

Git Basics

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1 Basic settings

Many students working on the same computers cause, that the *Git config* has multiple different settings set. So there are basically two options: either unset set values, or edit the Git config file itself

```
# with this comand, user can unset the set values
$ git config --global --unset user.name
$ git config --global --unset user.email

# or open the nano editor (if set as standard editor for Git)
# and edit (delete) all entries, save and exit
$ git config --global --edit
```

You are setting Git on your own computer that nobody else uses, then following settings should be set

```
$ git config --global user.name "Firstname Lastname"
$ git config --global user.email firstname.lastname@provider.geo
# preferably set the email the same one, with which you created your GitHub account
```

In Windows 10, Windows tries to save your passwords. Which is from security point of view, not the best idea. Further the appearing pop-up to enter the password itself is annoying. Thus following settings should prevent Windows from saving your password and from opening a pop up for the password entry. Instead the password will be entered directly after entering your username after the command (for example `git push`)

```
$ git config --global core.pager cat
$ git config --global core.askPass ""
```

Depending on the computer operating system, after installing Git, the core editor might be *nano* or *Vim*. Personally I prefer *nano*. To make sure, you never end up in *Vim*, you can manually set your core editor to *nano*. Or if you have *Sublime* installed, set core editor to *Sublime*, by appending the execution file (.exe). I strongly suggest using *Sublime*, given its simplicity and many features

```
$ git config --global core.editor nano.exe

# here the absolute link to the execution file might be different on every computer!
$ git config --global core.editor /c/Users/USER/Download/sublime/sublime_text.exe
```

2 Git Basic Commands

Here is a short list of main commands and their brief description

2.1 Initiating Git in a folder:

```
$ git init #initiates a repository
```

2.2 Adding files to staging area

```
# adding files to staging area  
# adds specific file  
$ git add filename  
  
# adds all files to staging area  
$ git add .  
  
# adds all files to staging area  
$ git add -A  
  
# updates the index (use only if no new files were created)  
$ git add -u
```

2.3 Committing files that are in staging area

```
# committing files  
# commits with message, without -m and "message text",  
# editor would appear (nano or Sublime)  
$ git commit -m "message text"  
  
# here -a stands for all changed files, so use only if no new files  
# were created, else stage with git add .  
$ git commit -am "message text"
```

2.4 Branching and merging

```
# creating new branch (branchname = NewBranch |...)  
$ git branch branchname  
  
# switching to the branch (branchname = master | NewBranch |...)  
$ git checkout branchname  
  
# merging happens into the branch, you are on,  
# by calling the branchname to be merged with  
$ git merge branchname
```

2.5 Reverting

```
# always check git log  
$ git log  
  
# shorter git log version  
$ git log --oneline
```

```
# reverting a commit by using its HASH
# (if necessary edit the merging errors by hand, save and commit -m "...")
$ git revert HASH

# resetting (reverts and DELETES everything from that commit)
$ git reset --hard HASH
```

2.6 Setting remotes

```
# setting remote directory (first create one in Github, WITHOUT Readme.md!)
# "origin" is just a name for the remote directory,
# you can have many remotes (with different http://... paths)
$ git add remote origin https://.....git

# to check if remote is set
$ git remote -v

# removes the remote, for example the NAME=origin
$ git remote rm destination NAME

# pushes local repo to remote repo
$ git push -u origin master

# if you want to update local repo from remote remote
$ git pull origin master

# if you the files in remote are outdated (or include Readme.md),
# simple pushing will not overwrite, thus
$ git push -f origin master

# cloning (downloading repo from GitHub) your own or some else's repo
$ git clone https://...git
```