
mwtab Documentation

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CHAPTER 1

mwtab



The `mwtab` package is a Python library that facilitates reading and writing files in `mwTab` format used by the [Metabolomics Workbench](#) for archival of Mass Spectrometry (MS) and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) experimental data.

The `mwtab` package provides facilities to convert `mwTab` formatted files into their equivalent JSON ized representation and vice versa. JSON stands for JavaScript Object Notation, an open-standard format that uses human-readable text to transmit data objects consisting of attribute-value pairs.

The `mwtab` package can be used in several ways:

- As a library for accessing and manipulating data stored in `mwTab` format files.
- As a command-line tool to convert between `mwTab` format and its equivalent JSON representation.

1.1 Citation

When using `mwtab` package in published work, please cite the following papers:

- Powell, Christian D., and Hunter NB Moseley. “The `mwtab` Python Library for RESTful Access and Enhanced Quality Control, Deposition, and Curation of the Metabolomics Workbench Data Repository.” *Metabolites* 11.3 (2021): 163. doi: [10.3390/metabo11030163](https://doi.org/10.3390/metabo11030163).
- Smelter, Andrey and Hunter NB Moseley. “A Python library for FAIRer access and deposition to the Metabolomics Workbench Data Repository.” *Metabolomics* 2018, 14(5): 64. doi: [10.1007/s11306-018-1356-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11306-018-1356-6).

1.2 Links

- `mwtab` @ [GitHub](#)
- `mwtab` @ [PyPI](#)
- Documentation @ [ReadTheDocs](#)

1.3 Installation

The `mwtab` package runs under Python 3.5+. Use `pip` to install. Starting with Python 3.4, `pip` is included by default.

1.3.1 Install on Linux, Mac OS X

```
python3 -m pip install mwtab
```

1.3.2 Install on Windows

```
py -3 -m pip install mwtab
```

1.3.3 Upgrade on Linux, Mac OS X

```
python3 -m pip install mwtab --upgrade
```

1.3.4 Upgrade on Windows

```
py -3 -m pip install mwtab --upgrade
```

1.4 Quickstart

```
>>> import mwtab
>>>
>>> # Here we use ANALYSIS_ID of file to fetch data from URL
>>> for mwfile in mwtab.read_files("1", "2"):
...     print("STUDY_ID:", mwfile.study_id)
...     print("ANALYSIS_ID:", mwfile.analysis_id)
...     print("SOURCE:", mwfile.source)
...     print("Blocks:", list(mwfile.keys()))
>>>
```

Note: Read the User Guide and the mwtab Tutorial on [ReadTheDocs](#) to learn more and to see code examples on using the mwtab as a library and as a command-line tool.

1.5 License

This package is distributed under the [BSD license](#).

Documentation index:

2.1 User Guide

2.1.1 Description

The `mwtab` package is a Python library that facilitates reading and writing files in `mwTab` format used by the [Metabolomics Workbench](#) for archival of Mass Spectrometry (MS) and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) experimental data.

The `mwtab` package provides facilities to convert `mwTab` formatted files into their equivalent JSONized (JavaScript Object Notation, an open-standard format that uses human-readable text to transmit data objects consisting of attribute-value pairs) representation and vice versa.

The `mwtab` package can be used in several ways:

- As a library for accessing and manipulating data stored in `mwTab` format files.
- As a command-line tool to convert between `mwTab` format and its equivalent JSON representation.

2.1.2 Installation

The `mwtab` package runs under Python 2.7 and Python 3.4+. Starting with Python 3.4, `pip` is included by default. To install system-wide with `pip` run the following:

Install on Linux, Mac OS X

```
python3 -m pip install mwtab
```

Install on Windows

```
py -3 -m pip install mwtab
```

Install inside virtualenv

For an isolated install, you can run the same inside a `virtualenv`.

```
$ virtualenv -p /usr/bin/python3 venv # create virtual environment, use python3_
↪interpreter
$ source venv/bin/activate           # activate virtual environment
$ python3 -m pip install mwtab       # install mwtab as usual
$ deactivate                         # if you are done working in the virtual_
↪environment
```

2.1.3 Get the source code

Code is available on GitHub: <https://github.com/MoseleyBioinformaticsLab/mwtab>

You can either clone the public repository:

```
$ https://github.com/MoseleyBioinformaticsLab/mwtab.git
```

Or, download the tarball and/or zipball:

```
$ curl -OL https://github.com/MoseleyBioinformaticsLab/mwtab/tarball/master
$ curl -OL https://github.com/MoseleyBioinformaticsLab/mwtab/zipball/master
```

Once you have a copy of the source, you can embed it in your own Python package, or install it into your system site-packages easily:

```
$ python3 setup.py install
```

2.1.4 Dependencies

The `mwtab` package depends on several Python libraries. The `pip` command will install all dependencies automatically, but if you wish to install them manually, run the following commands:

- **docopt** for creating `mwtab` command-line interface.

- To install `docopt` run the following:

```
python3 -m pip install docopt # On Linux, Mac OS X
py -3 -m pip install docopt   # On Windows
```

- **schema** for validating functionality of `mwTab` files based on JSON schema.

- To install the `schema` Python library run the following:

```
python3 -m pip install schema # On Linux, Mac OS X
py -3 -m pip install schema   # On Windows
```

2.1.5 Basic usage

The *mwtab* package can be used in several ways:

- As a library for accessing and manipulating data stored in mwTab formatted files.
 - Create the *MWTabFile* generator function that will generate (yield) a single *MWTabFile* instance at a time.
 - Process each *MWTabFile* instance:
 - * Process mwTab files in a for-loop, one file at a time.
 - * Process as an iterator calling the `next()` built-in function.
 - * Convert the generator into a list of *MWTabFile* objects.
- As a command-line tool:
 - Convert from mwTab file format into its equivalent JSON file format and vice versa.
 - Validate data stored in mwTab file based on schema definition.

Note: Read *The mwtab Tutorial* to learn more and see code examples on using the *mwtab* as a library and as a command-line tool.

2.2 The mwtab Tutorial

The *mwtab* package provides classes and other facilities for downloading, parsing, accessing, and manipulating data stored in either the mwTab or JSON representation of mwTab files.

Also, the *mwtab* package provides simple command-line interface to convert between mwTab and JSON representations, download entries from Metabolomics Workbench, access the MW REST interface, validate the consistency of the mwTab files, or extract metadata and metabolites from these files.

2.2.1 Brief mwTab Format Overview

Note: For full official specification see the following link (mwTab file specification): <http://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/data/tutorials.php>

The mwTab formatted files consist of multiple blocks. Each new block starts with #.

- Some of the blocks contain only “key-value”-like pairs.

```
#METABOLOMICS WORKBENCH STUDY_ID:ST000001 ANALYSIS_ID:AN000001
VERSION                      1
CREATED_ON                   2016-09-17
#PROJECT
PR:PROJECT_TITLE              FatB Gene Project
```

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```

PR:PROJECT_TYPE           Genotype treatment
PR:PROJECT_SUMMARY        Experiment to test the consequence of a mutation_
↪at the FatB gene (Atlg08510)
PR:PROJECT_SUMMARY        the wound-response of Arabidopsis

```

Note: *_SUMMARY “key-value”-like pairs are typically span through multiple lines.

- #SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS block is specially formatted, i.e. it contains header specification and tab-separated values.

```

#SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS:      SUBJECT(optional) [tab] SAMPLE[tab] FACTORS (NAME:
↪VALUE pairs separated by |) [tab] Additional sample data
SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS      -      LabF_115873      Arabidopsis Genotype:
↪Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded
SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS      -      LabF_115878      Arabidopsis Genotype:
↪Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded
SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS      -      LabF_115883      Arabidopsis Genotype:
↪Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded
SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS      -      LabF_115888      Arabidopsis Genotype:
↪Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded
SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS      -      LabF_115893      Arabidopsis Genotype:
↪Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded
SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS      -      LabF_115898      Arabidopsis Genotype:
↪Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded

```

- #MS_METABOLITE_DATA (results) block contains Samples identifiers, Factors identifiers as well as tab-separated data between *_START and *_END.

