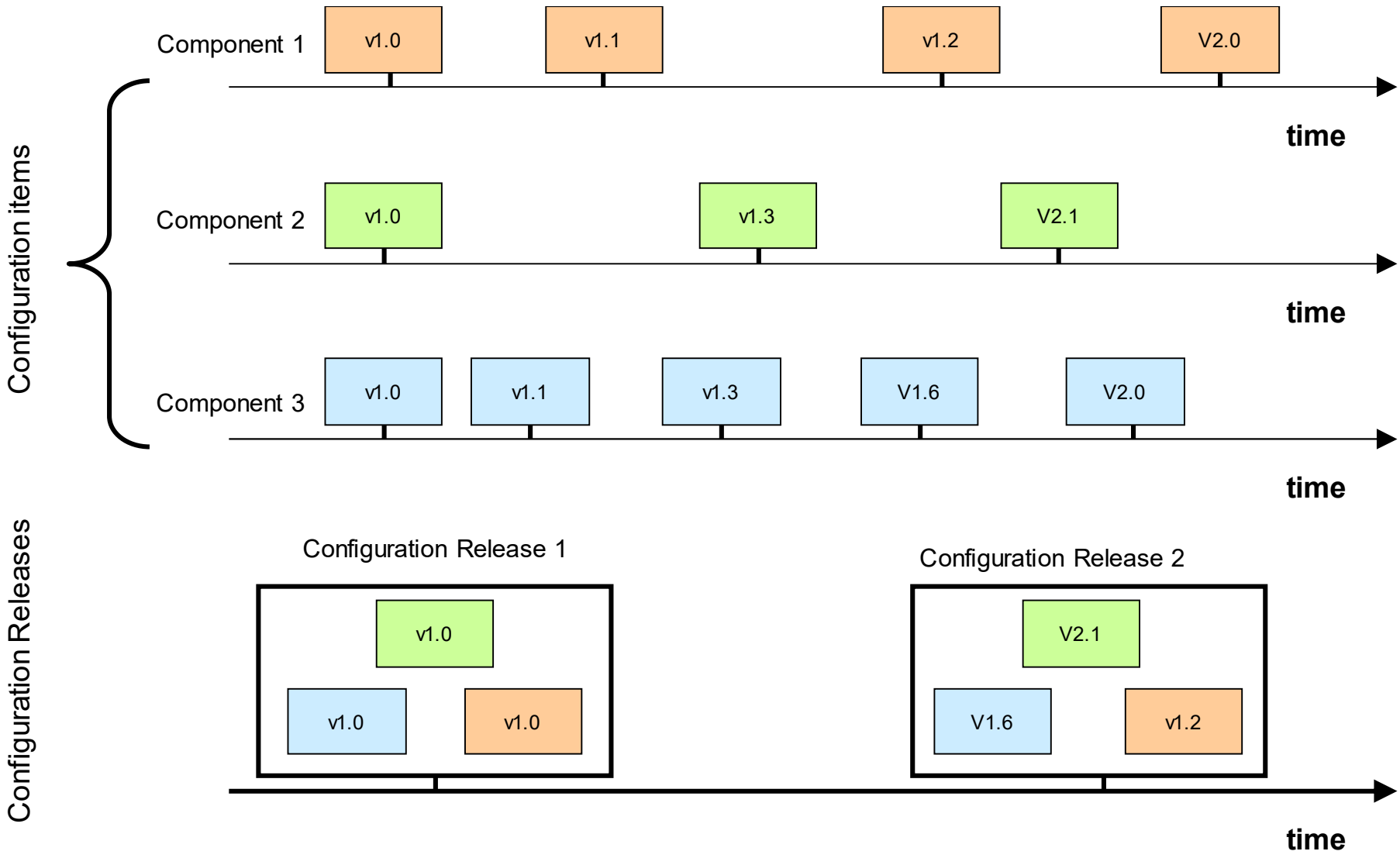
Configuration Management

VIMIMA11 Design and integration of embedded systems

Budapest University of Technology and Economics
Department of Measurement and Information Systems

Configuration Items and Releases



Configuration Management
CMMI Process Area

- **SG 1: Establish Baselines**
  - **SP 1.1:** Identify Configuration Items
  - **SP 1.2:** Establish a Configuration Management System
  - **SP 1.3** Create or Release Baselines
- **SG 2: Track and Control Changes**
  - **SP 2.1:** Track Change Requests
  - **SP 2.2:** Control Configuration Items
- **SG 3: Establish Integrity**
  - **SP 3.1:** Establish Configuration Management Records
  - **SP 3.2:** Perform Configuration Audits

Identifying Configuration Items

- Requirements
- Product specifications
- Architecture documentation and design data
- Plans
- Hardware and equipment
- Code and libraries
- Test results

Identifying Configuration Items

- Requirements
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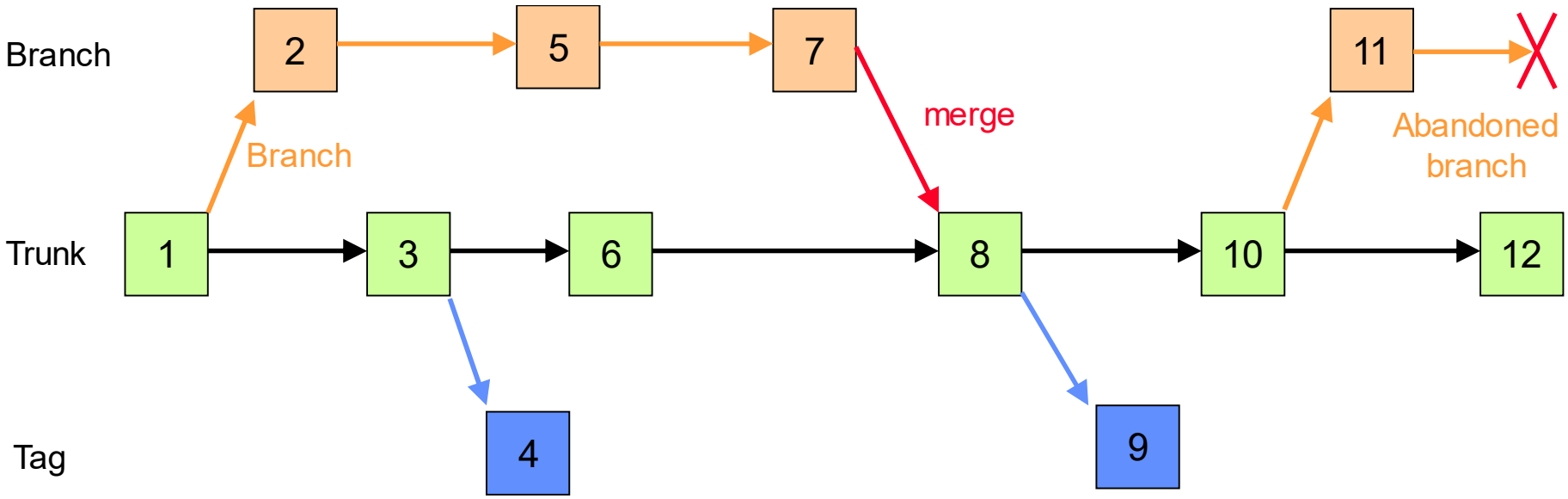
- **Development tools**
- **Test tools**
- **Compilers, even operating systems**

Establish a Configuration Management System

- Typical storing points in a Configuration management system
  - Dynamic: Locally at the developer
  - Controlled, centralized: A central server for configuration items
  - Statically archived: Archives for the releases
- Determination of the configuration management lifecycle
- Setting user privileges and rights
  - Read, Write and Create access rights
  - User account and User groups management

Example for a typical Configuration Lifecycle



Tools of Configuration management

- Mostly some kind of version control system is used

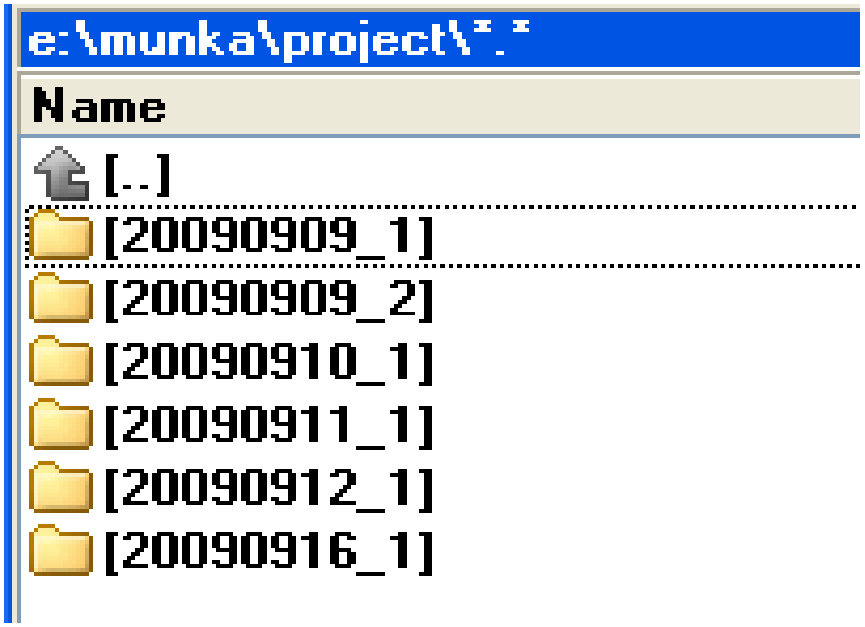
Version Control Systems
The need for such systems

- One typical day of a developer:
  - At the start of the day we have a running software
  - We add some lines to the software
  - The software freezes
  - We remove or uncomment the lines added
  - The software still freezes

- The situation is even complicated if we work in a team:
  - We add some lines to a working software
  - Someone also add few lines to the same part of the software
  - The software freezes

Trivial Version Control

- We create a new folder for every changes with the date of the changes
- Every such folder should have a *changelog* file to describe the changes



Triviális Version Control

- We create a new folder for every changes with the date of the changes
- Every such folder should have a *changelog* file to describe the changes

Problems

- Requires much disk space
- How often should we create a new version?
- Should we create copy only from a working version or from an intermediate one too?
- The *changelog* file should be used very consistently, or it cause more trouble then help.

