

# Using Git

Matthieu Moy

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2025



# In case of fire



1. git commit



2. git push



3. leave building

# Outline

- 1 Revision Control System
- 2 Git: Basic Principles
- 3 Git Vs Others
- 4 An Example Using Git
- 5 Advices Using Git



# Backups: The Old Good Time

- **Basic problems:**

- ▶ “Oh, my disk crashed.” / “Someone has stolen my laptop!”
- ▶ “@#%!!, I’ve just deleted this important file!”
- ▶ “Oops, I introduced a bug a long time ago in my code, how can I see how it was before?”



# Backups: The Old Good Time

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- ▶ “Oops, I introduced a bug a long time ago in my code, how can I see how it was before?”

- Historical solutions:

- ▶ **Replicate:**

```
$ cp -r ~/project/ ~/backup/
```

(or better, copy to a remote machine like one of the university)

- ▶ **Keep history:**

```
$ cp -r ~/project/ ~/backup/2024-09-01_project
```

- ▶ ...



# Collaborative Development: The Old Good Time

- **Basic problems:** Several persons working on the same set of files
  - 1 “Hey, you’ve modified the same file as me, how do we merge?”,
  - 2 “Your modifications are broken, your code doesn’t even compile. Fix your changes before sending it to me!”,
  - 3 “Your bug fix here seems interesting, but I don’t want your other changes”.



# Collaborative Development: The Old Good Time

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  - ② “Your modifications are broken, your code doesn’t even compile. Fix your changes before sending it to me!”,
  - ③ “Your bug fix here seems interesting, but I don’t want your other changes”.
- **Historical solutions:**
  - ▶ Never two persons work at the same time. ⇒ Doesn’t scale up! Unsafe.
  - ▶ People work on the same directory (same machine, NFS, ACLs . . . )  
⇒ Painful because of (2) above.
  - ▶ People work trying to avoid conflicts, and **merge** later.



# Merging: Problem and Solution

- My version

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main () {
    printf("Hello");

    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

- Your version

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main () {
    printf("Hello!\n");

    return 0;
}
```





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- Common ancestor

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This merge can be done for you by an automatic tool

**Merging relies on history!**



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Merging relies on history!

Collaborative development linked to backups



# Merging

Space of possible revisions  
(arbitrarily represented in 2D)



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Space of possible revisions  
(arbitrarily represented in 2D)

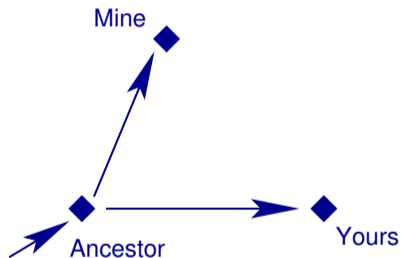
Mine 

 Yours



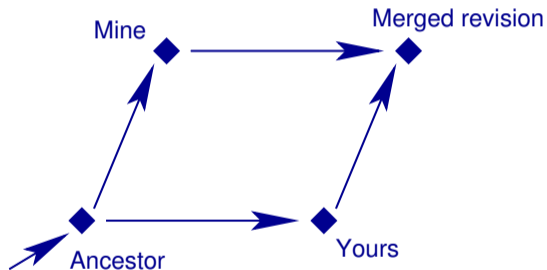
# Merging

Space of possible revisions  
(arbitrarily represented in 2D)



# Merging

Space of possible revisions  
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# Revision Control System: Basic Idea

- Keep track of **history**:
  - ▶ `commit` = snapshot of the current state,
  - ▶ Meta-data (user's name, date, descriptive message, . . . ) recorded in commit.
- Use it for **merging**/collaborative development.
  - ▶ Each user works on its own copy,
  - ▶ Users explicitly “take” modifications from others when they want.





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- Use it for merging/collaborative development.
  - ▶ Each user works on its own copy,
  - ▶ Users explicitly “take” modifications from others when they want.
- Efficient storage/compression (“delta-compression”  $\approx$  incremental backup)



# Outline

- 1 Revision Control System
- 2 Git: Basic Principles**
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# Git: Basic concepts

- Each working directory contains:
  - ▶ The files you work on (as usual)
  - ▶ The history, or “repository” (in the directory `.git/`)
- Basic operations:
  - ▶ **git clone**: get a copy of an existing repository (files + history)
  - ▶ **git commit**: create a new revision in a repository
  - ▶ **git pull**: get revisions from a repository
  - ▶ **git push**: send revisions to a repository
  - ▶ **git add**, **git rm** and **git mv**: tell Git which files should be tracked
  - ▶ **git status**: know what's going on
- For us:
  - ▶ Each team creates a shared repository, in addition to work trees



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# Outline of this section

## 3 Git Vs Others

- **History**
- Popularity
- Centralized Vs Decentralized



# A bit of history

Avant, on avait SVN et CVS ...



## A bit of history

Avant, on avait SVN et CSV ...



(Image by: Francois Mori, AP, March 8th 2018,  
[https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DYA0u1\\_XkAITxLR.jpg:large](https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DYA0u1_XkAITxLR.jpg:large))

# A bit of history

1986: Birth of CVS, centralized version system

2000: Birth of Subversion (SVN), a replacement for CVS with the same concepts

2005: First version of Git





# Git and the Linux Kernel

1991: Linus Torvalds starts writing Linux, using mostly tar+patch,

2002: Linux adopts BitKeeper, a proprietary decentralized version control system (available free of cost for Linux),

2002-2005: Flamewars against BitKeeper, some Free Software alternatives appear (GNU Arch, Darcs, Monotone). None are good enough technically.

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<sup>1</sup><https://ianskerrett.wordpress.com/2014/06/23/eclipse-community-survey-2014-results/>

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- 2005: BitKeeper's free of cost license revoked. Linux has to migrate.
- 2005: Unsatisfied with the alternatives, Linus decides to start his own project, **Git**.

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## Git and the Linux Kernel

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- 2005: BitKeeper's free of cost license revoked. Linux has to migrate.
- 2005: Unsatisfied with the alternatives, Linus decides to start his own project, **Git**.
- 2007: Many young, but good projects for decentralized revision control: Git, Mercurial, Bazaar, Monotone, Darcs, . . .
- 2014: Git is the most widely used according to Eclipse user's survey<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup><https://ianskerrett.wordpress.com/2014/06/23/eclipse-community-survey-2014-results/>

## Who Makes Git?

