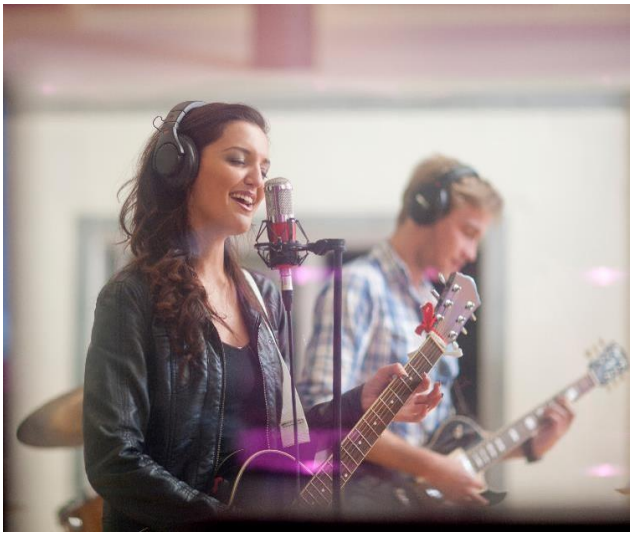
Virtual AskQC Office Hours

The mysterious 3xx fields

OCLC Metadata Quality
May 2020

Housekeeping

This session is being recorded



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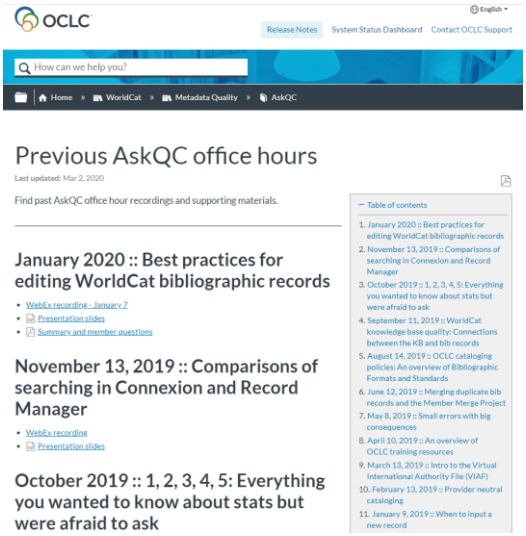

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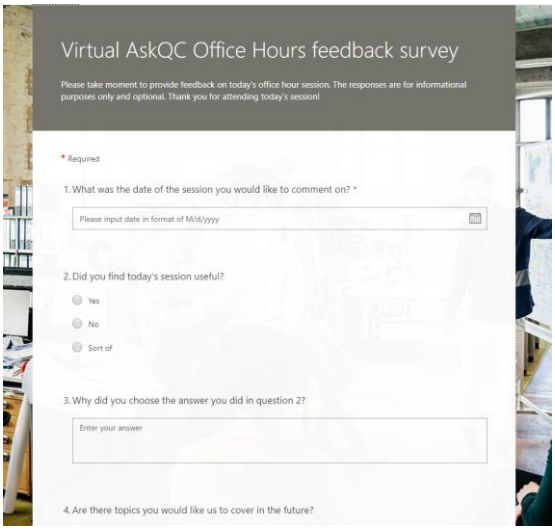
After the session, you will be directed to a brief, optional survey



On the call today

Nathan Putnam

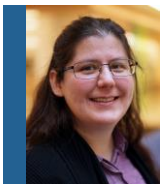
Director of Metadata Quality

Robin Six

Database Specialist II

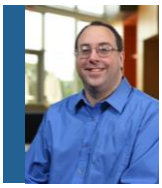
Jay Weitz

Senior Consulting Database Specialist



Charlene Morrison

Database Specialist II



Bryan Baldus

Consulting Database Specialist

Robert Bremer

Senior Consulting Database Specialist

Thank you, Nathan. My name is Robin Six and today I will be co-presenting with my colleague, Jay Weitz.
Together, we are going to take a closer look at The Mysterious 3xx Fields.

I will provide a breakdown of the individual fields and will share some examples showing how these fields are used in bibliographic records.

Jay will discuss the vocabularies used and the current best practices for coding these mysterious 3xx fields.

Introduction

Since 2003 there have been 24 3xx fields added to MARC 21.

Recently added 3xx fields
33x: 336, 337, and 338
34x: 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, and 348
38x: 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, and 388

OCLC Bibliographic Formats and Standards (BFAS)
3xx introduction page

The 3xx fields pertain to information about the physical characteristics, graphic representation, physical arrangement, frequency and chronological/numerical designations for continuing resources, security information, and other related data. For digital resources, the 3xx fields can be used to record reference data, coordinate data, technical specifications, and other information.

Since 2003 there have been 24 3xx fields added to MARC 21

Today we be going over the most recently added 33x, 34x, and 38x fields.

All 3xx MARC fields are included in OCLC's *Bibliographic Formats and Standards* (BFAS). If you normally click into a tag-specific page, or you are unsure where to start, you may wish to check out the Introduction page to that section for guidance as well.

33x fields

336: Content type

337: Media type

338: Carrier type

Photo by Thomas Fields on Unsplash

Use fields 336, 337, and 338 to describe content, media, and carrier type of the resource.

With RDA these fields replaced the General Material Designation (GMD), previously recorded in field 245 subfield ǂh.

33x fields

040			XXX ǂb eng ǂe rda ǂc XXX
245	0	0	Brain and language.
300			volumes : ǂb illustrations ; ǂc 23 cm
336			text ǂb txt ǂ2 rdacontent
337			unmediated ǂb n ǂ2 rdamedia
338			volume ǂb nc ǂ2 rdacarrier

040			XXX ǂb fre ǂe rda ǂc XXX
245	0	0	Brain and language.
300			volumes : ǂb illustrations ; ǂc 23 cm
336			texte ǂb txt ǂ2 rdacontent/fre
337			sans médiation ǂb n ǂ2 rdamedia/fre
338			volume ǂb nc ǂ2 rdacarrier/fre

Photo by Sincerely Media on Unsplash

These examples are from an English cataloged and a French cataloged record for the same English language print title.

You are probably quite familiar with these 33x fields.

While only subfield ǂa or subfield ǂb are required, it is beneficial for both to be used in the master bibliographic record.

Subfield ǂa contains an eye-readable controlled term while the subfield ǂb contains a machine-readable code.

The subfield ǂ2 contains the MARC code that identifies the source of the term or code used and is followed by a slash and the MARC language code when the term in subfield ǂa is from a translated version of the original source document or list.

The term in subfield ǂa and the language code in subfield ǂ2 should be consistent with the language coded in field 040 subfield ǂb, in other words the language of cataloging, not the language of the item itself.

