# **biotoolsSchema Documentation**

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This is the documentation for biotoolsSchema.

Contents:

#### What is biotoolsSchema?

**biotoolsSchema** is a formalised XML schema (XSD) which defines a description model for bioinformatics software. It can be used to describe bioinformatics tools - application software with well-defined data processing functions (inputs, outputs and operations). This includes simple tools with one or a few closely related functions, and complex, multimodal tools with many functions, tools available available for immediate use as online services, or in a form which which you can download, install, configure and run yourself.

biotoolsSchema defines over 50 important scientific, technical and administrative attributes that support cataloguing, discovery, use and interoperability of software. It concentrates upon the salient common features, with a minimal core of 3 attributes only (name, short description and homepage), to provide maximum flexibility for applications. To enable concise information, standard identifiers are used where possible, including EDAM ontology concept IDs for specialised scientific aspects. biotoolsSchema defines 18 controlled vocabularies for technical tool aspects. Verbose information is referred to by URL.

biotoolsSchema together with the EDAM ontology provide the foundation for an information standard for the description of tools. This standard is being adopted by bio.tools and defines the attributes that must be defined within a 5-tier scale of entry completeness and quality.

biotoolsSchema is used by the ELIXIR Tools & Data Services Registry (bio.tools).

#### 1.1 How to contribute to biotoolsSchema

Contributions to biotoolsSchema are very welcome. Github being our primary communication channel, please do not hesitate to open issues, or comment on them. Pull requests are also welcome! The list of repositories hosting biotoolsSchema and its documentation are listed below. All materials are available under the *CC-BY-SA 4.0 license*.

#### **1.2 Documentation**

These docs describe the latest stable version (currently 3.0.0) and are maintained in GitHub. Additional documentation is available:

· Technical docs maintained in GitHub where you'll find example data files

• Usage guidelines including the bio.tools Curators Guide and API Usage Guide

Note: Version 3.0.0 is currently supported in bio.tools.

### 1.3 Download

#### Latest stable version (3.0.0)

· https://github.com/bio-tools/biotoolsSchema/blob/master/stable/biotools.xsd

#### **Current development version**

• https://github.com/bio-tools/biotoolsSchema/blob/master/biotools\_dev.xsd

#### Versioned releases

• https://github.com/bio-tools/biotoolsSchema/tree/master/versions

#### 1.4 Status

biotoolsSchema is a mature schema having undergone a lot of community-driven revision (*e.g.* see bio.tools events). Development is use-case driven, primarily by bio.tools. Future versions will not depart fundamentally from the current elements or structure. The development of biotoolsSchema can be followed at GitHub. From version 2.0.0, version numbers follow the *MAJOR.MINOR.PATCH* pattern:

- MAJOR version for incompatible API changes
- MINOR version for addition of functionality in a backwards-compatible manner
- PATCH version for backwards-compatible bug fixes

Please contribute via GitHub. See also the bio.tools Contributors Guide.

#### 1.5 Motivation

Bioinformaticians routinely use a large and diverse set of tools and data, and demand powerful and convenient means to organise, find, understand, compare, select, use and connect the available resources. These tasks rely on consistent, machine-understandable resource descriptions. The need - filled by biotoolsSchema - is for an information model that puts the description of a broad range of resources on a consistent syntactic basis.

### 1.6 Citing biotoolsSchema

If you use biotoolsSchema, please cite:

Ison J. et al. (2021) biotoolsSchema: a formalized schema for bioinformatics software description. *GigaScience*, **10** (1)

The article is freely available.

```
doi: 10.1093/gigascience/giaa157
```

#### Design considerations

The development of biotoolsSchema was guided by the following ten founding principles and design considerations:

- **Practical** focus on salient attributes of practical value in everyday use; especially to support the discovery, use and practical interoperability of software; superfluous details are excluded.
- General generally applicable, i.e. to all manner of bioinformatics resources (see Scope).
- **Consistent** use ontologies and standardised enumerations of terms (see Controlled Vocabularies) where possible, to support precise searches over biotoolsSchema-formatted data and return of consistent and therefore comparable information.
- **Concise** mandate URLs or standard identifiers where possible, helping to ensure the sustainable upkeep of biotoolsSchema-formatted data and support future integrations, applications and cross-linking with other resources.
- **Simple** biotoolsSchema is as flat (unstructured) as is practicable, ensuring ease of use, whilst preserving essential structure, e.g. a meaningful model of tool function.
- **Compatible** it is inevitable that tool providers, integrators, and cataloguers will continue to use a variety of models, methods and formats for tool descriptions; biotoolsSchema is broadly compatible (see Comparison to related efforts) to support future integration scenarios.
- Extensible to cater for emerging requirements, and adaptable by others for their own purposes.
- **Stable** the maintenance of software dependencies on mutating schema is expensive. Backwards incompatible changes are only made if absolutely required (see Development process and status).
- Free and open source to encourage reuse and new applications.
- Community-driven development to ensure end-user needs are satisfied.

