

Git training

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Presentation of the Git Software

What is Git?

- Free and open source software
- Light and local use (without internet)
- The most popular Version Control Software (VCS)
- Manages and tracks versions of a project (code, manuscript, data)
- Can be linked with remote server (GitHub, Gitlab)

What is Git for?

- For a single user:
 - **Track changes** (*commits*) over time with information about **when** and **what** are the changes
 - Eventually go **back in time**

- **Synchronize** the project in the **cloud** with git servers (GitHub, Gitlab)

What is Git for ?

- For a collaborative project:
 - **Track changes** (*commits*) with information about **who**, **when** and **what** are the changes
 - **Resolve version conflict** when simultaneous changes
 - **Highlight a specific version** of the project (*tags*)
 - New version of a software
 - Submitted, revised versions of a paper
 - Create **derivates** of a project (*branches*)
 - * Production
 - * Development
 - * Feature
 - **Publish** the project (open science)

In short...

Installation and configurations

Installing Git

Windows and Mac

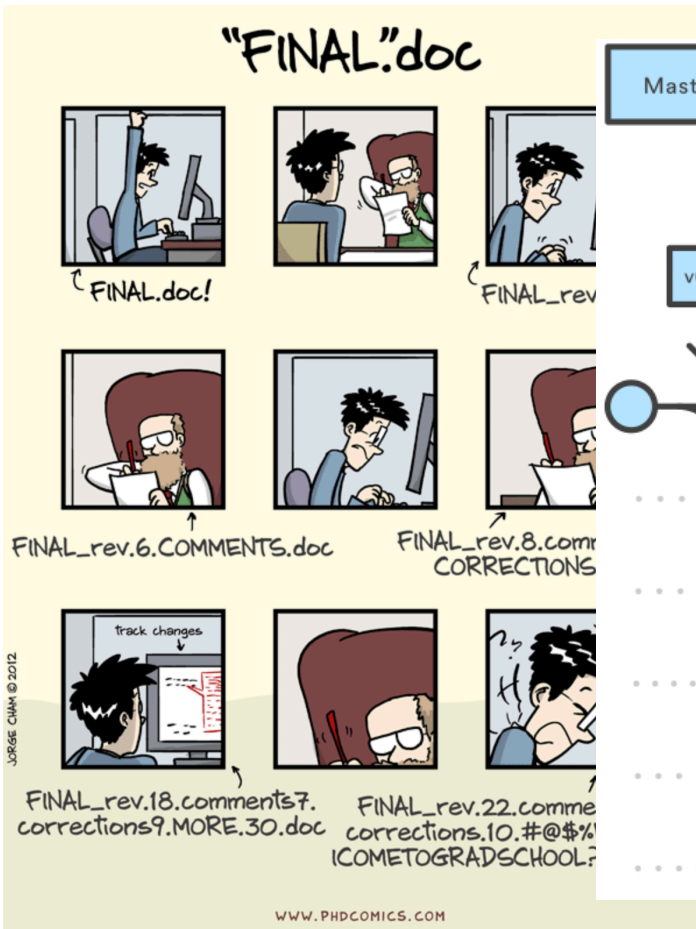


Figure 1: Without Git

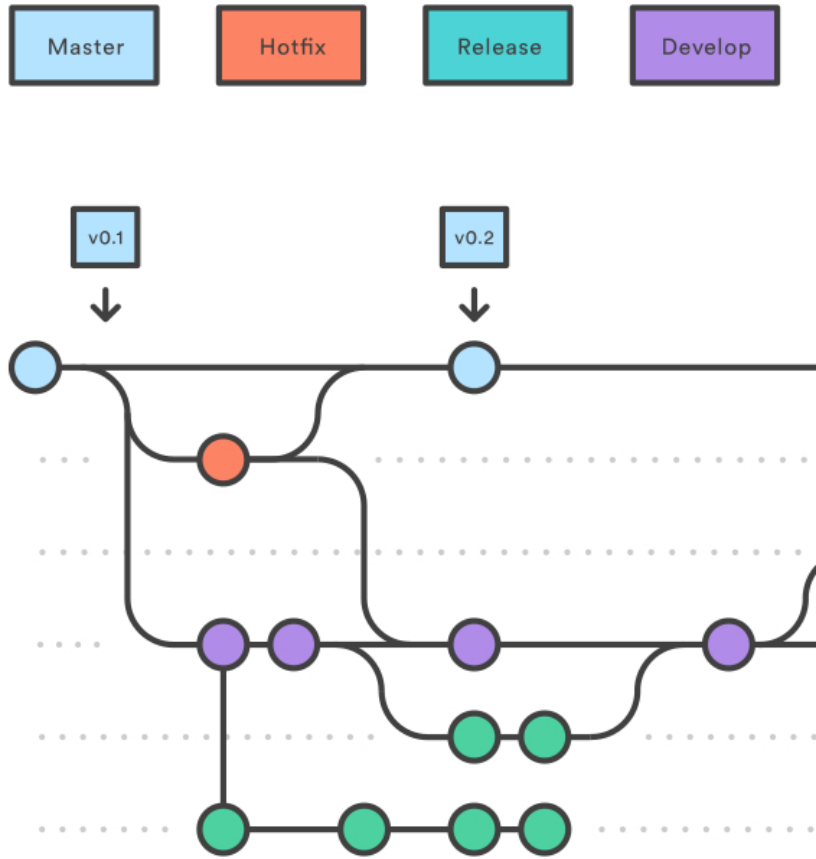


Figure 2: With Git

Download and install Git from <https://git-scm.com/downloads>.

