

# open MINDS

integrated community-driven metadata models for neuroscience graph databases

by  
**Lyuba Zehl**

Jülich Research Center | Institute of Neuroscience and Medicine - Structural & functional organisation of the brain (INM-1) | Big Data Analytics  
Co-lead of the EBRAINS Curation Service | PO & Lead developer of openMINDS

Co-funded by the  
European Union



EBRAINS

# open Metadata Initiative for Neuroscience Data Structures

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→ general origin, resource location, and content of research products

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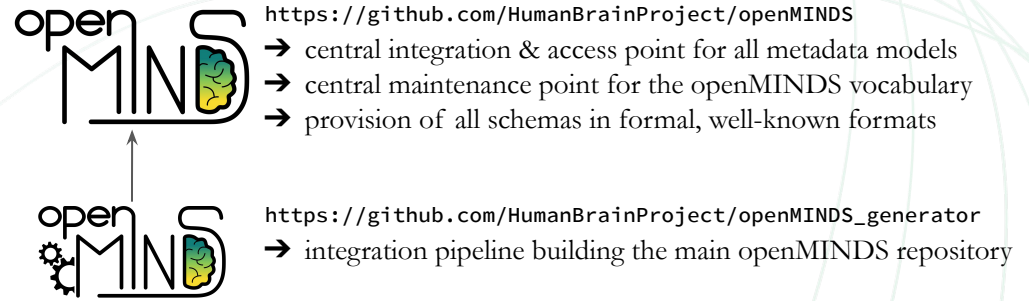
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# openMINDS - technical implementation

---



# openMINDS syntax vs. JSON-Schema

## openMINDS syntax

```
{ "_type": "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/core/Person",  
  "required": [  
    "givenName"  
  ],  
  "properties": {  
    "familyName": {  
      "type": "string",  
      "_instruction": "Enter the family name of this person." },  
    "givenName": {  
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  }  
}
```

→ common technical attributes  
& vocabulary definitions are  
outsourced

## JSON-Schema

```
{ "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-07/schema#",  
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  "type": "object",  
  "title": "Person",  
  "description": "Structured information on a person.",  
  "required": [  
    "@id",  
    "@type",  
    "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/vocab/givenName"  
  ],  
  "properties": {  
    "@id": {  
      "type": "string",  
      "description": "Metadata node identifier." },  
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      "type": "string",  
      "const": "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/core/Person",  
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```

[**Example:** Definition of the Person schema (snippet) written in openMINDS syntax and its translation to JSON-Schema through the openMINDS integration pipeline.]



# openMINDS syntax vs. JSON-Schema

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- common technical attributes & vocabulary definitions are outsourced
- introduction of additional attributes unknown to formal schema formats



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- common technical attributes & vocabulary definitions are outsourced
- introduction of additional attributes unknown to formal schema formats
- allows to define & maintain vocabulary centrally



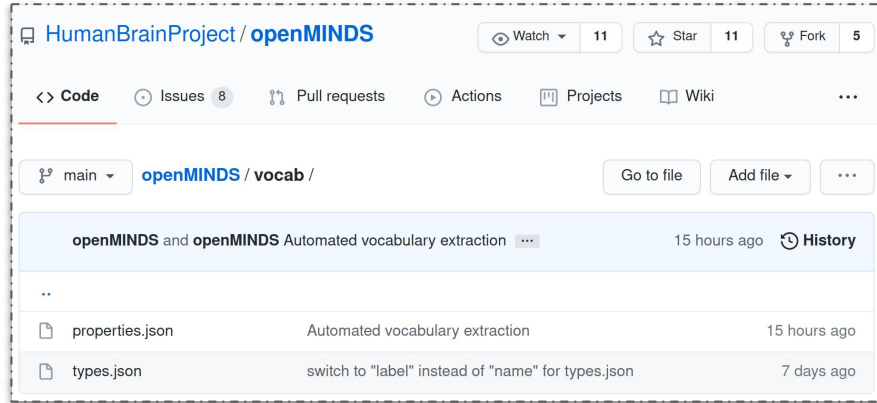
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# openMINDS vocabulary



- centrally defined & maintained across schemas, metadata models & versions
- builds automatically, but can be manually enriched over time

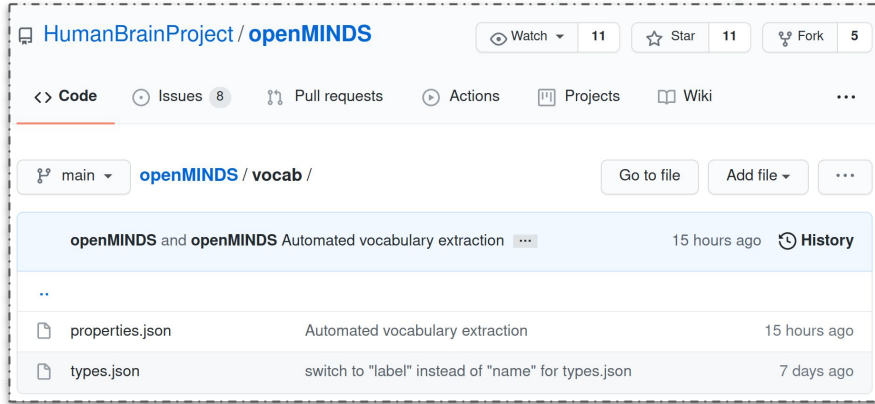
openMINDS: ./main/vocab/types.json

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{...,
  "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/core/Person": {
    "description": "Structured information on a person.",
    "label": "Person",
    "schemas": [
      "core/v0/actors/person",
      "core/v3/actors/person"],
    "translatableTo": [
      "https://schema.org/Person"]},
  ...}
```

