# Uniform metadata for Finnish repositories

Tanja Vienonen, National Library of Finland Open Repositories 2017, 30.6.2017



## Some background



- Tajua Tieteen avoin julkaiseminen, or the Open Scientific Publishing project
- A national project to promote open access principles at Finnish libraries and improve the availability of Finnish research

## A bit more

- In Finland, more than 60 organisations have an institutional repository
- 13 repository instances in total, 7 of them hosted by NatLib
- All except one based on DSpace
- Some are shared repository instances of up to 27 organisations
- All use Qualified Dublin Core
- Over 300,000 open access full-text publications

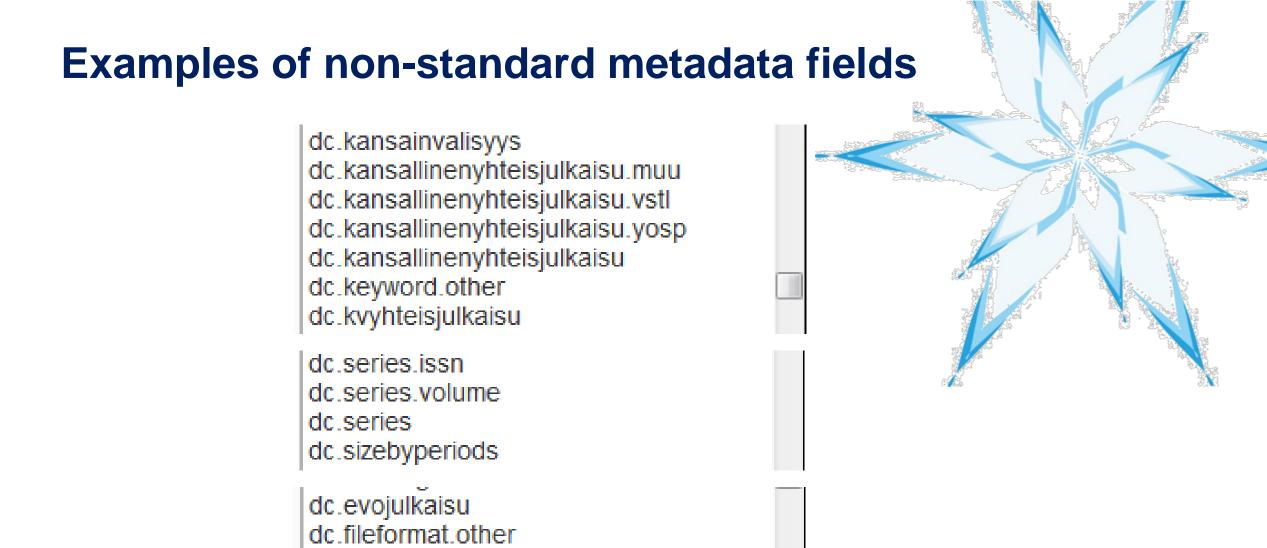


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# **Initial challenges**

- Heterogeneous metadata practices
- Ad hoc solutions made in a rush to meet deadlines
- Non-standard Dublin Core fields
- Aggregation of repository metadata problematic









dc.fileformat

# Repository managers in distress

- No general metadata guidelines for repositories before
- Partly outdated metadata guidelines for theses and dissertations
- Maintenance, development and migrations difficult and time consuming
- Difficulties in complying with the requirements of national and international metadata aggregators
- Repository managers had to fend for themselves



## Metadata working group to the rescue

- Over 80 experts from organisations around the country got involved in the project
- Smaller working group formed from people most interested to contribute
- Several NatLib experts actively involved in the work and a few more were consulted on specific aspects of metadata

## **Priorities**

- Approach to the project was practical, goal-oriented
- A single metadata format cannot comply with all requirements
- Aim to develop an internal format rich and accurate enough
- Repository crosswalks and APIs can be modified to provide metadata that fits aggregators' needs
- Semantic uniformity prioritised over having exactly "the right" metadata fields



## Desperately seeking metadata practices

- Exploring common metadata formats, standards, and aggregators
- Compiling and comparing most used metadata fields in the repository metadata
- Suggesting metadata fields closer to standard Dublin Core as basis for general guidelines















