A distributed [version control system](https://about.gitlab.com/topics/version-control/) (DVCS) brings a local copy of the complete repository to every team member’s computer, so they can commit, branch, and merge locally. The server doesn’t have to store a physical file for each branch — it just needs the differences between each commit.

[Distributed version control systems](https://about.gitlab.com/blog/2020/10/02/distributed-version-control/) help software development teams create strong workflows and hierarchies, with each developer pushing code changes to their own repository and maintainers setting a [code review process](https://about.gitlab.com/topics/version-control/what-is-code-review/) to ensure only quality code merges into the main repository.

