Version Control using GitHub and Python.

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GitHub

Github is a cloud-based platform to store and share code.

- Showcase or share your work.
- Track and manage changes to your code over time.
- Let others review your code, and make suggestions to improve it.
- Collaborate on a shared project, without worrying that your changes will impact the work of your collaborators before you're ready to integrate them

Git

Git is a version control system. It is useful when you and other people are working on the same project. It was created by Linus Torvalds in 2005 (the creator of Linux). Typically, to do this in a Git-based workflow, you would:

- Create a branch off from the main copy of files that you (and your collaborators) are working on.
- Make edits to the files independently and safely on your own personal branch.
- Let Git intelligently merge your specific changes back into the main copy of files, so that your changes don't impact other people's updates.
- Let Git keep track of your and other people's changes, so you all stay working on the most up-to-date version of the project

How do Git and GitHub work together?

• When you upload files to GitHub, you'll store them in a "Git repository." This means that when you make changes (or "commits") to your files in GitHub, Git will automatically start to track and manage your changes.

Once you start to collaborate with others and all need to work on the same repository at the same time, you'll continually:

- Pull all the latest changes made by your collaborators from the remote repository on GitHub.
- Push back your own changes to the same remote repository on GitHub.

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Requirements

- Create an account on GitHub
- Install Git on your computer.
- Connect to GitHub
- Install the GitHub CLI

Communicating on GitHub

GitHub provides built-in collaborative communication tools allowing you to interact closely with your community. E.g. you can follow the last updates of your favorite library, or even your favorite programming language.

GitHub Issues

- Are useful for discussing specific details of a project such as bug reports, planned improvements and feedback.
- Are specific to a repository, and usually have a clear owner.
- Are often referred to as GitHub's bug-tracking system.

Pull Requests

- Allow you to propose specific changes
- Allow you to comment directly on proposed changes suggested by others
- Are specific to a repository
- Provide a collaborative experience outside the codebase, allowing the brainstorming of ideas, and the creation of a community knowledge base

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GitHub Discussions

- Are like a forum, and are best used for open-form ideas and discussions where collaboration is important.
- May span many repositories

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What should I use?

Issues

- I want to keep track of tasks, enhancements and bugs.
- I want to file a bug report.
- I want to share feedback about a specific feature.
- I want to ask a question about files in the repository.

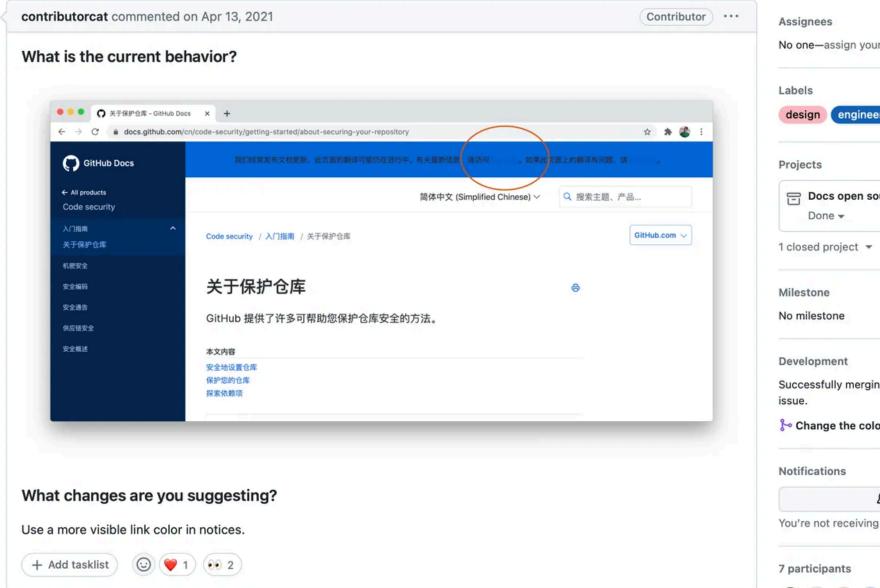
Blue link text in notices is unreadable due to blue background #5349

