

# CS107 / AC207

SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT FOR COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE

## LECTURE 4

Thursday, September 16th 2021

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# RECAP OF LAST TIME

- Introduction to version control systems
- Centralized and distributed approaches
- Bare essentials of `git`
- `git rebase` demo (rebasing is important to restore tidiness after you've been messy) [today]

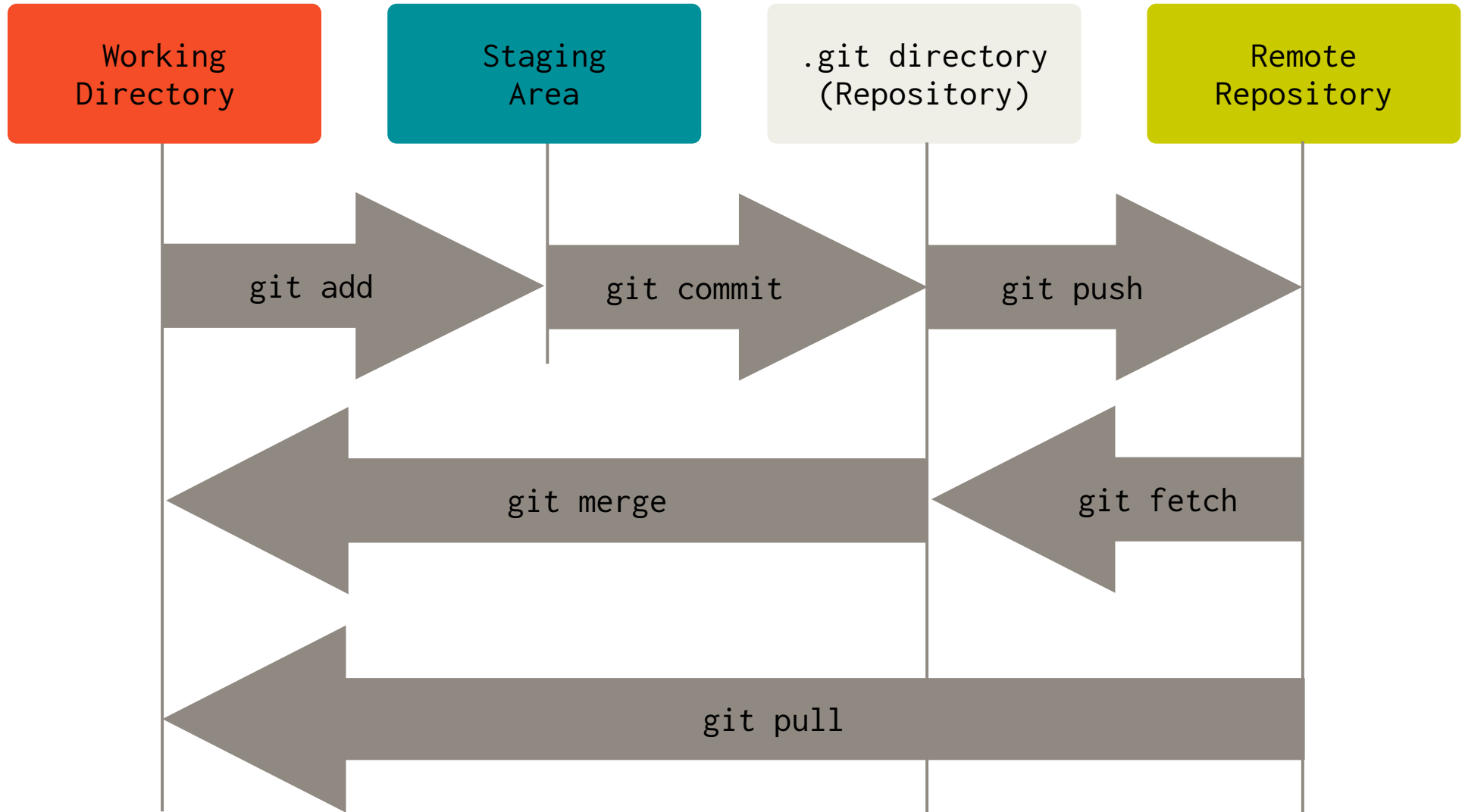
# OUTLINE

- More git basics
- Remote repositories
- Branching in git

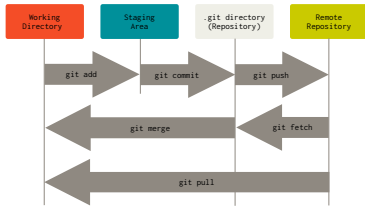
Content and some figures are based on the free [Pro Git](#) book written by Scott Chacon and Ben Straub.

# MORE `git` BASICS

# BASIC `git` COMMANDS YOU MUST INTERNALIZE



# BASIC `git` COMMANDS YOU MUST INTERNALIZE



- `git add`: add new or modified files to the index (staging area in the `.git/index` file)

**Remark:** you could use "`git add .`" to add *any* new or modified files in one go. This is *bad practice* because it may add files to the index that you did not intend to. Your colleagues will not be happy about this. Only lazy people do this.

