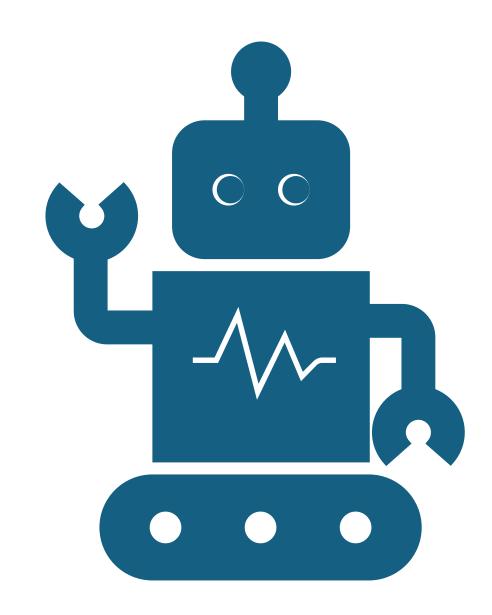
GitHub Copilot For Automation Scripting – Selenium Java

Author- Rahul Ritesh

Test Automation Lead



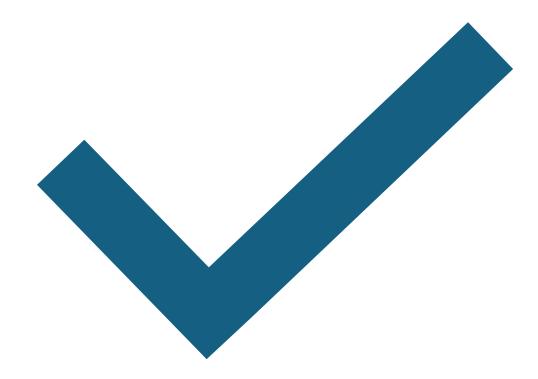
About Me

I am working as a Test Automation Lead with 9 years of experience in automation engineering across Banking, Payments, E-commerce, Salesforce CRM, and SAP ERP domains.



Agenda

- Introduction to GitHub Copilot
- How LLM Works
- Benefits of GitHub Copilot in Automation
- Setting Up GitHub Copilot in IDEs
- Utilizing GitHub Copilot for Automation Scripting
 - Creation Feature Files from Test Cases
 - Creation of Page Locators and Page Actions class
 - Creation of Step Definitions class
 - Creation of Test Runner Class
 - Creation of suite xml file
- Error Fixing and Code Optimization Features
- Limitations and Best Practices



GitHub Copilot setup in IDE

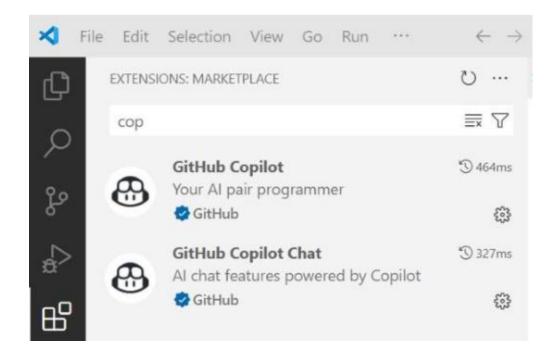
- Step 1: Sign in to GitHub
- Go to https://github.com.
- If you already have a GitHub account, click Sign In.
- If not, click **Sign Up** and create a new account by following the prompts.

- Step 2: Navigate to GitHub Copilot
- Once signed in, go to https://github.com/features/copilot.
- Click on the "Start my free trial" or "Get Copilot" button.
- Step 3: Choose a Plan
- GitHub Copilot offers:
 - A free trial (usually 30 days).
 - A monthly or yearly subscription for individuals.
 - A free plan for verified students and open-source contributors.
- Select the plan that suits you and click **Continue**.

- Step 4: Confirm Billing Information
- Enter your payment details (even for the free trial).
- Review and confirm your subscription.

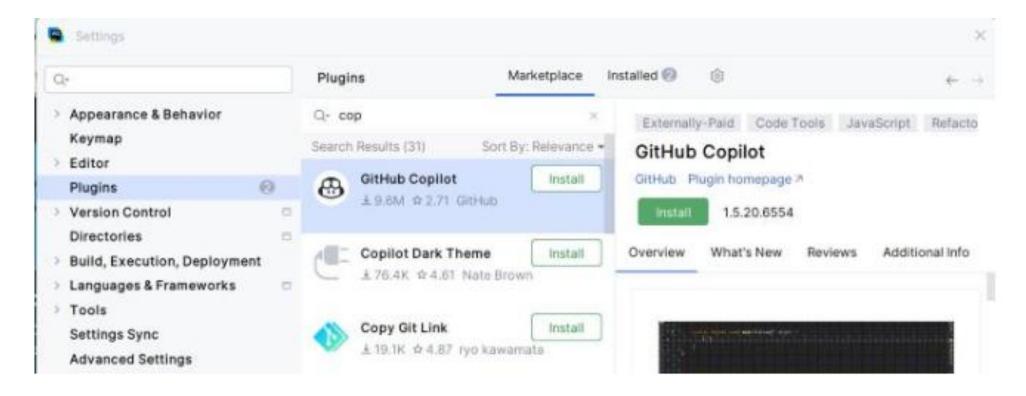
Adding GitHub Copilot in VS Code IDE

- Step 1: Sign Up For GitHub Account and subscribe for the license
- Step 2: Enable GitHub Copilot in IDE by adding extensions "GitHub Copilot" and "GitHub Copilot Chat".



