

Resource Summary Report

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Subcellular Anatomy Ontology

RRID:SCR_003486

Type: Tool

Proper Citation

Subcellular Anatomy Ontology (RRID:SCR_003486)

Resource Information

URL: <http://ccdb.ucsd.edu/SAO>

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Description: Ontology that describes structures from the dimensional range encompassing cellular and subcellular structure, supracellular domains, and macromolecules. It is built according to ontology development best practices (re-use of existing ontologies; formal definitions of terms; use of foundational ontologies). It describes the parts of neurons and glia and how these parts come together to define supracellular structures such as synapses and neuropil. Molecular specializations of each compartment and cell type are identified. The SAO was designed with the goal of providing a means to annotate cellular and subcellular data obtained from light and electron microscopy, including assigning macromolecules to their appropriate subcellular domains. The SAO thus provides a bridge between ontologies that describe molecular species and those concerned with more gross anatomical scales. Because it is intended to integrate into ontological efforts at these other scales, particular care was taken to construct the ontology in a way that supports such integration.

Abbreviations: SAO, NIF Subcellular

Resource Type: controlled vocabulary, ontology, data or information resource

Defining Citation: [PMID:18974798](#)

Keywords: electron microscopy, cellular structure, glial cell, light microscopy, macromolecule, nervous system, neuroanatomy, neuronal cell, neuropil, subcellular anatomy, subcellular structure, supracellular structure, synapse, owl, anatomy, sub-cellular, cellular component, cell, mesoscale

Funding: NIH

Availability: Free, Available for download, Freely available

Resource Name: Subcellular Anatomy Ontology

Resource ID: SCR_003486

Alternate IDs: nif-0000-00206

Alternate URLs: <https://bioportal.bioontology.org/ontologies/SAO>

Record Creation Time: 20220129T080219+0000

Record Last Update: 20260807T042554+0000

Ratings and Alerts

No rating or validation information has been found for Subcellular Anatomy Ontology.

No alerts have been found for Subcellular Anatomy Ontology.

Data and Source Information

Source: [SciCrunch Registry](#)

Usage and Citation Metrics

We found 1 mentions in open access literature.

Listed below are recent publications. The full list is available at [ASWG](#) .

Larson SD, et al. (2007) A formal ontology of subcellular neuroanatomy. Frontiers in neuroinformatics, 1, 3.