# SBFC: The Systems Biology Format Converters Framework

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## Input formats examples

Any format can be taken as input.
These formats are currently supported:

GPML

SBML

BioPAX

SBGN-ML

## New converters

Contributions to the SBFC framework are welcome: you can contribute by implementing new converters.

## Output formats examples

Any format can be produced.
Here are a few supported examples:

GraphML

MATLAB

SVG

DOT

SBGN

SBGN-ML

XPP

## A collaborative project

Together, we gather
any formats and their
corresponding converters

## INTEROPERABILITY

**Converter pipelines**
Converters can be serially associated, increasing the number of possible conversions.

**Pivotal conversion**
An intermediate converter can make a conversion more manageable and efficient.

**Limiting loss of information**
Selection of the appropriate converters to generate the correct input.

**Converters with multiple inputs**
It will be possible to erase the frontier between descriptive and structural model formats.

## COMBINE

Combining converters to increase automatically the number of converters

**A generic framework**
Relying on the Open Service Gateway initiative (OSGi)

**Plug-in infrastructure (bundles)**
Each converter is implemented in a modular way.

**Defined ''bundles'' interaction**
Converters can be interdependent and interoperable.

**A standalone executable**
A converter can be implemented to be used anywhere.

## Providing formats support

Input and output formats are supported by implementing a simple interface.
Serialising SBFC converters allows one to effectively add a previously unsupported conversion.

## Web resources

**Documentation**:
*http://sbfc.sourceforge.net*
**Questions? Get support at**:
*biomodels-net-support@lists.sourceforge.net*
**Online conversion service (using SBFC)**:
*http://www.ebi.ac.uk/compneur-srv/converters/converters*

## Existing converters

Contributions can be made if you have already implemented one or more converters.
Existing converters can be modified easily to create a SBFC module.

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