

GitTorrent

The decentralized information manager from hell

Manas Pratim Biswas
Roll - 002011001025 UG - IV
Information Technology
Jadavpur University





Introduction







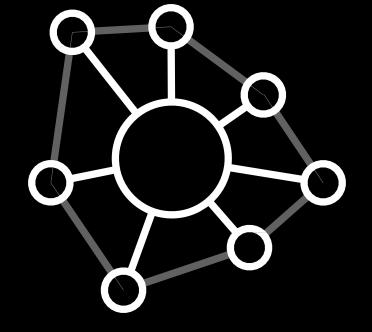
Looking Back







Federated Internet







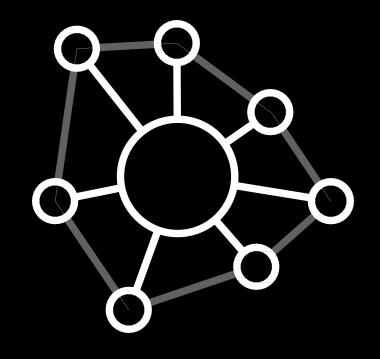


Federated Internet

File sharing — FTP, HTTP

Chats — IRC, XMPP

Messaging — Email, Fidonet









Centralized Internet

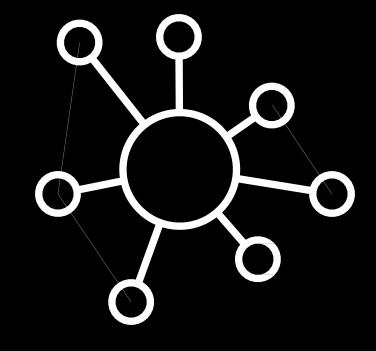
File sharing — Dropbox, Google Drive

Chats — Slack, Discord

Messaging — Facebook, WhatsApp

Payments — PayPal

Code — GitHub, GitLab, BitBucket









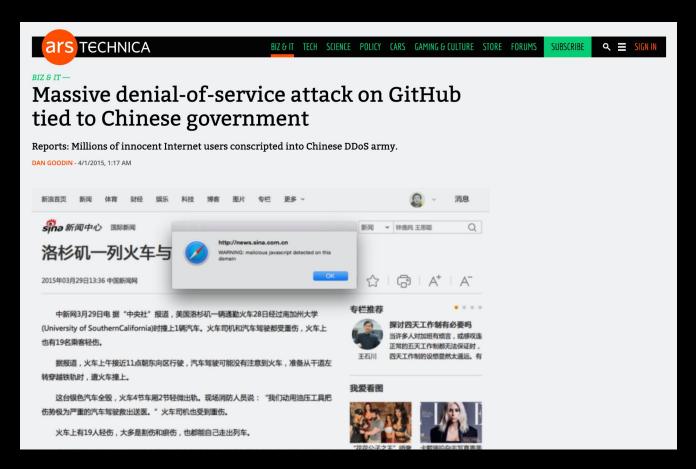
Demerits of Centralization

Data Leaks

Censorship

Resilience and Availability

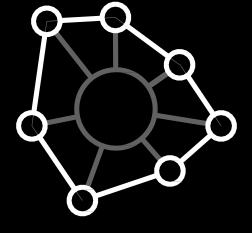
Government Surveillance







A New Hope









Peer-To-Peer Distributed Network

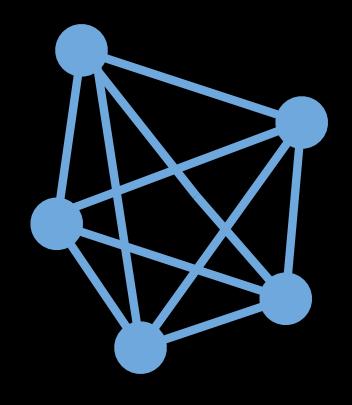






Fundamentals

- Peer-To-Peer communication
- Decentralization of Control
- High Resilience and Low Redundancy
- Maintain a Distributed Ledger









