Write Better Docs

Moar inclusivity!
Moar quality!

Open Source Summit 2018

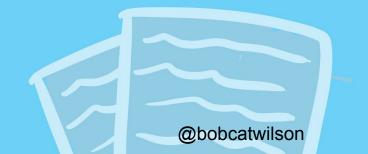


Hi!

I'm Christie Wilson! Engineer @ Google Container Tools Team

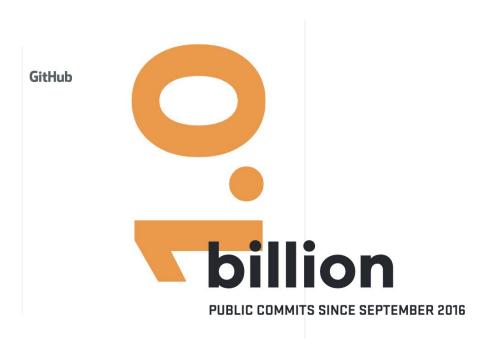


The Open Source Dream



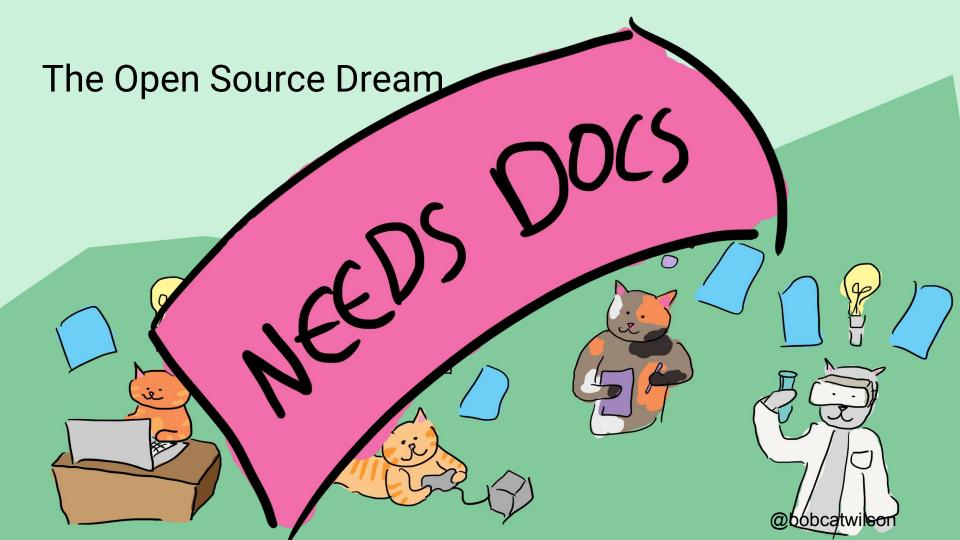
Github 2017 stats



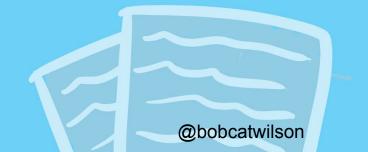


The Open Source Dream





Docs for Developers





- 1. Issues
- 2. CONTRIBUTING.md
 - +

DEVELOPMENT.md

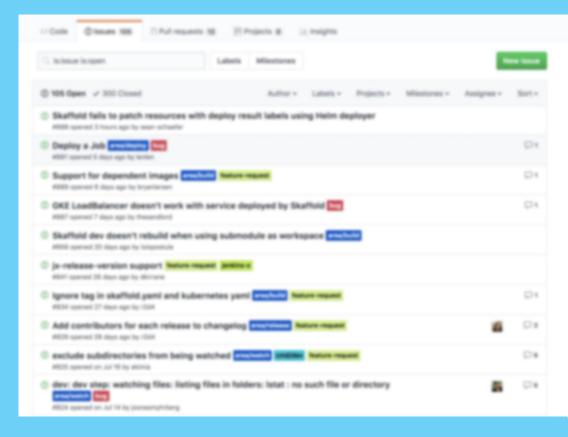
3. A surprise!



Issues



Contributing: finding an issue





Explore integration with foobar #68

(!) Open

bobcatfish opened this issue on Mar 7 · 0 comments





bobcatfish commented on Mar 7

Member

github.com/bobcatfish/foobar



bobcatfish added the help wanted label on Mar 7



:(

Support caching in the wizzbang whatsit #42

(!) Open

bobcatfish opened this issue 25 days ago · 0 comments



bobcatfish commented 25 days ago

Member

We should support the caching pattern in the wizzbang whatsit.

