

# Overview of scientific metadata for data publishing, citation, and curation

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# Outline

A study of scientific metadata

Schemes and profiles in the wild

- Geospatial/Environmental Data

- Biology Data

- Social Science and Humanities Data

- Structural Sciences Data

- General Research Data

Comparison of metadata standards and profiles

Is a scientific metadata scheme worth the trouble?

# A study of scientific metadata

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[http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/  
projects/sdapss/](http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/projects/sdapss/)



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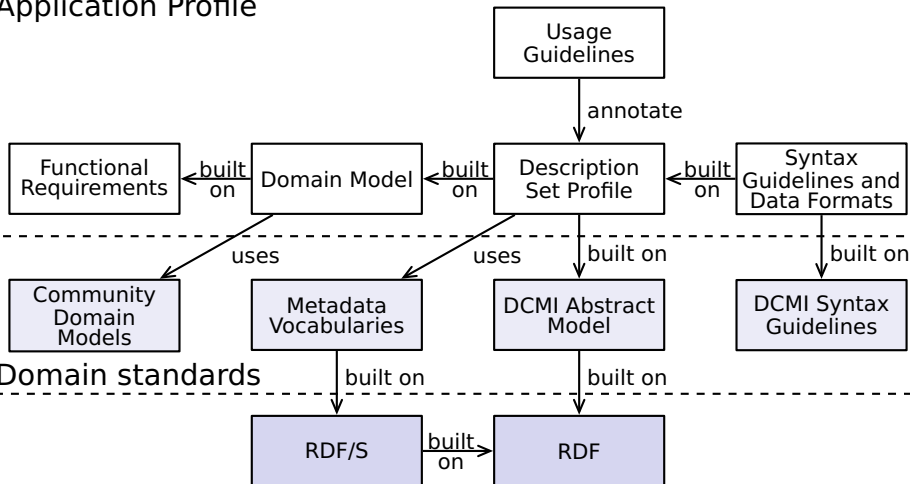
## Scientific Data Application Profile Scoping Study Report

### Document details

Author:	Alexander Ball, UKOLN, University of Bath
Date:	3rd June 2009
Version:	1.1
Document Name:	sdapss.pdf
Notes:	Changes from version 1.0: Typographical corrections made. References added. Conclusions expanded.

