Manuscript Exchange
Common Approach
(MECA)
Version 2.0

A Recommended Practice of the
National Information Standards Organization

Approved: June 26, 2020
Prepared by the NISO MECA Working Group
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Foreword

About this Recommended Practice

Early in 2017, a team of producers and users of manuscript systems identified a strong need to be able to seamlessly transfer manuscripts between and among manuscript systems, such as those in use at publishers and preprint servers. An industry-wide initiative was formed to create a common mechanism for transferring submissions, based on industry standards and best practices.

The original MECA group submitted a proposal to NISO to form a Working Group to develop a NISO Recommended Practice. This proposal was approved by the NISO Information Creation & Curation Topic Committee and NISO Voting Members. The Working Group was announced May 2018 and the group met regularly to review the use cases, transmission method, packaging, and DTDs.

NISO Topic Committee Members

The NISO Information Creation & Curation Topic Committee had the following members at the time it approved this Recommended Practice:

* Sherle Abramson-Bluhm  
  University of Michigan Library
* Jody DeRidder *(co-chair)*  
  OCLC Online Computer Library Center
* Sharon Farnel  
  University of Alberta Libraries
* Marti Heyman  
  OCLC Online Computer Library Center
* Amy Kirchhoff  
  ITHAKA/JSTOR/Portico
* Peter McCracken  
  Cornell University Library
* Anna Neatrour  
  University of Utah
* Kennett Rawson *(co-chair)*  
  IEEE

NISO MECA Working Group Members

The following individuals served on the NISO Physical Delivery of Library Resources Working Group, which developed and approved this Recommended Practice:

* Siobhán Aldridge  
  Taylor & Francis Group
* Tony Alves *(co-chair)*  
  Aries Systems Corporation
* Helen Atkins  
  American Chemical Society
* Kevin-John Black  
  Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
* Paul Dlug  
  American Physical Society
* Rebecca Hansen  
  Springer Nature
* Melissa Harrison  
  eLife Sciences Publications Ltd
* Chris Heid  
  Clarivate Analytics
* Stephen Laverick *(co-chair)*  
  Green Fifteen Publishing Consultancy
* Frank Manista  
  Jisc
* Joel Plotkin  
  eJournalPress
* Laura Randall  
  National Library of Medicine
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Section 1: Introduction

1.1 Purpose and Scope

Authors experience loss of time and effort when their manuscript is rejected by a journal and they have to repeat the submission process with one or more subsequent journals. In addition, it is estimated that 15 million hours of researcher time is wasted each year repeating reviews on subsequent journals. Both of these industry challenges could be addressed if journals and publishers had a way to transfer manuscripts seamlessly between publications using different submission and peer review tracking systems.

With the growth of cascading workflows, manuscripts may be transferred within a publishing group. A growing challenge is to transfer the manuscript (and, optionally, peer review data) across publishers and manuscript systems and even to and from preprint servers. There are many manuscript management systems, especially when including publishers’ custom-built systems.

A group of manuscript/management suppliers and publishers have worked to develop a common approach that can be widely adopted across the industry. The Manuscript Exchange Common Approach (MECA) project has created a website and briefed industry groups through a variety of outreach efforts.

The following principles guide the MECA project:

1. Journals and authors set the rules on what metadata and files are transferred to another system.

2. The goal is to facilitate transfer between publications and platforms. The package may not represent a complete submission, but it should contain enough data and files to create a record in the receiving system. MECA defines the minimal set of data required to initiate a submission.

3. Various systems can independently define a Minimal Viable Product to get started with submission transfers.

4. The MECA practice uses current common technology and industry standards.

5. MECA presents a set of recommendations but does not prescribe specific code to be written. There is no hub, software, or service. Unlike Crossref or ORCID, there is no attempt to trace the path of a manuscript as it traverses the publishing ecosystem.

The project addresses the following use cases for manuscript transfer across boundaries:

1. Submission system to submission system.

2. Preprint system to and from a submission system.

3. Authoring systems to submission systems.

4. Submission system to various services, e.g., post acceptance processing systems.
1.2 References

This Recommended Practice references the following documents. When cited in the text of the Recommended Practice, the document may be referred to by its number only or an abbreviated title. Where no date is supplied, the most current version of the document should be used.

- Zip is both a file packaging format and a lossless compression program, which has been released into the public domain.