33x fields

300		12 audio discs (approximately 12 hr.) : ǂb digital, CD audio ; ǂc 4 3/4 in. + ǂe 1 course guidebook (vi, 160 pages : illustrations ; 19 cm)
336		spoken word ǂb spw ǂ2 rdacontent ǂ3 audio disc
336		text ǂb txt ǂ2 rdacontent ǂ3 course guidebook
337		audio ǂb s ǂ2 rdamedia ǂ3 audio disc
337		unmediated ǂb n ǂ2 rdamedia ǂ3 course guidebook
338		audio disc ǂb sd ǂ2 rdacarrier ǂ3 audio disc
338		volume ǂb nc ǂ2 rdacarrier ǂ3 course guidebook

In this example the resource is a Sound Recording with an accompanying guidebook and there are 33x fields for both components of this resource.

The first 336, 337, and 338 fields pertain to the audio discs and the second 336, 337, and 338 fields pertain to the guidebook.

34x fields

340: Physical medium
341: Accessibility content
344: Sound characteristics
345: Projection characteristics of moving image
346: Video characteristics
347: Digital file characteristics
348: Format of notated music

342: Geospatial reference data
343: Planar coordinate data

Fields 340, 341, 344, 345, 346, 347, and 348 are used to provide information about the accessibility, physical description, and technical specifications of a resource.

Fields 342 and 343 are used for geospatial data sets.

34x fields: 340

300			1 painting : ǂb oil ; ǂc 46 x 31 cm, with frame 88 x 74 cm
336			still image ǂb sti ǂ2 rdacontent
337			unmediated ǂb n ǂ2 rdamedia
338			sheet ǂb nb ǂ2 rdacarrier
340			canvas ǂ2 rdamat
340			ǂc oil ǂ2 rdamat
340			ǂe wood ǂ2 rdamat

Photo by Ståle Grut on Unsplash

Field 340 is used for the physical description information of an item that requires technical equipment for its use.

It is also used for the more granular description information of an item's material properties to facilitate access and discovery or to support collection management.

Here field 340 is used to give a more granular description of a framed oil painting, you can see the preferred use of a separate field for each unique term.

34x fields: 341

300			v, 12 pages of print/braille : ǂb illustrations ; ǂc 28 cm.
336			text ǂb txt ǂ2 rdacontent
336			tactile text ǂb tct ǂ2 rdacontent
337			unmediated ǂb n ǂ2 rdamedia
338			volume ǂb nc ǂ2 rdacarrier
341			textual ǂe braille
500			Opposite pages in braille.

Field 341 is used to convey information about the mode of access of a resource.

This example is for a resource which has both print text and braille.

Subfield ǂa indicates the sensory mode that is required to access the content of the resource without using any of the assistive/adaptive features while subfield ǂe shows the tactile assistive features and adaptations that enable access to the content of the resource through touch.

34x fields: 341

300		4 videodiscs (789 min.) : ǂb sound, color ; ǂc 4 3/4 in.
336		two-dimensional moving image ǂb tdi ǂ2 rdacontent
337		video ǂb v ǂ2 rdamedia
338		videodisc ǂb vd ǂ2 rdacarrier
340		ǂb 4 3/4 in.
340		ǂg color ǂ2 rdacpc
341	1	auditory ǂb captions

This example shows there are captions on the videodiscs.

Here again subfield ǂa indicates the sensory mode that is required to access the content of the resource without assistance, while subfield ǂb shows the type of textual assistance available.

34x fields: 344

Photo by James Sutton on Unsplash

300		1 audio disc (45 min.) ; ǂc 12 in.
336		spoken word ǂb spw ǂ2 rdacontent
337		audio ǂb s ǂ2 rdamedia
338		audio disc ǂb sd ǂ2 rdacarrier
340		vinyl ǂ2 rdamat
340		ǂb 12 in.
344		analog ǂ2 rdatr
344		ǂc 33 1/3 rpm
344		ǂd microgroove ǂ2 rdagw
344		ǂg stereo ǂ2 rdacpc

Field 344 gives the technical specifications relating to the encoding of sound in the resource.

This example shows the sound characteristics for a vinyl record, again, you can see the preferred use of a separate field for each unique term.

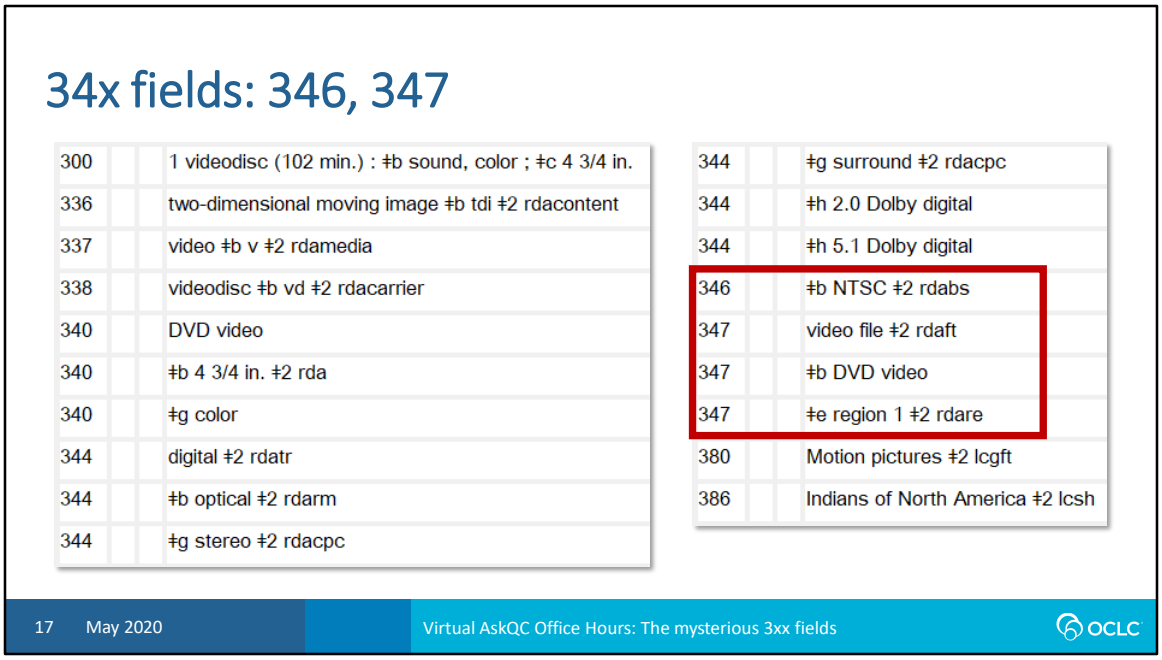
34x fields: 347

Photo by Phil Hearing on Unsplash

300		1 audio disc (43 min., 53 sec.) ; ǂc 4 3/4 in.
336		performed music ǂb prm ǂ2 rdacontent
337		audio ǂb s ǂ2 rdamedia
338		audio disc ǂb sd ǂ2 rdacarrier
340		ǂb 4 3/4 in.
344		digital ǂ2 rdatr
344		ǂb optical ǂ2 rdarm
344		ǂg stereo ǂ2 rdapc
344		ǂc 1.4 m/s
347		audio file ǂ2 rdaft
347		ǂb CD audio

A little out of order is the 347 field, it is for the technical specifications relating to digital encoding of text, image, audio, video, and other types of data in a tangible resource.

