

January 2021

### Professional Development Proposal

The professional development task I choose is to learn how to set up and use Git and GitHub to collaborate with others. And if everything goes smoothly, I would like to learn to create and host a personal site on GitHub if time permitted. Following I would make a specific schedule of what I plan to complete with target due dates.

Before February 1<sup>st</sup>, I will have Git set up in the computer and learn the basic commands used in Git and understand the mechanism of version control. This involves how to connect the local end to the remote end, which is the necessary technical background before trying to collaborate on a project through Git.

Then in the next two weeks (before February 15<sup>th</sup>), I will create an example repository and try the basic operations such as clone, commit, push, pull with some students. This practical experience would be helpful to get familiar with the collaboration process using Git.

Then in the second half of February (before March 1<sup>st</sup>), I will learn some more advanced features of Git. For example, it might include how to create different branches in the repository and how to solve conflicts between different commits. This would be helpful to the following collaboration in practice, in case of additional requirements and problems encountered.

In March (before the final project is released), I will review the previous knowledge about Git and get the confusions clear if any. I will also keep learning additional tools that I find useful during the learning process. If all the tasks are done successfully, then I will learn to set up a personal site on GitHub. This involves using the tools like GitHub Pages and Jekyll. This skill provides a good way to present ideas online and communicate with others.

Finally, after the final project is released, I will create a repository for the project on GitHub and collaborate on it with my groupmates (supposed to be set private in group). I will apply the skills learned before to make the collaborating process comfortable and successful. The most efficient way to consolidate the skills is to work on a real project using Git/GitHub.

As above, I have divided the professional development goal into specific tasks in different time periods. The learning tasks are not simple, and I have made the time in March flexible enough in case of any difficulty, so they are still reasonable to complete. The measure of the learning outcome will include two parts: completion of an online Git tutorial during the first learning period and completion of the final project. The measure will depend on the quality of the work.

The professional development goal of learning Git, GitHub and how to set up a personal site using Jekyll and GitHub Pages is very helpful for the future development. No matter in university or at work, Git/GitHub is widely used for collaboration and it contains quite a lot of useful resources. It is of great significance to know how to use it as a powerful tool and interchange ideas on the platform.