1.3 Terms and Definitions

The following terms, as used in this recommended practice, have the meanings indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>authoring system</td>
<td>A collaborative writing and publishing platform used to support the writing, editing, and publishing of scholarly documents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interoperability</td>
<td>The extent to which systems can exchange data and interpret that shared data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal Article Tag Suite (JATS) Journal Archiving and Interchange Tag Set</td>
<td>The Archiving and Interchange Tag Set, commonly known as the “Green” DTD, defines elements and attributes that describe the content and metadata of journal articles, including research articles; subject-review articles; non-research articles; letters; editorials; book, software, and product reviews; peer reviews, and author responses included with an article. The Tag Set allows for descriptions of the full article content or just the article header metadata. This Tag Set describes an article model that is an easy conversion target for content originally tagged in other article models.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metadata</td>
<td>A set of data that describes and provides information about other data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer review system / submission system</td>
<td>A software system that streamlines the collection, tracking, and management of the peer review process of scholarly manuscripts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source files</td>
<td>The set of files that comprise a submission, uploaded by an author while submitting a manuscript.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>universally unique identifier (UUID)</td>
<td>A UUID is a 128-bit number used to identify information in computer systems.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Version 1 concatenates the 48-bit MAC address of the “node” (that is, the computer generating the UUID), with a 60-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bit timestamp</td>
<td>The number of 100-nanosecond intervals since midnight 15 October 1582 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the date on which the Gregorian calendar was first adopted. RFC 4122 states that the time value rolls over around 3400 A.D., depending on the algorithm used, which implies that the 60-bit timestamp is a signed quantity. However, some software, such as the libuuid library, treats the timestamp as unsigned, putting the rollover time in 5236 A.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zip file</td>
<td>An archive file format that supports lossless data compression.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 2: Recommendations

2.1 Transmission

Submissions should be transferred between systems using secure FTP protocol (FTP over SSH). This initial implementation supports a simple, consistent way to send information across systems. It also allows many existing systems that typically have an existing FTP process to exchange manuscripts to participate.

Benefits of a secure FTP solution include:

1. Data and files are transferred in bulk.
2. Progress is not lost if the connection is lost.
3. Systems can create multiple levels of access.
4. FTP is simple to implement.

Future recommendations may include an API for submission transfer between systems. An API architecture provides an interface between systems using http to exchange metadata and files.

Benefits of an API solution include:

1. An API separates the user interface from the server and the data storage.
2. Separation between the client and server allows each development team to scale the exchange.
3. An API is independent of the type of platform or languages.

2.2 Identity

The MECA protocol uses a type 1 Universally Unique Identifier (UUID) to identify manuscripts when they are passed from one system to another. The UUID provides a journal-agnostic identifier.

The type 1 version includes information about the date, time, MAC address and a random number. This guarantees that there are no collisions across vendors and there is support found in many standard coding libraries.

2.3 Package

All files, including the required metadata files, are packaged in a zip file. The naming convention is \{UUID\}-meca.zip. The package includes files for a single manuscript in each zip file. XML encoding for metadata files is assumed to be UTF-8 unless explicitly stated otherwise in the XML declaration.

2.3.1 Package Content

The package includes the following:

1. A manifest.xml metadata file:
   a. The file must be named "manifest.xml" to support functionality to import a manuscript.
   b. This is a required file that includes an entry for every physical file included in the zip file, including information about the directory structure, if applicable.
   c. It may also include an entry for URL/URI file references, although these files are not included in the zip file.
d. The file must validate against the MECA Manifest DTD (see Appendix B.1).
e. The manifest file itself is not listed in the manifest.xml file.

2. A transfer.xml metadata file:
   a. The filename is not restricted but the file must be listed in the manifest.xml file.
   b. This is a required file that includes information about the sending system and the receiving system.
   c. The file must validate against the MECA Transfer DTD (see Appendix B.2).

3. An article.xml metadata file:
   a. This is a JATS-compliant XML file that uses the Journal Archiving and Interchange Tag Set – the “green” DTD (see Appendix B.3).
   b. The filename is not restricted but the file must be listed in the manifest.xml file.
   c. An Article Title, a designated Corresponding Author, and an Article Identifier are required elements.
   d. <surname> and <given-names> are required elements in the Corresponding Author’s <name> element.
   e. This is an optional file. If included, it contains metadata for the highest revision of the submission in the sending system.

4. A reviews.xml file:
   a. The filename is not restricted but the file must be listed in the manifest.xml file.
   b. This is an optional file. If included, it can contain reviews for one or more revisions of the submission.
   c. The file must validate against the MECA Reviews DTD (see Appendix B.4).

5. Content files:
   a. Source files for the most recent revision of the submission that were uploaded by the Author.
   b. Production files.
   c. Other files relevant to the submission. For example, these could be alternative versions of a figure file, e.g. thumbnail vs high resolution, or annotated review files from Reviewers for any revision of the submission.

2.3.2 Package Structure

Although the contents of the package are expected to be a flat structure, subdirectories can be used to organize the files. Although this can be especially helpful for content files, the metadata XML files are expected to be at the root level. The manifest.xml file must be located at the root of the zip file, this must be named in lowercase as “manifest.xml,” and filenames must match the names given in the manifest exactly.
Appendix A
Sample Zip Package