openMINDS: ./main/vocab/properties.json

```
{...,
  "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/vocab/contributor": {
    "description": "Legal person that gave or supplied something.",
    "label": "Contributor",
    "labelForReverseLink": "Is contributor of",
    "linkedTypes": [
      "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/core/Organization",
      "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/core/Person"],
    "name": "contributor",
    "sameAs": [
      "https://schema.org/contributor"],
    "schemas": [
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# openMINDS vocabulary



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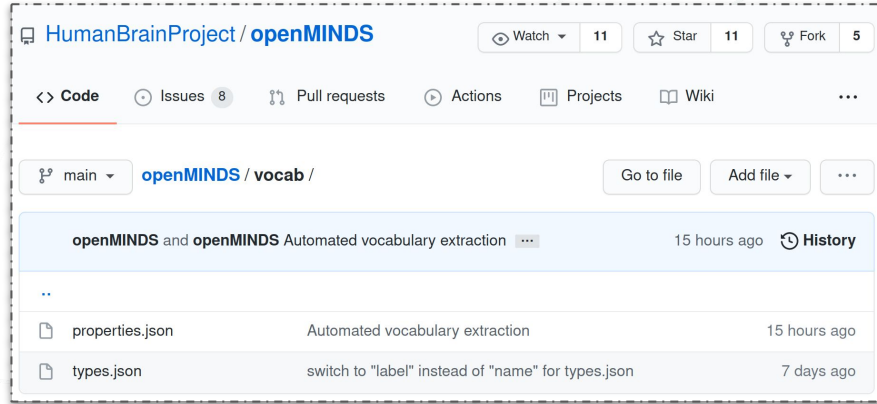
