



Scientific metadata: Fundamentals of structured and standardized research data annotation

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Coordinator for academic education



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Postdoc @ HMC

- Ontology development
- Training & outreach





- we support researchers & infrastructures to make HGF data FAIR
- we work across scientific boundaries to provide comprehensive and sustainable services, consulting, information and tools for metadata handling.
- we are located at 6 different locations in the Helmholtz Network





- team of data stewards, software developers and domain scientists from various disciplines
- located at AS Materials Data Science & Informatics
- collaborating with scientists, administration and infrastructure providers on various metadata projects
- always happy to discuss metadata:
 HMC@fz-juelich.de & Hub Information Webpage





Data & Metadata

- What is data?
- What is metadata and why is it important?
- How can metadata be classified?
- Where can we find metadata?

Structure & Schema

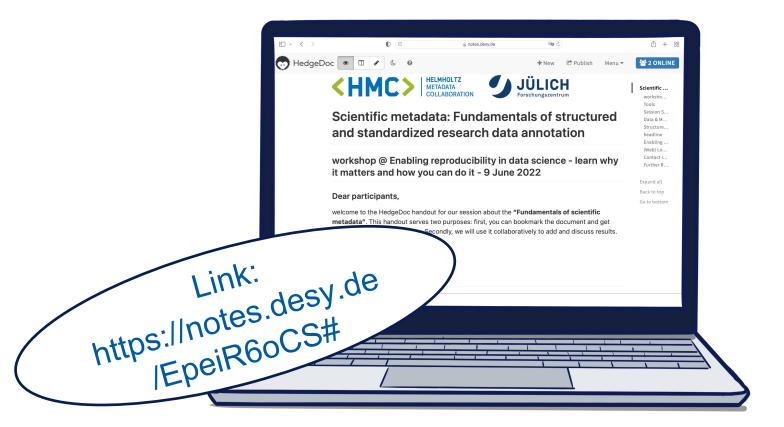
- What is structured metadata?
- What are the benefits of structured metadata?
- How do you record metadata in a structured way?
- What is a schema and how does it help to record metadata?



Enabling technology & standards

- What are the benefits of structured metadata?
- How are structured metadata applied in a linked world?
- What are metadata standards?
- How do I find appropriate standards for my research?









Let's type a small JSON metadata record about ourselves and the cities we live in ...



Copy the example below, paste it to text field here and fill in your values.

Example:

```
"firstName": "value",
"ORCID": "value",
"researchField": "value",
"currentPositon": "value",
"favoriteCake": "value",
"hobbies": ["value", "value"]
"city": {
 "name": "value",
 "url": "value"
```



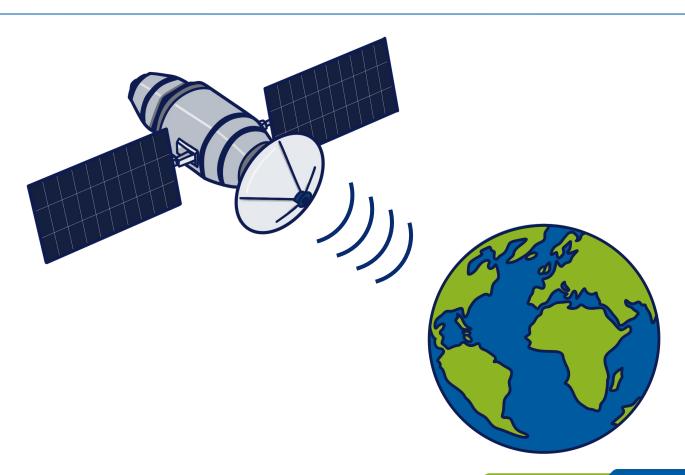
Part 1: Data & Metadata





What are data?









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POTENTIALLY INFORMATIVE OBJECT

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Information – the human-readable picture





Information – the human-readable picture



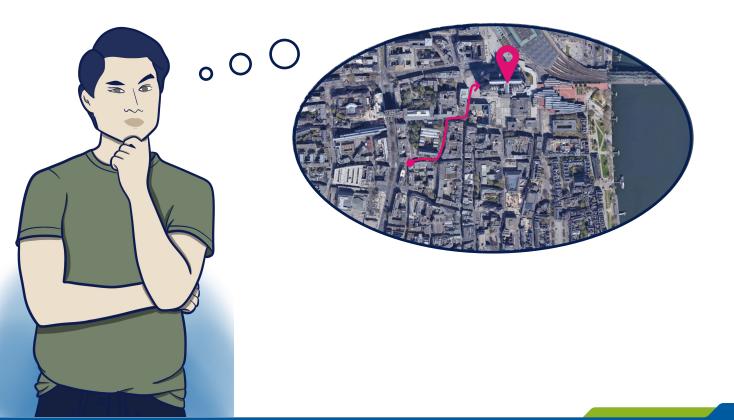


Cologne Cathedral

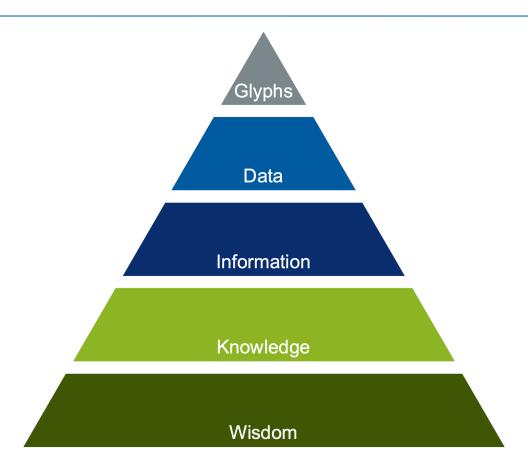














Glyphs

Data

Information

DATA

is potential information and needs to be processed and contextualized to make it accessible for the human audience

VVIOUUIII





>> Data are REPRESENTATIONS of
OBSERVATIONS, OBJECTS, or other
ENTITIES used as EVIDENCE OF
PHENOMENA for the purposes of research
or scholarship. <<

C.L. Borgman (2015). *Big Data, Little Data, No Data: Scholarship in the Networked World.* MIT Press



What is METADATA?



metadata noun, plural in form but singular or plural in construction



Word

meta·da·ta | \ me-tə-'dā-tə , -'da- also -'dä- \

Definition of metadata

: data that provides information about other data

What is metadata? - Wikipedia



Definition [edit]

Metadata means "data about data". Although the "meta" prefix means "after" or "beyond", it is used to mean "about" in epistemology. Metadata is defined as the data providing information about one or more aspects of the data; it is used to summarize basic information about data which can make tracking and working with specific data easier.^[12] Some examples include:

- . Means of creation of the data
- Purpose of the data
- . Time and date of creation
- . Creator or author of the data
- Location on a computer network where the data was created
- · Standards used
- File size
- Data quality
- . Source of the data
- · Process used to create the data

