Interoperability & Cataloging Workflows
Cataloger Requirements & Expectations

• *What do we expect from our metadata?*

  • We want to **share** our metadata with other catalogers (export)
  • We want to **reuse** & possibly enhance others’ metadata (import)
  • We want to our metadata to **support** discovery in our local system & beyond
Exporting/Importing MARC

**Requirements**

- The metadata is presented in a known schema/format or schemas
- The metadata uses known data modeling and content standards
- The metadata is internally consistent & follows prescribed best practices/MAPs
- Mappings are available when data conversion necessary
- Established data loads and protocols are available for data ingest & export of the schema & data model being used

*All this makes our MARC metadata interoperable (mostly... and it has taken 50 years to get there)*

ShareVDE = Share Virtual Discovery Environment

- A library-driven initiative which brings together the bibliographic catalogues and authority files of a community of libraries in a shared discovery environment based on linked data
Cataloger Requirements & Expectations in BF

• **What do we hope for with BF?**

  • We want to **share all** our metadata with other catalogers (Export)
  • We want to **reuse** & possibly enhance others’ metadata (Import? Link?)
  • We want to **link** with non-library sources of metadata (Wikidata, etc.)
  • We want to our metadata to **support** discovery in our local system & beyond

  **and**
  • We **have to** convert MARC to BF and BF to MARC...
A Sample Hybrid Data Flow

Sinopia Import & Export Workflows

- Sinopia Import & Export Workflows
- MARC to BF conversion
- BF export/import

ILS

Authority Vendor

ShareVDE

OCLC

Other LD sources

LC Hubs

MARC export & import

BF to MARC (rdf2marc)
In terms of supporting interoperability...

• At the system level:
  • APIs/dataloads & protocols for:
    • Ingestion of MARC into data nodes & ILS’s
    • Ingestion of BIBFRAME into data nodes
    • Ingestion with conversion (BF2MARC; MARC2BF) within data nodes & in ILS’s
  • Mappings to aid conversion to and from BF
  • Validation

• At the metadata level:
  • A standard for data-modelling in BF
  • A standard for what constitutes a basic BF description
Use of Templates to Enhance Interoperability

- Sinopia (PCC, LD4P) & Marva (LC)—templates for cataloging with RDF-based ontologies
- Both use BIBFRAME as the base ontology, with the Library of Congress extension (bflc), along with the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC)
- Templates also act as metadata application profiles for their users
  - Properties/classes to be used
  - Modeling of RDF
  - Required/Repeateable/Ordered
  - Vocabularies
  - Defaults
  - Links to content standards (e.g., RDA)
  - Other help information
Strengths & Drawbacks of Templates

• **Strengths**
  • Provide RDF & BF modelling
  • Encourage consistency in data entry
  • Act as metadata application profiles
  • Provide lookups to vocabularies (added interoperability!)
  • Provide frameworks for data validation and conversion

• **Drawbacks**
  • Fragility—change a template and the changes can be cascading:
    • For re-use
    • For conversion
It's worth noting that interoperability is a process, and it's not a destination. It's an ongoing effort, and it requires collaboration between different stakeholders, including metadata practitioners, ontology developers, and system developers.