Re-Decentralization

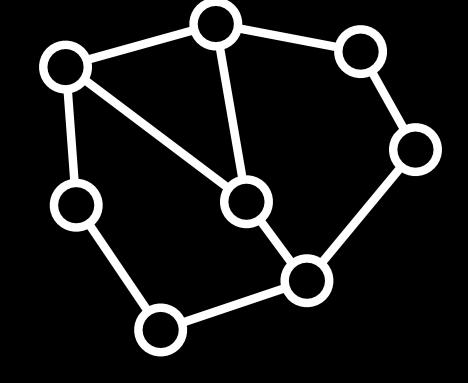
File sharing — BitTorrent, IPFS

Chats — Matrix

Messaging — GNU Ring, Tox

Payments — BitCoin, Ethereum

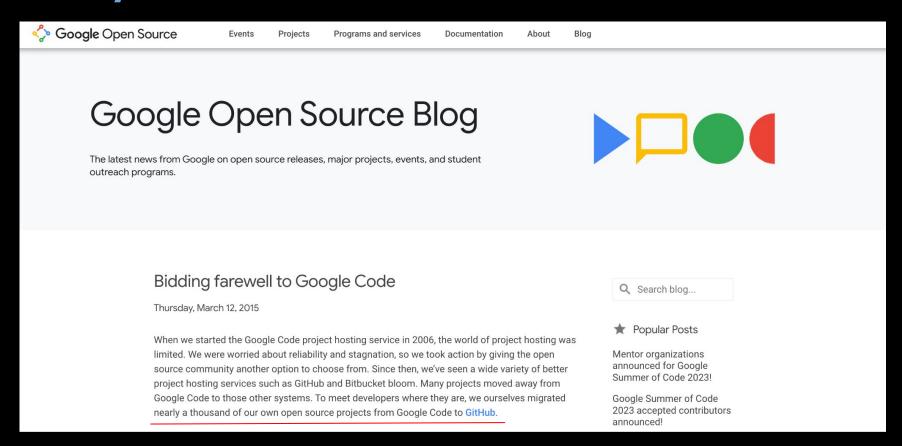
Code — Distributed Git =>
GitTorrent

















Practical Reasons

- GitHub's vulnerabilities and potential hacks/ DDoS threats
- GitHub's centralized control over open-source collaboration







Philosophical Reasons

- Free softwares dependency on proprietary tools
- Lack of control and modification options for users







Ironical Reason

- Shifting from centralized protocols (*CVS*, *Subversion*) running on multiple servers to decentralized protocols (*DVCS*, *Git*) running on a centralized GitHub server







Isn't Git already Decentralized?

- Comparing Git to FTP, the lack of an index and the inability to turn clients into servers hinder the true decentralization of Git.

- Unlike peer-to-peer protocols like BitTorrent, Git doesn't inherently provide visibility into where repositories are stored or enable direct communication between clients.







Isn't Git already Decentralized?

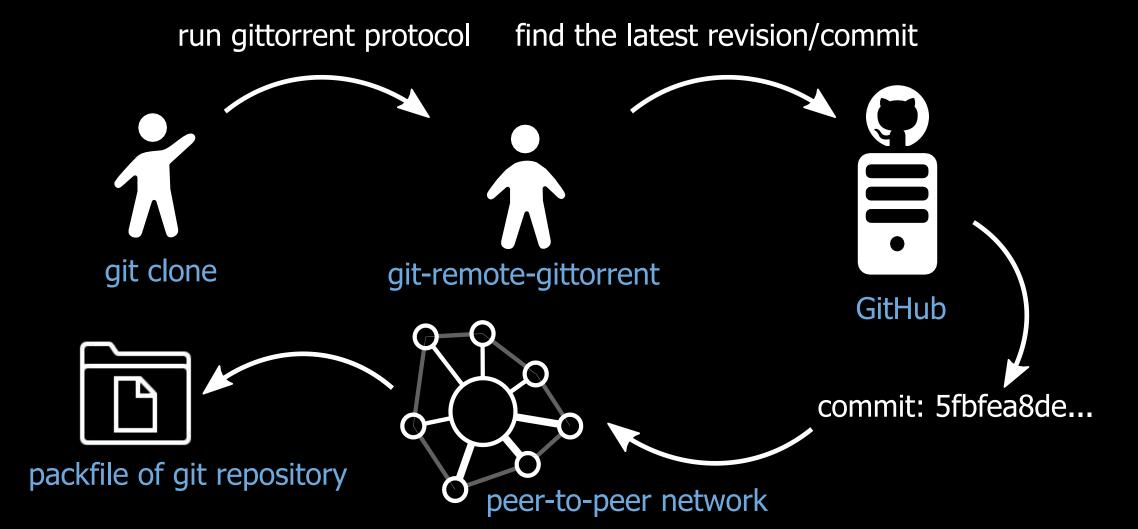
- GitTorrent aims to address this limitation by introducing a decentralized approach, allowing users to locate and clone repositories without relying on a central server.





