

# Leveraging Wireshark for Wireless Network Analysis

4/1/2008

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**SHARKFEST '08**

Foothill College

March 31 - April 2, 2008



Sample captures at  
[www.willhackforsushi.com/resources/sharkfest08-samples.zip](http://www.willhackforsushi.com/resources/sharkfest08-samples.zip)



# Introduction

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Wireshark and wireless analysis

Leveraging display filters

Customizing the display

Enhancing filters with macros

Searching for anomalies

Extracting data

Decrypting frame contents

Sample captures at  
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# Introduction

Wireless networks have become ubiquitous for many organizations

Users bring experiences with home wireless to the enterprise

WPA, PEAP, WMM, QoS, 802.11n, hotspots, TKIP, RFID, WIDS, rogues, DSSS, FMC (it's all complicated)

Wireless troubleshooting can be complex

- Physical layer issues notoriously difficult to characterize

Wireshark is indispensable for WiFi troubleshooting

# Wireless Sniffing

Wireless capture a universal troubleshooting and analysis mechanism

Requires no authentication or access privileges

- Useful for security auditing, see the network as an adversary does

Wireless cards support multiple operating modes

- Master, Managed, Ad-Hoc, Monitor

Captures in monitor mode disclose 802.11 frame information

Captures in managed mode disclose Ethernet data

# Managed Mode vs Monitor Mode

## Managed mode capture

```
> tshark -np -i 4
Capturing on Intel(R) PRO/Wireless 2915ABG Network Connection
 0.196409 205.188.9.40 -> 10.240.3.197 Oncoming Buddy: thenickde
 0.307958 10.240.3.197 -> 205.188.9.40 prelude > aol [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=133
Win=65083 Len=0
 2.336869 10.240.3.197 -> 205.188.13.24 AIM SST, Download Buddy Icon Request
 3.850285 00:0b:86:01:87:00 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff Who has 10.240.3.27? Tell
10.240.3.1
```

## Monitor mode (RFMON) capture

```
> tshark -n -i 2
Capturing on AirPcap N Wireless Capture Device
 0.001234 00:0b:86:d5:e4:02 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff Beacon frame, SN=1297, FN=0,
Flags=....., BI=100, SSID="ethersphere-voip"
 1.077842 00:19:7e:b4:fb:47 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff Data, SN=1321, FN=0,
Flags=.p....F.
 6.522158 00:13:ce:55:98:ef -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff Probe Request, SN=350, FN=0,
Flags=....., SSID=Broadcast [Malformed Packet]
 6.522176 -> 00:14:bf:0f:03:32 (RA) Acknowledgement, Flags=.....
```

# RFMON Implementation

Capture mode driven by drivers

Most Linux wireless drivers support RFMON

- "Yay open source software!"

Windows drivers do not support RFMON

- "What, you want to use it for something other than what we intended?"

Aircap From CACE Technologies

Listens on one channel at a time

- May collect from other nearby channels

# Linux – Setting RFMON Mode (1)

`iwconfig` - configure wireless parameters

`ifconfig` - configure an IP address, up/down

Use for Centrino, HostAP, RealTek, RTL, Prism54 and MADWIFI-old drivers

```
wardrive@~:~# iwconfig wlan0 mode monitor channel 1
wardrive@~:~# iwconfig wlan0 | grep Mode
                Mode:Monitor   Frequency:2.412GHz   Access Point:
00:00:00:00:00:00
wardrive@~:~# ifconfig wlan0 | grep HWaddr
wlan0      Link encap:UNSPEC   HWaddr 00-30-F1-0E-51-1F-00-00-00-
00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00
```

# Linux – Setting RFMON Mode (2)

MADWIFI-NG cards use “wlanconfig” to create/destroy

Uses parent/child reference with wifi0 (parent) and arbitrarily named children (often athX)

Monitor mode only allowed when no other interfaces exist

- Must "destroy" all child interfaces first

```
wardrive@~:~# wlanconfig ath0 destroy
wardrive@~:~# wlanconfig ath0 create wlandev wifi0 wlanmode
monitor
ath0
wardrive@~:~# ifconfig ath0 up
wardrive@~:~# iwconfig ath0 | grep Mode
        Mode:monitor          Frequency:2.412 GHz          Access Point:
00:00:00:00:00:00
```

# Airpcap Integration

The screenshot displays the Wireshark interface with the following components:

- Menu Bar:** File, Edit, View, Go, Capture, Analyze, Statistics, Help.
- Toolbar:** Standard Wireshark icons for file operations, capture, and analysis.
- Filter:** Expression... Clear Apply
- Settings:** 802.11 Channel: 2484 MHz [BG 14], Channel Offset: 0, FCS Filter: Valid Frames, Decryption Mode: None, Wireless Settings..., Decryption Keys...
- Packet List:** A table of captured packets with columns for No., Time, Source, Destination, and Info.
- Packet Details:** Hierarchical view of the selected packet (Frame 1), including Radiotap Header and IEEE 802.11 fields like Type/Subtype, Frame Control, Duration, and addresses.
- Packet Bytes:** Hexadecimal and ASCII representation of the packet data.
- Status Bar:** File path and statistics (P: 111 D: 111 M: 0 Drops: 0).

**Airpcap-specific toolbar:** A black arrow points to a toolbar located above the packet list, which contains icons for Airpcap-specific actions such as capture, filter, and analysis.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Info
1	0.000000	00:0b:86:d5:e4:01	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1252, FN=0, BI=100, SSID: "ethersphere"
2	0.047991	00:13:ce:55:b5:e1	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1290, FN=0, SSID: "somethingclever"
3	0.048500	00:13:ce:55:b5:e1	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1291, FN=0, SSID: Broadcast
4	0.048500	00:13:ce:55:b5:e1	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Response, SN=1253, FN=0, BI=100, SSID: "ethersphere"
5	0.048500	00:13:ce:55:b5:e1	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Response, SN=1253, FN=0, BI=100, SSID: "ethersphere"
6	0.048500	00:13:ce:55:b5:e1	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Response, SN=1253, FN=0, BI=100, SSID: "ethersphere"
7	0.048500	00:13:ce:55:b5:e1	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1292, FN=0, SSID: "somethingclever"
8	0.102374	00:0b:86:d5:e4:01	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1254, FN=0, BI=100, SSID: "ethersphere"

# Leveraging Display Filters

Mastering display filters is the first step in becoming a Wireshark Power User

- Much of the functionality leverages display filters

Concept: Use the value of any dissected field to show/hide frames

- Combine field analysis with Boolean operators

Often used to reduce the number of frames listed in the Packet List view

*display.field.name operator value*

# 3-Steps for Display Filters

3. Enter display filter

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol
1	0.000000	00:0b:86:d5:e4:01	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1290, FN=0, SSID: "ethersphere"
2	0.047991	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1291, FN=0, SSID: "somethingclever"
3	0.048580	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1291, FN=0, SSID: Broadcast
4	0.050212	00:0b:86:d5:e4:01	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	Probe Response, SN=1253, FN=0, BI=100, SSID: "ethersphere"
5	0.050453		00:0b:86:d5:e4:01	(RA) Acknowledgement
6	0.072727	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1292, FN=0, SSID: "somethingclever"
7	0.073452	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1293, FN=0, SSID: Broadcast
8	0.102374	00:0b:86:d5:e4:01	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1294, FN=0, BI=100, SSID: "ethersphere"

1. Select the field you want to filter on

2. Inspect selection display status bar

Type and subtype combined (first byte: type, second byte: subtype) (wlan.fc.type\_subtype), 1 byte

# Display Filter Operators

display.field.name *operator* value

eq, == Equal

ne, != Not equal

gt, > Greater than

lt, < Less Than

ge, >= Greater than or Equal to

le, <= Less than or Equal to

contains, Contains specified data

Combine with and/or, negate with NOT, !

Can use parenthesis to control order for complex filters

# Display Filter Example

The image shows the Wireshark network protocol analyzer interface. The title bar reads "(Untitled) - Wireshark". The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Go, Capture, Analyze, Statistics, and Help. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations, capture control, and analysis. The filter field at the top contains the expression: `wlan.fc.type_subtype ne 8 and wlan.fc.type ne 1`. The packet list pane shows several frames, with frame 4 selected and highlighted in blue. The details pane for frame 4 shows the IEEE 802.11 protocol structure, including the Frame Control field with subtype 5. The packet bytes pane at the bottom shows the raw data of the selected frame, with a hex dump and ASCII representation. A status bar at the bottom right shows statistics: P: 111 D: 36 M: 0 Drops: 0, which is circled in red.