### biotoolsSchema elements

A summary of elements in biotoolsSchema is below. For more detailed information, please see the technical documentation.

**Important:** When producing XML files compliant to the schema, it is essential to stick to the element order (including nested elements) as described below. See the sample XML files.

#### 3.1 Element groups

biotoolsSchema includes scientific, technical and administrative software attributes, organised for convenience into 8 logical groupings (see below).

**Note:** As of biotoolsSchema 3.3.0, all of the element groups *other than* "Summary" and "Labels" are reflected as elements/objects in biotoolsSchema/biotoolsSchemaJ.

summary 🕀

function 🗄 ····· 0..∞ Details of a function (i.e. mode of operation) the software provides, expressed in concepts from the EDAM

software.

ontology.

Basic information about the



tool

Group	XSD element	Description
Summary	summary	Basic information about the software.
Function	function	Details of the function(s) (i.e. modes of op-
		eration) the software provides, expressed in
		terms from the EDAM ontology.
Labels	label	Miscellaneous scientific, technical and ad-
		ministrative details of the software, ex-
		pressed in terms from controlled vocabular-
		ies.
Links	link	Miscellaneous links for the software e.g.
		repository, issue tracker or mailing list.
Downloads	download	Links to downloads for the software, e.g.
		source code, virtual machine image or con-
		tainer.
Documentation	documentation	Links to documentation about the software
		e.g. user manual, API documentation or
		training material.
Publications	publication	Publications about the software.
Relations	relation	Details of a relationship this software shares
		with other software registered in bio.tools.
Credits	credit	Individuals or organisations that should be
		credited, or may be contacted about the soft-
		ware.

# 3.2 Summary group

Basic information about the software.





Element	Description	Туре	Cardinality
name	Canonical software name assigned by the software developer or service provider.	xs:token (restriction)	1 only
description	Textual description of the software.	xs:token (restriction)	1 only
homepage	Homepage of the soft- ware, or some URL that best serves this purpose.	URL	1 only
biotoolsID	Unique ID (case insen- sitive) of the tool that is assigned upon regis- tration of the software in bio.tools, normally identical to tool name.	URL (restriction)	0 or 1
biotoolsCU	RbED.tools CURIE (compact URI) based on the bio.tools tool ID.	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
version	Version information (typically a version number) of the soft- ware applicable to this bio.tools entry.	xs:token (restriction)	0 or more
otherID	A unique identifier of the software, typically assigned by an ID- assignment authority other than bio.tools.	(see below)	0 or more
otherID- >value	Value of tool identifier.	xs:token (restriction)	1 only
otherID- >type	Type of tool identifier.	enum (see docs)	0 or 1
otherID- >version	Version information (typically a version number) of the soft- ware applicable to this identifier.	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1

**Note:** See the Curators Guide. As of biotoolsSchema 3.0.0, the Summary group does not have a corresponding element/object in biotoolsSchema/biotoolsSchemaJ (the schema was flattened).

### 3.3 Function group

Details of a function (i.e. mode of operation) the software provides, expressed in terms from the EDAM ontology.

Each software entity has one more functions, each corresponding to a mode of operation that the software provides. Each function performs one or more basic operations, and has zero or more primary input and/or output data, each of a

operation E 1..∞ The basic operation(s) performed by this software function (EDAM Operation). dataType (restriction) data Ð ype of primary input data, input 🖻 if any (EDAM data). . . . . . . . . 0...∞ X format 🗄 Details of primary input ----data. 0+......± Allowed format(s) of the input data (EDAM Format). function dataType (restriction) ·-----0...... ∄ data Details of a function (i.e. mode of operation) the Type of primary output software provides, expressed output 🖻 data, if any (EDAM Data). in concepts from the EDAM ana ang T ontology. . . . . . . 0...... X format 🗄 Details of primary output data. Allowed format(s) of the output data (EDAM Format). ē. note 1 ..... Concise comment about this function, if not apparent from the software description and EDAM annotations. <sup>E</sup>cmd cmd Relevant command, command-line fragment or option for executing this function / running the tool in this mode.

specified type and supported format(s). For each operation, data or format element, an EDAM ontology concept URL and/or term are specified.



