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Batch Cataloging at JMU: A Framework and Four Projects

Rebecca B. French
James Madison University, frenchrb@jmu.edu

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Batch Cataloging at JMU

A Framework and Four Projects

Rebecca B. French (she/her)

Slides:
http://tiny.cc/BatchJMU

Overview

- What is batch cataloging?

- Framework for designing a batch cataloging workflow

- Four batch cataloging projects

Batch Cataloging

- "Obtaining (or creating), transferring, manipulating, and editing groups of MARC bibliographic records" (Young, 2012)

- "Editing and adding large batches of MARC records to a catalog at once"; differentiated from "individually cataloging each title" (Turner, 2015)
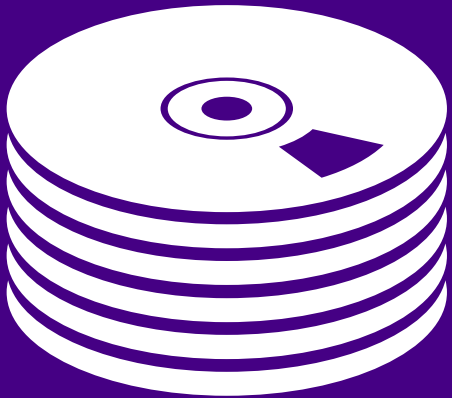
Turner, A. (2015). Implementation of batch cataloging: A case study. In D. M. Mueller (Ed.), *Creating Sustainable Community: The Proceedings of the ACRL 2015 Conference, March 25-28, 2015* (pp. 303–314). Association of College and Research Libraries. http://hdl.handle.net/11213/17863

Young, P. (2012). A survey of batch cataloging practices and problems. *Technical Services Quarterly*, 29(1), 22–41. https://doi.org/10.1080/07317131.2012.624450

"books" icon by Fasobrun Jamil from The Noun Project

Batch Cataloging

- Any of the following metadata actions performed in bulk
  - Collecting
  - Searching
  - Transforming
  - Matching
  - Editing
  - Loading

Two Key Questions

- Are records available for the items, or will they need to be created?
  - Records need to be created → original cataloging
  - Records are available → copy cataloging

- What metadata is already recorded about the items?

Batch Cataloging Matrix

Are records available for the items, or will they need to be created?

		Original Cataloging	Copy Cataloging
What metadata is already recorded?	Some Metadata		
	No Metadata		

Two Key Questions

- Are records available for the items, or will they need to be created?
    - If there are existing records, what metadata is needed to search for those records?

- What metadata is already recorded about the items?
    - Is it unique enough to search on?
    - If not, what additional metadata would need to be recorded?

Additional Considerations

- What editing needs to be done?
  - To existing metadata
  - To copy cataloged records

- How will these records be added to the ILS or other system?
  - If there are existing records that will need to be overlaid, what fields could be used as a match point?

- Is this a one-time or ongoing project?

- What checks do you need to perform during or after the project for quality control?

Batch Cataloging Matrix

Are records available for the items, or will they need to be created?

	Original Cataloging	Copy Cataloging
Some Metadata		
No Metadata		

What metadata is already recorded?

Batch Cataloging Matrix

	Original Cataloging	Copy Cataloging
Some Metadata	1	2
No Metadata	3	4

Some Existing Metadata, Original Cataloging

1. Transform

2. Edit

3. Load

Example 1: ETDs

1. Transform
   - Student-submitted metadata (Qualified Dublin Core) into MARCXML
   - MARCXML into MARC binary

2. Edit
   - Add subject headings and classification
   - Adjust capitalization, spacing, etc.

3. Load

French, R. B. (2018). JMU ETD scripts [XSLT scripts]. https://github.com/frenchrb/JMU_ETDs

Some Existing Metadata, Copy Cataloging

1. Search
2. Match
3. Edit
4. Load

Example 2: Jazz LPs

1. Search
   - Batch search OCLC using publisher name and issue number

2. Match
   - OCLC records to local bib numbers

3. Edit
   - Clean up fields per local guidelines

4. Load

French, R. B. (2017). Direct database access to OCLC Connexion's local save file. *Code4Lib Journal, 38*. http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/12821
French, R. B. (2020, February 25). *Secrets of the save file: Using Connexion and Microsoft Access for efficient batch cataloging projects*. Presentation at the Music OCLC Users Group Meeting, Norfolk, VA. https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/letfspubs/185/

No Existing Metadata, Original Cataloging

1. Collect
2. Transform
3. Edit
4. Load

3

Example 3: Comic Books

1. Collect
   - Staff and students record metadata in spreadsheet

2. Transform
   - Spreadsheet into MARC binary

3. Edit
   - Add boilerplate fields
   - Reformat data from spreadsheet (e.g., parse subfields, names in direct/indirect order)

4. Load

French, R. B. (2021). comics2marc [Python script]. https://github.com/frenchrb/comics2marc

No Existing Metadata, Copy Cataloging

1. Collect
2. Search
3. Match
4. Edit
5. Load

Example 4: CD Backlog

1. Collect
   - Add UPC barcodes to brief records in ILS

2. Search
   - WorldCat Search API lookup in OpenRefine

3. Match
   - OCLC records to local bib numbers

4. Edit
   - Generate call numbers
   - Clean up fields per local guidelines

5. Load

Batch Cataloging Matrix with Project Stages

	Original Cataloging	Copy Cataloging
Some Metadata	Transform Edit Load	Search Match Edit Load
No Metadata	Collect Transform Edit Load	Collect Search Match Edit Load

Resources

Contact:
frenchrb@jmu.edu

Slides:
http://tiny.cc/BatchJMU

- French, R. B. (2021, March 3). *Planning batch cataloging projects*. Webinar presented for ALA Core: Leadership, Infrastructure, Futures. https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/letfspubs/195/

- French, R. B. (2018). JMU ETD scripts [XSLT scripts]. https://github.com/frenchrb/JMU_ETDs

- French, R. B. (2017). Direct database access to OCLC Connexion's local save file. *Code4Lib Journal, 38*. http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/12821

- French, R. B. (2020, February 25). *Secrets of the save file: Using Connexion and Microsoft Access for efficient batch cataloging projects*. Presentation at the Music OCLC Users Group Meeting, Norfolk, VA. https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/letfspubs/185/

- French, R. B. (2021). comics2marc [Python script]. https://github.com/frenchrb/comics2marc