

Computer Code

Computer code availability

Computers and Geosciences systematically rejects manuscripts presenting computer code that is not open-source. For example, a manuscript presenting a new algorithm or methodology and advertising it in a closed source package will be desk rejected. Open-source code is both a way of ensuring reproducibility and an incentive for the distribution and re-use of research software. For each software-accompanied submission, a compulsory software availability section is requested. **It should contain the following information (within 500 words):**

Name of code, developer and contact address, telephone number and e-mail, year first available, hardware required, software required, program language, program size, and details on how to access the source code.

The text should be included as a new section titled “Computer Code Availability” after Acknowledgements. When a software component is an essential part of the paper presentation, authors should be prepared to make it available to reviewers during the review process. Software/scripts used or developed for the substantial part of the presented work must be open-source and freely available for download from a stable public repository (git repositories are encouraged). Please avoid i) inserting the code source directly in the manuscript, and ii) personal file-sharing services. The repository link should be included in the "Computer Code Availability" section, the download should be anonymous. Free open-source code for proprietary platforms (e.g. matlab or GIS plugins) are accepted and must be shared in the public repository.

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This journal aims to publish code and supporting data from accepted manuscripts using state-of-the-art technologies. Code should be original and demonstrate a development in research. It should also have clear design and be reproducible, reusable, extensible and maintainable. Manuscripts presenting code, software or implementation of described algorithms need to include a link to a repository where the code can be downloaded. In such cases the open source license should be clearly indicated in submitted manuscripts. Manuscripts that describe code that is not open source are desk rejected. The journal editors offer to fork source code or data repositories that accompany published papers on GitHub (<https://github.com/CAGEO>), to help the community find the author's original repository.

Computer code should provide the following information:

1. A **readme.txt** file (or equivalent) providing the name of the program, the title of the manuscript along with the author details. This will assist in correctly assigning the program code and associated files to the correct submission.

2. A **user manual or instruction guide** that provides information on how to use the program.
3. The **source code** for any programs that have been written.
4. **Test data** that can be used to assure that the program is working correctly. Test data should not be overly large so that there are problems downloading the program code and data.
5. **Output files** should also be provided that will allow a user to check if a compiled program is working properly.
6. **Executable program code is not encouraged** because of difficulty in transmitting .exe files past Virus scanners and the limited life of executable code.
7. All files should be **compressed into .zip or .gz format**, which will then be placed on the Computers& Geosciences FTP site for download once the manuscript has been accepted and published.