

ADACS ASTRO HACK WEEK 2020

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**INTRO TO VERSION CONTROL**

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# WHY USE VERSION CONTROL?

- ▶ Back up your project!
- ▶ Keep track of changes that have been made
- ▶ Tag stable versions, versions used in particular analyses
  - ▶ good for reproducibility
- ▶ Code distribution
- ▶ Easy collaboration
  - ▶ Great for things like writing papers

# AVAILABLE TOOLS

- ▶ **Git**

- ▶ Most common now

- ▶ **Mercurial**

- ▶ **SVN**

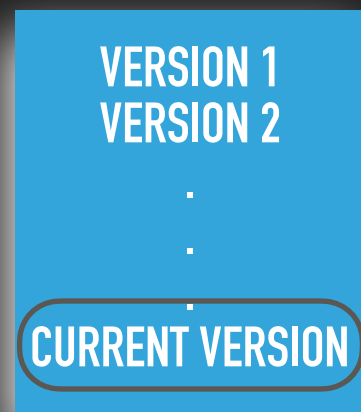
# REPOSITORY

What is a repository?

Your computer



Your repository



A collection of snapshots  
of your code at various  
points in time



# REPOSITORY

Repository can be: **Local** (on your own computer)

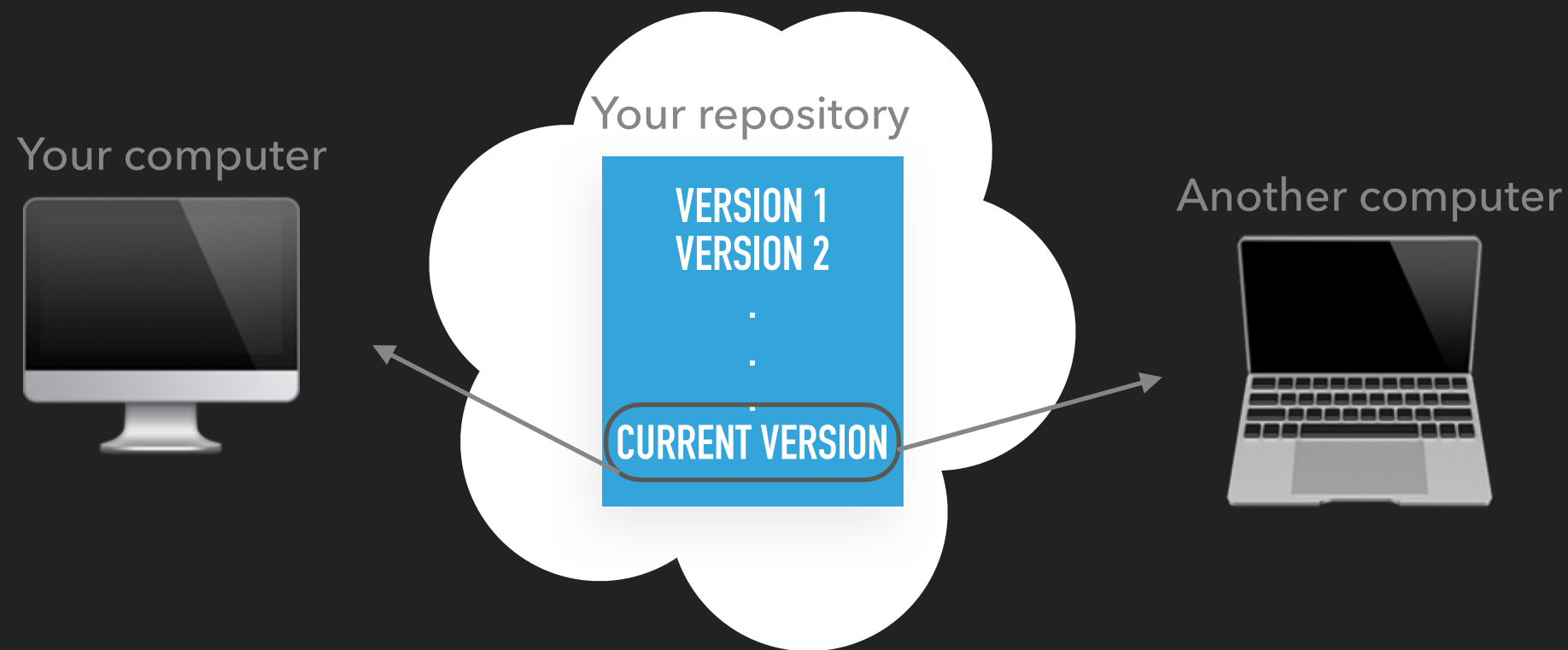
Your computer



Your repository



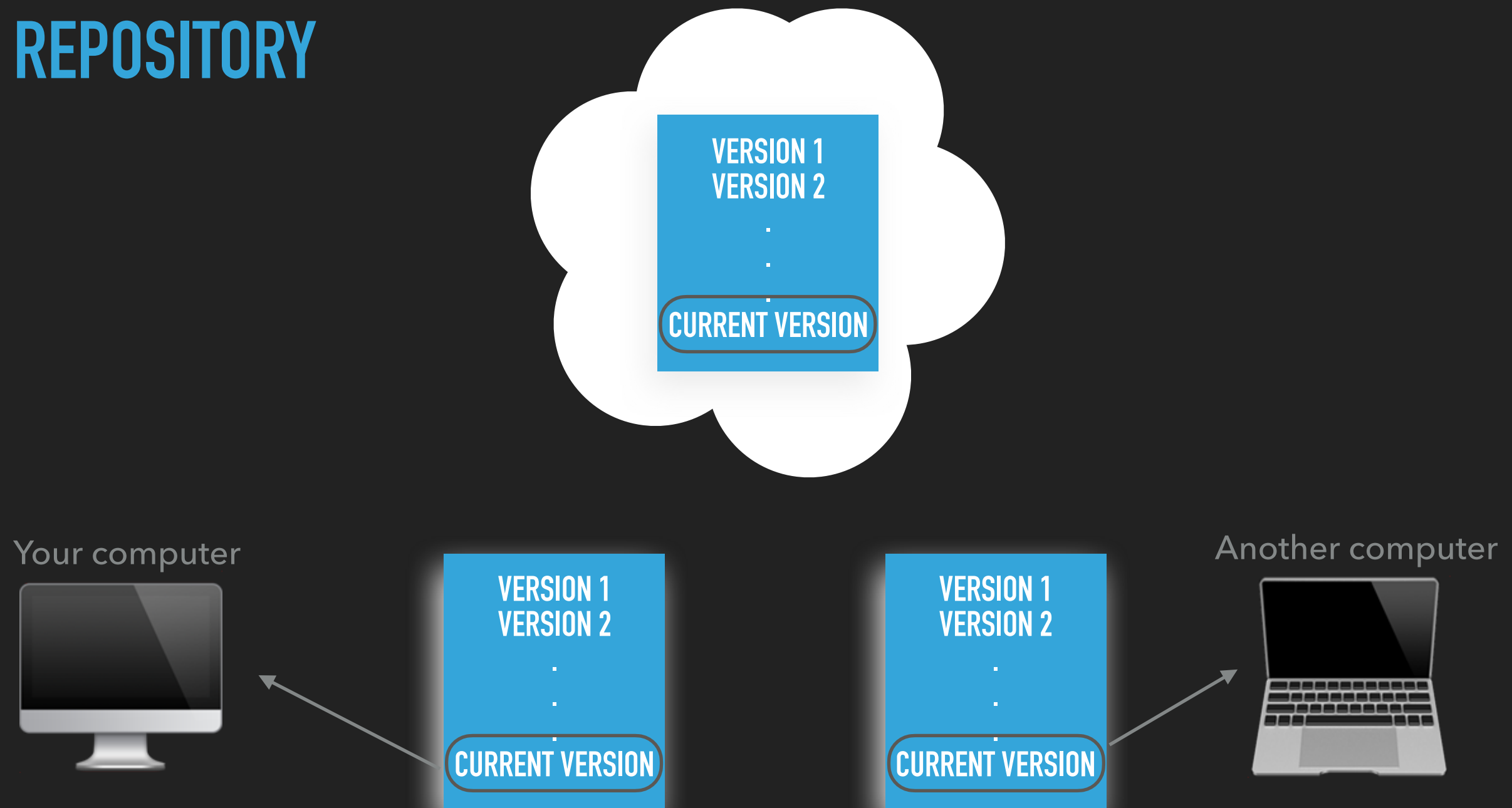
# REPOSITORY



Repository can be: **Centralized** (Stored remotely, you only have the current version on local computer)

(Example: SVN)

## REPOSITORY



Repository can be: **Distributed** (Repository on every computer)

*\*This is how GitHub works\**

# MAKING A GIT REPOSITORY

```
$ cd <project directory>  
$ git init
```

Think carefully about what goes in each repository

- Generally one repository per project
- (i.e. don't make repository for your whole desktop!)
- Don't nest repositories!

# HOW DO I KNOW IT WORKED?

- ▶ Directories under version control will have a **.git** directory

```
$ ls -a
```

- ▶ The **.git** directory has all of the info about change history of your project
  - ▶ Generally a good idea to **not** mess around in that directory yourself

- ▶ Can also check with: 

```