Setup in IntelliJ IDE

- You can set up GitHub Copilot in JetBrains IDE by installing the Copilot plugin from the JetBrains marketplace.
- Before that make sure that you have an active GitHub account with copilot subscription.



Foundation of GitHub Copilot

Version Control System

What is a Version Control System (VCS)?

Imagine you're writing a document or working on a project with your friends. You make changes, they make changes, and soon it becomes hard to keep track of who did what and when. A **Version Control System** is like a **smart time machine** for your files. It:

Keeps track of every change made to your files.

Lets you go back to an earlier version if something breaks.

Helps multiple people work on the same project without messing up each other's work.

GitHub Vs GIT

What is GitHub?

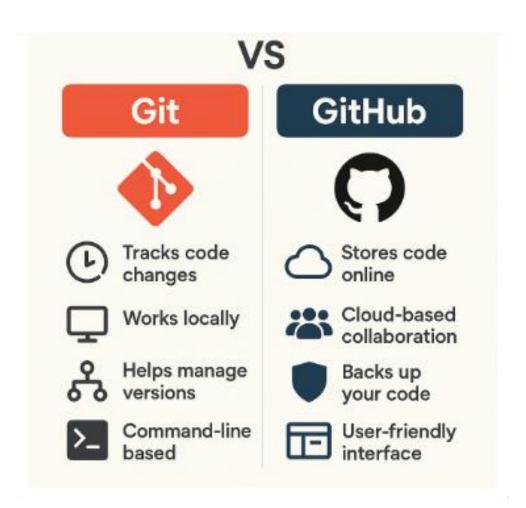
Think of GitHub as a social media platform for code.

- Just like you upload photos to Instagram or videos to YouTube, developers upload their **code projects** to GitHub.
- It's built on top of **Git** (the version control system we talked about earlier), but adds a **web-based interface** to make collaboration easier.

What is Git?

Git is one of the most popular version control systems. Think of it as:

- A super-organized notebook that remembers every change you make to your project.
- It lets you save snapshots of your work (called commits).
- You can branch off to try new ideas without affecting the main project.
- And when you're ready, you can **merge** your changes back in.
- Git is especially useful for developers working in teams, but even solo users benefit from its ability to track progress and undo mistakes.



Understanding GitHub Copilot

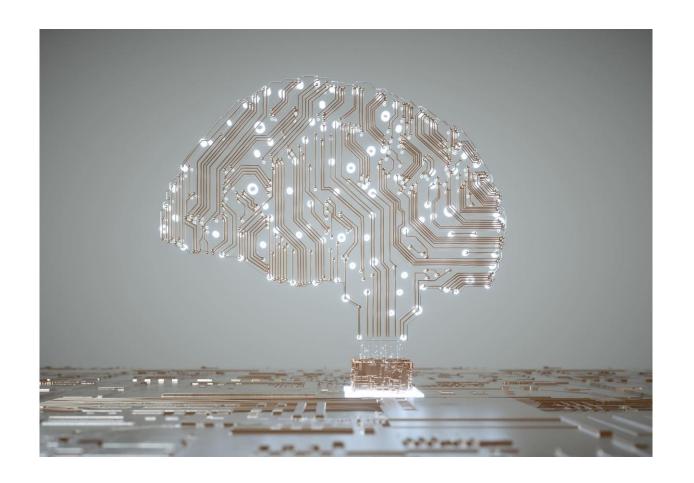
GitHub Platform: GitHub is an online service where developers can save, organize, and share their code. Think of it as a digital library for code.

Version Control with Git: GitHub uses a tool called Git to keep track of changes made to the code. This helps developers work together, go back to previous versions if needed, and manage their projects efficiently.

GitHub Copilot: GitHub Copilot is like a smart assistant for developers. It uses advanced AI technology to help write code in various programming languages found on GitHub.

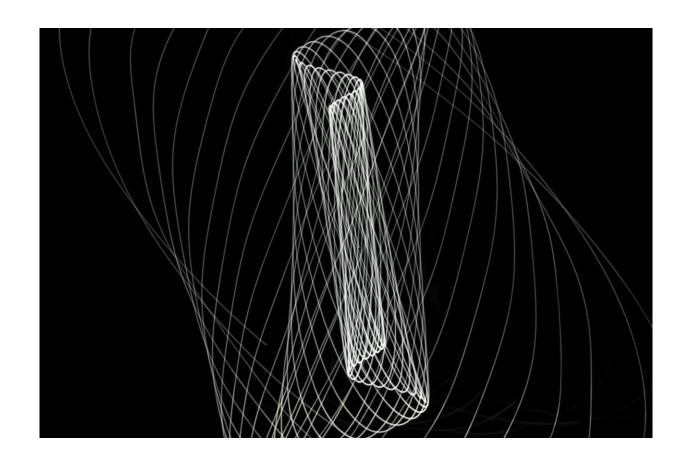
Understanding GitHub Copilot's Functionality

- GitHub Copilot is an AI-powered coding assistant that helps developers write code faster and smarter — right inside their code editor.
- It uses a large language model (LLM) to generate code suggestions.
- The model is trained on a diverse dataset of code from GitHub.
- Users can interact with Copilot in their IDE to receive real-time coding help.
- The latest version of the model enhances accuracy and code relevance.