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File Name</th>
<th>File Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>123e4567-e89b-12d3-a456-426655440000-MECA.zip</td>
<td>Archive file</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manifest.xml</td>
<td>Manifest metadata file</td>
<td>Root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEMO151_D-18-01229_Transfer.xml</td>
<td>Transfer metadata file</td>
<td>Root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEMO151_D-18-01229.xml</td>
<td>Article metadata file</td>
<td>Root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEMO151_D-18-01229_Reviews.xml</td>
<td>Peer review metadata file</td>
<td>Root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SourceFiles/assignmentofrights.docx</td>
<td>File uploaded by Author</td>
<td>SourceFiles/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SourceFiles/Manuscript.docx</td>
<td>File uploaded by Author</td>
<td>SourceFiles/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SourceFiles/wrist_scaphoidvx_diagnosis.jpg</td>
<td>File uploaded by Author</td>
<td>SourceFiles/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SourceFiles/wrist_scaphoidfx.csves.jpg</td>
<td>File uploaded by Author</td>
<td>SourceFiles/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SourceFiles/Responses.doc</td>
<td>File uploaded by Author</td>
<td>SourceFiles/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEMO151_D-18-01229.pdf</td>
<td>System file</td>
<td>Root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>annotated-review.docx</td>
<td>Annotated document uploaded by a Reviewer</td>
<td>Root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marked-up-manuscript.xml</td>
<td>Production file</td>
<td>Root</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A.1 Sample manifest.xml File

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE manifest PUBLIC "-//MECA//DTD Manifest v1.0//en" "MECA_manifest.dtd">
<manifest manifest-version="1" xmlns="https://www.manuscriptexchange.org/schema/manifest" xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">
  <item id="random-identifier1" item-type="article-metadata">
    <item-description>This is the article.xml file that contains the submission’s metadata</item-description>
    <instance media-type="application/xml" xlink:href="DEMO151_D-18-01229.xml" />
  </item>
  <item id="random-identifier2" item-type="review-metadata">
    <item-description>This is the review xml file that contains the submission’s metadata</item-description>
    <instance media-type="application/xml" xlink:href="DEMO151_D-18-01229_Reviews.xml" />
  </item>
  <item id="random-identifier3" item-type="transfer-metadata">
    <item-description>This is the transfer xml file that contains information about the source and destination</item-description>
    <instance media-type="application/xml" xlink:href="DEMO151_D-18-01229_Transfer.xml" />
  </item>
  <item id="a-222" item-type="manuscript" item-version="0">
    <item-description>This is the manuscript submitted by the author</item-description>
    <file-order>5</file-order>
    <instance media-type="application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document" xlink:href="Manuscript.docx" />
  </item>
  <item id="a-123" item-type="author agreement" item-version="0">
    <item-description>Author Agreement</item-description>
  </item>
</manifest>
```
A.2 Sample transfer.xml File

```xml
<transfer xmlns="https://www.manuscriptexchange.org/schema/transfer" transfer-version="1.0">
  <transfer-source>
    <service-provider>
      <provider-name>Aries Systems</provider-name>
      <contact>
        <contact-name>
          <surname>Smith</surname>
          <given-names>Mary</given-names>
        </contact-name>
        <email>MarySmith@sample.email</email>
        <phone>444-555-0101</phone>
      </contact>
    </service-provider>
    <publication type="journal">
      <publication-title>The Journal of the American Medical Association</publication-title>
      <acronym>JAMA</acronym>
    </publication>
  </transfer-source>
  <destination>
    <service-provider>
      <provider-name>Highwire</provider-name>
      <contact contact-role="Project Manager">
        <contact-name>
          <surname>Rogers</surname>
          <given-names>John</given-names>
        </contact-name>
        <email>jrogers@highwire.com</email>
        <phone>444-555-1212</phone>
      </contact>
    </service-provider>
    <publication type="preprint-server">
      <publication-title>bioRxiv</publication-title>
      <acronym>bioRxiv</acronym>
    </publication>
  </destination>
  <security>
    <authentication-code>abdasa-13123-abae</authentication-code>
  </security>
</transfer>
```

>Verify XML First</processing-instruction>
A.3 Sample article.xml File

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<article dtd-version="1.2" article-type="Original Study">
  <front>
    <article-meta>
      <article-id pub-id-type="manuscript">AmyTest-81-10-286</article-id>
      <article-id pub-id-type="doi">10.1234/91.1191023</article-id>
      <article-categories>
        <subj-group subj-group-type="Article Type">
          <subject id="rapid_comm">Rapid Communication</subject>
        </subj-group>
        <subj-group subj-group-type="Category">
          <subject>Medical Sciences</subject>
        </subj-group>
        <subj-group subj-group-type="Classification">
          <subject vocab-term-identifier="100.1">Medical Sciences</subject>
          <subject vocab-term-identifier="100.1.3">Anatomy and Pathology</subject>
        </subj-group>
      </article-categories>
      <title-group>
        <article-title>Use case testing</article-title>
        <alt-title alt-title-type="running-head">This is where the short title or running title goes</alt-title>
      </title-group>
      <contrib-group>
        <contrib contrib-type="author" corresp="yes" specific-use="submitting">
          <string-name><given-names>Patrick</given-names><surname>McCaw</surname></string-name>
        </contrib>
        <contrib contrib-type="author">
          <string-name><given-names>Fred</given-names><surname>Vanvleet</surname></string-name>
        </contrib>
      </contrib-group>
    </article-meta>
  </front>
</article>
```

This is the manuscript abstract as a separate field outside of the word doc.

