

# Sniffing the wire

Data analysis of packet captures

**Packet capture** is the interception or **capture** of data **packets** moving through a computer network. After being captured, **packets** are then analyzed to help diagnose and solve network and application performance and reliability problems.

# Popular Tools

## **Tcpdump**

Unix-based command-line tool used to intercept packets

## **Wireshark**

GUI for displaying tcpdump/tshark packet traces

## **Tshark**

Tcpdump-like capture program that comes w/ Wireshark  
Very similar behavior & flags to tcpdump

More available at <http://sectools.org/tag/sniffers/>



WeKnowMemes

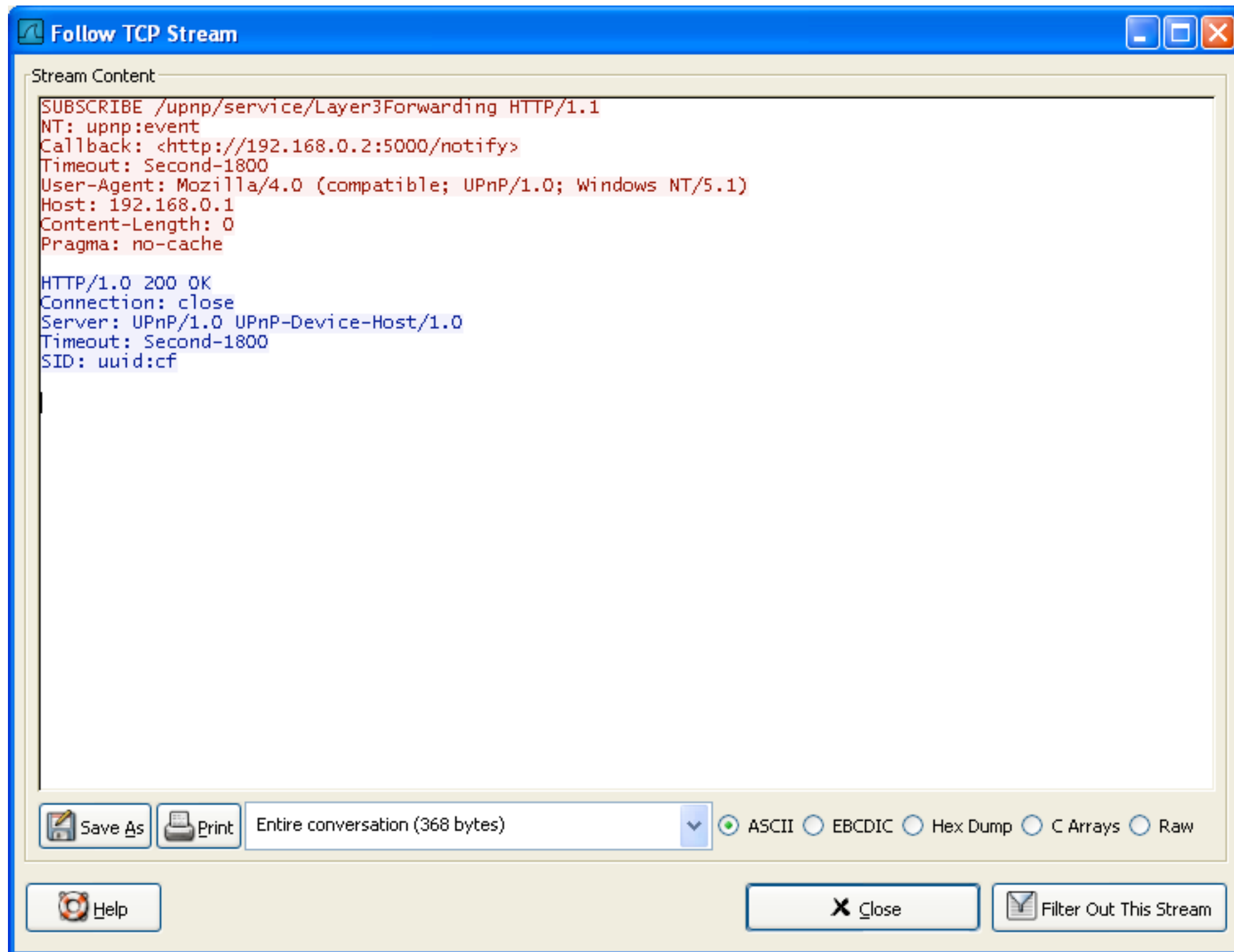
Wireshark



No. ↓	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Info
366	11.767290	192.168.0.31	192.168.0.28	SNMP	get-response SNMPv2-SMI::enterprises.11.2.3.9.4.2.1.4.1.5.7.1
367	11.768865	192.168.0.28	192.168.0.31	SNMP	get-request SNMPv2-SMI::enterprises.11.2.3.9.4.2.1.4.1.5.8.1
369	11.775952	192.168.0.31	192.168.0.28	SNMP	get-response SNMPv2-SMI::enterprises.11.2.3.9.4.2.1.4.1.5.8.1
381	12.286091	192.168.0.28	192.168.0.1	DNS	Standard query A www.cnn.com
384	12.311862	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.28	DNS	Standard query response A 64.236.91.21 A 64.236.91.23 A 64.23
385	12.312727	192.168.0.28	64.236.91.21	TCP	56606 > http [SYN] Seq=0 win=8192 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=2
386	12.361495	64.236.91.21	192.168.0.28	TCP	http > 56606 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 win=8192 Len=0 MSS=1460
387	12.361583	192.168.0.28	64.236.91.21	TCP	56606 > http [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 win=17520 Len=0
388	12.361805	192.168.0.28	64.236.91.21	HTTP	GET / HTTP/1.1
389	12.413166	64.236.91.21	192.168.0.28	TCP	http > 56606 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=845 win=6960 Len=0
390	12.413611	64.236.91.21	192.168.0.28	TCP	[TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
391	12.414386	64.236.91.21	192.168.0.28	TCP	[TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]

```
[Request In: 381]
[Time: 0.025771000 seconds]
Transaction ID: 0xc1f
