How to get your bug fixed fast

Oleksandr (Sanja) Byelkin Principal Software Engineer MariaDB Corporation

Disclaimer: It is a developer's point of view



How?

Invest:

- Money (support)
 - Help with preparing test case
 - Prioritising support bugs
- Time (prepare excellent test case, it is our topic)
 - Developer will be immediately ready to start fixing
 - Higher chance to be chosen earlier
- Both!



Main thing developer want from you



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HOW TO REPRODUCE THE BUG? (a test case)



What is important to repeat it (most frequently)

- Query (script, exact steps to reproduce etc.)
- Database (dump of all related structures)
- Expected vs received results or stack trace
- Server version
- Server configuration
- Operating system
- Environment variables
- Day time and phase of the moon



Where to get query

- You made it (easiest but rare case)
- Logs (most realistic way)
 - General query log has impact on performance (switch it temporary or on non-production database)
 - It is not the last query in the log which caused the problem,
 but one of the last (last on problematic connection)
- Crash report in your error log



Database issue logging

- Confidential information (everything attached to the issue is public, use foundation ftp if it is confidential)
- Size

We are happy to get test case of any size and promise to not sell data, but better be safe than sorry...



How to solve the database problems

- Use schema only (it is not the best variant, in this case it is better also describe data distribution)
- Fill the schema with random or generated data (maybe you have test/demo data for application development) and can reproduce the problem.
- For more security after repeating you can rename tables/fields/procedures/indices in the schema and the query
 - o Tables t1, t2, t3...
 - Fields f1, f2, f3...
 - o Procedures p1, p2, p3...
 - 0 ..

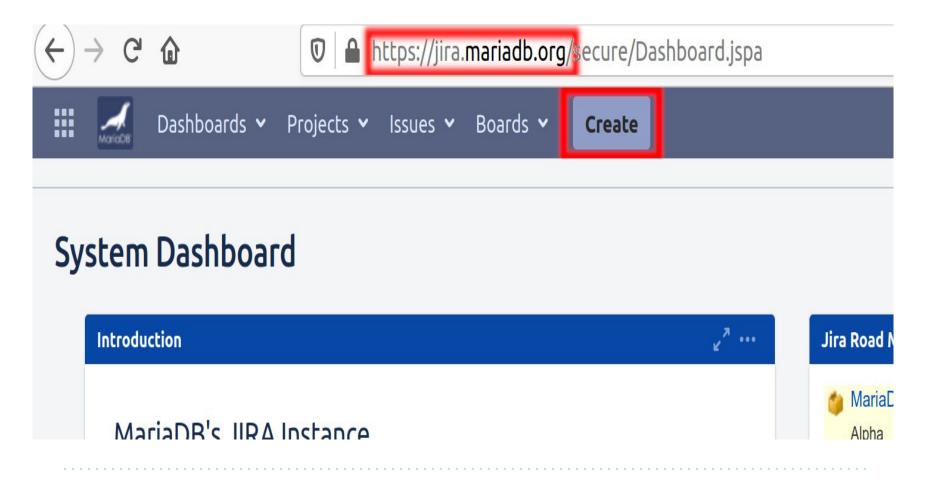


Frequent mistakes I saw

- Trying to prove that bug exists instead of showing how to repeat it
- Detailed description of not so important details like operating system, standard configuration, but close to nothing about how to repeat bug
- Only stack trace (sometimes it is enough but most frequently no)
 - Also core dump with matching mysqld binariy and ldd files will be good addition to the stack trace (for ldd see
 - https://github.com/mariadb-corporation/mariadb-qa/blob/master/ldd_files.sh)