Understanding LLM in GitHub Copilot

- It is trained on billions of lines of public code.
- Programming documentation enhances its learning.
- Natural language inputs improve code generation accuracy.
- LLMs help in understanding comments and instructions effectively.



How LLM Enhances Coding with GitHub Copilot

- Predicts and completes code as you start typing.
- Transforms comments into functional code effortlessly.
- Suggests complete implementations for requested functions.
- Provides fixes or alternatives when mistakes are made.

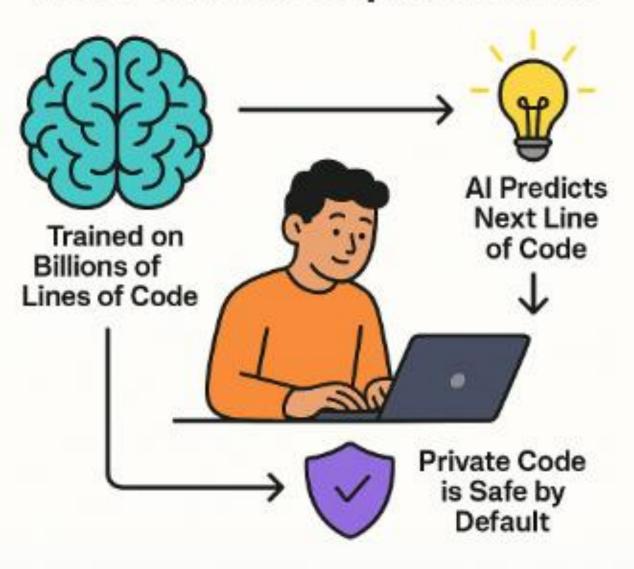


The Power of GitHub Copilot

- Understands both natural language and code effectively.
- Learns from the context present in your code files.
- Supports a wide range of programming languages.
- Saves developers time by reducing repetitive boilerplate code.

GitHub Copilot - Working

How GitHub Copilot Works



How Does GitHub Copilot Learn from Code?

GitHub Copilot is powered by **AI**, specifically a large language model developed by OpenAI. Here's how it learns:

1. It Was Trained on Public Code

- Copilot was trained on billions of lines of public code from GitHub and other sources.
- It looked at how developers write code, solve problems, and structure projects.
- Just like how you learn a language by reading books, Copilot learned coding patterns by reading code.

2. It Recognizes Patterns

- It doesn't memorize exact code like a copy-paste tool.
- Instead, it learns patterns—like how loops, functions, and conditions are usually written.
- So when you start typing, it predicts what you're likely to write next based on those patterns.

2 3. It Works Like Smart Autocomplete

- As you type, Copilot looks at your code and tries to **guess what you need next**.
- It uses its training to suggest code that fits your context—like a smart coding buddy who's read millions of examples.

Author: Rahul Ritesh

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4. It Doesn't Learn From Your Code in Real-Time

- Copilot doesn't learn from your private code unless you explicitly allow it.
- It uses what it already learned during training to help you write better code.

Interesting Facts about GitHub Copilot



As of 2025, GitHub Copilot is owned and operated by GitHub, which is a subsidiary of Microsoft

. The AI behind Copilot was developed in collaboration with **OpenAI**, but GitHub manages the product, its integration into development tools, and its commercial offerings. So in simple terms:

- Microsoft owns GitHub.
- GitHub owns and runs Copilot.
- OpenAI helped build the AI brains behind it.

As of 2025, GitHub Copilot uses multiple large language models (LLMs) to power its features. These include:

Claude Sonnet 4 and Claude Opus 4 by Anthropic – These are advanced models known for their strong reasoning and coding capabilities. Claude Sonnet 4 is optimized for coding workflows, while Opus 4 is more powerful and used in enterprise-level Copilot plans 1.

OpenAI models – GitHub Copilot originally launched using OpenAI's Codex model and continues to support newer OpenAI models like gpt-4 and gpt-4-turbo in some versions 2.

Gemini 1.5 Pro by Google DeepMind – Also supported in GitHub Copilot's multi-model setup 2.

This multi-model approach allows GitHub Copilot to offer more flexibility and better performance depending on the task and user plan.

Analogy:

• Think of Copilot like a chef who's read thousands of recipes. When you start cooking, they can suggest the next ingredient or step—not because they memorized your recipe, but because they've seen so many similar ones before.

