

# comm\_para

## Paradata Defined

- Captures usage data about a resource (e.g. downloaded, favorited, rated)
- Allows usage data to be designated by audience, subject or education level

## XML Schema Information

**NOTE:** this information is required to make this metadata format work in the [jOAI application](#):

- schema: [http://ns.nsdsl.org/ncs/comm\\_para/1.00/schemas/comm\\_para.xsd](http://ns.nsdsl.org/ncs/comm_para/1.00/schemas/comm_para.xsd)
- namespace: [http://ns.nsdsl.org/ncs/comm\\_para](http://ns.nsdsl.org/ncs/comm_para)
- format name: comm\_para

**NOTE:** schema information is always the most accurate information; it supersedes any documentation

## Sample Records in XML

- [Paradata for the Capacity of Planets](#) (in comm\_para)
- Resource metadata for the [Capacity of Planets](#) (in nsdl\_dc)
- [Capacity of Planets](#) resource

## Create Item-level Paradata for NSDL

- Know the URL of the resource in NSDL that you are connecting paradata to
- Determine the type of usage data being shared (integer, string, rank, vote or rating).
  - Currently the NSDL can only display integer paradata at this time. Any non-integer fields that are used will not be displayed
- Understand the differences between the data types
  - **Integer:** indicates the number of times for something
  - **String:** is text (note, remark, keywords) to associate with a resource
  - **Rank:** position in a hierarchy
  - **Rating:** number of times rated on a scale
  - **Vote:** thumbs up/down indication
- Determine the kind of data within each type (e.g. viewed, favorited for integer data)
- Determine if usage data is summative from X point forward or applies to only a certain time period like a week
  - **NOTE:** Currently the NSDL can only display summative data from X point forward (i.e. a running total)
- Determine if you want to sort usage data by audience, ed level, subject or no sorting
  - Currently the NSDL cannot sort by audience, ed level or subject
- Understand the **controlled vocabularies** (choices) associated with each data type
  - [Integer choices](#) (controlled vocabulary)
  - [String choices](#) (controlled vocabulary)
  - [Rank choices](#) (controlled vocabulary)
  - [Rating choices](#) (controlled vocabulary)
  - [Vote choices](#) (controlled vocabulary)

## NSDL Requirements for a Paradata Collection

- Provide item-level metadata in the comm\_para metadata format as described above
- Share you item-level metadata with the NSDL via one of these methods:
  - Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH)
    - If you need OAI software, consider the NSDL supported [jOAI software](#)
    - Know OAI base URL and OAI set (if set is applicable) and send to NSDL
  - [NCS](#) (NSDL Collection System)
    - Indicated collection name
- Provide NSDL the following collection-level metadata
  - Make a collection logo that is no larger than 100 pixels wide by 30 pixels tall
  - Determine a name for your collection
  - Provide a description for your collection
  - Provide name and emails for the collection contacts (responsible party and technical person)
  - URL home the collection (if any)
  - Education level of the collection
  - Audience
  - Rights and access rights information
- See the [Paradata Metadata Rubric](#) for more information about required metadata fields
- Send the above information to [NSDL collections](#)