Retraction watch data in the REST API

Starting soon...

02 April 2025

Agenda

- Introduction and importance of the Retraction Watch metadata
- Overview of the Retraction Watch metadata
- How to access it?
- Community use case: GetFTR

Who is here today?

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Technical Community Manager
Community team

Martyn Rittman

Program lead
Programs and services team

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Product Director
GetFTR

The Retraction Watch Metadata

What is a retraction?
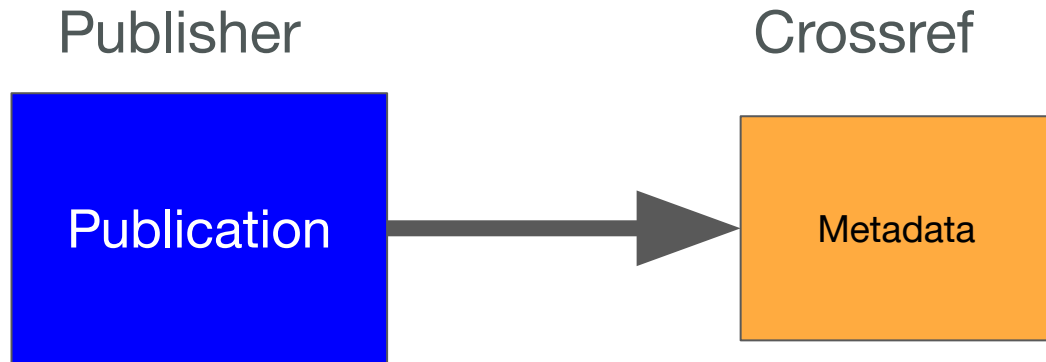
Publisher

Crossref

Publication → Metadata

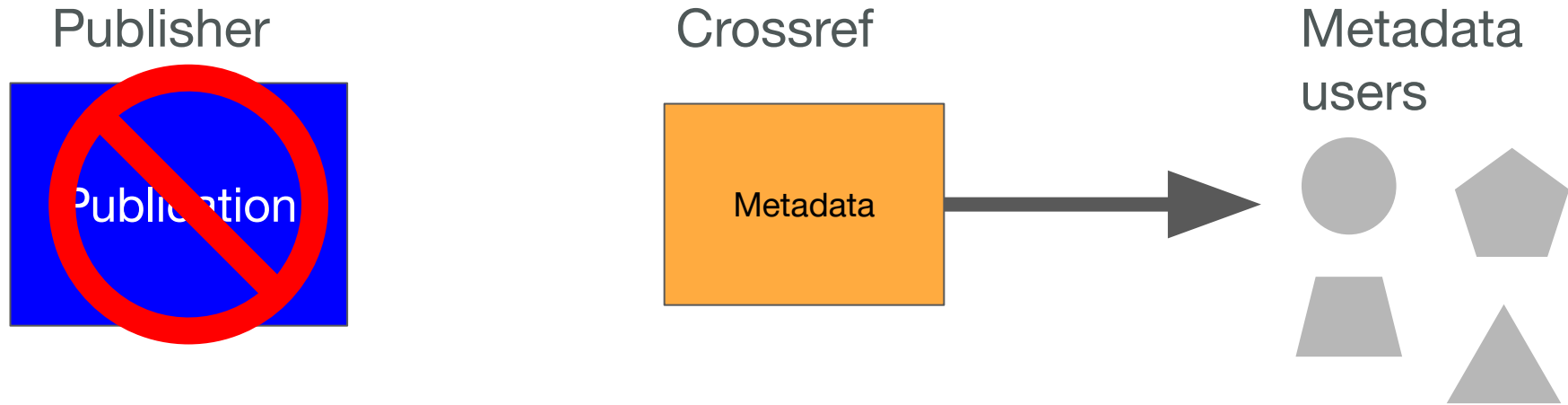# What is a retraction?

