Collaborative Programming

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Markdown-based slides available as \mathbf{Q} open source; contributions welcome!

Please open these slides on your laptop as we'll jump back and forth between the slides and the browser!

Structure of this lecture

- 1. C Exploring github in the browser
 - 1. Creating issues
 - 2. Forking a repository
 - 3. Creating commits
 - 4. Opening pull requests
 - 5. Handling merge conflicts
- 2. Working with a local repository
- 3. Advanced tips & tricks

Let's open an issue!

- Please navigate to https://github.com/klieret/codas-hep-22-gitplayground.
- 2. Open an issue with a random feature request

G Bonus tasks

- Edit the text & title of your issue
- Add a comment mentioning another participant
- Use an emoji reaction
- Close & reopen your issue
- Check for other issues and comment there

Advanced

- Install the gh command line tool
- Clone the repository
- Use the CL to open an issue

Forking & committing changes

While you can open issues, you do not have permissions to directly modify content.

- 1. Click the **fork** button. This will create a "copy" of the whole repository
- 3. Call your file `<your gh username>_first` and
 add a few lines to it

- 5. Add a commit message and commit
- 6. Confirm that you see your file & a new commit

⚠ Usually you always want to commit to a separate branch in this scenario (later!)

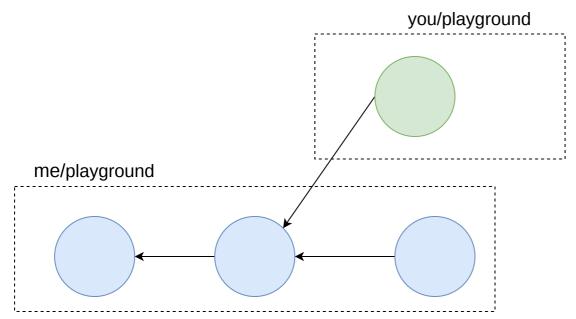
4 Bonus tasks

- Add a second file
- Open your previous file and make changes to the text

Advanced

Do the same with the gh CLI.

What did we do?



- Every node is a commit. Every commit points to a parent.
- Your fork "branched off" of the original repository: You're adding additional commits to a parallel reality
- Next step: Bringing your commits back to the original repository

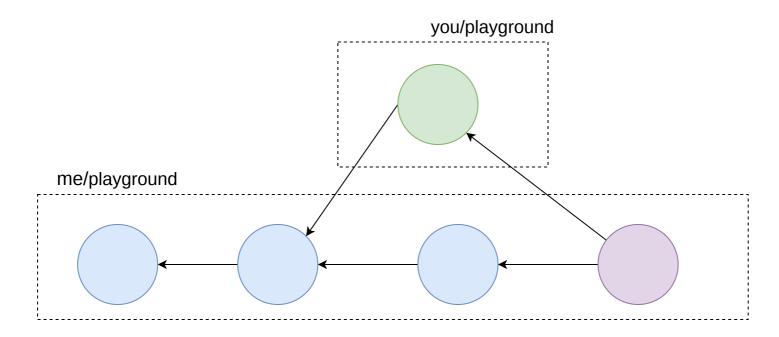
Creating a PR

- We want to bring our changes back to the original repository
- If you create new commit on a fork, github will already offer you a button to open the PR

4 Bonus tasks

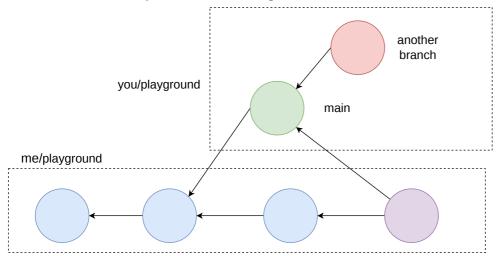
- Mention one of your issues. If you write `Closes #<number of your issue>` and the PR is merged, the issue will automatically close.
- Check the differences that the PR will create
- Comment under one of the differences
- Mention another participant `a<name>`

What did we do?



