

Introduction to Software Engineering

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering

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Basics of Git & GitHub

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Development Tools: Git

Git is a distributed version control system created by Linus Torvalds in 2005. It is a tool that allows developers to manage and record changes made to their source code over time.



Development Tools: Git



What is it for?

- **Version Control:** Git allows you to keep a detailed history of all changes to your project, making it easy to retrieve previous versions and compare them.
- **Team Collaboration:** With Git, multiple developers can work on the same project simultaneously, creating separate branches for each feature or fix, and then merging those changes into the main branch.
- **Security and Backups:** Because it is distributed, each developer has a complete copy of the project history, which adds an extra layer of security against data loss.

Development Tools: GitHub

GitHub is a web-based platform that uses Git as a version control system. It provides a centralised space where developers can store their code repositories, collaborate on projects, and share code with the global community.



Development Tools: GitHub



What is it for?

- **Repository storage:** GitHub allows you to host Git repositories publicly or privately, facilitating project management and collaboration.
- **Collaboration and Contribution:** Provides tools for developers to contribute to existing projects through pull requests, code reviews, and issue management.
- **Documentation and Tracking:** GitHub includes functionality for creating wikis, managing projects with project boards and keeping track of issues and feature requests.

Development Tools: GitHub

Correct use of GitHub

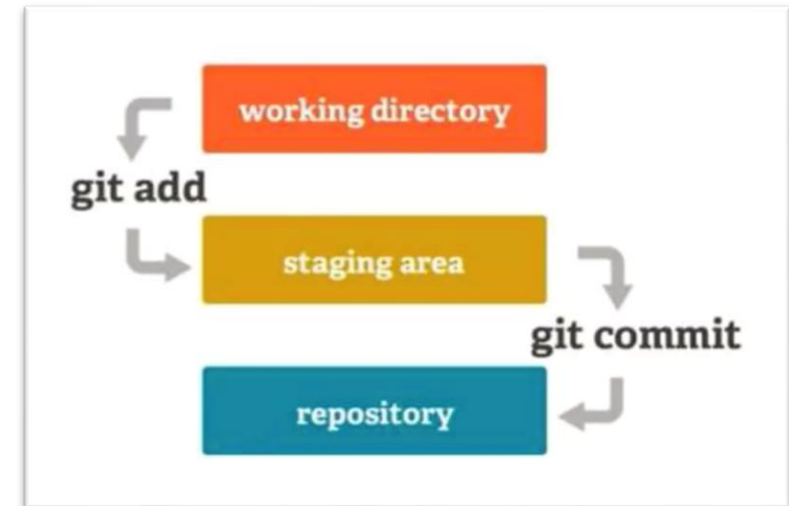
- **Create a Repository:** Start a new project or clone an existing one on your local machine. You can create a repository from the GitHub interface or via the command line with `git init` and `git remote add origin <URL-of-repository>`.
- **Create Branches:** Branches allow you to work on new features or fixes without affecting the main code. Create a new branch with `git branch <branch-name>` and switch to it with `git checkout <branch-name>`.
- **Contributing to a Project:** When making changes to your branch, use `git add` to add the changes, `git commit -m "Commit message"` to commit them, and `git push` to push those changes to the remote repository. Send a pull request from GitHub for the project maintainers to review and, if appropriate, integrate your changes into the main branch.