For example, a digital image may include metadata that describes the size of the image, its color depth, resolution, when it was created, the shutter speed, and other data.^[13] A text document's metadata may contain information about how long the document is, who the author is, when the document was written, and a short summary of the document. Metadata within web pages can also contain descriptions of page content, as well as key words linked to the content.^[14] These links are often called "Metatags", which were used as the primary factor in determining order for a web search until the late 1990s.^[14] The reliance of metatags in web searches was decreased in the late 1990s because of "keyword stuffing".^[14] Metatags were being largely misused to trick search engines into thinking some websites had more relevance in the search than they really did.^[14]

Metadata can be stored and managed in a database, often called a metadata registry or metadata repository. [15] However, without context and a point of reference, it might be impossible to identify metadata just by looking at it. [16] For example: by itself, a database containing several numbers, all 13 digits long could be the results of calculations or a list of numbers to plug into an equation - without any other context, the numbers themselves can be perceived as the data. But if given the context that this database is a log of a book collection, those 13-digit numbers may now be identified as ISBNs - information that refers to the book, but is not itself the information within the book. The term "metadata" was coined in 1968 by Philip Bagley, in his book "Extension of Programming Language Concepts" where it is clear that he uses the term in the ISO 11179 "traditional" sense, which is "structural metadata" i.e. "data about the containers of data"; rather than the alternative sense "content about individual instances of data content" or metacontent, the type of data usually found in library catalogues. [17][18] Since then the fields of information management, information science, information technology, librarianship, and GIS have widely adopted the term. In these fields the word metadata is defined as "data about data". [19] While this is the generally accepted definition, various disciplines have adopted their own more specific explanation and uses of the term.

Slate reported in 2013 that the United States government's interpretation of "metadata" could be broad, and might include message content such as the subject lines of emails. [20]

What is metadata? - Wikipedia



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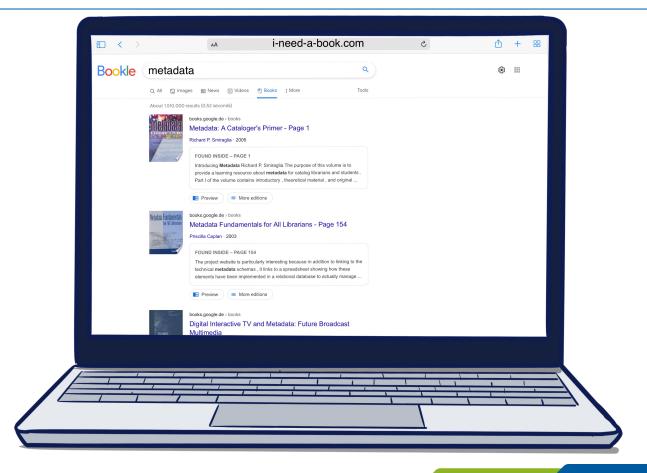
1 Some examples include: |

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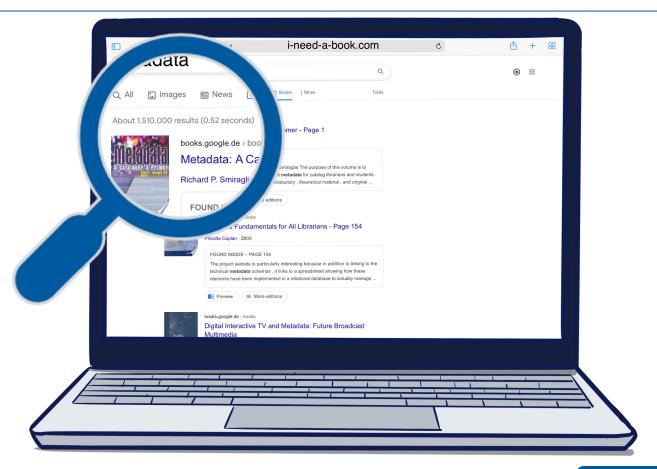
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Slate reported in 2013 that the United States government's interpretation of "metadata" could be broad, and might include message content such as the subject lines of emails. [20]





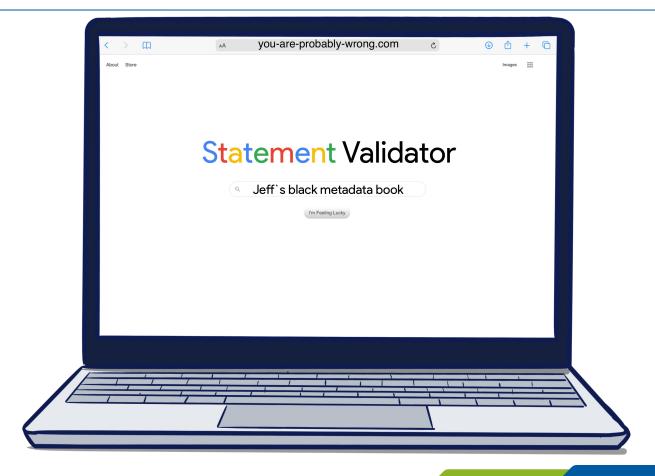




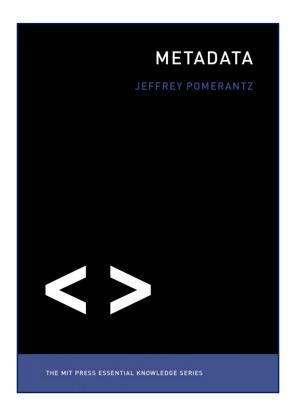














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Administration

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- Responsibility
- Conditions

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- Terms of distribution

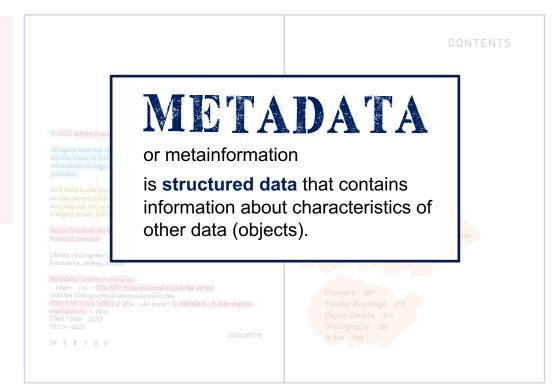
Structure

- Content
- Chapters
- Pages



Description

- Publication year
- Author
- Title
- Publisher / Series
- Keywords
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e.g. title author, date of publication, subject, description, unique identifier