```

#MS_METABOLITE_DATA
MS_METABOLITE_DATA:UNITS      Peak height
MS_METABOLITE_DATA_START
Samples      LabF_115904      LabF_115909      LabF_115914      LabF_115919      LabF_
↪115924      LabF_115929      LabF_115842      LabF_115847      LabF_115852      LabF_
↪115857      LabF_115862      LabF_115867      LabF_115873      LabF_115878      LabF_
↪115883      LabF_115888      LabF_115893      LabF_115898      LabF_115811      LabF_
↪115816      LabF_115821      LabF_115826      LabF_115831      LabF_115836
Factors      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant Wounding Treatment:
↪Control - Non-Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant_
↪Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD;
↪Atlg08510 | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:
↪fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded
↪Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-
↪Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant Wounding Treatment:
↪Control - Non-Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant_
↪Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant_
↪Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant_
↪Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant_
↪Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant_
↪Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:fatb-ko KD; Atlg08510 | Plant_
↪Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant_
↪Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija_
↪(Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:
↪Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded
↪Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-
↪Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija (Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:
↪Control - Non-Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija (Ws) | (continues on next page)
↪Wounding Treatment:Control - Non-Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija_
↪(Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija_
8 ↪(Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija_
↪(Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija_
↪(Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija_
↪(Ws) | Plant Wounding Treatment:Wounded      Arabidopsis Genotype:Wassilewskija_

```

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```

1_2_4-benzenetriol  1874.0000      3566.0000      1945.0000      1456.0000
↳2004.0000      1995.0000      4040.0000      2432.0000      2189.0000
↳1931.0000      1307.0000      2880.0000      2218.0000      1754.0000
↳1369.0000      1201.0000      3324.0000      1355.0000      2257.0000
↳1718.0000      1740.0000      3472.0000      2054.0000      1367.0000
1-monostearin      987.0000      450.0000      1910.0000      549.0000
↳1032.0000      902.0000      393.0000      705.0000      100.0000      481.
↳0000      265.0000      120.0000      1185.0000      867.0000      676.
↳0000      569.0000      579.0000      387.0000      1035.0000      789.
↳0000      875.0000      224.0000      641.0000      693.0000
...
MS_METABOLITE_DATA_END

```

- #METABOLITES metadata block contains a header specifying fields and tab-separated data between *_START and *_END.

```

#METABOLITES
METABOLITES_START
metabolite_name      moverz_quant      ri      ri_type      pubchem_id      inchi_key
↳kegg_id other_id      other_id_type
1,2,4-benzenetriol  239      522741      Fiehn      10787      C02814      205673      BinBase
1-monostearin      399      959625      Fiehn      107036      D01947      202835      BinBase
2-hydroxyvaleric acid      131      310750      Fiehn      98009      218773
↳BinBase
3-phosphoglycerate  299      611619      Fiehn      724      C00597      217821      BinBase
...
METABOLITES_END

```

- #NMR_BINNED_DATA metadata block contains a header specifying fields and tab-separated data between *_START and *_END.

```

#NMR_BINNED_DATA
NMR_BINNED_DATA_START
Bin range (ppm)      CDC029      CDC030      CDC032      CPL101      CPL102      CPL103      CPL201      CPL202
↳CPL203      CDS039      CDS052      CDS054
0.50...0.56      0.00058149      1.6592      0.039301      0      0      0      0      0.034018
↳0.0028746      0.0021478      0.013387      0      0      0
0.56...0.58      0      0.74267      0      0.007206      0      0      0      0
↳0      0      0.0069721
0.58...0.60      0.051165      0.8258      0.089149      0.060972      0.026307
↳0.045697      0.069541      0      0      0.14516      0.057489      0.042255
...
NMR_BINNED_DATA_END

```

- Order of metadata and data blocks (MS)

```

#METABOLOMICS WORKBENCH
VERSION      1
CREATED_ON      2016-09-17
...
#PROJECT
...
#STUDY
...
#SUBJECT
...

```

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```
#SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS:          SUBJECT (optional) [tab] SAMPLE [tab] FACTORS (NAME:
↳VALUE pairs separated by |) [tab] Additional sample data
...
#COLLECTION
...
#TREATMENT
...
#SAMPLEPREP
...
#CHROMATOGRAPHY
...
#ANALYSIS
...
#MS
...
#MS_METABOLITE_DATA
MS_METABOLITE_DATA:UNITS          peak area
MS_METABOLITE_DATA_START
...
MS_METABOLITE_DATA_END
#METABOLITES
METABOLITES_START
...
METABOLITES_END
#END
```

2.2.2 Using mwtab as a Library

Importing mwtab Package

If the *mwtab* package is installed on the system, it can be imported:

```
[1]: import mwtab
```

Constructing MWTabFile Generator

The *fileio* module provides the *read_files()* generator function that yields *MWTabFile* instances. Constructing a *MWTabFile* generator is easy - specify the path to a local mwTab file, directory of files, archive of files:

```
[2]: import mwtab

mwfile_gen = mwtab.read_files("ST000017_AN000035.txt") # single mwTab file
mwfiles_gen = mwtab.read_files("ST000017_AN000035.txt", "ST000040_AN000060.json") #
↳several mwTab files
mwdir_gen = mwtab.read_files("mwfiles_dir_mwtab") # directory of mwTab files
mwzip_gen = mwtab.read_files("mwfiles_mwtab.zip") # archive of mwTab files
mwanalysis_gen = mwtab.read_files("35", "60") # ANALYSIS_ID of mwTab files
# REST callable url of mwTab file
mwurl_gen = mwtab.read_files("https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/study/
↳analysis_id/AN000035/mwtab/txt")
```

Processing MWTabFile Generator

The *MWTabFile* generator can be processed in several ways:

- Feed it to a for-loop and process one file at a time:

```
[3]: for mwfile in mwtab.read_files("35", "60"):
    print("STUDY_ID:", mwfile.study_id)      # print STUDY_ID
    print("ANALYSIS_ID", mwfile.analysis_id) # print ANALYSIS_ID
    print("SOURCE", mwfile.source)          # print source
    for block_name in mwfile:               # print names of blocks
        print("\t", block_name)

STUDY_ID: ST000017
ANALYSIS_ID AN000035
SOURCE https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/study/analysis_id/AN000035/mwtab/txt
    METABOLOMICS WORKBENCH
    PROJECT
    STUDY
    SUBJECT
    SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS
    COLLECTION
    TREATMENT
    SAMPLEPREP
    CHROMATOGRAPHY
    ANALYSIS
    MS
    MS_METABOLITE_DATA
STUDY_ID: ST000040
ANALYSIS_ID AN000060
SOURCE https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/study/analysis_id/AN000060/mwtab/txt
    METABOLOMICS WORKBENCH
    PROJECT
    STUDY
    SUBJECT
    SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS
    COLLECTION
    TREATMENT
    SAMPLEPREP
    CHROMATOGRAPHY
    ANALYSIS
    MS
    MS_METABOLITE_DATA
```

Note: Once the generator is consumed, it becomes empty and needs to be created again.

- Since the *MWTabFile* generator behaves like an iterator, we can call the `next()` built-in function:

```
[4]: mwfiles_generator = mwtab.read_files("35", "60")

mwfile1 = next(mwfiles_generator)
mwfile2 = next(mwfiles_generator)
```

Note: Once the generator is consumed, `StopIteration` will be raised.

- Convert the *MWTabFile* generator into a list of *MWTabFile* objects:

```
[5]: mwfiles_generator = mwtab.read_files("35", "60")
mwfiles_list = list(mwfiles_generator)
```

Warning: Do not convert the *MWTabFile* generator into a `list` if the generator can yield a large number of files, e.g. several thousand, otherwise it can consume all available memory.

Accessing Data From a Single MWTabFile

Since a *MWTabFile* is a Python `collections.OrderedDict`, data can be accessed and manipulated as with any regular Python `dict` object using bracket accessors.

- Accessing top-level “keys” in *MWTabFile*:

```
[7]: mwfile = next(mwtab.read_files("ST000017_AN000035.txt"))

# list MWTabFile-level keys, i.e. saveframe names
list(mwfile.keys())
```

```
[7]: ['METABOLOMICS WORKBENCH',
      'PROJECT',
      'STUDY',
      'SUBJECT',
      'SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS',
      'COLLECTION',
      'TREATMENT',
      'SAMPLEPREP',
      'CHROMATOGRAPHY',
      'ANALYSIS',
      'MS',
      'MS_METABOLITE_DATA']
```

- Accessing individual blocks in *MWTabFile*:

```
[8]: # access "PROJECT" block
mwfile["PROJECT"]

[8]: OrderedDict([('PROJECT_TITLE', 'Rat Stamina Studies'),
                  ('PROJECT_TYPE', 'Feeding'),
                  ('PROJECT_SUMMARY', 'Stamina in rats'),
                  ('INSTITUTE', 'University of Michigan'),
                  ('DEPARTMENT', 'Internal Medicine'),
                  ('LABORATORY', 'Burant Lab'),
                  ('LAST_NAME', 'Beecher'),
                  ('FIRST_NAME', 'Chris'),
                  ('ADDRESS', '-'),
                  ('EMAIL', 'chrisbee@med.umich.edu'),
                  ('PHONE', '734-232-0815'),
                  ('FUNDING_SOURCE', 'NIH: R01 DK077200')])
```

- Accessing individual “key-value” pairs within blocks:

