

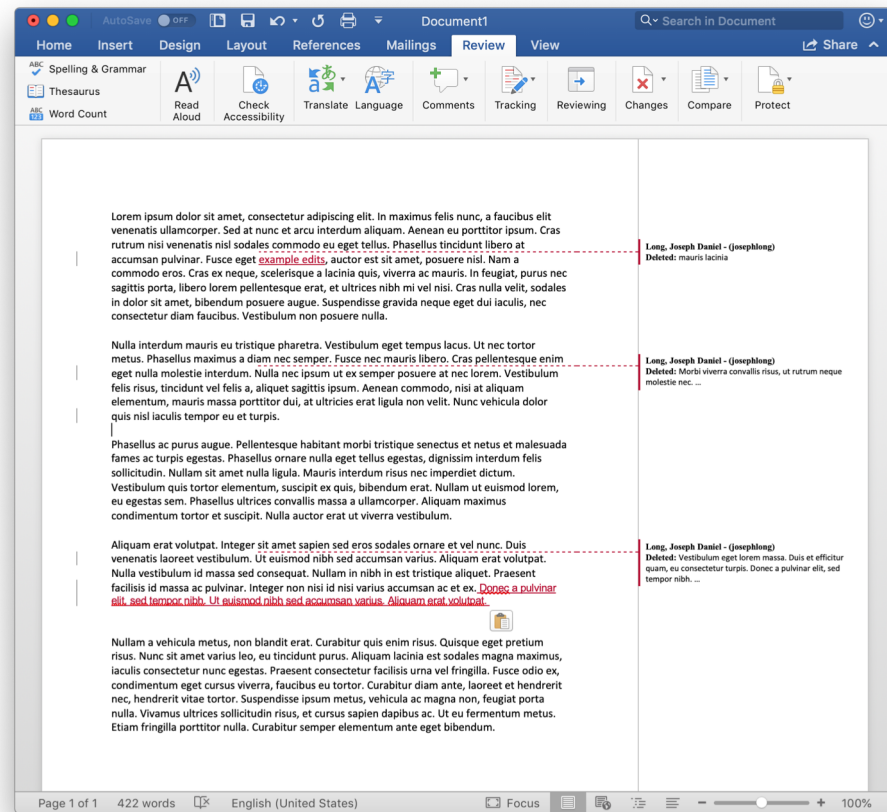
git and GitHub for research

Joseph Long

Code Coffee

November 13, 2018

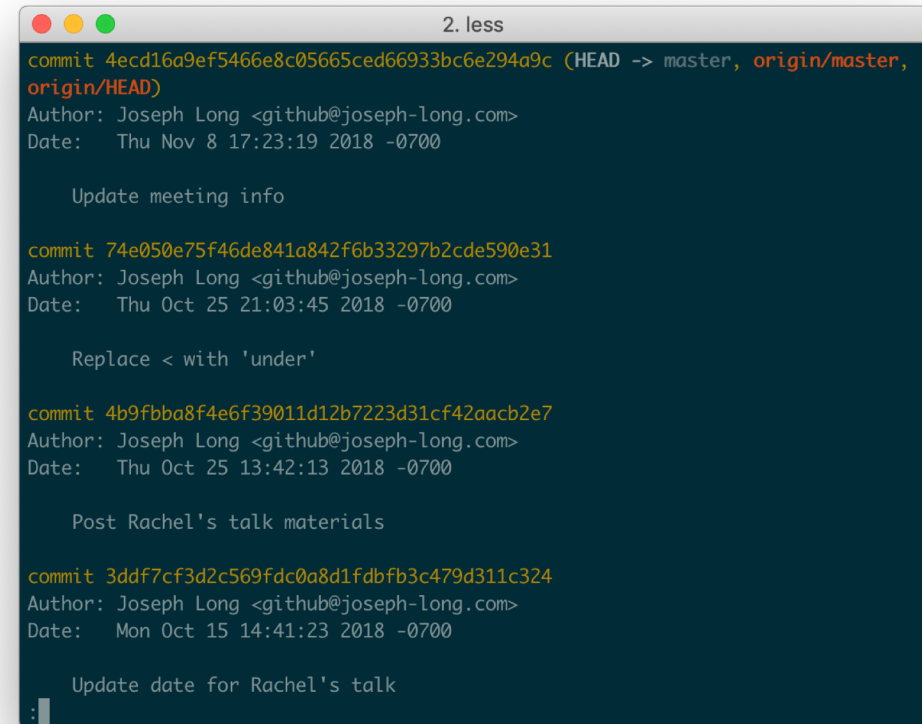
What is version control?