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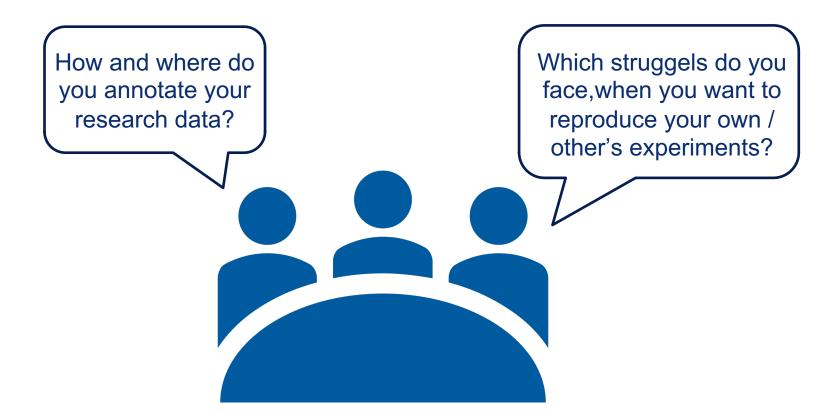
e.g. technical information on the file's creation and format, version, copyright information, licence

structural

relationships between components of a data object

e.g. chapters in a book, files in a data set





Discussion: Your experiences with research data



Data Annotation	Reproducibility
hand written notes -> lack of findability / readibility	time passes -> harder to find the notes / make sense no description of other's data -> can't reproduce data from others
different spellings / terminologies	missing information in publications
different "languages" between fields of research -> hard to join the languages	inventing data
ambiguity in data annotation -> solution: controlled vocabulary	



Metadata annotation in the scientific context



You should start your project with repeating your collaborator's results

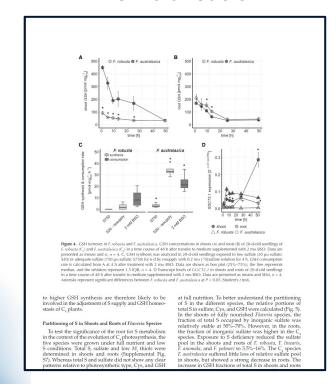




You should start your project with repeating your collaborator's results



The Publication





You should start your project with repeating your collaborator's results



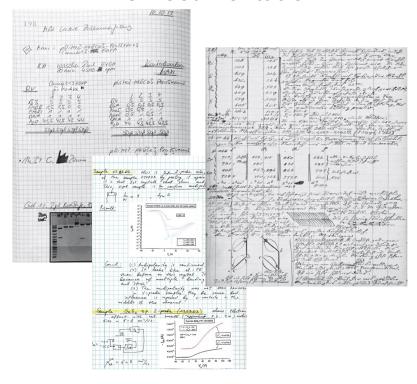
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18.0	15.8	15.3	14.0	14.4	15.3	15.4	14.6	14.8	14.0	
16.7	16.8	16.3	17.6	18.3	17.6	17.5	18.3	17.9	17.7	
20.2	20.6	20.1	20.0	19.7	19.9	19.6	20.3	20.6	20.0	
22.0	22.0	21.8	23.4	21.7	23.1	23.4	23.5	26.0	24.2	
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29.3	28.3	28.1	27.6	27.7	31.0	34.6	35.7	36.0	35.7	
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19.5	19.7	20.1	20.3	21.2	22.1	23.1	24.0	23.8	22.4	
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39.5	34.4	30.5	27.8	27.8	27.2	26.7	25.8	24.7	23.4	
25.0	25.0	26.0	24.9	25.3	24.4	25.3	27.5	27.5	26.6	
	47.0	44.2	43.0	41.5	40.9	43.2	41.9	40.3	37.4	
17.1	17.1	18.5	17.1	18.3	19.3	19.6	20.4	20.4	19.2	
26.7	21.4	20.6	19.6	20.6	20.6	20.5	19.8	18.4	18.4	
17.1	17.4	17.4	16.9	16.9	17.9	17.2	16.0	17.3	16.8	





The Documentation





The Documentation



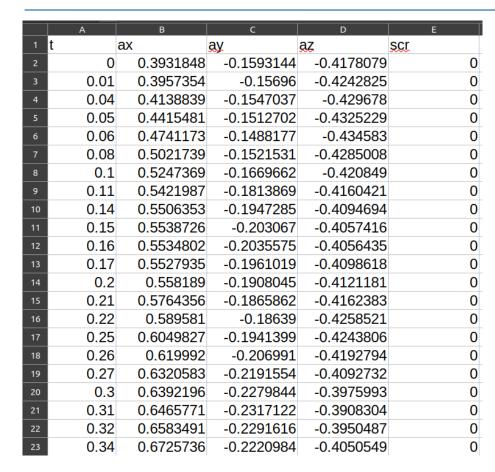
»More than 70 % of researchers have tried and failed to reproduce another scientist's experiments.

More than half have failed to reproduce their own experiments.«

Baker, M. 1,500 scientists lift the lid on reproducibility. *Nature* **533**, 452 – 454 (2016). https://doi.org/10.1038/533452a

Worst practice – no documentation









	Α	В	С	D	E
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3	0.01	0.3957354	-0.15696	-0.4242825	5 0
4	0.04	0.4138839	-0.1547037	-0.429678	B 0
5	0.05	0.4415481	-0.1512702	-0.4325229	9 0
6	0.06	0.4741173	-0.1488177	-0.434583	3 0
7	0.08	0.5021739	-0.1521531	-0.4285008	3 0
8	0.1	0.5247369	-0.1669662	-0.420849	9 0
9	0.11	0.5421987	-0.1813869	-0.4160421	1 0
10	0.14	0.5506353	-0.1947285	-0.4094694	4 0
11	0.15	0.5538726	-0.203067	-0.4057416	
12	0.16	0.5534802	-0.2035575	-0.4056435	2022 - 02 - 28
13	0.17	0.5527935	-0.1961019	-0.4098618	Gotham City, New Jorsey, USA Flight of the bat
14	0.2	0.558189	-0.1908045	-0.4121181	I Flight of the hot
15	0.21	0.5764356	-0.1865862	-0.4162383	3
16	0.22	0.589581	-0.18639	-0.4258521	weather wore clouds than sun, 11°C, 74% lumidity,
17	0.25	0.6049827	-0.1941399	-0.4243806	J
18	0.26	0.619992	-0.206991	-0.4192794	1023 mbor, 55W, 17 Kulle
19	0.27	0.6320583	-0.2191554	-0.4092732	2
20	0.3	0.6392196	-0.2279844	-0.3975993	recording device strapped to upper arm
21	0.31	0.6465771	-0.2317122	-0.3908304	1
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23	0.34	0.6725736	-0.2220984	-0.4050549	0

