pyQuARC: Open Source Library for Earth Observation Metadata Quality Assessment

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Agenda

1. ARC Review Process
2. pyQuARC Development
3. Long Term Goals
High-quality metadata is essential for data discoverability, accessibility, and usability. The ARC (Analysis and Review of CMR) project aims to improve these qualities by evaluating the completeness, correctness, and consistency of NASA's collection of over 8,000 Earth observation data products stored in the CMR (Common Metadata Repository).

ARC has developed a metadata quality framework to assess these elements and identify opportunities for improvement. ARC’s priority classification scheme (Fig. 2) is heavily implemented within this framework to identify metadata elements that need more attention.

In order to streamline the review process, ARC is currently developing a host of scripts, known as pyQuARC to automate metadata quality assessment as much as possible.

![ARC Review Process Diagram]

**Figure 1:** ARC's review process is detailed in the graphic above.

**Figure 2:** ARC's priority matrix is shown above.
Goal: implement ARC's metadata quality assessment framework in an automated tool

The steps to develop pyQuARC are outlined in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Steps of pyQuARC development.
Step 1: Brainstorming

- By executing pyQuARC on metadata, it should discover high, medium, and low priority findings automatically
  - Note: what is considered high, medium, and low is documented quality criteria within ARC's framework

Figure 4: pyQuARC brainstorming graphic
Step 2: Curate a list of requirements for each schema.

- Includes a list of each metadata field within the schema
- Describes pass/fail check(s) to perform on each element
- Assigns level of priority and associated output message if check fails

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Check(s)</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Message</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Platform Short Name</td>
<td>GCMD check</td>
<td>Error</td>
<td>The provided platform short name does not comply with GCMD. Please submit a request to <a href="mailto:support@earthdata.nasa.gov">support@earthdata.nasa.gov</a> to have this platform added to the GCMD Platforms KMS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Datum Name</td>
<td>Horizontal Datum Name Presence Check</td>
<td>Info</td>
<td>If appropriate for the data set, recommend providing the horizontal datum name.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: pyQuARC is designed for CMR supported metadata schemas for Earth Observation data, but with enough customization, pyQuARC has the capability to support additional schema types.

Figure 5: Requirement examples
**Step 3:** Use requirements to develop python library

- Design package to include checks and output priority messages
- Maintain relational dependencies between checks
  - Example: Collection Progress and Ending Date Time
- Ensure that checks are customizable, so future metadata standards can be implemented

```
python pyQuARC/main.py -h
usage: main.py [-h] [--query QUERY | --concept_ids CONCEPT_IDS [CONCEPT_IDS ...]] [--file FILE | --fake FAKE] [--format [FORMAT]]

arguments:
-h, --help            show this help message and exit
--query QUERY         CMR query URL.
--concept_ids CONCEPT_IDS [CONCEPT_IDS ...] List of concept IDs.
--file FILE           Path to the test file, either absolute or relative to the root dir.
--fake FAKE           Use a fake content for testing.
--format [FORMAT]     The metadata format (currently supported: 'echo10' and 'dif10')
```

**Figure 6:** pyQuARC help menu

**Figure 7:** pyQuARC architecture diagram
The checks, messages, and rule_mappings files work together to feed into the validators. Figures 8, 9, and 10 show a check example in each file.
**pyQuARC Development**

- main
- checker
- scheduler
- messages.json
- rule_mapping.json
- checks.json

**output_messages**

- functions
  - check_function
  - string_validator
  - custom_validator
  - url_validator
  - gcmd_validator
  - datetime_validator