Fig. 1: Data and Format are modelled in the same way as Operation (shown above).

Element	Description	Туре	Cardinality
operation	The basic operation(s)	Ontology concept (re-	1 or more
	ware function (EDAM	sulction)	
	Operation).		
input	Details of primary in-		
-	put data.		
input-	Type of primary input	Ontology concept (re-	1 only
>data	data (EDAM data).	striction)	
input-	Allowed format(s) of	Ontology concept (re-	0 or more
>format	the input data (EDAM	striction)	
output	Details of primary out-		
1	put data.		
output-	Type of primary output	Ontology concept (re-	1 only
>data	data (EDAM Data).	striction)	
output-	Allowed format(s)	Ontology concept (re-	0 or more
>format	of the output data	striction)	
	(EDAM Format).		
operation	URL of an EDAM Op-	URL (restriction)	0 or 1
data	eration   Data   Format		
Iormat-	concept.		
operation	An FDAM Operation	xs:token	0 or 1
	Data   Format term	AStoken	
format-	(preferred label or syn-		
>term	onym).		
note	Concise comment	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	about this function,		
	if not apparent from		
	the software de-		
	scription and EDAM		
	annotations.		0
cmd	Relevant command,	xs:token (restriction)	U or 1
	command-line frag-		
	executing this function		
	/ running the tool in		
14	this mode.		Chapter 3. biotoolsSchema elements

Important: The URL must be in the appropriate EDAM Operation | Data | Format namespace, e.g.

- http://edamontology.org/operation\_0492
- http://edamontology.org/data\_0863
- http://edamontology.org/format\_1929

The term, *e.g.* "Multiple sequence alignment" must be either the preferred label of the concept or a synonym of this term, as defined in EDAM.

Note: See the Curators Guide.

## 3.4 Labels group

Miscellaneous scientific, technical and administrative details of the software, expressed in terms from controlled vocabularies.



Element	Description	Туре	Cardinality
toolType	A type of applica-	enum (see docs)	0 or more
	tion software: a dis-		
	crete software entity		
	can have more than		
-	one type.		
topic	General scientific	Ontology concept (re-	0 or more
	domain the software	striction)	
	serves or other gen-		
	eral category: one of		
	EDAM Topic URL or		
4	LUDL of or EDAM	UDL (mastriation)	0 1
topic-	UKL OI an EDAM	UKL (restriction)	0 or 1
>uii	An EDAM Tonic term	vertokan	0 or 1
Nterm	(preferred label or syn-	ASTOKO	
Zerm	(preferred laber of sylf-		
operatingSy	vsTelme operating system	enum (see docs)	0 or more
operatingo	supported by a down-	chum (see does)	
	loadable software		
	package.		
language	Name of programming	enum (see docs)	0 or more
000	language the software		
	source code was writ-		
	ten in.		
license	Software or data usage	enum (see docs)	0 or 1
	license.		
collectionII	Tag for a collection	xs:token (restriction)	0 or more
	that the software		
	has been assigned to		
	within bio.tools.		
maturity	How mature the soft-	enum (see docs)	0 or 1
	ware product is.		
cost	Monetary cost of ac-	enum (see docs)	0 or 1
	quiring the software.		0
accessibility	y Whether there are non-	enum (see docs)	0 or more
	monetary restrictions		
	on accessing an online		
alivirDlatfo	service.	anum (saa daas)	0 or more
cinxii riatio	Platform that is ared		
	ited		
elixirNode	Name of the FLIXIR	enum (see docs)	0 or more
	Node that is credited		
elixirComm	uNitime of relevant	enum (see docs)	0 or more
	ELIXIR (or associ-		
	ated) community.		
elixirPlatfor elixirNode elixirComm	service. mName of the ELIXIR Platform that is cred- ited. Name of the ELIXIR Node that is credited. mNityne of relevant ELIXIR (or associ- ated) community.	enum (see docs) enum (see docs) enum (see docs)	0 or more 0 or more 0 or more

**Note:** See the Curators Guide. As of biotoolsSchema 3.0.0, the Labels group does not have a corresponding element/object in biotoolsSchema/biotoolsSchemaJ (the schema was flattened).

