How can 4 (or 4000) developers work on a product at once?

Revision Control

Revision Control

• Revision Control:
  –
  
    – Also called version control, source control, software configuration management.

• Motivation:
  – Need to coordinate changes made by multiple developers.
  – Need a reliable system to ensure changes are ..
Git Graph / Log / History

source: https://www.atlassian.com/git/tutorials/using-branches/git-merge
Overview of what we’ll learn in this and later lessons on Git

1. Git Basics
   (Good for ~1 person)

2. Merging Conflicts
   (Needed for 2+ people)

3. Using GitLab
   (Managing a team)
Local Topology Simplified

- Local Machine has a ..
- The latest code in the repo can be checked-out into the working directory.
  - Head: the latest version of the code.
Remote Topology Simplified

- Remote Server has a Git Repo
  - Server accessed by multiple developers
  - Local repo syncs up with remote
Distributed

- Distributed Version Control
  - Git has..
    each “local repo” is a full and complete repo.
  - Can work off-line (on a plane) and still commit to the local repo. Later sync up with the remote repo.

- Git Servers
  - Often the remote repo is a dedicated Git server such as GitHub or GitLab.
  - These systems add extra team collaboration and discussion tools (more later).
Git Command Diagram

Local Repository

Remote Repository

Working Directory

Staged

Local Computer

Remote Server

add

commits

push

pull
Work Flow 1: Setup

- Associate your local repo to a remote repo by either:
  - Create an empty repo in GitLab (gitlab.cs.sfu.ca) and push some existing code to it; or
  - an existing repo to your local PC.
Work Flow 2: Changes

- Do some work in working directory
  - create new files, change files, delete files, etc.

- Stages the changes as being ready to commit.
  - Also used for adding files to Git (*tracking* them)

- Commit all staged changes to local repo.

- Send committed changes to remote repo.

- View the state of local file changes
Work Flow 3: Other’s Changes

- Other team members will push some changes to the repo which you then want

  - Get changes from remote repo and apply them to local repo and working directory (move to head).
  - If there are any conflicting changes, may need to do a *merge* (more later).

- At any time, can view the changes people have made.
Git Tools

- **Command Line**
  - Git is very often accessed via its command-line tools
  - Git commands look like:
    - `git clone git@csil-git1.cs.surrey.sfu.ca:myTeam/daProject.git`
    - `git commit`

- **GUI Integrated Tools**
  - ..
    - but low-level understanding is required!
  - Can be inside IDE: Android Studio
  - Can be integrated into file system: TortoiseGit
  - Lecture: command line to understand the tool;
    Assignments: IDE for convenience (likely).
Command-line Demo

- Git Command Demo
  
  [create repo on csil-git1.cs.surrey.sfu.ca]
  
  - git clone <git@csil-git1.cs....>
  
  [now edit file hello.txt]
  
  - git status
  - git add hello.txt
  - git commit
  - git push
  - git log
  - git pull
Git Details

1. Git Basics
   (Good for ~1 person)

2. Merging Conflicts
   (Needed for 2+ people)

3. Using GitLab
   (Managing a team)
SSH Key

- GitLab verifies you via an SSH key (no passwords)
  - Generate the key on each machine you use (all CSIL machines will share your SSH key)
  - In Linux, open terminal and run:
    $ ssh-keygen -t ed25519
    In Windows, follow guide for Git for Windows
  - View key; highlight and copy:
    $ cat ~/.ssh/id_ed25519.pub

- On GitLab (gitlab.cs.sfu.ca) click avatar (top right) --> Settings --> SSH keys
  - paste SSH key; give title “CSIL”; and add it.

- Now GitLab will allow you access!
  $ ssh -T git@csil-git1.cs.surrey.sfu.ca
Basic Git Sequence for Editing Code

0. Have a working directory with no changes
1. ..
   – will "fast-forward" without any conflicting changes
2. ..
   – cannot pull with some uncommitted changes
3. ..
4. ..
   – automatically merges files without conflicting changes
   – manually merge conflicts when required
5. ..
   – cannot push if others have pushed code:
     “current branch is behind master”, “unable to fast-forward”
Try it yourself (after lecture) :)

1) Create *empty* repo on gitlab.cs.sfu.ca
2) Create project in Android Studio; add a Readme.txt
3) Commit to local repo (this adds and commits)
4) Push to remote repo
   Set origin to git@csil-git1.cs.surrey.sfu.ca.____.git
   (get ____ from GitLab repo’s “clone” button)

   If you mistakenly created a non-empty repo, it’s easiest to create a new empty repo (no readme even!) and push to it.

