

What They Forgot to Teach You About R

This work is licensed under a **Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License**.

To view a copy of this license, visit
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>

rstd.io/wtf-2019-rsc

Day 1, afternoon

Let's Git it On.

Jenny Bryan
RStudio (& UBC)

 @jennybc
 @JennyBryan

Everyone is encouraged to open issues here:

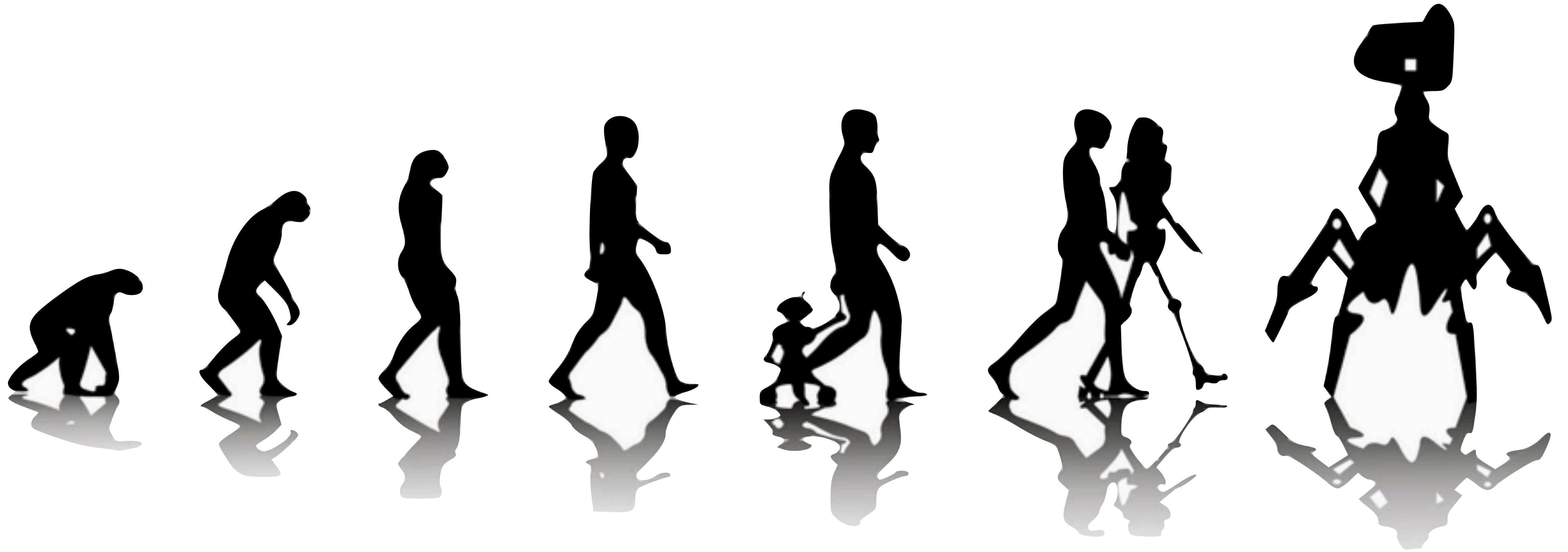
 rstudio.io/wtf-2019-rsc

 <https://github.com/jennybc/wtf-2019-rsc/issues>

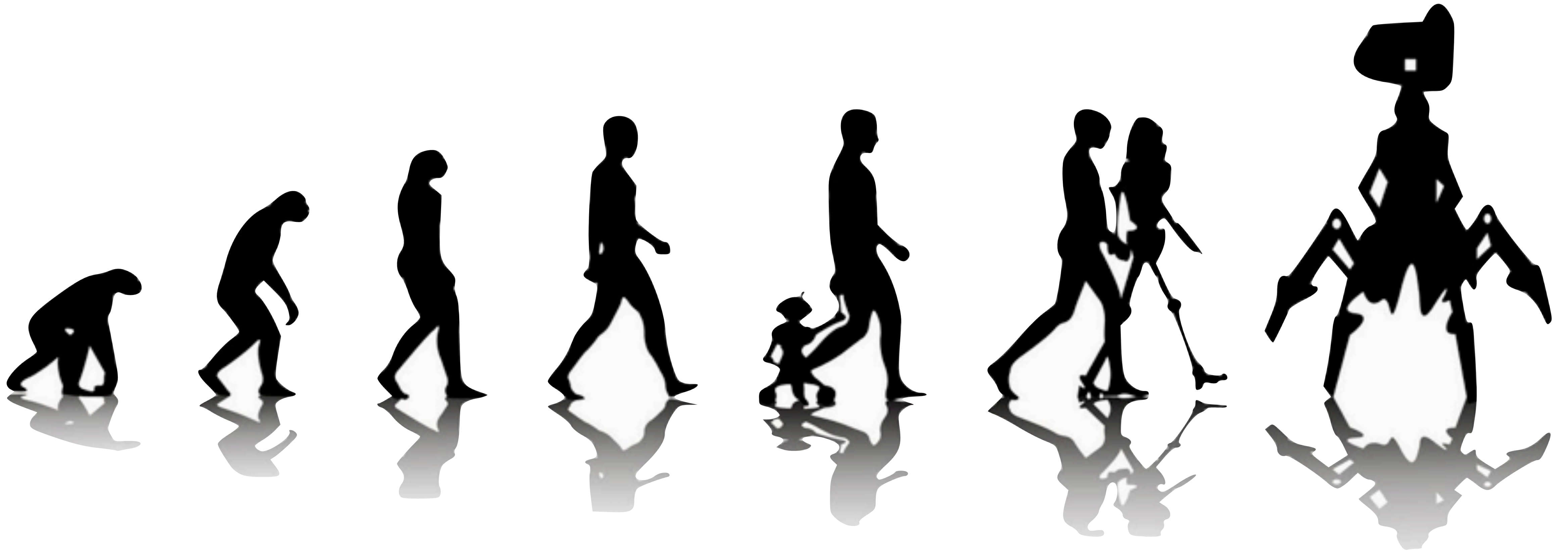
Record glitches, gotchas,
good sidebar discussions, etc.
to address now or later.

