Version Control: An Introduction

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A way to track changes to files.

Why?

- Keep working versions
- Going back
- Working with others

History

- Source Code Control System [SCCS] (1972)
- Revision Control System [RCS] (1982)

- Concurrent Version Systems [CVS] (1990)
- Subversion [SVN] (2000)

- Git [git] (2005)
- Mercurial [hg] (2005)

Git

- Distributed
- Linus Torvalds
- Popular

Interactive

- A demo of Git.

Not Just For Programmers

- Most benefit to programmers
- Time to learn
- Time to use
- Not necessary for completion

Not VC

- Assigning messages to bits of working code
- Backup != VC
- Automatic/accidental: backup
- Purposeful: version control

Yes
- Code
- Documents (LaTeX, MS Word)
- Guitar tabs
- Recordings

No
- TODO lists

"When in doubt, use version control."

GitHub and Gitlab

- Places to host Git repositories
- Free and open-source development

Resources

- try.github.io
- pcottle.github.io/learnGitBranching/
- git-scm.com/book (Pro Git)