Value Add by GitHub Copilot

Benefits

Generates code snippets quickly, saving time and effort in writing repetitive or boilerplate code.

Assists in solving complex coding problems by suggesting solutions or alternative approaches.

Provides code explanation, generate docs, code suggestions, helps in code fixing and debugging

Suggests optimized and clean code, helping developers write better and more efficient code.

Helps catch mistakes early by suggesting corrections or improvements in real-time.

Can be easily integrated with IDEs like VS code, IntelliJ etc.



Effort Savings with GitHub Copilot



Developers can save up to 30% of coding time using GitHub Copilot.



Average code writing speed increases from 20 lines/hour to 40 lines/hour.



Eliminating repetitive tasks reduces burnout and increases productivity.



Real-time suggestions enhance coding accuracy, lowering debugging time by 25%.



Graph shows improvement in coding efficiency over time.

Approximate Time Savings:

•Writing Code: 20% time saved

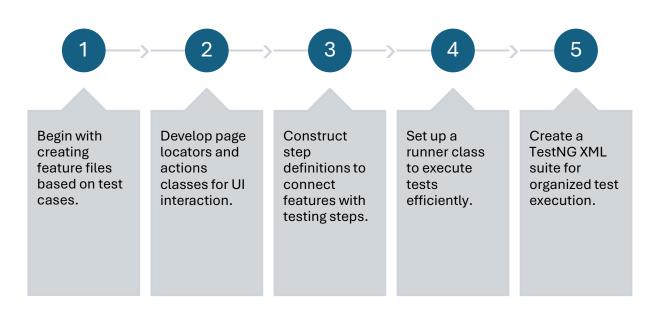
•Debugging: 15% time saved

•Generating Documentation: 25% time

saved

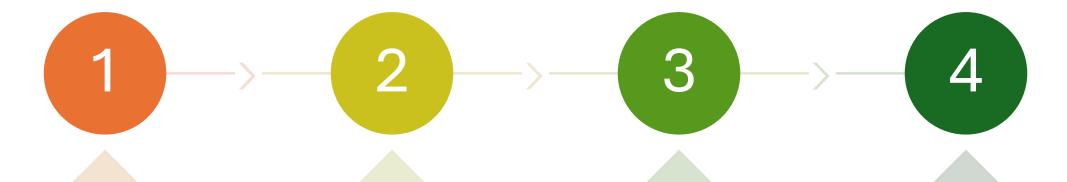
Scripts Development Process – Practical Demonstration

Automating Test Development Process Using GitHub Copilot





Test Scenarios



SC_01_positive_Login_verificatio n: Verify user login with valid username and password. Expected Result: Login successful, dashboard header text should be visible. SC_02_negative_Login_verificati on: Verify user login with valid username and invalid password. Expected Result: Login fails, invalid credentials error message should be displayed. SC_03_negative_Login_verificati on: Verify user login with invalid username and valid password. Expected Result: Login fails, invalid credentials error message should be displayed. SC_04_negative_Login_verificati on: Verify user login with invalid username and password. Expected Result: Login fails, invalid credentials error message should be displayed.

Test Data

```
valid_username= "Admin"
valid_password="admin123"
invalid_username="MyAdmin"
invalid_password="admin1234"
```

username_Textbox_locator=//input[@placeholder='Username']

password_Textbox_locator=//input[@placeholder='Password']

Locators



login_button_locator=//button[@type='submit']



dashboard_headerText=//h6[@class='oxd-text oxd-text--h6 oxd-topbar-header-breadcrumb-module']



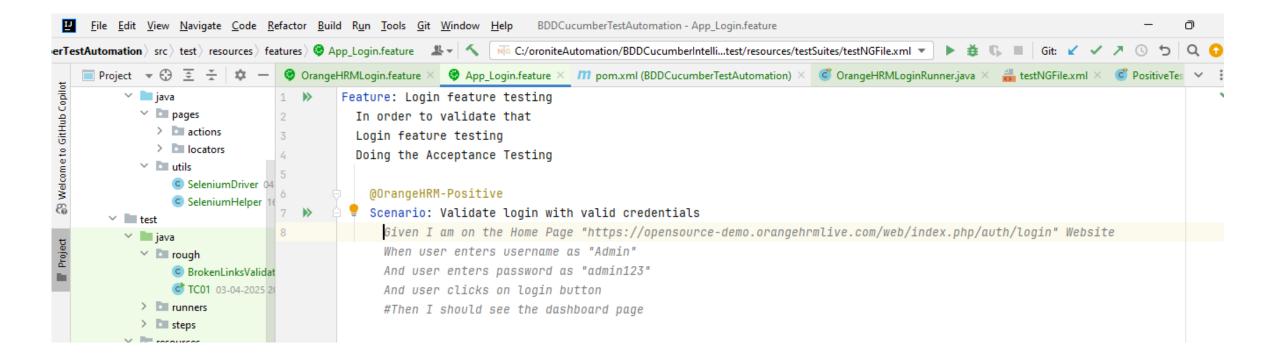
invalidCredentials_errorMessage=//p[@class='oxd-text oxd-text--p oxd-alert-content-text']

