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ANALYSIS AND MONITORING THE NETWORK TRAFFIC IN THE PROCESS OF CONNECTING TO INDUSTRIAL SIEMENS CONTROLLERS

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ABSTRACT: *In this paper analysis and monitoring of network traffic in the process of connecting to industrial Siemens controllers in the Faculty of Technical Sciences is made.*

KEY WORDS: *Analysis, Connection, Industrial controller, LAN, Monitoring, Network, Process, Siemens, Traffic.*

1. Introduction

The analysis and monitoring of the network traffic in the programming process of industrial controllers is an important and responsible task for every system administrator who maintains the production automation systems in the respective enterprise. The daily network scanning for suspicious networks connections and states, as well as the detection of anomalies in communication between devices will allow administrators to take the necessary measures to protect the proper working course of the technological process with the controllers. As it became known in the scientific community, one of the biggest weaknesses of Siemens controllers is the Stuxnet virus and in this regard, most Siemens controllers are used in critical infrastructure and infection with such a virus can cause great and irreparable technical and financial damages [11,12,15,16].

In this scientific research, the main emphasis on the presentation of the three-way network handshake is placed, when the initial network connection is made between programmer's workstation and the respective industrial controller in the local network of the enterprise [1,2,3,14]. The worldwide used and secure industrial controllers are Siemens and in this connection a real Siemens Simatic

S7-1200 controller with fully licensed Totally Integrated Automation Portal V13 SP1 Update 4 software is used [1,3,4,7,9,13].

2. Experiment

The experiment in the specialized computer network laboratory "Programming of Siemens controllers" in the Faculty of technical sciences is made. The free of charge network protocol analyzer "Wireshark" version Win64-3.6.5 is used. The operating system of the workstation for programing is Windows 8.1 x64, build 9600.

The laboratory is mainly designed for conducting courses with students in the professional field of Communication and Computer Engineering with an emphasis on design automation technologies and production automation technologies. It is equipped with 12 computer systems consisting of a server and "thin clients". Six models of Siemens Simatic S7-1200 industrial programmable controllers are located in the laboratory, and the Siemens software package necessary for working with the controllers is installed in the computer system. With the support of Siemens models and software, students studying in Computer Technology for Production Automation gain knowledge and skills for programming industrial controllers, which are actually used in modern production. There is a local computer network in the laboratory, connected to the rest of the network of the building, and from there to the entire network of the Shumen University. A projector is permanently installed in the lab. There is also a wireless internet access point.

The software program Wireshark consists of the following control future set components [2,4,5,6,8,10]:

- Deep inspection for various network protocols.
- Possibility for live capturing and offline analysis of the scanned network traffic.
- Live data reading from Ethernet, IEEE 802.11.
- The collected results can be exported to file with extensions as XML, PS, CSV or plain text.
- Possibility for reading and writing of various capture file formats as pcap, pcapng and etc.

3. Results

Once the program code has been compiled, then it is downloaded to the controller. After that is the setup of a dialog box that displays the following network information:

- Type of the PG/PC interface.
- PG/PC interface.
- Connection to interface/subnet
- Compatible devices in target subnet.

- Online status information.

It turned out that 5 compatible devices of 10 accessible devices were found. Every found device (controller) has got the following information:

- Device.
- Device type.
- Type.
- Address (IPv4).
- Target device.

Fig. 1 shows that 5 devices with the following IP addresses 192.168.0.1, 192.168.4.38, 192.168.4.40 and 192.168.4.42 were found. It can be seen that the first two devices the same IP shared and this is a prerequisite for a collision. In order to avoid it, it is necessary to change the IP address one of them.

It should be noted that even if the controllers have got the same IP addresses, then they can be checked for a physical connection by pressing the button "Flash LED".