When done, open Git Bash

Linux

Open a Terminal window and type:

```
sudo apt install git git-lfs git-flow
```

Git configuration

On Git Bash or in the Terminal:

- Type `git config --global user.name "Firstname Lastname"`
- Type `git config --global user.email "myadresse@ird.fr"`

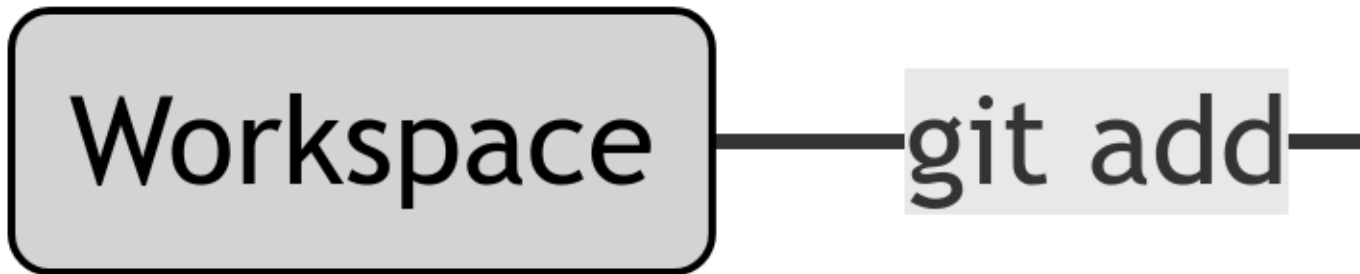
i Note

These two lines identify you in the history of a project.

- Type `git config --global --list` to see the global git configuration.

Getting started with Git in local

Git architecture



- **Workspace**: your working directory → your computer
- **Local**: the local repository → contains the history of your project
- **Index**: a buffer between **Workspace** and **Local** → list of the files that will be sent from **Workspace** to **Local**
- `git add` : the command to add the file(s) in the **Index**
- `git commit`: the command to validate the changes (moves the files from **Index** to **Local**)

Getting started

- Create a folder called `training-git` by typing `mkdir training-git`
- Move to the folder by typing `cd training-git`
- Type `ls -alrt`
- Type `git init`
- Type again `ls -alrt`.

i Note

A `.git` folder has appeared. It contains the full history of your project (Local repository)

- Type `git status` and `git log`

First commit

- Create a `README.md` file. Type `git status` → `README.md` is now in Workspace but not in Index nor in Local
- Type `git add README.md` and `git status`



- Type `git commit -m "First commit"` and type `git log`



i Note

`0f0e96a` is a short version of the identifier of the commit

Second commit

- Open the README.md file, add # Git training and save
- Type `git status`
- Type `git diff`

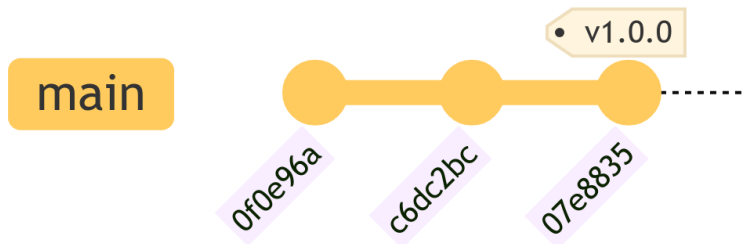


- Type `git commit -m "Second commit"`
- Type `git log`



Creating tags

- Open the README.md file and add ## Version v1.0.0.
- Type `git add README.md`
- Type `git commit -m "Third commit"`
- Type `git tag v1.0.0` and `git log`



- Type `git tag` to list all existing tags

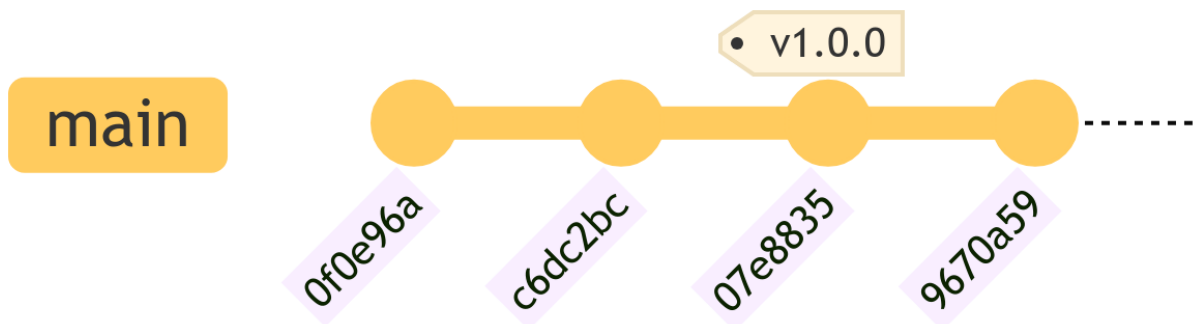
Ignoring files

It is possible to tell Git to ignore some files by using a `.gitignore` file.

- Create an empty `output.log` file and type `git status`
- Create a `.gitignore` file and write `*.log`. Type again `git status`

The `output.log` file does not appear as an `Untracked` file anymore

- Type `git add .gitignore` and `git status`
- Type `git commit -m "Fourth commit"`

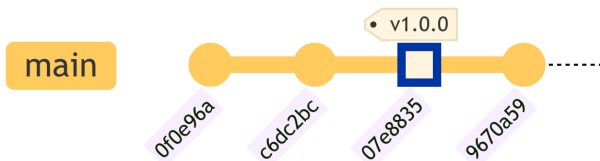


💡 Tip

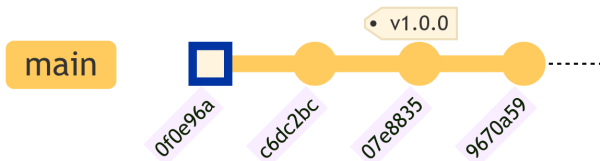
To list the ignored files, type `git ls-files --others --ignored --exclude-from=.gitignore`

Moving in the history

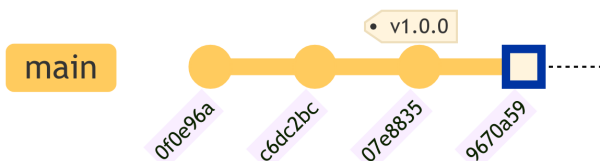
- Type `git checkout v1.0.0` → move to a tag



- Type `git checkout 0f0e96a` → move to a specific commit



- Type `git checkout main` → move at the latest commit (replace `main` by `master` if the latter is the name of the main branch)



💡 Tip

HEAD is a symbolic reference pointing to wherever you are in your commit history, as shown in `git log`

Display differences

- Type `git diff 0f0e96a v1.0.0` → compares a commit and a tag.

