Mathematical Modelling for Infectious Diseases - Malaria Training
University of Nairobi, Nairobi
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Instructions for installing and configuring Git and Github

Introduction

This document describes the steps required to have a fully functional Git and Github on Windows or Mac.

The steps are:

1. Download, install and configure Git – http://git-scm.com/downloads
2. Create a GitHub account/profile - https://github.com/

Step 1: Download, install and configure Git

a. Go to http://git-scm.com/download and click 'Download' (choose the right operating system).
b. Refer here on guide on how to install Git
c. You can configure git from a bash shell (for Macs, you can use "Terminal," while for PCs you can use GitBash, which comes with the git installation
d. You can use git config functions to configure your version of git.
e. Two changes you should make includes your name and email address as user.name and user.email. Refer here link.
f. Once you've installed git, you should restart RStudio so RStudio can identify that git is now available.
g. Often, just restarting RStudio will be enough. However, in some cases, you may need to take some more steps to activate git in RStudio. To do this, go to "RStudio" -> "Preferences" -> "Git/SVN."
h. If RStudio doesn't automatically find your version of git in the "Git executable" box (you will know it has not if that box is blank), browse for your git executable file using the "Browse" button beside that box.
i. If you aren't sure where your git executable is saved, try opening a bash shell and running which git, which should give you the filepath if you have git installed.

Step 2: Create GitHub account/profile

a. GitHub is the global standard for sharing code. Sign-up for a free account at https://github.com/
b. You may be offered to set-up two-factor authentication with an app on your phone. Read more in the Github help documents.
c. If you use GitHub Desktop, you can enter your Gitub credentials after installation following these steps. If you don't do it now, credentials will be asked later when you try to clone a project from Github. See more on installing GitHub Desktop.

Installing GitHub Desktop

GitHub Desktop provides a simple but powerful means to do common tasks, including cloning (making a copy of the code from the cloud onto your local computer), pulling (getting updates from the cloud), committing (saving local changes), and pushing (sending updates to the cloud). However, you can also access the same functionality via Git (a command-line tool), or from within IDEs.

1. Go to https://desktop.github.com/ and click 'Download' for your operating system.
2. Launch GitHub Desktop and sign into your GitHub account. If you don't have an account, you will need to sign up
3. Clone a repo:
    a. Click on the "File" menu at the top-left corner of the GitHub Desktop window. From the dropdown menu, select "Clone Repository".
    b. Choose Repository: In the "Clone a repository" window, you'll see a list of repositories you have access to on GitHub.
    c. If the repository you want to clone is listed there, click on it to select it. Otherwise, you can paste the URL of the repository in the "URL" field at the top and click "Clone".
    d. Click on the 'URL' tab and under 'URL or username/repository'. In the 'Local path' field, choose a path where you want to clone the repository on your Windows machine. You can either select an existing directory or create a new one.
    e. Finally, click on the "Clone" button. GitHub Desktop will then start the cloning

process, downloading the repository files to your chosen directory.