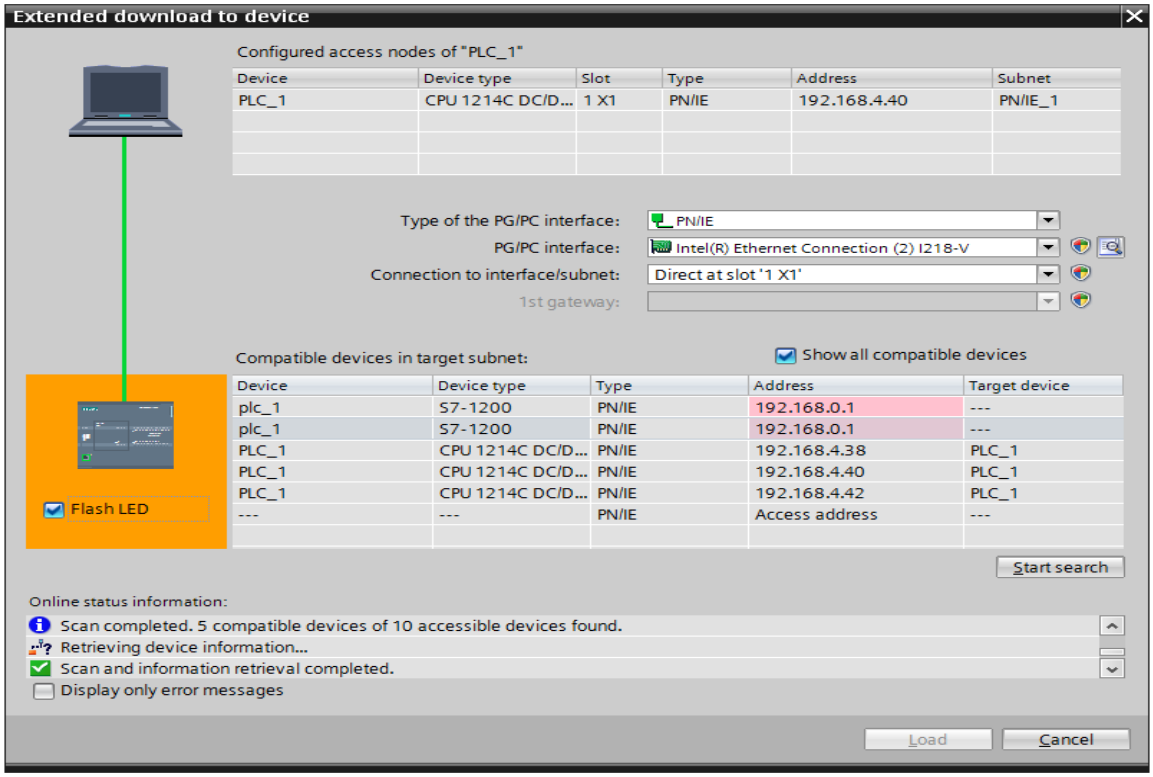


Fig. 1. Extended download to device

Fig. 2 shows that the collision problem is successfully solved.