```
$ git shortlog -s -no-merges | sort -nr | head -30
6136 Junio C Hamano ← Google (full-time on Git)
1680 Jeff King ← GitHub (≈ full-time on Git)
1289 Shawn O. Pearce ← Google
1096 Linus Torvalds (No longer contributor)
 751 Nguyen Tha Ngoc Duy
 748 Johannes Schindelin ← Microsoft (full-time on Git)
 720 Jonathan Nieder ← Google
 520 Michael Haggerty ← GitHub (recent)
 514 René Scharfe
 511 Jakub Narebski
 487 Eric Wong
 414 Felipe Contreras
 401 Johannes Sixt
 348 Christian Couder ← Booking.com (50% on Git)
```



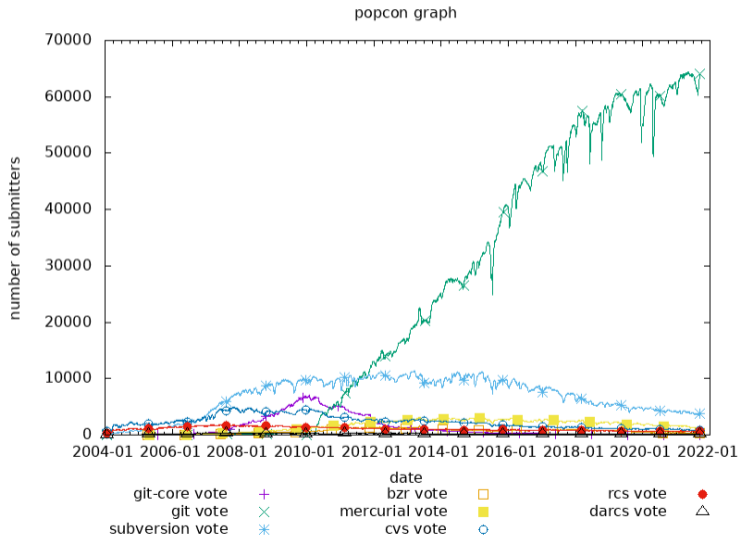
# Outline of this section

## 3 Git Vs Others

- History
- **Popularity**
- Centralized Vs Decentralized



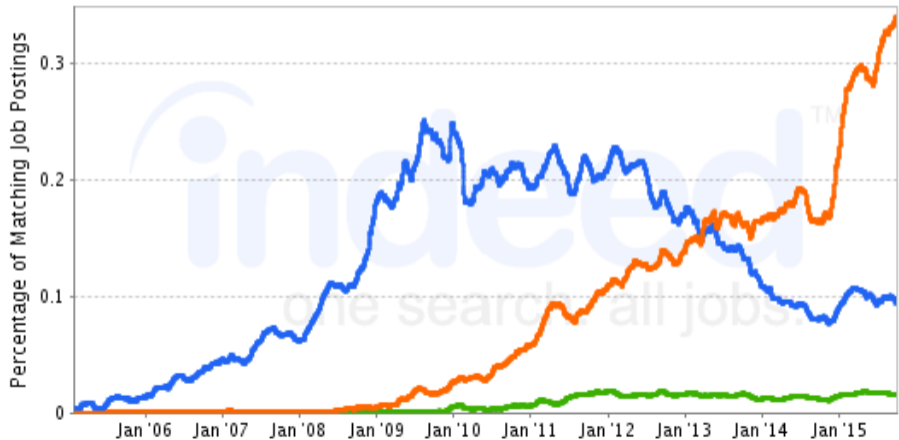
# Git Adoption (Debian popularity contest)



# Git Adoption (Job offers)

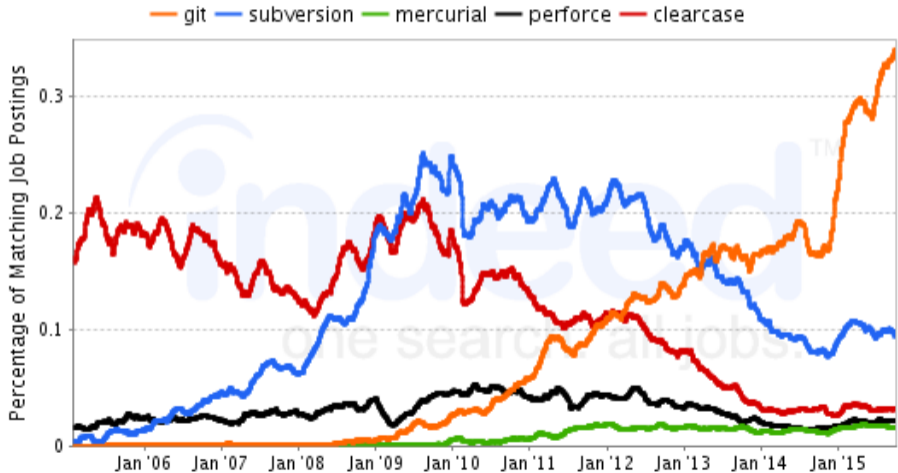
**Job Trends** from Indeed.com

— git — subversion — mercurial



# Git Adoption (Job offers)

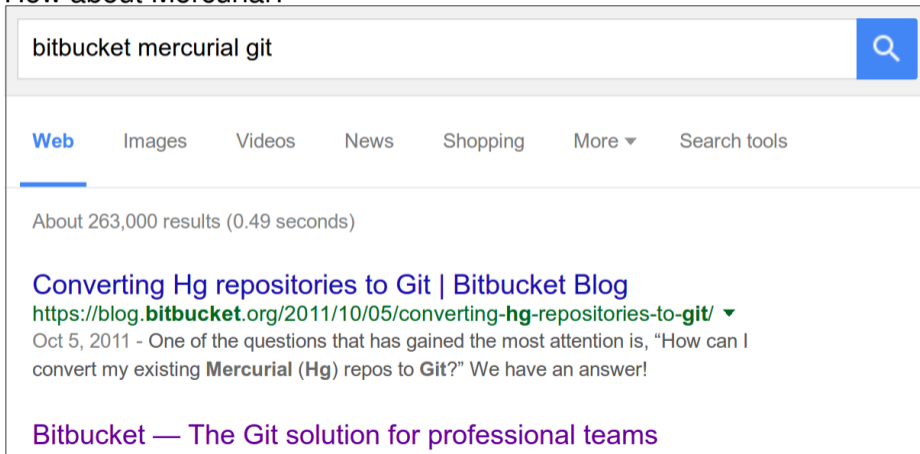
## Job Trends from Indeed.com





## Git Adoption (Hosting)

- GitHub: 27 millions users, 76 millions projects hosted (<https://github.com/about/press>).
- How about Mercurial?



bitbucket mercurial git

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About 263,000 results (0.49 seconds)

