Version Control: An Introduction

Sean Fisk
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What

A way to track changes to files.
Why?

- Keep working versions
- Going back
- Working with others
History

- Source Code Control System [SCCS] (1972)
- Revision Control System [RCS] (1982)
- Subversion [SVN] (2000)
- Git [git] (2005)
- Mercurial [hg] (2005)
Git

- Distributed
- Linus Torvalds
- Popular
A demo of Git.
Not Just For Programmers

- Most benefit to programmers
- Time to learn
- Time to use
- Not necessary for completion
Assigning messages to bits of working code
Backup != VC
Automatic/accidental: backup
Purposeful: version control
When

Yes
- Code
- Documents (LaTeX, MS Word)
- Guitar tabs
- Recordings

No
- TODO lists

“When in doubt, use version control.”
GitHub and Gitlab

- Places to host Git repositories
- Free and open-source development
Resources

- try.github.io
- pcottle.github.io/learnGitBranching/
- git-scm.com/book (Pro Git)