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# ShExStatements

Mar 06, 2021



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## Table of Contents:

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<b>1</b>	<b>Quick start</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Using pip . . . . .	3
<b>2</b>	<b>Build from source</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Terminal . . . . .	5
<b>3</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Documentation and examples</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Test cases and coverage</b>	<b>11</b>
5.1	Web interface . . . . .	11
<b>6</b>	<b>API</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Demonstration</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Archives and Releases</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Licence</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>25</b>
12.1	ShExStatements: Documentation . . . . .	25
12.2	ShExStatements API . . . . .	28
12.3	shexstatements package . . . . .	29
<b>13</b>	<b>Indices and tables</b>	<b>33</b>
	<b>Python Module Index</b>	<b>35</b>
	<b>Index</b>	<b>37</b>



ShExStatements allows the users to generate shape expressions from simple CSV statements, CSV files and Spreadsheets. `shexstatements` can be used from the command line as well as from the web interface.



### 1.1 Using pip

Set up a virtual environment and install `shexstatements`.

```
$ python3 -m venv .venv
$ source ./venv/bin/activate
$ pip3 install shexstatements
```

Run the following command with an [example CSV file](#). The file contains an example description of a language on Wikidata. This file uses comma as a delimiter to separate the values.

```
$ shexstatements.sh examples/language.csv
```





## CHAPTER 2

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### Build from source

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## 2.1 Terminal

Clone the **ShExStatements** repository.

```
$ git clone https://github.com/johnsamuelwrites/ShExStatements.git
```

Go to **ShExStatements** directory.

```
$ cd ShExStatements
```

Install modules required by **ShExStatements** (here: installing into a virtual environment).

```
$ python3 -m venv .venv
$ source ./venv/bin/activate
$ pip3 install .
```

Run the following command with an example CSV file. The file contains an example description of a language on Wikidata. This file uses comma as a delimiter to separate the values.

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh examples/language.csv
```

CSV file can use delimiters like `;`. Take for example, the following command works with a file using semi-colon as a delimiter.

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh examples/languagedelimitersemicolon.csv --delim ";"
```

But sometimes, users may like to specify the header. In that case, they can make use of `-s` or `--skipheader` to tell the generator to skip the header (first line of CSV).

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh --skipheader examples/header/languageheader.csv
```

It is also possible to work with Spreadsheet files like `.ods`, `.xls` or `.xlsx`.

## ShExStatements

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```
$ shexstatements.sh examples/language.ods
```

```
$ shexstatements.sh examples/language.xls
```

```
$ shexstatements.sh examples/language.xlsx
```

In all the above cases, the shape expression generated by **ShExStatements** will look like

```
PREFIX xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
PREFIX wd: <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/>
PREFIX wdt: <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/>
start = @<language>
<language> {
  wdt:P31 [ wd:Q34770 ] ;# instance of a language
  wdt:P1705 LITERAL ;# native name
  wdt:P17 .+ ;# spoken in country
  wdt:P2989 .+ ;# grammatical cases
  wdt:P282 .+ ;# writing system
  wdt:P1098 .+ ;# speakers
  wdt:P1999 .* ;# UNESCO language status
  wdt:P2341 .+ ;# indigenous to
}
```

Use `-j` or `--shexj` to generate ShEx JSON Syntax (ShExJ) instead of default ShEx Compact syntax (ShExC).

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh --shexj examples/language.csv
```

The output will be similar to:

```
{
  "type": "Schema",
  "start": "language",
  "shapes": [
    {
      "type": "Shape",
      "id": "language",
      "expression": {

      }
    }
  ]
}
```

It's also possible to use application profiles of the following form

```
Entity_name,Property,Property_label,Mand,Repeat,Value,Value_type,Annotation
```

and Shape expressions can be generated using the following form

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh -ap --skipheader examples/languageap.csv
```

## CHAPTER 3

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### Objectives

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- Easily generate shape expressions (ShEx) from CSV files and Spreadsheets
- Simple syntax



## CHAPTER 4

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### Documentation and examples

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A detailed documentation can be found [here](#), with a number of example CSV files in the [examples](#) folder.



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## Test cases and coverage

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All the test cases can be run in the following manner

```
$ python3 -m tests.tests
```

Code coverage report can also be generated by running the unit tests using the coverage tool.

```
$ coverage run --source=shexstatements -m unittest tests.test
$ coverage report -m
```

### 5.1 Web interface

`shexstatements` can also be accessed from a web interface. Clone the **ShExStatements** repository.

```
$ git clone https://github.com/johnsamuelwrites/ShExStatements.git
```

Go to **ShExStatements** directory.

```
$ cd ShExStatements
```

Install modules required by **ShExStatements** (here: installing into a virtual environment).

```
$ python3 -m venv .venv
$ source ./venv/bin/activate
$ pip3 install .
```

Now run the application.