This example shows the sound characteristics for a music CD, you can see two 347 fields have been added to capture the digital file characteristics.



This record example is for a DVD video that includes the 346 field for the video characteristics as well as the 347 for the digital characteristics.

While the 38x fields are coming up later, I wanted to include the 380 and 386 in this example as these fields were also present in the record.

Looking at *all* the 3xx fields, we can see how they work together to describe the characteristics of a resource.

34x fields: 345

300			4 film reels (153 min., 5,508 ft.) : ǂb sound, color ; ǂc 34 cm, 16 mm
336			two-dimensional moving image ǂb tdi ǂ2 rdacontent
337			projected ǂb g ǂ2 rdamedia
338			film reel ǂb mr ǂ2 rdacarrier
345			Panavision ǂ2 rdapf

Photo by Denise Jans on Unsplash

Field 345 is used to record the projection characteristics of a moving image resource.

It corresponds to RDA 3.17, Projection Characteristic of Motion Picture Film, and is explicitly limited to actual motion picture film, its presentation, and its projection.

It should not be used for any other video format, including DVDs or Blu-ray discs.

34x fields: 348

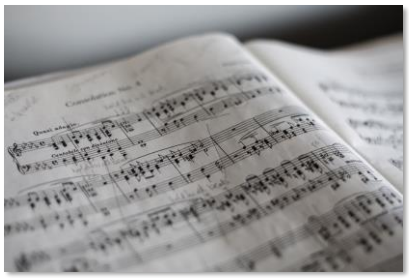
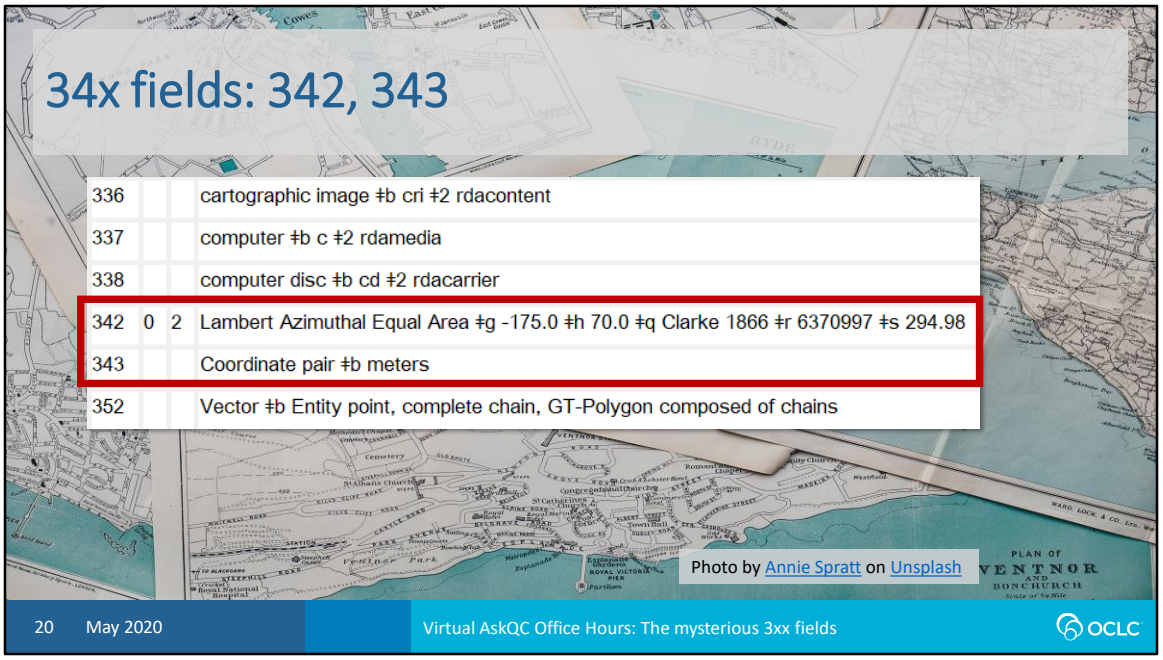


Photo by Marius Masalar on Unsplash

048			vn01 ǂa ka01
300			1 vocal score (238 pages) ; ǂc 31 cm
336			notated music ǂb ntm ǂ2 rdacontent
337			unmediated ǂb n ǂ2 rdamedia
338			volume ǂb nc ǂ2 rdacarrier
348			vocal score ǂ2 rdafnm
382	0	1	singer ǂn 1 ǂa piano ǂn 1 ǂp guitar ǂn 1 ǂ2 lcmpt

Field 348 is used for the musical or physical layout of the content of a resource that is presented in the form of musical notation.

This example is for a vocal score and I've included the 048 field for the number of musical instruments or voices coding and the 382 field present in the record for the medium of performance.



As mentioned earlier, fields 342 and 343 are used for geospatial data sets.

This example is for a computer disc (CD-ROM) of sea-floor images and data from multi-beam surveys.

Field 342 is for geospatial reference data and is used for the description of the frame of reference for the coordinates in a data set.

Field 343 is for planar coordinate data and is used for information about the coordinate system developed on a planar surface.

While looking for an example for these fields, it seemed field 352 usually appears with them so I have included it from the record. Field 352 indicates the description of the method of referencing and the mechanism used to represent graphic information in a data set.

38x fields: 380, 381

300			1 score (66 pages) ; ǂc 31 cm
336			notated music ǂb ntm ǂ2 rdacontent
337			unmediated ǂb n ǂ2 rdamedia
338			volume ǂb nc ǂ2 rdacarrier
380			Ballets (Music) ǂ2 lcgft
381			arranged
382	0	1	piano ǂn 1 ǂs 1 ǂ2 lcmpt
500			The orchestral parts are arranged for piano.

Photo by Donald Giannatti on Unsplash

Use fields 380 and 381 for the form and any other characteristic that is not accommodated in a special field that characterizes works or expressions associated with the described resource.

This example is for a score arranged for the piano which was written to be played for a ballet.

38x fields: 380, 381

240	1	0	Poems. ǂk Selections
336			text ǂb txt ǂ2 rdacontent
337			unmediated ǂb n ǂ2 rdamedia
338			volume ǂb nc ǂ2 rdacarrier
380			Poetry ǂ2 marcgt
381			Selections

Photo by Johannes Plenio on Unsplash

These fields can also be used to describe non-musical resources, in this case they are used to indicate selections of poetry.

