GIT DEEP DIVE

ABOUT ME



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- Software Engineer @ WiseTime
- Polyglot dev & open-source enthusiast
- Command-line ninja
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AGENDA

- What is git (and some basic concepts)
- Diving into .git
- Configuring git
- The feature branch workflow
- git commands to add to your toolkit

WHAT IS GIT?

Git is a free and open source distributed version control system designed to handle everything from small to very large projects with speed and efficiency.



xkcd: xkcd.com/1597/

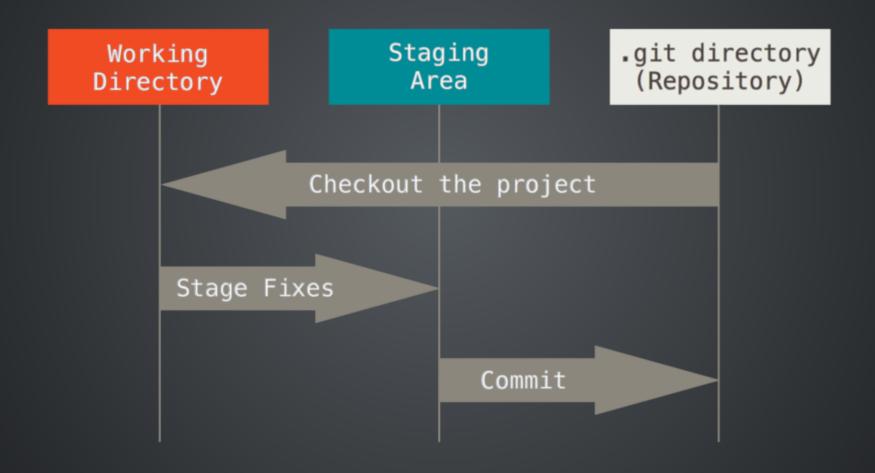
A SHORT HISTORY OF GIT

- Written in April 2005 by Linus Torvalds (creator of Linux)
- Maintained (since July 2005) by Junio Hamano
- v1.0 release was on December 2005
- v2.44 (latest release) at time of writing

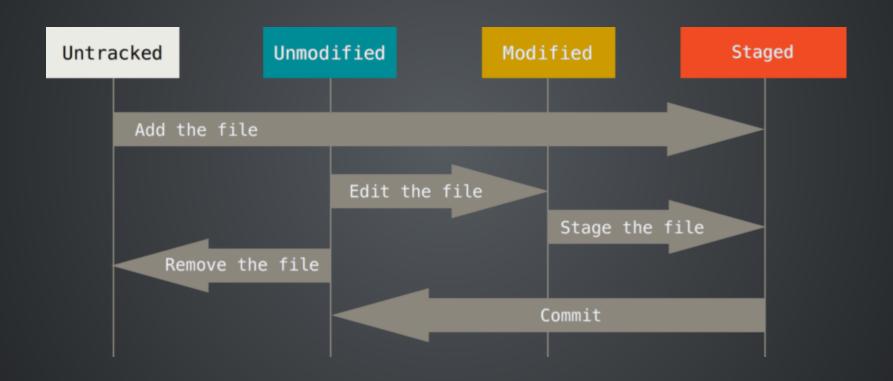
GET GIT WITH GIT

git clone https://github.com/git/git

THREE MAIN SECTIONS



STATUS LIFECYCLE OF YOUR FILES



DIVING INTO . git

git INTERNALS

Here be dragons

```
myrepo/.git/

HEAD

config

hooks

pre-commit

index

objects

refs

heads

main
```

1 Demo: Diving into .git

CONFIGURING GIT

INITIAL SETUP

The git config subcommand lets you get and set configuration variables that control all aspects of how Git looks and operates.

```
# system wide configuration
git config --system

# user specific configuration
git config --global

# repo specific configuration
git config [--local]
```

Each level overrides values in the previous level.

