



Network Traffic Analysis using Wireshark

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Abstract: Network Traffic Analysis (NTA) refers to the process of examining network traffic to identify patterns, anomalies, and potential security threats. It is a critical aspect of network security and plays a vital role in detecting and preventing cyber-attacks. It involves collecting and analyzing data from various sources, such as network devices, logs, and endpoints, to gain insights into network behavior. It is a primary trace back in network forensics, Packet analysis or we can say Protocol Analysis which describes the process of capturing and interpreting live data as it flows across a network in order to better understand what is happening on the network. This process enables network administrators to identify potential security breaches, data leakage, and other security issues that may jeopardize the confidentiality and integrity of their network. It helps administrators detect suspicious patterns and behaviors, enabling them to respond quickly to potential threats. In summary, NTA is a crucial aspect of network security that aids in detecting, mitigating, and preventing cyber-attacks.

Keywords: Packet sniffing, Protocol analysis, Security breaches, Anomaly detection, Cybersecurity

I. INTRODUCTION

In Modern times, Network and the Internet are the backbone of business in terms of sending and receiving, as it saves time and efforts plus cost. Analysis of the network traffic is one of the most important tools used in network performance analysis and detection of problems such as slow network detect the spammer cause problems in network. It has become an integral part of organizational operations. With increasing reliance on the internet, cloud services and digital communications tools, networks have become a target for cyber threats. Cyber threats such as hacking, phishing, ransomware and other types of attacks pose significant risks to organization's security, privacy and financial stability.

It has three key components: collection, analysis, and correlation. Collection involves gathering data from various sources, such as network devices, logs, and endpoints. This data may include network packets, flow data, log files, and other types of data. Analysis involves examining the collected data to detect patterns and anomalies. This analysis may involve statistical methods, machine learning, and other techniques. Correlation involves linking different data sets to uncover relationships and connections between them. There are different types of techniques for Network Analysis:

1. Packet Capture: It involves capturing network packets and analyzing them to detect potential security threats. Packet capture tools such as Wireshark and tcpdump are commonly used for this purpose.
2. Flow Data Analysis: It involves analyzing NetFlow or sFlow data to detect patterns and anomalies in network traffic.
3. Behavioral Analysis: It involves analyzing network traffic patterns to identify anomalies that may indicate or induce a security threat. Statistical methods and machine learning approaches are used in this.
4. Signature-based Analysis: It involves comparing network network traffic against a database of known signatures of malicious activity.

II. OVERVIEW

Here we are going to take The Packet Capturing approach. We will use Wireshark as a packet sniffer because Wireshark is a widely used open-source network protocol analyzer and packet capture tool. It allows network administrators, security professionals, and developers to analyze and troubleshoot network traffic in real-time. Wireshark provides a comprehensive set of features and capabilities that make it a powerful tool for network analysis. We will try to obtain IP addresses and their respective location from the provided Captured input using Scapy and then visualise it in a table. Before going further let's understand what is Packet capturing.

III. PACKET CAPTURING

It is intercepting a data packet that is crossing a specific point in a data network. Once a packet is captured in real-time, it is stored for a period of time so that it can be analyzed, and then either be downloaded, archived or discarded. Packets are captured and examined to help diagnose and solve network problems such as:



- Identifying security threats
- Troubleshooting undesirable network behaviors
- Identifying network congestion
- Identifying data/packet loss
- Forensic network analysis

Packet sniffers can gather almost any type of data. They can record passwords and login information, along with the websites visited by a computer user and what the user viewed while on the site. They can be used by companies to keep track of employee network use and scan incoming traffic for malicious code. In some cases, a packet sniffer can record all traffic on a network

