Version control

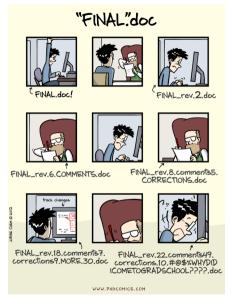
with git and GitHub

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Course web: kbroman.org/Tools4RR



http://www.phdcomics.com/comics/archive.php?comicid=1531

Methods for tracking versions

- ▶ Don't keep track
- ► Save numbered zip files
- ► Formal version control

Suppose it stops working...

- ▶ Don't keep track
 - good luck!
- ► Save numbered zip files
 - Unzip versions and diff
- ► Formal version control
 - Easy to study changes back in time
 - Easy to jump back and test

Why use formal version control?

- History of changes
- ► Able to go back
- ▶ No worries about breaking things that work
- Merging changes from multiple people

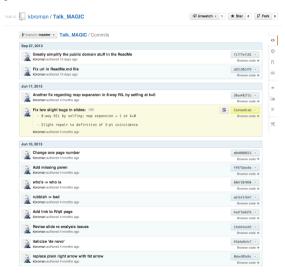
Example repository



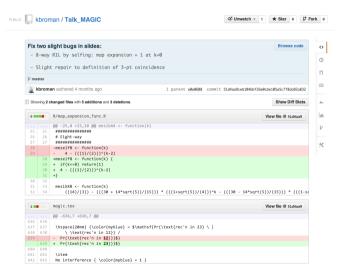
Example repository



Example history



Example commit



What is git?

- Formal version control system
- Developed by Linus Torvalds (developer of Linux)
 - used to manage the source code for Linux
- Tracks any content (but mostly plain text files)
 - source code
 - data analysis projects
 - manuscripts
 - websites
 - presentations

Why use git?

- ► It's fast
- ► You don't need access to a server
- ► Amazingly good at merging simultaneous changes
- ► Everyone's using it

What is GitHub?

- ► A home for git repositories
- Interface for exploring git repositories
- ► Real open source
 - immediate, easy access to the code
- ► Like facebook for programmers
- ► Free 2-year "micro" account for students
 - education.github.com
- ► (Bitbucket.org is an alternative)
 - free private repositories

Why use GitHub?

- ▶ It takes care of the server aspects of git
- Graphical user interface for git
 - Exploring code and its history
 - Tracking issues
- ▶ Facilitates:
 - Learning from others
 - Seeing what people are up to
 - Contributing to others' code
- ► Lowers the barrier to collaboration
 - "There's a typo in your documentation." vs.
 "Here's a correction for your documentation."

- ► Change some files
- ► See what you've changed

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

► Indicate what changes to save

```
git add
```

► Commit to those changes

```
git commit
```

- ► Change some files
- ► See what you've changed

```
git status
git diff
git log
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▶ Indicate what changes to save

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git add
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▶ Commit to those changes

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git commit
```

► Push the changes to GitHub

```
git push
```

- ► Change some files
- See what you've changed

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git status
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git log
```

Indicate what changes to save

```
git add
```

Commit to those changes

```
git commit
```

Push the changes to GitHub

```
git push
```

▶ Pull changes from your collaborator

```
git pull
```

- ► Change some files
- See what you've changed

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

Indicate what changes to save

```
git add
```

Commit to those changes

```
git commit
```

Push the changes to GitHub

```
git push
```

Pull changes from your collaborator

```
git fetch
git merge
```

Initialize repository

- Create (and cd to) a working directory
 - For example, ~/Docs/Talks/Graphs
- Initialize it to be a git repository
 - git init
 - Creates subdirectory ~/Docs/Talks/Graphs/.git

```
$ mkdir ~/Docs/Talks/Graphs
$ cd ~/Docs/Talks/Graphs
$ git init
Initialized empty Git repository in ~/Docs/Talks/Graphs/.git/
```

Produce content

► Create a README.md file

```
## Talk on " How to display data badly"
These are slides for a talk that I give as often as possible,
because it's fun.

This was inspired by Howard Wainer's article, whose title I
stole: H Wainer (1984) How to display data badly.
American Statistician 38:137-147

A recent PDF is
[here](
http://www.biostat.wisc.edu/~kbroman/talks/graphs2013.pdf).
```

Incorporate into repository

► Stage the changes using git add

\$ git add README.md

Incorporate into repository

► Now commit using git commit

```
$ git commit -m "Initial commit of README.md file"
[master (root-commit) 32c9d01] Initial commit of README.md file
1 file changed, 14 insertions(+)
create mode 100644 README.md
```

- ► The -m argument allows one to enter a message
- ▶ Without -m, git will spawn a text editor
- Use a meaningful message
- ▶ Message can have multiple lines, but make 1st line an overview

A few points on commits

- ► Use frequent, small commits
- ▶ Don't get out of sync with your collaborators
- ► Commit the sources, not the derived files (R code not images)
- ▶ Use a .gitignore file to indicate files to be ignored

```
*~
manuscript.pdf
Figs/*.pdf
.RData
.RHistory
*.Rout
*.aux
*.log
*.out
```

Using git on an existing project

- ▶ git init
- ► Set up .gitignore file
- ▶ git status (did you miss any?)
- ▶ git add . (or name files individually)
- ▶ git status (did you miss any?)
- ▶ git commit

Removing/moving files

For files that are being tracked by git:

Use git rm instead of just rm Use git mv instead of just mv

