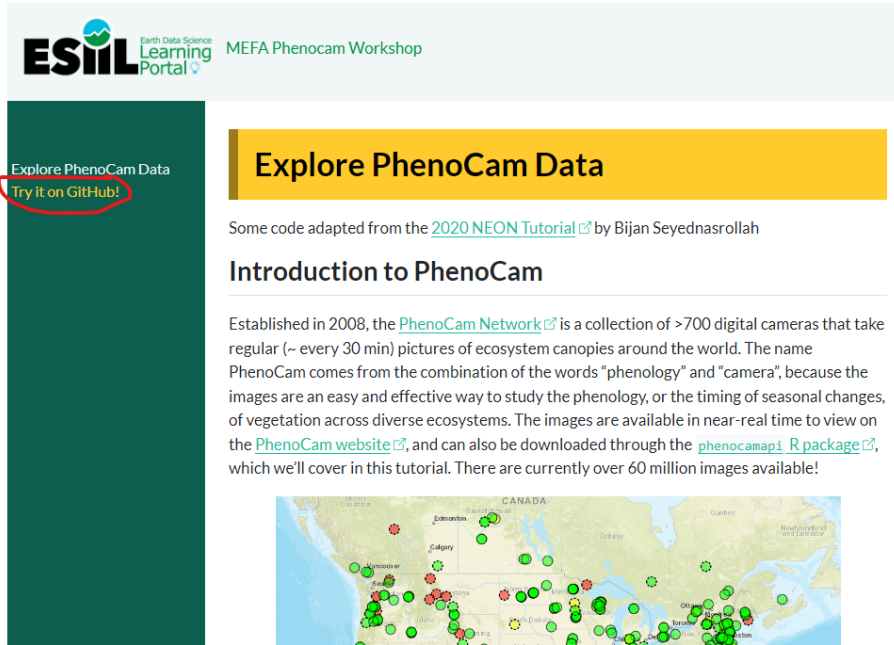# PhenoCam Activity & Codespaces

Prepared by Alison Post (alison.post@colorado.edu) July 2024

We've created a digital textbook page from the PhenoCam workshop material.You can find the textbook page at this link: https://cu-esiil-edu.github.io/esiil-learning-portal/mefa/notebooks/07-phenocam/phenocam.html

Click "Try it on GitHub" (red circle below) to start a Codespace via GitHub classroom.

This will create a copy of the PhenoCam workshop GitHub repository with your GitHub username afterwards:

The blue link (red # 1) takes you to your copy of the repository in GitHub. Be sure to save this link so you can find it again in the future.

Note: Your copied repository is stored within the larger ESIIL GitHub account (notice the "cu-esiil-edu" in the filepath). This allows you to have unlimited codespace time/storage since we have an educational account. This means the repository is NOT stored in your personal GitHub account. The best way to access it is to save/bookmark this link. Otherwise, you can go to the ESIIL Education GitHub page (https://github.com/cu-esiil-edu), scroll down, and then search for your copied repository using your GitHub username (red circle below).

The black "Open in GitHub Codespaces" button (red # 2 in screenshot on prior page) will create a codespace for you and open the PhenoCam activity within it.