<kwd-group>
  <kwd>Burndown</kwd>
  <kwd>glyphosate resistance</kwd>
  <kwd>herbicide efficacy</kwd>
  <kwd>herbicide mixtures</kwd>
  <kwd>plant density</kwd>
  <kwd>weed resistance</kwd>
  <kwd>yield reduction</kwd>
</kwd-group>
<funding-group>
  <award-group>
    <funding-source><institution-wrap><institution>National Institutes of Health (US)</institution-wrap><institution-id institution-id-type="doi" vocab="open-funder-registry" vocab-identifier="10.13039/open-funder-registry">10.13039/100000002</institution-id><institution-wrap><named-content content-type="funder-id">http://dx.doi.org/10.13039/100001234</named-content></funding-source>
    <award-id>grant number goes here</award-id>
    <principal-award-recipient>
      <name><surname>Carberry</surname><given-names>Josiah Stinkney</given-names></name>
      <contrib-id contrib-id-type="orcid" authenticated="true">https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1825-0097</contrib-id>
    </principal-award-recipient>
  </award-group>
  <award-group>
    <funding-source>Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University<named-content content-type="funder-id">http://dx.doi.org/10.13039/100006274</named-content></funding-source>
    <principal-award-recipient>Joe Smith</principal-award-recipient>
  </award-group>
</funding-group>

[counts>
  <count count-type="image-bw" count="3"/>
  <count count-type="image-color" count="3"/>
  <fig-count count="0" />
</counts>
<custom-meta-group>
  <custom-meta specific-use="Additional Manuscript Detail" id="online_only">
    <meta-name>Online Only Figures</meta-name>
    <meta-value>Yes</meta-value>
  </custom-meta>
  <custom-meta>
    <meta-name>Manuscript Notes</meta-name>
    <meta-value>These are some manuscript notes from the exporting system which will be imported into EM's manuscript notes field if present in the XML.</meta-value>
  </custom-meta>
  <custom-meta>
    <meta-name>Production Notes</meta-name>
    <meta-value>These are some Production Notes</meta-value>
  </custom-meta>
</custom-meta-group>

<!-- The following custom-meta tags illustrate the tagging to be used to ingest a custom question response for the Corresponding Author. The value of the "id" attribute must contain the Custom Metadata ID configured on the EM site. The value of the specific-use attribute must be hardcoded to "question" for a parent-level question. -->
<custom-meta id="conflict" specific-use="question">
  <meta-name>Question text or a portion of the question text is written here</meta-name>
  <meta-value>Corresponding Author's response is written here. If the question has multiple responses, each response is separated by a pipe character e.g. red|blue|yellow</meta-value>
</custom-meta>

<!-- The following custom-meta tags illustrate the tagging to be used to ingest a custom
question response for the Corresponding Author, that is a response to a follow-up question. The value of the "id" attribute must contain the Custom Metadata ID configured for the follow-up question on the EM site. The value of the specific-use attribute must be hardcoded to question: (including the colon :) followed by the Custom Metadata ID value of the parent-level question. In the sample shown, the question with the id "coi_details" is a follow-up question to the parent question with the Custom Metadata ID "conflict", and the question with the id "coi_more_info" is a follow-up question to its parent which has the Custom Metadata ID "coi_details" [its parent is a follow-up question to the top level question] -->

  <custom-meta id="coi_details" specific-use="question_follow-up-to:conflict">
    <meta-name>The follow-up question text or a portion of the follow-up question text is written here</meta-name>
    <meta-value>Corresponding Author's response to the follow-up question is written here. If the follow-up question has multiple responses, each response is separated by a pipe character e.g. orange|green|violet</meta-value>
  </custom-meta>

  <custom-meta id="coi_more_info" specific-use="question_follow-up-to:coi_details">
    <meta-name>The 2nd level follow-up question text or a portion of the 2nd level follow-up question text is written here</meta-name>
    <meta-value>Corresponding Author's response to the 2nd level follow-up question is written here. If the follow-up question has multiple responses, each response is separated by a pipe character</meta-value>
  </custom-meta>

