LFD109x

GIT for Distributed Development

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Introduction to GIT



Exercise 1.1: cgit Example at git.kernel.org

- To see a comprehensive implementation of the **cgit** repository browser, go to https://git.kernel.org which serves as the host for many projects growing out of the **Linux** kernel community, including **git** itself.
- Look at a particular repository by scrolling down to the project and clicking on summary. See if you can find the main **Linux** kernel repository. Look at the history and patches etc.
- This is not the same as looking at https://kernel.org which is also powered by cgit.

Git Installation



Exercise 2.1: Getting the Latest Git with Git, and Compiling

• If you already have **Git** installed, a nifty way to get the latest version is to use **Git** itself. If your network connection is good enough, download from the public repository by doing:

```
$ git clone -v https://github.com/git/git.git
```

if you do not have **git** already installed, you can download a zipped archive from the same site, and then unpack it and the rest of the instructions for compiling and installing will be the same.

- The full **Git** repo will take up about 145 MB after being downloaded. Most of this space is taken up by the .git directory, which contains the whole revision history. The archive itself is much smaller.
- If you have git installed you can see what version of you are running with:

```
$ git --version
git version 2.27.0
```

To see what the latest version of **git** is in the downloaded repository, go to the git directory created during the cloning operation:

```
$ cd git
```

There are a number of methods, including:

```
$ git tag
```

```
v2.29.3
....
```

where we have located the highest version number that is tagged. However, that might not be accurate as use of tags is voluntary. For example, doing:

```
$ git log
```

```
commit 7e391989789db82983665667013a46eabc6fc570 (HEAD -> main, origin/main, origin/HEAD)
Author: Junio C Hamano <gitster@pobox.com>
Date: Fri Apr 30 13:38:07 2021 +0900
```

```
The thirteenth batch

Signed-off-by: Junio C Hamano <gitster@pobox.com>
....
```

may indicate a later version, which we can check once we prep, compile, and install using the steps we mentioned earlier:

```
$ cd git
$ make
$ sudo make install
```

· With this particular version, after compilation one finds:

```
$ ./git --version
```

```
git version 2.31.1.442.g7e391
```

• By default if you compile and then install everything will be placed under your \$HOME directory, with the executables all in the bin directory therein. However, you can specify an alternative when you compile as in:

```
$ make prefix=/usr/local
or
```

\$ make prefix=/opt

etc. If you then place the new directory in your path, you will be using the newer version of **git** rather than the installed ones, as in

```
$ export PATH=/opt/bin:$PATH
```

 When you compile with the make command, it is possible you may have to install some additional software (usually for header files). For example, on Red Hat Enterprise Linux distributions and their close kin you might need to do:

```
$ dnf install curl-devel expat-devel openssl-devel
```

or on deb-based systems:

```
$ apt-get install libcurl4-gnutls-dev libexpat1-dev libssl-dev
```

As an alternative that loses some functionality, you can do:

```
$ make prefix=/opt NO_CURL=1 NO_EXPAT=1 NO_SSL=1
```

Reading the Makefile will show you other such options.

· Once you have compiled, you can do

```
$ make prefix=/opt install
```

and you have the latest version installed, which you can always use by putting it earlier in your path than the system version.

• To learn further about all of this, read the README, INSTALL, and Makefile files in the main Git source directory.



Git and Revision Control Systems



Exercise 3.1: Converting a Subversion repository to Git

- Make sure you have the appropriate subversion software installed to do the following steps. In addition to the basic subversion package one needs subversion-perl. There may be other useful packages which are obtainable from the EPEL repository on RHEL-based systems.
- The easiest way to get a copy, or clone, of a **Subversion** project is to use **git svn**.
- To obtain a copy of part of the **Subversion** repository itself one can do:

```
$ git svn clone https://svn.apache.org/repos/asf/subversion/trunk/doc my_svn_repo
```

where we have chosen only the doc module of Subversion in order to keep things small.