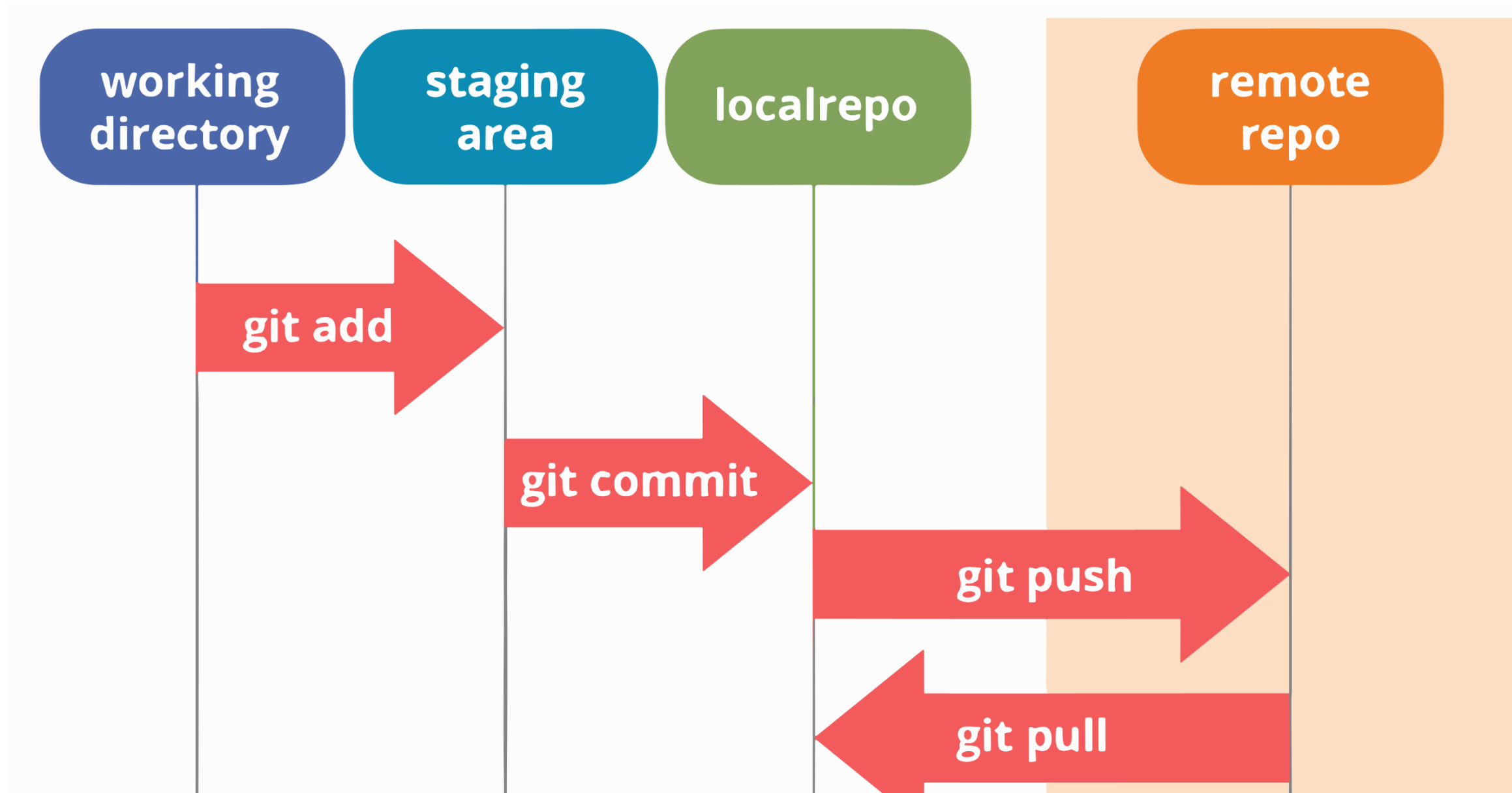
Development Tools: GitHub

Basic commands

Git commands allow you to interact with your local and remote repository, manage your source code, and collaborate with other developers.

Learning these basic commands will give you the control you need to manage your projects effectively on GitHub.





Development Tools: GitHub



Basic commands

- **git clone:** Clone a remote repository on your local machine (git clone <URL-of-repository>).
- **git init:** Initialises a new Git repository in your current directory. This is necessary if you are not going to clone a directory, so you can start to use git locally, and later on, add the remote repository using the command **git remote add**
- **git status:** Displays the status of files in your working directory and staging area.
- **git add:** Add file changes to the staging area - (git add <filename> or git add).
- **git commit:** Saves changes from the staging area to the project history (git commit -m "Commit description message"). Note: if you use the flag -a on git commit, you do automatically a git add.

Development Tools: GitHub



Basic commands

- **git push:** Upload local commits to a remote repository (git push origin <branchname>).
- **git pull:** Update your local repository with changes from the remote repository (git pull origin <branchname>).
- **git branch:** List, create or delete branches (git branch to list, git branch <branch-name> to create a new branch).
- **git checkout:** Switch to a specific branch or check out a specific file in the history (git checkout <branch-name> or git checkout <commit-id> <file>).
- **git merge:** Merge changes from a branch into the current branch (git merge <branch-name>).