Once you've collected the filtered traffic you can start to look for performance issues. For more targeted analysis you can also filter based on source ports and destination ports to test particular network elements. All of the captured packet information can then be used to troubleshoot network performance issues.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
57	30.207837	2606:2800:247:b713:...	2409:4052:4e12:9808...	TCP	74	443 → 51779 [FIN, ACK] Seq=82 A
58	30.207837	2606:2800:247:b713:...	2409:4052:4e12:9808...	TCP	74	[TCP Retransmission] 443 → 5177
59	30.207899	2409:4052:4e12:9808...	2606:2800:247:b713:...	TCP	74	51779 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=83
60	30.460641	192.168.175.180	192.168.175.255	NBNS	92	Name query NB LAPTOP-F0KIP07L<1
61	32.911355	2409:4052:4e12:9808...	2a03:2880:f244:c2:f...	TLSv1.2	144	Application Data
62	33.073576	2a03:2880:f244:c2:f...	2409:4052:4e12:9808...	TCP	74	443 → 51705 [ACK] Seq=146 Ack=3
63	33.279665	2a03:2880:f244:c2:f...	2409:4052:4e12:9808...	TLSv1.2	146	Application Data
64	33.334905	2409:4052:4e12:9808...	2a03:2880:f244:c2:f...	TCP	74	51705 → 443 [ACK] Seq=396 Ack=2
65	45.820416	192.168.175.180	35.174.127.31	TLSv1.2	303	Application Data
66	46.284164	35.174.127.31	192.168.175.180	TCP	54	443 → 51714 [ACK] Seq=39 Ack=25
67	46.284164	35.174.127.31	192.168.175.180	TLSv1.2	325	Application Data
68	46.329342	192.168.175.180	35.174.127.31	TCP	54	51714 → 443 [ACK] Seq=250 Ack=3
69	47.002074	1a:43:07:c4:43:bd	06:11:22:35:12:34	ARP	42	who has 192.168.175.180? Te11 1
70	47.002106	06:11:22:35:12:34	1a:43:07:c4:43:bd	ARP	42	192.168.175.180 is at 06:11:22:
71	49.421965	192.168.175.180	192.168.175.255	NBNS	92	Name query NB LAPTOP-F0KIP07L<1
72	50.181168	192.168.175.180	192.168.175.255	NBNS	92	Name query NB LAPTOP-F0KIP07L<1
73	50.943851	192.168.175.180	192.168.175.255	NBNS	92	Name query NB LAPTOP-F0KIP07L<1

IV. FLOW CHART

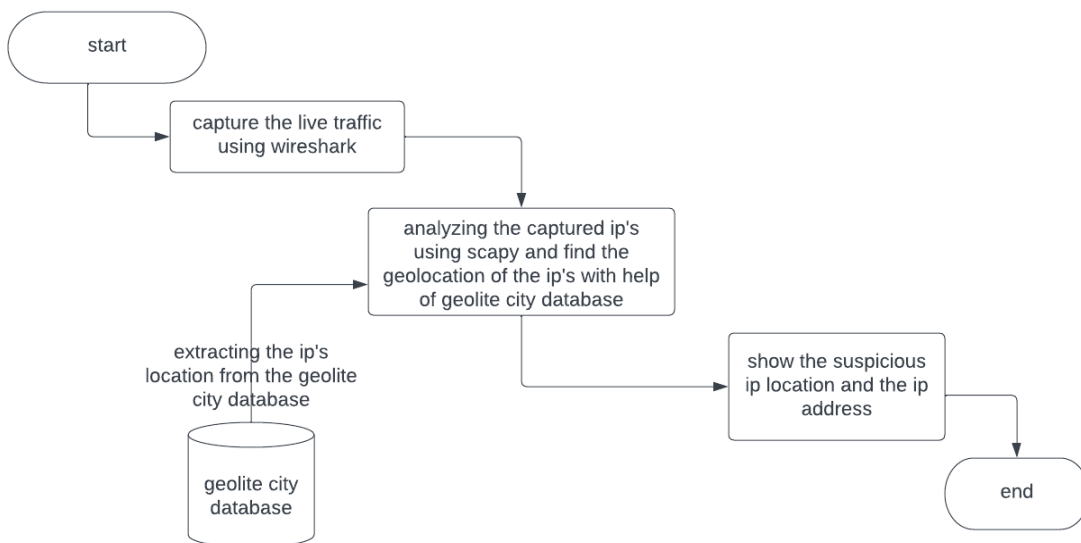


FIG 1: FLOW-CHART OF THE ANALYSIS OF CAPTURED PACKETS



A. WIRESHARK

Wireshark is a free and open-source packet analyzer. It is used for network troubleshooting, analysis, software and communications protocol development, and education. Originally named Ethereal, in May 2006 the project was renamed Wireshark due to trademark issues. Wireshark is cross-platform using pcap to capture packets; it runs on various Unix-like operating systems and on Microsoft Windows. Wireshark supports a wide range of network protocols, including TCP/IP, HTTP, DNS, FTP, SSH, and many others. It decodes and analyzes these protocols, providing detailed information about each packet and its corresponding protocol fields. Users can drill down into individual packets to examine specific protocol headers, payload data, and other relevant information. This level of protocol analysis is invaluable for troubleshooting network issues, identifying performance bottlenecks, and detecting security vulnerabilities.