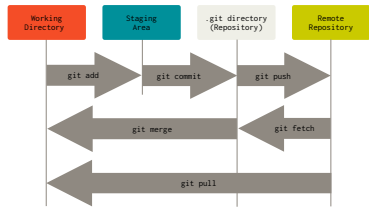
- `git commit`: commit the staged changes to the repo

**Remark:** It is *good practice* to create small, well-arranged commits. You can always *rebase* if you think two (or more) small commits belong to one commit.

- `git push`: push commits to the upstream repository

**Remark:** The upstream repository never has a working directory checked out. It only consists of the contents inside the `.git` directory. It can be on a remote location or locally (e.g. for backup purposes). See the `--bare` option of `git help init`.

# BASIC `git` COMMANDS YOU MUST INTERNALIZE



- `git fetch`: fetch new commits from the upstream repository (e.g. from your collaborators)

*Remark:* This will only update your local `.git` repository, not your working directory.

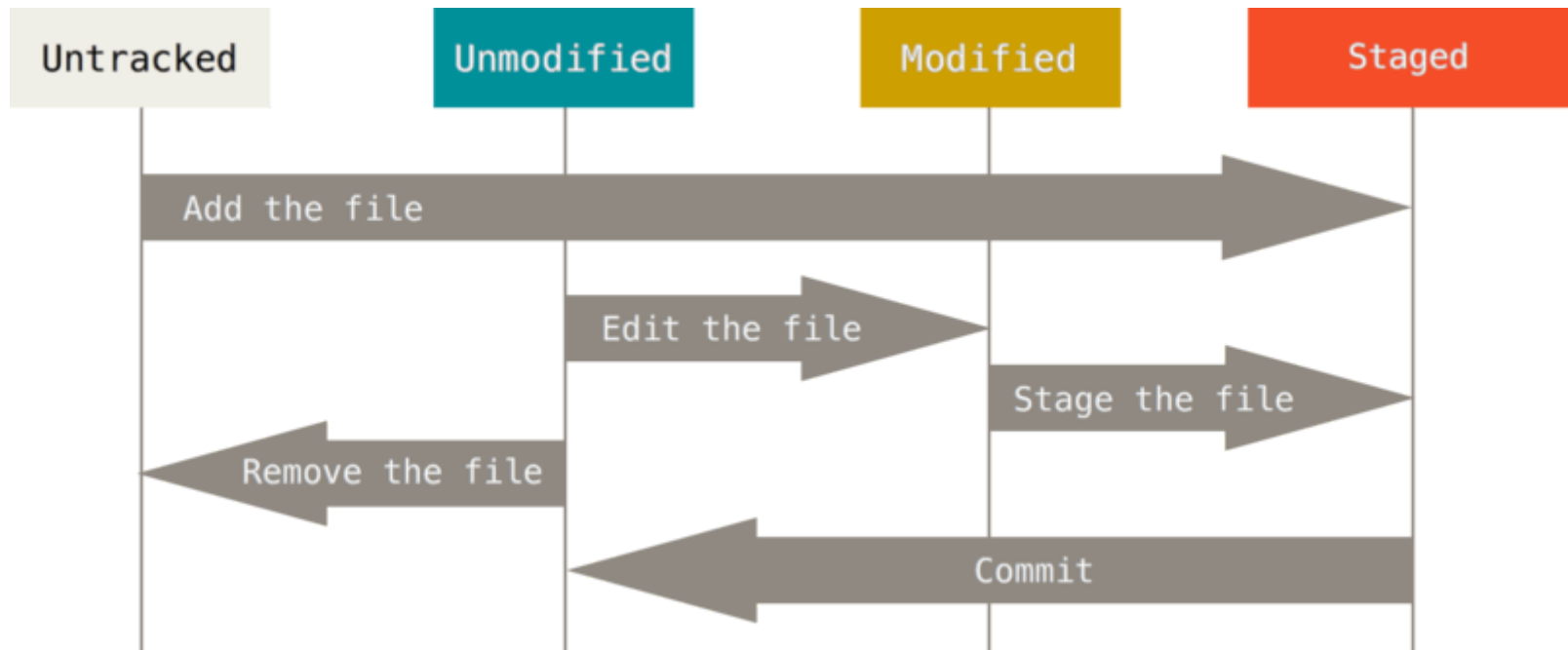
- `git merge`: update your working directory by merging new commits from your local repository (joining histories)

*Remark:* By default this merges the branch you are currently on. You can merge any other branches you like, we will see this in a few slides from now.

- `git pull`: fetch commits from the upstream repository and merge them with the current working directory

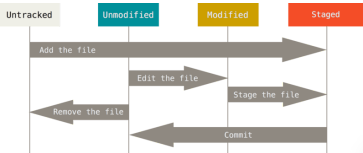
*Remark:* This saves you some time as most often you want this behavior, rather than executing `git fetch` followed by `git merge`.

# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES





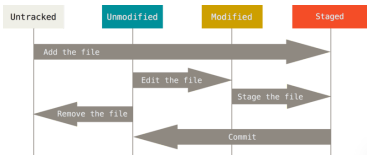
# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES



From *untracked* to *staged*:

```
1 $ git status
2 On branch master
3
4 No commits yet
5
6 Untracked files:
7   (use "git add <file>..." to include in what will be committed)
8     file
9
10 nothing added to commit but untracked files present (use "git add" to
11 $ git add file
12 $ git status
13 On branch master
14
15 No commits yet
16
17 Changes to be committed:
18   (use "git rm --cached <file>..." to unstage)
19     new file:   file
```

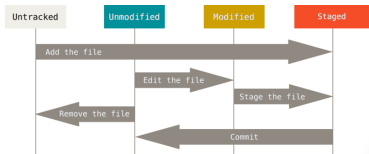
# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES



From *staged* to *unmodified*: record the snapshot

```
1 $ git commit -m "Added untracked file"
2 [master (root-commit) 68581f7] Added untracked file
3 1 file changed, 1 insertion(+)
4 create mode 100644 file
5 $ git status
6 On branch master
7 nothing to commit, working tree clean
```

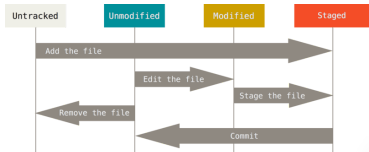
# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES



From *unmodified* to *modified*: edit the tracked file

```
1 $ echo 'Adding a new line of text' >> file
2 $ git status
3 On branch master
4 Changes not staged for commit:
5   (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
6   (use "git restore <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)
7     modified:   file
8
9 no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")
```

# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES

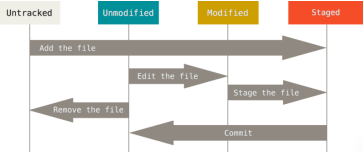


From *modified* to *staged*: add the file to the index

```
1 $ git add file
2 $ git status
3 On branch master
4
5 No commits yet
6
7 Changes to be committed:
8   (use "git restore --staged <file>..." to unstage)
9     modified:   file
```

- We can now run `git commit` again to go from staged to unmodified (by recording a new snapshot)
- Instead of running `git add file` and then `commit`, we can combine these steps by  
`git commit -am <commit message>`
- "`git commit -a`" **is not** the same as "`git add .`" followed by `git commit` (the latter adds *untracked* files too!)

# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES

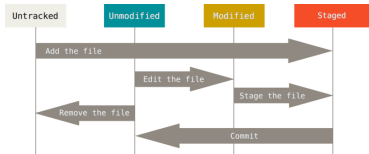


If you modify a *staged* file again:

```
1 $ echo "Modify a staged file" >> file
2 $ git status
3 On branch master
4 Changes to be committed:
5   (use "git restore --staged <file>..." to unstage)
6     modified:   file
7
8 Changes not staged for commit:
9   (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
10  (use "git restore <file>..." to discard changes in working director
11     modified:   file
12 $ git add file
13 $ git status
14 On branch master
15 Changes to be committed:
16   (use "git restore --staged <file>..." to unstage)
17     modified:   file
```

- New modifications are separate from the ones you have staged earlier
- If they belong in the same commit, then you need to run `git add file` again to add your new changes to the already staged changes!

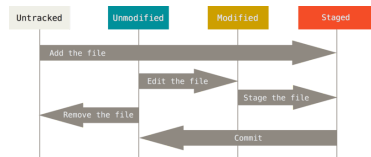
# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES



You can remove tracked files from the repository.  
Removing files has two faces in git:

1. Remove files from the `.git` repository, keep them in your file system
2. Remove files from both, `.git` repository *and* your file system.

# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES

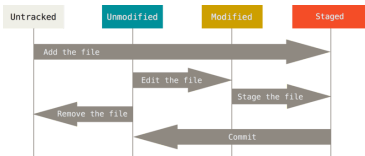


1. Remove files from the `.git` repository, keep them in your file system

```
1 $ git ls-files # list files that are known to git
2 file
3 $ git rm --cached file
4 rm 'file'
5 $ git ls-files # no output = no files tracked
6 $ ls
7 file # the file is still with us, but not under VCS anymore
8 $ git status
9 On branch master
10 Changes to be committed:
11   (use "git restore --staged <file>..." to unstage)
12     deleted:    file
13
14 Untracked files:
15   (use "git add <file>..." to include in what will be committed)
16     file
```

- We still need to commit the changes, even when we delete files from the repository. **Remember:** git thinks in terms of file systems, you must record a snapshot when you remove files too.

# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES



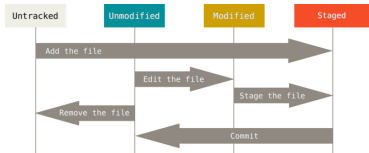
1. Remove files from the `.git` repository, keep them in your file system
2. Remove files from both, `.git` repository *and* your file system.

```
1 $ git rm file
2 rm 'file'
3 $ git status
4 On branch master
5 Changes to be committed:
6   (use "git restore --staged <file>..." to unstage)
7     deleted:   file
```

- This time the file is gone (`git` does not report untracked files in the current directory)
- But fear not, we can still restore any removed files from the `git` file system snapshot using "`git restore`"
- There were couple of times where `git` really saved me from a lot of trouble thanks to restoring...



