

DEVOPS - GIT AND VERSION CONTROL SYSTEM

PROBLEM 1: SHARING CODE

Scenario:

- Dev 1 and Dev 2 are working on the same application
- Dev 1 is writing addition functionality for calculator
- Dev 2 is writing subtraction functionality for calculator
- End of the day, we have to get both their codes and build a centralized application

Problem: This is a very basic application, but when we work on complex applications with thousands of lines of code and multiple developers, sharing code becomes very complex and practically impossible without a proper system.

Challenges:

- How to merge different developers' code?
 - What if both developers modified the same file?
 - How to track who made what changes?
 - How to avoid code conflicts?
 - How to maintain a single source of truth?
-

PROBLEM 2: VERSIONING

Scenario:

Day 1: Dev 1 writes a function for addition of 2 numbers:

```
function add(a, b) {  
    return a + b;  
}
```

Day 2: Manager tells Dev 1 to change it to addition of 3 numbers:

```
function add(a, b, c) {
```

```
    return a + b + c;  
}
```

Day 3: Manager tells Dev 1 to change it to addition of 4 numbers:

```
function add(a, b, c, d) {  
    return a + b + c + d;  
}
```

Day 4: Code went to QA, discussions were made, and manager says: "Go back to the code where there is addition of 2 numbers"

Problem: Without proper versioning, Dev 1 has to:

- Remember the old code
- Manually rewrite it
- Hope they didn't forget anything
- Risk losing work

Solution: We need very strong versioning to go back to that specific piece of code easily!

VERSION CONTROL SYSTEMS (VCS)

Definition: A system that records changes to files over time so you can recall specific versions later.

Types:

1. Centralized Version Control System (CVCS)
 2. Distributed Version Control System (DVCS)
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CENTRALIZED VERSION CONTROL SYSTEM (CVCS)

Examples: CVS, SVN (Subversion), Perforce

Architecture:

Central Server (SVN) is at the top

Dev 1 and Dev 2 connect to it from below

HOW CVCS WORKS (Scenario 1)

Setup:

- Dev 1 is writing addition functionality
- Dev 2 is writing subtraction functionality
- Both communicate with central SVN server

Workflow:

Step 1: Dev 1 wants to share addition functionality with Dev 2 Dev 1 uploads code to Central SVN Server

Step 2: Dev 2 gets the code Dev 2 downloads code from Central SVN Server

Note: All communication happens through the central server!

PROBLEMS WITH CVCS

Problem 1: Single Point of Failure

If Central SVN Server goes down:

- Dev 1 CANNOT share code
- Dev 2 CANNOT get code
- Work STOPS completely

Problem 2: Network Dependency

- Need internet connection to commit changes
- Slow operations over network
- Can't work offline

Problem 3: Limited Backup

- Only one central copy
- If server crashes and backups fail, all history lost

Problem 4: Collaboration Issues

- Must always communicate through central server
 - Can't directly share code between developers
-

DISTRIBUTED VERSION CONTROL SYSTEM (DVCS)

Examples: Git, Mercurial

Why Git is Very Popular? Git is a distributed version control system which solves all problems of centralized systems!

HOW DVCS WORKS (Scenario 2)

Architecture:

Original Repository (GitHub/GitLab) at the top

Dev 1 and Dev 2 below it

Each developer has their own Copy 1 and Copy 2

Both copies contain the full repository

GIT WORKFLOW EXPLAINED

Step 1: Dev 1 creates changes Dev 1 makes changes, then commits locally, and has full repository history

Step 2: Multiple sharing options

Option A: Share via distributed system (GitHub) Dev 1 pushes to GitHub, then Dev 2 pulls from GitHub

Option B: Dev 1 creates copy (Fork) Dev 1 creates fork (Copy 1), then Dev 2 gets Copy 1

Option C: Direct sharing Dev 1 shares their local copy, then Dev 2 gets it

KEY CONCEPT: FORK (Important Interview Question)

What is Fork? Fork means we are creating a copy of the entire original source code.