Deep Thoughts

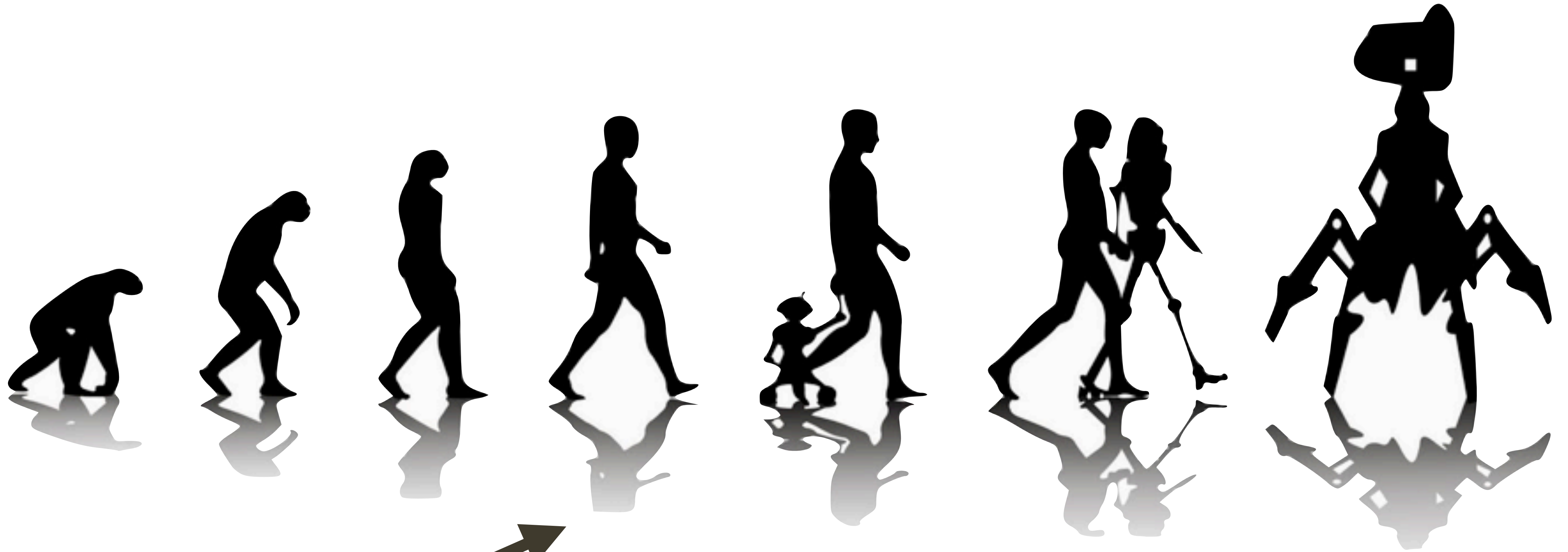




use version control

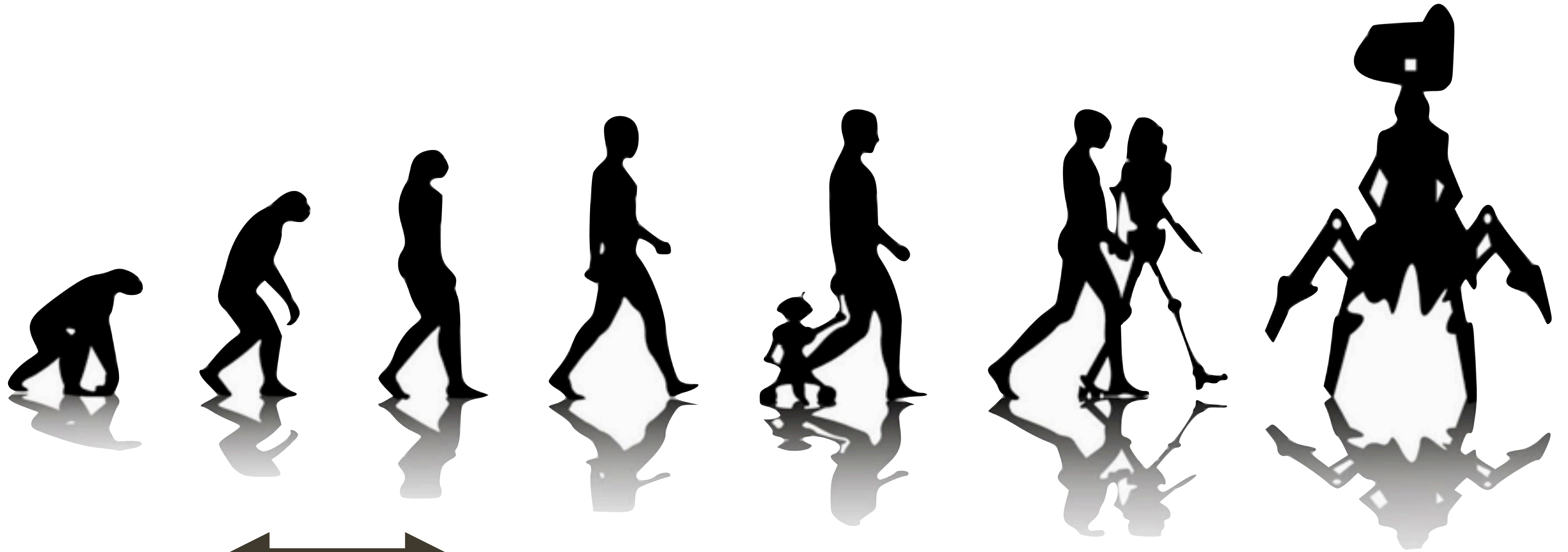


we teach Git + GitHub



"commit"

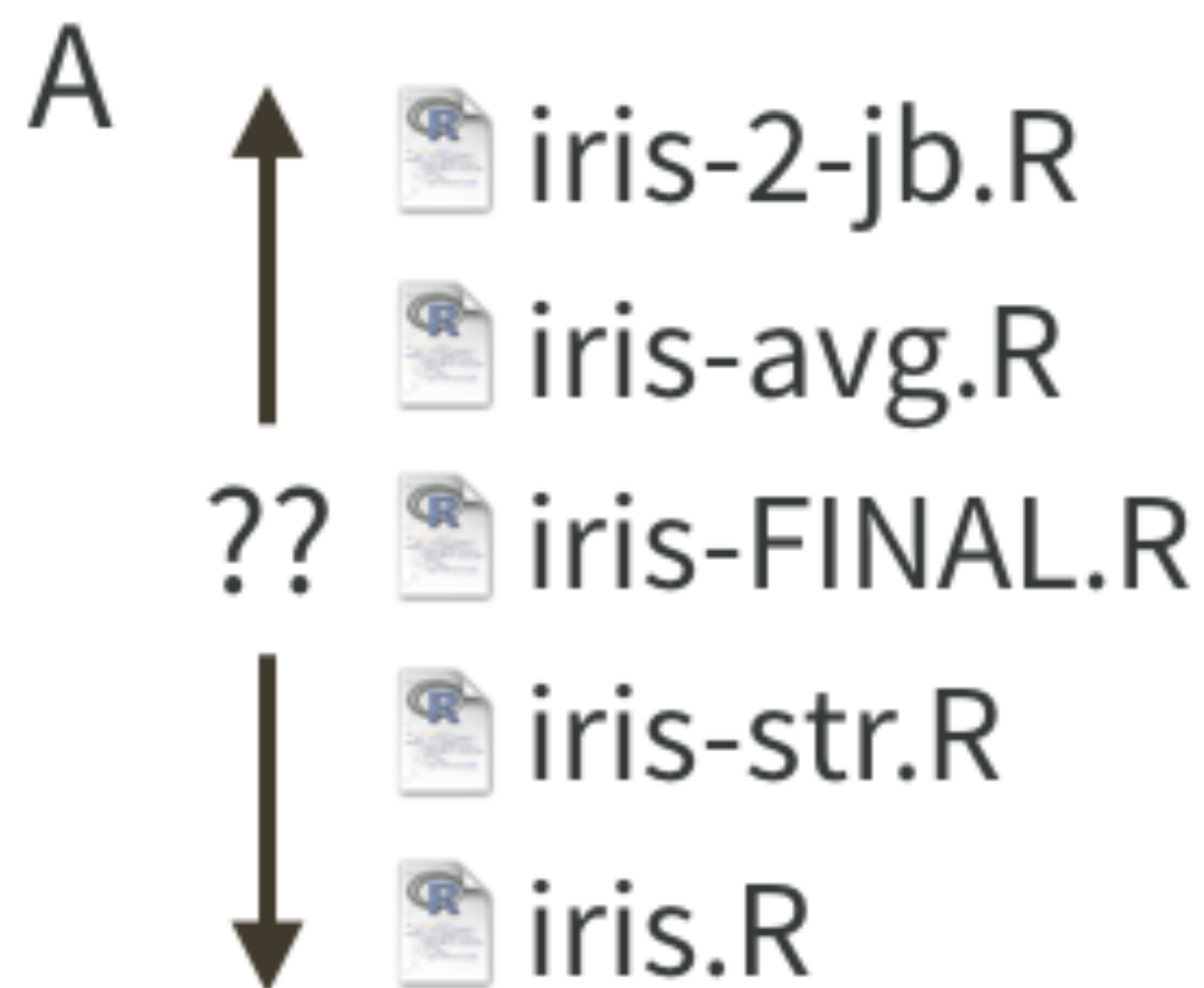
a file or project state that is **meaningful to you**
for inspection, comparison, restoration



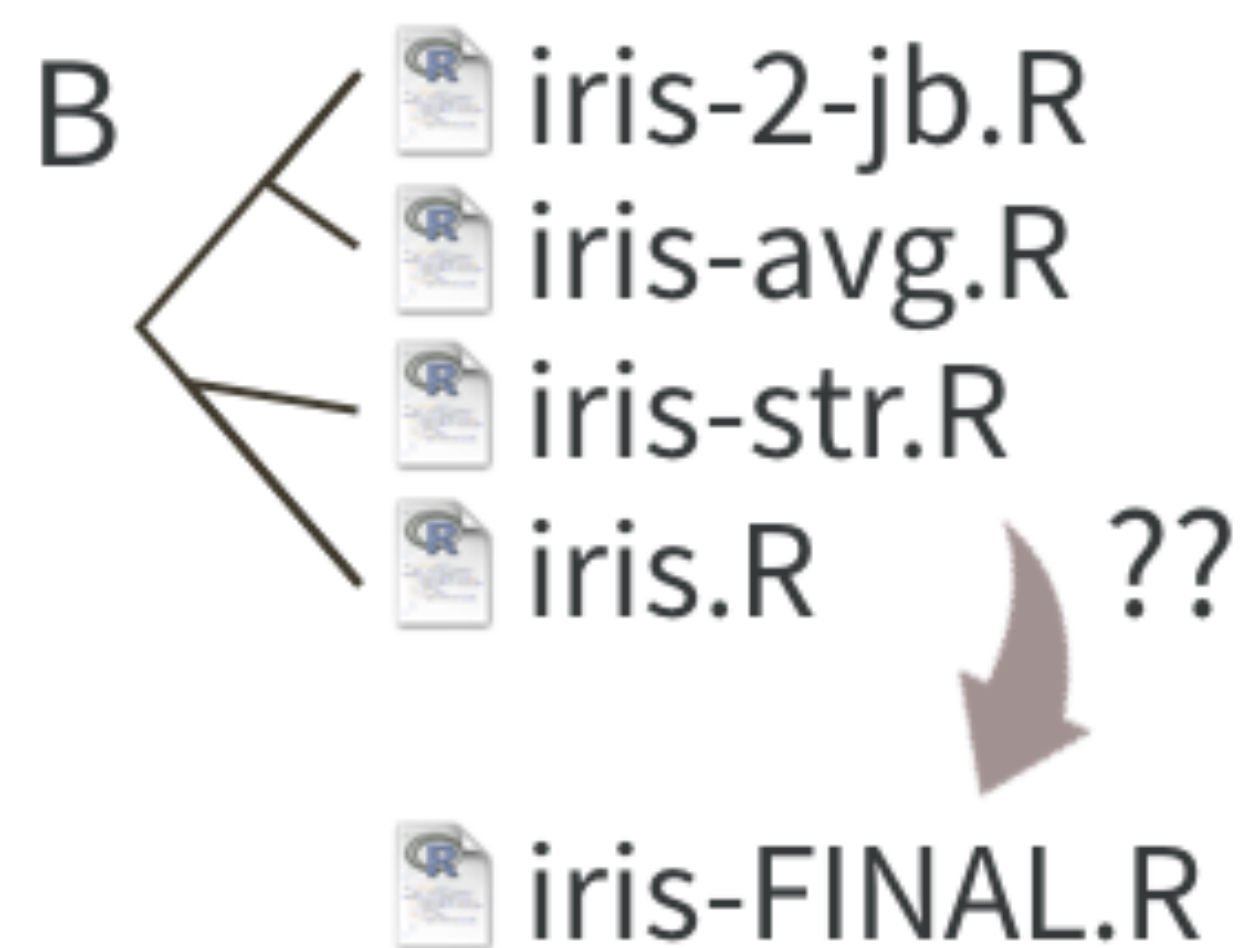
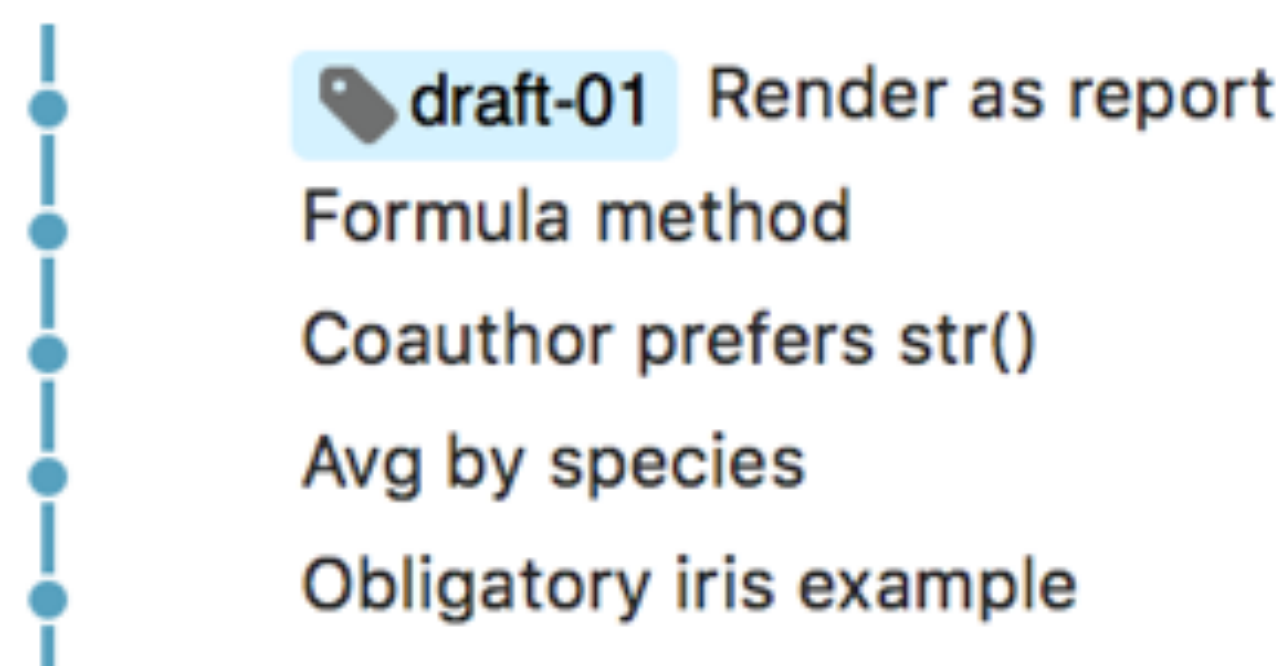
Δ

