Preservation Action Registries Workshop

DPC / JISC Workshop 08/07/2019

JISC, Arkivum, Artefactual, Preservica, Open Preservation Foundation

http://parcore.org/presentations/??????

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Introduction & Overview

• Welcome!

• The purpose of today is to introduce you to the concept of PAR and work undertaken to date.
  o to get you involved via a collaborative workshop using the PAR model
  o Provide an overview of the PAR vision and to get your feedback to help refine the vision and
  o introduce the challenges facing PAR and its sustainability

• Quick Fire round table intro
  o What is your expectation of the day?
What is PAR

- Not too sure…
- Need picture from PAR core and a few sentences in plane English
Why do we need PAR?

Good question?
What is the driver
Jisc contribution and need
(instant set-up of a new researcher who needs to archive their data but aint sure how)
Sharing good practice from trusted experts in the field
Setting up new intance of preservation system with ‘best ‘ practices

Why would you need PAR?
Intro the team

List of team + company + role
Where are we now?

PAR work to date
State of play...

Martin I don't think this is needed? Check against Matthews slides
## Agenda

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Long Term Vision

• All users want trusted information
• Some users want to make their own choices
• Some countries or communities have local rules for preservation formats
• Recommended action depends on user context e.g. public access vs minimum storage cost
• Many users want it to just work for their product in their context

PAR must be able to help in all of these situations
Example registry network

Content creation vendor

University

Expert

Research archive

PAR enables all of these links

Government rule

National standards body

Vendor

Test

Production

User

Manual

Auto

Action

User

Manual

Override

Action

User

Auto

Action

User

Auto

Evaluate

Action

Expert User

Action

Manual

Auto

Action
Example registry network
Example registry network

- Content creation vendor
- National standards body
- University
- Expert
- Research archive

PAR enables all of these links

User
- Manual Action
- Auto Action
- Manual Action
- Override Action
- Auto Action
- Evaluate Action

Vendor
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Vendor
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Action

Action
PAR Going Forward - Development Plan

• To date PAR has delivered a Proof of Concept largely funded by JISC as part of the RDSS project

• Working with the DP Community to gather user examples and adding local registry endpoints

• A plan has been created to drive PAR forward taking it to a beta production state - the person day effort is estimated at 1 year
• The plan includes a set of development sprints aimed at delivering:
  o Creation of a more robust data model, business rule set and supporting specifications
  o Building out the detailed PAR model
  o Enhancing the API to handle complex payloads
  o Development of a Sync tool to align / compare registries
  o Updates to proprietary systems
PAR Sustainability - Current Position

• The initial round of PAR funding is coming to an end
  o (Many thanks to Jisc for starting this all off!)

• The PAR core team continues to collaborate on a regular basis defining the detailed work scope associated with ‘productising’ PAR

• The next step is to work closely with the DP Community to identify a viable future for PAR - based on a clear commercial need - and then to explore how we might secure any further funding that might be required
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Workshop Overview

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PAR Background and Overview

- Users want the best advice, wherever it comes from
  - Identification, property extraction, validation, migration, rendering, tools

- Multiple parallel initiatives research and advise on best practice
  - Products such as Preservica & Archivematica
  - Practitioners
  - Academics
  - Specialists
- but they don’t talk to each other effectively
Background: Motivation and Objectives

• Want to
  o Improve the quality and ease of use of advice sent to practitioners as soon as it is available
  o Improve research cooperation and reduce repetition

• Expected outcome
  o Provide a mechanism to exchange information between all parties regardless of which system they use

• Exclusions
  o Protocols for prioritising and authorising which advice applies to which user / system / intent
  o One registry to rule them all
Development of a multi-vendor shared services platform drove discussions of interoperability of format policies (i.e. “preservation actions”) between preservation systems.
Background: Project Conception

A JISC funded project to initiate the process to deliver benefits to RDSS users

Arkivum, Preservica and Artefactual as RDSS product suppliers

Open Preservation Foundation as respected independent shared DP technology supplier
Agenda

- Part 1: Background & Motivation
- Part 2: Project outcomes
- Part 3: Proof of concept implementation
- Part 4: Long Term Vision
- Part 5: How can you get involved
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| **Conceptual Model** | • Common framework for everyone to work to  
  • Something to argue about and agree upon!  
  • Interlingua between preservation systems |
| **Json Schemas** | • Formal definition of the PAR model  
  • Machine readable, used in API payloads  
  • Used to test and validate interoperability |
| **API** | • Common interface for preservation systems  
  • Well defined way to exchange information |
| **Executable DP Actions** | • Cross-platform way to deploy/run tools  
  • Unambiguous and vendor independent |
| **Proof of Concept** | • Prove PAR is possible!  
  • Not just a talking shop or paper exercise  
  • Reference implementation to share |
PAR Conceptual Model

https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.6628418
Core concepts: summary

- A Preservation **Action** is something **done** as part of DP
- An **Action** has an **Action Type** defined by PREMIS
- An **Action** acts upon an input **Object** or **File**
- May take **Properties** as inputs
- Executed using one or more **Tools**
- Controlled/configured by a set of **Parameters**
- May create an output **Object** or **File**
- May create/extract **Properties** and provide as outputs
- Context on when/why/who/how is in **Business Rules**
Concrete Examples (why it can get a bit tricky!)

