

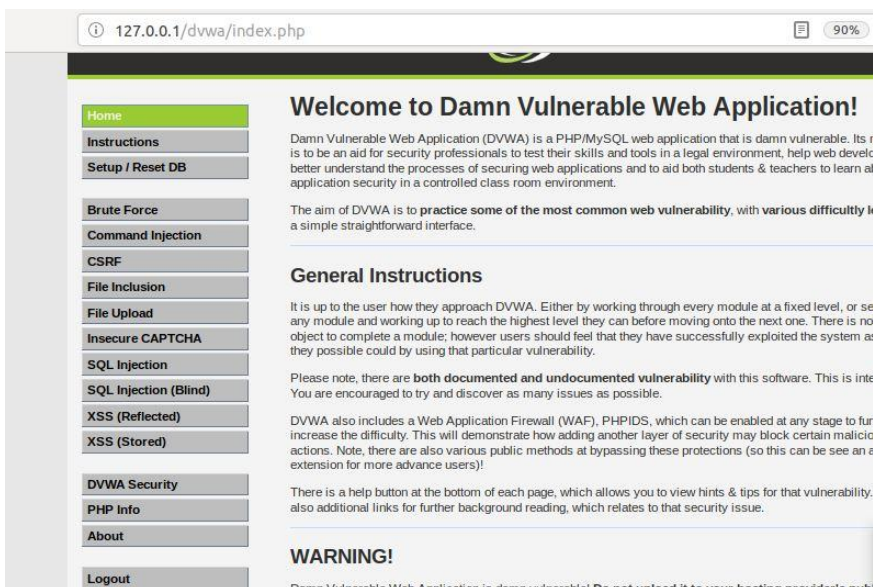
HW6 SQL Injection - Discovering How are Queries Built

In this homework, I am going to execute a SQL injection using Damn Vulnerable Web Application (DVWA), which has been implemented to help developers to perform security tests in a the environment it builds. After a lot of work on initial set up, I end up in the web application and have done trials of SQL injection, through which I have a deep understanding of why SQL Injection could happens and how sql queries are built.

Set Up

I followed the instruction in the [README.md](http://github.com/ethicalhack3r/DVWA) at <http://github.com/ethicalhack3r/DVWA> to set up. I end up with xampp installed, and the DVWA web app downloaded and configured. After that, I first start up the xampp, then went to the `127.0.0.1/dvwa/security.php`, the main page looks just like what is shown below. To make it possible for us to do SQL Injection, I clicked on the *DVWA Security* button and set the security level to be *low*. Then I set up the database, and login with username as *admin* and password as *password*.

```
yuanjie@yuanjie-VirtualBox: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
yuanjie@yuanjie-VirtualBox:~$ sudo /opt/lampp/lampp start  
[sudo] password for yuanjie:  
Starting XAMPP for Linux 7.3.3-1...  
XAMPP: Starting Apache...fail.  
XAMPP: Another web server is already running.  
XAMPP: Starting MySQL...ok.  
XAMPP: Starting ProFTPD...ok.  
yuanjie@yuanjie-VirtualBox:~$
```



127.0.0.1/dvwa/setup.php 90%

Database Setup

Click on the 'Create / Reset Database' button below to create or reset your database.
If you get an error make sure you have the correct user credentials in: `/var/www/html/dvwa/config/config.php`

If the database already exists, **it will be cleared and the data will be reset.**
You can also use this to reset the administrator credentials ("admin // password") at any stage.

Setup Check

Operating system: `*nix`
Backend database: **MySQL**
PHP version: **5.6.40-6+ubuntu18.04.1+deb.sury.org+3**

Web Server SERVER_NAME: `127.0.0.1`

PHP function `display_errors`: **Disabled**
PHP function `safe_mode`: **Disabled**
PHP function `allow_url_include`: **Enabled**
PHP function `allow_url_fopen`: **Enabled**
PHP function `magic_quotes_gpc`: **Disabled**
PHP module `php-gd`: **Installed**

reCAPTCHA key: `6LeSMJ4UAAAAAG5V5IKix0EwUb73A3CcnzOnMjFq`

Writable folder `/var/www/html/dvwa/hackable/uploads/`: **Yes**
Writable file `/var/www/html/dvwa/external/phpids/0.6/lib/IDS/tmp/phpids_log.txt`: **Yes**

Status in red, indicate there will be an issue when trying to complete some modules.

