

# Percona Server for MySQL: What it is and How it is Done

---

Satya Bodapati, Yura Sorokin  
Percona



**PERCONA**  
**LIVE EUROPE**  
**AMSTERDAM**

# Part 1: Agenda

- What is Percona Server for MySQL
- Percona Server for MySQL Features / Enhancements
- Deprecations and Removals

# What Is Percona Server for MySQL

...a free, fully compatible, enhanced and open source drop-in replacement for any MySQL database...

# What Is Percona Server for MySQL

- Based on open-source MySQL community edition
- With enhancements
- With bug fixes
- Care is taken to maintain drop-in quality unless some specific features are enabled

# Percona Server for MySQL Features

- Write-optimized storage engines
- Data Encryption
- Enterprise Features
- Percona Specific Features

# Write-Optimized Storage Engines

---

# Write-Optimized Storage Engines

- InnoDB is a battle-tested B-tree-based read-optimized storage engine
- LSM-tree-based RocksDB key-value store
- Efficient writes, efficient compression, reads not that bad
- RocksDB-based MyRocks storage engine
- New in 8.0: native partitioning
- New in 8.0: cross-engine consistent physical backups
- TokuDB fully supported but scheduled to EOL at the end of 8.0 cycle

# Data Encryption

---





# Data Encryption

- Do not write any unencrypted data to disk in an InnoDB-based server
- Support several key storage options
- Support key rotation
- Implemented through a combination of existing MySQL features, MariaDB security feature porting, and custom Percona development

# Data Encryption: Percona Enhancements

- InnoDB Temporary tablespace encryption (ibtmp\*). Undo from temporary tables still goes there
  - How? `innodb_temp_tablespace_encryption=ON`
- Session temporary tablespaces encryption (IBT files)
  - How? `innodb_temp_tablespace_encryption=ON` or `default_table_encryption=ON`
- System tablespace encryption (ibdata\*)
  - How? (at bootstrap) `innodb_sys_tablespace_encrypt=ON`

# Data Encryption: Percona Enhancements

- Parallel Doublewrite buffer encryption
  - How? `innodb_parallel_dblwr_encrypt=ON`
- InnoDB temp file (DDL log) encryption
  - How? `innodb_encrypt_online_alter_logs=ON`
- Server temp file encryption
  - How? `--encrypt-tmp-files=ON`

# Data Encryption: Percona Enhancements

- Key storage in Hashicorp Keyring Vault
  - How? keyring\_valut plugin
- Key versioning and rotation (pre-GA)
  - How? innodb\_encryption\_threads,  
default\_table\_encryption=ONLINE\_TO\_KEYRING,  
innodb-encryption-rotate-key-age

	MySQL 8.0	MariaDB	Percona Server 5.7	Percona Server 8.0
<b>File-per-table tablespace encryption</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>General tablespace encryption</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Temporary tablespace encryption</b>		? may be fixed	✓	✓
<b>System tablespace encryption</b>		✓	✓	✓
<b>Parallel Doublewrite buffer encryption</b>	N/A	N/A	✓	✓
<b>mysql.ibd encryption</b>	✓	✓	N/A	✓
<b>InnoDB redo log encryption</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>InnoDB undo log encryption</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>InnoDB temp file (DDL log) encryption</b>		✓(?)	✓	✓
<b>Server temp file encryption</b>		✓(?)	✓	✓
<b>Binary log encryption</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Key storage in a local file</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Key storage in Hashicorp Keyring Vault</b>			✓	✓
<b>Key storage in Amazon KMS</b>	✓(EE)	✓		
<b>Key storage in Oracle Vault</b>	✓(EE)			
<b>Key versioning and rotation</b>		✓(?)	pre-GA	pre-GA

# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Enterprise Features

---



# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Enterprise Features

- Threadpool
- Audit Plugin
- PAM authentication plugin

# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Enterprise Features

## Threadpool:

- Have to increase *max\_connections*? Just increasing the number may result in decrease in performance
- Why? MySQL uses one OS thread per connection
- Use threadpool plugin to reduce the number of OS threads used which will then reduce the context switching and hot locks contentions
- Allows you to use higher *max\_connections* value while maintaining performance
- An opensource alternative to the MySQL Enterprise Threadpool Plugin



# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Enterprise Features

## Audit Plugin:

- Provides monitoring and logging of connections and queries
- Logs can be stored in multiple formats like CSV, JSON, XML, etc.
- This implementation is an alternative to the MySQL Enterprise Audit Log Plugin

# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Enterprise Features

## PAM authentication plugin:

- PAM stands for Pluggable Authentication Modules (available on Linux)
- Percona PAM Authentication Plugin is a free and Open Source implementation of MySQL's authentication plugin (Enterprise only)
- Acts a mediator between MySQL server, MySQL client, and PAM stack

# Percona Specific Features

---



# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Memory Engine VARCHAR/BLOB

	Percona Server Memory SE	MySQL Memory SE	MySQL TempTable SE
Can store VARCHAR	✓		✓
Can store BLOB (JSON, TEXT, ...)	✓		✓
Users can create tables	✓	✓	
Query Optimiser can use if VARCHAR			✓

# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: InnoDB Enhancements

- Dedicated LRU Flusher per buffer pool instance
- Solved the famous “single page flushing” issue on IO bound workloads
  - See *innodb\_empty\_free\_list\_algorithm*
- Parallel doublewrite buffer

# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Column Compression with Dictionaries

- A problem to solve: store lots of small JSON documents efficiently
- InnoDB table compression: limited compression ratio
- InnoDB page compression: just don't
- Compression at application level: limited compression ratio, needs application changes
- MyRocks: maybe?

# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Column Compression with Dictionaries

- `CREATE TABLE t (foo JSON COLUMN_FORMAT COMPRESSED) ENGINE=InnoDB;`
- Now “foo” gets compressed and decompressed transparently on each access
- Create a dictionary with shared words between different rows for compression ratio improvement

# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Column Compression with Dictionaries

- CREATE COMPRESSION DICTIONARY address\_parts ('country' 'state' 'city' ... )
  - CREATE TABLE ... address JSON COLUMN\_FORMAT COMPRESSED WITH COMPRESSION\_DICTIONARY address\_parts ...



# Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: Backup Support

- MySQL 8.0: LOCK INSTANCE FOR BACKUP
- MySQL 8.0: performance\_schema.log\_status
- Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: LOCK TABLES FOR BACKUP blocks less
- Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: performance\_schema.log\_status extended for MyRocks
- Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: START TRANSACTION WITH CONSISTENT SNAPSHOT consistent across storage engines and binlog

# Partitioned TokuDB and MyRocks Tables

- MySQL dropped support for legacy partitioning handler, all storage engines must implement partitioning natively
- Implemented for TokuDB and MyRocks in 8.0
- That is not enough for upgrades: 8.0 server cannot read 5.7-format partitioned tables
- Hence native partitioning implemented in 5.7 too for the sole purpose of upgrade
  - ALTER TABLE ... UPGRADE PARTITIONING

# SET STATEMENT FOR → /\*+ SET\_VAR \*/

- Percona Server 5.7 (and MariaDB) per-statement variable assignments:
- SET STATEMENT sort\_buffer\_size = 100000 FOR SELECT name, id ...
- MySQL 8.0 query optimizer hint for setting variables:
- SELECT /\*+ SET\_VAR(sort\_buffer\_size=100000) \*/ name, id ...
- MySQL 8.0 implementation is restricted compared to Percona Server 5.7 for MySQL
- Percona Server for MySQL 8.0 addresses most restrictions

# “Userstat” Duration Columns Now Floating-Point

- INFORMATION\_SCHEMA.CLIENT\_STATISTICS, THREAD\_STATISTICS, USER\_STATISTICS tables column CONNECTED\_TIME, BUSY\_TIME, CPU\_TIME types changed:
- Percona Server for MySQL 5.7: integers, providing 1 second resolution only
- Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: floating-point doubles

# SHOW [EFFECTIVE] GRANTS

- MySQL 5.7 SHOW GRANTS
  - Shows assigned but not effective grants
- Percona Server for MySQL 5.7 SHOW GRANTS
  - The above was considered a bug
  - Changed to show effective but not assigned grants
- Percona Server for MySQL 8.0 SHOW [EFFECTIVE] GRANTS
  - The above was also considered a bug
  - SHOWS GRANTS: shows assigned grants
  - SHOW EFFECTIVE GRANTS: shows effective grants

# [innodb\_]kill\_idle\_transactions

- Percona Server for MySQL 5.7: kill\_idle\_transactions and innodb\_kill\_idle\_transactions
  - Identically-behaving aliases
  - innodb\_kill\_idle\_transactions deprecated
- Percona Server for MySQL 8.0: kill\_idle\_transactions only

