Dataset-JSON Pilot and Hackathon II Update

COSA Quarterly Spotlight – Q3 2023 Sam Hume, D.Sc. 2023-10-05





Dataset-JSON Pilot Project

Dataset-JSON as an alternative transport format for regulatory submissions

Introducing Dataset-JSON

What is Dataset-JSON?

A dataset exchange standard for exchanging tabular data leveraging JSON designed to meet the regulatory submission needs and eliminating limitations of legacy formats

Dataset-JSON is...

- Part of the ODM v2.0 standard and based on the JSON standard
- Open-source and truly human readable
- An open-source MIT license
- Schema supporting any tabular format
- Extensible to support new metadata and new use cases
- Linked to Define-XML for complete metadata



Why change transport formats?

- Numerous SAS V5 XPORT (XPT) limitations
 - Limited variable types
 - Limited to US ASCII encoding
 - 8-character variable names
 - 40-character labels
 - 200-character field widths
 - Lacks robust metadata
 - Not extensible
- Not truly vendor neutral
- Not broadly supported by new technologies



Why JSON?

JSON is...

- The most widely used data interchange format
- An open standard that's human-readable
- Supported by nearly every programming language and technology framework
- Simple to implement easy to read and write
- Used by other healthcare data standards (HL7 FHIR)



What are the goals of the pilot?

Milestone 1: Short Term

- Pilot submissions using JSON format with existing XPT ingress/egress to carry the same data
- Same content, different suitcase, no disruption to business process on either side
- In parallel, evaluate with FDA how their toolset can support JSON format and identify tool upgrade roadmap
- Success Criteria: Demonstrate that Dataset-JSON can transport information with no disruption to business

Milestone 2: Development of future strategy

- Evaluate how current and future industry standards can benefit without XPT limitations
 - e.g., Variable names > 8, labels > 40, data > 200
- Evaluate combining metadata with data
 - e.g., Define-XML / Define-JSON based
- Enhanced conformance rules
- Collaborate with FDA to develop plan to retool their environment to natively consume JSON
- → Success Criteria: Demonstrate the viability of Dataset-JSON as the primary transport option



Dataset-JSON Schemas, Examples, and Specification

- Dataset-JSON example datasets:
 - https://github.com/cdisc-org/DataExchange-DatasetJson/tree/master/examples
- Dataset-JSON schema file:
 - https://github.com/cdisc-org/DataExchange-DatasetJson/tree/master/schema
- Dataset-JSON standard repository:
 - https://github.com/cdisc-org/DataExchange-DatasetJson
- The Dataset-JSON specification
 - https://www.cdisc.org/dataset-json
 - https://wiki.cdisc.org/display/PUB/Dataset-JSON



Conversion Software Tools

• SAS

- https://github.com/lexjansen/dataset-json-sas (submit issues)
- The SAS conversion software by Lex Jansen
- Dataset-JSON example files are included in the repository
- Includes a macro for comparing libraries with SAS datasets
- Includes a Python script for validating Dataset-JSON
- Documentation is included

• R

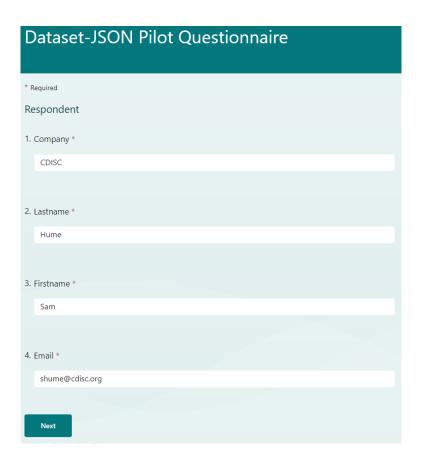
- https://github.com/atorus-research/datasetjson (submit issues)
- https://atorus-research.github.io/datasetjson/index.html
- https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/datasetjson/index.html
- R conversion package by Atorus Research and Johnson & Johnson
- Documentation is included

Python

- https://github.com/dostiep/Dataset-JSON-Python (submit issues)
- Python conversion software by Pierre Dostie
- We will not cover the Python tooling in the workshop
- The Dataset-JSON Pilot will focus on SAS and R, but any conversion tool can be used