Example:

- Original repository: example.com organization repo
- Dev 1 creates fork: dev1-example.com
- All the code is now present with Dev 1

Benefit: If the central repository goes down, Dev 1's copy can be shared with other developers. This is the major benefit of distributed version control system.

ADVANTAGES OF DISTRIBUTED VCS (Git)

Advantage 1: No Single Point of Failure

If GitHub goes down:

- Dev 1 still has full copy
- Dev 2 still has full copy
- Work CONTINUES

Advantage 2: Full History Locally

- Every developer has complete repository history
- Can work offline
- Fast operations (no network needed)

Advantage 3: Multiple Backup Copies

- Every clone is a backup
- If one copy is lost, others remain

Advantage 4: Flexible Workflows

- Can work independently
- Merge changes when ready
- Branch and experiment safely

Advantage 5: Better Collaboration

- Can share directly between developers
 - Pull requests for code review
 - Fork and contribute to open source
-

GIT VS GITHUB

Git:

- Open source version control tool

- Command-line tool
- Installed locally on your machine
- Core functionality: version control

GitHub:

- Web-based platform built on top of Git
 - Provides additional features
 - Cloud-based repository hosting
 - Not the only option (GitLab, Bitbucket also available)
-

DETAILED COMPARISON

Aspect: Type

- Git: Software tool
- GitHub: Web service

Aspect: Installation

- Git: Install on local machine
- GitHub: Cloud-based, no installation

Aspect: Purpose

- Git: Version control
- GitHub: Repository hosting + extras

Aspect: Cost

- Git: Free, open source
- GitHub: Free for public repos, paid for private

Aspect: Offline

- Git: Works offline
- GitHub: Requires internet

Aspect: Interface

- Git: Command line
- GitHub: Web UI + command line

Aspect: Features

- Git: Version control only
 - GitHub: Project management, code review, CI/CD, issues, wikis
-

ANALOGY

Git = Microsoft Word

- Software you install
- Create and edit documents locally

GitHub = Google Drive

- Online platform
 - Store documents
 - Share with others
 - Collaborate
-

GIT ALTERNATIVES WITH ADDITIONAL FEATURES

1. GitHub

- Most popular
- Owned by Microsoft
- Best for open source
- GitHub Actions for CI/CD

2. GitLab

- Self-hosted option available
- Built-in CI/CD
- Better for enterprises

3. Bitbucket

- Owned by Atlassian
- Integrates with Jira
- Good for enterprise teams

All these are solutions on top of Git that help with:

- Project management
 - Code review
 - Commenting
 - Pull requests
 - Issue tracking
 - CI/CD pipelines
 - Other usability features
-

PRACTICAL GIT COMMANDS - HANDS-ON TUTORIAL

STEP 1: CREATE PROJECT DIRECTORY

Open Git Bash on Desktop

Command: `mkdir example.com`

Explanation:

- `mkdir`: Create directory
- `example.com`: Your project folder name

Verify: `ls`

You should see `example.com` folder.

STEP 2: NAVIGATE TO PROJECT

Command: `cd example.com`

Explanation:

- `cd`: Change directory
 - Now you're inside `example.com` folder
-

STEP 3: CREATE A FILE

Command: `vi calculator.sh`

Inside the file, write: x=a+b

Save and exit: Esc + :wq!

Verify file creation: ls

You should see calculator.sh

STEP 4: INITIALIZE GIT REPOSITORY

Command: git init

Output: Initialized empty Git repository in /path/to/example.com/.git/

Explanation:

- git init: Initialize a new Git repository
 - Creates a hidden .git folder
 - This folder contains all Git history and configuration
-

STEP 5: VERIFY .git FOLDER

Command: ls -la

Explanation:

- ls: List files
- -la: Show all files (including hidden) with details

Output:

drwxr-xr-x .

drwxr-xr-x ..

drwxr-xr-x .git

-rw-r--r-- calculator.sh

You can see .git folder!

