

Git for scientific projects: manage your code and work in teams

Dimitri Marinelli

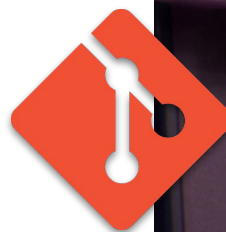
UBICS

My experience with git

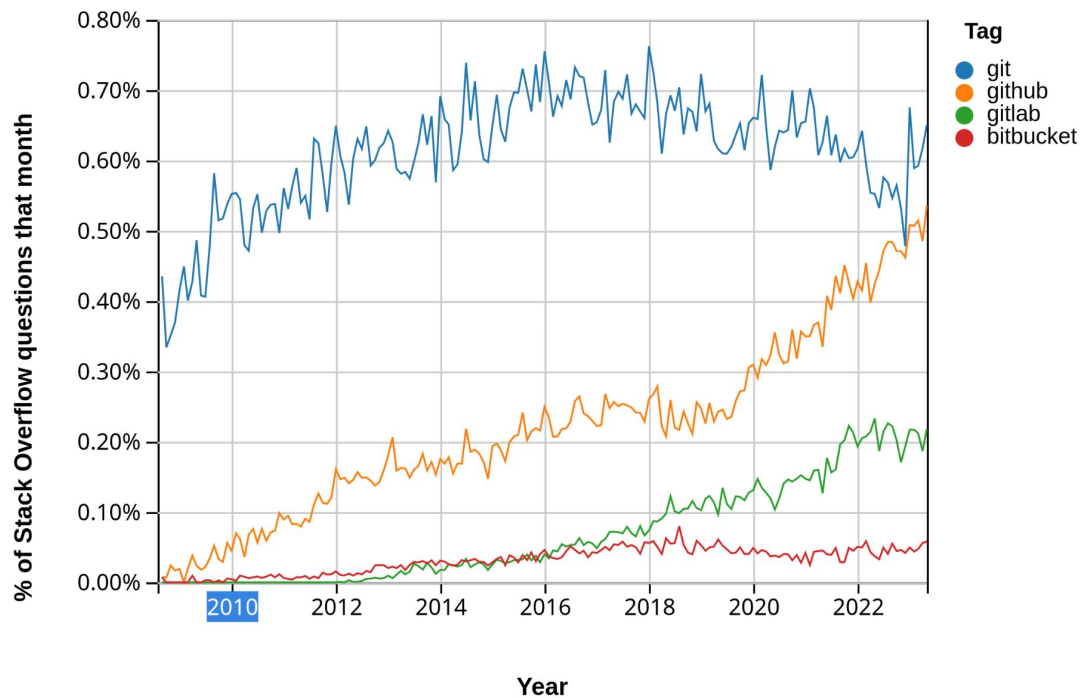
- Before 2016, I used git only for small personal projects.
- Postdoc on deep learning in research project Deep Riemann (we used git for all the projects, common and private repositories)
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie in German financial companies (not always, but when developer teams were involved we always used git)
- Data science and data engineering consultant (DevOps pipeline - git was given for granted)

It is years, but...

I am not



What I actually do:



A moment of clarity: two different things

The software



Services



GitHub



GitLab*

ATLASSIAN



Bitbucket

* is also a software for in premises repository for git

The starting point: a folder in your computer



You want to track what is happening within the files in the folder on my local machine.

All the files? ... well, only the interesting ones.

IT IS OPTIMAL TO
TRACK YOUR WORK
NOT THE WORK OF
THE COMPUTER:

- Git is **very good** in tracking **text files** (like code, latex, mark down...)
- Can track binaries or any other file (images, pdfs, mathematica notebooks)



Large files (e.g. over 100MB) can make your life not easy.

[There are other tools, if you really want it, e.g. DVC, Git LFS]

From your command line, let's track code in a directory.

Git commands are usually composed of

```
git command --options -o
```

```
> cd git_course/
```

```
git_course> git init
```

Initialized empty Git repository in /home/dimitri/UB/git_course/.git/

```
git_course (main)> git status
```







On branch main

No commits yet

nothing to commit (create/copy files and use "git add" to track)

