A few basic terms and concepts

☐ Every project is hosted in a "repository".

☐ Repositories can be *public* (anyone can view, download, and potentially contribute to your code) or *private* (only you, and people you invite, can view or interact with your code).

☐ Public repositories are *free*, but private repositories require a *paid* GitHub account (currently $7/mo).

☐ Git automatically creates a permanent history of all changes you've ever made to your project, and you can easily *go back in time* to retrieve older versions of your code if you mess something up.

Git is distributed

- One of Git's best features is that it is distributed.

- That is, every single "working copy" on any user's computer, stores the entire project history. There's not necessarily a "central server" the way there is with older version control systems such as CVS or SVN.

- Although, to be precise, GitHub is a central server and if you use GitHub exclusively, you give up some of that distributed nature.

- GitHub has had some downtime (who hasn't), but they're generally quite reliable.