GitHub is used as configuration management tool in order to track changes made to a software project and its code base. GitHub allows the user to create a local copy of the project which is separate from the main copy stored online. This allows multiple users to work on the same code base at the same time. Once a user makes changes to a files in the project, they can sync it back with the main code online. The user must select which files to sync, by bringing them into a staging area. Once synced, the repository online will contain the newer files. If more than 1 person changes the same file, the person who syncs last will need to merge the changes.

GitHub also allows creating branches of code. This is very useful when multiple large changes are being made to a project. Users can branch out their code as they make changes related to a specific requirement. Once all changes have been made, the branch can be merged with the original branch, incorporating the changes into the main branch. GitHub can be used via command line or the GUI called GitHub desktop. It can also be used directly from Eclipse via a plug-in called EGit.