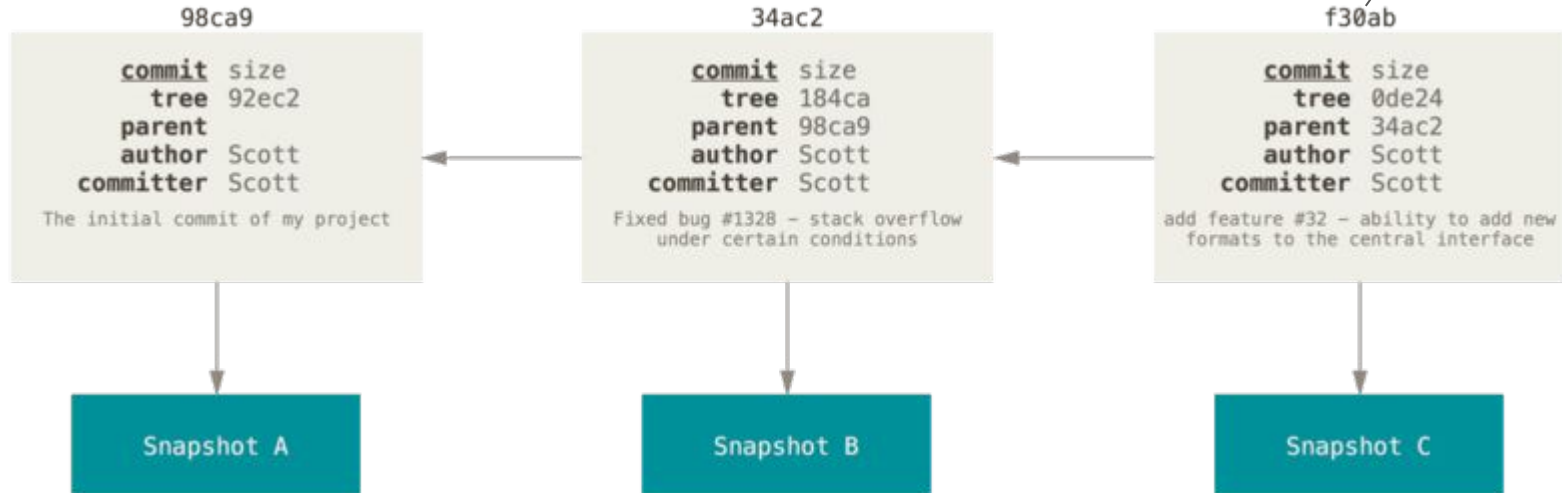
```
git_course (main)>
```

The history is made of commits:

Branches: Show All Show Remote Branches 🔍 🔍 ⚙️ 🔄 🔄				
Graph	Description	Date	Author	Commit
	Uncommitted Changes (8134)	19 Jun 2023 14:23	*	*
	 data_structure <i>origin</i> App is able to load images in the database	19 Jun 2023 03:27	Dimitri Marinelli	ccd34576
	Updated tensorflow version included board selection process in the streamlit_app.py	18 Jun 2023 17:00	Dimitri Marinelli	5335fc94
	management app connected to database	18 Jun 2023 12:36	Dimitri Marinelli	1064f412
	merged updated and fixed a few bugs	17 Jun 2023 21:20	Dimitri Marinelli	2e9f24c9
	 board_choice <i>origin</i> updated requirements and stramlit_app is showing team	17 Jun 2023 19:53	Dimitri Marinelli	edf61115
	Added page for players to choose board	15 Jun 2023 14:08	AleixNicolas	8c682b91
	 main <i>origin</i> linted code for streamlit_manager_app.py	15 Jun 2023 00:35	Dimitri Marinelli	fcf1e8ca
	 0.1.6 changed version	14 Jun 2023 19:51	Dimitri Marinelli	dc6e939b
	Merge pull request #18 from dimitri-mar/improvements	14 Jun 2023 19:46	Dimi	bac069ea
	 improvements All test working now. Game without mood allowed now	14 Jun 2023 19:37	Dimitri Marinelli	68f8e1fe
	included test for segregation, tests fail cause major revision to be done	14 Jun 2023 19:21	Dimitri Marinelli	fa2f3dcc
	updated version	11 Jun 2023 16:07	Dimitri Marinelli	0f7183cf
	worked around RGB vs BGR	11 Jun 2023 16:06	Dimitri Marinelli	6925dc24
	new model only wood combined multiple boards	11 Jun 2023 13:13	Dimitri Marinelli	48be1988
	SchellingGame: Corrected segregation function, and return -1 if calculation not possible. S...	10 Jun 2023 10:37	AleixNicolas	5740b862
	new model only wood	9 Jun 2023 17:15	Dimitri Marinelli	518eda4c
	introduced tests	9 Jun 2023 17:04	Dimitri Marinelli	290273f7
	fixed error in the calculation of segregation index	8 Jun 2023 12:27	AleixNicolas	669710c1