Filter: `wlan.fc.type_subtype ne 8 and wlan.fc.type ne 1`

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Info
2	0.047991	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1290, FN=0, SSID: "somethingclever"
3	0.048580	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1291, FN=0, SSID: Broadcast
4	0.050212	00:0b:86:d5:e4:01	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	Probe Response, SN=1253, FN=0, BI=100, SSID: "etherspher
6	0.072727	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1292, FN=0, SSID: "somethingclever"
7	0.073452	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1293, FN=0, SSID: Broadcast
19	1.144627	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1321, FN=0, SSID: Broadcast
20	1.146116	00:0b:86:d5:e4:01	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	Probe Response, SN=1265, FN=0, BI=100, SSID: "etherspher
22	1.168243	00:13:ce:55:b5:ec	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1322, FN=0, SSID: Broadcast

Don't show me beacons or control frames:  
`"wlan.fc.type_subtype ne 8 and wlan.fc.type ne 1"`

File: "C:\DOCUME~1\jwright\LOCALS~1\Temp\etherXXXXa03776" 16 KB 00:00:11 P: 111 D: 36 M: 0 Drops: 0

# Customizing the Display: Columns

Libpcap captures with PrismAVS or Radiotap headers identify RSSI, rate information

AiroPeek NX show RSSI percentage, rate

Can add columns to display

Edit → Preferences → Columns

- New, name column, select format "IEEE 802.11 TX Rate"
- Repeat for "IEEE 802.11 RSSI"

Wireshark  $\geq 0.99.6$ , no need to restart for column changes to take effect

# Wireshark Column Preferences

The screenshot displays the 'Wireshark: Preferences' dialog box, specifically the 'Columns' section. The 'Columns' list is shown with the following entries:

Title	Format
No.	Number
Time	Time (format as specified)
Source	Source address
Destination	Destination address
Info	Information
RSSI	IEEE 802.11 RSSI
Rate	IEEE 802.11 TX rate

The 'Rate' column is selected, and its properties are shown in the 'Properties' section below:

Title: Rate  
Format: IEEE 802.11 TX rate

The background shows a packet capture window with a table of RSSI and Rate values:

RSSI	Rate
34 dB	1.0
37 dB	1.0
41 dB	1.0
37 dB	1.0
35 dB	1.0
36 dB	1.0
33 dB	1.0
38 dB	1.0

The status bar at the bottom shows the file path: 'C:\DOCUME~1\jwright\LOCAL5~1\Temp\etherXXXXa03776" 16 KB 00:00:11' and the packet statistics: 'P: 111 D: 36 M: 0'.

# Coloring the Display

Can change the packet list display colors depending on frame characteristics

- Identify the characteristics with display filters

A few colored lines can make analysis of a large capture much easier, faster

Click View → Coloring Rules

- Name the view, enter the display filter, select foreground and background colors

Can save custom rules to a file, apply when desired

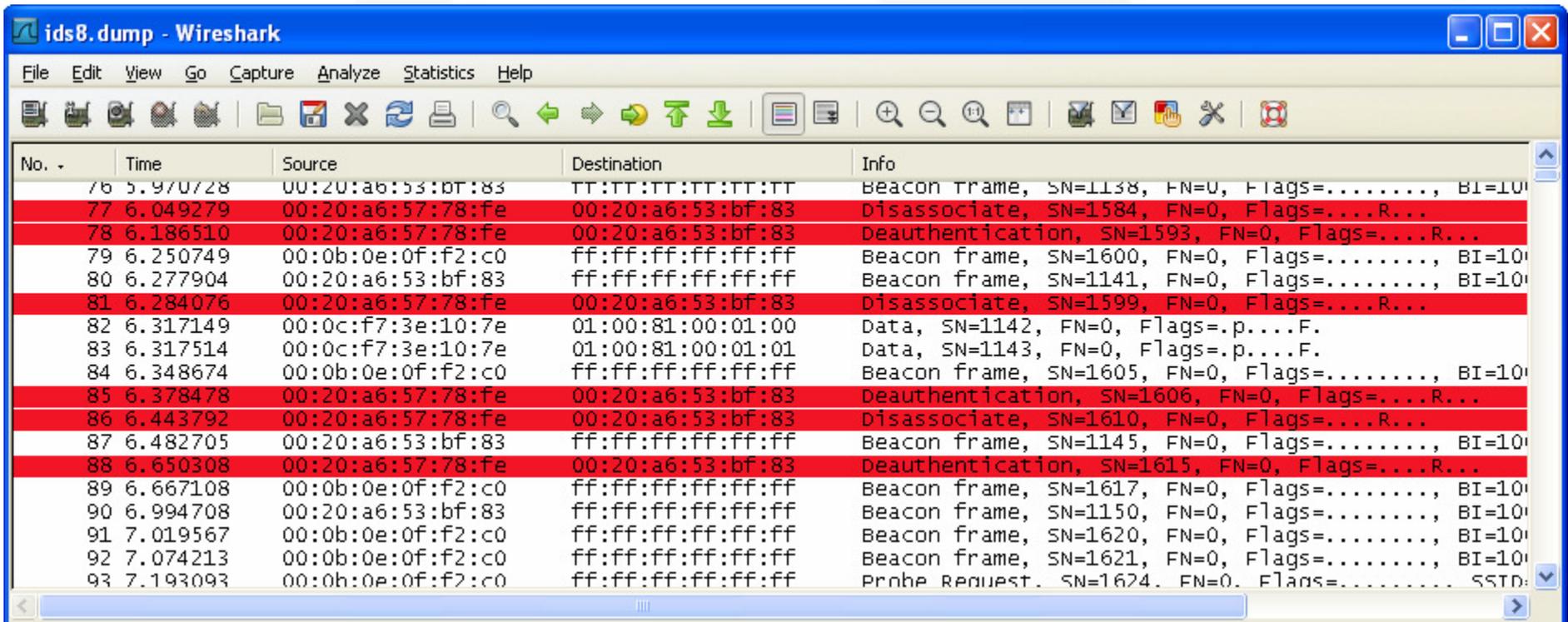
Most-specific frames should be ordered first

# Disconnect Frames

"wlan.fc.type\_subtype eq 12 or wlan.fc.type\_subtype eq 10"

Legitimate part of 802.11, can be used for DoS attacks

Useful identifier for starting analysis



The image shows a Wireshark capture window titled "ids8.dump - Wireshark". The interface includes a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Go, Capture, Analyze, Statistics, Help) and a toolbar with various icons for file operations, navigation, and analysis. The main display area is a packet list table with columns for No., Time, Source, Destination, and Info. The table contains 18 rows of captured frames, with several rows highlighted in red. The highlighted rows represent frames with type\_subtype 10 or 12, which are Disassociate and Deauthentication frames. The other rows include Beacon frames and Data frames.

No. -	Time	Source	Destination	Info
76	5.970728	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1138, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
77	6.049279	00:20:a6:57:78:fe	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	Disassociate, SN=1584, FN=0, Flags=....R...
78	6.186510	00:20:a6:57:78:fe	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	Deauthentication, SN=1593, FN=0, Flags=....R...
79	6.250749	00:0b:0e:0f:f2:c0	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1600, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
80	6.277904	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1141, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
81	6.284076	00:20:a6:57:78:fe	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	Disassociate, SN=1599, FN=0, Flags=....R...
82	6.317149	00:0c:f7:3e:10:7e	01:00:81:00:01:00	Data, SN=1142, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.
83	6.317514	00:0c:f7:3e:10:7e	01:00:81:00:01:01	Data, SN=1143, FN=0, Flags=.p....F.
84	6.348674	00:0b:0e:0f:f2:c0	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1605, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
85	6.378478	00:20:a6:57:78:fe	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	Deauthentication, SN=1606, FN=0, Flags=....R...
86	6.443792	00:20:a6:57:78:fe	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	Disassociate, SN=1610, FN=0, Flags=....R...
87	6.482705	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1145, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
88	6.650308	00:20:a6:57:78:fe	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	Deauthentication, SN=1615, FN=0, Flags=....R...
89	6.667108	00:0b:0e:0f:f2:c0	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1617, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
90	6.994708	00:20:a6:53:bf:83	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1150, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
91	7.019567	00:0b:0e:0f:f2:c0	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1620, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
92	7.074213	00:0b:0e:0f:f2:c0	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1621, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
93	7.193093	00:0b:0e:0f:f2:c0	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=1624, FN=0, Flags=....., SSTD:

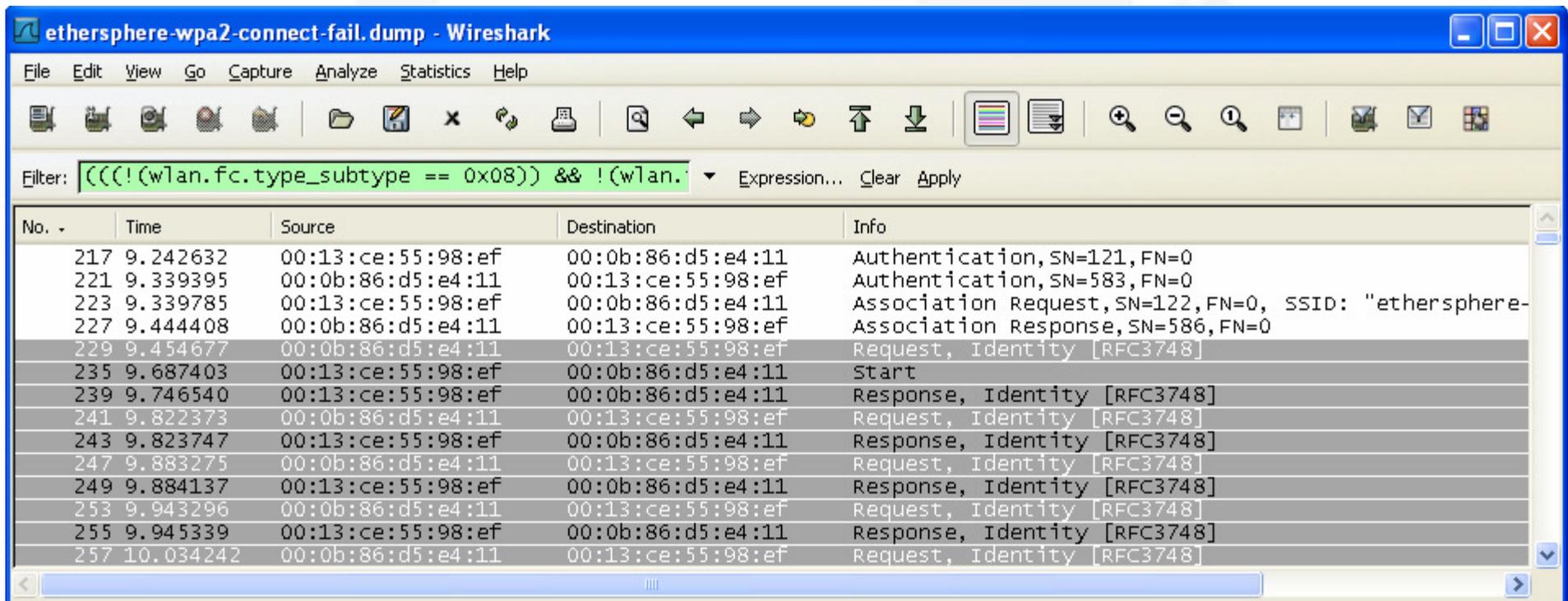
# Identifying From DS and To DS traffic

"wlan.fc.fromds eq 1 and wlan.fc.tods eq 0"