[Converting Hg repositories to Git | Bitbucket Blog](https://blog.bitbucket.org/2011/10/05/converting-hg-repositories-to-git/)  
<https://blog.bitbucket.org/2011/10/05/converting-hg-repositories-to-git/> ▾  
Oct 5, 2011 - One of the questions that has gained the most attention is, "How can I convert my existing **Mercurial (Hg)** repos to **Git**?" We have an answer!

[Bitbucket — The Git solution for professional teams](#)



# Summary of Available Options

- Centralized

  - RCS, CVS Outdated

  - SVN Does the job

- Decentralized

  - Git Fast, powerful, popular

  - Mercurial (hg) Very similar to Git but designed to be simpler. Less popular but very active too.

  - Bazaar (bzd) Development stopped in 2013

  - Monotone (mtn) Invented the core concepts behind Git, slow, never took up

  - Darcs Novel design, slow (exponential worst-case), never took up

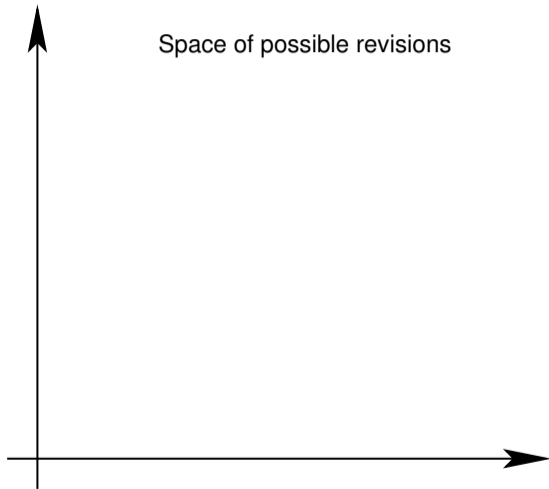


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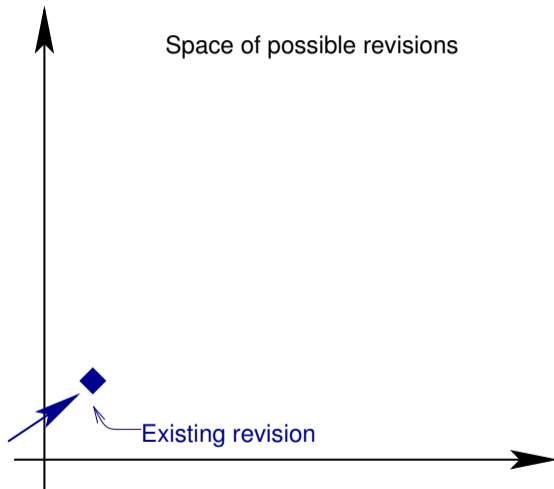
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- History
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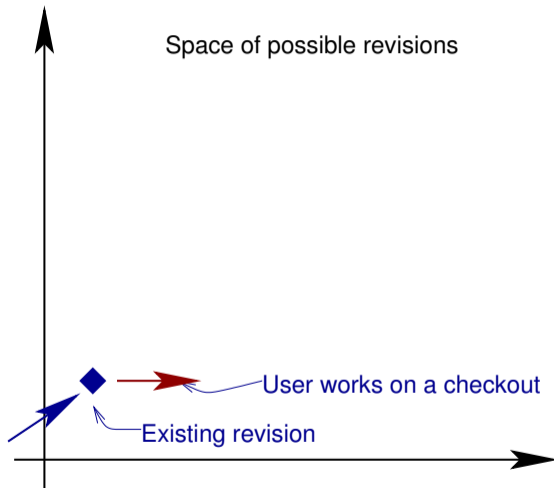
# CVS and SVN: Commit/Update Approach



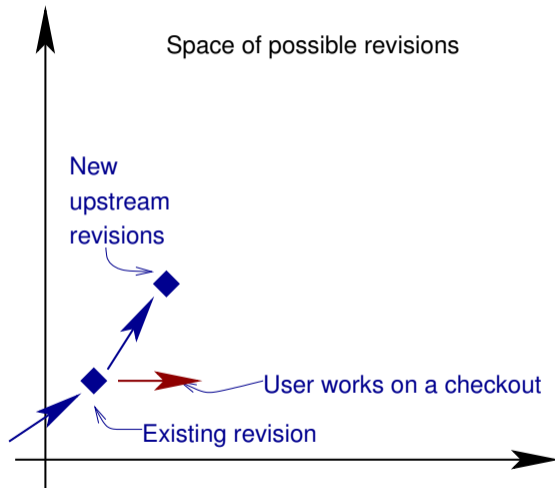
