# Basics of Version Control Systems

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August 20-22, 2018: Day 2

#### What are VCS

#### Software development perspective

Version control systems (VCS) (or Source Configuration Management (SCM) systems \*) allow developers or authors to keep track of the history of their projects? source code. [source]

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#### Generic view

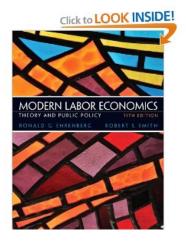
Detailed mechanism to manage different versions (historical, parallel) of documents, files, programs, etc.

#### You already have it

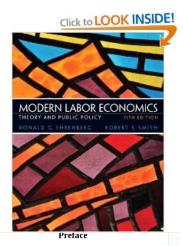
#### Implicit uses

- Backup systems (Apple Time Machine, others)
- Word processors (Undo feature, Track changes in Word, finer-grained features in content management systems: Google Docs, Blog software, etc.)
- Versioning filesystems
- Paper books!

## Modern Labor Economics: Theory and Public Policy

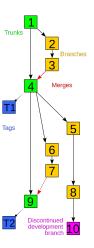


### Modern Labor Economics: Theory and Public Policy

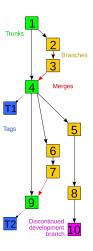


#### New to This Edition

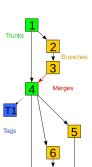
 This eleventh edition of Modern Labor Economics has been thoroughly updated in terms of both tabular material and references to the latest literature. Our goal in these updates is to make our textbook a comprehensive reference, for both students and professors, to critical factual information about the labor Vilhuber



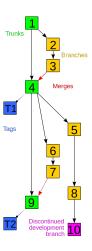
1 First edition



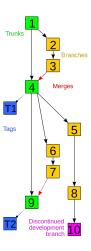
- 1 First edition
- 4 Second edition



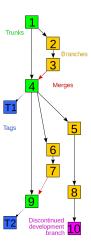
- 1 First edition
- 4 Second edition
- 5 Start of work on a Canadian edition



- 1 First edition
- 4 Second edition
- 5 Start of work on a Canadian edition
- 6 Start of work on the next **US** edition



- 1 First edition
- 4 Second edition
- 5 Start of work on a Canadian edition
- 6 Start of work on the next US edition
- 9 Third edition



- 1 First edition
- 4 Second edition
- 5 Start of work on a Canadian edition
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- 9 Third edition
- 10 First Canadian edition

The most common method... Also used in email versioning... Remember this?

```
01_01_readBLS.R

02_01_readCensus.R

02_02_prepareCensus.R

03_01_create_analysis_data.R

04_01_runOLS.sas

README.txt
```

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README.txt

02_01_readCensus.R.bak
```

The most common method... Also used in email versioning...

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01_01_readBLS.R
02_01_readCensus.R
02_02_prepareCensus.R
03_01_create_analysis_data.R
04_01_runOLS.sas
README.txt
02_01_readCensus.R.bak
02_01_readCensus.V2.R
```

The most common method... Also used in email versioning...

#### What if I make changes?

```
01_01_readBLS.R

02_01_readCensus.R

02_02_prepareCensus.R

03_01_create_analysis_data.R

04_01_runOLS.sas

README.txt

02_01_readCensus.R.bak

02_01_readCensus_V2.R
```

02 01 readCensus V3.R

The most common method... Also used in email versioning...

```
01_01_readBLS.R
02_01_readCensus.R
02_02_prepareCensus.R
03_01_create_analysis_data.R
04 01 runOLS.sas
README.txt
02 01 readCensus.R.bak
02 01 readCensus V2.R
02 01 readCensus V3.R
02_01_readCensus_V3-jma.R
```

