**Digital Object Identifiers**

[…]

Digital Object Identifiers (DOI’s) are made up of a name and accompanying metadata which together describe and uniquely identify digital resources such as documents, images, data and software. They offer a stable placeholder for an object, since while metadata or resources can be changed over time, DOI names will always remain the same. DOI metadata is searchable using a publicly-available online database.

For these reasons DOI’s have seen widespread use in scientific literature for the purposes of citation.

In Mantid1, we automatically generate DOI’s for each and every incremental release of the software. The process is scripted; automatically pulling in author lists and other information from our code repository to be sent off to the DataCite2 servers.

At ISIS, DOI’s are generated for scientific investigations as well as for individual data sets. […]

**References**

1. [www.mantidproject.org](http://www.mantidproject.org)
2. [www.datacite.org](http://www.datacite.org/)

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