

REPRODUCIBLE WORKFLOWS

Version Control and Computational Notebooks

John Little 

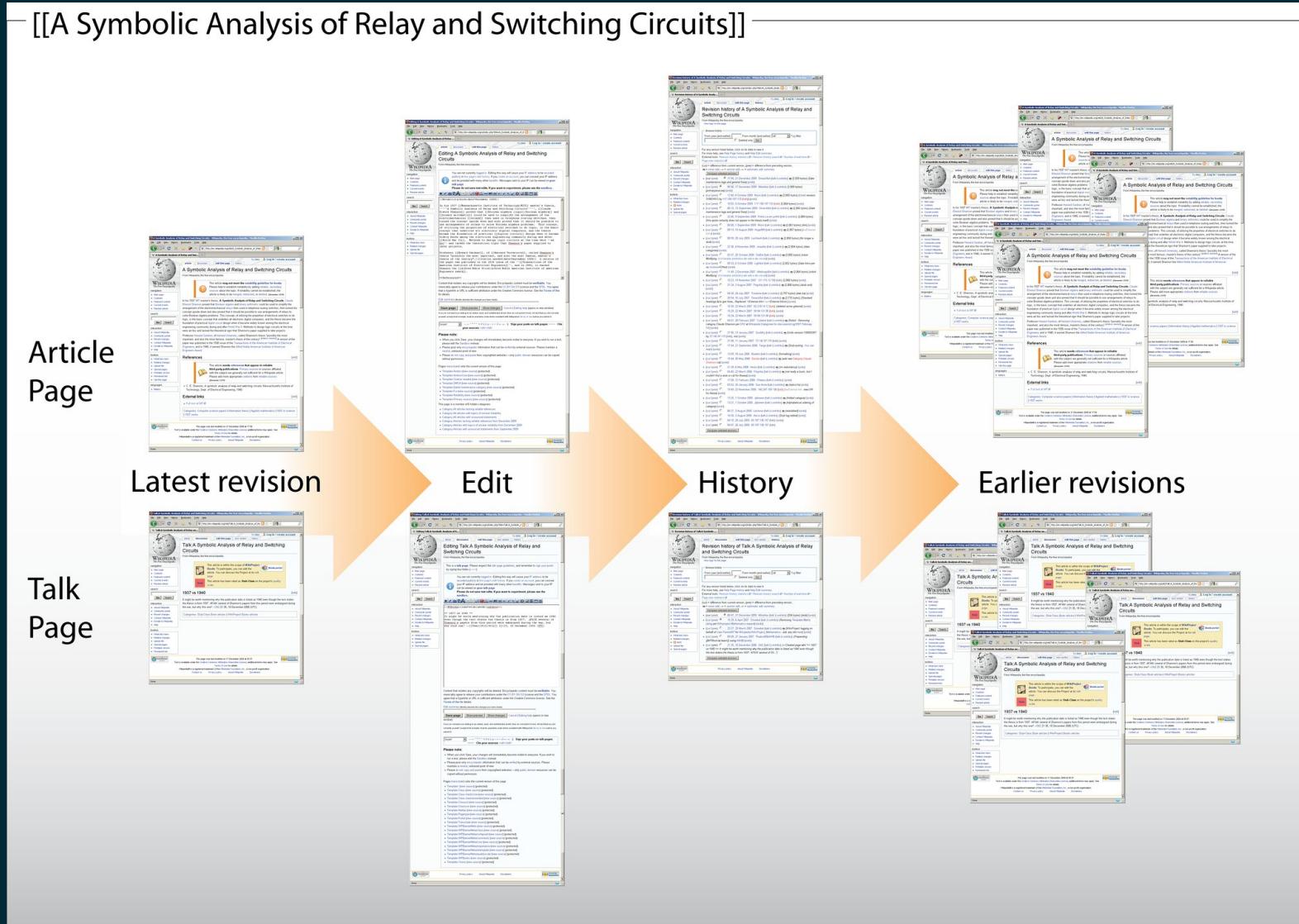
Duke University Libraries

Center for Data & Visualization Sciences

2024-09-27

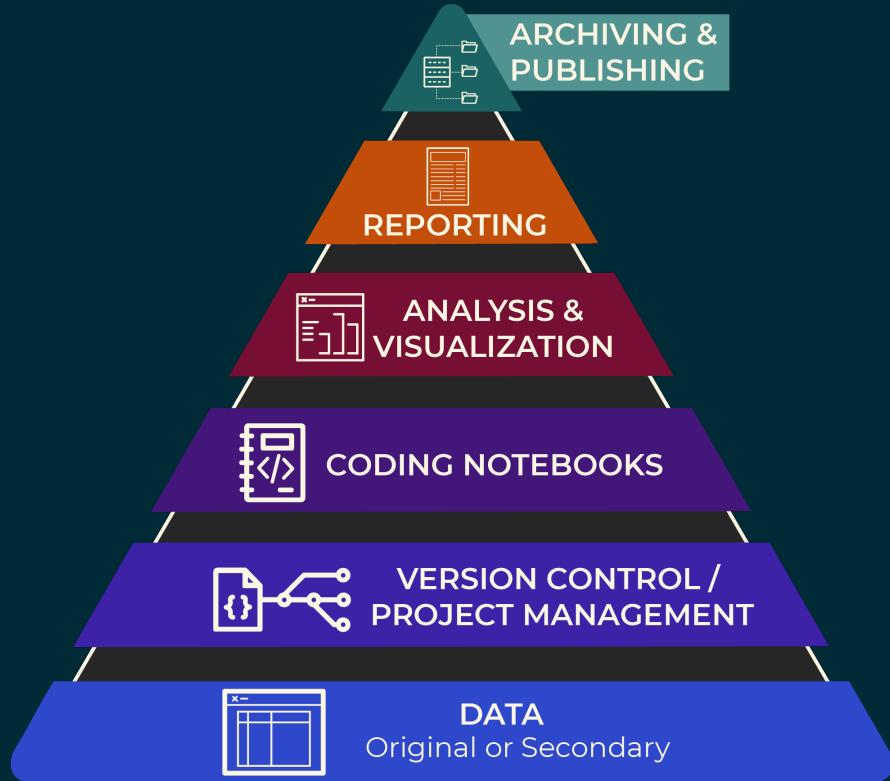


ARTICLE PRODUCTION



REPRODUCTION

Authoring and computation environment should enable the articulation of scholarship within a reproducible context



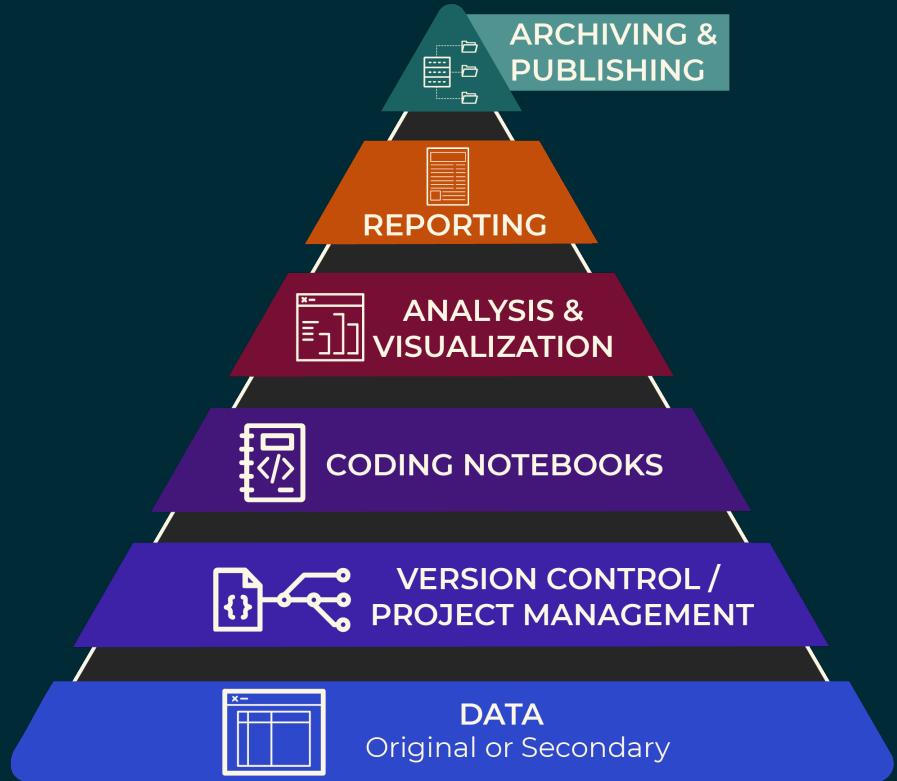
Reproducibility Pyramid • Little & Lafferty-Hess (2020)

FEATURES

- Support composable recombination
- Accommodate multimedia expression
- Provide rich reporting expressions
- Support economical portability and degrade gracefully
- Support extensibility
- Ensure transparency
- Support a documentary-style project history
- Accommodate change and collaboration
- Be citable