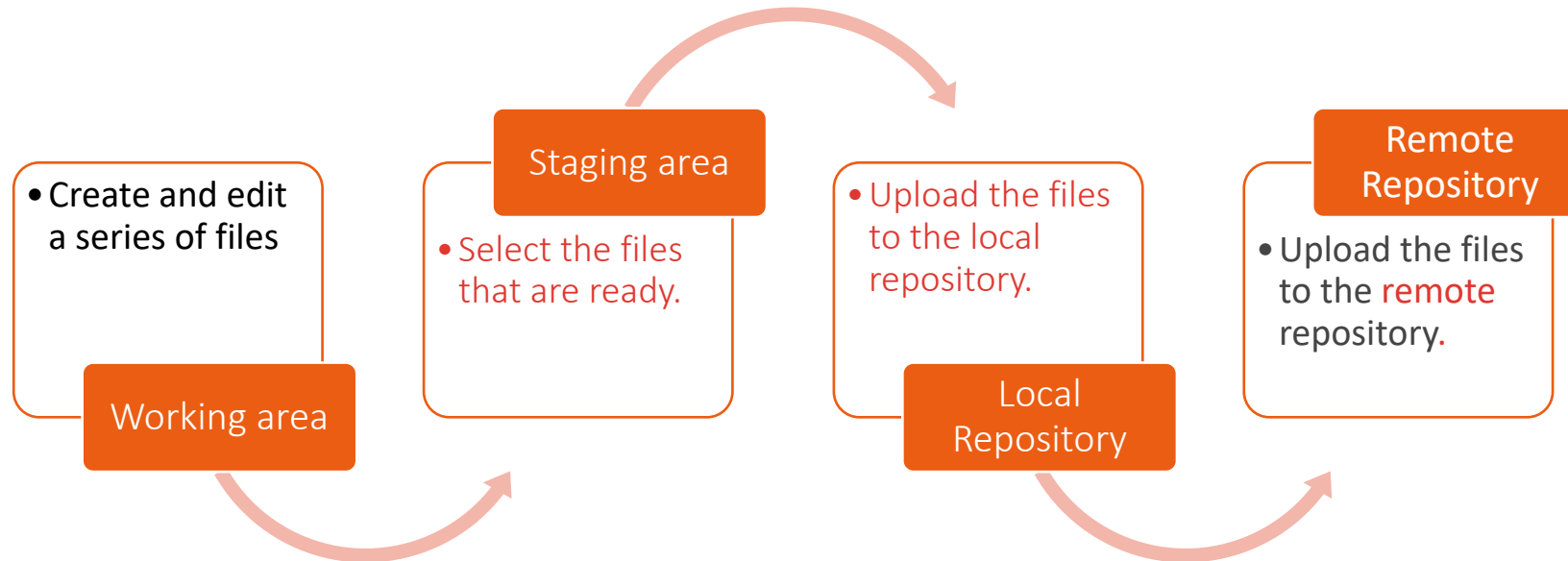
Development Tools: GitHub

How to collaborate on a Git project?