"wlan.fc.fromds eq 0 and wlan.fc.tods eq 1"

Useful to identify transmissions from AP or STA

Helpful in identifying transmit power level problems



The image shows a Wireshark capture window titled "ethersphere-wpa2-connect-fail.dump - Wireshark". The filter bar contains the expression: `(((((wlan.fc.type_subtype == 0x08))) && !(wlan.fc.tods eq 1)))`. The packet list shows the following entries:

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Info
217	9.242632	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	Authentication, SN=121, FN=0
221	9.339395	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Authentication, SN=583, FN=0
223	9.339785	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	Association Request, SN=122, FN=0, SSID: "ethersphere-
227	9.444408	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Association Response, SN=586, FN=0
229	9.454677	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Request, Identity [RFC3748]
235	9.687403	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	Start
239	9.746540	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	Response, Identity [RFC3748]
241	9.822373	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Request, Identity [RFC3748]
243	9.823747	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	Response, Identity [RFC3748]
247	9.883275	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Request, Identity [RFC3748]
249	9.884137	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	Response, Identity [RFC3748]
253	9.943296	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Request, Identity [RFC3748]
255	9.945339	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	Response, Identity [RFC3748]
257	10.034242	00:0b:86:d5:e4:11	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Request, Identity [RFC3748]

# Other Ideas for Colorizing Packets

Identify traffic from your AP provider (or inverse)

- `(wlan.addr[0:3] eq 00:0b:86 or wlan.bssid[0:3] eq 00:0b:86)`

Identify packets that are retries

- `"wlan.fc.retry eq 1"`

Identify packets with weak signal

- Capture-specific, depending on how RSSI is represented
- AiroPeek NX: `"wlan.signal_strength < 20"`

Identify frames with a bad FCS

- `"wlan.fcs_bad eq 1"`
- White-on-white makes them easy to ignore, but can view by selecting the frame

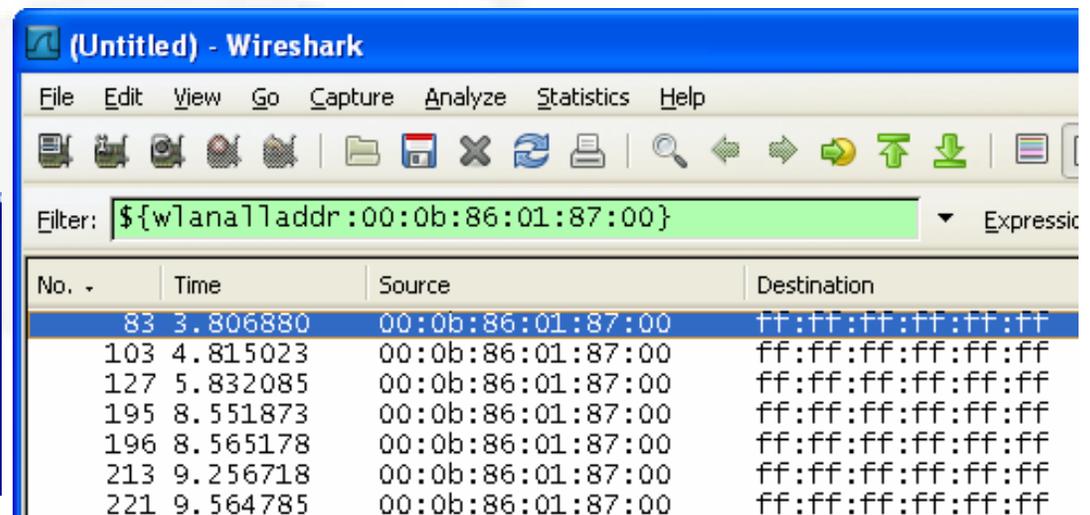
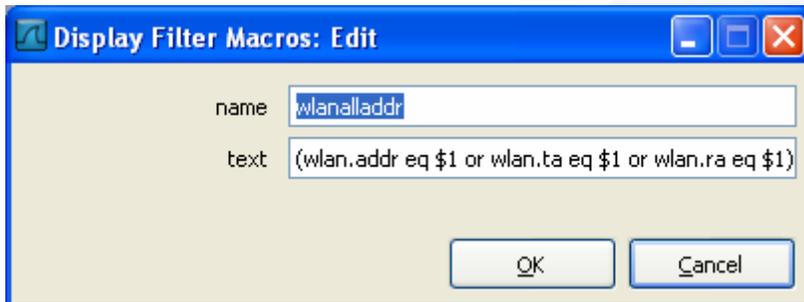
# Display Macros for WiFi Addresses

Macros introduced to simplify the use of complex display filters

802.11 uses multiple address fields: Source, Destination, Transmitter, Receiver, BSSID

"wlan.addr" only covers source and destination

Macro: wlanalladdr "(wlan.addr eq \$1 or wlan.bssid eq \$1 or wlan.ta eq \$1 or wlan.ra eq \$1)"



# Searching for Anomalies

"The wireless network sucks"

- "I can't connect"
- "I get dropped"
- "My performance sucks"

Having a packet capture from the wireless side can be very revealing for troubleshooting

Intermittent problems can be tough to capture

Enter "tshark"

- Monitoring laptop near user with a problem
- When the user experiences the drop, they hit "CTRL+C" to stop a capture

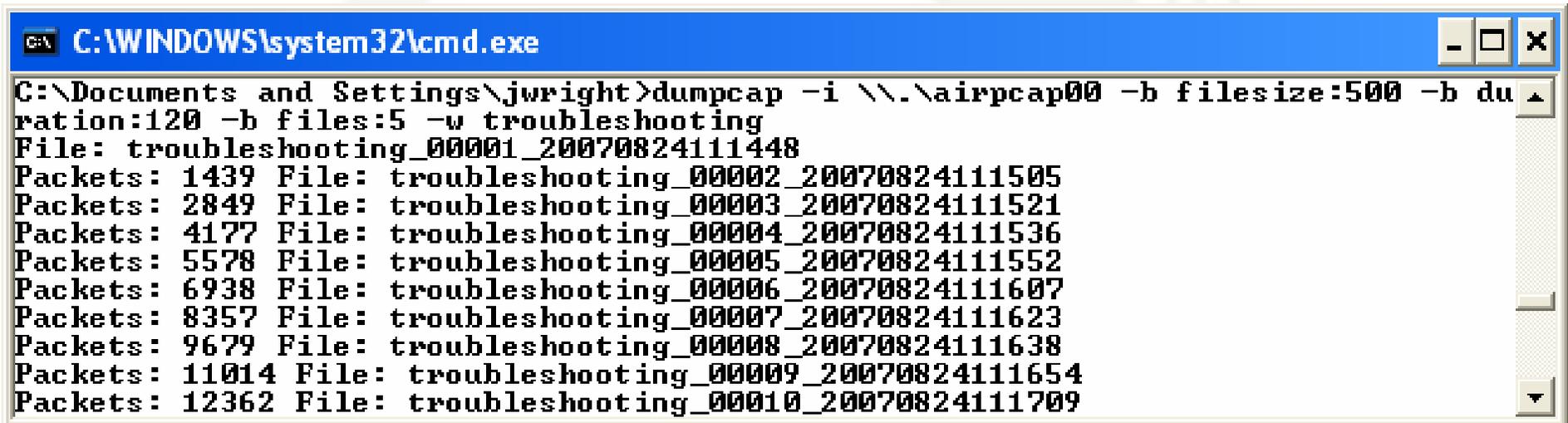
# Limiting Capture Size: Dumpcap

Command-line tool included with Wireshark

Does not decode packets, much faster capture

Can capture traffic to multiple files, overwriting older files after a specified capture size or time

- Limits the amount of data an analyst has to look through



```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Documents and Settings\jwright>dumpcap -i \\.airpcap00 -b filesize:500 -b duration:120 -b files:5 -w troubleshooting
File: troubleshooting_00001_20070824111448
Packets: 1439 File: troubleshooting_00002_20070824111505
Packets: 2849 File: troubleshooting_00003_20070824111521
Packets: 4177 File: troubleshooting_00004_20070824111536
Packets: 5578 File: troubleshooting_00005_20070824111552
Packets: 6938 File: troubleshooting_00006_20070824111607
Packets: 8357 File: troubleshooting_00007_20070824111623
Packets: 9679 File: troubleshooting_00008_20070824111638
Packets: 11014 File: troubleshooting_00009_20070824111654
Packets: 12362 File: troubleshooting_00010_20070824111709
```

# Assessing Captures - Unable to Connect

Apply an "exclusive filter"

- Keep adding exclusion criteria to the display filter until you get to a smaller number of frames that can be inspected manually

