

# Version control with git for Mathematicians

<https://github.com/gabindu/git-intro>

Gabriel Indurskis, based on slides by Max Joseph

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3. How much would your science/teaching/life suffer if your workstation exploded right now? (scale from 1-10)

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- in principle a commandline tool, but can use convenient graphical interfaces and websites (GitHub/GitLab/BitBucket)
- many modern editors support it directly without the need of external software

“Always remember your first collaborator is your future self, and your past self doesn’t answer emails”

- Christie Bahlai

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Optionally, create yourself an account on GitHub and log in on GitHub Desktop. (We will actually use GitLab for most things, but having access to GitHub directly is nice as well.)

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  - if you use Emacs, install `magit` package.

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~/.ssh/id\_ed25519.pub (or maybe id\_rsa.pub if you already had an older key)
  - in Git Bash, you can use the command  

```
cat ~/.ssh/id_ed25519.pub | clip
```

  
to easily copy the relevant text.

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Make a directory with a file:

```
mkdir test  
cd test  
echo "This is a fancy test!" > welcome.txt
```

Create other files, of whatever type you want (LaTeX, Markdown, HTML, Python scripts, ...) - binary files are ok as well!

# Tell git to keep track of your files

## Initializing a repository

```
git init
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Notice the `.git/` directory which was created!



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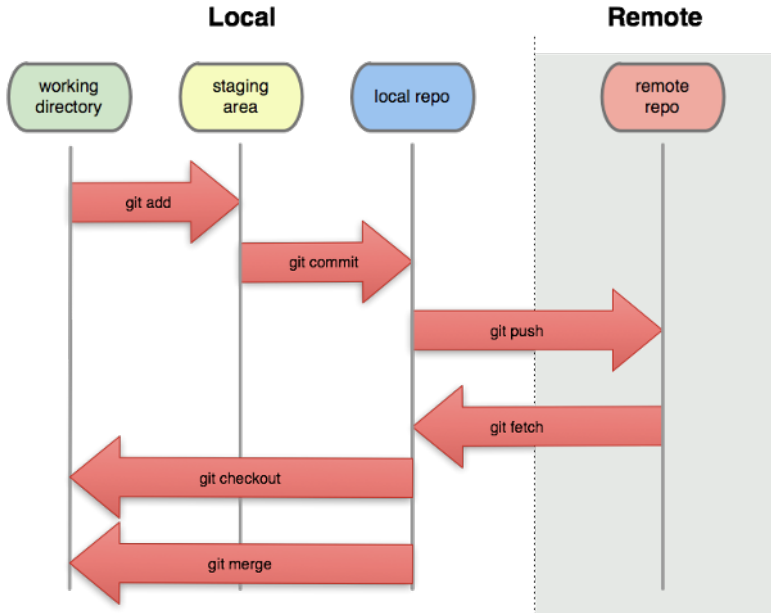
## Adding your file to be tracked by git

```
git add welcome.txt
```

or, to add all changed/new files (careful, this might add undesired temporary files):

```
git add --all
```

# Your changes are now “staged”



# Committing

Changes aren't final until they're committed

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## Committing

Once you're sure that your changes are worth saving  
(THIS WILL GO ON YOUR PERMANENT RECORD)

```
git commit -m 'changed x, y, and z'
```

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	COMMENT	DATE
○	CREATED MAIN LOOP & TIMING CONTROL	14 HOURS AGO
○	ENABLED CONFIG FILE PARSING	9 HOURS AGO
○	MISC BUGFIXES	5 HOURS AGO
○	CODE ADDITIONS/EDITS	4 HOURS AGO
○	MORE CODE	4 HOURS AGO
○	HERE HAVE CODE	4 HOURS AGO
○	AAAAA	3 HOURS AGO
○	ADKFJSLKDFJSDKLFJ	3 HOURS AGO
○	MY HANDS ARE TYPING WORDS	2 HOURS AGO
○	HAAAAAAAANDS	2 HOURS AGO

AS A PROJECT DRAGS ON, MY GIT COMMIT MESSAGES GET LESS AND LESS INFORMATIVE.

# What did we do?

## Commands to investigate changes