⚠ Warning

Order matters when using `git diff`. Differences are shown with the reference state considered to be the first argument.



- Type `git diff 0f0e96a c6dc2bc` → compares two commits.
- Type `git diff 0f0e96a HEAD` → compares where you are in the history (HEAD) with a given commit.

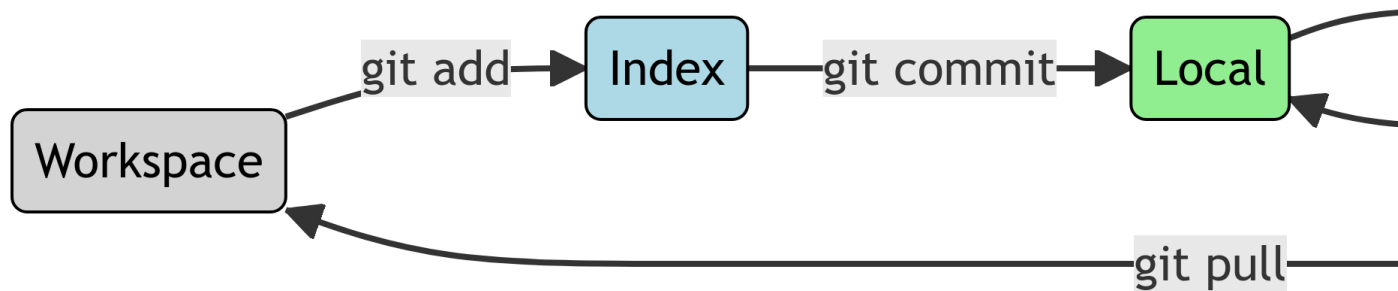
Using Git with online server (GitHub)

Using remotes

In addition of saving the history, Git has other advantages. It allows to:

- Save a project remotely
 - Synchronization with different computers (laptop, HPCs)
- Share a project (codes, packages) with the community
 - Reproducible science

To do so, a 4th component in the Git architecture must be considered: the **Remote** repository. It contains a **remote** version of the history of your project



Remote hosts

There are several remote hosting possibilities:

Commercial hosts:

- GitHub: <https://github.com/>
- GitLab: <https://gitlab.com/>

Institutional hosts:

- GitLab IRD: <https://forge.ird.fr/>
- GitLab Ifremer <https://gitlab.ifremer.fr/>

In the following, we will use GitHub.

 Tip

GitHub proposes extra-features for students, teachers and researchers. Visit <https://education.github.com/benefits> for more informations


Creation of a GitHub repository

- On your GitHub page, click on **Repositories**
- Click on the the green **New** button
- Set the name of your remote repository. Leave the other fields empty
- Click on **Create repository**

Create a new repository

A repository contains all project files, including the revision history.

Owner **Repository name ***

 CriscelyLP ▾ /

Great repository names are short and memorable. Need inspiration? How about **stunning-system**?

Description (optional)

Public
Anyone can see this repository. You choose who can commit.

Private
You choose who can see and commit to this repository.

Initialize this repository with a README
This will let you immediately clone the repository to your computer. Skip this step if you're importing an existing repository.

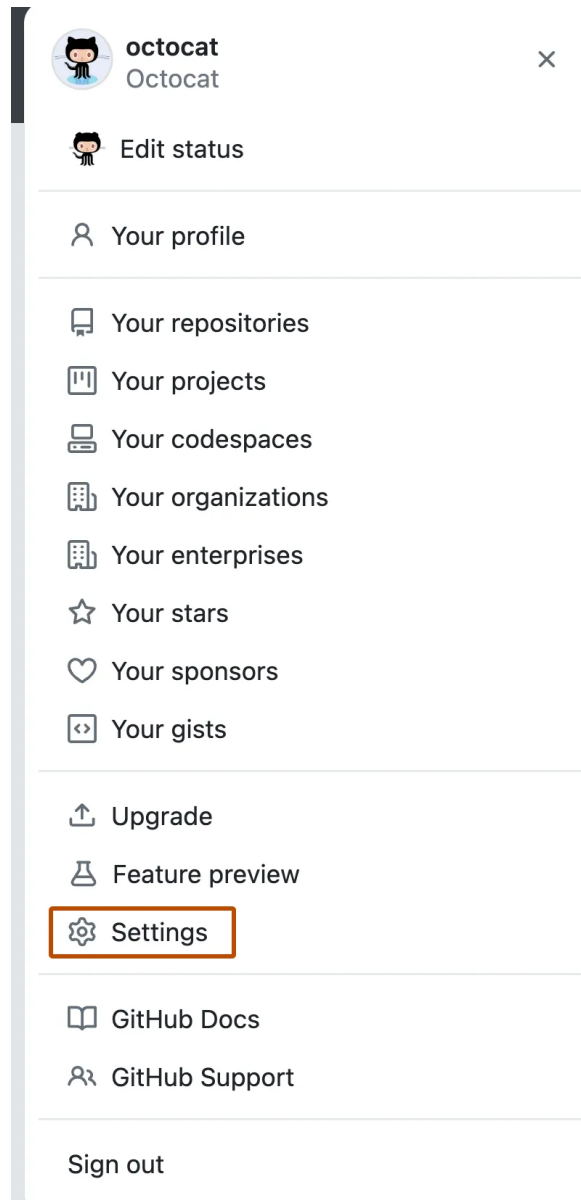
Add .gitignore: **None** ▾ | Add a license: **None** ▾ ⓘ

Create repository

Creation of a personal access token

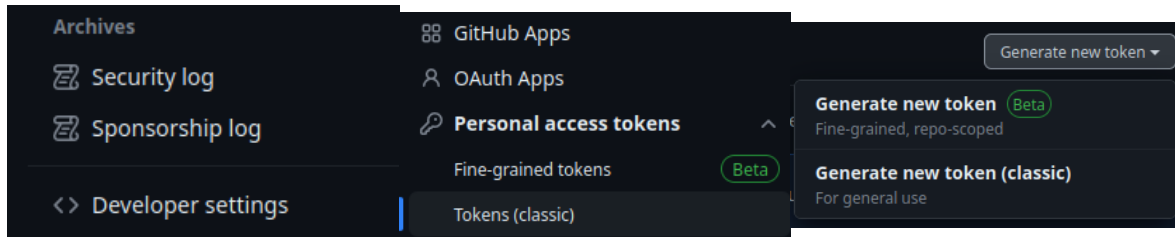
To authenticate, you need to create an authentication token (see [GitHub authentication of details](#) for details).

