

Using repository metadata

Overview

This module introduced the concept of built-in and repository properties and metadata. You learned how to create various types of metadata and use them for component configuration. It focused on file metadata, database metadata, and generic metadata.

What is metadata?

Metadata is a set of shared properties that you can reuse to configure components and Jobs in the same project.

Examples of metadata:

- Database connection settings
- Table schemas
- File properties
- File schemas
- Cloud storage connection settings

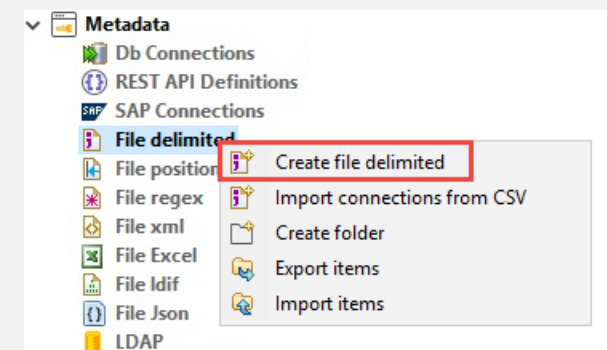
Key steps

In Talend Studio, metadata is created and stored in the repository, and you can reuse metadata across Jobs.

1

Create the metadata in the **Repository**, in the **Metadata** folder.
This folder lists all available metadata types.

- Right-click the correct metadata type and create new metadata.
- Enter a name, purpose, and description.
- Configure the properties stored in the metadata.

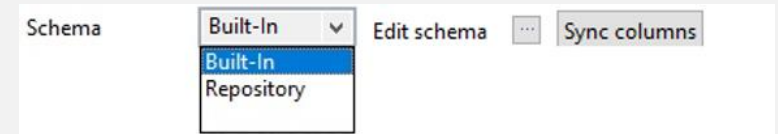


2

When configuring components in the **Designer**, you can configure some parameters, such as database credentials and data schemas, using Built-In and Repository properties:

- **Built-In:** Properties are manually configured at the component level
- **Repository:** Properties are inherited from metadata in the Repository

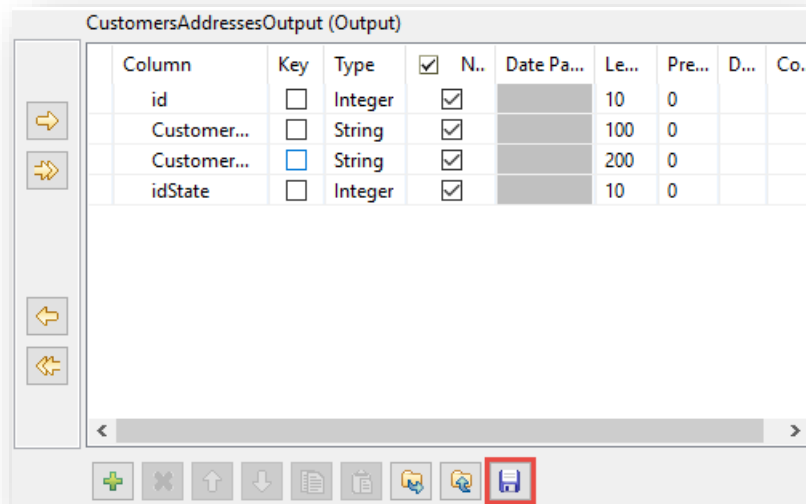
You can use metadata in specific Job settings.



Tips

Generic schemas and metadata update features offer flexibility.

Generic schemas

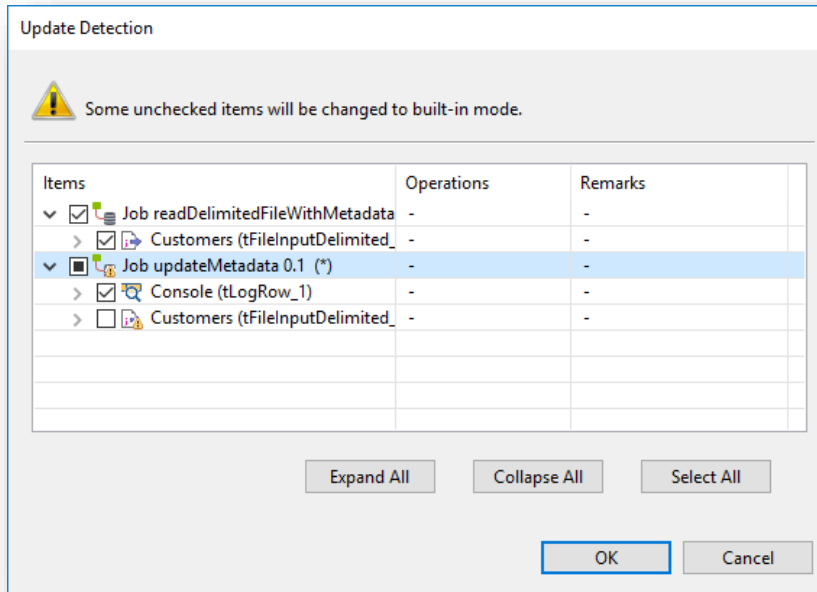


You can reuse metadata from one file component in another in the same way that you can reuse database connection metadata in different database components. In contrast, you can reuse generic metadata in components of different types (for example, both file and database).

Generic schemas are created when configuring a schema in the Component view by clicking the **Save** icon.

Generic schemas are stored in **Repository > Metadata > Generic Schemas**.

Metadata updating



When propagating changes, you must select the components to update.

The Update Detection window lists components used in Jobs in a project that are configured using the updated metadata.

You can still cut the link between a component and metadata to isolate the component from the update; the property type is then defined as Built-In.

Before updating metadata, you can run an impact analysis to list all components linked to it.

Best practices

- If you must regularly update metadata, consider the option of duplicating it in the Repository. That way, you have two available versions.
- You can also use context variables in the metadata definition. Component settings are then updated according to the selected context.