38x fields: 382, 383, 384

300			1 score (11 pages) and 2 parts ; ǂc 32 cm.
336			notated music ǂb ntm ǂ2 rdacontent
337			unmediated ǂb n ǂ2 rdamedia
338			volume ǂb nc ǂ2 rdacarrier
382	0	1	flute ǂn 1 ǂp violin ǂn 1 ǂa piano ǂn 1 ǂa cello ǂn 1 ǂs 3 ǂ2 lcm
383			ǂb op. 13
384			D minor

Photo by Denise Jans on Unsplash

Use fields 382, 383, and 384 for medium of performance, numeric designation, and key of musical works or expressions associated with the described resource.

In this example field 382 shows the instrumental medium of performance, field 383 shows the opus number, and field 384 shows the key of the musical work.

38x fields: 385, 386

385			ǂm Educational level group: ǂn edu ǂa Sixth grade students ǂ2 lcdgt
385			ǂm Educational level group: ǂn edu ǂa Seventh grade students ǂ2 lcdgt
385			ǂm Educational level group: ǂn edu ǂa School children ǂ2 lcdgt
385			ǂm Educational level group: ǂn edu ǂa Middle students ǂ2 lcdgt
385			ǂm Age group: ǂn age ǂa Children ǂ2 lcdgt
385			ǂm Age group: ǂn age ǂa Preteens ǂ2 lcdgt
386			ǂi Author: ǂm National/regional group: ǂn nat ǂa British Columbians ǂ2 lcdgt
386			ǂi Illustrator: ǂm National/regional group: ǂn nat ǂa Canadians ǂ2 lcdgt
386			ǂm Gender group: ǂn gdr ǂa Women ǂ2 lcdgt

Use fields 385 and 386 to characterize the audience and creators/contributors of works or expressions associated with the described resource.

Field 385 describes the category of persons for which a resource is intended or a category of persons representing the intellectual level for which the content of a resource is considered appropriate.

Here the 385 fields indicate the educational level and age group the work is intended for.

And the 386 fields show the categories to which the author and illustrator belong.

38x fields: 388

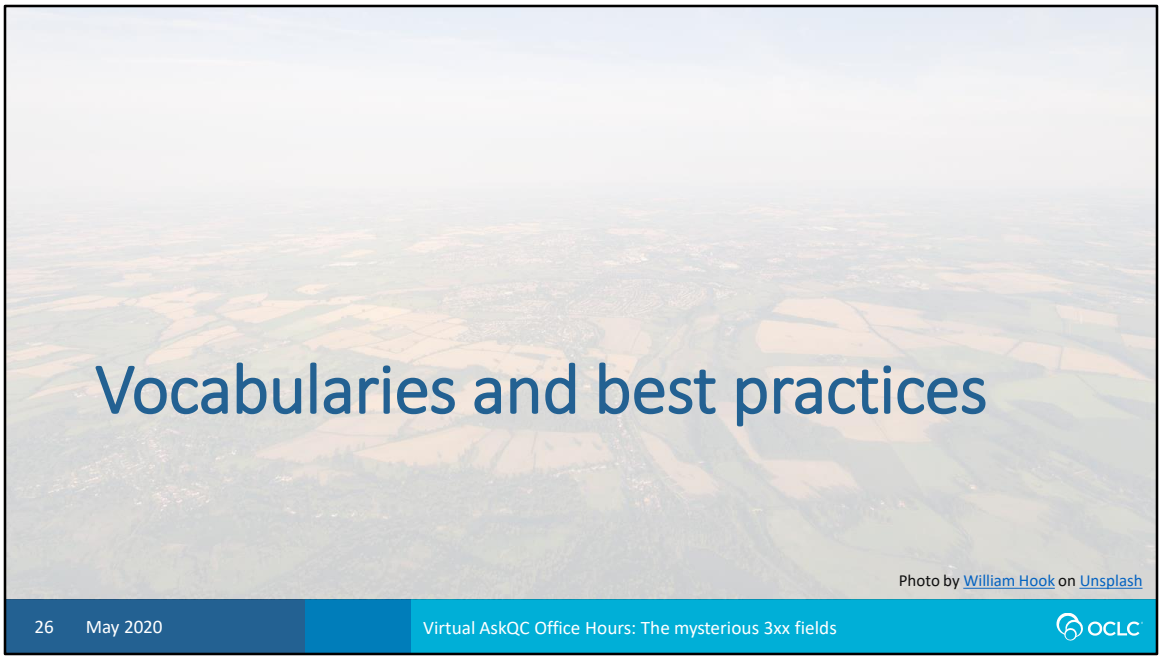
245	1	0	Conflict and tension in the Far East : ǂb key documents, 1894-1960 /
264		1	Seattle : ǂb University of Washington Press, ǂc [1961]
386			ǂm Gender group: ǂn gdr ǂa Men ǂ2 lcdgt
386			ǂm Nationality/regional group: ǂn nat ǂa Americans ǂ2 lcdgt
386			ǂm Occupational/field of activity group: ǂn occ ǂa Journalists ǂ2 lcdgt
388	1		Nineteenth century ǂ2 lcsh
388	1		Twentieth century ǂ2 lcsh
388	2		Twentieth century ǂ2 lcsh

Photo by Mr Cup / Fabien Barral on Unsplash

Use field 388 for the time period of creation or origin of the work or expression associated with the described resource.

In this example the 388 fields tell us these key documents from American male journalists were created in the 19th and 20th centuries and the aggregate work was created in the 20th century.