# 3.5 Link group



Miscellaneous links for the software e.g. repository, issue tracker or mailing list.

Element	Description	Туре	Cardinality
url	A link of some rele-	URL	1 only
	vance to the software		
	(URL).		
type	The type of data, infor-	enum (see docs)	1 or more
	mation or system that		
	is obtained when the		
	link is resolved.		
note	Comment about the	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	link.		

Note: See the Curators Guide.

# 3.6 Download group

Links to downloads for the software, e.g. source code, virtual machine image or container.



Element	Description	Туре	Cardinality
url	Link to download	URL	1 only
	(or repo providing		
	a download) for the		
	software.		
type	Type of download that	enum (see docs)	1 only
	is linked to.		
note	Comment about the	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	download.		
version	Version information	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	(typically a version		
	number) of the soft-		
	ware applicable to this		
	download.		

Note: See the Curators Guide.

# 3.7 Documentation group

Links to documentation about the software e.g. manual, API specification or training material.



Element	Description	Туре	Cardinality
url	Link to documentation	URL	1 only
	on the web for the tool.		
type	Type of documentation	enum (see docs)	1 or more
	that is linked to.		
note	Comment about the	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	documentation.		

Note: See the Curators Guide.

# 3.8 Publication group

Publications about the software



Element	Description	Туре	Cardinality
pmcid	PubMed Central Iden-	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	tifier of a publication		
	about the software.		
pmid	PubMed Identifier.	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
doi	Digital Object Identi-	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	fier.		
type	Type of publication.	enum (see docs)	0 or more
note	Comment about the	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	publication.		
version	Version information	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	(typically a version		
	number) of the soft-		
	ware applicable to this		
	publication.		

Note: See the Curators Guide.

## 3.9 Relation group

Details of a relationship this software shares with other software registered in bio.tools.



Element	Description	Туре	Cardinality
biotoolsID	bio.tools ID of an ex-	xs:token (restriction)	1 only
	isting bio.tools entry to		
	which this software is		
	related.		
type	Type of relation be-	enum (see docs)	1 only
	tween this and another		
	registered software.		

Note: See the Curators Guide.

# 3.10 Credit group



Individuals or organisations that should be credited, or may be contacted about the software.

Element	Description	Туре	Cardinality
name	Name of the entity that	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	is credited.		
orcidid	Unique identifier (OR-	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	CID iD) of a person		
	that is credited.		
gridid	Unique identifier	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	(GRID ID) of an		
	organisation that is credited.		
rorid	Unique identifier	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	(ROR ID) of an or-		
	ganisation that is		
	credited.		
fundrefid	Unique identifier (Fun-	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	dRef ID or Funder ID)		
	of a funding organisa-		
	tion that is credited.		
email	Email address.	email address	0 or 1
url	URL, e.g. homepage	URL	0 or 1
	of an institute.		
tel	Telephone number.	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
typeEntity	Type of entity that is	enum (see docs)	0 or 1
	credited.		
typeRole	Role performed by en-	enum (see docs)	0 or more
	tity that is credited.		
note	A comment about the	xs:token (restriction)	0 or 1
	credit.		

Note: See the Curators Guide.

# Controlled vocabularies

biotoolsSchema defines 17 controlled vocabularies - as standarised enumerations of terms - for description of technical software aspects (see below).

Vocabulary	Description
tool type	The type of application software.
operating system	The operating system supported by a downloadable software package, e.g.
	'Linux'.
programming language	Name of programming language the software source code was written in,
	e.g. 'C'.
license	Software or data usage license, e.g. 'GPL-3.0'
maturity	How mature the software product is, e.g. 'Mature'.
cost	Monetary cost of acquiring the software, e.g. 'Free of charge'.
accessibility	Whether there are non-monetary restrictions on accessing an online service,
	e.g. 'Open access'.
link type	The type of data, information or system that is obtained when the link is
	resolved, e.g. 'Helpdesk'.
download type	Type of download that is linked to, e.g. 'Source code'.
documentation type	Type of documentation that is linked to, e.g. 'API documentation'.
publication type	Type of publication, e.g. 'Review'.
relation type	Type of relation between this and another registered software, e.g. 'is-
	NewVersionOf'.
entity type	Types of entities that may be credited, e.g. 'Person'.
entity role	Roles that may be assigned to creditable entities, e.g. 'Developer'.
ID type	Type of tool identifier, e.g. 'rrid'.
ELIXIR Platform	Name of the ELIXIR Platform that is credited, e.g. 'Tools'
ELIXIR Node	Name of the ELIXIR Node that is credited, e.g. 'Norway'
ELIXIR Community	Name of relevant ELIXIR (or associated) community, e.g. 'Galaxy'