</article-meta>
</article>
</body>
</review-group>
</review-group>
</article>

A.4 Sample reviews.xml File

<REVIEW-GROUP xmlns="https://www.manuscriptexchange.org/schema/reviews" content-version="0" xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink" xmlns:ali="http://www.niso.org/schemas/ali/1.0/">
  <REVIEW review-type="review" review-version="0">
    <REVIEW-ITEM-GROUP>
      <REVIEW-ITEM review-item-type="recommendation" is-confidential="yes" sequence-number=""/>
        <REVIEW-ITEM-QUESTION>
          <TITLE>Rating 1</TITLE>
          <ALT-TITLE/>
          <TEXT>Recommendation Term</TEXT>
        </REVIEW-ITEM-QUESTION>
        <REVIEW-ITEM-RESPONSE>
          <REVIEW-ITEM-DATA>Reject and Transfer</REVIEW-ITEM-DATA>
        </REVIEW-ITEM-RESPONSE>
    </REVIEW-ITEM>
    <REVIEW-ITEM review-item-type="comments" is-confidential="yes"/>
      <REVIEW-ITEM-QUESTION>
        <TITLE>Comments 1</TITLE>
        <ALT-TITLE/>
        <TEXT>Comments to Editor</TEXT>
      </REVIEW-ITEM-QUESTION>
      <REVIEW-ITEM-RESPONSE>
        <REVIEW-ITEM-DATA>This is a great paper but not for this
<review-item-data>
  <review-item review-item-type="comments" sequence-number="" is-confidential="no">
    <review-item-question>
      <title>Comments 2</title>
      <alt-title/>
      <text>Comments to Author</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
      <review-item-data>Nice job but needs some work.</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
  </review-item>
  <review-item review-item-type="rating" sequence-number="1">
    <review-item-question>
      <title>Rating 2</title>
      <alt-title/>
      <text>On a scale of 1 to 10, how "novel" is the idea presented in this manuscript?</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
      <review-item-data>5</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
  </review-item>
  <review-item review-item-type="rating" sequence-number="2">
    <review-item-question>
      <title>Rating 3</title>
      <alt-title/>
      <text>How would you best describe this manuscript?</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
      <review-item-data>Average</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
  </review-item>
  <review-item review-item-type="multiple-choice" sequence-number="3">
    <review-item-question>
      <title>Survey 1</title>
      <alt-title/>
      <text>What is your favorite color?</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-data>Red</review-item-data>
    <review-item-response>
      <review-item-data>Red</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
    <review-item-response>
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    <review-item-question>
      <title>Supplemental Info 1</title>
      <alt-title/>
    </review-item-question>
  </review-item>
</review-item-data>
Reviewer Attachment

Reviewer

Dr.

Bob

PhD

BReviewer@mit.edu

Massachusetts Institution of Technology

Physics Department

77 Massachusetts Avenue

Suite 304

Maildrop 501

Room 5

Cambridge

MA

United States

02139

2018

28

2018

14

2018

29

1234-0052-2141-3325

123-456-789-012

12345
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      <title>Comments 1</title>
      <alt-title/>
      <text>Comments to Editor</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
      <review-item-data>This is a great paper but not for this journal.</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
  </review-item>
  <review-item review-item-type="comments" sequence-number="" is-confidential="no">
    <review-item-question>
      <title>Comments 2</title>
      <alt-title/>
      <text>Comments to Author</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
      <review-item-data>Nice job but needs some work.</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
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    <review-item-question>
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  <review-item-response>
    <review-item-data>Average</review-item-data>
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    <title></title>
    <alt-title/>
    <text>What is your favorite color?</text>
  </review-item-question>
  <review-item-response>
    <review-item-data>Red</review-item-data>
  </review-item-response>
  <review-item-response>
    <review-item-data>Blue</review-item-data>
  </review-item-response>
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</review-item-group>
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  <year>2018</year>
  <month>2</month>
  <day>28</day>
</date>
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  <year>2018</year>
  <month>2</month>
  <day>14</day>
</date>
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  <year>2018</year>
  <month>1</month>
  <day>29</day>
</date>
<contrib-group>
  <contrib contrib-type="reviewer">
    <name>
      <surname>Rabbit</surname>
      <given-names>Roger</given-names>
      <prefix>Dr.</prefix>
    </name>
    <!-- If the Reviewer does not have an authenticated ORCID do not write the <contrib-id> element to the XML file-->
  </contrib>
</contrib-group>
<degrees>PhD</degrees>
<email>BReviewer@ucr.edu</email>
<xref ref-type="aff" rid="aff2"/>
</contrib>
<aff id="aff2">
  <institution-wrap type="Ringgold">8790</institution-wrap>
  <institution content-type="dept">Department of Psychology</institution>
  <addr-line content-type="addrline1">900 University Avenue</addr-line>
  <addr-line content-type="addrline2">Suite 304</addr-line>
  <addr-line content-type="addrline3">Room 7</addr-line>
  <addr-line content-type="addrline4">Maildrop 501</addr-line>
  <addr-line content-type="city">Riverside</addr-line>
  <addr-line content-type="state">CA</addr-line>
  <addr-line content-type="country">United States</addr-line>
  <addr-line content-type="country-code">us</addr-line>
  <addr-line content-type="zip">92521</addr-line>
  <fax>951-555-2321</fax>
  <phone>951-827-1012</phone>
</aff>
<permissions>
  <copyright-statement>Copyright © 2018, Dr. Roger Rabbit, all rights reserved.</copyright-statement>
  <copyright-year>2018</copyright-year>
  <copyright-holder>Dr. Roger Rabbit</copyright-holder>
</permissions>
<review review-type="decision" review-version="1">
  <review-item-group>
    <review-item review-item-type="decision" sequence-number="" is-confidential="no">
      <review-item-question>
        <title/>
        <alt-title/>
        <text>Final Decision</text>
      </review-item-question>
      <review-item-response>
        <review-item-data>Reject and Transfer</review-item-data>
      </review-item-response>
    </review-item>
    <review-item review-item-type="comments" is-confidential="yes" sequence-number="">
      <review-item-question>
        <title>Comments 1</title>
        <alt-title/>
        <text>Comments to Editor</text>
      </review-item-question>
      <review-item-response>
        <review-item-data>I recommend that we transfer this paper to a sister publication.</review-item-data>
      </review-item-response>
    </review-item>
  </review-item-group>
</review>
<review-item-response>
  <review-item>
    <review-item review-item-type="comments" sequence-number="" is-confidential="no">
      <review-item-question>
        <title>Comments 2</title>
        <alt-title/>
        <text>Comments to Author</text>
      </review-item-question>
      <review-item-response>
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        <review-item-response>
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                <year>2018</year>
                <month>2</month>
                <day>28</day>
              </date>
              <contrib contrib-type="Editor-in-Chief">
                <name>
                  <surname>Editor</surname>
                  <given-names>Sally</given-names>
                  <prefix>Dr.</prefix>
                </name>
                <contrib-id contrib-id-type="orcid">0000-0003-2141-4459</contrib-id>
                <degrees>PhD</degrees>
                <email>SEditor@mit.edu</email>
                <xref ref-type="aff" rid="aff3"/>
              </contrib>
              <aff id="aff3">
                <institution-wrap>
                  <institution>
                    Massachusetts Institution of Technology
                  </institution>
                  <institution-id institution-id-type="Ringgold">12345</institution-id>
                </institution-wrap>
                <institution content-type="dept">Physics Department</institution>
                <addr-line content-type="addrline1">77 Massachusetts Avenue</addr-line>
                <addr-line content-type="addrline2">Suite 500</addr-line>
                <addr-line content-type="addrline3">Room 1</addr-line>
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                <addr-line content-type="country">United States</addr-line>
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                <fax>617-555-2321</fax>
                <phone>617-253-1050</phone>
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            </review-item-group>
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      </review-item-response>
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  </review-item>
</review-item-response>
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   <ali:license_ref xmlns:ali="http://www.niso.org/schemas/ali/1.0/" start_date="2018-02-28"/>
</license>
</permissions>
</review>