```
[9]: # access "INSTITUTE" field within "PROJECT" block
mwfile["PROJECT"]["INSTITUTE"]

[9]: 'University of Michigan'
```


- Accessing data in #SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS block:

```
[10]: # access "SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS" block and print first three
mwfile["SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS"][:3]
```

```
[10]: [OrderedDict([('Subject ID', '-'),
                ('Sample ID', 'S00009477'),
                ('Factors',
                 {'Feeding': 'Ad lib', 'Running Capacity': 'High'})]),
      OrderedDict([('Subject ID', '-'),
                    ('Sample ID', 'S00009478'),
                    ('Factors',
                     {'Feeding': 'Ad lib', 'Running Capacity': 'High'})]),
      OrderedDict([('Subject ID', '-'),
                    ('Sample ID', 'S00009479'),
                    ('Factors',
                     {'Feeding': 'Ad lib', 'Running Capacity': 'High'})])]
```

```
[11]: # access individual factors (by index)
mwfile["SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS"][0]
```

```
[11]: OrderedDict([('Subject ID', '-'),
                  ('Sample ID', 'S00009477'),
                  ('Factors', {'Feeding': 'Ad lib', 'Running Capacity': 'High'})])
```

```
[12]: # access individual fields within factors
mwfile["SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS"][0]["Sample ID"]
```

```
[12]: 'S00009477'
```

- Accessing data in #MS_METABOLITE_DATA block:

```
[13]: # access data block keys
list(mwfile["MS_METABOLITE_DATA"].keys())
```

```
[13]: ['Units', 'Data', 'Metabolites']
```

```
[14]: # access units field
mwfile["MS_METABOLITE_DATA"]["Units"]
```

```
[14]: 'peak area'
```

```
[15]: # access samples field (by index)
mwfile["MS_METABOLITE_DATA"]["Data"][0].keys()
```

```
[15]: odict_keys(['Metabolite', 'S00009477', 'S00009478', 'S00009479', 'S00009480',
→ 'S00009481', 'S00009500', 'S00009501', 'S00009502', 'S00009503', 'S00009470',
→ 'S00009471', 'S00009472', 'S00009473', 'S00009474', 'S00009475', 'S00009494',
→ 'S00009495', 'S00009496', 'S00009497', 'S00009498', 'S00009499', 'S00009488',
→ 'S00009489', 'S00009490', 'S00009491', 'S00009492', 'S00009493', 'S00009509',
→ 'S00009510', 'S00009511', 'S00009512', 'S00009513', 'S00009514', 'S00009482',
→ 'S00009483', 'S00009484', 'S00009486', 'S00009504', 'S00009505', 'S00009506',
→ 'S00009507', 'S00009508'])
```

```
[16]: # access metabolite data and print first three
mwfile["MS_METABOLITE_DATA"]["Metabolites"][:3]
```

```
[16]: [OrderedDict([('Metabolite', '11BETA,21-DIHYDROXY-5BETA-PREGNANE-3,20-DIONE'),
                  ('moverz_quant', '')],
```

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```

        ('ri', ''),
        ('ri_type', ''),
        ('pubchem_id', '44263339'),
        ('inchi_key', ''),
        ('kegg_id', 'C05475'),
        ('other_id', '775216_UNIQUE'),
        ('other_id_type', 'UM_Target_ID'))],
OrderedDict([('Metabolite', '11-BETA-HYDROXYANDROST-4-ENE-3,17-DIONE'),
             ('moverz_quant', ''),
             ('ri', ''),
             ('ri_type', ''),
             ('pubchem_id', '94141'),
             ('inchi_key', ''),
             ('kegg_id', 'C05284'),
             ('other_id', '771312_PRIMARY'),
             ('other_id_type', 'UM_Target_ID'))],
OrderedDict([('Metabolite', '13(S)-HPODE'),
             ('moverz_quant', ''),
             ('ri', ''),
             ('ri_type', ''),
             ('pubchem_id', '1426'),
             ('inchi_key', ''),
             ('kegg_id', 'C04717'),
             ('other_id', '775541_UNIQUE'),
             ('other_id_type', 'UM_Target_ID'))])]]

```

Manipulating Data From a Single MWTabFile

In order to change values within *MWTabFile*, descend into the appropriate level using square bracket accessors and set a new value.

- Change regular “key-value” pairs:

```
[17]: # access phone number information
mwfile["PROJECT"]["PHONE"]
```

```
[17]: '734-232-0815'
```

```
[18]: # change phone number information
mwfile["PROJECT"]["PHONE"] = "1-530-754-8258"
```

```
[19]: # check that it has been modified
mwfile["PROJECT"]["PHONE"]
```

```
[19]: '1-530-754-8258'
```

- Change #SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS values:

```
[20]: # access the first subject sample factor by index
mwfile["SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS"][0]
```

```
[20]: OrderedDict([('Subject ID', '-'),
                  ('Sample ID', 'S00009477'),
                  ('Factors', {'Feeding': 'Ad lib', 'Running Capacity': 'High'})])
```

```
[21]: # provide additional details to the first subject sample factor
mwfile["SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS"][0]["Additional sample data"] = {"Additional detail_
↪key": "Additional detail value"}

[22]: # check that it has been modified
mwfile["SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS"][0]

[22]: OrderedDict([('Subject ID', '-'),
                  ('Sample ID', 'S00009477'),
                  ('Factors', {'Feeding': 'Ad lib', 'Running Capacity': 'High'}),
                  ('Additional sample data',
                   {'Additional detail key': 'Additional detail value'})])
```

Printing a MWTabFile and its Components

MWTabFile objects provide the `print_file()` method which can be used to output the file in either *mwTab* or JSON format. The method takes a `file_format` keyword argument which specifies the output format to be displayed.

The MWTabFile can be printed to output in *mwTab* format in its entirety using:

- `mwfile.print_file(file_format="mwtab")`
- Print the first 20 lines in *mwTab* format.

```
[23]: from io import StringIO
mwtab_file_str = StringIO()
mwfile.print_file(file_format="mwtab", f=mwtab_file_str)

# print out first 20 lines
print("\n".join(mwtab_file_str.getvalue().split("\n")[:20]))

#METABOLOMICS WORKBENCH STUDY_ID:ST000017 ANALYSIS_ID:AN000035 PROJECT_ID:PR000016
VERSION                                1
CREATED_ON                            2016-09-17
#PROJECT
PR:PROJECT_TITLE                      Rat Stamina Studies
PR:PROJECT_TYPE                       Feeding
PR:PROJECT_SUMMARY                    Stamina in rats
PR:INSTITUTE                          University of Michigan
PR:DEPARTMENT                         Internal Medicine
PR:LABORATORY                         Burant Lab
PR:LAST_NAME                          Beecher
PR:FIRST_NAME                         Chris
PR:ADDRESS                            -
PR:EMAIL                              chrisbee@med.umich.edu
PR:PHONE                              1-530-754-8258
PR:FUNDING_SOURCE                     NIH: R01 DK077200
#STUDY
ST:STUDY_TITLE                        Rat HCR/LCR Stamina Study
ST:STUDY_TYPE                         LC-MS analysis
ST:STUDY_SUMMARY                      To determine the basis of running capacity and
↪health differences in outbreed
```

The MWTabFile can be printed to output in JSON format in its entirety using:

- `mwfile.print_file(file_format="json")`
- Print the first 20 lines in JSON format.

```
[24]: from io import StringIO
mwtab_file_str = StringIO()
mwfile.print_file(file_format="json", f=mwtab_file_str)

# print out first 20 lines
print("\n".join(mwtab_file_str.getvalue().split("\n")[:20]))

{
  "METABOLOMICS WORKBENCH": {
    "STUDY_ID": "ST000017",
    "ANALYSIS_ID": "AN000035",
    "PROJECT_ID": "PR000016",
    "VERSION": "1",
    "CREATED_ON": "2016-09-17"
  },
  "PROJECT": {
    "PROJECT_TITLE": "Rat Stamina Studies",
    "PROJECT_TYPE": "Feeding",
    "PROJECT_SUMMARY": "Stamina in rats",
    "INSTITUTE": "University of Michigan",
    "DEPARTMENT": "Internal Medicine",
    "LABORATORY": "Burant Lab",
    "LAST_NAME": "Beecher",
    "FIRST_NAME": "Chris",
    "ADDRESS": "-",
    "EMAIL": "chrisbee@med.umich.edu",
    "PHONE": "1-530-754-8258",
```