BASIC CONFIGURATION ITEMS

```
# identity
git config --global user.name "John Doe"
git config --global user.email johndoe@example.com

# preferred editor
# defaults to "vi" on most systems
git config --global core.editor "code --wait"
```

CONDITIONAL CONFIG

```
[includeIf "gitdir:~/Developer/work/"]
  path = ~/.gitconfig.work

[includeIf "gitdir:~/Developer/oss/"]
  path = ~/.gitconfig.oss
```

Alias your git commands

```
git config --global alias.br branch
git config --global alias.ci commit
git config --global alias.di diff
git config --global alias.lg 'log --oneline --graph'
git config --global alias.rs restore
git config --global alias.sh stash
git config --global alias.st 'status -sb'
git config --global alias.sw switch
```

Configure a global gitignore

git config --global core.excludesFile gitignore.global

C Enable autocorrect

```
git config --global help.autocorrect <option>

# where option is one of
# 1. immediate (run closest command immediately)
# 2. prompt (ask for confirmation)
# 3. <timeout> (in deciseconds before running the command)
```

Configure auto push upstream for new branches

git config --global push.autoSetupRemote true

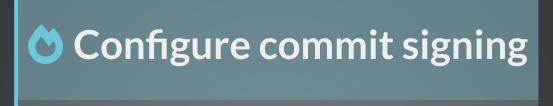
This removes the need for git push ——set upstream <remote> <branch>

Configure delta as the pager tool

git-delta

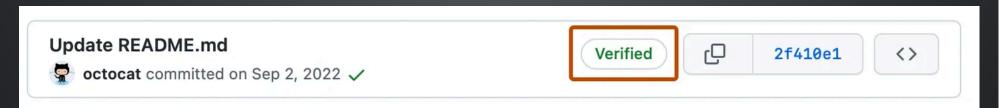
```
[pager]
  diff = delta
  log = delta
  reflog = delta
  show = delta
  blame = delta

[delta]
  features = side-by-side line-numbers decorations
  syntax-theme = Solarized (dark)
  plus-style = "syntax #003800"
  minus-style = "syntax #3f0001"
```



About commit signature verification

git config --global commit.gpgSign true



GETTING HELP

The following are equivalent ways of getting manual page (manpage) help for any git command.

```
# detailed help
git add --help

# concise tl;dr version
git add -h
```

THE FEATURE BRANCH WORKFLOW

GETTING A GIT REPOSITORY

```
# Option 1: Clone an existing repository
git clone <repo>
# Option 2: Initializing a repo in an existing directory
git init
git remote add <remote> <remote-url>
# to check if the remote was properly configured
git remote --verbose
# the remote URLs can also be updated
# generally used when the remote repository is renamed
# or when switching hosting providers e.g. GitHub
git remote set-url <remote> <new-remote-url>
```

CREATING A BRANCH

```
# create a new branch
git branch <branch-name>

# create a branch and automatically 'switch' to it
git switch --create <branch-name>
```

MOVING BETWEEN BRANCHES

```
git switch <branch-name>
git switch - # switch back to previous branch
```

WHAT ABOUT git checkout?

As of v2.23 (Q3 2019) git checkout was split out into two new commands, switch and restore.

Old command	New command
git checkout <pathspec></pathspec>	git restore <pathspec></pathspec>
git checkout <branch- name></branch- 	git switch <branch-name></branch-name>
git checkout -b anch-name>	git switchcreate

git checkout

```
checkout: split part of it to new command 'switch'
"git checkout" doing too many things is a source of confusion
for many users (and it even bites old timers sometimes). To
remedy that, the command will be split into two new ones: switch
and restore. The good old "git checkout" command is still here
and will be until all (or most of users) are sick of it.
See the new man page for the final design of switch. The actual
implementation though is still pretty much the same as "git
checkout" and not completely aligned with the man page.
Signed-off-by: Nguyễn Thái Ngọc Duy <pclouds@gmail.com>
Signed-off-by: Junio C Hamano < gitster@pobox.com>
```

The commit that added the switch command to git.

IGNORING FILES

Tell git to ignore certain files and directories by creating a gitignore file in your working directory.

1

This is applied in addition to a global gitignore (if configured).

VIEWING THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES

git status



For a tl;dr status

git status ——short

REMOVING UNTRACKED FILES

git clean

```
# list files to be removed
git clean --dry-run

# remove files recursively (also remove untracked directories)
git clean --df
```

TRACKING NEW FILES AND/OR STAGING MODIFIED FILES

git add

```
git add --all # add everything
git add . # everything under the current directory
git add src # everything under the src directory
git add *.txt # all txt files under the current directory
git add test/*.js # all js files under the test directory
```



Use the **--dry-run** option to see what files will be staged

git stage is an alias for git add

INTERACTIVE ADD

git add -p

Demo: Selectively staging changes from a file

VIEWING CHANGES

git diff

```
git diff # show changes in the working tree
git diff --staged # show changes in the staging area
# show all changes (working tree and staging area)
git diff HEAD # or
git diff @ # @ is an alias for HEAD
```