```
git status  
git log  
git diff  
git diff file
```

# Make another change

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4. View updated log

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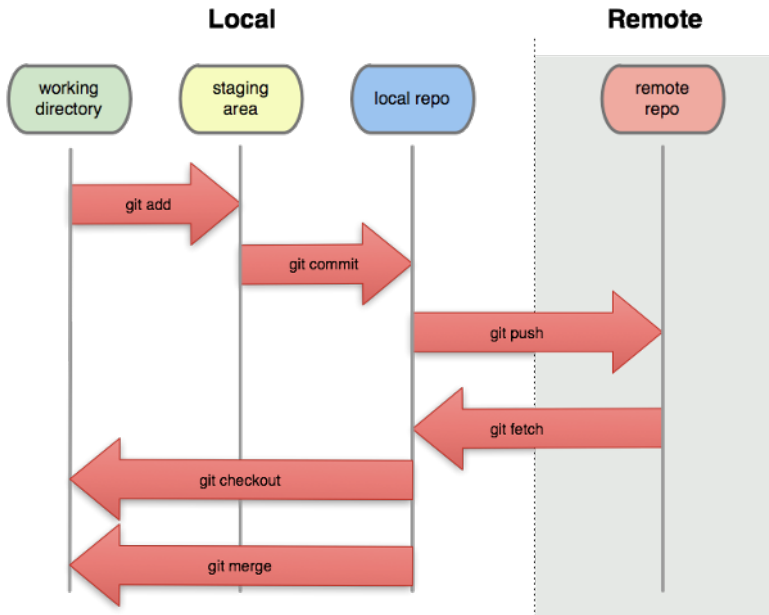
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- Hang on, we do!

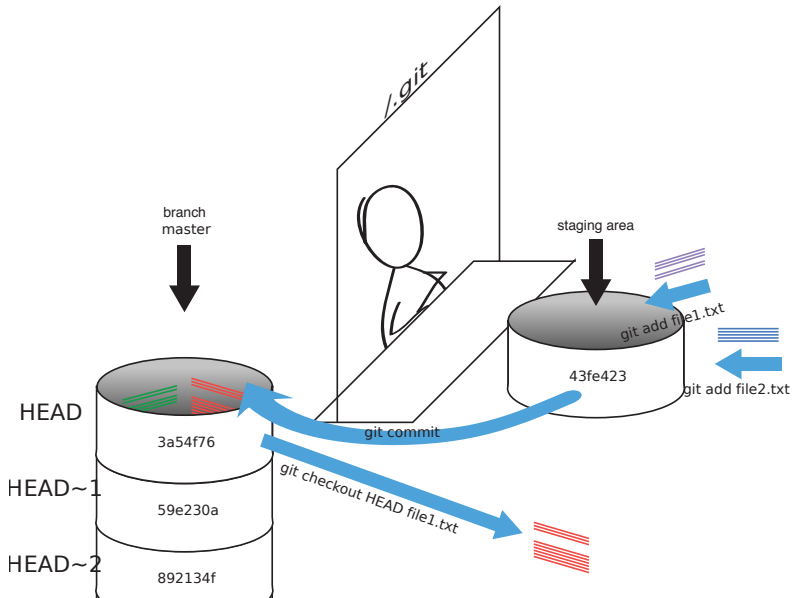
```
git diff
```

```
git checkout HEAD welcome.txt
```

# What happened?



# Wait, what does HEAD refer to?



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## GitHub vs. GitLab vs. BitBucket

### **Private** repos:

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**You can use all three if you want! (But I personally find GitLab the best free offer at the moment.)**

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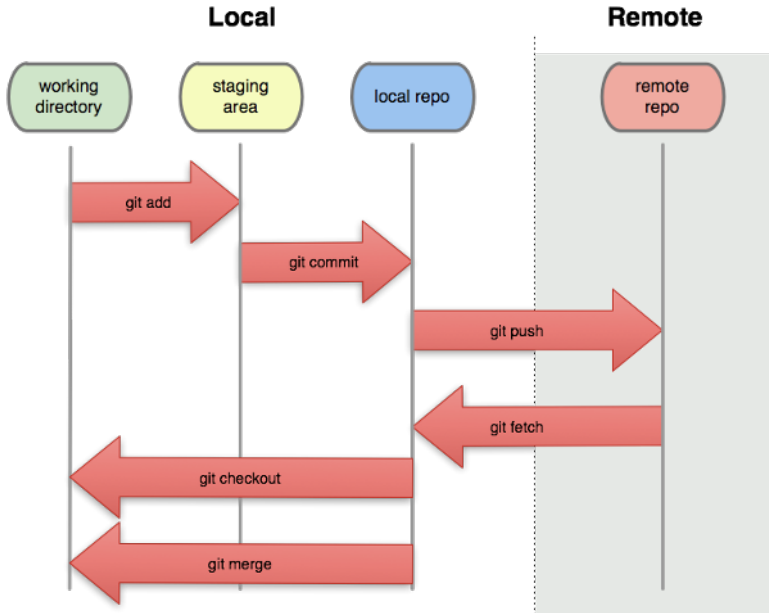
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Check the remote website to see new changes.

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- Technical detail: `git fetch` only checks the status of the remote, while `git pull` actually moves those changes into your working copy.

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- This automatically connects your new local repo with the remote, so you can directly use `git push` and `git pull`.

# Branches

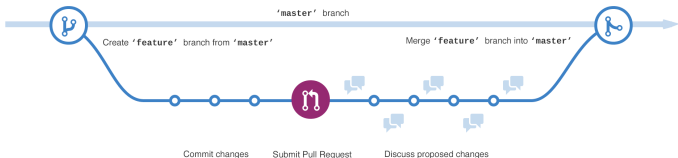
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- But when working on new “features”, it’s usually not a good idea to immediately put those into the master branch!
- So, instead, you create a new branch, work in there without danger of destroying anything for others, and finally ask for the changes to be **merged** into the master branch:



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## Ask for your changes to be merged into master

When you're satisfied with your work (and you pushed to the remote), it's time to “merge” it into the master branch. Usually, only the maintainer of the repository is allowed to do that, so you need to **create a “Pull Request”**, which is done on the website:

### On GitLab:

- go to “Repository -> Branches”, it should list all branches

# Working in a branch

## Create a local branch

- Create & checkout a new branch (for now, use your first name as the name for the branch): `git checkout -b branchname`
- Work on the files as before, stage, commit, and push to the remote server.
- Inspect the log to see what happened (`git log`)

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- fill in some details in the form to explain what you did

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  - create/inspect issues directly from the chat
- I've created a Slack group “CCSL Math Dept” for us, simply let me know if you'd like me to (re-)send an invitation.

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## Champlain St-Lambert Collaboration Ressources

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