

TASK 5: Capture and Analyze Network Traffic Using Wireshark

Objective: Capture and Analyze Network Traffic Using Wireshark.

Tools: Wireshark.

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About Wireshark

- Wireshark is a free, open-source packet analyzer used for network troubleshooting, analysis, and communication protocol development.
- It is a Network Protocol Analyzer (also called as packet sniffer).
- **Key Uses of Wireshark:**
 - ★ Network Troubleshooting Helps identify network issues like slow speed, connection drops, or timeouts by viewing real packet traffic.
 - ★ Protocol Analysis Allows you to study how protocols like TCP, UDP, HTTP, DNS, and ICMP work and communicate.
 - ★ Security Analysis Detects suspicious or malicious network activity (e.g., unauthorized connections or abnormal packets).
 - ★ Packet Inspection Shows detailed information about each packet — source/destination IP, port numbers, payload, flags, etc.
 - ★ Learning & Research Used by students and professionals to understand network communication and protocol structures.
 - ★ Network Performance Monitoring Checks latency, packet loss, or retransmissions in a network.
 - ★ Verification of Configurations Confirms whether firewalls, routing rules, or network setups are functioning correctly.
- In this task, we capture live network traffic on an active network interface and analyze different network protocols such as TCP, UDP, DNS, and HTTP.

Screenshots:

The screenshot shows a Wireshark packet capture of a DNS query. The packet list on the left shows a standard query response from 172.16.6.161 to 172.16.6.161. The packet details pane on the left shows the structure of the DNS response, including the transaction ID, flags, questions, and the answer section. The answer section shows the record for www.facebook.com, type A, class IN, with an IP address of 157.140.1.1.

Frame 221232: 76 bytes on wire (608 bits), 76 bytes captured (608 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{D0587895-7071-4378-BD00-B0F13C6E1559} Ethernet II, Src: MicroStarINT_46:39:F9 (D8:43:AE:46:39:F9), Dst: Sophos_09:91:19 (C8:4F:86:09:91:19) Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 172.16.6.161, Dst: 172.16.6.1 User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 62055, Dst Port: 53 Domain Name System (query) Transaction ID: 0xc9af0 Flags: 0x0100 Standard query Questions: 1 Answer RRs: 0 Authority RRs: 0 Additional RRs: 0 Queries www.facebook.com: type A, class IN Name: www.facebook.com [Name length: 16] [Label Count: 3] Type: A (1) (Host Address) Class: IN (0x0001) [Response ID: 221243]

The screenshot shows a Wireshark packet capture of a TCP segment. The packet list on the left shows a TCP segment from 172.16.6.161 to 172.16.6.161. The packet details pane on the left shows the structure of the TCP segment, including the source and destination ports, sequence number, and flags. The packet bytes pane on the right shows the raw data of the TCP segment.

Frame 2974: 2974 bytes on wire (23792 bits), 2974 bytes captured (23792 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{D0587895-7071-4378-BD00-B0F13C6E1559} Ethernet II, Src: MicroStarINT_46:39:F9 (D8:43:AE:46:39:F9), Dst: Sophos_09:91:19 (C8:4F:86:09:91:19) Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 172.16.6.161, Dst: 172.16.6.161 Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 58218, Dst Port: 443, Seq: 15758095, Ack: 7661, Len: 2908