- Print single block in mwTab format.

```
[25]: mwfile.print_block("STUDY", file_format="mwtab")

ST:STUDY_TITLE          Rat HCR/LCR Stamina Study
ST:STUDY_TYPE           LC-MS analysis
ST:STUDY_SUMMARY        To determine the basis of running capacity and
↳health differences in outbreed
ST:STUDY_SUMMARY        N/NIH rats selected for high capacity (HCR)
↳and low capacity (LCR) running (a for
ST:STUDY_SUMMARY        VO2max) (see:Science. 2005 Jan 21;307(5708):
↳418-20). Plasma collected at 12 of
ST:STUDY_SUMMARY        age in generation 28 rats after ad lib feeding
↳or 40% caloric restriction at week
ST:STUDY_SUMMARY        8 of age. All animals fasted 4 hours prior to
↳collection between 5-8
ST:INSTITUTE            University of Michigan
ST:DEPARTMENT           Internal Medicine
ST:LABORATORY           Burant Lab (MMOC)
ST:LAST_NAME            Qi
ST:FIRST_NAME           Nathan
ST:ADDRESS              -
ST:EMAIL                nathanqi@med.umich.edu
ST:PHONE                734-232-0815
ST:NUM_GROUPS           2
ST:TOTAL_SUBJECTS       42
```

- Print single block in JSON format.

```
[26]: mwfile.print_block("STUDY", file_format="json")
```

```
{
  "STUDY_TITLE": "Rat HCR/LCR Stamina Study",
  "STUDY_TYPE": "LC-MS analysis",
  "STUDY_SUMMARY": "To determine the basis of running capacity and health_
↪differences in outbreed N/NIH rats selected for high capacity (HCR) and low_
↪capacity (LCR) running (a for VO2max) (see:Science. 2005 Jan 21;307(5708):418-20)._
↪Plasma collected at 12 of age in generation 28 rats after ad lib feeding or 40%_
↪caloric restriction at week 8 of age. All animals fasted 4 hours prior to_
↪collection between 5-8",
  "INSTITUTE": "University of Michigan",
  "DEPARTMENT": "Internal Medicine",
  "LABORATORY": "Burant Lab (MMOC)",
  "LAST_NAME": "Qi",
  "FIRST_NAME": "Nathan",
  "ADDRESS": "-",
  "EMAIL": "nathanqi@med.umich.edu",
  "PHONE": "734-232-0815",
  "NUM_GROUPS": "2",
  "TOTAL_SUBJECTS": "42"
}
```

Writing data from a MWTabFile object into a file

Data from a *MWTabFile* can be written into file in original mwTab format or in equivalent JSON format using `write()`:

- Writing into a mwTab formatted file:

```
[27]: with open("out/ST000017_AN000035_modified.txt", "w") as outfile:
      mwfile.write(outfile, file_format="mwtab")
```

- Writing into a JSON file:

```
[28]: with open("out/ST000017_AN000035_modified.json", "w") as outfile:
      mwfile.write(outfile, file_format="json")
```

Extracting Metadata and Metabolites from mwTab Files

The *mwtab.mwextract* module can be used to extract metadata from mwTab files. The module contains two main methods: 1) `extract_metadata()` which can be used to parse metadata values from a mwTab file, and 2) `extract_metabolites()` which can be used to gather a list of metabolites and samples containing the found metabolites from multiple mwTab files which contain a given metadata key value pair.

Extracting Metadata Values

- Extracting metadata values from a given mwTab file:

```
[29]: from mwtab.mwextract import extract_metadata

      extract_metadata(mwfile, ["STUDY_TYPE", "SUBJECT_TYPE"])

[29]: {'STUDY_TYPE': {'LC-MS analysis'}, 'SUBJECT_TYPE': {'Animal'}}
```

Extracting Metabolites Values

- Extracting metabolite information from multiple mwTab files and outputting the first three metabolites:

```
[30]: from mwtab.mwextract import extract_metabolites, generate_matchers
      from mwtab import read_files

      mwtab_gen = read_files(
          "ST000017_AN000035.txt",
          "ST000040_AN000060.txt"
      )

      matchers = generate_matchers([
          ("ST:STUDY_TYPE",
           "LC-MS analysis")
      ])
      list(extract_metabolites(mwtab_gen, matchers).keys())[:3]
```

```
[30]: ['11BETA_21-DIHYDROXY-5BETA-PREGNANE-3_20-DIONE',
      '11-BETA-HYDROXYANDROST-4-ENE-3_17-DIONE',
      '13(S)-HPODE']
```

- Extracting metabolite information from multiple mwTab files using regular expressions and outputting the first three metabolites:

```
[31]: from mwtab.mwextract import extract_metabolites, generate_matchers
      from mwtab import read_files
      from re import compile

      mwtab_gen = read_files(
          "ST000017_AN000035.txt",
          "ST000040_AN000060.txt"
      )

      matchers = generate_matchers([
          ("ST:STUDY_TYPE",
           compile("(LC-MS)"))
      ])
      list(extract_metabolites(mwtab_gen, matchers).keys())[:3]
```

```
[31]: ['11BETA_21-DIHYDROXY-5BETA-PREGNANE-3_20-DIONE',
      '11-BETA-HYDROXYANDROST-4-ENE-3_17-DIONE',
      '13(S)-HPODE']
```

Converting mwTab Files

mwTab files can be converted between the mwTab file format and their JSON representation using the *mwtab.converter* module.

One-to-one file conversions

- Converting from the mwTab file format into its equivalent JSON file format:

```
[32]: from mwtab.converter import Converter
```

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```
# Using valid ANALYSIS_ID to access file from URL: from_path="1"
converter = Converter(from_path="35", to_path="out/ST000017_AN000035.json",
                     from_format="mwtab", to_format="json")
converter.convert()
```

- Converting from JSON file format back to mwTab file format:

```
[33]: from mwtab.converter import Converter

converter = Converter(from_path="out/ST000017_AN000035.json", to_path="out/ST000017_
↪AN000035.txt",
                     from_format="json", to_format="mwtab")
converter.convert()
```

Many-to-many files conversions

- Converting from the directory of mwTab formatted files into their equivalent JSON formatted files:

```
[34]: from mwtab.converter import Converter

converter = Converter(from_path="mwfiles_dir_mwtab",
                     to_path="out/mwfiles_dir_json",
                     from_format="mwtab",
                     to_format="json")
converter.convert()
```

- Converting from the directory of JSON formatted files into their equivalent mwTab formatted files:

```
[35]: from mwtab.converter import Converter

converter = Converter(from_path="out/mwfiles_dir_json",
                     to_path="out/mwfiles_dir_mwtab",
                     from_format="json",
                     to_format="mwtab")
converter.convert()
```

Note: Many-to-many files and one-to-one file conversions are available. See `mwtab.converter` for full list of available conversions.

2.2.3 Command-Line Interface

The mwtab Command-Line Interface provides the following functionality:

- Convert from the mwTab file format into its equivalent JSON file format and vice versa.
- Download files through Metabolomics Workbench's REST API.
- Validate the mwTab formatted file.
- Extract metadata and metabolite information from downloaded files.