Publisher

Crossref

Publication
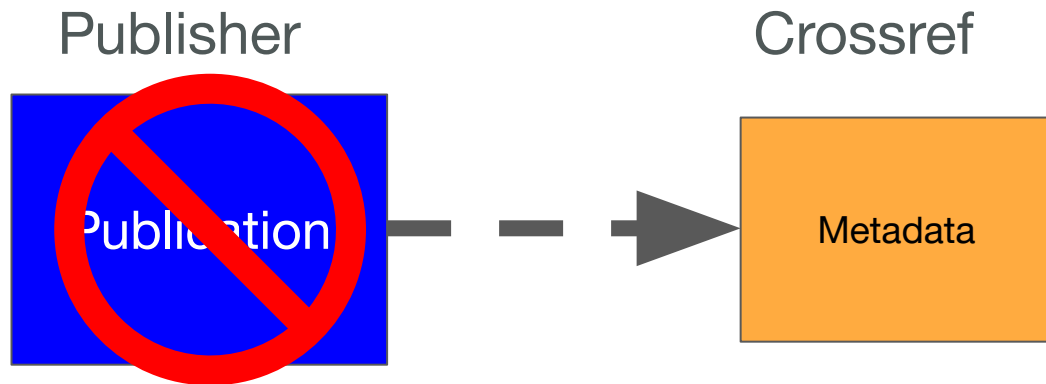
Metadata

- Systems build to send but not update metadata.
- Retraction is rare, so publishers aren't use to handling them.

Crossref

Impacts of retraction

Publisher

Crossref

Metadata users

Publication

Metadata

Downstream users don't know about the retraction.

Retraction Watch

- Started reporting on retractions.
- Started collecting retractions.
- Signed an agreement with Crossref to open the retraction database.
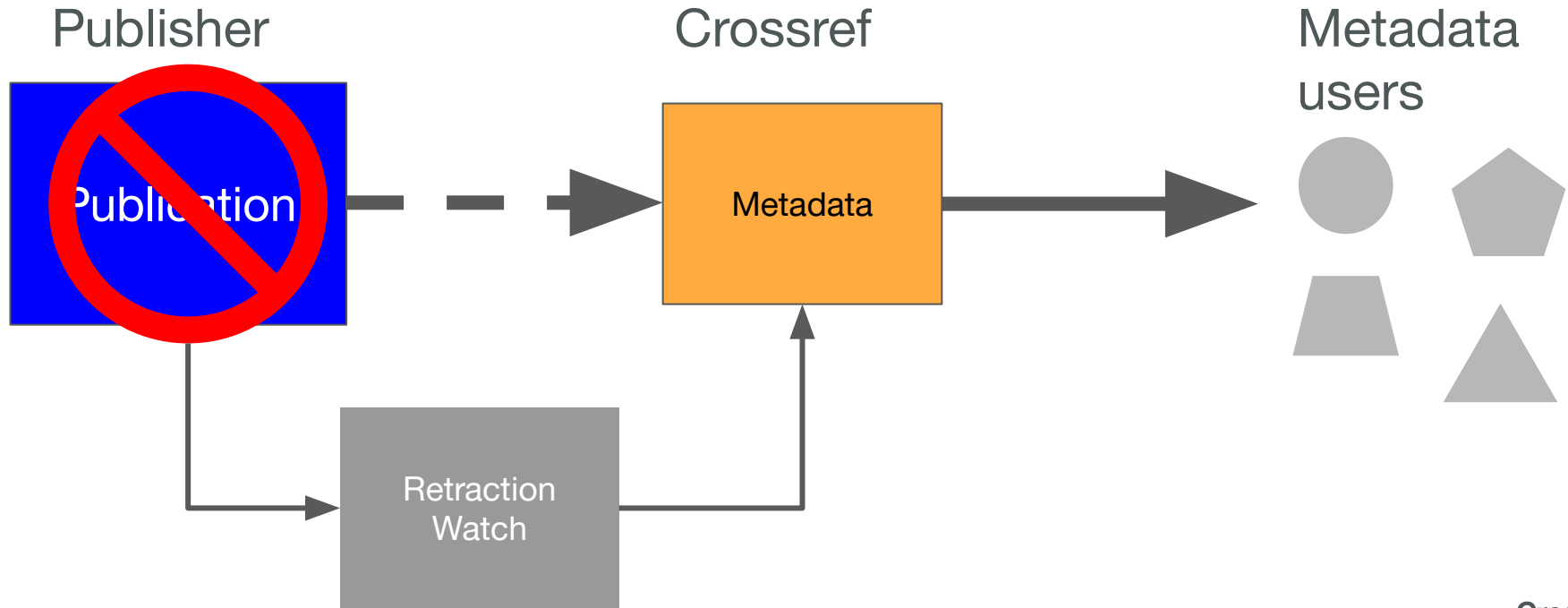
Where does the data come from?

