LabVIEW Workshop Handout

Revision Control Software can save headaches

Ever have one of those days when, you just wish you could hit a big undo button and restart on those changes tomorrow? Or when you just lost all that work? Well there is a way to allow for this. Revision control softwares (RCS) keep a long-term record of changes made to files allowing you to revert back to a state before that big oops, or that bad day.

The RCS that I have come to use most is GIT, an open source project for revision (version) control that allows for sharing of code on the basis of a trust pattern, but that's mostly useful for multiple programmers or an extra backup.

I would recommend Tortoise GIT for the primary interactions with LabVIEW because it can be configured to use the built in difference (diff) and merge tools that come with LabVIEW. Instructions on how to configure it can be found here.

To create a local repository that can be pulled from and pushed to, initialize a bare GIT repo in a location that can be accessed by multiple computers (a network drive or a synced google drive folder) and clone it. Instructions for that can be found here [(link broken). Reach out to admin@frclabviewtutorials.com for help.] (The procedure is the same when working on a network drive, just put the bare repo there instead of in the google drive folder).

Keep in mind that you can only revert back to a commit, so commit often with meaningful comments. That way, when things go haywire, you know you can revert back to something that worked.

Shortened addresses (case sensitive):

Tortoise GIT: http://goo.gl/pyaJ3f

Setup Tortoise: https://goo.gl/Jyccpe