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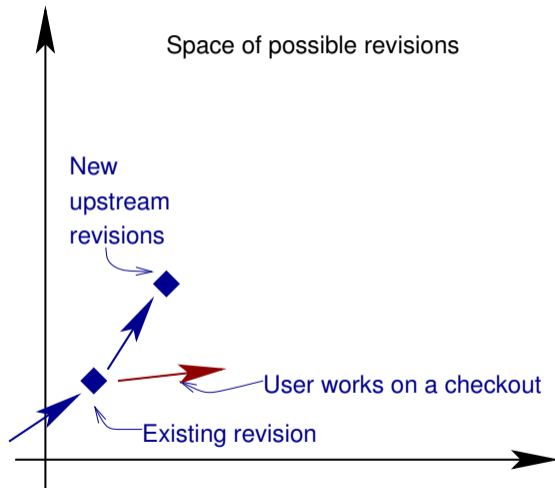
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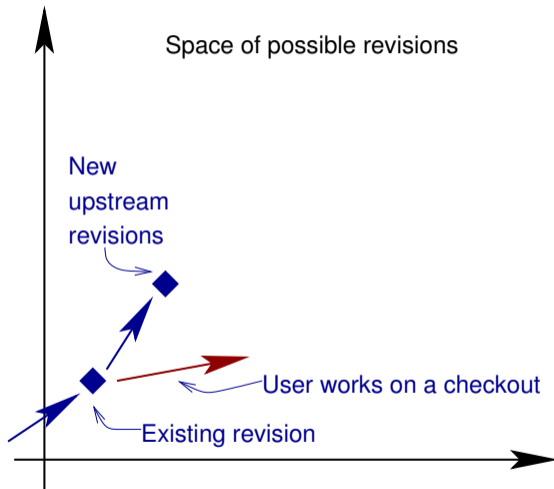


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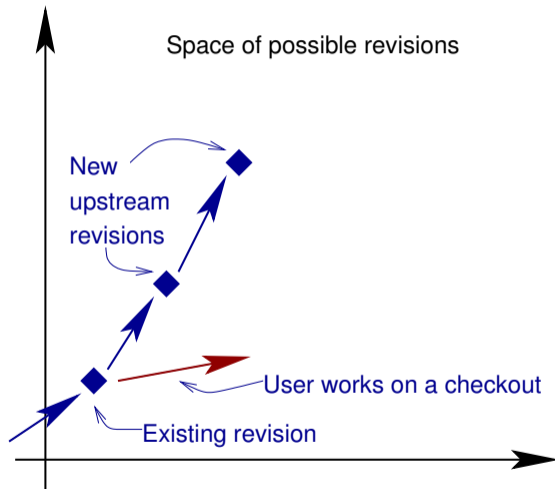




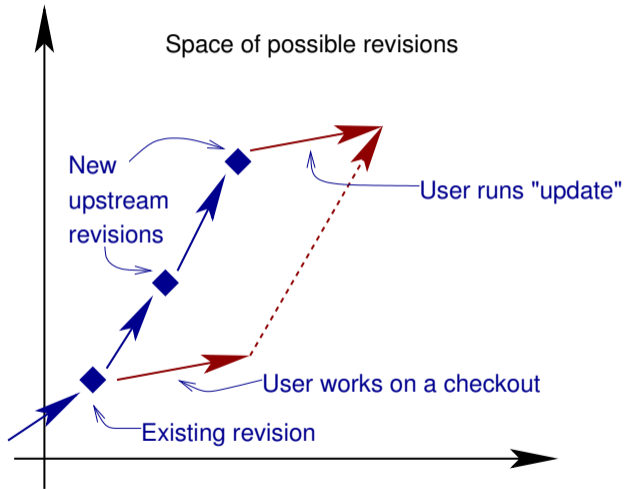
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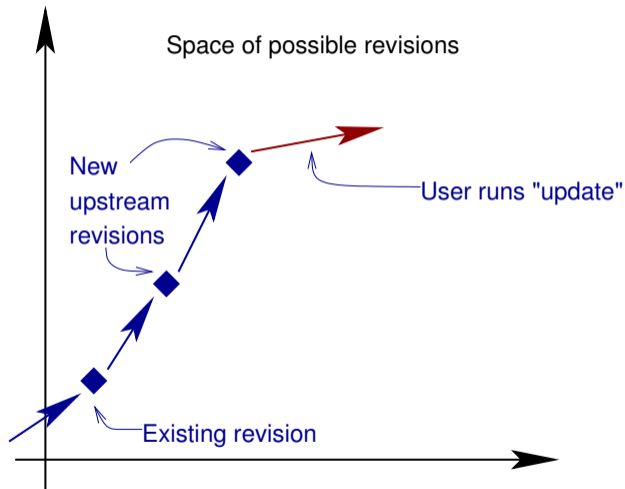
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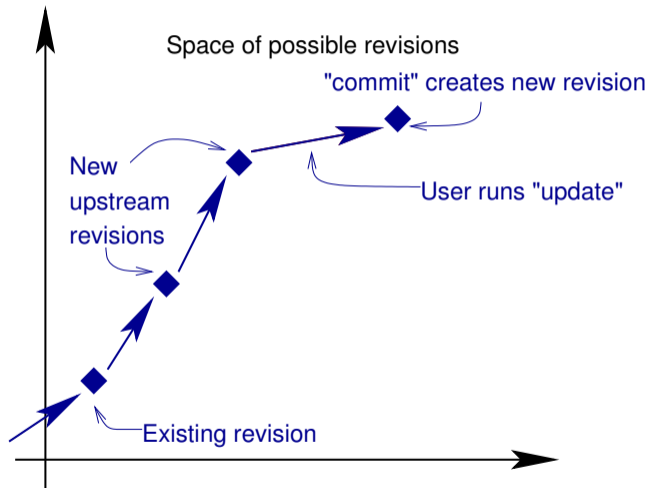
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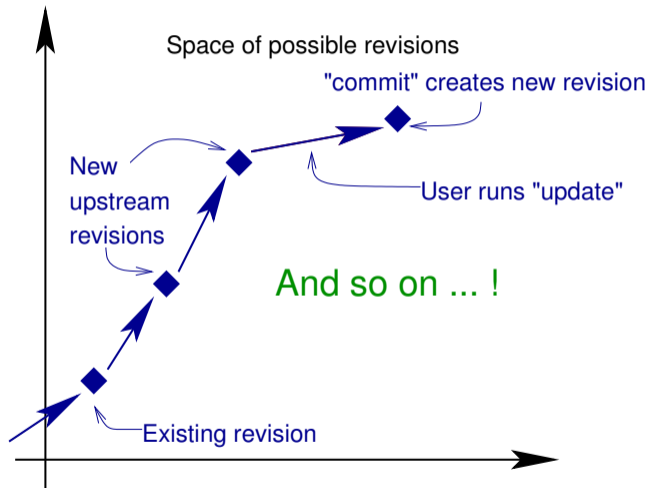
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# CVS and SVN: Commit/Update Approach



## Commit/Update Approach: limitations

- A change is either “uncommitted” or “cast in stone”
- Update before commit: what if the merge fails?
- No easy way to contribute to a repo without write permission



## Decentralized Version Control

# Each developer has its own repository

- Works offline, fast (I use `git` more than `ls` and `cd` !)
- Replicate data ( $\Rightarrow$  safer)
- No need for a server, creating a repo is cheap (I have 200 repos on my account)
- Private space (draft, not cast in stone)
- Different workflows



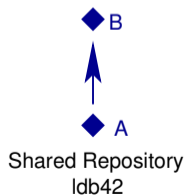