$ git status
```

```
On branch master
```

```
No commits yet
```

```
nothing to commit (create/copy files and use "git add" to track)
```

# DO IT YOURSELF: MAKE YOUR FIRST REPOSITORY

```
$ mkdir my_first_repository
```

```
$ cd my_first_repository
```

```
$ git init
```

```
$ ls -a
```

```
$ git status
```

If you haven't already:

```
$ git config --global user.name  
"YOUR NAME"
```

```
$ git config --global user.email  
"YOUR EMAIL"
```

Set up name/email  
address that will be  
associated with changes  
you make

# DO IT YOURSELF: MAKE YOUR FIRST REPOSITORY

Make a file in your directory:

```
$ echo "this is the first line of text" > my_first_file.txt
```

(can also use your favorite text editor)

```
$ git status
```

What's the output now?

# ADDING THINGS TO YOUR REPOSITORY

```
$ git status
```

```
On branch master
```

```
No commits yet
```

```
Untracked files:
```

```
(use "git add <file>..." to include in what will be committed)
```

```
my_fist_file.txt
```

```
nothing added to commit but untracked files present (use "git add" to track)
```

Need to specifically tell git which files to track

```
$ git add <filename>
```



# ADDING THINGS TO YOUR REPOSITORY

`git add` stages your commit

On branch master

No commits yet

Changes to be committed:

(use "git rm --cached <file>..." to unstage)

new file: my\_fist\_file.txt

I.e. tells git that you're ready to add this version of your file to the repository

# NOW IT'S TIME TO COMMIT!

```
$ git commit -m "my first commit"
```

“-m” flag is followed by a description of changes made in this commit

(if you don't use “-m” you'll be prompted to add a commit message)

A version of your project now lives in the repository!