Once in codespaces, click on one of the ".qmd" (quarto) files to open the activity - either "MEFA PhenoCam Activity" (full version) or "MEFA PhenoCam Activity_student" (some blanks in code). It should automatically open in visual mode (the pretty version).
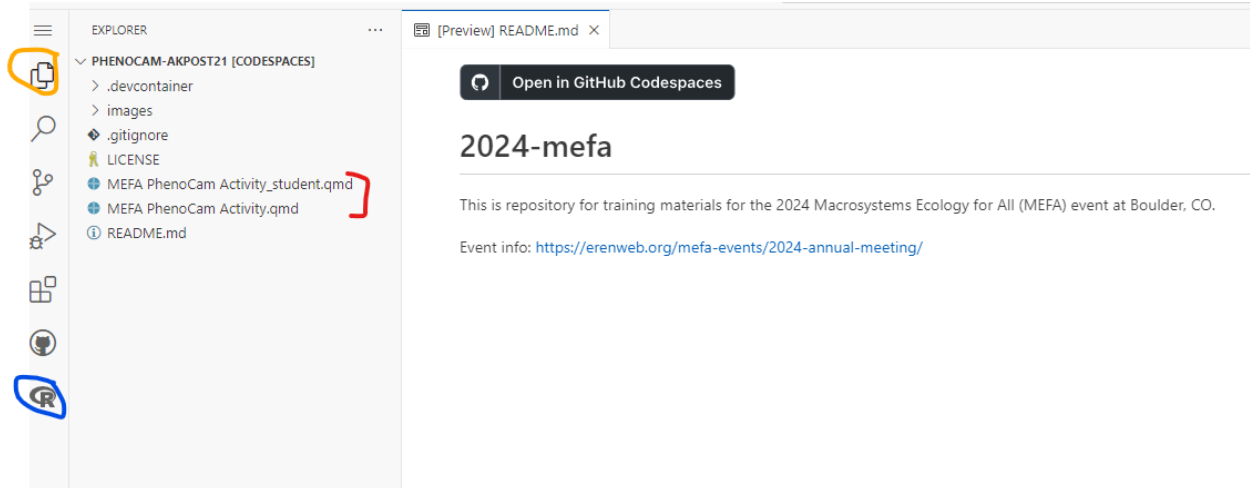
Remember that you can see your virtual computer with the "2-paper" symbol in the upper right (yellow circle) and your R environment with the "R" symbol (blue circle).
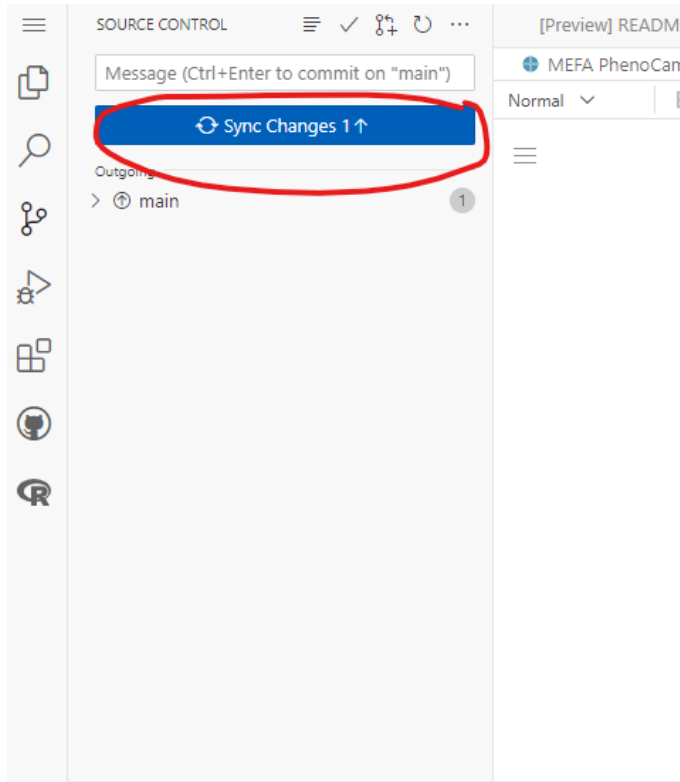
Save your work!

