An introduction to version control systems with Git

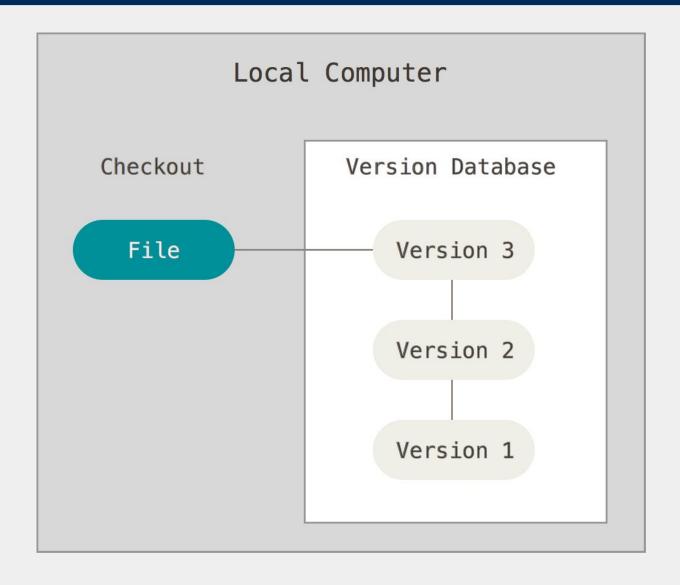
Version control systems

- Version control systems record changes to a file or set of files over time so that you can recall specific versions later
- Many systems have risen to popularity over the years
 - RCS
 - CVS
 - Subversion
- We will focus on Git

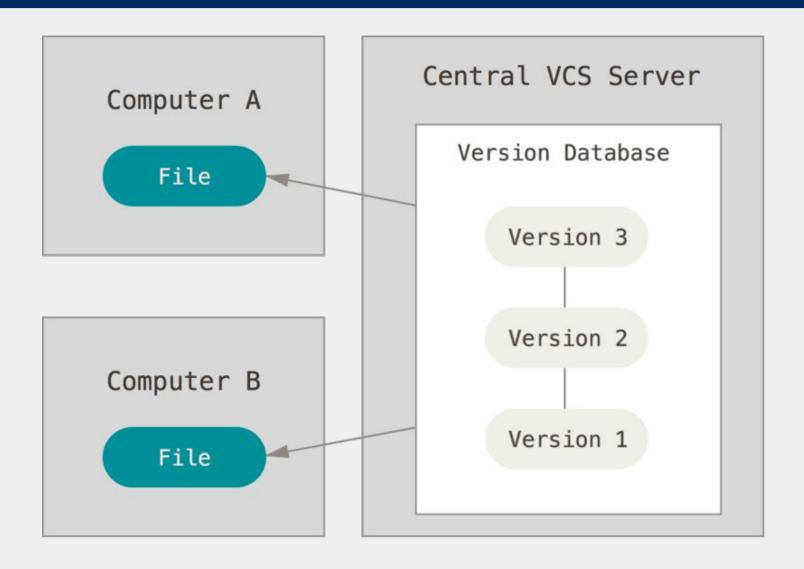
Why use version control?

- These systems help with:
 - Tracking changes
 - Short and long term undo
 - Backup and restore
 - Synchronization
 - Collaboration