# Outline

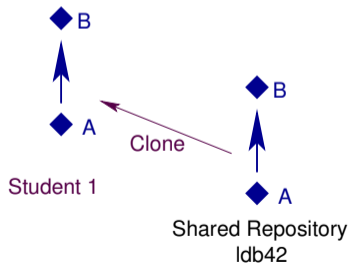
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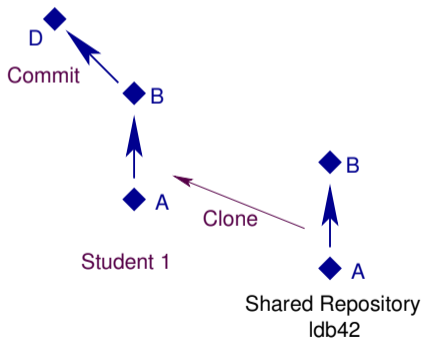
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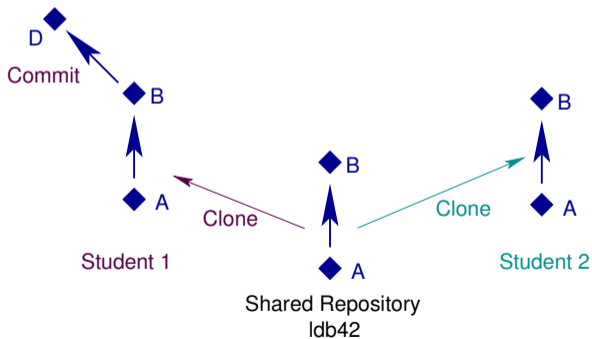
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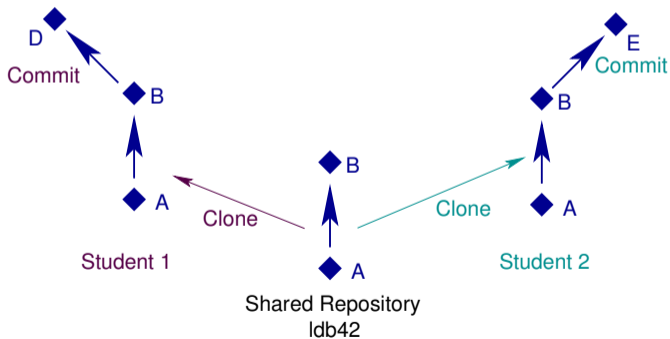
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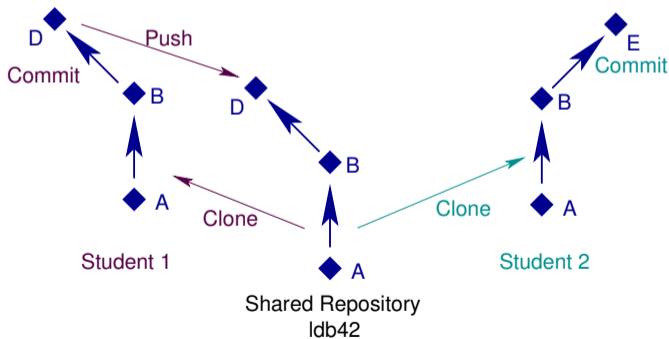
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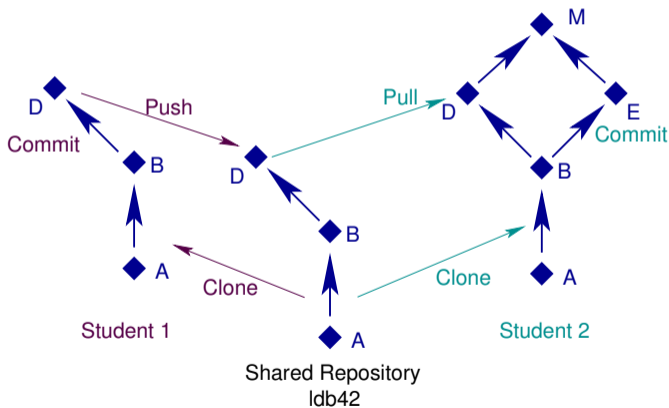
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# Starting the project with Git

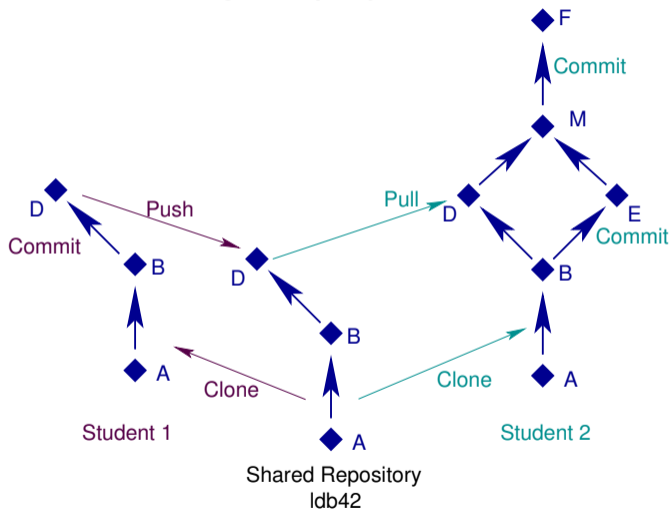


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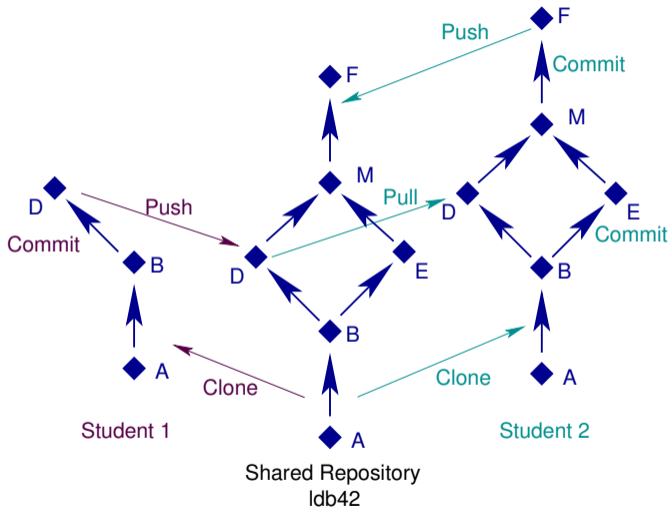




# Starting the project with Git



# Starting the project with Git



# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Alice$ git clone git@github.com:moy/git-training.git git-training
Initialized empty Git repository in /perms/Alice/git-training/.git/
remote: Counting objects: 960, done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (555/555), done.
remote: Total 960 (delta 341), reused 949 (delta 330)
Receiving objects: 100% (960/960), 1.51 MiB, done.
Resolving deltas: 100% (341/341), done.
```



# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Alice$ git clone git@github.com:moy/git-training.git git-training  
Alice$ cd git-training/sandbox  
Alice$ vi hello.c
```



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Alice$ git clone git@github.com:moy/git-training.git git-training
Alice$ cd git-training/sandbox
Alice$ vi hello.c
Alice$ git status
# On branch master
# Changed but not updated:
#   (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
#   (use "git checkout -- <file>..." to discard changes ...)
#
#       modified:   hello.c
#
```



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```
Alice$ git clone git@github.com:moy/git-training.git git-training
Alice$ cd git-training/sandbox
Alice$ vi hello.c
Alice$ git status
Alice$ git diff HEAD
--- a/projet/sandbox/hello.c
+++ b/projet/sandbox/hello.c
@@ -1,5 +1,5 @@
 /* Chacun ajoute son nom ici */
-/* Auteurs : ... et ... */
+/* Auteurs : Alice et ... */

#include <stdio.h>
```



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Alice$ vi hello.c
Alice$ git status
Alice$ git diff HEAD
Alice$ git commit -a
[master d943af5] Added my name.
 1 files changed, 1 insertions(+), 1 deletions(-)
```



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Alice$ git clone git@github.com:moy/git-training.git git-training
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Alice$ git diff HEAD
Alice$ git commit -a
Alice$ git log
commit d943af53ec13b43eac31d4cca3b11f51746a90cc
Author: Alice <Alice@ensimag.imag.fr>
```

Added my name.

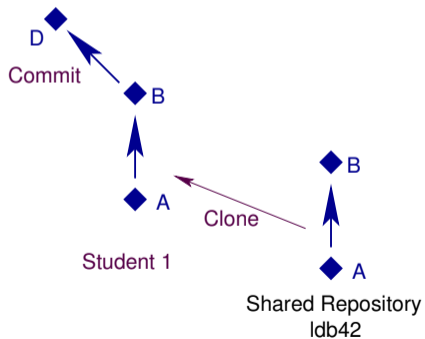
```
commit 96eldead6dc0f8e23308726d22bbf42d0e99352f
Author: Equipe ldb42 <ldb42@example.com>
```

Personalisation du dépôt pour ldb42





# Starting the project with Git



# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Bob$ git clone git@github.com:moy/git-training.git git-training
Initialized empty Git repository in /perms/Bob/git-training/.git/
remote: Counting objects: 960, done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (555/555), done.
remote: Total 960 (delta 341), reused 949 (delta 330)
Receiving objects: 100% (960/960), 1.51 MiB, done.
Resolving deltas: 100% (341/341), done.
```