# Singapore Framework

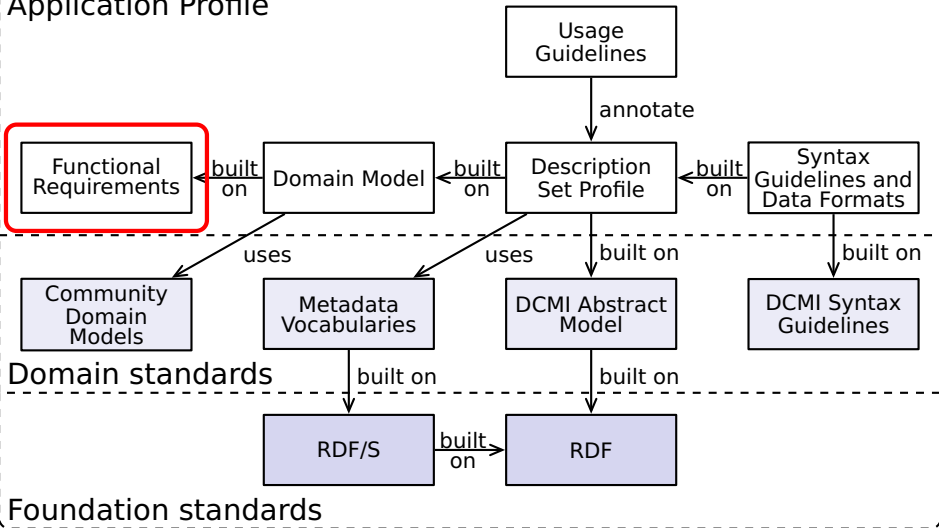
## Application Profile



## Foundation standards

# Singapore Framework

## Application Profile



# Repository landscape

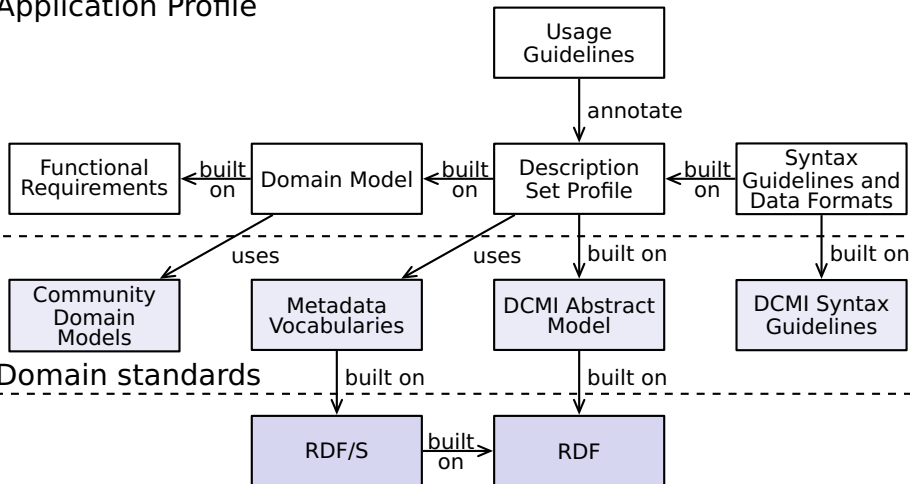


GoGeo eBank UK



# Singapore Framework

## Application Profile

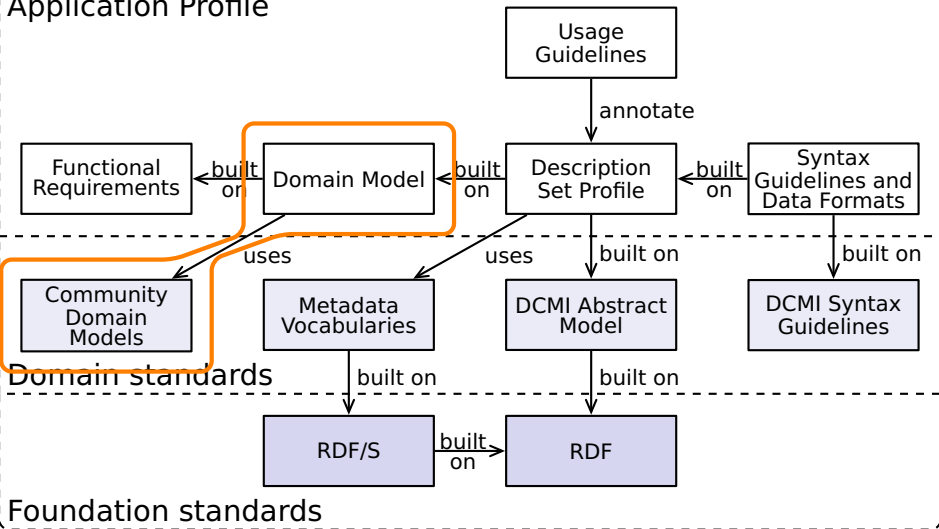


## Foundation standards



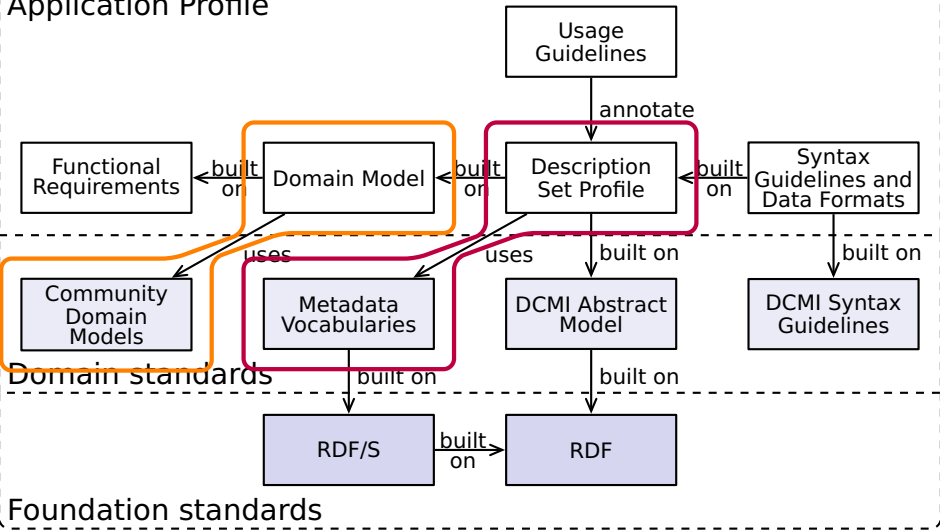