COMMITTING CHANGES

git commit

```
git commit # opens up the default editor
git commit --message "wrote some code" # skips the editor
# bypass the staging area and commit directly
git commit --only --message "wrote some code" <pathspec>
# bypass the staging area and commit *all files* directly
git commit --all --message "wrote some code"
```

COMMIT MESSAGES

	COMMENT	DATE
Q	CREATED MAIN LOOP & TIMING CONTROL	14 HOURS AGO
¢	ENABLED CONFIG FILE PARSING	9 HOURS AGO
φ	MISC BUGFIXES	5 HOURS AGO
φ	CODE ADDITIONS/EDITS	4 HOURS AGO
Q.	MORE CODE	4 HOURS AGO
Ò	HERE HAVE CODE	4 HOURS AGO
ļļ	AAAAAAAA	3 HOURS AGO
φ	ADKFJ5LKDFJ5DKLFJ	3 HOURS AGO
¢	MY HANDS ARE TYPING WORDS	2 HOURS AGO
\$\delta\$	HAAAAAAAANDS	2 HOURS AGO

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

xkcd: xkcd.com/1296/

VIEWING COMMIT LOGS / HISTORY

git log

```
git log # show full history (paged view)
git log -<number-of-commits> # limit output to only n commits
git log --graph # draw a graphical representation
git log --patch # show changes made for the commit
git log --patch -1 # limit output to only the latest commit
```

VIEW A SPECIFIC COMMIT

git show <commit-hash>

UNDOING CHANGES

A

Discard changes from the working directory

git restore <pathspec>

Discard changes from the staging area

git restore ——staged <pathspec>

UNDOING COMMITS

Soft reset (undo commit but keep changes)

git reset <commit-hash>

Hard reset (undo commit and discard changes)

git reset --hard <commit-hash>

AMENDING COMMITS

```
git commit --amend
```

Use the ——amend flag to add files to an existing commit and/or update the commit message.



This creates a new commit!

To avoid possible conflicts and diverged branches, only run this command on unpushed commits.

reflog TO THE RESCUE

git reflog

Records when the tips of branches and other references were updated in the local repository.



Use this command to go back to a known "working" version of your code.

PUSHING CHANGES

git push <remote> <branch>

The git push command is used to upload local repository content to a remote repository.

FETCHING CONTENTS FROM THE REMOTE

```
# fetch all branches and changes from remote
git fetch <remote>

# fetch a specific branch from remote
git fetch <origin> <branch>
```

To list all remote branches, run git branch —— remotes.

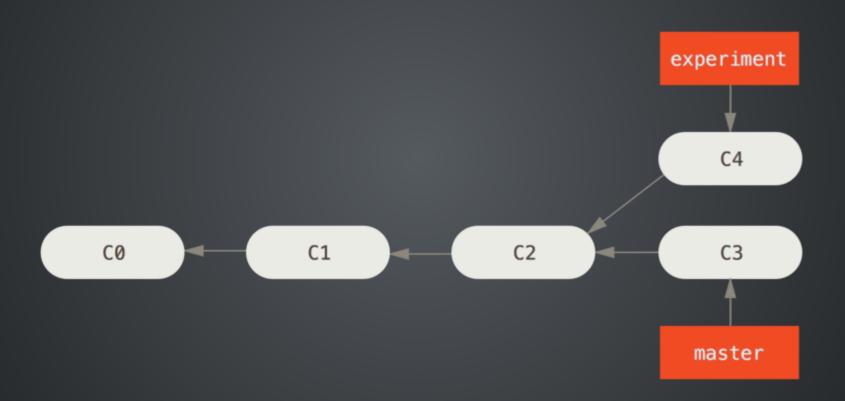
PULL

```
git pull <remote> <branch>
```

Basically an alias for:

```
# assuming the current branch is main
git fetch origin main
git merge origin/main
```