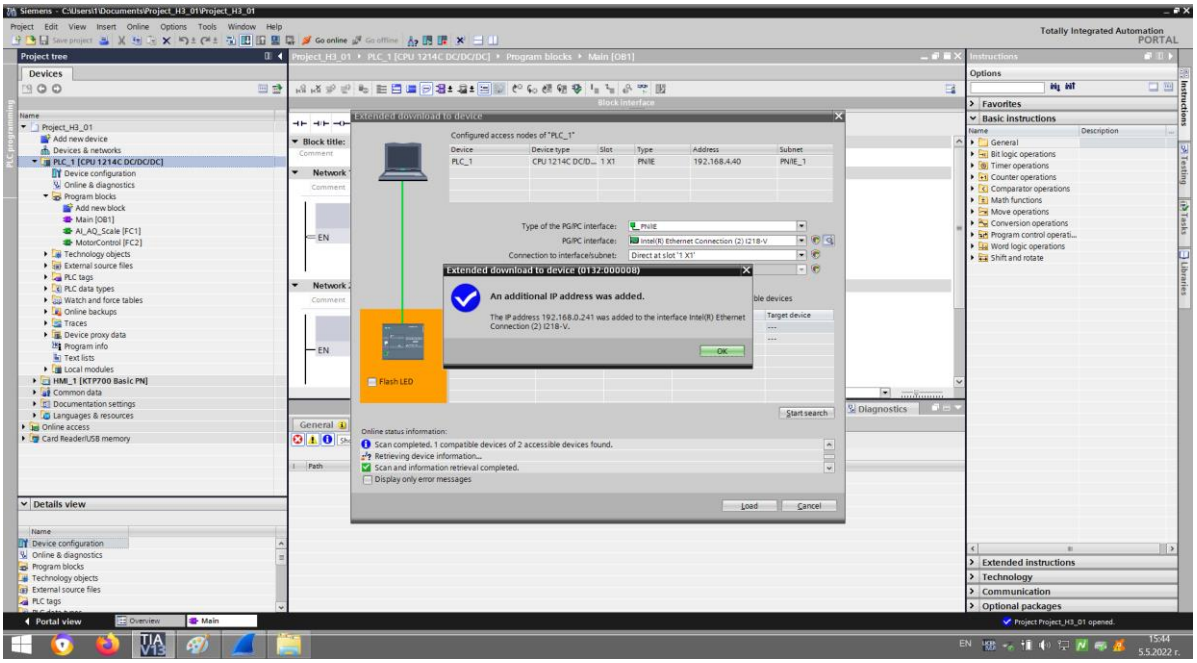


Fig. 2. Solved collision problem

The scanning with the program is started by downloading the source code to the controller and fig. 3 shows the found Siemens controllers.

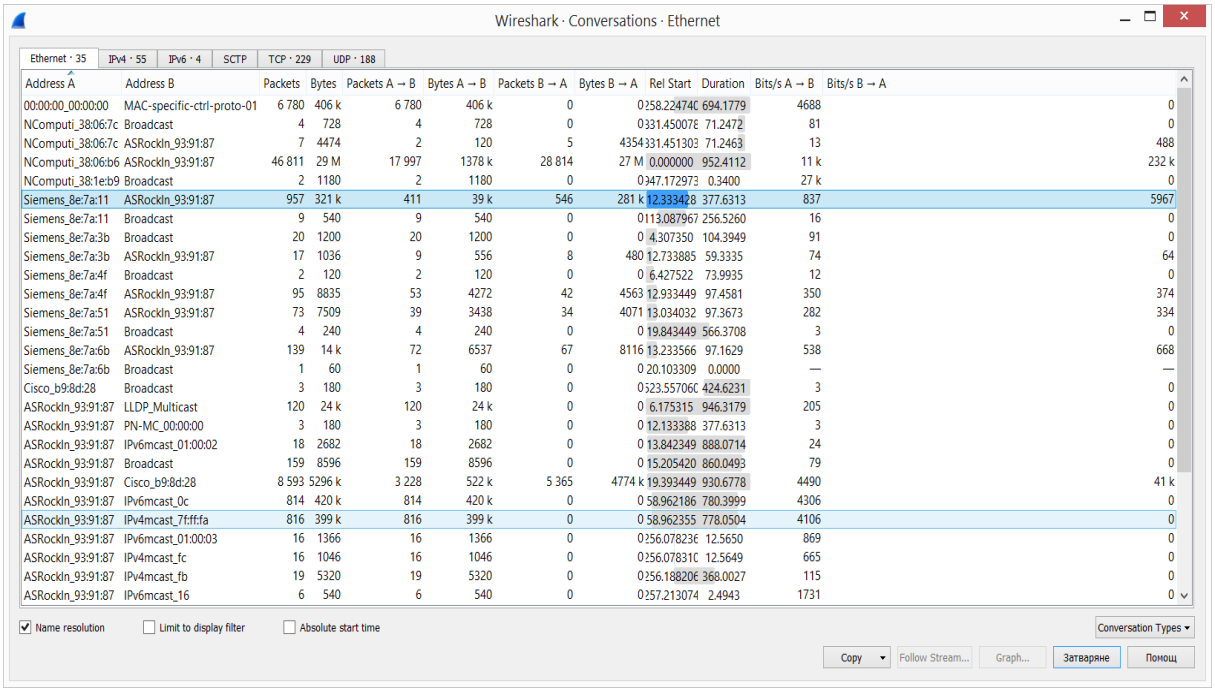


Fig. 3. Found four Siemens controllers

Fig. 4 shows the IP address of the programing's workstation.