Skip to deauth frames - often immediately follow suspicious activity

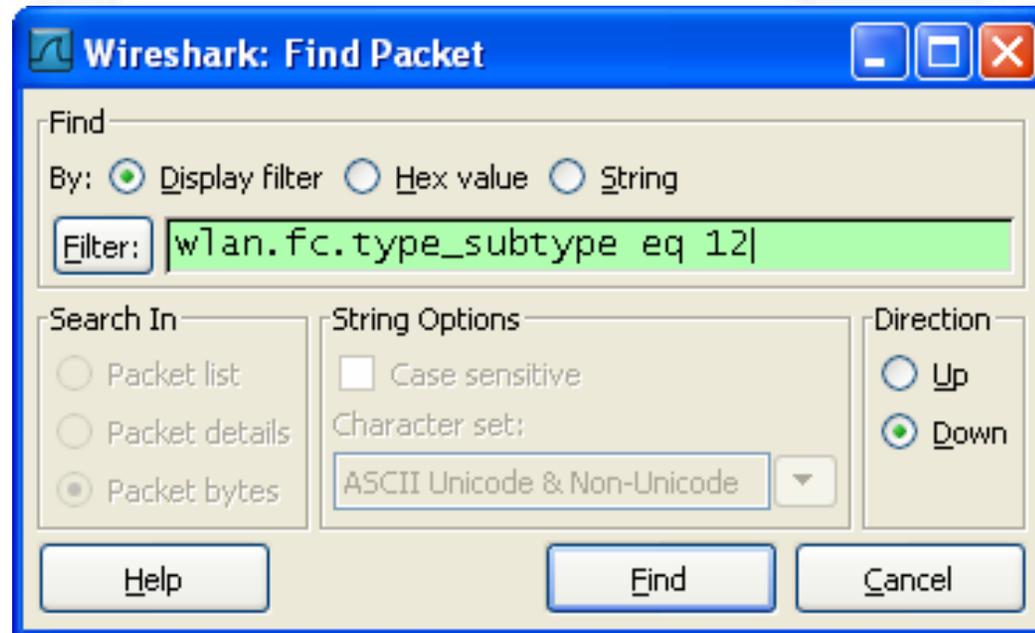
Skip to authenticate request frame - inspect exchange that follows

# Finding Packets

Click Edit → Find Packet (or "CTRL+F")

Enter the desired conditions in the filter

- Search for a string or hex value or match a given display filter value
- Can limit search to list, detail or bytes views

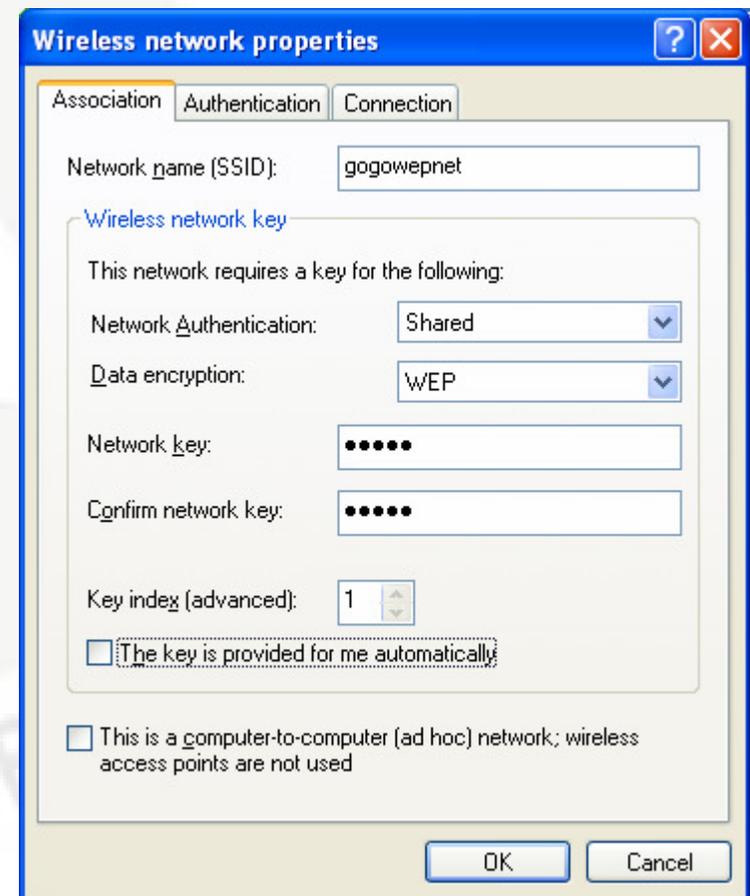


# Practical Example - wlan1.pcap

Client is unable to connect to a legacy WEP network

You shouldn't run WEP, but this isn't a wireless security session

Confirmed WEP key entry, WZC wireless stack on XP SP2



# Analysis steps for wlan1.pcap

1. Reduce frames displayed by filtering out beacons and control frames
  - "wlan.fc.type\_subtype ne 8 and wlan.fc.type ne 1"
2. Walk through client connection steps:
  - Probe request, probe response
  - Authentication request, authentication response
  - Association request, association response

Frames 76 and 77 indicate client is not completing the authentication exchange. Status code in authentication response (from AP) supplies additional information.

# AP rejects client - Unsupported authentication algorithm

The image shows a Wireshark capture of a WLAN management frame. The filter is set to `wlan.fc.type_subtype ne 8 and wlan.fc.type ne`. The packet list shows several authentication attempts. Packet 77 is highlighted, showing an authentication failure.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Info
61	5.131268	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=73, FN=0, Flags=....., SSID="
70	5.787219	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=93, FN=0, Flags=....., SSID="
71	5.788196	00:0b:86:c2:a4:82	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Probe Response, SN=3117, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=
74	5.837938	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	00:0b:86:c2:a4:82	Authentication, SN=94, FN=0, Flags=.....
76	5.838939	00:0b:86:c2:a4:82	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Authentication, SN=3121, FN=0, Flags=.....
77	5.839470	00:0b:86:c2:a4:82	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Authentication, SN=3121, FN=0, Flags=...R...
79	5.859692	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=95, FN=0, Flags=....., SSID="
80	5.860633	00:0b:86:c2:a4:82	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Probe Response, SN=3122, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=
82	5.910180	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	00:0b:86:c2:a4:82	Authentication, SN=96, FN=0, Flags=.....
84	5.911176	00:0b:86:c2:a4:82	00:13:ce:55:98:ef	Authentication, SN=3123, FN=0, Flags=.....

Duration: 314  
Destination address: 00:13:ce:55:98:ef (00:13:ce:55:98:ef)  
Source address: 00:0b:86:c2:a4:82 (00:0b:86:c2:a4:82)  
BSS Id: 00:0b:86:c2:a4:82 (00:0b:86:c2:a4:82)  
Fragment number: 0  
Sequence number: 3121

- IEEE 802.11 wireless LAN management frame
  - Fixed parameters (6 bytes)
    - Authentication Algorithm: shared key (1)
    - Authentication SEQ: 0x0002
    - Status code: Responding station does not support the specified authentication algorithm (0x000d)

0070 00 00 04 00 02 00 00 00 44 00 09 00 00 00 04 00 .....D.....  
0080 00 00 00 00 44 00 0a 00 00 00 04 00 92 ff ff ff .....D.....  
0090 b0 08 3a 01 00 13 ce 55 98 ef 00 0b 86 c2 a4 82 .....U.....  
00a0 00 0b 86 c2 a4 82 10 c3 01 00 02 00 0d 00 .....D.....

Status of requested event (wlan\_mgt.fixed.status\_code), 2 bytes      Packets: 600 Displayed: 191 Marked: 0

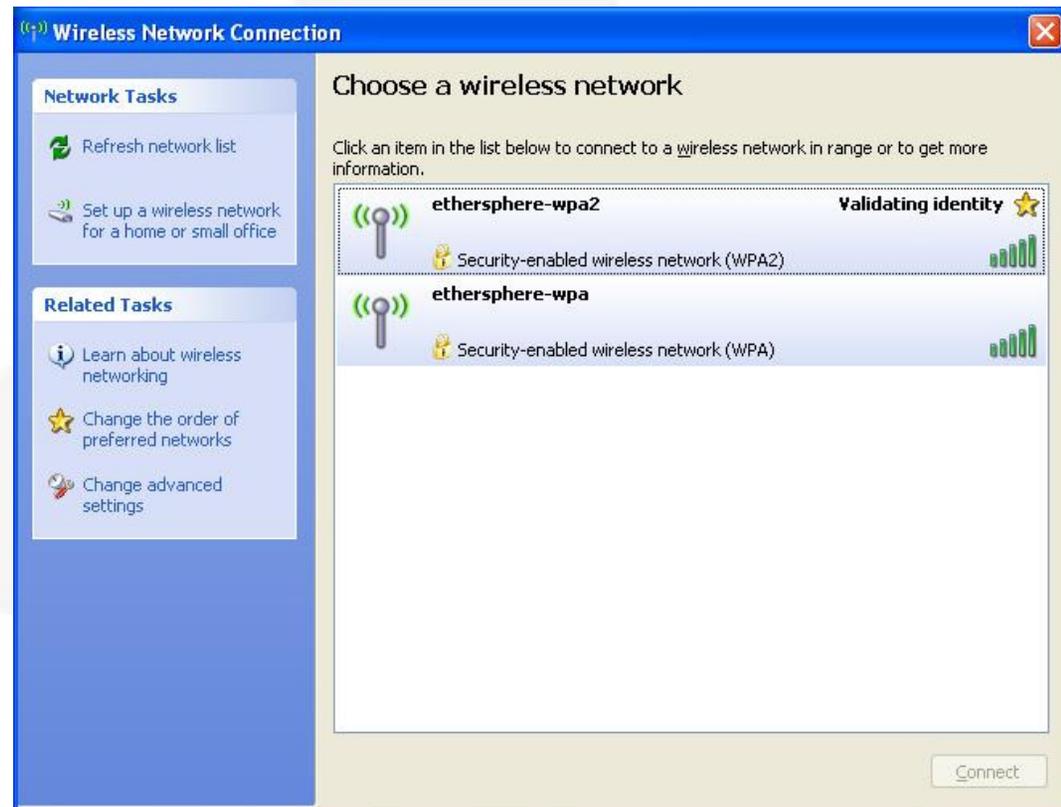
# Practical Example - wlan2.pcap

Morning of Friday June 15<sup>th</sup> 2007 (EDT)

Windows XP SP2 using WZC

"Connecting" logo on the network adapter icon

Further inspection reveals WZC is attempting to validate identity information for my account





# Practical Example - wlan3.pcap

"Josh, Question for you. I've got a local wireless LAN that's having serious performance problems, and I'm looking at some packet captures in an attempt to diagnose the issue(s)."