"diff"

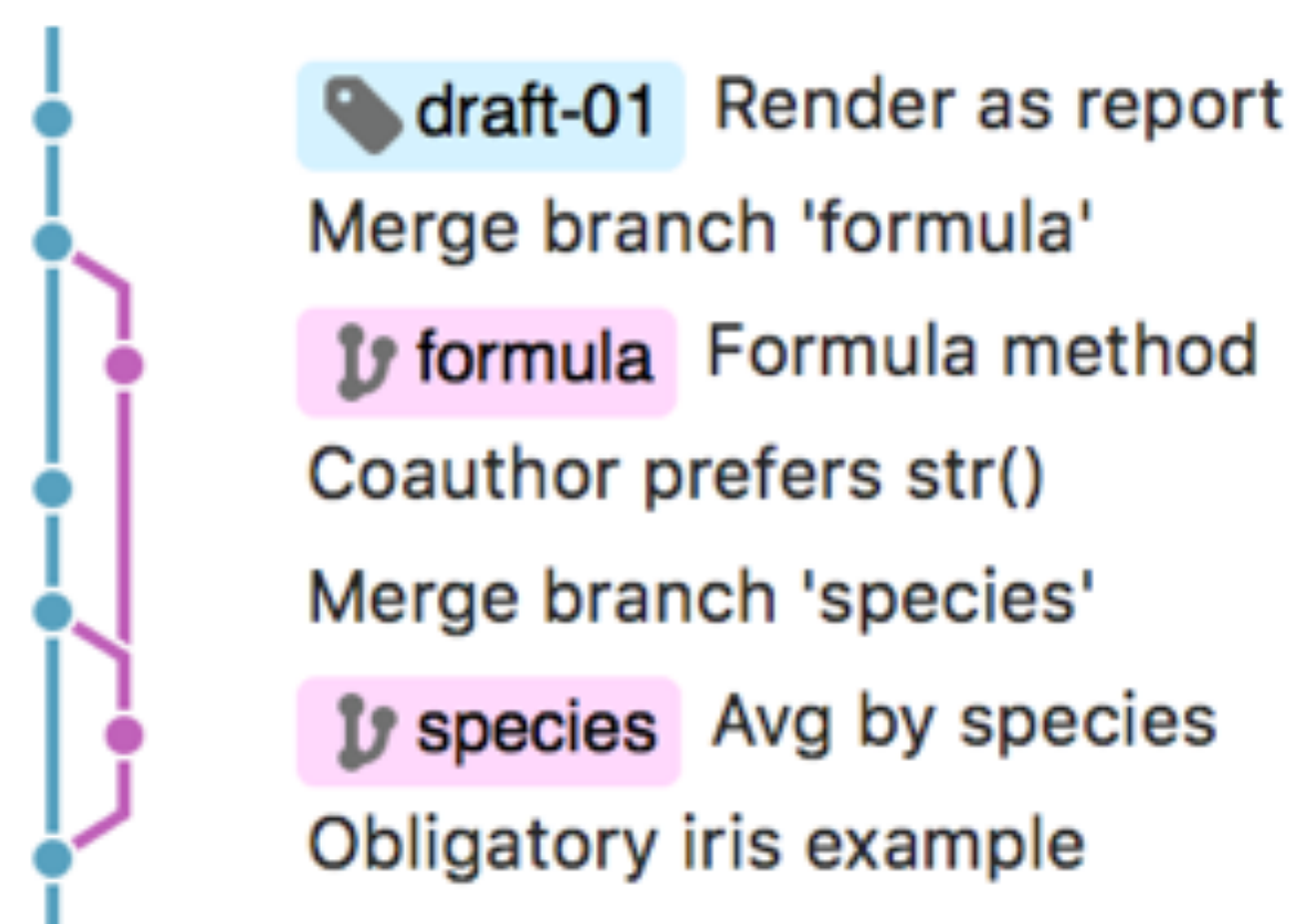
What changed here?
Why?

