STAT 214

Supplementary Materials for Git

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This short document is mostly meant as a way to connect you with resources from those who are much smarter than I - it doesn't make sense for me to teach you Git from scratch when there are great resources for this (which do a much better job than I could).

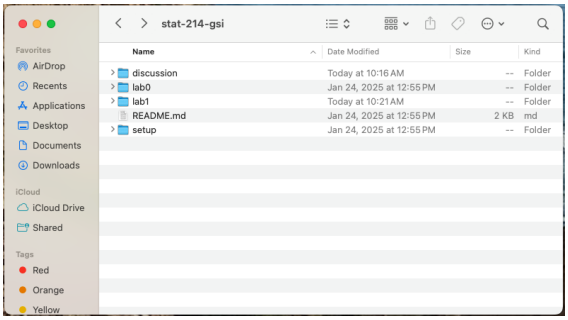
Below are tutorials for Git from the amazing Fernando Perez, who is a professor of statistics here at UC Berkeley (and the creator of Jupyter & IPython).

- Interactive Git tutorial
- A visual representation of Git, using graphs
- Git visuals in slide form

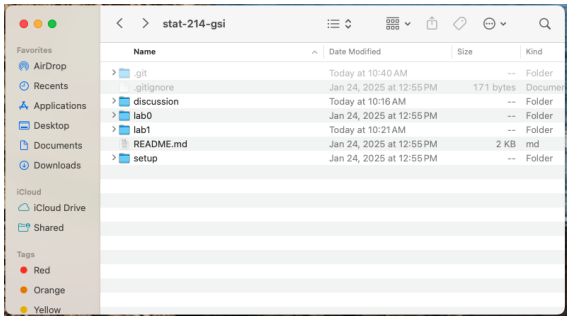
Note in the links above how commands 'cd' and 'ls' are used. Simply put, 'ls' will list the files in your current directory, and 'cd' will change your directory to the specified folder. It is necessary that you know these two simple commands for this course.

Take the image above as an example. On the far left of the line, we see '(stat214)', indicating that I am in my 'stat214' environment. On the far right, we see 'stat-214-gsi', indicating my current directory. Using 'ls' shows all of the subdirectories/files within 'stat-214-gsi'. To move into internal folders, I use 'cd' along with the name of the folder I want to move to. Note that '..' indicates the "parent" directory, or moving back to the "outside" folder.

Hidden files are files that are not displayed by default in file explorers to prevent accidental modification or deletion. They usually start with a period (.) in their name and contain configuration data that ensures proper functioning of the system or software. Importantly, this includes files such as '.gitignore', which is important for coding! To see these files in terminal, we can use 'ls -a', which is seen in the last line of the image above. If you would like to see the hidden files in your files (e.g. 'Finder' for macOS), there are generally keyboard shortcuts to do so. For macOS, this shortcut is 'Command+Shift+.'.



(a) Before 'Command+Shift+.'



(b) After 'Command+Shift+.'

The images above show how to view hidden files outside of IDEs such as VSCode. There were many questions in the first week of discussion about not being able to see the '.gitignore' file. This is how you do so outside of IDEs! If you prefer moving files around in Finder/Library, this is how you can see these important hidden files. *If you do not have the '.gitignore' file in your stat-214 repository, please add it now!*