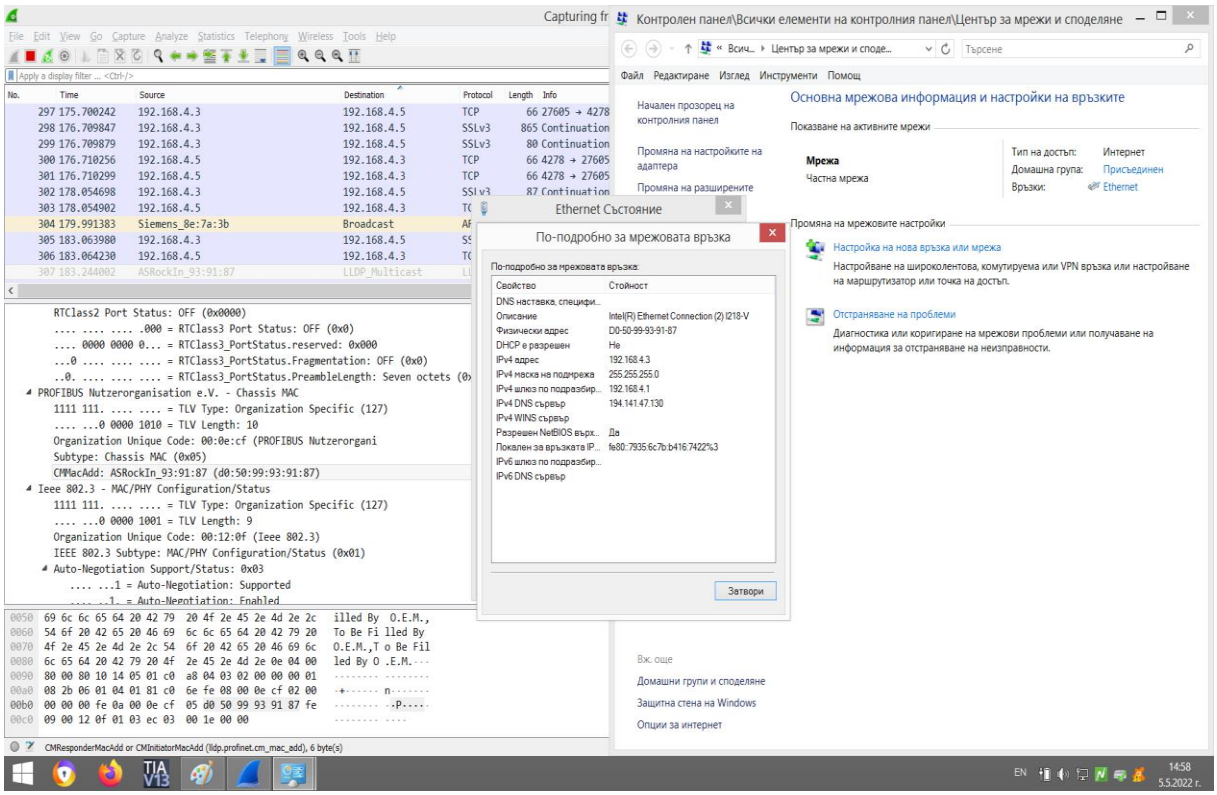


Fig. 4. The IP address of the workstation (192.168.4.3)

Lines 11786, 11787 and 11788 show that the three-way handshake between the hosts 192.168.0.241 and 192.168.0.2 is successfully established. This is shown on fig. 5.

