Packaging considerations with MDAnalysis toolkits



Dependencies



- MDAKits must have MDAnalysis as a dependency
- This means that you will also inherit the following:

- NumPy
- SciPy
- GridDataFormats
- o tqdm
- threadpoolctl
- packaging
- fasteners
- o mda-xdrlib
- cython

- mmtf-python
- o joblib
- matplotlib
- waterdynamics
- pathsimanalysis
- o mdahole2

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Will be removed in v3.0

- mmtf-python
- o joblib
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Dependencies: SPECO



- MDAnalysis minimally supports dependencies following SPEC0
 - https://scientific-python.org/specs/spec-0000/
- Minimum of **3 years** of Python version support
- Minimum of **2 years** of core package version support



Dependencies: MDAnalysis



- MDAnalysis does not currently have a set release schedule
 - Aim for quarterly, closer to twice yearly
- MDAnalysis follows semver
 - Major API breaks only done in major versions (i.e. v3.0)
 - API changes will follow a deprecation -> removal cycle
 - DeprecationWarning for at least one release before a change
 - Major version changes are generally > yearly (~3 years since the last one)
 - Bug fix releases are only made for the latest version release and only when absolutely necessary

Testing



- We recommend **pytest** as your testing framework
 - It is what we use within the core library
 - It is what we support the most within the mdakits registry
- MDAnalysisTests.datafiles has a useful repository of small input files for tests
 - Exists to test the MDAnalysis library
 - Limited scope for adding new files
- MDAnalysisData stores larger files
 - Encouraged to add new files

Packaging: management & repositories



- MDAnalysis primarily supports pypi and conda-forge
 - Alternate dependency management tooling (e.g. Poetry is officially unsupported)
 - MDAKits are encouraged to be deployed to either, or both, of these

- The MDAKit registry currently only supports installs through the following:
 - o Git
 - PyPi
 - o conda

Licensing



- MDAnalysis is currently released as a GPLv3+ package
- This means that, by our interpretation, all downstream packages must fall under the terms of its license
 - I.e. all mdakits may have their own license but are packaged under GPLv3+
- We are currently in the process of relicensing to LGPLv2.1+ removing this limitation