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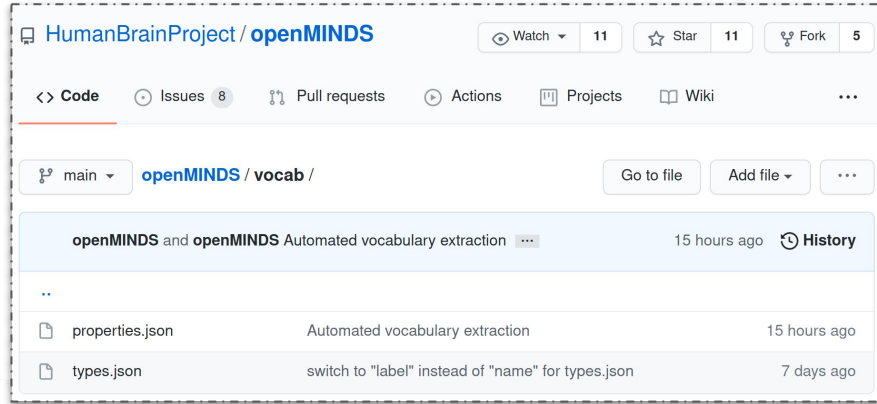
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- includes general descriptions & human-readable labels
- includes where/when the type or property is/was used
- **enables references to matching schema types or properties of other metadata initiatives**

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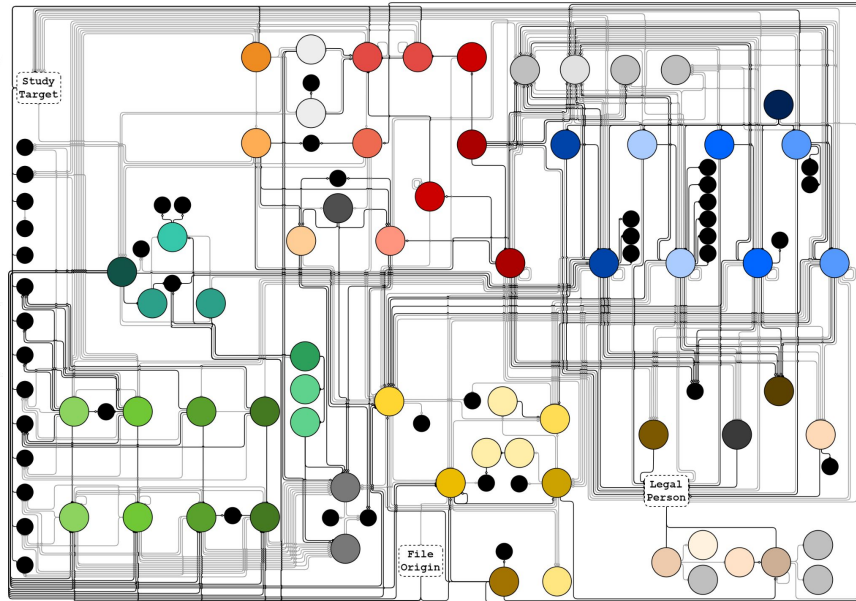
# openMINDS - instances

---



# openMINDS instances

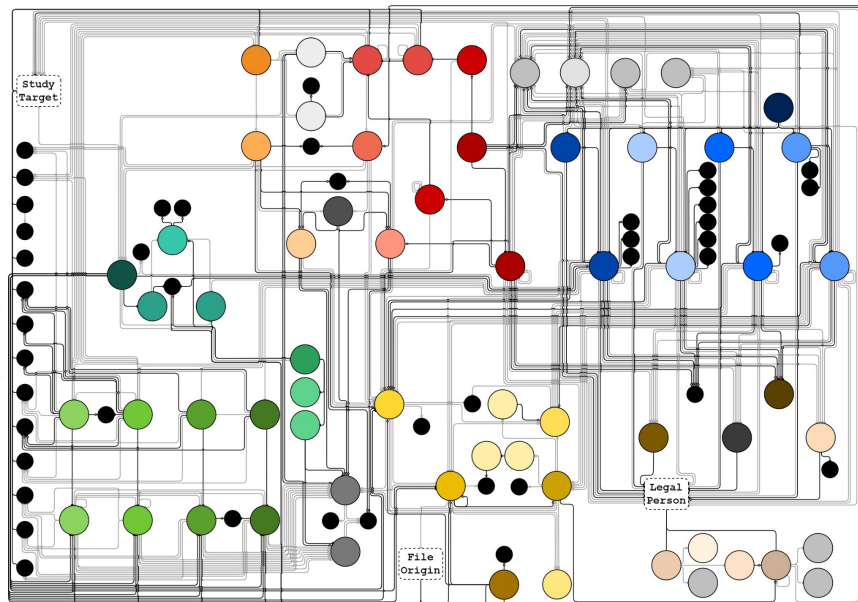
openMINDS schema model for core, controlledTerms and SANDS



by Ulrike Schlegel

# openMINDS instances

openMINDS schema model for core, controlledTerms and SANDS



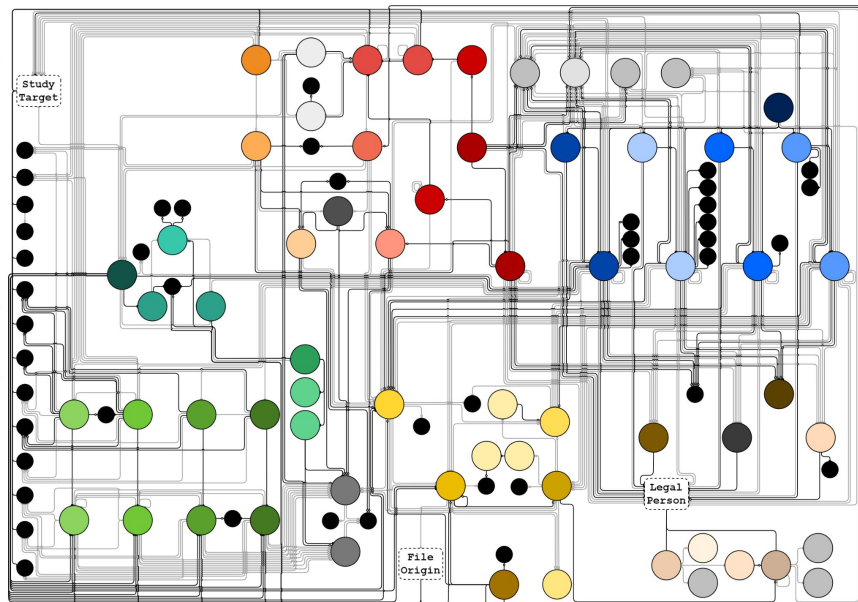
by Ulrike Schlegel

openMINDS Linked metadata instances (JSONLDs)

