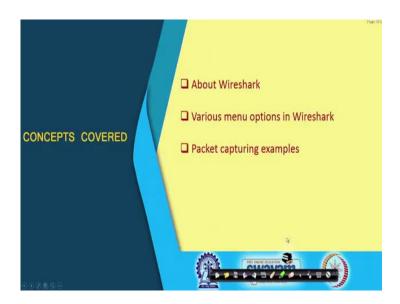
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Lecture – 59 Network Analysis Using Wireshark

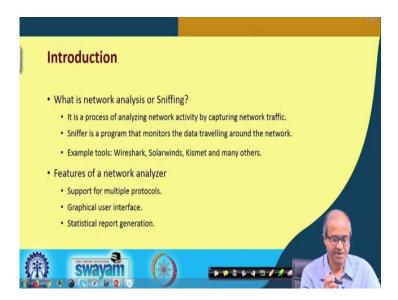
So, in this lecture we shall be taking you through a quick tour of the Wireshark tool which you already know is very useful when you talk about capturing packets and analyzing network traffic. So, the topic of this lecture is Network Analysis using Wireshark.

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Now, in this lecture we shall be basically talking about the Wireshark tool; what are the various options which are available in Wireshack under the menu options and lastly we shall be looking at a few examples.

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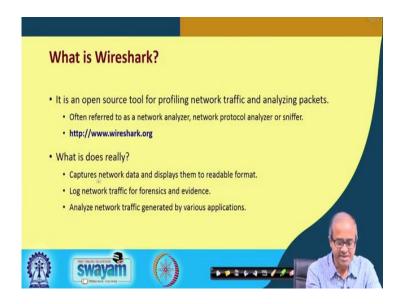


Well talking about the Wireshark tool, it is a kind of network analysis or you can say packet sniffing tool. So, what is it actually? Network analysis or packet sniffing when you talk about, it is basically a process of analyzing the network activity with respect to some network interface. I have a computer; it is connected to a network; I want to see, what is the traffic, what kind of traffic is flowing across the network interface at that point of the network ok. This is what packet capturing or packet sniffing is all about.

Sniffer, well Wireshark is an example of a sniffer program. It is a program actually, which monitors the data which means the packets which are flowing at a particular network interface through the network, around the network. Well, other than Wireshark there are many other tools available for this packet capture or sniffing; like, Solarwinds, Kismet and there are many others ok.

This Wireshark is one of the more popular tools; because it is quite powerful and also it is freely available ok. Well, any of the network analyzers or packet capturing, sniffing tool that we use, they will be having some common features; like, they will have support for multiple protocols to become useful. They should be having a proper user interface so that you can view or visualize the traffic in various different graphical ways. And of course, finally you need some mechanism for statistical report generation which is also important.

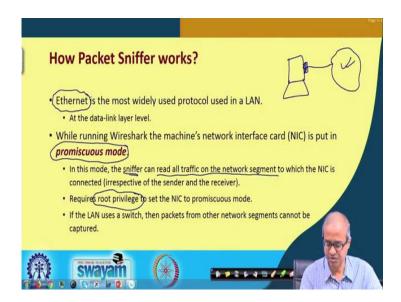
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Now, Wireshark as it said, is a, it is an open source tool; it is freely available this is used for profiling network traffic. Once you capture the network packets, the data packets, you can analyze them to find out what is going on. This kind of a tool is sometimes referred to as network analyzer, network protocol analyzer or simply a sniffer or packet sniffer. This Wireshark can be downloaded from this website, ok. This Wireshark, basically it captures network packets, network data and displays them in some format so that the user of the tool can visualize it in a proper format.

And this capturing of the network data which we call as logging, this is very useful for forensics and evidence. For example, some attack has happened; we can capture the network data and analyze it later on that what and how the attack did took place; what are the kind of packet exchanges that took place in the network for mounting that particular attack. Well, and we can analyze network traffic generated with respect to various kinds of applications ok.

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Now, basically this packet sniffing tools, the way they work is, they sniff packet at some network interface. Now, in most of the networks where you use, where you have our computers in, we normally use the Ethernet protocol at the data link layer level; that is the most widely used and prevalent protocol that we use. And the point is that suppose, I have a computer here; this computer is connected to a network; this is our network and this is my network interface; there is a network interface card.

