Version Control Systems

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What are Version Control Systems (VCS)

- Tracking and managing changes:

    - Work faster and more reliably

- Keeps track of all code modifications:

    - Specialised Database (Repository)

- Solves Common Team Problems:

    - Conflicitng concurrent work,

    - incompatiables due to concurrent working,

    - having unstable releases

Common Benefits of VCS

Historical information : Looking at the history of changes it is a lot easier to find where bugs have originated. Also, it might be easier to find the right team member best suited to fix an error.

Branching: Working concurrently on multiple issues, without interference. Working on different types of releases.

Merging : Making sure that team members work does not interfere with each other.

Traceability : Team members work more fluently together.

Testing and Documentation: Comments for each change and its association help producing better documentation. Creating tests is easier.

Types of VCS

- **Local**:

  - Creates a database on the your hardware

- **Centralised**:

  - History of changes kept in a single database in a central server.

  - Clients need to constantly communicate with the database and receive a partial working copy.

- **Distributed**:

  - Single database in a central server that is also distributed among all clients

  - Each client has a full working copy of the repository

VCS - List

Local Data Model

- Revision Control System (RCS) [OS]

- Source Code Control System (SCCS) [OS]

- The Librarian [P]

- Panvalet [P]

Client Server model

- Concurrent Versions System [OS]

- Subversion (SVN) [OS]

- Vesta [OS]

- AccuRev [P]

- ...

- Vault [P]

- Visual Source Safe [P]

VCS - List

Distrubted Model

- ArX [OS]

- Bazaar [OS]

- BitKeeper [OS]

- Fossil [OS]

- Git [OS]

- GNU Arch [OS]

- Mecurial [OS]

- Code Co-op [P]

- Sun WorkShop TeamWare [P]

- Plastic SCM [P]

Git Characteristics

- A very popular VCS

- Performance
  - Better performance compared to competitors
  - Deals with the data in the file rather than the file properties

- Security
  - Designed to provide security
  - Uses SHA-256 encryption

- Flexibility
  - Non-linear development

  - Detailed log of information

VCS Hosts - List

- TaraVault

- BitBucket

- SourceForg

- GitLab

- Gogs

- GitBucket

- GitHub

- AWS CodeCommit

- BeanStalk

- Phabricator

- many more

GitHub - What is it and features?

- Web-based graphical user interface (GUI)

- Features

    - Can act as a project manager

    - Hosts Git repositories

    - Secure with keys

Fundemental Git Functions

All commands are prepended with `git`

- `fetch` , `pull` : Get a working copy of a repository

- `add` , `commit` , `push` : Record a change or changes in at least one of the files stored in the repository.

- `branch` : Create a copy of a repository to be worked independently.

- `merge` : Collates changes of two different copies of a repository.

- `log` : Records information of each change within a repository

Git - Branching

horizontal

- **Main**: The default development branch. Whenever you create a Git repository, a branch named "master" is created, and becomes the active branch.

- **Develop**: This is another branch, which is a way to edit/develop/test code without changing the Master branch. T

- **Topic**: A regular Git branch that is used by a developer to identify a conceptual line of development.

Git Commands Explained

`clone` : Get a working copy of the repository

`fetch` : Update the working copy of the repository without copying or removing any files.

`pull` : Update the working copy of the repository with copying and removing any files necessary.

`commit` : Update the working copy with all changes

`push` : to the main repository all changes that have been committed to the local working copy.

`branch` : Creates a copy of the repository that can be worked independently from the main branch

`Merge` : Combine two copies of a repository. Conflicts may be present.

Git Repository Staging Area

As part of the version control features there is the **Staging Area**.

This is feature enables the developer to move files independently of each other `git add <filename>` to the repository. Of course you can do this all in one go with `git commit -a`

Git Flow Diagram

Git Beyond Software Development

- Developers

- Marketing

- Management

    - Human Resources

    - Product Management

    - Project Budget

- Customer Support

Learning Git

https://learngitbranching.js.org/