Feature File Output

```
Feature: Login Page Verification
  Background:
   Given the user navigates to the application URL "https://opensource-demo.orangehrmlive.com/web/index.php/auth/login"
  Scenario Outline: Verify user login functionality
   Given the user enters username "<username>" in the username textbox
   And the user enters password "<password>" in the password textbox
   When the user clicks on the login button
   Then <empected result>
   Examples:
     username
                      password
                                   | expected result
     | Admin
                                   | the user should be logged in successfully
     Admin
                     | admin1234 | the login should fail
      MyAdmin
                      admin123
                                   | the login should fail
      MyAdmin
                      | admin1234 | the login should fail
  Scenario: SC 01 positive Login verification
   Given the user enters valid username "Admin" in the username textbox
   And the user enters valid password "admin123" in the password textbox
   When the user clicks on the login button
   Then the user should be logged in successfully
   And the dashboard header text should be visible
  Scenario: SC 02 negative Login verification
   Given the user enters valid username "Admin" in the username textbox
   And the user enters invalid password "admin1234" in the password textbox
   When the user clicks on the login button
   Then the login should fail
   And the invalid credentials error message should be displayed
  Scenario: SC 03 negative Login verification
   Given the user enters invalid username "MyAdmin" in the username textbox
   And the user enters valid password "admin123" in the password textbox
   When the user clicks on the login button
   Then the login should fail
   And the invalid credentials error message should be displayed
  Scenario: SC_04_negative_Login_verification
   Given the user enters invalid username "MyAdmin" in the username textbox
   And the user enters invalid password "admin1234" in the password textbox
   When the user clicks on the login button
   Then the login should fail
   And the invalid credentials error message should be displayed
```

Intelligent Recommendations for Feature File Development

- Provide suggested test steps for creating feature files from the given scenario, utilizing insights from the project codebase.
- Note <u>- Press tab to accept the suggestions, make sure to review the suggestions and customize if needed.</u>



Developing Page Locators Class

Create classes for page locators and actions to interact with the user interface.



Prompt - Create LoginPageLocators Class for the above feature file using the webPage Locators

```
package pages.locators;
import org.openga.selenium.WebElement;
import org.openga.selenium.support.FindBy;
public class LoginPageLocators {
    @FindBy(xpath = "//input[@placeholder='Username']")
    public WebElement usernameTextbox;
    @FindBy(xpath = "//input[@placeholder='Password']")
    public WebElement passwordTextbox;
    @FindBy(xpath = "//button[@type='submit']")
    public WebElement loginButton;
    @FindBy(xpath = "//h6[@class='oxd-text oxd-text--h6 oxd-topbar-header-breadcrumb-module']")
    public WebElement dashboardHeaderText;
    @FindBy(xpath = "//p[@class='oxd-text oxd-text--p oxd-alert-content-text']")
    public WebElement invalidCredentialsErrorMessage;
```

Developing Page Actions Class

Create classes for page locators and actions to interact with the user interface.



package pages.actions;

Prompt - Create LoginPageActions class for the LoginPageLocators class

```
import org.openga.selenium.WebDriver;
import org.openga.selenium.support.PageFactory;
import pages.locators.LoginPageLocators;
public class LoginPageActions {
   WebDriver driver;
   LoginPageLocators loginPageLocators;
   public LoginPageActions(WebDriver driver) {
        this.driver = driver;
        this.loginPageLocators = new LoginPageLocators();
        PageFactory.initElements(driver, loginPageLocators);
    public void enterUsername(String username) {
        loginPageLocators.usernameTextbox.sendKeys(username);
    public void enterPassword(String password) {
        loginPageLocators.passwordTextbox.sendKeys(password);
    public void clickLoginButton() {
        loginPageLocators.loginButton.click();
   public boolean isDashboardHeaderVisible() {
        return loginPageLocators.dashboardHeaderText.isDisplayed();
    public boolean isInvalidCredentialsMessageVisible() {
        return loginPageLocators.invalidCredentialsErrorMessage.isDisplayed();
```

Creating Step Definitions

Develop step definitions to link the feature files with the test steps.



