Homework 12
Towards a Development Environment

Assigned: Friday, April 1

Due: Friday, April 8, 11:00AM (Hard Deadline)

Submission Instructions

Submit a pointer to your dotfiles repository here.

1   A dotfiles repository

As we've seen in class, many tools store their configuration in "dotfiles" in your home directory. While this is convenient for configuring things on one machine, often you may have multiple machines that you use (desktop at work, laptop for travel, etc). It would be really nice if all of these things stayed in sync.

Fortunately, we've also learned a great tool for keeping things synchronized in this class – git! Keeping your configuration files in git has the added benefit that you can try changes that your aren't sure if you will like (e.g trying out vi mode in bash) knowing that you can easily revert them later.

The trick is that it's not a good idea to make your home directory a git repository (because then every file in your home directory would be in that repository!). Instead, create a folder named `dotfiles`, make that a repository, and then use symlinks to point from where tools expect your dotfiles (in your home directory) to where they actually are (the dotfiles folder):

```
$ ls -l ~/.bashrc
lrwxr-xr-x  1 ppannuto  staff  40 Mar 31 23:43 /Users/ppannuto/.bashrc ->
/Users/ppannuto/Dropbox/dotfiles/.bashrc
```

The Assignment

Create a dotfiles repository. Move your existing `.bashrc` file into this repository, commit it, and set up a symlink from your home directory for bashrc. Pick at least one other dotfile to move under version control and add it to this repository. For ideas, here are the files in my dotfiles folder:

```
.bash_aliases .bash_profile .bashfuncs .bashrc .gitconfig .gitignore .gsdesktop-helper[1]
.hgrc .inputrc .pypirc .screenrc .vim[2]  .vimrc
setup_dotfiles.sh[3]
ssh-config
```

You can also find *lots* of other dotfiles repositories on the web with tons of cool ideas for configurations. Some of the staff even have pretty good dotfiles repositories. . .

Use any repository hosting service (Umich Gitlab, GitHub, personal server, etc) to make your dotfiles repo publically accessible. Then submit a link to your repository here.

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[1] Pour one out... (dead config file from this for Grooveshark)

[2] This is actually a directory for Pathogen

[3] This is a script that deletes any existing dotfiles (e.g. things usually ship with a template `.bashrc`) and replaces them with symlinks to the dotfile repo. It also handles ssh-config, which lives at ˜/.ssh/config

2   The Practice Exam

Did you do the practice exam? You should probably do the practice exam. Homework this week is super short so that you have more time to do the practice exam.

(No. You do not have to turn anything in for this "question".)