Dataset-JSON Pilot Questionnaire: Questions 1-7



Pilot Findings
CONVERSION TOOLS - Which software conversion tools did you use to convert datasets to and from Dataset-JSON? Select all that apply.
SAS
R
Both
Other
6. CONVERSION TOOLS - Use comments to expand on your software conversion tools response in Question 5 above.
Enter your answer
7. SUCCESS - Were you able to convert existing datasets to Dataset-JSON?
Yes
○ No
O Not Sure

Dataset-JSON Pilot Questionnaire: Questions 8-15

8. SUCCESS - Use comments to expand on your conversion success response in Question 7 above.
Enter your answer
9. FORMATS - Were you able to convert Dataset-JSON datasets into SAS datasets or R dataframes or other dataset formats?
Yes
○ No
○ Not Sure
10. FORMATS - Use comments to expand on your dataset formats response in Question 9 above.
Enter your answer
11. EXPECTATIONS - Did the conversions to and from Dataset-JSON work as expected?
○ Yes
○ No
○ Not Sure

12. EXPECTATIONS - Use comments to expand on your expectations response in Question 11 above.
Enter your answer
13. CONTENT - What types of datasets content did convert? Select all that apply.
SEND
SDTM
ADaM
Other
14. CONTENT - Use comments to expand on your content response in Question 13 above.
Enter your answer
15. ACCURACY - Based on your conversion testing, did Dataset-JSON accurately represent your data?
○ Yes
○ No
○ Not Sure

Dataset-JSON Pilot Questionnaire: Questions 16-19

16. ACCURACY - Use comments to expand on your accuracy response in Question 15 above.
Enter your answer
17. Please provide any feedback or comments on your experience testing Dataset-JSON.
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Enter your answer
18. IMPACT - Moving forward, what level of impact is needed to change your existing workflow to use Dataset-JSON instead of SAS V5 XPORT?
High
○ Medium
○ Low
19. IMPACT - Use comments to expand on your impact response in Question 18 above.
Enter your answer
Back Submit

- There are 8 unique questions on the questionnaire
 - Comment text boxes exist for most questions
 - Contact information is requested (questions 1-4) for possible follow-up questions
- The form is on-line and should be completed by each group that tests Dataset-JSON
- Anonymized results will be published in the pilot final report

Current Status of Pilots

- Internal testing within FDA CDER OCS environment complete
- Successful conversion of nonclinical datasets from XPT to JSON without information loss
- Next steps: Accept test submissions from PHUSE Dataset-JSON working group members
- Preparing for clinical data testing

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Pilot Subteams

- 1. Pilot Submissions Report
- 2. The Dataset-JSON Business Case
- 3. Technical Implementation
- 4. Strategy for Future Development



Dataset-JSON Pilot: Timeline







Dataset-JSON Hackathon II

Creating a draft Dataset-JSON API Specification

Problem Statement

 Primary objective: Create a draft REST API specification for Dataset-JSON

• <u>Secondary objective</u>: Proof-of-concept implementations to demonstrate and test the API specification

- Virtual hackathon
 - Team will work collaboratively to develop and test the draft specification
 - Will read out the results of the hackathon during the Interchange
- Dates: Sept. 1 October 13



What do we plan to do with the draft API specification?

- The draft API specification will be released publicly for review and comments
- The API specification will be delivered to the ODM v2.x team for review and publication with an overall ODM v2.0 API specification
- Write-up the results of the hackathon to share with
 - Dataset-JSON Pilot participants
 - FDA representatives interested in Dataset-JSON
- Implement prototypes to demonstrate and test the API specification
- GitHub repository: https://github.com/cdisc-org/DataExchange-DatasetJson-API



Draft Dataset-JSON API in OpenAPI Specification

```
/studies/{studyOid}/datasets:
get:
  summary: Return a list of datasets
  description: Return list of all available datasets for a study
  operationId: read dataset list get
  parameters:
     - name: studyOid
      in: path
      required: true
       schema:
        type: string
     - name: creationDate
      in: query
      required: false
      description: datasets on or after the creation date
       schema:
        type: string
        format: date
  responses:
     '200':
      description: Successful Response
```

```
/studies/{study0id}/datasets/{dataset0id}:
get:
  summary: Return a dataset
  description: Return a specified Dataset-JSON dataset
  operationId: read dataset get
  parameters:
    - name: studyOid
      in: path
      required: true
      schema:
        type: string
    - name: datasetOid
      in: path
      required: true
      schema:
        type: string
    - name: metadataonly
      in: query
```



Dataset-JSON Pilot: Timeline





Thank You!

Questions?

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