# UNDERSTAND THE STATUS OF YOUR FILES



- Note that `git` uses the same command name to remove files as on the Linux command line itself: `rm`
- The same applies when you want to rename files. In that case you would use the `mv` command (move) in the Linux command line as well as for `git`: `git mv`

```
1 $ git mv file new_filename
2 $ git status
3 On branch master
4 Changes to be committed:
5   (use "git restore --staged <file>..." to unstage)
6     renamed:    file -> new_filename
```

- To move a file means to change the file system. `git` wants you to commit a snapshot for this action, as usual.

# KNOW YOUR HISTORY

- Every commit you make in `git` is recorded in the *history*.
- The history contains a huge amount of information and obviously is important when you need to comprehend changes that were not necessarily committed by you.
- For that reason, every commit must be documented accordingly.
- *It is not easy to write good commit messages!*



# KNOW YOUR HISTORY

- You display the history with " git log "
- The anatomy of a history entry looks like this:

```
1 commit 72e96d44caf034fdad447eb40ff9cf001075bd0f
2 Author: Fabian Wermelinger <author@domain.net>
3 Date:   Mon Jun 21 18:38:39 2021 +0200
4
5     Add src_field_ and dst_field_ for pointwise kernel inputs
6
7     Memory layout in fields is more favorable for pointwise operations than
8     pitched layout in labs. This allows to test kernels that take a field
9     (without ghost cells) as input source.
```

- Commit identifier (SHA-1 hash)
- Commit author/commmitter and date
- Commit subject
- Followed by commit body

# KNOW YOUR HISTORY

## Searching the history: `git log`

- Often you need to search the history for specific keywords, commits or the commit author
- You can specify the `--grep=<pattern>` option to search for a **regex pattern**. This searches *log messages* (subject or body)
- You can specify the `--author=<pattern>` option to search for a particular author/commmitter using a **regex pattern**. This only searches author information but not commit messages.
- If you use the `--grep` option multiple times, any pattern may match. If you want that *all patterns must match* pass the `--all-match` option.

# KNOW YOUR HISTORY

## Formatting the output: `git log`

- You can change the format of how `git` displays the history log
- Use `git log --pretty=oneline` to display the commits in compact form (this option also exists as `--oneline` because it is used often). If you want a lot of information, you can use `--pretty=fuller` instead. See `git help log` for docs.
- Your `git` installation also ships with a graphical tool that you may use to explore the history. You can use the `gitk` tool or `git gui`

# IGNORE DATA THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO TRACK

- Often you will have certain files in your project that you don't want under VCS
- In `git` you can use one or many `.gitignore` files for this purpose
- Recall that files starting with a `" . "` are *hidden* files

# IGNORE DATA THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO TRACK

## *Example:*

- Content of `.gitignore` file:

```
1 # you can use comments too!  
2 __pycache__/ # this ignores a whole directory  
3 *.bak       # name of backup files  
4 *~         # some editors create backup files ending with '~'
```

- Let's create an annoying file:

```
1 $ touch .DS_Store # annoying meta-data file in Mac OSX  
2 $ git status  
3 On branch master  
4 Your branch is up to date with 'origin/master'.  
5  
6 Untracked files:  
7   (use "git add <file>..." to include in what will be committed)  
8     .DS_Store  
9  
10 nothing added to commit but untracked files present (use "git add" to track)
```



# IGNORE DATA THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO TRACK

## *Example:*

- We can add it to the `.gitignore` file:

```
1 $ echo '.DS_Store' >> .gitignore
2 $ git status
3 On branch master
4 Your branch is up to date with 'origin/master'.
5
6 Changes not staged for commit:
7   (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
8   (use "git restore <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)
9       modified:   .gitignore
10
11 no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")
```

- Notice that `.DS_Store` does no longer show up as an *untracked* file.
- Of course we have *modified* our tracked `.gitignore` file, which we must now stage and commit to make the changes persistent.

# A FEW COMMENTS ON `.gitignore`

- It is essential that you keep your repository clean, the `.gitignore` file is the key to a clean house.
- You usually have one in the root directory and possibly others in more specific locations of your project
- Often they have specific entries for the programming language you are using. E.g. for python you want to ignore the `__pycache__` directories.
- GitHub offers you some templates for this file at the time when you create a new repository, have a look at them to get an idea. I often prefer to create them from scratch and extend them incrementally.