• Property extraction
  o E.g. MediaInfo using EBUCore to get height, width, frame rate
  o Same Tool, same File, multiple Properties, multiple Schema

• Checksum generation and validation
  o E.g. md5sum to generate a MD5 checksum for a file: type and value
  o E.g. md5sum to get PASS/FAIL for given MD5 checksum
  o Same Tool, same File, different Action, Properties go input output

• File format identification
  o E.g. Droid, Siegfried, Fido, File, Tika
  o Business rules on which tools work best and when
  o Business rules on priority/ranking/consensus
  o Is file format a first class entity or just another property?
JSON schemas

- Tool
- Action
- Action Type
- Format
- Property
- Business Rule

- Lots still to do, e.g.:
  - Objects
  - Containers
  - Linked Data
  - Execution by people as well as machines
  - Avoid combinatorial explosions: actions, properties, tools

https://github.com/JiscRDSS/rdss-par/tree/master/api
APIs

https://github.com/JiscRDSS/rdss-par/tree/master/api
Executable Tool Definitions

• Machine readable spec for running a tool
  o Tool command line
  o Parameters and flags
  o Inputs and outputs
  o Pre and post processing

• Mapping to command lines
  o e.g. extract EBUCore elements/attributes from MediaInfo
  o e.g. extract PRONOM ID from Fido
  o e.g. supply checksum value and filename to md5sum
  o stdin, stdout, stderr, input/output files, parameters and flags, error codes
  o Tools, libraries, dependencies, containers

• Mapping to web services
  o e.g. validators, file format convertors, metadata extractors
  o GET, PUT, POST, sync and async interaction, XML, json, http codes

https://github.com/JiscRDSS/rdss-par/tree/master/examples/cwl
Agenda

• Part 1: Background & Motivation
• Part 2: Project outcomes
• Part 3: Proof of concept implementation
• Part 4: Long Term Vision
• Part 5: How can you get involved
Registry (In)compatibility

Preservica Registry

File Format -> Property
|          | Type
| --- | --- |
| Migration Pathway | Role
| Tool Purpose | Tool Option

Archivematica FPR

File Format -> Version
| Rule | Group
| --- | --- |
| Command | Purpose
| Tool

?
Common Language
User Bob at Modern Institution is responsible for preserving AV content.

Modern Institution has decided to adopt EBUcore as the metadata standard for its AV holdings.

Bob discovers that a recent update to the MediaInfo tool allows him to extract metadata about AV files in EBUCore XML format.

He introduces this change into his Preservica Preservation System and exports this information as a Preservation Action expressed in PAR Schema.
Extract Metadata Use Case

User Alice at Post-Modern Institution imports this newly published information into her Archivematica preservation system using its PAR API.

Each PAR entry is stored in her installation as JSON files. She does not have to read it in JSON or even PAR schema format or have any knowledge about how Bob's system works.

She instead reviews it in a PAR Form that appears under Archivematica's Preservation Planning tab.
Alice decides that this new capability is something she wants to implement. She selects the 'Convert to FPR' option to enter it as an active 'Metadata Extraction' Rule and Command in her Archivematica instance. At this point the PAR information is entered into the Archivematica database without affecting any existing Commands or Rules. The new Rules and Command are linked to the PAR Preservation Action.
Demo Export and Import of Preservation Action

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELjbgksjBmU
Agenda

• Part 1: Background & Motivation
• Part 2: Project outcomes
• Part 3: Proof of concept implementation
• Part 4: Long Term Vision
• Part 5: How can you get involved
Long Term Vision

• All users want trusted information
• Some users want to make their own choices
• Some countries or communities have local rules for preservation formats
• Recommended action depends on user context e.g. public access vs minimum storage cost
• Many users want it to just work for their product in their context

PAR must be able to help in all of these situations
Example registry network

PAR enables all of these links

Government rule

National standards body

Content creation vendor

University

Expert

Research archive

Vendor

Test

Production

User

Manual

Action

User

Auto

Action

User

Manual

Action

User

Override

Action

User

Auto

Action

Expert

Evaluate

Action
Example registry network

Content creation vendor
University
Expert
Research archive
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Example registry network

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- Content creation vendor
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- Production
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  - Manual
  - Action
- User
  - Auto
  - Action
- User
  - Manual
  - Action
- User
  - Override
  - Action
- User
  - Auto
  - Action
- Expert
  - Evaluate
  - Action
  - User
Agenda

• Part 1: Background & Motivation
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Putting PAR V1 into Production

Technical
• Complete the data model
• Complete the API
• Implement in real systems to do real actions
• Tools to synchronize registries

Community
• Gather user examples
• Identify funders
• Adding endpoints to your registry
• Help code some of the components
Interested?

PAR could enable a global exchange of best practice between all stakeholders in DP

It could define format preservation for the next decade

Further PAR conversation and information to be held in the Library area immediately post this presentation

For further information and to register your interest:


OR

https://openpreservation.org/about/projects/par/
Resources

- Project pages
- Github repo
  - [https://github.com/JiscRDSS/rdss-par/](https://github.com/JiscRDSS/rdss-par/)
- iPRES paper
  - [https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.6628418](https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.6628418)
- DPC blog post
- Project announcement and contacts
- Webinar