



# Common Workflow Language, v1.0

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# Common Workflow Language (CWL) Workflow Description, v1.0

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Authors:

- Peter Amstutz [peter.amstutz@curoverse.com](mailto:peter.amstutz@curoverse.com) (<mailto:peter.amstutz@curoverse.com>), Arvados Project, Curoverse
- Michael R. Crusoe [michael.crusoe@gmail.com](mailto:michael.crusoe@gmail.com) (<mailto:michael.crusoe@gmail.com>), Common Workflow Language project
- Nebojša Tijanić [nebojsa.tijanic@sbgenomics.com](mailto:nebojsa.tijanic@sbgenomics.com) (<mailto:nebojsa.tijanic@sbgenomics.com>), Seven Bridges Genomics

Contributors:

- Brad Chapman [bchapman@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:bchapman@hsph.harvard.edu) (<mailto:bchapman@hsph.harvard.edu>), Harvard Chan School of Public Health
- John Chilton [jmchilton@gmail.com](mailto:jmchilton@gmail.com) (<mailto:jmchilton@gmail.com>), Galaxy Project, Pennsylvania State University
- Michael Heuer [heuermh@berkeley.edu](mailto:heuermh@berkeley.edu), (<mailto:heuermh@berkeley.edu>), UC Berkeley AMPLab
- Andrey Kartashov [Andrey.Kartashov@cchmc.org](mailto:Andrey.Kartashov@cchmc.org) (<mailto:Andrey.Kartashov@cchmc.org>), Cincinnati Children's Hospital
- Dan Leehr [dan.leehr@duke.edu](mailto:dan.leehr@duke.edu) (<mailto:dan.leehr@duke.edu>), Duke University
- Hervé Ménager [herve.menager@gmail.com](mailto:herve.menager@gmail.com) (<mailto:herve.menager@gmail.com>), Institut Pasteur
- Maya Nedeljkovich [maja.nedeljkovic@sbgenomics.com](mailto:maja.nedeljkovic@sbgenomics.com) (<mailto:maja.nedeljkovic@sbgenomics.com>), Seven Bridges Genomics
- Matt Scales [mscales@icr.ac.uk](mailto:m scales@icr.ac.uk) (<mailto:m scales@icr.ac.uk>), Institute of Cancer Research, London
- Stian Soiland-Reyes [soiland-reyes@cs.manchester.ac.uk](mailto:soiland-reyes@cs.manchester.ac.uk) (<mailto:soiland-reyes@cs.manchester.ac.uk>), University of Manchester
- Luka Stojanovic [luka.stojanovic@sbgenomics.com](mailto:luka.stojanovic@sbgenomics.com) (<mailto:luka.stojanovic@sbgenomics.com>), Seven Bridges Genomics

## Abstract

One way to define a workflow is: an analysis task represented by a directed graph describing a sequence of operations that transform an input data set to output. This specification defines the Common Workflow Language (CWL) Workflow description, a vendor-neutral standard for representing workflows intended to be portable across a variety of computing platforms.

## Status of this document

This document is the product of the Common Workflow Language working group (<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/common-workflow-language>). The latest version of this document is available in the "v1.0" directory at

<https://github.com/common-workflow-language/common-workflow-language> (<https://github.com/common-workflow-language/common-workflow-language>)

The products of the CWL working group (including this document) are made available under the terms of the Apache License, version 2.0.

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# 1. Introduction

The Common Workflow Language (CWL) working group is an informal, multi-vendor working group consisting of various organizations and individuals that have an interest in portability of data analysis workflows. The goal is to create specifications like this one that enable data scientists to describe analysis tools and workflows that are powerful, easy to use, portable, and support reproducibility.

## 1.1 Introduction to v1.0

This specification represents the first full release from the CWL group. Since draft-3, this draft introduces the following changes and additions:

- The `inputs` and `outputs` fields have been renamed `in` and `out`.
- Syntax simplifications: denoted by the `map<>` syntax. Example: `in` contains a list of items, each with an `id`. Now one can specify a mapping of that identifier to the corresponding `InputParameter`.

```
in:
- id: one
  type: string
  doc: First input parameter
- id: two
  type: int
  doc: Second input parameter
```

can be

```
in:
  one:
    type: string
    doc: First input parameter
  two:
    type: int
    doc: Second input parameter
```

- The common field `description` has been renamed to `doc`.

## 1.2 Purpose

The Common Workflow Language Command Line Tool Description express workflows for data-intensive science, such as Bioinformatics, Chemistry, Physics, and Astronomy. This specification is intended to define a data and execution model for Workflows that can be implemented on top of a variety of computing platforms, ranging from an individual workstation to cluster, grid, cloud, and high performance computing systems.

## 1.3 References to other specifications

**Javascript Object Notation (JSON):** <http://json.org> (<http://json.org>)

**JSON Linked Data (JSON-LD):** <http://json-ld.org> (<http://json-ld.org>)

**YAML:** <http://yaml.org> (<http://yaml.org>)

**Avro:** <https://avro.apache.org/docs/1.8.1/spec.html> (<https://avro.apache.org/docs/1.8.1/spec.html>)

**Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) Generic Syntax:** <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3986> (<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3986>)

**Internationalized Resource Identifiers (IRIs):** <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3987> (<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3987>)

**Portable Operating System Interface (POSIX.1-2008):** <http://pubs.opengroup.org/onlinepubs/9699919799/>  
(<http://pubs.opengroup.org/onlinepubs/9699919799/>)

**Resource Description Framework (RDF):** <http://www.w3.org/RDF/> (<http://www.w3.org/RDF/>)

## 1.4 Scope

This document describes CWL syntax, execution, and object model. It is not intended to document a CWL specific implementation, however it may serve as a reference for the behavior of conforming implementations.

## 1.5 Terminology

The terminology used to describe CWL documents is defined in the Concepts section of the specification. The terms defined in the following list are used in building those definitions and in describing the actions of a CWL implementation:

**may:** Conforming CWL documents and CWL implementations are permitted but not required to behave as described.

**must:** Conforming CWL documents and CWL implementations are required to behave as described; otherwise they are in error.

**error:** A violation of the rules of this specification; results are undefined. Conforming implementations may detect and report an error and may recover from it.

**fatal error:** A violation of the rules of this specification; results are undefined. Conforming implementations must not continue to execute the current process and may report an error.

**at user option:** Conforming software may or must (depending on the modal verb in the sentence) behave as described; if it does, it must provide users a means to enable or disable the behavior described.

**deprecated:** Conforming software may implement a behavior for backwards compatibility. Portable CWL documents should not rely on deprecated behavior. Behavior marked as deprecated may be removed entirely from future revisions of the CWL specification.

## 2. Data model

### 2.1 Data concepts

An **object** is a data structure equivalent to the "object" type in JSON, consisting of a unordered set of name/value pairs (referred to here as **fields**) and where the name is a string and the value is a string, number, boolean, array, or object.

A **document** is a file containing a serialized object, or an array of objects.

A **process** is a basic unit of computation which accepts input data, performs some computation, and produces output data. Examples include `CommandLineTools`, `Workflows`, and `ExpressionTools`.

An **input object** is an object describing the inputs to an invocation of a process.

An **output object** is an object describing the output resulting from an invocation of a process.

An **input schema** describes the valid format (required fields, data types) for an input object.