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            <title>Rating 1</title>
            <alt-title/>
            <text>Recommendation Term</text>
         </review-item-question>
         <review-item-response>
            <review-item-data>Reject and Transfer</review-item-data>
         </review-item-response>
      </review-item>
      <review-item review-item-type="comments" sequence-number="" is-confidential="yes">
         <review-item-question>
            <title>Comments 1</title>
            <alt-title/>
            <text>Comments to Editor</text>
         </review-item-question>
         <review-item-response>
            <review-item-data>This is a great paper but not for this journal.</review-item-data>
         </review-item-response>
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         <review-item-question>
            <title>Comments 2</title>
            <alt-title/>
            <text>Comments to Author</text>
         </review-item-question>
         <review-item-response>
            <review-item-data>Nice job but needs some work.</review-item-data>
         </review-item-response>
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   <review-item-group>
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         <review-item-question>
            <title>Rating 2</title>
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            <text>On a scale of 1 to 10, how "novel" is the idea presented in this manuscript?</text>
         </review-item-question>
         <review-item-response>
            <review-item-data>5</review-item-data>
         </review-item-response>
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      <review-item review-item-type="rating" sequence-number="2">
         <review-item-question>
            <title>Rating 3</title>
            <alt-title/>
            <text>On a scale of 1 to 10, how "novel" is the idea presented in this manuscript?</text>
         </review-item-question>
         <review-item-response>
            <review-item-data>4</review-item-data>
         </review-item-response>
      </review-item>
   </review-item-group>
</review>
<review-item-question>
<title>Rating 3</title>
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<text>How would you describe this manuscript?</text>
</review-item-question>
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</review-item-response>

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<text>What is your favorite color?</text>
</review-item-question>
<review-item-response>
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<review-item-response>
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</review-item>
</review-item-group>
<contrib-group>
<contrib contrib-type="Reviewer">
<name>
<surname>Reviewer</surname>
<given-names>Bob</given-names>
<prefix>Dr.</prefix>
</name>
<contrib-id contrib-id-type="orcid">1234-0052-2141-3325</contrib-id>
<degrees>PhD</degrees>
<email>BReviewer@mit.edu</email>
<xref ref-type="aff" rid="aff4" />
</contrib>
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</institution-wrap>
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    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
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      <alt-title/>
      <text>Comments to Editor</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
      <review-item-data>This is a great paper but not for this journal.</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
  </review-item>
  <review-item review-item-type="comments" sequence-number="" is-confidential="no">
    <review-item-question>
      <title>Comments 2</title>
      <alt-title/>
      <text>Comments to Author</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
      <review-item-data>Nice job but needs some work.</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
  </review-item>
  <review-item review-item-type="rating" sequence-number="1">
    <review-item-question>
      <title>Rating 2</title>
      <alt-title/>
      <text>On a scale of 1 to 10, how "novel" is the idea presented in this manuscript?</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
      <review-item-data>5</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
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  <review-item review-item-type="rating" sequence-number="2">
  </review-item>
</review>
<review-item-question>
    <title>Rating 3</title>
    <alt-title/>
    <text>How would you describe this manuscript?</text>
</review-item-question>
<review-item-response>
    <review-item-data type="decimal">9.1</review-item-data>
</review-item-response>