 However, this can take a long time as it gathers the entire history of the project and sometimes hangs. It is easier for learning purposes to just get the most recent version (which for git we would call a shallow clone). There is no easy way to just say give me the last version with Subversion; we need an actual release number which can get with:

```
\ svn log https://svn.apache.org/repos/asf/subversion/trunk/doc | head
```

• We can then pick just the latest release for the shallow clone:

\$ git svn clone -r1663949 https://svn.apache.org/repos/asf/subversion/trunk/doc my_svn_repo

```
Initialized empty Git repository in /tmp/SVN/my_svn_repo/.git/

A doxygen.conf

A svn-square.jpg

A programmer/gtest-guide.txt

A programmer/WritingChangeLogs.txt

A README

A user/svn-best-practices.html

A user/lj_article.txt
```

```
A user/cvs-crossover-guide.html
r1663949 = f2f1312fe65123c1be0935421d05cc862d0d008e (refs/remotes/git-svn)
Checked out HEAD:
https://svn.apache.org/repos/asf/subversion/trunk/doc r1663949
```

- This creates a **git** repository under the my_svn_repo directory, which you can examine. Notice all the **git** information goes in the .git subdirectory.
- If you want to compare with original **Subversion** repository, you can bring that down with:

```
\ svn checkout https://svn.apache.org/repos/asf/subversion/trunk/doc doc
```

```
....
```

where the repository information will go under .svn directories.

· Comparing:

```
$ diff -qr my_svn_repo/ doc/
```

```
Only in my_svn_repo/: .git
Only in doc/: .svn
```

Using Git: an Example



Exercise 4.1: Setting up a repository, and making changes and commits

Using just the simple subset of commands we have already given you, we are going to set up a simple repository.

- 1. First initialize the repository with git init. Then add author and email information using git config.
- 2. Create a couple of simple text files and add them to the repository and commit them with git add and git commit.
- 3. Now modify one of the files, and run git diff to see the differences between your working project files and what is in the repository.
- 4. Add the changed file to the repository again and then run git diff again.
- 5. Finally commit again, and then using git log examine your history.

At various stages of doing all this, examine the contents of the .git directory and see what files are being changed, what their content is, etc. Learn as much as you can.

Solution 4.1

```
1.

# Set up the directory we are going to work in

rm -rf git-test; mkdir git-test; cd git-test

# initialize the repository and put our name and email in the .config file

echo -e "\n\n********* CREATING THE REPOSITORY AND CONFIGURING IT\n\n"

git init
git config user.name "A Smart Guy"
git config user.email "asmartguy@linux.com"
```

```
2. echo -e "\n\n****** CREATING A COUPLE OF FILES AND ADDING THEM TO THE PROJECT AND COMMITTING\n
```

```
# create a couple of files and add them to the project
# we'll do this as two commits, although we could do it as one

echo file1 > file1
git add file1
git commit file1 -s -m "This is the first commit"

echo file2 > file2
git add file2
git commit . -s -m "This is the second commit"
```

```
3.
# modify one of the files and then see the difference with the repository
echo -e "\n\n*********** MODIFYING ONE OF THE FILES AND THEN DIFFING\n\n"
echo This is another line for file2 >> file2
git diff
```

```
4.
# now stage it and diff again
git add file2
git diff
```

```
s_04/lab_gitexample.sh
```

in your solutions file.

Please see SOLUTIONS/s_04/lab_gitexample.sh



Git Concepts and Architecture



Exercise 5.1: Distinguishing Features of Git

What are some features of Git that make it different from most, if not all, other revision control systems?

Solution 5.1

The following list is of course incomplete and even debatable. Please think of additional aspects.

- 1. **Git** is not based on files as basic units. Instead the primary quantities stored are binary blobs. If the same file appears in more than once place in the project, only one blob is needed to store the contents.
- 2. Most (but not all) revision control systems have a central repository that is authoritative. With **Git** all repositories, no matter their location or ownership, are essentially the same. Leadership and authority is by social contract more than anything else.
- 3. **Git** was designed for distributed development from its outset, rather than evolved to work with it. Thus it has always emphasized minimizing transfer sizes and speeds and was built completely on the Internet.
- 4. Dealing with multiple branches and merging, rebasing and forking have always been organic features.
- 5. **Committing** (checking in changes) and **Publishing** (making them widely available) are quite distinct steps by design.
- 6. Other features, such as the use of **bisection** to locate and fix problems, are rather innovative and unique.

Managing Files and the Index



Exercise 6.1: Getting practice with some basic file commands

- 1. First initialize the repository, configuring it with name and email etc. Then add a couple of files to the project and commit them.
- 2. Remove one of the files with git rm and with git diff see the difference with the repository.
- 3. Rename the remaining file with git mv and with git diff see the difference with the repository, once again.
- 4. Commit again and look at the history with git log. Then do git ls-files without any arguments
- 5. Add two new files, make one of them **ignored** by **git** and modify the original remaining file. Do git ls-files again.
- 6. Now try some different options to git ls-files, such as -t and -o. Do man git ls-files to see the various options available and try some others.
- 7. Now add the new files that are not ignored with git add, commit once again, and do git ls-files with some options to see the results. You may want to do git log again as well.

