# COMPUTER NETWORKS

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COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING ID - 2022UCP1700 SECTION- A4

## ASSIGNMENT - 9

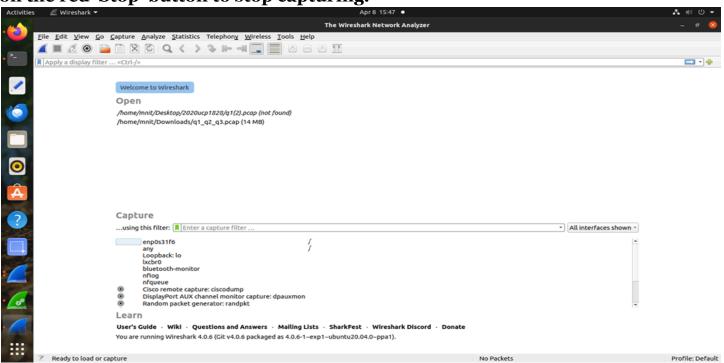
#### Task 1: Installing Wireshark

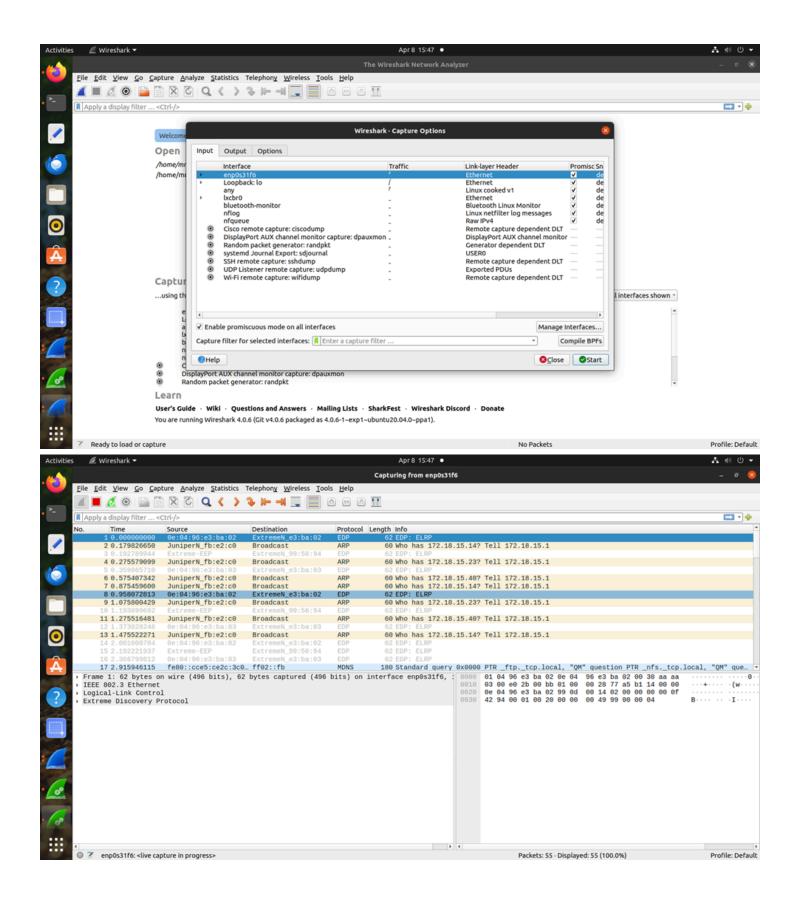
- Download Wireshark from the provided link.
- Follow the installation instructions for your operating system.
- Ensure Wireshark is installed correctly by launching the application.

I downloaded Wireshark from the provided link and successfully installed it.