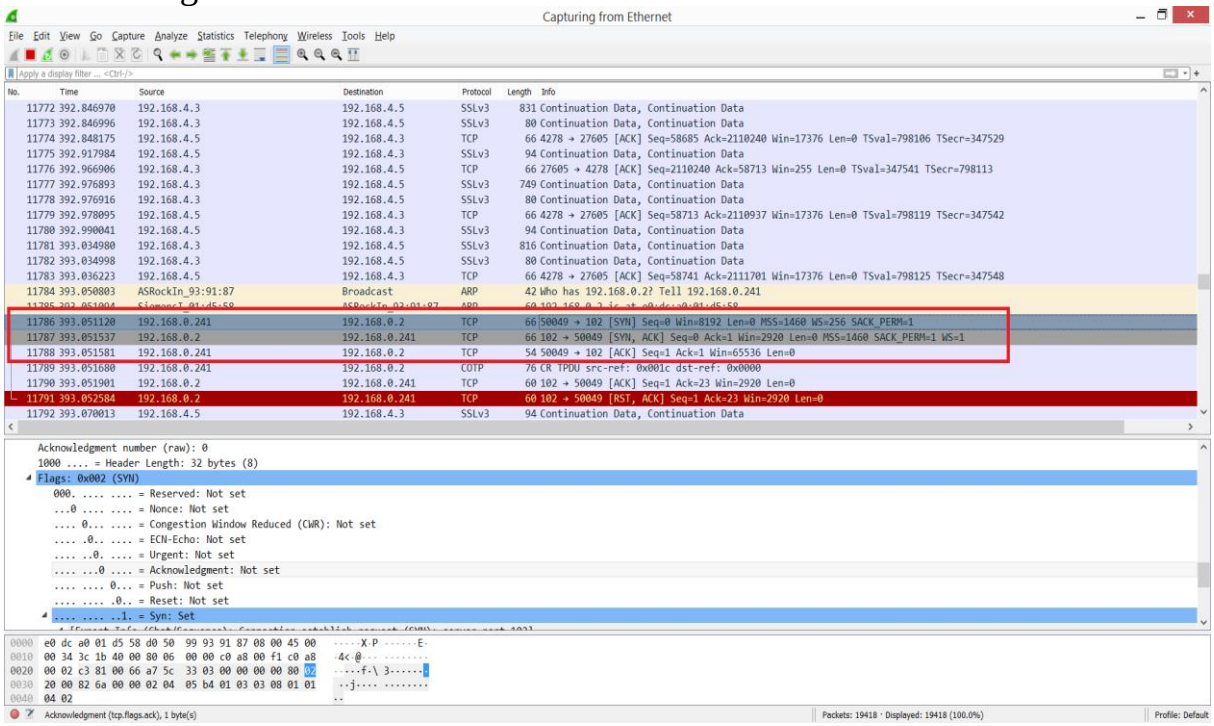


Fig. 5. Successfully established three-way handshake

Fig. 6 shows the captured information for the ARP protocol

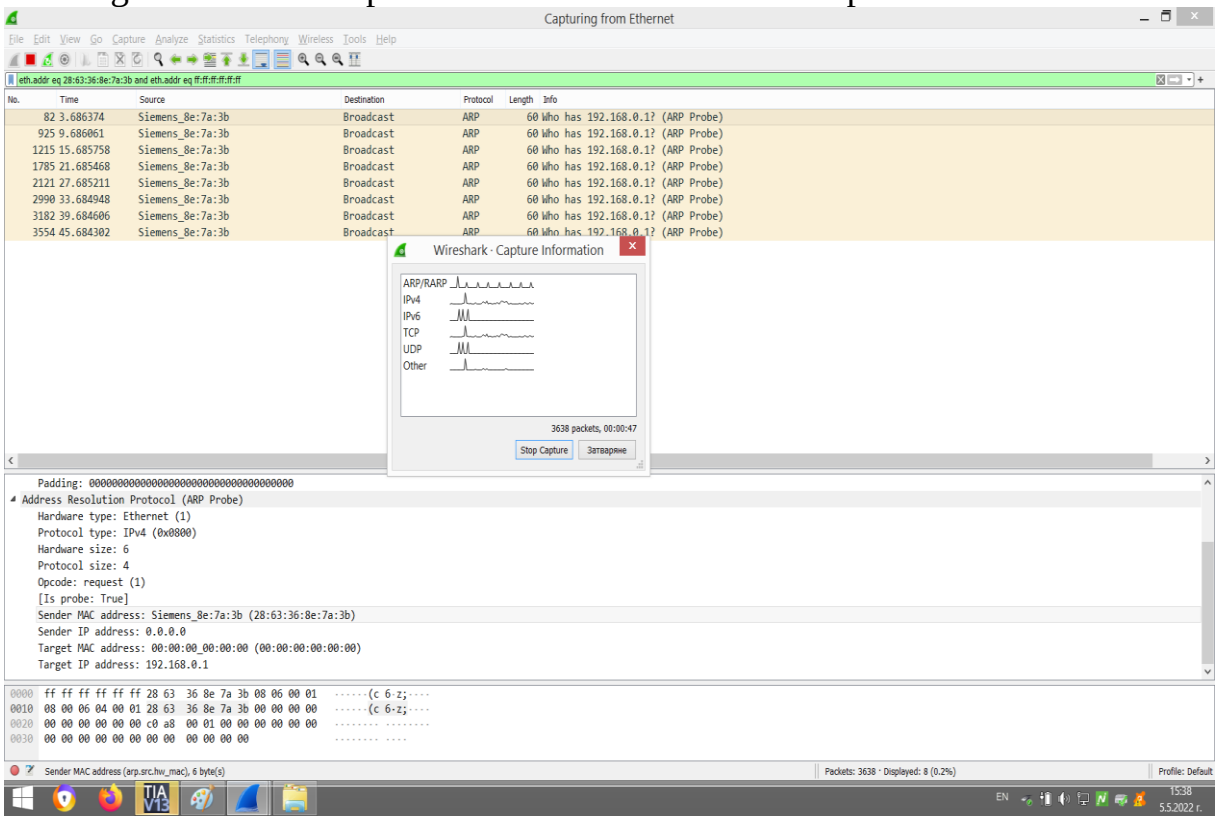


Fig. 6. ARP protocol information

Fig. 7 shows statistics for the found TCP errors flags.