# DO IT YOURSELF: STAGE AND COMMIT

```
$ git add my_first_file.txt
```

```
$ git status
```

What's the output now?

```
$ git commit -m "my first commit"
```

## RECAP AND TIPS

- ▶ Edit your code/paper/etc
- ▶ Stage your commit with git add
  - ▶ `$ git add <filename>`
  - ▶ `$ git add -u` will stage all of the files currently being tracked
  - ▶ Avoid using `$ git add *!!`
- ▶ Commit your changes



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# THINGS TO NOT ADD TO YOUR REPOSITORY

- ▶ \*LARGE FILES\*
- ▶ Raw data
- ▶ Files that are automatically generated

Use a .gitignore file

Example file:

```
a_specific_file.txt  
*.dat (e.g. all data products)  
an_entire_directory/
```

---

# **SOME COMMON ISSUES AND HOW TO FIX THEM**

### **EXAMPLE 1: I EDITED A FILE BETWEEN STAGING AND COMMITTING!**

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- ▶ Every time you edit a file you need to re-stage (i.e. run `git add` again)



### EXAMPLE 1: I EDITED A FILE BETWEEN STAGING AND COMMITTING!

- ▶ Every time you edit a file you need to re-stage (i.e. run git add again)
- ▶ Can check whether file has been modified with git status!

```
$ git status
```

```
On branch master
```

```
Changes to be committed:
```

```
(use "git reset HEAD <file>..." to unstage)
```

```
modified:   my_first_file.txt
```

```
Changes not staged for commit:
```

```
(use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
```

```
(use "git checkout -- <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)
```

```
modified:   my_first_file.txt
```

### EXAMPLE 2: I ADDED SOMETHING I DIDN'T WANT TO ADD!

```
$ rm <filename>
```

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```
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Not what you want!!

Does not remove the file from git

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```
$ rm <filename>
```

Not what you want!!

Does not remove the file from git

```
$ git rm <filename>
```

Remove the file from repository

```
$ git rm --cached <filename>
```

Don't delete it, but stop tracking it

### EXAMPLE 3: I CAN'T REMEMBER EXACTLY WHAT I CHANGED

```
$ git diff
```

```
diff --git a/my_first_file.txt b/my_first_file.txt
index 9f26126..a81af58 100644
--- a/my_fist_file.txt
+++ b/my_fist_file.txt
@@ -1,2 +1,3 @@
  This is the first line!
+this is the second line.
```

Tells you what changes you've made since last commit

# DO IT YOURSELF: USING GIT DIFF

```
$ echo "a second line of text" >> my_first_file.txt
```

(or use your favorite text editor)

```
$ git diff
```

What's the output?

## EXAMPLE 3: I WANT TO GO BACK TO AN OLD VERSION OF THE CODE

**Case 1:** You made some edits to a file, realize they're garbage, want to go back to most recent version in repo

```
$ git checkout <filename>
```

(Can think of it as pressing ctrl+Z a bunch of times)

## EXAMPLE 3: I WANT TO GO BACK TO AN OLD VERSION OF THE CODE

**Case 2:** You want to go back several commits

```
$ git log
```

```
commit 947fb8e267dcd26f5bf2f2b885185a1e9eed2ed3
Author: megmillhouse <meg.millhouse@gmail.com>
Date:   Wed Feb 5 20:47:48 2020 +1100
```

another new commit

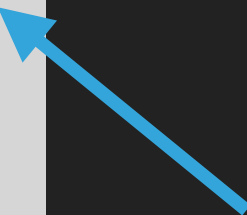
```
commit eeb65b7ec25fe49f144037cec539affe25a5ef97
Author: megmillhouse <meg.millhouse@gmail.com>
Date:   Tue Feb 4 13:06:15 2020 +1100
```

second commit

```
commit ce38b85cec0a2479853487b933ba5a18ce52ade1
Author: megmillhouse <meg.millhouse@gmail.com>
Date:   Tue Feb 4 12:45:50 2020 +1100
```

first commit

Each commit gets a  
unique identifier called a  
*hash*



```
$ git checkout eeb65b7 <filename>
```



## EXAMPLE 3: I WANT TO GO BACK TO AN OLD VERSION OF THE CODE

### WATCHOUT!

```
$ git checkout eeb65b7
```



What happens if you don't specify a file?

End up in a "Detached HEAD" state

Fix via: 

```
$ git checkout master
```

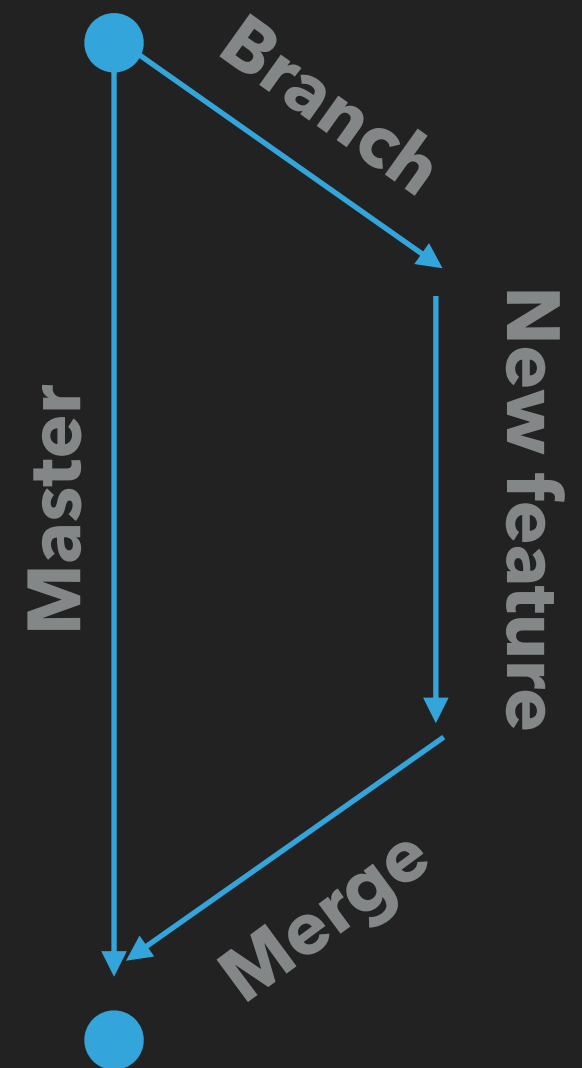
# PROJECT MANAGEMENT: BRANCHING

- ▶ For major developments, work on a separate *branch*