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh -r
```

Check the URL `http://127.0.0.1:5000/`





## CHAPTER 6

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### API

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ShExStatements also has an API to generate ShEx from CSV and is described [here](#).



## CHAPTER 7

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### Demonstration

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Online demonstrations are also available:

- <https://shexstatements.toolforge.org/>
- <https://tools.wmflabs.org/shexstatements/>



## CHAPTER 8

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Author

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- John Samuel
- Contributors



## CHAPTER 9

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### Acknowledgements

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- Wikidata Community





## CHAPTER 10

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### Archives and Releases

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- [Zenodo](#)
- [Software Heritage](#)
- [Release Notes](#)



## CHAPTER 11

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### Licence

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All code are released under GPLv3+ licence. The associated documentation and other content are released under [CC-BY-SA](#).



## 12.1 ShExStatements: Documentation

ShExStatements allows the users to generate shape expressions from simple CSV statements and files. `shexstatements` can be also be used from the command line.

### 12.1.1 Objectives

- Easily generate shape expressions (ShEx) from CSV files
- Simple syntax, with 5 columns
- Node name
- Property
- Allowed values
- Cardinality (optional)
- Comments (optional)

### 12.1.2 Quick start

Clone the **ShExStatements** repository.

```
$ git clone https://github.com/johnsamuelwrites/ShExStatements.git
```

Go to **ShExStatements** directory.

```
$ cd ShExStatements
```

Install modules required by **ShExStatements** (here: installing into a virtual environment).

```
$ python3 -m venv .venv
$ source ./venv/bin/activate
$ pip3 install .
```

Run the following command with an example CSV file. The file contains an example description of a language on Wikidata. This file uses comma as a delimiter to separate the values.

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh examples/language.csv
```

There are five columns in the CSV file. Column 1 is used for specifying the node name, 2 for specifying the property value, 3 for possible values, 4 for cardinality (+,\*) and column 5 for comments. Comments start with #. Columns 1, 2, 3 are mandatory. Column 3 can be a special value like . (period to say ‘any’ value). Columns 3,4 and 5 are empty for prefixes.

### Cardinality can be any one of the following values

- \*: zero or more values
- +: one or more values
- m: m number of values
- m,n: any number of values between m and n (including m and n).

CSV file can use delimiters like ;. Take for example, the following command works with a file using semi-colon as a delimiter.

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh examples/language delimsemicolon.csv --delim ";"
```

But sometimes, users may like to specify the header. In that case, they can make use of -s or --skipheader to tell the generator to skip the header (first line of CSV).

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh --skipheader examples/header/languageheader.csv
```

In all the above cases, the shape expression generated by **ShExStatements** will look like

```
PREFIX xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
PREFIX wd: <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/>
PREFIX wdt: <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/>
start = @<language>
<language> {
  wdt:P31 [ wd:Q34770 ] ;# instance of a language
  wdt:P1705 LITERAL ;# native name
  wdt:P17 .+ ;# spoken in country
  wdt:P2989 .+ ;# grammatical cases
  wdt:P282 .+ ;# writing system
  wdt:P1098 .+ ;# speakers
  wdt:P1999 .* ;# UNESCO language status
  wdt:P2341 .+ ;# indigenous to
}
```

Use -j or --shexj to generate ShEx JSON Syntax (ShExJ) instead of default ShEx Compact syntax (ShExC).

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh --shexj examples/language.csv
```

The output will be similar to:

```

{
  "type": "Schema",
  "start": "language",
  "shapes": [
    {
      "type": "Shape",
      "id": "language",
      "expression": {
        "type": "EachOf",
        "expressions": [
          {
            "type": "TripleConstraint",
            "predicate": "http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P31",
            "valueExpr": {
              "type": "NodeConstraint",
              "values": [
                "http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q34770"
              ]
            }
          },
          {
            "type": "TripleConstraint",
            "predicate": "http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P1705",
            "valueExpr": {
              "type": "NodeConstraint",
              "nodeKind": "literal"
            }
          },
          {
            "type": "TripleConstraint",
            "predicate": "http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P17",
            "min": 1,
            "max": -1
          },
          {
            "type": "TripleConstraint",
            "predicate": "http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P2989",
            "min": 1,
            "max": -1
          },
          {
            "type": "TripleConstraint",
            "predicate": "http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P282",
            "min": 1,
            "max": -1
          },
          {
            "type": "TripleConstraint",
            "predicate": "http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P1098",
            "min": 1,
            "max": -1
          },
          {
            "type": "TripleConstraint",
            "predicate": "http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P1999",
            "min": 0,
            "max": -1
          }
        ]
      }
    }
  ]
}

```

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```

    },
    {
      "type": "TripleConstraint",
      "predicate": "http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/P2341",
      "min": 1,
      "max": -1
    }
  ]
}
]
}