- Member metadata deposits

- Searching scholarly databases
- Checking publisher websites
- Web searches
- Reports from the community
- Human curation process

Better retraction metadata

Publisher

Crossref

Metadata users

Publication

Metadata

Retraction Watch

How to register a retraction

Any Crossref member can register a retraction

```
<crossmark>
   <updates>
      <update type="retraction" label="Retraction" date="2009-09-14">
         10.5555/12345678
      </update>
   </updates>
</crossmark>
```

Full example: https://gitlab.com/crossref/schema/-/blob/master/best-practice-examples/crossmark_retraction_4.8.0.xml

How to register a retraction

Web deposit form: https://apps.crossref.org/webDeposit/

How to access retractions

All RW retractions in one place

CSV file - all Retraction Watch data in one place

https://gitlab.com/crossref/retraction-watch-data

Why CSV data?

Pros

- All RW retractions in one place.
- Includes additional details.
- Human-readable.

Cons

- No Crossref metadata.
- Contains info you might not need.
- Unfiltered.

REST API

https://api.crossref.org/v1/works?filter=update-type:retraction&rows=10

JSON formatted data combining member metadata with Retraction Watch metadata.

```
          unstructured:        "Washino S, Rider LC, Romero L, .
          journal-title:       "Mol Cancer Res"
   updated-by:
      0:
         updated:
            date-parts:
               0:
                  0:           2022
                  1:           6
                  2:           9
            date-time:         "2022-06-09T00:00:00Z"
            timestamp:         1654732800000
         DOI:                  "10.1186/s12935-020-01654-5"
         type:                 "retraction"
         source:               "publisher"
         label:                "Retraction"
      1:
         record-id:            "37618"
         source:               "retraction-watch"
         label:                "Retraction"
         type:                 "retraction"
         updated:
            date-time:         "2022-06-09T00:00:00Z"
            date-parts:
               0:
                  0:           2022
                  1:           6
                  2:           9
            timestamp:         1654732800000
         DOI:                  "10.1186/s12935-022-02628-5"
   container-title:
      0:                       "Cancer Cell International"
```

Why use the REST API?

Pros
- Get the latest retractions
- Machine-readable
- Easy filtering
- RW retractions + Crossref metadata
- Compare what publishers and RW say

Cons
- More difficult to get all metadata.
- Retractions are (deliberately) listed more than once.
- Too much information?

Crossref

Filter examples

Base URL: https://api.crossref.org/v1/works?mailto=email@domain.com&

Retractions made in a date range:

    filter=update-type:retraction,from-pub-date:2023-01-01,until-pub-date:2023-12-31

    filter=is-update:1,from-pub-date:2023-01-01,until-pub-date:2023-12-31

Retractions from a specific country:

    filter=update-type:retraction&query.affiliation=switzerland

Retractions using keywords in the title:

    filter=update-type:retraction&query.title=covid

    filter=has-update:1&query.title=covid

Crossref

New! Versions

https://www.crossref.org/blog

```
{
  "DOI": "10.5555/doi",
  "version": {
    "version": "2.1-in english",
    "language": "en",
    "version-description": [
      {
        "description": "Mis à jour pour inclure des données
supplémentaires",
        "language": "fr"
      },
      {
        "description": "Updated to include additional data",
        "language": "en"
      }
    ]
  }
}
```

New! Preprint withdrawals

https://www.crossref.org/blog

```
{
  "DOI": "10.5555/doi",
  "status": [
    {
      "type": "withdrawn",
      "updated": {
        "date-parts": [
          [
            2024,
            2,
            1
          ]
        ]
      }
    },
    "status-description": [
      {
        "description": "violation de copyright",
        "language": "fr"
      },
      {
        "description": "copyright infringement",
        "language": "en"
      }
    ]
  }
]
}
```

Crossref

Community use case: GetFTR

What is Get Full Text Research (GetFTR) and how does it work?