```
{ "@context": {  
  "@vocab": PROPERTY-NAMESPACE,  
  "@type": SCHEMA-TYPE,  
  "@id": UNIQUE-IDENTIFIER,  
  "PROPERTY-NAME": VALUE } }
```

# openMINDS instances

openMINDS schema model for core, controlledTerms and SANDS



by Ulrike Schlegel

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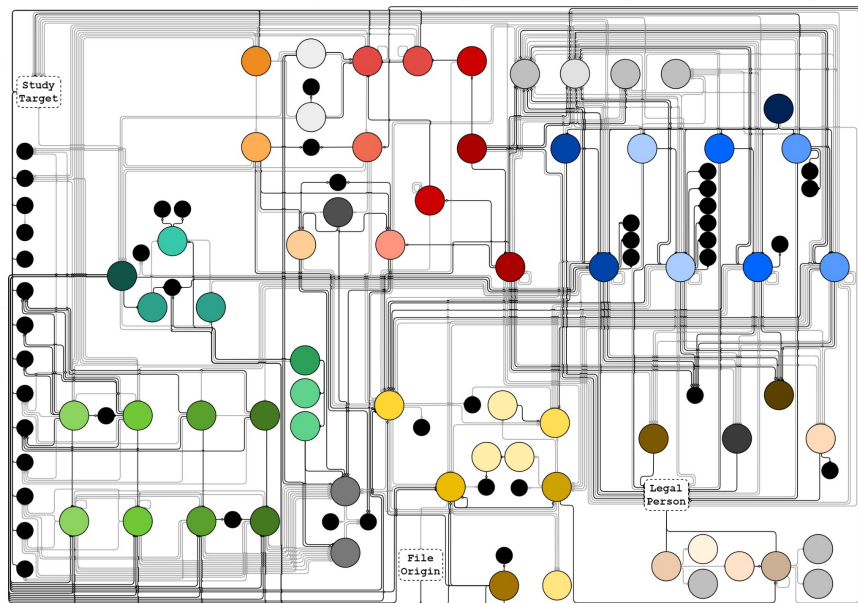
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{ "@context": {  
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  "@type": SCHEMA-TYPE,  
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  PROPERTY-NAME: VALUE } }
```

```
{ "@context": {  
  "@vocab": "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/vocab/" ,  
  "@type": "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/core/ContactInformation" ,  
  "@id": "d72ba653-ac9a-428d-ba65-84c137ce5ad6" ,  
  "email": "l.zehl@fz-juelich.de" } }
```



