Version Control and Git

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Learning Objectives

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Recognize git jargon (repo, commit, stage, push, pull, branch etc.)
- Initialize and commit to a local git repository
- Use git branches to make changes to working code without losing the current state
- Clone a remote repository, make a change, and then start a pull request.

But first!

Version Control

Version control is a system for tracking the state of files and / or folders

```
my presentation draft.pptx
                                      my_presentation_v1_eric_notes.pptx
       my presentation v1.pptx
                                        my_presentation_garbage.pptx
                                         my presentation v1 edits.pptx
             my presentation v2.pptx
                     my presentation v3.pptx
```

What if you have multiple files?

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```
my_app/
                                from my_functions import print_name
                                from my_variables import user_name
                                print_name(user_name)
       my functions.py
                                def print_name(a_name):
                                    print("Your name is", a_name)
       my variables.py
                             user_name = input("What is your name? ")
```

What if you have multiple files?

```
my_app/
       run_v2.py
                                     from my_functions_v2 import print_name
                                     from my_variables_v2 import user_name
                                     print_name(user_name)
       my functions_v2.py
                                     def print_name(a_name):
                                         print("Your name is", a_name)
       my variables v2.py -
                                    user_name = input("What is your name? ")
```

What if you're collaborating?

Why not use web drive like gdrive or dropbox?

- Changes to files are often co-dependent
 - o simultaneous coding is... problematic
- Explicit versioning
 - Changes can "break" code in ways text can't be broken
- Ability to take multiple development paths

Version Control Systems (VCS)

A version control system:

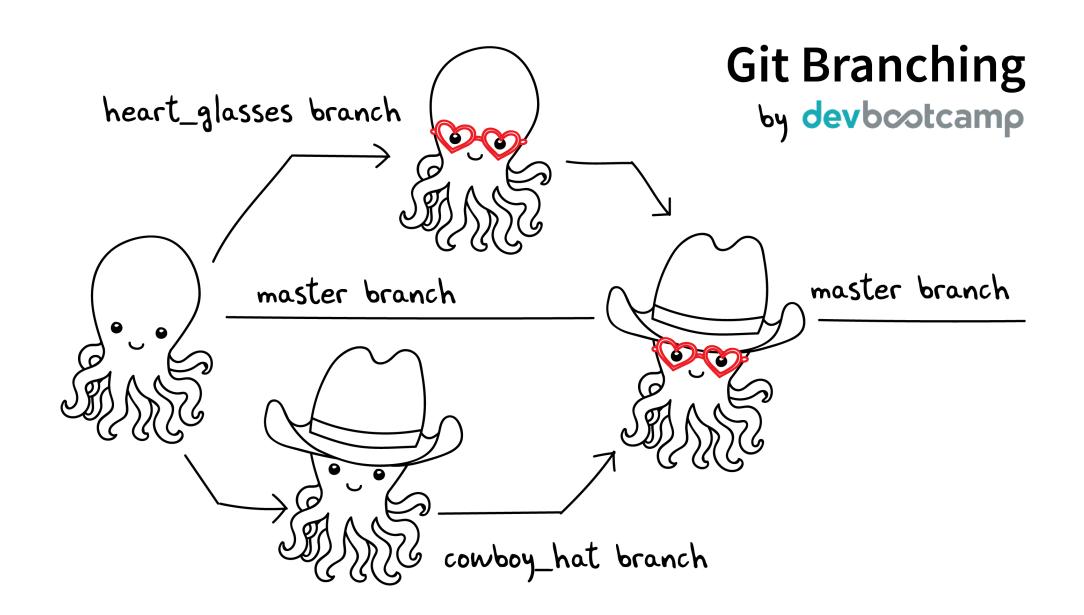
- Explicitly tracks the state of files and folders
- Keeps a record of changes to files and folders
 - Without requiring name changes
- Enables moving forward and backward in time



git is a Distributed Version Control System (DVCS)

Git has a lot of jargon

- Repository (repo): a git-enabled folder
 - Sometimes refers to all locations (remotes and locals) of a particular fork
- Commit: an snapshot of code
- Branch: a particular history of commits (multiple branches can exist in the same repo)
- Merge: When two branches are joined together and any conflicts are dealt with



git ≠ github

- Github (and gitlab and bitbucket) is a place for hosting a "remote" repository
 - Also adds collaboration features
- git is powerful even if used only on your local machine
 - But... get free private repos on github with your .edu address (or use gitlab / bitbucket)

Install git

• Mac:

- https://brew.sh/
- Copy install code (on the webpage)
 - | /usr/bin/ruby -e "\$(curl -fsSL https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Homebrew/install/master/install)"
- ∘ \$ brew install git

Windows:

https://gitforwindows.org/

Clone the exercise repo

```
$ git clone https://github.com/kescobo/bst273_lecture09.git

Cloning into 'bst273_lecture09'...
remote: Enumerating objects: 11, done.remote: Counting objects:
100% (11/11), done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (9/9), done.
remote: Total 11 (delta 1), reused 11 (delta 1), pack-reused 0
Unpacking objects: 100% (11/11), done.
```