<review-item-review-item-type="text" sequence-number="3">
    <review-item-question>
        <title>Comments 3</title>
        <alt-title/>
        <text>When are you planning to revise this paper?</text>
    </review-item-question>
    <review-item-response>
        <review-item-data>08/27/2025</review-item-data>
    </review-item-response>
</review-item>

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    <month>2</month>
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    <day>14</day>
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    <month>1</month>
    <day>29</day>
</date>
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    <contrib contrib-type="Reviewer">
        <name>
            <surname>Rabbit</surname>
            <given-names>Roger</given-names>
            <prefix>Dr.</prefix>
        </name>
        <degrees>PhD</degrees>
        <email>BReviewer@mit.edu</email>
        <xref ref-type="aff" rid="aff5"/>
    </contrib>
    <aff id="aff5">
        <institution-wrap type="Ringgold">8790</institution-wrap>
        <institution>University of California Riverside</institution>
        <institution-id institution-id-type="Ringgold">8790</institution-id>
    </aff-wrap>
</contrib-group>
B.1 Manifest DTD

<!DOCTYPE manifest PUBLIC "-//MECA//DTD Manifest v1.0//en"
"https://www.manuscriptexchange.org/schema/manifest-1.0.dtd"
-->
<!-- SPECIAL CHARACTER MODULES -->
<!-- SPECIAL CHARACTERS DECLARATIONS -->
<!ENTITY % xmlspecchars.ent PUBLIC 
"-/NLM//DTD JATS (Z39.96) JATS DTD Suite XML Special Characters Module v1.2 20190208//EN"
"JATS-xmlspecchars1.ent" >
<!-- CUSTOM SPECIAL CHARACTERS DECLARATIONS -->
<!ENTITY % chars.ent PUBLIC 
"-/NLM//DTD JATS (Z39.96) JATS DTD Suite Custom Special Characters Module v1.2 20190208//EN"
"JATS-chars1.ent" >
<!ELEMENT manifest (item+)>
<!ATTLIST manifest xmlns CDATA #FIXED "https://manuscriptexchange.org/schema/manifest">
<!ATTLIST manifest xmlns:xlink CDATA #FIXED "http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">
<!ATTLIST manifest manifest-version CDATA #REQUIRED>
<!ELEMENT item (item-title?, item-description?, file-order?, item-metadata?, instance+)>
<!ATTLIST item id ID #IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST item item-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST item custom-metadata-id CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST item item-version CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT item-title (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT item-description (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT file-order (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT item-metadata (metadata+)>
<!ELEMENT metadata (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST metadata metadata-name CDATA #REQUIRED>
<!ELEMENT instance EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST instance xmlns:xlink CDATA #FIXED "http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink">
  xlink:type (locator) #FIXED 'locator'
  xlink:href CDATA #REQUIRED>
<!ATTLIST instance media-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST instance origin CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST instance conversion CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST instance composition CDATA #IMPLIED>
B.2 Transfer DTD

<!-- DOCTYPE transfer PUBLIC "-//MECA//DTD Transfer v1.0//en"
 "https://www.manuscriptexchange.org/schema/transfer-1.0.dtd" -->
<!-- SPECIAL CHARACTER MODULES -->
<!-- SPECIAL CHARACTERS DECLARATIONS -->
<!ENTITY % xmlspecchars.ent PUBLIC
 "-//NLM//DTD JATS (Z39.96) JATS DTD Suite XML Special Characters Module v1.2 20190208//EN"
 "JATS-xmlspecchars1.ent" >
<!-- CUSTOM SPECIAL CHARACTERS DECLARATIONS -->
<!ENTITY % chars.ent PUBLIC
 "-//NLM//DTD JATS (Z39.96) JATS DTD Suite Custom Special Characters Module v1.2 20190208//EN"
 "JATS-chars1.ent" >
<!ELEMENT transfer (transfer-source, destination, processing-instructions?)                          >
<!ATTLIST transfer xmlns CDATA #FIXED "https://manuscriptexchange.org/schema/transfer">
<!ATTLIST transfer transfer-version CDATA #REQUIRED>  
<!ELEMENT transfer-source (service-provider?, publication, security?)>  
<!ELEMENT service-provider (provider-name?, contact?)>  
<!ELEMENT provider-name (#PCDATA)>  
<!ELEMENT contact (contact-name?, (email|phone)+)>  
<!ATTLIST contact contact-role CDATA #IMPLIED>  
<!ELEMENT contact-name (surname?, given-names?)>  
<!ELEMENT surname (#PCDATA)>  
<!ELEMENT given-names (#PCDATA)>  
<!ELEMENT email (#PCDATA)>  
<!ELEMENT phone (#PCDATA)>  
<!ELEMENT publication (publication-title, acronym?, contact?)>  
<!ATTLIST publication type CDATA #IMPLIED>  
<!ELEMENT publication-title (#PCDATA)>  
<!ELEMENT acronym (#PCDATA)>  
<!ELEMENT security (authentication-code)>  
<!ELEMENT authentication-code (#PCDATA)>  
<!ELEMENT destination (service-provider, publication, security?)>  
<!-- The processing instructions tag is a placeholder for implementation-specific instructions between vendors and publishers-->  
<!ELEMENT processing-instructions (processing-instruction*, processing-comments?)>  
<!ELEMENT processing-instruction (#PCDATA)>  
<!ATTLIST processing-instruction processing-sequence CDATA #IMPLIED>  
<!ELEMENT processing-comments (#PCDATA)>
NISO RP-30-202X