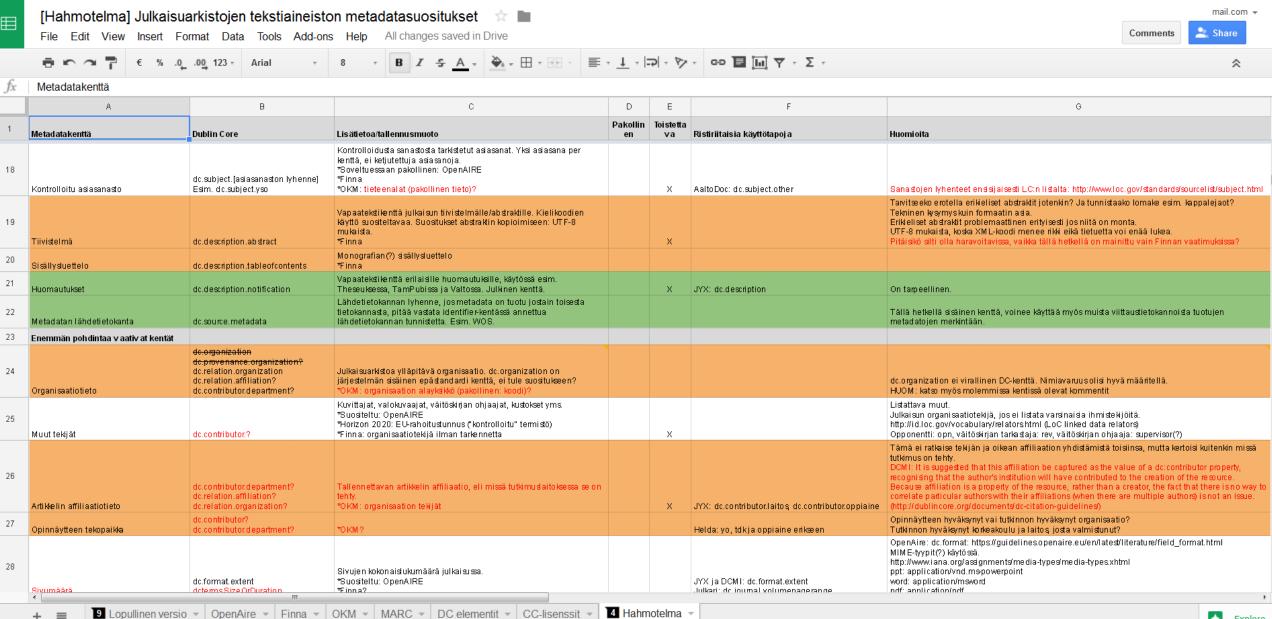






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## **Snippet from the 1st draft**



# **Communication is key**

- Spreadsheets collected into Google Drive for easy access and editing
- Meetings held online and in person
- Emails and NatLib's public online forum used to communicate developments



# Suddenly, it was published

### **JULKAISUARKISTOPALVELUT**

Q

- Palvelun kuvaus
- Ajankohtaista
- Palveluun liittyminen
- Ohjeet
  - Julkaisuarkistokohtaiset ohjeet
  - Julkaisuarkiston käyttöliittymä ja työkalut
  - Metadataa koskevat ohjeet
    - Julkaisuarkistokohtaiset metadatat
    - Metadatasuositus julkaisuarkistojen tekstiaineistolle
      - Y 1 Kaikki metadatakentät
        - dc.contributor.[muu tekijyys]
        - \* dc.contributor.[tunnisteen lyhenne]
        - dc.contributor.author
        - dc.contributor.editor
        - dc.contributor.organization
        - dc.creator
        - dc.date.available
        - dc.date.issued





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#### 1 Kaikki metadatakentät

Created by Tanja Vienonen, last modified on Apr 25, 2017

Alla on aakkosjärjestyksessä kaikki metadatasuosituksen Dublin Core -kentät tarkenteineen. Huomioi kirjainkoko kenttien nimityksissä erityisesti DSpacejulkaisuarkistoissa: kirjoita DC-kentät kokonaan pienillä kirjaimilla. Yksittäisen kentän otsikkoa klikkaamalla löytyy lisätietoa eri aggregoijista, esimerkkejä kentän sisällöstä ja muita huomioita kentän käyttötarkoituksesta.