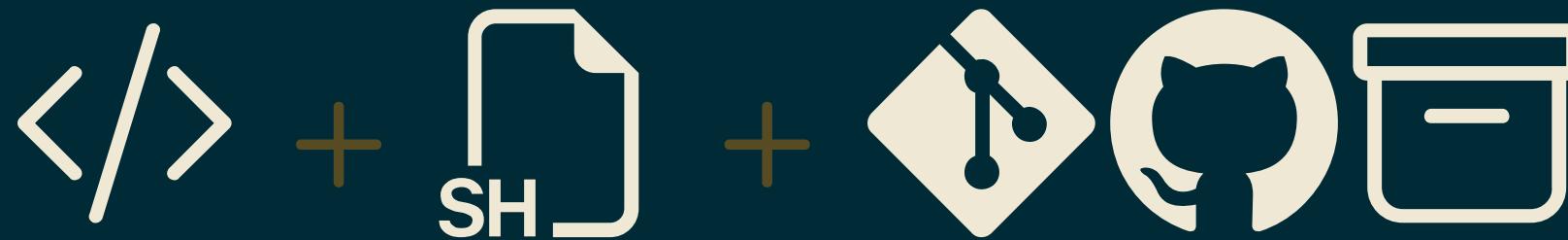
THREE POINTS

1. Version Control (Git & GitHub)
2. Notebooks (Literate Coding)
3. Archiving & Publishing (Zenodo, Containers)

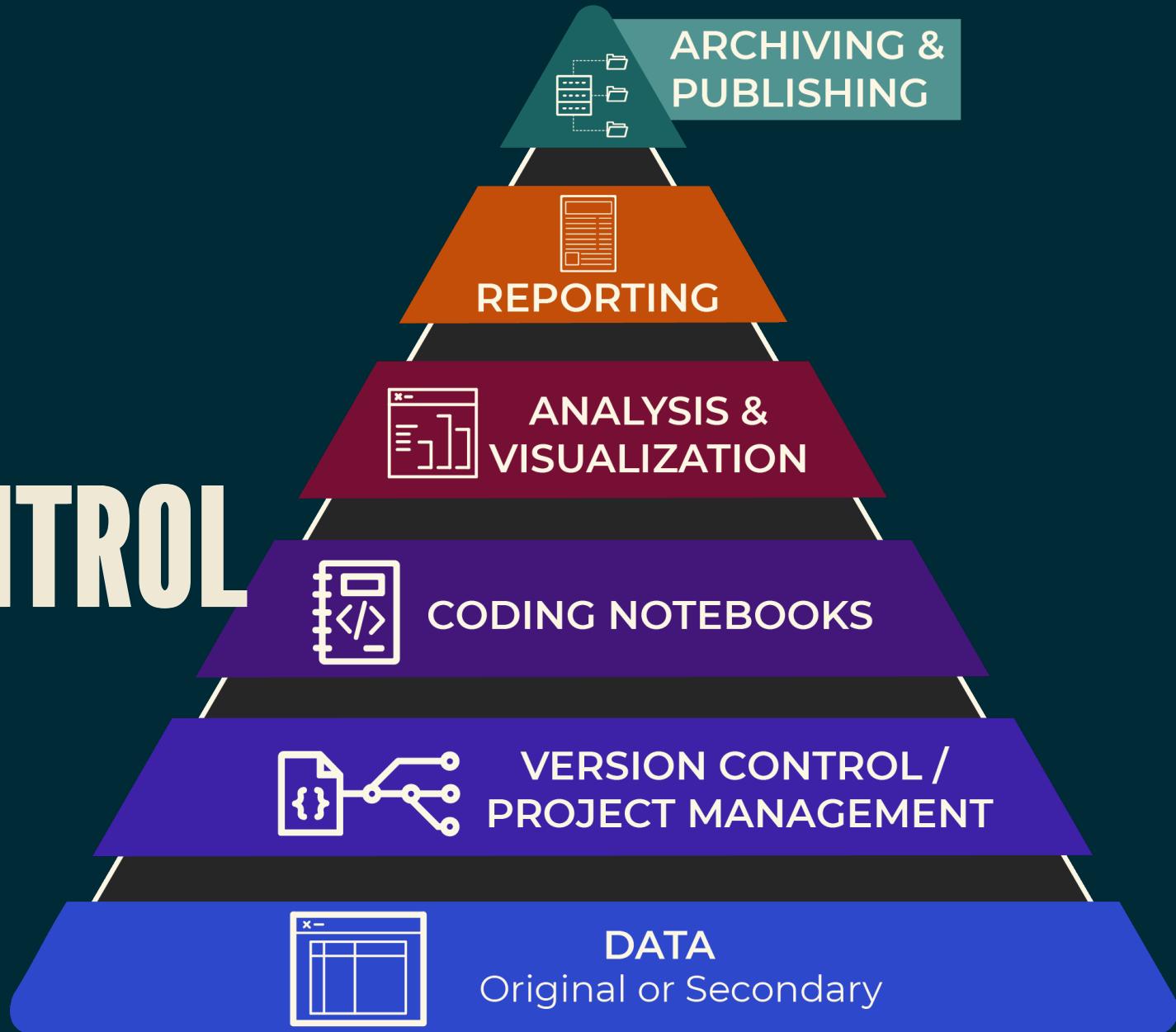


Reproducibility Pyramid • Little & Lafferty-Hess (2020)

PREVIEW



VERSION CONTROL



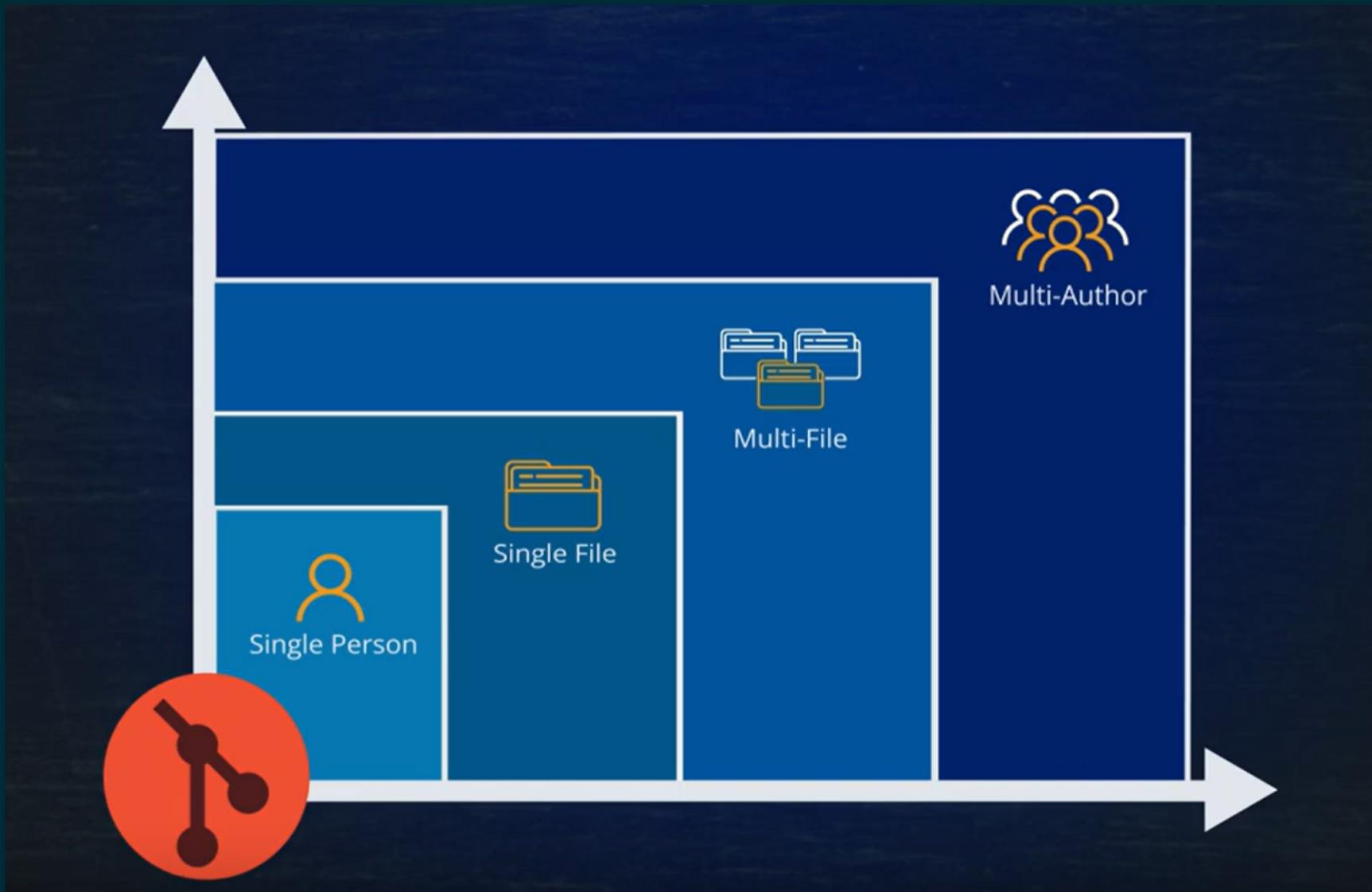
CHARACTERISTICS OF VERSION CONTROL

- A system to manage projects (repo)
- A system to track how computer files **change over time**
- A system that supports **collaborative revision**
- More than file synchronization
- Assists in project back-ups