**trackер**

**Figure 11**: pyQuARC data flow
Example pyQuARC output:

```
=================================================================
== Metadata Validation Errors ==
=================================================================

METADATA: tests/fixtures/test_cmr_metadata_echo10

>> Collection/CreateTime:
   Error: '2016-04-14' does not adhere to the ISO 1661 standard
       Make sure the datetime complies with ISO 1661 standard.

>> Collection/LastUpdateTime:
   Info: The UpdateTime '2016-04-14 00:00:00+00:00' comes before the provided InsertTime '2018-04-14 00:00:00+00:00'.
       Update the LastUpdate time so that it is identical to the InsertTime (in the event that the data has never been updated) or so that it comes chronologically after the InsertTime.

>> Collection/Temporal/SingleDateTime:
   Info: The Temporal requirements aren't met.
       Please provide at least one of SingleDateTime, RangeDateTime, PeriodicDateTime

>> Collection/Platforms/Platform/Instruments/Instrument/ShortName:
   Error: The provided instrument short name 'TANSO-FTS' and long name 'Thermal And Near Infrared Sensor For Carbon Observation' aren't consistent.
       Please supply the corresponding long name for the short name.

>> Collection/DOI/Explanation:
   Info: DOI Missing Reason Explanation is not provided.
       Please provide an explanation for why the DOI is not provided.

>> Collection/DOI/MissingReason:
   Error: 'Some Reason' is not a valid value.
       The Missing Reason should read "Not Applicable".

>> Collection/CollectionsState:
   Warning: CollectionsState 'COMPLETE' is not consistent with EndingDateTime/EndsAtPresentFlag.
       Please update the CollectionsState based on the EndingDateTime/EndsAtPresentFlag values.

>> Collection/OnlineResources/OnlineResource/Type:
   Warning: Online Resource Type missing.
       Please provide a corresponding GCMD compliant Online Resource Type for each Online Resource URL.
```
pyQuARC development

Step 4: Test the tool and make revisions

- Modify test file and note inconsistencies between requirements and output
- Add/modify checks to resolve inconsistencies

```
"data_update_time_logic_check": {
  "rule_name": "Data Update Time Logic Check",
  "fields_to_apply": {
    "echo10": [
      {
        "fields": [
          "Collection/LastUpdate",
          "Collection/InsertTime"
        ],
        "relation": "gte"
      }
    ],
    "severity": "info",
    "check_id": "date_compare"
  }
}
```

```
"data_update_time_logic_check": {
  "rule_name": "Data Update Time Logic Check",
  "fields_to_apply": {
    "echo10": [
      {
        "fields": [
          "Collection/LastUpdate",
          "Collection/InsertTime"
        ],
        "relation": "gte"
      },
      "dif10": [
        {
          "fields": [
            "DIF/Metadata_Dates/Data_Last_Revision",
            "DIF/Metadata_Dates/Data_Creation"
          ],
          "relation": "gte"
        }
      ],
    "severity": "info",
    "check_id": "date_compare"
  }
}
```

Figure 13: Original echo10 rule mappings for Data Update Time Logic Check

Figure 14: Revised rule mappings for Data Update Time Logic Check to include dif10
Step 5: Integrate pyQuARC within the CMR Metadata Curation Dashboard

- ARC reviewers use the CMR Metadata Curation Dashboard tool to make recommendations and report findings to DAACs.
- Integrating pyQuARC within the Dashboard allows reviewers to more efficiently review metadata and note findings.

![Figure 15: Integrating pyQuARC within the CMR Metadata Curation Dashboard](image)
Step 6: Successful use of pyQuARC leading to improved metadata

- pyQuARC is openly available and customizable allowing users outside of ARC to implement and restructure the tool to fit their needs. Examples include:
  - Configuring pyQuARC for additional schema types
  - Adding/removing checks
  - Adjusting output messages

- With this level of customization, users within the broader NASA Earth science (EOSDIS) metadata community can utilize the tool for automatically assessing their own metadata records to ensure that Earth observation datasets are discoverable, accessible, and usable to the end user.
Thank you.

Contact information: jenny.wood@uah.edu
pyQuARC GitHub: https://github.com/NASA-IMPACT/pyQuARC
Improving Discovery and Use of NASA’s Earth Observation Data Through Metadata Quality Assessments: https://datascience.codata.org/articles/10.5334/dsj-2021-017/