GUI & CLI Comparison

A GUI (Graphical User Interface) is more menu centric, relying on preset options like what you would find on something like your phone’s home screen or a game console. On GitHub the graphical user interface would be used to navigate your files and branches and otherwise do some things like publishing and switching repositories more streamlined and simple. That simplicity, like on any other website, program, or device lends itself to promoting user accessibility.

A CLI (Command Line Interface) relies on things like the terminal function on Windows and Linux operating systems and it could be used for more specific applications that sometimes can’t be achieved by the GUI. On GitHub, the command line interface probably does the same, doing more specific tasks that wouldn’t normally be done on the GUI. But the drawback is that CLI interfaces can be a task to learn in and of itself for people not familiar with using them.

On GitHub in general: the GUI takes a little time to learn like with every website, piece of technology, game, etc. even though it can be a little obtuse at first. The CLI can be a bit more of a daunting task for those unfamiliar with Command Line Interfaces, like myself. But once people have it down, the CLI can do a lot of things that the GUI couldn’t.