To do so, click on your profile photo and then on **Settings**:



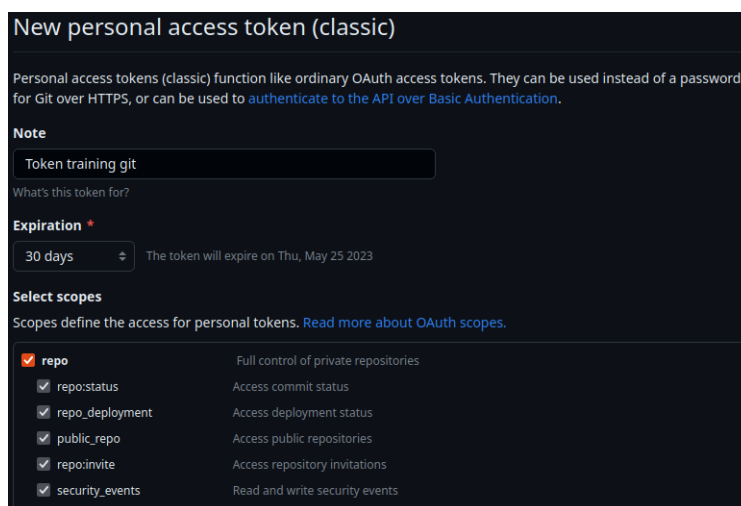
Creation of a personal access token

- In the left sidebar, click on Developer settings.
- Under Personal access tokens, click Tokens (classic).
- Select Generate new token and Generate new token (classic).



Creation of a personal access token

- Add a description note and **click on the “repo” box**, as shown below:



- Click on the `Generate token` box button.
- Copy and save in a `.txt` file or in a Password manager tool (KeepassXC) the token: **this is your password!** It should look like something like this:

```
ghp_*****
```

Linking Git local and remote

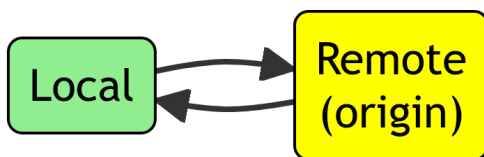
- In Terminal or Git Bash, type the following line:

```
git remote add origin https://github.com/barriern/git-train.git
```

⚠ Warning

Replac `barriern` by your GitHub login and `git-train` by the name of your GitHub repository.

- It connects your Local repository with a remote one, called *origin*



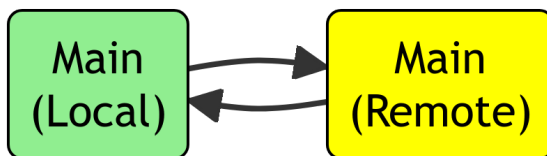
- Type `git remote -vv`

Linking Git local and remote

Now that the local and remote repositories are linked, the same thing must be done with the branches.

- Type `git branch -M main` by replacing `main` by the name of the remote branch on GitHub. It will rename the local branch with the same name.
- Type `git push -u origin main`

It connects the *local* and *remote* main branches (`-u` option) and sends the commits to the remote branch

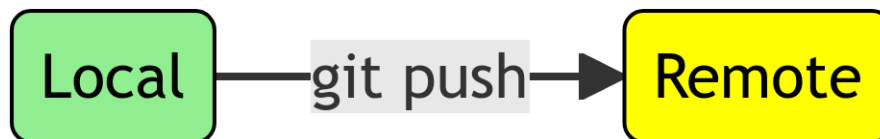


- Type `git branch -vv`

Linking Git local and remote

Have a look at your repository on GitHub. **Tags are missing!**

Type `git push --tags` and refresh the GitHub page.



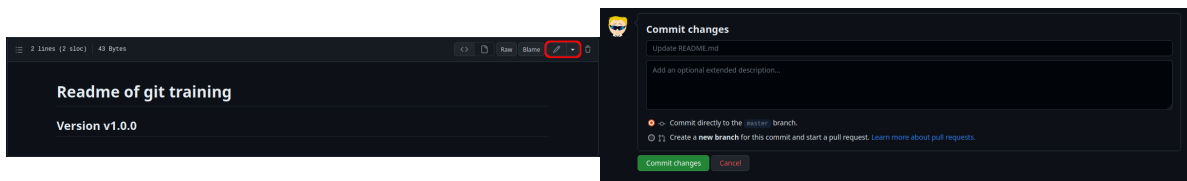
i Note

No need to specify the `-u origin main` arguments since the two branches are already connected.

Navigate on the GitHub page to see what has been done.

Synchronization from the remote

- In GitHub, click on the `README.md` file and then on the edit button
- Add a `Update from Github` line and click on `Commit changes`



The Remote change of `README.md` is not yet visible in Workspace!

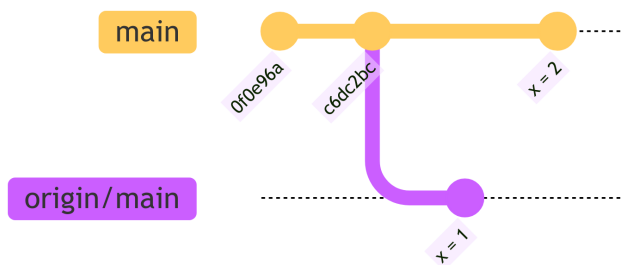
- In Git Bash or Terminal, type `git pull`



- Look again at the `README.md` file on your computer. You should see the update.