Prompt - Create LoginTestSteps for Login.feature file using LoginPageLocators and LoginPageActions class put proper validation checkpoints using TestNG Assertions

```
import utils.SeleniumDriver;
public class LoginTestSteps {
    WebDriver driver - SeleniumDriver.getDriver();
    LoginPageActions loginPageActions - new LoginPageActions(driver);
    @Given("the user navigates to the application URL (string)")
    public void navigateToApplicationURL(String url) {
        driver.get(url);
    @Given("the user enters valid username (string) in the username textbox")
    @Given("the user enters invalid username (string) in the username textbox")
    public void enterUsername(String username) {
        loginPageActions.enterUsername(username);
    @Given("the user enters valid password (string) in the password textbox")
    @Given ("the user enters invalid password [string] in the password textbox")
    public void enterPassword(String password) {
        loginPageActions.enterPassword(password);
    @When("the user clicks on the login button")
    public void clickLoginButton() {
        loginPageActions.clickLoginButton();
    @Then("the user should be logged in successfully")
    public void validateSuccessfulLogin() {
        Assert.assertTrue(loginPageActions.isDashboardHeaderVisible(), "Dashboard header text is not visible");
    @Then ("the login should fail")
    public void validateFailedLogin() {
        Assert.assertTrue(loginPageActions.isInvalidCredentialsMessageVisible(), "Invalid credentials error message is not visible");
    $Then("the dashboard header text should be visible")
    public void validateDashboardHeaderText() {
        Assert.assertTrue(loginPageActions.isDashboardHeaderVisible(), "Dashboard header text is not visible");
    @Then ("the invalid credentials error message should be displayed")
    public void validateInvalidCredentialsErrorMessage() {
        Assert.assertTrue(loqinPaqeActions.isInvalidCredentialsMessageVisible(), "Invalid credentials error message is not visible");
```

Setting Up the Runner Class

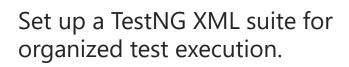
Create a runner class to execute the tests efficiently.



Prompt - Create LoginTestRunner class by referring PositiveTest Runner class

```
package runners;
import io.cucumber.testng.CucumberOptions;
import io.cucumber.testng.AbstractTestNGCucumberTests;
@CucumberOptions(
        plugin = {"json:target/login/cucumber.json",
                "pretty", "html:target/login/cucumber.html",
                "com.aventstack.extentreports.cucumber.adapter.ExtentCucumberAdapter:"},
        features = "src/test/resources/FeatureFiles/Login.feature",
        glue = "steps",
        tags = "@Login"
public class LoginTestRunner extends AbstractTestNGCucumberTests {
    //add the code snippet to run the tests in parallel
    @Override
    @org.testng.annotations.DataProvider(parallel = true)
    public Object[][] scenarios() {
        return super.scenarios();
```







Prompt - create testNGsuite xml file to run the LoginTestRunner class

```
Creating Login Test Automation
Below is the testing-suite.xml file to run the LoginTestRunner class:
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE suite SYSTEM "https://testng.org/testng-1.0.dtd">
<suite name="LoginTestSuite" parallel="classes" thread-count="4">
    <test name="LoginTest">
         <classes>
             <class name="runners.LoginTestRunner"/>
         </classes>
    </test>
</suite>
```



Overview of GitHub Copilot Chat Options

- Simplify This: Refactors complex code into simpler versions.
- Generate Docs: Creates documentation for your code automatically.
- Generate Tests: Suggests unit tests for your code.
- Explain This: Provides explanations of code snippets.
- Fix This: Identifies and suggests fixes for code errors.

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Creating code logic with appropriate comments.

- Prompt- Create one static method named pageScrollToWebElement which will scroll the web page to the given web element coming into this method as an WebElement parameter
- Note <u>- Press tab to accept the suggestions, make sure to review</u> the suggestions and customize if needed.