Now, the point is that in order to capture all packets that are flowing through the interface, I must initialize or program the Network Interface or NIC in something called promiscuous mode. Well, when it is set in the promiscuous mode, it will capture not only the packets which are meant for my machine, but all other packets; may be the destination is some other machine, but still I can capture them; I can view them ok.

So, it is important; I have to initialize the interface in the promiscuous mode and for initializing the promiscuous mode we need root privilege. So, the point is that for running this kind of packet capturing tool you need supervisory or root privilege; otherwise you cannot initialize the interface in the promiscuous mode ok.

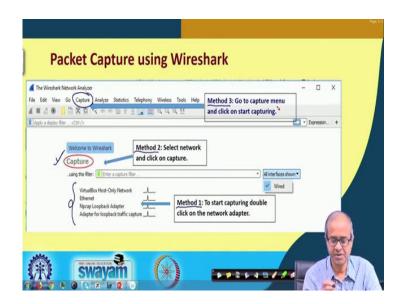
So, once you set it in this mode; this sniffing tool can read all traffic on the network segment; this particular network segment to which the network interface is connected to ok. Now, the point to note is that if your computer is connected via a switch, say a layer to switch our bridge, the switch essentially partitions a LAN into several different LANs;

then you may be prevented from viewing the traffic that is flowing through the other LANs. So, it depends on the environment. So, if you are able to sniff in the proper position, proper location, then you can see or visualize many traffics or many packets that are flowing through the network ok.

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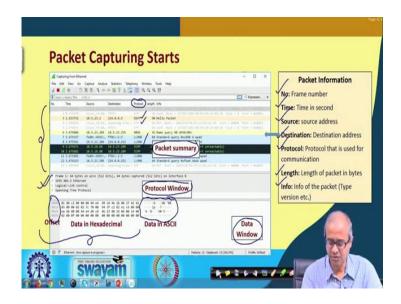


So, when you start Wireshark, as I said you can download the tool from **www.wireshark.org**. So, this is the opening screen; the way it looks like. So, you see, capture, there is a apply a display filter and there are a number of menu options on the top; as you can see file, edit, view, captured, analyze, statistics and so on. Let us look into this one by one.



So, when we are trying to do packet capturing using Wireshark, so what we actually do is? So, we have to somehow specify from where to capture and we have to say that yes, now start the capture. You see here on one side is displayed all the network interfaces where you can possibly capture the packets from. The first thing, the first method is you can start capturing by double clicking on the proper network interface directly here. This is one method or you just select by single click, then you click on this capture, capture button; this is your method 2.

Or thirdly, you can see there is a capture menu option also available here in the top, in the top menu bar. You can directly go to the capture menu and you can specify that you want to capture and how you want to capture. These are the different ways you can specify that we want to capture packets from the network interface.



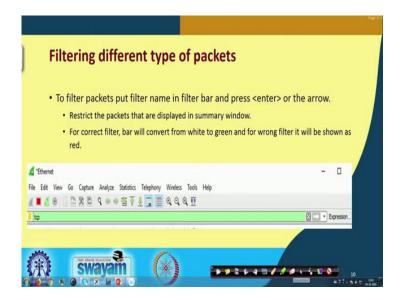
Now, once the packet capturing starts, the window looks like this. So, you can see a lot of information that gets displayed on the window. There are broadly 3 windows that come by default; the one on the top is packet summary. Here you can see a list of all the packets and this list will go on scrolling as the packets come. So, every row here indicates one packet that has been captured ok.

Now, here you can see there are a lot of columns. So, the columns are mentioned here; it specifies the frame number, the time; so, when this packet was captured; what is the source IP address, destination IP address; what protocol was used? You see the protocol here; you can say OSPF, STP, there are, there are a lot, ICMP, there are lot of different protocols you can see. Length is the number of bytes in the packet and lastly, in the last column some information about the packet; what is it type, the version and so on. So, this is with respect to packet summary.

Then, there is a protocol window. Well once you select one of these packets, you click on one of the rows, that row gets highlighted and you can see some details in this window. So, you can see that what is the frame containing; what type of packet is; some details are shown and if you want to see the contents of the packet in hexadecimal or in ASCII, it is the third window which is the data window that shows you that. On the left the data gets displayed in hexadecimal, the contents of the packet. Ultimately the data is going in binary; here you have a hexadecimal view of the data as you can see.

