



Best practices for filtering in the Commits API

Tags: **Flow**

In most cases, you can use the [Metrics API](#) to get information for your coding metrics. However, you may have a need to extract other data about your commits from the [Commits API](#) directly.

Who can use this?

Core

Plus



Note: If you want to see values for Efficiency, Coding days, Commits per day, or Impact, use the Metrics API. Use the Commit API for other information like finding a list of commits or seeing the HALOC of specific commits.

If you use this API to gather commit data, here are some filters we recommend you use to have the data most closely match the data you'd see in Flow reports. You can use other filters as needed.

The standard filters to use are:

- `is_merge=false`
- `exclude_outliers=true`
- `smart_dedupe=true`
- `is_trivial=false`
- `is_pr_orphan=false`
- `exclude_blocked=true`

Note: Make sure you filter by `author_date` and not `committer_date`. While committer dates and author dates are usually the same, in some cases, they can differ greatly. Flow reports use `author_date`.

If you have no rules set for advanced outlier detection, set:

- `haloc_lt=1000`

Note: If your development process includes squashing and merging, you may see pre-squashed

commits returned from the Commits API. These deleted commits cannot be filtered out of the API response.

If you need help, please email [Pluralsight Support \(opens email form\)](#) for 24/7 assistance.