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## Cyber Forensics - 24CY611

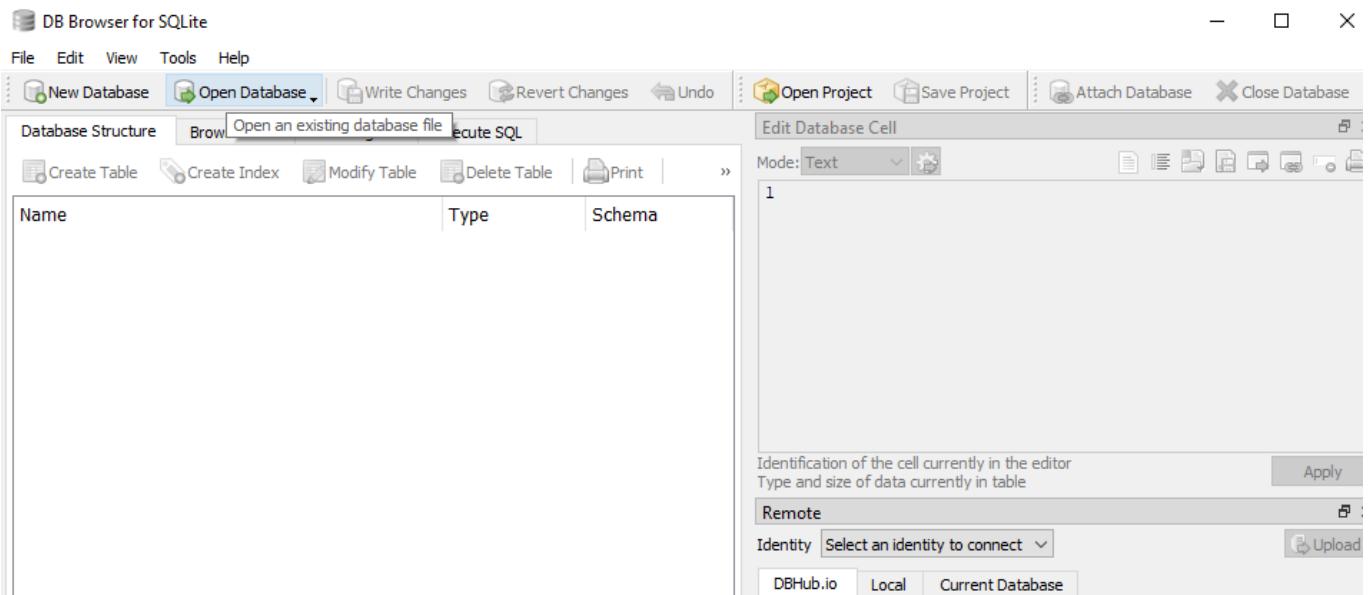
### Lab 8 - Database Forensics

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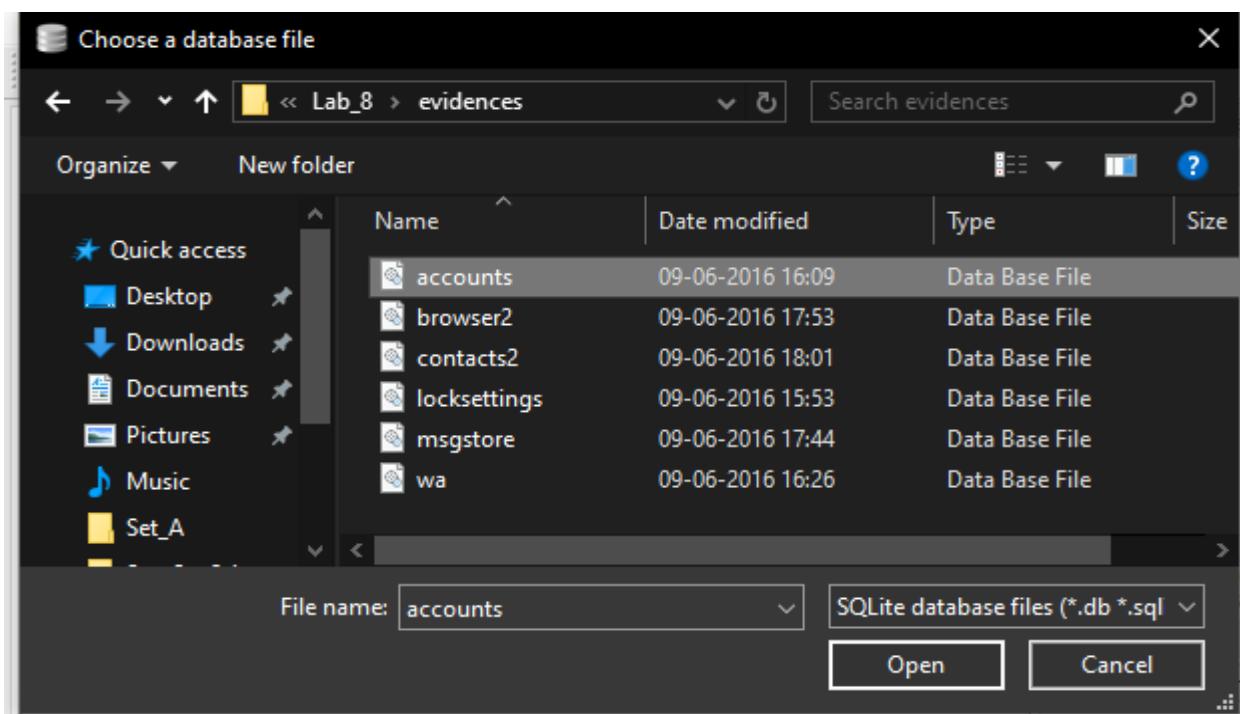
#### Analyzing SQLite Databases using DB Browser for SQLite

Start the wamp server

Open DB Browser of SQLite. Click open database in the toolbar



Choose the database file ( account.db) and click open



The application displays the structure of accounts database under the Database Structure tab as shown in the following screenshot:

This screenshot shows the DB Browser for SQLite interface. The title bar indicates it's for the 'accounts.db' database located at 'C:\Users\admin\Desktop\Lab\_8\Lab\_8\ evidences\accounts.db'. The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Tools, and Help. The toolbar has buttons for New Database, Open Database, Write Changes, Revert Changes, Undo, Open Project, Save Project, Attach Database, and Close Database. The Database Structure tab is selected. On the left, there's a tree view of the database schema: Tables (7), Indices (0), Views (0), and Triggers (1). The 'accounts' table is selected. On the right, the DB Schema pane shows the CREATE TABLE and CREATE TRIGGER statements for each item. The 'Tables (7)' section lists: accounts, android\_metadata, authtokens, extras, grants, meta, and sqlite\_sequence. The 'Triggers (1)' section lists: accountsDelete.

Name	Type	Schema
Tables (7)		
accounts	CREATE TABLE accounts ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, name TEXT, type TEXT, password TEXT)	CREATE TABLE accounts ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, name TEXT, type TEXT, password TEXT)
android_metadata	CREATE TABLE android_metadata ( key TEXT PRIMARY KEY, value TEXT)	CREATE TABLE android_metadata ( key TEXT PRIMARY KEY, value TEXT)
authtokens	CREATE TABLE authtokens ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, account_name TEXT, token TEXT, device_id TEXT, expires INTEGER, type TEXT)	CREATE TABLE authtokens ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, account_name TEXT, token TEXT, device_id TEXT, expires INTEGER, type TEXT)
extras	CREATE TABLE extras ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, account_name TEXT, key TEXT, value TEXT)	CREATE TABLE extras ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, account_name TEXT, key TEXT, value TEXT)
grants	CREATE TABLE grants ( accounts_id INTEGER, permissions TEXT)	CREATE TABLE grants ( accounts_id INTEGER, permissions TEXT)
meta	CREATE TABLE meta ( key TEXT PRIMARY KEY, value TEXT)	CREATE TABLE meta ( key TEXT PRIMARY KEY, value TEXT)
sqlite_sequence	CREATE TABLE sqlite_sequence(name TEXT, seq INTEGER)	CREATE TABLE sqlite_sequence(name TEXT, seq INTEGER)
Indices (0)		
Views (0)		
Triggers (1)		
accountsDelete	CREATE TRIGGER accountsDelete BEFORE DELETE ON accounts AS BEGIN	CREATE TRIGGER accountsDelete BEFORE DELETE ON accounts AS BEGIN

Click Browse Data tab to view the data in the accounts database.

