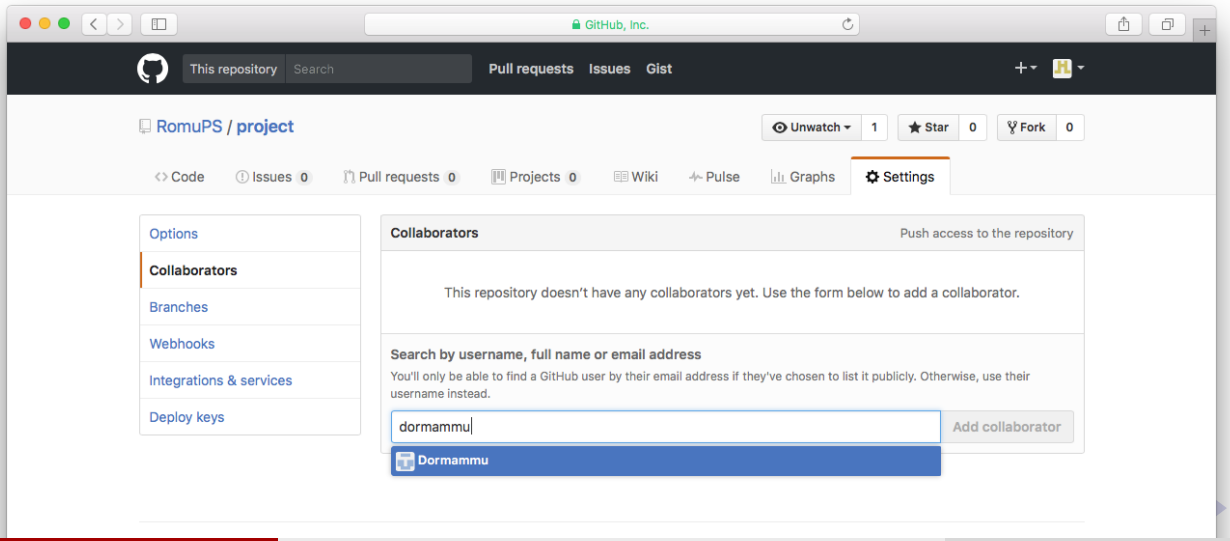
Collaborating with GitHub

GitHub allows the collaboration of different users on the same repository
There are two possibilities for collaboration:

- In the tab Settings, define a collaborator, by searching his/her username or email address. This gives the collaborator(s) full access to push data to the remote repository
- While this is simple, it can lead to problems
  - Two people trying to push the same file, with different versions
  - Can lead to conflicts, which are difficult to observe and fix, since everybody has the same privileges



