

Software Engineering

Lecture 3: Configuration Management

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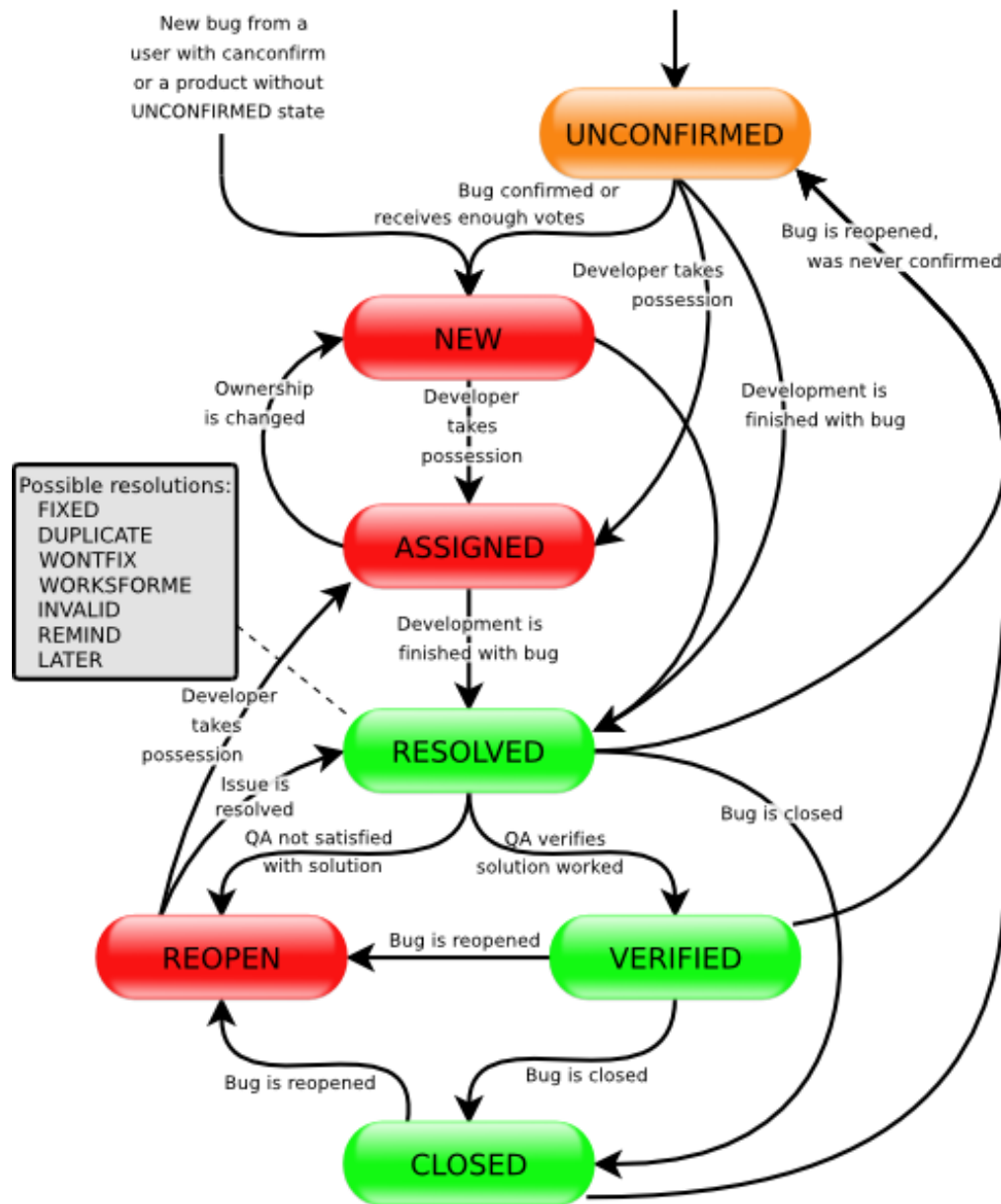
CS993

Lecture Outline

- Configuration management.
- Version Control.
- Other build tools.

What is configuration management?

- Manage the whole process of putting the pieces together.
- Libraries, source, docs, configuration, data.
- This includes release management.



Issue Tracking

- Requesting, evaluating and approving software changes.
- In formal settings we might have a Change Control Board (CCB) that approves changes.

Release Management

- Upgrades, installer, instructions, etc.
- Remember we will need different environments to support this: dev, test, stage and live.
- What if we have multiple customers? We can have each customer on a different branch in version control.

Compilers

- Takes source and creates object files (or class files for Java).
- Can be configured to give debug info or to optimise the code.
- Generated code can be different for different compilers, versions, options, so must be managed.
- IDE will support different environments.

Build Tools

- Make is the classic build tool. Rules allow dependencies to be created to say that class files can be created from java files by calling javac.
- If we already have the class files, we don't need to rebuild it, so we save time by only building what's required.
- Ant is a better build tool for Java. The compiler is built in, so we don't launch the same process hundreds of times.
- Ivy can add dependency management, but we've been discussing Maven.