5) Make another change, commit, push
Merge Conflict Demo

- Show demo of conflicting changes being made by two team members at once
  - Pulling with uncommitted conflicts fails
  - Pushing before merging fails
  - Commit my changes
  - Pull to trigger merge
  - When merge done then add/commit/push

- Android Studio has VCS --> Update Project
  - Which works with uncommitted conflicts
  - It automatically stash changes to get around having to do extra commit
.gitignore / delete / add / rename

- .gitignore File
  - Lists file types to exclude from Git:
  - Example:
    Exclude .bak, build products, some IDE files

- Delete / Add / Rename Files
  - Just delete / create the files in working directory
  - Then execute Git commands:
    - “add” changed files
    - “commit”
    - “push”
Commit Messages

• A good commit message is required!
  - Line 1: .. (<70 characters)
    Capitalize your statement
    Use imperative: "Fix bug..." vs "fixed" or "fixes"
  - Line 2: ..
  - Line 3+: .. ; wrap your text ~70 characters

Example: Make game state persist between launches and rotation.

  Use SharedPreferences to store Game's state. Serialize using Gson library and Bundle for rotation.

• 276 Pair Programming
  - If pair programming, add pair’s user ID at start:
    “[pair: bfraser] Make game state persist ....”
Reverting Changes

- ‘git checkout’ to revert files
  - ..
  - Overwrite file in working directory with one from local repo.

- Revert with Caution
  - Will lose all uncommitted changes in the file.
  - Normally Git does not let you lose changes.
  - If in doubt, grab a backup copy (ZIP your folder) then revert.
    - Just make sure you don’t commit the backup!
Revision Control
Generalities
Merge vs Lock

2 Competing ways revision control protects files:

• Checkout-Edit-Merge
  - Merge support allows concurrent access to a file so multiple developers can work on same code at once
  - But can lead to...

• Lock-Edit-Unlock
  - Locking prevents merge conflicts by..
    • "I can't make any changes until Bob finish!"
  - Adds pressure to make changes quickly..
    "I need that file now!"
Revision Control Features

• Atomic operations
  – Change is applied all at once: no other changes applied while you're checking in.

• Tag
  – Mark certain versions of certain files as a group. Ex: "Files for Version 1.0 of product".
  – Able to easily.. of the files later to fix bugs etc.
    • "Get all files exactly as the were in Version 1.0 (three year ago)".
Team Work

- Minimum requirement to committing code:
  - When you check in, the full system must compile and run.
  - Only under exceptional circumstances should you ever check in something which breaks the build.
Committing Frequency

• Expected Commit Frequency
  - Commit little changes to local repo very often
  - Once some work is more stable, push all the changes at once to remote repo..

• CMPT 276
  - Committing / pushing this frequently gives visibility to your contributions; helps for marking discussions!
  - In a ‘professional’ project, you would tailor your commits/pushes to the work you are doing, and squash small commits together into bigger more meaningful ones.
Coding with Source Control

- // Removed Jan 2002 for V1.01
  // cout << "Dave; I wouldn't do that, Dave.\n";
- Put meaningful comments into checkins!

- 

  #if 0
  // Unneeded, but left 'cuz someone may want it...
  ...... 
  #endif

- 

  // Written by Dr. Evil
  ....
Summary

- Revision control a critical tool for development.
  - Git is a distributed revision control system.

- Operations:
  - clone, add, commit, push, pull, merge (later)

- Git Details
  - Merge conflicting changes as needed.
  - .gitignore, revert (git’s checkout)

- Basic Features
  - Atomic operations, tags/Label

- Rules to Code By
  - Commit often, don’t break the build