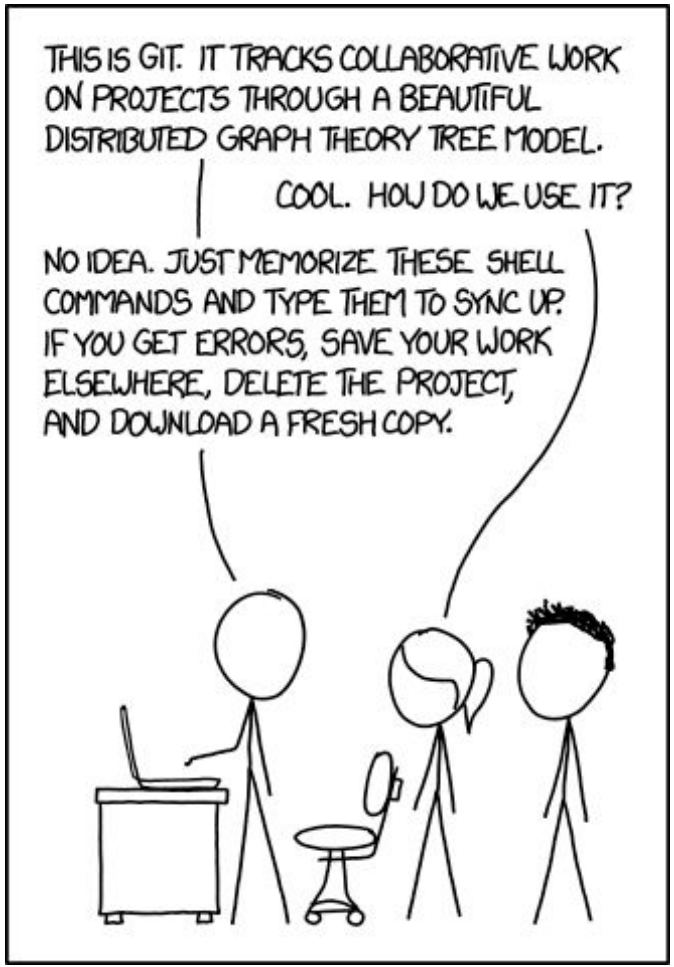
Git

Kameswari Chebrolu



https://xkcd.com/1597/

Motivation

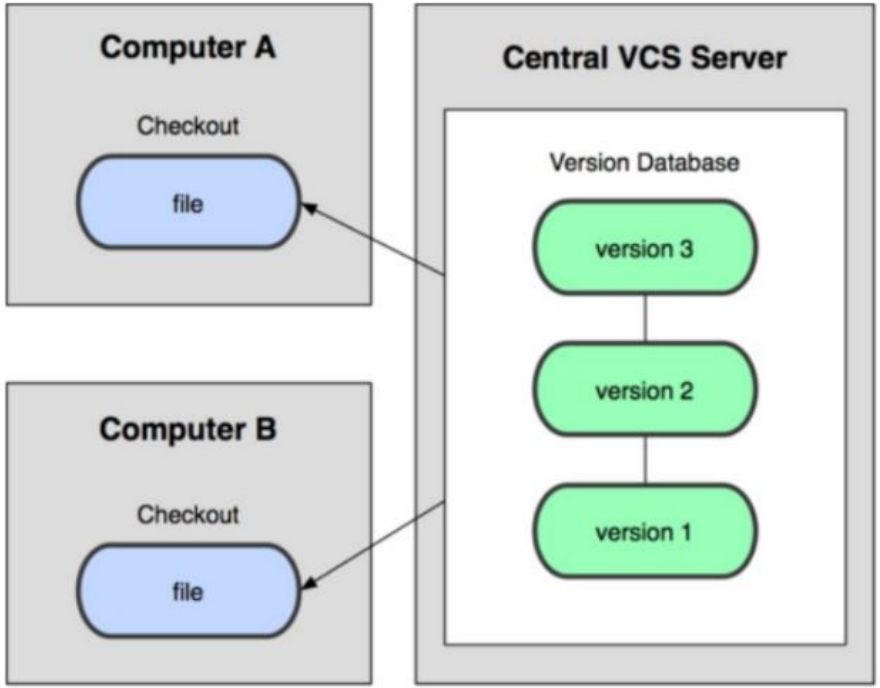
- You edit a file
- You change it some more
- And then some more…
- Darn!!! You messed up the file
- If only you know how the file changed!
  - Can revert to some older version and carry on from there

