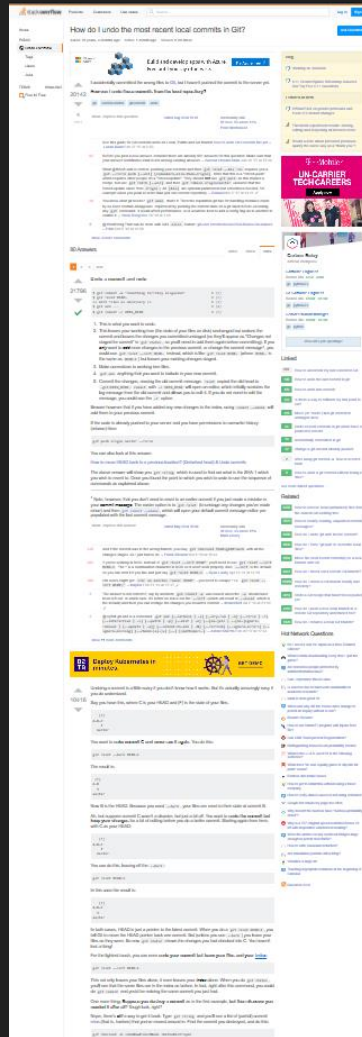


# Proposed Additions to Stack Overflow


Images taken from Stack Overflow

# The Problem

- This is how much space less than two of sixty-five responses (to a short question) take up
- With already too much space being utilized, users of Stack Overflow are protective of their space
- When newer programmers, or newer users, seek to answer questions, if it's not helpful to a given user, they're told so
- This arises out of preserving space, but contributes to the “elitism” of Stack Overflow



# Solution: Hiding Responses

 1554

```
git revert --no-commit 0766c053..HEAD
git commit
```

+50


This will revert everything from the HEAD back to the commit hash, meaning it will recreate that commit state in the working tree *as if* every commit since had been walked back. You can then commit the current tree, and it will create a brand new commit essentially equivalent to the commit you "reverted" to.


(The `--no-commit` flag lets git revert all the commits at once- otherwise you'll be prompted for a message for each commit in the range, littering your history with unnecessary new commits.)

This is a **safe and easy way to rollback to a previous state**. No history is destroyed, so it can be used for commits that have already been made public.

share improve this answer

edited Jun 28 '14 at 20:12

 user456814

 Yarin

78.4k • 125 • 333 • 462

18

If you really do want to have individual commits (instead of reverting everything with one big commit), then you can pass `--no-edit` instead of `--no-commit`, so that you don't have to edit a commit message for each reversion. – user456814 Jun 28 '14 at 20:11


63

If one of the commits between 0766c053..HEAD is a merge then there will be an error popping up (to do with no -m specified). This may help those encountering that: [stackoverflow.com/questions/5970889/...](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/5970889/...) – timhc22 Nov 21 '14 at 11:55

Current

Hide

Ability to hide entire post

 1554

```
git revert --no-commit 0766c053..HEAD
git commit
```

+50


This will revert everything from the HEAD back to the commit hash, meaning it will recreate that commit state in the working tree *as if* every commit since had been walked back. You can then commit the current tree, and it will create a brand new commit essentially equivalent to the commit you "reverted" to.


(The `--no-commit` flag lets git revert all the commits at once- otherwise you'll be prompted for a message for each commit in the range, littering your history with unnecessary new commits.)

This is a **safe and easy way to rollback to a previous state**. No history is destroyed, so it can be used for commits that have already been made public.

share improve this answer

edited Jun 28 '14 at 20:12

 user456814

 Yarin

78.4k • 125 • 333 • 462

18

Hide

Ability to hide/show individual comments

If you really do want to have individual commits (instead of reverting everything with one big commit), then you can pass `--no-edit` instead of `--no-commit`, so that you don't have to edit a commit message for each reversion. – user456814 Jun 28 '14 at 20:11

63

Hide

If one of the commits between 0766c053..HEAD is a merge then there will be an error popping up (to do with no -m specified). This may help those encountering that: [stackoverflow.com/questions/5970889/...](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/5970889/...) – timhc22 Nov 21 '14 at 11:55

Proposed

# Solution: Hiding Responses

- The ability to hide comments and responses would allow users to condense pages considerably
- Would lessen the amount people are attacked for “gratuitous” responses or comments
  - Users can hide information, so no reason to call out others for it not being helpful to them
- If top answer is not helpful for users, they can easily narrow down their focus on more helpful information more quickly

# Solution: Specificity Track

41 Answers

activeoldestvotes

12next

▲

This depends a lot on what you mean by "revert".

9048

▼

Temporarily switch to a different commit

✓

If you want to temporarily go back to it, fool around, then come back to where you are, all you have to do is check out the desired commit:

# This will detach your HEAD, that is, leave you with no branch checked out:  
git checkout 0d1d7fc32

If you want to make commits while you're there, go ahead and make a new branch while you're at it:

git checkout -b old-state 0d1d7fc32

To go back to where you were, just check out the branch you were on again. (If you've made changes, as always when switching branches, you'll have to deal with them as appropriate. You could reset to throw them away; you could stash, checkout, stash pop to take them with you; you could commit them to a branch there if you want a branch there.)

Current

41 Answers

activeoldestvotes

12next

detailedmoderatesimplified

▲

This depends a lot on what you mean by "revert".

9048

▼

Temporarily switch to a different commit

✓

If you want to temporarily go back to it, fool around, then come back to where you are, all you have to do is check out the desired commit:

# This will detach your HEAD, that is, leave you with no branch checked out:  
git checkout 0d1d7fc32

If you want to make commits while you're there, go ahead and make a new branch while you're at it:

git checkout -b old-state 0d1d7fc32

To go back to where you were, just check out the branch you were on again. (If you've made changes, as always when switching branches, you'll have to deal with them as appropriate. You could reset to throw them away; you could stash, checkout, stash pop to take them with you; you could commit them to a branch there if you want a branch there.)

The level of detail can be selected by posters and toggled by users. By default, 'detailed' is selected

Proposed

# Solution: Specificity Track

- Lowers threshold for users to contribute
- Still maintains quality of information users expect from Stack Overflow
- Provides varying levels of detail that are helpful for different users
- Additional means of filtering information and making page more concise

# Solution

- Hiding responses makes comment sections shorter, and can hide unnecessary responses
- Filtering to tracks allows responses to not clutter the page for users who won't find them helpful
- With more space, users won't be criticised unduly for posts
- With more information and a more concise view, Stack Overflow becomes a stronger point of reference for everyone



# Thank you!

Contact:

Ben Fickes

[fickes.b@husky.neu.edu](mailto:fickes.b@husky.neu.edu)

302-750-3364