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## Why Developers and Data Scientists Use GitHub: Reason 1

**Controlled collaboration:** With Google Docs, several people can edit the same document at the same time, which is useful. However, a Google Doc collaboration can easily run amok. Changes can be made haphazardly, and it's not easy to identify who made what revision and when. For instance, in a burst of inspiration, Linus could overwrite Petunia's brilliant paragraph only to later realize that the text he entered was sloppy and full of errors.

With GitHub, collaborators create their own versions of repositories called **branches**. They can edit these and then merge them back into the main repo, known as the **master branch**.

Another collaboration tool is a **pull request**. This allows administrators to view changes from other collaborators' branches and decide if they should be implemented.

And then there is the **changelog**, a record of the changes that individuals make to a repository. The log makes it easy to identify who did what and when.

