"MERGE CONFLICTS":

Git between Workspace Surveillance and Historical Record

2022-10-21 Friday 19:00 @ LAG lab



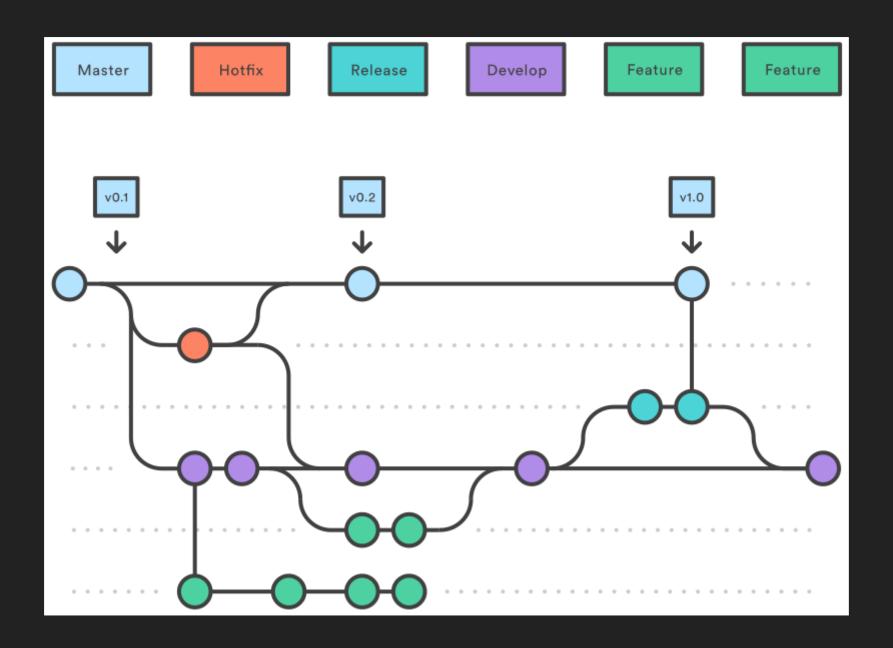
WHAT IS GIT? 1

GIT!= GITHUB

- "Distributed Version Control System"
- Ubiquitous format for keeping track of software development
- Developed by Linus Torvalds for the Linux Kernel (2005)
- Written in C, uses Merkle trees and hash-addressed storage, etc.
- Stores the "history" of the software

→ What and whose "history" is written in Git?

GIT HISTORY VISUALISATION



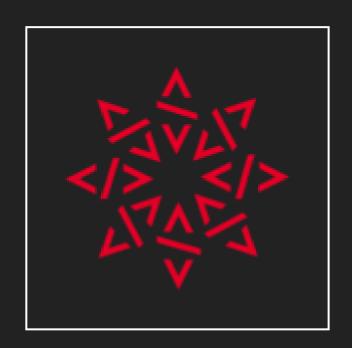
THE THEORETICAL PROBLEM

- The medium structures time & space
- The power of the medium is in shaping time & space
- Whoever wields the power of the medium controls time & space
 - → Political agency depends on historical agency!

GIT ←→ **IDEOLOGY**

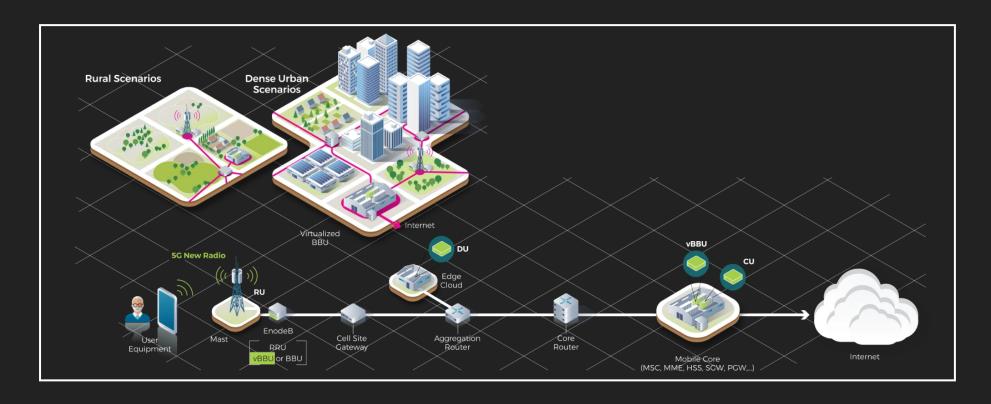
- Ubiquity: >90% market coverage
- Social norms: "Never rewrite history."
- Weaponisation: git blame
- Selling point: conflict resolution
- \rightarrow The *default* format for software development.

1. MEMORY AND FORGETTING



Software Heritage Foundation

2. GEOPOLITICAL POWER STRUGGLES



OpenRAN (5G radio access network)

3. WORKERS VS MANAGEMENT





3. WORKERS VS MANAGEMENT





4. PERSONAL COMPUTER TOOLBOX

Powershell Git support

REFERENCES

- Harry Braverman on labour process theory
 - Labor and Monopoly Capital
- Gilles Deleuze on control society
 - "Postscript on the Societies of Control"
- Friedrich Kittler on time axis manipulation
 - "Real Time Analysis"
- Wolfgang Ernst on media archaeology
 - Chronopoetics