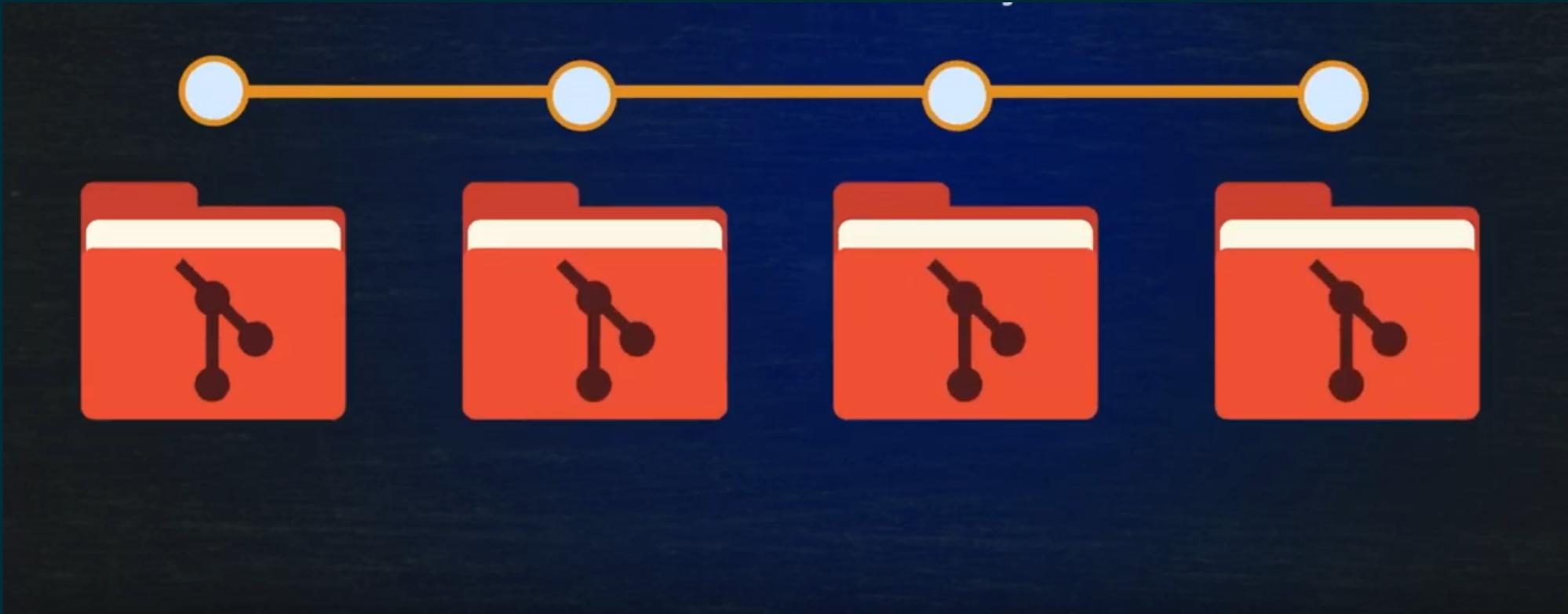
GIT

- Free open source
- Wildly successful; most broadly implemented
- In use across the globe
- Use it on any file system
- Track any file
- Use it in any environment

SCALABLE TO PROJECT SIZE



PROJECT REPOSITORIES



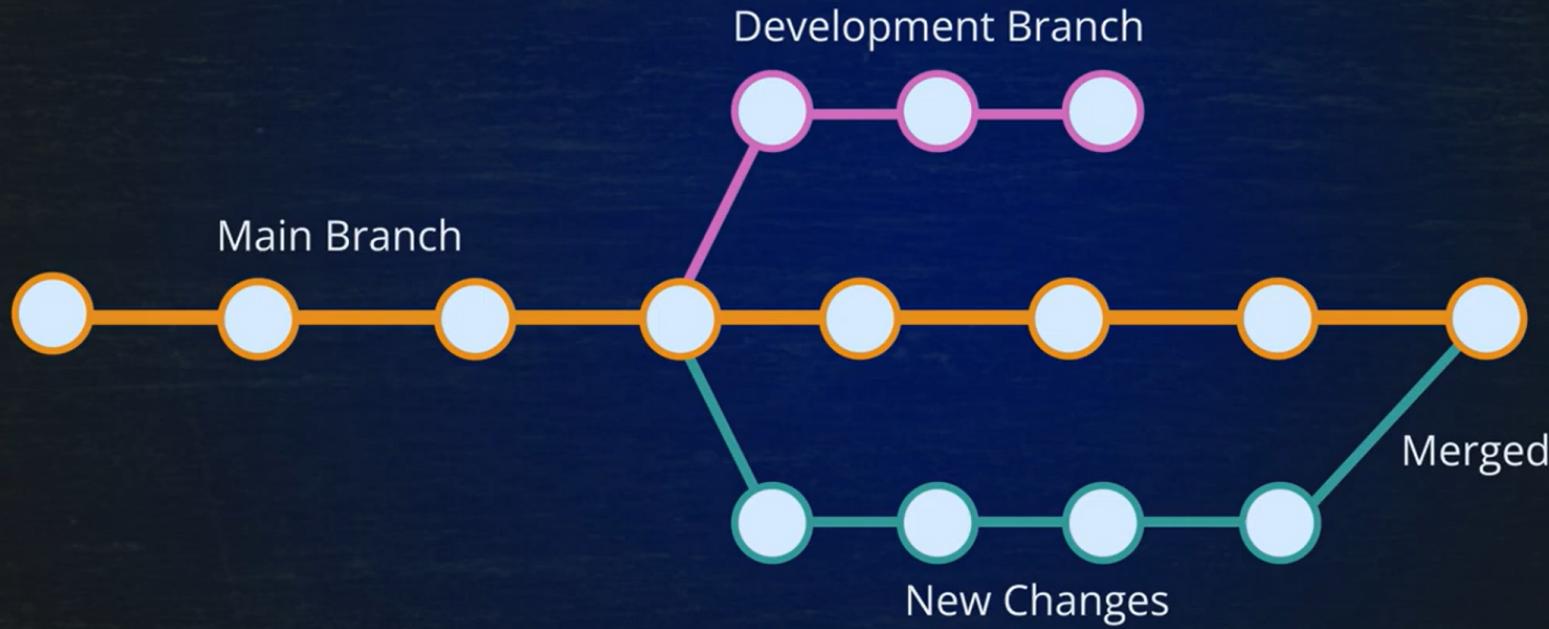
- Work on any file system
- Operates on at the folder level

TRACK CHANGE



When, Who, Why, What

BRANCHES



- Main branch
- Experimentation
- Developments
- Merging

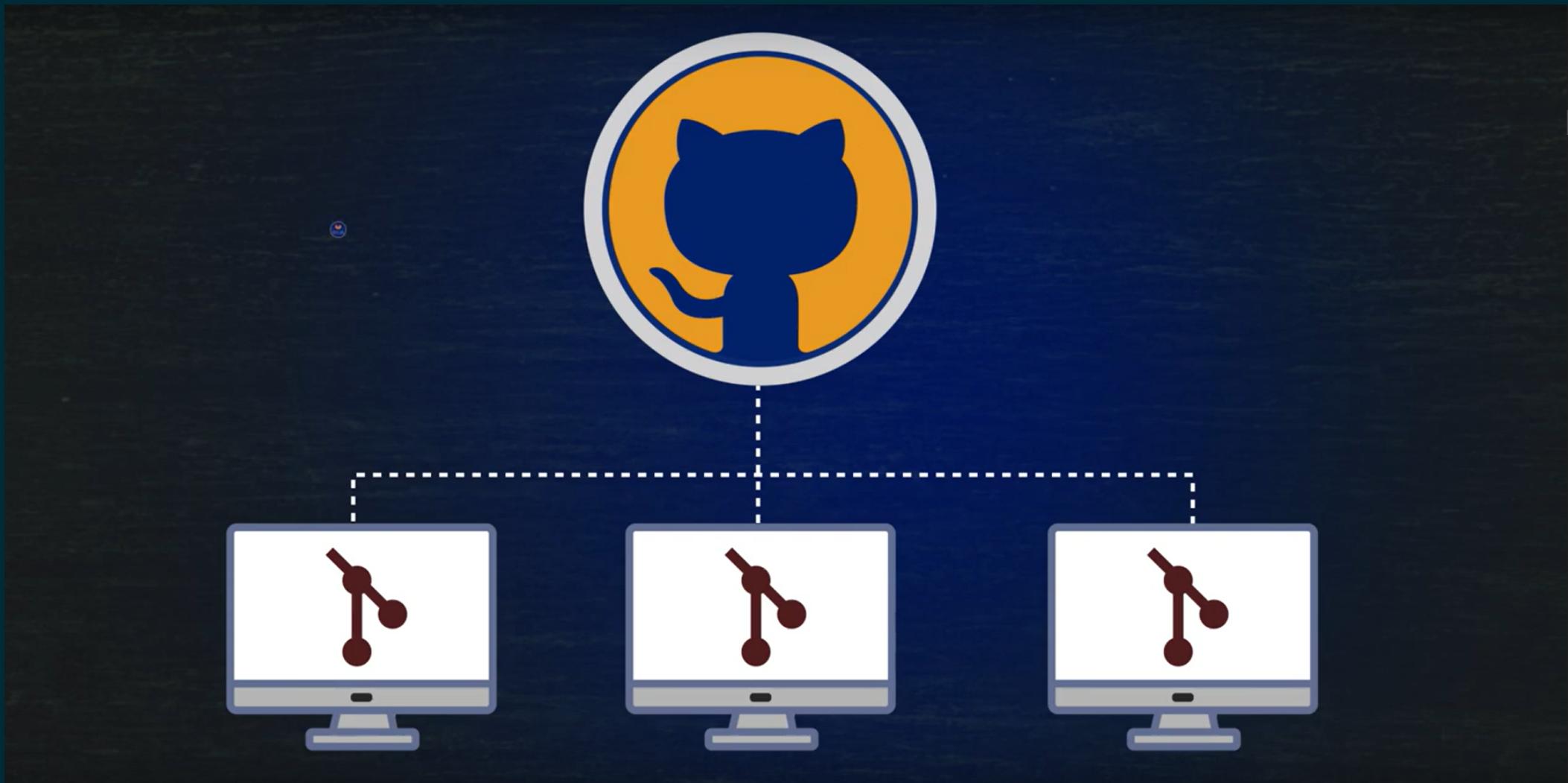
GITHUB

- Profile (store and host) git repos
- Enable collaboration across the globe or private
- Editorial and fine-grain control