```
$ git branch <your-new-branch>  
$ git checkout <your-new-branch>
```

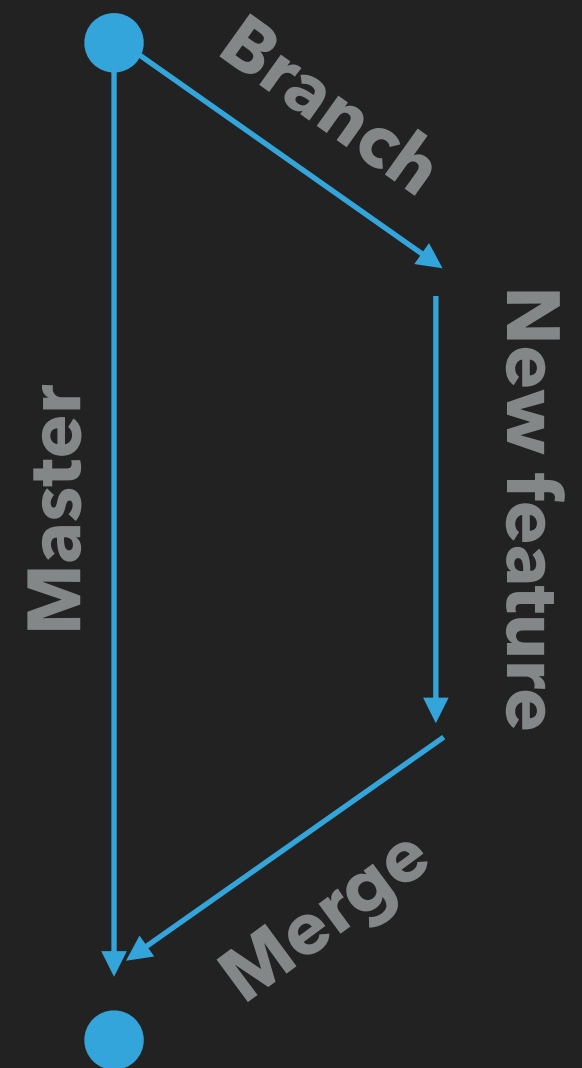
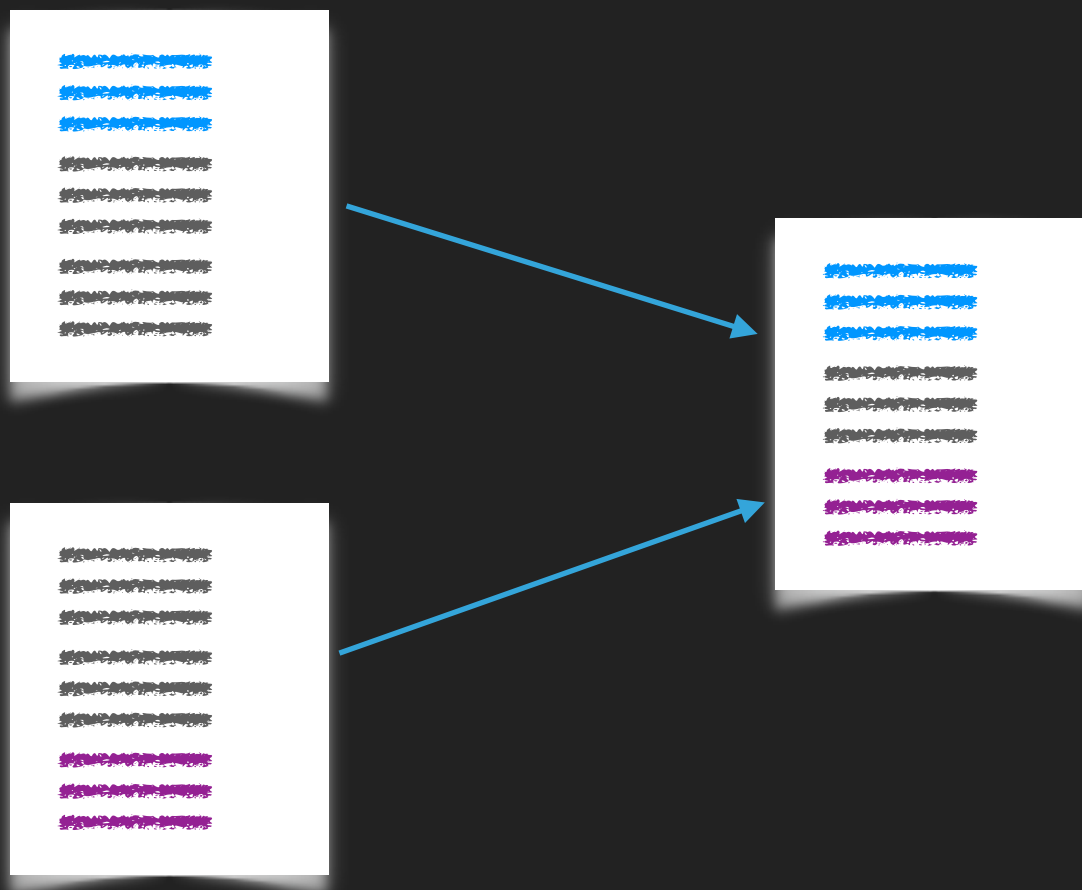
```
$ git checkout master
```