Branches

- If we want to start another PR, we do not need to fork again, we can create another branch.
- Use cases:
 - Working on several independent experimental features
 - Not all of your PRs might be merged!
- Branches are cheap and flexible, go use them!



Forks vs Branches

- A fork copies the entire repository:
 - Similar to copying the entire local project folder (including your `.git` repository)
 - If the original repository is deleted, your fork persists
 - You own your fork and have every permission there
- A branch belongs to its repository and only tracks certain changes
- Branches are cheap and easy, forks are expensive
 - If you have write permissions for a repository you do not usually need/want to fork it
 - If you need to fork, fork once and then use branches

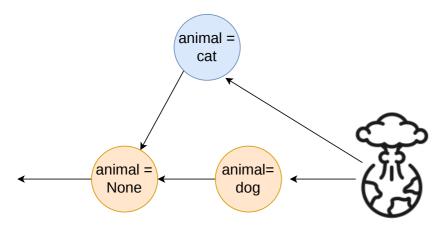
Branches

- Add another file `content/<your ghusername>_second`
- 2. Select `Create a new branch for this
 commit and start a pull request`
- 3. Give your branch a reasonable name (whitespace discouraged)
- 4. Commit!
- 5. Create another PR to either:
 - The original repository (`klieret/codas ...`)
 - Your own `main` branch
 - Your neighbors `main` branch
- 6. If you want to do the bonus exercises, mark your PR as `draft`
- 7. If you receive a PR, merge it (unless it's a draft)

- G Bonus task: Adding additional commits to a PR
- 5. Go back to the default view of your repository and verify that you now have multiple branches
- 6. Select your new branch
- 7. Modify your just created file and create a new commit on the same branch
- 8. Check that your PR has been updated by this new commit
- Remove `draft` status and ask repository owner to review + merge
- ← Bonus task: Go crazy!

Commit to various branches, create PRs between your branches or to your neighbors branches.

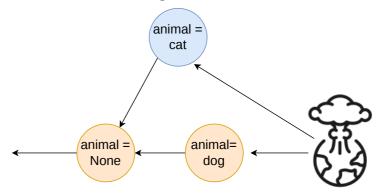
Merge conflicts



Merge conflicts

- A Please follow these instructions precisely!
- 1. Go to your fork
- 2. Verify that you are on the `main` branch (yellow)
- 3. Change something in `content/<your gh
 username>_first` and commit to the branch (!)
 `merge-conflict` (blue)
- 4. Open a pull request to your own `main` branch.
 Do not merge the PR yet!
- 5. Change to your `main` branch again

- 6. Change the same (!) line to something different and commit (to `main`)
- 7. Check back on your PR, it should warn you about a conflict
- 8. Resolve the conflict by determining how both changes should be reconciled
- 9. Commit the merge



George Bonus tasks: Verify that if you change different lines with unchanged lines between them, git will do the merge automatically.

Part 2: The command line



Let's get you set up

Configure name, email and editor

If you run git for the first time,

```
git config --global user.name "John Doe"
git config --global user.email johndoe@example.com
# Choose your favorite editor, e.g., nano or vim
git config --global core.editor nano
# Requires git 2.28
git config --global init.defaultBranch main
```

If you haven't done already, generate ssh keys for authentication to github

```
ssh-keygen
# follow the instructions
cat ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub
```

and add the key to github. Then clone your repository:

```
git clone git@github.com:<your username>/collaborative-programming-github.git
```

Please raise your hand if you have any issues!

Your first commit

```
cd collaborative-programming-github
cd content
1 s
# show status of git repository
git status
# Create new file
touch <your gh handle>-third.txt
# Status is dirty now
git status
# Commit file
git commit <your gh handle>-third.txt -a -m "My third file"
# Clean again
git status
# View past commits (quit with q)
git log
# Push to the remote
git push
```

G Bonus tasks:

- Create a few more commits (changing the file)
- Commit without the `-m` option and enter your commit message manually