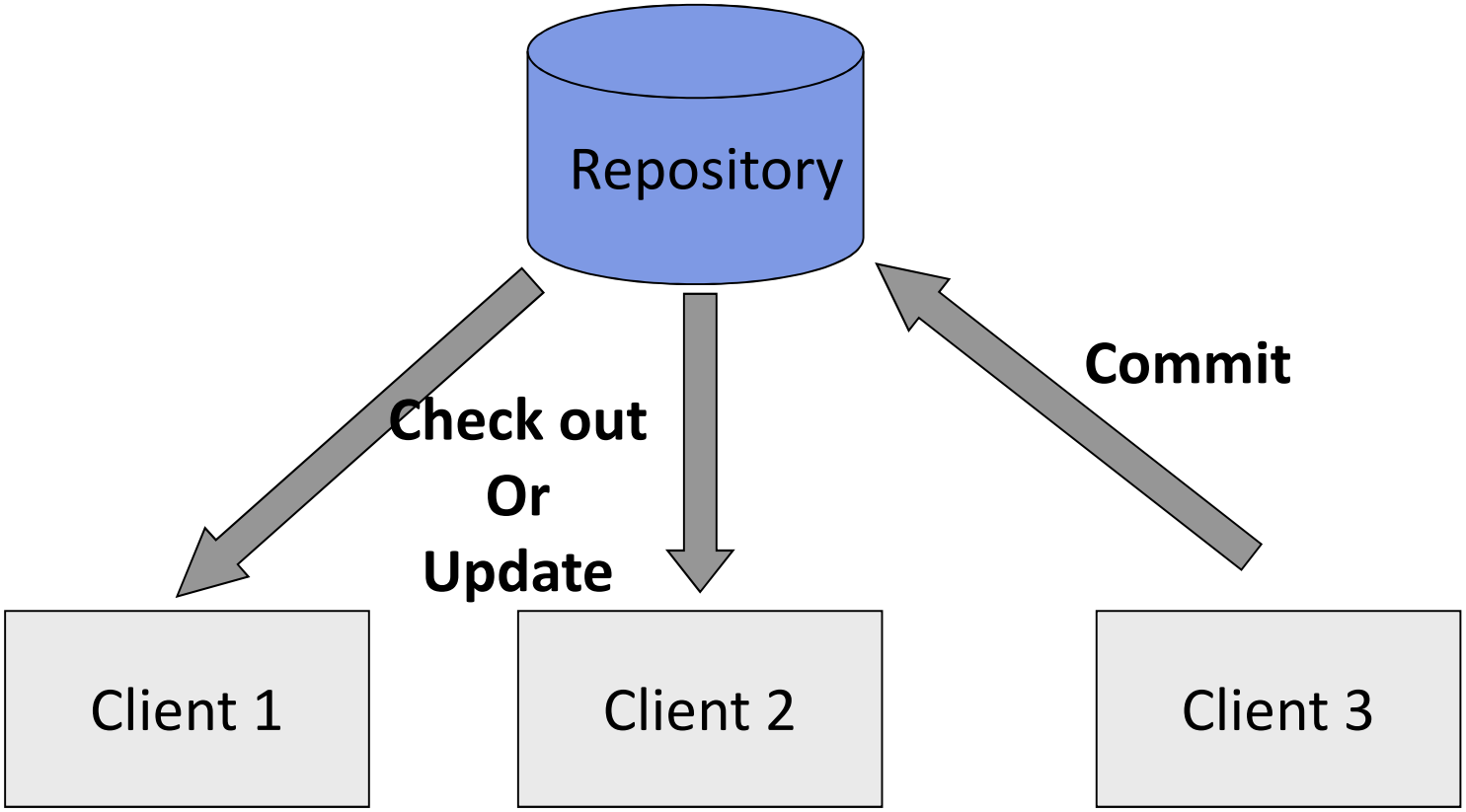
Version Control Systems
Basic Terms

- The version managements system are used to follow every changes made on a project
- The version control system logs
  - Every changes to every file assigned to version control
  - Every changes to the folder structure
- The user can
  - Check any version of a file during its version control life cycle
  - Check the reason and the committer of every changes
  - Making comments to its own changes

Centralised Version Control Systems Basic Terms

- **Repository**: Central Storage of the current and previous versions of the project *(master copy)*.
- **Client**: user who want to work on the project
- **Working copy**: A local version of the project downloaded from the **Repository** by the **Client**

Centralised Version Control Systems
Basic behavior



Version Control Strategies: *The main questions?*

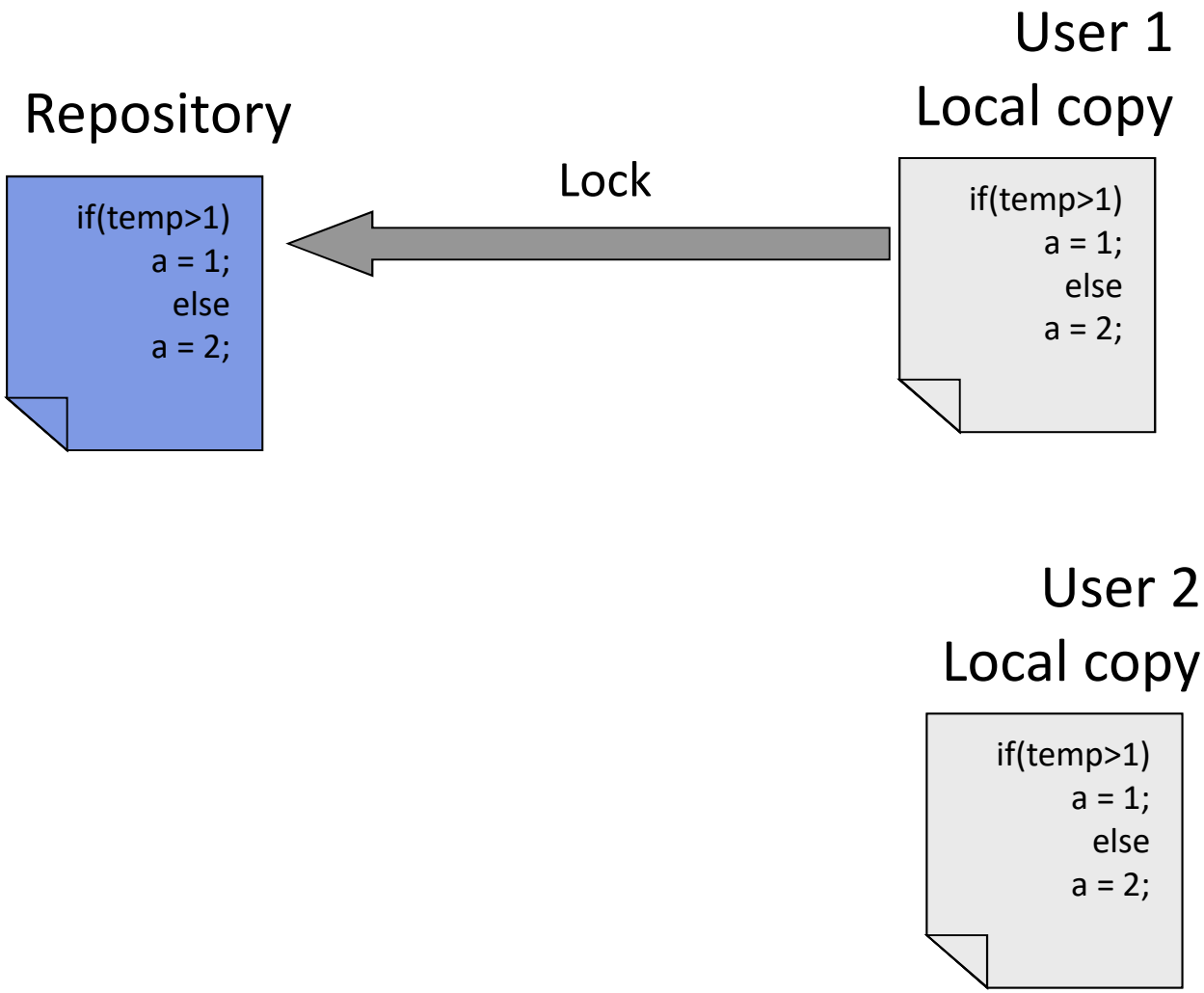
- How the version control systems support the parallel work of multiple developers?
- What is the strategy or method to avoid the inconsistency caused by the parallel work on the same file?

