

## **Start of Block: Part 0: Informed Consent**

### **Q1 Informed Consent**

You have been invited to take part in a research study to learn more about how people in academia interact with version control, specifically Git, and source code hosting platforms (e.g. GitLab, SourceForge, GitHub).

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to complete a 30 question survey about version control and source code hosting. It will take approximately 10 minutes to finish this survey.

There are no known risks associated with your participation in this research beyond those of everyday life. Although you will receive no direct benefits, this research may help the investigators understand how people in academia interact with version control, specifically Git, and source code hosting platforms (e.g. GitLab, SourceForge, GitHub), and so help in efforts to teach version control, as well as preserve source code.

Confidentiality of your research records will be strictly maintained by not asking you for any individually identifiable information. We may ask for broader demographics but never in such a way that it can be used, even in conjunction with other questions, to individually identify you. If you put something identifying in the free text answers of this survey, we will lightly modify them to protect your identity when publishing the data. Your information from this study will not be used for future research.

Participation in this study is voluntary. You may refuse to participate or withdraw at any time without penalty.

If there is anything about the study or your participation that is unclear or that you do not understand, if you have questions or wish to report a research-related problem, you may contact <PI>.

For questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the University Committee on Activities Involving Human Subjects (UCAIHS), New York University, 665 Broadway, Suite 804, New York, New York, 10012, at [ask.humansubjects@nyu.edu](mailto:ask.humansubjects@nyu.edu) or (212) 998-4808. Please reference the study IRB-FY2019-3399 when contacting the IRB (UCAIHS).

You may print this page for your records.

- I understand and wish to continue. (1)
- I do not want to take part in this study. (2)

*Skip To: End of Survey If Informed Consent for Investigating & Archiving the Scholarly Git Experience You have been invit... = I do not want to take part in this study.*

## **End of Block: Part 0: Informed Consent**

### **Start of Block: Part 1: Background**

#### **Q2 Part 1: Background Information**

Let's start with some basic information about you, code, and version control systems.

#### **Q3 Do you currently work or study at an academic institution?**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

*Skip To: End of Survey If Do you currently work or study at an academic institution? = No*

#### **Q4 Do you write or reuse code as a part of your work in academia?**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

*Skip To: End of Survey If Do you write or reuse code as a part of your work in academia? = No*

#### **Q5 Do you use a version control system to manage the code you write?**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

*Skip To: End of Survey If Do you use a version control system to manage the code you write? = No*

#### **Q6 When did you first start using a version control system?**

- 2019 (179) through 1994 or earlier (204)

#### **Q7 Which version control system did you start out using?**

- Bazaar (3)
- CVS (6)
- Git (1)
- Mercurial (5)
- Monotone (4)
- SVN (2)
- Other (7) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q8 What version control system(s) do you use now? Check all that apply.**

- ☐ Bazaar (3)
- ☐ CVS (6)
- ☐ Git (1)
- ☐ Mercurial (5)
- ☐ Monotone (4)
- ☐ SVN (2)
- ☐ Other (7) \_\_\_\_\_

Display This Question: If What version control system(s) do you use now? Check all that apply. = Bazaar And What version control system(s) do you use now? Check all that apply. = CVS And What version control system(s) do you use now? Check all that apply. = Mercurial And What version control system(s) do you use now? Check all that apply. = Monotone And What version control system(s) do you use now? Check all that apply. = SVN And What version control system(s) do you use now? Check all that apply. = Other And And What version control system(s) do you use now? Check all that apply. Other Is Not Empty

**Q9 Why did you choose to use  $\{Q8/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices\}$  over other version control systems?**

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Skip To: End of Survey If Condition: Why did you choose to use \$... Is Displayed. Skip To: End of Survey.

**Q10 Do you use a source code hosting platforms? Check all that apply.**

- ☐ Bitbucket (3)
- ☐ GitHub (1)
- ☐ GitLab (2)
- ☐ SourceForge (4)
- ☐ Self-hosted platform: (7) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ We don't use a code hosting platform (5)
- ☐ Other (6) \_\_\_\_\_

Display This Question: If Do you use a source code hosting platforms? Check all that apply. = We don't use a code hosting platform

**Q11 Why do you not use a source code hosting platform?**

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Skip To: End of Survey If Condition: Why do you not use a source... Is Displayed. Skip To: End of Survey.

