



Copy Cataloging at the Library of Congress

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Background

- LC did some copy cataloging in the early-mid 1980s and then in the early 1990s
- Began seriously to pursue the process in the mid 1990s
- It was done almost exclusively by professional catalogers

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Essential Process

- Perform sequential searches against OCLC and RLIN using Z39.50
- Requirements for downloading copy
 - language of cataloging is English
 - at least one LC subject heading
 - exact match, i.e., edition and format

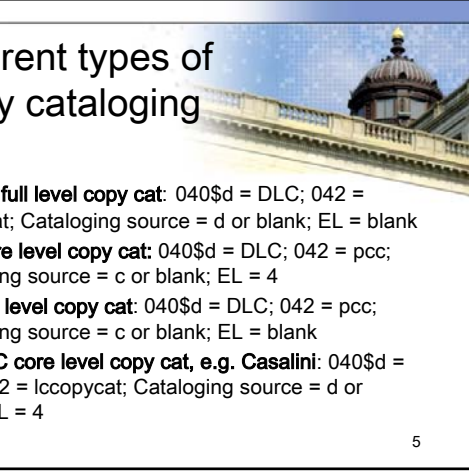
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Essential process, cont'd

- Preferred copy
 - PCC
 - records with LC classification
- Accept what is present in the downloaded copied record
- Do not delete/change information unless egregiously inaccurate or misleading
- Do all authority work

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Different types of copy cataloging

- **Regular full level copy cat:** 040\$d = DLC; 042 = lccopycat; Cataloging source = d or blank; EL = blank
- **PCC core level copy cat:** 040\$d = DLC; 042 = pcc; Cataloging source = c or blank; EL = 4
- **PCC full level copy cat:** 040\$d = DLC; 042 = pcc; Cataloging source = c or blank; EL = blank
- **non-PCC core level copy cat, e.g. Casalini:** 040\$d = DLC; 042 = lccopycat; Cataloging source = d or blank; EL = 4

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Encoding Level 7 Copy Cataloging

- In 2000, LC implemented a simplified version of copy cataloging
- It takes its name from the fact that encoding level 7 (Minimal level) is applied to records imported and completed as LC copy cataloging
 - 042 = lccopycat

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Encoding Level 7 Copy Cataloging

- May be less complete than standard copy cataloging records with respect to:
 - fixed fields
 - authority work
 - complement of 7XX added entries
 - complement of 6XX subject headings

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Encoding Level 7 Copy Cataloging

- **Objective -- do no harm**
 - We ensure that the description accurately reflects the item such that an observer of the record can determine whether it fits the piece in hand
 - We fit the headings on a particular record within the catalog

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Individual Data Elements

- **Leader**
 - Encoding level set to 7
- **008 Fixed Fields – ensure correctness**
 - 008/06 Type of date
 - 008/07-10 Date
 - 008/11-14 Ending date of multiple dates
 - 008/15-17 Place of publication
 - 008/23 Blank unless large print or microform (code as appropriate)

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Individual Data Elements Cont'd.

- **Fixed Fields (cont'd.)**
 - 008/35-37 Language of item
 - 008/38 Blank unless “o” for romanizing language
 - 008/39 “d” (not nat'l bib agency) or blank (if nat'l bib agency)

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Individual Data Elements Cont'd.

Field 040

- Ensure presence of subfields a, c, d

- **Field 042**
 - lccopycat

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Descriptive headings

- Search all names/series in LCDB
- If authority found, use established heading and LC treatment
- If no authority found, construct AACR2 form of name; if other bib records with that name, use same form
- Create authorities only to break conflicts and trace needed cross references
- If no series authority, transcribe series as “not traced” (490 0-)

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Subject Aspects

- All 650 –0s retained are validated for authority control and appropriate subdivisions (either established or free-floaters)
- 600, 610, 611, 630, and 651 jurisdictions -- MLC conventions for names apply
- First LCSH correlates to 050
- Every record has an 050 (LCC)

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Pilot Project for EL7

- Began a pilot project with cataloging technicians doing copy cataloging during 2005
 - Anticipate more cost-effective copy cataloging by having most of work done by paraprofessional staff
 - Assign additional responsibilities to both catalogers and cataloging technicians


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New Proposals for Copy Cat.

- Retain encoding level (4 or blank) of imported record
- Any name heading not part of LC “sanctioned set”—change tag to 720
- Any subject heading not part of sanctioned set—change second indicator of the 6XX to 4
- LC is considering the impact and finetuning its documentation

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Using records not appropriate for copy cataloging

- LC also uses records that do not meet the criteria for copy cataloging
- Called “resource records”
- Include vendor records, complete or incomplete records with no LCSH, sometimes record for the same item in a different format
- LC completes such records as core or full level cataloging (core is the default for LC original cataloging)

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