Cloning and forking

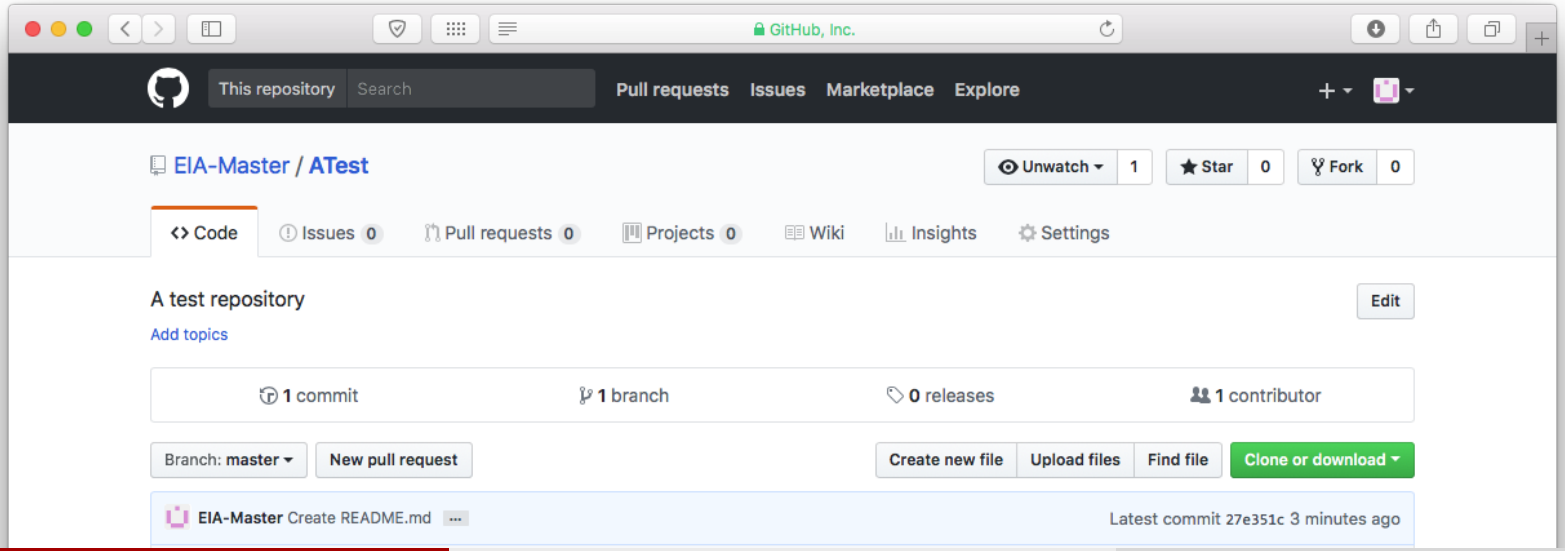
Another approach to collaborating on GitHub consists in **forking** an already existing project

To start the collaboration, some manager creates a main repository, where the main version of the code base will be maintained

Collaborators, on their GitHub page, locate the page of the manager, and the main repository.

On this page, collaborators click on the button `Fork`

This creates in your own GitHub account a full copy of the main repository



Cloning a remote repository

To have access to the forked repository we just created, we have to clone it, from our GitHub space, into our local machine (user your own github username!!)

```
:> git clone https://github.com/RomuPS/ATest.git
Cloning into 'ATest'...
remote: Counting objects: 3, done.
remote: Total 3 (delta 0), reused 3 (delta 0), pack-reused 0
Unpacking objects: 100% (3/3), done.
:> cd ATest/
:ATest> ls -l
total 4
-rw-r--r-- 1 romu staff 30 Feb 23 16:06 README.md
:ATest> git remote -v
origin        https://github.com/RomuPS/ATest.git (fetch)
origin        https://github.com/RomuPS/ATest.git (push)
```

The cloning operation directly links our local to our remote copy of the main repository, with the alias "origin"

In this way, we can start making changes and updating our own version of the main repository

Updating a cloned remote repository

But in the mean time, the main repository can have been changed.

To update the changes in the main repository into our local version, we have to link it to the main, for which we choose the alias "main"

```
:ATest> git remote add main https://github.com/EIA-Master/ATest.git
:ATest> git remote -v
main        https://github.com/EIA-Master/ATest.git (fetch)
main        https://github.com/EIA-Master/ATest.git (push)
origin        https://github.com/RomuPS/ATest.git (fetch)
origin        https://github.com/RomuPS/ATest.git (push)
```

Now we can fetch changes in main

```
:ATest> git fetch main
remote: Counting objects: 3, done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (2/2), done.
remote: Total 3 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 0
Unpacking objects: 100% (3/3), done.
From https://github.com/EIA-Master/ATest
   27e351c..f2cd819  master     -> main/master
```