Solution 6.1

```
git add file1 file2
git commit . -s -m "This is our first commit"
```

```
5.

echo -e "\n\n*************

ADD TWO NEW FILES, MAKE ONE IGNORED, AND MODIFY A FILE\n\n"

echo extra1 >> extra1
echo extra2 >> extra2
echo anotherline >> file2
echo extra1 >> .gitignore

echo -e "\n\n*********

DO git ls-files WITH NO ARGS\n\n"
git ls-files
```

```
7.
echo -e "\n\n*********** RECOMMIT AND CHECK AGAIN\n\n"

git add extra2
git commit -a -s -m "third commit"

git ls-files -t -c -o -s
git log
```

 $s_06/lab_gitbasics.sh$

in your solutions file.

Please see SOLUTIONS/s_06/lab_gitbasics.sh

Commits



Exercise 7.1: Bisecting with git

- 1. First initialize a repository, configuring it with name and email address, etc.
- 2. Then make a significant number of commits, say 64. Each commit should add a file. In one of the commits, have the file include the string **BAD**. We will interpret this as the bug introduction.
- 3. Now start a git bisect procedure. Designating the last commit with

```
$ git bisect bad
and the first one with
```

\$ git bisect good

See how many bisections it takes to find the one that introduced the bug, the file with BAD in it.

- 4. You can do this manually, or you can use the git bisect run ... procedure with a script to make it automated.
- 5. When done check the history of your bisection with git bisect log.

Solution 7.1

```
1.

# initialize the repository and put our name and email in the .config file

echo -e "\n\n************** CREATING THE REPOSITORY AND CONFIGURING IT\n\n"

rm -rf git-test; mkdir git-test; cd git-test
git init
git config user.name "A Smart Guy"
git config user.email "asmartguy@linux.com"
```

```
2.

echo -e "\n\n********* CREATING A NUMBER OF FILES AND ADDING"
echo -e " THEM TO THE PROJECT AND COMMITTING\n\n"
```

```
3.
  echo -e "\n\n******** STARTING THE BISECTION\n\n"
  git bisect start
  git bisect bad
  git bisect good file1
  echo -e "\n\n******** SEARCHING FOR THE BAD FILE\n\n"
  echo -e "\n\n******** DOING TH BISECTION MANUALLY\n\n"
  over=0
  while [ "$over" == "0" ] ; do
      if [ "$(grep BAD file*)" == "" ] ; then
          git bisect good | tee gitout
      else
          git bisect bad | tee gitout
      fi
      if [ "$(grep 'revisions left' gitout)" == "" ] ; then
          over=1
          echo "*********** FOUND THE BUG!"
      fi
  done
```

```
4.
    echo -e "\n\n********** SETTING UP A TESTING SCRIPT\n\n"
    cat <<EOF > my_script.sh
    #!/bin/bash

if [ "\$(grep BAD file*)" == "" ] ; then
        exit 0

fi
    exit 1
    EOF
    chmod +x my_script.sh
```

```
# reset to original state
git reset
git bisect start
git bisect bad file64
git bisect good file1
# do automated script
git bisect run ./my_script.sh
```

```
5.
# check log
git bisect log
```

s_07/lab_bisect.sh

in your solutions file.

Please see SOLUTIONS/s_07/lab_bisect.sh

Branches



Exercise 8.1: Working with a Development Branch

- 1. First initialize the repository, configuring it with name and email, etc. Then add a couple of files to the project and commit them.
- 2. Create a new development branch and then check it out.
- 3. Modify a file and add another one, and then do a new commit. List the files that are present and also do git ls-files.
- 4. Now checkout the original **main** branch. Once again list the files that are present and also do git ls-files.

Solution 8.1

```
# initialize the repository and put our name and email in the .config file

echo -e "\n\n******** CREATING THE REPOSITORY AND CONFIGURING IT\n\n"

rm -rf git-test; mkdir git-test; cd git-test
git init
git config user.name "A Smart Guy"
git config user.email "asmartguy@linux.com"

echo -e "\n\n********* CREATING A COUPLE OF FILES AND ADDING THEM TO THE PROJECT AND COMMITTING\n

# create a couple of files and add them to the project, and then commit

echo file1 > file1
echo file2 > file2
git add file1 file2
git commit . -s -m "This is our first commit"
```

```
2.
# create a new development branch
```

 $s_08/lab_branch.sh$

in your solutions file.