Each commit points to a previous commit

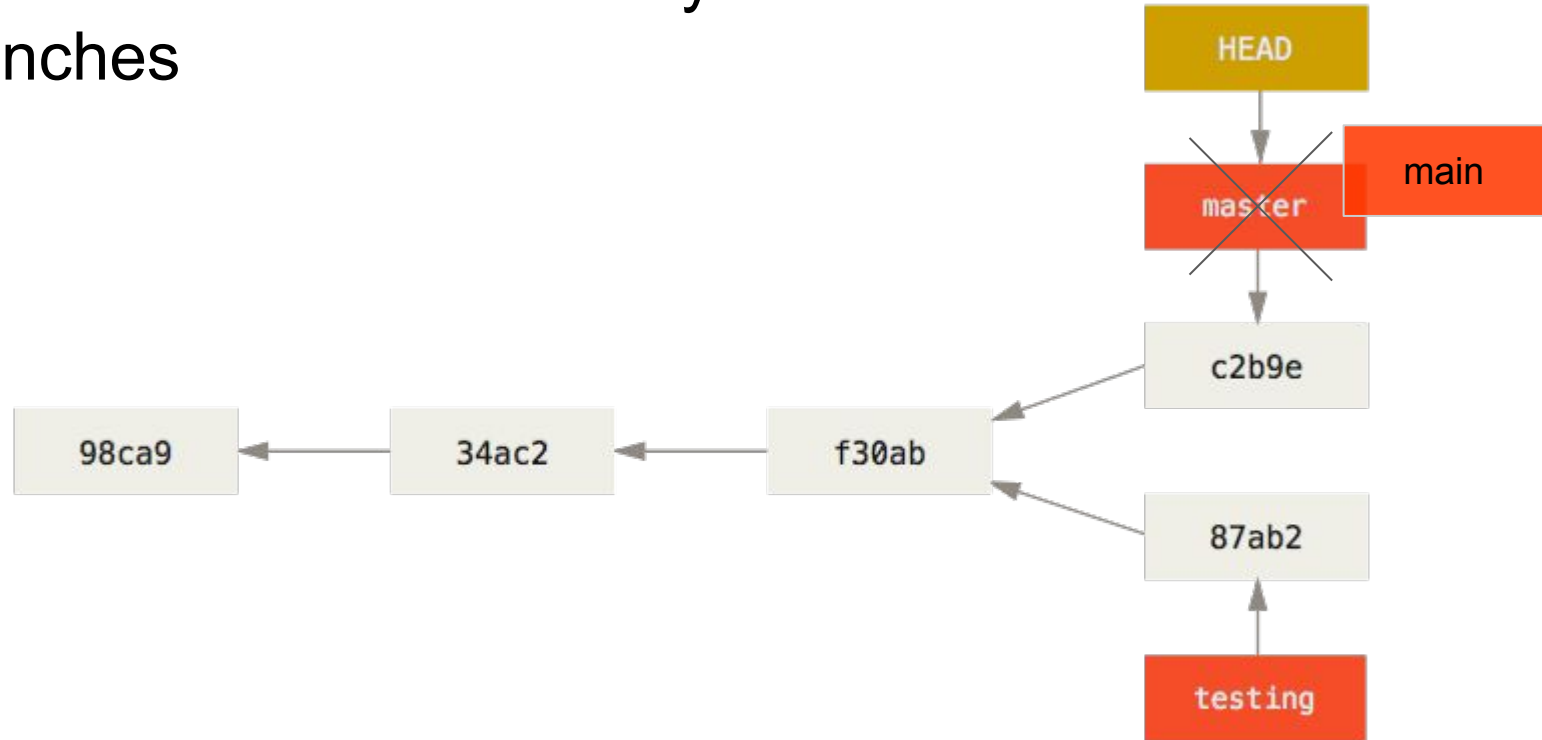
Unique id of the commit



In the folder you do not see anything. All the logic takes place in a hidden folder `git_course/.git`

[many images are taken from
<https://git-scm.com/book/en/v2> Pro Git book]

This data structure naturally allows branches



You do not have to worry of the data structure

Let's create our first commit:

```
git_course (main)> ls  
README.md
```

```
git_course (main)> git add README.md
```

```
git_course (main)> git status  
On branch main
```

No commits yet

Changes to be committed:
(use "git rm --cached ..." to unstage)
new file: README.md



The file is "staged"

```
git_course (main)> git commit -m "first commit"
```

```
[main (root-commit) 714918b] first commit  
1 file changed, 1 insertion(+)  
create mode 100644 README.md
```

One of my personal opinions:

- There are shortcuts:

```
git add .  
git add *
```

or even:

```
git commit -a -m "another version" (without staging)
```

I suggest: do not to use them.

Our folders are full of plots, spreadsheets, csv files, file generated by the simulations, scripts inherited but never used...

You do not want to accidentally commit everything.

UN-DOing is always longer than writing one extra command.

We can modify our tracked files.

