
Paradata - from by-product to standard documentation

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Abstract

By looking at the current examples and use cases of paradata this paper develops a comprehensive description of what paradata is and how it is used in the preparation, capture, processing, and analysis of data. It explores a general model of paradata in terms of what should be captured and how it can be organized to better support the structured capture of paradata and its metadata to better understand the processes surrounding the creation of high-quality data for analysis. The paper proposes the development of a structured metadata model that can be used in relationship to other widely used standards such as DDI.

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