Please see SOLUTIONS/s_08/lab_branch.sh



Diffs



Exercise 9.1: Exploring changes with git diff

- You can work with one of your repositories created earlier, but it will be richer to work with a full repository such as the one for the **git** project itself.
- Working in the main project directory first do:
 - \$ git tag

to get a list of references. Then to get a full difference between two versions you can do something like:

- \$ git diff v1.7.0 v1.7.0-rc2
- This is likely to be a long output; try with the --stat flag to see a short summary of changes.
- Now look at the changes to a particular directory, such as in:
 - \$ git diff v1.7.0 v1.7.0-rc2 Documentation

or you can pick to look at one or more particular files.



Merges



Exercise 10.1: Resolving Conflicts While Merging

- 1. Either begin with the main and devel repositories from the previous session on branches, or recreate them.
- 2. Make modifications in the **main** branch that conflict with those in the **devel** branch. Commit them, and then use **git merge** to merge the **devel** branch into the **main** branch.
- 3. Resolve the conflicts, either by doing a **git reset** and modifying either of the branches, or by modifying the conflicted files and then committing once again.

Solution 10.1

1. You can skip the following step if you use the results from the previous labs.

```
git branch devel
# checkout the new branch
echo -e "\n\n********* CHECKOUT BRANCH devel ***\n\n"
git checkout devel
# modify a file and add a new one
echo another line >> file1
echo file3 >> file3
git add file1 file3
echo -e "\n\n********
                            DIFFING\n\n"
git diff
echo -e "\n\n********
                            RECOMITTING\n\n"
# now get it all in with another commit
git commit . -s -m "This is a commit in the devel branch"
# list files
echo -e "\n\nlist files, then git ls-files\n\n"
ls -1
git ls-files
# now checkout the original branch
echo -e "\n\n******** LIST BRANCHES AND CHECKOUT main **\n\n"
git branch
git checkout main
# list files
echo -e "\n\n************ list files, then git ls-files\n\n"
ls -1
git ls-files
echo -e "\n\n********** SHOW THE BRANCH\n\n"
```

```
git add file1
  git commit -s -m"finally got it right"

git ls-files
  git diff
  git branch
```

```
s_10/lab_conflict.sh
```

in your solutions file.

Please see SOLUTIONS/s_10/lab_conflict.sh

Exercise 10.2: Rebasing

- 1. After you have produced a development branch make some changes to the main branch and recommit.
- 2. Do git log on the devel branch to show the history of commits.
- 3. Rebase the development branch, using git rebase, off the modified main branch.
- 4. Once more, do git log on the devel branch to show the history of commits, and note the difference.

Solution 10.2

1. You can skip this step if you use the results from the earlier labs, or repeat the first step from the previous lab.



```
git diff main devel

# get a log of the devel branch
echo -e "\n\n************ git log on devel branch *** \n\n"

git checkout devel
git log
```

```
# get a log of the devel branch
echo -e "\n\n************************* git log on devel branch *** \n\n"
git checkout devel
git log
```

```
s_10/lab_rebase.sh
```

in your solutions file.

Please see SOLUTIONS/s_10/lab_rebase.sh



Managing Local and Remote Repositories



Exercise 11.1: Accessing Your Repository Remotely with the git:// Protocol

• Create a repository and populate it; you can use a solution for a previous session to do this. To make a proper remote repository first clone it on your local machine using the --bare option, as in:

```
$ git clone --bare <pathto>/git-test /tmp/my-remote-git-repo
```

• To make it accessible through the git:// protocol you will have to create the git-daemon-export-ok file in the main project directory or in the .git subdirectory, and start the **git-daemon** process. If you do:

\$ git daemon

someone can clone your repository by doing:

\$ git clone git://ipaddress/tmp/my-remote-git-repo

substituting a correct value for ipaddress and giving a full path.

More conveniently you can specify a root, or base, directory for the repositories by doing:

```
$ git daemon --base-path=/tmp
```

and then someone can clone your repository by doing:

\$ git clone git://ipaddress/my-remote-git-repo



Please Note

You do not have to be a superuser to run **git-daemon** and you will probably want to run it in background or figure out how to get it to run as a service on boot.

- You might try and see what happens if you either leave out the step of starting the daemon, or creating the git-daemon-export-ok file.
- If you happen to have a partner on another machine, or are running two machines, try to clone each other's repositories using this method.