It's not clear to me that wizzbang can cache yet (I haven't followed), but once it can we should have the whatsit use an emptyDir thingamabob as a cache that's overridable as a parameter, and document how to provide a PVC as an interwhatsit cache.





🍂 bobcatfish added the enhancement label 25 days ago

Example of a good issue

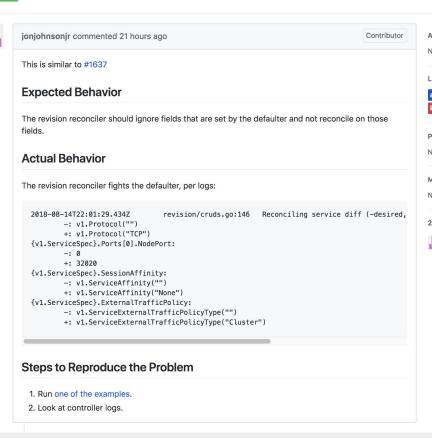
github.com/knative/serving/issues/ 1859

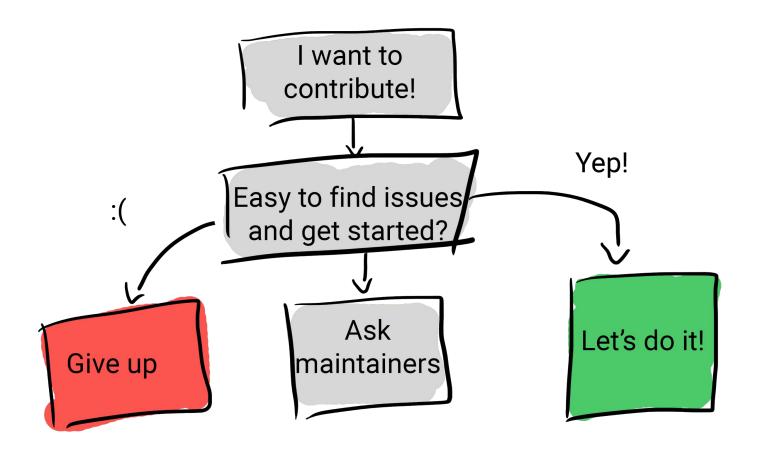
Revision's k8s service reconciliation doesn't take defaulter into account when diffing #1859



① Open jonjohnsonjr opened this issue 21 hours ago · 0 comments







Talking with maintainers



The 3 keys to great issues!



Observed behaviour

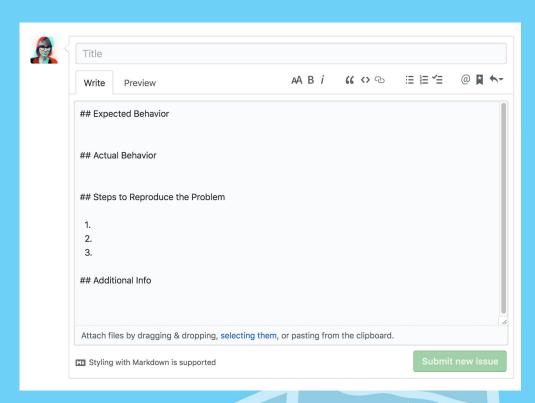
- Links to the relevant code
- Snippets
- Expected behaviour
- Steps to repro
 - Environment
 - **Commands**

Screenshots, images, links

Github features

Use an issue template



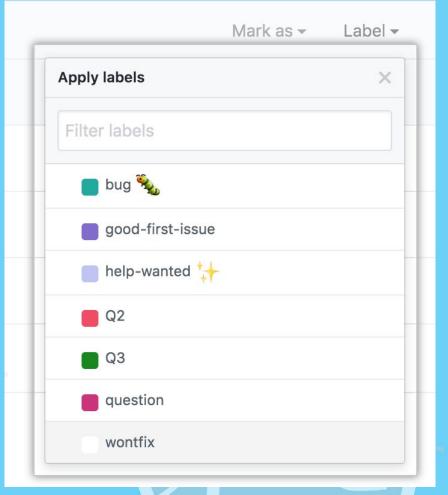




Github features

- Use labels!
 - o good-first-issue
 - help-wanted





How does Jaz get started on the issue?