B.3 Article DTD

The article.xml file is validated using the JATS Journal Archiving and Interchange Tag Set (“green”) DTD v1.2 (https://jats.nlm.nih.gov/archiving/1.2).

B.4 Reviews DTD

<!-- SPECIAL CHARACTER MODULES -->
<!-- SPECIAL CHARACTERS DECLARATIONS -->
<!-- Declares any standard XML special character entities used in this DTD -->
<!ENTITY % xmlspecchars.ent PUBLIC "//NLM/DTD JATS (Z39.96) JATS DTD Suite XML Special Characters Module v1.2 20190208//EN" "JATS-xmlspecchars1.ent" >

<!-- CUSTOM SPECIAL CHARACTERS DECLARATIONS -->
<!-- Declares any custom special character entities created for this Suite -->
<!ENTITY % chars.ent PUBLIC "//NLM/DTD JATS (Z39.96) JATS DTD Suite Custom Special Characters Module v1.2 20190208//EN" "JATS.chars1.ent" >
<!ELEMENT review-group (review+)>
<!ATTLIST review-group content-version CDATA IMPLIED>
xmlns CDATA #FIXED "https://manuscriptexchange.org/schema/reviews"
xmlns:xlink CDATA #FIXED "http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink"
xmlns:ali CDATA #FIXED "http://www.niso.org/schemas/ali/1.0/">

<!-- A review encapsulates the work that a reviewer has done to review a particular version of a manuscript -->
<!ELEMENT review (review-item-group, date*, contrib-group?, permissions?)>
<!ATTLIST review review-version CDATA IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST review review-type (review|recommendation|decision|CDATA) IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST review blinding (single|double|none|CDATA) IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST review permission-to-publish (yes|no) IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST review permission-to-transfer (yes|no) IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST review sequence-id (CDATA) IMPLIED>

<!ELEMENT review-item-group (review-item+)>

<!-- A review-item is a single piece of data gathered for a review. It is fairly flexible but may be (for example) a question and answer, question and set of answers, a miscellaneous comment, or an attached file. -->
<!ELEMENT review-item (review-item-question?, review-item-response*)>
<!ATTLIST review-item sequence-number CDATA IMPLIED>
<!-- the xref element of a contrib points to an aff element with the given rid -->
<!ELEMENT xref EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST xref ref-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST xref rid IDREF #REQUIRED>

<!ELEMENT aff (#PCDATA|institution-wrap|institution|addr-line|fax|phone)*>
<!ATTLIST aff id ID #REQUIRED>
<!ELEMENT institution-wrap (institution, institution-id?)>
<!ELEMENT institution (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST institution content-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ATTLIST institution-id (PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT department (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT addr-line (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST addr-line content-type (addrline1|addrline2|addrline3|addrline4|city|state|country|country-code|zip|CDATA) #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT fax (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT phone (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT permissions (copyright-statement*, copyright-year*, copyright-holder*, (ali:free_to_read | license)*) >
<!ATTLIST permissions id ID #IMPLIED >
<!ELEMENT copyright-statement (#PCDATA ) >
<!ATTLIST copyright-statement id ID #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT copyright-year (#PCDATA)> 
<!ELEMENT copyright-holder (#PCDATA) >
<!ATTLIST copyright-holder id ID #IMPLIED xml:lang CDATA #IMPLIED >
<!ELEMENT license (ali:license_ref | license-p)* >
<!ATTLIST license id ID #IMPLIED license-type CDATA #IMPLIED xml:lang CDATA #IMPLIED >
<!ELEMENT license-p (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT ali:free_to_read EMPTY >
<!ATTLIST ali:free_to_read xmlns:ali CDATA #FIXED "http://www.niso.org/schemas/ali/1.0/" end_date CDATA #IMPLIED start_date CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT ali:license_ref (#PCDATA) >
<!ATTLIST ali:license_ref xmlns:ali CDATA #FIXED "http://www.niso.org/schemas/ali/1.0/" start_date CDATA #IMPLIED>