Version Control

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(Credit: Byung-Gon Chun & Many Slides from UCB CS169 taught by Armando Fox and David Patterson)

SWPP, CSE, SNU

Version Control: Merge Conflicts, Effective Branching

Source & configuration management (SCM)

What is it?

- Version (snapshot) code, docs, config files, etc. at key points in time
- Complete copy of every versioned file per snapshot
- Implementation: deltas? complete file copy? symlink?

• Why do it?

- Roll back if introduce bugs
- Separate deployed from development version of code
- Keep separate branches of development
- Documented history of who did what when
- Track what changed between revisions of a project

40 Years of Version Control









Image © TheSun.au

Social Coding

There is a really interesting group of people in the United States and around the world who do social coding now. The most interesting stuff is not what they do on Twitter, it's what they do on GitHub.

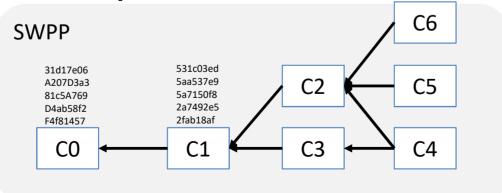
-- Al Gore, former US Vice President, 2013



Git

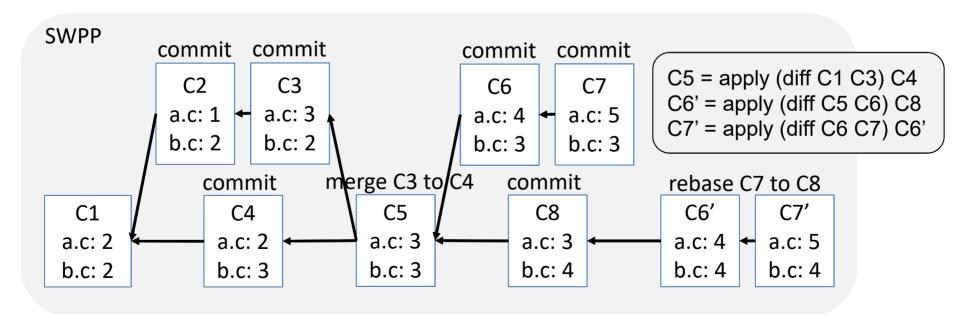
Repository

- A repository stores development histories (a rooted connected directed acyclic graph)
- Node (called Commit):
 A snapshot of development at some point
 - Each commit is identified by its hash value
- Edge:
 Points to its parent nodes

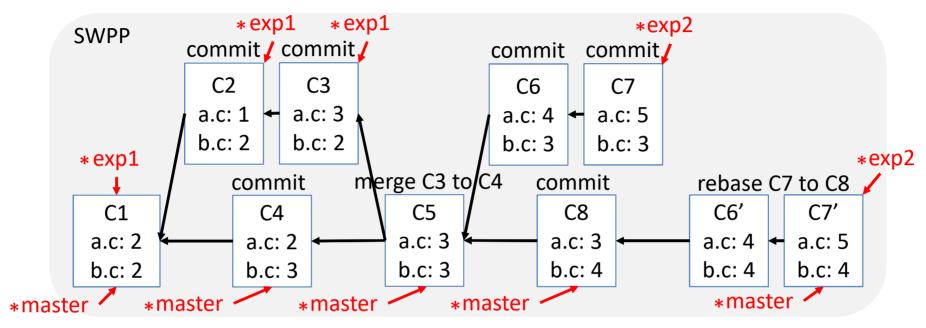


Basic Operations

- Commit:
 Add a fresh commit with a new development
- Merge (two parents):
 Add a commit by merging two commits
- Rebase:
 Add commits by applying existing changes to a commit