Flags: 0x8180 (Standard query response, No error)
Questions: 1
Answer RRs: 6
Authority RRs: 0
Additional RRs: 0
Queries
  www.cnn.com: type A, class IN
    Name: www.cnn.com
    Type: A (Host address)
    Class: IN (0x0001)
Answers
  www.cnn.com: type A, class IN, addr 64.236.91.21
  www.cnn.com: type A, class IN, addr 64.236.91.22
```

0000	00	1c	26	26	66	a2	00	0e	8e	04	d0	9e	08	00	45	00	..&&f... ..E.
0010	00	99	00	00	40	00	40	11	b8	e6	c0	a8	00	01	c0	a8	....@.@. ....
0020	00	1c	00	35	f5	98	00	85	98	5a	cf	1f	81	80	00	01	....5.... .Z.....
0030	00	06	00	00	00	00	03	77	77	77	03	63	6e	6e	03	63	.....w ww.cnn.c
0040	6f	6d	00	00	01	00	01	c0	0c	00	01	00	01	00	00	00	om.....
0050	b7	00	04	40	ec	5b	15	c0	0c	00	01	00	01	00	00	00	...@. [.. ....
0060	b7	00	04	40	ec	5b	17	c0	0c	00	01	00	01	00	00	00	...@. [.. ....
0070	b7	00	04	40	ec	10	14	c0	0c	00	01	00	01	00	00	00	...@. ....



Follow the stream to see content in packet

# Wireshark Demo





tshark



# tshark -h

Usage: tshark [options] ...

Capture interface:

-i <interface>	name or idx of interface (def: first non-loopback)
-f <capture filter>	packet filter in libpcap filter syntax
-s <snaplen>	packet snapshot length (def: 65535)
-I	capture in monitor mode, if available

Input file:

-r <infile>	set the filename to read from (- to read from stdin)
-------------	--

Output:

-T pdml ps psml text fields	format of text output (def: text)
-e <field>	field to print if -lfields selected (e.g. tcp.port, _ws.col.Info) this option can be repeated to print multiple fields
aggregator=, /s <char>	select comma, space, printable character as aggregator
quote=d s n	select double, single, no quotes for values
-t a ad d dd e r u ud	output format of time stamps (def: r: rel. to first)
-u s hms	output format of seconds (def: s: seconds)
-l	flush standard output after each packet
-q	be more quiet on stdout (e.g. when using statistics)
-z <statistics>	various statistics, see the man page for details

```
tshark -r <your.pcap>  
-T fields -e tcp.stream
```

```
>>> send(IP(dst="216.146.35.35", src="173.255.232.242")/UDP(sport=RandShort(), dport=53)/DNS(rd=1, qd=DNSQR(qname="e
bay.com", qtype="ALL")))
.
Sent 1 packets.
>>> 
```