# A FEW COMMENTS ON `.gitignore`

- `git` is great for VCS of *text* files
- It can handle binary files but they are more difficult to track. This often leads to bloating up the size of your `.git` repository.
- Ignore such files in your `.gitignore` files. E.g. for PDF files:

```
1 *.pdf # ignore all pdf's
```

If you *must* make an exception, force add the file to the index:

```
1 $ git add --force important.pdf
```

- You can use " **!** " as *negation* in your `.gitignore` files:

```
1 *      # ignore everything (remember the wildcard in the shell, it expands to anything)
2 !*.py  # except any file with the .py suffix
```

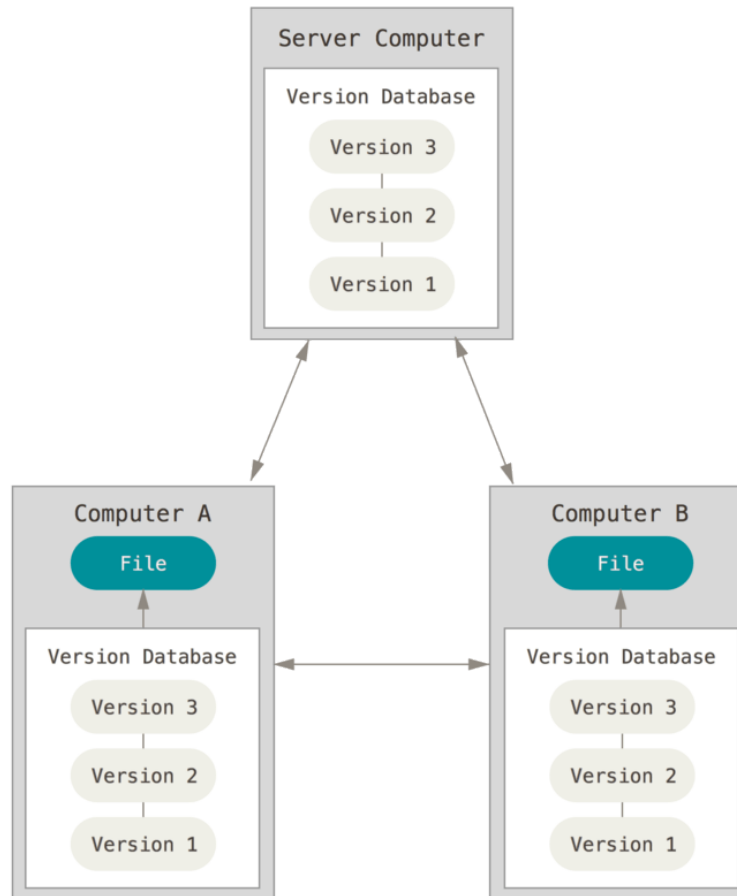
# GETTING git help

- All commands in git have proper manual pages
- You can get them in two ways:
  1. Via git: `git help commit`
  2. Via man: `man git-commit`

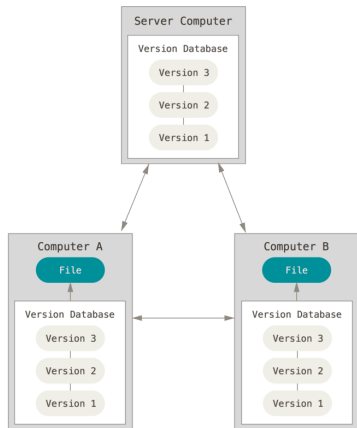
# REMOTE REPOSITORIES

# REMOTE REPOSITORIES

Recall distributed VCS:



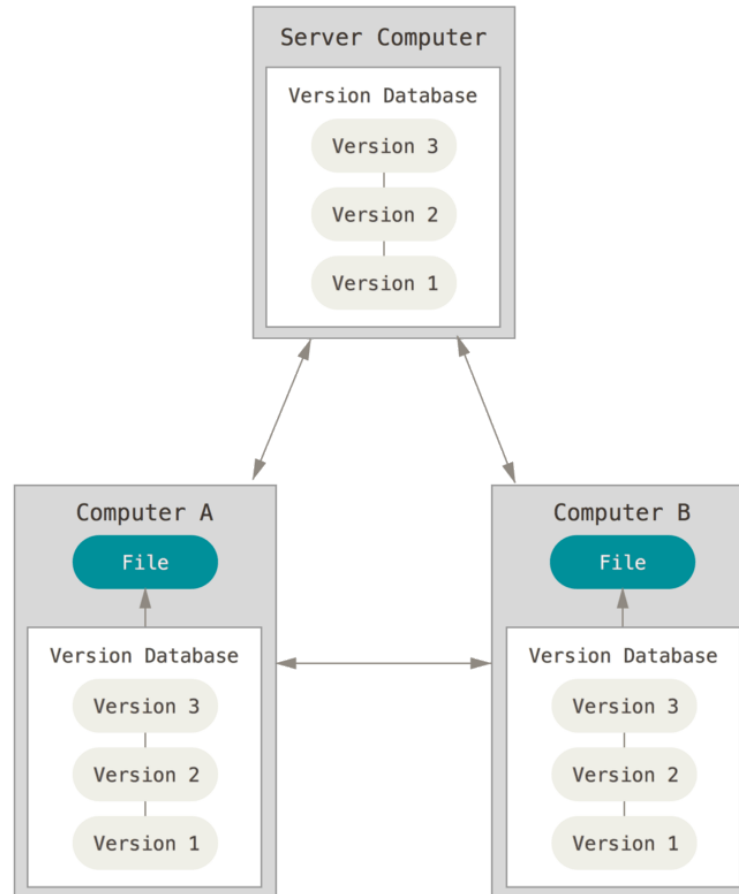
# REMOTE REPOSITORIES



- The "server computer" is called a *remote*.
- It can be a server from GitHub, for example, but it can also be local on your computer.
- The term "remote" does not necessarily imply that it is some place else on the internet, only that the remote repository is *somewhere* else.
- All that a remote repository needs is the content of the `.git` directory, such a repository is called a *bare* repository.
- You can list the remotes with `git remote show`.