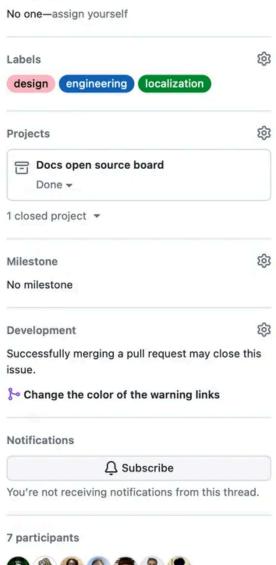
Edit New issue

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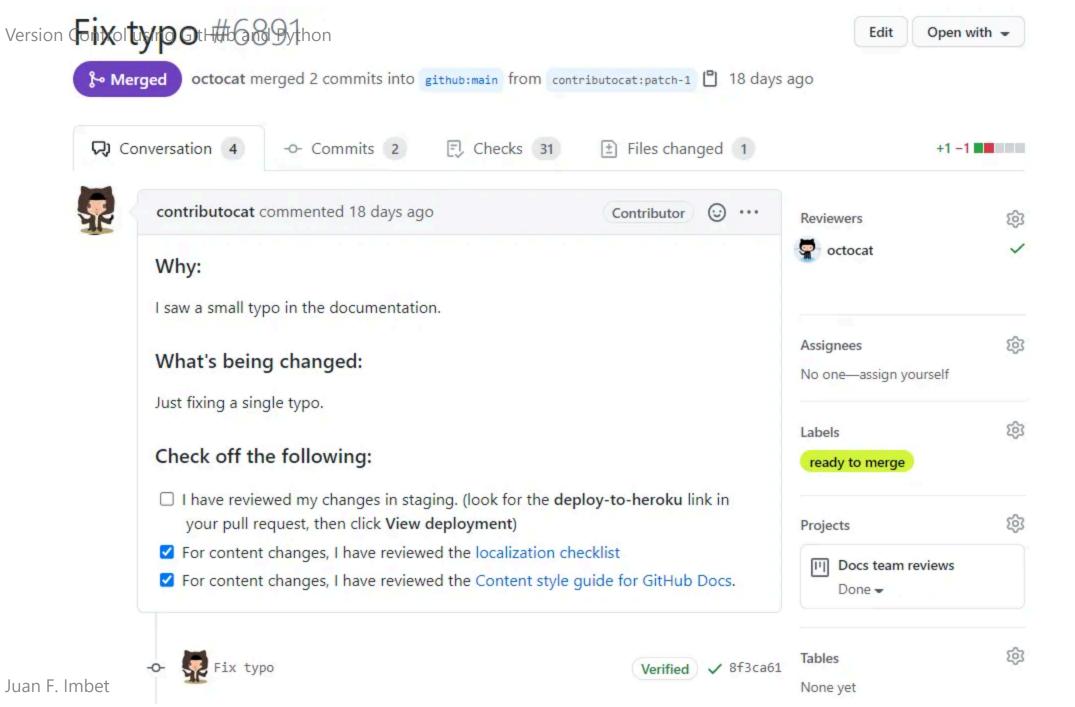
⊘ Closed Tracked by ⊘ #376 zeke opened this issue on Apr 13, 2021 · 16 comments · Fixed by #5781





Scenarios for Pull Requests

- I want to fix a typo in a repository.
- I want to make changes to a repository.
- I want to make changes to fix an issue.
- I want to comment on changes suggested by others.





Scenarios for Discussions

- I have a question that's not necessarily related to specific files in the repository.
- I want to share news with my collaborators, or my team.
- I want to start or participate in an open-ended conversation.
- I want to make an announcement to my community.

Feature preview

GitHub's release cycle

GitHub's products and features can go through multiple release phases.

- Alpha: The product or feature is under heavy development and often has changing requirements and scope
- Beta: The product or feature is in a more stable state and is available to a limited number of users
- General Availability (GA): The product or feature is fully released and available to all users

Github has a feature preview that allows you to try out new features of a repository before they are released to the general public.

Interacting with GitHub

- Browser (only use one of the following)
 - Apple Safari
 - Google Chrome
 - Microsoft Edge
 - Mozilla Firefox
- GitHub Mobile
- Command Line Interface (CLI)

I recommend to do (almost) everything from the command line.

Writing on GitHub: Markdown

- Markdown is an easy-to-read, easy-to-write language for formatting plain text. You
 can use Markdown syntax, along with some additional HTML tags, to format your
 writing on GitHub, in places like repository READMEs and comments on pull
 requests and issues.
- These slides are written in Marp, a language based on Markdown for slides...
- Markdown files are saved with the .md extension. The most common file in any repository is the README.md file.
- You can use HTML tags in Markdown files for more complex formatting.
- Click here for a guide on how to write in Markdown.