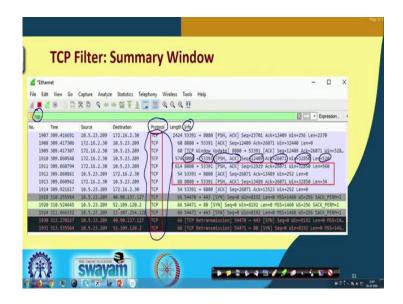
So, the first it shows the offset, the address and the contents of the packet and on the right side some of the data may be going in clear text, ASCII. So, the same thing is also displayed in ASCII; in case you want to visualize the text part of the packet, if there is something going in clear text ok. So, this is how the overall window of the Wireshark looks like once it starts capturing the packets. Then you can apply a lot of filters; because you will be seeing or visualizing a large number of packets coming; I may not be wanting to see all the packets.

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So, you can apply some filters. So, when you want to apply filters, you see, there is a filter bar in the top of the window; here this is the first one. Here you can specify the type of filter; like, here I am specifying TCP for instance; then you can either press enter or you can click on this arrow on the right; if you can see this arrow on the right, you can click here. So, once you set it, only packets of these particular types will get displayed on the window ok. So, you can actually display the packets in a filtered form.

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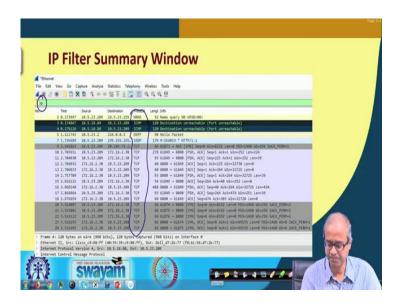
Let us take some examples. So, here we have selected a filtered TCP. So, you can see, all packets that are displayed are having protocol all TCP; all TCP packets are getting displayed ok. And in the information part, the last column you see all relevant information about TCP packets are shown; like, what is the source port number, destination port number, what are the flags which are active, sequence number, acknowledgement number, window, length of the packet and so on ok; So, you can create a filter like this and you can only view the respective kind of packet you want to look at ok.

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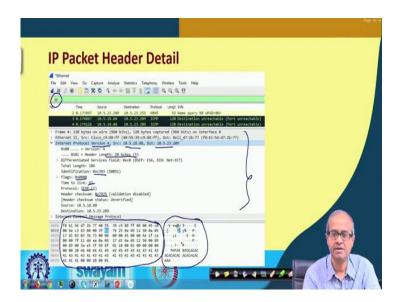


Now, suppose if you go back previously, suppose you have all the packets; if you click on one of the rows, suppose I want to see the detail of one of the rows; if you click on it, then you will see details of that particular packet. You see I have clicked on one of the rows; that row is showing on top and you can see the details of the TCP packet. The contents of the headers are shown in detail; what is the source port, destination port, TCP segment length, sequence number, acknowledgement number and so on and so forth; what are the contents of the flags, checksum everything; you can see the whole contents of the packet ok.

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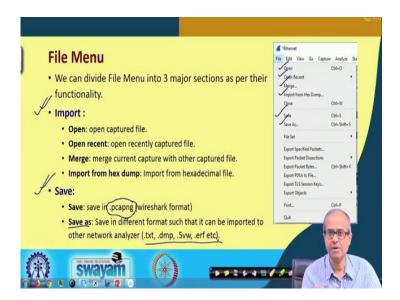


Now, here I am showing that instead of TCP, suppose I have applied a filter IP. So, I want to capture all IP packets. So, now, you see in the protocol and not only TCP, the other packets which run on top of IP are also getting captured; well TCP runs on top of IP. So, by default TCP will get captured; but you can see other types NBNS, ICMP, OSPF and so on; these packets are also getting captured ok. So, here the details of the packets are very similar. So, you can create filters like this, different types of filters as you want.



Now, if you click on one of these packets, let us say, if I click on 1 of these packets, I can see the IP packet header detail, if I am selecting IP; see in the earlier case, previous example, I was selecting TCP here; that is why the detail was, that was getting, was the relevant TCP header details; but here I have selected IP and I have clicked on a packet; I will be getting the corresponding headers of the IP protocol. You see, these are all familiar things protocol version number, then source IP address, destination IP address, then you can say header length, Id, flags, time to live, protocol, header checksum.

So, all the fields in the IP header are being showed here. These are shown in a textual form and the entire content of the packet is also displayed in hexadecimal in the bottom and on the right, you can also see the same thing in ASCII form right. So, you can visualize the entire contents of the IP packet. Now, let us look at the different menu options; what are the different settings that you can have in Wireshark to use it in the way you want to.

