

# IFC.JSON

# Agenda

- IfcJSON Project Overview
- Technical matters
- IfcJSON tools and resources

# Team



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and inputs coming in  
and out

# IfcJson Project Overview

# Need for ifcJSON

JSON is used throughout the world for exchanging and using data. Building data needs to be available in JSON. Therefore, IFC needs to be available in JSON format.

IFC.JSON aims primarily at addressing the following problems with IFC:

- Many developers have never seen/used EXPRESS or STP instance files before, which increases the effort required to extract data required from them.
- IFC instance populations are typically exchanged as files, which is at odds with linked, distributed, and rapidly changing data seen on most design and construction projects and products.

# ifcJSON Criteria

Main focus:

- Backward compatibility
- Round-trip
- Parallel to EXPRESS schema

**ifcJSON V4**

To a lesser degree (Due to adhering to the IFC schema):

- Human-readability
- Integration with code
- Clear referencing structure
- Direct usability

**ifcJSON V5**

# Project plan

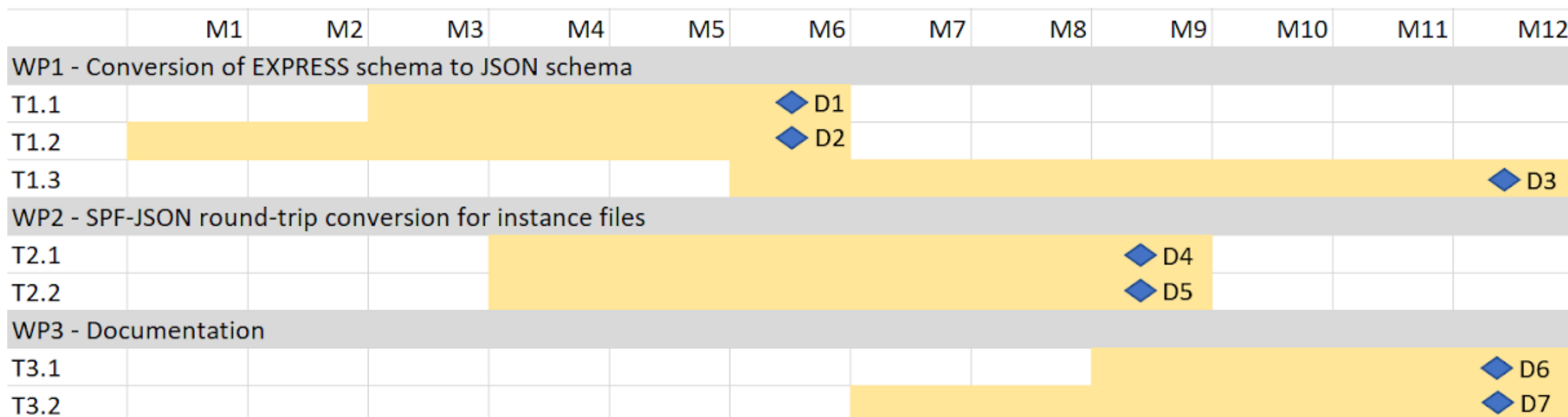
- Started in January 2020
- Activity Proposal submitted & accepted: Spring summit 2020
- Today:
  - Project Proposal submitted
  - Draft deliverables finished:
    - D1: JSON schema: first draft
    - D2: EXPRESS to JSON schema converter (Python): first draft
    - D4: SPF to JSON converter (Python): ready for review
    - D5: JSON to SPF converter (Python): first draft
    - D6: Instance format documentation: ready for review
    - D7: Sample files: ready for review
  - Upcoming deliverables:
    - D3: UML to ifcJSON schema converter

# Project timeline

D1: JSON schema  
D2: EXPRESS to JSON schema converter  
D3: UML to ifcJSON schema converter

D4: SPF to JSON converter  
D5: JSON to SPF converter

D6: Instance format documentation  
D7: Sample files





# WP1 Conversion of EXPRESS schema to JSON schema

**D1: JSON schema:** a single json schema file that is published on the web (buildingSMART webspace) and can be used for validation.

**D2: EXPRESS to JSON schema converter:** a Python-based converter is developed that generates a JSON schema based on EXPRESS file input.

**D3: UML to JSON schema converter:** a Python-based converter is developed that generates a JSON schema based on the UML schema for IFC (file input).

# WP2 SPF-JSON round-trip conversion for instance files

**D4: SPF to JSON converter:** a Python-based converter is developed that generates a JSON file based on SPF file input.

**D5: JSON to SPF converter:** a Python-based converter is developed that generates a SPF file based on JSON file input.

# WP3 Documentation

**D6: Instance format documentation:** The documentation focuses on the instance files. A report is made available via GitHub and PDF that documents the JSON format for IFC. This includes recommendations for the future.

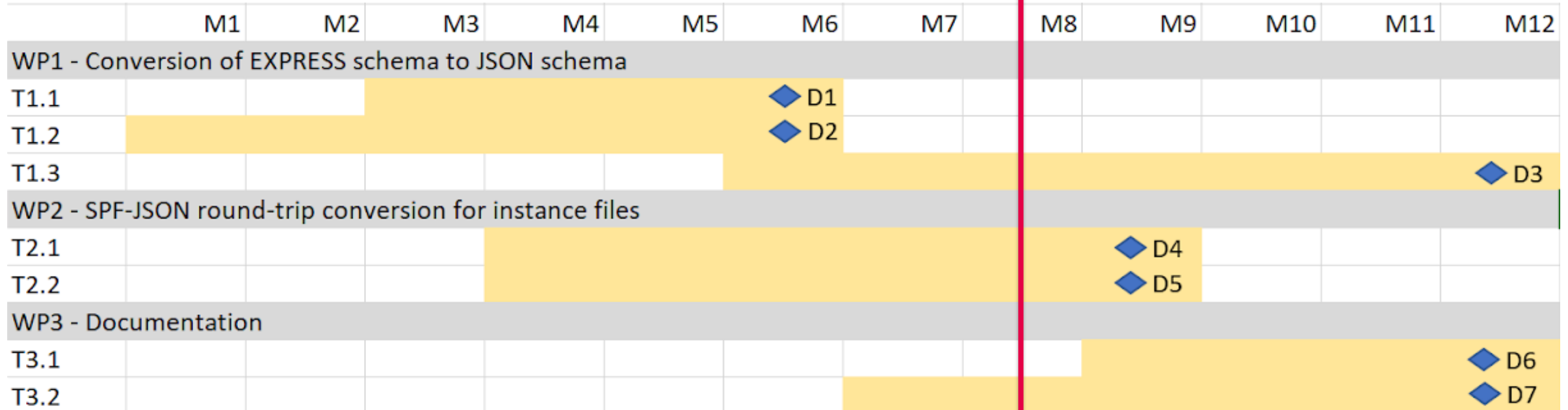
**D7: Sample files:** As part of the documentation, a number of JSON sample files are included. They will be published under the buildingSMART test file repository in buildingSMART.

# Project timeline

D1: JSON schema  
D2: EXPRESS to JSON schema converter  
D3: UML to ifcJSON schema converter

D4: SPF to JSON converter  
D5: JSON to SPF converter

D6: Instance format documentation  
D7: Sample files

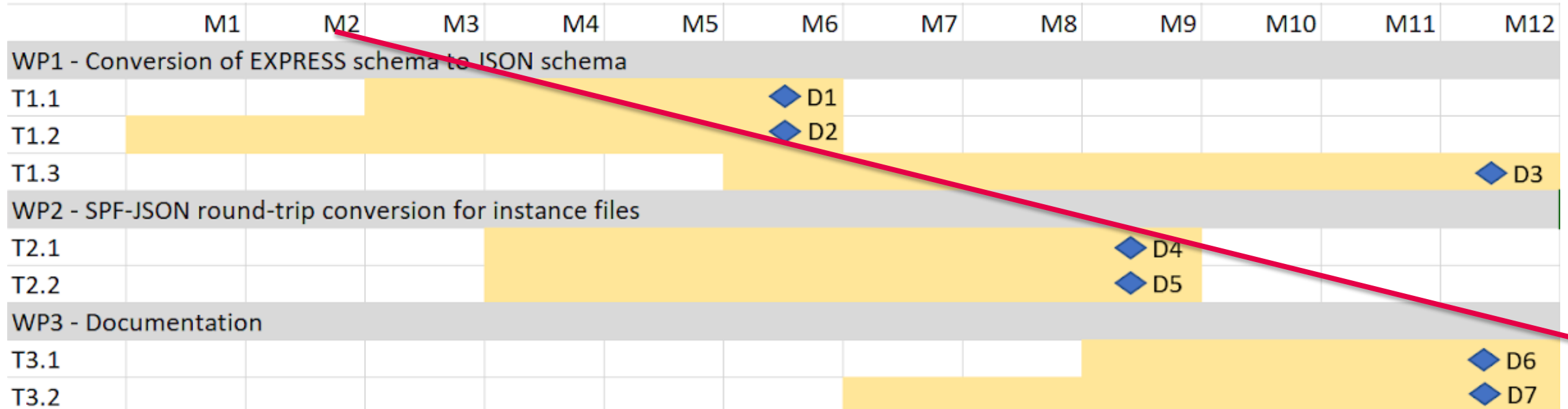


# Project timeline

D1: JSON schema  
D2: EXPRESS to JSON schema converter  
D3: UML to ifcJSON schema converter

