

# **Working with Git and GitHub**



Be Boulder.

# Working with Git and GitHub

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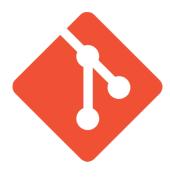


# Goals

- Convince you that basic Git/GitHub fluency is:
  - Easy
  - Practical
  - An extremely important tool in your tool belt!

# **Learning Goals**

- Understand the basics of version control
- Know the differences between Git and GitHub
- Learn basic Git fluency
- Know how to collaborate with Git







### **Outline**

- What is version control?
- Brief overview of Git and GitHub
- When not to use GitHub
- Creating your own repository locally
- Pushing local changes to GitHub
- Collaboration
- Documentation



# Have you set up Git/GitHub?

This is meant to be a mostly hands on tutorial. If you haven't yet, you may still be able to get everything set up in time on CURC resources:

https://github.com/ResearchComputing/intro to git github fall 23#gitgithub-homework



### What is version control?

Version control is the practice of tracking and managing changes to files.

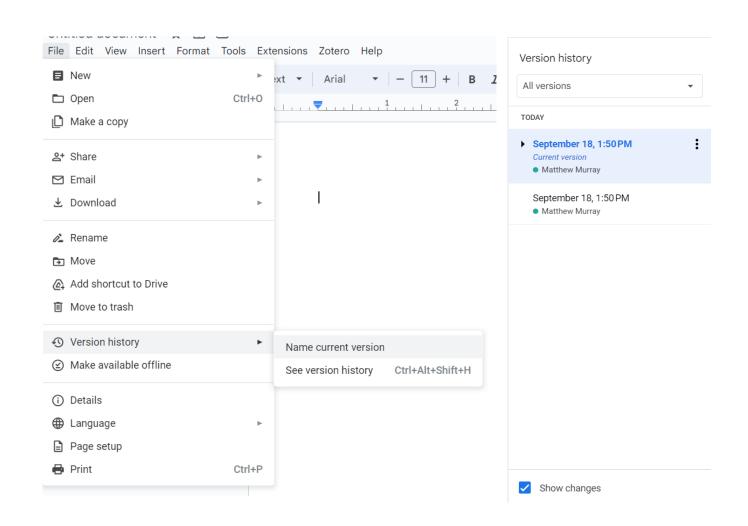
- Why do I need it?
  - Revert to various states of files
    - You can think of this as a backup
  - Allows you to modify items without harming the original copy
  - Not limited to code
    - Can be used for documents, images, etc.





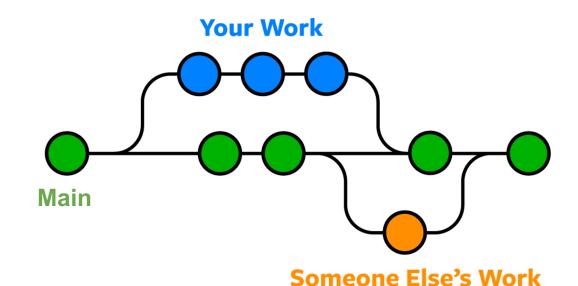
# What is version control?

- Google Docs includes "Version History"
- This allows you to see what changes were made, when those changes happened, and who made them
- You can also revert to a previous version of your file



### Additional benefits of version control

- Using version control provides
  - Clear tracking of the repo's history
  - Management and view of different branches (work)
  - Collaboration through merging of branches



Images: nobledesktop.com

**Be Boulder.** 



### Git vs GitHub

- Git: version control system
  - the actual software



cloud-based storage website







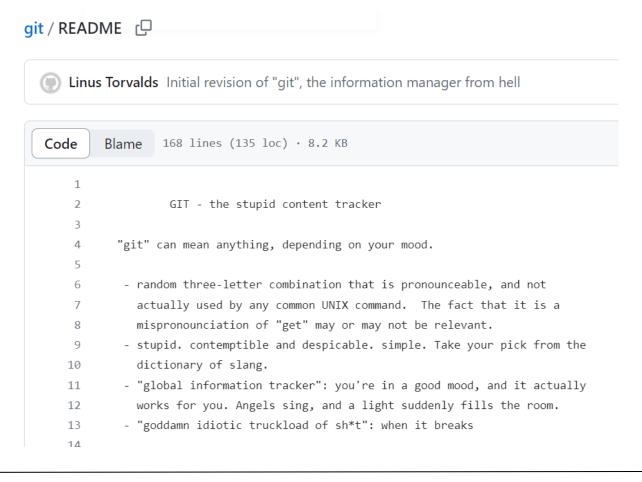
### What is Git?