Basic Markdown Syntax

```
# Heading 1
## Heading 2
### Heading 3
*italic*
**bold**
***bold italic***
* List item 1
1. List item 2
Plain text
```

Heading 1

Heading 2

Heading 3

italic

bold

bold italic

- List item 1
- 1. List item 2

Plain text

Finding ways to contribute to open source on GitHub

- Discovering relevant projects github.com/topics/<topic>
- Finding good first issues github.com/<owner>/<repository>/contribute.
- Opening an issue.

Version Control using GitHub and Python

Let's get started

Main commands, git and gh

- git is the command line tool for Git, this is the command we will use more often.
- gh is the command line tool for GitHub, it is useful to create repositories and manage issues.

Command Line Interface

```
git --version
git config --global user.name "Juan Imbett"
git config user.name
git config --global user.email "jfimbett@gmail.com"
git config --global user.email
```

```
git version 2.44.0.windows.1
Juan Imbett
jfimbett@gmail.com
```

Make sure you are connected to GitHub

```
gh auth login
```

HTTPS and **SSH**

- HTTPS is the default way to connect to GitHub. It stands for HyperText Transfer Protocol Secure. It is a secure way to transfer data between your computer and GitHub.
- SSH stands for Secure Shell. It is a secure way to connect to GitHub. It is more secure than HTTPS, but it requires more configuration. Since we do not have nuclear codes in our repositories, we will use HTTPS.

Step 3: Create a Local Repository

```
cd
mkdir hello-world
cd hello-world
git init # creates .git folder
```

Initialized empty Git repository in C:/Users/jfimb/Documents/hello-world/.git/

Step 4: Add Files to the Repository

Windows

```
echo # My First Commit >> README.md
more README.md
git add .
git commit -m "First commit"
```

iOS

```
echo "# My First Commit" >> README.md
cat README.md
git add .
git commit -m "First commit"
```

```
[master (root-commit) eaef7df] First commit
1 file changed, 1 insertion(+)
create mode 100644 README.md
```

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Step 5: Create a Remote Repository

```
gh repo create hello-world --public --source=.
```

- ✓ Created repository jfimbett/hello-world on GitHub https://github.com/jfimbett/hello-world
- √ Added remote https://github.com/jfimbett/hello-world.git

Step 6: Push the Local Repository to GitHub

git push -u origin master

Where origin is the name of the remote repository and master is the name of the branch (more on this later)

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Step 7: Check the Repository on GitHub

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Step 8: Pulling changes from GitHub

- Go directly to the GitHub website and make a change to the README.md file.
- Pull the changes to your local repository.

```
git pull origin master
```

Step 9: Create a Branch

- A branch is a copy of the main repository. It is useful when you want to work on a feature without affecting the main repository.
- Let's create a branch called feature1, create a python file and push it to the remote repository.

```
git checkout -b feature1 # creates and switches to the branch
echo print('Hello World') >> hello.py # creates a python file
git add . # adds the file to the staging area
git commit -m "Add hello.py" # commits the file
git push origin feature1 # pushes the branch to the remote repository
```

```
Enumerating objects: 4, done.
Counting objects: 100% (4/4), done.
Delta compression using up to 36 threads
Compressing objects: 100% (2/2), done.
Writing objects: 100% (3/3), 302 bytes | 302.00 KiB/s, done.
Total 3 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 0 (from 0)
remote:
remote: Create a pull request for 'feature1' on GitHub by visiting:
             https://github.com/jfimbett/hello-world/pull/new/feature1
remote:
remote:
To https://github.com/jfimbett/hello-world.git
 * [new branch] feature1 -> feature1
```

Check the repository on GitHub

- You will see a new branch called feature1 with the file hello.py.
- The branch will be 1 commit ahead of the master branch.
- You can create a pull request to merge the changes to the master branch.

```
gh pr create --base master --head feature1
```

Let's explore the command. --base is the branch where you want to merge the changes. --head is the branch where the changes are.

```
Creating pull request for feature1 into master in jfimbett/hello-world
? Title Add hello.py
? Body <Received>
? What's next? Submit
https://github.com/jfimbett/hello-world/pull/1
```

You should see a pull request on the GitHub website.

A pull request is a proposal to merge a set of changes from one branch into another. In a pull request, collaborators can review and discuss the proposed set of changes before they integrate the changes into the main codebase.

