Learning Github

Github is one of the most important tools for any programmer.

Github is a code hosting platform for version control and collaboration. It allows programmers to work together from anywhere.

So Version Control – what does that mean?

So think of an App on your phone. Any app at all. They are always updating and after each update there is a new version. What is meant by version control is to be able to switch between those versions of that app freely.

This is a very useful tools for programmers. Programming is difficult and even a minor mistake will completely ruin an app and make it unusable. Minor mistakes are very common in programming. They are like forgetting to put a period at the end of a sentence or forgetting to capitalize a word. Sometimes code, especially for big companies, can be millions of lines long and if there is a minor mistake the whole app can crash. Google Search Engine is actually 2 billion lines of code long. It is also worked on by a hundreds of people, probably thousands honestly. So what if one day someone messes up the code and did not realize.

It would be pretty horrible trying to find a minor error within 2 billion lines of code. With version control, the programmers can simply go back to another version where the search engine still worked. It saves programmers a lot of time and headaches.

There are other uses too, for example some video games go through so many changes and sometimes people want a previous version of a video game. With Github’s version control we can go back to an earlier version.

So now collaboration – this is just like it sounds.

With Github people can work from anywhere in the world together. A person can update the code whenever they want. All the submissions are well tracked and documented so you can see who made the edits. There is accountability for work and people will receive credits for what they do.

Github also shows statistics and graphs to show who is putting in the work and who isn’t. They graphs are very unique and there is even a version graph.

Here are a few graphs