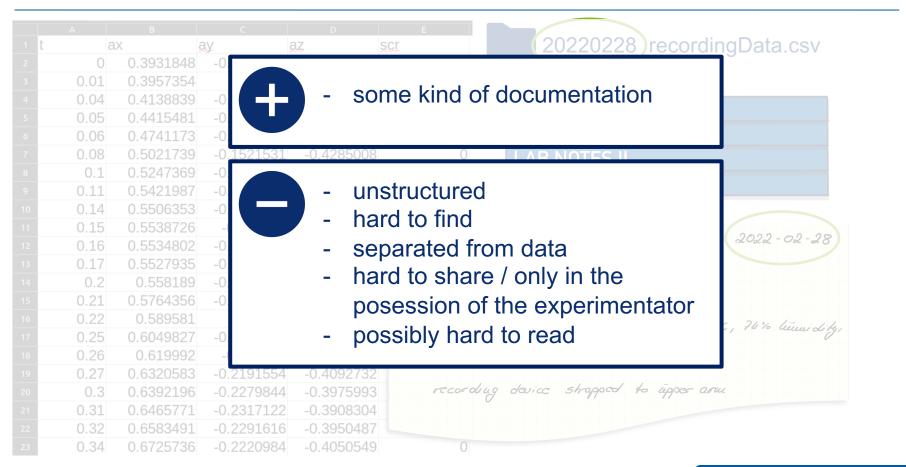


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1 t	i	ax	ay	az	<u>cr</u> (202)	20228 <mark>)</mark> recordingData.cs
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3	0.01	0.3957354	-0.15696	-0.4242825	0	
4	0.04	0.4138839	-0.1547037	-0.429678	0	
5	0.05	0.4415481	-0.1512702	-0.4325229	0	
6	0.06	0.4741173	-0.1488177	-0.434583	0	
7	0.08	0.5021739	-0.1521531	-0.4285008	0	
8	0.1	0.5247369	-0.1669662	-0.420849	0	
9	0.11	0.5421987	-0.1813869	-0.4160421	0	
10	0.14	0.5506353	-0.1947285	-0.4094694	0	
11	0.15	0.5538726	-0.203067	-0.4057416		
12	0.16	0.5534802	-0.2035575	-0.4056435		2022 - 02
13	0.17	0.5527935	-0.1961019	-0.4098618	Gotham Cty, New Flight of the bat	Jersey, USA
14	0.2	0.558189	-0.1908045	-0.4121181	Flight of the bot	0 0
15	0.21	0.5764356	-0.1865862	-0.4162383	rogar of rac sa.	
16	0.22	0.589581	-0.18639	-0.4258521	1000 1100	
17	0.25	0.6049827	-0.1941399	-0.4243806		ouds than sun, 11°C, 74% lunu
18	0.26	0.619992	-0.206991	-0.4192794	1023 m 600	-, 55W, 17 Kw/h
19	0.27	0.6320583	-0.2191554	-0.4092732		
20	0.3	0.6392196	-0.2279844	-0.3975993	recording device st	trapped to upper arm
21	0.31	0.6465771	-0.2317122	-0.3908304		
22	0.32	0.6583491	-0.2291616	-0.3950487		
23	0.34	0.6725736	-0.2220984		0	



	A	В	С	D	E
1 t		ax	_	az	scr
2	0	0.3931848	-0.1593144	-0.4178079	0
3	0.01	0.3957354	-0.15696	-0.4242825	0
4	0.04	0.4138839	-0.1547037	-0.429678	0
5	0.05	0.4415481	-0.1512702	-0.4325229	0
6	0.06	0.4741173	-0.1488177	-0.434583	0
7	0.08	0.5021739	-0.1521531	-0.4285008	0
8	0.1	0.5247369	-0.1669662	-0.420849	0
9	0.11	0.5421987	-0.1813869	-0.4160421	0
10	0.14	0.5506353	-0.1947285	-0.4094694	0
11	0.15	0.5538726	-0.203067	-0.4057416	^
12	0.16	0.5534802	-0.2035575	-0.4056435	
13	0.17	0.5527935	-0.1961019	-0.4098618	Gotham
14	0.2	0.558189	-0.1908045	-0.4121181	Flight o
15	0.21	0.5764356	-0.1865862	-0.4162383	10941
16	0.22	0.589581	-0.18639	-0.4258521	(2001)
17	0.25	0.6049827	-0.1941399	-0.4243806	weather
18	0.26	0.619992	-0.206991	-0.4192794	
19	0.27	0.6320583	-0.2191554	-0.4092732	
20	0.3	0.6392196	-0.2279844	-0.3975993	recordia
21	0.31	0.6465771	-0.2317122	-0.3908304	
22	0.32	0.6583491	-0.2291616	-0.3950487	
23	0.34	0.6725736	-0.2220984	-0.4050549	0







	А	В	С	D	E
1	t	ax	ay	az	scr
2	0	0.3931848	-0.1593144	-0.4178079	0
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6	0.06	0.4741173	-0.1488177	-0.434583	0
7	0.08	0.5021739	-0.1521531	-0.4285008	0
8	0.1	0.5247369	-0.1669662	-0.420849	0
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21	0.31	0.6465771	-0.2317122	-0.3908304	0
22	0.32	0.6583491	-0.2291616	-0.3950487	0
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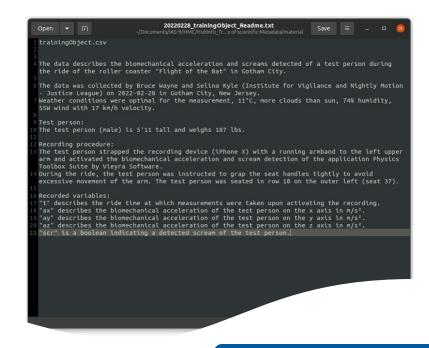
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4	0.04	0.4138839	-0.1547037	-0.429678	0
5	0.05	0.4415481	-0.1512702	-0.4325229	0
6	0.06	0.4741173	-0.1488177	-0.434583	0
7	0.08	0.5021739	-0.1521531	-0.4285008	0
8	0.1	0.5247369	-0.1669662	-0.420849	0
9	0.11	0.5421987	-0.1813869	-0.4160421	0
10	0.14	0.5506353	-0.1947285	-0.4094694	0
11	0.15	0.5538726	-0.203067	-0.4057416	0
12	0.16	0.5534802	-0.2035575	-0.4056435	0
13	0.17	0.5527935	-0.1961019	-0.4098618	0
14	0.2	0.558189	-0.1908045	-0.4121181	0
15	0.21	0.5764356	-0.1865862	-0.4162383	0
16	0.22	0.589581	-0.18639	-0.4258521	0
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18	0.26	0.619992	-0.206991	-0.4192794	0
19	0.27	0.6320583	-0.2191554	-0.4092732	0
20	0.3	0.6392196	-0.2279844	-0.3975993	0
21	0.31	0.6465771	-0.2317122	-0.3908304	0
22	0.32	0.6583491	-0.2291616	-0.3950487	0
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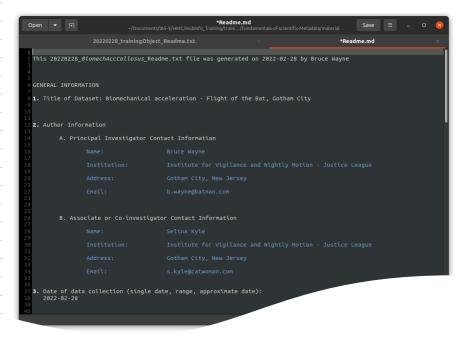