Once you click the tab button, the accounts table will be selected by default and the table contents (the accounts synchronized with the device) will be displayed under the Table section, and the database schema will be displayed in the right pane of the UI as shown in the following screenshot:

This screenshot shows the DB Browser for SQLite interface with the 'Browse Data' tab selected. The title bar and toolbar are identical to the previous screenshot. The Database Structure tab is still visible on the left. The main area shows the 'accounts' table data with two rows: one for WhatsApp and one for Viber. The right pane shows the same DB Schema as the previous screenshot, listing the tables, indices, views, and triggers.

_id	name	type	password
1	WhatsApp	com.whatsapp	9f7955c8fa794ccc87465cf95aeeef99e523...
2	+1-000-000-0000	com.viber.voip	9f7955c8fa794ccc87465cf95aeeef99e523...

Name	Type	Schema
Tables (7)		
accounts	CREATE TABLE accounts ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, name TEXT, type TEXT, password TEXT)	CREATE TABLE accounts ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, name TEXT, type TEXT, password TEXT)
android_metadata	CREATE TABLE android_metadata ( key TEXT PRIMARY KEY, value TEXT)	CREATE TABLE android_metadata ( key TEXT PRIMARY KEY, value TEXT)
authtokens	CREATE TABLE authtokens ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, account_name TEXT, token TEXT, device_id TEXT, expires INTEGER, type TEXT)	CREATE TABLE authtokens ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, account_name TEXT, token TEXT, device_id TEXT, expires INTEGER, type TEXT)
extras	CREATE TABLE extras ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, account_name TEXT, key TEXT, value TEXT)	CREATE TABLE extras ( _id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, account_name TEXT, key TEXT, value TEXT)
grants	CREATE TABLE grants ( accounts_id INTEGER, permissions TEXT)	CREATE TABLE grants ( accounts_id INTEGER, permissions TEXT)
meta	CREATE TABLE meta ( key TEXT PRIMARY KEY, value TEXT)	CREATE TABLE meta ( key TEXT PRIMARY KEY, value TEXT)
sqlite_sequence	CREATE TABLE sqlite_sequence(name TEXT, seq INTEGER)	CREATE TABLE sqlite_sequence(name TEXT, seq INTEGER)
Indices (0)		
Views (0)		
Triggers (1)		
accountsDelete	CREATE TRIGGER accountsDelete BEFORE DELETE ON accounts AS BEGIN	CREATE TRIGGER accountsDelete BEFORE DELETE ON accounts AS BEGIN

We can observe that the device was synchronized with two accounts: **WhatsApp and Viber**.

In the same way, you may also view the contents of other tables by selecting them from the Table drop-down list.

Now, we shall view the information stored in the browser database. To go to the database, click Open Database from the toolbar.

The screenshot shows the SQLite Database Browser interface. On the left, the 'Database Structure' tab is selected, displaying the 'accounts' table with columns: \_id, name, type, and password. Two rows are visible: one for WhatsApp and one for Viber. On the right, the 'SQL Log' tab shows the following SQL queries:

```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type,name,sql,tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA encoding;
5 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."accounts" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
6 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."accounts" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
7

```

Choose the database file ( browser2.db) and click open

The screenshot shows the SQLite Database Browser interface with the 'Choose a database file' dialog box overlaid. The dialog box shows a file selection tree under 'Lab\_8/evidences'. The 'File name:' dropdown is set to 'browser2'. The 'Open' button is highlighted.

Select Browse Data tab and select bookmarks table from the Table drop-down list. This displays all the URLs that were bookmarked on the device as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the SQLite Database Browser interface with the 'Browse Data' tab selected. The 'bookmarks' table is displayed with columns: \_id, title, and url. The table contains 12 rows of bookmarked URLs. The 'SQL Log' tab on the right shows the following SQL queries:

```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type,name,sql,tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("v_accounts");
5 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("v_omnibox_suggestions");
6 PRAGMA encoding;
7 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."_sync_state" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
8 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."bookmarks" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
9

```

Select history table from the Table drop-down list to view the browser history.

The screenshot shows the SQLite Manager interface. The top menu bar includes 'New Database', 'Open Database', 'Write Changes', 'Revert Changes', 'Undo', 'Open Project', 'Save Project', 'Attach Database', and 'Close Database'. Below the menu is a toolbar with icons for 'Database Structure', 'Browse Data', 'Edit Pragmas', and 'Execute SQL'. A dropdown menu 'Table:' is set to 'History'. On the right, a 'SQL Log' window displays the following SQL code:

```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type,name,sql,tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("v_accounts");
5 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("v_omniboxSuggestions");
6 PRAGMA encoding;
7 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."_sync_state" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
8 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."bookmarks" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
9 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."history" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
10

```

The main area shows a table named 'History' with columns '\_id', 'title', and 'url'. The table contains 9 rows of data, with row 9 currently selected.

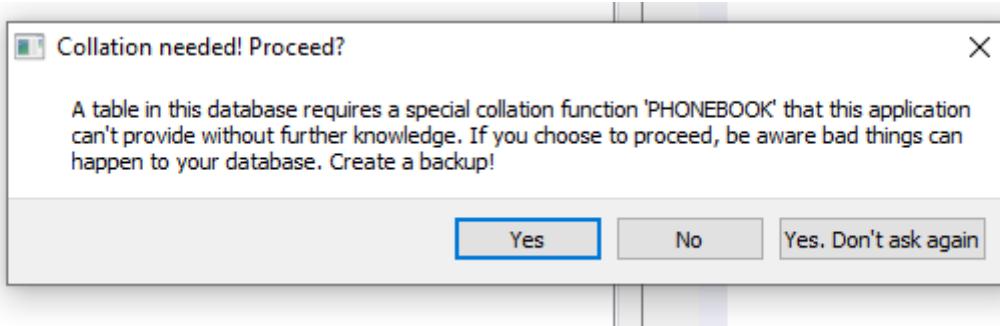
The sqlite\_sequence table stores information related to history (number of websites browsed) and bookmarks (number of websites bookmarked). To view this data, select sqlite\_sequence table from the Table drop-down list.

The screenshot shows the SQLite Manager interface with the 'sqlite\_sequence' table selected. The table has two columns: 'name' and 'seq'. It contains two rows: 'bookmarks' with seq 19 and 'history' with seq 9. The right side of the screen shows the same SQL log as the previous screenshot.

To view the database, click Open Database from the toolbar. Choose a database file window appears. Select and click open

The screenshot shows the SQLite Manager interface with the 'sqlite\_sequence' table selected. A 'Choose a database file' dialog box is open over the main window. The dialog shows a file tree under 'Lab\_8/evidences'. The 'contacts2' database file is selected. The bottom of the dialog shows the 'File name:' field set to 'contacts2' and a dropdown menu 'SQLite database files (\*.db \*.sql)'.

If a dialog-box appears stating that a table in the database requires a special collation function, click Yes to proceed without the collation



The application displays the `_sync_state` table by default. To view the contacts stored in the database, select `raw_contacts` table from the Table drop-down list. The `raw_contacts` table stores information such as display name, account id, last time contacted, etc.

