The Citation File Format and its integrations

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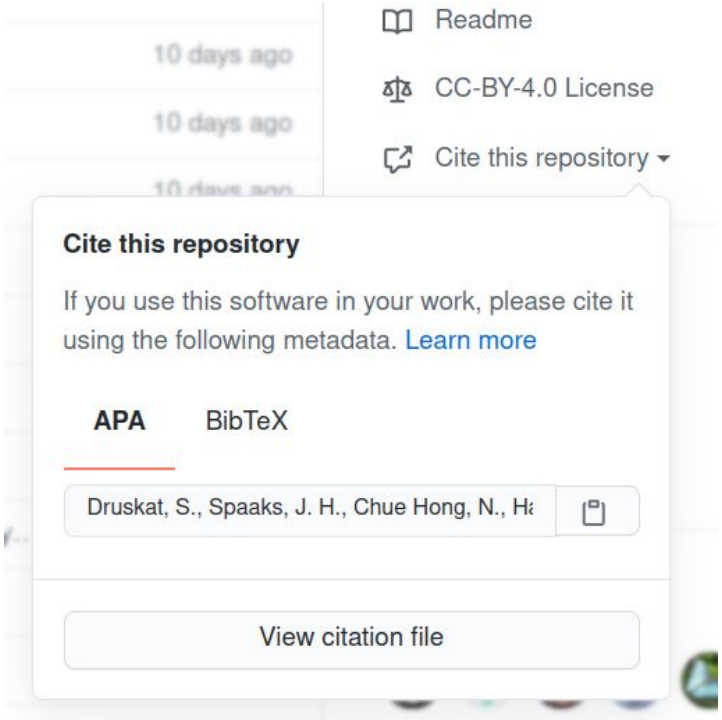
The Citation File Format (CFF) - Overview

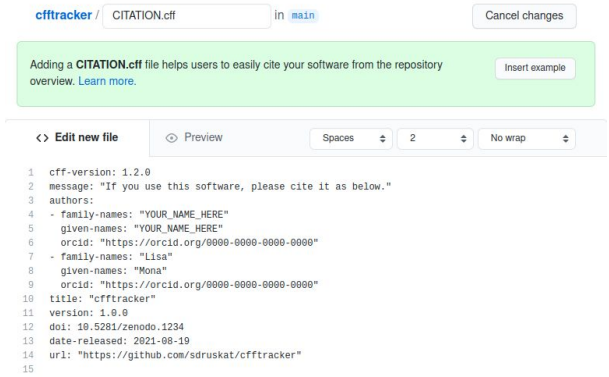
- Community format for providing software citation metadata in `CITATION.cff` (YAML)
- Focus on (advanced) citation use cases and usability
- Actively developed
- Used, e.g., in the Research Software Directory CMS
- 🆕 Integrated with GitHub, Zenodo, Zotero
- Compatible with CodeMeta (conversion tools available)

```yaml
cff-version: 1.2.0
message: If you use this software, please cite it using these metadata.
title: My Research Software
abstract: This is my awesome research software. It does many things.
authors:
  - family-names: Druskat
    given-names: Stephan
    orcid: "https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4925-7248"
version: 0.11.2
date-released: "2021-07-18"
identifiers:
  - description: This is the collection of archived snapshots of all versions of My Research Software
    type: doi
    value: "10.5281/zenodo.123456"
  - description: This is the archived snapshot of version 0.11.2 of My Research Software
    type: doi
    value: "10.5281/zenodo.123457"
license: Apache-2.0
repository-code: "https://github.com/citation-file-format/my-research-software"
```