The Lock–Modify–Unlock approach

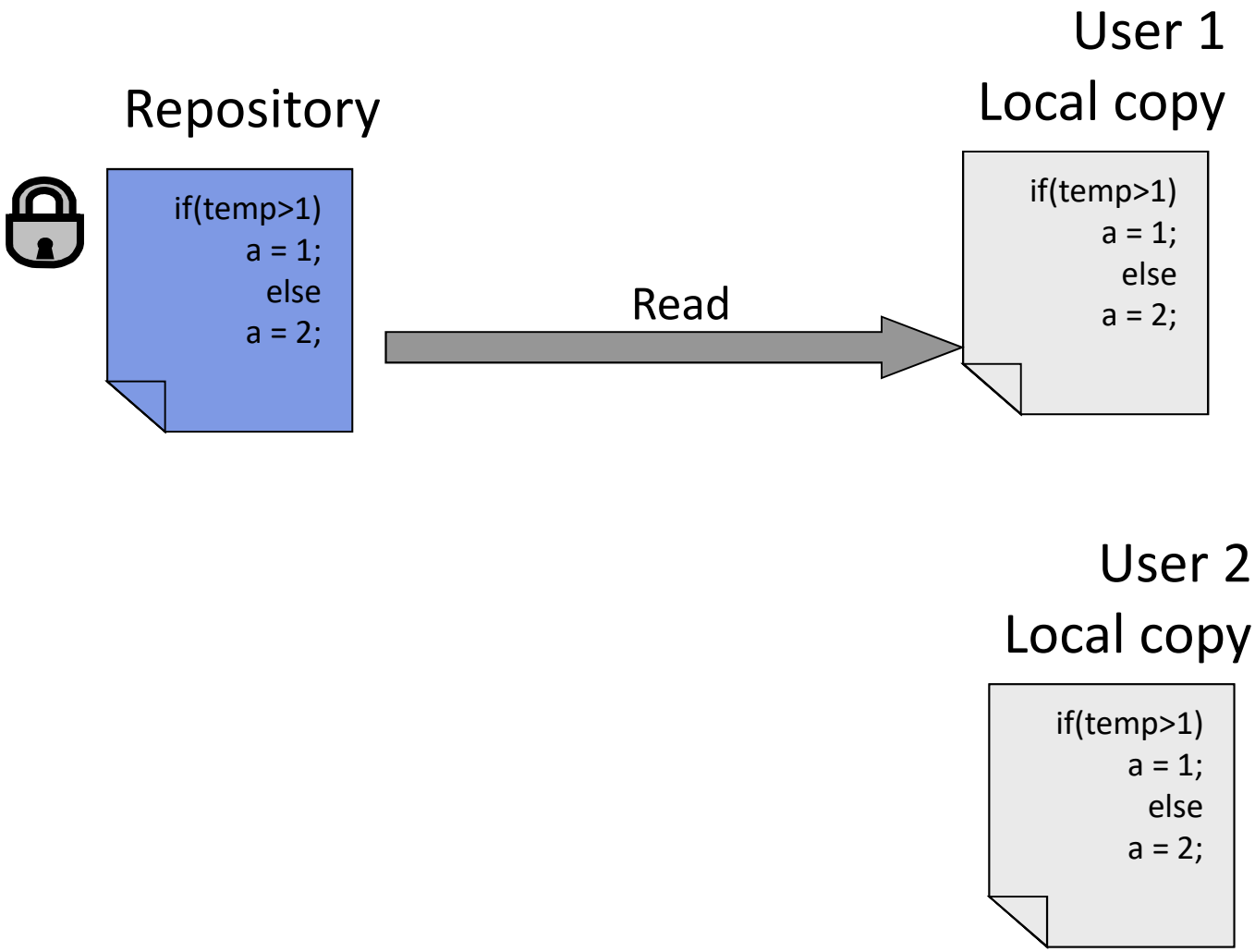
- **Before modifying** a file it have to be **locked**
- **After modification** it should be **unlocked**

- There is no parallel modification of the file: only one developer can modify the file by locking it
- Locked files can be read by other developers

Lock–Modify–Unlock approach



Lock–Modify–Unlock approach



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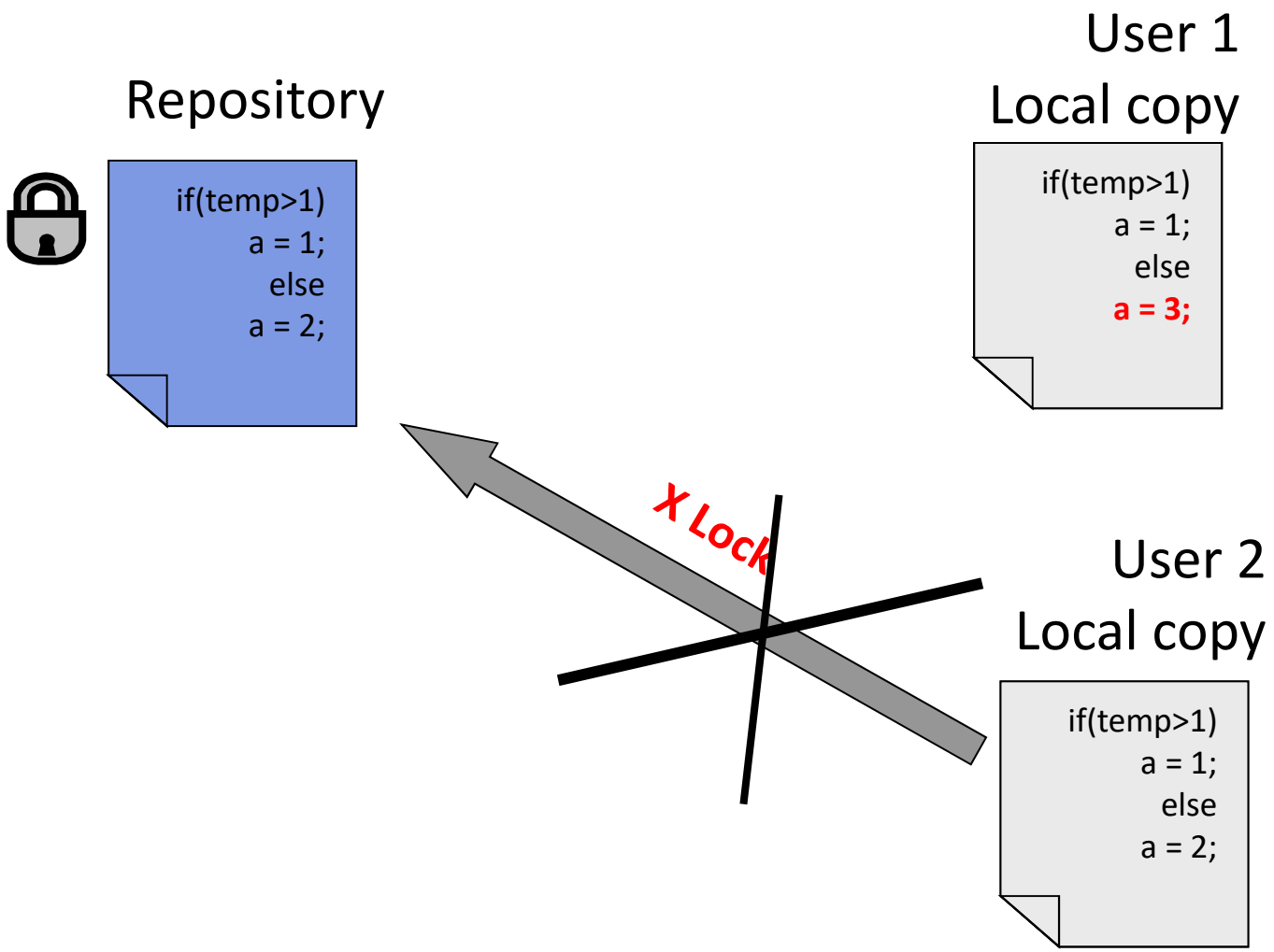

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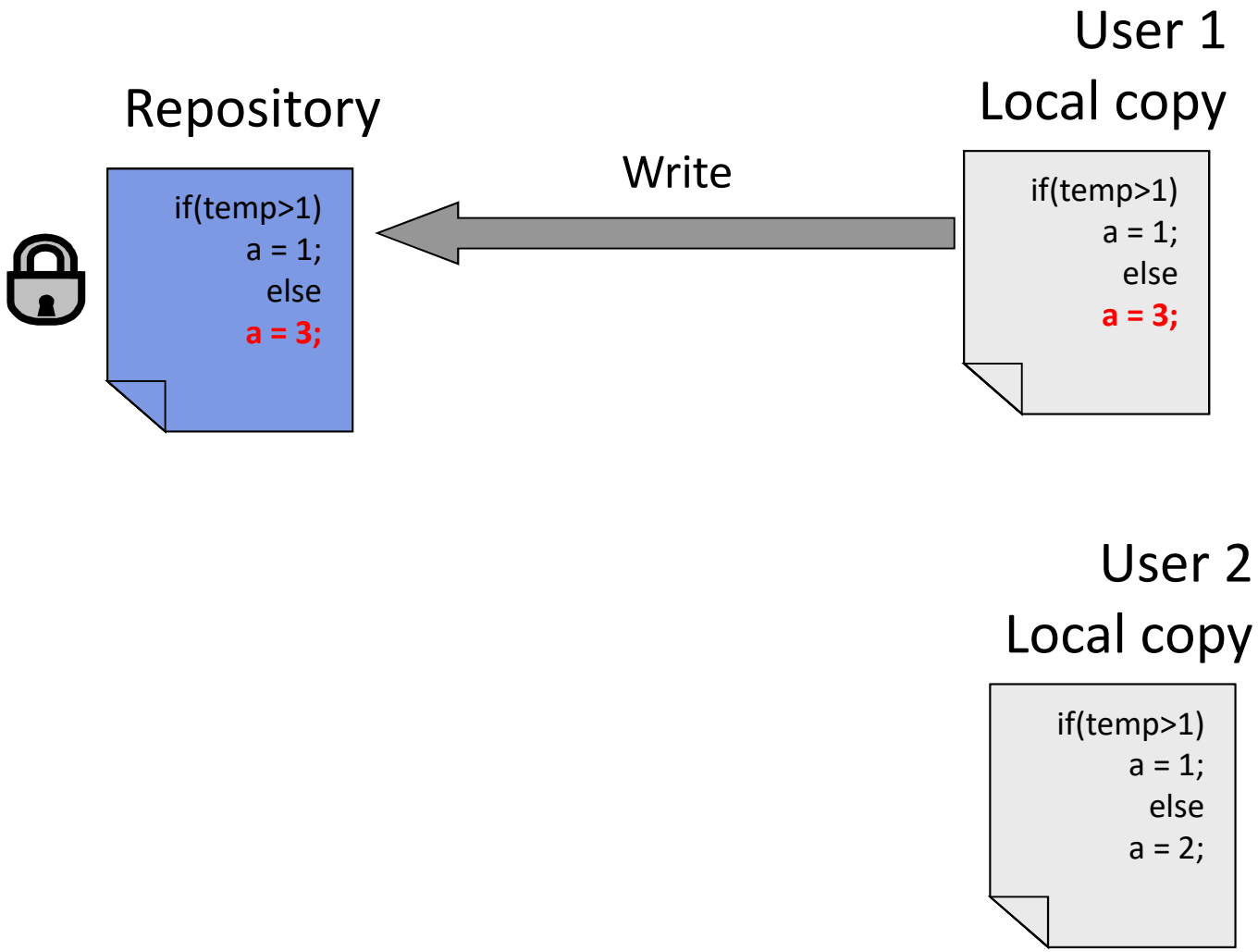