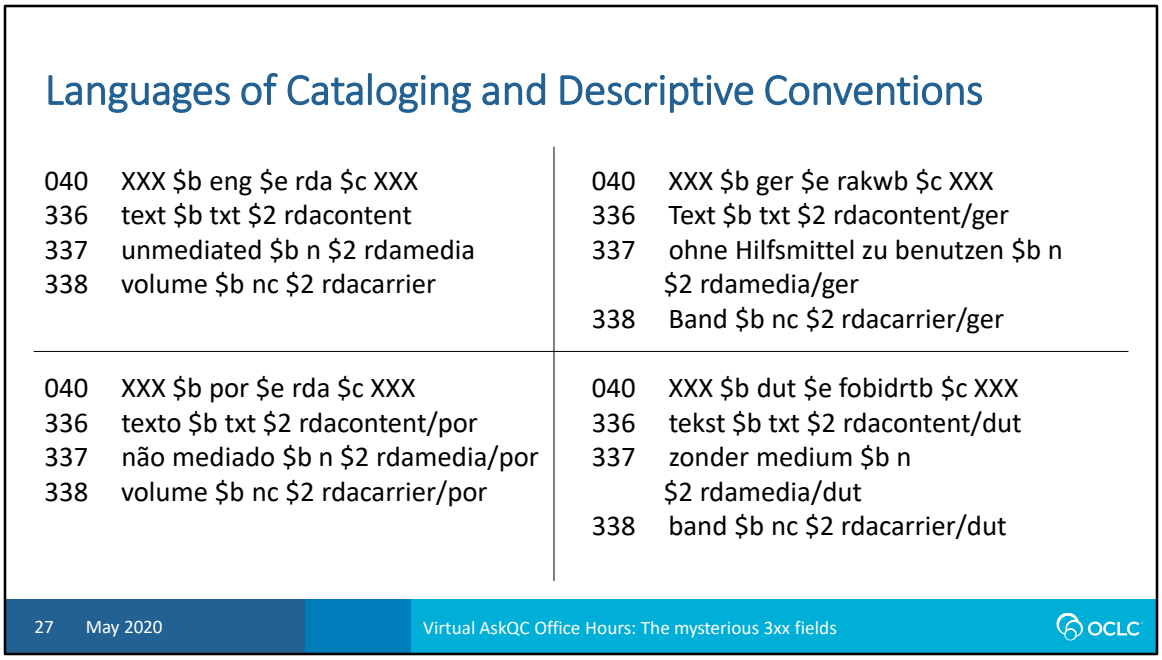
And now I will turn it over to Jay, who will talk about vocabularies and current best practices.



Vocabularies and Best Practices

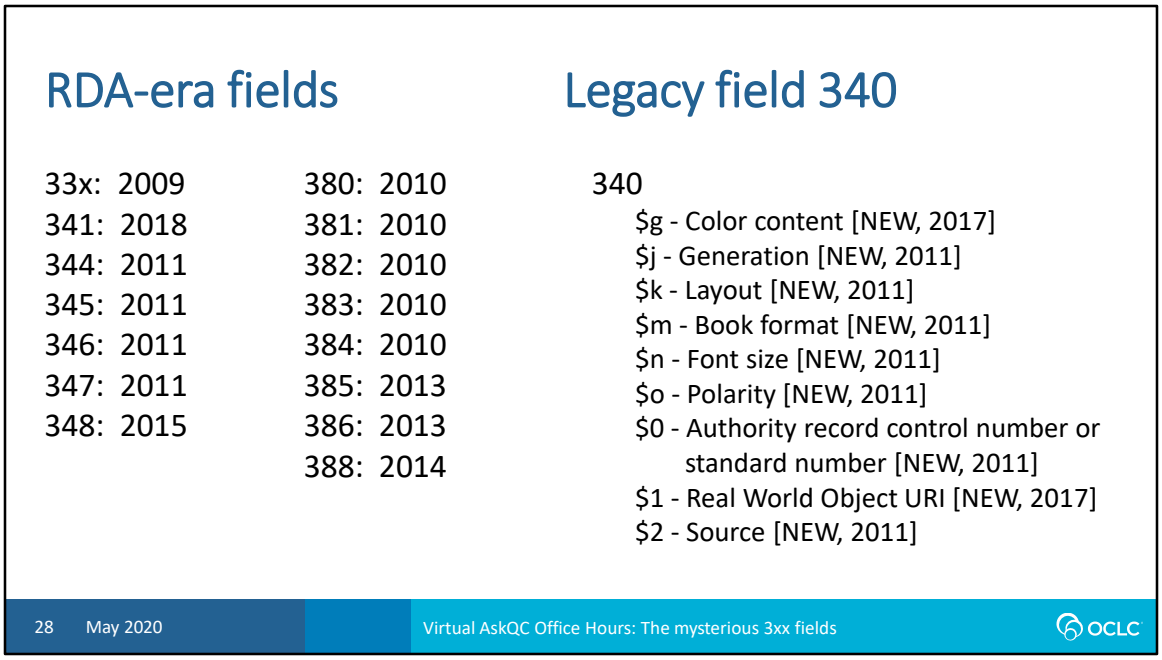
Thank you, Robin.

Robin has dispelled a good deal of the mystery surrounding the 3XX fields, or so we hope. My name is Jay Weitz and I'm going to do my best to demystify more by talking about the sometimes-complicated relationships between these fields and various controlled vocabularies as well as the current best practice recommendations.



Languages of Cataloging and Descriptive Conventions

Please allow me to preface all of this with the reminder that most details of what both Robin and I are talking about today refer to cataloging in the English language under the descriptive conventions of *Resource Description and Access* (RDA). Your institution may catalog in a language other than English (as reflected in field 040 subfield $b) and may follow instructions other than RDA (as reflected in field 040 subfield $e). If so, the vocabularies and their MARC Code identifiers may well differ, but the underlying principles regarding MARC and the relationships among the fields and the vocabularies still apply.



RDA-Era Fields and Legacy Field 340

As Robin has already said, many of the 33x, 34x, and 38x fields are of relatively recent vintage within MARC 21, by which I mean that they were defined during what we might call the RDA era. Of these, the 33x fields are the oldest, having been defined in 2009. Except for the three legacy fields of 340, 342, and 343, each of the other 34x fields date from 2011 or later. All eight of the 38x fields date from 2010 and onward. Of the twenty subfields defined in the legacy field 340, nine of those subfields also date from 2011 or later. At the virtual MARC Advisory Committee meeting planned for ALA Annual in June 2020, there is a discussion paper suggesting the addition of another subfield to field 340 to accommodate Type of Binding.

The point here is not to celebrate field and subfield birthdays, especially not in these socially distant times, but to remind us that these newer 33x, 34x, and 38x fields and subfields did not invade MARC like some virus. Instead, most have been defined to correspond to specific RDA elements, generally in either the current Chapter 3 for "Describing Carriers" or Chapter 7 for "Describing Content."

Media Type: field 337 subfield $2 rdamedia

RDA media terms – 337 $a	RDA media terms, MARC codes – 337 $b
audio	s
computer	c
microform	h
microscopic	p
projected	g
stereographic	e
unmediated	n
video	v
other	x
unspecified	z

3.2 Media Type

3.2.1 Basic Instructions on Recording Media Type

…

3.2.1.3 Recording Media Type

Record a media type using one or more of the terms from the following list.

…

audio
computer
microform
microscopic
projected
stereographic
unmediated
video

If none of the terms in the list applies to the manifestation being described, record other.

If a media type applicable to the manifestation being described cannot be readily ascertained, record unspecified.

Media Type: Field 337 Subfield $2 rdamedia

As an example, let's look more closely at one RDA element and the corresponding MARC field that has become familiar during the past decade: "Media Type," RDA 3.2 and MARC field 337. On the right are excerpts from RDA 3.2 that include the controlled vocabulary for Media Type. On the left are excerpts from the "Term and Code List for RDA Media Types" (https://www.loc.gov/standards/valuelist/rdamedia.html) that include both the controlled terms for field 337 subfield $a and the MARC Codes for field 337 subfield $b, identified in field 337 subfield $2 with the source code "rdamedia".