- Think of “track changes” for your source code
 - Or LaTeX documents, or...
- Make checkpoints (called *commits*) that store known good versions
- Allows you to *merge* changes from other sources (i.e. collaborators)

git

- Invented by Linus Torvalds (that Linux guy)
- Terminal (command-line) tool to make commits, perform merges, etc.
- Instead of tracking changes to a document (file), git tracks changes to a *repository* (folder of files)

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "2. less" showing the output of a git log command. The output displays three commit entries, each with a commit hash, author information, date, and a commit message. The commit messages are: "Update meeting info", "Replace < with 'under'", and "Post Rachel's talk materials". The third commit message is partially cut off at the bottom of the screenshot.

```
commit 4ecd16a9ef5466e8c05665ced66933bc6e294a9c (HEAD -> master, origin/master, origin/HEAD)
Author: Joseph Long <github@joseph-long.com>
Date: Thu Nov 8 17:23:19 2018 -0700

    Update meeting info

commit 74e050e75f46de841a842f6b33297b2cde590e31
Author: Joseph Long <github@joseph-long.com>
Date: Thu Oct 25 21:03:45 2018 -0700

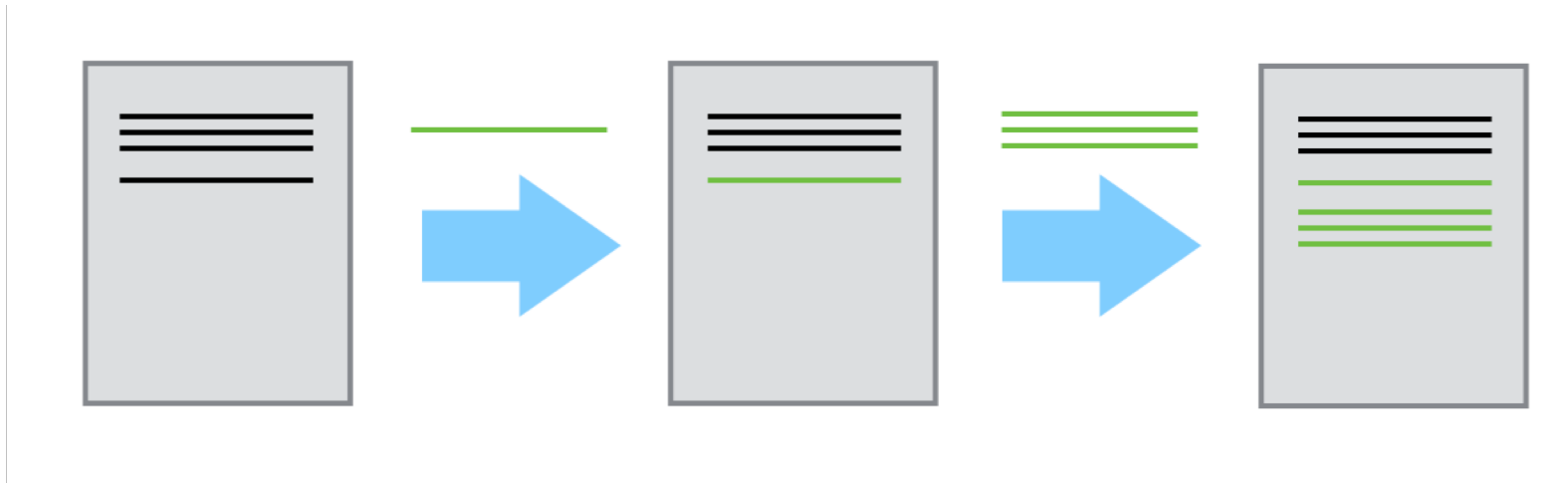
    Replace < with 'under'

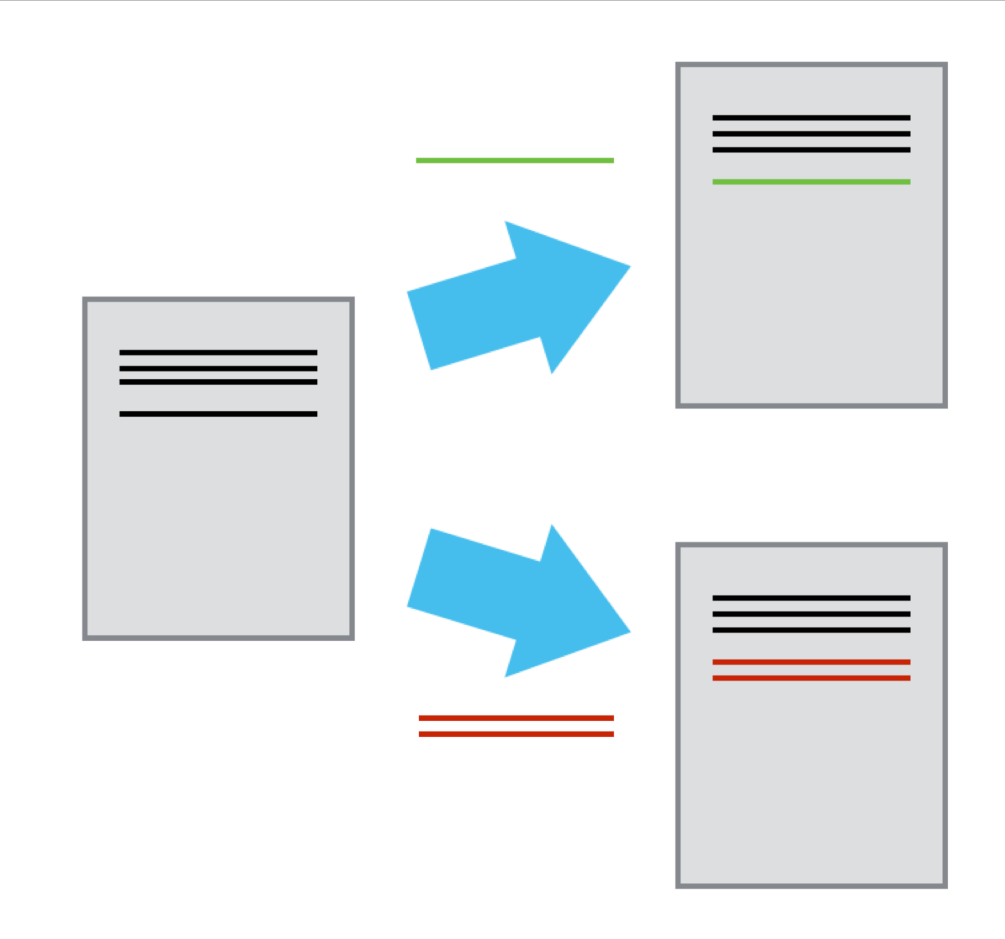
commit 4b9fbba8f4e6f39011d12b7223d31cf42aacb2e7
Author: Joseph Long <github@joseph-long.com>
Date: Thu Oct 25 13:42:13 2018 -0700

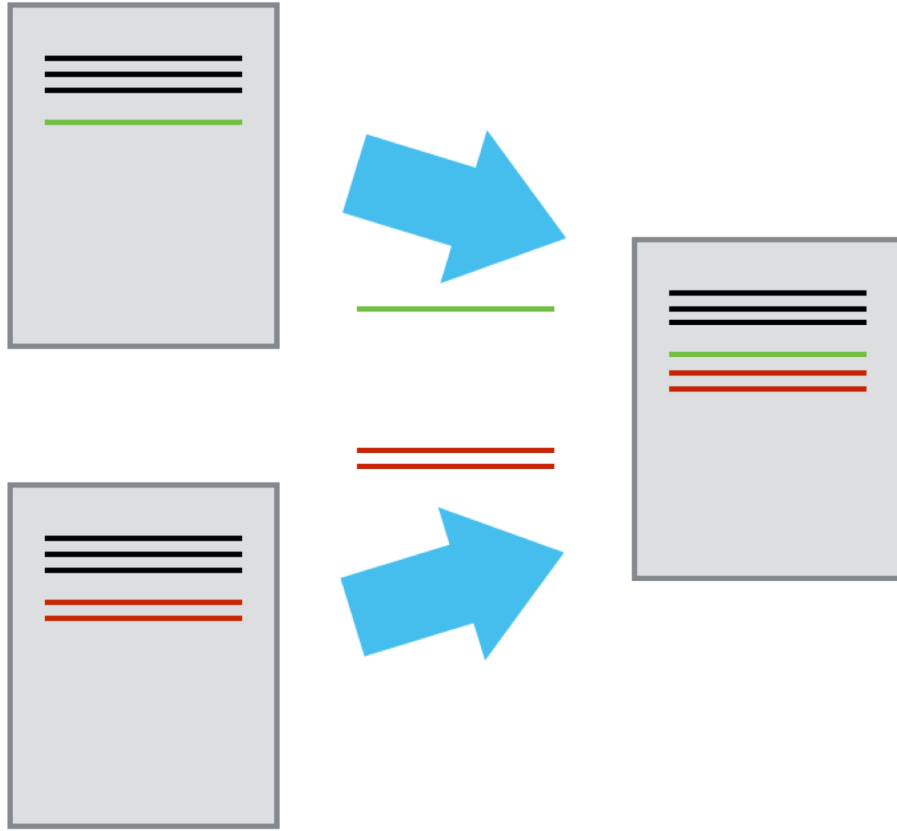
    Post Rachel's talk materials

commit 3ddf7cf3d2c569fdc0a8d1fdbfb3c479d311c324
Author: Joseph Long <github@joseph-long.com>
Date: Mon Oct 15 14:41:23 2018 -0700

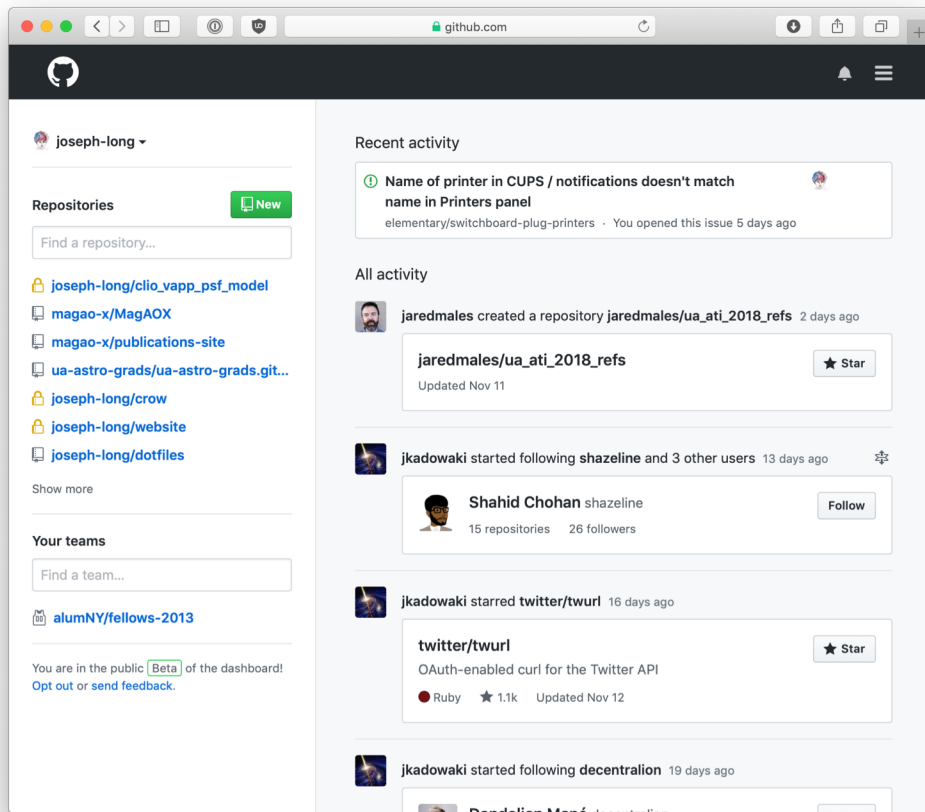
    Update date for Rachel's talk
```