- Needs to know how to run tests
- Your lib also runs as a service, needs to be able to run it
- Needs to know how the pull request workflow works



build

config

src src

static

README.md

index.html

package.json

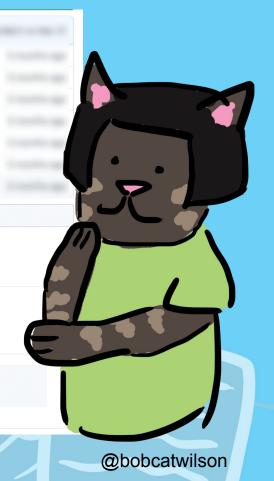
README.md

foobar

A simple implementation

Build Setup

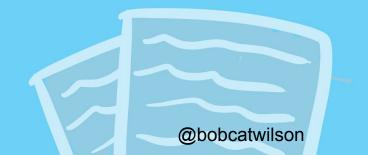
install dependencies npm install

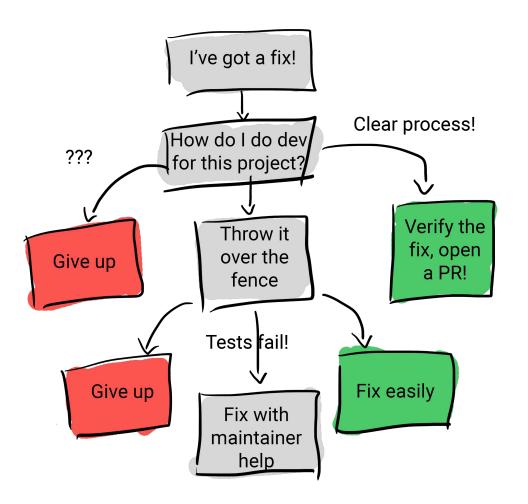


- 1. Issues
- 2. CONTRIBUTING.md + DEVELOPMENT.md
- 3. A surprise!



CONTRIBUTING.md and DEVELOPMENT.md

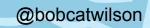




CONTRIBUTING.md

DEVELOPMENT.md

Standard recognized by GitHub (e.g., integrated into PRs) Extends
CONTRIBUTING.md
(less standard)



CONTRIBUTING.md DEVELOPMENT.md HOW to contribute to your repo. **WHAT** a maintainer/contributor does. **Examples**: **Examples**: - PR process Build steps - Issue requirements Running tests Debugging tips - Commit message style

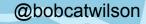




Replying to @mbbroberg @RyanWallner

Kind, welcoming project admins who approach discussion from a collaborative attitude vs. putting up barriers.

5:53 AM - 8 Feb 2018





How do I find open source projects to help with?

All of the ones I've found so far are too complicated for me to understand, but people tell me that I should help with open source projects to improve my knowledge. What do I do?







build
config
src

README.md

index.html

package.json

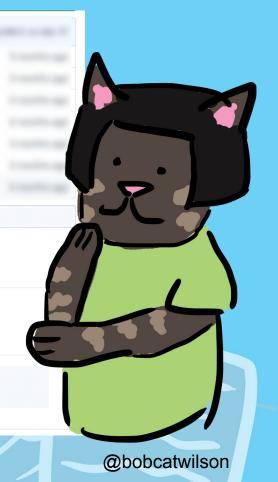
README.md

foobar

A simple implementation

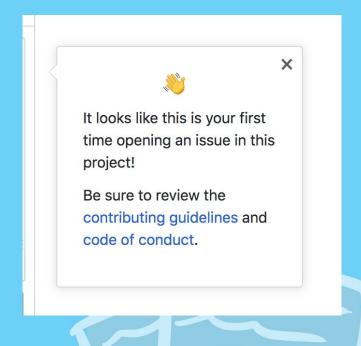
Build Setup

install dependencies
npm install



How to write a great CONTRIBUTING.md

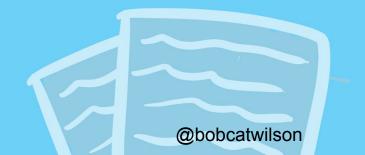
- Be friendly :D
- This is the welcome mat to your repo!
- A greeting to potential new contributors!
- The beginning of a new relationship





How to write a great CONTRIBUTING.md

- How to open an issue
- How to suggest features
- What contributions you're looking for
- Project philosophy
- Project roadmaps
- Slack/group chat/mailing lists



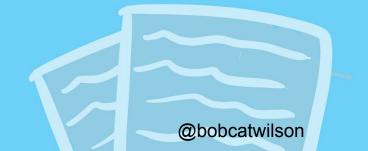
If all projects were the same....