```

It's also possible to use application profiles of the following form

```
Entity_name,Property,Property_label,Mand,Repeat,Value,Value_type,Annotation
```

and Shape expressions can be generated using the following form

```
$ ./shexstatements.sh -ap --skipheader examples/languageap.csv
```

There are example CSV files in the [examples](#) folder.

## 12.2 ShExStatements API

### 12.2.1 Operations

ShExStatements has also a public API that can be easily accessible both on a local installation as well as on the public interface. It has one operation that takes as input a JSON array with two elements as given below:

- delimiter
- CSV (every line should be terminated by `\n`)

It returns a JSON array with one element containing the ShEx (shape expression).

### 12.2.2 Example JSON input

Take for example the file `tvseries.json` (also present in `examples/api/tvseries.json`). It is an array with two elements.

```

[
  "|",
  "wd|<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/>|||\n
  wdt|<http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/>|||\n
  xsd|<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>|||\n
  \n
  @tvseries|wdt:P31|wd:Q5398426|# instance of a tvseries\n
  @tvseries|wdt:P136|@genre|*|# genre\n
  @tvseries|wdt:P495|. |+|#country of origin\n
  @tvseries|wdt:P57|. |+|#director\n
  @tvseries|wdt:P58|. |+|#screenwriter\n
  @genre|wdt:P31|wd:Q201658,wd:Q15961987|#instance of genre\n"
]

```



### 12.2.3 Calling ShExStatements API

Following is the way to call the ShExStatements API

```
$ curl -s http://127.0.0.1:5000/ -X POST -H "Accept: application/json" --data @examples/api/tvseries.json | sed 's/\\n/\\n/g'
```

or

```
$ curl -s https://shexstatements.toolforge.org/ -X POST -H "Accept: application/json" --data @examples/api/tvseries.json | sed 's/\\n/\\n/g'
```

### 12.2.4 Example JSON output response

It gives the following output. For the output, the above command makes use of sed.

```
"PREFIX wd: <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/>
PREFIX xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
PREFIX wdt: <http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/>
start = @<tvseries>
<tvseries> {
  wdt:P31 [ wd:Q5398426 ] ;# instance of a tvseries
  wdt:P136 @<genre>* ;# genre
  wdt:P495 . ;#country of origin
  wdt:P57 . ;#director
  wdt:P58 . ;#screenwriter
}
<genre> {
  wdt:P31 [ wd:Q201658 wd:Q15961987 ] ;#instance of genre
}
"
```

## 12.3 shexstatements package

It's also possible to use `shexstatements` in Python programs. This page gives a complete detail of the different modules that can be used in the programs.

In our first example, we take a look at the method `generate_shex_from_csv`, which takes as input a CSV file containing shexstatements and a delimiter. In this example, we use “;” as a delimiter.

```
from shexstatements.shexfromcsv import CSV

shex = CSV.generate_shex_from_csv("language.csv", delim=";")
print(shex)
```

In our second example, we use a data string consisting of shexstatements and make use of the function `generate_shex_from_data_string`. Note here, that we use “|” as a delimiter.

```
from shexstatements.shexfromcsv import CSV

shexstatements="""
wd|<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/>
wdt|<http://www.wikidata.org/prop/direct/>
```

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```

xsd|<http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>

@language|wdt:P31|wd:Q34770|# instance of a language
@language|wdt:P1705|LITERAL|# native name
@language|wdt:P17|. |+|# spoken in country
@language|wdt:P2989|. |+|# grammatical cases
@language|wdt:P282|. |+|# writing system
@language|wdt:P1098|. |+|# speakers
@language|wdt:P1999|. |+|# UNESCO language status
@language|wdt:P2341|. |+|# indigenous to
"""