Synchronization: conflicts

- On GitHub, add `x = 1` at the end of the `README.md` file. **Do not type pull!**
- On your computer, edit the `README.md` and add `x = 2`.
- Type `git add README.md`
- Type `git commit -m "Fifth commit"`
- Type `git push`. An error occurs because changes in Remote have not been pulled in Local.
- Type `git pull` and `git status`. An error occurs because there is a conflict in the `README.md` file which cannot be solved by Git.



Synchronization: conflicts

- Open the `README.md` file. You should see:

```
<<<<<<< HEAD
```

```
x = 2
```

```
=====
```

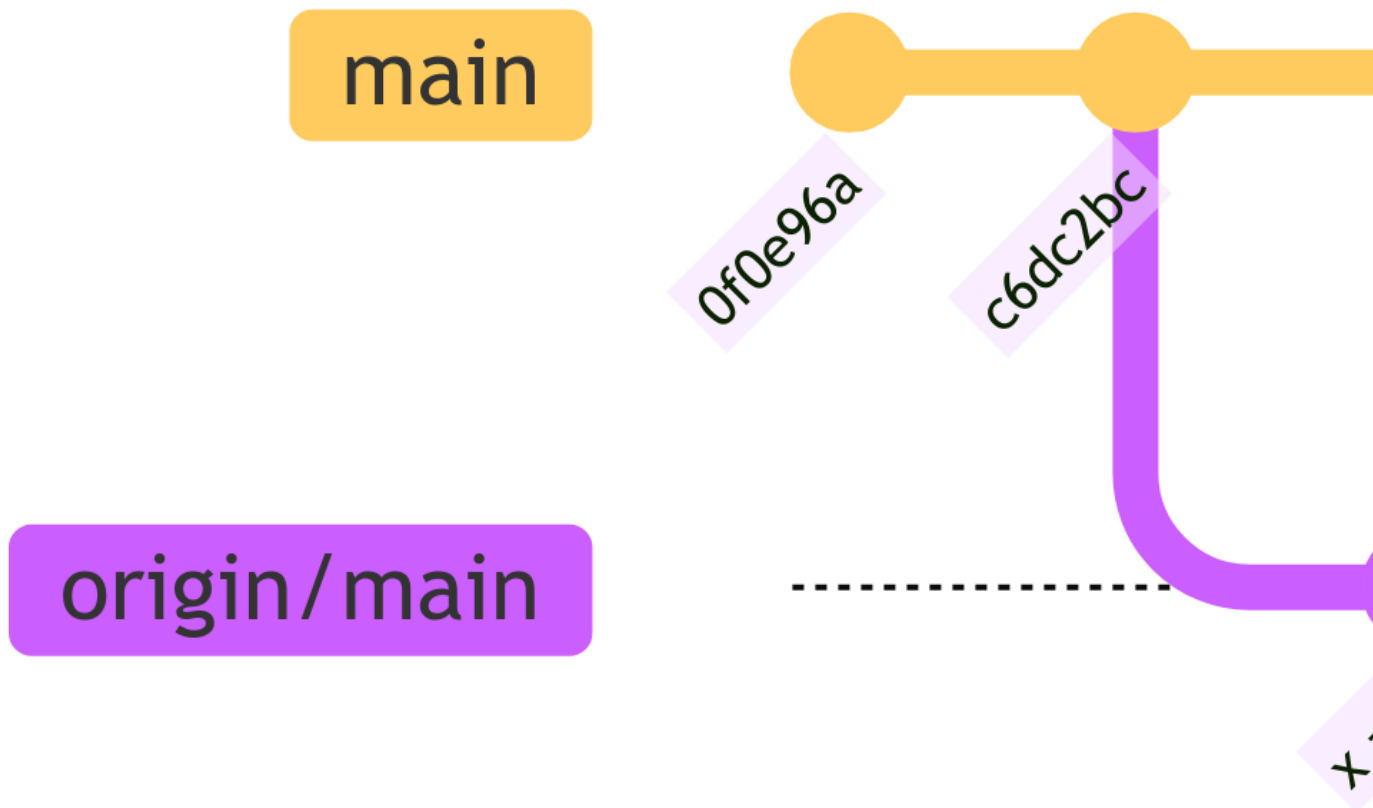
```
x = 1
```

```
>>>>>>> 70a4c105e377db282c0769606960f0afccdd071
```

Warning

These are conflicts markers. `Git` doesn't know whether to choose `x = 1` or `x = 2`. This is your job

- Open the file, replace the above by `x = 3`. Commit and push the changes



Cloning an existing repository

- In Terminal or Git Bash, type `cd ..`

- Now type `git clone https://github.com/umr-marbec/git-training`



- Type `git log` to see the full history.
- To update the project, type `git pull`

⚠ Warning

Do not clone or initialize a Git repository in another Git repository!

Create a repository the simple way

To create a new repo more simply than done here:

- Create a repo. on GitHub with a `README.md` file and eventually a `LICENCE` file.
- Clone the repo.
- You are all set!
 - The `remote` and `local` repositories are synchronized
 - The `remote` and `local` main branches are synchronized

Conclusion: good practice

- Before starting editing a project, do a `git pull`
- Commit very often using `git commit` extensively

- Push often as well using `git push`
- Use `git status` extensively to know what you have done



Git clients

Git clients: what is it?

Git Clients are softwares that facilitate the use of Git (see [Git Guis](#) for a list).