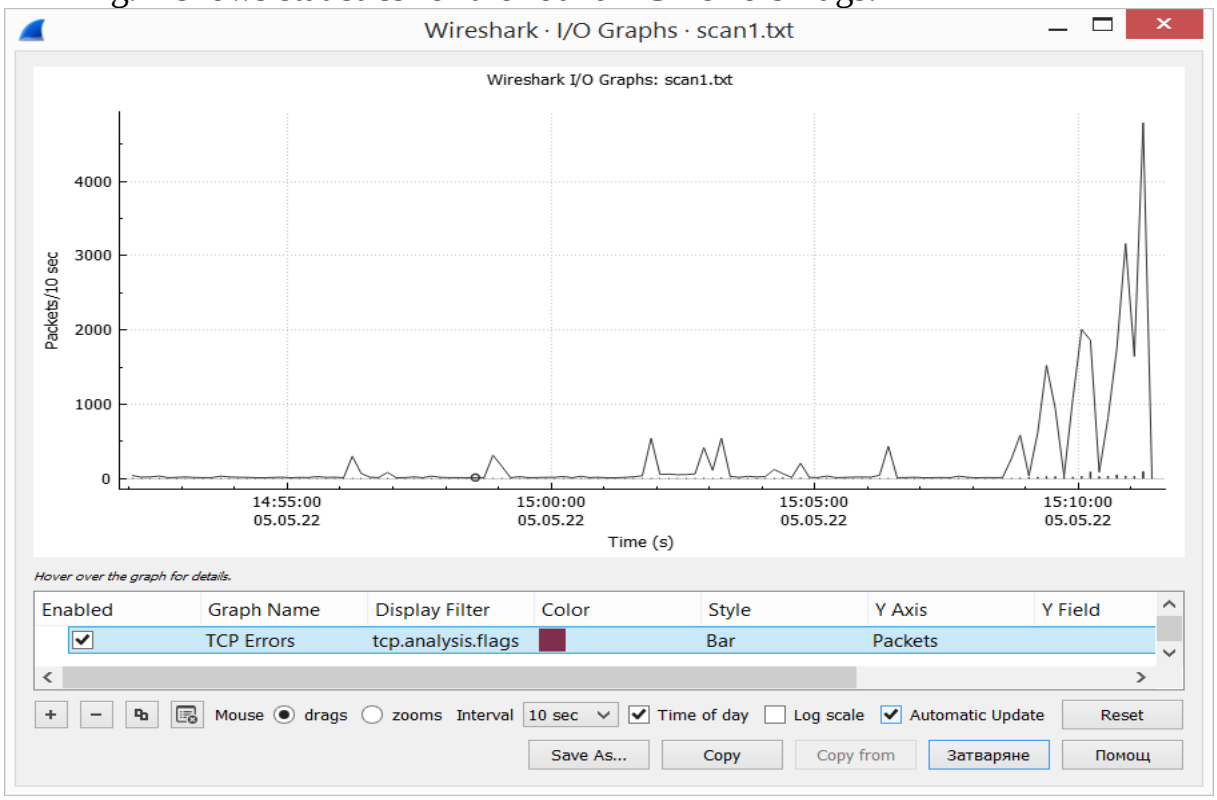
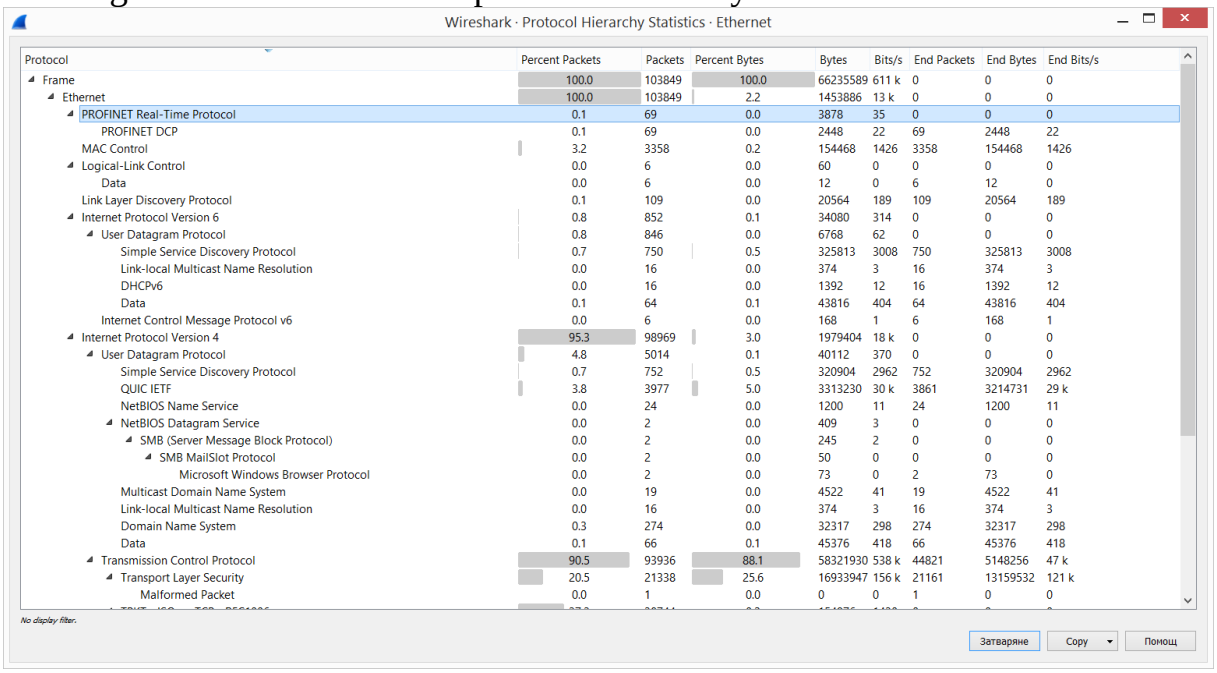