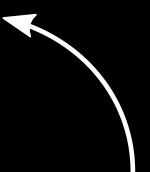
```
git clone gittorrent://github.com/cjb/recursers
   Cloning into 'recursers'...
3
4
  Okay, we want to get: 5fbfea8de70ddc686dafdd24b690893f98eb9475
5
6
   Adding swarm peer: 192.34.86.36:30000
8
   Downloading git pack with infohash:
   9d98510a9fee5d3f603e08dcb565f0675bd4b6a2
9
  Receiving objects: 100\% (47/47), 11.47 KiB | 0 bytes/s, done.
11 Resolving deltas: 100% (10/10), done.
12 Checking connectivity... done.
```







```
get_nodes('5fbfea8de70ddc686dafdd24b690893f98eb9475') =
  [192.34.86.36:30000, ...]
```

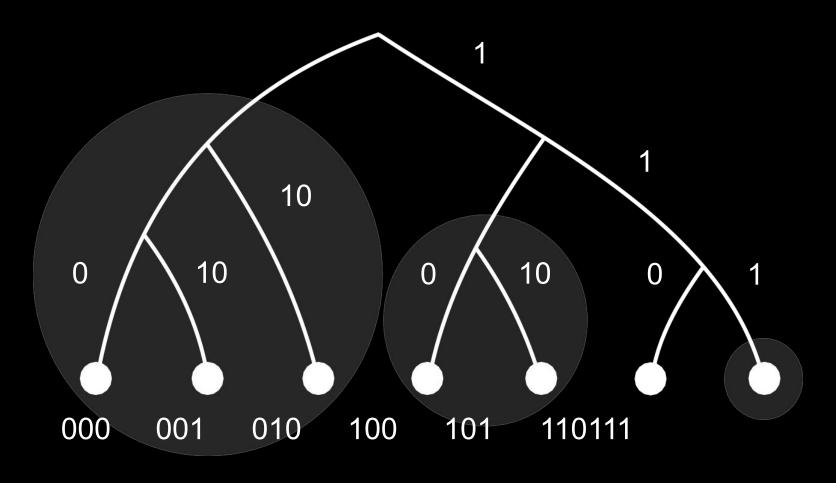


list of all peers or the *peer set* that can seed that particular commit



Kademlia Distributed Hash Table



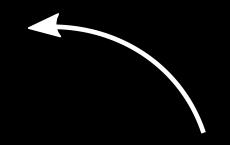




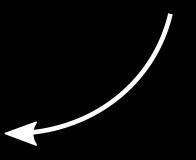


Removing the GitHub Centralised Dependency

```
// Immutable key put
hash(value) = put({
  value: 'some data'
})
// Mutable key put
hash(key) = put({
  value: 'some data',
  key: key,
  seq: n
})
// Get
value = get(hash)
```