GitHub

GIT + GITHUB



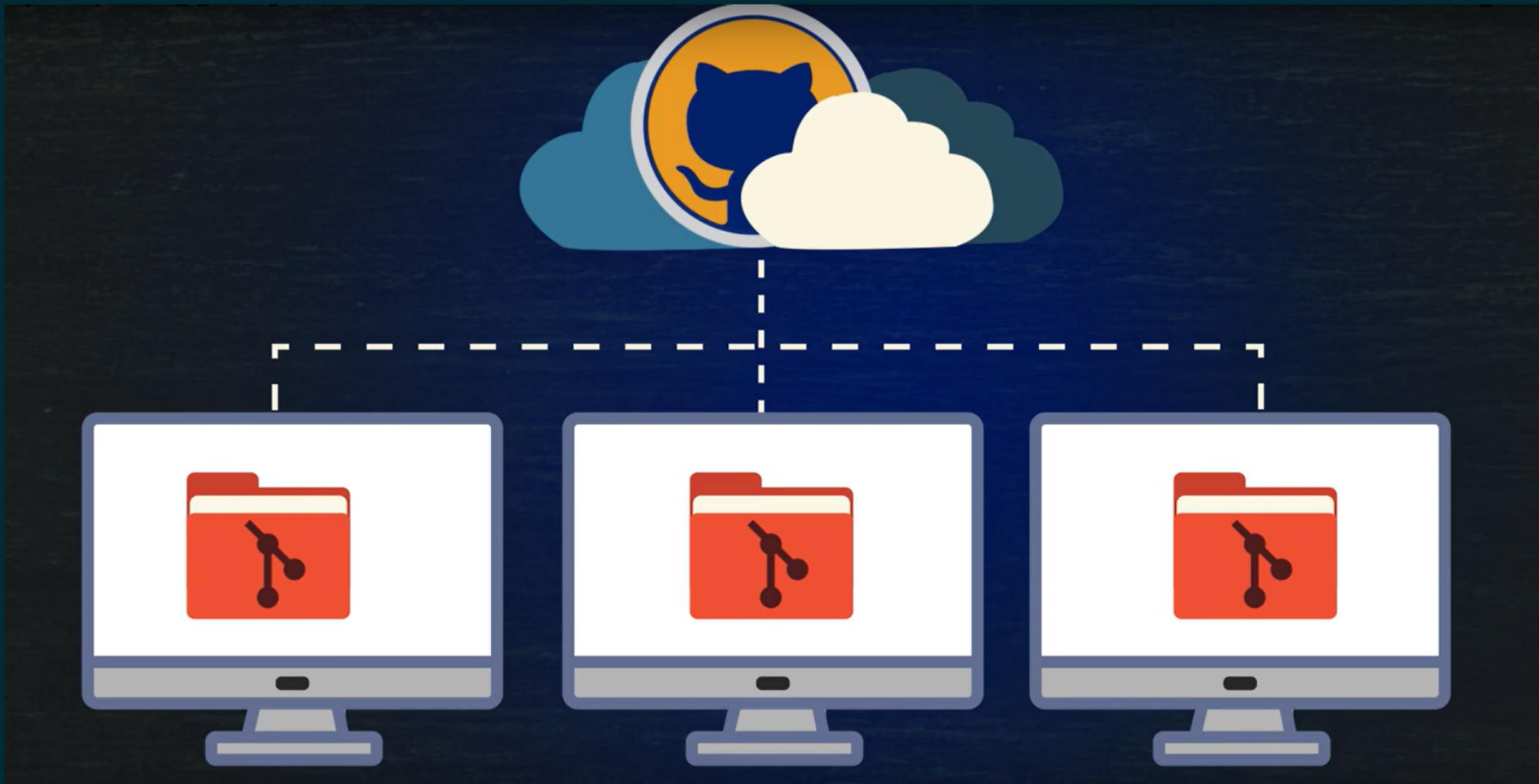
HUBS

- GitHub
- GitLab
- BitBucket

DUKE SPECIFIC HUBS

- gitlab.oit.duke.edu (NetID)
- PACE
- Anywhere that data and coding happens.

