Version Control Systems

Introduction

This article provides a very brief overview on version control systems.

What is a version control

If one or more developers are working on the same project then there are chances that a same file being edited by two or more persons & at the end causing a dilema on what all changes to be made & which are the correct ones. In order to avoid this situation, version control is used.

The main advantages of using version control system are :

1. The version control system flags all the changes that are made to a file
2. An older version can be easily retrieved
3. One can easily view all the changes made by a developer on a particular file
4. can easily compare the current file to an older version etc

Some of the mainly used Version Control systems are:

1. CVS
2. Subversion

CVS

CVS - Concurrent Versioning System, was a frequently used version system & also being used now.

The main features are:

- Easy to use
- Concurrent versioning system
- Open source
- Individual File versioning (One version for a particular file)
- Can be integrated to IDEs like eclipse, Netbeans etc

Subversion

Subversion is an advanced form of CVS.Currently popular, so many projects moved from CVS to SVN

The main features are:

- Easy to use
- Concurrent versioning system
- Open source
- Global version number, unlike individual versioning in CVS
- Has standalone existence.

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