GETFTR
getfulltextresearch.com

1. **DOI-level entitlements checks**, provided by publishers in real time

2. **Indicators where full text is available** via institution subscriptions or OA

3. **Smart links to trusted content** removing unnecessary steps 📄 **View PDF**

4. **Retraction and errata information** at the point of discovery ⚠ **Retraction**

5. **Free to use** for discovery tools, and links added to all websites via the [GetFTR Browser Extension](#)

GetFTR used by leading discovery tools and publishers providing 5 billion entitlement decisions per year

GETFTR
getfulltextresearch.com

Chart: DOI Entitlement checks completed (cumulative, billions) from 2020Q1 to 2024Q4, rising to approximately 17.0 billion.
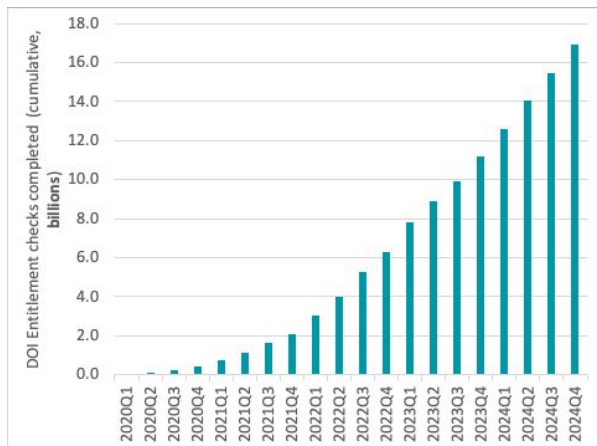
PUBLISHERS

- AAAS
- AACR
- ACS
- ADA
- AIP Publishing
- AIAA
- American Medical Association
- APA
- AMS

DISCOVERY TOOLS

- APA Psychinfo
- Cactus – *Case Study*
- CHORUS
- DeepDyve
- Digital Science
- Dimensions
- Figshare

- APS
- ASCE
- ASM – *Case Study*
- ASM International
- Becaris Publishing
- CABI
- Dovepress
- Edinburgh University Press
- Edward Elgar
- Elsevier – *Case Study*
- Future Science Group

- Mendeley
- MyScienceWork
- Readcube Papers
- Researcher
- ResearchGate (for syndicated content)
- SciFinder
- SciSummary

- Geological Society of London
- IEEE
- IOP Publishing
- Karger
- Oxford University Press
- Project Hope (Health Affairs)
- Rockefeller University Press
- Royal College of Surgeons of London
- RSNA
- Sage