```
[36]: ! mwtab --help
```

The mwtab command-line interface

~~~~~

Usage:

```

mwtab -h | --help
mwtab --version
mwtab convert (<from-path> <to-path>) [--from-format=<format>] [--to-format=
↪<format>] [--validate] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--verbose]
mwtab validate <from-path> [--mw-rest=<url>] [--verbose]
mwtab download url <url> [--to-path=<path>] [--verbose]
mwtab download study all [--to-path=<path>] [--input-item=<item>] [--output-
↪format=<format>] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--validate] [--verbose]
mwtab download study <input-value> [--to-path=<path>] [--input-item=<item>] [--
↪output-item=<item>] [--output-format=<format>] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--validate] [--
↪verbose]
mwtab download (study | compound | refmet | gene | protein) <input-item> <input-
↪value> <output-item> [--output-format=<format>] [--to-path=<path>] [--mw-rest=<url>
↪] [--verbose]
mwtab download moverz <input-item> <m/z-value> <ion-type-value> <m/z-tolerance-
↪value> [--to-path=<path>] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--verbose]
mwtab download exactmass <LIPID-abbreviation> <ion-type-value> [--to-path=<path>]
↪[--mw-rest=<url>] [--verbose]
mwtab extract metadata <from-path> <to-path> <key> ... [--to-format=<format>] [--
↪no-header]
mwtab extract metabolites <from-path> <to-path> (<key> <value>) ... [--to-format=
↪<format>] [--no-header]

```

Options:

|                              |                                                    |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| -h, --help                   | Show this screen.                                  |
| --version                    | Show version.                                      |
| --verbose                    | Print what files are processing.                   |
| --validate                   | Validate the mwTab file.                           |
| --from-format=<format>       | Input file format, available formats: mwtab, json, |
| ↪[default: mwtab].           |                                                    |
| --to-format=<format>         | Output file format [default: json].                |
|                              | Available formats for convert:                     |
|                              | mwtab, json.                                       |
|                              | Available formats for extract:                     |
|                              | json, csv.                                         |
| --mw-rest=<url>              | URL to MW REST interface                           |
| ↪rest/].                     | [default: https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/   |
| --context=<context>          | Type of resource to access from MW REST interface, |
| ↪ available contexts: study, | compound, refmet, gene, protein, moverz,           |
| ↪exactmass [default: study]. |                                                    |
| --input-item=<item>          | Item to search Metabolomics Workbench with.        |
| --output-item=<item>         | Item to be retrieved from Metabolomics Workbench.  |
| --output-format=<format>     | Format for item to be retrieved in, available,     |
| ↪formats: mwtab, json.       |                                                    |
| --no-header                  | Include header at the top of csv formatted files.  |

For extraction <to-path> can take a "-" which will use stdout.

## Converting mwTab files in bulk



## CLI one-to-one file conversions

- Convert from a local file in mwTab format to a local file in JSON format:

```
[37]: ! mwtab convert ST000017_AN000035.txt out/ST000017_AN000035.json \  
      --from-format=mwtab --to-format=json
```

- Convert from a local file in JSON format to a local file in mwTab format:

```
[38]: ! mwtab convert ST000017_AN000035.json out/ST000017_AN000035.txt \  
      --from-format=json --to-format=mwtab
```

- Convert from a compressed local file in mwTab format to a compressed local file in JSON format:

```
[39]: ! mwtab convert ST000017_AN000035.txt.gz out/ST000017_AN000035.json.gz \  
      --from-format=mwtab --to-format=json
```

- Convert from a compressed local file in JSON format to a compressed local file in mwTab format:

```
[40]: ! mwtab convert ST000017_AN000035.json.gz out/ST000017_AN000035.txt.gz \  
      --from-format=json --to-format=mwtab
```

- Convert from an uncompressed URL file in mwTab format to a compressed local file in JSON format:

```
[41]: ! mwtab convert 35 out/ST000017_AN000035.json.bz2 \  
      --from-format=mwtab --to-format=json
```

---

**Note:** See [mwtab.converter](#) for full list of available conversions.

---

## CLI Many-to-many files conversions

- Convert from a directory of files in mwTab format to a directory of files in JSON format:

```
[42]: ! mwtab convert mwfiles_dir_mwtab out/mwfiles_dir_json \  
      --from-format=mwtab --to-format=json
```

- Convert from a directory of files in JSON format to a directory of files in mwTab format:

```
[43]: ! mwtab convert mwfiles_dir_json out/mwfiles_dir_mwtab \  
      --from-format=json --to-format=mwtab
```

- Convert from a directory of files in mwTab format to a zip archive of files in JSON format:

```
[44]: ! mwtab convert mwfiles_dir_mwtab out/mwfiles_json.zip \  
      --from-format=mwtab --to-format=json
```

- Convert from a compressed tar archive of files in JSON format to a directory of files in mwTab format:

```
[45]: ! mwtab convert mwfiles_json.tar.gz out/mwfiles_dir_mwtab \  
      --from-format=json --to-format=mwtab
```

- Convert from a zip archive of files in mwTab format to a compressed tar archive of files in JSON format:

```
[46]: ! mwtab convert mwfiles_mwtab.zip out/mwfiles_json.tar.bz2 \
      --from-format=mwtab --to-format=json
```

---

**Note:** See *mwtab.converter* for full list of available conversions.

---

## Download files through Metabolomics Workbenches REST API

The *mwtab* package provides the *mwtab.mwrest* module, which contains a number of functions and classes for working with Metabolomics Workbenches REST API.

---

**Note:** For full official REST API specification see the following link (MW REST API (v1.0, 5/7/2019)): <https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/tools/MWRestAPIv1.0.pdf>

---

## Download by URL

- To download a file based on a given url, simply call the `download url` command with the desired URL and provide an output path:

```
[47]: ! mwtab download url "https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/study/analysis_id/
      ↪AN000035/mwtab/txt" --to-path=out/ST000017_AN000035.txt
```

- To download single analysis mwTab files, simply call `download study` and specify the analysis ID:

```
[48]: ! mwtab download study AN000035 --to-path=out/ST000017_AN000035.txt
```

- To download an entire study mwTab file, simply call `download study` and specify the study ID:

```
[49]: ! mwtab download study ST000017 --to-path=out/ST000017_AN000035.txt
```

---

**Note:** It is possible to validate downloaded files by adding the `--validate` option to the command line.

---

## Download study, compound, refmet, gene, and protein files

- To download study, compound, refmet, gene, and protein context files, call the `download` command and specify the context, input item, input value, and output item (optionally specify the output format).
- Download a study:

```
[50]: ! mwtab download study analysis_id AN000035 mwtab --output-format=txt --to-path=out/
      ↪ST000017_AN000035.txt
```

- Download compound:

```
[51]: ! mwtab download compound regno 11 name --to-path=out/tmp.txt
```

- Download refmet:

```
[52]: ! mwtab download refmet name Cholesterol all --to-path=out/tmp.txt
```

- Download gene:

```
[53]: ! mwtab download gene gene_symbol acaca all --to-path=out/tmp.txt
```

- Download protein:

```
[54]: ! mwtab download protein uniprot_id Q13085 all --to-path=out/tmp.txt
```

## Download all mwTab formatted files

The mwTab package provides contains a number of command line functions for downloading Metabolomics mwtab formatted files through the Workbenchs REST API.

- To download all available analysis files, simply call the `download study all` command:

```
! mwtab download study all
```

- It is also possible to download all study files by calling the `download study all` command and providing an input item and output path:

```
! mwtab download study all --input-item=study_id
```

## Download moverz and exactmass

- To download moverz files, call the `download moverz` command and specify the input value (LIPIDS, MB, or REFMET), m/z value, ion type value, and m/z tolerance value.

```
[55]: ! mwtab download moverz MB 635.52 M+H 0.5 --to-path=out/tmp.txt
```

- To download exactmass files, call the `download exactmass` command and specify the LIPID abbreviation and ion type value.

```
[56]: ! mwtab download exactmass "PC(34:1)" M+H --to-path=out/tmp.txt
```

---

**Note:** It is not necessary to specify an output format for exactmass files.

---

## Extracting metabolite data and metadata from mwTab files

The `mwtab` package provides the `extract_metabolites()` and `extract_metadata()` functions that can parse mwTab formatted files. The `extract_metabolites()` takes a source (list of mwTab file) and list of metadata key-value pairs that are used to search for mwTab files which contain the given metadata pairs. The `extract_metadata()` takes a source (list of mwTab file) and list of metadata keys which are used to search the mwTab files for possible values to the given keys.

- To extract metabolite from mwTab files in a directory, call the `extract metabolites` command and provide a list of metadata key value pairs along with an output path and output format:

```
[57]: ! mwtab extract metabolites mwfiles_dir_mwtab out/output_file.csv SU:SUBJECT_TYPE_
↪Plant --to-format=csv
```

---

**Note:** It is possible to use ReGeXs to match the metadata value (eg. ... SU:SUBJECT\_TYPE "r'(Plant)'").

---

- To extract metadata from mwTab files in a directory call the `extract metadata` command and provide a list of metadata keys along with an output path and output format:

```
[58]: ! mwtab extract metadata mwfiles_dir_json out/output_file.json SUBJECT_TYPE --to-  
      ↪ format=json
```

## Validating mwTab files

The `mwtab` package provides the `validate_file()` function that can validate files based on a JSON schema definition. The `mwtab.mwschema` contains schema definitions for every block of mwTab formatted file, i.e. it lists the types of attributes (e.g. `str` as well as specifies which keys are optional and which are required).

- To validate file(s), simply call the `validate` command and provide path to file(s):

```
[59]: ! mwtab validate 35
```

## 2.2.4 Using the mwtab Python Package to Find Analyses Involving a Specific Disease or Condition

The Metabolomics Workbench data repository stores mass spectroscopy and nuclear magnetic resonance experimental data and metadata in mwTab formatted files. Metabolomics Workbench also provides a number of tools for searching or analyzing mwTab files. The mwtab Python package can also be used to perform similar functions through both a programmatic API and command-line interface, which has more search flexibility.