each node maintains a network-wide key-value store



GitTorrenting a new revision or commit

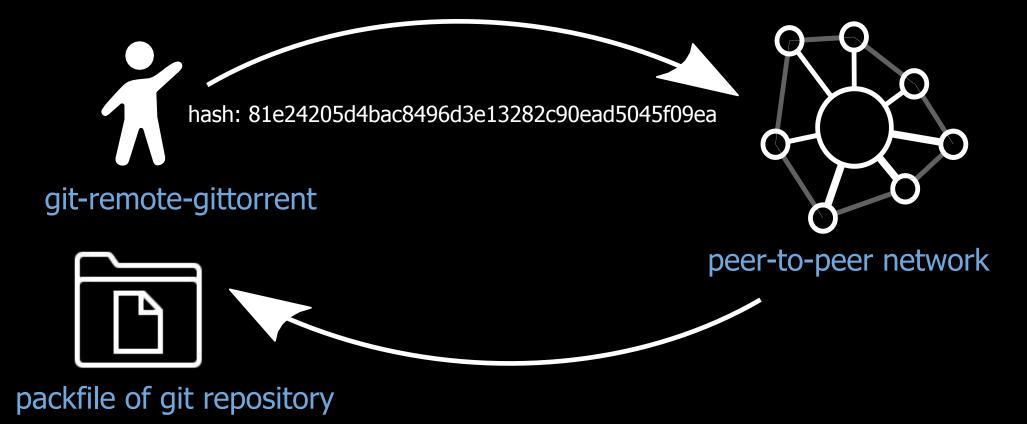
with a new seq no







run gittorrent client with a hex number that is the hash of author's public key which is used as a mutable key on the distributed hash table



```
git clone gittorrent://81e24205d4bac8496d3e13282c90ead5045f09ea/recursers
2
3
   Cloning into 'recursers'...
4
   Mutable key 81e24205d4bac8496d3e13282c90ead5045f09ea returned:
                 Chris Ball
6
  name:
  email:
                 chris@printf.net
8
  repositories:
9
    recursers:
10
      master: 5fbfea8de70ddc686dafdd24b690893f98eb9475
11
12 Okay, we want to get: 5fbfea8de70ddc686dafdd24b690893f98eb9475
13
14 Adding swarm peer: 192.34.86.36:30000
15
16 Downloading git pack with infohash: 9d98510a9fee5d3f603e08dcb565f0675bd4b6a2
17
18 Receiving objects: 100% (47/47), 11.47 KiB | 0 bytes/s, done.
19 Resolving deltas: 100% (10/10), done.
20 Checking connectivity... done.
```





Conclusion







A global BitTorrent swarm of Git objects

git clone https://github.com/cjb/foo

git clone gittorrent://github.com/cjb/foo

git clone gittorrent://81e24205d4bac8496d3e13282c90ead5045f09ea/foo





GitTorrent Limitations

- Doesn't implement GitHub Comments, Issues, Discussions
- Doesn't implement Pull Request and collaborative workflow
- Seeders should be rewarded for being a part of network
- DHTs support is limited





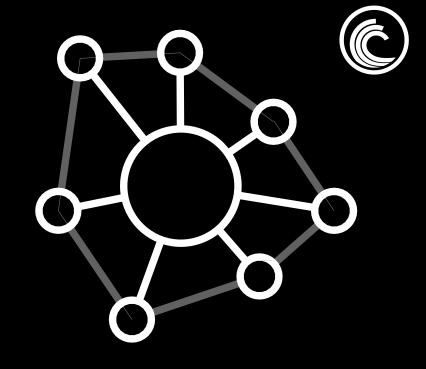


GitTorrent Future Work

- Distributed revision control systems for bug tracking - Bugs Everywhere
- Use IPFS (*InterPlanetary File System*) instead of BitTorrent swarm







References

- https://blog.printf.net/articles/2015/05/29/announcing-gittorrent-a-decentralized-github/
- https://github.com/cjb/GitTorrent
- https://lwn.net/Articles/646628/



https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=9625840





https://github.com/sanam2405/seminar



Roll - 002011001025 UG - IV

Information Technology

Jadavpur University