GitHub



- Commercial service to store and share git repositories
 - free for open-source
- <https://github.com/>
- Includes issue tracker (i.e. bug reporting)
- Web-based change requests called *pull requests*
- Used by Astropy, numpy, scipy, millions more

Getting started with git

1. Open a terminal
2. Type `git`
3. Witness the overwhelming number of options

```
1. bash
Last login: Tue Nov 13 10:01:59 on ttys001
10:17:47 coyote:~ jdl$ git
usage: git [--version] [--help] [-C <path>] [-c <name>=<value>]
        [--exec-path[=<path>]] [--html-path] [--man-path] [--info-path]
        [-p | --paginate | --no-pager] [--no-replace-objects] [--bare]
        [--git-dir=<path>] [--work-tree=<path>] [--namespace=<name>]
        <command> [<args>]

These are common Git commands used in various situations:

start a working area (see also: git help tutorial)
  clone      Clone a repository into a new directory
  init       Create an empty Git repository or reinitialize an existing one

work on the current change (see also: git help everyday)
  add        Add file contents to the index
  mv         Move or rename a file, a directory, or a symlink
  reset      Reset current HEAD to the specified state
  rm         Remove files from the working tree and from the index

examine the history and state (see also: git help revisions)
  bisect     Use binary search to find the commit that introduced a bug
  grep       Print lines matching a pattern
  log        Show commit logs
  show       Show various types of objects
  status     Show the working tree status

grow, mark and tweak your common history
  branch     List, create, or delete branches
  checkout   Switch branches or restore working tree files
  commit     Record changes to the repository
  diff       Show changes between commits, commit and working tree, etc
  merge      Join two or more development histories together
  rebase     Reapply commits on top of another base tip
  tag        Create, list, delete or verify a tag object signed with GPG

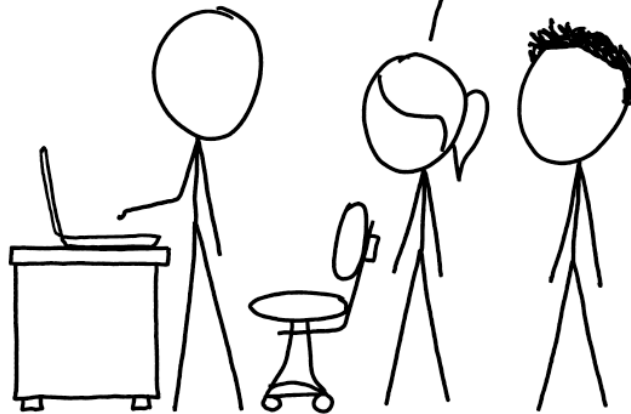
collaborate (see also: git help workflows)
  fetch      Download objects and refs from another repository
  pull       Fetch from and integrate with another repository or a local branch
  push       Update remote refs along with associated objects

'git help -a' and 'git help -g' list available subcommands and some
concept guides. See 'git help <command>' or 'git help <concept>'
to read about a specific subcommand or concept.
10:17:50 coyote:~ jdl$
```


THIS IS GIT. IT TRACKS COLLABORATIVE WORK
ON PROJECTS THROUGH A BEAUTIFUL
DISTRIBUTED GRAPH THEORY TREE MODEL.

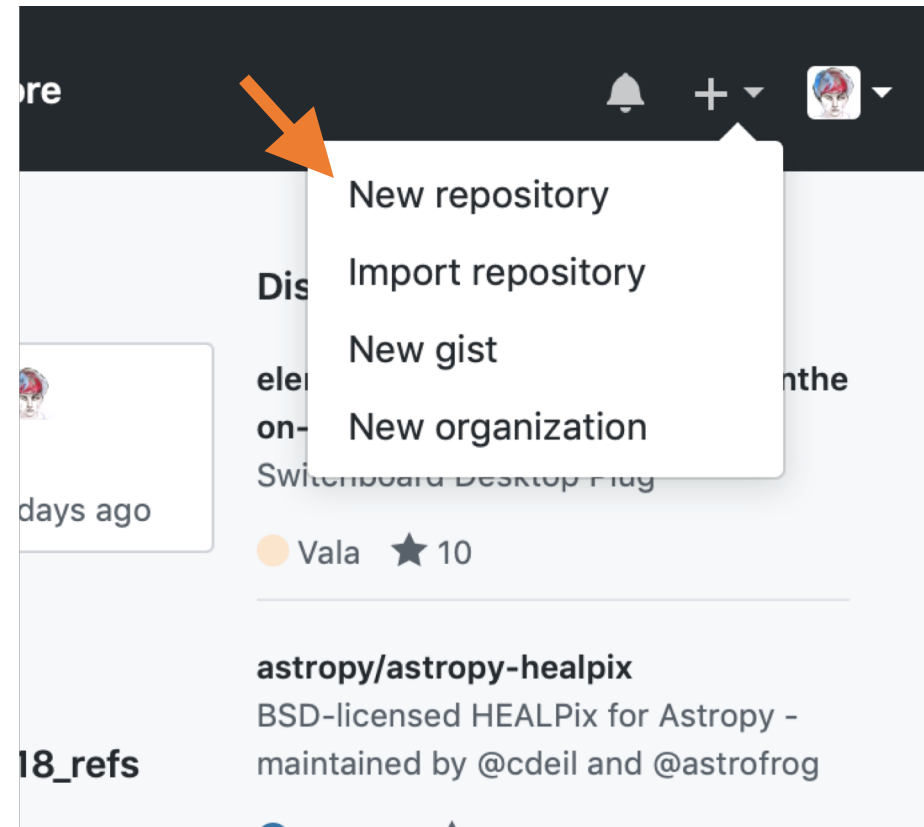
COOL. HOW DO WE USE IT?