In order to search the repository of mwTab files for analyses associated with a specific disease, Metabolomics Workbench provides

- [https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/data/metsearch\\_MS\\_form2.php](https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/data/metsearch_MS_form2.php)

The mwtab Python package can be used in a number of ways to similar effect. The package provides the `extract_metabolites()` method to extract and organize metabolites from multiple mwTab files through both Python scripts and a command-line interface. This method has more search flexibility, since it can take either a search string or a regular expression.

### Using mwtab package API to extract study IDs, analysis IDs, and metabolites

The `extract_metabolites()` method takes two parameters: 1) a iterable of `MWTabFile` instances and 2) an iterable of `ItemMatcher` or `ReGeXMatcher` instances. The iterable of `MWTabFile` instances can be created using byt passing mwTab file sources (filenames, analysis IDs, etc.) to the `read_files()` method. The iterable of matcher instances can be created using the `generate_matchers()` method.

- An example of using the mwtab package API to extract data from analyses associated with diabetes and output the first three metabolites:

```
[60]: from mwtab.mwextract import extract_metabolites, generate_matchers  
      from mwtab import read_files  
      import re  
  
      mwtab_gen = read_files("diabetes/")
```

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```

matchers = generate_matchers([
    ("ST:STUDY_SUMMARY",
     re.compile("(diabetes)"))
])
list(extract_metabolites(mwtab_gen, matchers).keys())[:3]
[60]: ['1_5-anhydroglucitol', '1-monopalmitin', '1-monostearin']

```

## Using mwtab CLI to extract study IDs, analysis IDs, and metabolites

The mwtab command line interface includes a `mwtab extract metabolites` method which takes a directory of mwTab files, an output path to save the extracted data in, and a series of mwTab section item keys and values to be matched (either string values or regular expressions). Additionally an output format can be specified.

```
mwtab extract metabolites <from-path> <to-path> (<key> <value>) ... [-to-format=<format>] [-no-header]
```

- An example of using the mwtab CLI to extract data from analyses associated with diabetes:

```

[61]: ! mwtab extract metabolites diabetes/ out/output_file.json ST:STUDY_SUMMARY "r'(?
      ↪i)(diabetes)'" --to-format=json

```

## 2.3 The mwtab API Reference

Routines for working with mwTab format files used by the Metabolomics Workbench.

This package includes the following modules:

**mwtab** This module provides the `MWTabFile` class which is a python dictionary representation of a Metabolomics Workbench *mwtab* file. Data can be accessed directly from the `MWTabFile` instance using bracket accessors.

**cli** This module provides command-line interface for the mwtab package.

**tokenizer** This module provides the `tokenizer()` generator that generates tuples of key-value pairs from *mwtab* files.

**fileio** This module provides the `read_files()` generator to open files from different sources (single file/multiple files on a local machine, directory/archive of files, URL address of a file).

**converter** This module provides the `Converter` class that is responsible for the conversion of mwTab formatted files into their JSON representation and vice versa.

**mwschema** This module provides JSON schema definitions for the mwTab formatted files, i.e. specifies required and optional keys as well as data types.

**validator** This module provides routines to validate mwTab formatted files based on schema definitions as well as checks for file self-consistency.

**mwrest** This module provides the `GenericMWURL` class which is a python dictionary representation of a Metabolomics Workbench REST URL. The class is used to validate query parameters and to generate a URL path which can be used to request data from Metabolomics Workbench through their REST API.

### 2.3.1 mwtab.mwtab

This module provides the `MWTabFile` class that stores the data from a single `mwTab` formatted file in the form of an `OrderedDict`. Data can be accessed directly from the `MWTabFile` instance using bracket accessors.

The data is divided into a series of “sections” which each contain a number of “key-value”-like pairs. Also, the file contains a specially formatted `SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTOR` block and blocks of data between `*_START` and `*_END`.

**class** `mwtab.mwtab.MWTabFile` (*source*, \**args*, \*\**kws*)

`MWTabFile` class that stores data from a single `mwTab` formatted file in the form of `collections.OrderedDict`.

**read** (*filehandle*)

Read data into a `MWTabFile` instance.

**Parameters** `filehandle` (`io.TextIOWrapper`, `gzip.GzipFile`, `bz2.BZ2File`, `zipfile.ZipFile`) – file-like object.

**Returns** `None`

**Return type** `None`

**write** (*filehandle*, *file\_format*)

Write `MWTabFile` data into file.

**Parameters**

- `filehandle` (`io.TextIOWrapper`) – file-like object.
- `file_format` (*str*) – Format to use to write data: `mwtab` or `json`.

**Returns** `None`

**Return type** `None`

**writestr** (*file\_format*)

Write `MWTabFile` data into string.

**Parameters** `file_format` (*str*) – Format to use to write data: `mwtab` or `json`.

**Returns** String representing the `MWTabFile` instance.

**Return type** *str*

**print\_file** (*f*=<`io.TextIOWrapper` *name*='<stdout>' *mode*='w' *encoding*='UTF-8'>, *file\_format*='mwtab')

Print `MWTabFile` into a file or stdout.

**Parameters**

- `f` (`io.StringIO`) – writable file-like stream.
- `file_format` (*str*) – Format to use: `mwtab` or `json`.

**Returns** `None`

**Return type** `None`

**print\_subject\_sample\_factors** (*section\_key*, *f*=<`io.TextIOWrapper` *name*='<stdout>' *mode*='w' *encoding*='UTF-8'>, *file\_format*='mwtab')

Print `mwtab` `SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS` section into a file or stdout.

**Parameters**

- `section_key` (*str*) – Section name.

- `f (io.StringIO)` – writable file-like stream.
- `file_format (str)` – Format to use: *mwtab* or *json*.

Returns None

Return type None