D4: SPF to JSON converter  
D5: JSON to SPF converter

D6: Instance format documentation  
D7: Sample files



# Technical matters

# About JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)

```
{ // A dictionary or object
  "Key 1": "Object 1",
  "Key 2": "Value 1"
}
```

```
[ // An Array
  {
    "Key 1": "Object 1",
    "Key 2": "Value 1"
  },
  {
    "Key 1": "Object 2",
    "Key 2": "Value 2"
  },
  {
    "Key 1": "Object 3",
    "Key 2": "Value 3",
    "Key 3": "Value 4" // Flexible
  }
]
```

# JSON Serialize / De-serialize

```
[ // JSON TEXT
{
  "Key_1": "Object 1",
  "Key_2": "Value 1"
},
{
  "Key_1": "Object 2",
  "Key_2": "Value 2"
},
{
  "Key_1": "Object 3",
  "Key_2": "Value 3",
  "Key_3": "Value 4" // Flexible
}
```

*Deserialize JSON.Parse()*



*Serialize JSON.Stringify()*



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[ //Python data
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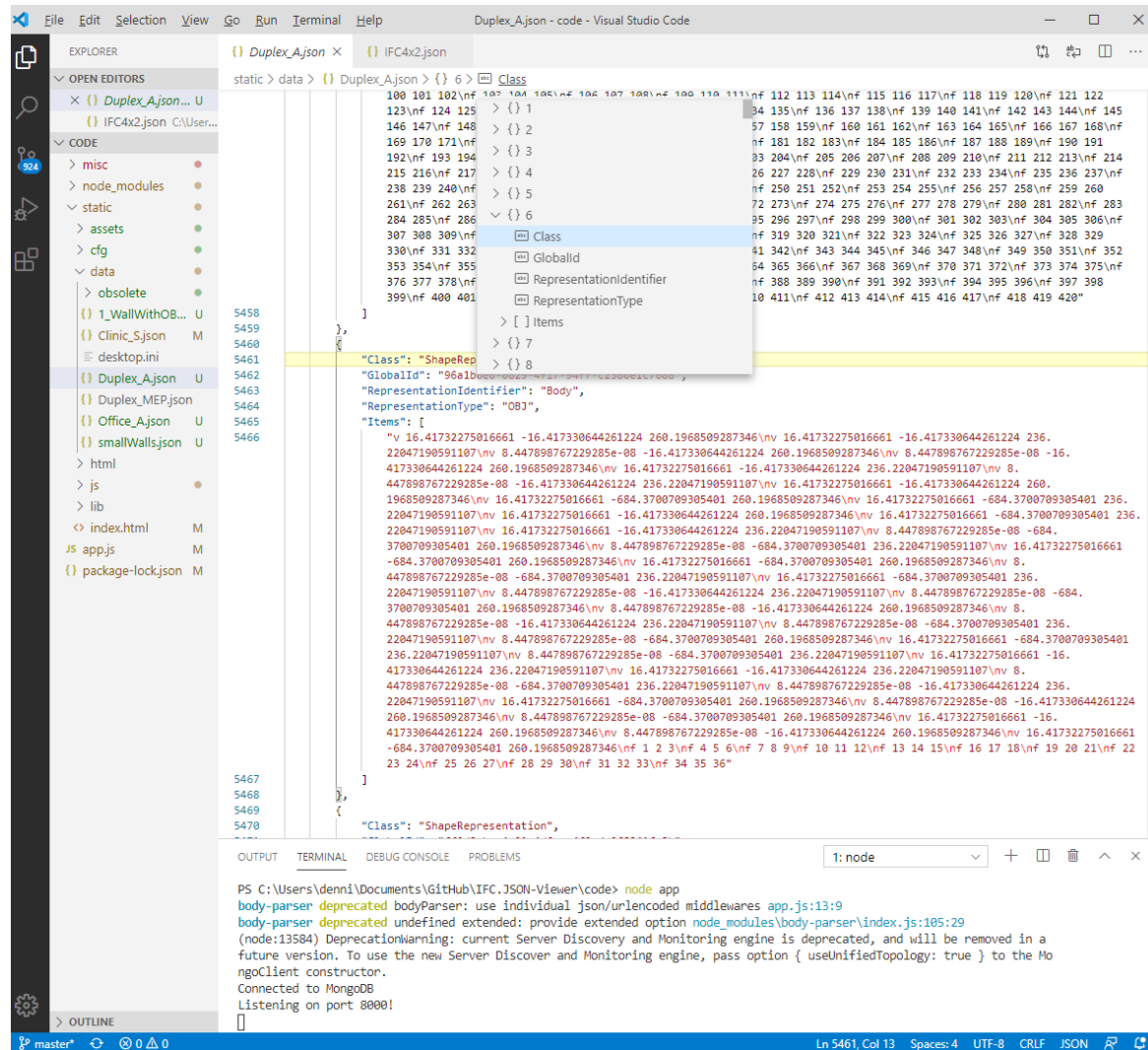


# Ifc.JSON

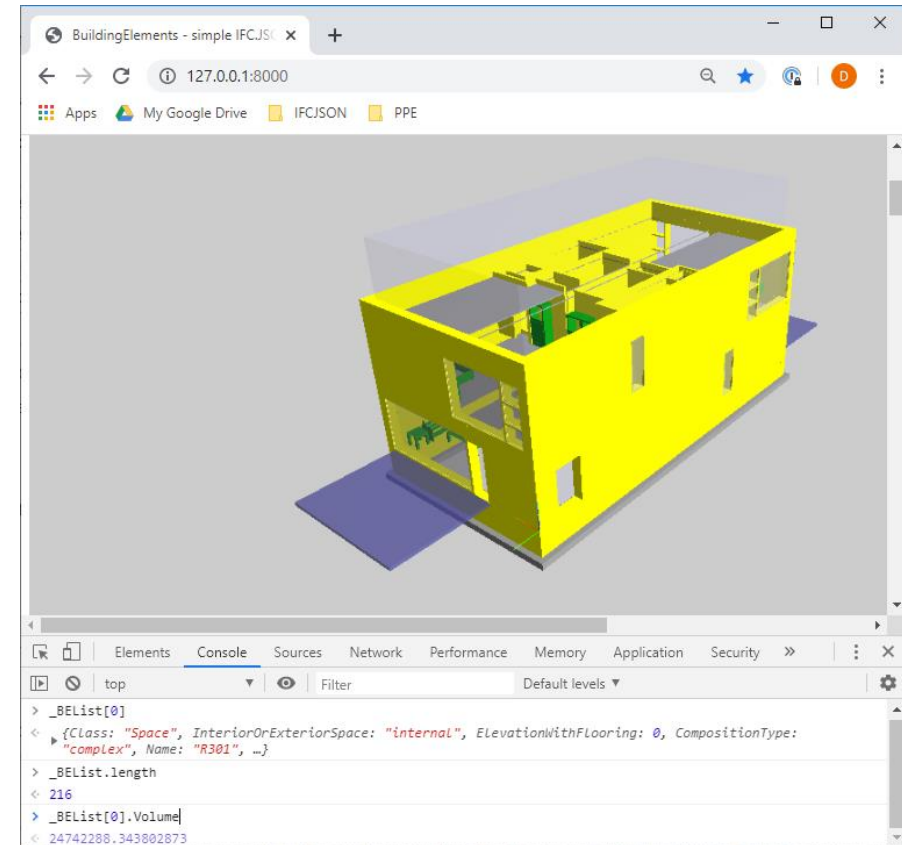
```
[ // A flat array of Ifc.JSON Objects
{
  "name": "Ifc Object 1",
  "type": "IfcWall",
  "globalId": "68485662-4a08-4f7d-ad9f-379798fee4b2"
},
{
  "name": "Ifc Object 2",
  "type": "IfcDoor",
  "globalId": "32cfdee2-71b8-438f-b0b4-0a2a5a05184a"
},
]
```

```
[ // An Ifc.JSON Project hierarchy
{
  "type": "IfcProject",
  "globalId": "cb78a8c2-fb1e-4e12-8f29-6c0d7c39ca0b",
  "name": "Default Project",
  "description": "Description of Default Project",
  "isDecomposedBy": [
    {
      "type": "IfcSite",
      "globalId": "f07e69ce-3709-4ef5-a029-e27de7e95991",
      "name": "TU/e campus",
      "description": "The High Tech campus",
      "compositionType": "ELEMENT",
      "refElevation": 0,
      "isDecomposedBy": [
        {
          "type": "IfcBuilding",
          "globalId": "f3b41796-63ea-4a63-b0aa-f1d7978a6e47",
          "name": "Vertigo Building",
          "description": "TU/e Department...",
          "compositionType": "ELEMENT",
          "elevationOfRefHeight": 0,
          "elevationOfTerrain": 0,
          "isDecomposedBy": [ ...
```

# JSON Tool support



Built into Visual Studio Code



IFC objects -> IfcJSON

```
myIfcJSONText = JSON.stringify( myIfcObjects );
```

IfcJSON -> IFC objects

```
myIfcObjects = JSON.parse(myIfcJSONText );
```

Built into Chrome and Node.js

# Querying

Multiple tools and libraries, often 1 line of code

## JSONPath

*“walks” a JSON hierarchy and returns an array of objects with match the criteria*

```
OBJARR = jsonPath(JSONARR, "$..[?(@.representationType=='OBJ')]");
```