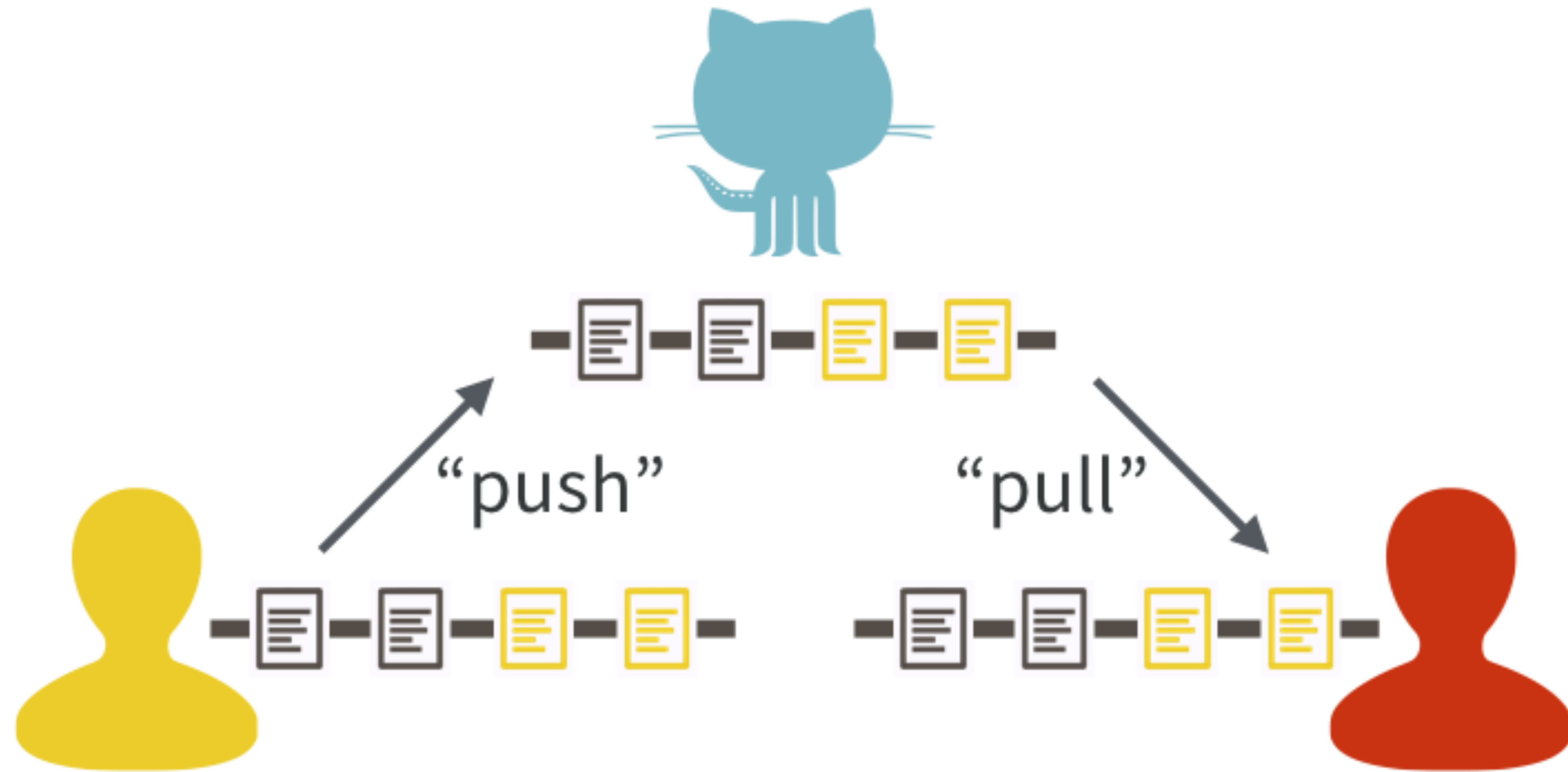


C



D



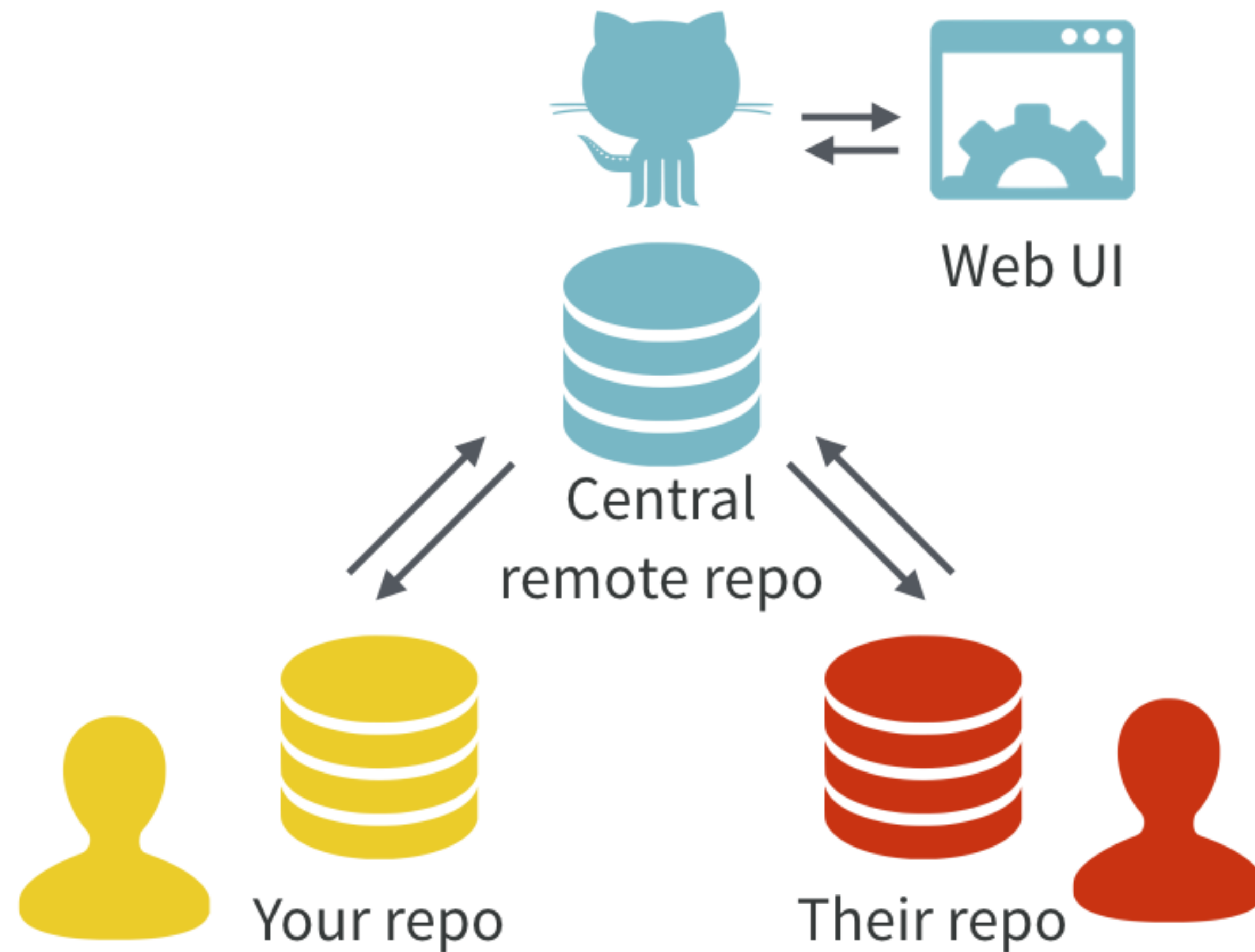


collaboration

Excuse me, do you have a moment to talk about version control?

<https://doi.org/10.7287/peerj.preprints.3159v2>

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00031305.2017.1399928>



happygitwithr.com

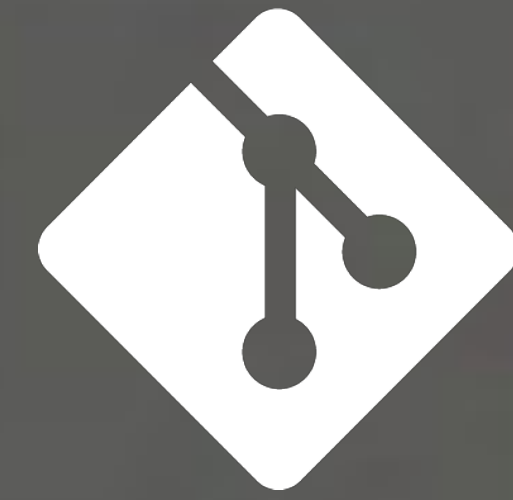


Why version control?

- experiment without fear
- explore cause and effect
- embrace incrementalism
- collaborate
- expose your work



how



git

feels

get off the beach!



agony : flow

agony : flow



agony reduction

Use a Git client, if you like

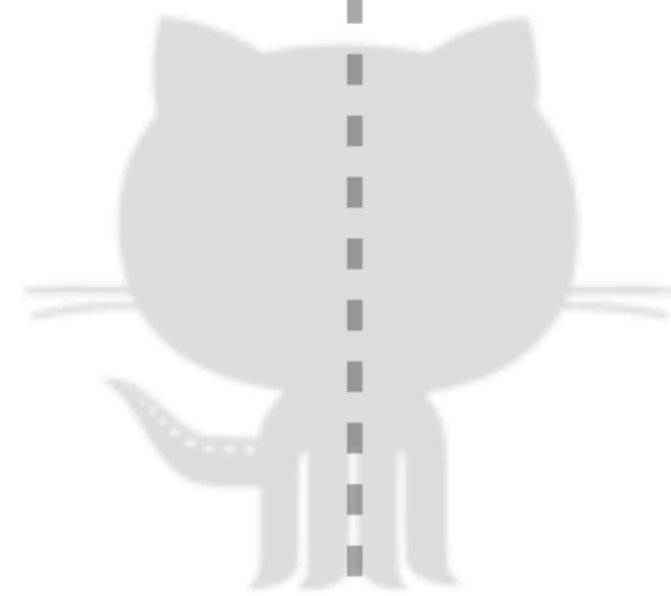
No one is giving out Hard-core Git Nerd Badges

I like RStudio + SourceTree

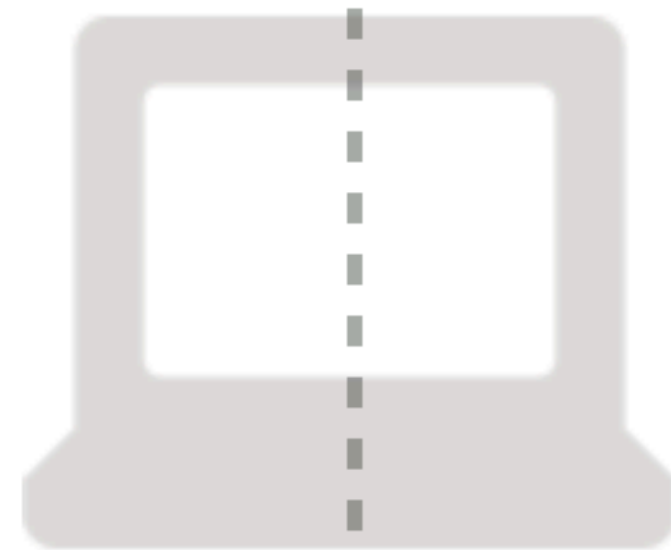
<http://happygitwithr.com/git-client.html>

Them

You



not your
problem



Project initiation: the remote case

Make Your remote copy of Their remote repo = "fork"

Make a local Project from a remote repo, Yours or Theirs = "clone"

Make Your remote repo from a local Project ... a bit fiddly

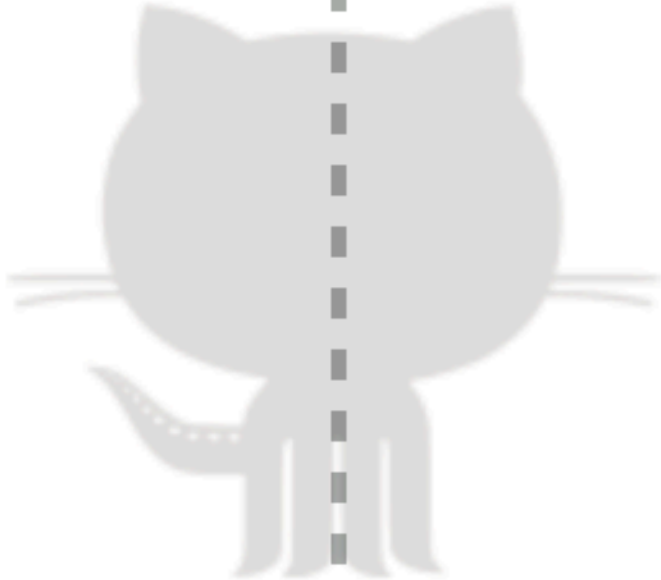
Project initiation strategies, the remote case

Make Your remote copy of Their remote repo = "fork"

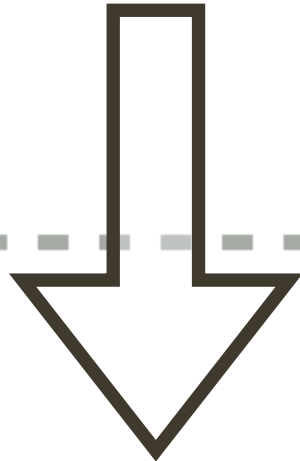
Make a local Project from a remote repo, Yours ~~or Theirs~~ = "clone"