CRITICAL NOTE: If we delete this .git folder, then our entire folder will NOT be watched by Git anymore. All history will be lost!

STEP 6: EXPLORE .git FOLDER

Command: ls .git

Output:

config

description

HEAD

hooks/

info/

objects/

refs/

UNDERSTANDING .git FOLDER STRUCTURE

1. objects/ folder:

- Contains all the content for your repository
- Basically all that you create inside your repo
- Stores commits, trees, blobs

2. hooks/ folder:

- Contains scripts that run automatically on certain Git events
- Used to prevent commit of API tokens, secrets, sensitive data
- Example: pre-commit hook to check code quality

3. config file:

- Used for configuring credentials
- Store secrets
- TLS certificates
- Remote repository URLs
- User settings

4. refs/ folder:

- Contains pointers to commits (branches, tags)
- refs/heads/ contains local branches

- refs/remotes/ contains remote branches

5. HEAD file:

- Points to current branch
 - Tells Git which branch you're on
-

STEP 7: CHECK GIT STATUS

Command: git status

Output:

On branch master

No commits yet

Untracked files:

(use "git add <file>..." to include in what will be committed)

calculator.sh

nothing added to commit but untracked files present (use "git add" to track)

UNDERSTANDING GIT STATUS

git status command: Used to see the number of tracked and untracked files.

Untracked files:

- Shown in RED color
- Git is not watching these files
- Changes won't be saved

Tracked files:

- Shown in GREEN color
- Git is watching these files
- Changes will be saved on commit

STEP 8: ADD FILE TO STAGING (TRACK FILE)

Command: git add calculator.sh

Explanation:

- git add: Stages file for commit
- calculator.sh: File to track
- Now Git will watch this file

Verify: git status

Output:

On branch master

No commits yet

Changes to be committed:

(use "git rm --cached <file>..." to unstage)

new file: calculator.sh

Now calculator.sh is in GREEN color, indicating it has been tracked by Git!

STEP 9: MODIFY THE FILE

Open calculator.sh again: vi calculator.sh

Change content to:

x=a+b

y=a*b

Save and exit

STEP 10: CHECK STATUS AFTER MODIFICATION

Command: git status

Output:

On branch master

No commits yet

Changes to be committed:

(use "git rm --cached <file>..." to unstage)

new file: calculator.sh

Changes not staged for commit:

(use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)

(use "git restore <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)

modified: calculator.sh

UNDERSTANDING THE OUTPUT

Two sections:

1. Changes to be committed (GREEN): new file: calculator.sh

This is the original version that was added earlier.

2. Changes not staged for commit (RED): modified: calculator.sh

This is the new modification that hasn't been staged yet.

Git shows:

- File is tracked
 - But changes are not staged for commit
 - Need to add again to stage new changes
-

STEP 11: SEE EXACT CHANGES

Command: git diff

Output:

```
diff --git a/calculator.sh b/calculator.sh
```

```
index abc123..def456 100644
```

```
--- a/calculator.sh
```

```
+++ b/calculator.sh
```

```
@@@ -1 +1,2 @@
```

```
x=a+b
```

```
+y=a*b
```

Explanation:

- Minus sign (-): Lines removed
- Plus sign (+): Lines added
- Shows exact changes made to the file

git diff shows the exact changes that have been made in the file.

STEP 12: RESET FILE TO PREVIOUS VERSION

Restore original content: vi calculator.sh

Change back to: x=a+b

Save and exit

STEP 13: CHECK STATUS AGAIN

Command: git status

Output:

On branch master

No commits yet

Changes to be committed:

(use "git rm --cached <file>..." to unstage)

new file: calculator.sh

Now everything is tracked by Git, all in GREEN.