Commenting on a Pull Request

- The repository administrator is the one that can accept or reject the pull request.

 As an admin you can make commens on the pull request.
- Let's imagine that the admin asks you to make a change to the file hello.py. You can do it in the browser, for example asking to have double quotes instead of single quotes.
- You can check the pull request comments with the command gh pr view 1.

gh pr view 1

```
Add hello.py jfimbett/hello-world#1
Open • jfimbett wants to merge 1 commit into master from feature1 • about 10 minutes ago
+1 -0 • No checks
  No description provided
jfimbett commented (Owner) • Om • Newest comment
 Good commit, but please do the changes.
View this pull request on GitHub: https://github.com/jfimbett/hello-world/pull/1
```

Making changes to the Pull Request

 You can make changes to the pull request by checking out the branch and making the changes.

```
git checkout feature1
echo print("Hello World") > hello.py ## two > are for appending, one is for overwriting
git add .
git commit -m "Change hello.py"
git push origin feature1
```

Step 10: Merge the Pull Request

• Once the changes are made, you can accept the pull request.

```
gh pr merge 1 --delete-branch # merges the pull request and deletes the branch,
gh pr merge 1 # merges the pull request and keeps the other branch
```

```
Merging pull request jfimbett/hello-world#1 (Add hello.py)
? What merge method would you like to use? Create a merge commit
? What's next? Submit
✓ Merged pull request jfimbett/hello-world#1 (Add hello.py)
remote: Enumerating objects: 1, done.
remote: Counting objects: 100% (1/1), done.
remote: Total 1 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 0 (from 0)
Unpacking objects: 100\% (1/1), 889 bytes | 222.00 KiB/s, done.
From https://github.com/jfimbett/hello-world
          master -> FETCH_HEAD
 * branch
   b1066dc..66a1170 master -> origin/master
Updating b1066dc..66a1170
Fast-forward
hello.py | 1 +
 1 file changed, 1 insertion(+)
 create mode 100644 hello.py
✓ Deleted local branch feature1 and switched to branch master
✓ Deleted remote branch feature1
```

Forking and Cloning a Repository: Explore ideas before they are proposed.

- A fork is a new repository that shares code and visibility settings with the original "upstream" repository. It doesn't download the code to your local machine by itself.
- Propose changes to someone else's project.
- Use someone else's project as a starting point for your own idea.
- E.g. I like this repository on how to train a neural network to play the game snake. https://github.com/greerviau/SnakeAI
- Cloning is the process of downloading a repository to your local machine.

gh repo fork greerviau/SnakeAI --remote=true

cd SnakeAI

The .gitignore file

• The .gitignore file is a text file that tells Git which files or folders to ignore in a project.

Example of a .gitignore file:

```
# Byte-compiled / optimized / DLL files
__pycache__/
*.py[cod]
*$py.class
# C extensions
*.so
```

You should include here large data files.

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Step 12: Delete the Local Repository

- Deleting a repository is a dangerous operation, it is irreversible. To avoid any unwanted deletion, I recommend deleting directly on the github website.
- To stop tracking a repository, you can delete the .git folder.

iOS

```
rm -rf .git
```

Windows

```
rmdir .git /s /q
```

Version Control

- How to automate the process of version control?
- Python through Anaconda.
- Cookiecutter: A tool that helps you create a project template.
- Poetry: Dependency management and packaging in Python.
- Semantic Release: A tool that automates the versioning and release process based on the commit messages.
- For this example let's create an empty repository, that we will convert into a library, upload to GitHub and manage the version control.

Anaconda

• Install Python through Anaconda and create a virtual environment. This will allow you to install packages without affecting the base environment, plus you can easily share the environment with others. Different versions of the same libraries/packages can have different behavior. A good practice is to create a virtual environment for each project, you can use the same name as the project.

```
conda create --name mylibrary python=3.11 conda activate mylibrary
```

(mylibrary) C:\Users\jfimb\Documents> # Look at the (mylibrary) at the beginning of the line