```
print_block (section_key, f=<_io.TextIOWrapper name='<stdout>' mode='w' encoding='UTF-8'>, file_format='mwtab')
```

Print *mwtab* section into a file or stdout.

Parameters

- `section_key (str)` – Section name.
- `f (io.StringIO)` – writable file-like stream.
- `file_format (str)` – Format to use: *mwtab* or *json*.

Returns None

Return type None

## 2.3.2 The mwtab command-line interface

**Usage:** `mwtab -h | --help mwtab --version mwtab convert (<from-path> <to-path>) [--from-format=<format>] [--to-format=<format>] [--validate] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--verbose] mwtab validate <from-path> [--mw-rest=<url>] [--verbose] mwtab download url <url> [--to-path=<path>] [--verbose] mwtab download study all [--to-path=<path>] [--input-item=<item>] [--output-format=<format>] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--validate] [--verbose] mwtab download study <input-value> [--to-path=<path>] [--input-item=<item>] [--output-item=<item>] [--output-format=<format>] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--validate] [--verbose] mwtab download (study | compound | refmet | gene | protein) <input-item> <input-value> <output-item> [--output-format=<format>] [--to-path=<path>] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--verbose] mwtab download moverz <input-item> <m/z-value> <ion-type-value> <m/z-tolerance-value> [--to-path=<path>] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--verbose] mwtab download exactmass <LIPID-abbreviation> <ion-type-value> [--to-path=<path>] [--mw-rest=<url>] [--verbose] mwtab extract meta-data <from-path> <to-path> <key> ... [--to-format=<format>] [--no-header] mwtab extract metabolites <from-path> <to-path> (<key> <value>) ... [--to-format=<format>] [--no-header]`

**Options:**

- |                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>-h, --help</b>                   | Show this screen.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>--version</b>                    | Show version.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>--verbose</b>                    | Print what files are processing.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>--validate</b>                   | Validate the mwTab file.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>--from-format=&lt;format&gt;</b> | Input file format, available formats: <i>mwtab</i> , <i>json</i> [default: <i>mwtab</i> ].                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>--to-format=&lt;format&gt;</b>   | Output file format [default: <i>json</i> ]. Available formats for convert:<br><div style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>mwtab</i>, <i>json</i>.</div> <div style="margin-left: 40px;"><b>Available formats for extract:</b> <i>json</i>, <i>csv</i>.</div> |
| <b>--mw-rest=&lt;url&gt;</b>        | URL to MW REST interface [default: <a href="https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/">https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/</a> ].                                                                                                         |
| <b>--context=&lt;context&gt;</b>    | Type of resource to access from MW REST interface, available contexts: <i>study</i> , <i>compound</i> , <i>refmet</i> , <i>gene</i> , <i>protein</i> , <i>moverz</i> , <i>exactmass</i> [default: <i>study</i> ].                                   |

- input-item=<item>** Item to search Metabolomics Workbench with.
- output-item=<item>** Item to be retrieved from Metabolomics Workbench.
- output-format=<format>** Format for item to be retrieved in, available formats: mwtab, json.
- no-header** Include header at the top of csv formatted files.

For extraction <to-path> can take a “-” which will use stdout.

`mwtab.cli.cli(cmdargs)`

Implements the command line interface.

param dict cmdargs: dictionary of command line arguments.

### 2.3.3 mwtab.tokenizer

This module provides the `tokenizer()` lexical analyzer for *mwTab* format syntax. It is implemented as Python generator-based state machine which generates (yields) tokens one at a time when `next()` is invoked on `tokenizer()` instance.

Each token is a tuple of “key-value”-like pairs, tuple of `SUBJECT_SAMPLE_FACTORS` or tuple of data deposited between `*_START` and `*_END` blocks.

`mwtab.tokenizer.tokenizer(text)`

A lexical analyzer for the *mwtab* formatted files.

**Parameters** `text` (py:class:str) – *mwTab* formatted text.

**Returns** Tuples of data.

**Return type** py:class:~collections.namedtuple

### 2.3.4 mwtab.fileio

This module provides routines for reading *mwTab* formatted files from difference kinds of sources:

- Single *mwTab* formatted file on a local machine.
- Directory containing multiple *mwTab* formatted files.
- Compressed zip/tar archive of *mwTab* formatted files.
- URL address of *mwTab* formatted file.
- `ANALYSIS_ID` of *mwTab* formatted file.

`mwtab.fileio.read_files(*sources, **kws)`

Construct a generator that yields file instances.

**Parameters** `sources` – One or more strings representing path to file(s).

### 2.3.5 mwtab.converter

This module provides functionality for converting between the Metabolomics Workbench *mwTab* formatted file and its equivalent JSONized representation.

The following conversions are possible:

**Local files:**

- **One-to-one file conversions:**



- textfile - to - textfile
- textfile - to - textfile.gz
- textfile - to - textfile.bz2
- textfile.gz - to - textfile
- textfile.gz - to - textfile.gz
- textfile.gz - to - textfile.bz2
- textfile.bz2 - to - textfile
- textfile.bz2 - to - textfile.gz
- textfile.bz2 - to - textfile.bz2
- textfile / textfile.gz / textfile.bz2 - to - textfile.zip / textfile.tar / textfile.tar.gz / textfile.tar.bz2 (TypeError: One-to-many conversion)

- **Many-to-many files conversions:**

- **Directories:**

- \* directory - to - directory
    - \* directory - to - directory.zip
    - \* directory - to - directory.tar
    - \* directory - to - directory.tar.bz2
    - \* directory - to - directory.tar.gz
    - \* directory - to - directory.gz / directory.bz2 (TypeError: Many-to-one conversion)

- **Zipfiles:**

- \* zipfile.zip - to - directory
    - \* zipfile.zip - to - zipfile.zip
    - \* zipfile.zip - to - tarfile.tar
    - \* zipfile.zip - to - tarfile.tar.gz
    - \* zipfile.zip - to - tarfile.tar.bz2
    - \* zipfile.zip - to - directory.gz / directory.bz2 (TypeError: Many-to-one conversion)

- **Tarfiles:**

- \* tarfile.tar - to - directory
    - \* tarfile.tar - to - zipfile.zip
    - \* tarfile.tar - to - tarfile.tar
    - \* tarfile.tar - to - tarfile.tar.gz
    - \* tarfile.tar - to - tarfile.tar.bz2
    - \* tarfile.tar - to - directory.gz / directory.bz2 (TypeError: Many-to-one conversion)
    - \* tarfile.tar.gz - to - directory
    - \* tarfile.tar.gz - to - zipfile.zip
    - \* tarfile.tar.gz - to - tarfile.tar

- \* tarfile.tar.gz - to - tarfile.tar.gz
- \* tarfile.tar.gz - to - tarfile.tar.bz2
- \* tarfile.tar.gz - to - directory.gz / directory.bz2 (TypeError: Many-to-one conversion)
- \* tarfile.tar.bz2 - to - directory
- \* tarfile.tar.bz2 - to - zipfile.zip
- \* tarfile.tar.bz2 - to - tarfile.tar
- \* tarfile.tar.bz2 - to - tarfile.tar.gz
- \* tarfile.tar.bz2 - to - tarfile.tar.bz2
- \* tarfile.tar.bz2 - to - directory.gz / directory.bz2 (TypeError: Many-to-one conversion)

#### URL files:

- **One-to-one file conversions:**

- analysis\_id - to - textfile
- analysis\_id - to - textfile.gz
- analysis\_id - to - textfile.bz2
- analysis\_id - to - textfile.zip / textfile.tar / textfile.tar.gz / textfile.tar.bz2 (TypeError: One-to-many conversion)
- textfileurl - to - textfile
- textfileurl - to - textfile.gz
- textfileurl - to - textfile.bz2
- textfileurl.gz - to - textfile
- textfileurl.gz - to - textfile.gz
- textfileurl.gz - to - textfile.bz2
- textfileurl.bz2 - to - textfile
- textfileurl.bz2 - to - textfile.gz
- textfileurl.bz2 - to - textfile.bz2
- textfileurl / textfileurl.gz / textfileurl.bz2 - to - textfile.zip / textfile.tar / textfile.tar.gz / textfile.tar.bz2 (TypeError: One-to-many conversion)

- **Many-to-many files conversions:**

- **Zipfiles:**

- \* zipfileurl.zip - to - directory
- \* zipfileurl.zip - to - zipfile.zip
- \* zipfileurl.zip - to - tarfile.tar
- \* zipfileurl.zip - to - tarfile.tar.gz
- \* zipfileurl.zip - to - tarfile.tar.bz2
- \* zipfileurl.zip - to - directory.gz / directory.bz2 (TypeError: Many-to-one conversion)

- **Tarfiles:**

- \* tarfileurl.tar - to - directory

```

* tarfileurl.tar - to - zipfile.zip
* tarfileurl.tar - to - tarfile.tar
* tarfileurl.tar - to - tarfile.tar.gz
* tarfileurl.tar - to - tarfile.tar.bz2
* tarfileurl.tar - to - directory.gz / directory.bz2 (TypeError: Many-to-one conversion)
* tarfileurl.tar.gz - to - directory
* tarfileurl.tar.gz - to - zipfile.zip
* tarfileurl.tar.gz - to - tarfile.tar
* tarfileurl.tar.gz - to - tarfile.tar.gz
* tarfileurl.tar.gz - to - tarfile.tar.bz2
* tarfileurl.tar.gz - to - directory.gz / directory.bz2 (TypeError: Many-to-one conversion)
* tarfileurl.tar.bz2 - to - directory
* tarfileurl.tar.bz2 - to - zipfile.zip
* tarfileurl.tar.bz2 - to - tarfile.tar
* tarfileurl.tar.bz2 - to - tarfile.tar.gz
* tarfileurl.tar.bz2 - to - tarfile.tar.bz2
* tarfileurl.tar.bz2 - to - directory.gz / directory.bz2 (TypeError: Many-to-one conversion)

```

```

class mwtab.converter.Translator (from_path, to_path, from_format=None, to_format=None,
                                validate=False)

```

Translator abstract class.

```

class mwtab.converter.MWTabFileToMWTabFile (from_path, to_path, from_format=None,
                                             to_format=None, validate=False)

```

Translator concrete class that can convert between mwTab and JSON formats.

```

class mwtab.converter.Converter (from_path, to_path, from_format='mwtab', to_format='json',
                                validate=False)

```

Converter class to convert mwTab files from mwTab to JSON or from JSON to mwTab format.