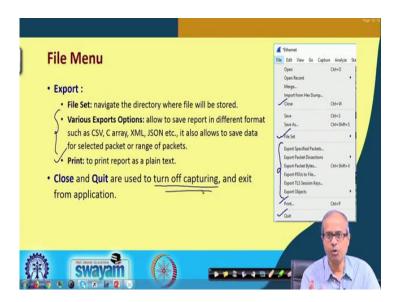


First comes the file menu. Well in the file menu, broadly you can divide it into 3 different sections. One is the import section, where you want to read some new thing. You see here, there are different options like open, open recent, merge, import from hex dump; there are 4 options here under this category.

So, you can open a file which was already captured earlier. You can open the most recently captured file or you can merge the most current capture with an existing file which was captured earlier or you might have created a hex dump earlier that was an option also to say. So, you can import from a hex file from a hex dump file.

Similarly, there are some save options; you can see save, save as. So, you can save in particular Wireshark format; Wireshark uses some special formats for saving or you can you save as, there are multiple formats; you can select which format you want to save the data in, the capture data.

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Import, save and the third one is export. So, under export you can see there are a host number of export options. So, export specifies first is the, there is a file set where you specify in which folder you want to export your captured data into; where the file will be stored and there are various export options you can specify.

So, whatever report you are generating from the packet capture, you can specify various different kinds of reports and you can save it in various different formats or even you can print; if you want a print, you can also print the report ok. And finally, there is close or quit, where you can close a window or you can quit the entire tool which will turn off the capturing and also pause or exit the application; this is about the file menu.

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Now, let us come to the edit menu. So, if you click on edit on the top, so, here again you will see that there are so many menu options. So, broadly you can divide it up to 5 sections. First is the class of find; so you are trying to search for a packet. So, under find you can search packets by specifying some hexadecimal string; it will match whether that string is present in any of the packets; wherever there is a match, only those packets will be displayed.

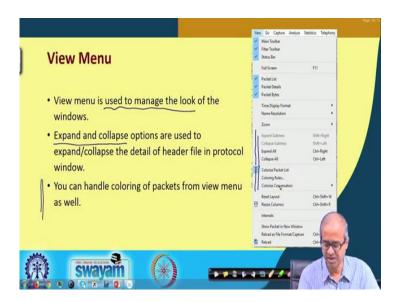
Then you have some mark; well you can mark some of the packets that are displayed on the screen so that you can analyze them later; you can selectively mark some of the packets; this will be under the mark option. (Refer Slide Time: 18:33)



Then you can specify some preferences well. The preference option comes at the end; you see, at the very bottom you have preferences here and if you click on preferences, another window comes up. Here some specific things are mentioned as you can see font, colour and so on. Like can you specify among other things; that how many packets you want to display at once on the screen; you can change it in the preference 10, 20 or more.

So, what font type and what color you can use for the different types of packets; you can specify that and also what are the fields you want to display. By default Wireshark displays certain fields; but in the preference you can, if you want, you can hide some of the fields or some of the columns ok. So, under the preferences you can specify how you want your window or the packet display to look like.

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Then comes the view menu; there are other options also in view menu; some of them I mentioned. Next in the view menu, well here you can manage the look of the windows; how the windows will look like; then you can expand and collapse. You see, there are expand and collapse options here. So, some of the details of the header file you can show in detail or you can collapse them if you want or you can also select colouring of the different packets; these options are also available ok.

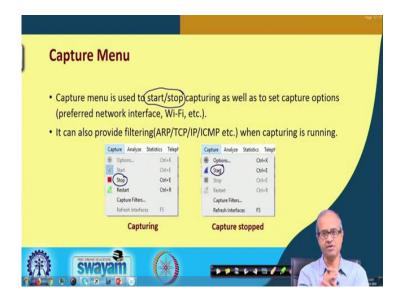
With this, if we explore with this, you will see a lot of different options are there; you can colour them in various ways so that when the packets are getting displayed, it will be easier for you to locate specific types of packets. So, here I am not going into all the details of these menu options; but these are broadly the types of options or commands you can give.

