writing better command-line interfaces with docopt

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
Usage: cocoa new <path> [--theme=<THEME>]
       cocoa build [--continuous]
       cocoa serve [--host=127.0.0.1] [--port=9000]
       cocoa (-h | --help | --version)
HIII
import argparse
parser = argparse.ArgumentParser(prog='cocoa')
parser.add_argument('--version', action='version', version='1.2.0rc1')
subparsers = parser.add_subparsers()
parser_init = subparsers.add_parser('new')
parser_init.add_argument('<path>')
parser_init.add_argument('--theme')
parser_build = subparsers.add_parser('build')
parser_build.add_argument('--continuous')
parser_serve = subparsers.add_parser('serve')
parser_serve.add_argument('--host', default='127.0.0.1')
parser_serve.add_argument('--port', default=9000)
print(parser.parse_args())
```

If you have to refer to the documentation every time you use a module, find (or build) a new module

- Kenneth Reitz

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
1111111
Usage: cocoa new <path> [--theme=<THEME>]
       cocoa build [--continuous]
       cocoa serve [--host=127.0.0.1] [--port=9000]
       cocoa (-h | --help | --version)
111111
from docopt import docopt
print(docopt(__doc__, version='1.2.0rc1'))
```

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
Usage: cocoa new <path> [--theme=<THEME>]
       cocoa build [--continuous]
       cocoa serve [--host=127.0.0.1] [--port=9000]
       cocoa (-h | --help | --version)
from docopt import docopt
print(docopt(__doc__, version='1.2.0rc1'))
{'--continuous': False,
                              '<directory>': None,
                              'build':
 '--help':
                                             False,
                 False,
                 '0.0.0.0', 'init':
 '--host':
                                             False,
 '--port':
                             'serve':
                 None,
                                             True,
 '--theme':
                 None,
 '--version':
                 False
```

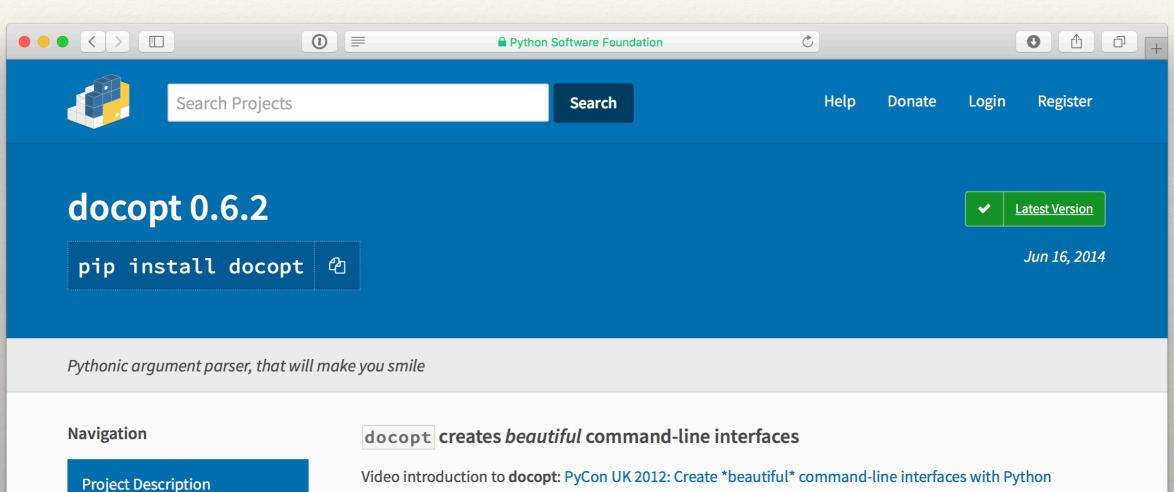
A tool for building static websites.