FILE DISTRIBUTION AND COLLABORATION



OTHER PROJECT MANAGEMENT FEATURES



Access
Control



Task
Distribution



Bug
Tracking



Wiki
Documentation



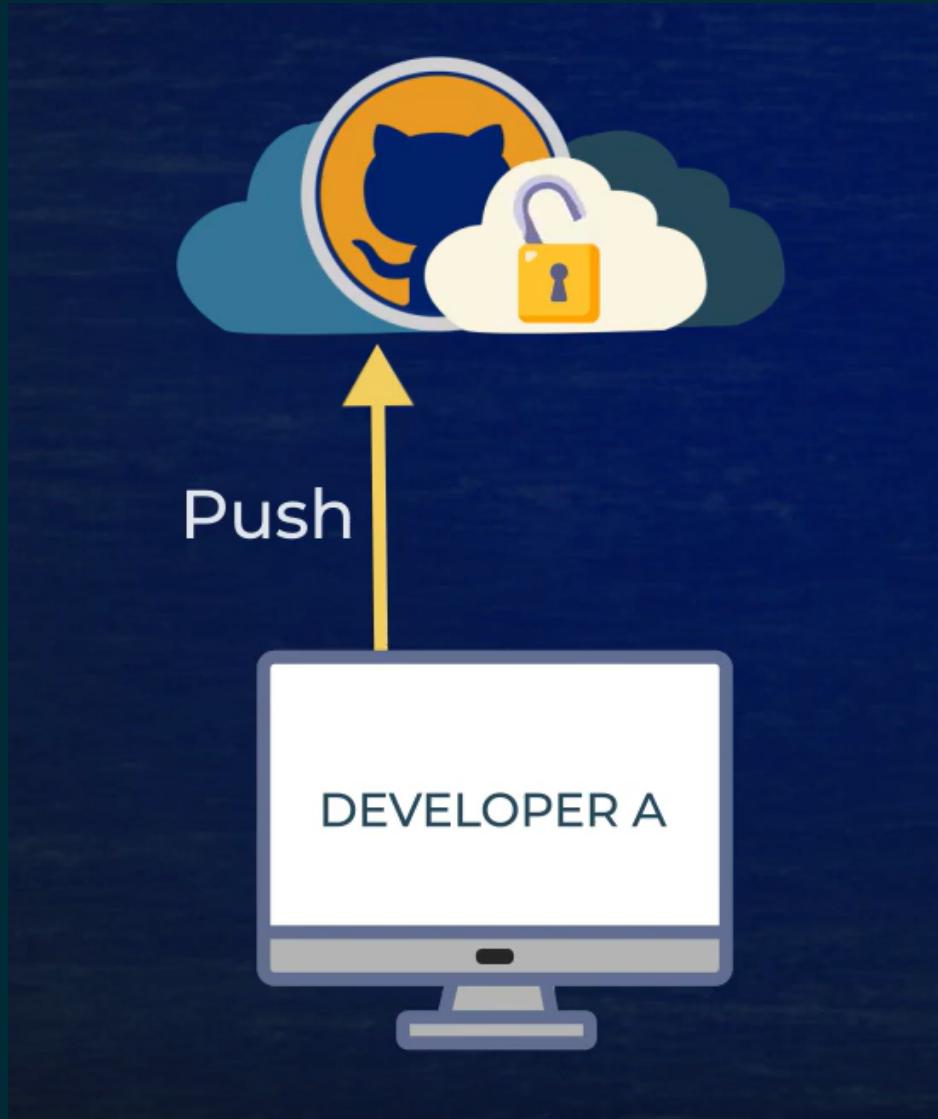
Kanban
Planning

BASIC FEATURES

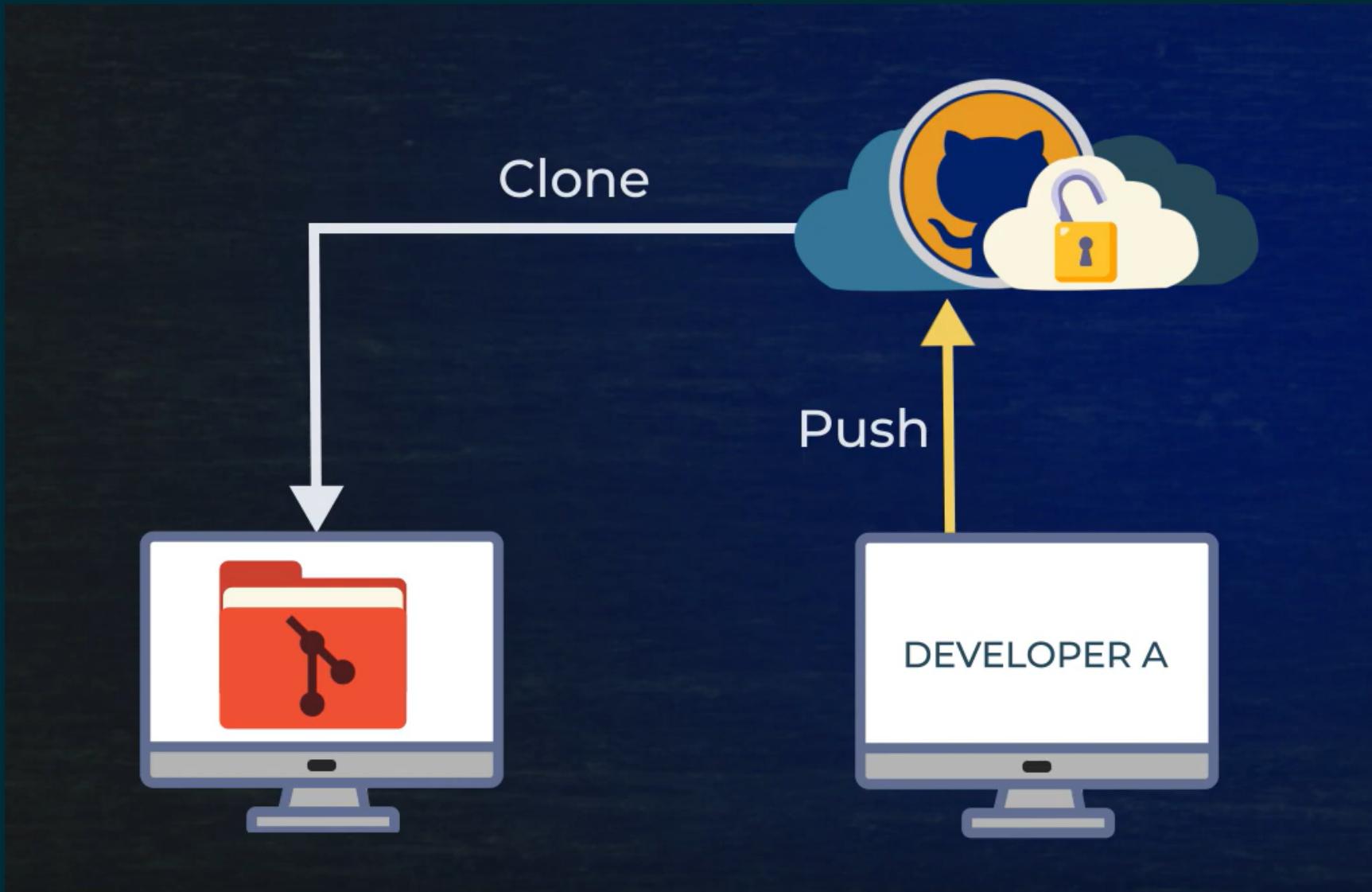
Git features implemented for distribution

- Push
- Public or Private
- Clone / Fork
- Pull Request
- Pull

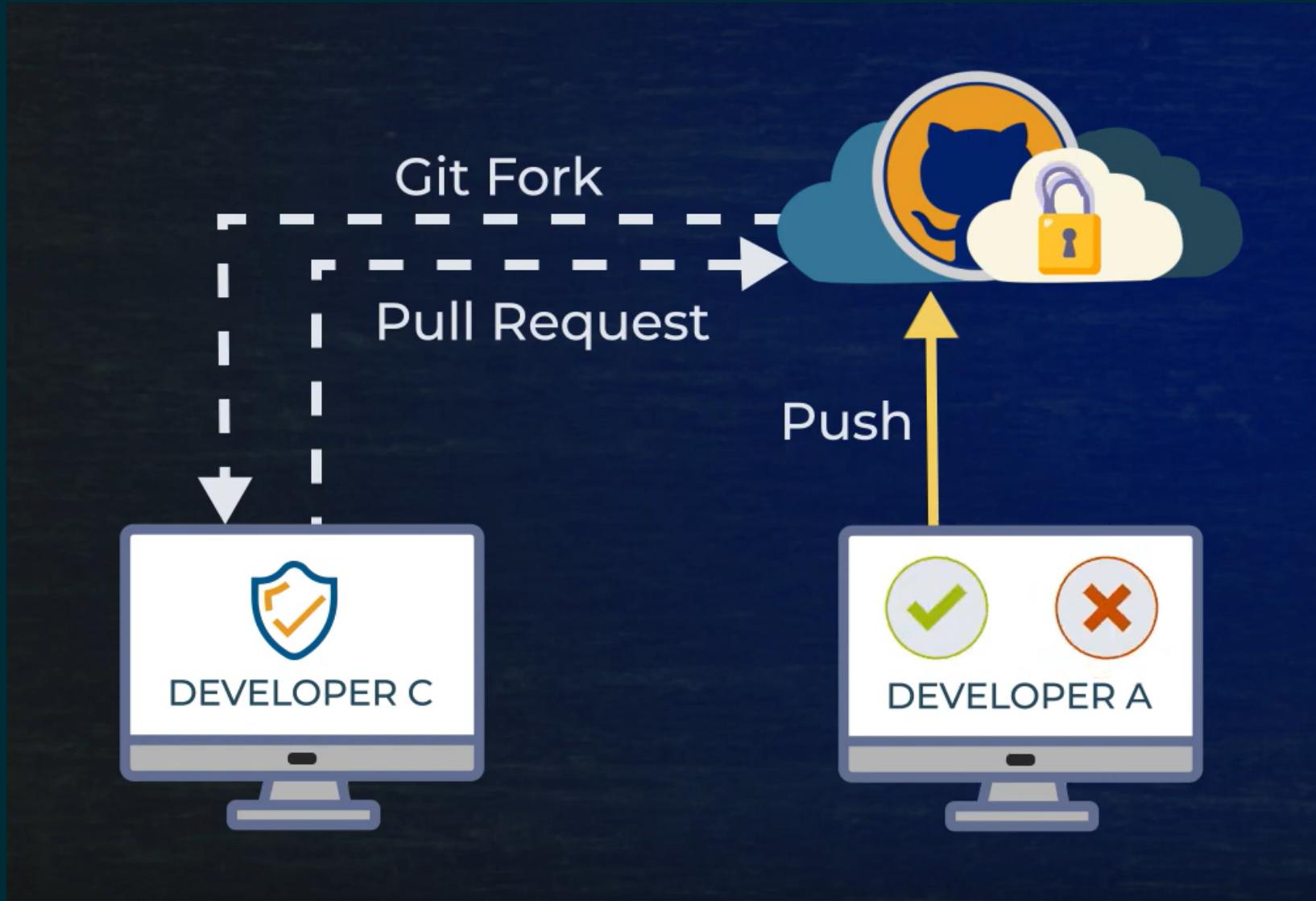
PUSH



CLONE



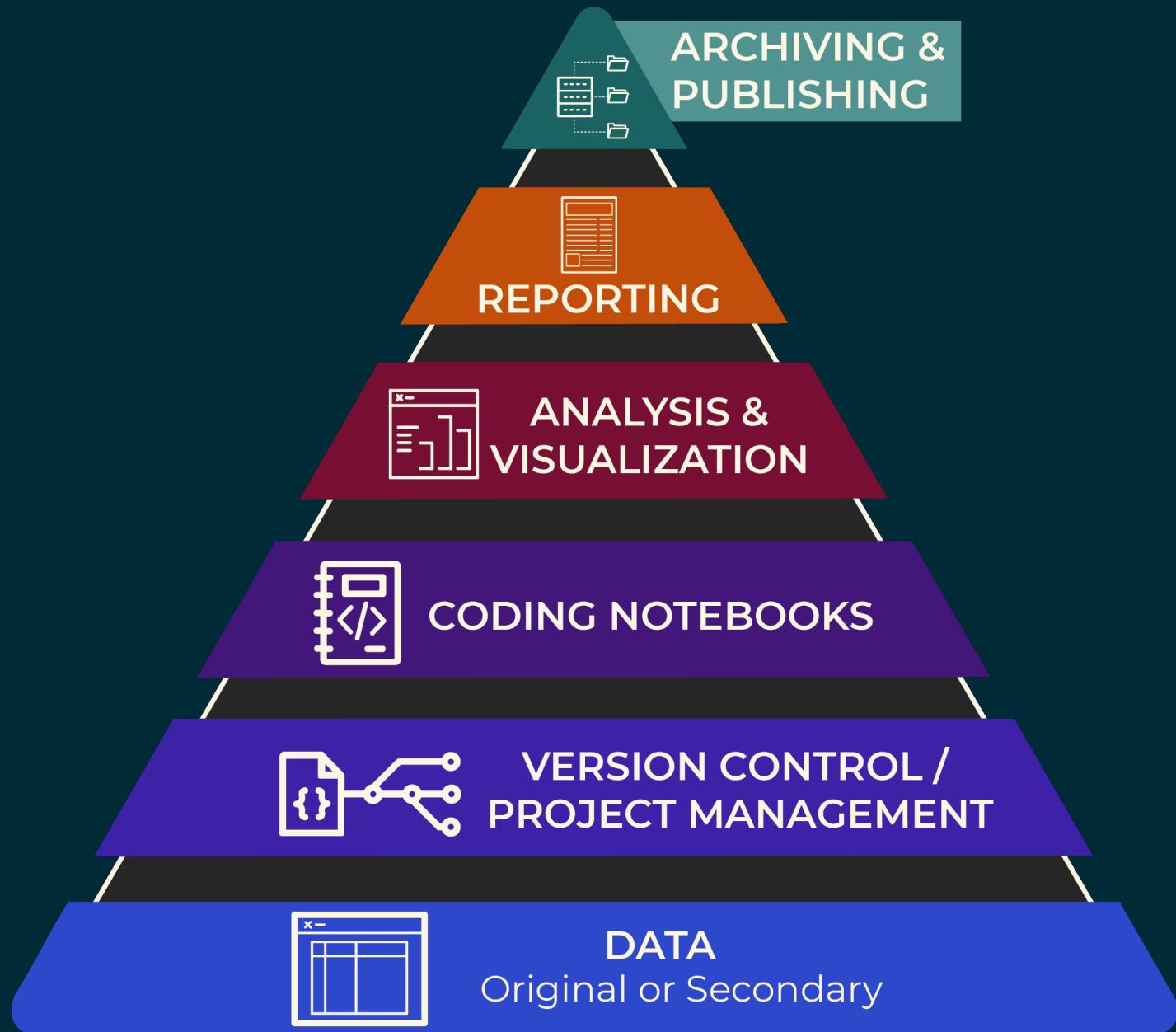
FORK / PR



SUMMARY

- Git is used to track changes to your repo
- GitHub is used to distribute your git repo and facilitate collaboration