Exercise 11.2: Accessing Your Repository Remotely using ssh

• Make a new clone of the repo using the **ssh** protocol, using both of the two following methods:

```
$ git clone ssh://user@ipaddress/tmp/my-remote-git-repo
$ git clone user@ipaddress:/tmp/my-remote-git-repo
```

substituting a correct value for user@ipaddress.

- If you happen to have a partner on another machine, or are running two machines, try to clone each other's repositories using this method.
- In order to get this to work you may have to install an ssh server. On RPM-based machines this might involve:

```
$ sudo dnf install openssh-server
and on deb-based systems:
$ sudo apt-get install openssh-server
```

Exercise 11.3: Accessing Your Repository Remotely using http

Make a new clone of the repo using the http protocol, as in:

```
$ git clone https://ipaddress/my-remote-git-repo
```

substituting a correct value for ipaddress.

- If you happen to have a partner on another machine, or are running two machines, try to clone each other's repositories using this method.
- In order to get this to work you may have to install an http server. On RPM-based machines this might involve:

```
$ sudo dnf install httpd
and on deb-based systems:
$ sudo apt-get install apache2
and then start it up with
$ sudo systemctl start httpd
```

Do not forget to run

```
$ git --bare update-server-info
```

in the project directory before trying to access the repository through https://.

• For this to work the repository has to be available through your web server. For simplicity, you can put it under /var/www/html (or in /var/www/git on deb-based systems), or you can set up a link from there to the actual location, as in:

```
$ sudo ln -s /tmp/my-remote-git-repo /var/www/html/my-remote-git-repo
$ sudo ln -s /tmp/my-remote-git-repo /var/www/git/my-remote-git-repo
```

Of course you can put in in other places, but we do not want to get into the details of web server configuration here.

Exercise 11.4: Pushing Changes into the Remote Repository

• Make some changes to your local repository which we will then **push** to the remote location. You might just add a file, or change one of them etc.



- First try using the **ssh** protocol. Do you have any problems?
- Now try with the **git:**// protocol. For this to work you will have to make sure to configure the daemon either with --enable=receive-pack for a global change for all repositories on your system (which is not smart) or by configuring the config file or your repository as noted previously.
- Can you push an update through the https:// protocol?

Using Patches



Exercise 12.1: Synchronizing with Patches

- 1. First initialize a repository, configuring it with name and email address, etc. Then add a couple of files to the project and commit them.
- 2. Now make a clone of the repository with git clone and change to the new directory.
- 3. Change a file in the copy and create a new file. Use git add and git commit to bring the repository fully up to date.
- 4. Produce a patch using git format-patch. Use the -s option to produce a signed-off line.
- 5. Go back to the original repository and first try to apply the patch with git apply --check. If that succeeds apply the patch with git am.

For an extra exercise try to use git send-email to send the patch to yourself.

Solution 12.1

```
1.

# initialize the repository and put our name and email in the .config file

echo -e "\n\n******* CREATING THE REPOSITORY AND CONFIGURING IT\n\n"

rm -rf git-test; mkdir git-test; cd git-test
git init
git config user.name "A Smart Guy"
git config user.email "asmartguy@linux.com"

echo -e "\n\n******* CREATING A COUPLE OF FILES AND ADDING THEM TO THE PROJECT AND COMMITTING\n\
echo file1 > file1
echo file2 > file2
git add file1 file2
git commit . -s -m "This is our first commit"
```

```
2.

echo -e "\n\n******* MAKING A NEW CLONE\n\n"

cd ..

git clone git-test git-newer
```

```
3.
    echo -e "\n\n********* MAKING CHANGES TO THE REPOSITORY*\n\n"
    cd git-newer
    echo another line >> file2
    echo a third file > file3
    echo -e "\n\n********** ADDING AND COMMITTING THE CHANGES\n\n"
    git add file2 file3
    git commit -s -m"modifications from the new clone"
```

```
4.
echo -e "\n\n********* PRODUCING THE PATCH*\n\n"

git format-patch -1 -s
mv 00* ..
```

```
s_12/lab_patches.sh
```

in your solutions file.

Please see SOLUTIONS/s_12/lab_patches.sh



Advanced Git Interfaces: Gerrit



Exercise 13.1: A Gerrit Walk through

Since we do not have a Gerrit server set up, it is not easy to do an exercise demonstrating its capabilities.

The project, however, has a great walk through example at https://gerrit-review.googlesource.com/Documentation/intro-gerrit-walkthrouhtml which demonstrates step by step how to:

- · Making a change
- · Creating the review
- · Reviewing the change
- · Reworking the change
- · Verifying the change
- · Submitting the change.

Please read this example thoroughly.