- Git is version control software, created by Linus Torvalds, the same person who created the Linux operating system.
- Monitor files on your computer and tracks changes made to them over time
- Uses the command line



# Why is it called "Git"?

- Linus Torvalds: "I'm an egotistical bastard, and I name all my projects after myself. First 'Linux', now 'Git'".
- Git: "A silly, incompetent, stupid or annoying person (usually a man)." (Wikitionary)





### What is GitHub?

- GitHub is a Microsoft subsidiary that offers cloud hosting for Git repositories
- Provides a GUI (Graphical User Interface) for Git
  - Not all features are available in the GitHub Desktop client
- Allows for easy collaboration and sharing
  - Issue queues for bugs and features, pull requests, and more
- GitHub basic is free (up to 5GB of storage)
  - Hosts both open and private repositories
- GitHub Enterprise (free for CU affiliates)
  - Includes cloud-based development environments
  - https://oit.colorado.edu/services/business-services/github-enterprise





### **Alternatives to...**

- Git (version control)
  - Apache Subversion (SVN)
  - Mercurial SCM
  - CVS (Concurrent Versions System)
- GitHub (hosting)
  - GitLab
  - BitBucket
  - SourceForge



Images from Wikipedia



### When not to use GitHub

- When you are looking for long-term preservation
  - There's no guarantee Microsoft will keep GitHub around forever
  - Thousands of URLs for projects in Git Hosting Platforms in articles no longer work
- When you want your code to be cited
  - Zenodo is an Open Access repository that can be linked to GitHub
  - Allows you to archive a specific release of public GitHub projects
  - Creates a DOI for the archive that you can use in citations



Q

Zenodo.org will be unavailable for 2 hours on September 29th from 06:00-08:00 UTC. See announcement.

September 2, 2023

Software

Open Access

# PyGMT: A Python interface for the Generic Mapping Tools

(D) Tian, Dongdong; (D) Uieda, Leonardo; (D) Leong, Wei Ji; (D) Schlitzer, William; (D) Fröhlich, Yvonne; (D) Grund, Michael; (D) Jones, Max; (D) Toney, Liam; (D) Yao, Jiayuan; (D) Magen, Yohai; (D) Jing-Hui, Tong; (D) Materna, Kathryn; (D) Belem, Andre; (D) Newton, Tyler; (D) Anant, Abhishek; (D) Ziebarth, Malte; (D) Quinn, Jamie; (D) Wessel, Paul

PyGMT is a library for processing geospatial and geophysical data and making publication quality maps and figures. It provides a Pythonic interface for the Generic Mapping Tools (GMT), a command-line program widely used in the Earth Sciences.

The development of PyGMT has been supported by NSF grants OCE-1558403 and EAR-1948603.

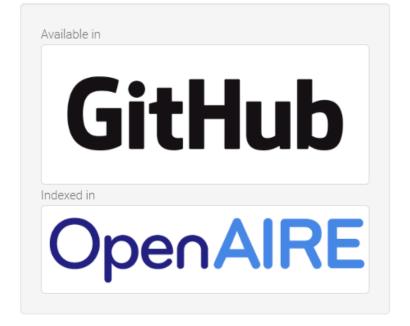
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#### Preview

#### baseline-images.zip

#### **baseline-images**

- test\_basemap.png
- test\_basemap\_compass.png
- test\_basemap\_loglog.png
- test\_basemap\_map\_scale.png
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#### Versions

 Version v0.10.0
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# Getting Started with Git (local)



# **Setting Git up locally**

Many systems have Git installed; however, you may need to download it on your local machine

See <a href="https://support.atlassian.com/bitbucket-cloud/docs/install-and-set-up-git">https://support.atlassian.com/bitbucket-cloud/docs/install-and-set-up-git</a> for more information

Today I am going to stick with using Git on a CURC login node





# Logging into RC via a Terminal

To login to an RC login node:

```
$ ssh <username>@login.rc.colorado.edu
```

- Supply your IdentiKey password and your Duo app will alert you to confirm the login
- Confirm Git has been configured (by you using the README)

```
$ git config --list
```



# **Hands on tutorial**

Goal: Create a simple project that contains a markdown file

First let's create a new directory for our project:

```
$ cd /projects/$USER
$ mkdir git-tutorial
$ cd git-tutotial
```



# Git Repository (Repo)

A Git repository tracks and saves the history of all changes made.

