

why is the github.event.pull_request.labels.*.name empty after the labeler have ran and set the labels #39062



Answered by airtower-luna

SadriG91 asked this question in Actions



SadriG91 on Nov 14, 2022

Select Topic Area

Question

Body

I have a GitHub action workflow that labels pull requests but when i try to retrieve the labels in the workflow it seems to be empty so i am wondering why is this happening?

Here you can see the workflow

```
jobs:
  triage:
    name: 'Set Labels'
    permissions:
      contents: read
      pull-requests: write
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
      - uses: actions/labeler@v4
        with:
          sync-labels: true
          repo-token: "${{ secrets.GITHUB_TOKEN }}"
      - name: Get PR labels
        id: pr-labels
        env:
          PR_LABEL_LIST: "${{ toJson(github.event.pull_request.labels.*.name) }}"
        run: |
          printf '${{ env.PR_LABEL_LIST }}' > /tmp/label_list
```

And here you can see that's there is nothing there

```
> ✓ Set up job
> ✓ Run actions/labeler@v4
v ✓ Get PR labels
  1 ▼ Run printf '[]' > /tmp/label_list
  2   printf '[]' > /tmp/label_list
  3   shell: /usr/bin/bash -e {0}
  4   env:
  5     PR_LABEL_LIST: []
> ✓ Complete job
```

Can someone please help with this, am i missing something or is this a bug?



✓ Answered by **airtower-luna** on Nov 14, 2022

`github.event.pull_request.labels` contains the labels at the time the `pull_request` event was triggered. Modifications made during the workflow won't show up there.

If you want the *current* labels at that step, your best option is to [retrieve them using the API](#). You can use [gh api](#) or [actions/github-script](#) for convenience, but any HTTP client will work if you set the [View full answer](#) ↓

1 suggested answer · 3 replies

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Newest

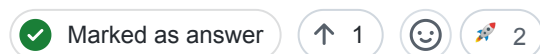
Top



airtower-luna on Nov 14, 2022

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3 replies



SadriG91 on Nov 15, 2022

That's exactly what i suspected as well and i ended up using the `gh api` and it works beautifully :)

```
gh api -H "Accept: application/vnd.github+json" /repos/ORG/REPO/issues/${{
github.event.pull_request.number }}/labels | jq '[.[] .name]' > /tmp/label_list
```



airtower-luna on Nov 15, 2022

Nice, thanks for sharing your solution! 😊



vishwarajanand 2 weeks ago

Thanks **@SadriG91** , I also posted a version of your answer on SO:
<https://stackoverflow.com/a/75429845/3991696>

Write a reply

Answer selected by **SadriG91**

Category

 **Actions**

Labels

Actions Question

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Events

 **SadriG91** Marked an Answer 4m