**Apache Subversion** (often abbreviated **SVN**, after the command name *svn*) is a [software versioning](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software_versioning) and [revision control](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revision_control) system distributed as [free software](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free_software) under the [Apache License](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apache_License).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apache_Subversion#cite_note-2) Software developers use Subversion to maintain current and historical versions of files such as [source code](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Source_code), web pages, and documentation. Its goal is to be a mostly compatible successor to the widely used [Concurrent Versions System](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concurrent_Versions_System) (CVS).