An **output schema** describes the valid format for an output object.

**Metadata** is information about workflows, tools, or input items.

### 2.2 Syntax

CWL documents must consist of an object or array of objects represented using JSON or YAML syntax. Upon loading, a CWL implementation must apply the preprocessing steps described in the Semantic Annotations for Linked Avro Data (SALAD) Specification (SchemaSalad.html). An implementation may formally validate the structure of a CWL document using SALAD schemas located at <https://github.com/common-workflow-language/common-workflow-language/tree/master/v1.0> (<https://github.com/common-workflow-language/common-workflow-language/tree/master/v1.0>)

### 2.3 Identifiers

If an object contains an `id` field, that is used to uniquely identify the object in that document. The value of the `id` field must be unique over the entire document. Identifiers may be resolved relative to either the document base and/or other identifiers following the rules are described in the Schema Salad specification (SchemaSalad.html#Identifier\_resolution).

An implementation may choose to only honor references to object types for which the `id` field is explicitly listed in this specification.

### 2.4 Document preprocessing

An implementation must resolve `$import` (SchemaSalad.html#Import) and `$include` (SchemaSalad.html#Import) directives as described in the Schema Salad specification (SchemaSalad.html).

Another transformation defined in Schema salad is simplification of data type definitions. Type `<T>` ending with `?` should be transformed to `[<T>, "null"]`. Type `<T>` ending with `[]` should be transformed to `{"type": "array", "items": <T>}`

### 2.5 Extensions and metadata

Input metadata (for example, a lab sample identifier) may be represented within a tool or workflow using input parameters which are explicitly propagated to output. Future versions of this specification may define additional facilities for working with input/output metadata.

Implementation extensions not required for correct execution (for example, fields related to GUI presentation) and metadata about the tool or workflow itself (for example, authorship for use in citations) may be provided as additional fields on any object. Such extensions fields must use a namespace prefix listed in the `$namespaces` section of the document as described in the Schema Salad specification (SchemaSalad.html#Explicit\_context).

Implementation extensions which modify execution semantics must be listed in the `requirements` field.

## 3. Execution model

### 3.1 Execution concepts

A **parameter** is a named symbolic input or output of process, with an associated datatype or schema. During execution, values are assigned to parameters to make the input object or output object used for concrete process invocation.

A **CommandLineTool** is a process characterized by the execution of a standalone, non-interactive program which is invoked on some input, produces output, and then terminates.

A **workflow** is a process characterized by multiple sub-processes, where step outputs are connected to the inputs of downstream steps to form a directed acyclic graph, and independent steps may run concurrently.

A **runtime environment** is the actual hardware and software environment when executing a command line tool. It includes, but is not limited to, the hardware architecture, hardware resources, operating system, software runtime (if applicable, such as the specific Python interpreter or the specific Java virtual machine), libraries, modules, packages, utilities, and data files required to run the tool.

A **workflow platform** is a specific hardware and software implementation capable of interpreting CWL documents and executing the processes specified by the document. The responsibilities of the workflow platform may include scheduling process invocation, setting up the necessary runtime environment, making input data available, invoking the tool process, and collecting output.

A workflow platform may choose to only implement the Command Line Tool Description part of the CWL specification.

It is intended that the workflow platform has broad leeway outside of this specification to optimize use of computing resources and enforce policies not covered by this specification. Some areas that are currently out of scope for CWL specification but may be handled by a specific workflow platform include:

- Data security and permissions
- Scheduling tool invocations on remote cluster or cloud compute nodes.
- Using virtual machines or operating system containers to manage the runtime (except as described in DockerRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#DockerRequirement)).
- Using remote or distributed file systems to manage input and output files.
- Transforming file paths.
- Determining if a process has previously been executed, and if so skipping it and reusing previous results.
- Pausing, resuming or checkpointing processes or workflows.

Conforming CWL processes must not assume anything about the runtime environment or workflow platform unless explicitly declared though the use of process requirements.

## 3.2 Generic execution process

The generic execution sequence of a CWL process (including workflows and command line tools) is as follows.

1. Load, process and validate a CWL document, yielding a process object.
2. Load input object.
3. Validate the input object against the `inputs` schema for the process.
4. Validate process requirements are met.
5. Perform any further setup required by the specific process type.
6. Execute the process.
7. Capture results of process execution into the output object.
8. Validate the output object against the `outputs` schema for the process.
9. Report the output object to the process caller.

## 3.3 Requirements and hints

A **process requirement** modifies the semantics or runtime environment of a process. If an implementation cannot satisfy all requirements, or a requirement is listed which is not recognized by the implementation, it is a fatal error and the implementation must not attempt to run the process, unless overridden at user option.

A **hint** is similar to a requirement; however, it is not an error if an implementation cannot satisfy all hints. The implementation may report a warning if a hint cannot be satisfied.

Requirements are inherited. A requirement specified in a Workflow applies to all workflow steps; a requirement specified on a workflow step will apply to the process implementation of that step and any of its substeps.

If the same process requirement appears at different levels of the workflow, the most specific instance of the requirement is used, that is, an entry in `requirements` on a process implementation such as `CommandLineTool` will take precedence over an entry in `requirements` specified in a workflow step, and an entry in `requirements` on a workflow step takes precedence over the workflow. Entries in `hints` are resolved the same way.

Requirements override hints. If a process implementation provides a process requirement in `hints` which is also provided in `requirements` by an enclosing workflow or workflow step, the enclosing `requirements` takes precedence.

## 3.4 Parameter references

Parameter references are denoted by the syntax `$(...)` and may be used in any field permitting the pseudo-type `Expression`, as specified by this document. Conforming implementations must support parameter references. Parameter references use the following subset of Javascript/ECMAScript 5.1 (<http://www.ecma-international.org/ecma-262/5.1/>) syntax, but they are designed to not require a Javascript engine for evaluation.

In the following BNF grammar, character classes, and grammar rules are denoted in '{}', '-' denotes exclusion from a character class, '()' denotes grouping, '|' denotes alternates, trailing '\*' denotes zero or more repeats, '+' denote one or more repeats, '\' escapes these special characters, and all other characters are literal values.

symbol::	{Unicode alphanumeric}+
singleq::	[ ' ( ( {character - ' }   \ ' ) ) * ' ]
doubleq::	[ " ( ( {character - " }   \ " ) ) * " ]
index::	[ {decimal digit}+ ]
segment::	. {symbol}   {singleq}   {doubleq}   {index}
parameter reference::	\$( {symbol} {segment}*)

Use the following algorithm to resolve a parameter reference:

1. Match the leading symbol as the key
2. Look up the key in the parameter context (described below) to get the current value. It is an error if the key is not found in the parameter context.
3. If there are no subsequent segments, terminate and return current value

4. Else, match the next segment
5. Extract the symbol, string, or index from the segment as the key
6. Look up the key in current value and assign as new current value. If the key is a symbol or string, the current value must be an object. If the key is an index, the current value must be an array or string. It is an error if the key does not match the required type, or the key is not found or out of range.
7. Repeat steps 3-6

The root namespace is the parameter context. The following parameters must be provided:

- `inputs` : The input object to the current Process.
- `self` : A context-specific value. The contextual values for 'self' are documented for specific fields elsewhere in this specification. If a contextual value of 'self' is not documented for a field, it must be 'null'.
- `runtime` : An object containing configuration details. Specific to the process type. An implementation may provide opaque strings for any or all fields of `runtime` . These must be filled in by the platform after processing the Tool but before actual execution. Parameter references and expressions may only use the literal string value of the field and must not perform computation on the contents, except where noted otherwise.