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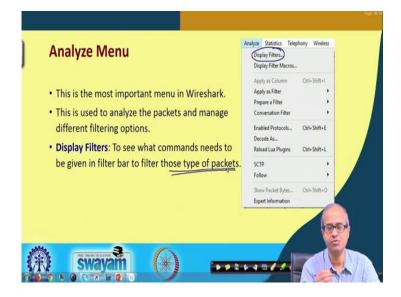
Then there is a menu called go where you can go to some specific packet; like you are displaying a packet, current packet; you can either go to the next packet, previous packet or you can jump to some other specific packet. So, there are a number of so called go options; these are all under Go menu; you can see. Next packet, previous packet, you can go to the first packet, last packet; you to go to a particular packet ok.

Now, with respect to a conversation that is going on, you can go to the next packet; some transaction is going on, next packet within that conversation or previous packet in that conversation. In terms of history, if you have saved a number of packets, viewed a number of packets, they will be kept in the history; you can move along in the history, also browse the history. So, there are various ways you can go from one packet to another depending on which packet you want to view next ok, fine.



Then comes the capture menu. Now, in the capture menu, here you basically specify that you want to start the capturing process or stop the capturing process. You see, when capturing is going on, you see this start option is disabled, but this stop option is enabled; you can click on this stop. But when capturing is not going on, capture is stopped, it is the other way around; you see stop option is disabled, but the start option is enabled; you can click it. So, just under the capture menu, you can go, you can either start capture or you can stop capture whenever you want.

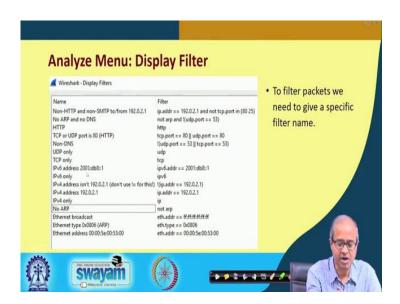
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Then comes the analyze menu; well analyze is one of the most important menus in Wireshark; because here you can specify the different kinds of filters and analysis methods that you want to operate on the packets that you have captured ok. So, you see the different options in the analyse thing display filter, then apply some filter, then enabled protocol, which are the protocols which are enabled, follow; these are some of the important menu options here.

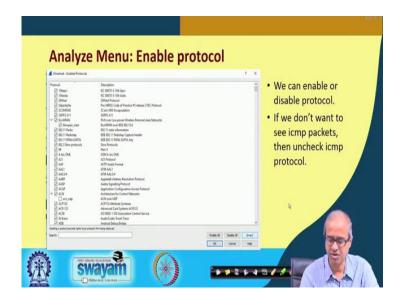
Display filters, the first option as you can see display filters here. Here you can just specify the filters that what types of packets will be captured and displayed on the screen; you can specify this with respect to a detailed list.

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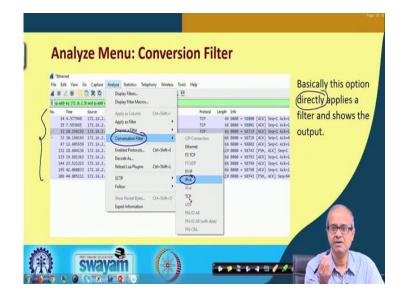
So, let us see some of these. Display filter if you select, so I am showing a part of the window; this is a large doc, means document; you can scroll up and down; you can see some of these. Some of the filter non-HTTP and non-SMTP, no ARP, no DNS, TCP only, UDP only, IPv6 only; there are many kind of filters available; you select which filter is relevant to; what you are trying to see or view; you click on that.

On the right side the explanation of the filters is also mentioned in some language which is easy to understand that how it is checked non-HTTP, non-SMTP to or from this IP address which means IP address should be equal to this and not TCP port in 80 or 25. The port number should not be 20 or 25 or 80, SMTP or HTTP like this. So, you can specify a specific filter name to start filtering the packets.



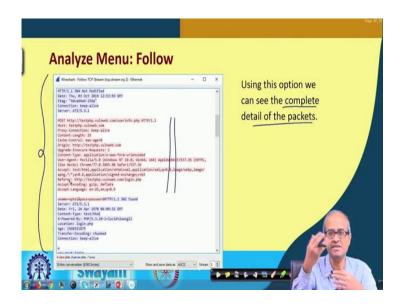
Then there is an enable protocol option under the analyze menu. So, here again you will get a big list of the protocols. So, these are all check boxes; you can check or uncheck some of the options. Suppose you do not want to see the ICMP packets; you will have to uncheck the box that corresponds to ICMP; well in this window you cannot see ICMP; it is down below; you will have to scroll up to see ICMP. But you will be seeing a large list of protocols which are all supported by Wireshark and these are used in some network or the other. So, you can, you can enable some of the protocols or disable some of them as you want.