Beside, most code editors include Git functionalities

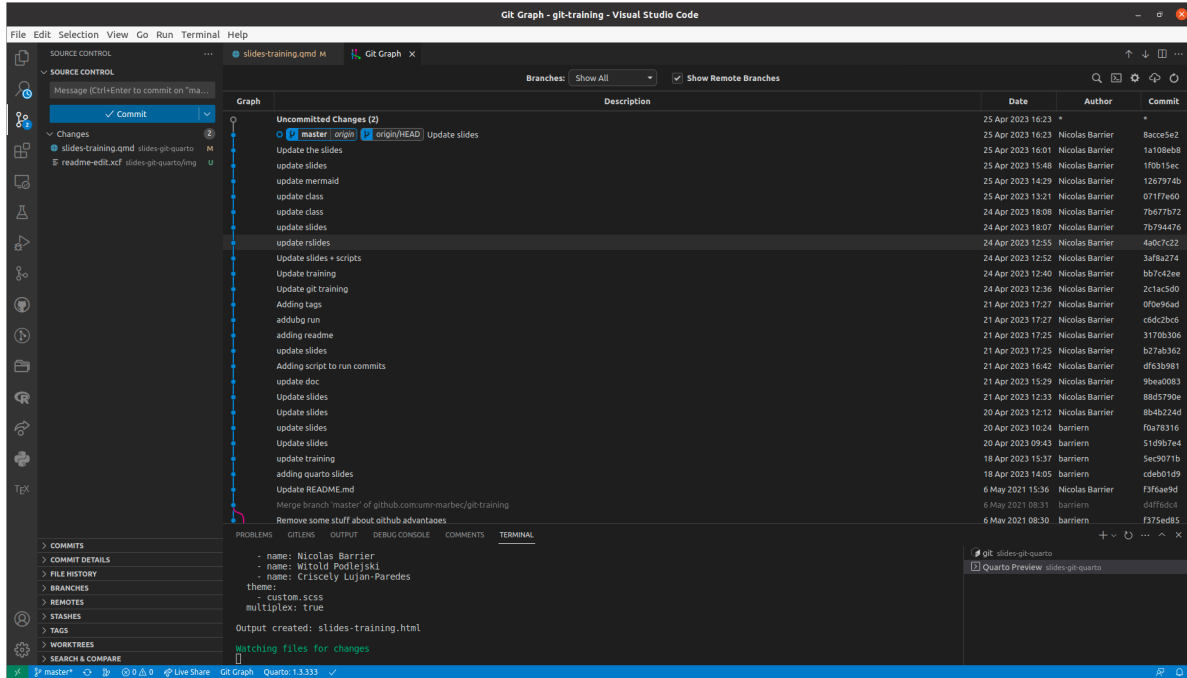


Figure 3: VSCode

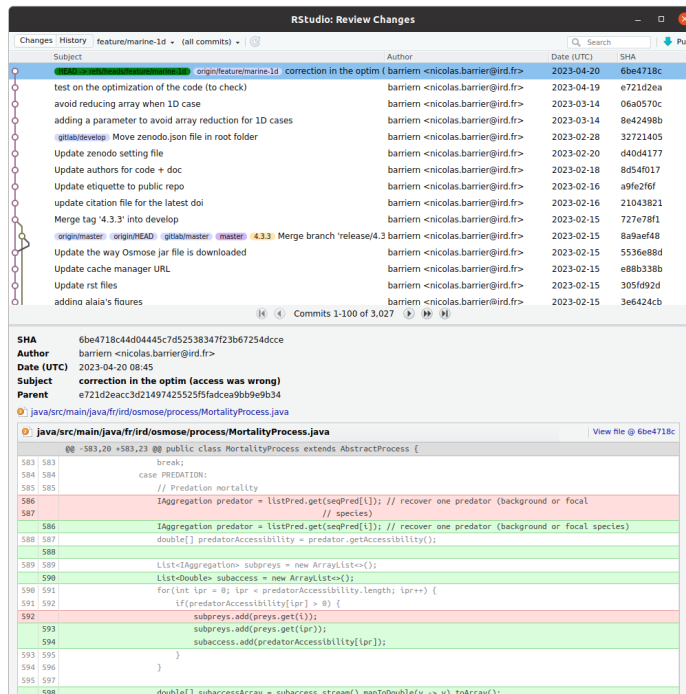


Figure 4: RStudio

Git clients

Git clients

Git clients

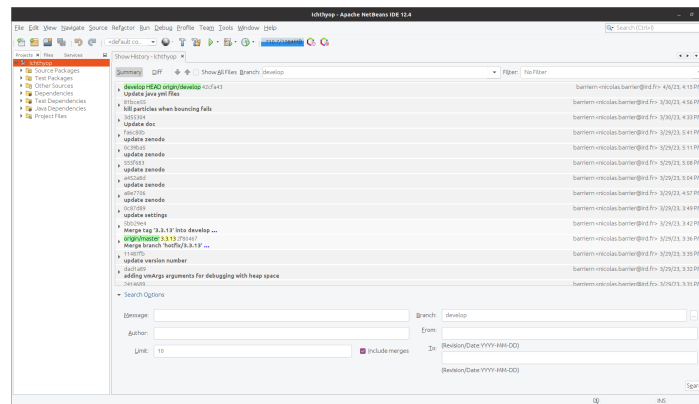


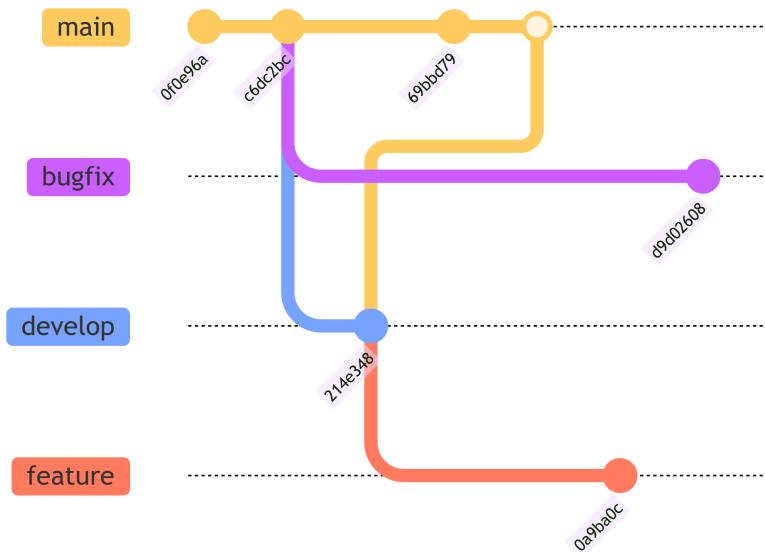
Figure 5: Netbeans

Going further

Going further...