NOTEBOOKS



REPRODUCIBILITY

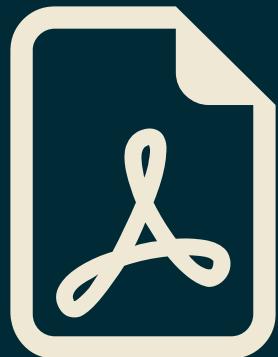
- Do everything with code!
 - Helps reduce repetition errors
 - Helps avoid copy/paste barriers
 - Orchestrate workflows

COMPUTATIONAL NOTEBOOKS

- Authoring environment
 - Code chunks interspersed with natural language
 - aka *Literate Coding*
- Easy to read and compose
- Graceful degradation

REPORTS AND EXPRESSIONS

Report expressions are rendered at code execution



INTERACTIVITY AND WEB APPLICATIONS

- Shiny
- Flask
- WebR
- Plotly Dash
- ObservableJS

computation
rce Visu
title: "Quarto Computations"

his dataset contains a subset of the fuel economy data from the EPA.
pecifically, we use the `mpg` dataset from the `ggplot2` package.

```
[r]  
| label: load-packages  
  
library(ggplot2)
```

The visualization below shows a positive, strong, and linear relationship between the city and highway mileage of these cars. Additionally, mileage is higher for cars with fewer cylinders.

```
[r]  
| label: scatterplot  
  
ggplot(mpg, aes(x = hwy, y = cty, color = cyl)) +  
  geom_point(alpha = 0.5, size = 2) +  
  scale_color_viridis_c() +  
  theme_minimal()
```

QUARTO NOTEBOOK IN RSTUDIO

Computations

File Go to file/function Addins

Plots Packages Help Viewer Presentation Edit Publish

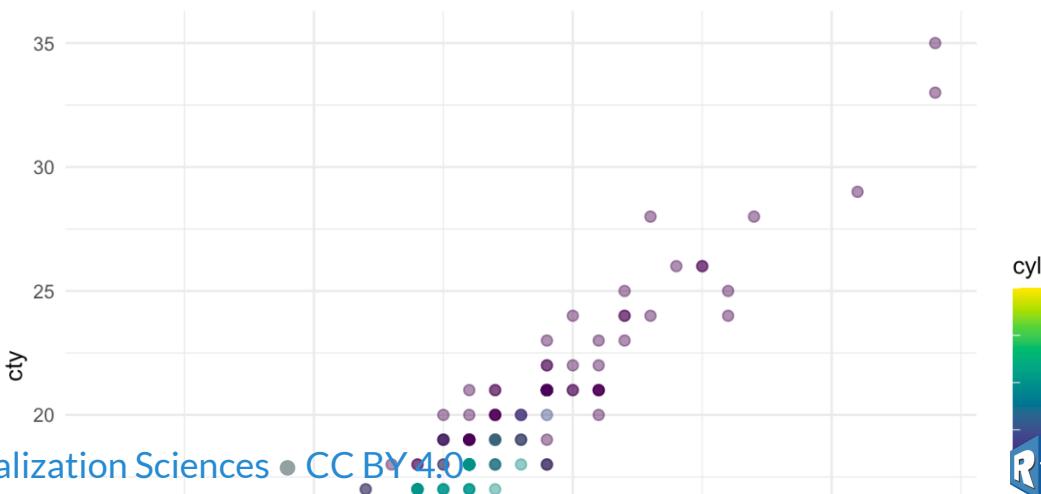
Quarto Computations

This dataset contains a subset of the fuel economy data from the EPA. Specifically, we use the `mpg` dataset from the `ggplot2` package.

```
library(ggplot2)
```

The visualization below shows a positive, strong, and linear relationship between the city and highway mileage of these cars. Additionally, mileage is higher for cars with fewer cylinders.

```
ggplot(mpg, aes(x = hwy, y = cty, color = cyl)) +  
  geom_point(alpha = 0.5, size = 2) +  
  scale_color_viridis_c() +  
  theme_minimal()
```



A scatter plot showing the relationship between city (cty) and highway (hwy) fuel economy. The x-axis represents highway mileage (hwy) and the y-axis represents city mileage (cty). The plot includes a color legend for the number of cylinders (cyl), ranging from 4 (blue) to 8 (yellow). The data points show a clear positive correlation, with higher highway mileage generally corresponding to higher city mileage, and lower cylinder counts (fewer cylinders) associated with higher fuel economy.

John R Little • Center for Data & Visualization Sciences • CC BY 4.0

JUPYTER NOTEBOOKS

([yes Classification](#)) is a good starting point for classification tasks, linear regression models are a good starting point for regression tasks. They can fit very quickly, and are very interpretable. You are probably familiar with the simplest form of a linear regression model, which is extended to model more complicated data behavior.

The figure shows a screenshot of the Jupyter Notebook interface. On the left, a sidebar lists various Jupyter notebooks and files. The main area contains several open notebooks:

- Linear Regression.ipynb**: A notebook titled "Simple Linear Regression". It includes code for generating a scatter plot of y vs x, and a cell showing the notebook's metadata.
- Lorenz.ipynb**: A Julia notebook titled "Julia". It shows code for plotting the Lorenz attractor and calculating eigenvalues.
- R.ipynb**: An R notebook titled "R". It displays a scatter plot of Sepal.Length vs Sepal.Width for the Iris dataset.
- AltaIR.ipynb**: A notebook titled "Seattle Weather: 2012-2015". It features a scatter plot of Maximum Daily Temperature (C) over time, a bar chart of weather frequency, and a histogram of record counts.
- Output View**: A separate window showing the output of the Lorenz.ipynb notebook, including the Lorenz attractor plot and eigenvalue calculations.

A central "Launcher" window is open, displaying icons for Python 3, C++11, C++14, C++17, Julia 1.1.0, phylogenetics (Python 3.7), and R.

QUARTO

- A scientific publishing system
- R, Python, ObservableJS
- Compose with standard text editors, or basic IDEs
 - IDEs: RStudio, Jupyter, VSCode, Positron

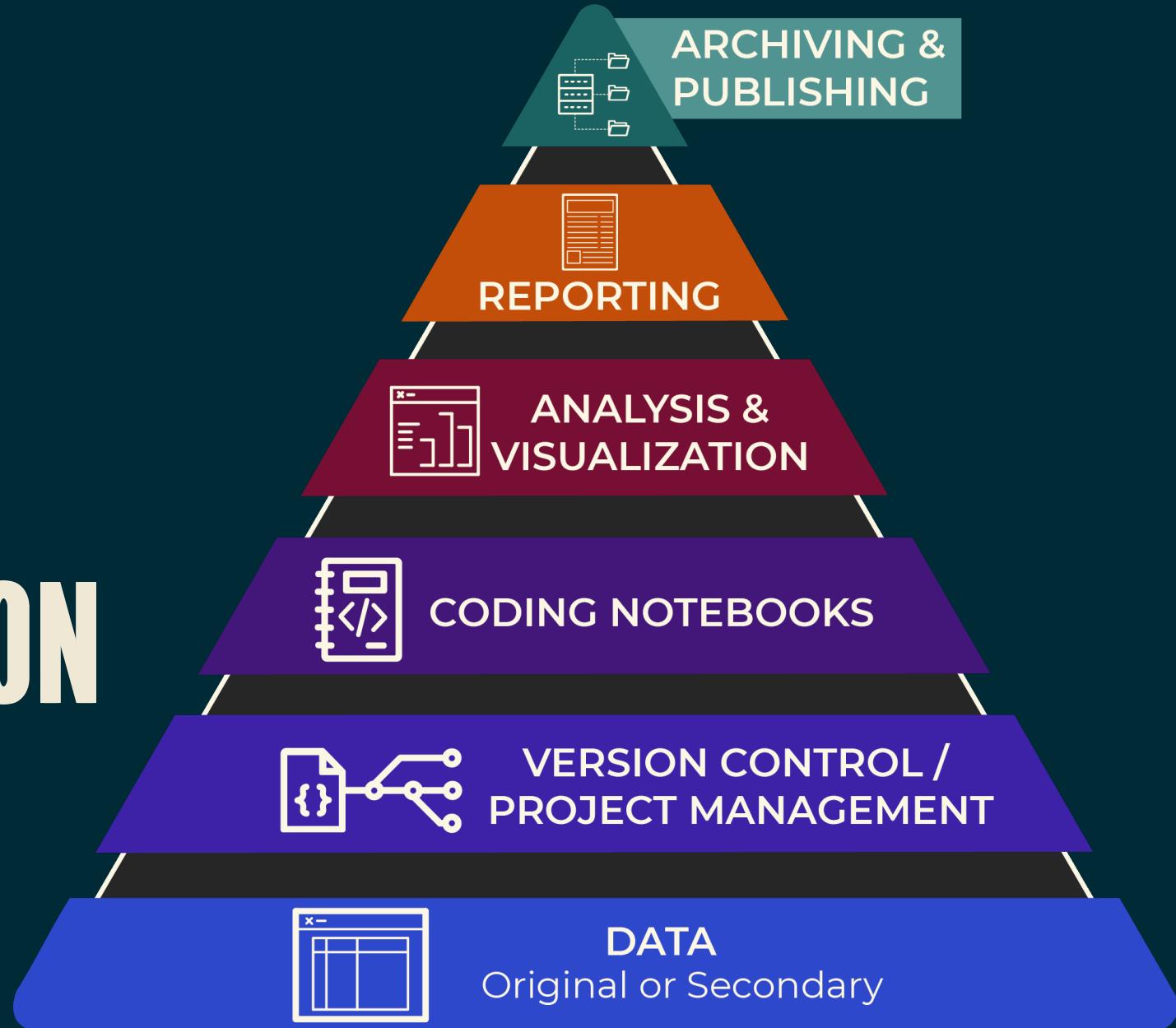
RENDERED OUTPUTS

- Artifacts that document a body of work
- Are reproducible and modifiable when data or techniques change
- Easy to update natural language explanations and re-render outputs
- Schedule emails based on report parameters