Development Tools: GitHub

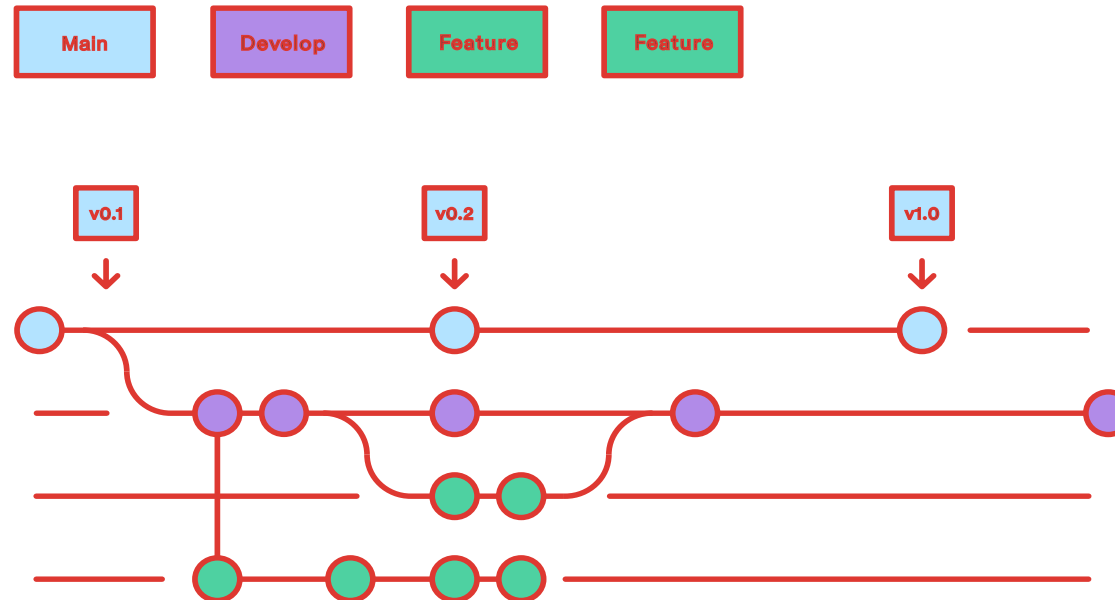
Workflow



Development Tools: GitHub

Workflow (Git Flow)

The Git Flow workflow developed by Vincent Driessen is a structured model of Git usage that organises the development process into different branches to manage development, release versions and bug fixes efficiently.



Development Tools: GitHub



Workflow structure (Git Flow)

Main Branches:

- **master (or main):** This is the main branch that always contains the stable production code. Any final version that is deployed to production must be in this branch.
- **develop:** This is the main development branch where all new features are integrated before a release. It is the basis for the creation of feature branches and release branches.

Development Tools: GitHub



Workflow structure (Git Flow)

Support Branches:

- **feature/**: Branches for developing new features. They are created from develop and merged back into develop when the functionality is complete.
- **release/**: Branches created when the code in develop is ready for a new version. Here final details are polished and minor bugs are fixed. They are then merged into master (for release) and develop.
- **hotfix/**: Branches to fix critical bugs in production. They are created from master, the problem is fixed, and merged into both master and develop so that the fix is in future releases.

Development Tools: GitHub



Work process (Git Flow)

Support Branches:

- **Feature development:** A developer starts by creating a feature branch from develop. He works on the new functionality in this branch. Upon completion, he performs a merge of the feature branch into develop.
- **Preparing a Release:** When it is decided that the code in develop is ready to be released, a release branch is created. Final tests and minor fixes are performed on this branch. Once ready, the release branch is merged into master and develop. The master branch is tagged with the corresponding version.
- **Critical Bug Fixes:** If a critical bug arises in production, a hotfix branch is created from master. The bug is corrected and the hotfix branch is merged into both master and develop.

Other important GitHub Issues

- Take care of your profile
- **MarkDown Language:** You should have a basic understanding of the format of the MD files (ie, README.MD) and the formatting of such a files
- **Clone vs Init locally:** You may start to work on GitHub from an existing local directory or from scratch (creating new one). On the first case, you should always do a git init and add the remote directory. On the second case, you start on github, and clone it locally, so git init is not necessary neither define remote directories.

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Different ways to create a repository



Create a GitHub Repository from Your Local Directory

```
cd path/to/your/local-directory  
git init  
git add .  
git commit -m "Initial commit"  
git remote add origin [GitHub repository URL]  
git push -u origin main
```

Create a GitHub Repository on GitHub and Clone it Locally

```
git clone [GitHub repository URL] cd repository-name  
git add .  
git commit -m "Initial commit"  
git push
```

PRE-ELIMINARY EXERCISE (BASIC USAGE OF GIT)

- Installing Git Bash Tools (Go to <https://git-scm.com/>)
- Create a GitHub Account
- Create a Repository on GitHub
- Clone a Repository locally (see <https://docs.github.com/en/repositories/creating-and-managing-repositories/cloning-a-repository>)
- Access to your local working directory, where your repository was cloned
- Create 1 additional new file
- Add that file to the stage area (git add file)
- Commit the changes (git commit)
- Upload the changes (git push)

EXERCISE B - MERGING AND BRANCHES



Clone Exercise & Additional Doc from -> <https://github.com/agorosti/GitHub-Training/>



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Go further!

Questions