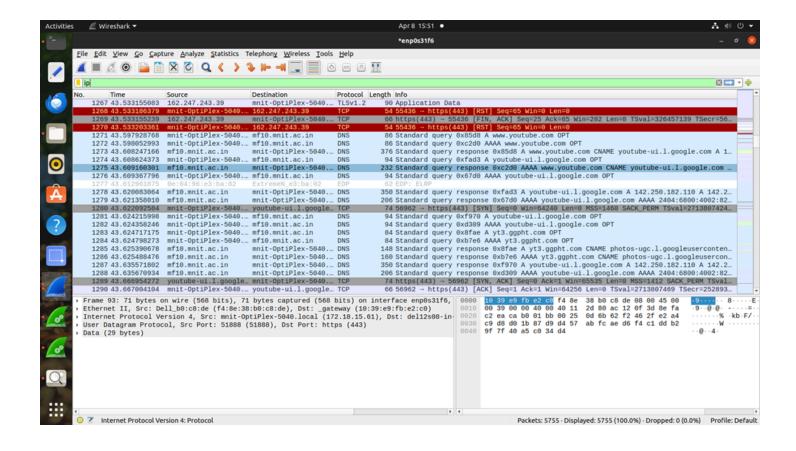
#### Task 2: Capturing Network Traffic

- Launch Wireshark.
- Select the network interface through which you want to capture traffic (e.g., Wi-Fi, Ethernet).
- Click on the green 'Start' button to begin capturing traffic.
- Perform various activities such as visiting websites, sending/receiving emails, or using applications that require network connectivity.
- After capturing traffic for a sufficient amount of time (at least 1 minute), click on the red 'Stop' button to stop capturing.