B. PANDAS

It is a popular open-source library in Python that provides high-performance data manipulation and analysis tools. It is widely used by data scientists, analysts, and developers to handle and process structured data efficiently. The name "Pandas" is derived from "panel data" – a term used in econometrics to describe multi-dimensional structured datasets. The main features of Pandas are Data Manipulation, Data Structures, Data Alignment, Missing Data handling, integrates well with other popular data visualization libraries, such as Matplotlib and It seamlessly integrates with other libraries commonly used in the data science ecosystem, such as NumPy, SciPy, Scikit-learn, and Jupyter Notebook. This integration allows users to leverage the strengths of different libraries and create robust data analysis workflows.

C. GEOLITE DATABASE

GeoLite is a database created by MaxMind, a provider of IP intelligence and geolocation data. The GeoLite database contains geolocation information for IP addresses, allowing users to determine the approximate geographic location of an IP address. It provides insights into the country, region, city, postal code, latitude, and longitude associated with an IP address. It has applications in various domains such as :

- a. Website Analytics
- b. Fraud Prevention
- c. Targeted Advertising
- d. Content Localization
- e. Network Security

D. SCAPY

It is a powerful Python module that enables the creation, manipulation, and analysis of network packets. It allows network engineers, security professionals, and developers to craft custom network protocols, perform network reconnaissance, simulate network attacks, and conduct network troubleshooting. The main features are Packet manipulation, Packet sniffing and analysis, Network scanning and Network Attack simulation. With its extensive capabilities and active community, Scapy empowers users to perform advanced network-related tasks with ease and flexibility. [4]

E. STREAMLIT

It is an open-source Python library that simplifies the process of building and deploying interactive web applications for data science and machine learning projects. It enables data scientists and developers to create interactive dashboards, visualizations, and user interfaces with minimal effort and code. It offers a straightforward API that abstracts away the complexities of web development. It provides pre-built components and functions for common tasks such as data visualization, user input widgets, and layout design. It integrates with popular data visualization libraries such as Matplotlib, Plotly, etc., and combines well with machine learning libraries like TensorFlow, PyTorch, and Scikit-learn.