# 4.1 Tool type

*The type of application software: a discrete software entity can have more than one type, e.g. "Command-line tool, Web application"* 

Туре	Description
Bioinformatics por- tal	web site providing a platform/portal to multiple resources used for research in a focused area, including biological databases, web applications, training resources and so on.
Command-line tool	A tool with a text-based (command-line) interface.
Database portal	A Web site providing a portal to a biological database, typically allowing a user to browse, deposit, search, visualise, analyse or download data.
Desktop application	A tool with a graphical user interface that runs on your desktop environment, <i>e.g.</i> on a PC or mobile device.
Library	A collection of components that are used to construct other tools. bio.tools scope includes component libraries performing high-level bioinformatics functions but excludes lower-level programming libraries.
Ontology	A collection of information about concepts, including terms, synonyms, descriptions etc.
Plug-in	A software component encapsulating a set of related functions, which are not standalone, <i>i.e.</i> depend upon other software for its use, <i>e.g.</i> a Javascript widget, or a plug-in, extension add-on etc. that extends the function of some existing tool.
Script	A tool written for some run-time environment ( <i>e.g.</i> other applications or an OS shell) that automates the execution of tasks. Often a small program written in a general-purpose languages ( <i>e.g.</i> Perl, Python) or some domain-specific languages ( <i>e.g.</i> sed).
SPARQL endpoint	A service that provides queries over an RDF knowledge base via the SPARQL query lan- guage and protocol, and returns results via HTTP.
Suite	A collection of tools which are bundled together into a convenient toolkit. Such tools typ- ically share related functionality, a common user interface and can exchange data conve- niently. This includes collections of stand-alone command-line tools, or Web applications within a common portal.
Web application	A tool with a graphical user interface that runs in your Web browser.
Web API	An application programming interface (API) consisting of endpoints to a request-response message system accessible via HTTP. Includes everything from simple data-access URLs to RESTful APIs.
Web service	An API described in a machine readable form (typically WSDL) providing programmatic access via SOAP over HTTP.
Workbench	An application or suite with a graphical user interface, providing an integrated environment for data analysis which includes or may be extended with any number of functions or tools. Includes workflow systems, platforms, frameworks etc.
Workflow	A set of tools which have been composed together into a pipeline of some sort. Such tools are (typically) standalone, but are composed for convenience, for instance for batch execution via some workflow engine or script.

# 4.2 Operating system

The operating system supported by a downloadable software package, e.g. "Linux"

Maturity	Description
Linux	All flavours of Linux/UNIX operating systems.
Windows	All flavours of Microsoft Windows operating system.
Mac	All flavours of Apple Macintosh operating systems (primarily Mac OS X).

### 4.3 Programming language

Name of programming language the software source code was written in, e.g. "C"

See the technical docs for a list of valid terms.

#### 4.4 License

Software or data usage license, e.g. "GPL-3.0"

See the technical docs for a complete list of valid terms. Noteworthy terms are below:

License	Description
Proprietary	Software for which the software's publisher or another person retains intellectual property
	rights - usually copyright of the source code, but sometimes patent rights.
Freeware	Proprietary software that is available for use at no monetary cost. In other words, freeware
	may be used without payment but may usually not be modified, re-distributed or reverse-
	engineered without the author's permission.
Not licensed	Software which is not licensed and is not proprietary.
Other	Software under license not currently supported by biotoolsSchema.

### 4.5 Maturity

How mature the software product is, e.g. "Mature"

Maturity	Description
Emerging	Nascent or early release software that may not yet be fully featured or stable.
Mature	Software that is generally considered to fulfill several of the following: secure, reliable,
	actively maintained, fully featured, proven in production environments, has an active com-
	munity, and is described or cited in the scientific literature.
Legacy	Software which is no longer in common use, deprecated by the provider, superseded by
	other software, replaced by a newer version, is obsolete etc.