NO IDEA. JUST MEMORIZE THESE SHELL
COMMANDS AND TYPE THEM TO SYNC UP.
IF YOU GET ERRORS, SAVE YOUR WORK
ELSEWHERE, DELETE THE PROJECT,
AND DOWNLOAD A FRESH COPY.



Getting started with ~~git~~ GitHub

- Log in to <https://github.com/>
- Click the “+” icon at top right



Getting started with ~~git~~ GitHub

- Log in to <https://github.com/>
- Click the “+” icon at top right
- Click “Initialize this repository with a README”
 - As the instructions say, you don’t always want this.
 - You can initialize a repository yourself locally with `git init`, but then connecting up to GitHub is more complex

Create a new repository

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


Owner: joseph-long / Repository name:

Great repository names are short and memorable. Need inspiration? How about [sturdy-happiness](#).

Description (optional):

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

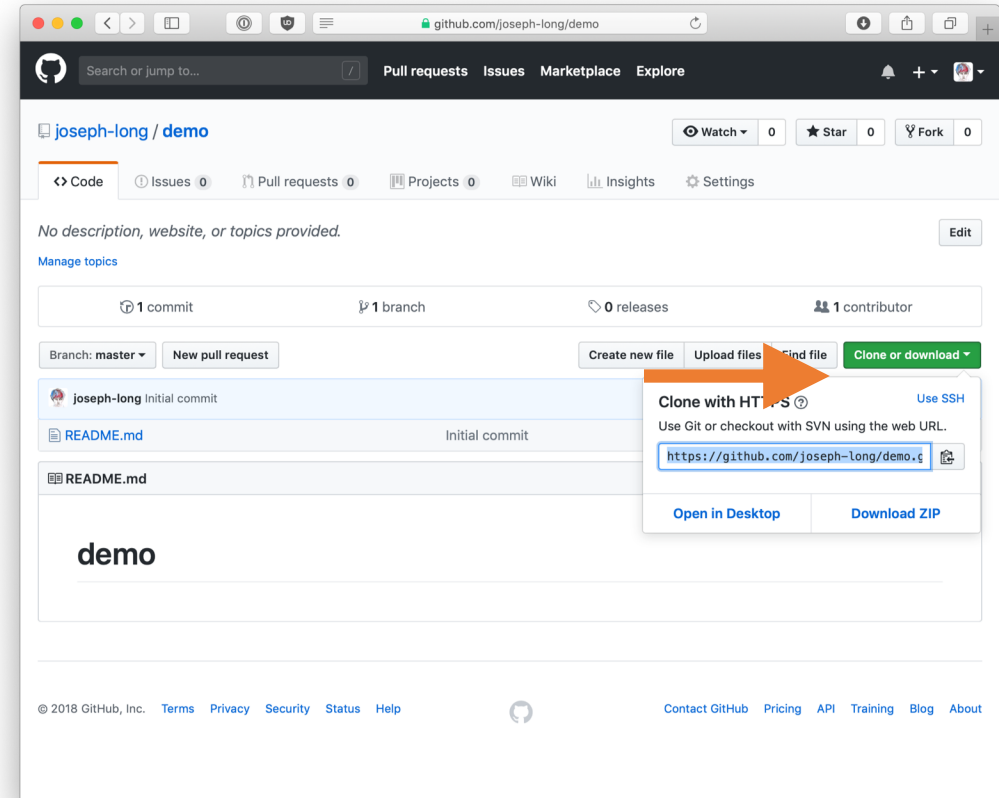
Private
You choose who can see and commit to this repository.