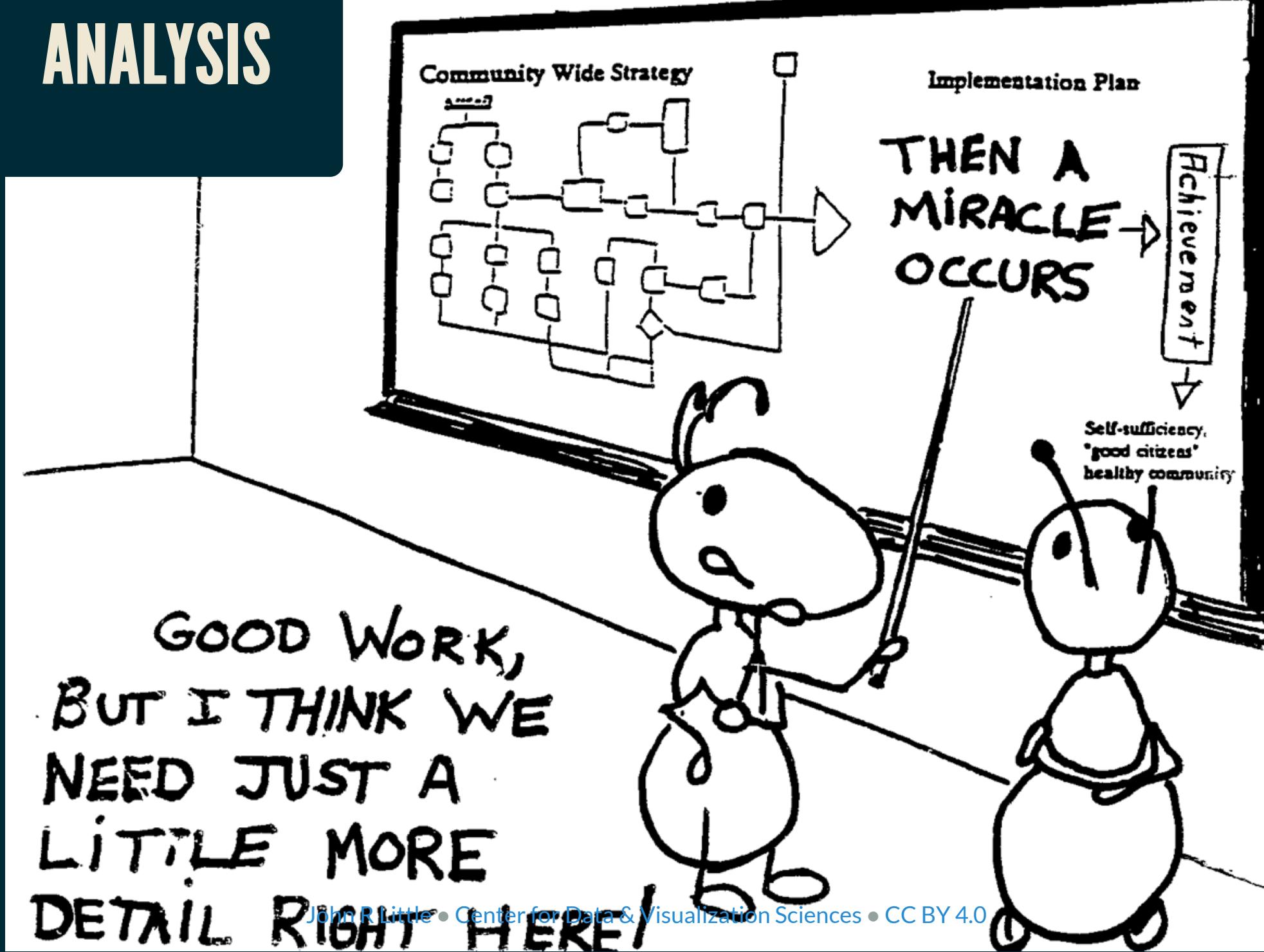
SUMMARY OF BENEFITS

- Using natural language clearly explain data, models, and workflows
- Reduce dependencies on outside and undocumented steps
- Ability to expose technical code chunks depending on audience focus
- State of the art reproducibility
 - 21st century **container** for evidence-based, computationally-processed research