# Singapore Framework

## Application Profile



# Singapore Framework

## Application Profile



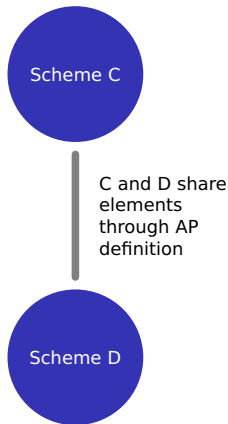
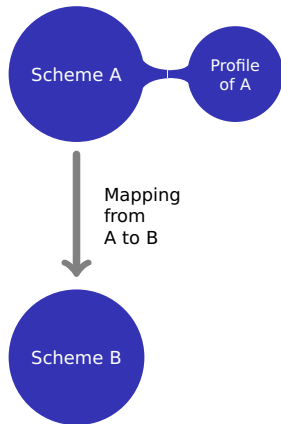
# Schemes and profiles in the wild

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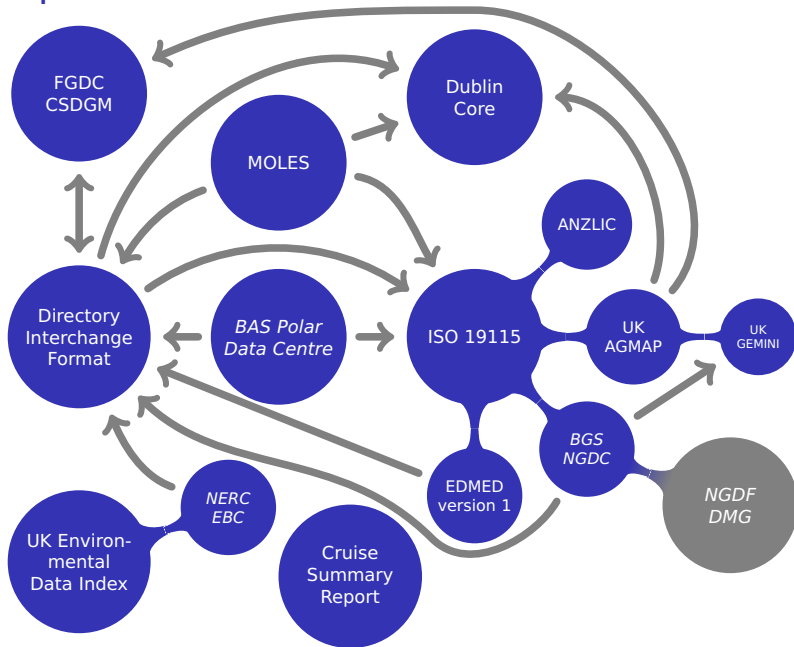


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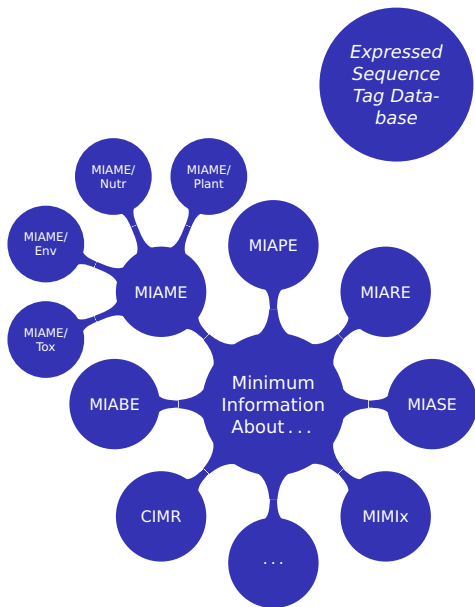
# Legend