```
$ git merge <your-new-branch>
```



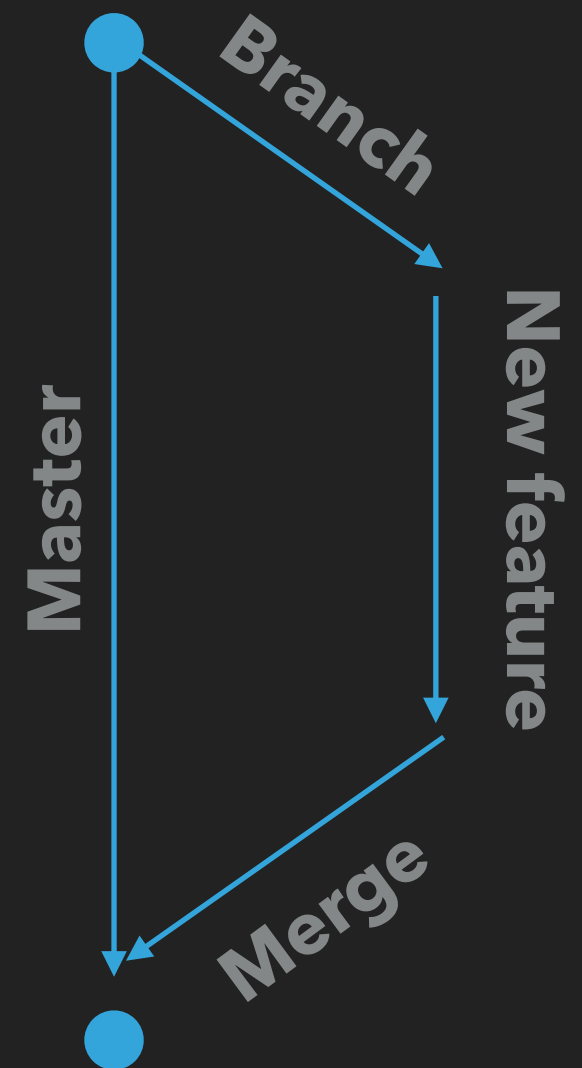
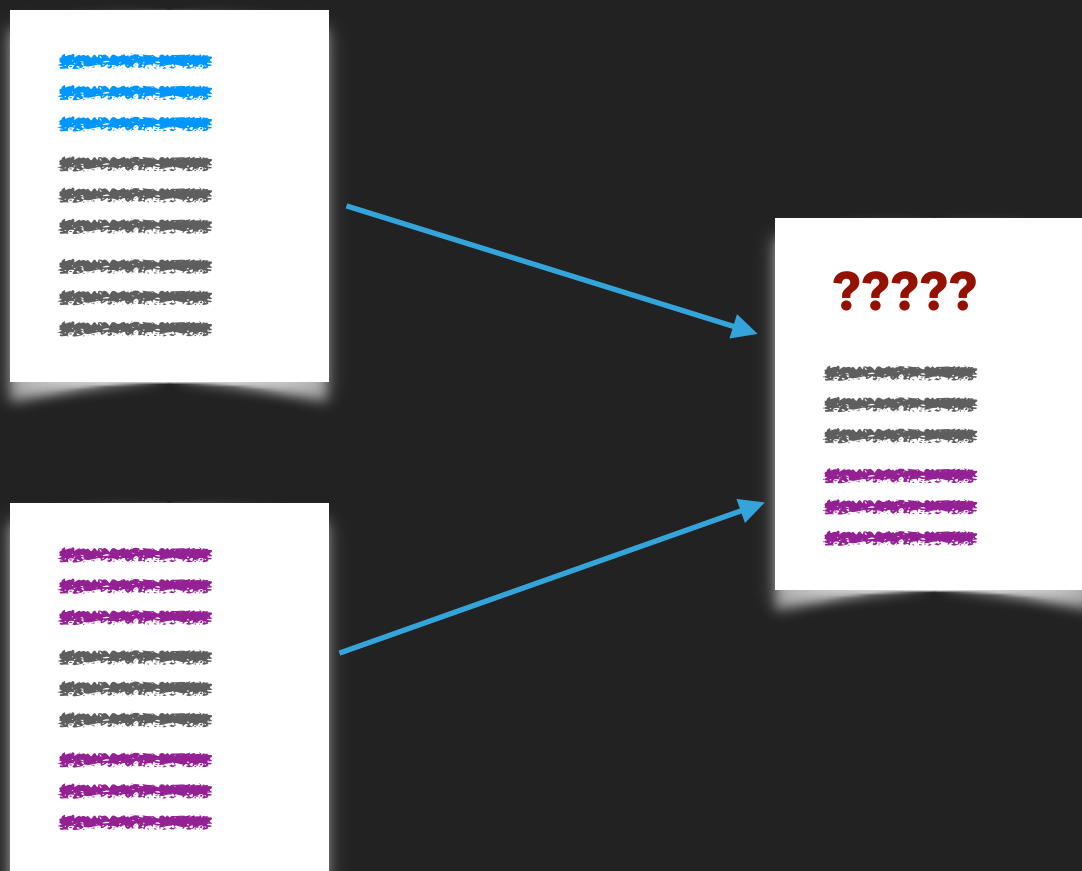
# PROJECT MANAGEMENT: BRANCHING

- ▶ Can keep working on new branch and master at the same time
- ▶ Git is good at managing changes itself!



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## CONFLICTS

- Conflicts arise when the same line of text has been edited in two branches

You will get an error message like:

```
Auto-merging my_fist_file.txt
CONFLICT (content): Merge conflict in my_fist_file.txt
Automatic merge failed; fix conflicts and then commit the result.
```

And the conflicted file will look like:

```
This is the first line
A second line
<<<<<< HEAD
This is the third line
=====
Or maybe THIS is the third line
>>>>>> new_branch
```

# DO IT YOURSELF: BRANCH AND MERGE (WITHOUT CONFLICT)

```
$ git branch a_new_branch  
$ git checkout a_new_branch
```

```
$ echo "new text from a branch" >> my_first_file.txt
```

(or use your favorite text editor)

```
$ git checkout master
```

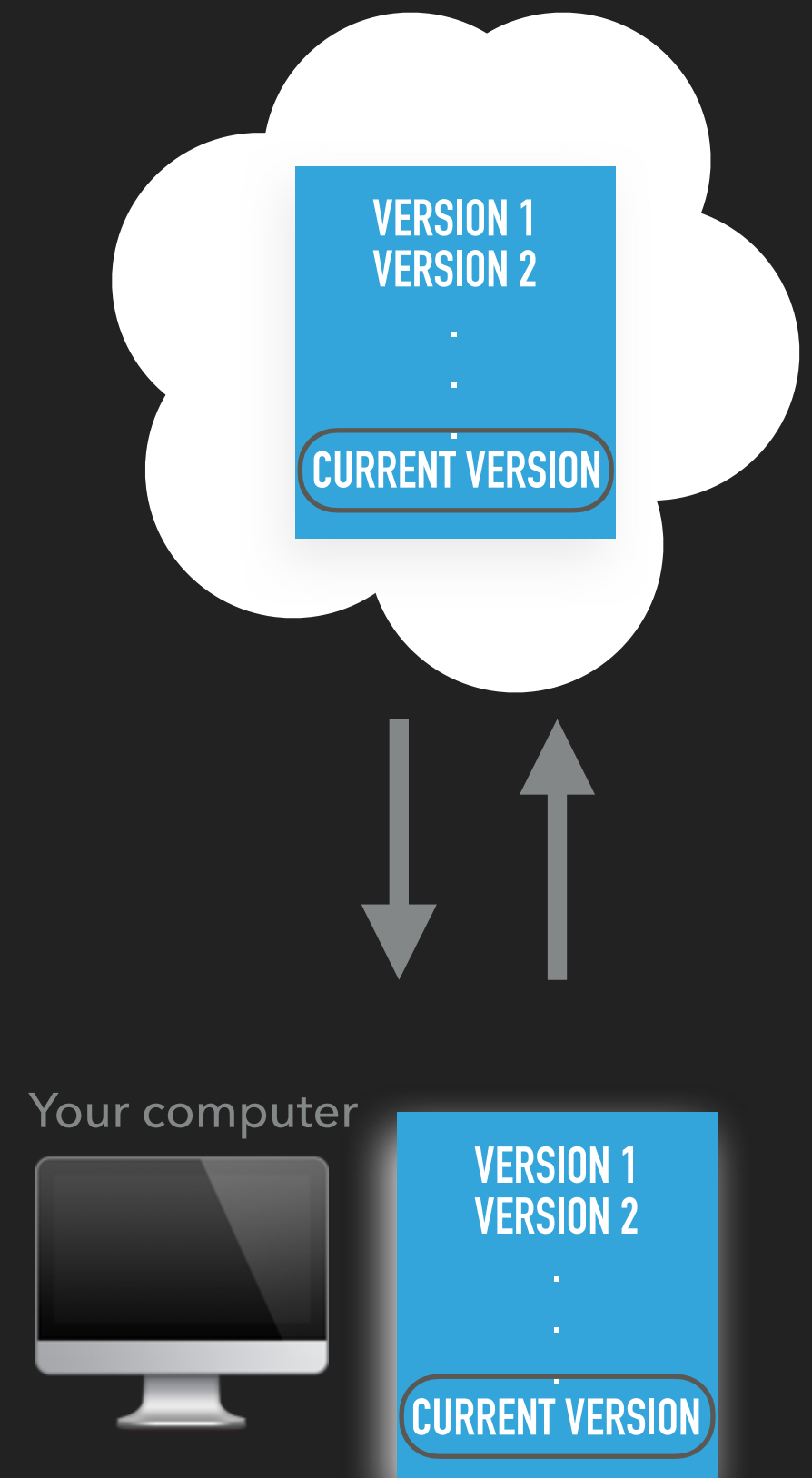
```
$ git merge a_new_branch
```

```
$ git branch -d a_new_branch
```

(delete branch for housekeeping)

# PUSHING TO REMOTE REPOSITORIES

- ▶ Staging and committing only updates the local repository on your own computer
  - ▶ Want to edit your code on a different computer
  - ▶ Want to share your code with collaborators
- ▶ Use remote repository hosting like GitHub, GitLab, Bitbucket



# SETTING UP A REMOTE REPOSITORY

`https://github.com/new`

Quick setup — if you've done this kind of thing before

 Set up in Desktop or **HTTPS** **SSH** `https://github.com/megmillhouse/example_project.git` 

Get started by [creating a new file](#) or [uploading an existing file](#). We recommend every repository include a [README](#), [LICENSE](#), and [.gitignore](#).