The screenshot shows the DB Browser for SQLite interface. On the left, the 'raw\_contacts' table is displayed with 20 rows of data. The columns are: `_id`, `account_id`, `sourceid`, `raw_contact_is_read_only`, `version`, `dirty`, `deleted`, `contact_id`, and `aggreg`. The data includes various account IDs (1-10, 2-10) and source IDs (1-10). On the right, the 'SQL Log' pane shows the following SQL code:

```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type, name, sql, tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("data");
5 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("phone_lookup");
6 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("name_lookup");
7 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_data");
8 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_raw_contacts");
9 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_contacts");
10 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_raw_entities");
11 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_entities");
12 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_data_usage_stat");
13 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_stream_items");
14 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_groups");
15 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_people");
16 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_organizations");
17 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_contact_methods");
18 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_phones");
19 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_extensions");
20 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_groups");
21 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_group_membership");
22 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_photos");
23 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("search_index");
24 PRAGMA encoding;
25 SELECT "_rowid_,"* FROM "main"."_sync_state" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 1;
26 SELECT "_rowid_,"* FROM "main"."raw_contacts" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 1;
27

```

You may scroll down and scroll to the right of the table to view the data stored in the table

The screenshot shows the SQLite Database Browser interface. On the left, there is a table named "raw\_contacts" with columns: \_id, display\_name, display\_name\_alt, display\_name\_source, phonetic\_name, and phonetic\_name\_style. The data in the table includes contacts like Albert, Cristene, Adam, Beckham, Cherry, David, Darren, Elly, Fred, Henry, and others. On the right, the "SQL Log" pane displays the following SQL code:

```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type,name,sql,tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("data");
5 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("phone_lookup");
6 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("name_lookup");
7 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_data");
8 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_raw_contacts");
9 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_contacts");
10 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_raw_entities");
11 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_entities");
12 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_data_usage_stat");
13 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_stream_items");
14 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_groups");
15 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_people");
16 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_organizations");
17 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_contact_methods");
18 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_phones");
19 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_extensions");
20 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_groups");
21 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_group_membership");
22 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_vl_photos");
23 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("search_index");
24 PRAGMA encoding;
25 SELECT "_rowid_","* FROM "main"."_sync_state" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
26 SELECT "_rowid_","* FROM "main"."raw_contacts" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
27

```

The calls table contains the call history associated with the device. This table contains details such as the dialed numbers, dialed contact name, timestamp, call duration, etc.

To view this information, select calls from the Table drop-down list.

The screenshot shows the SQLite Database Browser interface. On the left, there is a table named "calls" with columns: \_id, number, date, duration, type, new, name, numbertype, and numberlabel. The data in the table includes calls from +10000000005 to +10000000010. On the right, the "SQL Log" pane displays the following SQL code:

```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type,name,sql,tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("data");
5 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("phone_lookup");
6 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("name_lookup");
7 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_data");
8 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_raw_contacts");
9 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_contacts");
10 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_raw_entities");
11 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_entities");
12

```

You may scroll down and scroll to the right of the table to view the data stored in the table

The screenshot shows the SQLite Database Browser interface. On the left, there is a table named "calls" with columns: in, type, new, name, numbertype, numberlabel, countryiso, voicemail\_uri, is\_read, and geocoded\_loc. The data in the table includes calls from Henry, Darren, Cherry, Beckham, and Adam. On the right, the "SQL Log" pane displays the following SQL code:

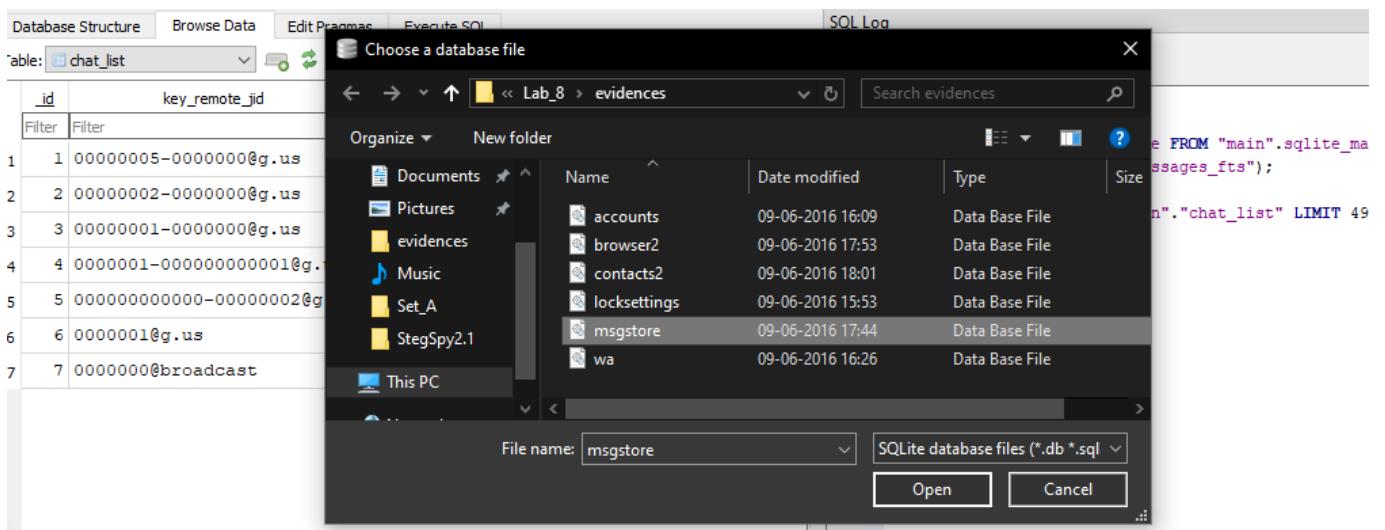
```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type,name,sql,tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("data");
5 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("phone_lookup");
6 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("name_lookup");
7 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_data");
8 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_raw_contacts");
9 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_contacts");
10 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_raw_entities");
11 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("view_entities");
12

```

Now, we shall view the data stored in the msgstore database. The msgstore database contains information related to the messages stored on the device, such as timestamps of sent and received messages, subject of the message, etc.

To view this database, click Open Database from the toolbar. In the Choose a database file window, select msgstore.db and click open



Select chat\_list from the Table drop-down list. The chat\_list table contains information such as subject of the message, key remote id, message creation time, etc., as shown in the following screenshot

This screenshot shows the SQLite Manager interface with the 'chat\_list' table selected in the 'Table:' dropdown. The table structure and data are displayed in the main pane, and the SQL log on the right shows the commands used to analyze the database.

_id	key_remote_jid	message_table_id	subject
1	00000005-000000@g.us	3	Blood Shedders💡
2	00000002-000000@g.us	5	The Hacking Fellas.. . ! ! !
3	00000001-000000@g.us	7	Suicide Bombers
4	00000001-000000000001@g.us	9	Hackmedas
5	000000000000-00000002@g.us	10	Terrorists for Violence
6	00000001@g.us	12	HAckeRs Club
7	0000000@broadcast	13	

```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type,name,sql,tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("messages_fts");
5 PRAGMA encoding;
6 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."chat_list" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
7

```

In the same way, you may analyze the other tables in the database in order to find more information associated with the database

This screenshot shows the SQLite Manager interface with the 'sqlite\_sequence' table selected in the 'Table:' dropdown. The table structure and data are displayed in the main pane, and the SQL log on the right shows the commands used to analyze the database.

name	seq
messages	15
props	4
group_participants	138
chat_list	7
group_participants_history	1