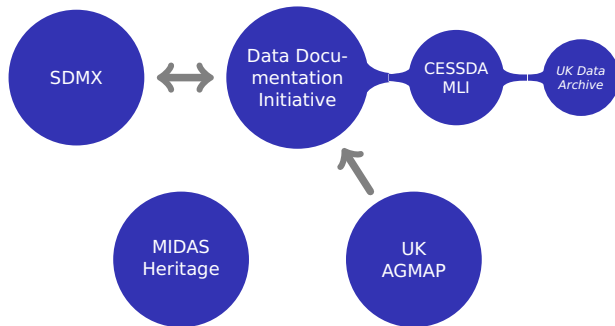
# Geospatial/Environmental Data



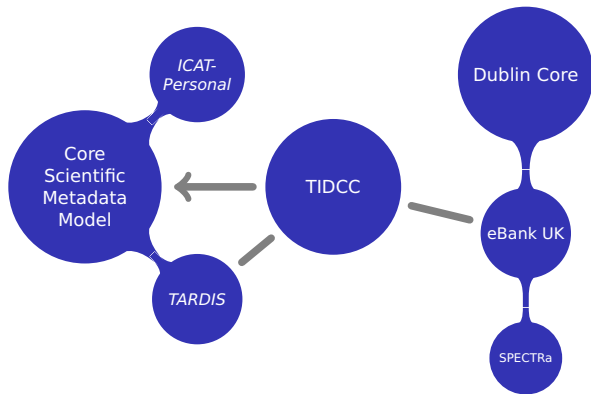
# Biology Data



# Social Science and Humanities Data

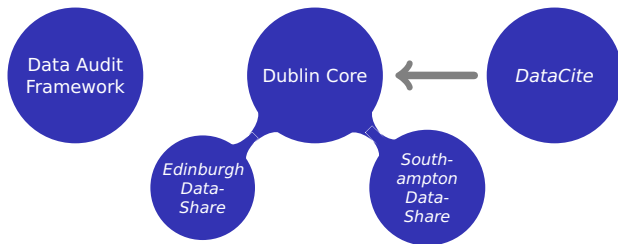


# Structural Sciences





# General



# ILSC

## of metadata

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# Legend

- ▶ The following lists show elements that were common to at least 3 of the 15 standards/profiles studied.
- ▶ Elements in red occurred in the most standards/profiles.
- ▶ Elements in black occurred in the fewest standards/profiles.

## Identification

- ▶ Dataset Name
- ▶ Dataset Version
- ▶ Dataset Date
- ▶ Dataset Identifier
- ▶ Metadata Scheme Name
- ▶ Metadata Scheme Version
- ▶ Metadata Record Date
- ▶ Metadata Record Identifier

## Responsibility

- ▶ Project/Study/Series Name
- ▶ Project/Study/Series Status
- ▶ Rights/Restrictions
- ▶ Agent
- ▶ Agent Contact Details

## Archiving

- ▶ Location
- ▶ File Format(s)
- ▶ Storage Medium
- ▶ Size
- ▶ Data Quality Information
- ▶ Data Preview
- ▶ Dataset Language
- ▶ Dataset Status

## Spatiotemporal Coverage

- ▶ Spatial Extent
- ▶ Spatial Resolution
- ▶ Temporal Extent
- ▶ Temporal Resolution

## Topical Coverage and Derivation

- ▶ Dataset Type
- ▶ Subject/Keywords
- ▶ Abstract/Summary/Description
- ▶ Parameters Used
- ▶ Methodology/Instrumentation
- ▶ Processing Steps
- ▶ Related Datasets
- ▶ Derived Publications

Is a scientific metadata  
scheme worth the trouble?