```
$ git remote add origin <url>
```

```
$ git push --set-upstream origin master
```

Only need this part once



## PUSHING TO REMOTE REPOSITORIES

Send your current repository to remote location:

```
$ git push origin master
```

**Local**

**Remote**

Get the most recent remote repository onto your computer:

```
$ git pull
```

## GOOD HABIT OF DAILY WORK FLOW:

```
$ git pull
```

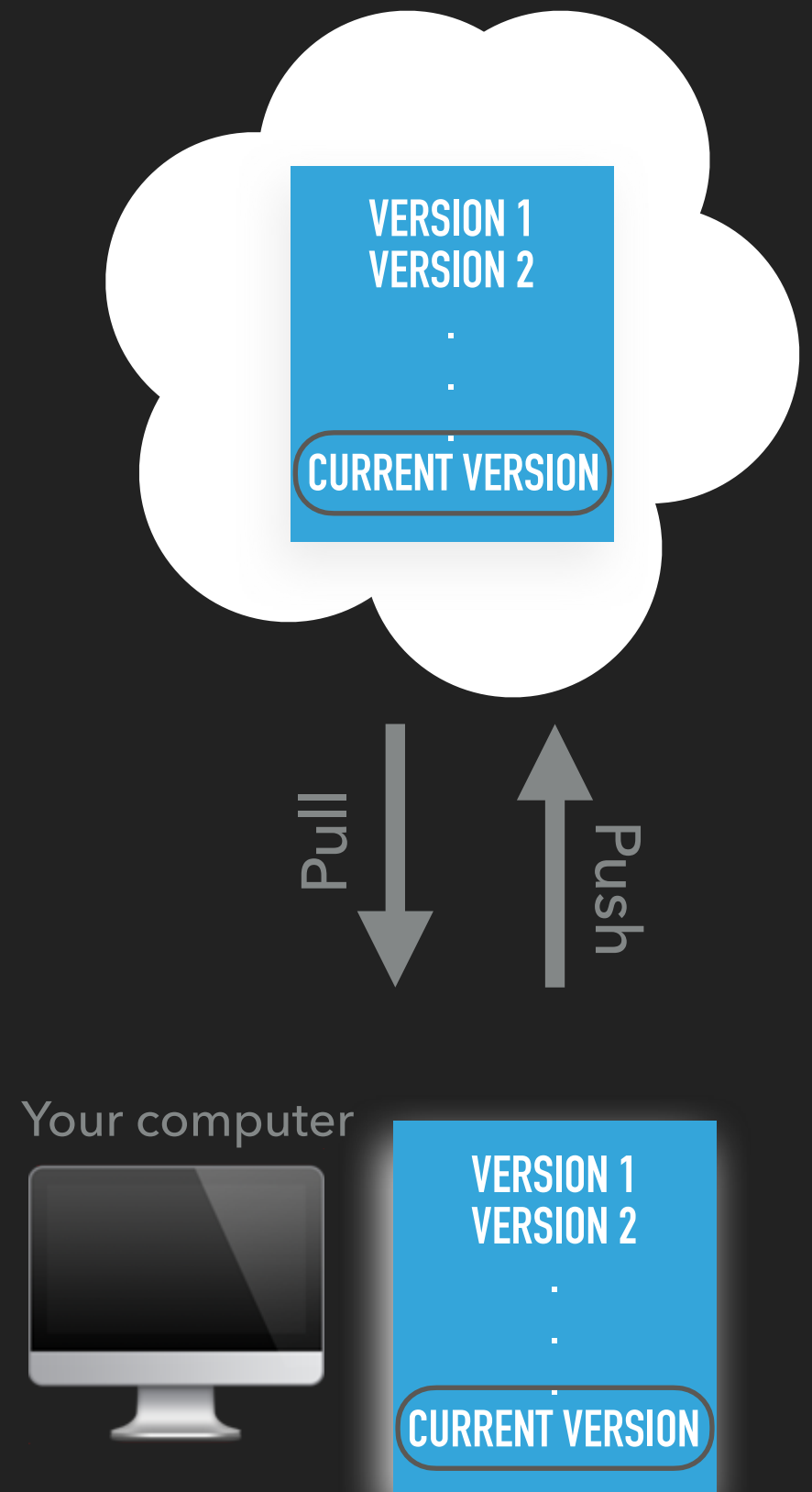
(make your edits)

```
$ git add <updated files>
```

```
$ git commit -m "your commit message"
```

```
$ git pull
```


```
$ git push
```



# DO IT YOURSELF: SET UP A REMOTE REPOSITORY

<https://github.com/new>

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```
$ git remote add origin <url>
```

```
$ git push --set-upstream origin master
```

```
$ git push --set-upstream origin master
```

You'll need your  
GitHub username +  
password!

# COLLABORATION: SHARING CODE WITH OTHER PEOPLE

- ▶ You want to share your code with other people!
- ▶ You want to use or edit someone else's code!

What are the best ways to do that?