Fig. 7. TCP errors flags

Fig. 8 shows the achieved protocol hierarchy statistics.



Protocol	Percent Packets	Packets	Percent Bytes	Bytes	Bits/s	End Packets	End Bytes	End Bits/s
Frame	100.0	103849	100.0	66235589	611 k	0	0	0
Ethernet	100.0	103849	2.2	1453886	13 k	0	0	0
PROFINET Real-Time Protocol	0.1	69	0.0	3878	35	0	0	0
PROFINET DCP	0.1	69	0.0	2448	22	69	2448	22
MAC Control	3.2	3358	0.2	154468	1426	3358	154468	1426
Logical-Link Control	0.0	6	0.0	60	0	0	0	0
Data	0.0	6	0.0	12	0	6	12	0
Link Layer Discovery Protocol	0.1	109	0.0	20564	189	109	20564	189
Internet Protocol Version 6	0.8	852	0.1	34080	314	0	0	0
User Datagram Protocol	0.8	846	0.0	6768	62	0	0	0
Simple Service Discovery Protocol	0.7	750	0.5	325813	3008	750	325813	3008
Link-local Multicast Name Resolution	0.0	16	0.0	374	3	16	374	3
DHCPv6	0.0	16	0.0	1392	12	16	1392	12
Data	0.1	64	0.1	43816	404	64	43816	404
Internet Control Message Protocol v6	0.0	6	0.0	168	1	6	168	1
Internet Protocol Version 4	95.3	98969	3.0	1979404	18 k	0	0	0
User Datagram Protocol	4.8	5014	0.1	40112	370	0	0	0
Simple Service Discovery Protocol	0.7	752	0.5	320904	2962	752	320904	2962
QUIC IETF	3.8	3977	5.0	3313230	30 k	3861	3214731	29 k
NetBIOS Name Service	0.0	24	0.0	1200	11	24	1200	11
NetBIOS Datagram Service	0.0	2	0.0	409	3	0	0	0
SMB (Server Message Block Protocol)	0.0	2	0.0	245	2	0	0	0
SMB MailSlot Protocol	0.0	2	0.0	50	0	0	0	0
Microsoft Windows Browser Protocol	0.0	2	0.0	73	0	2	73	0
Multicast Domain Name System	0.0	19	0.0	4522	41	19	4522	41
Link-local Multicast Name Resolution	0.0	16	0.0	374	3	16	374	3
Domain Name System	0.3	274	0.0	32317	298	274	32317	298
Data	0.1	66	0.1	45376	418	66	45376	418
Transmission Control Protocol	90.5	93936	88.1	58321930	538 k	44821	5148256	47 k
Transport Layer Security	20.5	21338	25.6	16933947	156 k	21161	13159532	121 k
Malformed Packet	0.0	1	0.0	0	0	1	0	0