Version Management

- Version control: a system that records changes to (set of) files over time
  - Files can be code, scripts, documents, configuration files, data etc
- Roll-back functionality:
  - Mistakes happen! Can undo mistakes and go back to a working version
- Branching:
  - Can work on different issues/features in different branches (and discard branch if bad idea)
- Merging: Efficient collaboration
  - Different people can work on same code/project without interfering
- Traceability: who made the changes, and when and why the changes were made?

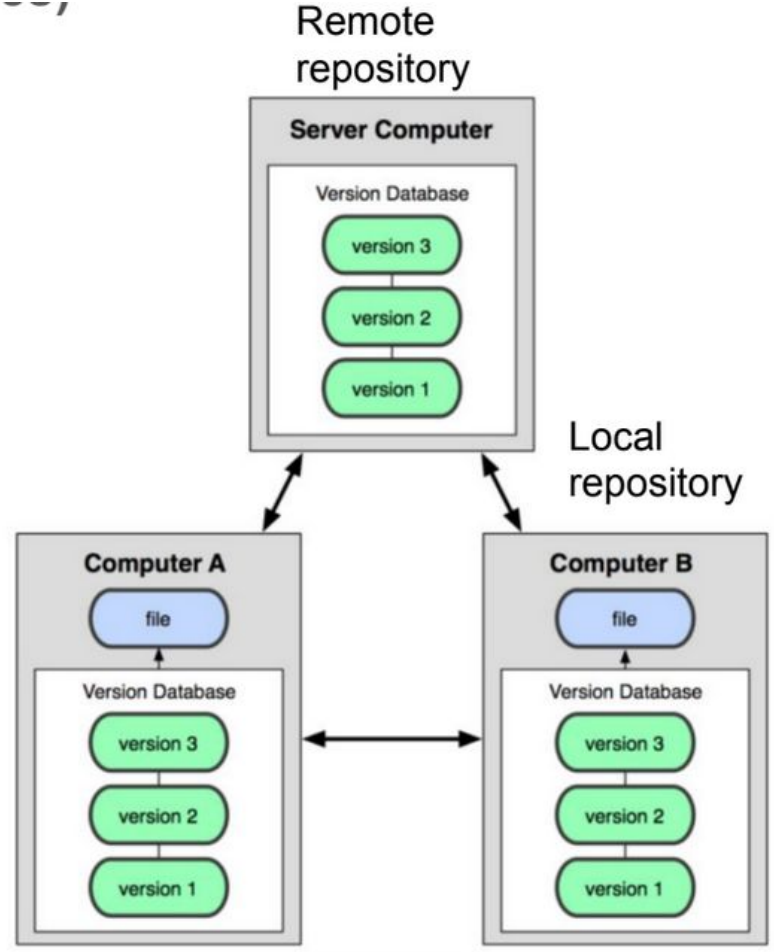
Centralized

- Example: cvs, svn
- Centralized server is vulnerable



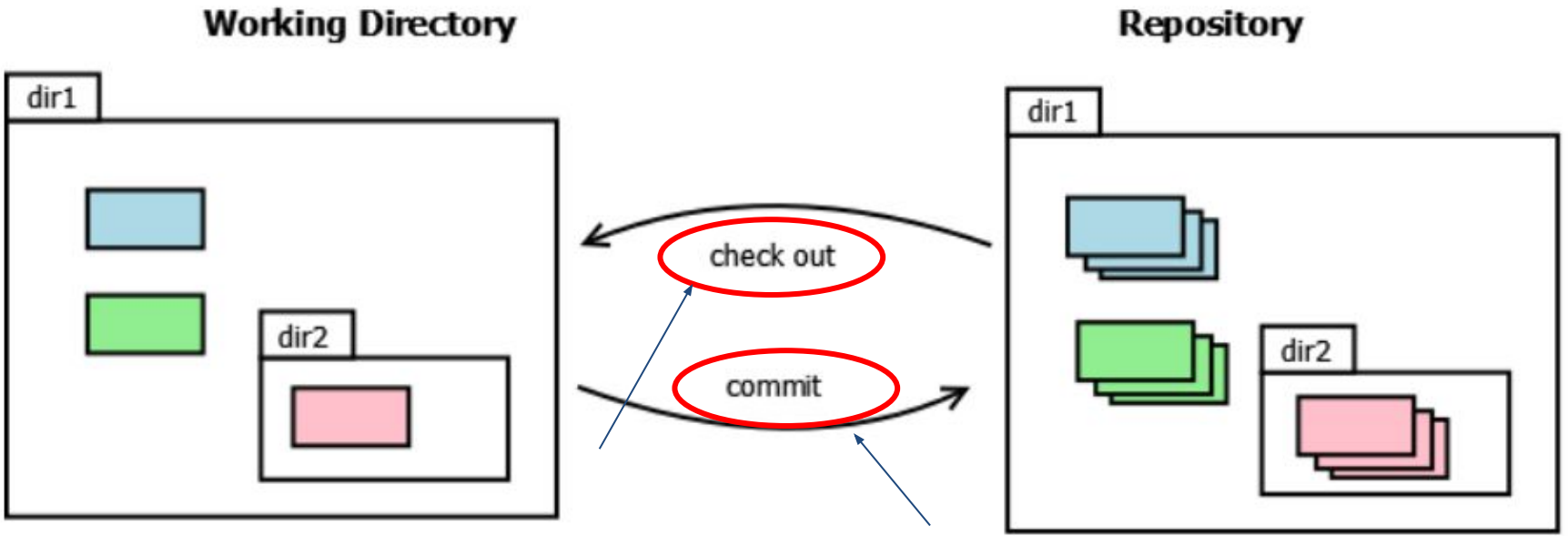
Distributed

- Example: git, Darcs
- Each client fully mirrors the repository.
  - If the server dies, any of the clients can help
  - User can interact with other users independent of central repo