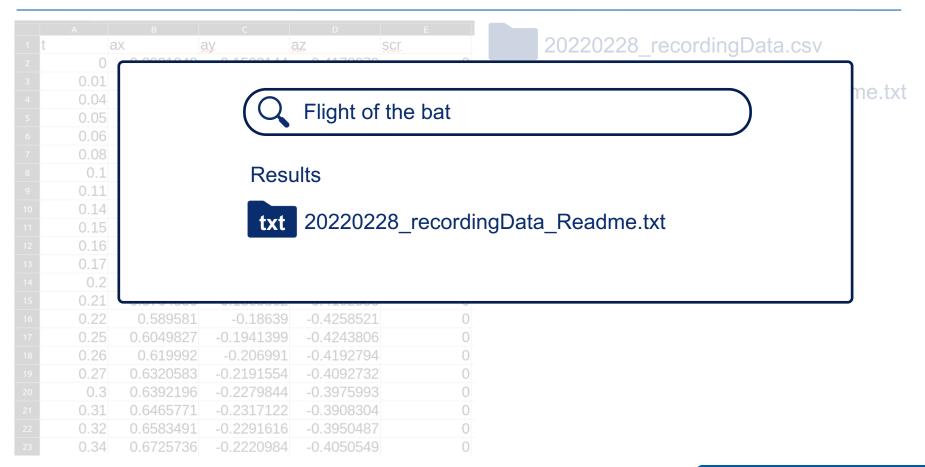
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5	0.05	0.4415481	-0.1512702	-0.4325229	0
6	0.06	0.4741173	-0.1488177	-0.434583	0
7	0.08	0.5021739	-0.1521531	-0.4285008	0
8	0.1	0.5247369	-0.1669662	-0.420849	0
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10	0.14	0.5506353	-0.1947285	-0.4094694	0
11	0.15	0.5538726	-0.203067	-0.4057416	0
12	0.16	0.5534802	-0.2035575	-0.4056435	0
13	0.17	0.5527935	-0.1961019	-0.4098618	0
14	0.2	0.558189	-0.1908045	-0.4121181	0
15	0.21	0.5764356	-0.1865862	-0.4162383	0
16	0.22	0.589581	-0.18639	-0.4258521	0
17	0.25	0.6049827	-0.1941399	-0.4243806	0
18	0.26	0.619992	-0.206991	-0.4192794	0
19	0.27	0.6320583	-0.2191554	-0.4092732	0
20	0.3	0.6392196	-0.2279844	-0.3975993	0
21	0.31	0.6465771	-0.2317122	-0.3908304	0
22	0.32	0.6583491	-0.2291616	-0.3950487	0
23	0.34	0.6725736	-0.2220984	-0.4050549	0



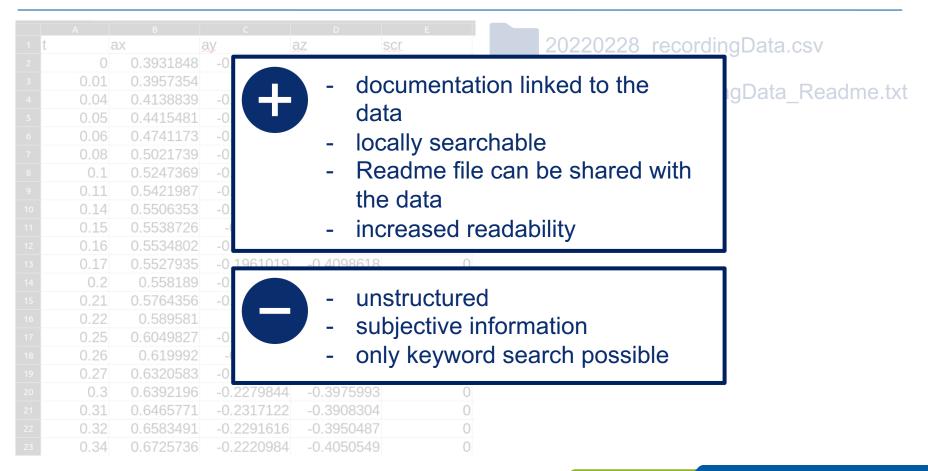
txt 20220228_recordingData_Readme.txt













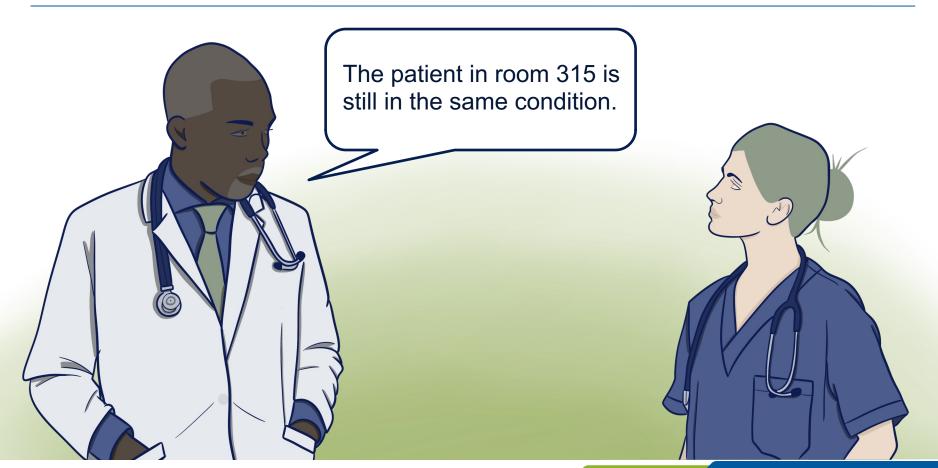
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23	0.34	0.6725736	-0.2220984	-0.4050549	0		



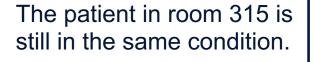
Part 2: Structure & Schema

Transferring information – Natural Language









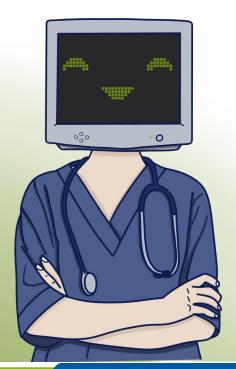
INFORMATION

"subject" : "patient in room

315", "location": "room 315",

i con the contract of the cont

"conditionStatus": "unchanged",

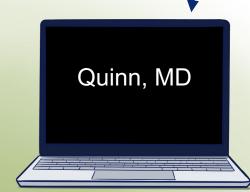




INFORMATION.JSON

```
{
    "patientStatus": {
        "subject" : "patient",
        "location" : "room 315",
        "conditionStatus" : "unchanged"
     }
}
```

House, MD





Structured metadata & markup



What is markup?



Markup is not part of the text or content but tells something about it ...