Fig. 8. The achieved protocol hierarchy statistics

Fig. 9 shows the entire captured network traffic via interface Ethernet.

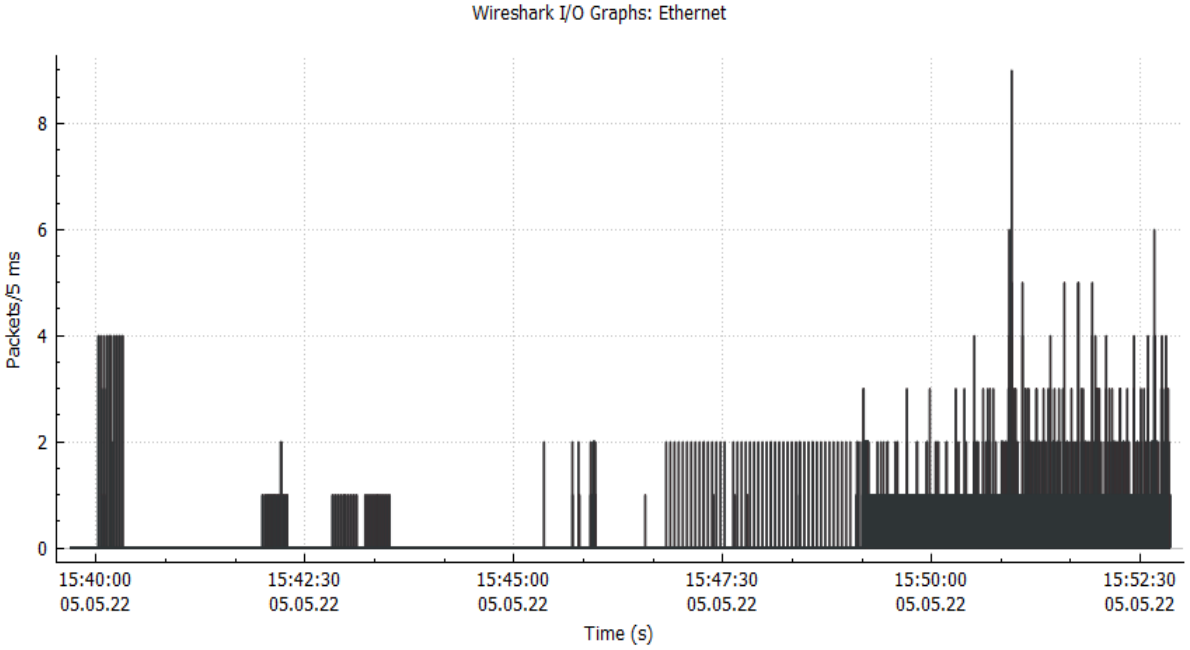


Fig. 9. The entire captured network traffic via interface Ethernet

ATTENTION: The scientific experiments and research works in this paper in a specialized computer laboratories at the Faculty of Technical Sciences of the Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen are made. Everything illustrated and explained in this paper is for research work and educational purposes and the authors are not responsible in cases of abuse.

3. Conclusion

All data obtained from this research are stored in files with the extension pcap and pcapng. In this way, all information can be analyzed and checked offline at any time in order to detect suspicious network connections and states. Thus the exceptionally well-equipped laboratories at the Faculty of Technical Sciences at the Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen give great opportunities to students majoring in "Communication and Information Systems", "Computer Technologies in Automated Manufacturing" and "Signal Security Systems and Technologies" to gain extensive theoretical and practical experience in the network analysis and monitoring the network traffic in the process of connecting to industrial controllers.

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