Metadata Standards Catalog

Update on progress

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Motivation

We want to get researchers using standard metadata schemes, but

› they might not know of a standard relevant to their data
› even if they do, they might not know how to use it
› even if they do, it might seem too much like hard work
› even if it doesn’t, an ad hoc scheme might seem like a better fit

The Metadata Standards Catalog will

› make it easier to find out about standards
› make it easier to use standards (tools, examples)
› help with adapting and migrating between standards
While data curators, and increasingly researchers, know that good metadata is key for research data access and re-use, figuring out precisely what metadata to capture and how to capture it is a complex task. Fortunately, many academic disciplines have supported initiatives to formalise the metadata specifications the community deems to be required for data re-use. This page provides links to information about these disciplinary metadata standards, including profiles, tools to implement the standards, and use cases of data repositories currently implementing them.

For those disciplines that have not yet settled on a metadata standard, and for those repositories that work with data across disciplines, the General Research Data section links to information about broader metadata standards that have been adapted to suit the needs of research data.
So why do we need a new Catalog?

› Search, not just browse

› Access data with machine-to-machine protocols

› Richer information
  - versions, mapping directionality, endorsements
  - greater use of entity relationships

› More services
  - Extracting what you need from compliant metadata . . .
  - Calculating migration pathways . . .
  - Comparing elements in different schemes . . .
  - Generating ‘first-pass’ converters . . .
Migrating the data: DCC/MSD data model

Diagram:

- More specific profile
- Metadata standard
  - Helper tool
  - Use case
Migrating the data: MSC data model

Endorsement of Metadata Scheme

Metadata Scheme

Version 1

Version 2

Mapping

Tool

Organization

profile of

supports

from

to

Endorsement of Metadata Scheme

Tool

Organization

Mapping

Metadata Scheme

Version 1

Version 2

funder, maintainer, user

funder, maintainer

funder, maintainer

maintainer, funder, user

Tool

Organization

Metadata Scheme

Version 1

Version 2

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Metadata Standards Catalog

The RDA Metadata Standards Catalog is a collaborative, open directory of metadata standards applicable to research data. It is offered to the international academic community to help address infrastructure challenges.

Metadata standards, profiles and schemes

- Browse by scheme name
- Browse by subject
- Search

Demo

Metadata-related tools

- Browse by tool name
Future developments

- **GUI** Highlight standards bodies
- **GUI** Dynamic filtering while browsing
- **GUI** Side-by-side specifications
- **GUI** Version history as timeline
- **GUI** Search by article DOI
- **GUI** Show maturity rating for schemes
- **API** Make changes to database via API
- **API** Query standards by their elements
- **API** Query by element value encoding
- **API** Query by article DOI
- **API** Calculate crosswalks

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More information

▶ Track progress against requirements:
  - github.com/rd-alliance/metadata-catalog-dev/issues

▶ View the new data model:
  - github.com/rd-alliance/metadata-catalog-dev/tree/master/db

▶ Try out a local instance of the prototype Catalog:
  - github.com/rd-alliance/metadata-catalog-dev
Thank you for your attention