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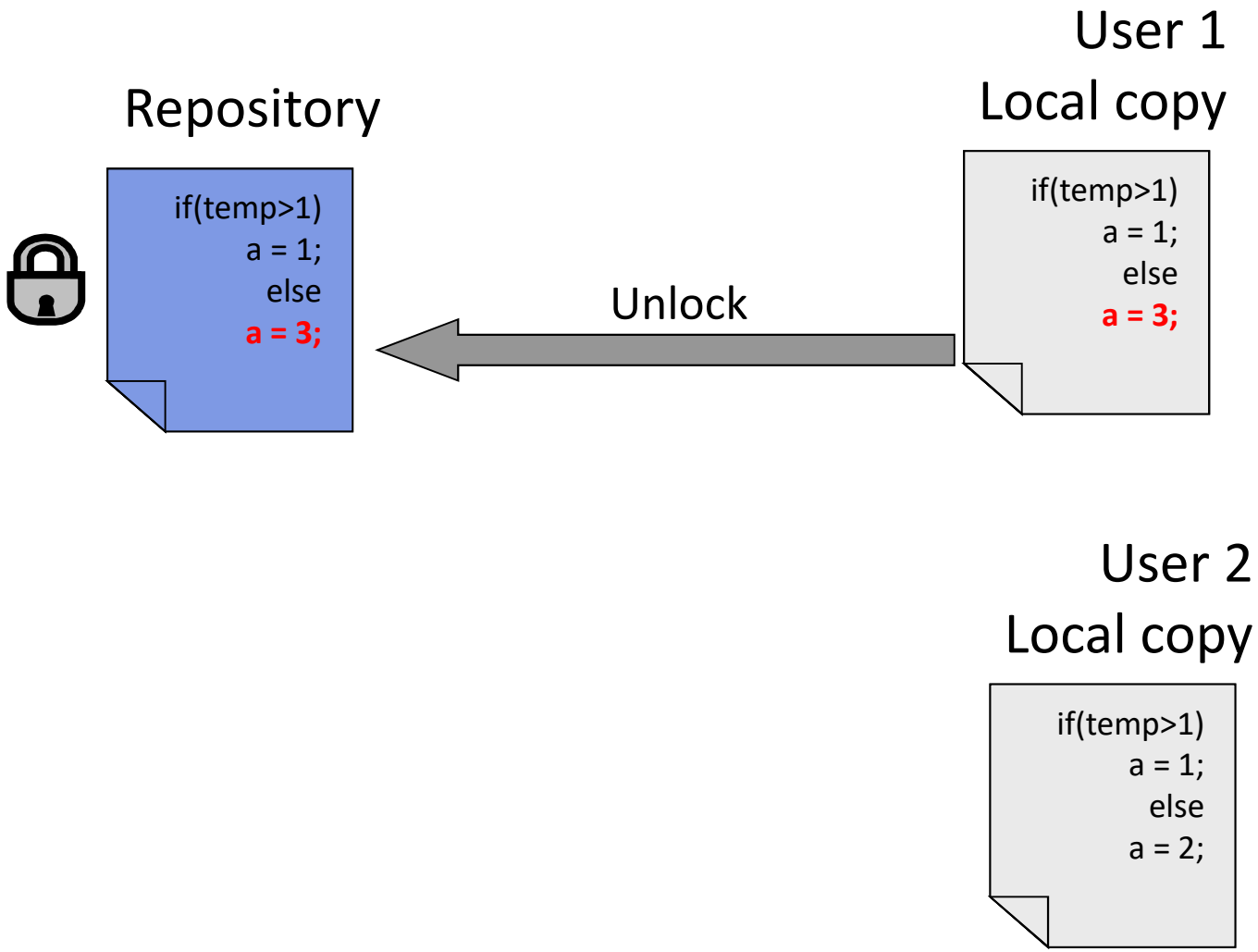

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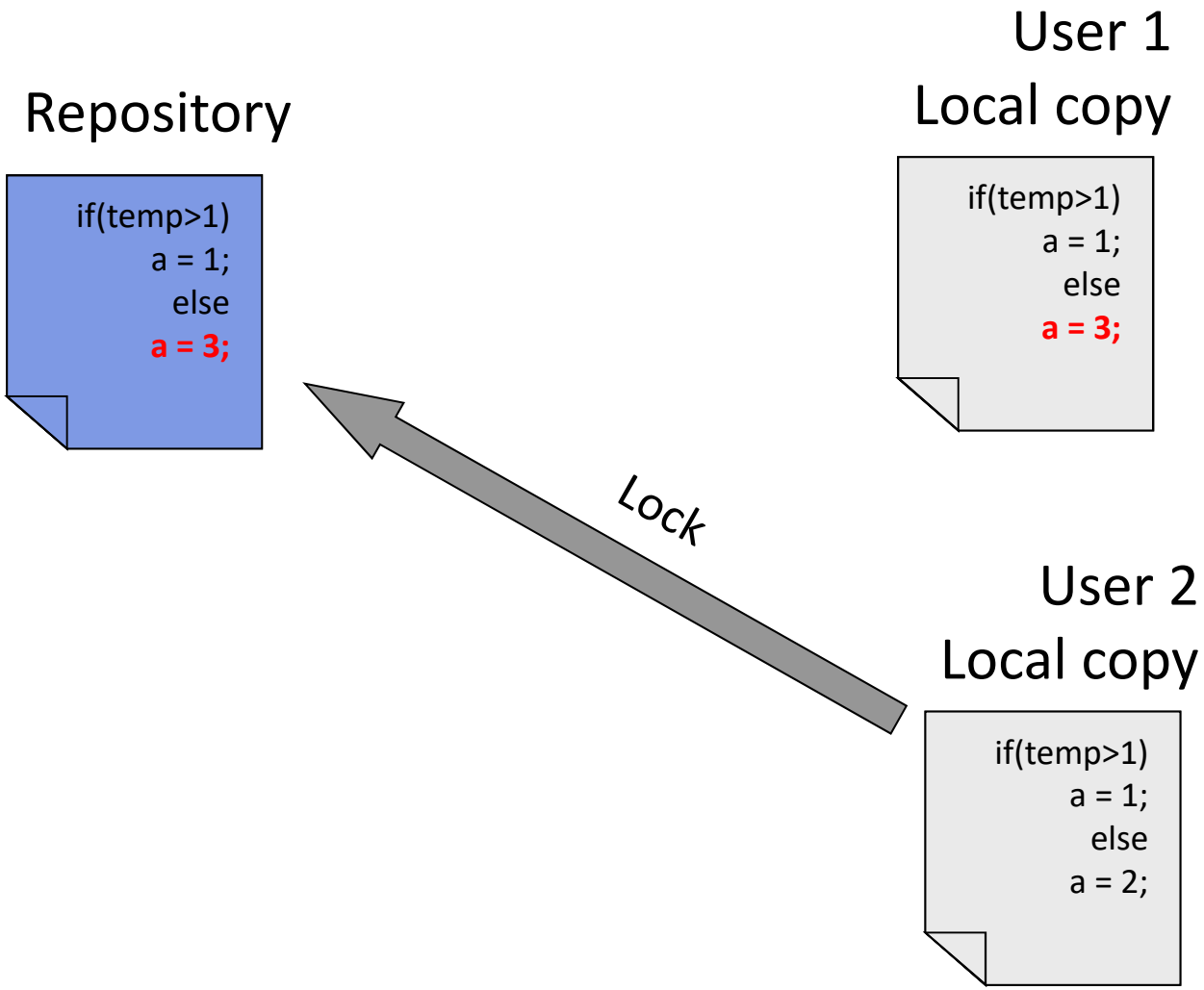
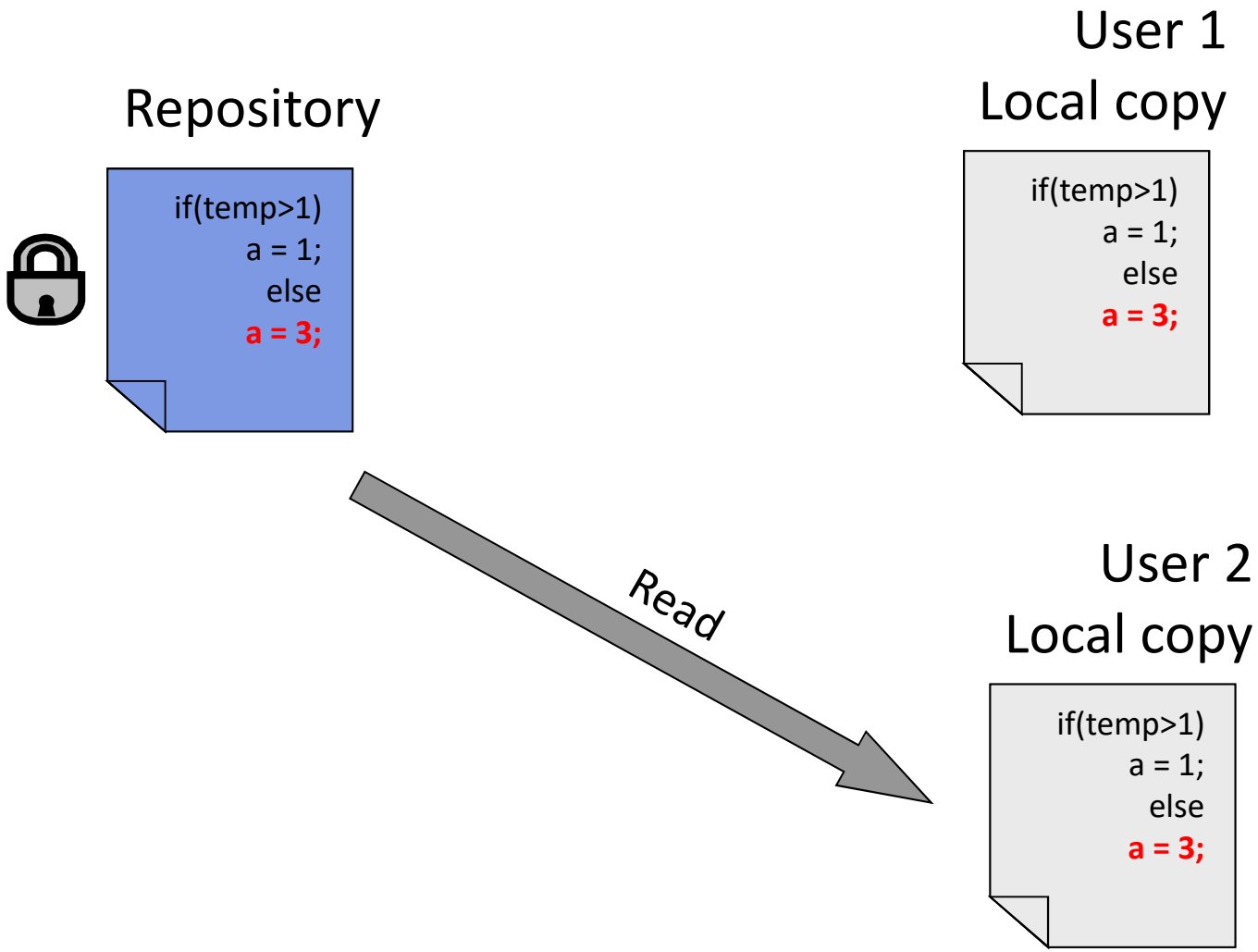