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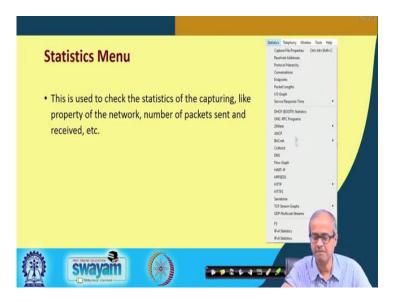


Then you can have something called conversion filter. The conversion filter is something like you are applying a filter directly. You directly apply a filter and see the output. This is like a quick shortcut option; you can say. You can directly go to under analyse; you can go to this conversation filter; you will get a list; you can directly specify say, for example, IP version 4. So, if I click IPv4, then only IPv4 packets will get displayed. So, I can very quickly select what I want to see ok. So, this is like a shortcut option to select specific things.

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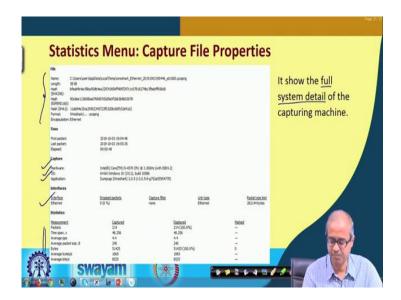


Then follow well, if I select, I mean, after selecting a packet if I click on the follow option under analyze, then I can see the complete detail of the packet. Here for example, there was one HTTP request packet which was selected and this follow option was there and you can see the entire detail of the HTTP response is shown here. These are the HTTP commands; you can see here completely ok; post, host, proxy connection, keep alive, these are all HTTP commands that goes between a client and a web server. The client sends a request; web server sends back a response right. So, this is how you can see them.



Then there are a number of statistics menus; these are also interesting; you may be interested to look at various kinds of statistics. So, you can see, under statistics there are so many options available ok; I am just showing you a few of them.

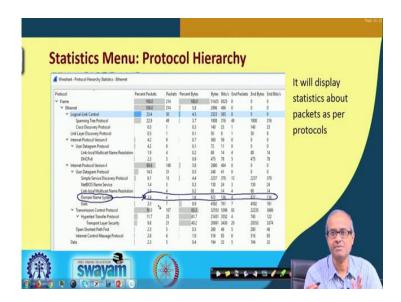
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Like for example, capture file properties, if you select this, then it will show you full system detail of the capturing host. The host where you are carrying out the capture, it will specify not only the file, but also the hardware which hardware, which operating system, what application you are using, what kind of interface the packet capture is

running on and how many captured packets, how many packets have been captured over how much time, everything. So, all the details are being shown, if you want to see them in a statistical and concise form.

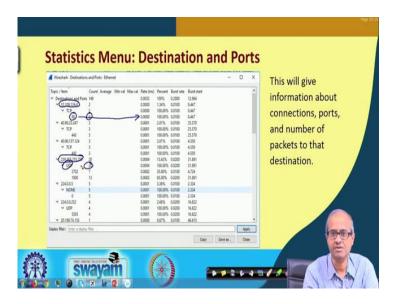
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Then you can look at protocol hierarchies; like you can see, if you select on protocols, so, protocol wise you can see statistics about the packets; like here, with respect to protocol you are viewing something like a statistical summary. Like for example, let us say under internet protocol version 4, UDP let us say, Domain Name System, DNS. So, you can see under DNS how many packets were sent. So, all those details you can see here ok. So, these details will be shown here, percentage packets, bytes, end packets and some information.

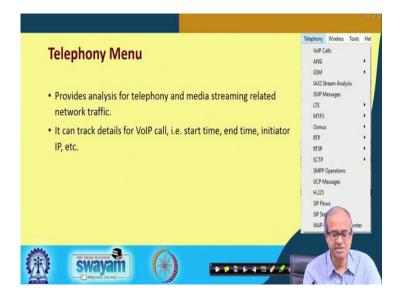
Similarly, the different kinds of packets, the protocols whatever was transferred, a breakup you can see, a summary kind of a report. So, actually you may try and find out what kind of packets are most frequently traversing the network; then you can try and find out the reason; why it is happening?

