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## Common GitHub Issue 1: Merge Conflict

A merge conflict occurs when there are competing changes to a repository. Recall our example:

*Petunia and Linus create branches at the same point in time off of the master and both alter the same line of code. Petunia's branch is merged into the master. Linus' branch has a different recollection of the master, so a conflict arises about the change it believed it was going to make during the merge.*

Fortunately, most merge conflicts can be avoided by keeping your branch up to date with the master. If a merge conflict does arise, GitHub offers the ability to override simple merge conflicts by either accepting or rejecting the conflicting changes.

