
FRBR; or, How I learned to stop worrying and love the model

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Agenda

- Introduction to FRBR
- ALCTS preconference summary
- Current FRBR-ish activities
- So how is this going to affect *me*?

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What is FRBR?

- Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records
- Either F-R-B-R or “Ferber”
- A report in 7 languages (soon to add simplified and traditional Chinese)
- A “conceptual model”
 - entities
 - attributes
 - relationships

Contents of FRBR Report

- Introduction
- Objectives, Scope, and Methodology
- Entities
- Attributes
- Relationships
- User Tasks
- Basic Requirements for National Bibliographic Records

User Tasks

■ FRBR

- Find
- Identify
- Select
- Obtain

■ Cutter

- To enable a person to find a book of which either
 - the author
 - the title
 - the subject...is known
- To show what the library has
 - by a given author
 - on a given subject
 - in a given kind of literature
- To assist in the choice of a book
 - as to its edition (bibliographically)
 - as to its character (literary or topical)

Group 1 Entities

WORK

“the intellectual or artistic realization of a *work*”
“a distinct intellectual or artistic creation”
“the physical embodiment of an *expression* of a *work*”
“a single exemplar of a *manifestation*”

is realized through

EXPRESSION

is embodied in

MANIFESTATION

is exemplified by

ITEM

w1 Franz Schubert's *Trout* quintet
w1 Ronald Hayman's *Playbook*
-e1 the composer's score
-e1 the author's text edited for
-e2 a performance by the Amadeus
Quartet and Hephzibah Menuhin on
piano
-m1 the book published in 1976 by Var
Davis Nostrand
-e2 revised text entitled *Recreational*
Quartet and copy annotated by the
author
-m1 the book published in 1972 by
Dover

Borders between entities can be unclear

- New preface
- New illustrations
- Braille
- Screenplay
- Work<->Work relationships
 - Serials?
 - Does everything represent a “work”?

Expression entity problems

- FRBR report, p. 19: “Strictly speaking, any change in intellectual or artistic content constitutes a change in *expression*. Thus, if a text is revised or modified, the resulting *expression* is considered to be a new *expression*, **no matter how minor the modification may be.**”
- Some call for merging/removal of expression entity, but MUCH resistance from FRBR folk

Group 2 Entities

- Person
- Corporate body

Group 3 Entities

- Groups 1 & 2 entities
- Concept
- Object
- Event
- Place

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ALCTS FRBR preconference agenda

- Overview of FRBR
- Reasons behind FRBR
- Practical considerations
- Example applications

Some highlights (1)

- Allyson Carlyle (U. Washington): reservations about the expression entity from experience teaching library school students
- Glenn Patton (OCLC): Why FRBR?
 - Clearer understanding of why we do what we do
 - Better collocation and navigation
 - Clearer, more useful relationships
 - More controlled, authoritative information for productivity

Some highlights (2)

- Tom Delsey (independent consultant): areas revisited
 - Record type
 - Material type
 - Objectives of the catalog
 - Syndetic structure
 - Core record
- Sally McCallum (LC): FRBR & MARC
 - LC-commissioned MARC mapping suggested extensions to FRBR to accommodate all MARC21 elements
 - FRBRizer performed poorly for music
- Jennifer Bowen (Rochester): “Is FRBR really coming? It’s already here!”

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Implementations & related projects

- OCLC FictionFinder
- RLG RedLightGreen
- AustLit Gateway

- VTLS Virtua ILS system
- III Millennium 2005 ILS system

- IU Variations2

“Official” adoption

- Functional Analysis of the MARC 21 Bibliographic and Holdings Formats
 - Performed by Tom Delsey (AACR3 editor)
 - Commissioned by LC
- Joint Steering Committee for Revision of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules
 - Incorporating FRBR terminology and concepts
 - Work OK
 - Expression, Manifestation new
 - Item definition changed
 - Format Variation Working Group (Feb. 2001-June 2004)
 - “Catalog” or “collocate” expressions
 - Differences in opinion between domains
- CC:DA Task Force on FRBR Terminology
 - ALA group reviewing and responding to JSC work

Flurry of Activity

- October 2004 issue of *LRTS* will contain papers based on ALCTS preconference presentations
- *C&CQ* Vol 39, No. 3-4, 2004 will be a topical issue on FRBR
- Lots of other presentations and papers
- Work on FRBR for authorities: FRANAR

Current FRBR Working Groups

- Expression entity
- Continuing resources
- Teaching and training
- Subject relationships
- FRBR/CRM dialogue

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How many records are affected?

- 78% of works have a single manifestation
- 99% of all works in WorldCat have seven manifestations or less
- 30,000, or <1% have more than 20 manifestations

R. Bennett et. al. (2003) "The concept of a work in WorldCat: an application of FRBR"
Library Collections Acquisitions & Technical Services 27, 45-59.