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Similarly, with respect to destinations and ports you can obtain some statistics. Like for example, for a particular IP address destination, TCP port number 80 let us say. So, here you can say TCP port number 80, this is the so called information; there are 2 packets total and some information. Like for this particular host UDP packet, there were 20 UDP packets. So, like this, you can get statistics with respect to hosts and port numbers.

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Well how many packets were delivered to those destinations; well, then there are menus like telephony menu; well here I am not going into the detail of this. There are many

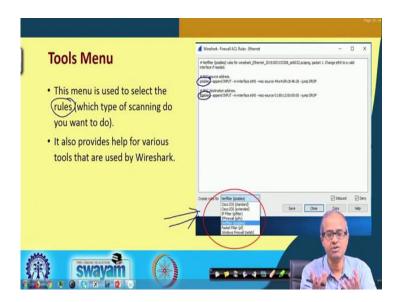
cases or instances where you want to track details of voice over IP calls; you know when you use the voice over IP services, the voice that we generate, they are digitized and they are sent out as packets over a network, over a conventional network.

So, Wireshark can also capture voice over IP packets and you can visualize them; that whether any voice over IP communication is going on in the network right; start time, end time, initiator IP, lot of options are there under this. So, I am not going into detail of this.

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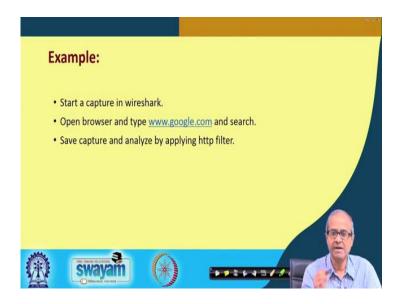
Similarly, you have an wireless menu where you have specific options for capturing data from wireless networks like a wireless LAN or Bluetooth; these are the most widely used and commonly used type. So, here there are a number of options; you can start capturing from those wireless interfaces; instead of so called wide LAN you can capture, you can start your capture from a wireless LAN also.



Then there is a tools menu ok. Now, under tools menu, you can specify some scanning rules. Like here, you see a window like this comes up; down here you can see that you can create rules for different things, IP tables, packet filter, windows firewall. Suppose you want to filter some packets; you want to create your own firewall; you can specify some rules through this window ok. Well IP tables is an utility which is available under Linux; this is like a rudimentary firewall; you can configure IP tables and specify different rules; what do you want to stop; what do you want to filter out; what do you want to pass, ok.

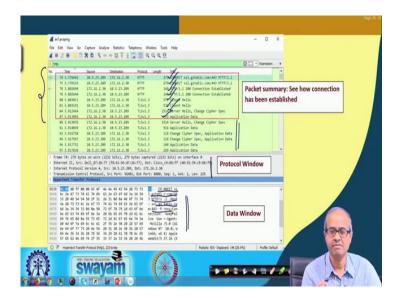
So, this tools menu allows you to do all these things. Of course, I am not going into detail; because in order to understand this you have to have a very clear idea about how IP tables work; there is a tool that is available under Linux. Then let us look at some examples.

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Let us say, we start with a very simple thing. We start capture in Wireshark, packet capturing and we open the browser **www.google.com** and we see what kind of packets are getting captured.

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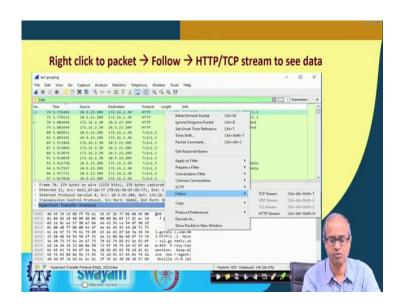


Well what we see is, the window will look something like this; where in the topmost window, the packet capture summary, you can see a number of packets; sorry, which are actually shown in this red rectangular box; these are the packets which are correspond, which correspond to this connection. So, when you connect to **google.com**, actually you

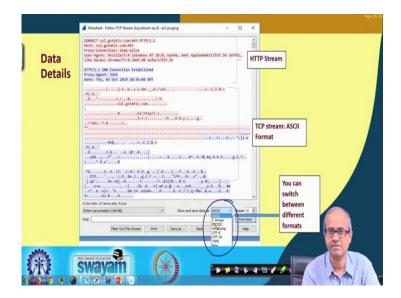
are establishing an HTTP connection; say HTTP is a protocol running on top of TCP. So, you see, these are the so called HTTP connections, packets which are going; client sending Hello, server sending Hello, then the application data starts right.

