

2025 4th Annual OHDSI Open Source Developers Conference Highlights

The code of Science is Open Source

- Katy Sadowski
- Sean O'Reilly
- Robert Miller
- John Gresh
- Daniel Smith

- Jared Houghtaling
- Hayden Spence
- Kyle Zollo-Venecek
- Clark C. Evans
- Paul Nagy

Special thanks to our organizers



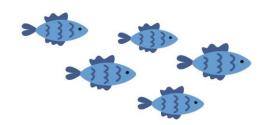
Open source is fundamental to science, which makes scientific research transparent, accessible, and reproducible for the benefit of both the scientific community and society as a whole



OHDSI Software Ecosystem

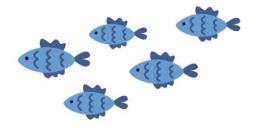
Data Management
Getting data into the
OMOP CDM

<u>Data Analysis</u> Performing analysis on the CDM



Atlas







Hades



OHDSI Vocabulary



2025 State of the OHDSI Open Source Ecosystem

	2012 - 3/2024	2012 - 3/2025	Diff
Repositories	284		
Developers	611		
Issue Submitters	1,082		
Issues Submitted	10,812		
Commits	50,575		



Why contribute to Open Source

- Learning and Skill Improvement: Contributing to open source projects provides a fantastic platform to hone coding skills, learn new technologies, and gain practical experience working on real-world projects.
- Sense of Accomplishment: Seeing their code used by others and contributing to a successful project provides a tangible sense of achievement and pride.
- Being part of a community: Open source communities provide a space for developers to connect with like-minded individuals, collaborate, and gain recognition for their work.
- **Building a Professional Reputation:** Contributing to well-regarded open source projects enhances a developer's visibility and credibility within the tech community.



How do we fund Open Source Development?

- Industry Partners: Open-source projects partner with companies who use our software providing joint development efforts.
- **Grants:** Receiving funding from non-profit foundations and government.
- **Services**: Companies that provide services to help sites OMOPify their data and/or run network studies.
- Open Core: Core software under an open-source license with commercial licenses for additional proprietary features.
- Consortia: Multiple sites invest to add core beneficial features.

- Johnson & Johnson
- Janssen Research a...
- Erasmus MC
- Odysseus Data Serv…
- EPAM Systems
- Tufts Medical Cente...
- Github
- OHDSI
- LTS Computing LLC
- Johns Hopkins Uni...
- The Hyve
- Software Country
- MIT
- TrialSpark
- Arcadia Inc.
- Pfizer
- University of Virginia



Open Source activity in OHDSI Teams

Martijn Schuemie

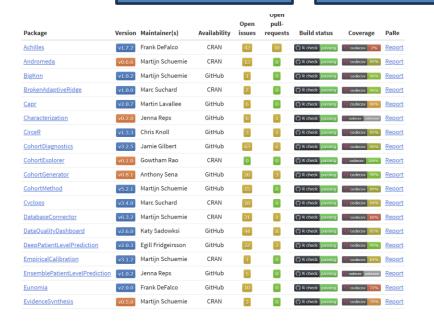
Anthony Sena Chris Knoll

Frank DeFalco

HADES

Atlas/WebAPI

Technical Advisory
Board



TAB Charter

The OHDSI Technical Advisory Board Charter (TAB) is a document that serves as the guiding principles of the TAB. It outlines the TAB's mission, responsibilities, deliverables, and more, providing guidance for the board's operations and a clear framework for its decision-making processes.

Contents

- Mission
- Responsibilities
- Deliverables
- Stakeholders
- Member Qualifications
- Meeting Frequency
- Member Selection Process
- Code of Conduct
- Establishing Task Forces
- Member Mentorship
- Budget and Resources
- Transparence
- Decision Making & Conflict Resolution

TuftsMedicine

Custom Vocabulary Builder (CVB): A Multi-Platform Workflow for Terminology Management and Validation

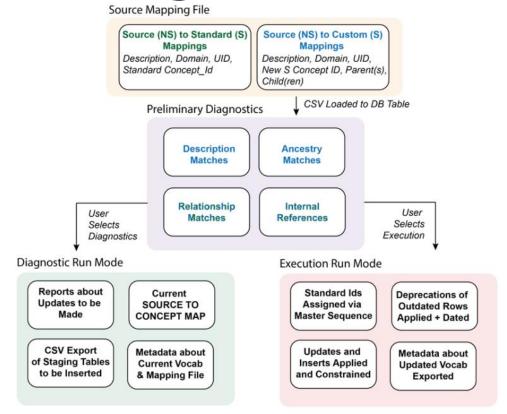
An overview of the pipelines, processes, and tools to create custom ontologies