```

convert ()

```

Convert file(s) from mwTab format to JSON format or from JSON format to mwTab format. :return: None  
:rtype: None

### 2.3.6 mwtab.validator

This module contains routines to validate consistency of the mwTab formatted files, e.g. make sure that `Samples` and `Factors` identifiers are consistent across the file, make sure that all required key-value pairs are present.

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Validate mwTab formatted file.

#### Parameters

- **mwtabfile** (*MWTabFile* or `collections.OrderedDict`) – Instance of *MWTabFile*.
- **section\_schema\_mapping** (*dict*) – Dictionary that provides mapping between section name and schema definition.
- **verbose** (*bool*) – whether to be verbose or not.
- **metabolites** (*bool*) – whether to validate metabolites section.

**Returns** Validated file.

**Return type** `collections.OrderedDict`

### 2.3.7 mwtab.mwrest

This module provides routines for accessing the Metabolomics Workbench REST API.

See <https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/tools/MWRestAPIv1.0.pdf> for details.

`mwtab.mwrest.analysis_ids` (*base\_url*='https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/')

Method for retrieving a list of analysis ids for every current analysis in Metabolomics Workbench.

**Parameters** **base\_url** (*str*) – Base url to Metabolomics Workbench REST API.

**Returns** List of every available Metabolomics Workbench analysis identifier.

**Return type** `list`

`mwtab.mwrest.study_ids` (*base\_url*='https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/')

Method for retrieving a list of study ids for every current study in Metabolomics Workbench.

**Parameters** **base\_url** (*str*) – Base url to Metabolomics Workbench REST API.

**Returns** List of every available Metabolomics Workbench study identifier.

**Return type** `list`

`mwtab.mwrest.generate_mwtab_urls` (*input\_items*, *base\_url*='https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/',  
*output\_format*='txt')

Method for generating URLs to be used to retrieve *mwtab* files for analyses and studies through the REST API of the Metabolomics Workbench database.

#### Parameters

- **input\_items** (*list*) – List of Metabolomics Workbench input values for mwTab files.
- **base\_url** (*str*) – Base url to Metabolomics Workbench REST API.
- **output\_format** (*str*) – Output format for the mwTab files to be retrieved in.

**Returns** Metabolomics Workbench REST URL string(s).

**Return type** `str`

`mwtab.mwrest.generate_urls` (*input\_items*, *base\_url*='https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/',  
*\*\*kws*)

Method for creating a generator which yields validated Metabolomics Workbench REST urls.

#### Parameters

- **input\_items** (*list*) – List of Metabolomics Workbench input values for mwTab files.

- **base\_url** (*str*) – Base url to Metabolomics Workbench REST API.
- **kwds** (*dict*) – Keyword arguments of Metabolomics Workbench URL Path items.

**Returns** Metabolomics Workbench REST URL string(s).

**Return type** *str*

**class** mwtab.mwrest.**GenericMWURL** (*rest\_params*, *base\_url*=*'https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/'*)  
GenericMWURL class that stores and validates parameters specifying a Metabolomics Workbench REST URL.

Metabolomics REST API requests are performed using URL requests in the form of [https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/context/input\\_specification/output\\_specification](https://www.metabolomicsworkbench.org/rest/context/input_specification/output_specification)

where:

if context = “study” | “compound” | “refmet” | “gene” | “protein” input\_specification = input\_item/input\_value output\_specification = output\_item/[output\_format]

elif context = “moverz”

input\_specification = input\_item/input\_value1/input\_value2/input\_value3 input\_item = “LIPIDS” | “MB” | “REFMET” input\_value1 = m/z\_value input\_value2 = ion\_type\_value input\_value3 = m/z\_tolerance\_value

output\_specification = output\_format output\_format = “txt”

elif context = “exactmass”

input\_specification = input\_item/input\_value1/input\_value2 input\_item = “LIPIDS” | “MB” | “REFMET” input\_value1 = LIPID\_abbreviation input\_value2 = ion\_type\_value

output\_specification = None

**class** mwtab.mwrest.**MWRESTFile** (*source*)

MWRESTFile class that stores data from a single file download through Metabolomics Workbench’s REST API.

Mirrors *MWTabFile*.

**read** (*filehandle*)

Read data into a *MWRESTFile* instance.

**Parameters** *filehandle* (*io.TextIOWrapper*, *gzip.GzipFile*, *bz2.BZ2File*, *zipfile.ZipFile*) – file-like object.

**Returns** None

**Return type** *None*

**write** (*filehandle*)

Write *MWRESTFile* data into file.

**Parameters** *filehandle* (*io.TextIOWrapper*) – file-like object.

**Returns** None

**Return type** *None*

## 2.3.8 mwtab.mwextract

This module provides a number of functions and classes for extracting and saving data and metadata stored in mwTab formatted files in the form of *MWTabFile*.

**class** mwtab.mwextract.**ItemMatcher** (*full\_key, value\_comparison*)

ItemMatcher class that can be called to match items from mwTab formatted files in the form of *MWTabFile*.

**class** mwtab.mwextract.**ReGeXMatcher** (*full\_key, value\_comparison*)

ReGeXMatcher class that can be called to match items from mwTab formatted files in the form of *MWTabFile* using regular expressions.

**mwtab.mwextract.generate\_matchers** (*items*)

Construct a generator that yields Matchers ItemMatcher or ReGeXMatcher.

**Parameters** *items* (*iterable*) – Iterable object containing key value pairs to match.

**Returns** Yields a Matcher object for each given item.

**Return type** ItemMatcher or ReGeXMatcher

**mwtab.mwextract.extract\_metabolites** (*sources, matchers*)

Extract metabolite data from mwTab formatted files in the form of *MWTabFile*.

**Parameters**

- **sources** (*generator*) – Generator of mwtab file objects (*MWTabFile*).
- **matchers** (*generator*) – Generator of matcher objects (*ItemMatcher* or

*ReGeXMatcher*). :return: Extracted metabolites dictionary. :rtype: dict

**mwtab.mwextract.extract\_metadata** (*mwtabfile, keys*)

Extract metadata data from mwTab formatted files in the form of *MWTabFile*.

**Parameters**

- **mwtabfile** (*MWTabFile*) – mwTab file object for metadata to be extracted from.
- **keys** (*list*) – List of metadata field keys for metadata values to be extracted.

**Returns** Extracted metadata dictionary.

**Return type** dict

**mwtab.mwextract.write\_metadata\_csv** (*to\_path, extracted\_values, no\_header=False*)

Write extracted metadata dict into csv file.

Example: “metadata”, “value1”, “value2” “SUBJECT\_TYPE”, “Human”, “Plant”

**Parameters**

- **to\_path** (*str*) – Path to output file.
- **extracted\_values** (*dict*) – Metadata dictionary to be saved.
- **no\_header** (*bool*) – If true header is not included, otherwise header is included.

**Returns** None

**Return type** None

**mwtab.mwextract.write\_metabolites\_csv** (*to\_path, extracted\_values, no\_header=False*)

Write extracted metabolites data dict into csv file.

Example: “metabolite\_name”, “num-studies”, “num\_analyses”, “num\_samples” “1,2,4-benzenetriol”, “1”, “1”, “24” “1-monostearin”, “1”, “1”, “24” ... “1,2,4-

**Parameters**

- **to\_path** (*str*) – Path to output file.
- **extracted\_values** (*dict*) – Metabolites data dictionary to be saved.

- **no\_header** (*bool*) – If true header is not included, otherwise header is included.

**Returns** None

**Return type** None

**class** mwtab.mwextract.**SetEncoder** (\*, skipkeys=False, ensure\_ascii=True, check\_circular=True, allow\_nan=True, sort\_keys=False, indent=None, separators=None, default=None)

SetEncoder class for encoding Python sets *set* into json serializable objects *list*.

**default** (*obj*)

Method for encoding Python objects. If object passed is a set, converts the set to JSON serializable lists or calls base implementation.

**Parameters** *obj* (*object*) – Python object to be json encoded.

**Returns** JSON serializable object.

**Return type** dict, list, tuple, str, int, float, bool, or None

mwtab.mwextract.**write\_json** (*to\_path*, *extracted\_dict*)

Write extracted data or metadata *dict* into json file.

Metabolites example: {

```
  "1,2,4-benzenetriol": {
    "ST000001": {
      "AN000001": [ "LabF_115816", ...
    ]
  }
}
```

Metadata example: {

```
  "SUBJECT_TYPE": [ "Plant", "Human"
]
}
```

**Parameters**

- **to\_path** (*str*) – Path to output file.
- **extracted\_dict** (*dict*) – Metabolites data or metadata dictionary to be saved.

**Returns** None

**Return type** None

### 2.3.9 mwtab.mwschema

This module provides schema definitions for different sections of the mwTab Metabolomics Workbench format.

mwtab.mwschema.**metabolomics\_workbench\_schema**

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

mwtab.mwschema.**project\_schema**

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.



`mwtab.mwschema.study_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.analysis_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.subject_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.subject_sample_factors_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.collection_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.treatment_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.sampleprep_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.chromatography_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.ms_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.nmr_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.ms_metabolite_data_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

`mwtab.mwschema.nmr_binned_data_schema`

Entry point of the library, use this class to instantiate validation schema for the data that will be validated.

## 2.4 License

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