Lock–Modify–Unlock approach



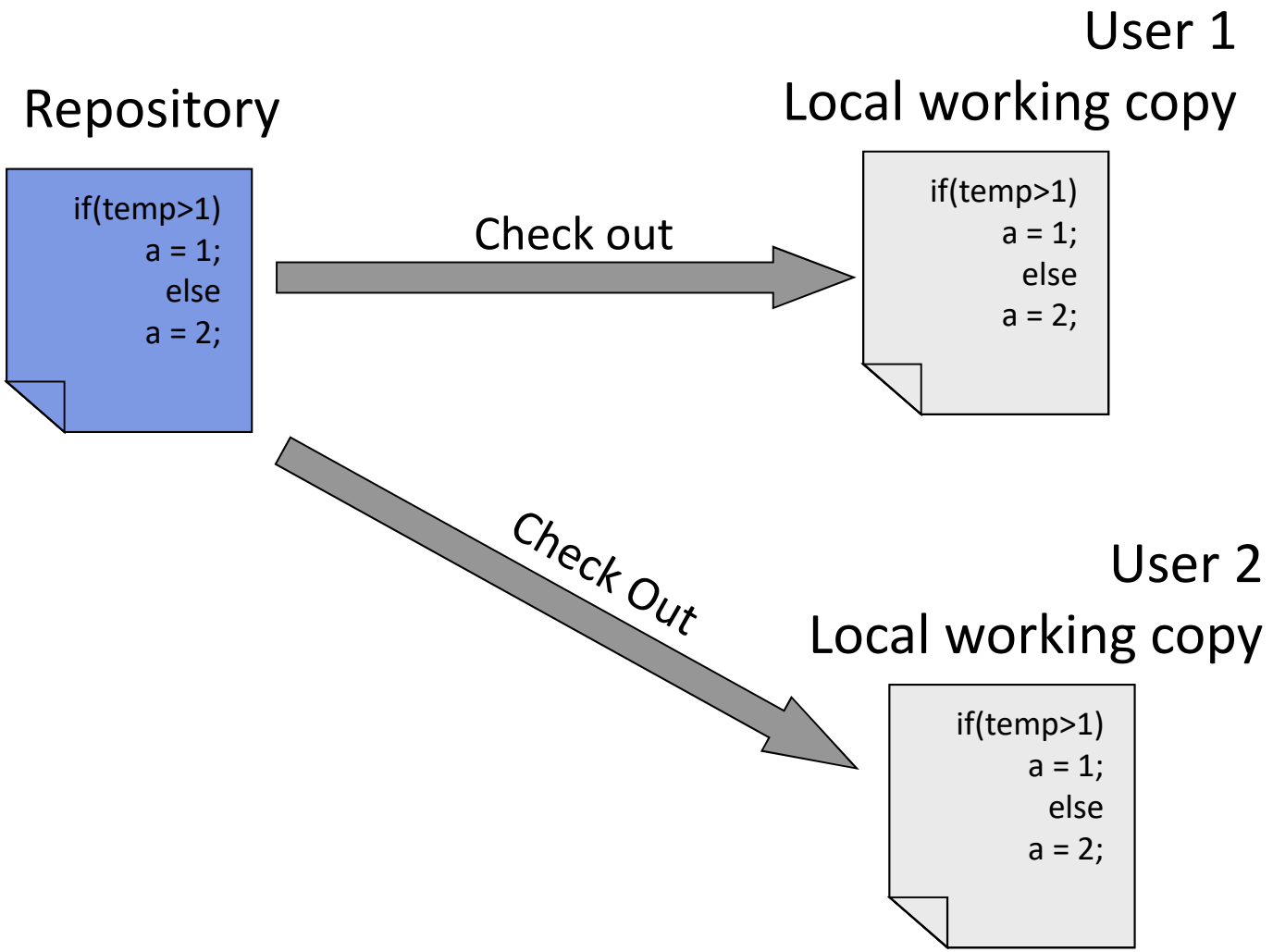
Problems of Lock–Modify–Unlock approach

- Can lead to administrative problems:
  - One of the developers forget to unlock a file and goes to holyday …
  - System administrator is needed to unlock those files
- Cause unnecessary waiting:
  - If more than one developers want to modify the same C file, but different parts of it, then there is no reason to exclude the others.
- It can lead to the false illusion of safety:
  - Developers with the lock and modify approach tends to forget the dependency of different software parts.

Copy–Modify–Merge approach

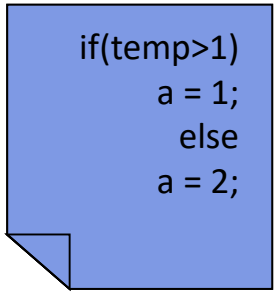
- Multiple developers **check out** from the repository to their **working copies**.
- During the **commit** phase they solve the **conflicts** by **merging** their versions.
- The Merging process is supported by the version control system, but it requires human interactions and decisions.

The Copy–Modify–Merge approach in work

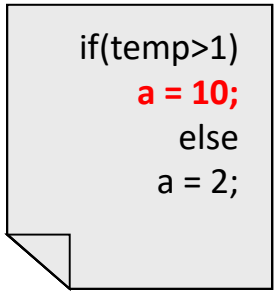


The Copy–Modify–Merge approach in work

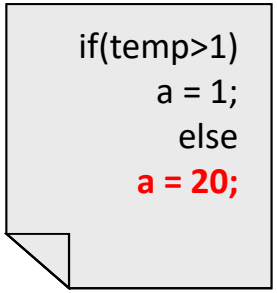
Repository



User 1
Local working copy



User 2
Local working copy



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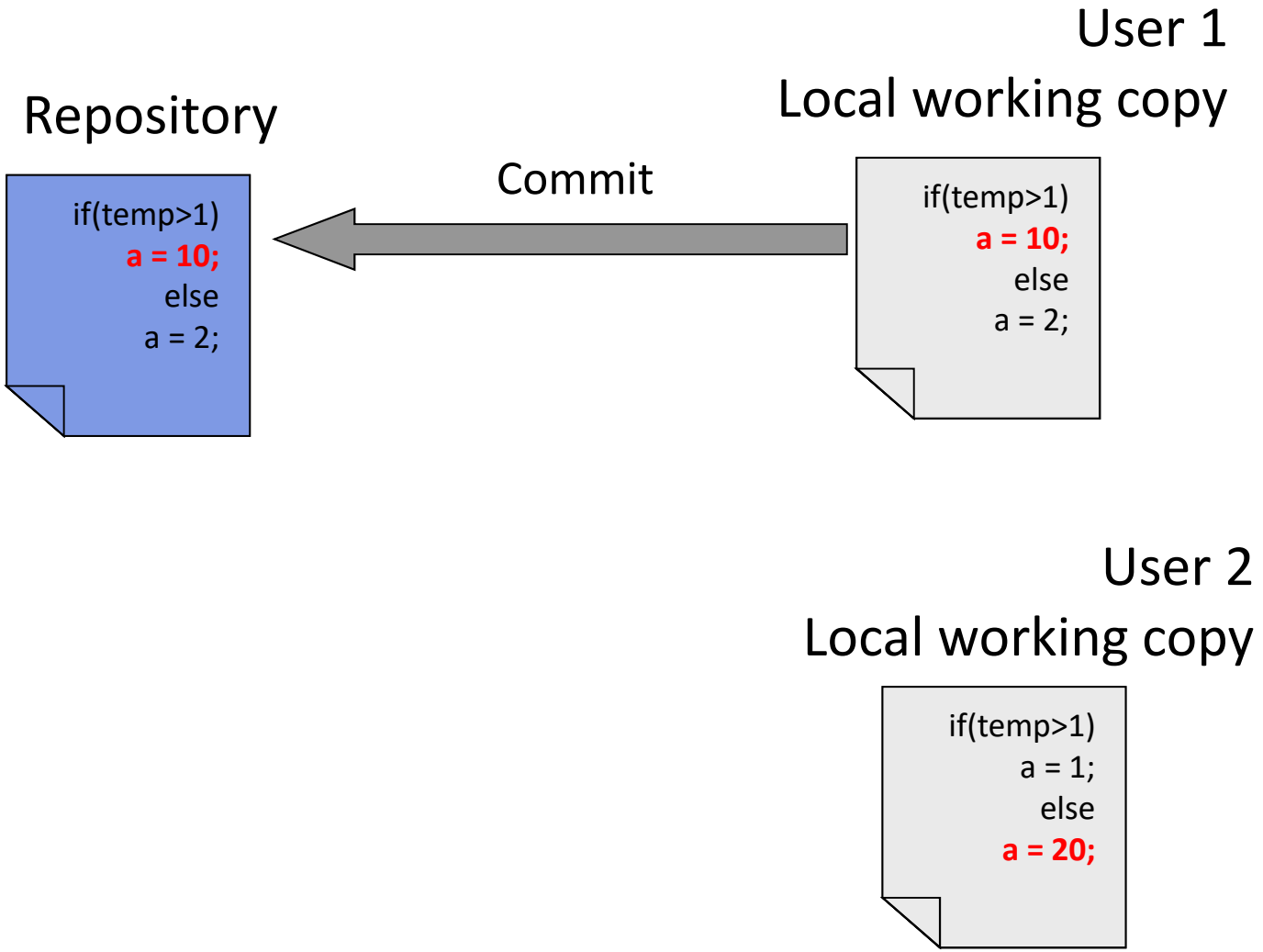