I can add a new line to README.md

```
git_course (main)> git status
```

On branch main

Changes not staged for commit:

(use "git add ..." to update what will be committed)

(use "git restore ..." to discard changes in working directory)

modified: README.md

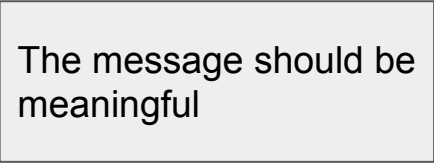
no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")

```
git_course (main)> git add README.md
```




```
git_course (main)> git commit -m "Added a new line to the README file"
```

[main 7363406] Added a new line to the file

1 file changed, 2 insertions(+), 1 deletion(-)



The message should be meaningful

Graph	Description	Date	Author	Comm
  main	Added a new line to the file	19 Jun 2023 18:47	Dimitri Marinelli	736340
	first commit	19 Jun 2023 18:03	Dimitri Marinelli	714918

Another personal opinion: commit often!

.... But it is also good if you commit something that work-ish.

git diff - to compare different point in history

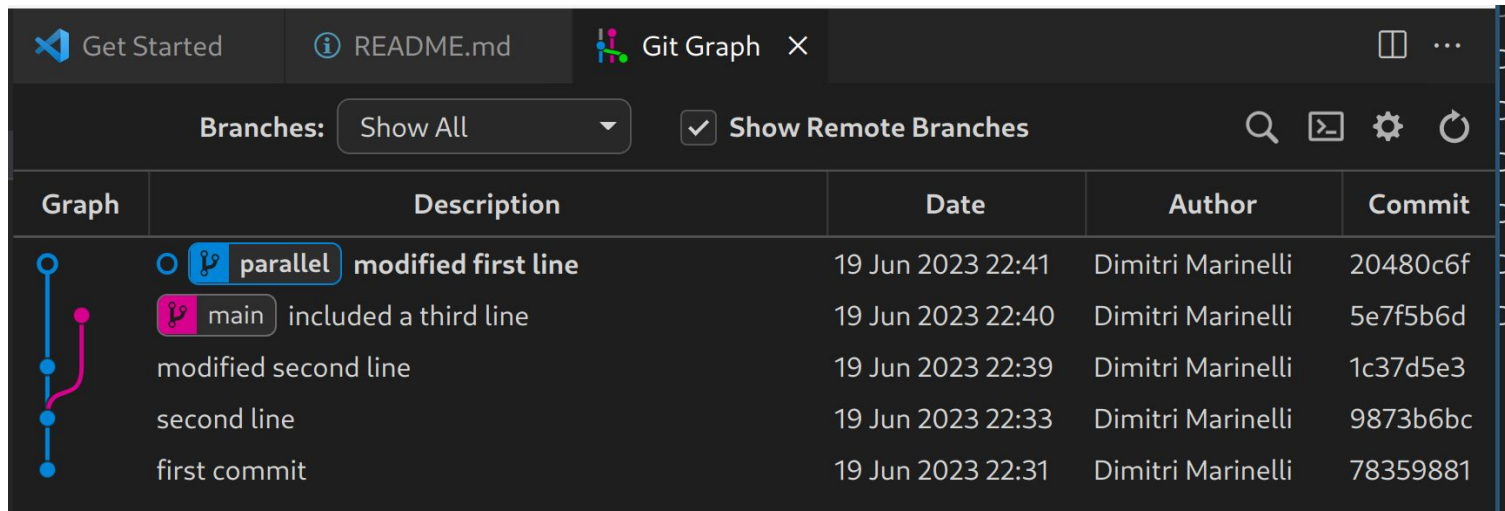
```
diff --git a/README.md
b/README.md
index 6dd8be0..184a4f9 100644
--- a/README.md
+++ b/README.md
@@ -1,2 +1,4 @@
First line. I modify also the first line!
-A second line. Change the second
line
\ No newline at end of file
+A second line. Change the second
line
+
+A forth line
\ No newline at end of file
(END)
```

Create a new branch








`git checkout where_you_want_to_go`
is the command used for navigating the history.

`git checkout -b new_branch`

(it prepares the folder to changes that will appear in the commits of the new branch)



The screenshot shows the Git GUI interface with a dark theme. At the top, there are tabs for 'Get Started', 'README.md', and 'Git Graph'. Below the tabs, there is a 'Branches:' section with a 'Show All' dropdown and a 'Show Remote Branches' checkbox. The main area displays a commit history table with the following columns: Graph, Description, Date, Author, and Commit.

Graph	Description	Date	Author	Commit
	 parallel modified first line	19 Jun 2023 22:41	Dimitri Marinelli	20480c6f
	 main included a third line	19 Jun 2023 22:40	Dimitri Marinelli	5e7f5b6d
	modified second line	19 Jun 2023 22:39	Dimitri Marinelli	1c37d5e3
	second line	19 Jun 2023 22:33	Dimitri Marinelli	9873b6bc
	first commit	19 Jun 2023 22:31	Dimitri Marinelli	78359881

If we want to look at what is different between the two branches

GOOGLE IT! - an examples I never remember.