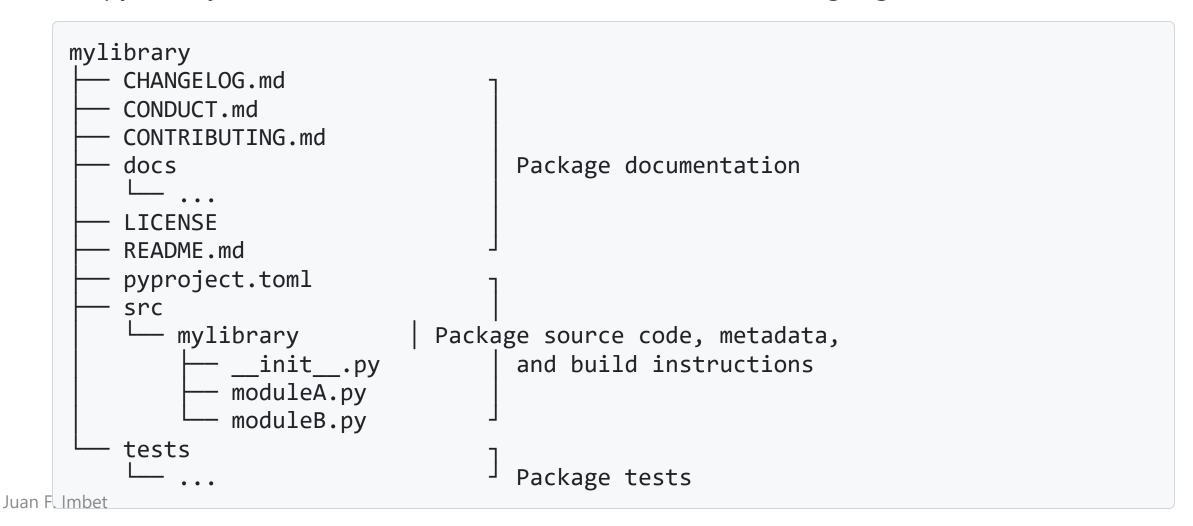
Cookiecutter

- Cookiecutter is a command-line utility that creates projects from project templates.
- A professional project consists of a set of files and directories that are organized in a specific way. E.g. tests, documentation, source code, etc.
- You can look for your favorite template here
- Install cookiecutter using conda rather than pip to avoid conflicts with other packages.

conda install -c conda-forge cookiecutter

Version Control using GitHub and Python Treat your code as a package/library

Our goal is to creat something that looks like this, a package structure. Even if you dont use python, you can have a similar structure with another language.



Notes:

- The CHANGELOG.md file contains a list of changes made to the package. It is useful to keep track of the changes made to the package.
- The CONDUCT.md file contains the code of conduct of the package. It is useful to keep track of the rules of the package.
- The CONTRIBUTING.md file contains the guidelines for contributing to the package. It is useful to keep track of the contributions to the package.
- The docs folder contains the documentation of the package. It is useful to keep track of the documentation of the package.
- The LICENSE file contains the license of the package. It is useful to keep track of the license of the package.

Version Control using GitHub and Python

Important

• Do not worry about the structure of the package src with a directory called mylibrary. This is the way python packages are organized. The __init__.py file is necessary for python to recognize the directory as a package.

Retrieve a template

py-pkgs provides a template for Python packages.

cookiecutter https://github.com/py-pkgs/py-pkgs-cookiecutter.git

```
[1/7] author name (Monty Python): Juan F. Imbet
[2/7] package name (mypkg): mylibrary
[3/7] package short description (A package for doing great things!): Example of how to use templates in cookiecutter.
[4/7] package_version (0.1.0): 0.0.0
[5/7] python version (3.9):
[6/7] Select open source license
 1 - MIT
 2 - Apache License 2.0
  3 - GNU General Public License v3.0
 4 - CC0 v1.0 Universal
  5 - BSD 3-Clause
  6 - Proprietary
 7 - None
  Choose from [1/2/3/4/5/6/7] (1):
[7/7] Select include github actions
  1 - no
  2 - ci
  3 - ci + cd
  Choose from [1/2/3] (1):
```

Version Control using GitHub and Python

Important:

• Select 0.0.0 for the package version, this will allow us to use semantic-release to calculate the next version based on the commit message history.

```
cd mylibrary
dir # or ls in iOS
```

Directory: C:\Users\jfimb\Documents\mylibrary

ode	LastWriteTime 		Length	Name
	28/08/2024	15:51		docs
	28/08/2024	15:51		src
	28/08/2024	15:51		tests
a	28/08/2024	15:51	2066	.gitignore
a	28/08/2024	15:51	624	.readthedocs.yml
a	28/08/2024	15:51	107	CHANGELOG.md
a	28/08/2024	15:51	3090	CONDUCT.md
a	28/08/2024	15:51	2319	CONTRIBUTING.md
a	28/08/2024	15:51	1094	LICENSE
a	28/08/2024	15:51	365	<pre>pyproject.toml</pre>
a	28/08/2024	15:51	681	README.md

Poetry

• Poetry is a tool that helps you manage dependencies and packaging in Python. It is a good practice to use it when you are creating a package.

```
pip install poetry
```

Cookiecutter has already created a pyproject.tom1 file for you. This file contains the metadata of the package, the dependencies, and the build instructions.