If the value of a field has no leading or trailing non-whitespace characters around a parameter reference, the effective value of the field becomes the value of the referenced parameter, preserving the return type.

If the value of a field has non-whitespace leading or trailing characters around a parameter reference, it is subject to string interpolation. The effective value of the field is a string containing the leading characters, followed by the string value of the parameter reference, followed by the trailing characters. The string value of the parameter reference is its textual JSON representation with the following rules:

- Leading and trailing quotes are stripped from strings
- Objects entries are sorted by key

Multiple parameter references may appear in a single field. This case must be treated as a string interpolation. After interpolating the first parameter reference, interpolation must be recursively applied to the trailing characters to yield the final string value.

## 3.5 Expressions

An expression is a fragment of Javascript/ECMAScript 5.1 (<http://www.ecma-international.org/ecma-262/5.1/>) code evaluated by the workflow platform to affect the inputs, outputs, or behavior of a process. In the generic execution sequence, expressions may be evaluated during step 5 (process setup), step 6 (execute process), and/or step 7 (capture output). Expressions are distinct from regular processes in that they are intended to modify the behavior of the workflow itself rather than perform the primary work of the workflow.

To declare the use of expressions, the document must include the process requirement `InlineJavaScriptRequirement` . Expressions may be used in any field permitting the pseudo-type `Expression` , as specified by this document.

Expressions are denoted by the syntax `$(...)` or `${...}` . A code fragment wrapped in the `$(...)` syntax must be evaluated as a ECMAScript expression (<http://www.ecma-international.org/ecma-262/5.1/#sec-11>). A code fragment wrapped in the `${...}` syntax must be evaluated as a EMAScript function body (<http://www.ecma-international.org/ecma-262/5.1/#sec-13>) for an anonymous, zero-argument function. Expressions must return a valid JSON data type: one of null, string, number, boolean, array, object. Other return values must result in a `permanentFailure` . Implementations must permit any syntactically valid Javascript and account for nesting of parenthesis or braces and that strings that may contain parenthesis or braces when scanning for expressions.

The runtime must include any code defined in the "expressionLib" field of `InlineJavaScriptRequirement` prior to executing the actual expression.

Before executing the expression, the runtime must initialize as global variables the fields of the parameter context described above.

The effective value of the field after expression evaluation follows the same rules as parameter references discussed above. Multiple expressions may appear in a single field.

Expressions must be evaluated in an isolated context (a "sandbox") which permits no side effects to leak outside the context. Expressions also must be evaluated in Javascript strict mode (<http://www.ecma-international.org/ecma-262/5.1/#sec-4.2.2>).

The order in which expressions are evaluated is undefined except where otherwise noted in this document.

An implementation may choose to implement parameter references by evaluating as a Javascript expression. The results of evaluating parameter references must be identical whether implemented by Javascript evaluation or some other means.

Implementations may apply other limits, such as process isolation, timeouts, and operating system containers/jails to minimize the security risks associated with running untrusted code embedded in a CWL document.

Exceptions thrown from an exception must result in a `permanentFailure` of the process.

## 3.6 Executing CWL documents as scripts

By convention, a CWL document may begin with `#!/usr/bin/env cwl-runner` and be marked as executable (the POSIX "+x" permission bits) to enable it to be executed directly. A workflow platform may support this mode of operation; if so, it must provide `cwl-runner` as an alias for the platform's CWL implementation.

A CWL input object document may similarly begin with `#!/usr/bin/env cwl-runner` and be marked as executable. In this case, the input object must include the field `cwl:tool` supplying an IRI to the default CWL document that should be executed using the fields of the input object as input parameters.

## 3.7 Discovering CWL documents on a local filesystem

To discover CWL documents look in the following locations:

`/usr/share/commonwl/`

`/usr/local/share/commonwl/`

`$XDG_DATA_HOME/commonwl/` (usually `$HOME/.local/share/commonwl` )

`$XDF_DATA_HOME` is from the XDG Base Directory Specification (<http://standards.freedesktop.org/basedir-spec/basedir-spec-0.6.html>)

## 4. Workflow

A workflow describes a set of **steps** and the **dependencies** between those steps. When a step produces output that will be consumed by a second step, the first step is a dependency of the second step.

When there is a dependency, the workflow engine must execute the preceding step and wait for it to successfully produce output before executing the dependent step. If two steps are defined in the workflow graph that are not directly or indirectly dependent, these steps are **independent**, and may execute in any order or execute concurrently. A workflow is complete when all steps have been executed.

Dependencies between parameters are expressed using the `source` field on workflow step input parameters and workflow output parameters.

The `source` field expresses the dependency of one parameter on another such that when a value is associated with the parameter specified by `source`, that value is propagated to the destination parameter. When all data links inbound to a given step are fulfilled, the step is ready to execute.

## Workflow success and failure

A completed step must result in one of `success`, `temporaryFailure` or `permanentFailure` states. An implementation may choose to retry a step execution which resulted in `temporaryFailure`. An implementation may choose to either continue running other steps of a workflow, or terminate immediately upon `permanentFailure`.

- If any step of a workflow execution results in `permanentFailure`, then the workflow status is `permanentFailure`.
- If one or more steps result in `temporaryFailure` and all other steps complete `success` or are not executed, then the workflow status is `temporaryFailure`.
- If all workflow steps are executed and complete with `success`, then the workflow status is `success`.

## Extensions

`ScatterFeatureRequirement` and `SubworkflowFeatureRequirement` are available as standard extensions to core workflow semantics.

## Fields

field	type	required	description
<code>inputs</code>	<code>array&lt;InputParameter&gt;   map&lt;InputParameter.id, InputParameter.type&gt;   map&lt;InputParameter.id, InputParameter&gt;</code>	True	Defines the input parameters of the process. The process is ready to run when all required input parameters are associated with concrete values. Input parameters include a schema for each parameter which is used to validate the input object. It may also be used to build a user interface for constructing the input object.
<code>outputs</code>	<code>array&lt;WorkflowOutputParameter&gt;   map&lt;WorkflowOutputParameter.id, WorkflowOutputParameter.type&gt;   map&lt;WorkflowOutputParameter.id, WorkflowOutputParameter&gt;</code>	True	Defines the parameters representing the output of the process. May be used to generate and/or validate the output object.
<code>class</code>	<code>string</code>	True	
<code>steps</code>	<code>array&lt;WorkflowStep&gt;</code>	True	The individual steps that make up the workflow. Each step is executed when all of its input data links are fulfilled. An implementation may choose to execute the steps in a different order than listed and/or execute steps concurrently, provided that dependencies between steps are met.
<code>id</code>	<code>string</code>	False	The unique identifier for this process object.
<code>requirements</code>	<code>array&lt;InlineJavascriptRequirement   SchemaDefRequirement   DockerRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#DockerRequirement)   SoftwareRequirement   InitialWorkDirRequirement   EnvVarRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#EnvVarRequirement)   ShellCommandRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#ShellCommandRequirement)   ResourceRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#ResourceRequirement)   SubworkflowFeatureRequirement   ScatterFeatureRequirement   MultipleInputFeatureRequirement   StepInputExpressionRequirement&gt;</code>	False	Declares requirements that apply to either the runtime environment or the workflow engine that must be met in order to execute this process. If an implementation cannot satisfy all requirements, or a requirement is listed which is not recognized by the implementation, it is a fatal error and the implementation must not attempt to run the process, unless overridden at user option.
<code>hints</code>	<code>array&lt;Any&gt;</code>	False	Declares hints applying to either the runtime environment or the workflow engine that may be helpful in executing this process. It is not an error if an implementation cannot satisfy all hints, however the implementation may report a warning.
<code>label</code>	<code>string</code>	False	A short, human-readable label of this process object.
<code>doc</code>	<code>string</code>	False	A long, human-readable description of this process object.
<code>cwlVersion</code>	<code>CWLVersion</code>	False	CWL document version. Always required at the document root. Not required for a Process embedded inside another Process.