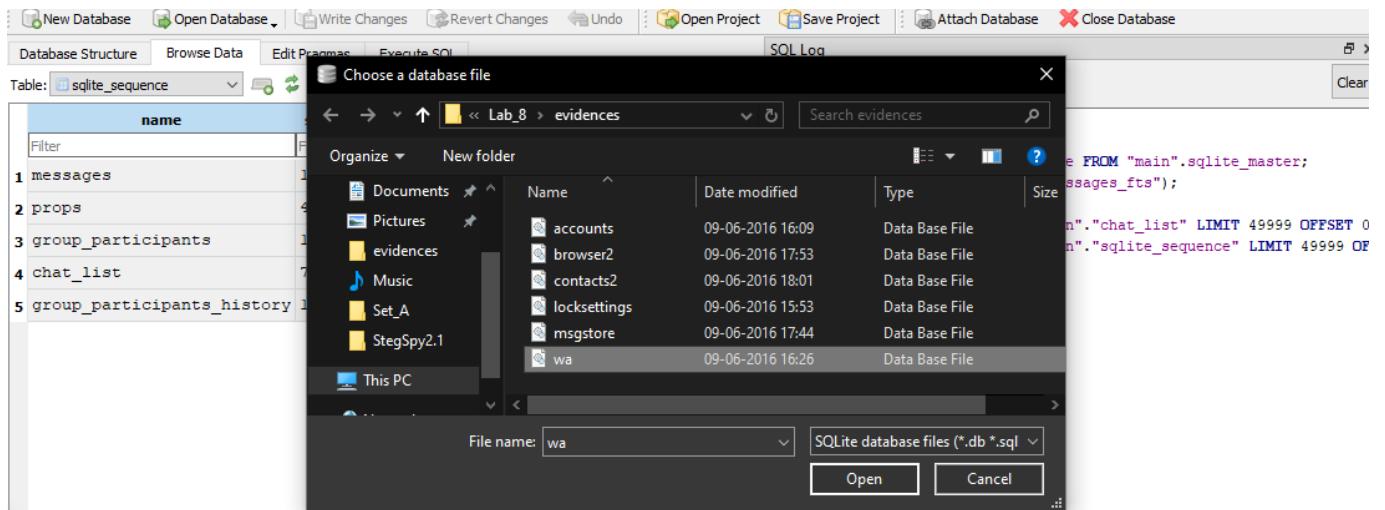
```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type,name,sql,tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA "main".TABLE_INFO("messages_fts");
5 PRAGMA encoding;
6 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."chat_list" LIMIT 49999 OFFSET 0;
7 SELECT "_rowid_",'* FROM "main"."sqlite_sequence" LIMIT 49999 OFF
8

```

Now, we shall view the data stored in WhatsApp database. The wa database contains information related to the WhatsApp messages stored on the device, timestamps of the sent and received messages, subject of the message, etc.

To view this information, click Open Database from the toolbar. Choose a database file window appears. Select wa.db and click open.



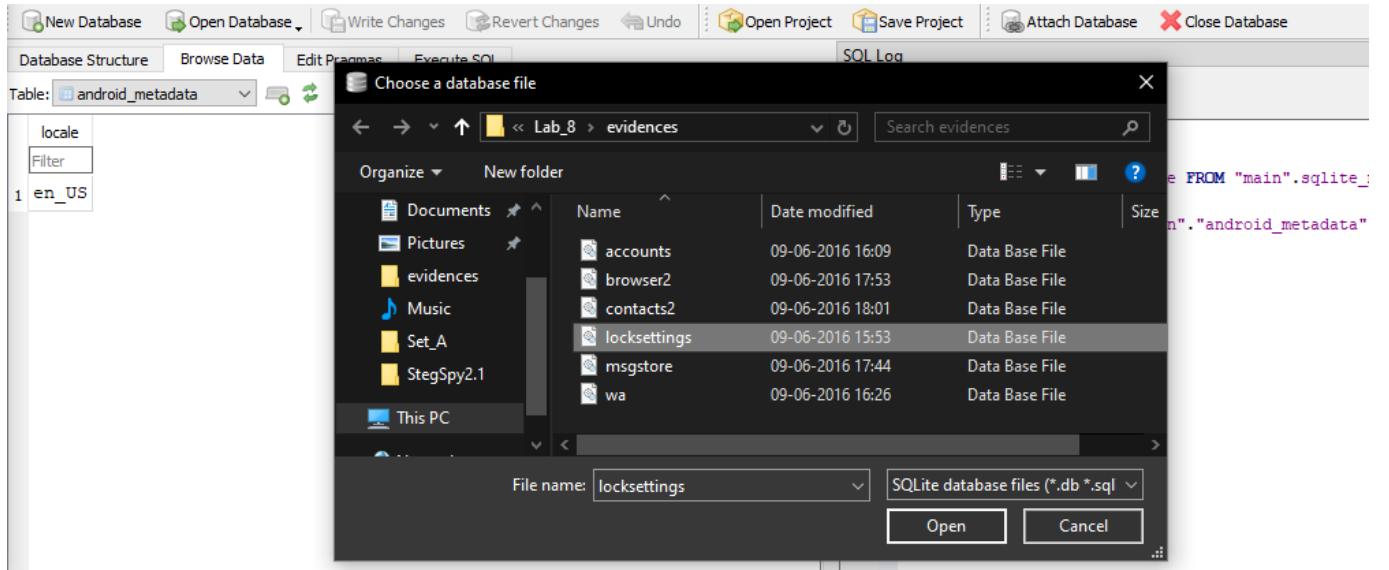
You may browse various tables in the database to view information such as number of WhatsApp contacts, WhatsApp contacts' names, etc. as shown in the following screenshots.

	name	seq
1	wa_contacts	43
2	wa_contact_capabilities	670

	_id	jid	is_whatsapp_user	status	status_timestamp
1	1	0000@s.whatsapp.net		1	NULL
2	2	0000@s.whatsapp.net		1	NULL
3	9	11020000001@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL
4	10	10000000008@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL
5	11	10000000009@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL
6	12	10000000006@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL
7	13	10000000007@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL
8	14	10000000004@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL
9	15	10000000005@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL
10	16	10000000002@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL
11	17	10000000003@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL
12	18	10000000010@s.whatsapp.net		0	NULL

The locksettings database contains the settings such as the status of the lock screen, lockscreens password type, status of the lockscreens pattern autolock (enabled or disabled), visibility of the lockscreens pattern, etc.

To view this settings, click Open Database from the toolbar. Choose a database file window appears. Select **locksettings.db** and click open.



Select locksettings from the Table drop-down list, to view settings associated with the lock screen pattern as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the SQLite Manager interface with the 'locksettings' table selected. The table has four columns: '\_id', 'name', 'user', and 'value'. The data is as follows:

_id	name	user	value
1	lockscreen.disabled	0	0
2	migrated	0	true
3	lock_pattern_visible_pattern	0	1
4	lockscreen.patterneverchosen	0	1
5	lockscreen.password_type	0	65536
6	lock_pattern_autolock	0	1

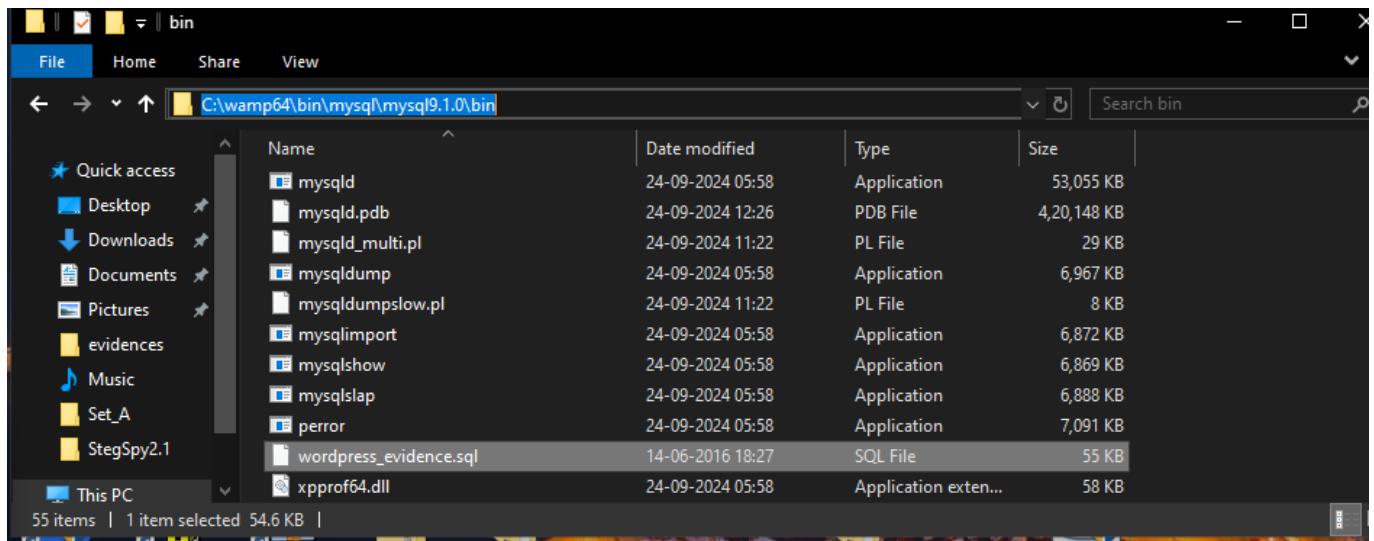
On the right side, the SQL Log pane displays the following SQL code:

```

1 PRAGMA foreign_keys = '1';
2 PRAGMA database_list;
3 SELECT type, name, sql, tbl_name FROM "main".sqlite_master;
4 PRAGMA encoding;
5 SELECT "_rowid_", * FROM "main"."android_metadata";
6 SELECT "_rowid_", * FROM "main"."locksettings" LIMIT 7;
    
```