Samat tiedot excel-taulukkona (esikatselun sijaan lataa omalle koneelle): Metadatasuositus\_julkaisuarkistojen\_tekstiaineistolle\_1.0.xlsx

#### dc.contributor.[muu tekijyys]

#### Muu tekijä

Vaihtoehtoja tarkenteeksi: degreeSupervisor, thesisAdvisor, opponent, artist, illustrator, photographer, translator, transcriber, other

Teoksen muut tekijät, kuten väitöskirjaohjaajat, vastaväittäjät, kuvittajat ja valokuvaajat. Jokainen nimi omaan kenttäänsä muodossa Sukunimi, Etunimi. Katso esimerkit dc.contributor.author-kentästä. Valitse tarkenne Library of Congressin "Code list for Relators"-sivustolta: http://www.loc.gov

/marc/relators/relaterm.html. Toistettava kenttä.

#### dc.contributor.[tunnisteen lyhenne]

#### Teokseen liittyvien henkilöiden tunnisteet

Kentän nimi esimerkiksi dc.contributor.orcid. Tekijän henkilökohtainen ORCID-tunniste tai muu tunniste, kuten ISNI. Jokainen tunniste omaan kenttäänsä. Toistettava kenttä.

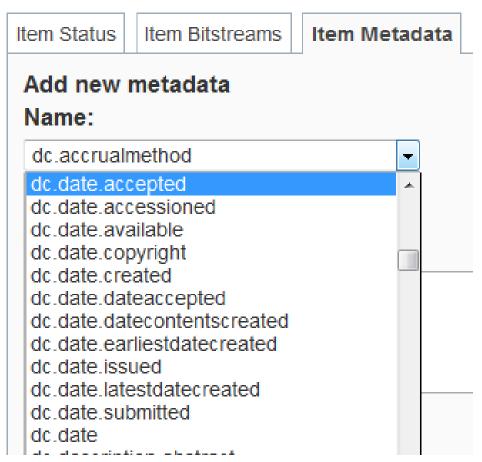
## **Nuts and bolts**

- Final version was published in National Library's public wiki page
- Settled on 62 Dublin Core -based metadata fields with various qualifiers
- 11 extra metadata fields in a separate namespace in case repository is used for reporting the research publication metadata to the Ministry of Education and Culture's annual data collection

#OR2017 1

# **Example: before and after**

## **Previous dc.date qualifiers**



New metadata guidelines

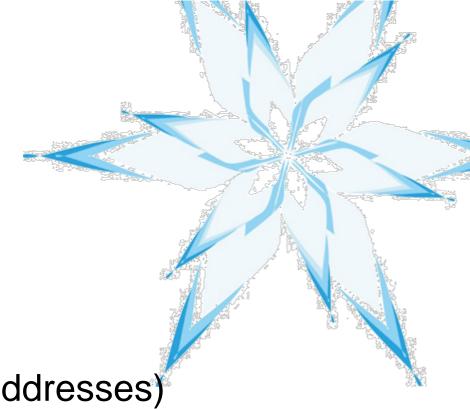
- dc.date.available
- dc.date.issued



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# Important fields

- Title
- Author
- Date of publication
- Persistent Identifier (usually URN-based addresses)
- Language
- User rights (preferably CC licences)





## Future plans and implementation

- Metadata guidelines will be introduced to a wider audience via presentations in seminars and webinars
- Many repositories have made preliminary inspections on how to implement the guidelines
- At the repositories hosted by NatLib alterations to existing records should start in the autumn (after a DSpace version upgrade)
- Guidelines will be kept up to date in the future



# **Final thoughts**

- Uniform metadata is essential
- Getting the repository community involved en masse is important
- Ways to participate in the development work must be as easy as possible



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# We did it, and received







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