Version pytonogie Gtandtom 1

• tom1 stands for Tom's Obvious, Minimal Language. It is a configuration file format that is easy to read due to its simplicity. It was created by Tom Preston-Werner, the co-founder of GitHub.

```
[tool.poetry]
     name = "mylibrary"
     version = "0.0.0"
     description = "Example of how to use templates in cookiecutter."
     authors = ["Juan F. Imbet"]
     license = "MIT"
     readme = "README.md"
     [tool.poetry.dependencies]
     python = "^3.9"
     [tool.poetry.dev-dependencies]
     [build-system]
     requires = ["poetry-core>=1.0.0"]
Juan F. Inbusild-backend = "poetry.core.masonry.api"
```

Poetry, the basics

- poetry install installs the dependencies.
- poetry add <package> adds a package to the dependencies.
- poetry remove <package> removes a package from the dependencies.
- poetry build builds the package.
- poetry publish publishes the package to PyPI (requires an account).

Sync with GitHub

```
git init
git add .
git commit -m "First commit"
gh repo create mylibrary --public --source=.
git push -u origin master
```

Version Control major . minor . patch

- The most common way to define a version of a package is with three numbers separated by dots. The first number is the major version, the second number is the minor version, and the third number is the patch version.
- Patchs are for bug fixes, minors are for new features, and majors are for breaking changes.
- Patchs and minors are backward compatible, this means that if you have a package that depends on version 1.0.0, it will work with version 1.0.1 and 1.1.0, but not necessarily with version 2.0.0.

Semantic Release

• Semantic Release is a tool that automates the versioning and release process based on the commit messages. It is a good practice to use it when you are creating a package.

```
<type>(optional scope): short summary in present tense
(optional body: explains motivation for the change)
(optional footer: note BREAKING CHANGES here, and issues to be closed)
```

<type> refers to the kind of change made and is usually one of:

- feat : A new feature.
- fix : A bug fix.
- docs: Documentation changes.
- style: Changes that do not affect the meaning of the code (white-space, formatting, missing semi-colons, etc).
- refactor: A code change that neither fixes a bug nor adds a feature.
- perf: A code change that improves performance.
- test: Changes to the test framework.
- build: Changes to the build process or tools.

Examples

A type of fix triggers a patch version bump.

```
git commit -m "fix(mod_plotting): fix confusing error message in \
    plot_words"
```

A type of feat triggers a minor version bump.

Version Control using GitHub and Python

The text BREAKING_CHANGE: in the footer triggers a major version bump.

BREAKING CHANGE: plotting module wont exist after this release."

Configuration

To configure PSR, we need to tell it where the version number of our package is stored. The package version is stored in the pyproject.toml file for a poetry-managed project. It exists as the variable version under the table [tool.poetry]. To tell PSR this, we need to add a new table to synchronize the version number.

```
...rest of file hidden...
[tool.semantic_release]
version_variable = "pyproject.toml:version"
```

We can do it with the following command:

```
poetry add --group dev python-semantic-release
echo [tool.semantic_release] >> pyproject.toml
echo version_variable = "pyproject.toml:version" >> pyproject.toml
echo version_toml = [ >> pyproject.toml
echo "pyproject.toml:tool.poetry.version", >> pyproject.toml
echo ] >> pyproject.toml
poetry install
```

Installing dependencies

```
Installing dependencies from lock file

Package operations: 0 installs, 2 updates, 0 removals

- Updating certifi (2024.7.4 /home/conda/feedstock_root/build_artifacts/certifi_1720457958366/work/certifi -> 2024.7.4)

- Updating urllib3 (2.2.2 /home/conda/feedstock_root/build_artifacts/urllib3_1719391292974/work -> 2.2.2)

Installing the current project: mylibrary (0.0.0)
```

Look at the pyproject.toml file, you will see the new table [tool.semantic_release]. Also note that the version 0.0.0 is the same one that appears in the pyproject.toml file.

```
[tool.poetry]
name = "mylibrary"
version = "0.0.0"
```

What if I need more libraries in the future?