The situation is identical in fields 336 for Content Type (corresponding to RDA 6.9 and the source code "rdacontent") and field 338 for Carrier Type (corresponding to RDA 3.3 and the source code "rdacarrier".

Field 34x with and without vocabularies

Controlled Vocabularies
Usually in the RDA Registry

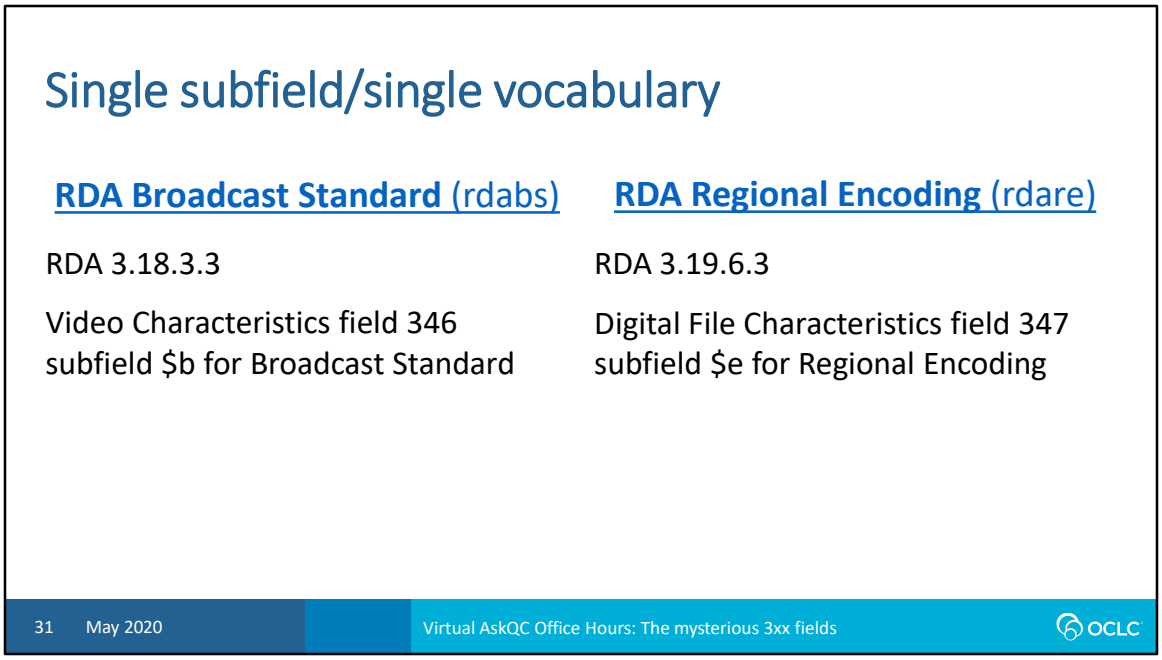
Vocabulary Not Possible
Dimensions
Speeds

No Current Vocabulary
Under development?
Overlooked?

Image by Kai Dahms on Unsplash

34xs With and Without Vocabularies

Among the 34x fields and subfields, we don't find the same uniformity as in the trio of 33x fields. Many of the 34x fields and subfields have specific controlled vocabularies, which are usually found in the RDA Registry (https://www.rdaregistry.info/). Other 34x elements don't lend themselves to controlled vocabularies, often because they have something to do with such highly variable attributes as dimensions or speed. Some of the 34x elements may be future candidates for controlled vocabularies but don't currently have one. In those cases, a vocabulary may (or may not) be under development in one of the specialist communities or may have been overlooked.



Single Subfield/Single Vocabulary

In most cases, a specific RDA controlled vocabulary is associated with a single MARC field and subfield. For instance, the RDA Broadcast Standard vocabulary (rdabs; https://www.rdaregistry.info/termList/broadcastStand/) is associated solely with the Video Characteristics field 346 subfield $b for Broadcast Standard, which corresponds to RDA 3.18.3.3. The RDA Regional Encoding vocabulary (rdare; https://www.rdaregistry.info/termList/RDARegionalEncoding/) is associated solely with Digital File Characteristics field 347 subfield $e for Regional Encoding, which corresponds to RDA 3.19.6.3.

Multiple subfields/multiple vocabularies

Multiple subfields

RDA 3.6.1.3, 3.7.1.3, 3.7.2.3, and 3.8.1.3

Physical Medium field 340

Subfield $a (Material Base and Configuration)
Subfield $c (Materials Applied to Surface)
Subfield $e (Support)

- **RDA Material** (rdmat)

Multiple vocabularies

RDA 3.16.5.3

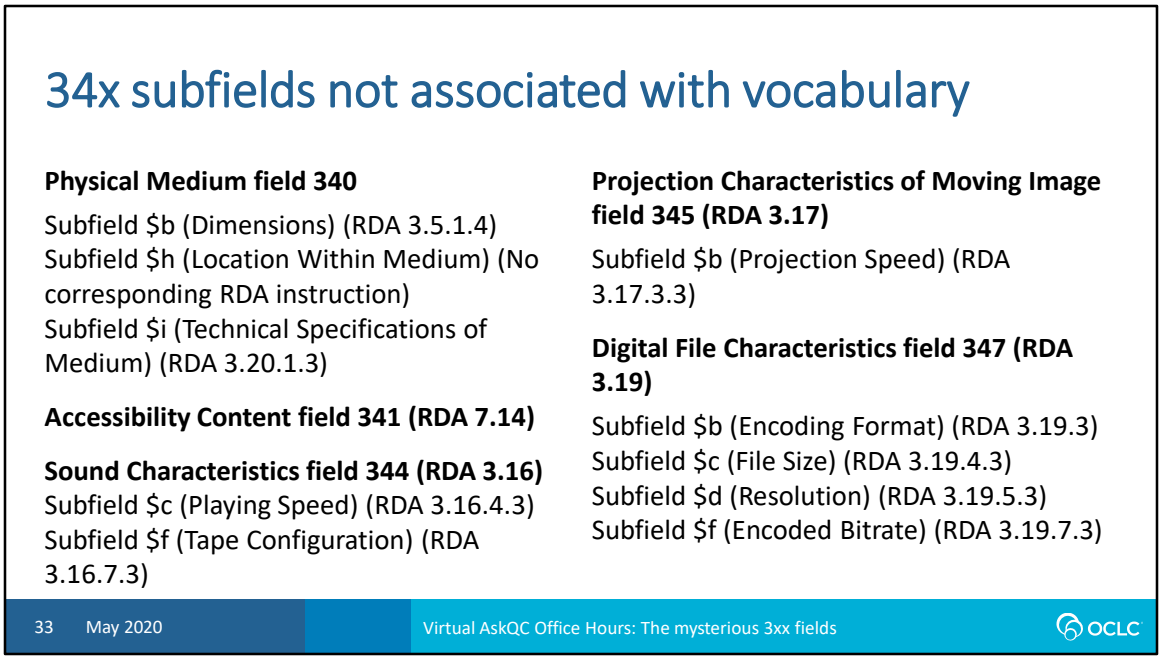
Sound Characteristics field 344 subfield $d (Groove Characteristics)