Station in question is 00:18:f3:92:30:82

Initial analysis by analyst suggested possible DoS attack

Lots of deauthenticate frames observed

Deauth floods are the port scans of the wired IDS world. They are often misrepresented, and can easily make a smart analyst look silly.

# Filename: Kismet-May-02-2007-3.dump

Uh, oh: capture was taken with Kismet

Kismet is a great analysis tool, uses channel hopping by default

- Captures with channel hopping enabled can be deceptive  
re: RSSI, retries, lost frames

Inspect beacons over time to determine if channel hopping was enabled or not

# Evaluating Channel Hopping

The screenshot shows the Wireshark interface with the filter `wlan.fc.type_subtype eq 8` applied. A red arrow points to this filter. The packet list shows several beacon frames. A red circle highlights the DS Set value of 11 in the detailed view of frame 16707.

**Show only beacons**

**Spot-check several frames over 10 seconds for DS Set value**

**Kismet was "locked" during capture, no channel hopping**

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Info
16703	247.123536	00:0c:f1:5c:11:8b	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=2156, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
16704	247.130102	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=781, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
16705	247.144175	00:0f:f8:58:6b:26	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=1923, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
16706	247.157184	00:16:6f:03:86:36	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=60, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
16707	247.200360	00:18:f8:c6:9c:fc	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=60, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
16708	247.224985	00:20:a6:56:83:6e	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=60, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
16709	247.232553	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=60, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
16710	247.259837	00:16:6f:03:86:36	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=60, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
16711	247.302740	00:18:f8:c6:9c:fc	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=60, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,

Frame 16707 (99 bytes on wire, 99 bytes captured)

- IEEE 802.11 Beacon frame, Flags: .....
- IEEE 802.11 wireless LAN management frame
  - Fixed parameters (12 bytes)
  - Tagged parameters (63 bytes)
    - SSID parameter set: "Moto FE lab Schaumburg"
    - Supported Rates: 1.0(B) 2.0(B) 5.5(B) 11.0(B) 18.0 24.0 36.0 48.0
    - DS Parameter set: Current Channel: 11
    - Traffic Indication Map (TIM): DTIM 0 of 1 bitmap empty
    - ERP Information: Non-ERP STAs, do not use protection, long preambles
    - ERP Information: Non-ERP STAs, do not use protection, long preambles

0000 80 00 00 00 ff ff ff ff ff ff 00 18 f8 c6 9c fc .....  
0010 00 18 f8 c6 9c fc 90 99 94 01 50 a3 29 01 00 00 ..... ..P.)...  
0020 64 00 11 00 00 16 4d 6f 74 6f 20 46 45 20 6c 61 d.....Mo to FE la  
0030 62 20 53 63 68 61 75 6d 62 75 72 67 01 08 82 84 b schaum burg....  
0040 8b 96 24 30 48 6c 03 01 0b 05 04 00 01 00 00 2a ..\$OH!.. .....\*  
0050 01 05 2f 01 05 27 04 0c 17 18 60 dd 06 00 10 18 / ?

File: "C:\Documents and Settings\jwright\Desktop\SHARKFEST 2008\Wireshark Wireless ..." Packets: 73333 Displayed: 42984 Marked: 0

# Client Traffic Analysis

The image shows a Wireshark capture window titled "wlan3.pcap - Wireshark". The filter is set to "wlan.addr eq 00:18:f3:92:30:82 or wlan.fc.type". The packet list shows a sequence of frames from 14527 to 14560. The selected packet (14530) is an Authentication frame from 00:18:f3:92:30:82 to 00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9. The status bar at the bottom indicates "Packets: 73333 Displayed: 13297 Marked: 0".

No. -	Time	Source	Destination	Info
14527	216.299904	00:18:f3:92:30:82	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Probe Request, SN=69, FN=0, Flags=....., SSID= WA
14528	216.300557	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Probe Response, SN=332, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100
14530	216.331542	00:18:f3:92:30:82	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	Authentication, SN=70, FN=0, Flags=.....
14531	216.331680	00:18:f3:92:30:82	00:18:f3:92:30:82	(RA) Acknowledgement, Flags=.....
14532	216.332775	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Authentication, SN=334, FN=0, Flags=.....
14533	216.334065	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Authentication, SN=334, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14534	216.336426	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Authentication, SN=334, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14536	216.338152	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Authentication, SN=334, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14537	216.338375	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	(RA) Acknowledgement, Flags=.....
14539	216.394512	00:18:f3:92:30:82	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	Reassociation Request, SN=71, FN=0, Flags=.....
14540	216.394635	00:18:f3:92:30:82	00:18:f3:92:30:82	(RA) Acknowledgement, Flags=.....
14541	216.398772	00:18:f3:92:30:82	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	Reassociation Request, SN=71, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14542	216.404548	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=.....
14544	216.407245	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14545	216.408449	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14546	216.409829	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14547	216.411454	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14549	216.413267	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14550	216.414642	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14551	216.415885	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14552	216.417591	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14553	216.418844	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14554	216.420543	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14555	216.422015	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14556	216.423659	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14557	216.425316	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14558	216.426549	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14559	216.427880	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Reassociation Response, SN=335, FN=0, Flags=....R...
14560	216.432043	00:0a:f4:e2:3b:c9	00:18:f3:92:30:82	Deauthentication, SN=337, FN=0, Flags=.....

# PHY Data Not Available

PHY-layer information is not available in the capture

We can use retry information to detect interference

Manual calculation technique:

- Apply a display filter for retries
- Calculate statistics manually using frame count and display filters
- "wlan.fc.retry eq 0 and wlan.addr eq 00:18:f3:92:30:82",  
"wlan.fc.retry eq 1 and wlan.addr eq 00:18:f3:92:30:82"