## Mongo query

*queries a collection for objects*

```
myDatabase.collection(myModelName).find(myQuery);
```

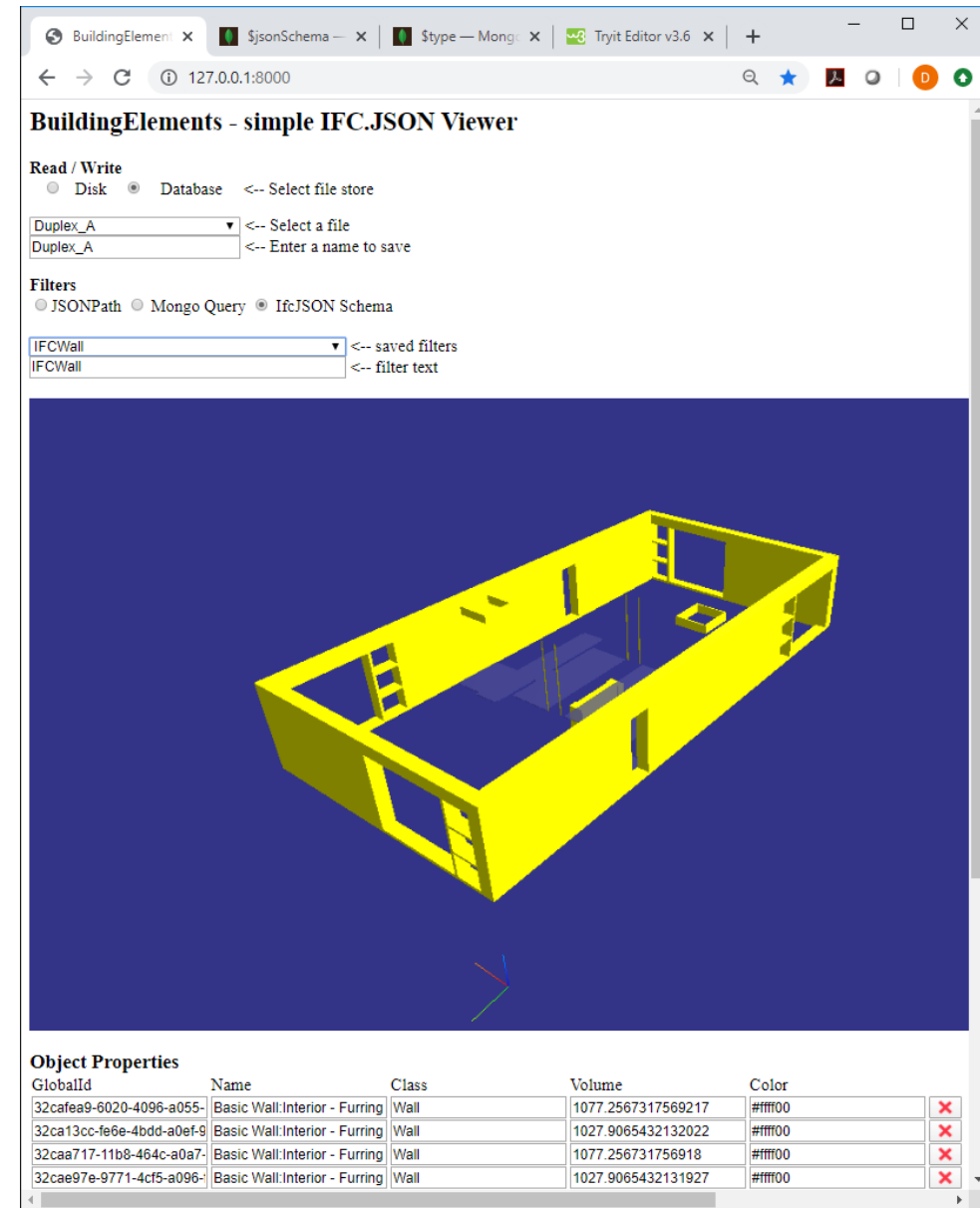
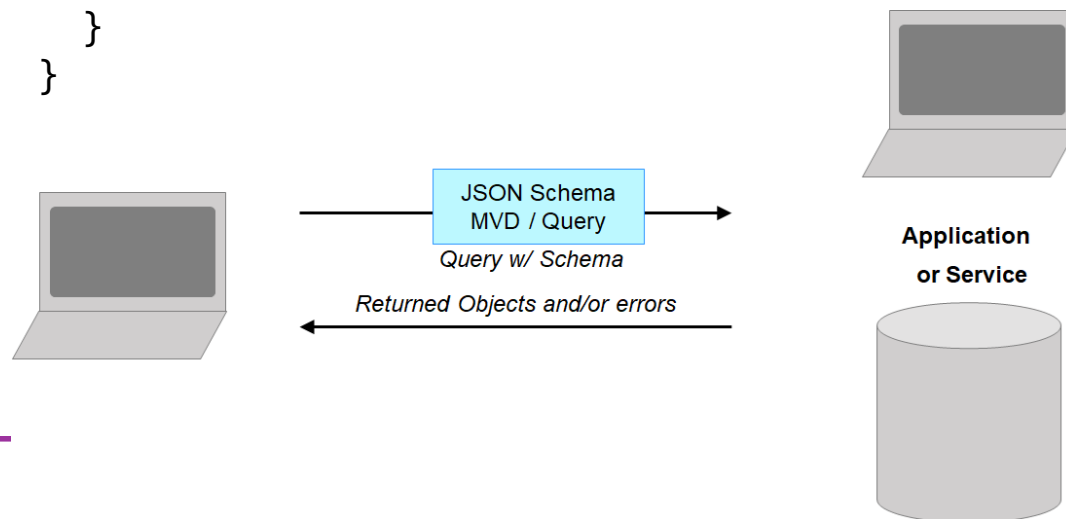
## JSON Schema query

*queries or validates a collection of objects against a schema*

```
myDatabase.collection(myModelName).find({ $jsonSchema:mySchema});
```

# JSON Schema

```
{
  "bsonType": "object",
  "required": ["type"],
  "properties": {
    "type": {
      "type": "string",
      "enum": ["IfcWall", "IfcSlab", "IfcShapeRepresentatio
n"],
    },
    "Volume": {
      "type": "double",
      "maximum": 10000,
    }
  }
}
```



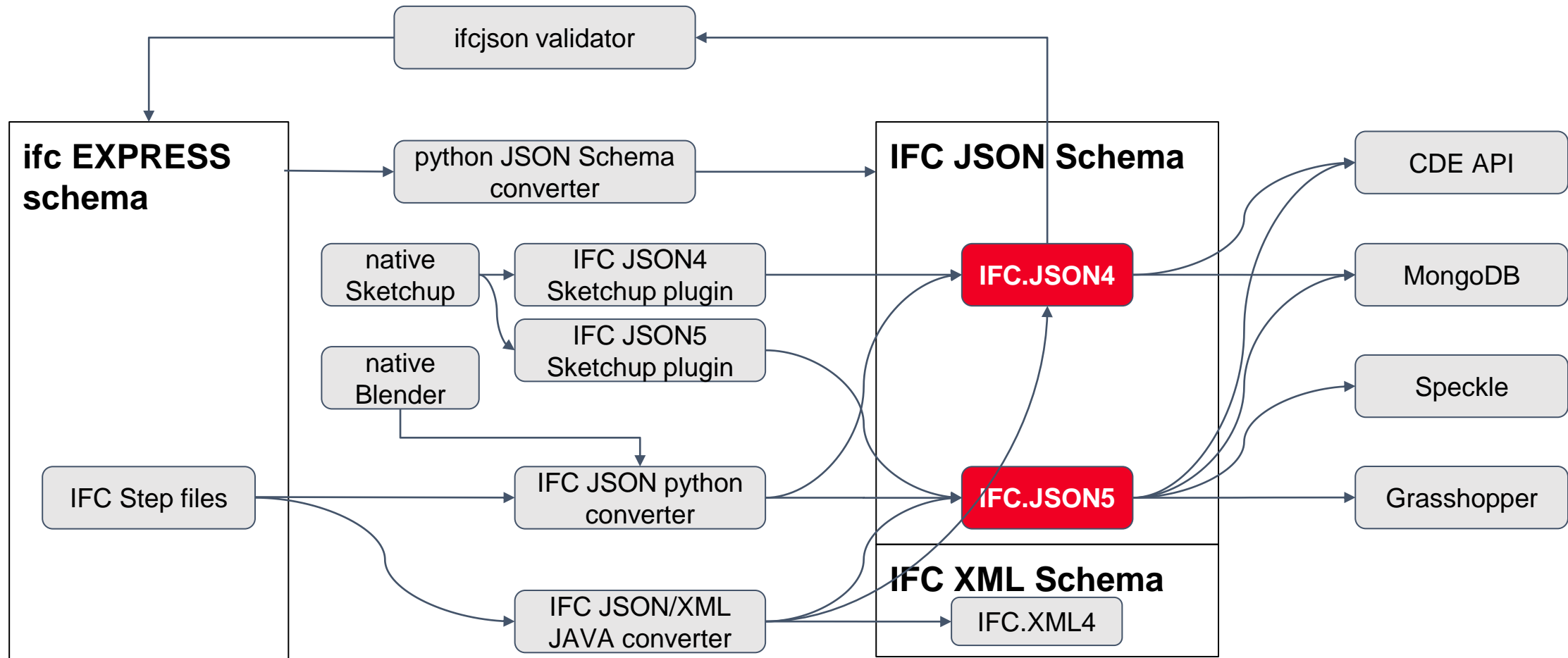
# IfcXML

```

54 <decomposition>
55   <IfcProject id="08vctVUKr0kugbFTf5309L" Name="Default Project" Description="Description of Default Project">
56     <IfcSite id="3rlng_N55v4CRbpQVbZJ0hB" Name="TU/e campus" Description="The High Tech campus of the Eindhoven Univer
57       <IfcBuilding id="0yf_M5Zv9QQXly4dq_zvI" Name="Vertigo Building" Description="TU/e Department of the Built En
58         <IfcBuildingStorey id="0C87kaq8Xf5xpGmTZ7zxNS" Name="Default Building Storey" Description="Description of
59           <IfcWallStandardCase id="3vB2Y0M4xv5uQzCZG0x5" Name="Wall xyz" Description="Description of Wall" Ob
60             <IfcOpeningElement id="2LcE70iQb51PEZynawyvuT" Name="Opening Element xyz" Description="Descriptio
61               <IfcPropertySet xlink:href="#18RtPv6efDwuUOMduCZ7rH"/>
62               <IfcMaterialLayerSetUsage xlink:href="#IfcMaterialLayerSetUsage_75"/>
63             </IfcWallStandardCase>
64           <IfcDoor id="0LV8Pid0X3IAj3LVDPIy" Name="A common door" Description="Description of a standard door
65         </IfcBuildingStorey>
66       </IfcBuilding>
67     </IfcSite>
68   </IfcProject>
69 </decomposition>
70 </ifc>