- **RDA Groove Pitch of an Analog Cylinder** (rdagrp)
- **RDA Groove Width of an Analog Disc** (rdagw)

Multiple subfields/Multiple vocabularies

In some cases, however, an RDA vocabulary may be used in multiple fields or subfields. For instance, the RDA Material vocabulary (rdamat; https://www.rdaregistry.info/termList/RDAMaterial/), which corresponds to RDA 3.6.1.3, 3.7.1.3, 3.7.2.3, and 3.8.1.3, may be used in three different subfields in the Physical Medium field 340, subfields $a (Material Base and Configuration), $c (Materials Applied to Surface), and $e (Support).

In other cases, more than one RDA vocabulary may be used in a single subfield, although not at the same time or in the same field. For instance, the Sound Characteristics field 344 subfield $d (Groove Characteristics), which corresponds to RDA 3.16.5.3, may have terms from either the RDA Groove Pitch of an Analog Cylinder (rdagrp; https://www.rdaregistry.info/termList/groovePitch/) or the RDA Groove Width of an Analog Disc (rdagw; https://www.rdaregistry.info/termList/grooveWidth/) vocabulary.

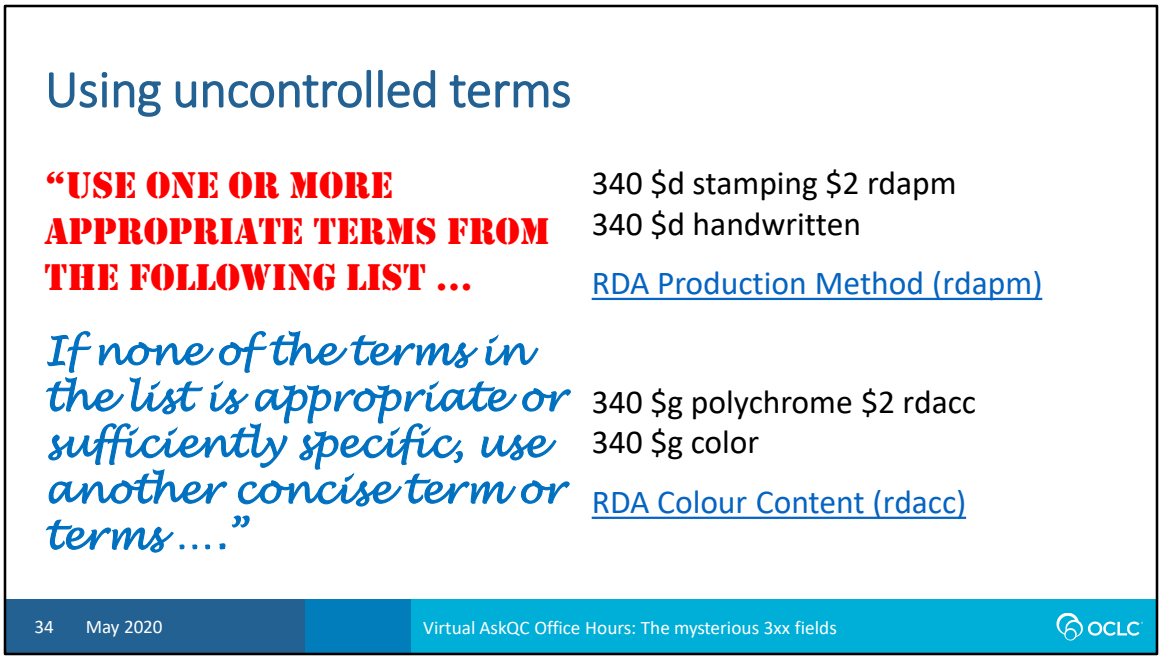


34x Subfields Not Associated With Vocabulary

Among the 34x subfields that are not currently associated with a controlled vocabulary, most of them for obvious reasons, are:

- Physical Medium field 340
    - Subfield $b (Dimensions) (RDA 3.5.1.4)
    - Subfield $h (Location Within Medium) (No corresponding RDA instruction)
    - Subfield $i (Technical Specifications of Medium) (RDA 3.20.1.3)
- Accessibility Content field 341 (RDA 7.14)
- Sound Characteristics field 344 (RDA 3.16)
    - Subfield $c (Playing Speed) (RDA 3.16.4.3)
    - Subfield $f (Tape Configuration) (RDA 3.16.7.3)
- Projection Characteristics of Moving Image field 345 (RDA 3.17)
    - Subfield $b (Projection Speed) (RDA 3.17.3.3)
- Digital File Characteristics field 347 (RDA 3.19)
    - Subfield $b (Encoding Format) (RDA 3.19.3)
    - Subfield $c (File Size) (RDA 3.19.4.3)
    - Subfield $d (Resolution) (RDA 3.19.5.3)
    - Subfield $f (Encoded Bitrate) (RDA 3.19.7.3)

Some of these subfields have no associated vocabulary because they represent widely variable and nonstandard measurements such as “Encoded Bitrate” or “File Size;” some because they are entirely free text attributes such as “Location Within Medium” or “Technical Specifications of Medium.” Some may be candidates for controlled vocabularies that have not yet been developed but could be, such as “Tape Configuration” or “Encoding Format.” The relatively new Accessibility Content field 341, which was defined in 2018 and corresponds to RDA 7.14, is a prime candidate for controlled vocabularies.