To make markup work, the writer and the interpreter of the marked up content have to **agree on the interpretation of the markup symbols**. [1]



Some types of markup



Punctuational markup !.?

Presentational markup.

bold

Descriptive or declarative markup

<h1>The most important headline per page</h1>

Referential markup

link text displayed to reader on screen

Computer markup vs manual markup



Marking up a manuscript or page proof is usually a manual process.

In computer files, markup includes formatting instructions and additional information to the natural text so that software can format the text or a printer can print the document. [1]

make this text bold

Types of markup



Punctuational markup !.?

Presentational markup.

bold

Descriptive or declarative markup

<h1>The most important headline per page</h1>

Referential markup

link text displayed to reader on screen

Benefit of rigorous markup



(Meta)data exchange formats need to be read and processed by humans and computers.

Descriptive & referential markup makes natural text more accessible for computer analysis. [1]



<language>SGML</language>



SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language) was one of the first industry standards for electronic publishing – a meta-language for generalized, descriptive markup languages – first accepted as an ISO standard in 1986.

<language>XML and HTML



Both, HTML (1989) and XML (1998) are based on SGML. HTML (HyperText Markup Language) is the standard markup language for web pages. In contrast, the main purpose of XML (eXtensible Markup Language) is the transfer and storage of arbitrary data on the World Wide Web.



<example>XML</example>



XML is software- and hardware-independent. It is considered human-readable and allows for hierarchical (tree-like) structures. Data elements are wrapped in start and end "tags". [1]

```
<example>
     <title>This is the example title</title>
     <description>A simple XML example</description>
     <wordCount>1</wordCount>
</example>
```

{"format":"JSON"}



JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) is not a markup language. It is a lightweight, human-readable, hierarchical format to store and transport data. JSON syntax is inspired by JavaScript object notation. [1] Like XML, JSON is software- and hardware-independent.

```
{
    "key":"value",
    "aString":"string",
    "anInteger":5,
    "aBoolean":true,
    "anArray": ["item1", "item2", "item3"]
}
```

{"format":"JSON"}



- curly braces hold objects
 (collections, dictionaries of key/value pairs)
- square brackets hold arrays (ordered lists of values)
- keys must be of data type string (in quotes)
- values must be of data type string, number, boolean, array or object
- elements are separated by commas
- no comments supported (for interoperability)

```
"key":"value",
"aString": "string",
"anInteger":5,
"aFloat":0.5,
"aBoolean":true,
"anArray": ["item1", "item2", "item3"],
"anObject": {
    "key1":"value1",
    "key2":"value2",
    "key3":"value3"
```

XML and JSON side-by-side



```
<example>
     <superhero>Wonder Woman
     <publisher>DC Comics/publisher>
     <identities>
           <identity>Princess Diana</identity>
           <identity>Diana Prince</identity>
     ⟨identities>
     <pet>
           <name>Jumpa</name>
           <species>kangaroo</species>
     </pet>
</example>
```

```
{
  "superhero": "Wonder Woman",
  "publisher": "DC Comics",
  "identities": [
    "Princess Diana",
    "Diana Prince"
  "pet": {
    "name": "Jumpa",
    "species": "kangaroo"
```

XML repeated child elements & JSON list



```
<example>
     <superhero>Wonder Woman
     <publisher>DC Comics/publisher>
     <identities>
           <identity>Princess Diana</identity>
           <identity>Diana Prince</identity>
     </identities>
     <pet>
           <name>Jumpa</name>
           <species>kangaroo</species>
     </pet>
</example>
```

```
{
  "superhero": "Wonder Woman",
  "publisher": "DC Comics",
  "identities": [
    "Princess Diana",
    "Diana Prince"
  "pet": {
    "name": "Jumpa",
    "species": "kangaroo"
```

XML nested elements & JSON nested object



```
<example>
     <superhero>Wonder Woman
     <publisher>DC Comics/publisher>
     <identities>
           <identity>Princess Diana</identity>
           <identity>Diana Prince</identity>
     ⟨identities>
     <pet>
           <name>Jumpa</name>
           <species>kangaroo</species>
     </pet>
</example>
```

```
{
  "superhero": "Wonder Woman",
  "publisher": "DC Comics",
  "identities": [
    "Princess Diana",
    "Diana Prince"
  "pet": {
    "name": "Jumpa",
    "species": "kangaroo"
```

XML, JSON (& YAML)



```
"superhero": "Wonder Woman",
  "publisher": "DC Comics",
  "identities": [
    "Princess Diana",
    "Diana Prince"
],
  "pet": {
    "name": "Jumpa",
    "species": "kangaroo"
}
```

```
superhero: Wonder Woman
publisher: DC Comics
identities:
- Princess Diana
- Diana Prince
pet:
   name: Jumpa
   species: kangaroo
```



The web is not the internet





"During some sessions in the CERN cafeteria,
Tim and I try to find a catching name for the system. [...]
Tim proposes "World-Wide Web". I like this very much,
except that it is difficult to pronounce in French..."

(Robert Cailliau, 1995)

Quote: http://www.netvalley.com/archives/mirrors/robert_cailliau_speech.htm

Science created the World Wide Web



- CERN research centre in Geneva, Switzerland
- researchers Tim Berners-Lee and Robert Cailliau
- joint proposal for "World-Wide Web"
- developed to "meet the demand for automated information-sharing between scientists in universities and institutes around the world". [1], [2]

1989



1960S terms hypertext, hypermedia coined by Ted Nelson

1970s

Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) invented by Vint Cerf and Robert (Bob) Elliot Kahn [1]

1980s Mail Transfer Protocol (MTP, SMTP); Suzanne Sluizer, Jon Postel [2]

[1] https://www.darpa.mil/attachments/ARPANET_final.pdf, https://doc.lagout.org/network/The%20Illustrated%20Network.pdf

[2] https://www.cnet.com/tech/tech-industry/end-of-the-road-for-smtp/



HTML (HyperText Markup Language with "hyperlinks")

HTTP

(HyperText Transfer Protocol; conventions for client-server communication on the Web)

URI (Uniform Resource Identifier)

HTTP GET request in client-server communication



- 1. Client software (often a "web browser") establishes connection.
- 2. Client sends GET request for resource URI and waits for an answer.
- 3. Server software processes the request, sends back representation of resource (data and metadata).

The web browser



First operating-system-independent web browser – "Line-Mode browser" – was written by undergraduate CERN intern Nicola Pellow in 1990. [1]



Early web servers & repositories



- early 1990s arXiv preprint repository switches from email to HTTP access for manuscript transmission. [1]
- 1992 Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY in Hamburg connects a web server to the WWW.

Web repositories store and publish (scholarly) digital objects – like paper publications and research data – and their metadata records. They aim to improve the persistent findability and accessibility of research output on the Web. [2]



Über welches Protokoll wurde Anfang der 1990er auf das heutige arXiv.org zugegriffen?