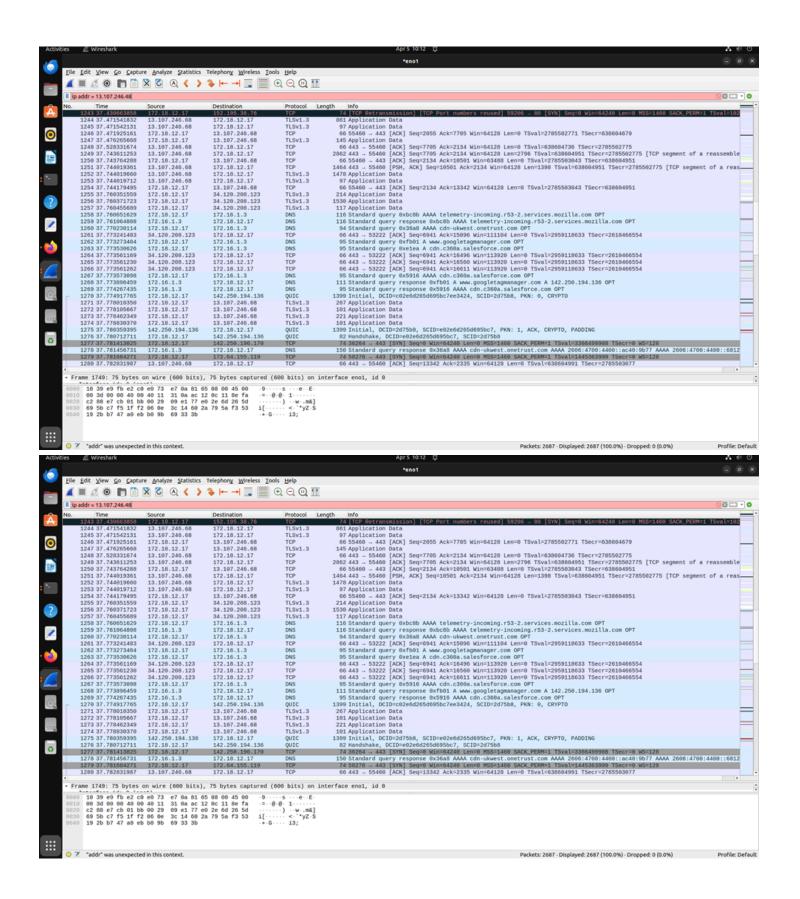


Then i visit youtube, and capture traffic for approx 1 minute



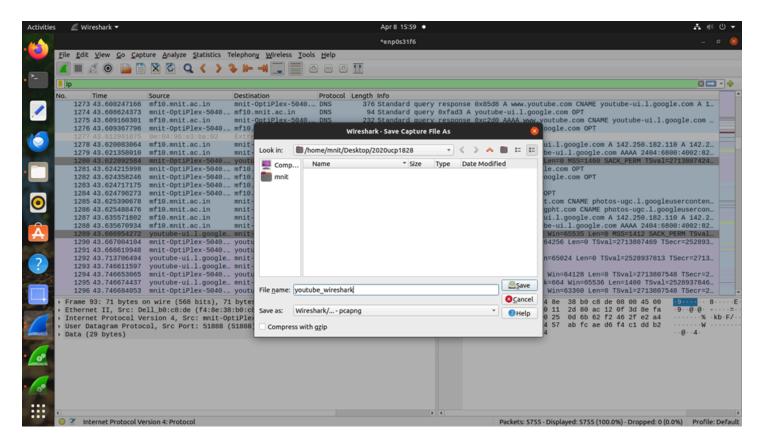
#### Task 3: Analysing Captured Traffic

- Explore the captured packets in Wireshark.
- Identify different protocols used in the captured traffic (e.g., HTTP, TCP, UDP).
- Filter the captured packets based on specific protocols or criteria (e.g., HTTP traffic only, packets from a specific IP address).
- Analyse the contents of selected packets to understand the communication between devices.
- Take note of any suspicious or interesting findings during the analysis.



#### Task 4: Exporting Captured Data

- Export captured packets to a file for further analysis or sharing.
- Choose an appropriate file format for export (e.g., .pcap, .csv).
- Save the exported file to a location of your choice.



Task 5: Documentation and Reflection

- Document your observations and findings during the packet capture and analysis process.
- Reflect on the importance of network protocol analysis and the potential real-world applications of Wireshark.
- Discuss any challenges encountered during the assignment and how you overcame them.

Documentation and Reflection:

During the packet capture and analysis process using Wireshark, several observations and findings were made:

**Protocol Identification:** Various protocols were identified in the captured traffic, including HTTP, TCP, UDP, DNS, and ARP. HTTP traffic was prominent due to web browsing activities.TCP and UDP were commonly used for data transmission between applications. DNS requests were frequent as devices resolved domain names to IP addresses for communication. ARP packets were observed for resolving MAC addresses within the local network.

**Filtering:** Filtering based on specific protocols or criteria was easily achieved using Wireshark's filtering capabilities. Filtering for HTTP traffic allowed for a focused analysis on web browsing activities. Filtering packets from a specific IP address helped isolate communication between specific devices.

**Packet Analysis:** The contents of selected packets were analyzed to understand the communication between devices. HTTP requests and responses provided insights into web page retrieval and data exchange. TCP conversations revealed the establishment and termination of connections between devices. DNS queries and responses showed the translation of domain names to IP addresses.

**Suspicious Findings:** Anomalies such as unexpected DNS queries or unusual patterns in TCP traffic could indicate potential security threats. Identifying abnormal traffic patterns could be crucial for detecting network intrusions or malicious activities.

Reflection on the Importance of Network Protocol Analysis and Wireshark:

Network protocol analysis plays a vital role in understanding and troubleshooting network communications. By utilizing tools like Wireshark, network administrators can:

Detect and diagnose network performance issues such as latency or packet loss.

Identify security threats such as malware infections, unauthorized access attempts, or data exfiltration.

Monitor network usage and bandwidth consumption to optimize resource allocation.

Ensure compliance with network policies and regulations by monitoring for unauthorized activities.

Investigate incidents or breaches by analyzing network traffic for evidence.

Wireshark, with its user-friendly interface and powerful features, empowers users to capture, analyze, and interpret network traffic effectively. Its real-time packet capture capabilities make it indispensable for both proactive network monitoring and reactive incident response.

Challenges Encountered and Overcoming Them:

One challenge encountered during the assignment was interpreting the contents of certain packets, especially when dealing with encrypted traffic. In such cases, it was challenging to extract meaningful information from encrypted payloads. However, by focusing on other aspects such as packet headers, source-destination addresses, and timing patterns, it was still possible to gain insights into the communication flow.

Another challenge was ensuring proper filtering to narrow down the scope of analysis without excluding relevant packets. Experimentation with different filter expressions and refining them based on observed traffic helped overcome this challenge.

Overall, the hands-on experience with Wireshark provided valuable insights into network protocol analysis and reinforced the importance of proactive monitoring and analysis for maintaining network security and performance.