# REMOTE REPOSITORIES DEMO

Let us emulate these git repositories:

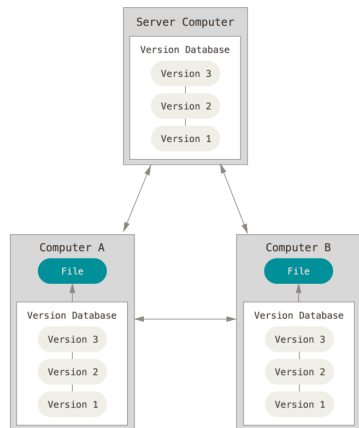




# REMOTE REPOSITORIES DEMO

Let us emulate these git repositories:

- *As soon as you work with collaborators*, you may run into *git rejecting* your push because your local repository is not up to date with the remote you are trying to push to:



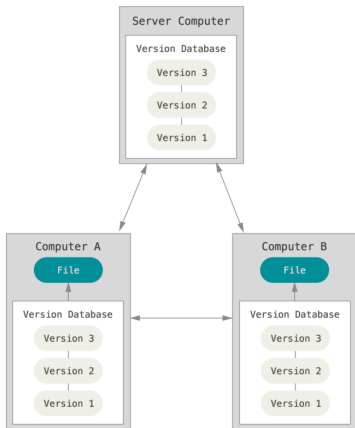
```
! [rejected]          master -> master (fetch first)
error: failed to push some refs to '../remote/'
hint: Updates were rejected because the remote contains work that you do
hint: not have locally. This is usually caused by another repository pushing
hint: to the same ref. You may want to first integrate the remote changes
hint: (e.g., 'git pull ...') before pushing again.
hint: See the 'Note about fast-forwards' in 'git push --help' for details.
```

- Simply fetch and merge these changes first before you push. **Recall:** `git pull` does both of these tasks in one shot.

# REMOTE REPOSITORIES DEMO

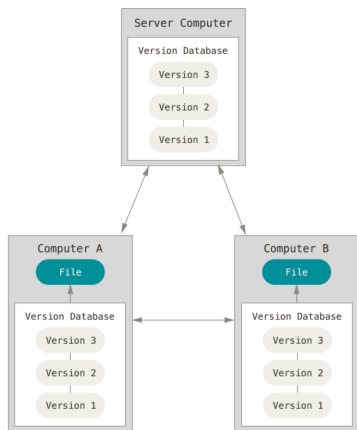
Let us emulate these git repositories:

- The pull in the previous demo went smooth. In the real world, this may not always be the case.
- In many cases git is very good at performing merges...
- ...but what should git do when two collaborators modify the *exact same* place in a file?
- Let's continue our demo and see...



# REMOTE REPOSITORIES DEMO

Let us emulate these git repositories:



- *Merge conflicts* are not uncommon and are possibly the trickiest part in `git`. They are hard to avoid in distributed VCS.
- And are another good reason why you want to keep your individual commits small and well-structured.
- `git` offers you a tool to resolve merge conflicts:  
`git help mergetool`

# REMOTE REPOSITORIES

- You can add as many remotes as you like.
- If you do not setup a tracking branch for `git push`, then you must explicitly say which remote you want to push to and which branch.
- The same is true for `git pull`.
- On GitHub you can choose to use `https` or `ssh` to communicate with a remote.
- If you use `https` you now must create a *token* in "Settings/Developer Settings".
- For `ssh` you should generate an `ssh` key using `ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096` and upload the *public* key part to GitHub.

# BRANCHING IN `git`

# BRANCHING IN *git*

- We have encountered branches already but not said much about them up to now.
- In your GitHub repo, *main* or *master* *are branches*. In *git* *everything* is a branch.
- Branches are your *main tool* for development. They allow you to get messy without breaking anything in the main branch and you can just discard them and start over.
- Historically, branching is an expensive task in VCS, *not so in git*
- In *git*, a branch is just an alias name for a SHA-1 hash that *points* to a particular snapshot

```
$ cat .git/refs/heads/master  
d5278fbd2931b75e9f41ef031448fa1b2696fce4
```

# BRANCHING IN `git`

- Assume you have a new repository and you just created the initial commit A:

```
A master
```

The "pointer" named `master` contains the same SHA-1 entry as the one generated for commit A.