Working in a cloned remote repository

We now work on our cloned repository, adding a file

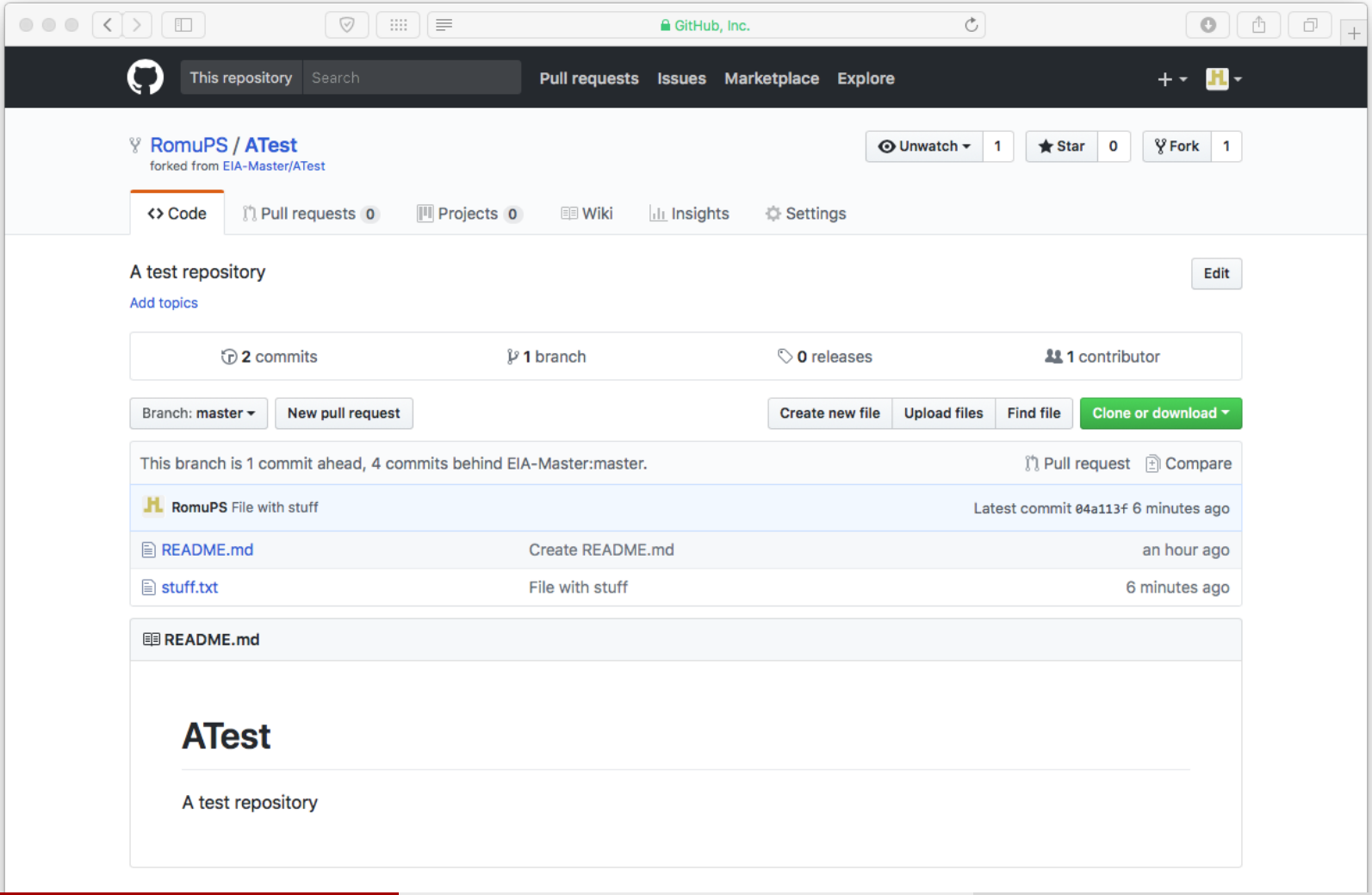
```
:ATest> vim stuff.txt
:ATest> cat README.md
A file with some stuff

:ATest> git add stuff.txt
:ATest> git commit -m "File with stuff"
[master 04a113f] File with stuff
 1 file changed, 2 insertions(+)
 create mode 100644 stuff.txt
# push to our cloned remote "origin"
:ATest> git push origin master
Counting objects: 3, done.
Delta compression using up to 4 threads.
Compressing objects: 100% (2/2), done.
Writing objects: 100% (3/3), 313 bytes | 313.00 KiB/s, done.
Total 3 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0)
To https://github.com/RomuPS/ATest.git
   27e351c..04a113f  master -> master
```