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 ⓘ

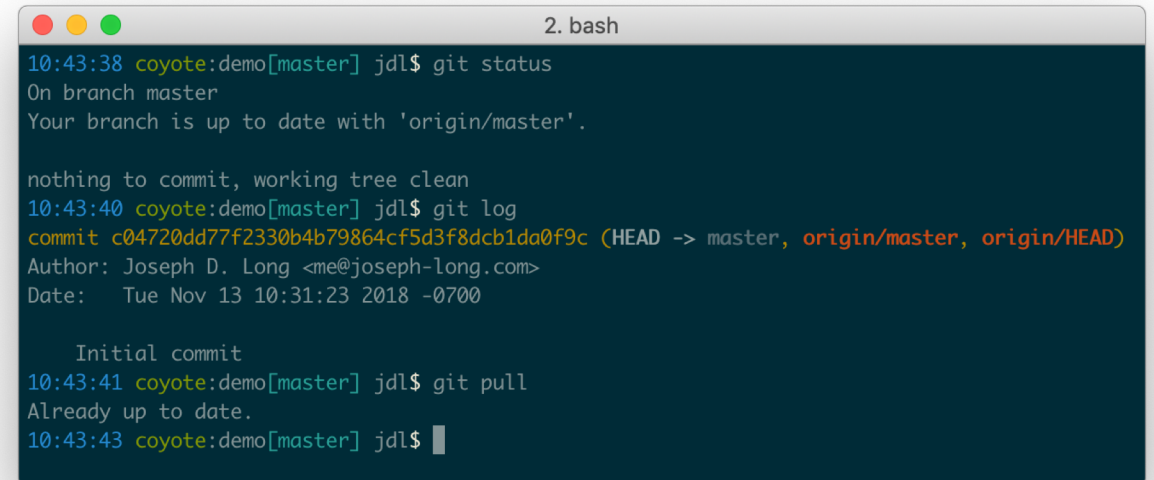
Make a local clone of your new repository

- We say *clone* and not copy because we get two things
 1. a copy of all the files
 2. a complete history of the repository
- Copy the repository URL from GitHub
- Open a terminal window and `git clone`
<https://github.com/joseph-long/demo.git>
 - Well, modified for your username



Getting started with ~~GitHub~~ git, actually

- Verify you have a new “demo” directory, “cd” into it
- Three commands you’ll use all the time
 - `git status`
 - `git log`
 - `git pull`
- One option you’ll use some of the time
 - `git [subcommand] --help`



```
2. bash
10:43:38 coyote:demo[master] jdl$ git status
On branch master
Your branch is up to date with 'origin/master'.

nothing to commit, working tree clean
10:43:40 coyote:demo[master] jdl$ git log
commit c04720dd77f2330b4b79864cf5d3f8dcb1da0f9c (HEAD -> master, origin/master, origin/HEAD)
Author: Joseph D. Long <me@joseph-long.com>
Date: Tue Nov 13 10:31:23 2018 -0700

    Initial commit
10:43:41 coyote:demo[master] jdl$ git pull
Already up to date.
10:43:43 coyote:demo[master] jdl$
```

Making a change

- Four **more** commands you'll use all the time
 - `git diff`
 - `git add`
 - `git commit`
 - `git push`
- We're going to edit the README.md file
- Use `git diff` to see just your changes
- After editing, `git status` again
 - The status message gives you hints...

```
1. bash
11:09:55 coyote:demo[master !] jdl$ git diff
diff --git a/README.md b/README.md
index 97be136..fa4c42a 100644
--- a/README.md
+++ b/README.md
@@ -1,2 @@
-# demo
\ No newline at end of file
+# demo
+We're adding one line!
\ No newline at end of file
11:09:57 coyote:demo[master !] jdl$ git status
On branch master
Your branch is up to date with 'origin/master'.

Changes not staged for commit:
  (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
  (use "git checkout -- <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)

        modified:   README.md

no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")
11:09:59 coyote:demo[master !] jdl$
```