- So *why* do we need FRBR?



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Browse Results

Browsing on:
"hamlet"

- 1 [HAMLET 1936](#)

- 1 [HAMLET 1938](#)

- 1 [HAMLET 1991](#)

- 1 [HAMLET A CHRISTIAN TRAGEDY](#)

- 1 [HAMLET A CONCORDANCE TO THE NOVEL](#)

- 1 [HAMLET A CONCORDANCE TO THE TEXT OF THE SECOND QUARTO OF 1604-5](#)

- 1 [HAMLET A DRAMATIC PRELUDE IN FIVE ACTS](#)

- 1 [HAMLET A GUIDE](#)

- 1 [HAMLET A GUIDE TO THE PLAY](#)

- 1 [HAMLET A NEW VERSION](#)

- 1 [HAMLET A NOVEL](#)

- 1 [HAMLET A SCENE-BY-SCENE ANALYSIS WITH CRITICAL COMMENTARY](#)

End-users

- ILL
- Holds
- Allow better distinction between content and carrier
- FRBR-ized catalog vs. disambiguation process

"FRBR-ized" OPAC Displays

The screenshot shows the Voyager Public Access interface. The title bar reads "Voyager Public Access". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "View", "Connect", "Search", "Display", "Request", and "Help". The toolbar contains icons for Search, Headings, Titles, Display, Print, Save, Email, Patron Info, Request, Help, and Start Over.

The main display area shows the following record:

Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. **Hamlet.** [Text] ← Expression
Translation. French. 1770.

LC Control Number: 96190597

Type of Material: Book (Print, Microform, Electronic, etc.)

Brief Description: **Manifestation** → [Ducis, J.-F. \(Jean-François\), 1733-1816.](#)
Hamlet: tragedie : imitée de l'anglois / par M. Ducis ;
représentée pour la première fois par les Comédiens
françois ordinaires du roi, le 30 septembre 1769.
A Paris : Chez Gogué, libraire 1770.
[8], 68 p. : 21 cm. (8vo)

CALL NUMBER: [PQ1381.D6 H36 1770 Batchelder Cull](#) ← Item
Copy 1

— Request in: Rare Book/Special Collections Reading Room (Jofferson
LJ239)

Slides with purple backgrounds are from Barbara Tillett's presentation at the preconference.


Collocation by Works

- Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616.
 - + All's well that ends well
 - + As you like it
 - + Hamlet
 - + Macbeth
 - + Midsummer night's dream

Collocation by Family of Works and Expressions

- Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. Hamlet.

 + Texts

 + Motion Pictures

 + Sound Recordings

Collocation by Expressions


- Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. Hamlet.

 + Texts – Danish

 + Texts – Dutch

 + Texts – English

 + Texts – French

 + Texts – Spanish

 + Motion Pictures – English

 + Sound Recordings - English

Collocation of Manifestations

- Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. Hamlet.



Motion pictures – English

- + 1964 Director, Bill Collegan
- + 1990 Director, Kevin Kline, Kirk Browning
- + 1990 Director, Franco Zeffirelli
- + 1992 Director, Maria Muat
- + 1996 Director, Kenneth Branagh
- + 2000 Director, Campbell Scott, Eric Simonson

Cataloging

- Non-MARC environments
 - Many already doing FRBR-like things
 - Tend to have lots of programming support
- MARC environments
 - Need more innovation from ILS vendors
 - Catalogers used to looking at 1 record (maybe 2) showing *everything*
 - Need to provide complex relationships when necessary, hide when not
 - Legacy records

So what do I do now?

- Learn more!

Some presentations at ALCTS preconference

- *FRBR: Coming Soon to YOUR Library?*
Jennifer Bowen, University of Rochester
- *FRBR and the Bibliographic Universe, or, How to Read FRBR as a Model*
Allyson Carlyle, Information School, University of Washington
- *Differentiating Libraries through Enriched User Searching; FRBR as the next dimension in meaningful Information Retrieval*
Vinod Chachra, Chairman & CEO, VTLS Inc. and John Espley, Director of Design, VTLS Inc.
- *Stepping Back Looking Forward: FRBR and the Evolution of the Catalogue*
Thomas J. Delsey, Consultant
- *RedLightGreen - FRBR between a Rock and a Hard Place*
Merrilee Proffitt, Program Officer, RLG
- *What is FRBR? (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records)*
Dr. Barbara B. Tillett, Library of Congress
- *FictionFinder: a FRBR works-based prototype*
Diane Vizine-Goetz, OCLC Research

from <<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/alctscoted/presentations/presentations.htm>>

For further information

- [FRBR report](#)
- Readings on handout & previous slide
- [FRBR listserv](#)

- jenrile@indiana.edu
- [These presentation materials](#)