All of this information is stored in ".git", which is the repository folder

We can make a directory (folder) a Git repo using "git init"



# **Git Init**

In your "git-tutorial" directory run

```
$ git init
```

Git creates the "hidden" directory called ".git"

```
$ 1s -a
```

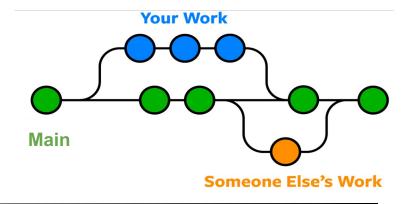
- Your directory is now a repo!
  - Git is now ready to to be used
  - Allows us to tell Git what items to watch



### Create the main branch

Now that we have a repo, we can create branches. Branches are a version of the repository.

- It is customary to name the primary branch "main"
- This can be done as follows (after an init)
  - \$ git checkout -b main
- You can switch between branches
  - \$ git checkout <branch-name>





# Let's add a file!

It is customary to add a README.md

Description of repo and any helpful information

To add a README.md, in "git-tutorial" create and edit the file using nano (or an editor of your choice)

- \$ nano README.md
- Add anything you would like!
- Be sure to save the file when you exit.



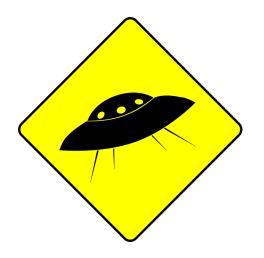






# Git does not know about README.md yet!!







### **Areas of Git Workflow**

#### Working Area

- Items that you are currently working on
- Are not tracked by Git!
- Exists locally

#### **Staging Area**

- When Git starts tracking and saving your work
- Exists locally
- Items are added to this area by using "git add"

#### **Snapshot Area**

- All staged items are captured
- Version of the repo
- Exists locally
- Items are added to this area by using "git commit"

#### <u>GitHub</u>

- Exists locally and on GitHub!
- Items are added to this area using "git push"

### **Git Status**

The git status command displays the state of the working and staging area.

Let's see what area README.md is in

- \$ git status
- We see it is an untracked file, so it is in the working area



What if you don't want Git to track something?



# .gitignore

We can add a file named ".gitignore" to our repo

 Specifies what items (files, directories, etc.) should never be tracked

Let's create a file to ignore!

```
$ echo "Super secret stuff" > confidential_data.txt
```

Add ".gitignore" to "git-tutorial" and put "confidential\_data.txt" in it

```
$ echo confidential_data.txt > .gitignore
```



Let's add our files to the staging area now!



# **Git Add**

The git add command adds a change in the working area to the staging area

Let's add our README.md to the staging area

```
$ git add README.md
```

or add everything in the current directory

```
$ git add .
```

Anytime a change is made, you need to do a git add (to track them)







### **Git Commit**

The git commit command captures a snapshot of all staged items

- Commits can be thought of as a version of the repo
- Commits should be accompanied with a brief message

#### Let's commit our staged item!

- \$ git commit -m 'Create repo, add README.md, add .gitignore'
- \$ git status





# Common practice – add, commit

- git add
  - Can be performed as much as you want
  - Doesn't need to be done after every change
- git commit
  - Always include a comment!!
  - Bundle common staged items together
  - Try not to put too many things in a commit



# Git Log

The command git log lists the commits made in that repository

- Lists the most recent commits first
  - \$ git log

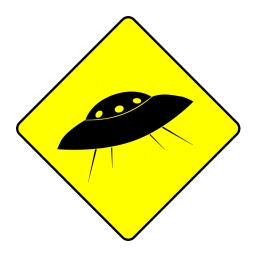






All changes and files are only locally stored right now!







# To GitHub we go!



## **GitHub**

When you first create a repo locally, you will need to setup a new repository on GitHub too

- Go to <a href="https://github.com">https://github.com</a>
- Sign in
- Click on "Create New Repository" or just "New"

**Recent Repositories** 



Find a repository...





## **Create Repo in GitHub**

- Name your repo, I chose "git-tutorial"
- Don't add a README or a .gitignore
- Click "Create repository"
- We have set everything up in the previous slides, we only need to copy the ssh link!