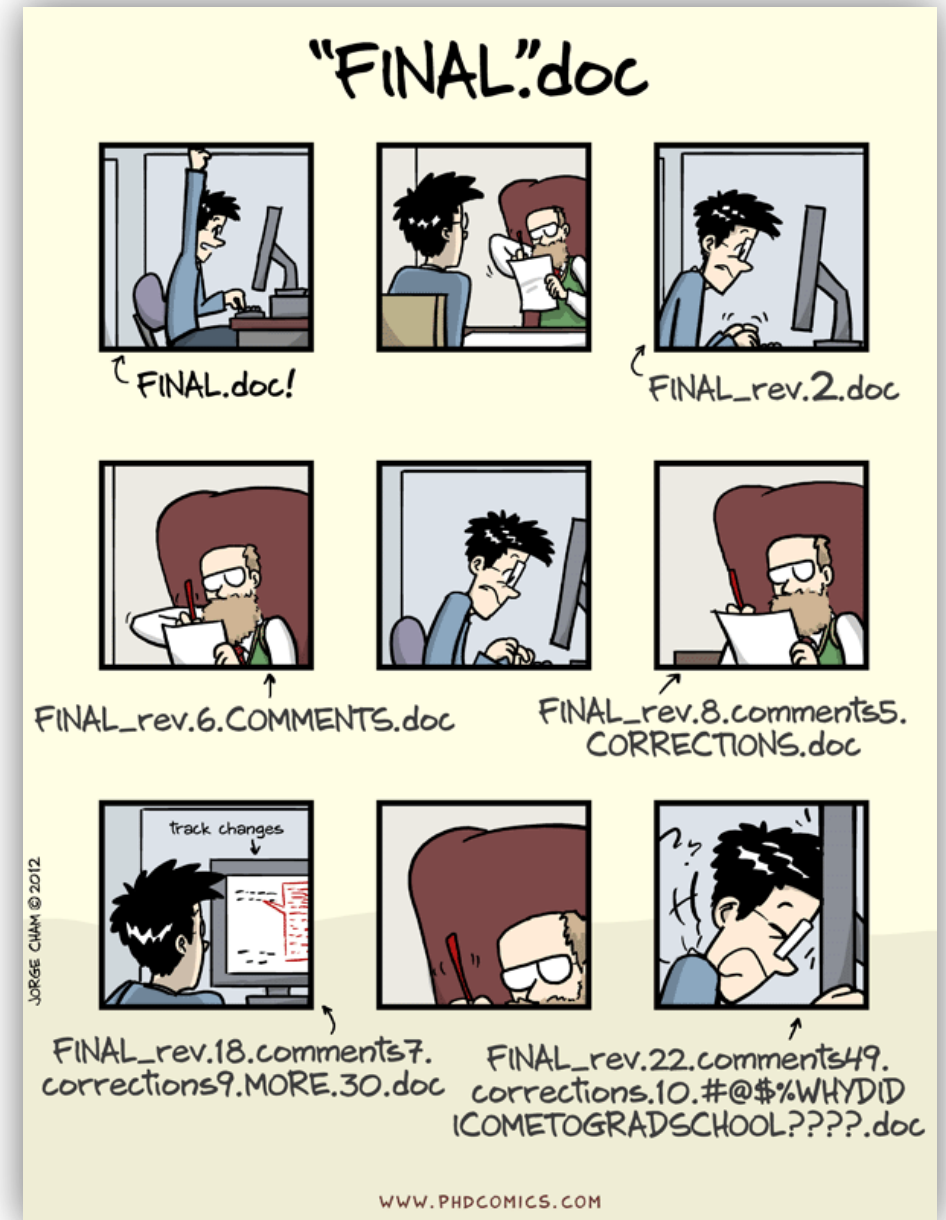
Making a change

- A brief digression on the “staging area”
 - Or, when to `git add`
- After adding, `git commit` your changes
 - Forget something after you committed?
`git commit --amend`
- And `git push` them
 - Git remembers where you cloned from, and will default to pushing changes there

```
1. bash
11:09:59 coyote:demo[master !] jdl$ git add README.md
11:11:09 coyote:demo[master !] jdl$ git commit -m "Updated readme"
[master 8e9e549] Updated readme
 1 file changed, 2 insertions(+), 1 deletion(-)
11:11:25 coyote:demo[master *] jdl$ git push
Username for 'https://github.com/joseph-long/demo.git': joseph-long
Password for 'https://joseph-long@github.com/joseph-long/demo.git':
Counting objects: 3, done.
Writing objects: 100% (3/3), 274 bytes | 137.00 KiB/s, done.
Total 3 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0)
To https://github.com/joseph-long/demo.git
   c04720d..8e9e549  master -> master
11:11:53 coyote:demo[master] jdl$
```

What would you like to talk about?

1. Using branches to experiment with different ways to evolve your code in parallel
2. Collaborating with others through GitHub Pull Requests
3. Resolving merge conflicts
4. Something else?



Additional resources

- Cheat sheet by GitLab
 - <https://about.gitlab.com/images/press/git-cheat-sheet.pdf>
- Hosting services
 - <https://bitbucket.org>
 - <https://about.gitlab.com>
- Free services for students
 - <https://education.github.com/students>
- Software Carpentry lessons
 - <http://swcarpentry.github.io/git-novice/>