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# DataCite Metadata Elements

(based on v2.2, in SDAPSS terms)

## Identification

- ▶ Dataset Identifier
- ▶ Dataset Name
- ▶ Dataset Date
- ▶ Dataset Version
- ▶ Metadata Record Date
- ▶ *Metadata Record Version* (not in SDAPSS list)

## Responsibility

- ▶ Agent (Creator/  
Publisher/Contributor)
- ▶ Rights/Restrictions

## Archiving

- ▶ Dataset Language
- ▶ Size
- ▶ File Format(s)

## Topical Coverage and Derivation

- ▶ Subject/Keywords
- ▶ Dataset Type
- ▶ Related Datasets
- ▶ Derived Publications
- ▶ Abstract/Summary/  
Description



Questions?

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## Further information

Contact Alex Ball at  
a.ball@ukoln.ac.uk

Scientific Data Application Profile Scoping Study  
available from:  
<http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/projects/sdapss/>



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# Notes



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# ISO 19115

**Full name** ISO 19115:2003. *Geographic information – Metadata.*

**Maintained by** ISO Technical Committee 211

**Usage** *Lingua franca* for geospatial data; widely profiled. ISO 19139:2007 provides its XML format, Geographic MetaData XML (GMD).

**Further information** [http://www.iso.org/iso/catalogue\\_detail.htm?csnumber=26020](http://www.iso.org/iso/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=26020)

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# ANZLIC

**Full name** Australia and New Zealand Land Information Council Metadata Profile

**Maintained by** ANZLIC – the Spatial Information Council

**Usage** Profile of ISO 19115 for use in Australia and New Zealand, replacing the *ANZLIC Metadata Guidelines* version 2 (2001)

**Further information** <http://www.anzlic.org.au/Publications/Metadata+Project/default.aspx>

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# BGS NGDC

**Maintained by** British Geological Survey National  
Geoscience Data Centre

**Usage** Application profile for use by the NGDC,  
based on ISO 19115 with additional  
elements to support legacy and specialist  
metadata, including the National Geospatial  
Data Framework *Discovery Metadata  
Guidelines*

**Further information (NGDC)** [http://www.bgs.ac.uk/  
services/ngdc/home.html](http://www.bgs.ac.uk/services/ngdc/home.html)

**Further information (NGDF DMG)**  
[http://www.ngdf.org.uk/Metadata/  
metguide/metaguide12.pdf](http://www.ngdf.org.uk/Metadata/metguide/metaguide12.pdf)

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# UK AGMAP

**Full name** UK Academic Geospatial Metadata  
Application Profile

**Maintained by** Go-Geo!, EDINA

**Usage** Profile of ISO 19115 (and superset of UK  
GEMINI) for use by the UK higher and further  
education sectors

**Further information** [http:  
//www.gogeo.ac.uk/cgi-bin/mdres.cgi](http://www.gogeo.ac.uk/cgi-bin/mdres.cgi)

[Back to Geospatial](#)

[Back to Social Science](#)

# UK GEMINI

**Full name** UK Geo-spatial Metadata Interoperability Initiative Standard

**Maintained by** Association for Geographic Information

**Usage** Profile of ISO 19115 for use by the UK Government and national services such as Gigateway

**Further information**

<http://www.agi.org.uk/uk-gemini/>

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# EDMED

**Full name** European Directory of Marine Environmental Datasets

**Maintained by** British Oceanographic Data Centre, EU SeaDataNet Project

**Usage** Metadata scheme used by the EDMED database and national databases; the XML form of version 1 (replacing version 0) is a profile of ISO 19115

**Further information** [https://www.bodc.ac.uk/data/information\\_and\\_inventories/edmed/](https://www.bodc.ac.uk/data/information_and_inventories/edmed/)

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# CSR

**Full name** Cruise Summary Report

**Maintained by** Intergovernmental Oceanographic  
Commission, Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt  
und Hydrographie/Deutsches  
Ozeanographisches Datenzentrum

**Usage** Standard form for reporting observations  
and the samples collected by oceanographic  
cruises

**Further information** [http:  
//www.seadatanet.org/Metadata/CSR](http://www.seadatanet.org/Metadata/CSR)

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# BAS PDC

**Maintained by** British Antarctic Survey Polar Data  
Centre

**Usage** Application profile for use by the PDC,  
harmonious with both ISO 19115 and DIF

**Further information** [http://www.antarctica.ac.uk/  
bas\\_research/data/](http://www.antarctica.ac.uk/bas_research/data/)

