

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.