It is important to know that git is integrated with “diff” software to compare text files.

We want to update “main” with the changes of “parallel”



We want to update “main” with the changes of “parallel”

```
git_course (parallel)> git checkout main
```

Switched to branch 'main'

```
git_course (main)> git merge parallel
```

Auto-merging README.md

CONFLICT (content): Merge conflict in README.md

Automatic merge failed; fix conflicts and then commit the result.

```
git_course (main|MERGING) [1]> git status
```

[solve the conflicts ...]

```
git_course (main|MERGING)> git commit -m "a merge"
```

[main 3ec9e91] a merge

```
git_course (main)>
```

How the README.md looks:

- Above in VScode
- Below in pure txt

```
Git Graph  README.md ! x
README.md > abc # <<<<<< HEAD
Accept Current Change | Accept Incoming Change | Accept Both Changes | Compare Changes
1 <<<<<< HEAD (Current Change)
2 First line
3 A second line
4 A third line
5 =====
6 First line. I modify also the first line!
7 A second line. Change the second line
8
9 A forth line
10 >>>>>> parallel (Incoming Change)
11

PROBLEMS  OUTPUT  DEBUG CONSOLE  TERMINAL  JUPYTER  SERIAL MONITOR

<<<<<< HEAD
First line
A second line
-A third line
|=====
|First line. I modify also the first line!
|A second line. Change the second line
|
|A forth line
|>>>>>> parallel
~
~
```

Another format

Git Graph

README.md !

Merging: README.md ! ✕

README.md > # <<<<<< HEAD

Incoming ϕ a9893d1 parallel ...

1 First line. I modify also the first line!

2 A second line. Change the second line

3

4 A forth line

Current ϕ 5e7f5b6 main ...

1 First line

2 A second line

3 A third line

4

Result README.md

1 Conflict Remaining


11


<<<<<< HEAD ... >>>>>> parallel

8 Conflicting Lines




Accept Merge

The merge is accomplished with a commit.

 Git Graph ×

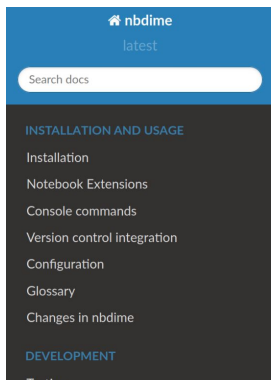
 README.md ⌵ ⌵ ⌵

Branches: Show All ✓ Show Remote Branches 🔍 📄 ⚙️ 🔄

Graph	Description	Date	Author	Commit
	 main a merge	19 Jun 2023 23:12	Dimitri Marinelli	3ec9e91f
	 parallel do not remember	19 Jun 2023 22:56	Dimitri Marinelli	a9893d1a
	modified first line	19 Jun 2023 22:41	Dimitri Marinelli	20480c6f
	included a third line	19 Jun 2023 22:40	Dimitri Marinelli	5e7f5b6d
	modified second line	19 Jun 2023 22:39	Dimitri Marinelli	1c37d5e3
	second line	19 Jun 2023 22:33	Dimitri Marinelli	9873b6bc
	first commit	19 Jun 2023 22:31	Dimitri Marinelli	78359881

Warning with notebooks and binary stuff

Jupyter needs its own tool



[Docs](#) » nbtime – diffing and merging of Jupyter Notebooks

[Edit on GitHub](#)

nbtime – diffing and merging of Jupyter Notebooks

Version: 3.2.2.dev

nbtime provides tools for diffing and merging Jupyter notebooks.

```
In [4]:  
{...}  
33 iy = func(ix)  
34 verts = [(a, 0)] + list(zip(ix, iy)) + [(b, 0)]  
35 poly = Polygon(verts, facecolor=0.8, edgecol  
36 ax.add_patch(poly)  
37  
{...}
```

```
In [4]:  
{...}  
33 iy = func(ix)  
34 verts = [(a, 0)] + list(zip(ix, iy)) + [(b, 0)]  
35 poly = Polygon(verts, facecolor=0.8, edgecol  
36 ax.add_patch(poly)  
37  
{...}
```

INSTALLED



[@jupyterlab/git](#)

A JupyterLab extension for version control using git

[About](#)



[@jupyter-widgets/jupyterlab-manager](#)

The JupyterLab extension providing Jupyter widgets.

[About](#)



[jupyterlab-plotly](#)

The plotly Jupyter extension

[About](#)



[nbtime-jupyterlab](#)

A JupyterLab extension for showing Notebook diffs.

[About](#)



[jupyterlab_pygments](#)

Pygments theme using JupyterLab CSS variables

[About](#)

There are many other commands....

`git stash`

`git rebase`

`git tag`

`git branch`

`git blame`

...