### 4.1 WorkflowOutputParameter

Describe an output parameter of a workflow. The parameter must be connected to one or more parameters defined in the workflow that will provide the value of the output parameter.

## Fields

field	type	required	description
id	string	True	The unique identifier for this parameter object.
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this object.
secondaryFiles	string   Expression   array<string   Expression>	False	Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> . Describes files that must be included alongside the primary file(s). If the value is an expression, the value of <code>self</code> in the expression must be the primary input or output File to which this binding applies. If the value is a string, it specifies that the following pattern should be applied to the primary file: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>If string begins with one or more caret <code>^</code> characters, for each caret, remove the last file extension from the path (the last period <code>.</code> and all following characters). If there are no file extensions, the path is unchanged.</li><li>Append the remainder of the string to the end of the file path.</li></ol>
format	string   array<string>   Expression	False	Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> . For input parameters, this must be one or more IRIs of concept nodes that represents file formats which are allowed as input to this parameter, preferably defined within an ontology. If no ontology is available, file formats may be tested by exact match. For output parameters, this is the file format that will be assigned to the output parameter.
streamable	boolean	False	Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> . A value of <code>true</code> indicates that the file is read or written sequentially without seeking. An implementation may use this flag to indicate whether it is valid to stream file contents using a named pipe. Default: <code>false</code> .
doc	string   array<string>	False	A documentation string for this type, or an array of strings which should be concatenated.
outputBinding	CommandOutputBinding	False	Describes how to handle the outputs of a process.
outputSource	string   array<string>	False	Specifies one or more workflow parameters that supply the value of to the output parameter.
linkMerge	LinkMergeMethod	False	The method to use to merge multiple sources into a single array. If not specified, the default method is "merge_nested".
type	CWLType   OutputRecordSchema   OutputEnumSchema   OutputArraySchema   string   array<CWLType   OutputRecordSchema   OutputEnumSchema   OutputArraySchema   string>	False	Specify valid types of data that may be assigned to this parameter.

### 4.1.1 Expression

'Expression' is not a real type. It indicates that a field must allow runtime parameter references. If `InlineJavaScriptRequirement` is declared and supported by the platform, the field must also allow javascript expressions.

## Symbols

symbol	description
ExpressionPlaceholder	

### 4.1.2 CommandOutputBinding

Describes how to generate an output parameter based on the files produced by a `CommandLineTool`.

The output parameter is generated by applying these operations in the following order:

- `glob`
- `loadContents`
- `outputEval`

## Fields



field	type	required	description
glob	string   Expression   array<string>	False	Find files relative to the output directory, using POSIX glob(3) pathname matching. If an array is provided, find files that match any pattern in the array. If an expression is provided, the expression must return a string or an array of strings, which will then be evaluated as one or more glob patterns. Must only match and return files which actually exist.
loadContents	boolean	False	For each file matched in <code>glob</code> , read up to the first 64 KiB of text from the file and place it in the <code>contents</code> field of the file object for manipulation by <code>outputEval</code> .
outputEval	string   Expression	False	Evaluate an expression to generate the output value. If <code>glob</code> was specified, the value of <code>self</code> must be an array containing file objects that were matched. If no files were matched, <code>self</code> must be a zero length array; if a single file was matched, the value of <code>self</code> is an array of a single element. Additionally, if <code>loadContents</code> is <code>true</code> , the File objects must include up to the first 64 KiB of file contents in the <code>contents</code> field.

## 4.1.3 LinkMergeMethod

The input link merge method, described in `WorkflowStepInput`.

### Symbols

symbol	description
<code>merge_nested</code>	
<code>merge_flattened</code>	

## 4.1.4 CWLType

Extends primitive types with the concept of a file and directory as a builtin type.

### Symbols

symbol	description
<code>null</code>	no value
<code>boolean</code>	a binary value
<code>int</code>	32-bit signed integer
<code>long</code>	64-bit signed integer
<code>float</code>	single precision (32-bit) IEEE 754 floating-point number
<code>double</code>	double precision (64-bit) IEEE 754 floating-point number
<code>string</code>	Unicode character sequence
<code>File</code>	A File object
<code>Directory</code>	A Directory object

## 4.1.5 File

Represents a file (or group of files if `secondaryFiles` is specified) that must be accessible by tools using standard POSIX file system call API such as `open(2)` and `read(2)`.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
<code>class</code>	<code>File_class</code>	True	Must be <code>File</code> to indicate this object describes a file.
<code>location</code>	string	False	<p>An IRI that identifies the file resource. This may be a relative reference, in which case it must be resolved using the base IRI of the document. The location may refer to a local or remote resource; the implementation must use the IRI to retrieve file content. If an implementation is unable to retrieve the file content stored at a remote resource (due to unsupported protocol, access denied, or other issue) it must signal an error.</p> <p>If the <code>location</code> field is not provided, the <code>contents</code> field must be provided. The implementation must assign a unique identifier for the <code>location</code> field.</p> <p>If the <code>path</code> field is provided but the <code>location</code> field is not, an implementation may assign the value of the <code>path</code> field to <code>location</code>, then follow the rules above.</p>