```

# IfcJson Ecosystem



# Recommendations for IFC5

- Use JSON hierarchy
- Limit requirements and restrictions at the base schema
- Keep out null, unknown and empty values
- Support OBJ, FBX, ... geometry
- Parameters at the root object
- Unique identifiers

```
[
  {
    "type": "Building",
    "globalId": "f3b41796-63ea-4a63-b0aa-f1d7978a6e47",
    "name": "Vertigo Building",
    "description": "TU/e Department of the Built Environment",
    "compositionType": "ELEMENT",
    "isDecomposedBy": [
      {
        "type": "BuildingStorey",
        "globalId": "f3b837ed-c73a-422c-80f1-621164f4d99f",
        "name": "Default Building Storey",
        "description": "Description of Default Building Storey",
        "compositionType": "ELEMENT",
        "elevation": 0,
        "containsElements": [
          {
            "type": "Wall",
            "globalId": "f3b7a52f-4eb5-44a8-80e0-87592507aed9",
            "name": "Wall xyz",
            "description": "Description of Wall",
            "representation": {
              "type": "ProductDefinitionShape",
              "representations": [
                {
                  "type": "OBJ",
                  "ref": "9b76f770-b9ea-4c50-ae00-97b5105644d5"
                },
                {
                  "type": "Brep",
                  "ref": "dc12a77c-c560-45e3-af0f-e84f5afbe844"
                }
              ]
            }
          }
        ]
      }
    ]
  }
]
```



# Geometry

```
1 {
2   "type": "IfcDoor",
3   "globalId": "f3b96025-a1f3-42a8-b047-b6cc5b1880ff",
4   "name": "A common door",
5   "description": "Description of a standard door",
6   "representation": {
7     "type": "IfcProductDefinitionShape",
8     "representations": [
9       {
10        "type": "IfcShapeRepresentation",
11        "globalId": "dc12a77c-c560-45e3-af0f-e84f5afbe844",
12        "representationIdentifier": "Body",
13        "representationType": "Brep",
14        "items": [
15          {
16            "type": "IfcFacetedBrep",
17            "outer": {
18              "type": "IfcClosedShell",
19              "cfsFaces": [
20                {
21                  "type": "IfcFace",
22                  "bounds": [
23                    {
24                      "type": "IfcFaceOuterBound",
25                      "bound": {
26                        "type": "IfcPolyLoop",
27                        "polygon": [
28                          {
29                            "type": "IfcCartesianPoint",
30                            "coordinates": [
31                              500,
32                              100,
33                              2100
34                            ]
35                          },
36
```

```
1 [
2   {
3     "type": "IfcDoor",
4     "name": "A common door",
5     "description": "Description of a standard door",
6     "globalId": "fc88bae7-5dc3-4235-b0a9-813256fb4134",
7     "representations": [
8       {
9         "type": "ShapeRepresentation",
10        "ref": "3d687576-c2da-4317-bc32-42cd2155b7b3"
11      }
12    ]
13  },
14  {
15    "type": "ShapeRepresentation",
16    "globalId": "3d687576-c2da-4317-bc32-42cd2155b7b3",
17    "representationIdentifier": "Body",
18    "representationType": "OBJ",
19    "items": [
20      "v 19.68503937007874 7.874015777364492 1.8773116482173788e-06\n",
21      "v 19.68503937007874 3.9370078446827543 82.67716347701906\n",
22      "v 19.68503937007874 7.874015777364492 82.67716347701906\n",
23      "v 19.68503937007874 7.874015777364492 1.8773116482173788e-06\n",
24      "v 19.68503937007874 3.9370078446827543 1.8773116482173788e-06\n",
25      "v 19.68503937007874 3.9370078446827543 82.67716347701906\n",
26      "v 49.21259842519685 7.874015777364492 82.67716347701906\n",
27      "v 49.21259842519685 7.874015777364492 1.8773116482173788e-06\n",
28      "f 1 2 3\nf 4 5 6\nf 7 8 9\nf 10 11 12\nf 13 14 15\nf 16 17 18\n",
29      "f 19 20 21\nf 22 23 24\nf 25 26 27\nf 28 29 30\nf 31 32 33\nf 34 35 36"
30    ]
31  }
32 ]
```



# IfcJSON Schema

IfcJSON Schema is a specification for JSON-based IFC data.

## Our approach:

- ❖ Compliance with IFC specification
- ❖ Using JSON syntactic framework
- ❖ Adopting JSON schema specification proposed by IETF

## Main objectives:

- ❖ Improving consistency
- ❖ Removing redundancies
- ❖ Simplifying IFC complexities

# IFC Schema

## IfcWall- EXPRESS schema

```
ENTITY IfcWall;
  ENTITY IfcRoot;
    GlobalId
      : IfcGloballyUniqueId;
    OwnerHistory
      : IfcOwnerHistory;
    Name
      : OPTIONAL IfcLabel;
    Description
      : OPTIONAL IfcText;
  ENTITY IfcObjectDefinition;
  INVERSE
    HasAssignments
      : SET OF IfcRelAssigns FOR RelatedObjects;
    IsDecomposedBy
      : SET OF IfcRelDecomposes FOR RelatingObject;
    Decomposes
      : SET [0:1] OF IfcRelDecomposes FOR RelatedObjects;
    HasAssociations
      : SET OF IfcRelAssociates FOR RelatedObjects;
  ENTITY IfcObject;
    ObjectType
      : OPTIONAL IfcLabel;
  INVERSE
    IsDefinedBy
      : SET OF IfcRelDefines FOR RelatedObjects;
  ENTITY IfcProduct;
    ObjectPlacement
      : OPTIONAL IfcObjectPlacement;
    Representation
      : OPTIONAL IfcProductRepresentation;
  INVERSE
    ReferencedBy
      : SET OF IfcRelAssignsToProduct FOR RelatingProduct;
  ENTITY IfcElement;
    Tag
      : OPTIONAL IfcIdentifier;
  INVERSE
    FillsVoids
      : SET [0:1] OF IfcRelFillsElement FOR RelatedBuildingElement;
    ConnectedTo
      : SET OF IfcRelConnectsElements FOR RelatingElement;
    HasCoverings
      : SET OF IfcRelCoversBldgElements FOR RelatingBuildingElement;
    HasProjections
      : SET OF IfcRelProjectsElement FOR RelatingElement;
    HasStructuralMember
      : SET OF IfcRelConnectsStructuralElement FOR RelatingElement;
    ReferencedInStructures
      : SET OF IfcRelReferencedInSpatialStructure FOR RelatedElements;
    HasPorts
      : SET OF IfcRelConnectsPortToElement FOR RelatedElement;
    HasOpenings
      : SET OF IfcRelVoidsElement FOR RelatingBuildingElement;
    IsConnectionRealization
      : SET OF IfcRelConnectsWithRealizingElements FOR RealizingElements;
    ProvidesBoundaries
      : SET OF IfcRelSpaceBoundary FOR RelatedBuildingElement;
    ConnectedFrom
      : SET OF IfcRelConnectsElements FOR RelatedElement;
    ContainedInStructure
      : SET [0:1] OF IfcRelContainedInSpatialStructure FOR RelatedElements;
  ENTITY IfcBuildingElement;
  ENTITY IfcWall;
END_ENTITY;
```