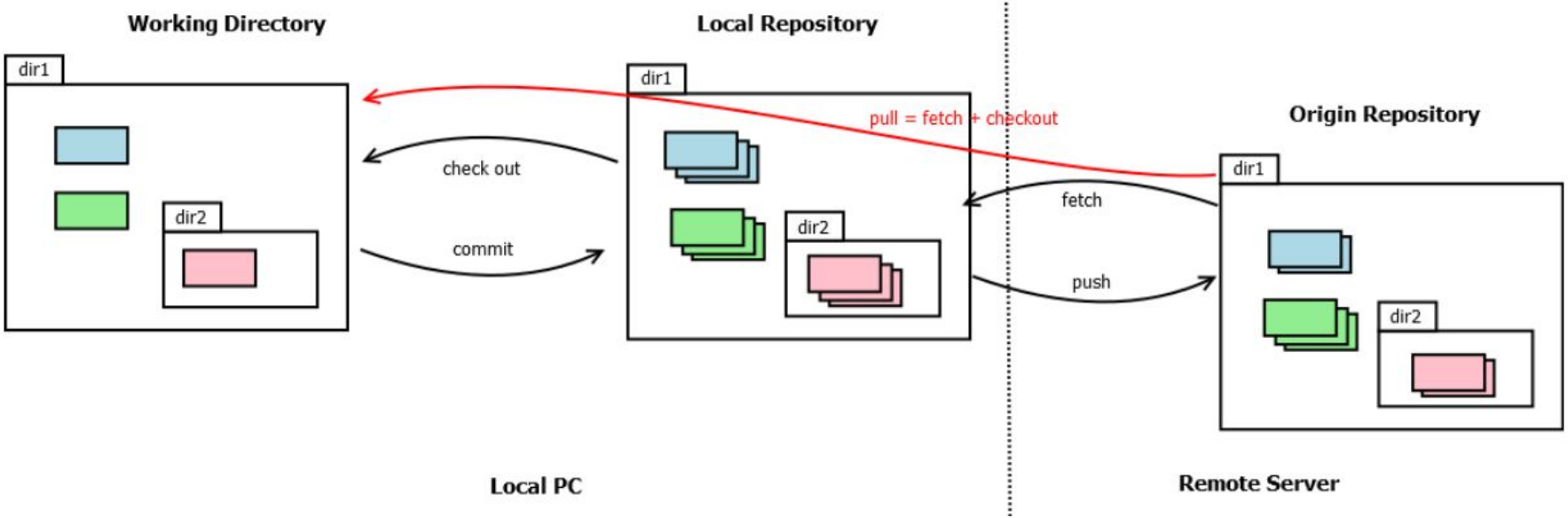
Repositories and Working Directory

- Repository: collection of versions of files
  - Tracks deleted and newly added files
  - Users do not, edit or even read files in the repo
- Working Directory: Current version of files
  - Users work on a copy of the files in their working directory



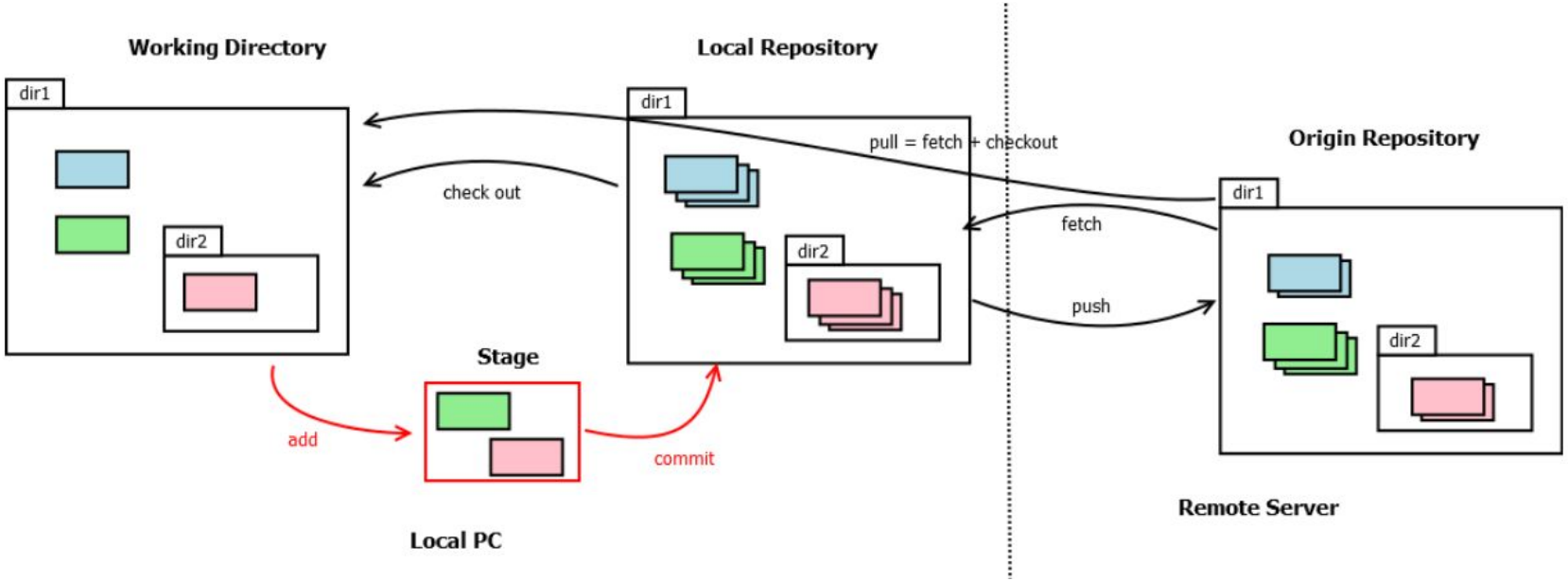
- Commit: send current contents of a file to the repository
  - current contents become a new version.
- Checkout: ask repository to give a copy of a version of a file