For those who want, extra slides are available on:

- Git with [Large File Storage](#) extension.
- Working with branches, i.e. derivatives of a project



Large file storage

To version (reasonably) large files (images, data samples) → Git with [LFS](#) extension.

⚠ Warning

Make sure that the remote host is compatible with LFS (GitHub is compatible)

- Type `git lfs install` to activate the extension
- Create a `data.csv` file and add `Year,Size,Species`
- Type `git lfs track "*.csv"`

A `.gitattributes` file has appeared, which list all the file extensions managed by Git LFS.

Large file storage

- Type `git add .gitattributes data.csv`
- Type `git commit -m "Using LFS"`
- Type `git push`
- On GitHub, click on your file `data.csv` file.

Creating aliases

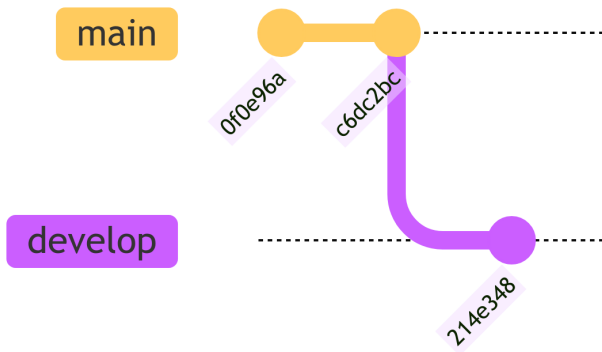
To create Git aliases (i.e. shortcuts):

- Type `git config --global alias.tree log --all --decorate --oneline --graph`
- Type `git config --global alias.br branch -vv`
- Type `git config --global alias.re remove -vv`

You can now call the `git tree`, `git br` and `git re` commands.

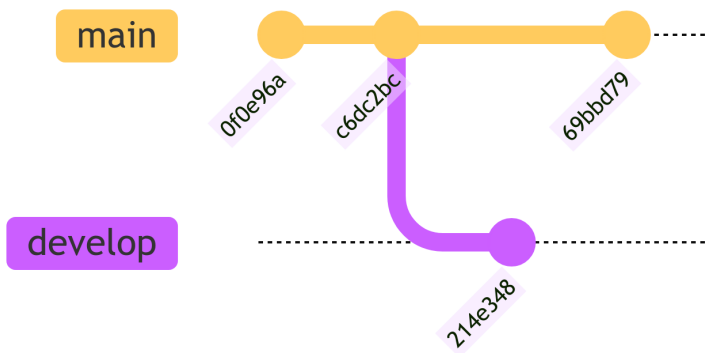
Creating branches

- Type `git checkout -b develop`
- Type `git status`, `git br` and `git tree`
- Open the `README.md` file, add some text and save.
- Type `git add README.md`
- Type `git commit -m "3rd commit"`
- Type `git br` and `git tree`



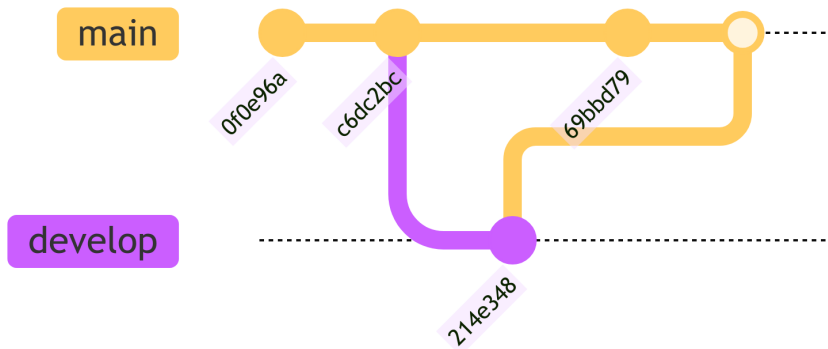
Switching branch

- Type `git checkout main` (or `git checkout master`)
- Type `git br`
- Open the LICENCE file and add some text in it
- Type `git add LICENCE`
- Type `git commit -m "Third commit"`
- Type `git tree`



Merging branches

- On the main branch, type `git merge develop -m "merge-develop"`
- Type `git log` and `git tree`



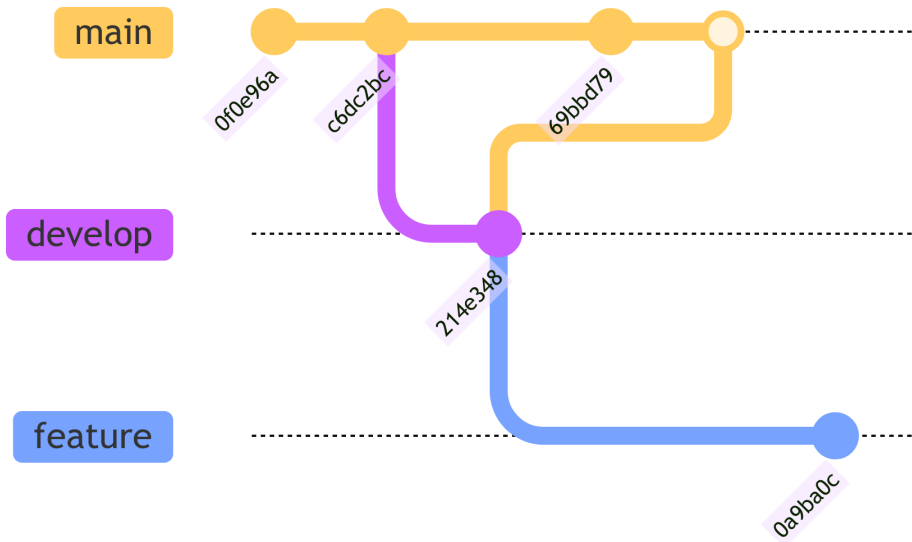
The `merge` command puts the commits from the argument branch (here `develop`) and puts them into the current branch (here `main`).

