Introduction to Git

Childhood Cancer Data Lab

Why use version control?

- code-final.R, code-final-final.R, code-final-final-for-real-this-time.R
- file.R, file.R (1), file.R (2), file.R (3)

- Provides a framework for collaborating, particularly on code
- Allows you to restore previous versions and compare between versions
 - Ever wish you could "Undo changes" to say, the version 2 months ago? Now you can!
 - Note: this functionality is *much* more powerful than "Track Changes" in Word or file recovery options in Google Drive

These days, we like to use git for version control

- **git** is an open-source software that performs version control
 - implemented as a set of command line tools
 - <u>GitKraken</u> is a GUI that (hopefully) makes git a bit easier to use
 - Other available GUIs: <u>SourceTree</u>, <u>GitHub Desktop</u>

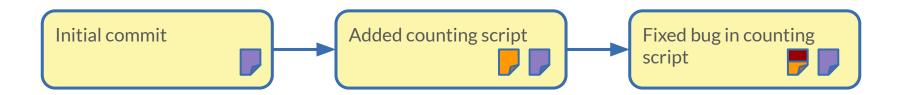
• **GitHub.com** is one of many websites that can host your **repositories**

- Others include gitlab, bitbucket, gitbucket...
- Using a host like GitHub means that you:
 - have a backup at all times
 - can work on your code from different computers
 - collaborate with other more easily



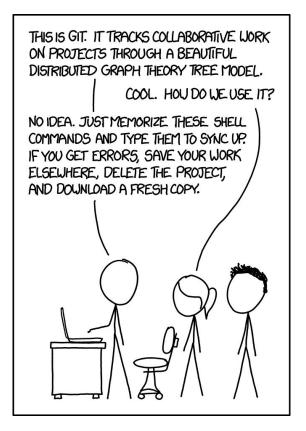
Git terminology

- A **repository** (repo) is a directory that git is managing
 - It looks like a regular folder from your perspective
 - There can be multiple copies of the repository, often on different machines
- Files that git knows about are **tracked**, i.e., they are under version control
- We take snapshots called **commits** to record the state *and history* of tracked files



Words to the wise

- git can be tricky, and the feelings of frustrations you may will have are normal!
- You will make mistakes. That's ok! So do we, and so does everyone else!
- Remember: You have to start somewhere.

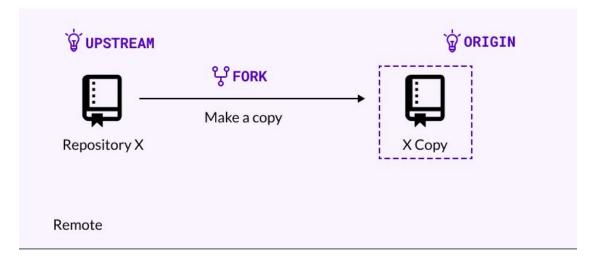


https://xkcd.com/1597/

Forking a repository on GitHub

- Forking allows you to make *your own* copy of somebody else's repository
 - Anything that happens in the forked repository will not affect the "upstream" repository
 - You will be able to make whatever changes you want
 - Connections to what happens upstream will still exist, which can be handy
- Let's make a copy of the repository that holds examples for this workshop!

• Note that with your *own* project repositories, you would not need this step - you can just make a repository directly



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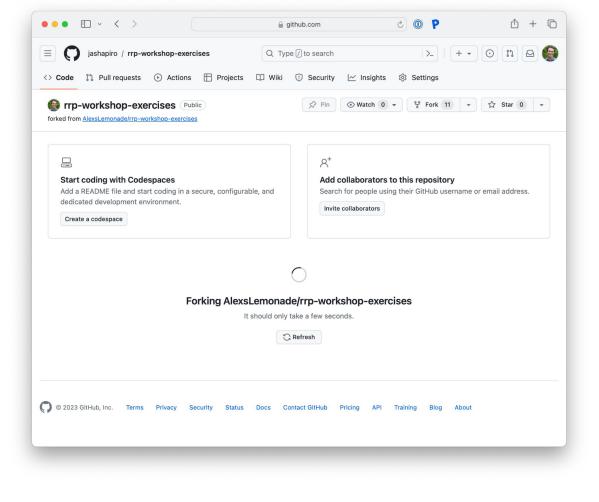
Go to https://github.com/AlexsLemonade/rrp-workshop-exercises (make sure you are logged into GitHub)

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Click the "Fork" button

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	A fork is a copy of a repository. Forking a repository allows you to freely experiment with changes without affecting the original project. View existing forks.					
	Required fields are marked with an asterisk (*).					
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	Create fork					

Change the name if you like, but probably not; click "Create fork"



Wait...

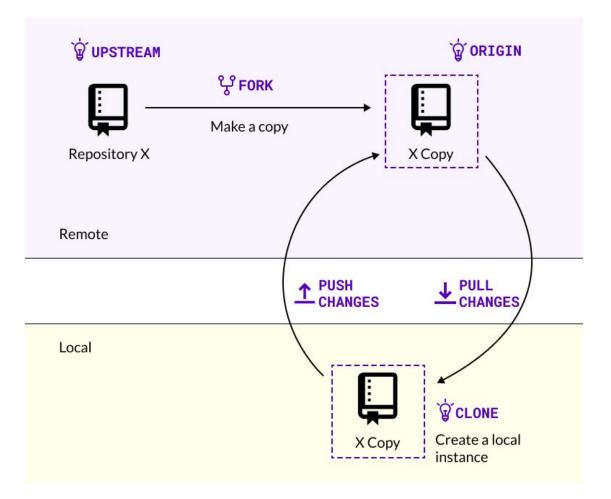
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Enjoy your new repo!