OHDSI Community Call
Jared Houghtaling
Asst. Prof. – Tufts Medicine
Institute for Clinical Research and Health Policy Studies (ICRHPS), Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI)
29 April 2025





Background







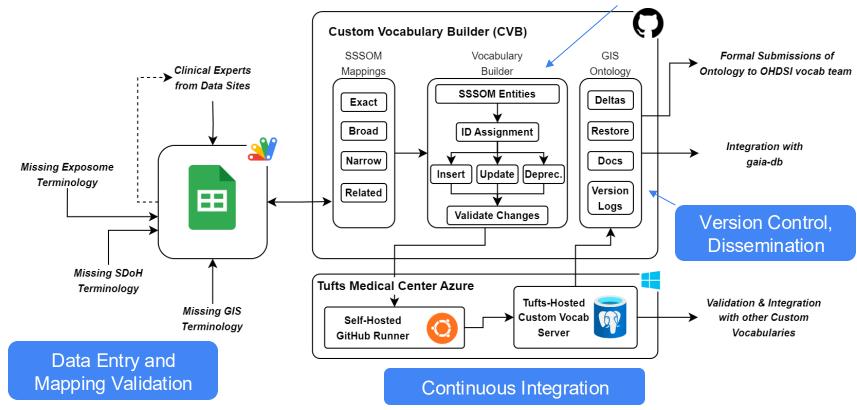
LIMITATIONS:

- Bespoke implementation with sitespecific source mapping structure
- No continuous integration
- No mechanisms for delta vocab dissemination
- Poor version control



Overview - CVB

ID Assignment & Relational Logic

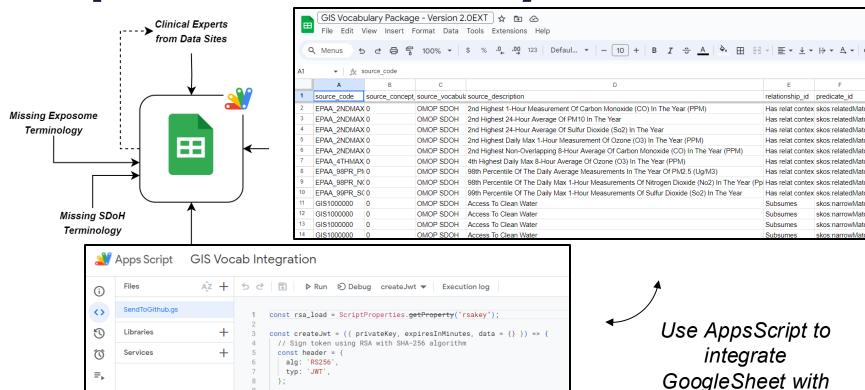


© Tufts Medicine 2025 | Private and confidential. Not for redistribution.

https://github.com/TuftsCTSI/CVB



Expert Data Entry



GitHub

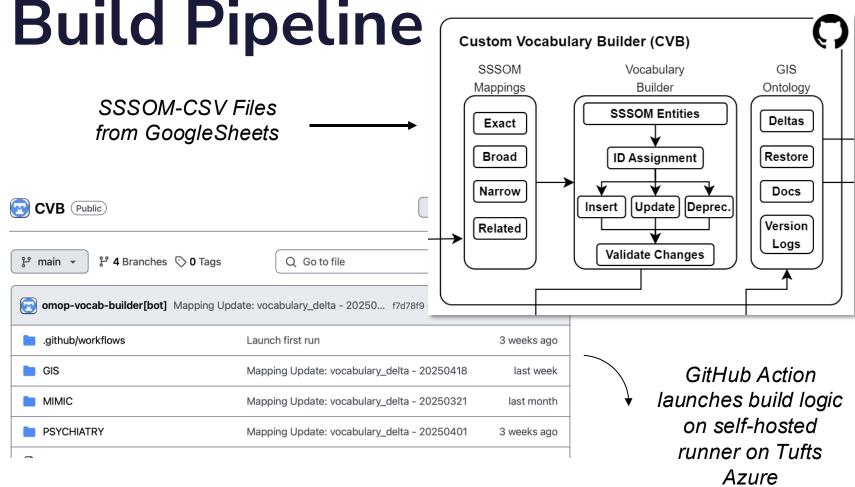
© Tufts Medicine 2025 | Private and confidential. Not for redistribution.

const now = Date.now();

const then = new Date(now);

(3)





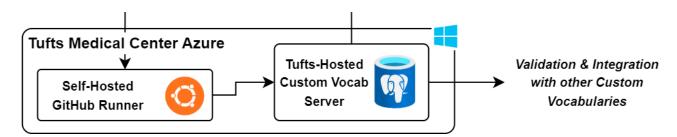
© Tufts Medicine 2025 | Private and confidential. Not for redistribution.



