

Publishing your research software

Publishing your research code IS GREAT FOR YOU. YUUUPI!

Before publishing your research code: a quick checklist

- ✓ Create a file called *readme.txt* in your project's root directory; put into it:
 - ✓ the **name of the software**;
 - ✓ the **names of all copyright holders**;
 - ✓ a means to **contact** you;
 - ✓ any **publication references** for work associated with it;
 - ✓ basic **instructions for how to build or install** the software
- ✓ Pick a **licence** for your software, and ensure it is clearly shown in the *readme.txt*;
- ✓ **Review all the libraries** you are using to make sure their licences are compatible with yours, and make sure anyone who gets your code can see what licences (besides your own) they may have to comply with;
- ✓ **Tag the version** you want to release in version control;
- ✓ **Package your release from version control**, either by using the version control system to extract a clean copy (e.g. hg archive, svn export) or by cloning a fresh copy and archiving it without the version control repository subdirectory;
- ✓ **Check the package**: make sure it unpacks into a new directory named after the name and version of the software, make sure you can build it, and make sure it doesn't include any extraneous build outputs or test files.