## Performing Forensics Investigation on a MySQL Server Database

Copy `wordpress_evidence.sql` and paste it in `C:\wamp64\bin\mysql\mysql9.1.0\bin`



Now, navigate to `C:\wamp64\bin\mysql\mysql9.1.0\bin` and open command prompt

Command prompt appears. Point the location of the bin folder. Type `mysql -u root -p` and press Enter. You will be asked to enter a password. In the Enter password field, press Enter without issuing any password.

A mysql shell appears as shown in the following screenshot.

```
C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe - mysql -u root -p
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19045.5608]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\wamp64\bin\mysql\mysql9.1.0\bin>mysql -u root -p
Enter password:
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 8
Server version: 9.1.0 MySQL Community Server - GPL

Copyright (c) 2000, 2024, Oracle and/or its affiliates.

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owners.

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql>
```

Type **create database wordpress;** into the MySQL shell and press Enter. This command will create a database named wordpress. After that, type \q and press Enter to exit the MySQL shell.

```
C:\wamp64\bin\mysql\mysql9.1.0\bin>mysql -u root -p
Enter password:
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 8
Server version: 9.1.0 MySQL Community Server - GPL

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affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
owners.

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql> create database wordpress;
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.02 sec)

mysql> \q
Bye
```

Now, we shall copy all the contents of the dump file to the newly created database. To copy, type **mysql -u root -p wordpress < wordpress\_evidence.sql** in the command prompt and press Enter. You will be asked to enter a password. In the Enter password field, press Enter without issuing any password.

```
C:\wamp64\bin\mysql\mysql9.1.0\bin>mysql -u root -p wordpress < wordpress_evidence.sql
Enter password:
```

Once the backup is copied to the database, we shall log in to MySQL shell (by entering **mysql -u root -p** and then issuing an empty password) and start examining the database. To examine the database, we need to use the database.

Type **use wordpress;** and press Enter to use the wordpress database.

```
C:\wamp64\bin\mysql\mysql9.1.0\bin>mysql -u root -p
Enter password:
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 10
Server version: 9.1.0 MySQL Community Server - GPL

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affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
owners.

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql> use wordpress;
Database changed
mysql> _
```

Now, we shall view the tables in this database. To view, type **show tables;** and press Enter

```
mysql> show tables;
+-----+
| Tables_in_wordpress |
+-----+
| wp_commentmeta
| wp_comments
| wp_links
| wp_options
| wp_postmeta
| wp_posts
| wp_term_relationships
| wp_term_taxonomy
| wp_terms
| wp_usermeta
| wp_users
+-----+
11 rows in set (0.06 sec)
```

The **wp\_users** table contains all the user accounts associated with the WordPress website. To view the users, type **select \* from wp\_users;** and press Enter

```
mysql> select * from wp_users;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| ID | user_login | user_pass           | user_nicename | user_email      | user_url          | use
r_registered | user_activation_key | user_status | display_name |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1 | admin     | $P$BSScenYvM0uAldinorzLM70d0kZAAk/ | admin       | admin@abc.com   | http://www.admin.com | 000
| 2 | james     | ceb6c970658f31504a901b89dc3e461 | james      | jamesfaulkner@gmail.com | http://www.jameswebsite.com | 000
| 125 | bad_guy   | $P$B.OWWYbJ1As0yP2EYS.b6.d0xnkBKe/ | anonymous hacker | badguy@xyz.com |          | 000
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
3 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

It is observed that a suspicious user account with the **username : bad\_guy** is present in the table. Make a note of the **user ID which is 125**

Since the scenario in the beginning of the lab states that a suspicious post was found on the webpage, we shall view the columns in **wp\_posts** table. To view the columns, type **show columns in wp\_posts;** and press Enter.

```
mysql> show columns in wp_posts;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| Field | Type | Null | Key | Default | Extra |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| ID    | bigint unsigned | NO | PRI | NULL | auto increment |
| post_author | bigint unsigned | NO | MUL | 0 | |
| post_date | datetime | NO | 0000-00-00 00:00:00 |
| post_date_gmt | datetime | NO | 0000-00-00 00:00:00 |
| post_content | longtext | NO | NULL |
| post_title | text | NO | NULL |
| post_excerpt | text | NO | NULL |
| post_status | varchar(20) | NO | publish |
| comment_status | varchar(20) | NO | open |
| ping_status | varchar(20) | NO | open |
| post_password | varchar(20) | NO | |
| post_name | varchar(200) | NO | MUL |
| to_ping | text | NO | NULL |
| pinged | text | NO | NULL |
| post_modified | datetime | NO | 0000-00-00 00:00:00 |
| post_modified_gmt | datetime | NO | 0000-00-00 00:00:00 |
| post_content_filtered | longtext | NO | NULL |
| post_parent | bigint unsigned | NO | MUL | 0 |
| guid | varchar(255) | NO | |
| menu_order | int | NO | 0 |
| post_type | varchar(20) | NO | MUL | post |
| post_mime_type | varchar(100) | NO | |
| comment_count | bigint | NO | 0 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
23 rows in set (0.01 sec)
```

You will observe a column named `post_author`, which corresponds to the posts made by the users.

Now, using `post_author` and the user id of `bad_guy`, we can collect all the posts made by the suspicious user (`bad_guy`).

Issue the following commands to collect the posts:

```
select * from wp_posts
where post_author = '125'
into outfile 'c:/wamp64/tmp/evidence.txt';
```

```
mysql> select * from wp_posts
   -> where post_author = '125'
   -> into outfile 'evidence.txt';
ERROR 1290 (HY000): The MySQL server is running with the --secure-file-priv option so it cannot execute this statement
mysql> SHOW VARIABLES LIKE 'secure_file_priv';
+-----+-----+
| Variable_name | Value      |
+-----+-----+
| secure_file_priv | c:\wamp64\tmp\ |
+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

```
[mysql> select * from wp_posts
   -> where post_author = '125'
   -> into outfile 'c:/wamp64/tmp/evidence.txt';
Query OK, 3 rows affected (0.00 sec)
```

By issuing the above commands, the posts made by the user whose ID is 125 are collected and saved to a file named `evidence.txt`

The screenshot shows a Notepad window with several lines of text representing MySQL binary log entries. The columns represent various log details such as file number, offset, timestamp, and log type.

```

evidence - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
9    125    2016-06-14 07:34:10    0000-00-00 00:00:00      Auto Draft      auto-draft      open
open                                2016-06-14 07:34:10    0000-00-00 00:00:00      0
http://192.168.0.78:8081/wordpress/?p=9 0      post      0
10   125    2016-06-14 07:38:52    2016-06-14 07:38:52    It was so easy to hack into the web application.
Never thought it would be such easy to get into this!!! Never thought this would happen      publish open      open
never-thought-this-would-happen          2016-06-14 07:38:59    2016-06-14 07:38:59      0
http://192.168.0.78:8081/wordpress/?p=10 0      post      0
11   125    2016-06-14 07:38:52    2016-06-14 07:38:52    It was so easy to hack into the web application.
Never thought it would be such easy to get into this!!! Never thought this would happen      inherit open      open
10-revision-v1          2016-06-14 07:38:52    2016-06-14 07:38:52      10
http://192.168.0.78:8081/wordpress/?p=11 0      revision      0

```

Now, we shall track events performed by the malicious user (MyISAM Storage Engine) and recover the deleted data.