Who here uses Go?



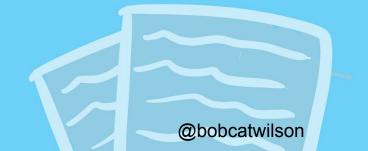
If all projects were the same....

- Who here uses Go?
- Who builds and tests ONLY with:
 - o go test
 - o go build

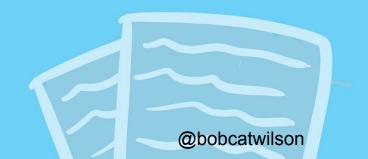


If all projects were the same....

- Who here uses Go?
- Who builds and tests ONLY with:
 - go testgo build
- i.e. you never have to use Makefiles, or scripts, etc.



Unless all projects are identical, If you want contributors, you need to explain how your project works!

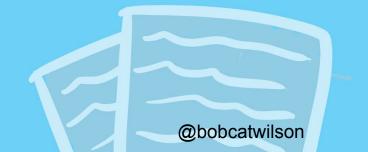


Get the process out of your brain and into markdown!



How to write a great DEVELOPMENT.md

- The less you assume, the more people can contribute!
- Even super experienced folks:
 - Are new to your project
 - May use different tools
 - Have had different experiences



Even experienced devs use different tools

Jaz uses:

- Github
- Go
- Kubernetes



Andy uses:

- Java
- SVN
- In-house bare metal



Wendy uses:

- C#
- Visual Studio
- Azure



How to write a great DEVELOPMENT.md

- How to fork
- How to setup an environment for development
 - Tool and resource requirements
 - Interacting with the system
- How to iterate
 - How do you check something works? e.g. tests, poking manually
 - o e.g. keeping vendor/ up to date, redeploying, cleaning up



Example DEVELOPMENT.md

knative/serving
DEVELOPMENT.md

Development

This doc explains how to setup a development environment so you can get started contributing to Knative Serving . Also take a look at:

- · The pull request workflow
- · How to add and run tests
- Iterating

Getting started

- 1. Create a GitHub account
- 2. Setup GitHub access via SSH
- 3. Install requirements
- 4. Set up a kubernetes cluster
- 5. Set up a docker repository you can push to
- 6. Set up your shell environment
- 7. Create and checkout a repo fork

Once you meet these requirements, you can start Knative Serving!

Before submitting a PR, see also CONTRIBUTING.md.

Requirements

You must install these tools:

- 1. go: The language Knative Serving is built in
- 2. git: For source control
- 3. dep: For managing external Go dependencies.
- 4. ko: For development.
- ${\bf 5.}\ \ {\bf kubectl}: For\ managing\ development\ environments.$

Environment setup

To start your environment you'll need to set these environment variables (we recommend adding them to your .bashrc):

1. GOPATH: If you don't have one, simply pick a directory and add export GOPATH=...

- 1. Issues
- 2. CONTRIBUTING.md
 - +

DEVELOPMENT.md

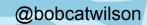
3. A surprise!



Jaz found a bug in your lib!

```
raise InvalidAge(age_in_cat_years)

if not 5 <= age_in_cat_years <= MAX_CAT_AGE:
    raise InvalidAge(age_in_cat_years)</pre>
```



Jaz found a bug in your lib!

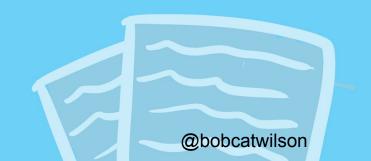
```
raise InvalidAge(age_in_cat_years)

if not 5 <= age_in_cat_years <= MAX_CAT_AGE:
    raise InvalidAge(age_in_cat_years)</pre>
```

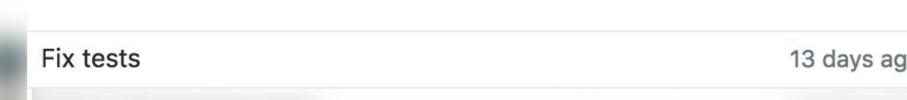


Why 5?