path	string	False	<p>The local path where the File is available when a CommandLineTool is executed. This field must be set by the implementation. The final path component must match the value of <code>basename</code>. This field must not be used in any other context. The command line tool being executed must be able to access the file at <code>path</code> using the POSIX <code>open(2)</code> <code>syscall</code>.</p> <p>As a special case, if the <code>path</code> field is provided but the <code>location</code> field is not, an implementation may assign the value of the <code>path</code> field to <code>location</code>, and remove the <code>path</code> field.</p> <p>If the <code>path</code> contains POSIX shell metacharacters (<a href="http://pubs.opengroup.org/onlinepubs/9699919799/utilities/V3_chap02.html#tag_18_02">http://pubs.opengroup.org/onlinepubs/9699919799/utilities/V3_chap02.html#tag_18_02</a>) (<code> </code>, <code>&amp;</code>, <code>;</code>, <code>&lt;</code>, <code>&gt;</code>, <code>(</code>, <code>)</code>, <code>\$</code>, <code>`</code>, <code>\</code>, <code>"</code>, <code>'</code>, <code>&lt;space&gt;</code>, <code>&lt;tab&gt;</code>, and <code>&lt;newline&gt;</code>) or characters not allowed (<a href="http://www.iana.org/assignments/idna-tables-6.3.0/idna-tables-6.3.0.xhtml">http://www.iana.org/assignments/idna-tables-6.3.0/idna-tables-6.3.0.xhtml</a>) for Internationalized Domain Names for Applications (<a href="https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6452">https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6452</a>) then implementations may terminate the process with a <code>permanentFailure</code>.</p>
basename	string	False	<p>The base name of the file, that is, the name of the file without any leading directory path. The base name must not contain a slash <code>/</code>.</p> <p>If not provided, the implementation must set this field based on the <code>location</code> field by taking the final path component after parsing <code>location</code> as an IRI. If <code>basename</code> is provided, it is not required to match the value from <code>location</code>.</p> <p>When this file is made available to a CommandLineTool, it must be named with <code>basename</code>, i.e. the final component of the <code>path</code> field must match <code>basename</code>.</p>
dirname	string	False	<p>The name of the directory containing file, that is, the path leading up to the final slash in the path such that <code>dirname + '/' + basename == path</code>.</p> <p>The implementation must set this field based on the value of <code>path</code> prior to evaluating parameter references or expressions in a CommandLineTool document. This field must not be used in any other context.</p>
nameroot	string	False	<p>The basename root such that <code>nameroot + nameext == basename</code>, and <code>nameext</code> is empty or begins with a period and contains at most one period. For the purposes of path splitting leading periods on the basename are ignored; a basename of <code>.cshrc</code> will have a nameroot of <code>.cshrc</code>.</p> <p>The implementation must set this field automatically based on the value of <code>basename</code> prior to evaluating parameter references or expressions.</p>
nameext	string	False	<p>The basename extension such that <code>nameroot + nameext == basename</code>, and <code>nameext</code> is empty or begins with a period and contains at most one period. Leading periods on the basename are ignored; a basename of <code>.cshrc</code> will have an empty <code>nameext</code>.</p> <p>The implementation must set this field automatically based on the value of <code>basename</code> prior to evaluating parameter references or expressions.</p>
checksum	string	False	<p>Optional hash code for validating file integrity. Currently must be in the form "sha1\$ + hexadecimal string" using the SHA-1 algorithm.</p>
size	long	False	<p>Optional file size</p>
secondaryFiles	array<File   Directory>	False	<p>A list of additional files that are associated with the primary file and must be transferred alongside the primary file. Examples include indexes of the primary file, or external references which must be included when loading primary document. A file object listed in <code>secondaryFiles</code> may itself include <code>secondaryFiles</code> for which the same rules apply.</p>
format	string	False	<p>The format of the file: this must be an IRI of a concept node that represents the file format, preferably defined within an ontology. If no ontology is available, file formats may be tested by exact match.</p> <p>Reasoning about format compatibility must be done by checking that an input file format is the same, <code>owl:equivalentClass</code> or <code>rdfs:subClassOf</code> the format required by the input parameter. <code>owl:equivalentClass</code> is transitive with <code>rdfs:subClassOf</code>, e.g. if <code>&lt;B&gt; owl:equivalentClass &lt;C&gt;</code> and <code>&lt;B&gt; owl:subClassOf &lt;A&gt;</code> then infer <code>&lt;C&gt; owl:subClassOf &lt;A&gt;</code>.</p> <p>File format ontologies may be provided in the "\$schema" metadata at the root of the document. If no ontologies are specified in <code>\$schema</code>, the runtime may perform exact file format matches.</p>
contents	string	False	<p>File contents literal. Maximum of 64 KiB.</p> <p>If neither <code>location</code> nor <code>path</code> is provided, <code>contents</code> must be non-null. The implementation must assign a unique identifier for the <code>location</code> field. When the file is staged as input to CommandLineTool, the value of <code>contents</code> must be written to a file.</p> <p>If <code>loadContents</code> of <code>inputBinding</code> or <code>outputBinding</code> is true and <code>location</code> is valid, the implementation must read up to the first 64 KiB of text from the file and place it in the "contents" field.</p>

## 4.1.5.1 Directory

Represents a directory to present to a command line tool.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
class	Directory_class	True	Must be <code>Directory</code> to indicate this object describes a Directory.
location	string	False	<p>An IRI that identifies the directory resource. This may be a relative reference, in which case it must be resolved using the base IRI of the document. The location may refer to a local or remote resource. If the <code>listing</code> field is not set, the implementation must use the location IRI to retrieve directory listing. If an implementation is unable to retrieve the directory listing stored at a remote resource (due to unsupported protocol, access denied, or other issue) it must signal an error.</p> <p>If the <code>location</code> field is not provided, the <code>listing</code> field must be provided. The implementation must assign a unique identifier for the <code>location</code> field.</p> <p>If the <code>path</code> field is provided but the <code>location</code> field is not, an implementation may assign the value of the <code>path</code> field to <code>location</code>, then follow the rules above.</p>
path	string	False	<p>The local path where the Directory is made available prior to executing a <code>CommandLineTool</code>. This must be set by the implementation. This field must not be used in any other context. The command line tool being executed must be able to access the directory at <code>path</code> using the POSIX <code>opendir(2)</code> syscall.</p> <p>If the <code>path</code> contains POSIX shell metacharacters (<a href="http://pubs.opengroup.org/onlinepubs/9699919799/utilities/V3_chap02.html#tag_18_02">http://pubs.opengroup.org/onlinepubs/9699919799/utilities/V3_chap02.html#tag_18_02</a>) ( <code> </code>, <code>&amp;</code>, <code>,</code>, <code>;</code>, <code>&lt;</code>, <code>&gt;</code>, <code>(</code>, <code>)</code>, <code>\$</code>, <code>`</code>, <code>\</code>, <code>"</code>, <code>'</code>, <code>&lt;space&gt;</code>, <code>&lt;tab&gt;</code>, and <code>&lt;newline&gt;</code> ) or characters not allowed (<a href="http://www.iana.org/assignments/idna-tables-6.3.0/idna-tables-6.3.0.xhtml">http://www.iana.org/assignments/idna-tables-6.3.0/idna-tables-6.3.0.xhtml</a>) for Internationalized Domain Names for Applications (<a href="https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6452">https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6452</a>) then implementations may terminate the process with a <code>permanentFailure</code>.</p>
basename	string	False	<p>The base name of the directory, that is, the name of the file without any leading directory path. The base name must not contain a slash <code>/</code>.</p> <p>If not provided, the implementation must set this field based on the <code>location</code> field by taking the final path component after parsing <code>location</code> as an IRI. If <code>basename</code> is provided, it is not required to match the value from <code>location</code>.</p> <p>When this file is made available to a <code>CommandLineTool</code>, it must be named with <code>basename</code>, i.e. the final component of the <code>path</code> field must match <code>basename</code>.</p>
listing	array<File   Directory>	False	List of files or subdirectories contained in this directory. The name of each file or subdirectory is determined by the <code>basename</code> field of each <code>File</code> or <code>Directory</code> object. It is an error if a <code>File</code> shares a <code>basename</code> with any other entry in <code>listing</code> . If two or more <code>Directory</code> object share the same <code>basename</code> , this must be treated as equivalent to a single subdirectory with the listings recursively merged.

## 4.1.6 OutputRecordSchema

### Fields

field	type	required	description
type	Record_symbol	True	Must be <code>record</code>
fields	array<OutputRecordField>	False	Defines the fields of the record.
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this object.