# Linking local repo to GitHub repo



#### **Git Remote**

- Used to identify the remote (e.g. GitHub) repos are linked to your local repo
- Used to link remote repos to your local repo

#### To view currently linked remote repos:

```
$ git remote -v
```

#### To link our remote repository:

```
$ git remote add origin git@github.com:<user>/git-tutorial.git
```



## Sending local changes to GitHub



#### **Git Push**

#### Uploads local repository content to a remote repository

- Pushing is how you transfer commits from your local repo to a remote repo
  - \$ git push <name of remote repo> <branch>
  - \$ git push origin main





## **GitHub**

- Go back to GitHub and refresh your page
  - should see the files we have added (and not the ones we've ignored)
- Some cool features!
  - look at our commits
  - directly edit/commit in the browser
- Let's do that! Let's something and commit it on GitHub
  - But now our remote repo is one commit ahead of our local one...





## Git Fetch & Merge

- Git fetch retrieves the changes from the remote repo
  - \$ git fetch
- Git merge combines two branches
  - \$ git merge origin/main

#### There's an easier way!



## **Git Pull**

#### Git pull combines the fetch and merge commands

```
$ git pull <name of remote repo> <branch>
$ git pull origin main
```

#### <u>IMPORTANT!</u>

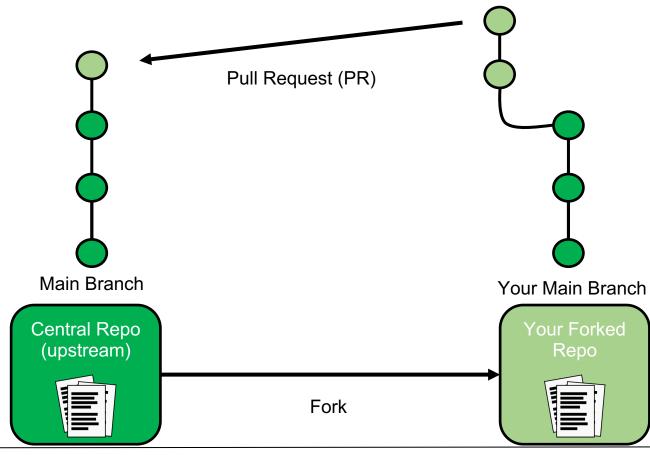
- Make sure no commits have been done on local branch
- It is fine to have staged items (git add)
- ALWAYS do git pull before any commits!



# Advanced topic (time permitting): Collaboration



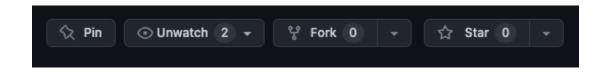
## **GitHub Forks**





#### **GitHub Forks**

- Improves collaboration
  - Don't have to worry about disturbing the upstream repo
  - Improves transparency through pull requests
- Go ahead and Fork my repo:
  - Go to <a href="https://github.com/b-reyes/git-tutorial">https://github.com/b-reyes/git-tutorial</a>
  - Click "Fork" button
  - Click "Create fork"
- Creates your own version of my repo under your GitHub





## **Git Clone**

• Git clone makes a clone (or copy) of a remote repo in a new directory, at another location.

```
$ git clone <url> <optional new name>
```

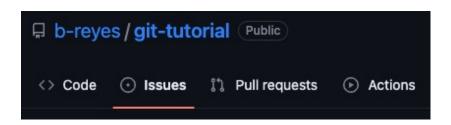
 Easy way to grab third-party code, or pre-existing code you might need to work on

```
$ cd /projects/$USER
$ git clone git@github.com:<user>/git-tutorial.git
```



#### **GitHub Issues**

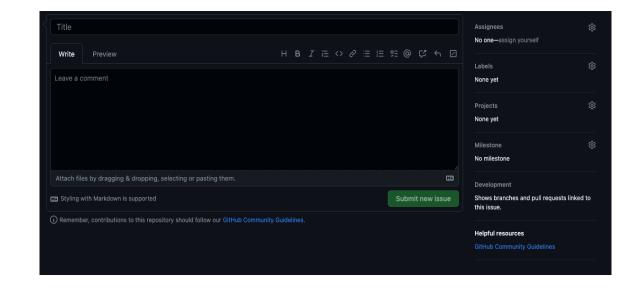
- Allows you to discuss the project
- · Point out issues, request features, ask for help
- Useful place to see past user discussion