			· · · · ·
		26	<pre>raise InvalidAge(age_in_cat_years)</pre>
		27	
Fix tests	13 days ago	€ 28	<pre>if not 5 <= age_in_cat_years <= MAX_CAT_AGE:</pre>
· Control of the cont		29	<pre>raise InvalidAge(age_in_cat_years)</pre>
		30	

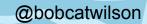


Why 5?



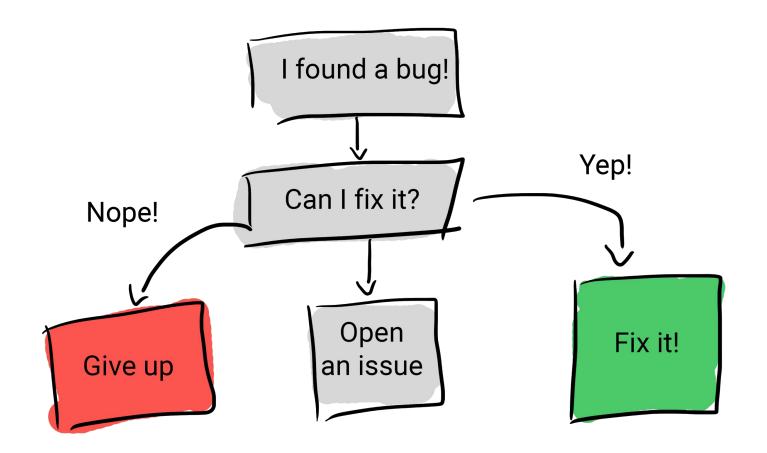


- 1. Issues
- 2. CONTRIBUTING.md
 - 十
 - **DEVELOPMENT.md**
- 3. Commit messages



Commit Messages





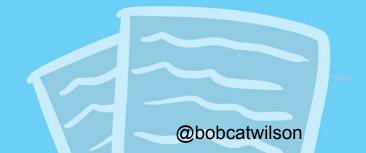
Commits often look like this:

"Fix missing logs"

"Fixes #22 and #5"

"Bump the timeout to 20 min"







Dan Abramov @dan_abramov · 24 Mar 2016

What is the main reason holding you back from contributing to React?

7% Review time is slow

52% Code is not approachable

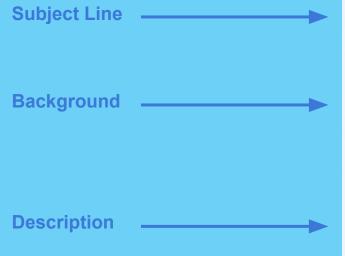
15% My company doesn't let me

26% Other (please reply)

799 votes • Final results



Example good commit message



Fix stats collector spinning CPU if no stats are collected

Commit fd0e24b changed
the stats collection loop to use a `sleep()` instead
of `time.Tick()` in the for-loop.

This change caused a regression in situations where no stats are being collected, or an error is hit in the loop (in which case the loop would `continue`, and the `sleep()` is not hit).

This patch puts the sleep at the start of the loop to guarantee it's always hit.

This will delay the sampling, which is similar to the behavior before fd0e24b.

Signed-off-by: Sebastiaan van Stijn <github@gone.nl>

p master (#36609)

thaJeztah committed 2 days ago Verified

y tho

"logrus use full timestamp"



y tho

"Change default action to 'inplace'"

```
21  # Optional - record format

22  - config_param :action, :string, :default => 'replace'

22  + config_param :action, :string, :default => 'inplace'

23  23  config_param :keep_key, :bool, :default => false
```

y tho

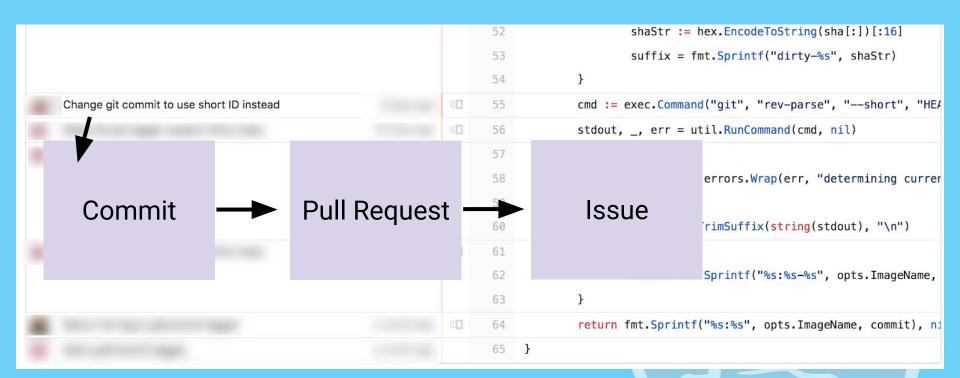
"Change git commit to use short ID instead"