**Q12 How often do you use/interact with git?**

- Daily (1)
- Weekly (3)
- Monthly (7)
- Once every 4 months (2)
- Once a year (8)
- Other: (6) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q13 How often do you use/interact with a source code hosting platform (e.g. GitLab, GitHub, etc.)?**

- Daily (1)
- Weekly (2)
- Monthly (3)
- Once every 4 months (7)
- Once a year (8)
- Other: (6) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q14 How do you primarily interact with git on your local computer? Check all that apply.**

- Graphical user interface (e.g. GitKraken, GitHub Desktop, etc.) (1)
- Terminal (2)
- Other: (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**End of Block: Part 1: Background**

**Start of Block: Part 2: Learning Git**

**Q15 Part 2: Learning Git**

Now, let's think about how you first started to learn and use git on your local computer (e.g. not on github.com or gitlab.com).

**Q16 Why did you first enter the world of git and version control?**

- I heard it would get me a job in the future. (2)
- I need a version control system. (1)

- My collaborators use it. (3)
- Other: (4) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q17 How did you learn to use version control? Check all that apply.**

- Book, articles, or blog posts (1)
- In a class (quarter/semester-long) (2)
- Online coding course (e.g. Codecademy, Lynda, etc.) (3)
- Online forums / RTFM (Read the f\*cking manual) (4)
- Programming accelerator (e.g. Flatiron School, General Assembly, etc.) (5)
- Webinar/online video (6)
- Workshop (e.g. Carpentries, library instruction) (7)
- Other: (9) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q18 Who taught you git specifically? What was their role?**

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**Q19 When did you learn git?**

- Before entering postsecondary education (1)
- After entering postsecondary education (2)
- Other: (6) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q20 How difficult was it for you to learn how to use git on your local computer?**

- 1 - Very easy (1)
- 2 - Easy (2)
- 3 - Neutral (Neither easy nor difficult) (3)
- 4 - Difficult (4)
- 5 - Very difficult (5)

**Q21 How difficult was it for you to learn how to use the git hosting platform (e.g. GitLab, GitHub, etc.)?**

- 1 - Very easy (1)
- 2 - Easy (2)
- 3 - Neutral (Neither easy nor difficult) (3)
- 4 - Difficult (4)
- 5 - Very difficult (5)

**Q22 How proficient do you think you are with git?**

- 1 - Fundamental Awareness (basic knowledge) (1)
- 2 - Novice (limited experience) (2)
- 3 - Intermediate (practical application) (3)
- 4 - Advanced (applied theory) (4)
- 5 - Expert (recognized authority) (5)

**Q23 How frequently do you have to reteach yourself git?**

- Daily (1)
- Weekly (2)
- Once a semester (3)
- Once a year (4)
- Never (5)
- Other: (6) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q24 What is your favorite resource on how to use git?**

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**End of Block: Part 2: Learning Git**

**Start of Block: Part 3: Teaching Git**

**Q25 Part 3: Teaching Git**

In this section, we will ask a few questions about teaching git and your methods (if you teach it!).

**Q26 Have you ever taught git to others?**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

Skip To: End of Block If Have you ever taught git to others? = No

**Q27 How do you generate materials for these teaching sessions?**

- I make them myself (1)
- I reuse materials from others (2)
- I mix original and secondary materials (3)

**Q28 Do you teach git regularly? (e.g. more than once a semester/quarter)**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

**Q29 How do you deliver your git lesson plans? Check all that apply.**

- In person (1)
- Virtual - asynchronous (2)
- Virtual - synchronous (3)

**Q30 What would you need to improve your experience in teaching git? (e.g. helper in the room, 1-page handout, visual language, etc.)**

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**End of Block: Part 3: Teaching Git**

**Start of Block: Part 4: Features on hosting platform**

**Q31 Part 4: Hosting Platform**

Now, we'll cover how you use source code hosting platforms.

**Q32 What is the primary reason you use git hosting platforms?**

- Openness (e.g. sharing data and code for open access) (1)
- Method tracking (e.g. documenting methodologies and protocols) (2)
- Change tracking (e.g. changes/additions to code on a macro-scale) (3)
- Publishing (e.g. making content available online) (4)
- Version Control (5)
- Collaboration (e.g. editing and updating data/code within a team) (6)
- Other: (7) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q33 Do you use git hosting platforms as a storage place to backup your code?**

- Yes (1)
- No (5)

**Q34 Which features in git hosting platforms do you use? Check all that apply.**

- Continuous Integration/Continuous Delivery (1)
- Code review/annotation (2)
- Forking/Pull Requests (3)
- Issues (4)
- Pages (e.g. web publishing) (5)
- Projects/Kanban boards (6)
- Wikis (7)
- Other: (8) \_\_\_\_\_

*Display This Question: If Which features in git hosting platforms do you use? Check all that apply. = Continuous Integration/Continuous Delivery*

**Q35 Briefly explain how you have used Continuous Integration/Continuous Delivery (CI/CD) for your work**

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**End of Block: Part 4: Features on hosting platform**

**Start of Block: Part 5: Scholarship**

**Q36 Part 5: Scholarship**

In this section, we'll ask a few questions about your scholarship and workflow.