But they are for an advanced course, and, honestly, I use them rarely.

And one useful file

`.gitignore`

Work in teams

(or synchronize your folder with a remote repository)

Ingredient 1. You need a remote repository



Ingredient 1. You need a remote repository

Create a new repository

A repository contains all project files, including the revision history. Already have a project repository elsewhere? [Import a repository](#).

Required fields are marked with an asterisk (*).

Repository template

No template ▾

Start your repository with a template repository's contents.

Owner *

 dimitri-mar ▾

Repository name *

git_course

git_course is available.

Great repository names are short and memorable. Need inspiration? How about [jubilant-lamp](#) ?

Description (optional)

an temp repository

☐  **Public**
Anyone on the internet can see this repository. You choose who can commit.

☒  **Private**
You choose who can see and commit to this repository.



Initialize this repository with:

☐ **Add a README file**
This is where you can write a long description for your project. [Learn more about READMEs](#).

Add .gitignore

.gitignore template: None ▾

Choose which files not to track from a list of templates. [Learn more about ignoring files](#).

Choose a license

License: None ▾

A license tells others what they can and can't do with your code. [Learn more about licenses](#).

 You are creating a private repository in your personal account.

Create repository

Ingredient 2. You need to set the local folder to talk with the remote repository

Quick setup — if you've done this kind of thing before

or ☐ HTTPS ☐ SSH



Get started by [creating a new file](#) or [uploading an existing file](#). We recommend every repository include a [README](#), [LICENSE](#), and [.gitignore](#).

...or create a new repository on the command line

```
echo "# git_course_tmp" >> README.md
git init
git add README.md
git commit -m "first commit"
git branch -M main
git remote add origin git@github.com:dimitri-mar/git_course_tmp.git
git push -u origin main
```



...or push an existing repository from the command line

```
git remote add origin git@github.com:dimitri-mar/git_course_tmp.git
git branch -M main
git push -u origin main
```



...or import code from another repository

You can initialize this repository with code from a Subversion, Mercurial, or TFS project.

[Import code](#)

Ingredient 2. You need to set the local folder to talk with the remote repository

```
git remote add origin git@github.com:dimitri-mar/git_course_tmp.git
```

It means: to my local repository (my folder) add a remote repository that locally we will call “origin” with the address:

```
git@github.com:dimitri-mar/git_course_tmp.git
```

The address is unique to the remote repository.

Ingredient 3. We want to **push** what we have in our directory into the remote repository (github, gitlab, etc)

```
git_course (main)> git push
```

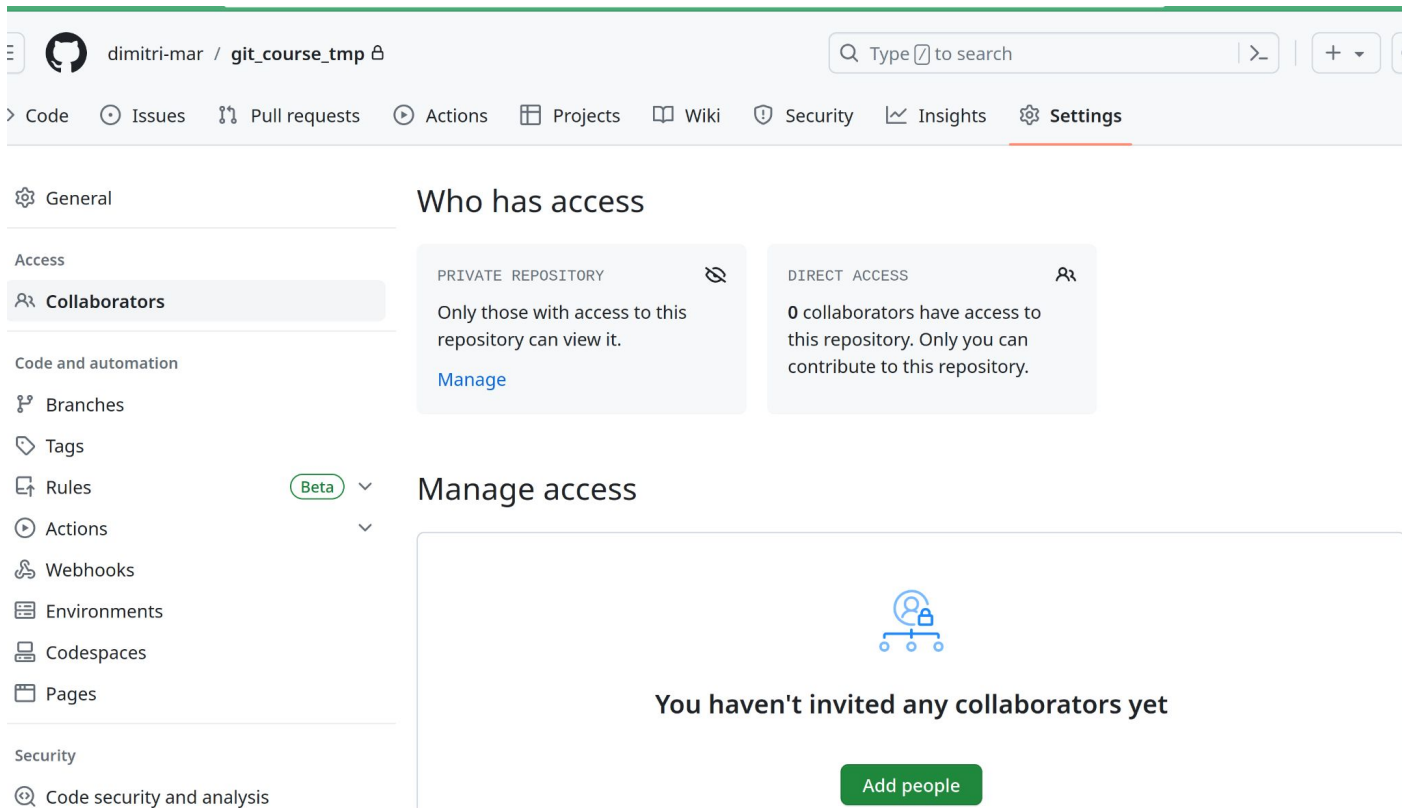
fatal: The current branch main has no upstream branch.