- Now suppose we make two more commits B and C. The pointer that describes the `master` branch moves along:

```
A---B---C master
```

- At this point in your development stage, you notice a strange behavior of your code and you suspect that a bug has been introduced. *How to proceed now?*

# BRANCHING IN git

- You could continue on master but this *is not a good idea* because fixing a bug requires you to throw things around. *Create a new branch for this bug fix:*

```
$ git switch -c bugfix1 # the -c option creates the branch if it does not exist
```

**Note:** in older versions of git a new branch was checked out like this

```
$ git checkout -b bugfix1 # the -b option creates the branch if it does not exist
```

The reason this is confusing is because git checkout has *dual* meaning:

1. It can checkout branches
2. It can checkout individual files and restore their content

Newer versions of git split these tasks by introducing two new commands:

1. git switch: switch branches
2. git restore: restore files

- Our revision timeline now looks like this:

```
A---B---C master # branch point is C
      |
      | bugfix1 # branch point is C, active branch and what HEAD points to
```



# BRANCHING IN `git`

- Our revision timeline now looks like this:

```
A---B---C master # branch point is C
      |
      | bugfix1 # branch point is C, active branch and what HEAD points to
```

There is a special pointer in `git` called `HEAD`. It always points to the currently active branch.

- Now we do some work and fix this bug. Assume the next two commits D and E implement these fixes:

```
A---B---C master # this is the active branch now
      |
      | D---E bugfix1 # this branch contains the bug fixing code
```

We also switched back to the master branch.

*Which `git` command did we use for this?* `git switch master`

# BRANCHING IN git

- We have now tested our changes on the `bugfix1` branch and are back on the `master` branch as we would like to **merge** the history of `bugfix1` into `master`.

```
A---B---C master # this is the active branch now
      |
      v
      D---E bugfix1 # this branch contains the bug fixing code
```

- Because there are no new commits on `master` since we branched off, the merge is trivial. `git` has two options:

1. Fold `bugfix1` and `master` together (*fast-forward merge*)
2. Create a *merge commit* which joins `bugfix1` and `master` in a common commit.

# BRANCHING IN git

- Situation *before* merge:

```
A---B---C master # this is the active branch now
      |
      v
      D---E bugfix1 # this branch contains the bug fixing code
```

- **Fast-Forward merge:** this is the default that git assumes. Assume you are on the master branch, the command for this merge is `git merge [--ff] bugfix1` (the fast-forward option `--ff` is implied if not given) After this merge your history looks like this:

```
A---B---C---D---E master
      |
      v
      bugfix1 # this branch is now dangling
```

The bugfix1 branch is now *fully* merged in master. We do not need it anymore and it is good practice to remove it:

```
git branch -d bugfix1
```

```
A---B---C---D---E master
```

# BRANCHING IN git

- Situation *before* merge:

```
A---B---C master # this is the active branch now
      \
       D---E bugfix1 # this branch contains the bug fixing code
```

- **Non Fast-Forward merge:** this type of merge creates a common join commit for the merge:

```
git merge --no-ff bugfix1
```

After this merge your history looks like this:

```
A---B---C-----F master # F is called a merge commit
      \      /
       D---E bugfix1 # this branch is now dangling
```

Same story for keeping your repository clean:

```
git branch -d bugfix1
```

```
A---B---C-----F master
      \      /
       D---E
```

# BRANCHING IN git

*Compare the difference of the two approaches:*

## FAST-FORWARD

```
$ git log --oneline --graph
* 57f4883 (HEAD -> master) Commit E
* d5278fb Commit D
* 9cb047b Commit C
* b51859a Commit B
* 2c1f77c Commit A
```

Linear history:

```
A---B---C---D---E master
```

## WITH MERGE-COMMIT

```
$ git log --oneline --graph
* 4466977 (HEAD -> master) Merge branch 'b
                        (Commit F)
|\
| * 57f4883 Commit E
| * d5278fb Commit D
|/
* 9cb047b Commit C
* b51859a Commit B
* 2c1f77c Commit A
```

Non-linear history:

```
A---B---C-----F master
      \         /
        D---E
```

# BRANCHING IN git

Compare the difference of the two approaches:

## FAST-FORWARD

```
$ git log --oneline --graph
* 57f4883 (HEAD -> master) Commit E
* d5278fb Commit D
* 9cb047b Commit C
* b51859a Commit B
* 2c1f77c Commit A
```

## WITH MERGE-COMMIT

```
$ git log --oneline --graph
* 4466977 (HEAD -> master) Merge branch 'b
      (Commit F)
|\
| * 57f4883 Commit E
| * d5278fb Commit D
|/
* 9cb047b Commit C
* b51859a Commit B
* 2c1f77c Commit A
```

- Some people argue that creating merge commits adds *noise* to your history (technically they are not needed)
- They preserve your branching history, which may be useful to understand at some point in your project(s)
- Some projects have policies for that, be aware of it

# STASHING CHANGES WITHOUT COMMITTING

Assume you find yourself in this situation:

```
A---B---C master
      |
      |
      D-* bugfix1 # a bugfix branch, active branch ('*' means modified files)
```

**Common scenario:** you stop work on the `bugfix1` branch temporarily and need to switch to some other branch (say `master`). Your work on `bugfix1` is not ready to be committed yet.

```
1 $ git status
2 On branch bugfix1
3 Changes not staged for commit:
4   (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
5   (use "git restore <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)
6     modified:   file
7
8 no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")
9 $ git switch master
10 error: Your local changes to the following files would be overwritten by checkout:
11     file
12 Please commit your changes or stash them before you switch branches.
13 Aborting
```

# STASHING CHANGES WITHOUT COMMITTING

Assume you find yourself in this situation:

```
A---B---C master
      |
      v
D-* bugfix1 # a bugfix branch, active branch ('*' means modified files)
```

**Common scenario:** you stop work on the `bugfix1` branch temporarily and need to switch to some other branch (say `master`). Your work on `bugfix1` is not ready to be committed yet.