Make Your remote repo from a local Project ... a bit fiddly

Them



You

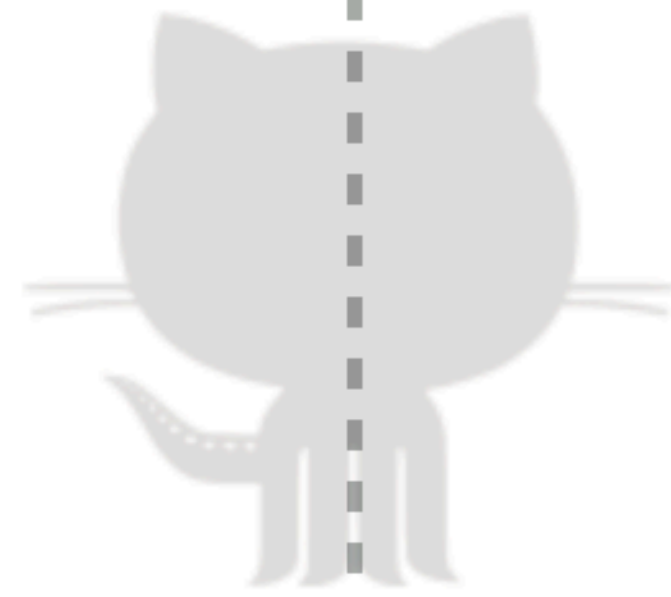


not your
problem



"clone"

Them



You



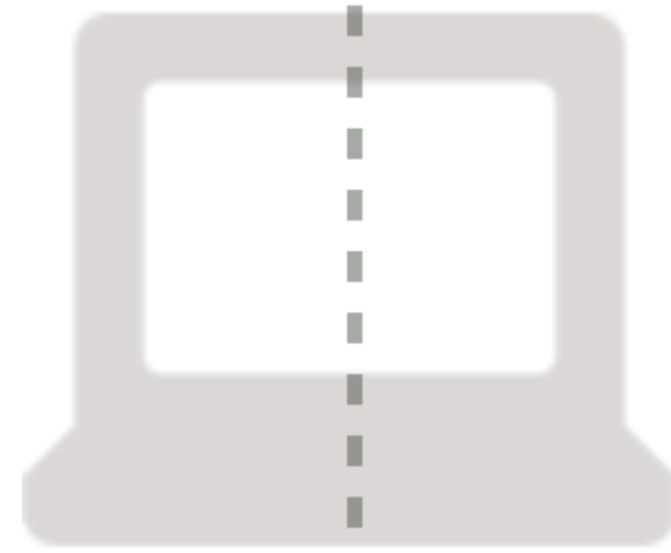
push



pull



not your
problem

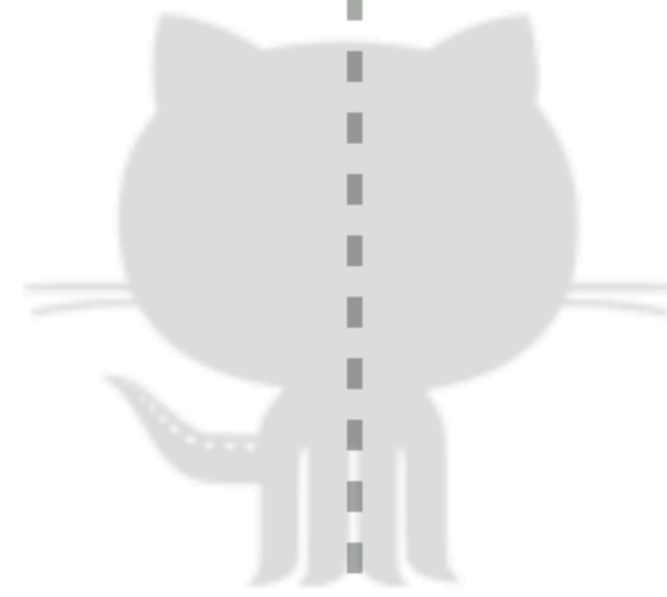


daily work, your stuff

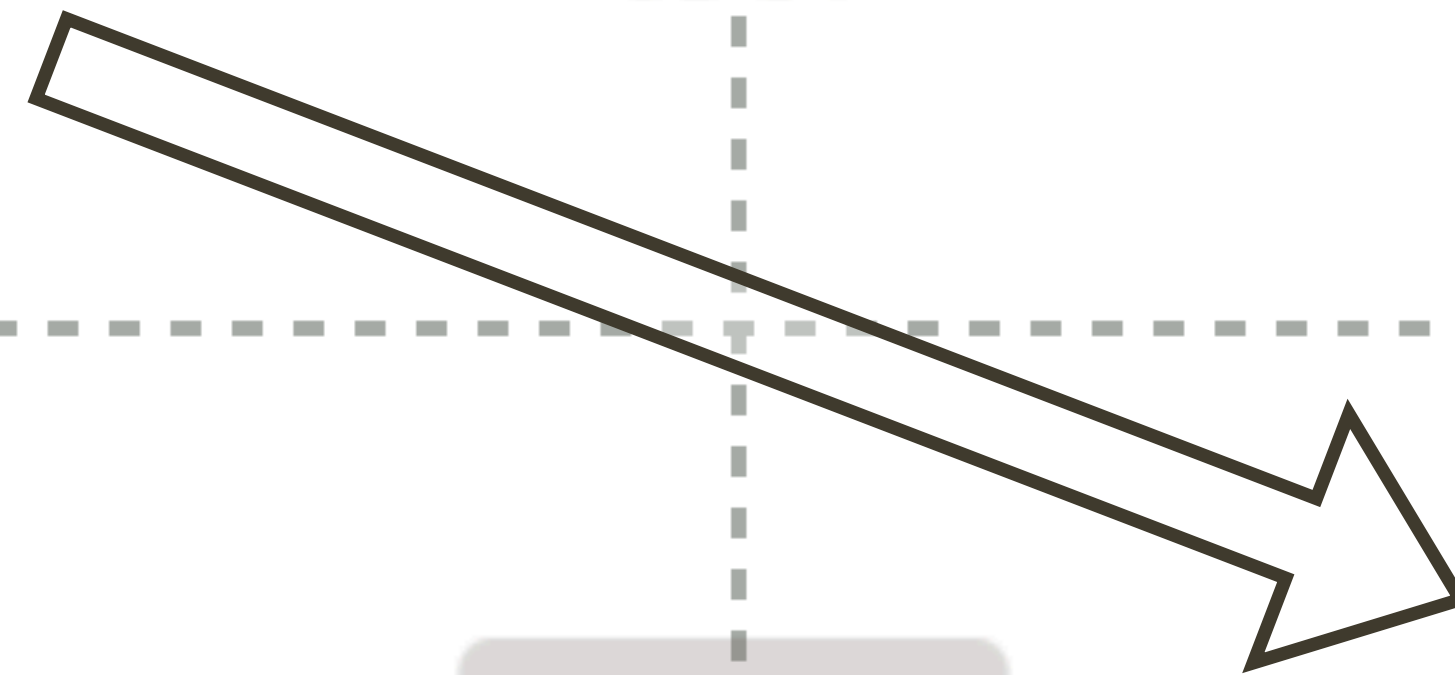
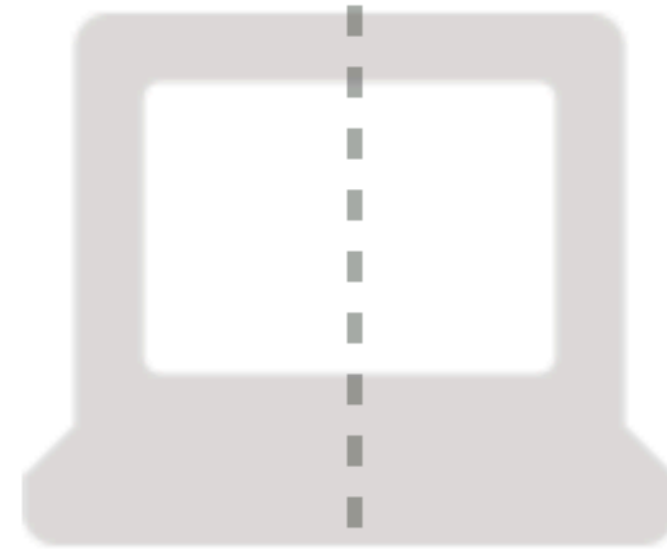
Them



You



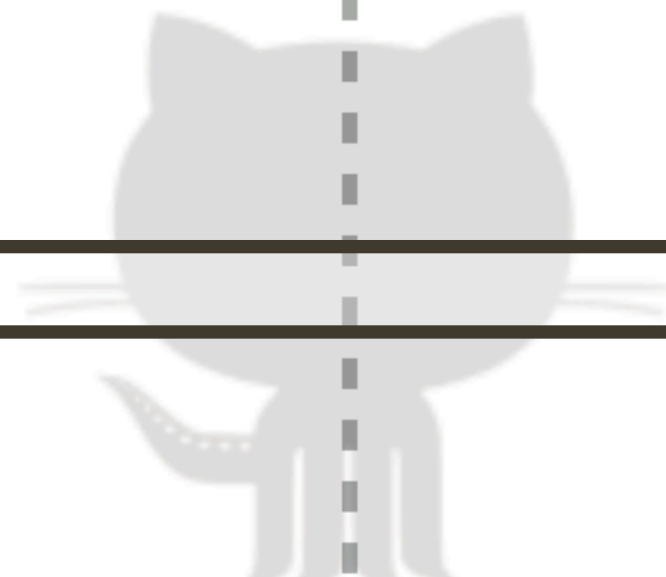
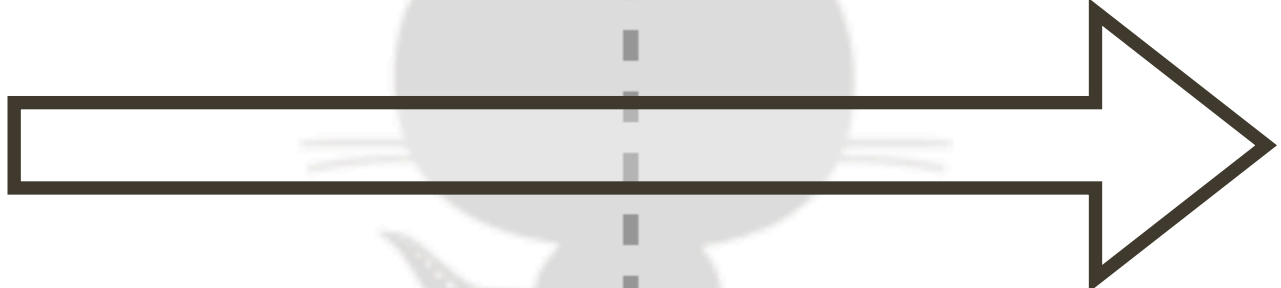
not your
problem