# openMINDS instances

openMINDS schema model for core, controlledTerms and SANDS



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"@id": "5bc17d5c-f5a2-4350-be30-8515da2e4e37",  
"givenName": "Lyuba",  
"familyName": "Zehl",  
"contactInformation": {  
  "@id": "d72ba653-ac9a-428d-ba65-84c137ce5ad6"}}
```

# openMINDS - tooling & support

---



# openMINDS services: Instance libraries for selected schemas

## Example: controlledTerms/species/

- homoSapiens.jsonld
- macacaFascicularis.jsonld
- musMusculus.jsonld
- rattusNorvegicus.jsonld

```
{
  "@context": {
    "@vocab": "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/vocab/"
  },
  "@id": "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/instances/species/rattusNorvegicus",
  "@type": "https://openminds.ebrains.eu/controlledTerms/Species",
  "definition": "The species *Rattus norvegicus* (brown rat) belongs to the
    family of *muridae* (murids).",
  "description": null,
  "interlexIdentifier": "http://uri.interlex.org/base/ilx_0109658",
  "knowledgeSpaceLink": "https://knowledge-space.org/wiki/NCBITaxon:10116#rat",
  "name": "Rattus norvegicus",
  "preferredOntologyIdentifier": "http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/NCBITaxon_10116",
  "synonym": [
    "brown rat",
    "Norway rat",
    "rat"
  ]
}
```

## Existing instance libraries:

- controlledTerms/\* (except: termSuggestion)
- data/contentType
- data/license
- atlas/brainAtlas
- atlas/brainAtlasVersion
- atlas/parcellationTerminology
- atlas/parcellationTerminologyVersion
- atlas/parcellationEntity
- atlas/parcellationEntityVersion
- atlas/atlasAnnotation
- atlas/commonCoordinateSpace

# openMINDS Python library & Wizard

[https://github.com/HumanBrainProject/openMINDS\\_generator](https://github.com/HumanBrainProject/openMINDS_generator) <sup>alpha version</sup>  
<https://pypi.org/project/openMINDS>