Git Architecture



- Local Repository: On local machine
- Origin repository: Remote for reliability
  - Many users will share origin
  - kept more or less in sync with local repository
- Push: push changes from our local repository to the origin
- Fetch: fetch changes anyone else may have made from the origin to our local repository
  - Fetching simply updates local repository
  - Need checkout for them to reflect in working directory.
- Pull: combines a fetch and a check out (most often used)
  - Changes reflect directly in working directory

Staging



- Commit/checkout/fetch/push/pull happen at directory level!
- What if we want to push some files, not all?
- Staging: We “add” files to stage and then commit from stage instead of the working directory

Origin

- Where is the origin repository?
- Any machine which supports SSH/HTTPS server will do
- Cloud Options: GitLab, GitHub, BitBucket, AWS Code Commit etc
  - A git hosting system with lots of additional features
  - E.g. project management, ticket management, bug tracking, access management etc

Creating a (local) git repository

- You can configure git via config
  - Username, email etc
  - E.g. git config --global user.name "kameswari chebrolu"
- “init” : Used to create a Git repository
  - git init
- After initialization, other files can be added

git status

- Tells current state of the repository
  - current working branch
  - what files are in staging area and not committed
  - what files are untracked etc
  - git status
- .gitignore file: helps specify files that git should ignore (even under untracked files)
  - E.g. temporary files (.o files)
  - These files won’t show in status

git add

- Add files to staging area
  - git add file1.txt file2.txt

git commit

- git commit: Commit the staged snapshot, launches a text editor for commit message
- git commit -a: Commit a snapshot of all changes in the working directory
  - But this only includes modifications to tracked files (those added with git add at some point in the past).
- git commit -m "commit message": shortcut to avoid editor
  - Use meaningful messages here, see xkcd comic :-)
  - Can also do git commit -am "commit message" (combines both)
- git commit --amend: modifies the last commit
  - Instead of creating a new commit, staged changes will be added to the previous commit

https://xkcd.com/1296/

Git log

git log
git log file1.txt (commit history of that file)

- A long hexadecimal number you see is the commit's hash, helps identify a commit
  - can use just 5 digits mostly in commands
- "HEAD" is a pointer to the most recent commit

git show

git show :filename
Example: git show :file1.txt
Shows the content of file1.txt in the staging area

git show commit:filename
Example: git show HEAD:file1.txt
Shows the content of file1.txt in HEAD

Example: git show 5b80ea8:file1.txt
Shows the content of file1.txt in the commit object 5b80ea8

- `create file.txt`

Working area	Staging area	Commit
`file.txt - v1`		

- `git add file.txt`

Working area	Staging area	Commit
`file.txt - v1`	`file.txt - v1`	

- `git commit -m "msg"`

Working area	Staging area	Commit
`file.txt - v1`	`file.txt - v1`	`file.txt - v1`

- `edit file.txt`

Working area	Staging area	Commit
`file.txt - v2`	`file.txt - v1`	`file.txt - v1`

- add `file.txt`

Working area	Staging area	Commit
`file.txt - v2`	`file.txt - v2`	`file.txt - v1`

- `edit file.txt`

Working area	Staging area	Commit
`file.txt - v3`	`file.txt - v2`	`file.txt - v1`

- `git commit -m "msg"`
  `git commit file.txt -m "msg"`

Working area	Staging area	Commit
`file.txt - v3`	`file.txt - v2`	`file.txt - v2`
`file.txt - v3`	`file.txt - v3`	`file.txt - v3`

git diff

git diff <commit>: shows the diff between the current working tree and the <commit>