## IfcWall- JSON schema

```
"ifcWall": {
  "type": "object",
  "properties": {
    "globalId": {
      "type": "string",
      "maxLength": 22
    },
    "ownerHistory": {
      "oneOf": [
        { "type": "null" },
        {
          "type": "object",
          "allOf": [{ "$ref": "#/properties/ifcOwnerHistory" }]
        }
      ]
    },
    "Name": {
      "oneOf": [
        { "type": "null" },
        {
          "type": "string",
          "maxLength": 255
        }
      ]
    },
    "description": {
      "type": ["string", "null"]
    },
    "objectType": {
      "oneOf": [
        { "type": "null" },
        {
          "type": "string",
          "maxLength": 255
        }
      ]
    },
    "objectPlacement": {
      "oneOf": [
        { "type": "null" },
        {
          "type": "object",
          "allOf": [{ "$ref": "#/properties/ifcLocalPlacement" }]
        }
      ]
    }
  },
}
```

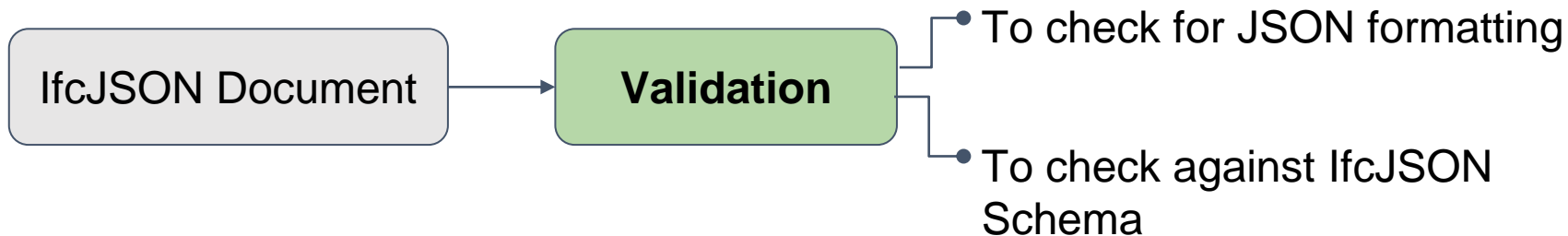
# IfcJSON Validation

- Validating IfcJSON document
  - against IfcJSON schema
  - for syntactic validation

Example validator 

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
<meta content="text/html; charset=utf-8" http-equiv="Content-Type">
<meta content="utf-8" http-equiv="encoding">
<script type="text/javascript" src="ajv.min.js"></script>
</head>
<body>
<script>
  var ajv = Ajv();
  var schema = { }; //ifcJSON Schema
  var data = { }; //ifcJSON Document

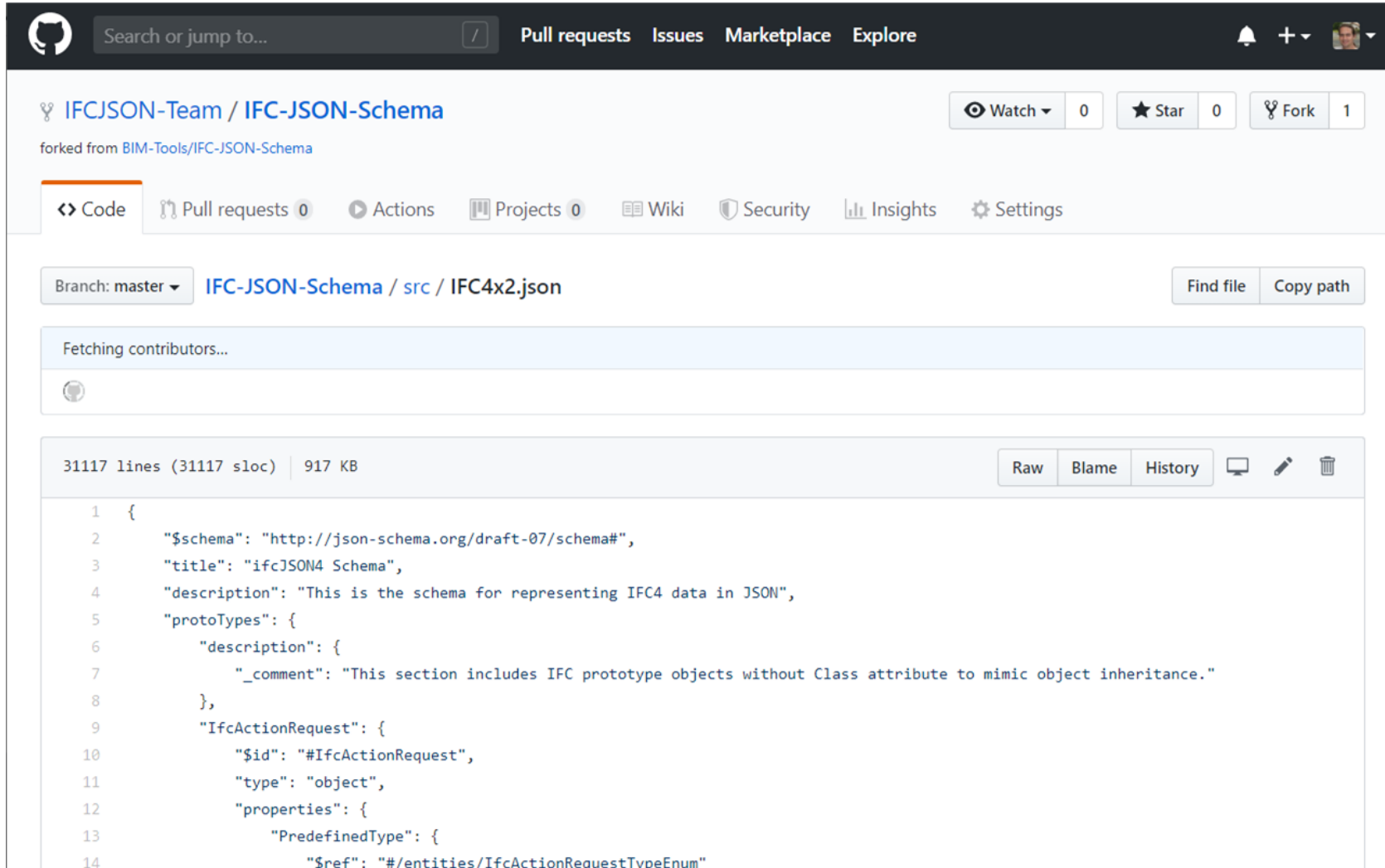
  var validate = ajv.compile(schema);
  var valid = validate(data);
  if (!valid) console.log(validate.errors);
  if (valid) console.log("Passed!");
</script>
</body>
</html>
```



# IfcJson tools & resources

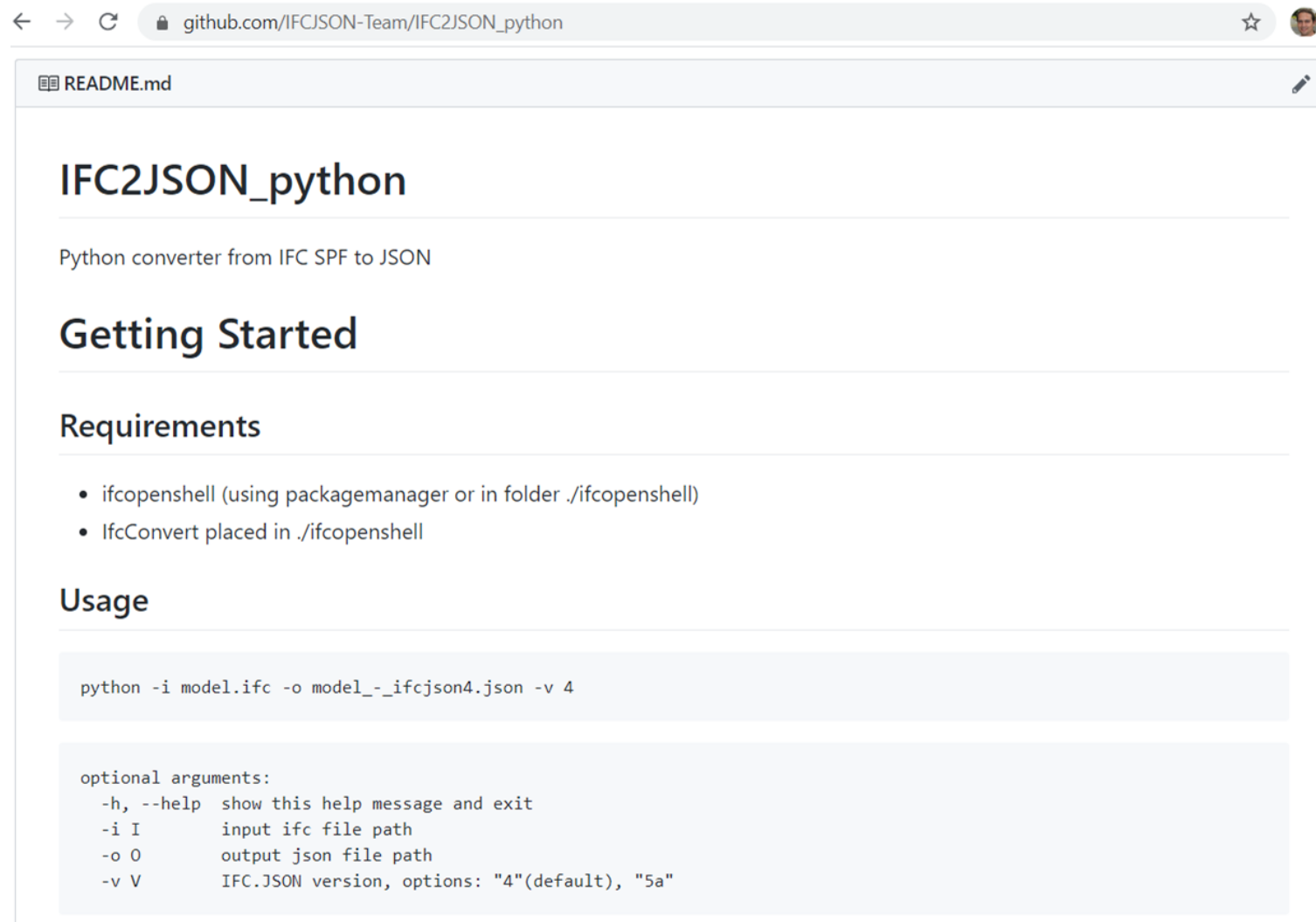
everything is on Github <https://github.com/IFCJSON-Team>

# IfcJSON Schema generator





The screenshot displays the GitHub interface for the repository **IFCJSON-Team / IFC-JSON-Schema**. The repository is a fork of **BIM-Tools/IFC-JSON-Schema**. The main navigation bar includes links for **Code**, **Pull requests** (0), **Actions**, **Projects** (0), **Wiki**, **Security**, **Insights**, and **Settings**. The file path **IFC-JSON-Schema / src / IFC4x2.json** is shown, along with buttons for **Find file** and **Copy path**. The file size is **31117 lines (31117 sloc) | 917 KB**. The file content is a JSON schema for IFC4 data, with the following structure:

```
1 {
2   "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",
3   "title": "ifcJSON4 Schema",
4   "description": "This is the schema for representing IFC4 data in JSON",
5   "protoTypes": {
6     "description": {
7       "_comment": "This section includes IFC prototype objects without Class attribute to mimic object inheritance."
8     },
9     "IfcActionRequest": {
10      "$id": "#IfcActionRequest",
11      "type": "object",
12      "properties": {
13        "PredefinedType": {
14          "$ref": "#/entities/IfcActionRequestTypeEnum"
```



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the GitHub repository page for `IFC2JSON_python`. The browser's address bar shows the URL `github.com/IFCJSON-Team/IFC2JSON_python`. The repository page has a tab for `README.md`. The main content of the README includes the title `IFC2JSON_python`, a subtitle "Python converter from IFC SPF to JSON", and sections for "Getting Started", "Requirements", and "Usage".

← → ↻ [github.com/IFCJSON-Team/IFC2JSON\\_python](https://github.com/IFCJSON-Team/IFC2JSON_python) ☆ 

📄 README.md 

## IFC2JSON\_python

Python converter from IFC SPF to JSON

## Getting Started

### Requirements

- ifcopenshell (using packagemanager or in folder `./ifcopenshell`)
- IfcConvert placed in `./ifcopenshell`

### Usage

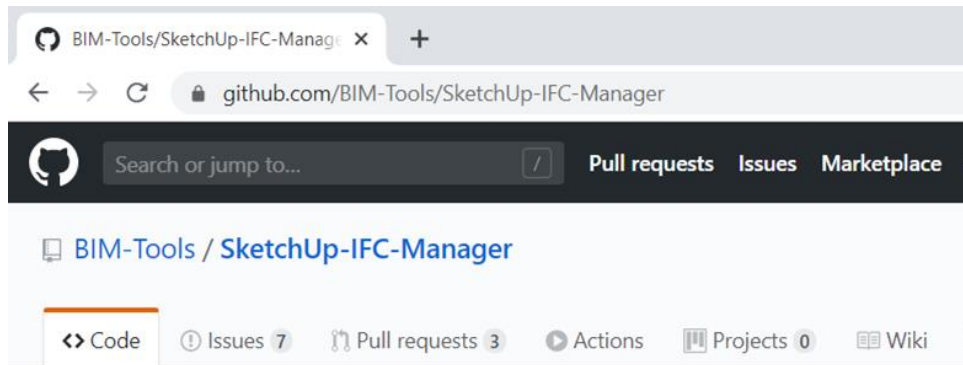
```
python -i model.ifc -o model_-_ifcjson4.json -v 4
```

optional arguments:

- h, --help show this help message and exit
- i I input ifc file path
- o O output json file path
- v V IFC.JSON version, options: "4"(default), "5a"

IfcJSON

# Sketchup exporter



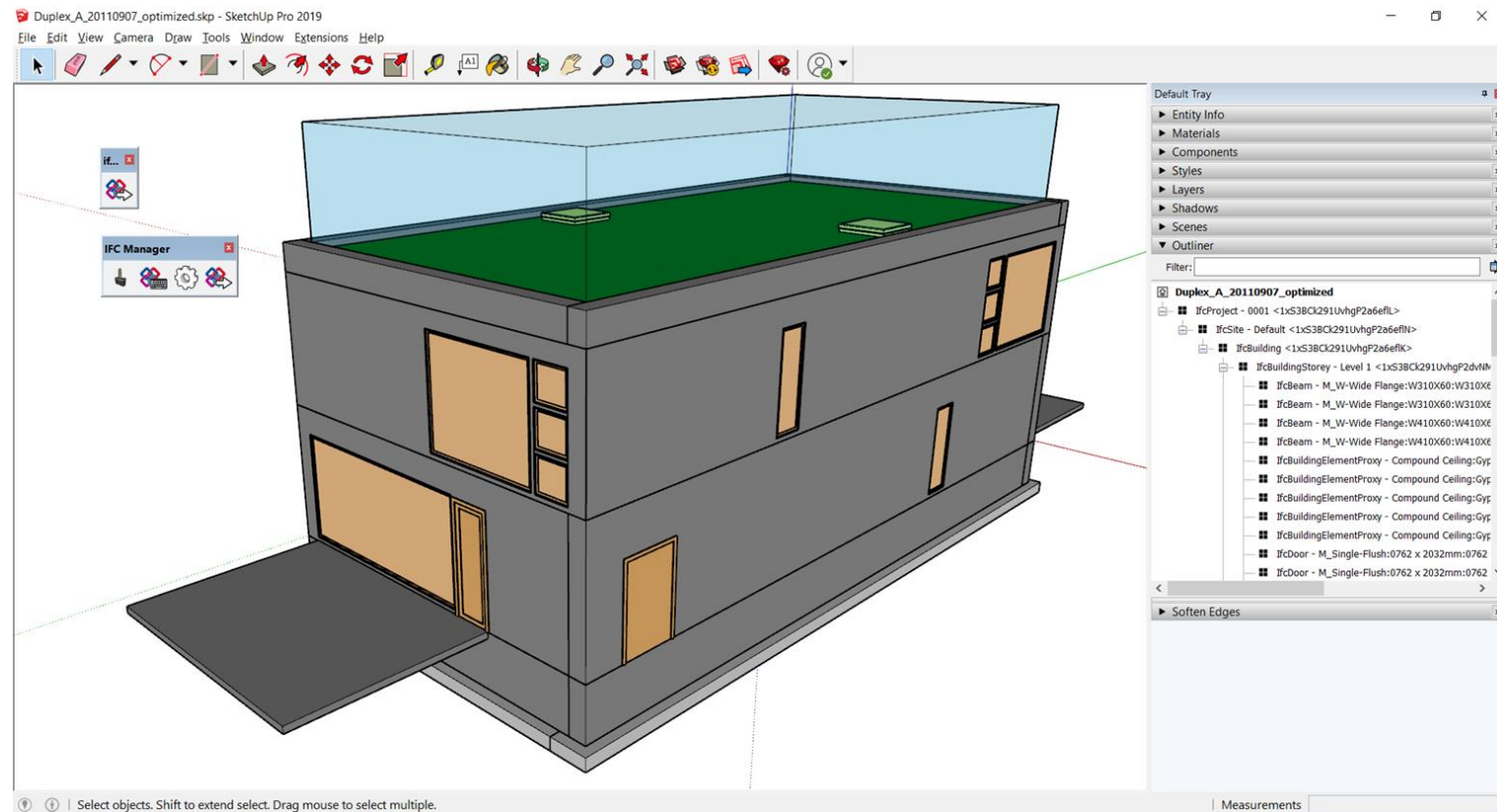
## SketchUp-IFC-Manager

### IFC data manager and exporter for SketchUp.

SketchUp-IFC-Manager is an extension that helps you to add more useful information created around the dutch "BIM basis ILS" (English: [BIM basic IDM](http://www.bimloket.nl/BIMbasisILS)) initiative that is a specification for the dutch building industry (<http://www.bimloket.nl/BIMbasisILS>).

### Documentation

- [Download](#)
- [Wiki](#)
- Read the PDF documentation [Dutch: Basis ILS for SketchUp](#) or [English: BIM basic IDM](#)
- Watch the [video tutorial of the IFC manager plugin](#)
- Watch the [video tutorial of the paint properties tool](#)



based on experimental version of  
Sketchup-IFC-Manager

# IfcJSON

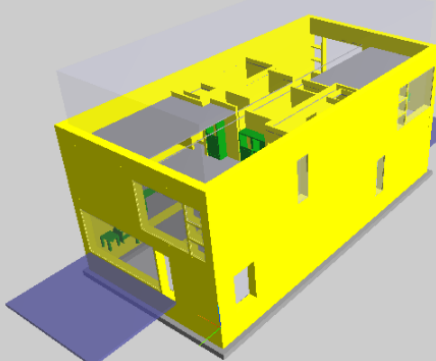
# node.js web framework