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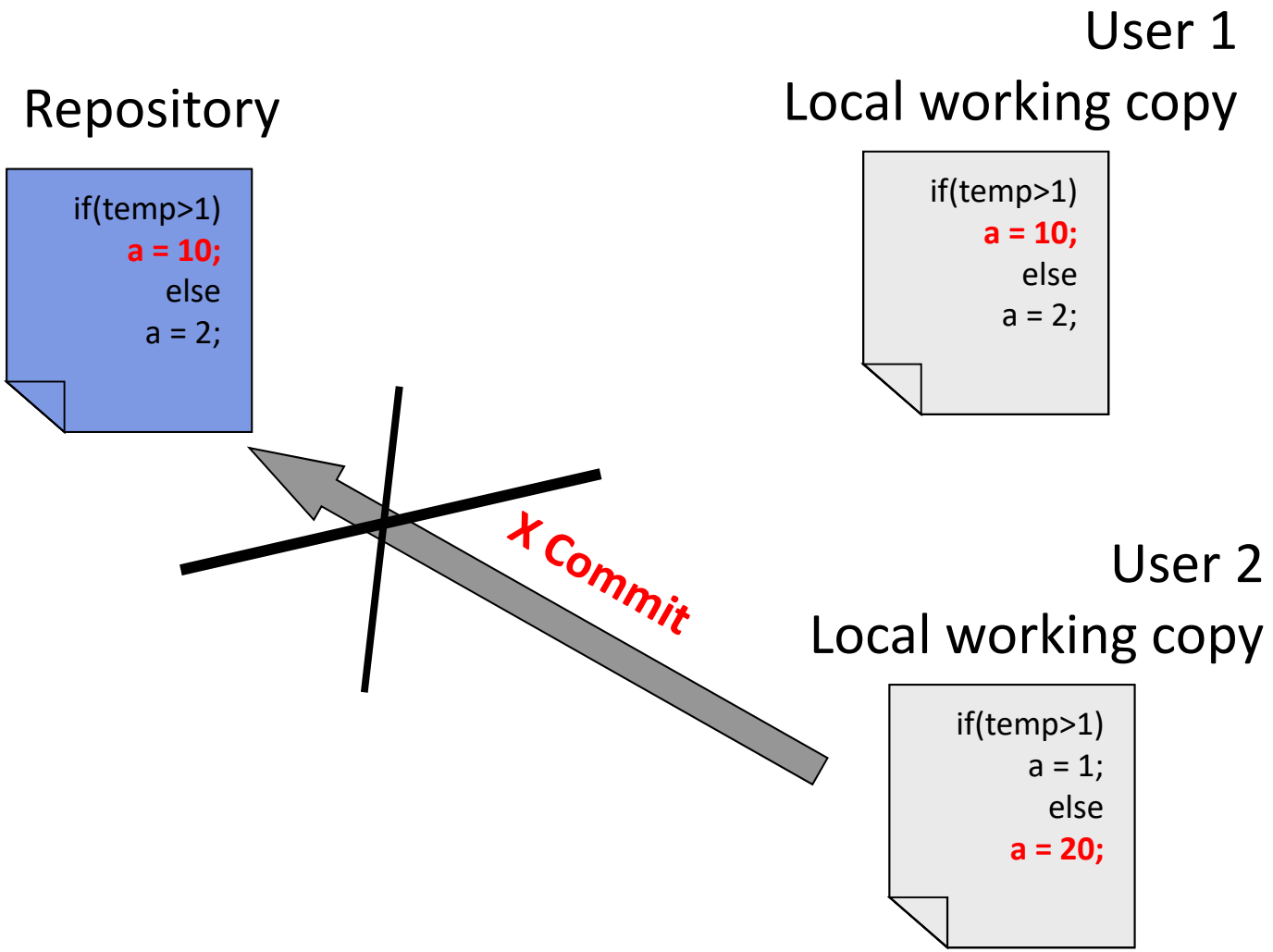

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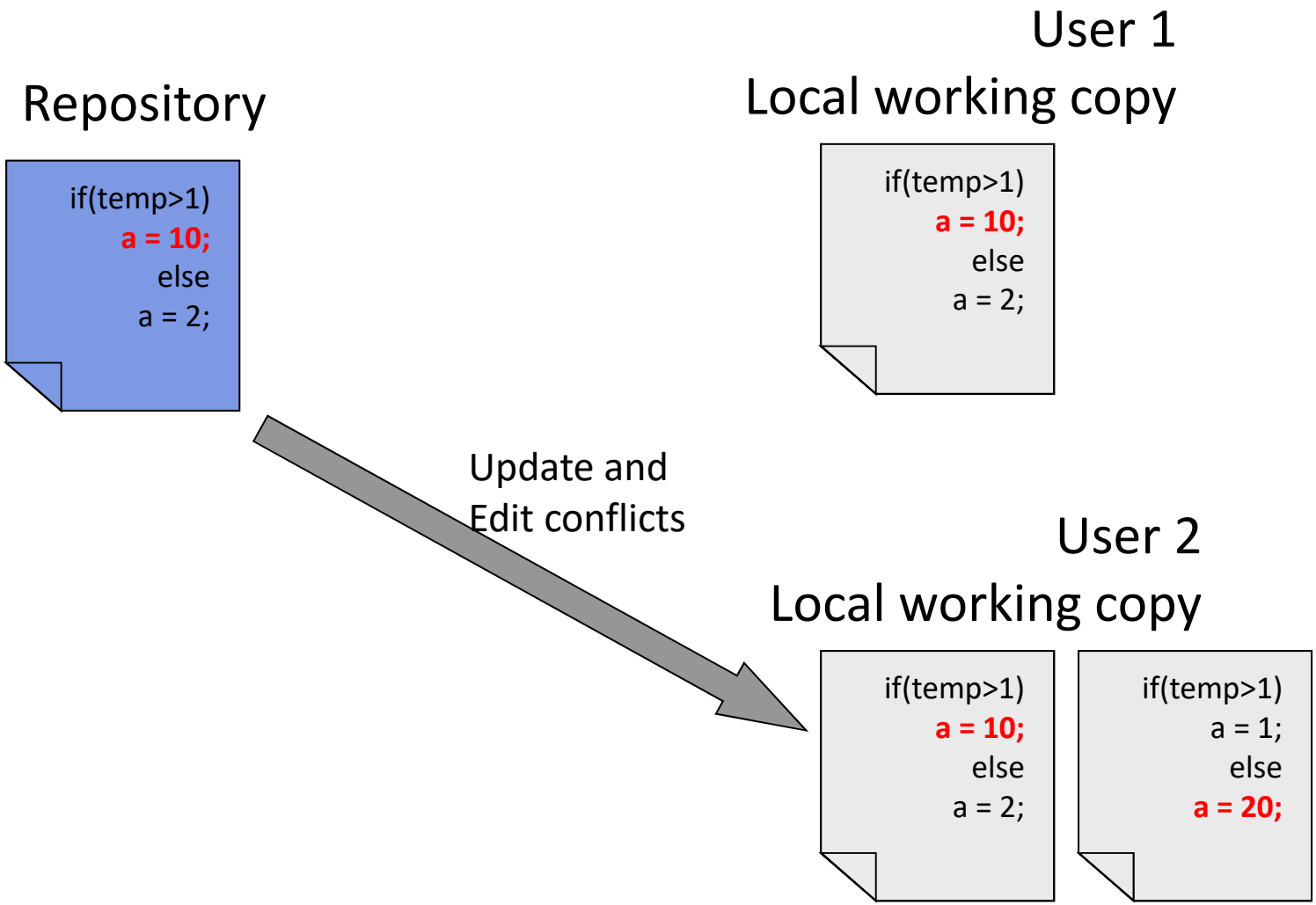

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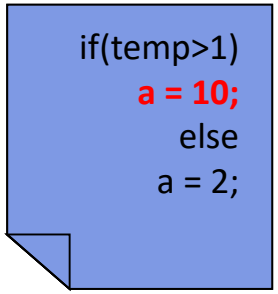

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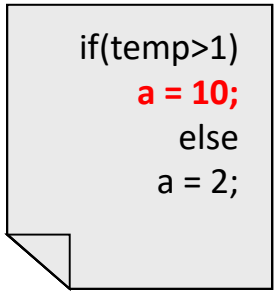
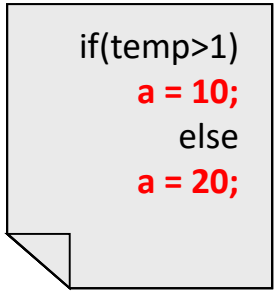