```
Usage: cocoa new <path> [--theme=<THEME>]
    cocoa build [--continuous]
    cocoa serve [--host=127.0.0.1] [--port=9000]
    cocoa (-h | --help | --version)
```

Options:

--version show the program's version number show this help message --theme=<THEME> name of the site theme to use watch the site directory and rebuild on changes --host=<HOST> hostname to bind to; use 0.0.0.0 to serve globally port to run on

```
Usage: my_program command --option <arg>
my_program [<optional-arg>]
my_program --another-option=<with-arg>
my_program (--either-this| --or-that)
my_program <repeating-arg> <repeating-arg> ...
```



Release History

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Author: Vladimir Keleshev

notion, arguments, parsing, optparse, argparse, getopt

Video introduction to docopt: PyCon UK 2012: Create *beautiful* command-line interfaces with Python

New in version 0.6.1:

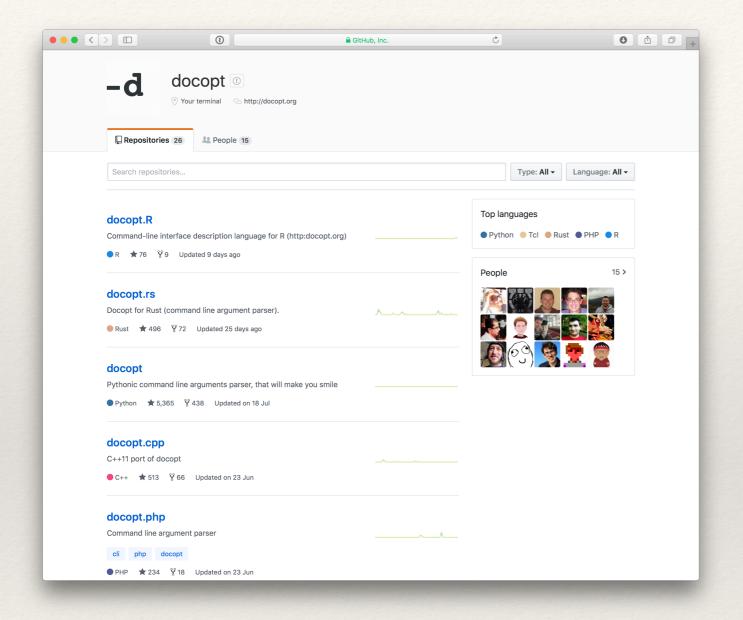
• Fix issue #85 which caused improper handling of [options] shortcut if it was present several times.

New in version 0.6.0:

- New argument options_first, disallows interspersing options and arguments. If you supply options_first=True to docopt, it will interpret all arguments as positional arguments after first positional argument.
- If option with argument could be repeated, its default value will be interpreted as space-separated list. E.g. with [default: ./here ./there] will be interpreted as ['./here', './there'].

Breaking changes:

• Meaning of [options] shortcut slightly changed. Previously it ment "any known option". Now it means "any option not in usage-pattern". This avoids the situation when an option is allowed to be repeated unintentionaly.



(++ Clojure CoffeeScript Haskell Haxe Java

Julia Lua Nim PHP Python Ruby Rust Scala Swift

```
<?php
doc = <<< DOC
A tool for building static websites.
Usage: cocoa.php new <path> [--theme=<THEME>]
       cocoa.php build [--continuous]
       cocoa.php serve [--host=127.0.0.1] [--port=9000]
       cocoa.php (-h | --help | --version)
Options:
  --version
                   show the program's version number
  -h --help show this help message
  --theme=<THEME> name of the site theme to use
  --continuous watch the site directory and rebuild on changes
  --host=<HOST>
                   hostname to bind to; use 0.0.0.0 to serve
                   globally
                   port to run on
  --port=<PORT>
DOC;
require('path/to/src/docopt.php');
$args = Docopt::handle($doc, array('version'=>'Cocoa 1.2.0rc1'));
foreach ($args as $k=>$v)
    echo $k.': '.json_encode($v).PHP_EOL;
```

http://docopt.org