2. root@x:/home/justin (ssh)

```
[root@x justin]# tshark -i eth0 -f "udp" -x
Running as user "root" and group "root". This could be dangerous.
Capturing on eth0
 0.000000 216.146.35.35 -> 173.255.232.242 DNS Standard query response SOA sjc-dns1.ebaydns.com A 66.135.205.14 A
66.211.160.88 A 66.211.160.87 A 66.135.205.13 NS sjc-dns1.ebaydns.com NS smf-dns2.ebaydns.com NS smf-dns1.ebaydns.c
om NS sjc-dns2.ebaydns.com

0000  f2 3c 91 df 93 d8 84 78 ac 57 a8 41 08 00 45 00  .<.....x.W.A..E.
0010  01 09 0e 21 00 00 34 11 e5 1b d8 92 23 23 ad ff  ....!...4.....##..
0020  e8 f2 00 35 3c 48 00 f5 55 08 00 00 83 80 00 01  ...5<H..U.....
0030  00 09 00 00 00 00 04 65 62 61 79 03 63 6f 6d 00  ....eBay.com.
0040  00 ff 00 01 c0 0c 00 06 00 01 00 00 0e 10 00 34  .....4
0050  08 73 6a 63 2d 64 6e 73 31 07 65 62 61 79 64 6e  .sjc-dns1.ebaydn
0060  73 c0 11 0a 68 6f 73 74 6d 61 73 74 65 72 c0 0c  s...hostmaster..
0070  77 fc 71 60 00 00 0e 10 00 00 07 08 00 09 3a 80  w.q`.....:.
0080  00 01 51 80 c0 0c 00 01 00 01 00 00 0e 10 00 04  ..Q.....
0090  42 87 cd 0e c0 0c 00 01 00 01 00 00 0e 10 00 04  B.....
00a0  42 d3 a0 58 c0 0c 00 01 00 01 00 00 0e 10 00 04  B..X.....
00b0  42 d3 a0 57 c0 0c 00 01 00 01 00 00 0e 10 00 04  B..W.....
00c0  42 87 cd 0d c0 0c 00 02 00 01 00 02 a3 00 00 02  B.....
00d0  c0 26 c0 0c 00 02 00 01 00 02 a3 00 00 0b 08 73  .&.....s
00e0  6d 66 2d 64 6e 73 32 c0 2f c0 0c 00 02 00 01 00  mf-dns2./.....
00f0  02 a3 00 00 0b 08 73 6d 66 2d 64 6e 73 31 c0 2f  .....smf-dns1./
0100  c0 0c 00 02 00 01 00 02 a3 00 00 0b 08 73 6a 63  .....sjc
0110  2d 64 6e 73 32 c0 2f  -dns2./
```

How do we bring this response back to python?



import ???

```
import subprocess
```

# subprocess module

- The subprocess module allows you to spawn new processes, connect to their input/output/error pipes, and obtain their return codes. This module intends to replace several older modules and functions

source: <https://docs.python.org/2/library/subprocess.html>



# subprocess.Popen

- `Popen(['/bin/sh', '-c', args[0], args[1], ...])`

# tshark and subprocess

- `pcap = 'your_file.pcap'`
- `collect_streams = subprocess.Popen(["tshark", "-r", pcap, "-T", "fields", "-e", "tcp.stream"], stdout=subprocess.PIPE)`
- `streams = collect_streams.stdout.read().splitlines()`

# print(streams)

```
b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1', b'1',  
b'1', b'2', b'2', b'2', b'2', b'2', b'2', b'2', b'2', b'2', b'2', b'2', b'2',  
b'2', b'2', b'3', b'3', b'3', b'3', b'4', b'3', b'4', b'4', b'4', b'4', b'5',  
b'3', b'3', b'5', b'5', b'5', b'5', b'6', b'6', b'6', b'6', b'7', b'6', b'7',  
b'7', b'7', b'7', b'3', b'3', b'8', b'8', b'8', b'8', b'8', b'3', b'3', b'3',  
b'9', b'9', b'9', b'9', b'9', b'3', b'3', b'4', b'4', b'4', b'4', b'4', b'4',  
    b'4', b'10', b'10', b'10', b'10', b'10', b'4', b'4', b'5', b'5', b'5',  
    b'11', b'11', b'11', b'11', b'11', b'5', b'5', b'6', b'6', b'6', b'6',  
        b'6', b'7', b'7', b'7', b'7', b'8'...
```



## **Consolidate all streams (we only want unique)**

```
unique_streams = sorted(set([str(s, 'UTF8') for s in streams if len(s) > 0]))
```

## **Retrieve Stream Content**

```
stream_follower = subprocess.Popen(["tshark", "-r", pcap, "-qz",  
    "follow,tcp,ascii,+stream"], stdout=subprocess.PIPE)
```

Generates a text file with stream number and content

```
content = stream_follower.stdout.read()
```

## **Consolidate all streams (we only want unique)**

```
unique_streams = sorted(set([str(s, 'UTF8') for s in streams if len(s) > 0]))
```

# Streams Demo

Questions?

# Exercise

Open up the sharkDissector skeleton to get started