But since we don't know the password for the main repository "main", we cannot directly push there our changes

```
:ATest> git push main master
remote: Permission to EIA-Master/ATest.git denied to RomuPS.
fatal: unable to access 'https://github.com/EIA-Master/ATest.git/':
The requested URL returned error: 403
```

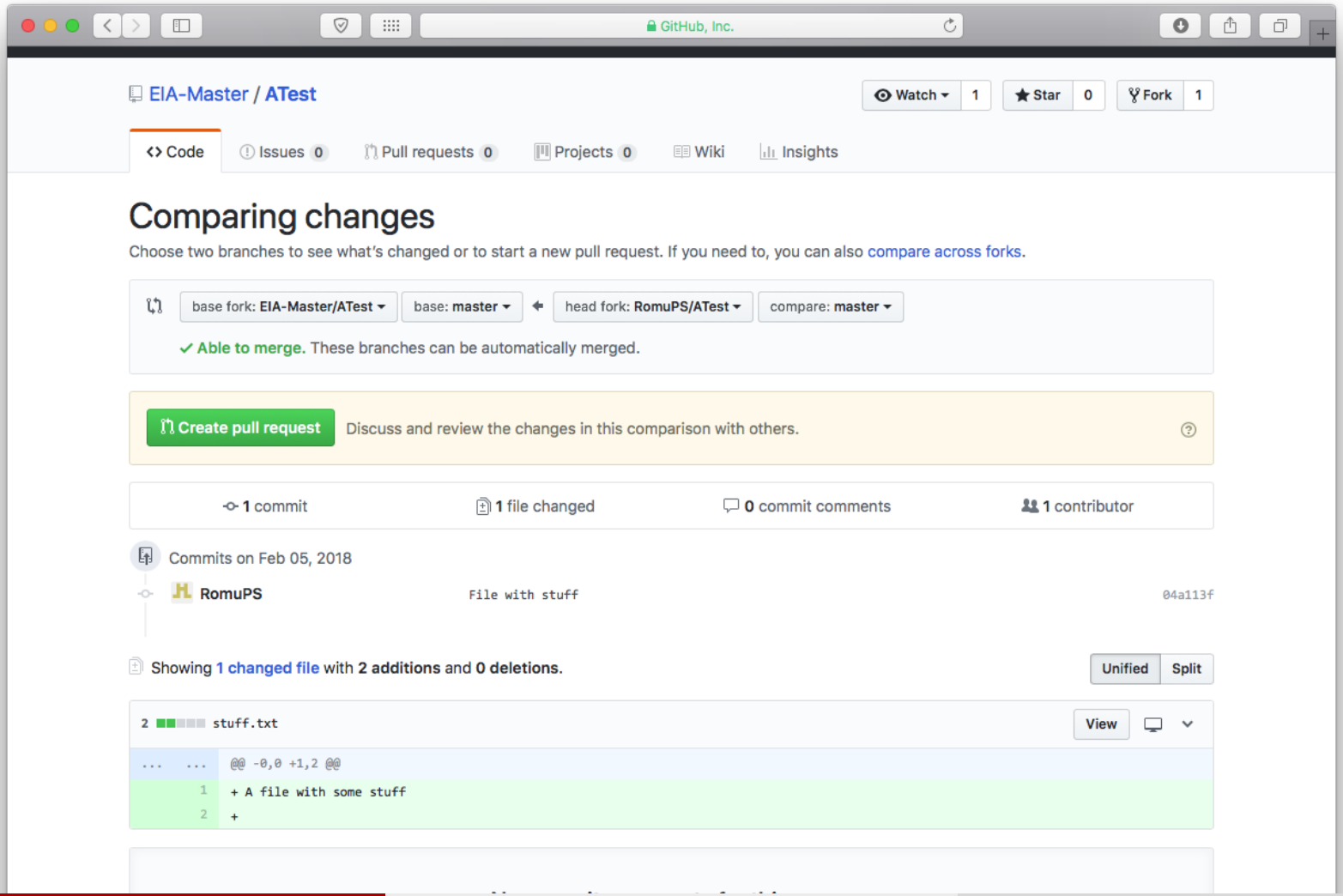
Pulling to the main remote repository

To pull changes to the main, we have to open a "New pull request" in our GitHub web page