# Deprecated / Removed Features

---

# Deprecated / Removed Features

- Scalability metrics plugin
  - Subtly broken architecture with no easy fix
  - No users we are aware of
- INFORMATION\_SCHEMA.THREAD\_STATISTICS  
CONCURRENT\_CONNECTIONS column
- All of our query cache patches



# Removed Features due to Upstream

- Query Response Time plugin: replaced by Performance Schema execution time histograms
- `innodb_flush_method=ALL_O_DIRECT`
  - Avoided keeping redo logs in the kernel filesystem cache
  - But MySQL 8.0 redo logging is dependant on logs being cached

# Removed Features due to Lack of Uptake

- INFORMATION\_SCHEMA.XTRADB\_RSEG
- Expanded program option modifiers
- pseudo\_server\_id
- CSV\_MODE
- max\_slowlog\_files and max\_slowlog\_size
- innodb\_show\_verbose\_locks

Let us know if you use any of those!

## Part II

---

How it is done



# Source Code

GitHub repositories, branches, GCA

# Source Code

## GitHub

<https://github.com/percona/percona-server/>

3 Active branches: 5.6, 5.7 and 8.0

```
git clone -b 5.6 https://github.com/percona/percona-server/
```

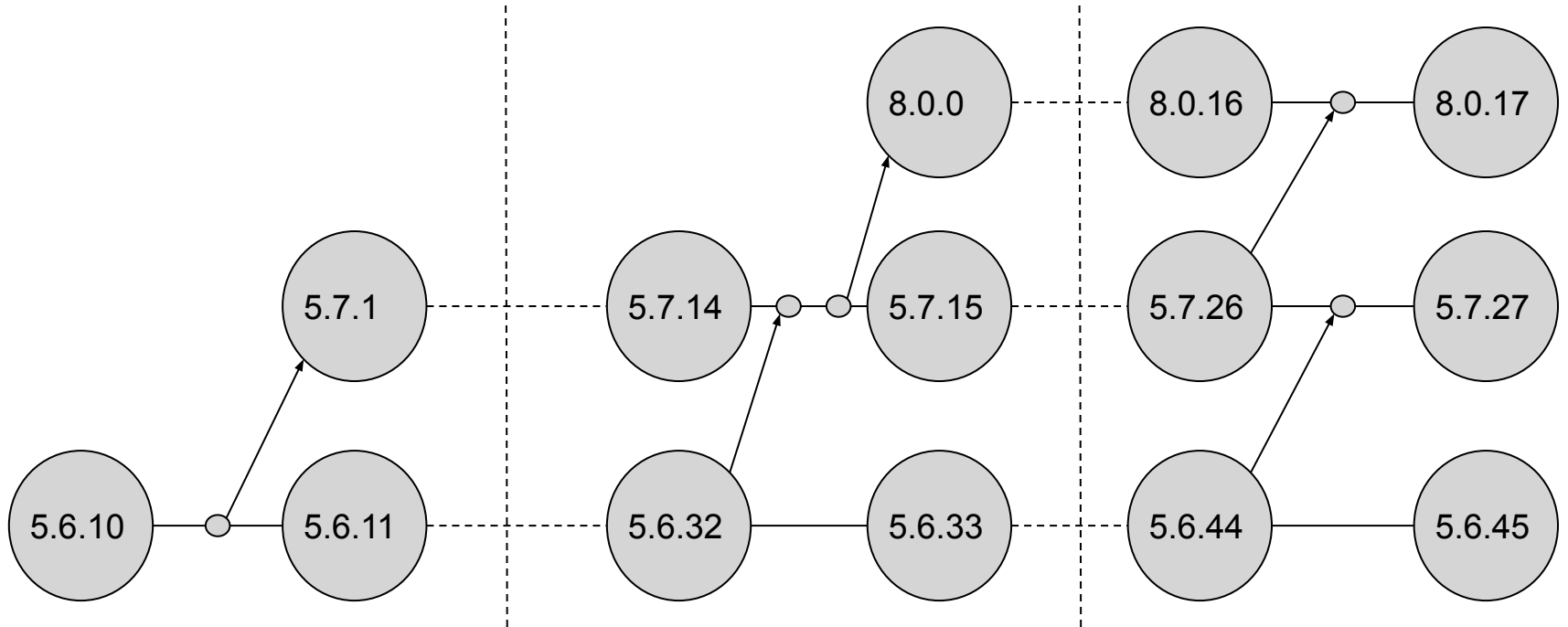
```
git clone -b 5.7 https://github.com/percona/percona-server/
```

```
git clone -b 8.0 https://github.com/percona/percona-server/
```

