Turning PKP’s Metadata Problems "Opportunities" into Actionable Challenges

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context
We have many known metadata problems in OJS, and probably many unknown ones.
• Publication dates
• Two languages in one field (e.g. abstracts)
• Author name problems
• Corporate name impossibilities
• DOIs in titles
• BOMs in DOIs (only once, but still)
• Etc.
These problems are harder to find, and honestly, **harder to care about**, in isolation.
But we are working on becoming less isolated, and these individual problems are also less isolated. And they are causing downstream problems.
Coalition Publi.ca
Google Scholar
Crossref
ORCID
etc.
So during Crossref LIVE18, Mike and I got really excited about solving these problems. We talked fast and loudly about:

- Metadata Working Group
- Metadata analysis
- Metadata toolkits
hubris
Crossref LIVE18 was really inspirational!

And the LPF abstract was due!

And today seemed so far away!
So our original abstract presupposed a lot of to-dos that have not yet been to-done.

It turns out that winter only *feels* endless, and we only got started with the work we thought we’d complete.
we are not empty handed
when/how good metadata goes bad
Sometimes, OJS just doesn't record/use the metadata we need.
OJS doesn't do a great job assisting with metadata literacy.
OJS can't (surprise) anticipate how the resulting abuses will disrupt metadata downstream.
- Publication dates
- Two languages in one field (e.g. abstracts)
- Author name/email problems
- Corporate name impossibilities
- DOIs in titles
- BOMs in DOIs (only once, but still)
- Etc.
en français
Users don't need to care about metadata the way we (royal) need to.
gather 'round
Metadata is important for discovery and service providers.
Metadata is something that happens to scholars.
● users express a need for features by jamming square pegs into round holes
● they treat the software as a styling tool
● editors ask for/enable features they may not understand at all (hullo, dois)
● inconsistent disciplinary "standards"
The Road Ahead
● a preliminary report to our metadata working group
● additional research and outreach to other metadata-focused parties (like crossref)
● recommendations to PKP and Coalition Publi.ca
● solve all known metadata problems, obviously
Thank you.