## 4.1.7 OutputRecordField

### Fields

field	type	required	description
name	string	True	The name of the field
type	CWLType   OutputRecordSchema   OutputEnumSchema   OutputArraySchema   string   array<CWLType   OutputRecordSchema   OutputEnumSchema   OutputArraySchema   string>	True	The field type
doc	string	False	A documentation string for this field
outputBinding	CommandOutputBinding	False	

### 4.1.7.1 OutputEnumSchema

#### Fields

field	type	required	description
symbols	array<string>	True	Defines the set of valid symbols.
type	Enum_symbol	True	Must be enum
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this object.
outputBinding	CommandOutputBinding	False	

## 4.1.7.2 OutputArraySchema

### Fields

field	type	required	description
items	CWLType   OutputRecordSchema   OutputEnumSchema   OutputArraySchema   string   array<CWLType   OutputRecordSchema   OutputEnumSchema   OutputArraySchema   string>	True	Defines the type of the array elements.
type	Array_symbol	True	Must be array
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this object.
outputBinding	CommandOutputBinding	False	

## 4.2 WorkflowStep

A workflow step is an executable element of a workflow. It specifies the underlying process implementation (such as `CommandLineTool` or another `Workflow`) in the `run` field and connects the input and output parameters of the underlying process to workflow parameters.

### Scatter/gather

To use scatter/gather, `ScatterFeatureRequirement` must be specified in the workflow or workflow step requirements.

A "scatter" operation specifies that the associated workflow step or subworkflow should execute separately over a list of input elements. Each job making up a scatter operation is independent and may be executed concurrently.

The `scatter` field specifies one or more input parameters which will be scattered. An input parameter may be listed more than once. The declared type of each input parameter is implicitly wrapped in an array for each time it appears in the `scatter` field. As a result, upstream parameters which are connected to scattered parameters may be arrays.

All output parameter types are also implicitly wrapped in arrays. Each job in the scatter results in an entry in the output array.

If `scatter` declares more than one input parameter, `scatterMethod` describes how to decompose the input into a discrete set of jobs.

- **dotproduct** specifies that each of the input arrays are aligned and one element taken from each array to construct each job. It is an error if all input arrays are not the same length.
- **nested\_crossproduct** specifies the Cartesian product of the inputs, producing a job for every combination of the scattered inputs. The output must be nested arrays for each level of scattering, in the order that the input arrays are listed in the `scatter` field.
- **flat\_crossproduct** specifies the Cartesian product of the inputs, producing a job for every combination of the scattered inputs. The output arrays must be flattened to a single level, but otherwise listed in the order that the input arrays are listed in the `scatter` field.

### Subworkflows

To specify a nested workflow as part of a workflow step, `SubworkflowFeatureRequirement` must be specified in the workflow or workflow step requirements.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
id	string	True	The unique identifier for this workflow step.
in	array<WorkflowStepInput>   map<WorkflowStepInput.id, WorkflowStepInput.source>   map<WorkflowStepInput.id, WorkflowStepInput>	True	Defines the input parameters of the workflow step. The process is ready to run when all required input parameters are associated with concrete values. Input parameters include a schema for each parameter which is used to validate the input object. It may also be used build a user interface for constructing the input object.
out	array<string   WorkflowStepOutput>	True	Defines the parameters representing the output of the process. May be used to generate and/or validate the output object.

run	string   CommandLineTool (CommandLineTool.html#CommandLineTool)   ExpressionTool   Workflow	True	Specifies the process to run.
requirements	array<InlineJavaScriptRequirement   SchemaDefRequirement   DockerRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#DockerRequirement)   SoftwareRequirement   InitialWorkDirRequirement   EnvVarRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#EnvVarRequirement)   ShellCommandRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#ShellCommandRequirement)   ResourceRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#ResourceRequirement)   SubworkflowFeatureRequirement   ScatterFeatureRequirement   MultipleInputFeatureRequirement   StepInputExpressionRequirement>	False	Declares requirements that apply to either the runtime environment or the workflow engine that must be met in order to execute this workflow step. If an implementation cannot satisfy all requirements, or a requirement is listed which is not recognized by the implementation, it is a fatal error and the implementation must not attempt to run the process, unless overridden at user option.
hints	array<Any>	False	Declares hints applying to either the runtime environment or the workflow engine that may be helpful in executing this workflow step. It is not an error if an implementation cannot satisfy all hints, however the implementation may report a warning.
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this process object.
doc	string	False	A long, human-readable description of this process object.
scatter	string   array<string>	False	
scatterMethod	ScatterMethod	False	Required if <code>scatter</code> is an array of more than one element.

## 4.2.1 WorkflowStepInput

The input of a workflow step connects an upstream parameter (from the workflow inputs, or the outputs of other workflows steps) with the input parameters of the underlying step.

Input object

A WorkflowStepInput object must contain an `id` field in the form `#fieldname` or `#stepname.fieldname`. When the `id` field contains a period `.` the field name consists of the characters following the final period. This defines a field of the workflow step input object with the value of the `source` parameter(s).

Merging

To merge multiple inbound data links, MultipleInputFeatureRequirement must be specified in the workflow or workflow step requirements.

If the sink parameter is an array, or named in a workflow scatter operation, there may be multiple inbound data links listed in the `source` field. The values from the input links are merged depending on the method specified in the `linkMerge` field. If not specified, the default method is "merge\_nested".

- **merge\_nested**

The input must be an array consisting of exactly one entry for each input link. If "merge\_nested" is specified with a single link, the value from the link must be wrapped in a single-item list.

- **merge\_flattened**

1. The source and sink parameters must be compatible types, or the source type must be compatible with single element from the "items" type of the destination array parameter.
2. Source parameters which are arrays are concatenated. Source parameters which are single element types are appended as single elements.

## Fields

field	type	required	description
id	string	True	A unique identifier for this workflow input parameter.
source	string   array<string>	False	Specifies one or more workflow parameters that will provide input to the underlying step parameter.
linkMerge	LinkMergeMethod	False	The method to use to merge multiple inbound links into a single array. If not specified, the default method is "merge_nested".
default	Any	False	The default value for this parameter if there is no <code>source</code> field.

valueFrom string | Expression

False

To use valueFrom, StepInputExpressionRequirement must be specified in the workflow or workflow step requirements.

If valueFrom is a constant string value, use this as the value for this input parameter.

If valueFrom is a parameter reference or expression, it must be evaluated to yield the actual value to be assigned to the input field.

The self value of in the parameter reference or expression must be the value of the parameter(s) specified in the source field, or null if there is no source field.

The value of inputs in the parameter reference or expression must be the input object to the workflow step after assigning the source values and then scattering. The order of evaluating valueFrom among step input parameters is undefined and the result of evaluating valueFrom on a parameter must not be visible to evaluation of valueFrom on other parameters.

## 4.2.1.1 Any

The **Any** type validates for any non-null value.

### Symbols

symbol	description
Any	

## 4.2.2 WorkflowStepOutput

Associate an output parameter of the underlying process with a workflow parameter. The workflow parameter (given in the id field) be may be used as a source to connect with input parameters of other workflow steps, or with an output parameter of the process.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
id	string	True	A unique identifier for this workflow output parameter. This is the identifier to use in the source field of WorkflowStepInput to connect the output value to downstream parameters.

