

hmri_get_version

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For traceability, it is essential to include information about the Toolbox's version in the metadata structure of processed images. This is not as straightforwardly done with Git as it was with Subversion, where a centralised repository is used. However, it is possible to retrieve the SHA1, author, date and message of the last commit in the current branch of the current repository.

How to retrieve the version of a main release?

For released/tagged versions of the Toolbox, an updated `version.txt` file must be manually added to the repository and the following call will return the current main version:

```
version = hmri_get_version;
```

The output (a string of characters) can be used when filling up the version in the history subfield of the metadata (see *The metadata structure* section in `spm12/metadata/doc/JSON_metadata_manual.pdf`).

How to automatically update the `version.txt` file?

For developers who use Git and wish to track more closely the stage of development at which the Toolbox has been applied (e.g. to compare results after processing data with different versions), the `version.txt` file can be updated at each and every commit or merge.

To do so, the scripts `post-merge` and `post-commit` in the `version` directory must be copied into the hidden `.git/hooks` directory. They will be executed at every merge or commit.

The `version.txt` file is not itself in the version control since its modification occurs *after* each commit or merge. This change would mean another commit, which would update the file again, resulting in an endless loop. Which is why it has been added to the `.gitignore` list and must be added manually to the repository for each release.