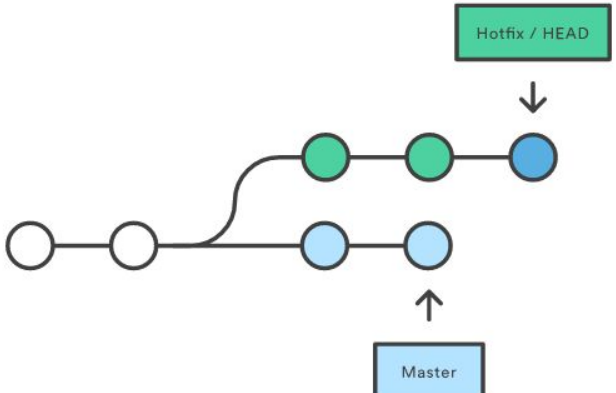
git diff --cached <commit>: shows the diff between your staged changes and the <commit>

Undoing Changes: checkout and commit

- You can move backwards in time by checking out an older commit.
  - git checkout commit-id
  - Will replace the contents of working directory by the contents of that older commit
  - Useful for "look but don't touch" way to explore the older code
  - Get back to most recent commit via git checkout main
- Ability to rollback individual files to old versions: git checkout commit-id path-to-a-file
  - Then can use git commit if you want everything else to use current and this file to be some older version
- Want to entirely abandon one or more commits and start working again from an earlier version?
  - git reset --hard commit-id
  - More on "reset" later, but use reset with caution