retry eq 0

P: 73333 D: 1983 M: 0

retry eq 1

P: 73333 D: 1586 M: 0

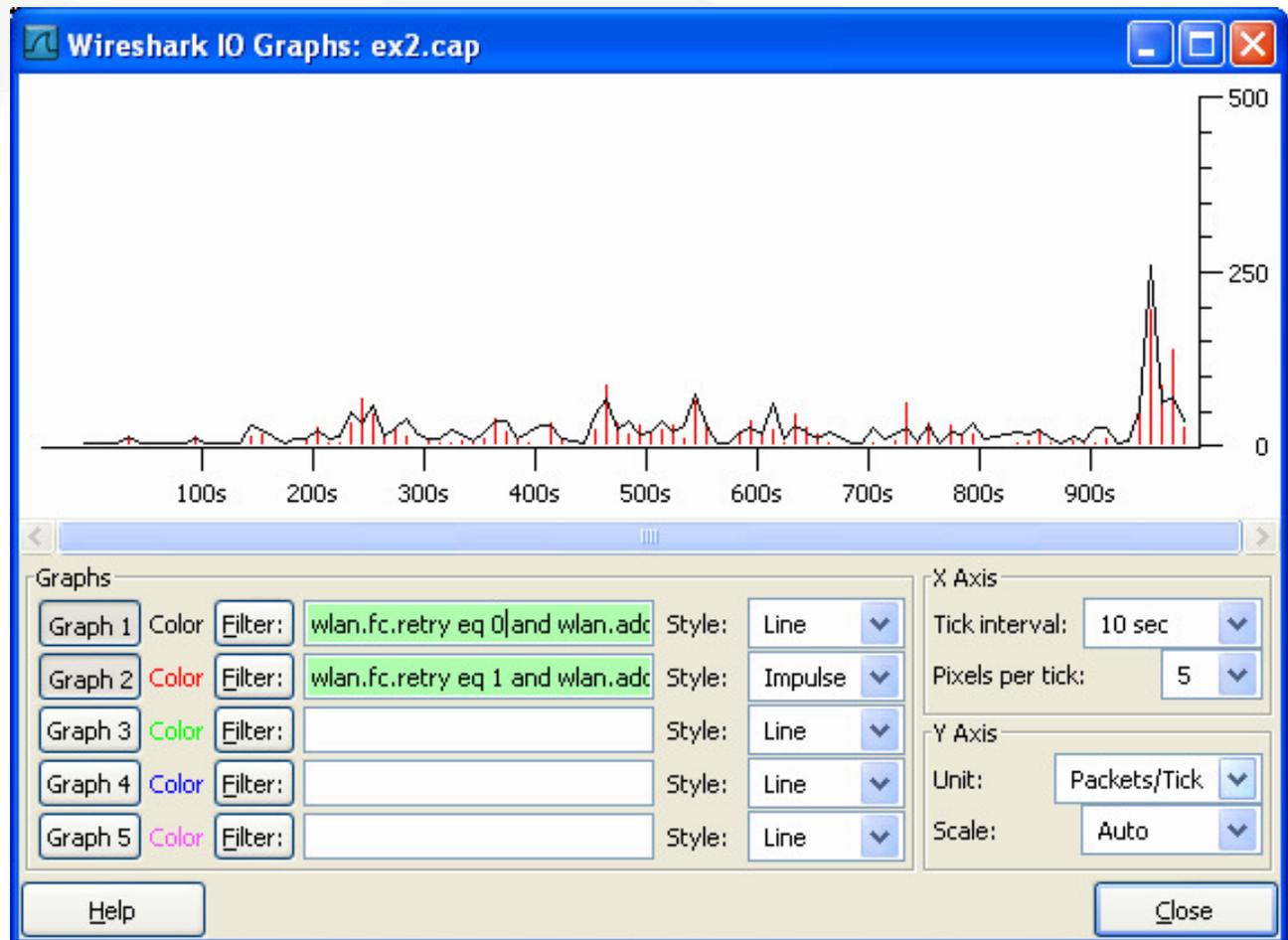
# IO Graphing for Retry Statistics

Click Statistics → IO Graphs

Apply one or more display filters

Can change  
X and Y  
axis size  
and scale

Style can  
be line,  
impulse,  
solid



# Attack Analysis: wlan4.pcap

Filter:  Expression... Clear Apply

No. -	Time	Source	Destination	Info
63	11.053869			Unrecognized (Reserved frame), Flags=.pm..M..
64	11.058502	00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=221, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
65	11.074068	00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	Data, SN=4039, FN=0, Flags=.pmP...T
66	11.074260		00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	(RA Acknowledgement, Flags=.....
67	11.093401	00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	00:20:a6:4c:d9:4a	Reassociation Request, SN=4040, FN=0, Flags=.mP...
68	11.093617		00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	(RA Acknowledgement, Flags=.....
69	11.113204	00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	00:20:a6:4c:d9:4a	Data, SN=4041, FN=0, Flags=.pm.....
70	11.113397		00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	(RA Acknowledgement, Flags=.....
71	11.135721	00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	00:20:a6:4c:d9:4a	Beacon frame, SN=4042, FN=0, Flags=opmP.M..
72	11.135907		00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	(RA Acknowledgement, Flags=.....
73	11.155358			Unrecognized (Reserved frame), Flags=.m..M..
74	11.160888	00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	Beacon frame, SN=222, FN=0, Flags=....., BI=100,
75	11.175267	00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	(BS 00:20:a6:4c:d9:4a	
76	11.194623	f5:22:ba:76:0a:99	(TA 00:00:00:00:00:00	
77	11.213270		00:20:a6:4c:d9:4a	

Frame 67 (303 bytes on wire, 303 bytes captured)  
Prism Monitoring Header  
IEEE 802.11 Reassociation Request, Flags: ..mP....  
IEEE 802.11 wireless LAN management frame  
**[Malformed Packet: IEEE 802.11]**

```
0000 44 00 00 00 90 00 00 00 61 74 68 30 00 00 00 00  D..... ath0....
0010 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 44 00 01 00 00 00 04 00  ..... D.....
0020 43 b2 39 00 44 00 02 00 00 00 04 00 a8 9f 17 b8  C.9.D... .....
0030 44 00 03 00 00 00 04 00 0b 00 00 00 44 00 04 00  D..... ..D...
0040 00 00 04 00 33 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  ....3... .....
0050 00 00 00 00 44 00 06 00 00 00 04 00 d4 ff ff ff  D..... ..D... ..
```

File: "C:\Documents and Settings\jwright\Desktop\SHARKFEST 2008\Wireshark Wireless ... Packets: 13744 Displayed: 13744 Marked: 0

# Wireshark Expert Analysis

Wireshark can automatically analyze traffic and identify errors, warnings and other areas of concern

- Analyze → Expert Info

Mike Kershaw is enhancing expert analysis information

Clicking on the warning selects the frame



Wireshark: 2655 Expert Infos

Errors: 2655 Warnings: 0 Notes: 0 Chats: 0      Severity filter: Error+Warn+Note+Chat

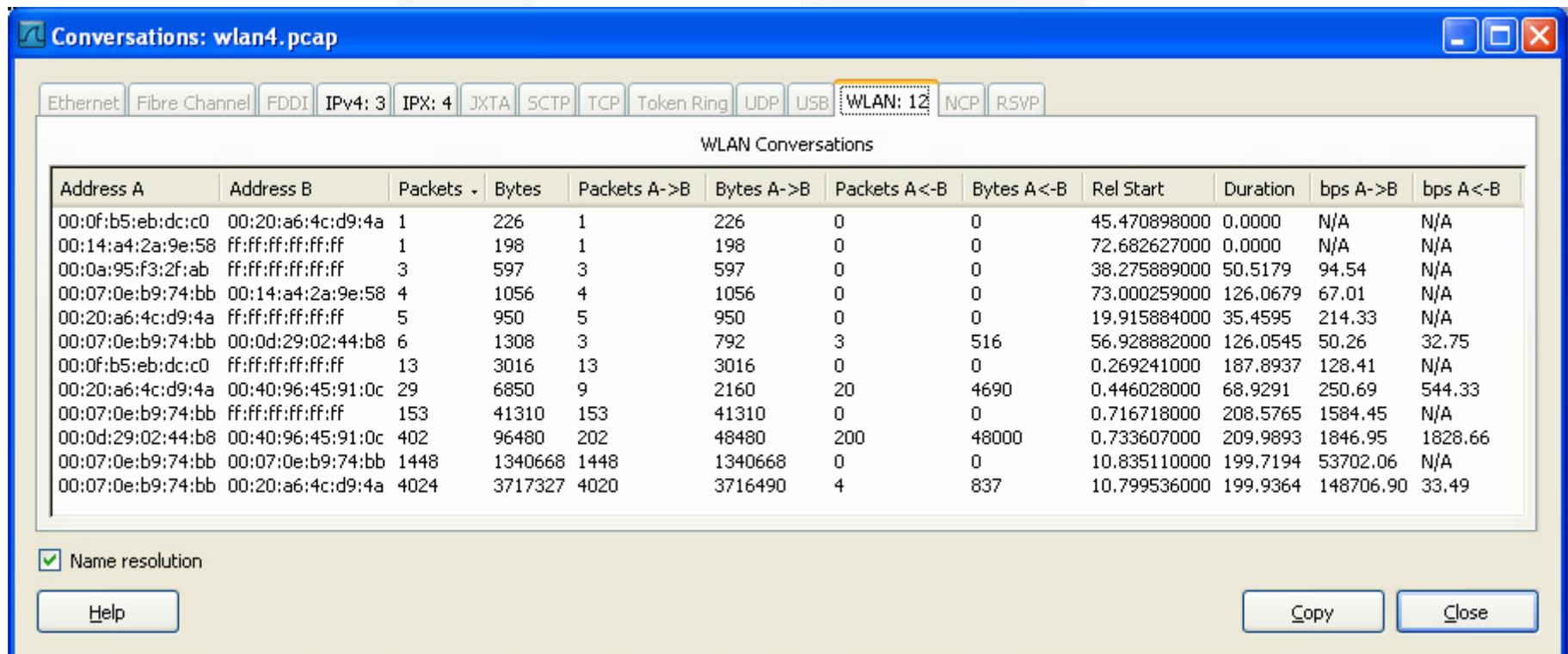
No.	Sever.	Group	Protocol	Summary
1	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
2	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
3	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
5	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
6	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
10	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
11	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
16	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
17	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
19	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
20	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
21	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
22	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
26	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
27	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
28	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
33	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
34	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
35	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)
37	Error	Malformed	IEEE 802.11	Malformed Packet (Exception occurred)

Close

# Identifying Conversations

Useful to identify the top-talkers

Statistics → Conversations



The screenshot shows the Wireshark 'Conversations' window for a file named 'wlan4.pcap'. The 'WLAN: 12' protocol is selected. The table below lists various conversations between MAC addresses, showing the number of packets and bytes in each direction, along with relative start times and durations.

Address A	Address B	Packets -	Bytes	Packets A->B	Bytes A->B	Packets A<-B	Bytes A<-B	Rel Start	Duration	bps A->B	bps A<-B
00:0f:b5:eb:dc:c0	00:20:a6:4c:d9:4a	1	226	1	226	0	0	45.470898000	0.0000	N/A	N/A
00:14:a4:2a:9e:58	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	1	198	1	198	0	0	72.682627000	0.0000	N/A	N/A
00:0a:95:f3:2f:ab	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	3	597	3	597	0	0	38.275889000	50.5179	94.54	N/A
00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	00:14:a4:2a:9e:58	4	1056	4	1056	0	0	73.000259000	126.0679	67.01	N/A
00:20:a6:4c:d9:4a	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	5	950	5	950	0	0	19.915884000	35.4595	214.33	N/A
00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	00:0d:29:02:44:b8	6	1308	3	792	3	516	56.928882000	126.0545	50.26	32.75
00:0f:b5:eb:dc:c0	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	13	3016	13	3016	0	0	0.269241000	187.8937	128.41	N/A
00:20:a6:4c:d9:4a	00:40:96:45:91:0c	29	6850	9	2160	20	4690	0.446028000	68.9291	250.69	544.33
00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff	153	41310	153	41310	0	0	0.716718000	208.5765	1584.45	N/A
00:0d:29:02:44:b8	00:40:96:45:91:0c	402	96480	202	48480	200	48000	0.733607000	209.9893	1846.95	1828.66
00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	1448	1340668	1448	1340668	0	0	10.835110000	199.7194	53702.06	N/A
00:07:0e:b9:74:bb	00:20:a6:4c:d9:4a	4024	3717327	4020	3716490	4	837	10.799536000	199.9364	148706.90	33.49