```
pip install openminds
```

```
import openMINDS
import openMINDS.version_manager

# Initialise the local copy of openMINDS
openMINDS.version_manager.init()

# Select which version of openMINDS to use
openMINDS.version_manager.version_selection('v2.0.0')

# initiate the helper class for the dynamic usage of a specific openMINDS version
helper = openMINDS.Helper()

# initiate the collection into which you will store all metadata instances
mycollection = helper.create_collection()

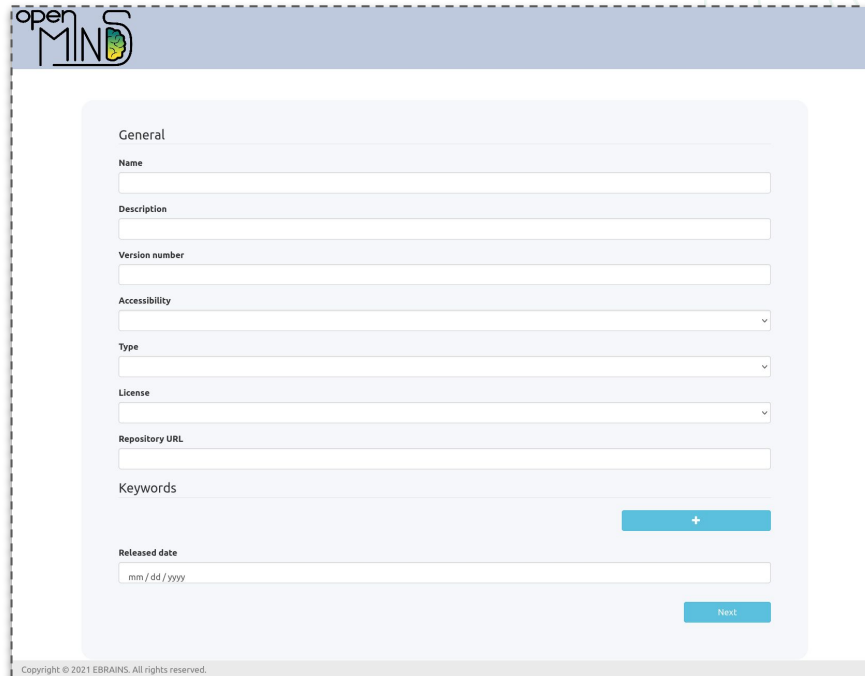
# create a metadata instance for (e.g.) the openMINDS Person schema
person_open = mycollection.add_core_person(givenName="open")

# add more metadata to a created instance
mycollection.get(person_open).familyName = "MINDS"

# add connections to other metadata instances
email_openminds = mycollection.add_core_contactInformation(email="openminds@ebrains.eu")
mycollection.get(person_open).contactInformation = email_openminds