Build Execution

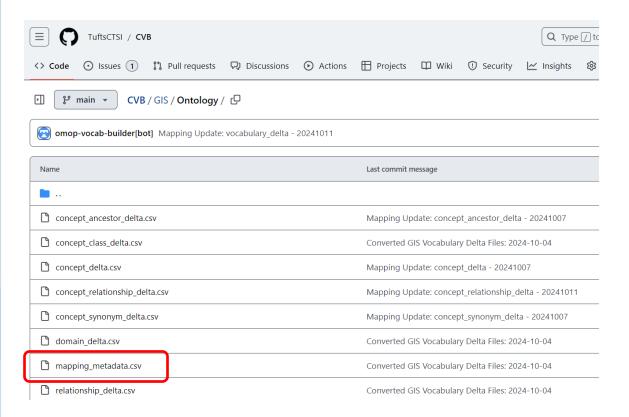
```
Connecting...
2024-10-21T13:49:40.65445 Connecting to the container 'qh-runner'...
2024-10-21T13:49:40.69721 Successfully Connected to container: 'qh-runner'
2024-10-17T02:17:36.719439188Z √ Connected to GitHub
2024-10-17T02:17:37.222142073Z
2024-10-17T02:17:37.222160319Z # Runner Registration
2024-10-17T02:17:37.222163286Z
2024-10-17T02:17:37.333014991Z
2024-10-17T02:17:37.3331940767
2024-10-17T02:17:37.333891407Z
2024-10-17T02:17:37.570368242Z √ Runner successfully added
2024-10-17T02:17:38.353188812Z √ Runner connection is good
2024-10-17T02:17:38.353201812Z
2024-10-17T02:17:38.353205144Z # Runner settings
2024-10-17T02:17:38.353207622Z
2024-10-17T02:17:38.356242475Z
2024-10-17T02:17:38.356253926Z √ Settings Saved.
2024-10-17T02:17:38.356256428Z
```

Self-Hosted Runner in Azure Container App launches build and validation logic against private Postgres server with OMOP vocabulary tables





Versioned Delta Output





User can download delta terminology and insert directly into existing vocabulary tables

© Tufts Medicine 2025 | Private and confidential. Not for redistribution.



Current Use Cases

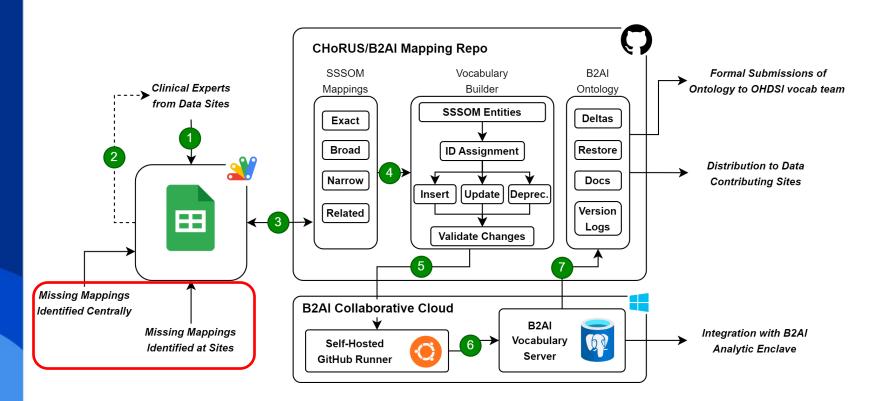
- GIS
- Psychiatry
- MIMIC IV

Check out Brian Gow's PR updating the MIMIC IV -> OMOP ETL with new vocab!

- CHoRUS Bridge2AI (diff. repo)
- Possibly yours?