## Git worktrees

<https://git-scm.com/docs/git-worktree>

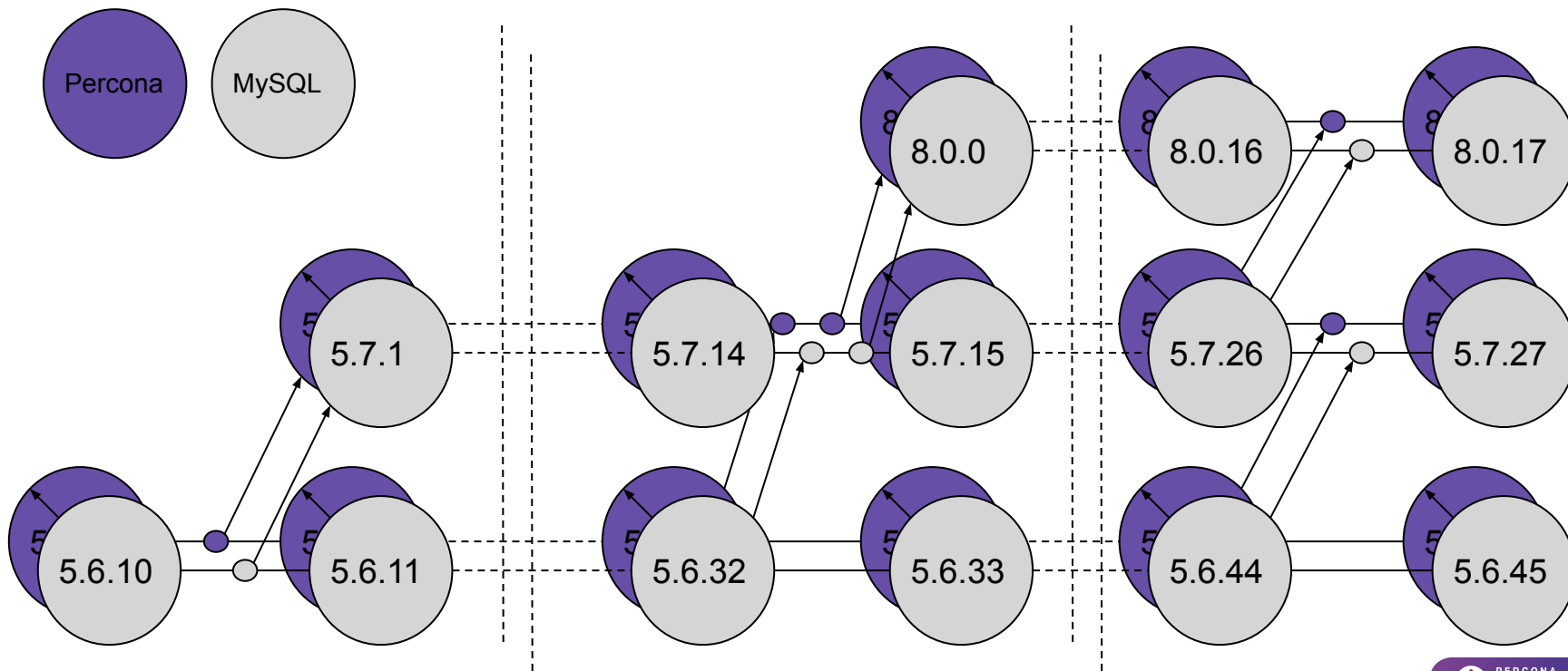
# MySQL Server Source Code Diagram



# Percona Server Source Code

- MySQL Server 5.7 has branched from 5.6 at some point.
- MySQL 5.6 is periodically merged into 5.7.
- MySQL Server 8.0 has branched from 5.7 at some point and therefore has also a common point with both 5.7 and 5.6.
- MySQL 5.7 is periodically merged into 8.0 and therefore almost everything from 5.7 and 5.6 is in 8.0.
- Percona Server 5.7 has branched from both MySQL Server 5.7 and Percona Server 5.6.
- Percona Server 8.0 has branched from both MySQL Server 8.0 and Percona Server 5.7.

# Percona Server Source Code Diagram





# Building Percona Server

---

Platforms, Compilers, CMake options, etc.