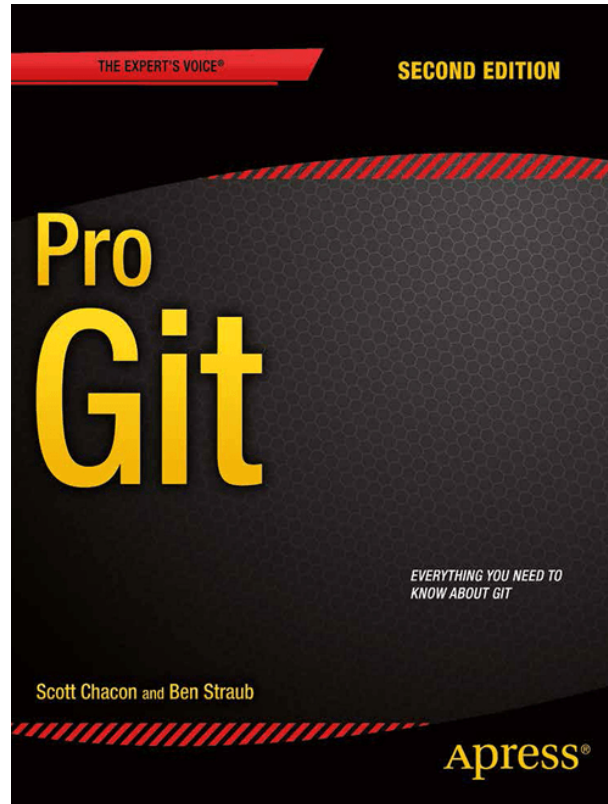
Maven

- Maven is ant plus much more.
- It uses conventions to describe the layout of the project. Where the source lives, where the binaries go, how tests work, etc.
- Perhaps more importantly it allows dependencies to be controlled.

Version Control

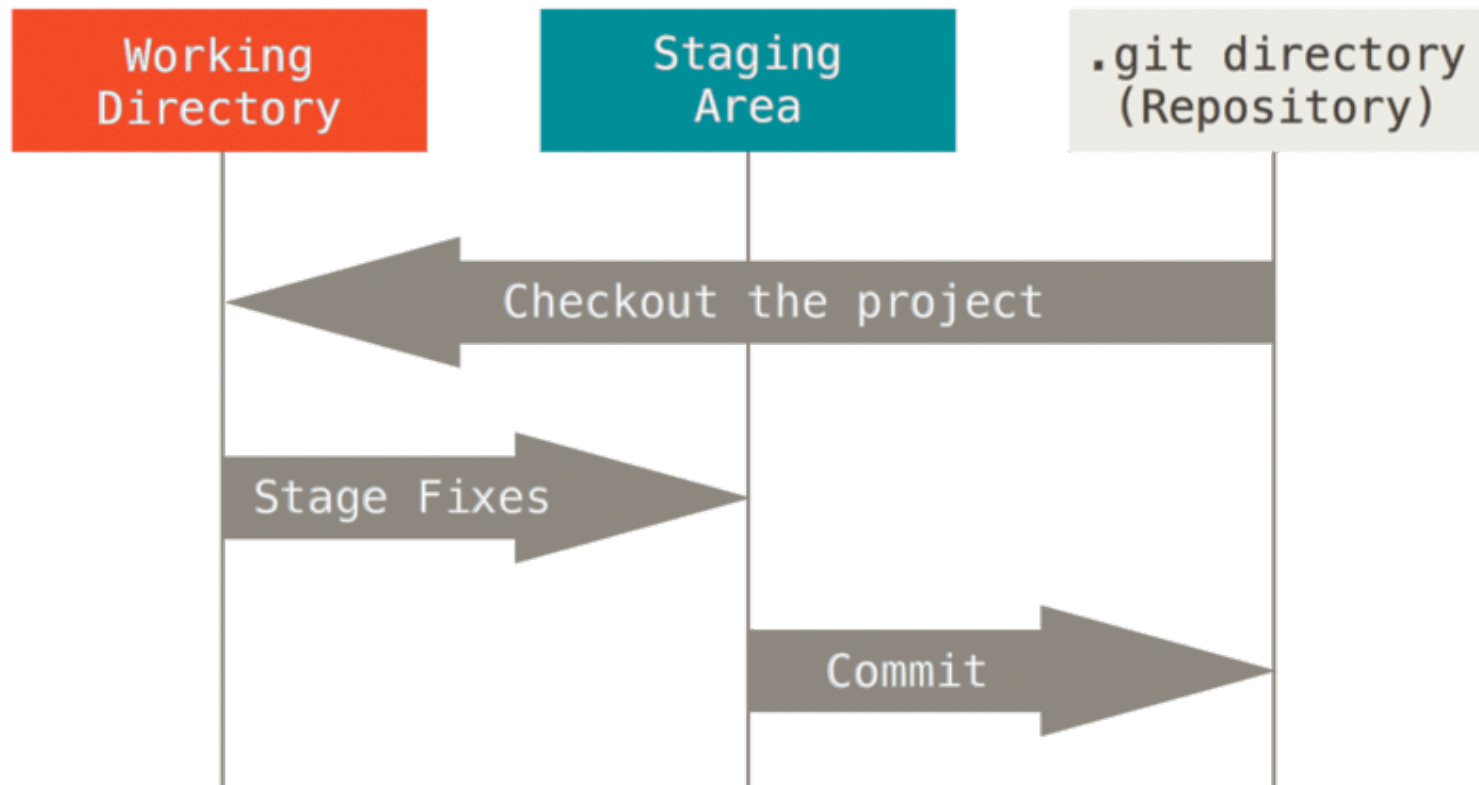
- SCCS, RCS, CVS, Perforce, Subversion, Mercurial, etc.
- Check-out is old school.
- Now we merge.
- Git is the most popular tool, so worth knowing.

Free Book!



<https://git-scm.com/book/en/v2>

Git Workflow



Git Operations

- Create (init) or clone repository.
- Add and commit.
- Push and pull - remotes.
- Branches and merges.
- Tags.

Summary

- The software we release needs careful configuration. Different versions will go into different environments and potentially to different customers.
- Version control is a central aspect to this.
- We also involve our bug tracker and build tools in this process.

Moving on from here ...

- In the practical this week, we'll look at Git.
- Go back and look at the Git operations we did for the first lab when we worked with Heroku.
- Look at the early parts of the Git Basics chapter of the free book. Get yourself comfortable with add, commit and status.



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