shex = CSV.generate_shex_from_data_string(shexstatements)
print(shex)

```

## 12.3.1 Submodules

### shexstatements.shexfromcsv

**class** shexstatements.shexfromcsv.CSV

This class contains functions that can be used to generate ShEx from a data string or a CSV file.

**static generate\_shex\_from\_csv** (*filepath*, *delim*=';', *skip\_header*=False, *filename*=True)

This method can be used to generate ShEx from data string. However, the input data string must contain one or more lines. Each line contains ‘|’ separated values. If *filepath* is a string, *filename* should be set to false.

#### Parameters

- **filepath** (*str*) – This parameter can contain either a file path of a CSV file or shexstatements in CSV format.
- **delim** (*str*) – a delimiter. Allowed values include ‘;’, ‘|’ and ‘,’
- **skip\_header** (*bool*) – if the first line is a header, set this value to True. By default, the value is False.
- **filename** (*bool*) – if ‘filepath’ is a string, then this filename must be set to False

**Returns** shape expression

**Return type** shex

**static generate\_shex\_from\_data\_string** (*data*)

This method can be used to generate ShEx from data string. However, the input data string must contain one or more lines. Each line contains ‘|’ separated values.

**Parameters** **data** (*str*) – shexstatements in CSV format, using “|” as a delimiter.

**Returns** shape expression

**Return type** shex

### shexstatements.shexjfromcsv

**class** shexstatements.shexjfromcsv.ShExJCSV

This class contains functions that can be used to generate ShExJ from a ShEx.

**static generate\_shexj\_from\_csv** (*filepath*, *delim*=', ', *skip\_header*=False)

This method can be used to generate ShExJ from ShExStatements CSV file

**Parameters**

- **filepath** (*str*) – This parameter can contain either a file path of a CSV file or shexstatements in CSV format.
- **delim** (*str*) – a delimiter. Allowed values include ',', 'l' and ';'.
- **skip\_header** (*bool*) – if the first line is a header, set this value to True. By default, the value is False.

**Returns** shape expression in JSON format (ShExJ)

**Return type** shexj

**static generate\_shexj\_from\_shexstatement** (*shexstatement*)

This method can be used to generate ShEx from data string. However, the input data string must contain one or more lines. Each line contains 'l' separated values.

**Parameters** **shexstatement** (*str*) – shex

**Returns** shape expression in JSON (ShExJ)

**Return type** shexj

## shexstatements.shexfromapplprofilecsv

**class** shexstatements.shexfromapplprofilecsv.**ApplicationProfile**

This class contains functions that can be used to generate ShEx from a data string or CSV application profile file.

**generate\_shex\_from\_csv** (*delim*=', ', *skip\_header*=False)

This method can be used to generate ShEx from application profile CSV file. However, the input file must contain one or more lines. Each line contains 'l' separated values. If filepath is a string, filename should be set to false.

**Parameters**

- **filepath** (*str*) – This parameter can contain either a file path of a CSV file or shexstatements in CSV format.
- **delim** (*str*) – a delimiter. Allowed values include ',', 'l' and ';'.
- **skip\_header** (*bool*) – if the first line is a header, set this value to True. By default, the value is False.

**Returns** shape expression

**Return type** shex

## shexstatements.errors

**exception** shexstatements.errors.**ParserError** (*message*)

**exception** shexstatements.errors.**UnrecognizedCharacterError** (*message*)



## CHAPTER 13

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### Indices and tables

---

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`



### S

`shexstatements.errors`, [31](#)  
`shexstatements.shexfromapplprofilecsv`,  
    [31](#)  
`shexstatements.shexfromcsv`, [30](#)  
`shexstatements.shexjfromcsv`, [30](#)





## A

`ApplicationProfile` (class in `shexstatements.shexfromapplprofilecsv`), 31

## C

`CSV` (class in `shexstatements.shexfromcsv`), 30

## G

`generate_shex_from_csv()` (`shexstatements.shexfromapplprofilecsv.ApplicationProfile` method), 31

`generate_shex_from_csv()` (`shexstatements.shexfromcsv.CSV` static method), 30

`generate_shex_from_data_string()` (`shexstatements.shexfromcsv.CSV` static method), 30

`generate_shexj_from_csv()` (`shexstatements.shexjfromcsv.ShExJCSV` static method), 30

`generate_shexj_from_shexstatement()` (`shexstatements.shexjfromcsv.ShExJCSV` static method), 31

## P

`ParserError`, 31

## S

`ShExJCSV` (class in `shexstatements.shexjfromcsv`), 30

`shexstatements.errors` (module), 31

`shexstatements.shexfromapplprofilecsv` (module), 31

`shexstatements.shexfromcsv` (module), 30

`shexstatements.shexjfromcsv` (module), 30

## U

`UnrecognizedCharacterError`, 31