To push the current branch and set the remote as upstream, use

```
git push --set-upstream origin main
```

To have this happen automatically for branches without a tracking upstream, see 'push.autoSetupRemote' in 'git help config'.

Ingredient 4. You can add collaborators.



The screenshot shows the GitHub repository settings page for 'dimitri-mar / git_course_tmp'. The 'Settings' tab is selected in the top navigation bar. On the left sidebar, the 'Collaborators' section is highlighted under the 'Access' category. The main content area is titled 'Who has access' and contains two panels: 'PRIVATE REPOSITORY' and 'DIRECT ACCESS'. The 'PRIVATE REPOSITORY' panel states 'Only those with access to this repository can view it.' and includes a 'Manage' link. The 'DIRECT ACCESS' panel states '0 collaborators have access to this repository. Only you can contribute to this repository.' Below these panels is a 'Manage access' section with a 'Beta' badge and a dropdown arrow. The main content area also features a large box with a lock icon and the text 'You haven't invited any collaborators yet', with a green 'Add people' button at the bottom.

dimitri-mar / git_course_tmp

Search Type to search

Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights Settings

General

Access

Collaborators

Code and automation

Branches

Tags

Rules

Actions

Webhooks

Environments

Codespaces

Pages

Security

Code security and analysis

Who has access

PRIVATE REPOSITORY

Only those with access to this repository can view it.

[Manage](#)

DIRECT ACCESS

0 collaborators have access to this repository. Only you can contribute to this repository.

Manage access

Beta

You haven't invited any collaborators yet

[Add people](#)

Ingredient 5. Collaborators can **clone** your repository.

```
git clone
```

```
git@github.com:dimitri-mar/git_course_tmp.git
```

The screenshot shows the GitHub interface for a repository named 'git_course_tmp' by user 'dimitri-mar'. The repository is private and has 1 watcher, 0 forks, and 0 stars. The 'main' branch is selected, and there are 2 branches and 0 tags. A red arrow points to the 'Code' button, which has a dropdown menu open. The dropdown menu has two tabs: 'Local' and 'Codespaces'. Under the 'Local' tab, there is a 'Clone' section with options for 'HTTPS', 'SSH', and 'GitHub CLI'. The 'SSH' option is selected, and the URL 'git@github.com:dimitri-mar/git_course_tmp' is displayed. Below the URL, it says 'Use a password-protected SSH key.' There is also a 'Download ZIP' option. The 'Codespaces' tab is currently empty. The repository page also shows a 'Your main branch isn't protected' warning, a commit by 'dimitri-mar' titled 'Update README.md from remote', and a README file with the following content:

First line. I modify also the first line! A second line. Change the second line

A forth line A third line maybe?

On the right side of the repository page, there are sections for 'Releases' (No releases published, Create a new release) and 'Packages' (No packages published, Publish your first package).