#### **GitHub Issues**

- Include as much detail as possible
  - Version of software
  - Operating system
- Provide a simple minimal example, if possible
- If a feature request
  - Outline possible implementation
  - Highlight its value





# Pull Requests (PRs)

- A request that an upstream repo pull your branch into their branch
- Starting a PR does not automatically merge changes
  - Notifies maintainers of upstream repo
  - Allows maintainers to review your changes
    - Discussion of changes
    - Requested additional changes
- Maintainers of upstream repo merge in the changes





## PR steps

- Fork upstream repo
- 2. Clone the forked repo
- 3. Connect forked and cloned repo to upstream repo

```
$ git remote add upstream git@github.com:b-reyes/git-tutorial.git
```

4. Create a new branch specific to your change

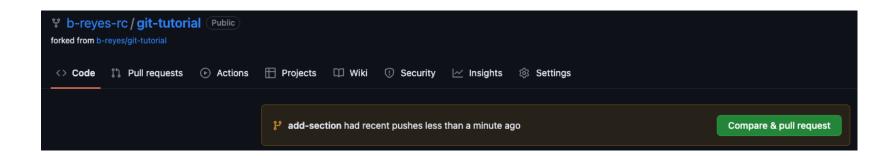
```
$ git checkout -b <new-branch> <branch-to-copy>
```

- 5. Make your changes on this branch
- 6. Perform a git add, commit, and push to origin
- Create a PR from GitHub



# Creating a PR

- After you push your changes to the forked repo, you can click the pop-up "Compare & pull request" on GitHub
  - Will disappear after some time

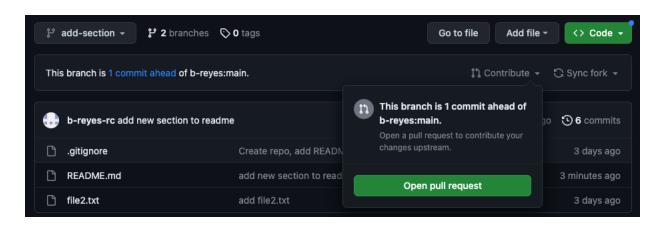






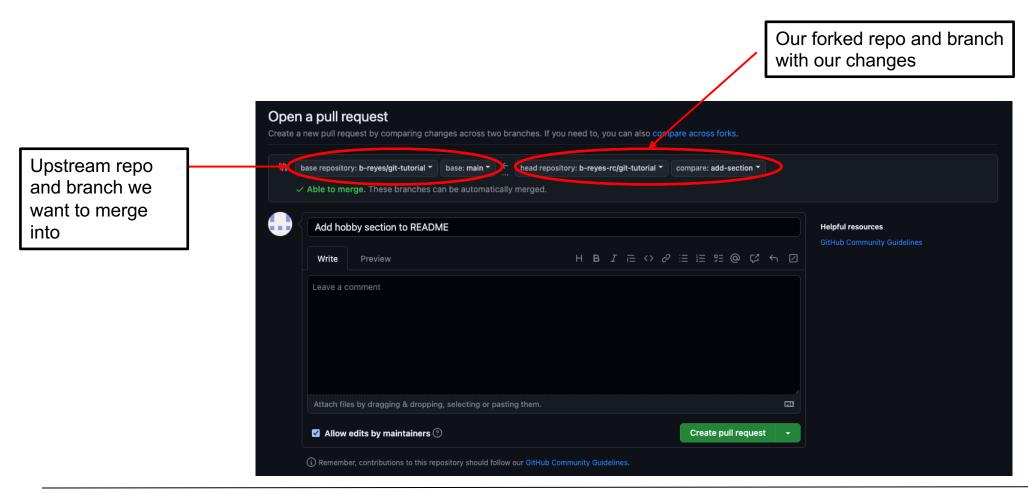
# Creating a PR

- After you push your changes to the forked repo
  - 1. Switch to your new branch
  - Click the drop-down arrow next to "Contribute"
  - 3. Click "Open pull request"
- Will NOT disappear!