DIVERGED HISTORY



RECONCILE DIVERGED BRANCHES

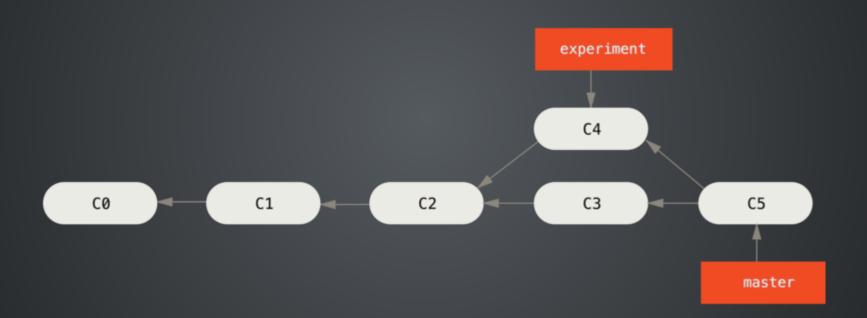
```
hint: You have divergent branches and need to specify how to reconcile them. You can do so by running one of the following commands sometime before your next pull:
hint:
hint: git config pull.rebase false # merge
hint: git config pull.rebase true # rebase
hint: git config pull.ff only # fast-forward only
hint:
hint: You can replace "git config" with "git config --global" to set a default preference for all repositories. You can also pass
--rebase, --no-rebase, or --ff-only on the command line to override the configured default per invocation.
fatal: Need to specify how to reconcile divergent branches.
```

MERGE

```
# Merging main to your feature branch
git switch main
git pull origin main
git switch my-feature-branch
git merge main

# Alternatively pull directly from your feature branch
git pull origin main
```

MERGE (VISUAL)



WHAT REALLY HAPPENS



REBASE

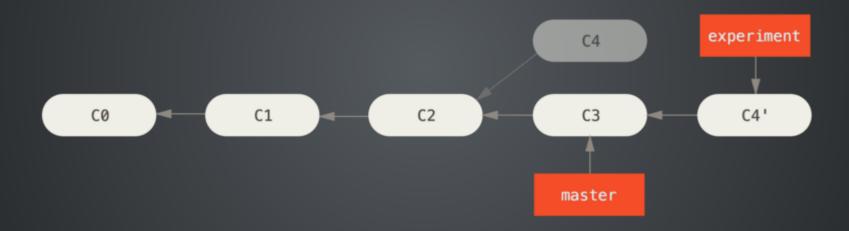
```
# Rebasing main on to your feature branch
git switch main
git pull origin main
git switch my-feature-branch
git rebase main

# Alternatively pull directly from your feature branch
git pull origin main --rebase
```

This command rewrites the commit history

Do not rebase commits that exist outside your repository and that people may have based work on.

REBASE (VISUAL)



1 Demo: Creating a pull request on GitHub

GIT COMMANDS TO ADD TO YOUR TOOLKIT

git blame

Show what revision and author last modified each line of a file.

```
git blame <file>
# limit to a specific line range
git blame -L <start,end> <file>
# limit to a specific function
git blame -L <function</pre>
```

git blame

Show what revision and author last modified each line of a file.

```
git blame <file>
# limit to a specific line range
git blame -L <start,end> <file>
# limit to a specific function
git blame -L <function</pre>
git blame -L <function</pre>
```

My favorite command

git blame

Show what revision and author last modified each line of a file.

```
git blame <file>
# limit to a specific line range
git blame -L <start,end> <file>
# limit to a specific function
git blame -L <function</pre>
git blame -L <function</pre>
```

My favorite command

... until I see the result.

git grep

Print lines matching a pattern.

git grep <search-term> [pathspec]

git revert

Undo some existing commits.

```
git revert <commit>
# revert a specific commit
git revert <commit>
# revert the commit but doesn't commit the changes
git revert --no-commit <commit>
```

git stash

Stash the changes in a dirty working directory away.

```
git stash create <message>

# list all existing stashes
git stash list
# apply specific stash from list
git stash apply stash{0}
# apply stash at top of stack (LIFO) then delete it
git stash pop
```

git cherry-pick

Apply the changes introduced by some existing commits (from some other branch).

git cherry-pick <commit>

git bisect

Use binary search to find the commit that introduced a bug.

```
git bisect <subcommand> <options>

# Basic commands: start, bad, good
git bisect start
git bisect bad
git bisect good <commit> # can also be a tag

# Cleaning up
git bisect reset
```

ATTRIBUTION

- Images from xkcd and louim
- Diagrams from the Pro Git book

RECOMMENDED READING

- Pro Git by Scott Chacon
- Julia Evans' blog
- git documentation

SLIDES



QUESTIONS

???

In case of fire



- -0- 1. git commit
- Le 2. git push
- 九 3. leave building