← Pre-Course Work

Open-Source Tools

An open-source tool is one whose source code is freely distributed to the public. Anyone can download, install, run, make copies, or suggest improvements to its code.

The open-source tools used by most data scientists are **Git** and **GitHub**. Git is a framework used to help simplify version control, while GitHub is a platform built on Git in order to make it easier to use. Programmers and data scientists use GitHub to contribute and collaborate in an organized way.

We'll get more familiar with Git and GitHub later in this course. For now, think of them as ways to organize and share files. With Git and GitHub, file history is always preserved, making it easier to undo specific changes made at specific points in time.

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