# save your collection
mycollection.save("./myFirstOpenMINDSMetadataCollection/")
```

[https://github.com/HumanBrainProject/openMINDS\\_wizard](https://github.com/HumanBrainProject/openMINDS_wizard) <sup>alpha version</sup>  
<https://wizard.kg-ppd.ebrains.eu> (temporary URL; this might change)



openMINDS

General

Name

Description

Version number

Accessibility

Type

License

Repository URL

Keywords  +

Released date


mm / dd / yyyy

Next

Copyright © 2021 EBRAINS. All rights reserved.

# openMINDS HTML views deployed as GitHub pages

<https://humanbrainproject.github.io/openMINDS/>



Version:

[Download specification](#)

**computation**

**controlledTerms**

**core**

**SANDS**

## Person

<https://openminds.ebrains.eu/core/Person>

part of **core** in version **v4** - view as [JSON Schema](#)

Required properties are highlighted in **bold**

PROPERTY		VALUE	
NAME*	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	INSTRUCTION
<b>givenName</b>	Name given to a person, including all potential middle names, but excluding the family name.	string	Enter the given name of this person.
affiliation	Declaration of a person being closely associated to an organization.	embedded object array (1 - n) of type: <a href="#">Affiliation</a>	Add the current and, if necessary, past affiliations of this person.
contactInformation	Any available way used to contact a person or business (e.g., address, phone number, email address, etc.).	linked object <a href="#">ContactInformation</a>	Add the contact information of this person.
digitalIdentifier	Digital handle to identify objects or legal persons.	linked object array (1 - n) of type: <a href="#">ORCID</a>	Add one or several globally unique and persistent digital identifier for this person.
familyName	Name borne in common by members of a family.	string	Enter the family name of this person.

\*This is the simplified property name - within a metadata instance of this schema (JSON-LD) the properties are extended to map to the openMINDS vocabulary namespace ("[https://openminds.ebrains.eu/vocab/PROPERTY\\_NAME](https://openminds.ebrains.eu/vocab/PROPERTY_NAME)").

# openMINDS on the EBRAINS Collaboratory

<https://wiki.ebrains.eu/bin/view/Collabs/openminds/>

The screenshot shows the EBRAINS Collaboratory website. The main content area is titled "openMINDS" and includes a navigation menu on the left with items like "Bucket", "Documentation", "Drive", "FAQs", "How to contribute", "Lab", "Team", and "Tutorials". The main text describes openMINDS as "The open Metadata Initiative for Neuroscience Data Structures: Community-driven metadata models for neuroscience graph databases." It lists three ways to contribute: describing research products, conceptual contributions, and programmatic contributions. There are also sections for "What you can find here", "Who is behind openMINDS?", "Who adopted openMINDS?", and "Supported research products". A sidebar on the right contains a "Jump to..." menu with links to documentation, application details, technical details, how to contribute, code of conduct, report & ask questions, direct contributions, tutorials, presentations, and examples. Below that is a "List of GitHub projects" with links to various openMINDS-related repositories.

## What you can find here:

### → Documentation of ...

- metadata models & schemas (linked to HTML views)
- application details
- technical details

### → How to contribute ...

- code of conduct
- report & ask questions
- direct contributions

### → Tutorials ...

- presentations
- examples <sup>in prep</sup>

### → FAQs

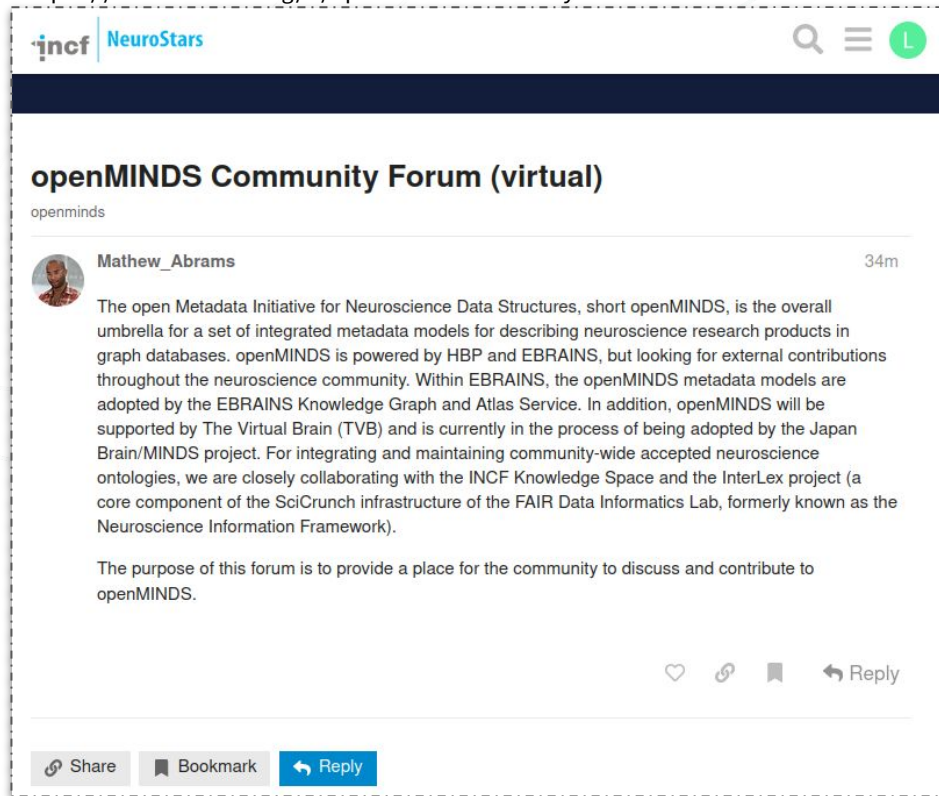
We are always happy to extend / improve the Collab

based on your feedback! 😊



# openMINDS Community Forum @ INCF NeuroStars

<https://neurostars.org/t/openminds-community-forum-virtual>



