Geophysical Research Abstracts
Vol. 20, EGU2018-11152, 2018
EGU General Assembly 2018

NASA's Collaborative Metadata Curation Activity to Improve Earth Science Data Discovery

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Well written descriptive metadata adds value to data by making data easier to discover as well as increases the use of data by providing the context or appropriateness of use for data. In order to assist data centers in curating metadata and to also develop best practices for creating and maintaining metadata, NASA has formed a collaborative effort to improve the Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS) metadata in the Common Metadata Repository (CMR). The goal of this collaborative effort is to improve metadata curation activities by developing a metadata curation tool to streamline the curation process, by developing quantitative metrics to demonstrate metadata improvements and by making processes more transparent by improving best practices documentation. The Analysis and Review of CMR (ARC) Team at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama has been tasked with reviewing all NASA metadata records in the CMR ($\sim$7,000 records) as a component of this collaborative metadata effort. The ARC team leverages both automated and manual metadata assessment methods to provide recommendations for metadata curation improvements. The ARC team communicates these recommendations to data providers who then make revisions and reingest improved metadata into the CMR. Implementation of this process relies on a network of interdisciplinary collaborators leveraging a variety of communication platforms and long-range planning strategies. This presentation will detail the metadata curation process, its outcomes thus far, and also share the status of ongoing curation activities including the development of the metadata curation tool.