SOFTWARE CITATION CHECKLIST

AGU
ADVANCING EARTH
AND SPACE SCIENCE

Plan, curate, and connect your software. Use this checklist to improve your software citation, discovery and credit.

YOUR SOFTWARE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

☐ **Decide on and use an open-source license.** Use the choose an open-source license site to decide.

☐ **Documentation is key.** Plan to capture information that will be vital to describing and citing your software later including authors (contributors), project/software name, releases (versions), coding standards, dependencies, frameworks, tests, and sustainability. See SSI's Software Management Plans.

YOUR SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM. YOUR REPOSITORY.

☐ **Choose a repository.** Software development platforms such as GitHub are not long term preservation solutions. Look ahead to when you will preserve and cite your software and identify a repository you will use (domain, institutional, general).

☐ **Determine what metadata you will need.** E.g. Making your code citable via Zenodo and GitHub and using Zenodo's Sandbox allows you to see additional metadata that you will need including ORCIDs for authors, related identifiers (e.g. paper DOIs), funding information, etc. and the CodeMeta file that is created.

YOUR SOFTWARE AVAILABILITY STATEMENT. YOUR SOFTWARE REFERENCE.

☐ **Include your Software Availability Statement** if it has a significant impact on your research and/or your research is not reproducible without it.

☐ Your **Software Availability Statement** should include:
  - ☐ Very brief **description** of what the software is used for
  - ☐ **Repository DOI/PID** for your preserved software (e.g. Zenodo)
  - ☐ **Version** of the software used and preserved
  - ☐ (Open source) **license** and other **access conditions**
  - ☐ Development **platform link** (e.g. GitHub repository)

☐ In the **methodology section** of your paper:
  - ☐ Describe how your software works as it pertains to your research

☐ Include the software in your **references** using the preserved software's **repository DOI/PID**.

YOUR SOFTWARE CITATION FILE FORMAT.

☐ **Add instructions to your development platform on how to cite your software**. Use the Citation File Format.

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