

JOSS Submission Checklist for X12-837-Fake-Data-Generator

Pre-Submission Requirements

Repository Requirements

- ☒ **Add LICENSE file** to repository root
- ☐ **Update README.md** with proper documentation
 - ☒ Installation instructions
 - ☒ Usage examples
 - ☒ API documentation
 - ☐ Citation information
- ☐ **Add CONTRIBUTING.md** (optional but recommended)
 - Guidelines for contributing to the project
 - Code of conduct
 - How to report issues
- ☒ **Create GitHub release/tag**

Code Quality

- ☐ **Code is well-documented**
 - ☒ Inline comments explaining logic
 - ☐ Docstrings for all public functions
 - ☒ Clear module structure
- ☒ **Tests exist** (JOSS requires some tests)
 - ☒ Add unit tests (even basic ones)
 - ☒ Add to repository in `tests/` directory
 - Suggested: Test segment generation, parsing accuracy
- ☒ **Dependencies documented**
 - ☒ `requirements.txt` exists
 - ☒ Python version specified (add to README)
 - Recommended: Add `setup.py` or `pyproject.toml`

Zenodo Archive

- ☒ **Create Zenodo DOI** for software

ORCID ID

- ☐ **Update paper.md with your ORCID ID**

Paper Completeness

- ☐ **Review paper.md**
 - ☒ Summary section complete
 - ☒ Statement of need articulated
 - ☒ Installation instructions clear
 - ☒ Usage examples provided
 - ☒ References properly formatted
 - ☐ Update any placeholder text
 - ☐ Add figures (optional but helpful)
- ☐ **References in paper.bib**
 - ☒ All cited works included
 - ☐ Verify DOIs are correct
 - ☐ Add any missing citations

Optional Enhancements

- ☐ **Add figures to paper**
 - Architecture diagram showing Generator + Parser flow
 - Screenshot of web interface
 - Example 837 file snippet with annotations
 - Save as `figure1.png`, etc. in `manuscripts/figures/`
- ☐ **Add automated tests**
 - GitHub Actions CI/CD
 - Automated testing on push
 - Increases reviewer confidence
- ☐ **Add code of conduct**
 - Use Contributor Covenant: <https://www.contributor-covenant.org/>
- ☐ **Add CITATION.cff file**
 - Citation File Format for easy citing
 - GitHub will automatically display citation info

Submission Process

1. Prepare Repository

```
# Ensure repository is clean and up to date
git status
git add .
git commit -m "Prepare for JOSS submission"
```

```
git push origin main

# Create release tag
git tag -a v1.0.0 -m "Version 1.0.0 - Initial JOSS submission"
git push origin v1.0.0
```

2. Create Zenodo Archive

1. Go to <https://zenodo.org/>
2. Log in with GitHub account
3. Enable repository: <https://zenodo.org/account/settings/github/>
4. Create new GitHub release → automatically triggers Zenodo archive
5. Get DOI badge and add to README

3. Submit to JOSS

1. Visit: <https://joss.theoj.org/papers/new>
2. Provide GitHub repository URL
3. Wait for editor assignment
4. Reviewers will be assigned
5. Address reviewer comments
6. Upon acceptance, paper will be published

4. During Review

Be prepared to address:

- Code quality improvements
- Documentation clarifications
- Test coverage additions
- Functionality questions
- Comparison to similar tools

Typical review timeline: 2-8 weeks

Post-Submission Updates

After paper acceptance:

- ☐ Add JOSS badge to README

```
[! [DOI]
(https://joss.theoj.org/papers/10.21105/joss.XXXXX/status.svg)]
(https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.XXXXX)
```

- ☐ Update documentation with citation

- ☐ Announce publication (Twitter, LinkedIn, institutional news)
- ☐ Consider submitting to conferences (AMIA, HIMSS, etc.)

Resources

- **JOSS Submission Guidelines:** <https://joss.readthedocs.io/en/latest/submitting.html>
- **JOSS Review Criteria:** https://joss.readthedocs.io/en/latest/review_criteria.html
- **Example JOSS Papers:** See [manuscripts/01/examples/](#) for references
- **Markdown Format:** Paper must be in markdown (.md) format
- **Bibliography:** BibTeX format (.bib) required

Quick Wins for Strong Submission

1. **Add LICENSE file** (5 minutes) ★ REQUIRED
2. **Update ORCID in paper.md** (2 minutes) ★ REQUIRED
3. **Create Zenodo DOI** (10 minutes) ★ REQUIRED
4. **Add basic unit tests** (30 minutes) - Greatly improves credibility
5. **Add architecture diagram** (20 minutes) - Visual aids help reviewers
6. **Proofread paper.md** (15 minutes) - Catch typos and clarity issues

Estimated Timeline

- **Pre-submission prep:** 2-4 hours (first-time), 1 hour (with checklist)
- **Review process:** 2-8 weeks
- **Revisions:** 1-3 rounds, 1-2 hours each
- **Total time to publication:** 1-3 months

Questions?

- JOSS Editor Support: <https://joss.theoj.org/about#contact>
- JOSS Gitter Chat: <https://gitter.im/openjournals/joss>
- GitHub Issues: <https://github.com/openjournals/joss/issues>

Ready to Submit?

Once all required items (marked with ★) are complete, you're ready to submit to JOSS!

Good luck with your submission! 🎉