# Spoofer Frames?

Casual inspection turned up more anomalies

- Lots of frames with the fragment bit set
- Lots of IE anomalies
- Reserved type and subtype combinations

Beginning to suspect spoofed frames

Can apply sequence number analysis techniques to identify anomalies

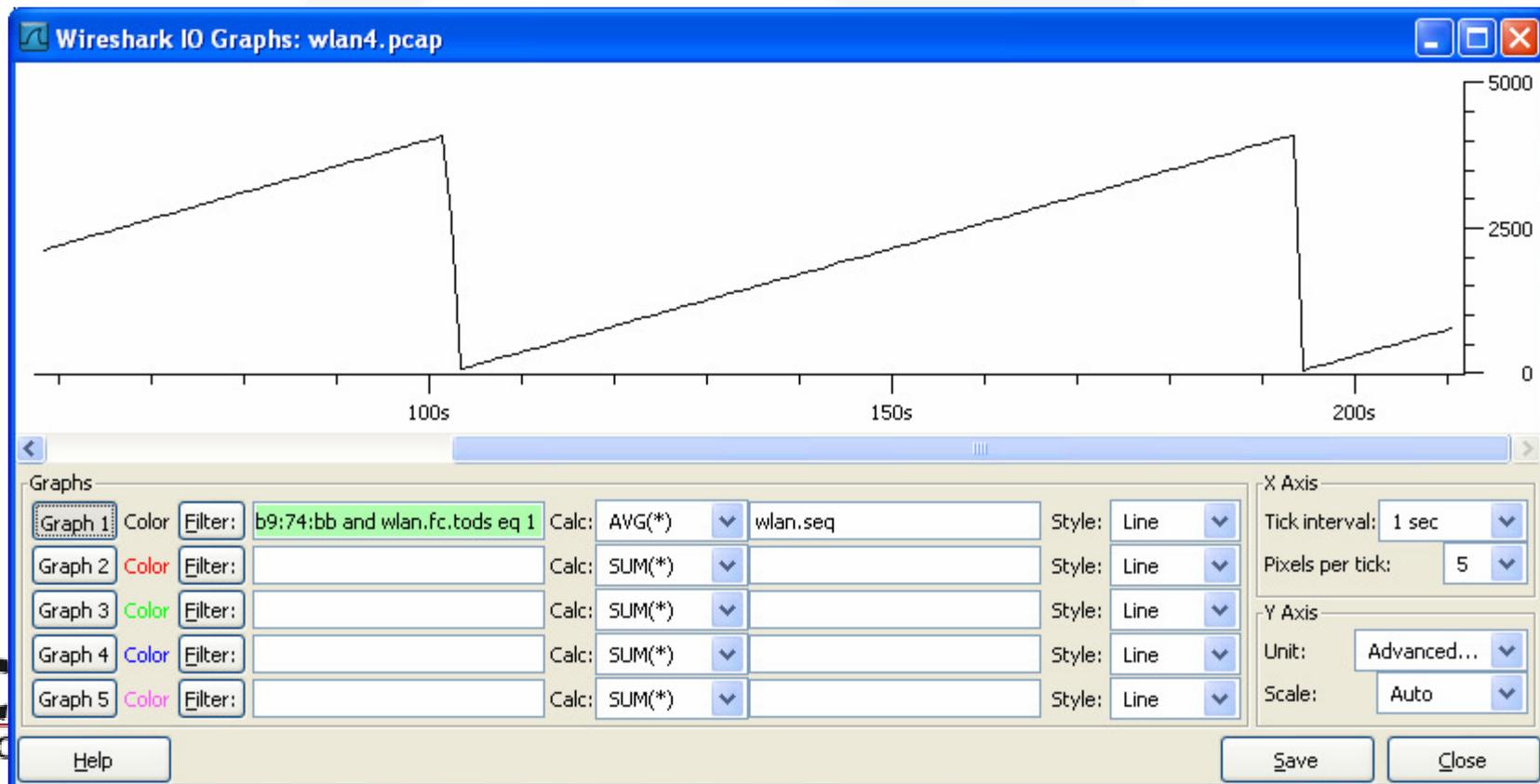
- Using IO Graphs
- When referring to the source address, be sure to differentiate FromDS and ToDS

# Normal Sequence Number Graph

Sequence number field is modulo 4096

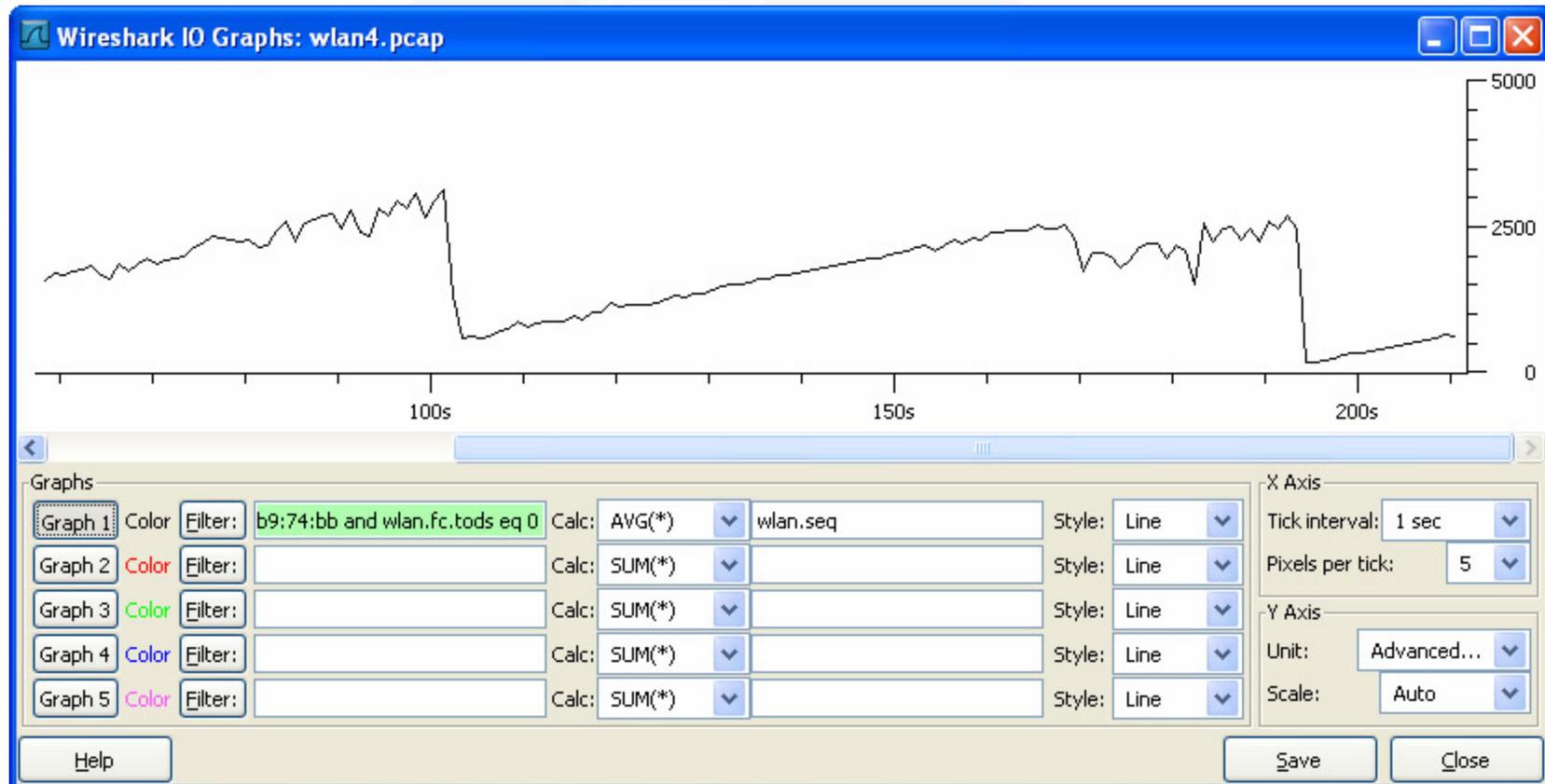
Can graph display filter field values in IO Graphs

- Sum, Count, Max, Min, Avg, Load (time-relative)



# Spooferd Frames Sequence Number Graph

Spooferd frames causes average to skew



# Extracting Data - wlan5.pcap

Highlighted bytes in the packet bytes view can be saved to a file

Useful for extracting data for additional analysis

- [Frame manipulation and retransmission](#)

Select fields to save, File → Export → Selected Packet Bytes

# Packet Capture → Certificate DER

The image shows a Wireshark interface with a packet capture of an EAP-TLS handshake. The main window displays a list of packets filtered by 'eap'. Packet 113 is selected, showing its details in the left pane. The details pane shows the following structure:

- Secure Socket Layer
  - TLSv1 Record Layer: Handshake Protocol: Server Hello
  - TLSv1 Record Layer: Handshake Protocol: Certificate
    - Content Type: Handshake (22)
    - Version: TLS 1.0 (0x0301)
    - Length: 553
    - Handshake Protocol: Certificate
      - Handshake Type: Certificate (11)
      - Length: 549
      - Certificates Length: 546
      - Certificates (546 bytes)
        - Certificate Length: 543
        - Certificate (id-at-organizationName=Internet widgits)**
  - TLSv1 Record Layer: Handshake Protocol: server Hello done

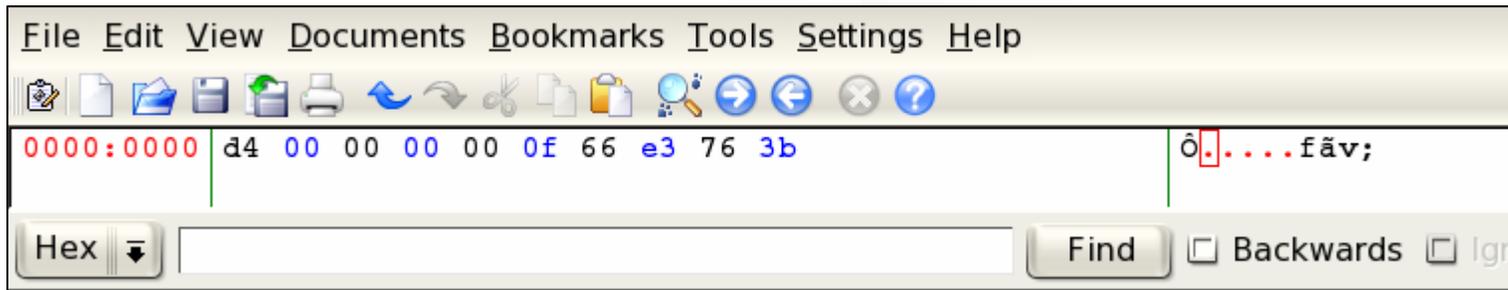
The bottom pane shows the raw bytes of the selected certificate, with a hex dump and ASCII representation.