- Scopus
- Semantic Scholar
- SN Experiments
- Symplectic

ARTICLE REFERENCES

- ACS Publications

- SEG
- Springer Nature
- Taylor & Francis
- Thieme
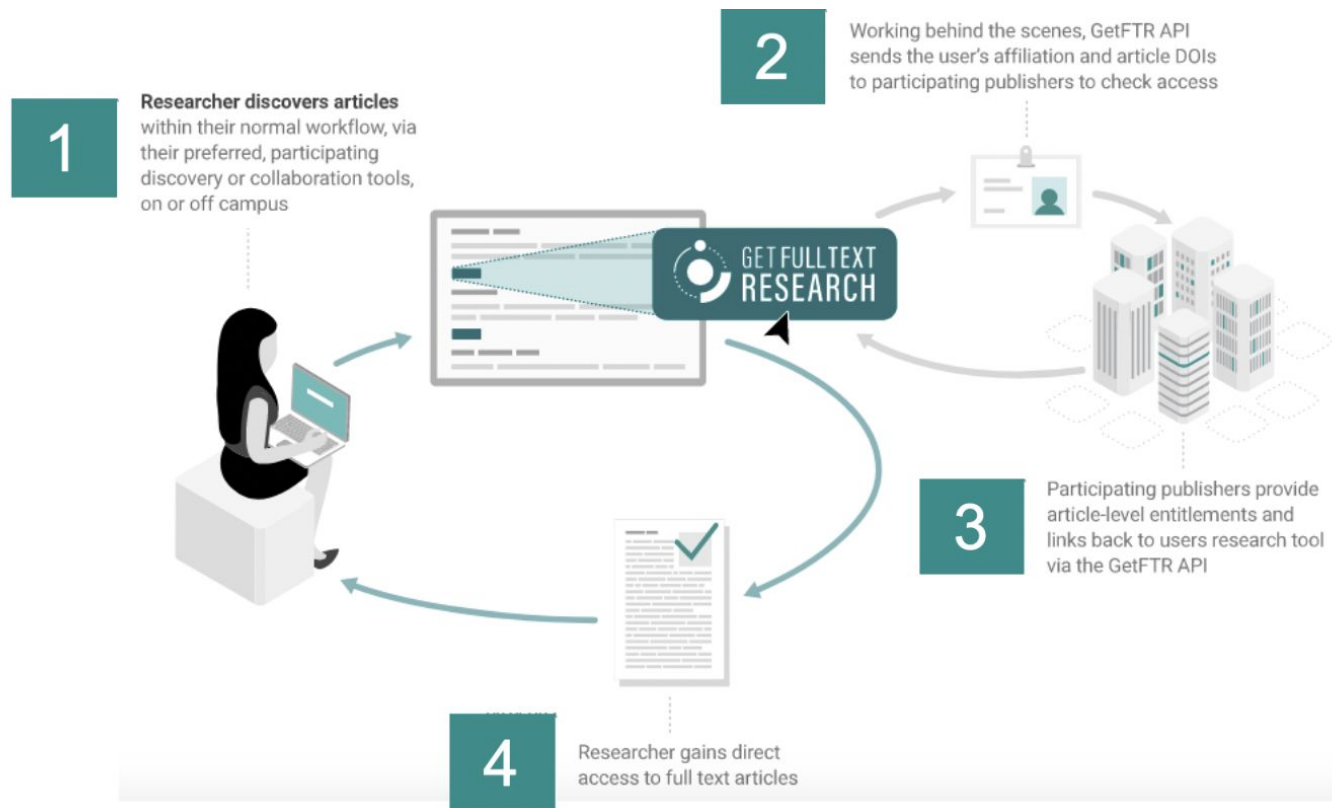- Wageningen Academic Publishers
- Wiley

PLATFORMS

- Atypon
- KGL PubFactory
- Silverchair

- ASM Journals
- IOPScience
- RSNA Journals
- ScienceDirect
- SEG Library
- Taylor & Francis Online
- Wiley Online Library

50+ Publishers and Integrators | **~68%** of article output **| All OA content | 5 billion** entitlement requests / year

GetFTR uses Crossref to identify publishers and to provide retraction and errata data to discovery tools

GETFTR
getfulltextresearch.com

1 Researcher discovers articles within their normal workflow, via their preferred, participating discovery or collaboration tools, on or off campus

2 Working behind the scenes, GetFTR API sends the user's affiliation and article DOIs to participating publishers to check access

GET FULLTEXT RESEARCH

3 Participating publishers provide article-level entitlements and links back to users research tool via the GetFTR API

4 Researcher gains direct access to full text articles

Discovery tools flag retractions & errata at the point of discovery

Discovery tools reassure researchers about the status of content at the point of discovery - safeguarding **research integrity**

Currently displayed via the **GetFTR Browser Extension**, **Psycinfo, and IOPP references**, with others coming soon

The GetFTR **Document Status** page shows updates to the document in timeline format using Crossref data