Branch: Cursor to a commit

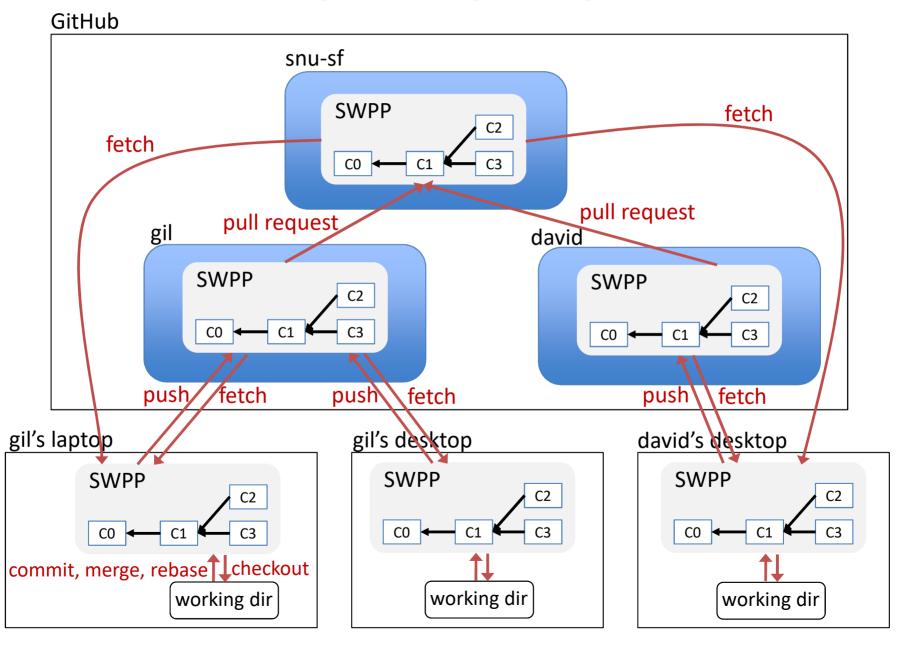


git branch exp1
git checkout exp1
git commit -a -m "C2" // after wr 1 to a.c
git commit -a -m "C3" // after wr 3 to a.c
git checkout master
git commit -a -m "C4" // after wr 3 to b.c
git merge exp1

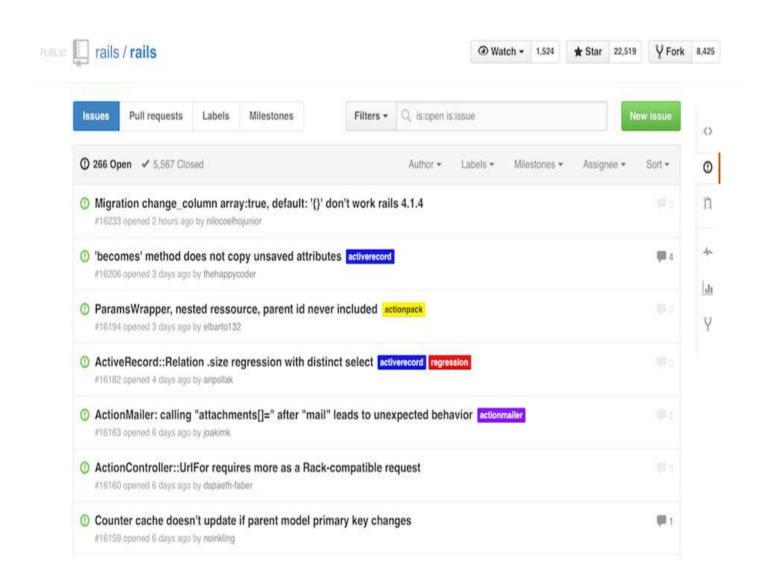
git branch exp2
git checkout exp2
git commit -a -m "C6" // after wr 4 to a.c
git commit -a -m "C7" // after wr 5 to a.c
git checkout master
git commit -a -m "C8" // after wr 4 to b.c
git rebase master exp2
git checkout master; git merge exp2

