Git Branches and Workflow

Many features, many developers;
How can Git help?
Issues in GitLab

• GitLab tracks Issues:
  – Demo: Show issues in an active repo

• Value of Issues
  – Use as product’s backlog
  – Assign issue to a dev to show who's working on it
  – Update issue with extra info as needed
Branches

- Main source code *branch* in a Git repo.
- Latest code on master.

**Chaotic Commits**
- Too chaotic to have many teammates constantly committing code to master.
- Solution:

**Branch (Feature Branch)**
- Do work on separate track (the branch) from Master
- Commit changes to your branch
- When feature is ready,
Issue and Branching Overview

GL = done in GitLab
AS = done in Android Studio

- **GL:** Pick an issue to implement & create branch.
- **AS:** Checkout branch, make changes, commit & push changes to the branch.

When feature is ready

- **AS:** Merge Master to Feature branch (resolving conflicts); commit/push changes.
- **GL:** Create merge request to merge branch to Master.
- **GL:** Branch on GitLab is “deleted” when merge request is accepted (manually remove merged local branch)
Issues and Branching

1. Create issue for bug/feature
   - Implementing a feature or fixing a bug should start with a GitLab issue.
   - Ex: Issue 14: "Add help button to game activity"

2. Assign issue to yourself
3. Create feature branch in GitLab
   - GitLab names the branch..

   • Ex: 14-game-help-button
   - In Android Studio
     a) fetch to get new branch names
        VCS --> Git --> Fetch
     b) checkout the branch
        - Bottom-right “Git” button
        - Under remote branches, select the new one
        - On sub-menu, select checkout

   ..
Issues and Branching (cont.)

4. Work on your branch
   - Do your work changing files
   - Check-in your changes via Git:
     • add changes ready to be committed
     • commit put changes into local repo on branch
     • push push to remote repo on branch
6. ..
   - Get latest from master’s HEAD
     In Android Studio: VCS --> Git --> Merge Changes...
   - Resolve merge conflicts; test, add/commit/push any changes.

7. Submit a.. via GitLab
   - Create request to merge your branch back to master
   - Since you already merged Master to Feature Branch, there should be no conflicts.
   - GitLab will close issues associate with merge request;
Managing Merge Request

- Team members see merge requests and:
  - Code review:
    Comment on problems they see in the code (possibly leading to new commits to fix)
  - Thumbs-up/down for voting
- Repo Manager accepts merge request
  - Accepting merge requests will:
    - merge code to master (should be no conflicts)
    - delete the source branch [optional; good practice to clean up]
GitLab Feature Branch Demo

- Setup
  - Create new Android Studio project
  - Create GitLab project; commit/push

- Create GitLab issue
  “Generate random number”

- Solve an issue
  - In GitLab: Assign to you & create feature branch
  - In A.S.: Update or fetch; Checkout a “remote branch” (bottom-right)
  - Code; Commit; Push
  - In A.S.: Merge master to feature (VCS-->Git-->Merge Changes...)
  - In GitLab: Create merge request
  - In GitLab: Accept merge request.

- Cleanup in Android Studio
  - Switch to master, pull, view log
  - Delete local branch (if needed)
Create GitLab issue.

1. Pull to update.
2. Checkout local feature branch.

Change files, commit, push.

1. Commit any changes.
2. Pull to update.
3. Merge Master to Feature Branch.
4. Resolve conflicts.
5. Build and test.
6. Commit/push changes.
7. Switch to Master branch.

GitLab Workflow
Feature Branch, Merging Changes, Merge Request

Legend

- Teammate Feature Branches
- Master
- My Feature Branch
- Create & accept Merge Request
- GitLab closes associated issue

In GitLab

1. Assign issue to self
2. Create feature branch

Change files, commit, push.

1. Pull.
2. Remove local feature branch.

Sequence of Events
Review Exercise

What is the ordering of the following steps:

a) In GitLab: Assign to you & create feature branch
b) In A.S.: Merge master to feature branch
   (VCS-->Git-->Merge Changes...)
c) Create GitLab issue
d) In A.S.: Checkout feature branch (bottom-right)
e) In GitLab: Accept merge request.
f) Code; Commit; Push
g) In GitLab: Create merge request
Summary

- Branches and Workflow
  - Create GitLab issues.
  - Do work on a feature branch.
  - GitLab merge request to merge branch to master.
  - Git merge command