GetFTR uses the Crossref API and Retraction Watch CSV
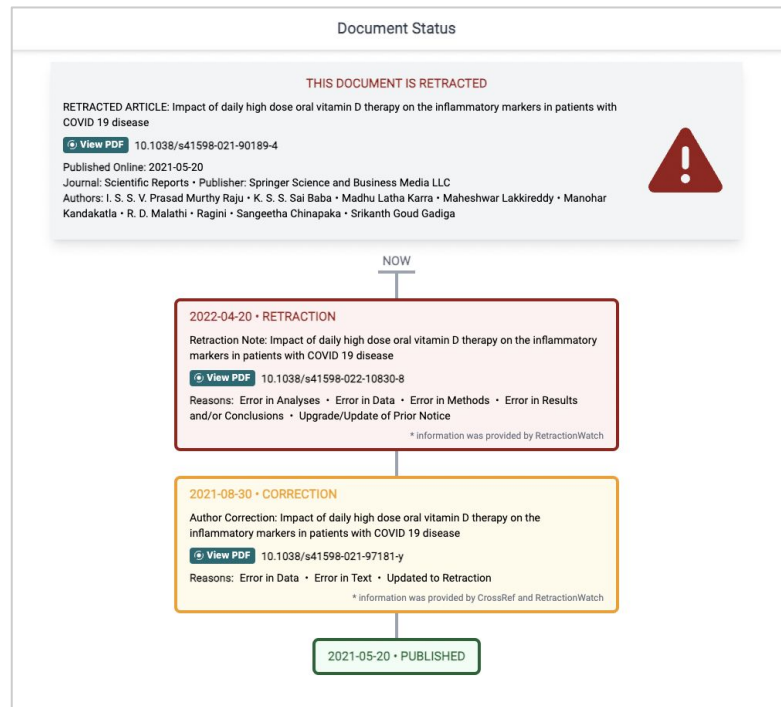
GETFTR
getfulltextresearch.com

Crossref API: Source "publisher", for every Crossref update-type, using Crossref update-to, an update record is created in GetFTR for the DOI

Retraction Watch CSV from CrossRef Gitlab: An update record is created in GetFTR for the DOI, with metadata e.g. reasons and URL

GetFTR API: Returns stored update records for DOI

GetFTR Document Status Page: Sorts and dedupes records (CR/RW), shows updates in timeline format, uses the title of the document and other key information

Contact **dianne@getfulltextresearch.com** if you'd like to hear more

Document Status

THIS DOCUMENT IS RETRACTED

RETRACTED ARTICLE: Impact of daily high dose oral vitamin D therapy on the inflammatory markers in patients with COVID 19 disease

View PDF 10.1038/s41598-021-90189-4

Published Online: 2021-05-20
Journal: Scientific Reports • Publisher: Springer Science and Business Media LLC
Authors: I. S. S. V. Prasad Murthy Raju • K. S. S. Sai Baba • Madhu Latha Karra • Maheshwar Lakkireddy • Manohar Kandakatla • R. D. Malathi • Ragini • Sangeetha Chinapaka • Srikanth Goud Gadiga

NOW

2022-04-20 • RETRACTION

Retraction Note: Impact of daily high dose oral vitamin D therapy on the inflammatory markers in patients with COVID 19 disease

View PDF 10.1038/s41598-022-10830-8

Reasons: Error in Analyses • Error in Data • Error in Methods • Error in Results and/or Conclusions • Upgrade/Update of Prior Notice

* information was provided by RetractionWatch

2021-08-30 • CORRECTION

Author Correction: Impact of daily high dose oral vitamin D therapy on the inflammatory markers in patients with COVID 19 disease

View PDF 10.1038/s41598-021-97181-y

Reasons: Error in Data • Error in Text • Updated to Retraction

* information was provided by CrossRef and RetractionWatch

2021-05-20 • PUBLISHED

Get help

- Read our documentation at www.crossref.org/documentation

- Visit our community forum at https://community.crossref.org/

- Contact the team directly: www.crossref.org/contact