"clone"

*not as useful as you might think

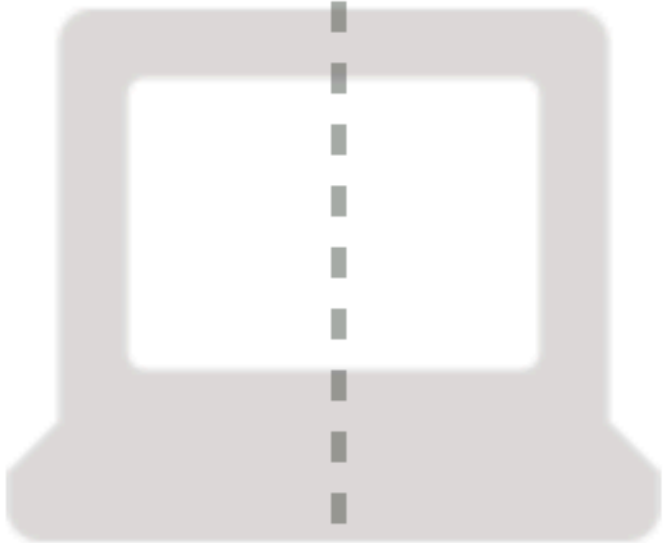
Them



You



not your
problem



"fork"

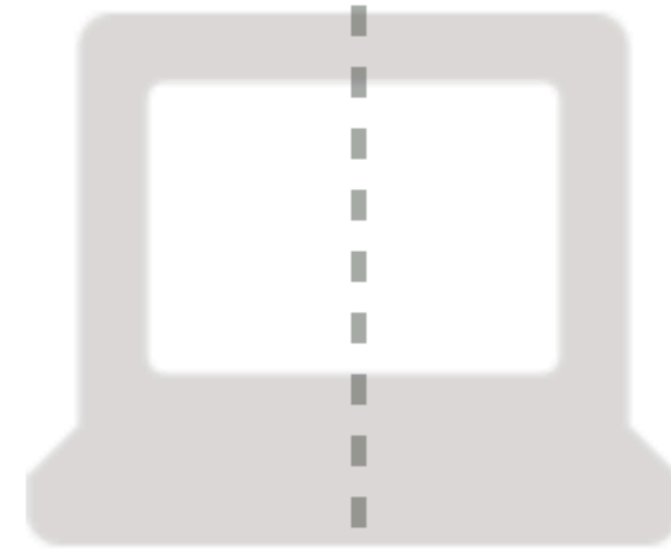
Them



You



not your
problem



"fork and clone"

Them

You



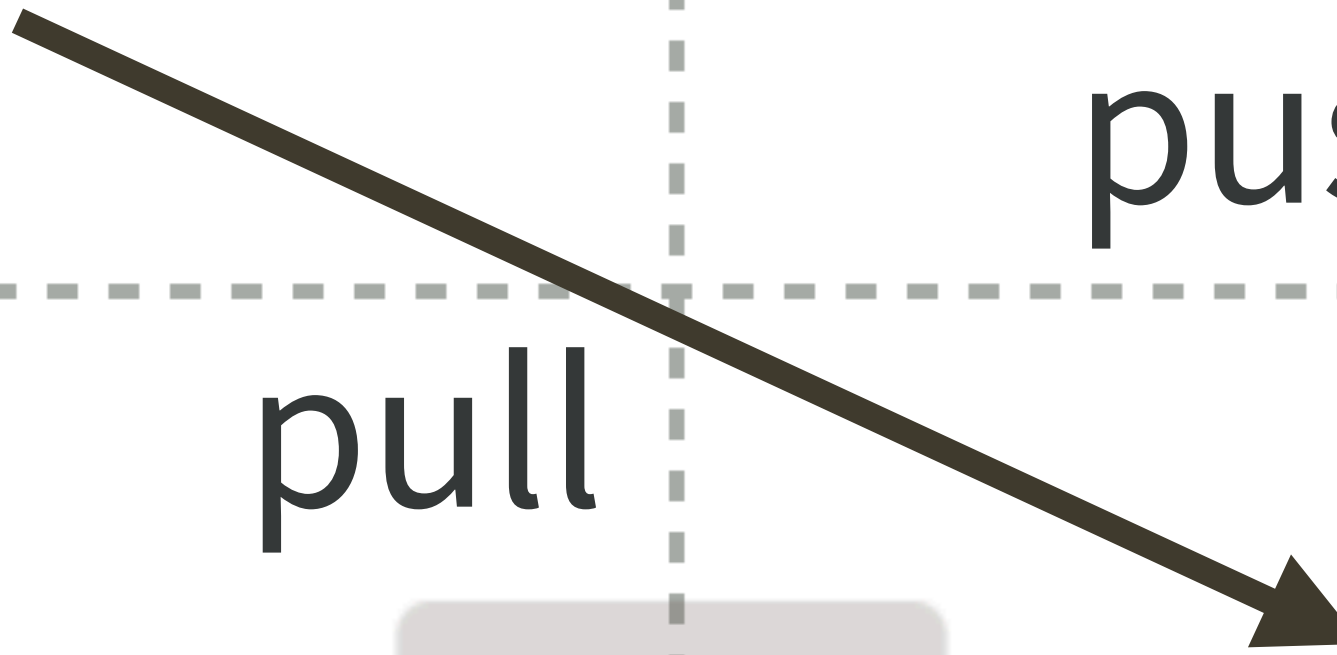
pull request



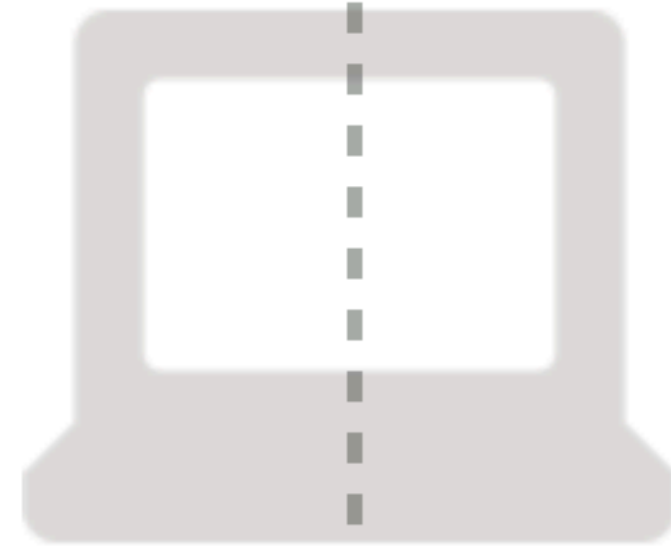
push



pull

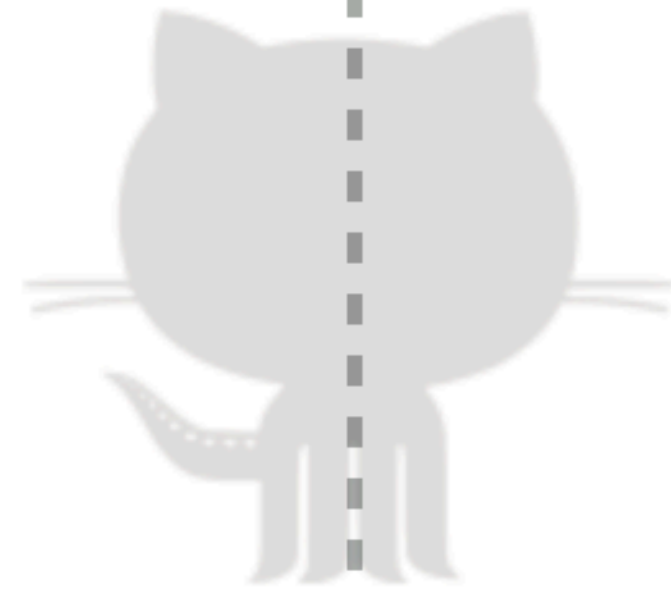


not your
problem



contribute to other people's stuff

Them



You



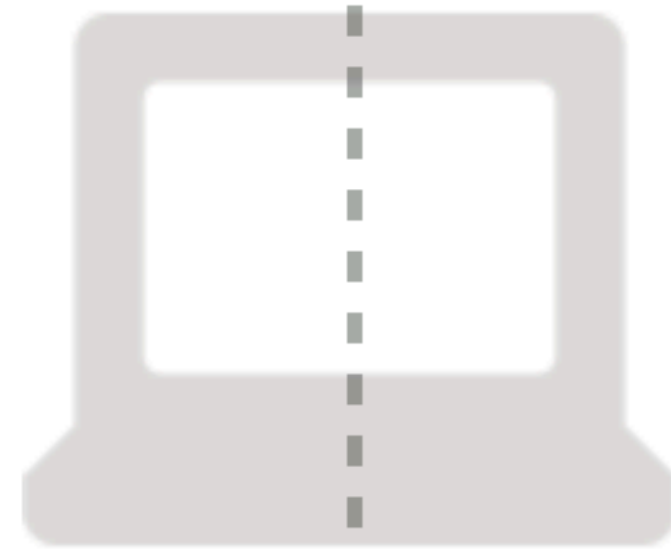
push



pull



not your
problem



daily work, your stuff

"New project, GitHub first"

Why do I emphasize this?

My diagrams omit two big technical points:

- remotes
- branches

I want you to **get off the beach** before fannying around with remotes and branches.

"New project, GitHub first" workflow

<http://happygitwithr.com/new-github-first.html>


I suggest:

- repo / Project / folder name = "packages-report"
- locate as sibling to folders/Projects created earlier


coordinated work through this:

<https://happygitwithr.com/new-github-first.html>

Copy a .R from earlier work today into the packages-report directory/Project/repo.
Your choice re: which file or Project.



wtf-explore-libraries
packages-report



wtf-packages-report
packages-report

What changed in Git pane?