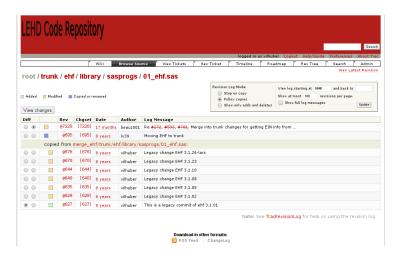
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02 01 readCensus.R.bak
02 01 readCensus V2.R
02 01 readCensus V3.R
02_01_readCensus_V3-jma.R
02_01_readCensus_V3-jma-rm.R
```

# Better way

Is there a better way?

## History



## Two major types of version-management

#### Centralized model

Server-client approach, editors check out a copy, modify it, and check it back in. Multiple editors:

- File locking: only one person can check out any given file
- Version merging: discrepancies are handled upon checkin

## Two major types of version-management

#### Centralized model

Server-client approach, editors check out a copy, modify it, and check it back in. Multiple editors:

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#### Distributed model

There is no central server (prescribed by software). Every editor has a full copy of all version, synchronisation occurs by exchanging patches.

#### Focus in this class

#### We will focus on Git:

- Subversion (centralized) still broadly in use, but no longer supported at Cornell
- ► Git (decentralized) Hautahi

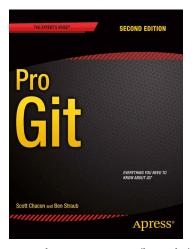
Windows TortoiseGit (free)

OSX installed (Xcode) upon first use

Linux typically integrated

with various semi-specialized graphical versions (Github client, etc.)

#### THE reference for Git



git-scm.com/book/en/v2

### Learning more

#### Numerous resources on the web

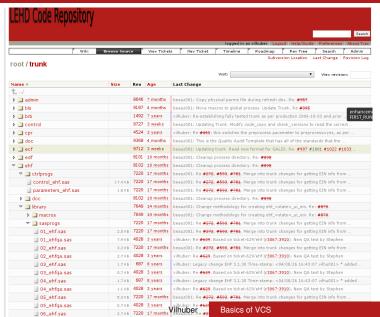
- ▶ https://try.github.io/
- ▶ https://www.atlassian.com/git/tutorials

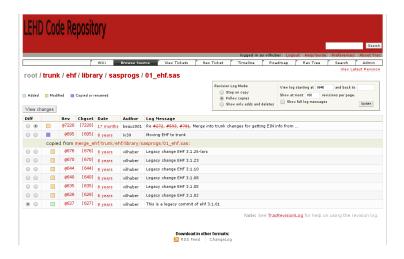
## Tracking history

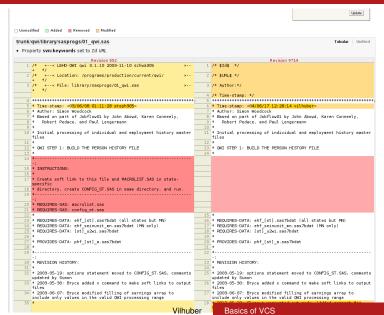
#### What happened? And who did what?

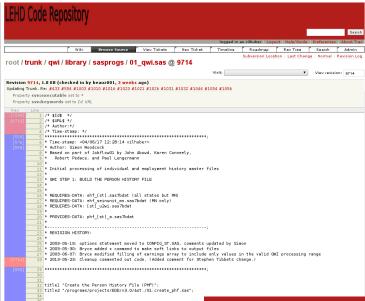
One of the key advantages of using version control systems is ... to control versions.

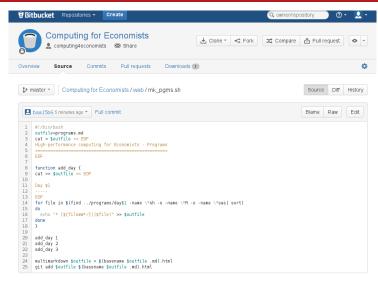
- Straightforward to view multiple versions of a file (assuming proper usage)
- Possibility to view who changed what ("blame" or "annotate")















#### VCS infrastructure

#### At Cornell

Cornell Sourceforge (obsolete as of Sept 30, 2018)

#### Elsewhere

- GitHub (Git, subversion, free for open-source and academic users)
- BitBucket (Git, no subversion, free for academic users)
- Roll your own: no server required for Git on your PC

Intro Basics VCS Cheat sheets

- ► Git command-line cheat sheet
- Xcode cheat sheet (for Mac users)