

Advanced Git

IVS demonstration exercise

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Prerequisites

- Basic knowledge of Git commands for:
 - creating commits (git add, git commit)
 - inspecting current state (git status, git diff)
 - inspecting history (git log, git show)
 - working with remotes (git pull, git push)
 - working with branches (git checkout, git branch)



"Advanced" work with Git



Let's start

- We'll write a simple tool for counting characters, words, and lines in a file (similar to the wc utility)
- We start with a pre-initialized repo containing very basics of the tool: https://github.com/viktormalik/git-workshop
- The repo contains a source file wc.c, a testing file, and a Makefile
- We start by adding .gitignore and commiting it



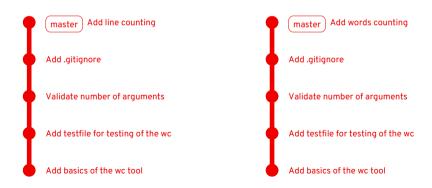
Current status of the repo





Basic team synchronisation

Every member implements a different feature in their master





Basic team synchronisation

The second one to push must do a merge (and resolve a merge conflict)





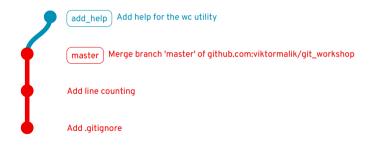
Better team synchronisation

- This is not a good practice!
- Always implement new features in **separate branches**.
- Potential merge conflicts should be resolved in the feature branch.
- Ideally, merging into master should be always done using **pull requests**
 - They allow other team members to comment on the changes
 - Changes can be **reviewed** before they get into master
 - Master always contains a working and approved version of the project



Using a feature branch

Let us add help into the tool using a separate branch add_help





Using a feature branch

The state of *master* after **rebase**:

master Add help for the wc utility

Merge branch 'master' of github.com:viktormalik/git_workshop

Add line counting

Add .gitignore



We have 2 branches pointing to the same commit and we want to move one backwards.





This can be done using git reset HEAD^



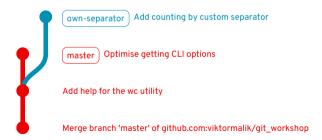


After adding a new commit to options-opt:





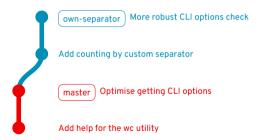
options-opt can be now merged into master while own-separator remains a feature branch in development.





Rebasing feature branches

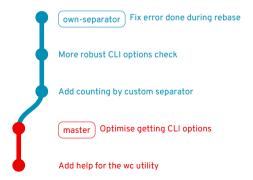
We add more commits to the feature branch and then **rebase** it onto *master* (to avoid creation of a merge commit).





Rebasing feature branches

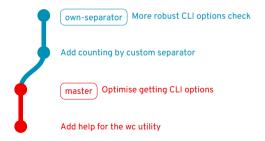
We made a mistake during the rebase, which we had to fix with an additional commit.





Rebasing feature branches

It is possible to merge the "fix commit" into one of the previous commits using **interactive rebase** (git rebase -i).





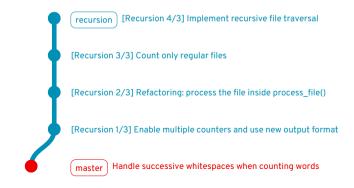
Interactive rebase

- One of the most important Git features in the modern pull request-based workflow.
- Allows to edit, reorder, merge (squash), or drop commits.
- Rewrites history should be only used on feature branches.
- Never rewrite history of master!
 - Other developers would not be able to do git pull.



Copying commits from other branches

It is possible to copy commits from other branches (e.g. commits implementing useful features from co-workers feature branches) using git cherry-pick.





Copying commits from other branches

After moving 3 commits from recursion into multiple-files:





Copying commits from other branches

If the commits are altered in *multiple-files*, it may be needed to use skip when rebasing *recursion* onto *multiple-files*.





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- Git offers git bisect that uses **binary search** to localise the commit that caused the bug.
 - git bisect start starts bisecting.
 - git bisect good marks a commit that does not contain the bug.
 - git bisect bad marks a commit contains the bug.
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- The process can be automated using a script that returns 0 on success and a non-zero result on failure.

Git tips and tricks



Cloning repositories with a long history

- If a repo has a long history, it may take long time to clone it.
- If the entire history is no needed, it is possible to use a **shallow copy**: git clone --max-depth N
- Try it with the Linux kernel:
 git clone --max-depth 1 https://github.com/torvalds/linux



Default push and pull into different remotes

- When using pull requests, it may be useful to pull from the **upstream** repo but push into own **fork**.
- A different remote for push can be configured using: git config remote.pushdefault <remote>
- Alternatively, this can be configured per-branch: git config branch. cbranch>.pushremote



Signing commits

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- To resolve this problem, Git offers **signing commits** using GPG keys.
- GitHub offers a nice tutorial on how to setup commit signing: https://help.github.com/en/github/authenticating-to-github/signing-commits



There are various possibilities on how to ease your life with Git:

- Git prompt
 - It is possible to setup Bash prompt such that it shows the current branch, state of the directory, etc.
 - There are many tutorials on how to set the prompt
 - Some alternative shells (e.g. Fish, zsh) include Git prompt by default



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IDE/Editor support

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Use tools for history inspection

- There is a number of tools for an easier history traversal
- E.g. **tig**, gitk, ...



Command aliases

- Many Git commands are quite long (or have many options).
- It is possible to setup short aliases for most commonly used commands.
- Git offers a way to set aliases:

```
git config --global alias.co checkout
...
or edit $HOME/.gitconfig:
  [alias]
  co = checkout
...
```

• An alternative is to setup aliases via shell



Useful links

Atlassian Advanced Git Tutorials

https://www.atlassian.com/git/tutorials/advanced-overview

• GitHub Guides

https://quides.github.com

GitHub Help

https://help.github.com/en/github



TL;DR

What you should take out of this talk:

- Learn and practice interactive rebase
- Read what Git tells you, there are often good hints (e.g. for undoing things)
- Keep *master* in good shape

Thank you for the attention! Questions?