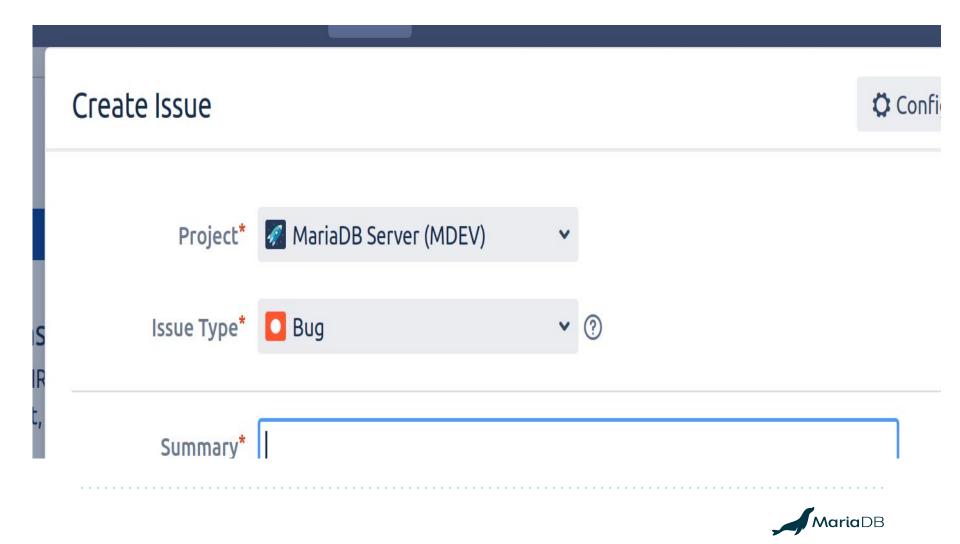


Reporting a bug





Project and type

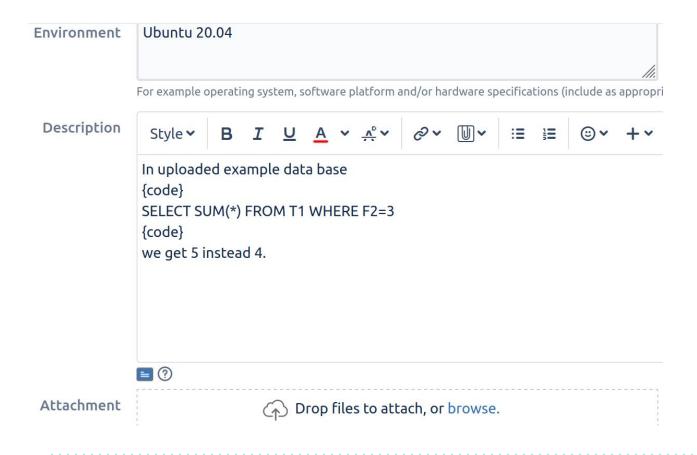


Summary, Priority and Affected Version/s



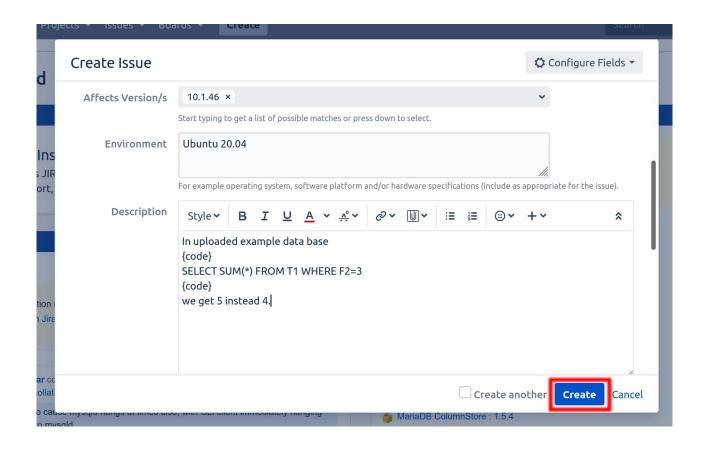


Environment, Description and Attachment





Create





Fields

Important

- Project
- Issue Type
- Summary
- Description
- Attachments (Always public, use mariadb foundation FTP server for something private or secret https://mariadb.com/kb/en/meta/mariadb-ft
 p-server/)

Can be left as is but...

- Priority (default is OK, you can use it to point how it is important for you, but later it will be used for our priority)
- Component/s (difficult to find without deep analysis, just leave as is if unsure)
- Environment (very rare it can be helpful, you can put OS here, no need spend long time on it)
- ... other fields (usually used for the issue handling)

Communication

You will get emails with changes in your bug reports.

- Comments they used to communicate between developers or support, internal notes in bug processing, but also to ask reporter questions (it is very important).
- Label. It is important for you to notice if the 'need_feedback'
 label is added to the bug report it means that someone need
 your feedback.



If you have time and inspiration

- Before any improvement save your current repeatable test case
- Reduce database
 - Remove unused tables
 - Remove unused fields and indices
- Simplify the query (leave only important parts)
 - Tables
 - Clauses
 - Fields
 - Functions
 - 0 ...

