

Table 3

Mapping of MARC Data Elements to FRBR

Purpose

The tables that follow map the data elements contained in the MARC format to entities, logical attributes, and relationships defined in the models developed for the IFLA study on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR). The mapping is part of a functional analysis of the MARC format that is intended to serve as a means of establishing a frame of reference for future development of the format. More specifically, the analysis is intended to provide a tool that will serve to relate the design of the format, at a logical or conceptual level, to the design of the descriptive standards that govern the key data content of the MARC record. The project will serve as well to provide an analytical focus for a number of critical issues related to the description of electronic resources and the use of MARC data in a cross-sectoral networked environment.

Scope

The tables list all data elements defined in the MARC bibliographic and holdings formats, including data elements contained in the leader, and in field indicators and control subfields, as well as data elements contained in the variable control fields and variable data fields. Each data element is mapped, where applicable, to the corresponding entity and logical attribute or relationship defined in the FRBR model.

Symbols

- ≈ A wavy equals sign indicates an inexact correspondence between the MARC data element and the entity attribute or relationship defined in FRBR. The anomaly is explained in an accompanying footnote.
- ⇒ An arrow indicates that the MARC data element pertains to an attribute of a related entity, not the entity that is the primary focus of the record, or to a relationship between that entity and a related entity.
- ? A question mark indicates that clarification is required on the nature or scope of application of the MARC data element before its correspondence to FRBR can be confirmed.

Terminology

The names of MARC data elements are taken directly from the format documentation. In some cases they have been abbreviated or shortened to fit within the layout of the table.

The names of FRBR entities, attributes, and relationships are taken directly from the FRBR model. In some cases they have been abbreviated or shortened to fit within the layout of the table.

References

MARC 21 Format for Bibliographic Data (1999 edition, updated October 2002)

–<http://www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic>

MARC 21 Format for Holdings Data (2000 edition, updated October 2002)

–<http://www.loc.gov/marc/holdings>

Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (München: Saur, 1998)

–<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/frbr/frbr.pdf>