So, there are a lot of things and because it is HTTPs, there are some other exchanges which are carrying out where the secret key and other things are shared, the protocols the cryptographic algorithm which is to be used that is shared so that secure data communication can take place and you can see the protocol window here and the data here. You say whatever connect ss1 data, you say these things are going in plaintext. So, you can see them in ASCII also right; these are not encrypted, the commands are not encrypted.

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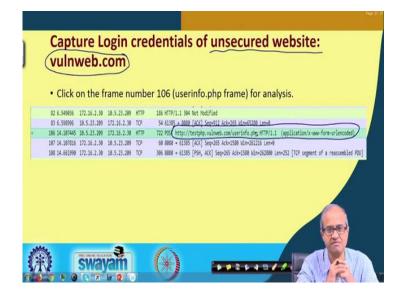


Then if you select on packet and then click on follow and then you select one of these streams let us say, HTTP or TCP stream, then you can see the corresponding detail of the packets. That suppose I want to look at HTTP streams only, then I will be seeing only the HTTP packets which are going; you see this HTTP, then transport layer security TLS; TLS is a security which is built on top of this HTTP runs along with that. So, all this packets you can see here.



Now, if you click on this, one of them, some details you can see; you can see, means one particular packet which carries response from the server. So, you can see what text message you are send; these are something which in binary, which cannot be displayed in ASCII, HTP stream and you can switch between various display modes. So, here you can see in the bottom, there is a menu option here; by default we have selected ASCII, the thing is displayed in ASCII; but you can specify some other formats also, raw format or any other format; it will display in that that format.

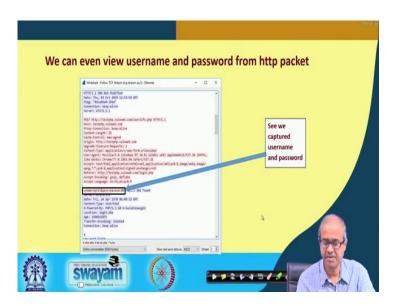
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Let us look at some other examples; you see there are some unsecured websites; well if you go to this vulnerable web dot com, **vulnweb.com**, you will see lot of information about these. So, here we are actually showing one such packet capturing with one of the web, with one of the means, IP addresses which are obtained from that website; that is supposed to be a vulnerable website ok.

So, we captured some of the packets while the website was opened and we select some of the, you see, some of the packets when the user authentication was carried out on that website; username, password was given ok.

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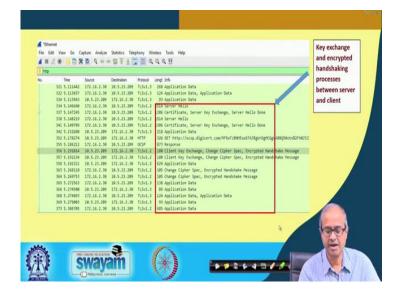


So, what we find is that the detail of the packet looks like this, where you see that the username and password are available in clear text; they are not encrypted; that is why that site has been marked as vulnerable. Username is nptel; pass is password. So, user name, password can be captured by this kind of a simple packet capturing, if there is no encryption going on right.



Similarly, another example I take; when you do SBI net banking, it is supposed to be a secure site. So, you see that when you doing the SBI net banking, we are in parallel doing a packet capture. If you see the packets, you will see that HTTP connect requests are going on, on port number 443 which is a secure connection, secure HTTP. So, everything will go on encrypted. So, this information verifies that fact; that we are establishing connection over port number 443 which is a secure layer connection.

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And means, when means, during the secure connection the transport layer security, TLS protocol starts running and you see there are lot of packet exchanges going on through TLS which exchanges the key, decides on the protocols and so on and so forth, which cryptographic protocol, encryption/decryption to use and so on ok. So, all these details you can see.

So, actually I have shown you just a few examples. There can be so many other examples; you can create a scenario; you can capture packets and try and analyze. So, this is the best way to learn what is going on in a network; create a scenario, capture the packets and analyze the packets and understand exactly what is going on; this is the best way to learn.

So, in this lecture we have very quickly gone through a short tutorial on the Wireshark tool and we argue to actually create this kind of scenarios, run Wireshark or any other kind of packet sniffer; capture the packets and try to analyze them. Only then you will be able to understand the process of networking; what actually goes on when some applications are run.

Thank you.