Pulling to the main remote repository

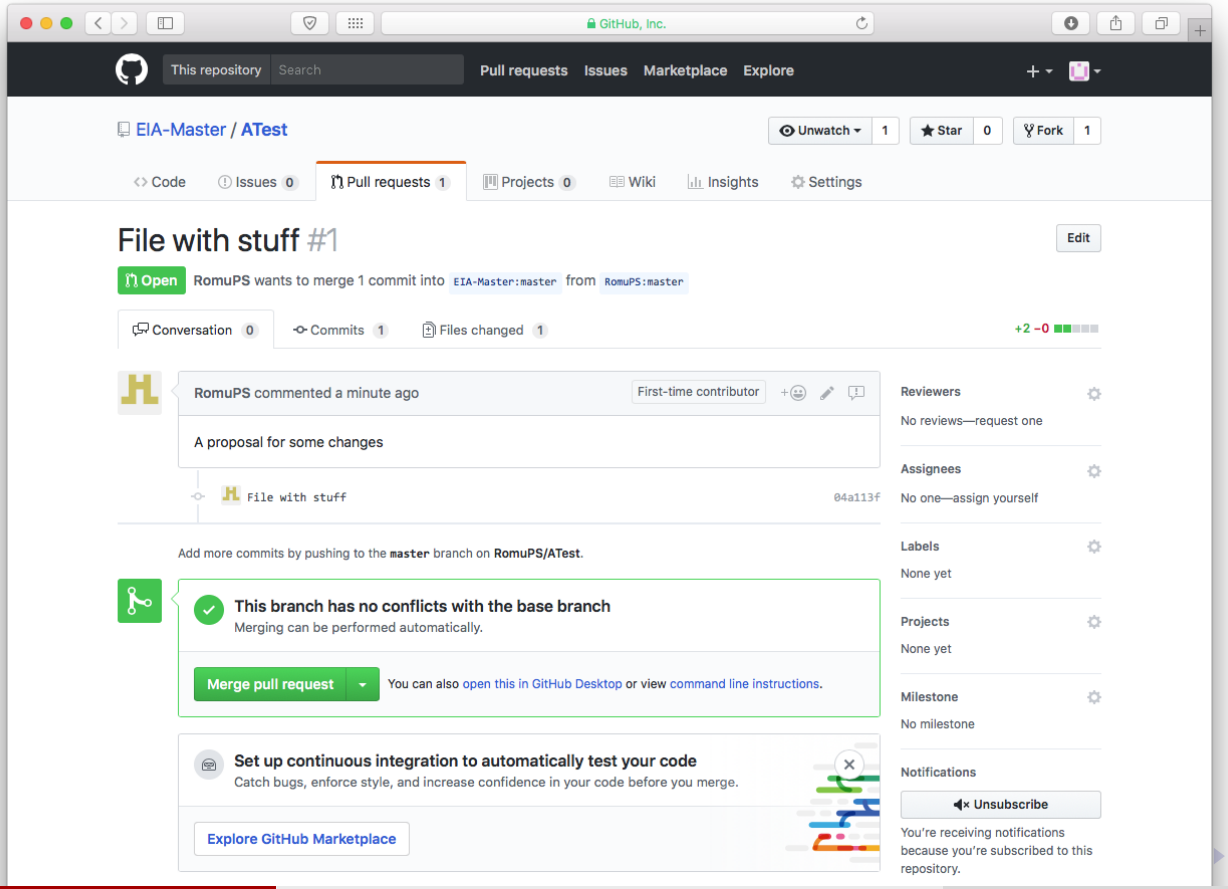
We have to choose the base fork (the main) and our fork, choose the branches we want to pull, add a comment, and submit



Pulling to the main remote repository

In the GitHub page of the owner of main, appears a pull request, in the corresponding tab. The owner of main can check it, see if there are no conflicts, and accept (merge) it.