Inspect the diff.

Stage.

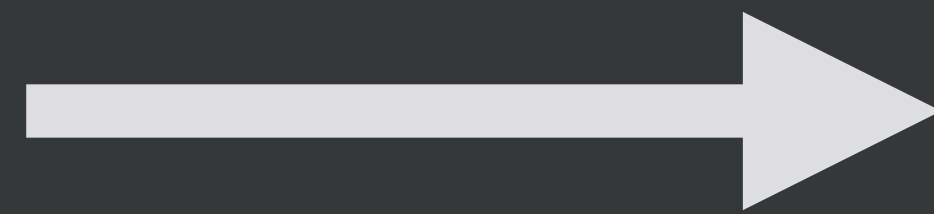
Commit.

Push.

Verify the .R file is now on GitHub.

Wait ... is a .R file all I want to share?

what you
need to write



what people
like to read

foo.R
foo.Rmd



foo.md
foo.html

Compile Report

```
01_explore-libraries_jenny.R x  
← → | ↵ | 📁 |  Source on Save | 🔍 | ⚡ | 📄  
1 ## how jenny might do this in exploration  
2 ## purposely leaving a few things to change later!  
Compile Report (⌘⌘K)
```

≈ `rmarkdown::render("whatever.R")`

Compile Report from R Script

Create a standalone report that contains the code and output from your R script.

For more information on compiling reports, see the documentation at [Compiling Reports from R Scripts](#)

Report output format:

HTML

Compile

Cancel

Sure, HTML is fine ... for now.

What changed in Git pane?

Inspect the diff. Or not.

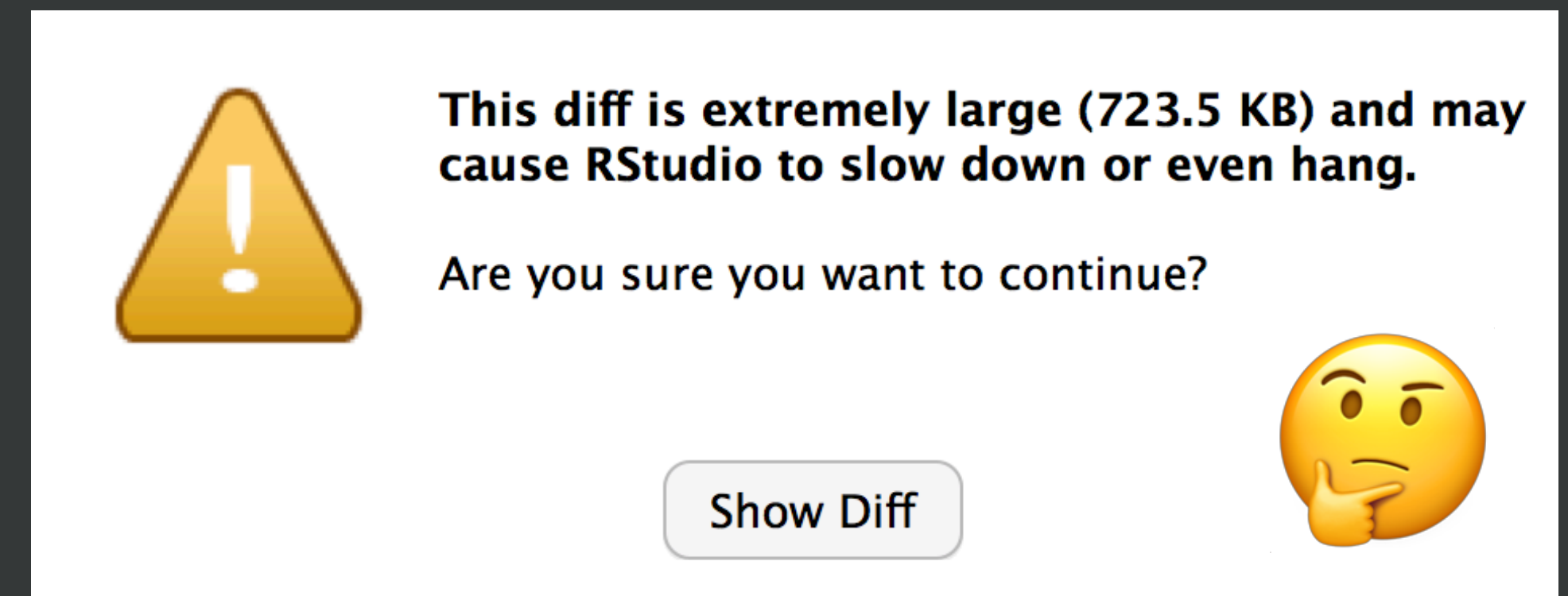
Stage.

Commit.

Push.

Verify the `.html` file is now on GitHub.

Wait ... is `.html` immediately useful on GitHub?



248 lines (201 sloc) | 723 KB

Raw

Blame

History



```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2
3 <html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
4
5 <head>
6
7 <meta charset="utf-8" />
8 <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8" />
9 <meta name="generator" content="pandoc" />
10
11
12 <meta name="author" content="jenny" />
13
14
15 <title>01_explore-libraries_jenny.R</title>
16
17
18 <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1" />
19
20 <script src="data:application/x-javascript;base64,LyohCiAqIEJvb3RzdHJhcCB2My4zLjUgKGh0dHA6Ly9nZXRib290c3RyYXAuY29tKQogKiBDb3B!
21 <script src="data:application/x-javascript;base64,LyoqCiogQHByZXNlcnZlIEhUTUw1IFNoaXYgMy43LjIgfCBAYWZhcmtncyBAamRhbHRvbiBAam9!
22 <script src="data:application/x-javascript;base64,LyohIFJlc3BvbWQuanMgdjEuNC4yOiBtaW4vbWF4LXdpZHRoIG1lZGlnIHV1ZXJ5IHBvbHlmaWx!
23 <script src="data:application/x-javascript;base64,CgovKioKICogaF1ZXJ5IFBsdWdpbjogU3RpdjY2t5IFRhYnMKICoKICogQGF1dGhvcjBBaWRhbiB!
24 <link href="data:text/css;charset=utf-8,%2Ehljs%2Dliteral%20%7B%0Acolor%3A%20%23990073%3B%0A%7D%0A%2Ehljs%2Dnumber%20%7B%0Aco
```



NO, raw `.html` is NOT immediately useful* on GitHub.

But Markdown = `.md` is useful.

Let's render `.R` to `.md` instead of `.html`!

* it CAN BE useful in actual web publishing workflows

foo.R → foo.html

```
#' ---  
#' title: "Untitled"  
#' output: html_document  
#' ---
```

foo.R → foo.md → foo.html

```
#' ---  
#' title: "Untitled"  
#' output:  
#'   html_document:  
#'     keep_md: yes  
#' ---
```

foo.R → foo.md

```
#' ---  
#' output: md_document  
#' ---
```

foo.R → foo.md

```
#' ---  
#' output: github_document  
#' ---
```

foo.R → foo.html

```
#' ---  
#' title: "Untitled"  
#' output: html_document  
#' ---
```

foo.R → foo.md → foo.html

```
#' ---  
#' title: "Untitled"  
#' output:  
#'   html_document:  
#'     keep_md: yes  
#' ---
```

foo.R → foo.md

```
#' ---  
#' output: md_document  
#' ---
```

foo.R → foo.md

```
#' ---  
#' output: github_document  
#' ---
```

Add this YAML frontmatter

Re-Compile Notebook

```
#' ---  
#' output: github_document  
#' ---
```

What changed?

This is what I mean by "explore cause and effect"
and "experiment without fear".

What changed in Git pane?

Inspect the diff.

Stage.

Commit.

Push.

Verify the `.md` file is now on GitHub.

Revel in how nice the `.md` looks!

01_explore-libraries_jenny.R

jenny Sat Jan 27 22:46:07 2018



```
## how jenny might do this in a first exploration  
## purposely leaving a few things to change later!
```

Which libraries does R search for packages?

```
.libPaths()
```

```
## [1] "/Users/jenny/resources/R/library"  
## [2] "/Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Versions/3.4/Resources/library"
```

```
## let's confirm the second element is, in fact, the default library  
.Library
```

```
## [1] "/Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Resources/library"
```

This is what I mean by "expose your work".

Take away #1:

Consider putting rendered products on GitHub.

Just because someone can fork, clone, install all necessary packages, then run your code, it doesn't mean they want to or will.

Be kind. Be realistic.

Take away #2:

For consumption on GitHub, Markdown (.md) is vastly more useful than .html, .docx, .pdf, etc.

Binary formats like .docx and .pdf are also a reliable source of merge conflicts. Think carefully before you track them with Git.

Resources re: which files to commit & how to make your repo browsable

Excuse Me, ... section re: "Which files to commit"

Make a GitHub repo browsable

<https://happygitwithr.com/workflows-browsability.html>

Start porting your library exploration work over.

After each meaningful change, re-render.

What changed? Look at the diffs.

Stage. Commit. Push. Check result on GitHub.

This is what I mean by "embrace incrementalism".

independent work on challenge

ideas:

- Bring your whole wtf-packages-report project over (or the example solution), gradually, making lots of commits. Play with rendering to .md.
- Tweak the code if you like.
- add `devtools::session_info()` at the end or `sessionInfo()` if no devtools

What now? Depends on what time it is!

Please open issues for questions that you 've raised and we discussed! Useful to me for planning tomorrow's final Git/GitHub coverage.

What follows are slides I can imagine us referring to today or tomorrow.

What now? Game time decision! Possibilities:

Equivalence between R and Rmd.

Use the secret README in the packages-report project.

GitHub Pages, the Simple Version.