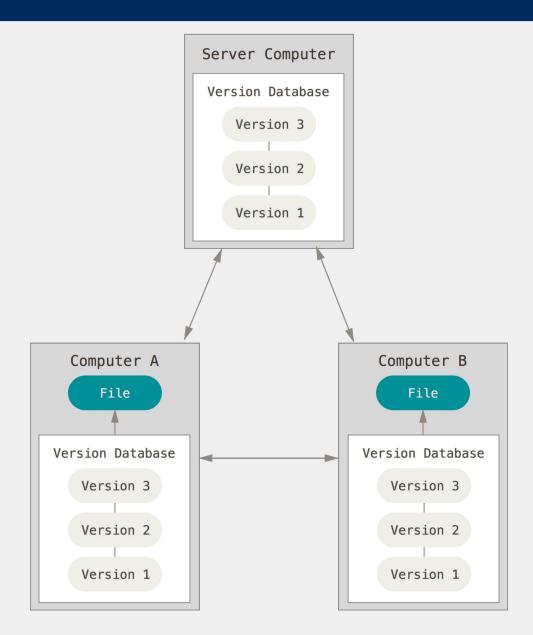
Local version control systems



Centralized version control systems

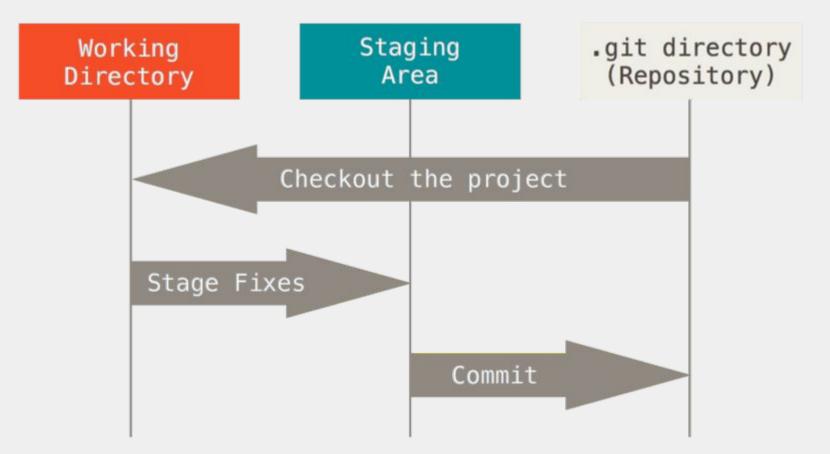


Distributed version control systems



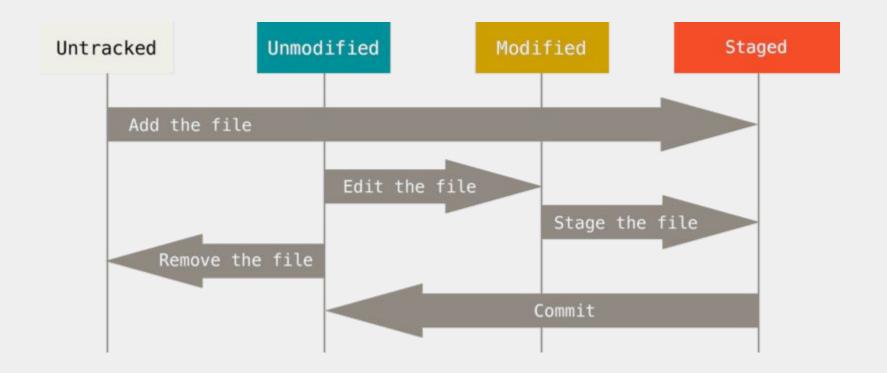
The basic Git workflow

- Modify files in your working directory
- Stage the files, adding snapshots to your staging area
- **Commit** your changes to your local copy of the *repository*

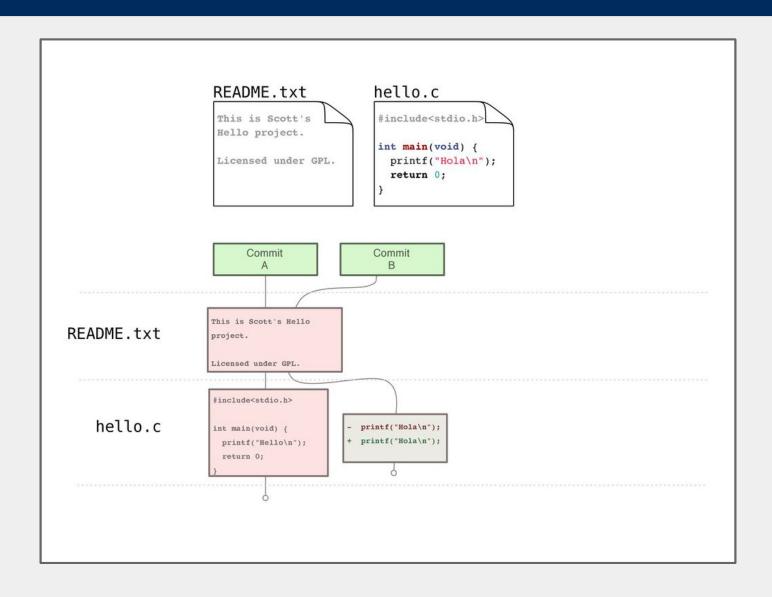


The lifecycle of a file in Git

 Git does not necessary keep track of all files in your working directory



Example repository



Gitting started

- Set your identity
 - \$ git config --global user.name "John Doe"
 - \$ git config --global user.email jdoe@example.com
- Set other configuration options
 - \$ git config --global color.ui true
- Get help
 - o \$ git help <verb>

Creating a new repository

- \$ git init
- Creates a new (empty) repository in the current directory

Copying a repository

- For this class, your instructor will create a repository for you, you will just need to copy it from GitHub to your computer using the following command:
- \$ git clone <repository>
 - Creates a copy of <repository> in the current directory

Staging files

- As you work, you will create new files and modify existing files, when you are satisfied with your changes, you can stage them for commit with:
- \$ git add <file_pattern>

Committing changes

- *Commits* create a new version in the repository
- Include a commit message describing the new version
- \$ git commit -m <msg>

Checking working directory status

- \$ git status
- Reports:
 - Files in the working directory that are not tracked
 - File modifications not yet staged for commit
 - File additions and modifications staged for commit

Overviewing commit history

- \$ git log
- Lists commits made to the current repository

Git example (cloning via GitHub)

Handy command - comparing versions

- It may be handy to see exactly how files changed
- \$ git diff
 - Shows modifications not yet staged for commit
- \$ git diff <commit_id>
 - Show changes since the commit specified
- \$ git diff <commit_id1> <commit_id2>
 - Show changes between two commits

What we've covered here...

- ... presents only a brief overview of Git
 - Further topics:
 - branching
 - rebasing
 - tagging
 - ...
- Further resources:
 - https://git-scm.com/book/en/v2
 - http://gitref.org/
 - http://gitimmersion.com/