User 2
Local working copy



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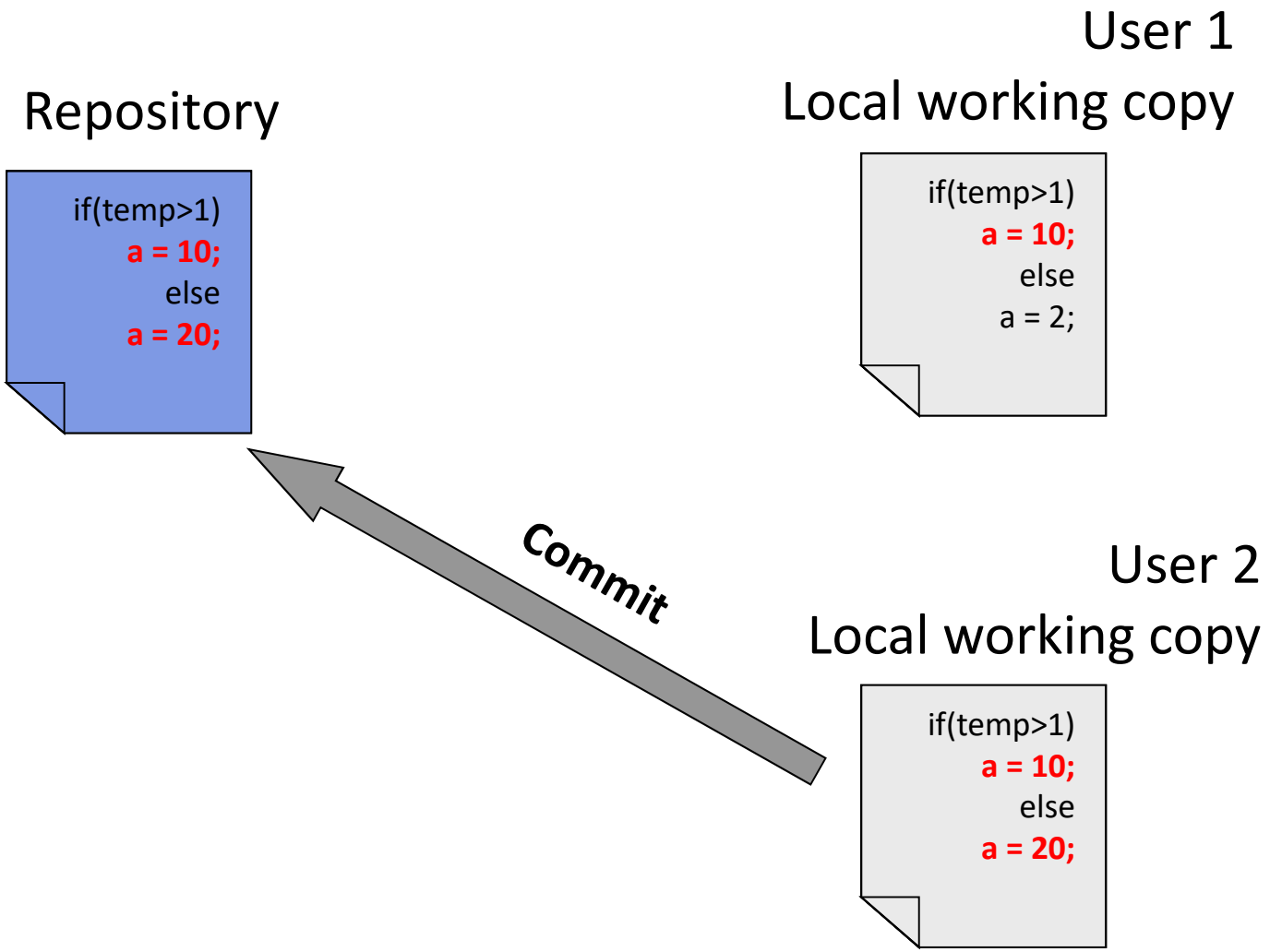

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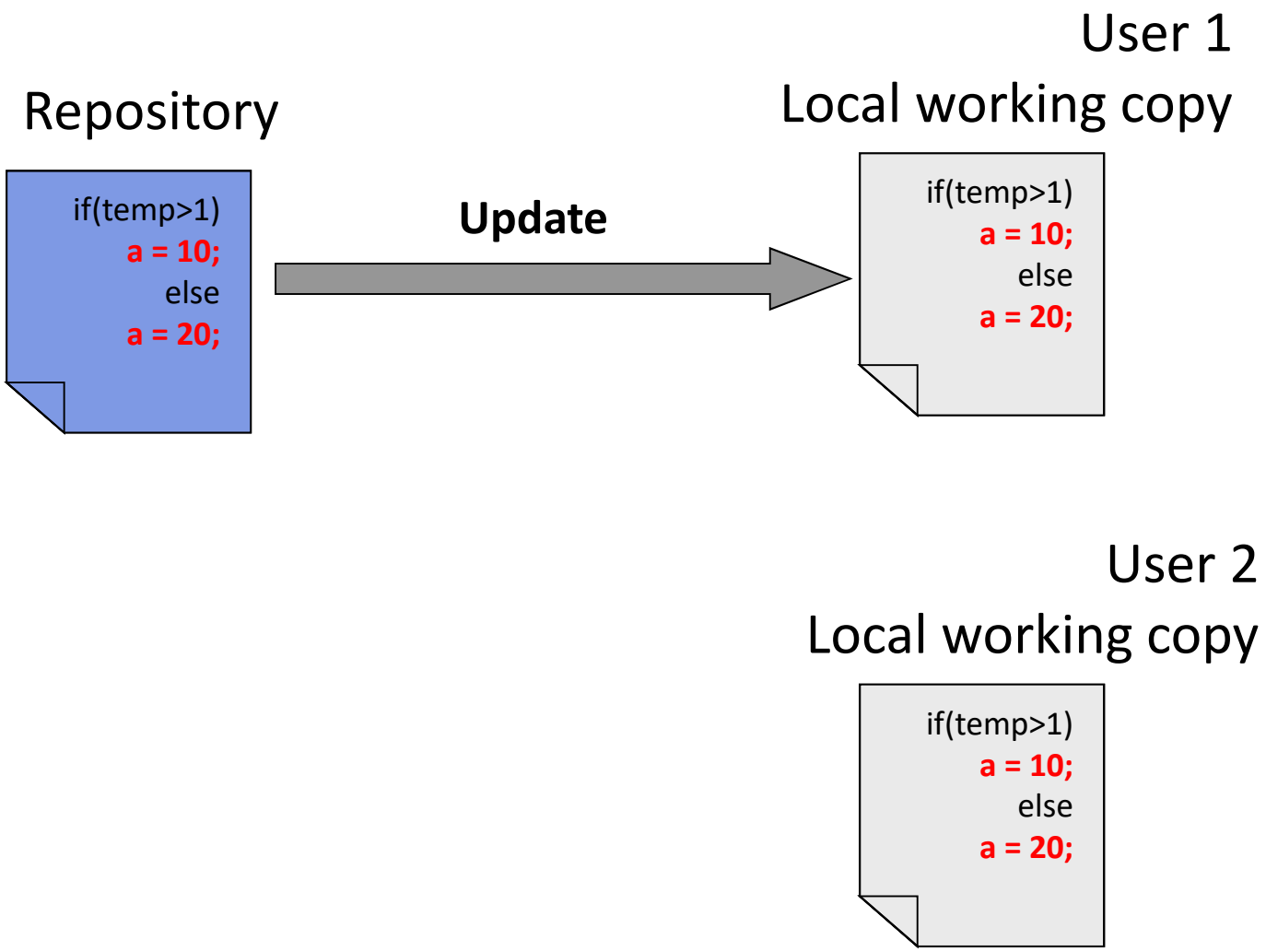


A Copy–Modify–Merge megközelítés
merits and flaws

- It enables the parallel work of multiple developers
- Commit signals the conflicts
- Human interaction is needed to solve conflicts
- Version Control Systems do not replace the communication among team members

When do we need to use the lock-unlock approach?

- For binary files, where the text based merge is not possible.
  - Wav files, other raw data files
  - Outputs of some tools like PCB designers

- Therefore the lock function is available in most of the version control systems

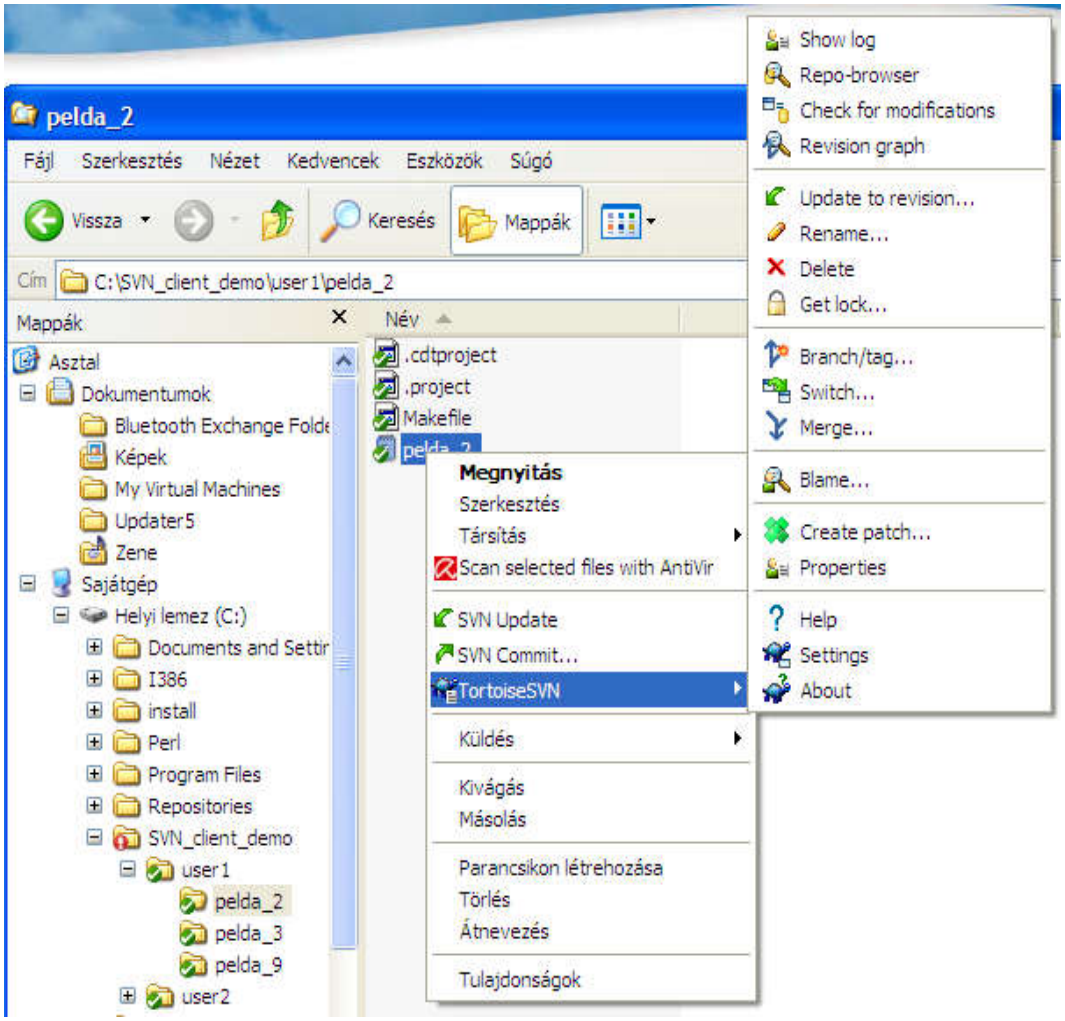
Centralized Version Control Systems
SVN, server solution example