The binary log files store all the transactions occurred on the databases. An investigator can examine these files to track the events performed by a particular user on the target database.

Navigate to C:\Users\admin\Desktop\Lab\_8\Lab\_8\data. You will find all the logs associated with the database as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows a Windows File Explorer window displaying the contents of the C:\Users\admin\Desktop\Lab\_8\Lab\_8\data folder. The table below summarizes the files found.

	Name	Date modified	Type	Size
Quick access				
Desktop	mysql	23-03-2025 10:38	File folder	
Downloads	performance_schema	23-03-2025 10:38	File folder	
Documents	test	23-03-2025 10:38	File folder	
Pictures	wordpress	23-03-2025 10:38	File folder	
evidences	wordpress1	23-03-2025 10:38	File folder	
Music	genquery	14-06-2016 13:09	Text Document	5,394 KB
Set_A	ib_logfile0	14-06-2016 13:09	File	5,120 KB
StegSpy2.1	ib_logfile1	15-03-2016 19:29	File	5,120 KB
This PC	ibdata1	14-06-2016 13:09	File	18,432 KB
Network	mysql-bin.000001	15-03-2016 19:38	000001 File	1 KB
	mysql-bin.000002	15-03-2016 19:43	000002 File	1 KB
	mysql-bin.000003	16-03-2016 12:28	000003 File	361 KB
	mysql-bin.000004	16-03-2016 17:25	000004 File	1 KB
	mysql-bin.000005	16-03-2016 17:26	000005 File	1 KB
	mysql-bin.000006	16-03-2016 17:29	000006 File	1 KB
	mysql-bin.000007	16-03-2016 17:29	000007 File	1 KB
	mysql-bin.000008	16-03-2016 17:49	000008 File	1 KB
	mysql-bin.000009	17-03-2016 10:31	000009 File	1 KB

Analyzing the .frm files helps a forensic examiner to understand the table format and the terms related to the table content.

Since the malicious user created a user account for himself with the login name bad\_guy, you may analyze the wp\_users.frm file with a hex editor to view the column name (along with its hexadecimal equivalent) that contains a list of login names associated with the users.

Now, open the wordpress folder, right-click wp\_users.frm, and select Hex Edit with Hex Workshop v6.8 from the context menu.

> Lab\_8 > data > wordpress

Search wordpress

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
db.opt	15-03-2016 19:45	OPT File	1 KB
evidence1	13-06-2016 20:10	Text Document	3 KB
wp_commentmeta.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	9 KB
wp_comments.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	14 KB
wp_links.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	13 KB
wp_options.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	9 KB
wp_postmeta.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	9 KB
wp_posts.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	10 KB
wp_term_relationships.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	9 KB
wp_term_taxonomy.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	9 KB
wp_terms.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	9 KB
wp_usermeta.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	9 KB
wp_users.frm	15-03-2016 19:48	FRM File	9 KB

Open with

- MD5 Calculator
- 7-Zip
- Scan with Microsoft Defender...
- Hex Edit with Hex Workshop v6.8

Share

We can observe that the login names are stored under the **user\_login** column, whose hexadecimal equivalent is **757365725F6C6F67696E**.

Hex Workshop - [C:\Users\admin\Desktop\Lab\_8\Lab\_8\data\wordpress\wp\_users.frm]

File Edit Disk Options Tools Plug-Ins Window Help

Data Visualizer

Legacy ASCII

Data Inspector

Data at offset 0x00002159:

Value	Description
int8	117
uint8	117
int16	29557
uint16	29557
int32	1919251317
uint32	1919251317
int64	7453295065518404...
uint64	7453295065518404...
half float	15272
float	4.5447454e+030
double	1.7500865e+190
DATE	<invalid>
DOS date	21-11-2037
DOS time	14:27:42
FILETIME	<invalid>
time_t	13:21:57 26-10-2030
time64_t	<invalid>
binary	0111010101110011...

Expression Calc

Signed 32 bit

1

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F 10 11 0123456789ABCDEF01

0000211E 00 00 C5 00 0B 0A 02 14 29 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 .....)

00002130 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20

00002142 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 00 04 00 03 49

00002154 44 00 05 00 0B 75 73 65 72 5F 6C 6F 67 69 6E 00 06 00 D....user\_login...

00002166 0A 75 73 65 72 5F 70 61 73 73 00 07 00 0E 75 73 65 72 .user\_pass....user

00002178 5F 6E 69 63 65 6E 61 6D 65 00 08 00 0B 75 73 65 72 5F .nicename....user\_

0000218A 65 6D 61 69 6C 00 09 00 09 75 73 65 72 5F 75 72 6C 00 .email....user\_url

0000219C 0A 00 10 75 73 65 72 5F 72 65 67 69 73 74 65 72 65 64 .user\_registered

000021AE 00 0B 00 14 75 73 65 72 5F 61 63 74 69 76 61 74 69 6F .user\_activation

000021C0 6E 5F 6B 65 79 00 0C 00 0C 75 73 65 72 5F 73 74 61 74 .key....user\_stat

000021D2 75 73 00 0D 00 0D 64 69 73 70 6C 61 79 5F 6E 61 6D 65 us....display\_name

000021E4 00 04 03 14 14 00 01 00 00 42 00 0F 00 00 08 21 00 00 .....B....!..

000021F6 05 0B 44 B4 00 09 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0F 21 00 00 06 ..D.....!....

00002208 0A 45 C0 00 BE 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0F 21 00 00 07 0E .E.....!....

0000221A 41 96 00 7F 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0F 21 00 00 08 0B 44 A.....!....D

0000222C 2C 01 16 02 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0F 21 00 00 09 46 2C ,.....!....F,

0000223E 01 44 03 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0F 21 00 00 0A 10 13 13 00 .D.....!....

00002250 72 04 00 60 00 00 00 00 0C 08 00 00 0B 14 3B B4 00 7A r...`.....!....z

00002262 04 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0F 21 00 00 0C 0C 0B 0B 00 2F 05 .....!....!/.

00002274 00 1B 00 00 00 00 03 21 00 00 0D 0D 42 EE 02 33 05 00 .....!....B..3..