## 4.2.3 ScatterMethod

The scatter method, as described in workflow step scatter.

### Symbols

symbol	description
dotproduct	
nested_crossproduct	
flat_crossproduct	

## 4.2.4 InlineJavascriptRequirement

Indicates that the workflow platform must support inline Javascript expressions. If this requirement is not present, the workflow platform must not perform expression interpolatation.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
class	string	True	Always 'InlineJavascriptRequirement'
expressionLib	array<string>	False	Additional code fragments that will also be inserted before executing the expression code. Allows for function definitions that may be called from CWL expressions.

## 4.2.5 SchemaDefRequirement

This field consists of an array of type definitions which must be used when interpreting the inputs and outputs fields. When a type field contain a IRI, the implementation must check if the type is defined in schemaDefs and use that definition. If the type is not found in schemaDefs, it is an error. The entries in schemaDefs must be processed in the order listed such that later schema definitions may refer to earlier schema definitions.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
class	string	True	Always 'SchemaDefRequirement'

## 4.2.5.1 InputRecordSchema

### Fields

field	type	required	description
type	Record_symbol	True	Must be record
fields	array<InputRecordField>	False	Defines the fields of the record.
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this object.

## 4.2.5.2 InputRecordField

### Fields

field	type	required	description
name	string	True	The name of the field
type	CWLType   InputRecordSchema   InputEnumSchema   InputArraySchema   string   array<CWLType   InputRecordSchema   InputEnumSchema   InputArraySchema   string>	True	The field type
doc	string	False	A documentation string for this field
inputBinding	CommandLineBinding	False	
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this process object.

## 4.2.5.2.1 InputEnumSchema

### Fields

field	type	required	description
symbols	array<string>	True	Defines the set of valid symbols.
type	Enum_symbol	True	Must be enum
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this object.
inputBinding	CommandLineBinding	False	

## 4.2.5.2.2 CommandLineBinding

When listed under `inputBinding` in the input schema, the term "value" refers to the the corresponding value in the input object. For binding objects listed in `CommandLineTool.arguments`, the term "value" refers to the effective value after evaluating `valueFrom`.

The binding behavior when building the command line depends on the data type of the value. If there is a mismatch between the type described by the input schema and the effective value, such as resulting from an expression evaluation, an implementation must use the data type of the effective value.

- **string:** Add `prefix` and the string to the command line.
- **number:** Add `prefix` and decimal representation to command line.
- **boolean:** If true, add `prefix` to the command line. If false, add nothing.
- **File:** Add `prefix` and the value of `File.path` to the command line.
- **array:** If `itemSeparator` is specified, add `prefix` and the join the array into a single string with `itemSeparator` separating the items. Otherwise first add `prefix`, then recursively process individual elements.
- **object:** Add `prefix` only, and recursively add object fields for which `inputBinding` is specified.
- **null:** Add nothing.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
-------	------	----------	-------------

loadContents	boolean	False	Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> .  Read up to the first 64 KiB of text from the file and place it in the "contents" field of the file object for use by expressions.
position	int	False	The sorting key. Default position is 0.
prefix	string	False	Command line prefix to add before the value.
separate	boolean	False	If true (default), then the prefix and value must be added as separate command line arguments; if false, prefix and value must be concatenated into a single command line argument.
itemSeparator	string	False	Join the array elements into a single string with the elements separated by <code>by itemSeparator</code> .
valueFrom	string   Expression	False	If <code>valueFrom</code> is a constant string value, use this as the value and apply the binding rules above.  If <code>valueFrom</code> is an expression, evaluate the expression to yield the actual value to use to build the command line and apply the binding rules above. If the <code>inputBinding</code> is associated with an input parameter, the value of <code>self</code> in the expression will be the value of the input parameter.  When a binding is part of the <code>CommandLineTool.arguments</code> field, the <code>valueFrom</code> field is required.
shellQuote	boolean	False	If <code>ShellCommandRequirement</code> is in the requirements for the current command, this controls whether the value is quoted on the command line (default is true). Use <code>shellQuote: false</code> to inject metacharacters for operations such as pipes.

## 4.2.5.2.3 InputArraySchema

### Fields

field	type	required	description
items	CWLType   InputRecordSchema   InputEnumSchema   InputArraySchema   string   array<CWLType   InputRecordSchema   InputEnumSchema   InputArraySchema   string>	True	Defines the type of the array elements.
type	Array_symbol	True	Must be array
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this object.
inputBinding	CommandLineBinding	False	

## 4.2.6 SoftwareRequirement

A list of software packages that should be configured in the environment of the defined process.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
class	string	True	Always 'SoftwareRequirement'
packages	array<SoftwarePackage>   map<SoftwarePackage.package, SoftwarePackage.specs>   map<SoftwarePackage.package, SoftwarePackage>	True	The list of software to be configured.

## 4.2.7 SoftwarePackage

### Fields

field	type	required	description
package	string	True	The common name of the software to be configured.
version	array<string>	False	The (optional) version of the software to configured.
specs	array<string>	False	Must be one or more IRIs identifying resources for installing or enabling the software. Implementations may provide resolvers which map well-known software spec IRIs to some configuration action.  For example, an IRI <code>https://packages.debian.org/jessie/bowtie</code> could be resolved with <code>apt-get install bowtie</code> . An IRI <code>https://anaconda.org/bioconda/bowtie</code> could be resolved with <code>conda install -c bioconda bowtie</code> .  Tools may also provide IRIs to index entries such as RRID ( <a href="http://www.identifiers.org/rrid/">http://www.identifiers.org/rrid/</a> ), such as <code>http://identifiers.org/rrid/RRID:SCR_005476</code>



## 4.2.8 InitialWorkDirRequirement

Define a list of files and subdirectories that must be created by the workflow platform in the designated output directory prior to executing the command line tool.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
class	string	True	InitialWorkDirRequirement
listing	array<File   Directory   Dired   string   Expression>   string   Expression	True	The list of files or subdirectories that must be placed in the designated output directory prior to executing the command line tool.  May be an expression. If so, the expression return value must validate as <code>{type: array, items: [File, Directory]}</code> .

## 4.2.8.1 Dired

Define a file or subdirectory that must be placed in the designated output directory prior to executing the command line tool. May be the result of executing an expression, such as building a configuration file from a template.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
entry	string   Expression	True	If the value is a string literal or an expression which evaluates to a string, a new file must be created with the string as the file contents.  If the value is an expression that evaluates to a <code>File</code> object, this indicates the referenced file should be added to the designated output directory prior to executing the tool.  If the value is an expression that evaluates to a <code>Dired</code> object, this indicates that the File or Directory in <code>entry</code> should be added to the designated output directory with the name in <code>entryname</code> .  If <code>writable</code> is false, the file may be made available using a bind mount or file system link to avoid unnecessary copying of the input file.
entryname	string   Expression	False	The name of the file or subdirectory to create in the output directory. If <code>entry</code> is a File or Directory, this overrides <code>basename</code> . Optional.
writable	boolean	False	If true, the file or directory must be writable by the tool. Changes to the file or directory must be isolated and not visible by any other <code>CommandLineTool</code> process. This may be implemented by making a copy of the original file or directory. Default false (files and directories read-only by default).