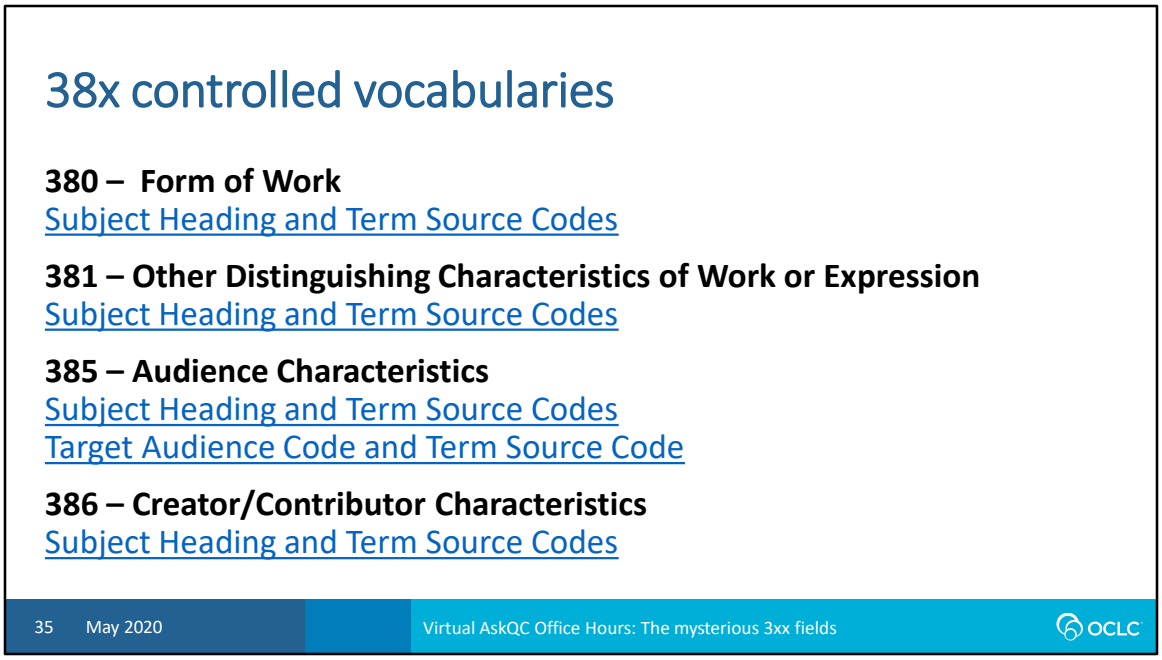
Using Uncontrolled Terms

Even if you are cataloging in English using RDA, there will be instances where the RDA value vocabulary that covers a field and subfield does not include a suitable term. Many such instructions in RDA will have some variation on the statements: "Use one or more appropriate terms from the following list … If none of the terms in the list is appropriate or sufficiently specific, use another concise term or terms …."

In the examples on the right, the Physical Medium 340 subfield $d for Information Recording Technique, the RDA Production Method vocabulary (rdapm; https://www.rdaregistry.info/termList/RDAproductionMethod/) includes twenty controlled terms including "stamping," which is defined as "A production method consisting of the application of pressure to make an impression on the surface of a material." But there is no controlled term for materials produced by handwriting, so an uncontrolled term without subfield $2 may be used.

In the Physical Medium 340 subfield $g for Color Content, only two controlled terms have been defined in the RDA Colour Content vocabulary (rdacc; http://www.rdaregistry.info/termList/RDAColourContent/), "monochrome" and

“polychrome.” In the United States, many institutions will continue to prefer using such uncontrolled terms as “black and white” and “color.”



38x Controlled Vocabularies

Among the 38x fields, there are several for which controlled terms from any appropriate Subject Heading and Term Source Code list (https://www.loc.gov/standards/sourcelist/subject.html) may be used: 380 for Form of Work, 381 for Other Distinguishing Characteristics of Work or Expression, 385 for Audience Characteristics, and 386 for Creator/Contributor Characteristics. For field 380 and 381, uncontrolled terms are also commonly used.

In addition to the more general subject controlled vocabularies, field 385 may use controlled terms specifically from the Target Audience Code and Term Source Codes list (https://www.loc.gov/standards/sourcelist/target-audience.html), including the LC Demographic Group Term and Code List (lcdgt; https://www.loc.gov/standards/valuelist/lcdgt.html).

38x controlled vocabularies

382 – Medium of Performance
Musical Instrumentation and Voice Code Source Codes

383 – Numeric Designation of Musical Work
Thematic Index Code Source Codes

384 – Key
No controlled vocabulary

388 – Time Period of Creation
Subject Heading and Term Source Codes
Temporal Term Source Codes

38x Controlled Vocabularies

Field 382 for Medium of Performance may use any of the Musical Instrumentation and Voice Code Source Codes lists (https://www.loc.gov/standards/sourcelist/musical-instrumentation.html), including the LC Medium of Performance Thesaurus (lcmpt), to identify the source of the term in subfield $a (Medium of Performance), $b (Soloist), $d (Doubling Instrument), and/or $p (Alternative Medium of Performance).

Field 383 for Numeric Designation of Musical Work may use one of the Thematic Index Code Source Codes to specify the source of the code cited in subfield $d (Thematic Index Code).

Field 384 for musical Key currently uses no controlled vocabulary.

Field 388 currently has no specific controlled term list but temporal controlled terms from any appropriate Subject Heading and Term Source Code list (https://www.loc.gov/standards/sourcelist/subject.html) may be used. There is a Temporal Term Source Codes list

(https://www.loc.gov/standards/sourcelist/temporal.html), but since its own creation in 2014, it has remained timelessly devoid of any defined list.

Best practices

MLA *Supplements to Best Practices for Music Cataloging Using RDA and MARC21*

OLAC best practices documents at *Publications And Training Materials* page

344 $a digital $2 rdatr
344 $b optical $2 rdarm
344 $g surround $2 rdacpc
344 $g mono $2 rdacpc

347 $a video file $2 rdaft
347 $b 4K Ultra HD Blu-ray

Best Practices

During 2017 and 2018, a joint task group of the Music Library Association Cataloging and Metadata Committee (MLA CMC) and the Online AV Catalogers Cataloging Policy Committee (OLAC CAPC) produced recommendations on consistent treatment of the 33x and 34x fields and their associated controlled vocabulary source codes. Generalized expansions of these recommendations came to be reflected in the best practices of both MLA and OLAC as well as in OCLC's preferred practices in *Bibliographic Formats and Standards*.

In general, prefer the use of a separate field for each unique term. Think of it as controlled vocabulary social distancing. Both the MLA and OLAC best practices do allow for the use of a single field when all its controlled terms derive from the same vocabulary, but OCLC prefers separate fields.

For guidance on describing and encoding the attributes of notated music and audio carriers, see the Music Library Association's Supplements to Best Practices for Music Cataloging Using RDA and MARC21 (http://cmc.blog.musiclibraryassoc.org/mla-best-practices/). For guidance on describing and encoding the attributes of videos and

other digital and tangible carriers see OLAC's various best practices documents linked from its Publications And Training Materials page (https://olacinc.org/training-publications).

On the call today

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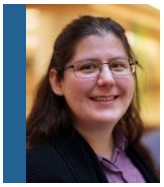
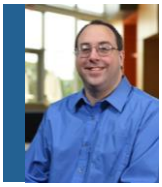


Charlene Morrison

Database Specialist II



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Thank you!

June Virtual AskQC Office Hours
Updates on OCLC encoding levels

Tuesday, June 2 at 9:00 AM Eastern
Thursday, June 11 at 4:00 PM Eastern

Registration and session links available at oc.lc/askqc

Send cataloging policy questions at any time to askqc@oclc.org

Photo by Eric Rothermel on Unsplash