Create / Reset Database

127.0.0.1/dvwa/security.php

DVWA Security

Security Level

Security level is currently: **low**.

You can set the security level to low, medium, high or impossible. The security level of DVWA:

1. Low - This security level is completely vulnerable and **has no security** measures as an example of how web application vulnerabilities manifest through basic as a platform to teach or learn basic exploitation techniques.
2. Medium - This setting is mainly to give an example to the user of **bad security** developer has tried but failed to secure an application. It also acts as a challenge to exploitation techniques.
3. High - This option is an extension to the medium difficulty, with a mixture of **practices** to attempt to secure the code. The vulnerability may not allow exploitation, similar in various Capture The Flags (CTFs) competitions.
4. Impossible - This level should be **secure against all vulnerabilities**. It is the source code to the secure source code.
Priority to DVWA v1.9, this level was known as 'high'.

Low Submit

127.0.0.1/dvwa/login.php

DVWA

Username
admin

Password

Login

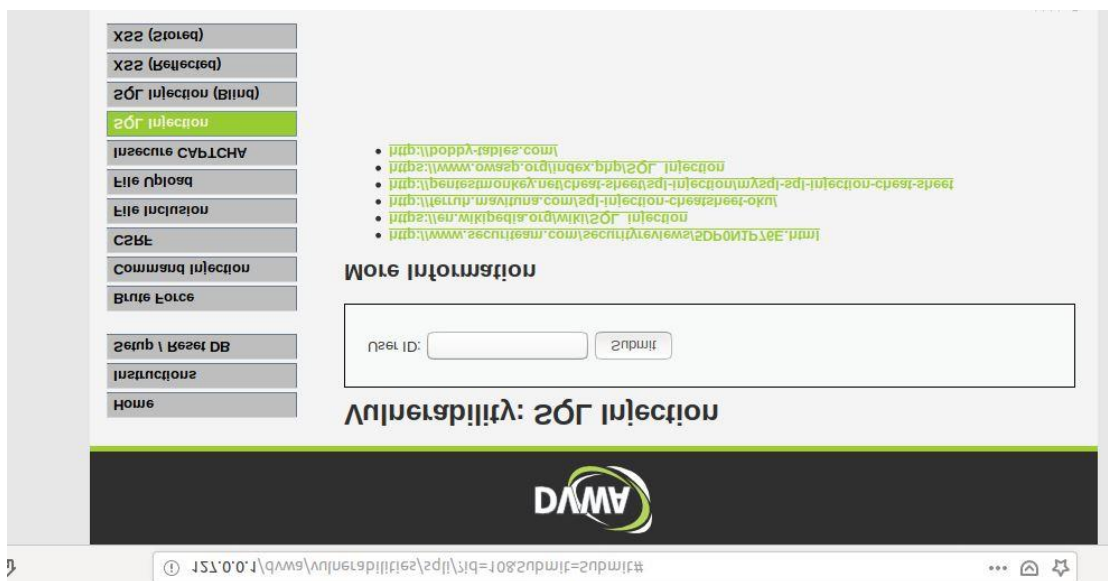
You have logged out

Task 1

After we login, there is a search for UserId.