STEP 14: COMMIT CHANGES (CREATE VERSION 1)

Command: git commit -m "This is my first version of addition"

Explanation:

- git commit: Save the current state
- -m: Message flag
- "This is my first version of addition": Commit message describing changes

Output:

[master (root-commit) abc1234] This is my first version of addition

1 file changed, 1 insertion(+)

create mode 100644 calculator.sh

UNDERSTANDING GIT COMMIT

What is a commit? A commit is a snapshot of your code at a specific point in time.

Why commit? We have to keep track of the versioning or the changes every time. This is done with the help of git commit command.

Commit = Save point in a video game

- You can always go back to this save point
 - You can see what changed since last save
 - You can compare different save points
-

STEP 15: CHECK STATUS AFTER COMMIT

Command: git status

Output:

On branch master

nothing to commit, working tree clean

Explanation:

- nothing to commit: All changes are saved

- working tree clean: No new modifications
 - Everything is up to date!
-

STEP 16: MODIFY FILE AGAIN (VERSION 2)

Open file: vi calculator.sh

Change content to:

x=a+b

y=a-b

Save and exit

STEP 17: CHECK STATUS

Command: git status

Output:

On branch master

Changes not staged for commit:

(use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)

(use "git restore <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)

modified: calculator.sh

no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")

calculator.sh is now in RED, indicating changes are not staged.

HOW DOES GIT UNDERSTAND ALL OF THIS?

Answer: Git is keeping track of all of this with the help of the .git folder which we learned about previously.

What Git tracks:

- Every file content
- Every change made

- When changes were made
- Who made changes
- Commit history
- Branches
- Remote repository information

All stored in .git folder!

STEP 18: STAGE NEW CHANGES

Command: git add calculator.sh

Check status: git status

Output:

On branch master

Changes to be committed:

(use "git restore --staged <file>..." to unstage)

modified: calculator.sh

Everything is now in GREEN, so Git is tracking our new modified code.

STEP 19: COMMIT VERSION 2

Command: git commit -m "This is my second version with subtraction"

Output:

[master def5678] This is my second version with subtraction

1 file changed, 1 insertion(+)

STEP 20: VIEW COMMIT HISTORY

Command: git log

Output:

commit def567890abcdef (HEAD -> master)

Author: Sushmita Hubli <sushmita@example.com>

Date: Wed Nov 6 15:30:45 2024 +0530

This is my second version with subtraction

commit abc123456789abc

Author: Sushmita Hubli <sushmita@example.com>

Date: Wed Nov 6 15:25:30 2024 +0530

This is my first version of addition

UNDERSTANDING GIT LOG

Information shown:

1. Commit ID: Unique identifier (abc123456789abc)
2. Author: Who made the commit
3. Date and time: When commit was made
4. Commit message: Description of changes

Use case: We can see all commit details like author, date and time of commit, commit message, etc.

STEP 21: GO BACK TO PREVIOUS VERSION

Scenario: Manager told you to go back to the previous version of code (version 1 - only addition).

Step 1: View commit history git log

Step 2: Copy commit ID of previous commit abc123456789abc

Step 3: Reset to that commit git reset --hard abc123456789abc

Output: HEAD is now at abc1234 This is my first version of addition

UNDERSTANDING GIT RESET

Command: git reset --hard <commit_id>

Explanation:

- git reset: Move HEAD to specified commit
- --hard: Discard all changes after that commit
- commit_id: The commit you want to go back to

WARNING: --hard is destructive! It permanently deletes changes after that commit.

Safer alternatives:

git reset --soft <commit_id> (Keep changes staged)

git reset --mixed <commit_id> (Keep changes unstaged)

STEP 22: VERIFY FILE CONTENT

Command: cat calculator.sh

Output: x=a+b

Success! You're back to the previous version with only addition!

VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF VERSIONING

Version 1 (Commit abc1234): calculator.sh: x=a+b

Then make changes

Version 2 (Commit def5678): calculator.sh: x=a+b y=a-b

Then git reset --hard abc1234

Back to Version 1: calculator.sh: x=a+b

SHARING CODE WITH GITHUB

What we've done so far:

- Created Git repository locally
- Made commits
- Tracked versions
- Everything is on your machine only

Problem: How do we share this code with other developers?

Solution: Use a distributed system like GitHub!

STEP 23: CREATE GITHUB ACCOUNT

1. Go to <https://github.com>
 2. Click "Sign up"
 3. Enter email, password, username
 4. Verify account
 5. Login
-

STEP 24: CREATE REPOSITORY ON GITHUB

Steps:

1. Click "New repository" button (green button on homepage)
 2. Fill in details:
 - o Repository name: example-calculator
 - o Description: Calculator application for learning Git
 - o Public or Private: Choose Public
 - o Initialize with README: Don't check (we already have code)
 3. Click "Create repository"
-

STEP 25: CONNECT LOCAL REPO TO GITHUB

GitHub will show you commands like:

```
git remote add origin https://github.com/yourusername/example-calculator.git  
git branch -M main  
git push -u origin main
```

UNDERSTANDING THE COMMANDS

Command 1: git remote add origin <https://github.com/yourusername/example-calculator.git>

Explanation:

- git remote add: Add a remote repository
- origin: Name for the remote (convention)
- URL: GitHub repository URL

This connects your local repo to GitHub repo!

Command 2: git branch -M main

Explanation:

- git branch -M main: Rename current branch to "main"
 - (Older Git versions use "master", newer use "main")
-

Command 3: git push -u origin main

Explanation:

- git push: Upload local commits to remote
- -u: Set upstream (tracking)
- origin: Remote name
- main: Branch name

This uploads your code to GitHub!

STEP 26: VERIFY ON GITHUB

1. Refresh your GitHub repository page
2. You should see:
 - calculator.sh file
 - Your commit messages
 - Commit history

Your code is now on GitHub!

STEP 27: FORK - CREATING A COPY

What is Fork? Fork creates a complete copy of the repository under your account.

How to Fork:

1. Go to any GitHub repository
2. Click "Fork" button (top right)
3. Choose your account
4. Wait for fork to complete

Result:

- Original: <https://github.com/originaluser/repo>
- Your fork: <https://github.com/yourusername/repo>

You now have your own copy with full history!

BENEFIT OF FORK

Scenario:

- Organization repository: github.com/company/project
- You fork it: github.com/yourname/project

Benefits:

1. You have complete copy of entire code
2. You can experiment without affecting original
3. If company's GitHub goes down, you still have code
4. You can contribute back via Pull Requests
5. Multiple developers can work independently

This is how distributed version control works!

COMPLETE GIT WORKFLOW

Local Machine:

1. git init (initialize)
2. git add (stage changes)
3. git commit (save version)

4. git push (upload to GitHub)

GitHub (Remote): 5. Code stored on cloud 6. Others can clone/fork 7. Collaborate via Pull Requests

Other Developer: 8. git clone (download) 9. git pull (get updates) 10. Make changes 11. git push (upload changes)

COMMON GIT COMMANDS SUMMARY

Command: git init Purpose: Initialize new repository

Command: git status Purpose: Check file status

Command: git add <file> Purpose: Stage file

Command: git add . Purpose: Stage all files

Command: git commit -m "msg" Purpose: Save version

Command: git log Purpose: View history

Command: git diff Purpose: See changes

Command: git reset --hard <id> Purpose: Go back to version

Command: git remote add origin <url> Purpose: Connect to GitHub

Command: git push Purpose: Upload to GitHub

Command: git pull Purpose: Download from GitHub

Command: git clone <url> Purpose: Copy repository

Command: git branch Purpose: List branches

Command: git checkout <branch> Purpose: Switch branch

Command: git merge <branch> Purpose: Merge branches