## 4.2.9 SubworkflowFeatureRequirement

Indicates that the workflow platform must support nested workflows in the `run` field of `WorkflowStep`.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
class	string	True	Always 'SubworkflowFeatureRequirement'

## 4.2.10 ScatterFeatureRequirement

Indicates that the workflow platform must support the `scatter` and `scatterMethod` fields of `WorkflowStep`.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
class	string	True	Always 'ScatterFeatureRequirement'

## 4.2.11 MultipleInputFeatureRequirement

Indicates that the workflow platform must support multiple inbound data links listed in the `source` field of `WorkflowStepInput`.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
class	string	True	Always 'MultipleInputFeatureRequirement'

## 4.2.12 StepInputExpressionRequirement

Indicate that the workflow platform must support the `valueFrom` field of `WorkflowStepInput`.

## Fields

field	type	required	description
<code>class</code>	string	True	Always 'StepInputExpressionRequirement'

## 4.2.13 ExpressionTool

Execute an expression as a Workflow step.

### Fields

field	type	required	description
<code>inputs</code>	<code>array&lt;InputParameter&gt;   map&lt;InputParameter.id, InputParameter.type&gt;   map&lt;InputParameter.id, InputParameter&gt;</code>	True	Defines the input parameters of the process. The process is ready to run when all required input parameters are associated with concrete values. Input parameters include a schema for each parameter which is used to validate the input object. It may also be used to build a user interface for constructing the input object.
<code>outputs</code>	<code>array&lt;ExpressionToolOutputParameter&gt;   map&lt;ExpressionToolOutputParameter.id, ExpressionToolOutputParameter.type&gt;   map&lt;ExpressionToolOutputParameter.id, ExpressionToolOutputParameter&gt;</code>	True	Defines the parameters representing the output of the process. May be used to generate and/or validate the output object.
<code>class</code>	string	True	
<code>expression</code>	string   Expression	True	The expression to execute. The expression must return a JSON object which matches the output parameters of the ExpressionTool.
<code>id</code>	string	False	The unique identifier for this process object.
<code>requirements</code>	<code>array&lt;InlineJavascriptRequirement   SchemaDefRequirement   DockerRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#DockerRequirement)   SoftwareRequirement   InitialWorkDirRequirement   EnvVarRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#EnvVarRequirement)   ShellCommandRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#ShellCommandRequirement)   ResourceRequirement (CommandLineTool.html#ResourceRequirement)   SubworkflowFeatureRequirement   ScatterFeatureRequirement   MultipleInputFeatureRequirement   StepInputExpressionRequirement&gt;</code>	False	Declares requirements that apply to either the runtime environment or the workflow engine that must be met in order to execute this process. If an implementation cannot satisfy all requirements, or a requirement is listed which is not recognized by the implementation, it is a fatal error and the implementation must not attempt to run the process, unless overridden at user option.
<code>hints</code>	<code>array&lt;Any&gt;</code>	False	Declares hints applying to either the runtime environment or the workflow engine that may be helpful in executing this process. It is not an error if an implementation cannot satisfy all hints, however the implementation may report a warning.
<code>label</code>	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this process object.
<code>doc</code>	string	False	A long, human-readable description of this process object.
<code>cwlVersion</code>	CWLVersion	False	CWL document version. Always required at the document root. Not required for a Process embedded inside another Process.

### 4.2.13.1 InputParameter

#### Fields

field	type	required	description
<code>id</code>	string	True	The unique identifier for this parameter object.
<code>label</code>	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this object.

secondaryFiles	string   Expression   array<string   Expression>	False	<p>Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> .</p> <p>Describes files that must be included alongside the primary file(s).</p> <p>If the value is an expression, the value of <code>self</code> in the expression must be the primary input or output File to which this binding applies.</p> <p>If the value is a string, it specifies that the following pattern should be applied to the primary file:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If string begins with one or more caret <code>^</code> characters, for each caret, remove the last file extension from the path (the last period <code>.</code> and all following characters). If there are no file extensions, the path is unchanged.</li> <li>2. Append the remainder of the string to the end of the file path.</li> </ol>
format	string   array<string>   Expression	False	<p>Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> .</p> <p>For input parameters, this must be one or more IRIs of concept nodes that represents file formats which are allowed as input to this parameter, preferably defined within an ontology. If no ontology is available, file formats may be tested by exact match.</p> <p>For output parameters, this is the file format that will be assigned to the output parameter.</p>
streamable	boolean	False	<p>Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> .</p> <p>A value of <code>true</code> indicates that the file is read or written sequentially without seeking. An implementation may use this flag to indicate whether it is valid to stream file contents using a named pipe. Default: <code>false</code> .</p>
doc	string   array<string>	False	A documentation string for this type, or an array of strings which should be concatenated.
inputBinding	CommandLineBinding	False	Describes how to handle the inputs of a process and convert them into a concrete form for execution, such as command line parameters.
default	Any	False	The default value for this parameter if not provided in the input object.
type	CWLType   InputRecordSchema   InputEnumSchema   InputArraySchema   string   array<CWLType   InputRecordSchema   InputEnumSchema   InputArraySchema   string>	False	Specify valid types of data that may be assigned to this parameter.

## 4.2.13.2 ExpressionToolOutputParameter

### Fields

field	type	required	description
id	string	True	The unique identifier for this parameter object.
label	string	False	A short, human-readable label of this object.
secondaryFiles	string   Expression   array<string   Expression>	False	<p>Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> .</p> <p>Describes files that must be included alongside the primary file(s).</p> <p>If the value is an expression, the value of <code>self</code> in the expression must be the primary input or output File to which this binding applies.</p> <p>If the value is a string, it specifies that the following pattern should be applied to the primary file:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If string begins with one or more caret <code>^</code> characters, for each caret, remove the last file extension from the path (the last period <code>.</code> and all following characters). If there are no file extensions, the path is unchanged.</li> <li>2. Append the remainder of the string to the end of the file path.</li> </ol>
format	string   array<string>   Expression	False	<p>Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> .</p> <p>For input parameters, this must be one or more IRIs of concept nodes that represents file formats which are allowed as input to this parameter, preferably defined within an ontology. If no ontology is available, file formats may be tested by exact match.</p> <p>For output parameters, this is the file format that will be assigned to the output parameter.</p>

streamable	boolean	False	Only valid when <code>type: File</code> or is an array of <code>items: File</code> . A value of <code>true</code> indicates that the file is read or written sequentially without seeking. An implementation may use this flag to indicate whether it is valid to stream file contents using a named pipe. Default: <code>false</code> .
doc	string   array<string>	False	A documentation string for this type, or an array of strings which should be concatenated.
outputBinding	CommandOutputBinding	False	Describes how to handle the outputs of a process.
type	CWLType   OutputRecordSchema   OutputEnumSchema   OutputArraySchema   string   array<CWLType   OutputRecordSchema   OutputEnumSchema   OutputArraySchema   string>	False	Specify valid types of data that may be assigned to this parameter.

## 4.2.13.3 CWLVersion

Version symbols for published CWL document versions.

### Symbols

symbol	description
draft-2	
draft-3.dev1	
draft-3.dev2	
draft-3.dev3	
draft-3.dev4	
draft-3.dev5	
draft-3	
draft-4.dev1	
draft-4.dev2	
draft-4.dev3	
v1.0.dev4	
v1.0	