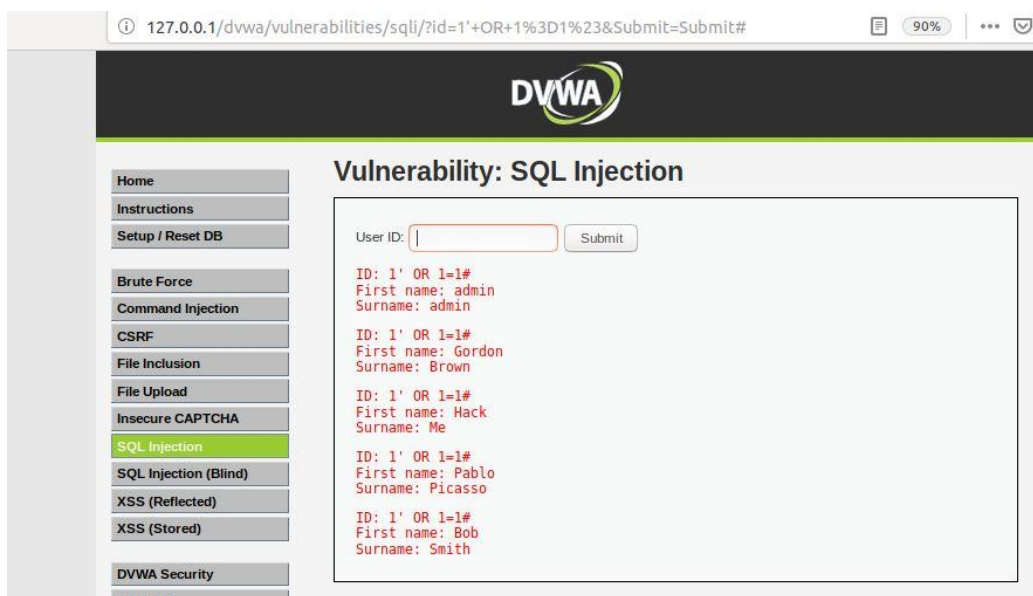
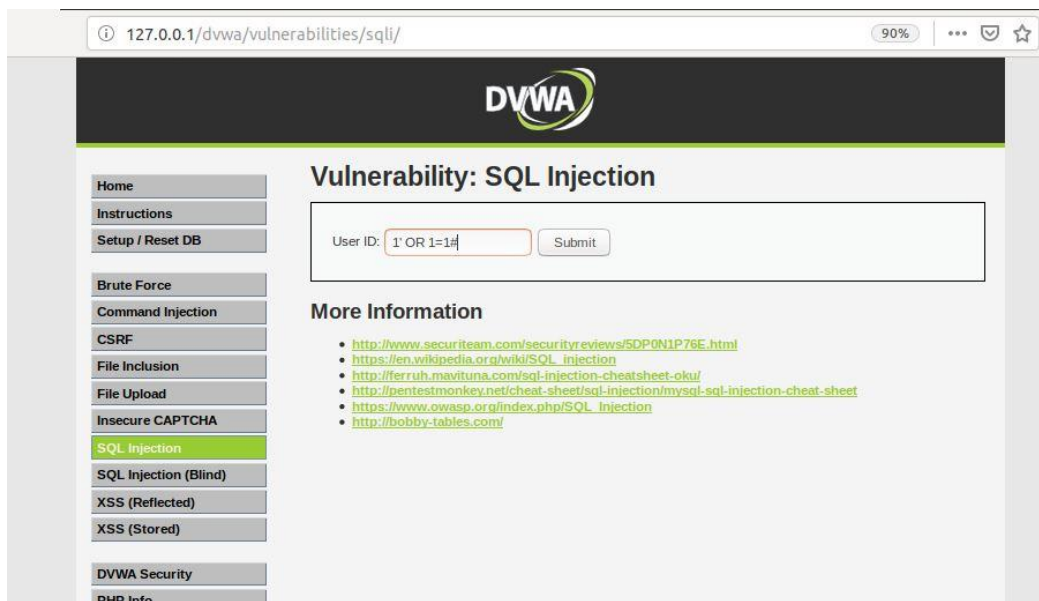
- By typing '1' and submitting, I got the user *"admin admin"*.
- By typing '4' and submitting, I got the user *"Pablo Picasso"*.
- By typing '5' and submitting, I got the user *"Bob Smith"*
- By typing '15' and submitting, no user is got.





Task 2

- To extract the first name and last name of all users, I could do this by SQL query, it looks like this, **"SELECT FirstName, LastName FROM Users WHERE UserId = 1 OR 1=1"**.
- Therefore, I accomplished getting all the users by typing **1' OR 1=1#**.
- The query works because the '1=1' condition is always true, which makes all the Users will be SELECT when checking its UserId.
- There are 5 users in the database as shown in the pic down below.



Task 3

I completed this task by typing '1. Since the single quote caused a syntax error. From what the error message given back to me, I found out that the database of the web application is MariaDB.



Task 4

To find out the number of columns in the database, I used *ORDER BY* command to help me. The injectable parameter looks like **1'OR 1=1 ORDER BY 1#**. When I submit this parameter, all the users were extracted and displayed by the order of the First Name, which is exactly the 1st column of this Users table.

Then, I tried to change the last character of the parameter from 1 to 2, which is **1'OR 1=1 ORDER BY 2#**. When submit, all the users were extracted and displayed by the order of the Last Name, which is exactly the 2nd column of this Users table.

It seems like I got the pattern, I could try to increment value of the character in the parameter, in the end I will get the total column numbers for sure. The fact was that, I got it done in the next trial, **1'OR 1=1 ORDER BY 3#**, which gives nothing back. So the total number of columns in the Users table is 3.