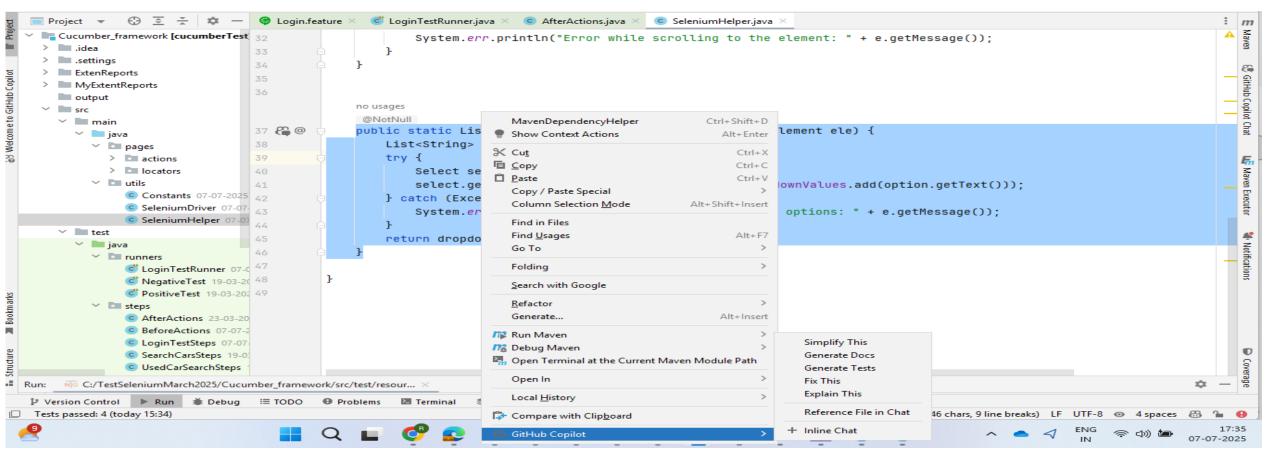
Creating code using GitHub Copilot Chat

- Prompt Create a method for SeleniumHelper class, method should be static named getAllOptionsFromDropdown(WebElement ele), the logic should be able to fetch all the options from a dropdown webElement, WebElement should come as a parameter to this method. use Try catch block to handle exceptions related to WebElement. this method should return the list of all the dropdown values as String.
- Note <u>code suggestions must be reviewed thoroughly before using and customize if needed. Else it can cause errors.</u>

```
GitHub Copilot Chat
                                                                                                                                       zÖ:
Selenium Helper Methods for Dropdowns
import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.List;
public class SeleniumHelper {
     public static List<String> getAllOptionsFromDropdown(WebElement ele) {
         List<String> dropdownValues = new ArrayList<>();
              Select select = new Select(ele);
              select.getOptions().forEach(option -> dropdownValues.add(option.getText()));
         } catch (Exception e) {
              System.err.println("Error while fetching dropdown options: " + e.getMessage());
         return dropdownValues;
Can you help me create a method to select an option from the dropdown?
  Ask Copilot a question or type '/' for commands
                                                                                                                  GPT-40
```

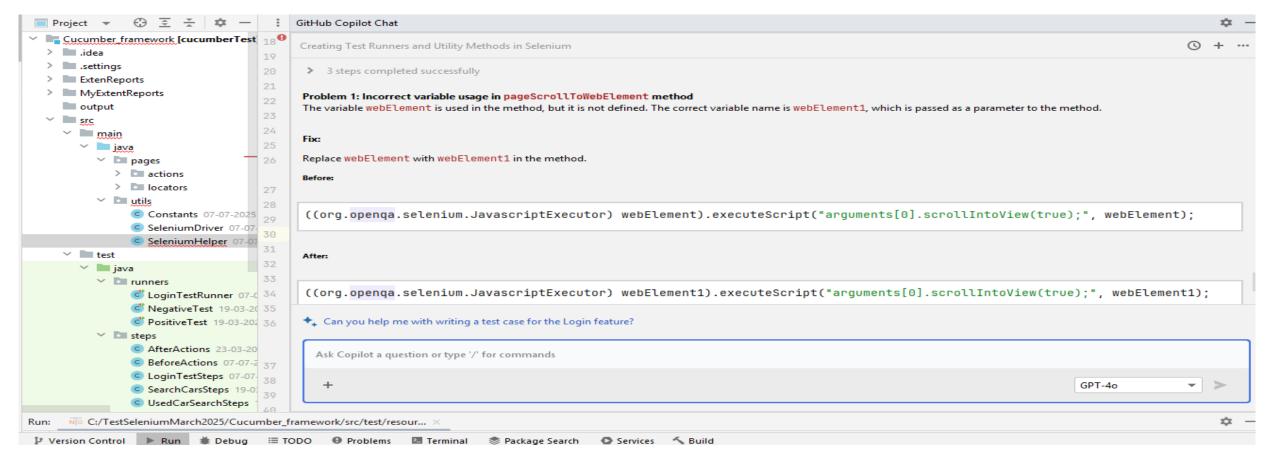
Options available with GitHub Copilot chat

- Select a particular code snippet, right click, go to GitHub Copilot. It will show the below options show in the screenshot below
- Note <u>code suggestions must be reviewed thoroughly before</u> using and customize if needed. Else it can cause errors.



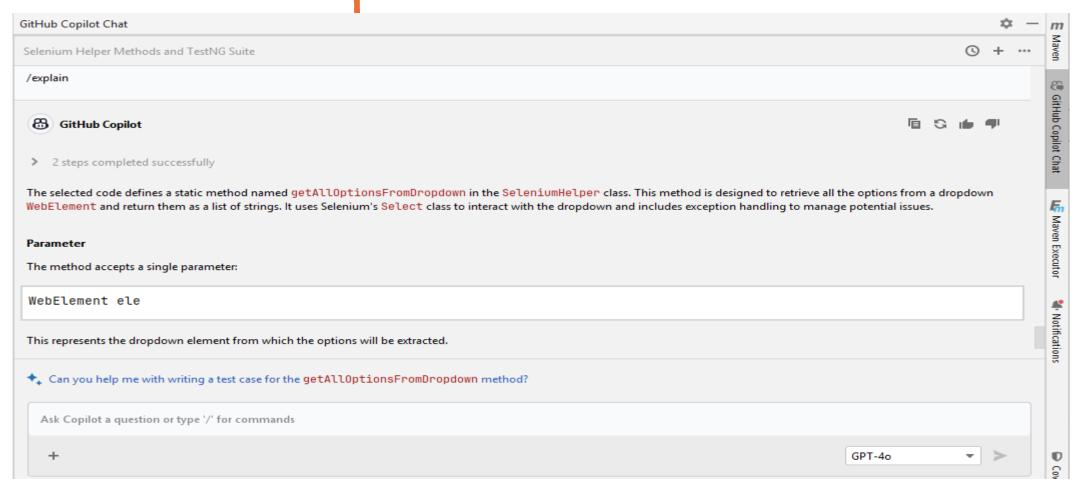
Fix errors using GitHub Copilot

- Select a particular code snippet, right click, go to GitHub Copilot, select "Fix This" option. It will show the suggestions to fix the code.
- Note <u>- code suggestions must be reviewed thoroughly before</u> using and customize if needed. Else it can cause errors.