# Platforms

## RHEL / CentOS

- CentOS 6 64-bit
- CentOS 6 32-bit
- CentOS 7
- RHEL 8

## Debian

- Debian 8.x Jessie
- Debian 9.x Stretch
- Debian 10.x Buster

## Ubuntu

- Ubuntu 16.04 Xenial
- Ubuntu 18.04 Bionic
- Ubuntu 19.04 Disco

Checking beta releases earlier: CentOS 8 Beta, Ubuntu 19.10 Eoan Beta

# Compilers

- GCC 4.8
- GCC 5.5
- GCC 6.5
- GCC 7.4
- GCC 8.3
- GCC 9.2
  
- Clang 4.0.1
- Clang 5.0.2
- Clang 6.0.1
- Clang 7.1.0
- Clang 8.0.1
- Apple LLVM 10.0.1 (clang-1001.0.46.4) (partially supported)

Checking compiler releases earlier before they are included in the next OS release.

# CMake Options

<https://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.6/en/source-configuration-options.html>

<https://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.7/en/source-configuration-options.html>

<https://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/8.0/en/source-configuration-options.html>

- -DBUILD\_CONFIG: **mysql\_release**
- -DFEATURE\_SET: **community**
- -DCMAKE\_BUILD\_TYPE: **RelWithDebInfo / Debug**
- -DWITH\_<THIRD\_PARTY\_LIBRARY>: **bundled / system** (-DWITH\_SSL, -DWITH\_ZLIB)

The most important one

- -DMYSQL\_MAINTAINER\_MODE=**ON**

**Always** using out-of-source builds

## Fixing Bugs

---

Percona-specific, upstream, escalations, etc.

# Bugs

Oracle MySQL Bug tracker

<https://bugs.mysql.com/>

Percona Server bug tracker

<https://jira.percona.com/projects/PS/>

**upstream** label

**Upstream Bug URL** field

**Escalations** have priority

Percona always submits our upstream fixes to Oracle under OCA

A number of Percona developers nominated MySQL Community Contributor Award:

<https://blogs.oracle.com/mysql/mysql-community-contributor-award-program-2019-v2>

# Propagating the Fix Through Branches

- `git checkout -b ps-5.6-feature_branch <5_6_and_5_7_comon_commit>`
- fix 5.6 code
- `git commit`
  
- `git checkout -b ps-5.7-feature_branch <5_7_and_8_0_comon_commit>`
- `git merge ps-5.6-beature_branch --no-commit`
- apply 5.7-specific changes
- `git commit`
  
- `git checkout -b ps-8.0-feature_branch 8.0`
- `git merge ps-5.7-beature_branch --no-commit`
- apply 8.0-specific changes
- `git commit`

## Upstream Merges

---

Merging new code, reverting/combining Percona fixes, null merges, etc.



# New Wave of Upstream Releases

5.6.45, 5.7.27 and 8.0.17 released on 2019-07-22

Merge blueprints (<https://jira.percona.com/browse/PS-5363>)

- List of Percona fixes to be reverted as the same issues were fixed by Oracle
- List of the MTR test cases for “security” issues Oracle fixed with code-only changes without proper test coverage.
  
- `git fetch origin --tags`
- `git remote add upstream https://github.com/mysql/mysql-server.git`
- `git fetch upstream --tags`
- `git checkout -b ps-8.0.17-merge 8.0`
- `git merge mysql-8.0.17 --no-commit`

# 3-step Merge

Make sure you have 'merge.conflictstyle = diff3' in your '.gitconfig'.

This will allow to see not only ours ('<<<') and theirs ('>>>') changes in files with merge conflicts but baseline ('|'|') as well.

1. **“Documentation update”** commit  
Updating man/\* from the upstream release tarball
2. **“Merge with conflicts”** commit  
git merge mysql-8.0.17  
git add . (also includes files with conflict markers)
3. **“Conflicts resolved”** commit  
git checkout --conflict=merge <list of conflict files from the previous step>  
Resolve actual conflicts

All 3 commits are parts of a single Pull Request

# Code Checkers

---

Sanitizers, Valgrind, etc.

# Code Checkers

**GCC Address Sanitizer** <https://gcc.gnu.org/onlinedocs/gcc/Instrumentation-Options.html>

**Clang Address Sanitizer** <https://clang.llvm.org/docs/AddressSanitizer.html>

**GCC Undefined Behavior Sanitizer** <https://gcc.gnu.org/onlinedocs/gcc/Instrumentation-Options.html>

**Clang Undefined Behavior Sanitizer** <https://clang.llvm.org/docs/UndefinedBehaviorSanitizer.html>

**Clang Memory Sanitizer** <https://clang.llvm.org/docs/MemorySanitizer.html>

**Valgrind** <http://www.valgrind.org>

In Percona Server Jira:

- **asan** label - 63 issues
- **valgrind** label - 62 issues

Always use the latest versions: Sanitizers from GCC 9.2 / Clang 8.0.1, Valgrind 3.15.0

# Continuous Integration

---

TravisCI, CircleCI, Jenkins, MTR runs, pquery, etc.