Photo: Kindly provided by Paul Ginsparg

@ 0 2

21.01.2022

MK 3.4 Digitale Repositorien Pascal Becker

24

[1] https://ar5iv.labs.arxiv.org/html/1709.07020

[2] https://depositonce.tu-berlin.de/handle/11303/5330

Image: screenshot of slide 24; Pascal Becker (2022). "Digitale Repositorien". Potsdam University of Applied Sciences

Registries of repositories



Repositories are indexed for findability in registry services.

www.re3data.org v2.sherpa.ac.uk/opendoar risources.dfg.de





Metadata schemas





Metadata schemas express expectations in the structure of metadata records.

Benefits of schemas



A metadata schema is – basically – a set of **conventions or contraints.** [1]

Schemas are expressed in formal languages like XML, JSON or else so that (meta)data can be parsed and validated automatically according to the schema. [2]



 $\hbox{[1] https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/schema, https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/protocol}\\$

[2] https://gitlab.hzdr.de/hmc/hmc/cct-7-semantics/hmc-glossary-initialization/-/blob/master/terms/schema.yaml (HMC CCT7, not yet ratified) Image: Child plays with wooden shape sorter toy, https://unsplash.com/photos/ehaO7XywMGM

Writing schemas



XML Schemas (.xsd) are written in XML and used to describe & syntactically validate the structure of XML documents or (meta)data records. [1]

The JSON Schema vocabulary is used to describe & syntactically validate the structure of JSON (meta)data records. [2]



^{[1] &}quot;XML Schema Tutorial". © 1999-2022. Refsnes Data, W3Schools. https://www.w3schools.com/xml/schema_intro.asp

^{[2] &}quot;Understanding JSON Schema. The basics", © Copyright 2013-2016 Michael Droettboom, Space Telescope Science Institute; Last updated on Feb 07, 2022. https://ison-schema.org/understanding-ison-schema/basics.html

"\$schema" vocabulary example



- JSON Schema version in \$schema
- list of required properties
- one required property
- one optional property
- data type constraints
- descriptions for the human reader

```
"$schema": "https://json-schema.org/draft/2020-12/schema",
 "description": "In real life you would add a meaningful description here.",
 "type": "object",
  "required": [
   "superhero"
 "properties": {
   "superhero": {
      "description": "A mandatory string property.",
     "type": "string"
},
   "power": {
     "description": "An optional numeric property.",
     "type": "integer"
}
```

"\$schema" vocabulary example



- list of required properties
- one required property
- one optional property
- data type constraints
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     "type": "string"
},
   "power": {
     "description": "An optional numeric property.",
     "type": "integer"
}
```

"\$schema"



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     "description": "An optional numeric property.",
     "type": "integer"
}
```

"\$schema"



- list of required properties
- one required property
- one optional property
- data type constraints
- descriptions for the human reader

A JSON instance is syntactically valid, if it conforms to the definition described by the JSON schema.

```
"$schema": "https://json-schema.org/draft/2020-12/schema",
 "description": "In real life you would add a meaningful description here.",
 "type": "object",
  "required": [
   "superhero"
 "properties": {
   "superhero": {
      "description": "A mandatory string property.",
     "type": "string"
},
    "power": {
      "description": "An optional numeric property.",
     "type": "integer"
}
```



A JSON instance is syntactically valid, if it conforms to the definition described by the JSON schema.

```
"superhero": "String Hero"
}

{
    "superhero": 5
}
```



```
{
    "superhero": "String Hero"
}
```

A JSON instance is syntactically valid, if it conforms to the definition described by the JSON schema.

```
"$schema": "https://json-schema.org/draft/2020-12/schema",
 "description": "In real life you would add a meaningful description here.",
"type": "object",
 "required": [
   "superhero"
 "properties": {
   "superhero": {
     "description": "A mandatory string property.",
     "type": "string"
},
   "power": {
     "description": "An optional numeric property.",
     "type": "integer"
```



The most challenging part of schema development can be to have everyone **agree on the same expectations.**



Minimal metadata standards





A well established metadata schema can become a standard.

The Dublin Core



Researchers, librarians and web technologists drafted the Dublin Core – a set of library-card-catalog-like metadata elements for the web – in 1995 at a meeting in Dublin, Ohio (USA). [1]

Creator

Contributor

Publisher

Title

Date

Language

Format

Subject

Description

Identifier

Relation

Source

Type

Coverage

Rights

^[1] https://www.dublincore.org/resources/metadata-basics/

^[2] https://www.dublincore.org/specifications/dublin-core/dcmi-terms/#section-3

^[3] https://www.dublincore.org/about/

^[4] https://www.iso.org/standard/71339.html

The Dublin Core



Dublin Core and its extensions are widely used and referenced today. The Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI) states to work openly, with a paid-membership model. [3] The 15 Dublin Core metadata elements have been formally standardized for cross-domain resource description as e. g. **ISO 15836-1:2017.** [4]

Creator

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^[1] https://www.dublincore.org/resources/metadata-basics/

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^[3] https://www.dublincore.org/about/

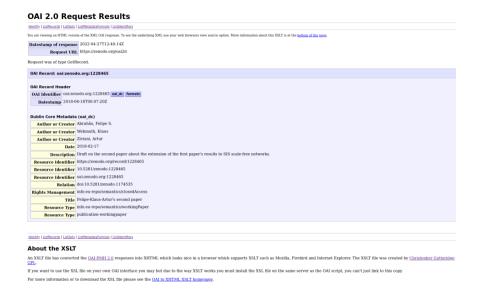
^[4] https://www.iso.org/standard/71339.html

Dublin Core in the wild



Many scholarly repositories expose a standardized application programming interface (API) for the harvesting of **Dublin**Core metadata as specified in the Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting. [1]

Try it yourself and check oai_dc XML records from Zenodo OAI-PMH endpoint https://zenodo.org/oai2d



^[1] http://www.openarchives.org/OAI/2.0/openarchivesprotocol.htm#dublincore

^[2] https://developers.zenodo.org/#oai-pmh

Minimal FAIR interoperability: RO-Crate



The RO-Crate (Research Object Crate) specifies a method of aggregating and describing research data with associated metadata.



RO-Crates can be stored, transferred or published in multiple ways, e. g. downloadable ZIP files. [1]



RO-Crates describe data with metadata to aid in discovery, re-use and long term management of data.

The core of RO-Crate is the RO-Crate Metadata File ro-crate-metadata.json.