#### 4.6 Cost

Monetary cost of acquiring the software, e.g. "Free of charge (with retritions)"

Cost	Description
Free of charge	Software which available for use by all, with full functionality, at no monetary cost to the
	user.
Free of charge (with	Software which is available for use at no monetary cost to the user, but possibly with limited
restrictions)	functionality, usage restrictions, or other limitations.
Commercial	Software which you have to pay to access.

# 4.7 Accessibility

Whether there are non-monetary restrictions on accessing an online service, e.g. "Open access"

Accessibility	Description
Open access	An online service which is available for use to all, but possibly requiring user accounts /
	authentication.
Open access (with	An online service which is available for use to all, but possibly with some usage limitations
restrictions)	and other restrictions.
Restricted access	An online service which is available for use to a restricted audience, e.g. members of a
	specific institute.

### 4.8 Link type

The type of data, information or system that is obtained when the link is resolved, e.g. "Mailing list"

Link type	Description
Discussion forum	Online forum for user discussions about the software.
Galaxy service	An online service providing the tool through the Galaxy platform.
Helpdesk	A phone line, web site or email-based system providing help to the end-user of the software.
Issue tracker	Tracker for software issues, bug reports, feature requests etc.
Mailing list	Mailing list for the software announcements, discussions, support etc.
Mirror	Mirror of an (identical) online service.
Software catalogue	Some registry, catalogue etc. other than bio.tools where the tool is also described.
Repository	A place where source code, data and other files can be retrieved from, typically via plat-
	forms like GitHub which provide version control and other features, or something simpler,
	e.g. an FTP site.
Social media	A website used by the software community including social networking sites, discussion
	and support fora, WIKIs etc.
Service	An online service (other than Galaxy) that provides access (an interface) to the software.
Technical monitor-	Information about the technical status of a tool.
ing	
Other	Other type of link for software - the default if a more specific type is not available.

### 4.9 Download type

Type of download that is linked to, e.g. "Binaries"

Download type	Description
API specification	File providing an API specification for the software, e.g. Swagger/OpenAPI, WSDL or
	RAML file.
Biological data	Biological data, or a web page on a database portal where such data may be downloaded.
Binaries	Binaries for the software; compiled code that allow a program to be installed without having
	to compile the source code.
Command-line	File providing a command line specification for the software.
specification	
Container file	Container file including the software.
Icon	Icon of the software.
Screenshot	Screenshot of the software.
Source code	The source code for the software, that can be compiled or assembled into an executable
	computer program.
Software package	A software package; a bundle of files and information about those files, typically including
	source code and / or binaries.
Test data	Data for testing the software is working correctly.
Test script	Script used for testing testing whether the software is working correctly.
Tool wrapper	Tool wrapper in Common Workflow Language (CWL) format for the software.
(CWL)	
Tool wrapper	Galaxy tool configuration file (wrapper) for the software.
(galaxy)	
Tool wrapper (tav-	Taverna configuration file for the software.
erna)	
Tool wrapper	Workbench configuration file (other than taverna, galaxy or CWL wrapper) for the software.
(other)	
VM image	Virtual machine (VM) image for the software.
Downloads page	Web page summarising general downloads available for the software.
Other	Other type of download for software - the default if a more specific type is not available.

# 4.10 Documentation type

Type of documentation that is linked to, e.g. "Citation instructions"

Documentation	Description
type	
API documentation	Human-readable API documentation.
Citation instructions	Information on how to correctly cite use of the software; typically which publication(s) to
	cite, or something more general, e.g. a form of words to use.
Code of conduct	A set of guidelines or rules outlining the norms, expectations, responsibilities and proper
	practice for individuals working within the software project.
Command-line op-	Information about the command-line interface to a tool.
tions	
Contributions	Information about policy for making contributions to the software project.
policy	
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions (and answers) about the software.
General	General documentation.
Governance	Information about the software governance model.
Installation instruc-	Instructions how to install the software.
tions	
Quick start guide	A short guide helping the end-user to use the software as soon as possible.
User manual	Information on how to use the software, tailored to the end-user.
Release notes	Notes about a software release or changes to the software; a change log.
Terms of use	Rules that one must agree to abide by in order to use a service.
Training material	Online training material such as a tutorial, a presentation, video etc.
Other	Some other type of documentation not listed in biotoolsSchema.

# 4.11 Publication type

Publication type	Description
Primary	The principal publication about the tool itself; the article to cite when acknowledging use
	of the tool.
Method	A publication describing a scientific method or algorithm implemented by the tool.
Usage	A publication describing the application of the tool to scientific research, a particular task
	or dataset.
Benchmarking	A publication which assessed the performance of the tool.
study	
Review	A publication where the tool was reviewed.
Other	A publication of relevance to the tool but not fitting the other categories.

