Science Code Manifesto

- Manifesto
- Discussion
- Endorse
- Resources
- About

Software is a cornerstone of science. Without software, twenty-first century science would be impossible. Without better software, science cannot progress.

But the culture and institutions of science have not yet adjusted to this reality. We need to reform them to address this challenge, by adopting these five principles:

Code

All source code written specifically to process data for a published paper must be available to the reviewers and readers of the paper.

Copyright

The copyright ownership and license of any released source code must be clearly stated.

Citation

Researchers who use or adapt science source code in their research must credit the code's creators in resulting publications.

Credit

Software contributions must be included in systems of scientific assessment, credit, and recognition.

Curation

Source code must remain available, linked to related materials, for the useful lifetime of the publication.

Founding Signatories

Nick Barnes Climate Code Foundation
Peter Norvig Director of Research, Google Inc Cameron Neylon Science in the Open
Rufus Pollock Open Knowledge Foundation
Victoria Stodden Columbia University

David Jones Climate Code Foundation
Peter Norvig Director of Research, Google Inc Cameron Neylon Science in the Open
Joseph Jackson Open Science Alliance
Peter Suber Berkman Fellow, Harvard University

Endorse the Manifesto, or read our discussion document.

Further Reading

- Climate Code Foundation
- Panton Principles
- Open Knowledge Definition

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