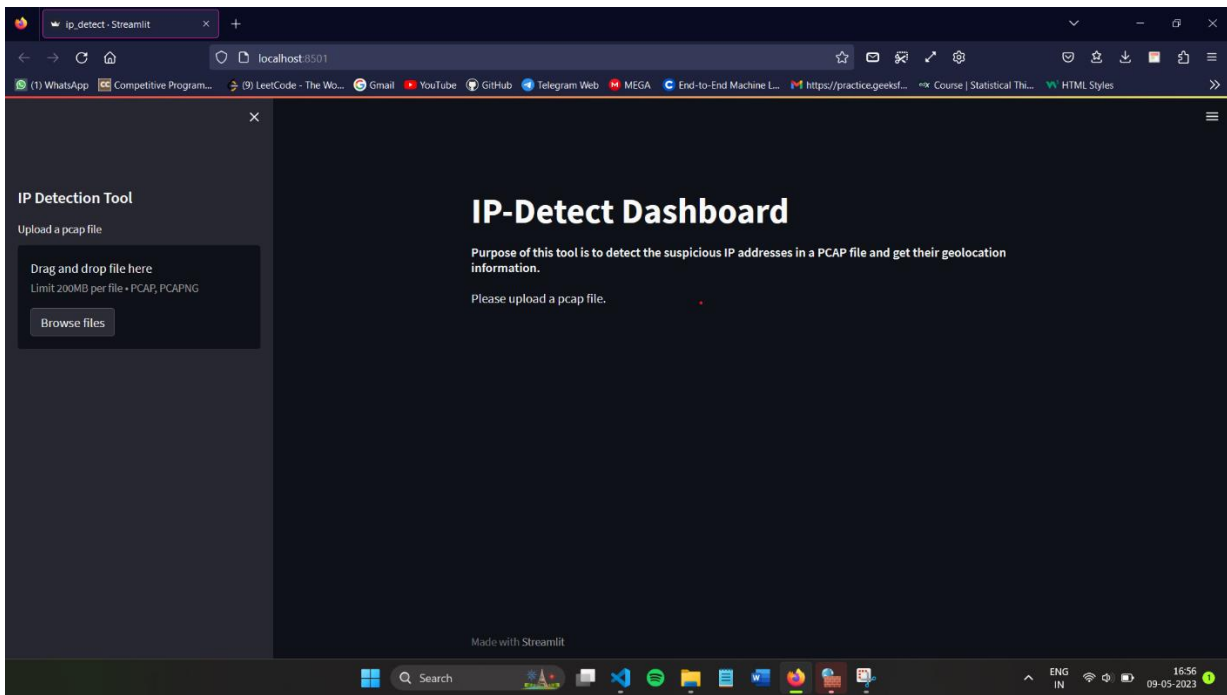
VI. RESULT ANALYSIS

A. Packet Capturing



No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1459	16.353669	49.44.137.81	192.168.175.180	TCP	1424	443 → 50200 [ACK] Seq=22982 Ack=2387 Win=64128 Len=1370 [TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
1460	16.353702	192.168.175.180	49.44.137.81	TCP	54	50200 → 443 [ACK] Seq=2387 Ack=24352 Win=262144 Len=0
1461	16.392227	49.44.137.81	192.168.175.180	TLSv1.3	2794	Application Data
1462	16.392390	192.168.175.180	49.44.137.81	TCP	54	50200 → 443 [ACK] Seq=2387 Ack=27892 Win=262144 Len=0
1463	16.393294	49.44.137.81	192.168.175.180	TLSv1.3	2794	Application Data
1464	16.393422	192.168.175.180	49.44.137.81	TCP	54	50200 → 443 [ACK] Seq=2387 Ack=29832 Win=262144 Len=0
1465	16.394571	49.44.137.81	192.168.175.180	TCP	1424	443 → 50200 [ACK] Seq=29832 Ack=2387 Win=64128 Len=1370 [TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
1466	16.394571	49.44.137.81	192.168.175.180	TLSv1.3	661	Application Data, Application Data, Application Data
1467	16.394684	192.168.175.180	49.44.137.81	TCP	54	50200 → 443 [ACK] Seq=2387 Ack=31809 Win=262144 Len=0
1468	18.128687	192.168.175.180	192.168.175.135	DNS	76	Standard query 0x0528 A www.google.co.in
1469	18.128908	192.168.175.180	192.168.175.135	DNS	76	Standard query 0x099b AAAA www.google.co.in
1470	18.259466	192.168.175.135	192.168.175.180	DNS	92	Standard query response 0x0528 A www.google.co.in A 142.250.192.131
1471	18.259795	192.168.175.135	192.168.175.180	DNS	104	Standard query response 0x099b AAAA www.google.co.in AAAA 2404:0800:4009:82b::2003
1472	18.261077	192.168.175.180	192.168.175.135	DNS	76	Standard query 0x2540 A www.google.co.in
1473	18.263372	192.168.175.135	192.168.175.180	DNS	92	Standard query response 0x2540 A www.google.co.in A 142.250.192.131
1474	18.264812	192.168.175.180	192.168.175.135	DNS	76	Standard query 0x6987 AAAA www.google.co.in
1475	18.266883	192.168.175.135	192.168.175.180	DNS	104	Standard query response 0x6987 AAAA www.google.co.in AAAA 2404:0800:4009:82b::2003

B. STARTING ANALYZING TOOL



C. VISUALIZATION OF IP ADDRESSES WITH GEOLOCATIONS



Purpose of this tool is to detect the suspicious IP addresses in a PCAP file and get their geolocation information.

Results

	IP Address	City	Country	Postal Code
0	34.120.208.123	Kansas City	United States	64184
1	192.168.175.135	<NA>	<NA>	<NA>
2	192.168.175.180	<NA>	<NA>	<NA>
3	152.195.38.76	<NA>	United States	<NA>
4	34.107.221.82	Kansas City	United States	64184
5	34.117.237.239	Kansas City	United States	64184
6	34.149.100.209	Kansas City	United States	64184
7	35.244.181.201	Kansas City	United States	64184
8	13.71.81.149	Chennai	India	600001
9	49.44.201.105	<NA>	India	<NA>
10	52.109.56.86	Pune	India	411005
11	20.190.145.142	Chennai	India	600001
12	104.21.20.64	<NA>	<NA>	<NA>
13	52.185.211.133	San Antonio	United States	78288

VII. CONCLUSION

Thus Packet Capturing is useful to analyze the data during the transmission of network. They are useful for network monitoring, traffic analysis and troubleshooting. By uploading Captured Packets (pcap file) on this tool you will get IP Addresses of given pcap and also the name of City, country and postal code related to them. With IP address management, organizations can track the status and availability of every device in their infrastructure. It is highly useful in preventing Cyber Threats (eg. Active attack) and assaults while ensuring a smooth workflow which enhances the Network Security.

VIII. FUTURE SCOPE

The scope of this tool can be further extended by adding features such as detecting Malicious websites, ransomware protection and to handle Denial of Services (DOS) attacks. A better friendly User interface can be adopted with a streamlined dashboard for better visualizing and tracking data trends.

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