Cloning your new repository

- Having a repository on GitHub is great, but you really want a copy on your own computer!
 - This is true whether it is a repo you made "from scratch" or one you forked
 - You can also go the other direction, starting a repo on your computer, then adding it to GitHub.
 We'll cover that later.

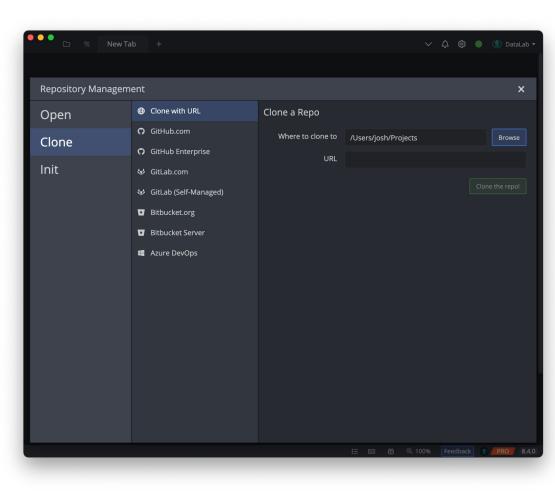
• Cloning can happen at the command line or through a GUI like GitKraken



Cloning in GitKraken

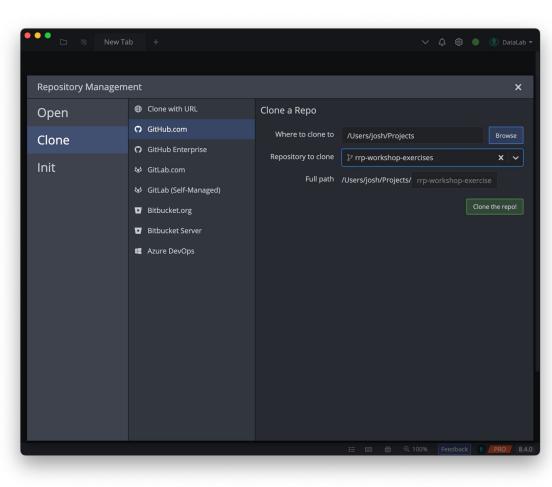
- Choose the destination

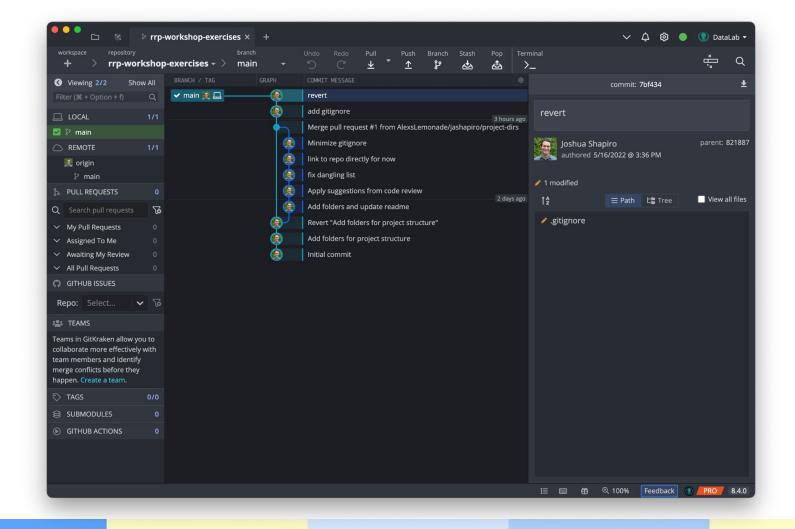
 "Where to clone to"
- "Clone with URL" copied from GitHub



Cloning in GitKraken

- Choose the destination • "Where to clone to"
- "Clone with URL" copied from GitHub
- OR select the GitHub.com repository from within GitKraken!





Cloning at the command line

- Find the repository URL and copy it:
 - Click the "Code" button
 - Copy the URL under "Clone"
 - the URL will end with a **.git** extension

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Cloning at the command line

- Navigate to the location where you want to put the repository with `cd`
- git clone <URL-from-GitHub>

> cd ~/Projects > git clone https://github.com/jashapiro/rrp-workshop-exercises.git Cloning into 'rrp-workshop-exercises'... remote: Enumerating objects: 31, done. remote: Counting objects: 100% (31/31), done. remote: Compressing objects: 100% (26/26), done. remote: Total 31 (delta 8), reused 19 (delta 1), pack-reused 0 Receiving objects: 100% (31/31), 5.21 KiB | 5.21 MiB/s, done. Resolving deltas: 100% (8/8), done.

Cloning at the command line

- Use **cd** to move into your new repository and **ls** to look around
 - o cd rrp-workshop-exercises
 - **ls** -a (include all of the hidden files)

>	cd rrp-worksh	op-exercises	8	
>	ls –a			
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