```
$ git rm myfile
$ git mv myfile newname
$ git mv myfile SubDir/
$ git commit
```

First use of git

```
$ git config --global user.name "Jane Doe"
$ git config --global user.email "janedoe@wisc.edu"

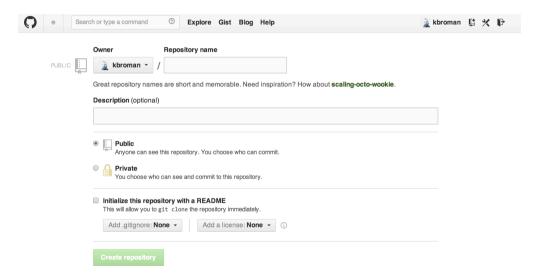
$ git config --global color.ui true
$ git config --global core.editor emacs
$ git config --global core.excludesfile ~/.gitignore_global
```

Set up GitHub repository

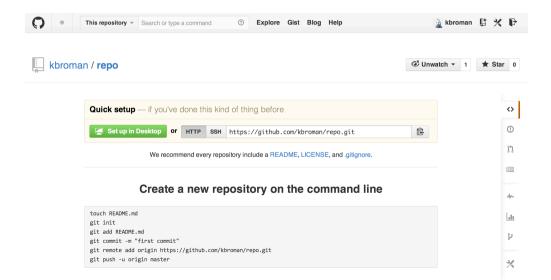
- ▶ Get a GitHub account
- ► Click the "Create a new repo" button
- ► Give it a name and description
- ► Click the "Create repository" button
- ► Back at the command line:

```
git remote add origin https://github.com/username/repo
git push -u origin master
```

Set up GitHub repository



Set up GitHub repository



Configuration file

Part of a .git/config file:

```
[remote "origin"]
    url = https://github.com/kbroman/qtl.git
    fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/origin/*

[branch "master"]
    remote = origin
    merge = refs/heads/master

[remote "brian"]
    url = git://github.com/byandell/qtl.git
    fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/brian/*
```

Branching and merging

▶ Use branches to test out new features without breaking the working code.

```
git branch devel
git branch
git checkout devel
```

▶ When you're happy with the work, merge it back into your master branch.

```
git checkout master git merge devel
```

Issues and pull requests

- ▶ Problem with or suggestion for someone's code?
 - Point it out as an Issue
- ► Even better: Provide a fix
 - Fork
 - Clone
 - Modify
 - Commit
 - Push
 - Submit a Pull Request

Suggest a change to a repo

► Go to the repository:

http://github.com/someone/repo

- ► Fork the repository

 Click the "Fork" button
- ► Clone your version of it git clone https://github.com/username/repo
- ► Change things locally, git add, git commit
- Push your changes to your GitHub repository git push
- ▶ Go to your GitHub repository
- ► Click "Pull Requests" and "New pull request"

Pulling a friend's changes

► Add a connection

```
git remote add friend git://github.com/friend/repo
```

▶ If you trust them, just pull the changes

```
git pull friend master
```

► Alternatively, fetch the changes, test them, and *then* merge them.

```
git fetch friend master
git branch -a
git checkout remotes/friend/master
git checkout -b friend
git checkout master
git merge friend
```

Push them back to your GitHub repo

```
git push
```

Merge conflicts

Sometimes after git pull friend master

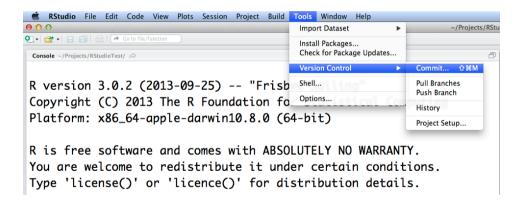
```
Auto-merging README.md
CONFLICT (content): Merge conflict in README.md
Automatic merge failed; fix conflicts and then commit the result.
```

Inside the file you'll see:

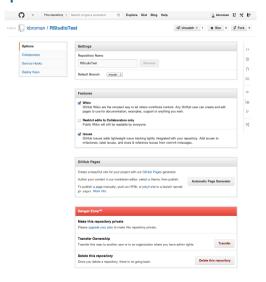
```
<<<<<< HEAD
A line in my file.
======
A line in my friend's file
>>>>>> 031389f2cd2acde08e32f0beb084b2f7c3257fff
```

Edit, add, commit, push, submit pull request.

git/GitHub with RStudio



Delete GitHub repo



Git at Statistics, UW-Madison

- ► Easy to use, free infinite private repositories.
- Not as nice of interface to review code: Rely on GUI or private web page.
- ▶ When your ssh account expires, your access to them expires.

Git at Statistics, UW-Madison

Setup (on server):

Connect to server

```
ssh bigmem01.stat.wisc.edu
Consider using kinit + aklog if logging on frequently
```

Make Folder

```
cd Repositories mkdir NewRepository
```

► Initialize Server Repository

```
cd NewRepository
git init
```

Git at Statistics, UW-Madison

Usage (on client, e.g. laptop):

► Clone/Pull onto other systems

```
git clone ssh:\\bigmem01.stat.wisc.edu\~[user]\Repositories\NewRepository
```

Make changes, and commit

```
git add -i
git commit -m 'An informative message here.'
```

Push changes back

```
git push origin
```

Open source means everyone can see my stupid mistakes.

Version control means everyone can see every stupid mistake l've ever made.