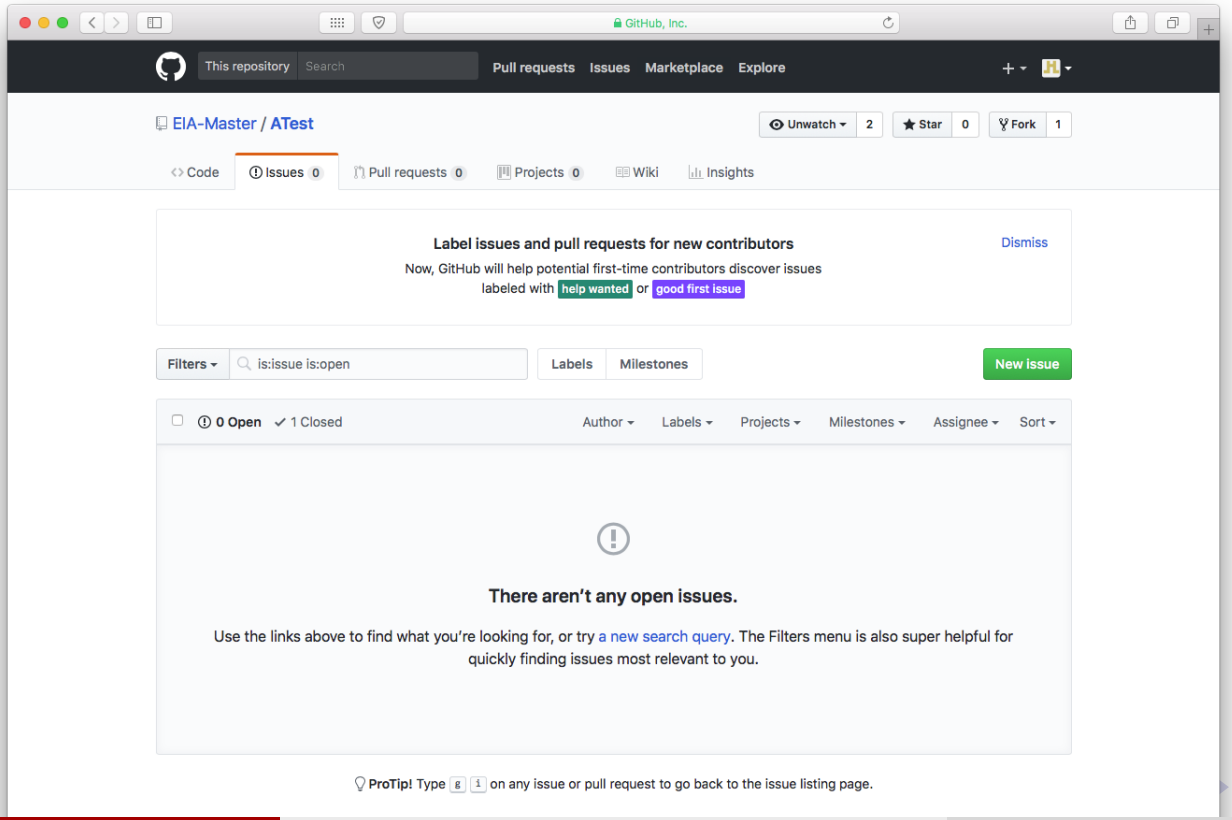
Both remotes (origin and main) will be now synchronized