Code explaination using GitHub Copilot

- Select a particular code snippet, right click, go to GitHub Copilot, select "Explain This" option. It will show the suggestions to fix the code.
- Note <u>code suggestions must be reviewed thoroughly before using and</u> customize if needed. Else it can cause errors.



Code optimization using GitHub Copilot

- Select a particular code snippet, right click, go to GitHub Copilot, select "Simplify This" option. It will show the suggestions to fix the code.
- Note <u>- code suggestions must be reviewed thoroughly before using and customize if needed. Else it can cause errors.</u>



Doc generation using GitHub Copilot

- Select a particular code snippet, right click, go to GitHub Copilot, select "Generate Docs" option. It will show the suggestions to fix the code.
- Note <u>- code suggestions must be reviewed thoroughly before using and customize if needed. Else it can cause errors.</u>

```
GitHub Copilot Chat
Selenium Dropdown Handling and Code Simplification
  * Retrieves all options from a dropdown WebElement and returns them as a list of strings.
   Oparam ele The WebElement representing the dropdown.
   Oreturn A list of strings containing the text values of all dropdown options.
            If an exception occurs, an empty list is returned.
   Othrows Exception Handles any exception that may occur while interacting with the WebElement.
 public static List<String> getAllOptionsFromDropdown(WebElement ele) {
     List<String> dropdownValues = new ArrayList<>();
    try {
         // Create a Select object to interact with the dropdown
         Select select = new Select(ele):
         // Iterate through all options and add their text to the list
         select.getOptions().forEach(option -> dropdownValues.add(option.getText()));
     } catch (Exception e) {
```

Limitations And Best Practices

Limitations

Limitations	Description
Limited scope of knowledge	The tool learns from code available in GitHub repositories. However, it may struggle with certain problems, complicated code structures, specific programming languages, or data formats that are not well-represented in the examples it was trained on.
Break down the bigger problem into smaller functions	Break down complex code into smaller, manageable functions for better clarity and understanding.
Inaccurate code	The tool provider informs that the generated code may not meet the user's expectations, may not solve the actual problem, and may contain errors
Inaccurate chat responses	When using the chat feature, how accurate the answers are mostly depending on how well you ask the question or give a command. The documentation states that "Copilot Chat is not meant to answer questions that aren't about coding." This means that if you ask about topics outside of coding, like design, the answers might not make sense or be relevant.

GI tHub Copilot



Ask clear, specific coding questions



Stick to programming topics



Break down complex code into smaller parts



Review and test generated code



Understand that

Tool limitations guidelines





Since GitHub Copilot is based on generative AI, you must always remember that it may generate incorrect code or responses.

Therefore, when using the tool, you must be aware of potential limitations.

Note: To mitigate potential limitations, always conduct code reviews, verify alternative solutions, and provide clear and precise prompts.

Prompts generation guidelines

Prompt engineering for Copilot Chat - GitHub Docs

 Here are the GitHub Copilot prompt generation standards and guidelines, based on official documentation and best practices

1. Start General, Then Get Specific

 Begin with a broad description of what you want to achieve, then narrow it down with specific requirements.

Example:

"Write a function that checks if a number is prime.
 It should return true for prime numbers and false otherwise."

2. Give Examples

 Providing input/output examples helps Copilot understand your intent more clearly.

Example:

• "Write a function that extracts all dates from a string.

Input: 'Meeting on 12/05/2025 and 13-06-2025'

Output: ['12/05/2025', '13-06-2025']"

3. Break Complex Tasks into Smaller Steps

 Instead of asking Copilot to do everything at once, break the task into manageable parts.

Example:

- Step 1: Generate a login page class with locators.
- Step 2: Write methods for entering credentials.
- Step 3: Create a test case using those methods.

4. Avoid Ambiguity

• Be specific in your language. Avoid vague terms like "this" or "that."

Example:

Instead of: "What does this function do?"

Say: "What does the validateUserInput() method do?"

5. Indicate Relevant Code or Context

If you're working in an IDE, make sure the relevant files are open. Copilot uses the surrounding code to generate better suggestions.

6. Experiment and Iterate

Try rephrasing your prompt if the output isn't what you expected. Small changes can lead to better results.

7. Follow Good Coding Practices

Use clear naming conventions, consistent formatting, and comments. This helps Copilot understand your code style and generate cleaner suggestions.

Ref- https://docs.github.com/en/copilot/concepts/prompt-engineering-for-copilot-chat

Summary of GitHub Copilot in Automation

- Introduction to GitHub Copilot and its Al capabilities.
- Significant benefits include time savings in coding tasks.
- Integration with various IDEs enhances developer efficiency.
- Automating test development streamlines the process significantly.
- Awareness of limitations is crucial for effective usage.





"Thank you! I'm happy to answer any questions you may have."