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Bob$ cd git-training/sandbox
Bob$ vi hello.c
```



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```
Bob$ git clone git@github.com:moy/git-training.git git-training
Bob$ cd git-training/sandbox
Bob$ vi hello.c
Bob$ git commit -a
[master ae00028] Removed a piece of code.
 1 files changed, 0 insertions(+), 10 deletions(-)
```



# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Bob$ git clone git@github.com:moy/git-training.git git-training
```

```
Bob$ cd git-training/sandbox
```

```
Bob$ vi hello.c
```

```
Bob$ git commit -a
```

```
Bob$ git log
```

```
commit ae000285167885b286401ea3eb3379a7a3946260
```

```
Author: Bob <Bob@example.com>
```

```
Date: Thu Nov 19 16:52:53 2009 +0100
```

Removed a piece of code.

```
commit 96eldead6dc0f8e23308726d22bbf42d0e99352f
```

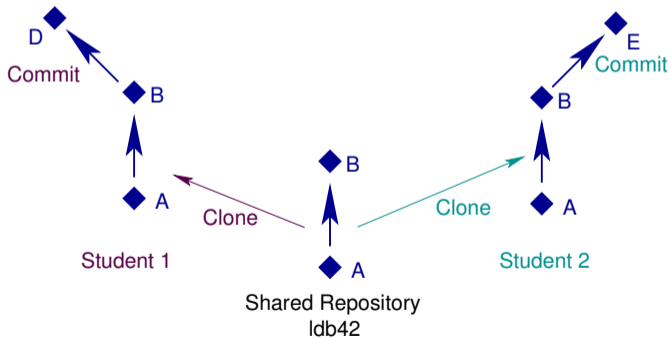
```
Author: Equipe ldb42 <ldb42@example.com>
```