ANALYSIS & VISUALIZATION

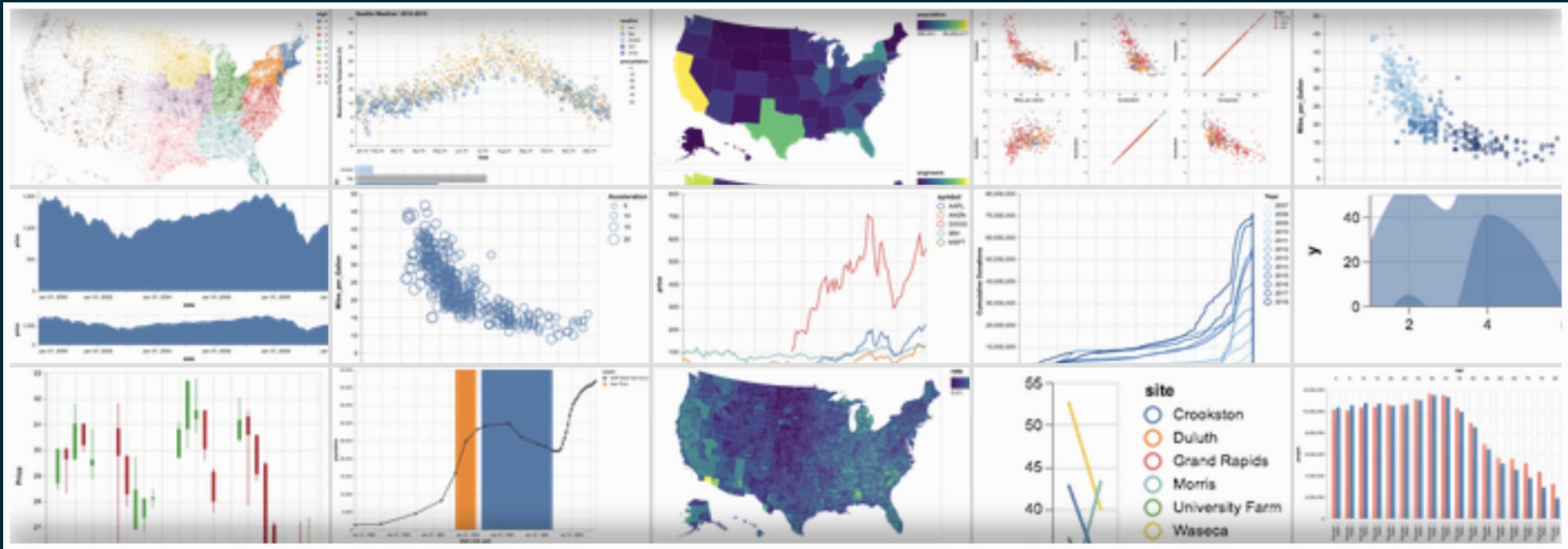


ANALYSIS

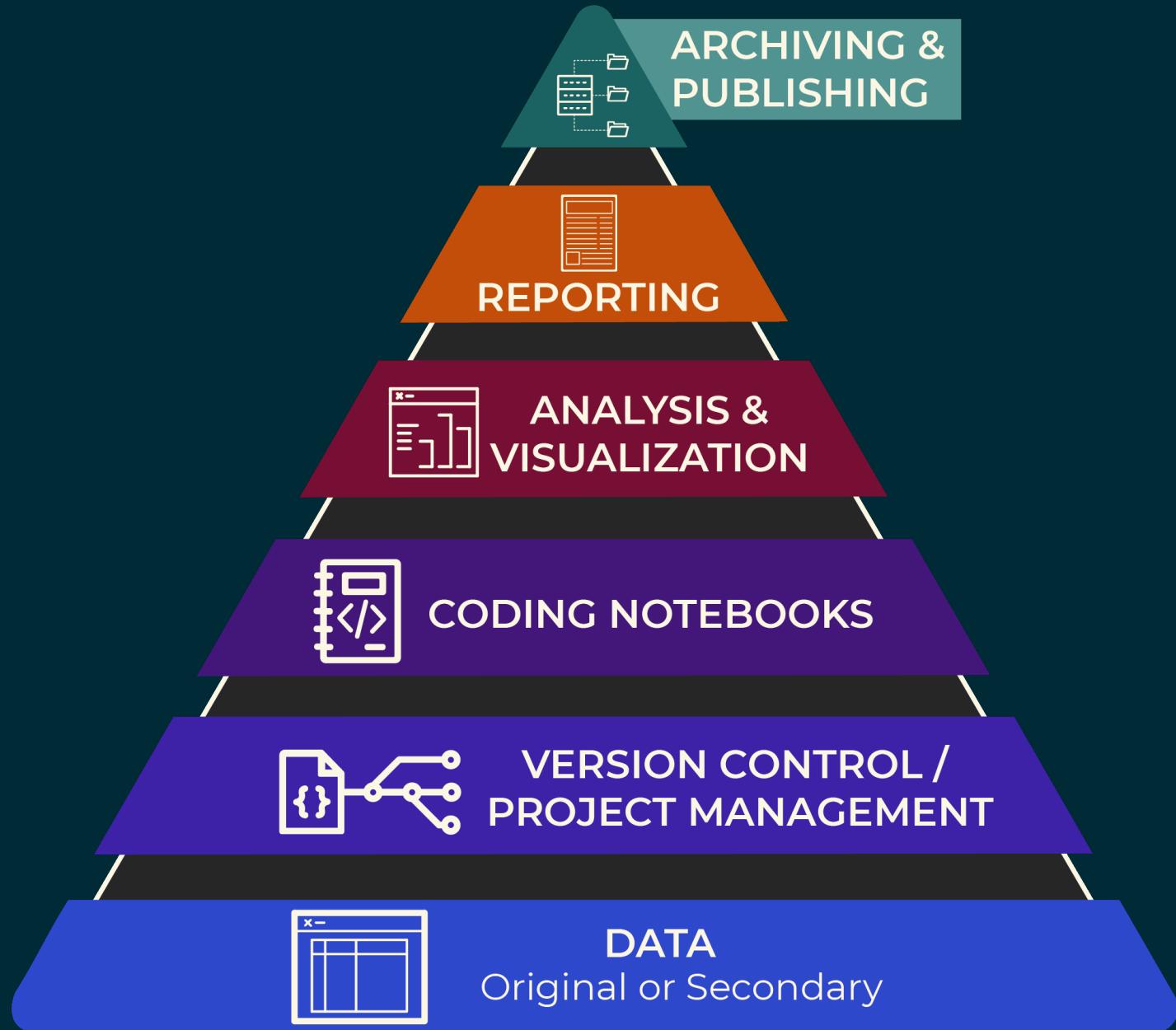


VISUALIZATION

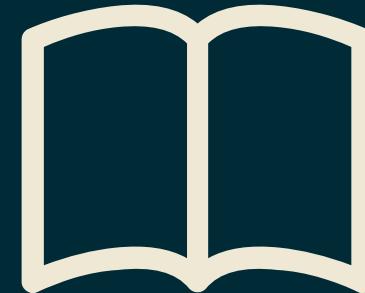
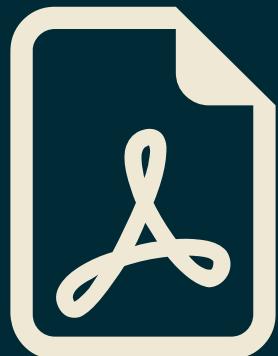
Use graphics tools predicated on the grammar of graphics



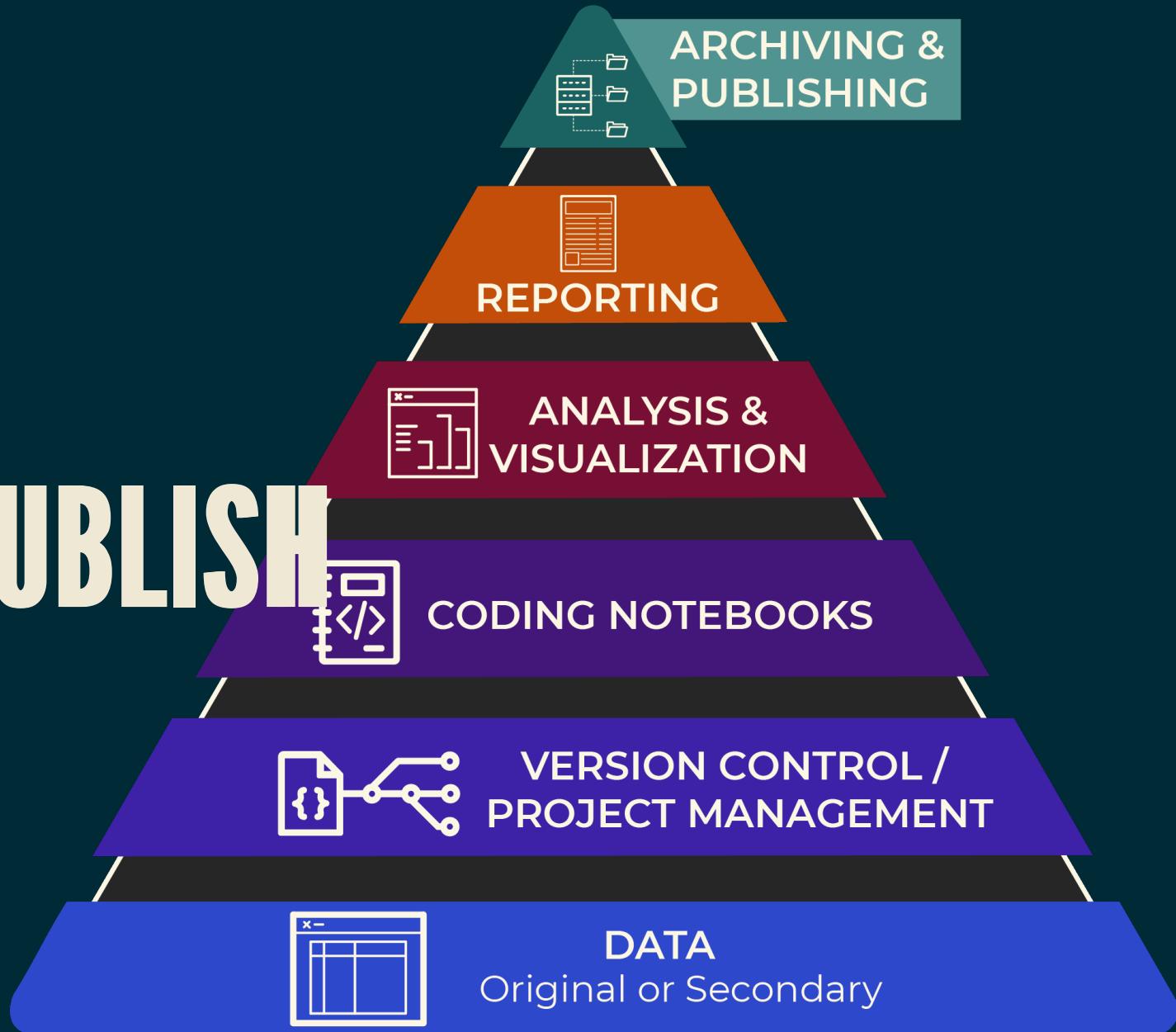
REPORTING



Report expressions are rendered at code execution



ARCHIVE & PUBLISH



GITHUB EXAMPLE

- https://github.com/libjohn/version_control_demo



TYPES OF REPOSITORIES

Archival

Posteriority of milestones



Workflow

Versions / evolution of project



git

}

HOW

- Generate report expressions from code
- Combine GitHub releases with Zenodo to archive your milestones and share the interactive computation in a binder Hub
- Zenodo: general, open repository to deposit research papers, data sets, code, reports and related artifacts and connect to a citable DOI.
- Binder: package and share reproducible computational environments
 - mybinder.org (public BinderHub portal)



STEPS

1. Make a GitHub Release at project milestone(s)
2. Connect GitHub to Zenodo
 1. Mint a DOI to a GitHub Release (persistent identifier: citation; milestones)
 2. With DOI, link to ORCID
3. Create a publicly launchable, fully functional computation container of your work

END TO END

1. Project with version control

- project folder with TIER organization
- data (raw)
- version control (git)

2. Coding notebook

- data cleaning
- natural language explanations
- analysis and modeling
- visualization
- generate report expressions from code

3. Publish

- workflow archived and linked
- Milestones linked to version control
- **Informal:** web, file sharing
▪ Whitepapers, slides, reports
- **Formal:** vis-a-vis peer-reviewed journals



SHARING YOUR WORKSPACE

Your computation workspace (i.e. your laptop, desktop, cloud)

Give someone else your laptop so they can play around with your projects

- the code, the data, the settings and configurations?
- Good idea?

Now you can share a copy of your computational environment



BINDER HUB

- Easiest: mybinder.org open and public
 - `quarto use binder`
- Security demands may push you to use singularity

CONTAINER EXAMPLES

- [https://github.com/libjohn/workshop_rfun_iterate?
tab=readme-ov-file#readme](https://github.com/libjohn/workshop_rfun_iterate?tab=readme-ov-file#readme)
- [https://github.com/libjohn/workshop_webscraping?
tab=readme-ov-file#readme](https://github.com/libjohn/workshop_webscraping?tab=readme-ov-file#readme)

REPEAT FOR THE PDF



END TO END - STEPS

1. Project with version control

- project folder with TIER organization
- data (raw)
- version control (git)

2. Coding notebook

- data cleaning
- natural language explanations
- analysis and modeling
- visualization
- generate report expressions from code

END TO END - STEPS (CONTINUED)

3. Publish

- workflow archived and collaboration enabled via **Git**; shared through **GitHub** / **GitLab** etc.
- Milestones linked to GitHub *releases*; DOIs minted; Posterity archiving at archival repositories (e.g. Zenodo)
- **Informal**: web, file sharing, etc.
 - Whitepapers, slides, dashboards, etc.
- **Formal**: vis-a-vis peer reviewed journal articles