```
Go Run Terminal Help Duplex_Ajson - code - Visual Studio Code
{} Duplex_Ajson X {} IFC4x2.json
static > data > {} Duplex_Ajson > {} 0 > [ ] Representations > {} 0 > [ ] ref
1 [
2 {
3   "GlobalId": "6a52b38d-9138-4c5b-b246-eec9040e8f4c",
4   "Representations": [
5     {
6       "Class": "ShapeRepresentation",
7       "ref": "95c7121c-97f1-4d3b-a6d0-f19552912fe0"
8     }
9   ]
10 },
11 {
12   "GlobalId": "68485662-4a08-4f7d-ad9f-379798fee4b2",
13   "IsDecomposedBy": [
14     {
15       "Class": "Project",
16       "Name": "0001",
17       "GlobalId": "3635ff07-8fd6-47e2-9019-6cd711a0dbb4",
18       "IsDecomposedBy": [
19         {
20           "Class": "Site",
21           "RefElevation": 0.0,
22           "CompositionType": "complex",
23           "Name": "Default",
24           "GlobalId": "32cfdee2-71b8-438f-b0b4-0a2a5a05184a",
25           "IsDecomposedBy": [
26             {
27               "Class": "Building",
28               "ElevationOfRefHeight": 0.0,
29               "ElevationOfTerrain": 0.0,
30               "CompositionType": "complex",
31               "Pset_BuildingCommon": 4,
32               "Pset_Revit_Other": "Issue Date",
33               "GlobalId": "32c224aa-c463-4fc7-90b2-6a48b0a34e1b",
34               "IsDecomposedBy": [
35                 {
36                   "Class": "BuildingStorey",
37                   "Elevation": 0.0,
38                   "CompositionType": "complex",
39                   "Name": "Roof",
40                   "Pset_Revit_Type_Dimensions": true,
41                   "Pset_Revit_Type_Constraints": 0,
42                   "Pset_Revit_Type_Graphics": 1,
43                   "Pset_Revit_Other": "Roof",
44                   "Pset_Revit_Constraints": 6000.00000000039,
