MEP 3 -- Merge PyMilvus and PyMilvus-ORM repository

Current state: Accepted

ISSUE: #597 Why we separate pymilvus and pymilvus-orm

PRs:

Keywords: sdk, pymilvus, pymilvus-orm

Released:

Summary

Currently, we have 2 python SDKs for Milvus, PyMilvus and ORM (short for PyMilvus-ORM). Both of them have a unique repository on GitHub and a unique package on PYPI.

This proposal is about

- Merging 2 repositories of PyMilvus and ORMdeciding which repository to keep.
- Deciding which set of APIs to keep and which package name to keep, pymilvus or pymilvus-orm
- The details on how to merge these 2 repositories.

After the tech meeting, we reached a consensus on:

- Keeping which repo: PyMilvus
- Keeping which set of API:
 - step1: both, and we mark PyMilvus API as `deprecated`
 - step2: pymilvus-orm
- Keeping which package name: pymilvus

Motivation

- 1. The release is complicated: ORM requires PyMilvus, thus we have to release PyMilvus first and then release ORM.
- 2. Features and bug fixes are done only if both repositories are updated: A bug fix on PyMilvus needs an update on ORM.
- 3. Complexity on maintaining: We have to maintain 2 repositories, 2 sets of CI pipelines, 2 GitHub actions.

Design Details

A. Which repository to keep?

GitHub repo(2021.7.15)	PyMilvus	PyMilvus-ORM
Stars	264	9
Forks	110	23
Issues(not closed)	25	6
Contributors	24	18
Used by(repositories)	106	5
Used by(packages)	21	1

Obviously (of course) PyMilvus repository is more valuable.

Plan A1 (Recommended): Keep the PyMilvus repository.

Pros: The PyMilvus repository is more valuable.

Cons: Not see any.

Plan A2: Keep the PyMilvus-ORM repository.

Pros: Not see any.

Cons: Lose all the stars and forks of the PyMilvus repository.

B. Which set of APIs to keep and which package name to keep?

Plan B1: Keep PyMilvus APIs and the ORM APIs

Pros:

- 1 More APIs for users to choose from.
- 2 Easier to merge 2 repositories

Cons:

- 1 APIs have duplicate functionality.
- 2 Complexity on maintaining new features, debugging, bug fixes, and CI pipeline is not reduced.
- 3 ORM's APIs depend on PyMilvus's API.
- 4 No much difference to two repositories, except one package less.

Package Name: In this case, I prefer pymilvus.

1 It's more like an "enhanced" pymilvus.

Plan B2 (Recommended): Keep ORM APIs and remove PyMilvus APIs

Pros:

- 1 Reduce the complexity of maintaining the repository.
- 2 Removing PyMilvus APIs means the 2 repositories' codes can combine deeper, reducing unnecessary function calling and object transfer.

Cons:

1 Merging is more complicated and needs more time.

Package Name: In this case, one of pymilvus-orm. `pymilvus2`, `pymilvus`.

- 1 We keep ORM APIs, pymilvus-orm is more suitable to the APIs
- 2 Milvus 1.x users won't be confused, Milvus 2.0.0RC users won't be confused.

Plan B3 (Not Recommended): Keep PyMilvus APIs and remove ORM APIs

Cons: All the efforts on ORM are wasted.

C. How to merge 2 repositories?

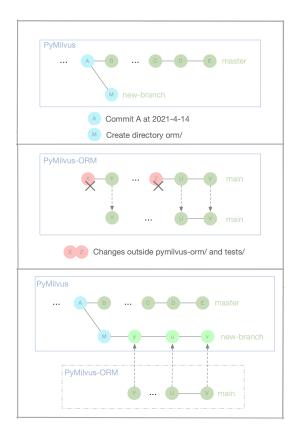
Three steps for plan A1

Step 1: Prepare locally, write a fully functional script.

During step 1, feel free to make any changes on PyMilvus or PyMilvus-ORM repositories.

Basically, this's what the script will do:

- a. Tidy commits in ORM
- b. Check out a new branch of PyMilvus after one commit in 2021.4.14, and create a directory `orm/`.
- c. Remove commits that are not in 'pymilvus-orm' and 'tests' of ORM repo.
- d. Commit each valid commit of ORM with `author`, `author_date`, and `commiter_date` into orm/ directory.
- e. PyMilvus rebase current `master` branch.
- f. Make 2 APIs available.



Step 2: Merge

During step 2, no updates are allowed to both PyMilvus and ORM repositories.

After step 2, ORM repository is deprecated. There will be 2 sets of APIs in PyMilvus temporarily. Further updates are determined by the results of topic B.

Step 3: Correct behaviour of ci, docs, Github actions, examples, tests, and changelog.

Compatibility, Deprecation, and Migration Plan

Test Plan

Rejected Alternatives

References