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# DIF

**Full name** Directory Interchange Format

**Maintained by** Committee on Earth Observation  
Satellites International Directory Network  
(CEOS IDN)

**Usage** Native metadata scheme for the Global  
Change Master Directory, hosted by NASA

**Further information** [http://gcmd.nasa.gov/User/  
difguide/difman.html](http://gcmd.nasa.gov/User/difguide/difman.html)

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# FGDC CSDGM

**Full name** Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata

**Maintained by** Federal Geographic Data Committee

**Usage** Native metadata scheme for the Geospatial One-Stop data portal and the National Spatial Data Infrastructure Clearinghouse.

**Further information**

<http://www.fgdc.gov/metadata/csdgm/>

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# MOLES

**Full name** Metadata Objects for Linking Environmental Sciences

**Maintained by** Centre for Environmental Data Archival (CEDA), Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)

**Usage** Native metadata scheme for CEDA and the Natural Environment Research Council's DataGrid

**Further information**  
<http://proj.badc.rl.ac.uk/moles/wiki>

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# UKEDI

**Full name** UK Environmental Data Index

**Maintained by** Environmental Information Centre,  
Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH)

**Usage** Native metadata scheme for the UKEDI  
catalogue

**Further information** <http://ukedi.ceh.ac.uk/>

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# NEBC

**Maintained by** Natural Environment Research Council  
(NERC) Environmental Bioinformatics Centre

**Usage** Native metadata scheme used across all  
data holdings, loosely based on UKEDI  
(further, type-specific metadata is also held)

**Further information** [http://nebc.nerc.ac.uk/data/  
standards-and-ontologies/overview](http://nebc.nerc.ac.uk/data/standards-and-ontologies/overview)

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# MIBBI

- Full name** Minimum Information for Biological and Biomedical Investigations
- Funded by** Natural Environment Research Council, Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
- Purpose** To promote and co-ordinate projects working on reporting guidelines (especially 'Minimum Information' schemes), and drive adoption of these guidelines
- Further information** [http://mibbi.org/index.php/MIBBI\\_portal](http://mibbi.org/index.php/MIBBI_portal)

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# dbEST

**Full name** Expressed Sequence Tag Database

**Maintained by** National Center for Biotechnology  
Information

**Usage** Native metadata scheme for EST data in  
GenBank

**Further information** [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/  
dbEST/how\\_to\\_submit.html](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/dbEST/how_to_submit.html)

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# Dryad

**Full name** Dryad Metadata Application Profile

**Maintained by** Dryad Development Team

**Usage** Native metadata profile for the Dryad repository, mostly drawn from Dublin Core, Darwin Core and BIBO

**Further information** [https://www.datadryad.org/wiki/Metadata\\_Profile](https://www.datadryad.org/wiki/Metadata_Profile)

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# DwC

**Full name** Darwin Core standard

**Maintained by** Taxonomic Databases Working Group

**Usage** Biodiversity informatics standard used by the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, the Atlas of Living Australia, the Ornithological Information System, the Ocean Biogeographic Information System, and others

**Further information**

<http://rs.tdwg.org/dwc/index.htm>

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# DDI

**Full name** Data Documentation Initiative

**Maintained by** Data Documentation Initiative Alliance

**Usage** Metadata standard used or profiled by social science data archives across the globe

**Further information** <http://www.ddialliance.org/>

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# CESSDA MLI

**Full name** Council of European Social Science Data  
Archives Minimum Level of Information

**Maintained by** Council of European Social Science Data  
Archives

**Usage** Common base profile of DDI for use by the  
member archives of CESSDA

**Further information** [http:  
//www.cessda.org/sharing/managing/3/](http://www.cessda.org/sharing/managing/3/)

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Maintained by UK Data Archive

Usage Profile of DDI for use by the UKDA, based on the CESSDA MLI.