# 4.12 Relation type

Type of relation between this and another registered software, e.g. "isNewVersionOf"

Relation type	Description
isNewVersionOf	The software is a new version of an existing software, typically providing new or improved
	functionality.
hasNewVersion	(inverse of above)
uses	The software provides an interface to or in some other way uses the functions of other
	software under the hood, e.g. invoking a command-line tool or calling a Web API, Web
	service or SPARQL endpoint to perform its function.
usedBy	(inverse of above)
includes	A workbench, toolkit or workflow includes some other, independently available, software.
includedIn	(inverse of above)

# 4.13 Entity type

Type of entity that is credited, e.g. "Person"

Entity type	Description
Person	Credit of an individual.
Project	Credit of a community software project not formally associated with any single institute.
Division	Credit of or a formal part of an institutional organisation, e.g. a department, research group,
	team, etc
Institute	Credit of an organisation such as a university, hospital, research institute, service center,
	unit etc.
Consortium	Credit of an association of two or more institutes or other legal entities which have joined
	forces for some common purpose. Includes Research Infrastructures (RIs) such as ELIXIR,
	parts of an RI such as an ELIXIR node etc.
Funding agency	Credit of a legal entity providing funding for development of the software or provision of
	an online service.

# 4.14 Entity role

Role performed by entity that is credited, e.g. "Developer"

Role	Description
Developer	Author of the original software source code.
Maintainer	Maintainer of a mature software providing packaging, patching, distribution etc.
Provider	Institutional provider of an online service.
Documentor	Author of software documentation including making edits to a bio.tools entry.
Contributor	Some other role in software production or service delivery including design, deployment,
	system administration, evaluation, testing, documentation, training, user support etc.
Support	Provider of support in using the software.
Primary contact	The primary point of contact for the software.

### 4.15 ID type

Type of tool identifier, e.g. "rrid"

Role	Description
doi	Digital Object Identifier of the software assigned (typically) by the software developer or
	service provider.
rrid	Research Resource Identifier as used by the NIH-supported Resource Identification Portal
	(https://scicrunch.org/resources).
cpe	Common Platform Enumeration (CPE) identifier as listed in the CPE dictionary (https:
	//cpe.mitre.org/dictionary/).
biotoolsCURIE	bio.tools CURIE (secondary identifier).

# 4.16 ELIXIR Platform

Name of the ELIXIR Platform that is credited, e.g. "Tools"

ELIXIR Platform	Description
Data	ELIXIR Data Platform
Tools	ELIXIR Tools Platform
Compute	ELIXIR Compute Platform
Interoperability	ELIXIR Interoperability Platform
Training	ELIXIR Training Platform

## 4.17 ELIXIR Node

Name of the ELIXIR Node that is credited, e.g. "Norway"

ELIXIR Node
Belgium
Czech Republic
Denmark
EMBL
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Luxembourg
Netherlands
Norway
Portugal
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
UK

# 4.18 ELIXIR Community

Name of relevant ELIXIR (or associated) community, e.g. "Galaxy"

ELIXIR Node
3D-BioInfo
Federated Human Data
Galaxy
Human Copy Number Variation
Intrinsically Disordered Proteins
Marine Metagenomics
Metabolomics
Microbial Biotechnology
Plant Sciences
Proteomics
Rare Diseases

#### Contributors

#### 5.1 Governance

biotoolsSchema is a community-driven project governed under the leadership of the French ELIXIR node (Jacques van Helden, Joint Head of Node) in collaboration with other national ELIXIR nodes and partners beyond ELIXIR. biotoolsSchema development is supported by the French ELIXIR node, and has benefited from the voluntary contributions of many individuals since its inception.

Development on the ground is led by French ELIXIR Node staff and affiliates (Hervé Ménager, Jon Ison and Alban Gaignard), in close collaboration with the ELIXIR Tools Platform and other partners within and beyond the ELIXIR infrastructure.

If you'd like to get involved with the project please contact us via GitHub.

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# 5.3 Contributors

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We recommend, however, that while biotoolsSchema is being actively maintained by its authors, substantial derived work, major modifications *etc.* are consulted with the developers beforehand at the time of consideration, and consistent solutions are sought in collaboration.