i Note

During the merging process, another commit is created

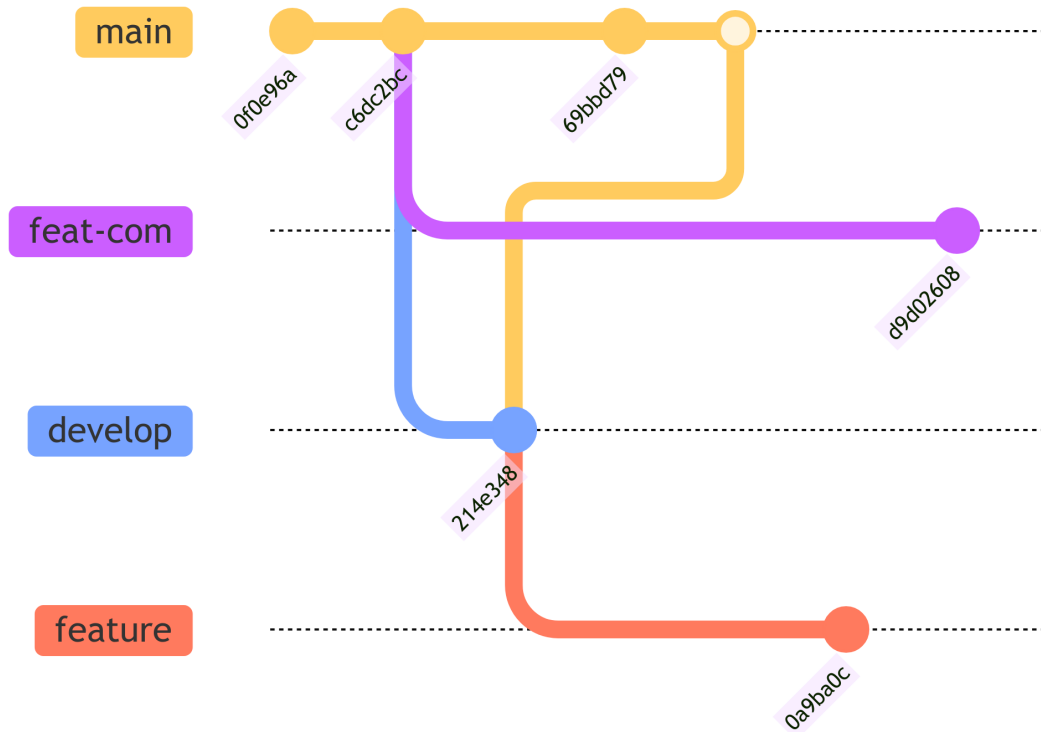
Creating branch from another branch

- Type `git checkout -b feature develop`
- Create a `script.R` file
- Type `git add script.R`
- Type `git commit -m "Fourth commit"`



Creating branch from a commit

- Type `git checkout -b feat-com 1831e4e` replacing 1831e4e by an actual commit ID.
- Create a `script.py` file
- Type `git add script.py` and `git commit -m "Sixth commit"`



Differences between branches

- Type `git diff develop main`

You will see the text that has been added to the LICENCE file (69bbd79 commit)

Warning

Order matters: it shows what has been added to `main` branch compared to the `develop` branch



Deleting a branch

- Type `git checkout main`
- Type `git branch -d develop`
- Type `git br`
- Type `git branch -d feat-com`

An error occurs! The suppression of `feat-com` implies the loss of the `d9d02608` commit. To force the suppression, use `-D` instead of `-d`.

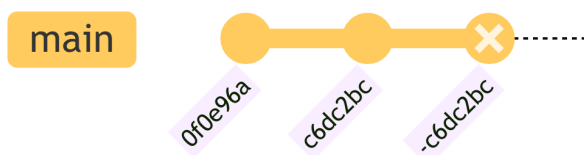
- Type `git branch -D feat-com`

i Note

The suppression of `develop` was ok because the content of commit `3rd` is included in the merge.

Reverting a commit

- Type `git revert c6dc2bc` (replace `c6dc2bc` by your commit id)



Remainder

Basic commands

- `git init`: initialise a git project (create `.git` folder)
- `git add [files]`: add files to list of tracked files
- `git commit -m "message"`: validate locally a version of the project
- `git status`: see the unvalidated and untracked changes
- `git checkout [commit]`: load the project version corresponding to the index
- `git pull`: import the changes from remote project to local
- `git push`: export the changes from local project to the remote server

Git configuration (mandatory)

- Configure your identity: `git config --global user.name "Firstname Lastname"`
- Configure your e-mail: `git config --global user.email "myadresse@ird.fr"`

Branch handling

- `git branch [branch_name]`: create a new branch (but you remain on the previous branch)
- `git branch -b [branch_name]`: create a new branch and move to this newly created branch

- `git checkout [branch_name]`: move to the corresponding branch
- `git merge [branch_name1] [branch_name2]`: merge two different branch, you may need to resolve version conflict.
- `git branch -d [branch_name1]`: delete a branch (safe mode)
- `git branch -D [branch_name1]`: delete a branch (unsafe mode)

Linking with remote

- `git clone [URL]`: Import an existing project from remote server.
- `git remote add origin [URL]`: link directly the local repository with a remote

Authentication of your computer and the remote server

- SSH key: easy way on Linux distributions
 - Tuto here: <https://jdblischak.github.io/2014-09-18-chicago/novice/git/05-sshkeys.html>
- Authentication Token
 - Tuto here: <https://docs.github.com/en/authentication/keeping-your-account-and-data-secure/creating-a-personal-access-token>

Good practices

- Pull before any work on the project

- Commit as frequently as possible
- Write explicit commit message
- Push regularly

IDE (graphical user interface) with Git

- R
 - RStudio
 - Visual Studio Code
- Python
 - Spyder
 - Visual Studio Code
 - Pycharm (all JetBrains softwares)

Sources

- Plateau bioinformatique, Montpellier: Formation Git(Lab) (05/04/2018)
- UMR AMAP (Atelier MAIA P3M), Montpellier: Introduction à GIT (04/04/2019)