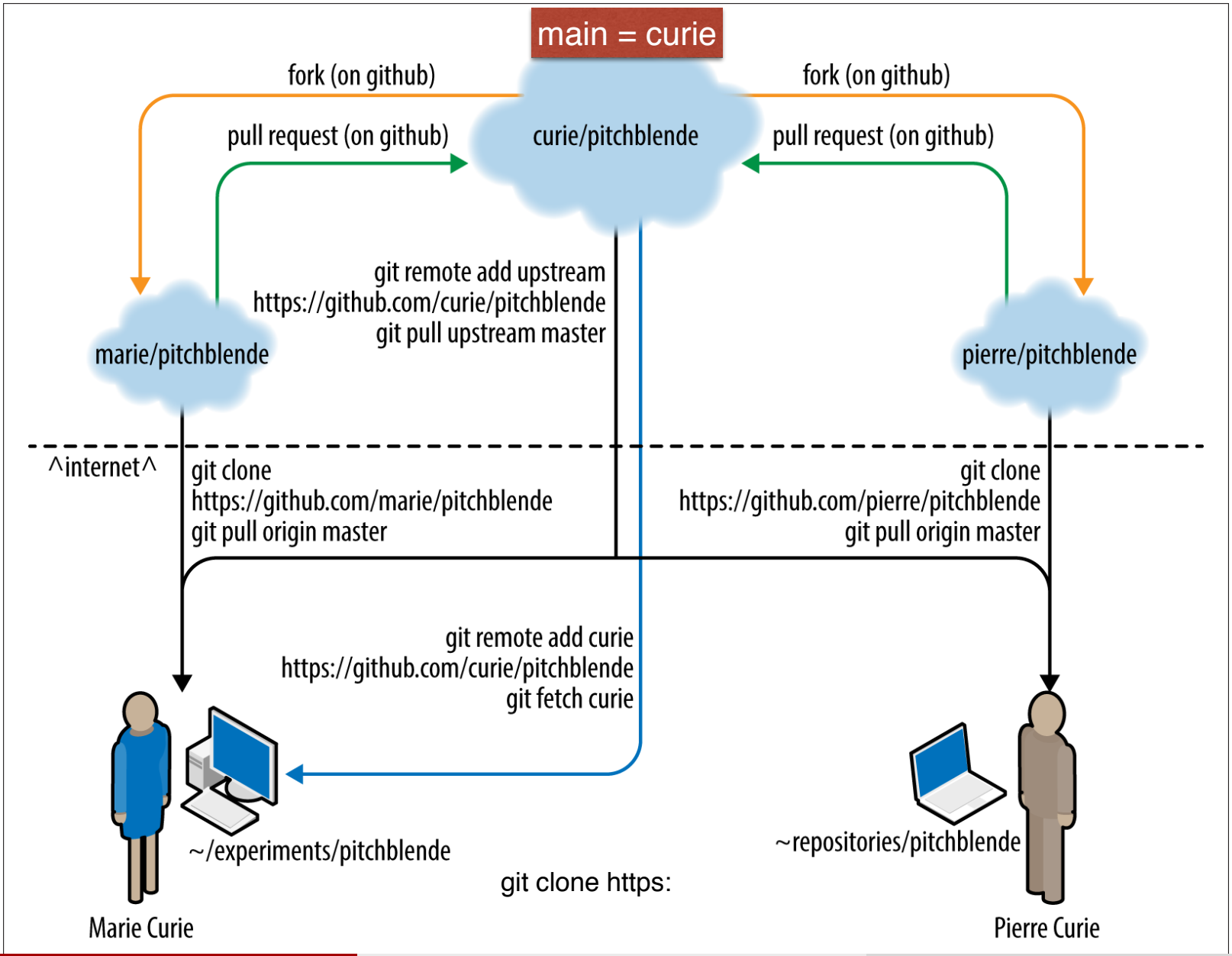
Managing collaboration

Apart from adding new pieces of code, GitHub allows discussion on problems (issues) in the codebase. To start a discussion, we have to open a new issue in the Issues tab of the main repository.

The discussion can be continued by the members of the collaboration, and closed when the problem raised has been solved.



Forking and cloning sum up



Collaboration exercise

We are going to develop a fake project in which I will play the role of boss.

- Go to my github page (RomuPS user) and fork and clone the repository `Project_mock_up`
- Link your own copy to my folder as main
- Open a branch of the project in your own local folder, add some source code for something simple and merge it into your master
- Make a pull request into my account
- Let us see what happens ...