Bernhard Merkle – Find(ing) Bugs Is Easy
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**Frank Birbacher – Style C++ for Version Control**

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Style C++ for Version Control

Frank Birbacher

April 26, 2012
The Problem

version control...
- ignores code syntax
- looks at lines
- merge conflicts
- tool problem
“Don’t sweat the small stuff.”
The Goal

- reduce diff size
- reduce merge conflicts
The Approach

- make more lines
- keep (some) lines constant
Braces

```cpp
if ( condition )
{
    ...
}
```

- braces on separate lines
- brace introduces constant line
- condition and body can change independently
Extra Comma

```cpp
enum States{
    StateA,
    StateB,
    StateC,
};
```

- trailing comma
- can be extended with one-line-diff
- same for array initializers
Ctor initializer list

ClientInfo::ClientInfo()
  : InfoBase(42)
  , peer(PEER_UNKNOWN)
  , contract(getDefaultContract())
{
}

- comma at beginning of line
- can be extended with one-line-diff
Parameter lists?

```cpp
ClientInfo makeClientInfo(
    unsigned const identifier,
    Peer const& peer,
    Contract const& contract
)
{
}
```

- prefix comma can be done
- changes in parameters should conflict?
- anyway more readable
Thanks.
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