



Version Control: Key Terms



Katz

Katz School
of Science and Health

Key Terminology: Snapshots

- The way git keeps track of your code history
- Essentially records what all your files look like at a given point in time
- You decide when to take a snapshot, and of what files
- Have the ability to go back to visit any snapshot
- Your snapshots from later on will stay around, too

Key Terminology: Commit

- The act of creating a snapshot
- Can be a noun or verb
 - “I committed code”
 - “I just made a new commit”
- Essentially, a project is made up of a bunch of commits
- Commits contain three pieces of information:
 - Information about how the files changed from previously
 - A reference to the commit that came before it
 - Called the “parent commit”
 - A hash code name
 - Will look something like:
 - fb2d2ec5069fc6776c80b3ad6b7cbde3cade4e

Key Terminology: Repository

- Often shortened to ‘repo’
- A collection of all the files and the history of those files
- Consists of all your commits
- Place where all your hard work is stored
- Can live on a local machine or on a remote server (GitHub!)
- The act of copying a repository from a remote server is called **cloning**
- Cloning from a remote server allows teams to work together
- The process of downloading commits that don’t exist on your machine from a remote repository is called **pulling changes**
- The process of adding your local changes to the remote repository is called **pushing changes**

Key Terminology: Branch

- All commits in git live on some branch
- But there can be many, many branches
- The main branch in a project is called the master branch

Workflow