- You can add them to the pyproject.toml file with the command poetry add <package> .
- You can remove them with the command poetry remove <package> .
- E.g. poetry add numpy Or poetry remove numpy.

Semantic Release, the basics

• semantic-release version calculates the next version based on the commit message history.

```
semantic-release version
```

```
0.0.0

The next version is: 0.0.0! 
No build command specified, skipping
```

Patches

Add some code to src/mylibrary/mylibrary.py

```
# src/mylibrary/mylibrary.py
def hello world():
    return "Hello World"
git add src/mylibrary/mylibrary.py
git commit -m "fix(mylibrary): add hello_world function"
git push -u origin master
[master 07e4667] fix(mylibrary): add hello_world function
 1 file changed, 2 insertions(+)
Enumerating objects: 9, done.
. . .
branch 'master' set up to track 'origin/master'.
```

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Patches with Semantic Release

```
semantic-release version
```

```
0.0.1
The next version is: 0.0.1! 
No build command specified, skipping
```

Documentation

Add documentation to the hello_world function.

```
# src/mylibrary/mylibrary.py
def hello_world():
    """Returns the string 'Hello World'."""
    return "Hello World"
```

```
git add src/mylibrary/mylibrary.py
git commit -m "docs(mylibrary): add documentation to hello_world function"
git push -u origin master
```

```
[master 654d724] docs(mylibrary): add documentation to hello_world function
1 file changed, 1 insertion(+)

Enumerating objects: 9, done.
...
branch 'master' set up to track 'origin/master'.
```

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Not every commit triggers a version bump

semantic-release version

0.0.1

No release will be made, 0.0.1 has already been released!

Version Control using GitHub and Python Minor change, backward compatible

Add a new function to the mylibrary.py file.

```
# src/mylibrary/mylibrary.py
def hello world():
    """Returns the string 'Hello World'."""
    return "Hello World"
def hello world2():
    """Returns the string 'Hello World 2'."""
    return "Hello World 2"
```

```
git add src/mylibrary/mylibrary.py
git commit -m "feat(mylibrary): add hello world2 function"
git push -u origin master
```

```
[master a5094a5] feat(mylibrary): add hello world2 function
      1 file changed, 5 insertions(+), 1 deletion(-)
Juan F. Imbet
```

Minor change with Semantic Release

semantic-release version

0.1.0
The next version is: 0.1.0!
No build command specified, skipping

Juan F. Imbet 7.

Major change, not backward compatible

Move the hello_world function to a new file called hello.py and remove the hello_world2 function.

```
# src/mylibrary/hello.py
def hello_world():
    """Returns the string 'Hello World'."""
    return "Hello World"
```

```
# src/mylibrary/mylibrarypy
```

```
git add . # we use . when we modify multiple files
git commit -m "feat: update the code majorly" -m "BREAKING CHANGE: hello_world2 function removed it cannot be used"
git push -u origin master
```

Note how you can use more than once the -m flag to add more information to the commit message.

Major change with Semantic Release

```
semantic-release version
```

```
1.0.0
The next version is: 1.0.0! 
No build command specified, skipping
```

Where are the versions stored?

- Releases tab on GitHub.
- CHANGELOG.md file.

Back to the package structure

```
poetry install
python
Python 3.11.9 | packaged by Anaconda, Inc. | (main, Apr 19 2024, 16:40:41)
[MSC v.1916 64 bit (AMD64)] on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> from mylibrary.hello import hello_world
>>> hello_world()
'Hello World'
```

Poetry installs locally the package in the virtual environment. You can import the package as if it was a library. You must be in the root directory of the package for python to recognize the package.

Adding a new library and updating the version

```
# src/mylibrary/mylibrary.py
import pandas as pd
```

```
poetry add pandas
poetry install
python
Python 3.11.9 | packaged by Anaconda, Inc. | (main, Apr 19 2024, 16:40:41)
[MSC v.1916 64 bit (AMD64)] on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> from mylibrary.mylibrary import pd
>>> pd
<module 'pandas' from 'C:\\Users\\...\\__init__.py'>
>>>
```

Further reading

- Creating a python package
- GitHub cheat sheet
- GitHub documentation.