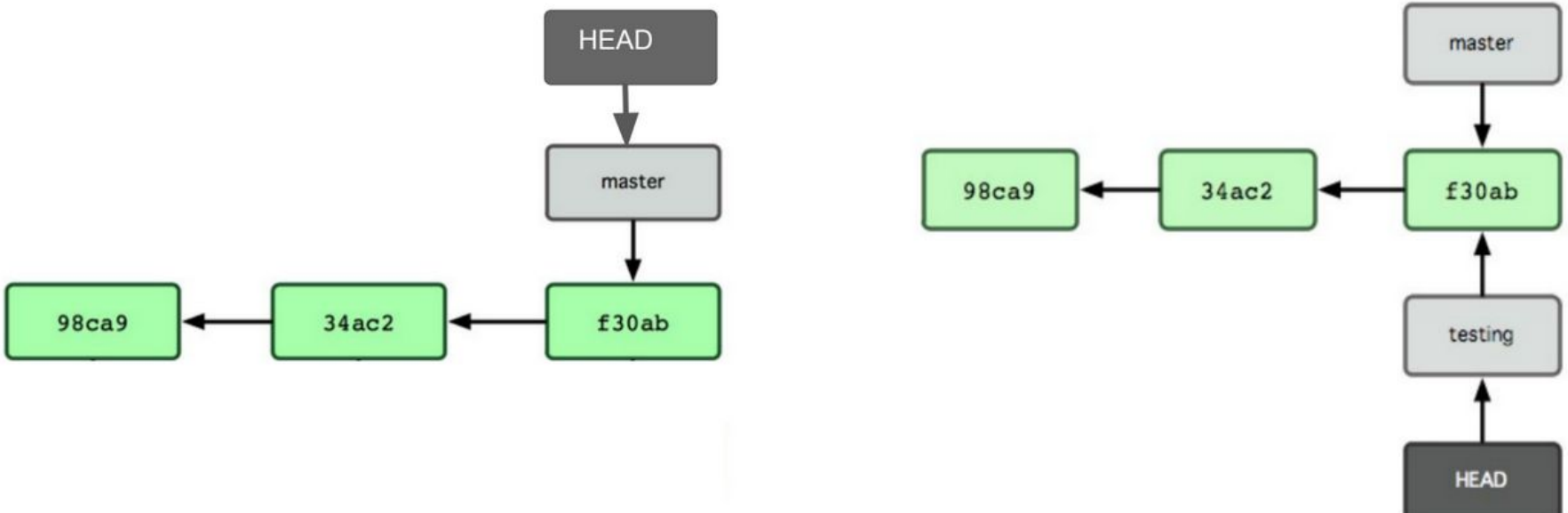
Branching

- Useful in solo projects, but critical in team projects
- So far, linear development; can move forward and backward
- What if you want to fix a bug (or try a feature), but don’t want to mess up the master?