Changing multiple files in one commit

```
# change all three of your files
git status
# multiple files should now show "unstaged changes"
git add <your gh handle>-first.txt <your gh handle>-second.txt
git status
# two files "staged"
# Commit. Careful: Do not use the -a option
git commit -m "Committing changes to two files"
git status
# one file still showing unstaged changes
git add <your gh handle>-third.txt
git commit -m "Commit to one file"
# Bring changes to github again
git push
```

Hints:

- If you want to add everything to the stage: `git add .` or use the `-a` option for git commit
- If you want to remove a file from the staging area: `git reset <file>`
- If you want to unstage all files: `git reset`

Branches

```
git branch my-new-branch
git status
# still on branch 'main'
git switch my-new-branch # or: git checkout my-new-branch
git status
# Now use your previous knowledge to create some more commits
git status
# Make sure that everything is committed
git log
# Verify that you have added a view commits
git switch main
# Verify that the changes from the other branch are not present
git log
# Also our commits aren't present
```

Merging

Bring the commits from `my-new-branch` back to `main`

Marked: Add more commits to main before merging to set yourself up for a merge conflict

```
# On branch main
git merge my-new-branch
# Should work directly unless you're doing the advanced exercise
```

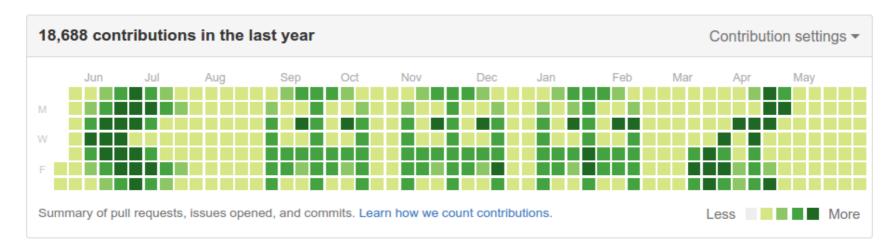
<u>▶ Advanced:</u> Manually modify the files to resolve the conflict, then `git commit -a`.

What we didn't tell you about today

... but what you should really know about

```
git showgit stash.gitignore filesgit revertgit checkout
```

Part III: Learning to love git



source

- If you are developing software, you almost certainly will use git, no matter where.
- Learning to master git is perhaps THE most transferable skill you can hone.
- Git would not be so dominant if you could not learn to love it.

Your git config

- All repository specific settings live in `<your repo>/.git/config`. Take a look!
- You can set global settings in `~/.git/config`. Take a look!

Defining aliases

```
# Type `git c` instead of `git commit`
git config --global alias.c commit
git config --global alias.ca commit -a
# ...
# Use `g` instead of git
alias g="git"
# You need to put this definition in your bashrc (or other zshrc etc.) to make it last
```

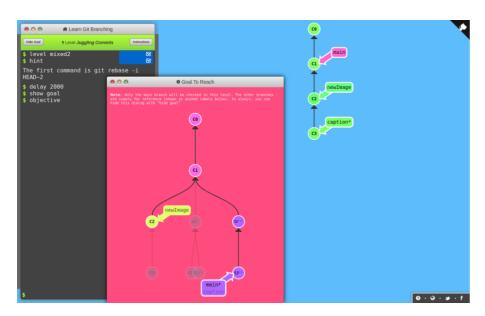
Alternatively you can also directly write into your config file.

Rule of thumb: If you are unsure about the metadata of your repository or about commands that modify it, take a look at your `.git/config`.

Practice, practice

and then some more

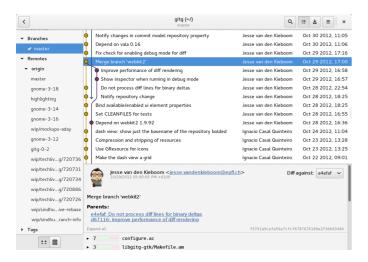
This page has very nice suggestions for different levels, all of them using **gamification** but increasing in realism.



Graphical tools

can give you more intuition

Go here for a curated list of them.



source

Thanks!

You can also practice by improving these very slides!

Go to https://github.com/klieret/collaborative-programming-github. Issues, forks and PRs are very welcome! You only need to speak markdown to help.