**MySQL Backup and Restore from Command Line**

Assumptions

You have access to a Unix-like terminal

You have the password or MySQL's root user, or another user's password with access to the database

Backup

**Backup of a single database**

Backup a single database to a plain text file, containing the sql commands to restore the tables and their data

*mysqldump -u [user] -p [database\_name] > [filename].sql*

Backup a single database to a gzipped version of the sql file

*mysqldump -u [user] -p [database\_name] | gzip > [file\_name].sql.gz*

Backup a single database to a bz2 compressed sql file.

*mysqldump -u [user] -p [database\_name] | bzip2 > [file\_name].sql.bz2*

You can usually upload gz, and bz2 files directly to a database using PHPMyAdmin, so is a good idea to have the outpud compressed.

**Backup more than one database**

You can backup more than one database at the same time.

*mysqldump -u [user] -p –databases [database\_name\_1] [database\_name\_2] [database\_name\_n] > [filename].sql*

You can use the same options as with the single database to compress the mysqldump command output.

**Backup of all databases**

*mysqldump -u [user] -p –all-databases > [file\_name].sql*

This will dump all databases to a single file, and you can use that file to restore all databases at once. This is very useful to move your databases from one server to another.

**Restore**

Using the dump file, it is possible to restore the database with all its tables to a new MySQL server.

Create the database

*mysql -u [user] -p*

The [user]field in this case will usually be root. At the mysql> root.

*create database [database\_name];*

Create a user for that database, it is actually not needed, but it is a good security measure.

*grant all privileges on [database\_name].\* to [new\_user]@[hostname] identified by [new\_user\_password];*

exit;

Once again on the Linux command line prompt.

Restore database dump file

*mysql -u [new\_user] -p [database\_name] < [file\_name].sql*

If the file was compressed, uncompressed it first.

*gunzip [file\_name].sql.gz*

*bunzip2 [file\_name].sql.bz2*