# Continuous Integration

## CircleCI

- makes sure our code is properly **clang-formatted**

## TravisCI

- Builds our code with different compilers
- Builds our code in Debug / Release mode
- Checks various cmake options (system / bundled)

## Jenkins (AWS EC2 spot instances)

- Builds and run MTR test cases on different platforms (currently 8 in 2 modes)

## pquery (<https://github.com/Percona-QA/pquery>)

- multi-threaded test program created to stress test the MySQL server (in any flavor), either randomly or sequentially, for QA purposes

# Summary

---

3 steps to build a successful software product

# All You Need is Fork

 [mysql / mysql-server](#)

 Fork 1,679

1. Fork mysql-server repository
2. Invest 13 years of development effort
3. Profit :)

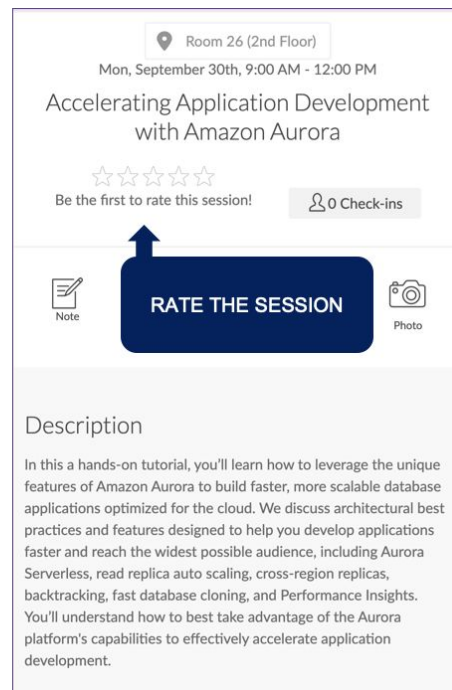
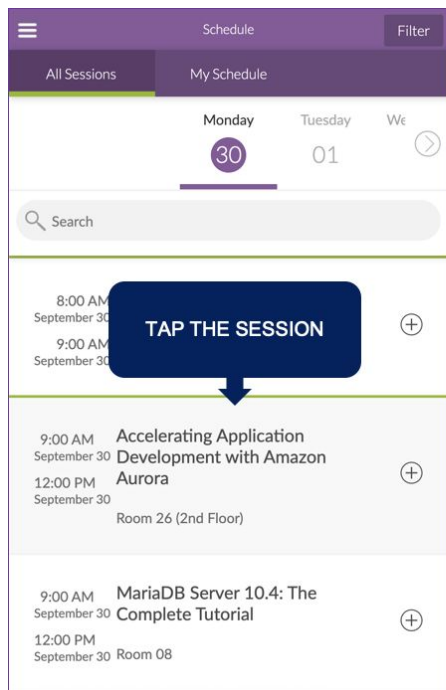


Questions?

---



# Rate My Session

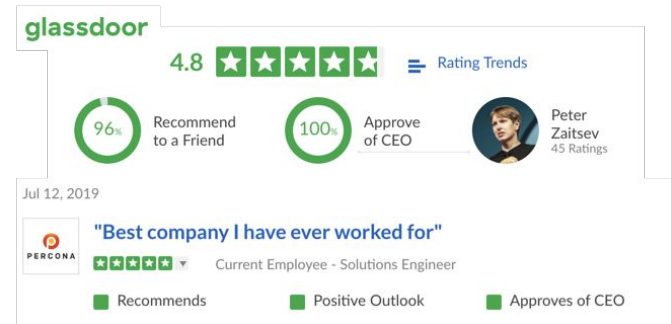


# We're Hiring!

Percona's open source database experts are true superheroes, improving database performance for customers across the globe.

Our staff live in nearly 30 different countries around the world, and most work remotely from home.

Discover what it means to have a Percona career with the smartest people in the database performance industries, solving the most challenging problems our customers come across.



Thank You

---



**PERCONA**  
**LIVE EUROPE**  
**AMSTERDAM**