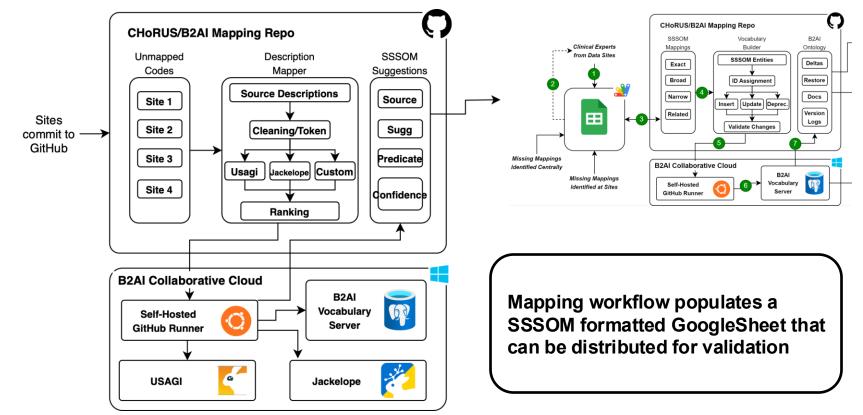


Closing the Loop – Mapping Pipeline





Closing the Loop – Mapping Pipeline



© Tufts Medicine 2025 | Private and confidential. Not for redistribution.



Other Next Steps

- Tighter integration with the OHDSI vocab team
- Templating and parameterizing for quicker expansion to other use cases
- Evaluation of scalability, ease of use, and quality of resulting delta vocabularies
- Validation and expansion of underlying builder logic to cover additional edge/use cases



Acknowledgments

- Polina Talapova
- Kyle Zollo-Venecek & GIS WG
- Andrew Williams
- Robert Miller
- Brian Gow & Physionet Team
- Piper Ranallo & Psychiatry WG
- Freija Descamps, Lars Halvorsen & edenceHealth Team
- OHDSI members and developers
- CHoRUS Research Consortium

Useful Links

- github.com/TuftsCTSI/CVB
- github.com/chorus-ai



Developers Dialogue Panel Recap

- Invest in DevOps
 - Version control & standard repo structure
 - CI/CD & containerization
- Copilots in, vibe coding out
 - LLMs excel at documentation & writing repetitive/boilerplate code
- Open source is a virtuous cycle
 - Look for win-win scenarios for devs, their employers, and the OHDSI community

Panelists

- Martin Lavallee, Boehringer Ingelheim
- Eduard Korchmar, EPAM
- Egill Fridgeirsson, Erasmus
 MC
- Lawrence Adams, Artificial Intelligence Centre for Value Based Healthcare

Developers Dialogue Introduction

Egill Fridgeirsson

Postdoc Medical Informatics @ Erasmus MC Rotterdam

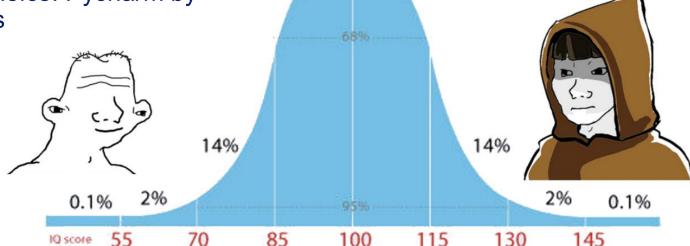
Patient-Level Prediction maintainer

Deep Patient-Level Prediction maintainer and creator e.fridgeirsson@erasmusmc.nl



Me before BESSI

- Mostly python and matlab used during my PhD, no R knowledge
- 0 git merge conflicts resolved
- 0 contributions to open source software.
- IDE of choice: Pycharm by Jetbrains



34%

34%

- Quite proficient in R and Python. Can hold my own (debug and hack) in c++, java, rust
- Resolve merge conflicts every week
- One of highest committer in OHDSI github org. OHDSI titan, Maintainer of two HADES packages, contributed to multiple more
- I use neovim btw (and sometimes rstudio)



How did I get there?

- Lucky to be in a position where I use and rely on OHDSI software packages for my research (deep learning models for patient-level prediction)
- Quickly after being hired I was introduced to Jenna Reps, an important collaborator of our department and main maintainer of PLP at the time.
- I learned basic R and how to use the debugger (debugonce and browser)
- I'm insanely curious about the code I'm using, to trust the code for my studies I needed to understand everything. Often meaning I stepped through the code line by line.
- Jenna is nice, so I immediately started pestering her with issues on github. Soon after I started contributing to PLP





My PLP dev highlights

- Reduce flakiness of tests and speed
 - Speed went from 30 minutes to 1hour => 90 seconds today
- Improve CI/CD
 - Test all hyperlinks in docs
 - Publish docker container automatically with every new release
- Get into CRAN
- Other small things
 - Enforce HADES codestyle strictly
 - Add docs to many internal functions
- Content wise: new models, new methods, bugfixes, optimizations and a lot more!
- Unique challenges
 - Multilingual codebase mixing python and R.



DEMO

Develop a deep learning model using a gpu with the deep PLP docker container