00002286 00 00 00 00 00 0F 21 00 00 FF 49 44 FF 75 73 65 72 5F .....!....ID.user\_

00002298 6C 6F 67 69 6E FF 75 73 65 72 5F 70 61 73 73 FF 75 73 login.user\_pass.us

000022AA 65 72 5F 6E 69 63 65 6E 61 6D 65 FF 75 73 65 72 5F 65 er\_nicename.user\_e

000022BC 6D 61 69 6C FF 75 73 65 72 5F 75 72 6C FF 75 73 65 72 mail.user\_url.user

000022CE 5F 72 65 67 69 73 74 65 72 65 64 FF 75 73 65 72 5F 61 \_registered.user\_a

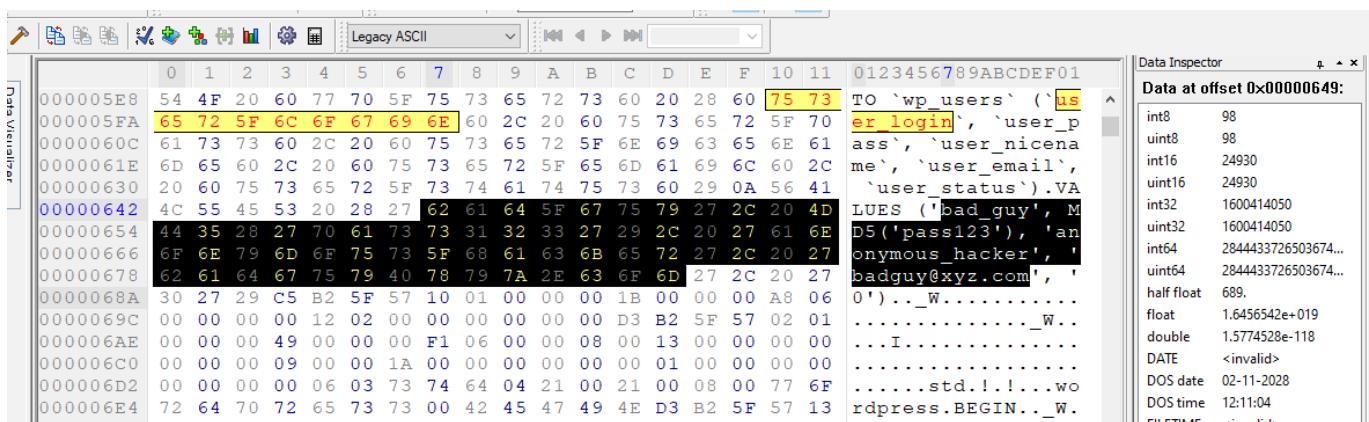
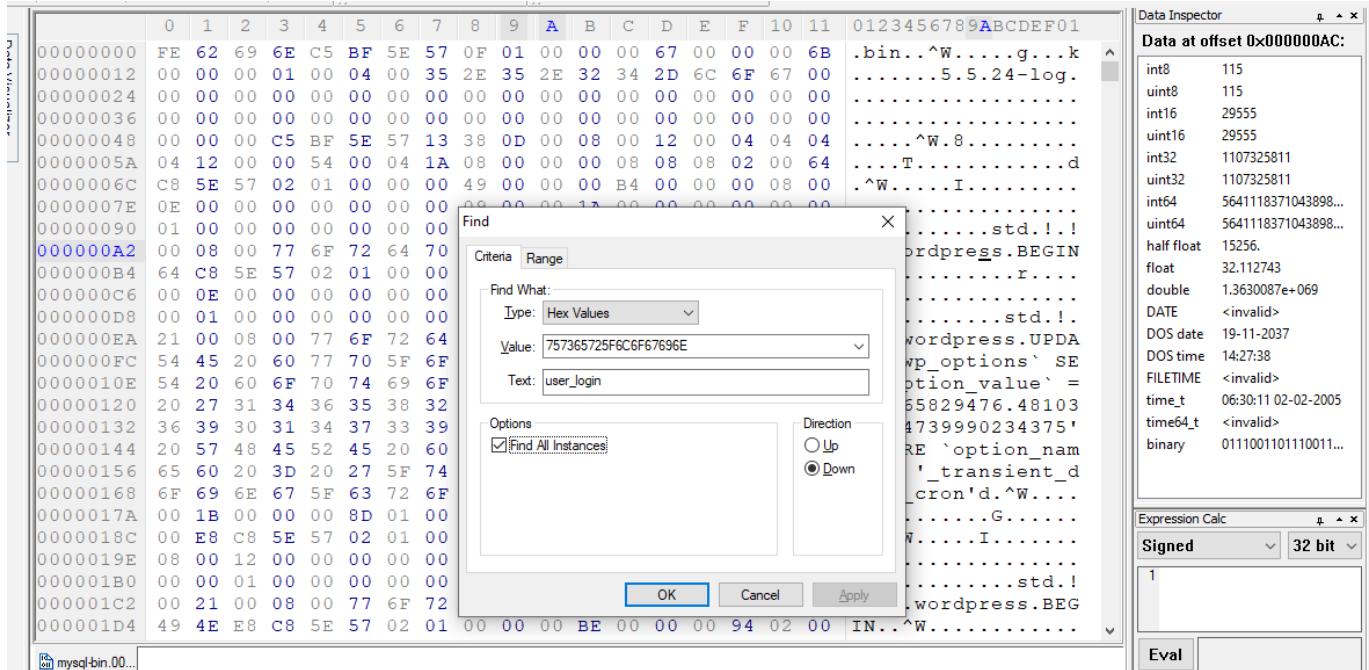
000022E0 63 74 69 76 61 74 69 6F 6E 5F 6B 65 79 FF 75 73 65 72 ctivation\_key.user

000022F2 5F 73 74 61 74 75 73 FF 64 69 73 70 6C 61 79 5F 6E 61 \_status.display\_na

Using this phrase, we shall first find the attacker's login name, that is, bad\_guy from the binary logs, and from there on, we shall trace the user activities performed by the malicious user.

In this lab, we shall analyze the **mysql-bin.000034** log file. Open the file with Hex Workshop.

Examine each binary log for the text string **user\_login** or hex value **757365725F6C6F67696E**.



While conducting a detailed examination on the binary files, we can find that one of the binary files recorded an event where a query is executed for creating a user account with the:

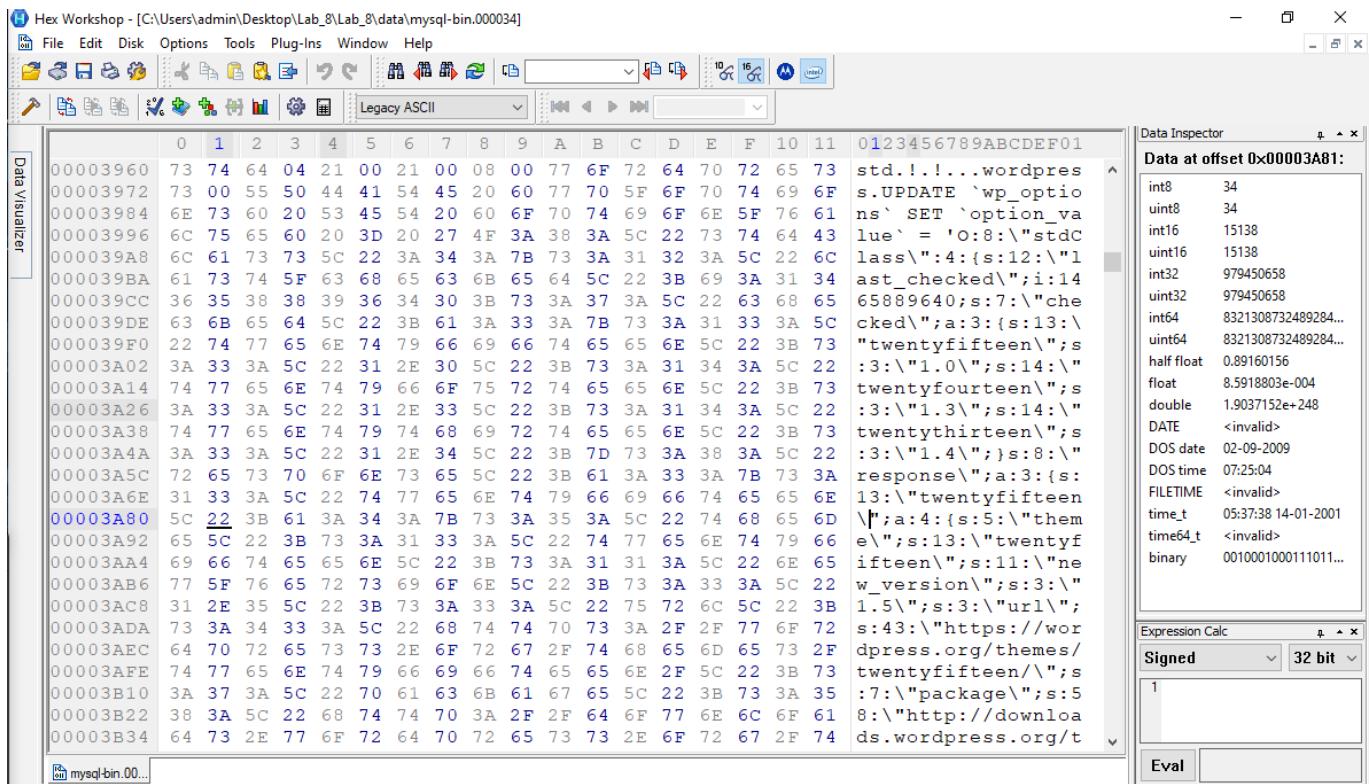
**Login name – bad\_guy**

**Password – pass123**

**Nice name – anonymous\_hacker**

**Email ID – [badguy@xyz.com](mailto:badguy@xyz.com)**

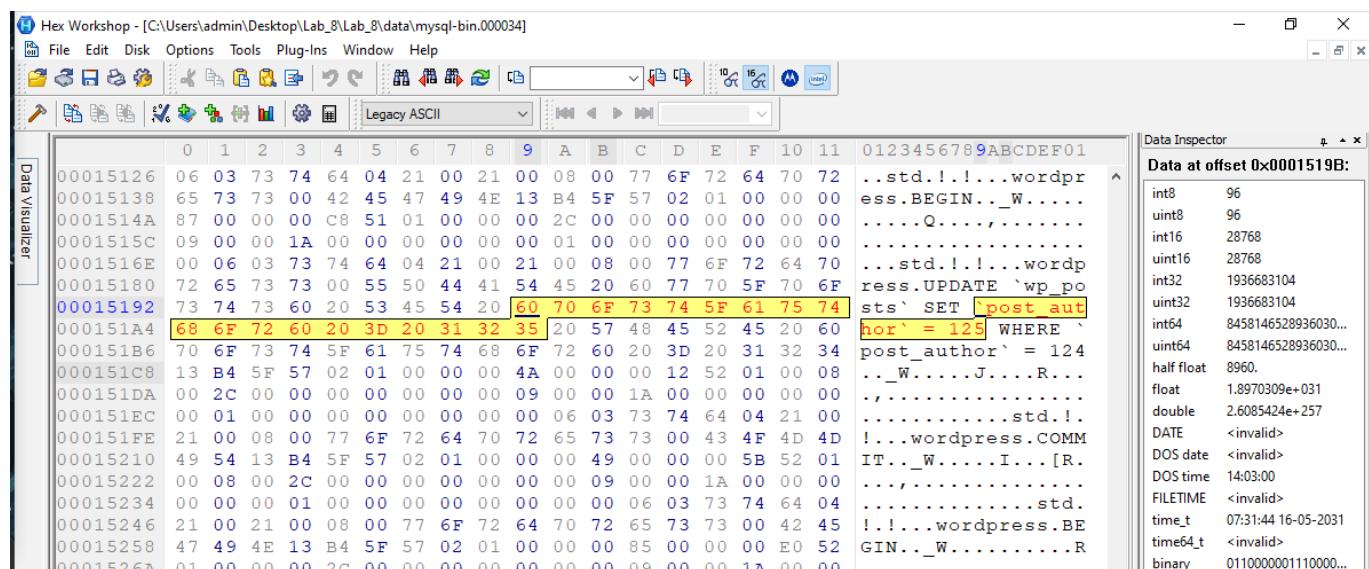
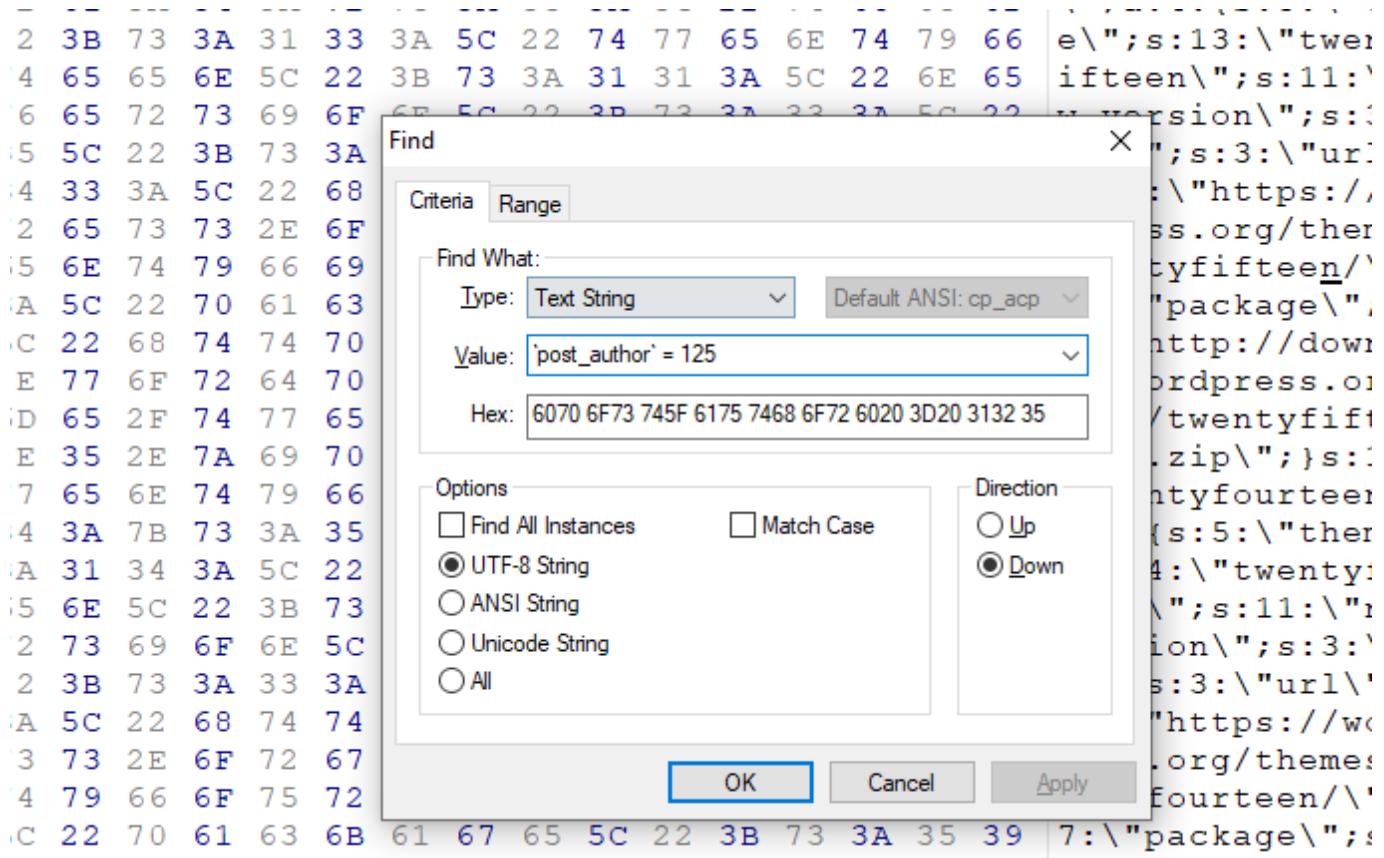
In the same way, scroll down the binary logs one-by-one to see the logs corresponding to the malicious user's actions



We can observe that the attacker made a post (post\_author id: 125) on 14th June, 2016, at GMT 07:37:45.

In the same way, you may search for all the actions performed by the attacker on the posts by looking for 'post\_author = 125' in the hex editor.

To find the actions performed by the attacker, press **Ctrl+F** on the keyboard. The Find window appears. Select 'Text String' from the Type drop-down list, enter 'post\_author = 125' in the Value text field, select the 'Down' radio button under the Direction section, and click OK



In the above screenshot, you can observe a MySQL query for changing the post\_author value from 124 to 125 for all relevant records in the wp\_posts table.. In the same way, you may examine all the log files and find the transactions performed by the attacker.