This file must be present in the root directory of e. g. the archived Zip file. It contains structured JSON-LD metadata about the dataset.[1]

```
{ "@context": "https://w3id.org/ro/crate/1.1/context",
 "@graph": [
    "@type": "CreativeWork",
   "@id": "ro-crate-metadata.ison".
    "conformsTo": {"@id": "https://w3id.org/ro/crate/1.1"},
"about": {"@id": "./"}
}.
   "@id": "./",
    "identifier": "https://doi.org/10.4225/59/59672c09f4a4b",
    "@type": "Dataset",
   "datePublished": "2017",
   "name": "Data files associated with ... ",
   "description": "Description ... ",
"license": {"@id": "https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/"}
},
"@id": "https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/",
"@type": "CreativeWork",
 "description": "This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0
Australia License. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/ or
send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.",
"identifier": "https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/",
"name": "Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Australia (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 AU)"
}
]
[2]
```

JSON-LD: Context for JSON keys



@context [1]



The JSON-LD @graph array describes data entities and contextual entities, cross-referenced using @id.

RO-Crate relies heavily on Schema.org vocabulary.

```
{ "@context": "https://w3id.org/ro/crate/1.1/context",
 "@graph": [
   "@type": "CreativeWork",
   "@id": "ro-crate-metadata.json",
   "conformsTo": {"@id": "https://w3id.org/ro/crate/1.1"},
"about": {"@id": "./"}
"@id": "./",
  "identifier": "https://doi.org/10.4225/59/59672c09f4a4b",
   "@type": "Dataset",
  "datePublished": "2017",
 "name": "Data files associated with ... ",
  "description": "Description ... ",
  "license": {"@id": "https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/"}
"@id": "https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/",
"@type": "CreativeWork",
 "description": "This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0
Australia License. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/ or
send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.",
 "identifier": "https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/",
 "name": "Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Australia (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 AU)"
```



The JSON-LD @graph array describes data entities and contextual entities, cross-referenced using @id.

RO-Crate relies heavily on Schema.org vocabulary.

```
{ "@context": "https://w3id.org/ro/crate/1.1/context",
"@graph": [
    "@type": "CreativeWork",
   "@id": "ro-crate-metadata.ison".
   "conformsTo": {"@id": "https://w3id.org/ro/crate/1.1"},
"about": {"@id": "./"}
},
"@id": "./",
"identifier": "https://doi.org/10.4225/59/59672c09f4a4b",
"@type": "Dataset",
 "datePublished": "2017",
"name": "Data files associated with ... ",
"description": "Description ... ",
"license": {"@id": "https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/"}
},
"@id": "https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/",
"@type": "CreativeWork",
 "description": "This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0
Australia License. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/ or
send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.",
"identifier": "https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/",
"name": "Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Australia (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 AU)"
}
```

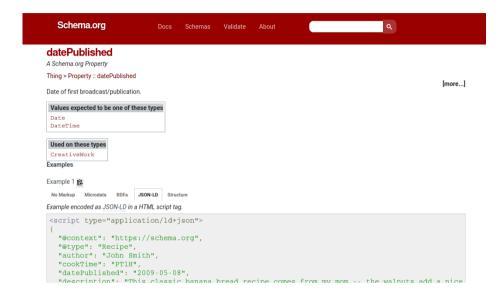


The JSON-LD @graph array describes data entities and contextual entities. **RO-Crate relies heavily on Schema.org vocabulary.**

"key": "value"

"datePublished": "2017"

"https://schema.org/datePublished": "2017"



Domain specific metadata terminologies & standards



Now, let's try and look up some domain specific metadata templates ...

Task 2: Metadata standards



TASK 2: Domain specific metadata terminologies & standards



- 1. Open one of these metadata standard registries in your preferred browser:
 - FAIRsharing.org
 - RDA Metadata Directory
 - RDA Metadata Standards Catalog
 - ☑ RDA Metadata Directory
 - DCC List of Metadata Standards
- 2. Search for a metadata schema, standard or vocabulary relevant to your research domain.
- 3. Inspect the information provided.
- 4. Take notes to discuss your findings with the group. Did you get any 404 (not found) responses clicking on links? Do you want to try a Google search in addition? Share some of your notes below.

Notes:

Recap



- ✓ data & metadata
- ✓ types of metadata
- ✓ unstructured & structured metadata records
- √ (web) locations
- ✓ metadata and the web
- ✓ finding metadata standards

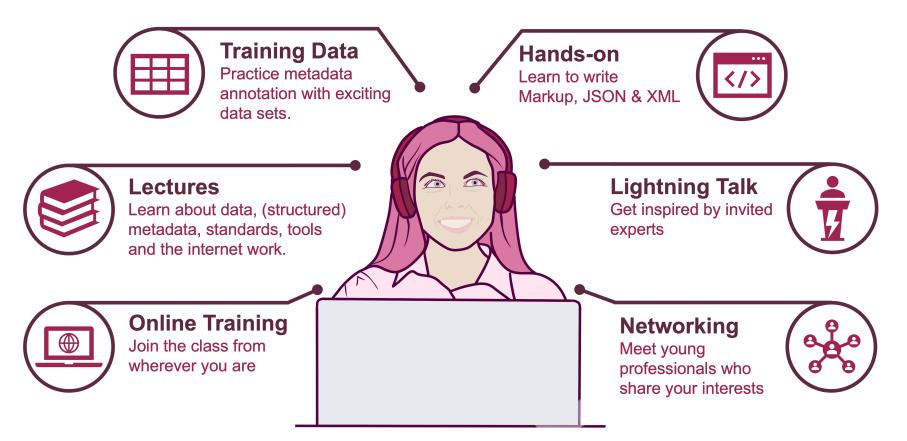
HedgeDoc Handout

Further Reading

- 1. Pomerantz, J. (2015). Metadata. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. ←
- Zhang, A. B., Gourley, D. (2008). "Metadata strategy" in Creating Digital Collections. Sawston, UK: Woodhead Publishing. ← ←
- Chadwick, I. (2016). "Research Data Management: guide to writing "readme" type metadata." The Open University. https://www.open.ac.uk/library-researchsupport/sites/www.open.ac.uk.library-research-support/files/files/RDM-Guidelines-forcreating-readme-style-metadata.pdf ←

Fundamentals of scientific metadata: why context matters









Hands-on

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Incubator Summer Academy From Zero to Hero



12. – 23. September 2022



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Annual HMC Project call



HMC is looking for projects that:

- address practical challenges in (meta)data generation, curation and enrichment
- have a core idea that adds new scientific knowledge to the respective field
- are promising to be generalizable & integratable into HMC in the long term

NUMBERS

volume: 400 kEUR (200 + 200kEUR)

duration: 2 years

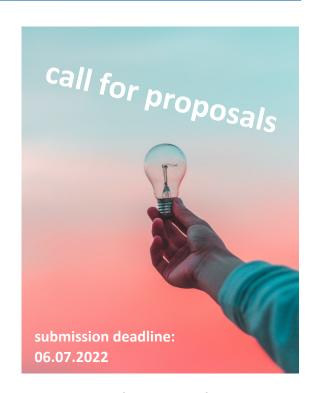
deadline: 06.07.2022

funded proposals in 2021 ~ 26%









further information: https://www.helmholtz-metadaten.de







Thank you!



www.helmholtz-metadaten.de



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@helmholtz_hmc

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s.gerlich@fz-juelich.de

