Version control [GitHub]

Thomas De Graaff

August 23, 2016

Introduction

What is GitHub?

- GitHub is a web-based Git repository hosting service (Wikipedia).
- Directed to hosts open source projects
- Social network functionality (fork/clone projects)
- Other main competitor: Bitbucket



Why publish on GitHub?

- You can easily share everything that is related to your paper
 - Text
 - Code
 - Figures/Tables
- Could serve as supplementary repository to articles
- Cooperate with others using Git and GitHub
- Timestamp your work
- Github can host static webpages (in combination with, e.g., Jekyll)
 - In fact, all these workshop materials and this website is just one repository on GitHub ERSA-WooW

How to publish on GitHub?

- You pull material from GitHub and you push material to Github
- Typical workflow:
 - Pull changes from Github
 - Work
 - Commit your changes to your local repository
 - Work
 - Commit your changes to your local repository
 - etc.
 - Push all changes to Github
 - Possibly solve conflicts when cooperating

With GitHub Desktop push/pull is replace by sync (initial one is publish)

Assignments: Working with GitHub and GitHub desktop

Assingment 1:

- Open ERSA-WooW in GitHub desktop
- Commit changes of your Markdown paper to GitHub desktop
- Sync your Markdown paper to your GitHub account

Assignment 2:

- Create new project folder MyPaper
- Copy the html result of the Markdown assignment in MyPaper
- Rename Assingment1.html in index.html
- Initialise a Git repository in Github desktop (with Create)
- Add and commit your paper
- Oreate a new branch called gh-pages
- And publish all to Github
- Look at the website http://_YourGitHubname_.github.io/MyPaper

In conclusion

In conclusion

- Markdown is easy to learn and incredibly useful
 - blogs/website
 - to-do lists
 - slides
 - papers
- Versioning is very important but often forgotten
- Open repositories are becoming incredibly useful (if not only to provide background material to your papers)
- Do not be afraid to open up your research
 - large benefits for the scientific community at large
 - large benefits for the individual researcher