45                   "Pset_Revit_Identity Data": "Roof",
46                   "GlobalId": "32cbla38-1dc1-4f73-b0d2-9cbdc608083e",
47                   "IsDecomposedBy": [
48                     {
49                       "Class": "Space",
50                       "InteriorOrExteriorSpace": "internal",
51                       "ElevationWithFlooring": 0.0,
```

BuildingElements - simple IFCJSON Viewer

Read / Write  
Disk Database <-- Select file store  
Duplex\_Ajson <-- Select a file  
Duplex\_A <-- Enter a name to save

Filters  
JSONPath Mongo Query IfcJSON Schema  
\$.. <-- saved filters  
<-- filter text



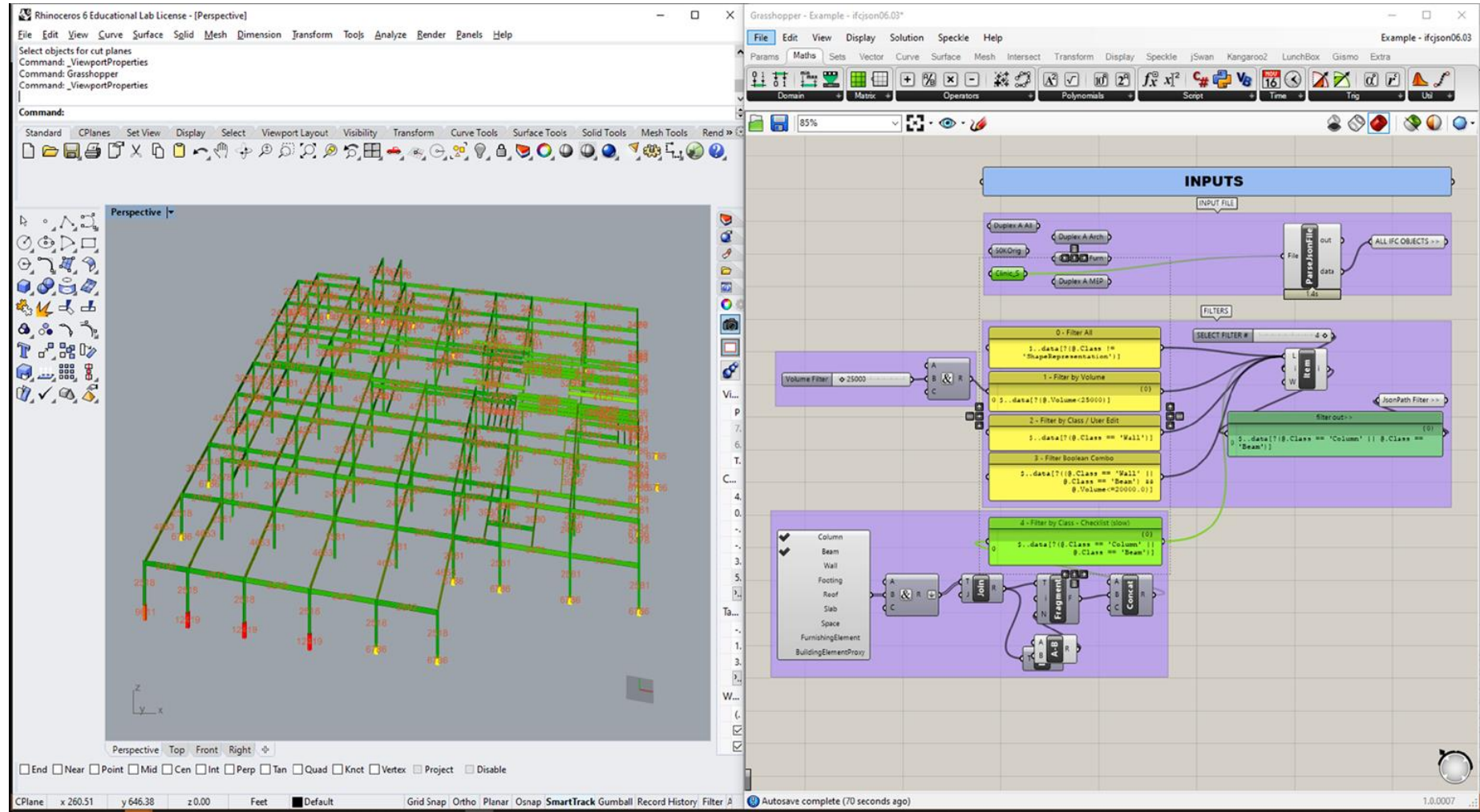
Object Properties

GlobalId	Name	Class	Volume	Color	Opacity
32cb5b3c-416b-4c2e-b025-R301	Space	Space	24742288.343802873	#8888ff	0.1
32cbc228-8170-4163-b000-M_Skylight:1180 x 1170mm	M_Skylight:1180 x 1170mm	Window	undefined	#aaaaaa	0.5
32cbde4e-3ae-40e6-b014-M_Skylight:1180 x 1170mm	M_Skylight:1180 x 1170mm	Window	undefined	#aaaaaa	0.5
32cb5b68-16d5-4078-b057-Basic Wall Exterior - Brick c	Basic Wall Exterior - Brick c	Wall	262924.86837177584	#ffff00	1
32cb9ba7-1a9d-4ab8-b03c-Basic Wall Exterior - Brick c	Basic Wall Exterior - Brick c	Wall	129912.72671181189	#ffff00	1



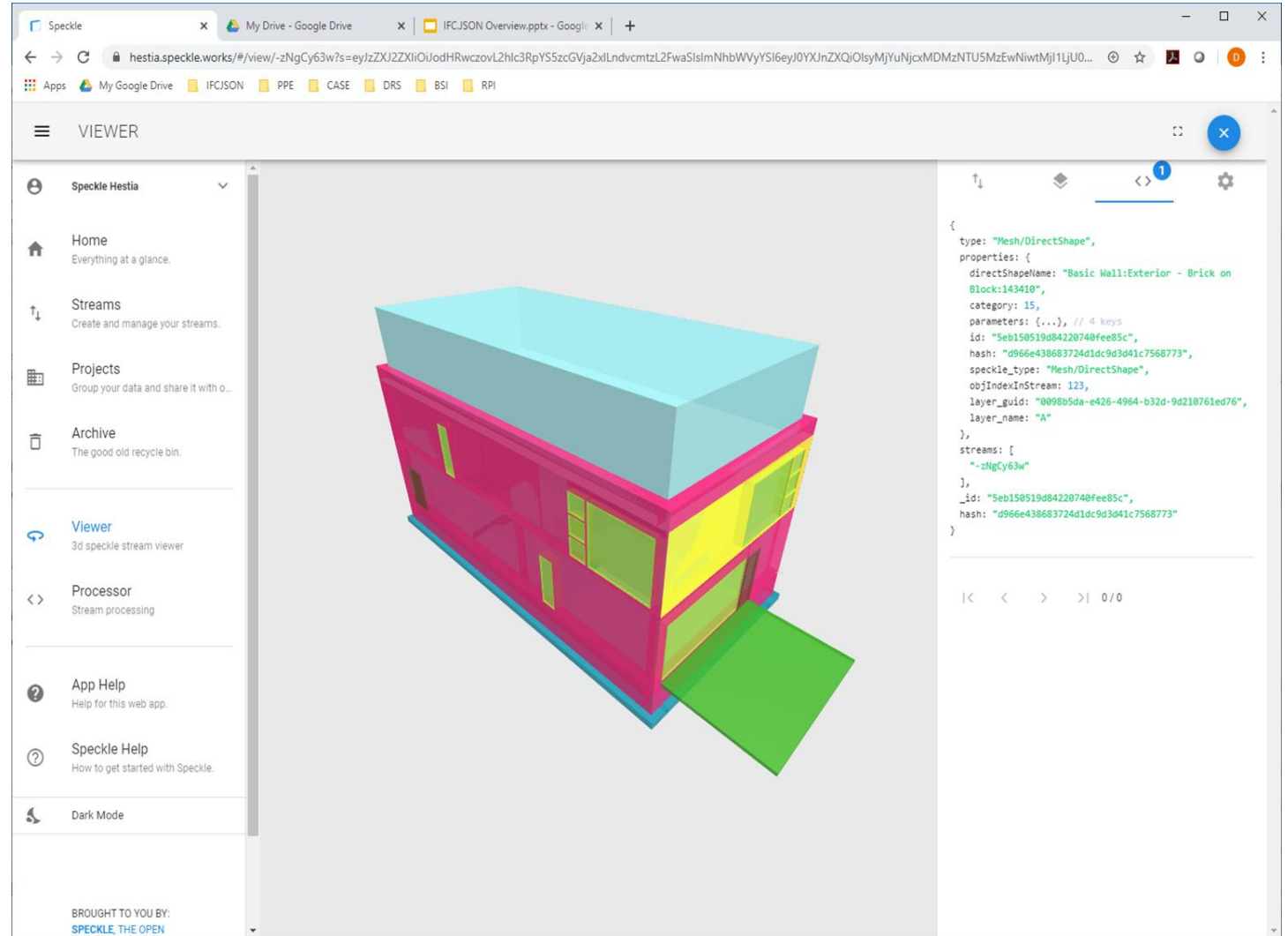
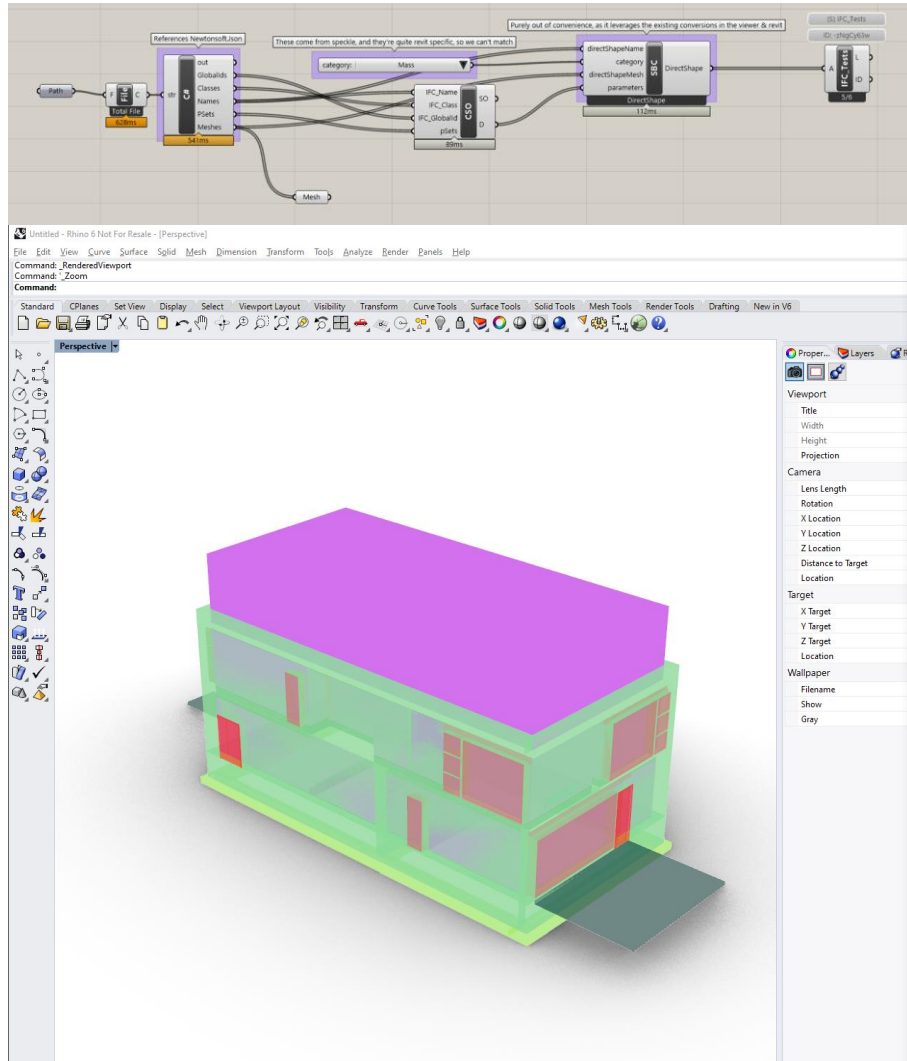
IfcJSON

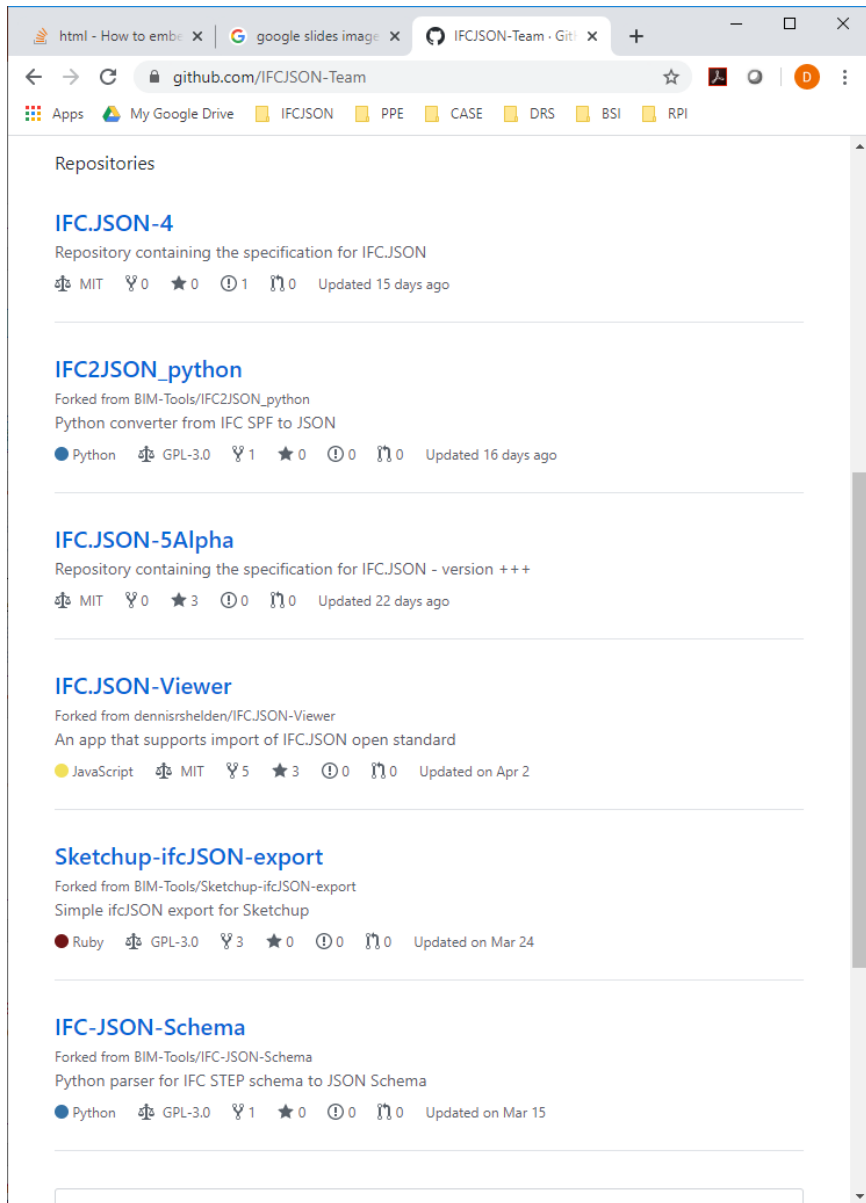
# Grasshopper importer



IfcJSON

# Speckle integration





## docs, demos and utilities

On Github <https://github.com/IFCJSON-Team>:

- Documentation
- Sketchup IfcJSON exporter
- IfcJSON Schema and schema generator
- Node.js & MongoDB web server & viewer
- Grasshopper importer
- Speckle integration

# Thanks

Open house invite & more info

email: sheldd@rpi.edu  
<https://github.com/IFCJSON-Team>