GitHub

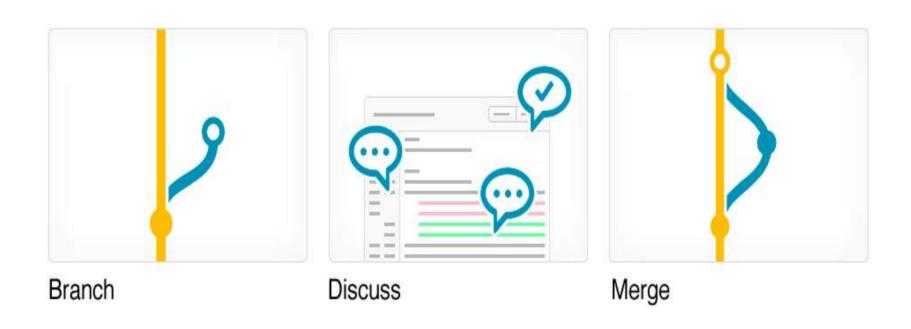
Main Workflow



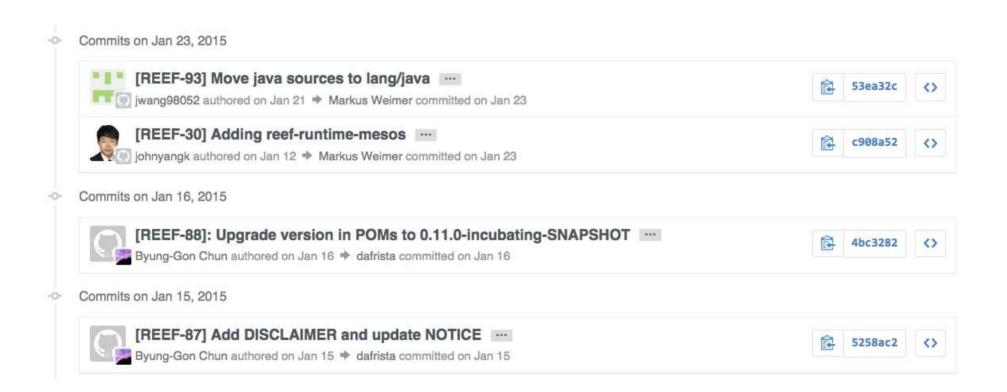
GitHub - Issue Tracking



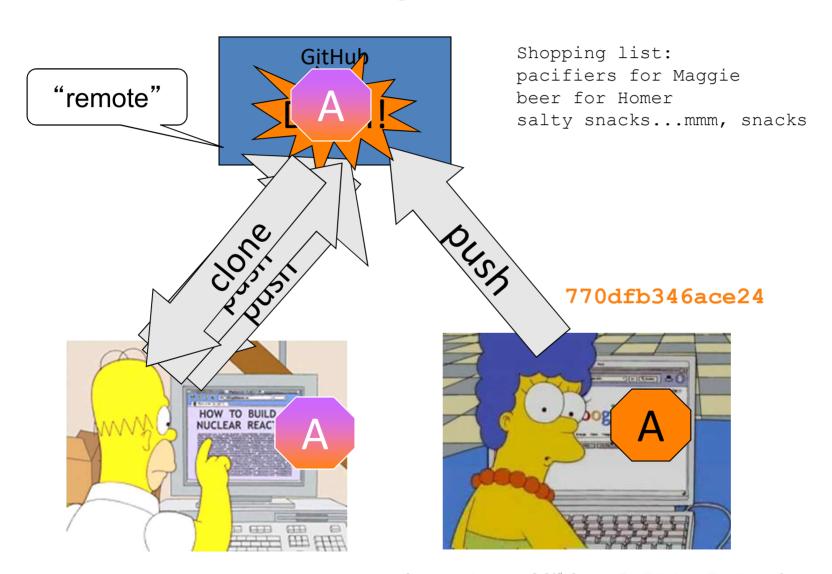
GitHub – Code Review with Pull Request



GitHub – Commit Log



Merge Conflict



Simpsons characters © 20th Century Fox Television. Parody use for educational purposes only.

Pull = Fetch + Merge

- Fetch = copies new commits from the origin
- Merge two repos = try to apply commits in both
 - Conflict if different changes to same file "too close" together
 - -git pull = git pull origin master
- Successful merge implies commit!
- Always commit your changes before merging/pulling
- Commit early & often—small commits OK!
 git commit (and push) when all done

Commit: a *tree snapshot* identified by a commit-ID

- 40-digit hex hash (SHA-1), unique in the universe...but a pain
 - use unique (in this repo) prefix, eg 770dfb
 - HEAD: most recently committed version on current branch
 - ORIG_HEAD: right after a merge, points to premerged version
 - HEAD~n: n' th previous commit
 - 770dfb~2: 2 commits before 770dfb
 - "master@{01-Sep-2012}": last commit on master branch prior to 1-Sep-2012

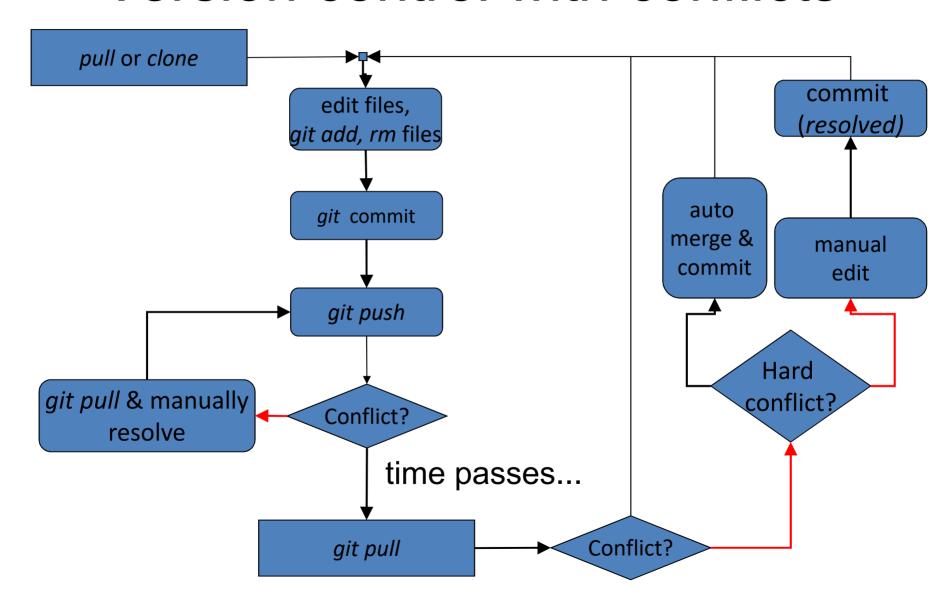
Undo!

```
git reset --hard ORIG_HEAD
git reset --hard HEAD
git checkout commit-id - files...
```