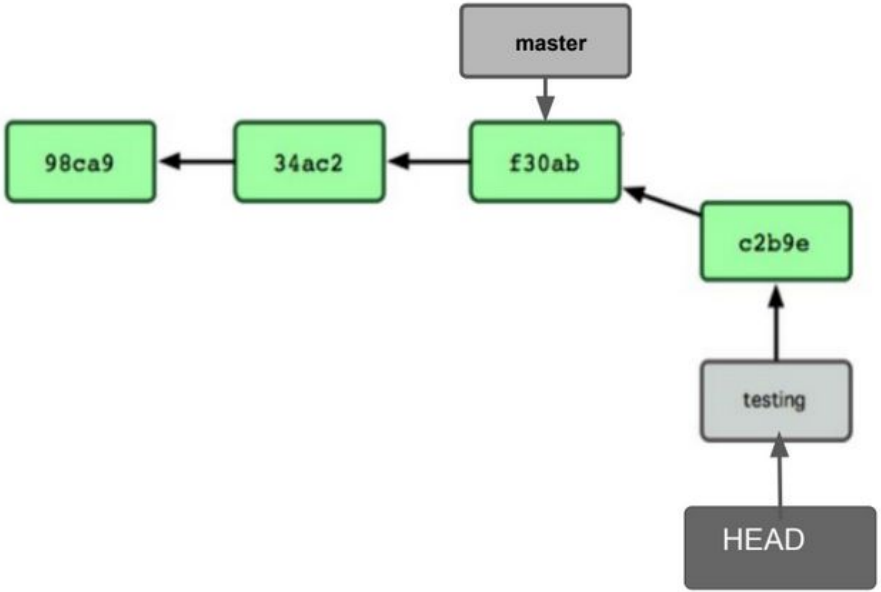


git branch/switch

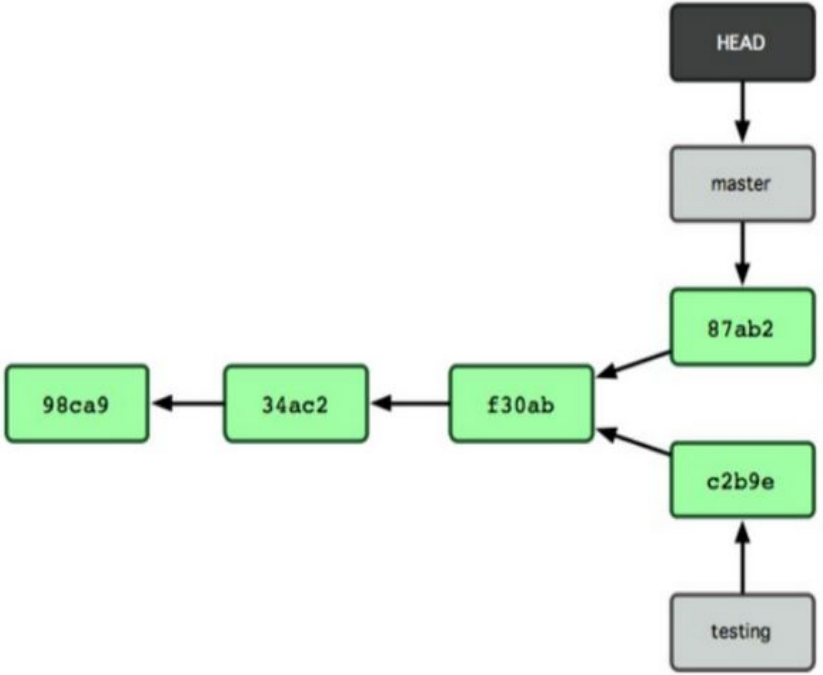
- git branch: List the branches
- git switch -c testing: create a new branch
  - “testing” is the name of this new branch