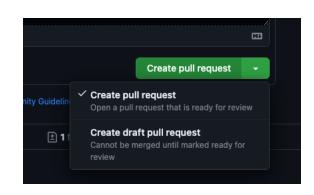
# **Creating a PR**





## **Pull Requests – Best Practice**

- Create a new feature branch of forked repo
- When submitting a PR
  - Provide a short descriptive title
  - In comment section
    - Link to any current issue
    - Describe what the PR does and reasons for it
- Draft pull requests
  - PR is a work in progress
  - Can be used for discussion







# Merging

- When doing a "git pull" you are merging in changes
- This process can be done manually
- When collaborating, multiple individuals can be working on the same item
  - Conflicts can happen!
- One needs to manually resolve conflicts
- Fantastic tutorial on merging:

https://www.atlassian.com/git/tutorials/using-branches/git-merge





# Help! I'm stuck, where do I go?

- Trainings with Center for Research Data and Digital Scholarship (CRDDS): <a href="https://www.colorado.edu/crdds/">https://www.colorado.edu/crdds/</a>
- Software Carpentries tutorial: <a href="https://swcarpentry.github.io/git-novice/index.html">https://swcarpentry.github.io/git-novice/index.html</a>
- GitHub Student Developer Pack: <a href="https://education.github.com/pack">https://education.github.com/pack</a>
- <u>Helpdesk</u>: <u>rc-help@colorado.edu</u>

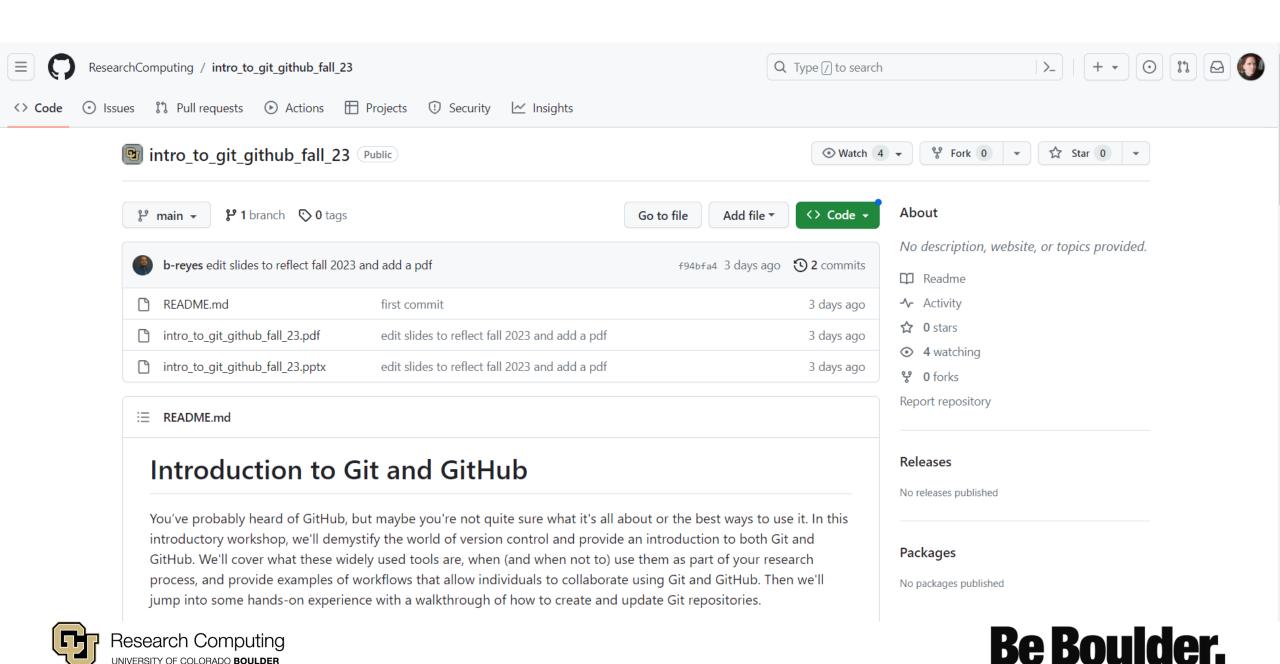




## **Best Practices: Documentation**

- Include documentation with your project in GitHub so that others (and you) know what your project is and how it should be used.
- A README.md (markdown) file can be included in your GitHub project and will display on the front page
- What to include in a README:
  - What your project does
  - How people can use it
  - Who you are and how to contact you
  - License information
- Lots of examples and templates available





## Thank you!!

Survey: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/curc-survey18">http://tinyurl.com/curc-survey18</a>