# COLLABORATION: SHARING CODE WITH OTHER PEOPLE

## ► Option 1: Invite collaborators to your project

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository settings page for 'megmillhouse / example\_project'. The repository is marked as 'Private'. The top navigation bar includes links for Code, Issues (0), Pull requests (0), Actions, Projects (0), Wiki, Security, Insights, and Settings (circled in blue). The left sidebar contains a list of settings: Options, Manage access (circled in blue), Branches, Webhooks, Notifications, Integrations & services, Deploy keys, Autolink references, Secrets, and Actions. The main content area is titled 'Who has access' and includes a 'Beta' badge with a link to 'Learn more or give us feedback'. It displays two sections: 'PRIVATE REPOSITORY' (with a lock icon) stating 'Only those with access to this repository can view it.' and a 'Manage' link; and 'DIRECT ACCESS' (with a person icon) stating '0 collaborators have access to this repository. Only you can contribute to this repository.' Below this is a 'Manage access' section with a lock icon and the text 'You haven't invited any collaborators yet'. It also includes a note about GitHub Free limits and a link to 'Learn more'. At the bottom, there is a green button labeled 'Invite a collaborator' (circled in blue).

# COLLABORATION: SHARING CODE WITH OTHER PEOPLE

## ► Option 2: Clone an existing repository

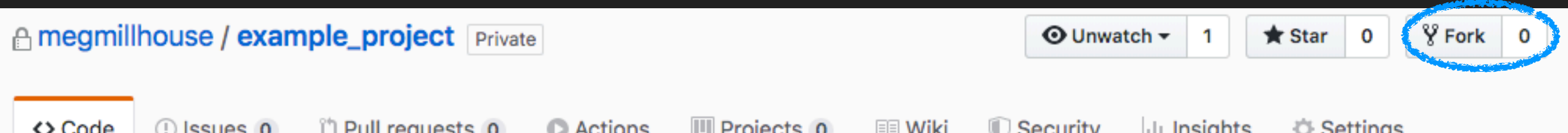
The screenshot shows the GitHub interface for a repository named 'example\_project' by user 'megmillhouse'. The repository is marked as 'Private'. At the top right, there are buttons for 'Unwatch' (1), 'Star' (0), and 'Fork' (0). Below these are tabs for 'Code', 'Issues' (0), 'Pull requests' (0), 'Actions', 'Projects' (0), 'Wiki', 'Security', 'Insights', and 'Settings'. The 'Code' tab is selected. Below the tabs, it says 'No description, website, or topics provided.' with an 'Edit' button. Underneath, there's a 'Manage topics' link. A summary bar shows '6 commits', '1 branch', '0 packages', '0 releases', and '1 contributor'. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Branch: master', 'New pull request', 'Create new file', 'Upload files', 'Find file', and a green 'Clone or download' button which is circled in blue.

```
$ git clone <URL> <directory>
```

The screenshot shows the dropdown menu that appears after clicking the 'Clone or download' button. It has two tabs: 'Clone with HTTPS' (selected) and 'Use SSH'. Under the 'Clone with HTTPS' tab, it says 'Use Git or checkout with SVN using the web URL.' and provides the URL 'https://github.com/megmillhouse/examp' with a copy icon. At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Open in Desktop' and 'Download ZIP'.

# COLLABORATION: SHARING CODE WITH OTHER PEOPLE

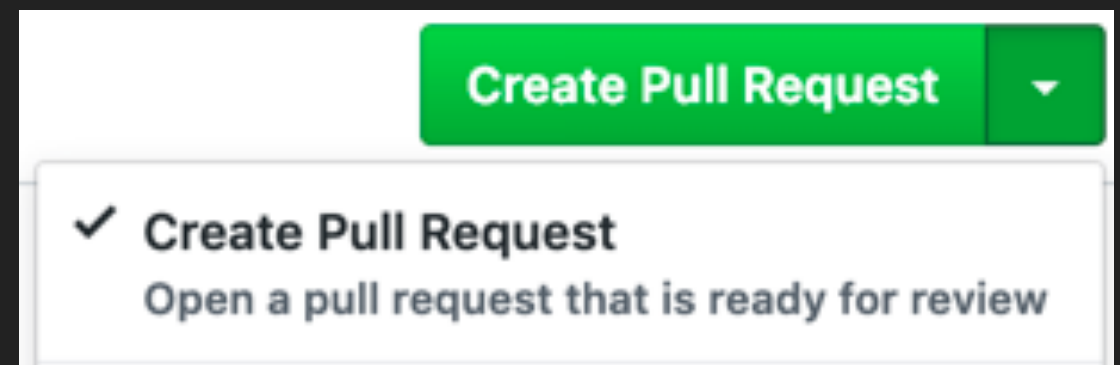
- ▶ Option 3: Fork an existing repository



- ▶ Forking a repository makes an independent copy
- ▶ Clone vs. Fork vs. Branch:
  - ▶ **Clone**: just want to use the code
  - ▶ **Fork**: Your own full version of the repository
  - ▶ **Branch**: temporary, more minor changes. Can have a branch within a fork

# FORKING

- ▶ One standard contribution workflow is the fork-branch-merge
  1. Fork a repository
  2. Make new branch in your fork for your particular update/feature
  3. Merge with master from a pull request





## GITHUB: WEB INTERFACE

- ▶ Lots of handy things you can do on the GUI
- ▶ (pull up GitHub here)

# LICENSING AND USE

- ▶ Open source code is good!
  - ▶ But you probably still want credit for code you've written
  - ▶ Think about how you want others to use your code

<https://choosealicense.com/>

# LICENSING AND USE

- ▶ When using someone else's code...
  - ▶ Take time to read through the documentation
    - ▶ Understand the license, guidelines for usage
- ▶ Be mindful of dependencies
- ▶ When in doubt, cite cite cite!