**Q37 How is your research or scholarship funded? Check all that apply.**

- Privately (e.g. industry, philanthropic organizations) (1)
- Publicly (e.g. federal government) (2)
- I don't know (4)
- I don't have funded research right now (6)
- Other: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

*Skip To: Q40 If How is your research or scholarship funded? Check all that apply. = I don't have funded research right now*



Display This Question: If How is your research or scholarship funded? Check all that apply. = Privately (e.g. industry, philanthropic organizations) And How is your research or scholarship funded? Check all that apply. = Publicly (e.g. federal government)

**Q38 Do your funding terms require you to publish your data and results openly?**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- I don't know (3)

**Q40 How have you engaged in scholarly activity on a git hosting platform? Check all that apply.**

- Community & collaboration (1)
- Education (2)
- Method tracking (3)
- Peer production (4)
- Peer review (e.g. using platforms like GitLab, GitHub, etc. to review source code or articles. Journals such as JOSS) (5)
- Publishing scholarship (6)
- Quality assurance (7)
- Reproducibility (8)
- Other (10) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q41 Do you use git to collaborate on authoring code for your research/scholarship?**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

Skip To: Q44 If Do you use git to collaborate on authoring code for your research/scholarship? = No

Display This Question: If Do you use git to collaborate on authoring code for your research/scholarship? = Yes

**Q42 How often do you use git to collaborate on authoring code?**

- Daily (4)
- Weekly (6)
- Monthly (7)
- Once every 4 months (8)
- Once a year (9)
- Other: (10) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q43 When a new collaborator joins your team, is there an onboarding process or protocol specifically for introducing them to your coding practices and use of version control?**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- I don't know (3)

**Q44 How do you document your research protocols, either as a part of a group or on your own?**

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**Q45 If there was an academic-specific user-friendly git hosting platform, would you use it?**

- Yes (1)
- Maybe (2)
- No (3)

**End of Block: Part 5: Scholarship**

**Start of Block: Part 6: Sustainability**

**Q46 Part 6: Sustainability**

Now we're going to talk about the longevity and preservation of your work with git and code hosting platforms.

**Q47 Do you copy your repositories to external long-term storage services or platforms (e.g. Zenodo, OSF, institutional repository)?**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- I don't know (3)

*Skip To: End of Block If Do you copy your repositories to external long-term storage services or platforms (e.g. Zenodo, O... = No Skip To: End of Block If Do you copy your repositories to external long-term storage services or platforms (e.g. Zenodo, O... = I don't know*

*Display This Question: If Do you copy your repositories to external long-term storage services or platforms (e.g. Zenodo, O... = Yes*

**Q48 Where do you archive your git repositories? Select all that apply.**

- Figshare (2)
- Institutional Repository (IR) (1)
- Open Science Framework (3)
- Software Heritage (6)
- Zenodo (4)

- Other: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

## **End of Block: Part 6: Sustainability**

## **Start of Block: Part 7: Demographics and Follow-up**

### **Q49 Part 7: Demographics**

This section will ask some very high-level demographic questions about you to help guide our recommendations and analysis.

#### **Q50 What is your academic discipline?**

- Accounting & Finance (1) ... Other (761)

#### **Q51 In your institution, what is your role/status?**

- Tenure track faculty (1)
- Continuing-contract/clinical/teaching faculty (2)
- Staff (5)
- Postdoc (6)
- Doctoral student (3)
- Masters student (7)
- Undergraduate student (8)
- Other (4) \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Q52 How long have you been in your current role?**

- 0-3 years (1)
- 4-7 years (2)
- 8-10 years (3)
- 11+ years (4)

#### **Q53 What type of institution are you currently working/enrolled in?**

- Community College (3)
- Public University (2)
- Private University (1)
- Other: (4) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q54 Would you be willing to participate in a one-on-one, 30-60 minute interview, held via Zoom, about your practices with git and source code hosting platforms? (Answering “yes” to this question will end your survey session and direct you to a separate page where you**

will be asked to provide your email address. Your email address cannot be linked to this survey, and your answers will remain anonymous).

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

**End of Block: Part 7: Demographics and Follow-up**