Last commands: **pull** and **fetch**

Somebody changed a branch in the remote repository,

- `git pull` from your local branch will download the changes and update the folder
- `git fetch` will download the changes and update the folder

A (not so) bad scenario: divergent branches

You did not listened my advice! You changed “main” in your local, and at the same time your collaborator changed “main” in “origin”, your remote repository.

```
git_course (main)> git status
```

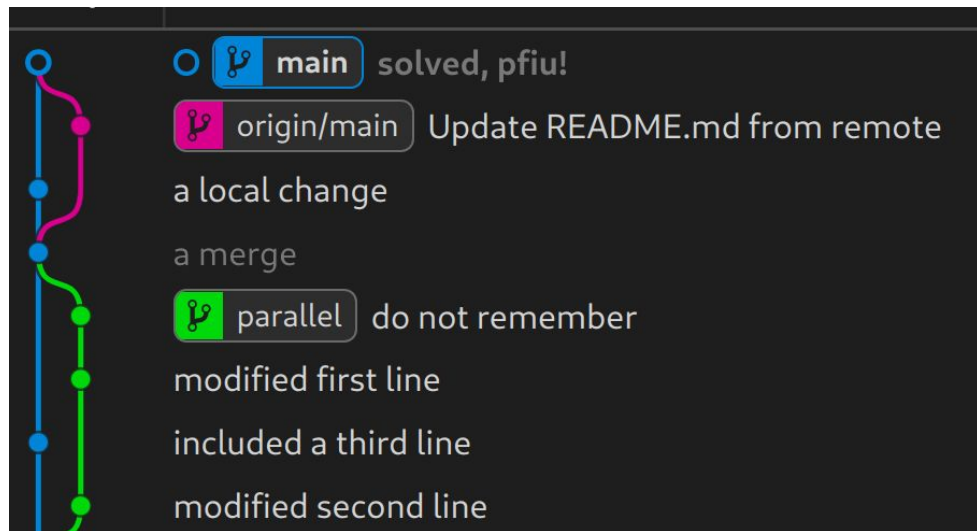
On branch main

Your branch is ahead of 'origin/main' by 1 commit.

(use "git push" to publish your local commits)

nothing to commit, working tree clean

Actually is equivalent to any other branch. You can do a `git merge`



The first time, you will need to tell git what to do, I prefer git merge: `git config pull.rebase false # merge`

The first who **pushes** does less work! Unless...



Configure git the first time

(or every time you get a new computer)



How to collaborate?
(quick intro)

You found a bug, but you can't fix it now.

Create an issue

The screenshot shows the GitHub interface for creating a new issue. The repository is 'dimitri-mar / git_course_tmp'. The navigation bar includes links for Code, Issues (selected), Pull requests, Actions, Projects, Wiki, Security, Insights, and Settings. The main form has a 'Title' field and a 'Write' tab (with a 'Preview' tab). The 'Write' tab contains a rich text editor with a toolbar (bold, italic, link, etc.) and a large text area with the placeholder 'Leave a comment'. Below the text area is a dashed line indicating where to attach files. At the bottom of the form, there is a note about Markdown support and a green 'Submit new issue' button. On the right side, there are filters for Assignees (No one), Labels (None yet), Projects (None yet), and Milestones (No milestone). Below these are sections for 'Development' (showing branches and pull requests) and 'Helpful resources' (linking to GitHub Community Guidelines).

Navigation: <> Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights Settings

Repository: dimitri-mar / git_course_tmp

Search: Type to search

Issue Form:

- Title: [Empty field]
- Write / Preview tabs
- Rich text editor toolbar: H B I [List icons] <> [Link icon] [List icon] [List icon] [List icon] @ [Image icon] [Undo icon] [Redo icon]
- Text area: Leave a comment
- Attachment area: Attach files by dragging & dropping, selecting or pasting them.
- Footer: Styling with Markdown is supported. Submit new issue

Filters:

- Assignees: No one—assign yourself
- Labels: None yet
- Projects: None yet
- Milestone: No milestone

Development: Shows branches and pull requests linked to this issue.

Helpful resources: [GitHub Community Guidelines](#)

The issue is a space where also non-developers can write and interact. Users, managers, ... supervisors ;)

Not only for bugs:

- Proposals
- New features
- User stories

Pull request

You finish what you are doing in your branch, and want to push it to the main branch but:

- Somebody else is responsible for the **main** branch
- You want to keep track of what you did in your branch when you merge in main.
- You want somebody else **review and approve** and merge your branch
- You are proposing a change in an open source project owned by somebody else.



dimitri-mar / git_course_tmp

Search Type to search



Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights Settings

Open a pull request

Create a new pull request by comparing changes across two branches. If you need to, you can also [compare across forks](#).



base: main



compare: new_branch_for_pr

✓ Able to merge. These branches can be automatically merged.



New branch for pr

Write

Preview

H B I ≡ <> 🔗 ≡ ≡ ≡ @ 🗨️ ⬅️ 📄

Here a good description of what you did.

Attach files by dragging & dropping, selecting or pasting them.



Reviewers



No reviews

Assignees



No one—assign yourself

Labels



None yet

Projects



None yet

Milestone



No milestone

Now let's try it out!