Equivalence between .Rmd and .R

A

```
1 ---
2 title: "Report from R/Rmd"
3 author: "Jenny Bryan"
4 date: "`r format(Sys.Date())`"
5 output: github_document
6 ---
7
8 The iris data is boring, but it won't distract
9 from the Git content.
10
11 ```{r}
12 aggregate(. ~ Species, data = iris, median)
13 ```
```

B

```
1 #' ---
2 #' title: "Report from R/Rmd"
3 #' author: "Jenny Bryan"
4 #' date: "`r format(Sys.Date())`"
5 #' output: github_document
6 #' ---
7
8 #' The iris data is boring, but it won't distract
9 #' from the Git content.
10
11 aggregate(. ~ Species, data = iris, median)
```

C

Report from R/Rmd

Jenny Bryan
2017-06-29

The iris data is boring, but it won't distract from the Git content.

```
aggregate(. ~ Species, data = iris, median)
```

##	Species	Sepal.Length	Sepal.Width	Petal.Length	Petal.Width
## 1	setosa	5.0	3.4	1.50	0.2
## 2	versicolor	5.9	2.8	4.35	1.3
## 3	virginica	6.5	3.0	5.55	2.0

From "Excuse Me, ..." article

.R

```
iris.R x
Source on Save
1 #' ---
2 #' title: "Report from R/Rmd"
3 #' author: "Jenny Bryan"
4 #' date: "`r format(Sys.Date())`"
5 #' output: github_document
6 #' ---
7
8 #' The iris data is boring, but it won't distract
9 #' from the Git content.
10
11 aggregate(. ~ Species, data = iris, median)
```

R code is top-level
Use #' comment for prose
#+ for chunk header

.Rmd

```
iris.Rmd x
Knit
1 ---
2 title: "Report from R/Rmd"
3 author: "Jenny Bryan"
4 date: "`r format(Sys.Date())`"
5 output: github_document
6 ---
7
8 The iris data is boring, but it won't distract
9 from the Git content.
10
11 {r}
12 aggregate(. ~ Species, data = iris, median)
13 ---
```

Prose is top-level
Put R code in chunks

Nice defaults for global chunk options

```
knitr::opts_chunk$set(  
  collapse = TRUE,  
  comment = "#>",  
  out.width = "100%"  
)
```

foo.Rmd → foo.html

```
---  
title: "Untitled"  
output: html_document  
---
```

foo.Rmd → foo.md → foo.html

```
---  
title: "Untitled"  
output:  
  html_document:  
    keep_md: yes  
---
```

foo.Rmd → foo.md

```
---  
output:  
  md_document  
---
```

foo.Rmd → foo.md

```
---  
output:  
  github_document  
---
```

Simplest use of GitHub Pages = Project webpage

GitHub Pages **In your repo's Settings**

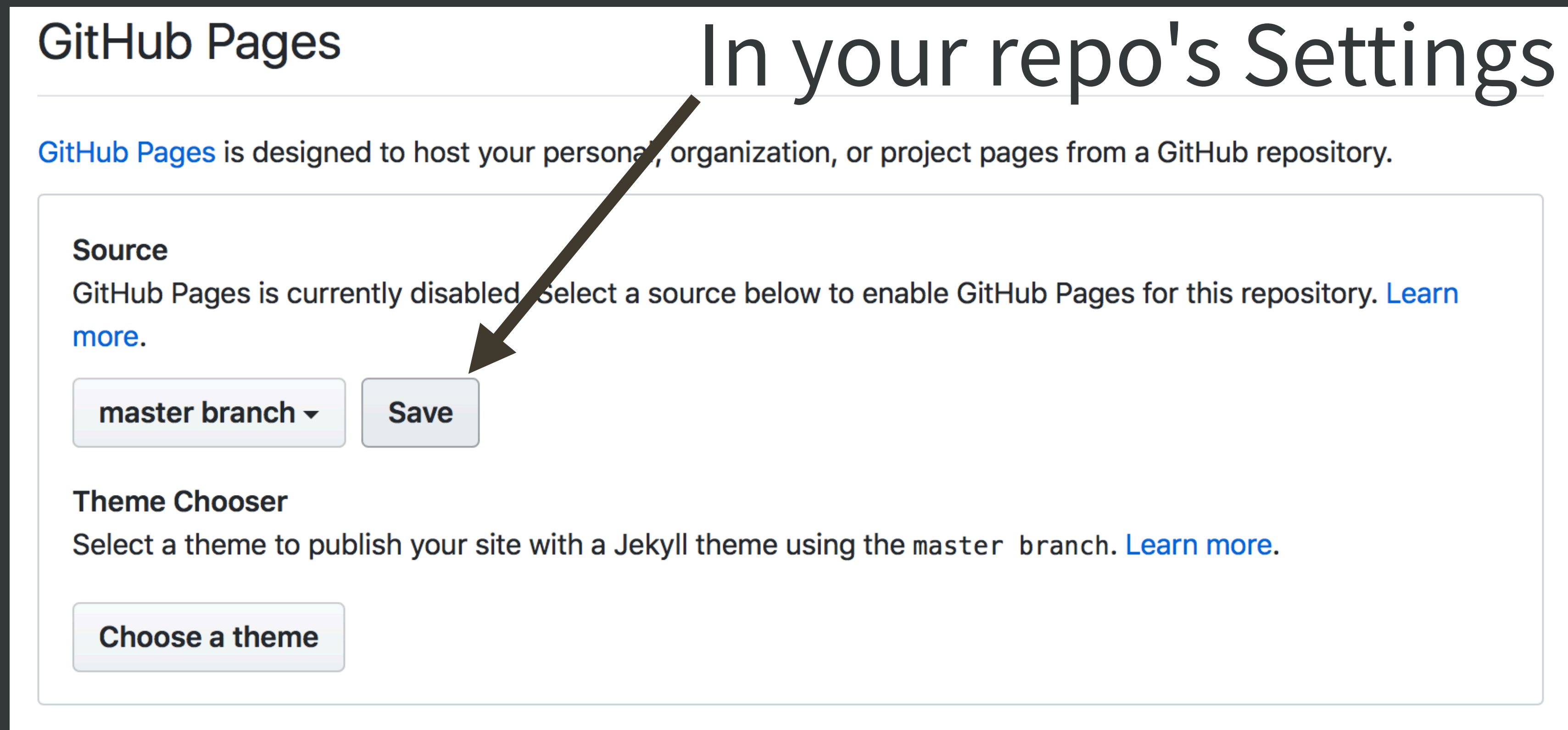
GitHub Pages is designed to host your personal, organization, or project pages from a GitHub repository.

Source
GitHub Pages is currently disabled. Select a source below to enable GitHub Pages for this repository. [Learn more.](#)

master branch ▾ Save

Theme Chooser
Select a theme to publish your site with a Jekyll theme using the master branch. [Learn more.](#)

Choose a theme



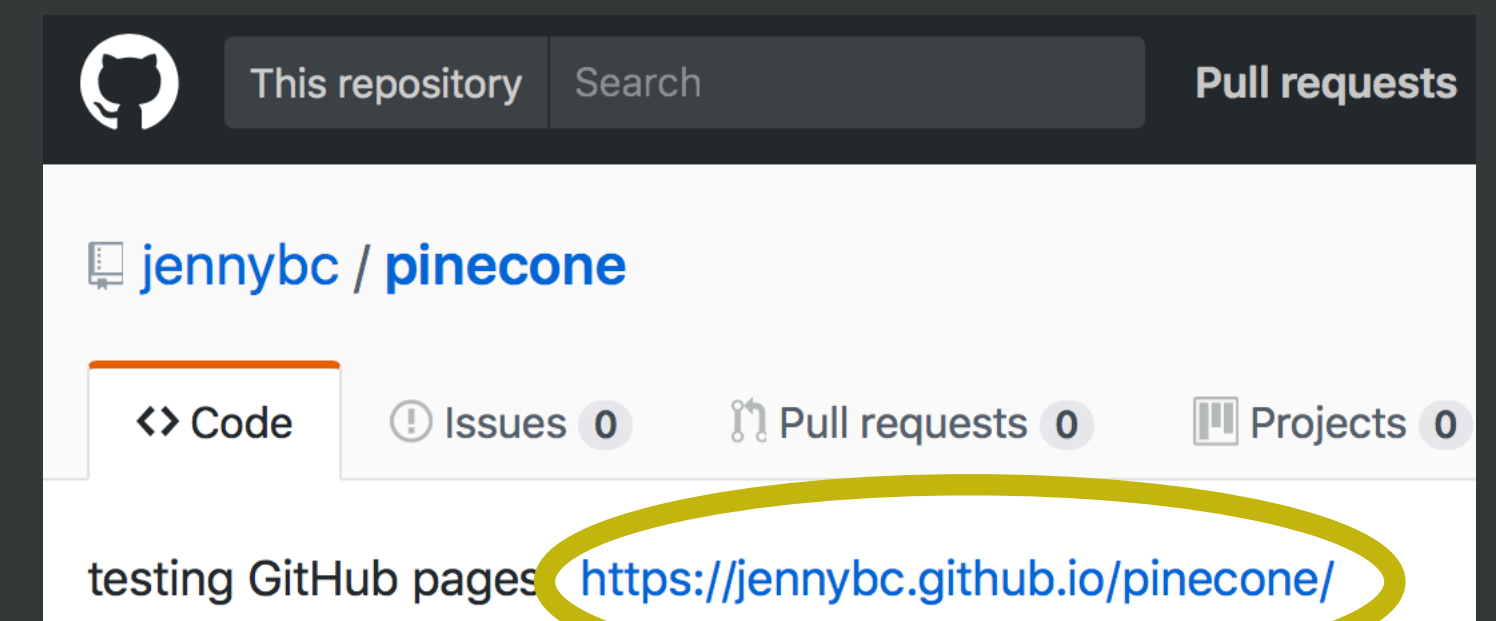
<https://github.com/blog/2289-publishing-with-github-pages-now-as-easy-as-1-2-3>

Hot tips for simple GitHub Pages

README.md becomes index.html, by default

Given that foo.md exists, these internal links work (trial & error):
👍 foo, [foo](foo.md), [foo](foo.html)

Record your site URL as your repo's website



wrap up here

when we return to Git/GitHub, we'll
wrap up loose ends:

- branches and remotes
- useful daily workflows