Track who changed what file and when

```
git blame files
git diff files
git diff branch files
git diff "master@{01-Sep-12}" files
git log ref..ref files
git log -since="date" files
```

Version control with conflicts

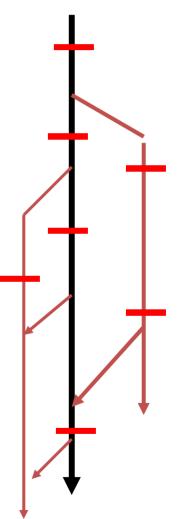


If you try to push to a remote and get a "non-fast-forward (error): failed to push some refs", which statement is FALSE?

- Some commits present at remote are not present on your local repo
- You need to do a merge/pull before you can complete the push
- You need to manually fix merge conflicts in one or more files
- Your local repo is out-of-date with respect to the remote

Branches

- Development master vs. branches
 - Creating branch is cheap!
 - switch among branches: checkout
- Separate commit histories per branch
- Merge branch back into master
 - ...or with *pushing* branch changes
 - Most branches eventually die
- Two common branch management strategies: feature branch, release branch
- Killer use case for agile SaaS: branch per feature release branch uncommon in SaaS



Creating new features without disrupting working code

- 1. To work on a new feature, create new branch just for that feature
 - many features can be in progress at same time
- 2. Use branch *only* for changes needed for *this feature*, then merge into master
- 3. Back out this feature ⇔ undo this merge

In well-factored app,

1 feature shouldn't

a sob master

c d > touch many parts of app

Mechanics

Create new branch & switch to it

```
git branch CoolNewFeature
git checkout CoolNewFeature ← current branch
```

- Edit, add, make commits, etc. on branch
- Push branch to origin repo (optional):

```
git push origin CoolNewFeature
```

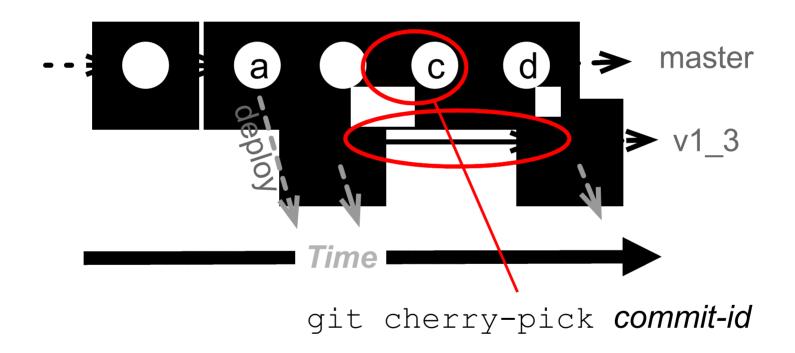
- creates tracking branch on remote repo
- Create a pull request, do code review, and merge into master in origin repo
- Switch back to master, and pull:

```
git checkout master git pull
```

Branches & Deployment

- Feature branches should be short-lived
 - otherwise, drift out of sync with master, and hard to reconcile
 - -git rebase can be used to "incrementally" merge
 - git cherry-pick can be used to merge only specific commits
- "Deploy from master" is most common

Release/bugfix branches and cherry-picking commits



Rationale: release branch is a stable place to do incremental bug fixes

Branch vs. Fork

- Git supports fork & pull collaboration model
- If you have push/admin access on repo:
 - branch: create branch in this repo
 - merge: fold branch changes into master (or into another branch)
 - Create a pull request from the branch for code review rather than folding changes to master
- If you don't:
 - fork: clone entire repo on GitHub to one that you can branch, push, etc.
 - Finalize your work on its own branch
 - pull request asks owner of original repo to pull specific commits from my forked repo

If separate sub-teams are assigned to work on *release bug fixes* and *new features*, you will need to use:

- Branch per release
- Branch per feature
- □ Branch per release + Branch per feature
- □ Any of these will work