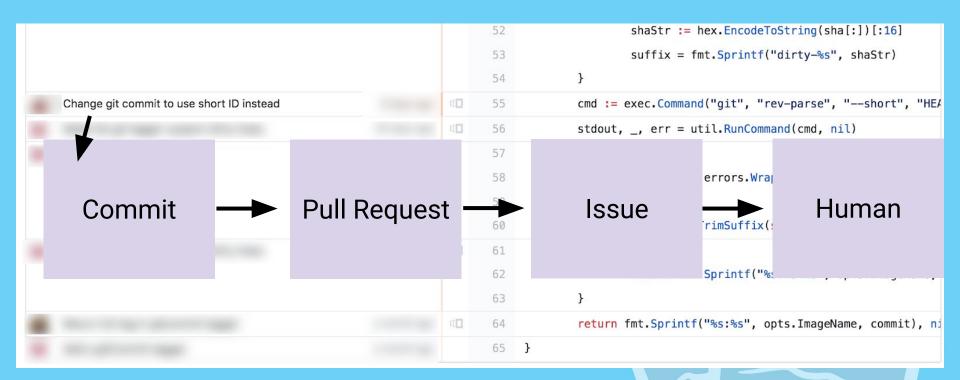
```
2
                $
                                                 @@ -52,7 +52,7 @@ func (c *GitCommit) GenerateFullyQualifiedImageName(opts *TagOptions) (string
       52
                                                                                                          shaStr := hex.EncodeToString(sha[:])[:16]
                                                                                                          suffix = fmt.Sprintf("dirty-%s", shaStr)
        54
                                                                             cmd := exec.Command("git", "rev-parse", "HEAD")
                                55 +
                                                                              cmd := exec.Command("git", "rev-parse", "--short", "HEAD")
                                                                              stdout, _, err = util.RunCommand(cmd, nil)
        57
                                                                             if err != nil {
       58
                                                                                                          return "", errors.Wrap(err, "determining current git commit")
                12
                =
                                                 @@ -36,8 +36,8 @@ func TestGitCommit_GenerateFullyQualifiedImageName(t *testing.T) {
        36
                                36
                                                                                                                                       name: "success",
        37
                                                                                                                                       command: testutil.NewMultiFakeRunCommand(map[string]*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string]*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[string])*testutil.FakeRunCommand(map[strin
                                                                                                                                                                    "git rev-parse HEAD": testutil.NewFakeRunCommand("somecommi
                                                                                                                                                                    "git status --porcelain": testutil.NewFakeRunCommand("", "", ni
        40
```

```
shaStr := hex.EncodeToString(sha[:])[:16]
                                                                  52
                                                                  53
                                                                                        suffix = fmt.Sprintf("dirty-%s", shaStr)
                                                                  54
                                                                               cmd := exec.Command("git", "rev-parse", "--short", "HEA
Change git commit to use short ID instead
                                                                  55
                                                                  56
                                                                               stdout, _, err = util.RunCommand(cmd, nil)
                                                                               if err != nil {
                                                                  57
                                                                                        return "", errors.Wrap(err, "determining currer
                                                                  58
                                                                  59
                                                                               commit := strings.TrimSuffix(string(stdout), "\n")
                                                                               if suffix != "" {
                                                                  61
                                                                                        return fmt.Sprintf("%s:%s-%s", opts.ImageName,
                                                                  62
                                                                  63
                                                                  64
                                                                               return fmt.Sprintf("%s:%s", opts.ImageName, commit), ni
                                                                  65
```



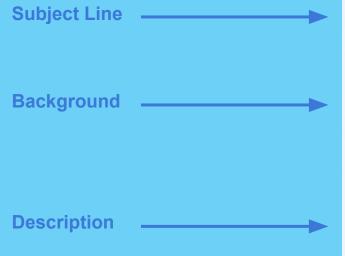






Context switching Commit Bug Pull Request Human Commit Issue Commit **Pull Request** Commit Commit Pull Request **Pull Request** @bobcatwilson

Example good commit message



Fix stats collector spinning CPU if no stats are collected

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the stats collection loop to use a `sleep()` instead
of `time.Tick()` in the for-loop.

