Introduction to Git and GitHub

Tools for collaboratively managing your source code.

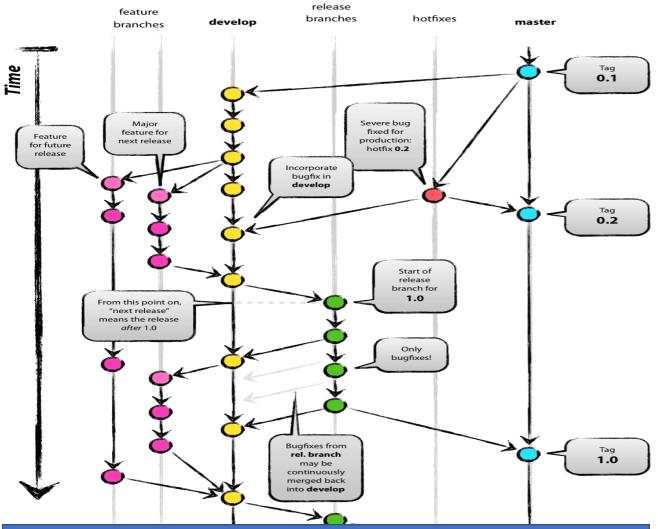
This Is Not a Tutorial About Git



There are many tutorials online.

What is Git?

- Git is a collaborative, distributed version control system.
 - Everyone has their own branch of the code in a local repository.
 - Each branch has a unique ID
 - You can work entirely separately and never give back....
- If you want to work collaboratively, you have to combine (merge) branches.
- Teams need a strategy for how to merge their branches.
- You can have multiple collaborative branches as well as personal branches.
 - "Master", "Feature", "Test", "Release"



See http://nvie.com/posts/a-successful-git-branching-model/

1000 Words about Previous Picture

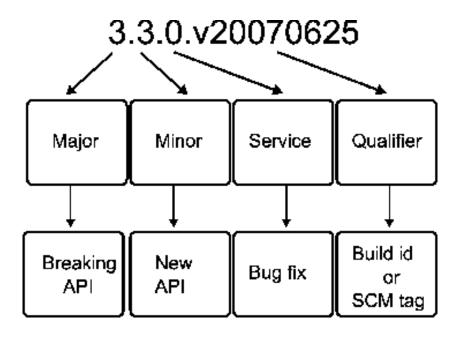
| Branch | Description |
|---------|---|
| Master | All other branches trace back to here. Final releases are here. Must always build and pass all tests. |
| Develop | Code for next version of Master. Integration Branch. Everyone's code goes back here. Must always build and pass all tests. |
| Feature | Working branches with code not ready for integration. May have 1 or more developers. Goes away when merged back into Develop. |
| Release | Code that is preparing to go back to the Master. Only bug fixes. |
| Hotfix | Code that fixes a bug discovered in Master that must be fixed immediately. Merged back to both Master and Develop branches. |

Only the Master and Develop branches live forever!
Only the Master branch is continuous.

What Is the Right Strategy for Your Team?

- The above is just one example.
 - It works well with continuous integration while allowing feature development.
 - But it could be a lot of overhead for a small team.
- Your team decides its own branch and merge strategy.
- Decide on the team discussion list.
- Have a way for coming to a conclusion that is public.
- You later decide you have made a mistake.
 - If so, discuss that on the your team discussion list as well.
 - Come to a conclusion as a team.
 - Then change.

A Word about Semantic Versioning



See http://semver.org/.

Image courtesy https://www.tomaz.me/2013/10/28/libcloud-and-the-road-to-1-0-release.html

GitHub

What Is GitHub?

- A public repository for open source code that is managed with Git.
- Tools for helping you manage your code and your community.
- And more
 - https://guides.github.com/
- GitHub also integrates with JIRA and other online tools
 - Connect a git commit to a JIRA issue.

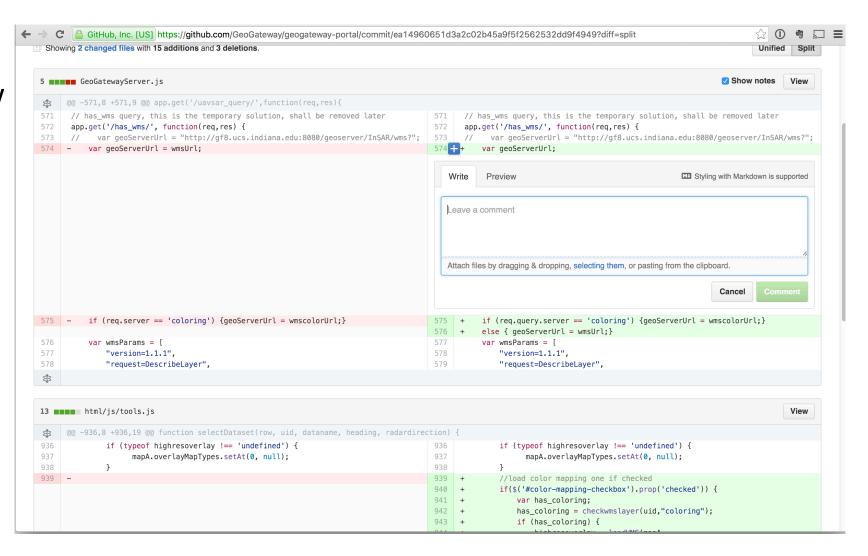
GitHub Issues

- See https://guides.github.com/features/issues/ for a full guide.
- Use this feature to discuss your project.
- Every code commit must be associated with a specific issue.
 - Include the issue number (#xxx) in your commit message.
 - See also https://help.github.com/articles/closing-issues-via-commit-messages/
- Create [VOTE] and [DISCUSS] issues for the milestone assignments ("releases").
 - Votes are +1, 0, -1
- Explore other features, see which ones are useful for your team

Pull Requests

- Notifies others of changes to a common branch.
 - Initiate reviews
- If you want to contribute a patch to a code branch that you don't have write access to, use a **pull request**.
- For simplicity in this class, each team has full access to its project repository.
 - But not the other team's repository.
- As we go along, you may want to mix and match code between teams.
 - Deciding to accept a contributed pull request to your code base is a team decision.

Code Review



GitHub Pages and Wikis for Documentation

- Good code documents itself, but...
- https://guides.github.com/features/pages/
- https://guides.github.com/features/wikis/
- Use these to describe your project.
 - Minimally, anything the instructors need to know to check your milestones.
- Typically,
 - Use Pages for well-organized, mostly static content
 - Use Wikis for more free-form pages and page organizations.

Announcements

- Announce your project milestones
 - https://guides.github.com/activities/citable-code/
- This gives you a Document Object Identifier (DOI)
- Useful for citing code
 - "This result was produced by this specific version of our code"

Some "Apache Way" Lessons

- Community over code.
- Discuss issues publically in an archived, citable manner.
- Assign yourself to issues.
 - Volunteer
- Cite the issue(s) associated with each commit.
- Review pull requests for code bases you can't write to
 - Patches -> Apache
- Call votes on important decisions
 - Team policies with git branches, code review, issue organization, agile policies
 - Software releases
 - Granting write access to important branches.
- Make and announce your source code releases.
- And be prepared for what happens next
 - Documentation, build systems, bug handling, code licensing, code attributions, ...