Development along testing

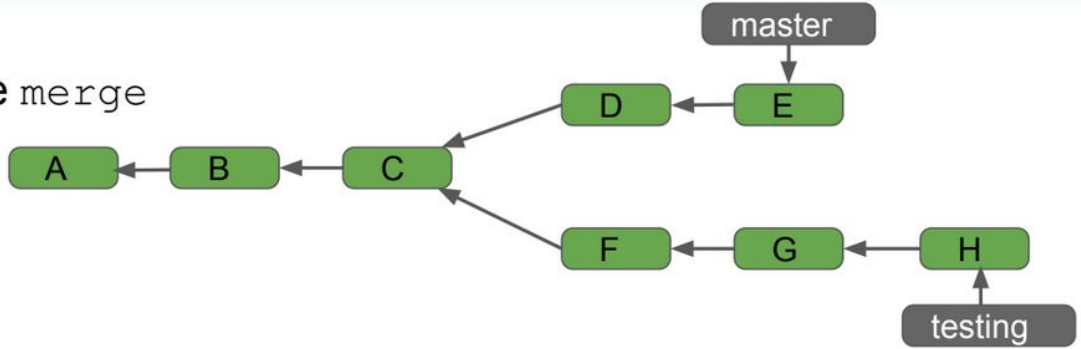


Separate development along master

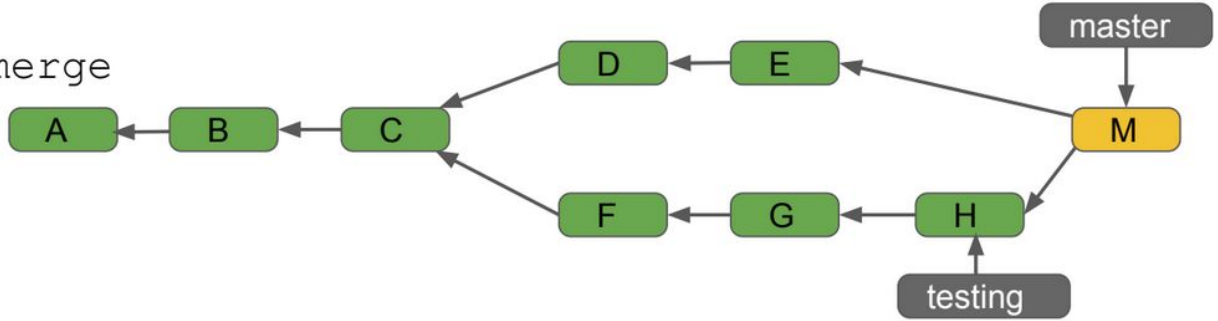


git merge

- Before `merge`



- After `merge`



- git checkout master (ensure you are in master branch; you want to merge testing into this)
- git merge -m "merging" testing (merge testing into master)
- Often this may result in a conflict, which you need to resolve.
  - After you resolve, you need to add and commit the files with conflict into master
- Note testing still exists and not affected by merge
  - git checkout testing

Reference

https://www.cs.odu.edu/~zeil/cs252/latest/Public/git/index.html

https://sillevl.gitbooks.io/git/content/advanced/reset-checkout-revert/ (advanced-reverting changes, not in syllabus)