray` for visual summaries.

- When sharing captures, sanitize sensitive IPs or use redact tools.
- Large captures: use `editcap` to trim or split files before analysis.