If committing is too early, you can use `git stash` to temporarily stash your changes:

```
1 $ git stash # push current work on top of stash stack
2 Saved working directory and index state WIP on bugfix1: b955cbe Adding new file on bugfi
3 $ git stash list # list all stashed work, WIP means Work In Progress
4 stash@{0}: WIP on bugfix1: b955cbe Adding new file on bugfix1
5 $ git status
6 On branch bugfix1
7 nothing to commit, working tree clean
8 $ git switch master # do some other work on master
9 Switched to branch 'master'
```



# STASHING CHANGES WITHOUT COMMITTING

Assume you find yourself in this situation:

```
A---B---C master
      |
      v
      D-* bugfix1 # a bugfix branch, active branch ('*' means modified files)
```

**Common scenario:** you stop work on the `bugfix1` branch temporarily and need to switch to some other branch (say `master`). Your work on `bugfix1` is not ready to be committed yet.

If committing is too early, you can use `git stash` to temporarily stash your changes:

```
1 $ git switch bugfix1 # when done return to your bugfix1 branch
2 Switched to branch 'bugfix1'
3 $ git stash pop # apply your last stashed changes, i.e. stash@{0}
4 On branch bugfix1
5 Changes not staged for commit:
6   (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
7   (use "git restore <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)
8       modified:   file
9
10 no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")
11 Dropped refs/stash@{0} (e3e552a02d84049a314e77edcb34dae0987ef145)
```

# LINEAR HISTROY AND `git rebase`

Lets return to our previous state but now we have a collaborator who did work on `master` in the meantime (the commit labels A, B,... are only symbolic, don't take them literally):

```
A---B---C---D---E master # work has advanced on this branch
      |
      | \
      |  F---G bugfix1 # this branch contains the bug fix, active branch
```

Can you apply a fast-forward merge strategy in this case?

# LINEAR HISTROY AND `git rebase`

```
A---B---C---D---E master # work has advanced on this branch
      |
      +---F---G bugfix1 # this branch contains the bug fix, active branch
```

Can you apply a fast-forward merge strategy in this case?

- **You can not.** Remember, once a history is recorded by computing the SHA-1 hash, we can not change it anymore.
- There are two options:

1. Merge via a merge commit (same as before)
2. *If* `bugfix1` is a branch that only exists in your local `.git` repository, we can rebase and therefore *rewrite the local history* that none of your collaborators has seen yet.

# LINEAR HISTROY AND `git rebase`

```
A---B---C---D---E master # work has advanced on this branch
      \
        F---G bugfix1 # this branch contains the bug fix, active branch
```

- ***Merge via merge commit:*** same as in the previous case where work on master did not advance:

1. `git switch master` (change to the target branch)
2. `git merge bugfix1`

```
A---B---C---D---E---H master # this is the active branch now
      \      /
        F-----G bugfix1 # this branch contains the bug fix, now dangling
```

3. `git branch -d bugfix1` (clean up)

# LINEAR HISTROY AND git rebase

```
A---B---C---D---E master # work has advanced on this branch
      |
      v
      F---G bugfix1 # this branch contains the bug fix, active branch
```

- **Rebase and merge:** here we first *rebase* our bugfix1 branch *onto* the advanced master branch and then use a fast-forward merge to *linearize* the history (we start with the state shown above):

1. `git rebase master` (Rewriting history here!)

```
A---B---C---D---E master # work has advanced on this branch
      |
      v
      F'---G' bugfix1 # after rebase, active branch
```

- Commits F' and G' have a *different* SHA-1 than F and G, therefore, history is rewritten!
- Their *time stamp* remains the same

2. `git switch master && git merge bugfix1`

```
A---B---C---D---E---F'---G' master # rebased history
                        |
                        v
                        bugfix1 # now dangling
```

3. `git branch -d bugfix1` (clean up)

# LINEAR HISTORY AND `git rebase`

- `git rebase` unwinds commits and re-applies them on top of another commit. Naturally, this changes your history
- Rebased histories can have commit time stamps that are *not* in chronological order
- But rebasing allows to *linearize* your history
- Some projects have policies for these merge strategies. Be sure to check them out before collaborating.

You can get into *big trouble* if you rebase a history and (forcefully) push it to a remote where others can pull from. `git` does not allow you to do this by default, but you can force it with `git push --force`. It will *invalidate* the history in all your collaborators' local repositories. Be careful.

# RECAP

- *More git basics*: use `git status` often.
- *Remote repositories*: differences between a normal `.git` repository and a *bare* `.git` repository, merge conflicts.
- *Branching in git*: fast-forward merges and rebasing, linear and non-linear histories.

# REFERENCE

- [Pro Git book](#) by Scott Chacon and Ben Straub, Apress (Chapters 2, 3 and 4)
- [git command reference](#)