On the right, a 'Certificate' dialog box is open, showing the details of the selected certificate. The 'Details' tab is active, displaying the following information:

Field	Value
Version	V3
Serial number	00
Signature algorithm	md5RSA
Issuer	Internet Widgits Pty Ltd, Som...
Valid from	Saturday, February 28, 2004 ...
Valid to	Tuesday, February 27, 2007 6...
Subject	Internet Widgits Pty Ltd, Som...
Public key	RSA (512 Bits)

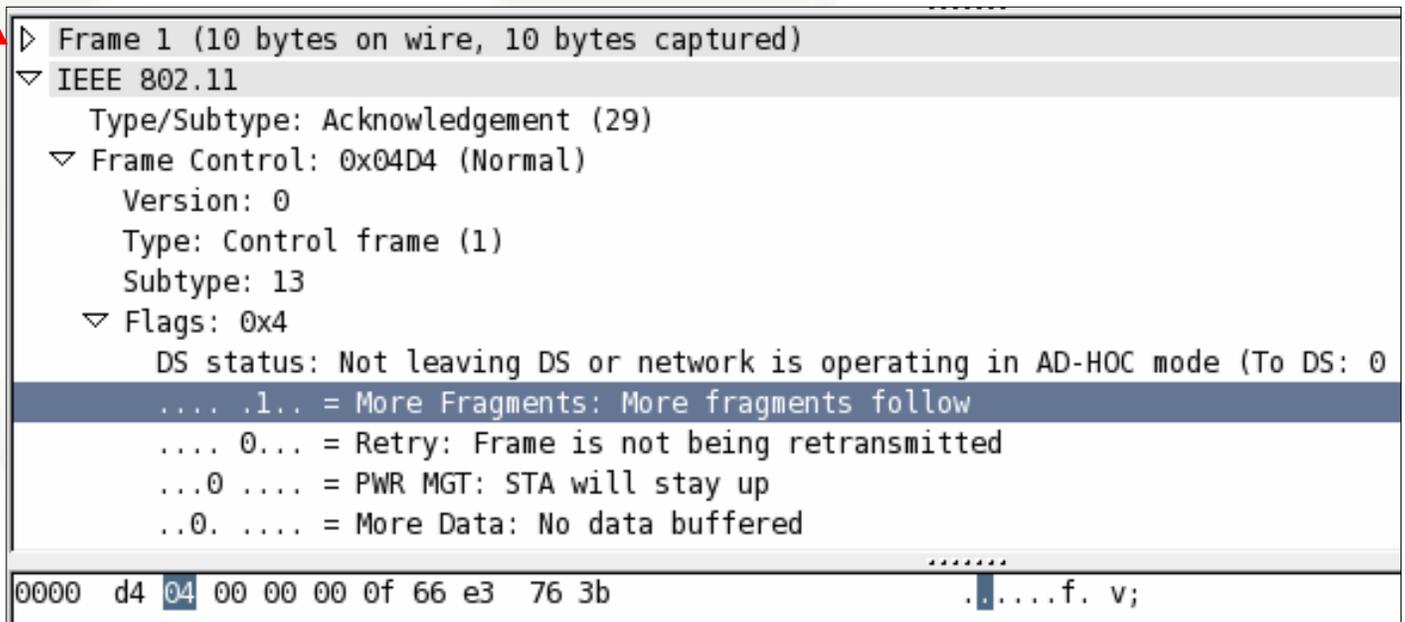
Buttons at the bottom of the dialog include 'Edit Properties...', 'Copy to File...', and 'OK'.

# Modifying Packets



ack.bin file,  
exported from  
capture file

Injected frame  
that has been  
modified

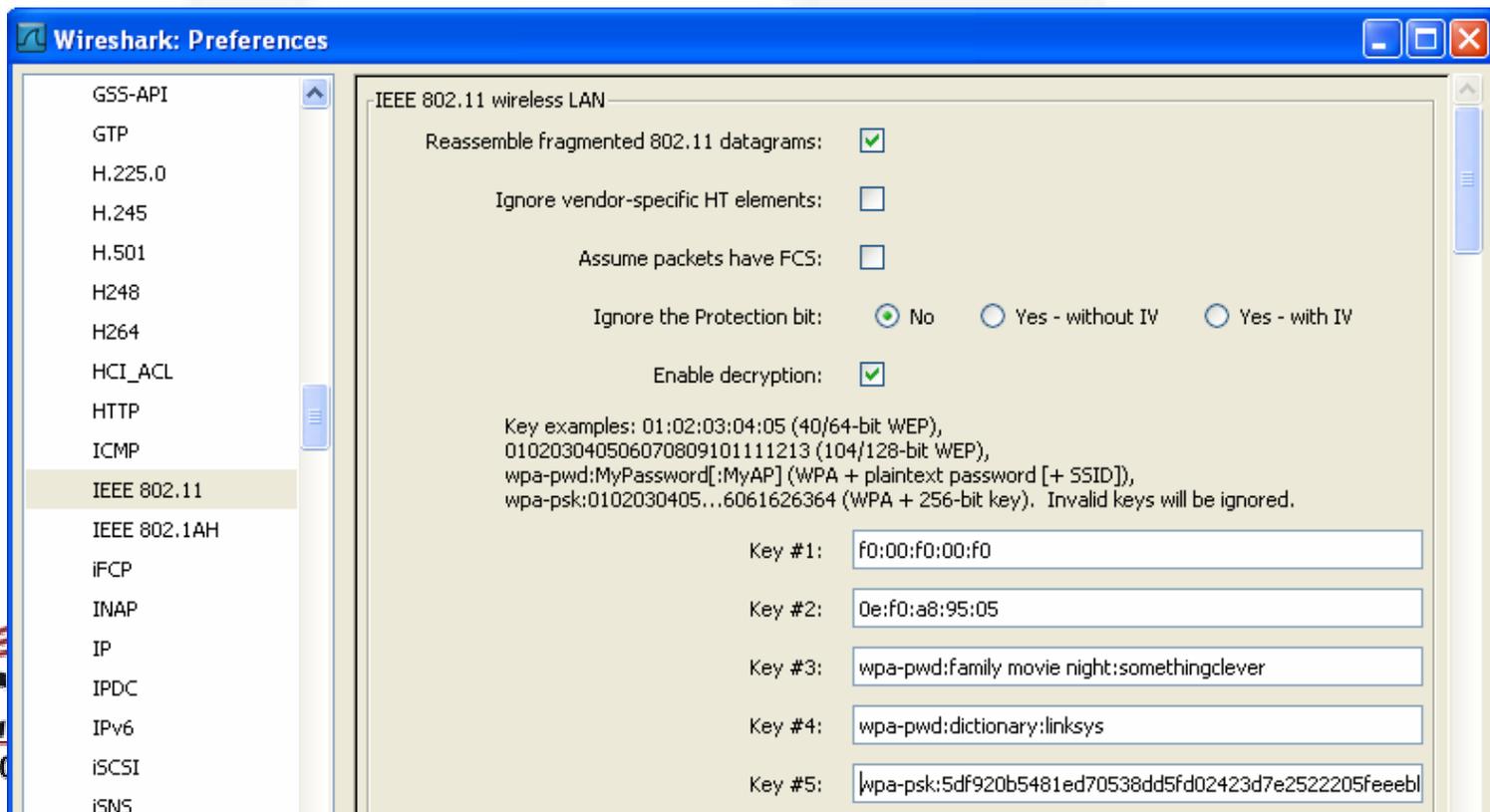


```
# file2air -i wifi0 -f ack.bin -t -r madwifing -n 100  
Transmitting packets ...
```

# Decrypting Frames - wlan6.pcap

Wireshark supports decrypting WEP, WPA/WPA2 traffic

- For WPA/WPA2, only PSK is practical unless your RADIUS server or AP discloses PMK's
- Must include EAPOL Key frames deriving PTK to decrypt



# Conclusion

Wireshark is a powerful analysis tool

Monitor-mode functionality on Linux or with Aircap on Windows

Display filters are applied in many Wireshark features

Familiarity with the tool and specification reduces the time needed to identify the problem!

Questions?

Sample captures at  
[www.willhackforsushi.com/resources/sharkfest08-samples.zip](http://www.willhackforsushi.com/resources/sharkfest08-samples.zip)