To save any changes you make to the activity, you will have to complete 3 steps (stage, commit, and push) so they are saved in your GitHub repository. For example, I added the words "added text" to the bottom of the file. That causes a little notification to pop up on the left ("branch" symbol, red circle below). If I click that "branch" symbol, I can see my file is ready to be saved. Press the "+" symbol (yellow circle) to stage the change (step 1).
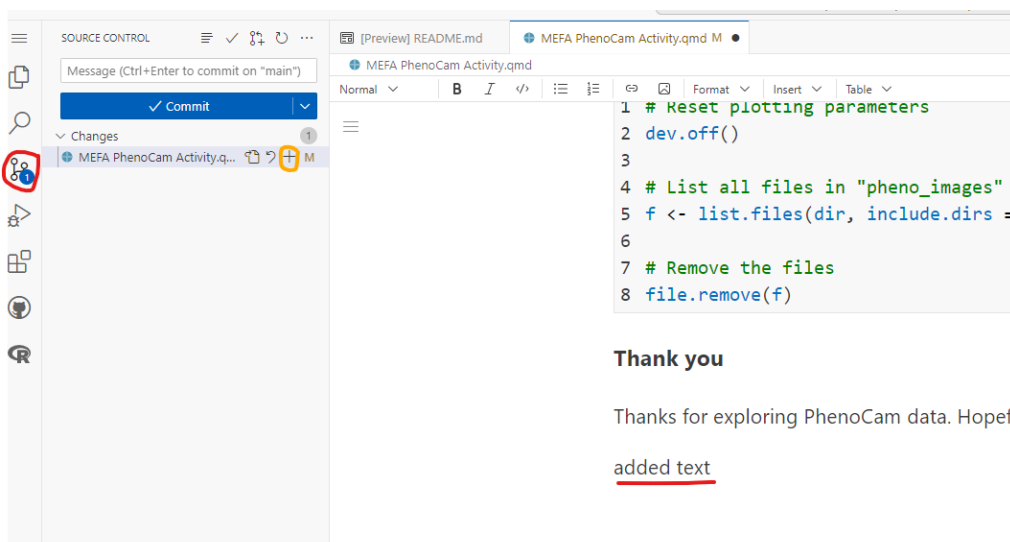
Then, write a short note (couple words) about what changes you made in the message box and press the blue "commit" button (step 2).

Finally, press the sync changes button (step 3) and hit "OK" on the pop-up message.

Now, your changes should be reflected in your GitHub repository and your work is saved!

Close your Codespace

Finally, you should always close your codespace when you're done using it so it's not taking up resources. From your GitHub repository, click the green "code" button and then make sure the "codespaces" tab is selected. You can see I have 1 active codespace open called "didactic waddle". Click the 3 dots next to that name, and select stop codespace.

To re-open the codespace in the future, from your repository, click the green "code" button again and click on the name of the codespace you want to open.
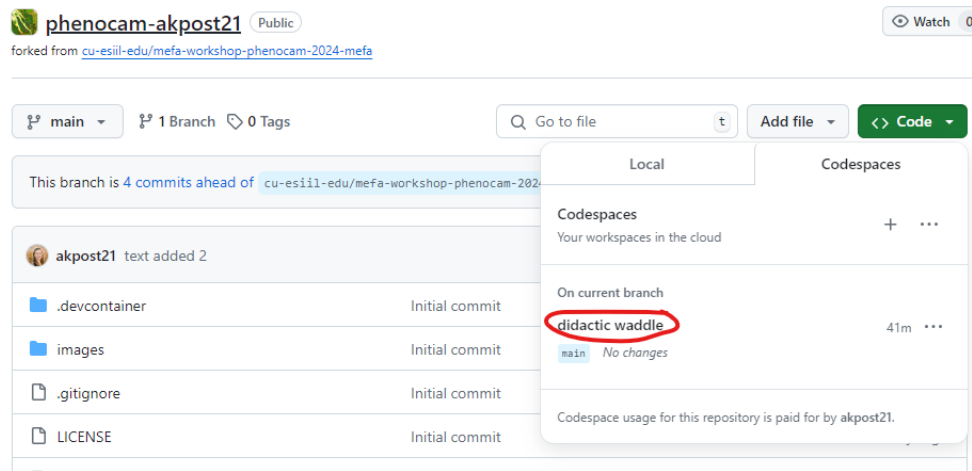
You can follow these same instructions to completely delete a codespace and/or create a new one from your repository.