The screenshot shows a forum post on the NeuroStars website. The post is titled "openMINDS Community Forum (virtual)" and is authored by "Mathew\_Abrams" 34 minutes ago. The text of the post describes the open Metadata Initiative for Neuroscience Data Structures (openMINDS) as an umbrella for integrated metadata models for describing neuroscience research products in graph databases. It mentions that openMINDS is powered by HBP and EBRAINS, looking for external contributions throughout the neuroscience community. Within EBRAINS, the openMINDS metadata models are adopted by the EBRAINS Knowledge Graph and Atlas Service. It also notes that openMINDS is supported by The Virtual Brain (TVB) and is currently in the process of being adopted by the Japan Brain/MINDS project. For integrating and maintaining community-wide accepted neuroscience ontologies, it states that they are closely collaborating with the INCF Knowledge Space and the InterLex project (a core component of the SciCrunch infrastructure of the FAIR Data Informatics Lab, formerly known as the Neuroscience Information Framework). The purpose of the forum is to provide a place for the community to discuss and contribute to openMINDS. At the bottom of the post, there are icons for liking, sharing, bookmarking, and replying. Below the post, there are buttons for "Share", "Bookmark", and "Reply".

[openminds@ebrains.eu](mailto:openminds@ebrains.eu)

We are looking forward to your  
questions, discussions & contributions



# Who is behind openMINDS?

openMINDS is powered by **HBP** & **EBRAINS**, but we are looking for contributions from the whole neuroscience community!

If you want to learn more about openMINDS just get in touch, have a ☕ with us (in-person or via VC),

your openMINDS development team 😊

Who?	Role?	Team affiliation?	Institute affiliation?
<b>Lyuba Zehl</b>	openMINDS product owner	EBRAINS Curation & Atlas Service	Jülich Research Center (INM-1)
<b>Oliver Schmid</b>	KG product owner & openMINDS developer (tools)	EBRAINS Knowledge Graph	EBRAINS AISBL
<b>Andrew Davison</b>	openMINDS developer (models, in-depth, tools)	EBRAINS Curation Service	Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS (NeuroPSI)
<b>Benjamin Weyers</b>	openMINDS developer (software)	EBRAINS Curation Service	University of Trier (Human-Computer Interaction)
<b>Ulrike Schlegel</b>	openMINDS developer (datasets)	EBRAINS Curation Service	University of Oslo (Department of Anatomy, NeSys)
<b>Stefan Köhnen</b>	openMINDS developer (tools, SANDS)	EBRAINS Curation & Atlas Service	Jülich Research Center (INM-1)
<b>Heidi Kleven</b>	openMINDS developer (SANDS)	EBRAINS Curation Service	University of Oslo (Department of Anatomy, NeSys)
<b>Peyman Najafi</b>	openMINDS developer (models, in-depth)	EBRAINS Curation Service	Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS (NeuroPSI)
<b>Jan Gründling</b>	openMINDS developer (software)	EBRAINS Curation Service	University of Trier (Human-Computer Interaction)
<b>Tom Gillespie</b>	ontology developer & openMINDS developer (SANDS)	InterLex Project & Knowledge Space	INCF, University of California, Dep. of Neuroscience
<b>Mathew Abrams</b>	Knowledge Space developer	Knowledge Space	INCF, Karolinska Institutet
<b>Visakh Muraleedharan</b>	Knowledge Space developer	Knowledge Space	INCF, Karolinska Institutet





# Some final information ...

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## Who has adopted openMINDS?

Within EBRAINS, the openMINDS metadata models are adopted by the **Knowledge Graph**, the **Curation** and **Atlas Service**.

openMINDS is also supported by **The Virtual Brain (TVB)** and in the process of being adopted by the **Japan Brain/MINDS project**.

For integrating and maintaining community-wide accepted neuroscience ontologies, we are closely collaborating with the **InterLex**, a project of the SciCrunch infrastructure of the **FAIR Data Informatics Lab (FDI Lab)**, f.k.a. the Neuroscience Information Framework (NIF).

## Acknowledgements:

The metadata model specification and corresponding open source code was developed in part or in whole in the Human Brain Project, funded from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation under Specific Grant Agreements No. 720270, No. 785907, and No. 945539 (Human Brain Project SGA1, SGA2, and SGA3).

We would also like to thank the whole **EBRAINS Curation Service team**, the whole **EBRAINS Atlas Service team**, and all **EBRAINS data providers** that gave and are still giving us feedback to guide the development of openMINDS.