Centralized Version Control Systems
SVN, client, TortoiseSVN

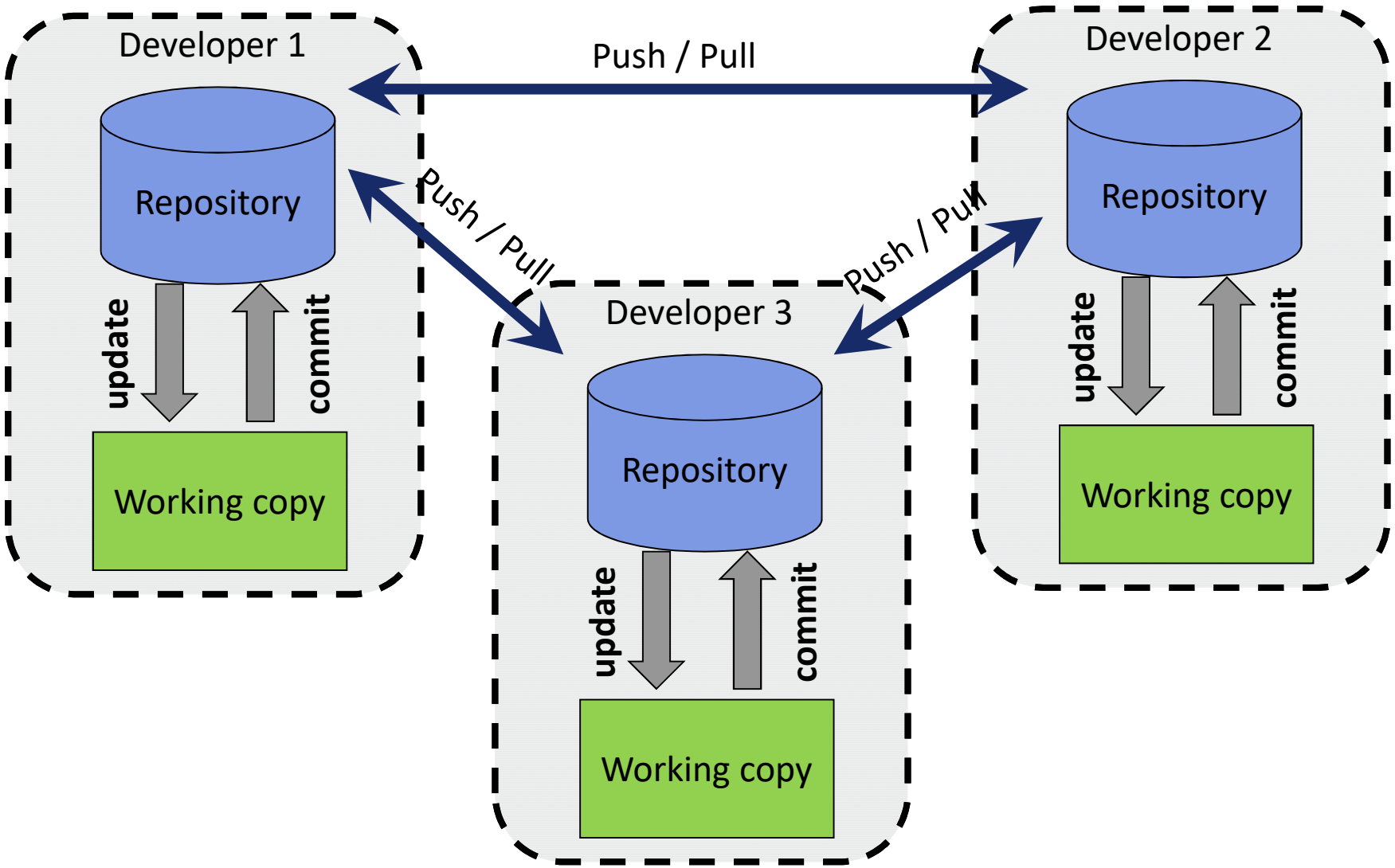
- Free SVN Client

  (there is a CVS version too)
  - http://tortoisesvn.net/

- It can overlay the icons of Windows



Distributed Revision Control



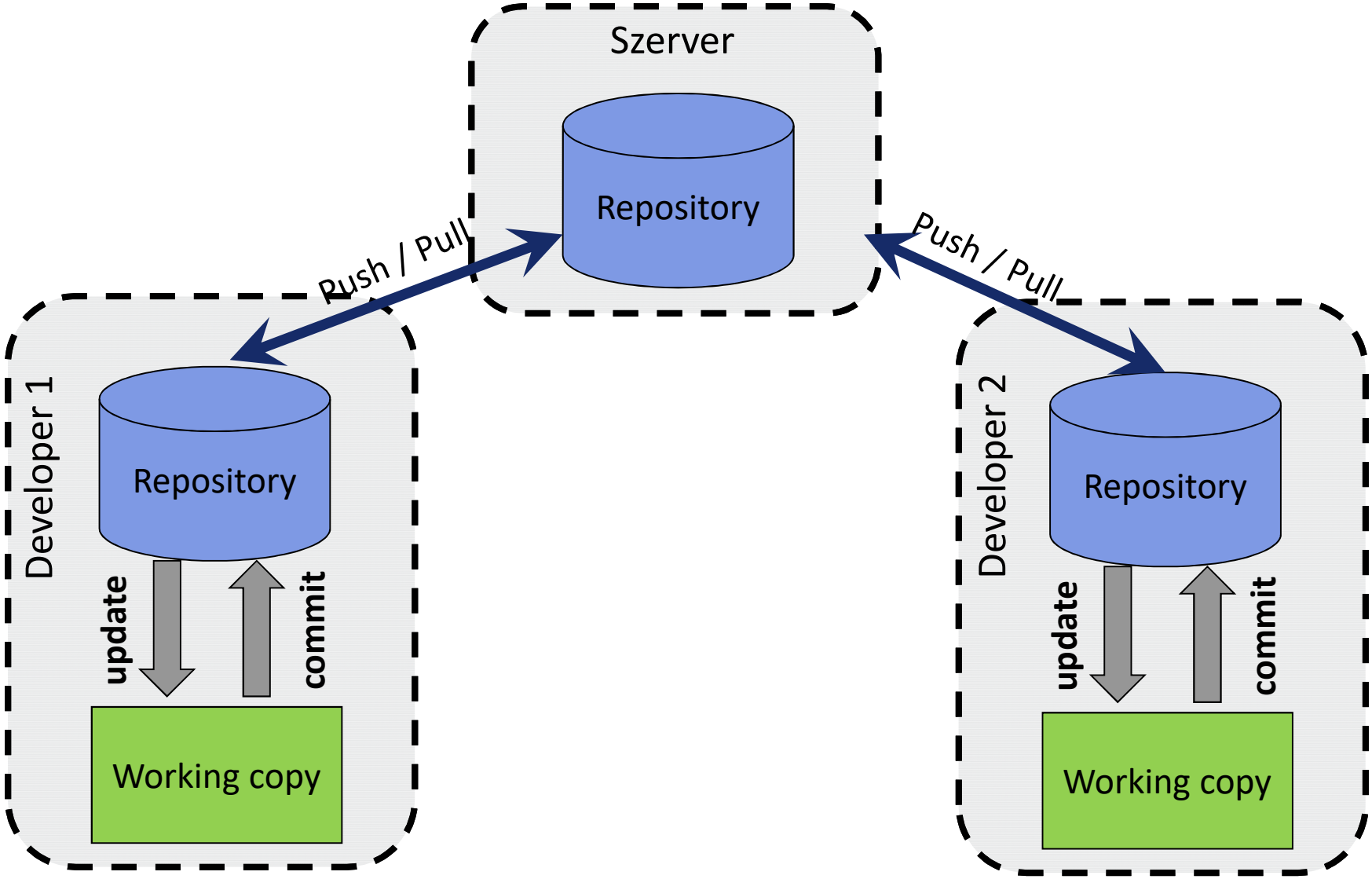
Distributed Revision Control merits

- Everyone has its own sandbox
  - Own repository, individual commit strategy
  - Easy to access the logs of own repository
- It works of line too
  - Centralized versions requires a server
- Fast
  - Don’t have to wait for the network communication
- Easy to manage
  - There is no need for a server
- Easy to make branches
  - Every developer has its own branch

Distributed Revision Control flaws

- There is still a need for back-up
  - The other developers repository cannot be considered as a back-up, because those can be very different
- There is no such us current release
  - Everybody has its own version
- There are no version numbers
  - Every change has its GUID (Globally Unique ID), but there is no such continuously like: rev 1, rev 2, rev 3

Distributed Revision Control
Usual approach



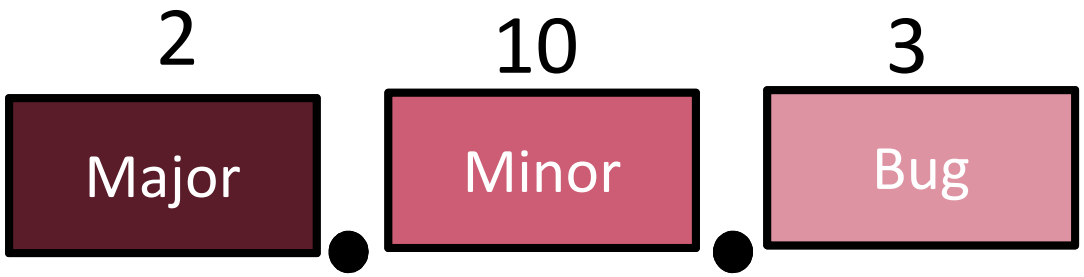
Distributed Revision Control
GIT “server side”

- According to terms there is not really one
- There are service providers like GitHub that can provide a centralized server for Git pushes (more then **26 million** repo)

Distributed Revision Control
GIT “client side”

- According to the terms there is not really one …
- GitHub for windows
- TortoiseGIT

Controlling Version Numbers
Semantic Versioning



- **Major:** major change that introduce incompatibility with previous verison. Like API (Application Programming Interface) change or functionality change.
- **Minor:** Change of functionality, but backwards-compatible API and features.
- **Bug:** backwards-compatible bug fixes.