Citation File Format integration in GitHub

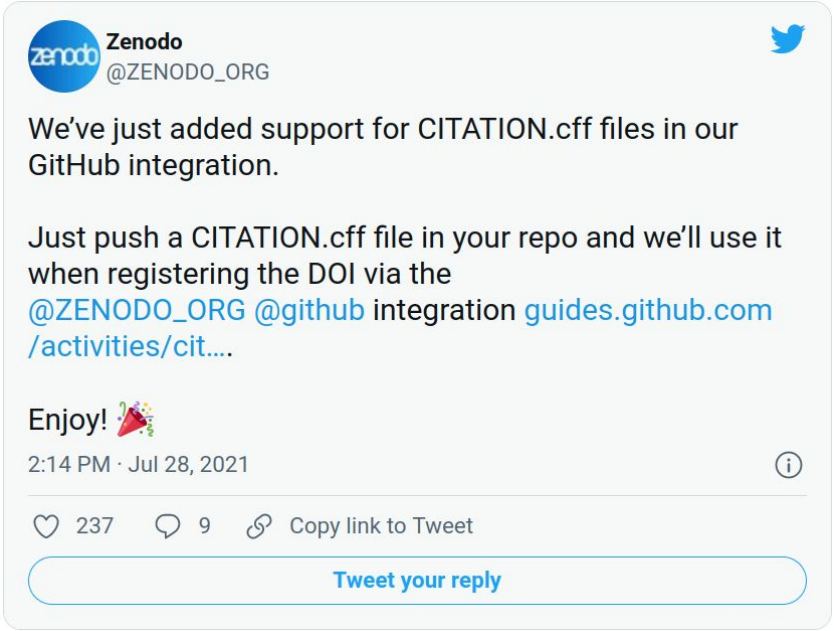


- Detect `CITATION.cff` files
- Render information (BibTeX, citation styles)
  - Based on currently viewed commit
  - Uses `ruby-cff` Gem
- Link to `CITATION.cff` file
- Documentation and template

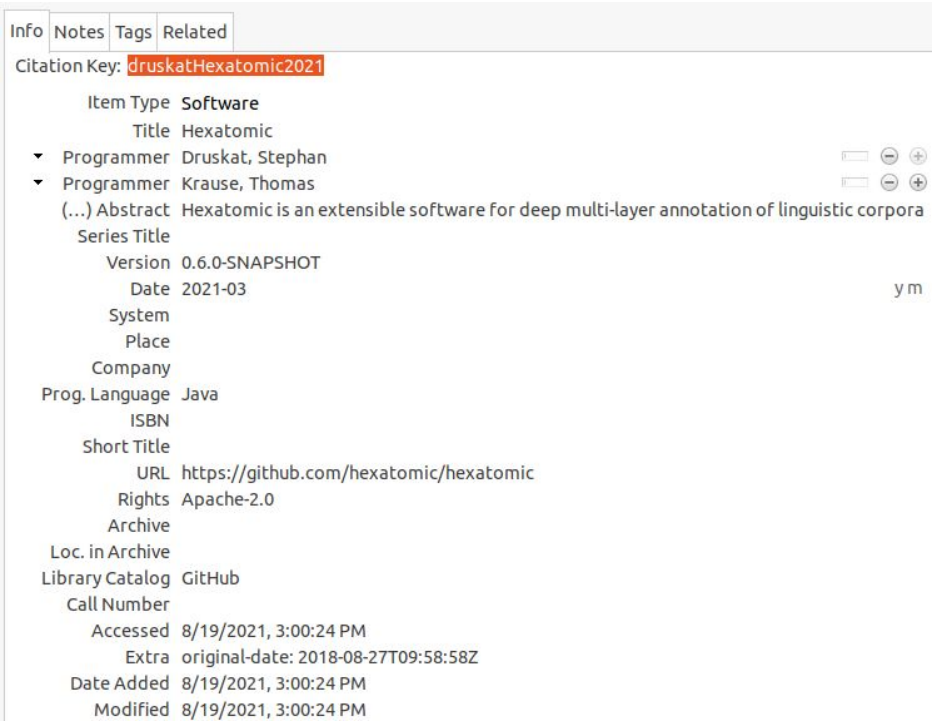


Citation File Format integration in Zenodo

- Uses citation information in `CITATION.cff` via GitHub-Zenodo integration
- No conversion to `.zenodo.json` needed for basic use ...
  - … unless user supplies advanced (e.g. contributors) information (coming in future CFF version)



Citation File Format integration in Zotero



- Zotero connectors pick up the information in `CITATION.cff`

Citation File Format - Conclusion & outlook

- “One giant leap for the Citation File Format, one small step for software citation.” 🚀
  - (~300 files before GitHub integration, 1,400+ today)
- Open development continues
- Governance will be more formally established

- https://citation-file-format.github.io
  https://github.com/citation-file-format/citation-file-format/
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