Our goals of this project are twofold. First, we need to collaborate across institutions. We do not all have access to the same shared folder, so we need to figure out a way to share documents. Email is not ideal because it is a drag to manage files that way. Furthermore, there's no good way to know what's changed. Google docs aren't great because it isn't easy to know what's changed either. Staff at IPUMS use GitHub on a daily basis to manage shared code, so with Sarah's little bit of experience and access to help, if needed, we decided to try this approach. GitHub also serves our second goal, which is to make the syntax for our project available to the research community. Our project will perform sequence analysis on IPUMS Time Use data (ATUS-X available at [www.atusdata.org](http://www.atusdata.org)). Sequence analysis is somewhat new to the time use field. There are lots of startup costs associated with performing sequence analysis, and we hope that our work will help reduce some of those costs for the research community.

To get started, everyone needed to make a GitHub account. We explored using our institution-specific GitHub accounts, but those are institution specific and would not work since we are located at different institutions, so we created accounts on github.com. We initially created a repository and tried to add files, make changes, and use the web-based GitHub features under issues and projects to share information. Now we need to add to it. In addition, we will use the desktop version of GitHub to avoid having to do a lot of work at the command line.