Distributed Version Control

http://d3s.mff.cuni.cz

Pavel Parízek
parizek@d3s.mff.cuni.cz
Key concepts

• Each developer uses a private local repository
  - *clone*: full mirror of some existing repository

• Operations performed on the local repository
  - very fast, off-line

• Synchronization
  - Operations *push* and *pull*
  - Exchanging code patches
Comparing distributed and centralized VCS

- Centralized
  - Everything visible in the central repository
  - Private branches (work) not possible

- Distributed
  - Private repositories (and branches) useful for experimental development
Tools

- Git
- Mercurial
- Bazaar
Git

Nástroje pro vývoj software

Distributed Version Control
Main features

- Versions: snapshots of the project (working dir)
- Committed revisions form a direct acyclic graph
  - Multiple “latest” versions (leaf nodes)
- Each commit has an author and committer
  - Distributing changesets via patches (email)
- Whole repository stored in .git (files, metadata)
- Confusing for most people (good for advanced users)
- Commands have names similar to SVN
Usage scenario

Local Operations

- working directory
- staging area
- git directory (repository)

- checkout the project
- stage files
- commit

Task 1

- Configure your identity
  - `git config --global user.name "<your full name>"`
  - `git config --global user.email "<your email address>"`

- Stored in `$HOME/.gitconfig`
Basic commands

- Create repository in the current directory: `git init`
- Print status of the working tree: `git status`
- Start tracking new files: `git add <work dir path>`
- Add files to the staging area: `git add <path>`
- Commit staged modifications: `git commit -m “...”`
- Print uncommitted unstaged changes: `git diff`
- Print staged uncommitted changes:
  - `git diff --staged`
- Automatically stage every tracked file and commit
  - `git commit -a -m “...”`
- Revert modifications: `git checkout -- <path>`
File status lifecycle

Untracked → Unmodified → Modified → Staged

Add the file → Edit the file → Stage the file → Commit → Remove the file

Task 2

- Create repository in a specific directory
- Create some new files (e.g., hello world)
- Print current status of your repository and the working directory
- Stage all the new files
- Print current status
- Modify one of the files
- Print current status
  - Inspect differences from the previous invocation
- Commit all staged modifications
- Print current status
Managing files

- Make the given file untracked
  
  ```
  git rm <work dir path>
  ```

- Renaming file (directory)
  
  ```
  git mv <old path> <new path>
  ```
Pick your changes

- **Full interactive mode:** `git add -i`

- **Select patch hunks:** `git add -p`
• List all the commits
  
  `git log [-p] [-<N>] [--stat]`

• More options
  
  `[--pretty=oneline|short|full|fuller]`
  `[--graph]`
  `[--since=YYYY-MM-DD]`
  `[--until=YYYY-MM-DD]`
  `[--author=<name>]`
Task 3

- Try out file management commands \texttt{(rm, mv)}

- Play with the “git log” command
  - Explore different parameters \texttt{(-p, -<N>, --stat, --pretty, --graph)}

- Run the program “gitk” and try it

- Make some changes to a particular file and use interactive staging
Using remote repositories

- Clone a remote repository in the current local directory: `git clone <repo url>`
- Get recent changes in all branches from the remote repository: `git fetch origin`
- Get recent changes in the “master” branch and merge into your working copy: `git pull`
  - Announcements via `pull requests`
- Publish local changes in the remote repository: `git push origin master`
Branches in Git
Branches in Git

- Branch: pointer to a node in the revision DAG
- Default branch: *master*
- Commit: branch pointer moves forward

What happens after concurrent modification

Branches in Git: commands

- Create new branch: `git branch <name>`
- Switch to given branch: `git checkout <name>`
- Shortcut: `git checkout -b <name>`
- Merge branch into current working directory
  `git merge <branch name>`
- Deleting unnecessary branch
  `git branch -d <branch name>`
- List all branches: `git branch [-a]`
  - Current branch marked with *
Comparing branches

- `git diff <branch 1>..<branch 2>`
  - Compare heads of the two branches
  - Note the characters ‘..’

- `git diff <branch 1>...<branch 2>`
  - Print changes on the branch 2 (e.g., master) since the branch 1 (feature) was created from it
  - Note the characters ‘...’
Three-way merge

- Common ancestor
- Target branch
- Source branch

- Conflicts happen also with Git
  - Standard markers `<<<<<< ====== >>>>>>>`
  - Marking resolved files: `git add`

- Graphical merging tool: `git mergetool`
Task 4

- Create new branch B and switch to it
- Modify some files and commit them
- Switch back to the master branch
- Modify some files and then commit
- Merge your branch B into the master
- Delete the now unnecessary branch

- Try switching branches with uncommitted changes in the working copy
- Try graphical merging tool on some conflicts
More advanced features

- Symbolic names of versions
  - HEAD, HEAD~1, HEAD^2
- Using stack of unfinished changes (stashing)
- `git reset`
  - Several variants: clear the index, undo some commits
- `git rebase`
  - Replaying changes done in a branch onto another branch
  - Very powerful command but also tricky
- Modifying committed history
  - e.g., commit messages
- Ignoring certain files
  - List patterns in the file `.gitignore`
- Tagging: `git tag`
- Bare repository
  - No working copy
Mercurial

- Basic principles: like Git
- Simpler learning curve
- Commands very similar
  - init, clone, add, commit, merge, push, pull
- Better support for Windows
Work-flow models (cooperation)
Work-flow models (cooperation)

- Anything possible technically with DVCS
- “Network of trust” between developers

Examples
- Single “central” repository
- Multiple release repositories
- Many public repositories
- Total anarchy
Single “central” repository

Central Repository

- Privileged Developer Repository
- Normal Developer Repository

- Privileged Developer Repository
- Normal Developer Repository
Multiple release repositories

Main Repository development

- Developer Repository
  - GUI branch
- Developer Repository
  - DB branch
- Release 1 Repository
- Release 2 Repository
- Release 3 Repository
Many public repositories

- Linux kernel
Total anarchy

Repository no. 1

Repository no. 2

Repository no. 3

Repository no. 4

Repository no. 5
Links

- **Git documentation**
  - [http://git-scm.com/doc](http://git-scm.com/doc)

- **Mercurial**

- **Repository servers**
  - [https://github.com/](https://github.com/)
  - [https://bitbucket.org/](https://bitbucket.org/)

- **Tools**
  - Git for Windows ([http://msysgit.github.io/](http://msysgit.github.io/)), TortoiseGit (Win)
  - TortoiseHg (Mercurial GUI, Windows)
Homework

- Assignment
  - http://d3s.mff.cuni.cz/~parizek/teaching/sdt/

- Deadline