Git Branches and Workflow

Many features, many developers; How can Git help?

Issues in GitLab

GitLab tracks Issues:

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- Demo: Show issues in an active repo
- Value of Issues
 - Use as product's backlog
 - Assign issue to a dev to show who's working on it
 - Update issue with extra info as needed

Branches

- .. Main source code branch in a Git repo.
- ... Latest code on master.
- Chaotic Commits
 - Too chaotic to have many teammates constantly committing code to master.
 - Solution:..
- Branch (Feature Branch)
 - Do work on separate track (the branch) from Master
 - Commit changes to your branch
 - When feature is ready,

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Issue and Branching Overview

GL = done in GitLab

AS = done in Android Studio

- GL: Pick an issue to implement & create branch.
- AS: Checkout branch, make changes, commit & push changes to the branch.

When feature is ready

- As: Merge Master to Feature branch (resolving conflicts); commit/push changes.
- GL: Create merge request to merge branch to Master.
- GL: Branch is deleted when merge request accepted.
 (manually remove merged local branch)

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Issues and Branching

- 1. Create issue for bug/feature
 - Implementing a feature or fixing a bug should start with a GitLab issue.
 - Ex: Issue 14: "Add help button to game activity"
- 2. Assign issue to yourself
- 3. Create feature branch in GitLab
 - GitLab names the branch...
 - Ex: 14-game-help-button
 - In Android Studio, checkout the branch:

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Issues and Branching (cont.)

- 4. Work on your branch
 - Do your work changing files
 - Check-in your changes via Git:
 - add changes ready to be committed
 - commit put changes into local repo on branch
 - push push to remote repo on branch
- 5. Merge Master to Feature Branch
 - Get the latest code from master's HEAD:
 - In Android Studio: VCS --> Git --> Merge Changes...
 - Resolve any merge conflicts
 - Test, commit/push any changes.

Issues and Branching (cont.)

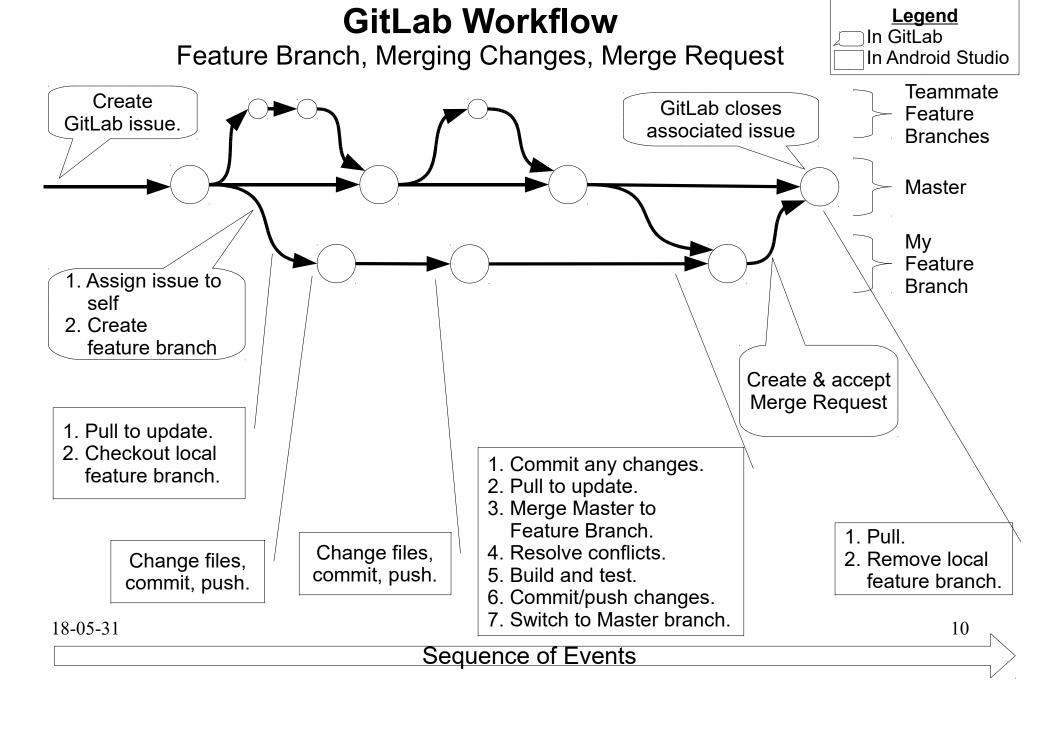
- 6. Submit a.. via GitLab
 - Create request to merge your branch back to master
 - Since you already merged Master to Feature Branch, there *should* be no conflicts.
 - If branch name starts with a number, GitLab will associate merge request with the issue.
 Otherwise, have message include "Fix #14"

Managing Merge Request

- Team members see merge requests and:
 - Code review:
 Comment on problems they see in the code (possibly leading to new commits to fix)
 - Thumbs-up/down for voting
- Repo Manager accepts merge request
 - Accepting merge requests will:
 - merge code to master (should be no conflicts)
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 - delete the source branch [optional; good practice to clean up]

GitLab Feature Branch Demo

- Setup
 - Create new Android Studio project
 - Create GitLab project; commit/push
- Create GitLab issue "Generate random number"
- Solve an issue
 - In GitLab: Assign to you & create feature branch
 - In A.S.: Checkout feature branch (bottom-right)
 - Code; Commit; Push
 - In A.S.: Merge master to feature (VCS-->Git-->Merge Changes...)
 - In GitLab: Create merge request
 - In GitLab: Accept merge request.
- Cleanup in Android Studio
 - Switch to master, pull, view log
 - Delete local branch (if needed)



Review Exercise

What is the ordering of the following steps:

- a) In GitLab: Assign to you & create feature branch
- b) In A.S.: Merge master to feature branch (VCS-->Git-->Merge Changes...)
- c) Create GitLab issue
- d) Code; Commit; Push
- e) In GitLab: Accept merge request.
- f) In A.S.: Checkout feature branch (bottom-right)
- g) In GitLab: Create merge request

Summary

- Branches and Workflow
 - Create GitLab issues.
 - Do work on a feature branch.
 - GitLab merge request to merge branch to master.
 - Git merge command