Further information <http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/create-manage/document/overview>

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# SDMX

- Full name Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange
- Maintained by Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange Initiative
- Usage Metadata standard used by the UN, the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and others
- Further information <http://sdmx.org/>

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# MIDAS Heritage

**Full name** Manual and Data Standard for Monument Inventories (MIDAS) Heritage

**Maintained by** English Heritage, Forum on Information Standards in Heritage

**Usage** Metadata standard used by UK agencies, record offices, archaeological contractors and academic researchers working with the historic environment

**Further information** <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/archives-and-collections/nmr/heritage-data/midas-heritage/>

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# Core Scientific Metadata Model

AKA CCLRC Scientific Metadata Model

Maintained by Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)

Usage Metadata standard used by STFC's ICAT data catalogue and the Australian Research Enabling Environment (ARCHER) XDMS tool, among others

Further information [https://sourceforge.net/userapps/mediawiki/ericayang/index.php?title=I2S2#Core\\_Scientific\\_MetaData\\_model\\_.28CSMD.29](https://sourceforge.net/userapps/mediawiki/ericayang/index.php?title=I2S2#Core_Scientific_MetaData_model_.28CSMD.29)

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# ICAT-Personal

**Maintained by** Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)

**Usage** Extension of the CSMD model to accommodate data processing stages beyond initial collection

**Further information** <http://sourceforge.net/apps/mediawiki/icatlite/>

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# TARDIS

**Full name** The Australian Repositories for Diffraction Images

**Maintained by** TARDIS Project partners (Monash University, VeRSI, Australian Synchrotron, and others)

**Usage** Profile of the CSMD model for Australian crystallographic data

**Further information** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1107/S0907444908015540>

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# eBank UK

- Full name** eBank UK Metadata Application Profile
- Maintained by** UKOLN, University of Bath (DCC);  
University of Southampton; University of  
Manchester
- Usage** Dublin Core Application Profile suited to  
crystallography, later used by the eCrystals  
Federation Project
- Further information** [http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/  
projects/ebank-uk/schemas/profile/](http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/projects/ebank-uk/schemas/profile/)

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# SPECTRa

**Full name** Submission, Preservation and Exposure of Chemistry Teaching and Research Data

**Maintained by** University of Cambridge, Imperial College London

**Usage** Extension of the eBank profile to organic and computational chemistry

**Further information** <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/spectra/FinalReport.html>

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# TIDCC

**Full name** Towards an International Data Commons for Crystallography

**Maintained by** The Australian Repositories for Diffraction Images (TARDIS) Project, eCrystals Federation Project, DataMINX Project, Australian Research Council's Molecular and Materials Structure Network (MMSN)

**Usage** Profile of the CSMD model for Australian crystallographic data

**Further information** <http://wiki.ecrystals.chem.soton.ac.uk/images/9/9d/ECrystals-WP4-PM-Final.pdf>

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# Edinburgh DataShare

**Full name** DSpace Metadata Schema for Edinburgh DataShare

**Maintained by** University of Edinburgh

**Usage** Profile of Dublin Core and administrative DSpace metadata for use in Edinburgh's data repository

**Further information** [http://www.disc-uk.org/docs/Edinburgh\\_DataShare\\_DC-schema1.pdf](http://www.disc-uk.org/docs/Edinburgh_DataShare_DC-schema1.pdf)

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# Southampton DataShare

**Full name** DataShare Metadata Schema for ePrints Soton

**Maintained by** University of Southampton

**Usage** Profile of Dublin Core and administrative ePrints metadata for use in Southampton's data repository

**Further information** [http://www.disc-uk.org/docs/sPrints\\_Soton\\_Metadata.pdf](http://www.disc-uk.org/docs/sPrints_Soton_Metadata.pdf)

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# DataCite

**Full name** DataCite Metadata Schema for the  
Publication and Citation of Research Data

**Maintained by** DataCite Metadata Working Group

**Usage** Scheme for the metadata collected by  
DataCite when registering a DOI for a  
database

**Further information** <http://schema.datacite.org/>

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# DAF

**Full name** Data Asset Framework Audit Form 3B: Data asset management (Optional extended element set)

**AKA** Data Audit Framework

**Maintained by** HATII, University of Glasgow (DCC)

**Usage** Suggested set of data to collect about research data assets when assessing their management

**Further information**

<http://data-audit.eu/documents.html>

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