```
Date: Thu Nov 19 16:30:54 2009 +0100
```

Personalisation du dépôt pour ldb42



# Starting the project with Git



# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Bob$ git push
```

```
Counting objects: 9, done.
```

```
Delta compression using up to 16 threads.
```

```
Compressing objects: 100% (4/4), done.
```

```
Writing objects: 100% (5/5), 432 bytes, done.
```

```
Total 5 (delta 2), reused 0 (delta 0)
```

```
To git@github.com:moy/git-training.git
```

```
96eldea..ae00028 master -> master
```



# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Bob$ git push
```

```
# back to Alice
```

```
Alice$ git push
```

```
To git@github.com:moy/git-training.git
```

```
! [rejected]        master -> master (non-fast forward)
```

```
error: failed to push some refs to 'git@github.com:moy/git-training.git'
```

```
hint: Updates were rejected because the tip of your current branch is
```

```
hint: behind its remote counterpart. Integrate the remote changes (e.g.
```

```
hint: 'git pull ...') before pushing again.
```

```
hint: See the 'Note about fast-forwards' in 'git push -help' for details.
```





# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Bob$ git push
```

```
# back to Alice
```

```
Alice$ git push
```

```
Alice$ git pull
```

```
Unpacking objects: 100% (5/5), done.
```

```
From git@github.com:moy/git-training.git
```

```
96eldea..ae00028 master -> origin/master
```

```
Auto-merging sandbox/hello.c
```

```
Merge made by recursive.
```

```
 sandbox/hello.c | 10 -----
```

```
1 files changed, 0 insertions(+), 10 deletions(-)
```



# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Bob$ git push
```

```
# back to Alice
```

```
Alice$ git push
```

```
Alice$ git pull
```

```
Alice$ vi hello.c
```

```
Alice$ git commit -a
```

```
[master ee9f864] Test
```

```
1 files changed, 1 insertions(+), 0 deletions(-)
```



# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Bob$ git push

# back to Alice
Alice$ git push
Alice$ git pull
Alice$ vi hello.c
Alice$ git commit -a
Alice$ git log --graph --oneline
* ee9f864 Test
* 830a084 Merge branch 'master' of ...
|\
| * ae00028 Removed a piece of code.
* | d943af5 Added my name.
|/
* 96eldea Personalisation du dépôt pour ldb42
```



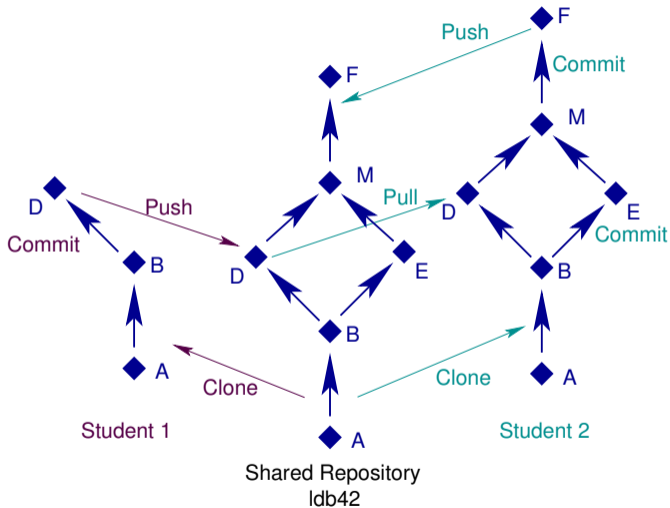
# Starting the project with Git: in Practice

```
Bob$ git push

# back to Alice
Alice$ git push
Alice$ git pull
Alice$ vi hello.c
Alice$ git commit -a
Alice$ git log --graph --oneline
Alice$ git push
Counting objects: 23, done.
Delta compression using up to 16 threads.
Compressing objects: 100% (12/12), done.
Writing objects: 100% (15/15), 1.20 KiB, done.
Total 15 (delta 6), reused 0 (delta 0)
To git@github.com:moy/git-training.git
   ae00028..ee9f864  master -> master
```



# Starting the project with Git



# Outline

- 1 Revision Control System
- 2 Git: Basic Principles
- 3 Git Vs Others
- 4 An Example Using Git
- 5 Advices Using Git



## Advices Using Git (for beginners)

- **Never** exchange files outside Git's control (email, scp, usb key), except if you *really* know what you're doing;



## Advices Using Git (for beginners)

- **Never** exchange files outside Git's control (email, scp, usb key), except if you *really* know what you're doing;
- Always use `git commit` with `-a`;
- Always use `git pull` with `-no-rebase`
- Make a `git push` after each `git commit -a` (use `git pull` if needed);
- Do `git pull` regularly, to remain synchronized with your teammates. You need to make a `git commit -a` before you can make a `git pull` (this is to avoid mixing manual changes with merges).
- Do not make useless changes to your code. Do not let your editor/IDE reformat code that is not yours.





## Maintenant : séance machine

- Rendez-vous en salle de TP (Nautibus TP 103, Nautibus TP 105, Nautibus TD 116)
- Guide pas à pas dans `seance-machine-git.pdf` sur le site du lifprojet.
  - ▶ Installez-vous par équipe (ou trouvez un binôme temporaire)
  - ▶ Suivez les instructions et posez-moi des questions
  - ▶ Si vous connaissez déjà Git, lisez quand même rapidement, vous pourriez avoir raté des choses...