This change caused a regression in situations where no stats are being collected, or an error is hit in the loop (in which case the loop would `continue`, and the `sleep()` is not hit).

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This will delay the sampling, which is similar to the behavior before fd0e24b.

Signed-off-by: Sebastiaan van Stijn <github@gone.nl>

p master (#36609)

thaJeztah committed 2 days ago Verified

How to write great commit messages

- Subject line (what does this commit do?)
- Body that explains what and why vs. how
- Two paragraphs

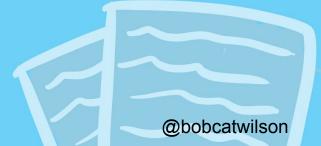


What + Why v.s. How

How do you fill 2 paragraphs?

- What is the problem being solved?
- Why is this the best approach?
- What other approaches were considered?
- What side effects will this approach have?
- What future work remains to be done?





Great docs are a prereq for a strong contributor base!



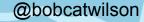
Great docs for a better world!

- Remote first!
- Different lifestyles!
- People all over the globe!
- Welcome different kinds of contributors!



For a new contributor, a little appreciation & an initial push can go a really long way. #opensource

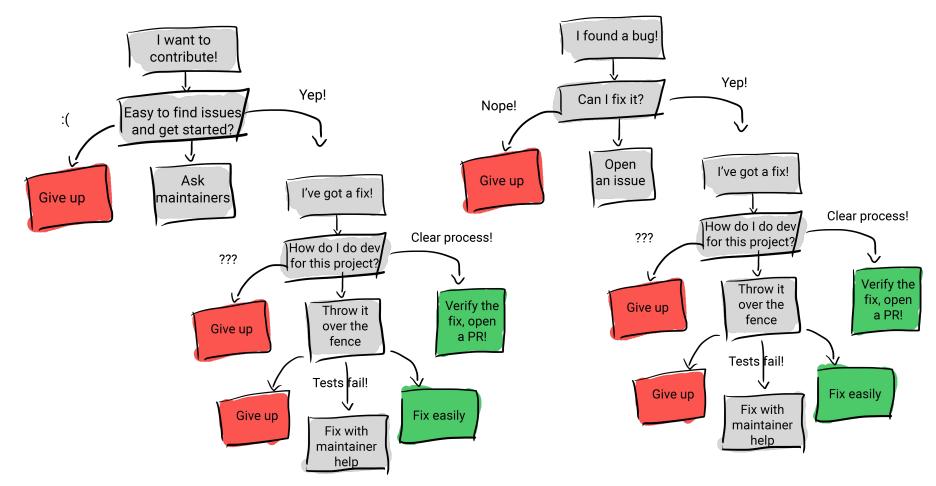
6:58 AM - 17 Sep 2016



How?

Make docs part of your process!

- Dogfood your own internal docs
- 2. Complete PR =
 Code + Tests +
 Docs



@bobcatwilson

Thanks!



Links!

CONTRIBUTING.md:

https://help.github.com/articles/setting-guidelines-for-repository-contributors/

https://opensource.guide/starting-a-project/#writing-your-contributing-guidelines

https://github.com/nayafia/contributing-template/blob/master/CONTRIBUTING-template.md

Community building:

https://help.github.com/categories/building-a-strong-community/

https://opensource.guide/starting-a-project/

https://medium.freecodecamp.org/how-to-attract-new-contributors-to-your-open-source-project-46f8b791d787

GitHub and issues:

https://help.github.com/articles/using-templates-to-encourage-high-quality-issues-and-pull-requests-in-your-repository/

https://github.com/codeforamerica/howto/blob/master/Good-GitHub-Issues.md#writing-good-github-issues

https://help.github.com/articles/helping-new-contributors-find-your-project-with-labels/

Commit messages:

<u>Implementing a Strong Code Review Culture</u> https://chris.beams.io/posts/git-commit/

